

# Tombs and Offering Pits at the Late Bronze Age Metropolis of Hala Sultan Tekke, Cyprus

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*Hala Sultan Tekke is a large Bronze Age city close to the famous homonymous mosque near the international airport of Larnaca on the south coast of Cyprus. Previous research demonstrated that the city flourished mainly in the later part of the Late Bronze Age—viz., during the 13th and 12th centuries B.C.E.—but recent excavations confirmed that the city was occupied from as early as the Middle Cypriot III–Late Cypriot IA period around 1600 B.C.E. The current project, which started in 2010, exposed three new city quarters (CQ1–3) in the northern part of the city close to the ancient harbor—that is, today’s Larnaca Salt Lake. Geophysical surveys by georadar and magnetometer, which were carried out in Area A, a plateau approximately 600 m east of CQ1 and opposite the mosque, indicated more than 80 roughly circular anomalies. Among the seven anomalies excavated in 2016 are Tomb X and Offering Pit V, which are the main subjects of this article. Concentrated in these features were objects of high artistic value from a vast area of the eastern Mediterranean, including the Aegean, the Levant, Egypt, and possibly Anatolia. Both features antedate the occupation of the previously excavated city quarters.*

**Keywords:** Hala Sultan Tekke; Late Bronze Age; tombs; offering pits; intercultural relations; Mycenae; Crete; Levant; Egypt; Anatolia; pottery; scarabs; cylinder seals

## Earlier Tombs at Hala Sultan Tekke

The documented history of the exploration of Hala Sultan Tekke and its surroundings began in 1894 when John Myres opened a number of trenches west of the Larnaca Salt Lake without finding any cultural layers except for stray sherds. The subsequent “excavations” for the British Museum near the mosque of Hala Sultan Tekke in 1897 and 1898 are described by Donald Bailey (1976). The low scientific standard, even considering the period in which they took place, became clear when studying Bailey’s report on the endeavors of staffs from the British Museum (cf. Fischer 2012a: 74). It seems that the main objective of these diggings was to

find rich tombs in order to supply the British Museum with spectacular finds. The expedition was led by Henry B. Walters, assistant on the staff of the Greek and Roman Museum Department of the British Museum. He had moved from Maroni, about which he was “very much disappointed,” to Hala Sultan Tekke. However, his team met with competition from the villagers at Dromolaxia, who got wind of their coming and intensified illicit digging. Walters dug there for seven days at the end of December 1897. He found a number of partly looted tombs with the help of “not more than 40 workers.” The contents of ten of them (Tombs I–X) were cursorily listed by Walters (see Bailey 1976). The material of these tombs belongs mainly to the Late Cypriot (LC) II period.

In Walters’s extremely limited record, there is a map with a penciled square marked “1897,” which obviously refers to the area of his excavations (Åström 1976: pl. I.a, b). The sketchiness of the drawings, which were made most likely after the excavations, precludes our placing the exact area of his excavations on a map. It seems quite possible, however, that the penciled square includes the southern part of City Quarter 1 (CQ1, which corresponds to the former Area 6; Fig. 1) and parts of

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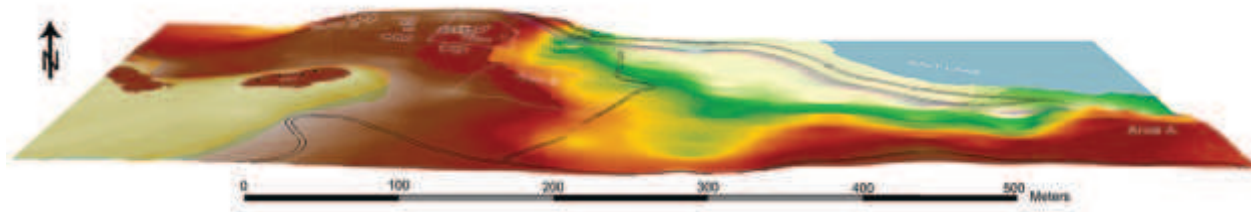


Fig. 2. Digital elevation map of the areas of excavation at Hala Sultan Tekke. (Map by M. Al-Bataineh)

Area 8 and its surroundings. The position of the ten excavated tombs (Åström 1976: pl. I.b) does not seem to exclude the possibility that he excavated in the area of CQ1. Our excavations, however, failed to find any spots previously excavated in this area, which is dominated by stone structures belonging to domestic and small-scale industrial compounds from around 1200 B.C.E.—that is, LC IIC–IIIA.

In the next year, Walters was followed by John W. Crowfoot, a student at the British School at Athens, who excavated at Hala Sultan Tekke for eight days. His notes are somewhat better than Walters's and were made at the time of the excavations. His excavations, too, might have taken place west of the mosque and close to CQ1. In this short period, he reopened 50–60 (!) previously looted tombs, but notes were only made for 11 of them (Tombs 1–11). Crowfoot suggested in a letter to the British Museum that the entire site had been systematically rifled by looters, and most of the finds were made outside the tombs. This looting might have taken place between Walters's and Crowfoot's excavations—that is, between December 1897 and April 1898. From the material that could be traced, it appears that Crowfoot's recorded tombs can be dated mainly to LC II–III.

The Cypriot Department of Antiquities was engaged in Area A (Figs. 1–4), particularly in 1968, when Vassos Karageorghis excavated two partly preserved rich Late Bronze Age tombs (Tombs 1, 2) to the west of the mosque, which were exposed through erosion (Karageorghis 1976). In 1974, during leveling work, another one or more tombs were discovered in the area west and in front of the mosque (Karageorghis 1984: 922). However, in these troublesome times of civil war, no excavations could be carried out, and the area was backfilled.

In the 1970s, Paul Åström searched in vain for tombs in our Area A by opening a number of test trenches (1976; 1989). Also in the 1970s, additional tombs were (re)excavated by the Swedish mission in the area of the settlement (e.g., Åström et al. 1983: *passim*). Neverthe-

less, in 1979, as a result of electromagnetic prospecting, an undisturbed intramural LC III shaft-tomb (Tomb 23) with rich burial gifts for a single 30–40-year-old male was discovered by Peter Fischer, assisted by Lennart Åström (Fischer 1980: 16–18, 33–34; Schulte-Campbell 1983). The tomb is dated to LC IIIA (Niklasson 1983: 183). In 1982, another LC II tomb (MLA 1162) was accidentally discovered some 50 m north of Tombs 1 and 2 (see above; Karageorghis 1983: 915). Yet another tomb was exposed in 1983 during construction work for the parking lot in front the mosque approximately 50 m southeast of Tombs 1 and 2 (MLA 1173; Karageorghis 1984: 922). It was later published by Melissa Samaes and Karin Nys (2010) and seems to have been used from LC IIA (?) to the beginning of LC IIIA.

### The Current Project

In 2010, after more than two decades of excavations in the Levant, Fischer returned to Hala Sultan Tekke after the untimely passing of his former teacher, P. Åström, in 2008.<sup>1</sup> The Swedish project resumed, and from 2012 onward Teresa Bürge functioned as assisting field director (Fischer 2011; 2012a; 2012b; Fischer and Bürge 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016). Over the course of seven seasons, three new city quarters (CQ1–3) were located and partly exposed in the northern part of the city close to the Bronze Age harbor (see Figs. 1, 2). This area corresponds to the western shore of today's Larnaca Salt Lake, which was formed when the harbor became a lagoon cut off from the Mediterranean at the end of the 2nd millennium B.C.E. (Fischer 2017). In 2013, another intramural tomb, dated to LC IIC, was found in CQ2. This tomb, which had already been disturbed in Late Cypriot times, contained, among other things, numerous textile

<sup>1</sup> As Åström's assistant, Fischer participated between 1977 and 1981 in the excavations at Hala Sultan Tekke.



Fig. 3. Aerial photo of Area A (foreground), and the mosque of Hala Sultan Tekke and the Salt Lake (background), looking east. (Photo courtesy of Police Aviation Unit)

production tools and cylinder seals (Fischer and Bürge 2014: 75–77).

In 2013, a surface survey was carried out in Area A, a plateau approximately 600 m southeast of CQ1 and opposite the mosque (see Figs. 1–4). The survey led to the discovery and subsequent excavation of a Late Cypriot well, which was reused as a tomb in LC IIIA (Tomb A; Figure 4 shows the position of the geophysical anomalies excavated so far). This tomb contained six human skeletons and the skeleton of a fairly large dog (Fischer and Bürge 2015). There were only a few burial gifts; the remaining finds of bronze and silver seem to be personal belongings. Encouraged by this discovery, geophysical prospecting with ground penetrating radar and a magnetometer was carried out in 2014 in Area A (in addition to prospecting with the same methods in 2010, 2012, and 2014 in the area of the city). The results were above our expectations: Area A, which covers 1.1 ha, contains

more than 80 circular anomalies (“pits”) indicated by our geophysical devices (Trinks 2015). Anomalies B–Q were excavated during the 2014 and 2015 seasons (Fischer and Bürge 2015; 2016). They turned out to represent mainly Late Cypriot wells. Nevertheless, there were also two features of relevance to this article: Offering Pits B (Figs. 5a, b; 6) and P (Figs. 5c, 7), which lacked human skeletal remains but contained various artifacts covering the period from roughly 1500 to 1300 B.C.E. In 2016, seven more anomalies (R–X) were exposed. Three of them (S, T, and W) turned out to be Late Cypriot wells, dating to roughly the 14th and 13th centuries B.C.E. Two of them (Tomb X and Offering Pit V) produced spectacular finds from a vast cultural area of the eastern Mediterranean, dating to major stretches of the Late Cypriot period. In addition to Offering Pits B and P, the material remains of these two features are of the utmost importance as far as the occupational sequence of Hala Sultan Tekke is con-

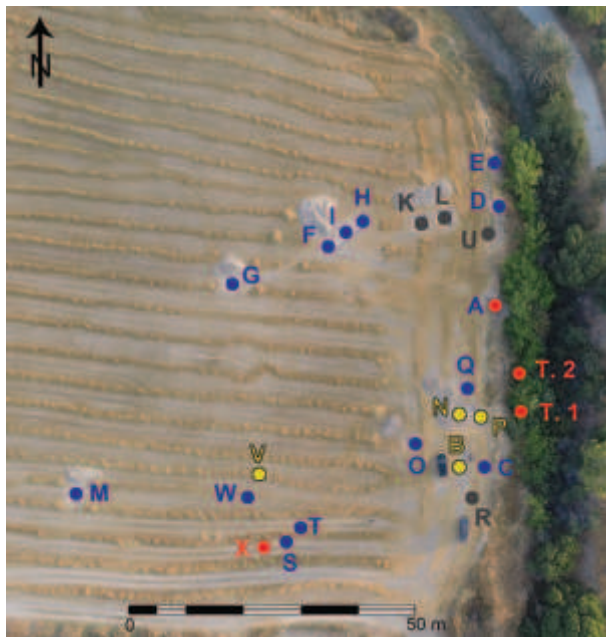


**Fig. 4.** Aerial photo of Area A with the positions of the excavated geophysical anomalies. Symbols: blue = wells, yellow = offering pits, red = tombs, and gray = modern “features.” (Illustration by T. Bürge and P. M. Fischer)

cerned: All are older than most of the hitherto exposed parts of the city.<sup>2</sup> This raises, once again, the question: Where exactly within the area of Hala Sultan Tekke is the settlement located to which these structures and finds are associated?

The finds are organized into three find classes:

- Find Class 1 comprises all finds with running “N” numbers on the plans (and sections). They usually consist of intact, complete, or almost complete objects of any material. They are all GIS-recorded, and the find is plotted on the relevant plan as an “N” number along with the altitude above sea level.
- Find Class 2 comprises vessels that could be partially restored and other sherds and objects of major importance (those bearing potmarks, specific decoration, etc.). These are plotted in the plans in the locus to which they belong: L48–3, for instance, is the third Class 2 find in Locus 48.
- Find Class 3 represents sherds that can hint at the shape of a vessel, or other incomplete finds. It also includes nondiagnostic sherds, such as body sherds without decoration. We do not discuss these finds in

<sup>2</sup> In regard to chronology, the finds from Offering Pits B, P, and V, and Tomb X can be compared with those from Tomb 2 (Karageorghis 1976), which is associated with Offering Pit P (see Fig. 4).

this article, but they are covered in our published preliminary reports and the forthcoming final reports.

### Chamber Tomb X

In the map showing the results of the magnetic survey, this anomaly has the shape of a “double pit” (L48 West, L48 East) (Fig. 8). This feature is several meters south-southeast of Offering Pit V and just to the north of and very close to the dirt road that passes a stable to the south. On the magnetometer map, it is almost identical to Pit V in shape and size, thus resembling a recumbent “8,” which is oriented exactly west–east. It is  $3.75 \times 2.5$  m in size and was dug into fairly soft, clayey soil down to a depth of 1.35 m from today’s surface and comprised two interconnected chambers. To include the entire anomaly, a  $5 \times 3$  m trench was opened up.<sup>3</sup> While this feature was being exposed, it became clear that the shape of Pit X very much indeed resembles that of Offering Pit V (see below). Just below colluvial soil and on top of this double pit, fairly centrally placed with only a slight deviation toward the west, an approximately 1 m-wide circular feature, which turned out to be a short shaft of backfilled and somewhat darker soil, became visible just below the plowed soil. However, the original shaft certainly was once longer than the preserved 20–30 cm to which unfortunately it has been reduced by farming.

In the border zone between the plowed colluvial soil and the undisturbed soil, a considerable amount of scattered pottery came to light but no bones. Despite meticulous sieving, pieces of several almost complete vessels are missing because plowing affected the soil down to a depth of roughly 25 cm.<sup>4</sup> This also shows that pottery was deposited in the shaft, too. The contents of this double pit differed substantially from those of Offering Pit V, in that there were also plenty of human skeletal remains in addition to non-ceramic finds, all of which were virtually absent from Offering Pit V. The full contents of Tomb X are listed in Table 1.

### Human Remains

Approximately 0.8 m from the surface, a non-articulated human cranium appeared in the northeastern portion of the double chamber. This find provided the ultimate proof that we were indeed exposing a tomb, in contrast to Offering Pits V, B, and P. Many non-articulated human bones were found in a fragmented

<sup>3</sup> Due to the centimeter-scale accuracy of the GPS/GIS-defined geophysical anomalies, we could reduce the size of the trenches.

<sup>4</sup> We investigated the plowed soil surrounding the tomb, which resulted in the discovery of a few matching pieces of incomplete vessels but not all.

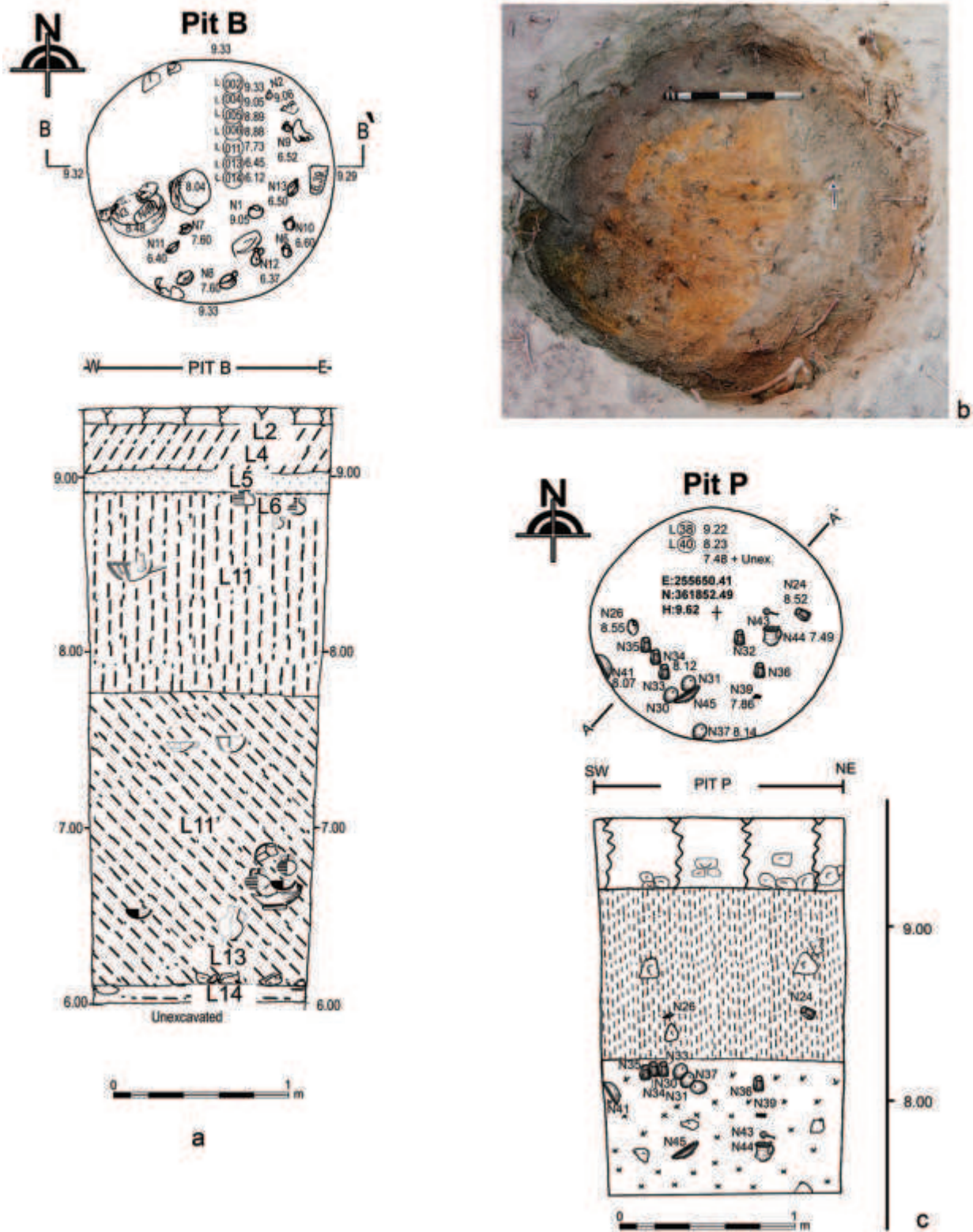


Fig. 5. (a) Plan and section of Pit B; (b) Pit B with other layer/sealing (L5); and (c) plan and section of Pit P. (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh; photo by P. M. Fischer)



Fig. 6. Selected vessels from Pit B. (Photos by T. Bürge and P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)



Fig. 7. Selected vessels and elephant ivory inlay (?) from Pit P. The fragments of Bichrome Wheelmade and Proto-White Slip in the upper row are residual. (Photos by T. Bürge and P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

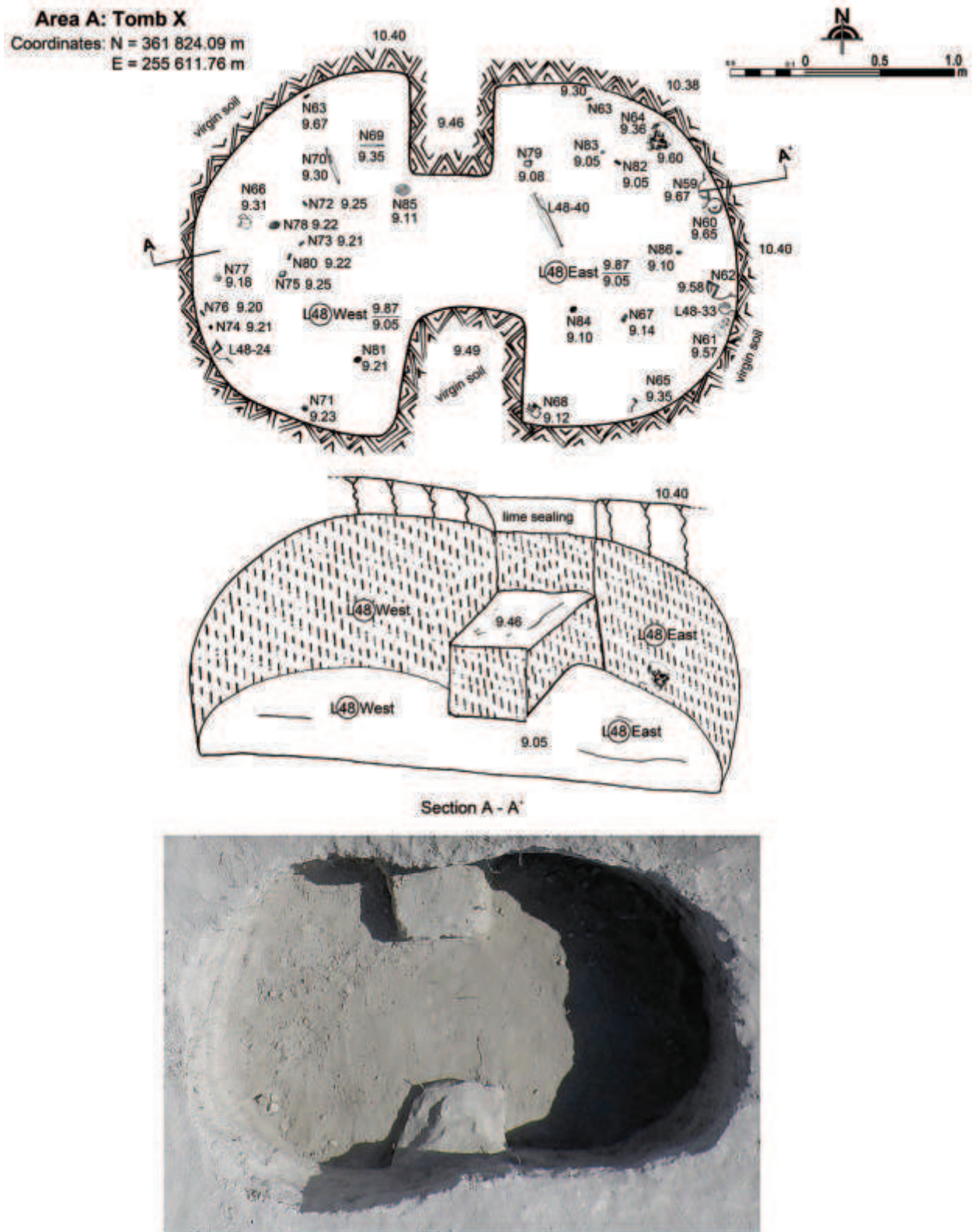


Fig. 8. Tomb X (not all finds are included in the drawing). (Drawing by M. Al-Bataineh and T. Bürge; photo by T. Bürge)

TABLE 1. Catalog of Finds from Tomb X

| <i>Pottery (Wares in Alphabetic Order)</i> |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |               |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Ware</i>                                | <i>No.</i> | <i>Description</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Figure</i> |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-6      | Jug, very hard fired, light gray fabric interior and core, thin brown section on exterior, fine, dark gray slip, burnished                                                                                         | Fig. 17:2     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-9      | Bowl, very hard fired, gray fabric, medium-fine, mainly white inclusions, self-slip, burnished                                                                                                                     | —             |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-25     | Tankard, very hard fired, dark gray fabric, fine, dark brown to dark gray slip, burnished                                                                                                                          | Fig. 17:1     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-54     | Bowl, very hard fired, brown fabric, light gray core, fine, orangish brown slip, burnished                                                                                                                         | —             |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-55     | Juglet, very hard fired, gray fabric, very fine, dark brownish gray slip, burnished, dark brown decoration                                                                                                         | —             |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-61     | Bowl, complete profile, very hard fired, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, very fine, reddish brown to dark brown slip, highly burnished                                                                      | Fig. 16:4     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-62     | Juglet, hard fired, gray fabric, very fine, dark brown slip, burnished                                                                                                                                             | Fig. 16:2     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L48-63     | Bowl, very hard fired, very dark gray fabric, fine, brown to very dark gray (almost black) slip, highly burnished                                                                                                  | —             |
| Base-Ring I                                | N61        | Double juglet, very hard fired, gray fabric, very fine, orangish brown to dark brown slip, plastic decoration, handle with herringbone pattern, burnished                                                          | Fig. 16:3     |
| Base-Ring I                                | N66        | Tankard, hard fired, light red fabric, very fine, brownish red slip, highly burnished                                                                                                                              | Fig. 16:1     |
| Base-Ring II                               | L48-60     | Jug, complete profile, very hard fired, orangish red fabric, gray core, medium-fine, white inclusions, dark brown slip, white decoration                                                                           | Fig. 19:1     |
| Base-Ring II                               | L48-67     | Lentoid flask, rim worn, hard fired, reddish brown fabric exterior, gray fabric interior, fine, brown to dark gray slip, highly burnished, white decoration, surface worn                                          | Fig. 19:3     |
| Base-Ring II                               | L48-68     | Juglet, hard fired, orangish brown fabric exterior, gray fabric interior, fine, dark brown slip, white decoration, burnished                                                                                       | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L48-70     | Jug, very hard fired, light brownish red fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, white inclusions, light reddish brown slip, once burnished                                                                          | Fig. 19:2     |
| Bucchero                                   | L48-33     | Juglet, handmade, hard fired, light brown fabric, fine, light brown slip, base deliberately cut?                                                                                                                   | Fig. 20:2     |
| Bucchero                                   | L48-56     | Jug, handmade, hard fired, thin section of light brown fabric exterior, gray fabric interior, fine, light brown slip, plastic decoration, burnished                                                                | Fig. 20:1     |
| Bucchero                                   | L48-57     | Jug, very hard fired, dark gray fabric, medium-fine, white inclusions, dark brown to gray slip, not burnished (or worn?)                                                                                           | Fig. 20:3     |
| Levantine import                           | N60        | Lentoid flask, intact, rim worn, wheelmade (two halves joined), medium-hard fired, light red fabric, medium-fine, light yellowish brown slip, dark brown decoration                                                | Fig. 27       |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-49     | LH IIA/LM IB beaked jug (FS 141), hard fired, light yellowish brown fabric, fine, light yellow slip, lustrous red to dark brown decoration (foliate band FM 64, simple papyrus FM 11), potmark on base             | Fig. 13       |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-23     | LH IIIA medium piriform jar (FS 39), hard fired, light yellowish pink fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, light brown to dark brown decoration (scale pattern: FM 70), potmark on base; most likely Cypriot      | Fig. 23:5     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-1      | LH IIIA2 shallow cup (FS 220), hard fired, light orange fabric, light yellow core, very fine, light yellow slip, linear red decoration                                                                             | Fig. 23:2     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-4      | LH IIIA2(-B) trefoil-mouthed jug (FS 139), hard fired, very light gray fabric interior, light yellow fabric exterior, fine, light yellow slip, dark brown decoration (bovid and lozenge [FM 73] on shoulder), worn | Fig. 23:1     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-59     | LH IIIA2-B small globular stirrup jar (FS 171), medium-hard fired, light brown fabric, fine, light yellowish brown slip, linear orangish red decoration, very worn                                                 | Fig. 24:3     |
| Mycenaean                                  | N65        | LH IIIA2-B stemmed goblet (FS 267), medium-hard fired, light greenish yellow fabric, medium-fine, self-slip, burnished                                                                                             | Fig. 23:4     |
| Mycenaean                                  | N68        | LH IIIA2-B straight-sided alabastron (FS 94), medium-hard fired, very light red fabric, very fine, self-slip?, red decoration (linear, quirk [FM 48] on shoulder), worn                                            | Fig. 24:4     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-22     | LH IIIB(1) ring-based krater (FM 281-82), hard fired, light brown fabric, fine, lustrous, very light yellow slip, lustrous dark brown decoration (fishes)                                                          | Fig. 24:1     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-15     | LH IIIB shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, light orangish brown fabric, very fine, yellow slip, red decoration                                                                                                     | Fig. 26:8     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L48-20     | LH IIIB shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, light brown fabric, fine, light yellow slip, red decoration                                                                                                             | —             |

|                        |        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |           |
|------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mycenaean              | L48-30 | LH IIIA2-B small globular stirrup jar (FS 171), hard fired, light yellowish to light greenish brown fabric, very fine, light greenish yellow slip, linear dark brown decoration, very worn, potmark on base and lower part of vessel | Fig. 24:2 |
| Mycenaean              | L48-37 | LH IIIB shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, orange fabric, fine, light orange slip, lustrous red decoration (n-pattern [FM 60])                                                                                                       | —         |
| Mycenaean              | L48-41 | LH IIIB shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, brownish orange fabric, fine, light yellowish brown slip, red decoration                                                                                                                  | —         |
| Mycenaean              | L48-42 | LH IIIB shallow bowl (FS 296), medium-hard fired, orange fabric, fine, orange slip, red decoration (n-pattern [FM 60])                                                                                                               | Fig. 23:3 |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-8  | Rounded bowl, complete profile, medium-hard fired, light greenish yellow fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, light greenish yellow slip                                                                                  | Fig. 26:1 |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-18 | Bowl, medium-hard fired, light brown fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, self-slip                                                                                                                                       | Fig. 26:2 |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-29 | Bowl, medium-hard fired, light yellow to light orange fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, self-slip                                                                                                                      | —         |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-31 | Jug, hard fired, light brown fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, light yellow to light orange slip                                                                                                                       | —         |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-58 | Jug, hard fired, orange fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, light yellow slip                                                                                                                                            | Fig. 26:3 |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-74 | Shallow bowl, hard fired, brownish yellow fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, light grayish yellow slip                                                                                                                  | —         |
| Plain White Wheelmade  | L48-75 | Krater, hard fired, light yellow to orangish brown fabric, medium-fine, multicolored inclusions, light grayish yellow slip                                                                                                           | —         |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-2  | Spindle bottle, complete profile, hard fired, light red fabric, fine, orange slip, horizontally and vertically burnished potmark on base                                                                                             | —         |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-3  | Platter, complete, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, dark orange slip, burnished, potmark on base                                                                                                                                     | Fig. 18:2 |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-40 | Spindle bottle, complete, hard fired, orange fabric, very fine, reddish orange slip, vertically burnished, potmark on base                                                                                                           | Fig. 18:1 |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-64 | Spindle bottle, complete, hard fired, orangish red fabric, fine, orangish red slip, vertically burnished, potmark on base                                                                                                            | —         |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-65 | Spindle bottle, almost complete, rim missing, hard fired, orangish red fabric, very fine, orangish red slip, vertically burnished, potmark on base                                                                                   | —         |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-71 | Spindle bottle, lower part, very hard fired, dark orange fabric, very fine, reddish orange slip, vertically burnished, potmark on base                                                                                               | —         |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-72 | Spindle bottle, lower part, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, orangish red slip, vertically burnished, potmark on base                                                                                                                | —         |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade | L48-73 | Spindle bottle, lower part, hard fired, orangish red fabric, fine, few white inclusions, red slip, vertically burnished, worn, potmark on base                                                                                       | —         |
| White Painted VI       | L48-36 | Bowl, handmade, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, light yellow to light orange slip, dark red decoration                                                                                                                              | Fig. 14   |
| White Shaved           | L48-28 | Juglet, handmade, hard fired, dark brown to light reddish brown fabric, very fine, thick light yellow to light orange slip, knife shaved                                                                                             | Fig. 22:4 |
| White Slip I           | L48-38 | Bowl, hard fired, dark reddish brown fabric, gray core, fine, thick very light brown slip, red decoration, burnished                                                                                                                 | Fig. 15   |
| White Slip II early    | L48-14 | Large bowl, hard fired, dark brown fabric exterior, gray fabric interior and core, medium-fine, mainly white inclusions, white to light gray slip, dark brown decoration, burnished                                                  | Fig. 21:1 |
| White Slip II early    | L48-21 | Large bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, medium-fine, white inclusions, thick white to bluish gray slip, dark brown decoration, burnished                                                                                                | Fig. 21:2 |
| White Slip II early    | L48-32 | Bowl, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, thick light yellow slip, dark brown decoration                                                                                                                             | Fig. 21:3 |
| White Slip II early    | L48-39 | Bowl, hard fired, light gray fabric, fine, thick white slip, dark brown decoration                                                                                                                                                   | Fig. 21:4 |
| White Slip II normal   | L48-5  | Bowl, hard fired, dark brown fabric, medium-fine, light brown slip, dark brown decoration, burnished                                                                                                                                 | —         |
| White Slip II normal   | L48-34 | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, medium-fine, mainly white inclusions, thick very light yellow slip, dark brown decoration                                                                                                             | Fig. 22:1 |
| White Slip II normal   | L48-43 | Bowl, hard fired, light gray fabric interior/core, brown fabric exterior, medium-fine, thick light gray slip, dark brown decoration                                                                                                  | Fig. 22:2 |
| White Slip II normal   | L48-45 | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, fine, thick white to very light yellowish brown slip, dark brown decoration                                                                                                                           | —         |

Table 1.—continued

| <i>Pottery (Wares in Alphabetical Order)</i> |            |                                                                                                                                                                    |               |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Ware</i>                                  | <i>No.</i> | <i>Description</i>                                                                                                                                                 | <i>Figure</i> |
| White Slip II normal                         | L48-48     | Bowl, hard fired, dark brown fabric, thin gray core, medium-fine, light yellowish brown to light gray slip, dark brown decoration                                  | Fig. 22:3     |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-17     | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric interior, dark brown fabric exterior, medium-fine, light gray slip, brown decoration                                                 | —             |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-44     | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, fine, thick very light brownish gray slip, dark brown decoration                                                                    | Fig. 25:1     |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-46     | Bowl, hard fired, brown fabric, gray core, medium-fine, light grayish brown slip, brown decoration                                                                 | —             |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-50     | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, medium-coarse, mainly white inclusions, white slip, dark brown decoration                                                  | —             |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-51     | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, medium-coarse, mainly white inclusions, white slip, dark brown decoration                                                  | —             |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-52     | Bowl, hard fired, dark brown fabric, gray core, medium-fine, light brown slip, dark brown decoration                                                               | Fig. 25:2     |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-53     | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, gray core, medium-fine, light yellowish brown to light gray slip, dark brown decoration                                    | —             |
| White Slip II normal/late                    | L48-63     | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, medium-coarse, mainly white inclusions, white slip, dark brown decoration                                                  | Fig. 25:3     |
| White Slip II late                           | N59        | Bowl, hard fired, light red fabric, medium-fine, pink slip, dark brown decoration, burnished                                                                       | Fig. 25:5     |
| White Slip II late                           | N62        | Bowl, hard fired, brownish red fabric, dark gray core, medium-fine, light brown to pink slip, dark brown decoration                                                | —             |
| White Slip II late                           | L48-24     | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, fine, thick white slip, brown decoration, burnished                                                                                 | Fig. 25:4     |
| White Slip II late                           | L48-47     | Bowl, hard fired, brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, thick light brown to light gray slip, dark brown decoration                                          | —             |
| White Slip II late                           | L48-66     | Bowl, very hard fired, reddish brown fabric, dark gray core, medium-fine, light brownish gray slip, dark brown decoration                                          | —             |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-7      | Shallow bowl, hard fired, light brown fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, light yellowish brown slip, dark brown decoration on interior                | —             |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-11     | Shallow bowl, medium-hard fired, reddish orange fabric, medium-fine, multicolored inclusions, light yellow to orange slip, dark red decoration, partly flaking off | —             |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-12     | Shallow bowl (FS 296; LC IIC-LC IIIA1), hard fired, brownish orange fabric, fine, orange slip, linear red decoration                                               | Fig. 26:7     |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-13     | Shallow bowl, complete, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, self-slip, dark reddish brown decoration                                                                  | Fig. 26:6     |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-19     | Handleless bowl (FS 210), hard fired, light reddish brown fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, light yellowish brown slip, dark brown decoration        | Fig. 26:5     |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-27     | Bowl, complete, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, light yellow slip exterior, orange slip interior, dark lilac to brown decoration                                  | —             |
| White Painted Wheelmade                      | L48-35     | Small jar, complete, very hard fired, orange fabric, light yellow to light orange slip, red decoration                                                             | Fig. 26:4     |
| <i>Small Finds</i>                           |            |                                                                                                                                                                    |               |
| <i>Object</i>                                | <i>No.</i> | <i>Description*</i>                                                                                                                                                | <i>Figure</i> |
| Scarab                                       | N75        | Steatite, gold-mounted; L: 1.1 cm, max. W: 0.8 cm, H: 0.4 cm, Wt: < 1 g                                                                                            | Fig. 12:2     |
| Scarab                                       | N78        | Steatite, gold-mounted, intact, traces of blue color; inscription: <i>men-kheper-re</i> ; L: 1.9, W: 1.4, H: 0.7, D hole: 0.2, Wt: 3 g                             | Fig. 12:1     |
| Scarab                                       | N86        | Steatite, intact; L: 1.3, max. H: 0.6, max. W: 0.9, D hole: 0.2, Wt: 1 g                                                                                           | Fig. 12:3     |
| Cylinder seal                                | N64        | Hematite, complete; H: 2.2, D: 0.9, D hole: 0.3, Wt: 3 g                                                                                                           | Fig. 28:1     |
| Cylinder seal                                | N72        | Chlorite or hematite, intact; H: 2.4, D: 1.2, D hole: 0.3, Wt: 6 g                                                                                                 | Fig. 28:4     |
| Cylinder seal                                | N73        | Hematite, almost intact, upper part worn; H: 2.3, D: 1.0, D hole: 0.4, Wt: 4 g                                                                                     | Fig. 28:2     |
| Cylinder seal                                | N76        | Hematite, complete; H: 2.8, D: 1.1, D hole: 0.3, Wt: 10 g                                                                                                          | Fig. 28:3     |

|                       |         |                                                                                                                       |                  |
|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Cylinder seal         | N80     | Steatite, intact; H: 1.9, D: 0.8, D hole: 0.25, Wt: 1 g                                                               | Fig. 28:5        |
| Gold earrings         | N77     | Two earrings, intact, ring and “grape-shaped” decoration; D ring: 1.0, D “grapes”: 0.3, max. H: 1.7, Wt: ca. 1 g each | Fig. 12:4        |
| Gold earrings         | N79     | Two earrings, intact, ring and “grape-shaped” decoration; D ring: 1.2, max. H: 1.8, D “grapes”: 0.3, Wt: ca. 1 g each | Fig. 12:5        |
| Gold sheet            | N69     | Leaf-shaped part of headband/diadem, intact, incised decoration; L: 10 cm, max. W: 1.3 cm, Th: 0.01 cm, Wt: < 1 g     | Fig. 12:6        |
| Beads                 | N83     | Five gold beads, complete                                                                                             | Fig. 12:7        |
| Beads                 | L48–16A | 30 beads of carnelian: 1 spool-shaped, 3 disk-shaped, 1 fluted, 25 globular                                           | Fig. 12:7        |
| Bead                  | L48–16B | White paste, complete, inlays broken in antiquity; D: 1.0 cm, D hole: 0.3 cm, Wt: < 1 g                               | Fig. 12:7        |
| Bead                  | N63     | Turquoise, oblong; L: 3.0, D: 1.0, D hole: 0.3–0.4, Wt: 4 g                                                           | Fig. 12:7        |
| Bead                  | N71     | Glass, globular, intact, black and white glass over a glass core; D: 1.5, H: 1.3, Wt: < 1 g                           | Fig. 12:7        |
| Bead                  | N82     | Amethyst, oblong; L: 1.9, D: 0.9, D hole: 0.3, Wt: 2 g                                                                | Fig. 12:7        |
| Amulet                | N67     | Faience, complete, worn, depicting Bes; L: 2.5, max. W: 1.2, max. Th: 0.8, D hole: 0.1, Wt: 1 g                       | Fig. 29:2        |
| Ivory                 | N85     | Lid (?), oval, complete, incised at side; L: 6.5, W: 4.4, Th: 0.7, Wt: 23 g                                           | Fig. 29:1        |
| Astragali             | L48–76  | 3 <i>Ovis/Capra</i> astragali (1 worked)                                                                              | —                |
| Spindle whorl         | N74     | Black limestone, biconical, intact, incised decoration; H: 1.7, D: 1.7, D hole: 0.5, Wt: 6 g                          | Fig. 29:3 center |
| Spindle whorl         | N81     | Black limestone, biconical, complete; H: 1.8, D: 1.5, D hole: 0.5, Wt: 4 g                                            | Fig. 29:3 right  |
| Spindle whorl         | N84     | Black limestone, spindle whorl, biconical, complete; H: 2.1, D: 1.9, D hole: 0.4, Wt: 10 g                            | Fig. 29:3 left   |
| Bronze dagger         | N70     | Complete, corroded, three rivets preserved; L: 25, max. W: 3.2, max. Th: 1.4, D rivets: 0.6, L rivets: 2.5            | —                |
| Bronze bowl           | L48–26  | Rim, corroded                                                                                                         | —                |
| Bronze bracelets      | L48–77  | Two bracelets, fragmentary                                                                                            | —                |
| Bronze finger ring    | L48–78  | Finger ring, fragmentary                                                                                              | —                |
| Bronze rivet          | L48–79  | Rivet, corroded                                                                                                       | —                |
| Bronze toggle pin (?) | L48–80  | Toggle pin(?), fragmentary                                                                                            | —                |
| Bronze                | L48–81  | Amorphous piece of bronze                                                                                             | —                |

\* Measurements in cm, unless otherwise noted.

condition. Numerous teeth, which were discovered mainly along the periphery of the tomb, were in a good state of preservation. Consequently, the estimation of the minimum number of buried individuals and their age at death is based on the teeth (their number, type, and degree of development and attrition) (Fischer 1986: 6–46; AlQahtani, Hector, and Liversidge 2010). According to type and development, the distribution of the 272 teeth—120 teeth from L48 West and 152 teeth from L48 East—is as follows:

#### L48 West

- Fully developed permanent teeth:<sup>5</sup> 11 anterior teeth, 7 canines, 19 premolars, and 34 molars;

- Partially developed permanent teeth:<sup>6</sup> 4 anterior teeth, 5 canines, 10 premolars, and 16 molars; and
- Deciduous (milk) teeth: 7 anterior teeth, 2 canines, and 5 molars.

The minimum number of the buried individuals is eight. Their estimated ages are: one juvenile, 5–6 years old; one juvenile, 6–8 years old; two juveniles 8–10 years old; and four adults, two of whom are roughly between 20 and 30 years old and two around 40 years old.

#### L48 East

- Fully developed teeth: 13 anterior teeth, 13 canines, 24 premolars, and 61 molars;

<sup>5</sup> These refer to adults from around the age of 18.

<sup>6</sup> These refer to younger individuals' teeth, which are not fully developed; that is, the crowns are fully or partially developed, but the development of the roots is not complete.

- Partially developed teeth: 3 anterior teeth, 2 canines, 5 premolars, and 13 molars; and
- Deciduous (milk) teeth: 10 anterior teeth, 4 canines, and 4 molars.

The minimum number of buried individuals is nine. The estimated ages are: four juveniles, 6–9 years old, and five adults, three of whom are roughly 20–30 years old, one around 40 years old, and one between 40 and 50 years old.

### *Comments on the Burials*

No severe pathological conditions could be distinguished in the osteological remains of the eight juveniles and the nine adults. Some teeth show carious lesions. Many of the teeth of the adults are covered with calculus, which in most cases leads to periodontal disease—that is, the premature loosening and eventual loss of teeth.

The sequence of the burials of the 17 individuals (8 juveniles and 9 adults) could not be fully established. There are, however, numerous undisturbed or only slightly moved finds along the periphery of the tomb, which enabled us to present a stratigraphic model of the sequence of the burials and the associated burial gifts (Fig. 9, reduced to three periods).

Three interpretations of the obvious disorder among the skeletal remains seem likely. All have a common element: The tomb has been reused for several interments. Prior to each interment, the skeletal remains and finds were swept aside along the periphery of the tomb (Figs. 10, 11). Finally, at the end of the life span of the tomb, it had been reopened once again in order to prepare it for (an)other burial(s). Again, skeletons and finds were swept aside along the periphery of the tomb where the majority of the skeletal remains and intact vessels were found. For unknown reasons, the tomb was closed again without a new interment and not reopened until we discovered it in 2016, as we could find no trace of in situ burials. Other possibilities could be that this tomb was opened accidentally by people who were preparing for another burial or intended to dig a well.<sup>7</sup> The diggers might have been unaware of the presence of a tomb; but when they realized they were digging into a grave, they closed it again without looting it. The third explanation may be that a secondary treatment took place (see below). Considering the number and nature of the finds that were found by the expedition, the tomb was not looted.

<sup>7</sup> In general, the wells are more recent than the tombs.

### *Comments on Chronologically Indicative Finds*<sup>8</sup>

The oldest possible date of this tomb is provided by imports—for instance, a Late Minoan (LM) IB/Late Helladic (LH) IIA jug, together with a number of Cypriot-produced vessels, including White Painted VI and White Slip I, and to some extent numerous vessels of Base-Ring I, and Red Lustrous Wheelmade Ware.<sup>9</sup> The most recent acceptable date for the tomb is also offered by local and Mycenaean imported pottery. Between these two chronologically separated groups of finds is the bulk of pottery from Tomb X. Below, the find material is presented in three chronologically arranged periods labeled “Period 1,” “Period 2,” and “Period 3” (see Fig. 9). According to the pottery, it can be deduced from Figure 9 that the transitions between these periods are floating, which points to several interments in each of the periods.

**Period 1.** The first discussed import is one of the gold-mounted steatite scarabs from the western chamber (L48 West), which shows the remains of blue glaze on the steatite (N78 [Fig. 12:1]). To the left is the depiction of the pharaoh, clad in a kilt, walking to the right. He carries the “blue crown” (*hprš*), the uraeus on the forehead, and the *h*q-scepter in the bent front hand. The other hand is straight behind the body. To the right is a cartouche, which reads *Mn-hpr-rʿ/Men-kheper-(ka)-Re* (“Lasting are the manifestation and the spirit of Re”), corresponding to the throne name of Thutmose III. The heavy gold mounting suggests the secondary use of the scarab as a ring bezel.

The gold-mounted scarab has parallels in the original area of its production: Egypt. Three scarabs, for instance, are recorded as part of a hoard that includes various Egyptian and apparently Syrian and other Near Eastern jewelry objects within the ruins of the main temple of the goddess Bastet at Bubastis (Brandl 2010: 210b, d, e). The hoard, which is dated roughly to the period of the 18th–20th/22nd Dynasties, also includes a scarab with traces of blue glaze that parallels the object from Hala Sultan Tekke (Brandl 2010: 212e).<sup>10</sup> In both cases, the deep blue glaze was certainly applied in order to imitate lapis lazuli. Among the numerous parallels without gold-mounting from outside Egypt is one from Tell el-ʿAjjul (Keel 1997: 277, no. 508).

Scarabs, in general, are poor chronological indicators. Scarabs with the cartouche of Thutmose III, of which there are numerous examples, were produced

<sup>8</sup> Only vessels with complete or almost complete profiles or those with distinctive decoration (Find Classes 1 and 2) will be discussed.

<sup>9</sup> For the discussion on the provenance of this ware, see below.

<sup>10</sup> The various dates in this publication have been confirmed by H. Brandl (pers. comm., 2016).





Fig. 10. Tomb X: eastern part with repositioned tomb gifts. (Photo by P. M. Fischer)

Thutmose III at 1494–1483 B.C.E. (1σ) and 1498–1474 B.C.E. (2σ). Nevertheless, Othmar Keel considers the somewhat stylized engraving of the hieroglyphs *Mn-hpr*<sup>6</sup>/*Men-kheper-(ka)-Re* in the cartouche of scarab N78 as an indication that they were inscribed after the reign of Thutmose III, maybe as late as the 13th century B.C.E. or the 19th Dynasty (pers. comm., 2016). In any case, this scarab provides a terminus post quem.

Among the approximately 80 vessels with complete profiles<sup>12</sup> is another import, also from the western chamber, which provides a convenient relative date and a terminus post quem: an LH IIA/LM IB beaked jug (FS 141, FM 11;<sup>13</sup> L48–49 [Fig. 13]), which is one of the earliest known Aegean imports to Cyprus.<sup>14</sup> We hope that the results of our ongoing petrographic and neutron activa-

tion analyses will define the provenance of this important vessel (Minoan versus Mycenaean). Selected parallels from both spheres of cultures include a find from Cyprus itself: a cup with a corresponding papyrus motif from Limassol-Enaerios Tomb 621-VI, which is described as LM IB (Karageorghis and Violaris 2012: 112, 176: pl. 44:4; here described as “lily-flowers” FM 9). A related beaked jug comes from Volos/Iolkos Tomb 6, which is dated there to the LH IIB period (Mountjoy 1999: 834, fig. 334:36; see context in Theochares and Theochares 1970). The production date of the Hala Sultan Tekke beaked jug might well have been just before or at the beginning of Hatshepsut’s/Thutmose III’s reign.

Among the oldest locally produced vessels from Tomb X is a White Painted VI hemispherical bowl (L48–36 [Fig. 14]). Usually, this ware is dated from late Middle Cypriot III to the beginning of LC IB (e.g., Åström 1972a: 700; see more recent discussions in Crewe 2007: 35–36, 113–115; Maguire 2009: 69–75; and Manning 2014: 189, fig. 36). A close parallel comes from Laksha tou Riou (north of the Larnaca Salt Lake), Tomb 4 (Myres

<sup>12</sup> Future restoration will certainly increase the number of vessels with complete profiles.

<sup>13</sup> FS refers to Furumark Shape and FM to Furumark Motif (Furumark 1941).

<sup>14</sup> Valuable input on the Mycenaean pottery has thankfully been received from Penelope Mountjoy and Reinhard Jung.



**Fig. 11.** Tomb X: southeastern part with repositioned skeletal remains and tomb gifts. (Photo by P. M. Fischer)

1897: 150, fig. 7:12). However, the classification of White Painted wares is problematic, as good parallels from indisputable stratigraphic contexts are not known to us.

Another locally produced bowl, which can be used to define the highest possible date for our tomb, is of White Slip I ware (L48–38 [Fig. 15]). The renewed excavations at Tell el-ʿAjjul produced, in addition to late Middle Bronze Age pottery, mainly Late Bronze Age pottery, many specimens of which were imported from Cyprus but also from the southern Levant and Egypt.<sup>15</sup> White Slip I monochrome and bichrome decorated appear at Tell el-ʿAjjul in H5A, the more recent substratum of H5. H5A starts in LC IA2 (Fischer 2003: 273–79). In regard to chronology, there are—in addition to the well-stratified

ceramic material from H8 (oldest) to H1 at Tell el-ʿAjjul (Fischer and Sadeq 2000; 2002; Fischer 2003; 2009)—48 pieces of pumice that hint at absolute dates. According to neutron activation analyses of these 48 samples, 45 are from the Minoan eruption of the Thera volcano (and only 1 from the pre-Minoan eruption at Thera and two from Nisyros [Fischer 2003: 265–71, see esp. 270, table 5]).<sup>16</sup> The absolute date of the Minoan eruption of the Thera volcano is a hotly discussed topic. The conventional (low) chronology, which mainly is based on Egyptian genealogy and the appearance of White Slip I at Tell el-Dabʿa, dates the eruption to the second half of the 16th century B.C.E. (see, e.g., Bietak 2003; Warren 2009; and Wiener 2009). However, numerous radiocarbon dates place the eruption of Thera to the last quarter of the 17th century

<sup>15</sup> Two seasons of excavations produced 830 sherds/vessels from Cyprus, 55 from the Jordan Valley/southern Lebanon, and 31 from Egypt (Fischer 2003: 264, tables 1, 2).

<sup>16</sup> The neutron activation analyses were kindly carried out by Max Bichler, Atomic Institute, University of Vienna, Austria.



Fig. 12. Tomb X: one plain and two gold-mounted scarabs of steatite; earrings, headband/diadem, and other jewelry of gold, carnelian, glass, faience, amethyst, and turquoise. (Photos by T. Bürge and P. M. Fischer)



Fig. 13. Tomb X: LH IIA/LM IB beaked jug from Tomb X. (Photo by P. M. Fischer; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

B.C.E. (Friedrich and Heinemeier 2009; Manning 2014: 189, fig. 36 and *passim*). This high chronology has support in the radiocarbon dates from Tell el-‘Ajjul (Fischer 2003; 2009: 264–65, fig. 4). However, the well-known calibration plateau in this time span—that is, roughly 1675 cal. B.C.E. to 1525 cal. B.C.E. (e.g., Bronk Ramsey, Manning, and Galimberti 2004)—would also allow a lower date for the Theran eruption, according to the dates from Tell el-‘Ajjul—unless pumice from the Minoan eruption would appear in the (thus-far insufficiently excavated) occupational layer H6, which predates H5B at Tell el-‘Ajjul and would support a high chronology.<sup>17</sup> Based on

<sup>17</sup> In the last season at Tell el-‘Ajjul, only 64 m<sup>2</sup> of H6 were exposed (Fischer and Sadeq 2002).

stylistic grounds (i.e., the quite sloppily applied monochrome decoration of the bowl from Tomb X), we propose to date this vessel quite near the end of the life span of White Slip I, with a suggested date around the middle of the 15th century B.C.E.

Excellently executed Base-Ring I vessels can also, to some extent, be used to establish the oldest possible date for Tomb X. Ten of the 14 recorded Base-Ring vessels from Tomb X belong to the Base-Ring I type.<sup>18</sup> These include

<sup>18</sup> Our modified “Swedish system,” which subdivides Base-Ring Ware into Red and Gray Base-Ring I, and Base-Ring II, is used here. The validity of the conventional “Swedish system” can be questioned, and Sarah Vaughan (1991; 2001) proposed a new system of classification based on ware types, which, unfortunately, was never followed up.



Fig. 14. Tomb X: White Painted VI bowl. (Photo by T. Bürge; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)



Fig. 15. Tomb X: White Slip I bowl. (Photo by T. Bürge; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)



Fig. 16. Tomb X: Red Base-Ring I vessels. (Photos by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

four bowls (L48–9, L48–54, L48–61, L48–63), two tankards (L48–25, N66), a jug (L48–6), two juglets (L48–55, L48–62), and a double juglet (N61). As for the surface treatment, we can distinguish between two subgroups in the tomb: The first, “Red Base-Ring I,” shows a red to reddish brown lustrous slip and can usually be found on smaller vessels; and the second, “Gray Base-Ring I,” which is most commonly represented by larger vessels, has a dark gray and sometimes almost black surface that is often slightly lustrous, although there are also matte variants.

Among “Red Base-Ring I” is a small tankard with plastic decorations (N66 [Fig. 16:1]), several juglets, among which are twin juglets with a shared handle and plastic, incised herringbone decoration (N61 [Fig. 16:3]), another juglet with plastic decoration (N48–62 [Fig. 16:2]), and a bowl (L48–61 [Fig. 16:4]). All are thin-walled and

fired very hard. “Gray Base-Ring I” is represented by, among other things, a tankard (L48–25 [Fig. 17:1]) and an almost 50 cm-high jug (L48–6 [Fig. 17:2]).

According to P. Åström (1972b: 700), the production of Base-Ring I began already in LC IIA2 in the 16th century B.C.E. and continued at least until LC IIA2, thus including the reign of Thutmosis III and much of the LC IB period. However, it should be emphasized that P. Åström’s classification is mainly based on tomb material of an uncertain chronology, owing to the fact that at the beginning of the 1970s, when he published his book, well-stratified Base-Ring I material was—and still is—scarce. Sturt Manning dates “the adoption of mature Base-ring I” to roughly the mid-16th century B.C.E. (2014: 189, fig. 36). As far as export is concerned, it seems evident from a number of publications that it culminated in Egypt during the reign



Fig. 17. Tomb X: Gray Base-Ring I vessels. (Photo by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

of Thutmose III (e.g., Merrillees 2001; Eriksson 2001), which is also confirmed by the bulk of this ware in H3–H4 at Tell el-Ajjul (Fischer 2003: 264, 289).

A further group of vessels that would support the possibility that Tomb X could have been used for the first time before the reign of Thutmose III consists of seven spindle bottles (L48–2, L48–40 [Fig. 18:1], L48–64, L48–65, L48–71, L48–72, L48–73) and a platter of Red Lustrous Wheelmade Ware (L48–3 [Fig. 18:2]). The provenance of this distinctive ware is still under discussion. (North) Syria, Cilicia, and even Egypt have been suggested as places of origin or manufacture (see compilation in Eriksson 1991: 82–83, table 10.1). It has been claimed by Kathryn Eriksson that they were

produced in Cyprus (1991; 1993). Anatolia has been suggested as the probable or possible homeland of this ware (Knappett 2000). Then again, Carl Knappett and his colleagues (2005: 48–49) suggested that this ware derives from a single source, with northern Cyprus the most likely candidate, although clay samples from this region are insufficiently analyzed. However, Knappett (2000) has noted that the southern Anatolian coast in the area of Anamur and Ovacik is at least broadly compatible geologically with the fabric of this ware (see also Schubert and Kozal 2007, who come to a similar conclusion). Recent studies by Peter Grave and his colleagues (2014) suggest a provenance from the Mamonia Complex in western Cyprus.



Fig. 18. Tomb X: selection of Red Lustrous Wheelmade vessels. (Photo by T. Bürge; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

Recent petrographic analyses<sup>19</sup> of several of our Red Lustrous Wheelmade vessels show two distinct groups with a common feature: minerals from metamorphic

rocks that are not typical of southern Cypriot raw materials. One group, characterized by a very fine fabric, may be Cypriot, with a matching lithology at the Mamonia Complex in western Cyprus and the Pentadaktylos succession around Keryneia in northern Cyprus. The second group, which differs slightly from the first by its semi-fine fabric, may have southern Anatolian parallels (see above). However, more petrographic results and neutron

<sup>19</sup> All petrographic analyses referred to in this article have been carried out by Paula Waiman Barak. The results presented here are preliminary and part of a large-scale petrographic research program in connection with an advanced grant under the supervision of Fischer.



Fig. 19. Tomb X: Base-Ring II. (Photo by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

activation analyses are forthcoming in order to establish the provenance(s) of this ware.

Red Lustrous Wheelmade Ware is attested on Cyprus from LC IA2 (and most likely at the end of that period, according to Eriksson 2007b: 54) to the end of LC IIC. At Kalavassos, for instance, the peak of this ware seems to occur somewhat later in LC IIA2 (South and Steel 2007: 188). As far as export of this ware to Egypt is concerned, it has been suggested that it peaked during the time of Thutmose III (Eriksson 1993: 149), which is not contradicted by P. Åström (1972a: 701) or Manning (2014: 189, fig. 36). In Anatolia, Red Lustrous Wheelmade Ware appeared at the beginning of the 15th century B.C.E., and its quantitative peak was already passed before Šuppiluliuma I's period around 1350 B.C.E. (Mielke 2007; Schoop 2011: 262), which contradicts older views claiming an appearance only from the 14th century B.C.E. on (e.g., Eriksson 1993: 133–34).

Red Lustrous Wheelmade spindle bottles flourished during the entire life span of this ware (Eriksson 2007b:

52). According to Eriksson (1993: 40, 140, fig. 40), the life span of the relatively rare platters or bowls with ring bases should be narrowed to the LC IIA2 period, which is included in the next period, Period 2. Nevertheless, since most of the published Red Lustrous Wheelmade material comes from tombs with uncertain stratigraphies, the life span of platters and bowls might have been longer.

**Period 2.** There are four vessels among the locally produced Base-Ring II ware: two jugs (L48–60 [Fig. 19:1], L48–70), a juglet (L48–68), and a lentoid flask (L48–67 [Fig. 19:3]), which are decorated with white paint. Similar to Base-Ring I, Base-Ring II vessels are insecure chronological indicators, as there is a period of overlap in LC IIA (and possibly longer) in which both subtypes were in use (see already Åström 1972a: 700; 1972b: 137). A “special case” is represented by an undecorated Base-Ring II jug (L48–70 [Fig. 19:2]), the overall shape of which closely resembles Bucchero jugs. However, it lacks the plastic decoration typical of Bucchero-class pottery.

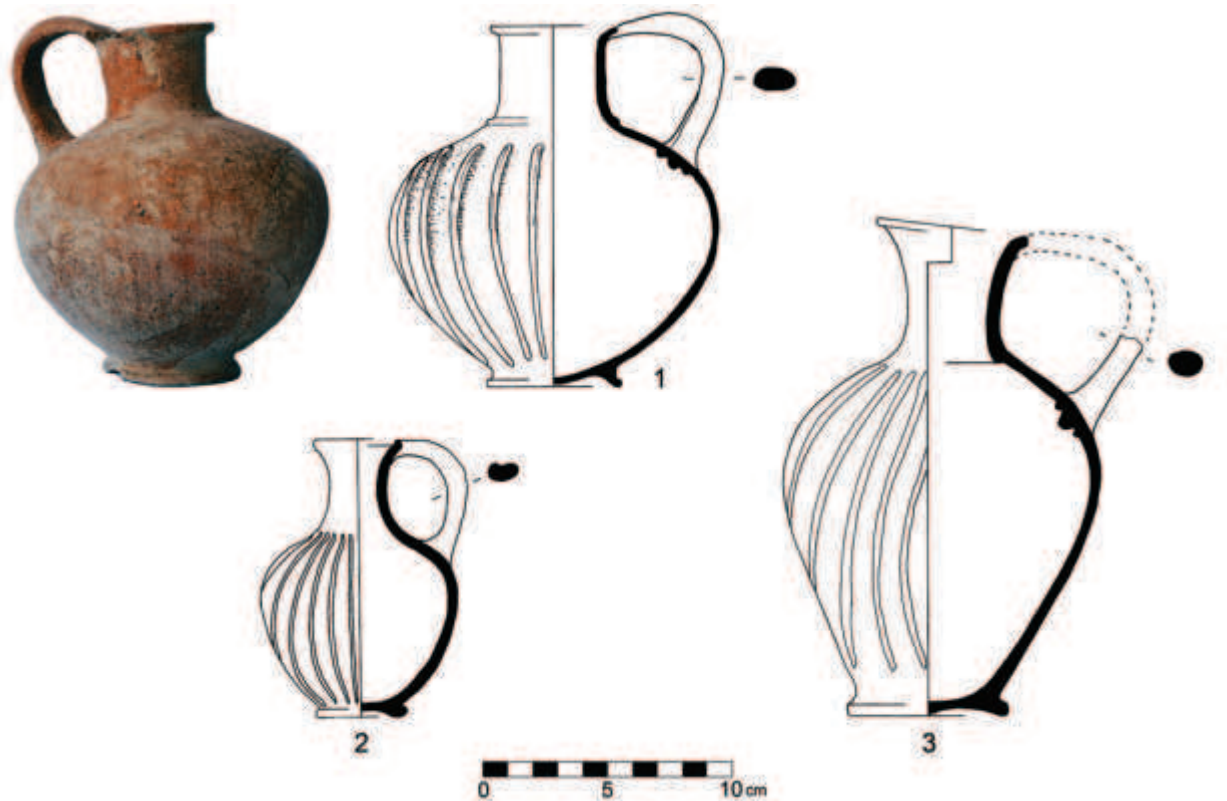


Fig. 20. Tomb X: Bucchero vessels. (Photo by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

Base-Ring II is attested from the LC IIA to LC IIC or the beginning of LC IIIA. The bulk of Base-Ring II from Tell el-‘Ajjul stems from Stratum H2 (LC IIA–B) (Fischer 2003: 264, table 6; 289). The latest Base-Ring II can be dated to the outgoing 13th century or the beginning of the 12th century, according to the material from the current excavation in the settlement of Hala Sultan Tekke, which corresponds to the evidence of other sites on Cyprus—for instance, Maa (Jung 2011: 66).

Two jugs (L48–56 [Fig. 20:1], L48–57 [Fig. 20:3]) and a juglet (L48–33 [Fig. 20:2]) of handmade Bucchero ware, which is a subtype or variant of Base-Ring II (Åström 1972b: 425; see also Karageorghis 2012: 235), were registered so far. The ware is attested from roughly LC IIA to LC III (Åström 1972a: 701).

In regard to the 23 recorded White Slip II bowls from Tomb X, four are of the early type (L48–14 [Fig. 21:1], L48–21 [Fig. 21:2], L48–32 [Fig. 21:3], L48–39 [Fig. 21:4]), which P. Åström (1972a: 700) dates to LC IIA. Among these are two large bowls with concave bases (L48–14, L48–21 [Fig. 21:1, 2]) decorated with ladders, lattices, and (framed) lozenges. Eriksson (2007a: 13, table

1B) dates these bowls to LC IB–IIA1.<sup>20</sup> Close parallels from Limassol *Enaerios*, Tomb 621–IV (Karageorghis and Violaris 2012: 171, pl. XXXIX:2) and Kalavassos *Ayios Dhimitrios*, Tomb 4 (South, Russell, and Keswani 1989: nos. K-AD 150, K-AD 513; fig. 52; pl. XXV), are dated to the LC IIA period based on the associated finds. A pattern similar to that on our large bowls comes from a bowl at Tell el-‘Ajjul, Stratum H2 (Fischer 2003: 277, fig. 5:2), which corresponds to the LC IIA–B period (Fischer 2003: 289, table 6).

Five White Slip II bowls are of the normal type (L48–5, L48–34 [Fig. 22:1], L48–43 [Fig. 22:2], L48–45, L48–48 [Fig. 22:3]), which covers a time span from the LC IIA1 to the LC IIC1, according to Eriksson (2007a: 13, table 1B). At Tell el-‘Ajjul, it occurs in Strata H2(A) and 1B (Fischer 2003: 277, fig. 5:4–9; 286–87), which are dated from LC IIA2 to IIC (Fischer 2003: 289).<sup>21</sup>

<sup>20</sup> The White Slip chronology presented in Eriksson 2007a is mainly based on evidence from tombs and must therefore be considered with caution.

<sup>21</sup> The normal (mature) type may survive into the later part of the Late Bronze Age at Tell el-‘Ajjul, which corresponds to the first half of



Fig. 21. Tomb X: early White Slip II bowls. (Photo by T. Bürge; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

There is only one (!) handmade White Shaved juglet (L48–28 [Fig. 22:4]). Parallels come, for instance, from the cargo of the Uluburun ship wreck (Hirschfeld 2011: 115, 117, fig. 1a–c), which sank around 1300 B.C.E. (Pu-

LC IIC, but these—the most recent layers in the area of the excavations at Tell el-‘Ajjul—are only scantily represented.

lak 1998: 213–14; Manning et al. 2009; see also comments in Bachhuber 2006: 347, n. 15). These juglets are present from the LC IB to LC IIB or possibly longer, according to P. Åström (1972a: 701). The fairly short life span of this ware in P. Åström’s table is contradicted by evidence from the new excavations at Hala Sultan Tekke, which shows that these vessels existed until the early LC IIIA (Fischer 2012b:

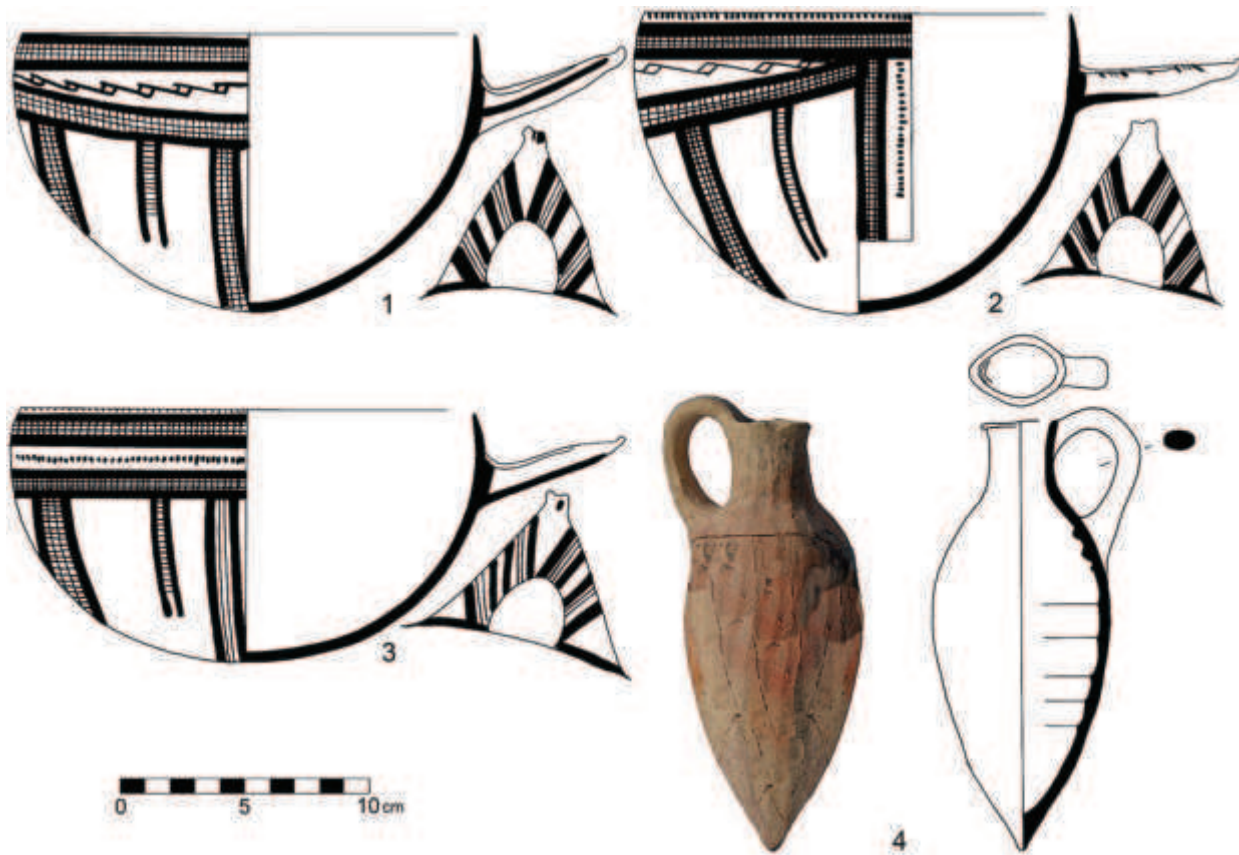


Fig. 22. Tomb X: normal White Slip II bowls (1–3) and White Shaved juglet (4). (Photo by T. Bürge; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

100, fig. 8:8, 9). Consequently, the shapes and production techniques of handmade White Shaved juglets remain virtually unchanged until around 1200 B.C.E. Therefore, this type of pottery is a poor chronological indicator.

In regard to Mycenaean imports, most are from the LH IIIA2–B period; therefore, only selected vessels are discussed here. The trefoil-mouthed jug (FS 139; L48–4 [Fig. 23:1]) with a bovid on the shoulder can be dated to the LH IIIA2 period, as its body is left as a single decorative unit filled with a foliate band (FM 64), in contrast to the LH IIIB type, where the bulls' bodies are divided into three zones, each with different decoration (Mountjoy 1993: 84). The shallow cup (FS 220; L48–1 [Fig. 23:2]) has a characteristic LH IIIA2 feature with its slightly concave base (Mountjoy 1986: 84, 110). The Mycenaean shallow bowls (FS 296) with an n-pattern (L48–37, L48–41, L48–42 [Fig. 23:3]) can be dated to the LH IIIB period (cf. a bowl from Hala Sultan Tekke, Tomb 2 [Karageorghis 1976: 84, no. 205]). An undecorated stemmed goblet (FS 267; N65 [Fig. 23:4]) has good parallels at LH IIIB1 destruction contexts from Mycenae (French 1967: 176, fig. 17:K4, K5; 190). One of the piri-

form jars from Tomb X (L48–23 [Fig. 23:5]) has a carefully painted scale pattern. This scale pattern (FM 70) is relatively rare for this shape on the Mycenaean mainland. Our visual and preliminary petrographic examination of the fabric suggests that this vessel is not Mycenaean but was produced in Cyprus.

The large Mycenaean “fish krater” (FS 281; L48–22 [Fig. 24:1]) can be dated to the early LH IIIB period—that is, roughly the first half of the 13th century. This ring-based krater (FS 281) appears in LH IIIB1 (Mountjoy 1986: 93). A close parallel is a krater from Cyprus (Vermeule and Karageorghis 1982: no. V.128), which is dated to the LH IIIB period on typological and stylistic grounds. The three remaining decorated vessels from the LH IIIA2–B period cannot be dated more exactly: two globular stirrup jars (FS 171; L48–30 [Fig. 24:2]; L48–59 [Fig. 24:3]), and a straight-sided alabastron (FS 94; N68 [Fig. 24:4]).

**Period 3.** As stated above, a number of wares were produced over quite a long time span. However, there are vessel types that we classify as belonging to the latest phase of occupation of the tomb.



Fig. 23. Tomb X: LH IIIA2-B pottery. (Photos by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)



Fig. 24. Tomb X: LH IIIA2-B pottery. (Photos by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

Eight White Slip II bowls are of the transitional normal/late type (L48-17, L48-44 [Fig. 25:1], L48-46, L48-50, L48-51, L48-52 [Fig. 25:2], L48-53, L48-63 [Fig. 25:3]). Five are of the late type (N59 [Fig. 25:5], N62, L48-24 [Fig. 25:4], L48-47, L48-66). These two groups of later types are characterized by a thinner, less bright slip and more carelessly painted decoration. They can be dated most likely to the 13th century B.C.E.—that is, LC

IIC (Eriksson 2007a: 13, table 1B). There is an obvious overlap between the normal and late styles, which can be demonstrated at Tell el-‘Ajjul, where both styles occur in Stratum 1B (corresponding to LC IIB/C; Fischer 2003: 277, fig. 5:4-9; 286-87).

There are a number of Plain White Wheelmade vessels that are difficult to date: four bowls (L48-8 [Fig. 26:1], L48-18 [Fig. 26:2], L48-29, L48-74), a krater (L48-75),

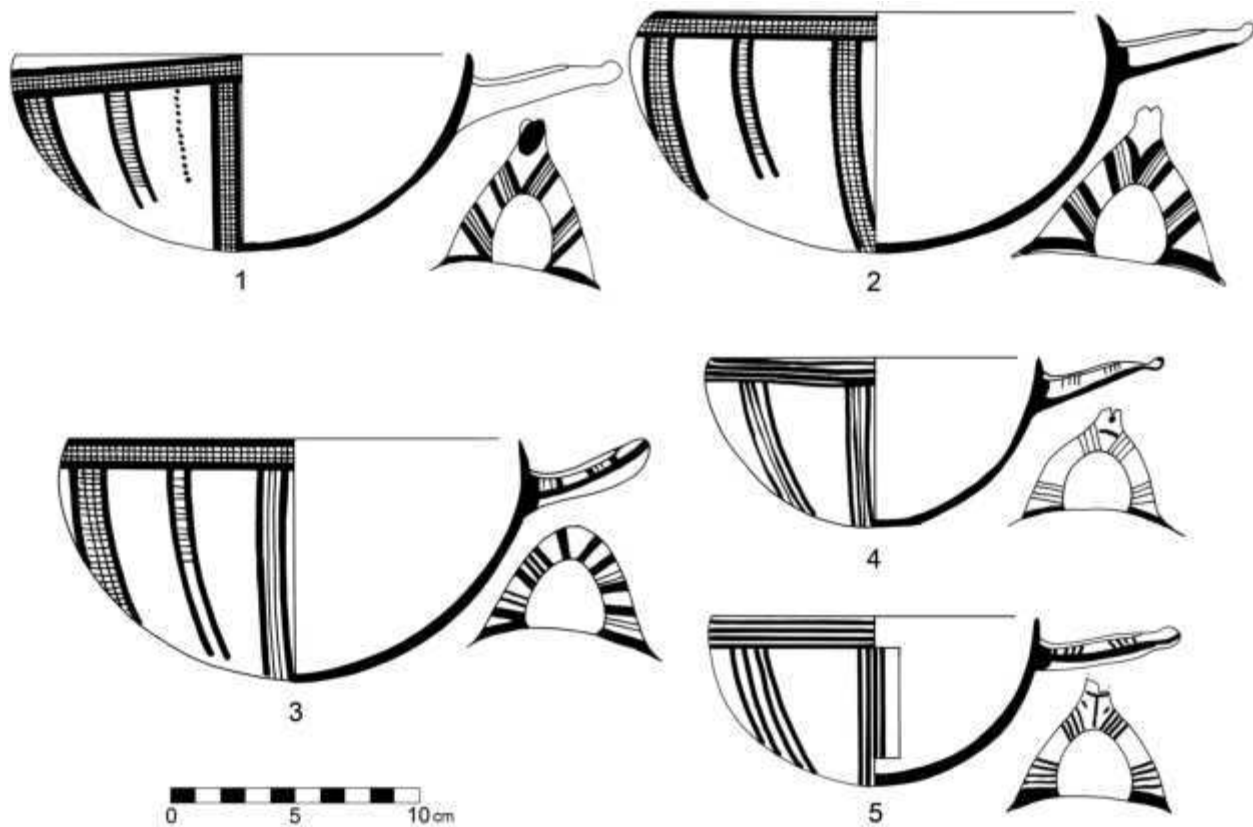


Fig. 25. Tomb X: White Slip II bowls: (1–3) transitional normal/late type and (4, 5) late type. (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh).

and two jugs (L48–31, L48–58 [Fig. 26:3]). This ware occurs from LC I to LC III and is therefore a very poor chronological indicator.

An “oddity,” which causes difficulties of dating, is the amphoriskos of White Painted Wheelmade ware (L48–35 [Fig. 26:4]). It somewhat resembles southern Levantine Late Bronze Age amphoriskoi (Tel Qashish: Ben-Tor and Bonfil 2003: 272, fig. 111:15; Beth-Shean: Mullins 2007: 436–38, 487, pl. 47:9; Tell Abu al-Kharaz: Fischer 2006: 274, fig. 295:1), but it has a considerably shorter neck than the Levantine vessels. The syntax of the decoration corresponds to Levantine counterparts. Another influence might come from Mycenaean pottery: The amphoriskos with vertical handles (FS 62) appears in the later part of the LH IIIB period—that is, just after the last period of use for Tomb X—and continues well into the Protogeometric period but is rare throughout all periods (Mountjoy 1986: 202). In any case, despite the ware and the surface treatment, the rim stance definitely speaks against an assignation of this vessel to the group of Mycenaean imports. According to preliminary petrographic analyses, it was produced at Hala Sultan Tekke

or in its vicinity. We suggest assigning this vessel to the late group of burial gifts.

Locally made shallow bowls of Mycenaean style—that is, White Painted Wheelmade Geometric-Style pottery (Fischer 2012a: 78–79; L48–7, L48–11, L48–12 [Fig. 26:7], L48–13 [Fig. 26:6], L48–19 [Fig. 26:5], L48–27)—and two other bowls of the same shape, which are most likely Mycenaean imports (L48–15 [Fig. 26:8], L48–20), are dated to the LH IIIB or possibly to early LH IIIC, corresponding to the transition LC IIC/IIIA (see references in Kling 1989: 132, fig. 5b).

Another import is a lentoid flask (N60 [Fig. 27]), which, according to preliminary petrographic analyses, was produced in the region south of the Carmel coast to Tell Qasile (Hamra group). Almost identical fabrics have been identified, for instance, at Tel Ifshar, Aphek, Tell Jatt, and Tel Zeror in Israel. In Cyprus, two-handled lentoid flasks appear in the Late Bronze Age and were a common vessel shape in the eastern Mediterranean. This shape (FS 186–88) was adapted by Mycenaean potters mainly for export in the eastern Mediterranean (Mountjoy 1986: 81; Leonard 1994: 80–87, see distribution in



**Fig. 26.** Tomb X: (1–3) Plain White Wheelmade vessels; (4) White Painted Wheelmade amphoriskos; and (5–8) bowls. (Photo by P. M. Fischer; drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)



Fig. 27. Tomb X: Levantine lentoid flask. (Photo by T. Bürge; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

maps 20, 21; see also the development from the Minoan to the Mycenaean type in Mountjoy 1993: 71, fig. 151), while it differs considerably from its Levantine forerunner. Our lentoid flask was wheelmade in two halves joined at the body, which is the standard procedure in the Levant. The decoration, consisting of concentric circles, is the most common decoration, although undecorated lentoid flasks are also frequent. The prevailing Levantine shape of the Late Bronze Age is characterized by a short neck, loop handles from the mid-/lower part of the neck to the shoulder, which wrap around the neck, and a broad rim (see, e.g., Ugarit: Courtois and Courtois 1978: 265, fig. 23:3, from Tomb 4642, dated to Ugarit Récent 2 [ca. 1450–1365 B.C.E.]; Kamid el-Loz: Metzger 1993: pls. 138, 139; Tel Dan: Ben-Dov 2002: 76–77, 91, fig. 2.60, from the “Mycenaean Tomb,” dated to the second half of the 14th century B.C.E. to the beginning of the 13th; Tell Abu Hawam: Hamilton 1935: 42, no. 255, from Stratum V, dated to 1400–1230 B.C.E.; and Lachish: Yannai 2004: 1111, fig. 19.32, from Level VIIa, which was destroyed at the end of the 13th century B.C.E.). A close parallel to the shape comes from Sahem in northern Jordan (Fischer 1997: 118, fig. 15:1), which is dated to the transition from the Late Bronze Age to the early Iron Age—that is, around 1200 B.C.E. The LH IIIB simple-style counterparts found in the Levant have somewhat longer necks, which more closely resemble the flask from Hala Sultan Tekke—but they have flat handles, and the decoration is clearly different (Ben-Dov 2002: 106, fig. 2.77; from the “Mycenaean Tomb” at Tel Dan; Yadin et al. 1961: pl. CXXXVII:3; from Hazor, Stratum 1B, dated to the Late Bronze Age II).

Although we found a few vessels that could possibly be dated to the transition from LC IIC to LC IIIA, Tomb

X does not display the “usual” 12th-century repertoire, which is well known from the settlement (i.e., a large amount of White Painted Wheelmade pottery, especially the deep bowls, locally made pictorial kraters, and others).

### Comments on Additional Finds

**Other Scarabs.** The second scarab from Tomb X (N75 [see Fig. 12:2]), which is also of gold-mounted steatite, is of little help for more exact dating. It shows the uraeus and a reed leaf (j-shape) or a Maat feather. There are numerous parallels from the Levant—for instance, from Beth-Shean (Keel 2010a: no. 94), Beth-Shemesh (Keel 2010a: no. 211), Tell el-Far‘ah (South) (Keel 2010b: nos. 514, 631), and Megiddo (Guy 1938: pl. 100:6). We suggest a date in the 13th century, mainly the 19th Dynasty, which also is suggested by Keel (pers. comm., 2016).

The third scarab (N86 [see Fig. 12:3])—likewise of little chronological help—is also of steatite. Horizontally arranged is the *dd*-pillar, which is flanked by two uraei. A good parallel comes from Lachish (Tufnell, Inge, and Harding 1940: pl. 32:23). Less exact parallels with additional elements are from Tell el-Far‘ah (South) (Keel 2010b: nos. 756, 824) and Gezer (Keel 2013: nos. 81, 677), both dated into the 18th Dynasty. Others are from Shiloh (Brandl 1993: 215, no. 13) and Tell es-Sa‘idiyeh (Eggler and Keel 2006: 376, no. 22). We suggest a date in the 13th century, mainly the 19th Dynasty (see above).

**Cylinder Seals (Fig. 28).** There are five cylinder seals, four of which (N72, N73, N76, N80) stem from the western chamber and one (N64) from the eastern chamber. Three of the cylinder seals are of hematite (N64, N73,



Fig. 28. Tomb X: cylinder seals of (1–3) hematite; (4) hematite or chlorite (?); and (5) steatite. (Photos by T. Bürge)

N76), one is of chlorite or hematite (N72),<sup>22</sup> and one is of steatite (N80). In our view, all seals were manufactured in Cyprus.

- N64 (**Fig. 28:1**) shows a human figure holding a stick, a quadruped to the left, and a bow and arrow in front of the animal. To the right of the human is a standard.
- N73 (**Fig. 28:2**) belongs to the group of Cypriot Common-Style seals (Porada 1948: 194, Group XII; esp. pl. XI, no. 55 from Kourion). It is engraved with a human standing next to a palm tree, with a large bucranium between the two motifs and several other filling motifs, such as an “ingot-shaped” oblique cross, a circle with central drilling, and lines. The seal is engraved in an angular manner and corresponds to a standardized scheme of Cypriot-style seals. Similar seals are known, for example, from Hala Sultan Tekke Tomb 1 (Porada 1976: 98, fig. 77; 101–3, fig. 80; dated here to LC IIB–C [approximately 1320–1200 B.C.E.]), from an uncertain tomb at Enkomi (Kenna 1971: 34, no. 114 = BM 1897,0401.696),<sup>23</sup> and Tell Abu Hawam, Stratum V (Hamilton 1935: 64–65, pl. XXVI, no. 514; dated to 1400–1230 B.C.E.).
- N76 (**Fig. 28:3**) depicts three human figures, most likely females, in long robes with upraised arms. Two of them are holding horned animals—stags or gazelles—which hang down head first. Next to the third figure is a standing animal—a lion, judging from the paws. Above are a bucranium and a sun symbol. Two Cypriot seals from Ugarit Récent 2 show a similar motif with stags but are not as rich in detail as our seal (Amiet 1992: 191, no. 455; 192, no. 472; dated to 1450–1300 B.C.E.).
- N72 (**Fig. 28:4**) depicts a female figure with bent arms. Next to her are a lion (?) and another quadruped standing/sitting opposite each other. Above the lion is a scorpion and above the quadruped another smaller quadruped. Four dots arranged in a lozenge are drilled in between the arm of the human and the quadrupeds. The motif may be interpreted as “mistress of the animals.”
- N80 (**Fig. 28:5**) shows a human figure and two quadrupeds, which are carved lengthwise. There is a tree between the two animals. Several drilled dots fill the empty spaces around the figures. A relatively close parallel is a steatite seal from Tomb 3 at Maroni, which also depicts a tree and attendant animals (Kenna 1971:

no. 17; Johnson 1980: no. 45 = BM 1898,1201.17; context dated to 1550–1375 B.C.E.).

**Other Jewelry.** This group of finds includes two pairs of gold earrings with “grape-/mulberry-like” adornments of soldered spherical beads (one pair each with five beads, and the other with eleven; N77 [see **Fig. 12:4**]; N79 [see **Fig. 12:5**]). Close parallels come from Late Bronze Age tombs at Limassol (Karageorghis and Violaris 2012: 169, pl. XXXVII:621-II:5) and from Enkomi, Tomb 57 (Goring 1983: pl. 14). Similar earrings were also found at other sites in the Levant—for instance, at Alalakh, Ugarit, Megiddo, Lachish, Gezer, and Tell el-‘Ajjul—and occur from the end of the Middle Bronze Age through the Iron Age and beyond (Goring 1983: 206–8 with further references). Among the geographically most remote parallels are similar earrings in 13th-century tombs from Assur (Pedde 2015: 32, pls. 6, 75, 76), where they are considered to have been imported from Cyprus (Friedhelm Pedde, pers. comm., 2016).

A leaf-shaped sheet of gold with an incised net pattern (N69 [see **Fig. 12:6**]) most likely was used as a headband or diadem. Similar diadems were found, for example, at Kition, Akko, Megiddo, Beth-Shean, and Ugarit (Goring 1983: 129–30 with further references; cf. Graziadio 2013).

In addition, there are five beads of gold (N83), of which three are fluted and two plain; thirty beads of carnelian (L48–16A), of which one is spool-shaped, three disk-shaped, one fluted, and twenty-five globular; a globular glass bead (N71), a bead of white paste (L48–16B), an oblong bead of turquoise (N63), and an oblong bead of amethyst (N82) (all in **Fig. 12:7**).

A pendant of faience depicts the Egyptian god Bes with enlarged genitals (N67 [**Fig. 29:2**]). Bes functioned as apotropaic deity, keeping disease away from babies and women in childbed (Dasen 1993: 67–75; Pinch 1993: 44), and was popular not only in Egypt but also in the Levant and especially on Cyprus during the Late Bronze Age and later periods (Wilson 1975).

**Other Finds.** An oval plaque of elephant ivory with incisions at the sides (N85 [**Fig. 29:1**]) was most likely used as a kind of lid (David Reese, pers. comm., 2016). A parallel comes from Hala Sultan Tekke, Tomb MLA 1173 (Samaes and Nys 2010: 227, fig. 6:9). Additional worked osteological material includes three *Ovis/Capra* astragali (L48–76), one of which is much worn. Astragali are frequently found in funerary and ritual contexts on Cyprus and in the Levant (Gilmour 1997). They are often interpreted as gaming pieces, comparable to dice (Smith 2009: 157–59). Reese (1985: 389) suggested that the presence of astragali in ritual contexts may hint at evidence for

<sup>22</sup> It is often difficult for the naked eye to distinguish hematite from the black-colored chlorite. X-ray fluorescence spectrometry analyses will be carried out during the next season of excavation in 2017 in order to verify the material of the seal.

<sup>23</sup> In 1897, this seal was acquired by the British Museum from the Turner Bequest Excavations at Enkomi.



**Fig. 29.** Tomb X: (1) lid of elephant ivory, (2) faience amulet of Bes, and (3) three spindle whorls of black limestone. (Photos by P. M. Fischer)

astragalomancy—that is, predictions of the deity’s will based on the fall of the bones.

Three spindle whorls (N84, N74, N81 [from left to right in **Fig. 29:3**]) are of black stone (chlorite?). One of these (N74) is decorated with incised concentric circles.

A bronze dagger (N70) has a leaf-shaped blade with a low central ridge and a rounded butt with three rivets. A similar dagger with three rivets comes, for instance, from *Toumba tou Skourou* (Vermeule and Wolsky 1990: fig. 100) and two from *Erimi*, Tomb 5 (Karageorghis and Violaris 2012: 186, pl. LIV; *Erimi* T.5/4, 6; 217, pl. LXXXV; *Erimi* T.5/4, T.5/6). This type of dagger is common in LC I–II tombs (see the compilation in Catling 1964: 125–28, fig. 15, pl. 15). Other, only partly preserved, objects of bronze are not yet cleaned and conserved: the rim of a bronze bowl (L48–26), two bracelets (L48–77), a finger ring (L48–78), a rivet (L48–79), a probable toggle pin (L48–80), and an amorphous piece (L48–81).

### Offering Pit V

On the map of the magnetic survey, this anomaly, approximately 10 m to the north of Tomb X, also has the shape of a double-chamber pit (L46 West and L46 East [**Fig. 30**]; see location in **Fig. 4**). In order to include the

entire anomaly, a 5 × 3 m trench was opened up. In the center of this feature were some dislocated stone blocks. The intended function of these stone blocks was clearly to seal the single, centrally situated shaft (measuring 1 m in diameter) from which both chambers could be reached. A considerable quantity of Mycenaean pictorial sherds of high-quality vessels showing decorations of humans, animals, plants, and geometric motifs had already been found in the plowed soil. This meant that farming had not only moved some of the blocking stones but also dislocated finds from the shaft in which pottery was deposited. This explained the missing sherds of almost complete vessels we noted during processing and mending, despite meticulous sieving and surveying of the area around the pit.

During the course of the excavations, it became evident that this feature had almost exactly the same shape as Tomb X: Its outlines resemble a recumbent “8,” approximately 3.55 × 2.2 m in size and oriented east–west. After excavating down to 0.4–0.5 m from the surface, the concentration of sherds in the already sherd-rich fill of soil increased dramatically. Intermingled with the sherds were a Mycenaean Psi-figurine (N57) and a Mycenaean horse figurine (N58), the latter being part of a chariot group with at least two horses (both in **Fig. 31**). Sherds from the same vessels were found scattered over the entire double pit. In total, at least 60 vessels of Find Class 2 were found in Pit V, most of them with complete profiles. A 0.4 m circular pit cut into the northeastern section of the eastern chamber was also filled with broken pottery. Although almost identical in shape with that of Tomb X, there is a major difference in contents: While the pottery from Pit V is of the same high quality and artistic level as that from Tomb X, there were no skeletons in Pit V,<sup>24</sup> nor any other items except for those of fired clay, plus one fragment of a faience bowl (L46–54) and nine pieces of ostrich eggshell (L46–58). The catalog of finds from Pit V is presented in **Table 2**.

### Comments on the Finds and Their Chronology

Locally produced and Mycenaean imported pottery hint at the length of the period during which Pit V was used. Only vessels with complete or almost complete profiles or those with distinctive decoration (Class 1 and 2 finds) are examined in the discussion that follows.

In contrast to Tomb X, there is no White Slip I or early White Slip II among the 11 reconstructed vessels.

<sup>24</sup> There are a few minuscule pieces of non-identified (human?) bones and two human mandibular teeth, an incisor, and a molar. These scant human remains were certainly in the soil, which was likely brought from somewhere else to be used as fill.

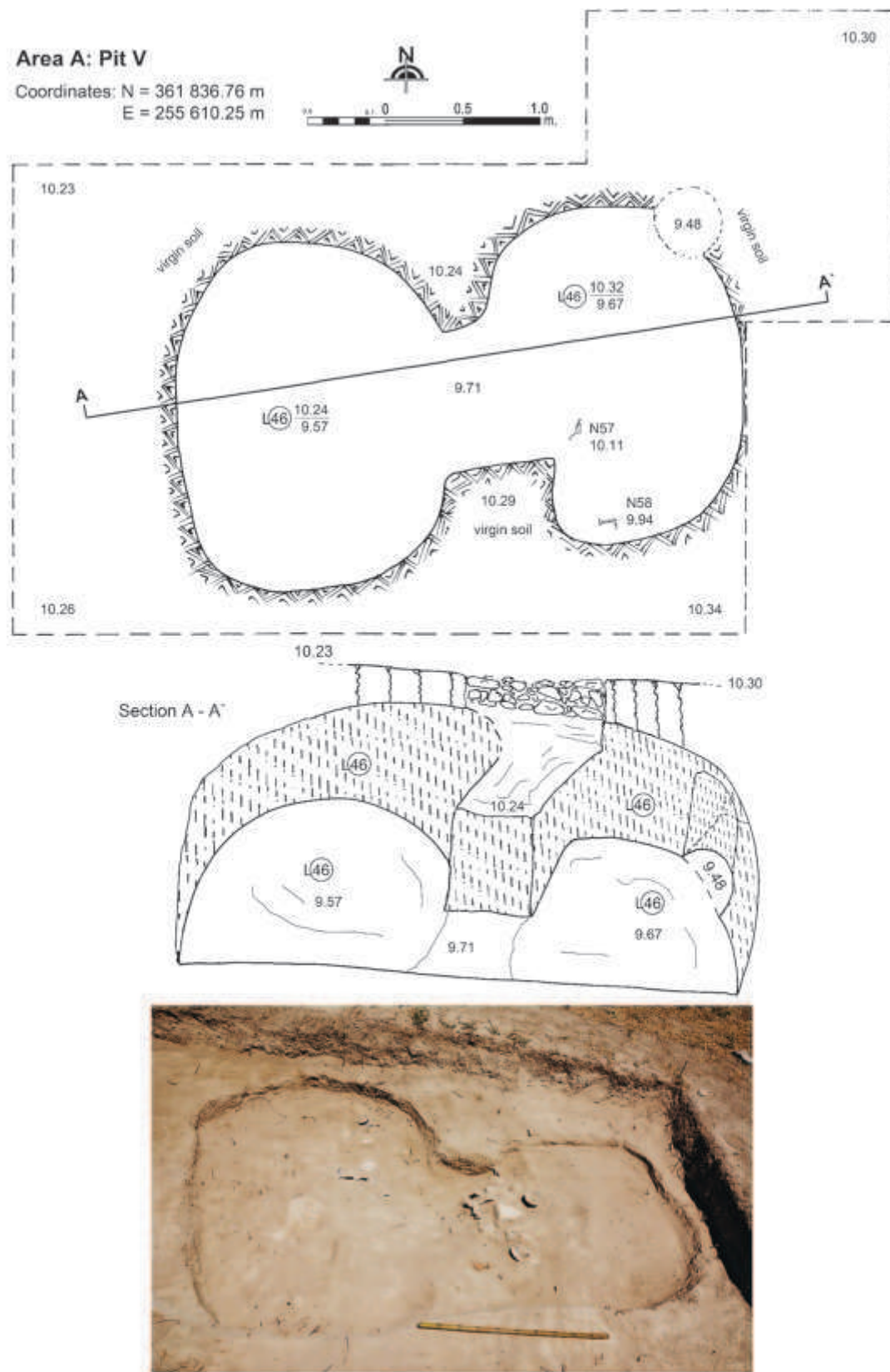




Fig. 31. Pit V: Mycenaean figurines. (Photos by T. Bürge)

TABLE 2. Catalog of Finds from Pit V

| <i>Pottery (Wares in Alphabetic Order)</i> |            |                                                                                                                                                                |               |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Ware</i>                                | <i>No.</i> | <i>Description</i>                                                                                                                                             | <i>Figure</i> |
| Base-Ring I                                | L46-25     | Bowl, very hard fired, gray fabric, fine, brownish red to gray slip, once burnished, now worn                                                                  | Fig. 33:3     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L46-31     | Jug, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, fine, light brown to dark gray slip, plastic decoration, burnished, partly worn                        | Fig. 33:1     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L46-32     | Jug, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, fine, dark gray slip, burnished                                                                        | Fig. 33:2     |
| Base-Ring I                                | L46-50     | Small bowl, hard fired, brown fabric, thick dark gray core, medium-fine, brown to gray slip, burnished                                                         | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-2      | Jug, hard fired, light reddish brown fabric, fine, gray core, reddish brown slip, worn                                                                         | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-7      | Bowl, very hard fired, gray fabric interior, brown fabric exterior (very thin section), fine, dark gray slip, burnished                                        | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-19     | Juglet, hard fired, light reddish brown fabric, fine, light brown slip, burnished                                                                              | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-46     | Juglet, hard fired, gray fabric interior, reddish brown fabric exterior, fine, dark brown slip, white decoration                                               | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-47     | Jug, very hard fired, gray fabric, medium-fine, dark gray slip, white decoration, once burnished, now worn                                                     | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-49     | Jug or juglet, hard fired, brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, light orangish brown slip, worn                                                         | —             |
| Base-Ring II                               | L46-52     | Jug, very hard fired, gray fabric, medium-fine, white inclusions, self-slip, white decoration                                                                  | —             |
| Bucchero                                   | L46-48     | Jug, handmade, hard fired, orangish brown fabric, thick gray core, fine, dark grayish brown slip, plastic decoration                                           | —             |
| Bucchero                                   | L46-51     | Jug, handmade, very hard fired, brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, white inclusions, dark gray to grayish brown slip, plastic decoration, partly worn | —             |

TABLE 2.—*continued*

| <i>Pottery (Wares in Alphabetic Order)</i> |            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |               |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Ware</i>                                | <i>No.</i> | <i>Description</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <i>Figure</i> |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-42     | LH IIIA1, piriform jar (FS 47), upper part, hard fired, very light brown fabric, fine, very light yellowish brown slip, dark brown/black decoration (scale pattern [FM 70]), burnished, Cypriot                                                                                                                  | Fig. 35:2     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-33     | LH IIIA beaked jug (FS 144/145), hard fired, fine, very light brown fabric, light yellow slip, reddish brown decoration (curve-stemmed spiral [FM 49]), burnished                                                                                                                                                | Fig. 35:1     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-5      | LH IIIA2 medium piriform jar (FS 39), hard fired, orange fabric, thick light yellowish brown core, very fine, very light orange slip, dark orange decoration (n-pattern [FM 60]), potmark on base                                                                                                                | Fig. 35:5     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-6      | LH IIIA2 small piriform jar (FS 45), hard fired, light green fabric, very fine, light green slip, dark brown decoration (foliate band [FM 64])                                                                                                                                                                   | Fig. 36:1     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-20     | LH IIIA2 jug with cutaway neck (FS 133), hard fired, light orange fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, lustrous red decoration                                                                                                                                                                                  | Fig. 35:4     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-24     | LH IIIA2 horizontal flask (FS 190/192), hard fired, orange fabric, very fine, self-slip, lustrous red decoration (foliate band [FM 64])                                                                                                                                                                          | Fig. 36:2     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-36     | LH IIIA2 amphoroid krater (FS 54/55) or jar(?), lower part, hard fired, light pink fabric, light yellowish gray core, very fine, light yellow slip, brownish red decoration, burnished                                                                                                                           | Fig. 37       |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-37     | LH IIIA2 amphoroid krater (FS 54/55), upper part (rim, neck, handle), hard fired, very light orange fabric, light yellowish brown core, very fine, light yellow slip, dark red to reddish brown decoration (sacral ivy [FM 12], papyrus [FM 11], bird [FS 7], bivalve shell [FM 25], chevron [FM 58]), burnished | Fig. 36:3     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-40     | LH IIIA2 narrow-necked jug (FS 120), very hard fired, dark red fabric exterior, gray fabric interior/core, medium-fine, white inclusions, light yellow slip, reddish brown decoration, worn                                                                                                                      | Fig. 35:3     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-43     | LH IIIA2 small piriform jar (FS 45), hard fired, light green fabric, fine, light green slip, dark brown decoration (foliate band [FM 64]), burnished, partly worn                                                                                                                                                | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-45     | LH IIIA2 medium piriform jar (FS 39), hard fired, light greenish gray fabric, very fine, light green slip, lustrous dark brown decoration (multiple stem [FM 19] and chevron [FM 58])                                                                                                                            | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-53     | LH IIIA2 medium piriform jar (FS 39), hard fired, light yellowish brown fabric, very fine, light brownish green slip, dark brown decoration (scale pattern [FM 70]), partly worn, possibly Cypriot                                                                                                               | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-3      | LH IIIA2-B straight-sided alabastron (FS 94), hard fired, dark orange fabric, very fine, orange slip, red decoration (net pattern [FM 57])                                                                                                                                                                       | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-22     | LH IIIA2-B straight-sided alabastron (FS 94), hard fired, light yellowish brown fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, lustrous reddish brown to dark brown decoration (foliate band [FM 64])                                                                                                                     | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-34     | LH IIIA2-B amphoroid krater (FS 54/55), complete profile, hard fired, light orange fabric, thick light yellowish gray core, very fine, light yellow slip, red to dark brown and white decoration (chariots, horses, ornaments), potmark on base                                                                  | Fig. 38:1     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-35     | LH IIIA2-B amphoroid krater (FS 54/55), complete profile, base missing, hard fired, very light orange fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, dark reddish brown to dark brown/black decoration, worn                                                                                                              | Fig. 38:2     |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-38     | LH IIIA2-B stemmed krater (FS 8/9), complete profile, base not preserved, hard fired, light yellow fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, red to dark brown decoration (flower [FM 18C], tri-curved arch [FM 62], argonaut [FM 22]), burnished, partly worn                                                       | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-39     | LH IIIA2-B small jug (FS 114), hard fired, orange fabric, fine, very light yellowish brown slip, linear red decoration, burnished                                                                                                                                                                                | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-41     | LH IIIA2-B small globular stirrup jar (FS 171), hard fired, very light brown fabric exterior, light yellowish gray fabric interior, very fine, light yellowish brown slip, linear light brown to dark brown/black decoration, burnished                                                                          | —             |
| Mycenaean                                  | L46-14     | LH IIIB-C early shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, light orange fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, linear dark reddish brown decoration, burnished                                                                                                                                                            | —             |
| Plain White Wheelmade                      | L46-16     | Bowl, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, light yellow to light orange slip exterior, orange slip interior                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Fig. 34:1     |
| Plain White Wheelmade                      | L46-55     | Jug, handle, hard fired, light yellow fabric, medium-coarse, multicolored inclusions, self-slip, potmark                                                                                                                                                                                                         | —             |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade                     | L46-26     | Spindle bottle, hard fired, orange fabric, fine, orange slip, vertically burnished                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | —             |
| Red Lustrous Wheelmade                     | L46-27     | Spindle bottle, hard fired, dark orange fabric, fine, orange slip, vertically burnished, partly worn                                                                                                                                                                                                             | —             |
| White Painted Wheelmade                    | L46-1      | Jug, hard fired, light yellowish brown fabric, medium-fine, light green slip, linear dark greenish brown decoration                                                                                                                                                                                              | Fig. 34:7     |

|                              |        |                                                                                                                                                    |           |
|------------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| White Painted Wheelmade      | L46-4  | Shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, dark yellow fabric, orange core, fine, light yellowish brown slip, linear red to dark brown decoration          | Fig. 34:3 |
| White Painted Wheelmade      | L46-13 | Side-spouted "feeding" juglet, brown fabric interior, orangish brown fabric exterior, light green slip, linear brown decoration                    | Fig. 34:8 |
| White Painted Wheelmade      | L46-18 | Shallow bowl (FS 296), very light orange fabric, fine, light yellow slip, linear red to dark brown decoration                                      | —         |
| White Painted Wheelmade      | L46-23 | Shallow bowl (FS 296), hard fired, orange fabric, very fine, light orange slip, linear dark brown decoration                                       | Fig. 34:4 |
| White Painted Wheelmade      | L46-56 | Deep bowl (FS 284), medium-hard fired, light brownish orange fabric, fine, light yellowish brown slip, linear red decoration                       | Fig. 34:6 |
| White Painted Wheelmade      | L46-57 | Shallow bowl (FS 296), medium-hard fired, light brown fabric, fine, self-slip, linear brown decoration                                             | Fig. 34:5 |
| White Shaved                 | L46-15 | Juglet, handmade, medium-hard fired, light orange fabric, fine, self-slip, vertically shaved                                                       | Fig. 34:2 |
| White Slip II normal         | L46-17 | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, medium-fine, thick white slip, dark brown decoration                                                                | Fig. 32:1 |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-8  | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, dark brown core, medium-fine, light brownish yellow slip, dark brown decoration                            | —         |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-9  | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, light yellowish to orangish white slip, dark brown decoration                | —         |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-10 | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, medium-fine, thick light gray slip, dark brown decoration                                                  | —         |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-11 | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, thick light yellowish white slip, dark brown decoration                      | —         |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-28 | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric interior, dark brown fabric exterior, medium-fine, thick light yellow slip, dark brown decoration                    | —         |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-30 | Bowl, hard fired, brown fabric exterior, gray fabric interior, medium-fine, light gray to light yellow slip, dark brown decoration                 | Fig. 32:3 |
| White Slip II normal/late    | L46-44 | Bowl, hard fired, brownish red fabric, gray core, medium-fine, light grayish brown slip, dark brown decoration                                     | Fig. 32:2 |
| White Slip II late           | L46-12 | Bowl, hard fired, reddish brown fabric, thick gray core, medium-fine, thick light yellow slip, dark brown decoration                               | Fig. 32:5 |
| White Slip II late           | L46-21 | Bowl, hard fired, gray fabric, fine, light brown to light gray slip, dark brown decoration                                                         | —         |
| White Slip II late           | L46-29 | Bowl, hard fired, dark brown fabric, gray core, medium-fine, light brown slip, dark brown decoration                                               | Fig. 32:4 |
| <i>Figurines (Mycenaean)</i> |        |                                                                                                                                                    |           |
| Psi-figurine                 | N57    | One arm and head broken in antiquity, handmade, hard fired, light yellow fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, reddish brown decoration, burnished | Fig. 31:1 |
| Chariot                      | N58    | Part of horse preserved, handmade, hard fired, light orange fabric, light yellow core, very fine, light yellow slip, reddish brown decoration      | Fig. 31:2 |
| Chariot                      | L46-59 | Hind part of horse and carriage, handmade, hard fired, light orange fabric, fine, light yellow slip, lustrous reddish brown decoration             | —         |
| Chariot                      | L46-60 | Part of horizontal drawbar and shaft, handmade, hard fired, light orange fabric, very fine, light yellow slip, lustrous brownish red decoration    | —         |
| <i>Other Finds</i>           |        |                                                                                                                                                    |           |
| Faience bowl                 | L46-54 | Fragment, black decoration                                                                                                                         | —         |
| Ostrich eggshell             | L46-58 | 9 pieces                                                                                                                                           | —         |

Only one of the bowls from Pit V can be assigned to the White Slip II normal group (L46-17 [Fig. 32:1]), whereas seven belong to the transitional normal/late group (L46-8, L46-9, L46-10, L46-11, L46-28, L46-30 [Fig. 32:3], L46-44 [Fig. 32:2]) and three to the late group (L46-12 [Fig. 32:5], L46-21; L46-29 [Fig. 32:4]).

As discussed above, the White Slip II normal style covers a time span from the LC IIA1 to the LC IIC1, and the late style occurs in LC IIC (Eriksson 2007a: 13, table 1B), with considerable overlap of the two styles, which can be demonstrated, for instance, at Tell el-ʿAjjul, where they occur in Strata H2(A) and 1B (see above,

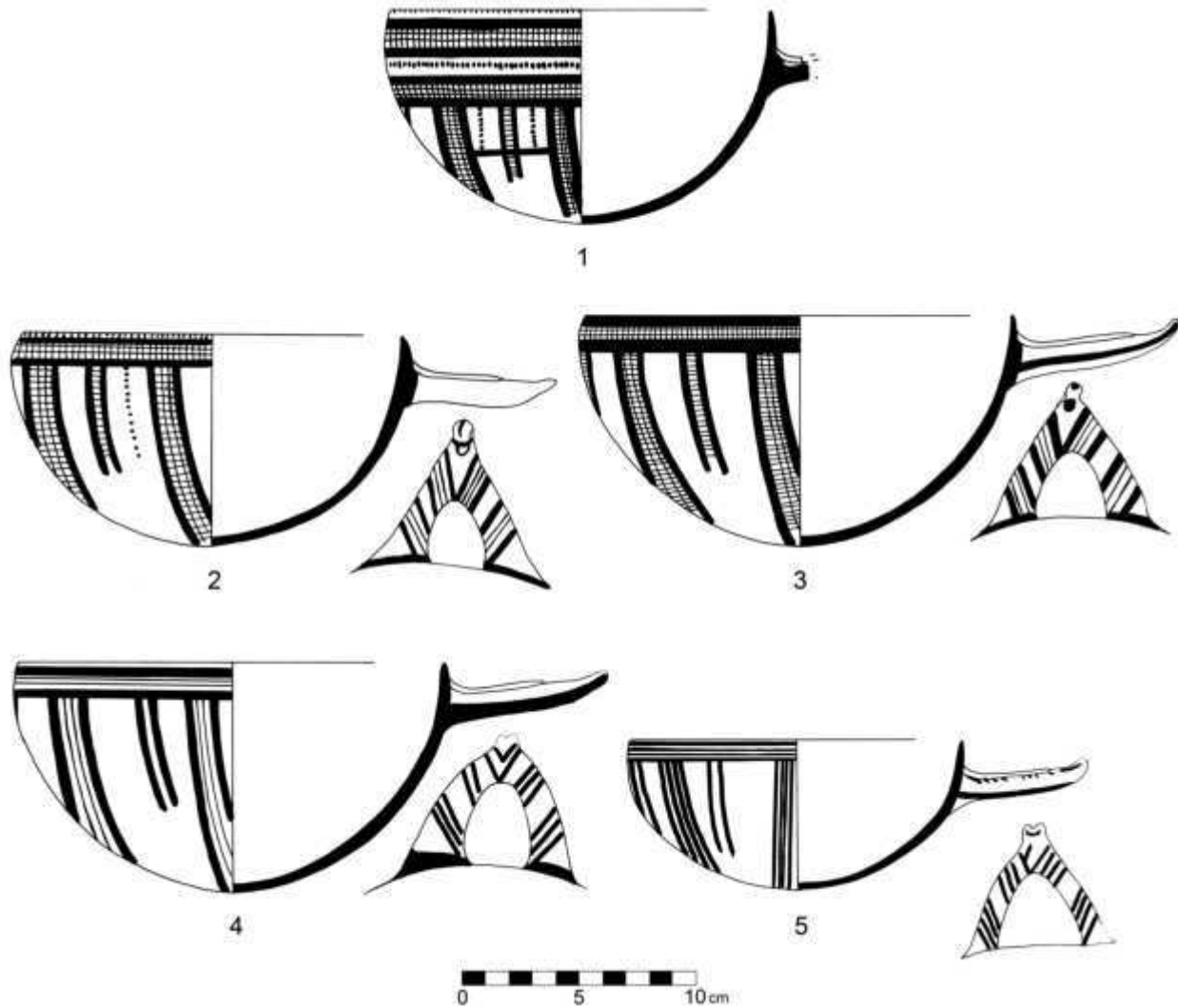


Fig. 32. Pit V: White Slip II (1) early; (2, 3) normal; and (4, 5) late. (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

Tomb X), where they are dated from LC IIA(2) to LC IIC (Fischer 2003: 289).

Excellently finished “Gray Base-Ring I” vessels include two jugs (L46–31 [Fig. 33:1], L46–32 [Fig. 33:2]), the latter of which is 50 cm in height. In addition, there are two bowls of Base-Ring I ware (L46–25 [Fig. 33:3], L46–50) as well as a Base-Ring II bowl (L46–7), four Base-Ring II jugs (L46–2, L46–47, L46–49, L46–52) and two Base-Ring II juglets (L46–19, L46–46). In general, Base-Ring I and II vessels are, as explained above, insecure chronological indicators, since Base-Ring I has a long life span and Base-Ring II was used parallel with Base-Ring I during a period, which, so far, has not been chronologically well defined, although P. Åström (1972a:

700) suggested the LC IIA1–2 period. At Tell el-‘Ajjul, the bulk of Base-Ring I comes from H3–4 (27 sherds/vessels), which corresponds to LC IB (Fischer 2003: 264, table 1; 289), whereas the majority of Base-Ring II at Tell el-‘Ajjul is from H2—that is, LC IIA–C (Fischer 2003: 264, table 1; 289). The latest Base-Ring II can be dated to the outgoing 13th century or even the very beginning of the 12th century (see above).

The two Red Lustrous Wheelmade spindle bottles (L46–26, L46–27) are difficult to date, as this ware has a life span from the LC IIA2 to the LC IIC (Eriksson 1993: 51–53), with a possible peak during the LC IIA2 period (see the evidence from Kalavassos in South and Steel 2007: 188).

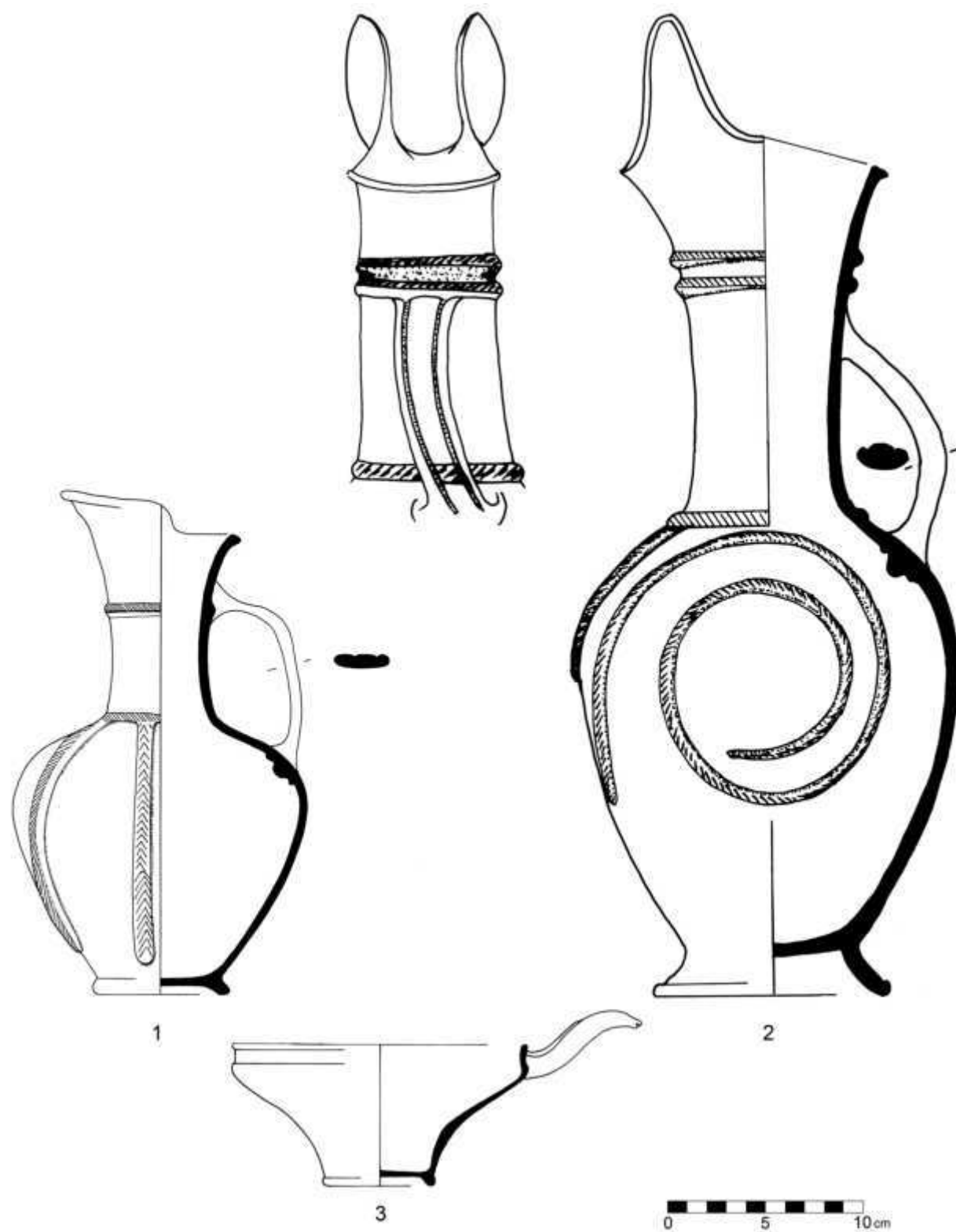


Fig. 33. Pit V: Gray Base-Ring I vessels. (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

The bowl (L46–16 [Fig. 34:1]) and the jug (L46–55) of Plain White Wheelmade Ware can be dated to any period of the Late Cypriot Bronze Age (Åström 1972a: 700–701). As Bucchero is attested from LC IIA to LC III (Åström 1972a: 701), the two jugs of this ware (L46–48, L46–51) cannot narrow the time span of Pit V. Our White Shaved juglet from Pit V (L46–15 [Fig. 34:2]) is an insufficient chronological indicator, as this ware is attested from the LC IB to the early LC IIB and possibly later.

The vessels of White Painted Wheelmade Ware—four shallow bowls (FS 296; L46–4 [Fig. 34:3], L46–18, L46–23 [Fig. 34:4], L46–57 [Fig. 34:5]), a deep bowl (FS 284; L46–56 [Fig. 34:6]), a jug (L46–1 [Fig. 34:7]), and a side-spouted juglet (L46–13 [Fig. 34:8])—fit into the LC IIC to early LC IIIA range. In agreement with our dating of the shallow bowls from Tomb X, those from Pit V are attested from LC IIC but continue into LC IIIA (see compiled parallels from Enkomi, Kition, and Kourion in Kling 1989: 132, 440, fig. 5b). The deep bowl L46–56 with linear decoration has a pre-LC IIIA shape and decoration and corresponds well with Mycenaean deep bowls from the LH IIIB1 period in terms of shape (cf. Mountjoy 1986: 117, fig. 143).

The great majority of the Mycenaean imported vessels, comprising mainly kraters and closed shapes, in addition to a variety of other shapes, can be dated to the LH IIIA2–B period. Exceptions from the LH IIIA2–B period include a beaked jug (FS 144/145; L46–33 [Fig. 35:1]) decorated with curve-stemmed spirals (FM 49) on the shoulder/belly and a tassel (FM 72) below the handle. A beaked jug from LH IIIA1 Ialysos/Rhodes (Mountjoy 1999: 991, fig. 401:10) shows the same decoration, which likely places the date for the beaked jug from Hala Sultan Tekke in the LH IIIA1 period.

In addition, one of the piriform jars (FS 47; L46–42 [Fig. 35:2]) with a scale pattern (FM 70) may be dated to the LH IIIA1 period. Petrography demonstrates that the fabric can be linked to the Pakhna Formation with magmatic minerals from southern/southeastern Cyprus. Thus, this vessel is classified as a Cypriot product. There is an almost exact parallel, a small conical piriform jar (FS 44) with a net pattern (FM 57) from Hala Sultan Tekke, Tomb 24 (Åström and Nys 2007: 11, fig. 11), which was dated to the LH IIIA1. Another remarkable parallel corresponding to shape, decoration, and fabric comes from Tell el-‘Ajul H1B: In the original publication, it is dated to LH IIIB1 (Fischer and Sadeq 2000: 220, fig. 8:8; see also Fischer 2003: 288, fig. 11:4; 289, table 6), but it can also be placed in LH IIIA2. Our ongoing petrographic and neutron activation analyses will shed further light on the provenance of this vessel.

Examples of vessels that can be dated to the LH IIIA2–IIIB period include the narrow-necked jug (FS 120; L46–40 [Fig. 35:3]), the shape of which is attested

from the LH IIIA2 period (Mountjoy 1986: 67) until the LH IIIB1 period. The decoration on the shoulder is composed of semicircles (FM 43) and parallel arcs in between and is similar to a stirrup jar from LM/LH IIIA2 Karpathos/Dodecanese (Mountjoy 1999: 976, fig. 397:13). The decoration, fabric, and surface treatment strongly suggest a Minoan import. A jug with a cutaway neck (FS 132/133; L46–20 [Fig. 35:4]) and curved stripes (FM 67) is attested from LH IIIA1 onward—for example, at Vourvatsi/Attica (Mountjoy 1986: 58, fig. 66:1)—and remains almost identical until LH IIIA2 late, after which it dies out (Mountjoy 1986: 75).

Other vessels from the same period, which will not be discussed in detail, include a stemmed krater (FS 8/9; L46–38), three medium piriform jars (FS 39; L46–5 [Fig. 35:5], L46–45, L46–53 [the last may also be a local product]), two small piriform jars (FS 45; L46–6 [Fig. 36:1], L46–43), two straight-sided alabastra (FS 94; L46–3, L46–22), a small jug (FS 114; L46–39), a small globular stirrup jar (FS 171; L46–41), and a horizontal flask (FS 190/192; L46–24 [Fig. 36:2]). The shallow bowl L46–14 (FS 296) may be a local product, although the fabric and surface treatment suggest an import. It can also be dated to LH IIIB through LH IIIC early, like the local copies mentioned above.

### *The Pictorial Vessels from Pit V*

Three pictorial vessels from Pit V are discussed here in greater detail. These include the lower part of a krater with the depiction of a female (L46–36 [Fig. 37]), two chariot kraters (L46–34, L46–35 [Fig. 38:1, 2]), and an amphoroid krater with the depiction of a bird (L46–37 [Fig. 36:3]).

The lower part of a vessel with the depiction of a large female figure next to a chariot and another (most likely minor) male individual (L46–36 [Fig. 37]) belongs to a large amphoroid krater of Mycenaean production. The figure of the female in a bell-shaped dress is painted over the uppermost band, as if the figure were “standing” on the lower band. The lower part of her body is shown in profile, whereas the upper part is represented frontally. The head is missing, but the neck is partly indicated by a vertical line. Her left arm is raised and slightly bent, whereas the position of her right arm is not entirely clear: It might also be raised like the other arm, or bent toward the left, with her right hand (indicated by a line and dots just above) resting on her chest. She wears a broad necklace on her cleavage, and the upper part of the dress is marked by a net pattern, which also covers her wasp waist. She wears a voluminous dress consisting of six rows of ruffles from waist to ankle, which are further accentuated by white paint. The ruffles form a kind of “triangle” with the tip arranged upward. The female is

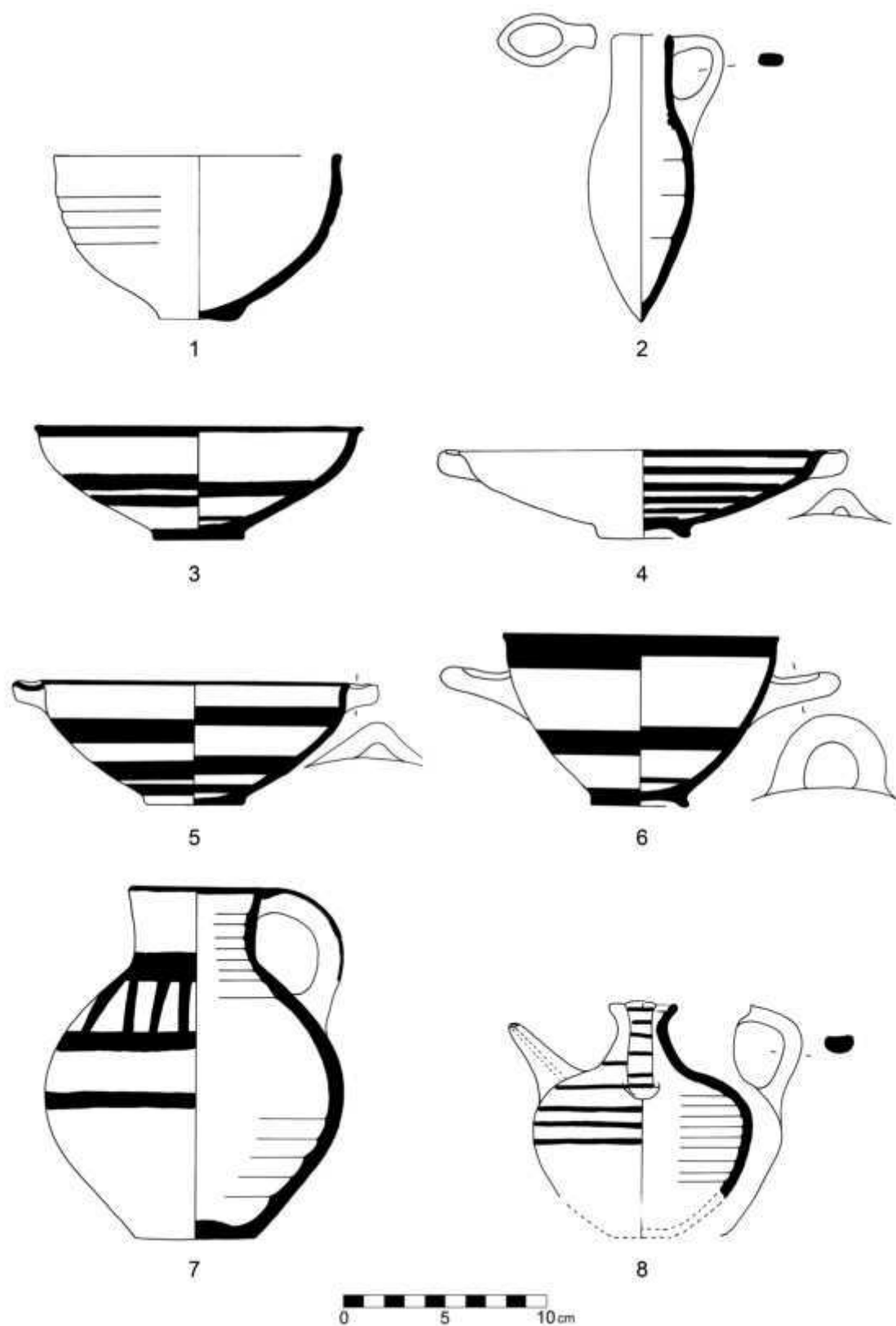


Fig. 34. Pit V: (1) Plain White Wheelmade bowl; (2) White Shaved juglet; and (3–8) White Painted Wheelmade vessels. (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

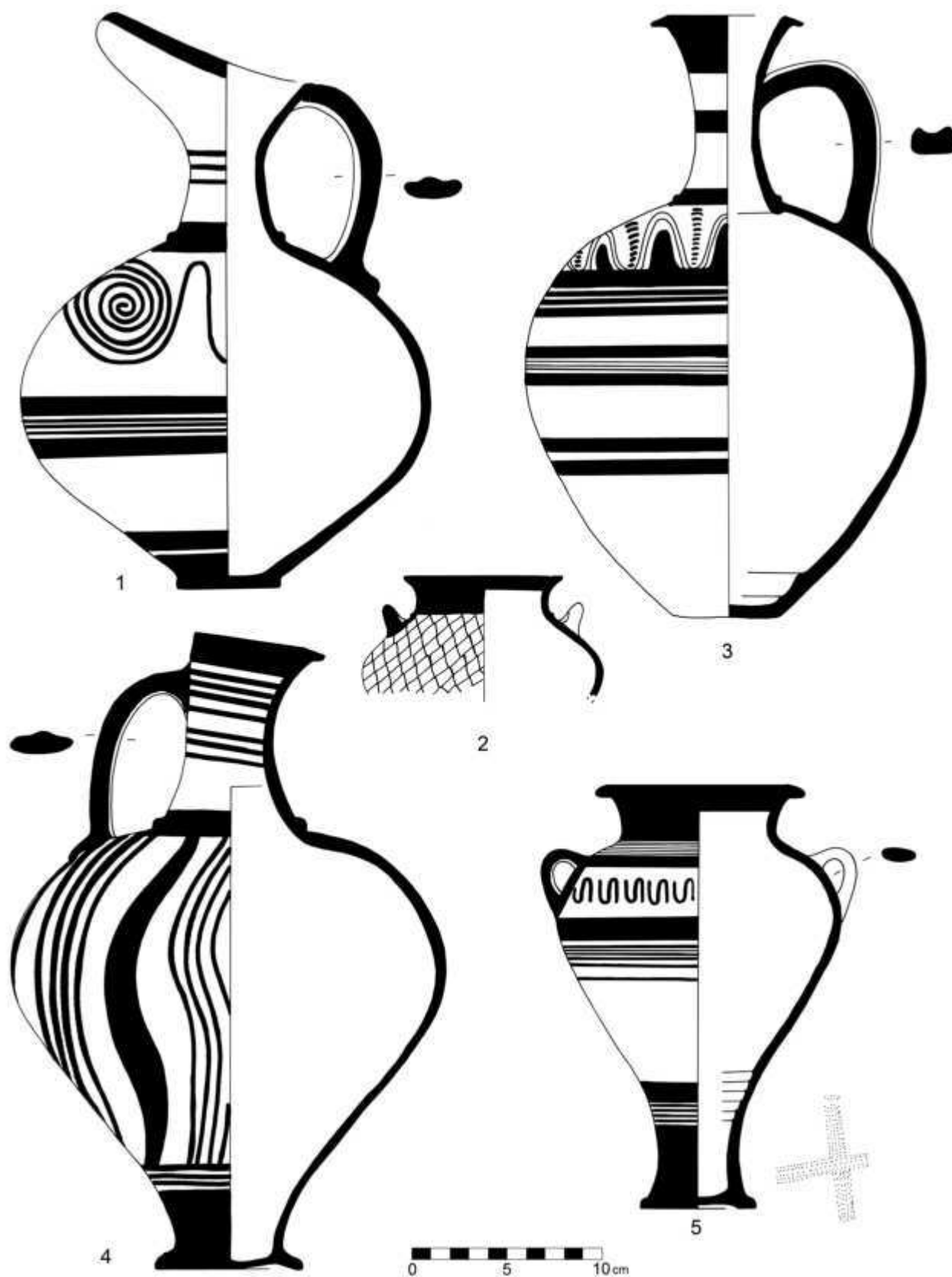


Fig. 35. Pit V: (1) LH IIIA1 beaked jug; (2) LH IIIA1 (Cypriot-produced) piriform jar; (3) LM IIIA2-B jug; (4) LH IIIA1-2 cutaway neck jug; and (5) piriform jar. (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

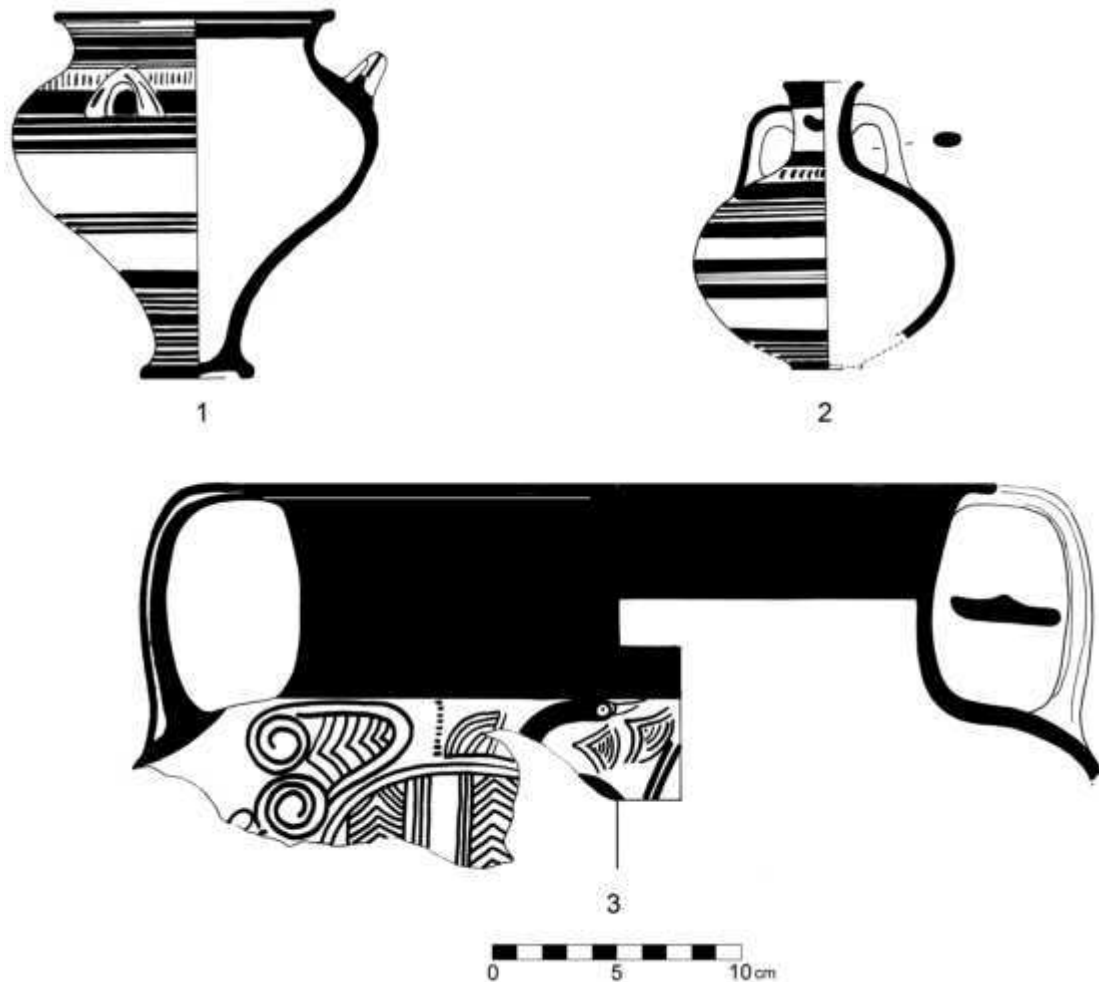


Fig. 36. Pit V: LH IIIA2–B (1) piriform jar; (2) flask; and (3) amphoroid pictorial krater. (Drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

barefoot. A leg of another figure appears to the left of the female, and the hind part of a chariot is depicted to the right. Both are “standing” on the central framed band, and it seems as if the female is holding the chariot. The wheel of the chariot is filled with white paint.

The decoration of this vessel is unusual in many respects. The pictorial decoration is applied on the lower part of the vessel, which is usually decorated only with horizontal bands. Female figures appear on Mycenaean kraters, often associated with chariots, but are usually very stylized.<sup>25</sup> Our female with the bell-shaped dress, featuring panels and flounces, is painted in great detail and closely resembles representations of females on Aegean wall paintings and seals (see, e.g., Immerwahr 1990: pls. 22, 23, 55, 56, 57; see also the compilation in Warren 2005: 140–41). There is, though, a remarkable difference. While the quoted parallels depict voluminous dresses

with ruffles that form triangles with the tips arranged downward, in the painting of our vessel the corresponding triangles point upward. The female seems to epitomize an elite personage—perhaps a priestess, dancer, or even a goddess—and her depiction may well be the product of a fresco painter with an individual style. A very remote and much more stylized female is represented on a fragment of a krater from Kouklia-*Palaepaphos* (Vermeule and Karageorghis 1982: no. III.11). We suggest a LH IIIA2 date for our vessel with this unique decoration.

Two amphoroid kraters with chariot scenes on both sides (FS 53–55; L46–34, L46–35) can be reconstructed almost completely, as large parts of the pictorial scenes are preserved and complement one another. The first vessel (L46–34 [Fig. 38:1]) has an almost completely preserved chariot scene on one side (Side A), whereas only the horses are preserved of the other (Side B). The color of the paint ranges from red, reddish brown, and brown to almost black on a light yellowish brown background. White paint was used for certain details.

<sup>25</sup> For the depiction of women on Mycenaean pictorial pottery, see Steel 2006.



Fig. 37. Pit V: LH IIIA2 amphoroid chariot krater (head reconstructed). (Photo by P. M. Fischer; drawing by M. Al-Bataineh)

The chariot on Side A is moving from left to right, and consists of a dual chariot box rendered with double outlines and dotted patterns in the interior. The box is painted directly on top of the wheel, which is accentuated by white paint. Two human figures are in the box, depicted in profile, their bodies painted with double outlines and filled with dots. Two pairs of reins issue forth from the front person in straight lines. The heads of the humans are not preserved. The draft pole (?) and pole support are visible between the horses and the chariot. The horses' bodies overlap each other; that is, four front and four hind legs and four ears are depicted, which is the most common way of depicting chariots on Mycenaean vessels. Only a part of the head with the eye of one horse is preserved, but it can be extrapolated from the head of the horses on Side B, as shown in **Figure 38:1**. The harness of the horses is accentuated with white dots and lines. The space in between the figures is filled with parallel chevrons (FM 58) in front of the horses, and flower motifs (FM 18A) below the handles,

in between the two chariot scenes. Sacral ivy (FM 12) is depicted underneath the horses' bodies, and there are parallel horizontal strokes in between the horses' hind legs. Several smaller filling motifs are arranged in between these images. The horses on Side B correspond almost exactly to the horses on Side A, with the exception of the terret, which is missing on Side A. Between the body and the reins is a quirk (FM 48). Below the horses' tails and between their legs are parallel chevrons and horizontal lines. The upper part of the flower is in front of the horses' heads.

The top of the rim is decorated with bundles of 11 to 14 strokes, possibly stylized foliate bands (FM 64), the rim is painted in reddish brown, and the handles are also decorated with two broad vertical stripes, leaving an empty space in between. Below the chariot scenes on the shoulder are three horizontal bands. The base, which most likely belongs to this vessel, is decorated with three horizontal bands and a monochrome-painted lower part. There is an "H"-shaped potmark under the base.

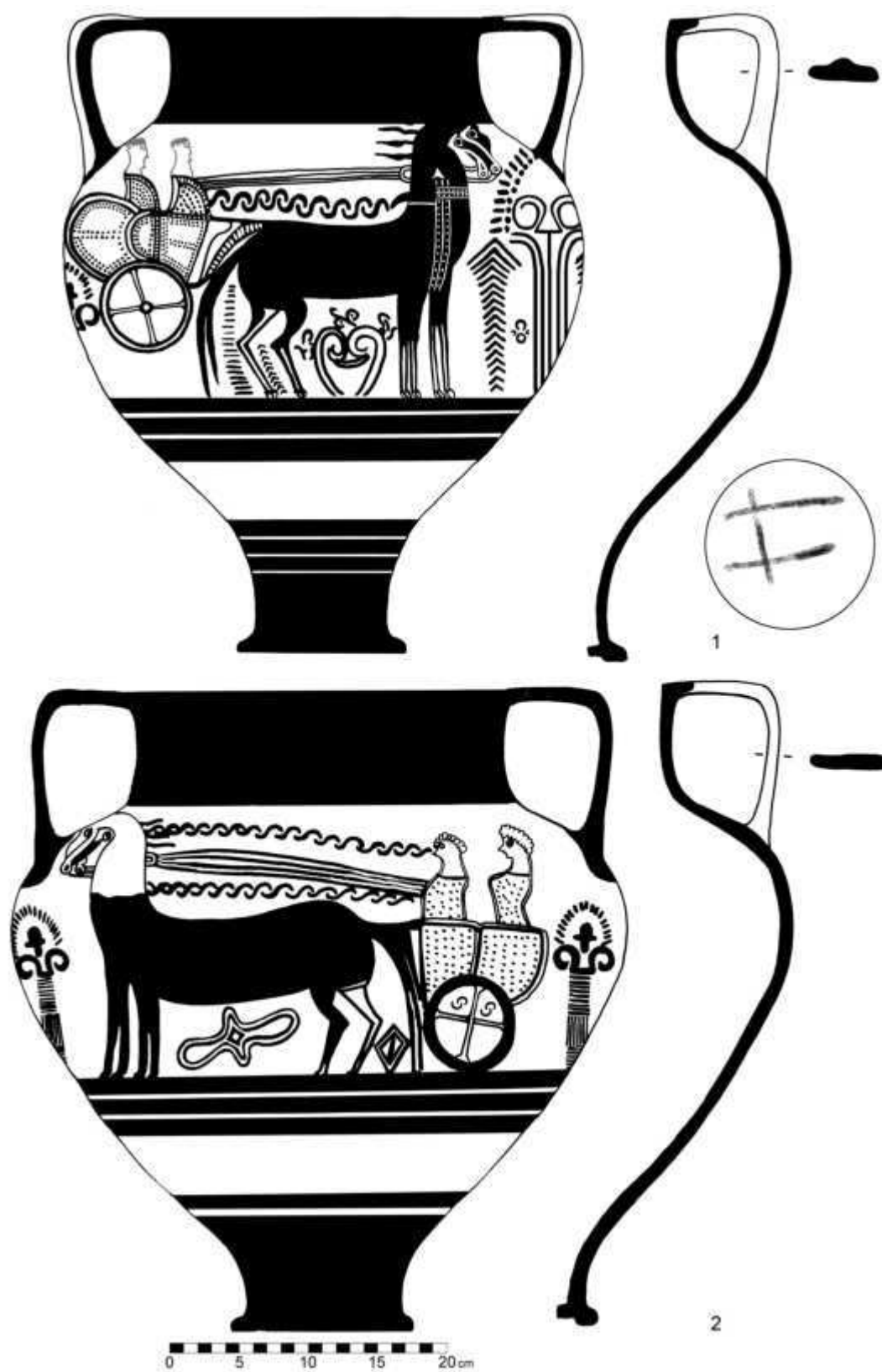


Fig. 38. Pit V: Side A on two LH IIIA2-B amphoroid chariot kraters (heads in [1] reconstructed). (Drawings by M. Al-Bataineh)

The other chariot krater (L46–35 [Fig. 38:2]) is less well preserved but the profile is complete. The paint on this krater is light-to-dark brown and is worn and flaking at many spots. The chariots are moving from right to left. The chariot on Side A is also of the double type, similar to that on the krater described above, with double outlines and dotted interior. The wheel has four spokes and is filled with two quirks (FM 48) on the upper two quarters. Here, too, the chariot is connected by a draft pole, and the two figures in the chariot hold two pairs of reins. The two tails and four hind legs of the horses are visible. Side B also shows the front legs of the horses. This krater shows a number of fill motifs in between the scenes: a possible tri-curved arch (FM 62) below the horses' bodies on Side B, and several floral motifs (FM 18). As on the other krater, the top of the rim is decorated with bundles of stylized foliate bands (FM 64), the rim is painted in brown, and the handles are also decorated with two broad vertical stripes with an empty space in between. Below the chariot scenes are three horizontal bands.

On this second krater, the direction in which the chariots are moving is unusual, as by far the most frequent direction is from left to right. Similar chariots are known from Cyprus (Vermeule and Karageorghis 1982: nos. IV.2, 27, 48, 65–67 and V.1, 2), Ugarit (Yon, Karageorghis, and Hirschfeld 2000: 216, fig. 6, no. 39; 243 pl. I, no. 39/VK 12), and Tel Dan (Ben-Dov 2002: 100–102, 110–11). Compared with the other krater, the decoration here is more sloppily executed. The details in white paint are missing. A good parallel in terms of style, fill motifs, and execution comes from Ugarit and was dated to the LH IIIB (ripe pictorial) period (Yon, Karageorghis, and Hirschfeld 2000: 217, fig. 7, no. 40; 243, pl. I, no. 40/VK 10). Both our chariot kraters can be dated to the LH IIIA2–IIIB period and seem to be located close to the end of this time span.

So far, we have only been able to reconstruct the upper part of the amphoroid krater L46–37 (FS 54/55) (Fig. 36:3). It is decorated with sacral ivy (FM 12), papyrus (FM 11), a bird (FS 7), and a bivalve shell (FM 25). The top of the rim is decorated with chevrons (FM 58). An LH IIIA2 date for this vessel is suggested.

In general, the relatively high number of rare, skillfully executed, pictorial vessels in Pit V shows that there was some demand for these exclusive objects. The three vessels with chariots may indicate that their owners participated in warfare and/or hunting, or they may refer to a (funerary) procession (Steel 1998: 293–94). The painted motifs are meant to highlight their social status: The possession of horses certainly was restricted to members of a high social class (see, e.g., Pappi and Isaakidou 2015), as these animals were expensive not only to acquire but also to maintain.

### *The Figurines*

Our corpus of figurines comprises two from Pit V (see Fig. 31): a Mycenaean Psi-figurine (N57) and a Mycenaean part of a horse, which belonged to a chariot (N58). In addition, two fragments of other horse-and-chariot figurines were found (L46–59, L46–60), which do not belong to N58, judging from their size.

Mycenaean figurines seem to be quite rare in Cyprus (van Wijngaarden 2002: 197–98) and the Levant (van Wijngaarden 2002: 109–14, 121–23). At Enkomi, only six Mycenaean figurines are known among a total of 1,472 Mycenaean imported ceramic objects (van Wijngaarden 2002: 134, table 10.1). A small number of figurines are also attested from Alambra, Maroni, Sinda (figurines from these three sites are listed in L. Åström 1972: 511–12 with references), and Idalion (Herscher 1998: 333), and from tombs (Karageorghis 1974: 33, no. 238; 44, no. 13) and the temple area (Karageorghis 1985: 98–99, nos. 3219, 3222, 3225, 3251; 105, no. 3323; 170, no. 3213) at Kition. A Mycenaean or White-Painted Wheelmade bovine or equid (Bürge in Fischer and Bürge 2013: 65, fig. 17:3), a horse that was part of a chariot (Fischer and Bürge 2014: 78, fig. 24), and other fragments of a female (Fischer and Bürge 2015: 34, fig. 7b) and bulls (Åström 1983: 147, 163, fig. 397; 150, 165, fig. 402q; 153, 168, fig. 410n; Fischer and Bürge 2015: 49, fig. 30:5, 9) come from domestic contexts, wells, and tombs at Hala Sultan Tekke.

At Ugarit, there are 62 fragments of Mycenaean figurines among the 616 Mycenaean imports (van Wijngaarden 2002: 42, table 5.1). Unfortunately, more than half of these figurines come from unknown contexts (van Wijngaarden 2002: 48, table 57), which makes conclusions on the contexts in which they once were used meaningless. Thirteen come from funerary contexts, nine from the settlement, four from domestic spaces, and three from ritual contexts (van Wijngaarden 2002: 48, table 57). While such figurines were integral to religious rituals in their Mycenaean homeland (see, e.g., Pakkanen 2009; concerning anthropomorphic figurines, see Whittaker 2009), their exact role in the LC I–II religious practice is difficult to determine. They may have been integrated within new or already existing social practices, thus at least partly replacing locally made figurines, for example, made of Base-Ring ware. Louise Steel (2013: 144–46) calls attention to the possibility that the occasional presence of Mycenaean figurines on Cyprus reflects personal interactions between seafarers and locals.

Considering the rarity of these figurines in the Levant and especially on Cyprus, it is remarkable that more than two come from the same context. In addition, it seems not to be coincidental that two chariot kraters and parts

of ceramic chariots were found in the same context. Despite a possible cultic meaning of horses or chariots in Late Bronze Age Cypriot society, which in any case would be difficult to assess, the combination of painted decoration of chariots on pottery and chariot figurines can be interpreted as an expression of a wealthy elite.

### **The Function of Area A: Burials Intermingled with Wells—An Absurd Situation?**

Even more evidence supports our hypothesis that Area A and its immediate environs—including directly to the west of the mosque of Hala Sultan Tekke, the area of the deep ditch (the irrigation channel built in 1952) between Area A and the area of the mosque, and the actual area surrounding the mosque—functioned as a cemetery (see **Fig. 3**). If we discard the fragmentary and tenuous information on the location of numerous looted and (re)excavated tombs from the early excavations at Hala Sultan Tekke in the 1890s, there are another four tombs that were recorded in the 1960s and 1980s (see above). In addition, we received fairly reliable information by local people, who during previous decades actually participated in construction work in the area to the east and south of Area A, that many more tombs were disturbed, looted, and finally destroyed between 1968 and our expedition. In 1968, when Karageorghis (1976: 71) excavated Tombs 1 and 2 at the western edge of the channel (see **Fig. 4**), similar information was provided by workers, who actually dug the irrigation channel in 1952. They reported many (looted) finds of gold—obviously from tombs. Consequently, the total number of tombs in this roughly 2 ha area is considerable. In addition, there are no stone structures that could point to a settled area, thus eliminating the possibility that these tombs are intramural features.

One could conclude from the above that Area A was reserved for burials, that it represents merely a cemetery, were it not for the likewise numerous wells that we excavated close to tombs. Perhaps the two uses of the land simply had differing chronologies (i.e., one following the other). Although it is difficult to date the life cycles of wells—when they were built, used, and finally abandoned—it seems from the contents of these wells that, in general, they are more recent than the tombs; and yet temporal overlapping seems to occur, too. As far as Tomb A in Area A is concerned, however, the opposite is the case: Based on the pottery, it contained the LC IIIA burials of six humans and a dog in a reused well, but this context seems to be an exception (see above).

At present, we have no explanation other than that the area was used originally for burials and later on mainly for wells, although during a certain period obviously both functions were served at the same time. The first

thought that comes to the mind of many modern people is the problem of water pollution. Today, no one would suggest digging wells inside a cemetery; however, during the Late Bronze Age, the choice for the location of wells was certainly guided by other considerations.

CQ1–3 in the northern part of the city and close to the ancient harbor, located some 500–600 m to the west of Area A, flourished in LC IIC/IIIA (Fischer 2011; 2012b; Fischer and Bürge 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016) (see **Fig. 1**). In CQ2, we exposed an intramural LC IIC tomb, and in Area 8, which is to the south of CQ1, there is another, very rich intramural tomb (Tomb 23) from LC IIIA (see above).

Area 23, to the west of Area 22, contains four tombs (Tombs 20–22, 24) and eight wells (western part in **Fig. 1**). The four tombs are dated to LC IB–IIC (Åström and Nys 2007: 27). Though in the same general vicinity as the wells, these tombs seem to some extent separated from the wells, somewhat on the eastern edge of the well zone—which is contrary to the case in Area A, where the tombs are intermingled with the wells. We also noted above that two of these tombs (Tombs 20 and 24) might have been intramural, and the absence of architectural remains could be explained by destruction during farming. Prospecting by georadar carried out in 2012 seems to confirm that farming destroyed stone structures in this area.

It thus seems that burials in specifically reserved areas occurred simultaneously with intramural burials at Late Cypriot Hala Sultan Tekke, at least from LC IB onward. There is an obvious temporal discrepancy between the domestic and small-scale industrial quarters to the west, which flourished in LC IIC/IIIA, and the fairly remote Area A to the east. In general, the tombs contained much older material—up to 300 years older—than LC IIC/IIIA (see Tombs 1, 2, and X). This raises once again the question: Where is the contemporaneous settlement within the area of Hala Sultan Tekke to which these older tombs belong? Future prospecting will include the area west of Area A, where such an older settlement might be expected.

### **Burial Practices, Feasting, and Offering Rituals at Hala Sultan Tekke**

Despite the relatively simple architectural design of Tomb X—with two chambers in the shape of a recumbent “8” which could be approached from a single shaft—the number and quality of the finds point to use by individuals of high rank who might have belonged to the ruling class of the city of Hala Sultan Tekke. The sequence of the 17 buried individuals (8 juveniles and 9 adults) could not be fully established, because the remains of previously buried individuals were swept aside before each new

interment (cf. the corresponding situation at Toumba tou Skourou [Vermeule and Wolsky 1990: 324–25]). It is also possible that the tomb was at least partly emptied and refilled again with the same material, which would explain the extremely high fragmentation of human bones. However, the position and nature of a number of finds along the periphery of the tomb enabled us to present a model for the sequence of deposition for burial goods (see Fig. 9). Judging from local and imported pottery, Tomb X was in use from roughly the second half of the 16th century to 1200 B.C.E.—that is, from LC IB to IIC.

Concerning the find situation in and around the tomb, we argue for three possibilities which have a common feature—namely, that the tomb was reused several times: (1) At the end of the life span of the tomb, it was reopened once again in order to prepare it for (an)other burial(s), which never took place; (2) the tomb was accidentally reopened by people who were either preparing for another burial or were digging a well, which is a common phenomenon in Area A; or (3) a secondary treatment of the deceased took place. This last possibility could include exhumation of older burials in order to inter them in a new tomb together with the most recently deceased (Keswani 2004: 101–4, 158). This practice was suggested by Priscilla Keswani for a number of other tombs from the Early and Middle Cypriot period (2004: 191–92, table 4.1) to the Late Cypriot period (2004: 217–18, table 5.1).

The question of whether Tomb X was used for related individuals—which is our hypothesis—may be answered by the planned aDNA project and by  $87\text{Sr}/86\text{Sr}$  analyses of the movements and/or migrations of the individuals during their lifetimes.<sup>26</sup>

Several meters to the north of Tomb X is Offering Pit V. In its double-pit, recumbent “8” shape, and west–east orientation, it mirrors almost exactly Tomb X. Despite the similarity, it contained exclusively ceramic products of mainly fine tableware and two figurines—but no skeletons. All of the vessels have been intentionally broken and thrown into the chambers. No doubt, many lower parts of large vessels show an untypical break-pattern; they were deliberately cut to form cups, which points to their secondary use as drinking vessels before they were thrown into the chambers—possibly combined with deliberate breaking—that is, “ritual killing” of vessels.<sup>27</sup> We suggest that the vessels from this pit were deposited in the course of rituals for and worship of the departed, very likely in connection with burials and during ceremonies honoring earlier deceased relatives or important persons.

Though unknown until we expose more of Area A, it is possible that Offering Pit V served as a “center” for rituals in connection with more than one tomb.

Pit V’s earliest material—the locally produced pottery—suggests a date from LC IIA1 or around 1400 B.C.E. Its latest pottery is from the end of LC IIC—again, according to local wares. These dates are confirmed by imported pottery. Some of the Mycenaean imports can be dated to the LH IIIA1 period (around 1400 B.C.E.). However, the majority of the pottery is LH IIIA2, stretching into LH IIIB—that is, from roughly 1350 to 1200 B.C.E. There are no sherds later than LH IIIB. The time span represented in this pit—as much as 200 years—precludes the possibility that a single, one-time deposit was made and indicates use over a considerable period of time. It is possible that its contents came from somewhere else and were finally deposited there; rituals connected with the burials or worship of the deceased might have taken place at various locations in the area, and the material remains from these ceremonies might have been moved to their final resting place in Offering Pit V. However, it is clear from the ceramic evidence that the oldest material of this feature is more recent than the oldest burials of Tomb X.

This “tomb-offering pit” combination is repeated in the eastern part of Area A, where we suggested that Offering Pit P from 2015 and Tomb 2 from 1968—both along the western edge of the irrigation channel—are associated with each other (Fischer and Bürge 2016: 51–53). The fairly rich but partly looted Tomb 2 (Karageorghis 1976) contained numerous skeletons, whereas Pit P had several complete vessels but no skeletons. We propose that Pit P was used for the deposition of offerings during a ritual connected with the earliest burial in Tomb 2 and/or other burials in its vicinity. Karageorghis dated the earliest burials of Tomb 2 to the end of LC I or the end of the 15th century B.C.E. (1976: 89). We suggest LC IB, roughly the 15th century B.C.E., for Pit P (Fischer and Bürge 2016: 52), based on White Slip I bichrome, which is present in both features.

Feasting rituals, specifically those for the deceased, are attested not only in Cyprus but also in the Aegean, the Levant, and Egypt (e.g., Wright 2004; Pfälzner et al. 2014). However, in these regions outside of Cyprus, there is substantial evidence, both written and iconographic, for such rituals, whereas on Cyprus, we have to rely solely on the archaeological evidence. This includes mainly deposits of tableware similar to that from Pit V, in combination with large amounts of animal bones and other food remains, such as seeds. This is reported from administrative Building X at Kalavassos-Ayios Dhimitrios (South and Russell 1993; Steel 2004a: 169–74). The difference between the remains from Kalavassos and those from Pit V is the almost complete absence of animal bones in the

<sup>26</sup> These analyses will be carried out in connection with an advanced grant financed by the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences, which will run from 2017 to 2021.

<sup>27</sup> On this topic, see, e.g., Morrison and Park 2008.

latter. In addition, our botanical analyses yielded no related evidence. Another interesting parallel is the filling of two wells (TE III and TE VIII) at Kouklia-*Evreti* (von Rüden et al. 2016), which contained fragments of local and Mycenaean and Minoan imported ceramics, bronze vessels and weapons, faience and stone objects, textile production and metallurgical tools, seals and weights, worked bones, animal horns, and an ivory hoard. This deposit may at least partly represent the disposal of feasting debris, which accumulated over a long period of time.

The interior of the ashlar-built Tomb 66 at Enkomi, which is one of the wealthiest tombs known in Cyprus, was capacious enough to allow several persons to stand or sit inside on low benches against two of the walls. Lindy Crewe (2009) therefore suggested that such stone-built tombs not only housed the deceased but were also places for ritual feasting, a practice that has parallels in the Aegean and the Near East, where this kind of tomb architecture and such rituals are well documented—for example, at Ugarit, Byblos, and Qatna (Niehr 2015).

At Hala Sultan Tekke, not only do Pits V, B, and P reflect the remains of ritual feasting or offering, there are also a number of well fillings, which may contain feasting debris, similar to those at Kouklia-*Evreti* (Bürge in press; cf. also Öbrink 1979; and Fischer and Bürge 2015: 46–49; 2016: 48–49). Drinking and serving vessels found in Tomb X could have been used for feasting rituals before they were placed next to the deceased. In order to establish what exactly might have been consumed during these rituals, residue analyses are needed (and planned). Narrow-necked containers, which may have contained unguents or scented oils, were possibly used for libation or may represent personal belongings of or gifts to the buried persons. The jewelry, scarabs, seals, and weapons from Tomb X certainly were personal items demonstrative of the rank of the deceased (cf. also Keswani 2004: 136–39).

The particularly high quantity of Mycenaean imported vessels in Tomb X (roughly 20%) is not surprising and is comparable to other Late Bronze Age elite burials on Cyprus (Steel 1998; South 2006). The percentage of Mycenaean imports in Pit V is even higher (roughly 35%)—which also may have chronological reasons, as the bulk of material from this pit can be dated to the pe-

riod of most intense influx of pottery from the Aegean to Cyprus. Although Mycenaeans were certainly present on Cyprus during this period, this does not explain the high number of Mycenaean imports found in tombs, especially during the LC IIB–C (LH IIIA2–IIIB) period. It rather seems that these imports, especially the skillfully decorated pictorial vessels, functioned as status symbols for the Late Cypriot elite and may have been used first in domestic contexts and then deposited in tombs (Steel 1998: 293; 2004b: 77–78). This would explain the low percentage of Mycenaean imports usually found in the settlement of Hala Sultan Tekke (approximately 1–2%). It is beyond the scope of this paper to discuss the complex topic of functional development of Mycenaean imports in Cyprus in sepulchral or ritual contexts, but a gradual appropriation of Mycenaean imported drinking sets in the 14th and 13th centuries B.C.E. is well documented (e.g., Steel 1998; van Wijngaarden 2002: 183–202; Steel 2004b; Graziadio and Pezzi 2009; 2013). This fits with a decrease in the variety of shapes in local fine wares, such as White Slip II and Base-Ring II, which is also visible in Tomb X and Pit V. Compared with the Greek mainland, the range of shapes is restricted. At the same time, specific shapes are especially popular or occur exclusively on Cyprus, which suggests that there was a specific need and demand for this ware on the island (van Wijngaarden 2002: 183–202; Steel 2004b; 2013: 130–31) and implies that these vessels met the taste of a Cypriot elite.

The imported tomb gifts from Tomb X and Offering Pit V, which derived from a vast area stretching from mainland Greece over Crete to the Levant and from Anatolia (possibly) to Egypt to the south, underline the importance of Hala Sultan Tekke as a harbor and a hub for trade and intercultural relations in the Late Bronze Age. To further explore this site's significance and to prevent additional destruction, the remainder of the geophysical anomalies in the roughly 1 ha Area A will be investigated. After removing the colluvial/plowed soil above the anomalies, tombs, offering pits, and any other archaeological features of interest will be recorded and, if judged to be exposed to erosion, excavated.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> All features near today's surface will be excavated. Deeper structures will be recorded but not necessarily excavated.

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