

Compound 10 consisted of two or probably three rooms without any traces of enclosure walls in the excavated area. Parts of this building were discovered in squares A/II-k/11 and A/II-k/12. These squares are situated in the northernmost part of the excavated area of the settlement. In the publication *Tell el-Dab^ca V* this area was termed ‘Bezirk VI’ and is briefly described.⁶³ It is possible that the building or the compound continues towards the north as this was the northern limit of the excavation area (of the late Middle Kingdom settlement). Perhaps an enclosure/precinct wall or additional rooms would have been found there.

The following description is based on the excavation records consisting of a digging diary, plan drawings (recorded by various team members at the time), the section drawings, the register books, the photographic archive and the preliminary publication in *Tell el-Dab^ca V*.

SQUARES AII/-k/11–12

Excavation and available records

In square A/II-k/11 excavation began in spring 1967 (pl. 1–4⁶⁴) and was continued in spring 1968 (pl. 5⁶⁵). In this period the Six-Day War between Egypt and Israel broke out, which necessitated the mission to leave the site and the excavation unfinished.

Square A/II-k/12 seems to have been excavated almost entirely in autumn 1968 (pl. 1–6⁶⁶), except for planum 7,⁶⁷ which was finished in spring 1969. The latest dated planum drawing is A/II-k/12 pl. 4 and it was drawn on the 20 November 1968. This means that the other two must have been excavated afterwards. Planum 7, dateable to Phase G/4 and H (relative stratum g = H), was excavated in the spring 1969.⁶⁸

The preserved top level of the surface of A/II-k/11 was measured at 9.16 m/NN to 8.81 m/NN. The first discernible structures belonging to the relevant strata of the current study appear at an elevation beginning at 4.62 m/NN down to 3.86 m/NN. These very low levels already belong to Phase G/4 and H.⁶⁹ The relative stratum given to Phase G/3–1 in this square is f. That the distinction of Phase G/3 from G/2–1 was very difficult in this area can be gleaned from the fact that in one instance relative stratum f was used for Phase G/1–2, whilst in another it was used for Phase G/3. Wall [H-G/4-M2] belonging to relative stratum g (= Phase G/4 or H)⁷⁰ is just visible below wall [M5] of relative stratum f (= Phase G/1–2). This latter one appears in the published plan in the NE corner.⁷¹ The building belonging to relative stratum f (probably Phase G/3) in the northern part and centre of the square below the later Temple I is not shown in the published plan, because that plan only comprises Phase G/2–1. In the SW corner two tombs assigned to Phase F cut into the building.⁷²

The top level of the surface all around square A/II-k/12 ranges from 6.08 m/NN to 6.62 m/NN, which means that within 10 m the height of the tell decreased markedly. The elevation of the features of Phase G/3–1 as they first appeared was at about 4.37 m/NN to 4.44 m/NN in planum 5. The relative stratum f is used here as Phase G/3 in the plan drawing although in the plan of *Tell el-Dab^ca V*, plan 2, it is published as Stratum G/1–2. Thus, it can be assumed that the building already existed in Phase G/3–4 and that it was used throughout, perhaps with some renewing of walls. The high preservation of one part of wall [M1] at an elevation of 4.57 m/NN also corroborates this reconstruction. It is possible that a renewal of the wall led to the high preservation of this wall, which is extremely unusual throughout the settlement.

⁶³ M. BIETAK, TD V, 30.

⁶⁴ TDplan nos 37 to 40.

⁶⁵ TDplan no 41.

⁶⁶ TDplan no 48 to 53

⁶⁷ TDplan no 54.

⁶⁸ After that the mission was not allowed to return to the Delta for security reasons and continued to excavate at Luxor until 1975.

⁶⁹ In square A/II-k/12 another planum was unearthed with a base level of 3.86 m/NN to about 3.80 m/NN. See chapter 5.

⁷⁰ As drawn into the plan drawing, planum 6

⁷¹ M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2.

⁷² A/II-l/11-tomb 2–3, cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 39–50.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-k/11–12)

The building with two or more likely three rooms (Fig. 2.1) is oriented NNW–SSE. All mud-bricks were tempered with abundant sand to such a degree as to colour them yellowish as opposed to the loamy bricks being more commonly, but not exclusively used from Phase E/1 onwards.⁷³ The size of the sand tempered bricks is as follows: in room **L** [118] the length of bricks varies from 30.0, 35.0 cm up to 40.0 cm the width from 15.0 cm to 20.0 cm; and in room **L** [117] they range from 35.0 by 10.0 cm to 40.0 by 17.5 cm.⁷⁴ According to BIETAK the bricks measure 35.0–36.0 cm by 18.0–21.0 cm by 12.0–13.0 cm.⁷⁵

The walls were well built with relatively regular brick work and in some places the walls were preserved up to four courses.⁷⁶

The main part of the building is situated in square A/II-k/12 and the oldest building stage was recorded in the drawing of planum 6. The main south wall [M1] of Compound 10 consists, in fact, of two overlying walls. The base level of [M1], running obliquely from the south west to the north east, is at 4.00 m/NN and probably already belongs to Phase G/3–4 and was presumably still in use in Phase G/2–1. Exactly beneath this wall lies another – older and thinner – wall (see chapter 5, 153) with a base level of 3.98 m/NN. Wall [M1] is preserved up to an elevation of 4.57 m/NN in the

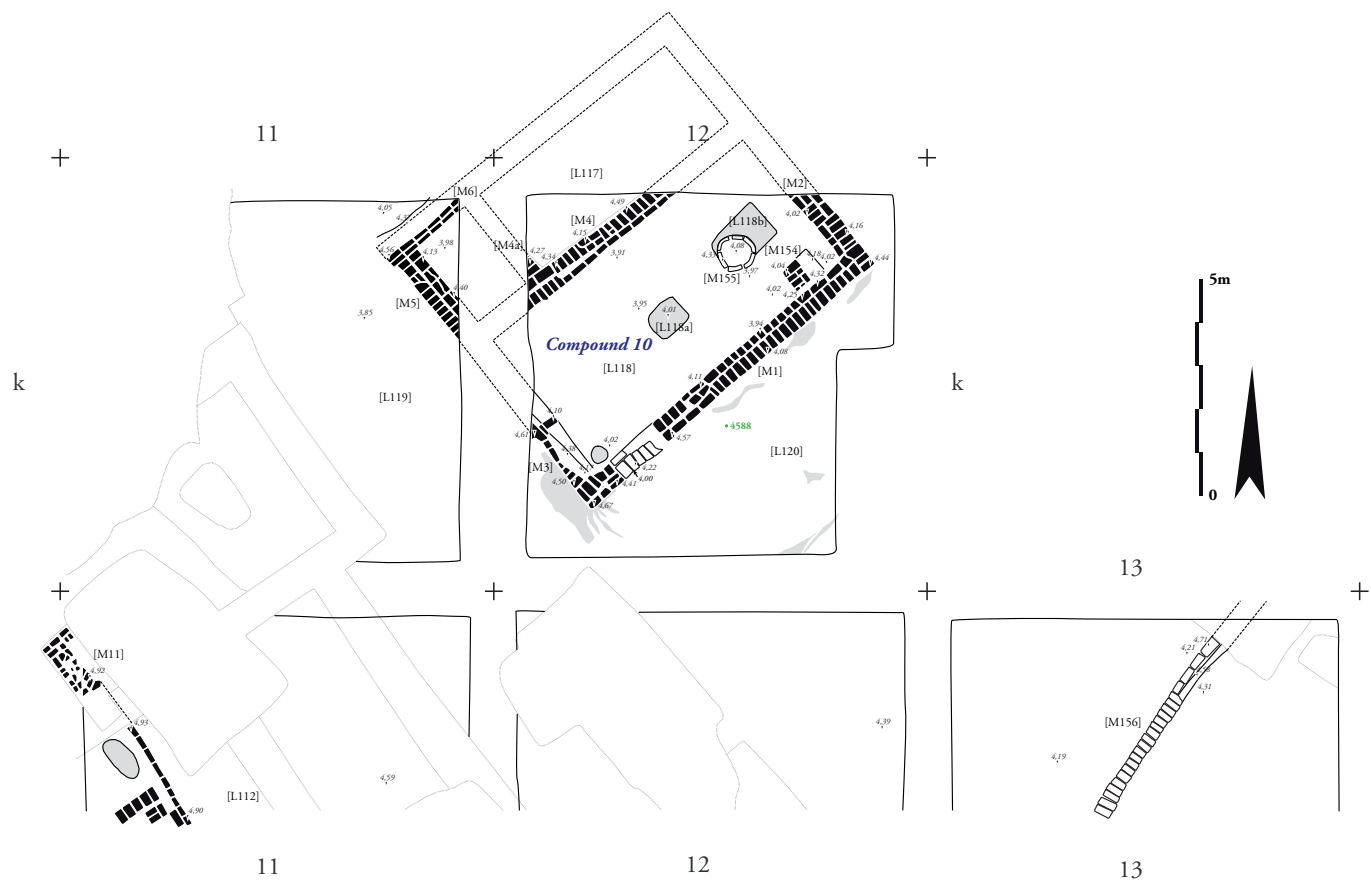


Fig. 2.1 Schematic plan of Compound 10. Adapted from M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, execution of graphics N. Math

⁷³ M. BIETAK, *Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age*, BASOR 281 (1991), 40–42.

⁷⁴ These measurements were taken from the plan drawing in 1:50. The bricks in A/II-k/11 seem often not complete but cut by features in higher levels. Thus probably the format of the bricks from A/II-k/12 shows the brick sizes more clearly.

⁷⁵ The small scale of 1:50 prevents accurate measuring. It is assumed that he had notes to consult.

⁷⁶ M. BIETAK, *Digging Diary*, 26 June 1968.

SW-corner, and it is 8.75 m (= 16.67 cubits) long and built at one and a half brick's width. At both the SW and NE corner two walls [M2, M3] are attached at right angles continuing towards north west to form a rectangle with a parallel wall in 3.90 m (= 7.43 cubits) distance [M4]. The bricks seem to have been laid out in bonding pattern at the corners. The SW and NE corners of this rectangular room run into the western and eastern baulks and were not further excavated. Thus the interior of the room measures ca 7.40 m × 3.70 m resulting in 26.64 m² floor space. This is equivalent to 7 cubits width and 14 cubits in length of the room, resulting in 98 square cubits. This room was assigned L [118] in the published plan, which will be kept here.⁷⁷

The northern (dividing) wall [M4] of this room running into the northern baulk is preserved only to the height of one brick course and the base level recorded in the northern and western sections is at an elevation of 3.90 m/NN.⁷⁸ The other walls [M1,⁷⁹ M2,⁸⁰ M3⁸¹] running into the northern and western baulks were preserved up to five bricks courses there.

In the main southern wall [M1] a door way of 1.25 m (= just over 2 cubits) width seems to have been constructed, close to the SW corner. BIETAK thinks it is possible that the entrance was alternatively located in the western wall.⁸² The floor level of the room as excavated was between 3.91 m/NN and 3.95 m/NN but no formally laid or compacted floor seems to have been found. The surface of the 'floor' was quite ashy according to original plan drawing very likely due to the presence of at least two fire places/hearths in the room. On entering the room L [118] immediately to the west side just after the doorway a small roughly circular patch of ash was found. BIETAK interprets this hole as a void to receive a stone door socket, which is now lost.⁸³

Within room L [118] there were several installations, the most prominent a free standing hearth in the middle of the room. The hearth showed an almost square layout, 0.75 m by 0.60 m but without any formal or built border. It was covered with thick ashy layers and around it patches of ashy deposits attest the use of that hearth. Close to the NE corner of room

L [118] an installation consisting of a small mud-brick platform with sand tempered bricks, onto which a loamy mud-brick wall abutted was found L [118b]. The installation made a stepped impression. The size of this step was 1.80 m by 1.80 m, thus almost square. It was attached to the interior of the main southern wall [M1] of the room creating a kind of niche of 0.45 m or almost 1 cubit width. Another installation was situated about 1.55 m northeast of the hearth and 0.65 m north-west of the step-like installation. A round mud-brick structure with sand tempered bricks [M155] of an irregular diameter of ca 0.90 m L [118a] was set into or on top of an ash filled rectangle, which may have been an old ash pit, 0.9 m deep, as it is also visible in the drawing of planum 7 (lowest point at 3.61 m/NN). It seems as if a small storage facility of half a brick width was set into or on top of a dis-used hearth. The installation has a diameter of 1 1/2 cubits.⁸⁴ The digging diary states that it was filled with numerous pottery fragments, and two intact pot stands. This description corresponds to sherd collections K2294 and perhaps K3773 (see below 51–55).

Finally in the NW corner part of another rounded storage facility was found but omitted here. In the published plan it was restored to its full extent. It also consisted of sand tempered mud-bricks laid out as headers, with the short ends touching each other, seven bricks are completely preserved the remaining one was broken. South east of this installation, probably another storage bin an accumulation of pottery sherds was recorded in the plan, but it was not possible to identify these finds.⁸⁵ Perhaps these are referred to in the digging diary as being of "two-handled storage jars in the south western part of the room".⁸⁶ Most probably they were fragments of imported transport amphorae. They cannot now be identified more closely.

In the dividing wall [M4] between L [118] and L [117] there was most likely a door opening, because the house plan corresponds closely to the 'reed shelter' of Gardiner sign O4.⁸⁷ For this reason a door opening can be expected at the far (eastern) end of dividing wall [M4] (running into the north baulk) and not opposite the presumed main entrance into the

⁷⁷ The numbering of the compounds had to be adapted to the current situation. Thus, it is slightly inconsistent.

⁷⁸ A3. A/II-k/12 northern section; A62, A/II-k/12 western section.

⁷⁹ Drawn into the plan at the south east corner was 4.00 m/NN.

⁸⁰ A3, base level at elevation 3.90 m/NN.

⁸¹ A67, base level at elevation 4.00 m/NN.

⁸² M. BIETAK, TD V, 30.

⁸³ M. BIETAK, TD V, 30.

⁸⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V, 30.

⁸⁵ No reference to any sherd collections or register numbers were found.

⁸⁶ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

⁸⁷ Referred to frequently by M. BIETAK in the Digging Diary, and also in print, e.g. M. BIETAK, Tell el-Dab'a, *AfO* 25 (1977), 315.

house for spatial reasons (the bin close by) and for additional privacy, the room not being open to public view. Also wall [M4a] divides L [117] further (see below). The preserved corner of the house in square A/II-k/11 does not show any obvious door openings. It also appears more probable that the door opened onto the free space south of the house L [120] rather than onto precinct or space L [119].⁸⁸ The settlement pattern west of Compound 10 at the time of Phase G/3–1 is not clear. Only in Phase F was there a rather narrow wall and then Temple 1. But by that time Compound 10 had ceased to exist.

The narrower room L [117] measures presumably 2.1 m by 7.2 m resulting in 15.12 m². This equals approx. 14 by 4 cubits resulting in 56 square cubits. This means together the floor space of the house is 41.76 m² or 154 square cubits provided it did not have further rooms towards the north or east. No finds could be assigned to this room, because most of it was taken up by the baulk and largely destroyed by tombs A/II-k/12-2 and A/II-k/12-3. It seems as if the baulk was never taken down, as the records do not mention it and no drawings were found. There is a strong possibility that L [117] was further sub-divided by a cross wall [M4a] (see Fig. 2.1, Fig. 5.9 for a reconstruction) because the western section A62 shows another rather substantial wall immediately adjacent to the northern edge of [M4]. The two walls show no bonding between them and [M4] is clearly defined by a foundation trench. The plan drawing only shows the immediate beginning of that wall [M4a], which really only leaves the possibility to reconstruct it perpendicular to [M4]. A few bricks are visible in the archive photo Fig. 2.12. It would just not be visible in the eastern section of A/II-k/11. The base level of this wall is at an elevation of 4.10 m/NN, slightly higher than that of [M4]. This may mean that it was built later (also it does not seem to bond with wall [M4]) or that as an interior wall it did not need to be so deeply set or bonded. A foundation trench was not recorded. Thus, it is not possible to decide whether this wall existed from the beginning onwards

or when it was built and destroyed. The pit of tomb 2 does not cut this wall in the section A62, but it seems to have been destroyed at the same time as [M4] or shortly before.

Three tombs (A/II-k/12 tomb 1 to 3) cut into compound 10, namely one in the storage bin in the NW corner and two more in the small space of the adjacent room L [117] belonging to square A/II-k/12. These tombs were dated to the transition of Phase G to the consequent Phase F.⁸⁹

In the latest published plan M. BIETAK added the interment in the silo (tomb A/II-k/12 tomb 1) and that in the very corner of the square, A/II-k/12 tomb 2, in Phase G,⁹⁰ but he maintains they should be assigned to Phase F. It is true that only A/II-k/12-tomb 3 cuts directly into the walls of Phase G, thus, this one should securely post-date Phase G, moving to the transition of Phase G to F or Phase F. Tomb k/12-tomb 2 shows a kind of rectangular enclosure that is made of more loam-containing mud-bricks, but it is not aligned in the same direction as the room.⁹¹ This ‘wall’ cannot be identified in the northern and/or western sections. Both the burials run into the northern and western baulks and could not be completely excavated at the time. Scrutiny of the “bin” or “silo” in the western section seems to indicate that it was only built after the walls of the Phase G/3–1 house had fallen out of use, because there is a distinct horizon going over the fill and the walls and only on top is the brick laid (section no A62-17 in western section = rel e, assigned to Phase F).⁹²

Several ashy layers ran against the exterior of the walls of Compound 10 [M1, M3, M5] intruding into the crevices of the bricks, but there was no direct trace of fire or burned areas on the walls themselves.⁹³ In the digging diary BIETAK also remarked upon the fact that the outer wall surface had increased in width towards the floor. This could be observed in the western section of A/II-k/12.⁹⁴

South east of the building in close proximity to the door, in the alleyway/space in front of the house a limestone object was found, that was identified as a limestone mould for tool making (reg.no 4588).⁹⁵

⁸⁸ M. BIETAK, TD V, 30.

⁸⁹ M. BIETAK, TD V, 36–38. M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

⁹⁰ M. BIETAK, Houses, Palaces and Development of Social Structure in Avaris, fig. 14.

⁹¹ It is possible that this ‘wall’ only looks like a wall because of the pits for the tombs cut into it from above.

⁹² One other brick could be considered to represent the silo/storage bin, but that is also set above the new floor, cf. running metres 4.95 to 5.10 m.

⁹³ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

⁹⁴ Section no A62–29 in western section.

⁹⁵ The description of the find spot as in SE corner of the building in 1984 in the register book seems to have happened in retrospect and appears to be incorrect as the find was sketched in the position described by M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.



Fig. 2.2 Western section of A/II-k/11 for an impression of the nature of the site, negative SW1074/50



Fig. 2.3 Western section of A/II-k/11, B/W negative no SW1074/52

Archive photographs of the western section of A/II-k/11 are registered as B/W negative nos SW1074/48; 50; 52 (Fig. 2.2–2.3). This section shows the large cut of the much later well into square A/II-k/10–11 that destroyed everything beneath it.⁹⁶

Finds from square A/II-k/11 comprise mainly pottery fragments, labelled as found in 1968 in planum 5, negative nos SW1081/55–63 (Fig. 2.4–2.8). Their exact find spot within the square remains unclear, so that it is very likely that they do not belong to Compound

⁹⁶ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2 top right corner.



Fig. 2.4 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/63



Fig. 2.5 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/55



Fig. 2.6 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/61



Fig. 2.7 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/57

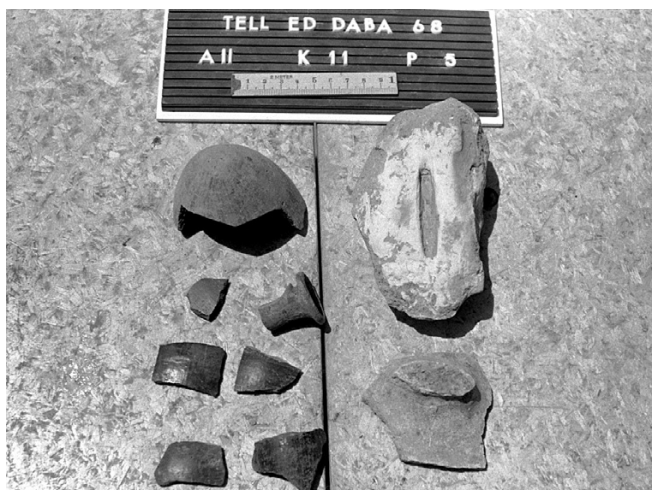


Fig. 2.8 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/59. The object on the top right seems to be another limestone mould for tools similar to reg.no 4588



Fig. 2.9 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1098/14

10. Moreover, the typology of the pottery suggests that most of the fragments belong to the later history of the site, namely Phases E/2 and later (flat based cups, bi-conical Tell el-Yahudieh juglet fragments, wheel-turned ring bases, cf. Fig. 2.4–2.6, 2.9). This is not a surprise because Temple 1 cut deeply into the surface of the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom Phase G/3–1. The 1968 date indicates that these sherds are derived from the cleaning of planum 5. Nevertheless these pieces as they were photographed are shown here in order to provide full information.

The fact that another part of a possible limestone mould was found⁹⁷ (Fig. 2.8) makes it quite likely that at least some of this material belonged to the late Middle Kingdom settlement phase although it only came from a secondary position.

In square A/II-k/11 there is a pit at of 4.0 m/west and 1.70 m/south in pl. 6, that cuts through the walls of Phase G/3–4 and reaches down to the layer below = Phase H. Within the pit a thin 1/2 brick's width wall of entirely different orientation was visible (= relative stratum g, see Fig. 5.1). This pit is not visible in the next plan drawing above, pl. 4. It is unclear what its purpose was. The shape resembles a Neville pit, but in this case it should have been visible from the topmost exposure. The pottery fragments (Fig. 2.6) show various vessel types that may well be in keeping with such an early date, such as the spouted vessel and the storage jar on top (most probably Marl C) although the base in the middle of the foreground may have belonged to a (eroded) flat based cup but a finger pinched ring base is also possible. Unfortunately it was not possible to re-study this material.

Archive photographs of square A/II-k/12 show the field situation of the excavation when planum 5 was ready for recording (Fig. 2.10–2.12). The bad condition of preservation of the walls with only a few brick courses can well be observed. It is typical for this settlement phase. Only in exceptional cases had the walls been better preserved.

Discussion of the relevant parts of sections (A/II-k/11)⁹⁸

The northern section, A2, was drawn in 1968 and is mainly characterised by the large deep hole/disturbance from the *sakiya* beginning in A/II-k/10 which continues into the western part of A/II-k/11. The lowest level reached in the eastern part of the northern section of A/II-k/11 is at an elevation of 4.70 m/NN and thus, of restricted relevance here. What becomes obvious from the layers in this area is that it was most probably an open space during much of the time of its use even up to the late Second Intermediate Period. Any features built to the west of Compound 10 cannot be reconstructed due to the thorough destruction mentioned above. Only one yellow heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall was reached (section no A2-53, no relative stratum assigned but “G/1–2”⁹⁹) at running metres 6.40–6.50¹⁰⁰ with an unknown base level (traced down to ca 4.50 m/NN).¹⁰¹ The very eastern corner of the section was not exposed deeply enough, thus, the northern wall [M6] (see Fig. 2.1) of Compound 10 was not traced there.

The western section (A57, drawn in 1967) of A/II-k/11 holds no relevance for Compounds 10 or 11. The lowest elevation reached is at 4.60 m/NN and records A/II-l/11-tomb 3 (section no A57-28, assigned to Phase F).¹⁰² The section shows the difference in height between the northern part of the tell and further south from 9.0 m/NN to 6.5 m/NN very clearly (in the unpublished combined western section of A/II-k/11 and A/II-l/11 this striking effect is particularly clear).

The eastern section (A77, drawn in 1968) shows the northern mud-brick wall with sand tempered bricks [M6] (section no A77-36 = relative phase g) at running metre 1.0 from north. The preserved top of the wall is at an elevation of about 4.90 m/NN, which might suggest a later use of this wall as all the others are less well preserved. The base level of the wall was not reached,

⁹⁷ In Area F/I more such moulds were found. Cf. G. PHILLIP, TD XV, 171–190.

⁹⁸ The final section drawings will be presented in a combined way A/II-k11–12 north and south and l–k/11 west and east and k–l/12 east and west.

⁹⁹ In description of section only, not on final plan. This wall may also belong to Phase G–F.

¹⁰⁰ The running metre system represents the metric grid for locating features and objects. The squares were laid out in 10 by 10 metres, thus any feature or object can exactly be located

according to the metre count from north or south and from east or west. In addition the relative height provides the 3rd measurement for the three dimensional position of any feature or object.

¹⁰¹ It is unclear if this wall belongs to wall, section no A77-36, in the eastern section of A/II-k/11 with a base level that was not preserved. It was traced to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN. This might represent the corner of a building that is not further traceable and is perhaps a later building phase on top of [M6].

¹⁰² M. BIETAK, TD V, 46–50.

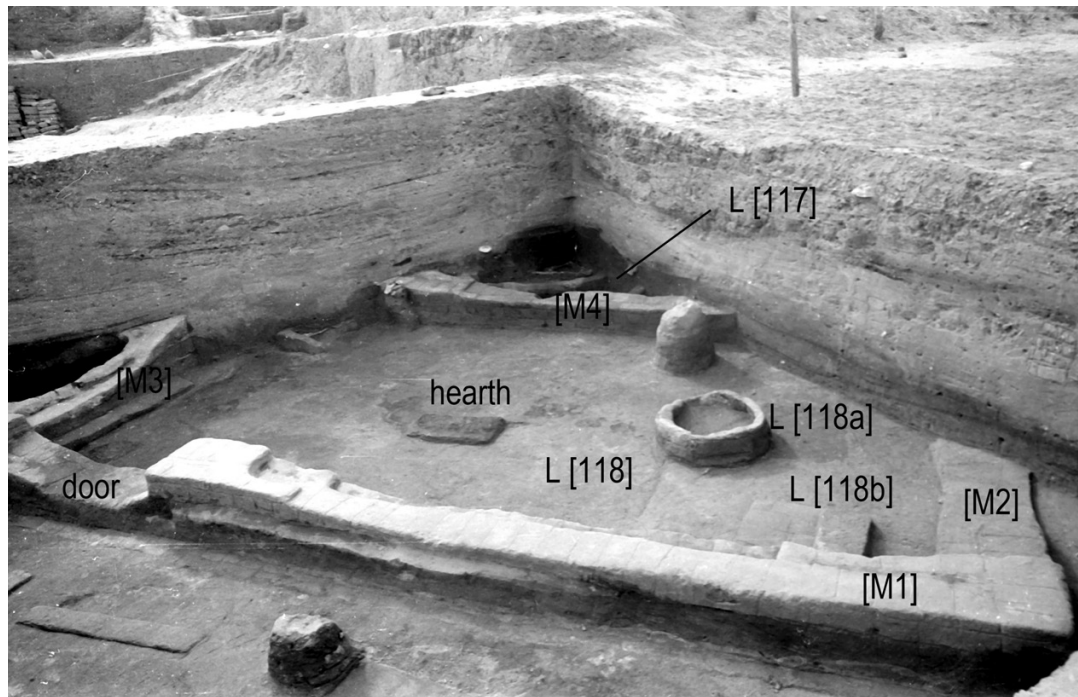


Fig. 2.10 A/II-k/12, pl. 6, view towards the NW corner; B/W negative no SW1177/12–13



Fig. 2.11 A/II-k/12, pl. 6, view towards west in room L [118], B/W negative no SW1177/6–7

but is below 4.40 m/NN. Sand tempered mud-bricks were traced down to an elevation of ca 4.00 m/NN. The other wall [M5] of Compound 10 (section no A77-37 = relative phase g), running towards the south east starts at about running metres 3.20–4.40 from north and is preserved three courses high

(elevation of ca 4.60 m/NN). It is clearly visible that this wall was built on top of a slightly wider and therefore older wall (= section no A77-46 = [G/3-M1] see Fig. 5.9) also consisting of sand tempered mud-bricks, the base of which was not reached by the excavation but must be below 3.90 m/NN). This wall

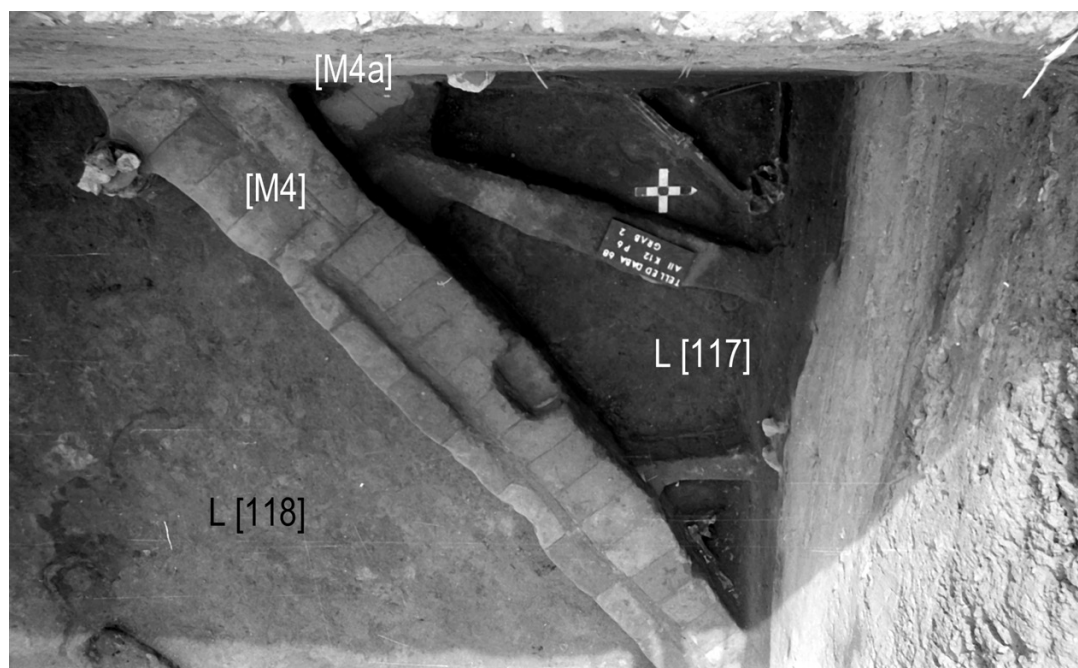


Fig. 2.12 A/II-k/12, pl. 6, view of tomb 2 in NW corner from above, B/W negative no SW1177/10–11

may represent the oldest phase of the building Phase G/3 (cf. Fig. 5.9) or slightly less likely belong to Phase H.¹⁰³ Its preserved top is at an elevation of 4.10 m/NN, which represents the base levels for [M5] (= section no A77-37). Further south at running metres 7.20 to 7.70 from north another sand tempered mud-brick wall with preserved top at an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN was recorded (section no A77-39 = relative phase g). The base level of this wall was also not reached but is below 4.10 m/NN. This wall seems to belong to the lower level structures of Phase G/3 as drawn in the plan, see Fig. 5.9, wall [G/3-M29]. The wall, section no A77-39, belongs to ‘Compound 10a’, which will be treated separately (see chapter 5, 163–164). It is difficult to decide whether this building was erected at the same time as or slightly later than Compound 10.¹⁰⁴ At running metre 10.0 from the north another, heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall in ca 1.3 m width was unearthed which may constitute the con-

tinuation of [G/3-M6] from square A/II-l/11 (see Fig. 5.9). Its base level runs below the excavated exposure at 4.10 m/NN.

The southern section (A27, drawn 1968) was excavated down to an elevation of 4.00 m/NN in the eastern half of the baulk. The most prominent feature is Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 (section no A27-19).¹⁰⁵ A long series of finely layered ‘floors’ assigned to Phases F or G begins at an elevation of 4.60 m/NN and continues down to 4.00 m/NN in this area (section nos A27-38–42). The base level of Phases G/4–3 begins at ca 4.30–4.10 m/NN (section no A27-42 = relative phase f). Mixed in here were broken sand tempered mud-bricks. In the western part a similar series of ‘floors’/layers also appears (elevation of 4.20 to 4.40 m/NN). M. BIETAK notes that section no A27-40 at running metre 1.0 from east constitutes a shallow pit probably derived from the removal of a Phase G wall.

¹⁰³ Also confirmed by M. BIETAK, personal communication 21 July 2015.

¹⁰⁴ M. BIETAK, who excavated it, currently thinks that Compound 10 is the oldest building in this area that is represented in the section belonging to Phase G/3 and not G/2–1 as in plan 2 of

TD V. It is possible though that section no A77-37 was not built on top of another wall (left standing not cut), but continued further down below.

¹⁰⁵ M. BIETAK, TD V, 108–116.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-k/12¹⁰⁶)

The northern section (A3, drawn in 1969) was exposed down to an elevation of 3.80 to 3.90 m/NN in most places. Moving westwards the eastern external wall [M2] of Compound 10 was only preserved at one brick course high (section no A3-58; running metres 2.40–3.40, base level 3.95 m/NN). M. BIETAK noted that this wall belongs to [M4] at running metres ca 3.20–4.20, although it fell out of use earlier than [M4] and was overlaid by ashy and sandy layers. The dividing wall [M4] between L [118] and L [117] is well visible (section no A3-58 = relative phase f (G/3)) and four brick courses preserved (running metres 5.80 to 6.80, base level probably 3.90 m/NN or below; the space below was not exposed). Tomb A/II-k/12-3¹⁰⁷ cuts partly into this wall as well as through a horizon which runs over the preserved top of the wall. This suggests that it was constructed later, only after the dwelling had fallen out of use for some time. The base level of Phase G/2–1 is at about 4.10 m/NN (section no A3-60) and layers belonging to it reach up to ca 4.40 m/NN.¹⁰⁸ Section nos A3-52, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57 were all assigned to Phase G/2–1, representing debris and a series of dense layering of trodden floors. It seems that the ashy layers¹⁰⁹ (section no A3-61 = no relative phase given) were just starting to be exposed in the east and west of the section overlaying Phase H.

The western section (A62, drawn in 1969) was excavated down to a level of 3.90 m/NN along the whole length of the square. At running metres 2.20 to 3.60 from north two walls built of heavily sand tempered bricks closely together are visible. Both show section no A62-25 (= relative phase f). The base levels of these walls are slightly different, which may be taken for a wall perpendicular to wall [M4], otherwise not visible in the sections.¹¹⁰ This northern wall [M4a] was built at a base level of 4.10 m/NN and was preserved two to three courses high,¹¹¹ while the southern

wall started at the elevation of 3.90 m/NN. This latter one constitutes the dividing wall [M4] between L [118] and L [117]. In the plan drawing of planum 6 the northern wall [M4a] is hardly visible because on the one hand the later tombs partly cut into it (k/12-2, k/12-3)¹¹² and obscured the surface and on the other hand because it is built perpendicular to [M4] and runs almost immediately into the baulk. Only a small portion is visible in the plan drawing and the photo (see Fig. 2.12). This could be evidence that some time passed before the tomb cut into this part of the settlement.¹¹³ Beneath [M4] a thin layer of ash was recorded, but no older wall has been traced in the section. [M4] was preserved up to five brick courses here. Two flimsy walls of sand tempered mud-bricks of Phase F are mentioned (section no A62-16 and A62-17 = relative phase e) at a level of 4.60 and 4.70 m/NN, respectively. At running metres 5.60 to 6.05 (towards south) the western external wall [M3] is visible in the section (section no A62-25 = relative phase f). The wall was preserved up to a level of 4.60 m/NN with at least four brick courses. The top of the wall was cut by tomb A/II-k/12-3 (Phase F) and the rubble of sand tempered mud-bricks to the north of it may be derived from the tomb or the Phase G wall. The base level is at an elevation of 4.05 m/NN and it was built on top of structure section no A62-29 (= no relative phase was assigned, probably Phase G/3) that was not described. Probably this older wall of sand tempered bricks that was ca 0.9 m wide (running metres 5.25 to 6.20) represents [G/3-M1], see Fig. 5.9. Its base level was not reached by the excavation but was below 3.90 m/NN. Thus nothing more can be said.

It seems quite clear that the pit for the tomb in the bin/silo (A/II-k/12-1¹¹⁴) was cut from above into wall [M3] when it was already out of use. The tomb cut into it from 'floor' layers overrunning wall [M3] even after the use of the house unit. It is therefore unlikely that the silo is visible in the section. From the inked section it seems that wall [M3], assigned to Phase G/2–1, was already denuded, then the tomb was

¹⁰⁶ The analysis of the sections was conducted by M. BIETAK. All sections were inked and the northern, eastern and southern also supplied with the final section nos. Only the western section still reveals the provisional section nos, which are derived from the original plan drawing. These are referred to here.

¹⁰⁷ M. BIETAK, TD V, 37–38, Phase G/3–1–F.

¹⁰⁸ Phase F was noted to start at a base level of ca 4.50–4.60 m/NN by M. BIETAK.

¹⁰⁹ „reine Holzkohlenasche“.

¹¹⁰ The northern, second wall looks very neatly built and not like rubble in the drawing.

¹¹¹ This wall seems to be all that is left of the perpendicular division wall of room L [117], see discussion in chapter 5 and plan Fig. 5.9 and above.

¹¹² M. BIETAK, TD V, 36–38, Phase G/3–1–F.

¹¹³ If we assume that the wall on a higher base level is later than the lower one, which does not necessarily have to be the case. Also the time period passing cannot be estimated very well.

¹¹⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V, 36–37, Phase G/3–1–F.

cut and the single bricks with section no A62-17 (= relative phase e = Phase F) or “17a” were positioned. Rubble and floors are assigned to Phase G (general) from level 4.60 m/NN and below. A series of alternating ashy and sandy layers run against the outside of wall [M3] that slightly slopes inward as remarked by M. BIETAK.¹¹⁵ The ashy layers on the exterior of the wall in L [119] might be seen in connection with the find of stone moulds (see below, 58–60).

The eastern section (A82, drawn in 1969) is also characterised by densely layered “surfaces” for most of the archaeological life of that area. The exposure of the section reaches down to an elevation of 3.85 m/NN to about 4.00 m/NN in most places. At the 4.00 m/NN elevation an ashy layer was recorded (section no A82-38 = relative phase g), which may continue further down and could be considered the equivalent of one that was visible in A/II-l/11. The base level for Phase F seems to begin at an elevation of 4.50–4.60 m/NN and upwards, which means that below, sandwiched between Phases F and H should be Phases G/4–1. At the elevation of 4.40 m/NN there are scant remains of several more or less complete heavily sand tempered mud-bricks preserved in the section, which may have belonged to flimsy structures or rubble of older structures (no section nos). From running metre 1.40 to ca 2.50 from north a mud-brick (sand tempered) “wall” was cut in the section (= section no A82-39). This wall has its base level below 3.85 m/NN and represents [H-G/4-M1], see Fig. 5.4. The only other wall in this section was erected between running metres 3.0 and 4.0 from north, also only preserved at two brick courses high (= section no A82-41 = relative phase g). Although the base level was not reached, it must be below the elevation of 3.80 m/NN. This wall is presumed to be older than the other and represents [H-M4], see Fig. 5.1 and discussion in chapter 5.

The southern section (A26, drawn in 1969) was exposed to an elevation of just below 4.00 m/NN. This area as seen in the section is mainly characterised by dozens of consecutive “floors” and finely laminated layers from almost the very top. Thus, this area L [120] seems to have been a thoroughfare for most of its archaeological life. Only the western part of the section, between running metres 8.0 and 9.0 from east, shows the walls of the earlier phase of Temple I, which belongs to Phase E/3 (section no A26-27).¹¹⁶ Probably from

elevation 4.40–4.50 m/NN and below the layers (A62-42 = relative g) should be assigned to Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1, when the area was lying idle for a period of time. The ashy streaks were thought to have come from Phase H. These finely stratified layers consist of sand, ash and slightly loamy deposits. The walking horizon descends slightly towards the east, for about 20 cm. Section no A62-43 again represents the “reine Holzkohlenasche” layer, which was thought to divide Phase H from the later phases of the settlement.¹¹⁷

Finds from squares A/II-k/11–12, pl. 5 and 6

Only finds that can be assigned to Compound 10 and its surrounding spaces with certainty are mentioned here, regardless whether they came from A/II-k/11 or A/II-k/12.

L [117] Small northern room

Stone

Reg.no **1977** (Museum Cairo, JE 91647), small statue of a baboon. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6, 1.50 m/N and 2.20 m/W, 0.3 m below the preserved top of the wall of relative phase f = G/3 (H = ca 4.10 m/NN) (Fig. 2.13). The position of this object was within room L [117].

Records: drawing ZN 7/69.

The lower part of the legs was damaged. Only the most important features of the baboon were carved. Between the fore- and hind legs the stone was left untouched. The surface was very well smoothed and traces of red paint were also preserved. There is a possibility that this object came out of a slightly later tomb in this area. Should this be true, it means that the fill of the room was mixed with the fill of one of the tombs of Phase G/F.¹¹⁸

Material: limestone. Measurements: height = 4.0 cm; width = 4.1 cm; diameter of head 1.55 cm.

L [118] Larger southern room

Stone

Reg.no **1871** (Museum Cairo, JE 91636), rectangular palette.¹¹⁹ Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 5, 3.90 m/E and 1.0 m/N, elevation 1.45–1.50 m below top elevation, measured down from the northern section (H = ca

¹¹⁵ M. BIETAK, Section analysis.

¹¹⁶ M. BIETAK, TD V, 78–80, plan 4.

¹¹⁷ M. BIETAK, TD V, 29.

¹¹⁸ Cf. above, 38–40.

¹¹⁹ I. HEIN, Catalogue entry, in: I. HEIN (ed.), *Pharaonen und Fremde – Dynastien im Dunkel*, Ausstellungskatalog, Museen der Stadt Wien 1994, 170.

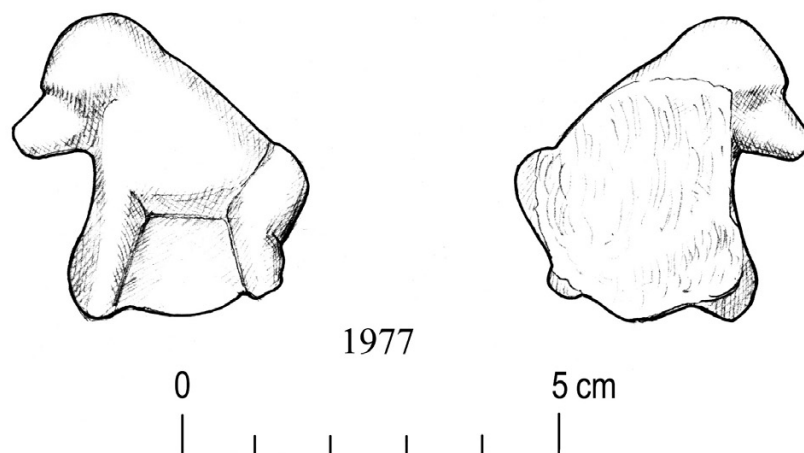


Fig. 2.13 Limestone statuette of baboon, reg.no 1977

4.50 m/NN). The position lies somewhere between Phase G/3–1 and F, and is possibly contemporary with tombs A/II-k/12-1 to 3.¹²⁰

Records: B/W negatives SW1143/13–14; SW1184/44; SW1149/2–2A; 3–3A; drawing ZN 195/68.

Palette made from greenish stone¹²¹ with rectangular depression in the centre. One corner damaged. Measurements: length = 9.9 cm; width = 6.2 cm; height = 2.5 cm (Fig. 2.14–2.15).

Pottery

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute (Fig. 2.16–2.17)

K34. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. Ca 3.80 m/E and 0.95 m/N, refuse pit below the round installation. The pit is not very visible in pl. 6, but the silo is approximately in that position.

The ceramic finds were described as follows:¹²²

A.) Nile B1/2 pottery

A.a) Hemispherical cups

The original recording mentions many fragments of round based Nile B1/2 hemispherical cups (a base is shown in the photograph Fig. 2.17.a). Some of them were perhaps red slipped.

A.b) Carinated cups (?)

The base of a cup, possibly carinated, which seems to have been pinched in form by the potter's fingers, is marked with c).

A.c) Ringstands

The base fragment of a ringstand is marked d) in Fig. 2.17.

B.) Nile C pottery

B.a) Footed bowls

The middle part of a footed bowl was also found, although it was not recorded on the konvolute card. It is marked with e) in the photo, shown upside down.

C.) Nile E pottery

The rim fragment of a Nile E cooking pot with a rather flattened folded rim also belongs to the assemblage. The contour is almost without a proper shoulder. The fragment is marked with f) in the photo.

D.) Marl C

D.a) Ovoid jars with corrugated/grooved neck

A typical rim fragment of the Marl C(1) type is marked with g). The fragment corresponds to the usual typological traits of this vessel type.¹²³

¹²⁰ In the northern section, the position is slightly higher than the walls of heavily sand tempered mud bricks marking Phase G/3–1. It seems to be derived from the horizon that overlies the top of the wall dated to G/3 (section no A3–58 in the northern section, inked) exactly on top of layer section no A3–54 that divides the levels of the relative phases e and f. Thus the object and the tombs are more likely to belong to a late phase of G or to F.

¹²¹ It is possible that siltstone was used for this object as similar objects from other parts of the settlement that could be re-studied. Cf. B. BADER, *Stone Objects from the late Middle Kingdom Settlement at Tell el-Dab'a*, in: W. GRAJETZKI and G. MINIACI (eds), *The World of Middle Kingdom Egypt (2000–1500 BC)*, Contribution on Archaeology, Art, Religion and Written Sources, Golden House Publications, London 2015, passim.

¹²² They were not available for re-study.

¹²³ B. BADER, TD XIII, 129–146.

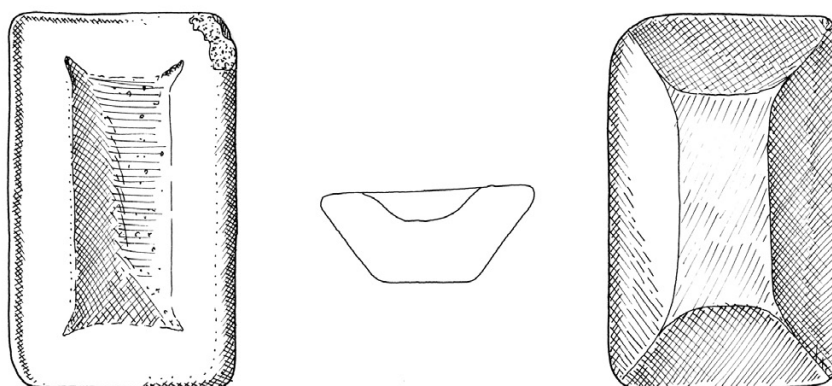


Fig. 2.14 Greenish schist or silt stone palette, reg.no 1871, scale 1:2

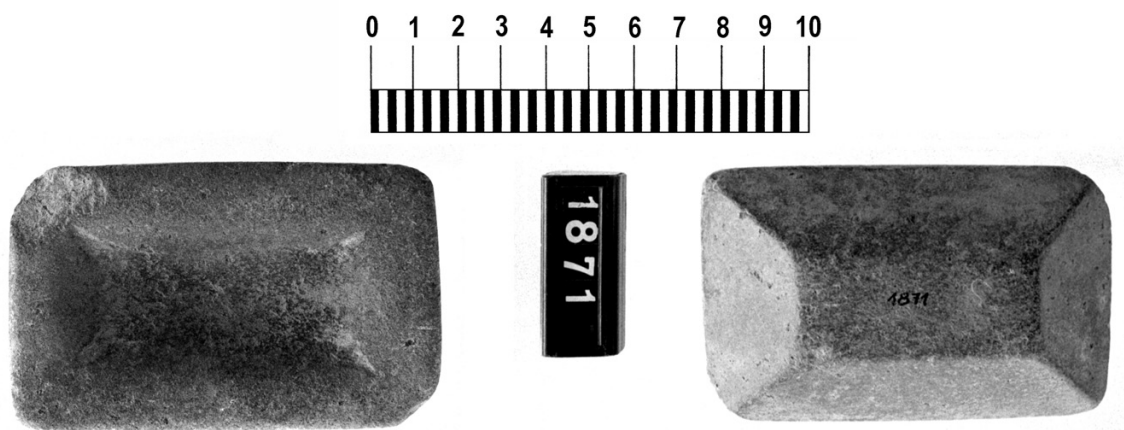


Fig. 2.15 Greenish schist or siltstone palette, reg.no 1871, negative no SW1149/3–3A

E.) Middle Bronze Age pottery made from local or imported fabrics

E.a) Fine wares: jugs and juglets

It remains unclear whether several fragments of jugs and juglets of Middle Bronze Age tradition were made from a local Nile D fabric or indeed imported, as it is not mentioned in the first recording. Only a re-study would clarify this issue. Among those fragments is a double stranded handle fragment marked with i). It was equipped with a brown slip and burnished. The rim with a handle scar (h) seems to have had an undercut rim (red burnished, perhaps to an almost metallic sheen), whilst the body

fragment of the jug from the konvolute card is probably the one marked b). The recording card mentions a reddish brown burnishing with a metallic sheen.

F.) Imported fabrics

F.a) Large transport amphorae

That the transport amphorae fragments were made of non-Egyptian fabrics is almost certain. The rim fragment j) may perhaps belong to the IV-1 family because similar rim shapes have been recorded in this fabric.¹²⁴ Three more amphora handle fragments were also recorded (Fig. 2.17.k–m).

¹²⁴ D. ASTON, Ceramic Imports at Tell el-Dab'a during the Middle Bronze IIA, in: M. BIETAK (ed.), *The Middle Bronze Age in the Levant, Proceedings of an International Conference on MBIIA Ceramic Material*, Vienna 24th to 26th of January 2001, Vienna

2002, fig. 5.5., fig. 6.6; B. BADER, TD XIX, fig. 279, type 198h; K. KOPETZKY, TD XX/2, fig. 19, Amphoren type IV-1, e.g. K3321-138, K3321-139; fig. 85, Amphoren type IV-1, K3076-46.

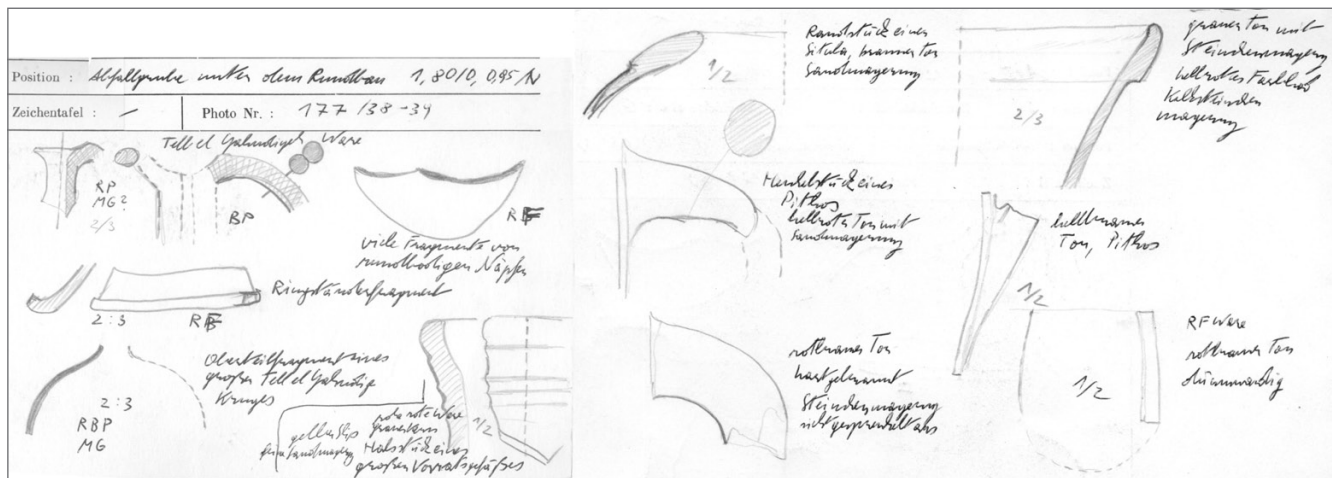


Fig. 2.16 Original konvolute card of K34, scale approx. 1:2

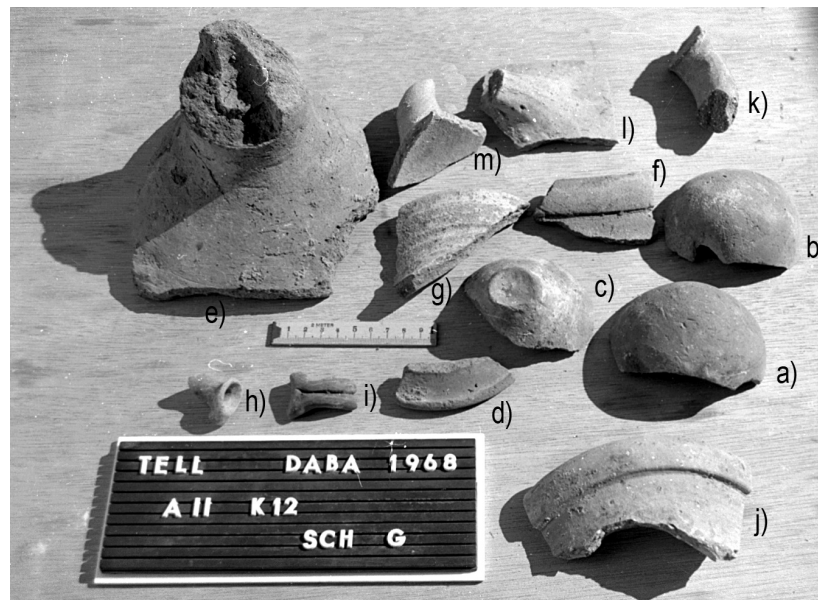


Fig. 2.17 Archive photo of K34, B/W negative SW1177/38–39

Because at this early time of the excavation the Estimated Vessel Equivalents (*Eves*) were not recorded and the material could not be restudied, it was not possible to conduct a quantification of the pottery for this locus.

Animal bones¹²⁵

Sample, **no number**. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. In a rectangular ash pit in eastern half of the room: 1.5 m/N; 3.35 m/E, 2.30 m/D[epth], relative phase f = G.

Cattle: scapula.

Sheep/goat: part of tibia.¹²⁶

Sample, **no number**.¹²⁷ Position: A/II-k/12, [most probably pl. 7¹²⁸]. Level G–H, 2.00 m/E; 1.80 m/N, 'unterste Bauschicht H'.

Cattle: fragment of calcaneus.

Sheep: talus.

Sheep/goat: fragment of lower jaw, m[olar]1 in eruption; fragment of rib.

Pig: fragment of rib.

¹²⁵ The analysis of the animal bones from the early years of excavation were published by J. BOESSNECK, TD III.

¹²⁶ Tibiaschaftstück, J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 9

¹²⁷ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 9.

¹²⁸ In pl. 6 this position would exactly hit the dividing wall [M4].

Distribution of animal bones in L [118].

| | | | |
|--------|-------|------------|-----|
| cattle | sheep | sheep/goat | pig |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 |

L [118a] Round silo

It is unlikely that the pottery found in the silo represents the actual phase of use. More likely it is settlement refuse that was dumped inside arbitrarily after its use life ended. One of the field photos (colour slide TD1053) shows the burnt base of a round based vessel within the silo (Fig. 2.18). The burnt areas were exclusively located around the preserved ‘rim’ of the broken base suggesting a specialised use perhaps even in conjunction with the stone moulds, see Fig. 2.8, Fig. 2.26–27.



Fig. 2.18 Colour slide of silo L [118a] with vessel base (see the arrow), TD1053

Pottery

Relevant sherd collections/konvolutes

K2294. Position: A/II-k/12, [pl. 6]. From small round silo, ca 4.55 m/E and 2.0 m/N, relative phase f.

A.) Nile B1 pottery

A.a) Hemispherical cups/beakers

The fragments assigned to this type were not available for re-recording, thus, it remains unclear whether

they belong to Nile B1 or B2 fabric groups. The rim fragment was first recorded as a closed vessel more beaker-shaped than open.¹²⁹ Because the other drawings on that konvolute card were sketches rather than real drawings and not very accurate, this drawing has to be regarded with considerable circumspection. This is also the reason why it is not shown here.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP | SPR | SPB | DM | DM-% | Remarks |
|---------|----------|----------|------|-----|-----|-----|----|------|---------------|
| 2294 | 79279 | I.b.0.01 | R | 1 | 1 | | 90 | 9 | Not available |

A.b) Ringstands

The ringstand of Nile B1 is one of the few with a complete profile preserved from the late Middle Kingdom settlement at Tell el-Dab^a (Fig. 2.19.a). The manufacturing technology follows the typical pattern for this kind of pottery: with a folded lip on top and on the bottom, and the roughly scraped interior of the base. The scraping extended over a certain area that was limited to the lower fifth of the height of the stand and

only below a visible ridge probably created by means of a wooden tool before the interior of the base was scraped. The lower lip at the base was trimmed to at least two edges with a tool. The work was done with a certain carelessness that resulted in the asymmetry of these edges. A red slip on the exterior and over the rim into the interior of the support had been applied. The height of the stand is 5.3 cm.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP | SPR | SPB | DM | DM-% |
|---------|----------|----------|------|-----|-----|-----|----|------|
| 2294 | 79284 | I.b.1.32 | R | 1 | 10 | 30 | 75 | 60 |

¹²⁹ For the type cf. B. BADER, TD XIX, 200–215 and for the number codes of the surface treatments cf. Appendix 1 in TD XIX. For explanation of abbreviations see respective list.

A.c) Miniature or Model vessels (?)

The base of a miniature and possible model vessel has a diameter of 3.5 cm and was cut with a tool (Fig. 2.19.c). The fabric was Nile B1 which is quite unusual for such pottery. Due to its fragmentary state it is not

clear to which type it belongs, but it is possible that either a footed bowl or a *nmst*¹³⁰ vessel shape in miniature was present. Parallels of such vessels can be found at many sites with tombs as well as temple contexts.¹³¹

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP | SPB | DM | DM-% |
|---------|----------|----------|------|-----|-----|----|------|
| 2294 | 79287 | I.b.1.01 | B | 1 | 5 | 35 | 100 |

B.) Nile B2 pottery

B.a) Ringstands

This ringstand from the slightly rougher Nile B2 fabric shows a greater height than that mentioned above: 7.6 cm (Fig. 2.19.b). The manufacturing process is the same in principle only that the area of the internal scraping of the base is a little more than a fifth of the overall height. The folded lips at the top and bottom are also very similar to the finer example and the edged

execution of the lower lip is also very similar. The red slip also very similar to the other example and ends in about a half of the height of the lower lip, just as in the other example as well. Painting with a brush (or cloth?) is evident because it fits the pattern of the slip better than lowering the stand into a bucket full of liquid paint, where the interior would have to be red as well.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP | SPR | SPB | DM | DM-% |
|---------|----------|----------|------|-----|-----|-----|----|------|
| 2294 | 79283 | I.b.2.32 | R | 1 | 10 | 30 | 80 | 23 |

C.) Nile C2 pottery

C.a) Large stands

The rim with folded lip made of Nile C2 (Fig. 2.19.d) may have belonged to a stand but this is by no means certain. The fabric contains more quartz

particles than usual. With a diameter of 20.0 cm the fragment had remained uncoated. It was turned on a turning device/slow wheel.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPR | DM | DM-% | Remarks |
|---------|----------|----------|------|-----|-----|------|--------------|
| 2294 | 79282 | I.c.2.01 | R | 10 | 200 | 6 | Sandy fabric |

D.) Marl C1 pottery

D.a) Spouted form

The body fragment with a spout also came from the silo refuse (Fig. 2.19.e). Beyond the fact that the fragment will have belonged to a restricted form rather than an open one, at this point not much more can be said. The shaping process consisting of a

combination of hand modelling, especially for the spout, and presumably turning the rim on a device as can be seen in many parallels of vessels with spout.¹³² It is possible that the rim was of the keyhole shape.¹³³

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP |
|---------|----------|-----------|------|-----|
| 2294 | 79288 | II.c.2.01 | S | 1/2 |

¹³⁰ S. TAWFIK, *Aton Studies 5: Cult Objects on Blocks from the Aton Temple(s) at Thebes*, *MDAIK* 35 (1975), 335–344.

¹³¹ For example in the MK tomb shafts of the Mortuary Temple of Thutmose III or in the tombs of officials of the late 12th Dynasty at Dahshur. Cf. B. BADER and M. SECO, *Results of Five Years of Pottery Analysis in the Temple of Millions of Years of*

Thutmose III, *Ä&L* 26 (2016), fig. 20.i, 25.c, 30.h; S.J. ALLEN, *Pottery from the Pyramid complex of Senwosret III and Middle Kingdom Mastabas at Dahshur 2003–2010* (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York), *BCE* 24 (2014), 85–92.

¹³² B. BADER, TD XIII, e.g. fig. 41.k.

¹³³ B. BADER, TD XIX, fig. 144, type 8.

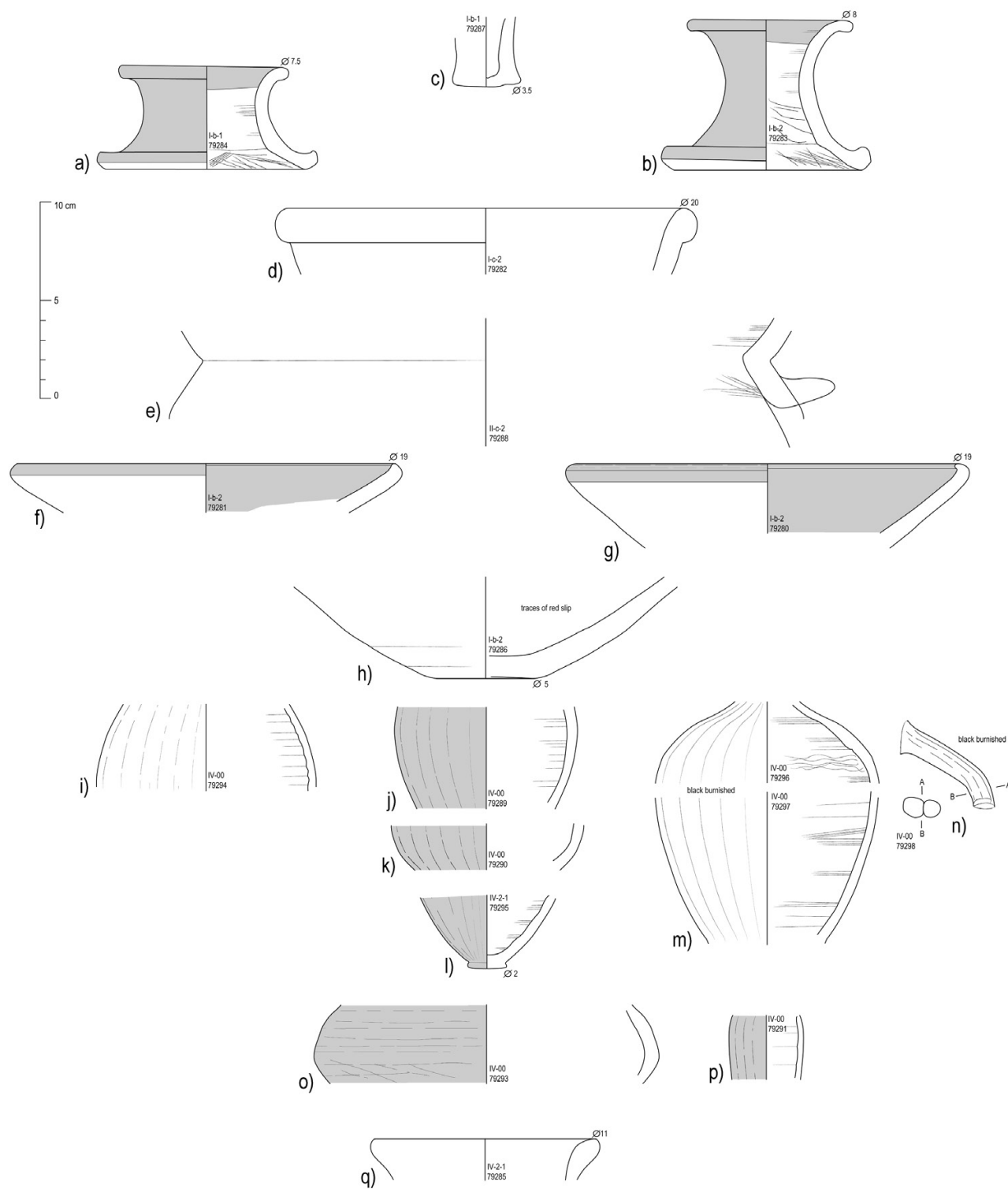


Fig. 2.19 Pottery from K2294 – L [118a]

E.) Middle Bronze Age pottery made from local fabrics

E.a) Dishes with inturned rim

The base and the two rim fragments of dishes with inturned lip may well have belonged to the same vessel, considering the frequent asymmetry around a vessel manufactured in antiquity (Fig. 2.19.f–h). The fabric of these dishes belongs to the rougher mixture of Nile B2 with some short and thin straw fragments, conventionally termed I-c-1¹³⁴ at Tell el-Dab^a. The rim

fragment 79280 was red slipped on the interior and on the exterior of the rim, which was also trimmed with a tool. The rims of both rim fragments were horizontally burnished but not on the interior. The base fragment would fit well for a reconstruction towards a full profile and it had also been supplied with a red slip on the interior. It was cut with a tool.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP | SPR | SPB | DM | DM-% | Remarks |
|---------|----------|-------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------------------------|
| 2294 | 79280 | I.c.1.36.04 | R | 1 | 10 | | 190 | 6 | Rim trimmed with a tool |
| 2294 | 79281 | I.c.1.36.04 | R | 1 | 10 | | 190 | 7 | |
| 2294 | 79286 | I.c.1.07 | B | 1 | | 5 | 50 | 30 | |

F.) Imported pottery

F.a) Fine wares: jugs and juglets

A considerable number of imported juglet fragments of various types found their way into the silo deposit (Fig. 2.19.1–p). The juglets were either, uncoated and burnished (79294), red slipped and burnished (e.g. 79289) or burnished and fired in a reducing atmosphere (e.g. 79297). Especially in the latter cases the exact definition of the fabric subgroup proved difficult due to the black section. That they were imports, however, is clear. Most of the body fragments of the juglets suggest rather small vessels with a piriform body shape, except for fragments 79293 and 79292 (only the former is shown, because they are virtually

identical but did not join). These fragments might have belonged to a bi-conical jug(let) with less pronounced carination than for example reg.no 2528 from **L [304]**.¹³⁵ The burnishing of the piriform fragments was uniformly vertical no matter whether they were uncoated, red slipped first or black (from reducing atmosphere in the kiln). A remarkable difference can be found with the bi-conical fragments that were burnished horizontally above the carination and without much care below it. Fragment 79291 most probably belonged to the neck of a dipper juglet, which are most often burnished vertically.¹³⁶

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPP | SPB | SPC | DM | DM-% | Type | Remarks |
|---------|----------|--------------|------|-----|-----|-----|----|------|------|--|
| 2294 | 79294 | IV.00.01.22 | X | 1 | | 12 | | | 110 | |
| 2294 | 79289 | IV.00.06.22 | X | 1 | | | | | 110 | |
| 2294 | 79290 | IV.00.06.22 | X | 1 | | | | | 110 | |
| 2294 | 79295 | IV.2.1.06.22 | B | 1 | 1 | 12 | 20 | 100 | 110 | |
| 2294 | 79297 | IV.2.0.18.22 | X | 1 | | 12 | | | 110 | Same vessel as 79296+79298; Fabric subgroup unclear |
| 2294 | 79296 | IV.2.0.18.22 | X | 1 | | 12 | | | 110 | Same vessel as 79397; Fabric subgroup unclear |
| 2294 | 79298 | IV.2.0.18.22 | HT | 1 | | 11 | 19 | 100 | 110 | Same vessel as 79296 + 79297; 2 Rst; Fabric subgroup unclear |
| 2294 | 79292 | IV.2.06.26 | X | 1 | | | | | 140 | Same vessel as 79293 |
| 2294 | 79293 | IV.2.06.26 | X | 1 | | | | | 140 | Same vessel as 79292 |
| 2294 | 79291 | IV.00.06.22 | X | 1 | | | | | 150 | |

¹³⁴ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, Anhang, 325.

¹³⁵ See B. BADER, Quantification as a Means of Functional Analysis, Fig. 8.i.

¹³⁶ Cf. D. ASTON, TD XII/2, pl. 147–148.

F.b) Large transport amphorae
Only one rim fragment of a large transport amphora belongs to the ceramic material of this context (Fig. 2.19.q).

The rim was turned outwards in order to form a slightly thicker lip, which was thinned at the end. The fabric group belongs to the IV-2 family.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPR | DM | DM-% |
|---------|----------|-----------|------|-----|-----|------|
| 2294 | 79285 | IV.2.1.01 | R | 10 | 110 | 15 |

No information on the number of discarded sherds was recorded in this instance.

L [118aa] Fill of silo

Pottery

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute

K3773. Position: A/II-k/12, [pl. 6?]. From small round silo, ca 4.55 m/E and 2.0 m/N.

The material from this konvolute appears extremely mixed suggesting that this was the topmost layer found in the silo on top of K2294. It remains unclear, if and why the konvolute was only recorded decades later and if it had been sorted before recording with the other konvolute from the silo K2294.¹³⁷

Only two rims of imported juglets that may reasonably belong to the period treated here are shown (Fig. 2.20). The remainder of the material included is contaminated with later material up to the Late Period.¹³⁸ Some Cypriot material (White Painted V and others) must also be considered out of context.¹³⁹

A.) Imported pottery

A.a) Fine ware: jugs and juglets

The bell-shaped rim (Fig. 2.20.a) consists of a clay type probably belonging to fabric family IV-1. It was difficult to ascertain because the rim was either fired in a reducing atmosphere or was severely burnt (secondarily) later. The handle scar indicated a double stranded handle. The little traces of burnishing indicated a vertical direction.

The second juglet rim shown here (Fig. 2.20.b) was brown slipped with vertical burnishing, in some places coloured black. This may be an indication that a reducing atmosphere was intended in the production process. Rather unusually a triple stranded handle was indicated by the handle scar, where the three strands were ordered beside each other.

| KONV-no | Sherd-no | WARE | PART | SPR | DM | DM-% | Type | Remarks |
|---------|----------|-------------|------|-----|----|------|------|---------|
| 3773 | 79340 | IV.1.01.22 | R | 1 | 13 | 100 | 110 | 2 Rst |
| 3773 | 79341 | IV.00.D5.22 | R | 10 | 37 | 80 | 110 | 3 Rst |

L [118] Fill of room

Pottery

Reg.no **4111** (Museum Cairo), hemispherical cup. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 5, 4.20 m/W and 1.40 m/N from a depth of 1.30–1.40 m/D down the northern baulk (H = ca 4.70 m/NN), relative phase e = F (Fig. 2.21). Records: B/W negative SW1991/2, drawing ZN 171/82.

| | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----|----|--------------|----|-----|
| TG | I-b | f. | W1 | Bd. gesp. g. | ox | 2–3 |
|----|-----|----|----|--------------|----|-----|

Rd. = 8.6–9.2; max.d. = 9.9–10.3; wd. 0.5–1.0; H1 = 9.7; VI 104.

Natural surface colour: 5 YR 5.5/4 reddish brown. Section: reddish brown to light red. Inclusions: very fine quartz, mica and fine vegetal matter. Smoothed by hand- and on the wheel. [According to the digging diary (A/II-k/12-pl. 6) this find belongs to Stratum F, in the photo this find was left on a mud ‘pedestal’.]

¹³⁷ Note that at least the two ringstands were mentioned in the original digging diary. Cf. above 39.

¹³⁸ Confirmed by D.A. ASTON, personal communication 27 July 2015.

¹³⁹ Reg.nos 7350H, K, J. Cf. L.C. MAGUIRE, TD XXI, 115, 138.

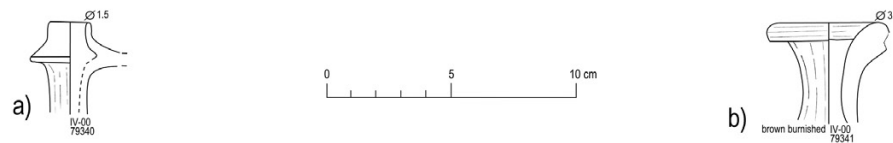


Fig. 2.20 Selected sherds from K3773

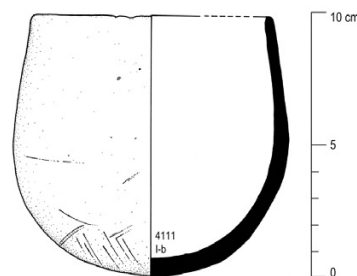


Fig. 2.21 Reg.no 4111, hemispherical cup from Phase F (?), scale 1:3

L [119] Open space to the west of room

Tools made from animal bones

Reg.no **1702 a, b** (KhM, A 1359; 1360), two bone tools (probably awls).¹⁴⁰ Position: A/II-k/11, pl. 6, 1.20 m/E; 1.50 m/S, relative height: 1.95 m/D[epth] (measured from preserved top of Mortuary Temple I) H = ca 4.00 m/NN (Fig. 2.22–2.23).

Records: B/W negative SW1131/32–33.

Awl a) max. length: 7.05 +x; max. width = 1.5; 4.0 grams.

Awl b) max. length: 6.65; max. width = 1.2; 2.3 grams.

The tips of these bones were both broken off. They were not identified by J. BOESSNECK,¹⁴¹ but G.K. KUNST kindly identified them from a photo as fin rays (dermotrichia) perhaps of cat fish.¹⁴²

These finds probably also belong to the earlier phase of G/3 rather than G/2–1. Although these particular fin rays did not show traces of any use, it is

possible that the triangular tip of these fin rays could have been used for incising single points into the clay in the leather hard state without too much difficulty. Inspecting the large Tell el-Yahudieh jug reg.no 1734 closely in the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna,¹⁴³ it shows that quite a few of the points were incised singly and are quite triangular in shape. It is perhaps conceivable to think that tools like these were used to produce such decoration, see below 124–126.

Another possible use has been suggested at Amarna, where the same type of lateral spines were identified as possible weaving tools although they did not show any signs of working.¹⁴⁴

Molluscs

Sample, **no number**. Snail. Position: A/II-k/11, 6.50 m/E, 4.20 m/S; relative phase f = G. [Outside of Compound 10].

¹⁴⁰ Currently on display in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Room VI, show case I.

¹⁴¹ Cf. J. BOESSNECK, TD III, passim; J. BOESSNECK and A. VON DEN DRIESCH, TD VII.

¹⁴² G.K. Kunst, personal communication 18 January 2017.

¹⁴³ Currently on display in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Room VI, show case II, see below 124–126.

¹⁴⁴ B. KEMP and G. VOGELSANG-EASTWOOD, *The Ancient Textile Industry at Amarna*, The Egypt Exploration Society, 68th Excavation Memoir, London 2001, 184, fig. 6.14, no 2499.

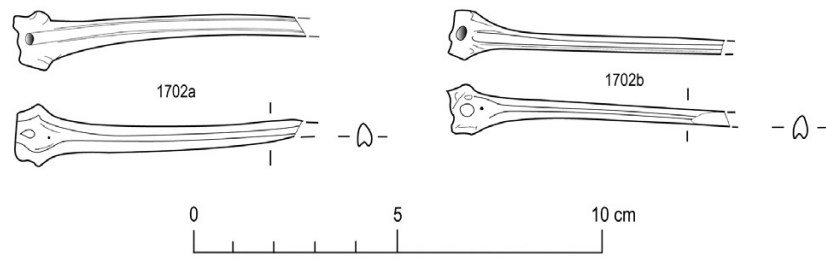


Fig. 2.22 Bone awls, reg.nos 1702 a and b



Fig. 2.23 Bone awls, reg.nos 1702 a and b, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

L [119] Fill of open space?

It is unlikely that the following vessel belongs to the settlement layers of the late Middle Kingdom. Nevertheless, because it was listed under this planum and a new recording was made, it will be presented here as well.¹⁴⁵

Pottery

Reg.no **1608** (KhM, A 3100), Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, top part. Position: A/II-k/11, pl. 4–5, 2.5 m/N, 1.8 m/E, no relative elevation given (Fig. 2.24–2.25). Records: redrawn and re-recorded in the KhM.

| | | | | | | | |
|------|-----|---------|----|---|----|-----|-----|
| S/BP | I-d | f. – m. | W1 | – | re | 2–3 | 1BH |
|------|-----|---------|----|---|----|-----|-----|

Rd. = 2.2; nd. = 1.4; max.d. = 7.0; H1 = 9.7 + x.

Surface Colour: Black polished 10 YR 3/1 very dark gray; Decoration consists of a ca 1.7 cm wide horizontally burnished band, just under the max.d and three standing triangles filled with dots on top of the band and three hanging ones, below the band. The dots were relatively large, incised with a comb with five teeth. In some of the dots the white filling is still preserved. The juglet shows brown patches in some places showing that the atmosphere of the kiln was not perfectly reducing. The strap handle was attached to the outside of the body of the juglet (not stuck through the wall as observed in Cypriote juglets).

This juglet belongs to a type that is attested later in other parts of the excavation of Tell el-Dab^a¹⁴⁶ and therefore most probably belongs to the fill of the locus or to a higher level.

L [120] Open space to the south of building

Stone

The find of moulds in the south eastern part of the square (in front of the house) and in k/11, pl. 5,

(see Fig. 2.8) adds evidence that this area may have been used for some smelting activities although no proper industrial installation was found in the vicinity. It remains unclear whether the hearth inside the house would have produced enough heat for smelting activities.

Reg.no **4588**, mould.¹⁴⁷ Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. Outside the building, close to the south east corner (Fig. 2.26–2.27).

Records: B/W negative SW2103 1–2, drawing ZN 154/84.

Side A: two moulds, both incomplete, greyish discoloured; c) elongated object, length = 9.0 cm, width = 1.0 cm; d) elongated tool/weapon with tang, partly preserved, length = 7.0 cm, length of tang = 2.0 cm. Depth of moulds = 0.64 cm. Side B: two incomplete moulds of tools were preserved: a) an incomplete tanged blade (length = 5.0 cm; width = 3.2 cm), b) an elongated object with rounded end (length = 14.5 cm, width = 1.0–1.5 cm); greyish discolouration 10YR 7/1–6/1. Material: limestone; measurements: length = 19.3, width = 14.3, height = 6.4.

Pottery

Reg.no **1978a**, various objects. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6, 1.30 m/E; 1.9 m/N, 2.00 m/D (H = ca 4.20 m/NN¹⁴⁸), relative phase f = G. With this register number several objects have been recorded:¹⁴⁹

- the base part of a black burnished (?) juglet with a small convex base,
- the strand handle of a juglet (with round section), red burnished
- one bone tool (awl),
- one chipped stone tool from silex and
- a grinder of hematite.

The find spot is just outside room **L [118]**, in the corner between the baulk and the building. If there is no disturbance there, and there is no indication of it, this material should date to Phase G/3–1.

¹⁴⁵ D. ASTON and M. BIETAK, TD VIII, 460, cat.no 417, dated to E/3–2 by parallels.

¹⁴⁶ D. ASTON and M. BIETAK, TD VIII, 460, cat.no 417, pl. 75.417, dated to Phase E/3–2.

¹⁴⁷ G. PHILIP, TD XV, 181, fig. 70.2.

¹⁴⁸ This find spot is situated in section no A82-22 of the eastern section of A/II-k/12, which are finely stratified layers.

¹⁴⁹ Free hand sketches exist in the card file (Positionskartei) kept in 1966 to 1969.



Fig. 2.24 Reg.no 1608, Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, intrusive, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

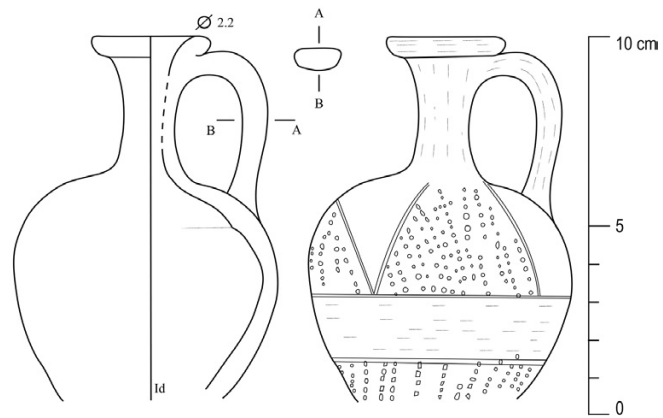


Fig. 2.25 Reg.no 1608, Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, S/BPI, scale 1:2

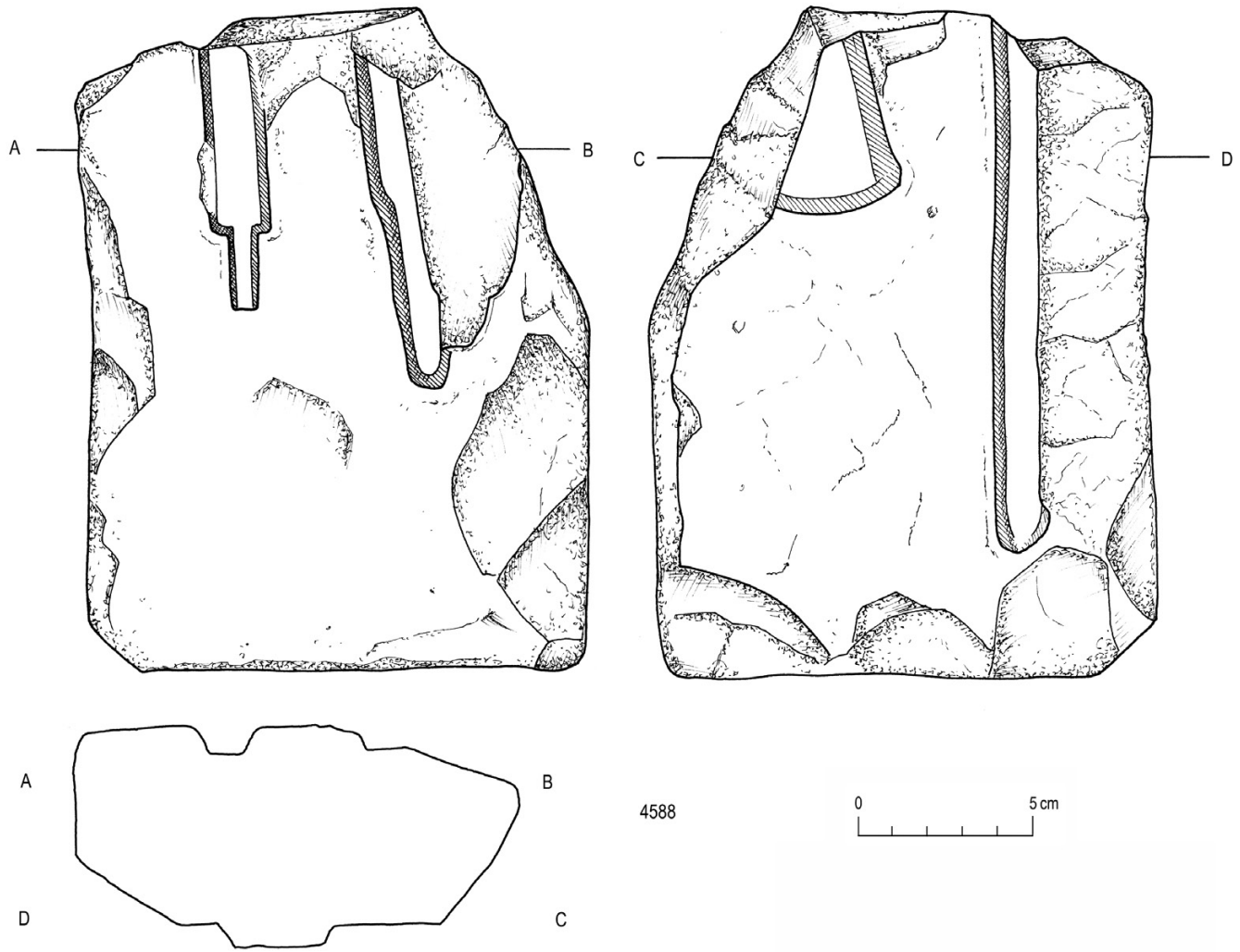


Fig. 2.26 Limestone mould, reg.no 4588, scale 1:2

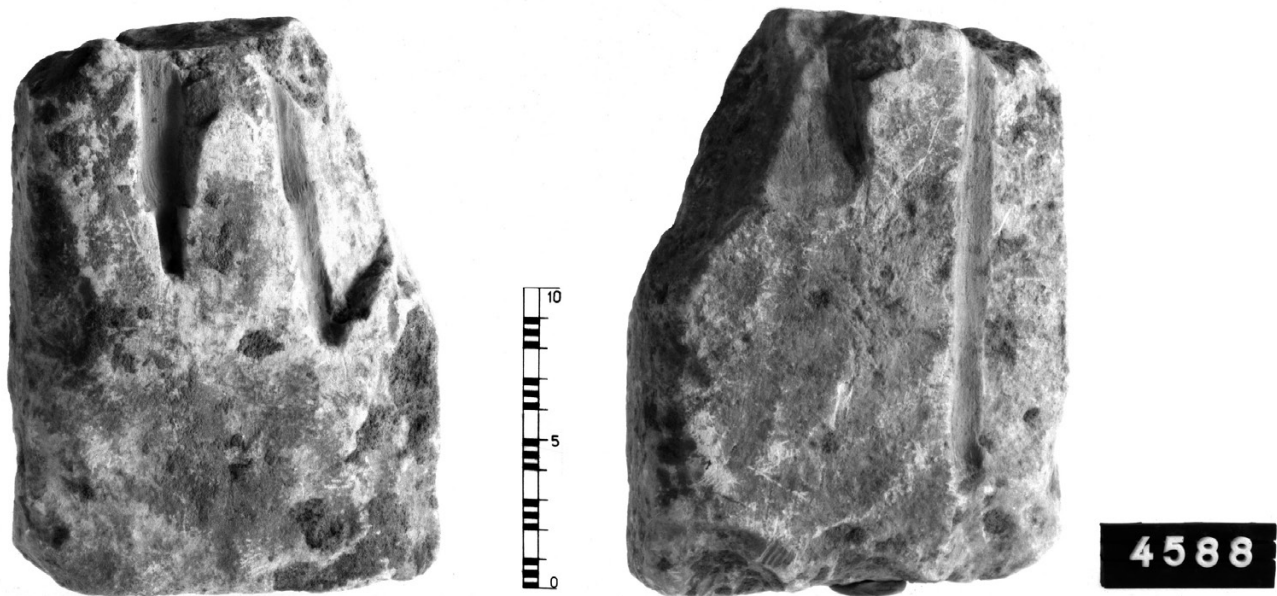


Fig. 2.27 Photo of limestone mould, SW2103 1-2



Fig. 2.28 Reg.no 1118, neck of red burnished juglet. Note the regular edge of the break at the bottom of neck, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

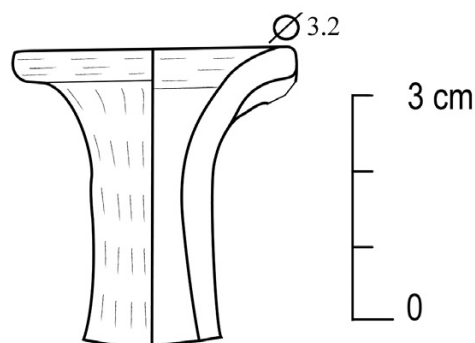


Fig. 2.29 Reg.no 1118, red burnished juglet neck, scale 1:1

Finds from square A/II-k/11 (probable fill of the southern room of Compound 10a)¹⁵²

Animal bones

Sample, **no number**.¹⁵⁰ Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6, 0.80 m/E, 2.40 m/S, 1.80 m/D[epth]; from within a vessel, relative phase f = G.¹⁵¹

Cattle: half of vert. lumb., epiphyseal cartilage open; metacarpus: fragment of distal end, epiphyseal cartilage open.

Sheep: fragment of ulna and radius without distal region.

Pig: vert. lumb., epiphyseal cartilage open; fragment of calcaneus, epiphyseal cartilage open.

Distribution of animal bones in L [120]

| cattle | sheep | pig |
|--------|-------|-----|
| 2 | 2 | 2 |

Pottery

Reg.no **1118** (KhM, A 2771), neck of juglet. Position: A/II-k/11, pl. 5[sic], 1.20 m/S and 4.50 m/E, no relative elevation given (Fig. 2.28–2.29).

Records: B/W negative SW1119/9; Redrawn and re-recorded.

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------|------|----|---|----|-----|
| RP | IV-1? | s.f. | W1 | – | ox | 3–4 |
|----|-------|------|----|---|----|-----|

Rd. = 1.5 (100% preserved); H1 = 3.9 +x;

Surface colour: red burnished 10 R 5/6 red, red surface (slip?) 10 R 6/8 light red.

The jug shows an everted rim, the handle started directly at the rim, but was broken off. No traces of the handle are left it was totally ground away. Also the bottom of the neck shows a well ground edge. Thus, the secondary use of this neck, for example as a funnel, is very possible.

¹⁵⁰ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 9.

¹⁵¹ This pithos was not recorded in the plan drawing, it must have been within the 'Arbeitertreppe' judging by its position.

¹⁵² Cf. also chapter 5, 163–164.

