

CAHIERS
DE LA
CÉRAMIQUE
ÉGYPTIENNE 9



INSTITUT FRANÇAIS D'ARCHÉOLOGIE ORIENTALE

LE CAIRE – 2011

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Preliminary Observations on Ceramic Material found at Herakleopolis Magna (Ehnasiya el-Medina)

THE FOLLOWING remarks and drawings of pottery excavated by the Spanish Mission at Herakleopolis Magna under the direction of Carmen Pérez-Die are based on a season of recording at that site in the year 2003.¹

The aim of this short report is to present some of the most typical pottery found at Herakleopolis Magna coming from the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom necropolis being excavated since 2000. The material will be ordered according to its find spots. The find contexts are of a funerary nature, deriving from at least two rows or “streets” of tombs running west to east (and seemingly continuing further into the eastern and western baulks). The orientation of the tombs is north-south with the entrance on the north.² The superstructures of the tombs were stone built with covering stone slabs. Some rooms were attached to the tombs that were entirely built of mud brick, probably with mud brick vaults. These rooms may have partly served as chapels or as magazines for offerings. In two cases the interior of the tombs was painted.³ Several tombs still contained funerary stelae and/or offering tables, which in some cases provided the name and titles of the tomb owner, but there are also stelae with other names. The owners of these may have belonged to the extended family or—although perhaps less likely—were reused. However, in no case was the name or titulary of an Egyptian King mentioned, which would have provided at least one independent and additional dating criterion for the burials.

1. I would like to thank C. Pérez-Die for her kind invitation to study the pottery of this excavation and for the discussions we were able to lead. It was in the meanwhile possible to conduct another short study season in 2006.

2. For preliminary reports see C. PÉREZ-DIE, *BSFE* 150, 2001, p. 6–25. *Ead.*, *EA* 24, 2004, p. 21–24. *Ead.*, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Mentouhotep*, 2005, p. 239–254. *Ead.*, *Ehnasya el Medina, Heracleópolis Magna, Egipto, Excavaciones 1984–2004*, Madrid, 2005.

3. C. PÉREZ-DIE, *EA* 24, p. 21–24, the tomb of Hetepwadjet and an unnamed tomb owner. *Ead.*, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Mentouhotep*, 2005, p. 239–254.

It seems to be sufficiently clear from the (ceramic) finds and find circumstances, that the tombs date to the First Intermediate Period or the early Middle Kingdom.⁴

The material connected with these tombs contained only one type—the so-called “Meidum bowls”—that shows very strong affinities to the “Old Kingdom style”.⁵

It is difficult to distinguish between the material culture of the First Intermediate Period and the early Middle Kingdom at Herakleopolis. What can be said with some certainty is that no pottery typical for the 12th Dynasty after Senwosret I⁶ was found in connection with these tombs. However, so far we can not pinpoint a definite date—FIP or early MK—for the pottery and therefore for the necropolis. It has also to be taken into account that the excavated assemblages contain remains of the actual burial and the cult of the deceased as well as later intrusive material from the New Kingdom and, more often, the Third Intermediate and Late Periods. No examples of this later pottery, which proved relatively easy to isolate, are included in this report.⁷ Even if the pottery of the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom was scattered and no longer in its original position, we can assume that it belonged either to the original burial or to cult activities connected to the original burial. The homogeneity of this material, as it appears at this point, suggests firstly that not much time elapsed between burial and cult, and secondly that the cult activities did not last very long. However, an estimate of the time span involved in absolute years is not possible at this stage.

Most of the ceramic material was manufactured from Nile clays.⁸ Without undertaking a quantitative study, which is planned for later seasons, it would appear that the most frequent fabrics are Nile B2 and Nile C1; Nile C2 occurs more rarely. Nile B1 does occur but very rarely, so does Nile E, which is only used for some bread moulds or bread platters/baking trays (see below).

4. Here perhaps a note on nomenclature is in order. As FIP I consider the 9th, 10th and early 11th Dynasty before the re-unification of Egypt under Nebhepet-Re Mentuhotep II. As early MK I define the 11th Dynasty after the re-unification under Nebhepet-Re Mentuhotep II. The 12th Dynasty will be referred to as such. It is clear that hitherto this division cannot be defined in terms of material culture in the Sedment region. The absolute chronology follows K. A. KITCHEN, in M. Bietak (ed.), *The Synchronisation of Civilisations in the Eastern Mediterranean in the Second Millennium B.C.*, I, Vienna, 2000, p. 39–52. The First Intermediate Period (9th/10th Dynasty) lasts from ca. 2136–2023 B.C.; the 11th Dynasty starts ca 2116, and the beginning of Mentuhotep II' reign is dated to ca 2043 B.C. its end to about 1992 B.C., while the 12th Dynasty begins ca. 1973.

5. St. SEIDLMEYER, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, p. 285–286. The situation may be different below these tombs as some preliminary observations in the course of the excavation in 2006 seem to show.

6. In what Do. Arnold defines as the 12th Dynasty pottery style. Do. ARNOLD, in D. Arnold, *The Pyramid of Senwosret I, The South Cemeteries of Lisht*, I, 1988, p. 144–146. The best similarity can be observed in the foundation deposits of the main pyramid of Senwosret I. in Lisht South, but no direct parallels can be drawn to the material below. Cf. ARNOLD, *The Pottery*, in D. Arnold, *The Pyramid of Senwosret I*, p. 106–109. It could be material that is different because of its nature as votive pottery (models), or it is different because it represents a stage of further development of the previously known pottery. Cf. also the conclusions drawn by Arnold after she listed parallels to the Lisht South repertoire in table 9, p. 137–139 and p. 144–145.

7. Cf. some late shapes in B. BADER, “Herakleopolis Magna– Autumn 2006”, *BCE* 23, forthcoming.

8. H. A. NORDSTRÖM, J. BOURRIAU, in Do. Arnold, J. Bourriau (eds.), *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery*, 1993, p. 145–190.

Marl Clay is quite rare and so far restricted to closed vessel forms, but Marl C, Marl A2 and A4 have been observed as well as a Marl clay very rich in quartz inclusions with a very yellowish natural surface colour, that is not Marl B.⁹

All pottery drawings are shown at a scale of 1:3 (fig. 1–5). The ceramic catalogue is ordered by feature, followed by the Nile clay pottery according to shape from open to closed vessel forms. Next is the Marl Clay pottery, then the bread moulds are presented in the section of functional pottery and finally the model pottery is shown. Within the Nile clays the fabrics were not strictly divided, but left in the order according to shape, in order to give a continuous shape catalogue.

One of the most important indicators for dating is, amongst others such as fabric and shape, the manufacturing technique. The bulk of the vessels were made rather crudely with obvious signs of how they were made. Many vessels were not carefully smoothed after manufacture which would have obliterated the signs of the technique and made the vessel more pleasing to the eye. Obvious coiling is noticeable as well as joining lines of parts of vessels: smaller vessels were assembled from two parts: top and base; larger vessels from three parts: top, mid part, and base. The term “*wheel made*” here refers to the slow wheel or a turning device that was operated by the same person that manufactured the vessel or an assistant. This assumption is based on the rilling lines being uneven and somewhat erratic, derived from uneven centrifugal force created by a non steady spin of the wheel/turning device.¹⁰ Rims were often turned on the slow wheel after the completion of the remainder of the vessel, but often their orifice planes are neither even nor symmetrical. This means, that manufacturing techniques were not as sophisticated as in the 12th Dynasty and later. However, there are exceptions to this rule, for example cat. nr. 49.

CATA/SECTOR 14

Cata/Sector 14 is situated in the very west of the excavation trench.¹¹ It consists of a relatively large stone built tomb with painted decoration inside and some adjacent mud brick structures into which stelae and offering tables made of limestone were embedded.¹² No other grave goods have been found within the tomb, but some pottery was recorded from it (= feature/unidad 2). A selection is presented here.

- **I.** Cata 14, unidad 2 fig. 1.1
Rim fragment of large plate.
 Rd. 30 cm, pres. ht. 3,8 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 Parallels to this common shape are found at Harageh, in cemeteries C and D.¹³

9. The lack of black grits excludes that possibility. The fabric may be related to Marl C2. But the material needs to be tested for identification.

10. Do. ARNOLD, in Do. Arnold, J. Bourriau (eds.), *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery*, 1993, p. 44–56.

11. C. PÉREZ-DIE, *Ehnasya el-Medina, Heracleópolis Magna, Egipto, Excavaciones 1984–2004*, Madrid, 2005, fig. 20.

12. *Ead.*, EA 24, p. 21–24.

13. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, type 1 and perhaps 9, pl. 31.

- **2.** Cata 14, unidad 2 fig. 1.2
Rim fragment of large dish or bowl.
 Rd. 28,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,4 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 No exact parallels to this quite large and slightly deeper kind of dish or bowl were found.
- **3.** Cata 14, unidad 2 fig. 1.3
Rim fragment of carinated dish.
 Rd. 19,0 cm, pres. ht. 2,5 cm.
 Nile B2, dark red slip and polished inside and outside.
 Wheelmade, outside one noticeable, deep rilling just under the rim.
 Parallels can be cited from Abu Ghalib,¹⁴ Sedment,¹⁵ Ashmunein,¹⁶ and Denderah.¹⁷
- **4.** Cata 14, unidad 2, Capa 5 fig. 1.4
Rim fragment of bowl with carination.
 Rd. 24,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,7 cm.
 Nile B2, dark red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 Parallels for this kind of bowl with a carination relatively near the rim come from Tell el-Dab'a,¹⁸ Sedment,¹⁹ and Ashmunein.²⁰ Some examples show red polishing.
- **5.** Cata 14, unidad 2 fig. 1.5
Rim fragment of larger, wide mouthed pot, rilling lines outside.
 Rd. ca. 20 cm, pres. ht. 4,4 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 This vessel type may have had a spout like cat. nr. 17. Generally speaking it is similar to a type of vessel found in Str. "e" at Tell el-Dab'a, but the latter is red polished.²¹ Another likely parallel may be Seidlmayer's "Knickwandnapf" (EF 125-2A/8) from Elephantine. He dates it to the middle of the 11th Dynasty. The design of the rim is very similar, even if the carination looks different.²²

14. T. BAGH, *MDAIK* 58, 2002, fig. 4j.

15. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 29: a rim variant from tomb 2002, which could not be used in the recent seriation undertaken by the present author.

16. A. J. SPENCER, *Excavations at el-Ashmunein, III. The Town*, 1993, pl. 102.35.

17. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 87-88.

18. E. CZERNY, *Tell el-Dab'a IX*, Vienna, 1999, Nf 91, Ib, red polished.

19. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 29.29 k and d, with a slightly smaller rd.

20. A. J. SPENCER, *Excavations at el-Ashmunein, III. The Town*, 1993, pl. 103.67, the rim is slightly more drawn towards the inside of the vessel, red polished.

21. E. CZERNY, *op. cit.*, Nf 227, Ib, rim slightly everted, rd. ca. 19,3 cm.

22. St. SEIDLMEYER, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, fig. 2 and p. 285-286.

- **6.** Cata 14, unidad 2, Capa 5 fig. 1.6
Rim fragment of wide mouthed jar.
 Rd. 22,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,5 cm.
 Nile C1, uncoated.
 Wheelmade.
 This rim probably belongs to a similar wide bodied form as cat. nr. 5 above.
- **7.** Cata 14, unidad 2, Capa 5 fig. 1.7
Rim fragment of funnel neck jar.
 Rd. 10,0 cm, pres. ht. 6,8 cm.
 Nile B2/C1, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 Parallels were found at several sites. Such funnel necks are the requisite ingredient of type family 64 at Sedment.²³ But other sites, Tell el-Dab'a,²⁴ Harageh cemeteries C and D,²⁵ and Qau,²⁶ also provide us with similar finds, although they are nowhere near as frequent as at Sedment.
- **8.** Cata 14, unidad 2, (ZN 30) fig. 1.8
Rim and neck of bottle.
 Rd. 3,5 cm, pres. ht. 5,9 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside.
 Wheelmade.
 Parallels are to be found at Sedment²⁷ and Harageh, in cemeteries C and D,²⁸ as well as at Beni Hassan.²⁹
- **9.** Cata 14, unidad 2, (ZN 26) fig. 1.9
Base of large bread mould.
 Bd. 6,7 cm, pres. ht. 12,8 cm.
 Nile C2, whitish surface as observed on beer bottles and bread moulds, but uncoated.
 Probably made over a core.
 Parallels to this kind of bread mould, which may mark an intermediate form between the late Old Kingdom/First Intermediate Period and the Middle Kingdom proper, because of their generally wider base diameter (cf. cat. nr. 39), are known from Sedment, although with a smaller base (type 34). It is possible that types 33e, f or p are perhaps more that kind of shape, especially as one example of type 33f in the Petrie Museum (U.C. 17987) could be

23. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 31–32. The best match for this neck is 64k, which shows the most everted neck of this group.

24. E. CZERNY, *op. cit.*, p. 155, Nf 247 + 258 + 349, Nile C1, Rd. 8,5 cm, red slip out, reconstructed from non-joining sherds.

25. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33, 112–115.

26. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, 1928, pl. 90.66f.

27. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 34.86u, 86s; 86q and n show particularly wide turned over lips.

28. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.92, 96, 99.

29. J. GARSTANG, *Burial Customs in Ancient Egypt*, 1907, pl. XIII, 20–24, 28–29.

re-evaluated and it consists of the typical sandy Nile C clay “bread mould-fabric”³⁰ with whitish outer surface. Further parallels with wider bases were found at Abu Ghalib,³¹ and Denderah.³² The examples from Denderah are also lower than the average Middle Kingdom bread mould.³³ These pieces belong to phases 2 to 3, which are dated from the First Intermediate Period to the 11th Dynasty.³⁴ More examples are known from earlier excavations at Denderah.³⁵ At the same time it may be possible that the Herakleopolis example belongs to a larger type of bread mould,³⁶ since one example is known from the 12th Dynasty.

The area east of the tomb was called feature/unidad I, from which there are also some ceramic finds:

- **10.** Cata 14, unidad I
Accidentally fired mud stopper.
Ht. 2,9 cm, diameter 9,7 cm – 9,9 cm, irregular shape.
Nile clay with limestone inclusions, some particles as large as 1 mm; organic inclusions not visible; on top surface whitish (5 YR 7/2 pinkish grey); bottom of stopper surface is 2,5 YR 5/4 weak red; rope impressions on top and bottom of stopper; on bottom of stopper impression of rim of vessel. Hand formed.
Similar stoppers have been found in Denderah, phase 2 to 3, middle of the First Intermediate Period to the 11th Dynasty.³⁷

fig. 1.10

- **11.** Cata 14, unidad I
Rim fragment of small bowl (hemispherical cup – “Napf”?).
Rd. 14,0 cm, pres. ht. 2,8 cm.
Nile B2, red polished surface inside and outside, the rilling lines are visible under polishing. Wheelmade.
Parallels to this shape were found in Elephantine,³⁸ where they are dated approximately to the beginning of the 11th Dynasty. Unfortunately it is not possible to be more precise on the similarities since this fragment is so far the only one found belonging to this shape class.

fig. 1.11

- **12.** Cata 14, unidad I
Pointed Base of Marl Clay vessel.
Pres. ht. 9,5 cm.

fig. 1.12

30. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 30. I would like to thank Steven Quirke from the Petrie Museum to allow me to study the Sedment material and all of the Museum staff for their help and forthcoming reception.

31. H. LARSEN, *MDAIK* 6, 1936, Abb. 1933:498, is more everted and wider at the bottom, than known MK bread moulds.

32. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 74, 76–79.

33. Cf. H. JACQUET-GORDON, in Do. Arnold (ed.), *Studien zur altägyptischen Keramik*, 1981, p. 11–24.

34. S. MARCHAND, *op. cit.*, fig. 74, 76–79.

35. R. A. SLATER, *The Archaeology of Denderah in the First Intermediate Period*, Ann Arbor, 1974, p. 489, E1b middle, brown ware, phases AB-M.

36. A very large example was found in a foundation deposit of Senwosret II. at Illahun that is now in Manchester, MM 296. Cf. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, *Kahun, Gurob and Hawara*, 1890, pl. XIII. 14.

37. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 87–88.

38. St. SEIDLMEYER, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, Abb. 4.7–10.

Marl C1 (variety IIc4),³⁹ greenish surface, violet/purplish break, uncoated.

Handmade, vertically scraped outside.

This base can be assigned with some certainty to a specific group of pottery vessels, best known from the nearby site of Sedment. There the shape family was given number 90,⁴⁰ and all its members that were available for re-evaluation were found to consist of Marl clay (mostly of Marl C or A according to the Vienna System).⁴¹ Similar vessels were found at Harageh (cemeteries C and D)⁴² and Gurob,⁴³ as well as at Qau.⁴⁴ Seidlmayer already ascertained that this family 90 has its roots in the OK as exemplified by type 90d.⁴⁵ Another parallel comes from the site of Saqqara in the Teti pyramid cemetery,⁴⁶ where the distinction between FIP and early MK is also a difficult one. It seems clear, that type 90d is imitating a stone vessel type.⁴⁷ Here a connection can be drawn to the later MK type of corrugated neck jars, which also exist made of Marl (C) clay and stone.⁴⁸ Perhaps this can serve as evidence for assuming that those vessel types had the same function.⁴⁹

To the North-East of the tomb, two stelae were positioned at right angles to each other.⁵⁰ They were set up outside of the tomb, embedded in mud brick constructions that probably served as tomb chapel.⁵¹ In this area a lot of pottery was found—feature/unidad 5. Probably the stelae functioned as a chapel and these remains are from the funerary cult.

● **I3.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 22)

fig. 1.13

Flat base of dish or footed dish.

Bd. 11,4 cm, pres. ht. 4,9 cm.

Nile C1, red slip?

39. Cf. B. BADER, *Tell el-Dab'a XIII*, Vienna, 2001, p. 40, Farbtafel Vb.

40. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 35.90d-w.

41. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming. One example examined by L. Op de Beeck in Brussels consists of Nile clay, pers. communication.

42. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 32.86–89, pl. 33.90–91.

43. G. BRUNTON, R. ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, 1927, pl. XI.26.

44. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, 1928, pl. 87.66b. One such vessel without neck and pot mark, now in Petrie Museum (U.C.17648) also consists of a Marl clay. *Id.*, *Qau and Badari I*, 1927, pl. 94, group 7333, “fine buff”, 6th Dynasty.

45. St. SEIDLMEYER, *Gräberfelder aus dem Übergang vom Alten zum Mittleren Reich*, 1990, p. 285, particularly pottery type 90d, to which numerous parallels allegedly from the 6th Dynasty can be found, Tell Edfu, Denderah, and Zaraby (south of Assiut). Cf. B. BRUYÈRE, J. MANTEUFFEL, K. MICHALOWSKI, J. SAINTE FARE GARNOT, *Tell Edfou 1937*, 1937, p. 112–113, fig. 60.

46. C. M. FIRTH, B. GUNN, *The Teti Pyramid Cemeteries*, 1926, pl. 48A. Second vessel from the left. Other examples, perhaps parallel to Sedment type 90m or n, can be found on plate 48A, third from left.

47. For instance at Denderah. Cf. St. SEIDLMEYER, *Gräberfelder aus dem Übergang vom Alten zum Mittleren Reich*, 1990, p. 115, fig. 41, nr. 25-pottery; p. 115, fig. 41, last row 4th and 5th from left-stone. B. ASTON, *Ancient Egyptian Stone Vessels. Materials and Forms*, 1994, p. 85, fig. 14; p. 127, fig. 137; p. 127. The height is with ca 18 cm smaller than the pottery vessel.

48. B. BADER, *Tell el-Dab'a XIII*, Vienna, 2001, type 46, p. 130–131.

49. Cf. L. OP DE BEECK, *Relating Middle Kingdom Pottery Vessels to Funerary Rituals*, *ZAS* 134, 2007, p. 157–165, for the ritual use of similar vessels, that are identified by her with type family 90. This identification seems reasonable, although the shown vessels on the coffins are never as pointed as type 90. Also note that type 90 also occurs made from Nile clay at least once. Such vessels were hitherto not identified in the material of Sedment. I thank the author very much for letting me consult a preliminary copy of her article.

50. C. PÉREZ-DIE, *Ehnasya el-Medina, Heracleópolis Magna, Egipto, Excavaciones 1984–2004*, Madrid, 2005, fig. 30.

51. *Ead.*, *EA* 24, 2004, p. 21. *Ead.*, *Ehnasya el-Medina... Excavaciones 1984–2004*, Madrid, 2005, p. 15–16.

Probably first coiled, then turned on the slow wheel.

Similar bases can be found at Abu Ghalib⁵² and Sedment,⁵³ although they seem to be more everted.

- **14.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 53) fig. 1.14
Round base of hand made beaker jar.
 Pres. ht. 23,1 cm, max. d. 11,0 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside 10 R 5/6 red, natural surface 5 YR 5/6 yellowish red.
 Entirely handmade, deep vertical finger marks inside, vertical smoothing marks outside.
 Such a shape can be called typical for the Sedment cemeteries, namely type family 35, especially 35f, m and p,⁵⁴ which show a very blunt and round base. At Harageh, in cemeteries C and D similar shapes were also found.⁵⁵
- **15.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 17) fig. 1.15
Beaker Jar.
 Rd. 11,0 cm, ht. 23,5 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside 7,5 YR 5/6 red, natural surface 5 YR 7/8 reddish yellow.
 Top part wheelmade, lower part scraped with uneven surface.
 In contrast to the one above this shape shows a more pointed base and can therefore be paralleled with type family 36 from Sedment,⁵⁶ especially 36c and m, as well as with some pottery types from Harageh⁵⁷ in cemetery D.
- **16.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 40) fig. 1.16
Rim and shoulder of jar.
 Rd. 8,0 cm, pres. ht. 4,7 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside and on the rim inside, on rim traces of polishing.
 Top part turned on slow turning device/wheel.
 It is difficult to find parallels for a fragmentary pot, so it can only be assumed that its shape once was rather globular. A comparable body shape can possibly be found in type 75c at Sedment⁵⁸ or in a vessel at Harageh, in cemetery C.⁵⁹
- **17.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 38) fig. 1.17
Wide mouthed, spouted pot.
 Rd. ca. 24,0 cm, pres. ht. 4,6 cm.
 Nile C1, lt. red slip outside, eroded inside.
 Probably wheelmade.

52. H. LARSEN, *MDAIK* 10, 1944, Abb. 14. 1937:740.

53. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 29. 8b and c.

54. *Ibid.*, pl. 30.

55. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 31.19, 20. The size of nr. 20 fits very well.

56. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 30.

57. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 31.16, 18.

58. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 33.

59. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 32.60 with wide shoulder and suitable rd.

Wide mouthed pots with spouts were found at Abu Ghalib with a flat base.⁶⁰ Some examples were found at Ashmunein, but they look different.⁶¹ Comparable but larger is an example from Denderah.⁶²

- **18.** Cata I4, unidad 5, (ZN I3)
Large Jar with funnel neck.
 Rd. 8 cm, ht. 30 cm, nd. 4,9 cm, max. d. 13 cm, ht. of neck 4,6 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside 5 R 5/6 red, natural surface 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow.
 Made in two parts, joining line in about mid height. Outside vertical smoothing marks, top part turned on wheel, probably coiled first; well smoothed.
 This vessel fits exactly type 64g as it is given in the corpus of Sedment⁶³ as well as a ceramic type in Harageh, cemeteries C and D.⁶⁴ At Sedment this vessel type occurs during most of the cemetery's life span, but very frequently in the later part of the seriation.⁶⁵ The two examples found at Abu Ghalib show very pronounced shoulders,⁶⁶ so that they are not exactly of the same type as the present example. At the site of Tell el-Dab'a a vessel from str. "e" with a similar shape was reconstructed.⁶⁷ At Qau a similar type of vessel was not very frequent.⁶⁸ It is clear from the distribution of the parallels that this type of vessel was quite popular in contrast to the other, not so well known closed vessel types. At Gurob the vessels of similar shape are more pointed or show a more ovoid body.⁶⁹

fig. 2.18

- **19.** Cata I4, unidad 5, (ZN I2)
Body of ovoid jar.
 Nd. ca. 5,2 cm, max. d. 14,4 cm, pres. ht. 22,5 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside 7,5 R 5/6 red, natural surface not visible.
 Very well smoothed on the outside, probably bottom part coiled and top part made on wheel. A parallel for the body may be found in type 50c in the Sedment corpus, although it does not show such a narrow neck. 54c or 62c may be alternatives there.⁷⁰ At Harageh a similar shape but smaller can be found in cemetery C.⁷¹

fig. 2.19

60. Cf. H. LARSEN, *MDAIK* 6, 1936, Abb. 13. *Id.*, *MDAIK* 10, 1941, Abb. 16. 1937:143. T. BAGH, *MDAIK* 58, 2002, Abb. 3. c, d. Bagh's new drawings show three grooves on the rim like our example here.

61. A. J. SPENCER, *Excavations at el-Ashmunein III, The Town*, 1993, pl. 104.90, 94, 96.

62. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 55, rd. ca. 32,0 cm.

63. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 32.

64. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.113.

65. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming.

66. H. LARSEN, *MDAIK* 10, 1941, Abb. 13. 1973:745, 746. T. BAGH, *op. cit.*, fig. 3a = 1937:745.

67. E. CZERNY, *Tell el-Dab'a IX*, Vienna, 1999, p. 154, Nf 247; 155, Nf 247 + 248 + 349, Nile C1, red slip out, rd. 8,5 cm; Nf 255 + 351; 156, Nf 267, Nile C1, red slip out.

68. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, 1928, pl. 90.66f.

69. G. BRUNTON, R. ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, 1927, pl. IX, XI. But this could be due to the style of drawing.

70. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 31-32.

71. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 32.71. body ht. ca. 17 cm.

- **20.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 16) fig. 1.20
Base of wide bodied jar.
 Pres. ht. 9,9 cm.
 Nile B2, outer surface eroded, but probably uncoated. One large stone inclusion on surface of vessel.
 Probably first coiled then turned on wheel.
 Such bases may have once belonged to the more pointed examples of vessel types 64/65 at Sedment. Similar measurements can be found with types 65p and 64f.⁷²
- **21.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 15) fig. 2.21
Flattened Base of ovoid broad jar.
 Pres. ht. 17,9 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside.
 Rilling lines inside, outside vertically smoothed, therefore wheel made.
 At the site of Sedment, which is certainly the site with the best comparanda to Herakleopolis Magna, no vessel type is known that shows such a flattened base to such a high degree. Type 49k is slightly similar, as well as 64c, which seems to be more flattened than the other types of this larger shape group. However, it seems not to be wide enough. 64p (U.C.18229) looks at least similar, but is smaller.⁷³ At Abu Ghalib a similar base is known.⁷⁴
- **22.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 24) fig. 2.22
Body and neck of bottle.
 Pres. ht. 23,6 cm, nd. 4,4 cm, max. d. 9,9 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside 7,5 YR 5/6 red, natural surface 5YR6/6 reddish yellow.
 Wheelmade top, traces of coiling in height of mid body, base roughly scraped.
 Bodies of such bottles or jars are known from Sedment, where especially 86t although slightly taller, lends itself to comparison. Type 89 can also be cited as a parallel, here 89s in particular.⁷⁵ At Harageh, in cemetery D, similar vessels were also unearthed.⁷⁶
- **23.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 47) fig. 2.23
Rim and neck of bottle, straight.
 Rd. 3,0 cm (rim uneven), pres. ht. 6,7 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside.
 Wheelmade, lower part of neck shows oblique turning marks.
 At Sedment such rims belong to jars/bottles of types 89: 89d, e, g, k, n, q, r, s, t,⁷⁷ while some also occur at Harageh, in cemeteries C and D.⁷⁸

72. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 32.

73. *Ibid.*, pl. 30, 32. Cf. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming, fig. 9.e.

74. T. BAGH, *MDAIK* 58, 2002, fig. 6.e., Nile C2, red slip.

75. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 34–35.

76. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.92, 96.

77. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 35.

78. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.93–94, 95.

- **24.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 50) fig. 2.24
Rim and neck of bottle.
 Rd. 3,5 cm, pres. ht. 4,8 cm.
 Nile B2, uncoated.
 Wheelmade.
 With type 86q, r and t, such rims were found at Sedment⁷⁹ and at Harageh, in cemetery D.⁸⁰

- **25.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 49) fig. 2.25
Rim and neck of bottle.
 Rd. 3,6 cm, pres. ht. 5,4 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside.
 Wheelmade.
 At Sedment such rims are found together with 86n, p, r, s, and t.⁸¹ The occurrence for Harageh can not be ascertained, because none of the necks there are ever so slightly out-turned.

- **26.** Cata 14, unidad 5, (ZN 19) fig. 2.26
Base of large wide bodied jar.
 Pres. ht. 16,5 cm.
 Nile C2, red slip outside.
 Inside rilling lines from wheel manufacture and ridges from previous coiling, outside deep and rough vertical scraping marks.
 While there is at least one very similar pottery vessel type at Sedment,⁸² to which such a base could belong, there is nothing of that kind at Harageh. Abu Ghalib offers one vessel type made of Nile C2, but that is more slender.⁸³

To the west of the tomb is both the edge of the trench and unidad 3.

- **27.** Cata 14, Unidad 3, Capa 5 fig. 2.27
Carinated wall fragment of footed cup or carinated cup.
 Pres. ht. 3,7 cm.
 Nile B2/CI, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 Carinated fragments, probably belonging to carinated cups or so-called chalices, find parallels at Sedment, in type family 30⁸⁴ and Harageh, from cemetery C.⁸⁵

79. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 34.

80. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.92, 96.

81. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 34.

82. *Ibid.*, pl. 33.65p.

83. T. BAGH, *MDAIK* 58, 2002, fig. 6.d.

84. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 29, type 30, and pl. 30.38h, m.

85. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 31.23. Cf. discussion of chalices in B. Bader in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming.

The following pottery comes from above the tomb, and is largely disturbed and mixed by robbing and re-using activities.

- **28.** Cata 14, Capa 2, Nivel 3
Rim fragment of dish or bowl.
 Rd. 21,0 cm, pres. ht. 4,6 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 It is easier to find parallels for simple, namely mostly open, shapes. Thus, parallels can be found in Str. “e” at Tell el-Dab’a,⁸⁶ at Abu Ghalib,⁸⁷ and at Sedment.⁸⁸

fig. 2.28
- **29.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4
Base of large bowl.
 Bd. 9,0 cm, pres. ht. 8,1 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade, inside very smooth, very well smoothed outside; only slight scraping marks outside; base cut with knife and very well smoothed.
 This vessel type is missing at Harageh, but at Sedment a similar kind of pot can be found, even though at the top of this base the bowl/basin is more everted.⁸⁹

fig. 2.29
- **30.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4
Rim fragment of carinated dish.
 Rd. 17, pres. ht. 3,0 cm.
 Prob. Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Probably wheelmade.
 Exact parallels for this type are not known, but it is very probable that, with the carinated dishes, it belongs to a pottery manufacturing tradition derived from the Old Kingdom.⁹⁰

fig. 2.30
- **31.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, C1 y2 (testigo)
Ring base.
 Bd. 4,8 cm, pres. ht. 4,1 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside and on bottom of base.
 Wheelmade, well manufactured.
 This base most probably belongs to the group of chalices or footed cups, mentioned before. As it does not have a proper stem between the actual cup and the wheelmade base, it is unlikely to belong to the more developed MK examples, which do indeed show a distinct

fig. 2.31

⁸⁶ E. CZERNY, *Tell el-Dab’a IX*, Vienna, 1999, one example amongst others: Nf 32, Ib, red slip, rd. 20,0 cm.

⁸⁷ T. BAGH, *MDAIK* 58, 2002, fig. 4.e, Ib1, red slip, rd. 17,0 cm.

⁸⁸ W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 29.16g, 16k.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, pl. 29.8b.

⁹⁰ St. SEIDLMAYER, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, p. 285–286, Abb. 1. In Elephantine these derivative shapes do not survive long after the end of the 6th Dynasty.

stem between base and cup.⁹¹ The base is very similar to type 30v, t or h at Sedment.⁹² At Harageh a similar vessel was found in cemetery C⁹³ as well as at Gurob in Cemetery E.⁹⁴

- **32.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4
Handmade beaker jar.
 Rd. ca. 12,0 cm, pres. ht. 8,0 cm.
 Nile C2, uncoated.
 Handmade, on rim horizontal striations, beneath vertical finger marks.
 This quite well preserved rim fragment belongs to a vessel comparable to type families 35 or 36 at Sedment.⁹⁵ At Harageh, in cemetery D similar pottery was found.⁹⁶

fig. 2.32
- **33.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4, (ZN 57)
Handmade beaker jar.
 Rd. 11,8 cm, pres. ht. 17,5 cm.
 Nile C2, red slip on outside, 10 R 5/6 red, natural surface 5 YR 5/6 yellowish red.
 Handmade, irregular shape.
 Similar to cat. nr. 32 this large rim fragment may be paralleled with type 35f from Sedment⁹⁷ and types 16 to 20 from cemetery D at Harageh.⁹⁸

fig. 2.33
- **34.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4
Rim of broad "hole mouth" jar.
 Rd. 23 cm, pres. ht. 3,9 cm.
 Nile C1, dark red slip inside and outside.
 Probably wheelmade.
 The only similar pottery type could be located at Tell el-Dab'a, in str. "e".⁹⁹

fig. 3.34
- **35.** Cata 14, Nivel 3
Rim and shoulder of small to medium broad jar.
 Rd. 5,8 cm, max. d. ca. 13,0 cm, pres. ht. 6,6 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside and inside on the rim.
 Wheelmade.

fig. 3.35

91. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming. Do. ARNOLD, The Pottery in D. Arnold, *The Pyramid Complex of Senwosret I, The South Cemeteries of Lisht, III*, 1992, p. 56, pl. 69.11–12, Nile B1, a further development of the FIP shape.

92. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 29. Cf. B. BADER, *op. cit.*, fig. 4.i, OIC. 28227.

93. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 31.23.

94. G. BRUNTON, R. ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, 1927, pl. XI. 6.

95. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 30. Particularly types 36h and 35p seem similar to our fragment. It is not known on what criteria Petrie divided his types 35 and 36 from each other. The possibilities are the degree of roundness or pointed shape of the bases, or the manufacturing technique: hand- or wheelmade.

96. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 31.17, 18.

97. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 30.

98. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 31.

99. E. CZERNY, *op. cit.*, p. 174, Ng108, perhaps red slipped.

The upper part of this vessel probably belonged to a globular jar. Should this indeed be the case it could be compared to type 78e,¹⁰⁰ although the max. d. of 78e is smaller than cat. nr. 35. At Harageh, in cemetery C, a similar vessel was also found.¹⁰¹

- **36.** Cata 14, capa 4, Nivel 5
Complete bottle, broken into sherds.
 Rd. 3,5 cm, max. d. 9,1 cm, ht. 24,5 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside 7,5 YR 6/6 lt. red, natural surface 2,5 YR 6/8 red.
 Made in two parts, top part wheelmade, bottom part coiled and smoothed on wheel, join clearly visible; base roughly scraped
 This type of bottle can be found in type family 89 at Sedment, especially 89p fits our example, but the neck is shorter. Type 89t and 89r do not show such a pointed base.¹⁰² At Harageh a similar bottle was found in cemetery D.¹⁰³

fig. 3.36

- **37.** Cata 14, capa 2, Nivel 3
Base fragment of pointed Marl vessel.
 Pres. ht. 8,1 cm.
 Marl A2, uncoated.
 Handmade, outside scraped vertically.
 This Marl clay base can only have belonged to Sedment type group 90,¹⁰⁴ which has its roots as far back as in the Old Kingdom.¹⁰⁵ For discussion see above cat. nr. 12.

fig. 3.37

- **38.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4
Jar rim rolled and trimmed.
 Rd. 10,0 cm, pres. ht. 4,5 cm.
 Marl C1 with thick white, naturally developed surface layer on the outside.¹⁰⁶
 Wheelmade.
 Although this rim fragment has no exact parallel among the pottery from Sedment and Harageh, which are the nearest in terms of distance and probably also in date, we may suggest as a parallel a rim of a jar from Sedment, that was re-evaluated and found to consist of marl clay, namely type 74p, the only decorated vessel at that cemetery.¹⁰⁷

fig. 3.38

- **39.** Cata 14, Nivel 3, Capa 4
Large bread mould, with post-firing hole in base.
 Bd. 5,8–6 cm, pres. ht. 13,3 cm.

fig. 3.39

100. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.

101. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 32.69.

102. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 35.

103. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.95.

104. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 35.

105. See above under cat. nr. 12. Cf. Qau, 5th Dynasty, U.C. 17648, marl clay.

106. Cf. B. BADER, *Tell el-Dab'a XIII*, Vienna, 2001, p. 21–24.

107. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 33. Cf. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming, fig. 8.c.

Nile C2, uncoated, very rough.

Handmade, inside smooth, outside vertically scraped.

This bread mould base is another example with a wider base diameter than known in the Middle Kingdom. For discussion of this type see above cat. nr. 9.

- **40.** Cata 14, Nivel 3
Model dish.
Rd. 8,0 cm, bd. 5,3 cm, ht. 2,2 cm.
Nile C1, red slip inside and outside.
Wheelmade, base cut off with string.
Model pottery is not overly common at Herakleopolis Magna, but occurs regularly. This may be a notable difference to the cemeteries of Sedment, where models generally seem quite rare.¹⁰⁸ For this simple shape a parallel can be found in type 9k at Sedment.¹⁰⁹
fig. 3.40

- **41.** Cata 14, Nivel 3
Model dish with incurved rim.
Rd. 5,8 cm, bd. 4,0 cm, ht. 3,6 cm.
Nile C1/B2, red slip inside.
Turning spiral visible inside, irregularly made, base cut off with string.
This model pot may be similar to type 23g (perhaps n) at Sedment,¹¹⁰ where the base was cut off by string and drawn only in out line.
fig. 3.41

SECTOR/CATA 4

Tumba I, capa 3 signifies a find spot inside the tomb. All ceramics excavated in 2002 of sector 4 was found outside of the tomb, beside it on the east and under the offering table and stela.

- **42.** Cata 4, tumba I, Capa 3, (ZN 58)
Rim and shoulder of pointed marl vessel .
Rd. 6,0 cm, nd. 4,3 cm, pres. ht. 8,7 cm.
Marl C1, uncoated, surface 10 YR 8/3 very pale brown inside and outside, but naturally developed surface layer not as thickly developed inside as outside.¹¹¹
Top part turned on wheel, lower part vertically scraped on outside.
This vessel also belongs to type family 90, as known from Sedment. The direct rim is everted, but does not exceed the width of the max. d. of the body. The neck is not very narrow. Best match is 90l or 90p.¹¹² At Harageh similar vessels were found in cemetery D.¹¹³ See discussion under cat. nr. 12.
fig. 3.42

108. Cf. B. BADER, *op. cit.*

109. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 29.

110. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 29.

111. Cf. note 106.

112. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 35.

113. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 32.88–89.

OUTSIDE OF TOMB

- **43.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2
Rim fragment of “Meidumbowl”.
 Rd. 17,0 cm?, pres. ht. 3,4 cm.
 Nile B1, hard fired, red polished inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 This vessel shape is reminiscent of the Meidum bowl of the Old Kingdom, and some examples from Herakleopolis Magna are even polished to a metallic sheen. In some contexts they are very common. At Sedment¹¹⁴ there are some similar shapes, but it remains unknown if they were polished or not, as no example was located for re-evaluation. At Harageh, in both cemeteries C and D, a similar shape was found¹¹⁵ as well as at Gurob.¹¹⁶ At Tell el-Dabʿa, str. e, a red polished example was found.¹¹⁷ More polished examples were found at Qau,¹¹⁸ Ashmunein,¹¹⁹ and Denderah.¹²⁰ At Denderah it seems quite clear that the “Meidum bowl style” persists through at least part of the FIP,¹²¹ while it disappears at Elephantine soon after the end of the 6th Dynasty.¹²²

fig. 3.43

- **44.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2
Rim fragment of large dish or bowl.
 Rd. 34,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,9 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade, outside of rim trimmed with (wooden?) tool.
 The rim of a large bowl probably belonged to a vessel type in the shape of 8b from Sedment.¹²³ This piece seems to belong to a vessel type that is positioned in the presumed later part of the new seriation of the material culture of the cemeteries of Sedment.¹²⁴ A similar bowl occurs at Saqqara in the tomb of Karenen, although it seems not to be of that fine fabric with red polished surface, but rougher.¹²⁵ The example housed in the Ny Carlsberg Glyptothek is probably similar.¹²⁶

fig. 3.44

114. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 29. 4h, 7n, 7d, 20d. The sizes are not the same.

115. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 31.26. Not known if polished.

116. G. BRUNTON, R. ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, 1927, pl. IX. 1–2, one with flat base and polished.

117. E. CZERNY, *Tell el-Dabʿa IX*, Vienna, 1999, 144, Nf 110, 111, Ib.

118. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, 1928, pl. 89.13c, but larger.

119. A. J. SPENCER, *Excavations at el-Ashmunein III. The Town*, 1993, pl. 101.7. highly polished.

120. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, p. 219, fig. 14–18, phase 2 although they do not look exactly the same as the Herakleopolis examples.

121. *Loc. cit.* The work of L. OP DE BEECK puts this example from the 1st to 6th Dynasty. Cf. *Ibid.*, p. 239–274.

122. St. SEIDLMAYER, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, p. 285.

123. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 29.

124. Cf. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming.

125. J. E. QUIBELL, *Excavations at Saqqara 1906–1907, II*, 1908, pl. 39.1, middle. Cf. Do. ARNOLD, in P. Jánosi (ed.), *Structure and Significance. Thoughts on Ancient Egyptian Architecture*, Vienna, 2005, p. 1–65.

126. M. JORGENSEN, *Catalogue Egypt I*, Ny Carlsberg Glyptothek, Copenhagen, 1996, p. 120.

- **45.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 1 fig. 3.45
Rim fragment of dish.
 Rd. 19,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,9 cm.
 Nile B2, red polished inside and outside on rim, red slip outside.
 Wheelmade, rilling lines visible under polishing.
 This fragment was included, although it is the only of its kind so far, because it is very similar to a pottery type occurring at Elephantine, dated there to the end of the Old Kingdom.¹²⁷ The material and surface treatment is the same as well as the size. Again the decision if this kind of pottery was old material brought to the surface by secondary activities or is contemporary with the rest of the material is difficult to determine.

- **46.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2 fig. 3.46
Rim fragment of carinated dish.
 Rd. 17,5 cm, pres. ht. 4,2 cm.
 Nile B2, fine variant, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade, one deep rilling on outside under rim.
 This is another variant of the carinated dish, which is more open than the other examples presented here. Parallels can be cited from Sedment (6k, 20s, but smaller),¹²⁸ Harageh,¹²⁹ Ashmunein¹³⁰ and Denderah.¹³¹

- **47.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 1 y 2 fig. 3.47
Rim fragment of carinated dish.
 Rd. 16,5 cm, pres. ht. 3,5 cm.
 Nile B2, red polish inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 This carinated dish looks similar to type 4m at Sedment, where the carination is more pronounced.¹³²

- **48.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2 fig. 3.48
Rim fragment of dish or bowl with trimmed profile.
 Rd. 21,5 cm, pres. ht. 4,6 cm.
 Nile B2, red polished inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 For this variant of carinated dish no parallels have been found.

- **49.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2 fig. 3.49
Bowl with spout and flat base.
 Rd. 22,0 cm, ht. 17,2 cm, bd. 9,0 cm.

127. St. SEIDLMEYER, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, Abb. 4.1.

128. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 29.

129. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 31.24. found in another place than cemeteries C or D.

130. A. J. SPENCER, *Excavations at el-Ashmunein III. The Town*, 1993, pl. 103.54.

131. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 18, red polished.

132. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 29.

Nile B2, thick red slip inside and outside polished with cloth inside and outside: red slip/polish 10 R 5/6 red; natural surface 5 YR 5/4 reddish brown.

Wheelmade, join visible on inside in lower third of vessel; base very well smoothed manufacturing technique not discernible, but a few smoothing marks are visible.

The spouted bowl from Herakleopolis Magna was qualitatively one of the best made vessels so far recorded from this site. The shape might have its roots in the Old Kingdom, where similar vessels were part of the libation set (“Waschgeschirr”).¹³³ In principle a similar shape was found at Harageh, even if the latter is much smaller and without a spout (cemetery C),¹³⁴ at Denderah¹³⁵ and in the Dakhleh oasis.¹³⁶

- **50.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2
Rim fragment of “hole mouth” shape.
 Rd. 28,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,1 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip inside and outside.
 Wheelmade.
 Perhaps this top part of a vessel belongs to a shape similar to a canopic jar (or *nmst*-vessel).¹³⁷ A so-called “hole mouth cooking pot” is also possible, but such vessels only become *en vogue* later. So far such an early parallel has not been found and thus make this identification highly unlikely. Another possibility is some kind of restricted bowl like the one above (cat. nr. 49) or that from Harageh in cemetery C, although much smaller examples were also found.¹³⁸ From Denderah, phase 2, a larger vessel of perhaps the same type was found.¹³⁹

fig. 3.50

- **51.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2
Bread platter.
 Rd. ca 40 cm, ht. 7,7–8,0 cm.
 Nile C2, uncoated.
 Base very irregularly handmade, top turned on wheel, inside smooth.
 This type of vessel is often called a “bread platter” because of its similarity with the modern Egyptian devices for making *a’ish shamsi*.¹⁴⁰ The type is long lived and survives basically unchanged till at least the late New Kingdom.¹⁴¹ From Ashmunein a silt ware platter is known

fig. 3.51

133. H. BALCZ, *MDAIK* 3/2, 1932, p. 89–114, Abb. 13.

134. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.117.

135. R. A. SLATER, *The Archaeology of Denderah in the First Intermediate Period*, Ann Arbor, 1974, p. 487, C7c, the carination sits lower down the body of the vessel and the rim is turned outwards, not formed as a “wulst” as here. Dated to the FIP. Also from Denderah but from a settlement, S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 53 upper part, fig. 56 with slightly different proportions, dated to phases 2–3, FIP to 11th Dynasty.

136. G. SOUKIASSIAN, M. WUTTMANN, L. PANTALACCI, *Le palais des gouverneurs de l’époque de Pépy II, Balat VI*, 2002, p. 238, fig. 207, Nr. 919/2, Maison 3, phase 2, dating: end of the Old Kingdom or some time after.

137. The definition of this kind of vessel is according to Do. ARNOLD, *LÄ* 5, 1984, p. 215, s.v. Reinigungsgefäße, Abb. 3. G. JÉQUIER, *Les Frises d’objets des Sarcophages du Moyen Empire*, 1921, p. 117, fig. 309–313, but these show a spout; p. 311, fig. 798 for *nmst*-vessels; 314, Abb. 812 shows a *senu*-vessel, which in this instance is also similar.

138. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.117.

139. S. MARCHAND, *op. cit.*, fig. 73, red slip.

140. S. ALLEN, in K. Wilson, *Cities of the Delta, II, Mendes*, 1982, p. 22.

141. A separate study on bread platters is planned, in order to see if some features of them change over time.

of similar shape, but it comes from a pit fill.¹⁴² More examples are known from Denderah, phase 2–3 and 4,¹⁴³ as well as from Abu Ghalib.¹⁴⁴

- **52.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, (ZN 61) fig. 4.52
Medium, broad or very broad jar with everted, folded rim.
 Reconstructed from sherds, almost complete.
 Rd. 7,3–7,6 cm, ht. 18,4 cm, nd. 5,4 cm, max. d. 14,4 cm, VI 78,3.
 Nile B2, red slip outside 7,5 R 6/6 red; natural surface 5 YR 5–6/4 reddish brown to lt. red brown Top half wheelmade (coiling first?), base also, join in middle of the vessel visible, outside vertical smoothing marks, very well done, base scraped outside, inside hints as to being made in mould first.
 A similar vessel can be found in type 74h at Sedment, although it has a slightly more pointed base.¹⁴⁵ Also 75c seems to be a good, slightly smaller, parallel, tomb 415, in which it was found, was dated by Petrie to the 6th Dynasty. Because of its difficult dating history,¹⁴⁶ it was not used for the new seriation. The nearby site of Harageh contained a similar shape in cemetery C as well, also slightly smaller.¹⁴⁷ At Qau a slightly more globular vessel without turned over lip was recorded.¹⁴⁸
- **53.** Cata 4, Nivel IV, Capa 3, Unidad 3, (ZN 64) fig. 4.53
Body of bottle.
 Nd. 4,4 cm, max. d. 12,1 cm, pres. ht. 25,0 cm.
 Nile B2, red slip outside (10 R 5/6 red); natural surface colour 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow.
 Probably first coiled, then joined, smoothed on the wheel, bottom part shows smoothing marks outside in lower half, well smoothed.
 Parallels for this bottle are found at Sedment¹⁴⁹ and Harageh, in cemeteries C and D.¹⁵⁰
- **54.** Cata 4, Nivel III, unidad 2, Capa 8, (ZN 63) fig. 4.54
Body of bottle.
 Nd. 4,0 cm, max. d. 9,7 cm, pres. ht. 25,9 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside (10 R 5/6 red); natural surface 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow.
 Coiled and turned on slow wheel, base scraped, outside rough smoothing marks.
 The typical torpedo shape with pointed base is similar to types 89s and 86s from Sedment, which are a trifle wider.¹⁵¹ At Harageh, cemetery D, smaller vessels of this shape were found,

142. A. J. SPENCER, *Excavations at el-Ashmunein III. The Town*, p. 67–68, pl. 111, Type 8.1.5.

143. S. MARCHAND, *CCE* 7, 2004, fig. 92–93, phase 2–3 is FIP to 11th Dyn., also fig. 115, phase 4: end of 11th to beginning of 12th Dynasty.

144. H. LARSEN, *MDAIK* 6, 1936, Abb. 14.

145. W. M. F. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 33.

146. St. SEIDLMEYER, *Gräberfelder aus dem Übergang vom Alten zum Mittleren Reich*, 1990, p. 251–252.

147. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.39.

148. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, 1928, pl. 90.44m.

149. W. M. F. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 35.89d, g.

150. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.99, corresponds approx. to 89d.

151. W. M. F. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 35.34–35.

which might mean that the taller torpedo shape might be a criterion for a slightly later date.¹⁵² However, to prove this assumption more complete examples from well stratified contexts are necessary.

- **55.** Cata 4, unidad 3, Nivel IV, Capa 2 fig. 4.55
Rim of amphora (?).
 Rd. ca. 11,0 cm, pres. ht. 3,5 cm.
 Imported fabric (similar to TD IV-2,¹⁵³ but not a known variant there), red slip out (effect in firing also possible), fabric not known from NK or TIP/LP.
 Wheelmade.
 So far no secure parallels for this probable amphora rim have been found. As this fabric is not typical for the Middle Kingdom/Second Intermediate Period, the New Kingdom or the Late Period,¹⁵⁴ it might well belong to the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom.

SECTOR/CATA 5

Consists of a row of three rooms, the sidewalls of each built of stone the vaults built of mudbrick.¹⁵⁵

- **56.** Cata 5, Capa 3 y ss fig. 4.56
 Bottle, complete profile.
 Rd. 3,0 cm, nd. 4,0 cm, max. d. 10,4 cm, ht. 26,0 cm, VI 40.
 Nile B2, red slip outside 10 R 6/6 red; natural surface colour not detectable.
 Made in two parts, top rilling lines outside, in lower part traces of coiling very visible and vertical smoothing marks, base roughly scraped.
 Parallels are known from Sedment¹⁵⁶ and Harageh, cemetery D.¹⁵⁷

SECTOR/CATA 13

Is situated south of cata 12, at the eastern end of the current excavation area. It consists of two features/unidades 21 and 20. Feature 20 contained no finds, while in feature 21 some levels with ceramics were detected. It is a tomb with mud brick vault and protruding bricks.¹⁵⁸

- **57.** Cata 13, Nivel 2, Unidad 21, Capa 5, (ZN 76) fig. 4.57
Large bottle with knob, completely restored from sherds.
 Rd. 4,5 cm, nd. 5,6 – 6,4 cm, max. d. 16,7 cm, ht. 43,0 cm, VI 38,8.

152. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.92, 95, perhaps 96, but all of them are smaller.

153. M. BIETAK, *Tell el-Dab'a V*, Vienna, 1991, 329.

154. This confirmation for the New Kingdom and the Late Period was kindly made by D. Aston, pers. communication.

155. C. PÉREZ-DIE, *Ehnasya el-Medina... Excavaciones 1984–2004*, Madrid, 2005, fig. 20.

156. W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 34.86n, very similar even down to measurements.

157. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *op. cit.*, pl. 33.96, base is not as round.

158. C. PÉREZ-DIE, *op. cit.*, fig. 20.

Nile C1, red slip outside (10 R 5/6 red), natural surface 2,5 YR 5/8 red.

Made in three parts, probably first coiled then put together, smoothed on wheel, lower third vertically scraped on the outside, base scraped, knob added later.

The only known parallels for this very unusual type are known from Sedment and from Herakleopolis Magna itself. At Sedment type 87q is more ovoid, and 87p is smaller and the neck is shorter.¹⁵⁹ The example from HM is even taller than the current one and covered additionally with a dark red slip that was burnished. The body shows a more ovoid shape.¹⁶⁰

- **58.** Cata 13, unidad 21, Nivel 2, Capa 5, (ZN 78) fig. 4.58
Bottle.
 Rd. 2,3 cm, nd. 4,4 cm, max. d. 10,6 cm, ht. 24,2 cm, VI 43, 8.
 Nile C1, red slip outside (5 R 5/6 red), natural surface 7,5 YR 6/4 light brown.
 Top part shows rilling lines outside, bottom part traces of coiling and rough vertical smoothing, rim was cut with a tool.
 This vessel is well comparable to Sedment, type 89e, with a more pointed base and a more pronounced shoulder.¹⁶¹

SECTOR/CATA 12

Signifies the second painted tomb of Hetepwadjet of the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom in Herakleopolis Magna, but was cut by a Third Intermediate Period tomb, thus destroying the original assemblage.¹⁶² Unidad 22 denotes the remains of the FIP tomb, which was disturbed. However, the material found in the sector is probably from the original burial or the cult, even if not in the original position. The ceramic material of the Third Intermediate Period/Late Period disturbance was easily recognisable and is not further mentioned in this article.

- **59.** Cata 12, Nivel 3, unidad 14, Capa 7, (ZN 74) fig. 4.59
Bottle with narrow neck, complete.
 Rd. 4,2 cm, nd. 4,8 cm, max. d. 11,6 cm, ht. 25,5 cm, VI 45, 5.
 Nile B2/C1, red slip outside 10 R 5/8, natural surface 2,5 YR 6/8 red.
 Made in two parts, both coiled, then joined and smoothed on the wheel; top part shows rilling lines outside, lower part smoothing marks vertically and obliquely.
 This shape is similar to 86d or k at Sedment, but with longer body. A better parallel comes from Harageh, cemetery C.¹⁶³ A possible parallel comes from Beni Hassan.¹⁶⁴

159. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 34.

160. M. J. LÓPEZ GRANDE, F. QUESADA SANZ, M. A. MOLINERO POLO, *Excavaciones en Ehnasya el Medina (Heracléopolis Magna)*, *Informes Arqueológicos II*, Madrid, 1995, p. 44 and p. 138, Lám. 4.a.

161. W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, 1924, pl. 34.

162. C. PÉREZ-DIE, *Ehnasya el-Medina... Excavaciones 1984-2004*, Madrid, 2005, fig. 20. *Ead.* in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, p. 241-245.

163. R. ENGELBACH, B. GUNN, *Harageh*, 1923, pl. 33.102.

164. J. GARSTANG, *Burial Customs in Ancient Egypt*, 1907, XIII.29.

- **60.** Cata 12, unidad 22, Capa 7
Rim fragment of marl clay jar.
 Rd. 10,0 cm, pres. ht. 1,6 cm.
 Marl A4, uncoated.
 Wheelmade.
 No parallels are known for this piece.

fig. 4.60
- **61.** Cata 12, unidad 22, Capa 7
Rim of marl clay jar.
 Rd. 10,0 cm, pres. ht. 6,2 cm.
 Marl C1, over fired, uncoated, surface inside and outside is greenish-whitish.
 Wheelmade.
 As the shape is only preserved fragmentarily, only a guess towards the complete shape is possible. It seems that this rim belongs to a large storage jar, which could be reconstructed tentatively in autumn 2006.¹⁶⁵

fig. 4.61

SECTOR/CATA 16

- **62.** Cata 16, Nivel VII, UE 97, (ZN 79)
Bottle, intact.
 Rd. 3,0 cm, nd. 4,0 cm, max. d. 9,4 cm, ht. 21,9 cm, VI 42,9.
 Nile C1/C2, whitish surface like a beerbottle, colour 7,5 YR 8/2 pinkish white; underneath this colour 10 R 5/6 red (perhaps overfired).
 Top part shows rilling lines on outside, lower part coiled and slightly smoothed.
 Quite exact parallels come from Sedment.¹⁶⁶

fig. 5.62

SECTOR/CATA 15

- **63.** Cata 15, Nivel V, UE 47/48, (ZN 81)
Model beaker.
 Rd. 6,0–8,0 cm (rim warped), ht. 7,3 cm.
 Nile C2, red slip inside and outside 7,5 R 5/8 red, natural surface 5 YR 5/8 reddish yellow.
 Wheelmade, base cut off with string.
 For this model pot no direct parallel could be found.

fig. 5.63
- **64.** Cata 15, Nivel V, UE 47/48, (ZN 82)
Model dish.
 Rd. 5,5–6,2 cm, bd. 5,9 cm, ht. 4,6 cm.

fig. 5.64

¹⁶⁵ B. BADER, *BCE* 23, forthcoming, fig. 7.

¹⁶⁶ W. M. FL. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 35.89t, the measurements fit very well.

Nile C1/C2, red slip inside and outside, 7,5 R 5/6 red, natural surface colour 7,5 YR 6/4 light brown.

Wheelmade, base cut off with string.

Perhaps 23n from Sedment¹⁶⁷ can be considered as parallel, although it is slightly lower and therefore makes a squatter impression.

- **65.** Cata 15, Nivel VII, UE 101 fig. 5.65
Neck of painted Marl jar with spout.
 Nd. ca. 8,9 cm, pres. ht. 4,6 cm.
 Marl C1, overfired, uncoated, 2,5 Y8/4 pale yellow; red paint 5 YR 5/4 reddish brown.
 Probably wheelmade; on neck one row of vertical short red lines, underneath one row of curved red lines and underneath another row of lines of red paint, which are not identifiable. For this fragment a parallel from Sedment can be cited, that is painted as well—the only decorated ceramic vessel from the FIP/early MK at the whole site—but without spout.¹⁶⁸

SECTOR/CATA 9

In the interior of one tomb in sector 9 several vessels were found *in situ* in the south western corner.

- **66.** Cata 9, tumba interior, angelo SW, *in situ*, (ZN 83) fig. 5.66
Bottle, complete and intact (Reg. Nr. HM03–11).
 Rd. 3,6 cm, nd. 5,0 cm, max. d. 10,7 cm, ht. 24,9 cm, VI 43,0.
 Nile C1/C2, red slip outside (7,5 R 4/6 red), natural surface 7,5 YR 6/4–6 lt. brown to reddish yellow.
 Made in two parts, join clearly visible, coiled and smoothed on wheel, outside rilling lines on top part, on lower part vertical smoothing marks made with fingers; base roughly scraped. For this vessel a parallel can be cited from Sedment.¹⁶⁹ At Beni Hassan a similar vessel was found, but it shows a slightly wider and longer neck.¹⁷⁰
- **67.** Cata 9, tumba interior, angelo SW, *in situ*, (ZN 85) fig. 5.67
Bottle, nearly complete and intact (hole in body)¹⁷¹ (Reg. Nr. HM03–10).
 Rd. 4,0 cm, nd. 4,6 cm, max. d. 10,6 cm, ht. 25,2 cm, VI 42,1.
 Nile C1/C2, red slip outside 7,5 YR 4/6 red, natural surface colour 7,5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow.
 Made in two parts, join clearly visible, coiled and smoothed on wheel, outside rilling lines on top part, on lower part vertical smoothing marks made with fingers; base roughly scraped
 This vessel can also be paralleled to 86k from Sedment¹⁷² and to a vessel from Beni Hassan.¹⁷³

^{167.} *Ibid.*, pl. 29.

^{168.} *Ibid.*, pl. 33.74p.

^{169.} W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, 1924, pl. 34.86k.

^{170.} J. GARSTANG, *Burial Customs in Ancient Egypt*, 1907, pl. XIII.29.

^{171.} Probably this represents a mark from the ritual killing of the vessel in the course of the burial. R. K. RITNER, *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*, 1993, p. 148–153.

^{172.} W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 34.

^{173.} J. GARSTANG, *op. cit.*, pl. XIII.29.

- **68.** Cata 9, tumba interior, angelo SW, *in situ*, (ZN 86)
Model jar, complete profile (Reg. Nr. HM 03–12).
 Rd. 3,5 cm, max. d. 5,2 cm, ht. 9,1 cm.
 Nile C1, red slip outside 7,5 R 5/6 red, natural surface 5 YR 5/6 yellowish red.
 Wheelmade, base cut off with string.
 For this model jar no direct parallel was found.

fig. 5.68
- **69.** Cata 9, tumba interior, angelo SW, *in situ*, (ZN 84)
Bottle, intact (Reg. Nr. HM03–09).
 Rd. 3,4 cm, nd. 4,6 cm, max. d. 10,2 cm, ht. 24,4 cm, VI 41,8.
 Nile C1, red slip outside 7,5 R 4/6 red, natural surface colour 7,5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow.
 Made in two parts, join clearly visible, coiled and smoothed on wheel, outside rilling lines on top part, on lower part vertical smoothing marks made with fingers, base roughly scraped.
 This slightly wider vessel also conforms best with 86k from Sedment, because other types are too narrow.¹⁷⁴ Again at Beni Hassan a similar vessel was known, but it is wider at the neck and shows a slightly longer neck.¹⁷⁵

fig. 5.69

PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

It is difficult to assess the material presented, because only in a few places some *in situ* finds could be made and the bulk of the material has no stratigraphy that would help dating it. Still there are some conclusions that can be drawn from the evidence hitherto collected and they can be summarised as follows:

I. The parallels cited suggest that the open shapes are more widespread within Egypt as well as within time. Thus, as most of the parallels from later sites such as Tell el-Dab'a and Abu Ghalib dating into the 12th Dynasty are open, we may assume that these simple vessel shapes have a longer life span.

On the other hand, parallels for closed shapes are much more local and can be found mostly in the larger Sedment region (Harageh, Gurob). Exceptions to this rule are types belonging to shape family 64, that seem to continue up into the early 12th Dynasty and were found further south as well. Thus, the parallels exemplify that only a few shapes can be traced further to the south or north than the Memphis-Fayoum region: simple plates, they also have a long use life; carinated dishes with groove under the rim (Meidum style bowls); the funnel neck jar family 64, bread moulds and a late Old Kingdom example of pointed Marl clay jars (Sedment type 90d), but no other examples of this family were found outside the Memphis-Fayoum region. The spouted pot cat. nr 17 can be found at Qau, Denderah and the Dakleh oasis.

¹⁷⁴ W. M. Fl. PETRIE, G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. 34.

¹⁷⁵ J. GARSTANG, *op. cit.*, pl. XIII.29.

2. The material presented here is by comparison unlikely to be as late or later than that of the foundation deposits at the pyramid of Senwosret I.¹⁷⁶
3. The red polished pottery—dishes, carinated dishes, dishes similar to or developed out of “Meidum bowls” seem not to occur at Sedment and Harageh cemeteries C and D.¹⁷⁷
4. The material of Herakleopolis seems more similar to pl. IX of the Gurob publication than to plate XI,¹⁷⁸ where there are no carinated bowls, more globular jars, hemispherical cups (or precursors of them) as well as footed cups. According to this résumé of the excavation at Gurob very few pointed jar shapes were found.¹⁷⁹
5. The almost complete absence of hemispherical cups hitherto observed in the material of Herakleopolis Magna seems noteworthy. Although an *argumentum ex silencio* should be avoided it seems strange that only two fragments (cat. nrs. 11, 45) of this otherwise ubiquitous vessel group were found at Herakleopolis Magna. These two fragments are the only ones, so far spotted, that are in the slightest way similar to the material described by Seidlmayer from tombs at Elephantine.¹⁸⁰ Here, of course, we are faced with the problem that a site so far distant in the FIP/11th Dynasty, where such hemispherical cups appear already in the 8th and 9th Dynasties, throughout the 11th Dynasty and into the beginning of the 12th Dynasty, is only peripherally comparable to our material. In comparison with the material from Herakleopolis it seems in order to suggest that the hemispherical cup as such is a “southern” pottery type, which only gradually reached the north. Furthermore it is unclear how much time elapsed before southern types reached the north, but they are present in the later years of Senwosret I at Lisht South.¹⁸¹ Arnold states in her treatise of the pottery from the pyramid complex of Senwosret I at Lisht South that cups of the First Intermediate Period are supposed to show a vessel index of above 200.¹⁸² The absence of such cups at Herakleopolis could mean a difference in repertoire, context or in chronology. Since the Elephantine and Tarif examples are from tomb contexts a difference in chronology seems the most likely possibility at the moment. It is a hint to a period before the use of hemispherical cups was widespread in the north.
6. The footed cups with carination with a notable stem between the base and the cup that would indicate a relatively late date (into the 12th Dynasty)¹⁸³ are absent.¹⁸⁴

176. Cf. Do. ARNOLD, *supra* note 6.

177. The ceramic material studied in British Museums from the cemeteries at Sedment did not include any polished examples. There were several examples at Gurob, pl. IX.1. There is still the possibility that they only occurred broken and were not collected by the early excavators.

178. G. BRUNTON, R. ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, 1927, pl. IX, XI.

179. Cf. St. SEIDLMEYER, *Gräberfelder aus dem Übergang vom Alten zum Mittleren Reich*, 1990, Abb. 154.

180. *Id.*, in L. Pantalacci, C. Berger-El-Naggar (eds.), *Des Neferkarê aux Montouhotep*, 2005, p. 285–291, Abb. 4.7–4.10, Abb. 4.1.

181. Do. ARNOLD, in D. Arnold, *The Pyramid Complex of Senwosret I, The South Cemeteries of Lisht III*, 1992, fig. 55a.12, “entrance cut deposit”.

182. *Ibid.*, p. 140–141. She gives the stela of Antefoker as example. At el-Tarif hemispherical cups were also found. Cf. Do. ARNOLD, *MDAIK* 28, 1972, p. 33–46, fig. 4, left.

183. Do. ARNOLD, in D. Arnold, *The Pyramid Complex of Senwosret I, The South Cemeteries of Lisht III*, 1992, p. 55–58, pl. 69.

184. Cf. B. BADER, in R. Schiestl, A. Seiler (eds.), *Middle Kingdom Pottery Handbook*, forthcoming, fig. 6 type 30.

7. Some ceramic shapes show a clear relationship to the style of the Old Kingdom, for example cat. nr. 3,¹⁸⁵ cat. nr. 13,¹⁸⁶ cat. nr. 37,¹⁸⁷ cat. nr. 49,¹⁸⁸ and cat. nr. 51.¹⁸⁹ Having established this fact, it will be a very different question to answer for how long this style had any influence in the Sedment area in the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom. But there is also no doubt that most of the ceramic shapes show links to the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom repertoires as they are known today.

8. The material seems to be similar to those types that occur in the later part of the new Sedment seriation.¹⁹⁰ In Seidlmayer's terms it would probably fall into his Phases Ia to about IIa—equivalent, according to him, to the beginning of the 11th Dynasty to a period between Mentuhotep and Senwosret I. It has to be noted though that in each phase some vessel types do not appear, such as Seidlmayer's types ST 602, ST 792, or 304 and ST 305 or the *hes*-vases ST 802 and 801.¹⁹¹ But this may have its reason in the disturbed nature of the site or in the different social status of the tomb owners. Whilst the tombs in Sedment were single pit or shaft graves, distributed over a cemetery in a rather scattered manner, the tombs of Herakleopolis are organised in streets and seem to be larger architectural units. This fact in combination with the relatively large number of stelae and offering tables made of limestone seems to confirm this difference.¹⁹²

In conclusion the period can tentatively be narrowed down as follows: The material seems not to be as late as that from the foundation deposits of Senwosret I in Lisht (cf. above). So this is at the moment the upper border for the dating of the material from Herakleopolis Magna. The beginning of the period is much more difficult to fathom. It is unfortunate that the inscriptions on the stelae are lacking any kings' names or titularies. Whether this could be used as an argument for dating the necropolis to around the reunification under Mentuhotep II must remain unclear until more comparative work has been done on the stelae. Since there is no comparable site with an impeccable stratigraphy, all that can be said with certainty is that the beginning of this phase of the necropolis of Herakleopolis has to be dated after the end of the 6th Dynasty.¹⁹³ More analytical work on the epigraphy of the stelae and the stratigraphy are currently under way, so that new insights might soon complement the findings presented here.

According to Kitchen's absolute chronology¹⁹⁴ the period in question would last from around 2176 B.C. the end of the reign of Menkare to 1953 B.C. the end of the reign of Amenemhat I. In

185. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, 1928, pl. LXXVI.13.b; 13f-r. St. SEIDLMAYER, *Gräberfelder aus dem Übergang vom Alten zum Mittleren Reich*, 1990, Abb. 81, Qau, K-0A4-01.

186. For example G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. LXXVI.4q-4t. St. SEIDLMAYER, *op. cit.*, Abb. 81, Qau, K-0A3-01.

187. G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. LXXIX. 66c; LXXXVII.66b. St. SEIDLMAYER, *op. cit.*, Abb. 81, Qau, K-B50-01.

188. G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, pl. LXXVIII.19d. St. SEIDLMAYER, *op. cit.*, Abb. 81, Qau, K-0A2-01.

189. G. BRUNTON, *op. cit.*, 1928, pl. LXXVI.1m-n.

190. Cf. BADER, *op. cit.*, fig. 10–12 und 13–16.

191. St. SEIDLMAYER, *op. cit.*, Abb. 137–138, Abb. 168.

192. Cf. *Ibid.*, p. 247, works on the assumption that the cemeteries of Sedment belong to now lost villages of low status in the nearest vicinity and were not at all connected to Herakleopolis Magna. I would hesitate to accept an attribution to the lowest social class as about 63 % of the graves contained a wooden coffin or fragments of it among other things.

193. There might be an earlier phase under the current row of tombs, but more archaeological and analytical work has to be done to be more precise.

194. See note 4.

view of the comments listed above under 7. I would suggest that the pottery falls nearer the end rather than the beginning of this time period.

Only further work can help to better understand the site and the material and link it to others in order to weave a complex carpet for a better chronology in the still quite dark transition of the First Intermediate Period to the early Middle Kingdom, in which Egypt was probably as segmented as in the Second Intermediate Period.

ABBREVIATIONS

rd.	rim diameter	ht.	height
nd.	neck diameter	pres. ht.	preserved height
max. d.	maximum diameter	bd.	base diameter

N.B. Unfortunately it was not possible to include important works that appeared in print after 2005.

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Fig. 1. 1–9. Pottery from Sector 14, feature 2; 10–12. Sector 14, feature 1; 13–17, 20. Sector 14, feature 5.



Fig. 2. 18–19, 21–26. Pottery from Sector 14, feature 5; 27. Sector 14, feature 3; 28–33. Sector 14, above tomb.

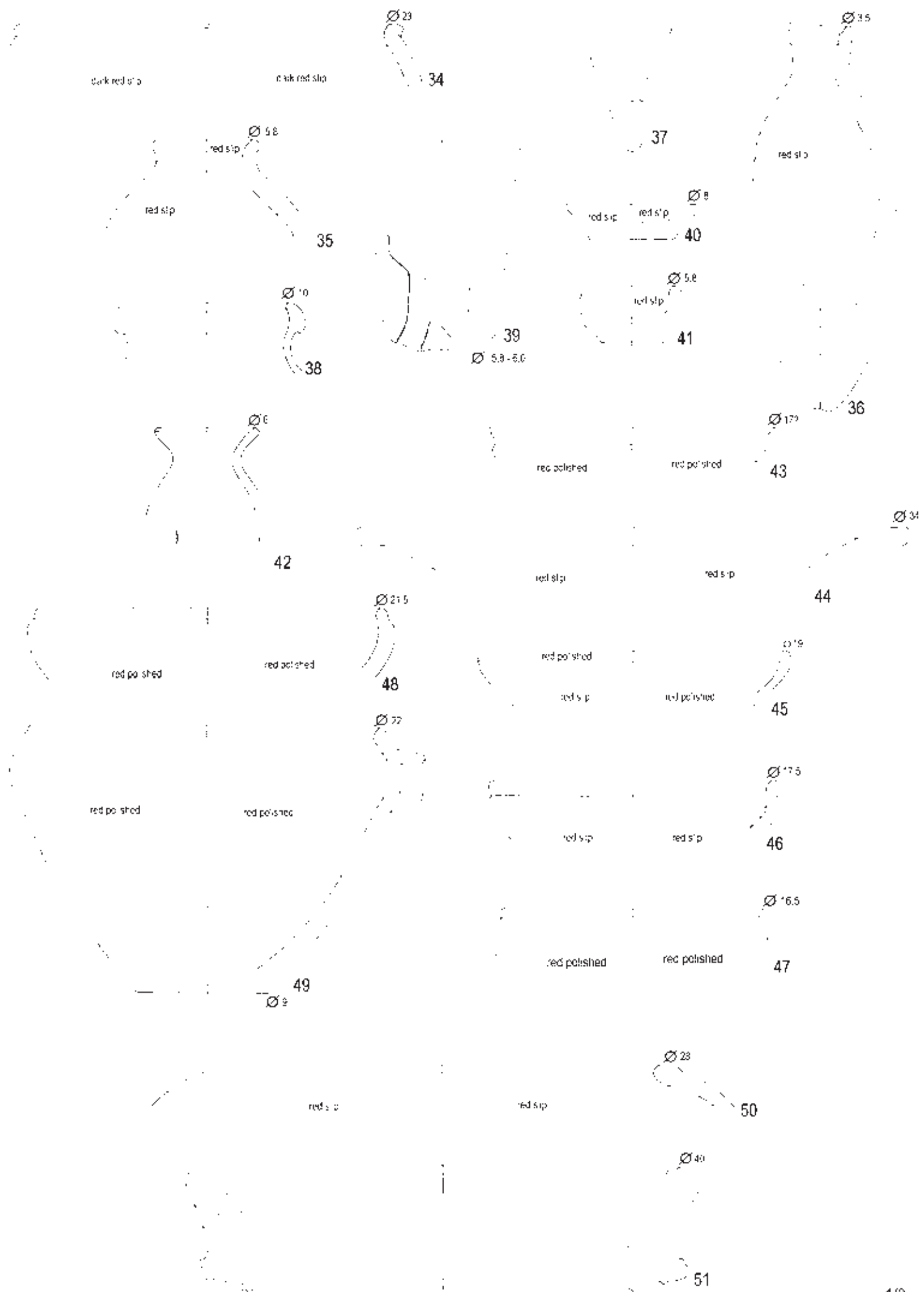


Fig. 3. 34-41. Pottery from Sector 14, above the tomb; 42. Sector 4, inside the tomb; 43-51. Sector 4, feature 3 (outside of tomb).

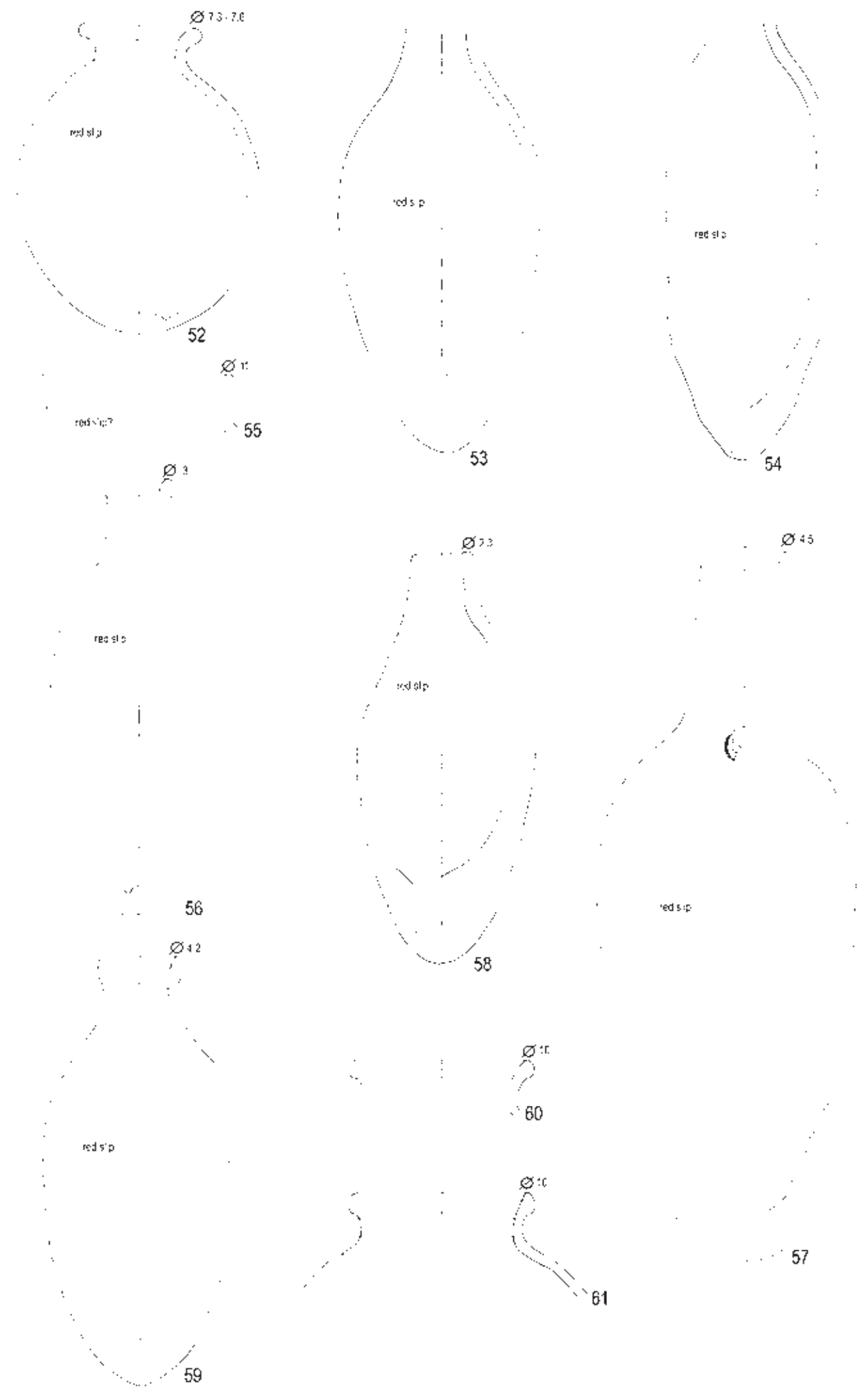


Fig. 4. 52-55. Pottery from Sector 4, feature 3 (outside of tomb); 56. Sector 5; 57-58. Sector 13, feature 21; 59-61. Sector 12, feature 14 and 22.

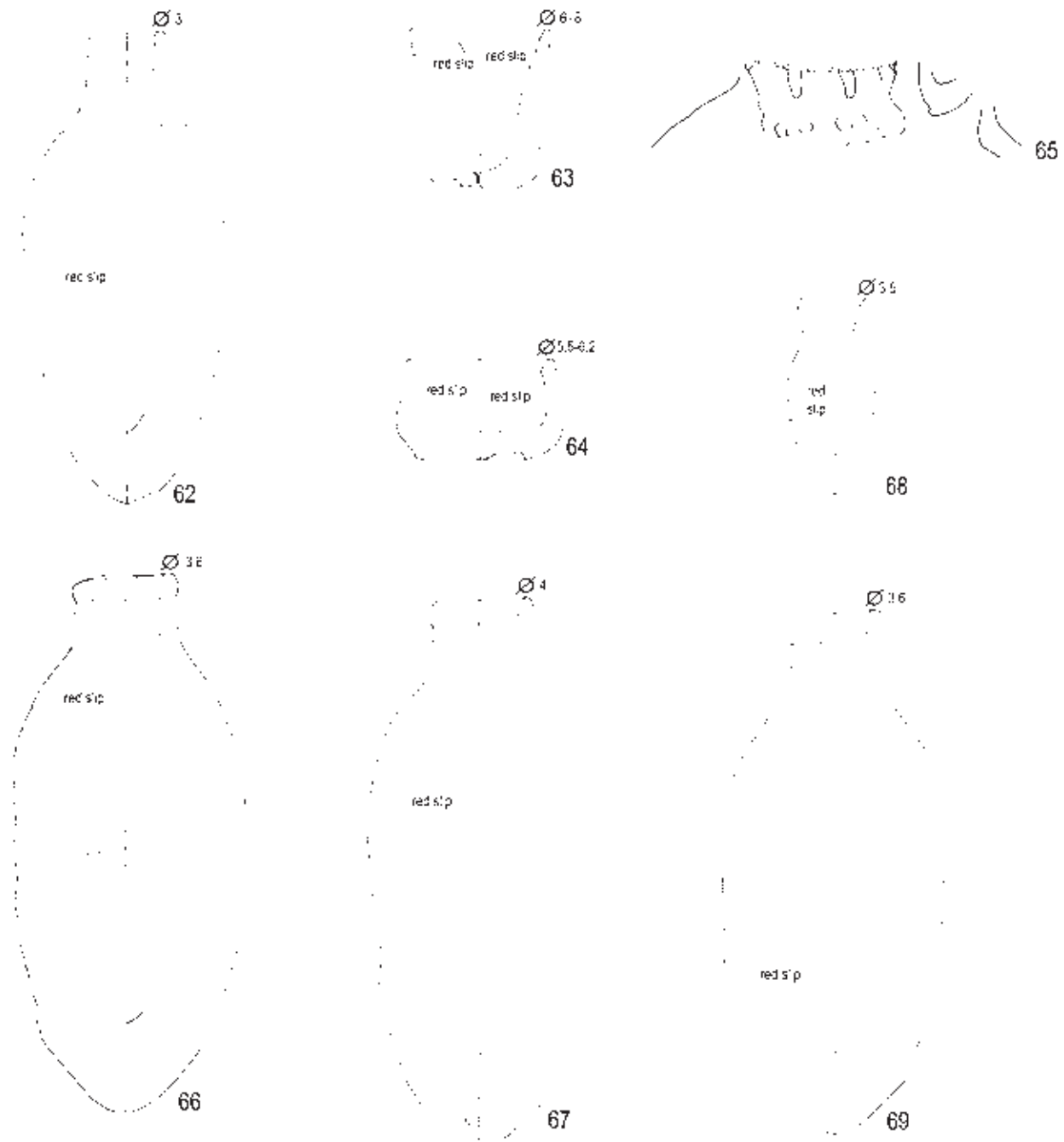


Fig. 5. 62. Pottery from Sector 16; 63–65. Sector 15; 66–69. Sector 9, from interior of tomb.