

APPENDIX: LATE OTTOMAN CERAMICS FROM THE ETHIOPIAN MONASTERY IN THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

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INTRODUCTION

A small ceramic assemblage was retrieved from the eastern hall of a building on the premises of the Ethiopian Monastery in the Christian Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem. Most of the material comes from the earthen fills above Floor 149 (L142, L147, L148; Figs. 2, 3) and dates from the late Ottoman period. The single diagnostic sherd retrieved from the fill under Floor 149 (L150; Fig. 1) dates from the late Mamluk or early Ottoman period. The vessels include imported table wares, imported stoneware bottles, terracotta pipes and tubes and a narghile head.

The late Ottoman assemblage was studied based on the corpus that was created by the author during the study of the ceramic material from the extensive excavations at the *Qishle*—the Ottoman military compound—in Jaffa (Vincenz, in press). The typology created for that report is used here, prefixed by the letter J, for ‘Jaffa’, and followed by an abbreviation for the vessel type (e.g., BL for ‘bowl’) and a numeral. The imported vessels from Sarreguemines were studied with the help of Henri Gauvin and Jean-Jacques Becker’s (2007) book. Much of the research was done with the help of friends and colleagues on various pottery and porcelain research groups on Facebook. The studies by John Hayes (1992) on the imported glazed earthenware vessels and of Yigal Israel (2006) on the locally produced tubes and pipes were very useful.

PROBE UNDER FLOOR 149 (Fig. 1)

The single diagnostic pottery sherd found in the probe is a fragment of a high ring base (Type J-MONO-BL-BASE-1) which is slipped white on the interior and exterior and glazed yellowish green on the interior. High ring bases first appeared in the thirteenth century CE, on imported vessels from Greece and Turkey (Avissar and Stern 2005:51, Fig. 20:1–2), were common during the Mamluk period (e.g., Avissar and Stern 2005:22–24, Fig. 8:9) and continued well into the Ottoman period (e.g., Hayes 1992: Fig. 108:a 14.2). Thus, this vessel should probably be dated to the late Mamluk or early Ottoman period.

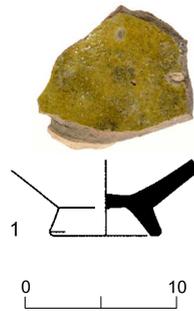


Fig. 1. A High ring base from below Floor 149.

Type	Locus	Basket	Description	Dimensions (cm)
J-MONO-BL-BASE-1	150	1030/3	Brown ware (7.5YR 5/3); numerous small round and large angular white inclusions; white slip on int. and ext.; yellowish green glaze on int.	Diam. 8

FILLS COVERING FLOOR 149 (Figs. 2, 3)

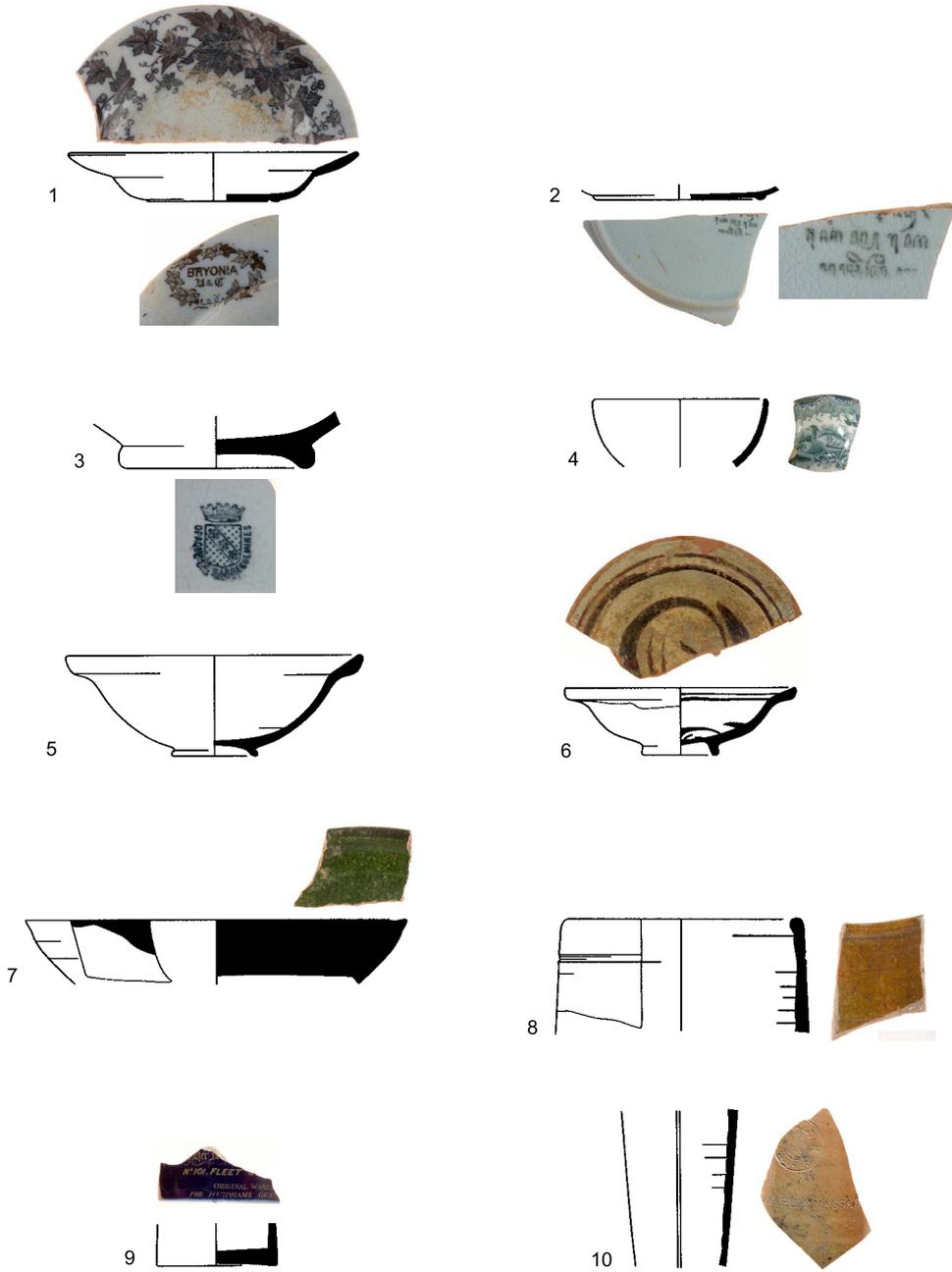
GLAZED HARDPASTE VESSELS (Fig. 2:1–4)

Plates (Fig. 2:1, 2).— The plate in Fig. 2:1 (Type J-SARRE-PL-10) has an upturned ledge rim and is decorated with a black transfer pattern. The backstamp identifies both the pattern and the factory. The factory is Utzschneider in Sarreguemines, France, and the décor is called Bryonia. The Utzschneider factory produced this series for export at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth (Faïencité 2001: Planches Exportation no. 15).

The base fragment in Fig. 2:3 (Type J-WW-PL-3A) belongs to a plate bearing a black underglaze stamp of the Dutch Petrus Regout manufacturer in Maastricht. A complete stamp of this manufacturer was retrieved from the excavations on Ben Gamli’el street in Yafo.¹ The complete stamp reads “MADE IN HOLLAND”; the same inscription in Javanese (Indonesian) appears below it. The Ben Gamli’el stamp dates from 1890, and the same applies to our example.

Large Bowl (Type J-SARRE-WW-LBL-1; Fig. 2:3).— This large bowl is glazed with a thick white glaze and is otherwise undecorated. It bears a back stamp consisting of the coat of arms of Lorraine surmounted by a crown and surrounded by the words “OPAQUE DE SARREGUEMINES” executed in black underglaze. This trade mark first appeared in the middle of the nineteenth century,

¹ The excavation on Ben Gamli’el Street (Permit No. A-7071) was directed by Lior Rauchberger on behalf of the IAA; the ceramic assemblage was studied by the author.



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Fig. 2. Glazed vessels from above Floor 149.

◀ Fig. 2.

No.	Vessel	Type	Locus	Basket	Description	Dimensions (cm)
1	Plate	J-SARRE-PL-10	142	1004/2	White hard-paste; black transfer printed pattern; Bryonia Sarreguemines	Diam. 20 Rim: 40%
2	Plate	J-WW-PL-3A	147	1020/1	White hard-paste; black underglaze stamp; Maastricht/Indonesia	n/a
3	Bowl	J-SARRE-WW-LBL-1	148	1025/9	White hard-paste; black underglaze stamp; Sarreguemines	Diam. 12
4	Bowl	J-TW-BL-3A	142	1004/3	White hard-paste; green transfer printed pattern	Diam. 11 Rim: 13
5	Bowl	J-ÇAN-3A	142	1014/6	Yellowish red ware (5YR 5/6); few small round white inclusions; white slip under transparent glaze on int. and upper ext.; manganese painted lines on rim	Diam. 21 Rim: 58%
6	Bowl	J-ÇAN-3A	148	1025/20	Yellowish red ware (5YR 5/6); few small round white and black inclusions; white slip under transparent glaze on int. and upper ext.; manganese painted pattern on int. and rim	Diam. 16 Rim: 38%
7	Bowl	J-MONO-BL-1N	142	1028/4	Yellowish red ware (5YR 5/6); few small round white inclusions; dark green over white slip on int. and over rim	Diam. 25 Rim: 5%
8	Cooking pot	J-VAL-CP-4C	142	1004/4	Light brown ware (7.5YR 6/3); few large round white and black inclusions; brown glaze on int. and upper ext.	Diam. 14 Rim: 12%
9	Bottle	J-STONE-COB-BTL	142	1009/1	White stoneware; cobalt glaze on int. and ext.; gold printed inscription on ext.	Diam. 9
10	Bottle	J-STONE-BTL-1F	142	1014/5	Beige stoneware; salt glazed with stamp	n/a

supposedly in 1856 or the following year, but it was registered in Germany only in 1875; it continued to be in use until about 1920 (Gauvin and Becker 2007:49). Large white glazed bowls can be found in the catalogues of the factory (e.g., Faïencité 2001: Planches Articles Courants no. 4).

Bowl (Type J-TW-BL-3A; Fig. 2:4).— This rim fragment belongs to a bowl with a green transfer pattern featuring two birds. A complete bowl with a red transfer pattern enhanced with green, blue and yellow and bearing a red underglaze stamp identifying the manufacturing company as Sarreguemines et Digoïn (see *Etsy*) dates from the beginning of the twentieth century (Gauvin and Becker 2007:53). Since our fragment is monochrome, it should probably be dated to the late nineteenth century.

GLAZED EARTHENWARE VESSELS (Fig. 2:5–8)

Bowls (Type J-ÇAN-BL-3A; Fig. 2:5, 6).— These two bowls have an upturned ledge rim. The interior, the rim and the upper exterior are slipped white and decorated with manganese bands under a transparent glaze; the glaze and decoration on the bowl in Fig. 1:5 is barely visible. These bowls were made in Çanakkale, a well-known center for pottery production on the Asian coast of the Dardanelles (Hellespont), at their narrowest point, from the eighteenth century until modern

times (Hayes 1992:268–270). This ware group was found in abundance at the *Qishle* in Yafo and is discussed in great detail in the report (Vincenz, in press: Type J-ÇAN). Such vessels were much in use throughout the nineteenth century.

Large Bowl (Type J-MONO-BL-1N; Fig. 2:7).— This bowl has a beveled rim, suggesting that it had a lid. It is slipped white and glazed with dark green on its interior and over the rim. It belongs to a group of monochrome glazed wares—mainly green glazed—which is frequently found at Ottoman-period sites along with the abovementioned imported glazed wares. The tradition of monochrome glazed wares can be traced back to the Mamluk period, when green was one of the dominant colors of monochrome glazed vessels (Avissar and Stern 2005:12–15).

Cooking Pot (Type J-VAL-CP-4; Fig. 2:8).— This fragment belongs to a vessel with straight walls and a round rim; it was glazed on the interior and the upper exterior with brown glaze. There is an incised line under the rim. This vessel was identified as an imported cooking pot with a high body called ‘marmites hautes’ in Vallauris, France, from where it was imported at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century. Usually, this vessel has wide handles with a thumb impression on top. Cooking pots from Vallauris have been identified in the excavations at the *Qishle* (Vincenz, in press: Fig. 2E).

STONEWARE BOTTLES (Fig. 2:9, 10)

The flat base in Fig. 2:9 (Type J-STONE-COB-BTL) is made of white stoneware and is glazed cobalt blue. Letters in gold state the seller, Hardhams, and the address, No. 101 Fleet Street, indicating that this bottle contained snuff, probably Hardhams no.37. This snuff was an extremely famous brand by John Hardman, a snuff maker in the eighteenth century, as indicated by his trade card (see *History Picture Archive*); his recipe was passed down the generations until its production ceased in the 1950s. This brand is known to have been sold on 106 Fleet Street in London. The 101 Fleet Street address and the preserved inscription (“ORIGINAL WAREH[] FOR HARDHAMS GENU[.]”) on the bottle suggest that this was the location of a warehouse that sold Hardhams genuine snuff no.37. The bottle should be dated to 1850–1860 (see *Antique Dispensary*).

The fragment in Fig. 2:10 (Type J-STONE-BTL-1F) belongs to a seltzer (mineral water) bottle, as indicated by the stamped inscription—SELTERS—which is accompanied by a standing, crowned lion. Below this stamp one can make out the words “[HERZ]OGTHUM NASSAU”, indicating that it contained mineral water from the Niederselters spring in the Duchy of Nassau, which is nowadays located in Hessen, Germany. The export of this water began in the late eighteenth century, and as the Duchy of Nassau ceased to exist in 1866, the bottle probably dates from around that date (Hoffman 2018).

TERRACOTTA ITEMS (Fig. 3:1, 2)

Tube (Dshame) (Type DSHAME; Fig. 3:1).— This is a complete terracotta tube. Such tubes were used as dividers or as balustrades on roofs or balconies (Israel 2006:294–307) throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and they can still be seen in some old buildings.

Pipe (Fig. 3:2; Type PIPE).— Pipes, such as this fragment, had multiple uses: water pipes, drainage pipes and sewage pipes, as well as for the circulation of hot air in bathhouses or for letting air or light into buildings (Israel 2006:307–311). It is thus expected that such pipes would be produced from a variety of clays. However, pipes are not a common find in excavations, which is quite surprising.

NARGHILE HEAD (Fig. 3:3)

The fragmentary narghile head (Type J-NAR-5) comprises a broken bowl, decorated with two lines of rouletting at the bottom, a crenellated, petal-shaped flange, and a ridged stem, allowing

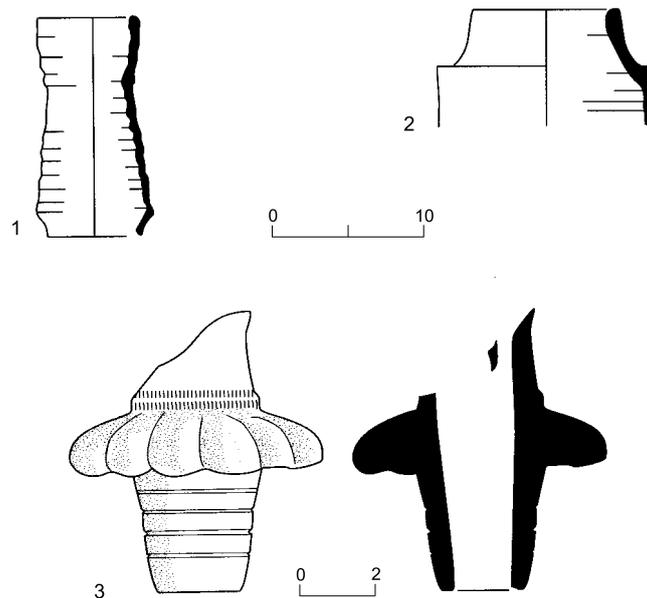


Fig. 3. Terracotta items and a narghile from above Floor 149.

No.	Vessel	Type	Locus	Basket	Description	Dimensions (cm)
1	Tube	DSHAME	142	1016/3	Pale yellow ware (2.5YR 7/4); numerous, minute round black inclusions	Diam. 7 cm Rim %: 52
2	Pipe	PIPE	142	1004/10	Light red ware (2.5YR 6/6); few minute, round white and angular black inclusions; plaster remains	Diam. 9 cm Rim %: 30
3	Narghile	J-NAR-5	142	1004/7	Reddish yellow (5YR 6/6); remains of red slip and burnishing on ext.	

for a strong grip. The petal shape of the flange means that the bowl was probably shaped as an open flower. The entire narghile head is slipped red, and it was probably burnished as well. Similar narghile heads were found at the *Qishle* in Yafo and are dated to the late nineteenth century (Vincenz, in press).

CONCLUSIONS

The ceramic assemblage from the excavation is very homogenous. The finds from above Floor 149 date to the late nineteenth century. Most of the imported table ware comes from France (Sarreguemines) as does the imported cooking pot. Other imports come from Holland (a plate), Germany (the seltzer bottle) and England (the snuff bottle). The Çanakkale bowls were imported from Turkey, and possibly the monochrome glazed bowl and the narghile head were as well. The only locally made items were the terracotta tubes and pipes. The single fragment retrieved from under Floor 149 is earlier than the assemblage above the floor and dates from the late Mamluk or the early Ottoman period.

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