

To Nurhan and Fatih Bulu

**INTERPRETING AN INTACT KITCHEN CONTEXT FROM
MIDDLE BRONZE AGE ALALAKH: ITS ORGANIZATION AND
FUNCTION**

By

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This is to certify that I have examined this copy of a master's thesis by

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ABSTRACT

This thesis interprets an intact kitchen context belonging to the Middle Bronze Age palace at ancient Alalakh/Tell Atchana that was excavated during the 2009 season. By examining its architecture and artifact assemblages, with a particular attention to the pottery repertoire, this thesis aims to comprehend how an ancient palace kitchen was organized and how it could reflect an essential part of daily life at a palace. Using the rare opportunity of having an intact context, this research examines the structure of a kitchen space and the nature of food preparation in this kitchen according to the attributions of the pottery assemblage and its distribution within the context. In addition, this study seeks a possible date for this kitchen by comparing its pottery assemblage to those of various sites from different regions of Syria and southern Anatolia. It will contribute to comprehend the little-known earlier Middle Bronze phases of Alalakh and provide an insight to the possible foodways at a Middle Bronze Age palace.

Keywords: Palace Kitchen, Middle Bronze Age Pottery, Tell Atchana, Alalakh, Ancient Foodways

ÖZET

Bu tez çalışması, Tell Atchana/Alalakh kazısı 2009 sezonunda açığa çıkartılan ve Orta Tunç Çağı'na tarihlenen bir saray mutfağının değerlendirmektedir. Büyük ölçüde çanak çömlek grupları olmak üzere mekanın mimarisini ve buluntu gruplarını inceleyen bu araştırma kapsamında, günlük yaşantının önemli bir kısmını oluşturan saray mutfağının nasıl düzenlendiğini anlamak hedeflenmiştir. Yapının yangına maruz kalmış olması nedeni ile ender olarak bulunan iyi korunagelmiş ortamda, çanak çömlek grupları ve dağılımına göre yemek hazırlıklarının nasıl yapıldığı ve bir mutfak alanının nasıl düzenlendiği incelenmektedir. Buna ek olarak, saray mutfağının muhtemel tarihlerini tespit etmek üzere, ele geçirilen çanak çömlek repertuarı Suriye ve Güneydoğu Anadolu bölgelerindeki farklı yerleşkelerden elde edilen çanak çömlek grupları ile karşılaştırılmıştır. Bu çalışma, hakkında kısıtlı bilgi sahibi olduğumuz Alalakh şehrinin erken Orta Tunç tabakalarının daha iyi anlaşılmasına ve bir Orta Tunç Çağı sarayındaki yemek kültürünün ayrıntılarının kavranmasına katkı sağlamaktadır.

Anahtar sözcükler: Saray mutfağı, Orta Tunç Çağı çanak ve çömleği, Açıana Höyük, Alalakh, Antik yemek kültürleri

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In archaeology, the lack of complete evidence limits the interpretation of a context, especially in terms of its social, economic or political aspects; having an intact context which produces evidence that is more than the remains of a building or fragmentary information of various artifacts is an ideal case for an archaeologist to make more precise interpretations. This thesis had the opportunity to study one of these rare cases: an intact context belonging to a Middle Bronze Age palace of Alalakh at the site of Tell Atchana in Hatay, Turkey. It was revealed in square 33.32, opened within Courtyard 9 of the Level VII ‘Palace of king Yarim-Lim’ that was formerly excavated by Sir Leonard Woolley in 1939 and 1946, with a seven-year obligatory break due to World War II (Woolley 1955). Square 33.32 phase 3c is an unpublished context from the 2009 excavation season directed by K.Aslihan Yener, and it predates and underlies the Level VII palace.

Due to its architectural elements and artifact assemblages, the 33.32 context studied in this research was interpreted as a row of rooms functioning as a kitchen that distributed food, and possibly beer, for the palace personnel, and it could also partly be involved in the preparation of food for the royal family. What is exceptional about this context is the prevalence of pottery within a limited space and availability of ceramics *in situ*, which allow us to access the profiles of the pottery assemblage as

well as the logic of the organization of this kitchen. These two rooms are reminiscent of the row of rooms found in the 'residential quarter' in the Level VII Palace (Woolley 1955: fig.35) as well as the Level IV Palace (Woolley 1955: fig.45). The row of rooms in the 33.32 context consists of a southern room (Room A) with a horseshoe shaped hearth, an elevated platform in which the storage jars were placed, and three distinct benches; and also a small part of a northern room (Room B) with two benches was recovered.

Middle Bronze Age palaces and pottery from ancient sites in Syria and Anatolia have been studied systematically and there are voluminous references regarding these issues. However, the focus on palace kitchens and especially a detailed study of a kitchen context is rare. As a result, the available overviews into palace kitchens miss the details of how a palace kitchen was organized, how it could reflect an essential part of daily life at a palace, and could reveal elements of the culture itself through aspects such as foodways. Using the rare opportunity of having an intact context, the purpose of this thesis is to examine the structure of a kitchen space, the nature of food preparation in this kitchen, and to theorize for whom it was prepared in this Middle Bronze Age palace. In addition to this, another aim of this research is to seek a possible date for the 33.32 kitchen based on its pottery assemblage.

In order to achieve this, a systematic and detailed methodology is followed. In Chapter II, this thesis initially presents the theoretical paradigms of Household Archaeology which focuses on the activity area analysis in archaeological contexts. Following that, theories related to the ancient foodways are reviewed, and selected case studies with their particular approaches are included to set a theoretical

background for the interpretation of the 33.32 kitchen. Lastly, general information about the form and function of the great Near Eastern institution called ‘palace’ is outlined and studies on selected palaces are reviewed.

Following the given theories and selected case studies, Chapter III introduces the site of Tell Atchana/ancient Alalakh with its history and archaeology. After giving the site description, it summarizes the two expeditions that have worked at Tell Atchana and the studies that were accomplished with the material revealed from these excavations. Besides presenting the archaeology of the site, this chapter also gives a general historical background of the Middle Bronze Age, with its two distinctive periods, called de-urbanization and regeneration (Akkermans and Schwartz 2009: 288-326) as well as the status of Alalakh and its history in this general framework.

After the background information, it is in Chapter IV that the 33.32 kitchen context is fully introduced with its architecture and all artifacts revealed from this space. Following the description of the context with its architectural elements, small finds and the preliminary results of the faunal, floral and C¹⁴ evidence will be introduced. As the most prevalent artifact type, this thesis mainly focuses on the pottery assemblage of the 33.32 kitchen. The pottery analysis is mostly macroscopic in that the characteristics (e.g. shape, size, decoration) of selected diagnostic sherds as well as the painted or slipped undiagnostic pieces of the pottery assemblage are analyzed. The pottery catalogue of this research is given in Appendix A. The catalogued sherds are analyzed according to the ware and shape types based on the new typology created for Tell Atchana in 2007 by Mara Horowitz; the results show that there are ten pottery ware types in this kitchen context which appear in the form

of seven different vessel shape types. However, in the characterization of the ware types, a preliminary microscopic analysis on selected samples from each ware type that were prepared for a future more detailed petrographical study are also included. This latter study helped to confirm that the pottery assemblage is local and it informs us about the available raw materials in usage and the technological knowledge and preferences of the potters at Alalakh in that period.

For the purposes of dating the contexts described in this research, as well as to seek resembling attributes in other sites, in Chapter V the architecture and the pottery assemblage of the 33.32 Alalakh kitchen are compared to those of other sites from different regions of southern Anatolia and Syria. Before introducing comparative material from other sites, the architecture of the intact context is first compared to previously excavated Alalakh Level VII and Level IV palace kitchens, which indicated that the 33.32 kitchen is an earlier example of a pattern seen at Alalakh palace kitchens throughout at least a significant portion of the occupation of the site. After examining the Alalakh characteristics, similar architectural patterns and elements are observed in the kitchen or food-related contexts of Kinet Höyük, Ebla, Tell al-Rimah, Kilise Tepe and the Cypriot site of Marki-*Alonia*. Other than the architecture and the hearth feature, the main focus in Chapter V is the comparison of the 33.32 pottery assemblage to the excavated material of Alalakh from the Woolley campaign and also those of various other sites. The selected sites were Ebla, Hama and Tell Afis for the Idlib Region; Tarsus-Gözlükule and Kinet Höyük for Cilicia; Tell Muhammed Diyab, Chagar Bazar and Tell al-Rimah for Khabur Region; Tell Hadidi for the Euphrates Region; and finally Qatna for the lower Orontes Region.

The regional-based comparatives suggest different ranges of dates for the possible period of the 33.32 kitchen, which is discussed in detail at the end of Chapter V.

Chapter VI of this thesis is the discussion and implications of the results. It first examines the revealed material in the frame of theoretically outlined ‘formation processes’ (LaMotta and Schiffer 1999). This is followed by contextual analysis according to the distribution of the vessel types within the two rooms of the 33.32 kitchen, and concludes that there could have been different activities carried out in the different parts of this kitchen. The other discussion of this chapter is related to the function of this row of rooms as part of the Middle Bronze Age palace. To achieve this, the outlined theoretical paradigms and case studies about ancient foodways set the background to interpret the ways of food preparation, the scale of the food that was prepared as well as for whom it was prepared in this kitchen.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL APPROACHES TO HOUSEHOLDS, PALACES, AND FOODWAYS

This chapter provides an overview of the theoretical models that have been used to interpret the archaeological contexts featured in this study. Through various types of evidence, a recent focus of archaeology is to understand the societies which lived in the past and provide inferences about the daily life practices of ancient societies. For the scope of this research, the main emphasis has been given to the value of pottery studies in the determination of a context's use and function; methodological models and approaches have been outlined below. Regarding the subject of this research, the Middle Bronze Age kitchen context from Alalakh, the value of food preparation and its role in the formation of activity areas are examined. Thus the sets of standards and attributions to define the function of an archaeological context are outlined that define the methodological and theoretical background of this research.

2.1 Activity Area Analysis

In any analysis of an archaeological context, a primary goal is to identify the range of activities carried out in a space. This can be accomplished by examining various types of evidence such as the artifact assemblage, the depositional patterns

including microscopic evidence, and architecture (organization of space). Identifying the activity areas in archaeological contexts as early as the Stone Age by looking at the variability in the assemblages through quantitative techniques was pioneered by Robert Whallon (1973; 1974); and enhanced by various studies including ethnoarchaeological examples which provided observations on modern hunter-gatherers to advance the methods and set models for the formation processes and identification of spaces (see Ascher 1968, Binford 1978, Gifford 1978, Gould 1968, Hayden 1979, O'Connell 1987, Schiffer 1972; 1976, Yellen 1977, Kent 1984, Kroll and Price 1991).

The theoretical paradigm of the field called Household Archaeology focuses on activity area analysis through comprehensive examination of such evidence as given above. A household is, as Blanton describes, “a group of people coresiding in a dwelling or residential compound, and who, to some degree, share householding activities and decision making” (1994: 5). Since households are considered to be the bulk of the ancient populations (Smith 1992: 30), the study of the ancient households has been of great importance for serving as “measurable socio-economic units of the wider community” (Allison 1999: 1, see also Kramer 1980, Kolb 1985). To achieve the wider aim of understanding this major component of past societies, Household Archaeology mainly focuses on the space of households, and the possible activities carried out in that particular space, by examining assemblages in a context which were gathered through various depositional processes (Allison 1999: 15).

In their paper, which argues against the older assumption that variability in the artifacts accumulated from house floors justifies the presence of diverse activities, LaMotta and Schiffer combine all theories and studies on the formation

processes of house floor assemblages and create “a general model of the life history of a domestic structure” (1999: 19) to interpret them. Following Deal (1985) and Stevenson (1985), they define three main stages of formation processes: habitation, abandonment and post-abandonment, and discuss the ‘accretion and depletion processes’ (1999: 20) within each stage separately by referring to variable factors, cultural or noncultural, for their presence in house floor assemblages. What they highlight is the fact that archaeologists mostly work with evidence that belongs to the *abandonment* or *post-abandonment stage* of a house floor since “primary deposition of objects at their locations of use is a fairly rare phenomenon in heavily maintained activity areas, such as house floors” (1999: 25).

In the *habitation stage* of a house floor, as related to the present study, there are three major depositional phases of the artifacts. *Primary deposition* is the ‘accretion process’ when the artifacts are brought to a particular space at their locations of use; *secondary deposition* is the ‘depletion process’ when the refuse of the objects are removed from a particular activity area; and *provisional discard* is the process in which the broken objects are kept for the purpose of reuse rather than throwing them away (Schiffer 1972; 1977; 1996, Fehon and Scholtz 1978, Rathje and Murphy 1992, Hayden and Cannon 1983, LaMotta and Schiffer 1999).

In the 33.32 context, given that a fire destroyed the space apparently leaving many or most artifacts *in situ*, there is the ideal opportunity to study a Middle Bronze Age space with its assemblage in its *habitation stage*. However, there is still some ambiguity in the interface between the intact layer and the succeeding fill layer. The latter includes cultural material that may have been contemporary with the intact layer but it was used as fill following the fire. The systematic excavation of the

contexts in the 33.32 kitchen has enabled the Alalakh team to separate the living deposit and the fill, but it is possible that some intermixing occurred between the two. Considering the fact that the fill is likely to be very close if not contemporary in date to the intact layer, the issue of dating via ceramic seriation is not thought to be at risk; whereas the issue of interpreting the use of the intact spaces might be problematic due to the presence of material from other spaces. This problem is addressed in Chapter VI by considering whole and fragmentary ceramics separately in the context and the fact that the excavators created separate loci for the lower floor deposits.

2.2 Foodways in Archaeological Contexts

The contexts that are the subject of this thesis are clearly associated with food related activities. Being one of the most fundamental human activities, foodways are of great interest since they are major cultural components and can provide information on identity, interaction, time period and also class and status (Bray 2003: 2, Appadurai 1981: 494–6, Bourdieu 1984) in addition to noncultural circumstances such as climate and environment. For the purpose of understanding ancient foodways, whether domestic everyday practices for basic subsistence or occasional events such as feasts and rituals, archaeology can draw from a number of types of evidence. The architecture comprises an important source of data for understanding the built environment in which the activity took place; whereas the organic residues and paleobotanical and zooarchaeological remains enable us to determine what they were cooking and eating. In addition, evidence such as tomb paintings, seals and

pottery, as well as the textual evidence, can provide inferences for the culture's food related activities (Bray 2003: 3-4).

Since food is the most basic need of humankind and an essential part of daily life, one of the crucial implications of foodways is the social control over people by managing the access to the food resources, as well as the preparation, distribution and consumption of the food (Pollock 2003: 18, Damerow 1996: 151). Being adjacent to Alalakh's region of West Syria, the cuisine of ancient Mesopotamian cultures, including the food produced daily, their recipes, all ingredients, and their cooking processes was well documented and enlightened by the textual, archaeological and depicted evidence from various sites of the region (Bottéro 1985; 1995; 2004, Limet 1987, Ellison 1984a). As pointed out by Bottéro (1985: 45-46) these recipes are different from today's cooking manuals; instead they were administrative records of the palace or temple which would indicate control over the acquisition and consumption of food resources.

The range of food production documented in ancient Mesopotamian archives was fairly prosperous, which was composed of meat from wild and domesticated animals, fish, birds and a variety of vegetables, grains, fruits, bread and dairy products (Bottéro 1985: 37-38, Bottéro 2001: 45, Limet 1987: 135-137). In terms of cooking techniques, meats were roasted, grilled or boiled; grains were roasted or baked and vegetables were always cooked by boiling (Bottéro 2004: 42-45). To prevent direct exposure to the fire, ancient Mesopotamians used plates or plaques made of either metal or baked clay for roasting and grilling, whereas liquid food such as soups and stews were boiled in cooking pots or metal kettles (Bottéro 1985: 38-39; 2004: 45, Limet 1987: 139). In addition to the use of open hearths for the

mentioned cooking techniques, common bread was baked in closed shaped ovens known as *tinuru* whereas the crusty bread type known as ‘leavened bread’, into which beer or soured soup was added was baked in ‘dome ovens’ (Bottéro 2004: 47-50).

As known to be the main beverage that was consumed both in daily life and occasional activities such as feasts, and as being part of the centralized economy in the ancient Near East, beer should certainly be included in studying ancient foodways. The textual evidence from various sites in the ancient Near East informs us about the production, consumption and distribution of beer with details about each process including the types and amounts of ingredients and the preparation methods (Damerow 1996: 153-157). For the production of a large number of different beer types, barley and emmer were the two most common grains that were processed for beer production (Hartman and Oppenheim 1950: 13, Damerow 2011: 4-6).

Although the preparation methods and ingredients differed for various beer types, in the basic process the grains were first germinated and malted. The malted grains, which were usually referred to as bread-shaped cakes or beer breads, were ground before they were mixed with aromatics by heating all in water. Once the mash was ready, it was fermented in a specific type of jar with a hole at the bottom, which allowed the liquid to be decanted into a collector vat after the beer was fermented and ready to be served (Hartman and Oppenheim 1950, Damerow 2011: 15, Bottéro 1985: 40; 2004: 90). The hole at the bottom of the vessel is mainly known for the purpose of draining and as mentioned above, it is often related to beer brewing or alternatively for cheese preparation in the ancient times (Ellison 1984b: 64). Since the pottery repertoire of the 33.32 context includes several various-sized

jars with a hole pierced at the bottom as well, the possibility of beer brewing activity in the 33.32 context will be included in the interpretation of the context.

In addition to the daily food practices, ancient feasts have been regarded as another distinct social and cultural aspect of ancient foodways, and they have been a major focus for the field of archaeology, supported with ethnographic studies. Although various definitions for ‘feasts’ are suggested in terms of the details of this activity, what is argued in a common sense is that feasts are the communal food and/or drink consumption events which differ from “both everyday domestic meals and from the simple exchange of food without communal consumption” (Dietler and Hayden 2001: 3).

The presence of feasts in the ancient Near East is known via both depicted scenes from seals, plaques and wall paintings, and also textual evidence which mention the location of the activity, attendants, and the food and other goods served in feasts (see Collon 1992, Pinnock 1994, Postgate 1992, Sasson 2004, Schmandt-Besserat 2001). As pointed out by Schmandt-Besserat, feasts in the ancient Near East were organized probably for various reasons: they were religious activities that were carried out monthly; ceremonial events to celebrate the king’s achievements in various terms; and sociopolitical activities in which selected citizens were hosted and expected to bring offerings as symbols of their generosity (2001: 397-402). For the latter two, the depicted and textual evidence suggest that feasts were decisive for status and social ranking since the texts mention and also the feast depictions represent selected people, known as the elite group, whereas the ritual ones were organized in larger scale and included common population as well (Pollock 2003: 25-6). No matter for what purpose they were organized, they were considered as

symbolic and ideological activities to show the power and control of the king and the royal family (Schmandt-Besserat 2001).

Feasting activities are also a well-studied subject in the archaeology of the Mycenaean World. *The Mycenaean Feast*, edited by James C. Wright, is a collection of selected articles on Mycenaean and Minoan feasting by various scholars (2004). Each paper focuses on the issue from a different aspect and refers to various types of evidence: these include written and visual evidence, such as Linear B documents and frescoes; material evidence, such as the pottery and grave goods of different cities and contexts; and residual evidence, such as the remains inside the pottery or botanical and faunal remains. Among them, the paper of Dabney, Halstead and Thomas is of great interest, particularly for this research, since they provide criteria to ascertain whether the pottery is related to a feasting activity. The criteria that could help in interpreting the 33.32 kitchen pottery assemblage are as follows: elaborate decoration on the pottery is not essential, there could be vessels with plain surfaces; there should be vast amounts of open shapes to serve food and drink; the closed shapes should be jugs for serving and also various types of cooking ware vessels are needed; the feast-related vessel types would be restricted in comparison to the ones used in everyday practice; and feast-related vessels would be oversized (2004: 83).

In addition to the knowledge of ancient foodways via the combination of archaeological and textual evidence, the study of food preparation and consumption activities at Çatalhöyük in the Neolithic Period is important in studying ancient foodways in a period without textual evidence and on the basis of material culture, including fauna, flora, architecture, and pottery (Atalay and Hastorf 2006). The authors establish five main categories for the food practices: “production and

procurement, processing, cooking, presentation and eating” (2006: 293). Related to the present research, they point out that either daily-based or more elaborate cooking practices of ancient times can be traced via ceramic pots, griddles, hearths, ovens and pits. Hearths and ovens were found at every architectural (domestic) unit and these are the indication of daily activity at the household level (2006: 305). Various cooking methods were detected in the households: boiling is the most common method but grilling, baking and roasting were also inferred in the archaeological contexts which were included in the direct cooking practices.

The evidence for more elaborate communal eating, i.e. feasting, is inferred by the distinction of what they cooked, how they processed the food, how they cooked it and where they cooked it. Apart from the domestic animals cooked for daily meals, the wild animals such as aurochs and equids, which are suitable for large scale cooking as they are the largest animals, were interpreted as cooked for feasting activities. In terms of the food process, they observed that bones belonging to the wild animals were less processed in comparison to bones of domestic sheep and goat. Finally, the grilling activity that was carried out away from the households and also roasting in the pits were also associated with feasting activity since large amounts of meat could be cooked (Atalay and Hastorf 2006: 290, 306, 309-310, see also Russel and Martin 2005). These methodological paradigms will be helpful in interpreting the 33.32 kitchen.

2.3 Ceramics and Foodways

Archaeological sites of the Near Eastern Bronze Age, like many regions around the world, produce tremendous amounts of pottery. These have been

intensively studied to understand everything from chronology to the related culture and its interactions with other cultures. Among all kinds of evidence, pottery has a crucial role in the study of food since the major use of pottery is related to the cooking, serving and storage of food (Sinopoli 1991: 122). Not only for the study of ancient foodways but in general, pottery is important both for being the most abundant artifact that an archaeological site yields, and also for being the most enlightening one which provides considerable information about a culture in various terms. By studying pottery, we can learn the technical level and choices of a particular culture through their shapes, surface treatment and decorations, components and firing behaviors (Tite 2008: 216). The shapes make it possible to understand the range of activities conducted with particular vessel types, and the surface and decoration of the pots would indicate their preferences and also for whom that pottery was made (Ökse 2002: 2).

The interpretation of the Tell Hadidi ‘Tablet Building’ by Marie-Henriette Gates (1988) constitutes an example for the comprehension of activities carried out in an ancient space and an important reference to evaluate the 33.32 context since both contexts share some mutual attributes in terms of their finds. In addition to 17 cuneiform tablets which lent a modern name to the structure, the Hadidi building with its several rooms around a courtyard produced an oven, a drain, grinding stones, great amounts of barley and emmer and very specific types of pottery. Of the latter, the large jars with a hole pierced at the base (‘vats’) are of particular interest in this context. The evidence hardly supports the possibility of their being used for storage since the vessels were mostly empty and the grains were found around the ceramics rather than inside them (Gates 1988: 68).

Considering this fact, and referring to the textual evidence, the overall picture with all types of evidence, particularly the ceramics, led Gates to suggest that this building could have been an ancient brewery; the ‘vats’ must have been used for fermentation; tankards and pitchers were to fill the smaller jars with beer for the purpose of storage and transport; and craters were possibly for the consumption in that particular building (Gates 1988: 68).

Similar to the vessels at Tell Hadidi ‘Tablet Building’, house contexts from the Late Bronze Age levels of Tall Bazi unearthed very large barrel-shaped vessels partly set into the floor which were accompanied by vessels pierced at the bottom as well as grinding tools, smaller cups and jars which constitute evidence for beer brewing activity at households at the site (Zarnkow et al. 2006).

The study by Gül Pulhan on the pottery assemblage coming from the 18th century BC Palace of Qarni-Lim at Tell Leilan (2000) is another representative work to understand activities carried out in an ancient palace, which is closely related to the 33.32 context of Tell Atchana. The major conclusion of this study is to identify the distribution of beer in the palace, known from the textual evidence, via a particular vessel type. A specific heavily slipped ovoid jar type with thick walls and ring base is named ‘beer jar’ by Pulhan. This vessel type mostly has standard dimensions with a capacity of 2.4 liters. This volume is equal to ‘2 sila’, a standard measurement recorded in the beer archives, and for this reason Pulhan argues that the beer distribution in the palace could have been provided with these ‘beer jars’ (2000: 123, 163-164). Her other conclusion is related to the statistical analyses on ceramic assemblage and their distribution. The results show that the majority of the vessel types coming from Qarni-Lim’s Palace are bowls and cups which suggest that there

could have been a considerable amount of food procurement and distribution carried out in the palace. In addition, since the cups and bowls were mostly revealed from the courtyard of the palace, Pulhan suggests a possible gathering activity such as a feast in this particular area of the Qarni-Lim's Palace.

Proper analysis of pottery can also change the interpretation of archaeological spaces. Bartłomiej Lis' (2008) analysis based on the cooking pots from some rooms of the Palace of Nestor at Pylos, which were previously identified as rooms for food preparation and storage, sets a good model to interpret such rooms. Lis examines vessels made of cookware found in rooms 60 and 67-68 of the palace and attributes each vessel type to a specific purpose according to shape, and then suggests different functions for each room. For the presence of various types of vessels made of cook ware, Lis discusses that rooms 67-68 were served as the rooms that food preparation carried out for both daily use such as feeding the palace staff and also the purpose of special occasions, including feasting.

For the latter, rather than regarding the size of pots, Lis stresses the necessity of *vessel type diversity* for cooking wares, such as pans for frying meat, handled tripods to keep the food warm, and braziers to carry the coals, which was previously suggested by Dabney, Halstead and Thomas (2004: 83) as a criterion for the presence of feast-related activities, among other types of evidence. Room 60, on the other hand, was previously considered as a room to feed palace personnel based on the presence of vessels with coarser fabric and also 'their less time-consuming manufacture' (Lis 2008: 21). But among other vessel types, the prevalence of the two-handled krater, which is known to be a type associated with perfumed oil production, leads Lis to suggest that this room's pottery assemblage could have been

used in such industrial activity. This model has helped distinguish the 33.32 kitchen from an industrial space such as a perfume manufactory, and to consider whether the kitchen was for common meal production or feast preparation, or both.

Although it was not favored by Lis, considering the size of vessels could serve as a relevant approach for the justification of possible feasting. The analysis by Blitz (1993) on the pottery found at the ancient Lubbub Creek Site in Alabama is a convenient example for such a case. The team excavated a small village site with a platform mound. To understand the use of the platform and to test whether it was a representation of social ranking and was used to carry out feasts, the team compared the pottery samples from the mound to those of the village contexts. They examined the vessels from each context according to their wares and shapes, and they assumed that if feasting activities were held on the mound, the pottery coming from the platform must have different shapes and finer wares in comparison to those of the village. However, they could not identify a major difference in terms of the variety of shapes and wares.

In their next attempt, they focused on the vessel size. They assumed that larger food preparation and consumption activities could be provided by larger vessels so the mound should reveal larger vessels with small size range, whereas the village contexts should provide greatest range of vessel size. Their second results showed that the platform mound contained the largest vessels coming from the site and the size range is less than those of the village contexts, which increases the possibility of a feast carried out on the mound platform. Redistribution of food is part of the economy of complex societies and the distribution of large ceramic vessels and diversity of vessel size can reveal patterns of communal eating that may or may not

be ‘feasts’ in the ceremonial sense but certainly represent many people eating communally for social reasons.

To sum up, by referring to pottery studies related to identifying activities carried out in ancient spaces either for daily use or occasional activities such as feasts, it could be possible to infer the food related activities as well as the scale of meals or beverages being prepared in the 33.32 kitchen and for whom they were prepared. Paying attention to the range of vessel types, their attributions and dimensions, the discussion to interpret this context will also consider the other finds that were revealed with pottery assemblage, as well as the space in which food-related activities were realized.

2.4 Palaces in the ancient Near East

Since the 33.32 context at Tell Atchana is considered to be part of a Middle Bronze Age palace, it is also important to review what a Near Eastern palace is and how it functioned in ancient times. A ‘palace’ is in the most basic sense the primary residence unit of the king, the royal family and people that serve them, including the bureaucratic class that manages the political economy, and in addition to being a ‘house’ or physical dwelling space, it can be considered a very large ‘household’, possibly rather institutionalized, where various activities are carried out. In addition to being a residence, it functions as “a place of storage for the household’s immediate needs and of the royal treasury; as a workshop for domestic activities as well as weaving and perhaps other crafts; as a forum for state ceremony; and as a center of government and administration” (Postgate 1992: 141). The determination of this

multi-functioned nature of the ancient palace is acquired via the complementation of the textual evidence from the archives of the palaces and the archaeological artifacts revealed from the palace contexts. In the absence of textual evidence, as in the case of the 33.32 context of Tell Atchana, it is the analysis of rooms which would help to understand for which particular function of the palace those rooms served.

Well excavated and studied palaces of the Middle Bronze Age in Syria, which shared an Amorite cultural heritage with Alalakh, enable us to make inferences about the function of these large households with their textual and archaeological evidence. Above all, there is the distinction between the official and domestic quarters of the palaces which are separated from each other with courts and corridors; the domestic quarters consisted of primary living space as well as store rooms, kitchens, and workshops for various craftsmanship which are related to the “palace’s involvement in the collection, production and distribution of goods” (Postgate 1992: 152), whereas the official quarter is organized more for the administrative requirements of the palace and include the main entrance, audience chamber, throne room and archive rooms. This distinction can clearly be seen at the Level VII ‘Yarim-Lim Palace’ of Alalakh (Woolley 1955: fig.35, see fig.5.2 here). The official quarter set in the northern part of the palace, which has the entrance, chamber of audience, another entrance chamber and a large court, was followed by a central block including the store rooms and the staircases leading to the upper storey where the residence of king and royal family were supposedly located (Woolley 1955). The farthest section of the palace to the south was the domestic quarter, which was composed of a large court surrounded by store rooms and workshop areas on the ground level.

A similar pattern can be seen in the two Middle Bronze Age Palaces of Ebla (Matthiae 1997a; 1997b). These palaces differed in function although both related to the kingship. The Western Palace in Area Q (Matthiae 1997b: 385, fig.14.4) was constructed to be the residence of the crown prince with an upper storey, a monumental entrance with a large court, a throne hall and especially a food preparation unit, whereas no section for storage and preservation of food was found (Dolce 1990: 135-139, Matthiae 1997a: 132; 1997b: 384). The Northern Palace in Area P (Matthiae 1997b: 386, fig.14.5), on the other hand, was a ceremonial royal building related to the religious activities held in the sacred area of the site as well as having different sections for various purposes such as food preparation, food production and storage along with a separate section for the king to be his residence and probably also that of his officials (Matthiae 1997a: 129-130; 1997b: 386-387). In both palaces, the finds justify their being multi-functioning buildings for various activities: along with being a residence for the king, the front sector of the palaces was used for the entrance and distribution of goods; the rooms in the central part served for representation and reception; and the farthest section was used for the food-related activities (Matthiae 1997a: 132; 1997b: 387).

Another Middle Bronze Age palace from the Near East, Zimri-Lim's palace at Mari,¹ shares similar organizational patterns with Alalakh VII within the construction itself. The construction sequence for the different parts of the Zimri-Lim palace and functions of the rooms in each section were interpreted differently by the two excavators of the site (compare Parrot 1958 and Margueron 1982, see also Gates

¹ Along with the Mari excavations archive, the plan of the Zimri-Lim Palace can be seen in numerous sources. Among the ones referred in this research, see Postgate 1992: fig.7:4, Gates 1984, Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: fig.9.17.

1984) but both points of view justify this palace's being a center for various activities related to administrative, economic and religious activities in addition to the residence of the royal family, officials and possibly the servants. The entrance of the palace on the north side leads to an outer large court, possibly an audience hall, and the official block is in the western half of the palace. The domestic quarter of the palace, on the other hand, including the kitchens, magazines, storerooms and workshops, is again at the very farthest section of the palace, along with a possible cult center in the southeastern sector. Besides the archaeological finds, the administrative archives of Mari from the Zimri-Lim palace indicate that all food-related activities such as food production with particular ingredients, its distribution according to the set rationings, daily food practices for the king and other people in the palace or palace-sponsored meals for foreigners were all strictly controlled by the palace and recorded carefully (see Sasson 2004).

The functions of the palaces in the 2nd millennium BC were ascertained through the combination of both textual and archaeological evidence and the examples given above were used as a basis to interpret the 33.32 context of Alalakh. Since we do not yet have any texts from this palace level, we could infer very little about the whole structure, the controlled activities related to economy and other functions of this particular palace. However, since we have a sealed layer, and referring to the general knowledge about the 2nd millennium BC palaces in the Near East, we can assume that the 33.32 context must have been a part of the domestic quarter of this palace, having a food-related function. Given the orientation of the surviving architecture in 33.32 and Woolley's soundings, the palace in this level may have been quite similar to that of Level VII. Other than the textual evidence, the

determination of their functions as being rooms for food preparation, production and/or distribution can be understood via the archaeological evidence. The food preparation unit in the Western Palace of Ebla was identified via 16 grinding stones found *in situ* on a long bench (Matthiae 1997a: 132; 1997b: 385) whereas the presence of culinary standards in the Zimri-Lim Palace at Mari, whether for daily menus of the king and his family or for special occasions such as ceremonial meals, was ascertained via decorated platters and moulds (Sasson 2004: 200, Postgate 1992: 145-146). Therefore, the analysis of the architecture and the pottery, along with presence and absence of other objects, found in the 33.32 context could help us to understand the function of this section of the palace to a certain extent, which is discussed in Chapter VI.

2.5 Conclusions

This chapter provided the theoretical background that will be utilized in interpreting the 33.32 kitchen context with its formation processes, architecture and the pottery assemblage. As well as the theories, the selected case studies that benefitted from such theories will provide guidance to study one of the most basic activities that were carried out in a palace, namely food production and consumption. Now that the theoretical background is reviewed, before introducing the 33.32 kitchen which constitutes the major data of this research, it is important to look through the history and archaeology of Alalakh, as well as the general framework in the first half of the 2nd millennium BC.

CHAPTER III

INFORMATION ABOUT TELL ATCHANA/ALALAKH AND ITS HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This chapter introduces the site on which this research focuses: Tell Atchana, the ancient site of Alalakh. It will begin with a site description and information about the two phases of research at the site. Then a general historical background based on the literary and archaeological evidence will be given for ancient Syria during the first half of the 2nd millennium BC, which is the Middle Bronze Age (2000-1600BC). This will be followed by the status of Alalakh in this general framework.

3.1 Site Description

The Amuq Valley, located in the southern most part of Turkey, was crowned by numerous significant ancient sites in antiquity. Although it is not located in a central place today, in the Middle and Late Bronze Ages Alalakh (modern Tell Atchana) was the most outstanding and prominent site among them, and the capital city of the Mukish kingdom (Fig. 3.1). The site is located within the Reyhanlı zone of Hatay, close to the curve of the Orontes River, in the middle of the Amuq Valley below the Amanus Mountains. With its 750x325 m dimensions, the 9-m-high mound covers an area of approximately 22 hectares. Its location at the intersect of significant

routes from Central Anatolia leading to the Mediterranean Sea Coast and the Syrian inlands confirms the strategic purposes of the site for its settlers (Yener 2007; 2010a).

3.2 History of Research at Alalakh

3.2.1 The Woolley Expedition

Alalakh was first selected as the hundred and thirty-sixth site by Robert Braidwood in 1930s during the Amuq Valley survey called the Syro-Hittite Expedition, on behalf of the University of Chicago Oriental Institute (Braidwood 1937). The site was chosen for its shape, size and strategic location and the first excavations at the site were conducted by C. Leonard Woolley under the auspices of the Trustees of the British Museum between 1936 and 1939 and continued after World War II between 1946 and 1949 (Woolley 1936; 1937; 1938; 1939; 1948; 1950; 1953; 1955). On the basis of the cuneiform tablets that were found at the very beginning of the excavations, it was already possible to identify the site as ancient Alalakh, which was known from other ancient Near East texts (Smith 1939, Woolley 1939: 1; 1953: 13, von Dassow 2008: 2). The further evidence of the archival tablets, mostly from the Level VII and Level IV palaces (Wiseman 1953) and the inscription on the statue of Idrimi (Smith 1949) enabled Woolley to link the site to the already known historical record and provided important information about certain periods of ancient Near Eastern history and certain aspects of society. These records not only revealed information about administrative, social, cultural and historical aspects of Alalakh itself, along with specific individuals and events, but also of other places in

the ancient Near East. For instance, the archives from Alalakh IV, which was one of the occupation levels during Late Bronze Age, yielded information about the expansion, structure and operation of the Mittanian Kingdom. Before the very recent confirmation of Tell Fekheriyeh's likely being Washukanni through textual evidence (Bonatz et al. 2008, Bartl and Bonatz in press), the capital city of Mitanni, no archives that originated from Mittani itself were discovered and those of Alalakh helped to fill an important historical gap (Woolley 1953: 15, von Dassow 2008: 3-5).

Woolley's excavations, concentrated on the north and northwestern parts of the mound, including deep soundings to the virgin soil. He identified seventeen occupation levels beginning with Alalakh's foundation in 2200 BC and ending with its abandonment in 1200 BC (Stein 1997: 55). However, the dates given by Woolley were wrong and before it was reinvestigated by various scholars, it was first refuted by Machteld Mellink (1957). Despite the problems with the chronology and dating, the continuous occupation at Alalakh provided an uninterrupted stratigraphic sequence which was important in terms of providing sequences of archaeological and historical correlations (von Dassow 2008: 3). In these Middle Bronze and Late Bronze occupation levels Woolley found two well-preserved palaces on top of earlier ones, a series of temples, defenses and private houses, along with numerous artifacts in various media (Woolley 1955). After concluding his excavations at the site of Ur, in addition to his actual goal, which was to find evidence that confirmed the communication between the Near East and the Aegean worlds (Woolley 1936: 1; 1955: 1), Woolley's attention to this then little-known region ended up with discovering the capital city of the Mukish kingdom.

3.2.2 The Yener Expedition

By the time Woolley established his stratigraphy and chronology for Alalakh, their validity had been discussed and the chronology had been reinvestigated by various scholars. Included in the broader discussion of favoring a high, middle or low chronology for the 2nd millennium BC (see Åström 1989), the destruction date of the Level VII palace of Alalakh and the transition period from Middle Bronze to Late Bronze Age have been discussed and revised through reinterpretation of the Woolley material (Na'aman 1976; 1979, Gates 1981, McClellan 1989, Heinz 1992, Bergoffen 2005). Nonetheless, new archaeological data acquired through systematic excavations was required for the accurate revision of Tell Atchana's stratigraphy. This necessity was actualized fifty one years later when the renewed second generation archaeological project at Tell Atchana started under the direction of K. Aslihan Yener, on behalf of the Oriental Institute of University of Chicago, and now on behalf of Koç University.

After a five-year survey project, the Amuq Valley Regional Projects (AVRP) under the direction of Yener (1995-1999; see Yener et al. 2000), the excavations in Tell Atchana were renewed in 2000. The first three seasons at Alalakh (2000-2002) were dedicated to preparations for the actual excavations. These studies included gathering information and material from Woolley's excavations, organizing all the available data, and a thorough surface survey on the mound (Yener 2005). Systematic excavations started in 2003 and continue to the present. The main goal of the renewed excavations is to provide an accurate chronology of the site, and the 2nd millennium BC in general, according to the sequential and stratified contexts from Tell Atchana. Therefore, in order to create a separate and independent chronology,

the squares were selected in the Royal Precinct touching extant buildings and in areas which were not excavated in the previous excavations by Woolley. In terms of the phasing, depositional units and the local pottery within them were chosen as chronological markers as opposed to using imported pottery (Yener 2010a: 2). Chronological research also included new advances in sciences such as radiocarbon dating and isotope analysis, which were not available during Woolley's excavations. These and other instrumental studies have been contributing to the mission with further information about the culture, society and technology at ancient Alalakh.

Other than the problems of the chronology, another drawback of the Woolley excavations was the limited information about the levels predating Level VII. On the contrary of the larger exposures of Level I to VII, the earlier levels of Alalakh were only known from two deep soundings, the 'Stratification Pit' dug at the southeastern part of Level VII palace and another one, the Temple Sounding, on the southwestern part since he was only permitted to excavate these two soundings in order to leave the two palaces intact (Woolley 1953; 1955). Revealing new data from secure contexts dating to the earlier Middle Bronze phases of Alalakh and contributing to comprehend this little-known era is another objective of the renewed excavations, this research being the first detailed study for this particular aim.

3.3 Historical Background of Middle Bronze Syria

After the era of complexity and urbanism in the mid-3rd millennium BC settlements, Syria witnessed a 'decentralization' period which began at 2000BC. It was characterized by the destruction, diminution or abandonment of the once

outstanding sites (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 283). This pattern was not only observed in Syria but also in other regions such as Anatolia, Palestine, Egypt, Cyprus and the Aegean, and primarily attributed to a climatic change which was effective interregionally (Weiss et al. 1993). The decentralization was also correlated with internal causes, rather than external ones. The last two centuries of the 3rd millennium BC and early part of the 2nd millennium BC, the Middle Bronze Age (=Middle Bronze I) following this ‘collapse’ is considered as a dark age in Syria due to the lack of textual evidence in the absence of central authorities in this recovery period; it is reconstructed largely through archaeological data (Schwartz 2010:4).

Mari (modern Tell Hariri), on the other hand, is well established for its MB I period according to the textual evidence. In the late 3rd millennium BC, known as the Ur III Period in ancient Mesopotamia and at the beginning of 2nd millennium BC (MB I Period), Mari was independent from Ur III state and ruled by independent generals titled as *shakkanakku* (Charpin 1995: 812, van de Mieroop 2007: 71). After a short period of decline, in the mid-19th century BC, Mari was conquered by a branch of the Amorites from northwestern Syria and the first ruler of this dynasty was Yahdun-Lim. During his reign, Mari controlled the Middle Euphrates region and as Yahdun-Lim expanded to the Khabur region, he was confronted by Shamshi-Adad, who founded a new kingdom at Shubat Enlil (modern Tell Leilan) and was eventually defeated by him (van de Mieroop 2007: 103-4).

In contrast to the majority of the Syrian sites, textual evidence for the earlier part of the Middle Bronze Age is available for Anatolia. Most of the texts come from the lower town of Kültepe (ancient Kanesh/Nesha, modern Kayseri in central Turkey), which is located at the foot of the large mound and functioned as a

commercial district (named as *karum* by the Assyrians). Around 20,000 texts that were recovered from the lower town are dated between 1920 and 1740 BC. They give us detailed information about the long distance trade between Assyria and central Anatolia: Assyrians were bringing textiles and tin to exchange them for silver and gold. In total, there were fifteen *karums* in Anatolia, as well as the smaller trade centers called *wabartum*, which were all part of this trade network. However, Kanesh was the administrative center for the traders that were coming from Assyria (See Veenhof 1997, Larsen 1967: 4, Sagona and Zimansky 2009: 225-231).

In Syria, the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age was traditionally distinguished by a sharp break in material culture from that of the Early Bronze Age, but the recent studies in the Western Syria and the Middle Euphrates suggested rather a gradual transition; the presence of surviving people, ideas and institutions from the era before ‘collapse’ is attributed to both the continuity of the material culture and also the regeneration of the complex societies in the second half of the Middle Bronze Age (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 291, Schwartz 2010: 10, Schwartz 2007). In addition, another possible factor for the continuity of material culture and the regeneration, particularly for the Euphrates Valley, is attributed to the independently self-governing character of the settlements and their adaptation to the marginal environment, which empowered them against any external threats, such as collapse (Cooper 2010: 29-31).

The following period, Middle Bronze II (1800-1600 BC), on the other hand, is well-known from both textual and archaeological evidence and it is considered as a period of ‘re-urbanization’ when the complexity reappears in previously diminished societies (Schwartz 2010: 7). In addition to the already existing entities like Mari and

Ebla, new regional powers appeared in the region from the Mediterranean Coast to southeastern Syria such as Yamhad, Qatna, the kingdom of Shamshi-Adad and Hana, which were ruled by the Amorites, a newly appeared group which dominated the area in the Middle Bronze Age (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 290-7, Klengel 1992: 45, Nichols and Weber 2010: 41-2). The Yamhad Kingdom, centered in Halab/Aleppo, was the most powerful Amorite entity in northern Syria, controlling the area between the Mediterranean coast and the middle Euphrates. Its history is mostly known from the cuneiform texts coming from Mari, Alalakh, and Ebla (Klengel 1992: 44-6, Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 298). Among them, the archives of Mari constitute the most substantial evidence regarding the reconstruction of the ancient Syrian history with a proximate number of 15.000-20.000 texts, including the first mention of the Yamhad Dynasty (Klengel 1992: 46-9). Following Mari, another significant site for the reconstruction of the Yamhad dynasty is Alalakh, which produced both textual and archaeological evidence, especially of the later periods (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 304). Besides the textual evidence, the archaeological evidence for Yamhad is also prosperous and highly documented; Ebla (modern Tell Mardikh), as being a powerful state in the west, is of great importance for being the site revealing most of this evidence.

In addition to the Amorite sites, there are also texts coming from the non-Amorite sites that mention the Yamhad Kingdom, such as Ashur, Babylonia and Tell Chagar Bazar (Klengel 1992: 48). The main rival of Yamhad dynasty was Qatna (modern Tell Mishrifeh), another major Amorite entity neighboring Yamhad at its south. It was controlling the central part of western Syria and also the route between the northern and the southern Levant of which we know again from the Mari

archives and also little from Alalakh (Klengel 1992: 53 and 65, Akkermans and Schwartz 2003:306). Along the Mediterranean Coast, Ugarit was another important settlement with its strategic location, which was regarded as the center of the interregional trade for copper and tin between Crete and Cyprus in the west and Syria and Mesopotamia in the east, again mentioned in Mari and Alalakh texts (Klengel 1992: 57, 77-8, Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 305).

In the Jezireh region, the dominant power was the short-lived kingdom of Shamshi-Adad, centered at Shubat Enlil (modern Tell Leilan) in the Khabur, which was later replaced by Zimri-Lim of Mari (modern Tell Hariri) after his death. The period of Shamsi-Adad is known from the cuneiform tablets revealed from the Qarni-Lim Palace of Tell Leilan, and also a few from a public building at Chagar Bazar as well as Tell Bi'a (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 311-2). As was the case for the western part, the earlier periods of this region are less-known than the well-documented later period of Middle Bronze Age which was marked by the flourishing of Mari (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 308). Before it was destroyed by Hammurabi of Babylon, Mari mostly gained its power due to its pivotal location overseeing the trade routes between southern Mesopotamia and western and southern Syria (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 313).

Considering the presence of various powerful entities in Syria, rivalry and alliances between these regional states were inevitable and these are already known from the textual evidence. During the reign of Sumu'epuh, who is considered as the founder of the dynasty, Yamhad was controlling the upper Mesopotamia and the Euphrates, therefore was a major threat for Shamshi-Adad. In order to extend his kingdom to the coastal Syria, he made an alliance with Sumu'epuh's major rival,

Ishhi-Adad of Qatna, which was ensured by a dynastic marriage (Klengel 1992: 52-4). This rivalry was rekindled in the period of Yarim-Lim I of Yamhad, successor of Sumu'epuh, and a war between him and Shamshi-Adad was recorded with Babylon on the side of Yarim-Lim against Shamshi-Adad and Qatna (Klengel 1992: 55). However, with the change of rule at Qatna and Mari, Yamhad started to have good relations with its former rivals; Zimri-Lim of Mari was allied to Yarim-Lim I, again with a dynastic marriage, and also Amutpi'el of Qatna was included in an alliance with Yarim-Lim I along with Hammurabi of Babylon (Klengel 1992: 56-8). Good relations between Yamhad, Qatna and Mari continued until the end of the Middle Bronze Period, although it was not the case for Mari and Ebla. The rivalry between these two significant and powerful entities was traced back to the later periods of the Early Bronze Age, for the control of the middle Euphrates region and the shift of power between Mari and Ebla continued in regeneration period following the collapse (Akkermans and Schwartz 2003: 263).

Although the struggle for the control of northern Syria and upper Mesopotamia drifted the regional powers apart from each other, their ends were all destined in the hands of Hittites. As a newly emerging power in central Anatolia, the Hittites wanted to legitimize their power with their military campaigns abroad and they attacked northern Syria. Various Amorite regional states in northern Syria were destroyed by Hattushili I and his successor Murshili I (Klengel 1992, Bryce 2005). As they moved downward, Hittites attacked and invaded various sites in Syria and a new era began in the Near East in the following Late Bronze Age period.

3.4 Alalakh During the Middle Bronze Age

Although the history of Alalakh in the MB II period is known to us based on the Level VII Palace archives, and texts from other sites, the earlier phases of Alalakh are only known via archaeological evidence, as in most Syrian sites except for Mari. Yet, as mentioned previously, knowledge of these earlier phases are very partial and limited since the data of the Woolley expedition was gathered from two deep soundings and insecure contexts. Therefore the following history of pre-Level VII Alalakh will be based on the available archaeological data.

The material belonging to the earliest settlers of the site was recovered from Woolley's Level XVII, which was pottery sherds in the palace sounding and a possible shrine revealed below the Level XVI temple of the site (Woolley 1953: 41-2). The earliest evidence for the foundation of the kingdom and the royal precinct, according to Woolley, was in Level XII and consisted of five huge mudbrick columns which were revealed in front of a platform paved with mudbricks and framed with two massive walls (Woolley 1953: 52, fig.7). Walls with such thickness were not encountered in the previous levels and the domestic architecture standing in front of this structure confirms the particularity of the columned massive structure, which was thought to reflect the Mesopotamian architecture style (1953: 52-3). Referring to the given difference and the change, this was interpreted as a building, likely a palace, belonging to an earlier king of Alalakh, which was not yet identified from textual evidence.

The dates that Woolley previously suggested for the earlier levels at Alalakh on the basis of architectural styles, pottery and especially the styles of seals, were

taking the first occupation date of the site to as early as Uruk Period (Woolley suggested 3400-3000 BC for Level XVII, see 1955: 380), and for the foundation of the kingdom in the Level XII, he suggested the date range of 2700-2350 BC by comparing the first massive architecture stated above and three seals coming from the same level to the Early Dynastic Period styles (1955: 378-380). However, such early dates were criticized by Machteld J. Mellink and Edith Porada (see Mellink 1957) through reconsideration of the pottery, as well as the seals recovered from the earlier periods. To begin with the pottery, the examples of a type of painted pottery (now known as Syro-Cilician or Amuq-Cilician Ware) that mark the beginning of Amuq Phase K (Middle Bronze Age) are present as early as Level XVI, therefore Mellink argued that Level XVII could be dated to the end of Early Bronze Age (Amuq Phase J) but Levels XVI and the following periods should be included in the 2nd millennium BC. Due to the lack of textual evidence until Level VII, Levels XVI to VIII should be considered as “correlated with part of the first Dynasty of Babylon” (1957: 369). In addition, for the massive architecture of Level XII, which Woolley compared to architectural styles of the Early Dynastic Period, Mellink argued that the style of the columns do not reflect the style of a particular period in Mesopotamia.

Other than the pottery and the architecture, it was the styles of seals that Woolley based his dating for the earlier periods of Alalakh, such as dating Level XIII and Level XII to Early Dynastic Period; Level XI to Sargonic period; and Level IX to the period of Third Dynasty of Ur (1953: 58-60). However, these seals were reinterpreted by Edith Porada (see Mellink 1957) and she suggested different dates for these periods and different region for the styles of the seals. She argued that the style of Level XIII seal with the drinking scene (Woolley 1955: Pl. LX, no.1) is only

a variation of Early Dynastic Period that is common in North Syrian from the 18th to 17th centuries BC. However, based on the hair style depicted on the seal, she suggested that the earliest possible date to refer to the Mesopotamian styles could be Akkad to the Larsa periods (Mellink 1957: 396). For one of the seals from Level XII temple (Woolley 1955: Pl. LX, no.2) which Woolley again dated to Early Dynastic Period, she suggested that the double headed figure depicted in the seal is parallel to the seals of north Syria and Anatolia and should be dated to ca. 1900-1800 BC (Mellink 1957: 397). Lastly, for the seal from Level XI with another drinking scene (Woolley 1955: Pl. LX, no.5) that Woolley dated to the Sargonic Period, Porada argued that the style is again similar to the north Syrian scenes and should be dated to 19th century BC (Mellink 1957: 397).

These remarks on pottery and seals both argued that the earlier levels at Alalakh cannot be as early as Woolley suggested and the foundation of the site should be dated to the beginning of 2nd millennium BC; and the periods from XVI up to VII should be dated sequentially within the Middle Bronze Age. In addition, although Woolley was favoring the influence of Mesopotamia on the architecture and material culture of Alalakh for the earlier periods up to Level IX, Mellink objected to such an assumption for the lack of appropriate evidence in terms of architecture and Porada rather suggested the influence of north Syrian and Anatolian styles for the seals.

Following Level IX, for Level VIII Woolley rather emphasized the Egyptian effect not on the architecture but the material culture; the royal portrait found in the Level VIII deposit was in Egyptian style, therefore it could have imply a direct or indirect influence or even a possible political dependence on Egypt (1953: 60-1).

However, these statements only stand as an assumption for such claim without any textual evidence or data from secured contexts.

After the architecturally built history and dating of the earlier periods, Level VII is the best known phase of the Middle Bronze Age Alalakh for having a considerable amount of archaeological evidence, such as the massive palace, the city temple and the city gate and fortification wall of the settlement, in addition to the cuneiform texts, which were all exposed during Woolley's expedition. In his *A Forgotten Kingdom*, Woolley presents Hammurabi, Yarim-Lim and Niqme-epuh as the kings of Yamhad who resided in Alalakh, and Ammi-taqum as a governor responsible for the financial issues (1953: 64-65). However, with further evidence it is now corrected as these were the kings of Yamhad who resided in Aleppo. Alalakh was a vassal of the Yamhad kingdom with its two known kings, Yarim-Lim and Ammi-taqum, who both reigned during Level VII of Alalakh, although such confusion with the names of Yamhad and Alalakh rulers, especially Yarim-Lim's, still remains (Klengel 1992, van Soldt 2000). Yarim-Lim of Alalakh was the son of Hammurabi I of Yamhad and brother of Abba-an of Yamhad; he was sent to Alalakh as a ruler dependent on Abba-an and according to the textual evidence he was called 'man of Alalakh' rather than 'king' until the Yamhad rulers started to declare themselves as 'great king' (Klengel 1992: 60). Yarim-Lim of Alalakh was also recorded as a contemporary to Yarim-Lim (II) and Niqmepa of Yamhad.

Yarim-Lim of Alalakh was succeeded by his son, Ammi-taqum who was contemporary to Niqmepa, Irkabtum and Yarim-Lim III of Yamhad (Klengel 1992:62-3). As given above, two rulers of Alalakh corresponds to five rulers of Yamhad; for this reason, Na'aman suggested that there must have been two Yarim-

Lims and Ammi-taqums reigning during the Level VII occupation (1976; 1979). However, this suggestion was refuted due to lack of evidence and the general acceptance is Alalakh's having two rulers in this period (van Soldt 2000: 107-8). Among many other Syrian sites, Alalakh also had its share from the Hittite invasion and it was the first site in northern Syria to be destroyed by Hattushili I, before his kingdom expanded to the inner lands of Syria (Klengel 1992, Bryce 2005). In accordance with the textual evidence, the immensely burnt character of the Level VII Palace confirms the destruction of the site at the end of Middle Bronze Age.

CHAPTER IV

THE PALACE KITCHEN: ARCHITECTURE AND ARTIFACT ASSEMBLAGES

This chapter introduces the recently excavated palace kitchen rooms that constitute the major original data for this research project. The architectural features, small finds, and pottery assemblage are detailed here. Petrographical analysis of representative sherds for each pottery ware category is presented as part of the characterization of local wares. In chapter VI, using the advantage of having a secure context and especially the availability of the *in situ* pottery, the distribution of the pottery and small finds within the architectural spaces is discussed to infer the possible activities that might have taken place in different parts of the context.

The kitchen was revealed in Square 33.32 of Area 1 at the northeastern edge of the Atchana mound (Fig.4.1). This square is located in the courtyard (room 9) of the Level VII Palace (Fig.4.2), which was previously excavated by C. Leonard Woolley in 1939 and 1946 (Woolley 1955). The excavation of the square began in 2007 at the level of the VII courtyard surface (local phase 1²) and after two seasons of excavation, the team had revealed a local phase 2, apparently a time when the Level VII palace was partly leveled before being rebuilt, and below that a complex

² At Alalakh excavations, the local phasing for each square is numbered from top to bottom, including the subphases. In this case, phase 1 of square 33.32 represents the latest phase whereas phase 3c is the earliest.

sequence of earlier architecture (local phase 3a-c). Phase 3a consisted of the addition of a stone buttress and new street levels to the standing palace architecture. Phase 3b refers to a deep fill applied to the room spaces that had formerly been a kitchen complex in phase 3c (see Yener 2009; 2010b; 2011). The heavily burnt layer 3c was excavated in the 2009 field season. Since this is an unpublished context, the main source for the data is the field notebook of square 33.32 in the 2009 season³ under the supervision of Murat Akar and the pottery context study database⁴ created by the Alalakh pottery team under the supervision of Mara Horowitz.

4.1 Description of the Context

The architectural features and the artifacts coming from the excavated rooms suggest that, before it was destroyed by a fire, this context was a place where activities related to food preparation, storage and distribution took place. The space consists of two rooms surrounded by three massive walls on its south, east and west (**L.54**, **L.55** and **L.56**), which confirm its being a palatial space rather than a domestic one (Fig.4.3). The western and eastern walls are 2 meter thick whereas the southern one is 3 meters and they are all preserved approximately 1 meter high. Two distinct rooms are separated from each other by two walls (**L.71** and **L.79**) with a doorway (**L.78** and **L.80**)⁵ allowing passage between the two. The southern room,

³ The supervisor of square 33.32 in the 2009 season was Luca Tepedino, with the assistance of Alexandra Sinnott.

⁴ The details of the pottery contextual study and the database will be given in the pottery section.

⁵ The open spaces of the context, such as the two rooms and the doorway, have two loci numbers, one for the fill and another for the floor.

Room A (**L.76** and **L.91**) is rectangular in shape measuring 6x2 m and was fully exposed within Square 33.32 (Figs.4.4-4.9).

Attached to the southern face of wall **L.71** is a horseshoe shaped hearth (**L.75**) made of mud/clay measuring 60x75 cm. The inner face and bottom are completely vitrified and there is a small mud brick surface beyond the opening on the south side, probably used to protect the floor of the room from the fire. Immediately adjacent to this hearth along wall **L.71** was built an elevated platform (**L.74**) of rubble and mud/clay plaster (Figs.4.4, 4.6 and 4.13). Several pithoid jars were built into this platform and found *in situ*⁶. This platform shows signs of remodeling and is one of the features indicating that there are two subphases of occupation of this room: the *in situ* hemispherical pithoid jar (**L.81**) was placed into a pit dug into the platform. Under this pithos and the very large globular pithoid jar next to it (**L.82**), a third partial pithoid jar (**L.85**) was found, broken and partly removed to accommodate these two vessels (Fig.4.6). In addition, the pieces of smashed vessels uncovered under the platform (**L.74**) on what would have been the original floor of the room, and a narrow small bench (**L.97**) exposed next to the pithoid jar **L.85** after taking the platform down indicate that this platform was added to the room later (Fig.4.7).

Opposite the hearth and the elevated platform, two distinct benches (**L.73** and **L.83**) were exposed along the southern wall, and also another line of bricks, possibly another bench (**L.72**) along the western wall (Fig.4.5). The two benches along southern wall measured 6 m long and 50 cm wide, though they were probably not

⁶ Different locus numbers were given to the storage jars *in situ* to distinguish them from L.74, the main locus given to the elevated platform itself.

preserved to their total original dimensions. In the area between the platform (**L.74**) and the southern benches, a line of mud bricks (**L.96**) was found cut into the floor (**L.91**) and this was interpreted as a leveling feature on the eastern side of the room in a triangular shape (Fig.4.7).

When excavated deeper towards the floor of the room (**L.91**), the fill revealed a great amount of burnt material. The area around the hearth and the rest of the floor was completely full of burnt material. Also large pieces of carbonized timber were found intact in the middle of the room; they are thought to belong to the roof, and collapsed during the fire (Figs.4.8 and 4.9). As excavations continued, two distinct post holes were found cut into floor. One of these (**L.92**) was found in front of the southwestern corner of the wall **L.71** and the other (**L.98**) close to the eastern part of the hearth (Fig.4.7). These two postholes probably had a common function: either related to the hearth as support shelving or to hold up the roof but it is difficult to ascertain.

Along with these features, the floor itself indicates the possible multiple sub-phases of occupation in this room. On the south western corner, 1m² section in Room A was left unexcavated further down to the floor (**L.91**); it is thought that this part is representing another distinct floor. Therefore, when all the possible multi-phased features explained above are combined, the possible scenario for the occupation of this room is as follows: the floor (**L.91**), the hearth (**L.75**), two higher benches (**L.72** and **L.73**), the lower bench (**L.83**), partial pithos (**L.85**) found in the platform area, the two post holes (**L.92** and **L.98**) and the narrow bench (**L.97**) next to the platform belongs to its earlier phase, whereas the mud covered elevated platform (**L.74**) and the line of mud bricks (**L.96**) right in front of the southern lower bench (**L.83**) were

added to this room during its later phase. In other words, the main layout of the room did not change but a few new features were added to the room in its later phase.

Through a doorway (**L.78** and **L.80**) and a distinct step (**L.87**), Room A slopes down to a northern Room B (**L.77**) at a lower elevation (Figs.4.9-4.12). Due to the borders of the square 33.32, only a small part of Room B (ca.1.5x6.5 m) was exposed and the rest remains under the northern baulk. Similar to that of Room A, the fill in this room was also very burnt and mixed with burnt material but in an even more intensely vitrified state. One of the most distinct intensively burnt areas in this room is just north of the doorway. A large piece of burnt timber found on the floor surface in Room B is similar to those of Room A and could also imply that these burnt timbers belong to the same roof and collapsed at the same time.

This distinct burnt area in Room B (**L.84**), covering the western part of the room right in front of the doorway, revealed many broken vessels containing burnt cereals and possible residues from liquid contents (Figs.4.9 and 4.10). Right under this small area of smashed ceramics, first a chunk of burnt wood and then a rectangular clay bench facing the western wall (**L.88**) similar to those of Room A were unearthed (Figs.4.11 and 4.12). This could indicate that this bench (**L.88**) was the base for a possible shelf placed above it. Many pieces of pottery found on the floor of the room (**L.86**) could have fallen from this small bench and the possible shelf. Another distinct feature found connected to the floor (**L.86**) and attached to the wall (**L.71**) is a mud brick semicircular bench (**L.94**). The external part of this bench was plastered and its eastern part probably collapsed.

While Rooms A and B are similar in construction methods and linked by a doorway, there are some distinct differences as well. The northern face (in Room B) of the wall **L.71** separating these two rooms is a well plastered wall, a feature that was not found on any wall in Room A. Similarly, the semicircular mud brick bench (**L.94**) also has a well plastered outer surface and these differences will be included in the interpretation of this context in Chapter VI, regarding the function of the rooms and the possible activities carried out in these spaces.

4.2 Small Finds and Sample Collection

Small finds were less numerous than ceramic finds and most of them were revealed from the platform (**L.74**) in Room A. One of them is a metal rod (AT10599); the shaft of the object is square and it has a tapering edge. The piece is broken off on the full end of the shaft, so it is probably part of a larger object. Another metal object (AT11716) with a similar square shaft was found on the same platform, which was registered on the object form as ‘some shaft to point of metal pin’. There was a miscellaneous clay object (AT11705) also found on the same platform, it is oval and has a flat part on one surface, registered as sling ball.

On the platform, the *in situ* vessels also contained some finds. Inside the hemispherical pithoid jar (**L.81**) a large stone (AT11717) was found (Fig.4.6). The globular pithoid jar (**L.82**), on the other hand, produced some bone and mud brick fragments, but the latter are recorded as coming from a level that would probably be fill from collapse rather than associated with this vessel.

The smaller Room B also revealed a few objects. Two objects registered as loom weights were found, one from the fill of the room (AT10550) and another one (AT11709) on the small area right in front of the rectangular bench (**L.88**). Another find from the fill of the room is a metal bead (AT10522) which is an unusual material for a bead. The odd object found in Room B was the large stone near the wall **L.71** (Fig.4.10). No connection between this stone and any other feature inside the room was understood and its function remains unclear.

4.2.1 Faunal and Floral Samples

Unlike the scarcity of small finds, this burnt context revealed various animal bones and organic samples which could give further information about this kitchen and the diet of the people that were using this kitchen. Fifty-six animal bones were registered⁷ and most of them are burnt, like the rooms themselves, so these would represent the activities that took place shortly before the fire. The majority of the faunal remains from both rooms are sheep, goat and cattle but there are also some interesting species. Fill of the Room B revealed parts of a few red deer (*cervus elaphus*) and Canan Çakırlar stresses that it is not the common species of deer at Tell Atchana and it could suggest royal food. Other than this species, pig and domestic equid bones were also revealed from the same room. The fill of the Room A did not reveal anything of particular interest other than burnt food processing refuse but the platform did. Unworked sheep and goat knuckle bones (*astragalus*) from both the platform itself and the partial pithoid jar (**L.85**). Knucklebones are commonly associated with funerary or ritual practices as well as game pieces (see Minniti and

⁷ The faunal remains of Tell Atchana excavations are studied by Canan Çakırlar. The report on 33.32 phase 3c animal bones is not finished yet and the information was gained via personal communication with her.

Peyronel 2005). The same vessel also revealed part of a wild goat (*capra aegagrus*) although Çakırlar notes that some domestic goats at Tell Atchana are very large in comparison to their regularly expected size, so this could also be a domestic one. Other than these, there is also one part of a brown bear finger (*ursus arctos*) which is, according to Çakırlar, a quite unusual piece to be found in a kitchen room. There are also some freshwater clams and snails, again burnt. Lastly, four freshwater fish bones, probably from the Orontes, were revealed from the platform. These fish are very common during all periods of Tell Atchana.

In addition to the faunal remains, various samples of burnt cereals, seeds and residues were also collected, especially from the broken pithoid jar placed into the platform (Fig.4.14) but the results of the analyses are not completed at present⁸. The only available information is the prevalence of emmer wheat in the 33.32 context (pers. comm. Emel Oybak Dönmez). Once the analysis is finished, the further examination of these samples could give information about the food and drink preferences and eating habits of people living in this particular period at Alalakh.

4.2.2 C¹⁴ Samples

Due to its burnt character, C¹⁴ samples were collected from the context, to help in dating the 33.32 Kitchen. The partial pithoid jar (**L.85**) in the platform was full of burnt seeds, and C¹⁴ samples (AT11726) were taken from it. Another sample (AT11770) was taken from the large chunk of burnt timber from the floor of Room

⁸ The floral remains of the Tell Atchana excavations are analyzed by Emel Oybak Dönmez from Hacettepe University. The results for the 33.32 context floral remains will be published in an article, in preparation.

A. The samples were processed in the VERA Laboratories at Vienna and the results are given in the table below.

Lab.-Nr.	Sample Name	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ [‰]	^{14}C -age [BP]	Calibrated Age
VERA-5331	AT 11726	-26.8 ± 0.9	3585 ± 40	2040BC (88.0%) 1870BC 1850BC (7.4%) 1770BC
VERA-5331HS	AT 11726 humic acids	-25.8 ± 0.5	3545 ± 35	2010BC (1.0%) 2000BC 1980BC (94.4%) 1760BC
VERA-5372	AT11770	-23.8 ± 1.5	3745 ± 40	2290BC (95.4%) 2030BC

The sample taken from the timber indicates considerably earlier dates for the 33.32 Kitchen; since timber could be a reused material for the construction of the roof, it would be expected to be earlier. Therefore, the results of the seeds, which are a short-lived and a more secure sample type, would be more reliable. The implications of the results for the C^{14} testing are integrated into the discussion section for dating of the 33.32 Kitchen and given at the end of Chapter V.

4.3 The Pottery

The intact contexts of Rooms A and B are important for having a considerable range of pottery ranging from discarded sherds to the *in situ* vessels. As with all other pottery assemblages of Alalakh excavations, the pottery of this palace kitchen was treated in two ways. Before the detailed Contextual studies, every pottery sherd excavated in the related loci and lots was counted and recorded on the

sherd count sheets. Then, when the distinct depositional units were isolated using the field notes, the related loci and lots were combined into numbered Contexts for intensive study. These Context studies get more specific and enable us to understand a specific pottery assemblage as a whole and also detect possible individual ceramics (restorable vessels) in the assemblages.

In the Context study the sherds were divided into sequentially numbered batches and the ones showing similar attributes are grouped together. That is, each batch could represent either the detected pieces of a single vessel or different vessels sharing similar characteristics. When a vessel is complete or partially complete, it is also given a unique AT registration number (different from the general AT number given to the pottery bag from a specific locus and lot). After the Context studies are completed in the field, the forms are transferred to the Context study database created by Mara Horowitz. On the short forms, and in the database, each batch shows both the count and the MNI numbers (Minimum Number of Individual vessels in each batch). This system enables us to understand the minimum number of individual vessels per batch.

For the detailed Context studies, the ceramics coming from Rooms A and B were divided into three deposits: the fill and the floor of Room A are combined under Context #106 (**L.76** and **L.91**); those of Room B are numbered as Context #105 (**L.77**, **L.84** and **L.86**); and the pottery from the elevated platform in Room A is

studied separately as Context #128 (**L.74**, and *in situ* storage jars **L.81**, **L.82** and **L.85**)⁹.

For the pottery catalogue of these Contexts (see Appendix A), each individual complete or partially complete vessel (including any fragments that give a profile) are given a unique catalog number. The pottery catalogue of the 33.32 context is arranged as follows: first, the complete or partially complete vessels and rim fragments are catalogued, to see minimum number of individual vessels coming from the context. Then, the base and handle fragments are catalogued separately, as possibly belonging to the catalogued partially complete objects and rim fragments. Lastly, the sherds that do not give a profile but are slipped or have a painted decoration are added to the catalogue. Although the typological study is applied to the assemblage as a whole, the vessels in the catalogue are arranged according to three Contexts sequentially, to show each Context as a group with its own type assemblage.

4.3.1 Ware Types

The ware typology at Tell Atchana is currently being revised by Mara Horowitz, the Senior Ceramic Specialist of the Tell Atchana excavations, and the ware types of the 33.32 context are evaluated according to the most updated version of the ware typology. In addition, the selected samples from each ware type found in the 33.32 context were prepared for petrographic analysis that will be studied in the

⁹In the excavation seasons 2009 and 2010, the three different Contexts were separately studied by Mara Horowitz, Sneha Patel and Jovana Tripkovicj. In the 2011 season, I studied all three Contexts as a whole for my thesis research and did considerable alterations, especially in terms of detecting the minimum individual number of vessels coming from the Context.

future. These samples are included in this present research for characterization of the ware types according to their inclusion. The samples were prepared by using the Metkon Geoform Thin Sectioning Device and analyzed by using the Olympus BX51 Optical Microscope in the Archaeology Laboratory at Koç University.

In general, the whole pottery assemblage found in Rooms A and B is local and wheel made, with the exception of six sherds of unknown handmade (UNH) pottery¹⁰ (Plate 36d). Although there is the prevalence of Simple Ware (SW) among the vessels in three Contexts, which occurs in a variety of shapes, there are also other ware types available in the Contexts. The range of wares with their distribution within three Contexts can be seen in Fig.4.16.

As the most dominant type, Simple Ware stands for the fabric that is “very well prepared without lumps of matrix, and contains only low amounts of mixed minerals thought to come from local river sand deposits.” (Horowitz n.d. 2: 9). The observation on five SW vessels yielded the information that the fabric is prepared by using various tempering material. Serpentine, limestone, microfossil, chert, clinopyroxene and quartz are common tempers existing in all samples; but less frequent tempers such as olivine, basalt, tourmaline and pyroxene were also observed (Plate 25, 26 and 27). The fabric is medium or hard fired and vessels are medium-thin walled. Mostly no finishing was applied to Simple Ware vessels but sometimes the surface was smoothened with water (Horowitz n.d. 1; n.d. 2; 2008). Here, it is important to note that all local wheel-made plain wares at Atchana are considered to be Simple Ware. The different traditions of local painted pottery are considered a

¹⁰Since none of these sherds gives a profile they are not included in the pottery catalogue of this context.

variant of this major type since “the paste, forming, finishing, and firing of the painted wares were indistinguishable from contemporary Simple Ware” (Horowitz *in press*). In addition to the bowls, kraters, medium-sized jars, pitchers, juglets, the pithoid jars of 33.32 context are of Simple Ware as well, which is typical of Middle Bronze pithoid jars of Atchana (pers. comm. Mara Horowitz)¹¹.

The second most common ware type is the Mineral Cookware (MI), which stands for a hard fabric having very visible crushed calcite temper. As pointed out by Horowitz through her typological studies on Alalakh pottery, this type is the typical Middle Bronze Age cookware at Tell Atchana (Horowitz 2009; 2012). Along with the prevalence of calcite, other tempering materials such as limestone, serpentine and pyroxene were also observed under the microscope (Plate 28).

The third common ware type is the Syro-Cilician Painted ware (SCP), which is a painted subtype of Simple Ware with a hard fired fabric. This pottery type is a common Middle Bronze Age painted pottery tradition also known as the ‘Amuq/Cilician Ware’ referring to its main distribution area (Tubb 1981; 1983). It was first described and studied by Seton-Williams (1953). Later studies pointed out that in addition to its primary distribution zone from Cilicia through Western Syria, the secondary distribution zone of this pottery type extends up to Kültepe in Central Anatolia and also down to Tell el-Dab’a in Egypt, including Cyprus. However, the Syrian coast lacks this pottery tradition (see Tubb 1981; 1983, Bagh 2003 and Çatalbaş 2008). The examples of Syro-Cilician Painted pottery from other sites will be included in the pottery comparatives section in Chapter V. As falls into the main

¹¹ As distinct from the Middle Bronze ones, the Late Bronze Age pithoid jars of Tell Atchana are mostly of Heavy Coarse Ware.

distribution zone of this type of pottery, Alalakh examples of this ware type from 33.32 context are locally made. Microscopic analysis confirms the statement of its being a variant of Simple Ware since the clay and the tempering materials are not different (Plate 29 and 30a-b). The vessels of this ware type are not burnished but the surface is painted mostly with geometric and animal motifs. This ware type is represented by various shapes in 33.32 context and also found as a few body sherds (Plate 10a-g).

Other than these, Contexts #105 and 128 present a few odd sherds of different rare ware types. Room B (Context#105) has a ware type called Other Painted Ware (PW) which refers to any sherds of painted wares that do not fit into any of the distinctive painted wares at Tell Atchana due to their being too fragmentary¹² (Plate 10k). Another unusual ware from the same Context is Fine Simple Ware (SF) whose fabric is a fine silty cream-gray-tan without any visible inclusions (Horowitz n.d. 2). However, the microscopic analysis of the sample taken from the single representative of this ware type in Context #105, which is a body sherd with horizontal incised lines (Plate 30c), revealed some interesting results: it is true that this ware type does not have many inclusions as abundant as in other ware types, but as a difference from Simple Ware, calcite was used as a tempering material in the Simple Fine Ware sherd (Plate 30d). The other tempering materials, though, are microfossil, pyroxene, chert, serpentine and quartz, which are common in the Simple Ware group (Plate 31).

Although most of the pithoid jars in the whole assemblage are Simple Ware, some of them are Heavy Coarse Ware (HC), which have a medium to hard fired

¹² Since sherds with fragmentary painted decoration probably belong to one of the painted wares identified in this context, and not representing a separate ware group, these sherds are not included in the petrographical sampling.

coarse fabric with abundant organic temper and gray-black cores (Horowitz 2008) and the partially complete pithoid jar (Plate 7f, Catalogue #146) from Room B and the complete pithoid jar (Plate 7a, Catalogue #24) from Room Ais of this type¹³. The last type variant of Context #105 is Red Slip Ware (RS), represented by a single body sherd with a red slip applied to its both sides (Plate 10m). The fabric of this ware is medium fired and contains numerous lumps of matrix, ill-sorted inclusions, and organics (Horowitz n.d. 2). The microscopic analysis justifies this statement and the observations concluded that Red Slip is the ware type which has the most variety of inclusion types: along with common serpentine, limestone, chert, quartz, microfossil, clinopyroxene and basalt, both samples of this ware have odd tempers such as plagioclase, talc and shell (Plate 32, 33 and 34). The latter is unusual since it is a common material found in the fabrics of Late Bronze Age cook wares at Tell Atchana, and not in other ware groups.

On the subject of Red Slip Ware, Context #128 also revealed two sherds of this ware; one is a body sherd (Plate 10l) and the other is a rim fragment. The latter is of great interest not only for its ware but also its shape: the rim sherd (Plate 3j and 10n, Catalogue #59) has the red slip all over both on exterior and interior and burnishing was applied on the slip, which is very visible with horizontal and vertical burnishing marks. The sherd has straight wall and a smoothly flanged rim with a rounded edge on the outer part. Although the preserved part of the sherd resembles an open shape vessel, the wall of the vessel is thicker than the bowls in the 33.32 context, thus this was first considered the sherd of a high-necked jar. However, it is

¹³ This ware also is not sampled for petrography since both representatives of this ware are complete objects that are conserved before I began this thesis.

also very similar to the red burnished pot stands of the Early Bronze Age as well (pers. comm. Stephen Batiuk, see also Batiuk 2005: Pl.13.13-14) and the orientation of the sherd justifies such possibility. Due to this uncertainty, the sherd is named as “unknown” (UN).

In terms of the ware type variety, the Context with the most abundant range is the platform (Context #128). Besides the three common ware types found in all Contexts (SW, MI, SCP), and the RS sherds mentioned above, the platform yielded examples of Simple Fine Ware and Other Painted Ware (Plate 10i-j) which also occurred in Context #105. In addition to these, there are two sherds of Banded Ware (BW) (Plate 3e and 10h), a painted variant of SW defined by thick horizontal stripes painted on plain surface of the vessels. The microscopic analysis revealed that the clay of this ware includes dense serpentine, limestone and quartz along with less frequently found calcite (Plate 35a-b). The platform revealed a few sherds of Proto-Shellware (PSH) which is thought to be a transitional ware before shell was commonly used as tempering material for the cooking pots at Tell Atchana in the Late Bronze Age. The sampled sherd of this type (Plate 35c) shows that a few other materials such as clinopyroxene, chert and quartz accompany the prevailing temper material shell (Plate 35d, 36a-c).

The last ware type from the platform is the previously mentioned Unknown Handmade (UNH). The sample taken from a sherd of this ware (Plate 36d) shows that other than sandstone, the other tempering materials of this handmade ware are chert, quartz, limestone, clinopyroxene and serpentine, which are frequently found in Simple Ware and its painted variants (Plate 37). Considering the fact that the platform is made of mud and rubble, some sherds could have been mixed within the

mud, so the sherds that are of less frequent ware types could be random pieces of pottery used in the construction, rather than the vessels used in the Contexts.

4.3.2 Shape Types

In terms of the vessel shapes, the ceramic repertoire of the rooms is limited because of the specific range of activities carried out in the 33.32 Kitchen rooms. There is a prevalence of bowls. Most of them are a specific type called S-curve Bowl. This type is followed by closed shaped jars, cooking pots and pithoid jars. In addition to these frequent types there are also less frequent types such as kraters, pitchers and possible juglets. The presence of handle fragments raises the question of having jugs as well but these are only preserved as handle fragments and the context lacks complete or partly reconstructable jugs. As a result of having a context sealed by fire, a great number of vessel types, especially those coming from Room B, are completely, mostly or partly burnt in character. As outlined in the section on Ware Type, most of the shape types are of plain Simple Ware without decoration and no finishing. For the decorated ones, applied or incised decoration is a frequent style in the whole assemblage rather than painted decoration.

The shape typology of the Tell Atchana pottery was first presented by Woolley (1955) and then completely recreated by Mara Horowitz according to a four-level classification: Open, Intermediate, Closed and Unknown Shapes. These are represented by numerous shapes, some of which will be discussed for the 33.32 context, and mostly vary for their functional distinction. The shape typology was not created solely for the overall shape of a vessel but also for the body parts, i.e. the rim, body, handle and base (Horowitz 2008; 2009). The pottery of the 33.32 context is

analyzed according to this main shape typology system of Tell Atchana. However, along with the complete shapes, since the majority of the vessels coming from the kitchen context are fragmentary rim sherds and the whole profiles of these are unknown, variants for abundant vessel types are determined according to changes at the rim and shoulder parts. These are given at the end of this chapter in section 4.3.5 (Proposed Subtypes). This methodology is applied mostly for the catalogue of this research: within the frequent shape types, the sherds with similar rim and shoulder profile are named under a variant name, such as ‘Cooking Pot Variant 1’ (CKP V1) and the one (or occasionally more) representative of this variant is illustrated.

4.3.2.1 Bowl (T.05-BWL)¹⁴

The most abundant vessel shape coming from the 33.32 context is Bowl, a type defined as an open form with a radius at least twice its height. There are at minimum 92 individual bowls. The bowls are mostly well-fired and have a hard fabric; but also medium fired and a few low fired examples do exist in the assemblage. The majority of the bowls are without any kind of finishing and only a few of them have decoration. The colors of the bowls are mostly pale yellow and pink but there are also bowls with reddish yellow, light brown, light gray, gray, pale brown and light red color. All types of bowls are of Simple Ware, with the exception of a single Syro-Cilician Painted rim sherd (Plate 2b).

The bowl type that constitutes the majority of the whole assemblage is the S-curve Bowl (SCBL), giving an s-profile with an out-turned rim and a medium or high shoulder, either curved or carinated (Plate 1 and 2, Catalogue #1-15, 27-50, 77-120).

¹⁴ Each vessel type and their subtypes are given a code particular to that type, which are used in the Context Study database.

The context revealed both complete (as complete object or giving complete profile) and fragmentary examples of S-curve Bowls and these are divided into subtypes, the descriptions of which are given in detail at the end of this chapter in Section 4.3.5, according to the differences of the rim and shoulder profile. The shoulder types vary from high to middle, and low with different types of curvature from sharp to slight or no carination. The rim styles are also various and include straight, flared, everted and rolled out types. The SCBL giving a complete profile (Plate 1a-i) show that different base styles were used for this bowl type: we have examples of ring based, flat based, convex based and concave based SCBL coming from the assemblage.

The second bowl type in the 33.32 context is Shallow Bowl (SHBL), a type with a radius more than equal to but less than twice its height. There are only 7 shallow bowls in the context, all of which are preserved as rim fragments (Plate 3a-g, Catalogue# 51-57). Three of them are Rounded Shallow Bowls (Plate 3a, d and f) with flared or slightly inturned rims; whereas two are another subtype called Conical Shallow Bowl with straight and squared rims (Plate 3b-c). There is also another SHBL which has a U-Shaped form and straight rim (Plate 3g). Among these is a rim fragment of Banded Ware, possibly another example of Rounded Shallow Bowl; but since it is a very small sherd, its exact stance is not determined, it could also be a Curved Flat Plate as well (Plate 3e).

The third and last bowl type coming from the 33.32 context is the Hemispherical Bowl (HEBL), a type with a radius equal to its height. It is a less frequent type in comparison with SCBL and SHBL of the whole assemblage (Plate 3h and i, Catalogue#58 and 121). Both examples from the 33.32 Kitchen are

preserved as rim fragments; but the stance of the sherds justifies their being Rounded Hemispherical Bowls.

4.3.2.2 Krater (T.06-KRA)

The Krater (KRA) is an intermediate vessel form with wide mouth. It is a less frequent shape type in the 33.32 context (Plate 4a-e, Catalogue #16, 122-125). There are a minimum 5 kraters and only one of them is a complete object. The kraters are all well-fired and have a hard fabric. None of them has finishing but four of them are decorated, either with incisions (Plate 4b, c and e) or paint (Plate 4a). Their surface colors are pale yellow, pink, pale brown and light gray. Most kraters are of Simple Ware but there is also a single example of a Syro-Cilician Painted Ware (Plate 4a). The flanged rim is typical for the Tell Atchana kraters but this context has one flared and one everted rimmed kraters. The only complete krater from the 33.32 context has a flanged rim with grooved lines at the top (Plate 4e, Catalogue #122). The vessel lacks a distinct neck, the rim is joined to a carinated shoulder and it has a convex base. It is decorated with horizontal comb incisions on the shoulder. This krater is unusually large and thick-walled in comparison to the other kraters. Along with the majority of Hole-Mouth subtype, there is also one krater with a more closed shape in comparison to other types and it has two handles attached to both sides of the vessel (Plate 4d, Catalogue #123).

4.3.2.3 Cooking Pot (T.07-CKP)

As it is predictable in a kitchen context, another common vessel type is the Cooking Pot (CKP), which is a krateroid jar shape with a wide mouth. These pots generally have a round base. There are fragments of a minimum 11 cookware vessels

coming from the three Contexts (Plate 4f-m, Catalogue #17-19, 60, 61, 126-131). Most of the cookware sherds coming from the study Contexts are Mineral Ware with crushed calcite temper, which is easily detectible via macroscopic analysis. The cookware sherds are mostly medium or well fired so have medium or hard fabric. Yellowish brown is the most common color among the cooking pots but there are also examples of pale brown, reddish brown, reddish yellow and brownish gray. Some cooking pots are wet-smoothed. An applied horizontal band with incised motifs is a common decoration preference. The only complete cooking pot, coming from Context #106 (Plate 4f, Catalogue #17) is a type called Deep Cooking Pot. It has a rounded form with medium-wide mouth, not very distinguished neck and a rounded base. Some of the cooking pots have knobs projecting from the rim, serving as handles (Plate 4f-h); but the majority are without handle. Besides the Mineral Ware cookware fragments, the elevated platform next to the hearth also produced a few shell-tempered cookware sherds belonging to the type 'Proto-Shellware', but none of them could give a profile. As was the case for the bowls, variants for the cooking pot repertoire mostly based on rim profile are given at the end of this chapter.

4.3.2.4 Jar (T.11-JAR)

After bowls, the second most abundant vessel type found in the Contexts is Jar, a category of vessels having a closed form with wide body which has no handles. There are a minimum 21 distinct jars in the 33.32 context (Plate 5, Catalogue #20-22, 62-68, 132-142). All of the jars are of Simple Ware with a well-fired hard fabric but there are also a few jars with medium-hard fabric. The colors for the jars are mostly very pale brown. Others are jars with pale yellow, pink, reddish yellow, light brown

and light gray color. For finishing, wet-smoothing is a common practice. Decorating jars is a common preference and a great number of the jars are decorated with horizontally straight or wavy comb incisions.

The most frequent jar type in the 33.32 context is the Globular Jar (GLJA) which has a globular shape and lacks a distinct neck join. The only complete jar from the kitchen context (Plate 5a) has an everted rim with a squared lip; it lacks a distinct neck and the globular body ends with a flat base. The shoulder is decorated with a wavy incision between two horizontally straight comb-incised lines. There are also globular jars with a more closed shape whose neck join is more distinct in comparison to the other globular jar variants.

Besides the Globular Jars, the kitchen context also produced examples of a different jar type with a distinct longer and narrower concave or cylindrical neck (Plate 5i-k). However these are preserved only as rim and neck fragment, therefore the whole profile of this vessel type is unknown. One of them (Plate 5i) has a double rim, and the only example for this rim type in the 33.32 context. Since these jars have a more closed shape, these could have been used to contain liquids. In addition to those, there are also other jar examples which are preserved only as rim fragments (Plate 5l-o), and again the whole profiles are unknown. Therefore, the rim and neck fragments are gathered under the general type name 'Jar' rather than a specific jar type. Since jar is another frequent type, the variants are created based on the rim profiles and are again given at the end of this chapter.

4.3.2.5 Pitcher (T.13-PCR)

Although it is an individual vessel type, a Pitcher (PCR) is actually a jar with one handle and a spout. Thus, in the archaeological record, including the 33.32 context, this vessel type has the mischance to be underrepresented since it is not recognizable unless we have the spout and also handle parts. The study Contexts of the 33.32 kitchen rooms revealed only a single complete pitcher. It is a Syro-Cilician Painted Narrow-Necked Pitcher (NNPI), a particular variant known as ‘eye jug’ (Bagh 2003: 220) with trefoil rim, long narrow neck, globular body and convex base (Plate 6c-d, Catalogue #143)¹⁵. The strap handle with round profile (unlike the twisted handles common on this type) begins below where the neck is joined to the shoulder. It is decorated with a single vertical line with numerous horizontal short lines throughout. The trefoil rim has an eye depiction framed with three horizontal lines. The neck-shoulder join is adorned with horizontal bands with vertical wavy lines and dots. There are two applied knobs on the front. The shoulder decoration is a band of repetitive swan figures with hatched body and vertical lines between horizontal bands. The same wavy vertical lines are also at the top of the metope on the shoulder. The base is flat-convex and formed by scraping.

The remaining examples of Pitchers are only very fragmentary trefoil rim sherds. The first one is of Simple Ware (Plate 6b, Catalogue #69) and has the curvy profile of the trefoil rim. The second one is a very fragmentary piece of a trefoil rim (Plate 6a, Catalogue #23) with a red painted eye depiction and a horizontal frame line

¹⁵ As will be seen in the catalogue, no colors based on Munsell Color Chart are given for this pitcher. The reason is that the pitcher was taken to the museum at the end of 2009 excavation season, before this context was studied by me as a thesis research.

similar to that of the complete pitcher. This sherd also has ticking painted on the lip of the trefoil rim.

4.3.2.6 Juglet (T.16 JLT)

From Room B of the kitchen context, there are two fragmentary small closed vessels with one handle (Plate 6e-f, Catalogue #144-145) which are both Syro-Cilician Painted Ware. They both lack the neck and the rim part, thus the presence of a spout and their being jugs or pitchers are not known. However, with or without a spout, the overall forms are very small in comparison to the Syro-Cilician pitcher. They can be considered juglets (JLT).

Referring to the preserved body shape, these are probably a type called Globular Juglet (GLJT). The first representative (Plate 6f, Catalogue #144) is mostly preserved as a globular body, a small ring base and fragmentary vertical handle with round section. It has two horizontal bands with diagonal and vertical lines between. The handle is also painted with a single horizontal short line. The second example (Plate 6e, Catalogue #145) is preserved as a single large sherd and part of a vertical handle with a round section. It is decorated on the shoulder with a similar motif to that of the other juglet. The neck-shoulder join is also painted with two horizontal lines. The handle has a decoration similar to that of the complete pitcher, a single vertical line with sets of short horizontal lines throughout.

4.3.2.7 Pithoid Jar (T.17-PIT)

Pithoid Jar (PIT) is very large jar form, which is also referred as storage jar, and the Pithoid Jar repertoire of the study Contexts is not limited to the *in situ* ones from the elevated platform. There are at minimum 11 complete and partial remains

of pithoid jars in the Contexts. As previously stated at the Ware Typology section, these are all of Simple Ware with the exception of two (Catalogue #24 and 146). The pithoid jars are well or medium fired and generally have a very hard fabric. The majority of the pithoid jars are pale brown or pale yellow but examples of light reddish brown and pink colored storage jars are also present in the context. No finishing was applied to the surface but applied decoration on the shoulder is a common practice, especially rope decoration and the applied band with diagonal incisions.

Due to the recovery of *in situ* storage jars, complete profiles are available. There are two major types. The first one is the Hemispherical Pithoid Jar (HEPJ); this has a hemispherical shape with a railed rim, a type with grooves at the top of a flanged rim, and a ring base impressed with finger marks. In the 33.32 context, there are two variants of this type: First one is HEPJ V1 (Plate 7a, Catalogue #24, 74 and 76), a rounded profile without a distinct carination on the shoulder. Partially complete storage jar coming from the floor of the Room A (AT8382, Catalogue #24) is the representative of this subtype, which has an applied rope decoration on the shoulder. There are also fragmentary rim and shoulder sherds of this subtype. The second variant of this type is HEPJ V2 (Plate 7b and c, Catalogue #70 and 73) which has a similar profile to the previous variant but V2 has a distinct sharp carination on the shoulder. One of the *in situ* storage jars coming from the elevated platform (AT 11765, Catalogue #70) is of this subtype, with an applied rope decoration on the shoulder. Another example has an applied band with diagonal incisions (Plate 7c, Catalogue # 73).

The second major pithoid jar type is the Globular Pithoid Jar (GLPJ), which has a globular body, a flared or rolled out rim and convex base (Plate 7d-g, Catalogue #25, 26, 71, 72, 75 and 146). Having a hole at the bottom of the convex base is a frequent character found at the base of the GLPJ (Plate 7e and g), which implies that this type of pithoid jars had another function different from being storage jars and would have been used for either beer brewing or cheese preparation (Ellison 1984b). In comparison to the HEPJ, this type of pithoid jar has more variants in terms of the vessel profile. The first variant GLPJ V1 (Plate 7b) has a globular body without a distinct shoulder. The only complete example of this type is one of the *in situ* storage jars from the elevated platform (AT11792, Catalogue #71); it has a convex base with a hole at the bottom. The half complete object from Room B (Plate 7f, Catalogue #146) is also of this subtype with the same globular shape at the top but with a rolled out rim which has a single thick groove at the top. It has an applied horizontal band on the shoulder with diagonal incisions on it.

The second subtype, GLPJ V2 (Plate 7g) has the same globular shape but it has a more pronounced shoulder at an upper part in comparison to the GLPJ V1. The representative of this subtype (AT8388, Catalogue #25) is coming from the floor of the Room A but the rim and neck join are missing. It has two sets of triangular wedge decoration impressed on the shoulder and very visible rope mark impressions below this triangular decoration. The fragmentary pithos coming from the elevated platform (Fig.4.15, AT11766, Catalogue #72)¹⁶ has a similar shape, the shoulder is at an upper part. A third variant is GLPJ V3 (Plate 7d, Catalogue #26 and 75) which is

¹⁶ This partial pithos was reconstructed at the very end of the 2010 excavation season. It was photographed and put in the excavation depot to be drawn at the next season. However, at the beginning of the 2011 season, it was found as fell apart. Therefore the drawing and the dimensions of this pithos is not available at present.

preserved only as fragmentary rim sherds; their stance suggests that this variant has a more ovoid body than the other variants. It has an everted rim with a rounded lip. One example of this type has a single groove at the top of the rim.

4.3.3 Base Types

Along with the complete/partially complete objects and the rim fragments, whose profiles indicate their shape and type, the 33.32 context produced 36 base fragments (Catalogue #147-182) giving a profile for the lower part of the vessels. These may belong to the fragmentary vessels in the previous section. Although they vary, there are four main base types in the 33.32 context: Flat base (FL), Convex base (CX), Ring base (RI) and Disc base (DI). One of the SCBL (Plate 1g) has a base of another type called Concave base (CO) but it is a single example. In addition, there is also Rounded base (RO) which is represented within whole context only by the complete Cooking Pot (Plate 4f). The system of grouping the same variants is again applied for the base fragments of the kitchen context. This section of the pottery catalogue is again arranged according to three Contexts sequentially.

The most frequent base type is the Ring Base, including the bases of the complete objects; since it is known from the complete examples, this type is a favored one for the SCBL of this kitchen. Therefore, it is highly possible that the ring base fragments, especially the ones with lower base diameters, belong to the fragmentary SCBL of the kitchen. The group RI V1 (Plate 8c, Catalogue #153, 154, 170-173) is representing the ring bases with a round profile and the inner part of the ring is quite deep; RI V2 (Plate 8a, Catalogue #152, 163 and 174) represent the ones with a ring having a shallow inner part; RI V3 (Plate 8d, Catalogue #164) is the

group for the ring bases with wide diameters, i.e. possibly larger vessels than SCBL; and the last variant RI V4 (Plate 8b, Catalogue #155) is the ring base with stamped finger marks on it belonging to a Pithoid jar, which is already known from the complete examples (Plate 7a-b).

The second common base type is the Flat Base. Complete profiles of SCBL and GLJA confirm its being used by both small and medium sized vessels in this kitchen. The variants for this base type are mostly based on the thicknesses of the base and body wall fragments. FL V1 (Plate 8f, Catalogue #166-167, 176, 178 and 182) is representing the flat bases having the same thickness at both the base and body wall parts; FL V2 (Plate 8h, Catalogue #159, 165, 179 and 180) is characterized by a very thick base continues upwards with a much thinner body wall, and this type is mostly represented by larger jars in regard to their large diameters; FL V3 (Plate 8i, Catalogue #156-158) has a thin base part which continues with a much thicker body wall; and lastly FL V4 (Plate 8g, Catalogue #175, 177 and 181) is the flat base type having a pierced hole at the bottom.

The third type of base is the Convex Base which is preferred for various types of vessels in the 33.32 context, from SCBL to Pithoid Jars. CX V1 (Plate 8j, Catalogue #147-150, 161 and 162) have a base thickness equal to that of the body wall; CX V2 (Plate 8k, Catalogue #151 and 169) have a thinner base part in comparison to the thickness of their body wall; the last variant CX V3 (Plate 8l, Catalogue #160) is the pithoid jar base fragment with a pierced hole at the bottom, a practice known from some bases of the GLPJ (Plate 7e and g). In addition to the given frequent main base types, 33.32 context also produced a single example of a

Disc Base (Plate 8e, Catalogue #168), coming from the elevated platform, which probably belongs to a small-sized vessel, in regard to its 6cm diameter.

4.3.4 Handle Types

In addition to the krater (Plate 4d), pitcher (Plate 6c-d) and juglet (Plate 6e and f) examples having handles, 33.32 context also revealed 7 handle fragments (Plate 9, Catalogue #183-189). Other than the complete strap handle with a rounded section from Room A (Plate 9a, Catalogue #183), and the decorative handle attached to the body wall (Plate 9f, Catalogue #189), handle examples are all fragmentary, and often detached from the wall of the vessel (Plate 9c and d). The sections of the handles are rounded (Plate 9a and e, Catalogue #183 and 184), elliptical (Plate 9c and g, Catalogue #185 and 186) and a tetragonal shape with rounded edges which has a single slight groove dividing the outer part of the handle into two sections (Plate 9b and d, Catalogue #187 and 188). The decorative handle (Plate 9f, Catalogue #189) is a type completely attached to the body wall. It composed of four knobs having pierced holes at the outer edges but the profile of the handle fragment show that these holes are not connected to each other, therefore these have a decorative purpose, rather than functional.

The presence of handles raises the possibility of having an eighth vessel type in the 33.32 context, Jugs, the one-handled jar forms which are distinguished from pitchers for not having a spout. Unfortunately, we do not have a complete or fragmentary example that confirms its being a jug. However, most of the handle fragments are coming from the elevated platform (Context #128). They could have

been mixed within the mud of the construction itself, rather than belonging to a handled vessel type that was used in the kitchen before it was burnt down.

4.3.5 Proposed Subtypes

As previously stated, the general shape types in the 33.32 kitchen are named according to the typology of the Alalakh pottery given in section 4.3.2. However, since the majority of the vessels coming from the kitchen context are fragmentary rim sherds and the whole shapes are unknown, the proposed subtypes for the most frequent types are determined and given below. This methodology is adopted for the Catalogue of this research: instead of drawing every single sherd including the repetitive ones, I grouped similar variants under a single variant number and illustrated the best preserved one (or more in some cases) for each variant. Catalogue numbers of the vessels belonging to that particular variant group are given after the description of the subtype.

As the most abundant shape, the subtypes for the S-curve bowls are as follows:

SCBL V1 (Plate 1a): The rim flares smoothly from the shoulder and the edge of the rim is extended downwards. It has a smooth high carination below the rim. The only example giving a complete profile has a convex body wall and a ring base with rounded form. (Catalogue #34, 83, 115, 117)

SCBL V2 (Plate 1b-d): The smoothly out-turned rim has a rounded edge and reaches upwards. The high carination is sharper and makes the shoulder more pronounced. The three complete examples of this type have convex body walls. Two

of these objects have ring bases (b and d) whereas the other has a convex one (c).
(Catalogue #12, 27, 28, 35, 37, 79, 81, 82, 102, 116)

SCBL V3 (Plate 1e): This shape is very similar to SCBL V2 in general, however the rim does not reach upwards but rather parallel to the high carinated shoulder. The single complete example of has thickening walls as is continues down to the flat base. (Catalogue #1, 5, 40, 86)

SCBL V4 (Plate 1f): The upright thin rim is slightly rounded at the top and it flares from a thicker shoulder with the smooth high carination. The only complete example of has convex body wall and a ring base, which is flattened at the bottom. (Catalogue #29, 109)

SCBL V5 (Plate 1g): The thickened rim which is flattened at the top, reaches vertically from the shoulder with high carination. The complete example of this variant is a badly burnt object and it has a concave base. (Catalogue #15, 80)

SCBL V6 (Plate 1h): The upright rim is flattened at the top and it extends smoothly from the shoulder with high carination. The single example of this variant is a complete object with a rounded form and it has a ring base. (Catalogue #78)

SCBL V7 (Plate 1i): The rounded rim is rolled out from a sharp, high carinated shoulder. The only complete example of this variant has a rounded form and it has a ring base. (Catalogue #77)

SCBL V8 (Plate 1j): The flared rim has a rounded edge and it reaches upwards. The important difference of this type from SCBL V2 is the sharp carination at a lower part. (Catalogue #99-101)

SCBL V9 (Plate 1k): The simply outturned rim flares from a slightly carinated shoulder and the edge of the rim is rounded. The rim profile is similar to SCBL V2 and V8 but the carination has a more rounded character. This is a very abundant sub-type. (Catalogue #36, 41, 46, 47, 48, 84, 89, 95, 112)

SCBL V10 (Plate 2a-b): The barely outturned rim smoothly extends from the shoulder and it is rounded at the top. The shoulder is slightly carinated and it gives the vessel a rounded profile. The only Syro-Cilician Painted ware bowl is of this variant (Plate 2b). (Catalogue #2, 4, 6-8, 11, 14, 38, 43, 45, 85, 88, 91, 98, 106, 119)

SCBL V11 (Plate 2c): The outturned rim flares from the slightly carinated shoulder and the edge of the rim is smoothly rounded downwards. The profile gives almost a proper s-shape with its rim and shoulder and it is unusually thick in comparison to the other types. (Catalogue #90, 96)

SCBL V12 (Plate 2d): The outturned rim flares from the slightly carinated shoulder and the edge is pointing downwards. A similar pointy protrusion is also present at the top of the shoulder but the form has a rounded character in general. (Catalogue #94, 110)

SCBL V13 (Plate 2e): The rounded thick rim is smoothly rolled out from a thinner slightly carinated shoulder. (Catalogue #113)

SCBL V14 (Plate 2f): The everted rim extends from the slightly carinated shoulder and the edge of the rim is rounded. (Catalogue #10, 32, 92)

SCBL V15 (Plate 2g): The rounded rim is rolled out and it extends from a slightly carinated shoulder. (Catalogue #9, 93)

SCBL V16 (Plate 2h): The slightly out-turned rim is rounded at the top and it flares from the shoulder with a carination at a lower part. (Catalogue #31, 49, 103, 105, 108, 111, 114)

SCBL V17 (Plate 2i): The everted rim has a rounded edge and it extends vertically from the shoulder with a low carination. (Catalogue #118)

SCBL V18 (Plate 2j): The slight carination is at a lower part and the rim extends vertically from the shoulder. The edge of the rim is smoothly turned out and has a rounded character. (Catalogue #13, 42, 44, 87)

SCBL V19 (Plate 2k): The straight rim extends from a sharper and more protruded shoulder with a lower carination. The edge of the rim is extended on the outer part which makes a parallel line to the shoulder. (Catalogue #3, 97, 104)

SCBL V20 (Plate 2l): The carination is at a very lower part in comparison to the previous sub-types and the rim with an upright form is slightly outturned which has a rounded character at the top. (Catalogue #33)

SCBL V21 (Plate 2m): The straight rim rounded at the top extends vertically from the shoulder with a lower and sharp carination. (Catalogue #30, 39)

SCBL V22 (Plate 2n): The flared rim has a thin edge extended outwards as parallel to the slightly carinated shoulder. (Catalogue #107)

SCBL V23 (Plate 2o): The vessel has a slightly carinated vertical form and the rim rounded at the top is slightly out-turned. (Catalogue #50)

SCBL V24 (Plate 2p): The rolled-out rim extends from a sharp, low carinated shoulder. It has a single raised ridge right below the rim. (Catalogue #120)

As the second most abundant shape, jars were also classified under different variants according to the differences at the rim profiles.

GLJA V1 (Plate 5a): The everted rim has a square-like character with its edges but the top of the rim is slightly rounded. The representative of this variant is the only complete jar coming from the context and it has a flat base. The shoulder was decorated with a wavy comb incision between two horizontally straight comb incised lines. (Catalogue #20)

GLJA V2 (Plate 5b): The swollen rim has a sharp edge on the outer part which has a triangular character. The representative of this variant has two horizontal incisions below the rim and horizontally straight comb incised decoration on the shoulder. (Catalogue #21)

GLJA V3 (Plate 5c): The flared rim has a pointy edge and it is slightly extended downwards. (Catalogue #132)

GLJA V4 (Plate 5d-e): The rim flares from the shoulder and it is slightly folded over. It has a rounded edge. The first example of this type (d) has very visible wheel marks on the surface as if they were intended as decoration. The other representative of this rim type (e) has two grooves at the top of the rim. (Catalogue #62, 137)

GLJA V5 (Plate 5f-g): The rim flares from the quite distinct neck join and it is rounded at the edge. One of the jars representative of this type (f) has a raised ridge on the neck join and the other one (g) has a horizontally straight comb incision on the shoulder. (Catalogue #22, 135, 142)

GLJA V6 (Plate 5h): It is very similar to GLJA V5 but the flared rim is slightly extended downwards. (Catalogue #64, 68, 133, 139)

JAR V1 (Plate 5i): The rim flares from the distinct long neck with a concave shape. The groove on the outer part makes the rim a double rim and there is only one example of this type. (Catalogue #134)

JAR V2 (Plate 5j): The rim flares from the distinct neck and has a square edge. The neck's shape as its being cylindrical or concave is unknown since it is too fragmentary (Catalogue #140)

JAR V3 (Plate 5k): The straight rim extends from the neck and it is slightly inturned. The top of the rim is rounded and the outer part is extended with a rounded edge. (Catalogue #65)

JAR V4 (Plate 5l): The rim extends vertically and the outer part is slightly folded over in a way making a triangular shape with a quite sharp edge extending parallel to the lower part of the vessel. (Catalogue #138)

JAR V5 (Plate 5m): The flared rim has a pointy edge extending downwards. (Catalogue #67, 141)

JAR V6 (Plate 5n): The flared rim is slightly out-turned and the top of the rim is rounded. (Catalogue #136)

JAR V7 (Plate 5o): The thick rim is smoothly outturned and it is rounded at the top. (Catalogue #63, 66)

Although not as abundant as SCBL and Jars, subtypes are also defined for the Cooking Pot repertoire of the 33.32 context because the variants of this vessel type is

mostly known from the well excavated Late Bronze Age layers of Tell Atchana and as being the earliest material revealed so far, this research proposes new variants for the Middle Bronze Cooking Pot repertoire of Tell Atchana:

CKP V1 (Plate 4f): Deep cooking pot has a rounded shape. The everted rim is rounded at the edge and it extends from a very short neck. It is slightly carinated on the shoulder and it has a rounded base. The representative of this type is the only complete cooking pot coming from the context. It has impressed rope decoration on the carinated shoulder and has two knob handles projecting from the rim. (Catalogue #17)

CKP V2 (Plate 4g): Another type with knob handles. The rim is folded over with a rounded edge. It lacks a distinct neck. The only example of this type has an applied horizontal band on the shoulder with finger marks creating round and square-like knobs. (Catalogue #60)

CKP V3 (Plate 4h): The thickened rim is rounded at the top and it is slightly out-turned. The knob handles are more extended from the rim and have sharper edges. The vessel lacks a distinct neck. The only representative of this type has an applied horizontal band without any decoration. (Catalogue #61)

CKP V4 (Plate 4i): The round rim is smoothly rolled out. The form lacks a distinct neck and has straight body wall. (Catalogue #126)

CKP V5 (Plate 4j): The round rim is rolled out but the difference from CKP V4 is that the rim is attached to the straight body wall. It lacks a neck part. (Catalogue #18, 130)

CKP V6 (Plate 4k): The rim extends vertically from the body wall and it is smoothly folded over. The rim has a pointy edge giving the rim a triangular character. The form lacks a distinct neck and has straight body wall. (Catalogue #127, 128)

CKP V7 (Plate 4l): The everted rim extends from a very short neck. The outer part of the rim is rounded and the pointy edge is slightly extended downwards. (Catalogue #129, 131)

CKP V8 (Plate 4m): The rim is flared and it is rounded at the outer part. Since it is only preserved as a rim fragment, the whole form is not known. (Catalogue #19)

CHAPTER V

COMPARATIVE MATERIAL

This chapter compares the architecture and pottery assemblage of the 33.32 context both with those of previously published Alalakh material and other sites from various regions. The first part will be the architectural comparisons; other than the contextual and architectural parallels from other sites, the Level VII and Level IV Palaces will be the main focus within Alalakh. Following that, the previously published pottery of Alalakh will be examined to seek a possible Woolley level that is parallel to the 33.32 context. Moreover, selected sites from different regions that are contemporary with Alalakh will constitute an essential aid to place Alalakh material within a more general framework with their already studied and published pottery. Wrapping up all of the above, and also including the C¹⁴ results from the context given in Chapter IV, there will be a discussion section at the end of the chapter regarding the possible period that the 33.32 context material can be dated to.

5.1 Architectural Comparisons

5.1.1 Architectural Comparisons within Alalakh

The first and most suitable comparison to interpret the architecture and function of this room is the previously excavated Alalakh Level VII and Level IV

Palaces. Along with these two, there are also some architectural examples from the pre-VII levels. However, since the exposures of these were very limited in comparison to the Level VII and Level IV palaces, due to their being from the Stratification Pit, we do not have much architecture for comparison. However, there is still an architectural element worth mentioning. The horseshoe shaped hearth/oven, similar to that of 33.32 context, was revealed from an earlier phase of Alalakh, the Level XIII house; it was attached to the wall from its right prong and cooking pots were placed on it (Woolley 1955: 15-6, figs. 5 and 7).

Another example of the horseshoe shaped hearth was found in the kitchen/workshop context in Square 45.71 of Area 3, which was exposed during the renewed excavations at Tell Atchana (Fig. 5.1). This context comes from the local phase 2 of the square which is located on the southeastern slope of Tell Atchana. Due to the finds unearthed from this space, it was interpreted as an open-air courtyard which functioned as a workshop in which both craft production and cooking were carried out (Yener and Yazıcıoğlu 2010: 26). In contrast to the 33.32 hearth, which has an opening on its front part, the hearth from this kitchen/workshop has a closed shape and is higher in elevation (ca. 40cm). Another difference of this hearth is a long armature feature right next to it and its being of hard-fired clay suggests that it was repeatedly exposed to the fire (Yener and Yazıcıoğlu 2010: 27). The pottery assemblage recovered from this context was late MB and it was suggested to be representing the terminal Middle Bronze phase at Alalakh which is tentatively parallel to Woolley Level VIB (Mullins 2010: 51, 55, 61). This would indicate that the use of hearths with this particular shape was preferred at Alalakh throughout the Middle Bronze Age occupation levels.

More proper architectural comparisons come from the well known two palaces of Alalakh. To begin with, the southeastern section of the Level VII palace (Fig.5.2) was identified by Woolley as the residential quarter, separated from the official quarter. The row of rooms against the east wall of the palace, which is also the city wall integrated into the palace, is named by Woolley ‘a long partitioned corridor’ (Woolley 1955: 93). However, rather than being a corridor, two of these rooms, 29 and 33, could possibly be the kitchen of the palace. Although the detailed context of these rooms is not available to us, such as whether they have hearths or ovens, and although the word ‘kitchen’ is not used for any of the palace rooms, room 29 is the only room that is recorded as containing cooking pots and room 33 is named as a store room for the pottery (Woolley 1955: 105).

Although it considerably postdates the 33.32 context, the Level V/IV Palace (Fig.5.3) offers even more thorough comparisons due to the available contextual information of the rooms. In Room C1, a square hearth with burning marks on and around it and also various complete and nearly complete vessels were recorded (Woolley 1955: 128). Another one, Room D1, that was linked to the former room is recorded as having three circular clay ovens, a shallow open clay hearth and two terra-cotta fragments forming a fireplace along with a clay cooking tripod and various cook pot sherds (Woolley 1955: 129). Similarly, Room C5 also revealed a square hearth, a circular oven and cooking-tripod reminiscent to those of D1. In addition, the smaller room C6 linked to Room C5 was recorded as having a large storage jar *in situ* and also various large jars (Woolley 1955: 129-130). Combining all available information would suggest that the southern part of the Level V/IV Palace, which is different in orientation from the later ‘Niqme-pa’ wing (Level IV

only), could have been the row of rooms used for the food preparation activities and storage in the palace.

Considering the inference of the Palace VII rooms mentioned above being a row of food-related spaces, the kitchen context from square 33.32 then would be an earlier example of the same pattern and similarly, the eastern wall of the 33.32 kitchen area appears to be both the wall of the palace and of the city, according to its thickness.

Not only the east wall but other walls of the 33.32 context invite more interpretation. The map with the location of the 33.32 context within the Level VII palace (Fig.4.2) shows that the wall thicknesses of the former are comparable to those of the northern and central parts of the Level VII palace, although the earlier palace to which 33.32 context belongs is narrower on the west side, and there is a street where later in Level VII the palace extends to that area. In addition to the exposed stairs and staircases, the wall thickness is supplementary evidence for the Level VII palace's having an upper storey. The southern part of the palace is particularly interpreted as being single storey rooms since their walls are not as thick as the rest of the building (Woolley 1955: 93-94). Referring to that, the 33.32 palace kitchen context with comparably thick walls could also have an upper storey.

5.1.2 Architectural Comparisons from Other Sites

Other than the Alalakh palaces, there are also good comparisons for the 33.32 context from other sites. One of them was exposed and carefully studied at Kinet Höyük in eastern Cilicia. The MB II Building on the East terrace of the mound is a

good comparison for showing a similar tradition to that of Alalakh Level VII Palace and the 33.32 context (Fig.5.4). The building has two wings that are separated from each other with a wall between two distinct spaces. These two wings are thought to be different in function and thus not directly related each other. The east wing of the building is a row of seven rooms which are interpreted as areas for food preparation and serving, whereas the west wing is an open-space workshop area (Gates 2000: 80-81, Akar 2006: 7-11). In regard to its 1 meter thickness and the inner buttresses reinforcing it, the eastern wall of the building is thought to be the fortification wall of the city. Having a row of rooms related to food preparation against the defense wall integrated into the building is a pattern seen in the Alalakh Level VII palace and 33.32 context. As already investigated as his Master's thesis, Murat Akar (2006) pointed out that incorporating the city walls into the palaces is a common tradition seen at sites throughout the Levant such as Alalakh, Ebla, Umm el-Marra, and Qatna.

The horseshoe shaped hearths that are identical to the one in the kitchen/workshop context from Alalakh Area 3 (Fig.5.1) are known from Ebla, in the Western Fort in Area V (Fig.5.7) as well as in the domestic quarter exposed in the southern part of the Lower Town in Area B, both dated to the end of MB II period (Peyronel and Spreafico 2008). This specific hearth type is called a *tannur* and its closed shape was preferred to improve the combustion. In addition to that, similar to the one in kitchen/workshop of Alalakh, Ebla *tannurs* have a thinner wall and are higher in elevation in comparison to the 33.32 hearth. However, similar to the 33.32 context, the most common vessel type that was unearthed around these *tannurs* is globular cooking pots with rounded thin bases, the size of which indicate that these cooking pots were placed on top of them (Peyronel and Spreafico 2008: 241).

The use of portable ovens and hearths with a horse-shoe shape was also known in the Bronze Age site of Marki-*Alonia* in Cyprus (Frankel and Webb 1996: 181-186). The specific type of horseshoe shape ovens made of unbaked or low-fired clay is called a 'hob' and as well as the portable ones, these are also found as permanent installations reminiscent of the 33.32 context hearth (Fig.5.6). However, they differ from the 33.23 example in various ways. Marki hobs have extra knobs at the top of the arms and the center piece and are mostly decorated with various incision motifs. In addition, the permanent hobs of Marki are found placed within another circular hearth.

In addition to the examples from areas west of Atchana, there are also comparisons for the 33.32 context from the east. The 'kitchen' at Tell al-Rimah (Fig.5.5) dating to the Late Old Babylonian Period, was exposed in Level 6a of the Palace Area (Postgate, Oates and Oates 1997: 34-36). It could be regarded as the best comparative material to the 33.32 context for having numerous similarities in its features. The space consists of a single room with a single passageway. There are three mud brick benches: two of them right against the Northern wall (numbers 7 and 8 on the plan), the second is against the opposite wall (number 2). The latter bench (number 2) has a smaller section (number 3) a little higher. Similar to the 33.32 context, the al-Rimah kitchen also contained *in situ* pottery that had been built in place: the vessels marked as A and M were set into the benches they were found whereas Vessels E and K were only partially set into the benches. Other than the benches, there is also another vessel L, set into the floor of the room. In front of the benches 2 and 3 is a rectangular brick hearth with two mud bricks right in front of it,

possibly having the same function as in the Alalakh context, to protect the floor from the fire.

A burnt kitchen context exposed in Level IVa at Kilise Tepe can be regarded as another good comparison for its architecture, pottery *in situ* and other features exposed from it (Fig.5.8). The context is composed of two rooms, Rooms 41 and 42, linked to each other by a passageway. Room 42 is rectangular shape, and was in large part exposed. At the center of the room, there is a circular hearth and at the western corner, an installation with an irregular shape (Postgate 2007: 103). At the north corner, a bench along the wall that separates the two rooms had various vessels on it. There are two postholes and a few burnt timbers on the floor, leading to the interpretation of this room's being a sheltered open space rather than having a proper roof (Postgate 2007: 105).

Similar to the 33.32 context, this room slopes down to Room 42 with three steps; only a small section of this room was excavated. Along with another circular hearth in front of the western wall, there is a rectangular bench along the southern wall and another one at the northern part. Both of these benches were plastered; one had a vessel placed on it, the other one had a vessel set into it. In terms of its architecture and the arrangement of the rooms with its hearths, benches and post holes, this kitchen context is very similar to the 33.32 context.

5.2 Pottery Comparisons

5.2.1 Pottery Comparisons within Alalakh

The first comparisons for the 33.32 assemblage will be the published material from the former excavations by Woolley (1955) and especially the restudy of the Woolley Middle Bronze Age pottery by Heinz (1992). The aim of this comparison is to see whether it is possible to suggest a Woolley Level that is contemporary to the 33.32 context. Since the 33.32 context was stratigraphically sealed beneath Level VII palace, only the comparisons coming from the Levels predating Level VII will be taken into consideration.

5.2.1.1 Woolley Types

Woolley considered that there is a great continuity in the pottery shapes and technique of Atchana from Level XVI to VIII (1955: 304). This statement illustrates the difficulty of finding the contemporary level for the 33.32 context. However, there are still good comparisons from his publication.

The relevant comparative types of Woolley are as follows:

Type 4b (Plate 11a): No certain indication of dating is given for this bowl type but the frequency chart in Woolley's publication shows that these are present from Level IV to I (1955: 332). Although it is recorded as dating to Late Bronze Age levels, this type is very similar to the shallow bowls of the 33.32 context depicted in Plate 3b-d. However since the latter examples are preserved only as rim fragments, it is not possible to know whether these are identical comparisons.

Type 23b and c (Plate 11b, c and g): This type is recorded as the most characteristic of the early types but still present from Level XVII to VIIIb and the undecorated versions are recorded as more common in levels IX and X (Woolley 1955: 323). The S-curve bowls with various different rim shapes depicted in Plates 1 and 2 are similar to Type 23c in terms of overall shape with outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder. SCBL V23 is more like type 23b with its slightly outturned rim and low carination. In terms of decoration, the only SCBL of Syro-Cilician Painted ware also has the same decoration with the ones depicted in Woolley's type. The bowl depicted in Plate 11g is from Level XII.

Type 70 (Plate 11d): This type is recorded as the standard type for the early periods and is always painted with various motives. According to Woolley's account, it is remarkably popular from Level XVI to XII but continued into Level VIII (1955: 326). The single narrow necked pitcher from the 33.32 context (Plate 6c-d) is very similar to this type in terms of its shape and the eye decoration. The spout part of the pitcher depicted in Plate 12d is a good comparison for the same pitcher from the context. It has the similar eye decoration with three horizontal lines frames the eye depiction. This sherd is from Level XVIIb.

Type 152b (Plate 11e): This type is recorded as 'basin for storage or infant burial' decorated with applied rope decoration (Woolley 1955: 331). Although the base of the depicted jar is rounded and even pointy, the flanged rim and the rope decoration are similar to the Hemispherical Pithoid Jars of the 33.32 context depicted in Plate 7a and b. No information of specific levels is given in the explanation of the type, however, again in the frequency chart in Woolley's publication a single example is given as coming from Level X (1955: 339).

Type 153 (Plate 11f): This type of cooking pot is similar to the fragmentary cooking pot from the 33.32 context depicted in Plate 4g, in terms of the rim and shoulder shape. Woolley's account on this type is that it has 'impressed marks giving the effect of rope decoration' (1955: 331), which is completely identical to the only complete example coming from the 33.32 context, depicted in Plate 4f. For this type, Woolley notes that no complete or nearly complete cooking pots were found from the earlier levels, thus, it is recorded as not occurred before Level VII, however, its existence in the 33.32 context proves that this type existed before Level VII.

In addition to the specific types, there are also painted sherds with similar motives to those of 33.32 context. The bird motif with a hatched body from Levels XI and XII depicted in Plate 12a and b is almost identical to that of Alalakh context. Similar to those, the bird with hatched body depicted in Plate 12c comes from Level XIV and the depiction of the tail is comparable to the Syro-Cilician Painted sherd depicted in Plate 10c. This might indicate that the depiction of this type was a common preference during earlier levels of Alalakh.

5.2.1.2 Heinz Catalogue

The information from the Woolley's publication unfortunately remains very limited, thus the available evidence does not help to give a tentative Woolley date for the 33.32 context. The pottery catalogue by Heinz stands as a more helpful reference since she presents more examples of specific types and the whole assemblage is presented according to the levels where they were exposed. As stated above, the attention will be to the levels predating Woolley Level VII. The selected comparisons from the catalogue of Heinz are given in Plates 13 to 16.

As pointed out by Woolley, the homogeneous character of the pottery from Level XVI up to Level VIII is again seen in Heinz's catalogue, and comparative material for the pottery of the 33.32 context can be found from various levels. Therefore, for the best fit, the pottery from each level that is comparable to the ones from 33.32 context will be examined separately as an assemblage. To begin from the latest level, there are quite good comparisons from the Level VIII assemblage. The Syro-Cilician bowl (Plate 13a) is very similar to the only Syro-Cilician S-curve bowl coming from the 33.32 context, in terms of both decoration and the shape profile. The fragmentary jar rim (Plate 13b) has a very similar character to JAR V7 of 33.32 context (Plate 5o) and also another fragmentary pot rim that is rolled out and attached to the body wall (Plate 13c) is almost identical to CKP V5 of 33.32 context (Plate 4j). In addition to the smaller vessels, the storage jar fragment in Plate 13d is similar with the grooved rims of Hemispherical Pithoid Jars in the 33.32 context (Plate 7a-c).

When we look at the assemblage of Level IX, there are a considerable number of examples that are comparable to the context assemblage. Especially the bowls with different rim profiles that are very good parallels to the 33.32 context are present in this level. The bowl in Plate 14c is almost identical to the complete S-curve Bowl in the 33.32 context with a thinner outturned rim and more pronounced shoulder (Plate 1f). Another parallel of this type is present in Level X (Plate 15c). The fragmentary example in Plate 14b is very similar to SCBL V1 whereas the bowl in Plate 14e is similar to SCBL V10, a subtype that was frequently found in the 33.32 context. A parallel to the S-curve Bowl with everted rim (Plate 2f) is present in Level IX (Plate 14a) and also in Level X (Plate 15a).

A very similar parallel to the single example of the Shallow Bowl with the slightly inturned hook-like rim (Plate 3a) comes from the Level IX repertoire (Plate 14f). Not only the bowls but also the jar and cooking pot fragments of the 33.32 context have good parallels in this level. The jar with narrow neck and rim with square edge (Plate 5j) can be found among jars of Level IX (Plate 14d) whereas the cooking pot fragment with everted rim (Plate 4l) is reminiscent of the one in Plate 14h, though the former one does not have any decoration. The ring base depicted in Plate 14g is also almost identical to those of the Hemispherical Pithoid Jars in Plate 7a and b, and also the base fragment in Plate 8b, with its stamped finger marks.

The Level X pottery assemblage again offers parallels to the 33.32 repertoire. Similar to Level IX, this level also has various S-curve bowls like the 33.32 context with different rims. The bowls in Plate 15b and d are good parallels for SCBL V9, another frequent subtype of S-curve Bowl in the Alalakh context (Plate 1k). Other than these, the bowl in Plate 15f is parallel to the S-curve bowl in Plate 2h and the bowl in Plate 15e is almost identical to the SCBL V21 depicted in Plate 2m, though without the raised ridge decoration above the carinated shoulder. The only Syro-Cilician krater from 33.32 context (Plate 4a) has its parallel in Level X (Plate 15g). A storage jar with grooved rim and comb incised decoration on the shoulder (Plate 15j) is similar to the Hemispherical Pithoid Jars in Plate 7b and c. The only double rim jar example of the 33.32 context (Plate 5i) has its comparative from Level X (Plate 15h), though the latter is given as a large jar whereas the one in the Alalakh context is only fragmentary, with rim and neck. Lastly, from Level X there is a good parallel to the convex jar base with a hole at the bottom (Plate 15i) which is a similar tradition found in the 33.32 context vessel bases.

The number of vessels catalogued from Level XI is very limited in comparison to the later levels. However, the decoration of a fragmentary Syro-Cilician sherd belonging to a closed shape (Plate 16a) is very similar to that of the complete pitcher of the 33.32 context (Plate 6c and d). It has similar bird/swan depictions on the shoulder band, though its body is not hatched and it is accompanied by different animal figures rather than a repetition of the same bird/swan. There are similar sets of vertical lines on the shoulder framed by horizontal lines, and the vertical wavy lines hanging from the top of the frame on the shoulder is identical to the 33.32 example.

Going down to Levels XII and XIII, good comparisons can still be found, though less than Levels VIII to X. SCBL V17 (Plate 2i) has a parallel from Level XII (Plate 16c) though the former has no decoration. The jar with everted rim and carinated body from Level XII (Plate 16e) is very similar to the Krater of 33.32 context depicted in Plate 4b. The narrow-necked pitcher with eye depiction from Level XII (Plate 16f) is another parallel to the Pitcher of the 33.32 context, though the decoration of the former is simpler in comparison to the latter and the one from Level XI. There are also a few comparisons from Level XIII: the bowl with a low carination (Plate 16b) is very similar to the one from the 33.32 context (Plate 2l). Another low carinated one with its rolled out rim (Plate 2p) has its parallel also in Level XIII (Plate 16d).

The whole pottery catalogue of Heinz predating Level VII was checked and the comparisons from various levels are marked. However, there are a few remarks that are worth pointing out before interpreting the parallels. S-profiled bowls in the whole catalogue are present from Level XV to the later periods up to Level VII; only

one sherd of Khabur Ware is present in Level X; Grey Burnished Ware and the bowls with inturned rims first appear at Level X; and the number of vessels that are of Khabur Ware and Grey Burnished Ware and the bowls with inturned rims increase in Levels IX, VIII and VII. Following these remarks, it is important to remember that the 33.32 context lacks the Khabur ware and only has a single inturned rimmed bowl fragment. Apparently, the S-curve Bowl that is the most frequent vessel type from the Alalakh context shows continuity into various Levels from XV to VII. However, when we compare the assemblage as a whole, rather than by tracing individual types separately, the most comparable assemblages are found in Levels X and IX. According to her results, Heinz marks Level X as late MB I and Level IX as mid-MBA, adding that IX shows the same characteristic with X and VIII and it is the border of Mardikh IIIA and IIIB level at Ebla (1992).

5.2.2 Comparisons from Other Sites

The homogeneity of the Middle Bronze Age pottery and especially the continuity of Simple Ware S-curve bowls and Syro-Cilician Ware throughout the early levels of Atchana are already detected by both Woolley and Heinz. This fact quite complicates the aim of dating the Alalakh context. For this reason, the next step will be to find pottery parallels from selected other sites based on different regions in Syria and southern Anatolia.

5.2.2.1 The Idlib Region

For comparative studies, the ancient site of Ebla (modern Tell Mardikh), Hama and also Tell Afis are chosen as representative of the Idlib Region. The Middle Bronze Age city of Ebla is dated to the Old-Syrian Period by Paolo Matthiae (1980)

and the pottery of this period is carefully studied by Lorenzo Nigro (2002a; 2002b) by taking the Hama pottery (Fugmann 1958) into account as well. Based on the pottery, the two main periods, Mardikh IIIA and IIIB, of the Old Syrian Period are further divided into sub-periods by Lorenzo to detect hallmarks of each sub-period. In this regard, Mardikh IIIA1 is MB IA, Mardikh IIIA2 is MB IB whereas Mardikh IIIB1 is MB IIA and Mardikh IIIB2 is MB IIB (Nigro 2002a; 2002b). The pottery and the trends representing each period will be taken into consideration to tentatively date the Alalakh context.

To begin with, the Hama example of the slightly carinated bowl (Plate 17d) is almost identical to the S-curve bowls of Alalakh context with high carination and outturned rims (Plate 1b and c). Similarly, a parallel to the S-curve bowl with lower sharp carination (Plate 1j) is present at Ebla as well (Plate 17a). The same type but rather with simple vertical rim (Plate 17c) is parallel to the SCBL V21 of 33.32 context whereas the one in Plate 17b is similar to SCBL V11, though the Alalakh examples lack the thick body walls of the Ebla ones. This type of bowl is regarded as present at MB IA but also continued into MB IB of Ebla (Nigro 2002a: 102-104). In addition to the carinated ones, the shallow bowls without carination (Plate 17e and f) which are similar to the Conical Shallow Bowls of the Alalakh context (Plate 3b-c) are also included in the Mardikh IIIA pottery horizon of Ebla (Matthiae 1980). Among the 'deep bowls' of Ebla, the equivalent of the kraters of the Alalakh context, there are also good comparatives. The medium-sized vessel (Plate 17g) from the Mardikh IIIA period is similar to the only complete krater of the Alalakh context (Plate 4e) with its flanged rim and the horizontally incised comb decoration on the shoulder. Another 'deep bowl' (Plate 17h) coming from Mardikh IIIA 1 is also a

good comparative to the fragmentary krater of Alalakh depicted in Plate 4c, with its similar flanged rim grooved at the top and the horizontally comb incised decoration on the shoulder.

Not only the open or intermediate forms, but the closed shape jar and storage jar repertoire of Ebla have various parallels to those of the Alalakh context as well. The necked small jar with double rim and slender body (Plate 18a) dating to the Mardikh IIIA 2 is a good comparison in terms of the neck and rim shape to the only double rim jar example of the Alalakh context (Plate 5i). Jars with double rim are present in the Mardikh IIIA period but they become more common in the successive Mardikh IIIB period (Nigro 2002a: 106-110). Similarly, another vessel of Mardikh IIIB 1 period (Plate 18b) has a tall neck and squared rim comparable to the Alalakh one (Plate 5j). Another jar rim fragment from the Mardikh IIIA phase (Plate 18c) is also present in the Alalakh context (Plate 5l). The cooking pots of Ebla (Plate 18i) show continuity from MB I levels to its MB II ones (Nigro 2002a; 2002b) and the type with rounded base and rounded shape with a slight carination on the body is very similar to the complete example from Alalakh context (Plate 4f) although the latter has a different rim shape and lug handle extending from the rim.

The 'large jars' of Ebla, equivalent to the hemispherical pithoid jars of the Alalakh context (Plate 7a and b), are another vessel type continuously used throughout both phases of the Old Syrian Period. This type of storage jar with flanged rim mostly grooved at the top is present in Mardikh IIIA (Plate 18g) as well as in Mardikh IIIB (Plate 18e) (Matthiae 1980). A complete example of this type (Plate 18j) is similar to the hemispherical pithoid jars of the Alalakh context in terms of shape, rim and the decoration. Although the applied rope decoration is preferred in

the Alalakh ones, the one from Ebla has a combination of applied rope and both horizontally and wavy incised comb decoration on its shoulder. The globular pithoid jars of the Alalakh context (Plate 7e and f) also find their parallels in Ebla's MB I pottery horizon (Plate 18d and f). The globular pithoid jar type with more slender body (Plate 7d), on the other hand, finds its parallel in the MB II horizon at Ebla (Plate 18h).

Tell Afis from the same region has a few good parallels as well, especially from its MB I levels. The slightly carinated bowl with everted rim coming from Area B (Plate 17j) is considered representative of the EB IVB period (Mazzoni et al. 2002) which is similar to the S-curve bowls of the Alalakh context with rounded profile whereas the low carinated bowl from the same area (Plate 17i) is included in the MB IB horizon. The cooking pot of Tell Afis exposed from Area E of the mound (Plate 17l) is parallel to the complete cooking pot of the Alalakh context and is included in the repertoire of the transition period from Early Bronze to Middle Bronze Age. Lastly, the jar neck with double rim (Plate 17k) that is almost identical to the Alalakh one (Plate 5i) is a member of the MB IB horizon but it continued into MB IIA as well (Mazzoni et al. 2002).

5.2.2.2 Cilicia

For Cilicia, the most comparable site for its material is Tarsus-Gözlükule. The site was previously excavated and the material was published by Hetty Goldman (1956), however, the Middle and Late Bronze Age architecture of the site was studied and the pottery of the same periods was catalogued and reexamined by Dorothy Slane (1987). Especially the A.I Level of Tarsus, which is representative of

the early part of Middle Bronze Age, has various close parallels to the pottery assemblage of the Alalakh context.

To begin with, the shape and rim profiles of the ‘handle-less carinated’ and ‘one-handled carinated bowls’ of Tarsus are almost identical to the various S-curve bowls of Alalakh, though none of the Alalakh bowls has any kind of handle. The bowl with rounded carination (Plate 19a) is parallel to the same type of Alalakh bowl (Plate 2d) but the Tarsus one has various grooves on its shoulder. The Tarsus bowl with rounded outturned rim (Plate 19b) is an exact parallel to the SCBL V15 of the Alalakh context. Another bowl with a thicker character (Plate 19c) is very similar to the less frequently find SCBL V11 of the 33.32 context. The bowl in Plate 19d is very similar to the complete bowl (Plate 1h) of the Alalakh context but the latter is a deeper bowl.

The slightly carinated bowl type of Alalakh (Plate 2j) with its vertical shoulder and rounded outturned rim finds its very close parallel in the Tarsus repertoire, again without the handle (Plate 19e). Another complete S-curve bowl of Alalakh (Plate 1f) with its pronounced shoulder, thinner rim and ring base has a very similar parallel in Tarsus (Plate 19f) but the former example is without any painted decoration as are the majority of the bowls from the Alalakh context. Lastly, another complete bowl type from the Alalakh context with pronounced shoulder and flared rim (Plate 1b) is comparable to the Tarsus example (Plate 19g) excluding the handle and the knob on its shoulder which is a distinct feature seen on none of the Level A.I bowls except this one.

In addition to the bowls, larger vessel types of Tarsus Level A.I are also very similar to those of the Alalakh context. The cooking pot with globular body and round base (Plate 20a) has the same shape with the complete cooking pot of Alalakh. The rim shape and the thickness is different but the Tarsus one is also with two handles, though they are rather vertical as opposed to the horizontal knob handles of Alalakh ones. Slane points out that this type of cooking pot in Tarsus is unique to the Level A.I (1987: 144). Another key pottery type for this level is the pitcher (Plate 20d) with trefoil rim, ovoid body and vertical handle from rim to the shoulder. The only decoration that is recorded for this trefoil pitcher is the two knobs on the shoulder. Although it lacks the painted decoration, in terms of the vessel shape, rim type and the decorative two knobs, it is very similar to the complete pitcher of the Alalakh context.

Finally, there are also storage jar parallels from this earlier level of Tarsus. The storage jar with its everted thick rim and slender body (Plate 20b) is comparable to the globular pithoid jar of 33.32 context with the similar shape (Plate 7d). Another storage jar with globular shoulder and everted rim (Plate 20c) shows similarity to the 33.32 globular pithoid jar depicted in Plate 7f. Both are decorated on their shoulder but the Alalakh one has an applied horizontal band decoration with diagonal incisions whereas the one from Tarsus example has a raised ridge.

Not as abundant as Level A.I but the preceding level A.II also has a few parallels for the 33.32 context. The bowl with outturned rim and lower carination on the shoulder (Plate 19h) is a very close example to the fragmentary bowl of 33.32 depicted in Plate 3i and this one is a type continued from Level A.I. The only Syro-Cilician ware bowl from the 33.32 context (Plate 2b) also finds its parallel in this

level of Tarsus (Plate 19i). Although the rim profiles are different, the rounded form and the decoration are similar: they both have two horizontal bands on the carination and vertical lines between. The dashes are at the top of the 33.32 example, whereas in the Tarsus one, they are on the interior of the rim. Similarly the bowl with low carination and slightly outturned rim (Plate 19j) has the same decoration but the shape is similar to the SCBL V20 of the 33.32 context. This type with slightly flaring rim is also present in Level A.III repertoire of Tarsus (Plate 19k) but in contrast to the undecorated Atchana example, the Tarsus one has a painted decoration.

Although the shapes, sizes and decorations are different, two Syro-Cilician pitchers from the MB II Building of Kinet Höyük, which was comparable to the 33.32 context in terms of its architecture, are examples for the same ‘eye pitcher’ variant of Syro-Cilician Painted Ware (Plate 20e). The presence of this particular painted ware in the MB II Building of Kinet is of great importance. Syro-Cilician Ware was previously regarded as a chronological marker for MB IIA period (Matthiae 1989, Tubb 1983); however, based on its presence in Kinet Building which is dated to late MB IIB, Marie-Henriette Gates argued that Syro-Cilician Ware is present in MB IIB, as well as MB I, and therefore it should not be regarded as a chronological indicator (2000: 85-87; 2011: 187).

However, the motifs of the Syro-Cilician Ware could be used as chronological indicator: the animal figures placed between horizontal bands as metopes are typical of MB I and such examples from Kinet Höyük were indeed excavated from two layers predating the occupation layer of MB II building (Gates 2011: 186). Referring to this, the single complete pitcher with swan figure (Plate 6c and d) and the fragment with possible animal feather (Plate 10c) coming from 33.32

context, if not heirlooms, would suggest a MB I date for this kitchen. As already mentioned previously, this pattern is seen at Alalakh as well and animal motifs are more common in the earlier levels.

5.2.2.3 The Khabur Region

When we look at the Khabur Region pottery in general, it is quite different from the Alalakh examples both in terms of shape and style. One particular disparity is the dominance of a particular painted pottery style, Khabur Ware, which we lack in the 33.32 context. However, we do have some shape comparisons in the Early Bronze and Middle Bronze Age repertoire of the sites in the Khabur Region.

To begin with, the pottery of Tell al-Rimah revealed from the Late Babylonian kitchen context that was mentioned as a comparative for the 33.32 context have some common characteristics in terms of shape and decoration. The deep bowl (Plate 21a) with incised and raised decoration on its shoulder is a comparison to the large complete krater of Alalakh context (Plate 4e) in terms of the shape but the decoration of the latter seems simpler in comparison to the densely decorated al-Rimah one. Larger jars but still named as ‘deep bowls’ of the Old Babylonian period of al-Rimah also have common features with the pithoid jars of Alalakh context.

The ‘hemispherical deep bowl’ from the same al-Rimah kitchen context (Plate 21b) is parallel to the hemispherical pithoid Jar of 33.32 context found on the floor of Room A (Plate 7a), in terms of the shape, the flanged rims grooved at the top and the ring base. However, the decoration on the shoulder of the al-Rimah one has two horizontal ribs and incised wavy decoration between them as opposed to the

applied rope decoration of the Alalakh pithoid jar. The pierced hole at the bottom of the jar is present in the al-Rimah one, which is also found in the globular pithoid jars of the 33.32 context. The globular pithoid jar with a more slender body (Plate 7d) is also found in the al-Rimah Old Babylonian repertoire though the latter is decorated on its shoulder (Plate 21c). The mentioned vessels are included in the MB II horizon of the Khabur region (Postgate, Oates and Oates 1997; Faivre and Nicolle 2007).

Another site from the Khabur region, Tell Mohammed Diyab, has a few comparisons for the 33.32 context pottery. The bowl with flared rim (Plate 21e) that is parallel to the S-curve bowls of Alalakh is a common type in the Early Bronze Age pottery of the site (Fortin 2007). In the following Middle Bronze Age, the krater with its flanged rim (Plate 21f) is similar to the hemispherical pithoid jars of Alalakh though the preferred decoration is horizontal comb incised lines composing two thick lines of band. This form comes from Tell Mohammed Diyab Level 5 and is recorded as a common type continued into the MB IB repertoire (Faivre and Nicolle 2007). The bowls of Tell Mohammed Diyab are different from the ones of the 33.32 context in general, especially the high carinated S-profiled ones but the 33.32 bowl with the low carination (Plate 21) has a parallel at Level 5 of the site, again included in the MB IB repertoire, although its long vertical shoulder is densely decorated with incised lines (Plate 19d).

The site of Chagar Bazar is another Khabur region site having various parallels to the pottery of the 33.32 context. The recent excavations at the site (McMahon, Tunca and Bagdo 2001) revealed a few parallels as well as the earlier excavations conducted by Mallowan (1936; 1937) from its levels 1 and 2, dated to late Early Bronze Age and Middle Bronze Age. The bowls with outturned rims

similar to the S-curve bowls of Alalakh were found at Chagar Bazar in the Late Early Bronze and early Middle Bronze levels (Plate 22b-c). The ‘deep bowl’ (Plate 22a) coming from the Area A of the new excavations is also dated to the early 2nd millennium BC and it is reminiscent of the large and complete krater of the 33.32 context (Plate 4e).

The vessel with rounded form (Plate 22d), a parallel to the complete cooking pot of the 33.32 context (Plate 4f), is included in the late EBA repertoire and absent in the following MBA (Mallowan 1936: 32). The globular jar with painted and ribbed decoration on its shoulder (Plate 22e) is a common form in both early intermediate and intermediate phases of Level I and is a good parallel to the complete globular jar of the 33.32 context (Plate 5a) in terms of the form but the shape of the rim and the barely visible neck join is comparable to the rim fragment depicted in Plate 5f. Another jar type with a more slender body and very short neck (Plate 22f) is a common type in the Early Intermediate and Intermediate Level I of the site and not the whole shape but the rim profiles are comparable to the rim fragments of the 33.32 context jars depicted in Plate 5l and m.

5.2.2.4 The Euphrates Region

The pottery tradition of the Euphrates region has some similarities to those of the 33.32 context, especially in terms of using the comb incised decoration dominantly, which is regarded as the distinction of the Euphrates region from Khabur region and the Mediterranean Coast (Dornemann 2007: 44). The representative site from this region, Tell Hadidi, has various parallels for the 33.32 context in terms of shape and decoration style from its various periods. The ‘carinated bowl’ (Plate 23e)

that is parallel to the S-curve bowls that are depicted in Plate 1h and 1i are found in the Early Bronze III-IV repertoire of the site (Dornemann 1988). Another bowl (Plate 23d) parallel to the u-shaped shallow bowl of Alalakh (Plate 3g) is regarded as the continuation of the Early Bronze IV tradition into MB I (Dornemann 200: 44) whereas the slightly carinated bowl (Plate 23c) parallel to one of the most common S-curve bowl styles in the 33.32 context (Plate 1k) is found in the MB IIA repertoire. The cooking pots of the 33.32 context with rolled out rims (Plate 4i and j) find their parallels in the MB IIA repertoire of Hadidi (Plate 23f and g). The complete cooking pot of Alalakh with rounded shape and slightly carinated body, on the other hand, is found in the MB IIB period of Hadidi, although the decoration of the latter (Plate 23h) is horizontal straight comb incisions.

Although the former examples have broad similarities with that of Alalakh vessels, there is also an almost identical parallel from Tell Hadidi. The ‘globular jar’ with wavy and straight comb incised decoration on its shoulder (Plate 23a), which is part of the MB IIB repertoire, is very similar to the complete globular jar of the Alalakh context (Plate 5a, AT8381) in terms of shape and decoration, although the Hadidi one has a different rim and an extra raised ridge above the incised decoration. The ‘storage jar’ with flanged rim grooved at the top (Plate 23b) is almost identical to the Hemispherical Pithoid Jars of Alalakh context in terms of the rim profile, though a raised ridge is again a preference for the decoration. Another similarity is the intentional hole pierced at the bottom of the jars and storage jars, which is common in MB IIB but it is present in the MB I assemblage of Tell Hadidi as well (Dornemann 2007: 45).

5.2.2.5 The Lower Orontes Region

When we move even further south into inner Syria, the Early Bronze and Middle Bronze pottery assemblage of Qatna recovered from Operation J of the mound shares some common features with the pottery of the 33.32 context. As the earliest material, the ‘triangular rim bowl’ (Plate 24a) revealed from Phase 43-40 is very similar to the only shallow bowl of the Alalakh context with inturned rim (Plate 3a) and it is dated to the EB III period. The ‘rounded bowl with slightly inturned rim’ (Plate 24b) that is typical of the EB IV A period of Qatna (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008) is a parallel to the hemispherical bowl of Alalakh in terms of the vessel shape (Plate 3h), although the latter has a straight rim with rounded top.

Phases 17 and 18 of Operation J, representing the MB I period of Qatna, reveal the earliest examples of a double rim (Plate 24c) that is almost identical to the 33.32 one (Plate 5i) and this type becomes more common in the MB II period, which is also the case in Ebla (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008, Nigro 2002a; 2002b). The ‘storage jar with grooved rim’ (Plate 24f) parallel to the hemispherical pithoid jars of Alalakh and also the ‘cooking pots with everted rims’ (Plate 24g-h) that are parallels to the cooking pots of Alalakh depicted in Plate 5i and m, first appeared in the same MB I phases of Qatna and these types continued into the following MB II phases.

Of the most interest is the material revealed from the phases 16 and 15 of Qatna’s same operation. These phases are thought to be the transitional period from MB I to MB II (late MB I or early MB II) since they revealed material from both periods. Especially the ‘carinated bowls with flaring rim’ (Plate 24d-e) are similar to the SCBL V22 and the Shallow Bowl depicted in Plate 3f of the Alalakh context and

these are regarded as the representative type for phase 15 (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: 136). As mentioned previously, the ‘double rim jars’ were also revealed from this phase. What makes this transitional assemblage of great interest is its having a similar characteristic to the Alalakh context, which dominantly finds its parallels from both MB I and MB II repertoires of different sites, and it could be regarded as a justification of its being a transitional phase at Alalakh.

In addition to these vessels, an ‘eye jug’ found in Tomb 1 during the older excavations by Du Mesnil Du Buisson is a parallel to the only complete pitcher of the 33.32 context (Plate 24i). This ‘eye jug’ is different from the Alalakh example in terms of shape and painted decoration on the body. However, the eye depiction with two lines of frame and the ‘herringbone’ decoration on the handle are the common attributes that both pitchers share. Since the tomb that revealed this pitcher is a multiple tomb and it was probably used for a long period time (Bagh 2003: 224-227), as well as the fact that Syro-Cilician Ware would not stand as a distinct chronological marker (Gates 2000; 2011, Bagh 2003), it does not aid in terms of dating purposes of this research.

5.3 Discussion for the Date of 33.32 Context

To wrap up the given comparisons above, it is clear that the pottery repertoire of the Alalakh 33.32 context can be paralleled to those of various sites from different regions in southern Anatolia and Syria. For the definitive and final dating of this kitchen and its wares, the Middle Bronze Age sequence of the site has to be completed. Thus the dating of stylistic comparisons with Woolley as well as other

sites is used in this thesis provisionally. When the local ware sequence for the Middle Bronze Age is completed the exact dating will be available in the future.

Given these caveats, in terms of dating purposes, however, evidence from within the site and also that of other sites suggest different dates for the context. According to the evidence from the Idlib region, it is clear that the comparative material comes from both the MB I horizon as well as MB II. However, as it was the case in Heinz' catalogue, it is also possible to select out some representative types of each period at Ebla. Referring to Nigro's account, the 'slightly carinated bowls' which are parallel to Alalakh's S-curve bowls, are present in the earliest levels of MB I and continues into the MB II levels. However, the 'bowls with inturned rim and concave walls' are the hallmark of MB II levels and these became the most commonly produced vessel types especially in MB IIA (Mardikh IIIB1) (Nigro 2002a; 2002b). Similarly, 'jars with double rim' are present already in the MB I repertoire but become a more preferred and common type in the MB II levels. As it was pointed out before, the absence of the bowls with inturned rim and the prevalence of the S-curve bowls with their various outturned rim types in the 33.32 Alalakh context could suggest its being close in date to the Mardikh IIIA repertoire of Ebla. Similarly, the comparable evidence of Tell Afis from the same region is also mostly found in its transition period from Early Bronze to Middle Bronze and MB I repertoire. Although the 'double rim jar' was present in MB II, as was the case in Ebla, it is actually a continuation of the MB I type.

The evidence from Cilicia also favors the Alalakh context's dating to MB I based on stylistic similarity. Almost all of the comparable material of Tarsus-Gözlükule is found in its Level A.I and some of the carinated bowls are in fact

identical to S-curve bowls of Alalakh in terms of form and rim, although the absence of a handle in the Alalakh bowls and the differences in the bases certainly indicate a cultural difference. In addition to the bowls, the cooking pot and the pitcher with trefoil rim that are parallel to those of the 33.32 context are both key pottery types for Level A.I of Tarsus. Although the vessel shapes are mostly very different from Alalakh, the animal motifs of Kinet Höyük Syro-Cilician vessels are possible chronological indicators (Gates 2011: 186) and if not heirlooms, might suggest a MB I date for this kitchen.

As opposed to the suggestion from Idlib and Cilicia for a date in MB I, the range of comparable material from the Khabur region is variable and complicated. The carinated bowls from Tell Mohammed Diyab, reminiscent of Alalakh S-curve bowls, are representative of Early Bronze Age whereas the low carinated bowl and the hemispherical krater is included in the MB I repertoire. Similarly, comparable Chagar Bazar material can be found from the Early Bronze levels as well as early and mid-Middle Bronze ones. However, the comparable material from Tell al-Rimah are coming from the levels dated to the Old Babylonian period, which is dated to 1800-1600BC.

For the Euphrates, as stated before, there are also various parallels from different periods of Tell Hadidi. However, there is a fact that is important to remark: the MB I and MB IIA period of Tell Hadidi is regarded as equal to the Mardikh IIIA level of Ebla, which is representative of only MB I (Dornemann 2007: 43). This fact reinforces the idea that the Alalakh context pottery finds the appropriate parallels from MB I period in addition to the ‘high carinated bowls’ of Early Bronze III-IV period of Tell Hadidi. Moreover, the ‘bowls with inturned rims’ are present in MB

IIB repertoire of Hadidi which is in accordance with Nigro's statement as their being an indicator of MB II (Dornemann 1992; 2007).

Lastly, the Qatna evidence from the lower Orontes region is another repertoire suggesting a different range of dating. The comparative material comes from EB III-IV levels to those of MB II but as stated before, the MB II parallels are the types which appeared in MB I and continued into the MB II. Interestingly, phases 16-15 are determined as a transitional phase from MB I to MB II for revealing material characteristic of both periods, which is also the case in the Alalakh context.

Combining all these remarks with that of Heinz's catalogue that was discussed above, taking the bowls with inturned rims and the appearance of Grey Burnished Ware and the Khabur Ware as the limits, the Alalakh context would possibly be parallel to Woolley Levels IX or X, which falls into the end of MB I or first half of the MB II Period. If there are minimum 83 diagnostic sherds of the S-profiled bowls with outturning rims within the Alalakh context and it produced only a single sherd of bowl with an inturned rim, this could imply more than a coincidence. Since the bowls with inturned rims are regarded as a hallmark of the MB II in Idlib and Euphrates regions, and the S-profiled bowls with outturning rims are mostly found in the late EB and MB I repertoire of all other regions, it would suggest that this context does not fit into the MB II horizon.

However, it is important to point out that 33.32 context is a special-function space which includes a narrow range of vessel forms, as well as ware types, that were related to the specific activities carried out in this kitchen. Therefore, it could be the reason why we lack more vessel types; the bowls with inturned rim might exist at

this period of Alalakh in another part of the palace to be used for different purposes, whereas the S-curve bowls could be the standard type of vessel that was used in this kitchen for a particular purpose, which will be discussed in Chapter VI. However, since we do not have another context comparative to this kitchen, this limits the reliance on such assumption. Rather than relying on the absence of material, when referred to the evidence from both earlier material of Alalakh and the pottery comparatives from other sites, most of the parallels from the MB II repertoire of other sites are the types that appeared earlier in MB I and continued into the MB II period. Although there is a dominance of the MB I types, ignoring the MB II parallels would not be appropriate. Therefore, as was the case in Qatna Levels 16-15, I believe it would not be incorrect to date the 33.32 context to a transitional period from MB I to MB II with a great continuity of MB I tradition.

In fact, other than the relative dating from other sites, the C¹⁴ results coming from the 33.32 context which were given in Chapter IV also suggest such date. Not the dates given for the burnt timber from the floor of Room A, but the results of the seeds coming from the partial pithoid jar at the platform, which is a short-lived sample and a more secured sample type, show that it is also scientifically not impossible to date this context into the MB I or the transitional period from MB I to MB II.

CHAPTER VI

INTERPRETING THE PALACE KITCHEN CONTEXT

This chapter analyses the 33.32 kitchen to interpret this intact context in every possible aspect with the available data given in previous chapters. Initially, the artifacts representing each formation process in this kitchen are identified and the finds from the floors and those from the fills of both rooms are interpreted separately. Following that, an activity areas analysis based on the distribution of the vessel shapes within Rooms A and B points out possible different activities carried out in these two rooms. And finally, the theoretical paradigms and approaches to the pottery assemblages in various case studies that were outlined in Chapter II are considered as models for the interpretation of these rooms in terms of their functions.

6.1 Formation Processes of the 33.32 Kitchen Context

As previously stated in Chapter II, the 33.32 context is an intact context with its various finds *in situ* and therefore it stands as a rare case preserved in its *habitation stage*, because of the catastrophic fire that occurred just before it was necessarily abandoned and rebuilt. The floor and the fill layers of this context were identified separately and the pottery belong to each layer from both rooms is specified in the Pottery Catalogue (Appendix A) according to the loci and lots they

originate from. The small assemblage composed of 23 vessels in total given in Plate 38¹⁷ shows the pottery vessels found *in situ* and also other restorable pots that were selected during the Pottery Context Study. This selected group of pottery is surely representing the vessels that were used in this context before it was abandoned because of the fire, and referring to the depositional phases that were given by LaMotta and Schiffer (1999, Chapter II section 2.1 here) they belong to the *primary deposition* phase of the *habitation stage* since they were found at their locations of use. In addition to the complete vessels, there are also numerous rim, base and handle fragments which were included in the pottery catalogue. It is possible that some of them should be included in the selected pottery assemblage that represents the primary depositional phase, especially the ones revealed from the floor layers of both rooms (Locus 91 for Room A, and Loci 84 and 86 for Room B) but it was not possible to restore all vessels with their every sherd.

In addition to the restorable *in situ* vessels found in the floor layers, the fragmentary ceramics of the pottery catalogue that were revealed from the fill of both rooms (Locus 76 for Room A, and Locus 77 for Room B) could be interpreted in various ways. As previously stated, these sherds could be contemporary with the intact layer but they could also post-date the intact context and/or represent the sherds that belong to the upper layer of this context. Considering the latter possibility, it could be problematic to include these sherds in the interpretation of the intact layer. However, there is another fact which contradicts this consideration. During the Context Study of the ceramic sherds exposed from these two rooms,

¹⁷Globular Pithoid Jar AT11766 (Fig.4.15) is included in this small assemblage as well, however, since we lack the illustration of the vessel, it is not depicted in Plate 38.

many sherds belonging to the fill layers were found which join to the complete/partially complete objects, including the *in situ* ones, and also to the vessels that were not complete but exposed from the floor of both rooms. Therefore, it is not accurate to exclude all material coming from the fills in the interpretation of these two rooms. In addition to that, as previously discussed in detail in the description of this context, there is a possibility that Room A has two sub-phases, and these loose sherds could belong to the previous use phase. In this case, the loose sherds that were found as single fragments would represent the material belonging to the *secondary deposition* process (LaMotta and Schiffer 1999), being the residue of broken vessels that were mostly removed from the room prior to the destruction.

Another possible interpretation for the fragmentary ceramics could be that they were *provisional discard* material (LaMotta and Schiffer 1999) which was kept in this context on purpose to be reused as scrap material. The best evidence for such a consideration is the elevated platform next to the hearth, and the pottery coming from it (Context #128). The partial globular pithoid jar was one of the three *in situ* pithoi that were built into the platform, and it was placed in such a way that its previously broken body part was facing outwards and it was full of grains at the time of the fire (Fig.4.14). Another remark is that this big pithoid jar was placed in a lower part in the platform as if to accommodate the other two pithoid jars. When it was removed from the platform and brought to the conservation laboratory at the excavation house, it was found out that this pithoid jar was restorable but the pieces belonging to the area of the wide break were missing (Fig.4.15), whereas the other two pithoid jars were completely restored with their all sherds. This difference and the position of the break facing upwards with grains *in situ* indicated that this vessel

was broken probably in the earlier phase of the room but it was continued to be used to store ingredients in the latest phase. Thus, just because the entire vessel was not restorable does not mean it was not in use at the time of the destruction.

In addition to the partial pithoid jar, this platform revealed various other fragmentary diagnostic sherds as well. Some of these sherds were found under the complete three pithoid jars after all were removed from the platform; some were found in various stages while taking the platform down; and the others, on the other hand, were found at the very bottom of the platform when it was completely removed and the excavators had reached the floor level. These would all indicate that sherds of some previously broken vessels were reused to support the platform itself within the mud and rubble packing and the three pithoid jars were placed before it was constructed. These loose sherds, either belong to the vessels previously used in these particular rooms or brought from somewhere else, were included in the construction mud of the platform and thus are in secondary context as *provisional discard* material of this context.

To sum up, the material revealed from the 33.32 context provides all types of indicators to confirm its having all three phases of the habitation stages described by LaMotta and Schiffer (1999): some of the vessels are the ones that were used probably immediately before the context was destroyed by fire; some sherds were the refuse of vessels that had previously been broken and removed from their primary place of use; and finally, some of them were intentionally kept in this context to be reused for other purposes.

6.2 Activity Area Analysis in the 33.32 Kitchen Context

The detailed description of the context and the vessel types found within two rooms was given in Chapter IV. Given the opportunity of working with an intact context that was identified with all its formation processes, it might be possible to focus on the relationship between all artifacts coming from this context. With the detailed data given previously, I will consider whether it is possible to designate certain activity areas within this layer by looking at the distribution of specific vessel shapes and investigating whether different concentration of certain shapes can enable us to ascertain the different functions of Rooms A and B. For these two specific scopes the chart in Fig. 6.1, showing the distribution of the vessel shape types for each context, will be examined.

It is relatively easy to examine the function of the elevated platform (**L.74**) in Room A (Context #128). When this elevated platform was excavated, it was exposed with storage jars *in situ* placed into it; one of these is the hemispherical pithoid jar (Plate 7b, AT11765), the second one is the globular pithoid jar (Plate 7e, AT11792) and the last one is the partial pithoid jar (Fig.4.15, AT11766). Besides being *in situ*, what makes the latter exceptional is its being excavated with burnt grains inside (Fig.4.14). Considering the fact that this large platform was placed next to the horseshoe-shaped hearth, these pithoid jars might be the jars full of ingredients preferred by the cook and might be placed there to reach easily during the cooking process. The wide break in the rim part of the hemispherical pithoid jar (AT11765) could even be an intentional break to increase ease of access to the contents (Fig.4.13, **L.81**). Moreover, the partial pithoid jar (AT11766) was found with its cut

part facing outwards and grains inside which reinforces the function of this platform with its three pithoid jars.

However, as seen in the chart (Fig.6.1), the surface area of this platform also contained vessel shapes other than the pithoid jars, which indicate possible other usage of this feature. The presence of bowls, cooking pots and jars as well as the possible jug and pitcher sherds might indicate that the remaining part of the platform around the hemispherical pithoid jar (**L.81**, AT11765) was used as a countertop-workspace and/or an open storage place (equivalent of today's closed kitchen cabinets) to keep the vessels that were part of this kitchen for cooking and serving, since the minimum number of individual vessels (MNI)¹⁸ is considerably high for some of the vessel types (Fig.4.13).

For instance, the graph shows that bowl sherds constitute 53% (MNI: 39), whereas jars constitute 15% (MNI: 11), cooking pots 7% (MNI: 5), possible jug handles 5% (MNI: 5) and pitchers 1% (MNI: 1) of the whole vessel types coming from the platform, which could support its being a sort of ancient kitchen cabinet. Another possibility is that at least the bowls were used as scoops from the storage jars to the cook pots on the hearth; bowl found on top of the partial pithoid jar could indicate this function (Fig.4.13). However, these cannot be confirmed without checking these vessels for their residues, if any. Another reason for this variety of vessel types might be related to the apparent two-phased usage of this kitchen. Since some of these pot sherds were found under the platform and beneath the *in situ* vessels, these sherds might belong to the random broken vessels that were reused to

¹⁸ MNI's in the chart are higher than the numbers given in the complete or partially complete objects and rim fragments catalogue since these include the base fragments and also other vessels that do not give profile, therefore not included in the catalogue.

support the big pithoid jars. Considering these two theories, the actual story might be a combination of two: in its earlier phase, this area was a storage space to keep various vessels and in its later phase, this was turned into a platform to support the big pithoid jars and other vessels on the flat top, whereas the broken vessel sherds belonging to the earlier phase were used to support these jars, rather than to be thrown away elsewhere. Related to the question of detecting possible activity areas, this part of the kitchen was used for storage of foodstuffs and possibly also pottery, and in the cooking process.

The Study Context 106 is related to the pottery assemblage coming from the fill (**L.76**) and the floor (**L.91**) of Room A. The room and the pottery assemblage indicate various activities took place in this space. To begin with, as is predictable from the horse-shoe hearth, 15% of the vessels (MNI: 10) found in this room are cooking pots. Together with the platform, it can be seen that cooking processes took place in the northeastern part of the room. Other than that, like on the elevated platform, the majority of the vessels (35%, MNI: 23) coming from this room are bowls. These bowls could be an indication of preparation for serving took place in this kitchen. Jar forms constitute 26% of the vessels as the second most abundant type in this room and a minimum of 17 were detected in the contextual studies. Similar to that, 15% of the sherds are pithoid jars (MNI: 10).

The percentages indicate that, including the elevated platform, there is a considerable amount of storage taking place in this room. It is also apparent that some of the smaller jars were more movable than the huge pithoid jars and thus might have been used in serving as well. The possibility of serving activity in this room is inferred by the presence of jug handles (3%, MNI: 2), pitcher fragments (5%,

MNI: 3) and the single krater rim fragment (1%, MNI: 1) as well as the existence of two long benches in front of the southern and western walls. However, it is more likely that these benches might have been used as work space and for placing a variety of vessels and possibly other items (e.g. fuel, baskets and other perishable items) used in food preparation, cooking and storing. Considering the overall low numbers of possible serving vessels and the fact that this room has no other doors other than the passage way leading to the northern room, this room might only be used to cook on its hearth, to store ingredients that were used in the cooking process, and to prepare the food that will be served in another place.

As regards other places used for serving, the small section of Room B that was right next to Room A could be a candidate for the occurrence of such activity. As stated before, there are two reasons for such an assumption. First, the northern face of the wall separating these two rooms (L.71) is a plastered wall, which was not found in Room A, and this could be an indication of its being a more 'special' or formal room than the other one. Second, although only a small part of this room is available (ca. 9,5m²), the amount of bowls (65%, MNI: 56), which were thought to be used for eating/drinking, is almost equal to the entire amount found in the Room A (ca. 12m²) that was fully exposed.

The indication of serving in Room B is also reinforced by the presence of kraters (5%, MNI: 4), the single complete example of the large pitcher (Plate 7c-d, AT10539), and two partly restored possible juglets (Plate 7e-f). In addition, one of the kraters (Plate 4a), the complete large pitcher (AT10539) and the two possible juglets are of Syro-Cilician Painted Ware rather than unpainted Simple Ware and this would support the assertion that this room was different in terms of function and

formality from Room A. The fact that the only Syro-Cilician Painted Ware bowl recovered from 33.32 Phase 3c also comes from Room B would enhance the idea that this room could differ from Room A. However, other vessel types also found in considerable numbers makes one doubt that serving was the only function of Room B. There are a minimum of 6 cooking pots (7%), 12 jars (14%), and 7 pithoid jars (8%) exposed from this room. Since most of this room still rests under the unexcavated baulk, it is not possible to make more accurate assumptions about the function of this room.

In addition to cooking, storing and serving or preparation for serving activities carried out in the 33.32 kitchen space, there is another possible activity that should be considered in the overall interpretation. As previously mentioned in Chapter II, there are jars with pierced holes at their bottoms excavated in various parts of this kitchen context. From textual, depicted and archaeological evidence, this type of vessel is known to be used particularly for beer brewing and the presence of such vessels raises the question of whether they were also brewing beer in this kitchen. Let us look at the distribution of these vessels and consider other available data from this kitchen context as well to see whether this kitchen had the necessary equipment for beer brewing.

In Room A, one of the globular pithoid jars in the platform (Plate 7e, AT11792, Catalogue #71) and the partially complete pithoid jar coming from the floor of the room (Plate 7g, AT8388, Catalogue #25) have pierced holes at their bottoms. As known from the textual and depicted evidence, the brewing vessel was placed on top of the collector vessel to filter the beer. If we consider the fact that the elevated platform was formed in a way that the big pithoid jars were embedded into

(see Fig.4.4 and 4.6) it is not possible to assume the use of the complete pithoid jar for such an activity. It could have been used for beer brewing before it was embedded into the elevated platform but in this context, it must have been used as a storage jar and the sherds underneath it could have been placed intentionally to seal the hole at the bottom.

In contrast, the other pithoid jar from the floor of the room was clearly a freestanding object and it must have been possible to carry and change its location. In this case, this pithoid jar could have been used for beer brewing and placed on top of either the hemispherical pithoid jar in the platform (Plate 7b, AT11765, Catalogue #70) or the one coming from the floor of the room (Plate 7a, AT8382, Catalogue #24).

In addition to the evidence coming from the secure contexts, i.e. the floor of Room A and the platform, two base fragments with holes at their bottom belonging to smaller jars were recovered from the fill of the Room B (Plate 8g, Catalogue #175 and Catalogue #177). It is difficult to detect their locations of use since they are from the fill of the room but still they could be used to brew the fermented beer and the kraters could have been for consumption of the beer in Room B. Since we only have a small part of this room and its original contents, it might be more secure to consider possible beer brewing activity only in Room A which is completely exposed with its all available contents.

When we compare the 33.32 kitchen to Tell Hadidi (Gates 1988) and Tell Bazi (Zarnkow et al. 2006) contexts previously mentioned in Chapter II, the jars with holes pierced at their bottoms, the hemispherical pithoid jars as collector vessels and

the abundance of emmer wheat, which is known to be one of the grains processed for beer production, are positive indicators for beer brewing activity in this kitchen. However, the available material from this row of kitchen rooms still lacks some evidence for such an activity. In the beer production process, the malted grains in the form of beer breads first needed to be ground and heated with aromatics before they were fermented in the brewing jars. However, no grinding stones or grinding tools were recovered from both rooms of this kitchen context. In addition, as opposed to Tell Hadidi context in which the grains were exposed around the vessels rather than inside, 33.32 kitchen has the clear evidence that emmer wheat grains were stored in pithoid jar from the elevated platform (Fig.4.14).

If we had such evidence as grinding stones, we could have traced the full process of beer production: the grains stored in the pithoid jar from the platform were processed and ground, heated in the horseshoe shaped hearth next to the platform, fermented in the smaller jars with holes at the bottom, filtered into the hemispherical pithoid jars and possibly served in the kraters and consumed from the S-curve bowls recovered from this kitchen rooms. Nevertheless, since this limited space is part of multiple rooms linked to each other, this available section could still be part of beer production activity. Further analysis on residues sampled from various vessels of 33.32 context would help in understanding whether there was beer production or consumption in this kitchen.

Although it is an intact context that was destroyed by a fire, there are some drawbacks in attempting to detect specific activities within these rooms. The biggest problem is the limited space. If these rooms were reminiscent of the row kitchens exposed in the Level VII and Level IV palaces at Alalakh, then in this case we only

have part of what was once a larger facility. When the fire occurred in these rooms, it is most probable that other rooms linked to these rooms, which are probably leading the way out to a courtyard or to another space, were also burnt. If we had the whole row, it would be possible to detect different activities that took place in these rooms via a comparison of artifacts and sampling. We would be able to say that these rooms were used for multiple activities, which is the second limitation in this analysis.

When we think of today's kitchens, we use them for cooking, storage and serving, although the latter might occur in another room. Since the nature of the context itself is multi-functional, it would not be necessarily useful to try to detect distinct activity areas in this palace kitchen. However, rather than identifying specific activity areas in these two rooms, the important result is that the distribution of the vessel shapes confirmed that these two rooms were part of the kitchen rooms within this Middle Bronze palace and activities related to food preparation and storage were carried out in this section of the palace.

6.3 Foodways in the 33.32 Kitchen and Its Function

Based on the architecture, features, faunal and floral samples and the pottery assemblage of the 33.32 context it is confirmed that this space is a kitchen where food-related activities (cooking, storing and possibly serving and beer brewing) were carried out. As it was summarized in Chapter II, the ancient foodways would have various aspects; in addition to the daily-based food consumption, there were also large formalized food activities that took place occasionally, namely the feasts. The theoretical paradigms and the study cases show that the scale of meals being

prepared, the range of the consuming activity and also the rank of consumers could be inferred in the archaeological contexts by using the pottery evidence. Referring to the attributions of the 33.32 pottery assemblage, as well as the presence or absence of other types of evidence among the vessels, it might be possible to designate the function of these two rooms as to whether they were used for daily-based purposes, or large special activities such as feasts, or actually for both.

Before evaluating the available data, it is important to designate the factors which limit the interpretation of this context, related to inferring about the foodways of ancient Alalakh. As stated in Chapter II, it is crucial to have a variety of evidence types to understand the scale of food production and for whom it was prepared; along with architecture and pottery evidence, the analysis of floral and faunal remains are significant since the consumption of wild or domestic animals could point out whether it was for daily-based or occasional consumption such as feasts. Since the faunal and the floral analysis of this kitchen are not yet complete, the interpretation of such evidence will be limited. We do not yet have any other unearthed space contemporary or related to this kitchen at Alalakh, and we lack contemporary textual evidence which would mention relevant details such as the control of access to food, the rations to distribute it, recipes for the royal family's meals or wider consumption activities such as feasts. In addition to the textual evidence, we also lack any pictorial evidence such as seals, plaques or wall painting which would depict a feast scene. Therefore, an accurate inference related to the foodways at this Middle Bronze Age Alalakh palace will be limited and the interpretation will be based mainly on the pottery, the presence and absence of objects revealed with the vessels, and also the very preliminary results of the faunal and floral remains in the kitchen.

Let us first consider the architecture and the scale of food preparation in the 33.32 context. Since it is only Room A that is fully excavated and revealed the material and space to prepare the food and cook it, the smaller excavated portion of Room B will not be considered for this process. Room A has a single horseshoe shaped hearth, and right next to it is the platform where the storage jars were placed as well as other types of vessels. This could indicate that only one person was working in the kitchen to cook the food; he/she was kneeling, squatting, or sitting in front of the hearth and reaching to the platform to take the ingredients from the large jars. In a kitchen that was used for the preparation of food for wider consumption activity, we would probably expect more than one hearth or at least portable hearths to cook more food.

In terms of the food that was prepared in this kitchen and the way it was cooked, let us now refer to the types of food cooking that were outlined in the article by Atalay and Hastorf (2006). As they point out, baking and roasting would require an enclosed space whereas boiling and grilling would not necessitate such conditions (2006: 306-310); therefore, since the only cooking facility in this kitchen is the large open horseshoe shaped hearth, we cannot identify that baking and roasting would be taking place in this room. Grilling would require a griddle to place over the open fire. However, no ceramic cooking utensils were found in this kitchen other than the cooking pots. As for the range of prepared food and cooking techniques, the only vessel type made of cook ware in this kitchen are the cooking pots with or without lug handles; we do not have any convex, flat or ring base fragments that are of cookware, the presence of which would suggest that there were some sort of frying

pans in the kitchen to cook meat. Therefore, I suggest that the only way of cooking in this kitchen room was boiling the food in the rounded cooking pots.

As for what they were eating, the preliminary results of floral evidence suggest a concentration of emmer wheat; other cereals have not been identified yet (pers. comm. Emel Oybak Dönmez). The faunal remains are mainly domestic sheep, goat and cattle. The platform also produced a few pieces of freshwater clams, fish and snails. Since no marks of butchering or any other processing that were observed by Atalay and Hastorf (2006) were identified on the bones revealed from this kitchen, the foods contained mentioned types of meat and emmer wheat must have been boiled together as stew, which is already known to be part of the ancient Mesopotamian menu (Bottéro 1985: 38-39; 2004: 45, Limet 1987: 139). As previously mentioned, the emmer wheat could have been used for beer making as well.

After interpreting the methods of cooking and the possible meals that were cooked in this kitchen, it is worth mentioning the scale of food that was prepared. At this point, let us refer to the criteria suggested by Dabney, Halstead and Thomas (2004) to ascertain whether the pottery assemblage of this kitchen is adequate to provide a large scale food consumption event. There are a restricted number of vessel types in this kitchen compared to the known range of shapes in the Alalakh Levels X-IX; the most abundant vessel type is the small S-curve bowl which has been interpreted as used to consume food and drink; most of the pottery in the 33.32 Rooms A and B are without any paint or incised decoration and although decorative vessels could be included in the feast equipment, it is not a necessity. These criteria could be observed in the pottery assemblage of this kitchen but there are also other

conditions to consider as indicative of possible feast activity; as previously mentioned above, this kitchen lacks the necessary equipment to prepare food on a large scale and there is only one hearth and one type of cooking ware vessel rather than a variety of cooking vessels would be likely be needed in the preparation and serving of a feast; jugs (we can also include pitchers and juglets here) are necessary for serving but we only have one complete pitcher and the other sherds related to jugs or pitchers are scattered and they do not represent an abundant vessel type in this kitchen; and lastly, the feast-related vessels such as kraters and eating dishes should be oversized but when we think of bowls, kraters, pitcher and juglets of this kitchen, it is hard to argue that these were oversized vessels. The main ambiguity at this point is the lack of any other contemporary Alalakh kitchen or food process context that we can compare the sizes of vessels to, as was the case in the study of Blitz (1993).

Other than the criteria that were created for the Mycenaean feasts (Dabney, Halstead and Thomas 2004), if we refer to the evidence from Çatalhöyük (Atalay and Hastorf 2006) which was used to infer feasts, it is also not possible to suggest that this kitchen was used for the preparation of a large scale food consumption activity; at Çatalhöyük the wild species were detected as being the feast meal to serve large scale of people since they are the largest animals. However, the faunal remains revealed from the kitchen belong to mostly domestic animals, rather than wild ones. Gathering all available evidence and their interpretations discussed above, I would suggest that this kitchen does not have either a suitable space or sufficient equipment to fulfill the preparation of a large scale consumption activity.

Since the possibility of feast preparation can be excluded for this context, this kitchen could be considered as the part of the palace in which one aspect of daily-based food preparation was carried out, namely, gruels and stews. Referring to the same available data, it may be possible to ascertain for whom the food was prepared. As discussed in the Activity Area Analysis section, the majority of the vessels from this kitchen are small plain S-curve bowls which would suggest that there must have been a distribution, if not serving and consumption, in or near this kitchen.

When we look at the shapes of the S-curve bowls, as various subtypes were suggested in this thesis in Chapter IV, there is not a standard S-curve bowl shape. Moreover, the rim diameters of these bowls (see Appendix A, the Pottery Catalogue) average from 14 cm to 18 cm, although a few have rim diameters as wide as 19 cm to 22 cm and as low as 11 cm to 13 cm. In pottery production, ‘standardization’ requires less variability in various aspects “including resource selection, processing, forming, finishing, and firing as well as the organizational aspects” (Rice 1987: 202). The production technology of the pottery assemblage belonging to the 33.32 kitchen context is beyond the main scope of this research. The abundant S-curve bowl as well as the other types of vessels might not be products of a large-scale industry, which would require an extreme standardization (Sinopoli 1991: 100), however, they do share common attributes; all of these bowls are of Simple Ware, except one Syro-Cilician Ware; all are wheel made; and lastly, they all lack a finishing on their surface, such as burnishing or wet-smoothing. In addition, some of the S-curve bowls have color differences on the upper and lower parts of the surface; this is an implication of their being stacked during the firing process and suggest that they were produced in great numbers and fired in large kilns.

According to the statements given above, I would suggest that the specific type S-curve bowls might have been produced as a standard type to be used in this kitchen for the distribution of food for the servants of the palace, rather than the royal family and their guests, because the appearance of these vessels were not of great importance (some of them are in fact rather poorly made). In addition to the bowls, the possible way of cooking carried out in this kitchen that was discussed above would also indicate this was the kitchen producing food to feed the palace personnel. A variety of cooking ways would be expected to cook various types of food, such as grilling or roasting meat or baking bread to be served in the king's table. However, such complexity would not be crucial to feed the palace personnel.

The distribution of the vessel types and their attributions was discussed in the Activity Area Analysis section and I suggested that Rooms A and B could be different in terms of the activities carried out in both spaces. In discussing the range of food preparation, cooking and its distribution (or serving), the evidence from Room A was interpreted since it was fully exposed with its hearth, platform and benches which were all related to the food-related activities carried out in this room. For Room B, on the other hand, by referring to the plastered wall and bench, as well as the painted pottery recovered from it, I already stated that Room B could have a more special function but since we only have a small part of it, the interpretation of this room is even more restricted. However, if we include the available evidence from Room B, the scenario for the function of this part of palace could be enhanced.

In addition to the vast amount of S-curve bowls, this room produced cooking pots as well, which raises the possibility that in the unexcavated section of this room, there could be hearths or ovens on which these cooking pots were placed. In this

case, there would be two rooms with hearths and this would raise the amount of food that was produced. As I already pointed out, other than the S-curve bowls, the vessels that were likely related to serving within the whole assemblage come from Room B, which are the only complete pitcher, four kraters and two juglets; the pitcher, one of the S-curve bowls, both juglets and one of the kraters are of Syro-Cilician Ware, and the only complete krater (AT8380, Plate 4e) is the largest krater among the detected kraters in this kitchen. Although we do not have evidence for a variety of cooking wares or a variety of cooking methods (e.g. ovens) in Room B, the presence of the only large krater and the other serving vessels' being painted pottery, unlike the majority of unpainted pottery, could be an indication that this room was used to prepare a greater variety of food to be served either in the royal family's table or for large-scale consumption activities and also possibly to store and then fill the pottery used for serving.

The possibility of the former is inferred not only for the difference in the scale and attributes of the pottery but also for the faunal remains coming from the room. As previously stated in Chapter IV, Room B revealed a few red deer (*cervus elaphus*) parts, which is not the common species of deer at Tell Atchana, and therefore it was suggested that it could imply royal food (pers. comm. Dr. Canan Çakırlar). In addition, pig and domestic equid bones were also recovered from the same room, which we lack in Room A. Therefore, it is possible that the types of food and the ways to cook them were different in this room and Room B could be used for the preparation of more complicated food activities, whereas Room A was to store the ingredients of the food that was cooked for the servants of this palace, with restricted ways of cooking.

6.4 Conclusions

The interpretation for the function of this row of kitchen rooms remains incomplete due to the limited excavated area and the lack of comparable contexts and other types of evidence. However, I believe that having a sealed context with *in situ* remains, and the range of the pottery assemblage that was revealed, enables us to suggest that these two rooms functioned as kitchens in which food for the servants were stored, cooked and distributed. Additionally, Room B could have a different or wider range of functions, such as for the preparation of the royal family's food or possibly special feasts.

Other than food, although we lack complete evidence for such activity, this kitchen could have been part of beer production in this Middle Bronze Age palace. If we had textual evidence from this palace regarding the distribution or standard rations of food and drink, as was the case in the Qarni-Lim' Palace at Tell Leilan (Pulhan 2000), or information about the king's meals as well as possible feasts that were sponsored by the palace, more accurate assumptions related to the use of the whole pottery assemblage, especially the use of S-curve bowls, and also more detailed suggestions regarding the function of these rooms could be made.

CHAPTER VII

CONCLUSION

This thesis concentrated on a burnt context consisting of one room and part of a second one belonging to a Middle Bronze Age Palace at Alalakh, which was excavated during the 2009 season of the renewed excavations at Tell Atchana. According to its architectural features and the artifact assemblages, this context is interpreted as a kitchen in which food storage and processing were carried out. As pottery was the most prevalent artifact type in this context, including the *in situ* examples, I suggested that different food-related activities could have been carried out in different sections of these two rooms by looking at the distribution of the different vessel shapes, wares, and sizes within the context.

I suggested that this kitchen, at least the fully excavated Room A, was likely producing a limited amount of food with restricted ways of cooking which was served in the specific S-curve bowls to feed the palace personnel for daily purposes. The availability of a single larger krater, a big pitcher, two juglets and a painted bowl from the smaller Room B, as well as the different faunal remains from those of Room A, could indicate the preparation of food for the royal family or for larger consumption activities (e.g. feasts) in the second room, although the small excavated space limits such interpretation. In addition, regarding the presence of jars with pierced holes at their bottoms and the abundance of emmer wheat recovered in this

context, the possibility of being part of beer production in the palace was also included in the interpretation.

Other than ascertaining the function of this context, another scope of this thesis was to suggest a tentative date for the 33.32 kitchen by comparing its pottery assemblage to those of both previously excavated material of Alalakh and other important sites from different regions. By evaluating the available comparative material, I observed that the most suitable comparable pottery assemblage belongs to Woolley Level X and IX, which falls into the end of MB I or first half of the MB II Period. In addition, the assemblage mostly resembles the MB I pottery horizon of other sites in Cilicia and Syria, and the parallels from the MB II period are mostly the types appeared earlier and continued into the MB II. It is true that the 33.32 context is a special-function space which includes a limited range of vessel forms and that could jeopardize the accuracy of a chronological interpretation. Therefore, since I cannot disregard the presence of pottery types that fit into the MB II horizon as well, the most secure decision must be to place it to either later MB I or earlier MB II period with a great continuity of the MB I tradition.

As this is one of the first studies on the newly excavated materials revealed from secure Middle Bronze contexts at Tell Atchana, this thesis could serve as an appropriate base for further studies within the site. When the renewed excavations at Tell Atchana reveal more contexts dating to pre-Level VII periods at the site, the results of this thesis would provide comparative material in the interpretation of the foodways on a mound-wide scale as well as to bring up differences in the pottery traditions in different parts of the site, if there are any.

Furthermore, not only for the site of Alalakh itself but for the region of western Syria, it could provide a comparative kitchen with its full assemblage to ascertain whether there might be common cultural practices (foodways) that are present elsewhere in the Amorite world, in which the texts tell us that cities like Mari, Qatna, Ebla, and Aleppo all claimed a common heritage (Klengel 1992, Akkermans and Schwartz 2003). A specific study on the attributes of the palace kitchens found at the Amorite sites mentioned above, such as their organization of the space, ceramics, hearths, faunal and floral remains unearthed from them, might help us to gain an insight about this specific cultural horizon, and would suggest whether there were 'Amorite foodways' in the Middle Bronze Age and beyond. This information would be very useful in studying the effects of contacts with other sociocultural groups such as the Hurrians, Hittites, Canaanites, and Egyptians in the Late Bronze period.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

33.32 PALACE KITCHEN CONTEXT POTTERY CATALOGUE

Complete/Partially Complete Objects and Rim Fragments

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
1	106/2	91/281	SCBL V3	H: 6,6cm W: 19,5cm RD: 18,5cm BD: 6cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 2.5Y 8/2	Complete object (AT12575) depicted in Plate 1e. Flared rim, carinated shoulder, flat base. Partly burnt. Has a raised ridge below the rim.
2	106/14	76/279	SCBL V10	H: 2,6cm W: 16,2cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
3	106/15	91/281	SCBL V19	H: 4,7cm W: 16cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/3	Straight rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
4	106/67	76/279	SCBL V10	H: 2,4cm W: 14,6cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/3	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
5	106/5	91/307	SCBL V3	H: 5,1cm W: 14,5cm RD: 13,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 and 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Flared rim, carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Has a stacking line on surface. One sherd is burnt.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
6	106/3	76/208	SCBL V10	H: 3,8cm W: 14,5cm RD: 13,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 5YR 6/4	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2a. Partly burnt.
7	106/10	76/218	SCBL V10	H: 3,2cm W: 15,2cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Partly burnt.
8	106/9	76/211	SCBL V10	H: 2,7cm W: 15,5cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
9	106/4	76/208	SCBL V15	H: 5cm W: 17,5cm RD: 16,2cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 and 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Rolled out rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2g. Has a stacking line on surface
10	106/68	76/208	SCBL V14	H: 2cm W: 16,4cm RD: 15,8cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/6 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Everted rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment.
11	106/12	91/281	SCBL V10	H: 2,1cm W: 15,5cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder fragment.
12	106/6	76/208	SCBL V2	H: 3,7cm W: 15,5cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 5Y 7/3 and 5Y 8/3 CC: 5Y 6/3	Flared rim, sharp carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Has a stacking line on surface.
13	106/33	76/211	SCBL V18	H: 4,1cm W: 15,5cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Rounded rim, slightly carinated vertical shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2j.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
14	106/11	76/208	SCBL V10	H: 2,9cm W: 14,2cm RD: 13,8cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 6/6 CC: 5YR 6/6	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
15	106/66	76/208	SCBL V5	H: 2,5cm W: 23,2cm RD: 22,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/3 CC: 5Y 8/3	Thickened vertical rim and carinated shoulder fragment.
16	106/28	76/218	KRA	H: 6,8cm W: 29,5cm RD: 25cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flanged rim, shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 4c. Rim is flat at the top and the extended edge is rounded. The form lacks a distinct neck and has a rounded form. Horizontal comb incised decoration on the shoulder and also a single groove at the top of the rim.
17	106/13	91/281	CKP V1	H: 35cm W: 48cm RD: 32,5cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/2 CC: 7.5YR 5/4	Complete object (AT8384) depicted in Plate 4f. Everted rim, very short neck, slightly carinated body and round base. Surface smoothened with water. Has two knob handles on the rim. Stamped rope decoration on the shoulder. Partly burnt.
18	106/34	91/307	CKP V5	H: 9,5cm W: 55,4cm RD: 42cm	MI	SC: 5YR 4/3 CC: 5YR 4/6	Rolled out rim and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 4j. Rim is attached to the body.
19	106/36	76/208	CKP V8	H: 3,8cm W: 38cm RD: 37cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flared rim fragment depicted in Plate 4m. It has a single groove at the top of the rim edge. Burnt.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
20	106/30	91/281	GLJA V1	H: 32cm W: 32cm RD: 16cm BD: 10,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 10YR 7/4	Complete object (AT8381) depicted in Plate 5a. Everted rim, globular body shape and flat base. Has wavy comb incised decoration between two straight horizontal comb incision on the shoulder.
21	106/1	76/268	GLJA V2	H: 14cm W: 30,4cm RD: 13,4cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Half complete object (AT12574) depicted in Plate 5b. Swollen rim has a triangular shape at the outer part. Two incised lines below the rim and straight horizontal comb incised decoration on the shoulder.
22	106/51	91/307	GLJA V5	H: 6,3cm W: 21cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 7/2 CC: 10YR 6/3	Flared rim, almost distinct neck and shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 5f. A single raised ridge on the neck.
23	106/23	76/218	PCR	H: 1,5cm	SCP	SC: 2.5Y 8/3 CC: 2.5Y 8/2 PC: 5YR 4/6	Very small fragment of a possible eye pitcher depicted in Plate 6a. Has part of the eye depiction with its frame on the upper part. The top of the rim has painted dots.
24	106/27	91/281	HEPJ V1	H: 63cm W: 74,5cm RD: 67cm BD: 20,4cm	HC	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 5YR 6/4	Complete object (AT8382) depicted in Plate 7a. Railed rim, rounded shoulder, hemispherical body and ring base. Partly burnt. Applied rope decoration on the shoulder. Stamped finger marks on the ring base.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
25	106/20	91/281	GLPJ V2	H: 66,8cm W: 70cm BD: 18,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Partially complete object missing the rim part (AT8388) depicted in Plate 7g. Pronounced shoulder, globular body and convex base with a hole at the bottom. Partly burnt. Impressed triangular decoration on the shoulder. Also very visible rope marks below the shoulder.
26	106/29	76/218	GLPJ V3	H: 5,6cm W: 24,5cm RD: 20cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 5/3	Everted rim fragment. Partly burnt.
27	128/1	74/225	SCBL V2	H: 6,3cm W: 15cm RD: 14cm BD: 4cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/4 and 5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 8/3	Complete profile and partly preserved object (AT10575.1) depicted in Plate 1b. Flared rim, sharply carinated shoulder, convex body wall and ring base. Has a stacking line and black spots on surface.
28	128/2	74/244	SCBL V2	H: 7,6cm W: 18cm RD: 17cm BD: 6,8cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 6/4	Complete profile and partly preserved object (AT10582.2) depicted in Plate 1c. Flared rim, sharply carinated shoulder, convex body wall and convex base.
29	128/3	74/244	SCBL V4	H: 6cm W: 16,5cm RD: 16cm BD: 4cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 7/4	Complete profile and partly preserved object (AT10582.1) depicted in Plate 1f. Flared thin rim, smoothly carinated shoulder, convex body wall and ring base.
30	128/18	74/250	SCBL V21	H: 2,6cm W: 17cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Straight rim rounded at the top and low carinated shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 2m. Has a single horizontal raised ridge above the carination.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
31	128/17	74/250	SCBL V16	H: 2,5cm W: 20cm RD: 19cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/4	Slightly outturned rim, carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Rim is rounded at the top and carination of the shoulder is at a lower part.
32	128/14	74/250 76/208	SCBL V14	H: 2,2cm W: 16,8cm RD: 16,4cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Everted rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment.
33	128/108	74/289	SCBL V20	H: 3cm W: 16cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Barely flared rim and shoulder fragment with a low carination, depicted in Plate 21.
34	128/68	74/244	SCBL V1	H: 5,9cm W: 15cm RD: 13,8cm BD: 3,3cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Giving complete profile but not an object, depicted in Plate 1a. Flared rim, smooth high carination, convex body wall and ring base.
35	128/69	74/244	SCBL V2	H: 3,9cm W: 15,8cm RD: 15cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/5 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flared rim, sharply carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
36	128/71	74/244	SCBL V9	H: 3,7cm W: 20,5cm RD: 20cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 5YR 6/4	Flared rim, smoothly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
37	128/70	74/250	SCBL V2	H: 5,6cm W: 20cm RD: 19cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/3 and 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flared rim, sharply carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Has a stacking line and black spots on surface.
38	128/87	74/244	SCBL V10	H: 2,6cm W: 17,5cm RD: 16,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
39	128/88	74/250	SCBL V21	H: 2,7cm W: 15cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4 and 5YR 6/6	Straight rim rounded at the top and low carinated shoulder fragment.
40	128/104	74/244	SCBL V3	H: 1,9cm W: 17,5cm RD: 16,8cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/4 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flared rim and smoothly high carinated shoulder fragment.
41	128/109	74/250	SCBL V9	H: 3,9cm W: 15,7cm RD: 15cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 8/3 CC: 5YR 6/6	Flared rim, smoothly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
42	128/110	74/244	SCBL V18	H: 3,1cm W: 16,6cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Rounded rim and slightly carinated vertical shoulder fragment.
43	128/111	74/244	SCBL V10	H: 2,5cm W: 18,5cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment.
44	128/112	74/244	SCBL V18	H: 2,8cm W: 23,2cm RD: 22,4cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 and 10YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Rounded rim, slightly carinated vertical shoulder and body wall fragment. Partly burnt.
45	128/113	74/250	SCBL V10	H: 2,6cm W: 18,2cm RD: 17,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment. Has a groove below the rim.
46	128/114	74/244	SCBL V9	H: 2,5cm W: 14,5cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Flared rim and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
47	128/115	74/244	SCBL V9	H: 2,4cm W: 14,5cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flared rim and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment.
48	128/116	74/250	SCBL V9	H: 1,4cm W: 19,7cm RD: 18,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 8/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Flared rim and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment. Inclusions are very visible on surface.
49	128/117	74/244	SCBL V16	H: 2,3cm W: 20cm RD: 19,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/3	Slightly outturned rim, carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Rim is rounded at the top and carination of the shoulder is at a lower part.
50	128/118	74/254	SCBL V23	H: 2,4cm W: 17cm RD: 16,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated vertical shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 2o.
51	128/90	74/244	SHBL	H: 2,3cm W: 15,5cm RD: 15cm	SW	SC: 5YR 6/6 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	U-shape form with a straight rim thickened and rounded at the top depicted in Plate 3g. Very visible inclusions on surface.
52	128/94	74/244	SHBL	H: 1,9cm W: 16,4cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 5/1 CC: 10YR 5/4	Rounded shallow bowl fragment with a flared rim depicted in Plate 3f. Surface color uncommonly dark in comparison to other bowls.
53	128/99	74/245	SHBL	H: 3cm W: 28cm RD: 26,8cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Conical shallow bowl fragment with straight and slightly thickened rim and straight body wall depicted in Plate 3b.
54	128/100	74/245	SHBL	H: 2,7cm W: 36cm RD: 34,8cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Rounded shallow bowl fragment with thickened and slightly inturned rim, depicted in Plate 3d.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
55	128/101	74/245	SHBL	H: 3,7cm W: 30cm RD: 29cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/3	Conical shallow bowl fragment with squared rim and straight body wall, depicted in Plate 3c. Has a single groove at the top of the rim and another one right below the rim.
56	128/91	74/245	SHBL	H: 1,9cm W: 25,2cm RD: 24cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 10YR 5/3	Rounded shallow bowl fragment with a thickened slightly inturned rim, pointy on the inner part, depicted in Plate 3a.
57	128/58	74/245	SHBL	H: 1,9cm W: 36cm RD: 35cm	BW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 7/4 and 2.5Y 6/1 PC : 2.5YR 4/8	Rounded shallow bowl or curved flat plate fragment with slightly inturned rim rounded at the top, depicted in Plate 3e. Has a single red band decoration on inner and outer part of the rim.
58	128/97	74/245	HEBL	H: 2,2cm W: 19cm RD: 18,5cm	SW	SC: 5YR 6/6 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Rounded hemispherical bowl fragment with straight rim slightly thickened and rounded at the top, depicted in Plate 3h.
59	128/57	74/245	UN	H: 4,5cm W: 16,8cm RD: 16cm	RS	SC: 2,5YR 4/8 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flanged rim and straight body wall fragment depicted in Plate 3j and 10n. Slipped all over both interior and exterior. Stroke burnished, has vertical and horizontal burnishing marks. The surface color is the slip color.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
60	128/4	74/245	CKP V2	H: 15cm W: 48,8cm RD: 35,5cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/6 and 10YR 5/4	Half complete object (AT12588) depicted in Plate 4g. Folded over rim and rounded shoulder. Has two knob handles on the rim. Surface smoothened with water. Applied horizontal band with finger marks on it as decoration on the shoulder. Lime encrusted and burnt.
61	128/15	74/250 74/254	CKP V3	H: 10,1cm W: 46,2cm RD: 34cm	MI	SC: 7.5YR 7/6 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Slightly outturned thickened rim and shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 4h. Has two knob handles on the rim. Applied horizontal band on the shoulder.
62	128/73	74/244	GLJA V4	H: 17cm W: 36,5cm RD: 16,2cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Folded over rim, shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 5d. Surface smoothened with water. Very visible wheel marks on the surface, looks like decoration.
63	128/16	74/244	JAR V7	H: 4cm W: 23cm RD: 22cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Rim fragment depicted in Plate 5o. The thick rim is smoothly outturned and it is rounded at the top. Partly burnt.
64	128/85	74/289	GLJA V6	H: 4,8cm W: 14,4cm RD: 12,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 6/3	Flared rim fragment which is slightly extended downwards.
65	128/92	74/245	JAR V3	H: 2,7cm W: 12,6cm RD: 11,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Slightly inturned rim and vertical neck fragment depicted in Plate 5k. The top of the rim is rounded and the outer part is extended with a rounded edge.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
66	128/102	74/245	JAR V7	H: 3,2cm W: 23,4cm RD: 20cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/6 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Rim fragment. The thick rim is smoothly outturned and it is rounded at the top. Burnished.
67	128/103	74/245	JAR V5	H: 3,6cm W: 24cm RD: 22cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/6 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Flared rim and neck join fragment. Rim has a pointy edge extending downwards.
68	128/107	74/244	GLJA V6	H: 1,6cm W: 13,4cm RD: 12cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Flared rim fragment which is slightly extended downwards.
69	128/62	74/254	PCR	H: 1,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 5Y 7/3	Fragment of a trefoil rim depicted in Plate 6b, possibly of a pitcher.
70	128/127	81/273	HEPJ V2	H: 48,3cm W: 64cm RD: 57cm BD: 25cm	SW	SC: 5YR 6/4 CC: 10R 5/6	Complete object (AT11765) depicted in Plate 7b. Railed rim, carinated shoulder, hemispherical body and ring base with stamped finger marks on it. In situ pithos from the elevated platform. Has applied rope decoration on the carinated shoulder. There is an intentional break at the upper part, probably for functional purposes.
71	128/129	82/292	GLPJ V1	H: 70cm W: 65cm RD: 27cm BD: 23cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 5YR 6/4	Complete object (AT11792) depicted in Plate 7e. Flared rim with a pointy edge extended downwards, globular body and convex base. In situ pithos from the elevated platform. There is a hole at the bottom of the convex base. Partly burnt.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
72	128/128	85/274	GLPJ V2?	Not available	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/2	Partially complete object (AT11766) in Fig.4.15. Double rim, globular body with pronounced shoulder and convex base. It was found in situ under the two other in situ pithoi, as if accommodating them. It is partly burnt. The profile and thus the dimensions are not available since it fell apart after it was reconstructed.
73	128/19	74/244	HEPJ V2	H: 12,5cm W: 60cm RD: 54cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Railed rim and carinated shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 7c. Has applied horizontal band on the shoulder with incised diagonal lines on it.
74	128/20	74/244	HEPJ V1	H: 8,9cm W: 53,5cm RD: 48,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Railed rim and rounded shoulder fragment.
75	128/21	74/244	GLPJ V3	H: 14,5cm W: 46,5cm RD: 27cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Everted rim and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 7d. Has a single incised groove at the top of the rim.
76	128/22	74/244	HEPJ V1	H: 9,1cm W: 58cm RD: 52cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Railed rim and rounded shoulder fragment.
77	105/92	77/216	SCBL V7	H: 7cm W: 15,2cm RD: 14cm BD: 3,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Complete profile and partially preserved object (AT8386) depicted in Plate 1i. Rolled out rim, sharp high carinated shoulder, convex body wall and ring base. Very visible white inclusions on surface.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
78	105/97	77/228	SCBL V6	H: 6,5cm W: 14,7cm RD: 13cm BD: 4cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Complete profile and partly preserved object (AT8385) depicted in Plate 1h. Vertical rim flattened at the top, shoulder with high carination, convex body wall and ring base.
79	105/95	84/246	SCBL V2	H: 10cm W: 23,2cm RD: 21,5cm BD: 5,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 7/2 CC: 2.5Y 6/3	Complete object (AT8377) depicted in Plate 1d. Flared rim, high carinated shoulder, convex body wall and ring base.
80	105/98	86/284	SCBL V5	H: 7,3cm W: 20cm RD: 18,3cm BD: 7cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 6/2 CC: 2.5Y 4/1	Complete object (AT8383) depicted in Plate 1g. Thickened vertical rim, carinated shoulder, convex body wall and concave base. Completely burnt. Very visible wheel marks on the surface.
81	105/11	77/228	SCBL V2	H: 3,6cm W: 19,6cm RD: 19,2cm	SW	SC: 5YR 6/6 CC: 5YR 6/6	Flared rim, high carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
82	105/12	77/223	SCBL V2	H: 7cm W: 18,5cm RD: 17,5cm	SW	SC: 5YR 6/6 and 2.5Y 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Partially complete profile, only missing the base part. Flared rim, high carinated shoulder and convex body wall. Has a stacking line on surface.
83	105/13	77/210	SCBL V1	H: 3cm W: 17,7cm RD: 17cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 5YR 7/6	Flared rim, smooth high carination and body wall fragment.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
84	105/14	77/269	SCBL V9	H: 2,5cm W: 16,4cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/6 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Flared rim, smoothly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 1k.
85	105/15	77/223	SCBL V10	H: 2,5cm W: 15cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 5YR 6/6 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
86	105/68	77/223	SCBL V3	H: 2,6cm W: 15cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Flared rim, smoothly high carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
87	105/100	77/228	SCBL V18	H: 2,8cm W: 13,2cm RD: 12,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 5YR 7/6	Rounded rim, slightly carinated vertical shoulder and body wall fragment.
88	105/101	77/228	SCBL V10	H: 2,2cm W: 17cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 5YR 6/6	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment.
89	105/102	77/269	SCBL V9	H: 2,2cm W: 16,2cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 5YR 6/6	Flared rim and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment.
90	105/103	77/216	SCBL V11	H: 2,2cm W: 11,5cm RD: 11cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 5YR 7/6	Flared rim with its edge rounded downwards, and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment. Highly visible white inclusions on surface.
91	105/17	77/213 77/228	SCBL V10	H: 3,1cm W: 16,2cm RD: 15cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 5YR 6/6	Barely outturned rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
92	105/18	77/216	SCBL V14	H: 4,1cm W: 15,2cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 and 5Y 7/3 CC: 5YR 6/4 and 5Y 7/3	Everted rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2f. Stacking line on surface and color difference in the core.
93	105/19	77/263	SCBL V15	H: 3,2cm W: 14,3cm RD: 13,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Rolled out rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
94	105/21	77/216	SCBL V12	H: 3,7cm W: 20cm RD: 18,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Flared rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2d. Edge of the rim is pointing downwards and the top of the shoulder is also pointy.
95	105/22	77/228	SCBL V9	H: 3,2cm W: 15cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Flared rim and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment and body wall fragment. Has a single raised ridge right below the rim.
96	105/23	84/246	SCBL V11	H: 3,3cm W: 19,5cm RD: 18,4cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 10YR 6/3	Flared rim, smoothly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2c. The edge of the rim rounded downwards.
97	105/24	77/210	SCBL V19	H: 4,7cm W: 20,2cm RD: 18,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Straight rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2k. The pointy edge of the rim extended outwards. The carination is at lower part.
98	105/25	77/216	SCBL V10	H: 2,9cm W: 18,3cm RD: 17,3cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 5YR 6/6	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment. Has an incised line below the rim.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
99	105/26	84/246	SCBL V8	H: 3cm W: 15cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 7/2 CC: 10YR 6/3	Flared rim, sharply carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Carination is at a lower part.
100	105/27	84/246	SCBL V8	H: 3,8cm W: 17cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 5/2	Flared rim, sharply carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 1h. Carination is at a lower part.
101	105/28	84/246	SCBL V8	H: 2,7cm W: 14,5cm RD: 13cm	SW	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 2.5Y 5/3	Flared rim and sharply carinated shoulder fragment. Carination is at a lower part.
102	105/29	84/246	SCBL V2	H: 2,7cm W: 16,3cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 6/3	Flared rim, high carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
103	105/30	77/223 77/228	SCBL V16	H: 2,7cm W: 17,5cm RD: 16,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/3 CC: 2.5Y 7/4	Slightly outturned rim and carinated shoulder fragment. Rim is rounded at the top and carination is at a lower part.
104	105/31	77/253 77/257	SCBL V19	H: 4,2cm W: 15,8cm RD: 14,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Straight rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
105	105/32	77/210	SCBL V16	H: 1,9cm W: 11,3cm RD: 11cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Slightly outturned rim and carinated shoulder fragment. Rim is rounded at the top and carination is at a lower part.
106	105/33	84/246	SCBL V10	H: 2cm W: 15,2cm RD: 14,8cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 6/1 CC: 2.5Y 6/1	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
107	105/105	77/257	SCBL V22	H: 3,6cm W: 20,5cm RD: 20cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 5Y 7/2	Flared rim, smoothly carinated almost vertical shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2n.
108	105/106	77/210	SCBL V16	H: 3,6cm W: 19,6cm RD: 18,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/3 CC: 2.5Y 7/4	Slightly outturned rim, carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2h. Rim is rounded at the top and carination is at a lower part. It has black spots on surface.
109	105/107	84/246	SCBL V4	H: 2,5cm W: 13,6cm RD: 13cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/4 CC: 10YR 7/3	Flared thin rim and smoothly carinated shoulder fragment.
110	105/108	77/228	SCBL V12	H: 3cm W: 16,2cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 7/3 CC: 2.5Y 8/4	Flared rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment. Edge of the rim is pointing downwards and the top of the shoulder is also pointy.
111	105/109	77/228	SCBL V16	H: 2,8cm W: 18cm RD: 17,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/3 CC: 5Y 8/3	Slightly outturned rim and carinated shoulder fragment. Rim is rounded at the top and carination is at a lower part. Has a single raised ridge below the rim.
112	105/110	77/223	SCBL V9	H: 3,8cm W: 18cm RD: 17cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/3	Flared rim, smoothly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment.
113	105/111	77/251	SCBL V13	H: 3,2cm W: 18,2cm RD: 17cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Rolled out rim, slightly carinated shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2e. The body wall is very thin.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
114	105/112	77/228	SCBL V16	H: 2,7cm W: 22cm RD: 21cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 7/2 CC: 2.5Y 6/3	Slightly outturned rim and carinated shoulder fragment. Rim is rounded at the top and carination is at a lower part.
115	105/113	77/228	SCBL V1	H: 1,8cm W: 20,6cm RD: 19,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Flared rim and smooth high carinated shoulder fragment.
116	105/114	77/210	SCBL V2	H: 2cm W: 12cm RD: 11cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flared rim and high carinated shoulder fragment.
117	105/115	77/210	SCBL V1	H: 2,2cm W: 17cm RD: 16cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flared rim and smooth high carinated shoulder fragment.
118	105/20	77/237	SCBL V17	H: 3,1cm W: 13,4cm RD: 13cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/3 CC: 5Y 8/3	Everted rim, low carinated vertical shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 2i.
119	105/3	86/284	SCBL V10	H: 1,7cm W: 15,8cm RD: 15cm	SCP	SC: 10YR 7/1 CC: 10YR 6/1 PC: 2.5Y 4/1	Barely outturned rim and slightly carinated shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 2b. Painted decoration: Eight vertical lines between two horizontal lines and also diagonal lines at the top of the rim.
120	105/9	77/216	SCBL V24	H: 2,6cm W: 22,5cm RD: 21cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/6 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Rolled out rim and sharp low carinated shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 2p. Has a single raised ridge below the rim.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
121	105/44	77/237	HEBL	H: 3,1cm W: 22cm RD: 21,2cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/6 CC: 5YR 6/6	Rounded hemispherical bowl fragment depicted in Plate 3i. Rim is slightly inturned with a rounded outer part extended downwards and body wall is straight. Has a single raised ridge below the rim.
122	105/91	77/223	KRA	H: 36cm W: 53,5cm RD: 48cm BD: 17cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/2 CC: 5YR 6/4	Complete object (AT8380) depicted in Plate 4e. The hole-mouth form has a flanged rim with grooved lines at the top and a pointy edge parallel to the shoulder. It has a convex base. Horizontal comb incised decoration on the shoulder. Unusually large and thick-walled in comparison to the other kraters.
123	105/94	84/246	KRA	H: 16cm W: 31cm RD: 23cm HD: 2,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 6/3	Half-complete object (AT8376) depicted in 4d. The rounded form has a more closed shape in comparison to other kraters. It has a flaring rim rounded at the top and the edge of the rim is slightly extending downwards. The vessel has two strap handles with round profile which extend from the shoulder to the top of the rim. Partly burnt.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
124	105/8	77/237	KRA	H: 13cm W: 37,8cm RD: 35cm	SW	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Flanged rim and carinated body wall fragment (AT10562.1) depicted in Plate 4b. Rim has a rounded edge. The form lacks a distinct neck and shoulder but it has a sharp carination at a lower part of the body. Has a single incised wavy line as decoration and also two incised nail marks on the carination.
125	105/1	77/216	KRA	H: 8,2cm W: 24,6cm RD: 20cm	SCP	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 7/4 PC: 2.5YR 4/6	Everted rim and rounded body wall fragment depicted in Plate 4a. The rim has a square edge on the outer part but is rounded at the top. It has a rounded form with a very short neck. Painted decoration: Twelve vertical and diagonal lines depicted between two horizontal bands. Also an undetermined triangular shape with a tetragonal unpainted part at the bottom.
126	105/47	77/216	CKP V4	H: 9,8cm W: 41,5cm RD: 34,4cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/4 CC: 10YR 5/4	Rolled out rim and straight body wall fragment depicted in Plate 4i. Partly burnt.
127	105/48	77/216	CKP V6	H: 11,6cm W: 39,5cm RD: 37cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/4 CC: 10YR 7/4	Smoothly folded over vertical rim and straight body wall fragment depicted in Plate 4k.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
128	105/49	77/223	CKP V4	H: 6,5cm W: 35cm RD: 28,6cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/4 CC: 5YR 5/6	Rolled out rim and straight body wall fragment. Has a gray section in its core due to low firing.
129	105/81	84/246	CKP V7	H: 4,1cm W: 33,5cm RD: 30,5cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 10YR 6/4	Everted rim and very short neck fragment. The interior part is poorly preserved.
130	105/82	77/216	CKP V5	H: 7,2cm W: 52cm RD: 42,5cm	MI	SC: 5YR 5/4 CC: 5YR 4/4	Rolled out rim and straight body wall fragment.
131	105/86	77/228	CKP V7	H: 4,2cm W: 34,7cm RD: 32cm	MI	SC: 10YR 6/4 CC: 7.5YR 4/1	Everted rim and very short neck fragment depicted in Plate 4l. Interior part is burnt.
132	105/62	77/213	GLJA V3	H: 17cm W: 34cm RD: 16,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Flared rim, shoulder and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 5c. Surface smoothened with water. Partly burnt, black spots on surface.
133	105/38	77/237	GLJA V6	H: 7,1cm W: 26cm RD: 15cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/6	Flared rim, quiet distinct neck and shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 5h. Rim is slightly extended downwards. Surface smoothened with water.
134	105/39	77/257	JAR V1	H: 6cm W: 9,5cm RD: 11,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 5/2 CC: 10YR 6/3	Double rim and concave neck fragment depicted in Plate 5i. Entirely burnt.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
135	105/66	86/284	GLJA V5	H: 8,3cm W: 28cm RD: 12cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 5/4	Flared rim, quiet distinct neck and shoulder fragment depicted in Plate 5g. Horizontally straight comb incision on the shoulder. Entirely burnt.
136	105/67	77/228	JAR V6	H: 3,2cm W: 20,1cm RD: 19cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 6/3	Flared rim fragment depicted in Plate 5n. Highly burnt.
137	105/37	84/246	GLJA V4	H: 3,50cm W: 18,7cm RD: 16,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Folded over rim fragment depicted in Plate 5e. There are two sets of grooved lines at the top of the rim.
138	105/87	77/216	JAR V4	H: 3,3cm W: 16,5cm RD: 14cm	SW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 8/4	Triangular rim fragment depicted in Plate 5l.
139	105/88	77/257	GLJA V6	H: 3,1cm W: 17cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flared rim, and quiet distinct neck fragment. Rim is slightly extended downwards.
140	105/89	84/246	JAR V2	H: 2,5cm W: 12cm RD: 11cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 8/4 CC: 10YR 7/3	Square rim and concave or cylindrical neck fragment depicted in Plate 5j.
141	105/90	77/216	JAR V5	H: 2,1cm W: 16,7cm RD: 15,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flared rim fragment depicted in Plate 5m. The rim has a pointy edge extending downwards. Partly burnt.
142	105/116	77/216	GLJA V5	H: 1,8cm W: 12cm RD: 11cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 8/3 CC: 5YR 6/6	Flared rim and quiet distinct neck fragment. A single groove on the outer part of the rim.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
143	105/96	84/246	NNPI	H: 38,4cm W: 27,5cm BD: 10,4cm	SCP	SC: Creme,gray PC: Black	Complete pitcher with trefoil rim (AT10539) depicted in Plate 6c-d. Highly burnt. Painted eye depiction on the rim framed with three horizontal lines. Horizontal band, vertical wavy lines and dots depicted and also two applied knobs on the neck-shoulder join. Swan and vertical line between horizontal bands on the shoulder. Handle with round profile is also depicted with a single vertical line and sets of short horizontal lines throughout.
144	105/93	77/237 84/246	GLJT?	H: 6,7cm W: 8cm BD: 3,5cm	SCP	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/2 PC: 5Y 3/1	Possible juglet (AT10595) depicted in Plate 6f. Globular body, ring base and handle fragment preserved. Highly burnt. Has black painting as two horizontal bands with diagonal and vertical lines in between. Fragmentary round handle is also painted horizontal line.
145	105/2	77/263	GLJT?	H: 8,5cm W: 15,8cm	SCP	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/2 PC: 10YR 5/1	Possible juglet depicted in Plate 6e. It has two horizontal bands with diagonal and vertical lines between. The neck-shoulder join also has two horizontal lines. The handle has a single vertical line with sets of short horizontal lines throughout.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Vessel Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
146	105/99	84/246	GLPJ V1	H: 19,3cm W: 62,5cm RD: 34,6cm	HC	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 5/3	Partially complete object (AT8379) depicted in Plate 7d. Rolled out rim with a single thick groove at the top and rounded body wall. It is not reconstructed yet, thus only its upper profile is available at present. It is highly burnt. Has applied band decoration below the rim and incised diagonal lines on it.

Base Fragments

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
147	106/19	91/307	CX V1	BD: 12cm H: 13,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/3	Complete convex base fragment with preserved body wall (AT12576) depicted in Plate 8j. Upper part of the vessel is missing. Thickness of the convex base and body wall are relatively same. Partly burnt.
148	106/26	91/281	CX V1	BD: 13cm H: 3,9cm	SW	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Convex base and body wall fragment, thicknesses of both parts are relatively equal. Very visible wheel marks on the interior. Partly burnt.
149	106/60	91/281	CX V1	BD: 12cm H: 5,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Convex base and body wall fragment, thickness of both parts are relatively equal. Partly burnt.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
150	106/62	76/211 76/218	CX V1	BD: 12cm H: 2,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Convex base and wall fragment, thickness of both parts are relatively equal. Poorly preserved and partly burnt. Lots of pores on the surface.
151	106/53	91/281	CX V2	BD: 12cm H: 13,6cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Complete base fragment with well preserved thin body wall on the lower part, depicted in Plate 8k). Upper part is missing. The bottom thickness of the base is thinner than that of the body wall. Very visible wheel marks on the surface, especially on the upper parts.
152	106/07	76/211 76/208	RI V2	BD: 8cm H: 6,2cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 8/3 CC: 10YR 6/3	Complete ring base fragment with preserved body wall depicted in Plate 8a. Ring is flattened at the bottom. The inner part of the ring is shallow.
153	106/08	91/307	RI V1	BD: 5cm H: 3,8cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 2.5Y 6/3	Ring base and body wall fragment, ring is rounded in profile. The inner part of the ring is relatively deep.
154	106/16	76/279	RI V1	BD: 4cm H: 1,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/3 CC: 7.5YR 7/3	Ring base and body wall fragment, ring is rounded at the bottom. The inner part of the ring is relatively deep.
155	106/37	91/281	RI V4	BD: 24cm H: 5,5cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 7/4	Ring base and body wall fragment of a pithoid jar, depicted in Plate 8b. Base and body wall thicknesses are relatively equal. Ring part has stamped finger marks on it as decoration. Partly burnt. Sampled for its possible burnt ingredient on the interior.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
156	106/56	76/208	FL V3	BD: 16cm H: 4cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flat base and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 8i. Base thickness is thinner than that of the body wall.
157	106/72	76/218	FL V3	BD: 12cm H: 3,7cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flat base and body wall fragment, thickness of the base is thinner than that of the preserved body wall. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
158	106/74	76/218 91/281	FL V3	BD: 15cm H: 3,2cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 7/3	Flat base and body wall fragment. Base of the vessel is thicker than the body wall. Has cracks on the core. Partly burnt. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
159	106/75	76/209	FL V2	BD: 8cm H: 3cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flat base and body wall fragment. Base is thicker than the body wall. Very visible circular wheel marks at the exterior bottom part. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
160	128/23	74/244	CX V3	BD: 24cm H: 8,4cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Convex base and body wall fragment of a pithoid jar, depicted in Plate 8l. An intentionally pierced hole at the bottom of the base. The thickness of the base is relatively equal to that of the body wall. Poorly preserved. Sampled for its possible burnt residue on the interior.
161	128/77	74/244	CX V1	BD: 15,5cm H: 14,2cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Convex base and body wall fragment, thicknesses of each part are relatively equal. It is poorly preserved.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
162	128/78	74/250	CX V1	BD: 16cm H: 4,2cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Convex base and body wall fragment, base thickness is equal to that of the body wall. Surface is smoothened with water. Very visible inclusions on the surface.
163	128/81	74/244	RI V2	BD: 4,2cm H: 1,5cm	SW	SC: 2.5YR 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/3	Ring base and body wall fragment. The inner part of the ring is shallow and has very visible circular wheel marks. Partly burnt.
164	128/121	74/245	RI V3	BD: 14cm H: 3,3cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Ring base and body wall fragment of a large vessel depicted in Plate 8d. The diameter is larger than the other ring base sherds. The ring is rounded at the bottom and the inner part is relatively deep in comparison to others. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
165	128/24	74/244	FL V2	BD: 22cm H: 4,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 5YR 6/6	Flat base and body wall fragment of a larger jar depicted in Plate 8h. Has larger base diameter. The base part is thicker than the body wall.
166	128/105	74/244	FL V1	BD: 10cm H: 1,5cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flat base and body wall fragment, thickness of each part is relatively equal. Its surface is smoothened with water and has very visible inclusions on it.
167	128/123	74/244	FL V1	BD: 10cm H: 2,5cm	SW	SC: 5Y 7/2 CC: 10YR 7/3	Flat base and body wall fragment, each part has relatively equal thickness. It is water smoothened on the surface.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
168	128/80	74/245	DI	BD: 6cm H: 1,7cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/6 CC: 10YR 7/4	Disc base and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 8e. Disc part is rounded in profile. Bottom part of the base has a thickness relatively equal to that of the body wall.
169	105/72	77/213	CX V2	BD: 8cm H: 2,2cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/4 CC: 10YR 8/4	Convex base and body wall fragment. Thickness of the base part is thinner than and that of body wall. It is poorly preserved.
170	105/117	77/216	RI V1	BD: 5cm H: 3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/6	Complete ring base with partly preserved body wall depicted in Plate 8c. The ring is round in profile and the inner part of the ring is relatively deep. Mostly burnt on the surface, has black spots all over.
171	105/118	77/223	RI V1	BD: 5cm H: 2,4cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/6 CC: 10YR 7/4	Complete ring base with partly preserved body wall. It is identical to No.170 in terms of profile, with its round profiled ring and its relatively deep inner part. Mostly burnt, has black spots all over the surface.
172	105/119	77/253	RI V1	BD: 4cm H: 2,6cm	SW	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 10YR 6/3	Ring base and body wall fragment. Ring of the base is round in profile and has a relatively deep inner part. Mostly burnt and not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
173	105/121	77/216	RI V1	BD: 6cm H: 1,7cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Very small ring base and body wall fragment. The ring of the base fragment is rounded in profile and has a relatively deep inner part.
174	105/120	77/257	RI V2	BD: 8cm H: 2,7cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Ring base and body wall fragment. Ring of the base is flattened at the bottom and it has a shallow inner part. Mostly burnt and not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
175	105/41	77/223	FL V4	BD: 12cm H: 4cm	SW	SC: 5YR 7/4 10YR 8/3 CC: 10YR 7/4 5YR 6/6	Flat base with an intentionally pierced hole and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 8g. The inner edges of the hole are curved to the bottom of the base on the interior. There is a frequent change in the surface color, probably due to stacking during the firing process. Partly burnt on the surface.
176	105/42	77/251	FL V1	BD: 6cm H: 3,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/4	Flat base and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 8f. The thicknesses of each part are relatively equal. Has very visible wheel marks on the exterior, both on the base and body wall. Partly burnt.
177	105/80	77/223	FL V4	BD: 14cm H: 2,3cm	SW	SC: 2,5Y 8/2 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flat base with a pierced hole and body wall fragment. The base thickness is equal to that of body wall. It is self-slipped.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Base Type	Dimensions	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
178	105/123	77/251	FL V1	BD: 9cm H: 1,3cm	SW	SC: 10YR 6/2 CC: 7.5YR 4/1	Flat base and body wall fragment. Each part is relatively equal to each other in terms of thickness. Completely burnt and poorly preserved, has pores on the surface.
179	105/124	77/228	FL V2	BD: 25cm H: 4,2cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 6/3	Flat base with part of the body wall. Base is thicker than the body wall of the vessel. Probably a larger vessel, due to its large diameter. Partly burnt and not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
180	105/125	77/228	FL V2	BD: 24cm H: 2,2cm	SW	SC: 10YR 7/3 CC: 7.5YR 6/4	Flat base with part of the body wall. It has relatively thick base in comparison to its body wall. Possibly a large vessel due its diameter. Partly burnt and not sharply preserved, has rounded edges. Very visible circular wheel marks on the exterior part of the base.
181	105/74	77/251 86/284	FL V2	BD: 16cm H: 3,3cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 6/2 CC: 2.5Y 5/2	Complete flat base with partly preserved body wall fragments. Has an intentionally pierced hole at the bottom. Completely burnt and poorly preserved. Surface might be water smoothed before it was burnt.
182	105/65	77/239 84/246	FL V1	BD: 8cm H: 2,3cm	SW	SC: 2.5Y 6/2 CC: 2.5Y 6/2	Complete flat base with partly preserved body wall fragments. Base and body wall thicknesses are relatively same. Water smoothed surface. Mostly burnt.

Handle Fragments

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Handle Thickness	Ware	Surface, Core Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
183	106/76	76/208	HT: 2cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/3	Complete strap handle attached to the body wall, depicted in Plate 9a. Has round profile. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
184	128/63	74/245	HT: 1,7-2cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 6/4 CC: 10YR 6/2	Handle with round profile, attached to the body wall, depicted in Plate 9e. Poorly preserved.
185	128/48	74/245	HT: 1,7-2,8cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Possibly a strap handle fragment attached to body wall, depicted in Plate 9g. Ellipsoid in profile. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
186	128/126	74/245	HT: 1,5-2,8cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 4/2	Handle fragment with ellipsoid profile, not attached to body wall, depicted in Plate 9c. Not sharply preserved, has rounded edges.
187	128/65	74/245	HT: 1,3-2,8cm	SW	SC: 10YR 8/4 CC: 10YR 6/4	Handle fragment attached to the body wall, depicted in Plate 9b. Tetragonal in profile with rounded edges and has a single slight groove at the center of the outer part.
188	128/64	74/245	HT: 1,8-3,1cm	SW	SC: 7.5YR 7/6 CC: 10YR 7/6	Possible strap handle fragment, not attached to body wall, depicted in Plate 9d. Tetragonal in profile with rounded edges and has a groove at the center of the outer part.
189	105/07	84/246	Not available	SW	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 10YR 7/4	Decorative handle fragment attached to the body wall, depicted in Plate 9f. It has four knobs, all pierced on the upper and lower part for decorative purpose, not functional. Mostly burnt and poorly preserved. Possible vessel shape unknown.

Painted and Slipped Sherds

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
190	106/24	91/281	SCP	SC: 2.5Y 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/4 PC: 7.5YR 4/4	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10a. Has two horizontal bands and two vertical lines. Unknown shape.
191	106/25	76/208	SCP	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 5YR 6/6 PC: 7.5YR 3/1 and 5YR 5/6	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10b. Has three horizontal bands and ten diagonal lines below them. Possibly belong to a pitcher.
192	128/49	74/250	SCP	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4 PC: 2.5YR 4/8	Painted shoulder neck join and body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10c. Has three horizontal lines at the top and five vertical lines below them. An animal feather or vegetal figure on the lower left section of the sherd. Possibly belong to a pitcher or a juglet.
193	128/50	74/250	SCP	SC: 10YR 7/4 CC: 7.5YR 7/4 PC: 2.5YR 4/6	Painted shoulder neck join fragment depicted in Plate 10d. Has two horizontal bands and four circular dots in between. Possibly belong to a pitcher or a juglet.
194	128/52	74/245	SCP	SC: 7.5YR 8/4 CC: 2.5Y 5/2 PC: 2.5YR 4/6	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10e. Has a single horizontal band and four diagonal and vertical lines below it. Shape unknown.
195	128/53	74/250	SCP	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 2.5Y 7/4 PC: 7.5YR 6/3 and 5Y 3/1	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10f. Has two horizontal bands and diagonal lines below them but the preservation is worn. Shape unknown.

No	Context Batch	Locus Lot	Ware	Surface, Core Paint Color	Preserved Parts and Remarks
196	128/51	74/245	BW	SC: 7.5YR 7/3 CC: 10YR 7/4 PC: 2.5YR 4/4	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10h. Has a single thick horizontal band. Possibly a closed shape
197	128/54	74/250	PW	SC: 2.5Y 8/2 CC: 10YR 7/4 PC: 7.5YR 4/2	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10i. Has a very small part of a single horizontal line. Could be SCP as well but the preserved part is too fragmentary to be sure. Possibly a closed shape.
198	128/55	74/298	PW	SC: 5Y 8/2 CC: 7.5YR 6/4 PC: 10YR 4/1	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10j. Has a single horizontal thin band. Could be SCP as well but the preserved part is too fragmentary to be sure. Shape unknown.
199	128/56	74/245	RS	SC: 10YR 6/3 CC: 10YR 6/4 PC: 2.5YR 4/6	Slipped body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10l. Slipped and burnished on one side, the other is left without any finishing. Possibly an open shape.
200	105/4	84/246	SCP	SC: 2.5Y 7/3 CC: 10YR 6/3 PC: 7.5YR 4/3	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10g. Has two horizontal bands and vertical and diagonal lines above them. Possibly a closed shape.
201	105/5	77/216	RS	SC: 2.5YR 5/6 CC: 10YR 6/4	Slipped body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10m. Slipped and burnished on both sides. Surface color is the slip color. Shape unknown.
202	105/70	77/216	PW	SC: 2.5Y 8/3 CC: 7.5YR 7/4 PC: 7.5YR 7/4	Painted body wall fragment depicted in Plate 10k. Has single horizontal thin band but poorly preserved. Possibly a closed shape.

APPENDIX B

PLATES

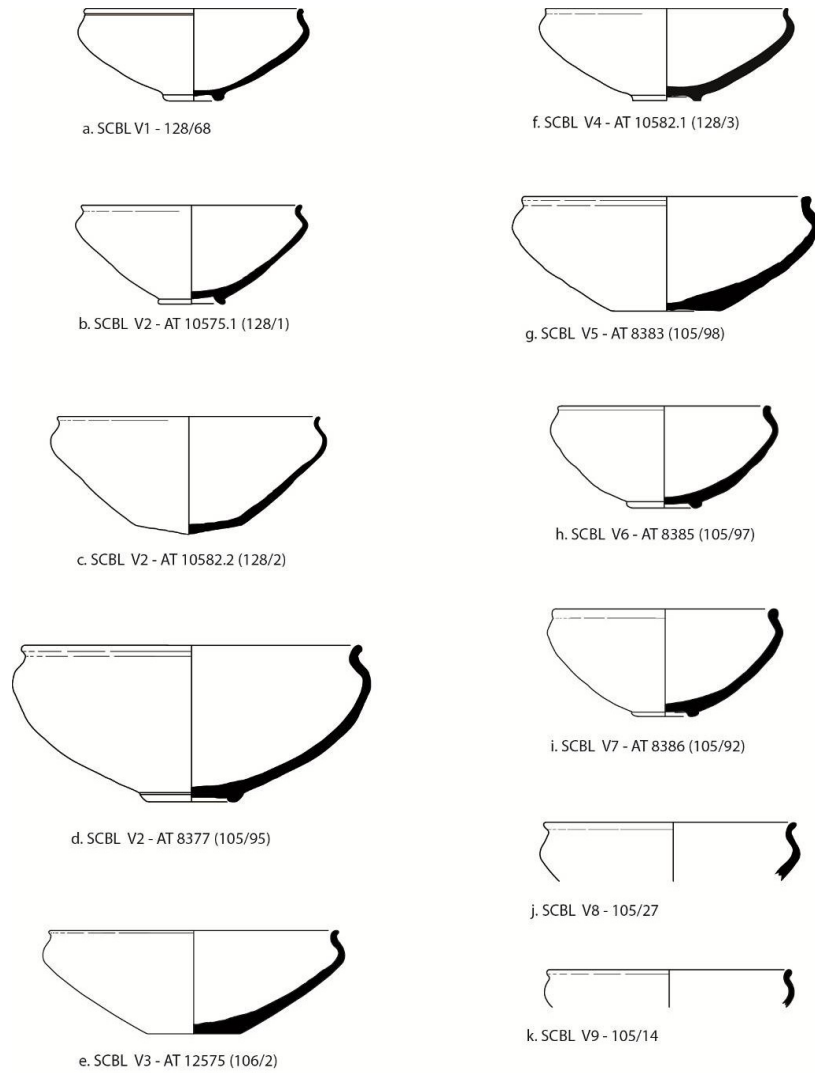


Plate 1: S-curve Bowls of Alalakh 33.32 Context

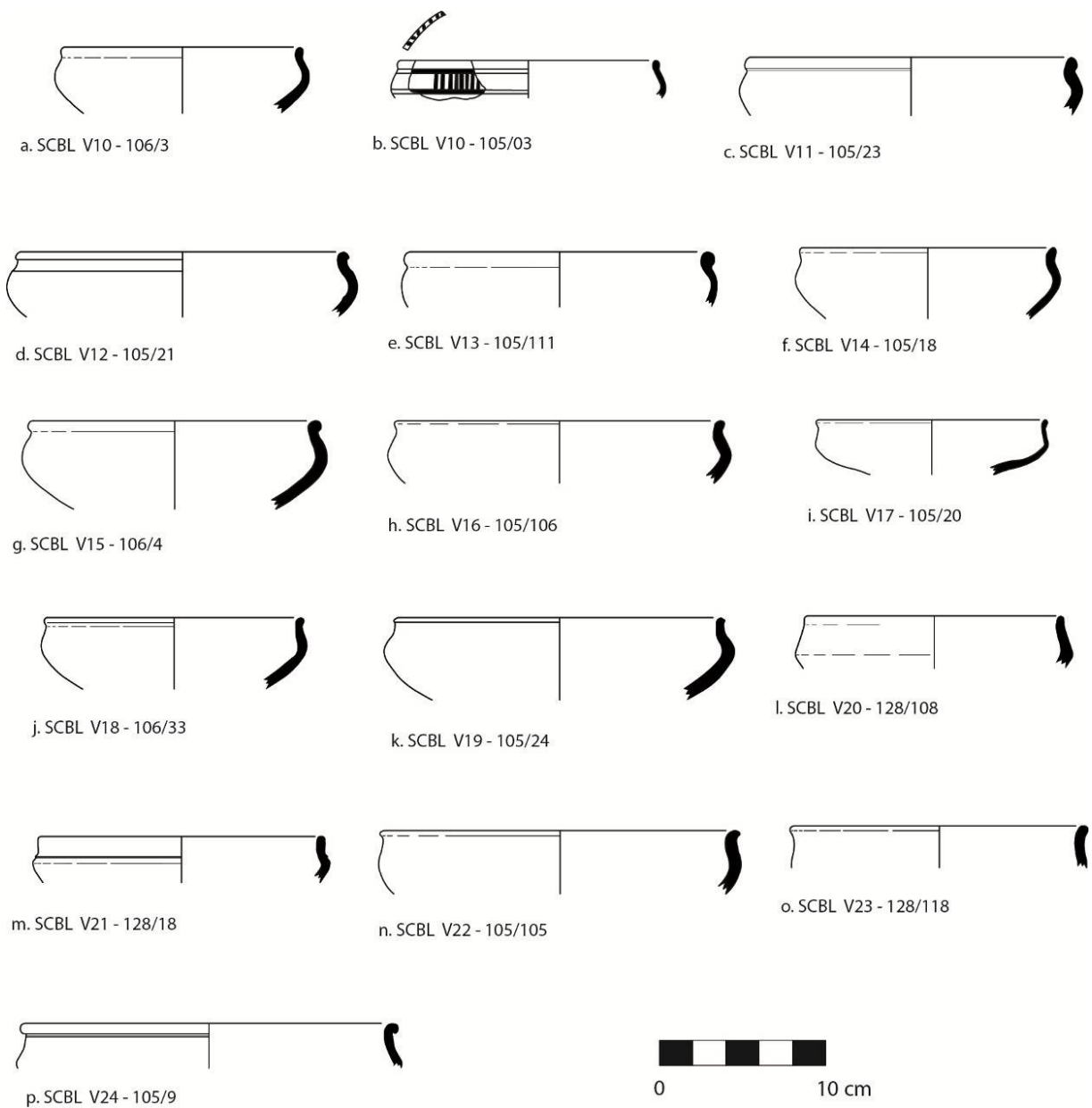


Plate 2: S-curve Bowls of Alalakh 33.32 Context

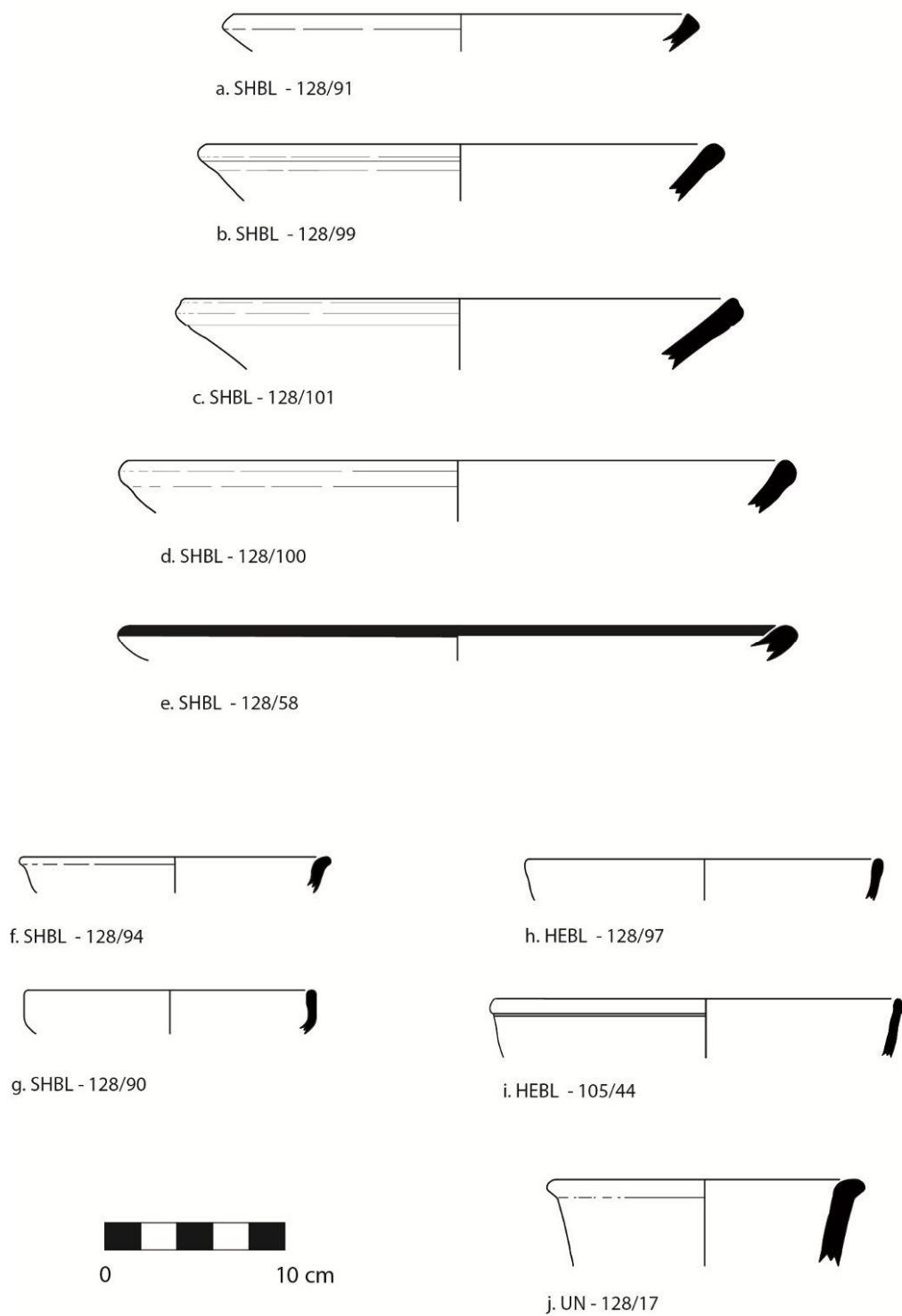


Plate 3: Shallow Bowls, Hemispherical Bowls and the Unknown Shape of Alalakh 33.32 Context

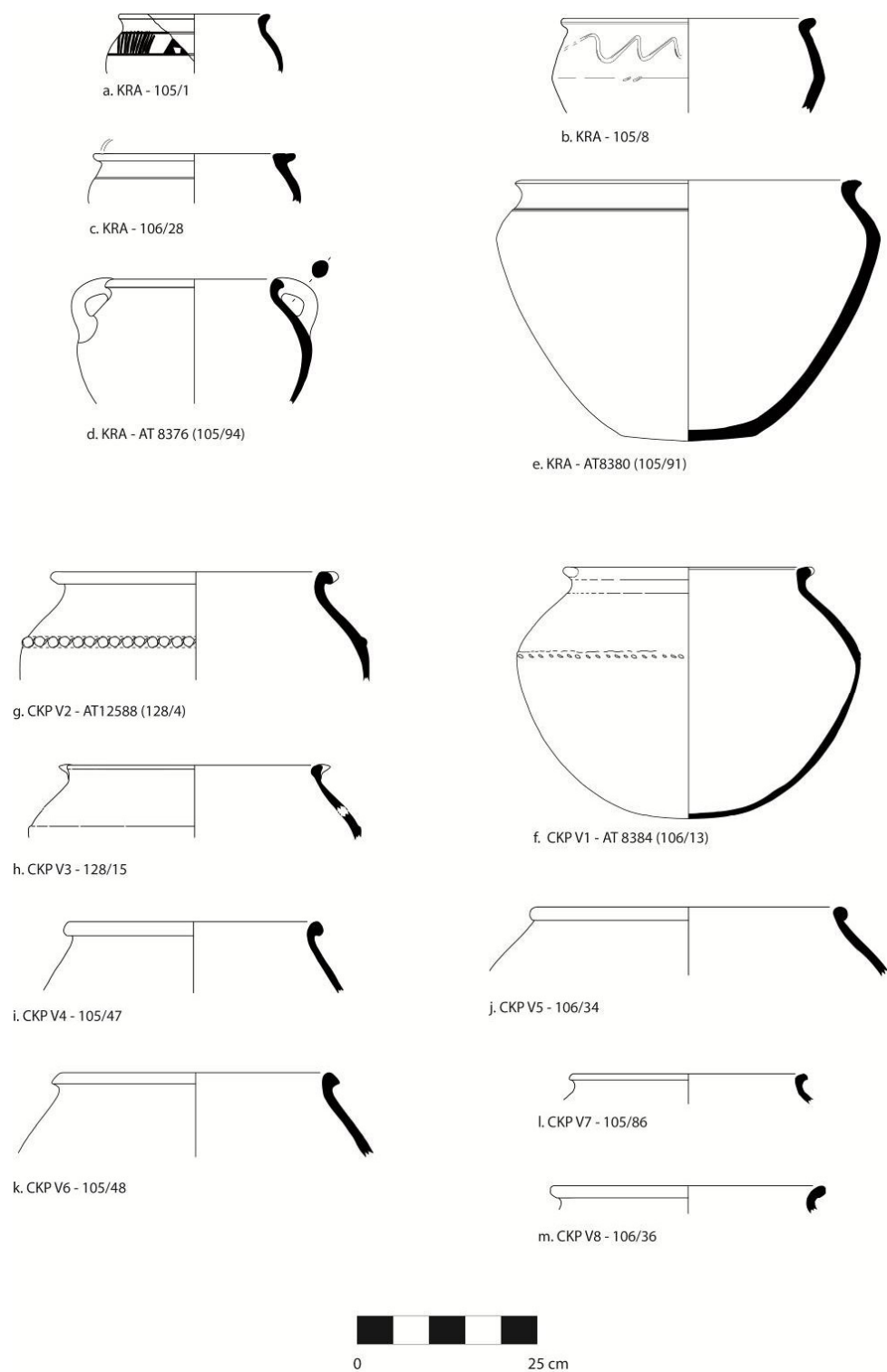
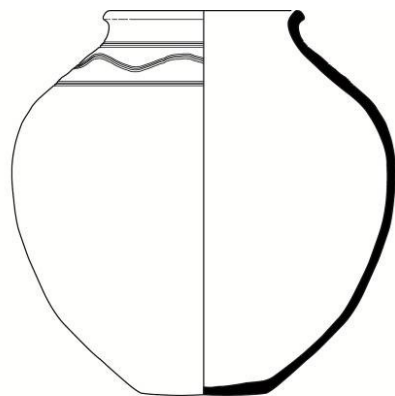
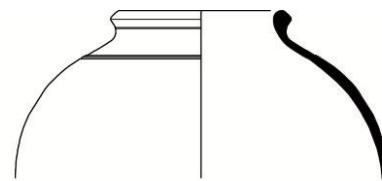


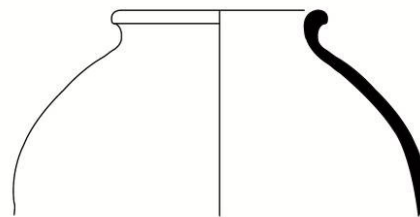
Plate 4: Kraters and Cooking Pots of Alalakh 33.32 Context



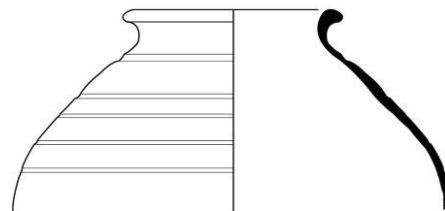
a. GLJA V1 - AT 8381 (106/30)



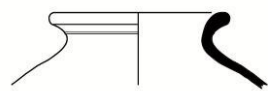
b. GLJA V2 - AT 12574 (106/1)



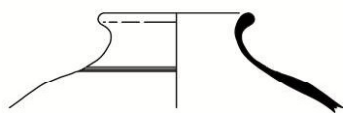
c. GLJA V3 - 105/62



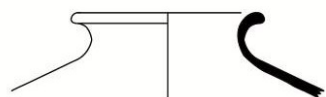
d. GLJA V4 - 128/73



f. GLJA V5 - 106/51



g. GLJA V5 - 105/66



h. GLJA V6 - 105/38



e. GLJA V4 - 105/37



i. JAR V4 - 105/87



m. JAR V5 - 105/90



n. JAR V6 - 105/67



o. JAR V7 - 128/16



i. JAR V1 - 105/39



j. JAR V2 - 105/89



k. JAR V3 - 128/92



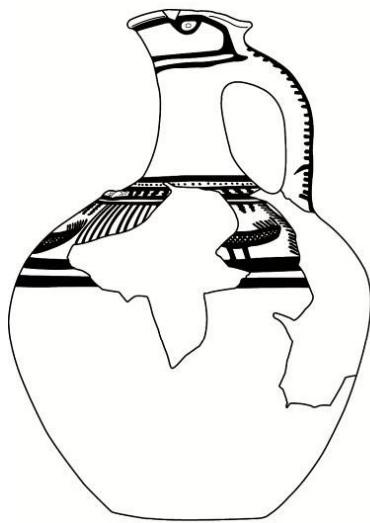
Plate 5: Jars of Alalakh 33.32 Context



a. PCR - 106/23



b. PCR - 128/62



c. NNPI - AT 10539 (105/96)



d. NNPI - AT 10539 (105/96)



e. GLJT - 105/2



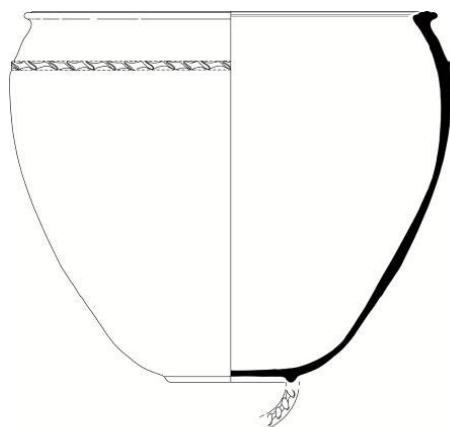
f. GLJT - AT10595 (105/93)



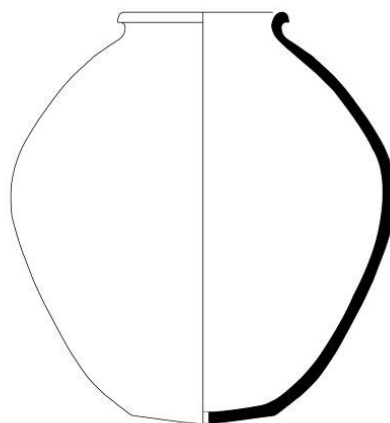
0

25 cm

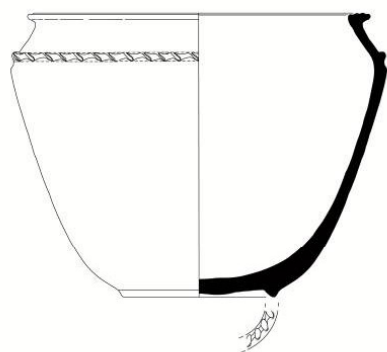
Plate 6: Pitchers and Juglets of Alalakh 33.32 Context



a. HEPJ V1 - AT 8382 (106/27)



e. GLPJ V1 - AT 11792 (128/129)



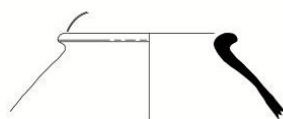
b. HEPJ V2 - AT 11765 (128/127)



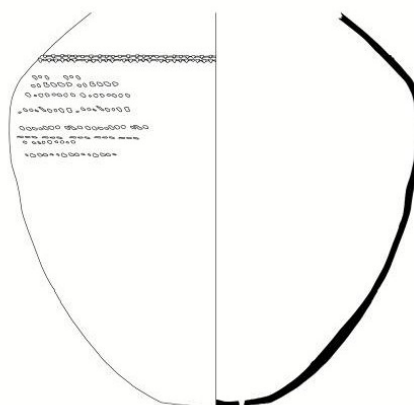
f. GLPJ V1 - AT 8379 (105/99)



c. HEPJ V2 - 128/19



d. GLPJ V3 - 128/21



g. GLPJ V2 - AT 8388 (106/20)



Plate 7: Pithoid Jars of Alalakh 33.32 Context

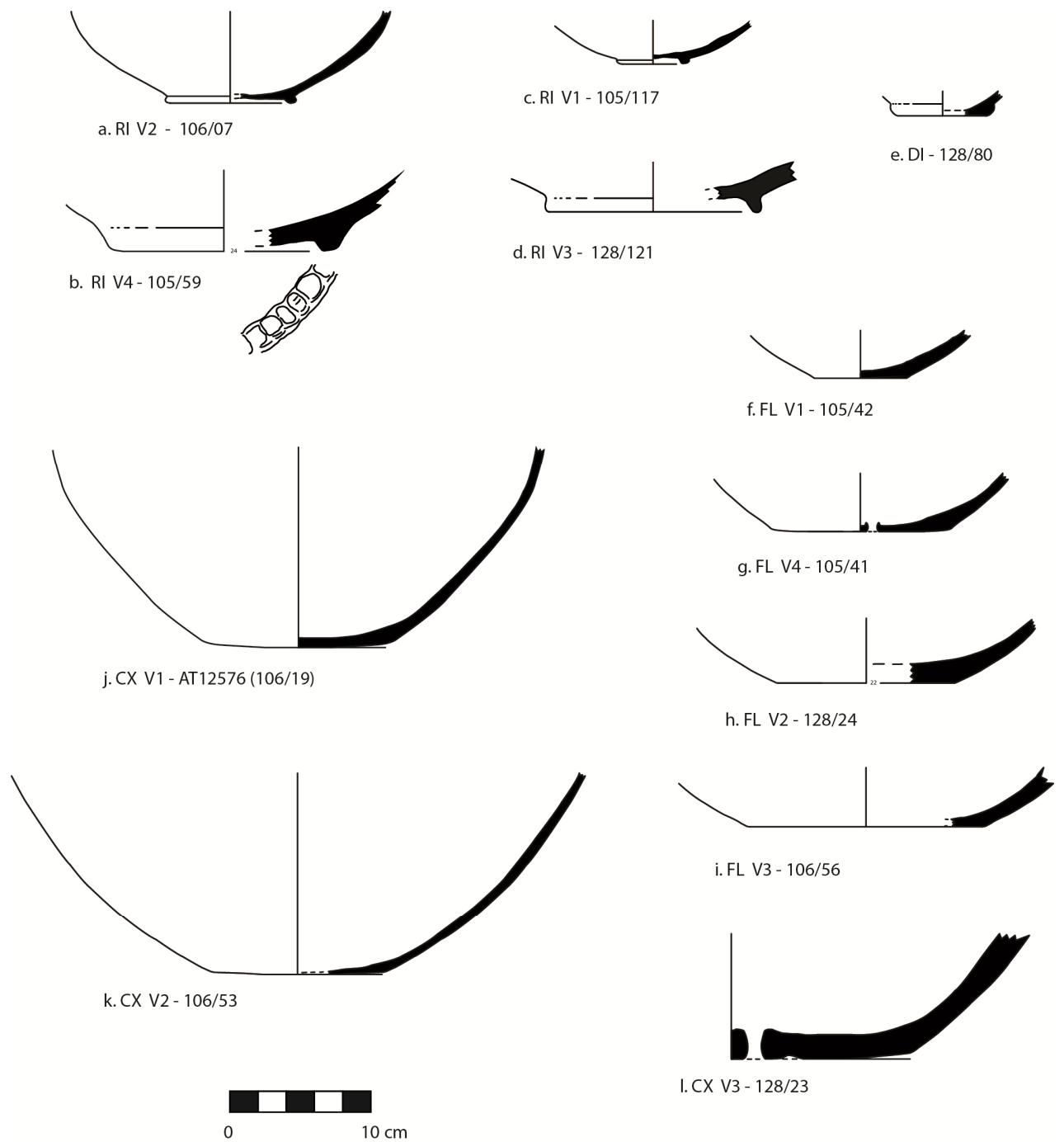


Plate 8: Base Types of Alalakh 33.32 Context

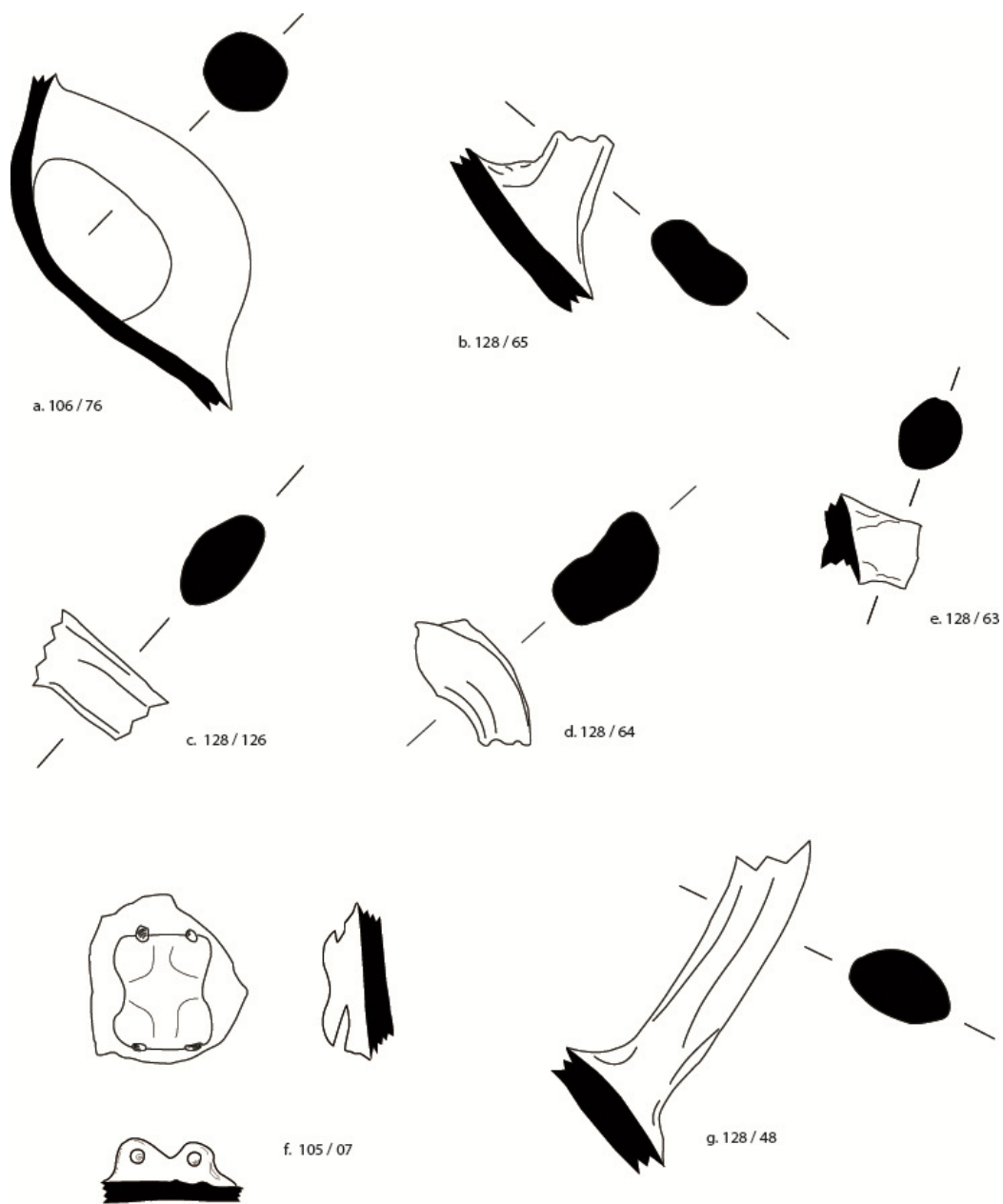


Plate 9: Handle Fragments of Alalakh 33.32 Context



Plate 10: Painted and Slipped Sherds of Alalakh 33.32 Context

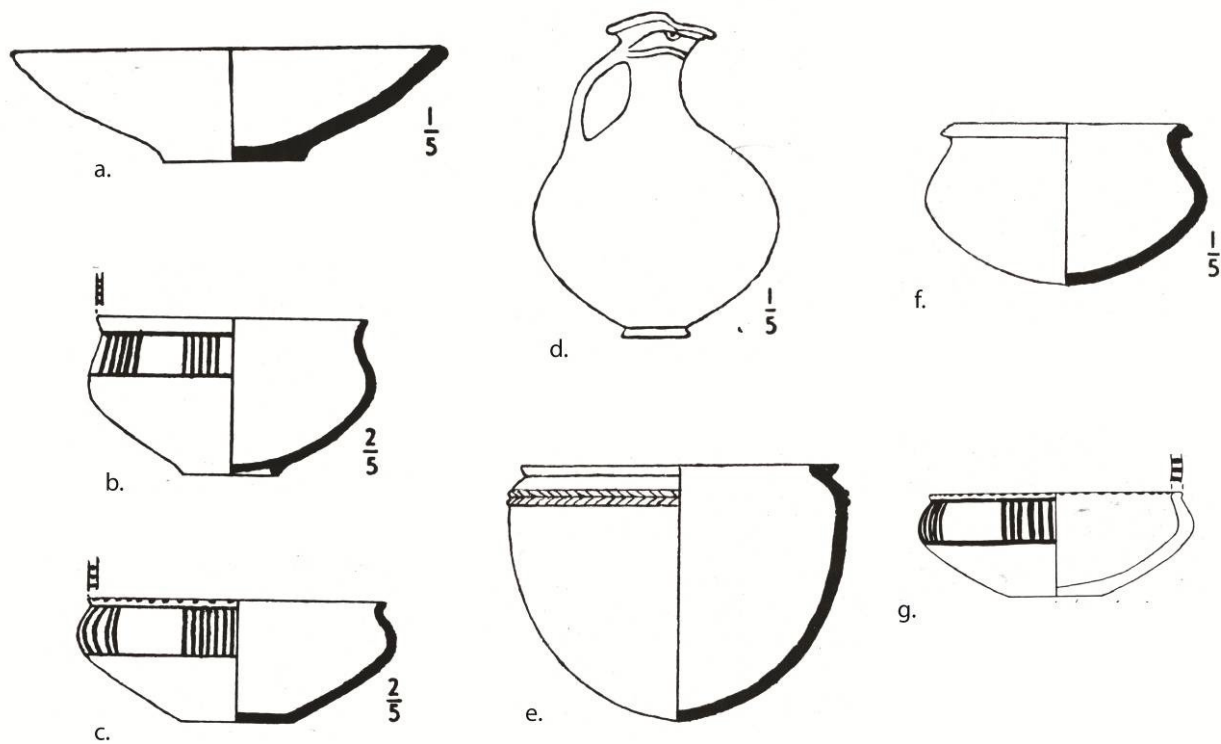


Plate 11: Comparative Woolley Types

- a. Alalakh Type 4b (Woolley 1955: Pl.CIX)
- b. Alalakh Type 23b (Woolley 1955: Pl.CX)
- c. Alalakh Type 23c (Woolley 1955: Pl.CX)
- d. Alalakh Type 70 (Woolley 1955: Pl.CXV)
- e. Alalakh Type 152b (Woolley 1955: Pl.CXXIII)
- f. Alalakh Type 153 (Woolley 1955: Pl.CXXIII)
- g. Alalakh Level XIIb (Woolley 1955: Pl.XCI.ATP/47/169)



a.



b.



c.



d.

Plate 12: Comparative Pottery Fragments from Woolley Material

- a. Alalakh Level XI (Woolley 1955: Pl.LXXXV)
- b. Alalakh Level XII (Woolley 1955: Pl. XCI. ATP/47/109)
- c. Alalakh Level XIV (Woolley 1955: Pl.LXXXIV.c)
- d. Alalakh Level XIIb (Woolley 1955: Pl.XCI)

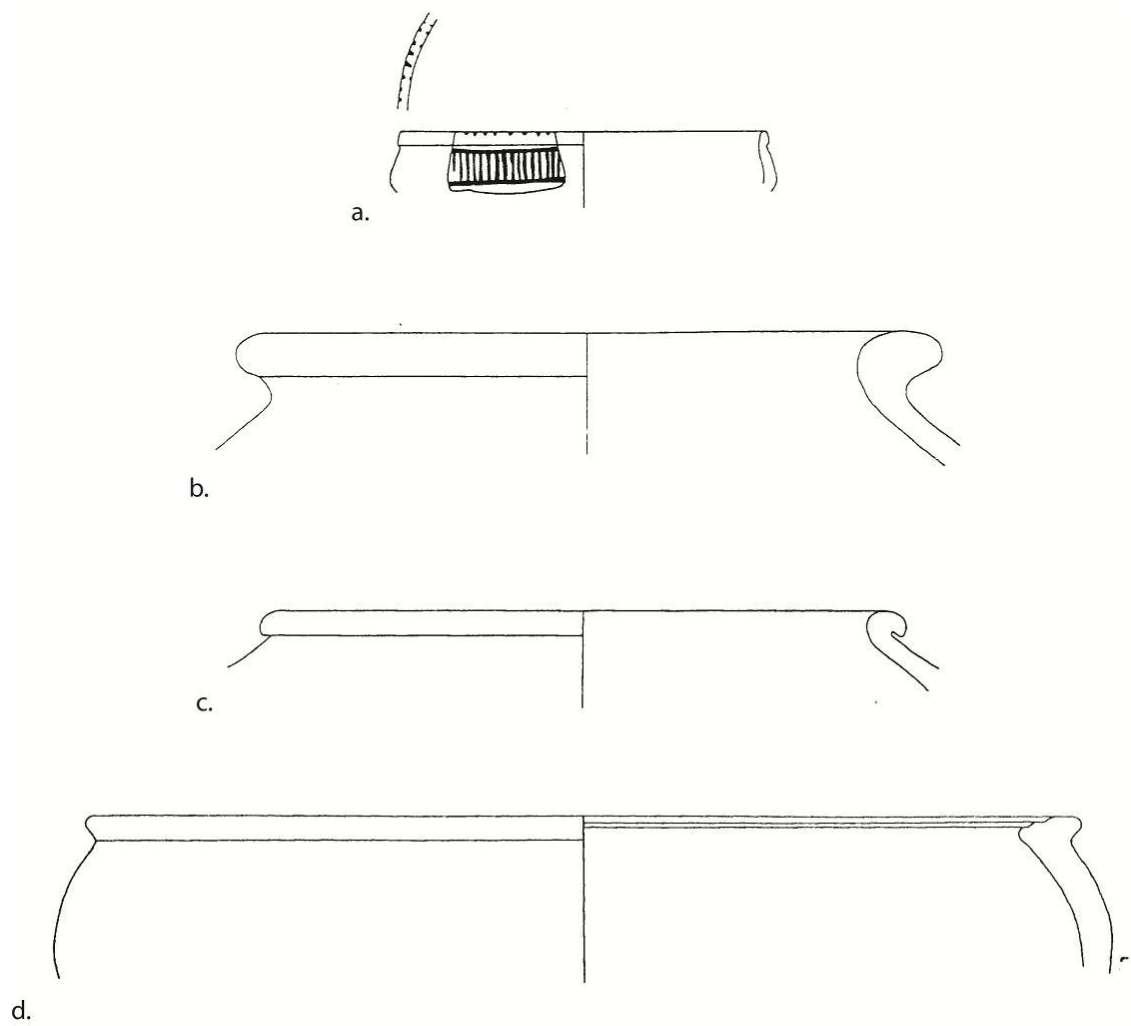


Plate 13: Comparative Level VIII Material from Alalakh Pottery Catalogue by Heinz

- a. Alalakh Level VIII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A. Pl. 20.28)
- b. Alalakh Level VIII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A. Pl. 21.32)
- c. Alalakh Level VIII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A. Pl. 22.38)
- d. Alalakh Level VIII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A. Pl. 25.53)

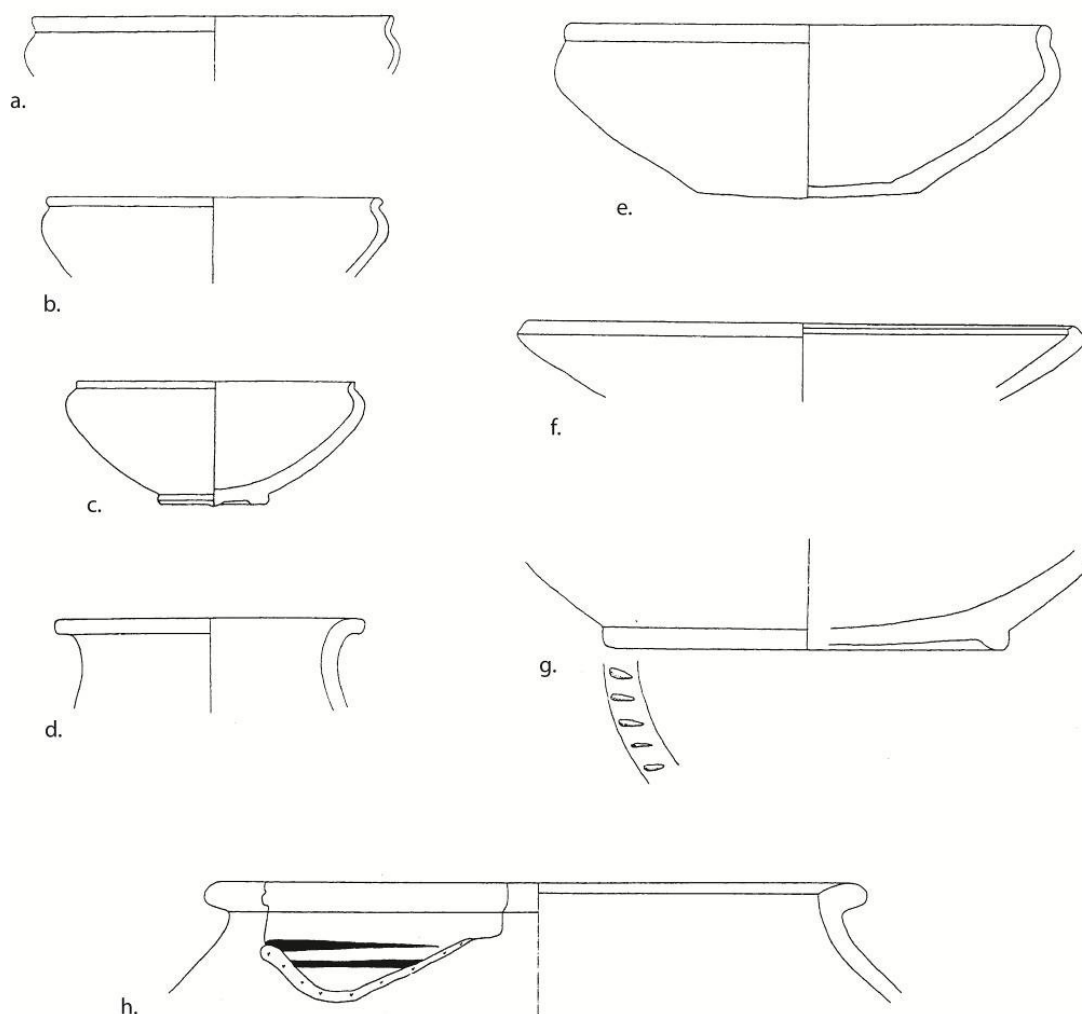


Plate 14: Comparative Level IX Material from Alalakh Pottery Catalogue by Heinz

- a. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.39.55)
- b. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.39.54)
- c. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.38.46)
- d. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.44.88)
- e. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.38.49)
- f. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.37.37)
- g. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.48.133)
- h. Alalakh Level IX (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.41.73)

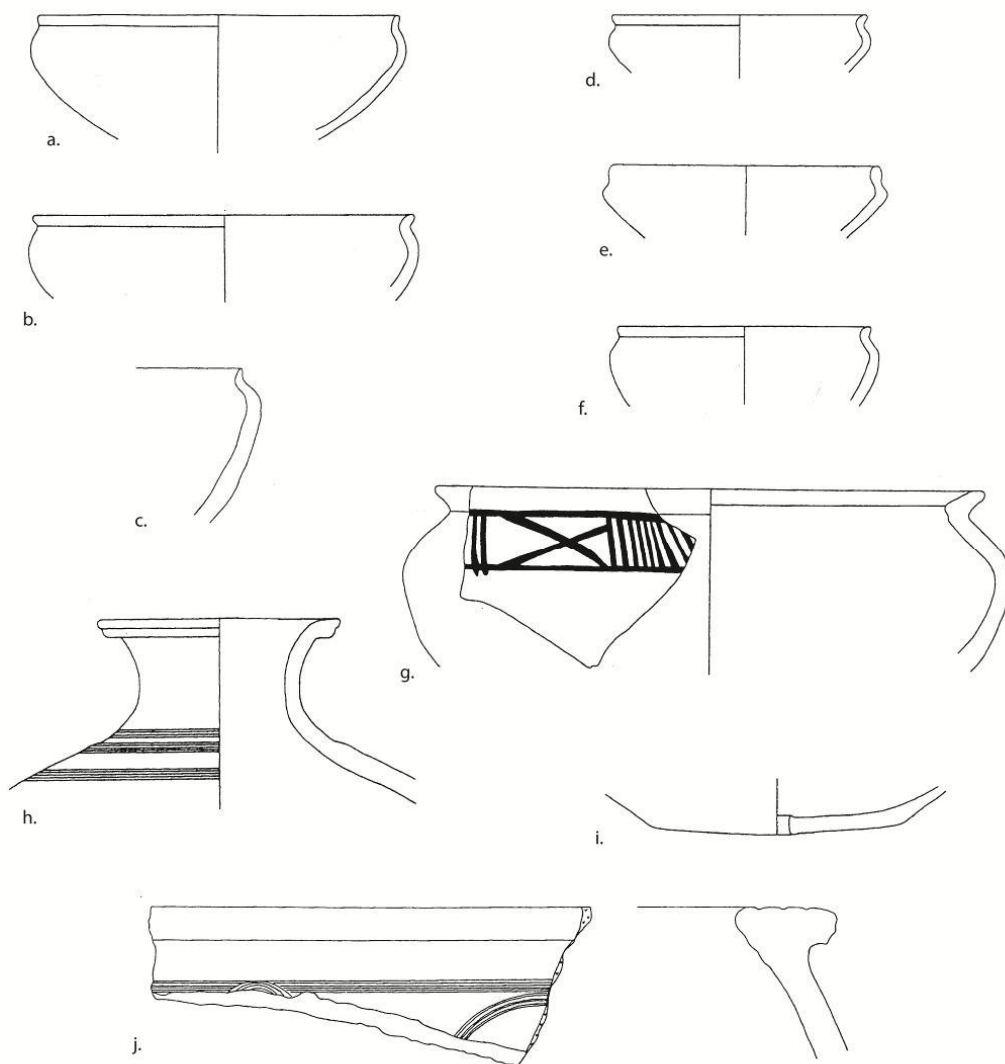


Plate 15: Comparative Level X Material from Alalakh Pottery Catalogue by Heinz

- a. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.57.22)
- b. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.57.27)
- c. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.56.21)
- d. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.58.35)
- e. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.58.36)
- f. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.57.30)
- g. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.59.43)
- h. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.62.56)
- i. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.63.61)
- j. Alalakh Level X (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.61.55)

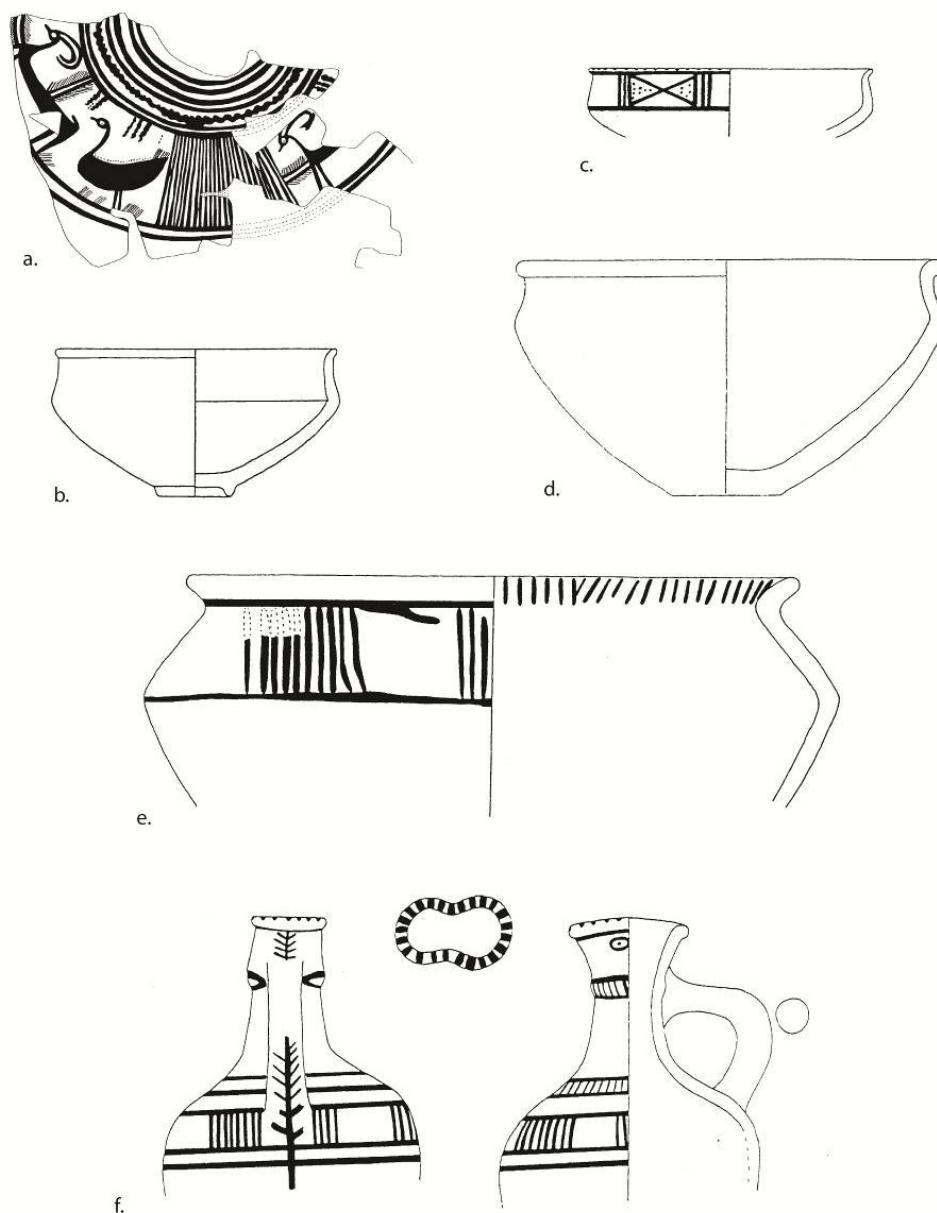


Plate 16: Comparative Level XI-XII-XIII Material from Alalakh Pottery Catalogue by Heinz

- a. Alalakh Level XI (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.69.8)
- b. Alalakh Level XIII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.80.4)
- c. Alalakh Level XII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.72.9)
- d. Alalakh Level XIII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.81.6)
- e. Alalakh Level XII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.73.13)
- f. Alalakh Level XII (Heinz 1992: Kat.A.Pl.75.17a-b)

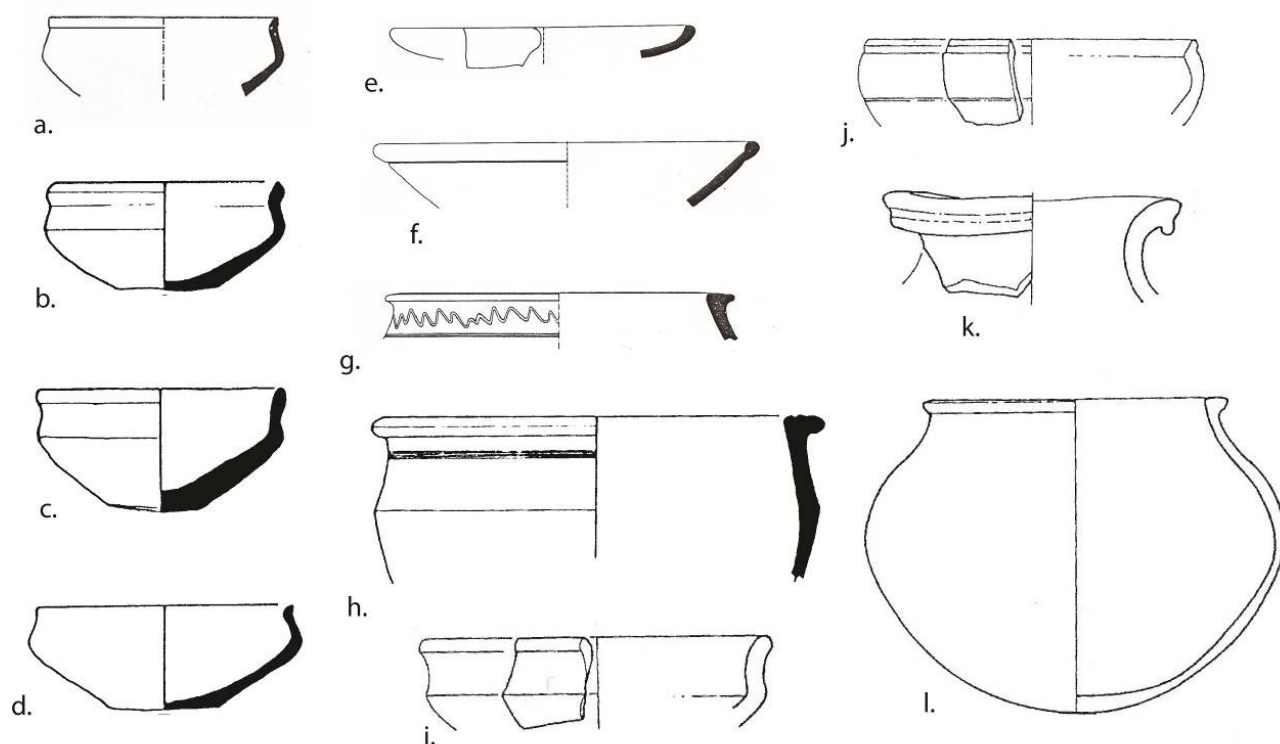


Plate 17: Comparative Pottery from the Idlib Region

- a. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.33)
- b. Mardikh IIIA 1 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. XLVI.6)
- c. Mardikh IIIA 1 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. XLVI.4)
- d. Hama H5 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. XLVI.7)
- e. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.39)
- f. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.39)
- g. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.37)
- h. Mardikh IIIA 1 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. XLVII.21)
- i. Tell Afis MB IB (Mazzoni et al.2002: Fig.6.7)
- j. Tell Afis EB IVB (Mazzoni et al.2002: Fig.6.14)
- k. Tell Afis MB IB (Mazzoni et al.2002: Fig.6.10)
- l. Tell Afis early MB I (Mazzoni et al.2002: Fig.18.5)

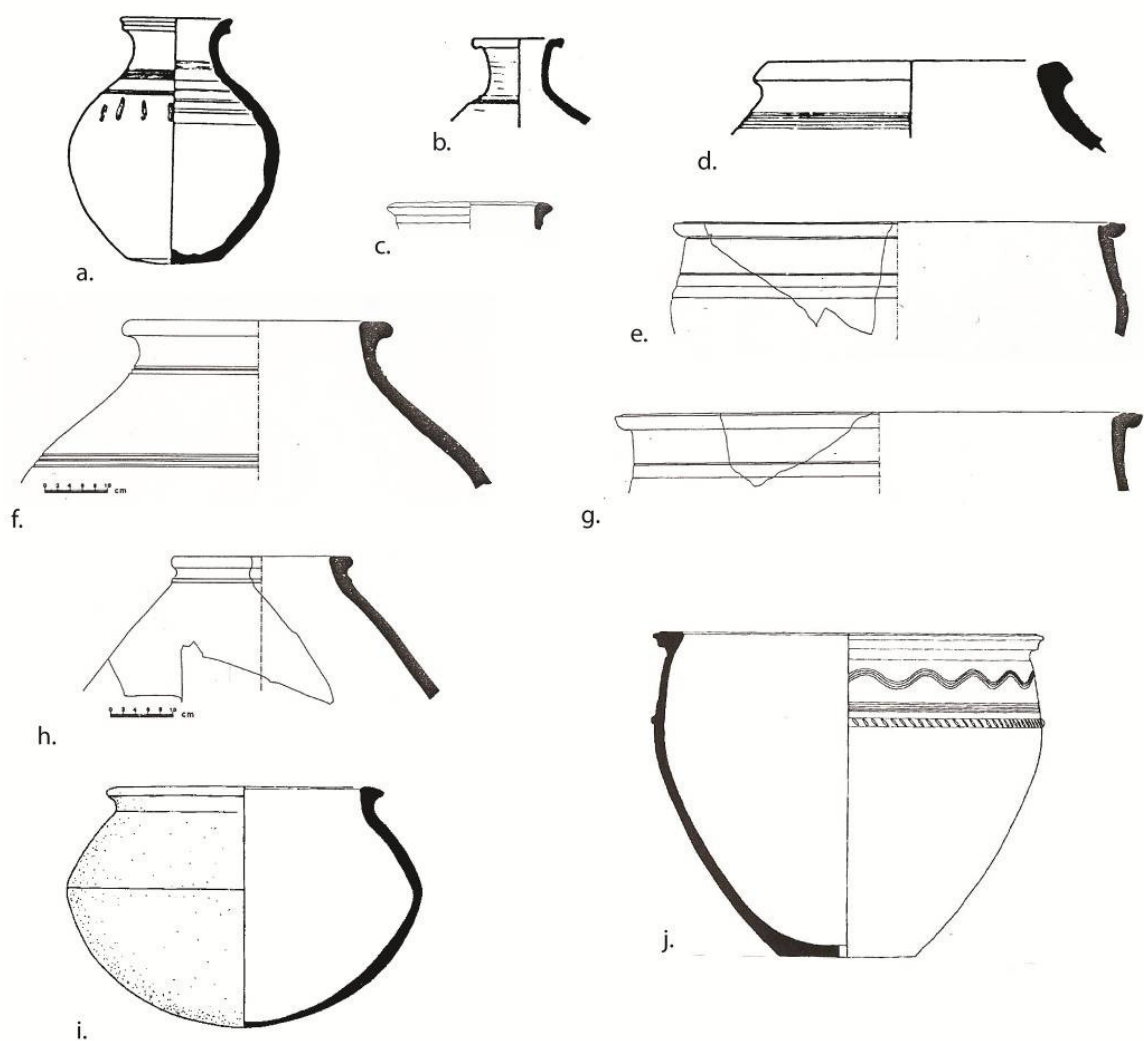


Plate 18: Comparative Pottery from the Idlib Region

- a. Mardikh IIIA 2 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. XLIX.47)
- b. Mardikh IIIB 1 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. LII.60)
- c. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.35)
- d. Mardikh IIIA 1 (Nigro 2002a: Pl. XLVII.18)
- e. Mardikh IIIB (Matthiae 1980: Fig.42)
- f. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.38)
- g. Mardikh IIIA (Matthiae 1980: Fig.36)
- h. Mardikh IIIB (Matthiae 1980: Fig.42)
- i. Mardikh IIIA 2 (Nigro 2002b: Fig.11.2)
- j. Mardikh IIIB 1 (Akkermans and Schwartz 2009: fig.9.3.1)

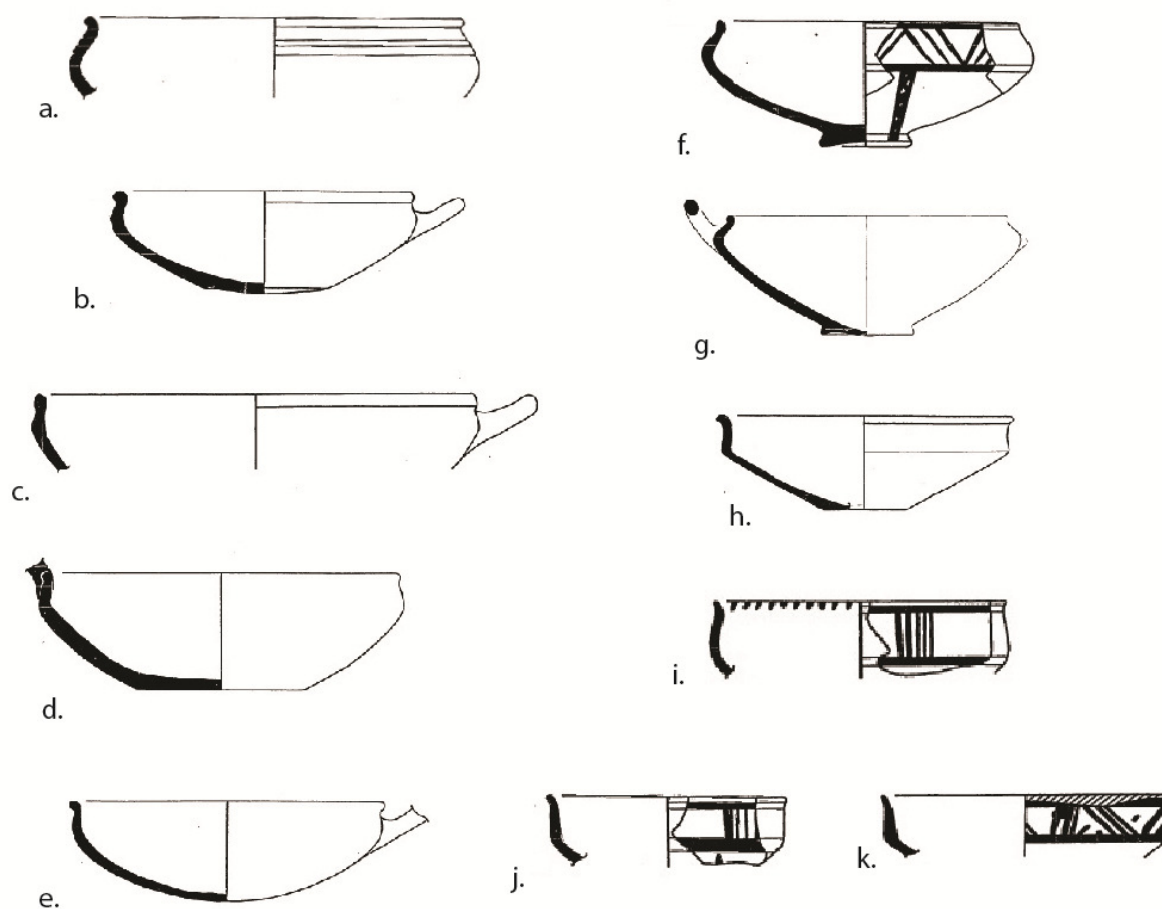


Plate 19: Comparative Pottery from Cilicia

- b. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.5.14)
- c. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.7.17)
- d. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.15.50)
- e. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.17.66)
- f. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.23.84)
- g. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.30.123)
- h. Tarsus Level A.II (Slane 1987: Pl.44.184)
- i. Tarsus Level A.II (Slane 1987: Pl.47.210)
- j. Tarsus Level A.II (Slane 1987: Pl.47.212)
- k. Tarsus Level A.III (Slane 1987: Pl.57.262)

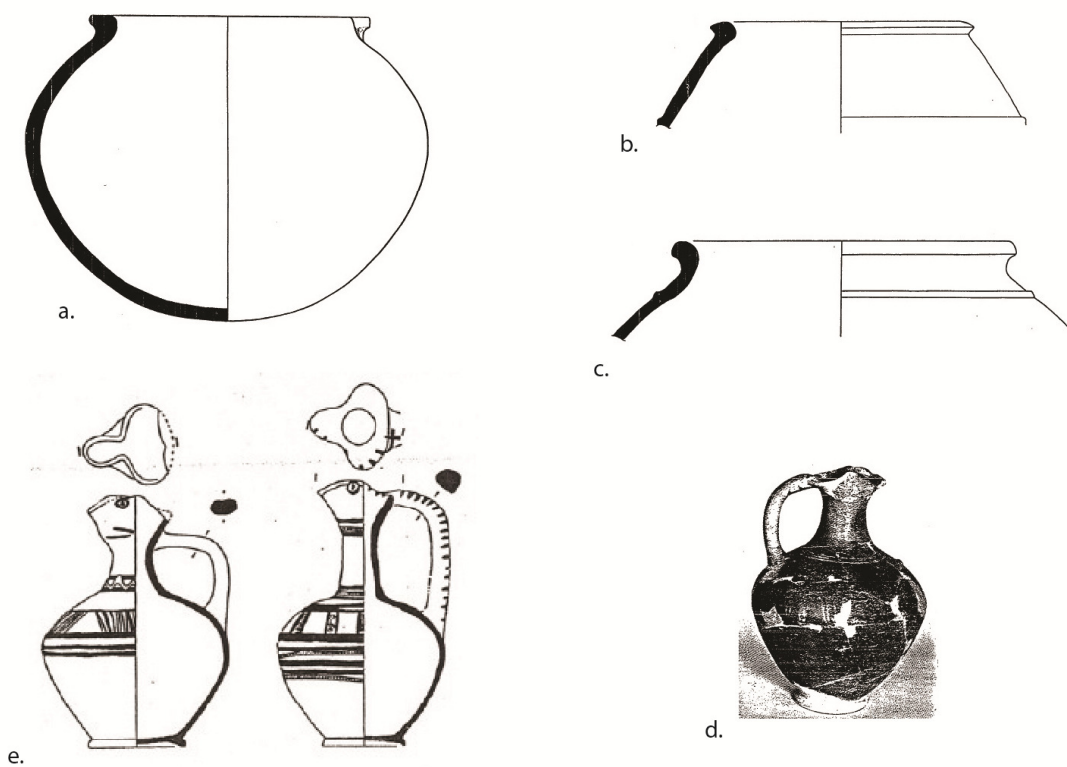


Plate 20: Comparative Pottery from Cilicia

- a. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.8.24)
- b. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.27.110)
- c. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.34.138)
- d. Tarsus Level A.I (Slane 1987: Pl.29.117)
- e. Kinet Höyük, from MB II Building (Gates 2000: Fig.6.2-3)

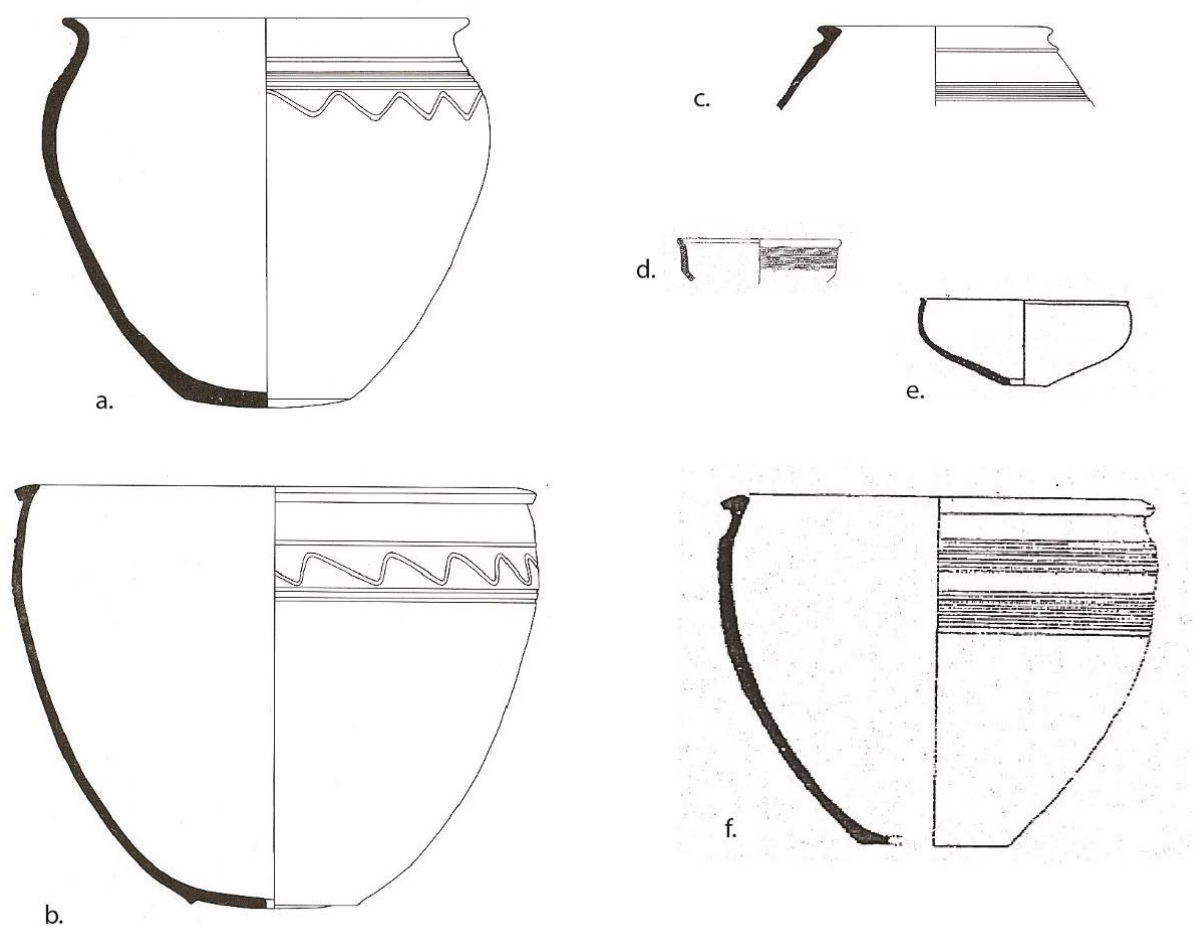


Plate 21: Comparative Pottery from the Khabur Region

- a. Tell al Rimah Level A3 (Postgate, Oates and Oates 1997: Pl.65.628)
- b. Tell al Rimah Level C6a (Postgate, Oates and Oates 1997: Pl.65.624)
- c. Tell al Rimah Level A3 (Postgate, Oates and Oates 1997: Pl.65.629)
- d. Tell Mohammed Diyab Level 5 (Faivre and Nicolle 2007: Pl.XI.365)
- e. Tell Mohammed Diyab 3rd Mill. BC (Fortin 2007: Pl.VI.21)
- f. Tell Mohammed Diyab Level 5 (Faivre and Nicolle 2007: Pl.XI.365)
- g. Tell Mohammed Diyab Level 5 (Faivre and Nicolle 2007: Pl.X.334)

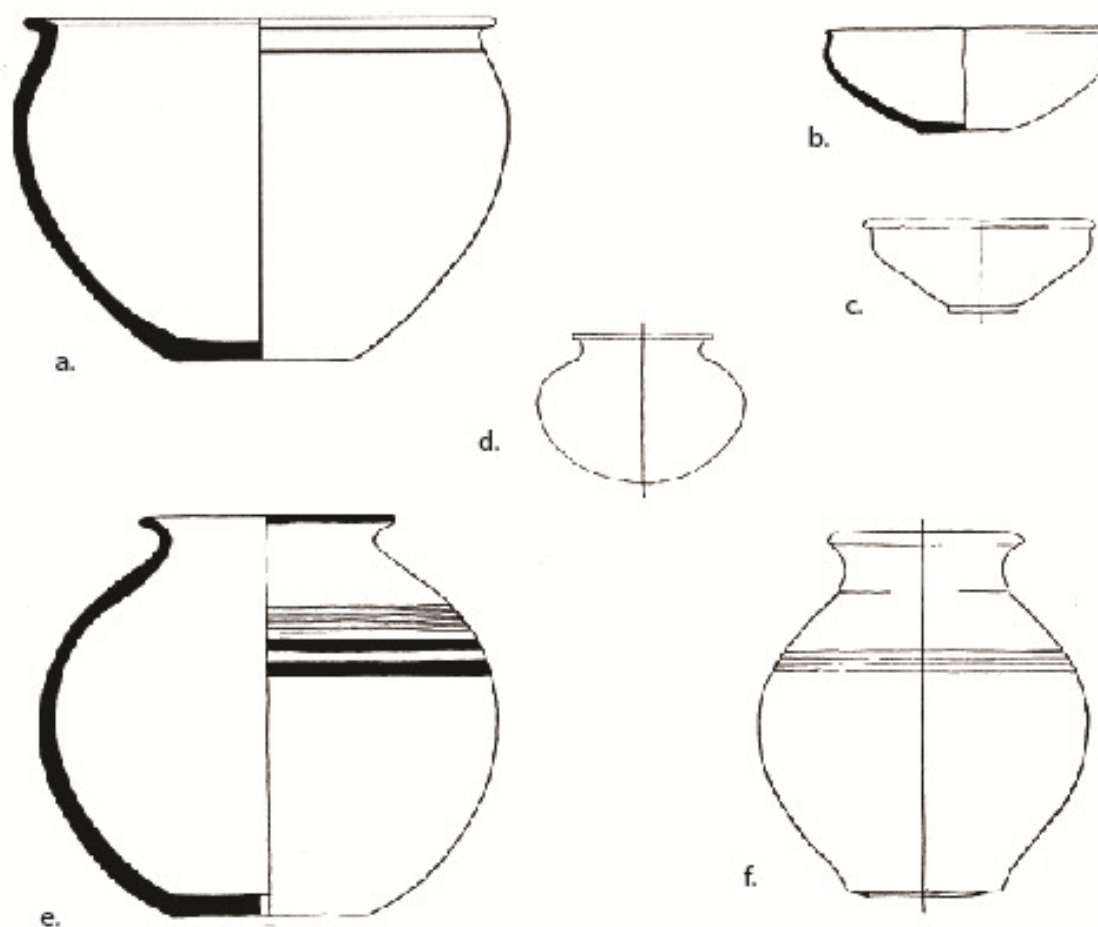


Plate 22: Comparative Pottery from the Khabur Region

- a. Tell Chagar Bazar, Early 2nd Millennium BC (McMahon, Tunca and Bagdo 2001: Fig.18g)
- b. Tell Chagar Bazar, Level II (Mallowan 1936: Fig.9.4)
- c. Tell Chagar Bazar, Early Level I (Mallowan 1937: Fig.16.2)
- d. Tell Chagar Bazar, Level II (Mallowan 1937: Fig.17.2)
- e. Tell Chagar Bazar, Level I (Mallowan 1936: Fig.16.2)
- f. Tell Chagar Bazar, Early Intermediate Level I (Mallowan 1937: Fig.15.14)

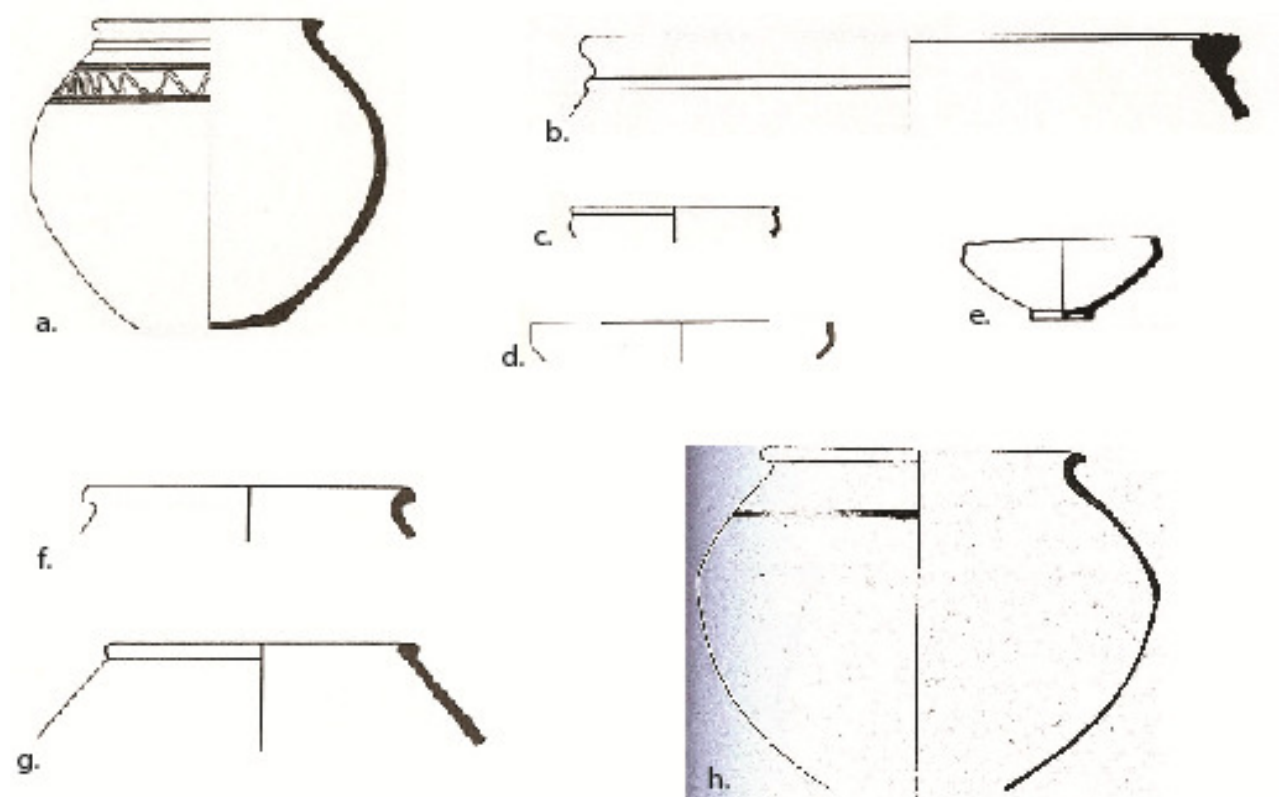


Plate 23: Comparative Pottery from the Euphrates Region

- a. Tell Hadidi, MB IIB (Dornemann 1992: Fig.5.4)
- b. Tell Hadidi, MB IIB (Dornemann 1992: Fig.6.3)
- c. Tell Hadidi, MB IIA (Dornemann 1992: Fig. 15.5)
- d. Tell Hadidi, MB I (Dornemann 1992: Fig. 20.3)
- e. Tell Hadidi, EB III-IV (Dornemann 1988: Fig.16.14)
- f. Tell Hadidi, MB IIA (Dornemann 1992: Fig. 17.13)
- g. Tell Hadidi, MB IIA (Dornemann 1992: Fig. 17.8)
- h. Tell Hadidi, MB IIB (Dornemann 2007: Pl.III.28)

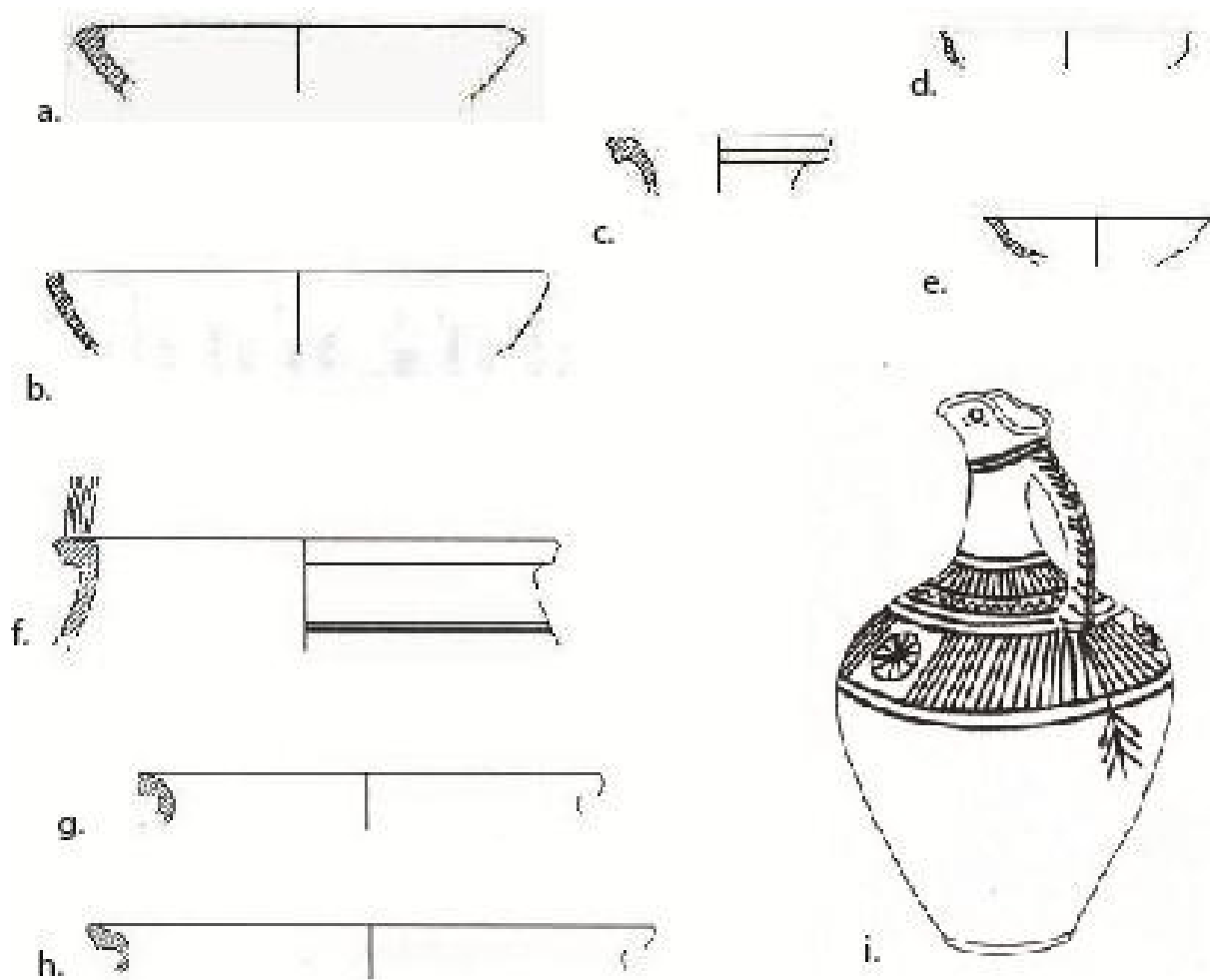


Plate 24: Comparative Pottery from the Lower Orontes Region

- a. Mishrifeh, EB III (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.1.1)
- b. Mishrifeh, EB IV A (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.1.9)
- c. Mishrifeh, MB I (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.4.7)
- d. Mishrifeh, Early MB II (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.6.1)
- e. Mishrifeh, Early MB II (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.6.5)
- f. Mishrifeh, MB I (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.5.2)
- g. Mishrifeh, MB I (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.5.5)
- h. Mishrifeh, MB I (Besana, Da Ros and Iamoni 2008: Fig.5.4)
- i. Qatna, from Tomb 1 (Bagh 2003: Fig.3e, after Schaeffer 1948)

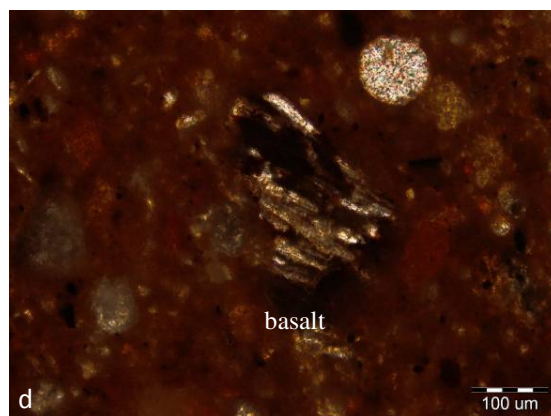
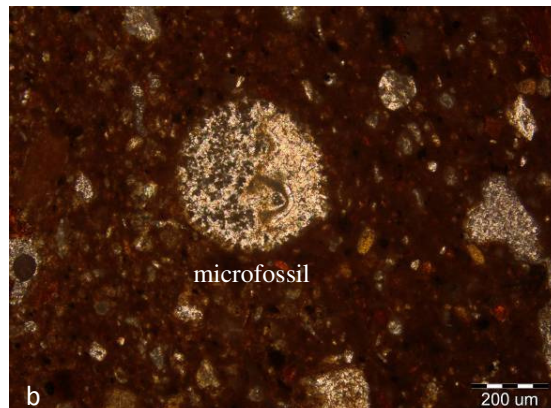
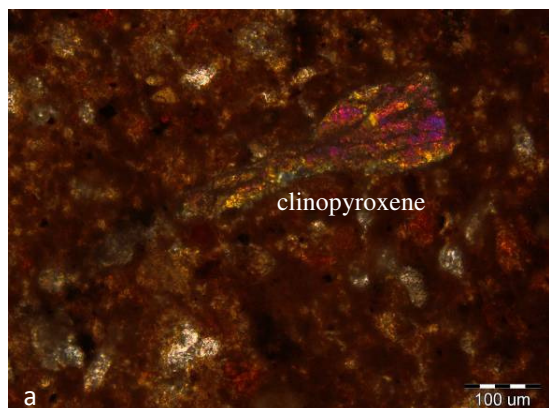


Plate 25: Microscopic View of Simple Ware Samples

- a. SW sample from 105/12 (Cat #82), XPL, magnification of 20
- b. SW sample from 105/12 (Cat #82), XPL, magnification of 10
- c. SW sample from 105/38 (Cat #133), XPL, magnification of 10
- d. SW sample from 105/12 (Cat #82), XPL, magnification of 20

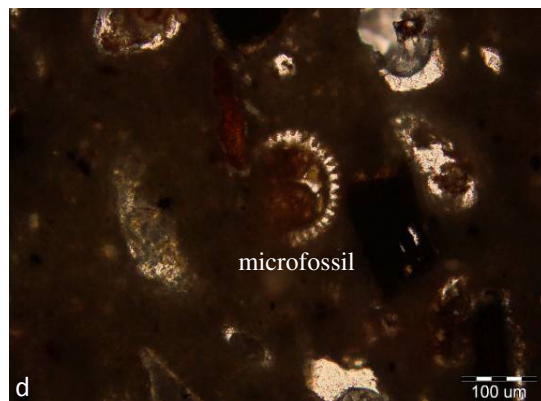
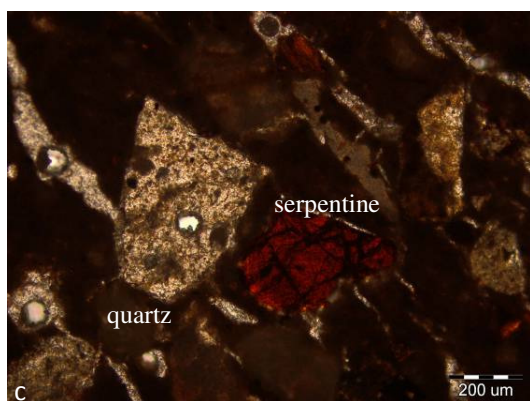
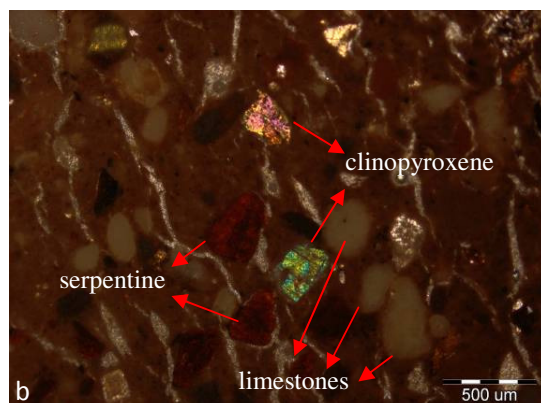


Plate 26: Microscopic View of Simple Ware Samples

- a. SW sample from 105/12 (Cat #82), XPL, magnification of 10
- b. SW sample from 105/62 (Cat #132), XPL, magnification of 5
- c. SW sample from 105/62 (Cat #132), XPL, magnification of 10
- d. SW sample from 106/66 (Cat #15), XPL, magnification of 20

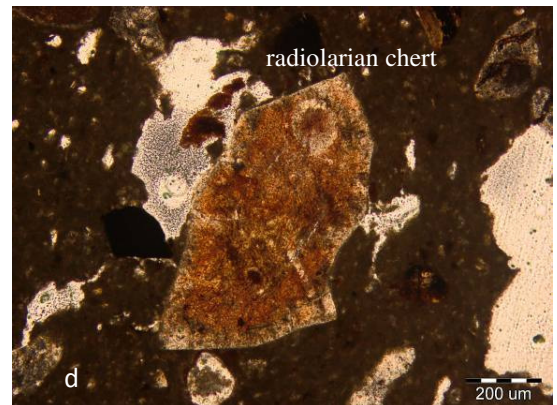
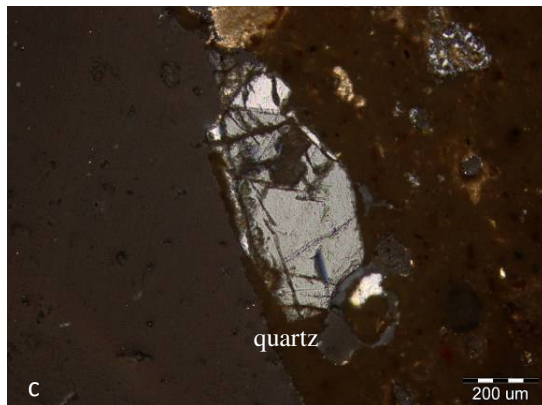
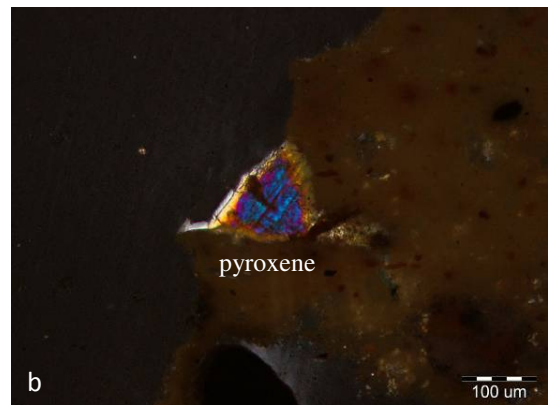
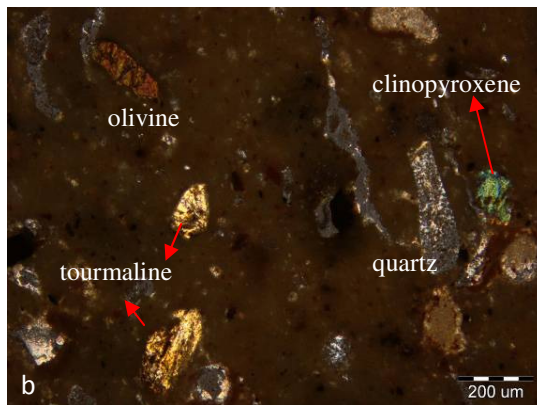


Plate 27: Microscopic View of Simple Ware Samples

- a. SW sample from 106/6 (Cat #12), XPL, magnification of 10
- b. SW sample from 106/6 (Cat #12), XPL, magnification of 20
- c. SW sample from 106/6 (Cat #12), XPL, magnification of 10
- d. SW sample from 106/6 (Cat #12), XPL, magnification of 10

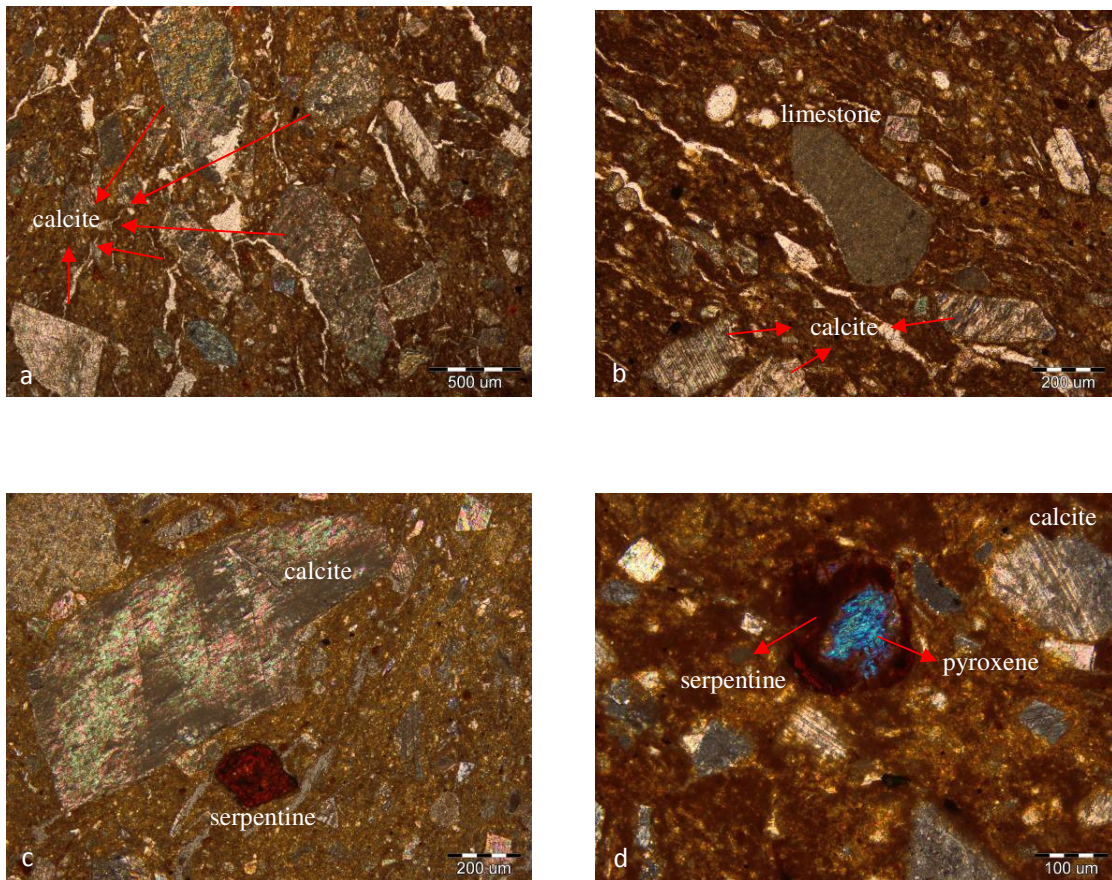


Plate 28: Microscopic View of Mineral Ware Sample

- a. MI sample from 106/36 (Cat #19), XPL, magnification of 5
- b. MI sample from 106/36 (Cat #19), XPL, magnification of 10
- c. MI sample from 106/36 (Cat #19), XPL, magnification of 20
- d. MI sample from 106/36 (Cat #19), XPL, magnification of 20

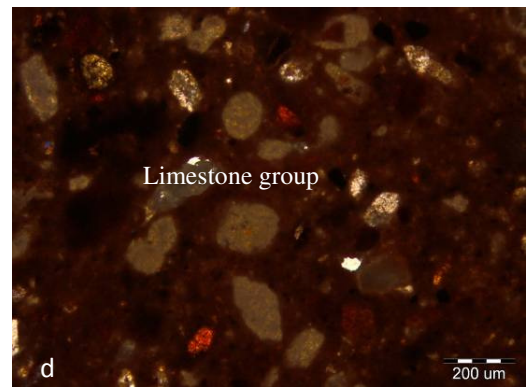
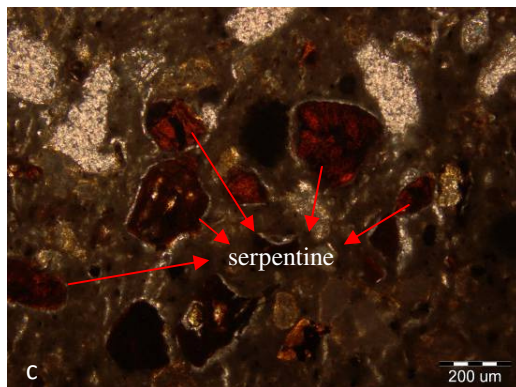
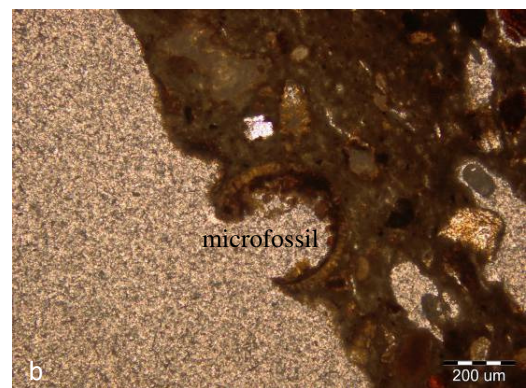
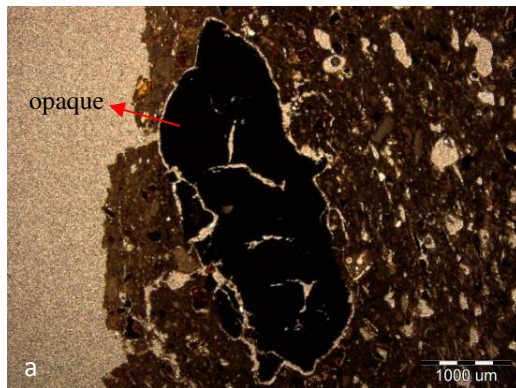


Plate 29: Microscopic View of Syro-Cilician Ware Samples

- a. SCP sample from 105/2 (Cat #145), XPL, general view, magnification of 2.5
- b. SCP sample from 105/2 (Cat #145), XPL, magnification of 10
- c. SCP sample from 105/2 (Cat #145), XPL, magnification of 10
- d. SCP sample from 128/49 (Cat #192), XPL, magnification of 10

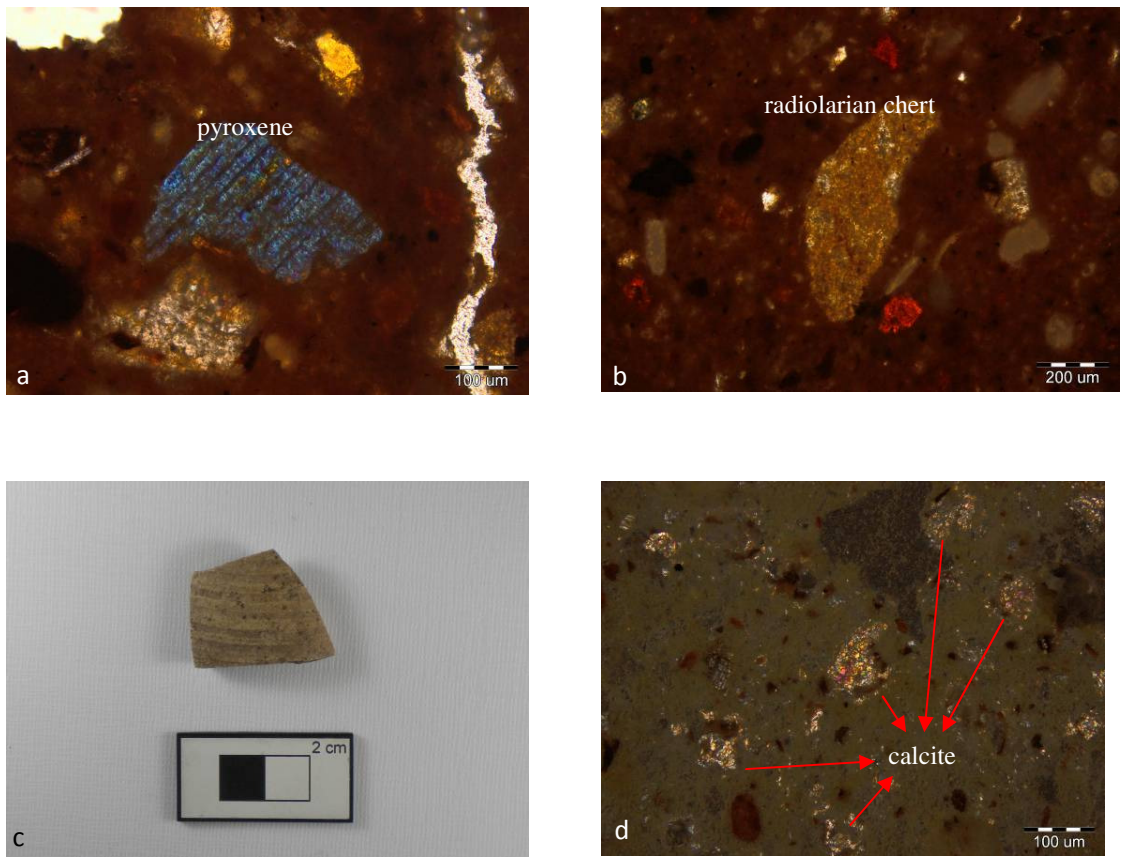


Plate 30: Microscopic View of Syro-Cilician and Simple Fine Ware Samples and Sampled SF Sherd

- a. SCP sample from 128/49 (Cat #192), XPL, magnification of 20
- b. SCP sample from 128/49 (Cat #192), XPL, magnification of 10
- c. Sampled SF sherd, 105/6 (uncatalogued)
- d. SF sample from 105/6 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 20

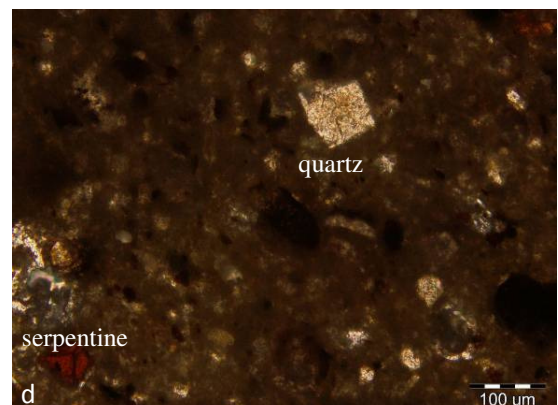
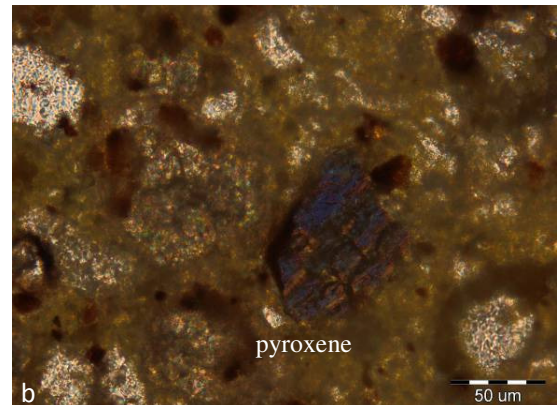
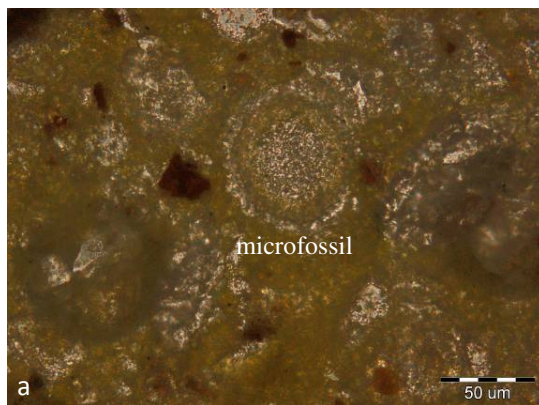


Plate 31: Microscopic View of Simple Fine Ware Sample

- a. SF sample from 105/6 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 5
- b. SF sample from 105/6 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 5
- c. SF sample from 105/6 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 20
- d. SF sample from 105/6 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 20

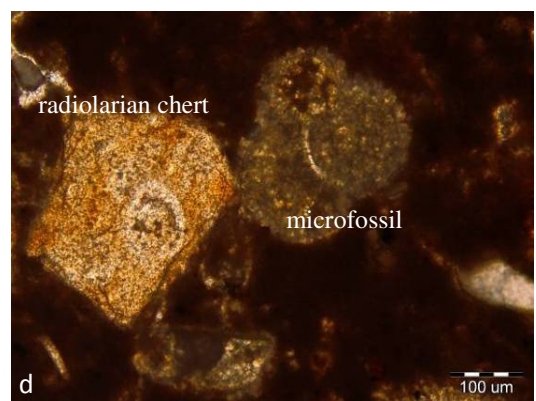
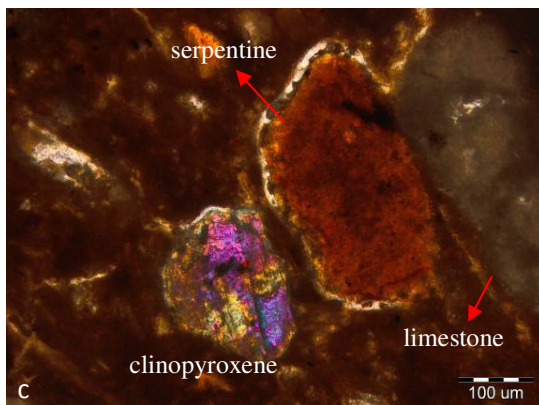
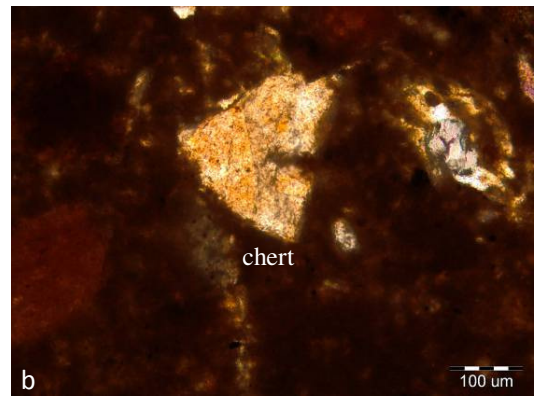
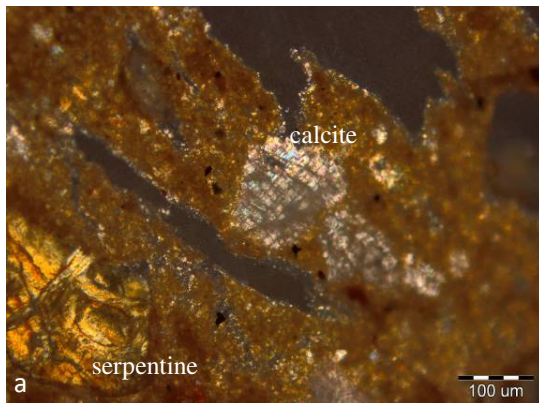


Plate 32: Microscopic View of Red Slip Ware Samples

- a. RS sample from 105/5 (Cat #201), XPL, magnification of 20
- b. RS sample from 105/5 (Cat #201), XPL, magnification of 20
- c. RS sample from 105/5 (Cat #201), XPL, magnification of 20
- d. RS sample from 105/5 (Cat#201), XPL, magnification of 20

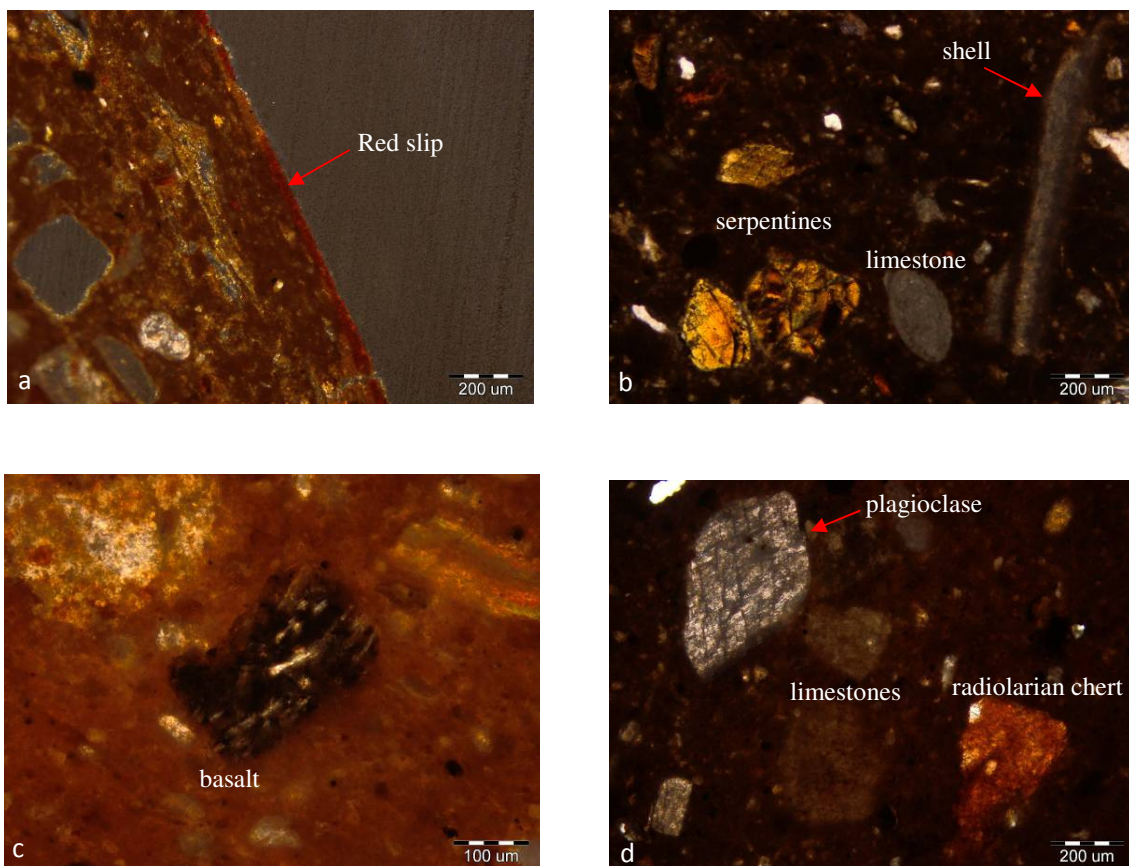


Plate 33: Microscopic View of Red Slip Ware Samples

- a. RS sample from 105/5 (Cat #201), XPL, magnification of 10
- b. RS sample from 105/5 (Cat #201), XPL, magnification of 10
- c. RS sample from 128/57 (Cat #59), XPL, magnification of 20
- d. RS sample from 128/57 (Cat#59), XPL, magnification of 10

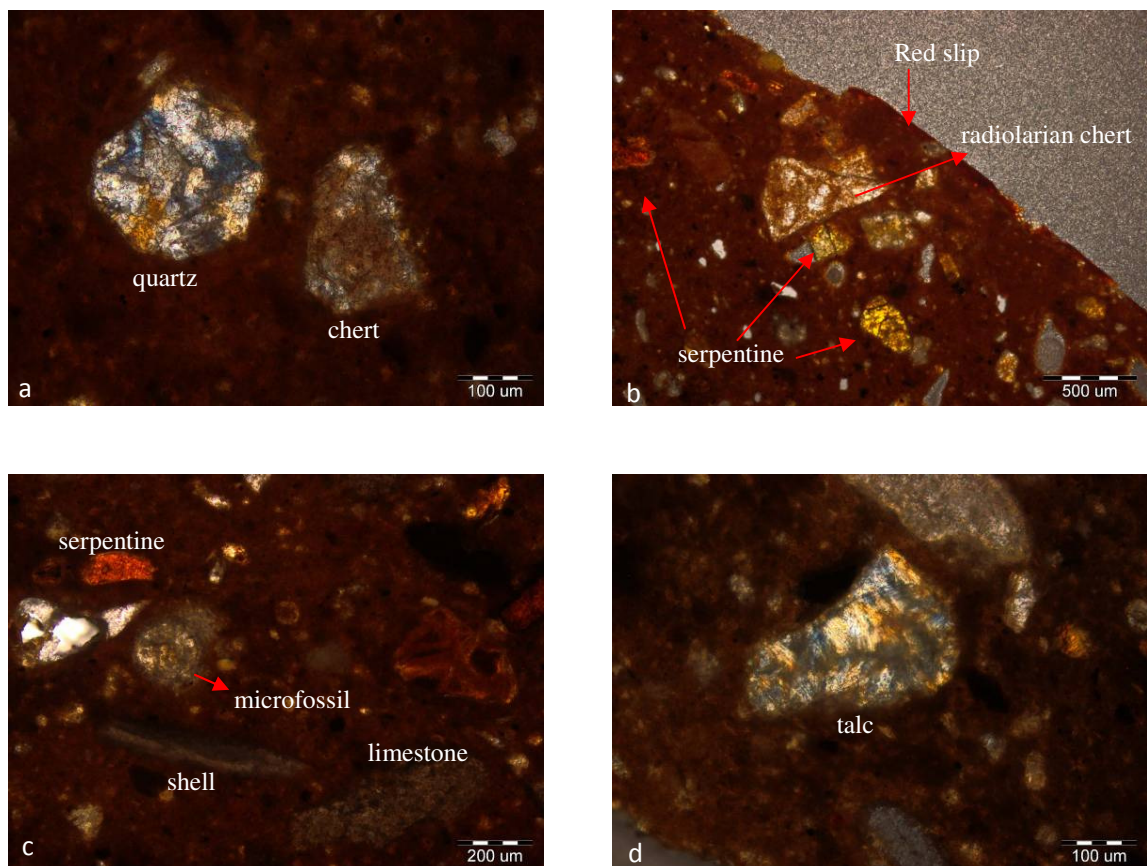


Plate 34: Microscopic View of Red Slip Ware Samples

- a. RS sample from 128/57 (Cat #59), XPL, magnification of 20
- b. RS sample from 128/57 (Cat #59), XPL, magnification of 5
- c. RS sample from 128/57 (Cat #59), XPL, magnification of 10
- d. RS sample from 128/57 (Cat#59), XPL, magnification of 20

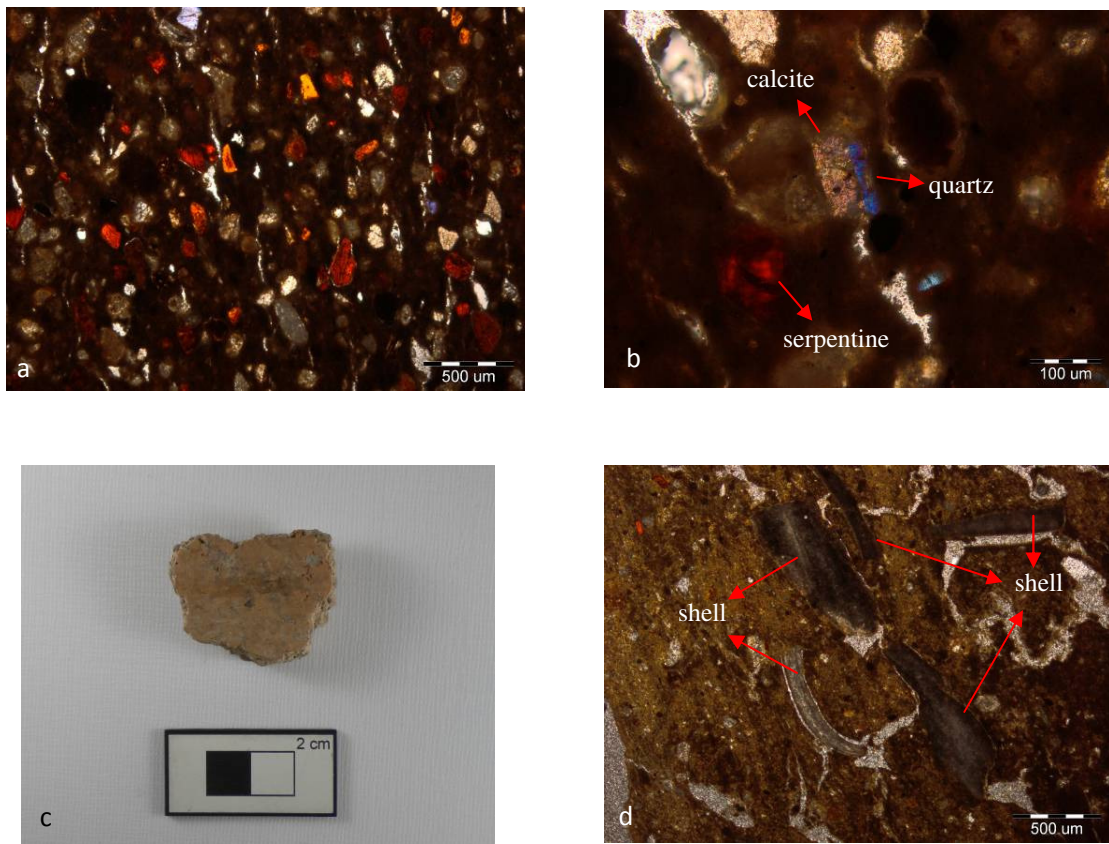


Plate 35: Microscopic View of Banded and Proto-Shell Ware Samples and Sampled PSH Sherd

- a. BW sample from 128/51 (Cat #196), XPL, general view with lots of serpentine, limestone and quartz, magnification of 5
- b. BW sample from 128/51 (Cat #196), XPL, magnification of 20
- c. Sampled PSH sherd, 128/9 (uncatalogued)
- d. PSH sample from 128/9 (uncatalogued), PPL, magnification of 5

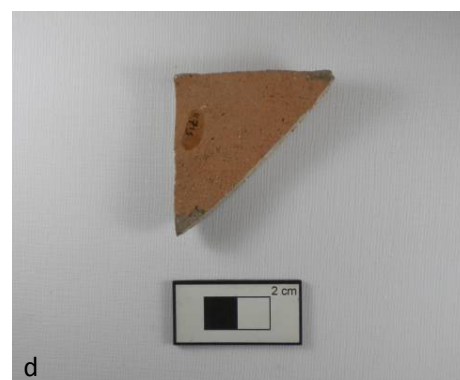
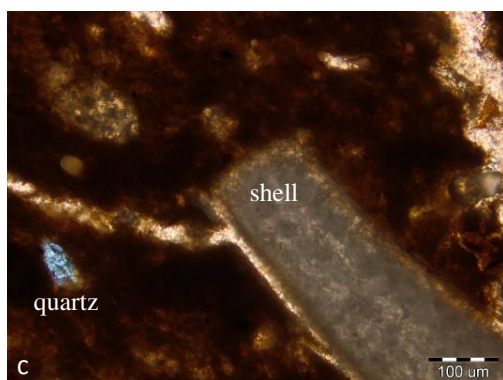
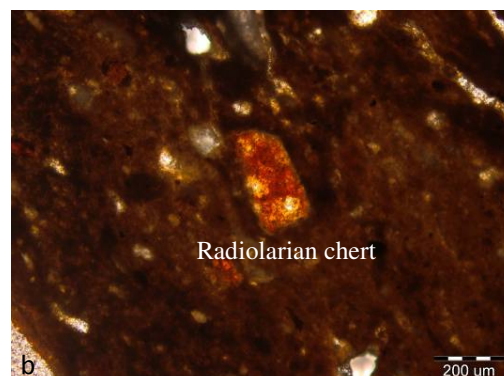
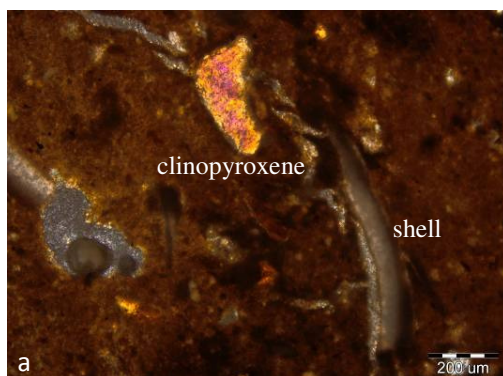


Plate 36: Microscopic View of Proto-Shell Ware Sample and Sampled UNH Sherd

- a. PSH sample from 128/9 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 10
- b. PSH sample from 128/9 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 10
- c. PSH sample from 128/9 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 20
- d. Sampled UNH sherd, 128/83 (uncatalogued)

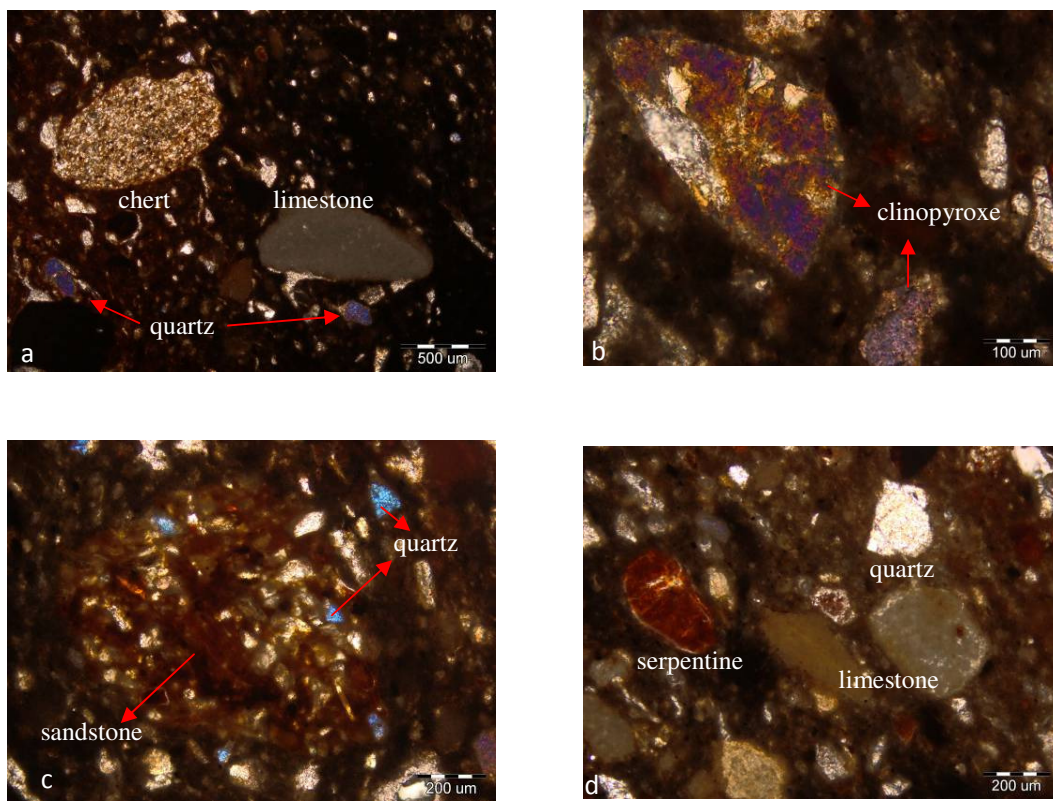


Plate 37: Microscopic View of Unknown Handmade Ware Sample

- a. UNH sample from 128/83 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 5
- b. UNH sample from 128/83 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 20
- c. UNH sample from 128/83 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 10
- d. UNH sample from 128/83 (uncatalogued), XPL, magnification of 10

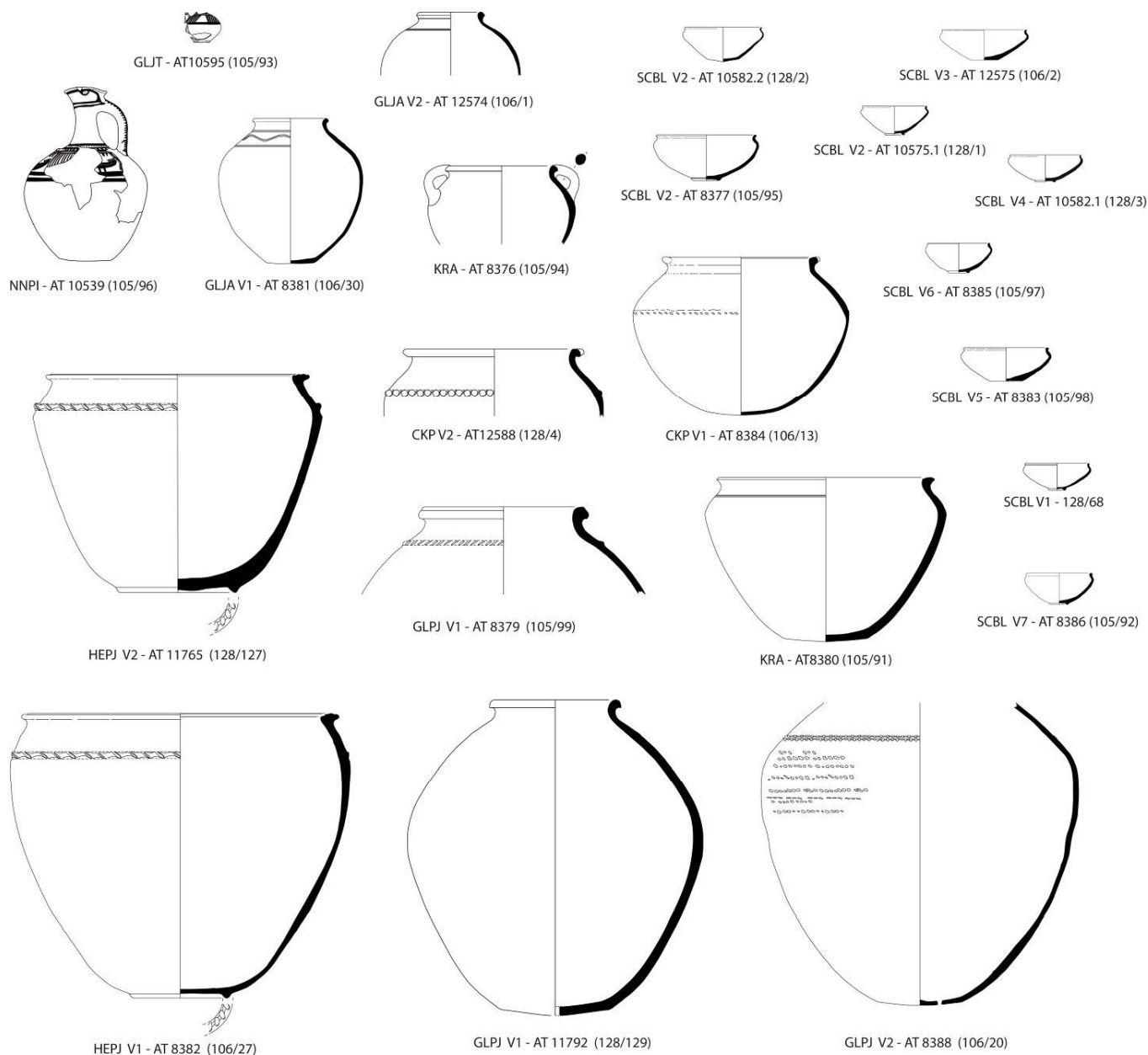


Plate 38: Complete/Partially Complete Vessels from the Alalakh 33.32 Context

APPENDIX C

FIGURES

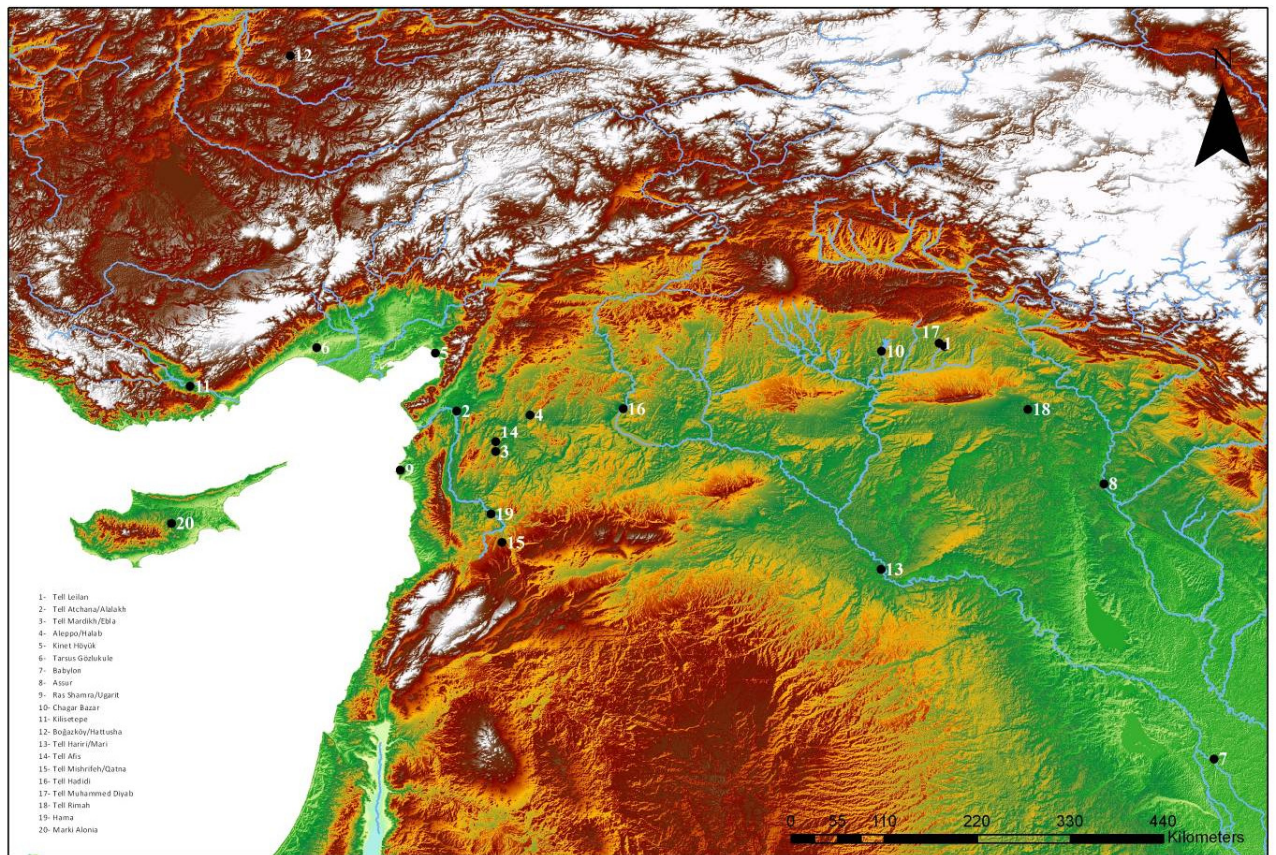


Fig. 3.1: Tell Atchana/Alalakh and other Middle Bronze Age sites of Turkey and Syria mentioned in the thesis (Courtesy of Murat Akar)

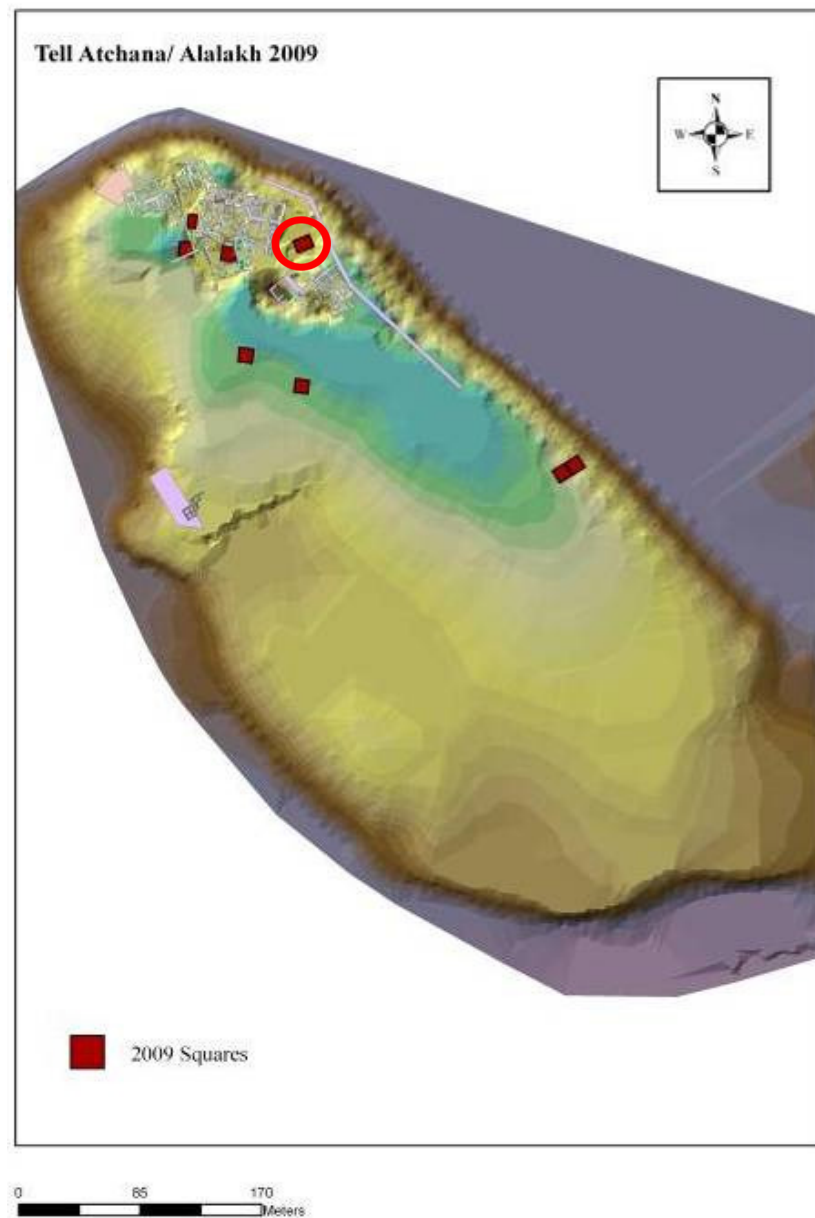


**Fig. 4.1: The location of the Square 33.32 on the mound
(Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)**

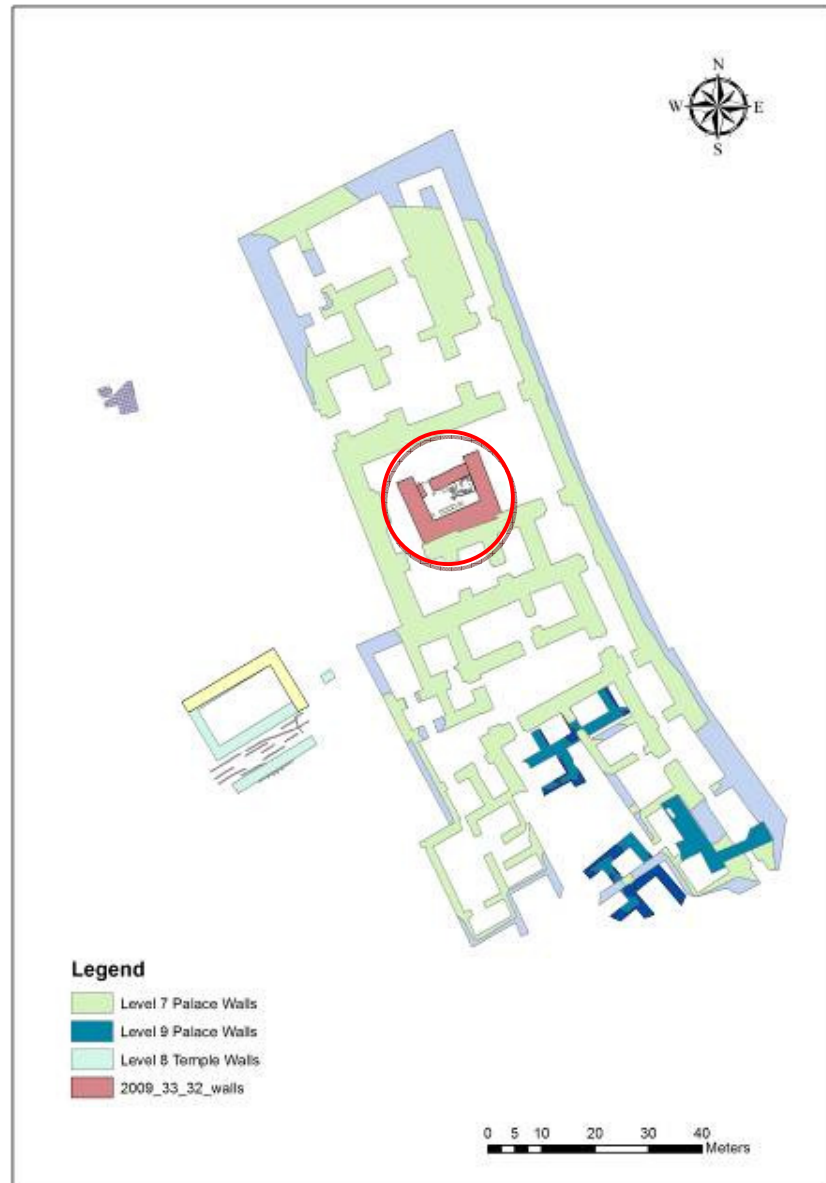


Fig. 4.2: The location of the palace kitchen context within Level VII Palace (Courtesy of Murat Akar)



Fig. 4.3: The Plan of the Square 33.32 Phase 3c (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.4: Palace kitchen context Room A, view from southeast (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.5: Palace kitchen context, Rooms A and B, view from north (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.6: Room A with its hearth and elevated platform, view from northeast.
(Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.7: Room A, after the elevated platform was taken down, view from northeast. (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



**Fig. 4.8: Large pieces of burnt intact timber found in Room A.
(Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)**

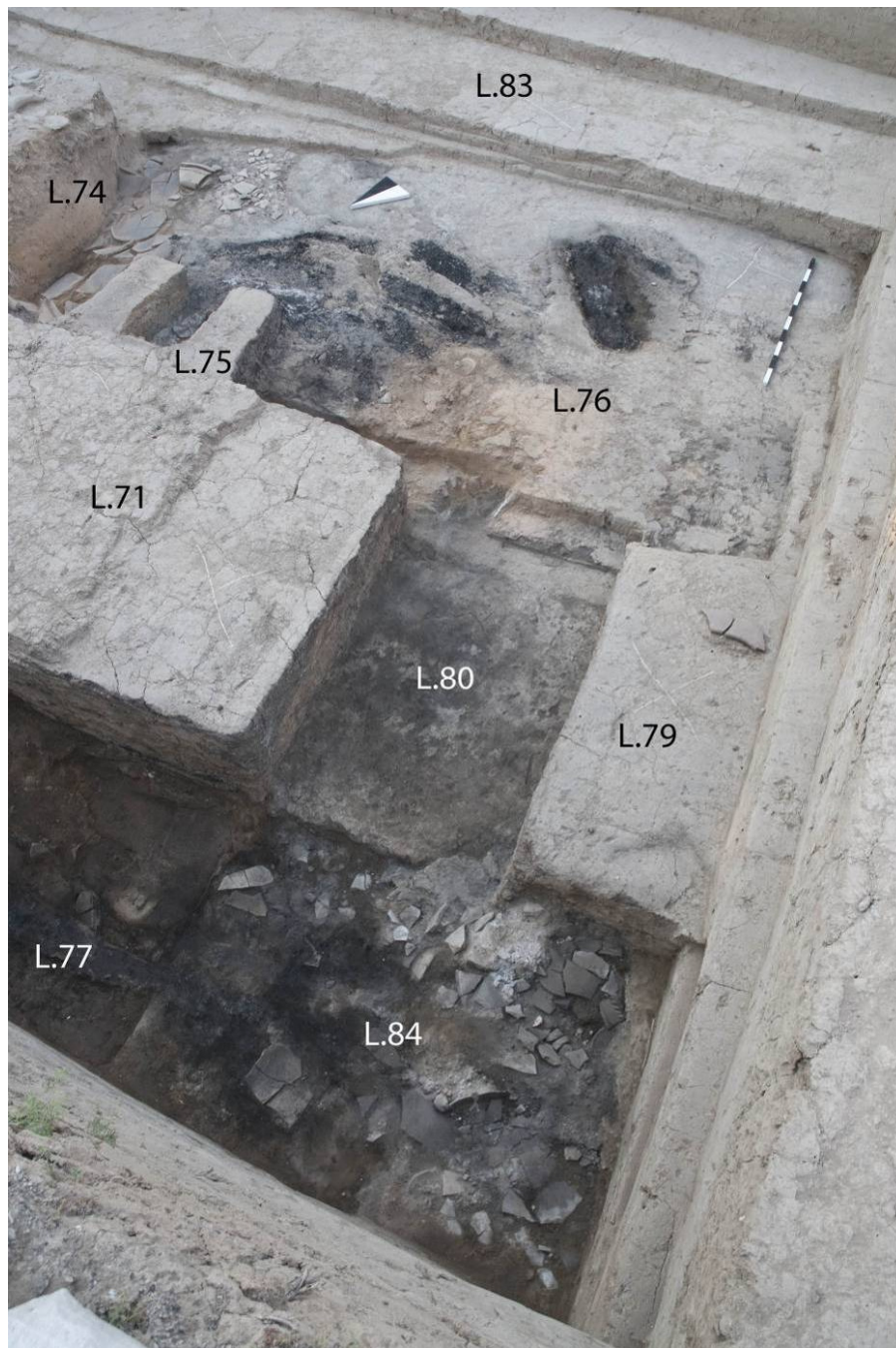


Fig. 4.9: Rooms A and B with the passage way linking them, view from the northwest.(Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.10: Room B, view from the north. (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.11: Room B floor and benches with the passage way and distinct step, view from the northeast. (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.12: Room B with its floor and benches, view from southeast.(Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)

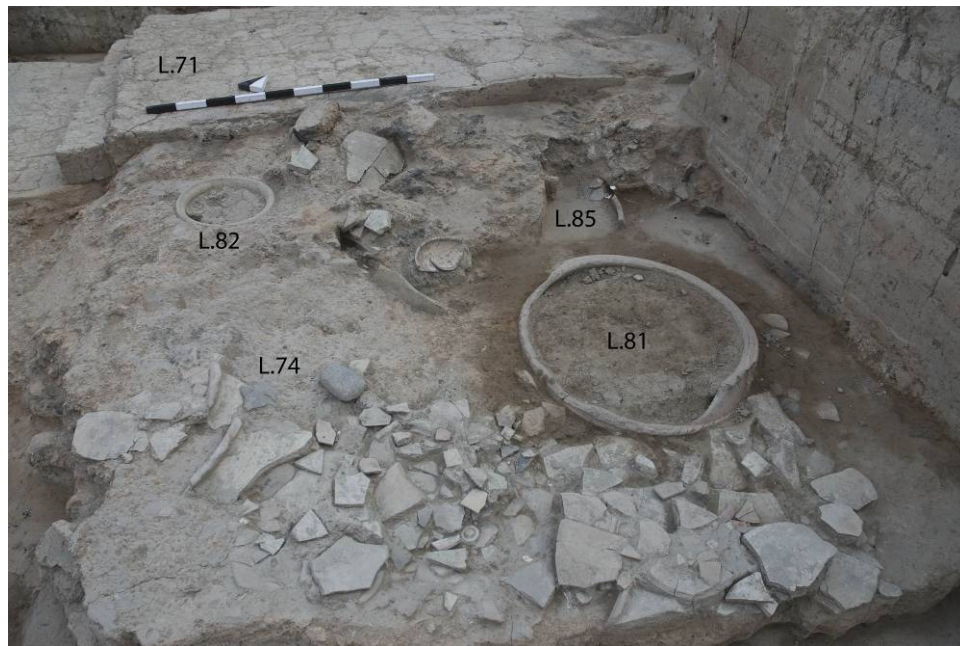


Fig. 4.13: The elevated platform with the *in situ* pithoi (L.81, L.82 and L.85) and the other vessels placed on it. (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.14: Partial pithoid jar (AT 11766) shown *in situ* with the grains exposed inside it (left) and the detail of the grains (right). (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)



Fig. 4.15: Partial pithoid jar (AT 11766) from the elevated platform in Room A, showing both the complete (left) and the possibly intentional partial part (right). (Tell Atchana/Alalakh Excavations Archive)

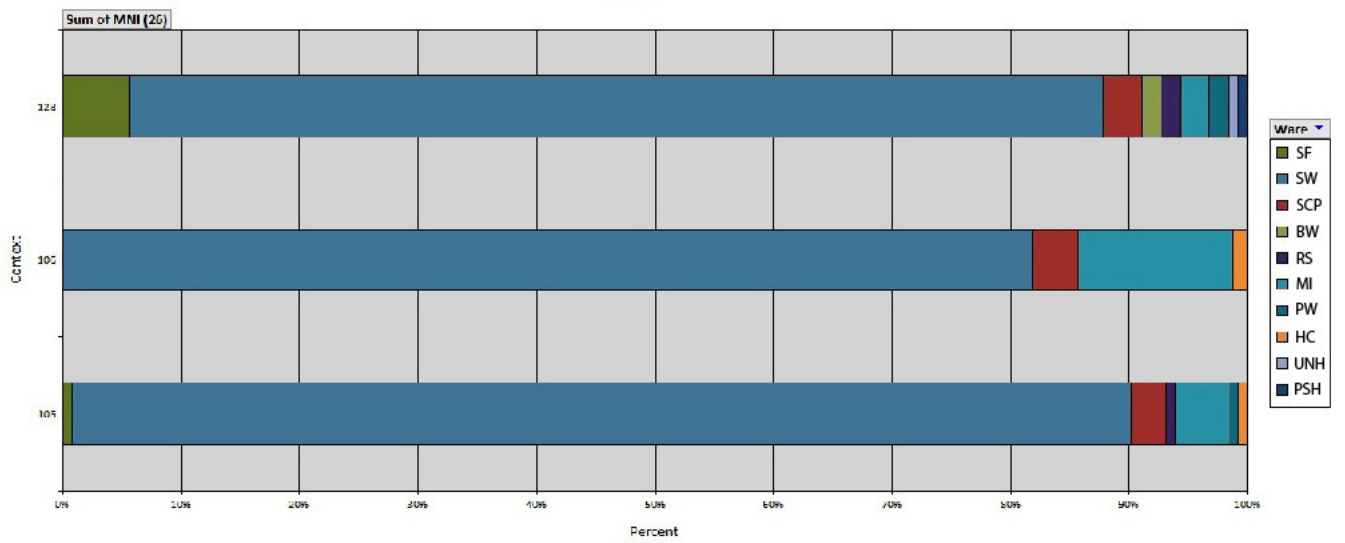


Fig. 4.16: Chart showing the distribution of the ware types within three contexts at the kitchen.

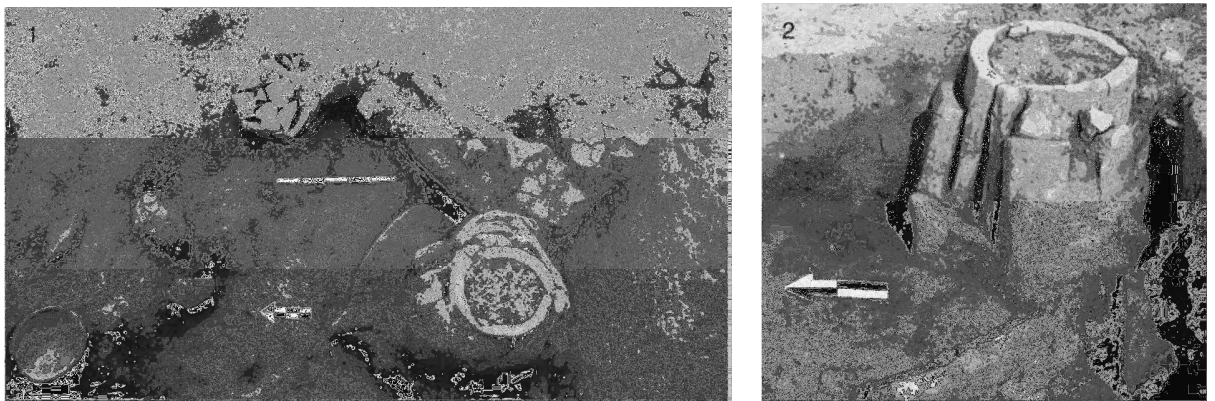
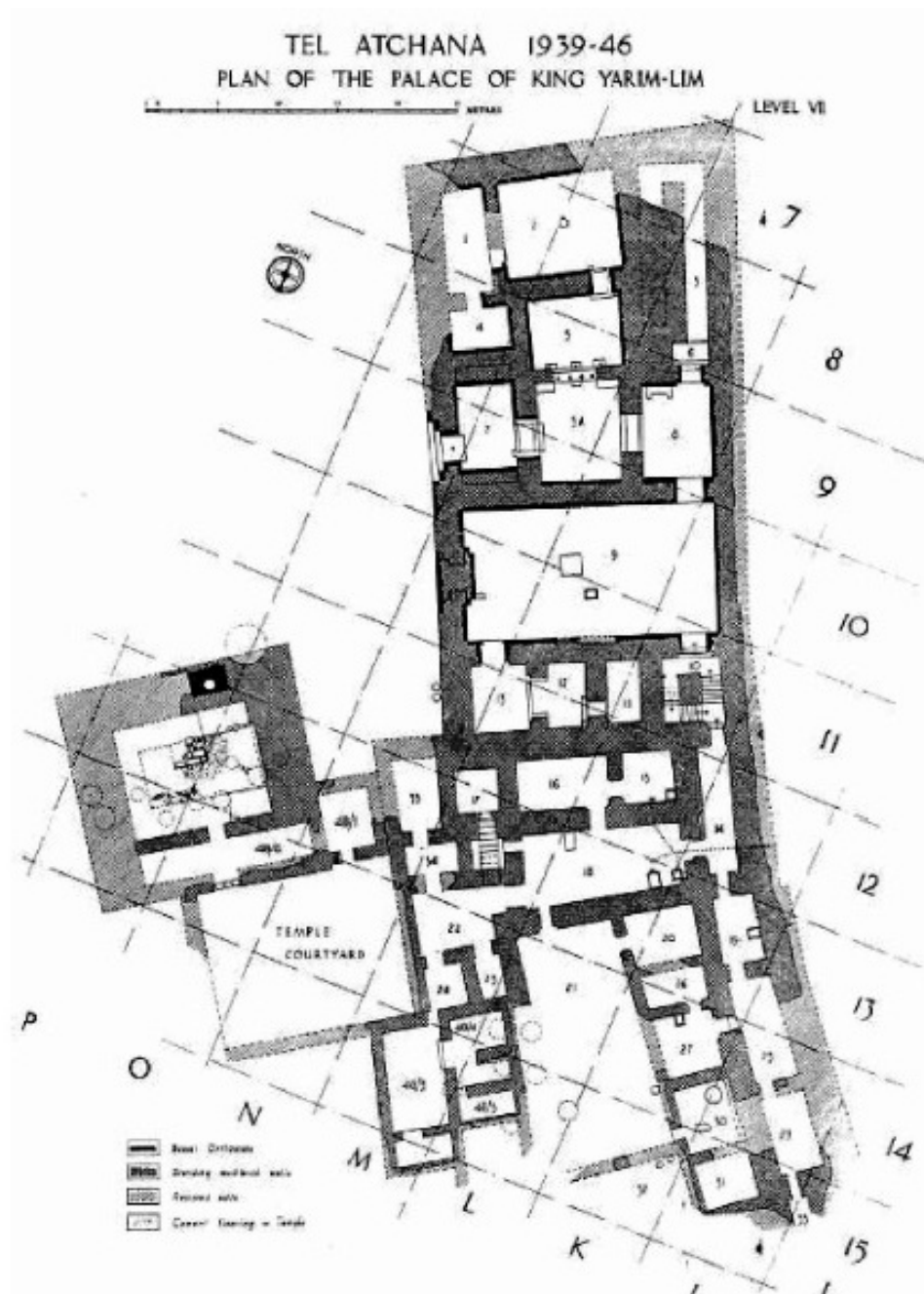


Fig. 5.1: Horseshoe shaped hearth in kitchen/workshop from square 47.51 of Area 3
(Yener and Yazıcıoğlu 2010: 44)



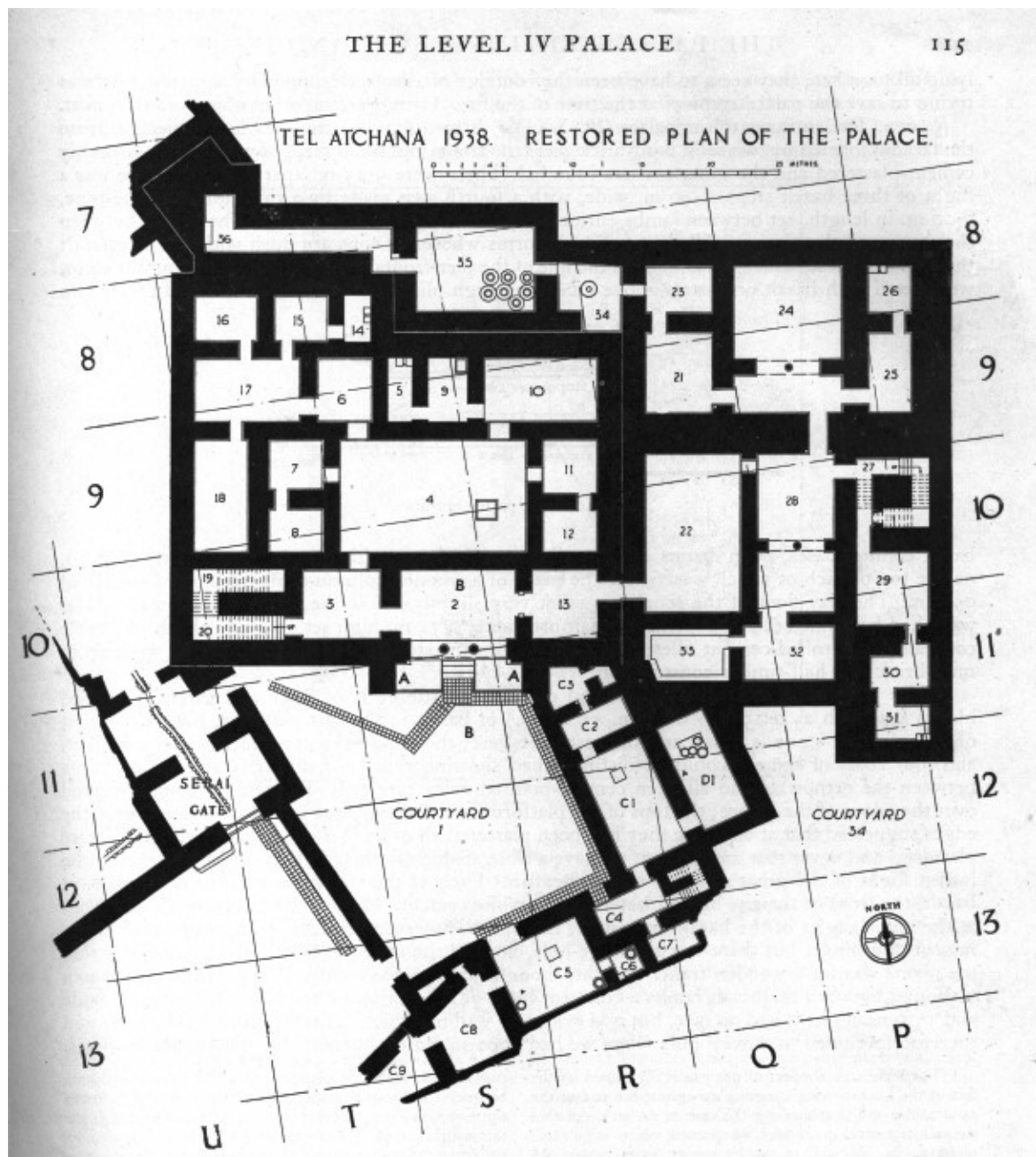


Fig. 5.3: Level IV Palace of Alalakh (Woolley 1995:115)

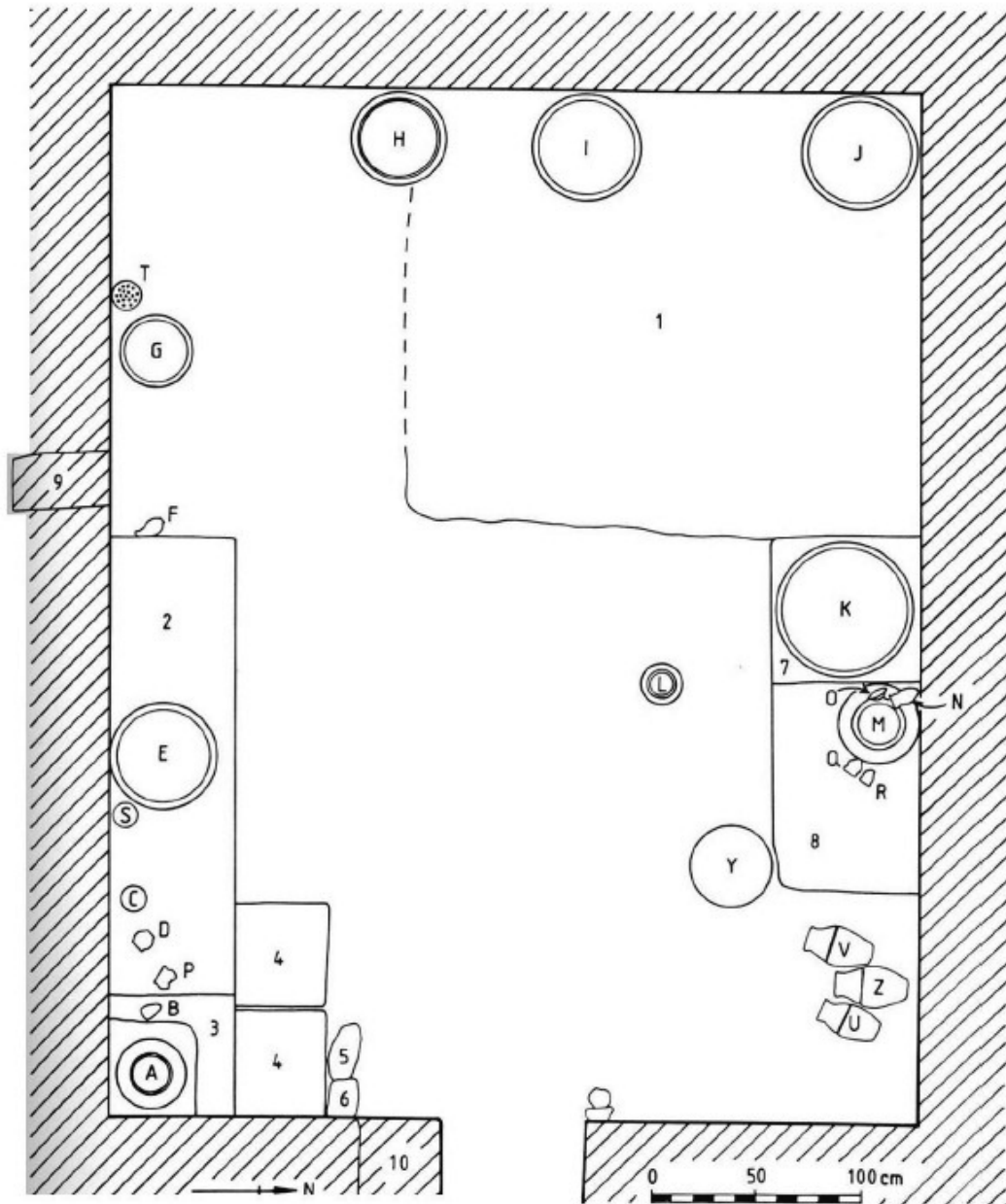


**Fig. 5.5: Late Old Babylonian Kitchen Context from Tell al-Rimah
(Postgate, Oates and Oates 1997: 35)**

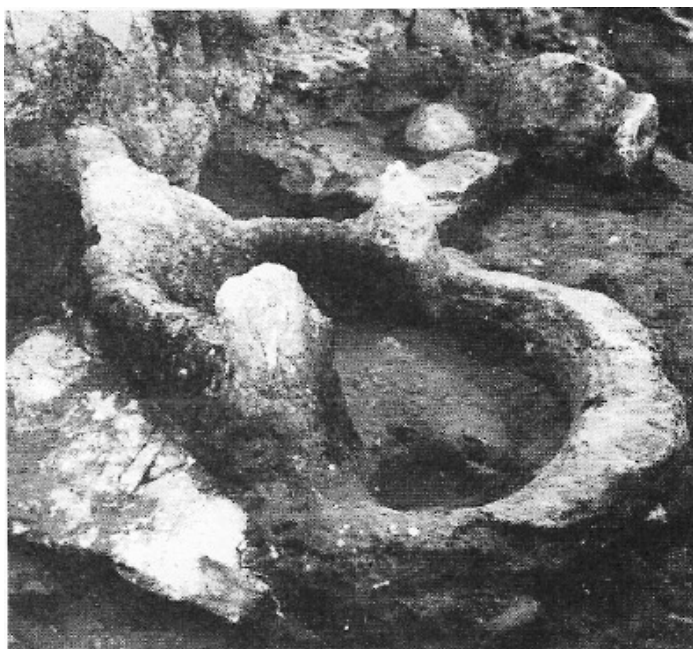


Fig. 5.6: Hob P2450 as permanent installation from Marki-Alonia (Frankel and Webb 1996: Pl. 32b)



Fig. 5.7: Horseshoe shaped *tannur* in L.6522 from the Western Fort of Tell Mardikh-Ebla (Peyronel and Spreafico 2008: 220)

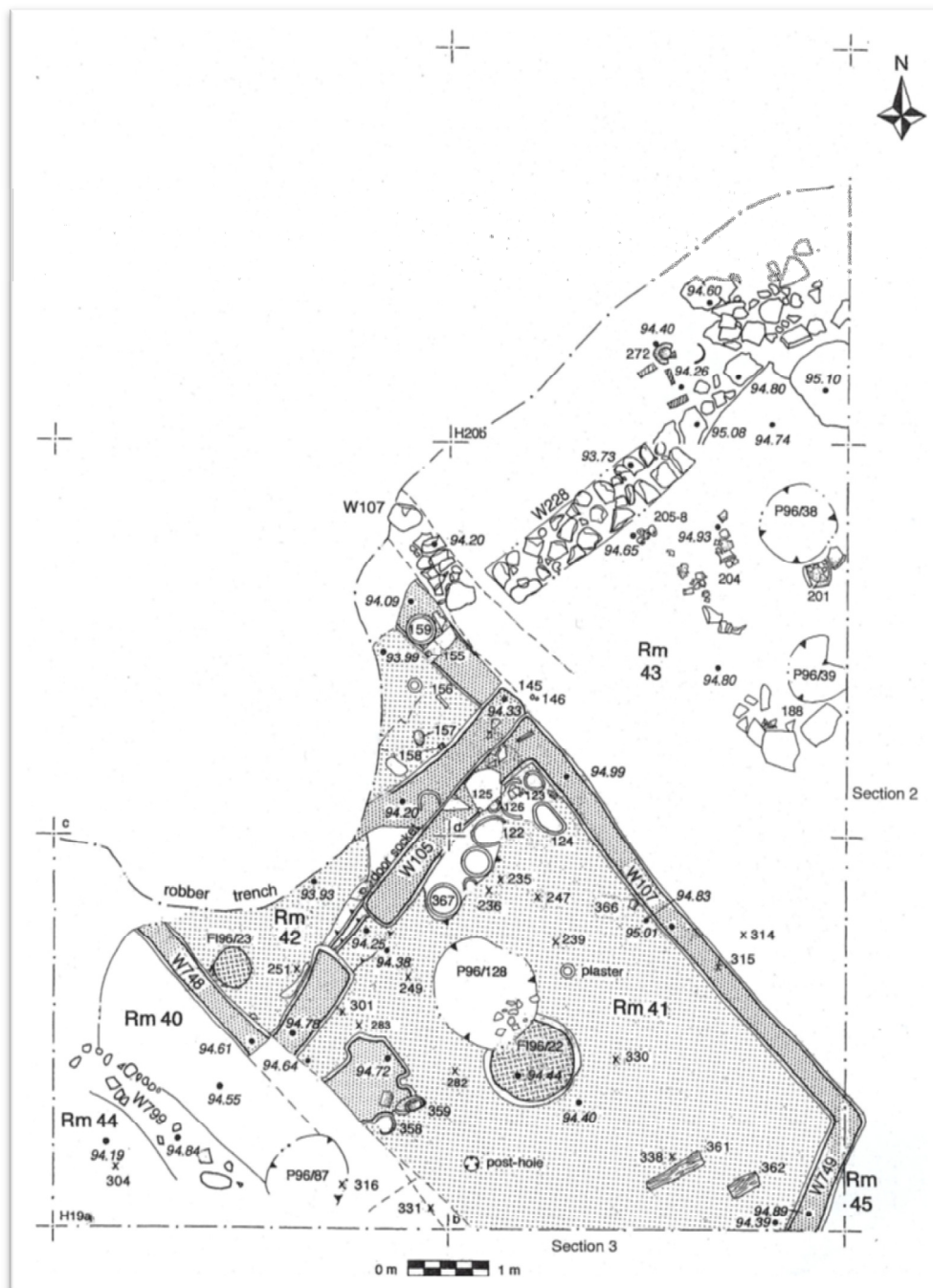


Fig. 5.8: Phase IVa Context from Kilise Tepe (Postgate and Thomas 2007: 828)

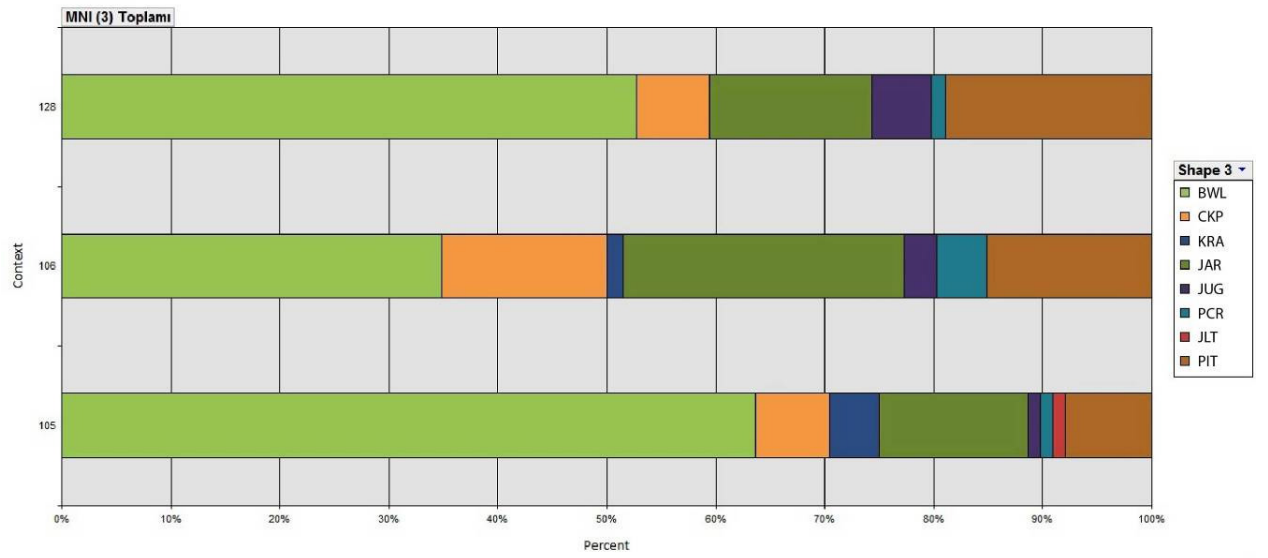


Fig. 6.1: Chart showing the distribution of the vessel shape types within three contexts at the kitchen.