

This quite irregular agglomeration of several ‘buildings’, albeit rather flimsy, represents one of the larger compounds of the settlement in Phases G/2–1. It consists of at least five single room units (Buildings/Rooms 1–5) that probably had a roof.⁵⁰² The irregularly shaped compound is encircled by several walls which seem to represent the limitations of the building plot. The overall size of Compound 12 is about 400 m². The buildings represent most likely a longer development which this compound took, without being able to sketch the sequence of the building stages exactly. The average brick size in this compound is about 0.34–0.35 by 0.17–0.18 by 0.07–0.09 m again typical are bricks with a high admixture of sand. Preservation of the buildings of this phase was nowhere more than a few brick courses. Access to the compound could have been gained through the doorway in wall [M47] but it remains entirely unclear if there were additional ones.⁵⁰³

Squares A/II-m/12–13, A/II-n/12–13 and A/II-o/12 contain parts of this compound and it will be described from north to south (Fig. 6.1). Available records include the plan drawings of the exposure, section drawings, the analysis of the sections conducted by M. BIETAK, the digging diary, B/W negatives, colour slides as well as the register book, konvolute cards and the position index of the finds and the published description and plan of settlement Phase G/2–1.⁵⁰⁴

SQUARES A/II-m/12–13; n/12–13; o/12–13

Excavation and available records (A/II-m/12–13, A/II-n/12–13, A/II-o/12–13)

The excavation history of square A/II-m/12 was already mentioned in chapter 3 Compound 11, and thus does not need to be repeated, except perhaps that planum 5 is relevant for this discussion.

Square A/II-m/13 was excavated in 1967 (plana 1–6⁵⁰⁵) and 1968⁵⁰⁶ (planum 7⁵⁰⁷). Relevant for the early settlement phases is only planum 7, the overall elevation going down to about 4.50 m/NN. The features of planum 7 have been assigned to Phase G/2–1.⁵⁰⁸ The elevation of the tell in this square before excavation as met in 1967 were as follows: the north western corner was at 6.57 m/NN and the levels rose towards the north eastern corner to 7.25 m/NN. Towards the south western corner the ascent is even 1.50 m to almost 8.0 m/NN. Along the southern edge of the square the level remains relatively even around 8.0 m/NN. A renewed sounding in that area was undertaken in 1983,⁵⁰⁹ but no additional details relevant to the early settlement phases were noted. All sections were recorded, the northern⁵¹⁰ down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN in almost all its length, the eastern⁵¹¹ down to an elevation of 4.50 m/NN, the southern⁵¹² one down to an elevation of 3.90 m/NN and the western⁵¹³ one down to an elevation of 4.50 m/NN.

⁵⁰² They were interpreted as huts, stables and silos for various food stuffs.

⁵⁰³ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 31–33.

⁵⁰⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V, 31–34 and plan 2.

⁵⁰⁵ TDplan nos 222–227.

⁵⁰⁶ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, November 1968. Some of the sections were amended in October 1968.

⁵⁰⁷ TDplan no 228.

⁵⁰⁸ See plan 2, M. BIETAK, TD V.

⁵⁰⁹ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, A/II-m13, p. 53. Excavation of baulk between m/12–13.

⁵¹⁰ TDplan no 238 drawn in 1968, A13.

⁵¹¹ TDplan no 236 drawn in 1968, A71.

⁵¹² TDplan no 235 drawn in 1967–1968, A34.

⁵¹³ TDplan no 237 drawn in 1967, A65.

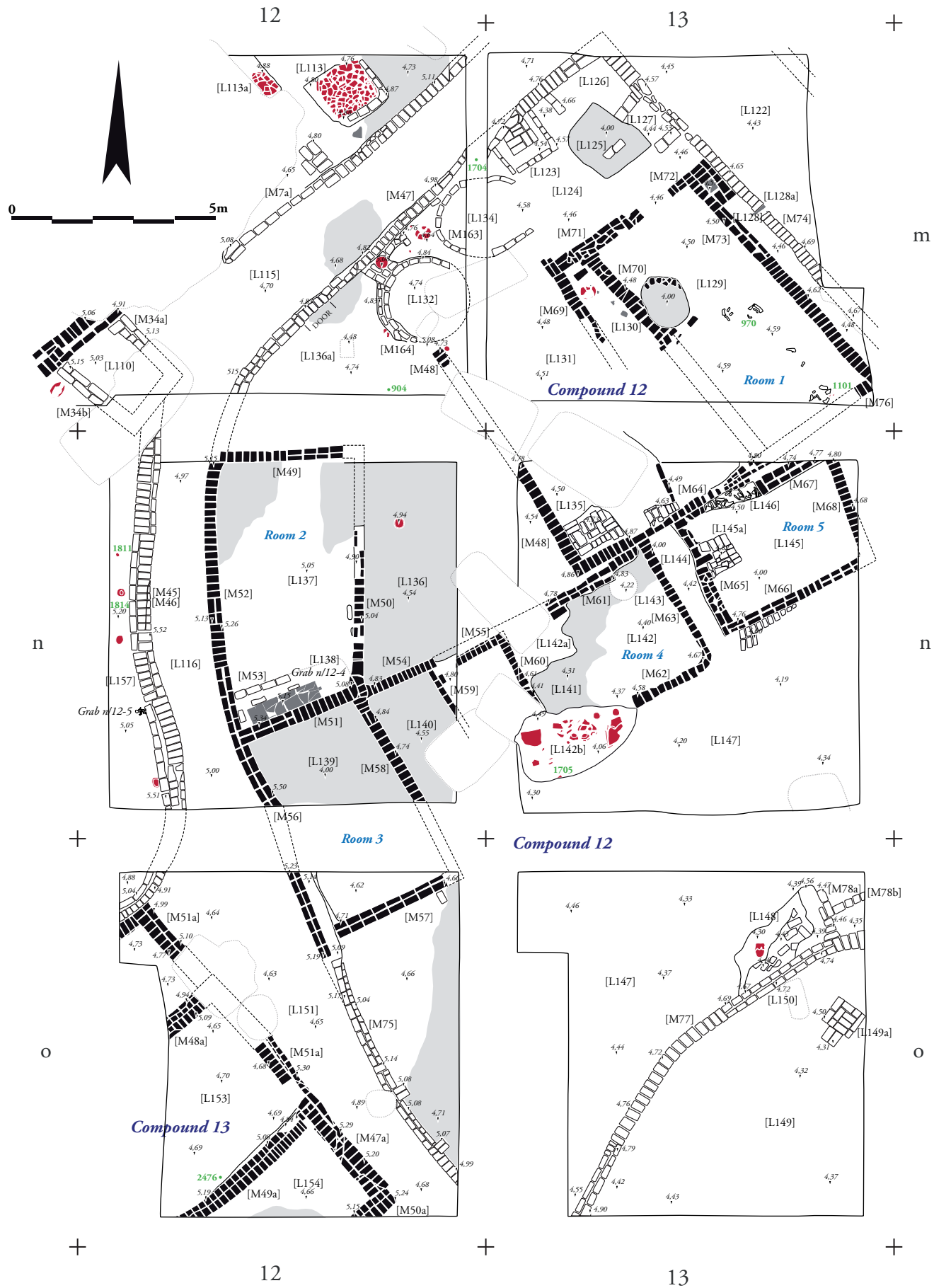


Fig. 6.1 Plan of Compound 12. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Square A/II-n/12 was excavated in 1968 (spring and autumn campaign). The original levels before excavation are not given, but the ground level of the first planum⁵¹⁴ is between 6.60 m/NN and 7.15 m/NN.⁵¹⁵ The highest preserved part of a wall reached an elevation of about 7.55 m/NN. Relevant for Phases G/3–1 are plana 4, 5 and 6.⁵¹⁶ They were all excavated in June 1968.⁵¹⁷ The very western part of that square including wall [M45] was discussed together with L [156] in Compound 11 (see chapter 4, 140–141). The same holds true for the western section of this square. The phase represented in the published plan⁵¹⁸ can be largely found in planum 5 (Phase G/2–1). There are probably two more (sub) phases below (represented in planum 6, TD 298). All sections of this square were recorded, the northern⁵¹⁹ down to an elevation of 4.10 m/NN in all its length, the eastern⁵²⁰ down to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, the southern⁵²¹ one down to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN and the western⁵²² one down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN.

Square A/II-n/13 was excavated in two seasons in spring and autumn 1968, where planum 1 was measured at an elevation of about 7.70 m/NN with only minor variations along the edges of the square. Altogether 7 plana⁵²³ were recorded. Relevant for the earlier settlement are plana 6 and 7. All sections were recorded, namely the northern⁵²⁴ down to an elevation of 4.30 m/NN, the eastern⁵²⁵ down to an elevation of 4.30 m/NN, the southern⁵²⁶ one down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN and the western⁵²⁷ one down to an elevation of 4.20–4.40 m/NN. In addition, the digging diary (pp. 51–70) recorded by M. BIETAK and records of sherd collections (K200–202) could be consulted.

The excavation history of square A/II-o/12 is related during the discussion of Compound 13 (see chapter 7, 231). Most pertinent for the current description is that a part of Room 3 (= L [139]) continues from

square A/II-n/12 south into A/II-o/12. The lowest level that was reached within the square close to the northern section is about 4.40 m/NN.

Square A/II-o/13 was excavated in spring 1969 (April to July) in 6 plana.⁵²⁸ The original surface before excavation was at an elevation of about 7.88 m/NN in the northwest corner, sloping slightly to 7.64 m/NN in the north east corner. The lowest elevation reached is at ca 4.30 m/NN. The planum particularly relevant for the settlement layers of Phases H to G/3–1 is planum 6 (TDplan no 364). Archival material available for this square consists of plan and section drawings, the digging diary, B/W negatives, and register books. Only the northern and eastern section plan drawings are preserved in the records.⁵²⁹ The northern and eastern sections were exposed down to an elevation of ca 4.80 m/NN.

SQUARE A/II-m/12

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-m/12)

A thin wall [M47] of one brick's width running from the eastern section to the southern section divides Compound 12 from alleyway L [115]⁵³⁰ and cuts off a triangle in the south eastern corner of the square. The wall was built from bricks heavily tempered with sand. Their size was approximately 0.30 m by 0.15 m to a brick's width. The wall seems to have consisted of bricks smaller than the average and many shorter ones, which might hint at a re-use of these bricks from elsewhere. Wall [M47] runs more or less parallel to wall [M7a] and they constitute the limitations of alleyway L [115]. The base level of this wall is roughly at 4.80 m/NN⁵³¹ and the wall is preserved to an elevation of 5.15 to 4.98 m/NN (see Fig. 6.1). After about

⁵¹⁴ Plana 1–3 TDplan nos 293–295.

⁵¹⁵ See TDplan no 293.

⁵¹⁶ TDplan nos 296–298.

⁵¹⁷ The digging diary for planum 4 is dated 9 June 1968; that for planum 5 21 June 1968; planum 6 28 June 1968. Only tomb 7 was excavated in the autumn campaign (cf. TDplan 301).

⁵¹⁸ M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2.

⁵¹⁹ TDplan no 303 drawn in 1968.

⁵²⁰ TDplan no 302 drawn in 1968.

⁵²¹ TDplan no 305 drawn in 1968.

⁵²² TDplan no 304 drawn in 1968.

⁵²³ TDplan nos 306–312.

⁵²⁴ TDplan no 324 drawn in spring 1968.

⁵²⁵ TDplan no 325 drawn 5 November 1968.

⁵²⁶ TDplan no 323 drawn 28 October 1968.

⁵²⁷ TDplan no 322 drawn in 1968.

⁵²⁸ TDplan nos 359–364.

⁵²⁹ TDplan nos 369, 368.

⁵³⁰ This is effectively the same locus as L [116] and L [151] in the squares further south A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12. Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2.

⁵³¹ According to southern section (A35) section no A35-36 close to running metre 4.0 from west. Interestingly exactly below this wall is another older one (section no A35-39), which was assigned to Phase H by M. BIETAK. This wall may reach down even lower and thus belong to H and perhaps also G/4–3. This fact might indicate a tradition in the limitation of this particular building plot although between section no A35-39 and A35-36 a sizeable ashy layer of about 0.2 m thickness had been deposited. See also discussion of sections below (173–174).

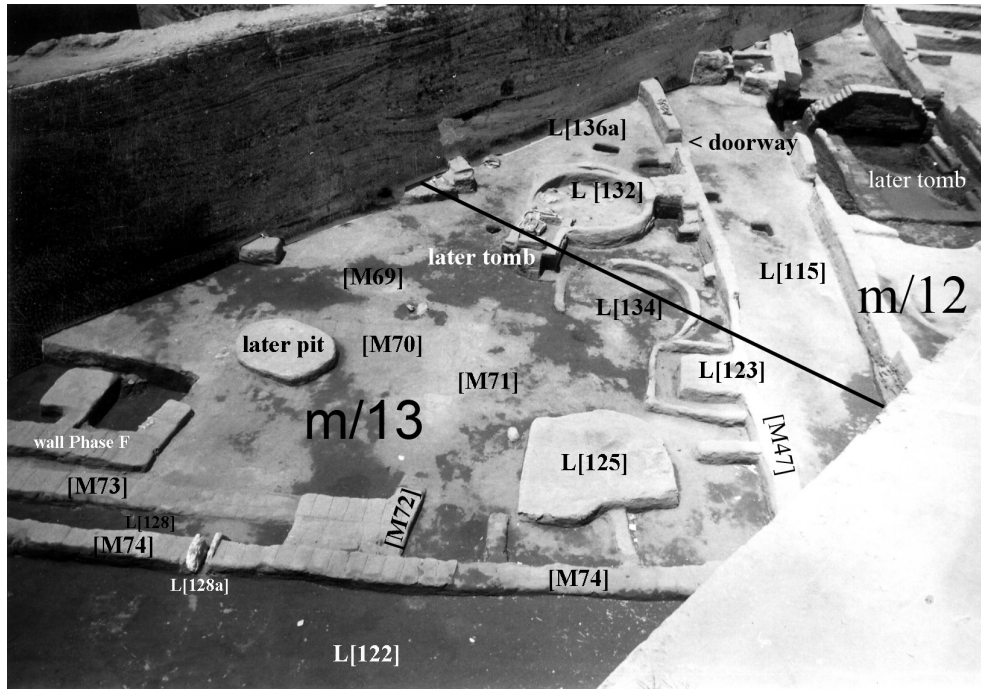


Fig. 6.2 Square A/II-m/12–13 view towards south-west after removal of baulk between A/II-m/12 and A/II-m/13, SW1097/33–34



Fig. 6.3 A/II-m/12–13, settlement layer Phase G/2–1, view towards north-east, tomb 13=12 cutting into silo is a later intrusion, tomb 8 on the eastern edge of the silo has already been removed, colour slide (Cairo Archive) for locus numbers see Fig. 6.2

2 m following the wall [M47] towards the northeast there is an opening, with more loamy mud-bricks laid out perpendicularly to the remainder of the wall and thus interpreted as a door opening (position ca 4.50 m/W and 3.00 m/S). South of wall [M47] inside the compound a noticeable ash deposition was recorded as well as a rectangular ash pit at approx. 3.50 m/E

and 2.00 m/S and at a depth of 0.26 m L [136a] (see also below, Fig. 6.2, 6.5). This pit contained several ashy layers (detailed drawing on plan no 199) and measured about 0.5 m and 0.3 m. Although some ceramic sherds are drawn *in situ* in this pit, none were recorded with the implication, therefore, that no diagnostic material was found.



Fig. 6.4 Eastern section of A/II-m/12 with silo L [132] and the pit of tomb A/II-m/12-13 cutting it, SW1077/19

The basic floor level of the area south of wall [M47] is around 4.72 m/NN descending towards the east down to about 4.50 m/NN. Built into this presumably open space L [136]⁵³² were two round installations, representing silos L [132] and L [134] (Fig. 6.2–6.3). The former was not completely preserved and had been cut from above by two tombs (A/II-m/12-8⁵³³ and A/II-m/12-12⁵³⁴ both from Phase E/2), whilst the latter had been complete before the taking down of the baulk between A/II-m/12 and 13 (see below, 172). Silo L [132] was probably about 2.13 m wide (~ 4 cubits). Finds visible on the photos from within the silo L [132] could not be recovered for re-study (being the fill of the silo it is unlikely that it was contemporary with Phase G/2–1). The silo structure seems to consist of two walls, which seem to have been set into a foundation trench (which is rarely observed for such an unassuming structure). The outer wall may have served either as reinforcement or represents the remains of an earlier or later silo.

Silo L [132] is connected to wall [M47] by means of a short “wall” (0.42 m) composed of three courses of bricks and M. BIETAK interpreted this feature as a stairway in order to facilitate filling the silo from the alleyway.⁵³⁵ Interestingly it seems to represent some sort of installation because a pottery vessel is shown in the plan drawing embedded into this short connecting “wall”. Its purpose remains unclear. The vessel could not be identified. To the north of the silo its wall had been strengthened by another skin wall laid alongside the first wall. The preserved height of the wall reaches to 4.84 m/NN that is 10 cm higher than the floor (that possibly represents about 2 or 3 courses of bricks). In the middle of the silo there is an ashy area indicated in the plan drawing (no 199). The floor level given there is at 4.74 m/NN. The pottery visible in the site photographs (Fig. 6.2–6.3) could not be identified. The silo was cut by two later tombs, one of them well visible in the eastern section of A/II-m/12 (Fig. 6.4).

⁵³² The open space belonging to this compound is represented by L [136] in A/II-n/12, L [133] in A/II-m/12, and L [124] in A/II-m/13.

⁵³³ M. BIETAK, TD V, 118–119, consisted just of a pit without structural elements. Thus, it is not well visible in the site photographs unlike tomb 12–13 (two individuals were buried in it).

⁵³⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V, 131–132.

⁵³⁵ M. BIETAK, TD V, 33.



Fig. 6.5 Eastern baulk of A/II-m/12, (Archive Cairo) down to a level of ca 4.80 m/NN, to the right just south of the door opening the ash pit L [136a]; close to the metre stick the silo from Fig. 6.4

It remains unclear if the area east of silo **L** [132] was accessible from courtyard/space **L** [136] or not, because it cannot be ascertained that wall [M48] ran through from the southern periphery of silo **L** [132] further south to the room/space **L** [142] in square A/II-n/13 due to tomb A/II-m/13-no 3 that cuts into it. Unless it is assumed that this unit was quite separate from the remainder of Compound 12, access to the east needs to go through wall [M48]. A reason for the relative separation of this area might have been the construction of tomb A/II-n/12-4 in a kind of recess in the large rectangular room/space **L** [137] (see below, 194–198), although there seems to be a doorway in wall [M54/M55]. It is, however, more likely according to M. BIETAK that silo **L** [132] cut into wall [M48], which then seems to have fallen out of use.⁵³⁶

Silo **L** [134] is of slightly smaller size but also seems to have had a more irregular shape and was not exactly rounded. The size is 1.75 by 2.0 m (~ 3 1/3 by 3 2/3 cubits).

In the alleyway **L** [115] a little north east of the door in wall [M47] another patch of ash mixed with potsherds was recorded (see Fig. 6.5). This could be the result of disposal of household rubbish. Whilst the

alleyway also shows a floor level of ca 4.70 m/NN, the dump does not seem to be higher than that. Thus, the dumped material could have been thoroughly spread and distributed over a wider area.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-m/12⁵³⁷)

For Compound 12 only the eastern and southern sections are relevant. For the others see the description in the respective chapters.

The eastern section⁵³⁸ (A84, drawn in 1967) was exposed to a level of ca 4.70 m/NN. It is well visible that the terrain rises again towards the south in this area of the excavation, quite considerably (almost 1.5 m over 10 m). Unfortunately the degree of exposure means that the base levels of the walls relevant for the early settlement phases were not reached. A/II-m/12-Tomb no 12 appears prominent in that section destroying the settlement layer at running metres ca 6.2 to 8.0 along the section (counting from north to south). Directly in the northern corner (ca 0.8–1.2 m from the north the wall curtailing Compound 11 [M7a+b] is visible.⁵³⁹ It is one brick's width wide. On top of wall [M7a]

⁵³⁶ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 131, 32–33.

⁵³⁷ The inked sections of this square were fully prepared and analysed by M. BIETAK with the final section nos.

⁵³⁸ TDplan no 221.

⁵³⁹ (A84), section no A84-39.

(= section no A84-39) a later version of this wall existed (= section no A84-34[a]) and seems to continue the tradition of this wall in the same width.⁵⁴⁰ Only on top of that wall does the quality of the brick work change its form and becomes more irregular. There seems to have been a gap between the walls with section nos A84-34a and A84-34. In addition, wall section no A84-4 with a base level of 5.10 m/NN was assigned to Phase F.⁵⁴¹ This represents another example of a possible continuation in plot limitations over at least two phases (see, 169).⁵⁴² The older and later wall (= section nos A84-39, A84-34a and A84-34) form the northern limit of alleyway **L** [115]. The southern limit lays 2.0 m to the south (section no A84-37a in eastern section) represented by wall [M47], which is preserved to an elevation of about 5.00 m/NN and was built half a brick's to one brick's width wide, irregularly. Again the base level was not reached, thus, the original founding phase cannot be established. The depositional layers of the alleyway between those two walls (section nos A84-36, A84-40) represent alternating ashy and sandy layers, which also occur frequently in other open areas (cf. Fig. 4.2 for the principle). Also note that a pit (section no A84-8) cuts into layer section no A84-40, into which in turn wall section no A84-37a = [M47] was built. This means that wall A84-39 = [M7a+b] was probably older than the layers accumulated after which wall [M47] was built. To gain proof for this assumption new excavations going down deeper would be necessary. Finally another wall with section no A84-37 at running metre 6.0 was just caught in the profile only one brick's width wide and one brick course, a little north of the later chamber tomb A/II-m/12-no 13. The preserved top is at about 4.90 m/NN. This brick probably represents the preserved top of silo wall **L** [132] rather than the wall of the tomb (which would rather have been built with more loamy mud-bricks and more massively). The photo shows the section where the silo runs into the section just north of the pit of the tomb (Fig. 6.4–6.5), see also the plan Fig. 6.1. Interestingly the wall of silo **L** [134] is not visible in

the eastern section. Only some brick rubble can be noted immediately south of [M47] = section no A84-37, which is taken to represent that feature.

Again this area between [M47] and silo wall **L** [132] is characterised by alternating thin layers of ash, sand and humus with intermixed bones and sherds in small quantity suggesting a thoroughfare rather than an activity area. No sherd collections were recorded from this square/section.

The southern section⁵⁴³ (A35, drawn in 1967 with additions in 1968) of A/II-m/12 is shown together with one metre of that of A/II-m/11 to the west and part of A/II-m/13 to the east. In the west the massive accumulation of ash from the ash pit in **L** [156]⁵⁴⁴ is well visible and also that it is up to 0.5 m thick. It overlies the wall of Phases H or G/4–3 (= section no A35-39a in this section), which is slightly exceeding 1.0 m in width. That wall is partly damaged, and is preserved up to an elevation of 4.30 m/NN, but irregularly. The sand tempered bricks may belong to the building phase below.⁵⁴⁵ The base level seems to extend well below 4.00 m/NN but was not reached in the excavation.

The most prominent features in the southern section (A35) are the later tombs close to the eastern and western corners, namely A/II-m/13-no 13⁵⁴⁶ and A/II-m/12-no 10.⁵⁴⁷ Whilst the latter cuts into the older layers set into a very large pit (section no A35-21) it seems to sit on top of the ash layer section no A35-38. Thus, this means that the layers beneath the tomb remain largely intact.⁵⁴⁸ In this square seemingly the top most sandy layers of the *gezirah* were reached (section no A35-40), which is thought to be the virgin soil on which the initial settlement of Phase H started. The top of the level of the 'virgin soil' is at about 4.10 m/NN in this spot, but it is not that high everywhere.⁵⁴⁹ Thus, there may be considerable differences in elevation right from the beginning. On top of it the first building Phase H is represented by section no A35-39a–c. Above the wall with section no A35-39b at a running metre 6.0 (from east to west),

⁵⁴⁰ Assigned to Phase F by M. BIETAK. It seems not impossible though, that this upper wall with six preserved brick courses may belong to two different walls, because after three courses an ashy layer on both sides of the wall may form a "floor". The lower part of wall section no A84-34, I have termed A84-34a for the time being.

⁵⁴¹ M. BIETAK, analysis of section.

⁵⁴² Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 3, square A/II-m/12, where the overlying wall is preserved to a level of 5.39 m/NN.

⁵⁴³ TDplan no 219.

⁵⁴⁴ In the courtyard of Compound 11, see chapter 3.

⁵⁴⁵ Cf. the building in the northern part of square A/II-n/11, pl. 5 on the plan, see Fig. 9.1, e.g. [H-G/4-M6], [H-G/4-M7], [H-G/4-10], [H-G/4-M11].

⁵⁴⁶ M. BIETAK, TD V, 84–87, Phase E/3.

⁵⁴⁷ M. BIETAK, TD V, 198–199, Phase E/1.

⁵⁴⁸ The layers below the tomb were not disturbed.

⁵⁴⁹ See the description of the early settlement layers in chapter 5 for a discussion of the elevation, and the introduction.

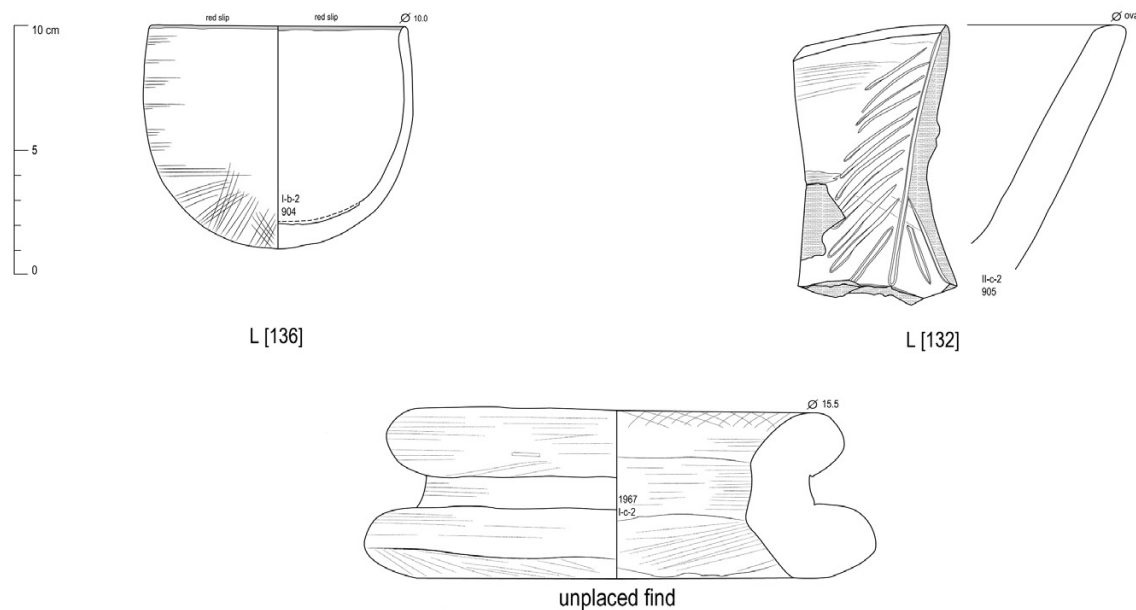


Fig. 6.6 Reg.nos 904, 905 and 1967

which is preserved almost three brick courses high the ash layer (no A35-38) runs over it and connects to the thick ashy layer of **L [156]** in A/II-m/11–12. This ash accumulation suggests activity in the courtyard of Compound 11. The ash also ran thinly below tomb 10, as the tomb cut into this layer. A trench was dug along the southern section,⁵⁵⁰ thus, revealing the stratigraphic relationship of the walls with no A35-39, but the exact course of these walls remains uncertain.⁵⁵¹ The wall with section no A35-39b seems to be the precursor of wall **[M47]** as it is situated quite directly below wall **[M47]** (= section no A35-36). This wall shows a probable base level of about 4.65 m/NN and is preserved up to about 5.15 m/NN shown in plan 2.⁵⁵² This wall tumbled over and brick rubble derived from it is to be found to the west but mainly to the east (section no A35-31) and is spread out on a length of at least a 1.50 m. A series of ashy, sandy and humic layers derived from settlement activities are spreading in the area representing these in the space/courtyard **L [136]** and continue further to the south into square A/II-n/12. The part of the section that represents the alleyway **L [115]** shows a series of finely layered walking ‘floors’.

Finds from square A/II-m/12, pl. 4–5

L [136] Open space

Pottery

Reg.no **904** (KhM, A 2651), hemispherical cup. Position: A/II-m/12, pl. 4–5, 2.30 m/E, 0.70 m/S, 3.10 m deep [H = ca 4.75 m/NN]; relative level e–f (Fig. 6.6–6.7).

Records: B/W negative SW1053/73–74, drawing ZN 140/67, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-2	fine	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2
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Rd. = 10.0; (rim 100% preserved), wd. = 0.3–0.6; base 100% preserved; max.d. = 10.8; H1 = 8.9; VI 121.4. Surface colour: 5 YR 6/4 light reddish brown; red rim band: 10 R 4–5/8 red. Section: uniform brown; some large quartz inclusions on the surface.

Animal bones

Animal bones from square A/II-m/12, pl. 5 cannot be assigned to this compound because it is proven that those mentioned by BOESSNECK all came from Com-

⁵⁵⁰ M. BIETAK, personal communication 21 July 2017.

⁵⁵¹ Wall, section no A35-39c, can be traced in A/II-n/12, in the lowermost planum, but not A35-39b.

⁵⁵² M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2. This wall is not shown in plan 3, indicating that it was not visible even as a ruin in Phase F.



Fig. 6.7 Photos of reg.nos 904, 905 and 1967, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

pound 11 along the wall [M7a].⁵⁵³ The animal bones from the southern section most likely belong to the area of L [136] but to layers that belong already to Phase F. A/II-m/12, in southern section, 1.50 m/E, H = ca 4.90–4.95 m/NN.
Cattle: lower jaw with Pd 4 medium abraded.

In the vicinity of L [132] (out of context)

Pottery

Reg.no 905 (KhM, A 2652), rim fragment of incised dish ('fish dish'). Position: A/II-m/12, pl. 4–5,

⁵⁵³ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 14. Cf. relevant section in Compound 11, 133–135.

1.20 m/E; 2.10 m/S; elevation not given, relative level e. “Close to the pit of tomb 8, displaced, probably older than Phase E/2”,⁵⁵⁴ (Fig. 6.6–6.7).

Record: B/W negative SW1070/9; drawing ZN 21E, redrawn and re-recorded.⁵⁵⁵

TG	II-c-2	medium	Ha1	–	ox	3
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Rd. = oval, boat shaped; wd. = 1.6 cm;

Surface colour: exterior 7.5 YR 6–7/3 pink to light brown, interior 7.5 AR 7/3–4 pink. Section: uniform red 10 R 6/8; top edge of rim trimmed with a tool. Incisions made with sharp point pre-firing; vegetal motif at the edge of a pond/fish (?); one line of this feature is just visible before the fragment breaks off; fabric is well mixed, particle sizes generally small; smoothing marks visible on interior and exterior.

Unplaced find from square A/II-m/12

Pottery

Reg.no **1967** (KhM, A 1747), large ringstand. Position: A/II-m/12, [pl. 5], Relative level e or f (Fig. 6.6–6.7).

Records: B/W negative SW1159/3, 1165/60–61;⁵⁵⁶ drawing ZN 9/1969.

TG?	I-c-2	m. – r.	Ha1-2	Bd. gesp.	ox	2–3
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Rd. = 18.3; (rim 95% preserved); rd. interior = 15.5; wd. = 2.4; max.d. = 20.5; bd. = 16.8; (base 100% preserved); bd. interior = 14.1; H1 = 6.6–6.9; weight 1462 grams.

Surface colour: 10 R 4/6 red, but surface quite eroded. The top part appears to have been rubbed all around as if used heavily with pottery having been put inside. In two places round the top use of some kind created abrasions (cf. Fig. 6.7 on the right side of the stand and on the back a little to the left). Technology seems to have included coiling and turning, the base was scraped. The stand is asymmetrical.

SQUARE A/II-m/13

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-m/13)

Square A/II-m/13 contains parts of the two walls enclosing Compound 12 [M47] in the north-west and [M74] in the east. These walls are built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks and are on an average about a brick's width wide. In some stretches of the walls the regular layer of sand bricks had been denuded and the bricks there seem to lay about unorderedly (especially in the northern part of [M74]). But this may be due to the fact that the courses were only preserved one or two brick courses.

The main feature of this square is a single rectangular Room 1 (= L [129], see Fig. 6.8), which is preserved a few mud-brick courses high, but not everywhere in the square. It consists of walls [M73] on the eastern side, [M72] and [M71] on the northern side and [M70] on the western side. The southern back wall [M76] is only preserved in one mud-brick in the very south eastern corner. The same holds true for the western wall of this house that is only preserved about halfway towards the south, but both are represented very clearly in the southern section.⁵⁵⁷ The walls were built to one brick's thickness in contrast to Compounds 10, 11, 13, 14, 1, 2 and 5 (that had 1 1/2). Interestingly all of the walls of this compound are composed of one brick's width whether the mud-bricks were laid side to side or as stretchers. This compound also differs in that it was rather a collection of more or less rectangular one-room huts than more formulated two-room houses that can be observed in some of the other compounds.⁵⁵⁸

The size of the mud-bricks is quite irregular in this part of the settlement. Some measurements taken from the original plan are 0.33–0.38 by 0.17–0.19 m. The very irregularity of the bricks in this phase suggests that they were either reused or so close to the floor that it represents the first brick course (rowlock). Access to L [129] seems to have been provided by the

⁵⁵⁴ M. BIETAK, note on record of object in position index, undated.

⁵⁵⁵ Previously published in B. BADER, TD XIII, 86, cat.no 101, fig. 15.f. There the find spot is erroneously indicated as A/II-m/18, which is an overlooked typing mistake.

⁵⁵⁶ Negative record SW1159 was not available; negative strip SW1166/60–61 was also not available including the contact print. Thus the photos probably did not come out in the processing.

⁵⁵⁷ A34, section no A34-36. See below, 183. Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 31 with note 27.

⁵⁵⁸ Cf. B. BADER, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

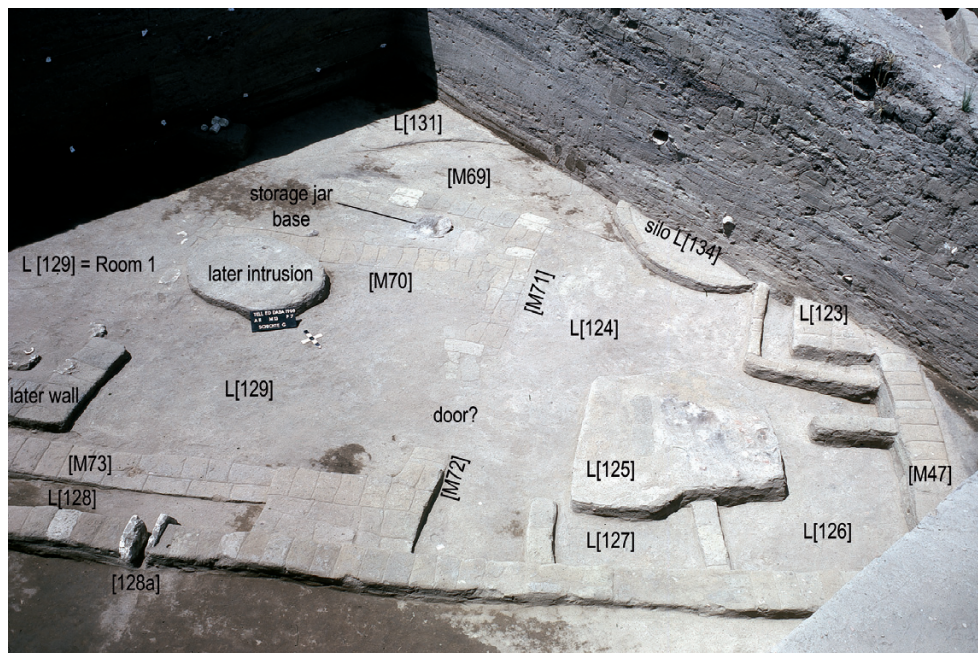


Fig. 6.8 View of Room 1 = L [129] from north-east (slide Cairo Archive)

opening of 0.8 m between walls [M71] and [M72], the location of which is rather unusual because this is the direction of the local prevailing winds (Fig. 6.8). Finds made in that space include a faience bracelet (reg.no 970⁵⁵⁹), a fragment of a large hemispherical cup,⁵⁶⁰ querns and grinders made of limestone (of undefined number and shape) and animal bones from cattle, sheep/goat (see below for details, 190). The inner dimensions of L [129] are 6.5 m by 2.8 m resulting in a square footage of ca 18.2 m² (cubits: ca 12.5 cubits by 5.5, 68.75 square feet).

Several special features of this building need to be described. The first one is the rather narrow space between the two eastern walls of the building L [129], [M73] and [M74]. The walls were not preserved well enough to ascertain whether the precinct wall [M74] would have been high enough to shield the view from the house. It is unlikely in view of the very narrow opening (ca 0.20 m) in this wall L [128a] with reinforcement by two unworked pieces of limestone (see Fig. 6.2).⁵⁶¹ The distance of the opening to the eastern baulk along the wall is about 4.0 m. Although space L [128] does not seem to have been walkable with a width of ca 0.3 m (except for children), the

opening from the alleyway L [122] seems to indicate exactly this. This feature may have served as a staircase although the opening in the wall would remain unexplained. Unfortunately the south-eastern corner of this space was hidden in the baulk and thus it remains unknown if the wall provided access there to the space south of this building or not. There are no finds recorded from this space either that might have enabled a more informed interpretation. To the north of L [128] the space is blocked by sand tempered mudbricks of one and a half brick's width. This blockage is 1.2 m wide and might in fact have been some sort of platform or part of a pavement or perhaps a short flight of steps. No finds were preserved from there, thus interpretation is difficult.

The north western corner of building L [129] is jutting out about 20 cm beyond the façade of the building and again this feature is hard to interpret. It could have served as reinforcement of the façade or remains from a setting place of a quern or some similar installation.

To the north of Room 1 = L [129] three short and low walls perpendicular to the precinct walls [M47] and [M74] were built. M. BIETAK interpreted them as space dividers for storage of various items like fire-

⁵⁵⁹ In the published plan this reg.no is given as 940, which is incorrect.

⁵⁶⁰ "Tief kalottenförmiges Tongefäß" according to M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 1968.

⁵⁶¹ M. BIETAK interpreted these as drainage devices. Digging Diary, 1968.



Fig. 6.9 Fire place L [125] just appearing and L [123], view towards north-east SW1054/51

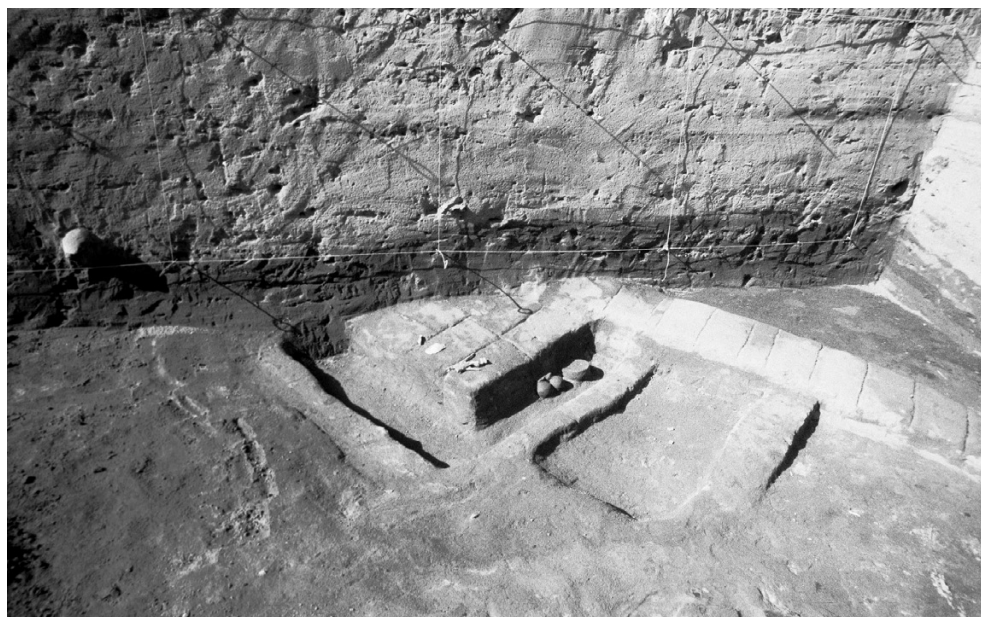


Fig. 6.10 View of the finds leaning against feature L [123], bones on top of feature, SW1054/59

wood.⁵⁶² Attached to wall [M74] by a short wall and perhaps cutting into it is a slightly raised platform/fire place L [125] paved to a certain extent with pottery sherds⁵⁶³ (see detailed plan⁵⁶⁴ and Fig. 6.9). This

feature has been interpreted as some kind of hearth (cf. a similar installation in Compound 11, square A/II-m/12 L [113]) because of the deposition of ashes in a roughly rectangular area of about 1.75 m by 1.5 m.

⁵⁶² Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 32. See also V. MÜLLER, TD XVII, 397.

⁵⁶³ Further specified as “sherds of large jars” in the Digging Diary by M. BIETAK of 1968. It was not possible to identify and re-record these items.

⁵⁶⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V, fig. 6. Note, that that the elevation of 4.92 m/NN is incorrect due to a printing error, it has been corrected in Fig. 6.18 to 4.42 m/NN as given in the original plan drawing.

On top of it were one piece of limestone placed in the centre, and two bricks aligned with the southern edge of the installation. There is some indication of slight burning on the surface of the paving sherds (but not as much ash deposition as next to **L [113]**).

Another rectangular installation (**L [123]**) in this area is an almost square brick platform of 0.65 by 0.70 m surrounded by a thin wall (1/2 brick's width) at a distance of ca 20 to 30 cm. The platform was built of two small squares each of two bricks side by side and two brick courses high. The surrounding wall was only one brick course high. Between the platform and the wall at its western side there was a deposition of three pottery vessels as well as some animal bones and a shell (see Fig. 6.9–6.10 and below for the finds, 185–189). The platform does not seem to have been higher according to the section, but it remains unclear how much further down the feature reaches, as the base level of it was not reached in the western section (A65).⁵⁶⁵ The preserved top of **[M47]** was at an elevation of 4.78 m/NN, whilst the top of the platform is slightly below at 4.72 m/NN. Whilst it is clear from the section that **[M47]** was cut before the next layer was deposited, it seems as if on top of the platform some thin humic and ash depositions mark the top of the platform and not later destruction. Further, the section shows one sand tempered brick as paving between the platform and the lower surrounding wall. This lower wall is overlain by a sand layer at first and after by the same depositions as the platform (ash and humic layers). This feature has been interpreted as a likely house altar, mainly because in Phase E/2 and E/1 similar features are known, and the pottery belongs to the typical offering pottery repertoire.⁵⁶⁶ A similar, albeit not exactly parallel, feature was found south of wall **[M77]** in square A/II-o/13 (see below, 227).

Silo **L [134]**⁵⁶⁷ may well have existed at the same time as installation **L [123]** because the western section proves that their elevation was at least the same

as far as the section was exposed. Of course, as none of the real base levels were reached, it is impossible to know which was built earlier. Judging from the preservation of the other silos it is unlikely though that this one should have been so much better preserved. The silo was laid out from sand tempered mud-brick as headers and had a diameter of ca 1.95–2.0 m (3.7–3.8 cubits). In the section two preserved brick courses were visible. The diameter of this silo corresponds to that of **L [132]**, which may mean that they mud-brick were built roughly at the same time.

Some kind of annexe was erected to the west of **L [129]**, seemingly at the same time as the rest of the building, because there is no visible formal join indicating a later addition according to the original plan drawing (TD no 228). The wall constituting the annexe **[M69]** runs about 2 m towards the south. It was longer, as indicated on the plan,⁵⁶⁸ but the end looks rather denuded and not formally finished. However, the continuation is visible in the southern section of the square at a base level of 4.20 m/NN.⁵⁶⁹ The resulting room/space **L [130]** appears trapezoid due to a deviation of wall **[M69]** towards the south west. Within this space the base of a storage jar⁵⁷⁰ (see Fig. 6.8) was found as well as one mud-brick to the north of the base of the storage jar and an unworked stone. Whether the single mud-brick was part of an installation in space **L [130]** or represents just rubble fallen down remains unclear.⁵⁷¹

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-m/13)⁵⁷²

The northern section⁵⁷³ (A13, drawn in October 1968) was exposed down to a level of ca 4.20 m/NN, except in the eastern part (running metres 7.0–10.0 from west) where it was only recorded to 5.00 m/NN (Fig. 6.11). It is characterised by series of thin, finely layered ashy, sandy and slightly loamy levels, all partly

⁵⁶⁵ The lowest elevation is at 4.50 m/NN.

⁵⁶⁶ M. BIETAK, TD V, 32.

⁵⁶⁷ The plan could be amended because the eastern half of the silo exists in the plan drawing of planum 7 TDplan no 228. For some reason it was not included in the published plan. The eastern half of it is also visible in Fig. 6.8.

⁵⁶⁸ M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2.

⁵⁶⁹ (A34) section no A34-36.

⁵⁷⁰ The find could not be identified and re-studied. Probably Marl C, see Fig. 6.1, "Vorratsgefäßboden".

⁵⁷¹ Due to the find of the storage jar this space was interpreted as storage space. Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 31.

⁵⁷² For the northern and southern section the finalised ink plans with section nos were prepared by M. BIETAK. The eastern and western ones were inked but only contain the provisional section nos of the field sections.

⁵⁷³ TDplan no 238.



Fig. 6.11 A/II-m/13, Northern section with walls [M47] and [M74] running into each other; finely stratified layers from walking ‘floors’ (Cairo Archive).



Fig. 6.12 A/II-m/13, eastern section with walls [M74] and [M73], the wall in front of [M73] belongs to Phase F; finely stratified layers from walking ‘floors’ well visible (Cairo Archive).

compacted, which are a typical feature of alleyways and thoroughfares. Indeed, **L [115]** (running metres 0.0–2.0 from west) and **L [122]** (running metres 3.0–6.8 from west), two such pathways were recorded within the northern section of A/II-m/13 (see Fig. 6.1). Also the corner in which the two walls [M47] and [M74] meet is well visible (section no A13-59, be-

tween running metres 2.0 and 3.0 from west). The base level of this corner is at an elevation of ca 4.30 m/NN. It should be noted that the base level of this corner lies slightly below that of the precinct wall [M7a] of Compound 11 (section no A13-62) at ca 4.40 m/NN (see Fig. 5.4). This might reflect a slightly later erection of Compound 11 or at least of its porch wall



Fig. 6.13 A/II-m/13, western section, with L [123], L [125], L [134] and [M74] (Cairo Archive).

than Compound 12.⁵⁷⁴ But it must not be forgotten that this unevenness of the ground may be due to natural topography (*gezirahs*). Also in later periods of the site the middle of this area (running metres 2.4–7.0 from west) had been used as thoroughfare as evidenced by compacted layers. This instance demonstrates once again that the built up areas and open spaces stayed largely in the same organisational limits over several phases, perhaps to be identified with generations.

The eastern section⁵⁷⁵ (A89, drawn in 1968) was exposed to an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN but not everywhere along the section (Fig. 6.12). Running metres 0.50 to 2.70 measured from the north were dominated by the superimposed massive mud-brick walls of Phases E/3 and E/2, under which the excavation did not continue. At running metre 3.80 from the north a heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall begins and it continues almost to running metre 5.0. It is perhaps possible that this mass of sand tempered mud-bricks looks like the top of an articulated wall but is in reality sand brick rubble. The majority of the recorded layers were compacted ashy and sandy with some humic

ones in between and they were deposited in alternating very thin layering indicating that this area was used as thoroughfare for most of its history at least from running metre 5.0 southwards until running metre ~6.70, where the top of wall [M74] is just visible in the section (section no A89-16). Where [M73] should be visible the elevation was not low enough. The base levels of any of the earlier walls were not reached.

The western section⁵⁷⁶ (A65, drawn in 1967) was exposed down to an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN as well (Fig. 6.13). The whole baulk was removed at one point during 1968 in order to have a better overview of the archaeological features in squares A/II-m/12–13 at that stage. This strategy also enabled complete excavation of tomb A/II-m/12-no 12 of Phase E/2⁵⁷⁷ located within this baulk. The western section showed that tomb A/II-m/12-no 12 cut into the wall of silo L [132] from the later phase (cf. section no A65-22). At the southern end of the baulk another tomb (A/II-m/13-no 13) cuts into and destroys the early levels as well. Well visible are the sand tempered mud-brick walls of the circular silo L [134] at running metres 4.4 and

⁵⁷⁴ This would not be the case if the sand tempered mud brick just slightly west and below wall section no A13-62 represented an earlier building phase of this porch wall.

⁵⁷⁵ This section, TDplan no 236, was only numbered with section nos from the original plan the final assessment of the inked version by M. BIETAK is pending.

⁵⁷⁶ TDplan no 237.

⁵⁷⁷ Note that in M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 5, this tomb is erroneously numbered 13. In plan 2, the same tomb was given the correct no 12. Tomb A/II-m/13 no 13 is at the southern end of the western baulk.

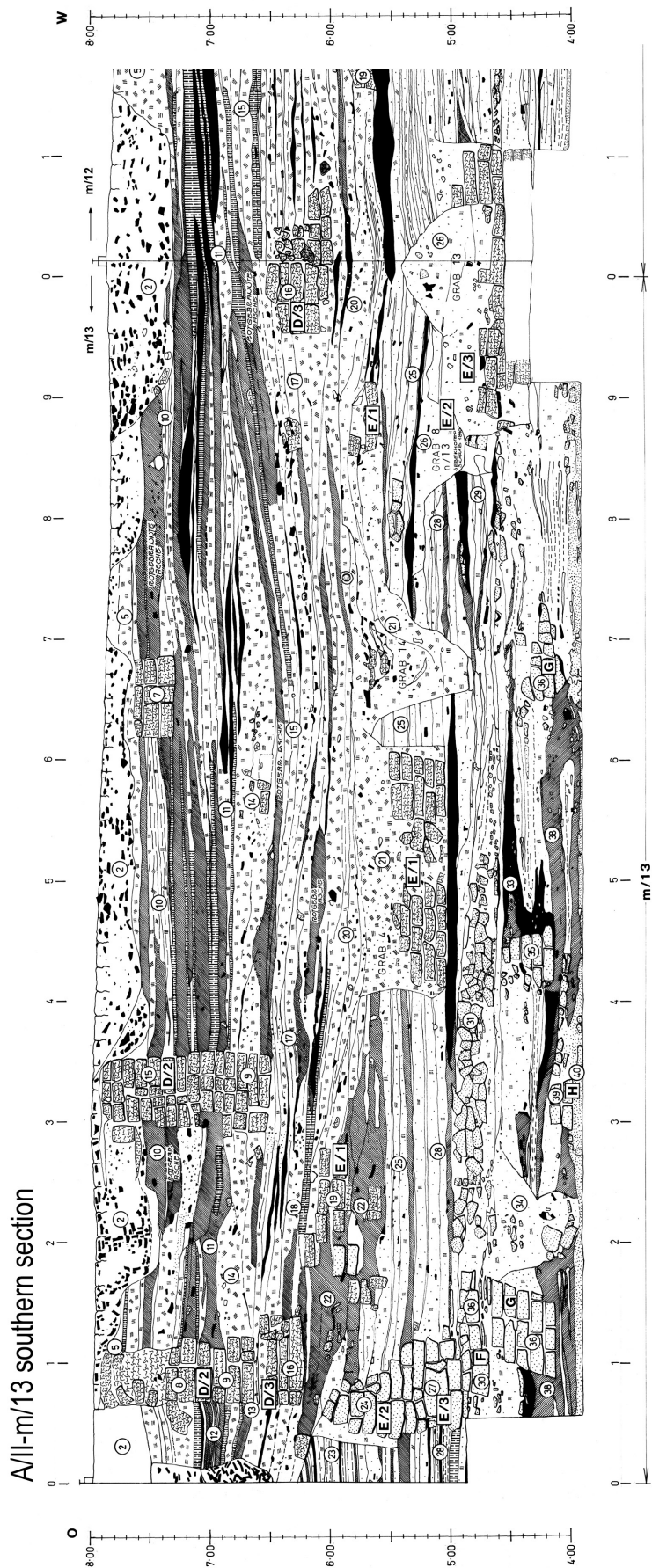


Fig. 6.14 Southern section of A/II-m/13 (A34), inked by H. Singer, © M. Bietak

Excursus Section analysis of A/II-m/13 south⁵⁷⁸

- 1) Recent disturbance down to tomb 10, fill of loose silty earth, mud-brick rubble and pottery fragments.
- 2) sebakh pits, filled with loose silty earth, mud-brick rubble and pottery fragments.
- 3) Wide wall (Stratum D/1) in m/12, consisting of two skin walls built of mud-bricks, the gap between them was filled with mud-brick rubble. Only the basis of the foundation was laid out with one brick course on top of a thin sand layer. The elevation from which this wall was set into a trench is cannot be determined exactly.
- 4) In m/12, running metre 2.0 m/E and 6–6.60 m/E it seems as if in the course of excavating the foundation for wall no 3 two steps were planned with a height of 7.40 m/NN to 7.50 m/NN. The eastern step is packed densely with mud-brick rubble, the western one with clean sand.
- 5) Silty earth with suspected mud-brick rubble. Layer of decay of Phase D/2.
- 6) Densely packed mud-brick rubble, Layer of decay of Phase D/2, levelled into the ruins of the building.
- 7) Mud-brick wall of Phase D/2, later structure in Phase D/2, lies on top of older archaeological layers from Phase D/2.
- 8) Mud-brick wall of Phase D/2. In m/13 1.0 m/E part of the brick structure are no longer recognisable. The top most brick courses of m/12 (0.60–1.0 m/E) belong to a later settlement layer (= Phase A or B).
- 9) Foundations of no 8. The foundation trenches are not unequivocally identifiable in the section. In contrast, the lowermost part of the wall is notably wider and continues into a clean layer constituted of silty earth and brick rubble. It cannot be excluded that these represent only the lower parts of walls of an in between phase (cf. 13).
- 10) Topmost compacted ‘floor’⁵⁷⁹ of Phase D/2 overlaid by red burnt ash layers (cf. no 4). Below this layer down to compacted ‘floor’ no 11 settlement layers are preserved within Compound I: compacted earth floors alternate with ashy and humic layers.
- 11) Presumed lowermost compacted ‘floor’ of Phase D/2.
- 12) Finely stratified compacted layers: ashy, muddy, humic representing the area of the alleyway outside of the building (Phase D/2).
- 13) m/13, 1.0 m/O. At this point a shallow foundation trench for no 9 (Phase D/2) cuts into these layers. Should this be the case no 14 has to be considered as a levelling layer.
- 14) Silty earth with many broken but disintegrated mud-bricks, probably levelling layer in order to compensate the difference in elevation to the remainder of the building in m/12.
- 15) Silty earth with ash layers indicative of a fallow period in the area of this Compound between Phases D/3 and D/2.
- 16) Remains of mud-brick walls of Phase D/3. Foundation trenches were not observed here, although the preserved walls signify the remains of a building. The foundation trenches must have been shallow, because the finely stratified layers abutting the wall at running metre 0.0 in m/12 slope upwards.
- 17) Layers with little visible settlement activities: silty earth, ash depositions, ceramic fragments, compacted ‘floors’ of Phase D/3.
- 18) Compacted silty earth, interior basic level of Phase D/3? Possibly remains of masonry works such as a pit to mix loamy mortar.
- 19) Thin mud-brick walls of Phase E/1 in the area of Cemetery precinct I. These walls probably enclosed tombs that belonged to kinship groups.
- 20) Compacted ‘floors’ on the surface of the cemetery (Phase E/1); with sandy and silty accumulations caused by wind also with occasional compacted ‘floors’, further ashy layers intermittently, which might have been caused by burning offerings for the dead. The cemetery was situated in a depression coming down from the alleyway, and ashy depositions were also found in the periphery, see no 22.
- 21) Tombs of Phase E/1, which were probably built in rapid sequence: m/13-no 14 is older than m/13-no 4 but nothing can be said about the sequence of the other tombs. This series of tombs is unequivocally later than those of the earlier settlement layers (e.g. m/13-no 13, n/13-no 8).
- 22) Ashy accumulations deposited from the higher level of the alleyway of Phase E/1 down into the depression in which the cemetery was built. They are probably derived from a settlement compound close by.
- 23) Lower compacted ‘floor’ of Phase E/1 outside the Cemetery precinct I in the area of the alleyway. Above and below compacted and finely stratified layers: sandy, ashy and humic.
- 24) Later phase of precinct wall of Cemetery precinct I built of sand tempered mud-bricks (Phase E/2 and transition to Phase E/1). A gap between wall and the pack of layers of the alleyway was caused by one-sided use of the wall from the alleyway and the insertion of sandy fill into this gap.
- 25) Basic elevation of precinct wall no 24 (Phase E/2), on top of an ash layer, which might have overrun an earlier precinct wall (Phase E/3). Further to the west

⁵⁷⁸ Translated from the section analysis by M. BIETAK originally in German. The lowermost phases, nos 29 to 40 have been adapted to the most current research by B. BADER.

⁵⁷⁹ Compacted floor for “Gehhorizont”

- this floor (no 25) cannot be identified with certainty. Slightly humic, but mainly sandy layers with walking horizons were deposited on top of it. These depositions fill a depression, which lasted from Phase H to E/3. The last phase is only represented further to the west in square m/10–11.
- 26) Tombs of Phase E/3 (before erection of the Mortuary Temple in Cemetery precinct I): n/13-no 8 and m/13-no 13 (cf. m/12 eastern section, no 33).
 - 27) Earlier phase of precinct wall around Cemetery precinct I: Phase E/3 (before erection of Mortuary Temple).
 - 28) Basic elevation of Phase E/3. Towards the east this surface is obscured by tomb pits cutting into the layer.
 - 29) Finely stratified sandy layers and compacted ‘floors’ (Phase E/3–perhaps Phase F).
 - 30) Wall built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks cutting into the top of another such wall of Phase G[2–1] (no 36). Therefore it probably belongs to Phase F.
 - 31) Destroyed wall built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks of Phase G[2–1] or F. The flattened top of this rubble was overrun by sandy layers (fallow period).
 - 32) Finely stratified compacted ‘floors’, sandy with reddish and whitish lime admixture (exterior of Phase G[2–1] building).
 - 33) Layer of charcoal ash, which was moved up to the top during excavations works for a foundation trench for wall no 35, mixed earth and charcoal ash from no 38.
 - 34) Pit with sand fill and heavily sand tempered mud-brick rubble, Phase G[2–1].
 - 35) Wall of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks set into a foundation trench, Phase G[2–1] = [M70]. Probably this is part of a rebuilding scheme namely an additional exterior wall. The lost interior space was made up by excavating a pit at running metres m/13 6.40–7.20. The material from the excavation of this pit was tipped over the old wall, further to the west.
 - 36) Two walls built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks of Phase G[2–1], cut into the charcoal ash layer of Phase G/4 or H. In A/II-m/12 at running metres 6.0 to 6.50 the topmost denuded brick courses belong possibly to a later phase of the building (Phase F?) running metres 0.80–1.40 from east = [M76] = 36a; running metres 6.30–7.20 from east = [M69] = 36b.
 - 37) Sandy, ashy and humic layers with compacted ‘floors’ and aeolean stratification, Phase G[2–1].
 - 38) Accumulation of charcoal ash, representing the division between Phases H and G[4], re-deposited by aeolean processes but partly also by building activities, such as digging foundation trenches, storage pits and tomb pits from later levels. Thus, some of it had been moved further up in the stratigraphy.
 - 39) Walls built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks, Phase G/4–3 or H.⁵⁸⁰ [This wall could not be connected to the plans of the earlier phases because the last planum of square A/II-m/13 uncovered completely (pl. 7) belongs entirely to Phase G/2–1.]
 - 40) Almost clean sand, probably surface of gezirah.

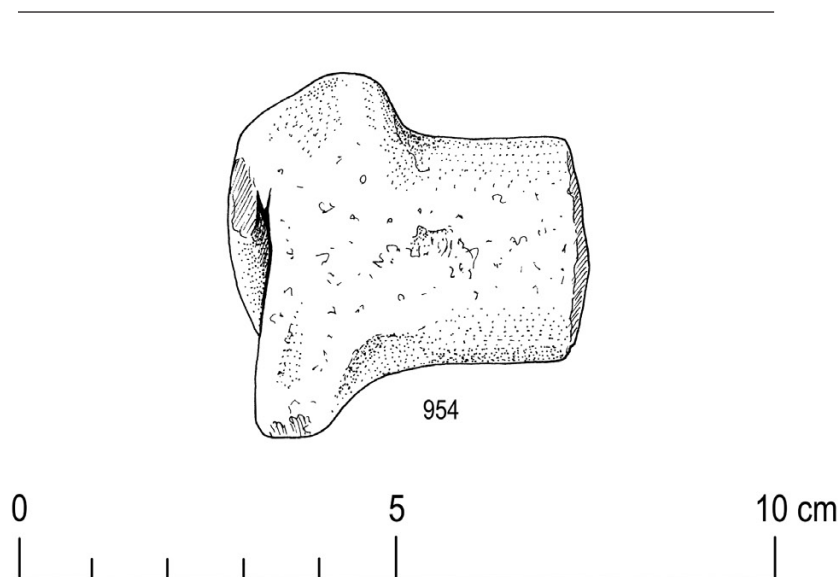


Fig. 6.15 Reg.no 954, part of animal figurine, ZN 1/68, scale 1:1

⁵⁸⁰ Although the lowermost plan drawn, planum 7 of A/II-m/13, only reaches an elevation of about 4.50 m/NN and belongs to Phase G/2–1, the section reached the elevation of 4.00 m/NN. A narrow test trench was excavated along the southern edge of

square A/II-m/13, M. BIETAK, personal communication 21 July 2017. Therefore this wall cannot be included in the overall plan of the settlement.

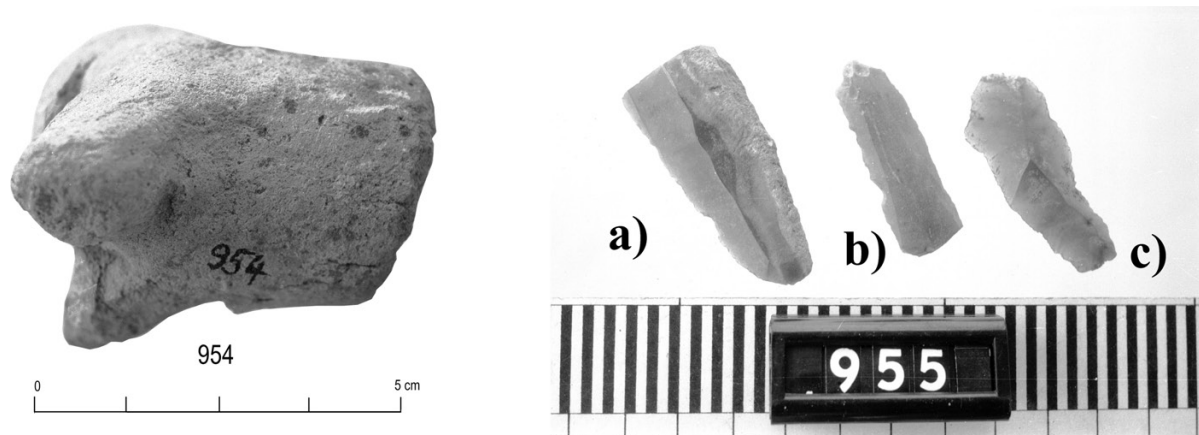


Fig. 6.16 Reg.no 954, part of animal figurine, SW1088/33; reg.no 955a–c, chipped stone tools, SW1085/28

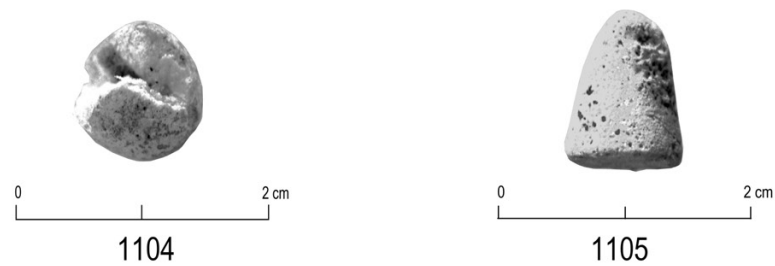


Fig. 6.17 Reg.no 1104, broken faience bead, SW1085/34; reg.no 1105, conical object of faience, SW1085/38

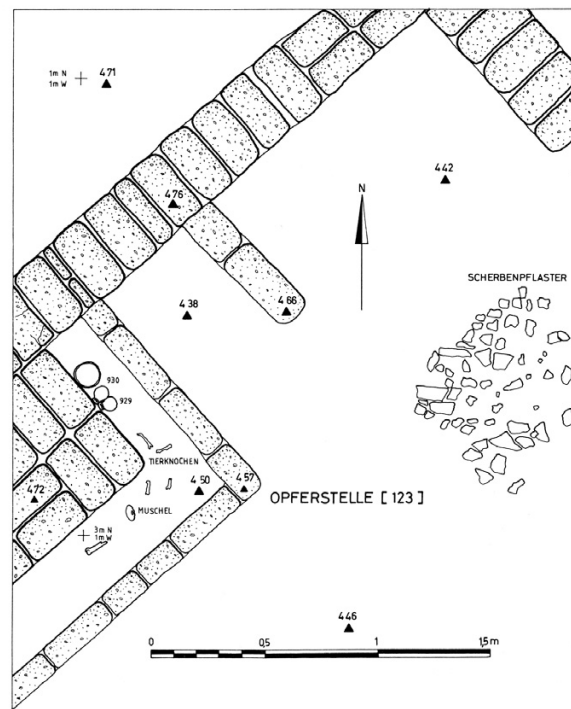


Fig. 6.18 Detail plan of L [123], after M. BIETAK, TD V, fig. 6

6.0 from south (section no A65-27). Unfortunately the section was not continued to a lower elevation so that their base level remains unknown. Considering the usual preservation of circular silos silo **L** [134] was probably not much better preserved than the elevation of 4.40 m/NN reached. The structure from running metres 6.20 to 7.40 (from south) represents the platform with pavement and surrounding wall **L** [123]. The base level was not reached. The same holds true for wall [M47] at running metre 7.40 to almost 8.0. The finely layered series of deposition characterising the pathway **L** [115] was not reached in this section. At an elevation of 4.70 m/NN the sandy layer section no A65-28 runs over the top of wall [M47] and shows that it had fallen out of use by then. The layers inside Compound 12 also consisted of sand, ash and loam in varying concentration but most of them would have represented ‘fill’ because the layer running over wall [M47] continues across the interior of the compound. The lowermost sandy levels are unlikely to represent the *gezirah*. Wall [M48] running from A/II-n/13 through the section of m/13 into A/II-m/12 is not visible in the section because tomb AI//m/13-no 13 cuts most probably through it. But not even the base of the pit of the tomb was reached in this area. All the base levels of the walls mentioned must be below 4.50 m/NN. No archaeological structures of the earlier phases were recorded in this section.

The southern section⁵⁸¹ (A34, drawn in 1967 with additions in its lower part in 1968) extends to an elevation just below 4.0 m/NN (Fig. 6.14) and it seems that here the *gezirah* was reached (section no A34-40). The first wall to be built on top of it was section no A34-39 with a base level of just below 4.0 m/NN at running metre ~3.0 from east. It consists of sand tempered mud-bricks and only two brick courses were preserved. As only a trench was dug along the southern section no further comments can be made concerning

this wall except that it probably belongs to Phase H or G/4.⁵⁸² As A/II-m/13 was only fully excavated to an elevation of 4.50 m/NN, probably a trench was dug along the baulks to clarify some stratigraphic relationships. Walls [M76] (= section no A34-36a, running metre ~1.0 from east) and [M70] (= section no A34-35, at running metres ~4.0–4.50 from east) belong to Phase G/2–1,⁵⁸³ and they are shown in plan 2.⁵⁸⁴ They were founded at a base level of ca 4.15 m/NN and could have been in use in both Phases G/2–1 and G/3. They were dug into the older ash layer covering this area as well as the oldest wall no A34-39. Although those walls 36a and A34-35 are well visible in the section and belong to the continuation of [M76] and [M70], respectively, they did not appear in the plan drawing because the excavation did not go deep enough. The floor levels running between these two walls contain ashy layers as well as lime plaster. The unevenness of the level between walls [M76] and [M70] in the section seems to show that evenness in a ‘room’ was not an important issue for the inhabitants. The floor level given in the plan drawing is around 4.50 m/NN. Thus, it is very possible that the floor level in Building/Room 1 was ascending towards the north or the excavation did not reach the real floor. The wall with section no A34-36b represents the continuation of [M69] and was also founded at roughly the same level (4.15 m/NN) as [M70] and [M76]. Then the room was filled with a slightly sandy seemingly homogeneous fill and at an elevation of ca 4.70 m/NN the walls are cut and above this a ‘trampled compacted floor’ developed. A new phase on top of Phase G/2–1 was laid out, namely Phase F. Wall section no A34-30 (directly above section no A34-36a in the eastern part of the section) represents that phase and it was at that time when a pit⁵⁸⁵ was dug into the room **L** [129]. The debris of this phase is represented by rubble section no A34-31.

⁵⁸¹ TDplan no 235. An inked version with all final section nos is available see Fig. 6.14.

⁵⁸² Cf. chapter 5 with the earlier structures in the vicinity of square A/II-m/13.

⁵⁸³ Perhaps used already in the earlier Phases G/4–3.

⁵⁸⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V.

⁵⁸⁵ Section no A34-34.

Finds from square A/II-m/13, pl. 6–7

Because the actual habitation and activity layers were hardly reached in this square not many finds were recorded. A few deposits were *in situ*.

Close to the eastern section a find of three chipped stone implements (reg.no 955) was made as well as the fragment of an animal figurine (reg.no 954). The position just above the wall [M74] makes it likely that these finds belong to the fill of Phase F, thus these finds are only mentioned for completeness' sake.

Reg.no **954**, part of animal figurine. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 6, 3.50 m/S, 1.50 m/E, H = ca 4.78 m/NN,⁵⁸⁶ relative level e or f (Fig. 6.15–6.16).

Records: B/W negative SW1088/33; drawing ZN 1/68.⁵⁸⁷ Made from light grey pottery; the animal is perhaps a bovid or caprid, hind legs broken away; section of body almost round; length = 4.7 cm.

Reg.no **955**, three chipped stone tools. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 6, 3.50 m/S, 1.50 m/E, H = ca 4.78 m/NN,⁵⁸⁸ relative level e or f (Fig. 6.16).

Records: B/W negative SW1088/35.⁵⁸⁹

a) Length = 4.7 cm, fragment of tool blade, bulbous on terminal end; remains of matrix visible, perhaps knife blade.

b) Length = 4.0 cm, bulbous on basis, top of blade, perhaps some sort of piercer.

c) Length = 4.3 cm, bulbous on basis, flaring towards the tip of the tool, by-product of flint production, not regular tool.

L [115] The Alleyway

About 0.2 m below the level of planum 7 in the northern area of the alleyway and presumably more or less together a bead and a faience object were found. Presumably that would roughly equate the levels with section no A13-63 in the northern section of A/II-m/13. Therefore these finds belong to Phase G/2–1, when they were presumably lost in the alleyway by their ancient owners.

Reg.no **1104**, faience bead. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7–8. North-west corner of the square, 20 cm below level of planum 7 [H ca 4.50 m/NN,⁵⁹⁰] (Fig. 6.17).

Records: B/W negative SW1085/34–36.⁵⁹¹

Spheroid shape, diameter = 0.95 cm; white colour; It seems that the glazing has completely disappeared.

Reg.no **1105**, conical object made of faience (gaming piece?). Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7–8. North-west corner of the square, 20 cm below elevation of planum 7 [H ca 4.50 m/NN⁵⁹²] (Fig. 6.17).

Records: B/W negative SW1085/44.⁵⁹³

Height = 1.2; bd. = 0.9; white faience, probably only core left, glaze probably disappeared.

L [123] The installation north-west of Building/Room 1

For the find context and situation of the findings see Fig. 6.1 and 6.8–6.10, 6.18.

Pottery

Reg.no **929** (KhM, A 2670), small globular jar missing the rim. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, along northern edge of brick installation, H = 4.50 m/NN (Fig. 6.19–6.20). Records: B/W negatives SW1101/8, SW1109/20, SW1122/17; drawing ZN 12/68, 2C/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

RF	I-b-2	fine	Ha2	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3
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Neckd. = 3.25; max.d. = 7.0; H1 = 7.9; (base: 100% preserved).

Surface colour: red slip: 10 R 5/6 red; natural surface colour not visible. Section: uniform reddish brown; inclusions: some quartz, not much chaff, almost I-b-1, red slip also on the neck of the interior of vessel.

Reg.no **930**, small bag-shaped jar. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, along northern edge of mud-brick installation, H = 4.50 m/NN (Fig. 6.19–6.20).

Records: B/W negatives SW1101/6, SW1109/22, SW1122/20; drawing: ZN 12/68, 4C/68.

RF	I-b-2?	n.r.	n.r.	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3
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Rd. = 4.2 (outside); rd. interior = 3.2 (100% of rim preserved according to photo); neckd. = 3.0; max.d. = 6.1; H1 = 7.7;

no more details except that the rim is trimmed inside. The vessel was not available for re-study.

⁵⁸⁶ Elevation taken from original plan of that square, TD 227.

⁵⁸⁷ The object was not available for re-study.

⁵⁸⁸ Elevation taken from original plan of that square, TD 227.

⁵⁸⁹ The objects were not available for re-study and the description has been taken from the register book, unknown handwriting.

⁵⁹⁰ According to the level of 4.71 m/NN given in the plan of planum 7 (cf. TD 228).

⁵⁹¹ The object was not available for re-study.

⁵⁹² According to the level of 4.71 m/NN given in the plan of planum 7 (cf. TD 228).

⁵⁹³ The object was not available for re-study.

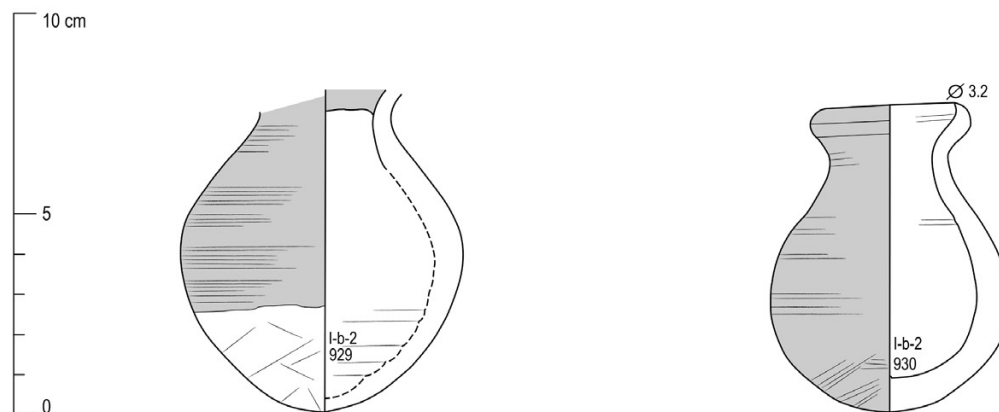


Fig. 6.19 Drawings of reg.nos 929 and 930

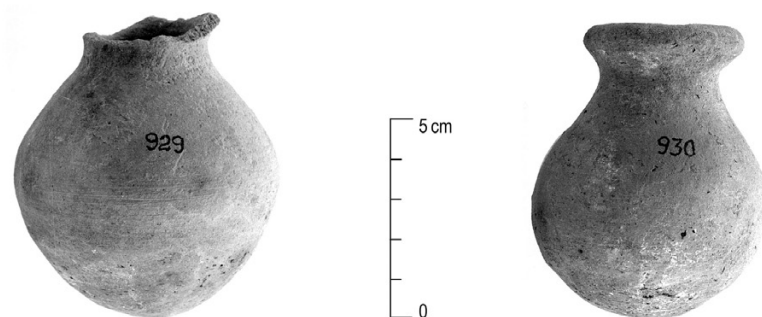


Fig. 6.20 Reg.no 929, small jar, SW1109/21, reg.no 930, small jar, SW1109/23

No reg.no, hemispherical cup (not registered). Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, along northern edge of brick installation, north of 929 and 930, H = 4.50 m/NN.

This vessel could not be identified. It seems to have been intact according to the site photographs (see Fig. 6.9–6.10).⁵⁹⁴ The detailed drawing of the deposit (TD 229) suggests a rim diameter of 11.0 cm for this vessel. The photos (Fig. 6.9–6.10) of the deposit show a vessel that is deeper than the average model dish/bowl. Judging by the photos it is more likely to have been a hemispherical than a carinated cup.

This combination of finds is paralleled in some offering pits in front of tombs from phases d/1–c in area F/I. These pits contained hemispherical cups as well

as small jars and spatha shells.⁵⁹⁵ MÜLLER follows BIETAK'S interpretation of a "freistehender Altar" for this installation, although it is built against the wall delimiting the courtyard space towards the alleyway **L [115]**. According to MÜLLER the interpretation as an altar is reinforced by the fact that the vessels were very carefully laid out against the brick platform although there is strictly speaking not a pit but only the presumably paved gap between the platform and the low parapet wall around the platform. The installations cited as parallels date to later phases, which does not necessarily exclude this interpretation, especially as nothing similar has yet been found elsewhere.⁵⁹⁶ It should be noted, though, that this 'altar' is situated in the middle of domestic installations, with the

⁵⁹⁴ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 32–33.

⁵⁹⁵ Cf. V. MÜLLER, TD XVII, vol. 1, 239.

⁵⁹⁶ Cf. V. MÜLLER, TD XVII, vol. 1, 397.

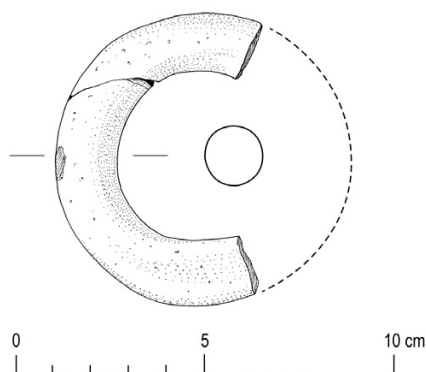


Fig. 6.21 Reg.no 970, faience 'bracelet', scale 1:2

nearest grave in the same compound located only at a distance of ca 15 m in Building/Room 2 (**L [138]**)⁵⁹⁷. It seems unlikely that this 'altar' could relate to that tomb because of the distance. Another possibility is some loose relation between this 'altar' and tomb A/II-m/12- no 4 in Compound 11 right opposite the alleyway **L [115]** (see Fig. 6.1). If the tomb is to be considered to belong between G/2–1 and F, it might be possible that the tomb relates to the (slightly) earlier 'altar' although two mud-brick walls delimiting the Compounds from each and thus, these archaeological features. For this reason it seems unlikely that they should be considered as an assemblage.⁵⁹⁸ A kind of house altar may be more likely in this case,⁵⁹⁹ unless a tomb was located beneath this 'altar'.⁶⁰⁰ Only renewed excavations in this area may resolve this issue.

The *animal bones* and shell, visible in the photos and the plan (Fig. 6.9–6.10, 6.18) were not determined.

L [129] Building/Room 1

The finds made south of the Phase F wall (cf. Fig. 6.12, 6.21) may represent the floor level of **L [129]**, but it is more likely to belong to the fill close to the

floor, which is according to the southern profile at an elevation of about 4.40 m/NN.

Small finds

Reg.no **970**, 'bracelet' of faience. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, 2.70 m/S, 3.20 m/E, H = 4.59 m/NN,⁶⁰¹ (Fig. 6.21–6.22).

Records: B/W negatives SW1088/55–56; 1101/38–39, drawing ZN4/68.

Diameter of section 1.7 cm; max.d. 7.7 cm, probably too narrow for the wrist of an adult. Some remains of glazing (colour not mentioned).

Stone

Reg.no **1101**, rim fragment of calcite-alabaster vessel,⁶⁰² probably a dish. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, 1.10 m/S; 1.75 m/E, H ca 4.75 m/NN,⁶⁰³ (Fig. 6.22).

Records: B/W negative SW1085/28, drawing ZN 40/68.⁶⁰⁴ Height = 6.5 cm; max.d. = 9.0 cm;

Not recorded were several grinders and querns of undefined number made of limestone (according to digging diary).

⁵⁹⁷ M. BIETAK, TD V, 33–34, tomb A/II-n/12-no 4.

⁵⁹⁸ As the height of the precinct walls [**M47**] and [**M47a**] remains unknown an axis of visibility cannot be proposed.

⁵⁹⁹ A. STEVENS, *The Material Evidence for Domestic Religion at Amarna and Preliminary Remarks on its Interpretation*, *JEA* 89 (2003), 146, shows that the later altars usually have a ramp or steps leading towards it with parapets and are therefore not directly comparable.

⁶⁰⁰ Cf. V. MÜLLER, TD XVII, 397.

⁶⁰¹ Drawn into the original plan of square, TD 228.

⁶⁰² For the discussion on whether the material called 'alabaster' in the old excavation reports should be termed travertine, calcite or 'alabaster', cf. B.G. ASTON, *Ancient Egyptian Stone Vessels*, SAGA 5, Heidelberg 1994, 42–51. Contra D. and R. KLEMM, *Calcit-Alabaster oder Travertin? Bemerkungen zu Sinn und Unsinn petrographischer Bezeichnungen in der Ägyptologie*, *Göttinger Miszellen* 122 (1991), 61–69 consider travertine as unsuitable and prefer 'calcite-alabaster'.

⁶⁰³ According to plan drawing TD 228.

⁶⁰⁴ The sheet with this drawing number is not available in the archive.

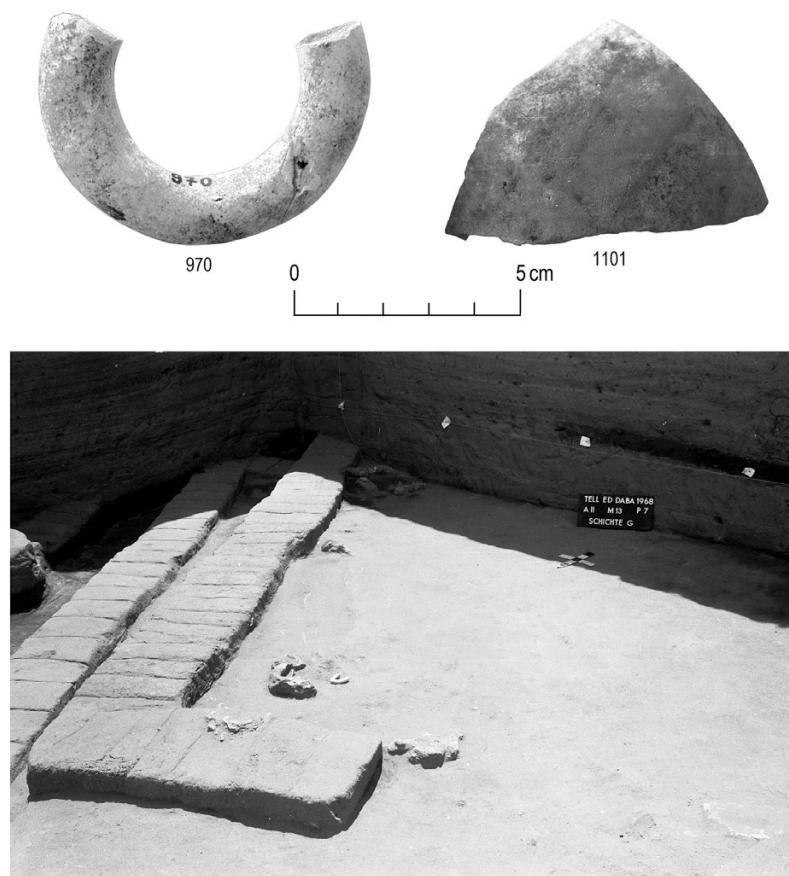


Fig. 6.22 Reg.no 970, SW1088/55; reg.no 1101, 'alabaster vessel', SW1085/28, Find situation in A/II-m/13, pl. 7, space L [129], walls [M73] with later Phase F wall in foreground, and finds, SW1072/69–70

Pottery

Possibly one fragment of a hemispherical cup was found in this area, according to the digging diary,⁶⁰⁵ but it could not be identified.

Animal bones

Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7.⁶⁰⁶ From south-east room deposited on top of floor, stratum f = G.

Cattle: 1 part of skull; 1 part of vertebra; 1 part of humerus (calf); 1 part of radius distal part (calf); 3 parts of carpalia (calf); 1 part of pelvis (calf). The bones were derived from one calf and an adult animal.

Pig: 1 part of upper jaw (young adult).

Distribution of animal bones in L [129]

cattle	pig
8	1

Finds below L [129]

In the south-eastern corner of the square in the test trench along the southern profile a grinding device made from a greenish stone was found. As the exact position of this find was not given, it may belong to either Phase H or G/4–1. Unfortunately there is also a pit visible in the southern section (section no A 34-34), which may mean that the object came from Phase F, where this pit originated.

Stone

Reg.no **1969a**, grinding stone/muller made of a greenish stone (siltstone?). Position: A/II-m/13, south eastern corner of test trench along southern section (Fig. 6.23).

Records: drawing ZN 9/69.⁶⁰⁷

Height = 4.0 cm; max.d. = 2.8 cm

⁶⁰⁵ M. BIETAK, *Digging Diary*, A/II-m/13, p. 54, 1968.

⁶⁰⁶ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 14.

⁶⁰⁷ Object was not available for re-study.

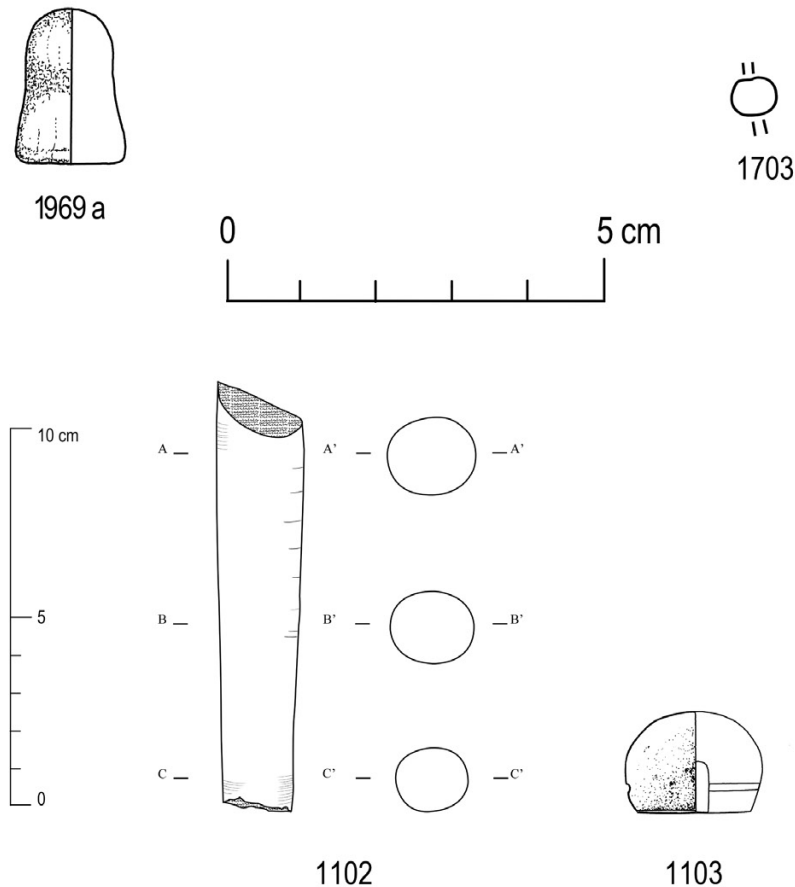


Fig. 6.23 Reg.nos 1969a (ZN 9/69), 1703, 1102 and 1103, scale 1:1 and 1:2

L [133] Space between the two silos north of Building/Room 1

During the removal of the baulk between A/II-m/12 and A/II-m/13 a faience bead was found.

Reg.no **1703** (KhM, A 1574), faience bead. Position: A/II-m/12–13, 3.3 m/N, H = ca 4.58 m/NN,⁶⁰⁸ (Fig. 6.23–6.24).

Records: none available; redrawn and re-recorded.
Height = 0.5 cm; max.d. = 0.6 cm.
Glazing not preserved, only the white core.

L [134] Round installation (silo)

Protruding from the silo just from the western baulk of A/II-m/13 three fragments of pottery were recorded (Fig. 6.25). They were found most probably at a level of ca 4.58 m/NN⁶⁰⁹ during dismantling the baulk.

The first fragment constitutes a body sherd of a red burnished juglet with a double stranded handle. It must remain unclear if the juglet was imported or locally produced.⁶¹⁰

The second fragment most probably constitutes the rim fragment of a thick walled Nile C2 dish with a large diameter and a red slip.⁶¹¹

The last fragment recorded seems also to be a Nile C1 or C2 dish perhaps of a slightly denser fabric.⁶¹²

Finds from square A/II-m/13 without exact location

Stone

Reg.no **1102** (KhM, A 1845), cylindrical, slightly tapering object, made of green stone.⁶¹³ Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, relative level f = G (Fig. 6.23–6.24).

⁶⁰⁸ Level taken from TDplan 228.

⁶⁰⁹ Elevation taken from TDplan 228.

⁶¹⁰ For possible shapes see D. ASTON, TD XII/2, real imports and local production: pl. 105–109; 111–119.

⁶¹¹ Cf. D. ASTON, TD XII/2, pl. 24.

⁶¹² Cf. D. ASTON, TD XII/2, pl. 37, 39.

⁶¹³ Published in B. BADER, Stone Objects, 32–33, fig. 1.d; 2.c–d.

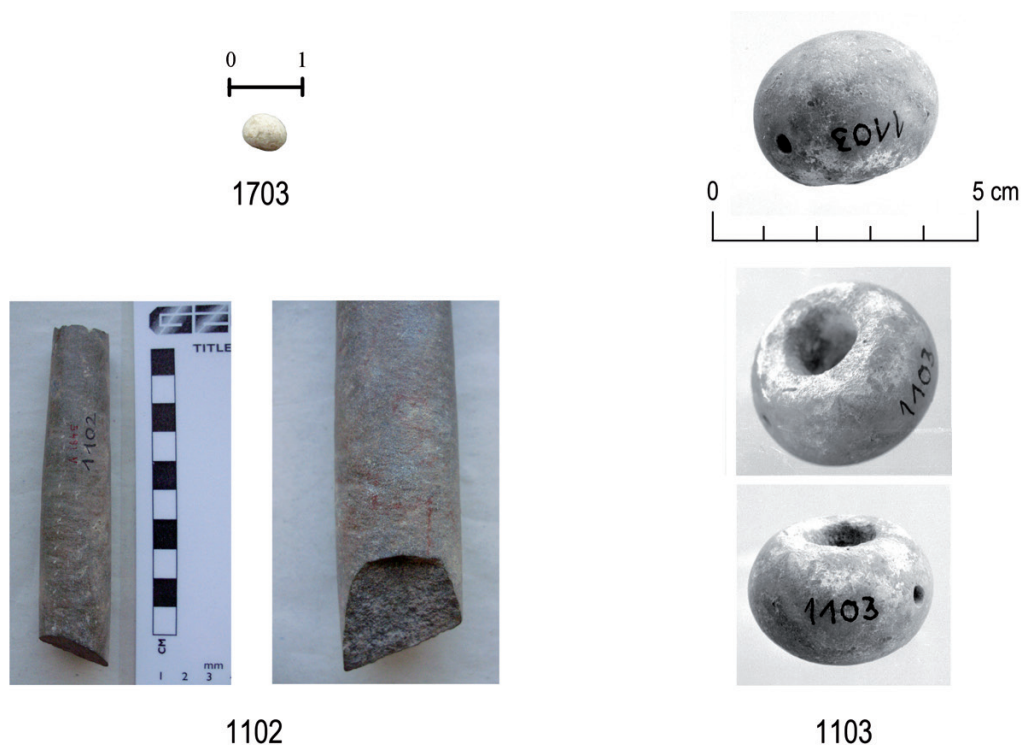


Fig. 6.24 Reg.no 1703, bead, reg.no 1102, object from siltstone, reg.no 1103, pommel of dagger, SW1109/65, SW1103/3, SW1085/32; available objects drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Records: B/W negative SW1085/30; drawing ZN 19c/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

Height = 11.2; diam. = 1.9–2.3;

The material is probably siltstone, a very dense and fine grained stone; traces of red paint on the object; in some places the red paint might constitute an inscription (??); object is very well smoothed and even polished; the object is broken at both ends.

Reg.no **1103**,⁶¹⁴ pommel of dagger. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7–8, just below planum 7, relative stratum g,⁶¹⁵ (Fig. 6.24).

Record: B/W negatives S/W1085/32, SW1103/3–5; SW1109/64; drawing: ZN 39/68 and by G. PHILIP. Height = 2.7; diameter = 3.7; diameter of socket = 0.9; depth of socket = 1.4.

Sub-globular pommel with transverse piercing for fixture of dagger handle (tang). Material: according to G. PHILIP's catalogue this pommel consisted of limestone with a polished white surface.⁶¹⁶

The early date of the object can be ascertained by parallels of similar relative date, cf. reg.no 2481 (A/II-o/13, pl. 6, see 230), and other such objects from Area F/I phases d/2 and d/1.⁶¹⁷

⁶¹⁴ Probably in the Museum in Cairo. Cf. G. PHILIP, TD XV, 56–57, fig. 21.1.

⁶¹⁵ It seems planum 8 was never properly reached as neither the digging diary contains details about it, nor does another plan drawing exist.

⁶¹⁶ It seems that G. PHILIP saw the piece in Cairo museum.

⁶¹⁷ Cf. G. PHILIP, TD XV, 56–58. All instances of such pommels were identified by G. PHILIP as limestone. R. SCHIESTL, TD XVIII, 405–406, fig. 362.2–3; in tomb F/I-o/17-no 1. Two similar objects were found in this tomb also consisting of 'Kalzit-Alabaster' with similar dimensions, phase d/1 = G/4. R. SCHIESTL, TD XVIII, 441, fig. 401.1, tomb F/I-p/18-no 1, but this time made of limestone again with similar dimensions, phase d/1 =

G/4. R. SCHIESTL, TD XVIII, 457, fig. 413.1, robber's pit of tomb F/I-p/20, again made from limestone, no date but possibly belonging to the original tomb equipment. No such objects were found in the tombs of area A/II, cf. I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER, TD XVI, passim; M. BIETAK TD V, passim; K. KOPETZKY, *Datierung der Gräber der Grabungsfläche F/I von Tell el-Dab'a anhand der Keramik*, MA thesis, University of Vienna, 1993, 36, and Catalogue 124–125, fig. 56.5, pommel of dagger with horizontal perforation derived from a robber's pit of tomb F/I-l/20-no 20, stratum b/3–2, dislocated, material limestone. Another pommel of calcite-alabaster/travertine was found in a robber's pit of tomb F/I-k/24-no 49 from stratum c, without drawing. Cf. K. KOPETZKY, *Datierung*, Catalogue, 48.

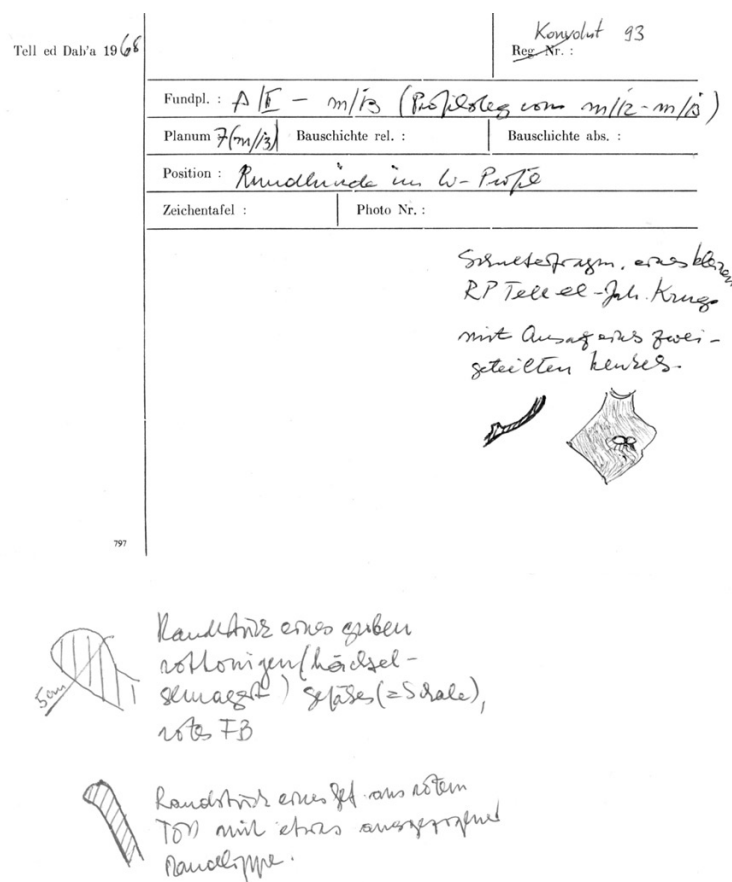


Fig. 6.25 Konvolute card K93 front and back, scale 1:2

SQUARE A/II-N/12

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-n/12)

The very western part of that square including wall [M45] was discussed together with L [156] in Compound 12 (see chapter 4, 140). The same holds true for the western section of this square (A59). The phase represented in the published plan⁶¹⁸ is based on planum 5 (Phase G/2-1). There are probably two more (sub) phases below (represented by planum 6, TDplan no 297).

Two thirds of the square (see Fig. 6.1), mainly the eastern part of it, were occupied by several walls. Most prominent is wall [M52], which continues [M47] from the northern square A/II-m/12 (see above, 169).

It forms the western exterior wall of the compound and [M52], more specifically, forms the western exterior wall of Building/Room 2. It is noteworthy that this wall is not running straight but with a considerable curve, especially in the southern part. Moreover, this wall also continues into the next square south A/II-o/12, where it is called [M56] and [M75]. It remains unclear if this "wall" was planned and built in one phase as one wall or if several stretches of it were built at different times and formed the "long wall" in the end. The base level of [M52] in the north where it enters square A/II-n/12 is at an elevation of about 4.66 m/NN, whilst it is at ca 4.70 m/NN in the southern part of the square, where it leaves it again. Whilst it seems that the first perpendicular wall, branching off to the east [M49] was just attached to wall [M47/M52] without really bonding into it, the next major

⁶¹⁸ M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2.

one to the south [M51] certainly bonds as can be seen in the plan. Thus, it follows that [M51] was built at the same time as [M52], whilst [M49] and [M53] a short, perpendicular wall could have been added at a later stage. All walls belonging to Building/room 2 L [137] are only a brick's width wide, just the same as the remainder of Buildings/Rooms of Compound 12. They are usually not built in the same method only with stretchers or headers, but the pattern of the laid-out bricks changes. Whether this is a means to provide greater stability or just chance must remain unclear.

Wall [M50] abuts [M54] at about 3.0 m and runs to the north much straighter than the 'parallel' wall [M52], which results in a trapezoidal and irregular lay-out for this building/room. The square footage of Building/Room 2 (= L [137]) is about 18 m², the average brick sizes of the heavily sand tempered bricks are 0.35–0.38 m by 0.18–0.22 m by 0.08–0.10 m high.⁶¹⁹ As the north-eastern corner of Building/Room 2 was not preserved it remains unclear where exactly the entrance/door was situated, but most probably in the northern part of wall [M50] providing a bent axis approach. It appears unlikely that the building/room was made inaccessible intentionally due to burial Tomb A/II-n/12-no 4 (see below, 196–198) that was laid out inside L [137] behind the short wall [M53] perpendicular to [M52], which consisted of half brick's width, only four bricks lined up one after another as headers. It is unclear if the wall was as high as the outer walls or if it was just a screen at about half height. No information as to how high it was preserved comes forward, from experience probably only a brick course or two. The floor level was at about 4.54 m/NN inside L [137], whilst the alleyway to the east of it was considerably higher at ca 5.00 m/NN, which is a normal development in a settlement.⁶²⁰ No direct exit/entrance from Building/Room 2 onto the alleyway was identified, thus, the difference in floor levels would not have mattered. It follows that access to this part of the compound would have been

through wall [M47] (see Fig. 6.2, 6.5) and then via courtyard L [136] from the north or via a gap between walls [M54] and [M55] through space L [141] from the south. In this area some animal bones were found (see below, 202).

The base level of wall [M49] was at a little lower elevation of about 4.60 m/NN, which may be due to the fact that when it was built there may have already been accumulations of sand and ash running slightly ascending against [M52], which were not removed before the building process.⁶²¹ This may be evidence for a slightly later date for the building of this wall. Both of these were preserved five courses high (up to a level of about 5.20 m/NN). No finds were recorded from within Building/Room 2 except the burial A/II-n/12-no 4 (L [138], see below) and a very used elongated quern stone of undefined stone type (3.4 m/O; 4.5 m/N) (ca 0.35 m long and 0.1 m wide, see Fig. 6.27) as well as a few limestone querns.⁶²²

Tomb A/II-n/12-no 4, L [138] (Fig. 6.29)

The burial was laid down in a fine limestone sarcophagus with a slightly raised lid and a boss protruding on the eastern short side. The orientation of the burial is exactly parallel to walls [M51] and [M53] (WSW-ENE). M. BIETAK was certain that the tomb was dug whilst Building/Room 2 was in use although no traces of any domestic activity were recorded. The tomb was not robbed but the lid had fallen in and damaged the burial. The young adult woman was laid on her back with the face looking up, the left lower arm was laid over the stomach, the right arm extremely flexed along the left side. The legs had probably been slightly flexed originally and fell apart during decay.⁶²³

Sarcophagus made from limestone⁶²⁴

External dimensions of case: length = 1.79 m; width = 0.4 m, height without lid = 0.4 m; thickness of case is 0.05–0.075 m;

⁶¹⁹ Measured in the sections, scale 1:20.

⁶²⁰ Cf. the floor levels of houses and alleyways in modern Egyptian villages (e.g. personal observation close to Karnak Temple). This is because ash and other refuse is dumped outside the entrance and spread out there.

⁶²¹ Cf. the northern section of A/II-n/12 (A17), section nos A17-67a and A17-67b.

⁶²² M. BIETAK, *Digging Diary*, 21 June 1968, p. 49. These objects could not be identified, description according to the digging diary, which stated this quern was very damaged by use.

⁶²³ M. BIETAK, TD V, 33–34.

⁶²⁴ A. SCHWAB, *Die Sarkophage des Mittleren Reiches. Eine typologische Untersuchung für die 11. bis 13. Dynastie*, PhD Thesis, University of Vienna, Vienna 1989, 158. She remarks that the sarcophagus is notably smaller than the usual Middle Kingdom sarcophagi of the 12th Dynasty. See also cat.no 131, pp. 284–285. SCHWAB's dating to the Hyksos Period was revised to the late Middle Kingdom by M. BIETAK, TD V, 33–34. Also verified by means of original plan drawing of sarcophagus TD 300.



Fig. 6.26 A/II-n/12, pl. 4, view to north with wall [M51] just appearing in the foreground, SW1093/7. Silo and finds as well as corners of walls coming out of eastern baulk (on the right side of photo) are later than Phase G/2-1. The screen wall [M53] is very faintly visible southwest (below on the photo) of the metre stick



Fig. 6.27 A/II-n/12, pl. 5, view to north, in the middle of the photo wall [M51], with [M50] running north and to the left the alleyway, bonding of wall [M51] into [M52] is well visible, SW1094/71



Fig. 6.28 A/II-n/12, pl. 5, view towards south; Quern stone on pedestal along wall [M50] in the middle of the picture; The lid of the sarcophagus starts to appear as well as a curved wall to the west that already belongs to the phase below. The screen wall [M53] is not visible anymore here. The ashy floors of the rooms/spaces are also obvious, SW1095/8

Internal dimensions of case: length = 1.69 m; width = 0.3 m; height = 0.34 m;

Dimensions of lid: max. length (with protruding boss) = 1.89 m; length without boss = 1.81 m; width 0.4 m; thickness of lid = 0.05 m;

The sarcophagus was not very well smoothed in the interior (see Fig. 6.31.c–d), the lid was only very slightly vaulted, it showed a set off border on the outside at a distance of ca 2–3 cm from the long edges and ca 5 cm from the short edges. The lid is also slightly domed on the inside, but broken into many fragments.

The burial goods consisted of a necklace of 105 carnelian and terracotta beads, as well as an elongated faience bead with four grooves on each side (Fig. 6.30). Beside the head a *koḥl* pot served as a burial gift.

An offering was laid down at the head end of the pit dug for the sarcophagus at 6.20 m/N and 3.70 m/E,⁶²⁵ although no separate pit for the vessel was detected. The vessel was deposited outside the area limited by

the thin wall [M53] for the tomb. The pot with reg.no **1701** served as traces of a burial cult (in a ‘minimal’ offering pit) at a distance of about 0.40 m from the head end of the burial.⁶²⁶

Finds within sarcophagus

1.) Reg.no **1698** (KhM, A 1381), necklace, consisting of 105 beads: 10 beige coloured ‘terracotta beads’, 73 red stone beads, carnelian, 1 tubular faience bead with a square section and vertical grooves in each side (sketch), 7 black/dark brown ring beads, 1 bead of steatite/pottery or faience? 1 bead made of quartz, translucent, not very well made. Modern stringing.

2.) Reg.no **1699** (KhM, A 1770), *koḥl* pot, redrawn, ‘travertine’, calcite. At the rim there are clear traces of drilling. The contents were white and of similar consistence to gypsum (content analysed⁶²⁷). Half of the vessel was eroded (through water logging inside the sarcophagus? or other influences?). The lid is also half eroded away.

⁶²⁵ The measurements were taken from a detail drawing of the vessel in A/II-n/12, pl. 5.

⁶²⁶ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968, p. 49; V. MÜLLER, TD XVII/2, 239–240.

⁶²⁷ The analysis conducted by the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, department of mineralogy attested galena. M. BIETAK, personal communication 21 July 2017.

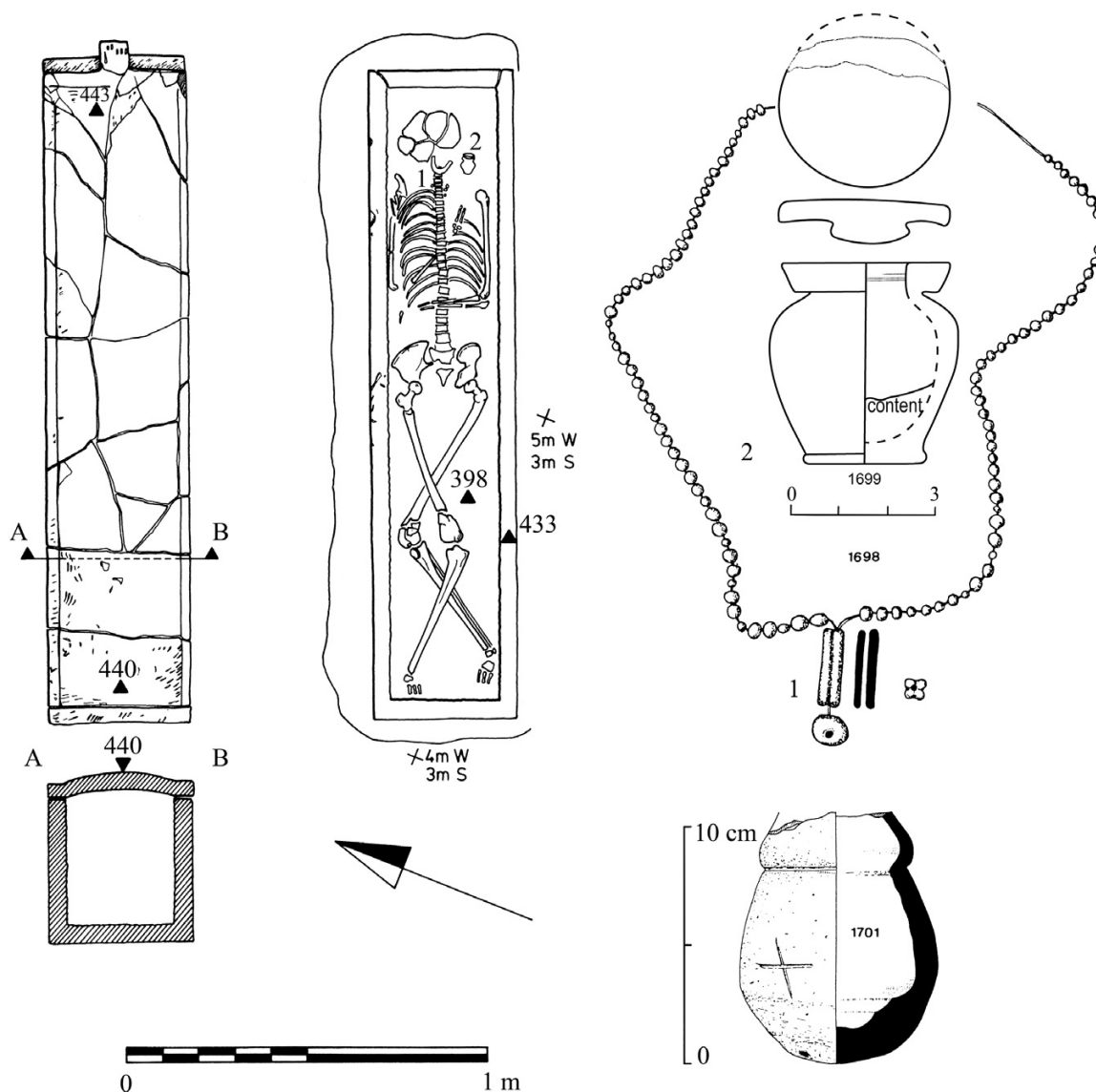


Fig. 6.29 Tomb A/II-n/12-no 4, after M. BIETAK, TD V 33–34 with new drawing of 1699

Vessel: rd.(e) = 3.50, nd. = 2.4, max.d. = 3.9, bd. = 2.4, H1 = 4.2;

Lid: height: 0.95, diam. = 3.6

Outside of the sarcophagus:

3.) Reg.no **1701** (KhM, A 3156), jar with wavy contour.⁶²⁸

Records: B/W negative SW1112/7–8, drawing ZN 132/68, redrawn⁶²⁹ and re-studied.

RF	I-b-2	mi.	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2
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Neckd. = 6.0; max.d. = 8.6; H1 = 10.5 +x; (Base: 100% preserved).

Surface colour: 7.5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow; traces of red slip: 10 R 6/6 red. Section: uniform light brown; inclu-

⁶²⁸ Cf. R. SCHIESTL and A. SEILER, *Handbook of Pottery of the Middle Kingdom*, Vol. 1: The Corpus Volume, Vienna 2012, 694–697, for comparanda. Most similar is the example from Elephantine, 695, fig. 4.

⁶²⁹ The new drawing is so similar to the one published that it seemed unnecessary to republish it.



Fig. 6.30 Contents of the tomb, reg.nos 1698, 1699, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

sions: more quartz than usual, almost I-e-1; only little chaff. The pot-mark was made pre-firing but the surface was very eroded. The quality of the manufacture of the vessel was only medium, the connection between base and body sloppily done. Close to the base there was a hole, but due to the erosion it was not possible to ascertain whether it had been made pre- or post-firing.

4.) *Animal bones*,⁶³⁰ close to western wall of the sarcophagus (inside), i.e. the foot end, 15 cm below the top of the sarcophagus lid, i.e. in the fill swept into the sarcophagus.

Cattle (radius fragment, distal end of an adult animal (including circumferentia ulnaris and caput ulnae). It seems, thus, quite probable it belonged to the fill of the room, rather than to the burial. The pit, into which the sarcophagus was set, left about 7.0 cm space between stone wall of sarcophagus case and the pit rim.⁶³¹

The level of the lid was at an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, which would have been slightly below the floor of Building/Room 2 (ca 4.54 m/NN). It is clear that the sarcophagus cuts into the walls of the phase below (Fig. 6.31; see, 200) that have a different orientation (cf. TDplan 298). It remains hard to decide if the pit for the sarcophagus, that was dug extremely closely to wall [M51], was initiated before the wall was built or *vice versa*. It seems probable, though, that the wall was used to align the sarcophagus. Noteworthy is the fact that the pit fitted the sarcophagus extremely tightly. It is clear that screen wall [M53] must have been built afterwards, because if [M51] and [M52] were standing, manoeuvring the heavy limestone sarcophagus would have been extremely difficult, had that wall been there as well.

⁶³⁰ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 16.

⁶³¹ According to the plan drawing TD 300.

Probably Building/Room 2 was still in use even though the burial was laid down inside it, since this is supported by the evidence of the quern found in place (see Fig. 6.28, in the middle of the photo) and others not drawn into the plan. It cannot be ascertained though, whether these were derived from the last use phase of the building.

To the east of Building/Room 2 (= L [137]) a space, presumably open⁶³² extends, L [136]. It is limited by the eastern wall of Building/Room 2, the continuation of [M51], namely [M54], [M55] and [M61] as well as by [M48]. There may have been a wall parallel to those ([M54], [M55] and [M61]), which might have been destroyed at one stage, perhaps by the silos in the north of the compound. No finds were reported from this area, only a vessel was drawn into the plan which rises to a height of 4.94 m/NN. Presumably it represented the lower part of a vessel, but it was not mentioned otherwise. It was left on a pedestal as the photo (see Fig. 6.27, top edge on the right) shows. It may have belonged to a hearth/brazier installation in the same location, because the plan drawing and the photo show large amounts of burning activity and ash distribution.⁶³³ A lot of ashy layers were found in these areas as well.

South of Building/Room 2 utilizing wall [M51] Building/Room 3 (= L [139]) is situated. The shape of this room is more regular than Building/Room 2 and almost rectangular. Again the walls were only one brick's width wide and laid out as alternating headers and stretchers. They were not well preserved. The baulk⁶³⁴ between A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12 prevents us from knowing where the entrance to this unit was situated. Positioning of the entrance/doorway would be possible either in the western exterior wall [M56] (the continuation of [M52]) or in the southern part of wall [M58] and at this stage no evidence exists to prefer one solution over the other. Judging from oriental settlement layouts⁶³⁵ it seems perhaps a little more likely to suspect an entrance from the eastern side of the building and not directly from the alleyway.

This building also stretches further south into square A/II-o/12 and shows a floor level of about 4.50 m/NN, very similar to that of Building/Room 2. The overall size (interior measurements) of this unit is about 13.92–15.84 m² or 49.5–54 square cubits. The internal measurements of the buildings fit remarkably well with Egyptian cubits.⁶³⁶ The floors consisted of ashy layers.

To the east of Building/Room 3 another space/unit was built by means of a simple continuation of the northern wall [M51] as [M54]. A perpendicular wall of only half a brick's width [M59] laid out as headers, was built more or less parallel to [M58]. It remains unclear if this space L [140] was a closed room or not, because a series of later graves cut away the entire southern part of those structures and thus, destroyed them. Again in this area the ground ("floor") was covered in ashy layers.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/12⁶³⁷)

The northern section (A17, drawn in 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of about 4.10 m/NN. Relevant levels are preserved as high an elevation as about 5.00 m/NN. In the western part of the section, between running metres 1.0 and 2.0 from west the boundary wall of Compound 11 is visible [M45]/[M46] (= section no A17-54),⁶³⁸ overlying at least two older ones [G/3-M51] (= section no A17-60) and [G/4-M26] (= section no A17-78, see chapter 4, Compound 11, 144), see also Fig. 6.1. There are finely stratified layers between wall [M45] and wall [M52] (= section no A17-67a, at running metre 3.0 from west), represented by section nos A17-70 and A17-71. They consist of alternating sandy and ashy layers, probably compacted by frequently walking over it. These are typical for thoroughfares and alleyways and represent L [115]/L [116].

It seems that wall [G/4-M26] (= section no A17-78a) was founded at a base level of ca 4.25 m/NN and

⁶³² The widest distance between walls [M50] and [M48] is more than 5.0 m. Thus it seems not likely the space was roofed. In addition, no trace of any architectural elements able to carry a roof was found.

⁶³³ These ashy layers originally recorded in the plan drawing TD-plan 297, were not drawn into plan 2 of the publication. In Fig. 6.1 this has been done according to the original plans.

⁶³⁴ No records exist suggesting that the baulk was taken down. Thus, it probably was not.

⁶³⁵ Cf. D. EIGNER, *Ländliche Architektur und Siedlungsformen im Ägypten der Gegenwart*, Wien 1984.

⁶³⁶ Cf. B. BADER, *On Simple House Architecture*, passim.

⁶³⁷ All section drawings of this square have been inked and analysed by M. BIETAK and been supplied with the final section nos.

⁶³⁸ Base level at 5.10 m/NN.

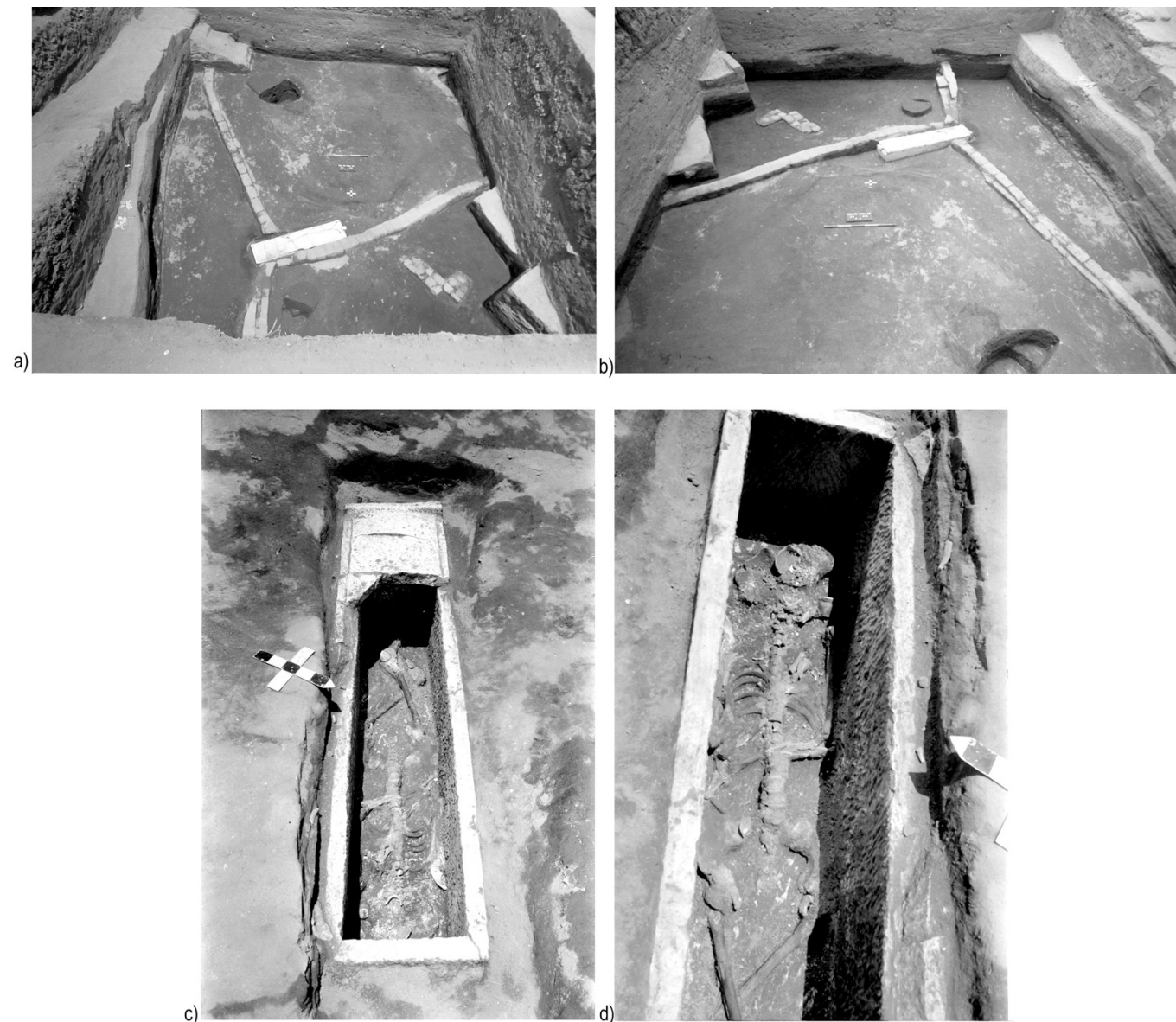


Fig. 6.31 A/II-n/12, pl. 5–6. a) The limestone sarcophagus cutting into the earlier walls of pl. 6, floor level not yet reached, SW1097/36. b) The limestone sarcophagus cutting into the earlier walls of pl. 6, top exposed with lid still *in situ*, note the pit from the surface in the foreground (cf. konvolute 177 back of card), SW1097/44. c) Sarcophagus with part of lid still *in situ*, skeleton of young woman visible, SW1096/16. d) View into the case of the sarcophagus, rough chisel work of preparation of coffin visible, SW1096/18

was about 5 courses high preserved, which is unusual for such a thin wall. There seems to have been no equivalent wall across **L** [116] indicating that at this time that no building had existed to the east. Several finely laminated ash and sand layers, ca 0.3 m deep (section nos A17-74 and A17-76), run obliquely over an older wall ([G/4-M28], see below) suggesting some time elapsing until on top of those layers wall [M52] was founded at a base level of 4.65 m/NN. These layers run all the way to the east of the northern section without hitting any walls. The thoroughfare **L** [116] is nicely exemplified by overlying se-

quences of packs of finely stratified layers of sand, ash and some silty lenses, which might derive from very broken up mud-brick. Such layers connect walls [G/3-M51] and the lower part of [M52] and [M45] with the upper part of [M52]. On top of that there are still more such layers suggesting that even after Phase G/2–1 a thoroughfare was in place here. They consist of sandy and ashy layers as well and abut [M48] (= section no A17-78a). Walls [M52] and [M49] (= section no A17-67a and b, running metres 3.0 to 5.20 from west) were built on top of these layers and are therefore later than these. Their base

level is at an elevation of about 4.65–4.70 m/NN and the preservation of five brick courses is comparatively good (up to about 5.30 m/NN). Section nos A17-68 and A17-69 represent remains of the same wall [M49] to running metre 7.0 counting from the west,⁶³⁹ on which the reconstruction in the plan is based. The oldest preserved wall remains are section nos A17-78b (running metre 3.0 from west) and A17-A17-78c (running metre ~9.0 from west), the base levels of which most probably were below the exposed elevation of 4.10 m/NN. Their preserved tops reach an elevation of 4.40–4.50 m/NN and there are four to five brick courses visible in the exposed part of the section. It seems likely that they belong together because between these two walls sandy floor levels (or at least partly the *gezirah*?) were deposited, see chapter 9. These walls were originally assigned to Phase H but here it seems reasonable to assign them to Phase G/4 or perhaps H–G/4. They are [G/4-M28] and [G/4-M30]. The assignation to certain phases is difficult because no finds were recorded from these levels. Over the preserved tops of these walls runs the packet of layers section no A17-79, which at the same time abuts wall [G/4-M26], which is probably only slightly later than [G/4-M28] and [G/4-M30]. This thoroughfare thus can be interpreted in the following way: at first there was the oldest wall to the east of L [116], to which was added at a (slightly?) later stage wall [G/4-M26]. Then there is a use phase (section no A17-79), which came to an end by the destruction of eastern wall [G/4-M28] removing the eastern boundary, and creating a free space. In the next stage sandy, ashy and silty layers were deposited up to an accumulation of 0.3 m. The western boundary wall was then renewed as [G/3-M51] and at the same time the lower part of [M52]⁶⁴⁰ was built, both were renewed in Phase G/2–1.

The eastern section (A85, drawn in 1968) was exposed to an elevation of ca 4.40 m/NN and the walls visible in the plan of Phase G/2–1 can be easily identified. They are marked with section nos A85-50a (between running metres 5.0 and 6.0 from north) and A85-50b (between running metres 6.0 and 7.0 from north) in the section and represent [M55] and [M59], respectively. They were very badly preserved, only four brick courses high and in a state of being al-

most denuded (up to an elevation of 4.80 m/NN). Wall [M59] appears too wide in the section (wider than a metre), but this may be due to the fact that only just the top of the wall is drawn into the plan and that it would have to be reconstructed one brick's width wide. In addition it was cut by the section in an oblique angle. Their base level is at about 4.40 m/NN. An older phase was also documented in section nos A85-56a (= [G/4-M31] and A85-56b (= [G/4-M29]), which were assigned to Phase H due to the ash layer. They are situated at running metres 3.0 and 5.0 counting from north and only their preserved tops were reached but not their base level. Between those two a series of finely layered floors were found the last sandy layer running over the walls mark the end of both their use life. Because of their elevation they were rather assigned to G/4 than to H. Scant remains of a sand tempered mud-brick wall without section no can be found at running metre 2.20 from north, which probably is to be identified with [G/4-M30]. Remarkable are larger deposits of ash (section nos A85-55 in the north of the section and no A85-53 in the southern part), which were probably derived from domestic activity. On this ash layer the buildings of Phase G/2–1 were built (walls [M55] (= A85-50a) and [M59] (= A85-50b)). Beside these few walls there were many thinly distributed layers of ash, sand and earth (A85-49). As they ran over the preserved tops of the Phase G/2–1 walls, they already belong to the next phase, F.

At an elevation of about 5.00 m/NN some very denuded sand tempered bricks are distributed in the section (section no A85-48). Whilst it is possible that this feature represents a roof collapse (although it does not seem to be enough material for that) it could also represent a marker for the next horizon of Phase F. This would make the thinly layered floors of section no A85-49, which run over the remains of the Phase G/2–1 walls, Phase G/1–F. These 'floors' consisted of sandy and humic depositions (with a little ash).

The western section is discussed in full in chapter 4 the space between Compounds 10 and 11 (see, 144–146).

The southern section (A40, drawn in 1968, presumably in spring 1968, with additions on the 14 November 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of about 4.40 m/NN as well. The eastern half of this section

⁶³⁹ Because [M49] is not completely straight it appears only irregularly in the section (cf. Fig. 6.1). Also the foundation trench with sandy fill is visible.

⁶⁴⁰ Perhaps the lowest two brick courses should be numbered separately with [G/3-M53], see plan Fig. 9.6.

(running metres 0.5–5.5 from east) is dominated by a huge ash layer/deposition that varies in thickness from 12 cm to almost 40 cm (section no A40-62).⁶⁴¹ Wall with section no A40-63a at running metre 5.8 counting from east represents probably an older phase than G/2–1 and can be equated with [G/4-M40]. Its base level is at 4.50 m/NN and probably belongs with section no A40-63b (= [G/4-M27]) to the same phase although that wall has a lower base level (below 4.40 m/NN) that was not even reached in this section. Evidence for this can be seen in the finely stratified layers running between them (section no A40-64). On top of that phase rests wall [G/3-M53] (= section no A40-50) with a base level of about 4.80 m/NN. Of this wall only a short stretch was preserved (see Fig. 9.6). Connected to this wall by finely stratified compacted ‘floors’ (section no A40-54) is a wall with section no A40-55 (= [G/3-M51]). The stratified layers represent the precursor of L [116], which has not been numbered separately. On top of these features is L [116] (section no A40-53) with walls section no A40-42 (= [M56]) and A40-37 (= [M45]). These latter belong to Phase G/2–1. Interestingly wall [M58] should be running through that baulk but cannot be found anywhere. This may be evidence for a doorway in this location. The northern section of A/II-o/12 shows a wall where [M58] and [M57] should be appearing to form the corner of Building/Room 3 (section no A40-30 in the original plan drawing). Unfortunately the section was not exposed to such a low elevation to be certain whether this is, indeed, the case (see below, 205–207).

Finds from square A/II-n/12, pl. 5

L [137] Building/Room 2

Stone

Without identifiable **reg.no** a quartzite quern of oval shape is drawn into the plan and mentioned in the initial publication.⁶⁴²

Measurements: Length = ca 70.0 cm; width = ca 18.0–20.0 cm; It is likely that at least one of the grinders mentioned below could have belonged to this installation.

L [139] Building/Room 3

Small Finds

Reg.no **1464** (KhM, A 1382), pendant of mother of pearl. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 4–5, from ashy layer; in room directly north of southern baulk, Level G (Fig. 6.32–6.33).

Records: B/W negative SW1107/26, SW1134/3–4; ZN 108/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

Length = 4.45; width = 3.5; thickness = 0.3 cm.

Reg.no **1700** (KhM, A 3217), bone awl. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 5, from ashy layer; in room directly north of southern baulk, Level G (Fig. 6.32–6.33).

Redrawn and re-recorded. No traces of use have been detected. The object is probably a fin ray of a fish.⁶⁴³

Length = 5.6 + x; width = 0.8;

L [141] Space between two rooms

Animal bones

Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 5, 4.50 m/S; 0.8 m/E; H = 4.60 m/NN, in sand tempered mud-brick wall close to eastern section, below pottery sherds (cf. TDplan 302/no 27).

Cattle: 1 fragment of vert. thor.; 1 fragment of os sacrum; 1 distal part of femur; adult animal; minimum no of individuals 1.⁶⁴⁴

Finds without exact location from square A/II-n/12, pl. 5

Pottery

Only a few pottery finds were recorded from this square.

Konvolute K176 was described as coming from the north-western part of the square, east of the wall,⁶⁴⁵ but it must remain unclear whether it was wall [M45] delimiting space L [156] from the alleyway L [116], or wall [M52], which would indicate it belongs to L [139].

The only ceramic fragment recorded, and could not be retrieved for re-study, is a base of a vessel (Fig. 6.34): both, open or closed shapes are possible, intentionally pierced. It must remain unclear whether this

⁶⁴¹ See also in the plan Fig. 6.1.

⁶⁴² M. BIETAK, TD V, 33.

⁶⁴³ Cf. chapter 2, 57–58, 1702 a, b and personal communication G.K. KUNST.

⁶⁴⁴ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 16. Cf. eastern section of A/II-n/12 no 50.

⁶⁴⁵ As no find sketch was included on the card, identification is impossible.

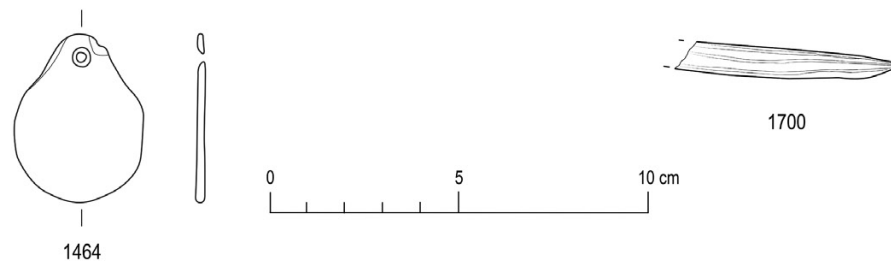


Fig. 6.32 Reg.no 1464, pendant of mother and pearl; reg.no 1700, bone awl, scale 1:2, redrawn by B. Bader

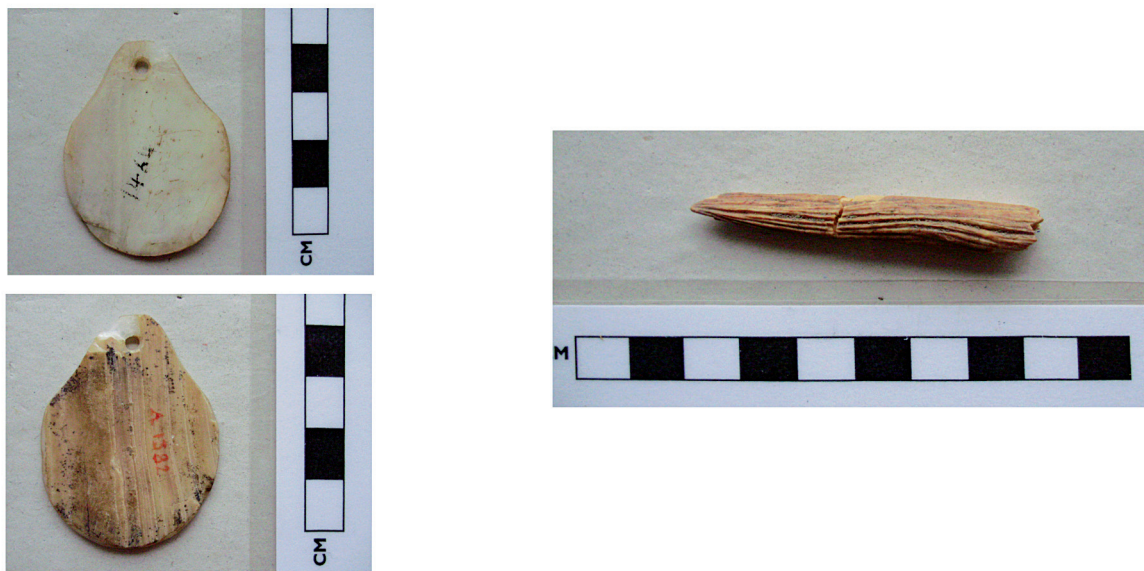


Fig. 6.33 Reg.no 1464, pendant of mother and pearl; reg.no 1700, bone awl, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

was done before or after firing. The obviously wheel-made base might be contemporary if an import, but if it is Nile alluvium the chances are very high that this vessel fragment must be considered intrusive.

Konvolute K177 seems to consist of fragments from three different locations within square A/II-n/12, pl. 5 (Fig. 6.35–6.36).

The grinder made of ‘granite’ with a diameter of ca 6.0 cm seems to come from a not more closely defined location within the square. It is possible that it came from **L [137]**, where a quern was situated (see plan, Fig. 6.1 and **L [137]**, 194) and several more were mentioned in the digging diary, but as on the back of the card again a grinder is mentioned, it is

perhaps one and the same coming from the pit from the surface. The photo (Fig. 6.35) shows the object to the left of the sherd.

The rim of a possible imported amphora was found in the south west corner of the square, which may even belong to **L [156]** (see Fig. 6.1). The fabric is described as light red with a light red slip on interior and exterior, which might be a description of the imported fabric family IV-1, cf. the right sherd on the photograph Fig. 6.35.

The same find spot is given for *animal bones*, which include sheep bones (the fragment of a scapula and a humerus (distal end, with closed epiphyseal cartilage)).⁶⁴⁶

⁶⁴⁶ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 14.

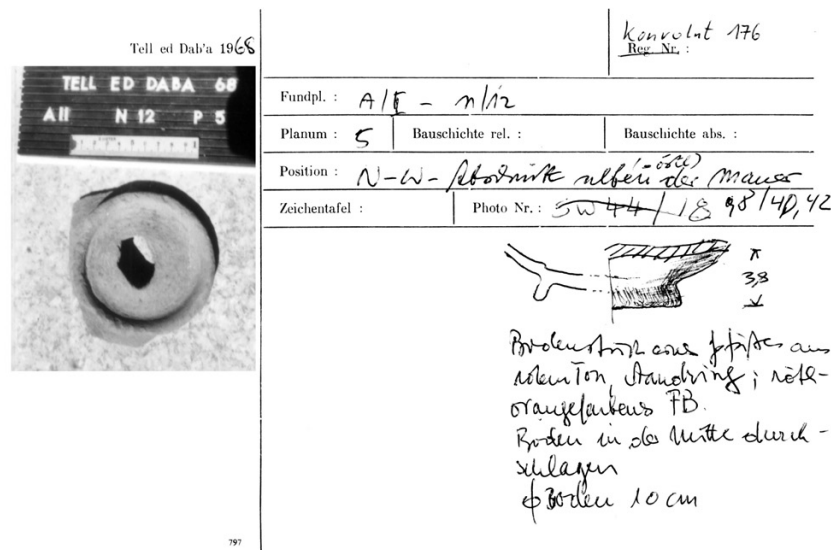


Fig. 6.34 Konvolute card K176, photo SW1098/42, scale approx. 1:2

Finally there is material from a pit in the north-western part of the square. In this part there is a pit coming from the surface down into even planum 6⁶⁴⁷ and the material indeed indicates a mixed date with a late handle, possible dating to the Graeco-Roman period (top left in the photo Fig. 6.36).

The remainder of the pottery fragments also suggest a mixed date with Nile alluvium dishes with raised base and ring bases that seem to have been made on the wheel, judging from the photo, and are more likely represented in the later phases at Tell el-Dab'a.⁶⁴⁸

SQUARE A/II-o/12

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-o/12)

The floor level of 4.54 m/NN given in A/II-n/12 is matched quite well by the elevation of 4.62 m/NN in A/II-o/12, pl. 6 directly at the edge of the baulk. Also the northern section shows a series of floors in about this elevation (Fig. 6.37). Thus, it seems that this exposure incorporates the same phase.

The walls of Building/Room 3 continue into square A/II-o/12: [M56] and [M58]. The building method of a wall laid out in a double row of headers forming a wall of one brick's width is clearly a continuation [M56],⁶⁴⁹ whilst [M58] is just visible in the northern section (provisional section no A22-30b) as it ends about where the baulk ends. According to current knowledge the baulk was not taken down to document this structure (or at least not down to that level). The presence of wall [M58] in the baulk where it should appear provided the basis for the reconstruction of plan 2.⁶⁵⁰ A single course of heavily sand tempered bricks just visible in the very north of the eastern section (section no A86-56a) most probably represents the preserved top of wall [M57] at an elevation of about 4.60 m/NN. It seems quite certain that the bricks visible in the northern section (provisional section no A22-30b) belong to this phase and the corner of [M58] and [M57] because the preserved top of those mud-bricks is at an elevation of about 4.72 m/NN whilst the [M58] shows a height of 4.78 m/NN just a little north. The northern part of the doorway of Building/Room 3 therefore seems to have been just before the southern section of A/II-n12 and the southern part

⁶⁴⁷ Note that the pit was not recognised in the plan of planum 4 and 5.

⁶⁴⁸ Cf. D.A. ASTON, TD XII/1, fig. 86–88.

⁶⁴⁹ Section no A22-26 in the provisional numbering of the analysis.

⁶⁵⁰ M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2.

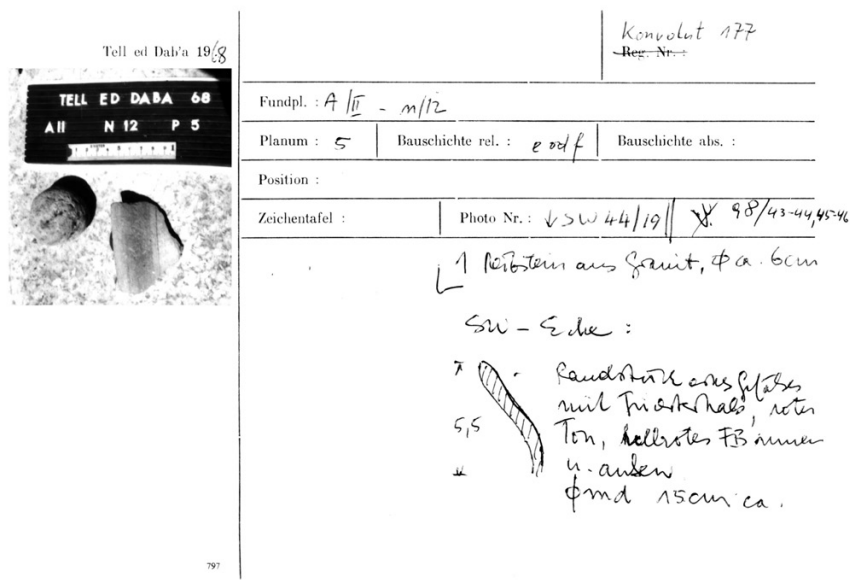


Fig. 6.35 Konvolute card K177, photo SW1098/44, scale approx. 1:2

somewhere within the baulk between A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12. No finds were recorded from this part of L [139].

From the south western corner of Building/Room 3 another thin wall (one brick's width) of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks runs in a slight curve towards the south eastern corner of the square [M75], where it runs into the eastern baulk. There are two features worth noting in this wall, namely two buttresses (pilasters) that were built bonded into the wall at a distance of 3.65 m (almost 7 cubits) from the corner of Building/Room 3 and again at a distance of 1.3 m (2.5 cubits). No finds were recorded from this area. To the east of this wall and to the south of Building/Room 3 considerable concentrations of ash were found. This is also documented in the eastern section (A86) where a layer of ash increases in depth towards the south (section no A86-53). There, the thickness of the layer is up to 0.4 m. It is interesting that the thickness of the layer is as high as the preserved wall [M75] (section no A86-50). The base level of this wall is at an elevation of ca 4.55 m/NN.

It is noteworthy that below wall [M75] there is another, older one (section no A86-56) the base level of which was not reached by the excavation. The preserved top of it is at an elevation of 4.55 m/NN.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-o/12⁶⁵¹)

The northern section (A22, drawn in 1969) is relevant to both Compounds 13 (see chapter 7, 234) and 12. Located between running metres 5.00 and 6.00 from west is wall [M56] (= provisional section no A22-26⁶⁵²) with a base level of ca 4.75 m/NN. It seems to have been reinforced by another thinner wall (provisional section no A22-27), both of them were preserved only three courses high. Below that wall and slightly shifted towards the west at running metres 4.70 to 5.00 from west is an older wall (provisional section no A22-30a = [G/4-M40]⁶⁵³) which had fallen out of use and was overlaid by several sandy and humic layers before wall [M56] was built on top of all

⁶⁵¹ The northern section was inked but lacks the final section nos, whilst the eastern section was analysed in full with the final section nos. Of the southern section only the original plan drawing was found among the records, whilst the western one was not among the available records.

⁶⁵² The section numbers used here are those of the original plan drawing.

⁶⁵³ It is more likely that with top of a wall belongs to [G/4-M40] than to the presumably older and less well preserved [H-G/4-M9], for both see Fig. 9.1.

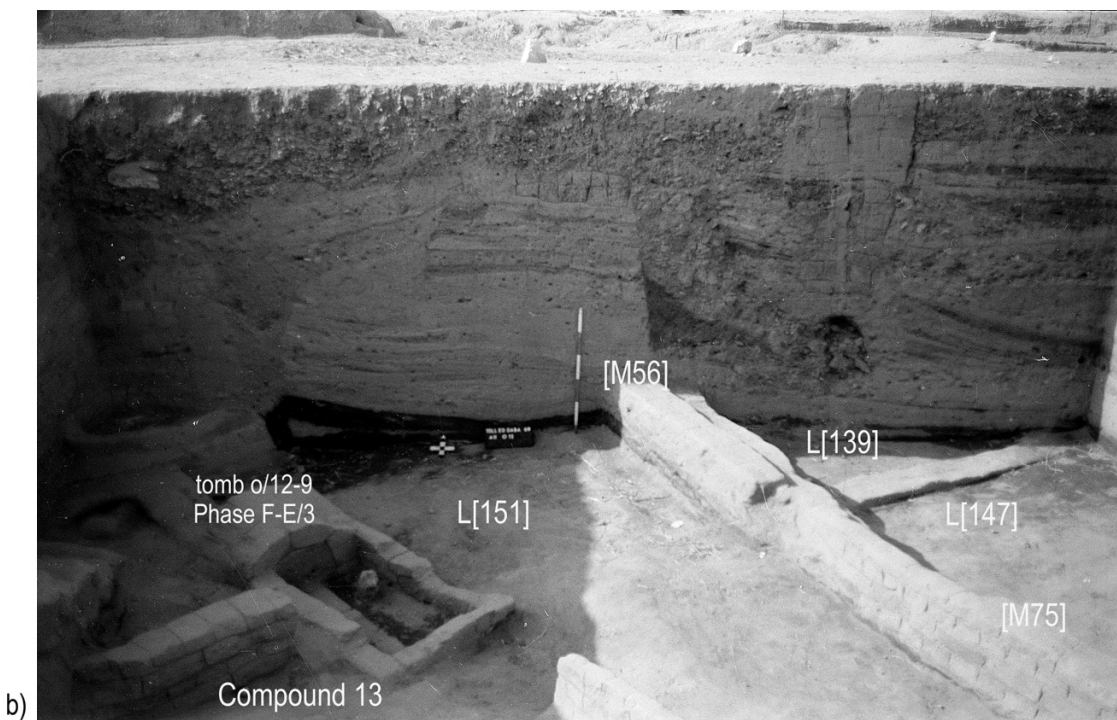
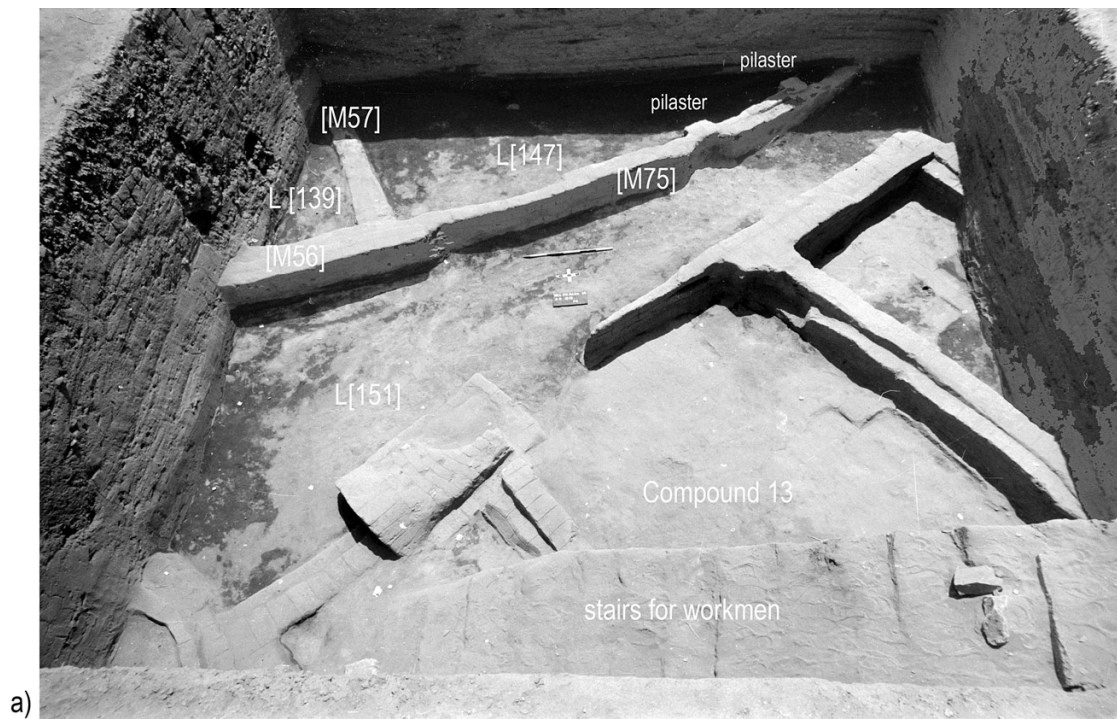


Fig. 6.37 A/II-o/12. a) View towards east, SW1165/44.
b) View towards north, A/II-o/12 with northern section, SW1171/6

(Fig. 6.38). They were provisionally numbered in the pencil drawing with 24, and they belong to, and run against wall [M50a] (= provisional section no A45-21) of the neighbouring Compound 13 to the west, see Fig. 7.1. The base level there is at an elevation of about 4.60 m/NN. Below these layers provisional section no A45-26 represents another phase, these layers run against wall provisional section no 27 (= [G/3-M46], cf. Fig. 9.6). And below these are even earlier and different layers again, numbered with section no A45-29. There seems to be another case of a clear tradition as a thoroughfare in this part of the square. Only in Phase E/2, the later Second Intermediate Period was a wall built here.

No finds were recorded from this area of the settlement in Phase G/2–1.

SQUARE A/II-N/13

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-n/13)

Compound 12 continues towards the east with Buildings/Rooms 4 and 5. The northern wall of Building/Room 4 seems to be a continuation of walls [M54] and [M55] by means of wall [M61], against which the other two walls [M60] and [M63] were built. The plans do not allow a firm decision whether these walls were bonded to that northern wall rather than just abutting it, although the former seems more likely. The corner of [M60] and [M61] is almost completely cut away by a later tomb. It is possible that the small space between L [140] and L [142] (= Building/Room 4) was also a closed space L [141], but the area where a wall may have been situated was badly disturbed by two later tombs (A/II-n/12-no 7; A/II-n/13-no 10, both dating to Phase E/3). If L [141] and L [142] belonged to one and the same structure, it might be reconstructed as a rectangular house with two rooms.⁶⁵⁴ Within Building/Room 4 a circular pit was found, filled with ash and pieces of charcoal L [143]. This feature may

have represented a simple hearth. The floors around were very ashy as well except in the northwest corner of Room 4 (= L [142]). There a spread of sandy layers extended in an almost square shape L [142a]. Close to the northern wall [M61] a single sand tempered mud-brick reinforces that wall as a buttress/pilaster or was part of a wall or of an installation. Unfortunately tomb A/II-n/13-no 8 cut away this part of [M61], so that it is impossible to know the original layout. The internal dimensions of Building/Room 4 measure about 3.95 m by 3.0 m, resulting in a square footage of ca 12 m². In cubits the measurement is exactly 7.5 by 5.75 cubits (43.125 square cubits). The location of the door opening was most likely in the southern or western walls, which were disturbed by tomb A/II-n/13-no 10.⁶⁵⁵ From the original plan it seems that the (refuse) pit partly in front of the building, partly inside it, L [142b] (Fig. 6.39), does not actually cut into wall [M62],⁶⁵⁶ but seems to lie below it (see also photo, Fig. 6.41). Several pottery vessels and fragments thereof were found there and they seem to fit the phase well without any intrusion from above (see for the finds below, 215). The depth of this pit given in the plan 1:50 is about 0.30 m.⁶⁵⁷

Between building/room 4 and 5 there is a narrow gap L [144] of (0.4–0.8 m), in which nothing was found. Presumably only children (and perhaps small animals would have had access to that space). The layer recorded there seems to have been rather sandy than ashy. The elevation of the floor taken there is at 4.42 m/NN.

Building/Room 5 consists of what looks like rectangular room with four walls [M65], [M66], [M67], and [M68]. Like all the others in Compound 12 these walls are just one brick's width wide. They were not laid in a uniform system, but in combined patterns of headers and stretchers, presumably for enhanced stability. The pattern found in wall [M66] just shows four stretchers in the middle of the wall as if in preparation or even as a threshold for a door (see Fig. 6.1, 6.40.a). Unfortunately there are no elevations taken close to this wall except in one corner. The bricks

⁶⁵⁴ Cf. B. BADER, *On Simple House Architecture*, 113, Fig. 1, 2.5.

⁶⁵⁵ M. BIETAK, TD V, 93. Cf. western section of A/II-n/13, provisional section no A64-23. It is interesting that the floor of this tomb does not reach the floor of the pit that was dug so that it might contain that tomb. It is also clear that this tomb was dug at the same time as tomb A/II-n/13 no 9, albeit this has a slightly lower elevation, because the pits were connected. Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 90–93, Phase E/3.

⁶⁵⁶ The digging diary is not very explicit on this point and speaks of a pit cut into the ash layer. Some of the ceramic finds were buried in the ash. On top of this 'Keramikansammlung' there was more pottery found (see below, 215–222).

⁶⁵⁷ Perhaps it should be drawn into plan 2. As it is now it looks as if it cuts into the building from above.



Fig. 6.38 A/II-o/12, pl. 7, view towards south, southern section, SW1176/8. The section shows finely layered depositions in south eastern corner (left corner of photo), where the alleyway L [151] is recorded. On the right side of the photo the walls of Phases G/3 and G/4

visible south of that wall seem to constitute brick rubble from that or the older wall below. The planum below (TDplan no 312) shows another wall exactly with the same lay-out in the same place, which seems to represent the phase before (the base levels are unknown, because unfortunately the eastern section was only recorded to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, which was not low enough to be certain). The heavily sand tempered mud-bricks of Phase G/2–1 measure about 0.35–0.355 by 0.15–0.18 m.⁶⁵⁸ The interior dimensions of the room are about 3.5 by 2.5 m, resulting in a square footage of about 8.75 m². In cubits the measurements are 6.5 by 5 resulting in 32.5 square cubits. The measurements clearly relate to cubits although the room is, of course, slightly irregular.⁶⁵⁹

It seems that the back wall of Building/Room 5, [M67], was built directly against the back of wall [M64] belonging to Building/Room 1 in A/II-m/13 and continues into A/II-n/13 (see Fig. 6.1). This latter wall is not very well preserved and a deposit of bones L [146] (Fig. 6.40.b) seems to overlay that wall or they were laid down in a pit cutting into this wall, which would make the contents of the pit later than the use of the feature. The top view of that pit or deposit does not bring more clarity into the matter as neither

the bricks nor the surroundings were drawn in.⁶⁶⁰ Another possibility would be that the back wall was never built completely across (as it was backed by [M64] anyway) and thus a niche was formed (Fig. 6.40.a). Three fragmentary bricks within the accumulation of animal bones visible in the plan render this unlikely (Fig. 6.40.a). Thus, it has to be assumed that the bone accumulation cannot be dated to the period of use of Building/Room 5 but afterwards (perhaps to Phase F). Yet another possibility of reconstruction may be that a door between L [130] and L [145] connected the space west of Building/Room 1 constituted by the only partially preserved wall [M69] in A/II-m/13. In this case the three bricks visible in the pit/deposition with the bones might belong to a threshold. In this case the bones may constitute contemporary rubbish, which is a point exemplified by the diversity of the species. The base levels of the walls of Building/Room 5 are at an elevation of about 4.50–4.60 m/NN as visible in the northern section (section no A17-35), the eastern section (section no A90-28) and a base level that was taken in the southern part of wall [M65] at 4.61 m/NN. Inside Building/Room 5 a brick platform/dais/altar (?) was also found, L [145a]. The square feature measured 0.80 m on each side, representing 1.5 cubits. The sand

⁶⁵⁸ M. BIETAK, *Digging Diary*, 26 June 1968, p. 66.

⁶⁵⁹ Cf. B. BADER, *On Simple House Architecture*, *passim*.

⁶⁶⁰ TDplan 311: bones identified include: donkey, sheep, goat, pig, rabbit, flamingo and fish. Cf. J. BOESSNECK, *TD III*, 17.

tempered mud-brick feature seems to have been built against [M65]⁶⁶¹ although at least one brick bonds the platform and the wall together (see Fig. 6.40.a for detail) indicating the same building phase and a master plan. The level of the presumed floor is at about 4.50 m/NN and slightly above. M. BIETAK first interpreted the building as a storage building and the platform as a step to gain access to it.⁶⁶² This interpretation is a reasonable explanation, especially due to the fact that no door opening could be identified with certainty. On the other hand this feature resembles to a certain degree, particularly in terms of size the brick platform (altar) in the north of the building (L [123], see Fig. 6.1), although the setting is very different. The interpretation as a sacred location is not to be dismissed out of hand because within wall [M68] a usually ceremonial flint knife was found (see below, 222). Wall [M68] is situated exactly opposite the platform. In this case the animal bones probably constitute later waste because they are too diverse in terms of species to be offerings.⁶⁶³ Unfortunately the exact location of the knife within the wall cannot be reconstructed.

To the north of Buildings/Rooms 4 and 5 a small part of Building/Room 1 mainly situated in square A/II-m/13 extends into this square. The former may have been an annexe of the latter building, perhaps with a roof. Walls [M48] and [M64] were connected to wall [M76]. There seems to be a join between [M76] and [M64], so that a building sub-phase might be distinguished. There seems to have been no wall in the north delimiting L [131] so that a relatively wide opening of 3.0 m existed there. The distance between walls [M48] and [M69] might have been bridged by some roofing construction. In the south-western corner of this space a platform/bench had been built L [135]. It had an approximately square shape but of irregular brick pattern with a length of ca 1.0 m on each side. The building technique was not very sophisticated the mud-bricks not being laid in a discernible pattern, but rather higgledy-piggledy. The sand tempered mud-bricks were of irregular size, perhaps

some of them were reused for the building of the platform (size: 0.25–0.30 × 0.18 m⁶⁶⁴). The platform elevation sealed a small rounded pit L [135a], but no finds were reported from there. About 0.5 m to the east of the square platform another possible installation was built, also from sand tempered mud-bricks. At the eastern limit of the ‘installation’ a very thin skin wall ran towards the north.⁶⁶⁵ A large part of this space L [131] was unfortunately destroyed by two later tombs dated to Phase E/3.⁶⁶⁶

In front of Buildings/Rooms 4 and 5 an open space extended, L [147], which continued further to the south and on into square A/II-o/13, where a boundary wall seems to be located [M77] (see below, 226). Only one find was reported from this open space, namely a worked red stone reg.no 1705 (see below, 221). It came from close to the deposit of pottery of L [142b]. The plan drawing and the photos (Fig. 6.41) suggest ashy deposits in this area, which may have been the result of domestic activities to do with the use of fire (baking/cooking/fire as source of warmth).

Also located in this space L [147] is an empty tomb⁶⁶⁷ (Fig. 6.42), which projected from the southern baulk and it was assigned to Phase G/3–1, mainly because the pit into which the bricks were set, cut through the ash layer sealing Phase H.⁶⁶⁸ The rim of the pit is situated at an elevation that may reasonably be assigned to Phase G/3–1 or early F (4.60 m/NN) due to its stratigraphic position. Except for parts of a cattle rib nothing else was found inside. The brick rubble from the chamber was covered by an ashy layer of ca 20 cm depth.⁶⁶⁹ In the plan published in *Tell el-Dab'a V* the feature was shown as tomb A/II-n/13 no 11.⁶⁷⁰ The flat appearance of the “roof” or vault might be due to deformation by the weight of the overlaying layers.⁶⁷¹ The detailed drawing (TDplan no 314) also shows a rectangular feature, which may have constituted a tomb chamber. The interior width of ca 0.6 m of the chamber is narrower than the usual width of tombs, but an unused or robbed child’s tomb is possible as interpretation.⁶⁷² The baulk was not taken down

⁶⁶¹ The plan drawing Fig. 6.40.a suggests a pit cutting the northern part of wall [M65] and the western part of [M64].

⁶⁶² M. BIETAK, TD V, 34.

⁶⁶³ I would like to thank M. BIETAK for a discussion of this feature, personal communication 5 September 2017.

⁶⁶⁴ Measurements were taken from the 1:50 plan therefore the accuracy is probably not too good.

⁶⁶⁵ It has been added in Fig. 6.1.

⁶⁶⁶ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, 84–90. Note that in the published plan 2, tomb A/II-n/13-8 is wrongly labelled A/II-o/13-8.

⁶⁶⁷ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 26 June 1968, p. 66, numbered as tomb 11.

⁶⁶⁸ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968, p. 67a, “Sand-ziegelkasten”.

⁶⁶⁹ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, autumn 1968, p. 69.

⁶⁷⁰ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 2. It is not described in the text of TD V, *passim*.

⁶⁷¹ Cf. south section A39, section no A39-62.

⁶⁷² M. BIETAK, personal communication 21 July 2017.

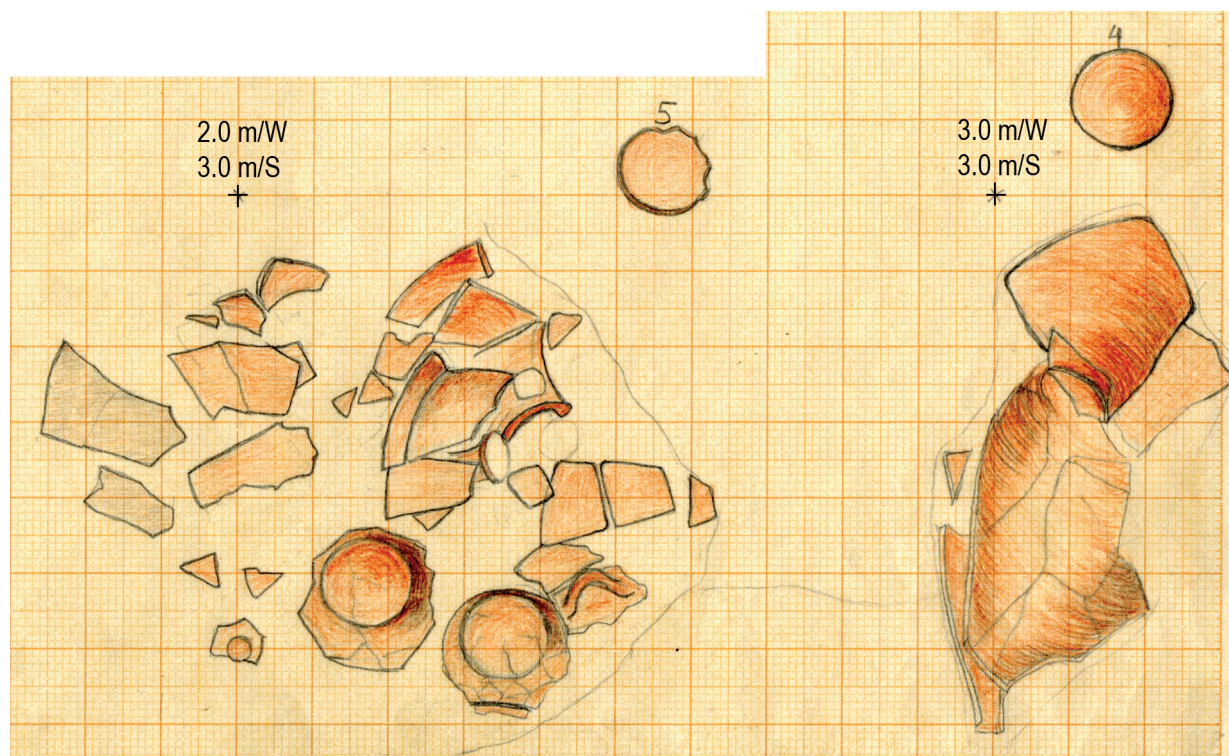


Fig. 6.39 A/II-n/13, pl. 6, detail L [142b] (TDplan 311), scale 1:10. Drawing by K. Hegedüs

so that this feature might be explored further. No archive photographs exist to interpret this feature more precisely. Also the counter section (A/II-o/13, north, A23) does not give additional evidence because it did not reach such a low elevation even if the feature extended that far to the south.

The open space/courtyard **L** [147] also continues towards the south west, just in front of Building/Room 3 in square A/II-o/12 (cf. above, 199). The ashy layers continue there, but no finds were recorded from this area delimited by wall [M75]. Wall [M75] runs from the south western corner of Building/Room 3 in south eastern direction towards [M77] in square A/II-o/13. Whether these two walls met or not, could not be ascertained because the baulks were not taken

down, due to time restraints in 1969 after which excavations were resumed in other areas. Both walls were only one brick's width wide, whilst [M75] was re-enforced by two buttresses or 'pilasters', which were bonded into the wall. The other – curved – wall [M77] is lacking this feature. Whether their base levels were approximately the same or even similar (A86, eastern section of A/II-o/12: section no A86-50 (= [M75] is at an elevation of about 4.60 m/NN) cannot be ascertained because the southern section of A/II-o/13 was not recorded. The northern section of A/II-p/13 also was only recorded down to an elevation of ca 5.20 m/NN.⁶⁷³ It is also possible that the/an entrance to Compound 12 was located in this area.

⁶⁷³ It seems that the elevations measured for the old excavations correspond to those of the newer excavations conducted in 1997 in squares A/II-o/14, A/II-p/12–15. Cf. I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER, *Vorbericht der Grabung im Areal A/II in Tell el-Dab'a*, *Ä&L* 11 (2001), 197–220; I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER, *The Colonization/Urbanization of the Tell Area A/II at Tell el-Dab'a and its*

Chronological Implications, *Ä&L* 17 (2007), 83–95; I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER, TD XVI, 21 for synchronisation of the excavation of 1997 with the general stratigraphy. Unfortunately A/II-p/13 was not excavated down to the elevation relevant here. Thus, it must remain unclear whether these walls actually do have the same base level or not.

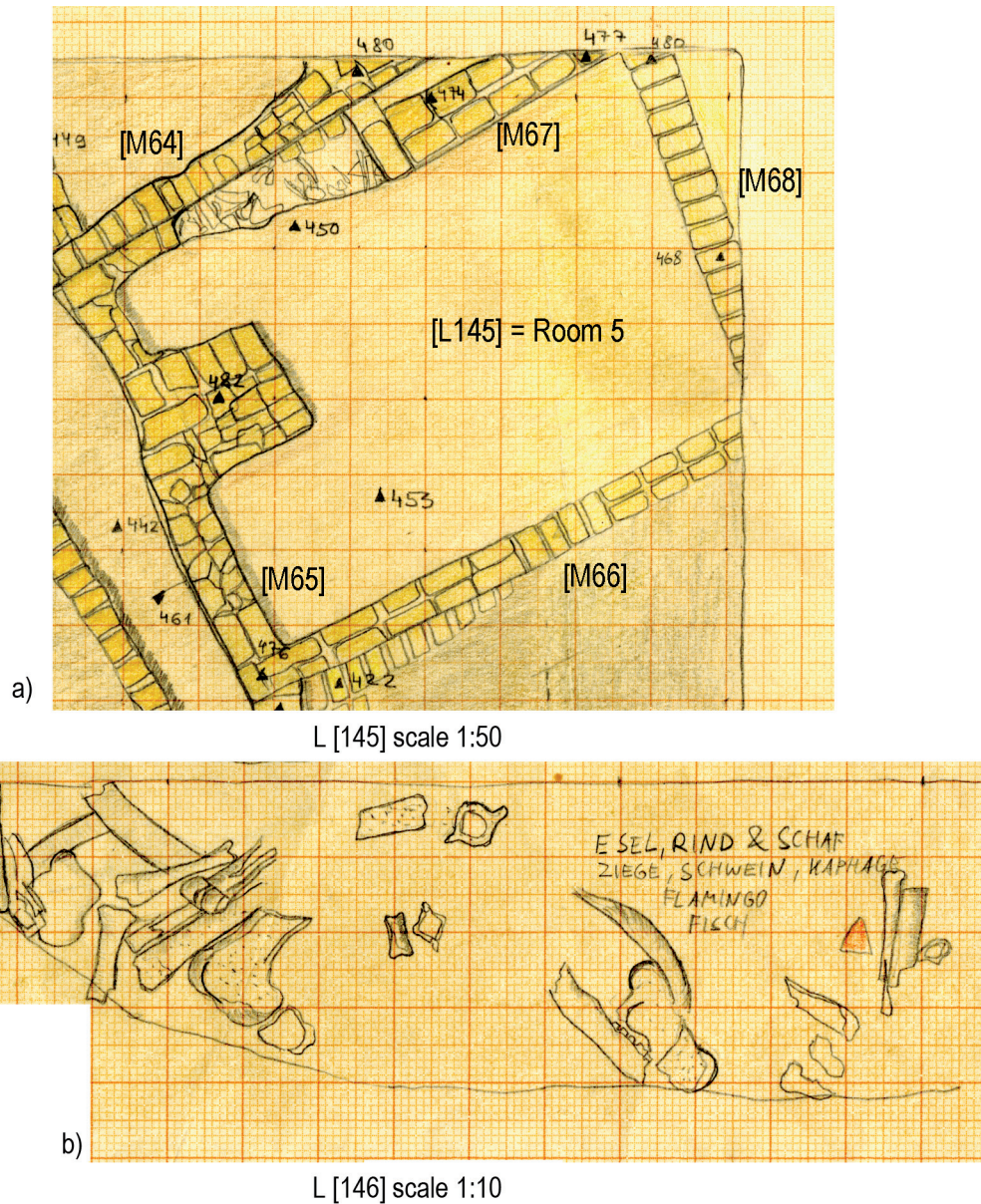


Fig. 6.40 A/II-n/13, detail drawings of L [145] and L [146], TDplan no (311). Drawings by K. Hegedüs

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/13⁶⁷⁴)

The northern section (A18, drawn in spring 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of about 4.20 m/NN in most places (Fig. 6.43.a). The dominating feature is the tomb of Phase E/3 (section no A18-30 (pit), A18-31

(tomb)) in the western half of the section.⁶⁷⁵ In the very western corner wall [M48] was running into the baulk, but is not visible in the section plan or in any of the relevant plan drawings.⁶⁷⁶ Approximately at running metre 7.0 from the west a thin wall is visible without section no, which may represent [M64]. The whole area from running metres 6.5 to 10.0 from the

⁶⁷⁴ All sections of this square were inked. The northern and southern sections were fully analysed with final section nos by M. BIETAK. The western and eastern sections only have the provisional section nos from the original plan drawings.

⁶⁷⁵ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, A/II-n/13-no 8, Phase E/3, 86–90, plan 4.

⁶⁷⁶ The section was not extended towards the west in this area. It is possible that section no A18-40 assigned to Phase H is a precursor of this wall with base level below the limit of the section.

west represents the array of walls in this area. The corner of Building/Room 5 extends from running metres 8.5–10.0 counting from the west and represents the corner of walls [M67] and [M68] at an elevation of ca 4.60 m/NN, although the brick work seems denuded. At an elevation of about 5.0 m/NN a sandy layer (section no A18-33) covers the top of the walls, which are preserved up to three courses high. Again on top of that a quite thick ashy layer (without section no) and covering some sand was deposited above the structures of Phase G/2–1.⁶⁷⁷ Section no A18-34 represents the collapse of sand tempered mud-bricks of the walls, that fell on top of the finely stratified compacted layers assigned section no A18-36. The finely layered ashy and sandy deposits with no A18-39 seal Phase H according to the original section analysis. Below that are more sandy layers (section no A18-41), which were interpreted as *gezirah* sand, thus, the natural untouched ground of the tell.⁶⁷⁸ The bricks (three courses high) with section no A18-38 represent the earlier phase's corner of walls [G/3-M36] and [G/3-M35] see Fig. 9.6. Again it is demonstrated that the walls are regularly rebuilt on those of the earlier phases, thus showing considerable continuity.

The eastern section (A90, drawn in 1968), is dominated by layered deposits, only a few walls can be discerned over the course of the 9 phases uncovered in Area A/II. The section was exposed to an elevation of about 4.30 m/NN. Approximately in the middle of the section an extremely deep (2.5 m) pitting from the surface (no 9) dominates it. The three walls with provisional section nos A90-28 (a-c) represent [M68] and [M66] at running metres 2.00–3.00 and 3.00–3.40 counting from the north. Their base levels lay below the excavated limit of 4.30 m/NN and cannot be ascertained. It is very likely that below those were those of the earlier phase in almost the same position, cf. plan Fig. 9.6. At running metre 9.0, almost at the southern end, the other wall (section no A90-28c) was situated, but only one brick course – the preserved top – was exposed. No walls in suitable position are recorded in the relevant plan drawings. The walls of Phase G/2–1 were covered with finely layered deposits of ashy, sandy and loamy nature at an elevation of about 4.90 m/NN.

The western section (A64, drawn 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of about 4.20 m/NN (Fig. 6.43.b). In the lowest part a substantial ashy deposit expanding over most of the section is noticeable (provisional section no A64-29). The layer is up to 0.3 m thick, but irregular. The wall [M60] is visible as provisional section no A64-27 at running metre 4.0 from south with a base level of ca 4.45 m/NN. That wall is only preserved two brick courses high. Wall [M55] is also visible in the section (without section no; provisionally it is numbered A64-27a). Tomb A/II-n/13-no 9⁶⁷⁹ is just on top of it but does not entirely destroy it. The base level is also about 4.40 m/NN, but only one brick course is preserved. Both these walls [M60] and [M55] were built on top of the ash layer, which is also visible in Fig. 6.1. At the spot where the appearance of wall [M59] might be expected, at running metre 2.0 from south, some sand tempered mud-brick rubble was observed, with a base level of 4.46 m/NN. Two other thin walls were recorded in the western section, namely the walls with provisional section nos A64-30a at running metre 6.0 from south (= [G/3-M38]) and A64-30b at running metre 7.40 from south (= [G/4-M33]), see Fig. 9.1 and 9.6. Both are only one brick course high (and it is likely they continue further down below 4.40 m/NN) and contain much more sand temper than the later walls. Over their preserved tops the ash layer seals them and the associated rubble is most probably derived from them. On top of wall [M60] (= Phase G/2–1⁶⁸⁰) and on layers belonging to that phase consisting of sandy and loamy finely compacted layers, another building phase was built with a base level of approx. 5.0 m/NN (provisional section no A64-20; and without section no). These walls also consist of sand tempered mud-bricks, but they are not very well preserved, only 1–2 brick courses high.⁶⁸¹

The southern section (A39) was also drawn in 1968 and was exposed to an elevation of ca 4.20–4.30 m/NN. In the earlier phases there was only one wall there (section no A39-65 = [MG/4-M38]) and the tomb A/II-n/13-no 11 (section no A39-62). The position of these features is in the eastern part of the section (at approx. running metres 1.0–2.7 counting from the east). This feature, section no A39-62, is clearly set into a pit (see discussion above, 210), whose rim begins at an elevation of ca 4.60 m/NN. The wall (section

⁶⁷⁷ The original section analysis assigns this ashy layer to Phase G.

⁶⁷⁸ M. BIETAK, discussion of section, no 41.

⁶⁷⁹ M. BIETAK, TD V, 90–93, plan 4.

⁶⁸⁰ Assigned specifically to Phase G/2–1 by M. BIETAK in the analysis of the section.

⁶⁸¹ This phase may be Phase F, but it was left an open question by M. BIETAK.



Fig. 6.41 A/II-n/13, pl 6. a) Overview facing north, SW1097/46. b) View towards south: L [135] brick platform, L [142] pit and pottery, part of L [145a] brick platform, SW1097/52

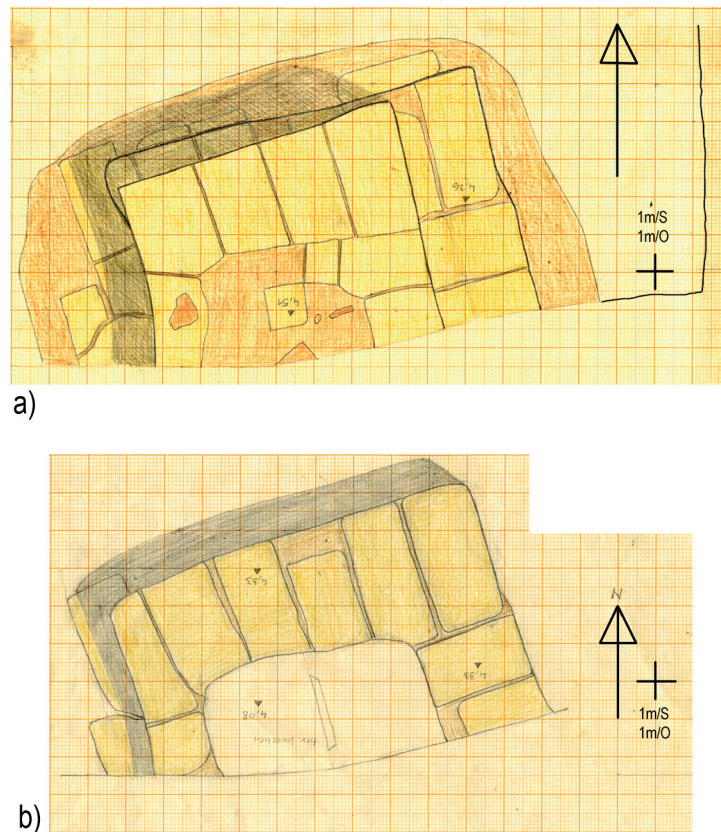


Fig. 6.42 Detailed plan of tomb 11 (TDplan 314). a) Situation 1, b) Situation 2, scale 1:20. Drawing by H. Adler

no A39-65) corresponds to the single wall visible in planum 7 ([G/4-M38] in Fig. 9.1, see also chapter 9). M. BIETAK assigned this wall without known base level⁶⁸² to Phase H, but it might equally likely belong to Phases G/4 or G/3. The reason for this doubt is that base levels of walls in other squares which were assigned to Phase H were quite low down, at an elevation of about 3.90–4.00 m/NN. This means that this wall would have had to be exceptionally well preserved to an unusual number of preserved brick courses. However, the uneven topography of the *gezirah* may enable such phenomena but without more excavation this assignation cannot be resolved.

The remainder of the western part of the southern section is represented by varied packs of compacted layers of ashy, sandy and loamy deposits, without any further walls there, which is typical for open spaces and thoroughfares (see Fig. 4.2 as an example for the nature of such layering).

Finds from square A/II-n/13, pl. 6

The digging diary describes the finds overall as scanty: a few grinders, querns and animal bones.⁶⁸³

L [142b] In front of Building/Room 4

Finds from an ashy pit in front of Building/Room 4. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, 1.0 m/W to 3.60 m/W and 1.5 m/S to 3.0 m/S; H~ 4.06–4.30 m/NN.

Stone

Reg.no **1706** (KhM, A 1771), ‘alabaster’ lid of *kohl* pot. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, 2.60 m/S; 2.70 m/W; H = 4.30 m/NN in an ashy layer on top of a pottery deposit (fragments of large vessels).⁶⁸⁴

Records: B/W negatives SW1112/13–14, SW1131/38–39; drawing ZN 130/68; redrawn and re-recorded.

⁶⁸² The wall seems to have continued below the exposed elevation.

⁶⁸³ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968, pp. 67–67a.

⁶⁸⁴ It is possible that this lid is from an ashy layer dividing the lower contents of the pit and the two pieces that were recorded as lying on top: reg.nos 1708 and 1737.



Fig. 6.43 A/II-n/13. a) Northern section, with corner of building [M67/M68] and the earlier [G/3-M36/G/3-M35] below it, SW1108/28. b) Western section, SW1108/35

Diameter = 4.7 cm (not perfectly round), thickness = 0.25–0.6 cm

Pottery

A.) Nile B1 pottery

A.a) Hemispherical cups (Fig. 6.44.b, 6.45.d–e)

One almost intact hemispherical cup belongs to this group of vessels and vessel fragments. The shape is open with a thin red rim band, and a tool scraped base (Fig. 6.45.e). The fabric is the fine variant of Nile B1 (see Fig. 6.45.d). The vessel index of 163.5 was used in the original composition of the chart published by M. BIETAK under G/3–1.⁶⁸⁵

Reg.no **1733** (KhM, A 3175), hemispherical cup with round base. Position: pottery deposit close to south western corner.

Records: B/W negatives SW1112/53–54, SW1131/8–9; drawing ZN 134/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-1	fine	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3
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Rd. = 11.8–12.0, (rim: 100% preserved); max.d. = 12.1; wd. = 0.5; H1 = 7.4 (base: 100% preserved); VI 163.5
Surface colour: 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown, red slipped rim: 10 R 5/6 red. Section: thin grey core, red and light brown oxidation zones; vessel very well smoothed.

B.) Marl C1 pottery

B.a) Large jars (with corrugated neck?) (Fig. 6.44.f)

The neck of the vessel just starts to show the turned part towards the rim and may, thus, belong to a corrugated neck jar. A linear pot mark was incised post-firing, perhaps some of it pre-firing, but the sherd is so badly eroded that it cannot be ascertained.

Reg.no **1740b** (KhM, A 3180b), body sherd with post-firing mark. Position: from pottery deposition close to south western corner of square, H = ca 4.80 m/NN.⁶⁸⁶
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/67–68; SW1131/24–25; redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	II-c-2	mi	Ha2	–	ox	3
----	--------	----	-----	---	----	---

Wd. = 1.2; height = 16.1; width = 15.2;
Surface colour: scum on the outside 5 YR 8/3 pink;

inside uncoated 10 R 6–7/6 light red; Section: uniform light red; surface partly eroded.

B.b) Large storage jars (Fig. 6.44.d–e)

The following two body sherds are derived from large storage vessels often made from Marl C1 in this period. No further assessments of the shape can be made. In both instances the pot marks were incised post-firing. Some rim fragments belong to konvolute K202 (see below, 219) which may well have joined these body sherds. As none of the konvolute fragments was available for re-study, they are mentioned together with the original records.

Reg.no **1740a** (KhM, A 3180a), body sherd with incisions/pot mark. Position: from pottery deposition close to south western corner of square, H = ca 4.80 m/NN.⁶⁸⁷
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/67–68; SW1131/24–25; redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	II-c-2	mi	Ha1	–	ox	3
----	--------	----	-----	---	----	---

Wd. = 1.1; height = 15.0 width = 6.5;
Surface colour: scum on the outside 5 YR 8/3 pink; inside 10 R 6/6 light red. Section: uniform light red, finely distributed limestone particles, mostly small; mark incised post-firing.

Reg.no **1740c** (KhM, A 3180c), body sherd with incisions/pot mark. Position: from pottery deposition close to south western corner of square, H = ca 4.80 m/NN.⁶⁸⁸
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/67–68; SW1131/24–25; redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	II-c-2	mi	Ha1	–	ox	3
----	--------	----	-----	---	----	---

Wd. = 0.8; height = 4.6; width = 4.6;
Surface colour: scum on the outside 7.5 YR 8/3 pink; inside uncoated 10 R 6/6 light red. Section: uniform light red; Inclusions finely distributed limestone particles, mostly small; mark incised post-firing.

C.) Imported pottery

C.a) Imported fine wares: dipper juglets (Fig. 6.44.c, 6.45.f–g)

The upper part of a dipper juglet is missing the rim. The slip was more brownish than red but this could

⁶⁸⁵ M. BIETAK, Problems of Middle Bronze Age Chronology: New Evidence from Egypt, *AJA* 88 (1984), 471–485.

⁶⁸⁶ See footnote for reg.no 1738 concerning the level, which is probably wrong and should be 4.30 m/NN.

⁶⁸⁷ See footnote for reg.no 1738 concerning the level, which is probably wrong, should be 4.30 m/NN.

⁶⁸⁸ See footnote for reg.no 1738 concerning the level, which is probably wrong, should be 4.30 m/NN.

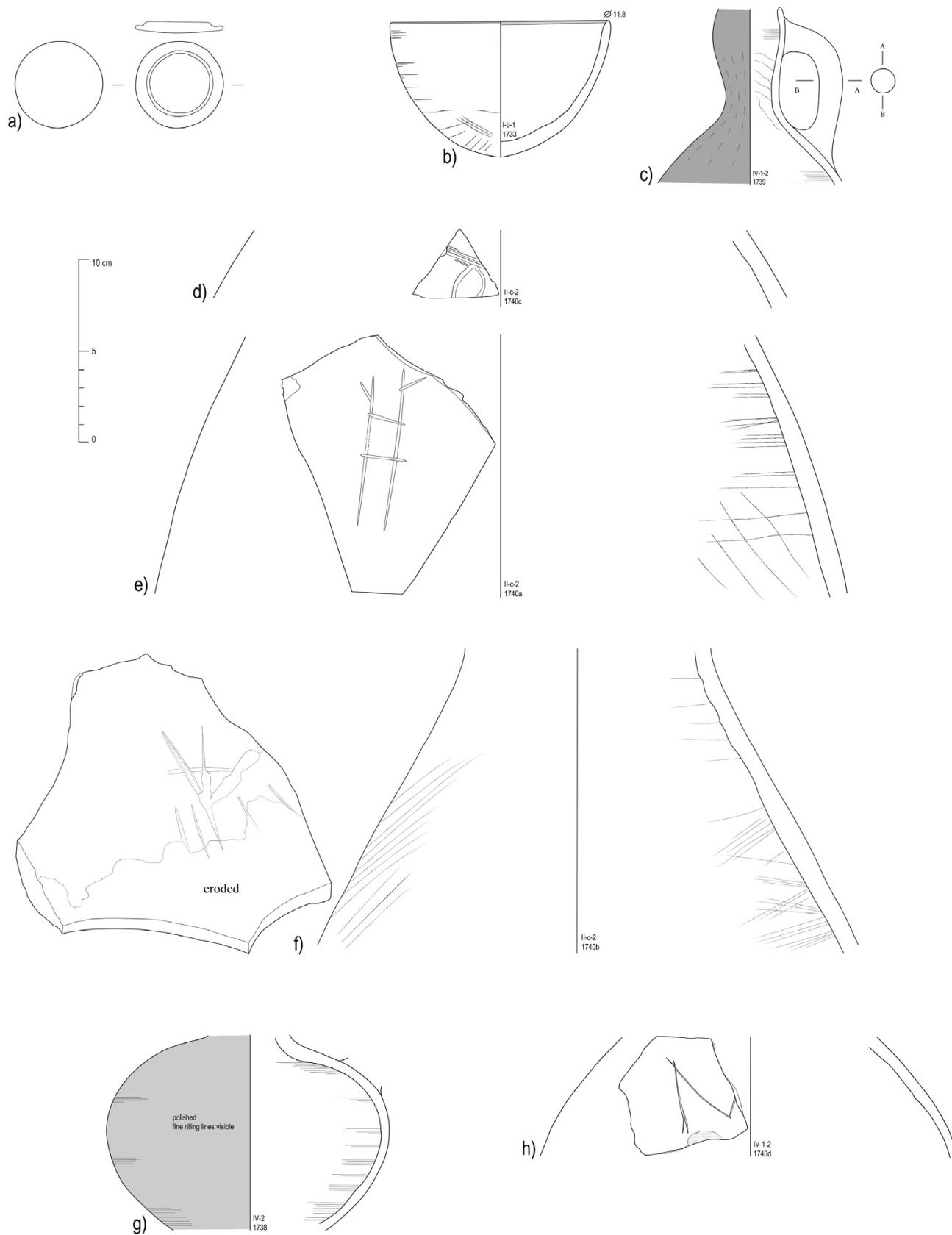


Fig. 6.44 Pottery from pottery deposit L [142b] in A/II-n/13, pl. 6

be caused by the firing process. The handle was stuck to the outside of the body and not pushed through the vessel wall. The burnishing was executed vertically.

Reg.no **1739** (KhM, A 3179), Dipper juglet top part. Position: from pottery deposition close to south western corner of square, H = ca 4.80 m/NN.⁶⁸⁹ Records: B/W negative SW1131/22–23; redrawn and re-recorded.

BP	IV-1-2	m.	W2	–	ox	3	1 RST
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Pres. max.d. = 11.0; neck diameter = 3.3; H1 = 10.7 + x; actual rim missing; base missing;

Surface colour: brown slipped and burnished outside 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown; inside uncoated 10 YR 6/4 light yellowish brown. Section: dark grey core, migrated to the inside; one red oxidation zone on the outside.

C.b) Imported fine wares: bi-conical jug (Fig. 6.44.g, 6.45.h–i)

This bi-conical jug was burnished/polished in some manner, but no burnishing strokes or directions of strokes were discernible. Under the red/brownish colour slip the rilling lines were visible. The handle scar suggests that it was formed of three strands, where the middle one is the largest with two smaller ones to each side (Fig. 6.45.h).

Reg.no **1738** (KhM, A 3178), body fragment of a medium bi-conical jug. Position: pottery deposit close to south western corner, H = 4.80 m/NN.⁶⁹⁰ Records: B/W negatives SW1112/65–66, SW1131/20–21; redrawn and re-recorded.

RP	IV-2-9	fine	W(1–)2	–	ox	3	3 RST
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Max.d. = 15.4; Wd. = 0.5; H1 = 10.6 + x; rim and base missing.

Surface colour: red/brownish slipped and polished outside 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow to 2.5 YR 6/6 red; inside uncoated natural colour 10 YR 6/3 light yellowish brown. Section: two-coloured: yellowish beige on ex-

terior; greenish-grey on interior; well-polished probably with a cloth; inclusions: many small quartz grains;

C.c) Large transport amphorae (Fig. 6.44.h, 6.45.j) A very small fragment of an amphora with combed surface and a post-firing mark (incised with a very hard instrument) also belongs to the group of fragments kept from this location.

Reg.no **1740d** (KhM, A 3180d), body sherd with pot mark. Position: from pottery deposition close to south western corner of square, H = ca 4.80 m/NN.⁶⁹¹ Records: B/W negatives SW1112/67–68; SW1131/24–25; redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	IV-1-2	mi	W2	–	ox	3
----	--------	----	----	---	----	---

Wd. = 0.6; height = 7.0; width = 5.5;

Surface colour: uncoated on the outside 2.5 YR 7/4 pale red; uncoated on the inside 7.5 YR 7/6 reddish yellow. Section: uniform reddish brown with many also large inclusions.

In addition some sherd material was recorded from this find location, but it could not be retrieved for re-study. The material seems to have consisted mainly of Marl C sherds from large storage jars and imported Middle Bronze Age pottery fragments, most probably amphorae.

Konvolute **K202**: Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, from pottery deposition close to south western corner of square (= **L [142b]**), H = ca 4.80 m/NN (Fig. 6.46).⁶⁹²

Discussion of fragments⁶⁹³

fragments of storage jars made of Marl C (probably C1 = II-c-2); the sketched rim most probably represents rim type 3 or 4.⁶⁹⁴ The remark concerning their white surface leaves not much doubt about this identification. As average rim diameter 28.0 cm are mentioned (cf. also digging diary⁶⁹⁵).

Diagnostic rims of corrugated neck jars also made from Marl C.⁶⁹⁶

The rims of medium jars with their characteristic thickening of the lip consist most probably also of Marl C.⁶⁹⁷

⁶⁸⁹ See footnote 690 concerning the level, which is probably wrong, should be 4.30 m/NN.

⁶⁹⁰ It is very likely that this is a mistake for 4.30 m/NN, because the group was described as having been found together in the lower levels of the pit, which has the elevation of 4.30 m/NN. This has been mentioned also by M. BIETAK in connection with reg.no 1737.

⁶⁹¹ See footnote 690 and 701 concerning the probably wrong level.

⁶⁹² See footnote 690 concerning the probably wrong level.

⁶⁹³ In the light of the recording of the material derived from later seasons, which could be re-assessed, the assemblage fits well with what is known from other contemporary loci.

⁶⁹⁴ Cf. B. BADER, TD XIX, 225, fig. 142. They appear most frequently in Phases G/4, G/3–1 and still in Phase F.

⁶⁹⁵ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968.

⁶⁹⁶ Cf. B. BADER, TD XIII, type 46, 129–145; B. BADER, TD XIX, type 140, 442–447.

⁶⁹⁷ Cf. B. BADER TD XIII, type 36, 108–120; B. BADER, TD XIX, type 138b, 438–441.



Fig. 6.45 a–b) Reg.no 1706, lid of kohl pot. c–e) Reg.no 1733, hemispherical cup. f–g) Reg.no 1739, dipper juglet. h–i) Reg.no 1738, red/brown polished large bi-conical jug. j) Reg.no 1740d, amphora sherd with combed exterior and pre-firing incised mark. All objects are housed in the KhM, photos taken by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

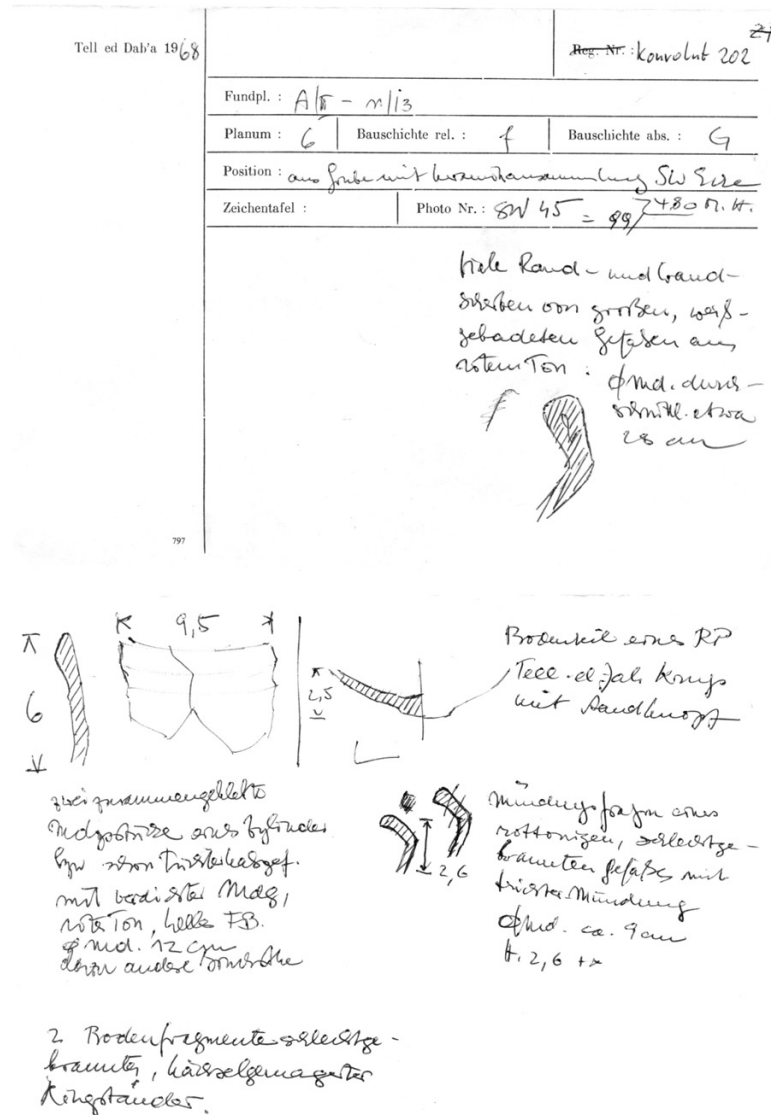


Fig. 6.46 Original recording of konvolute K202, scale 1:2

Base of a red polished/burnished juglet that was also shown in the detailed drawing (cf. Fig. 6.39).

Two base fragments of coarse ringstands probably made from Nile C2 are also mentioned (they can also be seen in the detailed plan drawing, see Fig. 6.39).

The digging diary⁶⁹⁸ also mentions transport amphora bases and body fragments with attached handles (as visible in detailed plan drawing, see Fig. 6.39). Unfortunately it was not possible to identify any of these unregistered finds.

At the edge of this pit, **L [142b]**, the following object was situated.

Stone

Reg.no **1705** (KhM, A 1838), three edged artefact made from a hard red stone.⁶⁹⁹ Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 5-6, 1.5 m/S and 1.5 m/W; 3.3 m/D [H~4.50 m/NN⁷⁰⁰] in the south western corner (Fig. 6.47).

Record: B/W negative SW1131/36-37; drawing ZN

⁶⁹⁸ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968.

⁶⁹⁹ It seems unlikely to be hematite, because no colour comes off, when rubbed.

⁷⁰⁰ Measured at southern and western sections (TDplans 322-323).

130/68, redrawn and re-recorded.
Length = 5.2; height = 1.1;

L [142b1]

On top of the pottery from this pit **L [142b]**, A/II-n/13 pl. 6, a second ‘layer’ of pottery finds was mentioned separately in the digging diary. The list comprises the following register nos.

Pottery

A.) Imported pottery

A.a) Imported fine wares: juglets (Fig. 6.47–6.48)

Two imported fragments of juglets with otherwise rather rare bell-shaped necks were found in this position. They remain largely the only examples of that vessel type in the settlement.

Reg.no **1708** (KhM, A 3157), bell shaped neck of juglet. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, ca 2.5 m/S and 2.5 m/W, H ~ 4.50–4.60 m/NN above pottery from **L [142b]** in a sandy layer and above the ash layer dividing strata H and G. Relative stratum f or g.

Records: B/W negatives SW1112/19–20 and SW1131/42–43; redrawn and re-recorded.

R/BP	IV-2-9	f. – m.	W1	–	ox	2–3	2 RST
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Neck diameter = 1.4; H1 = 5.1; d. of handle = 1.8; rim not preserved.

Surface colour: 2.5 YR 4/4 dusky red; brownish patches: 7.5 YR 4–5/2 brown. Section: uniform brown; Inclusions very many, very fine quartz particles only; burnishing was done very well, but not to a metallic sheen.

Reg.no **1737** (KhM, A 3177), ovoid jug with bell shaped neck. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, same position as reg.no 1708.⁷⁰¹

Records: B/W negatives SW1112/63–64, SW1131/18–19; drawing ZN 135/68; redrawn and re-recorded.

RP	IV-2-1	fine	W2	Bd. abg.	ox	2–3	2 RST
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Rd. = 1.6 (rim 75% preserved); nd. = 1.7; max.d. = 11.9; wd. = 0.3–0.6; bd. = 2.0 (base 100% preserved); H1 = 22.3; d. of handle = 2.0;

Surface colour: red burnished 10 R 4/4 weak red; natural surface: 5 YR 6/6 light red; colour inside: 10 YR 5/2 grayish brown. Section: inside dark grey core, outside light brown oxidation zone; Burnishing almost completely eroded, direction of burnishing strokes not determinable, vertical direction probable. The burnishing goes under the flat base of the jug. The fabric shows a high content of very small quartz grains. A sample was tested by NAA analysis (BNL JH 306) and assigned to a southern Palestinian origin.⁷⁰²

In Wall [M68]

Reg.no **1707** (KhM, A 1349), chipped silex knife.⁷⁰³

Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, ca 1.2 m/E, 0.6–7 m/N, H = 4.80 m/NN; in relative phase f wedged between two bricks, thus, in secondary use.

Records: B/W negatives SW1112/15–16, SW1112/17–18, SW1131/40–41; drawing ZN 47E section, redrawn and re-recorded (Fig. 6.49).

Bifacial retouched flint tool with straight back and curved cutting edge; light beige chert; end broken off, no use traces were detected.

Length = 18.0 cm; max. width = 4.8 cm; thickness = 0.9–1.1; weight 100.3 grams.

Due to the fact that the knife was found embedded in a wall indicates that it belongs to an earlier phase, thus a dating into the (late) Middle Kingdom is not amiss. At least one knife with a length of 21.0 cm of similar shape but with a narrower blade was found at Lahun.⁷⁰⁴ A few others of varied lengths including one broken example were also found there as well as at Harageh.⁷⁰⁵ Perhaps the knife found at Tell el-Dab^ca was unused⁷⁰⁶ and therefore not continuously sharpened so that it retained its shape quite well.⁷⁰⁷ The reason for deposition in a wall remains unknown

⁷⁰¹ According to the find slip it came directly from the pit **L [142b]**, but the digging diary (M. BIETAK, 27 June 1968) describes that 1708 and 1737 were found together slightly above the pit in a sandy layer. Previously published in D.A. ASTON, TD XII/1, 125–126; TD XII/2, pl. 111, cat.no 361.

⁷⁰² P.E. MCGOVERN, *Foreign Relations*, 128.

⁷⁰³ In 2017 on display in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Room VI.

⁷⁰⁴ W.M.F. PETRIE, *Illahun, Kahun and Gurob*, London 1891, pl. XIII.6.

⁷⁰⁵ W.M.F. PETRIE, *Illahun*, pl. VII. 7–8, 14, 27.6 cm to 14.1 cm; W.M.F. PETRIE, *Kahun, Gurob and Hawara*, London 1890, pl. XVI.third from the left in the top row, length approx. 15.5 cm.

Also at Harageh from feature 135. That knife also lacks a handle. It was found together with pottery of type 12q and 67s (date in 12th Dynasty likely) and beads 58x and 68k (tubular beads with angular section). Note that 135 does not represent a tomb but a ‘pottery dump’. Cf. R. ENGELBACH, *Harageh*, BSAE 28, London 1923, pl. VII.8 for the knife and pl. LIX for the context.

⁷⁰⁶ However, the tool did not show sickle gloss, but probably such knives were not used for cutting plants anyway.

⁷⁰⁷ A. TILLMANN, *Neolithikum in der Späten Bronzezeit, Steingeräte des 2. Jahrtausends aus Auaris-Piramesse*, FoRa 4, Hildesheim 2007, 134–135.

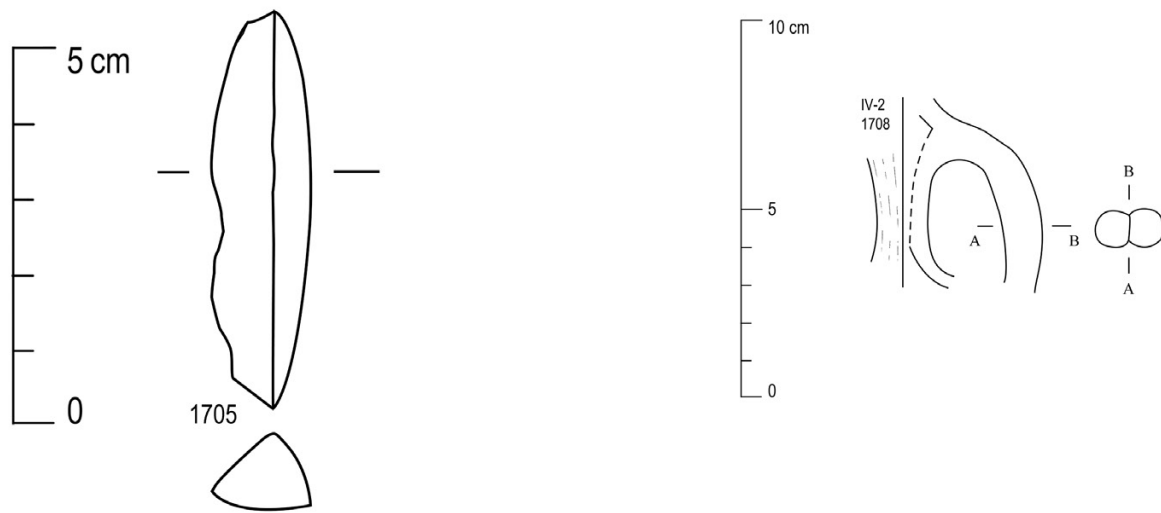


Fig. 6.47 Finds from L [142b] and close to it reg.nos 1705, 1708, drawn by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

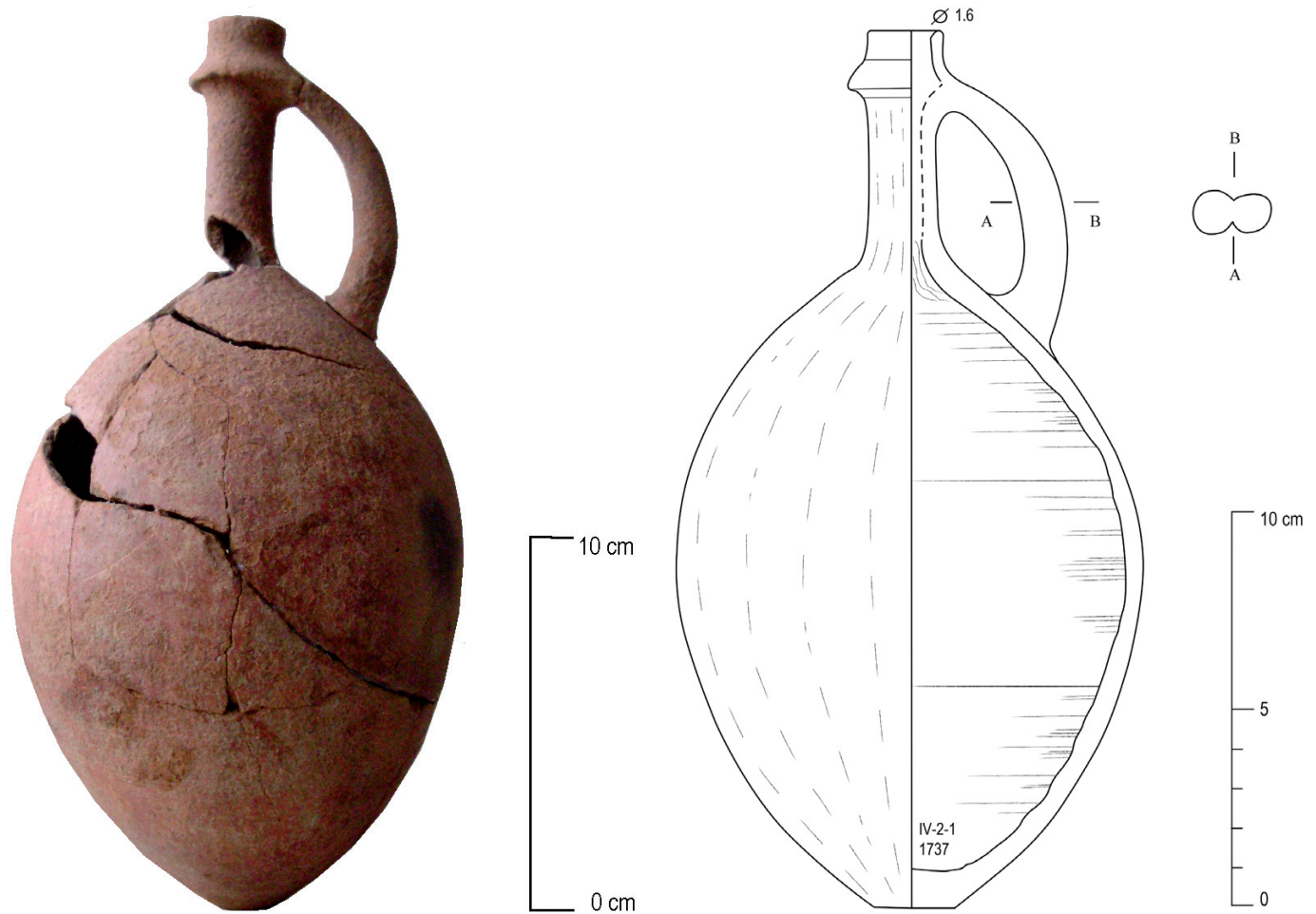


Fig. 6.48 Finds from close to L [142b1], reg.no 1737, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

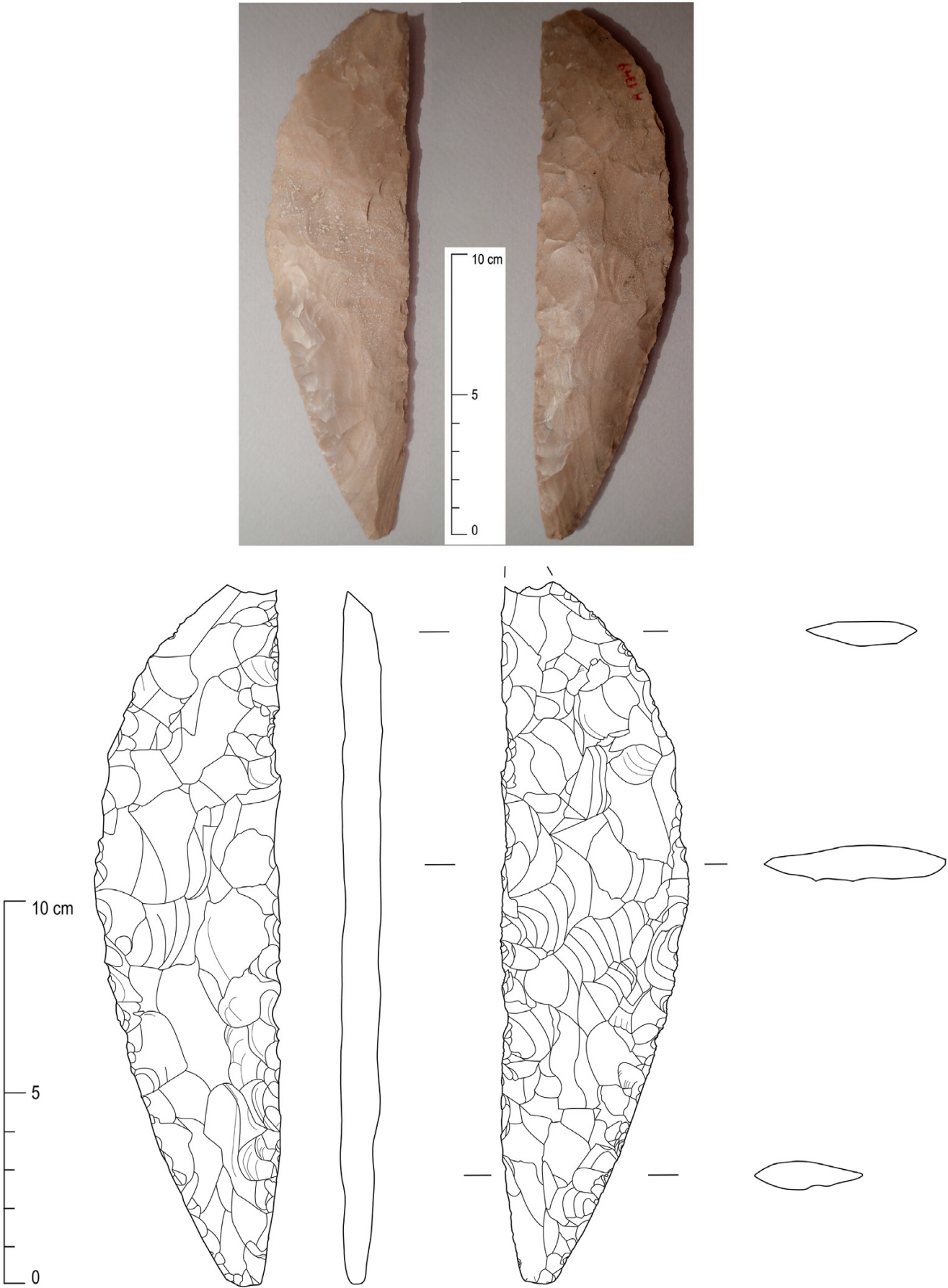


Fig. 6.49 Reg.no 1707 silex knife from wall [M68], drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

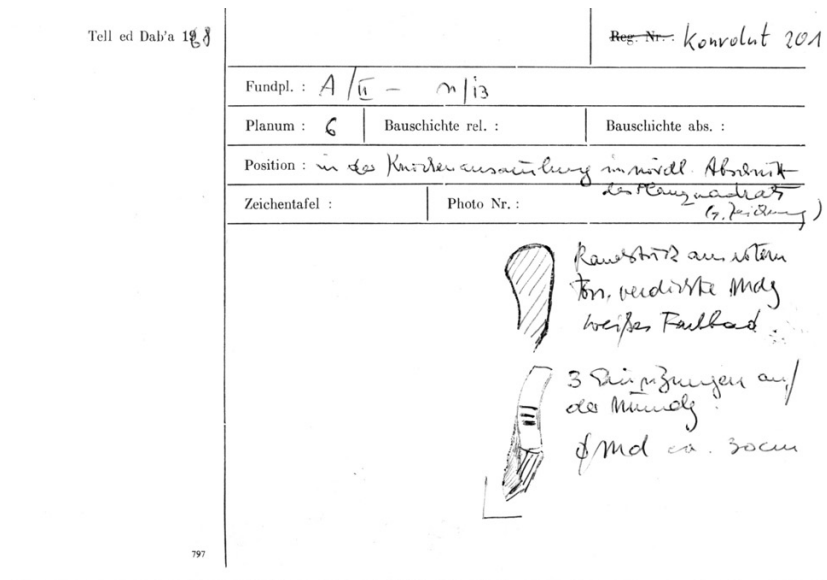


Fig. 6.50 Konvolute card K201, Marl C storage jar rim from L [146], scale approx. 1:2

especially as a number of such knives seem to be derived from sacred contexts.⁷⁰⁸ That similar knives also appear in settlements is exemplified by the finds at Lahun and Harageh as well as one example found at Kom Rabi'a. Similar in size and shape (16.9 in length, 5.0 cm in max. width, thickness 1.1) it was found in Level VIIa,⁷⁰⁹ which is well in accord with Phase G/3–1 in general. TILLMANN only gave one example for the Middle Kingdom, slightly irregularly shaped (perhaps from sharpening) but without provenance.⁷¹⁰ In a short note he mentioned the current example in passing as clearly distinguished from the earlier 12th Dynasty knives by the complete lack of a set-off handle.⁷¹¹

L [146] Building/Room 5, L [145]

Pottery

Sherd konvolute **K201** (Fig. 6.50). Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6 from the accumulation of bones in the northern of the part of the square (see plan drawing 1:50).

The description of the pottery fragment together with its shape leaves little doubt that this fragment belongs to the well-known storage jar type with wide mouth produced from Marl C. The description even mentions the white surface scum so typical for the material.⁷¹² The three presumably post-firing rim ticks on top of the rim sketched on the card are also a well-known feature of such jars.⁷¹³

⁷⁰⁸ A. TILLMANN, *Neolithikum*, 132–135. One more example from Tell el-Dab'a was found in the cemetery offering pit of animals in square F/I-o/19 with a slight set-off handle, reg.no 8276. Cf. R. SCHIESTL, TD XVIII, 263.

⁷⁰⁹ L.L. GIDDY, *Kom Rabi'a: The Objects from the Late Middle Kingdom Installations (Levels VI-VIII)*, *The Survey of Memphis IX*, Egypt Exploration Society, Excavation Memoir 115, London 2017, no 3437, 120, 141, pl. 25, colour yellow brown, RAT 1481.

⁷¹⁰ A. TILLMANN, *Neolithikum*, fig. 132.5.

⁷¹¹ A. TILLMANN, *Neolithikum*, 188. It has to be noted though that between the early 12th Dynasty and the late Middle Kingdom (i.e. Phase G/3–1, even if in a secondary context) a considerable time span passed, in stark contrast to the statement "Der Griff ist nicht einmal mehr andeutungsweise abgesetzt, womit sich das Stück deutlich von den nur wenig älteren Exemplaren

aus der frühen 12. Dynastie unterscheidet." We have to assume at least 170 years as a rough estimate for this time span, thus it is not only "wenig älter". Because this is the only such knife found in the settlement of Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1, TILLMANN not mentioning the reg.no could have only meant this example.

⁷¹² Cf. M. OWNBY and D. GRIFFITHS, *Issues of Scum: Technical Analyses of Egyptian Marl C to Answer Technological Questions*, *Ä&L* 19 (2009), 229–239.

⁷¹³ Compare to B. BADER, TD XIII, cat.no 278, fig. 48b, Phase G/4. For rim ticks see B. BADER, TD XIII, cat.no 282, fig. 49.b, Phase G/3–1 and cat.no 283, fig. 50b Phase G/3–1. Cf. B. BADER, TD XIX, 225, fig. 142, types 3 and 4 usually occurring in Phases G/4, G/3–1 and up to F as possible candidate for the sketch on the card.

Animal bones

Several bones were found within the feature⁷¹⁴ although it remains unclear whether they are derived from a primary deposition or not.

Cattle: 3 frags. neurocranium; 1 horn core; 1 lower jaw in splinters; 4 frags. ribs; 2 frags. vert. lumb.; 3 frags. scapula; 1 humerus, distal part, epiphyseal cartilage closed; 1 frag. pelvis; 1 femur in splinters; 1 frag. femur of a calf; 1 femur proximal part, adult; 1 femur distal part, adult; 1 part of the shaft of a tibia; 1 metatarsus proximal part. The minimum number of individuals is 3; 1 calf, 2 adult animals.

Sheep: 1 frag. neurocranium with horn core; 1 radius + ulna belonging together proximal part; 1 ulna proximal part tuber lose; 1 half of pelvis, female. Minimum number of individuals is 3; 1 juvenile, 2 adult animals.

Goat: 1 horn core.

Sheep/Goat: 1 frag. upper jaw; 1 lower jaw with m[olar]3, medium abraded; 2 parts of lower jaw, broken; 1 atlas in splinters; 1 frag. vert. thor.; 1 frag. vert. lumb.; 2 frags. ribs; 1 frag. of a shaft of radius; 1 frag. ulna; 1 frag. metacarpus shaft; The animal bones present do not allow the interpretation of one additional animal in either category.

Donkey: 1 adult donkey: 1 humerus, distal part; 1 radius, proximal part; all belong together

Pig: 1 part neurocranium with scars on parietale;⁷¹⁵ 1 scapula (tuber closed).

Cape hare (*capus lepenis*): 1 frag. pelvis.

Flamingo: 1 frag. coracoid.

Fish: probably *clarias anguillaris* (cat fish), 1 frag. of neurocranium [Schädelpanzer], 1 cleithrum.

Tilapia: 1 cleithrum sin.

Distribution of animal bones in L [146]

cattle	sheep	goat	sheep/ goat	donkey	pig	cape hare	flamingo	fish
22	4	1	12	2	2	1	1	3

⁷¹⁴ J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 17, fig. 8.

⁷¹⁵ See in addition, J. BOESSNECK, TD III, 33, fig. 11.

⁷¹⁶ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 2 July 1969.

⁷¹⁷ In the digging diary of 2 July 1969, M. BIETAK assigns those walls to the same phase with reference to the eastern section: “südlich

SQUARE A/II-o/13

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-o/13)

The most prominent feature in this square is a slightly curved wall running from close to the southwest corner to close to the northeast corner of the square [M77] (see Fig. 6.1). That there was another, older wall below is apparent from the original plan drawing (TDplan no 364), cf. chapter 9.

Wall [M77] consists of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks, which were laid partly as stretchers and partly as headers, namely two beside each other. The wall never exceeded one brick's width. In the southern part it may have been reinforced by means of buttresses/pilasters (at 3.0 m/W and 2.5 m/S). The size of the bricks is 0.33–0.35 by 0.18–0.19 by 0.10–0.11 m.⁷¹⁶

At the northern end of this wall another small and thin wall was also built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks that abuts [M77] in a perpendicular way, which in turn is abutted by another one parallel to [M77] (see below, 227–228). These walls are not in the published plan. [M78 a and b] probably belong to the phase below (see 228 and Fig. 6.52).⁷¹⁷

To the north of wall [M77] the large open space of L [147] extends. The original plan shows that ashes were deposited in this area, albeit seemingly not very thickly but in patches with larger sandy areas in between. Thus, some dumping of ash from fires and cooking might have happened here, but the dumping does not reflect very intense activity. The eastern section is no help here in determining the relationship of these walls because it was not recorded down to this elevation.⁷¹⁸

Also to the north a “stepped” void is visible L [148], which contained sand brick rubble and the body of a pottery jar (to judge from the plan drawing) (see Fig. 6.52). The lowest point within this feature is at 4.30 m/NN. The interpretation of this feature varied between a pit⁷¹⁹ or possibly a robbed tomb.⁷²⁰

und teilweise nördlich unklare Sandziegelbauten und eine Hürde südlich, die stratigraphisch zu dieser Schichte gehört (O-Profil)”.
⁷¹⁸ See TDplan no 368.

⁷¹⁹ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 2 July 1969.

⁷²⁰ Original plan drawing TDplan no 364.

To the south of wall [M77] another presumably open area **L [149]** is situated. Again with slight discolourations by ashy deposits the depth of which cannot be determined for the same reason as above. A thin wall of half a brick's width protrudes from the eastern section at running metre 2.5 reckoned from the south. The size of the sand bricks here is 0.33–0.345 by 0.14–0.16 m.⁷²¹ The base level of this wall is at an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, which makes it unclear whether it belonged to Phase G/2–1 or the older G/4–3, because the level might fit both phases. In absence of a section this question cannot be decided. Also to the south of wall [M77] is a rectangular pit **L [150]**, which is about 0.3 m deep and measures 1.0 by 0.9 m. The section through this pit shows that it cut into sands (*gezirah*??) with the deepest elevation at about 4.00 m/NN. The fill consisted of humic earth with a few pot sherds and a humic/sandy layer on top of the pit without any finds (Fig. 6.52).

At the eastern edge of the square another sand brick structure was unearthed that may also belong to Phase G/2–1 although it is not represented in the published plan of the phase (added to Fig. 6.1). In the first phase of excavation this structure appeared roughly square and seems to be covered by some

brick collapse, whilst the second cleaning shows a square feature with a “step” in front of it oriented towards the north east (Fig. 6.51). The base level of this feature (or rather the collapse on top of it) is at an elevation of 4.54 m/NN. Thus, it seems very possible that the feature belongs to Phase G/2–1 or the older Phase G/4–3. About the function of this feature not much can be said as only the dagger pommel reg.no 2481 was found on top of the first excavation phase. It is possible that the feature represents an altar connected to a tomb in the neighbouring square A/II-o/14. Unfortunately that square was not excavated down to this level in the renewed excavation of 1997.⁷²² Thus, any hypothesis must remain speculation. It seems noteworthy though that feature **L [149a]** has similar dimensions to feature **L [123]** in A/II-m/13, namely 0.8 by 0.7 m⁷²³ as well as to feature **L [145a]**. Despite these similarities, **L [149a]** shows a kind of ‘step’ or access at the southern edge, whilst the other feature is surrounded by a miniature wall. Overall, the current structure looks similar to an offering table judging purely by shape. Interestingly in the later Phases E/2–1 a slightly bigger square altar is situated immediately to the west of the current feature.⁷²⁴

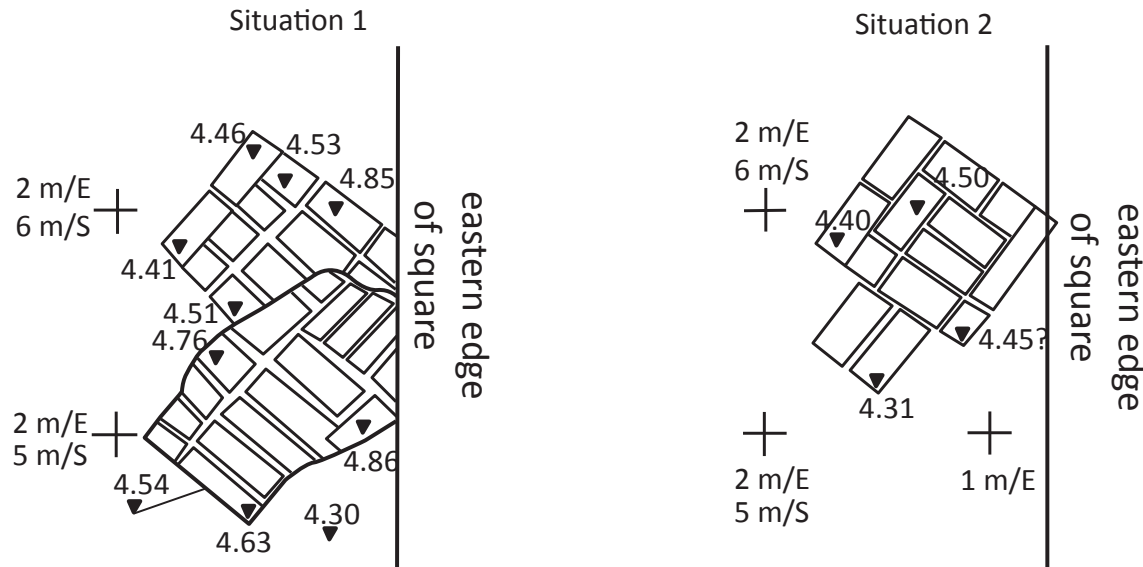


Fig. 6.51 Detail from TDplan no 364 with the square brick structure **L [149a]** in the first and second cleaning. Top of the page is north, scale 1:33, inked by B. Bader

⁷²¹ M. BIETAK, Digging Diary, 2 July 1969.

⁷²² Cf. I. FORSTNER-MÜLLER, *Ä&L* 11, passim.

⁷²³ Feature **L [123]** measures 0.7 by 0.6 m.

⁷²⁴ M. BIETAK, TD V, Friedhofsbezirk IX, 154 and plans 5–6, size is 1.1 by 1.15 m.

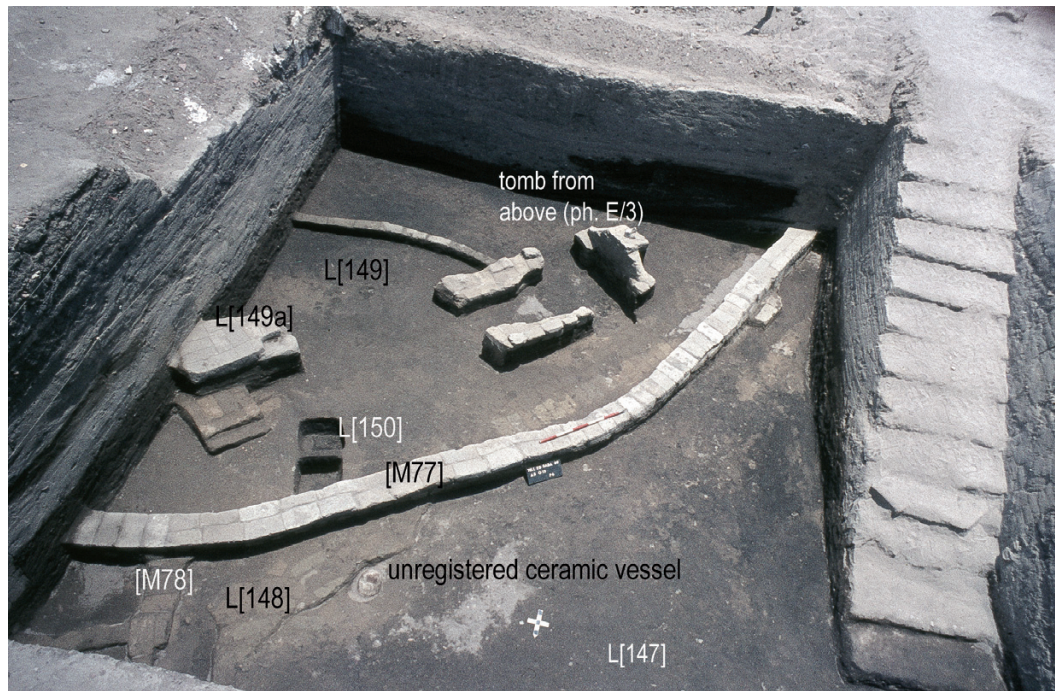


Fig. 6.52 A/II-o/13, pl. 6, view towards the south, Cairo archive

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-o/13⁷²⁵)

The northern section (A23) was only recorded down to an elevation of ca 4.80 m/NN, so that the relative dating of the wall running into the northern baulk (see photo Fig. 6.53.a) can be assigned to Phase E/3 (with a base level of 4.90 m/NN). It forms part of the enclosure wall of the cemetery and the older Mortuary Temple I according to M. BIETAK.⁷²⁶ No other wall belonging to Phase G/3–I in that square runs through the northern section. Due to the absolute elevation of 4.80 m/NN nothing can be said about the nature of the depositions in the southern part of **L [147]** because they would have been situated at a lower elevation.

The eastern section (A91) was also not recorded down to the actual excavated elevation (only to 4.80 m/NN), thus, it is difficult to decide the position and relation of wall **[M77]** to the later one that ends at running metre 8.0 from south (provisional section no A91-20). It is interesting that on top of this wall, dated to Phases F–E/3 (the base level was not securely reached, below 4.80 m/NN), another one dating to

Phase E/2 was erected on top of it, showing a high degree of continuity over the phases up to the later Second Intermediate Period. In some locations of the site continuity from at least the earlier phases up to Phase F can be repeatedly observed. Wall **[M77]** was only just not recorded by the section, but the top of the rubble covering the installation **L [149a]** is represented (provisional section no A91-22, between running metres 4.50–6.10 counting from south to north). The scant information makes it difficult to understand the nature of these features.

Finds from square A/II-o/13, pl. 6

L [147] Open space

Pottery

The digging diary of the 2 July 1969⁷²⁷ mentions a Tell el-Yahudieh juglet (fragment?) that could not be identified. The then current use of the term “Tell el-Yahudieh ware”⁷²⁸ might have referred to a mono-

⁷²⁵ The sections were inked and analysed by M. BIETAK but still lack the final section numbers.

⁷²⁶ Cf. M. BIETAK, TD V, plan 4: Friedhofsbezirk I.

⁷²⁷ M. BIETAK.



Fig. 6.53 AII-o/13, pl. 5. a) northern section, to the left of still standing later wall (Phase E/3) sequence of finely stratified depositions from courtyard. b) western section with work stairs in left half of photo; and later E/3 wall in the right part, both Cairo archive

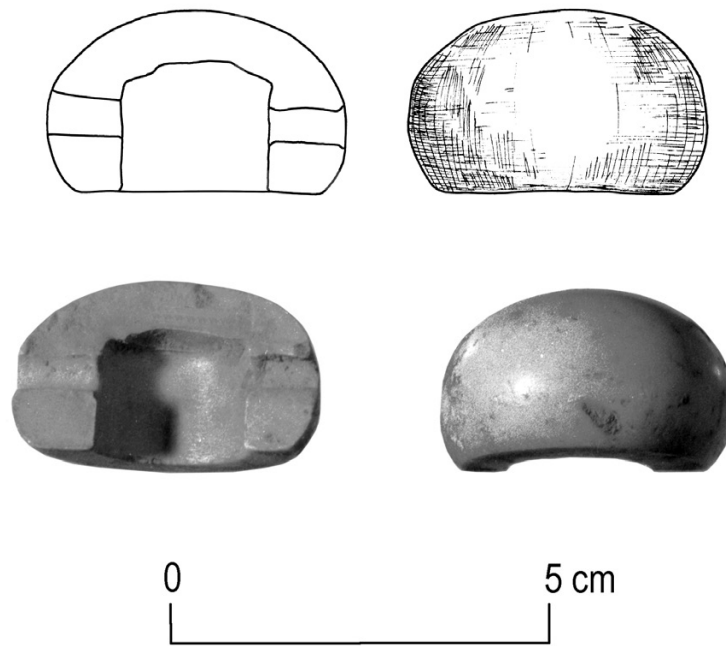


Fig. 6.54 Pommel of dagger, reg.no 2481, limestone. a) drawing, scale 1:1. b) SW1190/34–36

chrome polished juglet of unknown type.

L [148] "Pit"

Pottery

Body of one unregistered vessel, no details given, see plan (Fig. 6.1). This vessel was not available for re-study. The similarity to any medium jar body of Nile or Marl clay fabric constitutes a possible identification.

L [149a] Square brick platform

Stone

Reg.no **2481** (Museum Cairo, JE 94663), pommel of dagger.⁷²⁹ Position: A/II-o/13, pl. 6, 4.25 m/N, 1.0–1.1 m/E, H = 4.50–4.60 m/NN directly on top of rectan-

gular sand brick structure; relative phase f (Fig. 6.54). Records: B/W negatives SW1190/34–36; drawing ZN 8E/1966–1969.

The pommel shows a hemispherical shape with the ends coming in a little (= sub-globular). Judging by the photo it was very well polished and the register book states that it was made of limestone. The material is whitish-yellow.⁷³⁰ Two horizontal holes were drilled into the sides of the pommel in order to fix a tenon through the pommel and the hilt of the dagger and keep it in place.

Diameter = 3.9 cm; height = 2.3 cm; diameter of holes 0.5 cm; diameter of socket = 1.9; depth of socket = 1.7.

⁷²⁸ M. BIETAK, *Lexikon der Ägyptologie*, vol. 6, s.v. *Tell el-Jahudiya*, Wiesbaden 1986, 336 considered monochrome burnished juglets as a subgroup of Tell el-Yahudiya ware. This changed in M. BIETAK, *Archäologischer Befund und historische Interpretation am Beispiel der Tell el-Yahudiya-Ware*, in: S. SCHOSKE (ed.), *Akten des vierten Internationalen Ägyptologen Kongresses München 1985*, vol. 2: *Archäologie, Feldforschung, Prähistorie*, Hamburg 1989, 9–17.

⁷²⁹ G. PHILIP, TD XV, cat.no 45, 56, fig. 21.3. PHILIP's type 1 – sub-globular.

⁷³⁰ M. BIETAK saw the piece again on the 21 November 1983 and identified the raw material as calcite due to its homogenous yellowish white colour (10 YR 8/4–3).