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## Pottery from Deir El-Naqlun (6th-12th Century) : Preliminary Report from Polish Excavations in 2010 and 2011

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# POTTERY FROM DEIR EL-NAQLUN (6TH–12TH CENTURY). PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM POLISH EXCAVATIONS IN 2010 AND 2011

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**Abstract:** The discussion of pottery finds from the monastic complex of Deir el-Naqlun, discovered in the course of two successive seasons, 2010 and 2011, provides an overview of ceramic assemblages used continuously in the main monastery compound at Naqlun throughout its existence, from the 6th–7th century (rubbish dump on Kom B, Part I), through the most abundant 9th–10th century horizon (ceramic deposit located in Building K.1, Part II, and the central complex around street Š.4 and buildings AA and J, Part III) to the 12th century (burials of cemetery A, Part III). The 6th–7th century assemblage contained a mix of local wares from both southern and northern Egyptian workshops, as well as imported wares from North Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean (including Palestine and Gaza). The character of the deposit lent itself to a statistical analysis of the different pottery categories, especially transport amphorae. A set of amphorae, basins and storage containers of 10th century date from the northern part of the site constituted a sealed deposit, important because of the identified functional interrelationship of the vessels. A similar repertoire of storage and transport vessels of 9th–10th century date, complemented with a range of tableware and ceramic oil lamps, characterized the utilitarian assemblage from the central part of the kom. The rare glazed vessels from burial contexts represented late, 12th century ceramics.

**Keywords:** Naqlun, pottery, 6th–7th century, 9th–10th century, 12th century, pottery, amphorae, tableware, glazed pottery, imports, oil lamps

Two successive seasons of excavations in different parts of the site of the Coptic monastery in Deir el-Naqlun brought to light ceramics covering a period from the early phases of monastic development in the 6th and 7th century through the heyday of the monastic compound in the 9th–10th century, to the 12th-century cemetery located in the ruins of the monastery. Excavations encompassed, in 2010, sites on the central kom, including the monastic complex straddling street AA.Š.4, that

is, Building J (units 2, 6, 8, 9, 10) in the western end and unit AA.40.6 to the north, including a few graves of the intrusive cemetery A spreading throughout this part of the kom. In 2011, explorations centered on the rubbish dump in the southern part of the site (Kom B), central kom (units AA.40.7, AA.50.3) and a new structure located at the northernmost fringes of the central kom (site 2011.1, otherwise dubbed the Northern Building or K.1), from where a deposit of ceramics was recovered

(for the results of archaeological excavations in 2010 and 2011, see Godlewski 2014 and Dzierzbicka 2014, in this volume) [Fig. 1].

Pottery studies took into account foremost the character of particular deposits. Statistical methods were applied to the material from the refuse dump, which was largely undiagnostic and was excavated from eight arbitrary levels. The share of particular functional groups: transport containers, tableware and cooking ware, was estimated, providing the grounds for conclusions concerning everyday life in the monastery and the chronological differentiation of the material (see Part I).

A different method of analysis was applied to ceramic material originating from sealed deposits in the central and northern part of the site, that is, rooms AA.40.6, AA.40.7 and K.1. The analysis included both complete and fragmentary vessels, described in catalogue form, leading to a reconstruction of the furnishings of these chambers in the last occupational phase and a reconstruction of vessel function (see Parts II and III). The same method of analysis was applied to fragmentary ceramics from street AA.S.4 and chamber AA.50.3 (see Part III).

These assemblages and the stratigraphic deposits from which they originated had been disturbed substantially by the pits of graves belonging to cemetery A, making it impossible to reach the kind of conclusions attainable in the case of ceramic assemblages from the sealed deposits in rooms AA.40.6 and AA.40.7. However, the results of the examination provided certain interpretational indications (see Part III).

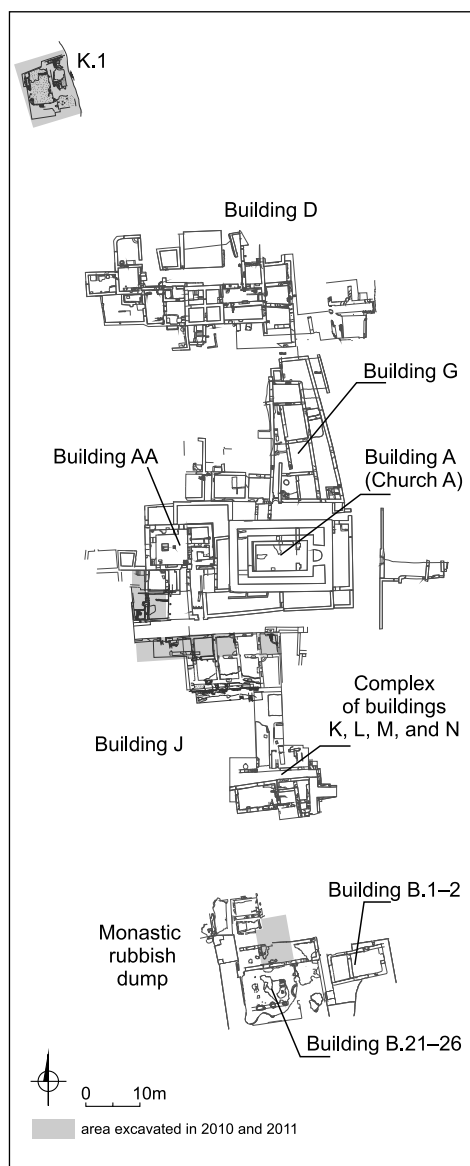


Fig. 1. Plan of the Naqlun site, areas of exploration in 2010 and 2011 marked in grey (PCMA archives; updated S. Maślak)

*All drawings and digitizing K. Danys-Lasek, with drawing assistance from J. Ciesielska (Nd.11.072, Nd.11.073, Nd.11.159)*

## PART I POTTERY FROM THE REFUSE DUMP ON KOM B

The refuse dump to the south of the monastic complex on the central kom in Naqlun was excavated previously in the late 1980s and, more recently, in 2008, when the earlier excavations were extended to the north (Godlewski 2012: 209; Derda, Dzierzbicka 2012: 212–213) [Fig. 1]. In 2011, exploration continued northward, reaching a subterranean mud-brick structure of as yet unidentified function. Eight arbitrary levels were explored in a trench measuring roughly 42 m<sup>2</sup> in area (for cross-sections through the trench, showing the excavations levels and dump stratigraphy, see Dzierzbicka 2014: Fig. 1 on page 193 in this volume). The lower layers, numbered from VIII to IV, were made up of *sebakh* interspersed with insignificant ashes and relatively little pottery. The levels above that were mixed heavily with black ashes and stone, and the

ceramics, which were much more abundant than in the lower layers, were strongly burned and blackened. The repertoire of vessels also changed, reflecting historical events and evolution of the monastic community over time. The present report builds on and develops the observations made by the author in a report on the ceramic finds from the excavation of the refuse dump in 2008 (Danys-Lasek 2012).

The assemblage from each of the arbitrary levels is discussed separately, following a set order of presentation of the different functional categories: tableware, cooking and utility ware, and transport containers. Individual categories are broken up into local production, ceramics from southern Egyptian workshops and non-Egyptian products. The general discussion is followed by a detailed catalogue of

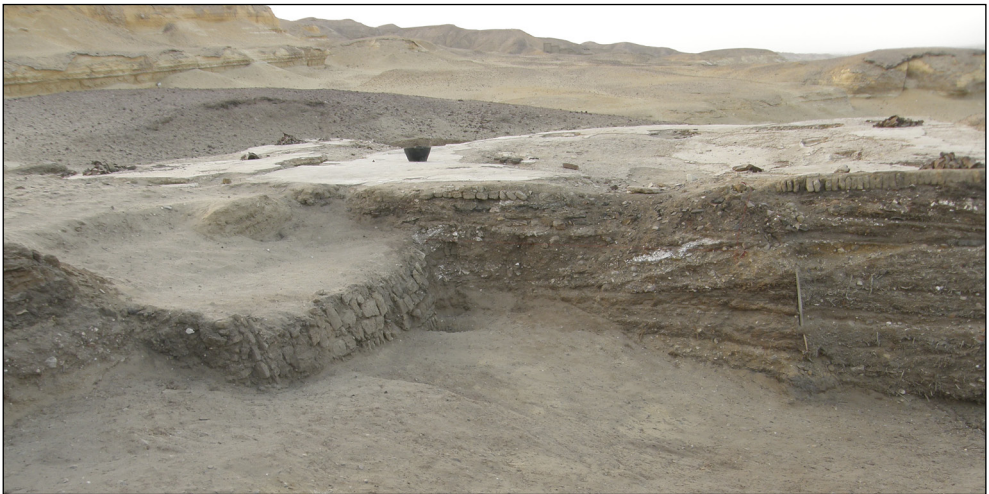


Fig. 2. General view of the refuse dump trench on Kom B in Naqlun in 2011  
(Photo W. Godlewski, PCMA archives)

selected, representative ceramic vessels, illustrated for the most part in the plates. The division in the tables follows the general principles outlined above, being furthermore subdivided into fabric groups treated in a conventional manner.

### LEVEL VIII

[Table 1-1; Fig. 4]

**Tableware** constituted nearly 9.7% of the pottery finds from Level VIII [see Fig. 3]. The repertoire of vessels made of Nile silt included bowls, plates, bottles, vases and carinated bowls; those representing South Egyptian wares were limited to just a few sherds. Nile-silt goblets recalled in shape and decoration (for instance, the cream-colored dots on the bottom inside) the repertoire recorded in a corresponding level (XII) of the dump excavated in 2008

(Nd.08.763). More interestingly, a vessel identical with goblet Nd.11.345 was found in level II (Nd.11.369).

The **cooking and utility categories** (altogether about 21%) included sherds of thick-walled basins, storage containers, cooking pots, lids, buckets and funnels. Among the amphorae, which ran to approximately 75% of the assemblage from this level, Egyptian LR 7 with gently sloping shoulders predominated (Nd.11.465, Nd.11.276 with a small fragment of black *dipinto*) [see Fig. 4]. A fragment (Nd.11.464), furnished with a hole made post-firing and with a piece of string threaded through it and knotted, should be interpreted as reuse of the lower part of the vessel as a container for suspension. Imported LR 1 amphorae were the second most numerous group

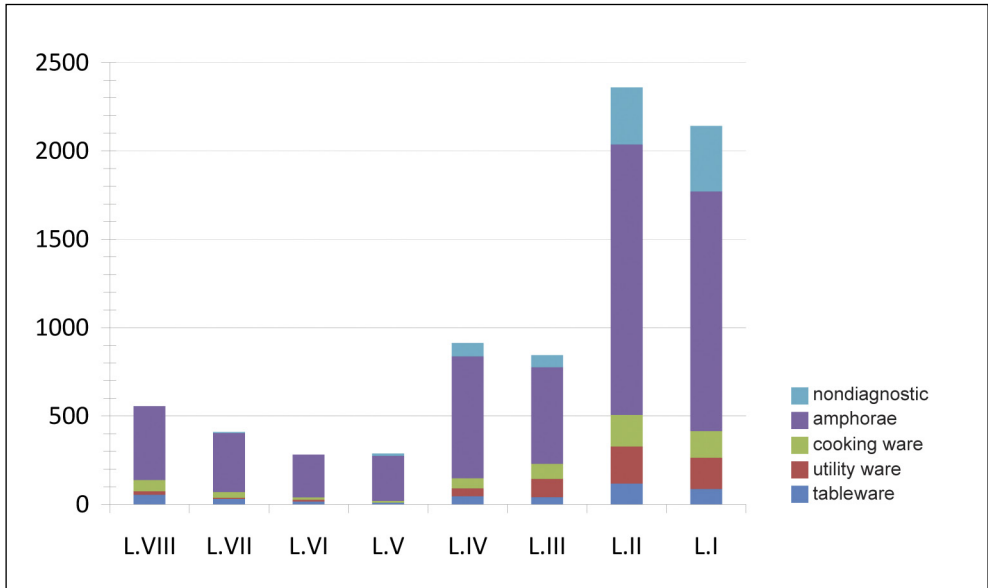


Fig. 3. Pottery categories from particular levels of the refuse dump recorded in 2011 in quantitative view; x axis – arbitrary excavation levels in stratigraphic order from the earliest VIII to the latest I; y axis – counts of pottery sherds

of transport containers, whereas other forms, such as LR 4, LR 8 and LR 7 from southern Egypt (T715–T17 after R.D. Gempeler) occurred sporadically.

#### LEVEL VII

[Table 1-2; Fig. 5]

Among the **tableware** from this level, which amounted to slightly over 7.6% of the assemblage, the proportions between vessels made of Nile silt and marl clay were fairly even. Among the Nile-silt products, the predominant form was a bowl with thickened incurved rim (Nd.11.324, Nd.11.455), occasionally decorated with a black band with yellow dots (Nd.11.456). Vessels of marl clay were represented by a *qulla* (Nd.11.457). Products of South Egyptian workshops were half as numerous as local ones made of Nile silt. Vessels like the collared bowl (Nd.11.454) find parallels on Elephantine, dated there to the second quarter of 5th to mid 7th century (type T325b, Gempeler 1992: 96–97, Fig. 40,6). Also a plate with stamped decoration (Nd.11.459) can be referred to as Elephantine type T226a from the mid 5th to first quarter of the 6th century (Gempeler 1992: 72, Fig. 16). Three vessels from the set were imported from North Africa, including a bowl identified as Hayes type 84, decorated in D style, from AD 450–500 (Hayes 1972: 132, Fig. 23), considered one of the most common products there. The tableware included also fragments of a bottle on a high foot (Nd.11.460) and examples of carinated bowls, all of Nile silt.

**Utility ware** from the level included thick-walled basins, storage containers, cooking pots, lids and buckets. As for the **transport containers**, which made up

about 82% of the assemblage, Egyptian LR 7 with gently sloping shoulders dominated the set. A large group was made up of LR 4 amphorae brought in the 6th century from Gaza (Majcherek 1995: 169) and about half as numerous imported LR 1 containers. A single example of the NAQLUN 11 type of amphora was also recorded (for a description and discussion of this type of amphora, see below, page 627).

#### LEVEL VI

[Table 1-3; Fig. 6]

The ceramic assemblage from this level was not as numerous on the whole, although the share of tableware continued to be small (about 5.7%) and that of amphorae growing (about 86%).

The **tableware** was dominated by vessels made of Nile silt, represented mainly by bowls and vases, also a ledged goblet (Nd.11.323) and a fragment of plate base covered with ocher (Nd.11.201). A plate from South Egyptian workshops (Nd.11.321) imitated North African forms of the 4th and 5th centuries (ARSW Hayes 67, Hayes 1972: Fig. 19), which had decorated counterparts in the material from Elephantine (type T261a, second half of the 6th through mid 7th century, Gempeler 1992: 83, Fig. 27,1). From the same South Egyptian workshops came an orange-slipped jar (Nd.11.322), resinated inside and painted black and red on the outside (type T823 of the early 5th century from Elephantine, Gempeler 1992: 142, Fig. 79,9). A *qulla* (jug) of marl clay (Nd.11.422) also belonged to the tableware repertoire, as did a few carinated bowls.

The **utility ware** assemblage included thick-walled basins, storage containers

and buckets (Nd.11.364). Cooking ware revealed only non-diagnostic sherds, added to which were a few lids and frying pans.

The large percentage of **transport containers** in this digging level included mainly Egyptian LR 7 amphorae. Second in number was the set of imported containers of 6th century date, LR 1 and LR 4, originating from Gaza (Majcherek 1995: 169).

#### LEVEL V

[Table 1-4; Fig. 7]

Level V proved to be quite similar to Level VI in terms of the percentage break-up of the assemblage, but was distinguished by a complete absence of any South Egyptian products [see Fig. 3].

**Tableware** was made of Nile silt and included bowls and a bottle with painted red and black decoration on a white background (Nd.11.452). The small assemblage of utility-ware vessels included *qawadis* (*saqiyah* pots), thick-walled basins and large carinated bowls used as basins, as well as a few buckets, a small group of cooking pots, two fragmentary lids and a few frying pans. One of the pans (Nd.11.414) had two holes made before firing with a piece of string knotted in it.

**Transport containers**, which constituted almost 88.5% of the assemblage, included primarily Egyptian LR 7 amphorae. Imported LR 1 formed a fairly numerous group, whereas North African LR 8 and Palestinian bag-shaped LR 5/6 were represented by just a few sherds. A single body sherd of an Egyptian counterpart of the bag-shaped LR 5/6 (Egloff 187–E190), made of Nile silt, was recorded as well.

#### LEVEL IV

[Table 1-5; Fig. 8]

The share of tableware in Level IV oscillated around 5% of the assemblage. Products made of Nile silt dominated in number the vessels from South Egyptian workshops. Among the former was a plate (Nd.11.313) with parallels in the South Church at el-Ashmunein and a large bowl (Nd.11.311) with analogies at Kellia, as well as el-Ashmunein. Of interest is a thick-walled plate of yellow marl clay (Nd.11.425) with painted decoration and relief appliqué. Carinated bowls were fairly uniform in shape and ornament, e.g., Nd.11.312, with a black-painted rim with white spots and body featuring black arcades with white dots; the church in el-Ashmunein again yielded a parallel form, albeit undecorated (Bailey 1996: Fig. 36:8). Vases of Nile silt and *qullae* of marl clay added to the tableware repertoire.

**Cooking ware** consisted of ill-defined pots, a few frying pans, some lids and buckets. Utility vessels included *qawadis*, different storage containers, basins and bread-baking molds, their share in the assemblage matching that of the tableware.

**Amphorae** made up about 75.6% of the assemblage and again Egyptian LR 7 containers predominated in this set. Next in number were bag-shaped LR 5/6 (Egloff 186) amphorae made of marl clay and imported LR 1 vessels. Also recorded were single examples of South Egyptian LR 7 made of pink clay (type K715 from Elephantine, 6th through 7th/8th century, Gempeler 1992: 19, Fig. 122,1–5), Egyptian imitations of LR 1, as well as imported bag-shaped LR 5/6 from Palestine and LR 8 from North Africa.

## LEVEL III

[Table 1-6 a–b; Fig. 9A–B]

Level III yielded about the same amount of pottery as level IV and the percentage of tableware and transport containers was proportionately the same, with a growing presence of cooking ware [see Fig. 3].

**Tableware** of Nile silt dominated in number the products from the south of Egypt. The repertoire included plates (Nd.11.448) imitating North African products (ARSW Hayes 83 from the 5th century, Hayes 1972: Fig. 23), which were noted already in earlier excavations of the refuse dump at Naqlun, in a 6th–7th century horizon (Danys-Lasek 2012: Fig. 4: Nd.08.667, Fig. 5: Nd.08.763). Another plate, Nd.11.444, had a stamped cross on the bottom and roulette decoration, imitating ornamentation found on vessels produced in the Mediterranean. The cross motif could be either of the North African type (ARSW Hayes 311b, style E (i) from the end of the 5th and beginning of the 6th century, Hayes 1972: Fig. 56b) or the Eastern Mediterranean (LRCHayes 71b, f, from the same period, Hayes 1972: Fig. 79b, f). Small goblets with rounded rims and cream-colored (Nd.11.445) or black spots on a cream background (Nd.11.451) have parallels among the material from the South Church of el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 7:8). Other forms included bottles, *qullae* and vases made of both Nile silt and marl clay. Carinated bowls came in both the plain and decorated variants, the latter consisting of grooves on the rim and black arcades with white dots on the bodies (Nd.11.446).

South Egyptian tableware was represented by a ledged cup with roulette decoration (Nd.11.310) with parallels

from Elephantine from the first quarter of the 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: 96, Fig. 39,1), Esna (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXI: E22) and Alexandria (Rysiewski, Majcherek, Meyza 2000: Fig. 20:12). Similar vessels were recovered from 7th-century levels of the Naqlun refuse dump in 2008 (Danys-Lasek 2012: Fig. 2:Nd.08.403). Elephantine parallels for a deep bowl with incurved rim and painted banded decoration (Nd.11.428) placed it between the third quarter of the 6th and the 7th century (Gempeler 1992: 118–119, Figs 59,10; 66,1).

**Cooking ware** formed a growing share of the assemblage (10.2%). It included a frying pan with a small horizontal handle (Nd.11.427), a few lids including one with a hole pierced through the body (Nd.11.449). There were also numerous utility vessels: *qawadis*, basins and storage containers, as well as a bucket (Nd.11.426).

Definitely the largest group among the **transport containers** (making up 64.7% of the assemblage) consisted of Egyptian LR 7 vessels. Bag-shaped LR 5/6 (Egloff 186) imitations, made of marl clay and mixed clays, were also recorded in some number, as were imported LR 1 vessels, one with traces of red *dipinto* (Nd.11.450). A few sherds represented North African LR 8 amphorae, as well as Egyptian imitations of LR 1 and red-slipped Aswan containers of Nile silt resembling LR 7 in shape.

## LEVEL II

[Table 1-7 a–c; Fig. 10A–C]

The pottery assemblage from Level II was the largest by far of the contexts excavated this season in the rubbish dump, but the share of tableware just topped 5% [see Fig. 3].



In the group of goblets, bowls and plates, South Egyptian **tableware** predominated. The repertoire included ledged goblets (Nd.11.370) with parallels in the Elephantine material, dated broadly to the mid 6th through 8th century (type 359a, Gempeler 1992: 106, Fig. 51,4), a small vase with black rim and black arcades with white dots against a red slip on the body (Nd.11.372) paralleled by vessels from Elephantine from the third quarter of the 6th through 7th century (type T370, Gempeler 1992: 109–110, Fig. 56,3). On the other hand, an orange-slipped plate with ledged rim (Nd.11.234) finds no direct parallel among the Elephantine finds. As for the Nile-silt tableware, plate Nd.11.369 has a recorded parallel from Esna, dated to the 6th–8th century (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXIV:H9). A small goblet (Nd.11.371) had a hole pierced post-firing at the carination, which — assuming there were other holes on the same level around the circumference of the pot — served to hang the vessel on a rope or chain. A fragment with rows of zigzag impressions (Nd.11.373), made of a light-colored clay, could have come from Fustat, where similar finds have been dated to the 10th–11th century (Rousset, Marchand 1999: 245, Nos 156, 157). Bottles and *qullae* made of both Nile silt and marl clay added to the repertoire, as well as a carinated bowl with white festoons on the body (Nd.11.366), paralleled by a 6th–8th century vessel in Esna, albeit decorated in typical South Egyptian style (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXIX:W1), table amphorae and thin-walled lids with small handles.

**Cooking ware** represented a fairly large group: necked, deep pots

(Nd.11.232, Nd.11.374, Nd.11.388), semi-round with regular patterns of yellow spots (Nd.11.240), lids, including ones with holes pierced in the body (Nd.11.237) with analogies in the 6th–7th century hermitages of Esna (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXV:M13). *Qawadis*, basins, storage containers (Nd.11.238, Nd.11.367) are among the utility ware vessels. Thick-walled buckets (Nd.11.364+424) were also recorded, as well as a medium-thick funnel with patches of white paint on the inside walls (Nd.11.365), and a singular “flower-pot” (Nd.11.238).

The **amphorae**, which had a 65% share of the assemblage, were dominated by Egyptian LR 7 containers with distinguished shoulders thickened by an attached band, resinated on the inside. Amphorae of this kind were found in the top three levels of a trench excavated in the refuse dump at Naqlun in 2008 a few meters to the south of the present trench. Similar vessels were discovered at Kellia in 7th century contexts (type E174, Egloff 1977: Pl.57:3). Bag-shaped LR 5/6 containers, made of marl clay (Egloff 186) and Nile silt (Egloff 187–190), were also quite numerous, along with a few examples of LR 5/6 amphorae of 5th–6th century date from Palestine (Peacock, Williams 1986: 191–192; Landgraf 1980: 80). A few sherds of amphorae imitating LR 1 forms as well as imported LR 1 containers were also found, along with examples of LR 8 containers imported from North Africa and a single sherd of LR NAQLUN 11.

#### LEVEL I

##### [Table 1-8a-f; Figs 10A–G]

The topmost level in the refuse dump contained more or less the same amount

of potsherds as level II and again transport containers dominated the assemblage (about 65%), followed by cooking ware and plain ware vessels (totaling about 15%) and tableware (4%) [see *Fig. 3*].

**Tableware** consisted mainly of products of South Egyptian workshops, many of them bowls, examples of which found parallels among bowls from the South Church in el-Ashmunein and Kellia. The bowls were mostly red-slipped; orange slips were noted, too, as well as, very rarely, yellow slips. The prevalent form, however, was a plate, such as Nd.11.053, imitating North African dishes (ARSW Hayes 67 produced in the 4th–5th century), with parallels from Elephantine and from the part of the refuse dump at Naqlun excavated in 2008 (Nd.08.311, found in arbitrary layer III, dated to the 7th century). Other plates, like a vessel with “Samian” rim, bent profile (Nd.11.064) and one with only slightly incurving straight rim (Nd.11.065), were also paralleled in the Elephantine material, as was a plate with a cross stamp on the floor and roulette decoration on the outside wall (Nd.11.071), which found more parallels in the hermitages of Kellia. These plates were modeled on North African vessels (ARSW Hayes 83 from the 5th century, Hayes 1972: Fig. 23). An undecorated example of this type (Nd.08.279) came from the third arbitrary level, dated to the 7th century, excavated in the rubbish dump in Naqlun in 2008 a few meters further to the south. Several of the South Egyptian bowls, representing different forms, were paralleled by vessels from Elephantine and Marea, as well as being represented in the material recorded from the third arbitrary layer

of the earlier excavated part of the refuse dump at Naqlun (e.g., Nd.08.309). Bowls Nd.11.059, Nd.11.063, Nd.11.068 were similar to Nd.11.071 but without the decoration, same as vessels from Marea, Alexandria and Kellia. A deep cup Nd.11.057 resembled type T626 from Elephantine from the second half of the 6th century and vessels from the hermitages in Esna. One example (Nd.11.350) was painted with red and black zigzags between two pairs of black bands on a cream slip; parallels from Elephantine (type T640) dated it to the late 6th–7th/8th century, although similar vessels were produced also later in Fustat in the 10th century. A bowl with rectangular ledge, orange-slipped and red-slipped in the upper part with dark “patches” (Nd.11.070), was paralleled by type T323a from Elephantine from the second quarter of the 5th through 7th century. Tableware made of Nile silt was represented by Nd.11.054, similar to the example from South Egyptian workshops, such as Nd.11.053. One plate with rows of square stamped impressions on the rim (Nd.11.058) belonged to LRC Ware made in Eastern Mediterranean workshops and represented form Hayes 3F, dated to the late 6th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 69:23).

Carinated bowls formed the largest group among tableware made of Nile silt. They formed a differentiated set depending on the shape of the rim and the kind of decoration. Bowls with slightly thickened, outturned rims were the most common: Nd.11.097 with white arcades on the body, Nd.11.353 with black spots on a white band on the rim and arcades, Nd.11.106 with a black band with white dots below the rim on the inside. Another

two bowls (Nd.11.105, Nd.11.076) had rounded rims with two grooves on the outside; these were paralleled by finds from the South Church in el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 36: 8).

The category also included a table amphora most probably from workshops around Abu Mena (Nd.11.061), a miniature jar from South Egypt (Nd.11.056) analogous to Elephantine examples from the 6th/7th century and from Marea, where they were dated to the 6th–7th century, handles of small lids of Nile silt and bottles and vases made of marl clay. A fragment of plate with cup-shaped compartments (Nd.11.095), found heavily blackened, was originally white-slipped. Forms of this type originated from North Africa (ARSW Hayes 111 from the 6th and 7th century, Hayes 1972: Fig. 33), whereas parallels from Elephantine (T254) were dated to the late 6th through mid 7th century (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 25,1).

A small cup made of Nile silt (Nd.11.055) was heavily sooted on the outside, hence it was most probably used as a **lamp**. Similar vessels were found in the South Church at el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 47:1).

**Cooking ware** included deep necked pots (Nd.11.079, Nd.11.101, Nd.11.102, Nd.11.103, Nd.11.104) and semi-globular ones (Nd.11.077, Nd.11.078), occasionally decorated with cream-colored festoons (Nd.11.077), yellow dots and spots (Nd.11.078), and yellow or white bands (Nd.11.101, Nd.11.104). There were also frying pans (e.g., Nd.11.354), lids, including ones with holes pierced in the

body (Nd.11.096), and others (Nd.11.078, Nd.11.103, Nd.11.079 and Nd.11.104) with parallels from Kellia, Egloff types 110, 118–119 and 125 respectively. Small fragments of *qawadis* represented **utility** vessels. The category also included thick-walled basins with somewhat profiled walls bearing rope impressions on the outside (e.g., Nd.11.098, Nd.11.159), along with storage containers decorated occasionally with painted white motifs, such as bands and festoons, among others (Nd.11.100, Nd.11.107), all made of Nile silt. A thick-walled bucket with one pierced hole was also recorded (Nd.11.351).

**Amphorae** constituted 56% of the assemblage from this level and continued to be dominated by Egyptian LR 7 vessels of the same kind as in Level II (Nd.11.072, Nd.11.073). The second group in terms of numbers was made up of bag-shaped LR 5/6 vessels made of marl clay (Egloff 186) and Nile silt with white slip (Egloff 187–190), the latter without resination (e.g., Nd.11.099). Vessels found at Kellia in different contexts were dated there to the 7th–8th century (Egloff 177: 118; Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: Fig. 140), as were examples from Esna (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXVII:P11).

A few examples of vessels imitating LR 1 amphorae from the Eastern Mediterranean, were featured in different fabrics: Nile silt (Nd.11.094), mixed clay and marl clay (Nd.11.069). One container featured combed decoration on the shoulders (Nd.11.352).<sup>1</sup> Pottery workshops producing amphorae of this kind were discovered in the monastery of Saint Jeremiah in Saqqara (Ghaly 1992:

<sup>1</sup> Amphorae of this type found in Deir el-Naqlun in later 9th–11th century contexts, featuring a differently shaped rim and modified decoration theme, are designated provisionally as LRA NAQLUN 11, see below, page 627.

168, Fig. 16.2–b). At Deir el-Naqlun, they were found, among others, in the fill of room A.1 in Hermitage 25, where they were dated to the end of the 7th through the 8th century (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 21.2–3). Also recorded were some sherds of imported LR 8 amphorae (Nd.11.075) from North Africa, made of dark orange clay with yellow-green surface and without resination on the inside walls.

A few fragments featured vertical bands of combed decoration and rope impressions. Amphorae of this type were produced in workshops in North Africa starting from the 6th through

the 8th century (Peacock, Williams 1986: 202). Containers with similarly treated surfaces were discovered among others in Tod in contexts dated to AD 600–800 (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Figs 124, 125). Two small fragments belonged to imported LR 1 amphorae from the Eastern Mediterranean, widespread on many Mediterranean sites in the 5th–7th centuries (Peacock, Williams 1986: 185–187; Egloff 1977: 112; Williams 2005: 618–619). Some sherds represented imported bag-shaped containers LR 5/6 from Palestine (Peacock, Williams 1986: 191–192).

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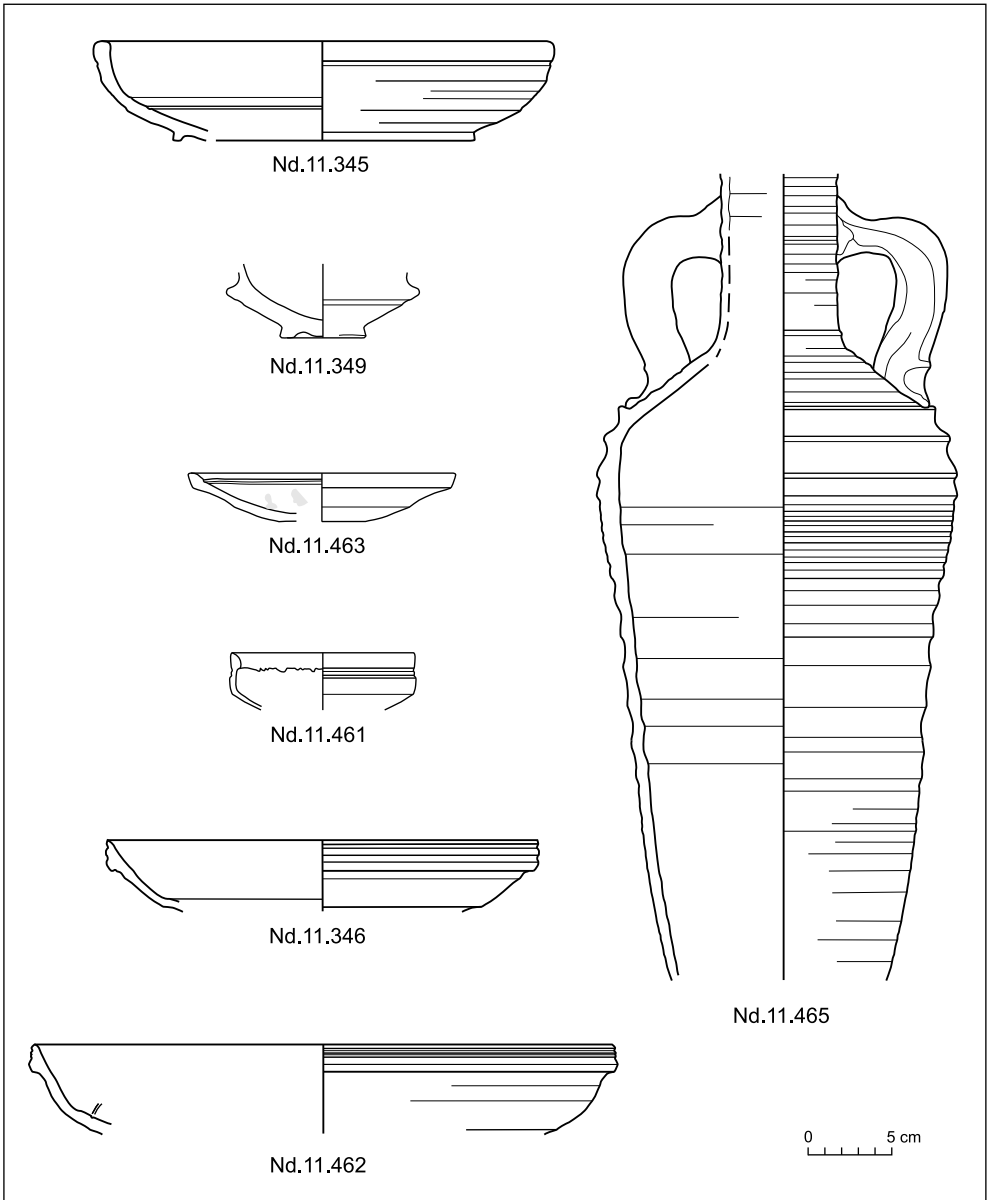
##### PART I: Catalogue

*Tables 1-1 to 1-8 and Figs 4–11*

Level VIII	<i>Table 1-1</i>	<i>Fig. 4</i>	pages 554–555
Level VII	<i>Table 1-2</i>	<i>Fig. 5</i>	pages 556–557
Level VI	<i>Table 1-3</i>	<i>Fig. 6</i>	pages 558–559
Level V	<i>Table 1-4</i>	<i>Fig. 7</i>	pages 560–561
Level IV	<i>Table 1-5</i>	<i>Fig. 8</i>	pages 562–563
Level III	<i>Table 1-6 a–b</i>	<i>Fig. 9A–B</i>	pages 564–567
Level II	<i>Table 1-7 a–c</i>	<i>Fig. 10A–C</i>	pages 568–573
Level I	<i>Table 1-8 a–f</i>	<i>Fig. 11A–G</i>	pages 574–585

Table. 1-1. Pottery from Level VIII

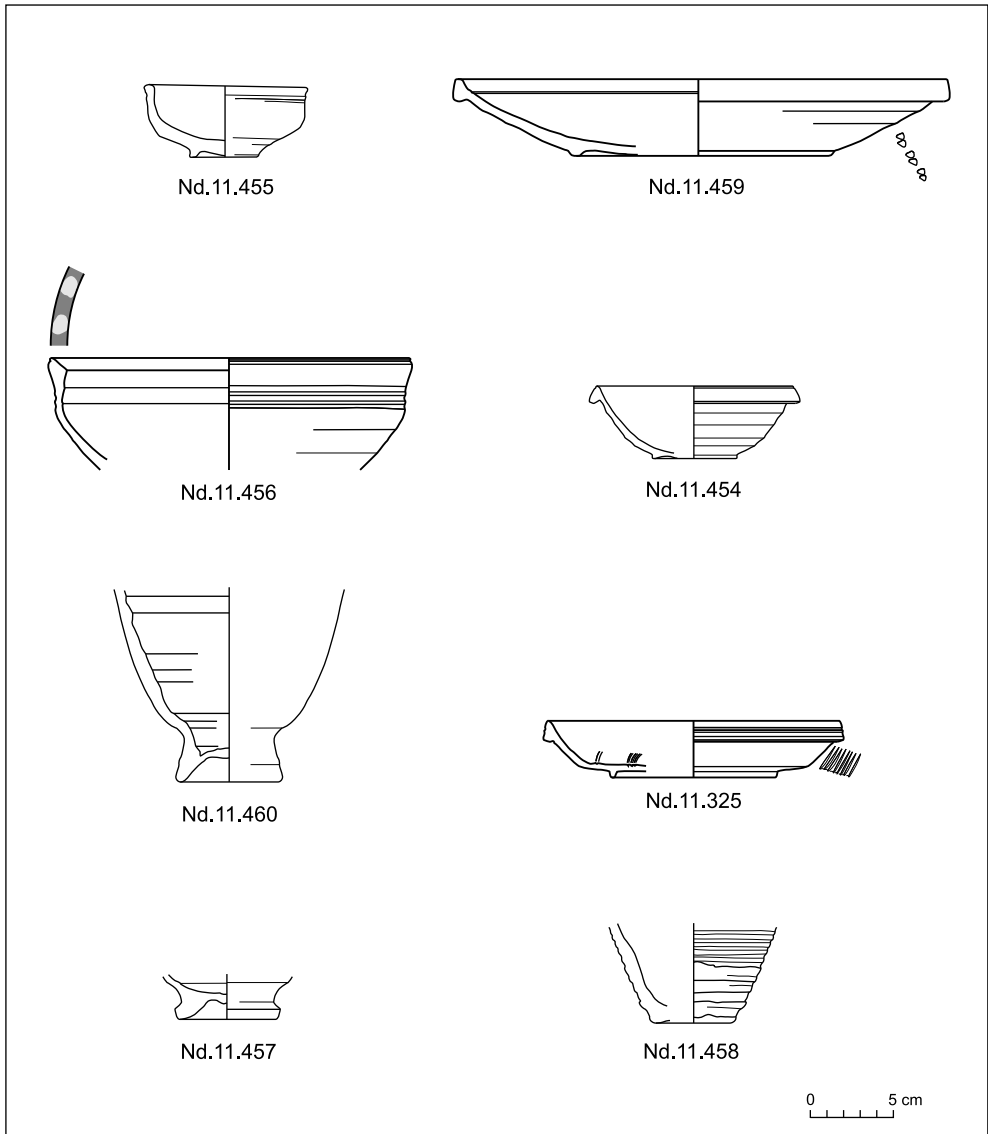
Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 4	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Bowls and plates, including a red-slipped polished plate (Nd.11.345) with rounded rim, bearing grooved decoration near the base, and red-slipped polished plates (Nd.11.346, Nd.11.462) with outward sloping, triple-grooved rim ("Samian"), the latter plate furnished additionally with a double groove inside. Bottles. Vases. Carinated bowls. Goblets, especially a ledge goblet (Nd. 11.349); two goblets with incurved rim (Nd.11.461, Nd.11.463), circumferential groove inside and cream-colored dots near the bottom, all covered with red polished slip.	Refuse dump of the monastery in Naqlun, season 2008, level XII, 6th century, (Danys-Lasek 2012: Fig. 5: Nd.08.763) and season 2011 (level II, Nd.11.369); Hawara (Marchand 2009: Fig. 52c)
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Thick-walled basins. Storage containers. Cooking pots. Lids. Bucket. Funnels.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7 (Nd.11.465, Nd.11.275 with gently sloping shoulders, fragmentary black <i>dipinto</i> ); Nd.11.464, reused(?), with pierced holes and cord threaded through them, from southern Egypt (Gempeler's T715-T717).	
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 1. LR 4. LR 8.	



*Fig. 4. Selection of pottery from Level VIII*

Table 1-2. Pottery from Level VII

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 5	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Bowls with thickened incurving rims (Nd.11.324, <b>Nd.11.455</b> ); one example with black band and yellow dots on the rim ( <b>Nd.11.456</b> ), all covered with red polished slip, except for Nd.11.455, which has a red, smoothed slip. Carinated bowls. Bottles, one on high ring base ( <b>Nd.11.460</b> ), covered with white slip on the outside, inside surface black.	Refuse dump of the monastery in Naqlun, season 2008, levels VIII–X, end of 6th–beginning of 7th century (Danys-Lasek 2012: Fig. 4: Nd.08.691); el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 4:30, 31)
Marl clay fabric	<i>Qulla</i> ( <b>Nd.11.457</b> ), yellow clay with orange in break, yellow smoothed surfaces. Bottles.	
South Egyptian fabric	Ledge bowls ( <b>Nd.11.454</b> ), beige in break, polished orange slip, red-shaded in the upper part, and groove below rim.  Plate ( <b>Nd.11.459</b> ) with “Samian” rim, made of pink clay, covered with red polished slip, undercut by a groove on the inside and with a roulette pattern of double triangular stamps on the outside	Elephantine, type T325b, second quarter of 5th century–mid 7th century (Gempeler 1992: 96–97, Fig. 40,6)  Elephantine, type T226a, mid 5th–first quarter of 6th century (Gempeler 1992: 72, Fig. 16)
Non-Egyptian fabric	North African plates, orange-brick in break, covered with red polished slip, three examples, including <b>Nd.11.325</b> with outward sloping rim, featuring three grooves and roulette ornament on the body, above the carination, one groove inside and three grooves on the center bottom.	Hayes type 84, decoration style D, AD 450–500 (Hayes 1972: 132, Fig. 23), one of the most common types in North Africa
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Thick-walled basins. Storage containers. Cooking pots. Lids. Bucket.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7 with gently sloping shoulders. LR NAQLUN 11, one example.	
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 4 ( <b>Nd.11.458</b> ) from Gaza, 6th century AD (Majcherek 1995: 169), combed band near flat base. LR 1.	Marea (Majcherek 2008: Fig. 44:95) and other sites

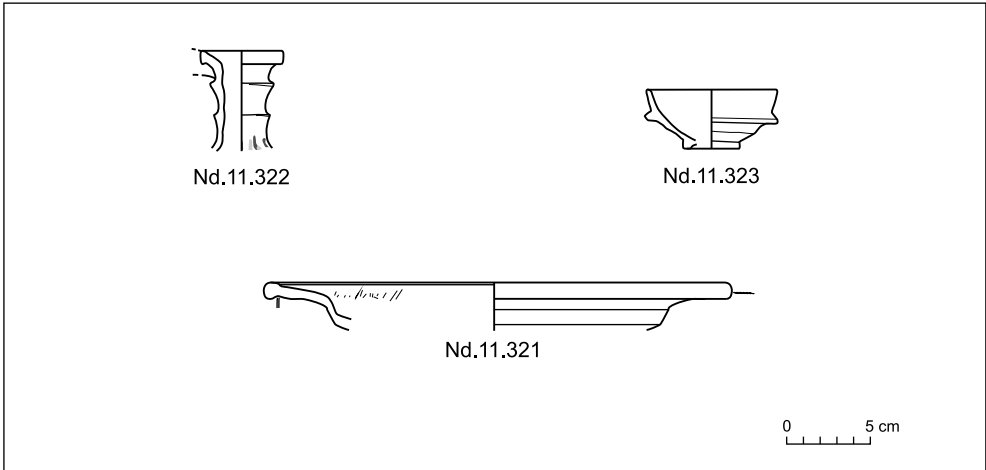


*Fig. 5. Selection of pottery from Level VII*



Table. 1-3. Pottery from Level VI

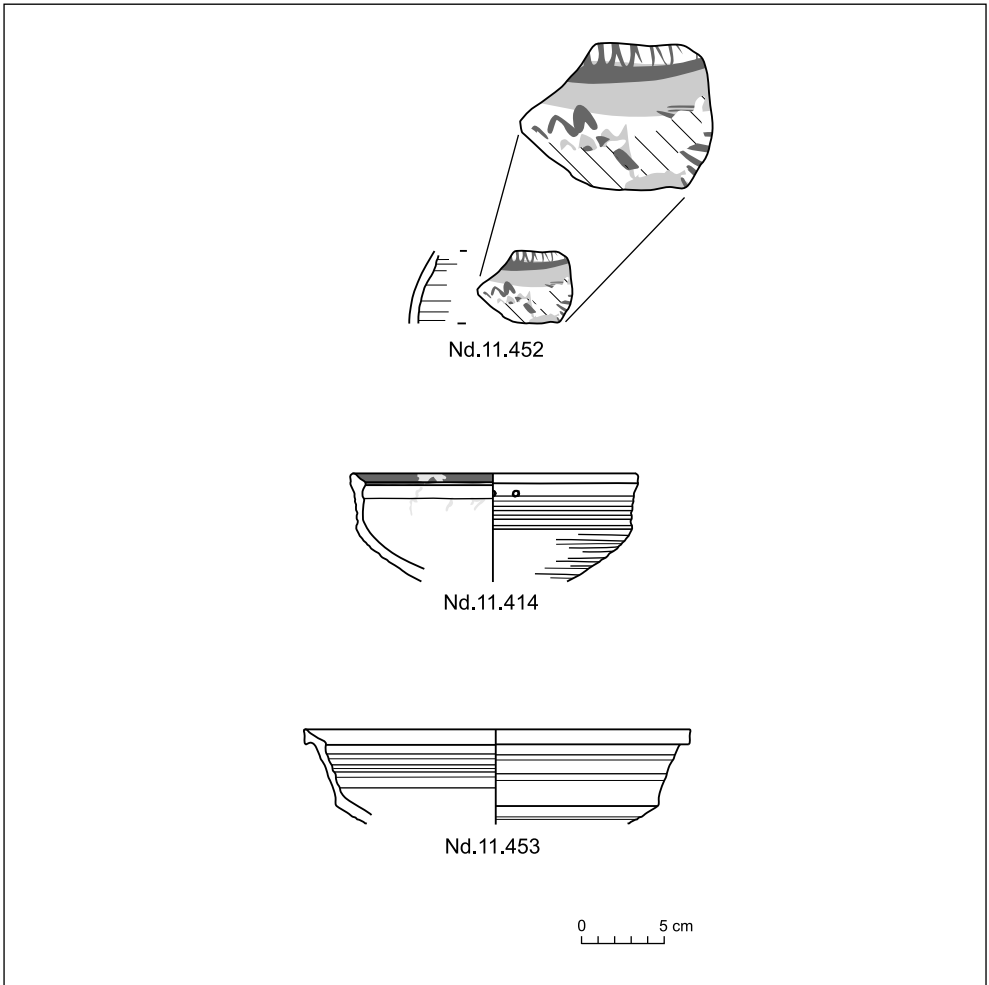
Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 6	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Bowls. Vases. Ledge goblet ( <b>Nd.11.323</b> ) and fragmentary bottom ( <b>Nd.11.201</b> ) containing ocher. Carinated bowls, all covered with red polished slip.	Hawara (Marchand 2009: Fig. 9a)
Marl clay fabric	<i>Qulla</i> ( <b>Nd.11.422</b> ), body sherd with yellow break and plain yellow surfaces.	
South Egyptian fabric	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.321</b> ), pink in break, covered with reddish orange polished slip, ledged rim with short cord impressions on top, imitation of ARSW Hayes 67 produced in the 4th–5th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 19).  Jar ( <b>Nd.11.322</b> ), made of pinkish orange clay, on external surface smoothed orange slip, resinated inside, neck with two collars, painted decoration in black and red.	Analogous decoration: Elephantine, type T261a, mid 6th–first half of 7th century (Gempeler 1992: 83, Fig. 27,1)  Elephantine, type T823, early 5th century (Gempeler 1992: 142, Fig. 79,9)
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Thick-walled basins. Storage containers covered with red smoothed slip. Bucket ( <b>Nd.11.364</b> ) with red polished slip, white band on rim and splashes on body.	
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Non-diagnostic sherds. A few frying pans and lids.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7.	
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 1 and LR 4 from Gaza, 6th century (Majcherek 1995: 169).	



*Fig. 6. Selection of pottery from Level VI*

Table. 1-4. Pottery from Level V

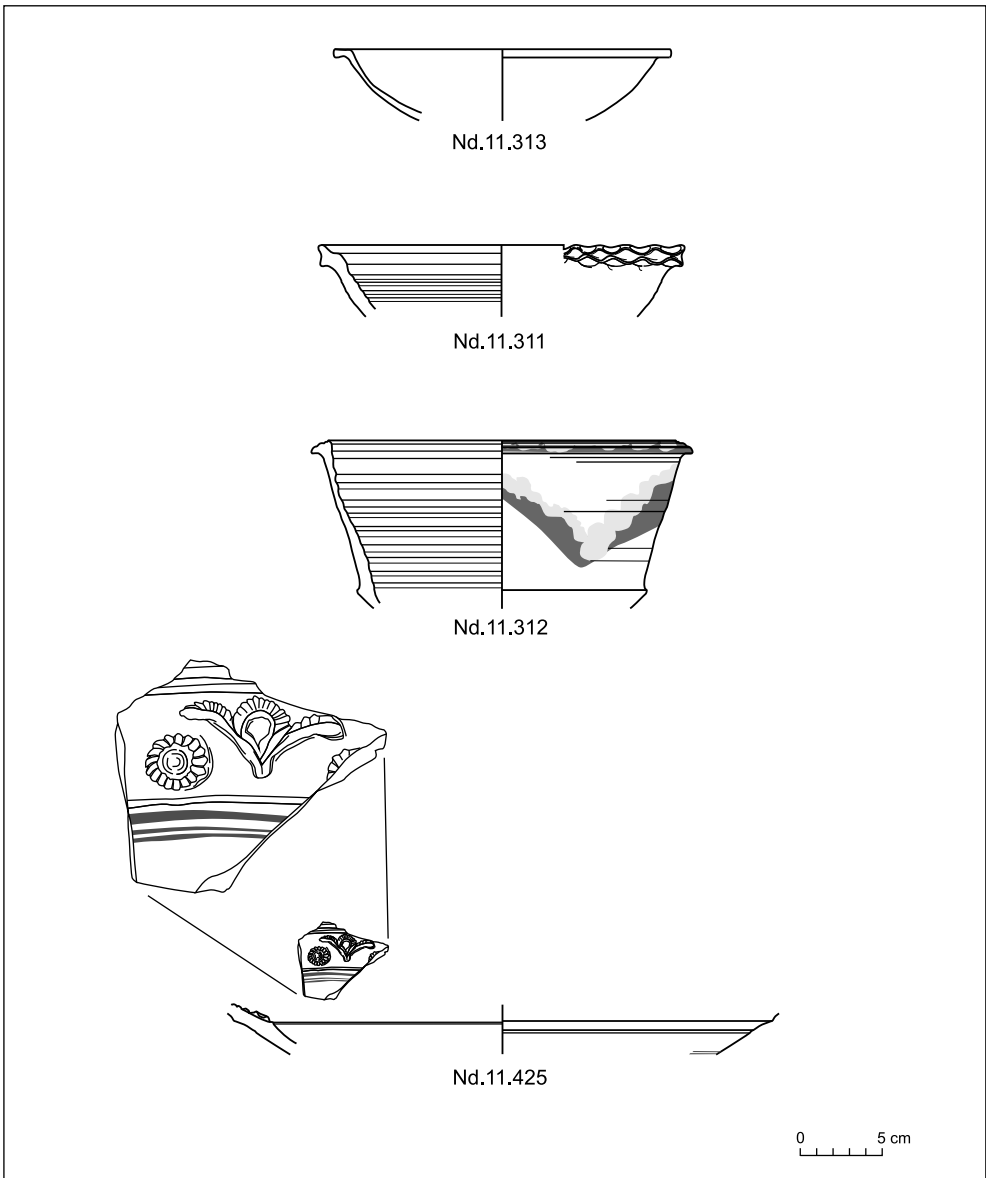
Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 7	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Bowls. Bottle ( <b>Nd.11.452</b> ), painted red and black decoration (bands, wavy lines) on white background.	
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	<i>Qawadis</i> . Thick-walled basins. Large carinated bowls used as basins. Numerous examples of buckets.	
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Cooking pots. Frying pans (e.g., <b>Nd.11.414</b> , <b>Nd.11.453</b> ) with two pre-firing holes for attachment of a rope, covered with red smoothed slip, the latter pan strongly burnt (original surface indiscernible), the former decorated on the rim (white splashes on black band). Lids.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7. Sherds of bag-shaped LR5/6, made of Nile silt (E187–190).	
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 1. LR 8 from North Africa. Bag-shaped LR5/6 from Palestine.	



*Fig. 7. Selection of pottery from Level V*

Table. 1-5. Pottery from Level IV

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 8	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.313</b> ) with flanged rim, orange polished slip.	South Church in el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 4:9)
	Broad bowl ( <b>Nd.11.311</b> ) with pinched band on rim, red smoothed surface, white substance coating the outside (kind of mortar?).	Kellia: type E97, 7th century (Egloff 1977: Pl. 45:5); South Church in el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 27: 1)
	Carinated bowls, poorly differentiated, especially <b>Nd.11.312</b> , sloping rim with three grooves and a black band with irregular white painted spots, black arcades with white dots on the body.	Analogous undecorated bowl from the South Church in el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 36:8)
	Vases	
Marl clay fabric	Thick-walled plate ( <b>Nd.11.425</b> ), yellow marl clay, molded decoration on the inside, white slip, two black stripes painted on the exterior, plastic appliques inside in the form of two branches with a ribbed ring between them, a roll of clay below and two black stripes.	
	<i>Qulla.</i>	
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	<i>Qawadis.</i> Storage containers. Basins. Bread-baking molds. Buckets.	
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Non-diagnostic body sherds. Frying pans. Lids.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7. South Egyptian version of LR 7, pink clay. Bag-shaped LR 5/6 (E186), made of marl clay. Imitation of LR 1 made of mixed clays.	Elephantine, type K715, 6th–7th/8th century (Gempeler 1992: 191, Fig. 122,1–5)
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 1. Bag-shaped LR 5/6 from Palestine. LR 8 from North Africa.	



*Fig. 8. Selection of pottery from Level IV*

Table. 1-6a. Pottery from Level III: tableware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 9A	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Plates, including <b>Nd.11.448</b> with “Samian” rim, red polished slip, with three grooves and broken wall inside, imitation of ARSW Hayes 83 from the 5th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 23).	Refuse dump of the monastery in Naqlun, season 2008, 6th–7th century (Danys-Lasek 2012: Fig. 4: Nd.08.667, Fig. 5: Nd.08.763)
	Base ( <b>Nd.11.444</b> ) with red polished slip, circular groove on the bottom around a stamped even-armed cross, double circumferential grooves, impressed roulette patterns and central circumferential groove, imitation of ARSW decoration style Hayes E (i).	For cross motifs, see ARSW Hayes form 311b, decoration style E (i), end of 5th and beginning of 6th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 56b), and Eastern Mediterranean LR C Hayes form 71b, f, from the same period (Hayes 1972: Fig. 79b, f)
	Small goblets with rounded rim, red smoothed slip, decorated with cream-colored dots ( <b>Nd.11.445</b> ) or black dots on a cream-colored band ( <b>Nd.11.451</b> ) and one or two grooves below.	South Church in el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 7:8); Hawara (Marchand 2009: Fig. 14c)
	Carinated bowls, red polished slip, both decorated and undecorated, the decoration composed of grooves on the rim and black arcades with white dots on the body ( <b>Nd.11.446</b> ).	
	Bottles. <i>Qullae</i> .	
Marl clay fabric	Bottles. <i>Qullae</i> .	
South Egyptian fabric	Ledged goblet ( <b>Nd.11.310</b> ), pink clay, red smoothed slip, row of roulette impressions above ledge.	Elephantine, type T323b/c, first quarter of 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: 96, Fig. 39,1); Esna (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXI: E22); Alexandria, sector CS:3, end of 7th–8th century (Rysiewski, Majcherek, Meyza 2000: Fig. 20:12); analogous example from the refuse dump in Naqlun, season 2008 (Danys-Lasek 2012: Fig. 2: Nd.08.403).
	Deep bowl with incurved rim ( <b>Nd.11.428</b> ), pink in break, red polished slip, decorated with a wide cream band bordered by black lines.	Elephantine, type T504, third quarter of 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: 118–119, Figs 59,10; 66,1); similar to North Sudan workshops as Faras (Adams 1986: 101)

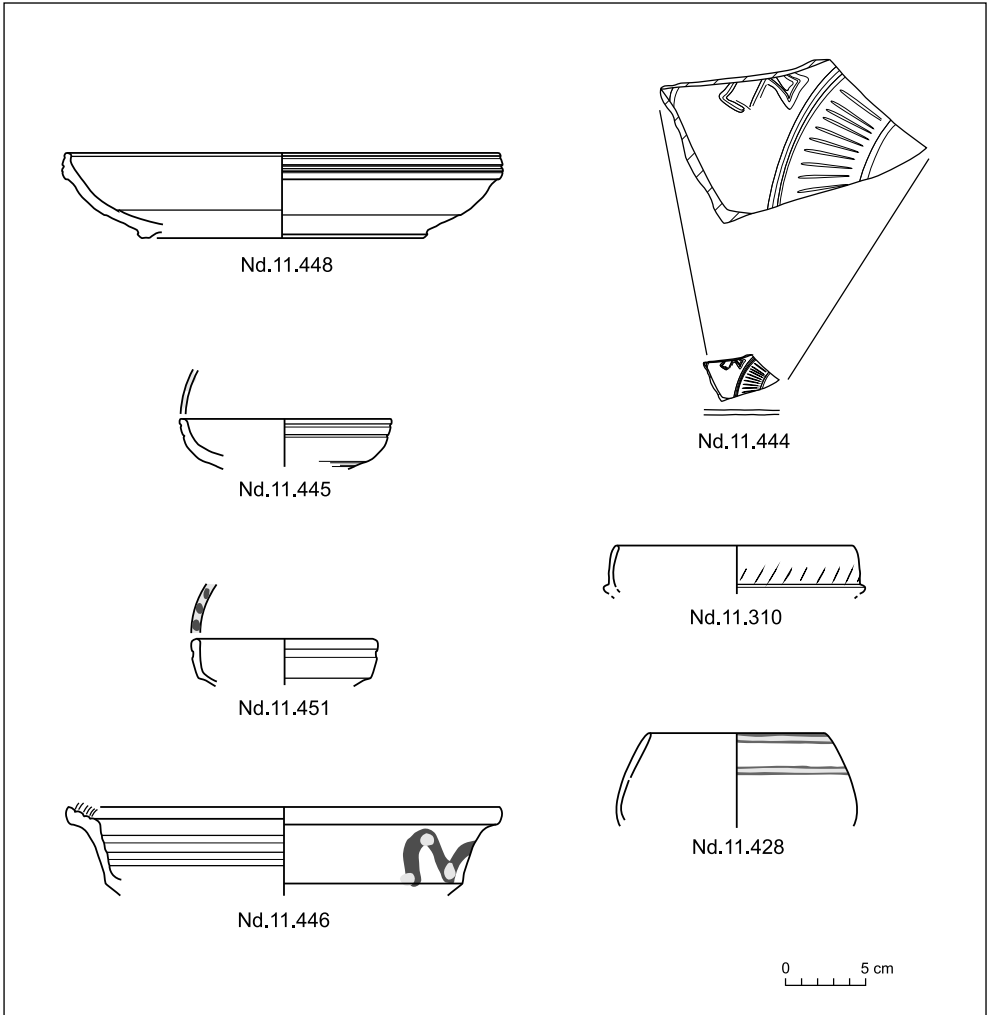
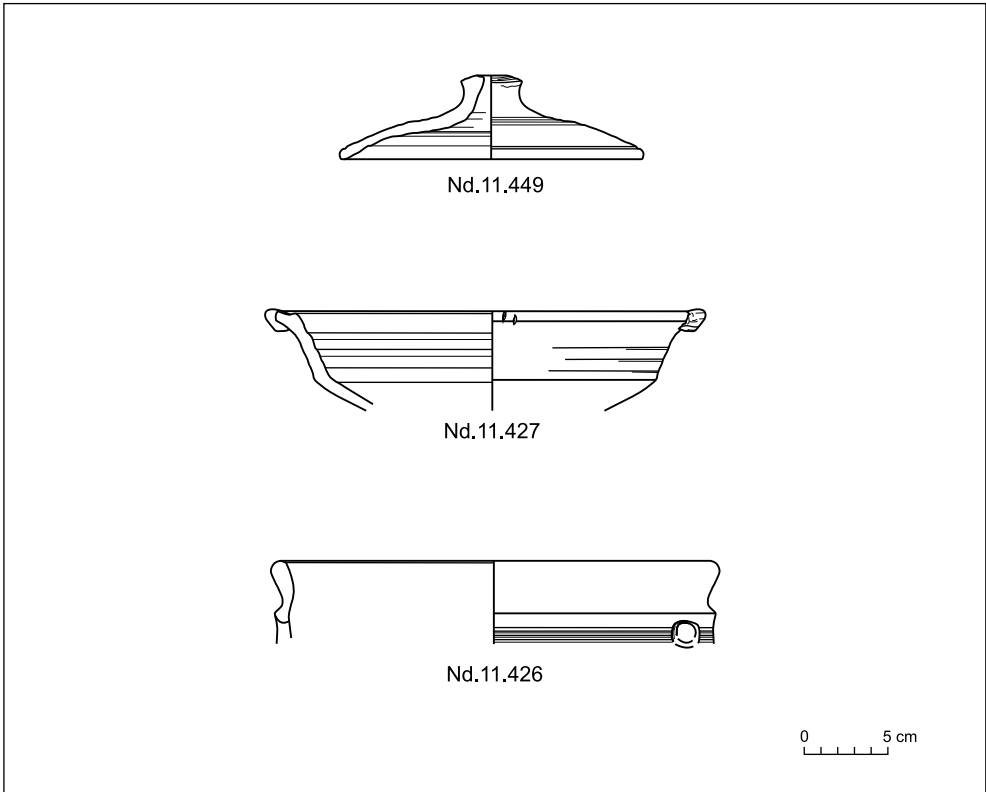


Fig. 9A. Selection of pottery from Level III: tableware



Table. 1-6b. Pottery from Level III: utility ware, cooking ware, transport containers

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 9B	Parallels
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	<i>Qawadis</i> . Basins. Storage containers. Bucket (Nd.11.426), combed band. All with red smoothed slip.	
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Cooking pots. Frying pans, including Nd.11.427 with small horizontal handle, all red smoothed slip and burning. Lids, including one with a hole pierced in the handle (Nd.11.449), strongly burnt (original surfaces indiscernible).	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7. South Egyptian version of LR 7, pink clay. Bag-shaped LR 5/6 (E186), made of marl clay. Imitation of LR 1, made of mixed clay.	Elephantine, type K715, 6th–7th/8th century (Gempeler 1992: 191, Fig. 122,1–5)
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 1, including Nd.11.450 with traces of red <i>dipinto</i> . LR 8 from North Africa.	



*Fig. 9B. Selection of pottery from Level III: utility ware, cooking ware*

Table. 1-7a. Pottery from Level II: tableware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 10A	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Small goblet ( <b>Nd.11.371</b> ) with red polished slip, hole drilled post-firing at carination on opposite sides for tying of suspension rope.	
	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.369</b> ) with red polished slip, rounded rim, double grooves, low ring base, triple concentric grooves on the bottom.	Esna, hermitages, 6th–8th century (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXIV:H9)
	Bottles. Carinated bowls ( <b>Nd.11.366</b> ) with red polished slip, white festoons on the body and rim. Table amphorae. Small handles of thin-walled lids.	
Nile silt and marl fabrics	Bottles. <i>Qullae</i> , Potsherd ( <b>Nd.11.373</b> ) of yellow clay, decorated with zigzag impressions in rows on the outside (Fr. <i>basculé</i> ).	Fustat, 10th–11th century (Rousset, Marchand 1999: 245, Nos 156, 157)
South Egyptian fabric	Numerous goblets, especially ledged goblet ( <b>Nd.11.370</b> ) of pink clay, covered with red polished slip, low wide base.	Elephantine, type T359a, broadly dated from the mid 6th to mid 8th century (Gempeler 1992: 106, Fig. 51,4)
	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.234</b> ) of beige clay, “ledge” rim with circumferential roll, orange polished slip.	
	Vase ( <b>Nd.11.372</b> ), pink in break, black band on rim and black arcades with white dots below on a red matt slip.	Elephantine, type T370, third quarter of 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: 109–110, Fig. 56,3)

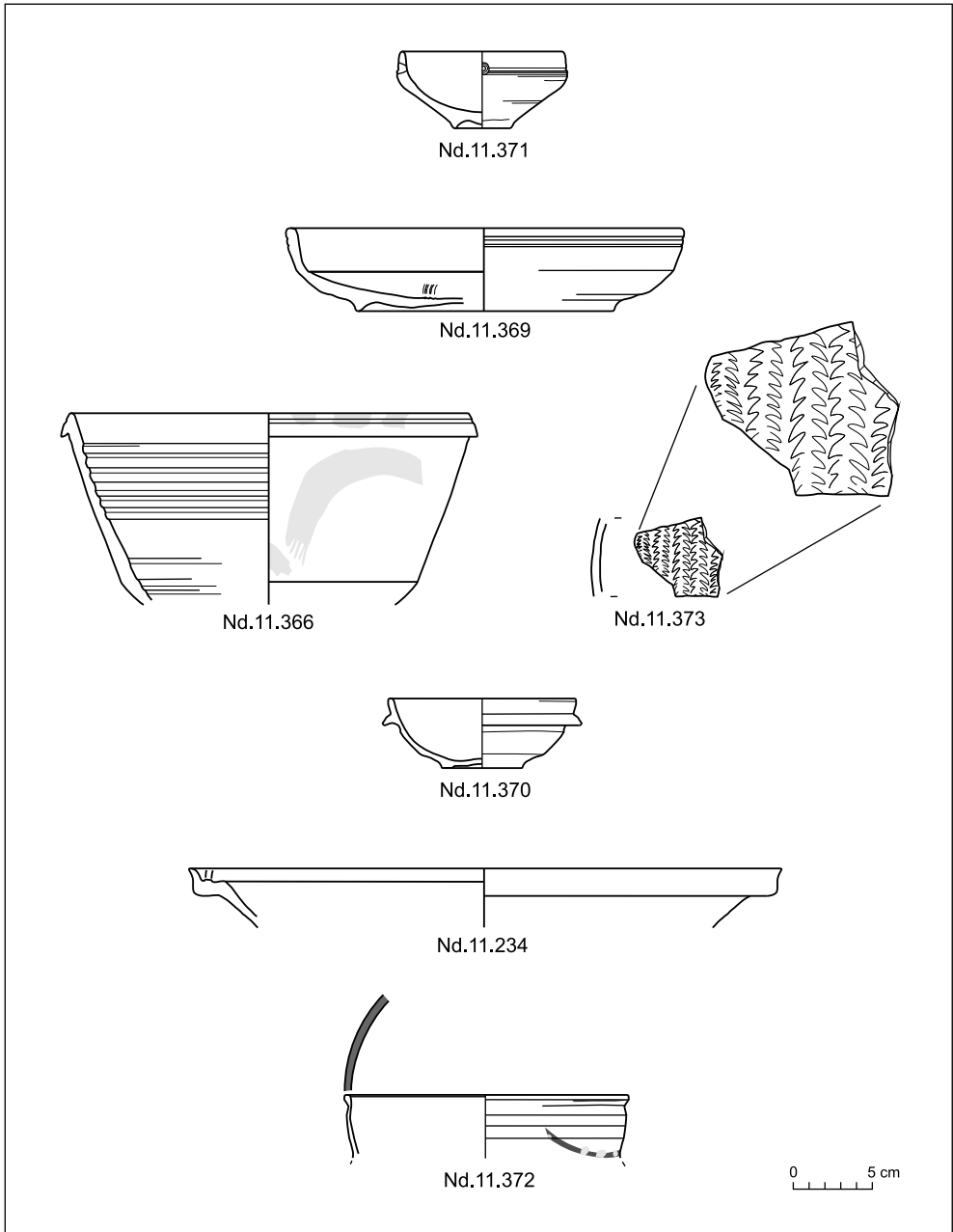


Fig. 10A. Selection of pottery from Level II: tableware

Table. 1-7b. Pottery from Level II: cooking ware

Category	Examples; numbers in bold refer to vessels illustrated in <i>Fig. 10B</i>	Parallels
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Deep necked “cooking pots” ( <b>Nd.11.232</b> , <b>Nd.11.374</b> , <b>Nd.11.388</b> ) and semi-globular (for example, <b>Nd.11.240</b> ) decorated with a regular arrangement of yellow spots. Lids ( <b>Nd.11.368</b> ), including specimen with holes pierced in the body ( <b>Nd.11.237</b> ), covered with a burnt red slip, polished or smoothed.	Esna, hermitages, 6th–8th century, form analogous to <b>Nd.11.232</b> (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXV:M13)

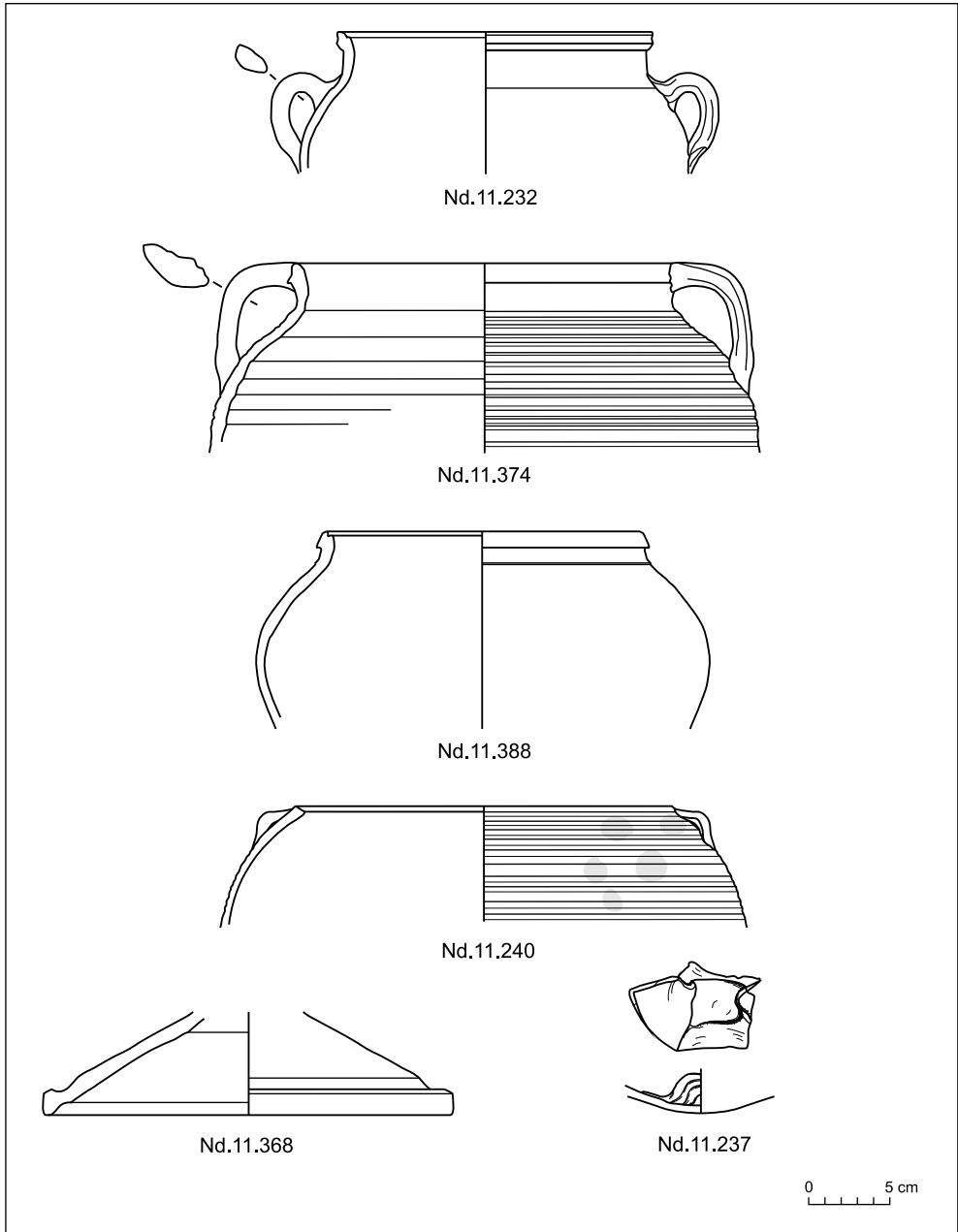


Fig. 10B. Selection of pottery from Level II: cooking ware

Table. 1-7c. Pottery from Level II: utility ware and transport containers

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 10C	Parallels
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	<i>Qawadis</i> . Basins. Storage containers, including “flower-pot” (Nd.11.238); thick-walled bucket (Nd.11.364+424, Nd.11.367) and medium thick-walled funnel (Nd.11.365) with stains of white paint on the inside walls, surfaces all covered with red slip.	Esna, hermitages, 6th–8th century, analogous form, although with decoration typical of South Egyptian vessels (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXIX:W1)
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7. LR 5/6, made of marl clay (E 186) and Nile silt (E 187–190). Imitation of LR 1 (Nd.11.245).	
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 1. Bag-shaped LR 5/6 from Palestine, 5th–6th century (Peacock, Williams 1986: 191–192; Landgraf 1980: 80). LR 8 (Nd.11.236) from North Africa (irregular incised lines).	

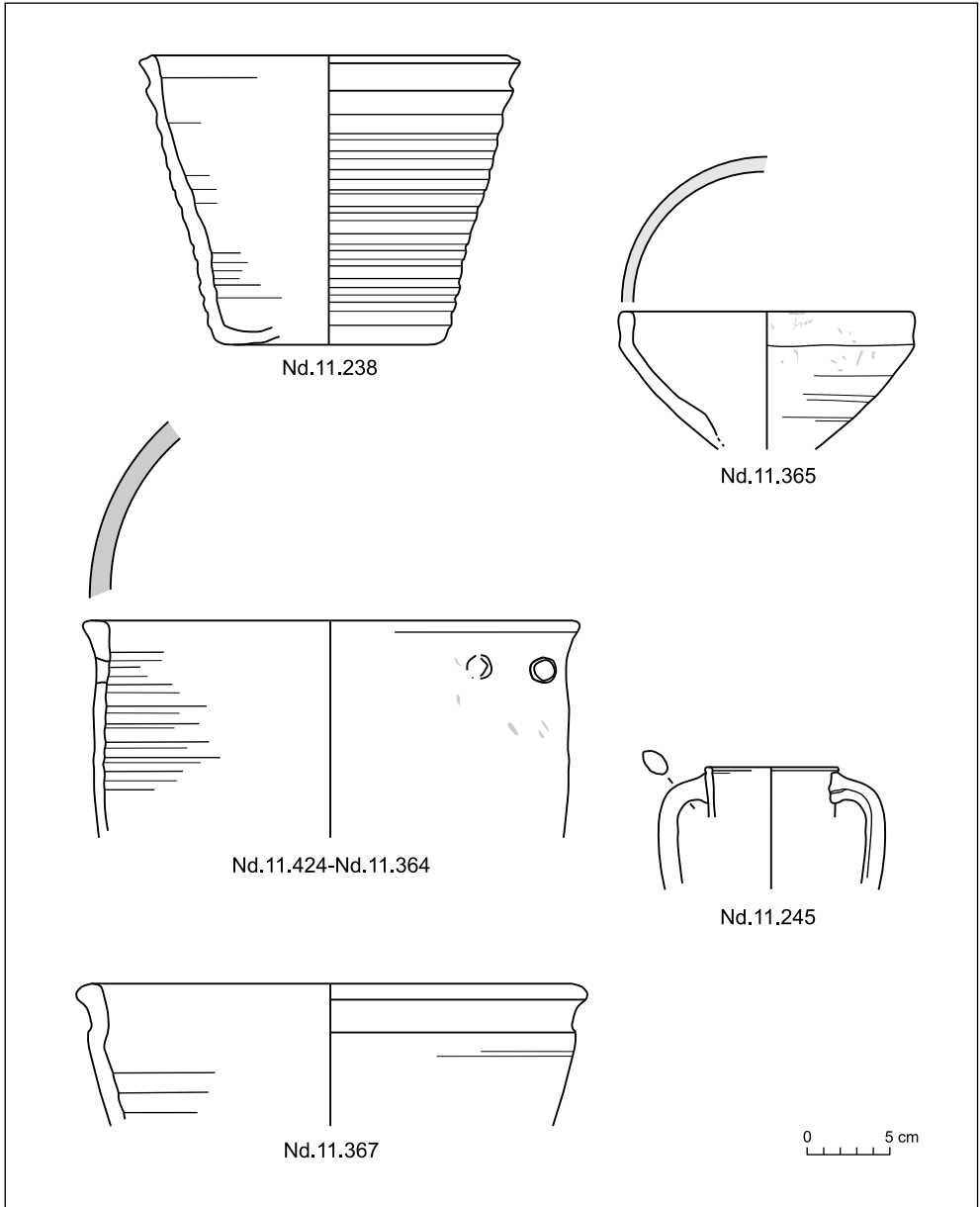


Fig. 10C. Selection of pottery from Level II: utility ware and transport containers



Table. 1-8a. Pottery from Level I: tableware, Nile silt fabrics

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 11A	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Carinated bowls, red polished slip, differentiated rims and decoration, most frequent examples with slightly thickened, outturned rim: <b>Nd.11.097</b> , white arcades on the body; <b>Nd.11.353</b> , black spots on a white band on the rim and on white arcades on the body; <b>Nd.11.106</b> , black band with white spots below the rim on the inside; <b>Nd.11.105</b> , <b>Nd.11.076</b> , rounded rim with two grooves on the outside.	South Church in el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 36:8)
	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.054</b> ), ledge rim, strongly flaring walls, four rows of impressed cords in the upper part, light red polished slip on surfaces.	
	Plate with cup-shaped compartments ( <b>Nd.11.095</b> ), white smoothed slip, blackened with soot.	ARSW Hayes 111, North Africa, 6th–7th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 33); Elephantine, type T254, late 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 25, 1)
	Handles of small lids.	
<b>Lamp(?)</b>		
	Small cup with traces of burning ( <b>Nd.11.055</b> ), possibly a lamp.	South Church at el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 47:1)

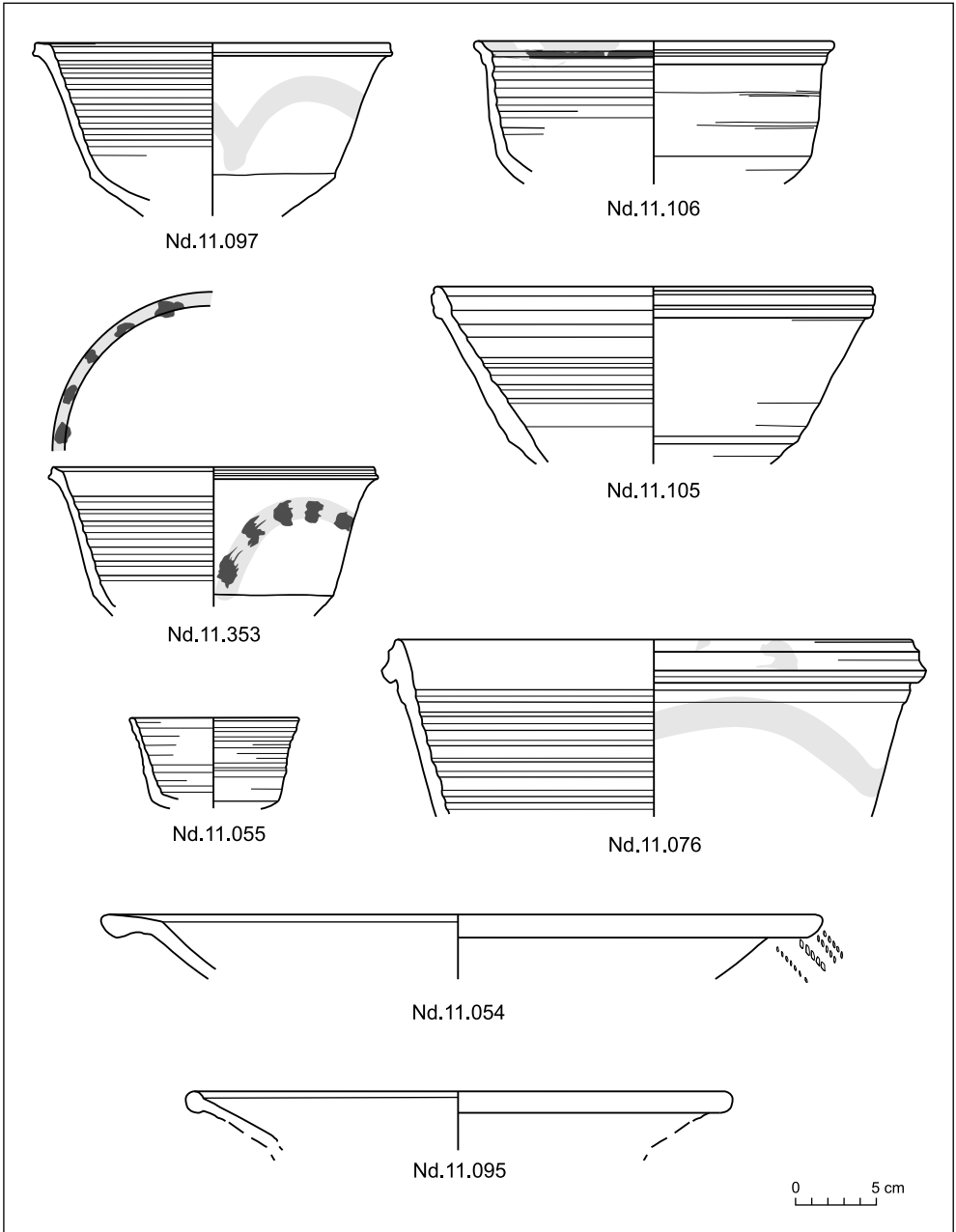


Fig. 11A. Selection of pottery from Level I: tableware — bowls and plates of Nile silt fabric

Table 1-8b. Pottery from Level I: tableware, South Egyptian and non-Egyptian fabrics

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 11B	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
South Egyptian fabric	Bowls ( <b>Nd.11.066</b> , <b>Nd.11.067</b> ), straight walls, rounded rim; ( <b>Nd.11.060</b> ) thickened rim, red-polished slip as a rule, examples with orange slip, seldom with yellow slip.	South Church at el-Ashmunein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 6:25); Kellia, Egloff 64, end of 7th–8th century (Égloff 1977: Pl. 42:7)
	Bowl <b>Nd.11.070</b> , pink clay, rectangular ledge, smoothed slip, orange on body and red slip in upper part with dark stains.	Elephantine, type T323a, second quarter of 5th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 38, 9)
	Bowl ( <b>Nd.11.063</b> ), similar to plate <b>Nd.11.071</b> but without the decoration.	Marea, west of the Western Courtyard of the bath (Majcherek 2008: Fig. 38:16); Alexandria (Rodziewicz 1996: Pl. 29:O40); Kellia, type Egloff 34 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 39:13)
Non-Egyptian fabric	Bowls ( <b>Nd.11.059</b> , <b>Nd.11.068</b> ), “Samian” rim, incurved, three incisions on the rim in the second example, both of pink clay and with red polished slip.	Elephantine, type T324a, early 5th–late 7th century (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 39, 11–12); Marea (Majcherek 2008: Fig. 38:7); Elephantine, type T228, late 5th–third quarter of 6th century (Gempeler 1992: 73, Fig. 18,1, 3); refuse dump in Naqlun, season 2008.
	Plates, including <b>Nd.11.053</b> , ledge rim, bent wall, made of pink clay, surfaces with orange polished slip, slightly burnt, imitation of ARSW Hayes 67.	ARSW Hayes form 67, 4th–5th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 19); Elephantine, type T261, second half of 6th–first half of 7th century or slightly later (Gempeler 1992: 82–83, Fig. 27); also refuse dump in Naqlun explored in 2008 (Nd.08.311)
	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.064</b> ), “Samian” rim, bent profile, made of pink clay, covered with orange polished slip.	Elephantine, type T221b, second quarter of 5th–second quarter of 6th century (Gempeler 1992: 70–71, Figs 14, 15)
	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.065</b> ), made of pink clay, covered with red polished slip, straight rim, slightly incurved.	Elephantine, type T230b, second half of 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: 73–74, Fig. 19,3)
	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.071</b> ), pink clay in break, red polished slip, “Samian” rim, low ring base, stamped even-armed cross on the bottom, oval roulette pattern below the carination, modeled on ARSW Hayes 83, 5th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 23).	Elephantine, type T219, second quarter of 5th–late 6th century, analogous form but with different decoration (Gempeler 1992: 69–70, Fig. 13); Kellia, hermitage, type Egloff 33, 7th–early 8th century (Egloff 1977: Pl. 39:12); undecorated analogous form of dish from the refuse dump in Naqlun excavated in 2008 (Nd.08.279)

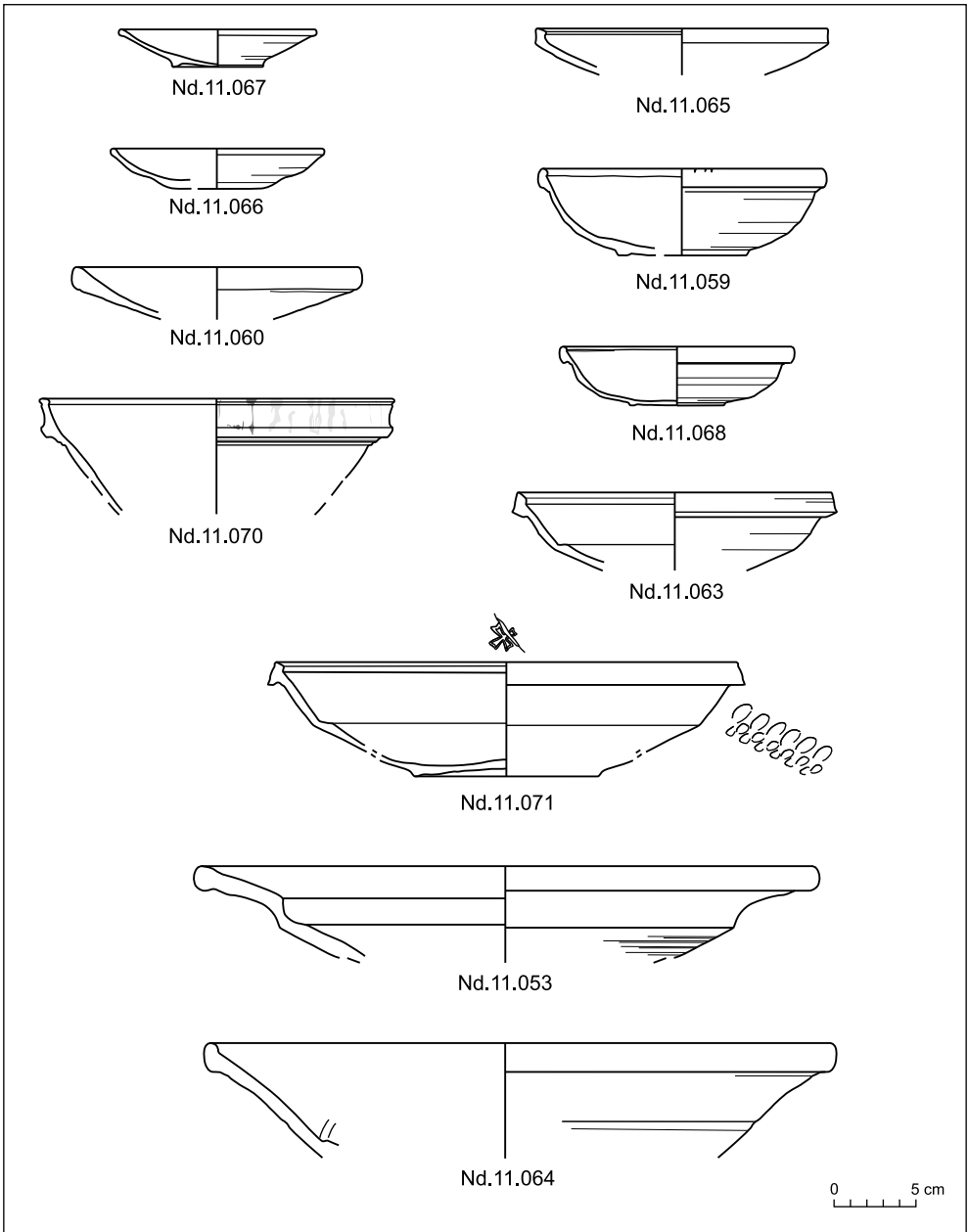
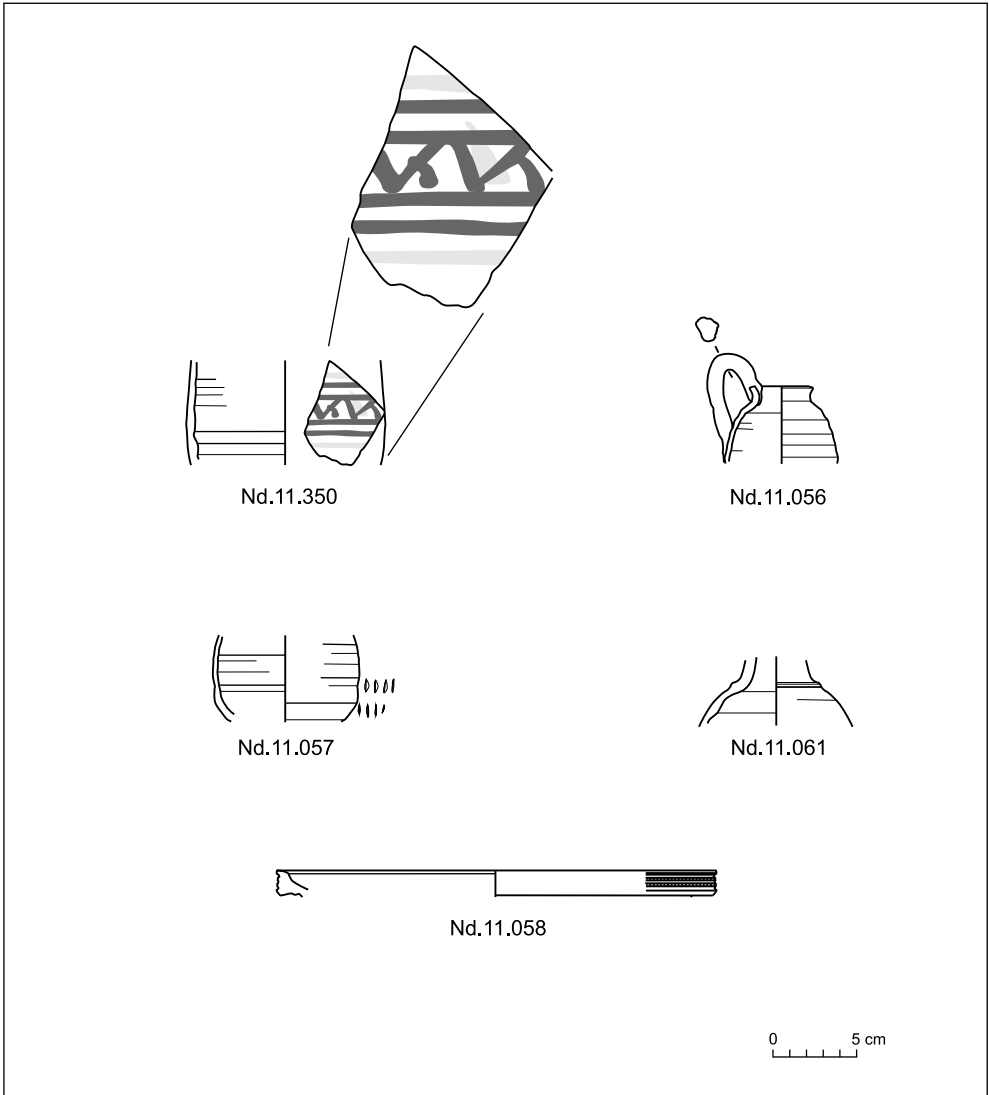


Fig. 11B. Selection of pottery from Level I: tableware — bowls and plates of South Egyptian fabric and non-Egyptian fabric

Table 1-8c. Pottery from Level I: tableware (continued), South Egyptian, marl and non-Egyptian fabrics

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 11C	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
	Deep cup <b>Nd.11.057</b> , of pink clay, blackened surfaces, originally red polished slip, two rows of nail pinches.	Elephantine, type T626, second half of 6th century (Gempeler 1992: 128–129, Fig. 73,16); Esna, hermitages (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXI:5)
South Egyptian fabric	Cup ( <b>Nd.11.350</b> ), pink in break, cream smoothed slip, painted motifs: black and red zigzags between two pairs of black stripes on a cream-colored background.	Elephantine, type T640, late 6th–7th/8th century (Gempeler 1992: 133, Fig. 75,10); Fustat, 9th–10th century (Kubiak, Scanlon 1989: Fig. 48)
	Small jar ( <b>Nd.11.056</b> ), pink in break, creamy orange smoothed slip on external surface.	
Marl fabric	Table amphora ( <b>Nd.11.061</b> ), white clay in break, yellow surfaces, presumably from the workshops in the region of Abu Mena.	Elephantine, type T836, 6th/7th century (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 80, 3–5); Marea, 6th–7th century (Majcherek 2008: Fig. 39:28)
	Bottles. Vases.	
Non-Egyptian fabric	Plate ( <b>Nd.11.058</b> ), made of dark pink clay, orange polished slip, red in color in upper part, “Samian” rim with three grooves filled with a row of square stamps.	Eastern Mediterranean Hayes form 3F with motif 41, late 6th century (Hayes 1972: Fig. 69)



*Fig. 11C. Selection of pottery from Level I: tableware — bottles and cups of diverse fabrics, plate of non-Egyptian fabric*

Table 1-8d. Pottery from Level I: cooking ware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 11D	Parallels
Cooking ware		
Nile silt fabric	Coated with brownish red smoothed or polished slip, traces of burning. Deep necked cooking pots ( <b>Nd.11.079</b> , <b>Nd.11.101</b> , <b>Nd.11.102</b> , <b>Nd.11.103</b> , <b>Nd.11.104</b> ); semi-globular ( <b>Nd.11.077</b> , <b>Nd.11.078</b> ) occasionally with cream-colored festoons ( <b>Nd.11.077</b> ), yellow spots and splash ( <b>Nd.11.078</b> ), yellow or white bands ( <b>Nd.11.101</b> , <b>Nd.11.104</b> ). Frying pan ( <b>Nd.11.354</b> ). Lids, including <b>Nd.11.096</b> pierced with holes through the body.	Kellia, type Egloff 110, analogous to Nd.11.078 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 47: 1); type Egloff 118–119, analogous to Nd.11.103 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 48: 2-3); type Egloff 125, analogous to Nd.11.079, Nd.11.104 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 49:4)

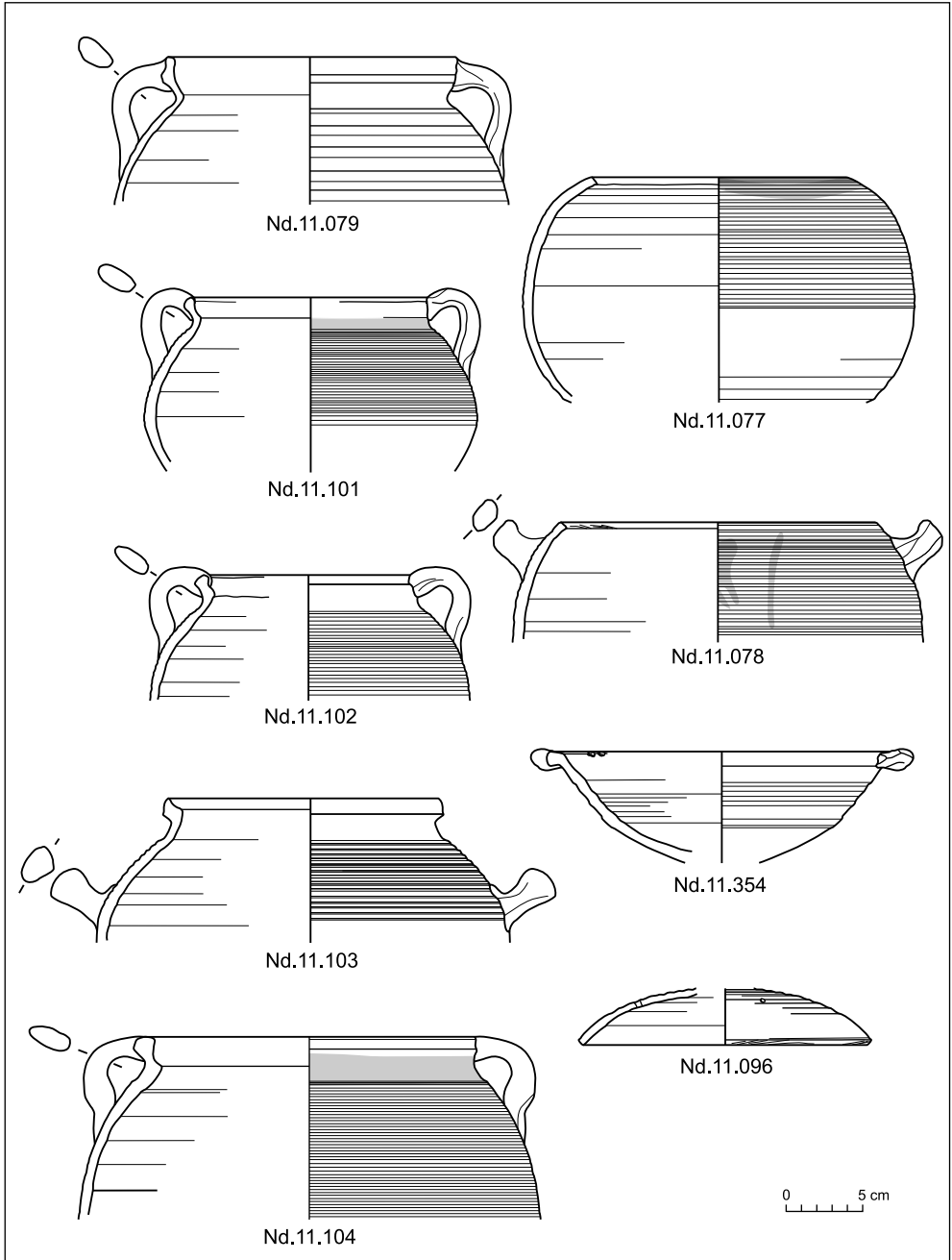


Fig. 11D. Selection of pottery from Level I: cooking ware



Table 1-8e. Pottery from Level I: utility ware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 11E, F	Parallels
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Coated with red smoothed or polished slip. <i>Qawadis</i> . Thick-walled basins with slightly profiled walls with cord impressions (e.g., <b>Nd.11.098</b> , <b>Nd.11.159</b> ). Storage containers, occasionally decorated with painted white ornament (bands, festoons) (e.g., <b>Nd.11.100</b> , <b>Nd.11.107</b> ). Thick-walled bucket with one hole preserved ( <b>Nd.11.351</b> ).	

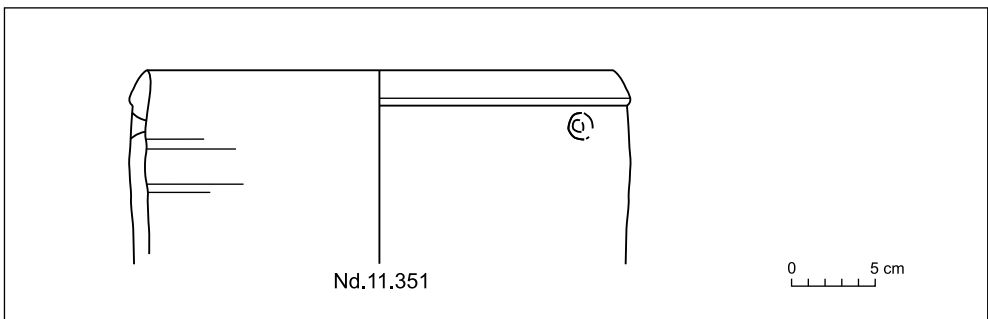


Fig. 11E. Selection of pottery from Level I: utility ware — bucket

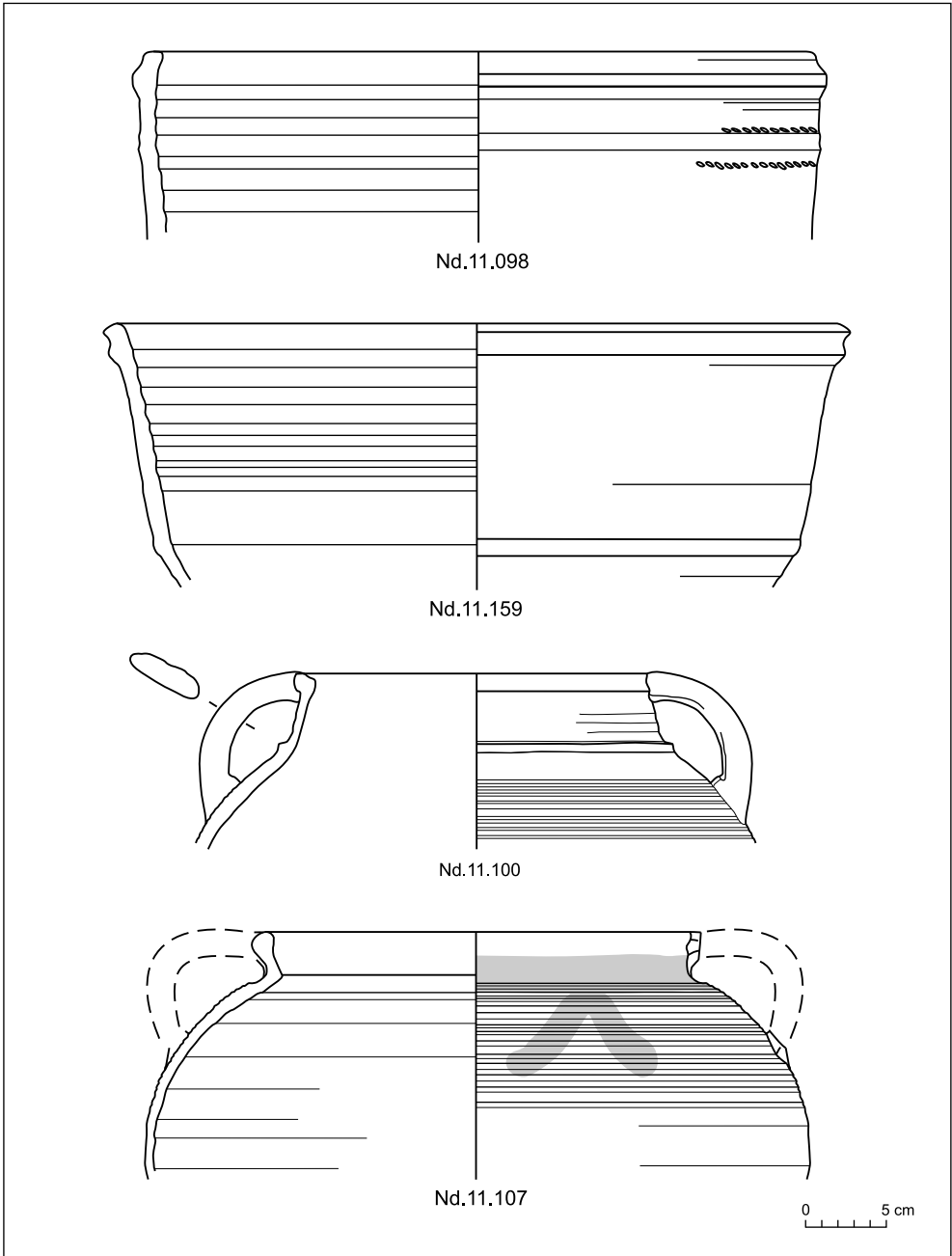


Fig. 11F. Selection of pottery from Level I: utility ware — basins and storage containers

Table 1-8f. Pottery from Level I: transport containers

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 11G	Parallels
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian fabrics	LR 7, distinguished shoulder, thickened by an attached ledge ( <b>Nd.11.072</b> , <b>Nd.11.073</b> ), resinated inside, Nd.11.072 with painted red circles ( <i>dipinto</i> ) next to the handle.	Naqlun refuse dump, season 2008 (levels I–III); Kellia, type E174, 7th century (Egloff 1977 Pl.57:3)
	Imitations of LR 1 from the Eastern Mediterranean, made of Nile silt with light brown surface ( <b>Nd.11.094</b> ), mixed clay with orange surface and marl clay greenish yellow in break, yellow surfaces ( <b>Nd.11.069</b> ). LR NAQLUN 11 with light brown surface and combed decoration on the shoulder of one ( <b>Nd.11.352</b> ).	Saqqara, monastery of St Jeremiah (Ghaly 1992: 168, Fig. 16.2-b); Deir el-Naqlun, fill of room A.1 in hermitage 25, late 7th through 8th century (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 21.2–3)
	Bag-shaped LR 5/6, made of marl clay (type Egloff 186) and Nile silt, white slip (type Egloff 187–190), not resinated (e.g., <b>Nd.11.099</b> ).	Kellia, 7th–8th century (Egloff 1977: 118; Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: Fig. 140); Esna, 7th–8th century (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXVII: P11)
Non-Egyptian fabrics	LR 8 (Nd.11.075) from North Africa, dark orange fabric with yellow-green outer surface, not resinated; some fragments with vertical combed decoration or cord impressions.	North Africa, 4th to 8th century (Peacock, Williams 1986: 202); Tod (Egypt), vessels with similar decoration from AD 600–800 (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Figs 124, 125)
	LR 1 from the Eastern Mediterranean.	Many sites in the Mediterranean, 5th–7th century (Peacock, Williams 1986: 185–187; Egloff 1977: 112; Williams 2005: 618–619)

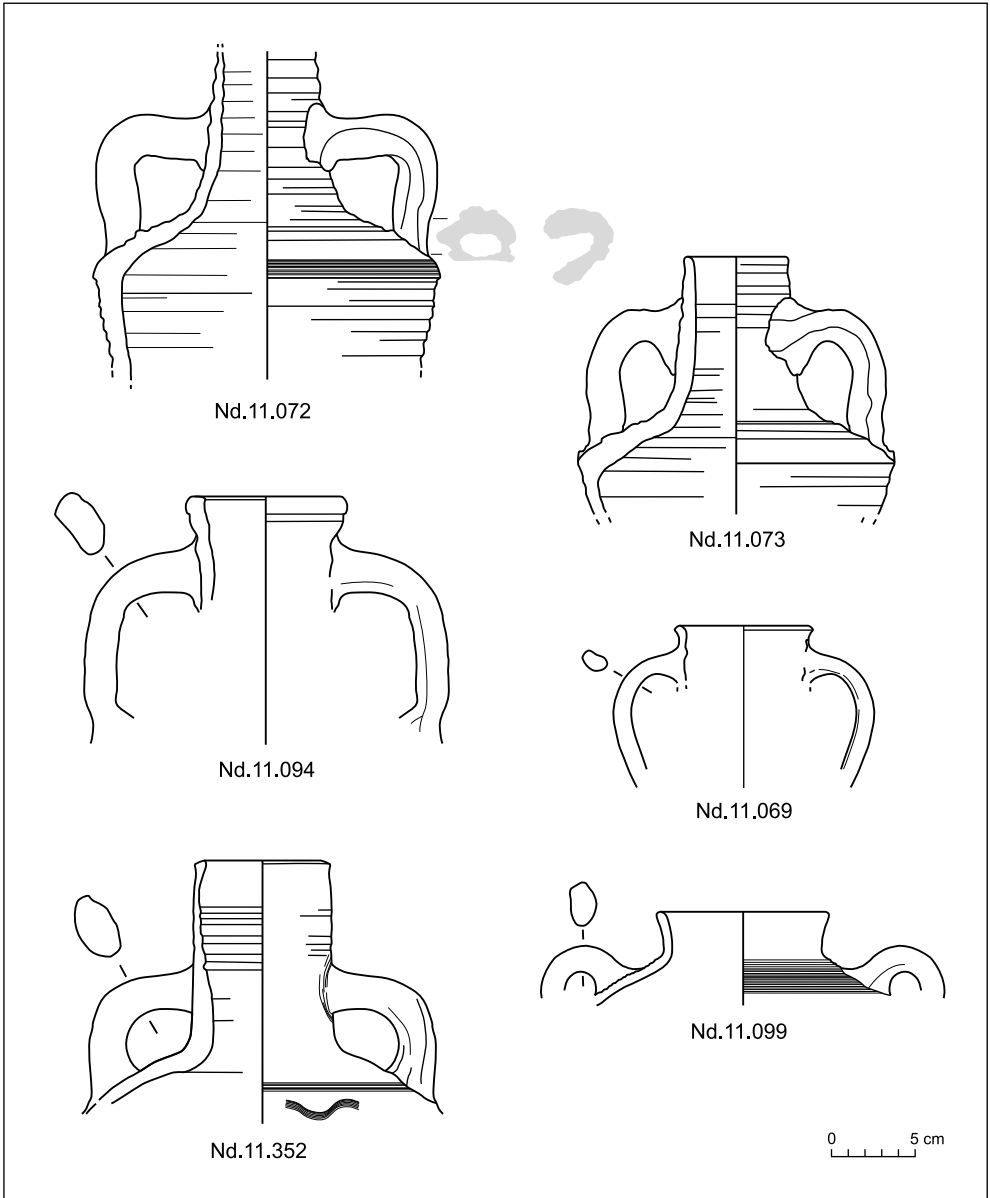


Fig. 11G. Selection of pottery from Level I: transport containers; Nd.11.072 with red dipinto

## DISCUSSION

Three main phases of the refuse dump can be traced based on an analysis of the pottery material uncovered in the 2011 season and it is possible to observe quantitative and qualitative changes taking place over the course of the existence of the dump.

With regard to the tableware [Fig. 12], arbitrary levels from VIII to V (possibly with the exception of level VII), following a chronological sequence, contained vessels produced in South Egyptian workshops, representing “luxury” ware (these being distinguished on the basis of hard clay and finely treated surface), as well as imported products from North Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean. Local products of Nile silt imitating North African production (e.g., Nd.11.346, Nd.11.462) dominated the

assemblage. These were surely cheaper and more commonly available substitutes of the luxury products. Of considerable importance in the assemblage were *qullae* and bottles of marl clay, which were the most numerous in level VII.

Products from South Egyptian workshops, bowls at first and later especially plates, started to take on importance in a younger phase, clearly pushing into the background their counterparts made of Nile silt in the latest two levels (II and I). The repertoire of forms was also extended, beginning to include all kinds of bottles, *qullae*, vases and especially carinated bowls, the biggest set of which could be recorded for levels II and I. The percentage share of the tableware repertoire also increased from slightly over 15% in levels VIII and VII to more than 52% of the entire assemblage in levels II and I.

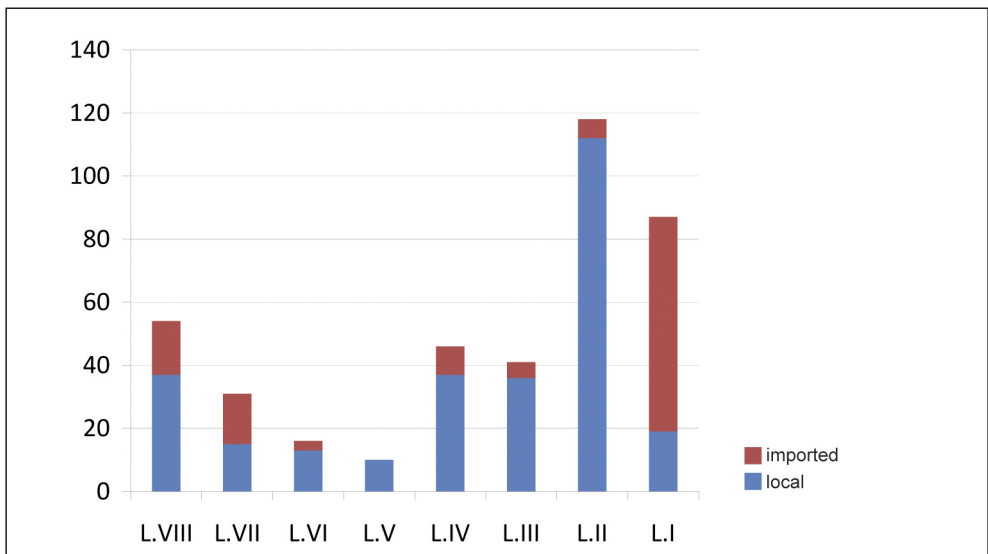


Fig. 12. Quantitative comparison of local and imported tableware from particular levels of the refuse dump recorded in 2011; x axis – arbitrary excavation levels in stratigraphic order from the earliest VIII to the latest I; y axis – counts of pottery sherds

The distribution of amphorae is also of considerable importance [Fig. 13]. Both local and imported transport containers are in evidence, but Egyptian LR 7 vessels used to transport wine gradually increased their share of the assemblages in particular levels, achieving slightly over 50% of all the recorded amphorae in the two levels with the largest number of transport containers overall. Bag-shaped LR 5/6 amphorae of marl clay started to appear in level VII, their counterparts of Nile silt only from level II onwards. Among imports LR 1 amphorae predominated, their presence virtually petering out in the youngest layers, in similarity to LR 4 containers, the largest number of which was recorded in levels VII and VI.

The pottery assemblage in all its functional categories should be considered

in the context of the development of the monastic complex in Deir el-Naqlun and the modifications that were made to it over the centuries, Egyptian LR 7 amphorae for transporting wine predominated, gradually giving way to the LR 4 wine amphorae from Gaza, but their overall number leaves no doubt as to their less than leading role in the monastic diet. LR 1 containers from the Eastern Mediterranean, presumably with olive oil, appeared beside them in large numbers, although it is not to be excluded that they were reused for holding wine. This phase (levels VIII to VI) may be assigned to the 6th century.

The middle phase of the dump, encompassing levels V to III, was characterized by an increased demand for Egyptian wine (exemplified by more

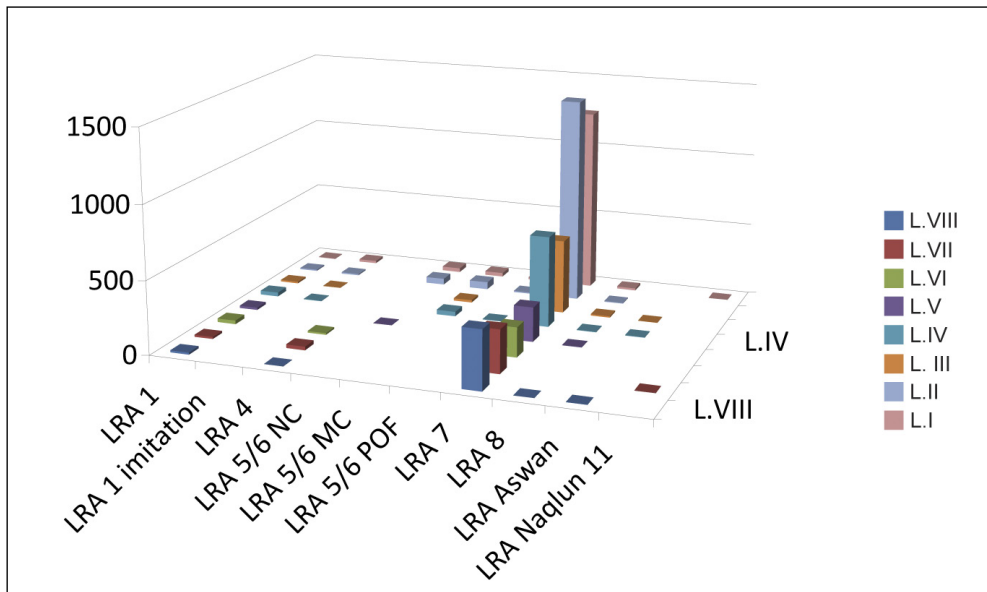


Fig. 13. Quantitative comparison of different types of amphorae from particular levels of the refuse dump recorded in 2011; x axis – types of amphorae; y axis – counts of pottery sherds; z axis – arbitrary excavation levels in stratigraphic order from the earliest VIII to the latest I

numerous LR 7 amphorae) and the simultaneous fade out of imported LR 4 containers, the place of which was taken by bag-shaped LR 5/6 made of marl clay, produced in the Mareotis specifically for the purpose of transporting regional wine [see *Fig. 13*]. Olive oil continued to be brought in LR 1 amphorae of foreign make. These finds should be linked to the early 7th century horizon when, on the one hand, the Mareotis had become a region of thriving vineyards on a large scale and when, on the other hand, the production of “torpedo” jars for wine from Gaza had ceased.

The youngest phase of the dump (corresponding to excavation levels II and I) was characterized by an evident rise in the quantities of pottery discarded from the monastery. It should be interpreted as reflecting monastery growth and the increased demand among residents for food provisions. The share of Egyptian LR 7, which was more than twice as big as recorded in the earlier levels, testifies to the character of this change. The bag-shaped LR 5/6 containers, which continued from the earlier period, were accompanied now by counterparts made of Nile silt. At the same time imported LR 1 containers, which ceased to be produced in the

7th century, disappeared from the record [see *Fig. 13*]. Their place was taken by imitations made of Nile silt or mixed clay, which formed a fairly uniform group. It is not known what product they were intended for, although the fact that they were an imitation of a known form would have informed customers of an analogous content as associated with their prototype. It may have been olive oil produced in Egypt. The youngest finds from the refuse dump should be connected with a mature 7th century environment, although the ceramic material could well have landed in the rubbish at a slightly later date, in the beginning of the 8th century, as a result of successive stages in the development of the monastic complex.

An examination of the pottery content of the refuse dump from the 6th–7th century testifies pointedly to the nature of the furnishings and the everyday life of the monastic community in Deir el-Naqlun at a time in its development, for which other evidence is lacking. Excavations of buildings from this period do not provide this kind of evidence, having been cleared for the most part of all relevant finds from earlier phases during a long history of development in medieval and modern times.

## PART II

### DEPOSIT FROM THE NORTHERN BUILDING (K.1)

A structure excavated in 2011 in the northernmost part of the central Kom A (Northern Building, for a report on the archaeological explorations, see Godlewski 2014, in this volume) was filled with debris containing some nondiagnostic potsherds. The fill lay on top of a layer of ashes that concealed a deposit of vessels comprising two complete (Nd.11.230, Nd.11.231) and six fragmentarily preserved LR NAQLUN 11 amphorae (Nd.11.251, Nd.11.252, Nd.11.265, Nd.11.440, Nd.11.441, Nd.11.442), five broken basins (Nd.11.258, Nd.11.260, Nd.11.261, Nd.11.262, Nd.11.263) and two biconical storage containers (Nd.11.259, Nd.11.264), as well as a bowl (Nd.11.278) and two small bottles (Nd.11.436). A fragmentarily preserved LR 7 amphora (Nd.11.439) completed the assemblage.



Fig. 14. Amphorae in the fill of Building K.1 in Naqlun during excavation in 2011 (Photo W. Godlewski, PCMA archives)

#### LR NAQLUN 11 AMPHORAE

[Table 2-1; Fig. 15]

The LR NAQLUN 11 amphorae constituted a uniform assemblage [Fig. 15, left and center] (see also below, page 627) with the exception of Nd.11.265, which differed from the others in several aspects and will, therefore, be described separately.

The containers were all made of the same fabric, featuring much chaff added and a significantly smaller share of white lime particles and, in the case of three specimens, also crushed shell. The break was mostly tri-colored: brown-red-purple, grey or black, although two-colored breaks, pink and grey, were also recorded. Outer surfaces were coated with a cream slip, streaks of which were noted also inside the neck, always in only one place. The walls were gray and dark gray in color and no traces of pitching were noted.

The form of the containers was rounded with bulbous shoulders, a cylindrical neck ending in a beaded and diagonally cut rim, loop handles connecting the lower part of the neck with the upper part of the shoulder, and a rounded bottom. The amphorae were decorated with varying compositions of linear patterns, made with a multi-pointed tool, most likely a narrow comb of variable width (about 0.4 cm to 0.9 cm), and the tooling was performed on unfired but already slipped vessels, the treatment producing an additional color effect (brown-red decorative bands contrasting with a cream-colored surface). The handles were attached notably after the decoration had been executed (e.g., Nd.11.230).



The amphora Nd.11.265, reconstructed from fragments, stood out from the analyzed assemblage in fabric, shape and decoration [Fig. 15, left]. It was made of pure Nile silt. The form as a whole was more akin to bag-shaped specimens than to the ones with bulbous shoulders described above, the shoulders being somewhat more narrow than the lower part. It seems, however, that the amphora was not resinated inside. The rim was beaded but everted, the handles attached in the same places, but slightly drooping. Also in this case a linear geometrical decoration was tooled with a narrow comb approximately 0.3 cm to 0.7 cm wide. The lower part of the vessel bore a cord impression.

LR NAQLUN 11 amphorae but without decoration on the neck (Nd.11.352) were found in Level I of the rubbish dump on Kom B (see above, Part I), dated to the 7th century. Specimens without decoration were recorded also from the fill of room A.1 in hermitage 25, late 7th into 8th century (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 21.3), and from a deposit in room AA.40.2 dated to the late 9th century (Żurek 2004: Fig. 5.2). Specimens with rims shaped like vessel Nd.11.265 were found in room AA.40.6 (Nd.10.110) and in layers excavated in street A.S.4 (Nd.09.323). Amphorae with bulbous shoulders adorned with a band of combed decoration and with white slip on the

surface represented a trend imitating imported vessels LR 1 and LR 2, referred to as Kellia E167 in M. Egloff's typology. This vessel type has been recorded in Alexandria, in Nile silt fabric, featuring a single broad band of combed decoration on the shoulder; it was dated there apparently to the mid-7th century (Majcherek 2004: 235 and Fig. 7:8). In Marea,<sup>2</sup> vessels of this kind were noted in a context chronologically associated with the 6th–7th century (Majcherek 2008: Figs 85–89). Specimens from Kellia,<sup>3</sup> among others from the kitchen of hermitage 366, have been dated to AD 650–730 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 57:7). Finds from hermitage QR 195 in Kellia<sup>4</sup> were associated mainly with the last phase of use: end of 7th–beginning of 8th century (Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: Figs 128–135). A similar type with a short neck was discovered in a pottery workshop at Uyun Musa in the Sinai, in operation in the 7th–8th centuries (Ballet 2007: Figs 4–5). Amphorae with bulbous shoulders and combed decoration similar to the specimens from the Uyun Musa workshop have also been attested on Elephantine: type K765<sup>5</sup> attributed to the early 7th century (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 124,2) and type K728<sup>6</sup> of uncertain chronology (Gempeler 1992: Fig. 124,8) with decoration similar to the Naqlun specimens (two horizontal bands separated by one wavy band). Amphora finds from a later period than

<sup>2</sup> Containers from the baths and *saqiyah*, made of red-brown clay with grey core in the break, containing plentiful organic inclusions; outer surfaces red-brown, inner ones grey and black (Majcherek 2004: 119).

<sup>3</sup> E167: red-brown, reddish clay similar to that of types E187–E190 (LR 5/6 of Nile clay); rim diameter approximately 7.6 cm, height between 40 cm and 50 cm (Egloff 1977: 113).

<sup>4</sup> Containers made of clay similar to specimens from Kellia hermitage 366 and from Marea, their forms associated rather with the 8th century, differing from the later, 9th-century amphorae from Deir-el Naqlun with regard to rim shape, neck form (visible ribbing) and handle attachment positioned closer to the rim.

<sup>5</sup> K765: brown-red Nile clay IX,A; rim diameter 8.5 cm, reconstructed height approximately 40 cm (Gempeler 1992: 199).

<sup>6</sup> K728: pink marl clay I,B (Gempeler 1992: 193), pointing to a local origin of this type of containers.

the aforementioned examples are known from the site of Tod. These white-slipped specimens, either adorned with four horizontal bands of combed decoration or undecorated, were recovered from contexts dating to AD 750–900 (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Pl. 16, Fig. 226; Pierrat 1991: Fig. 17a). Amphorae that imitated LR 1 containers without any morphological influence from LR 2, as in the case of the mentioned examples, made of brown Nile clay with brown surface, were produced in pottery workshops discovered in the Monastery of Saint Jeremiah at Saqqara, operating presumably in the 6th–7th century (Ghaly 1992: 168 and Fig. 16.2-b). E167 containers, produced in Egypt, most likely on the southwestern edge of the Delta (Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: 149), represented a trend in production inspired by imported LR 1 and LR 2 vessels produced in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea region. They are commonly found on many sites in Egypt, where they are attributed primarily to the 7th–8th century. They were also produced in North Africa and were distributed as far as Rome and Barcelona. The production of these vessels continued into the following century, the form from this period being designated as “Islamic bulbous amphorae” (Bonifay 2005: 457; Fig. 1,18).

### BASINS

[Table 2-2; Fig. 16]

Basins found in the deposit in K.1 were reconstructed from fragments. Most of them, besides Nd.11.261 which will be described separately, represented one type [Fig. 16, top two rows]. It was a form with beaded rim, two horizontal handles at the maximum diameter of the

body, a slightly tapering lower part and a ring-based bottom. Traces of a white powdery substance (dry paint, plaster?) were noted additionally on the inner walls. Decoration consisted primarily of incised linear ornaments (bands of wavy lines and horizontal grooves) on the body and painted irregular spots on the rims. Cord impressions were found on all basins except Nd.11.258. One basin [Fig. 22, bottom right] departed somewhat from the standard form and decoration. Only the upper part was preserved, but the body profile was slightly different and the decoration, executed similarly before slipping with a narrow comb about 0.8 cm wide, more sparing and regular.

Basins of this type were found at Deir el-Naqlun in A.S.3 (Nd.08.181), B.J.7 (Nd.09.519) and AA.40.6 (Nd.10.091), where they were linked chronologically to the second half of and late 9th century and the early 10th century. At Tod, these forms were nondiagnostic in terms of the chronology. They appeared in contexts related to both the 5th century (Pierrat 1991: Fig. 49) and the 8th–10th century (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Pl. 6:71). The nearest parallels, however, came from nearby Tebtynis. They were found during a surface survey and were attributed to the 5th–6th centuries (Rousset, Marchand 1999: No. 88), as well as inside House X, in layer X11 from the end of the 8th century (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 18p) and in layer X13 from the second half of the 9th–early 10th century (Rousset, Marchand 2000: Fig. 44m). It seems, therefore, that basins of this type were rather typical of the northern part of Egypt, the Fayum in particular. “Flower-pot”-like forms with flat bottoms were recorded also on other Upper Egyptian

sites, at Esna (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXVIII:S1) and Gurna (Myśliwiec 1987: No. 1522) among others.

### BICONICAL STORAGE CONTAINERS

[*Table 2-3; Fig. 17*]

Two biconical storage containers (Nd.11.259, Nd.11.264) were reconstructed from fragments. The bodies and the rims of these vessels differed to an extent, the decoration also giving the impression of being the same, but still individual. The lower part of container Nd.11.259 had a layer of dark grey and black pitch-like coating covering a greater part of the vessel and concealing the decoration there. In the case of the other container (Nd.11.264), the surface was in poor condition, obliterating much of the ornament. In both cases, the vessels bore cord impressions just below the carination on the body.

Storage jars of this type, decorated with red geometrical motifs painted against a white background, were relatively common at Deir el-Naqlun. They were found on Kom B: rooms B.1 (Nd.08.033, Nd.08.026), B.2 (Nd.08.132, Nd.08.133) and B.3 (Nd.08.124, Nd.08.125), in Building K (Nd.08.191, Nd.08.232, Nd.08.430, Nd.08.730) and in room L.06 (Nd.11.466), everywhere in 9th–10th century contexts. It should be noted that vessels Nd.08.124, Nd.08.191, Nd.08.430 featured also fragmentarily preserved representations of hoofed animals beside the bands, dots, arcades and festoons typical of the decoration of such containers. Forms of somewhat different shape, referred to as pithoi, with distinguished neck and small handles in the upper part, and with a similar decoration, were found on Kom D in an 8th century context (Godlewski, Derda,

Górecki 1994: Fig. 19.4, 6; Górecki 1994: Fig. II.6). Parallels from nearby Tebtynis included specimens from a surface survey, attributed tentatively to the 7th–9th centuries (Rousset, Marchand 1999: Nos 100, 101) and from House X, layer X96 from the early 10th century and layer X139 from the second half of the 9th–first half of the 10th century (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 27, 40a).

### MISCELLANEOUS VESSELS

[*Table 2-4; Fig. 18*]

The lower part of an LR 7 amphora (Nd.11.439), had the broken upper edges deliberately abraded, forming a secondary rim. This measure served to transform the otherwise useless amphora “toe” into a form for scooping or drawing [*Fig. 18*, top left]. This is indicated by the presence of a white substance on the outer surfaces and especially on the inside except for a part of the rim (the same substance was observed on the walls of the basins). A thick layer of it was also deposited on the bottom. There is no doubt, therefore, that this specimen was used as a “ladle” to scoop up the substance that filled the basins.

The deposit also contained a partly preserved and extensively burned bowl Nd.11.278 [*Fig. 18*, bottom left]. Parallels were uncovered at Deir el-Naqlun in Building J, in room 6, both in layers associated with the conflagration and in deposits that accumulated after the destruction of the complex (Nd.09.505, Nd.09.543), as well as in a deposit from room G.8A. These vessels were chronologically connected with the second half of the 9th century and early to mid 10th century. A parallel attributed to the 10th century was also found in Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 35g).

Fragments of two thin-walled bottles (Nd.11.436a, Nd.11.436b) were made of marl clay [Fig. 18, right]. Similar vessels were discovered in Deir el-Naqlun in rooms AA.40.6 (Nd.10.050) and AA.40.7 (Nd.11.155), in a context associated with the second half of the 9th–early 10th century. They probably represented the same ware, the so-called Islamic unglazed wares, of the 8th–10th century (Watson 2004: 94). Vessels of this type, furnished with decorated filters, were found in Fustat in contexts dated to the 12th–13th centuries (Kubiak, Scanlon 1973: Fig. 3).

#### DISCUSSION

The deposit discovered in room K.1 consisted of a peculiar repertoire of vessels functionally associated with one another and constituting essential equipment of the complex. The attempted reconstruction of economic activity in this room on the basis of its pottery assemblage leads one to assume that the space in question was a lime mortar or plaster(?) production site. The amphorae were used to transport water — this being assumed on the strength of the absence of any sign of resination or other substance ordinarily distinguishing transport containers for wine or oil — which was poured into the basins and mixed with crushed limestone to the desired consistency. The nearby hills

may have been the closest source of this raw material, which was most likely stored in the biconical storage vessels. The white substance adhering to the inner walls of the basins could stand in confirmation of this idea. A reworked toe of an LR 7 amphora appears to have been used to scoop up the substance, which subsequently may have been placed in vessels and transported out of K.1. It seems that the uncovered bowl and bottles should be interpreted as personal affects belonging to a person working in this room. The traces of burning on the bowl could suggest that it had been used to heat meals, while the bottles were ideal water containers. The industrial activity suggested for building K.1 is merely a hypothesis. Further investigation of the complex should either prove or disprove this tentative idea.

It remains open to debate whether the ash layers should be associated with the conflagration which consumed a large part of the monastic complex. Its archaeological evidence is the clearest in Building J, which was the findplace of gold coins dating from the first half of the 10th century, allowing the conflagration to be dated to the middle of that century (Godlewski 2012). The pottery finds from room K.1 can also be associated with the mid-9th century, although a later dating cannot be excluded.

#### ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES:

##### PART II: Catalogue

*Tables 2-1 to 2-4 and Figs 15–18*

Transport containers	<i>Table 2-1</i>	<i>Fig. 15</i>	pages 594–595
Basins	<i>Table 2-2</i>	<i>Fig. 16</i>	pages 596–597
Biconical storage containers	<i>Table 2-3</i>	<i>Fig. 17</i>	pages 598–599
Miscellanea	<i>Table 2-4</i>	<i>Fig. 18</i>	page 600–601

Table 2-1. Transport containers from the pottery deposit in Building K.1

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 15	Parallels
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Nile silt mixed with marl clay fabric	<p>LR NAQLUN 11 amphorae: <b>Nd.11.230</b>, <b>Nd.11.231</b>, <b>Nd.11.251</b>, <b>Nd.11.252</b>, <b>Nd.11.440</b>, <b>Nd.11.441</b>, and <b>Nd.11.442</b>: outer surfaces coated with cream slip, streaks of which are noted also inside the neck, always only in one place; inner walls of grey and dark grey color; no traces of pitching.</p> <p><b>Nd.11.230</b> and <b>Nd.11.231</b> completely preserved, full height 42 cm, rim diameters 6.4 cm and 9.5 cm. In the case of other specimens, rim diameters from 5.5 cm to 6.5 cm.</p> <p><b>Form</b>: rounded with bulbous shoulders, cylindrical neck ending in a beaded and diagonally cut rim, loop handles connecting the lower part of the neck with the upper part of the shoulder, rounded bottom.</p> <p><b>Decoration</b>: two types of composition, the more common one on amphorae <b>Nd.11.231</b>, <b>Nd.11.251</b>, <b>Nd.11.252</b>, <b>Nd.11.441</b>, and <b>Nd.11.442</b>; two or three encircling bands executed on the shoulders just below the base of the neck, below which there was a single undulating band, followed by another horizontal one. In this context, a single horizontal band below the vessel rim.</p> <p>A more elaborate version of the composition on containers <b>Nd.11.230</b> and <b>Nd.11.440</b>: on the neck, a horizontal band, wavy band below it and three horizontal bands where the handles joined. Shoulder decoration a mirror image of the sequence on the neck, except that in the upper part there were four bands instead of three.</p> <p><b>Fabric</b>: chaff temper, a significantly smaller share of white lime particles, in the case of specimens <b>Nd.11.440</b>, <b>Nd.11.441</b>, <b>Nd.11.442</b> also crushed shells; mostly tricolor break: brown-red-purple, grey or black, although bicolor breaks, pink and grey, were also recorded.</p>	<p>Deir el-Naqlun, Hermitage 25 (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 21.3), room AA.40.2 (Zurek 2004: Fig. 5.2), room AA.40.6, street A.S.4 (see below, Part III);</p> <p>Kellia type Egloff 167 (Egloff 1977: 113; Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: Figs 128–135);</p> <p>Alexandria (Majcherek 2004: 235 and Fig. 7: 8);</p> <p>Marea (Majcherek 2004: 119);</p> <p>Yyun Musa (Ballet 2007: Figs 4–5);</p> <p>Elephantine, type K765–K728 (Gempeler 1992: 199, Fig. 124,8);</p> <p>Tod (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Pl. 16, Fig. 226; Pierrat 1991: Fig. 17a)</p>
Nile silt fabric	<p>LR NAQLUN 11 amphorae: <b>Nd.11.265</b>: outer surface originally covered with light-colored slip, now heavily burned (dark gray to black in places). Apparently not resinated. Rim diameter 9 cm, reconstructed height a little over 48 cm.</p> <p><b>Decoration</b>: horizontal encircling band below the rim, irregular depressions on a plastic bulge on the neck; shoulders decorated with an undulating line between horizontal ones and a row of slightly irregular triangular depressions above this set and a wavy band below; cord impression on the lower body.</p> <p><b>Fabric</b>: brown orange with black core in the break; temper with significantly less chaff and more lime particles than the other vessels.</p>	

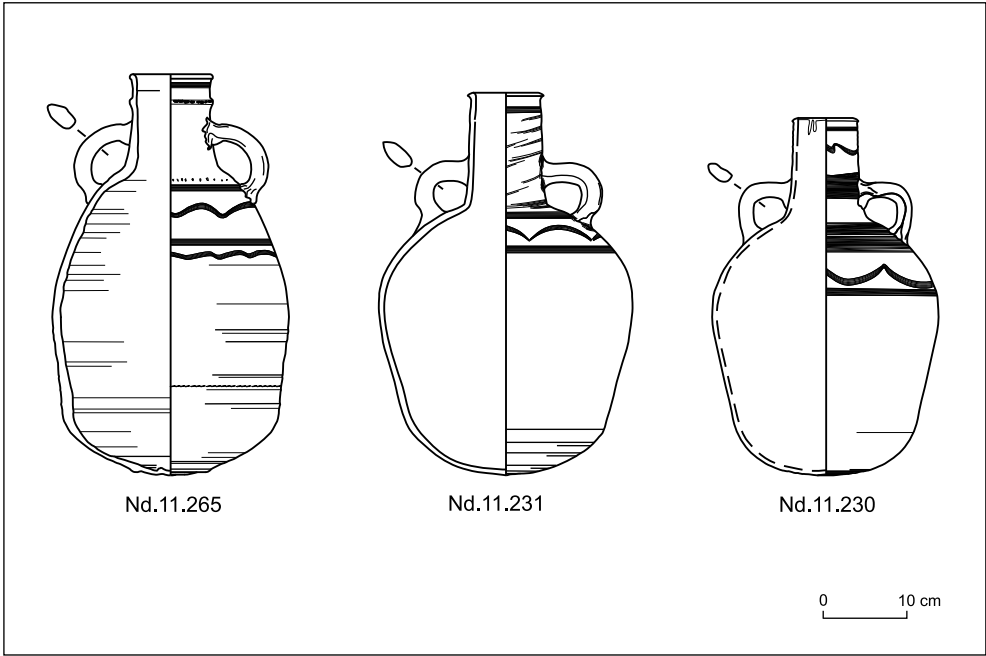


Fig. 15. Typical LR NAQLUN 11 [=E167] amphorae (center and right) and atypical example (left), from the deposit in Building K.1

Table. 2-2. Basins from the pottery deposit in Building K.1

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 16	Parallels
Utility ware		
Nile silt fabric	<p>Basins <b>Nd.11.258</b>, <b>Nd.11.260</b>, <b>Nd.11.262</b>: both surfaces covered with red slip, additional traces of a white powdery substance (dry paint?, plaster?) on the inner walls; fully reconstructed forms reached 40 cm in height, rim diameters varied from 48 cm to 57 cm, base diameter was 29 cm.</p> <p><u>Form</u>: beaded rim, two horizontal handles at the maximum diameter of the body, a slightly tapering lower part and a ring-based bottom.</p> <p><u>Decoration</u>: incised wavy line bordered on the top and bottom by single or double horizontal grooves on the upper part of the vessels; cord impressions (all except Nd.11.258); rims with three horizontal grooves (Nd.11.258) or irregular cream spots painted on the upper part (Nd.11.260 and Nd.11.262).</p> <p><u>Fabric</u>: brown, dark brown, red or red-and-brown with black core; temper in the form of chaff and lime particles.</p> <p>Basin <b>Nd.11.261</b>: only outer surfaces coated with a thin layer of orange-brown slip; inner walls brown and beige. Rim diameter about 51 cm.</p> <p><u>Form</u>: vertical rim hollowed on the inside; offset neck above a thin ledge, triangular in section.</p> <p><u>Decoration</u>: wavy and horizontal bands executed with a narrow comb about 0.8 cm wide prior to slipping; painted regular purple spots against a white band on the upper part of the rim.</p> <p><u>Fabric</u>: harder than the Nile silt fabric described above, brown and red with black core; white lime particles as temper.</p>	<p>Deir el-Naqlun, room AA.40.6 (see below, Part III);</p> <p>Tod (Pierrat 1991: Fig. 49; Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Pl. 6:71);</p> <p>Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand 1999: No. 88; 2000: Fig. 44m; Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 18p)</p>

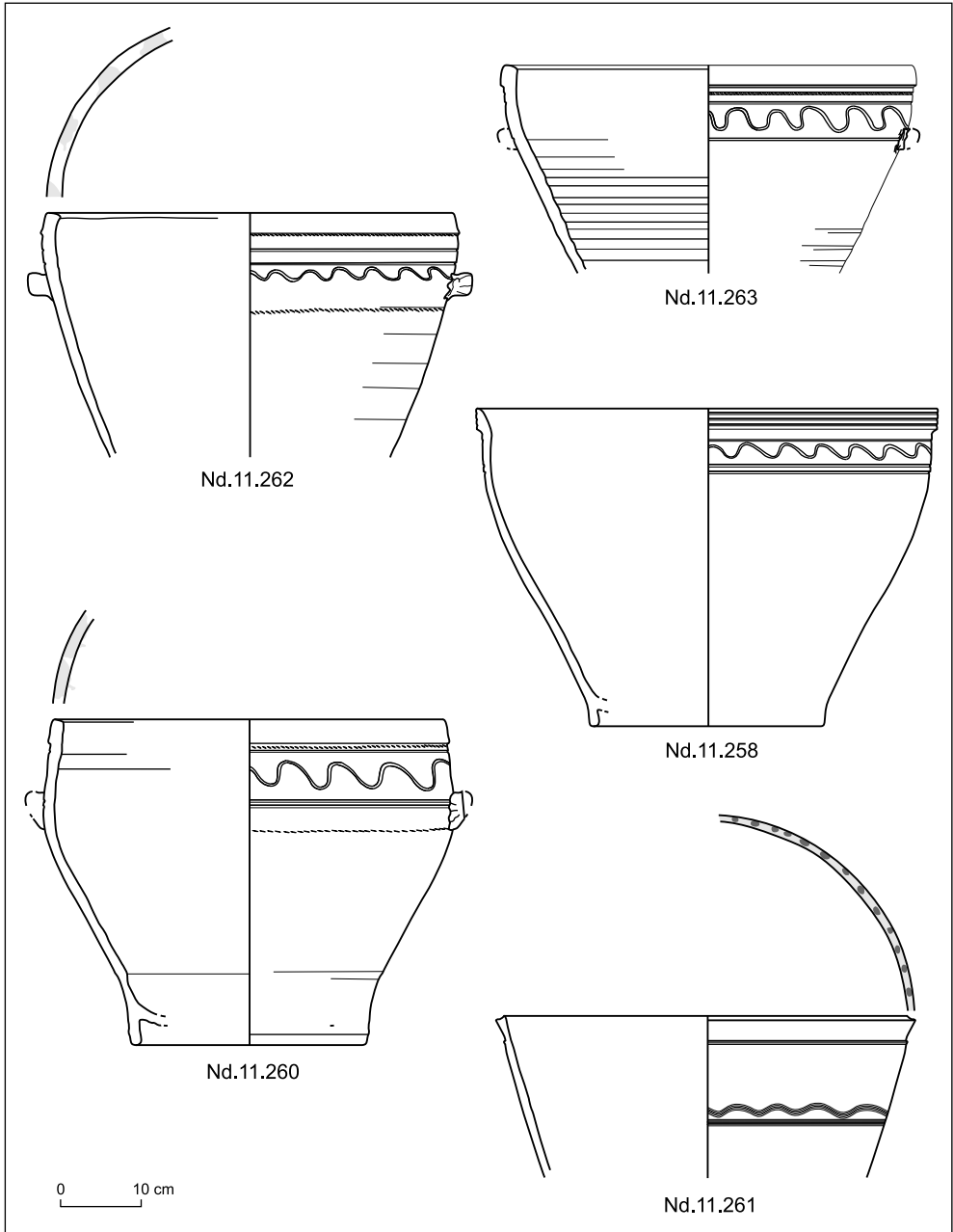
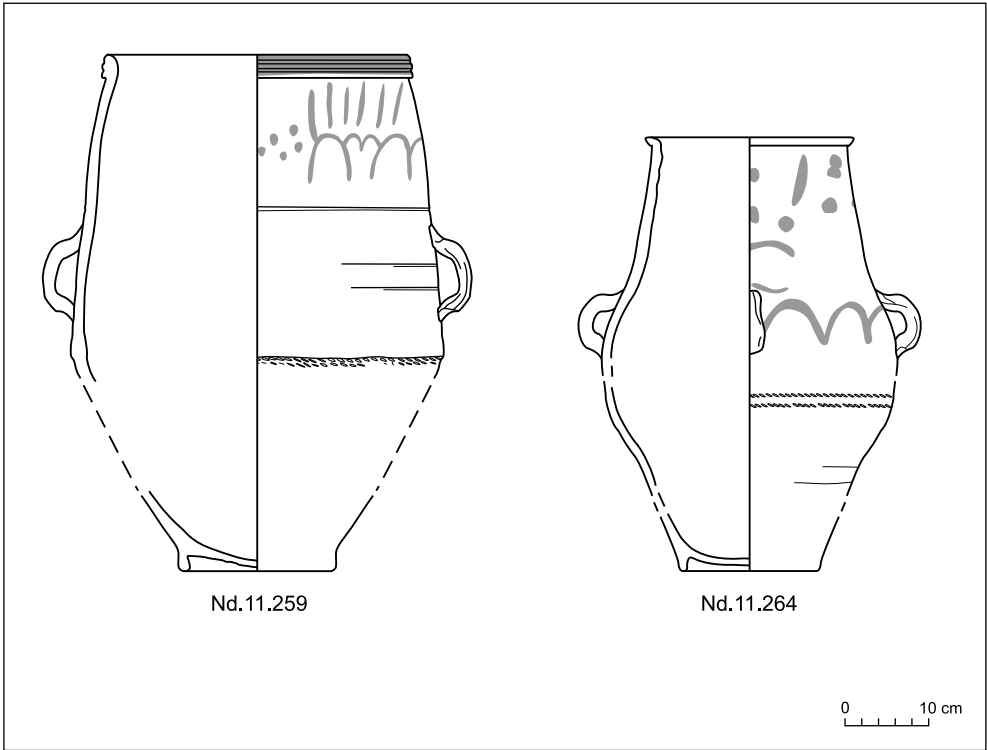


Fig. 16. Typical and atypical (Nd.11.260, Nd.11.261) basins from the deposit in Building K.1



Table. 2-3. *Biconical storage containers from the pottery deposit in Building K.1*

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 17	Parallels
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt fabric	<p>Biconical storage containers <b>Nd.11.259</b>, <b>Nd.11.264</b>: inner surfaces brown, outer sides coated with a thick layer of white slip under decoration executed in red paint. Fully reconstructed height 63–64 cm and 53–54 cm respectively; rim diameters 37 cm and 25 cm, and base diameters 18.5 and 17 cm, respectively.</p> <p><b>Form</b>: Nd.11.259: beaded, slumped rim, four vertical handles attached above a rather sharp carination, ring-base bottom. Nd.11.264: everted rim flattened on the inside, barely distinguished conical neck, four handles above gently curved, somewhat bulbous body, tapering toward the bottom, ring base.</p> <p><b>Decoration</b>: Nd.11.259: broad band on the rim, additionally decorated with two horizontal incised grooves, below which a group of red vertical bands, separated by an arcade composed of dots. Below, register of large arcades. Rest of the decoration not visible. Nd.11.264: corroded surface obliterating much of the decoration, which consisted of a group of vertical bands separated by sets of dots on the rim, two rows of arcades and festoons below on the neck and lower still, a row of large arcades.</p> <p>Double bands of cord impressions on the body below the carination.</p> <p><b>Fabric</b>: brown or light brown with black or brown core, containing white lime particle temper.</p>	<p>Deir el-Naqlun, rubbish dump on Kom B, Building K and L (personal observation), Kom D, (Godlewskii, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 19.4,6; Górecki 1994: Fig. II.6); Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand 1999: Nos 100, 101; Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Figs 27, 40a)</p>



*Fig. 17. Biconical storage pots from the deposit in Building K.1*

Table. 2-4. *Miscellaneous vessels from the pottery deposit in Building K.1*

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 18	Parallels
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Nile silt fabric	Lower part of LR 7 amphora <b>Nd.11.439</b> , reworked into a "ladle" used to scoop up the same substance that filled the basins from this deposit. <u>Fabric</u> : dark brown, white lime particle temper.	
	Partly preserved bowl <b>Nd.11.278</b> , surfaces covered with red and brown-red slip, burned extensively. <u>Fabric</u> : brownish red, containing abundant chaff temper and considerable amounts of white lime particles.	Deir el-Naqlun, Building J (personal observation), unit G.8A (Zurek 2007: Fig. 1, Nd.05.141); Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 35g)
Marl clay	Thin-walled bottles ( <b>Nd.11.436a</b> , <b>Nd.11.436b</b> ), yellowish-green slip externally. <u>Fabric</u> : greenish-yellow.	Deir el-Naqlun, rooms AA.40.6 and AA.40.7 (see below, Part III); Islamic unglazed wares, 8th–10th century (Watson 2004: 94)

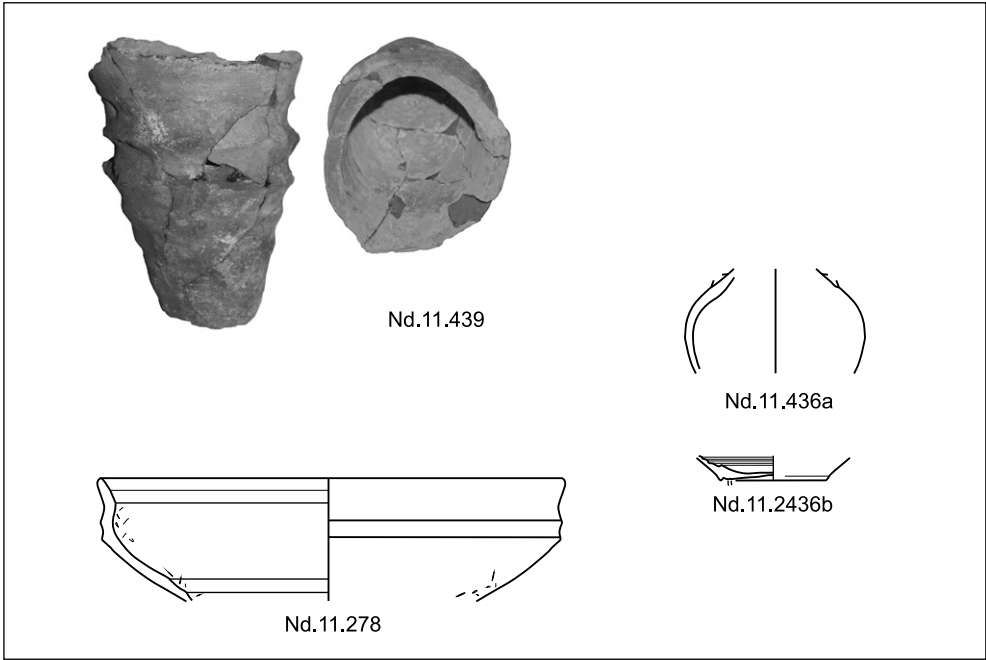


Fig. 18. Bowl (bottom left) and bottles (right), and LR 7 amphora toe reworked into a “ladle” (top left), from the deposit in Building K.1 (Photos K. Danyś-Lasek, PCMA archives)

### PART III

## POTTERY FROM STRUCTURES IN THE CENTRAL PART OF THE MONASTIC COMPLEX

Excavations in the central part of the monastic complex on Kom A conducted in the 2010 season encompassed a section of latitudinal street AA.S4 with rooms to the north (AA.40.6, AA.40.7, AA.50.3)

as well as as yet unexplored parts of Building J to the south of it [see *Fig. 1*]. The area was heavily disturbed by the pits of medieval graves from the 12th century (cemetery A).

### POTTERY FROM STREET AA.S.4

[*Table 3-1; Fig. 20*]

Burials belonging to cemetery A disturbed to some extent the original accumulations in this area, the stratigraphy of which was known already from earlier excavations. The pottery material was mixed extensively, as well as being burnt

and sooted, but following preliminary examination, it could be assigned to two separate chronological horizons. The first, attributed to the 6th–7th century AD, seems to have been linked to the construction and early occupation of



*Fig. 19. General view of Building J in the central part of the monastic complex in Naqlun (Photo W. Godlewski, PCMA archives)*

structures on either side of street AA.S.4. The representative forms included imported LR 1 and LR 4 amphorae, Egyptian LR 7 containers as well as a repertoire of tableware that included a locally-made ledged goblet (Nd.10.024) and a bowl of North African Red Slip Ware with the ledge just below the rim (Nd.10.017) [Fig. 20, top], representing Hayes form 91A from the mid to late 5th century AD with parallels from Karanis (now in the collection of the University of Michigan), Abu Mena (Hayes 140–141, Fig. 26:1,2) and Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand 2000: Fig. 11a).

The second horizon, of the 9th–10th century, formed a numerous assemblage, made up mainly of LR 7 amphora sherds (Nd.10.022, analogous to container Nd.09.525 found in B.J.7, in a layer associated with the great fire that destroyed the structure). The share of LR 5/6 containers (Egloff 187–190) made of Nile silt was much smaller.

Nondiagnostic body sherds from basins, storage containers, *qawadis* and bag-shaped bottles (Nd.10.034) formed a sizable group [Fig. 20, bottom]. These bottles were frequent in Deir el-Naqlun, among others in sector D (room 21) in the northern part of the central kom, where they have been dated to the 9th–11th century (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1). The assemblage also included bowls, plates and vases made of Nile clay, analogous to ceramics from a deposit found in room AA.40.4 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.6), as well as glazed examples. The latter were made of frit paste and represented three different types: monochromatic with yellow glaze, Fayyumi in turquoise and manganic purple and Fustat Fatimid Sgraffiato (FFS) with honey-olive glaze. A similar repertoire of glazed vessels was recorded from the exploration of accumulated fill on street AA.S4 in 2009 (Nd.09.093, Nd.09.094) (personal observation).

#### ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES:

##### PART III: Catalogue

*Tables 3-1 to 3-7 and Figs 20–28*

Street AA.S.4	pages 602–603	<i>Table 3-1 Fig. 20</i>	pages 604–605
Room AA.40.6	pages 616ff.	<i>Tables 3-2 a–d, 3-4 Figs 21A–C, 23</i>	
Room AA.40.7	pages 616ff.	<i>Tables 3-3 a–c, 3-4 Figs 22A–C, 23</i>	pages 606–625
Room AA.50.3	pages 617ff.	<i>Table 3-5 Fig. 24</i>	pages 628–629
Building J	pages 621ff.	<i>Table 3-6 Figs 25–27</i>	pages 632–635
Cemetery A burials	page 636	<i>Table 3-7 Fig. 28</i>	pages 636–637

Table 3-1. Selection of pottery from two chronological horizons on street AA.S.4

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 20	Parallels
<b>Pottery from the 6th–7th century</b>		
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt	Ledged goblet ( <b>Nd.10.024</b> ) covered with red polished slip.	
Non-Egyptian fabric	Bowl, ARSW, North Africa, ledge just below the rim ( <b>Nd.10.017</b> ), fine, red polished slip.	ARSW Hayes form 91A, mid to late 5th century AD (Hayes 1972: 140–141); Karanis and Abu Mena (Hayes 1972: Fig. 26:1,2), Tebrynys (Rousset, Marchand 2000: Fig. 11a)
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Nile silt	LR 7 (body sherds).	
Non-Egyptian fabric	LR 1 (body sherds). LR 4 (body sherds).	
<b>Pottery from the 9th–10th century</b>		
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt	Basins, storage containers, <i>qawadis</i> , red or brown smoothed slip (nondiagnostic body sherds). Bowls, plates and vases (with white band in the upper part), mostly red smoothed slip ( <b>Nd.10.021</b> , <b>Nd.10.032</b> , <b>Nd.10.035</b> , <b>Nd.10.080</b> , <b>Nd.10.132</b> ).	Deir el-Naqlun, room AA.40.4 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.6); Fustat (Gayraud, Trégliat 2014: Fig. 6:4)
	Bag-shaped bottles ( <b>Nd.10.034</b> ), brown smoothed slip and pitched inside.	Deir el-Naqlun, e.g., sector D (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1)
<b>Transport containers</b>		
	LR 7 ( <b>Nd.10.022</b> ) (body sherds). LR 5/6 (Egloff 187–190) ( <b>Nd.10.131</b> ) (body sherds).	
<b>Glazed ware</b>		
Frit paste	Monochromatic with yellow glaze ( <b>Nd.10.081</b> ). Fayyumi in turquoise and manganic purple ( <b>Nd.10.031</b> , <b>Nd.10.018</b> ). Fustat Fatimid Sgraffiato (FFS) with honey-olive glaze ( <b>Nd.10.023</b> ).	Deir el-Naqlun, street AA.S.4, fill, 2009 season (author's observation)

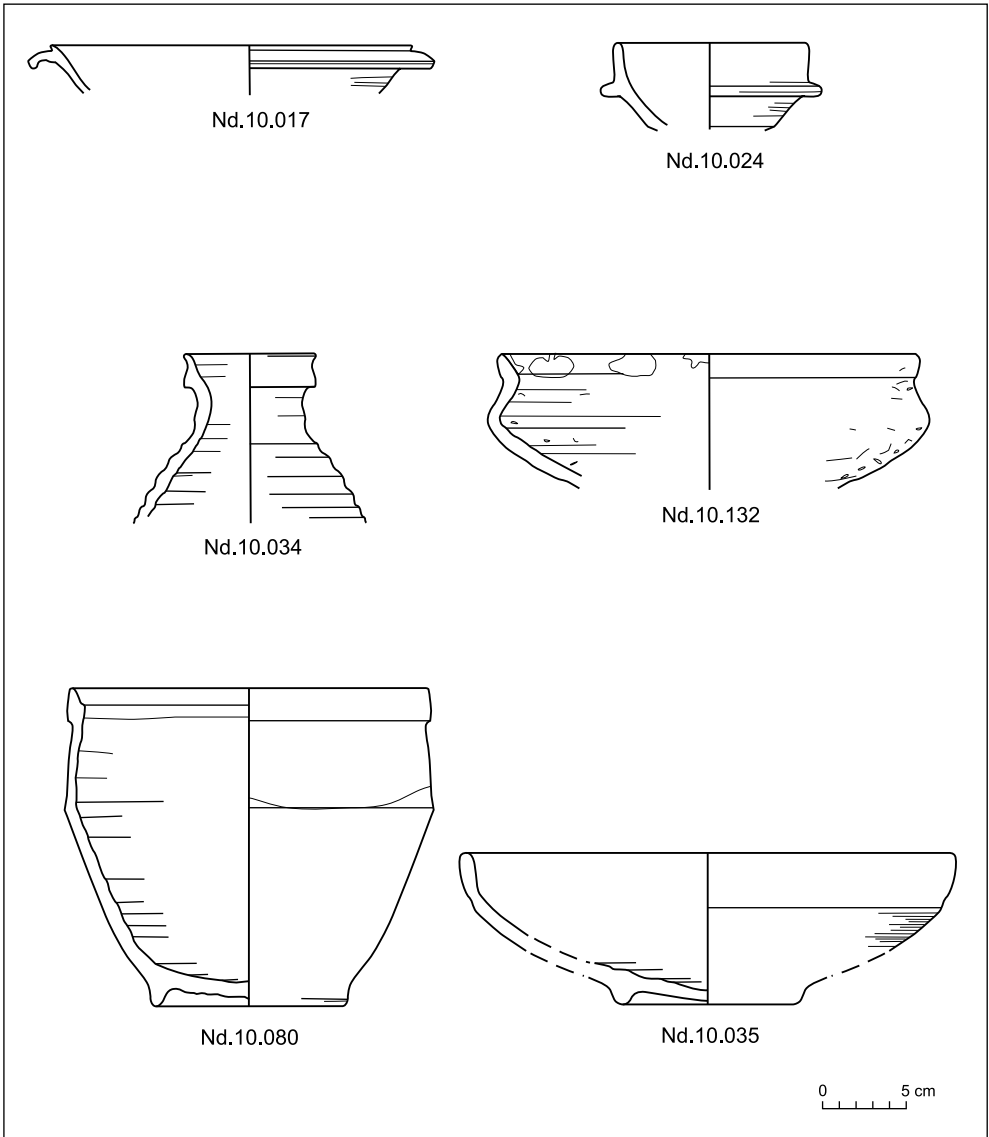


Fig. 20. Selection of pottery from street AA.S.4: top row, 6th–7th century horizon; middle and bottom, 9th–10th century horizon



## POTTERY FROM ROOMS AA.40.6 AND AA.40.7

The two adjoining units were explored successively in 2010 and 2011. The upper layers of the fill, which bore evidence of the conflagration that destroyed the central parts of the monastic complex in Deir el-Naqlun not earlier than the middle of the 10th century (Godlewski 2012: 205), possibly already in the beginning of the 11th century, were heavily disturbed by grave pits of the later cemetery (A) that occupied the site. In some cases the grave pits even reached the floor of the rooms. However, the assemblage can be considered as chronologically consistent, being sealed by the layer of destruction connected with the burning down of the monastery. The material from the upper layers was mostly nondiagnostic (some bag-shaped LR 5/6 [Egloff 189–191], amphorae and bag-shaped bottles).

The pottery assemblages from the two rooms proved to be substantially different in their intrinsic nature, thus providing grounds for a functional analysis of the two units.

## ROOM AA.40.6

[Table 3-2a-c; Figs 21A–D, 23]

The tableware assemblage comprised plates, bowls, bottles, *qullae* and vases. The plates were massive forms with straight or flaring walls and base rings (Nd.10.065, Nd.10.066, Nd.10.075) [Fig. 21A, right]. Analogous vessels were recorded in a late 9th century ceramic deposit in room AA.40.2 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.1) and a 10th to early 11th century assemblage from room G.8A in Naqlun (Żurek 2007: Fig. 1, Nd.05.106). White-slipped plates with cup-shaped compartments (Nd.10.073, Nd.10.074) occurred as

well [Fig. 21A, left]. One was decorated with a concentric groove under the rim and a composition of red lines and dots. Parallels were recorded from room D.22 in Naqlun (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.12). The fill also yielded vessels made of Nile silt: nearly complete bowls, bottles, some resinated, a part painted or with combed decoration, which was quite frequent on Naqlun pottery from the 9th–11th century (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1) [Fig. 21B], as well as *qullae* (also made of marl clay) (Nd.10.112, Nd.10.050), vases with S-shaped or bell-shaped body profiles [see Fig. 21B]. The latter vase, preserved complete, was uncovered by a low wall in the eastern part of the room. A miniature vessel (Nd.10.099) with bulging body and narrow neck had a bottom which still bore testimony to the base on which it had stood while being formed [Fig. 21B, top right].

Glazed vessels of frit paste represented mainly Fayyumi ware with pale green, green, yellow and purple decoration. Monochromatic vessels with green glaze were also present (Nd.10.066). One should note a small fragment of a jar rim, the ceramic matrix red, representing the so-called Early Lead Green Glazed Wares of the Abbasid period (Watson 2004: 157).

A basin with engraved decoration (Nd.10.091) was sunk into the floor, north of the brick basin and west of a stump of wall that partitioned the room in the first occupation phase [Fig. 21C, bottom]. Jars (e.g., Nd.10.052) and a biconical form with painted decoration represented storage containers. Cooking pots had lids and heavily sooted bottoms (Nd.10.105,

Nd10.106). A small ladle (Nd.10.100) among the utility wares was heavily sooted on the bottom and one side [Fig. 21C], identically as a vessel from a ceramic deposit from the 9th century uncovered in room AA.40.2 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.10).

Transport containers were the most numerous group among the pottery [Fig. 21D]. Egyptian LR 7 amphorae (Nd.10.072), analogous to those from Building J, prevailed. Sherds of LR 5/6 amphorae made of Nile silt were also found. The third type present in the assemblage was the large bag-shaped LR NAQLUN 10 containers from Palestine (see note 7 on page 627). One such vessel, found in the floor structure of room AA.40.6, bore an inked inscription in Arabic on the shoulder (Nd.10.090). Analogous amphorae were recorded in Naqlun in room B.J.7 and earlier in complex D (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 19.17–19.22). A small sherd Nd.10.086 represented LR NAQLUN 11 amphorae with engraved decoration (see above, Part II, page 589 and below, Part III, page 627). Analogous vessels, preserved complete, were part of a ceramic deposit from the late 9th century in room AA.40.2 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 5.2).

Oil lamps from this assemblage were either bowl-shaped or took on the form of a small wheel-turned lamp [see below, lamps from unit AA.40.7, Table 3-4 and Fig. 23].

#### ROOM AA.40.7

[Table 3-3 a–c; Figs 22A–C, 23]

Layers just above the floor and in the floor of the room yielded an assemblage with a highly specific repertoire of vessel shapes: no amphorae or cooking and utility

wares as was the case in the adjoining room AA.40.6, just “table” ceramics. The sole exceptions perhaps were: a nearly complete funnel (Nd.11.074–Nd.1.120), a basin (Nd.11.443) with heavily corroded surfaces, and a fragmentary lid (Nd.11.156).

One of the *qullae* for holding beverages from the deposit was a bag-shaped bottle (Nd.11.157), resinated inside, typical of a class that was common in Deir el-Naqlun in contexts of the 9th–11th century (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1). Another bottle (Nd.11.158) had a white band in the upper part of the vessel, like a specimen from room B.J.5 (Nd.09.52). The other type of bottle was a product of the Qena region (Nd.11.155), extremely thin-walled and furnished with a long handle and flaring neck that was decorated with several long thin grooves tooled with a burin. Similar bottles came from adjoining room AA.40.6 (Nd.10.050) and building K.1 (Nd.11.436).

A complete vase from a South Egyptian workshop (Nd.11.119) bore an unusual decoration in the form of a red-brown frieze of arcades with dots and single letters “I” and “A” in no apparent compositional order. The meaning of these letters remains uncertain; suggestions range from a repeated monogram of the maker of the pot to an invocation or perhaps the mark of the addressee. Forms of the type, but bearing a much more elaborate ornament of floral and geometric motifs, are known from Elephantine (type T515), presumed to be of 9th century date (Gempeler 1992: 122, Fig. 70.1). The motif on the present vessel finds parallels in W.Y. Adams’ Style A.IV (“Aswan”) from northern Nubia, broadly dated to AD 950–1300 (Adams 1986: Fig. 226).

The bowls and plates representing tableware, four in all, were of rather coarse make and were heavily sooted. Plates Nd.11.121, Nd.11.123, Nd.11.130 were similar in type with a vertical rim, much like the examples discovered elsewhere in the immediate area: adjoining room AA.40.7 (Nd.11.121), deposit in room AA.40.2 (late 9th century) (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.1), room 5 of Building J (Nd.10.064) and G.8A (10th century and early 11th century) (Żurek 2007: Fig. 1, Nd.05.106). Plate Nd.11.123 bore cream-painted dots on the rim. The bowl Nd.11.122 was carinated and had a rounded bottom.

Another curious vessel from this room, actually found inside a mastaba-bench, was a small cup (Nd.11.128) that had had the bottom broken off evenly to form a second aperture. It had a sharply carinated body and was painted with an elaborate, alternating, red and brown lattice pattern on the lower part. Elements of the composition included a brown oblique lattice pattern with red dots in the fields, red triangles with brown outlines ending in dashes, a long brown lattice pattern with two registers, the lower one furnished additionally with oval red spots, red triangles at either side with brown lines above them and topped with another line with short dashes. The flat bottom showed evidence of wear and the bottom part was sooted. The context and the unusual second opening and decoration on its lower part suggest that the cup was actually part of the furnishings of the bench, possibly the casing of a cache or a lamp stand. In this role, the piece would have been not only functional, but also aesthetically pleasing to the eye. A similar practice, but using amphora necks was noted in Hermitage 44 in Deir el-Naqlun

(Godlewski, Parandowska 1997: 89). Similar cups are known from Elephantine (type T370, late second half of the 7th and 8th century, Gempeler 1992: 100, Fig. 41,20) and Tod (mid-7th to mid-9th century, Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Pl. 14, Fig. 193). The lattice motif with dots is again common in Adams' "Aswan" Style A.IV from northern Nubia, broadly dated to AD 950–1300 (Adams 1986: Fig. 226).

Small glazed bowls and a vase formed a separate group of tableware in this assemblage. The fabric was a yellow quartzite paste (with the exception of Nd.11.431, which revealed a pink-orange break). The bowls were of simple form with rounded rims and bodies and low base rings. Six of the vessels were monochromatic, glazed a variety of shades of yellow-green, green, olive and turquoise, on a white slip ground. In two examples, Nd.11.124 and Nd.11.433, the glaze was transparent and purple, laid without ground. One bowl had grooving below the rim and on the bottom, executed prior to glazing. Analogies have been found in Naqlun (Building J, rooms 5 and 6, and street AA.S.4, for example) and are known from early 9th and early 10th century contexts in Tebtynis and el-Ashmunein.

The vase Nd.11.126 resembled in shape luster ware vessels of 10th century date from Iran and 11th century date from Egypt (Watson 2004: 196 and 278). The green monochromatic glaze of the Naqlun piece suggests, however, a Chinese celadon imitation (Scanlon 1970: 84). Vases of this type, but much smaller in size, have been recorded with considerable frequency in graves from Cemetery A in Naqlun (e.g., Nd.10.054 from grave T.435,

Nd.09.538 from grave T.439), generally dated to the 11th–13th century.

Fayyumi ware was the other type of glazed ware in the assemblage. One of the vessels had a turquoise glaze with darker smudges laid on a white-slipped ground, the other two were painted in a pointillist technique: one with purple spots on an olive-colored (originally yellow?) glaze coated with transparent glaze (so-called “envelope”), both inside and outside, and the other with green spots on a lighter green background, also inside and outside. Similar decoration was recorded previously from Naqlun (plates Nd.09.093, Nd.10.018 from street AA.S.4).

The assemblage from room AA.40.7 also yielded three oil lamps. Two were in the form of necked cups with a beak nozzle and handle (Fustat type), very much like the example from the neighboring room AA.40.6 [*Table 3-4, Fig. 23*]. The form has been attested in Naqlun as well as Tebtynis, in mid-9th to first half of 10th century contexts, while glazed examples from Fustat are dated to the 10th–11th century (Kubiak 1970: Fig. 8). The third lamp (Nd.11.118) took on the form of a small bowl, similar to the ones from the adjoining room (Nd.10.083, Nd.10.096), as well as elsewhere in Naqlun (L.07, Nd.11.438) and in Kellia (Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: Fig. 191). There was one other lychnological device that was identified in the ceramic assemblage, albeit in very fragmentary form: Nd.11.389 was a tubular ring, either round or oval in shape, with holes in the top where high-flaring, “beaker”-like elements without bottom were attached, joining thus with a hollow annular base. Conical props were attached

to the ring under each “cup”. Sooting around the cups and their connection with the ring, which must have been a reservoir for oil, indicates that we have here a kind of chandelier that would have stood on a table (the props suggest such a solution) rather than being suspended, as is the case with *polycandela* made of metal. Devices identified as lamp stands take on the form of plates with small cups attached to the edges, like the one from the middle of the 9th century from House X in Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 23e), or a large jar with cups attached around the rim, each connected with the vessel by holes in the bottom, e.g., Kellia type E316 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 86:2). There is a tradition for such unusual devices in Egypt, *vide* an analogous annular ring with bowls instead of cups, coming from the Second Intermediate Period and an even earlier example with ovoid “cups” known from Sedment (both from the Petrie Museum, UC18249 and UC18195 respectively, <http://petriecat.museums.ucl.ac.uk/detail.aspx?parentpreref=#>, accessed in June 2014).

## DISCUSSION

The pottery from units AA.40.6 and AA.40.7 does not depart in character from the assemblages examined from AA.40, such as AA.40.2 or AA.50.3, building K.1, and Building J. It is chronologically a consistent set (despite the intrusive burials belonging to Cemetery A, which reached almost to the floor of the room and substantially disturbed the stratigraphy). The evidence of a conflagration, attested also elsewhere in this part of the monastic complex, sets a good upper dating limit for the assemblages from the two rooms

*continued page 626*

Table 3-2a. Pottery from unit AA.40.6: tableware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 21A	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt	Massive plates with straight or flaring walls and base rings, red smoothed slip, traces of burning ( <b>Nd.10.065</b> , <b>Nd.10.066</b> , <b>Nd.10.075</b> ).	Deir el-Naqlun, units AA.40.2 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.1) and G.8A (Żurek 2007: Fig. 1, Nd.05.106), 9th–10th century
	Plates with cup-shaped compartments ( <b>Nd.10.073</b> , <b>Nd.10.074</b> ), white smoothed slip, heavily burned in the latter case; the first decorated with a concentric groove under the rim and a composition of red lines and dots.	Deir el-Naqlun, kom D (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.12)
	Bowls, nearly complete ( <b>Nd.10.078</b> , <b>Nd.10.096</b> , <b>Nd.10.114</b> ), red- or white-slipped and smoothed; traces of burning on the surface.	

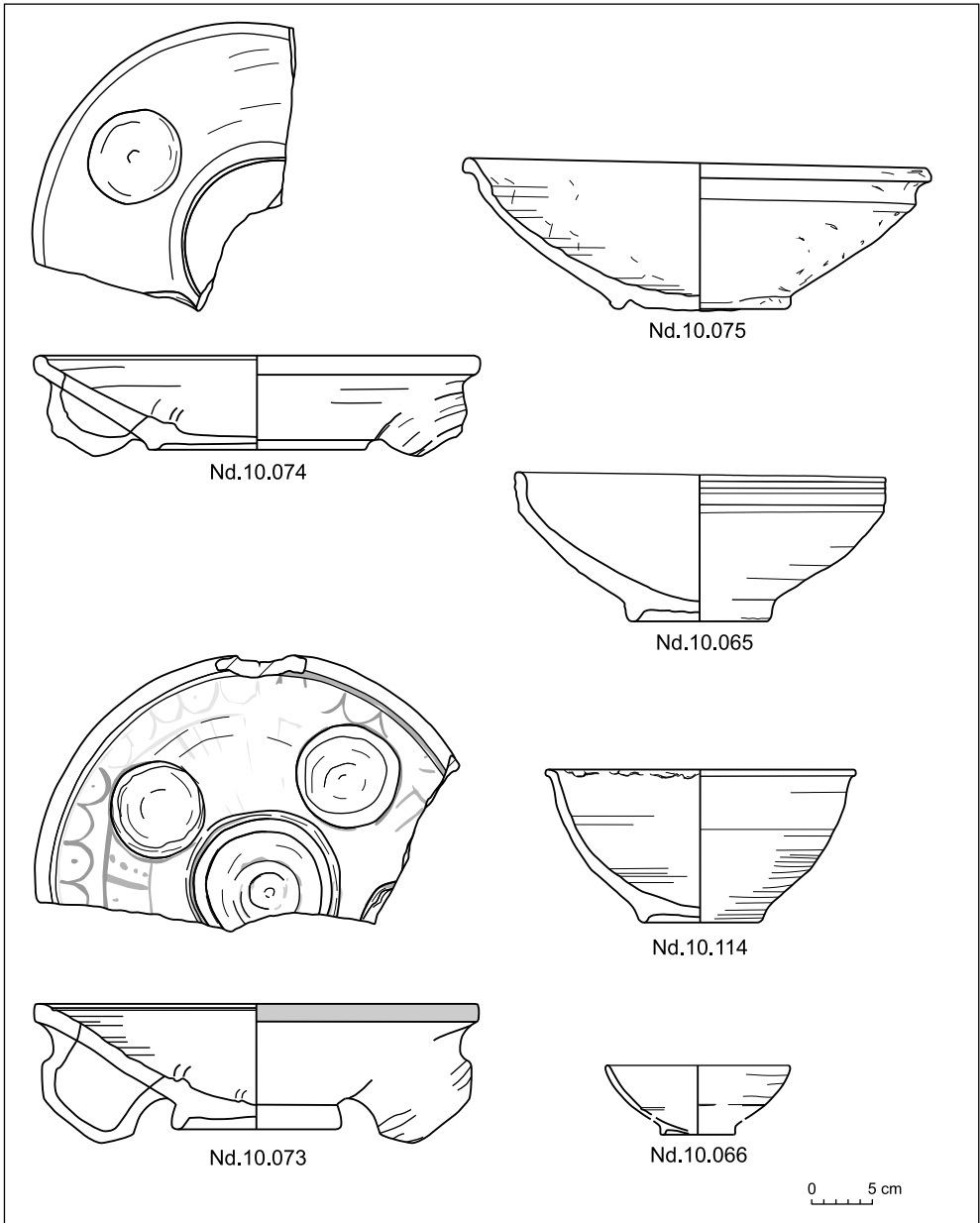


Fig. 21A. Selection of pottery from room AA.40.6: tableware — plates and bowls

Table 3-2b. Pottery from unit AA.40.6 (continued): tableware of diverse fabrics and glazed ware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 21B	Parallels
<b>Tableware (continued)</b>		
Nile silt	Bottles ( <b>Nd.10.089</b> , <b>Nd.10.110</b> , <b>Nd.10.113</b> ) with brown outer surface, more seldom white or red, some resinated, some decorated with one or two painted yellow or cream bands or bands of combed decoration. Vases with S-shaped ( <b>Nd.10.048</b> ) or bell-shaped ( <b>Nd.10.063</b> ) body profile, red or brownish-red smoothed slip.	Deir el-Naqlun, unit B.J.7, <b>Nd.09.524</b> (personal observation), kom D, 9th–11th century (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1)
Nile silt and marl clay	<i>Qullae</i> ( <b>Nd.10.050</b> ), greenish yellow in break, smoothed surfaces. Cylindrical cup <b>Nd.10.112</b> , reddish brown in break, blackened surfaces.	
Desert clay	Turned miniature vessel ( <b>Nd.10.099</b> ), bulging body and narrow neck; pale brown-beige clay.	
<b>Glazed ware</b>		
Frit paste	Fayyumi bowls with pale green, green, yellow and purple decoration ( <b>Nd.10.066</b> ). Green-glazed monochromatic vessels.	Deir el-Naqlun, unit AA.40.2 (Zurek 2004: Fig. 4.1) and unit G.8A (Zurek 2007: Fig. 1, <b>Nd.05.106</b> ), 9th–10th century
Earthenware	Small fragment of jar rim.	Early Lead Green Glazed Wares, Abbasid period (Watson 2004: 157)

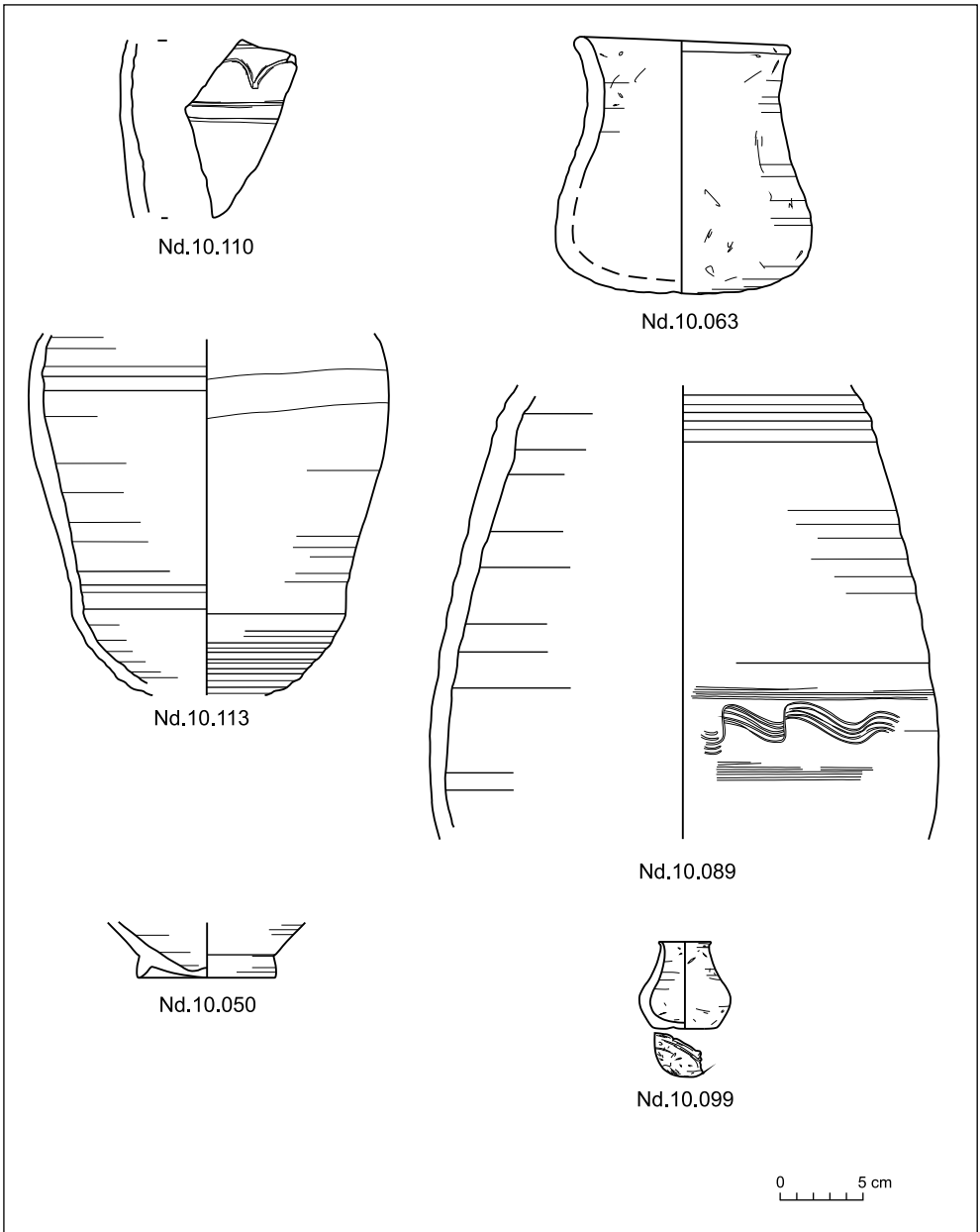


Fig. 21B. Selection of pottery from room AA.40.6: tableware — bottles



Table 3-2c. Pottery from unit AA.40.6 (continued): cooking and utility ware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 21C	Parallels
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt	Basin with engraved decoration ( <b>Nd.10.091</b> ). Jars ( <b>Nd.10.052</b> ), red smoothed slip. Biconical storage container, decoration painted red on white background.	
	Small ladle ( <b>Nd.10.100</b> ), light brown smoothed slip, heavily sooted bottom and one side, handle partly missing.	Deir el-Naqlun, unit AA.40.2, 9th century (Zurek 2004: Fig. 4.10)
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
	Cooking pots, fragmentary, heavily sooted bottoms and black surfaces ( <b>Nd.10.105</b> , <b>Nd.10.106</b> ). Lids, brown or red smoothed slip.	

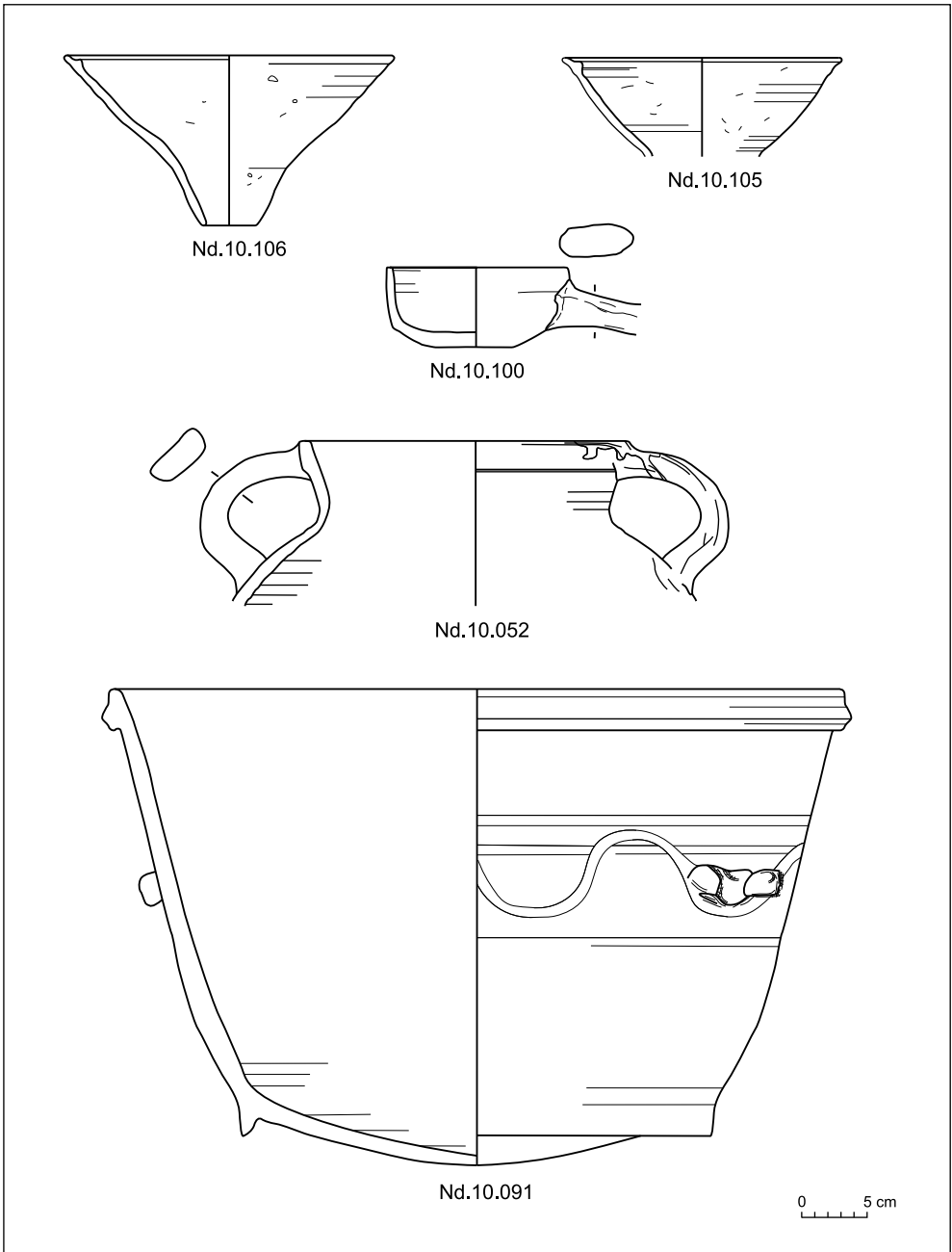


Fig. 21C. Selection of pottery from room AA.40.6: cooking and utility wares

Table 3-2d. Pottery from unit AA.40.6 (continued): transport containers

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 21D	Parallels
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian Nile silt	LR 7 ( <b>Nd.10.072</b> ). LR 5/6 ( <b>Nd.10.102</b> , Nd.10.112, <b>Nd.10.116</b> ), sherds, some with brown surfaces or coated with a red, creamy-white or greenish slip. LR NAQLUN 11 amphora ( <b>Nd.10.086</b> ), small sherds, slipped surface and engraved decoration (wavy groove between two straight grooves).	Deir el-Naqlun, unit AA.40.2, 9th century (Zurek 2004: Fig. 5.2); Fustat (Gayraud, Trégliat 2014: Fig. 2.1)
Non-Egyptian desert clay	LR NAQLUN 10, large bag-shaped containers from Palestine, one with an inked inscription in Arabic on the shoulder (Nd.10.090).	Deir el-Naqlun, room B.J.7 (personal observation) and complex D (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 19.17–19.22)



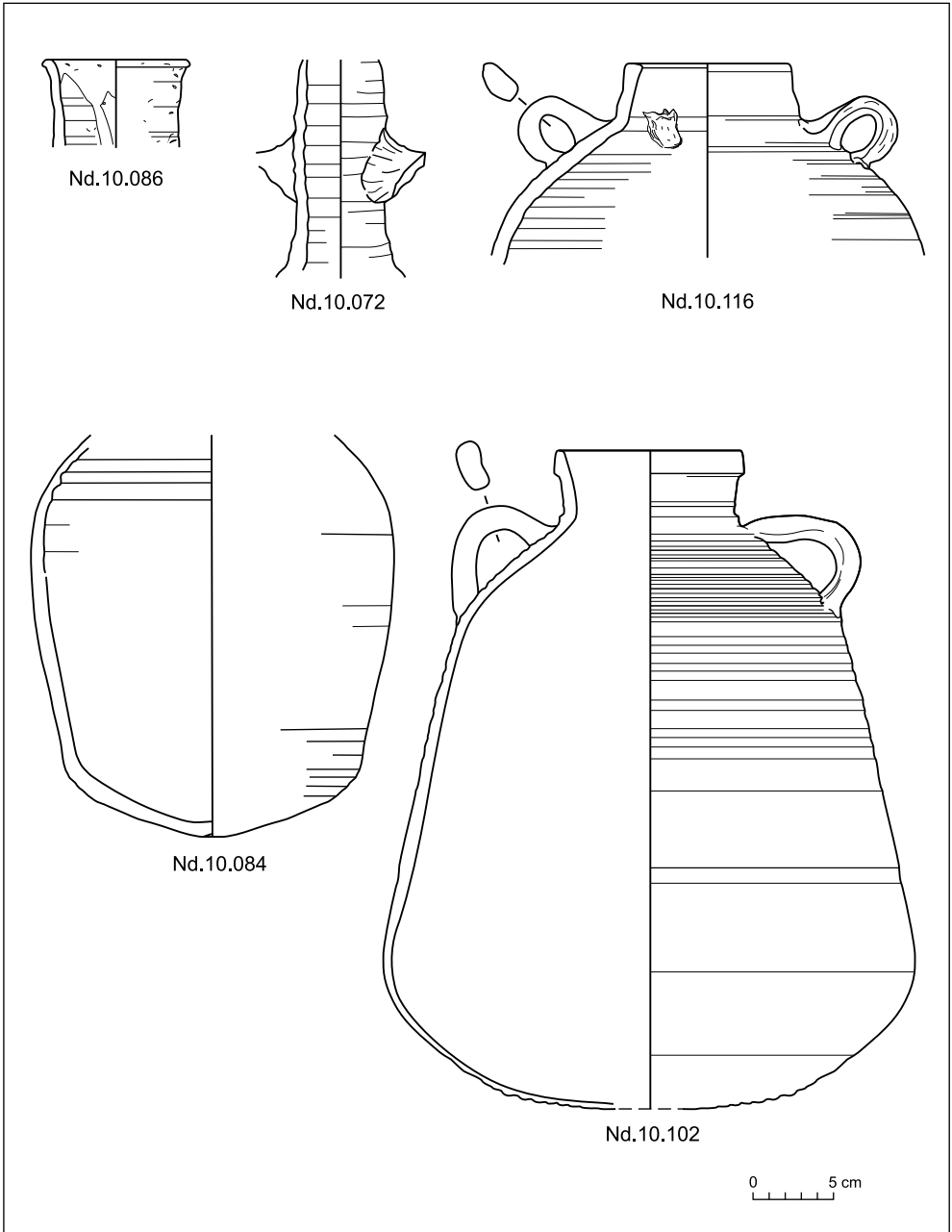


Fig. 21D. Selection of pottery from room AA.40.6: transport containers

Table 3-3a. Pottery from unit AA.40.7: tableware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 22A	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt	<i>Qulla</i> (Nd.11.158), light red slip, white band in the upper part.	Deir el-Naqlun, room B.J.5
	Plates <b>Nd.11.121</b> , <b>Nd.11.123</b> , <b>Nd.11.130</b> , coarse clay tempered with chopped straw, coarse slip, sooted. Cream spots decorating the rim (Nd.11.123). Bowl <b>Nd.11.122</b> , made like the plates described above.	Deir el-Naqlun, room B.J.5 (Nd.10.064), AA.40.7 (Nd.11.121), AA.40.2, late 9th century (Žurek 2004: Fig. 4.1), unit G.8A, 10th and early 11th century (Žurek 2007: Fig. 1, Nd.05.106)
Desert clay	Bottle from Qena region ( <b>Nd.11.155</b> ), greenish yellow in break, thin-walled.	Deir el-Naqlun, room AA.40.6 (Nd.10.050), deposit in building K.1 (Nd.11.436)
	Vase from south Egyptian workshop ( <b>Nd.11.119</b> ), cream slip and painted decoration: frieze with arcades, dots and letters "I" and "A".	Form: Elephantine type T515, 9th century (Gempeler 1992: 122, Fig. 70,1); Decoration: "Aswan" Style A.IV from northern Nubia (Adams 1986: Fig. 226), AD 950–1300
	Goblet ( <b>Nd.11.128</b> ), dark yellow clay, white slip on external surface, sophisticated decoration in the form of a frieze with two repeated motifs, sooted, reused in a mastaba.	Elephantine, type T370, second half of 7th and 8th century (Gempeler 1992: 100, Fig. 41, 20); Tod, mid 7th–mid 9th century (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: Pl. 14, Fig. 193); Decoration: "Aswan" Style A.IV from northern Nubia (Adams 1986: Fig. 226), AD 950–1300

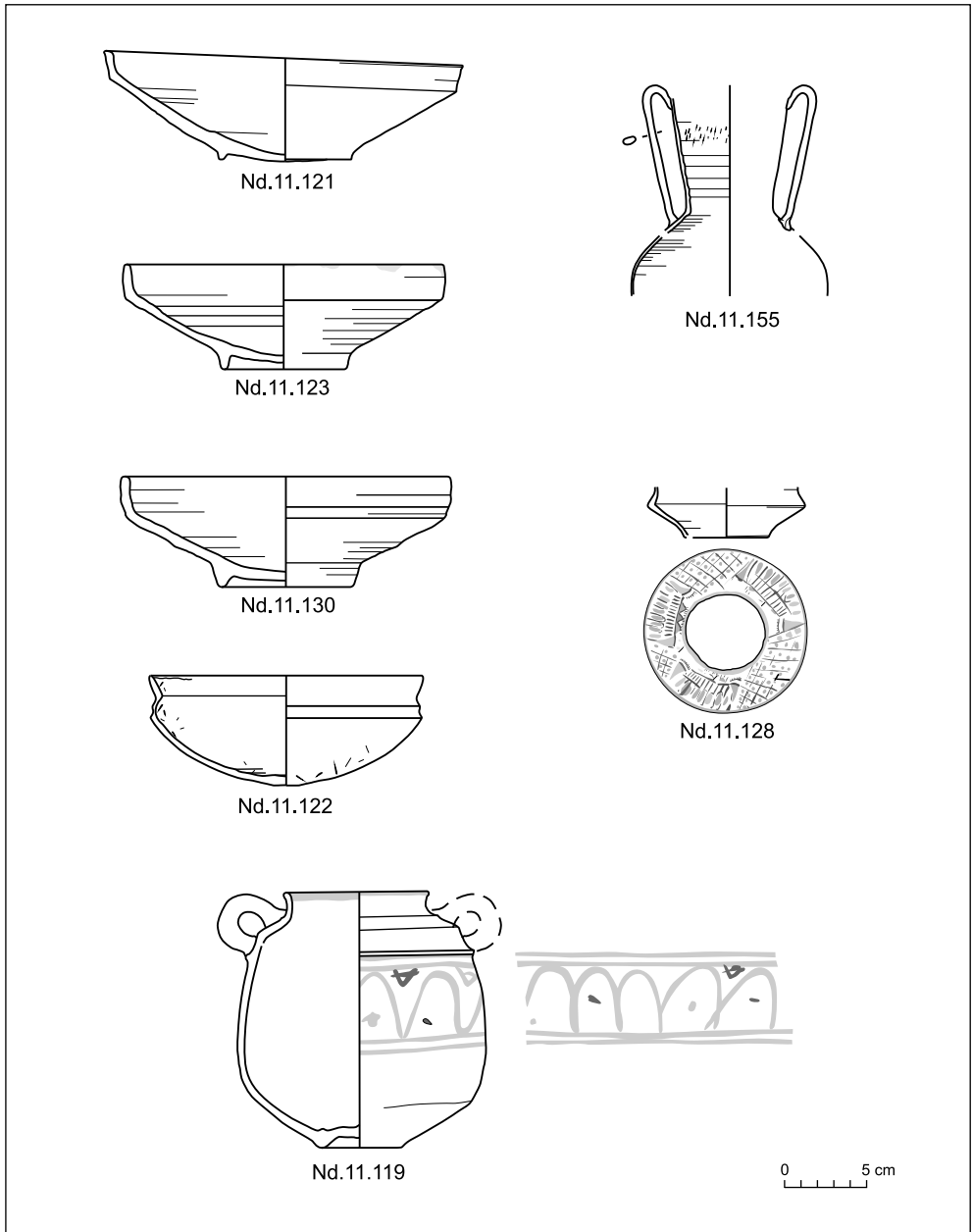


Fig. 22A. Selection of pottery from unit AA.40.7: tableware

Table 3-3b. Pottery from unit AA.40.7 (continued): glazed ware

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 22B	Parallels
<b>Glazed ware</b>		
Frit paste	Monochromatic bowls ( <b>Nd.11.125</b> , <b>Nd.11.435</b> , <b>Nd.11.434</b> ), two-sided olive, greenish olive and green glaze with transparent ( <b>Nd.11.124</b> ) and purple ( <b>Nd.11.433</b> ) glaze on white slip.	Deir el-Naqlun, rooms B.J.5 and B.J.6 (Nd.09.602, Nd.09.603), street AA.S.4 (Nd.09.164); el-Ashumein (Bailey 1996: Fig. 16); Tebtynis, beginning of 9th–beginning of 10th century (Rousset, Marchand 2000: Fig. 50)
	Vase ( <b>Nd.11.126</b> ), green glaze on white slip, imitation of Chinese celadon (Scanlon 1970: 84).	Deir el-Naqlun, Cemetery A, 11th–13th century
	Fayyumi bowls ( <b>Nd.11.127</b> , <b>Nd.11.431</b> , <b>Nd.11.432</b> ): turquoise with darker splashes, purple dots on olive background, covered with layer of transparent glaze; green dots on light green glaze.	Deir el-Naqlun, street AA.S.4 (Nd.09.093, Nd.10.018)
Desert clay	Monochromatic bowl ( <b>Nd.11.127</b> ), pinkish orange body covered with turquoise glaze on both sides.	

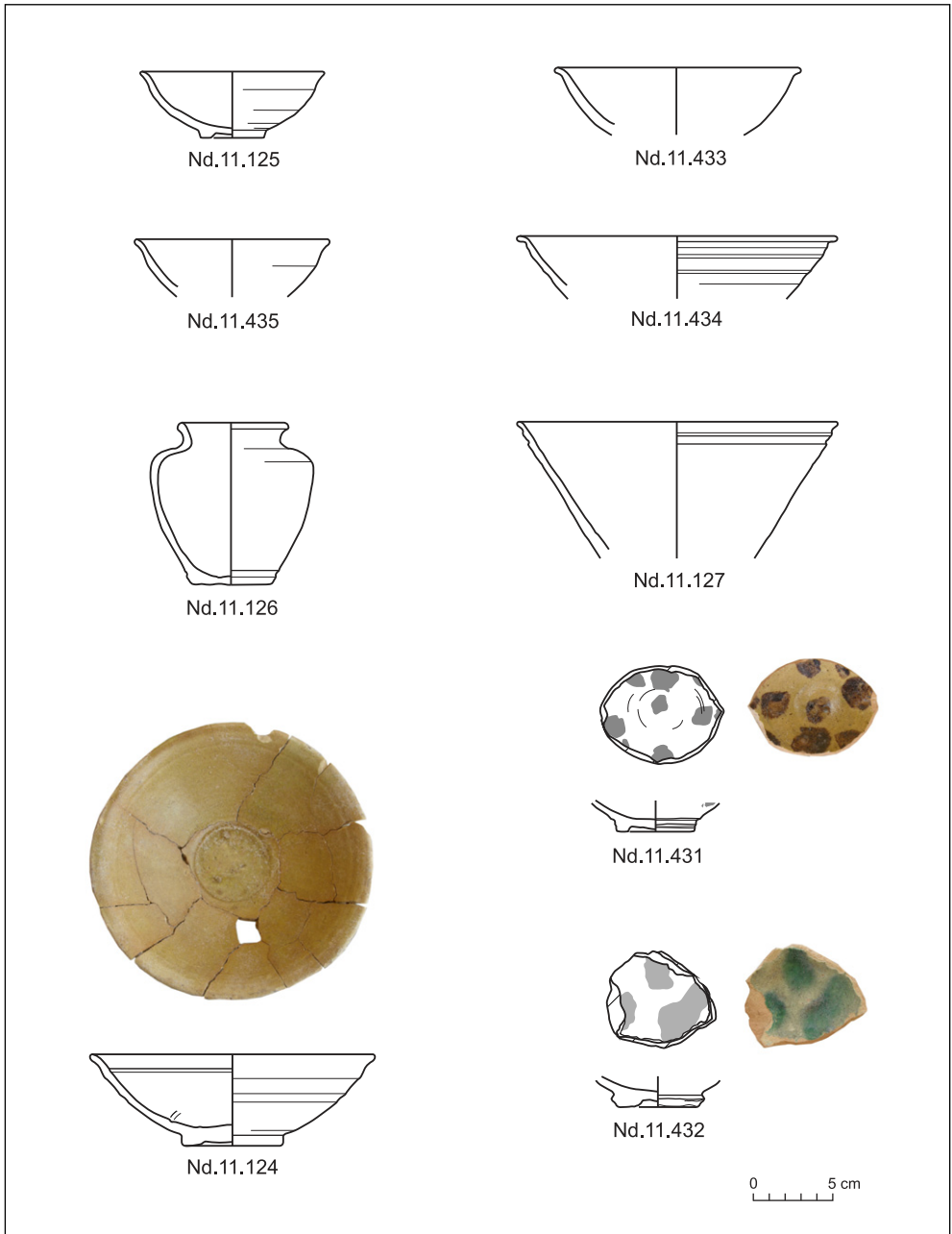
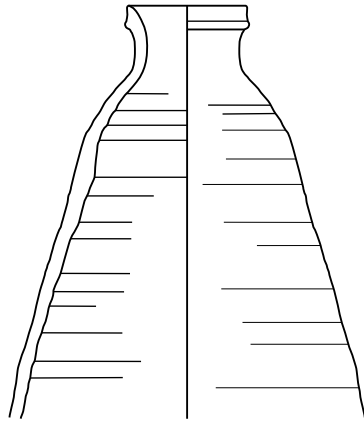


Fig. 22B. Selection of pottery from unit AA.40.7: glazed ware  
(Photos W. Godlewski, PCMA archives)

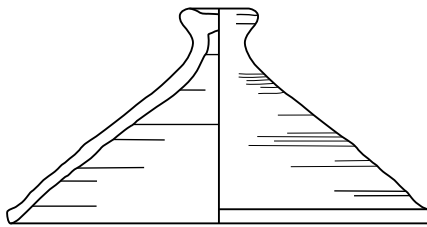


Table 3-3c. Pottery from unit AA.40.7 (continued): utility ware

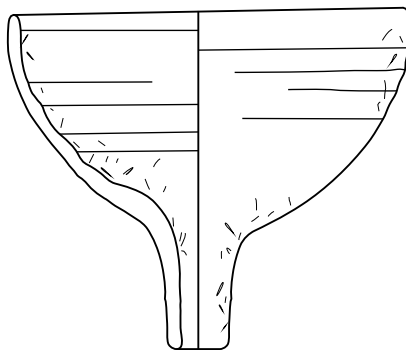
Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 22C	Parallels
Utility ware		
Nile silt	Bag-shaped bottle ( <b>Nd.11.157</b> ), brown surface with resination inside.	Deir el-Naqlun, 9th–11th century (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1)
	Lid ( <b>Nd.11.156</b> ), sooted surfaces. Basin ( <b>Nd.11.443</b> ), corroded surfaces. Funnel ( <b>Nd.11.074</b> + <b>Nd.1.120</b> ), red slipped.	



Nd.11.157



Nd.11.156



Nd.11.074+Nd.11.120

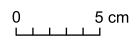


Fig. 22C. Selection of pottery from unit AA.40.7: utility ware

Table 3-4. Pottery from units AA.40.6 and AA.40.7: oil lamps

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 23	Parallels
<b>Lamps</b>		
Nile silt	Fustat type: necked cup with handle ( <b>Nd.11.116</b> , <b>Nd.11.117</b> , Unit AA.40.7) or without ( <b>Nd.10.097</b> , Nd.10.111, Unit AA.40.6); brownish-red, smoothed slip; Nd.11.116 with cream dots, Nd.11.117 heavily sooted, Nd.10.097 burning deposit.	Deir el-Naqlun, units AA.40.2 (Zurek 2004: Fig. 4.11) and B.J.2 (Nd.10.060); Tebtynis, second half of 9th–first half of 10th century (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 33h); Fustat, glazed examples of the type, 10th–11th century (Kubiak 1973: Fig. 8)
	Bowl-shaped, small ( <b>Nd.10.083</b> , Nd.10.096, Unit AA.40.6; <b>Nd.11.118</b> , Unit AA.40.7), brown surface.	Deir el-Naqlun, room AA.40.6 (Nd.10.083,) and L.07 (Nd.11.438); Kellia (Ballet, Bosson, Rassart-Debergh 2003: Fig. 191)
	Special chandelier, multiple cups on a hollow ring ( <b>Nd.11.389</b> ), heavily sooted; similar to vessels with small cups stuck in the upper part.	Tebtynis, mid 9th century (Rousset, Marchand, Foy 2001: Fig. 23e); so-called lamp stand, known from Kellia, type E316 (Egloff 1977: Pl. 86:2)

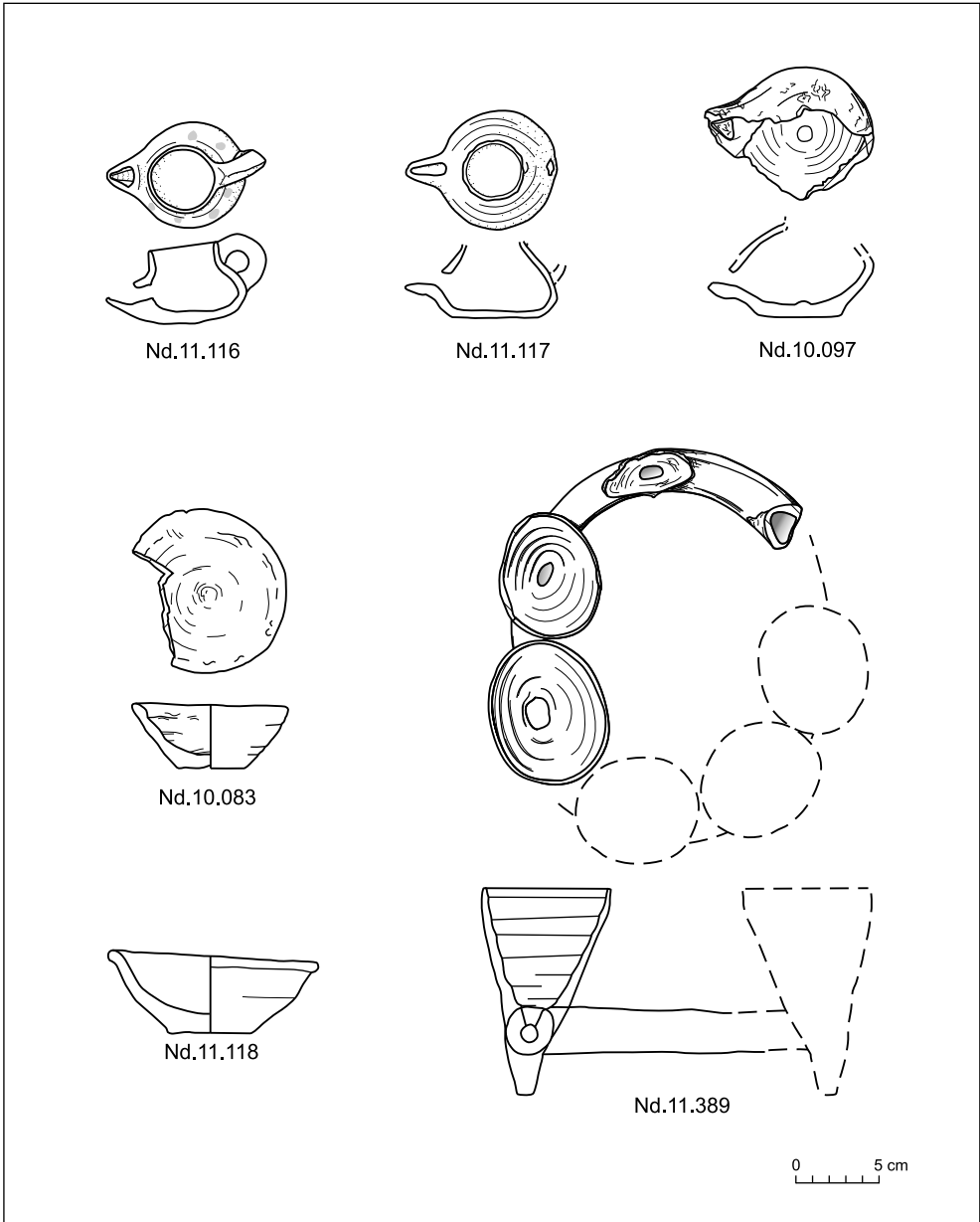


Fig. 23. Selection of oil lamps from units AA.40.6 and AA.40.7

under discussion. Therefore, the ceramics should be interpreted as representing the last phase of occupation of this structure before the destruction. They correspond with the pottery from Building J, even though the repertoire of transport containers differs in part. The LR NAQLUN 10 type was much rarer here, whereas the presence of containers of the LR NAQLUN 11 type was observed. The large basins, including one that was set in the floor, and the small share of tableware, suggests a domestic, not residential function for these rooms. The archaeological context, considered in the light of the pottery evidence, indicates some production process taking place in these units, possibly mixing of liquids to judge by the basins, amphorae and especially the funnels. It may have been wine, hypothetically, that was being poured out here into table amphorae, bottles and vases. The pottery, which is typical of 9th century production, represents the last phase of occupation of the room and did not function beyond

the late 10th century or beginning of the 11th century when the architecture in this part of the site in Naqlun burned down.

The virtually exclusively “table” nature of the assemblage from the adjoining room AA.40.7, strengthened by the presence of oil lamps, suggests that it may have served as a dwelling for persons working in the domestic area in AA.40.6. However, the sooting noted on the plates and bowl made of Nile silt indicates that food was only heated here, not prepared. The one lid that was found here could have been connected with this activity. The extensive set of glazed bowls, which can be considered as luxury ware compared with the Nile-silt products, would have then been used as the serving vessels. This assemblage can be linked to the 9th and early 10th century chronological horizon. The earliest in the set is an 8th century cup Nd.11.128, but it was part of the furnishings, a stand immured in a bench(?) and as such could suggest the time when the bench was built or the complex refurbished.

## POTTERY FROM ROOM AA.50.3

[Table 3-5; Fig. 24]

The fill of room AA.50.3 consisted mainly of thick layers of black ashes disturbed heavily by the grave pits of cemetery A, which existed in the abandoned ruins of monastic buildings that had been destroyed by fire not earlier than the middle of the 10th century. The pottery from the fill consisted chiefly of two kinds of containers: amphorae and bag-shaped bottles.

Amphorae were represented by a form designated provisionally as LR NAQLUN 10<sup>7</sup> imported from Palestine (Nd.11.227, 36 sherds), with incised decoration. Amphorae of this shape, but produced of a definitely different clay, from North Africa, were found in large numbers in room B.J.7 at Naqlun as well as in Tebtynis. The LR 5/6 amphorae produced in Palestine in the 5th–6th century were merely ribbed, occasionally with a comb ornament on the shoulder (Riley 1979: 224; Peacock, Williams 1986: 191–192). It seems therefore that amphora Nd.11.227 found in AA.50.3 represented a later stage in the manufacture of containers of this type, a stage that may have been modeled on the products of North African workshops.

The other type of amphora was the globular LR NAQLUN 11 container (81 fragments), which falls within the range of imitations of LR 1 and LR 2 amphorae originating from the Eastern Mediterranean. Parallels from Naqlun, including the large deposit in room K.1 (see above, Part II, page 589ff.), have been dated to the end of the 7th through the 8th century AD (Hermitage 25) and the 9th–10th century AD (main monastic complex). Pottery workshops producing plain containers of this type, using brown Nile silt, were discovered in the monastery of Saint Jeremiah in Saqqara (Ghaly 1992: 168, Fig. 16.2–b). The Naqlun amphorae presumably did not come from these workshops. It cannot be excluded that these containers were actually produced in Fayum.

The nine sherds of brown LR 7 amphorae found in the fill were nondiagnostic.

Utility wares were represented by an abundance of bag-shaped bottles made of Nile silt (70 fragments, one fairly complete, Nd.11.228). Bottles of this type are frequent in Naqlun assemblages, for example, room 21 of complex D (9th–11th century), units B.J.7 and B.J.4.

<sup>7</sup> LR NAQLUN 10 is a field term used to refer to containers made of a non-local, very dense and compact fabric, featuring a gray break, occasionally of pink or orange hue, with very few inclusions in the form of white, red and black mineral particles and occasionally small crushed shells. The rims of these vessels were thickened and flaring, necks were short and cylindrical, massive loop handles were attached to the upper shoulders and the generally bag-shaped body had a rounded bottom. All known examples featured comb decoration, forming straight and wavy lines intertwined in various patterns. No evidence of pitching has been recorded on any of the examples, which could suggest that the containers were used to transport olive oil. Complete and fragmentary LR Naqlun 10 vessels, including one with an inscription in Arabic on the neck were discovered in the fill of room D.3 at Deir el-Naqlun, dated to the 8th–12th centuries (Godlewski *et alii* 1994: Fig. 19.17–19.22). A large group of this type of containers was found also in room 7 of Building J in the 2009 season (Nd.09.539, Nd.09.540, Nd.09.541, Nd.09.542).

Table 3-5. Pottery from unit AA.50.3: utility and cooking ware, miscellaneous

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 24	Parallels
<b>Glazed ware</b>		
Frit paste	Bowl (one sherd), yellow paste, monochrome turquoise glaze on the inside and outside.	Deir el-Naqlun, unit AA.40.7 (Nd.11.433), see above, <i>Table 3-3b</i>
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt	Bag-shaped bottles (e.g., <b>Nd.11.228</b> ), outer surfaces brown, inner walls resinated, decorated at mid-height and nearer to the bottom with a circumferential comb ornament or yellow painted bands (in groups of two).	Deir el-Naqlun, complex D, room 21, 9th–11th century (Górecki 1994: Fig. II.1), rooms B.J.7 (Nd.09.524) and B.J.4 (Nd.09.345)
	<i>Qullae</i> , whitewashed upper parts.	Deir el-Naqlun, room B.J.5 (Nd.09.552)
	Beaker ( <b>Nd.11.219</b> ), white-painted nearly entirely on the outside, decorated with a circumferential groove around the widest body diameter.	Deir el-Naqlun, rooms D.3 (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 19.1), AA.40.2 (Żurek 2004: Fig. 4.4) and AA.40.6 (Nd.10.048, Nd.11.051)
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt	Nondiagnostic body sherds, heavily sooted. Small lid ( <b>Nd.11.220</b> ), about 11 cm in diameter, light brown fabric, red-slipped.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian Nile silt	LR 7, nondiagnostic body sherds. LR NAQLUN 11, orange-red, purple and grey colored in the break, light-colored slip on the outside, no resination inside; circumferential grooved lines and combed wavy-line ornament on the neck and shoulder in one case.	Deir el-Naqlun, deposit in room K.1, 9th–10th century AD (big assemblage, including whole vessels Nd.11.230, Nd.11.231, see above, Part II, Table 2-3, Fig. 15); fill of room A.1 in Hermitage 25, end of 7th through 8th century AD (Godlewski, Derda, Górecki 1994: Fig. 21.2–3); room B.J.7 (Nd.09.619)
Non-Egyptian desert clay	LR NAQLUN 10 from Palestine (Nd.11.227, body sherds), beige-gray clay, extensive lime grit temper observed also on the surface, cream slip/wash on outside, inside not resinated; combed decoration near base, consisting of two circumferential grooves and wavy band in between.	Deir el-Naqlun, room B.J.7 (Nd.09.540, Nd.09.541, Nd.09.542); Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand 1999: 245, No. 153)
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Desert clay	Miniature vessel ( <b>Nd.11.226</b> ), pink-beige clay, bulging body and narrow neck, turned after being formed by hand.	Deir el-Naqlun, room AA.40.6 (Nd.10.099), see above, <i>Table 3-2b</i> , Fig. 21B

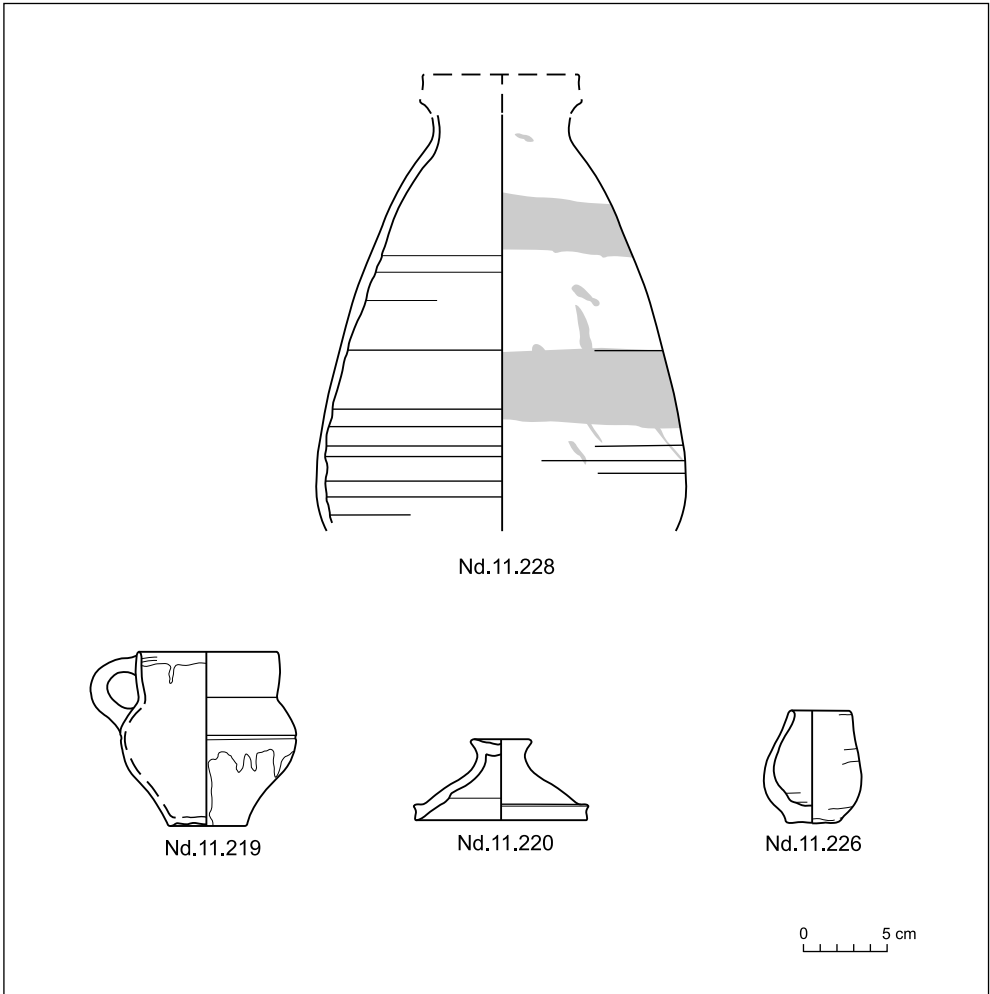


Fig. 24. Selection of pottery from unit AA.50.3: utility and cooking ware, miscellaneous



Cooking pot sherds, all heavily sooted and missing diagnostic features, were also fairly abundant (41 sherds), whereas other forms were represented by just one or two sherds: *qullae* made of Nile silt, as in the case of examples from room B.J.5 (Nd.09.552), a complete beaker (Nd.11.219) made of Nile silt, a nearly complete small lid (Nd.11.220), all with parallels from Naqlun.

Singular vessels included a sherd from a monochromatic, turquoise-glazed bowl, made of frit paste. A parallel came from room AA.40.7 (Nd.11.433), from a context associated with the 9th–early 10th century. The other one was a miniature vessel (Nd.11.226) with bulging body and narrow neck, like the one from the fill of room AA.40.6 (Nd.10.099).

#### DISCUSSION

The ceramic assemblage from room AA.50.3 consisted mostly of containers intended for liquids, mainly amphorae of the LR NAQLUN 10 and 11 types, as well as bag-shaped bottles with resinated

inside walls, suggesting long-term storage of wine. Heavily fragmented cooking pots found in the upper layers of the fill inside the room should not be connected with the original operations. The beaker Nd.11.219 may have been for drinking, but judging by the solid massive handle, it could have also been used to draw beverages. The miniature vessel is not merely an imitation of a bigger form; it may have actually been a measuring cup for a specific product. Imported amphorae of the LR NAQLUN 10 type from Palestine without resination inside may have been intended for transporting olive oil, similarly as amphorae of the LR NAQLUN 11 type. Finds of LR 7 containers and bag-shaped bottles should be associated with Egyptian wine. The absence of “tableware” in the strict sense of the term, except for a single glazed bowl, leads one to assume that room AA.50.3 was more of a storage magazine than a habitational area, serving domestic purposes in the monastic complex at Deir el-Naqlun.

## POTTERY FROM BUILDING J

[Table 3-6; Figs 25–27]

Work carried out in Building J, in rooms 2, 6, 9, 10, produced extensive pottery material from layers associated with the conflagration that destroyed the building, identified in 2009 when first excavating the structure (Godlewski 2012: 201–205). The accumulations were severely disturbed by burials belonging to cemetery A.

The most numerous group among the pottery finds were LR 7 and LR NAQLUN 10 amphora sherds with just a small share of LR 5/6 (Egloff 187–190) forms and various storage containers, such as a large bowl and basin (Nd.10.040, Nd.10.068). Other vessel forms included *qawadis*, cooking pots, lids, carinated bowls, *qullae* and bag-shaped bottles with painted bands. Tableware was represented by bowls and plates made of Nile silt, originating from local workshops as well as coming from the south of Egypt (Nd.10.119, Nd.10.122). The latter vessels, discovered mainly in B.J.6, can be associated with analogous finds from Fustat, dated from the 10th to the second half of the 11th century (Kubiak 1990: Fig. 41). A small cup (Nd.10.121), also from southern Egyptian workshops, was decorated with red dots on the shoulders. Similar vessels were recorded in the adjoining room B.J.7 (Nd.09.350). Parallels, dated to the 6th–7th century, are known from Tebtynis and Elephantine (type T620). Glazed vessels (bowls and plates) with frit body represented a monochrome type with green glaze imitating Chinese celadon (Nd.10.069) and multicolored Fayyumi ware (Nd.10.123).

A ceramic pipe (Nd.10.076) from room B.J.2 is a rare find [Fig. 25, bottom right].

It resembles sewage pipes, a large assemblage of which, similarly white-washed, was recorded at Tod. The latter pipes, however, were larger than the Naqlun example, having diameters from 12 cm to 20 cm. They were dated at Tod to the 4th–5th century (Lecuyot, Pierrat-Bonnefois 2004: 168–169, Pl. 7, Figs Td 92–96). Later pipes from Tod, from the 11th–12th centuries, were much narrower in size (Pierrat 1991: 159, Fig. 16), more like the Naqlun pipe. Similarly narrow pipes were also recorded in the Esna hermitages (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXXVIII.1).

A deposit of pottery was discovered by the north wall of room B.J.8, at foundation level [Fig. 26]. In it was an almost complete LR 8b amphora (Nd.10.013) from a North African workshop, presumably in Tunisia (Riley 1979: 227–228). This kind of transport container was common mainly in the Western Mediterranean; in the Eastern Mediterranean it was present until the mid 6th century, although there are examples dated from the 7th century (Peacock, Williams 1986: 203). A thick-walled basin (Nd.10.027) was placed in the deposit apparently intentionally upside down (the bottom part and base were preserved fragmentarily). Other ceramics included sherds of LR 7 and LR 1 amphorae, as well as thin- and medium-thick walled storage containers, vases, carinated bowls and ledged goblets.

Surprising in this context was a bag-shaped LR NAQLUN 10 amphora from Palestine (Nd.10.028), which is commonly found in Naqlun, but in layers dated mainly to the 9th through 11th centuries, occurring there in context with glazed pottery.

Table 3-6a. Pottery from Building J, rooms 2, 6, 9, 10: tableware, glazed ware, utility ware, cooking ware, transport containers, miscellaneous

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Fig. 25	Parallels
<b>Tableware</b>		
Nile silt	Bowls and plates (Nd.10.122), red smoothed or polished slip, thick-walled, sometimes sooted.	Deir el-Naqlun, mainly room B.J.6; associated with analogous finds from Fustat, 10th to second half of 11th century (Kubiak 1990: Fig. 41)
Desert clay	Small cup (Nd.10.121), southern Egyptian workshop, decorated with red dots on the shoulders, white slip of good quality.  Body sherds of vases and plates from southern Egyptian workshops, white or yellow slip, Nd.10.119 decorated with red lines.	Deir el-Naqlun, room B.J.7 (Nd.09.350); Tebtynis (Rousset, Marchand <i>et alii</i> 1999: No. 198); Elephantine, type T620, 6th–7th century (Gempeler 1992: 127, Fig. 72,25)
<b>Glazed ware</b>		
Frit paste	Bowls and plates, monochromatic type with green glaze imitating Chinese celadon (Nd.10.069). Fayyumi (Nd.10.123) with spots or smudges of yellow, green, brown and purple color.	
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt	Large bowl (Nd.10.068), brownish red smoothed slip and traces of cord impressions on the max. body diam.  Basin (Nd.10.040), red, good quality slip, fragmentary painted decoration in the form of an arcade (?).  <i>Qawadis</i> (Nd.10.039), white slip. Carinated bowls. <i>Qullae</i> . Bag-shaped bottles with painted bands (Nd.10.041).	
<b>Cooking ware</b>		
Nile silt	Cooking pots (e.g., Nd.10.038), narrow neck, globular body, mainly heavily sooted body sherds.  Lids.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Egyptian Nile silt	LR 7. LR 5/6 (Egloff 187–190).	
Non-Egyptian Desert clay	LR NAQLUN 10.	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Nile silt	Sewage pipe (Nd.10.076), approximately 8 cm in diameter, whitewashed on the outside.	Tod, 11th–12th century (Pierrat 1991: 159, Fig. 16); Esna hermitages (Jacquet-Gordon 1972: Pl. CCXX-VIII.1)

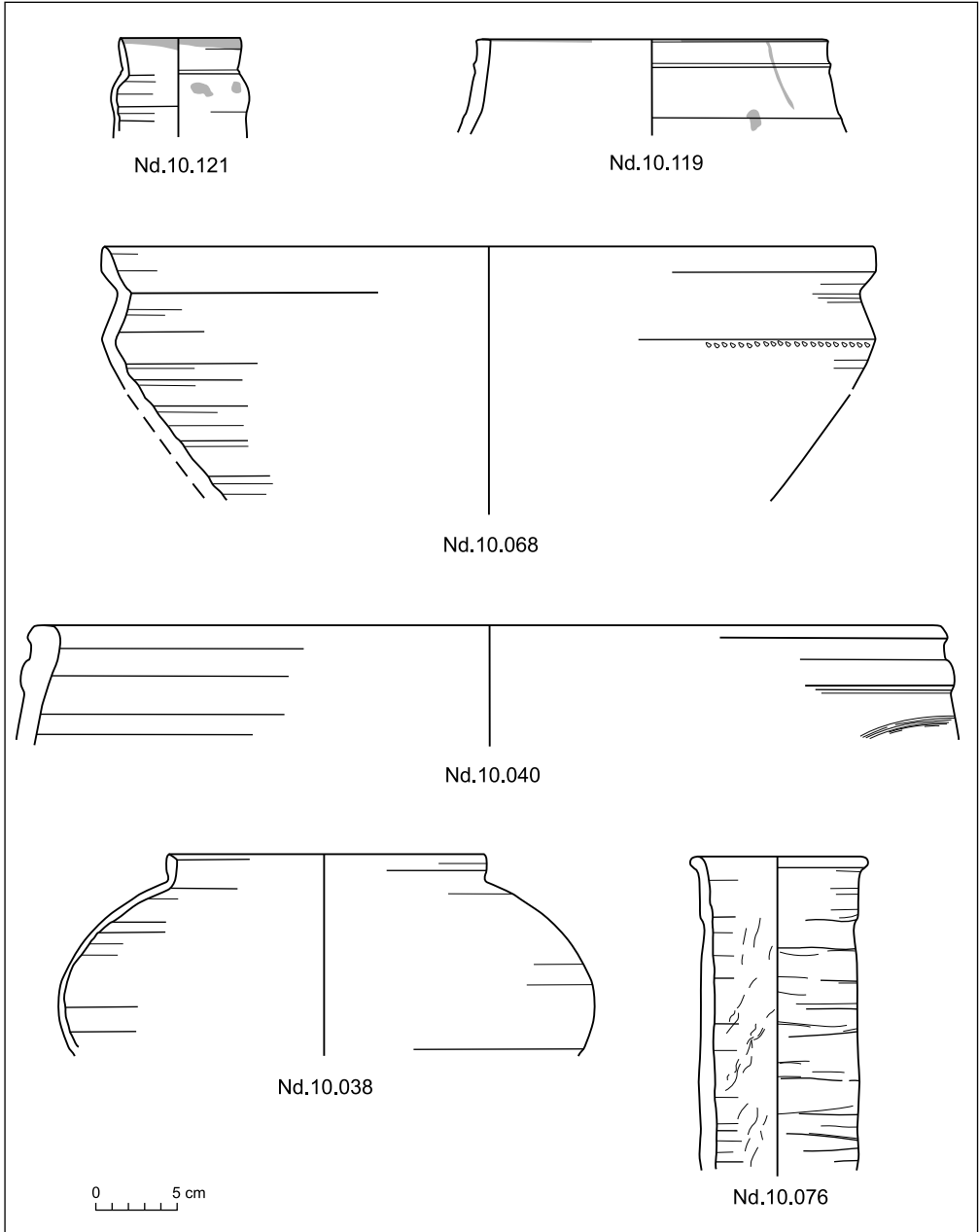


Fig. 25. Selection of pottery from Building J, including pipe Nd.10.076

Table 3-6b. Pottery from the deposit in room 8 of Building J

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in Figs 26–27	Parallels
<b>Utility ware</b>		
Nile silt	Thick-walled basin ( <b>Nd.10.027</b> ), thick creamy-yellow slip.	
	Thick walled storage containers. Carinated bowls, red slip.	
<b>Transport containers</b>		
Nile silt	LR 7 (nondiagnostic body sherds).	
Non-Egyptian Desert clay	LR 1. LR 8b amphora ( <b>Nd.10.013</b> ), North African (Tunisian?) workshop; fabric orange-red with yellowish-white slip, dark-colored remains inside. Bag-shaped LR NAQLUN 10 ( <b>Nd.10.028</b> ), from Palestine, combed bands of straight and wavy lines on the bottom part.	Benghazi (Riley 1979: 227–228)



Fig. 26. Pottery deposit by the north wall of unit 8 in Building J (Photo W. Godlewski, PCMA archives)

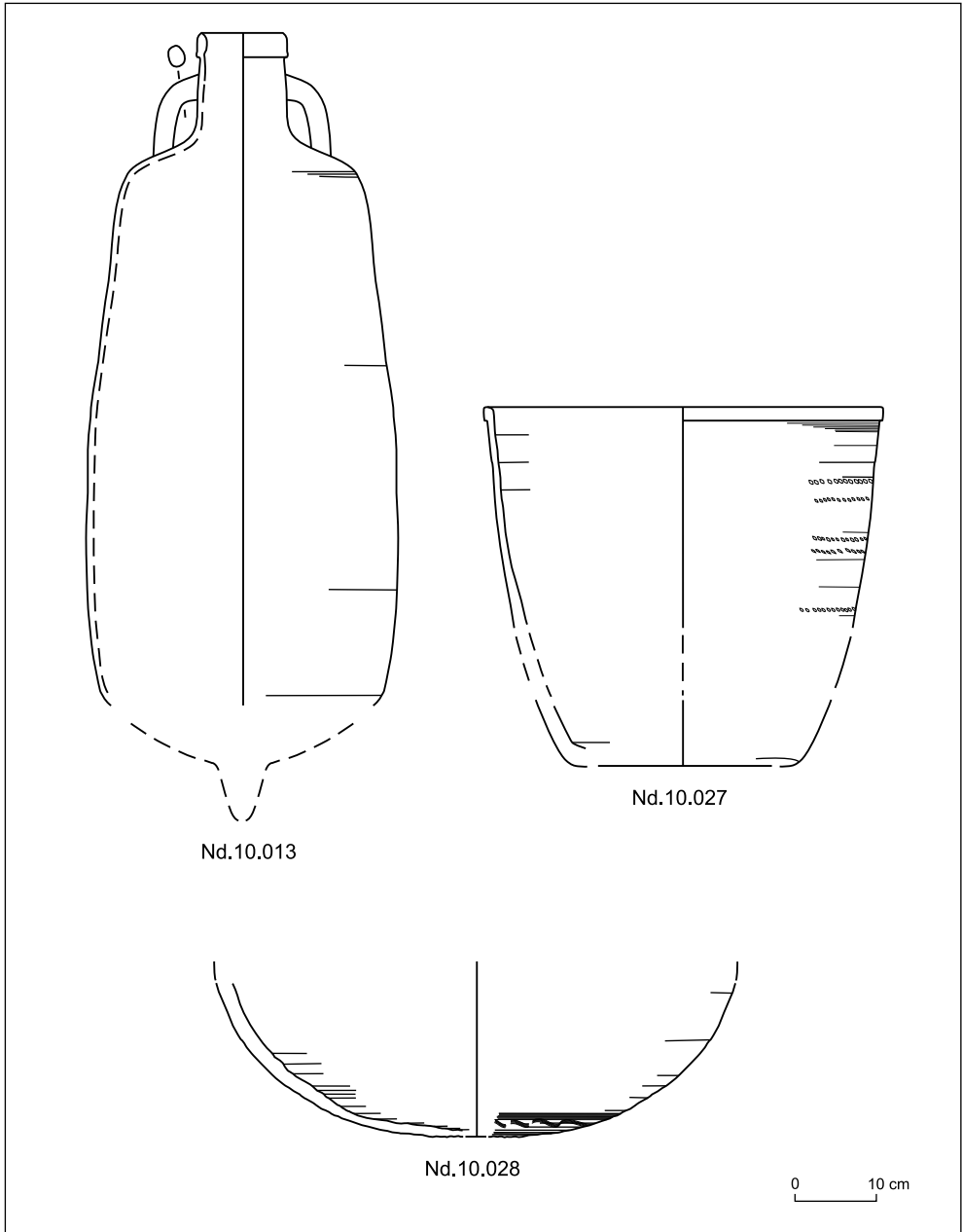


Fig. 27. Pottery from the deposit by the north wall of unit 8 in Building J

## POTTERY FROM CEMETERY A BURIAL CONTEXTS (12TH CENTURY AD)

[*Table 3-7; Fig. 28*]

Three of the burials from cemetery A contained glazed vessels placed in the coffins directly with the bodies: bowl Nd.10.011 in T.444, vase Nd.10.053 in T.456 and plate Nd.10.037 in T.446.

The decoration of bowl Nd.10.011 consists of a radial rosette with every other ray made up of a row of spots, while the other rays are long triangles. The decoration imitates “Sultanabad” glazed ware. Two bowls from Iran bear a similar

composition; they have been dated to the 13th–14th century (Watson 2004: Cat. Q.14, Q.18).

The other two vessels represented a monochromatic ware: willow green (Nd.10.053) and turquoise (Nd.10.037) glaze applied to a body that was made of a pale yellow quartzite mass. Analogous vessels were found previously in graves from cemetery A in Naqlun (see for example, Godlewski 2001: Fig. 13).

*Table 3-7. Glazed pottery from graves in Cemetery A*

Category	Items; numbers in bold indicate vessels illustrated in <i>Fig. 28</i>	Parallels
<b>Glazed ware</b>		
Nile paste	Bowl <b>Nd.10.011</b> , red-brown body; two-sided glaze of dark honey-brown color with overglaze yellow ornament covered with a coating of transparent glaze.	Iran, 13th–14th century (Watson 2004: Cat. Q.14, Q.18)
Frit paste	Monochromatic: willow green vase <b>Nd.10.053</b> , turquoise plate Nd.10.037	Deir el-Naqlun: Cemetery A (Godlewski 2001: Fig. 13)

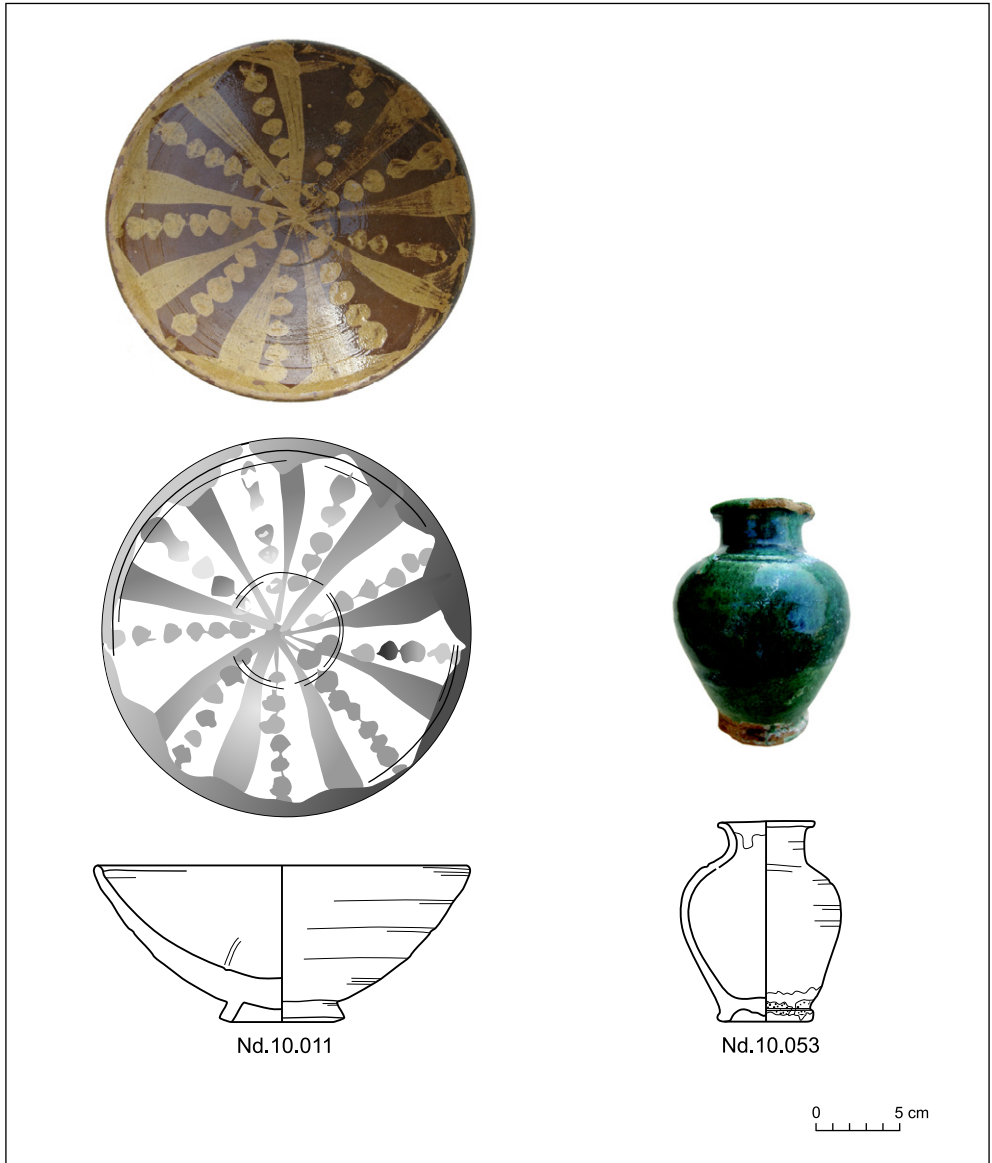


Fig. 28. Glazed pottery from graves of cemetery A  
(Photos W. Godlewski, PCMA archives)



## CONCLUSIONS

The pottery assemblages excavated at the site of the main monastic complex in Deir el-Naqlun in 2010 and 2011 were of a varied nature and chronology, encompassing practically all phases of occupation. The earliest phase from the 6th and 7th century was represented by pottery coming from the monastery rubbish dumps situated at the southern end of the site. An analysis of these ceramics (in association with other artifacts from the rubbish dumps) enabled a reconstruction of everyday life at the monastery in this period. The market for ceramics in Fayum in this phase appears to have been quite extensive, pottery being brought in from other regions of Egypt, surely reflecting at least in part the dietary preferences of the local populace of the oasis. For instance, the prevailing wine container was the Middle Egyptian LR 7 with a lesser number of North Egyptian LR 5/6 and Gazan LR 4 amphorae, and a completely incidental occurrence of Gempeler's K715–K717 "Aswan" amphorae. The repertoire of ceramics also reveals typological "favorites", that is, the large share of tableware from Southern Egyptian workshops next to a local production and very seldom encountered "luxury" vessels from North Africa suggests the main directions of market supply in tableware.

The central part of the monastic compound encompassed complexes AA.40 and AA.50, Building J and street AA.S.4 between them. The pottery from this area can be dated to the 9th and early 10th century and represents the last phase

of occupation of these buildings before the great fire of the mid-10th century (at the earliest) that left them in ruins. The nature of the finds from particular units allows a functional interpretation, whether domestic, industrial or residential. The evident difference between the set of pottery from rooms AA.40.6 and AA.40.7 leaves no doubt as to the different functions that the two rooms served. The first was where some form of domestic activities was carried out, while the latter may have been used as a social room, possibly for warming food (which however must have been prepared elsewhere) for those engaged in the activities in the adjoining unit. Building J could not be interpreted as easily owing to the disturbed stratigraphy. Of considerable interest was the deposit discovered in building K.1 in the northern part of the site, which was dated to the same chronological horizon, that is, from the middle of the 9th to the middle of the 10th century. The vessels were functionally interrelated, thus allowing a reconstruction of the activities that were carried out in this part of the monastic enclosure.

The latest phase of occupation was represented by the graves of cemetery A, which were dug into the ground covering the ruins of the monastery in the central part of the site. The cemetery existed from the 11th century, most likely through the 13th century. Glazed ceramics were found as grave goods placed inside the coffins.

The discoveries of the 2010 and 2011 seasons have also contributed data on the production of amphorae of the

LR NAQLUN 11 type as imitations of the LR 1 and LR 2 containers. This production started in the 7th century and was evidently continued until the early 10th century as

demonstrated by the contextual analysis of finds from Deir el-Naqlun. The socio-economic implications of this are an issue for separate study.

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