

APPENDIX: THE POTTERY AND STONE FINDS FROM THE MUSLIM QUARTER IN THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

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A few representative pottery and stone vessel fragments were selected for publication from the excavation at 5 Ha-Degel Street in the Muslim Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem. These finds represent three stratigraphically distinct contexts within the excavated room: material found embedded between the building stones of the vault which cut Floor 119 (L120, L125; Fig. 1); material from the lower fill layer, which covered the vault and Floor 119 (L113, L118, L121, L124; Fig. 2); and material from the upper fill layer, which was sealed by the late Ottoman-period stone floor of the building (L110, L111; Fig. 3).

The pottery found between the vault stones is represented by Early Islamic types, including a Fine Byzantine Ware (FBW) Form 1E bowl/cup with thin, incurved walls and a plain rim (Fig. 1:1), which is dated to the eighth–ninth centuries CE (Magness 1993:194–197); an FBW bowl with thicker, everted walls, a pointed rim and a broad ridge beneath the rim decorated with thumb impressions (Fig. 1:2), probably a variant of Magness’s Form 2A which is dated to the mid-seventh to ninth/tenth centuries CE (Magness 1993:198–200); an FBW jug with a thin-walled, cylindrical neck and an

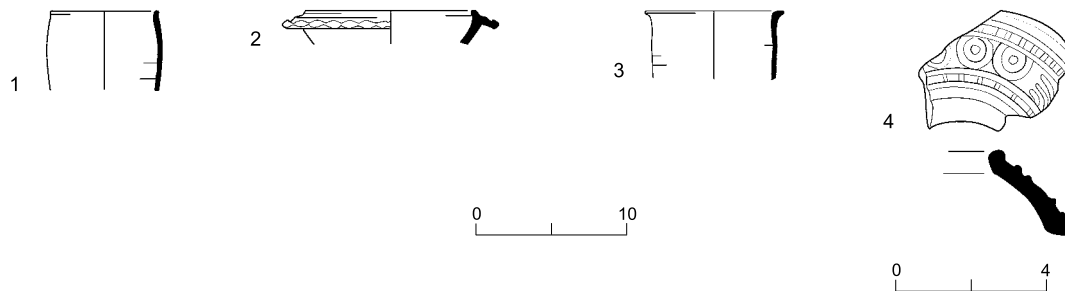


Fig. 1. Pottery vessels from the vault.

No.	Type	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Bowl/cup	120	1016/1	Orange-brown; many tiny white grits; external burnish
2	Bowl	125	1022/2	Orange-brown; internal burnish
3	Jug	125	1022/1	Gray-brown; many tiny white grits
4	Lamp	119	1015/1	Yellowish pink; many tiny and small white, brown and gray grits

everted rim (Fig. 1:3), apparently related to a type dated to as late as the end of the eighth century CE (cf. Baramki 1944:68–69, Fig. 15:34–39); and an early channel-nozzle lamp (Fig. 1:4), dated to the early eighth to ninth centuries CE (Magness 1993:255–258, Form 4; Cytryn-Silverman 2010:114). Altogether, the assemblage can be dated to the eighth or early ninth century CE at the latest, namely to the late Umayyad or early ‘Abbasid period.

The ceramic assemblage from the lower fill layer is more chronologically heterogeneous. The earliest types represented in this assemblage are a Hellenistic-period (third–second century BCE) storage jar with a thickened rim (Fig. 2:1); an Early Roman-period (late first century BCE–first century CE) cooking pot with a triangular rim (Fig. 2:2); and a Late Roman-period (third–fourth centuries CE) North African amphora with a tall neck and a rectangular-sectioned rim (Fig. 2:3; cf. Johnson 2008:164, No. 462). These sherds are residuals of early activity in the vicinity. The second group of pottery is dated to the Early Islamic—‘Abbasid–Fatimid period (roughly, ninth to eleventh centuries CE)—and includes a low ring base of a splash-glazed bowl (Fig. 2:4; cf. Cytryn-Silverman 2013:176, Figs. 7.5:16, 7.8:3); an incurved-rim basin (Fig. 2:5; Magness 1993:210–211); and a globular, glazed cooking pot with a vertical, thickened rim (Fig. 2:6; cf. Prag 2008:192, Fig. 150:12). Finally, the latest group of pottery from the lower fill layer dates from the Crusader/Ayyubid to the Mamluk periods (twelfth/thirteenth to fifteenth centuries CE). It includes an unglazed carinated bowl (Fig. 2:7; Avissar and Stern 2005:82, Fig. 35:1, 10); a handmade geometric-painted bowl with a narrow ledge rim (Fig. 2:8; Avissar and Stern 2005:88, 90, Fig. 38:8); a yellow-glazed slip-painted bowl (Fig. 2:9; Avissar and Stern 2005:19, Fig. 7:2); and a green-glazed slip-painted bowl (Fig. 2:10; Avissar and Stern 2005:19, Fig. 7:5, 8). Also found in this layer is a fragment of a shallow bowl with a thickened, flattened rim made of a polished gray stone, maybe slate (Fig. 2:11); this object could not be precisely dated.

Fig. 2. Pottery and stone vessels from the lower fill layer above the vault. ▶

No.	Type	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Storage jar	118	1007/5	Pinkish yellow; many tiny white grits and a few large brown grits
2	Cooking pot	121	1017/1	Reddish brown cooking-pot ware; a few tiny white grits
3	Amphora	118	1013/2	Reddish brown, fired to gray from the exterior; many tiny white grits and some mica
4	Bowl	118	1013/3	Buff; many tiny black grits; green and brown splashes over a transparent colorless glaze on the interior and yellowish greenish glaze on the exterior
5	Basin	124	1020/6	Yellowish brown, fired to yellowish; many tiny and small white and brown grits
6	Cooking pot	124	1020/4	Reddish brown cooking-pot ware; drops of purplish brown glaze on rim
7	Bowl	124	1020/3	Dark brown-gray, fired to gray; many tiny and small white grits
8	Bowl	121	1017/2	Yellowish orange; many tiny to medium-sized white and gray grits, and voids of organic tempers; purplish brown painted decoration on the interior and over the rim
9	Bowl	113	1006/2	Orange-brown, fired to reddish brown; many tiny white grits; slip-painted decoration under transparent yellow-glaze on the interior
10	Bowl	124	1020/5	Reddish brown, fired to gray; many tiny white grits; slip-painted decoration under transparent green-glaze on the interior
11	Stone bowl	118	1026/1	Gray stone (slate?)

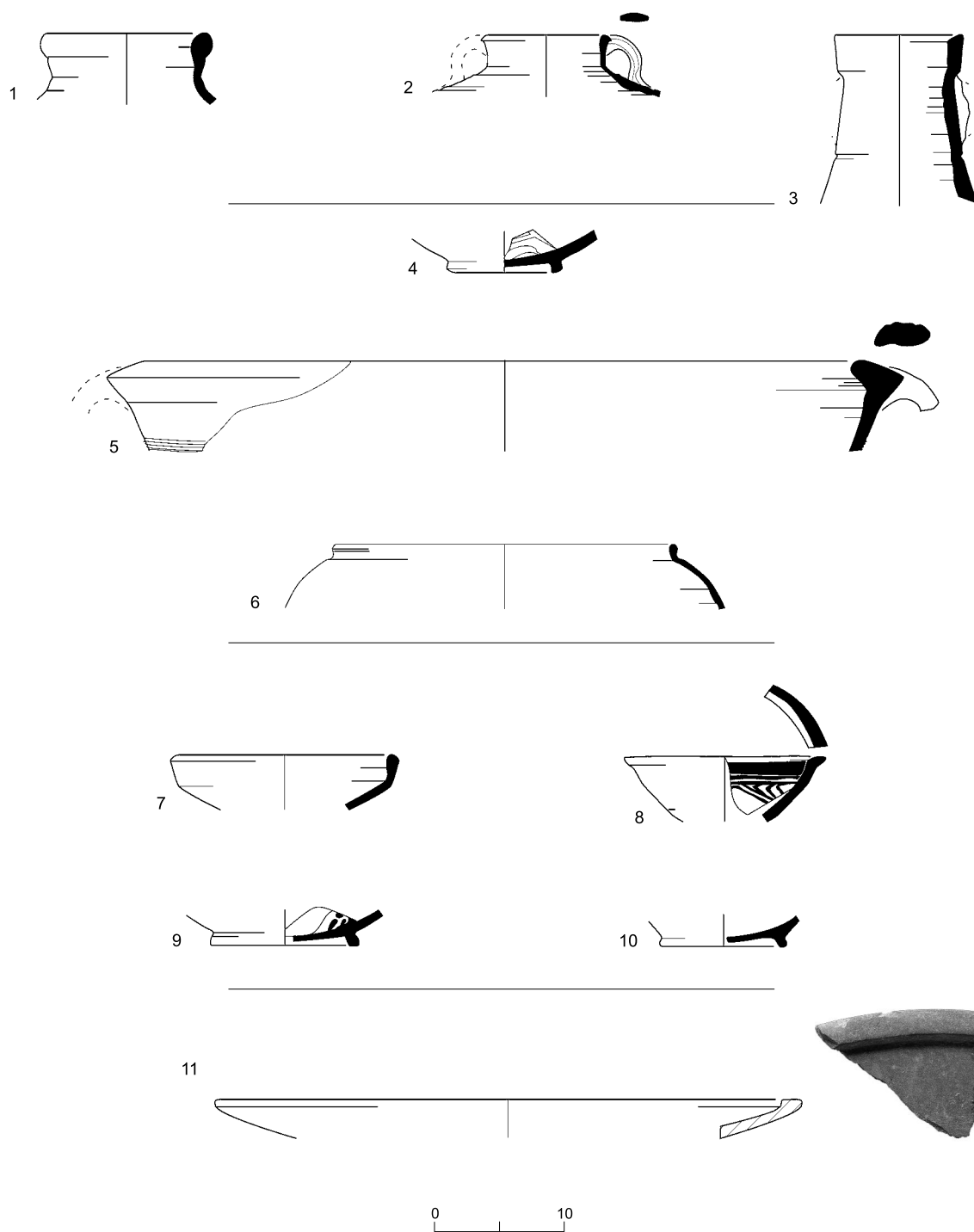


Fig. 2. Pottery and stone vessels from the lower fill layer above the vault.

The ceramic assemblage from the upper fill layer is represented by types dated to the (late?) Mamluk or early Ottoman period (thirteenth/fourteenth to sixteenth/seventeenth centuries CE); it probably also contains a sherd from the Early Islamic period. The later period is represented by two handmade geometric-painted bowls with a narrow or broad ledge rim (Fig. 3:2, 3; Avissar and Stern 2005:88, 90, Fig. 38:8; for early Ottoman parallels see Avissar 2010:334, Pl. 18.1:15; Gibson, Ibbs and Kloner 1991:45, Figs. 21:4, 10) and a handmade cooking pot with a horizontal, upturned strap handle and plastic rope-shaped decoration (Fig. 3:4; Avissar and Stern 2005:94, Fig. 40:4–7). A potsherd which seems to be earlier in date probably belongs to a multi-compartment or multi-cup dish covered with a dark green glaze (Fig. 3:1). Only a few such vessels have been published from sites in Israel, and they were dated mainly to the Early Islamic period (ninth to eleventh centuries CE). The known examples were decorated with green, yellow—at times green and yellow—or transparent

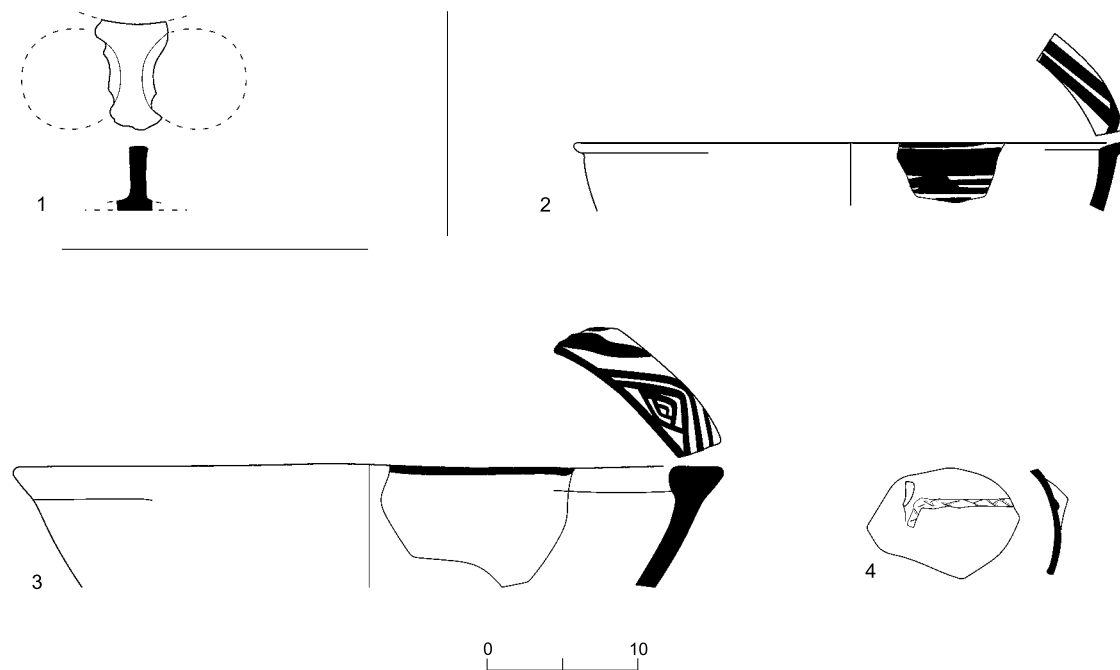


Fig. 3. Pottery vessels from the upper fill layer above the vault.

No.	Type	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Multi-compartment vessel	111	1004/2	Orange-brown; some tiny white grits; dark green glaze over whitish slip on the interior and over the rim
2	Bowl	111	1004/6	Yellowish orange; many tiny to medium-sized brown and gray grits, and voids of organic tempers; purplish brown painted decoration on the interior and rim
3	Bowl	110	1003/2	Yellowish orange; many tiny to medium-sized white and brown grits, and voids of organic tempers; purplish brown painted decoration on the rim
4	Cooking pot	111	1004/1	Gray, fired to yellowish orange; many tiny and small white and brown grits and crushed quartzite; internal burnish; plastic decoration on the exterior

glaze (see, e.g., Arnon 2007:50–51, Fig. 6:3; 2008:45, 275–277, Type 252; Rosen-Ayalon 1973:258–259, Fig. 1, Pl. 51:1). According to Torgë (2017:46), these vessels were imported from Egypt, though without a petrographic analysis of the documented examples found in Israel this hypothesis cannot be proven; in any rate, a rather extensive survey of the literature on pottery from Egypt failed to find any equivalent specimens for the present vessel. It should be noted that other such vessels, from ‘Akko (with green glaze; identified as originating from Beirut; Stern 2012:46, Pl. 4.20:2) and from Ba‘albek in Lebanon (with a pale green glaze with black stains; Kohl 1925:124, Fig. 36), were dated to the Crusader and Mamluk periods, respectively, a date which better correspond with the rest of the pottery found in the upper fill layer.

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