Bettina Bader

Tell el-Dabᶜa XXIV



The Late Middle Kingdom Settlement of Area A/II
A Holistic Study of Non-élite Inhabitants at Tell el-Dabᶜa

Volume 1

The Archaeological Report. The Excavations from 1966 to 1969

VERLAG DER
ÖSTERREICHISCHEN
AKADEMIE DER
WISSENSCHAFTEN

BETTINA BADER

TELL EL-DAB^{C}A XXIV

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BAND XXXIX

Ausgrabungen in Tell el-Dab^{c}a

Herausgegeben von
Manfred Bietak



BETTINA BADER

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The excavation in Area A/II in the 1960s, Archiv ÖAI/ÖAW

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Preface by the Editor

Excavation of, and research at the site of Tell el-Dab^{c}a, ancient Avaris, started under the auspices of the University of Vienna in July 1966 and continued later with the backing of the Austrian Archaeological Institute and consequently has so far lasted over half a century. It is therefore an old excavation with a long history, which makes the processing of the evidence no easy task. The excavations had to start without an archaeological institution and the necessary staff behind it. All this had to be developed slowly in a time of austerity but this eventually led to the foundation of the Austrian Archaeological Institute in Cairo during the years 1971–1973 and since then the Tell el-Dab^{c}a project has developed in into one of the most successful archaeological enterprises of Austria abroad. But for this there was a long way to go.

This publication deals with documents and materials of the earliest phase of the excavations at Tell el-Dab^{c}a. Many things happened at that time. The Six-Day-War 1967 and its aftermath led to difficult situations such as interruptions to the fieldwork and finally to a closure from 1969 to 1975 when, for security reasons, foreigners had no access to the Delta. In these years, we had no control over our installations at the site. Winter rains brought about the collapse of the roof of the excavation house and magazines. They were filled with the sherd collections in rubber baskets which had accumulated because of a lack of ceramic specialists who were anyway very rare at that time. The repair works in our absence made emptying the magazines necessary and brought about disorder and loss in the sherd collections, besides losses of find tags, eaten by rodents (s. *Tell el-Dab^{c}a*, vol. V, p. 8). Other misfortunes struck our organization in Cairo. As we had at that time no base, therefore all the archives of Tell el-Dab^{c}a were accommodated at the premises of the Cultural Section of the Austrian Embassy. Between 1970 and 1971 from each of the files of the documentation, several batches of excavation diaries, of find drawings, sketches and of photograph plates disappeared. The loss was noticed by my collaborators Dr. Elfriede Haslauer and DI Helga Singer when complementing the files with new material. An investigation for which I asked the Ministry of Science and Research of Austria could not bring about an official clarification for this loss. It was clear, however, that nobody from the Tell el-Dab^{c}a team was responsible for this strange incident. The find drawings could be later redone and the photographs could be replenished as the negatives were kept in Austria but the losses of excavation diaries and analytical sketches of the excavation were irreplaceable.

Under these circumstances, the author did a painstaking detective work of reconstructing the evidence of the excavations, for which she has to be congratulated. She focused on the earliest settlement remains on the main Tell (A, Area II) at Tell el-Dab^{c}a which go back to the late 12th Dynasty and shows the settlement development in a holistic approach with the available evidence of the find circumstances. It is an important part in the publication of the Tell el-Dab^{c}a excavations.

Manfred Bietak
Vienna, 19 September 2017

Preface

The existence of this first volume presenting the late Middle Kingdom settlement in the Area A/II owes a great debt of gratitude to Manfred Bietak, who allowed me to work on this large amount of material he had excavated in the mid-1960s to the mid-1980s first under the auspices of the Austrian Cultural Department of the Austrian Embassy in Cairo and then by the Cairo Branch of the Austrian Archaeological Institute, which he had founded. Manfred Bietak then followed the growth of the project with steady interest and constant institutional support as director of the Cairo Branch of the Austrian Archaeological Institute, the chair of the Institute for Egyptology at the University of Vienna, and the chairman of the then Commission of Egypt and the Levant of the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

I always felt very deeply the importance of bringing this part of the late Middle Kingdom settlement at Tell el-Dabᶜa to a wider audience, firstly, because there are still so few settlements excavated in Egypt in general, sometimes in very small exposures and the chances to explore areas of a similar size become slimmer every year. The prospect of being able to use ca 3000 m² of settlement area plus finds in three phases for a variety of analysis seemed extremely enticing. Secondly, in contrast to most of the known settlements of the Middle Kingdom, Area A/II was not laid out in an orthogonal plan but seems to have developed in a self-organised way. At the same time it became very clear that the design of the settlement, which began in Phase G/3 and more specifically in Phase G/2–1, was kept later on, as the super-positions of the courses of walls in the same position were frequently observed. Even after the settlement ceased to exist as such (in Phase F) and was replaced by a sacred complex and surrounding cemeteries (Phases F–E/3), the orientation of the buildings remained the same, as well as the placement of the main thoroughfare and, in one case, even the placement of one of the later temples. Thirdly, there is hardly any modern publication of an Egyptian settlement, which combines the archaeological report with the complete find assemblages and not just typologies, and it was my particular wish and ambition to see this task fulfilled here. I was born too late to be a member of the original excavation, but it was possible to present the settlement and its development in a systematic way with the help of Manfred Bietak and the records kept in the joint archives of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Cairo Branch of the Austrian Archaeological Institute.

Finally I would like to stress that the main objective of this book is the final publication of the archaeological record and the findings made in the various loci of the western part of the settlement in Area A/II and not their interpretation. Some interpretation, analyses and some aspects of the settlement have already appeared in print in the form of articles (see bibliography), others are still in press and no doubt others will follow, once the second volume of the excavation report with the eastern part of the settlement in Area A/II is finalised.

The funding necessary to conduct this research came from three different projects and funding bodies in the years 2006 to 2014, namely project no 11847 financed by the 'Jubiläumsfonds' of the Austrian National Bank: *Tell el-Dabᶜa/Avaris (Egypt) and its Environment in the late Middle Kingdom (ca 1800–1700 BC) Economy–Immigration–Acculturation*; the Intra-European Marie Curie Fellowship project no 040625 *A Bridge to Canaan* (European Commission) conducted at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge and project no V147–G21 *Foreigners in Egypt – The Archaeology of Culture Contact in an Egyptian Settlement* as Elise Richter Fellow at the University of Vienna financed by the Austrian Science Fund.

I would like to thank the Principal Investigators Peter Janosi (OENB) and Graeme Barker (Univ. of Cambridge) for taking on the project and me. A special word of thanks is due to Graeme Barker, who continued to be interested in the project and my further career even after I had left Cambridge, for encouraging me to engage in the widely interdisciplinary research landscape at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, which I thoroughly enjoyed and of which I benefited immensely in a professional and personal sense. Here mention must be made of

at least a few of the people, who were always helpful and happy to discuss research in a wide variety of ways, namely Janine Bourriau, Lisa French, Peter French, Susanne Hakenbeck, Oliver Harris, Martin Jones, Paul Heggarty, Dee Kunze, Iain Morely, Joan Oates, Mary Ownby, Gwil Owen, Jacke Phillips, Kate Spence, Lawrence Smith and Rhiannon Stevens.

The last project (Elise Richter) was directed by myself and conducted at the University of Vienna. For the favourable reception at the Institute for Egyptology and constant support I would like to warmly thank E. Christiana Köhler, who had just succeeded to the chair of the institute at the time of the award of my project. For many interesting discussions on identity, migration and many other topics I would like to thank James Goff, Gerald Moers and Christian Knoblauch. Irene Kaplan always helped with any other query, be they administrative or related to finding specific books.

The finishing touches were put to this volume during the START project no Y754–G19 *Beyond Politics – Material Culture in Second Intermediate Period Egypt and Nubia*, conducted at the Institute for Oriental and European Archaeology, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, whose director, Barbara Horejs, I would like to thank for hosting it.

I recorded the finds in the years 2006 to 2010 at Tell el-Dabᶜa itself (two seasons per year) as well as at the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna. Albeit I am not a specialist in either small finds or in animal bones, I should hope that the full presentation of all the finds per find locus will merit the space that was given to these find groups and enables specialists in these fields to form their own interpretations. This holds particularly true for the animal bones, identified and published by J. Boessneck for the material covered by this volume. Having drawn and recorded all small finds available, I gained first-hand experience in these. They did much to enhance my interest and expertise in the other object groups available beside pottery, which I have studied for more than twenty years. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn more about these objects and their materiality.

To the director of the Egyptian and Oriental collection of the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, Regina Hölzl I would like to express my sincerest thanks for enabling access to the material even in difficult and time-constrained circumstances. I would also like to extend this 'thank you' to Michaela Hüttner, who arranged the visits and prepared the objects.

Günther Karl Kunst was a constant inspiring help with problems related to the identification of animal bones, which were sometimes provided only from photographs.

During the time I conducted this settlement project in the field the members of the Tell el-Dabᶜa team must not be forgotten, who helped it along in various ways. Here I would like to mention specifically David Aston, Vera Müller and Miriam Müller. Also Ernst Czerny, Karin Kopetzky and Irmgard Hein contributed to the completion of this project. I would like to thank Marian Negrete-Martinez for drawing most of the chipped stone tools and Nicola Math for providing me with newly drawn plans of Area A/II made on behalf of one of Manfred Bietak's projects (15554 Austrian National Bank (OENB) *Canaanite Cults and Religion in the Eastern Nile Delta – An Archaeological Approach*).

The current director of the Austrian Archaeological Institute Cairo Branch, Irene Forstner-Müller, also always contributed to the progress of the project through kind interest, institutional support and access to archival materials.

The funding of this this book including open-access publication has been provided by the Austrian Science Fund (project no PUB 575–Z25) for which I am utterly grateful.

My largest debt, however, I owe to my husband, David, who shared a growing amount of records and diminishing space in the house, and put up with frequent and long absences during this seemingly never ending project. Thank you for not saying "I told you so".

Bettina Bader
Baden, September 2017

Bibliographic Abbreviations

Ä&L	*Ägypten und Levante / Egypt and the Levant*. Zeitschrift für ägyptische Archäologie und deren Nachbargebiete / International Journal for Egyptian Archaeology and Related Disciplines, Wien
AfO	*Archiv für Orientforschung*, Wien
AJA	*American Journal of Archaeology*, New York, Baltimore, Norwood
AV	Archäologische Veröffentlichungen, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Abteilung Kairo, Berlin, Mainz, currently Wiesbaden
BAR IS	British Archaeological Reports, International Series, London
BASOR	*Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, Boston – New Haven
BCE	*Bulletin de liaison la céramique égyptienne*, Le Caire
BIFAO	*Bulletin de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie Orientale*, Le Caire
BSAE	British School of Archaeology in Egypt, London
FoRa	Forschungen in der Ramses-Stadt, Die Grabungen des Pelizäus-Museums Hildesheim in Quantir – Pi-Ramesse, Mainz a. R.
GOF	Göttinger Orientforschungen, Wiesbaden
JEA	*Journal of Egyptian Archaeology*, London
MDAIK	*Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Abteilung Kairo*, Wiesbaden
OLA	Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta, Leuven
PMMA	Publications of The Metropolitan Museum of Art Egyptian Expedition. Cambridge, Massachusetts
SAGA	Studien zur Archäologie und Geschichte Altägyptens, Heidelberg
SDAIK	Sonderschriften des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Abteilung Kairo, Mainz a. R.
UZK	Untersuchungen der Zweigstelle Kairo des Österreichischen Archäologischen Institutes, Wien

List of Abbreviations

bd.	Base diameter
Bd. abg. (g)	Boden abgeschnitten (nachgeglättet) = base cut off (smoothed)
Bd. gef.	Boden auf Scheibe geformt = base formed on wheel
Bd. gesp.	Boden abgespatelt = base trimmed
Bd. gesp. g.	Boden abgespatelt (nachgeglättet) = base trimmed and smoothed
Bd. H	Boden handgemacht = base hand formed
Bd. M	Boden in Model geformt = base formed in mould
Bd. W	base cut from rotating wheel – concentric turning marks
Bd. W+H	Boden scheibengedreht und handgemacht = combination of base turned and hand made
BH	band handle
BNL ... JH	Brookhaven National Laboratories, sample no, Project Joan Huntoon, Columbia University
BP	braun poliert = brown burnished
BPI	braun poliert, weiß inkrustiert = brown burnished, white incrustations
B/W	Black & White
ca	circa
cf.	confer
cm	centimetres
dm	Diameter
DM%	preserved portion of the vessel (rim or base) (diameter percent)
e.g.	for example
F	Farbbad = slip
f.	fein = fine
f. – s.f.	fein bis sehr fein = fine to very fine
f. – m.	fein bis mittel = fine to medium
Fig.	Figure
frag.	fragment
frags	fragments
H.	Height
H1	overall height of a vessel

H2	height from base to max.d.
H4	height of foot of vessel
Ha1	handgemacht = completely hand made
Ha2	handgemacht, Mündung nachgedreht = body hand made, rim turned on device
hemisph.	hemispherical
JE	Journal d'entrée number of the Museum in Cairo
KhM	Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna
(KhM A)	Kept in Vienna in the archaeological collection of the "Ägyptisch-Orientalische Sammlung des Kunsthistorischen Museums – Archäologische Sammlung"
Konv-no	Konvolute number
L	Locus
[M00]	Mauer = wall
max.	maximum
max.d.	maximum diameter
MBA	Middle Bronze Age
(MC)	Kept in Cairo Museum, not accessible
m/NN	metre of relative Sea level = 0.09 m above the measurement of the Egyptian Irrigation Department
m/E	metre counted from the eastern edge of the square
m/N	metre counted from the northern edge of the square
m/S	metre counted from the southern edge of the square
m/W	metre counted from the western edge of the square
mi	mittelfein = medium fine
mi	medium atmosphere in kiln (between oxydising und reducing)
MK	Middle Kingdom
m. – r.	mittel bis roh = medium to rough
nd	neck diameter
no	number
nos	numbers
n.r.	no record
ox	oxydising atmosphere in kiln
pl.	planum (documented und numbered situations of the excavation by square)
r.	roh = rough
re	reducing atmosphere in kiln
reg.no	register number
reg.nos	register numbers
rel.	relative
rd.	rim diameter
RF	rotes Farbbad = red slip
RP	rot poliert = red burnished
RBBI	rot poliert, bichrome Bemalung = red burnished, bichrome paint
RST	Rundstabhenkel = round handle
s. f.	sehr fein = very fine
sherd-no	sherd number
SP	schwarz poliert = black burnished
SPB	shaping process base
SPC	shaping process comment
SPI	schwarz poliert, inkrustiert = black burnished with white incrustations
SPP	shaping process primary
SPR	shaping process rim
str.	stratum
Taf.	Tafel
(TD)	kept at Tell el-Dabᶜa
TG	tongrundig = uncoated
VI	vessel index
W1	langsam drehende Töpferscheibe = turning device
W2	schnell drehende Töpferscheibe = potter's wheel turned by a helper (constant rotary kinetic energy)
wd.	wall diameter
WF	Weißes Farbbad = white slip

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Fig. 2.20 Selected sherds from K3773.

Fig. 2.21 Reg.no 4111, hemispherical cup from Phase F (?), scale 1:3.

Fig. 2.22 Bone awls, reg.nos 1702 a and b.

Fig. 2.23 Bone awls, reg.nos 1702 a and b, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 2.24 Reg.no 1608, Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, intrusive, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 2.25 Reg.no 1608, Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, S/BPI, scale 1:2.

Fig. 2.26 Limestone mould, reg.no 4588, scale 1:2.

Fig. 2.27 Photo of limestone mould, SW2103 1–2.

Fig. 2.28 Reg.no 1118, neck of red burnished juglet. Note the regular edge of the break at the bottom of neck, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 2.29 Reg.no 1118, red burnished juglet neck, scale 1:1.

Fig. 3.1 Plan of the house after M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 3.2 Overview of square A/II-m-l/10 and the excavation towards south-west. Most prominent feature is Mortuary Temple I in the right half of the photo, SW1096/40.

Fig. 3.3 A/II-l/10, pl. 3–4 with later Temple I still standing, view towards north, SW1076/18.

Fig. 3.4 A/II-l/10 with later temple still standing, pl. 3–4, SW1076/22.

Fig. 3.5 Schematic plan of L [102, 104 and 105]. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution by N. Math.

Fig. 3.6 Locus [104c], space with limestone column base view towards south-east, SW1078/8–9.

Fig. 3.7 Reconstruction of northern part of Compound 11 by B. Bader, graphic execution by N. Math.

Fig. 3.8 Stone and Pottery from L [104a], L [104b] and L [104c].

Fig. 3.9 Stone and Pottery from L [104a], L [104b] and L [104c], photos a) SW1106/52, b) SW1104/48, c) SW1126/68, d) SW1130/27–28*, e) SW1126 /32, f) SW1126/74, g) SW1126/28, h) SW1100 /41–42.

Fig. 3.10 Juglet reg.no 1210, in find position, SW1079/31–32.

Fig. 3.11 Konvolute K39, reg.no 1413 (a), SW1126/68.

Fig. 3.12 Konvolute card K39, position close to reg.no 1210 and 1413, scale 1:2.

Fig. 3.13 K39, back of konvolute card, scale 1:2.

Fig. 3.14 Konvolute K41, reg.no 1419, scale 1:2.

Fig. 3.15 Pottery from L [104b], L [104c] and L [105a].

Fig. 3.16 Pottery from L [104b], L [104c] and L [105a], photos a) SW1126/22, b) SW1087/57, c) SW1087/57–58, d) SW1126/70, e) SW1126/26, f) SW1112/67–70.

Fig. 3.17 Reg.no 1420, amphora handle, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 3.18 Konvolute K42, archive photo SW1093/21.

Fig. 3.19 Original konvolute card K42, scale 1:2.

Fig. 3.20 Konvolute K41, back of original card but different find spot, scale 1:2, SW1081/71–72.

Fig. 3.21 Plan drawing of the oven (all phases combined), TDplan 1642 drawn by H.C.S, scale 1:75.

Fig. 3.22 Pottery from L [316], konvolute K3817.

Fig. 3.23 Pottery from L [313], konvolute K3772.

Fig. 3.24 Pottery from L [317b], konvolute K3768.

Fig. 3.25 Oven L [311] in A/II-l/10, pl. 5 view towards north, TDcolour 2390.

Fig. 3.26 Oven L [311] in A/II-l/10, pl. 5 view towards north-east, TDcolour 2389.

Fig. 3.27 West-east section through the oven L [311], combined with front view, scale 1:20, TDplan no 1641. Drawing by J. Dorner, graphics by B. Bader.

Fig. 3.28 Schematic drawing of ovens and relation to neighbouring walls. Based on TDplans no 77 and 83 drawn by H. Swozilek, H.C.S. and J.E, graphic execution by N. Math.

Fig. 3.29 Reg.no 6449, restricted vessel with undulating body from L [311], drawing by B. Bader, photo by A. Krause.

Fig. 3.30 Schematic plan of square A/II-l/11, after M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 3.31 Western section of square A/II-l/11 (A56), drawn by H. Singer (†), © M. Bietak.

Fig. 3.32 Drawings of reg.no 430 and 431.

Fig. 3.33 Photos of reg.nos 430 and 431, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 3.34 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, 1968. View of square towards north-east, Silos of Compound 14a in foreground B/W negative SW1076/4.

Fig. 3.35 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, SW1098/62 and 64 view towards the older ovens (north-west). In the foreground the access alley towards the entrance to Compound 11.

Fig. 3.36 Schematic plan of A/II-m/11 with finds, adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 3.37 A/II-m/10–11, pl. 6 after the removal of the western and eastern baulks (Cairo Archive).

Fig. 3.38 Reg.no 833, fragments of large Tell el-Yahudieh jug, in find position close to the south-western wall (foot end) of tomb A/II-m/11-6, colour slide TD2428.

Fig. 3.39 Reg.no 883a–c, fragments of large Tell el-Yahudieh jug, below tomb A/II-m/11-6, colour slide TD2429.

Fig. 3.40 Southern section of A/II-m/11 (A36), drawn by H. Singer (†). © M. Bietak.

Fig. 3.41 Pottery from L [107], L [108], L [109] and L [155].

Fig. 3.42 Parts of the large Tell el-Yahudieh jug in Vienna reg.no 1734, KhM and its reconstruction (courtesy of KhM).

Fig. 4.1 Schematic plan of court yards and spaces between Compounds 10 and 11. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 4.2 Northern Section of A/II-l/11 (A7), adapted from M. Bietak, *MDAIK* 23, fig. 5.

Fig. 4.3. a) Colour slide TD941, view towards south to tomb A/II-l/12-no 4 inside the baulk. On the left wall [M7b]. b) Colour slide TD937 showing burial A/II-l/12-no 4 as found.

Fig. 4.4 Sketch of position of tomb 4 in relation to walls [M7a] by M. Bietak digitised by B. Bader, before removal of baulk. The dark grey depositions consist of ash.

Fig. 4.5 Eastern part of the northern section containing tomb 4, A/II-m/12 (A12), drawn by H. Singer (†), © M. Bietak.

Fig. 4.6 Tomb A/II-l/12-4, with grave goods and reconstructed tomb pit, after M. Bietak, TD V, fig. 10–11.

Fig. 4.7 View of A/II-m/12 towards the western baulk with the later tomb A/II-m/12-9 in the foreground. On the left side wall [M30] the southern wall of Compound 11 in several phases, SW1077/29.

Fig. 4.8 Animal bones in situ, along wall [M7a], A/II-m/12, pl. 5. SW1069/61.

Fig. 4.9 Animal bones in situ, along wall [M7a], A/II-m/12, pl. 5. SW1069/51.

Fig. 4.10 Pavement of pot sherds L [113], detail in A/II-m/12, SW1069/57.

Fig. 4.11 Pavement of pot sherds L [113], detail in A/II-m/12, SW1069/59.

Fig. 4.12 Pavement of pot sherds L [113], detail in A/II-m/12, TDplan no 199, scale 1:20, drawing by K. Hegedüs.

Fig. 4.13 Feature paved with sherds L [113a], detail of A/II-m/12, pl. 5, SW1060/11.

Fig. 4.14 Original record of K88, scale approx. 1:2.

Fig. 4.15 Photo of the pottery, K88, SW1098/30.

Fig. 4.16 Original record of konvolute K89, pottery not available for re-study, scale approx. 1:2.

Fig. 4.17 Schematic plan of Court yard L [156]. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 4.18 Detailed drawing of tomb 5 L [157], cutting into a deep ash layer, after M. Bietak, TD V, Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.19 a) A/II-n/11, eastern section: massive ashy layer on the left side of the photo. The earlier walls of Phase G/4 are not yet visible, SW1096/27–2, b) A/II-n/12, western section, SW1096/22.

Fig. 4.20 Square A/II-n/12, pl. 5, wall [G/3-M51] with buttresses/pilasters in bond, view from SE (left), and NW (right), SW1154/15–17.

Fig. 4.21 Stone tripod and pottery hemispherical cups.

Fig. 4.22 Photos of stone vessel and ceramic hemispherical cups, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 5.1 Plan of the remains of Phase H, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math.

Fig. 5.2 A/II-l/11, pl. 4, View towards north-west, SW1027/59–60.

Fig. 5.3 Reg.no 446, Base of Marl C1 footed bowl, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 5.4 Architecture of Phase H or G/4, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math.

Fig. 5.5 Plan of architecture of Phase G/4, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math.

Fig. 5.6 View of A/II-l/11, pl. 4 towards the east, SW1027/55–56.

Fig. 5.7 View of A/II-l/12, pl. 4 towards north-west, SW1029/54.

Fig. 5.8 Reg.no 444, hemispherical cup, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 5.9 The architecture of Phase G/3, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math.

Fig. 5.10 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, colour slide TD917, the two ovens [G/3-M19] and [G/3-M20] enclosed by sand brick installations.

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

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

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

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

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

Fig. 6.6 Reg.nos 904, 905 and 1967.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fig. 6.19 Drawings of reg.nos 929 and 930.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fig. 6.31 A/II-n/12, pl. 5–6. a) The limestone sarcophagus cutting into the earlier walls of pl. 6, floor level not yet reached, SW1097/36. b) The limestone sarcophagus cutting into the earlier walls of pl. 6, top exposed with lid still *in situ*, note the pit from the surface in the foreground (cf. konvolute 177 back of card), SW1097/44. c) Sarcophagus with part of lid still *in situ*, skeleton of young woman visible, SW 1096/16. d) View into the case of the sarcophagus, rough chisel work of preparation of coffin visible, SW1096/18.

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

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

Fig. 6.34 Konvolute card K176, photo SW1098/42.

Fig. 6.35 Konvolute card K177, photo SW1098/44.

Fig. 6.36 Konvolute card K177, photo SW1044/20.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fig. 6.43 A/II-n/13. a) Northern section, with corner

of building [M67/M68] and the earlier [G/3-M36/G/3-M35] below it, SW1108/28. b) Western section, SW1108/35.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fig. 7.1 Schematic plan of Compound 13. Adapted from M. Bietak, TDV, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 7.2 A/II-o/12, pl. 6, view towards east, SW1165/44.

Fig. 7.3 A/II-o/12, northern section, note the later tomb cutting into the settlement on the left side of the photograph, the alleyway L [151] delimited by walls [M51a] and [M56] runs into the northern section, colour slide TD2518.

Fig. 7.4 A/II-o/12, western section, note the later tomb cutting into the settlement, the wall in the foreground is wall [M47a/M51a] (Cairo Archive).

Fig. 7.5 Reg.no 2476, cosmetic palette, SW1187/11.

Fig. 8.1 Schematic plan of Compounds 14a and b. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution by N. Math.

Fig. 8.2 Compound 14a. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 8.3 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, view towards north with ashy floor layers, silo L [159] is on the left side of the photo, while [M26] limits the entrance to the southern part of the compound on the right side of the photo, SW1076/10.

Fig. 8.4 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, view of square towards north east, for locus numbers see plan above, SW1076/14.

Fig. 8.5. a) Reg.no 1854b, lid/potter's wheel made from greenish stone, L [161], b) reg.no 1854a, mortar made from limestone, L [161] ZN 165/68, c) reg.no 833, pierced stone, drawing 139/67.

Fig. 8.6 Reg.no 1854a, lime stone mortar, a) SW1547/26, b) SW1547/32, c) SW1547/27, d) SW1547/28.

Fig. 8.7 a) Reg.no 769, re-used base of amphora, scale 1:3, reg.no 773 piriform juglet, scale 1:2, b) reg.no 834, globular juglet, scale 1:2, c) reg.no 831 bovine (?) Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, scale 1:1, d) reg.no 832, pedestal of a statuette, scale 1:1.

Fig. 8.8 a) Reg.no 831, bovine (?) Tell el-Yahudieh juglet SW1053/14, b) reg.no 832, statuette base, view from top SW1053/11, inscriptions on the sides SW1049/75, SW1053/9.

Fig. 8.9 A/II-n/10, pl. 5, a) view towards north, SW1165/40, b) northern section with walls running into it, SW1172/4, c) A/II-n/10, western section with all the walls and the later features cutting into the top of the late Middle Kingdom settlement layers, SW1167/71.

Fig. 8.10 Finds from A/II-n/10. a) reg.no 2390, small jar, b) reg.no 2395, painted juglet, c) reg.no 2392, siltstone palette, drawn by B. Bader.

Fig. 8.11 Finds from A/II-n/10. a) reg.no 2390, small jar, b) reg.no 2392, siltstone palette, c) reg.no 2395, painted juglet. Photos taken by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 8.12 Schematic plan of Compound 14b. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution by N. Math.

Fig. 8.13 Reg.no 2389, faience object, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 8.14 a) Reg.no 2396b, stone weight, from top SW1187/17, b) the side view SW1187/19.

Fig. 8.15 a) Reg.no 2394, pre-historic palette L [164], b) reg.no 2391, small jar, on top of wall [M42].

Fig. 8.16 a) Reg.no 2394, pre-historic palette L [164], SW1190/46, b) 2394 in situ, SW1165/52. c–d) reg.no 2391, small jar, on top of wall [M42], photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 8.17 A/II-n/10, pl 4. a) View towards south-east, SW1183/61, b) view towards north, SW1183/59. Both represent a later stage with installations of the following Phase F, although the lay-out is very similar to Phase G/3–1 (cf. Bietak 1991, plan 3).

Fig. 8.18 Square A/II-n/11 in pl. 4, SW1095/14.

Fig. 8.19 Detail of imported transport amphora reg.no 2497N with the base of a stand reg.no 2497O within it, TDplan 280, inked by B. Bader.

Fig. 8.20 A/II-n/11. a) detail with the silos, [M43], the oven and the treepit, not yet removed, SW1095/16, b) northern section, SW1114/5, c) western "section" (work stairs) with amphora, SW1114/11, d) southern section with wall [M8] in the left part of the photo, and the wall of the silo on the right, the other walls are obscured by the dampness of the earth, SW1153/34a.

Fig. 8.21 a) Reg.no 1809, vessel with spout, b) reg.no 2497N, transport amphora, c) reg.no 1810, Tell el-Yahudieh sherd.

Fig. 8.22 a) Reg.no 1809, SW1146/15a, b) reg.no 1810, Tell el-Yahudieh sherd, SW1146/16a, c) konvolute K151, SW1152/15–16.

Fig. 8.23 Original record of konvolute K151, which was no longer available, scale approx. 1:2.

Fig. 8.24 a) Reg.no 2497O, footed bowl, b) reg.no 1580, warped small dish, c) reg.no 1421, red burnished juglet, ZN 86/68.

Fig. 9.1 Schematic plan of Phase H, H–G/4 and G/4, compiled by B. Bader, graphic execution N. Math.

Fig. 9.2 Archival photos of square A/II-n/11, pl. 5 (SW1099/18, SW1099/58, SW1099/56), a) view from north-west to south-east, b) detail of silo from south to north, c) square from south to north.

Fig. 9.3 Sherd collection/convolute card K150 with photo, scale approx. 1:2.

Fig. 9.4 a) A/II-n/12, pl. 6, view from north-west to south-east SW1097/41–42. b) A/II-n/13, pl. 7, view from east to west SW1117/62. c) A/II-o/12, pl. 7, view from south-west corner towards north-east SW1176/8. d) A/II-o/12, pl. 7, view from south towards north, SW1176/4. e) A/II-o/13, pl. 6, view towards the south, Cairo Archive.

Fig. 9.5 Reg.no 2477, dipper juglet surface severely eroded, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM.

Fig. 9.6 Schematic plan of Phase G/3, compiled by B. Bader, graphic execution N. Math.

Chapter 1: Introduction to the archaeological description of the late Middle Kingdom settlement at Tell el-Dab^{c}a (Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1) in Area A/II

The late Middle Kingdom settlement in Area A/II of the Austrian concession at Tell el-Dab^{c}a was excavated by Manfred Bietak between 1966–1969 and 1975–1985.[1] This monograph comprises a description of the archaeological discoveries of 1966–1969 being a detailed square by square and feature by feature discussion. It consists of the excavation history of each square, the records available for interpretation, and the finds made in each location/feature. Numerous archival photos and drawings supplement this discussion.

It has to be stated at the outset that because this excavation was conducted over a period of 20 years (1966–1969 and 1975–1985), the excavation methods and recording techniques became more and more refined over time. Moreover, it has been now more than 50 years since the excavation began and more than 30 years since it ended, thus, some uncertainty about the exact placements of some of the early finds and also the results in general is inevitable. As the author was not present at these excavations some archaeological problems cannot be solved at the desk although consultations with the director of these excavations, M. Bietak, and original team members took place whenever possible.

The fact that not all of the squares were excavated down to the same depth resulted in fragmentary plans particularly of the earlier levels that are sometimes not connected. For this reason it is often difficult to ascertain whether certain features in distant squares belonged to the same phase or not. This situation was worsened by the lack of sufficient archaeological find material from the earlier phases, which would support a hypothesis backed up by hard data. Especially in the first four years, 1966 to 1969, during the initial stages of the excavation, it was difficult to keep any fragmentary objects such as pot sherds because the site magazine and the excavation house were still in the process of being built.

Thus only the A- and B-Inventory finds[2] were kept and distributed to the National Egyptian Museum in Cairo and the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. The find division between Egypt and foreign archaeological missions was then legally possible.

Another reason for the uneven exposure of the lower elevations of the site was the high water table. In these early years there was no possibility to fund or use high tech equipment like the vacuum pumps that have been available since 1996. This meant that as soon as the water came through the surface of the 'planum' the excavation had to be stopped because the surface turned into pure mud or even a lake (Fig. 1.1). Some archival photos show this process very clearly. In some cases the digging of a deeper hole in one corner of a square caused the water to collect within it so that the last exposure could at least be recorded. But such tactical considerations did not always work.

The reason for the suspension of the excavation after the spring campaign of 1969 for some years until they started again in autumn 1975 was the series of political conflicts between Egypt and Israel between 1967 and 1973. In the course of these events it was not possible to record all data from the excavation before the need arose to leave the site. The only remedy to these problems would be to initiate a new project to fill in these particular gaps in an overall street plan with the attempt to record what is left of the original baulks down to the depth of the original excavation reached.

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[1] The gap in exploration between 1969 and 1975 was caused by the security ban for archaeological works in the Nile delta due to the Israeli/Egyptian conflicts in those years. Cf. also P. Grossmann, Abu Mena. Achter vorläufiger Bericht. Kampagnen 1975 und 1976, *MDAIK* 33 (1977), 35.

[2] The A-Inventory finds were derived from primary closed contexts, while B-Inventory finds can be assigned to certain stratigraphic phases. For the definition see also M. Bietak, TD V, 318. These finds were recorded in the register book with numbers only (A-Inventory) and numbers and letters (B-Inventory). The konvolutes (K-numbers) of the sherd collections were recorded but not kept in this instance. From 1975 onwards (K425) most of the sherd collections were kept in the then existing site magazine. The magazine had to be enlarged several times since then.



Fig. 1.1 Photo of one of the tombs as the ground water breaks through, photo taken by P. French 1968

In retrospect, it is also clear that the excavations of the late 1960s and late 1970s represent the beginning of the investigation into the famous site of Avaris and in reviewing the material, that is infinitely better known now than it was then,[3] some interesting archaeological problems came to light that were not recognised earlier. Sadly, many of the questions, asked in the text are unlikely to be answered any time soon, as there is currently no plan to undertake new work in the late Middle Kingdom settlement in area A/II.

This first volume covers the excavation area that was first published by M. Bietak as *Tell el-Dab^{c}a V*. This area represents the western part of the settlement (see Fig. 1.2) excavated from 1966 to 1969.[4] It seemed reasonable to divide the archaeological report on the overall settlement area of A/II in the late Middle Kingdom in this way also because the archaeological plan of the Phase G/2–1 was published in *Tell el-Dab^{c}a V*.

The scarcity of archaeological finds in the older excavations, may in part be due to the process of realisation of the nature of settlement finds in general (mostly broken and very small) as well as the initial stage of training of native workmen as well as European participants. More archaeological finds are available for study from 1975 onwards which was presumably caused by the different intensity of use and activities.

Because the oldest Phases H, G/4 and G/3 were not – or could not be – explored in full, the author chose to present the latest of the late Middle Kingdom phases first, i.e. Phase G/2–1, because it affords a full plan of all squares. The older phases were treated in separate chapters (no 5, and no 9) with some partial plans. The second volume differs in that consecutive layers in the same building lay-out are presented as sequences in order to illustrate developments in material culture.

The compounds were numbered independently from the original 'Bezirke' as published in *Tell el-Dab^{c}a V* in the schematic plan of Phase G/2–1. Volume 1 comprises Compounds 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 in squares A/II-k–o/10–13 (see Fig. 1.2). By contrast, the locus numbers of Phase G/2–1 given in plan 2 of *Tell el-Dab^{c}a V* were kept, in order to avoid unnecessary confusion.

Participants of the excavations and excavation seasons

The first seven seasons of excavation took place from 1966 to 1969 twice a year in spring and autumn except for 1969 in which only a spring campaign took place. In 1966 from 19 July to 3 November and from 24 November to 21 December; in 1967 from 10 May to 4 July and 13 November to 20 December; in 1968 from 17 April to 11 July and from 18 October to 18 December; and in 1969 from 20 April to 10 July.[5]

A large number of people were involved in the recording and cataloguing of the archaeological finds in

[3] Cf. the Tell el-Dab^{c}a monograph series.

[4] Coloured in light grey.

[5] M. Bietak, Vorläufiger Bericht über die dritte Kampagne der österreichischen Ausgrabungen auf Tell ed-Dab^{c}a im Ostdelta Ägyptens (1968), *MDAIK* 26 (1970), 15; M. Bietak, TD II, 21–22.

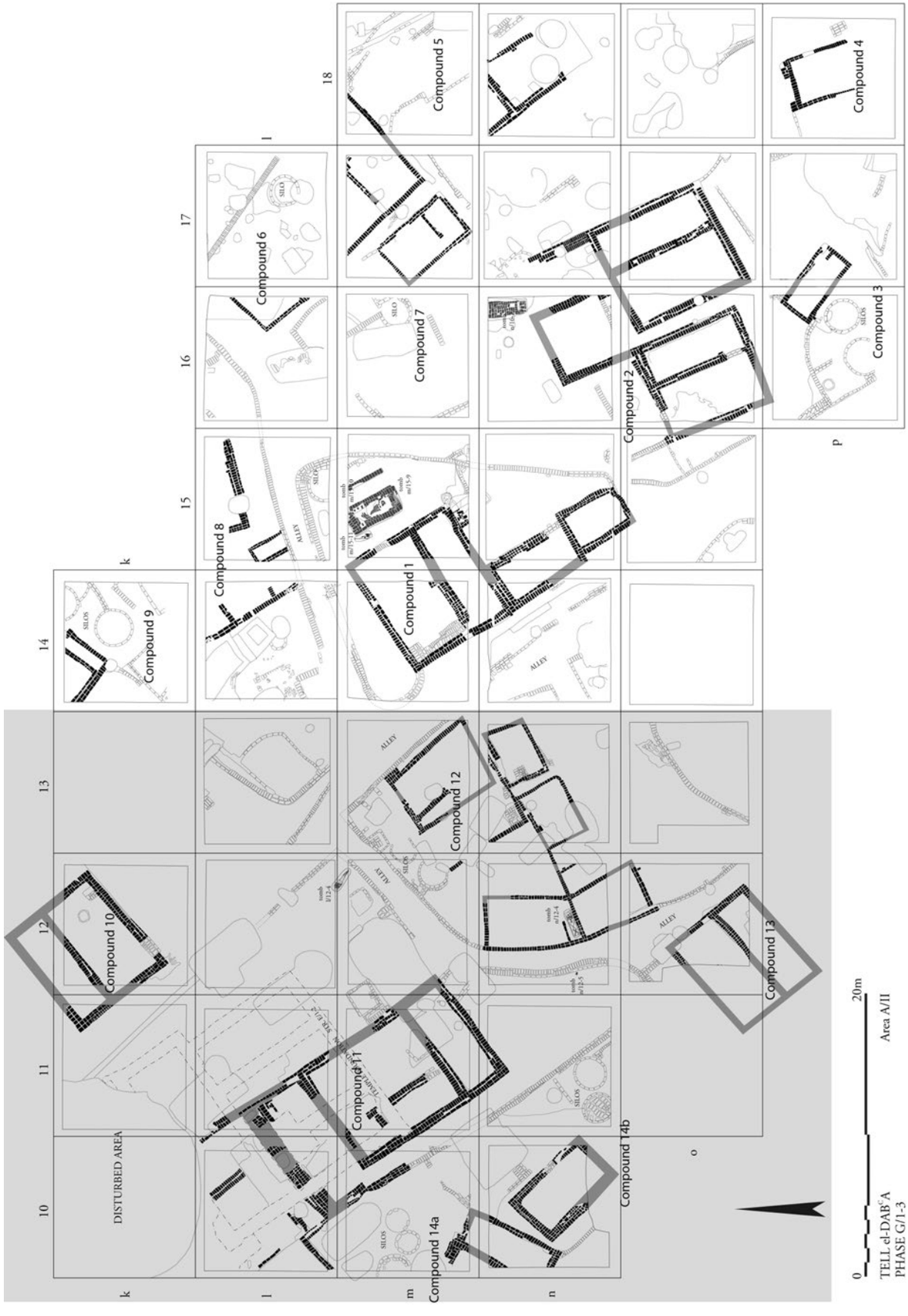


Fig. 1.2 Schematic plan of Area A/II in Phase G/2–1, adapted from M. Bietak, 2010, Fig. 14

the field. Without them and their diligence this study would not have been possible. In the first four years in addition to the director Manfred Bietak and the co-director Heinz Satzinger (restorer) the following participants were listed[6]:

Horst Adler (archaeologist), Margarethe Bietak (draughtswoman), Waltraud Brigasky (architect), Johann Danmayr (architect), Josef Dorner (geodesist), Reinhold Engelmayer (physical anthropologist), ʿAli ʿAbd el-Hakim Gamal el-Din (inspector of antiquities service), Katalin Hegedüs (archaeologist), Lothar Janig (architect), Johann Jungwirth (physical anthropologist), Erwin Kazda (architect), Heinz König (geodesist), Elisabeth Kraus (physical anthropologist, assistant), Erich Liehr (architect), Peter Novey (architect), Mohammed ʿAbd el-Hak Ragab (inspector of antiquities service), Konstantin Rakatsanis (archaeologist), Elfriede Reiser-Haslauer (egyptologist), ʿAbd el-Halim Risq (inspector of antiquities service), Walter Strasil (draughtsman), Helmut Swozilék (archaeologist), Heribert Witte (architect).

The records and previous work

The participants of the excavations listed above all took part in the recording of the excavations. The records produced and available in the archive include plan drawings, section drawings, find slips for all finds with a sketch of the location,[7] registration and description of the finds, find drawings and field and object photographs. In the very early years the digging diary was exclusively written by the field director M. Bietak. From the mid-1970s onwards occasionally other team members also wrote in the diaries.

The analytical work on the stratigraphy and division into phases of the site by means of the sections had been achieved by Manfred Bietak over the years and especially during the preparation of the publication of the area covered by the monograph *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*, which appeared in print in 1991. The huge second volume with the inked and analysed sections, discussions (analysis of features and depositions) and field photographs as indicated by the references in *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*, is in an advanced planning stage and was extensively consulted by the present author. Due to the generosity of the excavator M. Bietak, it was possible to include a few of those in this volume. The sections had already been inked by DI Helga Singer (†) when the present author was entrusted to evaluate and publish the earlier settlement layers of the tell area A/II with the relevant archaeological material in its entirety. For many of the sections, especially the western part of the site covered by *Tell el-Dabᶜa V,* the section analysis and discussions with the final numbering exist in the form of 'old fashioned' tracing paper 'sections' usually two squares together of at least one metre length. They were ultimately worked out and identified by M. Bietak. For the bulk of the sections towards the east covered by the second fascicle the final numbering has not been done. For these, we have the original field numbering 1–nn per section, whilst in the western area two sections at the time are numbered consecutively.[8] The early phases were usually only distinguished as Phases H and G without the more intricate divisions that were only possible at a later stage.

Those were distinguished and explained by the author during the analysis of the late Middle Kingdom settlement layers.[9] The wall numbers **[M1] – [Mx]** have been added to the section discussions so that the walls can be identified once the section volume will appear.

In the course of preparing the publication of *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*, M. Bietak set up a numbering system for the sections that were planned for separate publication in tandem with *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*. These section numbers have the pre-fix A (= for areas A/I and A/II–the tell) and a number.[10] For the current publication a schematic plan with the relevant numbers had been made,

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6 M. Bietak, Vorläufiger Bericht über die dritte Kampagne der österreichischen Ausgrabungen auf Tell ed-Dabᶜa im Ostdelta Ägyptens (1968), *MDAIK* 26 (1970), 15; M. Bietak, TD II, 21–22, for more details.

7 These find slips are the back bone of the excavation because only they contain the location of the find in three dimensions and the find sketch and so it was possible to reconstruct the original contexts. Two copies exist of each find slip (the copy produced with carbon paper). Whilst one copy stays with the find, the other is kept in a folder containing all the finds of each square. In the end all finds are collected by square in their three dimensional positions.

8 E.g. A/II-k11-A/II-k12 northern section. They were grouped in twos.

9 The lack of finds in decisive parts of the settlement layers and a lack of recorded base levels of several walls in the lowest elevations due to various reasons such as the water table, a need to leave the site during an armed conflict in 1969 or the decision to leave some archaeological features standing made this distinction often very tentative.

10 The second volume with the sections for Tell el-Dabᶜa V was projected under the title „Stratigraphie und Chronologie, Textband, Profilatlas I, Profilatlas II"; M. Bietak, TD V, 9.

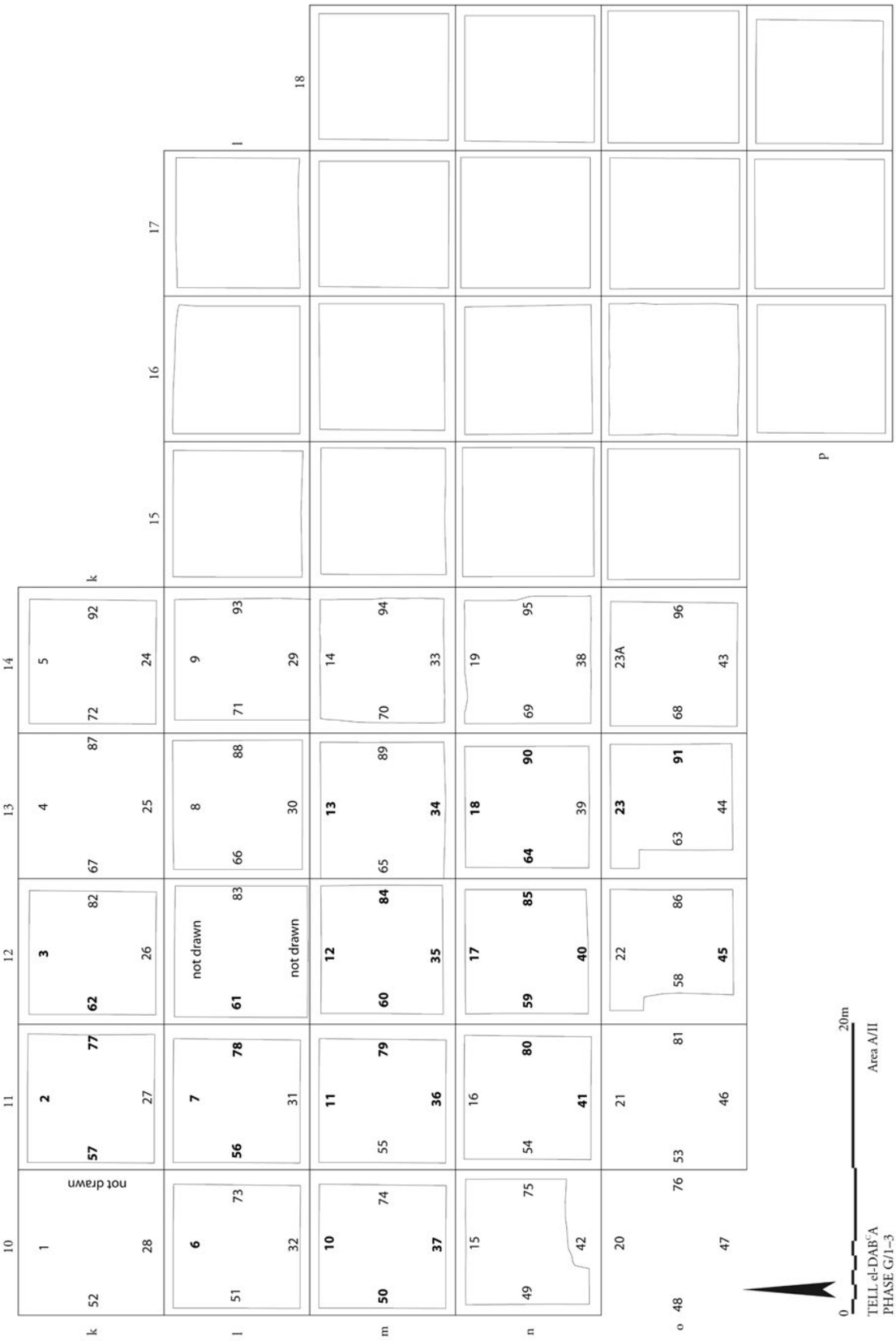


Fig. 1.3 Schematic plan of numbering sections in Area A/II, western half

but it must be borne in mind that the numbering only includes the squares excavated until 1985[11] (see Fig. 1.3). The sections further east have been numbered in continuation from those in the western part. The figures in bold print are sections that are mentioned in various discussions in the text of the publication *Tell el-Dabᶜa V.* Please also note that some sections were numbered with the plan to excavate, which for whatever reason then did not happen (e.g. A/II-o/11).

Thus, a huge work load had already been achieved by M. Bietak and H. Singer (†) in systematically sorting out the levels and phases of the excavation in all the squares, not just of the part that was published as *Tell el-Dabᶜa V* and in inking them. A new auto-cad plan was drawn by N. Math in the course of the project 15554 of the Austrian National Bank (OENB) *Canaanite Cults and Religion in the Eastern Nile Delta – An Archaeological Approach* led by M. Bietak, during which the archaeological features of Area A/II were digitised throughout the stratification. This work took place in close co-operation with M. Bietak, who discussed and clarified some of the structures of the older levels. These were included in the project to create a layered overall site plan for the whole area of A/II.

Although the walls of Phases H, G/4, and G/3–1 have been comprehensively discussed in connection with the sections in this book, in order to show their relation to each other and the later features it has proven impossible to include these sections in this work. The sections will be published as separate volumes, as initially planned, at a later stage by M. Bietak. Nevertheless the present author did not want to omit these discussions, which are vital to understand the phasing of the early walls, or even only if there were any walls at all before or after. It is clear that these discussions will become only really useful once these other volumes have appeared in print. Each single archaeological feature such as walls, pits, depositions and accumulations of ashes, loam, sand etc., was given a separate number within these sections and described in detail in an attached list, the so-called "Profilbeschreibung". In the discussions in the book these numbers – set in circles in the section drawing – are called *section numbers* listing the number of the section (A1–A96) and the feature or deposition number attached with a hyphen (cf. Fig. 3.40). Often they can be conceived as archaeological features, but not always in a strict sense.

Some explanations as to the way of how the plans were executed are in order. The bricks of buildings which were thought to have roofs on them were coloured black in the published plans.[12] All other brick structures that were not thought to have roofs are drawn in outline.[13]

The archaeological phases covered and chronological terminology

The archaeological phases covered in this volume comprise Phases H, G/4, G/3–1 and in a few instances F, because no other volume would have covered these later finds otherwise (Fig. 1.4).[14] In dynastic terms the phases up to and including G/1 are approximately equivalent to the late 12th Dynasty and the early to first third of the 13th Dynasty. The phases after G/3–1 are assigned to the early Second Intermediate Period up to Phase E/2, during which the material culture and artefact types, most notably the pottery, change to form a mixed culture combined from Egyptian and Syro-Palestinian traditions.[15] For this period often colloquially and incorrectly named 'Hyksos' period, the term Late Second Intermediate Period will be used here. This is done with the thought in mind to avoid as best as possible any confusion that usually occurs if dynastic terminology is used, when it is unclear to say the least which parts of Egypt were actually under the rule of one single Dynasty. A detailed comparative study between the ceramic material of the settlements of Tell el-Dabᶜa and Kom Rabiᶜa has demonstrated that such a comparison is not easy to achieve and not without uncertainties even if the sites are not very far distant from each other.[16]

Archival material

The enormous amount of archival material for this excavation is currently kept by Institute for Oriental and European Archaeology (Austrian Academy of Sciences) and the Austrian Archaeological Institute, Cairo and Vienna (Austrian Academy of Sciences), where the author had every opportunity to consult and use them

[11] According to the documentation of the excavation the eastern most row of squares excavated was the row A/II-k–o/14.

[12] M. Bietak, TD V, see the plans.

[13] M. Bietak, personal communication.

[14] These phases are marked in grey in the chronological chart.

[15] Cf. B. Bader, Cultural Mixing in Egyptian Archaeology: The 'Hyksos' as a Case Study, *The Archaeological Review from Cambridge* 28/1 (2013), 257–286.

[16] B. Bader, TD XIX, passim.

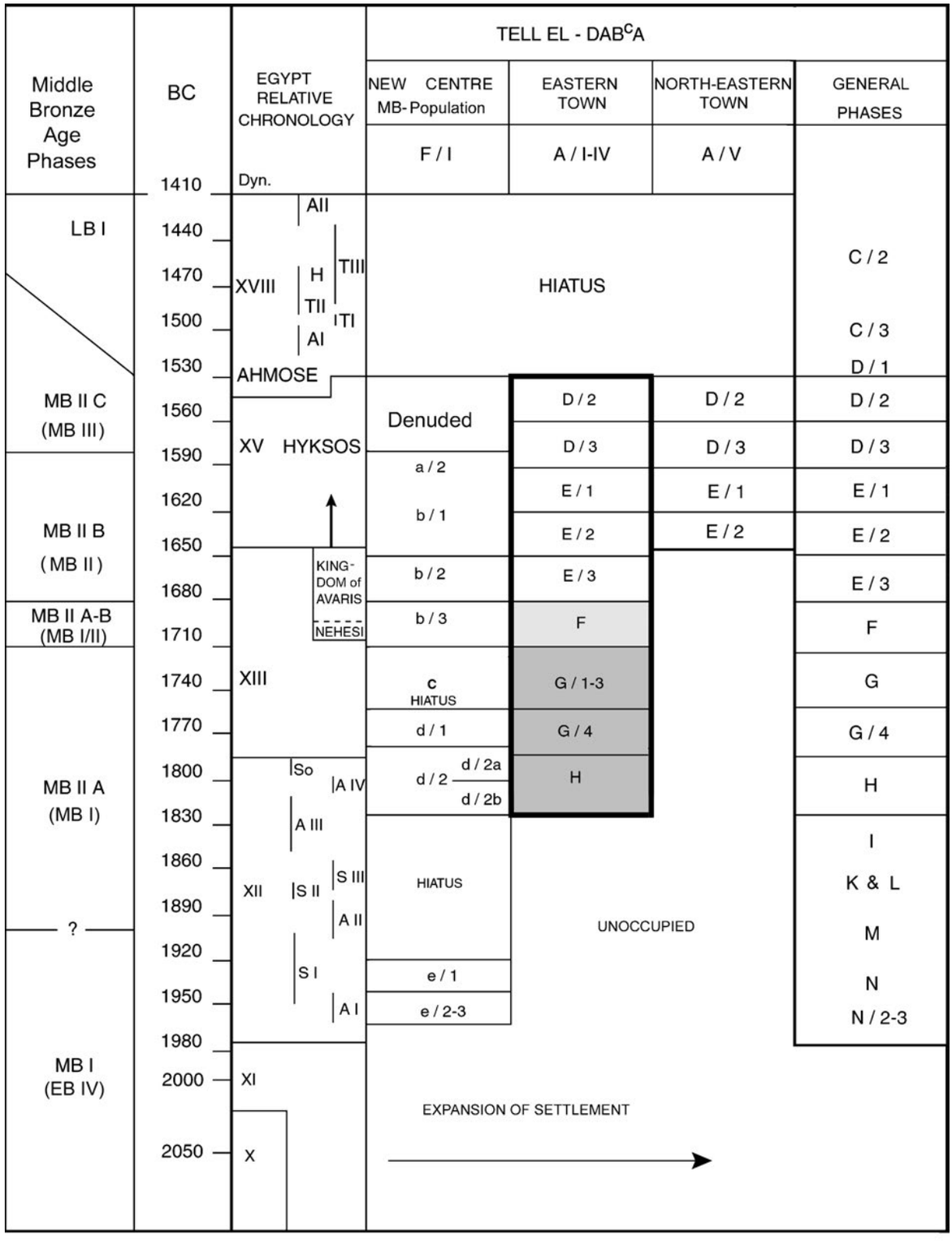


Fig. 1.4 Relative chronological chart showing which phases are treated in this report, after © M. Bietak, 2011

for this publication. The language of the archival material is, naturally, German, but the author has made every effort to usefully translate the records into English to obtain a larger readership. Nevertheless, reproductions of the original German expressions are sometimes necessary, in order to understand the system of recording and the interrelationships within the archival material. Therefore, it was sometimes inevitable to use the original words, but never without explanation.

Emendations of and additions to the records by the author

In some cases the archival material only used abbreviations, which needed to be transcribed for clarity for the reader. Parts of words added to the original were set into "[ ]". In cases where a translation was necessary the letter was changed: e.g. German T[iefe] was changed to English D[epth] in instances where the absolute elevation was measured from a relative point like the top of a wall. In some instances obvious errors did happen, like a miscounting of the number of the pl[anum] or spit, or a complete omission. Usually such omissions are not disastrous because the remainder of the description is clear and unequivocal enough or it was mentioned on a photograph. In a few rare cases a more thorough explanation is given and in a few rare occasions the related material had to be omitted due to its doubtful provenience.

Nomenclature and measurements

The relative strata/phases were assigned from top to bottom independently according to the recognisable stratigraphy for each square (a–modern–nn). In the western part of the tell more relative strata were identified because the tell was still preserved there to a higher elevation altogether.

The measurement of length in this report is given in metres and also in Egyptian royal cubits. Some experimentation in calculations with various cubit lengths was undertaken by the author,[17] but the brick sizes, wall thicknesses, dimensions of rooms etc. are very often extremely congruent with the Egyptian cubit, and more particularly with the royal cubit of 52.5 cm (equals 7 palms).[18] The most frequent brick length varies a little from 34.0 to 36.0 cm and the width from 17.0 to 18.5 cm. These measurements relate very well to the Egyptian Royal cubit as 17.5 cm represents exactly a third of a royal cubit (i.e. 2 1/3 palms) while 35.0 cm equals 4 and 2/3 palms or two thirds of a royal cubit.[19] It is true, though, that the lengths measured in the settlement also work out to a certain extent using the short cubit of only 6 palms which results in an overall lengths of 45.0 cm, but the brick sizes in general fit the royal cubit better. Although the number of 7 palms of the royal cubit is not divisible by a natural number, using a cord would make a division of such a length easy. Moreover, the use of 1/3, 1/2 and 2/3 of royal cubits are attested from the Middle Kingdom onwards[20] and the division with 1/3, 1/2 and 2/3 comes to better results in the royal cubit than in the short one. But the fact that the measurements of the royal and short cubit seem to fit the dimensions of the house ground plans is still no proof that they were actually used.[21]

It is obvious that the mud-brick walls are often badly preserved and in the muddy environment do not always allow for exact measurements in the field. Because plenty of measurements were taken within the settlement at the time of the excavation, it is possible to show that this pattern recurs throughout. Thus, a wall of half a brick's width relates to a third of a royal

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[17] M. Bietak used 0.523 m in his plans, presumably because the ceremonial cubit rods of the New Kingdom are of this length. Cf. F. Monnier, J.-P. Petit and Chr. Tardy, The Use of the 'Ceremonial' Cubit Rod as a Measuring Tool. An Explanation, *The Journal of Ancient Egyptian Architecture* 1 (2016), 1–9. In contrast Di. Arnold, *The Pyramid Complex of Senwosret I*, The South Cemeteries of Lisht III, with contributions by Dorothea Arnold and Felix Arnold, PMMA 25, New York 1992, 9, uses 0.525 m as measurement for one cubit, without giving any reason for his choice. Already investigated by C.R. Lepsius, *Die alt-aegyptische Elle und ihre Eintheilung*, Berlin 1865 by means of cubit rods.

[18] See Appendix – dimensions of rooms. It is clear though, that in mud brick architecture the exact length of any distance is often hard to measure due to the crumbliness of the material. Therefore it is not possible to prove whether the royal cubit in the late Middle Kingdom was 0.523 m or 0.525 m. But 0.525 m seemed to fit slightly better on longer distances.

[19] 1 cubit equals 7 palms. Taking as measurement 0.525 m this would relate to 17.5 cm (1/3 of cubit) and 35.0 cm (2/3 of cubit). Using 0.523 m as measurement provides very similar measurements for the wall thickness 17.45 cm and 34.8 cm. This difference will, in fact, not be of any consequence. For the short cubit 1/3 amounts to 15 cm, 2/3 to 30 cm and 1/2 to 22.5 cm.

[20] C. Rossi, *Architecture and Mathematics in Ancient Egypt*, Cambridge 2004, 58–60, 117, 154–155.

[21] For general caution see C. Rossi, passim.

cubit, one brick's width to two thirds of a royal cubit and one and a half brick's width to one royal cubit[22] and so on. One and a half brick's width wide walls occur most frequently in the settlement of Phase H, G/4 and G/3–1 at Tell el-Dabᶜa. Thus, it seems to be certain that the underlying measuring system is deeply rooted in Egyptian traditions at least at the time of the building and development of the late Middle Kingdom settlement until the end of Phase G/3–1. And it seems to stay that way for some time after until the brick format and the composition of the raw material change.[23] It is interesting to note that at the settlement at Kom Rabiᶜa/Memphis similar brick sizes seem to have been used.[24] Although nowhere explicitly described, the information coming forward from the width of walls and the odd measurement seems quite similar to those at Tell el-Dabᶜa, although deviations occur. There is too little published information to be certain whether two different brick sizes were used in that settlement.[25] For Memphis level VIII only one measurement of a brick is known: 0.34 × 0.15 m.[26] In the other levels a frequently recurring width of walls, presumably of one and a half brick's width ranges around 0.54 to 0.56 m, while others in a range of 0.50 to 0.58 also appear.[27] Even in the later levels 0.18 m for widths of bricks are reported[28] as well as lengths of ca 0.36–0.38 m.[29] Even more interesting is the fact that sand tempered bricks were used there[30] just like at the late Middle Kingdom settlement at Tell el-Dabᶜa.

A distinctive difference in mud-brick sizes as observed by Czerny[31] and Millet[32] in the earlier Middle Kingdom could not be verified in Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1. Considering that larger bricks seem to signify the first building stage at Lahun, which was initiated by the central administration in the late Middle Kingdom,[33] the fact that there is only an average "small" size in Area A/II at Tell el-Dabᶜa in this period, may hint at the more 'private' nature of this particular part of the settlement.

A few expressions used throughout the text of the volumes have to be explained. 'Naville pit' refers to oval pits usually dug from the modern surface which were created by workers of the first explorer of the site, Édouard Naville in order to find structures.[34] Usually they are just long enough for one person to stand inside the pit and use a digging tool to excavate the hole.

The animal bones are referred to by the Latin names in singular no matter how many bones were found in each category. This was done to keep the nomenclature as simple as possible. Due to the kindness of A. von den Driesch (†) it was possible to include the original records (from 1975 onwards) of Joachim Boessneck's (†) and her own work with the find slips, which are vital to piece the find contexts together after the excavation.[35] Although their records and analyses have been published in bulk in the *Tell el-Dabᶜa* series volumes III and VII, it is incredibly interesting to reconstruct the archaeological settlement contexts as completely as possible, which in this case was made possible only by her permission.[36] In this way any differences and clustering between various contexts can be recognised. It is clear that the author is certainly no specialist in archaeo-zoology, but the full publication

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22 There seems to be no relation to the smaller units such as *mḥ šrj, rmn* or *ḏsr*.

23 M. Bietak, TD V, 167.

24 L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa: The Late Middle Kingdom Settlement (Levels VI-VIII)*, The Survey of Memphis VI, Egypt Exploration Society, Excavation Memoir 94, London 2012.

25 There are several instances of brick lengths between 0.60 m and 0.66 m, which may hint at such a use. Cf. L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, chapter 2, 119–158, in Levels VIId, VIc, VIb and VIa.

26 L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, 41.

27 L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, wall 847 in Level VIa, chapter 2, 121.

28 L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, 123, in Level VIb, wall 887.

29 L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, 121, Level VIb, wall 842. See in general chapter 2, 119–158 in levels VIII, VIb and VIa.

30 L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, throughout in Levels VIId, VIIa, VIe, VId, VIc, VIb and VIa, cf. chapter 2, 119–158. Beside sand tempered bricks also regular mud-bricks were used. These Levels represent the period from the late Middle Kindom to the end of the Second Intermediate Period.

31 E. Czerny, TD XXII, 174.

32 M. Millet, Architecture civile antérieure au Nouvel Empire: Rapport préliminaire des fouilles archéologiques à l'est du lac Sacré, 2001–2003, *Cahiers de Karnak* 12 (2007), 686.

33 See F. Arnold, Baukonstruktion in der Stadt Kahun: Zu den Aufzeichnungen Ludwig Bochardts, in: P. Jánosi (ed.), *Structure and Significance. Thoughts on Ancient Egyptian Architecture*, Vienna 2005, 83, with additional bibliography.

34 É. Naville and F.Ll. Griffith, *The Mound of the Jew and the City of Onias: Belbeis, Samanood, Abusir, Tukh el Karmus. 1887 / The Antiquities of Tell el Yahûdîyeh, and Miscellaneous Work in Lower Egypt during the Years 1887–1888*, Memoir of the Egypt Exploration Fund 7, London 1890, 56–57.

35 On a visit to Munich in 2009, where these records are kept in the Institut für Paläozoologie, Prof. von den Driesch very kindly allowed me to take digital photographs of the records.

36 The author regrets very much that Prof. von den Driesch did not see the result of her kindness.

of the description of the finds by specialists will give specialists the opportunity to conduct their own studies with this material in the context of a settlement. For this reason this study is the only report of a settlement of the late Middle Kingdom with all find groups combined.

What has not been found at Tell el-Dabᶜa

The above statement is only almost valid, because in the early years of the excavation the soil was not dried before sieving nor flotated. Therefore, for the late Middle Kingdom settlement no evidence for the administration in the form of mud sealings, which almost certainly existed, can be added to the contexts. This is nobody's fault as it was *communis opinio* at that time that unbaked sealings and seal impressions would simply not be preserved in the wet environmental circumstances of the Delta and in similar conditions. Only around the year 2000 trials with drying the earth and sieving it yielded stunning results.[37] Similar observations can be made about archaeo-botanic remains, which were only conducted in the later years of the excavations (from the early 1980s, see fascicle 2 for the available information[38]). The other object groups missing from the archaeological contexts are the organic ones, such as papyrus, textiles, leather and wood, which sometimes could be seen as a discolouration of the ground. This is of course due to the wet surrounding of the environment and thus, stands in stark contrast to places like Lahun,[39] where all these finds appeared, but their exact locations and the composition of the assemblages are largely unknown.[40] It is also noteworthy that in contrast to Lahun almost no metal finds were reported from the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom at Tell el-Dabᶜa.[41] The reasons for this absence may lie in a different distribution system or constant re-use of the material that has become unusable. Note that some metal working may well have taken part at that site (cf. chapter 2, 3) or the nearby area F/I.[42]

Measurements in the archaeological photographs

In order to better understand the sizes and distances shown in the archival field photographs a schematic explanation for the measurement rods is given in Fig. 1.5.

Pottery recording

As a rule the rim diameter given in the description of the pottery represents the actual aperture unless both measurements (interior and exterior) are given. All measurements are in centimetres. The division of 'A- and B-inventory' and tertiary finds outlined by M. Bietak[43] is kept in as far as the detailed description used for the 'A- and B-inventory' is only applied for the more complete find categories, which were registered in the registry system of the site. The system of abbreviations describing the technological features of the ceramic finds introduced by M. Bietak was kept.[44] No attempt has been made to translate these assignations into English for reasons of clarity and consistency with the system in use at the site. The pottery fabrics follow the Vienna System[45] with the equations given in the system of the pottery recording system.[46] Sherds from konvolutes or 'sherd collections' are described more cursorily in tables with the use of those codes, derived from the comparative work with Kom Rabiᶜa.[47] The measurement of quantity is again expressed in *Estimated Vessel Equivalents* of the preserved portions of the rim sherds. This quantitative data is abbreviated as rim *Eves*. The advantages and disadvantages of using

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37 See the publications on sealings from Tell el-Dabᶜa since then, e.g. N. Sartori, Die Siegel aus Areal F/II in Tell el-Dabᶜa: Erster Vorbericht, *ÄL* 19 (2009), 281–292; C. Reali, The Seal Impressions from 'Ezbet Rushdi, Area R/III of Tell el-Dabᶜa, *ÄL* 22–23 (2012–2013), 67–73.

38 These studies were undertaken by Ursula Thanheiser and I would like to thank her for her collaboration in this project.

39 W.M.F. Petrie, *Kahun, Gurob and Hawara*, London 1890; W.M.F. Petrie, *Illahun, Kahun, Gurob*, London 1891.

40 C. Gallorini, A Reconstruction of Petrie's Excavation at the Middle Kingdom Settlement of Kahun, in: S. Quirke (ed.), *Lahun Studies*, Sia Publishing 1998, 42–59.

41 In the second fascicle there will be a few mentioned.

42 M. Müller, *Das Stadtviertel F/I in Tell el-Dabᶜa/Auaris Multikulturelles Leben in einer Stadt des späten Mittleren Reichs und der Zweiten Zwischenzeit*, PhD Dissertation, University of Vienna, Vienna 2012.

43 M. Bietak, TD V, 318–319.

44 M. Bietak, TD V, 317–333.

45 H.Å. Nordström and J.B. Bourriau, Ceramic Technology: Clays and Fabrics, in: Do. Arnold and J. Bourriau (eds), *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery*, SDAIK 17, Mainz am Rhein 1993, 149–190.

46 Nile B1 = I-b-1; Nile B2 = I-b-2; rough Nile B2 = I-c-1; Nile C = I-c-2; Nile D = I-d; Nile E = I-e-1 (with some vegetal matter) and I-e-2. For the Marl clays see B. Bader, TD XIX, 602.

47 B. Bader, TD XIX, Appendix 1.

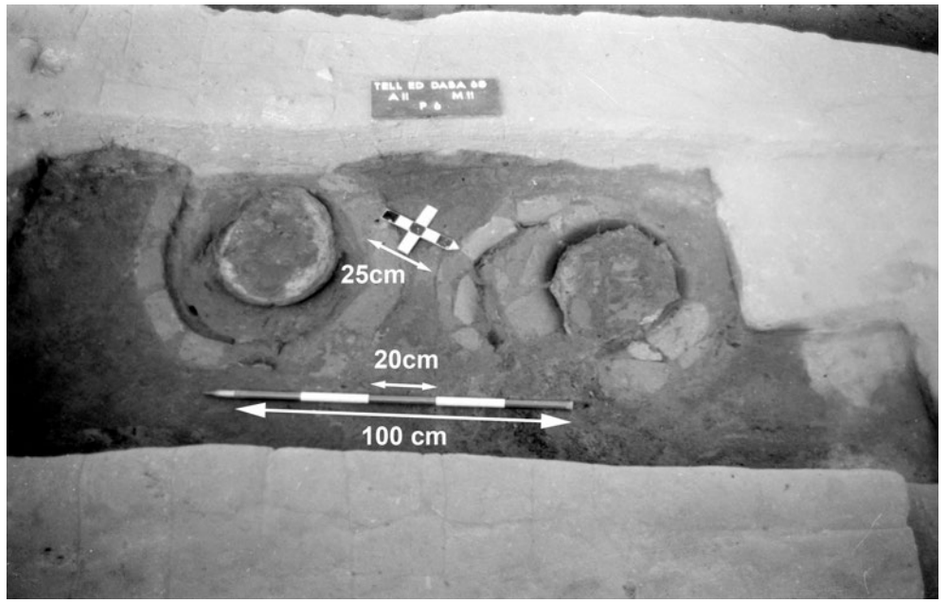


Fig. 1.5 The metre sticks and measuring devices used

this measurement, its quality and properties have been described extensively before.[48]

Re-recording of material

Wherever possible the author undertook to re-record the finds, which are located in the Egyptian National Museum Cairo, the site magazine at Tell el-Dabᶜa and the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna. Whilst it was possible to re-record and redraw most of the finds in Vienna[49] and in the site magazine at Tell el-Dabᶜa the author had so far no access to the material kept in Cairo. Altogether almost 5500 ceramic vessels and diagnostic sherds were drawn by the author as well as about 100 objects.

The initial topography

Some remarks on the initial topography of the tell area A/II are also in order. Due to the nature of the swampy delta over time *gezirahs* or turtle backs developed caused by activities of wind and the Nile, which provided raised areas on which to build even during the flooded period in summer. In a few squares of the tell the excavation went down far enough to ascertain the top of the elevation of the *gezirah* (e.g. A/II-k/12 below 3.90 m/NN; A/II-m/12 at 4.10 m/NN the *gezirah* sand appeared; A/II-n/12 at 4.10 m/NN; A/II-n/11 at 4.20 m/NN in the western section but below 4.00 m/NN in the southern section). Nevertheless, the topographical relief of that *gezirah* surface remains largely unknown, so that differences in the elevation of base levels of buildings do not necessarily mean that the higher ones must be later than the lower ones.

During the settlement history of the tell this situation gradually 'worsened', because in addition to the – presumed – natural unevenness the mud-brick rubble and refuse of the settlement cycle of building – maintaining – falling into disuse and dismantling added to the formation of the hill-like nature of the tell.[50] In addition, settlement activities producing deposits of

[48] B. Bader, TD XIX, 62–63; B. Bader, Quantification as a Means of Functional Analysis: Settlement Pottery of the Late Middle Kingdom at Tell el-Dabᶜa, in: B. Bader, C.M. Knoblauch and E.C. Köhler (eds), *Vienna 2 – Ancient Egyptian Ceramics in the 21st Century*, Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta 245, Leuven – Paris – Bristol, CT, 2016, 47–67; B. Bader, Processing and Analysis of Ceramic Finds at the Egyptian Site of Tell el-Dabᶜa, in: B. Horejs, R. Jung and P. Pavúk (eds), *Analysing Pottery. Processing – Classification – Publication*, Studia Archaeologica et Medievalia IX. Bratislava 2010, 209–233; B. Bader, G.K. Kunst and U. Thanheiser, Knochen, Körner und Keramik, *Ä&L* 18 (2008), 15–48.

[49] Here the director of the Egyptian collection Regina Hölzl and curator Michaela Hüttner need to be mentioned because they enabled in a very forthcoming manner the re-recording work in 2013 almost in the middle of the moving of the collection to an external depot. I would like to say a heartfelt Thank you!

[50] See M. Bietak, Stratigraphische Probleme bei Tellgrabungen im Vorderen Orient, in: H Mitscha-Märheim, H. Friesinger and H. Kerchler (eds), *Festschrift für Richard Pittioni zum siebzigsten Geburtstag*, Wien 1976, 471–493.

ash, sand and organic materials also have the same effect. Estimating growth rates for such sedimentation has proved difficult to carry out. Further, relating this growth to the passage of time has proved to be impossible.[51]

General remarks: The inhabitants of the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom

At the beginning of the report I would like to point out that the discoveries at Tell el-Dabᶜa/Avaris are all too frequently taken as a monumental block of evidence for the immigration of "people with Syro-Palestinian cultural background" in all areas and all phases of the site.[52] Research in the last decades has shown that the first settlement in the early 12th Dynasty was purely Egyptian and that the "infiltration" or "immigration" was a gradual process that left specific traces in the archaeological record. Moreover, it seems extremely unlikely that the settlement was completely devoid of Egyptians, when the installations of daily life do not particularly evoke an impression of Syro-Palestinian cultural behaviour. It has to be admitted that such items may not differ too much between geographical areas. The usual and common bone grinding tasks of producing subsistence by means of agriculture and food processing might lead to similar artefacts used in daily life, e.g. querns.[53] However, the connection of material culture with ethnic identity is a very complicated one with no simple answer and it seems to be a very equivocal indicator for far reaching historical conclusions.[54] Moreover, ethnic identity is only one component of group identity.[55] More discussion will follow.[56]

It is absolutely necessary to distinguish between the single phases and acknowledge the developments from one to the next. It is also vital to analyse the areas separately because the research in the contemporary settlement areas of A/II and F/I in Phase G/3–1 (= c) has clearly shown that at least those two are quite different from each other and seem to cover distinct needs and functions.[57] Therefore it seems wise not to rule out such differences in other parts and phases of the site beforehand.

Finally, some remarks should be made concerning the status of the people living in the three consecutive phases in this settlement. Whilst it is difficult to reach a personal level in Phases H and G/4 due to a lack of burials (only two infant burials without any burial gifts without container or coffin, one of which is in the area east, fascicle 2), the archaeological record provides more information in Phase G/3–1. For the two older phases the information on house sizes and the like is very sketchy, which is why not much can be said about any patterns of status based on such information. The small number of eight burials of Phase G/3–1 offers

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51 Cf. L.L. Giddy, *Kom Rabiᶜa VI*, 59, 77, 199–200.

52 E.g. W.G. Dever, Relations between Syria-Palestine and Egypt in the 'Hyksos' Period, in: J. Tubb (ed.), *Palestine in the Bronze and Iron Ages*, Studies for Olga Tufnell, London 1985, Institute of Archaeology Occasional Publications no 11, 69-87. Also the extremely shortened descriptions of the archaeological nature of Avaris in works of overviews may be too simplified and not do justice to this multi-period site with a long and interesting development. It is this development of the material culture which allows inferences about changes in the social relations of the inhabitants to each other and the outside.

53 The querns at Tell el-Hayyat in Jordan look very similar to those found at Tell el-Dabᶜa. Cf. S.E. Falconer and P.L. Fall, *Bronze Age Rural Ecology and Village Life at Tell el-Hayyat*, Jordan, BAR IS 1586, Oxford 2006, 121, fig. 7.15–16.

54 Cf. for the time being B. Bader, Cultural Mixing in Egyptian Archaeology, 257–286.

55 F. Daim, Archaeology, Ethnicity and the Structures of Identification: The Example of the Avars, Carantanians and Moravians in the Eight Century, in: W. Pohl and H. Reimitz (eds), *Strategies of Distinction: The Construction of Ethnic Communities, 300-800*, Leiden 1998, 71–93; N. MacSweeney, Beyond Ethnicity: The Overlooked Diversity of Group Identities, *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*, 22/1 (2009), 101–126.

56 B. Bader, Material Culture and Identities – Complexities of Identity Research in Archaeology as seen in a late Middle Kingdom Settlement in Ancient Egypt. A Case Study, Habilitation Thesis, Vienna 2019, chapter 1 and 6; Cf. for now B. Bader, Cultural Mixing in Egyptian Archaeology, 257–286; B. Bader, Zwischen Text, Bild und Archäologie – Eine Problemdarstellung zur Konzeptualisierung von Kulturkontakten, in: S. Beck, B. Backes and A. Verbovsek (eds), *Interkulturalität: Kontakt – Konflikt – Konzeptualisierung*, Beiträge des Sechsten Berliner Arbeitskreises Junge Aegyptologie (BAJA 6) 13.11.–15.11.2015, GOF 63, Wiesbaden 2017, 13–34. For a very different position but mostly concerning phases after the late Middle Kingdom at the site, see M. Bietak, The Egyptian Community at Avaris during the Hyksos Period, *Ä&L* 26 (2016), 263–274.

57 Cf. B. Bader, Contacts between Egypt and Syria-Palestine as seen in a Grown Settlement of the late Middle Kingdom at Tell el-Dabᶜa/Egypt, in: J. Mynářová (ed.), *Egypt and the Near East – The Crossroads,* Proceedings of the International Workshop on the Relations between Egypt and the Near East in the Bronze Age September 1–3, 2010, Charles University in Prague, Czech Institute of Egyptology, Faculty of Arts, Prague 2011, 41–72; M. Müller, Late Middle Kingdom Society in a Neighborhood of Tell el-Dabᶜa/Avaris, in: M. Müller (ed.), *Household Studies in Complex Societies*, Papers from the Oriental Institute Seminar 10, Chicago 2015, 339–370.

a small glimpse on the people who presumably lived there.[58] Most of the deceased were women and children, only one male burial with Syro-Palestinian weapons was found in this area. The burials are marked by modest graves and grave goods, although one had a stone sarcophagus with a stone vessel and a carnelian bead necklace and another quite a rich assemblage of beads of gold, amethyst and Egyptian amulets.[59] Thus, at least some of the people were comfortably well-off judging by their grave goods. The sizes of the houses in Phase G/3–1 provide another hint at their status (see Fig. 1.2). Comparison with the earlier dwellings of the 12th Dynasty in Area F/I and Ezbet Rushdi exemplify that the average house size had increased by Stratum G/3–1. This can be interpreted as a token of relative affluence.[60] One may also note that around one relatively large building several smaller ones were grouped. The agglutinating lay-out of Compound 12 is without parallel in Egypt and the Levant and it is difficult to explain it especially as not many finds were reported. A detailed analysis of the lay-out and the house sizes appeared in print.[61]

Thus, the title of the book terms the people once living in late Middle Kingdom Tell el-Dabᶜa as non-élite inhabitants although no precise estimate of their place in the Egyptian social structure can be given on current knowledge. The evidence seems to suggest that they did not belong to the poorest stratum of society, but the lay-out, size of buildings and objects found also do not indicate a rich élite.[62] Of course, the difference of how the social situation was in reality and how the deceased (or his family) wanted to appear to posterity are factors that have to be considered.

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58 B. Bader, Contacts between Egypt and Syria-Palestine, passim; I. Forstner-Müller, TD XVI, 129–140.

59 Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture at Tell el-Dabᶜa and its Parallels in the late Middle Kingdom, *Ä&L* 28 (2018), 107–142.

60 M. Bietak, Houses, Palaces and Development of Social Structure in Avaris, in: M. Bietak, E. Czerny and I. Forstner-Müller (eds), *Cities and Urbanism in Ancient Egypt*, Vienna 2010, 11–68.

61 B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

62 J. Richards, *Society and Death in Ancient Egypt: Mortuary Landscapes of the Middle Kingdom*, Cambridge 2005.

Chapter 2: Compound 10 (= Bezirk VI) – A/II-k/11–12

Compound 10 consisted of two or probably three rooms without any traces of enclosure walls in the excavated area. Parts of this building were discovered in squares A/II-k/11 and A/II-k/12. These squares are situated in the northernmost part of the excavated area of the settlement. In the publication *Tell el-Dabᶜa V* this area was termed 'Bezirk VI' and is briefly described.[63] It is possible that the building or the compound continues towards the north as this was the northern limit of the excavation area (of the late Middle Kingdom settlement). Perhaps an enclosure/precinct wall or additional rooms would have been found there.

The following description is based on the excavation records consisting of a digging diary, plan drawings (recorded by various team members at the time), the section drawings, the register books, the photographic archive and the preliminary publication in *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*.

Squares AII/-k/11–12

Excavation and available records

In square A/II-k/11 excavation began in spring 1967 (pl. 1–4[64]) and was continued in spring 1968 (pl. 5[65]). In this period the Six-Day War between Egypt and Israel broke out, which necessitated the mission to leave the site and the excavation unfinished.

Square A/II-k/12 seems to have been excavated almost entirely in autumn 1968 (pl. 1–6[66]), except for planum 7,[67] which was finished in spring 1969. The latest dated planum drawing is A/II-k/12 pl. 4 and it was drawn on the 20 November 1968. This means that the other two must have been excavated afterwards. Planum 7, dateable to Phase G/4 and H (relative stratum g = H), was excavated in the spring 1969.[68]

The preserved top level of the surface of A/II-k/11 was measured at 9.16 m/NN to 8.81 m/NN. The first discernible structures belonging to the relevant strata of the current study appear at an elevation beginning at 4.62 m/NN down to 3.86 m/NN. These very low levels already belong to Phase G/4 and H.[69] The relative stratum given to Phase G/3–1 in this square is f. That the distinction of Phase G/3 from G/2–1 was very difficult in this area can be gleaned from the fact that in one instance relative stratum f was used for Phase G/1–2, whilst in another it was used for Phase G/3. Wall **[H-G/4-M2]** belonging to relative stratum g (= Phase G/4 or H)[70] is just visible below wall **[M5]** of relative stratum f (= Phase G/1–2). This latter one appears in the published plan in the NE corner.[71] The building belonging to relative stratum f (probably Phase G/3) in the northern part and centre of the square below the later Temple I is not shown in the published plan, because that plan only comprises Phase G/2–1. In the SW corner two tombs assigned to Phase F cut into the building.[72]

The top level of the surface all around square A/II-k/12 ranges from 6.08 m/NN to 6.62 m/NN, which means that within 10 m the height of the tell decreased markedly. The elevation of the features of Phase G/3–1 as they first appeared was at about 4.37 m/NN to 4.44 m/NN in planum 5. The relative stratum f is used here as Phase G/3 in the plan drawing although in the plan of *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*, plan 2, it is published as Stratum G/1–2. Thus, it can be assumed that the building already existed in Phase G/3–4 and that it was used throughout, perhaps with some renewing of walls. The high preservation of one part of wall **[M1]** at an elevation of 4.57 m/NN also corroborates this reconstruction. It is possible that a renewal of the wall led to the high preservation of this wall, which is extremely unusual throughout the settlement.

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63 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
64 TDplan nos 37 to 40.
65 TDplan no 41.
66 TDplan no 48 to 53
67 TDplan no 54.
68 After that the mission was not allowed to return to the Delta for security reasons and continued to excavate at Luxor until 1975.
69 In square A/II-k/12 another planum was unearthed with a base level of 3.86 m/NN to about 3.80 m/NN. See chapter 5.
70 As drawn into the plan drawing, planum 6
71 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
72 A/II-l/11-tomb 2–3, cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 39–50.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-k/11–12)

The building with two or more likely three rooms (Fig. 2.1) is oriented NNW–SSE. All mud-bricks were tempered with abundant sand to such a degree as to colour them yellowish as opposed to the loamy bricks being more commonly, but not exclusively used from Phase E/1 onwards.[73] The size of the sand tempered bricks is as follows: in room **L [118]** the length of bricks varies from 30.0, 35.0 cm up to 40.0 cm the width from 15.0 cm to 20.0 cm; and in room **L [117]** they range from 35.0 by 10.0 cm to 40.0 by 17.5 cm.[74] According to Bietak the bricks measure 35.0–36.0 cm by 18.0–21.0 cm by 12.0–13.0 cm.[75] The walls were well built with relatively regular brick work and in some places the walls were preserved up to four courses.[76]

The main part of the building is situated in square A/II-k/12 and the oldest building stage was recorded in the drawing of planum 6. The main south wall **[M1]** of Compound 10 consists, in fact, of two overlying walls. The base level of **[M1]**, running obliquely from the south west to the north east, is at 4.00 m/NN and probably already belongs to Phase G/3–4 and was presumably still in use in Phase G/2–1. Exactly beneath this wall lies another – older and thinner – wall (see chapter 5, 153) with a base level of 3.98 m/NN. Wall **[M1]** is preserved up to an elevation of 4.57 m/NN in the

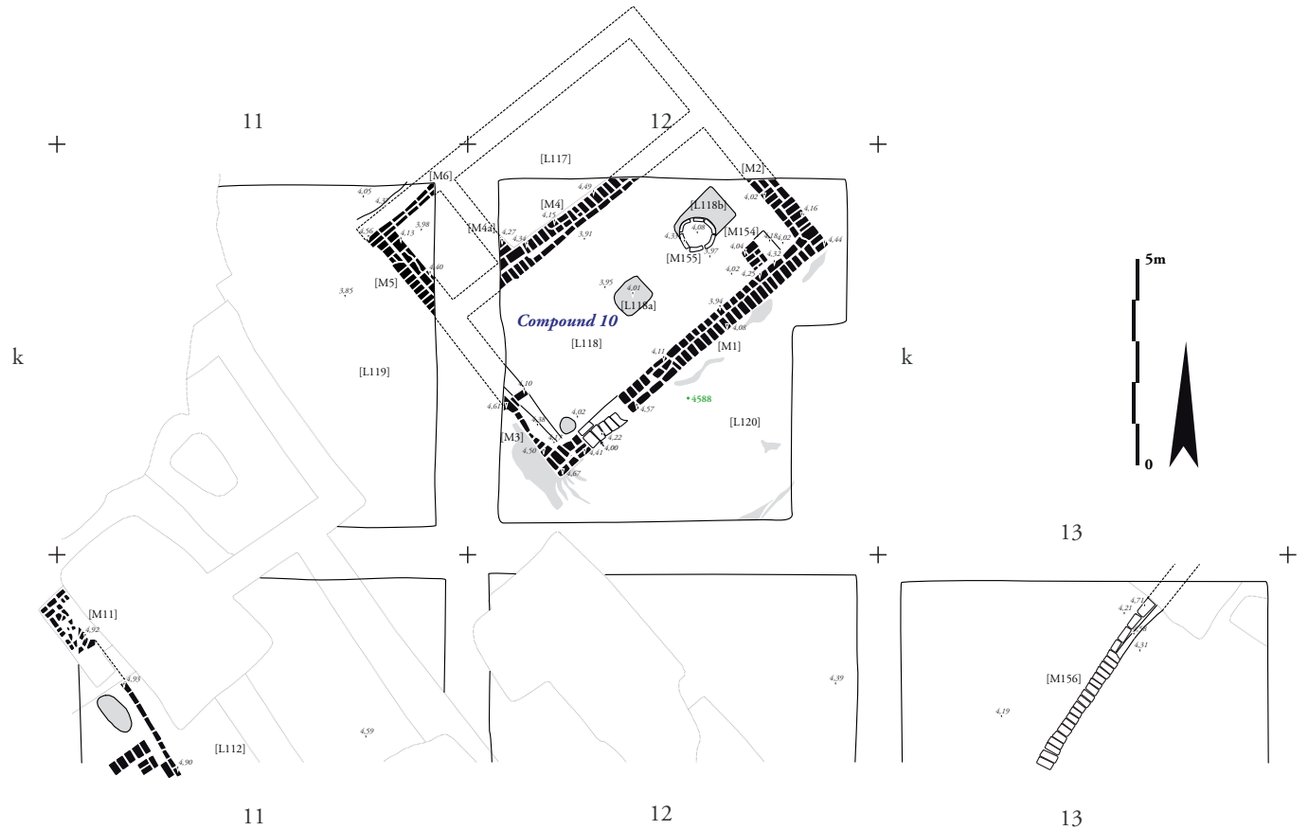


Fig. 2.1 Schematic plan of Compound 10. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, execution of graphics N. Math

[73] M. Bietak, Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age, *BASOR* 281 (1991), 40–42.

[74] These measurements were taken from the plan drawing in 1:50. The bricks in A/II-k/11 seem often not complete but cut by features in higher levels. Thus probably the format of the bricks from A/II-k/12 shows the brick sizes more clearly.

[75] The small scale of 1:50 prevents accurate measuring. It is assumed that he had notes to consult.

[76] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 26 June 1968.

SW-corner, and it is 8.75 m (= 16.67 cubits) long and built at one and a half brick's width. At both the SW and NE corner two walls **[M2, M3]** are attached at right angles continuing towards north west to form a rectangle with a parallel wall in 3.90 m (= 7.43 cubits) distance **[M4]**. The bricks seem to have been laid out in bonding pattern at the corners. The SW and NE corners of this rectangular room run into the western and eastern baulks and were not further excavated. Thus the interior of the room measures ca 7.40 m × 3.70 m resulting in 26.64 m² floor space. This is equivalent to 7 cubits width and 14 cubits in length of the room, resulting in 98 square cubits. This room was assigned **L [118]** in the published plan, which will be kept here.[77]

The northern (dividing) wall **[M4]** of this room running into the northern baulk is preserved only to the height of one brick course and the base level recorded in the northern and western sections is at an elevation of 3.90 m/NN.[78] The other walls **[M1,**[79] **M2,**[80] **M3**[81]**]** running into the northern and western baulks were preserved up to five bricks courses there.

In the main southern wall **[M1]** a door way of 1.25 m (= just over 2 cubits) width seems to have been constructed, close to the SW corner. Bietak thinks it is possible that the entrance was alternatively located in the western wall.[82] The floor level of the room as excavated was between 3.91 m/NN and 3.95 m/NN but no formally laid or compacted floor seems to have been found. The surface of the 'floor' was quite ashy according to original plan drawing very likely due to the presence of at least two fire places/hearths in the room. On entering the room **L [118]** immediately to the west side just after the doorway a small roughly circular patch of ash was found. Bietak interprets this hole as a void to receive a stone door socket, which is now lost.[83]

Within room **L [118]** there were several installations, the most prominent a free standing hearth in the middle of the room. The hearth showed an almost square layout, 0.75 m by 0.60 m but without any formal or built border. It was covered with thick ashy layers and around it patches of ashy deposits attest the use of that hearth. Close to the NE corner of room **L [118]** an installation consisting of a small mud-brick platform with sand tempered bricks, onto which a loamy mud-brick wall abutted was found **L [118b]**. The installation made a stepped impression. The size of this step was 1.80 m by 1.80 m, thus almost square. It was attached to the interior of the main southern wall **[M1]** of the room creating a kind of niche of 0.45 m or almost 1 cubit width. Another installation was situated about 1.55 m northeast of the hearth and 0.65 m north-west of the step-like installation. A round mud-brick structure with sand tempered bricks **[M155]** of an irregular diameter of ca 0.90 m **L [118a]** was set into or on top of an ash filled rectangle, which may have been an old ash pit, 0.9 m deep, as it is also visible in the drawing of planum 7 (lowest point at 3.61 m/NN). It seems as if a small storage facility of half a brick width was set into or on top of a disused hearth. The installation has a diameter of 1 1/2 cubits.[84] The digging diary states that it was filled with numerous pottery fragments, and two intact pot stands. This description corresponds to sherd collections K2294 and perhaps K3773 (see below 51–55).

Finally in the NW corner part of another rounded storage facility was found but omitted here. In the published plan it was restored to its full extent. It also consisted of sand tempered mud-bricks laid out as headers, with the short ends touching each other, seven bricks are completely preserved the remaining one was broken. South east of this installation, probably another storage bin an accumulation of pottery sherds was recorded in the plan, but it was not possible to identify these finds.[85] Perhaps these are referred to in the digging diary as being of "two-handled storage jars in the south western part of the room".[86] Most probably they were fragments of imported transport amphorae. They cannot now be identified more closely.

In the dividing wall **[M4]** between **L [118]** and **L [117]** there was most likely a door opening, because the house plan corresponds closely to the 'reed shelter' of Gardiner sign O4.[87] For this reason a door opening can be expected at the far (eastern) end of dividing wall **[M4]** (running into the north baulk) and not opposite the presumed main entrance into the

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77 The numbering of the compounds had to be adapted to the current situation. Thus, it is slightly inconsistent.

78 A3. A/II-k/12 northern section; A62, A/II-k/12 western section.

79 Drawn into the plan at the south east corner was 4.00 m/NN.

80 A3, base level at elevation 3.90 m/NN.

81 A67, base level at elevation 4.00 m/NN.

82 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.

83 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.

84 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.

85 No reference to any sherd collections or register numbers were found.

86 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

87 Referred to frequently by M. Bietak in the Digging Diary, and also in print, e.g. M. Bietak, Tell el-Dabᶜa, *AfO* 25 (1977), 315.

house for spatial reasons (the bin close by) and for additional privacy, the room not being open to public view. Also wall **[M4a]** divides **L [117]** further (see below). The preserved corner of the house in square A/II-k/11 does not show any obvious door openings. It also appears more probable that the door opened onto the free space south of the house **L [120]** rather than onto precinct or space **L [119]**.[88] The settlement pattern west of Compound 10 at the time of Phase G/3–1 is not clear. Only in Phase F was there a rather narrow wall and then Temple 1. But by that time Compound 10 had ceased to exist.

The narrower room **L [117]** measures presumably 2.1 m by 7.2 m resulting in 15.12 m². This equals approx. 14 by 4 cubits resulting in 56 square cubits. This means together the floor space of the house is 41.76 m² or 154 square cubits provided it did not have further rooms towards the north or east. No finds could be assigned to this room, because most of it was taken up by the baulk and largely destroyed by tombs A/II-k/12-2 and A/II-k/12-3. It seems as if the baulk was never taken down, as the records do not mention it and no drawings were found. There is a strong possibility that **L [117]** was further sub-divided by a cross wall **[M4a]** (see Fig. 2.1, Fig. 5.9 for a reconstruction) because the western section A62 shows another rather substantial wall immediately adjacent to the northern edge of **[M4]**. The two walls show no bonding between them and **[M4]** is clearly defined by a foundation trench. The plan drawing only shows the immediate beginning of that wall **[M4a]**, which really only leaves the possibility to reconstruct it perpendicular to **[M4]**. A few bricks are visible in the archive photo Fig. 2.12. It would just not be visible in the eastern section of A/II-k/11. The base level of this wall is at an elevation of 4.10 m/NN, slightly higher than that of **[M4]**. This may mean that it was built later (also it does not seem to bond with wall **[M4]**) or that as an interior wall it did not need to be so deeply set or bonded. A foundation trench was not recorded. Thus, it is not possible to decide whether this wall existed from the beginning onwards or when it was built and destroyed. The pit of tomb 2 does not cut this wall in the section A62, but it seems to have been destroyed at the same time as **[M4]** or shortly before.

Three tombs (A/II-k/12 tomb 1 to 3) cut into compound 10, namely one in the storage bin in the NW corner and two more in the small space of the adjacent room **L [117]** belonging to square A/II-k/12. These tombs were dated to the transition of Phase G to the consequent Phase F.[89]

In the latest published plan M. Bietak added the interment in the silo (tomb A/II-k/12 tomb 1) and that in the very corner of the square, A/II-k/12 tomb 2, in Phase G,[90] but he maintains they should be assigned to Phase F. It is true that only A/II-k/12-tomb 3 cuts directly into the walls of Phase G, thus, this one should securely post-date Phase G, moving to the transition of Phase G to F or Phase F. Tomb k/12-tomb 2 shows a kind of rectangular enclosure that is made of more loam-containing mud-bricks, but it is not aligned in the same direction as the room.[91] This 'wall' cannot be identified in the northern and/or western sections. Both the burials run into the northern and western baulks and could not be completely excavated at the time. Scrutiny of the "bin" or "silo" in the western section seems to indicate that it was only built after the walls of the Phase G/3–1 house had fallen out of use, because there is a distinct horizon going over the fill and the walls and only on top is the brick laid (section no A62-17 in western section = rel e, assigned to Phase F).[92]

Several ashy layers ran against the exterior of the walls of Compound 10 **[M1, M3, M5]** intruding into the crevices of the bricks, but there was no direct trace of fire or burned areas on the walls themselves.[93] In the digging diary Bietak also remarked upon the fact that the outer wall surface had increased in width towards the floor. This could be observed in the western section of A/II-k/12.[94]

South east of the building in close proximity to the door, in the alleyway/space in front of the house a limestone object was found, that was identified as a limestone mould for tool making (reg.no 4588).[95]

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88 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.

89 M. Bietak, TD V, 36–38. M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

90 M. Bietak, Houses, Palaces and Development of Social Structure in Avaris, fig. 14.

91 It is possible that this 'wall' only looks like a wall because of the pits for the tombs cut into it from above.

92 One other brick could be considered to represent the silo/storage bin, but that is also set above the new floor, cf. running metres 4.95 to 5.10 m.

93 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

94 Section no A62–29 in western section.

95 The description of the find spot as in SE corner of the building in 1984 in the register book seems to have happened in retrospect and appears to be incorrect as the find was sketched in the position described by M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968.

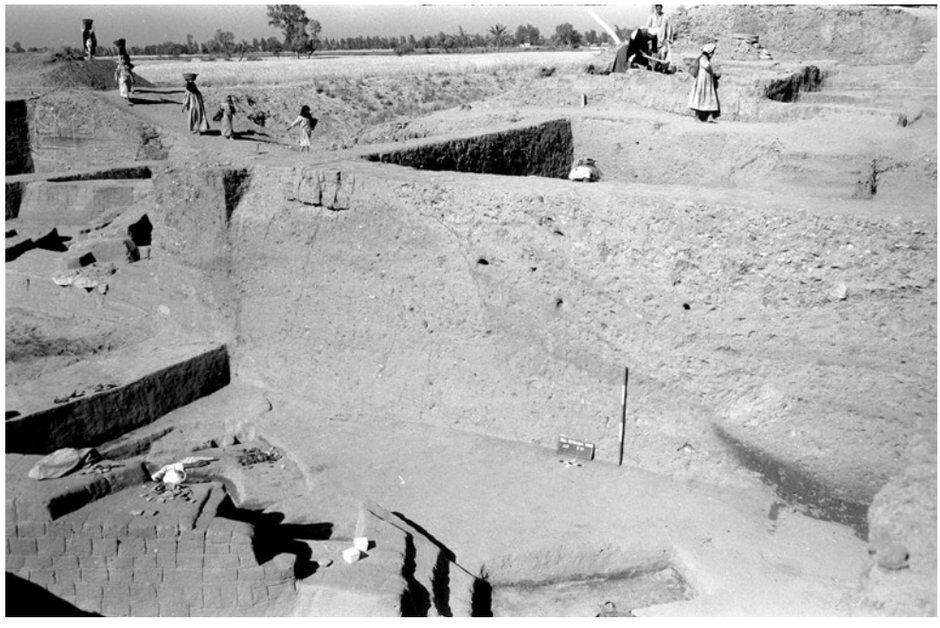


Fig. 2.2 Western section of A/II-k/11 for an impression of the nature of the site, negative SW1074/50



Fig. 2.3 Western section of A/II-k/11, B/W negative no SW1074/52

Archive photographs of the western section of A/II-k/11 are registered as B/W negative nos SW1074/48; 50; 52 (Fig. 2.2–2.3). This section shows the large cut of the much later well into square A/II-k/10–11 that destroyed everything beneath it.[96]

Finds from square A/II-k/11 comprise mainly pottery fragments, labelled as found in 1968 in planum 5, negative nos SW1081/55–63 (Fig. 2.4–2.8). Their exact find spot within the square remains unclear, so that it is very likely that they do not belong to Compound

[96] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 top right corner.



Fig. 2.4 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/63



Fig. 2.5 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/55



Fig. 2.6 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/61



Fig. 2.7 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/57



Fig. 2.8 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1081/59. The object on the top right seems to be another limestone mould for tools similar to reg.no 4588



Fig. 2.9 Pottery from A/II-k/11, pl. 5 without konvolute no, negative no SW1098/14

10. Moreover, the typology of the pottery suggests that most of the fragments belong to the later history of the site, namely Phases E/2 and later (flat based cups, bi-conical Tell el-Yahudieh juglet fragments, wheel-turned ring bases, cf. Fig. 2.4–2.6, 2.9). This is not a surprise because Temple 1 cut deeply into the surface of the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom Phase G/3–1. The 1968 date indicates that these sherds are derived from the cleaning of planum 5. Nevertheless these pieces as they were photographed are shown here in order to provide full information.

The fact that another part of a possible limestone mould was found[97] (Fig. 2.8) makes it quite likely that at least some of this material belonged to the late Middle Kingdom settlement phase although it only came from a secondary position.

In square A/II-k/11 there is a pit at of 4.0 m/west and 1.70 m/south in pl. 6, that cuts through the walls of Phase G/3–4 and reaches down to the layer below = Phase H. Within the pit a thin 1/2 brick's width wall of entirely different orientation was visible (= relative stratum g, see Fig. 5.1). This pit is not visible in the next plan drawing above, pl. 4. It is unclear what its purpose was. The shape resembles a Naville pit, but in this case it should have been visible from the topmost exposure. The pottery fragments (Fig. 2.6) show various vessel types that may well be in keeping with such an early date, such as the spouted vessel and the storage jar on top (most probably Marl C) although the base in the middle of the foreground may have belonged to a (eroded) flat based cup but a finger pinched ring base is also possible. Unfortunately it was not possible to re-study this material.

Archive photographs of square A/II-k/12 show the field situation of the excavation when planum 5 was ready for recording (Fig. 2.10–2.12). The bad condition of preservation of the walls with only a few brick courses can well be observed. It is typical for this settlement phase. Only in exceptional cases had the walls been better preserved.

Discussion of the relevant parts of sections (A/II-k/11[98])

The northern section, A2, was drawn in 1968 and is mainly characterised by the large deep hole/disturbance from the *sakiya* beginning in A/II-k/10 which continues into the western part of A/II-k/11. The lowest level reached in the eastern part of the northern section of A/II-k/11 is at an elevation of 4.70 m/NN and thus, of restricted relevance here. What becomes obvious from the layers in this area is that it was most probably an open space during much of the time of its use even up to the late Second Intermediate Period. Any features built to the west of Compound 10 cannot be reconstructed due to the thorough destruction mentioned above. Only one yellow heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall was reached (section no A2-53, no relative stratum assigned but "G/1–2"[99]) at running metres 6.40–6.50[100] with an unknown base level (traced down to ca 4.50 m/NN).[101] The very eastern corner of the section was not exposed deeply enough, thus, the northern wall **[M6]** (see Fig. 2.1) of Compound 10 was not traced there.

The western section (A57, drawn in 1967) of A/II-k/11 holds no relevance for Compounds 10 or 11. The lowest elevation reached is at 4.60 m/NN and records A/II-l/11-tomb 3 (section no A57-28, assigned to Phase F).[102] The section shows the difference in height between the northern part of the tell and further south from 9.0 m/NN to 6.5 m/NN very clearly (in the unpublished combined western section of A/II-k/11 and A/II-l/11 this striking effect is particularly clear).

The eastern section (A77, drawn in 1968) shows the northern mud-brick wall with sand tempered bricks **[M6]** (section no A77-36 = relative phase g) at running metre 1.0 from north. The preserved top of the wall is at an elevation of about 4.90 m/NN, which might suggest a later use of this wall as all the others are less well preserved. The base level of the wall was not reached,

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[97] In Area F/I more such moulds were found. Cf. G. Phillip, TD XV, 171–190.

[98] The final section drawings will be presented in a combined way A/II-k11–12 north and south and l–k/11 west and east and k–l/12 east and west.

[99] In description of section only, not on final plan. This wall may also belong to Phase G–F.

[100] The running metre system represents the metric grid for locating features and objects. The squares were laid out in 10 by 10 metres, thus any feature or object can exactly be located according to the metre count from north or south and from east or west. In addition the relative height provides the 3rd measurement for the three dimensional position of any feature or object.

[101] It is unclear if this wall belongs to wall, section no A77-36, in the eastern section of A/II-k/11 with a base level that was not preserved. It was traced to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN. This might represent the corner of a building that is not further traceable and is perhaps a later building phase on top of **[M6]**.

[102] M. Bietak, TD V, 46–50.

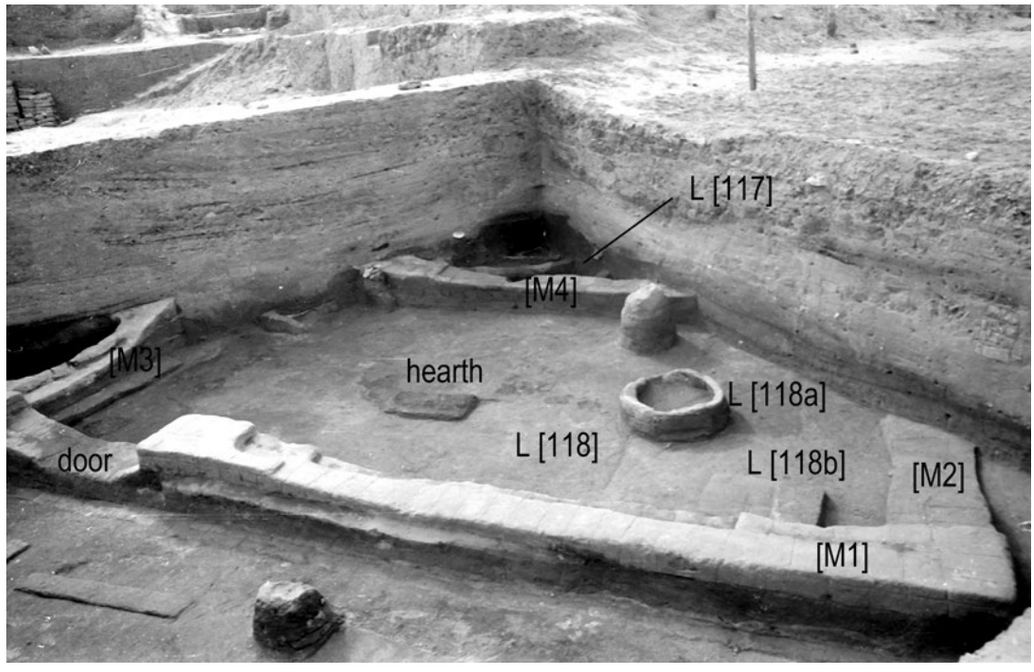


Fig. 2.10 A/II-k/12, pl. 6, view towards the NW corner; B/W negative no SW1177/12–13



Fig. 2.11 A/II-k/12, pl. 6, view towards west in room L [118], B/W negative no SW1177/6–7

but is below 4.40 m/NN. Sand tempered mud-bricks were traced down to an elevation of ca 4.00 m/NN. The other wall **[M5]** of Compound 10 (section no A77-37 = relative phase g), running towards the south east starts at about running metres 3.20–4.40 from north and is preserved three courses high (elevation of ca 4.60 m/NN). It is clearly visible that this wall was built on top of a slightly wider and therefore older wall (= section no A77-46 = **[G/3-M1]** see Fig. 5.9) also consisting of sand tempered mud-bricks, the base of which was not reached by the excavation but must be below 3.90 m/NN). This wall

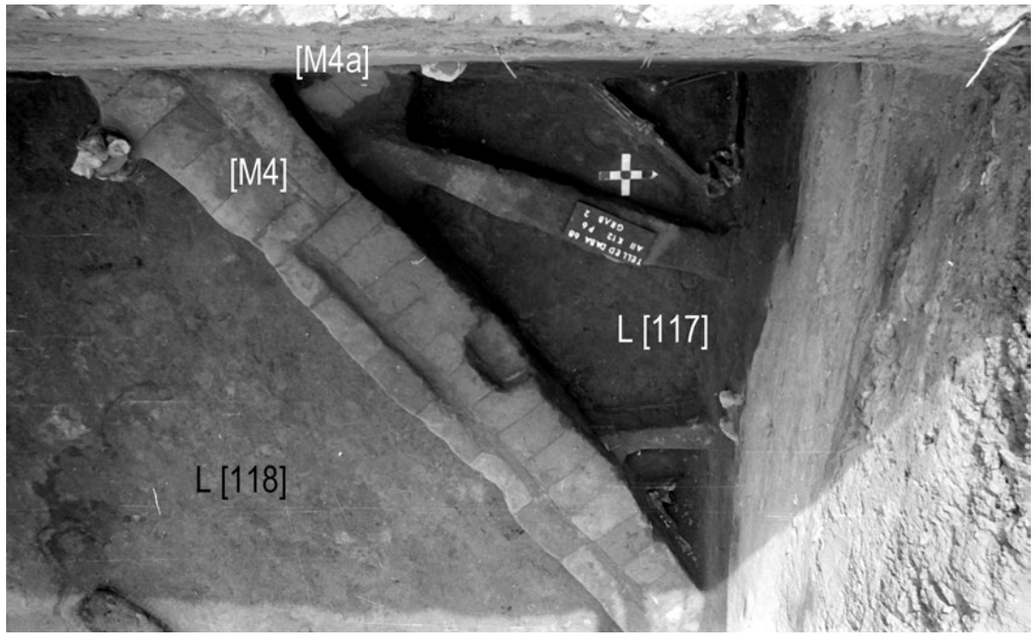


Fig. 2.12 A/II-k/12, pl. 6, view of tomb 2 in NW corner from above, B/W negative no SW1177/10–11

may represent the oldest phase of the building Phase G/3 (cf. Fig. 5.9) or slightly less likely belong to Phase H.[103] Its preserved top is at an elevation of 4.10 m/NN, which represents the base levels for **[M5]** (= section no A77-37). Further south at running metres 7.20 to 7.70 from north another sand tempered mud-brick wall with preserved top at an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN was recorded (section no A77-39 = relative phase g). The base level of this wall was also not reached but is below 4.10 m/NN. This wall seems to belong to the lower level structures of Phase G/3 as drawn in the plan, see Fig. 5.9, wall **[G/3-M29]**. The wall, section no A77-39, belongs to 'Compound 10a', which will be treated separately (see chapter 5, 163–164). It is difficult to decide whether this building was erected at the same time as or slightly later than Compound 10.[104] At running metre 10.0 from the north another, heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall in ca 1.3 m width was unearthed which may constitute the continuation of **[G/3-M6]** from square A/II-l/11 (see Fig. 5.9). Its base level runs below the excavated exposure at 4.10 m/NN.

The southern section (A27, drawn 1968) was excavated down to an elevation of 4.00 m/NN in the eastern half of the baulk. The most prominent feature is Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 (section no A27-19).[105] A long series of finely layered 'floors' assigned to Phases F or G begins at an elevation of 4.60 m/NN and continues down to 4.00 m/NN in this area (section nos A27-38–42). The base level of Phases G/4–3 begins at ca 4.30–4.10 m/NN (section no A27-42 = relative phase f). Mixed in here were broken sand tempered mud-bricks. In the western part a similar series of 'floors'/layers also appears (elevation of 4.20 to 4.40 m/NN). M. Bietak notes that section no A27-40 at running metre 1.0 from east constitutes a shallow pit probably derived from the removal of a Phase G wall.

[103] Also confirmed by M. Bietak, personal communication 21 July 2015.

[104] M. Bietak, who excavated it, currently thinks that Compound 10 is the oldest building in this area that is represented in the section belonging to Phase G/3 and not G/2–1 as in plan 2 of TD V. It is possible though that section no A77-37 was not built on top of another wall (left standing not cut), but continued further down below.

[105] M. Bietak, TD V, 108–116.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-k/12[106])

The northern section (A3, drawn in 1969) was exposed down to an elevation of 3.80 to 3.90 m/NN in most places. Moving westwards the eastern external wall **[M2]** of Compound 10 was only preserved at one brick course high (section no A3-58; running metres 2.40–3.40, base level 3.95 m/NN). M. Bietak noted that this wall belongs to **[M4]** at running metres ca 3.20–4.20, although it fell out of use earlier than **[M4]** and was overlaid by ashy and sandy layers. The dividing wall **[M4]** between **L [118]** and **L [117]** is well visible (section no A3-58 = relative phase f (G/3)) and four brick courses preserved (running metres 5.80 to 6.80, base level probably 3.90 m/NN or below; the space below was not exposed). Tomb A/II-k/12-3[107] cuts partly into this wall as well as through a horizon which runs over the preserved top of the wall. This suggests that it was constructed later, only after the dwelling had fallen out of use for some time. The base level of Phase G/2–1 is at about 4.10 m/NN (section no A3-60) and layers belonging to it reach up to ca 4.40 m/NN.[108] Section nos A3-52, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57 were all assigned to Phase G/2–1, representing debris and a series of dense layering of trodden floors. It seems that the ashy layers[109] (section no A3-61 = no relative phase given) were just starting to be exposed in the east and west of the section overlaying Phase H.

The western section (A62, drawn in 1969) was excavated down to a level of 3.90 m/NN along the whole length of the square. At running metres 2.20 to 3.60 from north two walls built of heavily sand tempered bricks closely together are visible. Both show section no A62-25 (= relative phase f). The base levels of these walls are slightly different, which may be taken for a wall perpendicular to wall **[M4]**, otherwise not visible in the sections.[110] This northern wall **[M4a]** was built at a base level of 4.10 m/NN and was preserved two to three courses high,[111] while the southern wall started at the elevation of 3.90 m/NN. This latter one constitutes the dividing wall **[M4]** between **L [118]** and **L [117]**. In the plan drawing of planum 6 the northern wall **[M4a]** is hardly visible because on the one hand the later tombs partly cut into it (k/12-2, k/12-3)[112] and obscured the surface and on the other hand because it is build perpendicular to **[M4]** and runs almost immediately into the baulk. Only a small portion is visible in the plan drawing and the photo (see Fig. 2.12). This could be evidence that some time passed before the tomb cut into this part of the settlement.[113] Beneath **[M4]** a thin layer of ash was recorded, but no older wall has been traced in the section. **[M4]** was preserved up to five brick courses here. Two flimsy walls of sand tempered mud-bricks of Phase F are mentioned (section no A62-16 and A62-17 = relative phase e) at a level of 4.60 and 4.70 m/NN, respectively. At running metres 5.60 to 6.05 (towards south) the western external wall **[M3]** is visible in the section (section no A62-25 = relative phase f). The wall was preserved up to a level of 4.60 m/NN with at least four brick courses. The top of the wall was cut by tomb A/II-k/12-3 (Phase F) and the rubble of sand tempered mud-bricks to the north of it may be derived from the tomb or the Phase G wall. The base level is at an elevation of 4.05 m/NN and it was built on top of structure section no A62-29 (= no relative phase was assigned, probably Phase G/3) that was not described. Probably this older wall of sand tempered bricks that was ca 0.9 m wide (running metres 5.25 to 6.20) represents **[G/3-M1]**, see Fig. 5.9. Its base level was not reached by the excavation but was below 3.90 m/NN. Thus nothing more can be said.

It seems quite clear that the pit for the tomb in the bin/silo (A/II-k/12-1[114]) was cut from above into wall **[M3]** when it was already out of use. The tomb cut into it from 'floor' layers overrunning wall **[M3]** even after the use of the house unit. It is therefore unlikely that the silo is visible in the section. From the inked section it seems that wall **[M3]**, assigned to Phase G/2–1, was already denuded, then the tomb was

[106] The analysis of the sections was conducted by M. Bietak. All sections were inked and the northern, eastern and southern also supplied with the final section nos. Only the western section still reveals the provisional section nos, which are derived from the original plan drawing. These are referred to here.

[107] M. Bietak, TD V, 37–38, Phase G/3–1–F.

[108] Phase F was noted to start at a base level of ca 4.50–4.60 m/NN by M. Bietak.

[109] „reine Holzkohlenasche".

[110] The northern, second wall looks very neatly built and not like rubble in the drawing.

[111] This wall seems to be all that is left of the perpendicular division wall of room **L [117]**, see discussion in chapter 5 and plan Fig. 5.9 and above.

[112] M. Bietak, TD V, 36–38, Phase G/3–1–F.

[113] If we assume that the wall on a higher base level is later than the lower one, which does not necessarily have to be the case. Also the time period passing cannot be estimated very well.

[114] M. Bietak, TD V, 36–37, Phase G/3–1–F.

cut and the single bricks with section no A62-17 (= relative phase e = Phase F) or "17a" were positioned. Rubble and floors are assigned to Phase G (general) from level 4.60 m/NN and below. A series of alternating ashy and sandy layers run against the outside of wall **[M3]** that slightly slopes inward as remarked by M. Bietak.[115] The ashy layers on the exterior of the wall in **L [119]** might be seen in connection with the find of stone moulds (see below, 58–60).

The eastern section (A82, drawn in 1969) is also characterised by densely layered "surfaces" for most of the archaeological life of that area. The exposure of the section reaches down to an elevation of 3.85 m/NN to about 4.00 m/NN in most places. At the 4.00 m/NN elevation an ashy layer was recorded (section no A82-38 = relative phase g), which may continue further down and could be considered the equivalent of one that was visible in A/II-l/11. The base level for Phase F seems to begin at an elevation of 4.50–4.60 m/NN and upwards, which means that below, sandwiched between Phases F and H should be Phases G/4–1. At the elevation of 4.40 m/NN there are scant remains of several more or less complete heavily sand tempered mud-bricks preserved in the section, which may have belonged to flimsy structures or rubble of older structures (no section nos). From running metre 1.40 to ca 2.50 from north a mud-brick (sand tempered) "wall" was cut in the section (= section no A82-39). This wall has its base level below 3.85 m/NN and represents **[H-G/4-M1]**, see Fig. 5.4. The only other wall in this section was erected between running metres 3.0 and 4.0 from north, also only preserved at two brick courses high (= section no A82-41 = relative phase g). Although the base level was not reached, it must be below the elevation of 3.80 m/NN. This wall is presumed to be older than the other and represents **[H-M4]**, see Fig. 5.1 and discussion in chapter 5.

The southern section (A26, drawn in 1969) was exposed to an elevation of just below 4.00 m/NN. This area as seen in the section is mainly characterised by dozens of consecutive "floors" and finely laminated layers from almost the very top. Thus, this area **L [120]** seems to have been a thoroughfare for most of its archaeological life. Only the western part of the section, between running metres 8.0 and 9.0 from east, shows the walls of the earlier phase of Temple I, which belongs to Phase E/3 (section no A26-27).[116] Probably from elevation 4.40–4.50 m/NN and below the layers (A62-42 = relative g) should be assigned to Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1, when the area was lying idle for a period of time. The ashy streaks were thought to have come from Phase H. These finely stratified layers consist of sand, ash and slightly loamy deposits. The walking horizon descends slightly towards the east, for about 20 cm. Section no A62-43 again represents the "reine Holzkohlenasche" layer, which was thought to divide Phase H from the later phases of the settlement.[117]

Finds from squares A/II-k/11–12, pl. 5 and 6

Only finds that can be assigned to Compound 10 and its surrounding spaces with certainty are mentioned here, regardless whether they came from A/II-k/11 or A/II-k/12.

L [117] Small northern room

Stone

Reg.no **1977** (Museum Cairo, JE 91647), small statue of a baboon. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6, 1.50 m/N and 2.20 m/W, 0.3 m below the preserved top of the wall of relative phase f = G/3 (H = ca 4.10 m/NN) (Fig. 2.13). The position of this object was within room **L [117]**.
Records: drawing ZN 7/69.
The lower part of the legs was damaged. Only the most important features of the baboon were carved. Between the fore- and hind legs the stone was left untouched. The surface was very well smoothed and traces of red paint were also preserved. There is a possibility that this object came out of a slightly later tomb in this area. Should this be true, it means that the fill of the room was mixed with the fill of one of the tombs of Phase G/F.[118]
Material: limestone. Measurements: height = 4.0 cm; width = 4.1 cm; diameter of head 1.55 cm.

L [118] Larger southern room

Stone

Reg.no **1871** (Museum Cairo, JE 91636), rectangular palette.[119] Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 5, 3.90 m/E and 1.0 m/N, elevation 1.45–1.50 m below top elevation, measured down from the northern section (H = ca

[115] M. Bietak, Section analysis.
[116] M. Bietak, TD V, 78–80, plan 4.
[117] M. Bietak, TD V, 29.
[118] Cf. above, 38–40.
[119] I. Hein, Catalogue entry, in: I. Hein (ed.), *Pharaonen und Fremde – Dynastien im Dunkel*, Ausstellungskatalog, Museen der Stadt Wien 1994, 170.

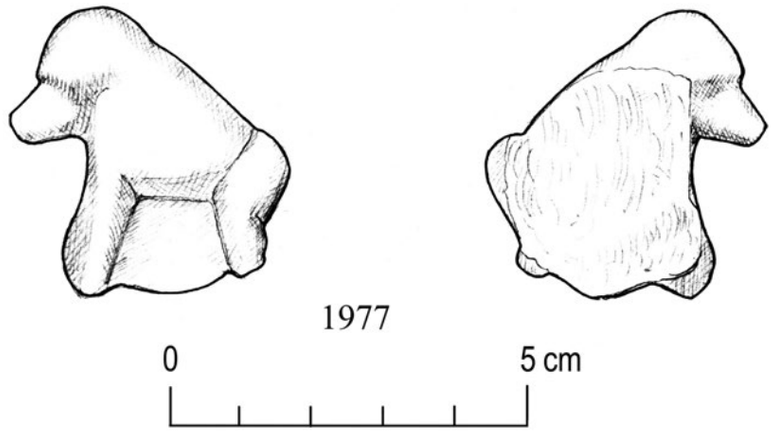


Fig. 2.13 Limestone statuette of baboon, reg.no 1977

4.50 m/NN). The position lies somewhere between Phase G/3–1 and F, and is possibly contemporary with tombs A/II-k/12-1 to 3.[120]
Records: B/W negatives SW1143/13–14; SW1184/44; SW1149/2–2A; 3–3A; drawing ZN 195/68.
Palette made from greenish stone[121] with rectangular depression in the centre. One corner damaged. Measurements: length = 9.9 cm; width = 6.2 cm; height = 2.5 cm (Fig. 2.14–2.15).

Pottery

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute (Fig. 2.16–2.17)

K34. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. Ca 3.80 m/E and 0.95 m/N, refuse pit below the round installation. The pit is not very visible in pl. 6, but the silo is approximately in that position.

The ceramic finds were described as follows:[122]

A.) Nile B1/2 pottery
A.a) Hemispherical cups
The original recording mentions many fragments of round based Nile B1/2 hemispherical cups (a base is shown in the photograph Fig. 2.17.a). Some of them were perhaps red slipped.

A.b) Carinated cups (?)
The base of a cup, possibly carinated, which seems to have been pinched in form by the potter's fingers, is marked with c).
A.c) Ringstands
The base fragment of a ringstand is marked d) in Fig. 2.17.

B.) Nile C pottery
B.a) Footed bowls
The middle part of a footed bowl was also found, although it was not recorded on the konvolute card. It is marked with e) in the photo, shown upside down.

C.) Nile E pottery
The rim fragment of a Nile E cooking pot with a rather flattened folded rim also belongs to the assemblage. The contour is almost without a proper shoulder. The fragment is marked with f) in the photo.

D.) Marl C
D.a) Ovoid jars with corrugated/grooved neck
A typical rim fragment of the Marl C(1) type is marked with g). The fragment corresponds to the usual typological traits of this vessel type.[123]

[120] In the northern section, the position is slightly higher than the walls of heavily sand tempered mud bricks marking Phase G/3–1. It seems to be derived from the horizon that overlies the top of the wall dated to G/3 (section no A3–58 in the northern section, inked) exactly on top of layer section no A3–54 that divides the levels of the relative phases e and f. Thus the object and the tombs are more likely to belong to a late phase of G or to F.

[121] It is possible that siltstone was used for this object as similar objects from other parts of the settlement that could be re-studied. Cf. B. Bader, Stone Objects from the late Middle Kingdom Settlement at Tell el-Dab^{c}a, in: W. Grajetzki and G. Miniaci (eds), *The World of Middle Kingdom Egypt (2000–1500 BC)*, Contribution on Archaeology, Art, Religion and Written Sources, Golden House Publications, London 2015, passim.

[122] They were not available for re-study.

[123] B. Bader, TD XIII, 129–146.

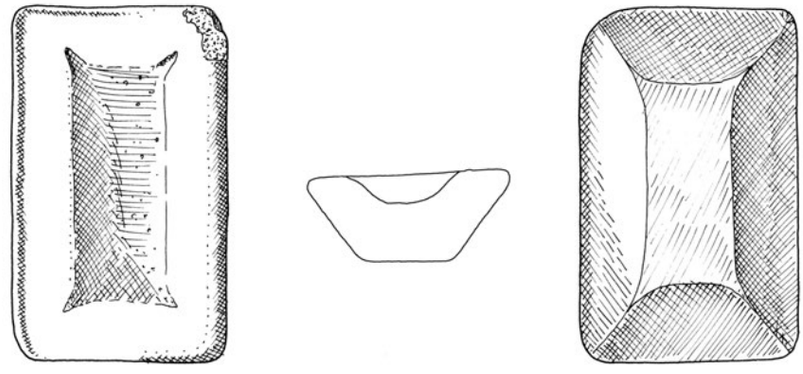


Fig. 2.14 Greenish schist or silt stone palette, reg.no 1871, scale 1:2



Fig. 2.15 Greenish schist or siltstone palette, reg.no 1871, negative no SW1149/3–3A

E.) Middle Bronze Age pottery made from local or imported fabrics

E.a) Fine wares: jugs and juglets

It remains unclear whether several fragments of jugs and juglets of Middle Bronze Age tradition were made from a local Nile D fabric or indeed imported, as it is not mentioned in the first recording. Only a re-study would clarify this issue. Among those fragments is a double stranded handle fragment marked with i). It was equipped with a brown slip and burnished. The rim with a handle scar (h) seems to have had an undercut rim (red burnished, perhaps to an almost metallic sheen), whilst the body fragment of the jug from the konvolute card is probably the one marked b). The recording card mentions a reddish brown burnishing with a metallic sheen.

F.) Imported fabrics

F.a) Large transport amphorae

That the transport amphorae fragments were made of non-Egyptian fabrics is almost certain. The rim fragment j) may perhaps belong to the IV-1 family because similar rim shapes have been recorded in this fabric.[124] Three more amphora handle fragments were also recorded (Fig. 2.17.k–m).

[124] D. Aston, Ceramic Imports at Tell el-Dabᶜa during the Middle Bronze IIA, in: M. Bietak (ed.), *The Middle Bronze Age in the Levant, Proceedings of an International Conference on MBIIA Ceramic Material*, Vienna 24th to 26th of January 2001, Vienna 2002, fig. 5.5., fig. 6.6; B. Bader, TD XIX, fig. 279, type 198h; K. Kopetzky, TD XX/2, fig. 19, Amphoren type IV-1, e.g. K3321-138, K3321-139; fig. 85, Amphoren type IV-1, K3076-46.

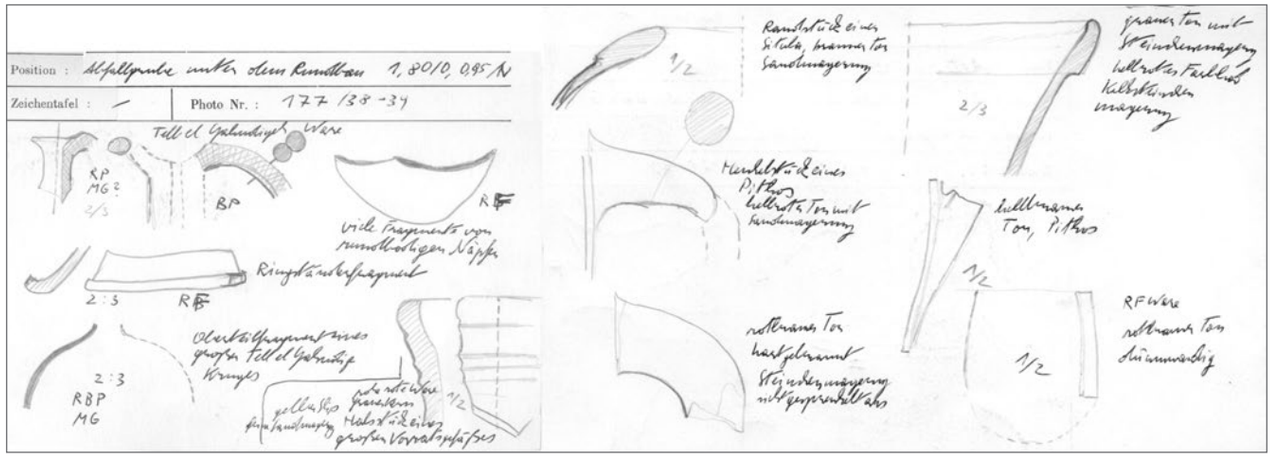


Fig. 2.16 Original konvolute card of K34, scale approx. 1:2

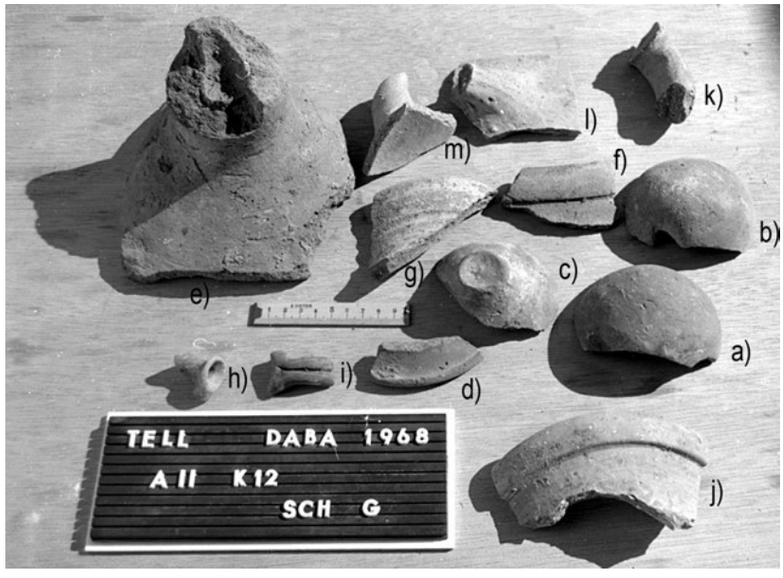


Fig. 2.17 Archive photo of K34, B/W negative SW1177/38–39

Because at this early time of the excavation the Estimated Vessel Equivalents (*Eves*) were not recorded and the material could not be restudied, it was not possible to conduct a quantification of the pottery for this locus.

Animal bones[125]

Sample, **no number**. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. In a rectangular ash pit in eastern half of the room: 1.5 m/N; 3.35 m/E, 2.30 m/D[epth], relative phase f = G.

Cattle: scapula.
Sheep/goat: part of tibia.[126]

Sample, **no number**.[127] Position: A/II-k/12, [most probably pl. 7[128]]. Level G–H, 2.00 m/E; 1.80 m/N, 'unterste Bauschicht H'.
Cattle: fragment of calcaneus.
Sheep: talus.
Sheep/goat: fragment of lower jaw, m[olar]1 in eruption; fragment of rib.
Pig: fragment of rib.

[125] The analysis of the animal bones from the early years of excavation were published by J. Boessneck, TD III.
[126] Tibiaschaftstück, J. Boessneck, TD III, 9
[127] J. Boessneck, TD III, 9.
[128] In pl. 6 this position would exactly hit the dividing wall **[M4]**.

Distribution of animal bones in **L [118]**.

cattle	sheep	sheep/goat	pig
2	1	3	1

L [118a] Round silo

It is unlikely that the pottery found in the silo represents the actual phase of use. More likely it is settlement refuse that was dumped inside arbitrarily after its use life ended. One of the field photos (colour slide TD1053) shows the burnt base of a round based vessel within the silo (Fig. 2.18). The burnt areas were exclusively located around the preserved 'rim' of the broken base suggesting a specialised use perhaps even in conjunction with the stone moulds, see Fig. 2.8, Fig. 2.26–27.



Fig. 2.18 Colour slide of silo L [118a] with vessel base (see the arrow), TD1053

Pottery

Relevant sherd collections/konvolutes

K2294. Position: A/II-k/12, [pl. 6]. From small round silo, ca 4.55 m/E and 2.0 m/N, relative phase f.

A.) Nile B1 pottery

A.a) Hemispherical cups/beakers

The fragments assigned to this type were not available for re-recording, thus, it remains unclear whether they belong to Nile B1 or B2 fabric groups. The rim fragment was first recorded as a closed vessel more beaker-shaped than open.[129] Because the other drawings on that konvolute card were sketches rather than real drawings and not very accurate, this drawing has to be regarded with considerable circumspection. This is also the reason why it is not shown here.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	DM	DM-%	Remarks
2294	79279	I.b.0.01	R	1	1		90	9	Not available

A.b) Ringstands

The ringstand of Nile B1 is one of the few with a complete profile preserved from the late Middle Kingdom settlement at Tell el-Dab^{c}a (Fig. 2.19.a). The manufacturing technology follows the typical pattern for this kind of pottery: with a folded lip on top and on the bottom, and the roughly scraped interior of the base. The scraping extended over a certain area that was limited to the lower fifth of the height of the stand and only below a visible ridge probably created by means of a wooden tool before the interior of the base was scraped. The lower lip at the base was trimmed to at least two edges with a tool. The work was done with a certain carelessness that resulted in the asymmetry of these edges. A red slip on the exterior and over the rim into the interior of the support had been applied. The height of the stand is 5.3 cm.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	DM	DM-%
2294	79284	I.b.1.32	R	1	10	30	75	60

[129] For the type cf. B. Bader, TD XIX, 200–215 and for the number codes of the surface treatments cf. Appendix 1 in TD XIX. For explanation of abbreviations see respective list.

A.c) Miniature or Model vessels (?)

The base of a miniature and possible model vessel has a diameter of 3.5 cm and was cut with a tool (Fig. 2.19.c). The fabric was Nile B1 which is quite unusual for such pottery. Due to its fragmentary state it is not clear to which type it belongs, but it is possible that either a footed bowl or a *nmst*[130] vessel shape in miniature was present. Parallels of such vessels can be found at many sites with tombs as well as temple contexts.[131]

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPB	DM	DM-%
2294	79287	I.b.1.01	B	1	5	35	100

B.) Nile B2 pottery

B.a) Ringstands

This ringstand from the slightly rougher Nile B2 fabric shows a greater height than that mentioned above: 7.6 cm (Fig. 2.19.b). The manufacturing process is the same in principle only that the area of the internal scraping of the base is a little more than a fifth of the overall height. The folded lips at the top and bottom are also very similar to the finer example and the edged execution of the lower lip is also very similar. The red slip also very similar to the other example and ends in about a half of the height of the lower lip, just as in the other example as well. Painting with a brush (or cloth?) is evident because it fits the pattern of the slip better than lowering the stand into a bucket full of liquid paint, where the interior would have to be red as well.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	DM	DM-%
2294	79283	I.b.2.32	R	1	10	30	80	23

C.) Nile C2 pottery

C.a) Large stands

The rim with folded lip made of Nile C2 (Fig. 2.19.d) may have belonged to a stand but this is by no means certain. The fabric contains more quartz particles than usual. With a diameter of 20.0 cm the fragment had remained uncoated. It was turned on a turning device/slow wheel.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPR	DM	DM-%	Remarks
2294	79282	I.c.2.01	R	10	200	6	Sandy fabric

D.) Marl C1 pottery

D.a) Spouted form

The body fragment with a spout also came from the silo refuse (Fig. 2.19.e). Beyond the fact that the fragment will have belonged to a restricted form rather than an open one, at this point not much more can be said. The shaping process consisting of a combination of hand modelling, especially for the spout, and presumably turning the rim on a device as can be seen in many parallels of vessels with spout.[132] It is possible that the rim was of the keyhole shape.[133]

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP
2294	79288	II.c.2.01	S	1/2

[130] S. Tawfik, Aton Studies 5: Cult Objects on Blocks from the Aton Temple(s) at Thebes, *MDAIK* 35 (1975), 335–344.

[131] For example in the MK tomb shafts of the Mortuary Temple of Thutmosis III or in the tombs of officials of the late 12th Dynasty at Dahshur. Cf. B. Bader and M. Seco, Results of Five Years of Pottery Analysis in the Temple of Millions of Years of Thutmosis III, *Ä&L* 26 (2016), fig. 20.i, 25.c, 30.h; S.J. Allen, Pottery from the Pyramid complex of Senwosret III and Middle Kingdom Mastabas at Dahshur 2003–2010 (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York), *BCE* 24 (2014), 85–92.

[132] B. Bader, TD XIII, e.g. fig. 41.k.

[133] B. Bader, TD XIX, fig. 144, type 8.

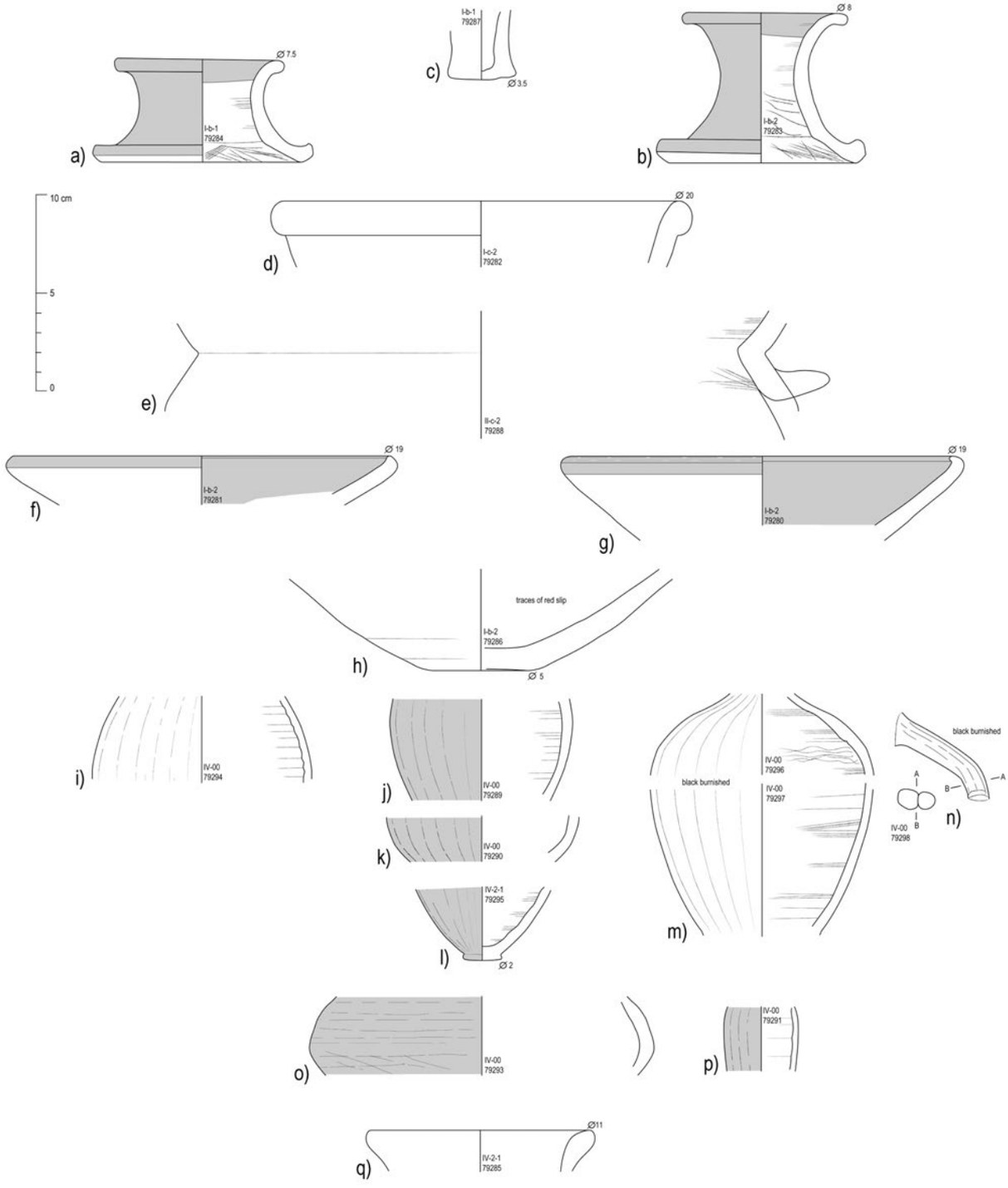


Fig. 2.19 Pottery from K2294 – L [118a]

E.) Middle Bronze Age pottery made from local fabrics

E.a) Dishes with inturned rim

The base and the two rim fragments of dishes with inturned lip may well have belonged to the same vessel, considering the frequent asymmetry around a vessel manufactured in antiquity (Fig. 2.19.f–h). The fabric of these dishes belongs to the rougher mixture of Nile B2 with some short and thin straw fragments, conventionally termed I-c-1[134] at Tell el-Dabᶜa. The rim fragment 79280 was red slipped on the interior and on the exterior of the rim, which was also trimmed with a tool. The rims of both rim fragments were horizontally burnished but not on the interior. The base fragment would fit well for a reconstruction towards a full profile and it had also been supplied with a red slip on the interior. It was cut with a tool.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	DM	DM-%	Remarks
2294	79280	I.c.1.36.04	R	1	10		190	6	Rim trimmed with a tool
2294	79281	I.c.1.36.04	R	1	10		190	7	
2294	79286	I.c.1.07	B	1		5	50	30	

F.) Imported pottery

F.a) Fine wares: jugs and juglets

A considerable number of imported juglet fragments of various types found their way into the silo deposit (Fig. 2.19.1–p). The juglets were either, uncoated and burnished (79294), red slipped and burnished (e.g. 79289) or burnished and fired in a reducing atmosphere (e.g. 79297). Especially in the latter cases the exact definition of the fabric subgroup proved difficult due to the black section. That they were imports, however, is clear. Most of the body fragments of the juglets suggest rather small vessels with a piriform body shape, except for fragments 79293 and 79292 (only the former is shown, because they are virtually identical but did not join). These fragments might have belonged to a bi-conical jug(let) with less pronounced carination than for example reg.no 2528 from **L [304]**.[135] The burnishing of the piriform fragments was uniformly vertical no matter whether they were uncoated, red slipped first or black (from reducing atmosphere in the kiln). A remarkable difference can be found with the bi-conical fragments that were burnished horizontally above the carination and without much care below it. Fragment 79291 most probably belonged to the neck of a dipper juglet, which are most often burnished vertically.[136]

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPB	SPC	DM	DM-%	Type	Remarks
2294	79294	IV.00.01.22	X	1		12			110	
2294	79289	IV.00.06.22	X	1					110	
2294	79290	IV.00.06.22	X	1					110	
2294	79295	IV.2.1.06.22	B	1	1	12	20	100	110	
2294	79297	IV.2.0.18.22	X	1		12			110	Same vessel as 79296+79298; Fabric subgroup unclear
2294	79296	IV.2.0.18.22	X	1		12			110	Same vessel as 79397; Fabric subgroup unclear
2294	79298	IV.2.0.18.22	HT	1		11	19	100	110	Same vessel as 79296 + 79297; 2 Rst; Fabric subgroup unclear
2294	79292	IV.2.06.26	X	1					140	Same vessel as 79293
2294	79293	IV.2.06.26	X	1					140	Same vessel as 79292
2294	79291	IV.00.06.22	X	1					150	

[134] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, Anhang, 325.

[135] See B. Bader, Quantification as a Means of Functional Analysis, Fig. 8.i.

[136] Cf. D. Aston, TD XII/2, pl. 147–148.

F.b) Large transport amphorae
Only one rim fragment of a large transport amphora belongs to the ceramic material of this context (Fig. 2.19.q). The rim was turned outwards in order to form a slightly thicker lip, which was thinned at the end. The fabric group belongs to the IV-2 family.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPR	DM	DM-%
2294	79285	IV.2.1.01	R	10	110	15

No information on the number of discarded sherds was recorded in this instance.

L [118aa] Fill of silo

Pottery

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute
K3773. Position: A/II-k/12, [pl. 6?]. From small round silo, ca 4.55 m/E and 2.0 m/N.

The material from this konvolute appears extremely mixed suggesting that this was the topmost layer found in the silo on top of K2294. It remains unclear, if and why the konvolute was only recorded decades later and if it had been sorted before recording with the other konvolute from the silo K2294.[137]

Only two rims of imported juglets that may reasonably belong to the period treated here are shown (Fig. 2.20). The remainder of the material included is contaminated with later material up to the Late Period.[138] Some Cypriot material (White Painted V and others) must also be considered out of context.[139]

A.) Imported pottery
A.a) Fine ware: jugs and juglets
The bell-shaped rim (Fig. 2.20.a) consists of a clay type probably belonging to fabric family IV-1. It was difficult to ascertain because the rim was either fired in a reducing atmosphere or was severely burnt (secondarily) later. The handle scar indicated a double stranded handle. The little traces of burnishing indicated a vertical direction.

The second juglet rim shown here (Fig. 2.20.b) was brown slipped with vertical burnishing, in some places coloured black. This may be an indication that a reducing atmosphere was intended in the production process. Rather unusually a triple stranded handle was indicated by the handle scar, where the three strands were ordered beside each other.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPR	DM	DM-%	Type	Remarks
3773	79340	IV.1.01.22	R	1	13	100	110	2 Rst
3773	79341	IV.00.D5.22	R	10	37	80	110	3 Rst

L [118] Fill of room

Pottery

Reg.no **4111** (Museum Cairo), hemispherical cup. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 5, 4.20 m/W and 1.40 m/N from a depth of 1.30–1.40 m/D down the northern baulk (H = ca 4.70 m/NN), relative phase e = F (Fig. 2.21). Records: B/W negative SW1991/2, drawing ZN 171/82.

TG	I-b	f.	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 8.6–9.2; max.d. = 9.9–10.3; wd. 0.5–1.0; H1 = 9.7; VI 104.
Natural surface colour: 5 YR 5.5/4 reddish brown. Section: reddish brown to light red. Inclusions: very fine quartz, mica and fine vegetal matter. Smoothed by hand- and on the wheel. [According to the digging diary (A/II-k/12-pl. 6) this find belongs to Stratum F, in the photo this find was left on a mud ‘pedestal’.]

[137] Note that at least the two ringstands were mentioned in the original digging diary. Cf. above 39.

[138] Confirmed by D.A. Aston, personal communication 27 July 2015.

[139] Reg.nos 7350H, K, J. Cf. L.C. Maguire, TD XXI, 115, 138.



Fig. 2.20 Selected sherds from K3773

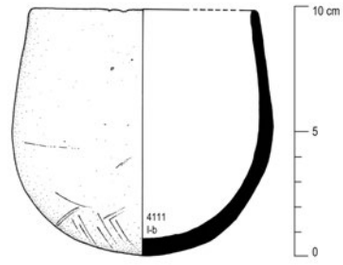


Fig. 2.21 Reg.no 4111, hemispherical cup from Phase F (?), scale 1:3

L [119] Open space to the west of room

Tools made from animal bones

Reg.no **1702 a, b** (KhM, A 1359; 1360), two bone tools (probably awls).[140] Position: A/II-k/11, pl. 6, 1.20 m/E; 1.50 m/S, relative height: 1.95 m/D[epth] (measured from preserved top of Mortuary Temple I) H = ca 4.00 m/NN (Fig. 2.22–2.23).
Records: B/W negative SW1131/32–33.
Awl a) max. length: 7.05 +x; max. width = 1.5; 4.0 grams.
Awl b) max. length: 6.65; max. width = 1.2; 2.3 grams.

The tips of these bones were both broken off. They were not identified by J. Boessneck,[141] but G.K. Kunst kindly identified them from a photo as fin rays (dermotrichia) perhaps of cat fish.[142]

These finds probably also belong to the earlier phase of G/3 rather than G/2–1. Although these particular fin rays did not show traces of any use, it is possible that the triangular tip of these fin rays could have been used for incising single points into the clay in the leather hard state without too much difficulty. Inspecting the large Tell el-Yahudieh jug reg.no 1734 closely in the Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna,[143] it shows that quite a few of the points were incised singly and are quite triangular in shape. It is perhaps conceivable to think that tools like these were used to produce such decoration, see below 124–126.

Another possible use has been suggested at Amarna, where the same type of lateral spines were identified as possible weaving tools although they did not show any signs of working.[144]

Molluscs

Sample, **no number**. Snail. Position: A/II-k/11, 6.50 m/E, 4.20 m/S; relative phase f = G. [Outside of Compound 10].

[140] Currently on display in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Room VI, show case I.
[141] Cf. J. Boessneck, TD III, passim; J. Boessneck and A. von den Driesch, TD VII.
[142] G.K. Kunst, personal communication 18 January 2017.
[143] Currently on display in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Room VI, show case II, see below 124–126.
[144] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *The Ancient Textile Industry at Amarna*, The Egypt Exploration Society, 68th Excavation Memoir, London 2001, 184, fig. 6.14, no 2499.

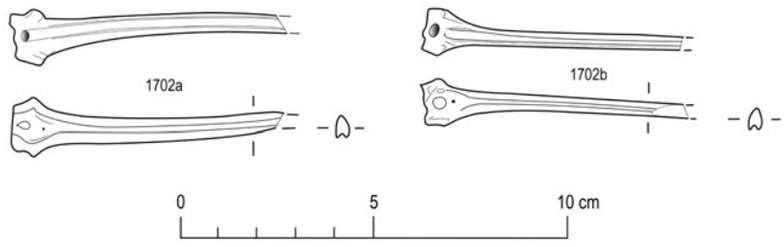


Fig. 2.22 Bone awls, reg.nos 1702 a and b



Fig. 2.23 Bone awls, reg.nos 1702 a and b, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

L [119] Fill of open space?

It is unlikely that the following vessel belongs to the settlement layers of the late Middle Kingdom. Nevertheless, because it was listed under this planum and a new recording was made, it will be presented here as well.[145]

Pottery

Reg.no **1608** (KhM, A 3100), Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, top part. Position: A/II-k/11, pl. 4–5, 2.5 m/N, 1.8 m/E, no relative elevation given (Fig. 2.24–2.25). Records: redrawn and re-recorded in the KhM.

S/BP	I-d	f. – m.	W1	–	re	2–3	1BH

Rd. = 2.2; nd. = 1.4; max.d. = 7.0; H1 = 9.7 + x.
Surface Colour: Black polished 10 YR 3/1 very dark gray; Decoration consists of a ca 1.7 cm wide horizontally burnished band, just under the max.d and three standing triangles filled with dots on top of the band and three hanging ones, below the band. The dots were relatively large, incised with a comb with five teeth. In some of the dots the white filling is still preserved. The juglet shows brown patches in some places showing that the atmosphere of the kiln was not perfectly reducing. The strap handle was attached to the outside of the body of the juglet (not stuck through the wall as observed in Cypriote juglets).

This juglet belongs to a type that is attested later in other parts of the excavation of Tell el-Dab^{c}a[146] and therefore most probably belongs to the fill of the locus or to a higher level.

L [120] Open space to the south of building

Stone

The find of moulds in the south eastern part of the square (in front of the house) and in k/11, pl. 5, (see Fig. 2.8) adds evidence that this area may have been used for some smelting activities although no proper industrial installation was found in the vicinity. It remains unclear whether the hearth inside the house would have produced enough heat for smelting activities.

Reg.no **4588**, mould.[147] Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. Outside the building, close to the south east corner (Fig. 2.26–2.27).
Records: B/W negative SW2103 1–2, drawing ZN 154/84.
Side A: two moulds, both incomplete, greyish discoloured; c) elongated object, length = 9.0 cm, width = 1.0 cm; d) elongated tool/weapon with tang, partly preserved, length = 7.0 cm, length of tang = 2.0 cm. Depth of moulds = 0.64 cm. Side B: two incomplete moulds of tools were preserved: a) an incomplete tanged blade (length = 5.0 cm; width = 3.2 cm), b) an elongated object with rounded end (length = 14.5 cm, width = 1.0–1.5 cm); greyish discolouration 10YR 7/1–6/1. Material: limestone; measurements: length = 19.3, width = 14.3, height = 6.4.

Pottery

Reg.no **1978a**, various objects. Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6, 1.30 m/E; 1.9 m/N, 2.00 m/D (H = ca 4.20 m/NN[148]), relative phase f = G. With this register number several objects have been recorded:[149]
- the base part of a black burnished (?) juglet with a small convex base,
- the strand handle of a juglet (with round section), red burnished
- one bone tool (awl),
- one chipped stone tool from silex and
- a grinder of hematite.

The find spot is just outside room **L [118],** in the corner between the baulk and the building. If there is no disturbance there, and there is no indication of it, this material should date to Phase G/3–1.

[145] D. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 460, cat.no 417, dated to E/3–2 by parallels.
[146] D. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 460, cat.no 417, pl. 75.417, dated to Phase E/3–2.
[147] G. Philip, TD XV, 181, fig. 70.2.
[148] This find spot is situated in section no A82-22 of the eastern section of A/II-k/12, which are finely stratified layers.
[149] Free hand sketches exist in the card file (Positionskartei) kept in 1966 to 1969.



Fig. 2.24 Reg.no 1608, Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, intrusive, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

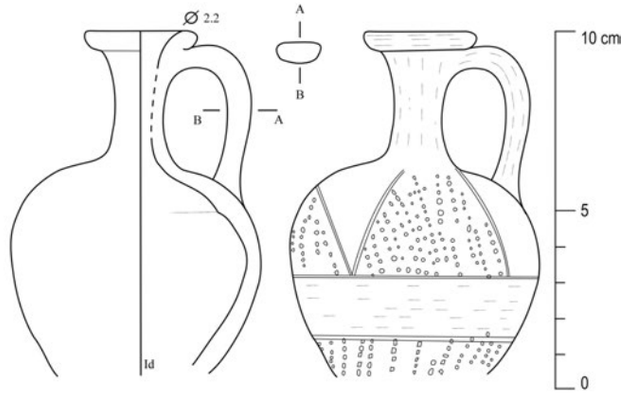


Fig. 2.25 Reg.no 1608, Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, S/BPI, scale 1:2

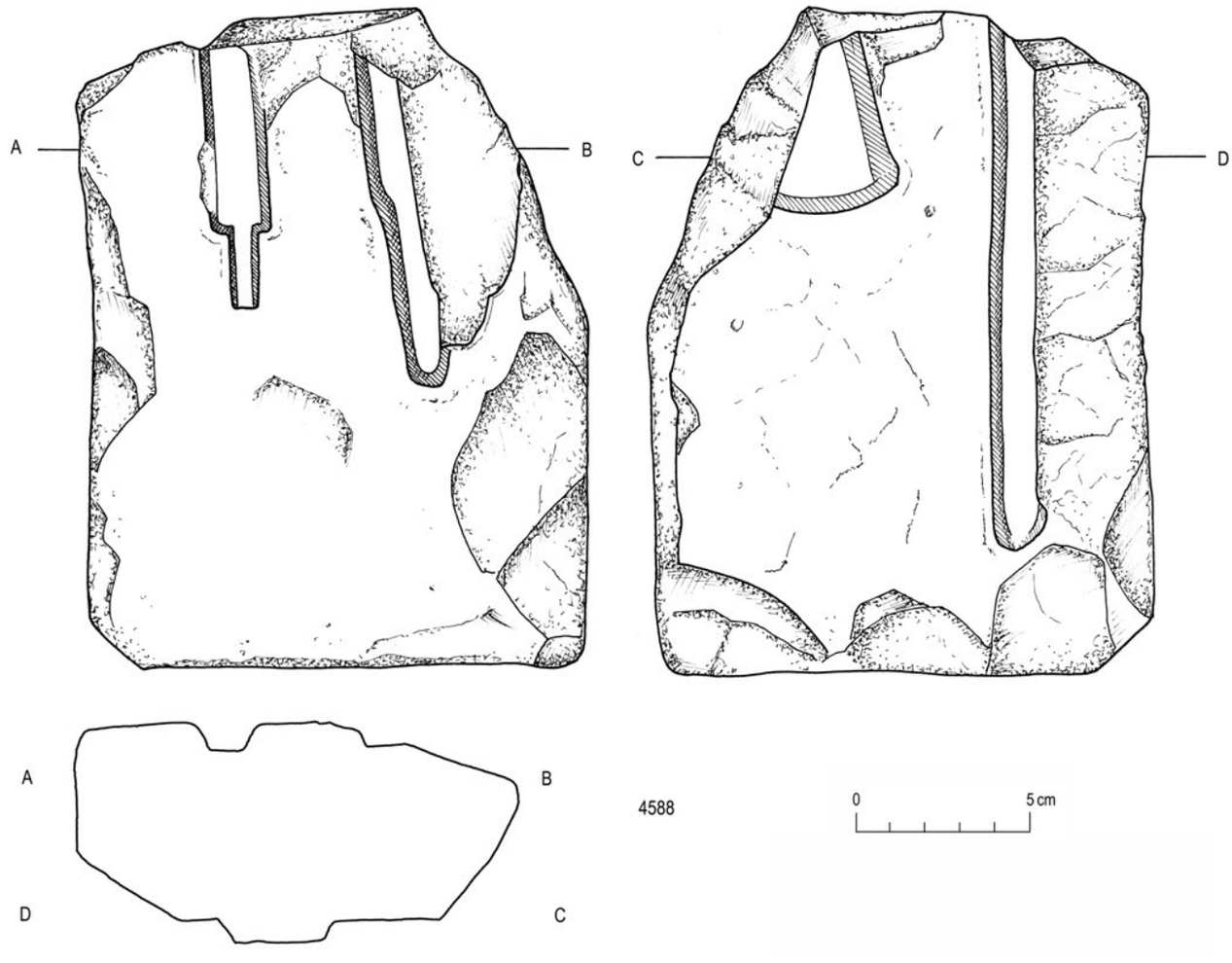


Fig. 2.26 Limestone mould, reg.no 4588, scale 1:2

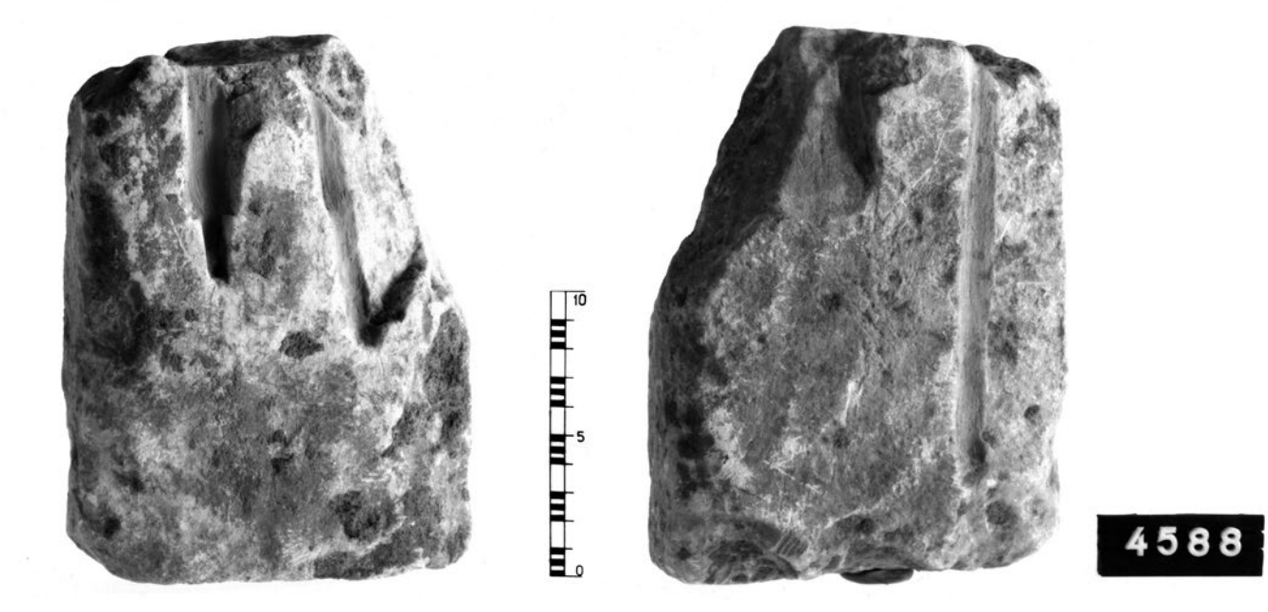


Fig. 2.27 Photo of limestone mould, SW2103 1–2



Fig. 2.28 Reg.no 1118, neck of red burnished juglet. Note the regular edge of the break at the bottom of neck, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

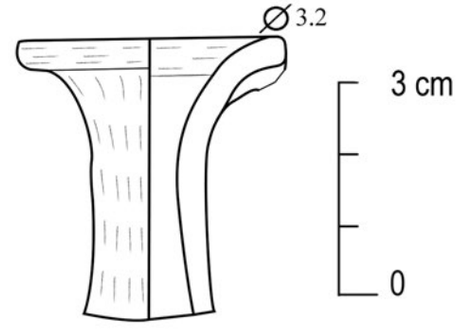


Fig. 2.29 Reg.no 1118, red burnished juglet neck, scale 1:1

Animal bones

Sample, **no number**.[150] Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6, 0.80 m/E, 2.40 m/S, 1.80 m/D[epth]; from within a vessel, relative phase f = G.[151]
Cattle: half of vert. lumb., epiphyseal cartilage open; metacarpus: fragment of distal end, epiphyseal cartilage open.
Sheep: fragment of ulna and radius without distal region.
Pig: vert. lumb., epiphyseal cartilage open; fragment of calcaneus, epiphyseal cartilage open.

Distribution of animal bones in **L [120]**

cattle	sheep	pig
2	2	2

Finds from square A/II-k/11 (probable fill of the southern room of Compound 10a)[152]

Pottery

Reg.no **1118** (KhM, A 2771), neck of juglet. Position: A/II-k/11, pl. 5[sic], 1.20 m/S and 4.50 m/E, no relative elevation given (Fig. 2.28–2.29).
Records: B/W negative SW1119/9; Redrawn and re-recorded.

RP	IV-1?	s.f.	W1	–	ox	3–4

Rd. = 1.5 (100% preserved); H1 = 3.9 +x;
Surface colour: red burnished 10 R 5/6 red, red surface (slip?) 10 R 6/8 light red.
The jug shows an everted rim, the handle started directly at the rim, but was broken off. No traces of the handle are left it was totally ground away. Also the bottom of the neck shows a well ground edge. Thus, the secondary use of this neck, for example as a funnel, is very possible.

[150] J. Boessneck, TD III, 9.
[151] This pithos was not recorded in the plan drawing, it must have been within the 'Arbeitertreppe' judging by its position.
[152] Cf. also chapter 5, 163–164.

Chapter 3: Compound 11 (= Bezirk I) – A/II-l/10–11; A/II-m/10–11

Compound 11 is the largest building in the whole of area A/II in Phase G/2–1 hitherto excavated and it clearly dominates the north western part of the settlement, which may also be status related.[153] The assemblage of rooms and courtyards is termed 'Bezirk I' by M. Bietak's initial publication.[154] It is also possible that the complex consists of two house units built back to back.[155]

Parts of this building, which consists of 6 to 7 rooms at a minimum (the northern part was destroyed by the New Kingdom well and remained unexcavated), were found in squares A/II-l/10, A/II-l/11, A/II-m/10, A/II-m/11 and the southernmost corner in square A/II-n/11. It seems that the building was surrounded by a wall **[M7a]** and **[M7b]** (see Fig. 4.1) forming a rectangular courtyard to the east of it. This part of the compound stretched over squares A/II-l/11, A/II-l/12 and A/II-m/12 (see below, 129–139). In his latest treatment of this settlement Bietak[156] agrees with von Pilgrim's reconstruction of Compound 11 as a 'Hofhaus'[157] with a courtyard (**L [107]**) but with three surrounding room units. Unfortunately it remains unproven if space **L [107]** had a roof or not. In the relevant section (A11) it can be seen that the rubble of this house had been removed by the later building stages. Thus, it cannot be ascertained if there was roof collapse or not. Also the reconstruction as a courtyard house does not take into account the other spaces to the north of the core unit **L [105 a]** and **L [105 b]**. Further, the superposition of the walls of Temple I prevents our knowing whether a possible column base was situated in this area. One argument in favour of the courtyard reconstruction is the width of **L [107]** of about 4.30 m, which can possibly just be bridged by tree trunks (e.g. halved palm trunks). Von Pilgrim calculated a likely maximum width of rooms that can be easily covered by means of wooden beams of around 4.0 m at a width of the walls of 0.5 m.[158] Interestingly, in the other buildings with bi-partite lay-out[159] the wider room is only just under 4.0 m or even less wide.

The description of the archaeological remains will follow the sequence of the squares from north to south and west to east (Fig. 3.1).

Square A/II-l/10

Excavation and available records

Square A/II-l/10 was excavated in 1967 (plana 1–3),[160] 1968 (pl. 4)[161] and in the autumn of 1983 (pl. 5).[162] All sections were drawn in 1968. No exact dates were given for any of those plans. For Phase G/3–1 A/II-l/10, planum 4 is most relevant. Planum 5 only shows part of the eastern half of the square, previously beneath one of the very wide inner walls of the Later Mortuary Temple I.[163] The excavation went down to an elevation of about 4.82 m–4.65 m/NN. In general, walls were preserved up to an absolute height of about 5.00 m/NN. No excavation diary is preserved for pl. 4. The large number of different walls leads to a complicated lay-out of the square. They were originally numbered as they appeared.

The original absolute elevation of the tell was recorded in the plan drawing of planum 2:[164] in the

[153] M. Bietak, Houses, Palaces and Development of Social Structure in Avaris, 18.
[154] M. Bietak, TD V, 27–29.
[155] M. Bietak, personal communication 15 May 2017.
[156] M. Bietak, Houses, Palaces and Development of Social Structure in Avaris, 18. The possibility of an open courtyard is already suggested in M. Bietak, TD V, 28.
[157] C. v. Pilgrim, *Elephantine XVIII, Untersuchungen in der Stadt des Mittleren Reiches und der Zweiten Zwischenzeit*, AV 91, Mainz 1996, 200 and fig. 86.c.
[158] C. v. Pilgrim, *Elephantine XVIII*, 201–203.
[159] B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.
[160] TDplan nos 74, 75 and 76.
[161] TDplan no 77.
[162] TDplan no 1642.
[163] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 5, 107–116.
[164] TDplan no 75.

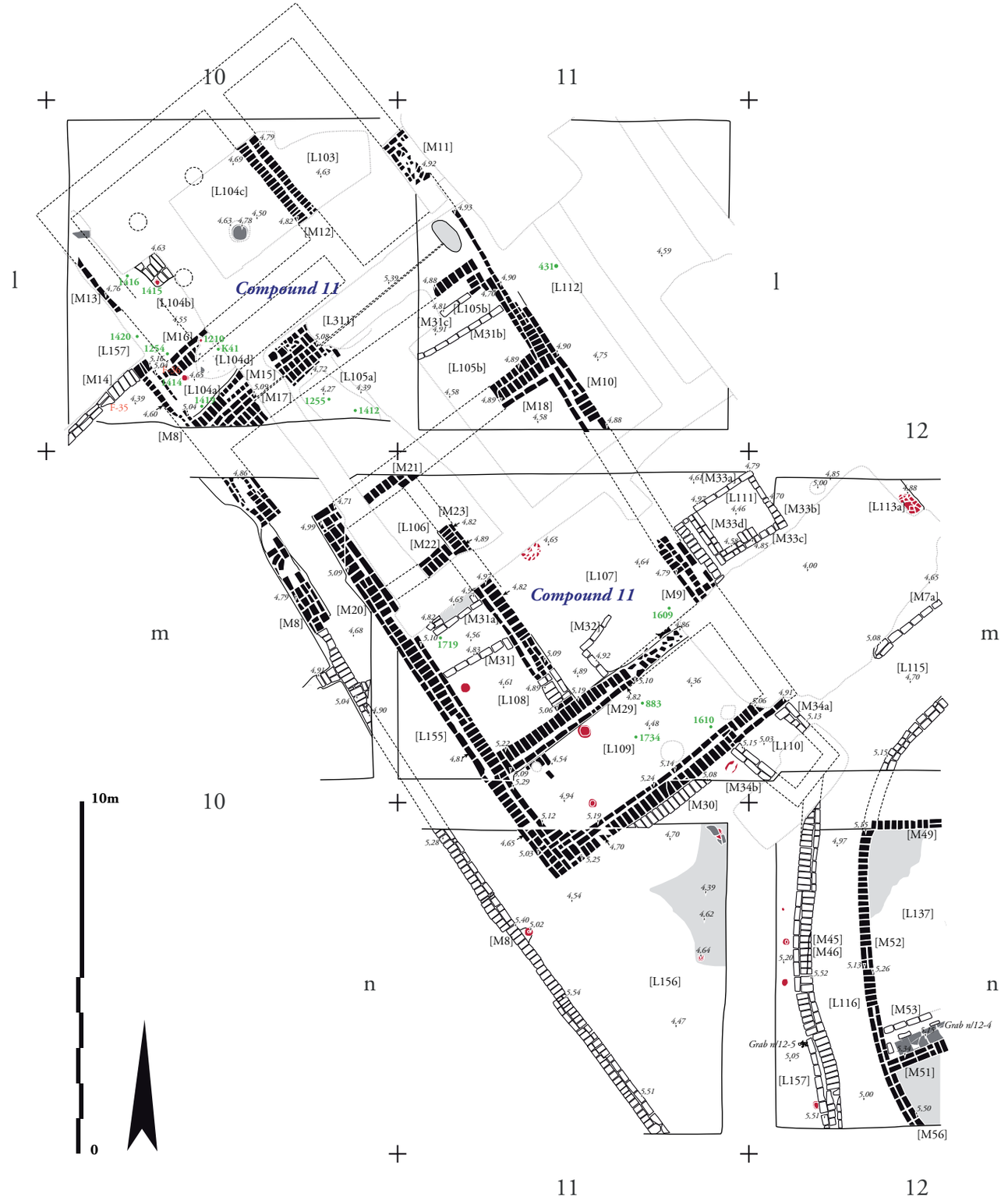


Fig. 3.1 Plan of the house after M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

north western corner the area showed a level of originally 9.40 m/NN decreasing towards the east down to 8.70 m/NN. The area further sloped down towards the south quite considerably from 9.40 m/NN to 5.87 m/NN in the south western corner and 6.35 m/NN in the south eastern corner of the square. This means that already at the beginning of the work a considerable difference in levels existed, which can be explained by the way a tell site grows in height over time or by post-depositional processes.

Beside the plan drawings of the five plana[165] field drawings and the section drawings of square A/II-l/10, one detailed section of an oven (plan no 1641) was recorded, as well as the sections of the northern, southern and western baulks.[166] In addition a digging diary was kept, a position card file, the register book listing the finds and the original konvolute cards, which record the ceramic sherd material from some of the areas excavated, as well as the find drawings of the more complete material. A considerable amount of the finds were brought to the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna through the find division still in operation at Foreign/Egyptian excavation missions in the 1960s until the early 1980s. Site photography comprises B/W negatives as well as some colour slides and find photos.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-l/10)

Unfortunately there are two massive later features disturbing the plan of Compound 11 (Fig. 3.2–3.4). Thus, the plan is not as clear as one would like it to be. The first disturbance is a deep and wide well in A/II-k/10, which totally destroyed the northernmost part or the northern unit and the lay-out of anything that would have been situated there. It is, thus, probable that the building continued with even more rooms/courtyards towards the north or that a separate building was added back to back.[167] The second feature hindering a better understanding of this building is Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1. This temple was not dismantled during the excavation according to the wishes of the then Egyptian Antiquities Service (EAO). Thus it remains unknown how the walls of Phase G/4–1 ran below those later, rather massive walls. It has to be noted, though, that the entrance of this temple must have been in the middle of the northern wall, because the temple follows symmetrical Egyptian plans and the three narrow chambers (sanctuary) are usually situated in the back of temples.[168]

The preserved expanse of Compound 11 is at least 23.0 m in a north – south direction while the main axis of the house is slightly tilted towards the west. The west – east extension is about 10 m. This would equal about 42 cubits in length and 20 cubits in width. The available floor space of 'rooms'/features **L [103–104]** cannot be given due to their incomplete preservation.

The nucleus of the house seems to be constituted by rooms or spaces **L** [**106**] to [**108**], which consists of the common "snail house" ground plan, with an additional room to the south of this arrangement, **L** [**109]**, and a subdivision of the western, narrower part **L[106]** and **L [108]**. On the west side, wall **[M8]** seems to provide an additional corridor, perhaps added later, leading to a possible extension or vestibule of this house, namely **L** [**105**] and then **L** [**104**] and [**103**]. To the south east of the house part of a low wall, built from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks with several building subphases, surrounds a 'courtyard'[169] or at least some sort of accompanied and delimited space that might have been used by the owners of Compound 11 **[M7a]** and **[M7b]** see Fig. 4.1. A difficulty in the interpretation of this compound is the position of possible doors that remain rather hard to pinpoint due to the later tomb pits cutting into the archaeological remains (mostly from Phase F).[170]

M. Bietak thinks it quite possible that the northern part of the building **L** [**103–105**] is perhaps a slightly later addition to the original nucleus **L [106–109]**.[171] This must remain unclear because from the original plan drawing it remains uncertain if the bricks of the wall **[M10/11]** protruding from the north eastern corner of the nucleus were laid in a bonded brick pattern and thus, at the same time or abutted afterwards in a join. The impression is, though, that there may have been a later join. Thus, another possibility is that a separate building extended to the north, perhaps beginning only with wall **[M16]**, creating a narrow storage space between walls **[M15]** and **[M16]**.[172] No parallels for such an arrangement have yet been found.

[165] TDplan nos 74–77, 1642.
[166] TDplan nos 79, 80 and 78.
[167] M. Bietak, personal communication 15 May 2017.
[168] M. Bietak, TD V, 108–116.
[169] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.
[170] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
[171] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.
[172] M. Bietak, personal communication 15 May 2017.



Fig. 3.2 Overview of squares A/II-m-l/10 and the excavation towards south-west. Most prominent feature is Mortuary Temple I in the right half of the photo, SW1096/40



Fig. 3.3 A/II-l/10, pl. 3–4 with later Temple I still standing, view towards north, SW1076/18

Additional evidence can be gathered from the size of the sand tempered mud-bricks used for the building: in the southern part they measure 37.0–39.0 by 18.0–20.0 cm, while in the northern part their size is 31.0–32.0 by 15.5 cm. Also the colours differ: in the southern part of the building the heavily sand tempered bricks are yellowish brownish whilst the northern ones are reddish yellow.[173]

The numbering system of the loci used in the first publication[174] will be kept in the following description, but a few more need to be introduced in order to further clarify the description of the building. They are

[173] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

[174] M. Bietak, TD V, 27–29, plan 2.



Fig. 3.4 A/II-l/10 with later temple still standing, pl. 3–4, SW1076/22

L [103] to **[115]** (see Fig. 3.1). The description of the levels with absolute elevations will start in the north.

The floor level seems to have been "paved" or rather compacted to a mud floor at an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN with variations of 4.69–4.55 m/NN in **L [104]** and 4.63 m/NN in **L [103]**. Such fluctuations in terms of relative evenness of the floors do not seem to be too unusual.

Locus **L [104]** (Fig. 3.5) consists of a 'room' or space that is limited towards the south by a wide wall of ashy sand tempered mud-bricks laid three courses high and with four brick's width **[M15]**. M. Bietak describes it as 1.40–1.50 m wide. The first course of bricks was laid out in a way that would place the bricks on long and narrow sides (stretchers) in a row-lock (= "Rollschar"). The preserved elevation of this bench is ca 5.08–5.09 m/NN.[175]

An archaeological sounding conducted in 1983 showed that the orientation of the bench deviated slightly from that of Phase G/3–4 below as well as from that of the later Mortuary Temple I (Phase E/2–1) above. Furthermore, the bench was not preserved in its entirety. The assignment to Phase G/2–1 rather than to Phase F was based mainly on the size of the bricks.[176] [More probably the thickness is meant than the west-east extension.] The base level of the foundation trench for the bench is at 4.75 m/NN and the base level of the wall is at 4.82 m/NN.[177] The floor level in the middle of **L [104a]** is at 4.65 m/NN, which means that the floor level is slightly sloping towards the north-west.[178] M. Bietak thinks it possible that at least part of the building was already ruined by the time the bench and the oven installation **L [311]** were built.[179] Analysis of the larger area showed that another horse-shoe shaped oven clearly belonged to Phase G/2–1 and therefore it is most likely that those two installations spatially set up closely together also belong to the same phase. Reconsideration of the archaeological records of oven **L [311]** led also to this conclusion (see below 85–101). Thus, what looks like a pit cutting into the bench and wall **[M17]** with the oven set into it, is in fact a later pit cutting the bench, the wall on top of the oven and the uppermost part of the oven installation. The oven was presumably already filled with rubble after having fallen into disuse, and was then covered by a later wall (of Temple I Phase E/2–1).

1.0 m further north in square A/II-l/10 parallel to the wall, that was situated west of oven **L [311]** (see detailed drawing and description below, Fig. 3.28)

[175] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.
[176] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 3–4 December 1983.
[177] According to plan drawing TD 1642.
[178] It seems rather a high level for a foundation trench of Phase G compared with the other areas situated further east, but of course this is the westernmost part of the settlement and it could very well be that the level increases towards the west.
[179] M. Bietak, TD V, 27. The re-dating of the oven was discussed 4 February 2016.

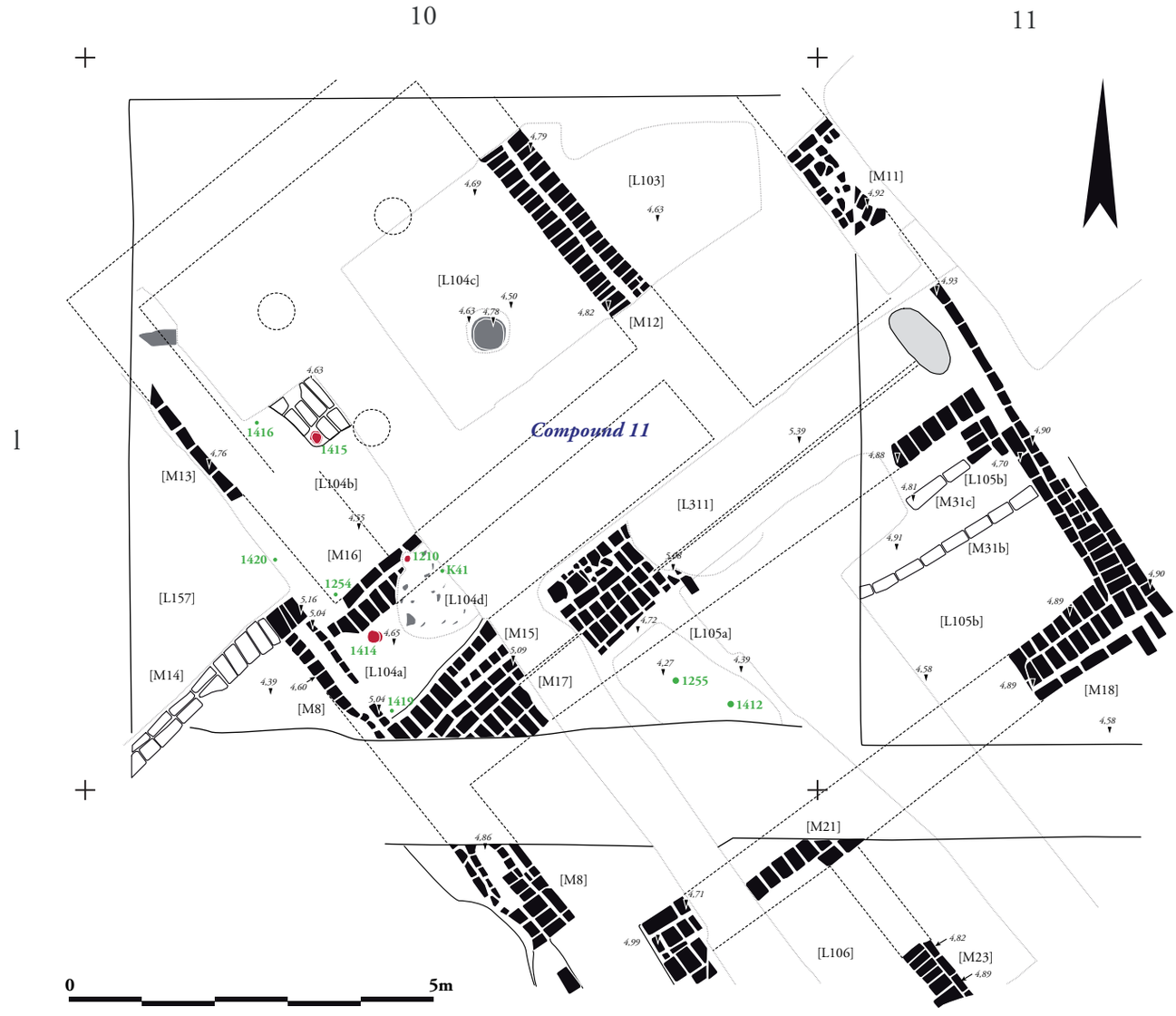


Fig. 3.5 Schematic plan of L [102, 104 and 105]. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution by N. Math

runs a thinner wall **[M16]** (1 1/2 brick's width = ca 0.6 m). It is unclear, if **[M16]** extended further to the ENE to join the easternmost wall of Compound 11. The renewed excavation of part of this area in 1983 seems to show that this wall did not continue, thus, it might have been some sort of minor dividing wall or bench. On top of wall **[M16]** in a little hole at a level of 4.74 m/NN a red burnished juglet (Fig. 3.5, reg.no 1210[180]) was found. If this wall was rather a bench than a wall or a disused wall from a prior sub-phase the juglet may be contemporary. On top of that juglet divided only by a thin layer of 1.0 or 2.0 cm sand a pierced stone (Fig. 3.8.a, 3.9.a, reg.no 1418[181]) was found. It shows a roughly triangular form with a square hole in the top third.

The pit **L [104d]** cut partly into this wall/[bench?] **[M16]**, so that it is possible that the finds from K39, including reg.no 1413 belong to this pit (see below, 75–76). The presence of a flat based cup and a direct plate rim hint to a later date of the material from this pit, even though some of the ceramic material fits a dating into Phase G as known from other loci.

[180] Now housed in the KhM, A 2810.

[181] Now housed in the KhM, A 1363.

In the space between the wide bench with the oven and the thinner wall/bench **[M16]** (**L [104a]**) two ceramic vessel fragments were found: reg.no 1414[182] the base of a larger jar, made from Nile C1–2, which is drawn into the plan; reg.no 1419[183] was found close to the bench and is a rim fragment of a round tray with incised decoration on top of the rim and small holes pierced into the base of it. The fabric is either that used for copying Syro-Palestinian shapes, Nile E, or a real import (see below 76).

North of the short wall/bench **[M16] L [104b]** is situated. It is hard to find evidence whether this space had a roof or not, the stone column base in **L [104c]** may hint at the fact that there was a roof over this space at least partly. In view of the presence of the oven in the wider bench down south this may be more logical. Interestingly, against expectations no large amounts of ash were reported around the oven.

Finds in this space consist of a hemispherical cup, reg.no 1415,[184] that was drawn into the plan; the base of a possible cup with straight base or jar, reg.no 1416[185] and a small dish with outer lip close to the short wall/bench **[M16]**, reg.no 1254.[186]

In space **L [104c]**, where the stone base of a column was found, no records describing this base survived but it may be assumed that it was made of limestone, which would be the most usual material for such features, in analogy to thresholds and pivot stones for doors. It was laid on a slight platform on top of the paved floor. The level of the floor is around 4.50 m/NN in the middle and 4.69 m/NN towards the edges. The top of the base was at 4.78 m NN and the lower edge was at 4.63 m/NN. The base has a diameter of 0.50 m almost equivalent of one cubit. There were no traces of what might have been employed on top of that base. A very likely scenario would be the use of a wooden column shaft. Within **L [104c]** four sherds of gutter rim cooking jars were found, reg.no 1257/a–d,[187] which represent different vessels. They were described as coming out of the room with the column base and above it. Thus, it cannot be ruled out, that these rim fragments belong to the fill of Phase F. It seems quite likely, because this pottery type occurs more frequently in Phase F than G/3–1.[188]



Fig. 3.6 Locus [104c], space with limestone column base view towards south-east, SW1078/8–9

In the settlement of Phase G/3–1 this column base is remarkable as it is the only one preserved. The identification of the B/W negative (Fig. 3.6) is perhaps not entirely unequivocal, because it is the first photo of the film and the others don't seem to relate to square A/II-l/10. Considering that a stone column base seems to have been employed nowhere else the identification of that column base in **L [104c]** with that in the photograph might hold. Considering that this is also the largest building in this settlement, such a suggestion seems reasonable.

No finds were registered from **L [103]**, that is a room/space divided by a two brick's width wide wall **[M12]** from the western room/unit **L [104c]** with the stone column base. The paved surface showed an elevation of 4.63 m/NN. The Mortuary Temple I wall, which was not taken down,[189] also obscured much of the ground plan of this part of the dwelling.

Reconstruction of the northern part of the building

Due to the destruction of the northern part of Compound 11 by the well in A/II-k/10 only a hypothetical reconstruction can be attempted (see Fig. 3.7). The basis of the reconstruction was the width of the compound itself with the addition of the 'corridor' on the

[182] Now housed in the KhM, A 2963.
[183] Now housed in the KhM, A 2967.
[184] Now housed in the KhM, A 2964.
[185] Now housed in the KhM, A 2965.
[186] Now housed in the KhM, A 2838.
[187] Now housed in the KhM, A 2842–2845.
[188] Cf. D. Aston, Ceramic Imports, 46 and fig. 11.3: imported material from G/3–1 to F; B. Bader, TD XIX, 409, type 103g, made from Nile E in Phase F.
[189] M. Bietak, TD V, 27. According to the wishes of the Egyptian Antiquities Service (EAO).

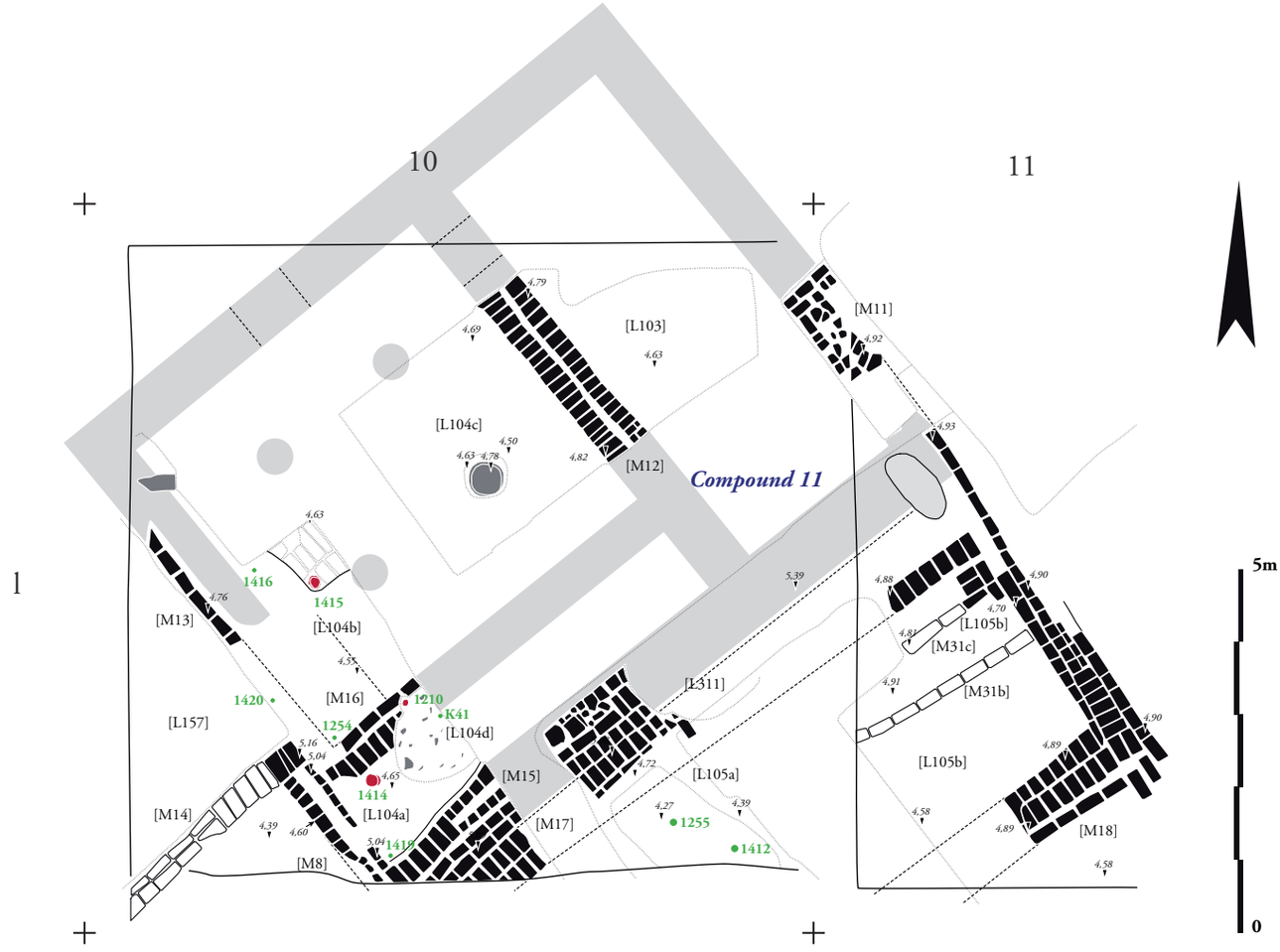


Fig. 3.7 Reconstruction of northern part of Compound 11 by B. Bader, graphic execution by N. Math

western side, which resulted in 10.1 m (almost 20 cubits). For the reconstruction of the length of the house the core units of **L [106] to L [108]** were used with a similar arrangement. The internal wall extending from **[M16]** may be shorter creating an almost square space. In such a reconstruction also the column base would make sense because the area to be bridged would be 6.3 m, which seems too wide to be roofed without the help of a load-bearing element. The location of possible doorways remains unknown.

A possibility may be to reconstruct a unit consisting of the courtyard with the four columns limited by wall **[M16]**, a room/space to its east and a narrow room/'magazine' of ca 1.0 m width to the south. Possible doorways may have been situated in the middle of the northern wall of the four column room as well as either in the south or north of its eastern wall **[M12]**.[190]

The entire north western corner of the square remains unexcavated, because the Mortuary Temple I (Phase E/2–1) was left standing as a complete building.[191]

[190] This plausible reconstruction was proposed by M. Bietak, 15 May 2017.

[191] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-l/10[192])

The northern section (A6, drawn in 1968)[193] does not mention the late Middle Kingdom Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1. The final inked version of the section shows that the older levels were not exposed due to the restoration and preservation of Mortuary Temple I.[194] The western part of square A/II-l/10 was just excavated to an elevation of ca 5.50 m/NN, whilst the eastern part reached a slightly lower elevation of 4.70 m/NN.

The western section (A51, drawn in 1968)[195] only reached Phase G in a few instances, again due to the Mortuary Temple I in the northern part, which extends from running metres 6.0 to 10 from south. Section no A51-25 represents rubble derived from the walls of the building with section no A51-26, which denotes a sand tempered mud-brick building. The wall assigned to a building, which may be identified with Compound 11, is situated around running metre 5.0 and is probably to be identified with **[M13]** (= section no A51-26). The base level of this wall must lie below ca 4.60 m/NN, whilst the preserved top was at 4.80 m/NN. Only two brick courses were preserved. For this reason it is unfortunately not possible to ascertain whether any older buildings were situated in this area or not. Also the northern limitation of the building cannot be ascertained. The other wall, section no A51-38, was erected from running metres 0.25 to 1.90 from south with a thickness of ca 1.65 m and seems to have been preserved four brick courses high. Its base level must lie below 4.40 m/NN and its preserved top also reached an elevation of 4.48 m/NN. It can be identified with **[M14]**. Directly on top of these walls those of a Phase E/2–1 building were set up (section no A51-22). The section indicates that a concerted effort was made to raze the earlier buildings in this area in order to erect the building and its precursor.[196] Section no A51-28, in the northern half of the section represents 'sandy layers with walking horizons' and belongs to Phase G, general. It is situated at running metres 5.30–6.20 at an elevation of 4.80 to 4.55 m/NN. From this section it is not very clear whether these features just described belonged to Phase F or Phase G/2–1, but considering the fact that two walls in a similar position were assigned to Phase F as 'Bezirk VII'[197] it is possible that they persisted in both phases, but cannot be told apart due to the exposure reached.

The eastern section (A73) was not drawn/preserved in the records, probably because most of it was disturbed by the pit of tomb A/II-l/10-2 and the still standing Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1.

The southern section (A32, drawn in 1968)[198] was exposed to an elevation of about 4.40 m/NN, where the walls of the Mortuary Temple I and the preserved tops of **[M15]** and **[M17]** and **[M8]** did not block the exposure (running metres 2.0 to 7.0 from east). The bench **[M15]** and the adjacent wall **[M17]** and the precinct wall **[M8]** (all combined as section no A32-36 = Phase G/2–1) show a possible base level[199] at ca 4.60 m/NN. Four brick courses were preserved, so that the preserved top of them is at ca 5.15 m/NN. It is totally unclear if or which features were below, but considering the building history of Compound 1 (see vol. 2, in preparation) it is likely that a smaller structure existed here in Phase G/3 at least. Interestingly it seems as if the walls of Mortuary Temple I (section no A32-16) were built almost directly on top of that wall **[M17]** and the bench. Heavily sand tempered mud-brick rubble on top of that bench was found up to a level of 5.50 m/NN, which seems indeed too high an elevation to belong to Phase G/2–1.[200] To the east of the wall and bench (at running metres 0.5 to 2.0 from the east) section nos A32-32, 33, 34, and 37 are superimposed and assigned to rubble of Phase G/2–1. Section no A32-38 represents part of a foundation pit for **[M15]** and **[M17]** (= section no A32-36) at an elevation of ca 4.65 m/NN, which fits well with other parts of the settlement. Section no A32-43 is designated sand tempered mud-brick rubble belonging to Phase G/3. The absolute elevation of these layers is 5.20–5.30 m/NN to 4.60 m/NN (G/2–1) and 4.60 to about 4.40 m/NN. There the excavation in this part of the square ceased. The 'Störung'[201] drawn into the plan close to the southern

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192 The inked sections were analysed by M. Bietak. The western and southern sections were supplied with the final section nos, whilst the eastern section was not available. The northern section was only supplied with the provisional section nos derived from the original plan drawings.

193 TDplan no 80.

194 M. Bietak, TD V, 27. According to the wishes of the Egyptian Antiquities Service (EAO).

195 TDplan no 78.

196 M. Bietak, TD V, 94–95 and plan 4; 138–139 and 5.

197 M. Bietak, TD V, 60, plan 3.

198 TDplan no 79. The section was inked and analysed in full by M. Bietak with final section nos.

199 The walls were not exposed enough to be entirely sure.

200 In the final section this item is not numbered or explained. It is very likely much later than Phase G/2–1.

201 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2, cf. Fig. 3.1.

section (Fig. 3.1) from running metre 0.50 to 2.25 from the east is *not* visible in the section. The nature of this disturbance is unclear. However, this area in the section seems to show the levels of Phase G/3–1, as described in the section analysis. To the west of bench and walls **[M15]**, **[M17]**, **[M8]** (= section no A32-36) between running metres 6.50 and 8.50 the pit of grave A/II-m/10-8 (Phase F, section no A32-28)[202] is situated and cuts away most of the older layers, except part of the lower rubble section no A32-43.

A more detailed schematic plan with the find spots of the archaeological material is given in Fig. 3.5. Note that most of the tomb pits cutting into the settlement from above and the Mortuary Temple I walls have been removed from the plan in order to make it more comprehensible.

Finds from square A/II-l/10, pl. 4

L [104a?][203] *In little depression in wall/bench [M16] (Fig. 3.8.a–c, 3.9.a–c)*

Stone

Reg.no **1418** (KhM, A 1363), pierced triangular stone, possibly a weight. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4 on top of wall/bench **[M16]**. The object was found 1.0–2.0 cm above juglet reg.no 1210 (Fig. 3.8.b).
Records: B/W negatives SW1106/52, SW1126/24; drawing ZN 47 E, redrawn and re-analysed. (Fig. 3.8.a, 3.9.a)
Material: limestone; measurements: height = 12.6, max. width = 10.0, thickness = 4.1, weight = 709 grams. Hole is square in shape. Found in similar position as the juglet below, thus, if the juglet is intrusive the stone object is also. In case the short wall is a subdivision within the room or a bench it could be contemporary. It remains unclear how this stone was positioned within or on top of the wall/bench **[M16]**. The identification as loom weight[204] depends on several prerogatives. Whilst there is so far no evidence for vertical looms before the late 18th Dynasty, two types of vertical looms exist: the two-beam looms[205] and the warp weighted looms.[206] The first type needs two weights each of ca 1.0 kg connected to each end of the leash rod to create tension for the loom to work properly,[207] whilst the second needs several weights depending on the width of the loom connected to a number of warp threads hanging down on the floor to keep them tidy. Weights for this type of loom have not been given but the weight of 709 grams seems too heavy for this type of loom, although this claim can currently not be substantiated.

Because there is no evidence for vertical looms in the late Middle Kingdom[208] this interpretation for reg. no 1418 seemed at first invalid, but the horizontal or ground loom with warp spacer may also have had two weights at each side of the warp beam,[209] although such a device is not shown on the weaving model of Meketra, because it lacks the warp spacer.[210] Whether the fabric woven at Tell el-Dabᶜa has to be assumed to be linen or wool remains without evidence in this case,[211] even more so as the stone in question has not been found in connection with any textile related installation. Discussions of weaving, however, connect the weaving of wool with the vertical warp weighted loom because a frame is unsuitable due to the nature of the fibre. On the other hand a frame with high tension is necessary to weave linen.[212]

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[202] M. Bietak, TD V, 61–70.

[203] It remains unclear whether these finds belong to those of **L [104a]** proper or if the depression **L [104d]** represents a later disturbance.

[204] A similar limestone object in shape and size was identified as loom weight (with round hole), with reference to R. Anthes, *Mit Rahineh* 1955, Museum Monographs, University Museum, Philadelphia 1959, 45–46, pl. 28b more irregular shapes and from the New Kingdom and later. Also R. Anthes, *Mit Rahineh* 1956, Museum Monographs, University Museum, Philadelphia 1965, 112–114, pl. 44a, also New Kingdom and later. The Tell el-Dabᶜa piece has straighter edges. Cf. E. Czerny, TD IX, fig. 52e. Unfortunately the weight of the piece was not recorded. For objects similar in shape but made of pottery see C. von Pilgrim, *Elephantine XVIII*, fig. 120.d–f. They were identified as fishing net sinkers. See discussion in C. von Pilgrim, *Elephantine XVIII*, 275–278.

[205] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, 335–338.

[206] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, 392–394. The suspected examples found at Amarna are irregular stones with natural holes through which threads had been wound. They look entirely different.

[207] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, 409, 415.

[208] The model from Meketre's tomb of the early Middle Kingdom shows a horizontal loom. Cf. H.E. Winlock, *Models of Daily Life in Ancient Egypt from the Tomb of Meket-Re at Thebes*, PMMA 18, Cambridge Massachusetts 1955, 88–89, fig. 25–27.

[209] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, fig. 10.2.

[210] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, fig. 9.2, 9.12 and chapter 9.

[211] Sheep bones have been identified in the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom but it remains unknown whether the wool of these sheep could have been used for weaving or not. Cf. G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textiles*, in: P.T. Nicholson and I. Shaw (eds), *Ancient Egyptian Materials*, 269.

[212] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, 392–394.

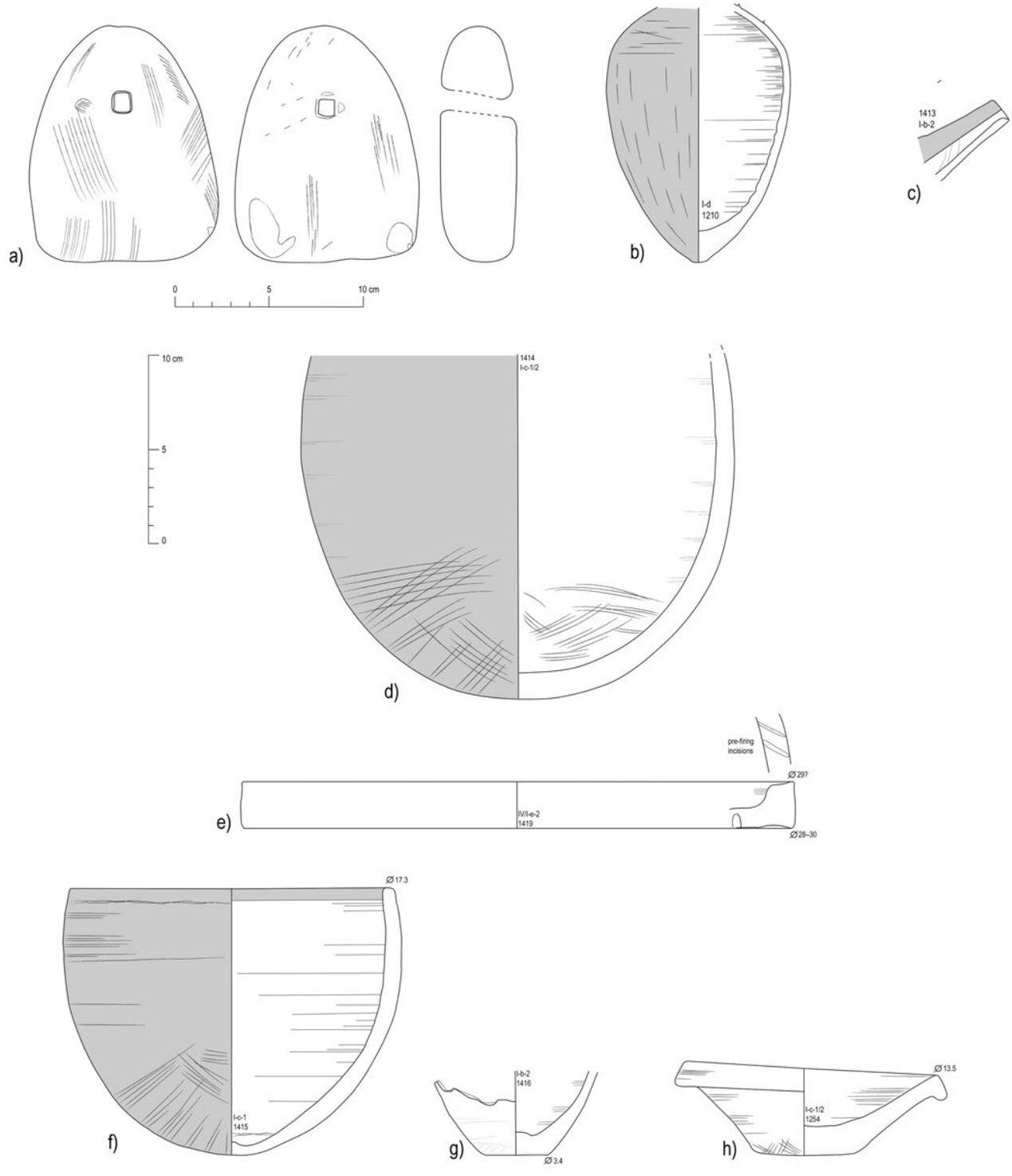


Fig. 3.8 Stone and Pottery from L [104a], L [104b] and L [104c]

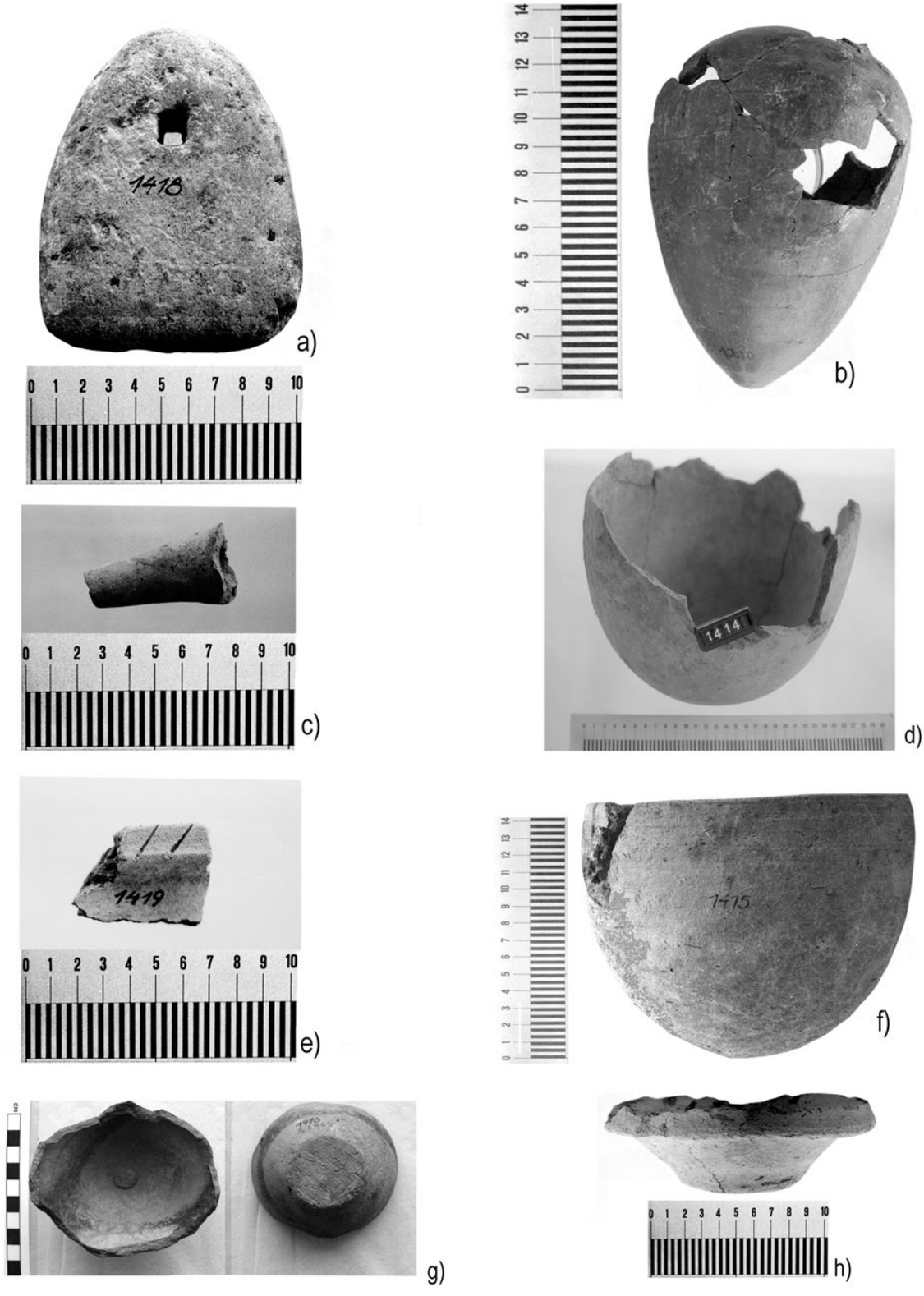


Fig. 3.9 Stone and Pottery from L [104a], L [104b] and L [104c], photos a) SW1106/52, b) SW1104/48, c) SW1126/68, d) SW1130/27–28*, e) SW1126/32, f) SW1126/74, g) SW1126/28, h) SW1100/41–42

Other possible uses for this pierced stone may have been to weigh down something like awnings[213] or tie something to it. Similar but smaller limestone objects were identified as plumb bobs elsewhere.[214] This identification seems unsuitable for the present object due to the weight. Similar, but smaller limestone objects were found in the New Kingdom settlement at Kom Rabi^{c}a, they were also lighter than the present object. Only one object identified as an anchor (but without known weight), is of a similar size.[215] Nevertheless, the weight seems too light to represent a feasible anchor for a boat.

Pottery

Reg.no **1210** (KhM, A 2810), ovoid juglet, red burnished, rim and neck missing. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, 3.50 m/S and 4.70 m/W, 1.35 m/D[epth][216] = ca 4.74 m/NN; Phase G–H.
Records: B/W negative SW1104/48; SW1110/58*; 1123/66; ZN 70/68; redrawn and re-recorded (Fig. 3.8.b, 3.9.b)

RP	I-d	f	W2	Bd. W	ox	2–3	?

Max.d. = 9.5; bd. = 0.6 (100% preserved); wd. = 0.3–0.6; H1 = 13.4 +x.
Surface colour: RP outside 10 R 4/4 weak red; uncoated inside 10 YR 5–6/4 yellowish brown. Section: uniform brownish; very fine Nile clay fabric, hardly any inclusions visible but lime, fine quartz and mica. Handle scar does not indicate type of handle. The burnishing is of good quality, with vertical strokes on the body towards the base and horizontal ones on the shoulder. At base burnishing had eroded.

The placement of the juglet in a hole in the wall of Phase G/3–1 makes it unlikely to be contemporary with that layer, unless that wall was just some kind of bench (Fig. 3.10).[217] This is quite possible in the light of the later (Autumn 1983) re-excavation of that square, which showed that wall **[M16]** does not continue ENE beyond the later Mortuary Temple I wall.

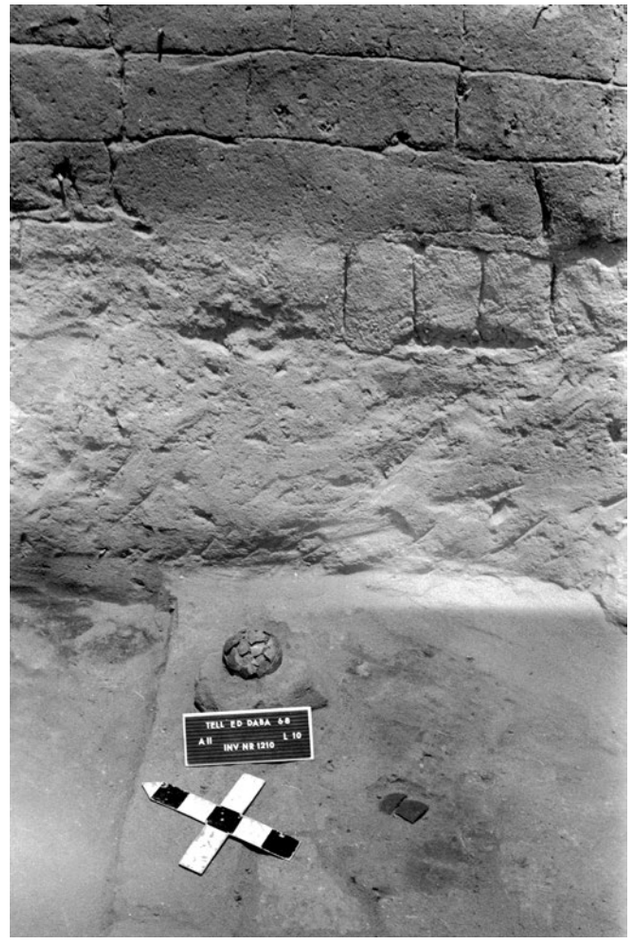


Fig. 3.10 Juglet reg.no 1210, in find position, SW1079/31–32

Reg.no **1413** (KhM, A 2962), spout of a vessel. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4. Close to red burnished juglet at elevation of 1.20 m/D[epth] measured from Mortuary Temple I wall. H = ca 4.90–4.80 m/NN.
Records: B/W negatives SW1126/68 and SW1081/69–70*, konvolute card K39, redrawn and re-recorded (Fig. 3.8.c, 3.9.c; also Fig. 3.11.a, 3.12.a).

RFTG	I-b-2	m	W1	–	ox	3

Length of spout 5.3 cm; diameter of hole 1.0 cm

[213] B. Kemp and G. Vogelsang-Eastwood, *Textile Industry*, 393.
[214] W.M.F. Petrie, *Tools and Weapons*, London 1917, 42, pl. XLVIII.B69: round hole.
[215] L.L. Giddy, *The Survey of Memphis II, Kom Rabi^{c}a. The New Kingdom and Post-New Kingdom Objects*, The Egypt Exploration Society, 64th Excavation Memoir, London 1999, 195–198, pl. 39–41. The "anchor" pl. 41.2709 measures 25.0 by 25.0 cm, weight not given. Interestingly none of these objects shows a square hole.
[216] Measured from the NW–SO running Mortuary Temple I-wall; ca 4.80 m/NN. This elevation is also given in the original plan drawing.
[217] See B/W negative SW1079/29–30, SW1079/31–32; SW1079/25–26 and SW1079/27–28 for the position of the juglet, Fig. 3.8.

Surface colour: red slip 7.5 R 6/6 light red; dark red stripes: 7.5 R 4/4 weak red. Section: black core with wide reddish oxidation zones; fabric hard fired.

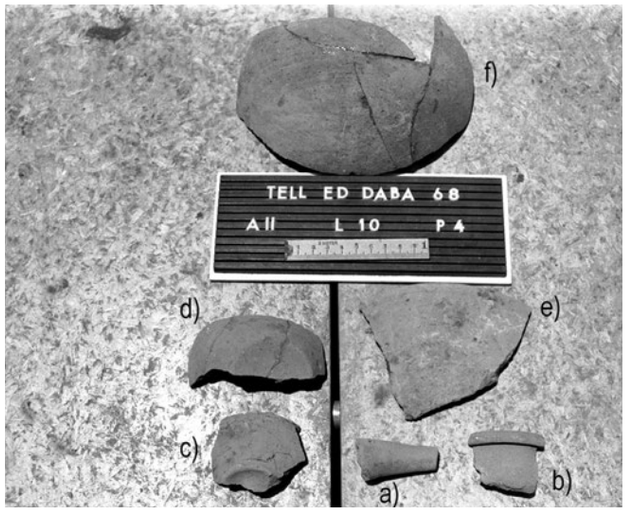


Fig. 3.11 Konvolute K39, reg.no 1413 (a), SW1126/68

The records show the spout (= reg.no 1413, Fig. 3.8.c, 3.9.c, 3.11.a), the base of a dish, a flat base of a cup (Fig. 3.11.d, intrusive, hard fired, with red slip), a (finger) pinched ring base of a dish/cup with red slip (Fig. 3.11.c), a round base of a larger bowl/hemispherical cup with scraping marks, probably re-used as a lid due to its almost regular rounded shape produced secondarily (Fig. 3.11.f), the rim of a ringstand (Fig. 3.11.b), and the (rim) fragment of a plate/dish (Fig. 3.11.e). Except for the spout none of the other finds was available for re-recording (cf. Fig. 3.12–3.13).

L [104a] Floor space between wall [M15] and parallel wall/bench [M16] (Fig. 3.8.d–e, 3.9.d–e)

This ceramic material is most probably derived from various fills. The fact that many parallels for similar vessels and vessel fragments are known from Phase G/3–1 makes it at least possible that it originally belonged to the use of the settlement during this time, even if its deposition may have happened later.

Pottery

Reg.no **1414** (KhM, A 2963), round base of closed vessel. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, found at the elevation of 4.65 m/NN as drawn into original plan (Fig. 3.5), Stratum G/H (Fig. 3.8.d, 3.9.d).

Records: B/W negatives SW1126/78; SW1130/27–28*; drawing ZN 83/68; redrawn and re-recorded; reconstructed from large fragments.

RFTG	I-c-1/2	m	W1	Bd. M(?)	ox	2–3

Max.d. = 22.0; wd. = 0.9–1.3; H1 = 18.3 + x; base 100% preserved.
Surface colour: red slip 10 R 5/4 weak red; uncoated inside 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown. Section: red core, yellowish brown oxidation zones; on the surface larger straw particles, within break smaller: just under 7 mm; numerous quartz particles, but not as many as later ("late SIP fabric"); the base was probably made in a mould, inside very well smoothed; outside very well smoothed. In addition, inside white incrustations; it is possible that this body of a closed vessel, presumably a jar, was reused in that context, because the preserved horizontal edges of the vessel around the top seem quite even and well used as if produced secondarily and with intention.

Reg.no **1419** (KhM, A 2967), rim fragment of bread tray. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, 4.40 m/W, 1.10 m/S, 1.30 m/D[epth] (measured down at south section, ca H = 4.70 m/NN), Stratum G/H.
Records: B/W negatives SW1107/10, 1126/32*, drawing ZN 25E, konvolute 41; redrawn and re-recorded (Fig. 3.8.e, 3.9.e).

WFTG?	IV/I-e-2	m-r	W1	Bd. H?	re	3

Rd. = ca 29.0 (3 % preserved); bd. = 28–30.0 (4% preserved); wd. = 1.6; H1 = 2.5;
Surface colour: white slip or scum (?) 10 R 7/2 light gray; could be natural surface colour. Section: black; fabric contains limestone inclusions and black lumpy inclusions (burnt argillacious inclusions?); incised decoration on top of rim (pre-firing), small holes pierced on the underside of the vessel without cutting through the base; top of rim trimmed with a tool.

During the first recording this piece was given konvolute number K41 with the same find position. It is repeated here for completeness sake (cf. Fig. 3.14).

L [104b] Space north of wall [M16] (Fig. 3.8.f–h, 3.9.f–h, 3.15.a, 3.16.a)

It remains unclear if this space was a closed room or an open space. The Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 obscures most of the floor space, as it was not taken down at the time.[218]

[218] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

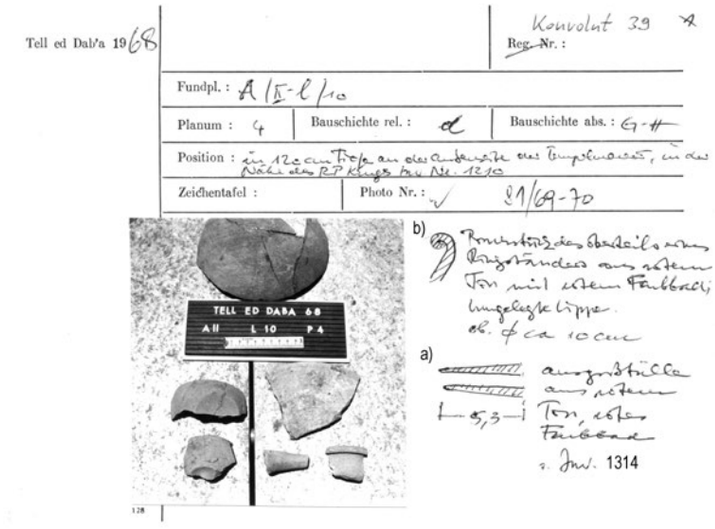


Fig. 3.12 Konvolute card K39, position close to reg.no 1210 and 1413, scale 1:2

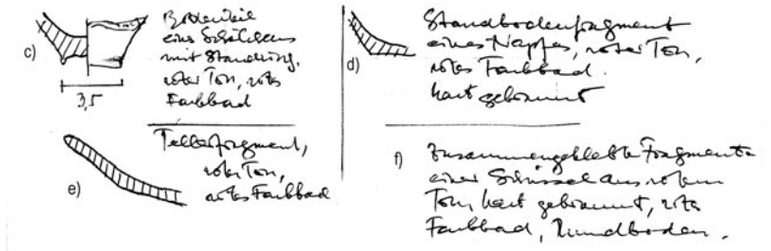


Fig. 3.13 K39, back of konvolute card, scale 1:2

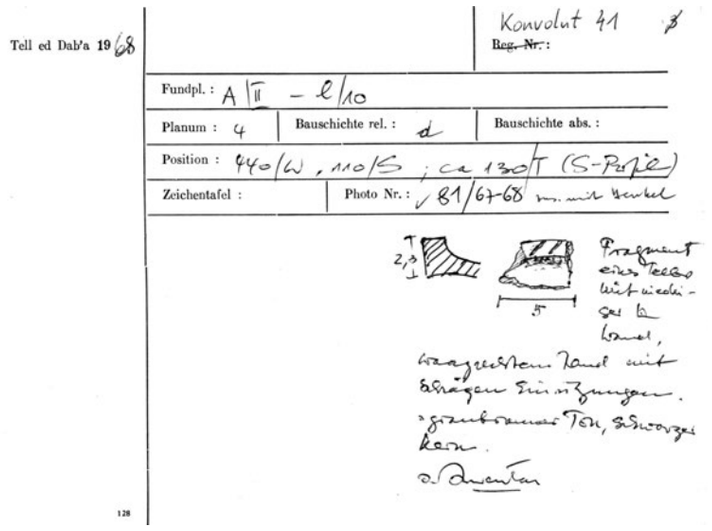


Fig. 3.14 Konvolute K41, reg.no 1419, scale 1:2

Pottery

Reg.no **1415** (KhM, A 2964), large hemispherical cup with round base. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4. Vessel shown in original plan drawing at ca 3.10–20 m/W and 4.80 m/S, H = 4.55, Stratum G/H.
Records: B/W negative SW1126/74, drawing ZN 83/68, redrawn and re-recorded (Fig. 3.8.f, 3.9.f).

RFTG	I-c-1	f. – m.	W1	Bd. gesp.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 17.3 (98% preserved); max.d. = 18.0; bd. = round (100% preserved); wd. = 0.7–0.9; H1 = 14.2; VI 125.9.
Surface colour: red slip outside 10 R 5/6 red; uncoated inside 2.5 YR 6/4 weak red. Section: violet core with red and yellowish brown oxidation zones; very well smoothed inside and outside.

Reg.no **1416** (KhM, A 2965), straight-based cup or jar (probably S-Napf?). Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, shown in original plan drawing (Fig. 3.8.g, 3.9.g).
Records: B/W negative SW1126/28, drawing ZN 84/68; redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-2	m.	W1	Bd. abg. gesp.	ox	2–3

Pres. max.d. = 8.7; bd. = 3.4 (100% preserved); wd. = 0.4; H1 = 4.5 +x.
Surface colour: uncoated 2.5 YR 6/8 red. Section: red core with brown oxidation zones; the irregular broken top is smoke blackened as if from use as lamp. It might be possible that the fragment came from the foundation trench of the Mortuary Temple I (Phase E/2–1), when such cups were first appearing. The foundation trench of the 'bench' reinforcing the north western corner of the temple is very close to the find spot of this cup base. Probably intrusive.

Reg.no **1254** (KhM, A 2838) dish with flat base and turned out rim. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, 3.30 m/W and 2.80 m/S, 1.30 m/D[epth] (at southern section), H = ca 4.70 m/NN; relative level d = G–H (Fig. 3.8.h, 3.9.h).
Records: B/W negatives SW1100/41–42, 1087/7–8; drawing ZN 70/68; redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-c-1/2	m. – r.	W1	Bd. abg. gegl.	ox	2

Rd. = 13.5 (90% preserved); max.d. = 14.4; bd. = 5.3 (100% preserved); wd. = 0.9; H1 = 4.3–5.1. VI 337.2.
Surface colour: uncoated outside 5 YR 7/6 reddish yellow; uncoated (white slip?) 7.5 YR 7–8/4 pink. Section: dark grey core with red and orange brown oxidation zones, varies within break; edge of rim was trimmed with a tool.

Reg.no **1420** (KhM, A 2968) handle of amphora. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, 3.30 m/S and 2.30 m/W, 1.20 m/D[epth] (at southern section = H = ca 4.80–4.90 m/NN), relative level G/H (Fig. 3.15.a, 3.16.a, 3.17).
Records: B/W negatives SW1126/22, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	IV-3	m	W1–2	–	ox	3–4	1 RST

Wd. = 0.8; H1 = 19.8 +x; diameter of handle 3.2; reconstructed from three sherds.
Surface colour: uncoated outside 10 YR 8/3 very pale brown; uncoated inside: 2.5 Y 7/3 pale yellow. Section: beige core with slightly darker zone inside; two NAA Holes: #JH254, IV-2-c, provenience given as southern Palestine.[219]

L [104c] Space north of wide bench (Fig. 3.15.b–e, 3.16.b)

This locus designates the part of the room with the column base, delimited on the west by the western wall of Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 that was not taken down.[220]

Pottery

Reg.no **1257a–d** (KhM, A 2842–2845), four different rim sherds, found together. Position: A/II-l/10, [pl. 4]. From the room with the column and above it, level G (Fig. 3.15.b–d, Fig. 3.16.d).
Records: B/W negative SW1087/57, drawing ZN 69/68, (only AS 2843 was drawn), all pieces redrawn and re-recorded.

Reg.no **1257a** (KhM, A 2842), trimmed and burnished rim.

RFTG	I-e-2/IV?	m.	W1	–	mi	2–3

[219] P.E. McGovern, *The Foreign Relations of the 'Hyksos'. A Neutron Activation Study of the Middle Bronze Age Pottery from the Eastern Mediterranean*, BAR IS 888, Oxford 2000, 125. This study had to face serious critique due to grave methodological flaws, cf. footnote 385 (for bibliography).

[220] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

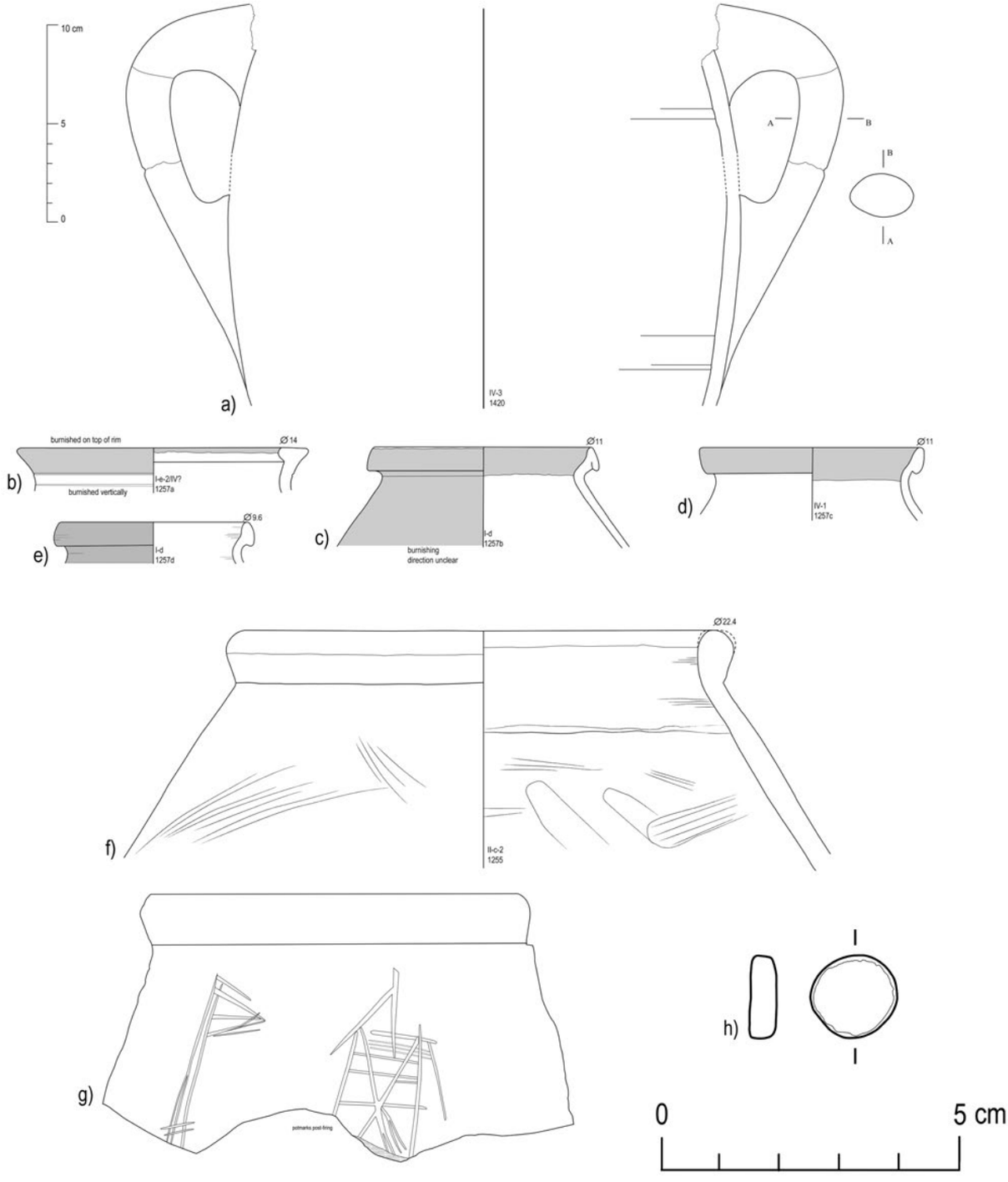


Fig. 3.15 Pottery from L [104b], L [104c] and L [105a]

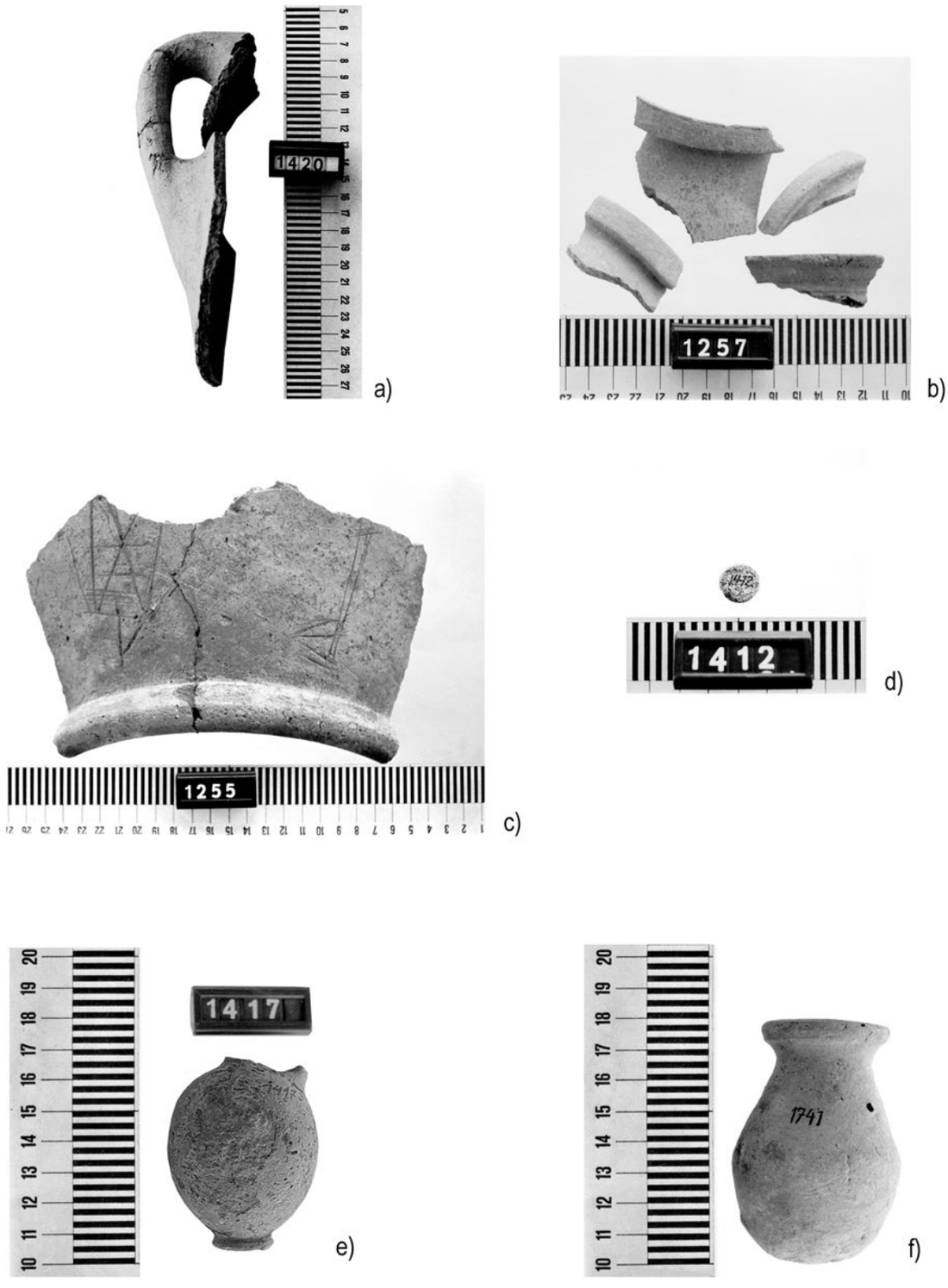


Fig. 3.16 Pottery from L [104b], L [104c] and L [105a], photos a) SW1126/22, b) SW1087/57, c) SW1087/57–58, d) SW1126/70, e) SW1126/26, f) SW1112/67–70



Fig. 3.17 Reg.no 1420, amphora handle, photo by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Rd. = 13.0 (14 % preserved); wd. = 0.6; H1 = 2.3 +x; Surface colour: red slip outside 10 R 4/6 red; uncoated inside 2.5 YR 2.5/1 black. Section: uniform greyish brown; on top of trimmed rim burnishing; outside remains of one burnishing stroke, horizontally.

Reg.no **1257b** (KhM, A 2843), red burnished, sharply trimmed rim.

RP?TG	I-d	m.	W1	–	re	2–3

Rd. = 11.0 (16 % preserved); wd. = 0.4–0.3; H1 = 5.0 +x. Surface colour: red slip outside 10 R 5/4 weak red; uncoated inside 7.5 YR 4/1 dark gray; red slip inside on rim. Section: wide dark grey core with very thin red oxidation zones; outside remains of burnishing strokes, but unclear in which direction.

Reg.no **1257c** (KhM, A 2844), rim of imported red burnished jar.

RPTG	IV-1	f. – m.	W1	–	ox	2–3

Rd. = 11.0 (15 % preserved); wd. = 0.4; H1 = 3.7 +x. Surface colour: red slip and burnish outside 10 R 6/4 pale red; uncoated inside 7.5 YR 6/3 light brown; red slip inside on rim. Section: slightly greenish core with wide red oxidation zones; outside remains of vertical burnishing strokes; fabric looks similar to Marl C.

Reg.no **1257d** (KhM, A 2845), rim of red burnished jar.

RFTG	I-d	f. – m.	W1	–	ox	2–3

Rd. = 9.6 (20 % preserved); wd. = 0.4; H1 = 2.2 +x. Surface colour: red slip outside and inside on rim 10 R 5/3 weak red; probably red slip in only in rim area, but sherd not well enough preserved. Section: wide grey core with thin red oxidation zones; outside no real remains of burnishing strokes.

L [105a] Area south of wall [M17]
(Fig. 3.15.f–g, 3.16.f–g)

This locus is (artificially) limited by the bench around the western *cella* wall of Mortuary Temple I because it was not dismantled in the course of the excavation.[221]

It is unclear if the two objects (reg.nos 1255, 1412) were found in a disturbance as drawn in the plan at an elevation of 4.27 m/NN or if they were below or above that disturbance. Fact is that the finds are derived from ca 4.27 m/NN, but the southern section was not exposed to such a depth. The lowest elevation shown in the section consists of "sandy earth with fragments of sand tempered mud-brick rubble of Phase G/3" (section no A32-43). There is the possibility that a disturbance reaches below that level, but nothing of the kind is indicated in this section.

[221] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

Pottery

Reg.no **1255**[222] (KhM, A 2839), rim fragment of large storage jar. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, 1.30 m/S and 2.00 m/E, 2.00 m/D[epth] (measured at south section), H = ca 4.27 m/NN (Fig. 3.15.f–g, 3.16.c).
Records: B/W negative SW1087/57–58, drawing ZN 69/68, Section ZN 21E, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	II-c-2	m	Ha2	–	ox	3

Rd. = 22.0[223] (28 % preserved); wd. = 1.15–1.3; H1 = 12.0 +x;
Surface colour: uncoated outside with scum 7.5 YR 7/4 pink; uncoated inside: 5 YR 7/3–4 pink. Section: wide reddish grey core with thin red oxidation zones; both pot marks post-firing; the broken edges of the storage jar rim are very abraded as if from use.

Faience

Reg.no **1412** (KhM, A 2982) small disc. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4, 1.30 m/S and 2.00 m/E; 2.00 m/D[epth] (at south section, H = ca 4.27 m/NN); Stratum G/H; same position as reg.no 1255 (Fig. 3.15.h, 3.16.d).
Records: B/W negative SW1126/70, redrawn and re-recorded.
Measurements: max.d. = 1.5 cm, thickness 0.5 cm.
Material: blackish turquoise glaze with silvery sheen.

Finds from square A/II-l/10, pl. 4, probably belonging to other phases (Fig. 3.14.e–f)

Pottery

Reg.no **1417** (KhM, A 2966), ovoid juglet with distinct ring base and double stranded handle; rim and neck missing. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4. Found within pit of tomb west of western wall **[M13]**, most probably intrusive or belongs to nearby tomb (Fig. 3.16.e).
Records: B/W negatives SW1126/26, SW1130/34, redrawn, re-recorded.

SP	I-d?	f. – m.	W1	Bd. gef.	re	2–3	2RST

Max.d. = 5.3; bd. = 2.0 (100% preserved); wd. = ca 0.3; H1 = 6.9 +x.
Surface colour: 7.5 YR 2.5/1 black; burnishing not well preserved, direction cannot be detected. Section: uniform black, but no fresh break available for inspection.

Reg.no **1741** (KhM, A 3181), model jar. Position: A/II-k-l/10 baulk: 1.00 m/W; 1.60 m/D[epth], layer I, immediately north of a thin wall appearing out of the baulk; it runs in north east direction (Fig. 3.16.f).
Records: B/W negative SW1112/69–70; drawing ZN 28E.
Later than or contemporary with Phase G/3–1.

RFTG	I-b-2	m.	Ha1?	Bd. gesp.	–	2–3

Rd. = 4.0; max.d. = 5.3; H1 = 8.2; (rim and base 100% preserved).
Surface colour: red slip 10 R 6/6 red. Section: intact, no break available for inspection.

Sherd collections/konvolutes from A/II-l/10 pl. 4
Some of the sherd collections from this square seem to be chronologically inhomogeneous, judging by the experience accumulated since the first excavations 50 years ago. The fact that Mortuary Temple I was left standing during the excavation might *inter alia* have led to contamination of the sherd collections with material from the foundation trenches, for example.

K42. Position: A/II-l/10 pl. 4, 3.70 m/S and 1.50 m/E; 2.20 m/D[epth] (at south section), H = ca 4.00 m/NN; below the corridor leading towards the westernmost sanctuary [of Temple I]. In the plan (see Fig. 3.1) the 'disturbance' in the form of the oven **L [311]** east of wall **[M15]** (Fig. 3.21) is exactly at the spot described, and the lowest point inside it shows a level of 4.01 m/NN in the original plan. This means that the sherds could have been located beneath the oven, or are mixed with material from fill of the oven. It seems to have been sealed by the wall of Mortuary Temple I.

The southern section (A32) does not illustrate what lies beneath the elevation of 4.20 m/NN. It could even be that the material is derived from below the bench and could thus be assigned to the levels of Phase G/3–1 rubble and fill. Perhaps it even belongs to the older phase. As this area was not excavated further down no more clarity can be gained on this point.

[222] In B. Bader, TD XIII, 163, reg.no 1255 was erroneously described as from the southern section due to a misunderstanding of the description of the find spot in the register book. Therefore the date of G/4–1 may not be tenable. If it came out of a disturbance it may in fact be older than G/3–1. That disturbance is not visible in plan drawings further up (pl. 3), thus a later contamination seems unlikely.

[223] This measurement represents the inner edge of the rim.



Fig. 3.18 Konvolute K42, archive photo SW1093/21

The discussion of the pottery pictured and described by the original records shows that, at least by comparison with the remainder of the settlement and other phases, some of the pieces are unlikely to belong to the settlement material of Phase G/3–1 or earlier. The material was not available for re-study (Fig. 3.18–3.19).

a) The base of a dish with applied ring, which appears wheel-made, is probably intrusive from later Phases E/2–D/2, when they are most common.[224] Most likely this fragment consists of Nile B2.

b–c) Two dishes with inturned lip are common in various fabrics and with different surface treatments from quite early on until the late Second Intermediate Period (Phase D/2). No comments of surface treatment are given in the original record. Also the fabric is decisive for a relative dating: Nile B2 dishes are more common from Phase F onwards.[225]

d) Presumably a cooking jar rim, because of its smoke blackening, tends to be more common in Phase F than in G/3–1, but does occur.[226] The sketch does not reflect the sharply edged rim, which such types usually have and the photo seems to suggest.

e) Restricted bowl (cooking pot) rim with white slip, most probably Nile E2, rim diameter is ca 23.0 cm, which is a quite normal size.[227] This vessel type appears extremely often in the settlement (see below, passim).

f) Bowl with everted rim, could be dated to Phase F,[228] but could also be earlier.

g) Strap handle fragments of red polished jugs tend to belong to juglets of the later Second Intermediate Period. Imports mostly show round strand handles or multiple stranded handles. Thus it is likely that this fragment is a local product.[229]

h) One fragmentary handle top, which might belong to a Canaanite transport amphora, most probably with a rounded section. Because it was described as ‘steinchengemagert’ importation from Syria-Palestine seems likely, but a distinct assignation to certain phases without renewed inspection of the fabric is not possible. Even if such had been possible some fabrics remain popular for a longer time span.

K41. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 4. South western corner, ca 5.00 m/W and 3.00 m/S; 1.30 m/D[epth] (measured at southern section), H = ca 4.70 m/NN (Fig. 3.20).

[224] See D. Aston, TD XII/2, 218–221, types 206–212.

[225] D. Aston, TD XII/2, 91–98, types 72–75; 273–276, types 262–264 in various under groupings and fabrics, from Phase G/4 to D/3; B. Bader, TD XIX, 248, type 5c; 266, type 23f; 269, type 24d; 273, type 26g; 278, type 27e; 376, type 77a; 386, types 87c, 88c; 388, types 89a, 90a.

[226] D. Aston, TD XII/2, 190–192, type 158; B. Bader, TD XIX, 396–399, type 98c or type 98d.

[227] B. Bader, TD XIX, 402–409, type 103.

[228] B. Bader, TD XIX, 390–393, type 93a, esp. fig. 226 [D1174], from Phase E/3.

[229] Cf. the relevant sections in D. Aston, TD XII/2, 117–160; 284–292.

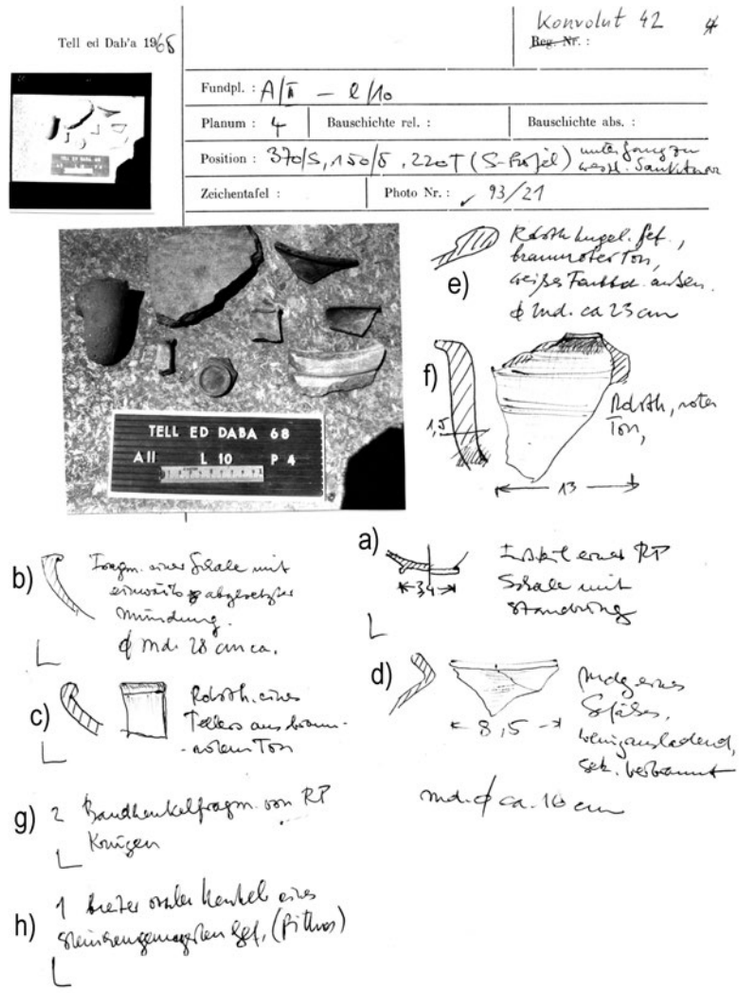


Fig. 3.19 Original konvolute card K42, scale 1:2

The find was not available for re-recording.
The approximate find position assigns the sherds to the pit **L [104d]** (see above, 68), but it might be located at a slightly higher level and therefore be later than those finds. May be considered together with K39 (see above Fig. 3.12).

The approximate level of this material would be at an elevation of ca 4.70–4.90 m/NN, depending on where exactly along the southern section the 'depth' was measured. 4.90 m/NN is also the approximate absolute elevation of K39. The sherds appear to belong to a large jar, most probably made of an imported (amphora) or Nile clay fabric. Depending on which of these identifications is correct, this vessel fragment may belong the late Middle Kingdom settlement (if an imported amphora) or to a later phase of the site (if a Nile clay fabric, because the only large closed vessels of Nile Clay fabric belong to Nile C2 'beer' jars, and the photograph does not support such an identification).

Animal Bones

In the same position as **K42** (see above, 82–83), a cattle bone was found. It was described as a tibia, proximal part with the epiphyseal cartilage in the process of growing together.[230] Due to the position this bone can be attributed to Phase G/3–1, perhaps the oldest of those.

[230] J. Boessneck, TD III, 10.

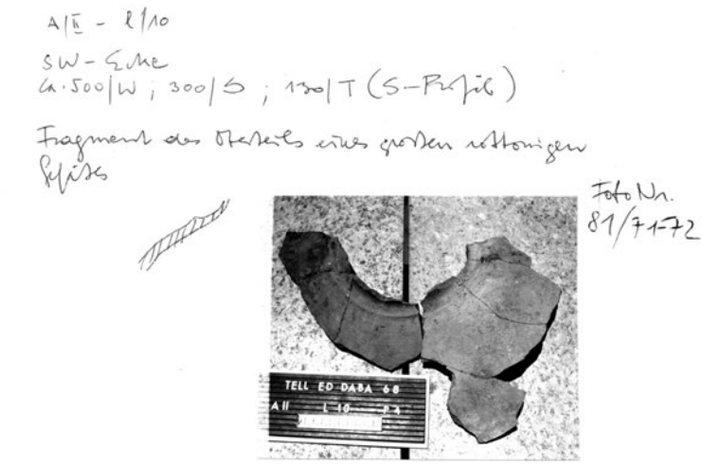


Fig. 3.20 Konvolute K41, back of original card but different find spot, scale 1:2, SW1081/71–72

The Excavation of 1983 in A/II-l/10

In 1983 a sounding was made in the area of Mortuary Temple I, during which the area below the benches of that temple was excavated. This resulted in the modified plan drawing (Fig. 3.21).[231]

What looks like a 'block' of wall to the west of the trench consists most probably of the two walls **[M15] and [M17]** beside each other. The elaborate pattern visible for this brickwork may have its reason in a rebuilding phase, when perhaps the walls were renewed at the same time. Seemingly wall **[M15]**, with a base level of 4.82 m/NN overlies wall **[G/3-M15]**, with a base level of 4.55 m/NN, and neither follows exactly the orientation of the older wall **[G/3-M15]**, nor that of the first Mortuary Temple 1 of Phase E/3,[232] slightly south. After Phase G/2–1 or in the last phase of G/1 the large building, loci **L [103–104]**, was at least partly denuded. It is possible and likely that the wall **[M15]** was built against the southern wall **[M17]**, which is also suggested by the fact that these walls are visible side by side in the western section of square A/II-l/11.[233] The heavily sand tempered mud-bricks were of a greenish yellow (10 YR 5/3–4) to yellowish brown (7.5 YR6/4) colour, (30–35 cm long; 17.5–20 cm wide). The bench was ca 1.40 m wide and 1.15 m long aligned in a west-east direction, and most notably there was a gap between the two walls and oven 2 **[M165] L [311]** (see below, 97–101). Whether this results from post-depositional processes or was intentional, facilitating use remains unclear. One wall or two walls beside each other were indeed recorded in the western section of A/II-l/11 (A56), with section no A56-31, which in alignment and base level (4.74–4.86 m/NN) could form a continuation of them or belong to the same building phase and it is also drawn as a mass of bricks into plan 4 of A/II-l/11 adjacent to **[M17]**. Two to three brick courses were preserved and the lowest course in the south of the wall was laid edgeways as a rowlock (= Rollschar). The base level of **[M15]+[M17]** was measured at the south western edge of **[M15]** at 4.82 m/NN, which fits the base levels of the western section well.

Unfortunately the southern section of A/II-l/10 (A32) was not excavated deep enough to clarify the base levels of the walls **[M15]** and **[M17]**. The relationship of the walls to each other was not examined here. Since there is no sufficient connection of this sounding to the older excavations in the neighbouring areas and because there were hardly any finds recorded, the finds from 1983 are discussed here separately (see below), even more so, as they represent a sequence. The specifics of the ovens **[M165]** and

[231] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 3–4 December 1983.
[232] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 4, Phase E/3.
[233] Section no A56-31 for both walls, base level ca 4.70 m/NN for **[M15]** and base level 4.85 m/NN for **[M17]**.

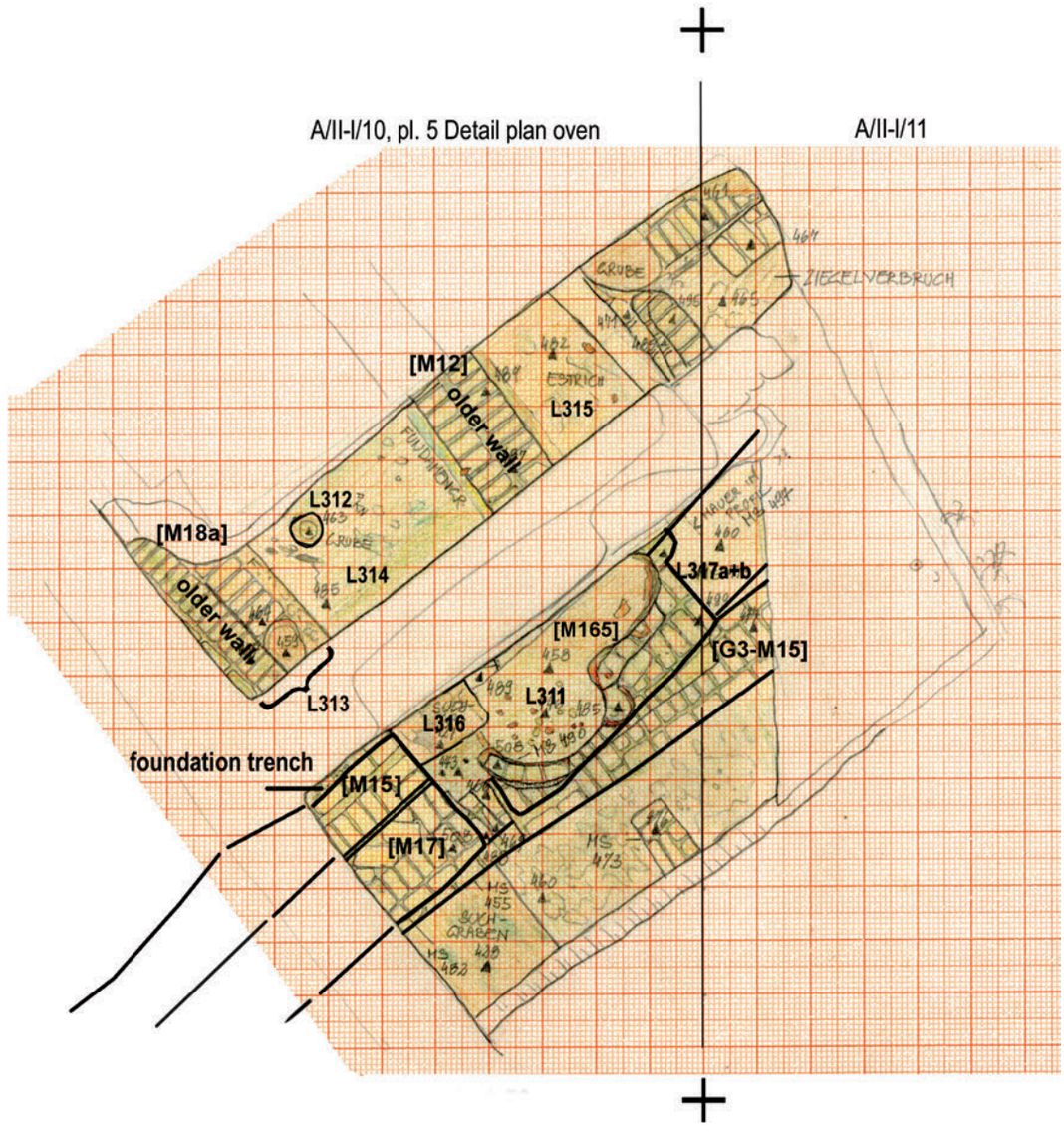


Fig. 3.21 Plan drawing of the oven (all phases combined), TDplan 1642 drawn by H.C.S, scale 1:75

[M166] on the other hand, will be discussed below (98–102), because they seem to have been used after the walls described above had fallen into disuse at least partly. With the view that Oven 1 in the next square A/II-l/11 belongs in Phase G/2–1[234] it seems most likely to assume that Oven 1 and Oven 2 were built and used at least at roughly the same time. Whilst for Oven 1 an end of use in or before Phase F can be ascertained, it is possible that Oven 2 may have been included in the remaining design of Compound 11 and may have been used longer.

Finds from the excavation in 1983 in A/II-l/10

From this re-excavation six sherd collections (K3767, K3768, K3769, K3771, K3772 and K3817) were registered.

The loci mentioned in the following description are marked in the plan drawings (see Fig. 3.1, 3.2 and 3.21).

Definitely the oldest wall in this area is **[M18a]**,[235] which is visible in A/II-l/10, pl. 5. A similar wall but with a slightly different alignment is drawn into A/II-l/10 pl. 4 [not separately numbered]. Because no section

[234] A Phase F tomb group is cutting the oven, see below.

[235] It could not be connected to a building.

was recorded in this area, and the temple walls were left standing, it remains unclear whether this represents the same wall or two different ones.[236] The wall[s] was/were preserved both to about the same height of 4.63 m/NN and 4.64 m/NN, respectively. I do not believe that the plan drawing is wrong, but they could have been very badly preserved and overlaid each other.

L [316] – older than Compound 11 (Phase G/4 or G/3–1)

Probably the oldest material from this square is derived from a test trench, which was sunk into the area just south of the wall of the Mortuary Temple I (Phase E/2–1) and immediately adjacent to the east of walls **[M15] + [M17]**, **L [316]** (Fig. 3.21). This trench was sunk into the ground down to an elevation of 4.27 m/NN and therefore reaches well below the floor level of planum 5 (ca 4.60 m/NN), and should, therefore, contain ceramics older than the current architectural phase. No obvious disturbance was recorded in the plans or diary.

Pottery

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute
K3817. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5, H = 4.30–4.60 m/NN.

As not very much material was found [selected sherds],[237] the date range from Phase G/4 to the older part of Phase G/3–1 seems most likely (cf. Fig. 3.22). Arguments for an earlier than average date, are the relatively wide rim diameters of the hemispherical cups. The remainder of the material occurs in both phases elsewhere, and is thus of little help in deciding which phase the material belongs to.[238]

Objects made of pottery

A disc (79349) of ca 4.0 cm diameter was secondarily cut from a broken and re-used sherd. The sherd was also pierced in the middle (post-firing) so that the object seems most likely to have been used as a spindle whorl. The wall thickness of the sherd is ca 0.9 cm (Fig. 3.22.a).

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	Remarks
3817	79349	II.c.2.01	X	2	37

Vessel types

A.) Nile B2 pottery
A.a) Hemispherical cups
The hemispherical cups are of a wide, open shape with a (tentative) rim diameter of 13.0 cm (Fig. 3.22.b–c). The rims were painted with a red rim band. The fabric belongs to the slightly rougher variation of Nile B fabrics.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3817	79343	I.b.2.02	R	1	1	130?	2
3817	79342	I.b.2.02	R	1	1	130	7

B.) Nile C2 pottery
B.a) Large bowls
The large bowl with a thickened lip or just about turned outwards lip shows a very steep profile and a wide diameter (Fig. 3.22.d). The sherd was red slipped on the interior and the exterior and the rough Nile C2 fabric also showed an additional tempering with quartz, which is typical for the delta site of Tell el-Dabᶜa.[239]

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3817	79344	I.c.2.08	R	1	10	320	6	Sandy fabric

C.) Marl C1 pottery
C.a) Ovoid jars with corrugated/grooved necks
Two examples of corrugated/grooved necks were found in this context (Fig. 3.22.e–f). Whilst one was made with a high number of ribs and grooves (79345) it seems that the other was already very eroded making it impossible to be certain about the number of grooves and ribs.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPR	DM	DM-%
3817	79346	II.c.2.01	R	10	140	5
3817	79345	II.c.2.01	R	10	110	20

[236] It seems that M. Bietak interpreted them as one and the same wall because it does not occur in plan 2.
[237] Presumably this remark signifies that the diagnostics have been kept, whilst the undiagnostic body sherds were discarded.
[238] Cf. e.g. B. Bader, TD XIII, type 36, 108–124; type 46, 129–145
[239] This is a rather rare type at Tell el-Dabᶜa: Cf. K. Kopetzky, TD XX/2, fig. 29. K3479, ph. G/4, note that the rims are still assigned to one single type although their forms differ.

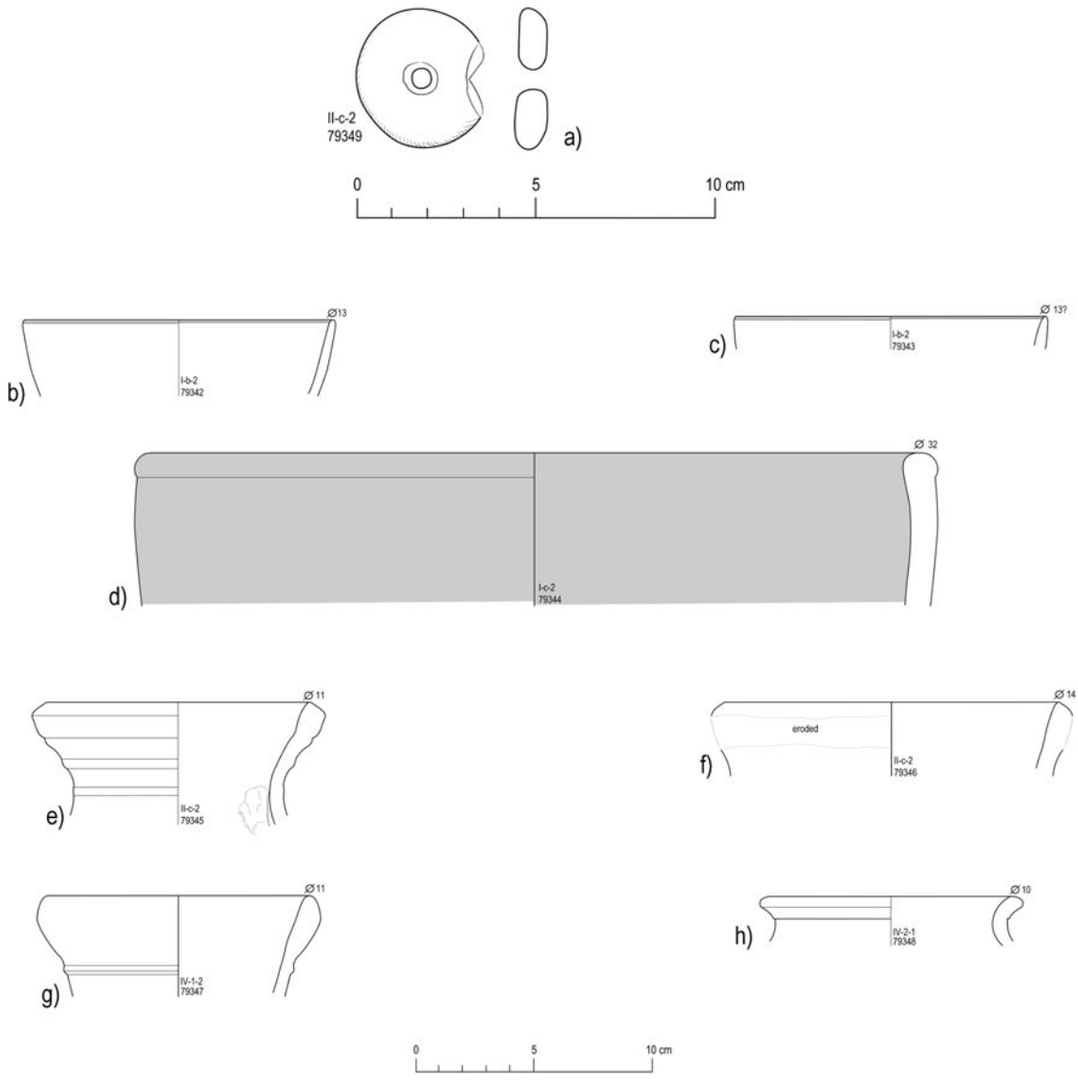


Fig. 3.22 Pottery from L [316], konvolute K3817

D.) Imported pottery

D.a) Large transport amphorae

The rims of transport amphorae were folded outwards and fastened on to the exterior of the neck (Fig. 3.22.g–h). Whilst the first (79347) has an elongated lip with a well pronounced raised rib at the neck, the other one (79348) was much shorter and reminds one of the Marl C-medium jars with bulbous rims. Scrutiny of the fabric, however, makes it certain that this vessel was not made in Egypt.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3817	79347	IV.1.2.01. 00.00.25	R	1	10	110	17
3817	79348	IV.2.1.01	R		10	100	6

The number of body sherds of the fabric groups was not recorded.

Distribution of Vessel types in context **L [316]**

Vessel type	Rim eves	Percent
Hemisph. cups B2	0.09	14.3%
Large bowls C2	0.06	9.5%
Ovoid jars with corrugated neck Marl C1	0.25	39.8%
Imported amphorae	0.23	36.4%
Grand total	0.63	100%

L [313] Small test trench

To the same phase belongs the ceramic material from **L [313]**, which is a small trench dug into space **L [314]** (see Fig. 3.21). At the bottom of this space wall **[M18a]** and an older wall appeared.

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute
K3772. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5, H = 4.64–4.84 m/NN.
The corpus comprises a typical collection of settlement pottery types (Fig. 3.23).

A.) Nile B1 pottery
A.a) Hemispherical/carinated cups
The rim fragment of such a cup without red rim band and with a quite straight contour suggests rather a carinated than a hemispherical cup. The rim diameter is 11.0 cm (Fig. 3.23.a).

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3772	79330	I.b.1.01	R	1	1	105?	5

A.b) Base of closed (?) form
Most probably this fragment belongs to a closed vessel type because the rilling lines are visible on the interior and traces of a red slip were only visible on the exterior (Fig. 3.23.b). The base was hand modelled and has a diameter of 4.0 cm.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPB	DM	DM-%
3772	79332	I.b.1.06	B	1	3	40	15

B.) Nile B2 pottery
B.a) Hemispherical cups
These two fragments were assigned to the same type although sherd 79331 has a rim diameter of about 15.0 cm (Fig. 3.23.c–d). Because it could not be measured with certainty it seems more appropriate to list this fragment here. That sherd also sports a red rim band and shows a slightly incurved contour.[240] The other fragment 79329 is by contrast more straight and without a red rim band.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3772	79329	I.b.2.01	R	1	1	100	15
3772	79331	I.b.2.02	R	1	1	150?	3

B.b) Ringstands
The base of a ringstand with typical scraping marks on the interior from the manufacturing process and a red slip on the exterior belongs to this context (Fig. 3.23.e).

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPB	DM	DM-%
3772	79333	I.b.2.06	B	1	30	100	6

[240] This form is equivalent to Bourriau's and Gallorini's 'closed hemispherical cup' shape. The present author defines it differently. Cf. J. Bourriau and C. Gallorini, *Survey of Memphis VIII: Kom Rabia: The Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period Pottery, Levels VIII to VI*, Egypt Exploration Society, Excavation Memoir 108, London 2016, 40; B. Bader, TD XIX, 202, fig. 162, fig. 175.

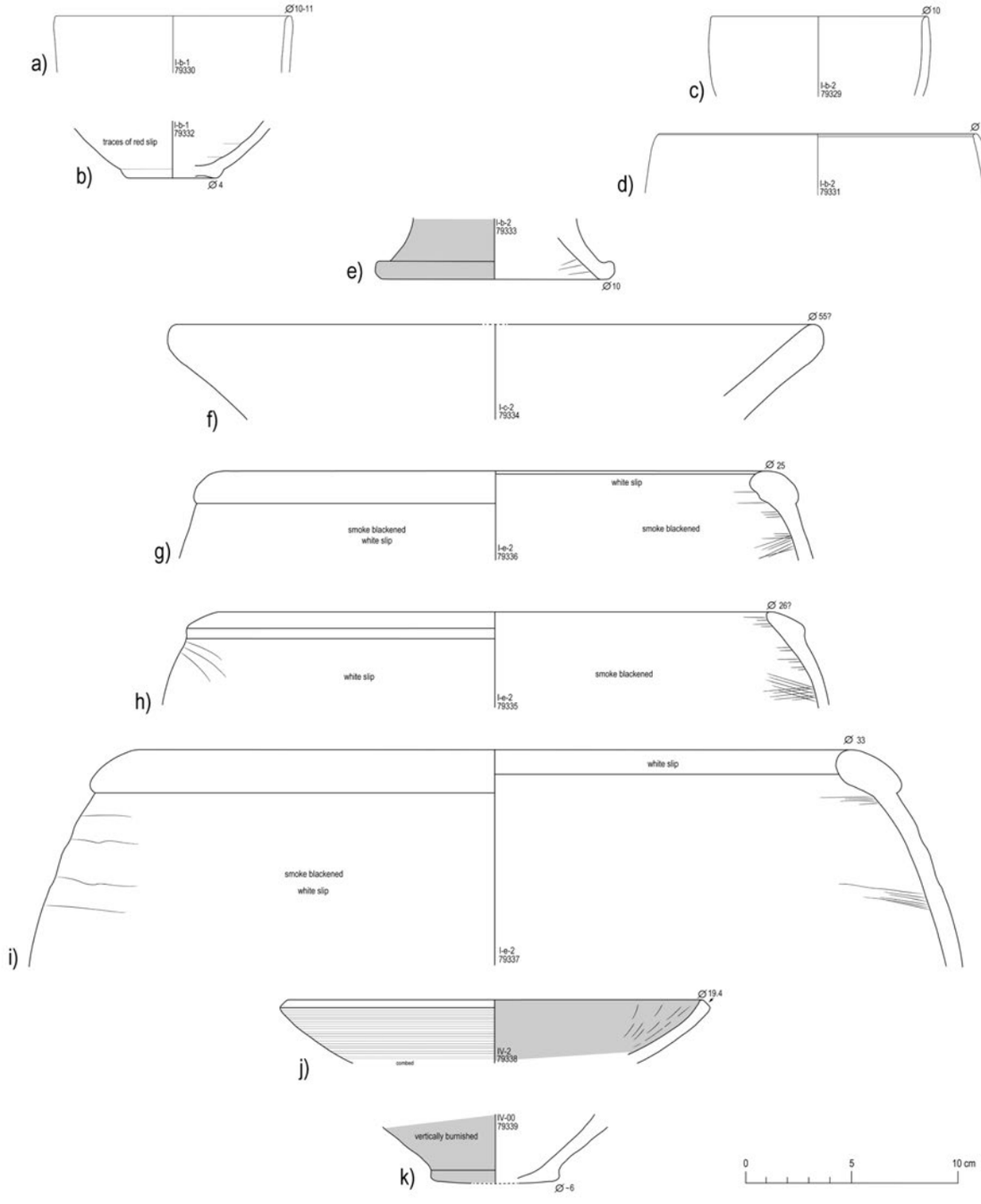


Fig. 3.23 Pottery from L [313], konvolute K3772

C.) Nile C2 pottery

C.a) Large dishes/plates

A direct rim of Nile C2 without any slip shows a quite steep stance, so that it may belong to the dish category (Fig. 3.23.f). The rim diameter is approximately around 55.0 cm but as usual such fragments are difficult to measure with accuracy if only a small percentage is preserved.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3772	79334	I.c.2.01	R	1	1	550?	3

D.) Nile E2 pottery

D.a) Large restricted bowls

The restricted bowls follow the known parameters of the type (Fig. 3.23.g–i). The rim diameters are from 25.0 cm to 33.0 cm. All of them were more or less smoke blackened or smoke stained. Their shoulders are not pronounced and their contours are falling quite steeply. The manufacturing technology is like most of these vessels coiled by hand and then the top was connected by hand with visible smear marks at the connection. Subsequently the rim was turned on a turning device. A white slip had been applied and in two cases the slip reached over and inside the vessel to form a white rim band on the interior. Whether this is an accidental feature or a speciality of the local pottery in the *chaîne operatoire*, remains unclear at present.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3772	79336	I.e.2.D1	R	2	10	250	9	Smoke blackened interior/exterior
3772	79335	I.e.2.15	R	2	10	260?	3	Smoke blackened interior
3772	79337	I.e.2.D1	R	2	10	330	11	Smoke blackened exterior

E.) Imported pottery

E.a) Fine wares: jugs

Imported material is represented by one base with a red slip that had been subsequently burnished vertically (Fig. 3.23.k). The technology of the base was not well preserved, and it could have been made on the wheel. Most probably the base belonged to a medium sized jug.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPC	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3772	79339	IV.00.06.22	B	1	1	1	60	30	Base technology unclear

E.b) Plates/dishes with inturned lip

One of the rare imported dishes belongs in this context (Fig. 3.23.j). Whilst the sherd was visibly combed (horizontally) on the exterior without any coloured slip, the interior shows a red slip with vertical burnishing. The inturned lip has almost become a thickened rim only that had been trimmed on the exterior edge with a tool. The diameter is about 20.0 cm.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPC	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3772	79338	IV.2.1.07.23	R	1	1	99	194	14	Sandy variant of fabric, Edge of vessel trimmed with tool

Distribution of pottery vessel types in **L [313]**

Vessel type	Rim eves	Percent
Hemisph./carinated cups B1	0.05	8.4%
Hemisph. cups B2	0.15	25.0%
Dishes C2	0.03	5.0%
Restricted bowls E2	0.23	38.3%
Imported dishes	0.14	23.3%
Grand total	0.60	100%

The non-diagnostic body sherds of this context were not counted.

L [312] Small pit dug into space L [314]

For the position of this locus see Fig. 3.21. The finds from a small pit **L [312]** north of the Mortuary Temple wall comprise the shoulder of a Late Period Phoenician amphora (reg.no 7350 V, not shown)[241] as well as some imported and Egyptian pottery (konvolute K3771). The lowest elevation measured there is at 4.63 m/NN. The ceramic finds are, thus, contaminated. For this reason this material is not shown here.

L [317a and b] test trench

Another test trench was sunk into the eastern corner of the southern half of the square L **[317]**. Two layers were excavated **L [317a and b]** (see Fig. 3.21) where **L [317b]** is the older layer and will therefore be considered first. **L [317a]** is later and discussed below (see 96).

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L [317 b]

Pottery

From the lower layer **L [317b]** a sherd collection quite typical for the lower layers of Phase G/3–1 was recorded (see Fig. 3.24)

Relevant sherd collections/konvolutes

K3768. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5, H = 4.60–4.80 m/NN (Fig. 3.24).

A.) Nile B1 pottery

A.a) Hemispherical cups

The material includes three fragments of hemispherical cups with rim diameters of 10.0, 12.0 and 14.0 cm (Fig. 3.24.a–c). The widest fragment did not show a red rim band, but the others did. All are of open shape.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3768	79350	I.b.1.02	R	1	1	100	9
3768	79351	I.b.1.02	R	1	1	120	9
3768	79352	I.b.1.01	R	1	1	140	6

B.) Nile B2 pottery

B.a) Hemispherical cups

One slightly coarser hemispherical cup rim sherd with 12.0 cm rim diameter and open shape together with the finer cups (see above) represent the fine wares of Nile clay fabric in this context (Fig. 3.24.d).

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3768	79353	I.b.2.01	R	1	1	120	11	Surface eroded

B.b) Ringstands

There were four fragments of Nile B2 ringstands one with red slip and horizontal burnishing, the others uncoated/eroded or with red slip (Fig. 3.24.e–h). One of the fragments is very small and may have belonged to a small to medium jar type. These fragments can be considered very usual in the settlement pottery repertoire.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3768	79355	I.b.2.01	R	1	10		120?	6	Sandy variant of fabric
3768	79371	I.b.2.08	R		10		100	6	Perhaps belongs to a jar
3768	79354	I.b.2.08.03	R	1	10		100	13	
3768	79356	I.b.2.06	B	1		30	140	6	

[241] Cf. E. Bettles, *Phoenician Amphora Production and Distribution in the Southern Levant: a Multi-Disciplinary Investigation into Carinated-shoulder Amphorae of the Persian Period (539–332 BC)*, BAR IS, Oxford 2003.

C.) Nile C2 pottery

C.a) Large jars (‘beer’ jars)

The fragment of a ‘beer’ jar rim with kettle mouth was too eroded on the exterior surface to be certain whether it had been red slipped or not (Fig. 3.24.i). The fabric contained a higher amount of quartz as tempering agent than usual. The Aperture index 2 is with 473.9 well suited for the Phases G/3–1.[242]

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%	Type	Remarks
3768	79357	I.c.2.06	R	1	10	100	18	19c	Sandy variant of fabric. Surface eroded

C.b) Large ringstands (?)

The fragment tentatively identified as a large ringstand shows a very large rim diameter and a folded rim (Fig. 3.24.j). As with the other Nile C2 sherd (Fig. 3.24.i) a higher quartz content in the fabric was noted.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3768	79358	I.c.2.01	R	1	10	260	11	Sandy variant of fabric

D.) Nile E2 pottery

D.a) Large restricted bowls

These examples of large restricted bowls with a white slip on the exterior and a white rim band on the interior follow the usual manufacturing technology of this type with coiled bodies and turned folded rims (Fig. 3.24.k–l). These two did not show traces of smoke staining.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	DM	DM-%
3768	79360	I.e.2.D1	R	2	10	300	9
3768	79359	I.e.2.D1	R	2	10	260	6

E.) Marl C1 pottery

E.a) Large storage jars

The rim fragment of a large storage jar exhibits a modelled rim type with a more bulbous appearance than the simpler and mostly later forms (Fig. 3.24.m–n).[243] The rim was turned whilst the body of the vessel was hand made.

The set-off base with a diameter of 12.0 cm was made in a mould, which is exemplified by the finger marks on the interior of the vessel. The base resembles that of a complete jar discovered at Dahshur.[244] Such bases (but not the tops) are also known from Tell el-Dabᶜa.[245]

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	DM	DM-%	Type
3768	79361	II.c.2.01	R	2	10		290	9	67c
3768	79366	II.c.2.01	B			19	120	50	68

F.) Imported pottery

F.a) Fine wares: carinated bowls

The well preserved base of a carinated bowl is quite special in this context, because it shows a very sharp carination (Fig. 3.24.o). That the two non-joining sherds belong to the same vessel is quite likely because the firing of the fabric was very distinctive and unusual, whilst the diameters of the sherds allow for the presumed reconstruction shown in the drawing. The vessel was red slipped on the exterior and vertically burnished even

[242] Z. Szafranski, Seriation and Aperture Index, fig. 4.

[243] Cf. B. Bader, TD XIX, fig. 143, type 3.

[244] J.P. Allen and S. Allen, Two Vessels with Measured Commodities from Dahshur, in: E. Czerny, I. Hein, H. Hunger, D. Melman and A. Schwab (eds), *Timelines: Studies in Honour of Manfred Bietak*, OLA 149/1, Leuven 2006, fig. 3, 29–36.

[245] B. Bader, TD XIII, cat.no 336–337, Phases G/3–1 to F.

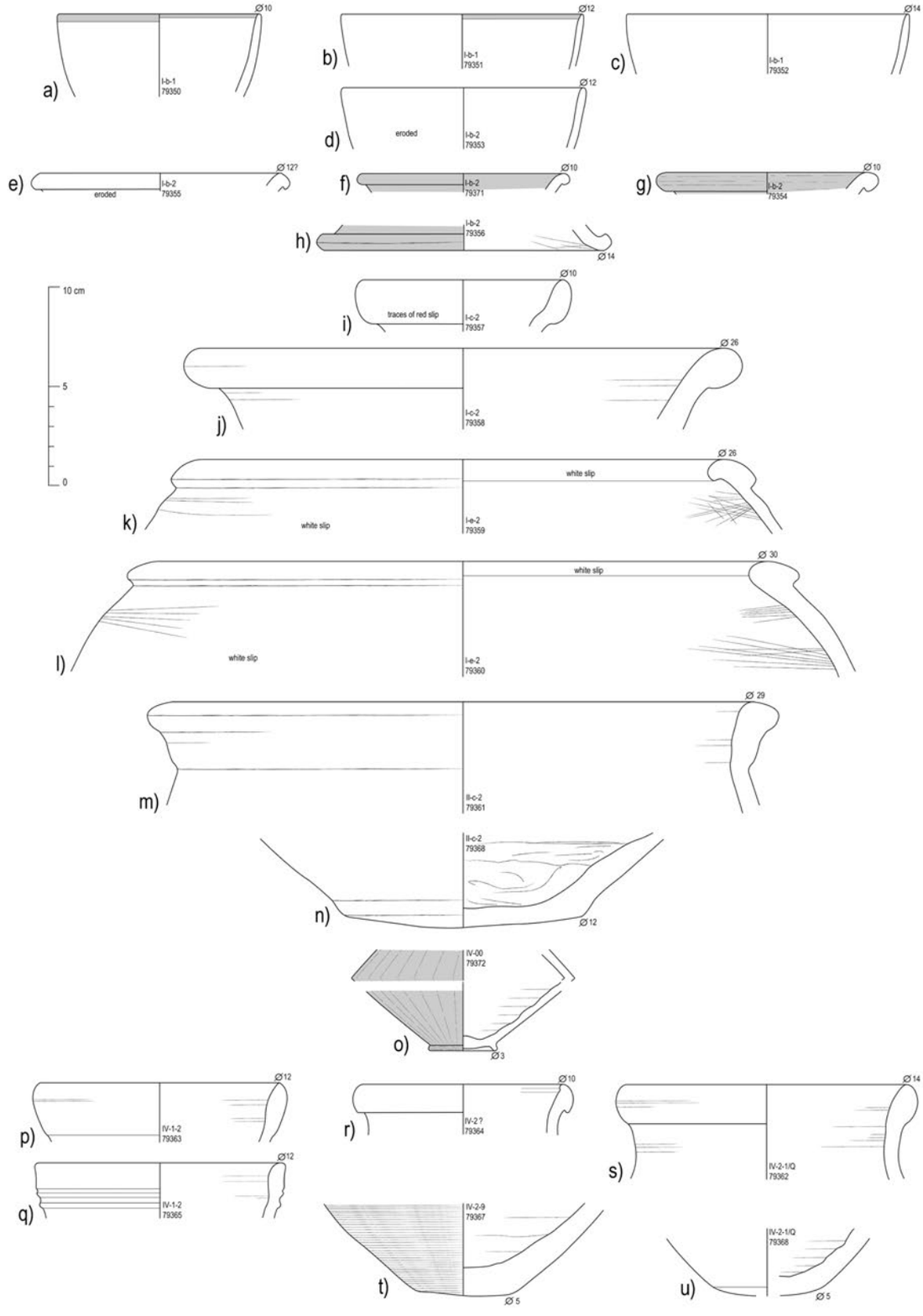


Fig. 3.24 Pottery from L [317b], konvolute K3768

over the sharp carination. Only the exterior of the base was burnished horizontally. Slip and burnishing were also applied on the underside of the base in a ring pattern. This is a very rare type in the settlement repertoire.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPB	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3768	79372	IV.2.1.06.26	B	1	1	30	94	Uncertain identification of subgroup of fabric; burnished under base, round

F.b) Large transport amphorae

The imported transport amphorae were as usual again present in the form of rims, bases and handle fragments (the non-diagnostic body sherds were not counted by fabric group) (Fig. 3.24.p–u). The fabric families IV-1, IV-2 and IV-3 were identified. One of the bases was probably made in a mould (79367) whilst the other was wheel turned although irregular (79368). Only the identification of one small rim fragment with modelled shape and sharp grooves (79364) was not entirely certain. It is thinner than the average amphora rim, and not typically elongated, but the lack of colour-slip and burnishing makes the identification as a jar equally doubtful. No exact *comparanda* exist.

KONV-no	Sherd-no	WARE	PART	SPP	SPR	SPB	SPC	DM	DM-%	Remarks
3768	79363	IV.1.2.01	R		10			120	5	
3768	79365	IV.1.2.01.00.00.D4	R		10			120	15	
3768	79362	IV.2.1.01	R	1	10			140	6	Sandy variant of fabric
3768	79368	IV.2.1.01	B			01		50	28	Sandy variant of fabric
3768	79364	IV.2.01	R		10			100	9	Identification of fabric uncertain
3768	79369	IV.2.9.01	HT	2			11	26	100	
3768	79367	IV.2.9.01.00.00.D5	B			19	1	50	88	
3768	79370	IV.3.2.01	HT	2			11	37	100	

Distribution of pottery vessel types **L [317b]**.

Vessel type	Rim eves	Percent
Hemisph. cups B1	0.24	16.2%
Hemisph. cups B2	0.11	7.4%
Ringstands B2	0.25	16.9%
‘Beer’ jars C2	0.18	12.2%
Potstands C2	0.11	7.4%
Restricted bowls E2	0.15	10.1%
Storage jars Marl C1	0.09	6.1%
Imported amphorae	0.35	23.7%
Grand total	1.48	100%

Non-diagnostic sherds have not been recorded from this context.

L [317a]

Overlaying the previous context was **L [317a]**.

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute

K3769. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5, H = 4.99–5.10 m/NN, (see plan Fig. 3.21).

The ceramic corpus represented by this sherd collection contains at least two sherds that appear to be later than Phase G/3–1 in comparative analysis with other parts of the site. Among these is one jar rim with inner and outer lip (Bader type 39o),[246] that occurs most frequently in the later Second Intermediate Period Phases E/2 to D/2. The other clearly intrusive sherd is a Late Period *desheret*[247] ('goldfish') bowl with a wet smoothed outer surface.[248] Contamination probably happened after the material was excavated, because a relatively long time went by before the sherds were processed.

Apart from those fragments the collection looks homogeneous and can be attributed to Phase G/3–1 and/or F. The types comprise one Nile B1 hemispherical cup rim (rim diameter 9.0–10.0) of open shape and two bases, a Nile C1 basin with inturned rim and lip, a Nile B2 jar rim fragment (?), a large Nile C2 beer jar rim with a very thick lip (it could be a stand but the rim diameter of 10.0 cm and the white slip on the interior and exterior may speak against this suggestion). Further, there was a Nile E2 cooking pot rim with a massive lip, probably handmade and smoke stained on the inside. One Nile D (or perhaps imported) juglet without rim, but the preserved double stranded handle scar was red slipped and burnished. The imported wares are relatively numerous making 73.0% of this assemblage. Amphorae are relatively rare, but red slipped and burnished jars or carinated bowls with a rim diameter from 8.0 to 13.0 cm are quite frequent. More unusual shapes are represented by dishes with inturned rim with a diameter of 20.0 cm, as well as by larger and probably handle less storage jars. The shape of the amphora rims is known from other contexts as well. The fabrics found include the IV-2 fabric group (for most of the red burnished jar rims), the sandy variant of IV-2-1 and examples of IV-1-2, IV-2-13, IV-2-15 and IV-2-8, which may be subgroups of the larger IV-2 fabric group. Because there are intrusive pottery fragments included in this sherd collection it is not illustrated.

L [314]/[315] Fill of "room"

Pottery

The last sherd collection is derived from the area north of the Mortuary Temple I wall, partly in **L [314]** and **L [315],** before the older wall dividing this area in two was discovered. This material represents the latest pottery from the re-excavation in 1983.

Relevant sherd collection/konvolute

K3767. Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5, H = 5.10–5.30 m/NN. 0–20 cm below the level of the bench of Mortuary Temple I. This material might date to Phases (G/1–)F because no obviously intrusive material was found in the collection but the elevation would be very high to really belong to anything else than fill. For this reason this collection is not illustrated.

One Nile B1 hemispherical cup with a rim diameter of 10.0 cm was found as well as a base of the same vessel type. The base of a Nile B2 hemispherical cup and a base of a ring based bowl were also found, but the surface of the latter was too eroded to be sure if it was turned on the wheel (my impression was that it was not). A base fragment of a ringstand made from Nile B2 with some quartz inclusions represents this pottery type and also the complete profile of a ringstand made from Nile B1 with red slip on the outside and about halfway down the inside. The ringstand does not have the usual folded lips at the rim and the bottom but is only slightly thickened. A shallow dish or lid with direct rounded rim made of Nile B2 has a rim diameter of 14.0 cm. The type of Nile C2 potstands is represented by a massive bulbous base. Copies of Middle Bronze Age pottery are represented by a bowl with inturned rim of Nile E1 with lime (perhaps Nile D) and a jar rim of Nile E2 with lime with a red slip and horizontal burnishing on the outside.[249] A range of Nile E2 hole mouth jars some with very small lips, but where detectable all made by hand with a turned rim; all were white slipped on the outside and one example burnt in and out. One type 5 Marl C1 storage jar rim with a square section was found.[250] The imported wares again include jar rims, red slipped and burnished mostly horizontal on the rim and vertical on the neck. Two fragments of 'ivy leaf' shaped imported storage

[246] B. Bader, TD XIX, fig. 190, 321.

[247] M. Raven, Desheret Bowls and Canopic Jars, in: D. Aston, B. Bader, C. Gallorini, P. Nicholson and S. Buckingham (eds), *Under the Potter's Tree, Studies on Ancient Egypt Presented to Janine Bourriau on the Occasion of her 70th Birthday*, OLA 204, 795–808.

[248] Kindly and unequivocally identified by D.A. Aston.

[249] Parallels for these are B. Bader, TD XIX, type 88c drawing D331, fig. 224 for the dish and type 98f in fig. 230.

[250] Cf. B. Bader, TD XIX, fig. 143.

jar rims[251] are also present as well as some other usual amphora rim shapes. The fabrics belong to the IV-2 group, one of them with ample quartz inclusions.

Animal bones

J. Boessneck and A. von den Driesch analysed the animal bones found below the bench of Mortuary Temple I and due to the position sketch and date of discovery should belong to the same locus as konvolute K3767. Sample **T84/167**.[252] Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5. 0–0.4 m below the "bench".[253]
Cattle: 1 neurocranium; 1 and vert. cerv.; 2 vert. thor.; 4 vert. lumb.; 1 sacrum; 10 costae; 1 humerus; 3 carpalia; 3 metacarpus; 1 pelvis; 4 femur; 1 patella; 2 tibia; 1 talus; 4 metatarsus; 2 phalanx 2.
Sheep: 1 epistropheus; 1 scapula; 3 humerus; 1 pelvis; 1 metatarsus; 1 phalanx 1.
Sheep/goat: 1 mandibula; 2 atlas; 1 vert. thor.; 2 vert. lumb.; 2 sternum; 3 scapula; 2 humerus; 2 radius; 1 metacarpus; 3 pelvis; 1 femur; 3 tibia.
Goat: 1 epistropheus; 1 scapula; 1 metacarpus; 1 phalanx 1.
Pig: 1 and vert. cerv.; 1 scapula; 1 humerus; 1 radius; 2 metatarsus; 2 phalanx 2.

Distribution of animal bones in **L [314]/[315]**

cattle	sheep	sheep/goat	goat	pig	unidentified
41	12	30	5	11	2

The industrial ovens [M165] and [M166]

Oven 2 (**L [311]**) is constituted by a keyhole shaped wall **[M165],** which was excavated in the later sounding in 1983. Most of the oven was excavated, only the northernmost part was situated below a wide wall of Mortuary Temple I and two attached benches, which were at first not dismantled according to the wishes of the then Egyptian Antiquities Service. Two test trenches were sunk into the eastern half of square A/II-l/10.[254] Three different layers were detected under the 'pro-naos and naos' dividing wall of the Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1.[255] Wall **[M15] and [M17]** (see Fig. 3.21, 3.27) were cut by a pit into which Oven 2 was set. Below these two another wall, **[G/3-M15]**, is visible. The published plan[256] does take the new plan drawing into account in as far as wall **[M17]** is added, which was cut by the oven. Only scant remains are preserved. **[M17]** belongs to Compound 11 and its base level is at an elevation of 4.82 m/NN. It consists of a one and 1/2 mud-brick's width (ca 0.8 m) wide wall and is up to three courses preserved (brick measurements: 32–31 cm × 15.5 cm; colour 7.5 YR 6/4–6 light brown to reddish yellow). The actual oven was not included in the published plan and marked with the label 'Störung/Ofen'. In the first publication the oven was assigned to Phase G/2–1, in any case at a time when the dwelling had fallen out of use or at least that part of it.[257] There is no real reason to assume that the southern part of Compound 11 could not have been used longer e.g. until the end of Phase G/3–1. The only argument against this supposition lies in the fact that the fumes of that oven would have polluted the air in the area of Room/Space **L [107]**, although the position of the doorways may have accommodated this problem.

Considering the fact that Oven 1 in square A/II-l/11 (see 99–101) quite securely belongs to Phase G/3–1 (cut by a tomb group of Phase F) it may be suggested that the second oven was also built in Phase G/2–1. Oven 2 may have been in use as late as Phase F, because the walls **[M15]** and **[M17]** and the top elevation of the oven are at 5.08 m/NN. The state of preservation of only 0.26 m is usual. The relation of the oven to the surrounding later walls cannot be ascertained too well, because a later pit cut away the top of the oven, which is duly marked in the published plan as "Störung".

The keyhole shaped oven **L [311]** had a (preserved) diameter of ca 1.20 m. The contour of the oven was laid out by headers in key-hole shape. The section of the oven (Fig. 3.27) at least suggests that it had been built free-standing although it cut into existing walls. The excavation proceeded down at least 0.6 m and it seems as if the original brickwork of the oven was visible (see also Fig. 3.25–3.26). The photos show the interior of the oven during the excavation with the four brick courses of the outer core of the oven preserved. Thus, it seems as if the oven was built from bricks starting at a presumed base level of ca 4.55 m/NN.

[251] Cf. B. Bader, TD XIX, fig. 280, type 1980.
[252] Photo P8201886. The identification of the bones was conducted by J. Boessneck and A. von den Driesch.
[253] This means that at least some of the bone material may belong to Phase G.
[254] Planum 5, Plan no 1642, only partially excavated under the benches of Temple I.
[255] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 3–4 December 1983.
[256] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
[257] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.



Fig. 3.25 Oven L [311] in A/II-l/10, pl. 5 view towards north, TDcolour 2390

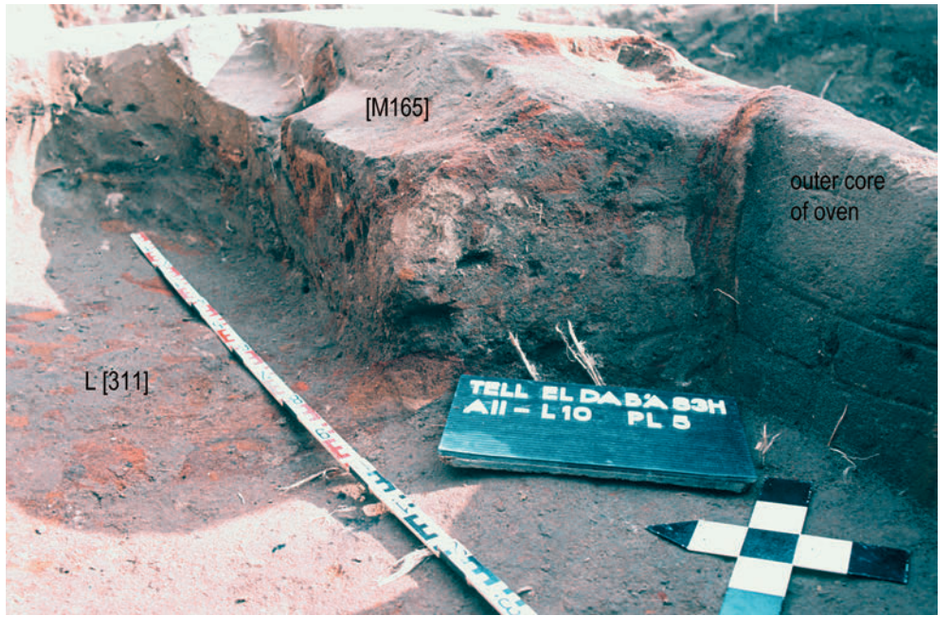


Fig. 3.26 Oven L [311] in A/II-l/10, pl. 5 view towards north-east, TDcolour 2389

Interestingly there was no wall connected to Oven 1 (see below, 100) and perhaps there was none with Oven 2 (Fig. 3.28). East of the key-hole shaped opening of the oven, there is a channel with possible reinforcement of it (see reddish tubing in the section, which may have been a kind of mud-brick tube that became totally burnt and subsequently eroded, Fig. 3.27). The tubular front was interpreted as a means to facilitate the emptying of the oven hole proper. There is a possibility that the tube like channel was used for airing the oven. This feature was perhaps meant to facilitate the air flow or a mechanism in connection with bellows of unknown description. It is possible that the position of the tubing remains was caused by destruction of the oven during levelling for the later building stages as a winding air tubing system does not seem to be

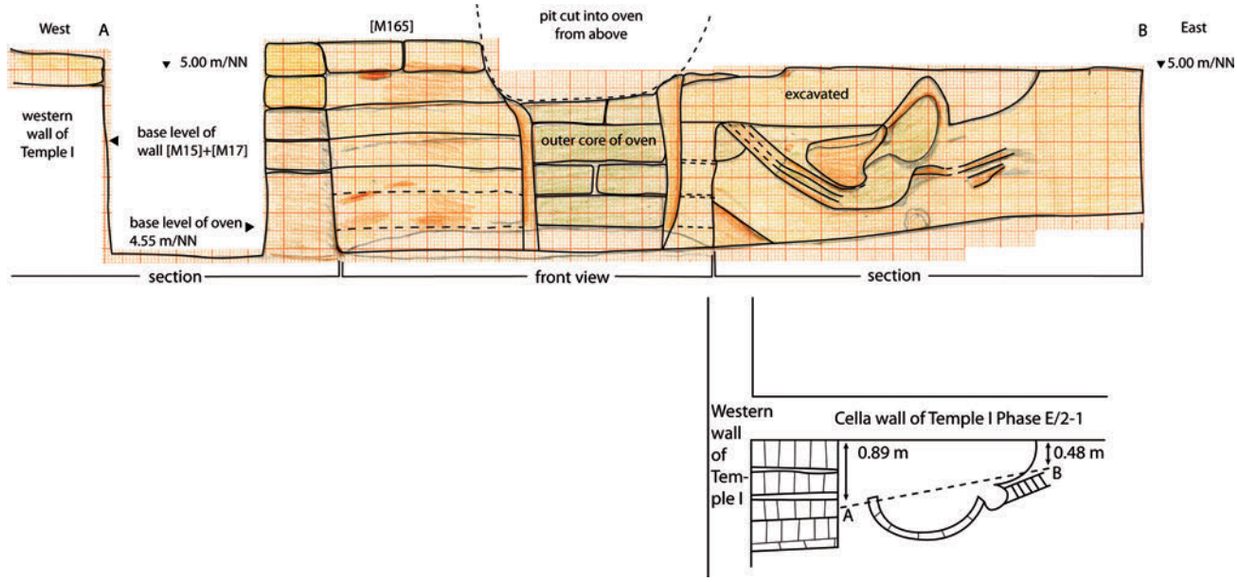


Fig. 3.27 West-east section through the oven L [311], combined with front view, scale 1:20, TDplan no 1641. Drawing by J. Dorner, graphics by B. Bader

practicable for any industry.[258] Burnt rubble of bricks situated in the substructure of the oven shows according to M. Bietak[259] that the oven was at least once torn down and rebuilt again (Fig. 3.25–3.26). The structure to the west of the oven, a 'platform' constituted by the older walls **[M15]** and **[M17]**, might have been used as placement area for products coming out of the oven or about to go inside.[260] An astonishing fact, though, is that there are traces of heavy burning, but there are no overly thick ash accumulations in or around the oven as if it had been cleared regularly and the refuse dumped elsewhere. The colour coding of the plan drawing shows the usual clayey and sand tempered mud-bricks and rubble derived from it, but not massive burning.

The absence of kiln wasters, ceramic waste and massive ash deposits in general led M. Bietak to believe that the installation was used for smelting.[261] The presence of at least two limestone moulds for tools although not in the direct vicinity and not *in situ* provides some additional evidence (cf. chapter 2, 58–60). Another possibility might be a bread oven which may appear rectangular or rounded. The absence of massive ash deposits seems to speak against such identification.[262]

In square A/II-l/11 another key-hole shaped oven was unearthed, **[M166]**. Oven 1 is only partly preserved, because its northern part was cut away by a later tomb (A/II-l/11-no 4, Phase F)[263] and not excavated in the next square west, because Mortuary Temple I was not dismantled.[264] Thus, only part of this feature was excavated and at first interpreted as a rounded silo with a paved floor. The base level of this structure is at 4.60 m/NN.[265] Only the first brick course and the pavement itself were preserved (running metres 1.70–3.26 from north to south). The oven is oriented north east south west with a stoking hole in the north east. No finds were made in the area around this oven and it only became clear what type of feature existed here, when the second more complete one was discovered ca 1.75 m towards the south-west, situated in square A/II-l/10. The western section of A/II-l/11 shows that this oven is very close to the foundation trench of

[258] I thank M. Bietak and M. Mehofer for discussing this oven with me, personal communications May 2017.
[259] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 3–4 December 1983, p. 2.
[260] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.
[261] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.
[262] Cf. C. v. Pilgrim, *Elephantine XVIII*, 209–211; 213–214. For similar horseshoe shaped features at Elephantine from the Middle Kingdom see P. Kopp et al, Report on the 39th Season of Excavation and Restoration on the Island of Elephantine, 4-5.
[263] This is clearly visible in the western section of A/II-l/11 (A56), section nos A56-34 (oven) and A56-26 (tomb no 4). For the tomb see M. Bietak, TD V, 50–51.
[264] M. Bietak, TD V, 27 on demand of the EAO.
[265] Section A56, section no A56-34.

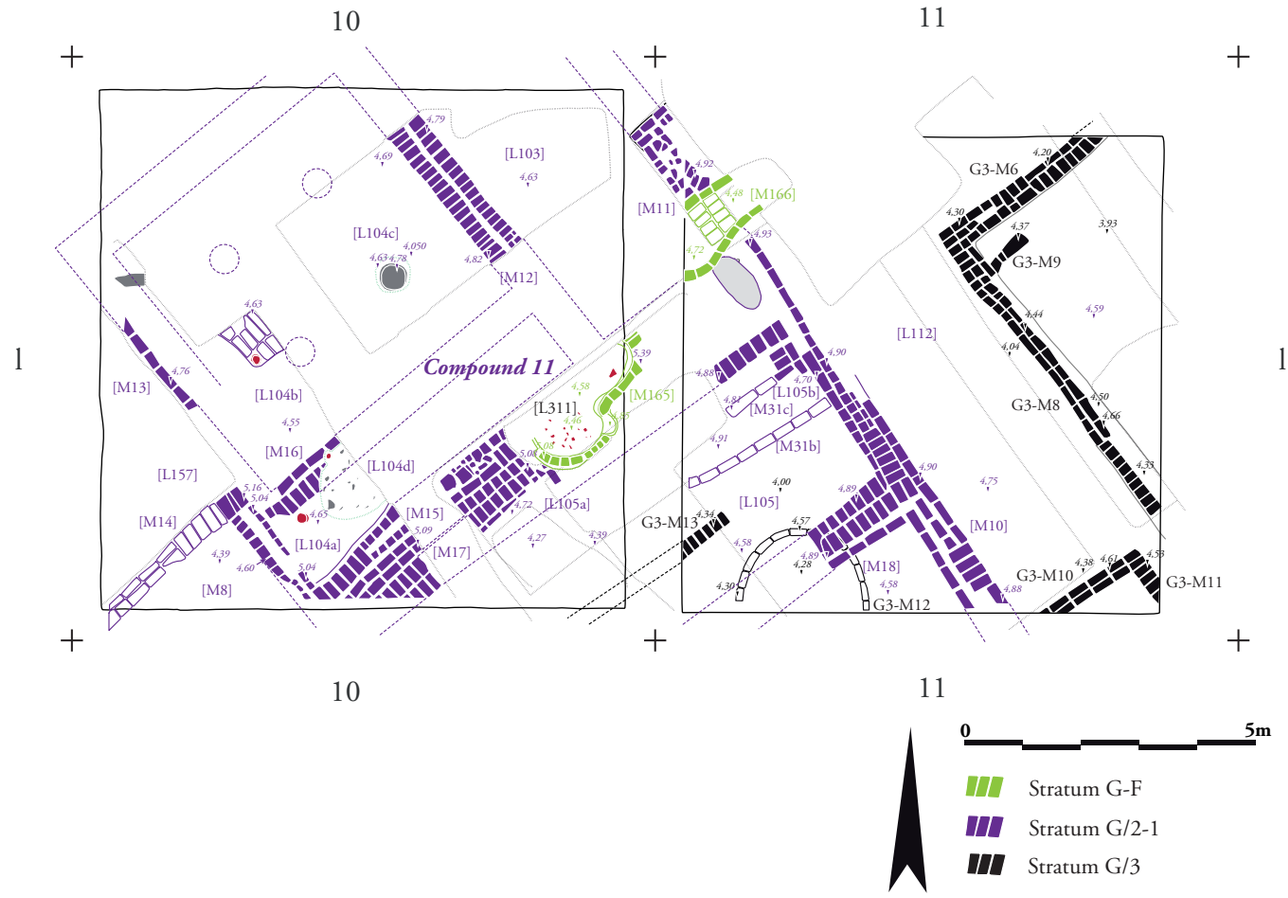


Fig. 3.28 Schematic drawing of ovens and relation to neighbouring walls.
Based on TDplans no 77 and 83 drawn by H. Swozilek, H.C.S. and J.E, graphic execution by N. Math

Wall **[M15]**, so that it is not entirely clear whether the trench cuts it or not. Similar absolute elevation seems to suggest that the **[M15]** and **[M166]** cannot be too far removed in time from each other and that the oven would be situated just outside Compound 11. Unfortunately a group of tombs of Phase F[266] cuts into this area so that the relation of **[M166]** to the building in the north and wall **[M11]** remains unclear. It seems likely that Oven 1 would have been active after the northern part of the building/northern building fell out of use. Thus, both ovens might have been active roughly at the same time.

Problems of this interpretation and for relative dating

1) The southern part of wall **[M12]**, which was continued east of the oven in the published plan, cannot belong to this wall, because in the plan the base level is given as 5.20 m/NN! Such an elevation lies well above the top of the oven. It has been removed from the plan in Fig. 3.1.
2) Wall **[G/3-M15]** seems to run below the oven, which probably cuts into it, and is recorded in section (A56) without section no at running metres 5.20–5.58 with a base level of 4.74 m/NN. In A/II-l/10 pl. 5 **[G/3-M15]** was recorded with 4.55 m/NN and therefore I would like to assign it to Phase G/3 (see Fig. 3.21).
3) Between the remains of the two cut walls **[M15]** adjacent to **[M17]** and the oven is a gap. Then along the same alignment there is another wide wall that was recorded in section (A56) as section A56-31 with a base level of 4.74 to 4.82 m/NN. They may be interpreted as two adjacent walls,

[266] A/II-l/11, tombs 1–4.

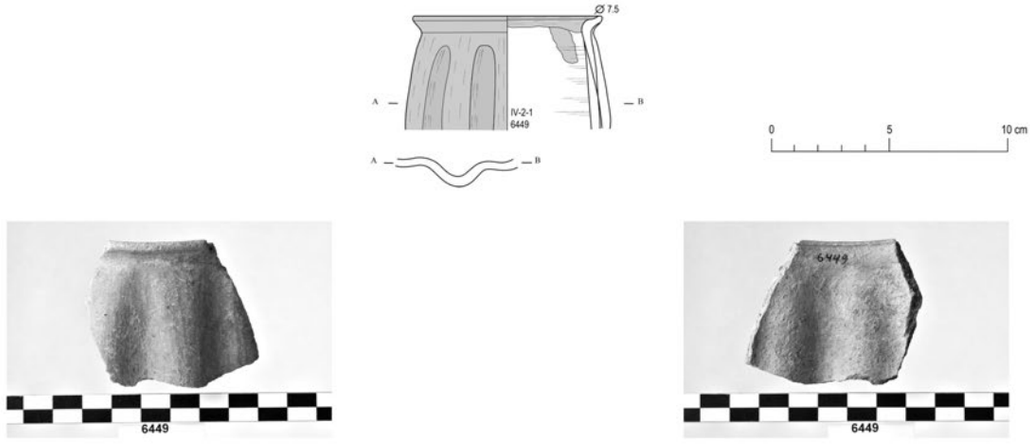


Fig. 3.29 Reg.no 6449, restricted vessel with undulating body from L [311], drawing by B. Bader, photos by A. Krause

one built at a slightly higher level than the other. This base level is almost in accord with the other base levels of Compound 11. Note that they are at a much higher elevation than in the other parts of the site during the early phases, which may be due to some topographical feature of the tell or to previous settlement debris.

Finds from L [311] – The oven

Pottery

Reg.no **6449** (TD), beaker with undulating body.[267] Position: A/II-l/10, pl. 5. From the [secondary?] fill of the oven **L [311]** H = 4.50–4.60 m/NN.[268] Although the position is not original the sherd fits well with the MBA tradition of Phases G/3–ca E/3. However, no direct parallels have been found. It dates after the end of the use phase of Oven 2, thus, probably to Phase F (Fig. 3.29).
Records: B/W negative SW2387/10, drawing ZN 116/88, redrawn and re-recorded.

RPTG	IV-2-1	m	W+H	–	ox	3

Rd. = 8.0 (14% preserved); max.d. = 8.7; wd. = 0.4 0.5; H1 = 4.8 +x.

Surface colour: burnishing on a red slip on exterior and on interior on rim 10 R 4/6 red; inside uncoated 7.5 YR 7/4 pink. Section: thin light grey core with thin pink oxidation zones; burnishing vertical outside and horizontal on the inside of the rim; the body of the beaker shows elongated vertical indentations, two of which are preserved; the vessel might have been designed with a metal vessel as template, but no immediate parallel was found.

Square A/II-l/11

Excavation and available records

The square was first excavated in autumn 1966 (planum 1–3[269]), whilst planum 4,[270] the last one investigated, was dug in 1967. The basic elevation of the tell met in this square before excavation was from 5.28 m/NN to 6.09 m/NN. On top of that mud-brick buildings were rising up in some parts to 6.87 m/NN belonging to Phase C (cf. the northern section of A/II-l/11[271]).

Planum 3 (basic elevation 4.58 m–5.12 m/NN[272]) seems to fit best in terms of levels and brick structures, thus, it was chosen for the overall plan of Phase G/2–1 and shows comparable levels for the floors (see Fig. 3.1).[273] Only a part of the walls, shown in planum 3,

[267] Cf. D. Aston, TD XII/1, 113; TD XII/2, pl. 94, cat.no 296, fabric I-d. Dating to „G/3–1 to F?“. This unique piece was assigned to the group of carinated bowls.
[268] A note was added by K. Kopetzky in the register book that this vessel was found directly inside the oven, presumably dating to str. F or E/3 without more information.
[269] TDplan nos 81–83.
[270] TDplan no 84.
[271] Section A7, TDplan no 90.
[272] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 1966 undated.
[273] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

belong to Phase G/3–1 as the later walls of Mortuary Temple I were left standing at this point.[274] Below, planum 4, excavated to a basic floor level of around 4.00 m/NN, only some structures in some places (elevation of around 3.95 m/NN) belong to the earlier Phase G/4 or H (see Fig. 5.4–5.5).

Archaeological documentation exists in the form of a digging diary, plan and section drawings (see above), layer descriptions, archival B/W negatives and photographs and slides, entries in the register book and object drawings.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-l/11)

From the archaeological documentation it becomes clear that the walls of Mortuary Temple I had base levels of roughly 4.70 m/NN (east wall), 4.75 m/NN (eastern division wall) 4.80 m/NN (south wall) to 5.02 m/NN (western division wall) in square A/II-l/11.[275] These differences in base levels may hint at pre-existing differences in elevation of the underlying area. This temple was set into foundation trenches which cut into the archaeological layers below. In Phases E/3 and F there seems to have been little to no archaeological activity in this area except for the construction of tombs, which seem to belong to the older Mortuary Temple I in the southern square (A/II-m/11).[276] These tombs also cut deeply into the older settlement layers, in one case down to 3.94 m/NN.[277] For this reason the older structures are often badly damaged and very disrupted, so that the connections of the settlement structures are quite hard to grasp.

The settlement levels below these activities were, thus, not easy to reconstruct. One feature shown in the previously published plan is the fallen wall (towards the east) that may have belonged to **[M11]** (see Fig. 3.30).[278]

The sections of the square will be discussed here in as far as relevant walls for the settlement layers of the late Middle Kingdom could be identified.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-l/11[279])

The northern section[280] (A7, drawn in 1967) is mainly characterised by the heavily sand tempered mud-brick walls of Mortuary Temple I (section nos A7-9 and A7-13; Phase E/2–1) and in the eastern part by tombs A/II-l/11-2 and A/II-l/11-3,[281] which destroyed the earlier levels in the western half of the section (no 10). In the lowest levels thick ash layers (section no A7-12) and heavily sand tempered mud rubble and brick walls **[H-M18]** (= section no A7-11b) and **[G/3-M6]** (= section no A7-11a) are present (see Fig. 5.1, 5.9). Their base levels are around 3.95 m/NN and 4.00 m/NN, respectively. Preservation is for both only two brick courses, reaching an elevation of 4.10 and 4.20 m/NN, respectively. The lowest elevation excavated in this square is ca 3.70 m/NN,[282] and thus Phase G/4 and most probably also Phase H were reached. The ashy layers were deposited up to a level of about 4.30 m/NN. The walls **[H-M18]**, **[G/3-M6]** and unnumbered remains of a wall built from sand tempered mud-bricks closeby, were defined as relative stratum f, which is equated with Phases G/4–3 in other sections of this square, while section no A7-12 lacks a relative designation. In squares A/II-k/11, A/II-k/12 and A/II-l/10 a similar ash layer was found to cover the settlement layers of the earliest Phase H, but burnt brick material, which would hint at destroyed architecture, was not mentioned in the records.

The western section[283] (A56, drawn in 1967, Fig. 3.31) was better preserved at the northern end (7.40 m/NN) than at the southern end (6.30 m/NN). In the western section the sand tempered mud-bricks of Phase

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[274] On demand of the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation, see M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2, in Fig. 3.1 these walls have been removed for clarity.

[275] See M. Bietak, TD V, plan 5.

[276] See M. Bietak, TD V, plans 3 and 4.

[277] Tomb A/II-l/11-no 1. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 4.

[278] See M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2, square A/II-l/11 "umgestürzte Mauer". In the schematic plans this collapse has been removed for clarity (see Fig. 3.30).

[279] The analyses of all sections were conducted by M. Bietak. The final inked versions are available for A/II-k/11-l/11 eastern section (A77–78); A/II-k/11-l/11 western section (A56–57); A/II-l/10-l/11 southern section (A31–32); A/II-l/10-l/11 northern section (A6–7). An inked version of the northern section A5–6 was found, but without the final section nos. A31, A56 and A78 were supplied with the final section nos. For A7 only the provisional section nos from the original plan drawing were available.

[280] TDplan 90 = A7. No „Profilbesprechung" of the northern sections A/II-l/10–11 was found in the records.

[281] M. Bietak, TD V, 43–50, Phase F.

[282] Note that this is the highest part of the tell thus, the water table seems to have been lower. Perhaps in 1966–67 the water table was also lower than later.

[283] TDplan no 92 = A56.

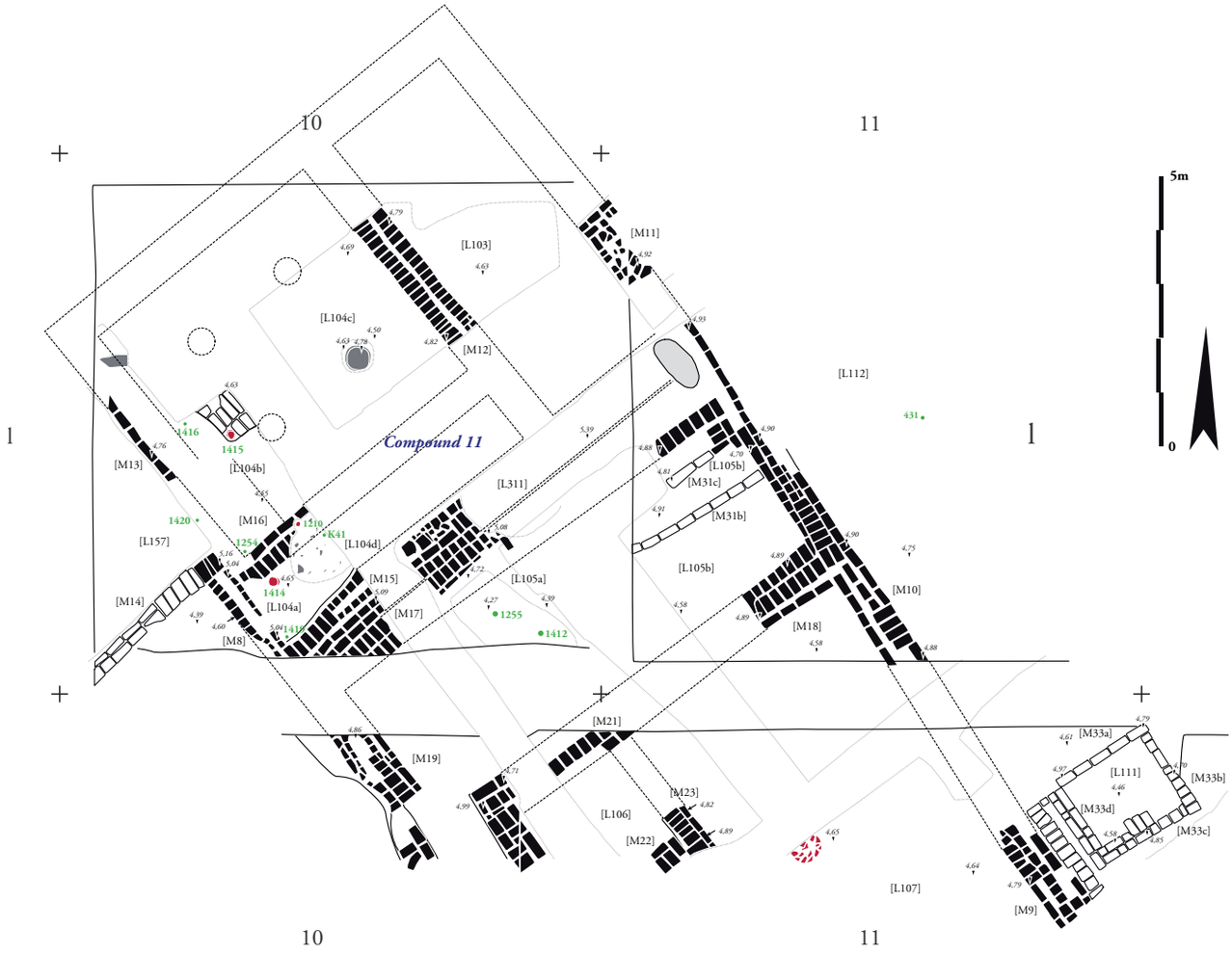


Fig. 3.30 Schematic plan of square A/II-l/11, after M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

G/2–1[284] are laid at a base level of 4.74–4.86 m/NN (section no A56-31 = the continuation of the walls **[M15]** and **[M17]**.[285] **Wall [G/3-M15]** did not receive a section no in the inked section because it was very much destroyed, and only one course was preserved with two bricks visible in the section (ca 0.4 m) with a base level of 4.74 m/NN. Section no A56-35 at an elevation of about 4.50 m/NN covering most of the layers below may represent a levelling layer for the building of Phase G/2–1,[286] whilst section no A56-33 represents a series of finely layered 'floors' or surfaces belonging to Phase G/2–1. It was cut by the foundation trench of Mortuary Temple 1. Section no A56-39 represents a loamy 'levelling' horizon covering the building remains below at an elevation of 4.20 m/NN and it was ca 10 cm deep but irregular. On top of these features a wall with two preserved courses (section no A56-36) was assigned to Phase G/3 in the analysis of the section. The base level of this wall is at 4.20 m/NN, and therefore fits well with G/3.[287] Section no A56-37a[288] represents a sand tempered mud-brick wall that was laid at a base level of below

[284] In original section they were assigned to Phase G/3–2, but the level appears too high.

[285] The wall equivalent to **[M11]** could not be found in the western section, presumably because it was destroyed by tombs 2 and 4.

[286] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

[287] This is equivalent to **[G/3-M13]**, see plan chapter 5, Fig. 5.9.

[288] = **[G/4-M9]**, see plan Fig. 5.5.

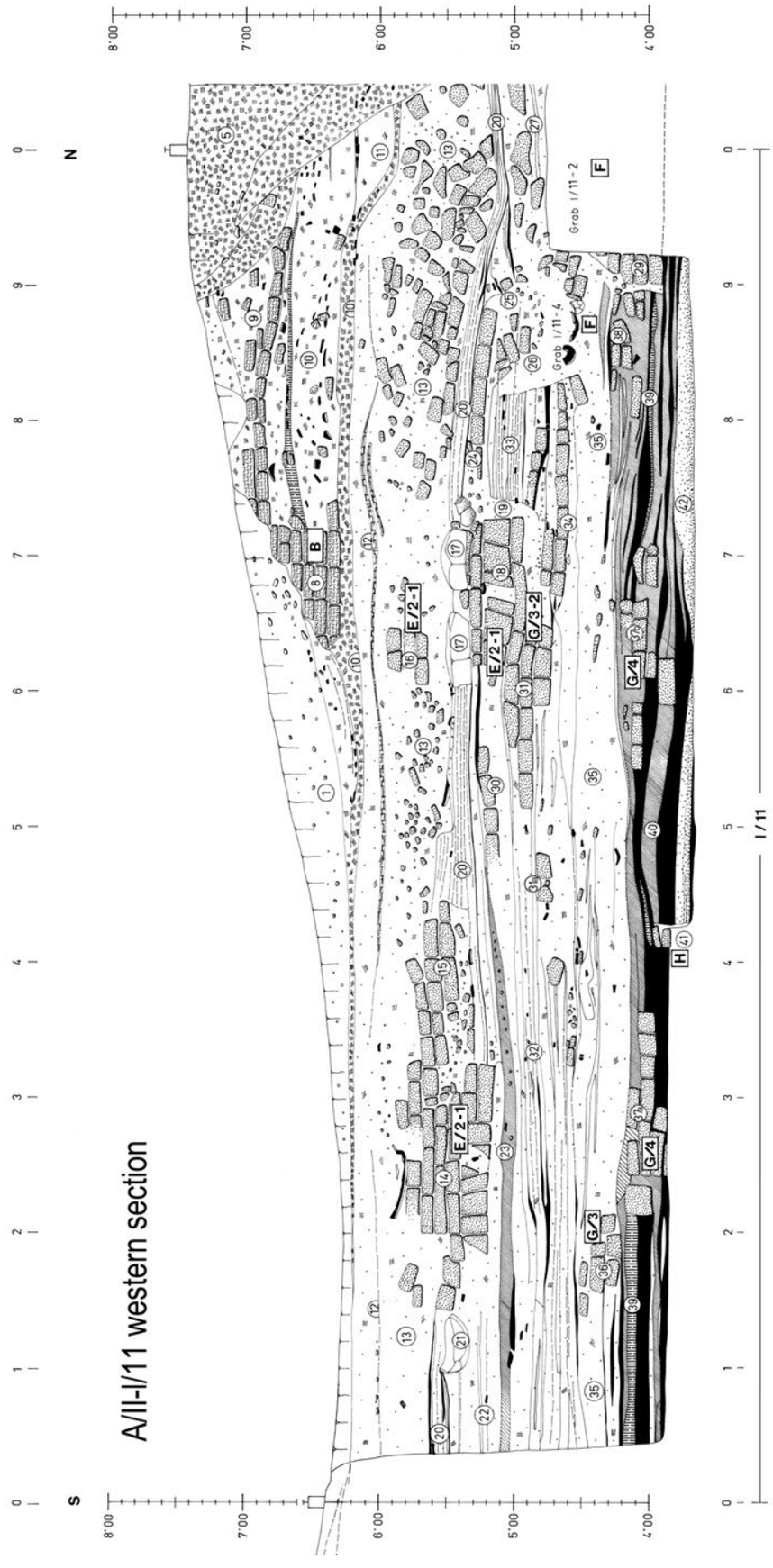


Fig. 3.31 Western section of square A/II-l/11 (A56), drawn by Helga Singer (†), © M. Bietak

***Excursus* Section analysis of A/II-l/11 west**[289]

1) Sebakh pits with loose silty earth, pottery fragments and limestone chips.
2) Walls running north-south built from soft, eroded mud-bricks (0.40 × 0.19–20 × 0.09–0.11 m), Phase B.
5) Coating of a round well made from mud. Section through southern part of the coating with a step for descending to the well.
8) Northern edge of the east-west running wall surrounding the later temple of originally 20 cubits (ca 10.5 m) width but much destroyed by sebakh diggers, Phase B.
9) Remains of mud-brick pavements or building ramps for wall 8).
10) Foundation trench for wall 8), Phase B.
12) Silty and loamy layers on top of the mud-brick rubble 13), Phase E/2–1.[290]
13) Sand tempered mud-brick rubble from the interior of Temple I, Phase E/2–1.
14) Dividing wall between middle and western cella of Temple I, Phase E/2–1.
15) Mud-brick bench built against dividing wall 14), almost no foundation.
16) Door jamb between pro-cella and the three sanctuaries of Temple I, obliquely cut by section, Phase E/2–1.
17) Limestone pavement of floor between pro-cella and the three sanctuaries of Temple I, Phase E/2–1.
18) Foundation of dividing wall between pro-cella and the three sanctuaries of Temple I, running below the pavement consisting of sand tempered mud-bricks. The second brick course was laid as a rowlock, Phase E/2.
19) Foundation trench of 18). The starting point was not visible. Due to other sections it must have been located below floors 20), Phase E/2.
20) Series of white floors alternating with walking surfaces, immediately on top of the basic elevation of Temple I, Phase E/2–1.
21) Quern, probably Phase E/3 or E/2.
22) Walking surfaces in sandy depositions. According to the southern section of A/II-l/11 these belong to a building of Phase E/3, which was levelled before building Temple I.
23) Ash depositions, base horizon of Phase E/3.
24) Articulated sand tempered bricks, perhaps marking tomb A/II-l/11-no 4, Phase F.
25) Robber's pit through 24) into tomb A/II-l/11-no 4, Phase F or E/3.
26) Tomb A/II-l/11-no 4, set into a pit. It was built adjacent to A/II-l/11-no 2, but is slightly later,[291] Phase F.
27) Mud-brick rubble in upper fill of tomb A/II-l/11-no 2, Phase F.
29) Lateral wall of tomb A/II-l/11-no 2, set into a trench, Phase F.
30) Sand tempered mud-brick row of a hurdle wall of Phase F or remains of rubble of 31).
31) Remains of a [two] sand tempered mud-brick walls of Compound 11 **[M15]** and **[M16]**, Phase G/2–1.
31a) Wall of sand tempered mud-bricks **[G/3-M15]**, Phase G/3.
32) Walking surfaces in sandy deposits, layered with fine ashy levels, [outside Compound 11], Phase G/2–1.
33) Densely layered walking surfaces and white washed surfaces of Phase G/2–1.
34) Remains of [an oven] set into a shallow trench/pit with paved floor, Phase G/2–1.
35) Levelled rubble of sand tempered mud-bricks, in order to provide an even surface for Compound 11.
36) Wall of sand tempered mud-bricks, Phase G/3.
37) Remains of sand tempered mud-brick walls belonging to Phase G/4: 37a = **[G/4-M9]**, 37b = **[G/4-M10]**. The foundation of the walls cut into the ash layer. Some of the ash was transported upwards, either by the weather [or human activity].
38) Wall of sand tempered mud-bricks, Phase G/3–4.
39) Loamy layers of walls 37) and 38) probably a spot to prepare loam mortar, base horizon for Phase G/4–1.
40) Deposition of pure charcoal, transported by weather from the upper part towards the lower one.
41) Wall of sand tempered mud-bricks, Phase H.
42) Top of the gezirah.

4.00 m/NN and represents the oldest building phase in this square and thus belongs probably to Phase H.[292] Section no A56-37b is the other wall constituting the corner of the oldest building.[293] This wall fragment is very denuded and consists only of two brick courses and some rubble. In contrast to most other early walls this is one and half brick's width wide.

Section no A56-40 represents a series of very thick layers of ashes (charcoal only), which covers the oldest building phase. It seems to represent the dividing

[289] Translated from the analysis of M. Bietak, unpublished. German "Profilbesprechung". The detailed assignations to the earlier Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1 and remarks in [] are by the author. Please note that the analysis of the section was conducted together with the western section of square A/II-k/11, but here only those numbers occurring in A/II-l/11 are listed.

[290] For Temple I see M. Bietak, TD V, plan 6.

[291] M. Bietak, TD V, 42–51.

[292] In the inked section it is designated as "G/5", which is a marginal sub-phase of G/4.

[293] = **[G/4-M10]**, see plan Fig. 5.5.

horizon between Phases G/4 and H.[294] Again burnt brick walls were not mentioned in the archival material. It is possible that the ash provides evidence for industrial activity in this part of Compound 11 but ash deposits are also usual in normal settlement activity. The remains of the one brick's width wide 'wall', section no A56-41,[295] at running metre 4.0 from south, probably represents the oldest built structure in this section, because section no A56-42 was identified as *gezirah* sands of the natural soil 'turtle backs'. Of what nature this structure might have been remains unclear because only two brick courses of the very thin wall survive.

The eastern section[296] (A78, drawn on 24–25 May 1967) mainly shows the massive walls of Mortuary Temple I (section no A78-22, Phase E/2–1) and tomb A/II-l/12-no5.[297] This section was exposed down to an elevation of about 3.70 m/NN in some places but not at the southern and northern end. Again the lowest levels reached are characterised by a thick layer of ash (section no A78-45, ends at an elevation of about 4.00 m/NN) met already in other squares most probably derived from domestic activities (cf. 46, 47). As observed on the western side the elevation of the remaining tell is higher (at 7.10 m/NN) in the north than at the southern end (6.50 m/NN). Towards the southern end of the eastern section there are three sand tempered mud-brick walls that are assigned to Phases G/3 and G/4 or H without more specification.

For Phase G/2–1 no walls exist in this area. In the earlier phases the wall **[G/3-M8]** (= section A78-39, a longish accumulation of mud-bricks),[298] is relevant here. It is a well-built wall of sand tempered mud-bricks with at least eight courses preserved and one and a half brick's width. In planum 4 the base level was noted as 4.01 m/NN, which attests to the early relative date of this wall. Section no A78-41 represents the oldest wall in the section with the base level going down to 4.10 m/NN and presumably lower.[299] The base levels of the walls of Phases G/4–1 and H cannot exactly be ascertained, because their bases were not reached, but they are below 3.80 m/NN. Thus, it must remain unclear which walls overlay one another, i.e. in which sequence they were built.

The southern section[300] (A31, drawn in 1967) was exposed to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN in some places, only in the westernmost running metre the low elevation of 3.95 m/NN was reached. According to the analysis of the section Phase G/2–1 starts approximately at an elevation of about 4.60 m/NN with section no A31-33 and A31-34, heavily sand tempered mud-brick and roof rubble, which in some places is about 0.4 m deep and, thus reaches up to almost 5.00 m/NN, at least in the western half of the section. The base level of Phase G/2–1 can be found at about 4.70 m/NN. The only wall of Phase G/2–1 running into this section is section no A31-35 **[= M10]**, see Fig. 3.30. This wall was in the section already quite denuded. The next older Phases G/3 and G/4 are represented again by sand tempered mud-brick rubble and the remains of the walls section no A31-39,[301] A31-45[302] and A31-47a[303] and b.[304] The base level of those is probably around an elevation of 4.10–4.20 m/NN or below, but unfortunately the section does not expose them deep enough to be certain. Thus, it is also not possible to know which ones are earlier. Their state of preservation is remarkable because most of these walls show five to six brick courses, which may hint at renewal and thus longer use.[305] Wall **[G/3-M10]** (= section no A31-39) may belong to a square building or silo from Phase G/3–2 according to M. Bietak, the foundations of which cut into the older layers. An installation for grain storage was suspected, but so far no more evidence has come forward to evaluate this opinion.[306] Whether this building/installation continued into square A/II-m/11 cannot be ascertained, because that square was not excavated down to this level. The ashy layer marking the division between Phases G/4 and H was not exposed in this section, although section no A31-49 might represent the beginning of it as it shows streaks of ash sandwiched between sandy walking horizons at an elevation of 4.10 m/NN.

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294 Analysis of section by M. Bietak.

295 Not recorded in the plan drawing of A/II-l/11, planum 4, presumably because it was too badly preserved.

296 TDplan no 93 = A78.

297 M. Bietak, TD V, 51–60, plan 3.

298 See plan Fig. 5.9. It is very possible that the oldest wall in this square **[H-M10]** = **[G/4-M8]** is also represented by this section no, cf. Fig. 5.1 and 5.5.

299 = **[G/3-M11]**, see plan Fig. 5.9.

300 TDplan 91.

301 = **[G/3-M10]**, see plan Fig. 5. 9..

302 Not recorded in A/II-l/11, planum 4 – probably too badly preserved.

303 **[H-M10]** see chapter 5, Fig. 5.1 and **[G/4-M8]**, see plan Fig. 5.5.

304 **[H-M9]** see chapter 5, Fig. 5.1 and **[G/4-M7]**, see plan Fig. 5.5.

305 This is reflected in the use of some walls in Phases H and G/4, cf. Fig. 5.1 and 5.5.

306 Section analysis.

L [105a and b] – the northern room

Square A/II-l/11 was left partly unexcavated beneath Mortuary Temple I from Phase E/2–1.[307] **L [105]** is situated in the south eastern and south western regions, respectively of squares A/II-l/10 **[105a]** and A/II-l/11 **[105b]**. Locus **[105]** is thus divided artificially by the Mortuary Temple I wall and the baulk. The westernmost cella-wall and benches of Mortuary Temple I were left standing and took up most of the floor space in **L [105]**.[308] The room was delimited by **[M19]** to the west, **[M17]** in the north, **[M18]** and **[M21]** in the south and by the east wall of Compound 11 **[M11]**. The hypothetical floor space available would be ca 2.8 m by 8.5 m (23.8 m²). This would equal ca 5.3 cubits by 16.2 cubits (85.86 square cubits). M. Bietak interpreted this feature as a vestibule or anteroom that may have had a roof. Moreover, **L [105]** was screened from view by the re-enforced wall **[M8/19]** on the western side (see also Fig. 3.1). Thus, the northern part of the alleyway **L [155]** may also have had a roofing construction of some sort (see Fig. 3.1 and 3.30).[309] The brick rubble visible in photograph SW1098/62 and 64 (A/II-m/10, pl. 6, see below 112) may hint at such a construction.

Towards the south a part of a wall **[M18]** juts out from the eastern wall **[M11/M10]**. This feature may perhaps be considered to mark a doorway although the continuation of this wall by means of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks is drawn into the plan of planum 3. The situation, however, was not preserved well enough to be sure if indeed there was a doorway. **L [105a]**, thus in A/II-l/10, contained finds reg.nos 1255 and 1412 (see above, Fig. 3.15.f–g, 3.16.d).

The brick sizes of wall **[M11]** are 35–40 cm by 15–20 cm.[310] The thickness of the bricks could not be measured. The same general measurements are valid for **[M10]**.

Within **L [105b]** two very thin brick walls were built perpendicular to **[M10/M11]** (see Fig. 3.30), each half a brick's width wide (laid out as headers). These two walls may belong to a very short lived installation, and were not shown in the published plan. No other evidence for the purpose of those two thin walls was discovered.

To the north of **L [105]** at a level of 4.86 m [4.26 m/NN published in the plan is a printing error][311] a fire place ('Feuerstelle') or brick built hearth was found. It seems to also cut into the continuation of wall or bench **[M15]** which continued from A/II-l/10 into A/II-l/11. Access to it was most probably afforded via **L [103]** from the north. Due to the massive denudation of this part of the settlement it remains unclear how access was gained to space **L [103]**, in turn. The fact that the eastern external wall **[M11]** continued to constitute space **L** [**103**] might be evidence in favour of suspecting a room rather than part of a courtyard.

M. Bietak specifically noted for A/II-l/11, pl. 3 that the lack of settlement debris suggests a relative cleanliness on the part of the inhabitants of this dwelling as well as a planned abandonment of this house.[312]

The east and south of the square

To the east of the remaining wall of Mortuary Temple I, dividing square A/II-l/11 diagonally roughly into two, no further features of Phase G/2-1 were discovered. Between the former Mortuary Temple I wall and the eastern external wall of Compound 11 **[M11]** a layer of sand brick rubble was detected, at a level of 4.85 m/NN, which was interpreted as a fallen wall.

In the north east corner of **L [107]** no finds were recorded. In the baulk between A/II-l/11 and A/II-m/11 a ringstand reg.no 1723 was discovered, but no level was recorded. It seems that the ringstand was drawn into the plan of the baulk (drawing no 185: A/II-m/11, pl.5) just west of a mud-brick wall assigned to Phase E/3. This would be just outside the northernmost external wall of the older Mortuary Temple I, Phase E/3. The plan drawing also does not give an elevation.

To the north east of wall **[M10/M11]** a group of four tombs cuts into the square A/II-l/11 and neighbouring A/II-l/12), destroying the underlying settlement even more, particularly in the north western corner. They can be dated to Phase F[313] and are thus omitted from Fig. 3.30.[314]

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[307] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

[308] These features have been largely removed from Fig. 3.30 to provide a clearer outline of the situation but see the original plan in M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

[309] M. Bietak, TD V, 28.

[310] Measurements taken from the plan drawing scale 1:50.

[311] It is thus possible that the fire place does not belong to G/3–1 but should be dated later. It is also unclear if those 4.86 m/NN are the base level of the fire place. Because no finds were recovered from it, a closer dating is impossible.

[312] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 1966, no date, A/II-l/11, p. 39.

[313] M. Bietak, TD V, 41–50.

[314] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

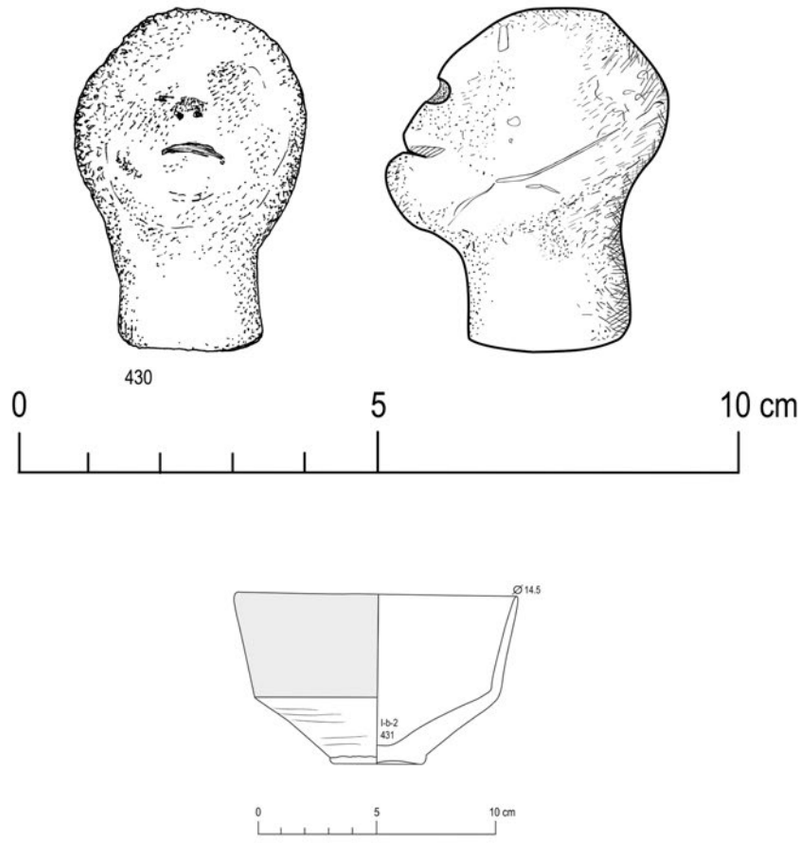


Fig. 3.32 Drawings of reg.no 430 and 431

The general ground level of the area east of the house, presumably an open area is between 4.59 m and 4.75 m/NN. No finds were made in this area belonging to **L [112]**, except a carinated bowl, reg.no 431, and perhaps a sculpture of a human head, reg.no 430 (see below).

Finds from square A/II-l/11, pl. 3–4

L [112] Open space east of building (Phases G/3 to F)

Pottery

Objects

Reg.no **430** (KhM, A 1796) Human (?) head modelled from clay (Fig. 3.32–3.33). Position: A/II-l/11, pl. 3–4. From north western quarter of the square, relative phase b or d = absolute G. No elevation was recorded. The lowest elevation of pl. 3 in this position is 4.59 m/NN, whilst that of pl. 4 is roughly 4.00 m/NN. Thus, the object would have been deposited between Phases G/3 and F.
Records: ZN 43/66; redrawn and photographed
Measurements: height = 4.7 cm; width = 3.9 cm.
Material: The head was made from a very sandy fabric, equivalent to Nile E2. Thus, it is likely to be a local product due to the common feature that quartz inclusions are very frequent in the Delta from the sandy 'turtle backs', on which the settlement areas were placed. The head was planned as a small bust, in the sense that the neck was not broken off, but was flattened at the base of the neck intentionally (see Fig. 3.33. mid row). The lower jaw is very prominently modelled.

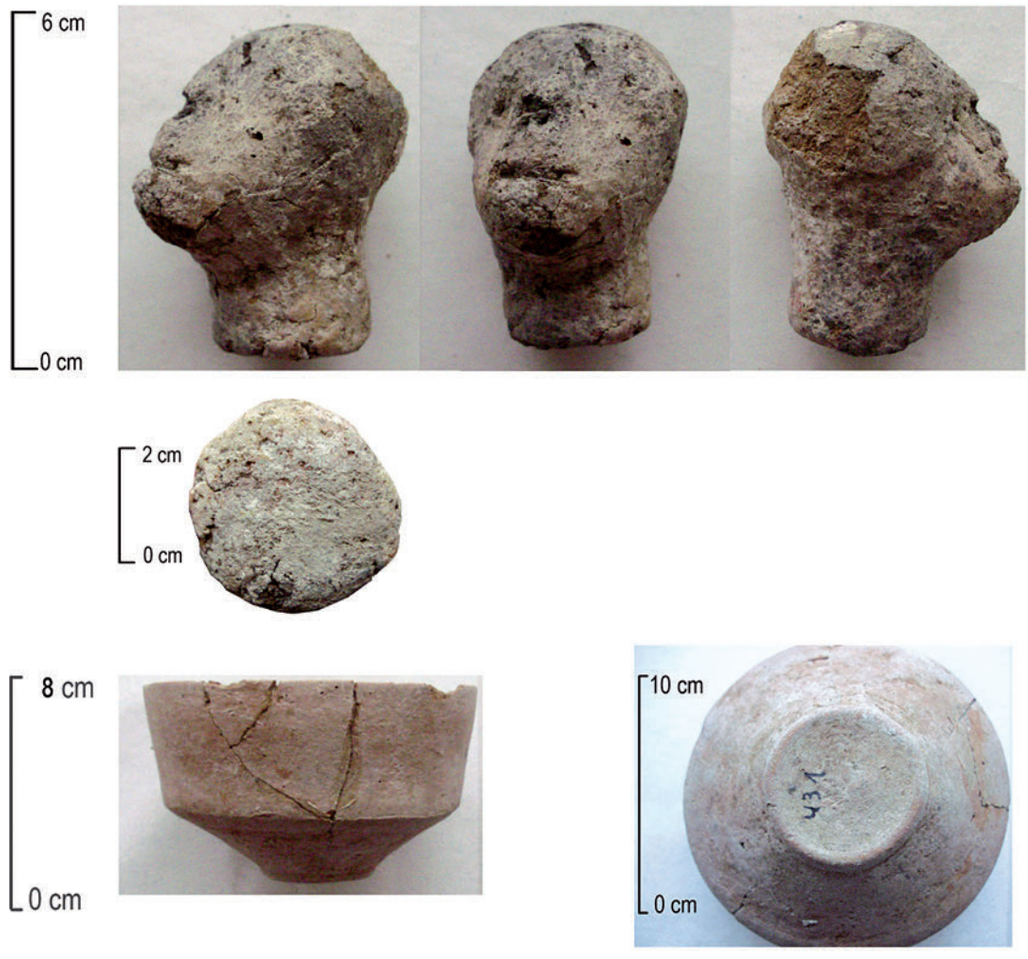


Fig. 3.33 Photos of reg.nos 430 and 431, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Vessels

Reg.no **431** (KhM, A 2322), carinated cup (Fig. 3.32–3.33). Position: A/II-l/11, pl. 3–4, 4.0 m/N and 3.50 m/W. No elevation was given; thus the same reservations for the date of this object hold true as for that above (reg.no 431), in that it is not clear if the vessel really belongs to Phase G/2–1.
Records: drawing ZN 43/66, redrawn and rerecorded.

RF	I-b-2[315]	f. – m.	W1	Bd. H	ox	2–3

Rd. = 11.4 (65 % preserved); bd. = 3.9–4.0 (100% preserved); wd. = 0.3–0.7; H1 = 7.1 cm. Surface colour: red slip outside above carination 10 R 5/8 red; inside obscured by whitish layer. Section: 5 YR 5/4 reddish brown, uniform; the vessel is very well made, thin walled; the base was scraped first and then the ring base added as a pad and subsequently formed by finger modelling; the carination is very sharply executed, possibly with a wooden tool.

Animal bones

No animal bones from this area are mentioned in the publication of J. Boessneck.[316]

[315] This is the most probable fabric identification, because no fresh break was available.

[316] TD III, passim.

Square A/II-m/10

Excavation and available records

A/II-m/10 was excavated first in 1967 (planum 1–5[317]), whilst planum 6[318] was explored in 1968. The original top elevation before setting out planum 1 was 6.60 to 5.93 m/NN. The original surface had been pitted severely by *sebakh* diggers and presumably led to the rising of the area from north to south. The original elevation of the tell represents a rising of the terrain from north (5.90 m/NN north west corner) to south (7.54 m/NN south west corner) and also from west to east (6.35 m/NN north east corner; 7.55 m/NN south east corner), thus the difference in level along the southern edge of the square and the northern edge is between 1.5 m and 1.3 m.

In November 1983 a small sounding took place, which concerns exclusively Phase E/3. The work had no bearing on the interpretation of the older phases.

Planum 6 seems to be the relevant plan drawing for Phase G/3–1. The lowest elevation reached in pl. 6 was at around 4.16 m/NN in the centre of the square, whilst it was 4.68 m/NN close to the eastern section.[319]

Available documentation for this square consists of the digging diary, plan drawings planum 1–6, some detailed drawings (mostly tombs), the section drawings (north,[320] south[321] and west[322]), B/W slides, colour slides, registered finds, register book, convolute cards and object drawings.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-m/10)

The building remains, visible in planum 6, belong to more than one building phase. Below planum 6 a number of archaeological features just appear in the plan drawing, that most probably belong to one of the phases below, namely some very thin walls of just half a brick's width, at least one silo, two ovens/hearths[323] and several walls of half a brick's width to one brick's width (see chapter 5 and the Phase H–G/4 and G/4 plans Fig. 5.4–5.5). They were all built from heavily sand tempered bricks. The oldest feature seems to be the silo, situated ca 4.5 m/N and 4.5 m/E **[G/4-M16]**, which is probably equivalent to Phase G/4 because the preserved height of the top of the wall is at 4.16 m/NN.

The features immediately relevant to Compound 11 are walls **[M8]** and **[M20]**, which form an alleyway and allow access to **L [105]** of Compound 11. The bricks of these walls measure 37–38 sometimes 40 cm by 19–20 with a thickness of 10–11 cm.[324]

This may have been a later development, because only a few centimetres below this alleyway several walls and the two ovens appear which are built over by wall **[M8]** and which would have blocked access to **L [105]**. A note in the digging diary further relates that besides the ovens there are also traces of collapse of a sand brick wall in this alleyway (cf. Fig. 3.35).[325]

The contemporary walking level of square A/II-m/10 in Phase G/2–1 of Compound 11 is at about 4.60 m/NN.[326] The phase below was reached at a level of about 4.30 m/NN and there seem to have been ashy depositions in the northern half of the courtyard **L [161]**, which belongs to Compound 14a (see below, 243). It is possible that these ashy deposits are derived from the ovens situated below the alleyway of **L [155]**, which were spread at a later time, cf. Fig. 3.35, where the two round ovens are visible). There is no further evidence that there could have been more cooking/firing installations.

The northern part of the square in the western half was mostly destroyed by the tombs A/II-m/10-8 and A/II-m/10-9, dateable to Phase F.[327] They also cut into a number of thin heavily sand tempered brick walls, which probably belong to Phase G/4 or H. The base level of these walls is not given in the plan drawing.

In the digging diary[328] M. Bietak also noted that Phase G/3–1 was built on top of an ash layer (as in the other squares l/10, l/11, k/11, and k/12), but was also covered by another ash layer which was not observed in the other squares. All walls were built from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks.

The archive photographs (Fig. 3.34–3.35) show that this area was probably used to dump ash from the two (older) ovens that are visible in the background on the photo on the right (Fig. 3.35). The pattern of the obliquely laid, or broken (rubble?), heavily sand

317 TDplan nos 164, 165, 166, 167, 169.
318 TDplan no 170.
319 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
320 TDplan no 178.
321 TDplan no 176.
322 TDplan no 179.
323 This can clearly be seen because the foundation trench of wall **[M8]** e.g. cuts through the ovens, cf. TDplan no 170.
324 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 May 1968, back of p. 7.
325 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 May 1968, back of p. 7.
326 Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
327 Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 61–73.
328 M. Bietak. Digging Diary, 21 May 1968.

tempered mud-bricks is visible in both. These features were interpreted by M. Bietak as collapsed walls belonging to the phase below and levelled[329] (cf. above), or this material could belong to a roofing construction such as a vault covering the northern part of **L [155]**[330] (see above at **L [105]**).

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-m/10[331])

The northern section of A/II-m/10 was excavated and recorded (A10, drawn in 1968) down to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN in most places. Only tomb A/II-m/10-8[332] was excavated down to 4.20 m/NN. Relevant for Phase G/3–1 are three walls with section no A10-47[333] (running metres 5.00–7.50 from west) and one with section no A10-42 (in the eastern corner of A/II-m/10 extending into A/II-m/11. Section no A10-42 represents wall **[M21]** that appears in the baulk at an oblique angle and therefore seems wider than it is. Unfortunately most base levels of these walls are unclear, because they were not exposed. They were at or below 4.25 m/NN. M. Bietak assigned to section no A10-42 **[M21]** the slightly later relative phase of (g/3–2) than wall section no A10-47 (relative phase g/4). The preserved top of the wall reached up to 4.90 m/NN. The two walls with section nos A10-47 a and b (running metres 5.00–6.00 from west) represent walls **[M8]** and **[M19]** of Compound 11 and it can be clearly seen that they were built separately but adjacent to each other. **[M8]** was built at a slightly higher elevation (4.35 m/NN) than the other two, which might suggest a slightly later date of its erection. It is also only one brick's width wide. The easternmost wall A10-47c is not easy to assign to a phase, although it is quite wide (~1.30 m one brick's width?). The preserved top of this wall is at 4.80 m/NN. Presumably this may be wall **[G/3-M18]**, which runs into this baulk at roughly this spot, see Fig. 5.9. The baulk was not taken down, which might have clarified the relationships of these walls. The lowest point, down to which the walls section no A10-47 b and c were recorded is around 4.25 m/NN, which means that the real base lies below that.

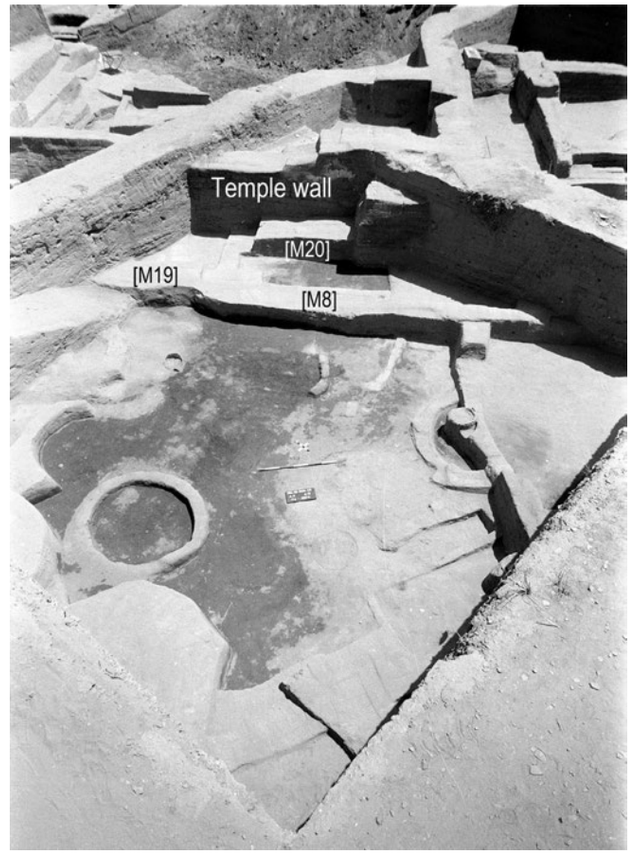


Fig. 3.34 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, 1968. View of square towards north-east, Silos of Compound 14a in foreground
B/W negative SW1076/4

Rubble from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks can be found in the northern section in some places as high as 4.80 m/NN as well as down to 4.20 m/NN. Section no A10-34 represents the pit, into which tomb A/II-m/10-8 was set, and is the only obvious relic of Phase F from running metre 1.7 to almost 5.0. It is noteworthy that none of the ash layers noticed in the other squares was found here, most probably because the excavation did not go down deep enough and the section was dominated by the tomb pit and quite wide walls. Also remarkable is the fact that the walls of the Mortuary Temple I Phase E/2–1 seems to sit almost

[329] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 May 1968.
[330] M. Bietak, TD V, 28.
[331] The sections were inked and were analysed by M. Bietak. All sections except the eastern one were supplied with the final section nos. Only those sections are described here that have a bearing on Compound 11. The others are mentioned in chapter 8 with Compound 14.
[332] M. Bietak, TD V, 61–70, plan 3.
[333] They were consecutively assigned the letters *a* to *c* from west to east [provisional]: 47a = 47b = **[M8]**; 47c = **[M19]**, see plan Fig. 3.1.



Fig. 3.35 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, SW1098/62 and 64 view towards the older ovens (north-west). In the foreground the access alley towards the entrance to Compound 11

immediately on top of rather sturdy and thick walls of Phase G/3–1 at a base level of 5.30 m/NN. This happened because the foundation trench cut into the existing layers but it is possible that any other building remains were razed before building the temple.

The eastern section was either not recorded or the record is no longer available, thus the base levels of walls **[M8]** and **[M20]** in that area and their relation to each other remain unclear.

No finds were reported from this square.

Square A/II-m/11

Excavation and available records

Square A/II-m/11 was excavated in 1967 (planum 1–4[334]) and in 1968 (planum 5[335] and 6[336]). The general elevation in planum 1 varies from 6.94 m/NN to 6.30 m/NN, whilst the top of the tell measured in this area rose from 7.53 to 7.97 m/NN on the southern edge of the square (sloping from east to west). The elevation on the northern edge of the square is from 6.35 to 6.48 m/NN.

Walls built from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks started to appear in planum 5 (see Fig. 3.36), the tops of the walls are preserved up to a level of 5.13–5.10 m/NN **[M20]**, 5.19–5.14 m/NN **[M29]**, 5.06–5.19 m/NN **[M30]**, and 4.79–4.81 m/NN **[M9]**.

The base level of walls measured in the southern section were ca 4.50 **[M30]** to 4.65 m/NN **[M20]**. Unfortunately no base level measurements or sections of the internal walls **[M29]** and **[M23]** exist, thus it is not possible to be certain about the sequence of building and if the foundation (trenche)s of the internal walls were shallower than those of the exterior walls.

Planum 6 is most relevant for the settlement structures of Phase G/2–1 although in this planum drawing more building phases than just G/2–1 seem to be represented. However, only Phase G/2–1 is shown in the publication.[337]

[334] TDplan nos 181, 182, 183, 184.

[335] Part of the excavation of planum 5 was conducted in 1967, but the recording and overall description except for the tombs was done in 1968. TDplan no 185.

[336] TDplan no 186.

[337] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

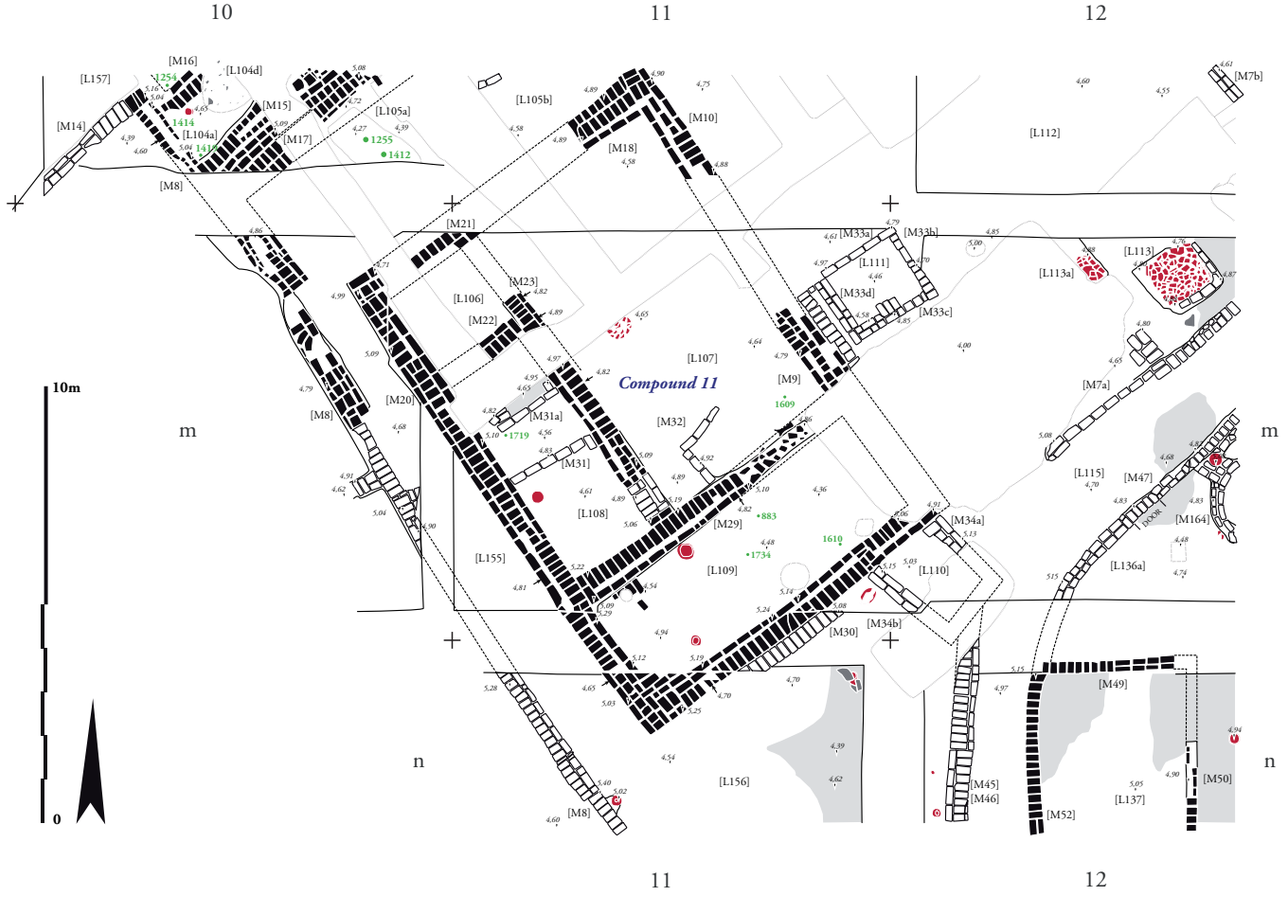


Fig. 3.36 Schematic plan of A/II-m/11 with finds, adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

The archaeological documentation consists of the digging diary, plan drawings, section drawings[338] and descriptions of layers, register book, and the photographic archive of the excavations and the finds. In addition there are find drawings and the objects.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-m/11)

Square A/II-m/11 contains the main part or core of the ground plan of Compound 11, namely loci **[107]**, **[108]**, and **[109]** (Fig. 3.36). The southern wall of Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 was left standing,[339] thus obscuring the plan of the house and going right through **L [107]**.[340] For this reason almost no finds were recorded from that locus. Also the baulk A/II-m–n/11 was not taken down to floor level, thus the south western part of the fill of room **L [109]** was left unexcavated.

The overall external dimensions of the house nucleus of **L [106–109]** are ca 12.0 m by 8.65 m (103.8 m²) equalling 24 by 16.5 cubits (396 square cubits). The area of the living space (without the walls) is ca 64.6 m² or 233.25 square cubits.[341]

In some parts the walls of this building were preserved up to a height of 0.40 m with brick sizes of 37–39 by 18–20 cm. The walls were one and a half brick's width wide. The rooms were filled with brick rubble but not with household refuse, which was interpreted

[338] The northern section was drawn in 1968 whilst the western, eastern and southern sections were drawn in 1967. Only the southern section exposes the levels down to 4.00 m/NN along the whole length of the section.

[339] M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

[340] For the benefit of clarity this wall has been removed from the schematic plan Fig. 3.36.

[341] M. Bietak, TD V, 26.

as cleanliness in house-keeping.[342] It also hints at a planned abandonment with a certain amount of levelling activities. When exactly this levelling took place either as preparation for further use or as a side effect of the next building phase remains unclear, because no dateable finds could be connected to this activity.

L [106] is a very small room, partly situated in squares A/II-m/10 and A/II-m/11. The internal dimensions of this room are ca 2.0 m by 2.20 m (4.4 m²) or 3.75 cubits by 4 cubits (15 square cubits). It is delimited by **[M20]**, **[M22]**, and **[M21]**. It has to remain unclear if wall **[M23]** also contained a door opening. Again the walls of Mortuary Temple I prevent knowing if a door could have been in wall **[M21]** as an alternative. In addition, the northern end of wall **[M23]** is so badly preserved that the continuation could not be found. No finds were recorded from this room.

L [108] is a rectangular room in the western part of Compound 11, delimited by **[M20]** the exterior wall of the compound, **[M29]** in the south and **[M23]** in the east. A small part of **[M22]** was also excavated. These walls were built from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks, mostly one and a half brick's width wide (the northern, southern and eastern walls, ca 0.6–0.7 m). Only the western exterior wall **[M20]** was of two brick's width, ca 0.75 m. The size of the sand tempered mud-bricks in this area is 35–45 cm in length, with most of the bricks being around 40 cm long and the width from 17–20 cm. The southern end of wall **[M 23]** probably contained a doorway of ca 1.05 m width (= 2 cubits). The internal dimensions are 2.05 m by 5.2 m (3.75 by 10 cubits) allowing 10.66 m² as a living area (= 37.5 square cubits).

There are two features within room **L [108]**, which may belong to a slightly later or earlier phase of this building as they are not shown in the published plan of Phase G/2–1 and no base levels are available for them (Fig. 3.37). One rectangular installation of sand bricks **[M31a]** runs under the southern wall of the Mortuary Temple I and may have run against the northern internal wall **[M22]**. This feature was filled with ash and may, thus, have been a hearth.[343] Interestingly, outside that feature there was not a lot of ash on the floor. Another thin wall **[M31]** (half brick's width) runs perpendicular to **[M20]** and **[M23]** and thus divides **L [108]** into two exactly equal halves (2.5 m = 4.75 cubits). From the plan it does not look as if **[M31]** was cut by those walls and may therefore have been a slightly later modification.[344] The base level of this wall could not be taken. If **[M31]** was a proper room dividing wall it would mean that the northern half of **L [108]** would have needed a separate entrance in the northern part of the room (somewhere in **[M23]**). In combination with the hearth installation it is possible that this wall was erected in order to protect the southern part of **L [108]** from heat and fire hazard. This would also mean that it is unlikely that **[M22]** would have been running against **[M20]**, because somewhere in this area a doorway was necessary in order to service the hearth. Unfortunately the south western corner of the Mortuary Temple I runs over this area, so that proof for this idea cannot be obtained.

It is also possible that the dividing wall **[M31]** existed first and was later removed in order to enlarge the room and the hearth was only built then.[345]

From the southern section the base levels for the walls **[M20]** and **[M30]** are between 4.56–4.61 m/NN.[346] This fits the floor level for Phase G/2–1, which is given in this room with about 4.56–4.61 m/NN. In parts of the building the floor may have been undercut going down into the earlier phase of G/3. In this area the base of a pottery vessel is drawn into the plan close to the western outside wall. It was not possible to identify this find.

L [107] is situated south of **L [105]** (see Fig. 3.36), the vestibule of this suite of rooms or an open courtyard (see page 63 above), and probably accessible from there. Unfortunately the northern wall of room/courtyard **L [107]** is not preserved very well, and can only be reconstructed from the western **[M21]** and eastern **[M18]** corners. At least the western end of **[M18]** in A/II-l/11 looks almost straight as if a doorway might have been located there. The internal dimensions of the room are 8 by 15 cubits (= 4.2 by 7.8 m) yielding 120 square cubits living space (32.76 m²). All the walls defining this room/courtyard are one and

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342 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, A/II-m/11, p. 35, 1967, no date.

343 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, A/II-m/11, p. 35, 1967. „Rundherum auf dem Boden ein paar Scherben roter indifferenter Hauskeramik." They were not available for re-study.

344 The five heavily sand tempered mud bricks were laid as headers with the sixth one laid as a stretcher, as if it were there to use the available space to a special advantage. They are also complete and uncut. It is unclear how many courses of this wall were preserved, thus, providing no information if this feature would have been a proper room dividing wall or a mere screen wall.

345 M. Bietak, personal communication May 2017.

346 Unfortunately these are the only base levels available for this building, because the other sections did not reach deep enough.

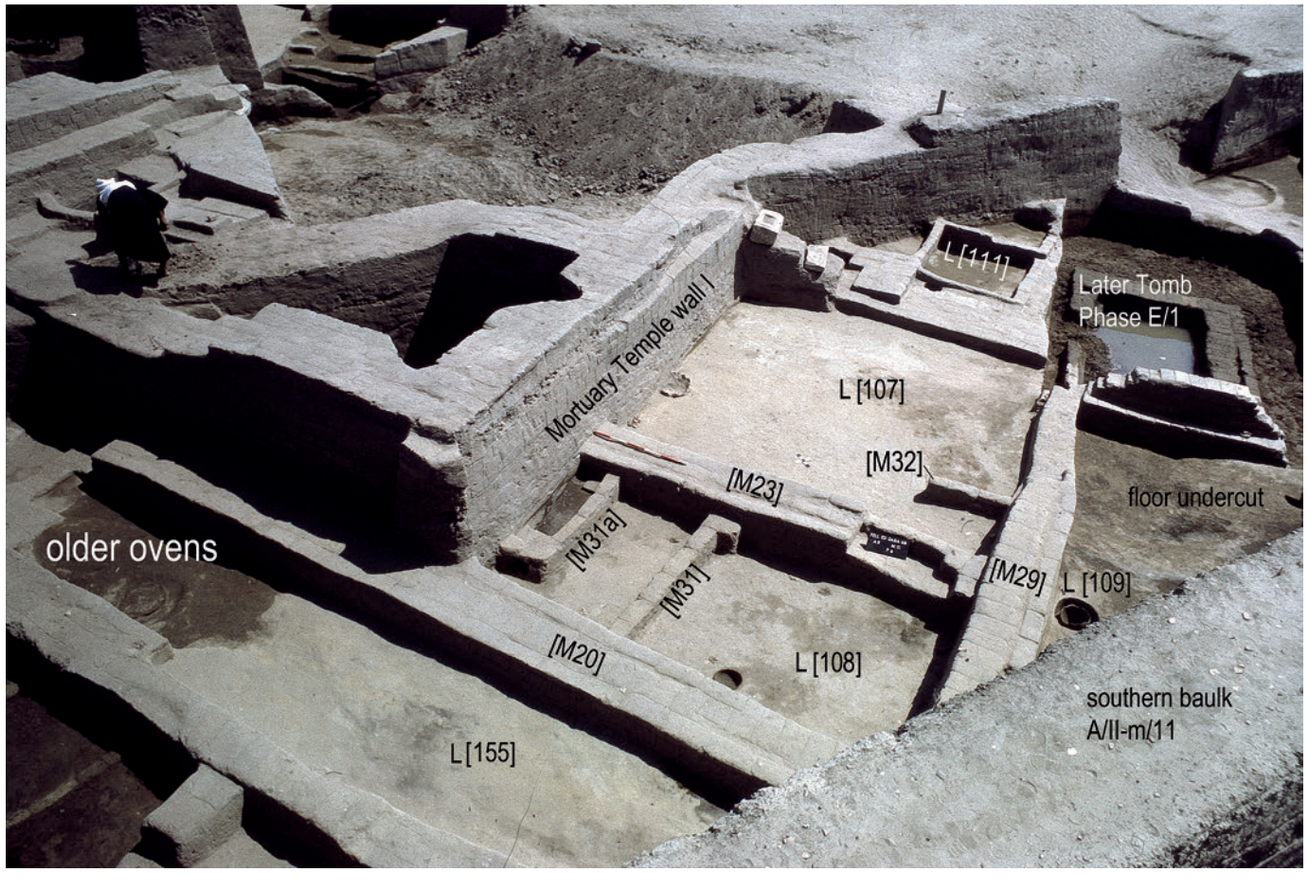


Fig. 3.37 A/II-m/10–11, pl. 6 after the removal of the western and eastern baulks (Cairo Archive)

a half brick's width (1 cubit). The preservation of the eastern outer wall of this suite of rooms **[M9/10]** is very bad as it was destroyed by a tomb of Phase E/2–1 (A/II-m/12-9[347]). Due to the presence of a hearth-like feature **[M32]**, in this space, M. Bietak suspected **L [107]** was a courtyard, the same as C. von Pilgrim.[348] The architectural lay-out of the ground plan with one wide room **L [107]** and one narrow room **L [108]** with the door opening in the far end of the dividing wall **[M23]** led Bietak to the conclusion that this arrangement is reminiscent of the typical "snail-house" ground plan represented by the hieroglyphic sign Gardiner O4 "Winding Wall".[349] Bietak also suspected that the other rooms **L [106, 108 and 109]** were accessible from this room.[350]

The addition of the hearth **[M32]** to **L [107]** may have happened a little later (the base level of this wall was not taken to allow any hypothesis[351]). A thin wall of stretchers **[M32]** was laid adjacent to **[M29]**. It runs towards the north and then bends at right angles after 1 m towards the east for another 1.25 m. This installation was later disturbed by a shallow depression.[352] It was interpreted as a hearth, although neither the original plan drawing nor the photographs show an extraordinary amount of ash accumulations in that area. Thus, if there was a hearth the ashes

[347] M. Bietak, TD V, 155–160.

[348] C. von Pilgrim, *Elephantine XVIII*, 200 and fig. 86.c.

[349] F. Arnold, A Study of Egyptian Domestic Buildings, *Varia Aegyptiaca* 5 (1989), 90, in contrast saw a one room house with a court represented by that sign. Cf. a synthesis in B. Bader, Simple House Architecture, 129–130.

[350] Cf. for description and interpretation M. Bietak, TD V, 28; M. Bietak, Zum Raumprogramm ägyptischer Wohnhäuser des Mittleren und Neuen Reiches, in: M. Bietak (ed.), *House and Palace in Ancient Egypt*, Vienna 1996, 24–25.

[351] It seems as if only one brick course was preserved and only in the west of the installation.

[352] This was removed from the plan (Fig. 3.36) for clarity.

had been taken and dumped elsewhere.[353] No mention was made if the bricks of **[M32]** showed any traces of burning, which would have allowed further conclusions.

Drawn into the plan of **L [107]** was a broken vessel 1.0 m distant from the western wall **[M23]** directly run over by the Mortuary Temple I wall of Phase E/2–1.[354] It was not possible to identify this vessel. Most probably it was a storage vessel, perhaps of Marl C clay or an imported fabric. These types of closed vessels are by far the most frequent in this phase of the site.[355] Thus, the same may hold true for the vessel in **L [107]**.

L [109] is a rectangular room situated at the south of the compound, its internal dimensions are 2.4 by 7.1 m (= 4.5 cubits by 13.5 cubits) resulting in an area of 17.04 m² or 60.75 square cubits. Due to the fact that the continuation of wall **[M20]** to the south of **L [108]** is slightly thinner M. Bietak thought that this room was probably added at a later stage in the history of the compound. The remains of the walls do not allow one to judge if there was a clear join or if the southern part of **[M20]** abutted the south western corner of room **L [108]**. Five brick courses were preserved, up to a height of ca 0.60 m.[356] The base levels of **[M20]** and **[M30]** are ca 4.55–4.60 m/NN (= section no A36-56 in the southern section). This room is delimited by walls **[M20]**, **[M30]** and **[M29]**. The continuation of the eastern external wall **[M19]** has been cut away by tomb A/II-m/12-9 belonging to Phase E/2 (see above, 115). Thus, it can only be reconstructed (see Fig. 3.36).[357] While the relevant plan drawing (planum 6) shows a considerable ash accumulation in the eastern part of that room (section no A36-65 in the southern section of A/II-m/11), it seems from the southern section that most of this layer in the south belongs to the time span between the end of the building phase below (walls section nos A36-66 and A36-67 in southern section) and Phase G/2–1. Thus, it is likely that the ash visible in the east of **L [109]** also belongs to this layer, especially because the excavation went slightly deeper here. A very thick ash layer of about 40–50 cm is particularly noticeable to the east outside of room **L [109]**. This deposit of ash,

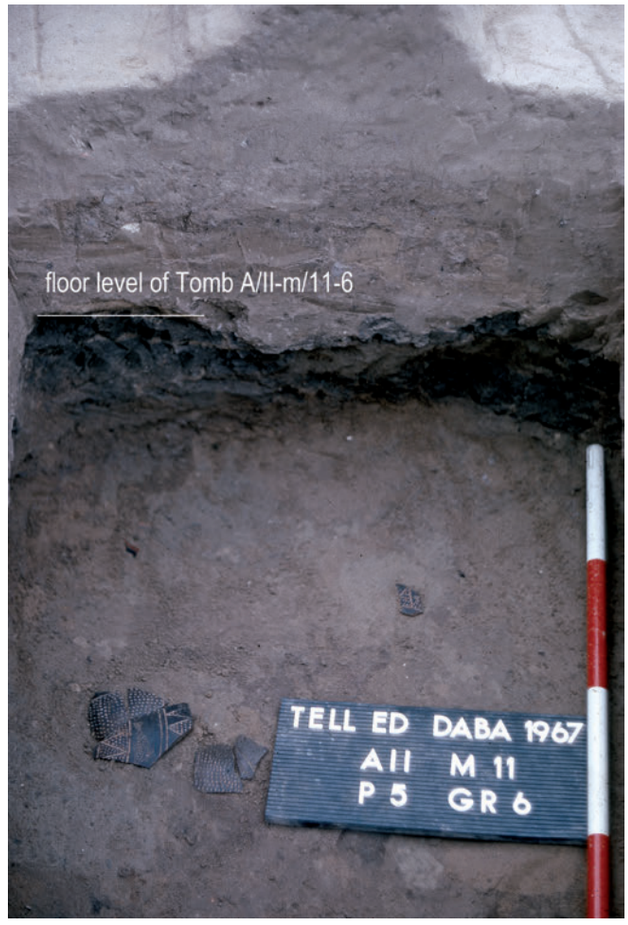


Fig. 3.38 Reg.no 833, fragments of large Tell el-Yahudieh jug, in find position close to the south-western wall (foot end) of tomb A/II-m/11-6, colour slide TD2428

although starting below the wall of Phase G/2–1 continues into this phase. Inside room **L [109]** one storage jar[358] was found very close to wall **[M29]** 2.5 m east of **[M20]**, while three more pits ("Gruben" A–C, Fig. 3.36) might also have held ceramic vessels. Two of the pits, A and C, were situated along the southern wall **[M30]**, close to the eastern limit of space **L [109]**, whilst the other, B, was close to the north western corner directly south of wall **[M29]** secured by a mud-brick feature. These pits contained an ashy-

[353] A deep layer of ashes was found in the north eastern corner of A/II-n/11, see A36-65. The path to reach this area in **L [156]** would have been quite complicated unless a door was situated in the southern end of wall **[M9]**. Another possibility for dumping the ash is in the alleyway **L [155]**.

[354] The wall of Mortuary Temple I has also been removed from the schematic plan Fig. 3.36.

[355] But if the vessel had been an amphora, presumably the handles would have been drawn into the plan, because the plans are usually very accurate. According to M. Bietak, personal communication May 2017, this vessel fragment belonged to a Marl C storage jar.

[356] M. Bietak, TD V, 28.

[357] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

[358] The vessel could not be identified.



Fig. 3.39 Reg.no 883a–c, fragments of large Tell el-Yahudieh jug, below tomb A/II-m/11-6, colour slide TD2429

loamy fill.[359] It remains therefore unclear if some sort of hearth was situated here, and it must also remain unclear whether these installations belonged to Phase G/2–1 or the earlier Phase G/3. Among the finds was a Nile C ringstand, probably intended for support for a storage vessel.[360] Thus, a storage function for this room can be proposed.

On or already below the floors of **L [107]**[361] and **[109]** several fragments of an unusually large brown burnished Tell el-Yahudieh jug reg.no 883 (Fig. 3.38–3.39) were found as well as in **L [111]** which joined sherds from other locations (see below, 124). The jug shows a band of incised fish in the lower part and the dots were incised by a single pointed tool, the rounded handle is three stranded (reg.no 1734, see below 105). The jug could not be reconstructed entirely since the rim and much of the shoulder are missing.[362] All together at four different locations sherds of this jug were found (in planum 5 and 6) scattered over the south eastern part of the square. Some of these sherds were found on the approx. floor level, while the largest amount may have belonged to the layer below the floor of building of G/2–1, because that floor was undercut in the eastern part of room **L [109]**.[363] Thus the jug may have been used in the previous building that is thought to have existed roughly along the same outline by the southern section.

To the east of **L [107]** the square annex **L [111]** is situated, which was built as a separate unit against wall **[M9]** from the exterior with a separate back wall. The structure looks very similar to **L [110]**, also built against the southern wall **[M30]** but utilizing it. The two structures differ in that **L [111]** consists of walls **[M33a–d]** laid out as stretchers, resulting in a very thin wall (half brick's width). The walls **[M34a, b]** of the southern structure are laid as stretchers but in

[359] According to the section drawings on TDplan 186. No other description was available.

[360] M. Bietak, TD V, 28.

[361] These fragments were found below tomb A/II-m/11-6 of Phase E/2–1, cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 155–160. The 'floor' on which the dead body of the tomb owner was laid out is at about 4.77–4.79 m/NN. The floor level would be approx. 4.64 m/NN according to planum 5.

[362] M. Bietak, TD V, 28–29.

[363] The exact elevation of the find was not given. The elevation of the area in which it was found is 4.36 m/NN which is lower than the base levels of the walls.

a double row, resulting in a wall of a brick's width. Tomb A/II-m/12-10[364] cut away the southern part of this feature so that it remains unclear whether it had a square or rectangular shape. Unfortunately none of the base levels of these walls could be measured, because in the eastern section the exposure was not deep enough. **L [110]** seems to have been used as a tomb (A/II-m/12–11) for a child at a later point in time[365] while **L [111]** may have been a square silo. This hypothesis is reinforced by the presence of a step like feature on the interior of the southern wall **[M33c]**. The internal size of the structure is approximately 1.5 m by 1.7 m resulting in 2.55 m² (2.9 cubits by 3.3 cubits, 9.57 square cubits).[366] It is also possible that more square features might have been situated south of **L [111]**, but this space was destroyed by tomb A/II-m/12-9.

Only a short part of the alleyway **L [155]** runs through A/II-m/11 on the western side of the building, coming from the courtyard **L [156]** south of Compound 11 and continuing into A/II-m/10 (see above 110). In this area the top of a red burnished juglet was found reg.no 924 (see Fig. 3.37 and below 128). It seems as if this space only became an alleyway in Phase G/2–1, because before at the end of it two older ovens were unearthed (see Fig. 3.35 right, and 165).

At that stage it is unclear how access was gained to the predecessor of Compound 11 or of course if it existed in that form. It is possible that the southern part of **[M11]** (see Fig. 3.1) did not exist and access could be gained from the east or that there was an opening close to its southern end. The older phases were not exposed.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-m/11[367])

The northern section (A11, drawn in 1968) was excavated down to a depth of ca 4.50 m/NN although in some places the exposure went down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN. In the westernmost corner of this section the wall **[M21]** is just visible in this square (section no A11-42). About five courses of brick work are preserved but the base level of the wall was not reached, it must have been below 4.20 m/NN. From running metre 1.70 to 6.30 (from west to east) the Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1[368] obscures the section because it was not taken down.[369] At running metre 7.40 from west the preserved top of a wall (at 4.85 m/NN) assigned to Phase G is visible and was preserved two courses high (section no A11-42a). The base level was not reached, but it must be below 4.60 m/NN. This wall is probably **[M9]**, which is only preserved in the section in this area. The next wall assigned to Phase G/2–1 appears just before running metre 10.0 from west (no 42b) and it is very thin and only two brick courses were preserved. Again the base level was not reached but must lie below 4.60 m/NN. It belongs to the square 'silo' wall **[M33a/b]**. The layers with the section nos A11-40 to A11-47 belong to Phase G/3–1 and represent roof collapse, brick rubble and walking horizons.[370] The levels below remained unexplored.

The western section (A55, drawn in 1967) was excavated to an elevation of 5.00 m/NN in the southern half of the square and only to 5.20 to 5.40 m/NN in the northern half of the square. Again the northern half of the section is dominated by the Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 (south western corner equals section no A55-38 in the section plan). Only in the southern part of the section structures and layers relevant for Phase G/2–1 are recorded, namely wall **[M20]** (= section no A55-70) ca running metres 3.00 to 4.80 from south. The preserved top of the wall is at 5.10 m/NN and at least three brick courses are preserved but the base level remains unknown (below 4.80 m/NN). A series of layers runs against the southern face of the wall **[M20]** (= section no A55-70) and they represent the walking horizons on the street/alleyway **L [155]** up to Phase E/3 (section nos A55-69, A55-64). It is interesting that Phase F does not seem to be represented here. Perhaps this part was unused during this period as indicated by the published plan.[371]

The eastern section (A79, drawn in 1967) was excavated to just below 5.00 m/NN in most of its length and represents the elevation of planum 5–6. Because this section is dominated and destroyed by tomb A/II-m/12-9, Phase G/2–1 is hardly represented at all in this plan drawing. The wall section no A79-55 represents **[M30]**, on top of which another one had been

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364 M. Bietak, TD V, 161–165.

365 M. Bietak, TD V, 130–131, Phase (E/3–)E/2.

366 The measurements of the outside dimensions fit better with cubits: ca 4 by 3.5.

367 All sections have been inked and were analysed by M. Bietak. They are also all supplied with their final section nos.

368 It was decided to leave that temple standing. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

369 M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

370 Note that the section nos were distributed for the combined section m/10–12.

371 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3.

built later, is the only one relevant here. It is very well possible that it was also built on top of an older one, but the exposure of the section does not reach deep enough to be certain, but it would be entirely in character.

The southern section (A36, drawn in 1967) (Fig. 3.40) was exposed down to an elevation of 4.00 m/NN and, thus, gives the best evidence for Phase G/2–1 and those below. It seems unlikely that the ash layer observed further north in the area in almost all sections at a level of about 4.00 m/NN and even below can be the same as that seen here (section no A36-65) at a height of about 4.50 m/NN, although it is perhaps possible that the unevenness of the tell caused it to be higher in the southern region than further to the north. In general, however, the elevations of the north western part are higher than the south eastern ones. Nevertheless there is no real proof that these levels are the same. If this were so then walls section nos A36-66 and A36-67 would have to be considered as a part of Phase H, which appears too high (cf. a base level of ca 3.80–3.90 m/NN in the northern part A/II-k/11–12).[372] It is much more likely that these are the ash deposits visible in the courtyard to the south of Compound 11, in **L [156]**, cf. Fig. 4.17, and chapter 4. Walls belonging to Phase G/2–1 are section nos A36-56a/b and A36-59. The two walls with no A36-56a and b represent wall **[M30]** at running metres ca 1.80 to 2.50 from east and **[M20]** at running metres ca 6.90 to 7.50 from east with a base level of 4.50 m/NN and 4.65 m/NN, respectively. About four to five brick courses were preserved. The interior of the room is represented by a sequence of finely laminated floor levels with several layers of rubble and fill on top of it. Below those features an ash layer of considerable thickness is visible (section no A36-65 = **L [156]**), thus this part of the house **L [109]** is later than that layer. It is noteworthy that wall **[M30]** cuts into this level and outside to the east a massive ash layer of 0.3 m thickness was recorded. This ash layer continues to the east in A/II-m/12 in the same thickness, but is destroyed by a tomb and continues as a thinner layer there (see A/II-m/12, section no A36-38) running lower. It may be refuse from a hearth although no obvious location for such an installation was found. Industrial activity is also possible.[373] It is slightly unclear if the whole of the deep ash layer is derived from the digging of a foundation trench and heaping it up outside or if some ash accumulation also happened during the 'life-time' of the building. This may have happened in **L [156]** just south of Compound 11, which seems to have been an open space with ash accumulations (see Fig. 3.36).[374] The interior of room **L [109]** shows at least two use phases. The heavily sand tempered mud-brick rubble (section no A36-57) suggests a first levelling phase perhaps of the lowermost two courses of sand tempered mud-bricks between the walls **[M30]** and **[M20]**. After that a new floor divides section no A36-57 from A36-55, which represents another sub-phase, that in turn is covered by sand tempered mud-brick rubble section no A36-54. It is interesting to note that even on top of that wall a continuation of the "wall tradition" is represented by the Phase E/3 walls no A36-47, almost in the same place as the earlier structure. Much the same can be said for the older wall section no A36-66a below wall **[M20]**. Below wall **[M30]** in the east of the section a rubble layer of destroyed sand tempered mud-bricks suggest the presence of an older wall as well (section no A36-67). These walls may belong to the hypothetical building formed of walls **[G/3-M33]**, **[G/3-M35]** and **[G/3-M35]** which may fit the position of the walls. The position of the older building **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4-M7]** fits less well, cf. Fig. 9.1 and 9.6. In the western corner of this section another wall (no A36-59) belonging to Phase G/2–1 wall **[M8]** is visible with a similar base level of about 4.65 m/NN. This suggests a similar date of erection. Below this wall was another, thinner one (section no A36-66b), which may be its predecessor.

[372] Ultimate certainty cannot be gained at the moment.

[373] Perhaps from the ovens in A/II-l/10 and A/II-l/11.

[374] The plan drawing of A/II-n/11, pl. 4 also shows a considerable ash layer in this locus. See Compound 14.

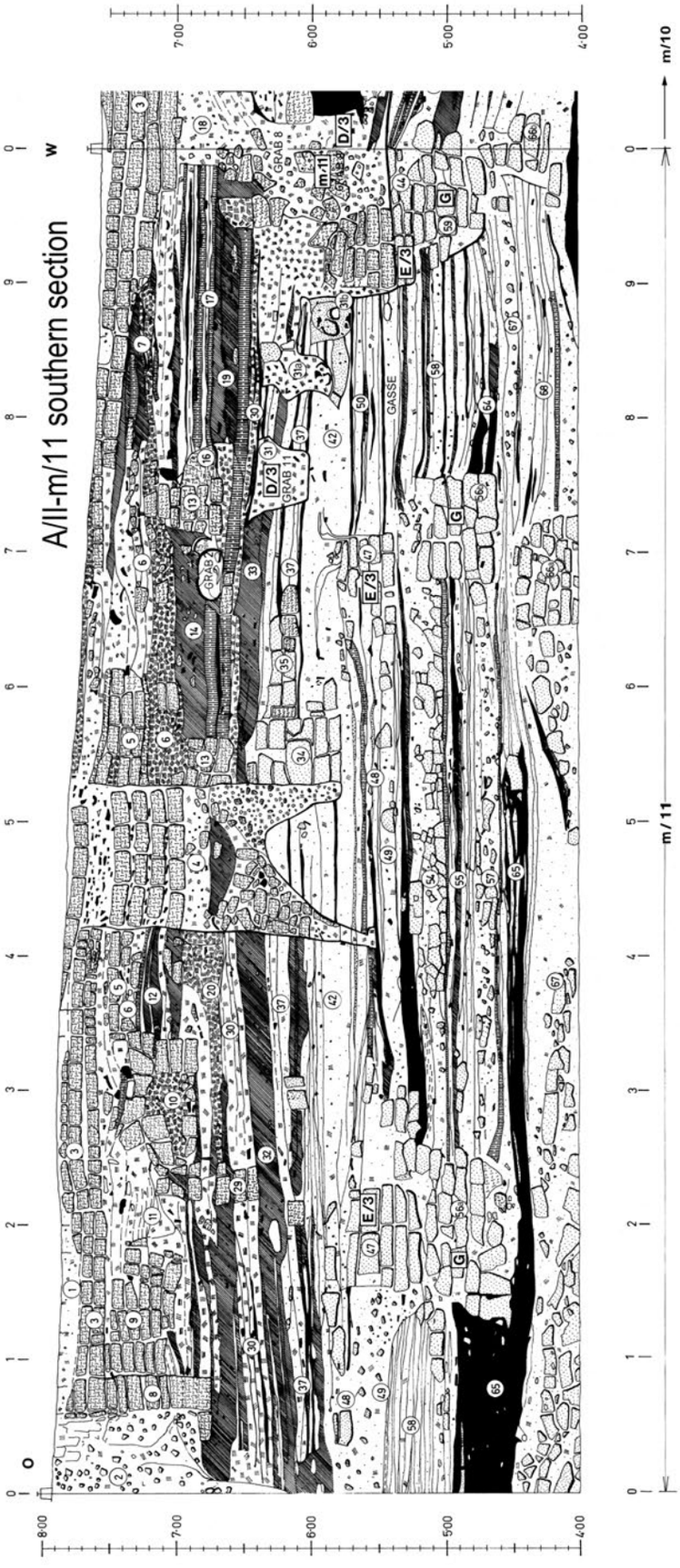


Fig. 3.40 Southern section of A/II-m/11 (A36), drawn by H. Singer (†). © M. Bietak

***Excursus* Section analysis of A/II-m/11 south**[375]

1) Loose surface rubble, silty dust.
2) Modern robber's shaft leading to Tomb A/II-m/12 no 10, filled with loose silty earth, mud-brick rubble and pottery fragments.
3) Wall built from crumbly dark mud-bricks, homogeneously grey of bad quality. Stratum B, probably B/1. Most probably foundation of wall.
4) Pit which is in horizontal section circular, filled with loose earth and mud-brick rubble. In the top fill there were four layers of crumbly dark grey mud-bricks. Below that was an ash deposit, Stratum A or B.
5) Bonded mud-brick structure, NNW-SSE and perpendicular to this, sits on top of rubble of Phase D/2, therefore it probably belongs to Phase D/1.
6) Mud-brick rubble of Phase D/2, partly overlaid by no 7.
7) Ashy layers
8) South west wall of Building complex I built of mud-bricks, Phase D/2, partly destroyed by robber's pit 2. The horizontal joints of the lowermost three brick courses are not distinguishable.
9) Homogenous loamy mud-brick wall, Phase D/2, which was built in later between Complex I and III/A. It closed off the narrow alleyway between those two building units.
10) Tomb A/II-m/11-no 2, Phase D/2.
11) Finely laminated walking 'floors' of silty mud, Phase D/2.
12) Settlement layers: silty earth and ash depositions, later Phase D/2. This area was initially an alleyway and was used later as settlement by built in huts, cf. wall no 9.
13) Mud-brick walls of Building complex III/A, early Phase D/2 or D/3–2. This building was probably older than Complex I.
14) Ash deposits with pottery fragments, in this layer the pot burial A/II-m/11 no 2 was buried, Phase D/2.
15) Position of painted dish, reg.no 1974, burial gift for A/II-m/11-no 2, cf. 14.
16) Mud-brick rubble, heavily weathered, partly fill of voids along the foundation trench.
17) Settlement layers: alternating ash loamy 'floors', silty earth and walking 'floors'. The western end of this pack of levels was disconnected from the other side, none the least because of the loose fill of tomb A/I-m/11-no 8 and because of the vertical 'draught' of robber's pit no 18. It remains unclear from which exact elevation the settlement layers should be assigned to Phase D/2, except everything above no 16).
18) Tomb robber's pit in tomb A/II-m/18-no 8 filled with loose silty earth, mixed with mud-brick rubble and ash.
19) Deep ash accumulation.
20) Levelling layer consisting of compacted silty earth with mud-brick rubble; derived from Phase D3, prepared for the structures of Phase D/2.
21) [only in A/II-m/10] Pit in ash accumulation. The limits of the pit cannot be determined exactly. This pit was probably intended for a storage vessel (cf. the sherds found within), Phase D/2. It is possible that this pit belongs with the pit of tomb A/II-n/10-no 1.
22) [only in A/II-m/10] North east corner of mud-brick chamber of tomb A/II-n/10 –no 1, late Phase D/2.
23) [only in A/II-m/10] Pit of tomb A/II-n/10-no 1, cut obliquely by the section. Thus, the limitations of this pit are very irregular. Filled with loose silty earth, pottery fragments and mud-brick rubble. The eastern limit of this pit remains unclear, but is probably situated just east of wall no 22). Between the edge of the wall and the limit of the pit mud-brick rubble was wedged in.
24) [only in A/II-m/10] Mud-brick wall, Phase D/2. Foundation trench was cut from west; east of the wall settlement layers were deposited: trampled 'floors' consisting of silt and ash.
25) [only in A/II-m/10] Pithos: storage jar or pit burial, Phase D/2.
26) [only in A/II-m/10] Settlement refuse of Phase D/2, pottery fragments, ash loose silty earth.
27) [only in A/II-m/10] Settlement layers: alternating walking 'floors', silty earth, ash depositions alternating; lowermost layers Phase D/3 uppermost transition to Phase D/2.
28) [only in A/II-m/10] Mud-brick rubble of Phase D/3.
29) [only in A/II-m/10] Three mud-brick walls of Phase D/3. In square A/II-m/10, running metres 3.40–6.70 from east a building was set into a foundation trench. This building was later very destroyed. The majority of settlement layers no 27) may have belonged to this building.
30) Walking 'floors', consisting of silty dust and ash depositions, Phase D/3.
31) Tombs of Phase D/3: A/II-m/11-no 8 and no 11. Tomb no 8 consists of a mud-brick chamber with a vault [partly in A/II-m/10], which was destroyed by robbing (by pit no 18). East of Tomb A/II-m/11-no 8 two pits filled with sand and pottery depositions were found [31a, 31b]. These belong to tomb 8, because one of the two pits was hollowed out from the tomb pit.

[375] Translated from the analysis by M. Bietak, unpublished. The detailed assignations to earlier phases such as H, G/4 and G/3–1 and remarks in [] are by the author. Please note, that the analysis of this section was conducted together with the southern section of A/II-m/10. Thus some of the numbers only occur in A/II-m/10. Cf. the respective plans in M. Bietak, TD V.

32) Compacted silt layers with some ash in between.
33) Ash accumulations, base horizon of Phase D/3.
34) Sand tempered mud-brick wall of Phase E. According to its orientation, this wall was probably in use beginning with the use period of the Mortuary Temple I (Phase E/2) including Phase E/1. The differentiation between Phases E/2 and E/1 is hardly evident in this area.
35) Added to no 34), mud-brick and sand tempered mud-brick mixed, probably Phase E/1.
36) [only in A/II-m/10] Mud-brick wall, Phases D/3 or E/1.
37) Sandy floor alternating with ash depositions, Phase E/1. In square A/II-m/11, running metres 7.00 to 9.00 from east lime whitewash was observed. In this area an alleyway was situated, which led towards the south into the cemetery area.
38) [only in A/II-m/10] Sand tempered mud-brick rubble, levelled in the interior of the building (walls no 39).
39) [only in A/II-m/10] Sand tempered mud-brick walls of a building laid out during Phase E/3. It was in use until at least Phase E/2, if not Phase E/1. The building (running metres 9.00 to 10.00 in A/II-m/11 and 0.0 to 4.40 in A/II-m/10 was set into a foundation pit as a whole. This foundation pit cuts through an ash pack. The eastern wall in A/II-m/11 is completely destroyed by tomb A/II-m/11-no 8 (cf. no 44).
40) [only in A/II-m/10] Tightly laminated walking 'floors', alternating sand and ash, Phases E/3–2.
41) [only in A/II-m/10] Sandy accumulations and wind-blown sand against wall no 39) above wall no 43).
42) Sandy accumulations, partly aeolean and re-deposited; in square A/II-m/11, running metres 2.0 to 5.0 from east above it walking 'floors' were situated. Most of these layers belong to Phase E/2. In square A/II-m/11, running metres 1.0–1.80, at elevation of 5.70–5.90 m/NN there are remains of thin sand tempered mud-brick hurdle walls of Phase E/2.
43) [only in A/II-m/10] Sand tempered mud-brick wall built close to house no 39). Sandy layers overlay the preserved tops (no 41) and abut wall no 39) as well. Thus, this wall was only in use in Phase E/3. On the other hand it cuts into the excavated ash of the foundation trench of wall no 39, and was therefore only built after wall no 39); west of it flattened mud-brick rubble.
44) Sand tempered mud-brick wall cut by tomb A/II-m/11-no 8; this wall belongs either to building no 39) (Phase E/3) or wall 39) is later than no 44) because the lowermost walking 'floors' (no 46) do not start at the base of the wall (as in no 39) but seem to draw further up. For this reason it is possible that no 44 may belong to Phase F (cf. no 52). The opposite section (A/II-n/11 north, no 51) makes clear that there is a wall in continuation of the present one (no 44), which can be assigned to Phase E/3 unequivocally.
45) [only in A/II-m/10] Trampled silt 'floors' with ash depositions in between, Phases E/3 and E/2.
46) [only in A/II-m/10] Base elevation of building no 39). Base of foundation trench of Phase E/3. Flattened silt and sand layers, with one layer of mud-brick rubble above (building rubble). Due to a pit below the building processes of subsidence are visible.
47) Sand tempered mud-brick of a building of Phase E/3; they were set into a foundation pit as a whole. The erection of the building may have happened a little later than that of building no 39).
48) 'Floors', Phase E/3, consisting of earth mixed with sand, clean sand layers, fine ash layers with a silt layer on top (this could be derived from roof collapse). Above these layers a few horizons derived from laying fallow.
49) Sand tempered mud-brick demolition waste or sand tempered mud-brick rubble of building no 47), Phase E/3.
50) Tightly layered walking 'floors': sandy alternating with ash and red and white whitewash layers, Phase E/3.
51) [only in A/II-m/10] Ash accumulations between Phases F and D/3; between them fine sand layers, which belong perhaps to Phase E/3. A larger amount of ash had been accumulated between the walls no 39) and 43) by the excavation of the foundation pit for building no 39). Further to the west the excavated material might have completely covered wall no 52) of Phase F.
52) [only in A/II-m/10] Sand tempered mud-brick wall, Phase F. Only the wall on the western edge of the south section of A/II-m/10 can be unequivocally assigned to Phase F because here is a direct connection to two tombs of Phase F (A/II-m/10-no 8 and 9). The remains of a wall in A/II-m/10, running metres 4.00–4.60 from east, belongs also to Phase F.
53) [only in A/II-m/10] Pit filled with sand tempered mud-brick rubble, sandy earth and limestone fragments, Phase F L [212].
54) Levelled sand tempered mud-brick rubble of buildings of Phase G[/2–1], which sits partly on a loamy layer, which in turn may represent a roof collapse (m/10, running metres 0.0–5.0; m/11 running metres 2.0–7.0).
55) Tightly layered walking 'floors', sandy with intermittent ash accumulations in the interior of the building no 56), Phase G[/2–1].
56) Sand tempered mud-brick walls of a building of Phase G[/2–1] A/II-m/11, running metres 1.25 to 2.60 (= **[M30]** and from 6.80 to 7.70 (= **[M20]**). The building was set into a foundation pit as a whole. Through this action the ash accumulation (no 65 = **L [156]**) was cut in this area and loosened up by the ancient excavation at the base of the foundation pit. The excavated material may have been deposited east of the building, resulting in a thicker ash layer there. The building is obviously older than the next wall west no 59).
57) Flattened building rubble at the base of the foundations, situated below was a thin loamy layer (perhaps a compacted floor) = **L [109]**.

58) Tightly laminated walking ‘floors’, alternating fine ash accumulations and thin reddish and whitish white wash layers in the area of the alleyway. The layers from the elevation of 4.90 to 5.30 m/NN belong to Phase G in square A/II-m/11 (running metres 7.60 to 9.0 = **L [155]**) and above it to Phase F and E/3.
59) Sand tempered mud-brick walls [one in square A/II-m/11 (= **[M8]** one in A/II-m/10 (= **[M26]**], Phase G[/2–1]. The one in square A/II-m/11 represents the ENE wall of compound 11, whilst that in in square A/II-m/10 belongs to Compound 14b (= **[M26]**. The walls no 59) were also set into a foundation trench, the base of which might have gone down to no 64) unless no 59) was built on top of a denuded wall of an older Phase [G/4 or G/3], against which no 64) runs.
60) [only in A/II-m/10] Ash accumulations mixed with humic earth and alternating with clean sand layers (Phase G[/2–1]). They may be derived from the excavated material of the foundation pits/trenches of Phase G, which cut into the ash layer no 65). Above this feature sandy earth with walking ‘floors’ and a compacted (trampled) loamy layer is situated, which can be identified on both sides of pit no 53).
61) [only in A/II-m/10] Sand tempered mud-brick walls of a building with deep foundation trenches [or at a lower elevation of the natural ground], Phase G/2–1, Compound 14b, Building 2, walls **[M25]** and **[M27]**.
62) [only in A/II-m/10] Levelled and compacted sand tempered mud-brick rubble in the interior of Compound 14b, Building 2 [= **L [163]** with loamy lumps and walking ‘floors’ with sandy accumulations, Phase G[/2–1].
63) [only in A/II-m/10] NNE-edge of foundation pit for Compound 14b, Building 2 wall **[M27]**; The pit was excavated beginning at a level of ca 4.50 to 4.70 m/NN.
64) Secondary distribution (by aeolian activity[?]) of thin ash accumulations perhaps derived from the original deposition no 65) further east.
65) Ash accumulation (by fire), partly re-deposited by aeolean activity or cut and disturbed by the buildings of Phase G/2–1, particularly deep in the eastern part, running metres 0.0 to 1.2 m.
66) Two sand tempered mud-brick walls, 66a and 66b of Phases G/3 or G4–H. (These walls may belong to the hypothetical building formed of walls **[G/3-M33]**, **[G/3-M35]** and **[G/3-M35]** which may fit the position of the walls. The position of the older building **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4-M7]** fits less well).
67) Sand tempered mud-brick rubble of Phases G/3 or G/4–H. The rubble of the building in square A/II-m/11, running metres 0.0 to 7.0 happened obviously before the fire.

Finds from square A/II-m/11, pl. 5–6

L [107] Room (Fig. 3.41.a)

Pottery

Reg.no **1609**, body fragment of a Tell el-Yahudieh jug. Position: A/II-m/11, pl. 5, 2.20 m/E, 4.5 m/N, Phase G.
Records: drawing ZN 112/68.

BP	IV-2-c	f. – m.	W2	–	mi	3

Height = 5.0, width = 4.0;
Cf. reg.no 1734, this fragment joined the large jug 1734 (see below, 127), cf. also reg.no 883 (see below, 124). Brown burnished with an incised depiction of a fish and white filling of incisions.

Probably to Phase F belongs a ringstand in the upper fill of room **L [107]** with a wall of Phase E/3 running over that fill close by.

Reg.no **1723** (KhM, A 3167), ringstand base. Position A/II-l/11-m/11 baulk,[376] 6.00 m/E, Phase F.
Records: BW negative SW1123/58, no drawing number; re-drawn and re-recorded.

RFTG	I-b-2	m	W1	Bd. gesp.	ox	2–3

Bd. = 10.0 (95% preserved), wd. = 0.5–0.8, max.d. = 11.4, H1 = 5.8 + x; reconstructed from sherds.
Surface colour: red slip 10 R 4/6–8 red; uncoated in: 2.5 YR 6/6–8 red. Section: red core with brown oxidation zones. The fabric is certainly not as sandy to warrant an assignment to the late Second Intermediate (‘Hyksos’) Period. The red slip is relatively dark compared to later pottery.

[376] There is another ringstand drawn into planum 6 baulk m–n/11 at roughly 4.50 m/East at a level of 4.94 m/NN (TDplan no 186). This would belong to the fill of room **L [109]**, and probably date to Phase F.

L [108] Room (Fig. 3.41.b)

Pottery

Reg.no **1719 (**KhM, A 1745), lid – reused base of 'chalice'[377]. Position: A/II-m/11, pl. 6, Phase G, from narrow room.
Records: drawing Z 28E; re-drawn and re-recorded

RF	I-b-2	m	W1	Bd. W1	n.r.	n.r.

Bd. = 3.5 (25% preserved), max.d. = 5.0, H1 = 1.4 +x; Surface colour: red slip 10 R 6/3 pale red, natural surface: 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow; section: red core with yellowish brown oxidation zones; the fabric contains abundant amounts of quartz.

L [109] Room (Fig. 3.41.c–e)

Pottery

Reg.no **883** (Cairo Museum, JE 91172),[378] three body fragments of a large brown burnished and white incrusted Tell-el-Yahudieh jug. Position: A/II-m/11, below tomb 6, burial 2, (cf. Fig. 3.38–3.39, 3.41.c–d) distributed in an area of ca 2.20 m/E and 3.50 m/S).
Records: Colour slides nos TD2429, TD2428; B/W negatives SW1051/21–23, SW2784/3; drawing ZN 29B/1967.

BP	IV	f. – m.	W2	–	mi	3

Sherd with fish: height = 13.7, width = 7.7; sherd with dots: height = 11.8, width = 13.3
The pattern of the sherd with the fish shows the remains of a row of hanging triangles (three are partly preserved) limited by a horizontal line, beneath which another horizontal line was made. The pre-firing incised lines were filled with a white substance that remained intact in large parts. Beneath his line one fish is preserved almost completely, while the head of another just follows the tail of the first fish. The body is filled with dots, the fins are shown as two strokes each on the back and the belly of the fish. Below the row of fish swimming to the right is a decorative band of hanging and standing triangles also filled with dots and limited by a single line. The dots are made by means of a single pointed tool and not by a comb, which is a dating criterion for such pottery. It means it belongs to the early range of such pottery.[379]

The decoration of the sherd with the dots consists of a horizontal band limited by two lines and a vertical band of which one incised line is preserved. This presumable panel (cf. reg.no 1734) is again filled with singly incised dots in quite uneven and irregular rows. Below the horizontal band the beginning of a hanging row of triangles is just recognisable. It is very likely that these two sherds belong to reg.no 1734 (see below 127). The photograph shows that the incised lines have irregular outlines probably due to the white incrustation, while the little holes, where the white, probably limestone or gypsum based filling[380] has disappeared appear with an exact contour. Common opinion maintains that this step was done post-firing.[381] The triangular form of these holes suggests a tool like reg.no 1700 (see 202).

Reg.no **1610**, body fragment of large dark brown burnished Tell el-Yahudieh jug. Position: A/II-m/11, pl. 5, ca 1.00 m/E, 1.5 m/S, H = 4.65 m/NN.

BP	IV	f. – m.	W2	–	mi	3

Height = 4.3, width = 3.6
Pattern: large white incrusted dots, some of triangular shape above and below a burnished zone, which is delimited by a pre-firing incised line, white incrusted, belongs to reg.no 1734 (see below 127).

[377] This shape signifies a ceramic type that occurs very frequently at Sedment in the First Intermediate Period/early Middle Kingdom: type family 30. Cf. W.M.F. Petrie and G. Brunton, *Sedment I*, London 1924, pl. XXIX; B. Bader, Sedment, in: R. Schiestl and A. Seiler, *Handbook of Pottery of the Egyptian Middle Kingdom*, Vienna 2012, 209–235 discusses the development of these cups: p. 218. The burial of Ankhty from the early 12th Dynasty: Di. Arnold, *The Pyramid Complex of Senwosret I*, 54–58, pl. 67–69. Carinated cups with pedestal bases also appear at Tell el-Dabᶜa in the early MK levels. Cf. E. Czerny, TD XXII, 276–281.

[378] Cf. D.A. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 345–347, fig. 80; M. Bietak, *MDAIK* 23 (1968), Taf. XXXIIa.

[379] Cf. D.A. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 346, pl. 5, and 556.

[380] P.E. McGovern, J. Bourriau, G. Harbottle and S. Allen, The Archaeological Origin and Significance of the Dolphin Vase as Determined by Neutron Activation Analysis, *BASOR* 296 (1994), 34.

[381] M. De Vreeze, 'A Strange Bird will breed in the Delta Marsh': The Evolution of Tell el-Yahudiya Juglets and the Role of Tell el-Dabᶜa as a Hybrid Zone, in: B. Bader, C.M. Knoblauch and E.C. Köhler (eds), *Vienna 2 – Ancient Egyptian Ceramics in the 21st Century*, Leuven – Paris – Bristol, CT 2016, fig. 3.



Fig. 3.41 Pottery from L [107], L [108], L [109] and L [155]



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Fig. 3.42 Parts of the large Tell el-Yahudieh jug in Vienna reg.no 1734, KhM and its reconstruction (courtesy of KhM)

Reg.no **1734** (KhM, A 1691), brown burnished large Tell el-Yahudieh jug with ring base (Fig. 3.42).[382] Position: A/II-m/11, pl. 6, 2.50 m/E, 2.00 m/S in an area of about 2 m², Phase G.
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/57–58, 1112/59–60, 1112/61–62, 1131/13; drawing ZN 112/68.

BP	IV-2-c	f. – m.	W2	Bd. gef.	mi	3	3 RST

Max.d. = 29.0, bd. = 9.45, wd. = 0.9, H1 = 29.8 +x, H2 = 17.7; handle 3.38 × 1.65;
Surface colour: 10 YR 4/1–5/2 dark gray to gray brown. Section: gray core with light red to pink oxidation zones; burnished horizontally and vertically including the patterned zones. The burnishing was achieved before the large single dots were incised.
Pattern: Five horizontal bands of patterning consisting of standing triangles incised pre-firing on the shoulder filled with singly incised dots all filled with a white pigment. Along the maximum diameter are six square panels divided from each other with vertical bands delimited by two incised lines each. Each of the squares is filled with singly incised dots. Below a band of hanging triangles again filled with singly incised dots are visible. Below this geometric band one with figurative decoration was incised and again filled with white pigment/material. A row of fish (seven are preserved) facing towards the right is shown. The impression they give is that they just dive into the water. Each fish has two fins on the back and on the belly (except one, which has three each) the heads are indicated as well as their eyes. They are all depicted in the same manner only one fish is noticeably wider than the others. The bodies are filled with incised dots. These fish may be reminiscent of dolphins, although the design of such fish from the famous dolphin jug from Lisht is entirely different. The backs of the dolphins are not as bent as in the Lisht jug and their bodies are only filled with incised dots but not with wavy lines. The overall proportions of the Dolphin jug from Lisht are similar, although in the Lisht vessel the base is missing, whilst in the Tell el-Dab^{c}a jug the rim is missing. Also there is a size difference, and the design of the handles also differs in that the three strands are beside each other in the Lisht jug, whilst in the Tell el-Dab^{c}a jug the third thinner strand is mounted on top of the two thicker strands. As both these jugs are unique it is very difficult to fathom the relationship between them. Whilst the Tell el-Dab^{c}a jug is quite well dated into Phase G/2–1, the phase in which the broken sherds were distributed, or earlier. The Dolphin jug from Lisht may have been older in the context in which it was found.[383] Only thorough analysis of Lisht tombs will bring further light into this question.

The lowermost decorative band consists again of triangles – standing and hanging – divided by single incised lines and filled with dots incised singly. 15 standing triangles are preserved, whilst there are 12 hanging ones. Interestingly the number of dots incised in each triangle seems to start with about 6 dots at the bottom of the standing triangles. Below this last decorative band there is one other incised line below in a distance of about 1 cm.

The ring base seems to have been at least turned on the wheel if not completely wheelmade. The base itself has been burnished in a circular manner close to the ring base, whilst further in the middle the burnishing strokes also go across the base in a rather untidy way. This part of the surface is not too well preserved.

Quite a few of the incised dots are of triangular shape, reminiscent of the bone awls found in **L [139]** in Compound 12 (see chapter 6, 202) reg.no 1700 and b, see also Fig. 3.34. No parallel has been found for this unique imported jug from Syria/Palestine so far. The fabric belongs clearly to the Syro/Palestinian imports according to recent macroscopic scrutiny by the author.

[382] M. Bietak, TD V, 28–29; D.A. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 345. Neutron Activation Analysis was conducted and published in P.E. McGovern, J. Bourriau, G. Harbottle and S. Allen, The Archaeological Origin and Significance of the Dolphin Vase as Determined by Neutron Activation Analysis, *BASOR* 296 (1994), 31–43.

[383] M. Bietak and K. Kopetzky suspect an origin in the Lebanon. Cf. M. Bietak and K. Kopetzky, The Dolphin Jug: A Typological and Chronological Assessment, in: J. D. Schloen (ed.), *Exploring the Longue Durée*, Essays in Honor of Lawrence E. Stager, Winona Lake, Ind. 2009, 17–34.

L [111] Square feature (silo?)

Pottery

Reg.no **1611** (KhM, A 1691), body fragment of a large brown polished Tell el-Yahudieh jug. Position: A/II-m/11, pl. 5, 2.10 m/N, 0.80 m/E, H = 4.60 m/NN, north of tomb A/II-m/12-9.
Records: ZN 112/68.

BP	IV-2-c	f. – m.	W2	–	mi	3

Height = 3.6; width = 5.0;
Cf. reg.no 1734, this fragment joins the large jug. Dark brown to black burnished, decorated with incised triangles, filled with large dots, white incrustation.[384]
The fragments with reg.nos 883, 1609, 1610, and 1611 belong to and partly join vessel reg.no 1734. Thus, its deposition in different loci of Compound 11 indicates that the jug broke before the unit was in use or early in it use period because the fragments were dispersed in several rooms of the house and it is possible that reg. nos 883 and 1734 are derived from below the original floor of room **L [109]**. This jug is certainly the largest yet found. It is an unequivocal import from the Levant,[385] and so far no exact parallel for it has been located. It seems to have been an especially luxurious article containing a substance that must have been precious. The size of the vessel indicates a relatively large amount of such valuable substance, perhaps a diplomatic present??[386] There is no additional evidence to suspect any cultic background for this jug.

L [155] Space west of building (Fig. 3.41.f–g)

Pottery

Reg.no **924** (KhM, A 2669), rim of a red burnished jug with double stranded handle. Position: A/II-m/11, in the south western corner of the square, 1.60 m/S, 0.80 m/W, H = ca 4.80 m/NN (= 2.70 m depth down the southern section), relative level e–f, Phase G[–F];
Records: B/W negatives SW1070/43, 45; redrawn and re-recorded.

R/BP	IV-3-2	f. – m.	W2	–	ox	3–4	2 RST

Rd. = 2.5 (100% preserved), wd. = 0.5, H1 = 3.5 +x.
Surface colour: brown burnished 2.5 YR 5/3 weak red, natural surface colour 7.5 YR 7/4 pink. Section: grey core with red and beige oxidation zones; subjected to NAA analysis sample #JH 286.[387]

It is possible, but not likely, that the following fragment, a stopper fragment, belongs to Phase G/2–1. More probably it belongs to Phase F.

Reg.no **1578** (KhM, A 3075), fragment of pottery vessel. Position: A/II-m/10–11, baulk, 2.3 m/S, 2.5 m/D (measured at southern baulk; H~ 5.20 m/NN.
Records: ZN 124/68.

RF	I-b-2	m.	W1	–	ox	2–3

Max.d. = 7.4; H1 = 4.0+x.
Surface colour: red slipped 10 R 6/8 red.

[384] According to P. E. McGovern, J. Bourriau, G. Harbottle and S. Allen, The Archaeological Origin and Significance of the Dolphin Vase, 34, the white filling of the dots was done after firing using calcium carbonate (calcite) or gypsum.

[385] M. Bietak, TD V, 28, JH 338 with provenance in Southern Palestine. Cf. McGovern, *Foreign Relations*, but also the critique concerning his work, reviews e.g. D. Aston, Review: The Foreign Relations of the 'Hyksos'. A Neutron Activation Study of Middle Bronze Age Pottery from the Eastern Mediterranean by P. E. McGovern, *JEA* 90 (2004), 233–237; A. Cohen-Weinberger and Y. Goren, Levantine-Egyptian Interactions during the 12th to the 15th Dynasties based on the Petrography of the Canaanite Pottery from Tell el-Dabᶜa, *Ä&L* 14 (2004), 69–100.

[386] Cf. D. Aston, Mother's Best Tea Service – Pottery as Diplomatic Gifts in the Second Intermediate Period, in: B. Bader and M.F. Ownby (eds), *Functional Aspects of Egyptian Ceramics in Their Archaeological Context*, OLA 217, Leuven 2013, 375–401.

[387] P. E. McGovern, *Foreign Relations*, 127, most similar to Tell Ibn Hani.

Chapter 4: The space around Compounds 10 and 11 A/II-k/11; l/11; m/11–12; n/11–12

The space between those Compounds includes squares A/II-k/11, A/II-l/11–12, A/II-m/11–12 and A/II-n/11–12. As before the description of the features will proceed from north to south and from west to east (Fig. 4.1).

Excavation and available records

The excavation history of these squares in 1967–1968 has already been discussed above (see 37, 101–102, 112–113) except for A/II-l/12, A/II-m/12 and A/II-n/11.

Square A/II-l/12 was excavated in 1966 (planum 1–3)[388] and 1967 (planum 4).[389] The sections were drawn in 1966 (western section) and 1967 (east section; northern and southern sections were not recorded). The original elevation of the tell in this square was from 7.15 m/NN in the north western corner to around 6.50 to 6.22 m/NN at the other corners. Thus, it declines from northwest towards south east and south west. In the course of the removal of the topmost layer a substantial part of the earth was removed due to severe disturbances and the base level of the first planum is 5.01 to 5.69 m/NN. The relevant plana are planum 2 (wall **[M7b]** and a hearth), planum 3 and 4 which belong to the Phases G/3, G/4 or H.

Square A/II-m/12 was excavated in 1967 (planum 1–5,[390] eastern, western sections, part of southern section) and 1968 (additions to southern section and northern section[391]). The original elevation of the surface before excavation was around 6.50 m/NN at the northern edge of the square, ascending to almost 8.0 m/NN at the southern edge. Planum 5, the last one excavated, is relevant for Phase G. It is included into the plan of the settlement in Phase G/2–1.[392] The great difference in elevation in some areas resulted from massive *sebakh* digging activities of the villagers, who targeted the 10.0 m enclosure wall of the New Kingdom Seth Temple.[393] Available records for those squares are plan and section drawings, archival photographs, the register books, and preliminary plans as well as the published plan of Phase G/2–1.[394]

Square A/II-n/11 was excavated in both the spring and autumn campaigns of 1968. Five plana[395] were recorded and all four sections[396] were drawn in the same year. The elevation of the original surface before excavation was around 7.50 m/NN in the north-west corner rising to almost 8.0 m/NN in the north-eastern corner. Both edges of the square descend about 0.3–0.4 m so that the elevation in the south-west corner was ca 7.20 m/NN and in the south east corner it was 7.60 m/NN. Already in planum 3 the overall layout of the architecture as it is seen in the plan of Phase G/2–1[397] exists. Thus a continuation into at least the earliest part of Phase F can be assumed.[398] Unfortunately there is nothing to corroborate this hypothesis. The documentation available for square A/II-n/11 consists of the digging diary, the plan drawings, section drawings, descriptions of the layers in the section drawings, archival photos and slides as well as the register book and the find drawings. Also a few sherd collections were recorded.

The space east of Compound 11 and west of Compound 10 is represented by loci **L [119]** and **L [120]**,

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388 TDplan nos 94, 95, 96.

389 TDplan no 97.

390 TDplan nos 195, 196, 197, 198, 199.

391 Drawn together with A/II-m/11 northern section, TDplan number 192. The western half was drawn together with A/II-m/13.

392 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

393 I would like to thank M. Bietak for this information. Cf. also the plan in M. Bietak, Ein altägyptischer Weingarten in einem Tempelbezirk, *Anzeiger der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Phil.-hist. Klasse* 122 (1985), 267–278, esp. fig. 2, where the enclosure wall is shown in relation to the squares of the excavation.

394 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

395 TDplan nos 277–281.

396 TDplan nos 288–291.

397 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

398 No archaeological remains were drawn into the plan of Phase F. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3.

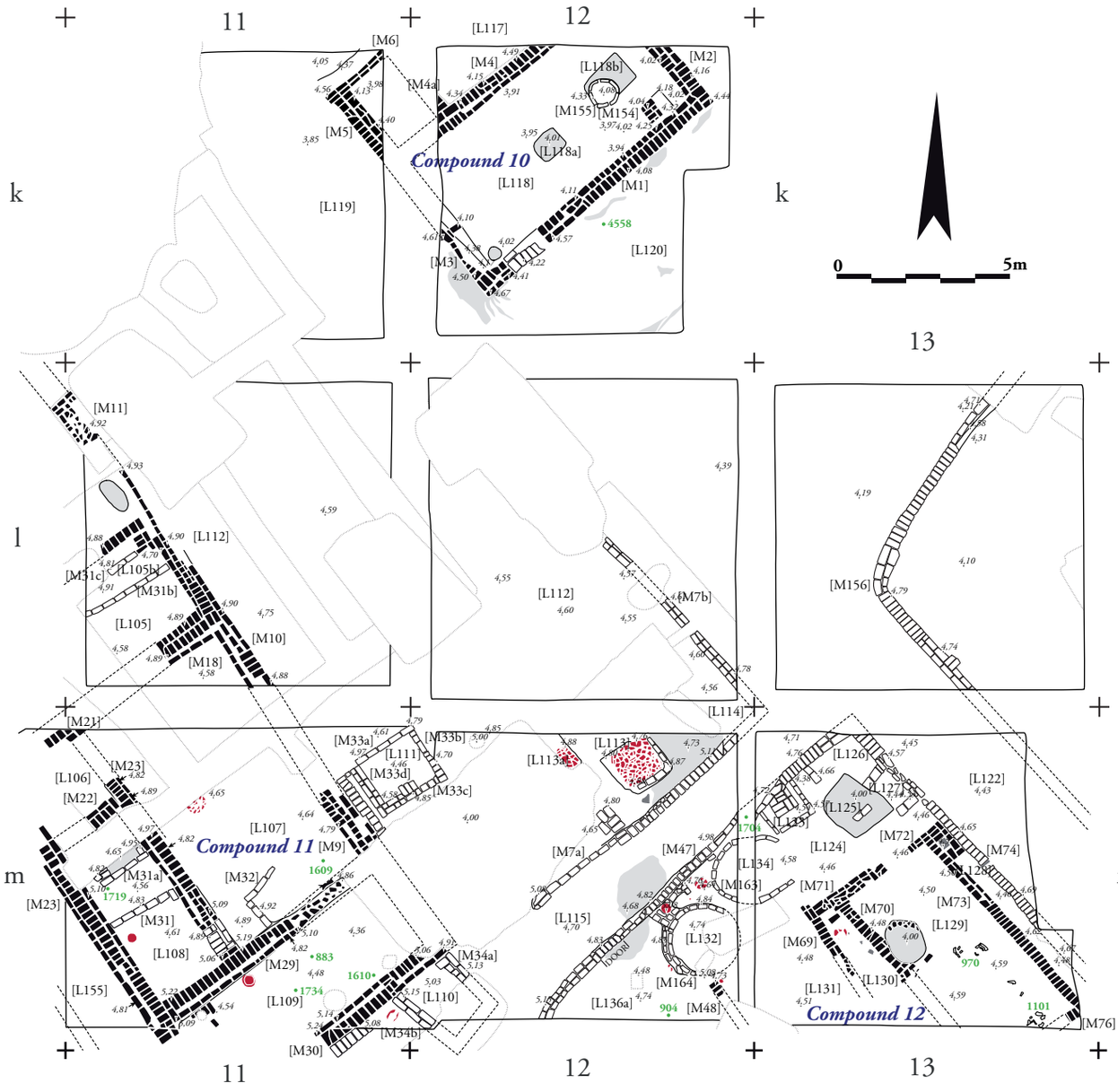


Fig. 4.1 Schematic plan of courtyards and spaces between Compounds 10 and 11.
Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

from which only a few finds were recorded (see 56–58). The sections covering these loci are A/II-k/11–12 south,[399] A/II-k–l/11 east,[400] A/II-k–l/12 west[401] and partly A/II-l/11 north.[402] None of these sections records any substantial walls indicating any remarkable building activity as will become obvious from the following listing.

A/II-k/11 – eastern section (A77): finely stratified "floors" of ash, sandy and loamy levels trampled with some brick rubble distributed on it later.

[399] TDplan nos 44 and 58.
[400] TDplan nos 47 and 93.
[401] TDplan nos 59 and 109.
[402] TDplan no 90. Published in an early version by M. Bietak, *MDAIK* 23, fig. 5.

A/II-k/11 – western section (A57): the older layers are totally destroyed by the well of Phase B/2.

A/II-k/11 – southern section (A27): Mortuary Temple I of Phase E/2–1 cuts into finely layered levels, again sand, mud and ash.

A/II-k/12 – southern section (A26): exclusively finely stratified layers or walking horizons consisting of ash, sand and loam/mud.

A/II-k/12 – western section (A62): abutting the walls of Compound 10a[403] long series of finely layered deposits of alternating ash and muddy/sandy levels was found. The higher amount of ash compared to the other sections indicates a use of this area not only as a thoroughfare but also as a deliberate dumping of ash or use for firing installations (either hearths or as indicated by the moulds found (see above, 42, 58) industrial activity, cf. the ovens in squares A/II-l/10 and A/II-l/11).

A/II-l/11 – northern section (A7):[404] here were also sandy, muddy and ashy layers found, although they are not as thickly deposited here as in some of the other areas around Compound 10 and 11. A few bricks of a few walls with base levels at an elevation of around 4.0 m/NN, thus belonging to older building phases suggest that this area was in use only as a thoroughfare/dumping ground in Phase G/2–1 (see Fig. 4.2).

A/I-l/11 – eastern section (A78): this section shows a massive ash layer (section no A78-45), which is below the elevation of 4.0 m/NN and therefore probably older than G/2–1. Loamy and sandy layers (running metre 0.80 from north to ca 4.20, section nos A78-44 and A78-43), but they are not alternating in thin levels as in the other sections, but appear rather massive. Thus, it is possible to assume that these layers were, perhaps intentionally, dumped there. The remainder of the section is destroyed by tomb A/II-l/12-5 and the pit into which it was set. In the southern area several walls of Phases G and H (section nos A78-39, A78-41) take up the remaining space.

AII-l/12 – western section (A61): where the stratigraphy was not destroyed by tombs (A/II-l/12-2 and A/II-l/12-5) sandy and muddy layers were deposited (section no A61-12). Again the impression is that this area was used as a courtyard and/or thoroughfare but the destruction precludes a firm conclusion.

A/II-l/12 – eastern section (A83): here only finely stratified layers and 'walking floors' are recorded with very scant remains of mud-brick fragments, which may have formed flimsy walls perhaps for the limitation of precincts, which are often only 1 brick's width wide.

In the space between Compound 10 and 11 (between walls **[M5]** and **[M11]** and in the same orientation), Compound '10a' was uncovered, consisting of walls **[G/3-M28]** and **[G/3-M29]**. Unfortunately it remains quite unclear into which sub-phase this part of a building belongs because the base levels of the walls were not reached. Compound '10a' is very probably older than Phase G/2–1 and might belong together with some walls further south (see 163). The overall base levels of this building point to a period from Phase H to G/3 (see plans Fig. 5.1, 5.4.–5.5 and 5.9). Only a few walls **[H-M6, H-M7; G/3-M28, G/3-M29]** of this building in A/II-k/11, pl. 6 were recovered and may have belonged to this phase together with some walls from Compound 11 in A/II-l/11, but this in turn was not excavated deep enough to be certain. No finds were recorded from this area.

***Excursus* Section analysis of Northern section A/II-l/11, after M. Bietak, *MDAIK* 23, fig. 5:**

1) Mud-brick building, Phase A (probably Late Period[405]).
2) Levelling layer with pottery and stone fragments.
3) Mud-brick rubble of a Massive wall of Phase B (Ramesside Period).[406]
4) Levelling layer, earth mixed with mud-brick rubble, covered by a loamy 'floor', below a compacted mud layer (date between Ramesside Period and end of Second Intermediate Period).
5) Sandy earth, rubble of sand tempered walls of Mortuary Temple (Phase E/2–1).[407]
6) Mud-brick structure, built after the temple had fallen out of use (date between Ramesside Period and end of Second Intermediate Period).
7) Layers compacted by walking and other activities on the exterior of Mortuary Temple I, mixed alternatingly from sandy, ashy and humic layers, Phase

[403] Cf. chapter 5, Fig. 5.9, walls **[G/3-M29]** and **[G/3-M28]**.

[404] Published in an early version by M. Bietak, *MDAIK* 23, fig. 5.

[405] Cf. M. Lehmann, *Die materielle Kultur der Spät- und Ptolemäerzeit im Delta Ägyptens am Beispiel von Tell el-Dabᶜa*, PhD Dissertation, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin 2015, chapter 5.4.2. Gebäude 26, 249–250.

[406] M. Bietak, TD V, 25, plans 7–8.

[407] For the Temple see M. Bietak, TD V, 107–116, plans 5 and 6.

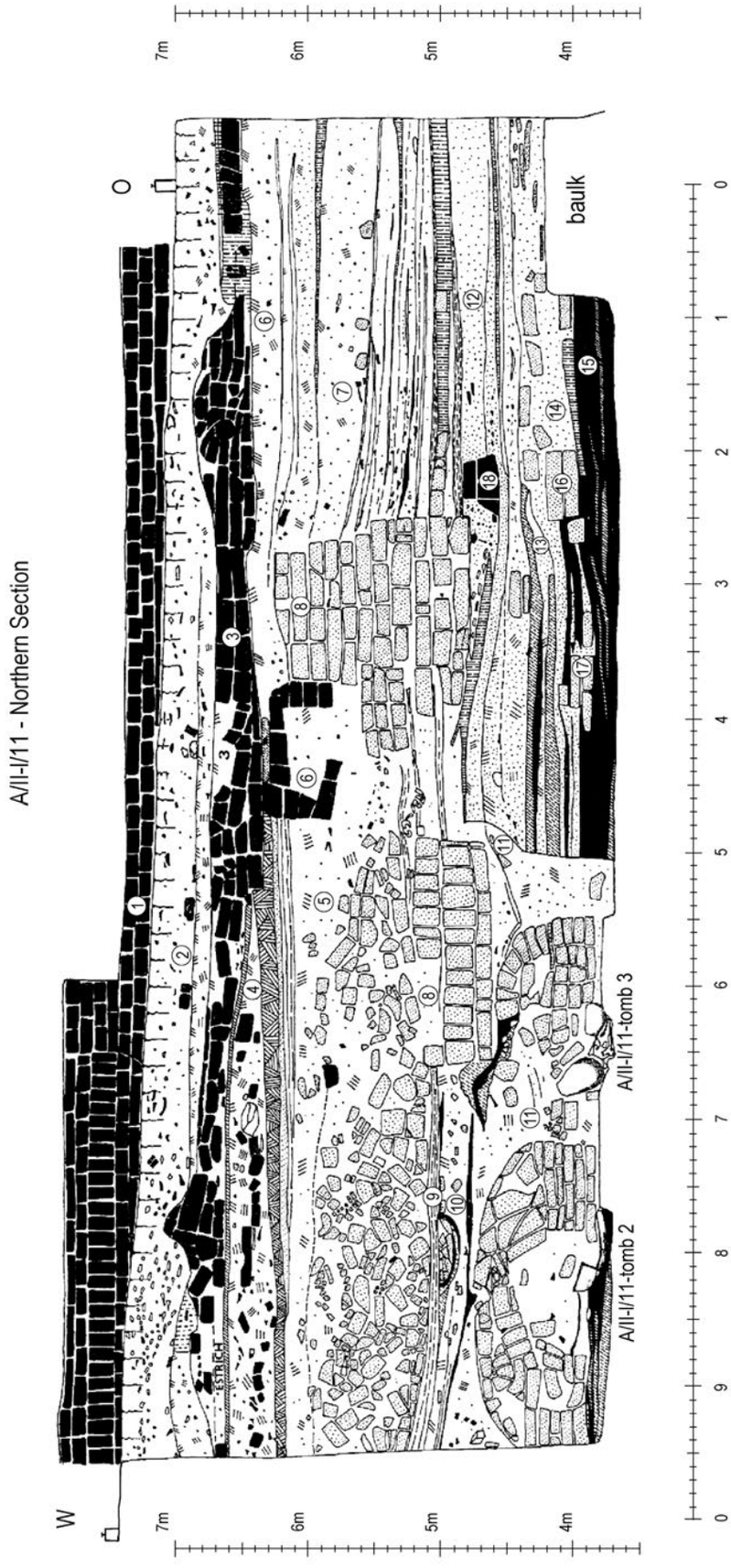


Fig. 4.2 Northern Section of A/II-l/11 (A7), adapted from M. Bietak, *MDAIK* 23, fig. 5

E/2–1, above earth mixed with sand, contemporary with section no 5.
8) Heavily sand tempered mud-brick walls Mortuary Temple (Phase E/2–1).
9) Remains of white wash floor, floor level of Mortuary Temple (Phase E/2–1).
10) Fire pit above Tomb A/II-l/11-no 2 Phase F (Phase F–E/3).
11) Pits of tombs A/II-l/11-no 2[408] and A/II-l/11-no 3[409] filled with earth mixed with sand, Phase F.[410]
12) Loosely structured layers mixed with sand, walking horizons and muddy layers, probably Phase F.
13) Stratified ashy and sandy deposits, Phase G/2–1, probably thoroughfare or open space.
14) Rubble and broken heavily sand tempered mud-bricks mixed with sand and ash deposits no 13, Phase G/2–1.
15) Very thick ash deposit, Phase H or G/4.
16) Wall **[G/3-M8]**, Phase G/3.
17) Wall **[H-M18]**, Phase H.
18) Mud-brick wall, probably Phase F or E/3, but more likely to belong to E/3. Destroyed by the foundation trench of Mortuary Temple I (Phase E/2–1).

Courtyards/spaces in A/II-l/11–12 and A/II-m/11–12 L [112] with tomb A/II-l/12-4, L [114][411]

To the east of Compound 11 a space of about 88 m² is surrounded by a heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall **[M7a, 7b]** of one brick's width.

Wall **[M7a]** also seems to represent a tradition of a thoroughfare in this place at least from Phase G/2–1 onwards, because in Phases F and E/2 there is a later wall each running along almost the same course as the older one.[412] The base levels given in the plan drawing for Phases F and E/3 is at about 5.27 m/NN. The eastern section of A/II-m/12 (A84) is only recorded to an elevation of ca 4.65 m/NN so that it is clear that the later wall continued to be rebuilt in the later phases (up to 5.50 m/NN), but it remains unfortunately unclear when it was first built as the lowest exposure was at about 4.60–4.70 m/NN in square A/II-m/12 and did not reach the base level of this wall. It is very well possible that parts of Compound 11 already existed in the earlier phases.

Unfortunately wall **[M7b]**, parallel to the eastern outer wall of Compound 11 is not preserved entirely, but stops after several metres either due to denudation or intentional destruction. It is noteworthy, that in the eastern section of A/II-l/12 (A83) there are a series of three "walls" between running metres 0.0 and 1.0 from south built on top of each other (section nos A83-34, A83-49, and an unnumbered wall below those[413]). They are very badly preserved, and only one brick course remained of each of those walls. As **[M7b]** is the latest of these a tradition of wall building is suggested here. It is presumably section no A83-34 that is relevant for Phase G/2–1. Only one course of the brick work was preserved and it must remain unclear if the wall was ever higher and cut sometime after it fell out of use or if it was only a very low wall in the first place. The base level is at an elevation of 4.60 m/NN and the preserved top at ca 4.70 m/NN, proving a height of the brick layer of about 0.1 m. After 3.5 m an elongated hearth/fire pit cuts through the wall **[M7b]** in A/II-l/12. The depth of that pit reaches 4.15 m/NN and it contained ashy deposits. No finds were recorded from it. This fire place or hearth does not lie above the earlier (industrial) oven (cf. chapter 3).

In the baulk between A/II-l/12 and A/II-m/12 a simple pit grave was found (A/II-l/12-4), which is orientated in the same way as the surrounding wall **[M7b]** in an east-west direction with the axis shifted towards the north west (see Fig. 4.3.a–b).[414]

The stratigraphic position of the burial is between Phases G and F, because it was dug after the building of the corner of the wall **[M7a, b]** but before or at the same time as the later equivalent of Phases F–E/3.[415] This can also be seen in the detail sketch of tomb 4 from the digging diary by M. Bietak (see Fig. 4.4)[416] and the relevant part of the northern profile (see Fig. 4.5).

By way of explanation it seems to be clear that wall **[M7a]** is represented by section A12-62, base level ca at 4.50 m/NN, which belongs with Phases G/1–2.

[408] M. Bietak, TD V, 43–46.
[409] M. Bietak, TD V, 46–50.
[410] Cf. also M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3.
[411] M. Bietak, TD V, 36.
[412] M. Bietak, TD V, plans 3–4.
[413] The base levels of these walls are 4.25 m/NN, 4.48 m/NN and 4.60 m/NN = **[M7b]**.
[414] M. Bietak, TD V, 36.
[415] The southern section of A/II-l/12 is only available as a photograph; no original plan drawing was available. It shows that the baulk was already taken down at least in parts, cf. Fig. 4.3.a.
[416] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, no date 1968, A/II-l/12, p. 15.



Fig. 4.3 a) Colour slide TD941, view towards south to tomb A/II-l/12-no 4 inside the baulk. On the left wall [M7b]



Fig. 4.3 b) Colour slide TD937 showing burial A/II-l/12-no 4 as found

Section no A12-61 remains somewhat unclear, but it seems most likely that it is one of those superimposed walls visible in the plan drawing of A/II-l/12 planum 3. It is unclear how many walls are superimposed there because the southern section of A/II-l/12 was not drawn. In square A/II-m/12 to the south they cannot be traced because the lowermost basic elevation of the square was at ca 4.70 m/NN. Thus, any older wall cannot be traced further south. It is possible that the existence of this section Fig. 4.5 at that low elevation is based on a trench just along the northern edge of the square so that the stratigraphic position of A/II-l/12-no 4 could be ascertained. The wall with section no A12-61 seems to have been founded at a slightly higher elevation on top of an ash deposition. The pit of the tomb cuts that wall and therefore must have

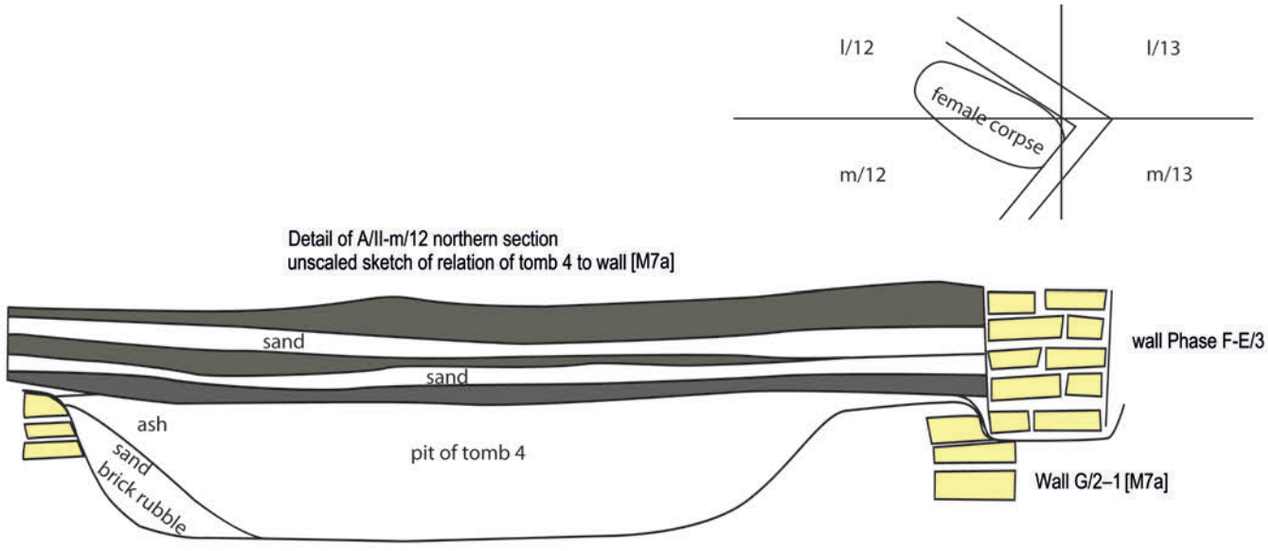


Fig. 4.4 Sketch of position of tomb 4 in relation to walls [M7a] by M. Bietak digitised by B. Bader, before removal of baulk. The dark grey depositions consist of ash

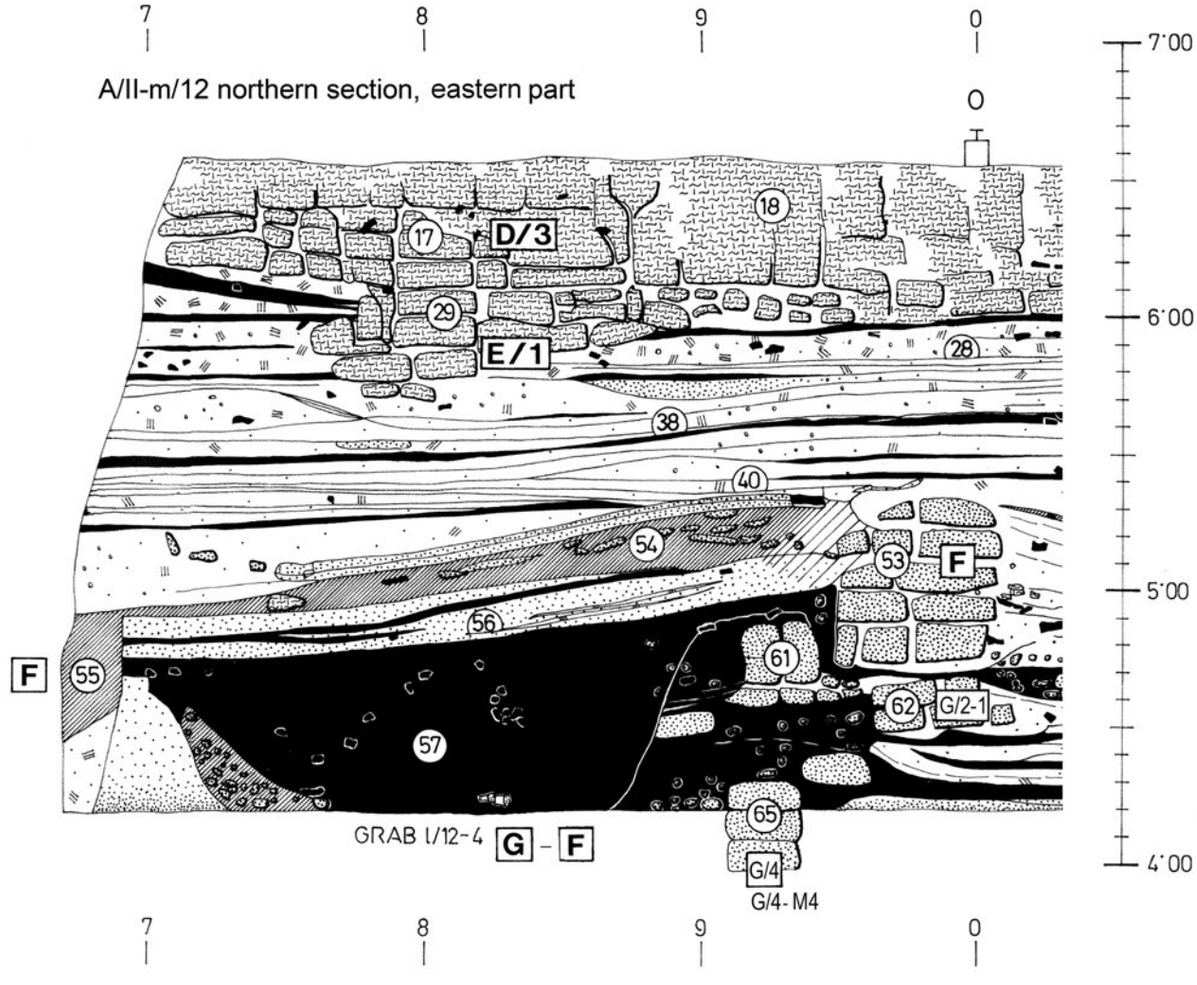


Fig. 4.5 Eastern part of the northern section containing tomb 4, A/II-m/12 (A12), drawn by H. Singer (†), © M. Bietak

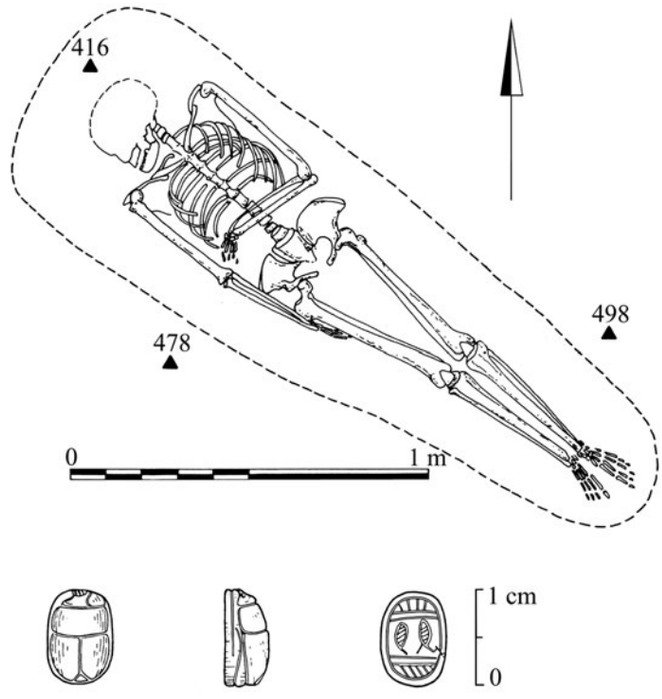


Fig. 4.6 Tomb A/II-l/12-4, with grave goods and reconstructed tomb pit, after M. Bietak, TD V, fig. 10–11

been dug after the wall had fallen out of use.[417] Because an ash layer also goes over the wall with section A12-62, this too had already been denuded. However, wall with section no A12-53 (exactly on top of the older wall A12-62) cut into the ash layer, which means that this wall is later and belongs to Phase F. The reason for the tomb to be filled with so much ash (also in Fig. 4.3.a–b) remains unclear. The wall with section no A12-65 represents **[G/4-M4]**, cf. Fig. 9.1.

The pit containing the burial was of oval shape, ca 1.80 m long and 0.65 m wide with a maximum depth of 0.70 m and it did not contain any other built features. The deceased was an adult woman, laying on her back supine/extended, with her lower right arm positioned over the abdomen, the left arm was extended along the left side of her body (Fig. 4.6). The head of the burial was in the northwest. Although the skull was not entirely preserved, the lower jaw was still *in situ* and suggests that the face was originally directed towards the south west. The only item of funerary gifts found consisted of a scarab that was laid down close to the neck of the deceased.

It was assumed that the buildings of Phase G were already abandoned when this burial was made, but in view of the fact that so few burials were laid down in area A/II (in contrast to area F/I),[418] it may have been roughly contemporary with Compound 11 perhaps late in its use as the surrounding wall was damaged by the tomb and the wall of Phase F was not yet built. Unfortunately the grave gifts were not sufficient to date the burial by analogy or to provide a clear insight into a possible sequence of events. There is a possibility to synchronise this burial with others of the end of Phase G/3–1 or at the beginning of Phase F in Area F/I, which are interpreted as victims of an epidemic,[419] but there is no direct stratigraphic connection.

[417] The plan of Fig. 4.1 shows the tomb with a reconstructed pit, which does not cut wall **[M7a]** creating a slightly misleading impression.

[418] See B. Bader, Contacts between Egypt and Syria-Palestine, passim.

[419] M. Bietak, Eine Palastanlage aus der Zeit des späten Mittleren Reiches und andere Forschungsergebnisse aus dem östlichen Nildelta (Tell el-Dabᶜa 1979-1984), *Anzeiger der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Phil.-hist. Klasse* 121 (1984), 312–349. esp. 334–336.



Fig. 4.7 View of A/II-m/12 towards the western baulk with the later tomb A/II-m/12-9 in the foreground. On the left side wall [M30] the southern wall of Compound 11 in several phases, SW1077/29

Most of the courtyard immediately east of Compound 11 was destroyed by the construction pit of tomb A/II-m/12-no 9 from Phase E/2 (see Fig. 4.7).[420]

Several more features of courtyard **L [112]** deserve comment. The proposed entrance at the western end of wall **[M7a]** into the courtyard would imply, if the wall was indeed too high to step over, on the eastern side of Compound 11 another entrance should be found. As the eastern external wall of Compound 11 **[M9]** is so thoroughly destroyed by later construction, no exact positioning of this presumed gateway is possible.

Ca 5.0 m from the eastern external wall **[M9]** a very short mud-brick wall runs to the north abutting wall **[M7a]**. This feature is ca 1.0 m long and one and a half brick's width wide **L [113a]**. While it is possible that the pit of the later tomb might have cut an originally longer wall short, it may not have been much longer. In general the use of this feature remains unclear. It could have served as a dividing or a protection wall to the sherd paved platform **L [113]** (see below).

Along wall **[M7a]** a row of neatly laid down animal bones were found, which were described in the original plan as bucrania. J. Boessneck[421] analysed those bones and they are indeed mostly derived from cattle (20 from the skull, rump and extremities of an adult and a juvenile cow, amongst them two horn cores. He stated that the preservation was not good. Three cervical vertebrae from an adult sheep, a pig's lower jaw, and the humerus of an adult dog were found there as well (see also Fig. 4.8–4.9).

Distribution of animal bones along wall **[M7a]**

cattle	sheep	pig	dog
20	3	1	1

Finally there is a very interesting feature/installation in this area, namely some kind of platform paved with broken potsherds and framed by heavily sand tempered mud-bricks **L [113]** (see Fig. 4.10–4.12).[422] It seems as if this "platform" was raised at least some 10–15 cm above the ground level of this phase of the settlement. The shape is a quite well constructed rectangle of 1.40 m by 1.70 m corresponding to 2 1/2 cubits by ca 3 1/3 cubits. The carefully laid out pot sherd pavement, was framed by heavily sand tempered mud-bricks on at least three sides, whilst it seems to have existed also on the north western edge, but was

[420] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 119–131.
[421] J. Boessneck, TD III, 14, 34 and fig. 3.
[422] M. Bietak, TD V, 29.



Fig. 4.8 Animal bones in situ, along wall [M7a], A/II-m/12, pl. 5. SW1069/61



Fig. 4.9 Animal bones in situ, along wall [M7a], A/II-m/12, pl. 5. SW1069/51



Fig. 4.10 Pavement of pot sherds L [113], detail in A/II-m/12, SW1069/57

already disintegrated, perhaps by use. The fact that east of this installation a lot of ash was deposited (cf. section of A/II-m/12, Fig. 4.5), which also filled the tomb, might suggest that it may have been used as a substructure for a hearth, although no traces of burning were found. Whether there is a causal connection between the large amounts of animal bones behind the feature described above, cannot be ascertained. Unfortunately no other finds were recorded from this area.

M. Bietak interpreted the feature as a primitive kind of bathroom although the installation for the waste water was not present anymore.[423] The rounded recess in the southern corner could have accommodated such a drainage system perhaps in the form of a tube/disused amphora base.[424] The short wall to the south of

[423] M. Bietak, TD V, 29.

[424] Several such installations have been found in other part of the site, M. Bietak, personal communication. One example in square A/II-m/17, pl. 5, Phase E/3, is convincingly explicable as bathing installation with amphora in place. The installation has no formal border laid out by mud-bricks.



Fig. 4.11 Pavement of pot sherds L [113], detail in A/II-m/12, SW1069/59

the pavement coming from **[M7a]** was thought to be a screening device. Whilst this is certainly possible and without more finds difficult to interpret, the possibility that the installation had something to do with food processing cannot be entirely discounted either.

Another small stretch of sherd pavement was found a little to the north west of the first one, **L [113a]** (see Fig. 4.1). It was of much smaller size and partly destroyed by the later tomb. It seems to lack the careful framing by heavily sand tempered mud-bricks (Fig. 4.13). It has to remain unclear if those two features were originally connected in function or otherwise, or if they were two similar unconnected installations.

In the space east of Compound 11 deep depositions of ash are attested in the northern sections of A/II-l/11 (Fig. 4.2) and the northern section of A/II-m/12 (Fig. 4.5) generally in the lower elevations. Further ash accumulations are recorded in the eastern section of A/II-n/11 (Fig. 4.19.a) as well as in the western section of A/II-n/12 (Fig. 4.19.b). These depositions are likely derived from settlement activities of the inhabitants of Tell el-Dab^{c}a rather than destruction of housing. Considering that much cooking and heating must have taken place the ash accumulations may be more readily explained in this way although the occasional and accidental house fire cannot be excluded entirely. Further, there are no attestations of burnt brick material or other burnt elements, which would hint at more encompassing fires.

Finds from square A/II-m/11, pl. 5 and 5–6

These ceramic finds, scanty as they are, belong to the space/courtyard between Compounds 10 and 11 because they were found just north of the square structure **L [111]** that might have been a silo.

The ceramic fragments (Fig. 4.14–4.15) recorded include one handle of an imported Canaanite transport amphora and the rim of a large storage jar made from Marl C. Both these fragments are in accord with other finds from levels G/3–1 (see, for example, Compound 1). Unfortunately those finds were not available for re-recording.

The record of pottery K89 (Fig. 4.16) from square A/II-m/11 does not allow us to pinpoint an exact position of these ceramic finds. The first fragment is probably the rim of a Canaanite transport amphora, whilst the second fragment can be identified as a rim/neck fragment of a pilgrim flask of the Third Intermediate or Late Periods.[425] Thus, these finds have to be considered intrusive through later pits cutting into the square.

Courtyard south of Compound 11 in squares A/II-n/11–12, L [156] and L [157]

The area directly south of Compound 11 was presumably open and is situated in squares A/II-n/11–12. Because access to Compound 11 seems only possible via this space it will be described here (for the other features in these squares see Compounds 12 and 14, respectively, 193–204, 260–269).

[425] Cf. D.A. Aston, *Egyptian Pottery of the Late New Kingdom and Third Intermediate Period (Twelfth – Seventh Centuries BC)*, SAGA 13, Heidelberg 1996, fig. 1.14; fig. 35.29, 33; fig. 86.30.



Fig. 4.12 Pavement of pot sherds L [113], detail in A/II-m/12, TDplan no 199, scale 1:20, drawing by K. Hegedüs

Open space L [156] south of Compound 11 with grave L [157]

To the east of Compound 14a/b, i.e. east of wall **[M8]**, a wide open space in a roughly triangular shape was created by wall **[M8]**, the southernmost wall of Compound 11 **[M30]** and the slightly s-shaped wall **[M45]**. **[M45]** presumably began at the installation in the south eastern corner of **[M30]** in square A/II-m/12. This is not exactly clear because tomb A/II-m/12-10 of Phase E/1[426] cut away the southern part of this installation **L [110]** and the northern end of wall **[M45]**. This wall continues with a slight slant through the western quarter of square A/II-n/12 and on into A/II-o/12, where it probably abutted the north eastern corner of Compound 13. It remains unclear whether it continued further to the west and abuts wall **[M8]** as well or if there was an opening for the entrance into the courtyards. The wall **[M45]** is built to one and a half brick's width and the mud-bricks were heavily sand tempered. The size of the bricks as measured from the plan is as follows: 0.35–0.40 by 0.17 by 0.12 m, sometimes irregular.[427]

There are two superimposed walls visible already in A/II-n/12 planum 4[428] **[M45]** close to the western baulk, cf. Fig. 4.17. In planum 5[429] the older wall **[G/3-M51]**[430] is only one brick's width wide mostly laid out as headers and it was not exactly along the same orientation as **[M45]**. Twice this pattern changes and instead of one header two stretchers were used to create two square projections/buttresses/pilasters on the western side of that wall at a distance of a little more than 2 m (which does not correspond to an even cubit measurement). The sizes of the bricks are 0.35–0.40 by 0.13–0.15 by 0.10–0.12 m and they contain a large proportion of sand temper. The northern section of A/II-n/12 (see below, 144) shows a tradition of walls between running metres 1.0 to 2.0 counting

[426] M. Bietak, TD V, 161–165, 198.
[427] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 28–29.
[428] TDplan no 296.
[429] TDplan no 297. There may be even older walls below that, but excavation did not proceed to such a depth.
[430] Not shown in Fig. 4.17, but cf. Fig. 9.6.

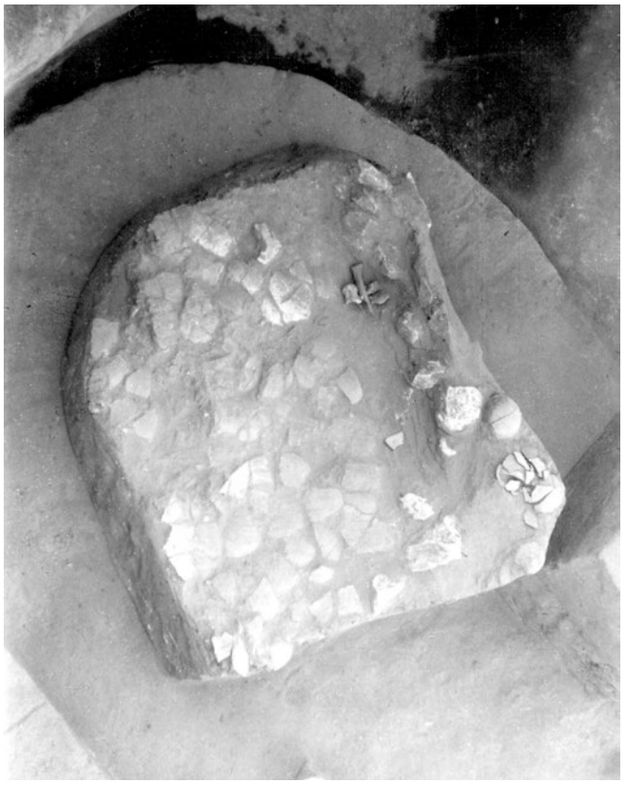


Fig. 4.13 Feature paved with sherds L [113a], detail of A/II-m/12, pl. 5, SW1060/11

from west. It remains unclear how the rebuilding history of this wall is to be reconstructed because at least three superimposed walls are recorded there from a base level of 4.30 m/NN onwards up to 5.50 m/NN. The tradition to place a wall there must have already started in Phase G/4 at the latest (see chapter 9). There are hints that even in Phase F at least some walking activity still took place there (finely stratified layers of sand, ash and humic nature).

In the north eastern part of the open space **L [156]** (in square A/II-n/11, pl. 4[431]) a thick layer of ash was deposited extending over an area of about 7 m² (see Fig. 8.18). Due to the sterility of this layer without any settlement refuse a wind-blown deposition was assumed.[432] In some places the ash layer is 0.60 m thick (cf. eastern section of A/II-n/11[433], northern part, Fig. 4.19.a). In the western section of A/II-n/12[434] the layer is still 0.35 m thick. It also seems as if there was a pit filled with ash in that area that may predate Phase G/2–1, but the ash layer was certainly still visible in Phase G/2–1.

Just west of wall **[M45]** several finds of pottery were made (see below, 147)[435] as well as a burial (A/II-n/12-no 5) of a small child **L [157]** who was found without any grave gifts or a container or any articulated tomb structure (Fig. 4.18: TDplan no 297[436]).

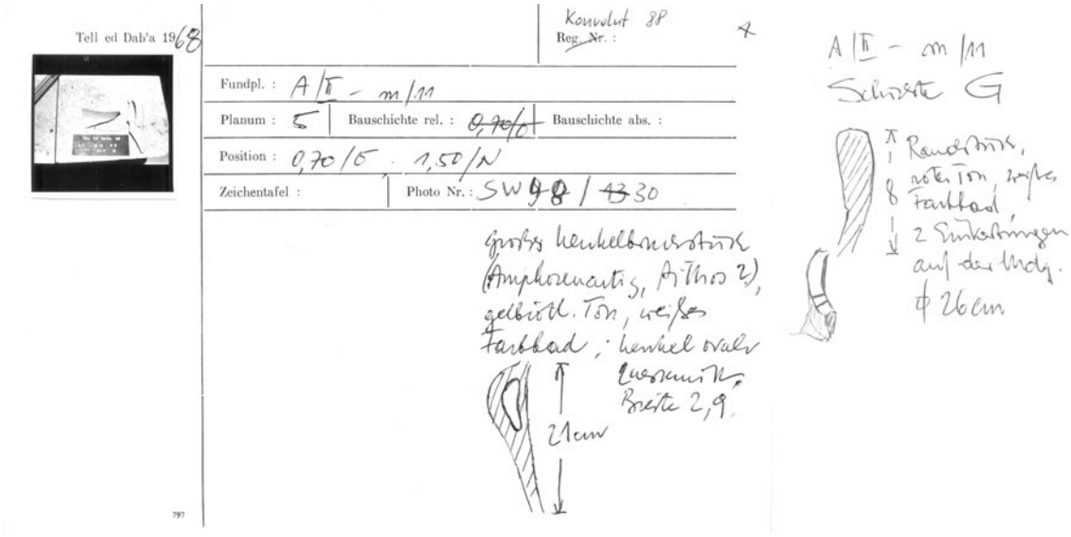


Fig. 4.14 Original record of K88, scale approx. 1:2

[431] TDplan no 280.
[432] M. Bietak, section nos of southern section A42, TDplan no 290.
[433] TDplan no 210, A80.
[434] TDplan no 304, A59.
[435] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 29.
[436] M. Bietak, TD V, fig. 5. The elevation given there is 4.52 m/NN that is taken from the western section.



Fig. 4.15 Photo of the pottery, K88, SW1098/30

The child was an embryo or neonatus in a flexed position on the right side. The pit was shallow and was dug into the ash layer mentioned below. The child was laid out in an east-west orientation with its head in the west, the face looked towards south.[437] The elevation of the grave was at about 4.52 m/NN–4.70 m/NN, which corresponds to the depth of the ash layer in the western section of A/II-n/12.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/11[438])

The eastern section (A80, drawn 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of 4.00 m/NN along the whole eastern edge of the square (Fig. 4.19a). The *gezirah* sand seems to have been reached at an elevation of ca 4.10 m/NN in the northern part of the section (section no A80-63). Beside a very massive ash layer in the northern part (running metres 0.5–4.0 counting from north) with section no A80-59 (cf. section no A80-74 = **L [156]** in the northern section, chapter 8, 260–265) that decreases towards the south and finally disappears totally, only two relevant walls were recorded (section no A80-62) belonging to the earlier phases of the *tell* settlement. These walls were assigned to Phase H, because of the presence of the ash layer, which was then thought by M. Bietak to cover this phase and signify a new one.[439]

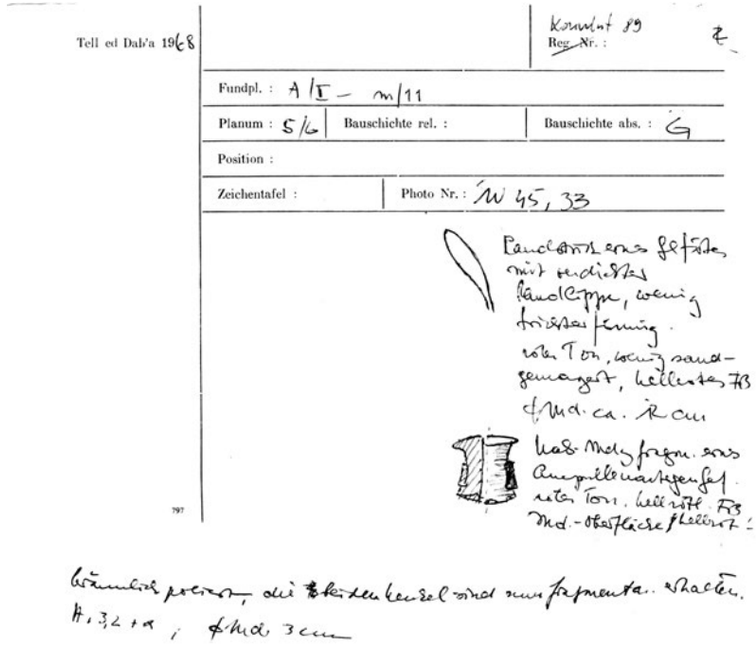


Fig. 4.16 Original record of konvolute K89, pottery not available for re-study, scale approx. 1:2

[437] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 29: Frühinfans I.

[438] This section was analysed by M. Bietak. The final plan with section nos is among the records.

[439] M. Bietak, TD V, 29. Also mentioned in digging diaries and section anlysis, but later deemed irrelevant.

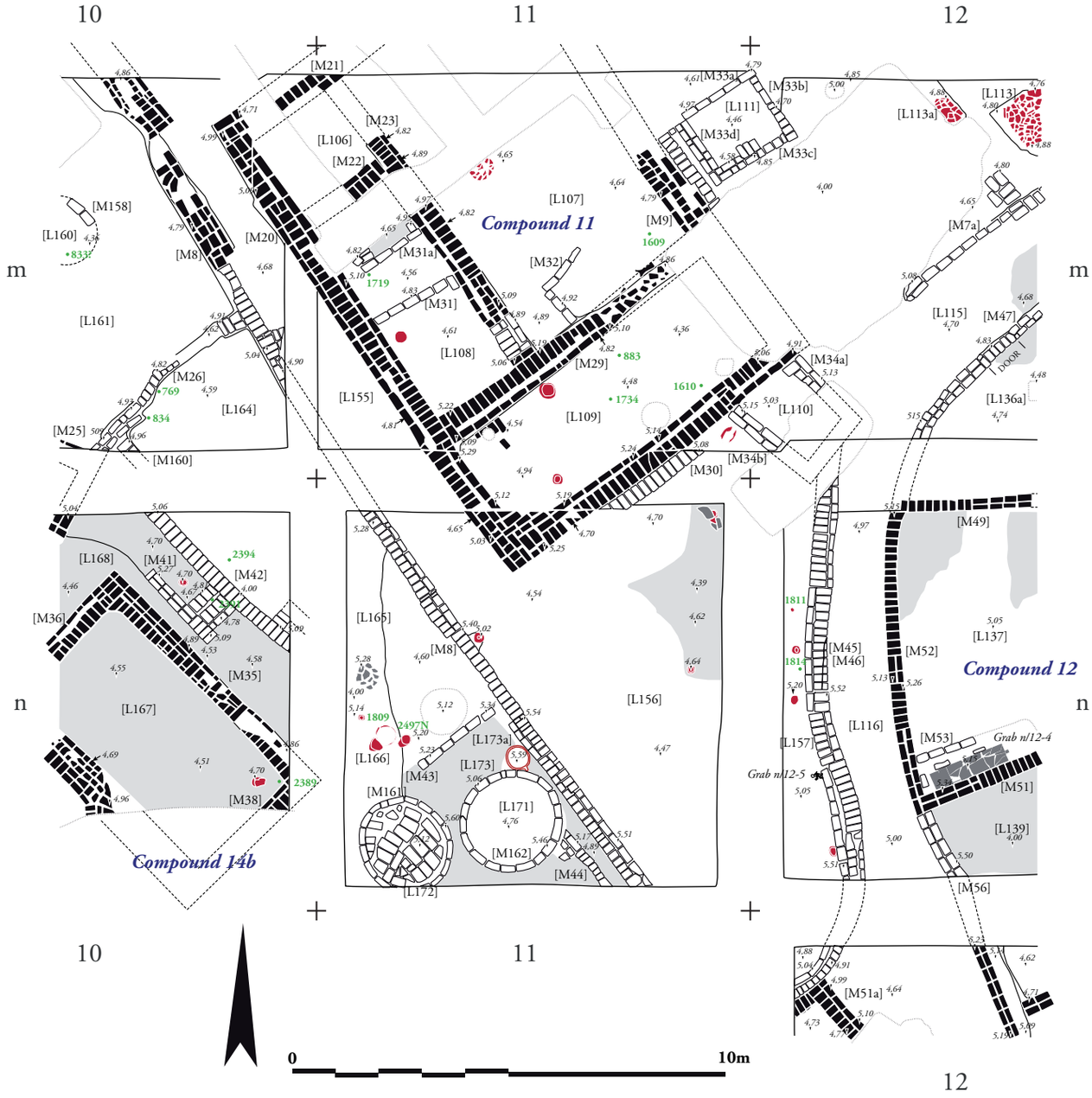


Fig. 4.17 Schematic plan of Courtyard L [156]. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

These walls were preserved four and two brick courses high, respectively. The preserved tops reach up to 4.20 m/NN and 4.30 m/NN. Their base levels were not reached because they lay beyond the archaeological exposure. Another noteworthy feature is the sequence of finely stratified walking horizons (section nos A80-51 and A80-54). They represent layers of white washed floors alternating with reddish and sandier layers. The loamy, muddy layers of section nos A80-58, A80-53 and A80-50 were interpreted as parts of collapsed roof construction made of mud (assuming the wooden beams were kept together by plenty of mud as binding agent). The flattening of those levels took place during rainy weather which destroyed the roofs and distributed the rich clayey loam.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/12[440])

The northern section of A/II-n/12[441] (A17, drawn in 1968, see 199) shows that **[M45]** is built on top of an older wall **[G/3-M51]** that is numbered section no A17-60 in the inked profile. It is only one brick's width wide and the mud-bricks are heavily sand tempered, while it also shows two buttresses/pilasters (Fig. 4.20, cf. chapter 9). Wall **[M45]** corresponds to section no A17-54 and was preserved up to four brick courses.[442] The base level of wall **[M45]** is at 5.10 m/NN, whilst that of the wall below **[G/3-51]** is at 4.90 m/NN. The oldest wall **[G/4-M26]** was built at an elevation of 4.25 m/NN. Thus, it is possible that continuous renewal of this wall blurs the exact assignations of the building phases of this particular wall although the finely stratified levels created by walking suggest that at the time of wall **[G/3-M51]** no building was situated to the east.[443] **[M45]** was assigned to Phase G/1–2, whilst **[G/4-M26]** was originally assigned to a sub-phase of Phase H.[444] The oldest wall **[G/4-M26]** was preserved up to five brick courses and **[G/4-M26]** and **[G/3-M51]** are divided from each other by a thin ash layer running over the preserved top of the older wall **[G/4-M26]**. This is the reason why M. Bietak assigned it to Phase H, because he interpreted this as the dividing line between the two phases. But if this is so, there would be no building activity representing Phases G/4–3. Unfortunately there are no ceramic finds to clarify the assignations of these walls in retrospect.

Very similar features are to be seen in the southern section of square A/II-n/12[445] (A40, drawn in 1968, see 201–202): Wall **[M45]** has a base level of just above 5.0 m/NN and is preserved up to seven courses, up to a height of almost 5.80 m/NN (section no A40-37 in the inked section). Again this wall

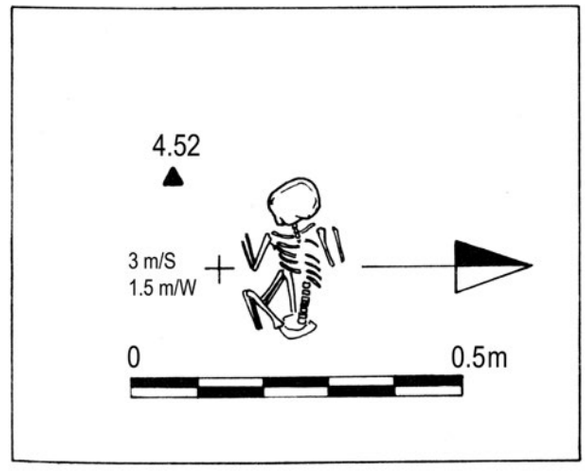


Fig. 4.18 Detailed drawing of tomb 5 L [157], cutting into a deep ash layer, after M. Bietak, TD V, Fig. 5

shows a remarkably deep foundation trench. Actually it may represent two superimposed walls like in the northern section. The base level of the older wall below **[G/3-M51]** (section no A40-55 in the section analysis assigned to Phase G/2)[446] is ca 4.70 m/NN and sits on an even older, but wider wall **[G/4-M27]**, the base level of which could not be determined, because it continued into the unexcavated area below (section no A40-63 in the southern section of A/II-n/12), but certainly below 4.30 m/NN. The finely stratified floor levels of the traditional thoroughfare later named **L [116]** (cf. Fig. 4.17) connect wall **[G/3-M51]** with the small stretch of wall section no A40-50 at running metre 5.0, which are both built over by Compound 12 in Phase G/2–1 (section no A40-42 at 5.0 and section no A40-37).

The western section (A59, drawn in 1968) was excavated down to an elevation of ca 4.20 m/NN. The

[440] M. Bietak analysed all the sections. For A/II-n/12 they were inked and supplied with final section nos.

[441] TDplan no 303.

[442] Only the lower part of this wall, because it is possible that this section no actually included two superimposed walls.

[443] There are a few hints in the southern section of A/II-n/12 that at least a short north-south wall existed in the southern part of the square. It is perhaps possible that before building Compound 12 all previous buildings were completely removed. This gains some credibility by the fact that the walls of Compound 12 are set into quite remarkably foundation trenches, as seem in section A/II-n/12 north.

[444] It seems more reasonable to assign it to Phase G/4, although there is yet another wall **[G/4-M28]** at running metre 3.0 that was not in use at the same time as [G/4-M26] because the floor levels running against the eastern face of **[G/4-M26]**, are closing the life of **[G/4-M28]** as they run over its top.

[445] TDplan no 305, A40.

[446] It should perhaps be assigned to G/3.



Fig. 4.19 a) A/II-n/11, eastern section: massive ashy layer on the left side of the photo.
The earlier walls of Phase G/4 are not yet visible, SW1096/27–2, b) A/II-n/12, western section, SW1096/22



Fig. 4.20 Square A/II-n/12, pl. 5, wall [G/3-M51] with buttresses/pilasters in bond, view from SE (left), and NW (right), SW1154/15–17

relevant features of that section to the earlier phases of the settlement are situated between running metres 3.0 and 4.0 counting from the south (wall, section A59-59a, earlier Phase G/4, **[G/4-M27]**, see Fig. 9.1) and from running metres 6.50 to 8.0 (wall, section A59-59b, probably also G/4, **[G/4-M26]**, see Fig. 9.1). Both walls have a base level below the excavated exposure of 4.20 m/NN, which means that they must have been built quite early. Their preserved tops are at 4.70 and 5.00 m/NN, respectively. This equates about five and six brick courses, respectively, which is unusually high compared to other parts of this settlement. And they may have been in use for both Phases G/4 and G/3. No wall that could be assigned to Phase G/2–1 is running into this baulk, which corroborates the nature of open space belonging to Compound 11. Between the two walls extend several layers of ash and compacted loam. Wall **[G/4-M27]** (= A59-59a) belongs to a wall visible in pl. 5 of A/II-n/11, with preserved tops at 4.25 m/NN. It is possible that this wall did not continue far into A/II-n/11. As far as the other structure **[G/4-M26]** (= A59-59b) is concerned its function seems to relate to delimitation of the earlier phase (see Fig. 9.1). It appears very wide (1.50 m), because the wall was cut through the middle by the position in relation to the section. In the plan this wall was just one brick's width wide. This also explains the 'pyramidial' look of the 'wall'. It is possible that this wall was at least renewed once, which would explain the exceptional preservation of six brick courses. In Phase G/2–1 a single wall **[M45]** replaced this earlier construction but at a slight distance from the western baulk. A deep ashy deposit (looking like a pit) with section no A59-57 may also belong to activities of the Phases G/2–1 cutting into wall **[G/4-M26]**. This ash is probably derived from domestic activity, although there is no hard evidence for ovens in the vicinity. Use as dumping ground is possible. The lack of associated finds makes the distinction of the phases difficult.

It is clear from the above that the use life of the sequence of walls in the place of **[M45]** spans Phases (H ?) G/4, G/3–1 up to F and thus attests a tradition in the position of this particular boundary or limitation wall perhaps over as many as three generations, although its course changed slightly as well as its thickness. It is extremely difficult to estimate the use life of each wall phase.

Finds from A/II-n/12

Space L [156][447]

Stone vessel (Fig. 4.21–4.22)

Reg.no **1814** (KhM, A 3230), fragment of footed stone bowl. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 5, 1.50 m/W, 4.40 m/N, H ~4.69–4.73 m/NN, as drawn into the plan (cf. plan no 297). The fragment was deposited directly to the north of a mud-brick buttress/'pilaster' projecting out of wall **[G/3-M51]**.
Records: B/W negatives SW1146/20a–21, 1148/26a–27; ZN 151/68, redrawn and re-recorded.
Material: Igneous rock; Measurements: rd. = 26.6; (20% preserved); H1 = 11.0; width of foot: ca 5.0; Inside well smoothed (by use?), outside very rough. The stratigraphic position puts this find between Phases G/3 and G/2–1, without being able to be more precise.

Pottery (Fig. 4.21–4.22)

The plan drawing of A/II-n/11, pl. 4[448] shows part of a pottery vessel with a maximum diameter of ca 15 cm with an elevation of 4.64 m/NN for the preserved top of that vessel. It has not been registered in the surviving records of the excavation. No other ceramic finds were recorded from this square belonging to this locus.

The plan drawings of A/II-n/12, pl. 4 and 5[449] recorded west of wall **[M45]** the hemispherical cup reg. no 1811 as well as the upper part of a large storage vessel (max.d. ca 25 cm at 4.0 m/S and 1.25 m/W in the square) and the base of another storage vessel (preserved max.d. ca 20 cm) (cf. Fig. 4.17). Towards the southern end of wall **[M45]** another base of a storage vessel was found with a max.d. of ca 25 cm. The latter three were not registered, but mentioned in the digging diary[450] as "fragments and lower parts of large storage jars made from rough reddish brown fabric, very thick walled with dark grey core." This description seems to be referring to "beer jars" as was later ascertained in the publication. The southernmost storage vessel contained a fragmentary hemispherical bowl (reg.no 1812).[451]

The plan drawing of A/II-n/12 planum 5 records the base of a storage jar exactly below the top part of a storage vessel, mentioned above (at 4.0 m/S and 1.25 m/W in the square). In the southern part of this locus another base of a storage jar was recorded. The digging diary mentions ceramic fragments of "hemispherical cups made of hard fired, red fabric and large storage jars of light red fabric."[452]

Reg.no **1811** (KhM, A 3227), hemispherical cup. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 4–5, H1 ~ 5.00 m/NN.
Records: B/W negatives SW1146/17a–18, 1148/21a–22, 1157/20a–21; ZN 157/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-1	fine	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 11.4; (rim 100% preserved); wd. = 0.5–0.6; base 100% preserved; H1 = 8.0; VI 145;
Surface colour: 7.5 YR 6–7/4 light brown to pink; thin rim band: 10 R 4/8 red. Break: not visible. Not particularly well smoothed especially round the base.

Reg.no **1812** (KhM, A 3228), hemispherical cup. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 4–5, H1 ~ 5.00 m/NN, found in southernmost base of storage as drawn into the plan.[453]
Records: B/W negatives SW1146/18a–19; 1148/22a–23, 1157/21a–22. ZN 151/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-1	fine	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 10.8; (rim 78% preserved); wd. = 0.5–0.6; base 100% preserved; H1 = 8.0; VI 141.25;
Surface colour: 7.5 YR 7/3 pink, thin rim band 10 R 4/8 red. Section: red core brown oxidation zones.

Animal bones

For square A/II-n/12, the bones of a sheep were noted in the south west corner of the square close to a ceramic deposit: the scapula fragment of a sheep, 1 humerus distal end with closed epiphyseal cartilage.[454] These bones probably belong to **L [156]**.

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[447] The description of the sections includes information on those of A/II-n/12, see plans 1–3.
[448] TDplan no 280.
[449] TDplan nos 296, 297.
[450] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 9 June 1968.
[451] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 29.
[452] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968, the sketches in the diary show hemispherical cups, Canaanite transport amphorae and Marl C-storage jars. The types found cannot be determined any closer than that.
[453] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 9 June 1968.
[454] J. Boessneck, TD III, 16.

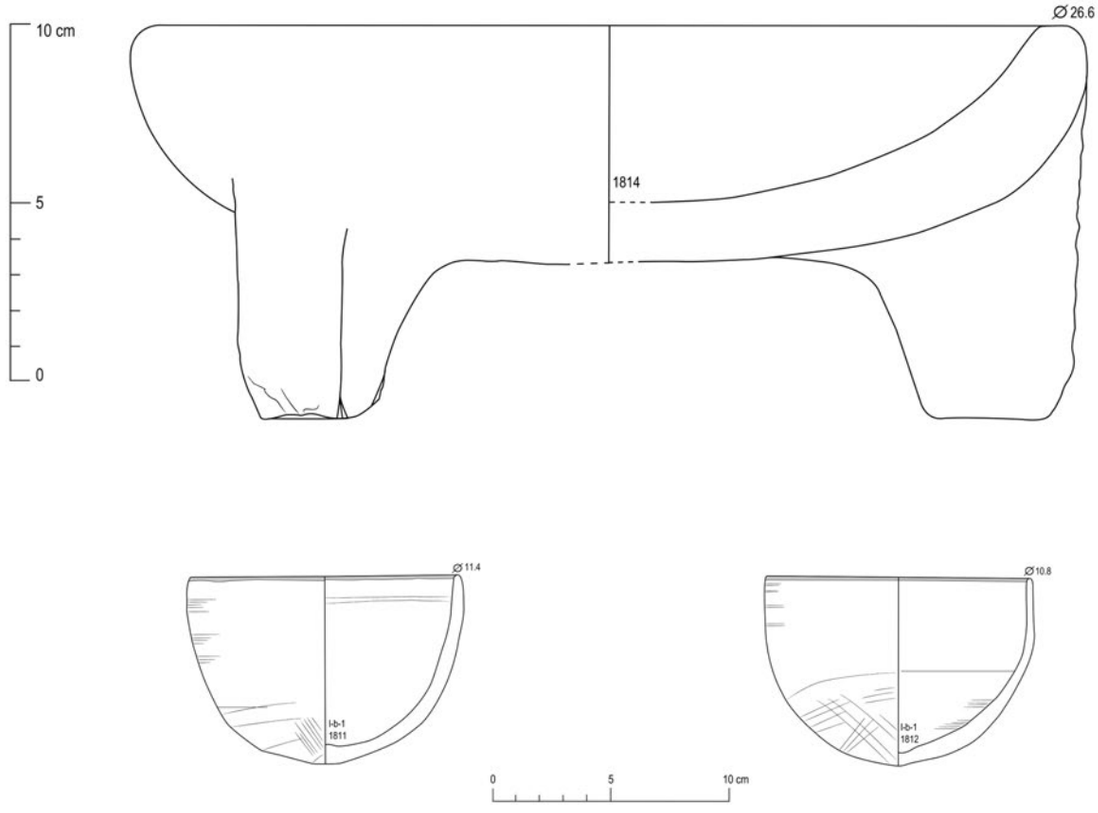


Fig. 4.21 Stone tripod and pottery hemispherical cups

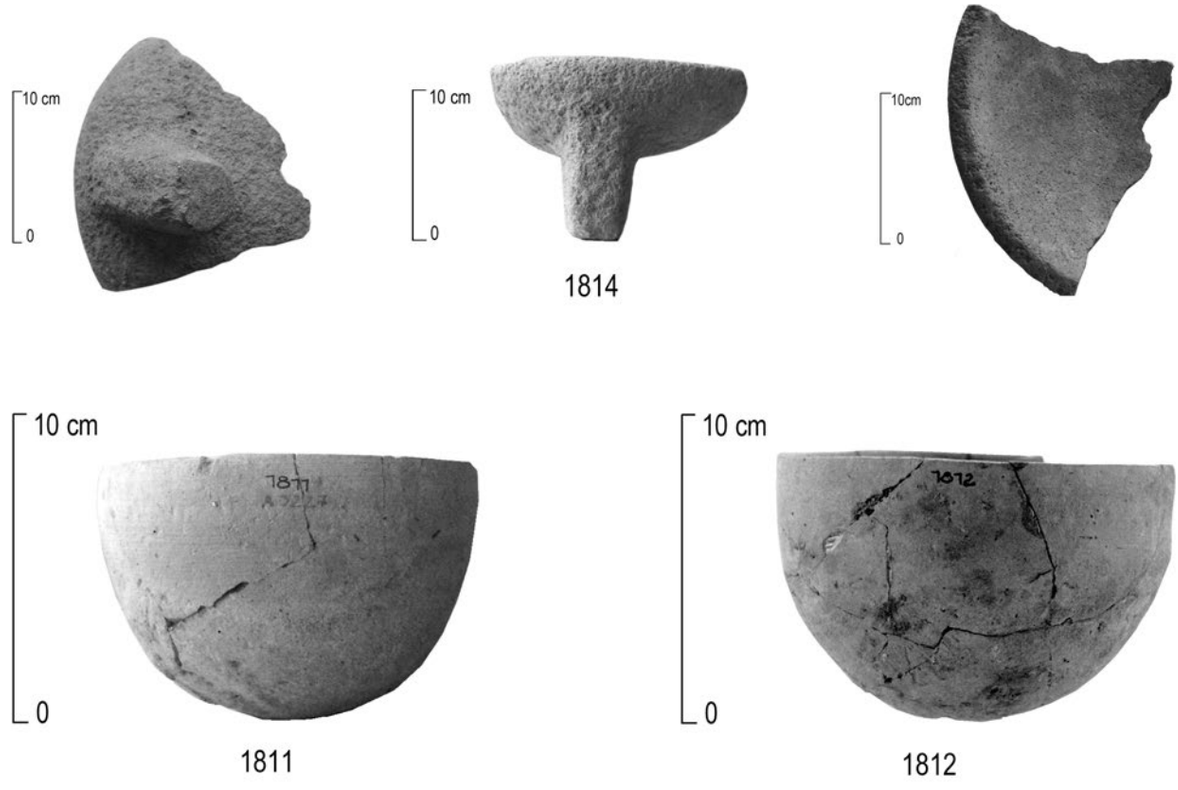


Fig. 4.22 Photos of stone vessel and ceramic hemispherical cups, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

In square A/II-n/12 west of wall **[M45]** bones of at least one sheep were found (fragment of a cranium with horn core of a female specimen; 1 atlas; 1 scapula), as well as bones of a pig (1 nasale; 1 zygomaticum frag.; 1 lower jaw with m[olar]3 that is only slightly abraded).[455]

In the same locus animal bones were also mentioned, situated close to the mud-brick pillar protruding from wall **[G/3-M51]**, the predecessor wall of **[M45]** more exactly south to it.[456] They were thought to be from cattle. It remains unclear whether this material belongs to Phase G/3 or G/2–1.

Distribution of animal bones in **L [156]**

cattle	sheep	pig
No not specified	5	3

[455] J. Boessneck, TD III, 16, n/12 unter Arbeiterstiege, Str. G.

[456] TDplan no 297. This buttress/pilaster is not drawn into plan Fig. 4.17.

Chapter 5: The earlier archaeological remains below Compounds 10 and 11 A/II-k/11–12; l/11–14; m/10

The archaeological remains of the earlier Phases G/4 and H in squares A/II-k/11–12, A/II-l/11–13, and A/II-m/10 are discussed together here because this larger connected area was excavated deep enough to reach remains and features below and they are therefore older than Phase G/3–1. Because so few finds were made in this area the numbering system with loci will not be kept in this instance.

The adjacent squares were not excavated down to such a low elevation (around 3.80 to 4.00 m/NN) and thus, the plan of the archaeological features remains isolated from the other parts of the excavation to the south and east (see 271–288). Moreover, these squares were explored very early on in the history of the site (1966–1969) and only a few finds can be assigned to these earliest phases found on the *tell*. Nevertheless it seems important to at least sketch the architectural history of this part of the site because it shows a distinctly different character than the later Phase G/3–1.

Often it is difficult to be certain whether the one-room buildings existed at the same time or overbuilt each other, because they were never very well preserved and almost always incompletely traced due to the fact that the heavily sand tempered mud-brick walls were only one brick's width thick at the most and preserved only up to three or four courses at the most. Frequently preservation was even worse. An additional problem was the flooding of the squares by the ground water.

Several plans have been produced (Fig. 5.1, 5.4–5.5, 5.9) utilising the plan drawings of the listed squares[457] and respective sections. The excavation history of the squares has been sketched in the particular chapters of Compounds 10 and 11 (see, 37–128) and will therefore not be repeated here.

The description of the architecture will again start in the north and move southwards. The numbering in the plan will start preliminarily again with **[M1]** but with the respective pre-fixes **H**, **H-G/4**, **G/4**, and **G/3**. The same numbering system will be used for any hut numbers and the round silos. The discussion of the sections will be summarised here and the assignations used but the descriptions of the sections are to be found in the respective chapters and not repeated here.

A. The Structures of Phase H – The silos (Fig. 5.1)

The general floor level on which the mud-brick walls have been founded is around 3.80–3.90 m/NN and in some places as low as 3.65 m/NN, for example, the single oldest wall in square A/II-l/13.

In square A/II-k/12 the oldest features are represented by the silos H-1, H-2 and H-3. They are constituted by heavily sand tempered mud-bricks laid out as headers thus constituting half a brick's width wide wall.

Silo H-1 was preserved about two thirds with the western part running into the baulk between A/II-k/12 and A/II-k/11, which was not taken down in the course of the excavation. It was constituted by wall **[H-M1]**. The floor of the silo was paved in an irregular pattern with some bricks containing more mud than sand. The size of the bricks in the pavement was about 30.0 by 15.0 cm, but the bricks were very rounded and sometimes broken. They might have been reused. The floor level of the top of the brick pavement was at an elevation of 3.89 m/NN. On the eastern side of the silo some pottery and two very round ash accumulations were drawn into the plan. The bricks of the exterior wall of the silo have a size of 32.0–37.0 by 17.0 cm. The exact base level of the silo cannot be ascertained because the western section of A/II-k/12[458] was not exposed below an elevation of ca 3.90 m/NN. The diameter of the silo was ca 2.95 m (= 5.6 royal cubits).

Silo H-2 was placed a little to the south east of silo H-1 at a distance of ca 0.5 m, which is hardly wide

[457] A/II-k/11 pl. 6 – TDplan no 41; A/II-k/12, pl. 7 – TDplan no 54; A/II-l/11, pl. 4 – TDplan no 84; A/II-l/12, pl. 4 – TDplan no 97.

[458] A62.

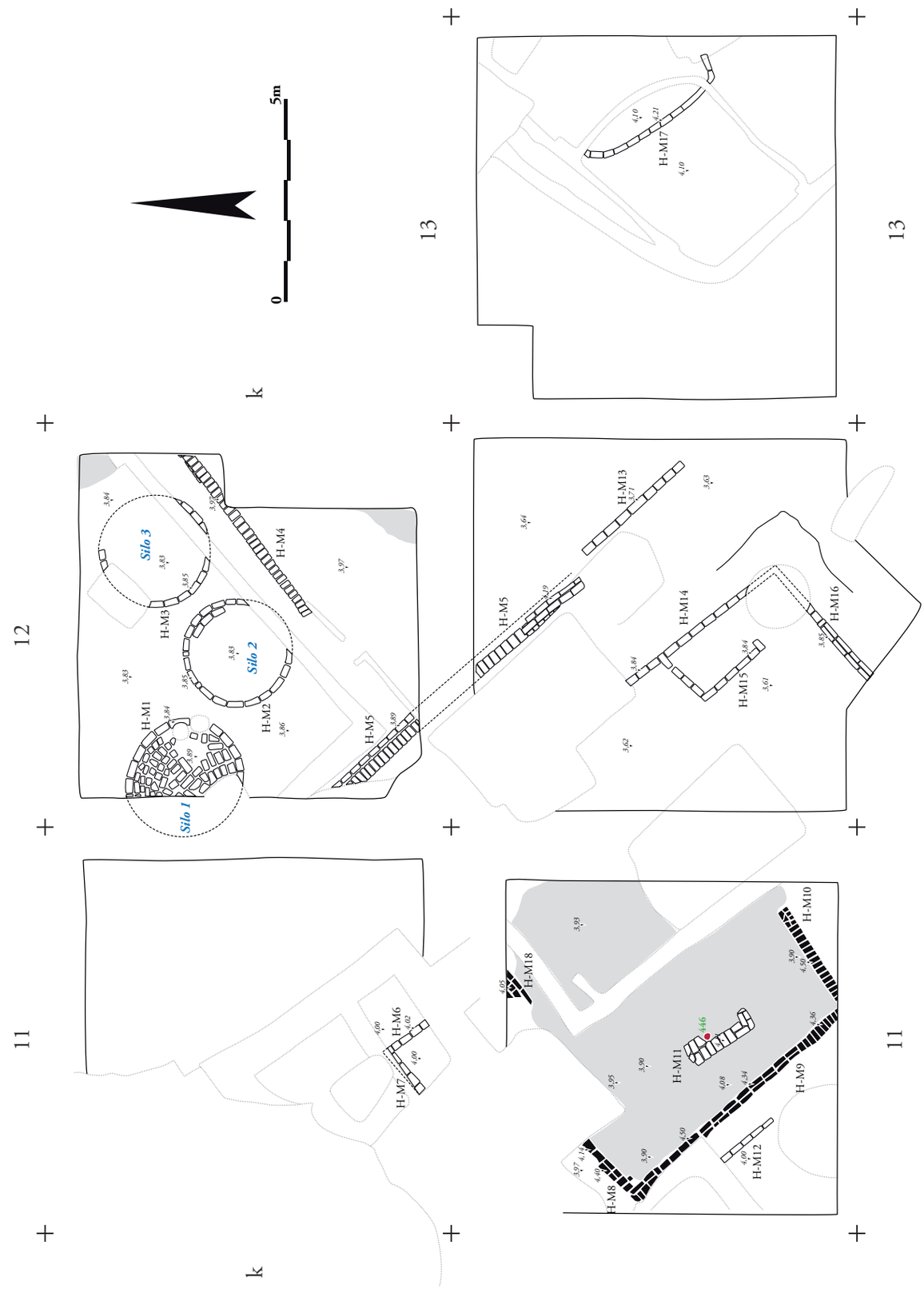


Fig. 5.1 Plan of the remains of Phase H, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math

enough for an adult person to pass through, children could. In contrast to the first one, this silo was not paved (or the actual floor level was not reached) although the lowest elevation reached is at 3.83 m/NN. Again the sand tempered mud-bricks **[H-M2]** were laid out as headers and they measured approx. 35.0–40.0 by 16.0–17.0 cm. In the north east a second course of three bricks either strengthens wall **[H-M2]** or represents the remains of an older silo. The bricks might also have served as a step into the silo. The diameter of the silo is 2.75 m (= 5.2 royal cubits), i.e. of similar size as silo H-1.

Silo H-3 is only partly preserved, cut on the one hand by a pit in the northwest, and built over by other features on its eastern side. The diameter is approximately 2.75 m (= 5.2 royal cubits), again very similar to the two previously described silos. The position of Silo H-3 is again very close to Silo H-2 only 0.40 m east of it. Wall **[H-M3]** forms it and the bricks are of 25.0–35.0 by 15.0–17.0 cm. The building method as headers is the same as previously described. In the vicinity of the northern (reconstructed) border of the silo a collection of animal bones was recorded, which were assigned to Phase H.[459]

Finds in square A/II-k/12, pl. 6

Animal bones

Position: A/II-k/12, pl. 6. 2.0 m/E, 1.8 m/N, elevation not given but assigned to oldest phase of the settlement, Phase H.
Cattle: 1 fragment of calcaneus.
Sheep: 1 talus.
Sheep/goat: fragment of lower jaw, m[olar]1 breaking through; 1 fragment of a rib.
Pig: fragment of a rib.

Distribution of animal bones

cattle	sheep	sheep/goat	pig
1	1	2	1

To the south of these three silos a brick's width wide wall **[H-M4]**[460] ran from the northeast towards southwest. It could not be included into any building scheme as it stops dead before it reaches the southern baulk of square A/II-k/12. The recorded top level is at 3.99 m/NN whilst the base level is the same as for **[H-G/4-M1]**[461] (see below, 155–157), namely 3.80 m/NN. It is possible that this wall together with **[H-M5]** delimited access to the silos. Two very flimsy walls overlay **[H-M4]**,[462] but it remains unclear whether they might belong to wall **[H-M5]** or another feature, which has since disappeared. They are just too badly preserved. These latter walls are only half a brick's width wide and therefore extremely ephemeral. It may be likely that the western one overlaid **[H-M5]** at right angles because the preserved top level is at 4.00 m/NN, but they are not visible in the southern section A26.

Wall **[H-M5]** probably also belongs to this oldest phase, which is later overlaid by two others constituted by **[G/4-M11 and M12]**, because the preserved top of wall **[H-M5]** is at an elevation of 3.89 m/NN, but unfortunately was not recorded by western section A62.[463] The southern section[464] also does not record this wall. Therefore its base level would have been safely below 4.00 m/NN although its relation to other features cannot be ascertained. It was one of the widest walls in this area being one and a half brick's width. Because the mud-bricks were again heavily sand tempered as is characteristic for this phase they were badly preserved and measurements could not be taken.

Several walls to the south east of **[H-M5]** probably belong to a different structure constituted by **[H-M13]**. Because tomb A/II-l/12 no 2 cuts into the square from above, the connection between these walls remains unclear. Walls **[H-M14]**, **[H-M15]** and **[H-M16]** constitute the south western corner of a building or an enclosure wall. This corner is equipped with a winding wall and their preserved tops are at an elevation of about 3.71 to 3.85 m/NN. Unfortunately they were not recorded in any section in order to obtain at least a relative idea of their succession. The silo[465] visible in the corner **[H-M14/H-M16]**, is probably cutting through this structure as the elevation is much higher (4.30 m/NN) and the mud-brick walls usually are not preserved to such a height. No additional evidence, such as sections for example, is available. Close to the western section of square A/II-l/12, below tomb 5 the fragment of a lower jaw of a sheep/goat was recorded and assigned to Phase H with some probability.[466]

459 J. Boessneck, TD III, 9.
460 Section A82, A/II-k/12 east, section no A82-41.
461 Section A82, A/II-k/12 east, section no A82-39. This elevation is the lowest recorded.
462 Not numbered because they are so short, see plan, Fig. 5.1.
463 A/II-k/12 west.
464 A26, A/II-k/12 south.
465 **G/4-[M5]**.
466 J. Boessneck, TD III, 11.

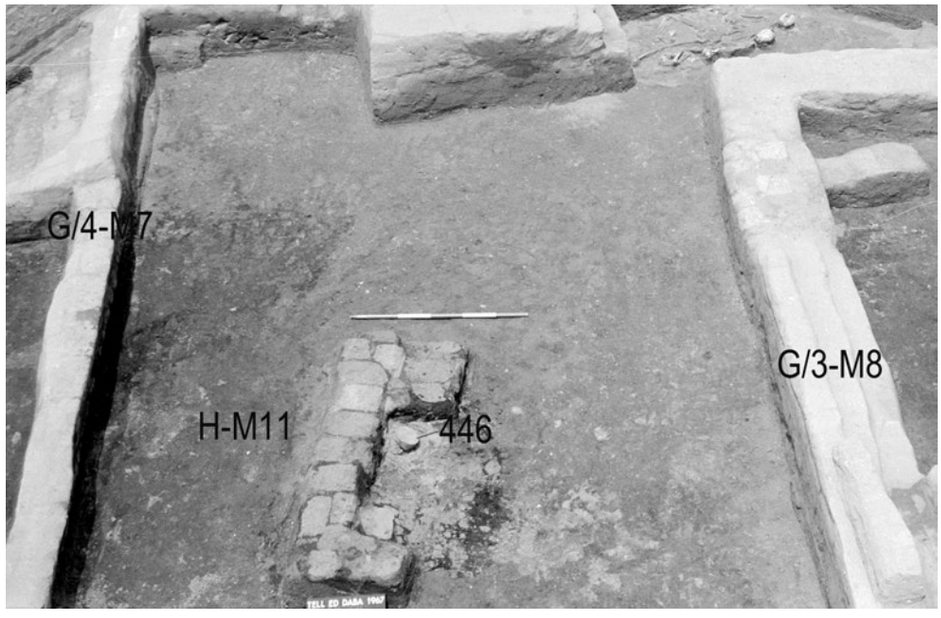


Fig. 5.2 A/II-l/11, pl. 4, View towards north-west, SW1027/59–60

The only walls probably belonging to this very early phase to the west of the Phase H silos 1, 2 and 3 are walls **[H-M6]** and **[H-M7]** another corner of a structure. Because the southern section of A/II-k/12 was not recorded, no further evidence for the sequence and placement within the phasing can be quoted. Whether the round silo in square A/II-k/11 belongs to this phase or later ones remains unclear as it is not connected by stratigraphy to any other structure.[467] The preserved elevation of 4.17 m/NN may hint at Phase G/4 or Phase G/3. It is a little smaller than the other ones to the east: 2.25 m (= 4.3 royal cubits) which might suggest a different date for it.

Finally the sequence of the structures in square A/II-l/11 is also quite unclear, although the walls exhibit a low elevation for the base level (around 3.90–4.20 m/NN in the plan drawing and the southern section) but are preserved quite high up (4.34–4.50 m/NN). This could mean that several phases of walls were overlaying each other in the course of the same layout, thus the 'hut' was in use for a longer period in time, perhaps even up to Phase G/3. Nevertheless it is unusual for the site that mud-brick walls were preserved more than 5 or 6 brick courses on average. Here walls **[H-M8]**, **[H-M9]** and **[H-M10]**[468] must be mentioned that seem to form a rough rectangle but not exactly with perpendicular corners. The walls are all only one brick's width wide and the eastern part was probably destroyed by a slightly later building. The base levels of these walls have been given as around 3.90 m/NN. A corner of a slightly later building protruding from the western section[469] also seems to overlie wall **[H-M9]**. Within these three walls there was a rectangular structure that may perhaps have been a hearth although no massive amounts of ash are recorded in the plan drawing. The photo by contrast shows some ashy remains. One pottery vessel belongs to this phase, namely reg.no 446[470] leaning against the eastern face of wall **[H-M11]**, see Fig. 5.2. The general 'floor' level arrived at ranges from 3.90 to 4.10 m/NN across the 'room'.

One further rather incomplete and very thin wall **[H-M12]** is situated to the west of the rectangle constituted by **[H-M8]**, **[H-M9]** and **[H-M10]**. It was very short and only half a brick's width wide and it seems to have continued below the later silo. It is difficult to assign these to any structure.

[467] Cf. Fig. 5.9, **[G/3-M27]**.

[468] Section A31 A/II-l/11 south shows walls **[H-M9]** and **[H-M10]** as section no A31-47. The lowest level shown is at 4.20 m/NN but it could be much lower as wall **[H-M9]** shows a base level at ca 3.90 m/NN in the plan drawing. Unfortunately the base level was not reached.

[469] Section A56.

[470] Drawn into plan A/II-l/11, pl. 4, TDplan no 84.

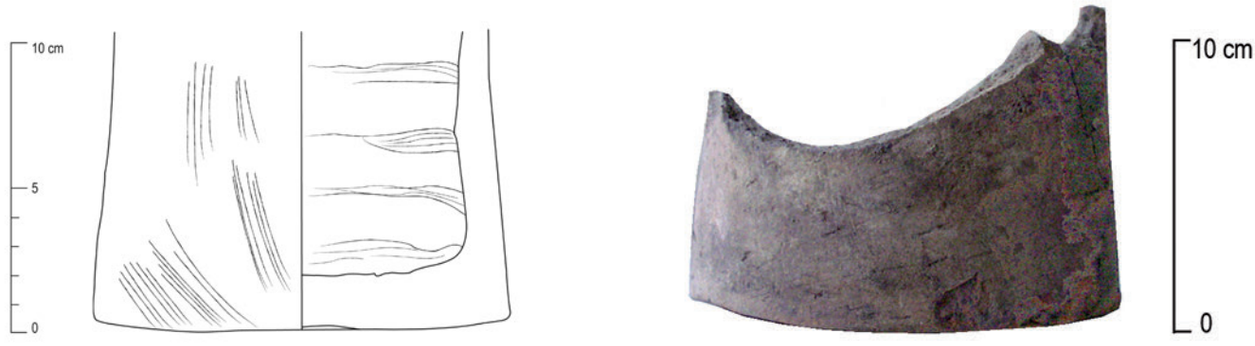


Fig. 5.3 Reg.no 446, Base of Marl C1 footed bowl, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Reg.no **446** (KhM, A 2326),[471] base fragment of a footed bowl. Position: A/II-l/11, pl. 4, 2.25 m/W and 4.0 m/S, elevation H1 = 4.08 m/NN, Phase H–G/4 (Fig. 5.3).
Records: drawings: ZN 75/67 und 1B/67, redrawn by the author.

TG	II-c-2	m. – r.	Ha1	Bd. H.	ox	3

Bd. = 14.2 (100% preserved), wd. = 1.1–1.5, H1 = 10.1 + x, H4 = 10.1 + x;
Natural surface colour (scum): 10 YR 8/4 very pale brown; interior also shows scum 10 YR 8/3 very pale brown. Section: wide light grey core, very thin oxidation zones; scum visible as a line. On the exterior smoothing marks from tool; on the interior circular finger marks around the walls and further finger marks across the base.

In square A/II-l/13 one very thin wall, **H-[M17]** of half a brick's width seems to belong to this phase, although no connection could be made to the western part of the excavation. The base level of ca 3.65 m/NN suggests this assignation. It runs from the eastern section[472] in a curved line towards the north and abruptly ends. The irregular shape may suggest a precinct or hurdle wall. The bricks are heavily sand tempered and were laid out as headers.

B. The Structures of Phase H–G/4 (Fig. 5.4)

The general floor level of this "intermediate" phase that could not be well discerned is at about 3.90 m/NN or thereabouts. The distinction to Phase H is suggested because some of these structures overlay those of Phase H but were below those of Phase G/4.

Only two walls seem to belong to this intermediate phase in this part of the excavation. One of them **[H-G/4-M1]** is probably not much later than the Silos of Phase H but it directly overlies Silos H-2 and H-3, which may mean that they had fallen out of use by the time of the new wall. However, as the wall only straddles the southern parts of the walls of the silos, they might just still have been useable. Silo H-1 may still have been used after the building of these walls. Wall **[H-G/4-M2]** forms a rectangular corner of what might have been a building or – if Silo H-1 was indeed still in use – an open space. Whilst **[H-G/4-M1]** is one brick's width thick laid out as stretchers, **[H-G/4-M2]** is one and a half brick's width wide. The relation of the walls to one another in the north east corner of square A/II-k/11 is very unclear, because the excavation did not proceed down low enough to be certain, how many different walls overlaid each other. It is, however, clear that several consecutive walls were built there. The base level of **[H-G/4-M1]** is below 3.78 m/NN,[473] whilst that of **[H-G/4-M2]** is

[471] Published in B. Bader, TD XIII, cat.no 50, 63.
[472] Section A88, A/II-l/13 east, section no A88-15 elevation 3.66 m/NN just above the ground water table.
[473] Section A82, A/II-k/12 east, section no A82-39. This elevation is the lowest recorded.

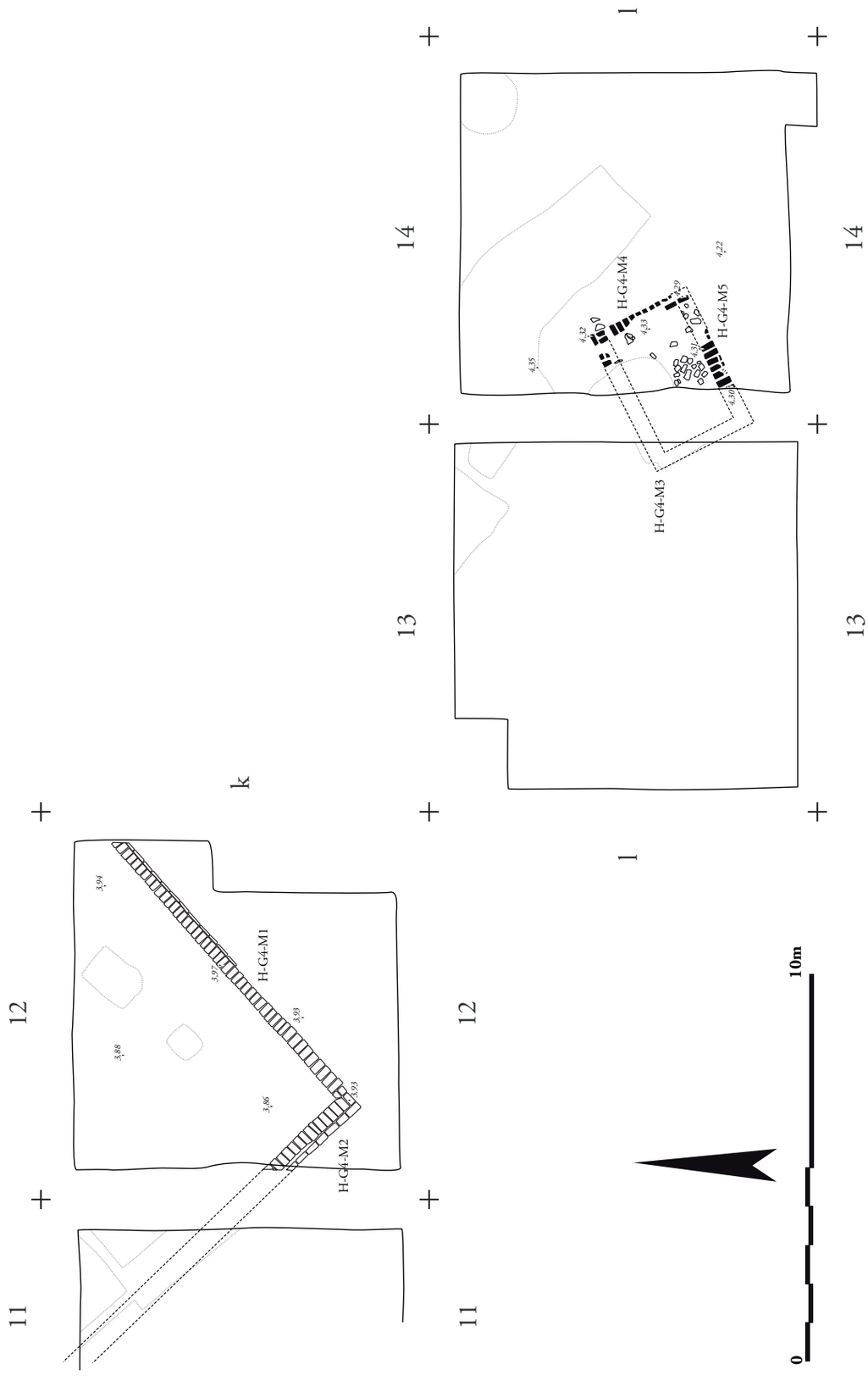


Fig. 5.4 Architecture of Phase H or G/4, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math

below 3.90 m/NN.[474] Section A62 may show one or two brick courses of **[H-G/4-M2]**, on top of which a later wall was built.[475]

It is very difficult to synchronise these walls with the remainder of the structures in this area because the general base level of the phase could not be ascertained due to the ground water. In addition there are hardly any ceramic finds preserved that may help to date the relative phasing.

Finally there was the corner of two walls situated on the eastern edge of square A/II-l/13, now to the east of the structures just described. Whilst it remains unclear how this structure **[H-G/4-M3]** relates to the west and to the east the base level of 3.90 m/NN suggests that it belongs to this intermediate phase. How and if this building continued towards the east remains unclear due to the fact that the western section of square A/II-l/14[476] only shows destroyed brick rubble in the relevant area and it is hard to ascertain whether some brick wall features with a preserved top at elevation of around 4.30 m/NN may belong to it or not **[H-G/4-M4** and **M5]**. Fig. 5.4 shows a proposed reconstruction of this possibility.

The orientation of this one room building would be different to the other walls, but that does not necessarily speak against this reconstruction as other parts of the settlement show. The interior measurements of the one-room building would amount to 3.65 m by 2.05 m (= 7 by 4 cubits), if this reconstruction is correct. The exterior measurements are accordingly 4.35 by 2.75 m (= 8 1/3 by 5 1/3 cubit). No finds were recorded from these levels.

C. The Structures of Phase G/4 (Fig. 5.5)

The description of the structures starts in square A/II-l/12. Slightly off towards the east on top of the older wall **[H-M5]** (cf. Fig. 5.1) from the oldest phase in square A/II-l/12 another wall was built, namely **[G/4-M1]**. The preserved top of this wall reached a level of 4.21 m/NN, whilst the wall below became visible at a level of 4.12 m/NN. This means that the base level of the later wall would have been very similar. Unfortunately the northern profile is not preserved in the archive, so this hypothesis cannot be proven. The wall was built from sand tempered mud-bricks and is one brick's width wide. This wall perhaps continues to the south east (as wall **[G/4-M3]**) with a base level of ca 4.00 m/NN.[477] This southern wall **[G/4-M3]** seems to be part of an undulating wall and is also one brick's width wide and built of sand tempered bricks. Because the continuation between those two is not perfectly preserved they have been numbered separately. This wall also seems to continue into square A/II-l/13, but there it continued as a straight wall towards the south east **[G/4-M19]**. Unfortunately the western section of A/II-l/13[478] is no longer among the records, so the base level cannot be checked. There seems to be little doubt though, that these stretches of wall belong together.[479] The preserved top reaches an elevation of 4.28 m/NN and 4.30 m/NN. At the southern section the base level of **[G/4-M19]** is at an elevation of 4.20 m/NN, which fits well with that of wall **[G/4-M4]** running almost parallel to the west. The continuation of **[G/4-M1]** towards the north is not easy to discern because the western section of A/II-k/12[480] does not reach low enough down to trace that wall. If **[G/4-M1]** is just extended northwards it meets a stretch of wall in A/II-k/11, **[G/4-M18]**. This wall is also situated below the recorded elevation of the relevant section.[481]

The perpendicular wall **[G/4-M2]** of 3.10 m length abuts or bonds into **[G/4-M1]** at right angles. No observation was mentioned if they were bonded or if one just abuts the other. On the northern side of this wall a pilaster of one brick's width protrudes from the wall. The distance between the pilaster and the south west corner is 1.63 m (~ 3 cubits). This relates to similar distances of the pilasters in **[G/4-M4]**, see below. The continuation of this wall could not be traced but would have continued towards the north east. Thus, it remains unclear to which building these walls belong or if they are just precinct walls. The size of the bricks was recorded as 33.0–35.0 by 15.0 by 8.0 cm.[482]

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474 Section A62, A/II-k/12 west. This elevation is the lowest recorded.

475 A62, section no A62-25.

476 A 71. The lowest elevation reached in this section is at 4.10 m/NN.

477 A83, section no A83-43.

478 A66.

479 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, dated 1966, p. 58 mentions that the excavation reached the ground water at 3.68 m/NN, which changed from day to day, especially in the summer, and when rice is grown in the vicinity.

480 A62.

481 A77. The top of this wall is recorded as 3.89 m/NN which may just be possible to belong to the slightly more elevated stretch of wall further south.

482 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, dated 1966, p. 52.

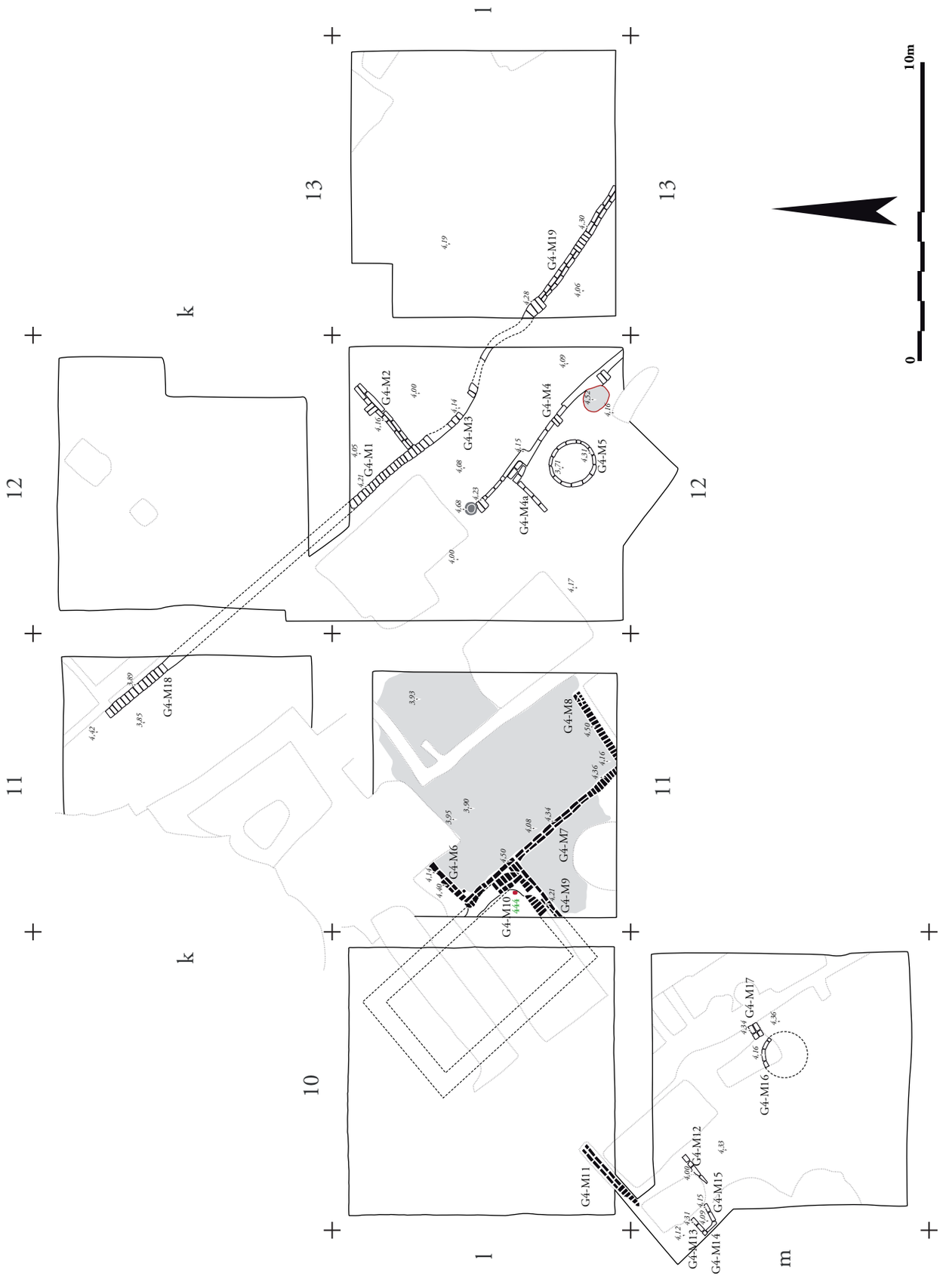


Fig. 5.5 Plan of architecture of Phase G/4, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math

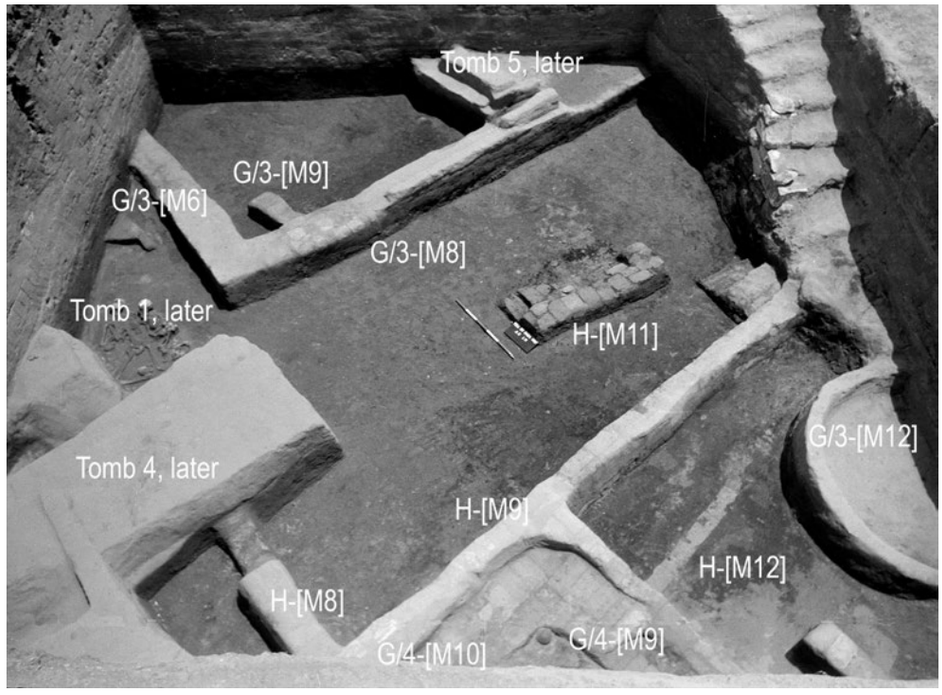


Fig. 5.6 View of A/II-l/11, pl. 4 towards the east, SW1027/55–56

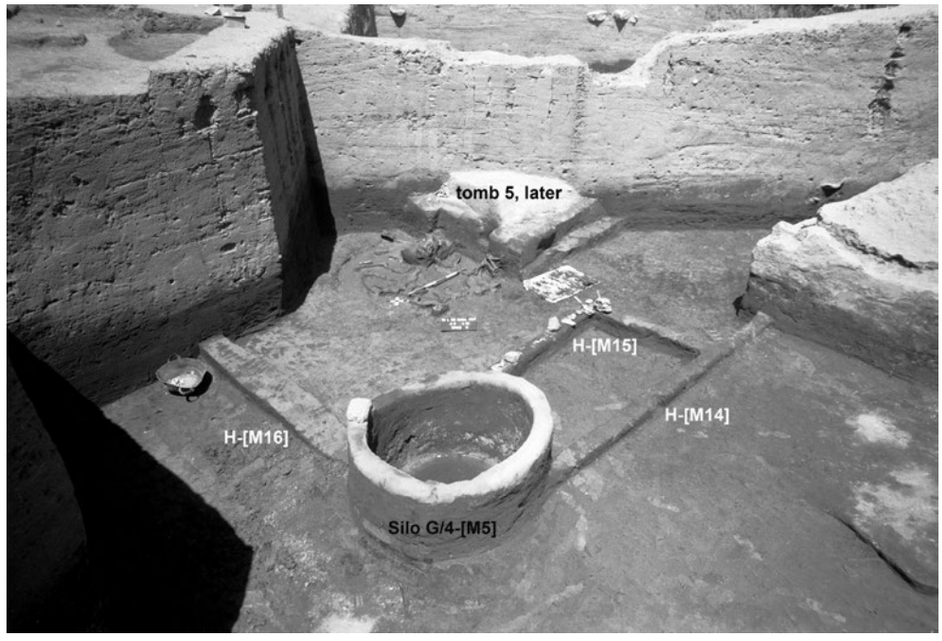


Fig. 5.7 View of A/II-l/12, pl. 4 towards north-west, SW1029/54

The continuation and relation of **[G/4-M1]** and **[G/4-M2]** to A/II-k/12 cannot be ascertained exactly because the northern section of A/II-l/12 is no longer preserved in the records. Given the length of the wall **[G/4-M18]**, **[G/4-M1]**, **[G/4-M3]** and **[G/4-M19]**, if they indeed, all belong together, is seems likely they were encircling a precinct or compound.

Towards the west a shorter stretch of a roughly parallel wall with four pilasters in the distance of 1.60 m (= 3 cubits), 1.35 m (= 2.5 cubits) and again 1.60 m

(= 3 cubits) was found to probably belong to this phase, **[G/4-M4]**. It is recorded in the eastern section of square A/II-l/12[483] with a base level at 4.20 m/NN. At its northern end a round 'mortar' like stone feature was found. The top of this feature was at an elevation of 4.68 m/NN, which would either make it very tall or it was embedded in a kind of pedestal, perhaps built of mud-brick. Usually such features were made from limestone, although this object has not been described in any detail. The exterior diameter is ca 0.45 m, whilst the aperture is ca 0.27–0.30 m. The height remains unknown.[484] A similar object is known from Compound 1, **L [304]** (see 2nd vol. in prep).

Perhaps below or adjacent to **[G/4-M4]** is wall **[G/4-M4a]**, which turns perpendicularly towards the south west. It is too badly preserved to judge whether this short stretch of wall of 1.7 m just served as a shelter for the round silo south of it or if it is a precinct wall that was destroyed without further trace.

To the west of Wall **[G/4-M4]** in a distance of 0.55 m a round silo built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks was situated. The silo had a diameter of 1.60 m, which corresponds to 3 royal cubits **[G/4-M5]**. The base level was not taken, because of the ground water table, but the preserved top is at 4.31 m/NN. As usual the feature was built from a single line of headers. The last feature belonging to this phase in this square is a round oven. It seems to have just been a pit with heavy ash accumulations. The top of it was at an elevation of 4.52 m/NN. Because the stratigraphic relation of the oven to the features around it remains unclear it may have been used in both Phases G/4 and G/3 (see 164, Fig. 5.9). Because three later tombs cut into the square and destroyed the archaeological remains, it is unclear which type of features or walls were situated further west and north of walls **[G/4-M1]** and **[G/4-M4]**.

The walls **[G/4-M6]**, **[G/4-M7]** and **[G/4-M8]** in square A/II-l/11 are the same as or built on top of **[H-M8]**, **[H-M9]** and **[H-M10]**. Their unusually high degree of preservation supports the second hypothesis. It seems that the corner of a building formed by walls **[G/4-M9]** and **[G/4-M10]** actually lies adjacent to wall **[G/4-M7]**, which was much better preserved. The base level of **[G/4-M9]** and **[G/4-M10]**[485] is at an elevation of around 3.90–4.10 m/NN and thus quite similar to that of **[G/4-M6]**, **[G/4-M7]** and **[G/4-M8]**. The plan drawing records a number of animal bones along the southern wall **[G/4-M8]** on an elevation of 4.16 m/NN. It must remain unclear whether these finds belong to a floor level or the later fill of the room, if indeed it ever was one. Because of the later building **[G/3-M6]** to **[G/3-M9]** (see below 163–164, Fig. 5.9) the eastern wall, if indeed it existed there, would have been destroyed. Not even an educated guess can be made to reconstruct this "room".

To the south west of the features just described, in square A/II-m/10, a few features also seem to belong to this relative phase, namely the very short and flimsy walls **[G/4-M11]** to **[M15]**, which are only half a brick's width wide. Their destroyed state makes it difficult to reconstruct more complete features. The silo **[G/4-M16]** with wall fragment **[G/4-M17]** is the only obvious and identifiable feature here. Still the diameter of the silo could not be measured properly. The estimate is about 1.40 m, but that must remain very tentative.

Photo Fig. 5.6 shows square A/II-l/11 pl. 4, as it appeared during the excavation. Walls from Phases H, G/4 and G/3-1 appear at the same time. The numbering explains the various phases. Note that **[H-M8]** to **[H-M10]** are in the same position as **[G/4-M6]-[G/4-M8]**. The archival photo also shows the situation of the walls **[G/4-M9]** and **[G/4-M10]** in relation to the "building" **[G/4-M6]** to **[G/4-M8]**. In the middle of the foreground the hemispherical cup reg.no 444 in the inside corner of **[G/4-M9]** and **[G/4-M10]** is visible in its find position. It was deposited upside down.

Photo Fig. 5.7 shows the situation during the excavation in square A/II-l/12 pl. 4. In the middle of the picture the silo **[G/4-M5]** is visible cutting into the corner of the older 'hut' of Phase H **[H-M14]** to **[H-M16]**, see Fig. 5.1. In the background the later tomb 5 can be seen. Also note how the ground water began to rise within the silo as the water would collect in the depression with the lowest elevation first.

The only find recorded was made in the presumed interior of wall [**G/4-M9]** and **[G/4-M10],** namely a hemispherical cup (see Fig. 5.5–5.6).

Reg.no **444** (KhM, A 2324), hemispherical cup (Fig. 5.8). Position: A/II-l/11, pl. 4, 4.25 m/S, 1.75 m/W, elevation H = 4.01 m/NN (see also plan 1:50).

[483] A83, section no A83-41.

[484] Measurements were taken from the plan drawing of A/II-l/12, pl. 4, scale 1:50.

[485] A56, section no A56-37.

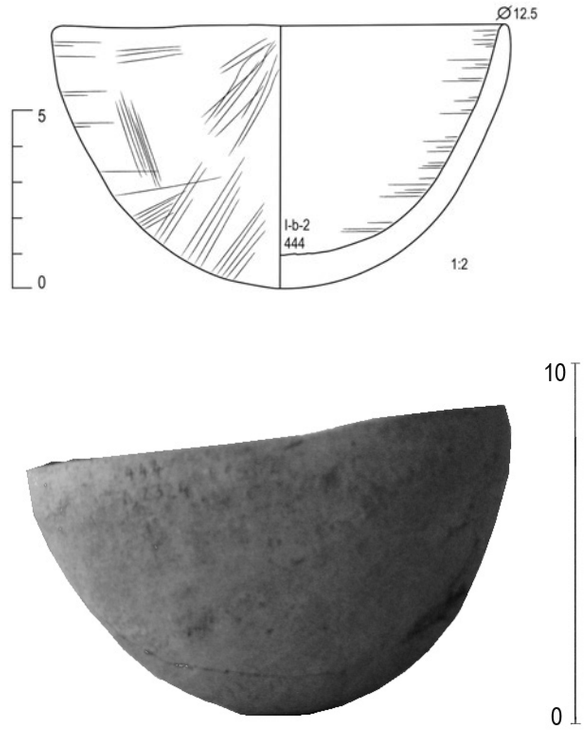


Fig. 5.8 Reg.no 444, hemispherical cup, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Records: B/W negative SW1037/40–41, ZN 1B/67, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-2	mi	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd.(in) = 12.0–12.5 (rim 100% preserved); max.d. = 12.8; wd. = 0.55; H1 = 7.4, VI 172.97.
Natural surface colour: 10 R 5/6 red exterior, 10 R 5/8 red interior. The surface is very reddish, so it cannot be decided if a red painted rim existed. In medium height a firing stain from the kiln suggests serial production of the type. On the surface a high admixture of quartz was noticed. No break because the vessel was intact. The exterior surface was not well smoothed. The central turning spiral is visible on the interior.

Finally the small and destroyed silo in A/II-l/14 may have also belonged to Phase G/4 although this cannot be proven beyond doubt, because it is not connected to any section or to any other structures in A/II-l/13.[486] As usual this silo was built of a single line of headers. The elevation of the interior of the silo was at 4.21 m/NN, whilst the preserved top of the structure was at ca 4.23 m/NN, which probably means that only one brick course was preserved. The material consisted of heavily sand tempered brick material. The diameter can only be tentatively reconstructed because it was destroyed by tombs A/II-l/14-no 7[487] and A/II-l/14-no 11.[488] The silo belongs to a slightly smaller size class as it probably measured 1.50 m (~ 3 cubits).

[486] Please note, that this silo is only shown in plan Fig. 5.9 due to space restrictions.
[487] I. Forstner-Müller, TD XVI, 192–199, Phase E/3.
[488] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 12 November 1976, p. 2, burial of two donkeys. M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 10 November 1976: Dating from Phase E/3 or earlier, probably later than Phase G/3–1 because tomb no 7 of Phase E/3 is next to that pit and the pit itself cuts into structures of Phase G/3–1. M. Bietak's observation was also that the pit only became visible in the lower elevations of the excavation of tomb 7 but not cut by it. No more evidence is available to suggest whether the 2 donkey burials belonged to any of tombs 7 and/or 8 in square A/II-l/14. No other potential tombs to which this pit might have belonged are close to it. I. Forstner-Müller, TD XVI, does not mention the donkey burial pit.

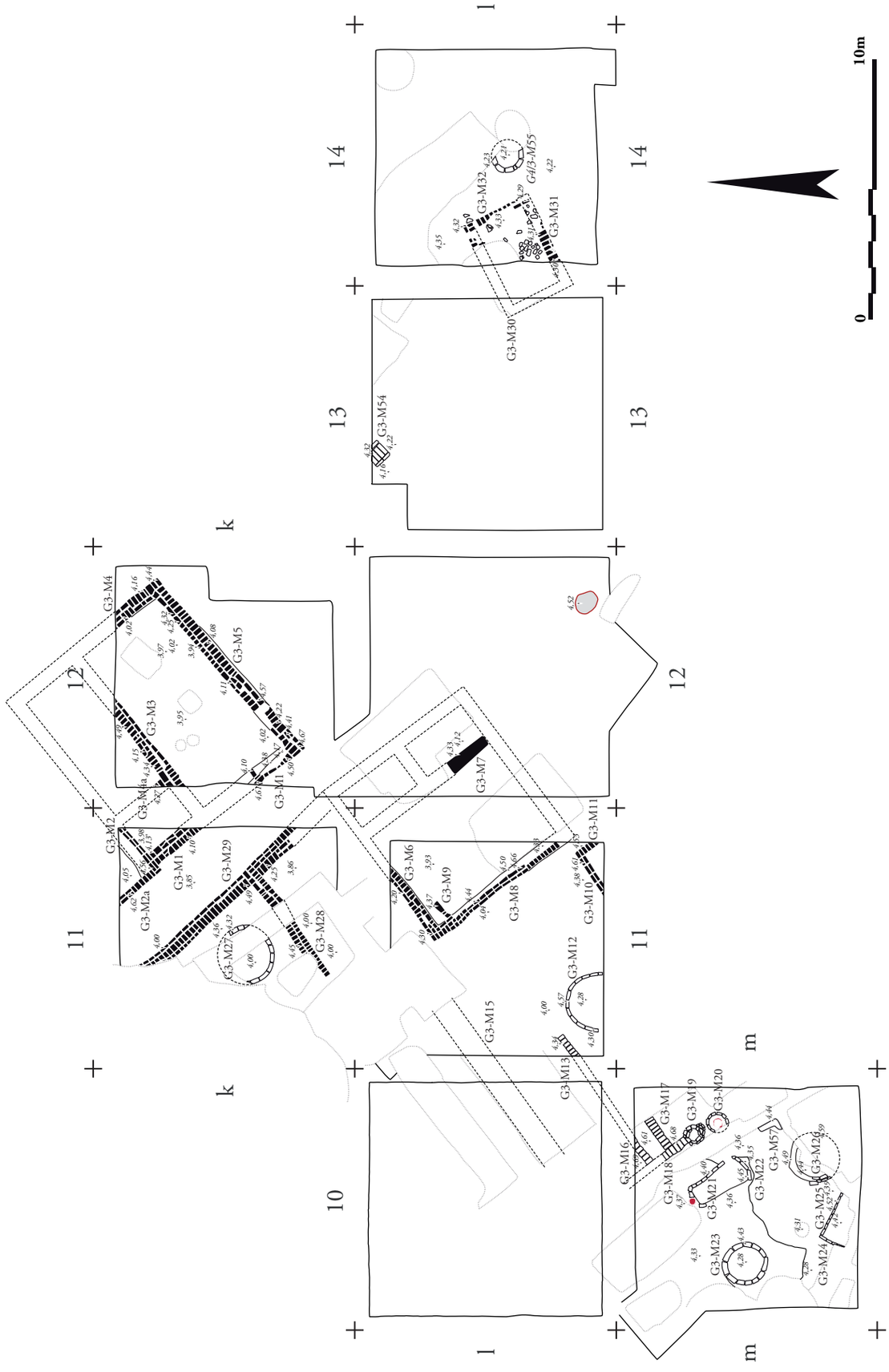


Fig. 5.9 The architecture of Phase G/3, compiled by B. Bader, execution of graphics N. Math

D. The Structures of Phase G/3 (Fig. 5.9)

The structures described here as Phase G/3 lie immediately below those, which were first published by M. Bietak as plan 2 in *Tell el-Dabᶜa V*.

This part of the settlement as far as it was explored was only very loosely built up, it seems, although in a more ordered manner than the previous Phases H and G/4. There are hardly any irregular precinct walls unlike the situation before. As far as preserved and the phase assignation ascertained there are only a few irregular and not aligned walls in squares A/II-k/11 to 12, A/II-l/10 to l/14 and A/II-m/10 and m/14. The one- or two-room houses preserved show the same NNW orientation with only a few exceptions. Unfortunately the excavation frequently could not be taken to low enough elevations to clarify points of uncertainty in the archaeological exploration. This was mostly due to the rising ground water, which made further excavation impossible in the 1960s without vacuum pumps. Other obstacles were the later temples and tombs with their wide foundations and pits, which severely destroyed the lower levels.

Again the description begins in the north of the area discussed here. It seems that Compound 10 (see chapter 2) already existed in Phase G/3, mainly along the same lines as in Phase G/2–1. Because the base levels are quite low (between 3.90 and 4.00 m/NN) it seems very likely that there was at least one older phase. Walls **[G/3-M1 to M5]** constitute this building and a dividing wall in room **L [117]** may have been constructed in this earlier phase, **[G/3-M4a]**. It remains unclear (from the section) if this wall was destroyed or fell out of use at the same time as **[G/3-M3]** or earlier. It is likely that the installations within Compound 10, which have been described above, existed from the beginning and were used throughout. No finds could be assigned to the earlier phases, because what was found within must have belonged to the last use of the area or rubbish filling even after abandonment.

To the west of Compound 10 another part of a building, called Compound 10a[489] was found. It is formed by walls **[G/3-M28]** and **[G/3-M29]**. In the northern space, constituted by these walls, a rounded silo,[490] **[G/3-M27]**, had been built. Like the walls of Compound 10, the walls consisted of sand tempered mud-bricks of similar dimensions. It seems that wall **[G/3-M28]** was built in bondage with **[G/3-M29]**. The preserved tops of the walls varied in elevation from 4.25 to 4.49 m/NN, while the base levels were at ca 4.00 m/NN.[491] Only four brick courses were preserved at the most. Wall **[G/3-M29]** (or a wall along the same lines) continues to the south east and is just about visible in the western section of square A/II-k/12 (no section no A62-00). This feature may belong to a hypothetical continuation of this wall (see Fig. 5.9). The continuation cannot be proven to exist because the relevant areas of the western sections of A/II-k–l/12 as well as the northern section of A/II-l/12 were disturbed by a sizeable, later tomb cutting in from above (A/II-l/12-no 2[492]). The silo was built of half a brick's width bricks laid out as headers as is usual for the earlier phases at the site. The diameter of the damaged silo is about 2.30 m equalling ca 4.4 cubits. The preserved top is at an elevation of 4.32 m/NN and the elevation within was at 4.17 m/NN. A base level has not been taken. The floor did not show brick pavement.

To the south of Compound 10a another rectangular feature with the same wall thickness of 1 1/2 brick's width had been built and it is roughly aligned along the same lines as that building. It is constituted of walls **[G/3-M6]**, **[M7]**, **[M8]** and **[M9]**. Only the western half of this building (in square A/II-l/11) is preserved with base levels of ca 3.95 to 4.10 m/NN. The bricks are quite irregularly laid out according to the plan drawing, thus it is possible that these mud-bricks were re-used. The preserved tops of the walls vary in elevation from 4.20 to 4.66 m/NN. Base levels are given around 4.00 m/NN in the plan drawing. There are only two possible installations within this building, namely a short wall **[G/3-M9]** adjacent to the western wall **[G/3-M8]** and a possible inner wall **[G/3-M7]**. Unfortunately the eastern part of the building, if indeed it is one, was destroyed badly by later tombs. The initial trial to use **[G/3-M7]** as an exterior eastern wall failed, because there were no traces of such a wall in any of the relevant sections. But the continuation of **[G/3-M29]** might actually represent the original eastern wall of this southern "building". This cannot be proven because it was destroyed by a tomb, namely

[489] Chapter 2, 45, 61.

[490] This is the same silo mentioned earlier as perhaps belonging to Phase G/4 or G/3, see footnote 467.

[491] A77, section A77-39.

[492] M. Bietak, TD V, 180–190, Phase E/1.

A/II-l/12-no 2.[493] Similar problems occur for the southern wall, which was destroyed by tomb A/II-l/12-no 5.[494] But also otherwise no traces were left further to the east except **[G/3-M7]**. That it cannot continue for the whole length of the room has its reason as it does not appear in the eastern section of A/II-l/11 (A78). If the width between **[G/3-M29]** and **[G/3-M8]** corresponds to the original width of the building (group of buildings) the outside measurement[495] is 6.30 m which equals exactly 12 cubits, and is a very common measurement in simple architecture at the site.[496] The interior measurement of the room is 5.25 m, which equals exactly 10 Egyptian cubits. Thus, the walls had a planned width of 1 cubit (= 0.525 m), which equals one and a half brick's width. The north south extension of Compound 10a in square A/II-k/11 is 7.0 m (= 13.3 cubits) as measured along the exterior walls (in the preserved western part) and on the interior it is 5.95 m (= 11.3 cubits). This building might have destroyed the eastern part of the older building west of it, although it is not entirely clear whether the rather irregular feature constituted by walls **[G/4-M6]** to **[G/4-M8]** really belonged to a closed structure or just to a precinct wall (see Fig. 5.4). Whether Compound 10a continued further to the north, past A/II-k/10, remains unclear, but seems at least unlikely considering the average size and distribution of the compounds in this area in this phase.[497] The corner of wall **[G/3-M8]** and the southern wall of the building is also not preserved due to a pit of a later tomb cutting it. For this reason the continuation of this wall remains also uncertain. To the south of this building at some distance a rounded oven is preserved. It just seems to be an accumulation of ash with a preserved top of 4.57 m/NN. This means it could have been in use over a long time. Thus, this oven is also mentioned in Phase G/4 (cf. Fig. 5.5, 160). No finds were recorded that may be connected with these structures.

To the south west the north-east corner of a building/courtyard was excavated **[G/3-M10]** and **[G/3-M11]** but cannot be followed further, because the squares further south have not been explored down to this level because Mortuary Temple I was left standing.[498] That corner may have belonged to a building is equally likely as a courtyard. The base level of these walls is at approximately 4.15 m/NN or below. The true base level cannot be ascertained because it was not reached. The walls were relatively well preserved up to an elevation of 4.53 and 4.61 m/NN. The distance between the corners of the "buildings" **[G/3-M7]** to **[G/3-M9]** and **[G/3-M10]** and **[G/3-M11]** is 0.5 m at the most. Wall **[G/3-M10]** was almost in one line with the hypothetical southern wall of the "building" reconstructed in square A/II-l/11–12, which at least indicates a building tradition.

Half of a rounded silo is situated at the southern baulk of square A/II-l/11, **[G/3-M12]**. The base level is at an elevation of 4.10 and 4.30 (or below) m/NN, respectively. It was preserved up to a level of 4.30 and 4.57 m/NN. The floor was not preserved in the section and filled with broken bricks and ashy deposits. No paved floor was preserved and no floor was distinguishable in the southern section of A/II-l/11 suggesting it had been destroyed at one point before being filled with broken bricks and ashy deposits.[499]

Wall **[G/3-M13]** might belong to **[G/3-M16]** and will be considered together with it (see below, 165).

Structures of Phase G/3 in Square A/II-m/10

To the south west of the later oven installations a short stretch of wall **[G/3-M13]** ran towards the south west along the same line as **[G/3-M16]**, cf. Fig. 5.9. They were hypothetically connected as precinct wall, which may divide the silo **[G/3-M12]** from the remainder of the precinct to protect valuable grain storage.

However, there is a parallel wall, equally thin (only one brick's width wide), which cannot be extended towards the north east, because it would run over the silo mentioned before. The base level cannot be ascertained because it was not reached in this area of the section **[G/3-M17]**.

The only wall with a known base level relevant for Phase G/3 in this square is **[G/3-M18]** which begins at an elevation of at least 4.25 m/NN or even lower. At the eastern face of **[G/3-M18]** the two walls **[G/3-M16-M13?]** and **[G/3-M17]** abut. It is unclear whether these walls actually were built in bondage or if they

493 M. Bietak, TD V, 180–190, Phase E/1.
494 M. Bietak, TD V, 51–60, Phase F.
495 Measured from the exterior of the wall to the exterior of the opposite wall.
496 Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.
497 Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.
498 M. Bietak, TD V, 27.
499 This information was extracted from the description of the section.



Fig. 5.10 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, colour slide TD917, the two ovens [G/3-M19] and [G/3-M20] enclosed by sand brick installations

just abutted and were thus added at a later stage. Close to the southern end of **[G/3-M18]** were two round oven installations (see Fig. 5.10) that seem to conform to the usual hearths/cooking installations that are sometimes found in the settlement, e.g. in square A/II-o/15 (volume 2, in prep). The description and photographic material suggest that these ovens or hearths **[G/3-M19]** and **[G/3-M20]** consisted of the base of a large ceramic vessel, around which a line of sand tempered bricks were laid out as headers. Some ashy deposits were found around these installations. The photo (Fig. 5.10) also suggests a few more rounded structures to the south of installations **[M19]** and **[M20]**, but no further information on them comes forward. Whilst these structures were laid out in the area of the later entrance corridor to Compound 11, they must have belonged to a completely different lay out because there is not enough space for the hearths and an entrance corridor.[500] As no finds were reported from this area it remains again difficult to add these archaeological layers in a meaningful way to the surrounding structures, even more so because neither to the west nor to the east did the excavation proceed far enough down to provide more evidence for or against the current reconstruction. These structures suggest a more divided and specialised plan than in the later Phase G/2–1.

Similarly, nothing can be said about the sequence of walls in the eastern section of A/II-m/10 (A74) and the western section of A/II-m/11 (A55) because they were not recorded down to the elevation necessary to gain clues about base levels and the relationships of the walls to each other.

Towards the west, in square A/II-m/10, half of an irregular structure constituted by a half a brick's width wide wall **[G/3-M21–22]** was unearthed. It was not very well preserved because immediately below it – at an elevation of the preserved top of 4.16 m/NN – was another rounded silo **[G/4-M16]**. The difference between the preserved top at 4.16 m/NN of the structure below and the preserved top of the irregular structure at 4.40–45 m/NN affords it 0.29 m at the most, which would probably equal two or three brick courses at the most. At the northern limit of this structure the base of a ceramic vessel was drawn into the plan. It was not possible to identify this vessel but it is very likely that it contained the animal bones described by

[500] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

J. Boessneck because only in planum 6 a vessel with the description "situated immediately south of [the later] tomb 8" was found. The bones were identified as being derived from cattle, namely "parts of a pelvis with the acetabulum interstice open".[501]

Two more rounded silos probably belong to Phase G/3, because their base level and that of the preserved tops of the walls corresponds quite well to the irregular structure mentioned above (base around 4.20 m/NN, tops of walls around 4.45 m/NN). The ground plan of silo **[G/3-M23]** is completely preserved and was built as usual by headers laid out at half a brick's width. The diameter is ca 1.70 m (equals ca 3.2 Egyptian cubits). Of silo **[G/3-M26]** just a short distance to the south east too little was preserved to measure a reliable diameter.

Finally, in the south western part of the square the corner of a structure is preserved constituted by **[G/3-M24]** and **[G/3-M25]**. Again this is a very flimsy structure built of headers at half a brick's width and it is possible that this structure was either used as a limitation wall or that it served as some sort of rectangular silo comparable to that of Phase G/2–1 adjacent to the eastern wall of Compound 11 (**L [111]**).

In the far east, in squares A/II-l/13–14 the smallish rectangular structure already mentioned in the transitional Phase H–G/4 (Fig. 5.4, 5.9) may have still existed in Phase G/3 because it seems to have a physical connection to the older phase of Compound 1 further east (see vol. 2, in preparation), which only consisted of the core building, the earlier northern precinct walls and the short, slightly curled enclosure wall on the eastern side (see chapter 9, Fig. 9.6, 287). It is very denuded and consists of a few stretches of walls **[G/3-M30]** to **[G/3-M32]**.

[501] J. Boessneck, TD III, 12, „Aus einem Vorratsgefäß südlich von Grab 8, Stratum G".

Chapter 6: Compound 12 (= Bezirk IX) – A/II-m/12–13; n/12–13; o/12–13

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

Squares A/II-m/12–13, A/II-n/12–13 and A/II-o/12 contain parts of this compound and it will be described from north to south (Fig. 6.1). Available records include the plan drawings of the exposure, section drawings, the analysis of the sections conducted by M. Bietak, the digging diary, B/W negatives, colour slides as well as the register book, konvolute cards and the position index of the finds and the published description and plan of settlement Phase G/2–1.[504]

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

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

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

Square A/II-m/13 was excavated in 1967 (plana 1–6[505]) and 1968[506] (planum 7[507]). Relevant for the early settlement phases is only planum 7, the overall elevation going down to about 4.50 m/NN. The features of planum 7 have been assigned to Phase G/2–1.[508] The elevation of the tell in this square before excavation as met in 1967 were as follows: the north western corner was at 6.57 m/NN and the levels rose towards the north eastern corner to 7.25 m/NN. Towards the south western corner the ascent is even 1.50 m to almost 8.0 m/NN. Along the southern edge of the square the level remains relatively even around 8.0 m/NN. A renewed sounding in that area was undertaken in 1983,[509] but no additional details relevant to the early settlement phases were noted. All sections were recorded, the northern[510] down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN in almost all its length, the eastern[511] down to an elevation of 4.50 m/NN, the southern[512] one down to an elevation of 3.90 m/NN and the western[513] one down to an elevation of 4.50 m/NN.

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[502] They were interpreted as huts, stables and silos for various food stuffs.
[503] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 31–33.
[504] M. Bietak, TD V, 31–34 and plan 2.
[505] TDplan nos 222–227.
[506] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, November 1968. Some of the sections were amended in October 1968.
[507] TDplan no 228.
[508] See plan 2, M. Bietak, TD V.
[509] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, A/II-m13, p. 53. Excavation of baulk between m/12–13.
[510] TDplan no 238 drawn in 1968, A13.
[511] TDplan no 236 drawn in 1968, A71.
[512] TDplan no 235 drawn in 1967–1968, A34.
[513] TDplan no 237 drawn in 1967, A65.

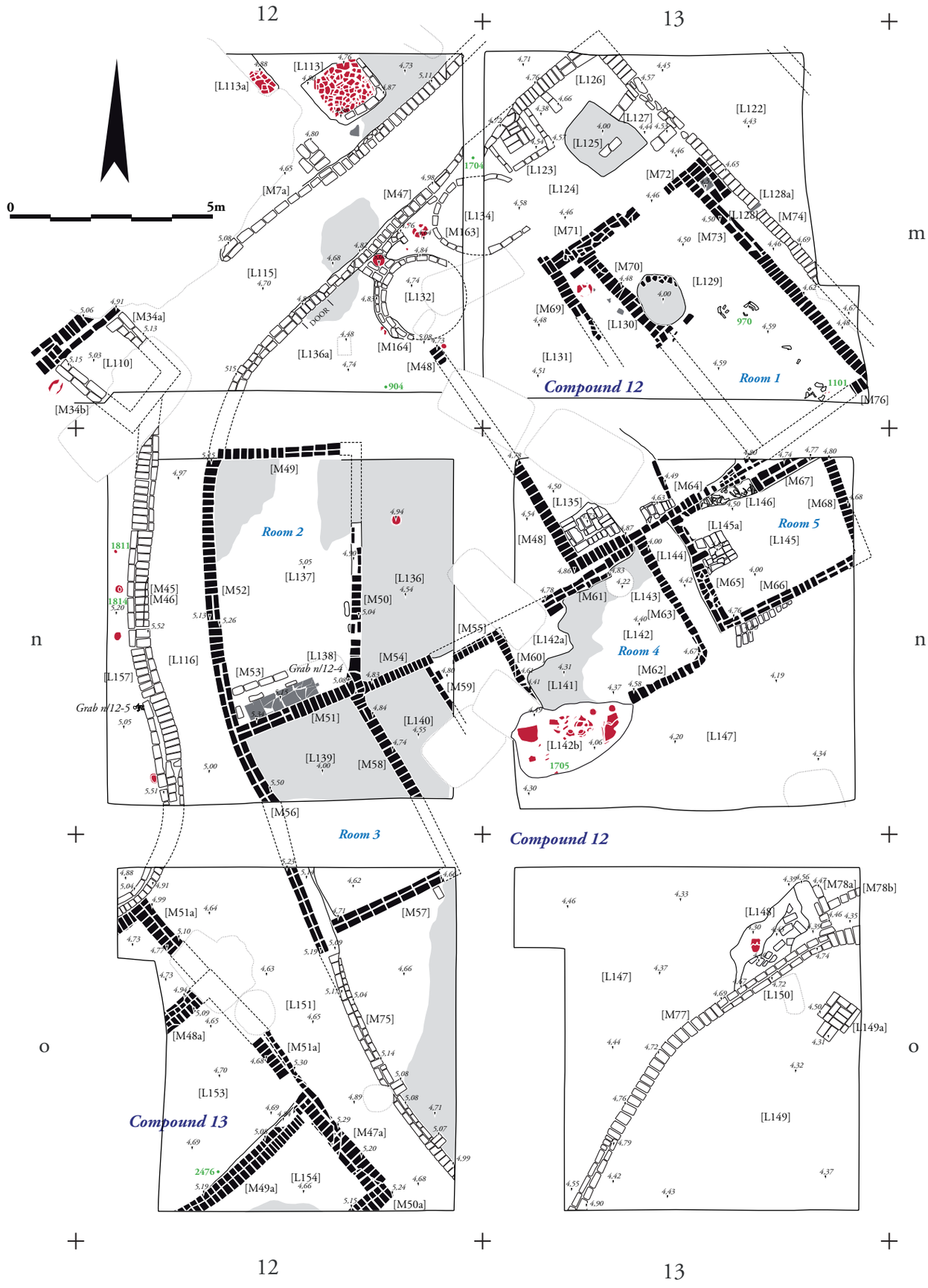


Fig. 6.1 Plan of Compound 12. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

Square A/II-n/12 was excavated in 1968 (spring and autumn campaign). The original levels before excavation are not given, but the ground level of the first planum[514] is between 6.60 m/NN and 7.15 m/NN.[515] The highest preserved part of a wall reached an elevation of about 7.55 m/NN. Relevant for Phases G/3–1 are plana 4, 5 and 6.[516] They were all excavated in June 1968.[517] The very western part of that square including wall **[M45]** was discussed together with **L [156]** in Compound 11 (see chapter 4, 140–141). The same holds true for the western section of this square. The phase represented in the published plan[518] can be largely found in planum 5 (Phase G/2–1). There are probably two more (sub) phases below (represented in planum 6, TD 298). All sections of this square were recorded, the northern[519] down to an elevation of 4.10 m/NN in all its length, the eastern[520] down to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, the southern[521] one down to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN and the western[522] one down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN.

Square A/II-n/13 was excavated in two seasons in spring and autumn 1968, where planum 1 was measured at an elevation of about 7.70 m/NN with only minor variations along the edges of the square. Altogether 7 plana[523] were recorded. Relevant for the earlier settlement are plana 6 and 7. All sections were recorded, namely the northern[524] down to an elevation of 4.30 m/NN, the eastern[525] down to an elevation of 4.30 m/NN, the southern[526] one down to an elevation of 4.20 m/NN and the western[527] one down to an elevation of 4.20–4.40 m/NN. In addition, the digging diary (pp. 51–70) recorded by M. Bietak and records of sherd collections (K200–202) could be consulted.

The excavation history of square A/II-o/12 is related during the discussion of Compound 13 (see chapter 7, 231). Most pertinent for the current description is that a part of Room 3 (= **L [139]**) continues from square A/II-n/12 south into A/II-o/12. The lowest level that was reached within the square close to the northern section is about 4.40 m/NN.

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

Square A/II-m/12

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

A thin wall **[M47]** of one brick's width running from the eastern section to the southern section divides Compound 12 from alleyway **L [115]**[530] and cuts off a triangle in the south eastern corner of the square. The wall was built from bricks heavily tempered with sand. Their size was approximately 0.30 m by 0.15 m to a brick's width. The wall seems to have consisted of bricks smaller than the average and many shorter ones, which might hint at a re-use of these bricks from elsewhere. Wall **[M47]** runs more or less parallel to wall **[M7a]** and they constitute the limitations of alleyway **L [115]**. The base level of this wall is roughly at 4.80 m/NN[531] and the wall is preserved to an elevation of 5.15 to 4.98 m/NN (see Fig. 6.1). After about

514 Plana 1–3 TDplan nos 293–295.
515 See TDplan no 293.
516 TDplan nos 296–298.
517 The digging diary for planum 4 is dated 9 June 1968; that for planum 5 21 June 1968; planum 6 28 June 1968. Only tomb 7 was excavated in the autumn campaign (cf. TDplan 301).
518 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
519 TDplan no 303 drawn in 1968.
520 TDplan no 302 drawn in 1968.
521 TDplan no 305 drawn in 1968.
522 TDplan no 304 drawn in 1968.
523 TDplan nos 306–312.
524 TDplan no 324 drawn in spring 1968.
525 TDplan no 325 drawn 5 November 1968.
526 TDplan no 323 drawn 28 October 1968.
527 TDplan no 322 drawn in 1968.
528 TDplan nos 359–364.
529 TDplan nos 369, 368.
530 This is effectively the same locus **as L [116]** and **L [151]** in the squares further south A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
531 According to southern section (A35) section no A35-36 close to running metre 4.0 from west. Interestingly exactly below this wall is another older one (section no A35-39), which was assigned to Phase H by M. Bietak. This wall may reach down even lower and thus belong to H and perhaps also G/4–3. This fact might indicate a tradition in the limitation of this particular building plot although between section no A35-39 and A35-36 a sizeable ashy layer of about 0.2 m thickness had been deposited. See also discussion of sections below (173–174).

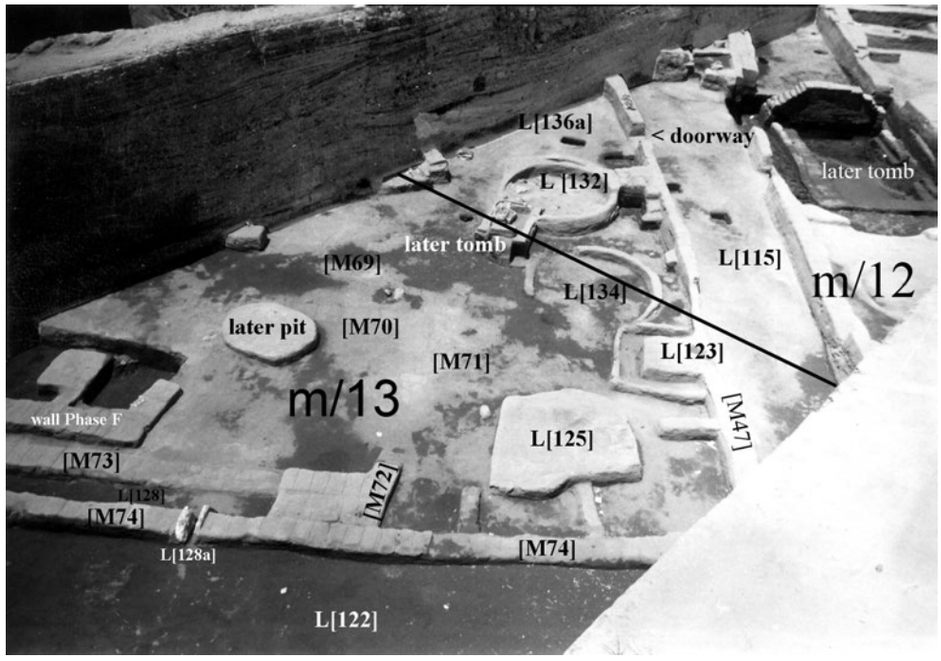


Fig. 6.2 Square A/II-m/12–13 view towards south-west after removal of baulk between A/II-m/12 and A/II-m/13, SW1097/33–34



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

2 m following the wall **[M47]** towards the northeast there is an opening, with more loamy mud-bricks laid out perpendicularly to the remainder of the wall and thus interpreted as a door opening (position ca 4.50 m/W and 3.00 m/S). South of wall **[M47]** inside the compound a noticeable ash deposition was recorded as well as a rectangular ash pit at approx. 3.50 m/E and 2.00 m/S and at a depth of 0.26 m **L [136a]** (see also below, Fig. 6.2, 6.5). This pit contained several ashy layers (detailed drawing on plan no 199) and measured about 0.5 m and 0.3 m. Although some ceramic sherds are drawn *in situ* in this pit, none were recorded with the implication, therefore, that no diagnostic material was found.

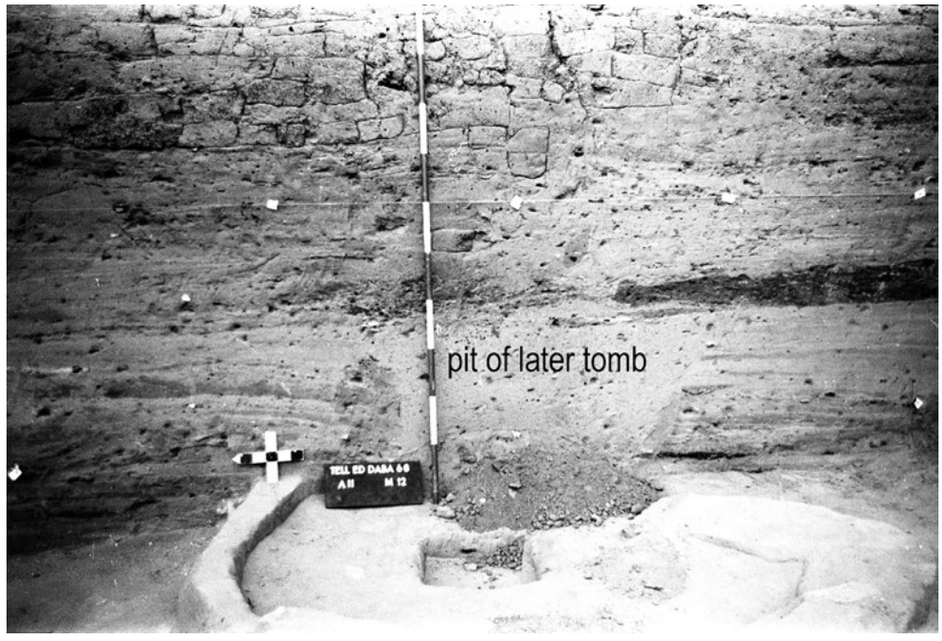


Fig. 6.4 Eastern section of A/II-m/12 with silo L [132] and the pit of tomb A/II-m/12-13 cutting it, SW1077/19

The basic floor level of the area south of wall **[M47]** is around 4.72 m/NN descending towards the east down to about 4.50 m/NN. Built into this presumably open space **L [136]**[532] were two round installations, representing silos **L [132]** and **L [134]** (Fig. 6.2–6.3). The former was not completely preserved and had been cut from above by two tombs (A/II-m/12-8[533] and A/II-m/12-12[534] both from Phase E/2), whilst the latter had been complete before the taking down of the baulk between A/II-m/12 and 13 (see below, 172). Silo **L [132]** was probably about 2.13 m wide (~ 4 cubits). Finds visible on the photos from within the silo **L [132]** could not be recovered for re-study (being the fill of the silo it is unlikely that it was contemporary with Phase G/2–1). The silo structure seems to consist of two walls, which seem to have been set into a foundation trench (which is rarely observed for such an unassuming structure). The outer wall may have served either as reinforcement or represents the remains of an earlier or later silo.

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

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

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

[534] M. Bietak, TD V, 131–132.

[535] M. Bietak, TD V, 33.



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

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

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

In the alleyway **L [115]** a little north east of the door in wall **[M47]** another patch of ash mixed with potsherds was recorded (see Fig. 6.5). This could be the result of disposal of household rubbish. Whilst the alleyway also shows a floor level of ca 4.70 m/NN, the dump does not seem to be higher than that. Thus, the dumped material could have been thoroughly spread and distributed over a wider area.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-m/12[537])

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

The eastern section[538] (A84, drawn in 1967) was exposed to a level of ca 4.70 m/NN. It is well visible that the terrain rises again towards the south in this area of the excavation, quite considerably (almost 1.5 m over 10 m). Unfortunately the degree of exposure means that the base levels of the walls relevant for the early settlement phases were not reached. A/II-m/12-Tomb no 12 appears prominent in that section destroying the settlement layer at running metres ca 6.2 to 8.0 along the section (counting from north to south). Directly in the northern corner (ca 0.8–1.2 m from the north the wall curtailing Compound 11 **[M7a+b]** is visible.[539] It is one brick's width wide. On top of wall **[M7a]**

[536] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 131, 32–33.

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

[538] TDplan no 221.

[539] (A84), section no A84-39.

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

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

The southern section[543] (A35, drawn in 1967 with additions in 1968) of A/II-m/12 is shown together with one metre of that of A/II-m/11 to the west and part of A/II-m/13 to the east. In the west the massive accumulation of ash from the ash pit in **L [156]**[544] is well visible and also that it is up to 0.5 m thick. It overlies the wall of Phases H or G/4–3 (= section no A35-39a in this section), which is slightly exceeding 1.0 m in width. That wall is partly damaged, and is preserved up to an elevation of 4.30 m/NN, but irregularly. The sand tempered bricks may belong to the building phase below.[545] The base level seems to extend well below 4.00 m/NN but was not reached in the excavation.

The most prominent features in the southern section (A35) are the later tombs close to the eastern and western corners, namely A/II-m/13-no 13[546] and A/II-m/12-no 10.[547] Whilst the latter cuts into the older layers set into a very large pit (section no A35-21) it seems to sit on top of the ash layer section no A35-38. Thus, this means that the layers beneath the tomb remain largely intact.[548] In this square seemingly the top most sandy layers of the *gezirah* were reached (section no A35-40), which is thought to be the virgin soil on which the initial settlement of Phase H started. The top of the level of the 'virgin soil' is at about 4.10 m/NN in this spot, but it is not that high everywhere.[549] Thus, there may be considerable differences in elevation right from the beginning. On top of it the first building Phase H is represented by section no A35-39a–c. Above the wall with section no A35-39b at a running metre 6.0 (from east to west),

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

[541] M. Bietak, analysis of section.

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

[543] TDplan no 219.

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

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

[546] M. Bietak, TD V, 84–87, Phase E/3.

[547] M. Bietak, TD V, 198–199, Phase E/1.

[548] The layers below the tomb were not disturbed.

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

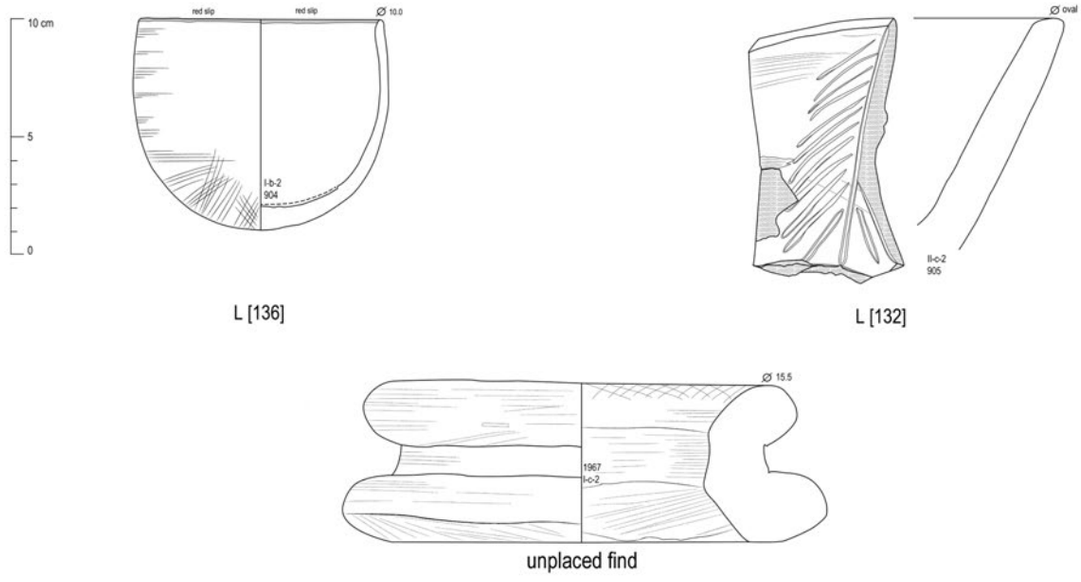


Fig. 6.6 Reg.nos 904, 905 and 1967

which is preserved almost three brick courses high the ash layer (no A35-38) runs over it and connects to the thick ashy layer of **L [156]** in A/II-m/11–12. This ash accumulation suggests activity in the courtyard of Compound 11. The ash also ran thinly below tomb 10, as the tomb cut into this layer. A trench was dug along the southern section,[550] thus, revealing the stratigraphic relationship of the walls with no A35-39, but the exact course of these walls remains uncertain.[551] The wall with section no A35-39b seems to be the precursor of wall **[M47]** as it is situated quite directly below wall **[M47]** (= section no A35-36), This wall shows a probable base level of about 4.65 m/NN and is preserved up to about 5.15 m/NN shown in plan 2.[552] This wall tumbled over and brick rubble derived from it is to be found to the west but mainly to the east (section no A35-31) and is spread out on a length of at least a 1.50 m. A series of ashy, sandy and humic layers derived from settlement activities are spreading in the area representing these in the space/courtyard **L [136]** and continue further to the south into square A/II-n/12. The part of the section that represents the alleyway **L [115]** shows a series of finely layered walking 'floors'.

Finds from square A/II-m/12, pl. 4–5

L [136] Open space

Pottery

Reg.no **904** (KhM, A 2651), hemispherical cup. Position: A/II-m/12, pl. 4–5, 2.30 m/E, 0.70 m/S, 3.10 m deep [H = ca 4.75 m/NN]; relative level e–f (Fig. 6.6–6.7).
Records: B/W negative SW1053/73–74, drawing ZN 140/67, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-2	fine	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2

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

Animal bones

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

[550] M. Bietak, personal communication 21 July 2017.
[551] Wall, section no A35-39c, can be traced in A/II-n/12, in the lowermost planum, but not A35-39b.
[552] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2. This wall is not shown in plan 3, indicating that it was not visible even as a ruin in Phase F.



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

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

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

Pottery

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

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

1.20 m/E; 2.10 m/S; elevation not given, relative level e. "Close to the pit of tomb 8, displaced, probably older than Phase E/2",[554] (Fig. 6.6–6.7).
Record: B/W negative SW1070/9; drawing ZN 21E, redrawn and re-recorded.[555]

TG	II-c-2	medium	Ha1	–	ox	3

Rd. = oval, boat shaped; wd. = 1.6 cm;
Surface colour: exterior 7.5 YR 6–7/3 pink to light brown, interior 7.5 AR 7/3–4 pink. Section: uniform red 10 R 6/8; top edge of rim trimmed with a tool. Incisions made with sharp point pre-firing; vegetal motif at the edge of a pond/fish (?); one line of this feature is just visible before the fragment breaks off; fabric is well mixed, particle sizes generally small; smoothing marks visible on interior and exterior.

Unplaced find from square A/II-m/12

Pottery

Reg.no **1967** (KhM, A 1747), large ringstand. Position: A/II-m/12, [pl. 5], Relative level e or f (Fig. 6.6–6.7).
Records: B/W negative SW1159/3, 1165/60–61;[556] drawing ZN 9/1969.

TG?	I-c-2	m. – r.	Ha1-2	Bd. gesp.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 18.3; (rim 95% preserved); rd. interior = 15.5; wd. = 2.4; max.d. = 20.5; bd. = 16.8; (base 100% preserved); bd. interior = 14.1; H1 = 6.6–6.9; weight 1462 grams.
Surface colour: 10 R 4/6 red, but surface quite eroded. The top part appears to have been rubbed all around as if used heavily with pottery having been put inside. In two places round the top use of some kind created abrasions (cf. Fig. 6.7 on the right side of the stand and on the back a little to the left). Technology seems to have included coiling and turning, the base was scraped. The stand is asymmetrical.

Square A/II-m/13

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

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

The main feature of this square is a single rectangular Room1 (= **L [129]**, see Fig. 6.8), which is preserved a few mud-brick courses high, but not everywhere in the square. It consists of walls **[M73]** on the eastern side, **[M72]** and **[M71]** on the northern side and **[M70]** on the western side. The southern back wall **[M76]** is only preserved in one mud-brick in the very south eastern corner. The same holds true for the western wall of this house that is only preserved about halfway towards the south, but both are represented very clearly in the southern section.[557] The walls were built to one brick's thickness in contrast to Compounds 10, 11, 13, 14, 1, 2 and 5 (that had 1 1/2). Interestingly all of the walls of this compound are composed of one brick's width whether the mud-bricks were laid side to side or as stretchers. This compound also differs in that it was rather a collection of more or less rectangular one-room huts than more formulated two-room houses that can be observed in some of the other compounds.[558]

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

[554] M. Bietak, note on record of object in position index, undated.
[555] Previously published in B. Bader, TD XIII, 86, cat.no 101, fig. 15.f. There the find spot is erroneously indicated as A/II-m/18, which is an overlooked typing mistake.
[556] Negative record SW1159 was not available; negative strip SW1166/60–61 was also not available including the contact print. Thus the photos probably did not come out in the processing.
[557] A34, section no A34-36. See below, 183. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 31 with note 27.
[558] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

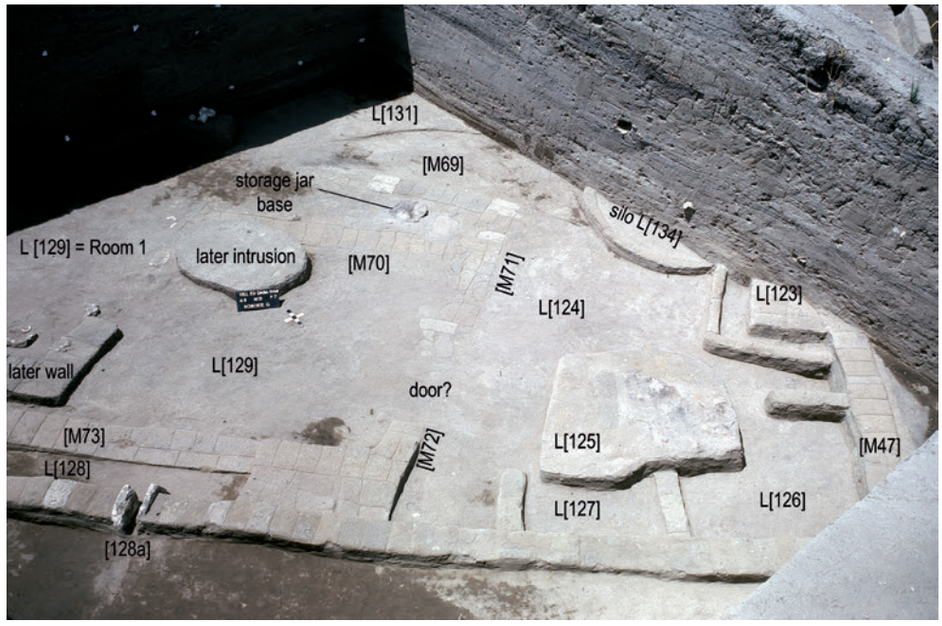


Fig. 6.8 View of Room 1 = L [129] from north-east (slide Cairo Archive)

opening of 0.8 m between walls **[M71]** and **[M72]**, the location of which is rather unusual because this is the direction of the local prevailing winds (Fig. 6.8). Finds made in that space include a faience bracelet (reg.no 970[559]), a fragment of a large hemispherical cup,[560] querns and grinders made of limestone (of undefined number and shape) and animal bones from cattle, sheep/goat (see below for details, 190). The inner dimensions of **L [129]** are 6.5 m by 2.8 m resulting in a square footage of ca 18.2 m² (cubits: ca 12.5 cubits by 5.5, 68.75 square feet).

Several special features of this building need to be described. The first one is the rather narrow space between the two eastern walls of the building **L [129]**, **[M73]** and **[M74]**. The walls were not preserved well enough to ascertain whether the precinct wall **[M74]** would have been high enough to shield the view from the house. It is unlikely in view of the very narrow opening (ca 0.20 m) in this wall **L [128a]** with reinforcement by two unworked pieces of limestone (see Fig. 6.2).[561] The distance of the opening to the eastern baulk along the wall is about 4.0 m. Although space **L [128]** does not seem to have been walkable with a width of ca 0.3 m (except for children), the opening from the alleyway **L [122]** seems to indicate exactly this. This feature may have served as a staircase although the opening in the wall would remain unexplained. Unfortunately the south-eastern corner of this space was hidden in the baulk and thus it remains unknown if the wall provided access there to the space south of this building or not. There are no finds recorded from this space either that might have enabled a more informed interpretation. To the north of **L [128]** the space is blocked by sand tempered mudbricks of one and a half brick's width. This blockage is 1.2 m wide and might in fact have been some sort of platform or part of a pavement or perhaps a short flight of steps. No finds were preserved from there, thus interpretation is difficult.

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

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

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

[560] "Tief kalottenförmiges Tongefäß" according to M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 1968.

[561] M. Bietak interpreted these as drainage devices. Digging Diary, 1968.



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

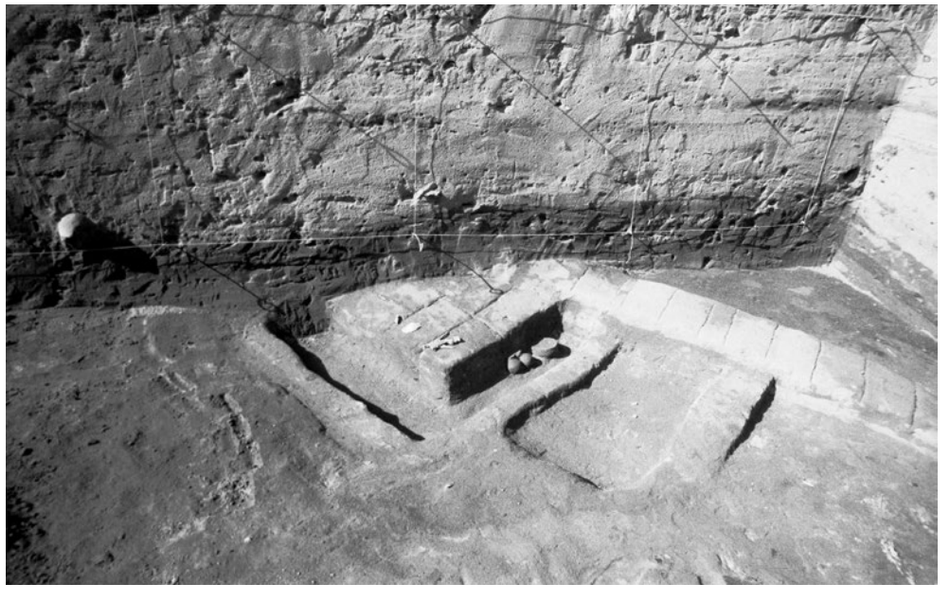


Fig. 6.10 View of the finds leaning against feature L [123], bones on top of feature, SW1054/59

wood.[562] Attached to wall **[M74]** by a short wall and perhaps cutting into it is a slightly raised platform/ fire place **L [125]** paved to a certain extent with pottery sherds[563] (see detailed plan[564] and Fig. 6.9). This feature has been interpreted as some kind of hearth (cf. a similar installation in Compound 11, square A/II-m/12 **L [113]**) because of the deposition of ashes in a roughly rectangular area of about 1.75 m by 1.5 m.

[562] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 32. See also V. Müller, TD XVII, 397.

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

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

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

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

Silo **L [134]**[567] may well have existed at the same time as installation **L [123]** because the western section proves that their elevation was at least the same as far as the section was exposed. Of course, as none of the real base levels were reached, it is impossible to know which was built earlier. Judging from the preservation of the other silos it is unlikely though that this one should have been so much better preserved. The silo was laid out from sand tempered mud-brick as headers and had a diameter of ca 1.95–2.0 m (3.7–3.8 cubits). In the section two preserved brick courses were visible. The diameter of this silo corresponds to that of **L [132]**, which may mean that they mud-brick were built roughly at the same time.

Some kind of annexe was erected to the west of **L [129]**, seemingly at the same time as the rest of the building, because there is no visible formal join indicating a later addition according to the original plan drawing (TD no 228). The wall constituting the annexe **[M69]** runs about 2 m towards the south. It was longer, as indicated on the plan,[568] but the end looks rather denuded and not formally finished. However, the continuation is visible in the southern section of the square at a base level of 4.20 m/NN.[569] The resulting room/space **L [130]** appears trapezoid due to a deviation of wall **[M69]** towards the south west. Within this space the base of a storage jar[570] (see Fig. 6.8) was found as well as one mud-brick to the north of the base of the storage jar and an unworked stone. Whether the single mud-brick was part of an installation in space **L [130]** or represents just rubble fallen down remains unclear.[571]

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

The northern section[573] (A13, drawn in October 1968) was exposed down to a level of ca 4.20 m/NN, except in the eastern part (running metres 7.0–10.0 from west) where it was only recorded to 5.00 m/NN (Fig. 6.11). It is characterised by series of thin, finely layered ashy, sandy and slightly loamy levels, all partly

565 The lowest elevation is at 4.50 m/NN.

566 M. Bietak, TD V, 32.

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

568 M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

569 (A34) section no A34-36.

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

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

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

573 TDplan no 238.



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



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

compacted, which are a typical feature of alleyways and thoroughfares. Indeed, **L [115]** (running metres 0.0–2.0 from west) and **L [122]** (running metres 3.0–6.8 from west), two such pathways were recorded within the northern section of A/II-m/13 (see Fig. 6.1). Also the corner in which the two walls **[M47]** and **[M74]** meet is well visible (section no A13-59, between running metres 2.0 and 3.0 from west). The base level of this corner is at an elevation of ca 4.30 m/NN. It should be noted that the base level of this corner lies slightly below that of the precinct wall **[M7a]** of Compound 11 (section no A13-62) at ca 4.40 m/NN (see Fig. 5.4). This might reflect a slightly later erection of Compound 11 or at least of its porch wall



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

than Compound 12.[574] But it must not be forgotten that this unevenness of the ground may be due to natural topography (*gezirahs*). Also in later periods of the site the middle of this area (running metres 2.4–7.0 from west) had been used as thoroughfare as evidenced by compacted layers. This instance demonstrates once again that the built up areas and open spaces stayed largely in the same organisational limits over several phases, perhaps to be identified with generations.

The eastern section[575] (A89, drawn in 1968) was exposed to an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN but not everywhere along the section (Fig. 6.12). Running metres 0.50 to 2.70 measured from the north were dominated by the superimposed massive mud-brick walls of Phases E/3 and E/2, under which the excavation did not continue. At running metre 3.80 from the north a heavily sand tempered mud-brick wall begins and it continues almost to running metre 5.0. It is perhaps possible that this mass of sand tempered mud-bricks looks like the top of an articulated wall but is in reality sand brick rubble. The majority of the recorded layers were compacted ashy and sandy with some humic ones in between and they were deposited in alternating very thin layering indicating that this area was used as thoroughfare for most of its history at least from running metre 5.0 southwards until running metre ~6.70, where the top of wall **[M74]** is just visible in the section (section no A89-16). Where **[M73]** should be visible the elevation was not low enough. The base levels of any of the earlier walls were not reached.

The western section[576] (A65, drawn in 1967) was exposed down to an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN as well (Fig. 6.13). The whole baulk was removed at one point during 1968 in order to have a better overview of the archaeological features in squares A/II-m/12–13 at that stage. This strategy also enabled complete excavation of tomb A/II-m/12-no 12 of Phase E/2[577] located within this baulk. The western section showed that tomb A/II-m/12-no 12 cut into the wall of silo **L [132]** from the later phase (cf. section no A65-22). At the southern end of the baulk another tomb (A/II-m/13-no 13) cuts into and destroys the early levels as well. Well visible are the sand tempered mud-brick walls of the circular silo **L [134]** at running metres 4.4 and

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

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

[576] TDplan no 237.

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

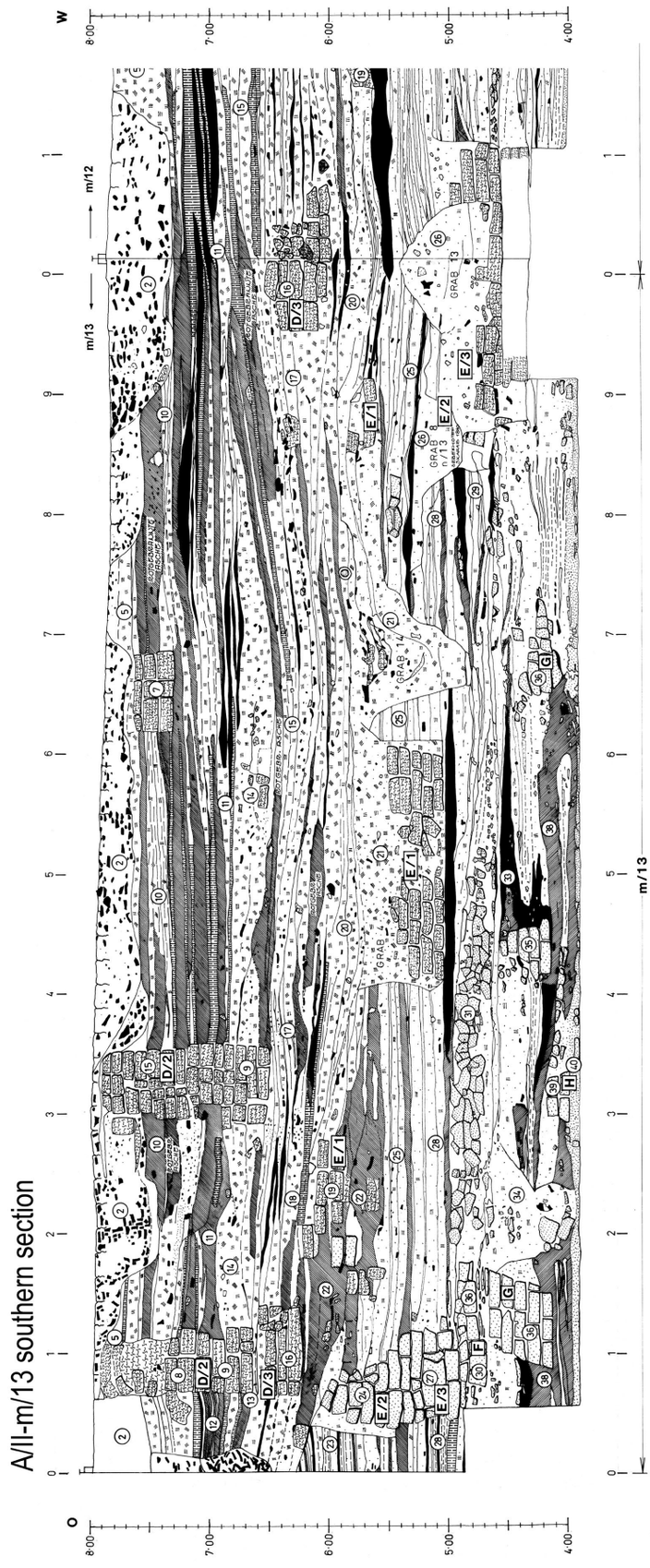


Fig. 6.14 Southern section of A/II-m/13 (A34), inked by H. Singer, © M. Bietak

***Excursus* Section analysis of A/II-m/13 south**[578]

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

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

[579] Compacted floor for "Gehhorizont"

this floor (no 25) cannot be identified with certainty. Slightly humic, but mainly sandy layers with walking horizons were deposited on top of it. These depositions fill a depression, which lasted from Phase H to E/3. The last phase is only represented further to the west in square m/10–11.

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

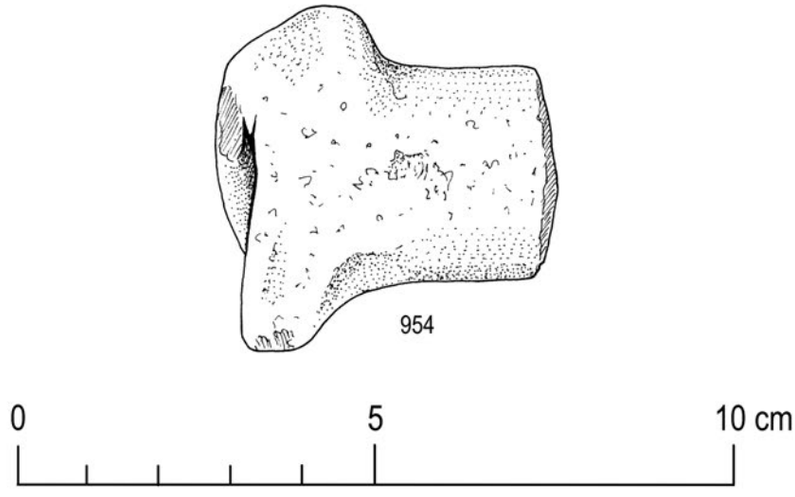


Fig. 6.15 Reg.no 954, part of animal figurine, ZN 1/68, scale 1:1

[580] Although the lowermost plan drawn, planum 7 of A/II-m/13, only reaches an elevation of about 4.50 m/NN and belongs to Phase G/2–1, the section reached the elevation of 4.00 m/NN. A narrow test trench was excavated along the southern edge of square A/II-m/13, M. Bietak, personal communication 21 July 2017. Therefore this wall cannot be included in the overall plan of the settlement.

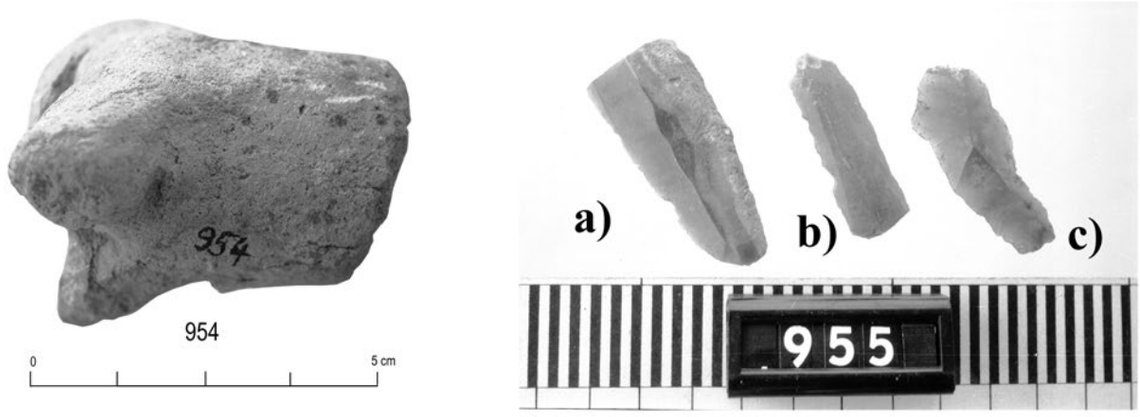


Fig. 6.16 Reg.no 954, part of animal figurine, SW1088/33; reg.no 955a–c, chipped stone tools, SW1085/28

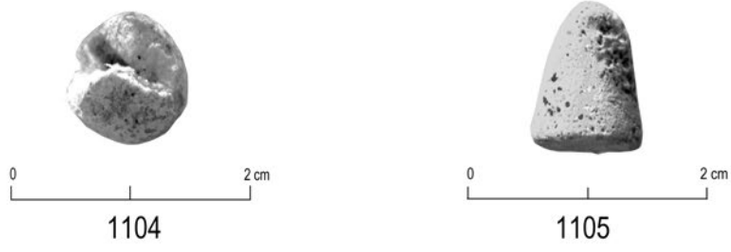


Fig. 6.17 Reg.no 1104, broken faience bead, SW1085/34; reg.no 1105, conical object of faience, SW1085/38

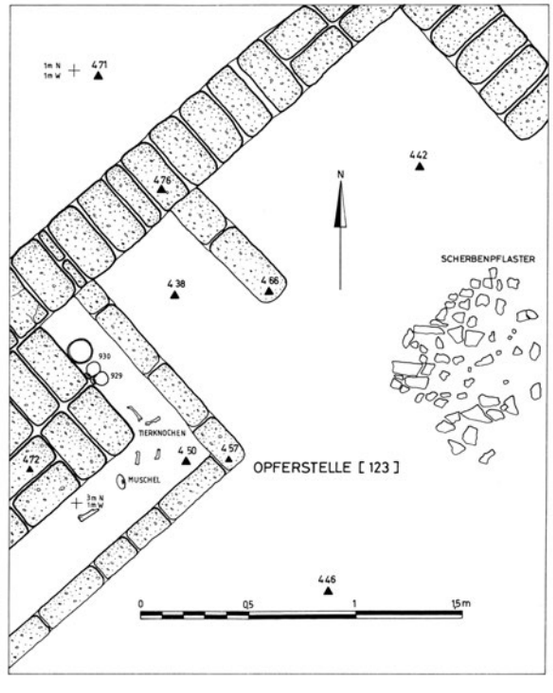


Fig. 6.18 Detail plan of L [123], after M. Bietak, TD V, fig. 6

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

The southern section[581] (A34, drawn in 1967 with additions in its lower part in 1968) extends to an elevation just below 4.0 m/NN (Fig. 6.14) and it seems that here the *gezirah* was reached (section no A34-40). The first wall to be built on top of it was section no A34-39 with a base level of just below 4.0 m/NN at running metre ~3.0 from east. It consists of sand tempered mud-bricks and only two brick courses were preserved. As only a trench was dug along the southern section no further comments can be made concerning this wall except that it probably belongs to Phase H or G/4.[582] As A/II-m/13 was only fully excavated to an elevation of 4.50 m/NN, probably a trench was dug along the baulks to clarify some stratigraphic relationships. Walls **[M76]** (= section no A34-36a, running metre ~1.0 from east) and **[M70]** (= section no A34-35, at running metres ~4.0–4.50 from east) belong to Phase G/2–1,[583] and they are shown in plan 2.[584] They were founded at a base level of ca 4.15 m/NN and could have been in use in both Phases G/2–1 and G/3. They were dug into the older ash layer covering this area as well as the oldest wall no A34-39. Although those walls 36a and A34-35 are well visible in the section and belong to the continuation of **[M76]** and **[M70]**, respectively, they did not appear in the plan drawing because the excavation did not go deep enough. The floor levels running between these two walls contain ashy layers as well as lime plaster. The unevenness of the level between walls **[M76]** and **[M70]** in the section seems to show that evenness in a 'room' was not an important issue for the inhabitants. The floor level given in the plan drawing is around 4.50 m/NN. Thus, it is very possible that the floor level in Building/Room 1 was ascending towards the north or the excavation did not reach the real floor. The wall with section no A34-36b represents the continuation of **[M69]** and was also founded at roughly the same level (4.15 m/NN) as **[M70]** and **[M76]**. Then the room was filled with a slightly sandy seemingly homogeneous fill and at an elevation of ca 4.70 m/NN the walls are cut and above this a 'trampled compacted floor' developed. A new phase on top of Phase G/2–1 was laid out, namely Phase F. Wall section no A34-30 (directly above section no A34-36a in the eastern part of the section) represents that phase and it was at that time when a pit[585] was dug into the room **L [129]**. The debris of this phase is represented by rubble section no A34-31.

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

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

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

[584] M. Bietak, TD V.

[585] Section no A34-34.

Finds from square A/II-m/13, pl. 6–7

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

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

Reg.no **954**, part of animal figurine. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 6, 3.50 m/S, 1.50 m/E, H = ca 4.78 m/NN,[586] relative level e or f (Fig. 6.15–6.16).
Records: B/W negative SW1088/33; drawing ZN 1/68.[587] Made from light grey pottery; the animal is perhaps a bovid or caprid, hind legs broken away; section of body almost round; length = 4.7 cm.

Reg.no **955**, three chipped stone tools. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 6, 3.50 m/S, 1.50 m/E, H = ca 4.78 m/NN,[588] relative level e or f (Fig. 6.16).
Records: B/W negative SW1088/35.[589]
a) Length = 4.7 cm, fragment of tool blade, bulbus on terminal end; remains of matrix visible, perhaps knife blade.
b) Length = 4.0 cm, bulbus on basis, top of blade, perhaps some sort of piercer.
c) Length = 4.3 cm, bulbus on basis, flaring towards the tip of the tool, by-product of flint production, not regular tool.

L [115] The Alleyway

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

Reg.no **1104**, faience bead. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7–8. North-west corner of the square, 20 cm below level of planum 7 [H ca 4.50 m/NN,[590]] (Fig. 6.17).
Records: B/W negative SW1085/34–36.[591]
Spheroid shape, diameter = 0.95 cm; white colour; It seems that the glazing has completely disappeared.

Reg.no **1105**, conical object made of faience (gaming piece?). Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7–8. North-west corner of the square, 20 cm below elevation of planum 7 [H ca 4.50 m/NN[592]] (Fig. 6.17).
Records: B/W negative SW1085/44.[593]
Height = 1.2; bd. = 0.9; white faience, probably only core left, glaze probably disappeared.

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

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

Pottery

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

RF	I-b-2	fine	Ha2	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Neckd. = 3.25; max.d. = 7.0; H1 = 7.9; (base: 100% preserved).
Surface colour: red slip: 10 R 5/6 red; natural surface colour not visible. Section: uniform reddish brown; inclusions: some quartz, not much chaff, almost I-b-1, red slip also on the neck of the interior of vessel.

Reg.no **930**, small bag-shaped jar. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, along northern edge of mud-brick installation, H = 4.50 m/NN (Fig. 6.19–6.20).
Records: B/W negatives SW1101/6, SW1109/22, SW1122/20; drawing: ZN 12/68, 4C/68.

RF	I-b-2?	n.r.	n.r.	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 4.2 (outside); rd. interior = 3.2 (100% of rim preserved according to photo); neckd. = 3.0; max.d. = 6.1; H1 = 7.7;
no more details except that the rim is trimmed inside. The vessel was not available for re-study.

[586] Elevation taken from original plan of that square, TD 227.
[587] The object was not available for re-study.
[588] Elevation taken from original plan of that square, TD 227.
[589] The objects were not available for re-study and the description has been taken from the register book, unknown handwriting.
[590] According to the level of 4.71 m/NN given in the plan of planum 7 (cf. TD 228).
[591] The object was not available for re-study.
[592] According to the level of 4.71 m/NN given in the plan of planum 7 (cf. TD 228).
[593] The object was not available for re-study.

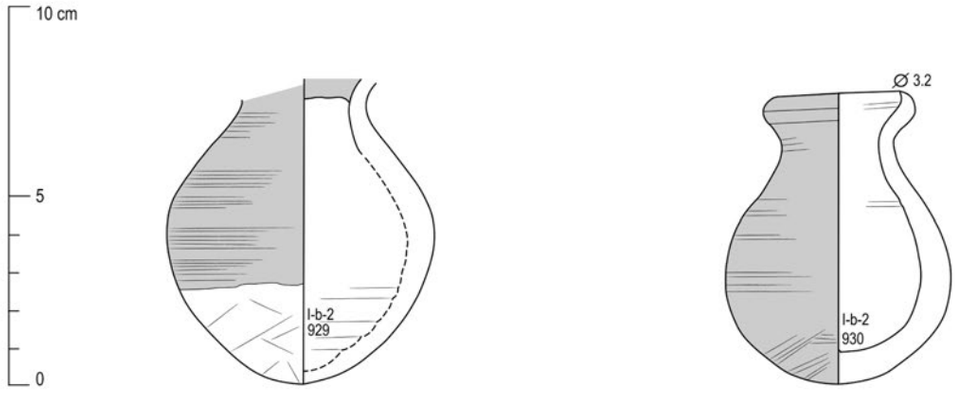


Fig. 6.19 Drawings of reg.nos 929 and 930

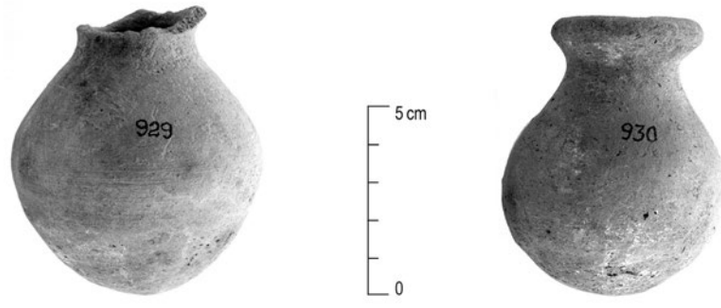


Fig. 6.20 Reg.no 929, small jar, SW1109/21, reg.no 930, small jar, SW1109/23

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

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

This combination of finds is paralleled in some offering pits in front of tombs from phases d/1–c in area F/I. These pits contained hemispherical cups as well as small jars and spatha shells.[595] Müller follows Bietak's interpretation of a "freistehender Altar" for this installation, although it is built against the wall delimiting the courtyard space towards the alleyway **L [115]**. According to Müller the interpretation as an altar is reinforced by the fact that the vessels were very carefully laid out against the brick platform although there is strictly speaking not a pit but only the presumably paved gap between the platform and the low parapet wall around the platform. The installations cited as parallels date to later phases, which does not necessarily exclude this interpretation, especially as nothing similar has yet been found elsewhere.[596] It should be noted, though, that this 'altar' is situated in the middle of domestic installations, with the

[594] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 32–33.
[595] Cf. V. Müller, TD XVII, vol. 1, 239.
[596] Cf. V. Müller, TD XVII, vol. 1, 397.

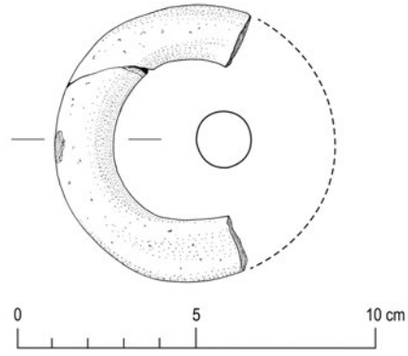


Fig. 6.21 Reg.no 970, faience 'bracelet', scale 1:2

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

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

L [129] Building/Room 1

The finds made south of the Phase F wall (cf. Fig. 6.12, 6.21) may represent the floor level of **L [129]**, but it is more likely to belong to the fill close to the floor, which is according to the southern profile at an elevation of about 4.40 m/NN.

Small finds

Reg.no **970**, 'bracelet' of faience. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, 2.70 m/S, 3.20 m/E, H = 4.59 m/NN,[601] (Fig. 6.21–6.22).
Records: B/W negatives SW1088/55–56; 1101/38–39, drawing ZN4/68.
Diameter of section 1.7 cm; max.d. 7.7 cm, probably too narrow for the wrist of an adult. Some remains of glazing (colour not mentioned).

Stone

Reg.no **1101**, rim fragment of calcite-alabaster vessel,[602] probably a dish. Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7, 1.10 m/S; 1.75 m/E, H ca 4.75 m/NN,[603] (Fig. 6.22).
Records: B/W negative SW1085/28, drawing ZN 40/68.[604]
Height = 6.5 cm; max.d. = 9.0 cm;

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

[597] M. Bietak, TD V, 33–34, tomb A/II-n/12-no 4.
[598] As the height of the precinct walls **[M47]** and **[M47a]** remains unknown an axis of visibility cannot be proposed.
[599] A. Stevens, The Material Evidence for Domestic Religion at Amarna and Preliminary Remarks on its Interpretation, *JEA* 89 (2003), 146, shows that the later altars usually have a ramp or steps leading towards it with parapets and are therefore not directly comparable.
[600] Cf. V. Müller, TD XVII, 397.
[601] Drawn into the original plan of square, TD 228.
[602] For the discussion on whether the material called 'alabaster' in the old excavation reports should be termed travertine, calcite or 'alabaster', cf. B.G. Aston, *Ancient Egyptian Stone Vessels*, SAGA 5, Heidelberg 1994, 42–51. Contra D. and R. Klemm, Calcit-Alabaster oder Travertin? Bemerkungen zu Sinn und Unsinn petrographischer Bezeichnungen in der Ägyptologie, *Göttinger Miszellen* 122 (1991), 61–69 consider travertine as unsuitable and prefer 'calcite-alabaster'.
[603] According to plan drawing TD 228.
[604] The sheet with this drawing number is not available in the archive.

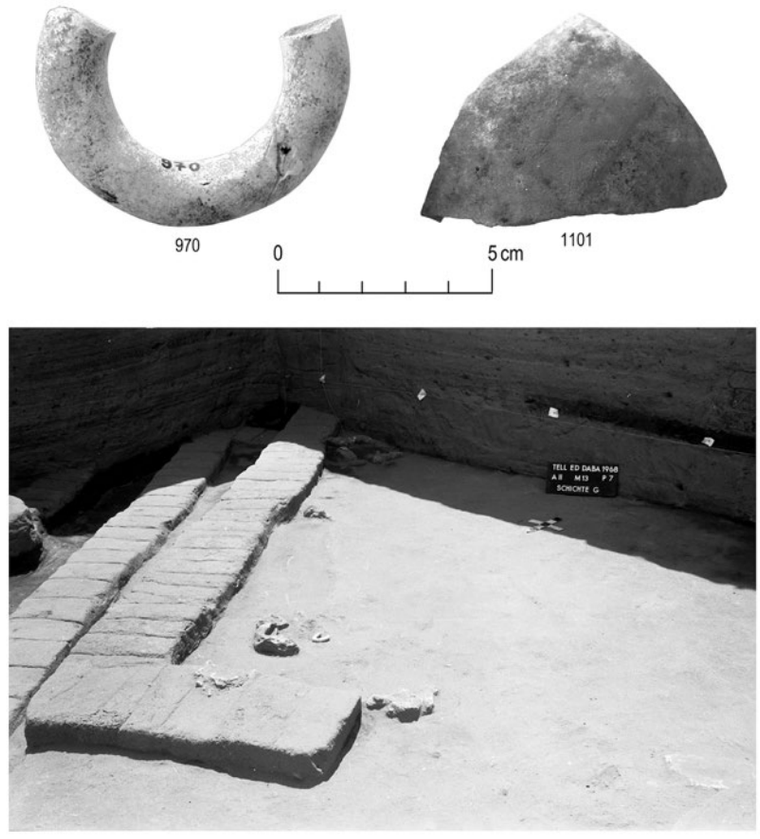


Fig. 6.22 Reg.no 970, SW1088/55; reg.no 1101, 'alabaster vessel', SW1085/28, Find situation in A/II-m/13, pl. 7, space L [129], walls [M73] with later Phase F wall in foreground, and finds, SW1072/69–70

Pottery

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

Animal bones

Position: A/II-m/13, pl. 7.[606] From south-east room deposited on top of floor, stratum f = G.
Cattle: 1 part of skull; 1 part of vertebra; 1 part of humerus (calf); 1 part of radius distal part (calf); 3 parts of carpalia (calf); 1 part of pelvis (calf). The bones were derived from one calf and an adult animal.
Pig: 1 part of upper jaw (young adult).

Distribution of animal bones in **L [129]**

cattle	pig
8	1

Finds below L [129]

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

Stone

Reg.no **1969a**, grinding stone/muller made of a greenish stone (siltstone?). Position: A/II-m/13, south eastern corner of test trench along southern section (Fig. 6.23).
Records: drawing ZN 9/69.[607]
Height = 4.0 cm; max.d. = 2.8 cm

[605] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, A/II-m/13, p. 54, 1968.
[606] J. Boessneck, TD III, 14.
[607] Object was not available for re-study.

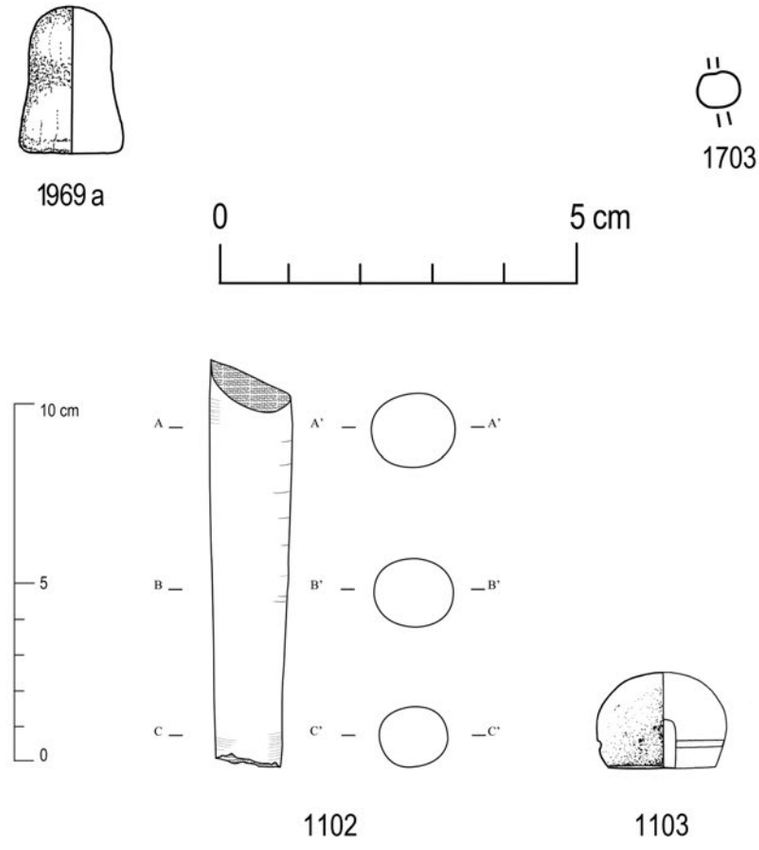


Fig. 6.23 Reg.nos 1969a (ZN 9/69), 1703, 1102 and 1103, scale 1:1 and 1:2

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

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

Reg.no **1703** (KhM, A 1574), faience bead. Position: A/II-m/12–13, 3.3 m/N, H = ca 4.58 m/NN,[608] (Fig. 6.23–6.24).
Records: none available; redrawn and re-recorded.
Height = 0.5 cm; max.d. = 0.6 cm.
Glazing not preserved, only the white core.

L [134] Round installation (silo)

Protruding from the silo just from the western baulk of A/II-m/13 three fragments of pottery were recorded (Fig. 6.25). They were found most probably at a level of ca 4.58 m/NN[609] during dismantling the baulk.

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

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

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

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

Stone

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

608 Level taken from TDplan 228.
609 Elevation taken from TDplan 228.
610 For possible shapes see D. Aston, TD XII/2, real imports and local production: pl. 105–109; 111–119.
611 Cf. D. Aston, TD XII/2, pl. 24.
612 Cf. D. Aston, TD XII/2, pl. 37, 39.
613 Published in B. Bader, Stone Objects, 32–33, fig. 1.d; 2.c–d.

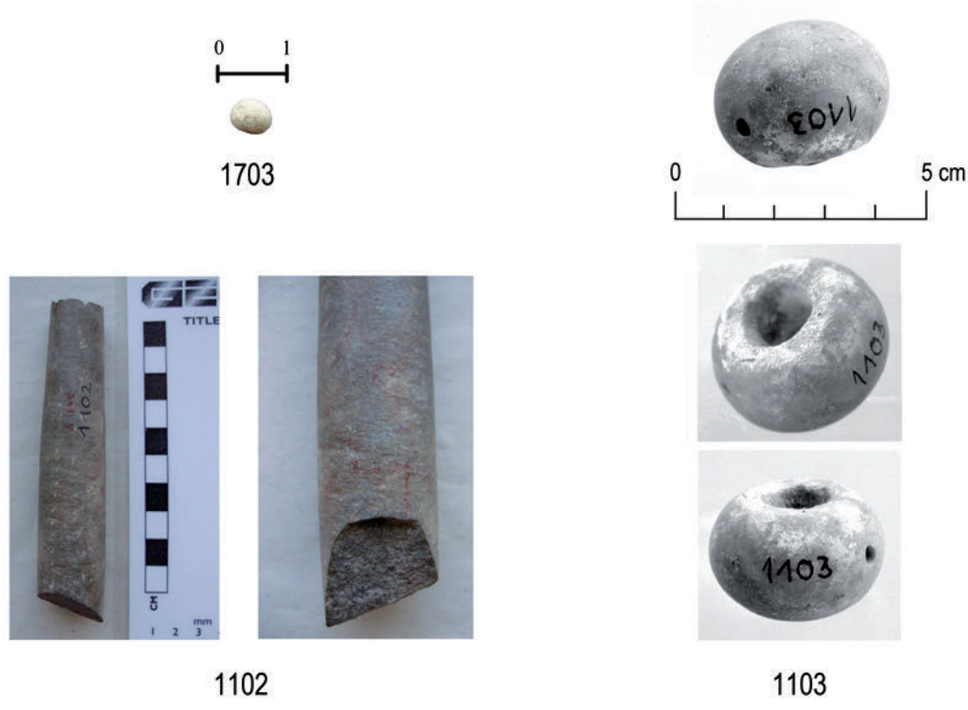


Fig. 6.24 Reg.no 1703, bead, reg.no 1102, object from siltstone, reg.no 1103, pommel of dagger, SW1109/65, SW1103/3, SW1085/32; available objects drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Records: B/W negative SW1085/30; drawing ZN 19c/68, redrawn and re-recorded.
Height = 11.2; diam. = 1.9–2.3;
The material is probably siltstone, a very dense and fine grained stone; traces of red paint on the object; in some places the red paint might constitute an inscription (??); object is very well smoothed and even polished; the object is broken at both ends.

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

Record: B/W negatives S/W1085/32, SW1103/3–5; SW1109/64; drawing: ZN 39/68 and by G. Philip.
Height = 2.7; diameter = 3.7; diameter of socket = 0.9; depth of socket = 1.4.
Sub-globular pommel with transverse piercing for fixture of dagger handle (tang). Material: according to G. Philip's catalogue this pommel consisted of limestone with a polished white surface.[616]

The early date of the object can be ascertained by parallels of similar relative date, cf. reg.no 2481 (A/II-o/13, pl. 6, see 230), and other such objects from Area F/I phases d/2 and d/1.[617]

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

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

[616] It seems that G. Philip saw the piece in Cairo museum.

[617] Cf. G. Philip, TD XV, 56–58. All instances of such pommels were identified by G. Philip as limestone. R. Schiestl, TD XVIII, 405–406, fig. 362.2–3; in tomb F/I-o/17-no 1. Two similar objects were found in this tomb also consisting of 'Kalzit-Alabaster' with similar dimensions, phase d/1 = G/4. R. Schiestl, TD XVIII, 441, fig. 401.1, tomb F/I-p/18-no 1, but this time made of limestone again with similar dimensions, phase d/1 = G/4. R. Schiestl, TD XVIII, 457, fig. 413.1, robber's pit of tomb F/I-p/20, again made from limestone, no date but possibly belonging to the original tomb equipment. No such objects were found in the tombs of area A/II, cf. I. Forstner-Müller, TD XVI, passim; M. Bietak TD V, passim; K. Kopetzky, *Datierung der Gräber der Grabungsfläche F/I von Tell el-Dabᶜa anhand der Keramik*, MA thesis, University of Vienna, 1993, 36, and Catalogue 124–125, fig. 56.5, pommel of dagger with horizontal perforation derived from a robber's pit of tomb F/I-l/20-no 20, stratum b/3–2, dislocated, material limestone. Another pommel of calcite-alabaster/travertine was found in a robber's pit of tomb F/I-k/24-no 49 from stratum c, without drawing. Cf. K. Kopetzky, *Datierung*, Catalogue, 48.

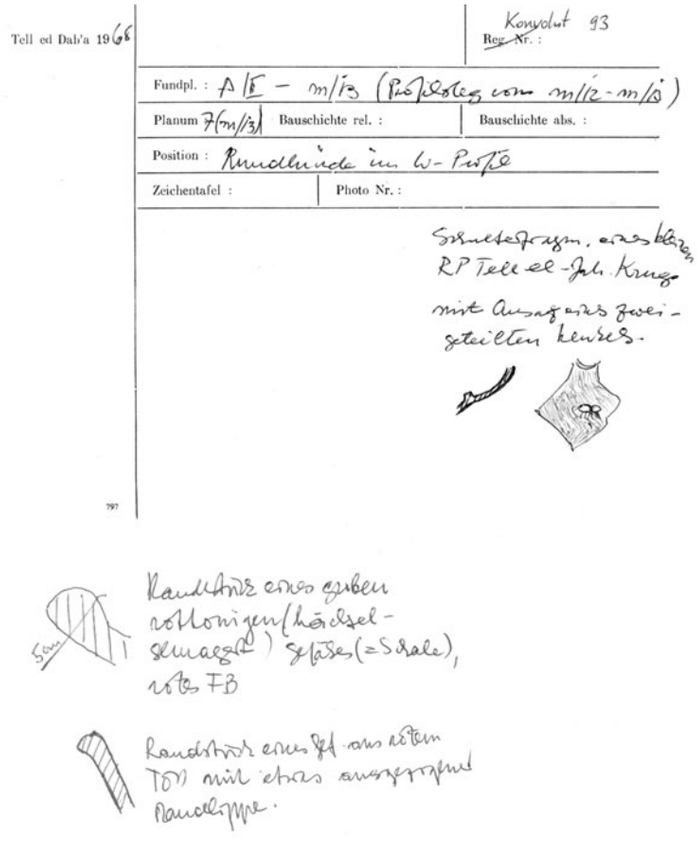


Fig. 6.25 Konvolute card K93 front and back, scale 1:2

Square A/II-n/12

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

The very western part of that square including wall **[M45]** was discussed together with **L [156]** in Compound 12 (see chapter 4, 140). The same holds true for the western section of this square (A59). The phase represented in the published plan[618] is based on planum 5 (Phase G/2–1). There are probably two more (sub) phases below (represented by planum 6, TDplan no 297).

Two thirds of the square (see Fig. 6.1), mainly the eastern part of it, were occupied by several walls. Most prominent is wall **[M52]**, which continues **[M47]** from the northern square A/II-m/12 (see above, 169). It forms the western exterior wall of the compound and **[M52]**, more specifically, forms the western exterior wall of Building/Room 2. It is noteworthy that this wall is not running straight but with a considerable curve, especially in the southern part. Moreover, this wall also continues into the next square south A/II-o/12, where it is called **[M56]** and **[M75]**. It remains unclear if this "wall" was planned and built in one phase as one wall or if several stretches of it were built at different times and formed the "long wall" in the end. The base level of **[M52]** in the north where it enters square A/II-n/12 is at an elevation of about 4.66 m/NN, whilst it is at ca 4.70 m/NN in the southern part of the square, where it leaves it again. Whilst it seems that the first perpendicular wall, branching off to the east **[M49]** was just attached to wall **[M47/M52]** without really bonding into it, the next major

[618] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

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

Wall **[M50]** abuts **[M54]** at about 3.0 m and runs to the north much straighter than the 'parallel' wall **[M52]**, which results in a trapezoidal and irregular lay-out for this building/room. The square footage of Building/Room 2 (= **L [137]**) is about 18 m², the average brick sizes of the heavily sand tempered bricks are 0.35–0.38 m by 0.18–0.22 m by 0.08–0.10 m high.[619] As the north-eastern corner of Building/Room 2 was not preserved it remains unclear where exactly the entrance/door was situated, but most probably in the northern part of wall **[M50]** providing a bent axis approach. It appears unlikely that the building/room was made inaccessible intentionally due to burial Tomb A/II-n/12-no 4 (see below, 196–198) that was laid out inside **L [137]** behind the short wall **[M53]** perpendicular to **[M52]**, which consisted of half brick's width, only four bricks lined up one after another as headers. It is unclear if the wall was as high as the outer walls or if it was just a screen at about half height. No information as to how high it was preserved comes forward, from experience probably only a brick course or two. The floor level was at about 4.54 m/NN inside **L [137]**, whilst the alleyway to the east of it was considerably higher at ca 5.00 m/NN, which is a normal development in a settlement.[620] No direct exit/entrance from Building/Room 2 onto the alleyway was identified, thus, the difference in floor levels would not have mattered. It follows that access to this part of the compound would have been through wall **[M47]** (see Fig. 6.2, 6.5) and then via courtyard **L [136]** from the north or via a gap between walls **[M54]** and **[M55]** through space **L [141]** from the south. In this area some animal bones were found (see below, 202).

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

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

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

Sarcophagus made from limestone[624]

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

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619 Measured in the sections, scale 1:20.

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

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

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

623 M. Bietak, TD V, 33–34.

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

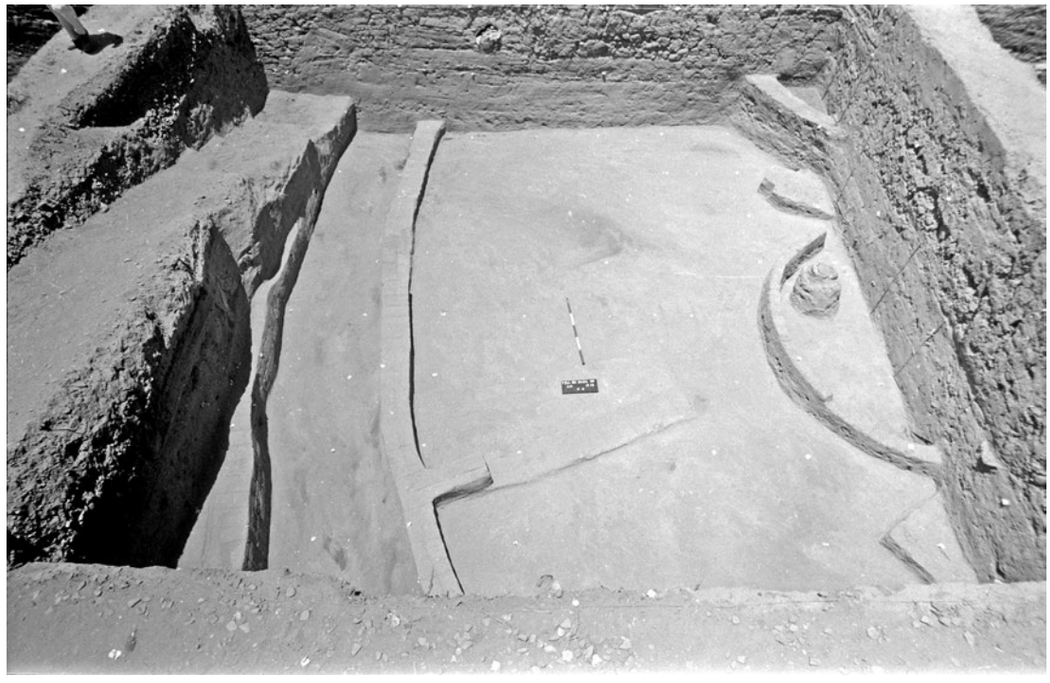


Fig. 6.26 A/II-n/12, pl. 4, view to north with wall [M51] just appearing in the fore ground, SW1093/7. Silo and finds as well as corners of walls coming out of eastern baulk (on the right side of photo) are later than Phase G/2–1. The screen wall [M53] is very faintly visible southwest (below on the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



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



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

Internal dimensions of case: length = 1.69 m; width = 0.3 m; height = 0.34 m;
Dimensions of lid: max. length (with protruding boss) = 1.89 m; length without boss = 1.81 m; width 0.4 m; thickness of lid = 0.05 m;
The sarcophagus was not very well smoothed in the interior (see Fig. 6.31.c–d), the lid was only very slightly vaulted, it showed a set off border on the outside at a distance of ca 2–3 cm from the long edges and ca 5 cm from the short edges. The lid is also slightly domed on the inside, but broken into many fragments.
The burial goods consisted of a necklace of 105 carnelian and terracotta beads, as well as an elongated faience bead with four grooves on each side (Fig. 6.30). Beside the head a *koḥl* pot served as a burial gift.

An offering was laid down at the head end of the pit dug for the sarcophagus at 6.20 m/N and 3.70 m/E,[625] although no separate pit for the vessel was detected. The vessel was deposited outside the area limited by the thin wall **[M53]** for the tomb. The pot with reg.no **1701** served as traces of a burial cult (in a 'minimal' offering pit) at a distance of about 0.40 m from the head end of the burial.[626]

Finds within sarcophagus

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

2.) Reg.no **1699** (KhM, A 1770), *koḥl* pot, redrawn, 'travertine', calcite. At the rim there are clear traces of drilling. The contents were white and of similar consistence to gypsum (content analysed[627]). Half of the vessel was eroded (through water logging inside the sarcophagus? or other influences?). The lid is also half eroded away.

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

[626] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968, p. 49; V. Müller, TD XVII/2, 239–240.

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

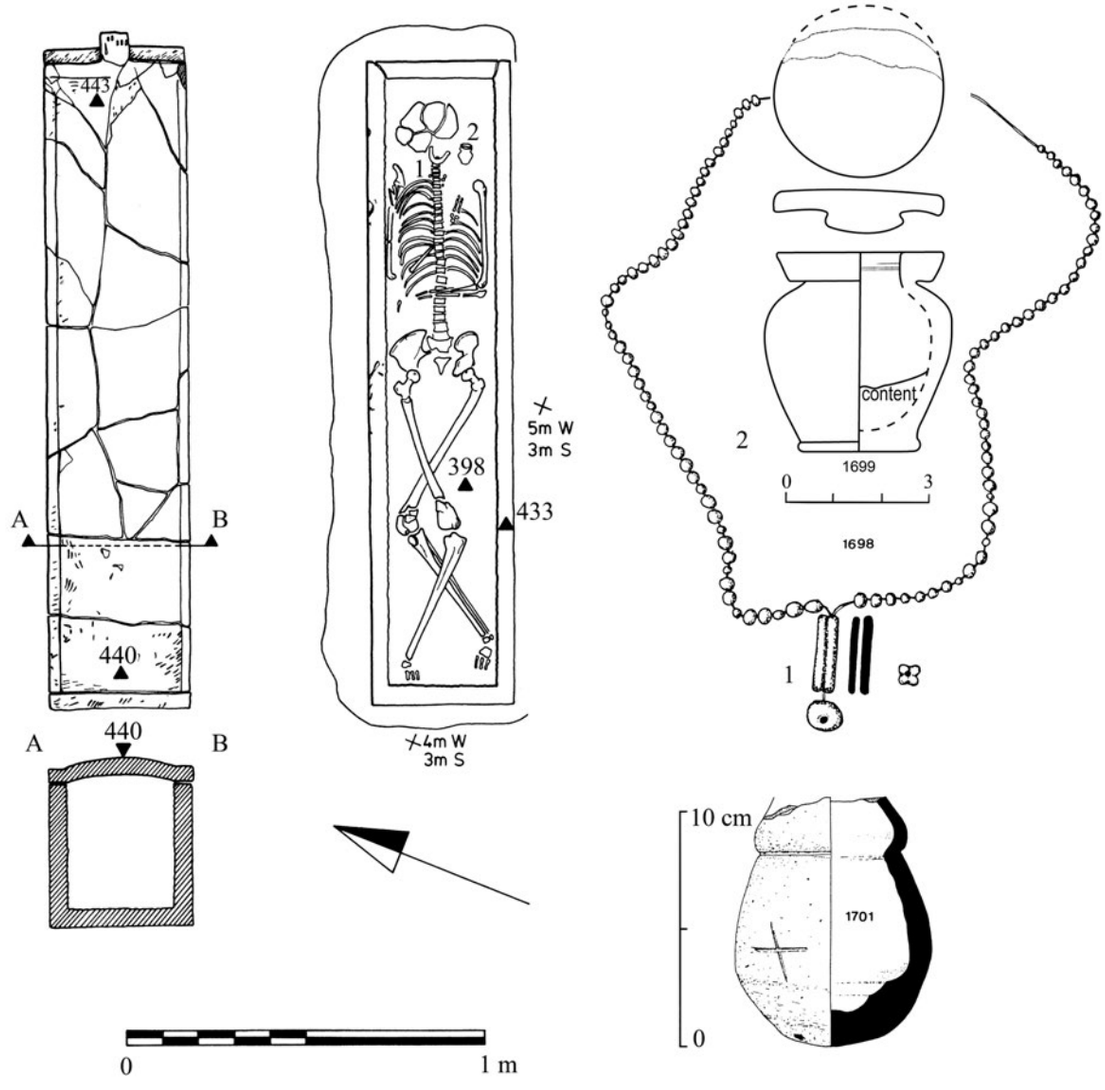


Fig. 6.29 Tomb A/II-n/12-no 4, after M. Bietak, TD V 33–34 with new drawing of 1699

Vessel: rd.(e) = 3.50, nd. = 2.4, max.d. = 3.9, bd. = 2.4, H1 = 4.2;
Lid: height: 0.95, diam. = 3.6

Outside of the sarcophagus:

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

Records: B/W negative SW1112/7–8, drawing ZN 132/68, redrawn[629] and re-studied.

RF	I-b-2	mi.	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2

Neckd. = 6.0; max.d. = 8.6; H1 = 10.5 +x; (Base: 100% preserved).

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

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

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

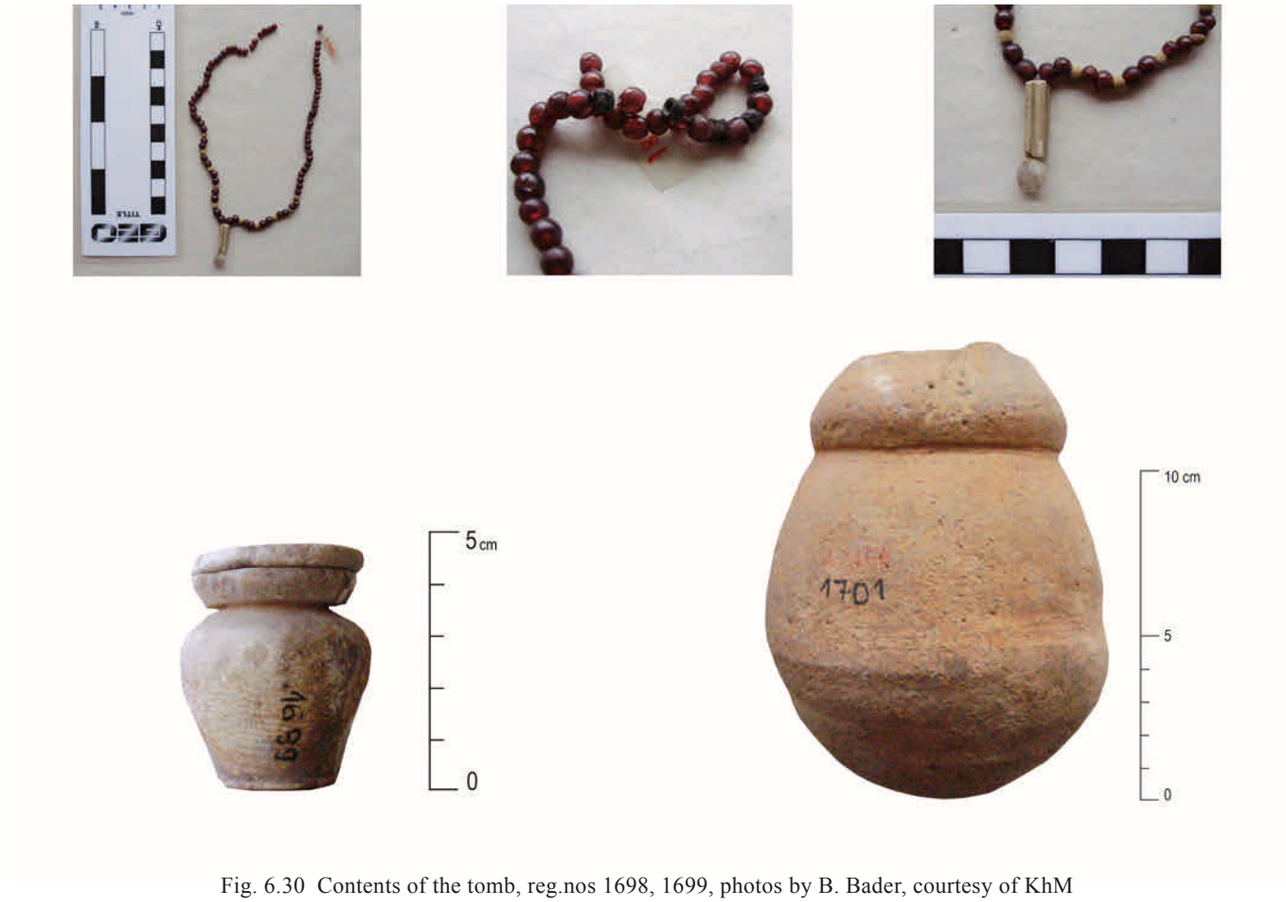


Fig. 6.30 Contents of the tomb, reg.nos 1698, 1699, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

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

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

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

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

[630] J. Boessneck, TD III, 16.

[631] According to the plan drawing TD 300.

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

To the east of Building/Room 2 (= **L [137]**) a space, presumably open[632] extends, **L [136]**. It is limited by the eastern wall of Building/Room 2, the continuation of **[M51]**, namely **[M54]**, **[M55]** and **[M61]** as well as by **[M48]**. There may have been a wall parallel to those (**[M54]**, **[M55]** and **[M61]**), which might have been destroyed at one stage, perhaps by the silos in the north of the compound. No finds were reported from this area, only a vessel was drawn into the plan which rises to a height of 4.94 m/NN. Presumably it represented the lower part of a vessel, but it was not mentioned otherwise. It was left on a pedestal as the photo (see Fig. 6.27, top edge on the right) shows. It may have belonged to a hearth/brazier installation in the same location, because the plan drawing and the photo show large amounts of burning activity and ash distribution.[633] A lot of ashy layers were found in these areas as well.

South of Building/Room 2 utilizing wall **[M51]** Building/Room 3 (= **L [139]**) is situated. The shape of this room is more regular than Building/Room 2 and almost rectangular. Again the walls were only one brick's width wide and laid out as alternating headers and stretchers. They were not well preserved. The baulk[634] between A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12 prevents us from knowing where the entrance to this unit was situated. Positioning of the entrance/doorway would be possible either in the western exterior wall **[M56]** (the continuation of **[M52]**) or in the southern part of wall **[M58]** and at this stage no evidence exists to prefer one solution over the other. Judging from oriental settlement layouts[635] it seems perhaps a little more likely to suspect an entrance from the eastern side of the building and not directly from the alleyway. This building also stretches further south into square A/II-o/12 and shows a floor level of about 4.50 m/NN, very similar to that of Building/Room 2. The overall size (interior measurements) of this unit is about 13.92–15.84 m² or 49.5–54 square cubits. The internal measurements of the buildings fit remarkably well with Egyptian cubits.[636] The floors consisted of ashy layers.

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

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/12[637])

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

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

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

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

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

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

636 Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

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

638 Base level at 5.10 m/NN.

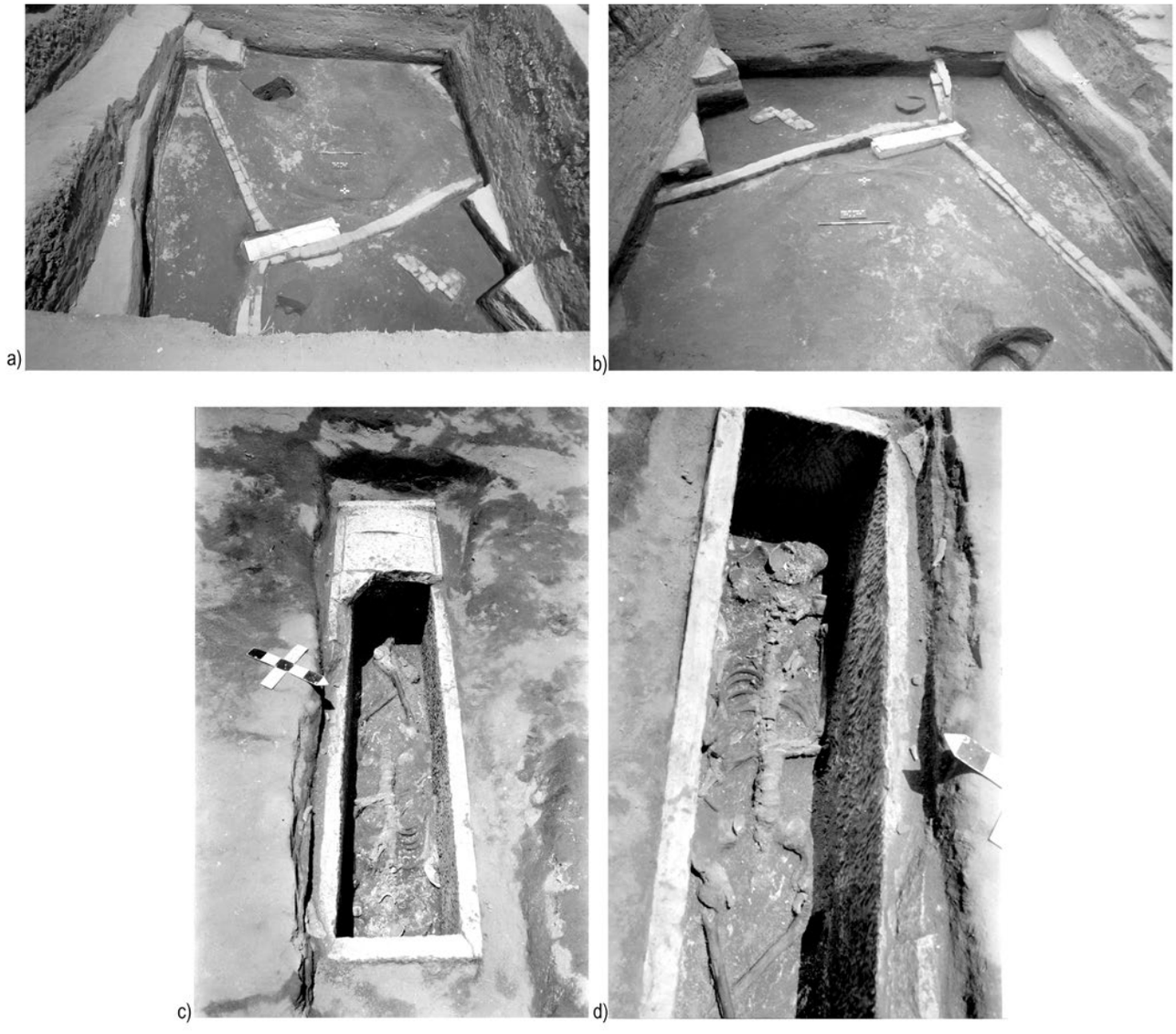


Fig. 6.31 A/II-n/12, pl. 5–6. a) The limestone sarcophagus cutting into the earlier walls of pl. 6, floor level not yet reached, SW1097/36. b) The limestone sarcophagus cutting into the earlier walls of pl. 6, top exposed with lid still *in situ*, note the pit from the surface in the foreground (cf.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

was about 5 courses high preserved, which is unusual for such a thin wall. There seems to have been no equivalent wall across **L [116]** indicating that at this time that no building had existed to the east. Several finely laminated ash and sand layers, ca 0.3 m deep (section nos A17-74 and A17-76), run obliquely over an older wall (**[G/4-M28]**, see below) suggesting some time elapsing until on top of those layers wall **[M52]** was founded at a base level of 4.65 m/NN. These layers run all the way to the east of the northern section without hitting any walls. The thoroughfare **L [116]** is nicely exemplified by overlying sequences of packs of finely stratified layers of sand, ash and some silty lenses, which might derive from very broken up mud-brick. Such layers connect walls **[G/3-M51]** and the lower part of **[M52]** and **[M45]** with the upper part of **[M52]**. On top of that there are still more such layers suggesting that even after Phase G/2–1 a thorough-fare was in place here. They consist of sandy and ashy layers as well and abut **[M48]** (= section no A17-78a). Walls **[M52]** and **[M49]** (= section no A17-67a and b, running metres 3.0 to 5.20 from west) were built on top of these layers and are therefore later than these. Their base

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

The eastern section (A85, drawn in 1968) was exposed to an elevation of ca 4.40 m/NN and the walls visible in the plan of Phase G/2–1 can be easily identified. They are marked with section nos A85-50a (between running metres 5.0 and 6.0 from north) and A85-50b (between running metres 6.0 and 7.0 from north) in the section and represent **[M55]** and **[M59]**, respectively. They were very badly preserved, only four brick courses high and in a state of being almost denuded (up to an elevation of 4.80 m/NN). Wall **[M59]** appears too wide in the section (wider than a metre), but this may be due to the fact that only just the top of the wall is drawn into the plan and that it would have to be reconstructed one brick's width wide. In addition it was cut by the section in an oblique angle. Their base level is at about 4.40 m/NN. An older phase was also documented in section nos A85-56a (= **[G/4-M31]** and A85-56b (= **[G/4-M29]**), which were assigned to Phase H due to the ash layer. They are situated at running metres 3.0 and 5.0 counting from north and only their preserved tops were reached but not their base level. Between those two a series of finely layered floors were found the last sandy layer running over the walls mark the end of both their use life. Because of their elevation they were rather assigned to G/4 than to H. Scant remains of a sand tempered mud-brick wall without section no can be found at running metre 2.20 from north, which probably is to be identified with **[G/4-M30]**. Remarkable are larger deposits of ash (section nos A85-55 in the north of the section and no A85-53 in the southern part), which were probably derived from domestic activity. On this ash layer the buildings of Phase G/2–1 were built (walls **[M55]** (= A85-50a) and **[M59]** (= A85-50b)). Beside these few walls there were many thinly distributed layers of ash, sand and earth (A85-49). As they ran over the preserved tops of the Phase G/2–1 walls, they already belong to the next phase, F.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

L [137] Building/Room 2

Stone

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

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

L [139] Building/Room 3

Small Finds

Reg.no **1464** (KhM, A 1382), pendant of mother of pearl. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 4–5, from ashy layer; in room directly north of southern baulk, Level G (Fig. 6.32–6.33).
Records: B/W negative SW1107/26, SW1134/3–4; ZN 108/68, redrawn and re-recorded.
Length = 4.45; width = 3.5; thickness = 0.3 cm.

Reg.no **1700** (KhM, A 3217), bone awl. Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 5, from ashy layer; in room directly north of southern baulk, Level G (Fig. 6.32–6.33).
Redrawn and re-recorded. No traces of use have been detected. The object is probably a fin ray of a fish.[643]
Length = 5.6 + x; width = 0.8;

L [141] Space between two rooms

Animal bones

Position: A/II-n/12, pl. 5, 4.50 m/S; 0.8 m/E; H = 4.60 m/NN, in sand tempered mud-brick wall close to eastern section, below pottery sherds (cf. TDplan 302/no 27).
Cattle: 1 fragment of vert. thor.; 1 fragment of os sacrum; 1 distal part of femur; adult animal; minimum no of individuals 1.[644]

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

Pottery

Only a few pottery finds were recorded from this square.

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

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

[641] See also in the plan Fig. 6.1.
[642] M. Bietak, TD V, 33.
[643] Cf. chapter 2, 57–58, 1702 a, b and personal communication G.K. Kunst.
[644] J. Boessneck, TD III, 16. Cf. eastern section of A/II-n/12 no 50.
[645] As no find sketch was included on the card, identification is impossible.

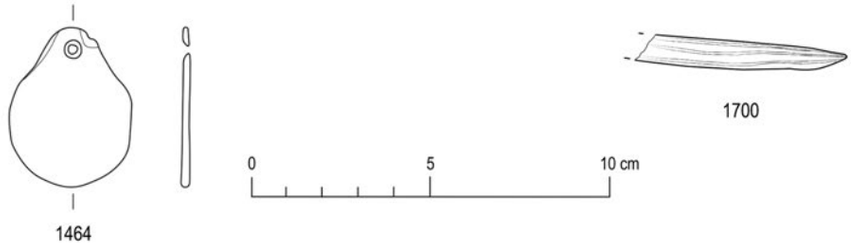


Fig. 6.32 Reg.no 1464, pendant of mother and pearl; reg.no 1700, bone awl, scale 1:2, redrawn by B. Bader

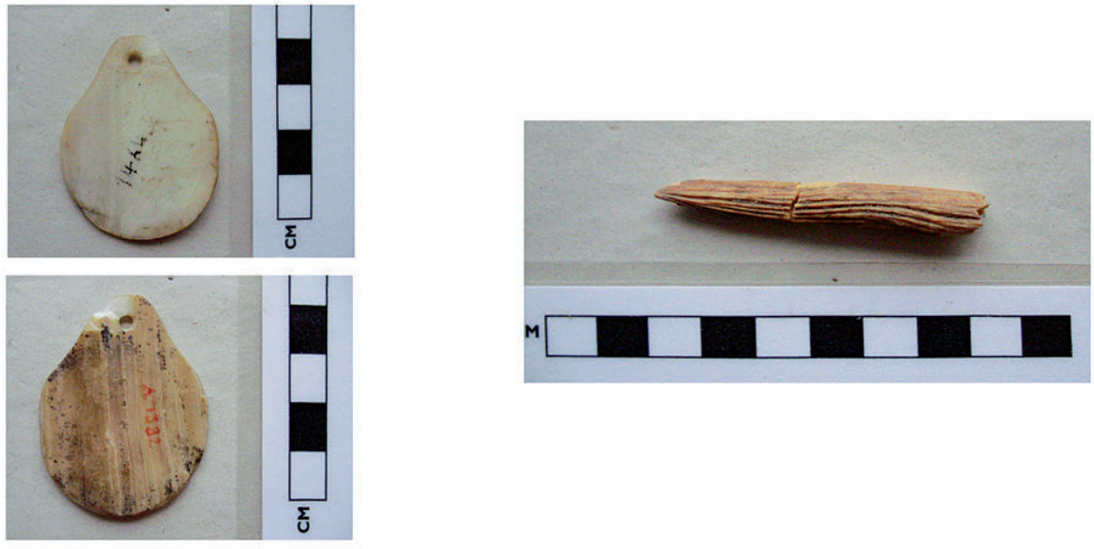


Fig. 6.33 Reg.no 1464, pendant of mother and pearl; reg.no 1700, bone awl, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

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

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

The grinder made of 'granite' with a diameter of ca 6.0 cm seems to come from a not more closely defined location within the square. It is possible that it came from **L [137]**, where a quern was situated (see plan, Fig. 6.1 and **L [137]**, 194) and several more were mentioned in the digging diary, but as on the back of the card again a grinder is mentioned, it is perhaps one and the same coming from the pit from the surface. The photo (Fig. 6.35) shows the object to the left of the sherd.

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

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

[646] J. Boessneck, TD III, 14.

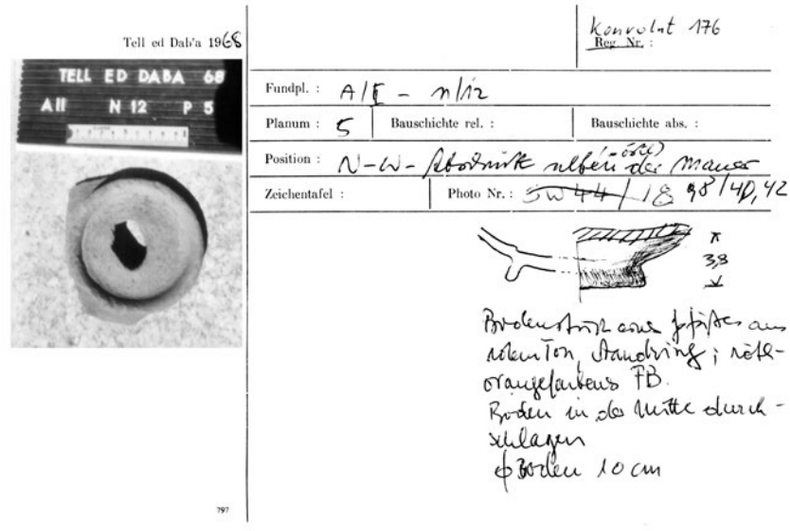


Fig. 6.34 Konvolute card K176, photo SW1098/42, scale approx. 1:2

Finally there is material from a pit in the north-western part of the square. In this part there is a pit coming from the surface down into even planum 6[647] and the material indeed indicates a mixed date with a late handle, possible dating to the Graeco-Roman period (top left in the photo Fig. 6.36).

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

Square A/II-o/12

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

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

The walls of Building/Room 3 continue into square A/II-o/12: **[M56]** and **[M58]**. The building method of a wall laid out in a double row of headers forming a wall of one brick's width is clearly a continuation **[M56]**,[649] whilst **[M58]** is just visible in the northern section (provisional section no A22-30b) as it ends about where the baulk ends. According to current knowledge the baulk was not taken down to document this structure (or at least not down to that level). The presence of wall **[M58]** in the baulk where it should appear provided the basis for the reconstruction of plan 2.[650] A single course of heavily sand tempered bricks just visible in the very north of the eastern section (section no A86-56a) most probably represents the preserved top of wall **[M57]** at an elevation of about 4.60 m/NN. It seems quite certain that the bricks visible in the northern section (provisional section no A22-30b) belong to this phase and the corner of **[M58]** and **[M57]** because the preserved top of those mud-bricks is at an elevation of about 4.72 m/NN whilst the **[M58]** shows a height of 4.78 m/NN just a little north. The northern part of the doorway of Building/Room 3 therefore seems to have been just before the southern section of A/II-n12 and the southern part

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

[648] Cf. D.A. Aston, TD XII/1, fig. 86–88.

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

[650] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

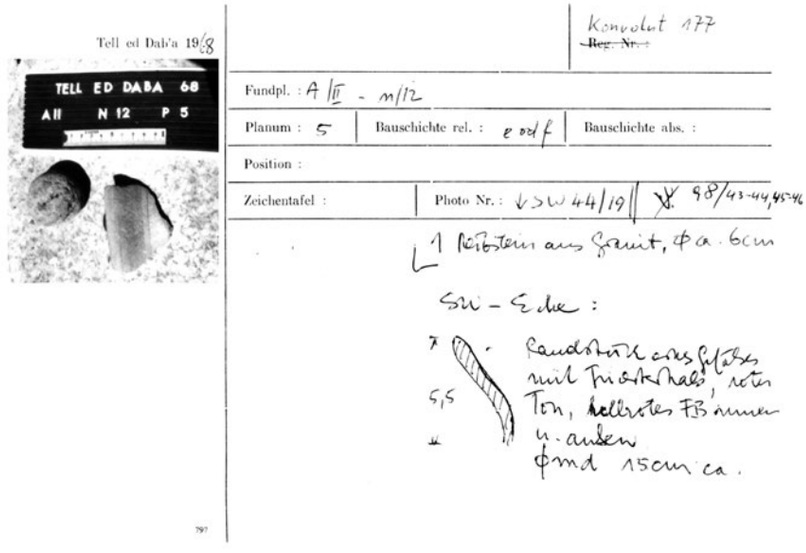


Fig. 6.35 Konvolute card K177, photo SW1098/44, scale approx. 1:2

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

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

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

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-o/12[651])

The northern section (A22, drawn in 1969) is relevant to both Compounds 13 (see chapter 7, 234) and 12. Located between running metres 5.00 and 6.00 from west is wall **[M56]** (= provisional section no A22-26[652]) with a base level of ca 4.75 m/NN. It seems to have been reinforced by another thinner wall (provisional section no A22-27), both of them were preserved only three courses high. Below that wall and slightly shifted towards the west at running metres 4.70 to 5.00 from west is an older wall (provisional section no A22-30a = **[G/4-M40]**[653]) which had fallen out of use and was overlaid by several sandy and humic layers before wall **[M56]** was built on top of all

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

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

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

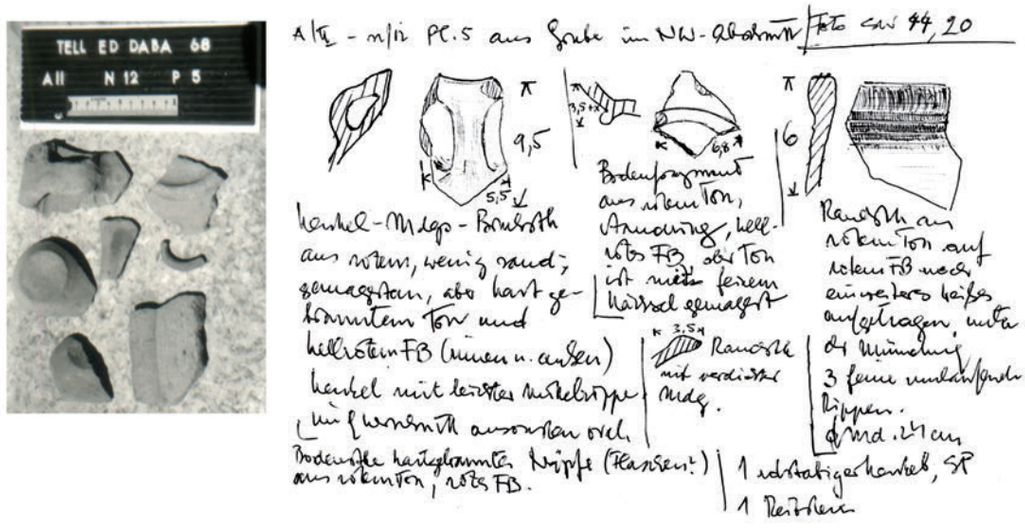


Fig. 6.36 Konvolute card K177, photo SW1044/20, scale approx. 1:2

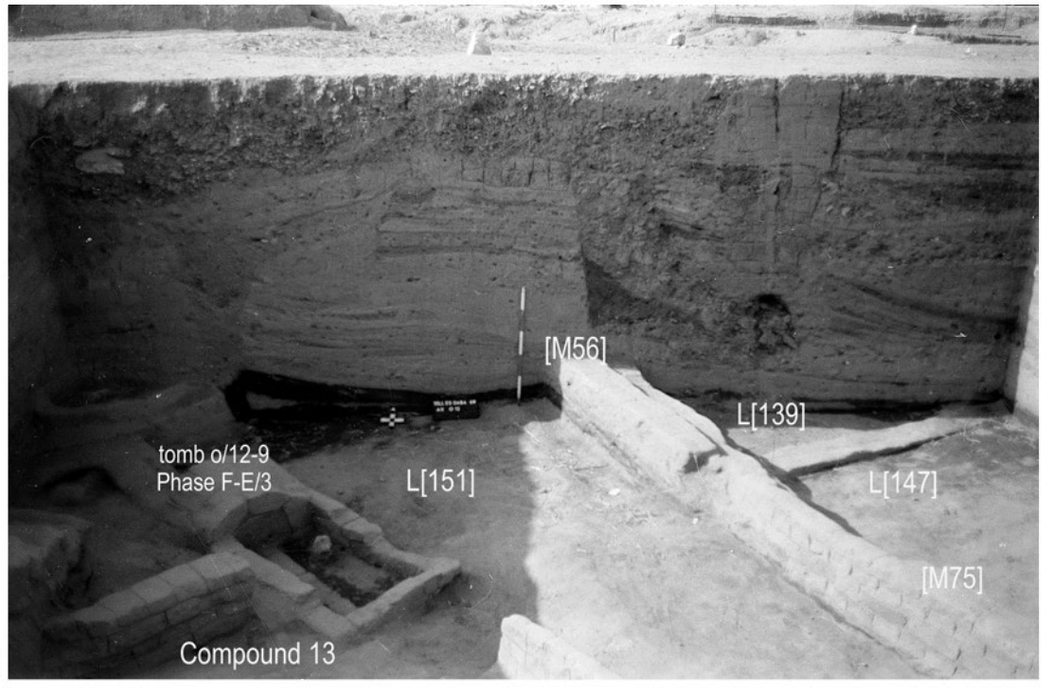
of that. It is very likely that the boundaries of the precincts or compounds, like in several occasions before (see 146, 199) remained basically the same with only some minor shifts. The depositional layers nos A22-28, A22-32, and A22-33 (provisional section nos, between running metres 2.50 and 5.00 m from west) were composed of ash, sand and charcoal forming the deposits on the alleyway **L [151]** that turns into **L [116]** in A/II-n/12. They begin at the lowest excavated elevation at 4.40 m/NN and continue to about 5.00 m/NN. It is noteworthy that at the eastern edge of wall **[M45]**, the boundary of Compound 11, a deep hole was dug from the surface, not shown in Fig. 6.1. The layers east of wall **[M56]** extending to wall **[M58]** in the very eastern corner of the square can be addressed as the interior fill of the Building/Room 3 (= **L [139]** = provisional section no A22-28). They consist mostly of sandy layers with some ash lenses in between. Only the very top of **[M58]** was recorded in the section at running metre 9.0 from west with a base level of below 4.60 m/NN.

The eastern section (A86, drawn in spring 1969) was exposed to an elevation of about 4.50 m/NN and records only two walls with an elevation relevant for the late Middle Kingdom settlement: in the very northern corner one sand tempered brick of the corner of **[M57]/[M58]** (= section no A86-56a) and **[M75]** (= section no A86-50, between running metres 8.0 and 9.0 from the north). Between these walls, densely layered and compacted walking floors of sandy earth (= section no A86-49) were deposited. These layers cover the remains of Phase G/2–1 and G/3 (section nos A86-54, A86-53, A86-51, A86-55 and the walls **[M75]**, **[M57/58]** and **[G/3-M48]** immediately below **[M75]**) and probably mark the end of it. The vertical reach of Phase G/2–1 extends from an elevation of 4.80 m/NN in the north to about 5.20 m/NN in the southern part of the section. It probably represents a period of use as a thoroughfare or open-air activity area. It is likely that wall section no A86-56a belongs to Phase G/2–1 **[M58]**, whilst it seems that wall section no A86-56b (below section no A86-50 = **[M75]**) represents an older phase **[G/3-M48]**. Because the base level (below 4.50 m/NN) was not reached it remains impossible to be certain. The layers between walls with section nos A86-56a and A86-50 probably represent deposits laid down in an open space/courtyard, although the deep thick ashy layer extending from running metre 3.50 to 8.00 indicates either destruction or massive domestic activity of hearths/ovens. It becomes deeper (up to 0.4 m) towards the south against wall **[M75]** as if blown together by wind. I tend to prefer the second possibility because these ashy deposits do not overlie all the earlier building remains in a thick layer and no burnt bricks are reported. In some places there are no ashy accumulations at all. Whilst this could be explained with a period of the land lying fallow and the ashes being distributed by winds (aeolian distribution), this does not seem entirely convincing.

The southern section (A45, drawn in 1969) relates mostly to Compound 13 in the south west of the square and is described in detail there (see chapter 7, 214). Relevant for Compound 12 are the finely layered depositions of ash, sand and loamy ‘floors’



a)



b)

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

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

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

Square A/II-n/13

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

Compound 12 continues towards the east with Buildings/Rooms 4 and 5. The northern wall of Building/Room 4 seems to be a continuation of walls **[M54]** and **[M55**] by means of wall **[M61]**, against which the other two walls **[M60]** and **[M63]** were built. The plans do not allow a firm decision whether these walls were bonded to that northern wall rather than just abutting it, although the former seems more likely. The corner of **[M60]** and **[M61]** is almost completely cut away by a later tomb. It is possible that the small space between **L [140]** and **L [142]** (= Building/Room 4) was also a closed space **L [141]**, but the area where a wall may have been situated was badly disturbed by two later tombs (A/II-n/12-no 7; A/II-n/13-no 10, both dating to Phase E/3). If **L [141]** and **L [142]** belonged to one and the same structure, it might be reconstructed as a rectangular house with two rooms.[654] Within Building/Room 4 a circular pit was found, filled with ash and pieces of charcoal **L [143]**. This feature may have represented a simple hearth. The floors around were very ashy as well except in the northwest corner of Room 4 (= **L [142]**). There a spread of sandy layers extended in an almost square shape **L [142a]**. Close to the northern wall **[M61]** a single sand tempered mud-brick reinforces that wall as a buttress/pilaster or was part of a wall or of an installation. Unfortunately tomb A/II-n/13-no 8 cut away this part of **[M61]**, so that it is impossible to know the original layout. The internal dimensions of Building/Room 4 measure about 3.95 m by 3.0 m, resulting in a square footage of ca 12 m². In cubits the measurement is exactly 7.5 by 5.75 cubits (43.125 square cubits). The location of the door opening was most likely in the southern or western walls, which were disturbed by tomb A/II-n/13-no 10.[655] From the original plan it seems that the (refuse) pit partly in front of the building, partly inside it, **L [142b]** (Fig. 6.39), does not actually cut into wall **[M62]**,[656] but seems to lie below it (see also photo, Fig. 6.41). Several pottery vessels and fragments thereof were found there and they seem to fit the phase well without any intrusion from above (see for the finds below, 215). The depth of this pit given in the plan 1:50 is about 0.30 m.[657]

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

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

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

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

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

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

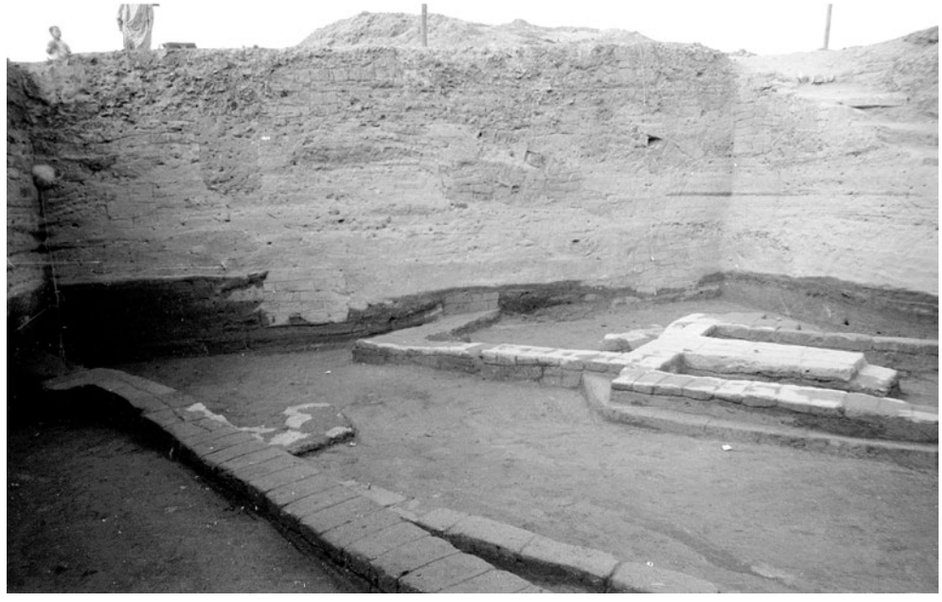


Fig. 6.38 A/II-o/12, pl. 7, view towards south, southern section, SW1176/8. The section shows finely layered depositions in south eastern corner (left corner of photo), where the alleyway L [151] is recorded. On the right side of the photo the walls of Phases G/3 and G/4

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

It seems that the back wall of Building/Room 5, **[M67]**, was built directly against the back of wall **[M64]** belonging to Building/Room 1 in A/II-m/13 and continues into A/II-n/13 (see Fig. 6.1). This latter wall is not very well preserved and a deposit of bones **L [146]** (Fig. 6.40.b) seems to overlay that wall or they were laid down in a pit cutting into this wall, which would make the contents of the pit later than the use of the feature. The top view of that pit or deposit does not bring more clarity into the matter as neither the bricks nor the surroundings were drawn in.[660] Another possibility would be that the back wall was never built completely across (as it was backed by **[M64]** anyway) and thus a niche was formed (Fig. 6.40.a). Three fragmentary bricks within the accumulation of animal bones visible in the plan render this unlikely (Fig. 6.40.a). Thus, it has to be assumed that the bone accumulation cannot be dated to the period of use of Building/Room 5 but afterwards (perhaps to Phase F). Yet another possibility of reconstruction may be that a door between **L [130]** and **L [145]** connected the space west of Building/Room 1 constituted by the only partially preserved wall **[M69]** in A/II-m/13. In this case the three bricks visible in the pit/deposition with the bones might belong to a threshold. In this case the bones may constitute contemporary rubbish, which is a point exemplified by the diversity of the species. The base levels of the walls of Building/Room 5 are at an elevation of about 4.50–4.60 m/NN as visible in the northern section (section no A17-35), the eastern section (section no A90-28) and a base level that was taken in the southern part of wall **[M65]** at 4.61 m/NN. Inside Building/Room 5 a brick platform/dais/altar (?) was also found, **L [145a]**. The square feature measured 0.80 m on each side, representing 1.5 cubits. The sand

[658] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 26 June 1968, p. 66.

[659] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

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

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

To the north of Buildings/Rooms 4 and 5 a small part of Building/Room 1 mainly situated in square A/II-m/13 extends into this square. The former may have been an annexe of the latter building, perhaps with a roof. Walls **[M48]** and **[M64]** were connected to wall **[M76]**. There seems to be a join between **[M76]** and **[M64]**, so that a building sub-phase might be distinguished. There seems to have been no wall in the north delimiting **L [131]** so that a relatively wide opening of 3.0 m existed there. The distance between walls **[M48]** and **[M69]** might have been bridged by some roofing construction. In the south-western corner of this space a platform/bench had been built **L [135]**. It had an approximately square shape but of irregular brick pattern with a length of ca 1.0 m on each side. The building technique was not very sophisticated the mud-bricks not being laid in a discernible pattern, but rather higgledy-piggledy. The sand tempered mud-bricks were of irregular size, perhaps some of them were reused for the building of the platform (size: 0.25–0.30 × 0.18 m[664]). The platform elevation sealed a small rounded pit **L [135a]**, but no finds were reported from there. About 0.5 m to the east of the square platform another possible installation was built, also from sand tempered mud-bricks. At the eastern limit of the 'installation' a very thin skin wall ran towards the north.[665] A large part of this space **L [131]** was unfortunately destroyed by two later tombs dated to Phase E/3.[666]

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

Also located in this space **L [147]** is an empty tomb[667] (Fig. 6.42), which projected from the southern baulk and it was assigned to Phase G/3–1, mainly because the pit into which the bricks were set, cut through the ash layer sealing Phase H.[668] The rim of the pit is situated at an elevation that may reasonably be assigned to Phase G/3–1 or early F (4.60 m/NN) due to its stratigraphic position. Except for parts of a cattle rib nothing else was found inside. The brick rubble from the chamber was covered by an ashy layer of ca 20 cm depth.[669] In the plan published in *Tell el-Dabᶜa V* the feature was shown as tomb A/II-n/13 no 11.[670] The flat appearance of the "roof" or vault might be due to deformation by the weight of the overlaying layers.[671] The detailed drawing (TDplan no 314) also shows a rectangular feature, which may have constituted a tomb chamber. The interior width of ca 0.6 m of the chamber is narrower that the usual width of tombs, but an unused or robbed child's tomb is possible as interpretation.[672] The baulk was not taken down

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

[662] M. Bietak, TD V, 34.

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

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

[665] It has been added in Fig. 6.1.

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

[667] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 26 June 1968, p. 66, numbered as tomb 11.

[668] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968, p. 67a, "Sandziegelkasten".

[669] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968, p. 69.

[670] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2. It is not described in the text of TD V, passim.

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

[672] M. Bietak, personal communication 21 July 2017.

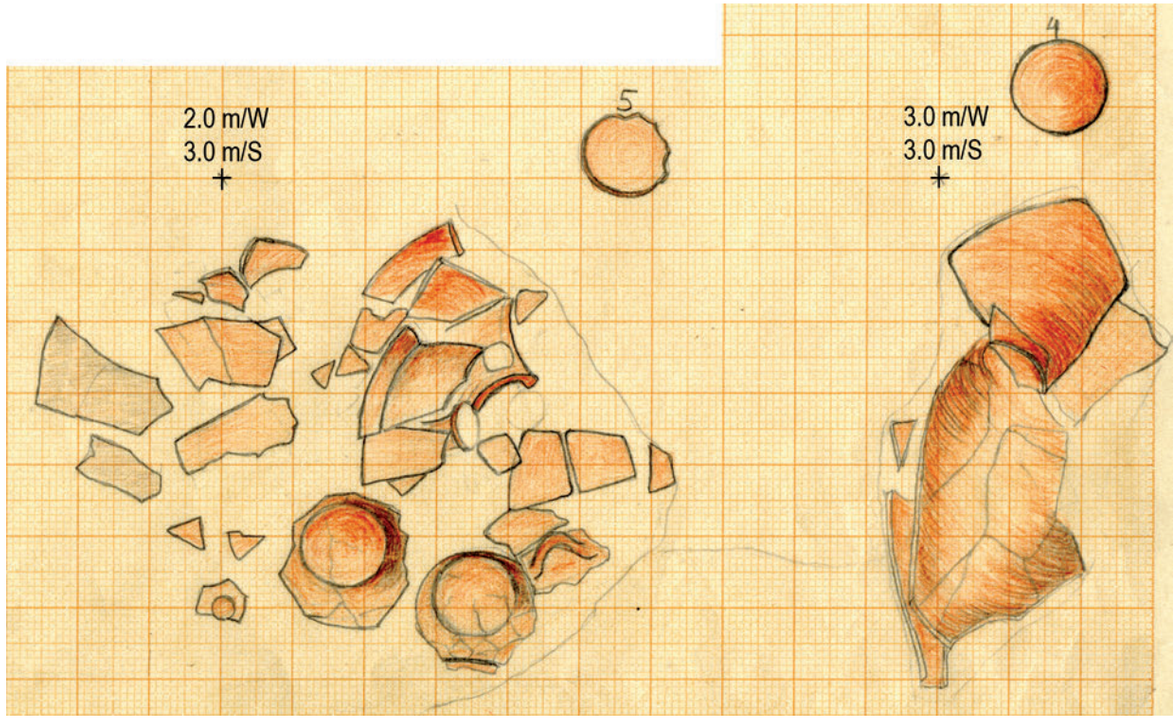


Fig. 6.39 A/II-n/13, pl. 6, detail L [142b] (TDplan 311), scale 1:10. Drawing by K. Hegedüs

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

The open space/courtyard **L [147]** also continues towards the south west, just in front of Building/Room 3 in square A/II-o/12 (cf. above, 199). The ashy layers continue there, but no finds were recorded from this area delimited by wall **[M75]**. Wall **[M75]** runs from the south western corner of Building/Room 3 in south eastern direction towards **[M77]** in square A/II-o/13. Whether these two walls met or not, could not be ascertained because the baulks were not taken down, due to time restraints in 1969 after which excavations were resumed in other areas. Both walls were only one brick's width wide, whilst **[M75]** was re-enforced by two buttresses or 'pilasters', which were bonded into the wall. The other – curved – wall **[M77]** is lacking this feature. Whether their base levels were approximately the same or even similar (A86, eastern section of A/II-o/12: section no A86-50 (= **[M75]** is at an elevation of about 4.60 m/NN) cannot be ascertained because the southern section of A/II-o/13 was not recorded. The northern section of A/II-p/13 also was only recorded down to an elevation of ca 5.20 m/NN.[673] It is also possible that the/an entrance to Compound 12 was located in this area.

[673] It seems that the elevations measured for the old excavations correspond to those of the newer excavations conducted in 1997 in squares A/II-o/14, A/II-p/12–15. Cf. I. Forstner-Müller, Vorbericht der Grabung im Areal A/II in Tell el-Dabᶜa, *Ä&L* 11 (2001), 197–220; I. Forstner-Müller, The Colonization/Urbanization of the Tell Area A/II at Tell el-Dabᶜa and its Chronological Implications, *Ä&L* 17 (2007), 83–95; I. Forstner-Müller, TD XVI, 21 for synchronisation of the excavation of 1997 with the general stratigraphy. Unfortunately A/II-p/13 was not excavated down to the elevation relevant here. Thus, it must remain unclear whether these walls actually do have the same base level or not.

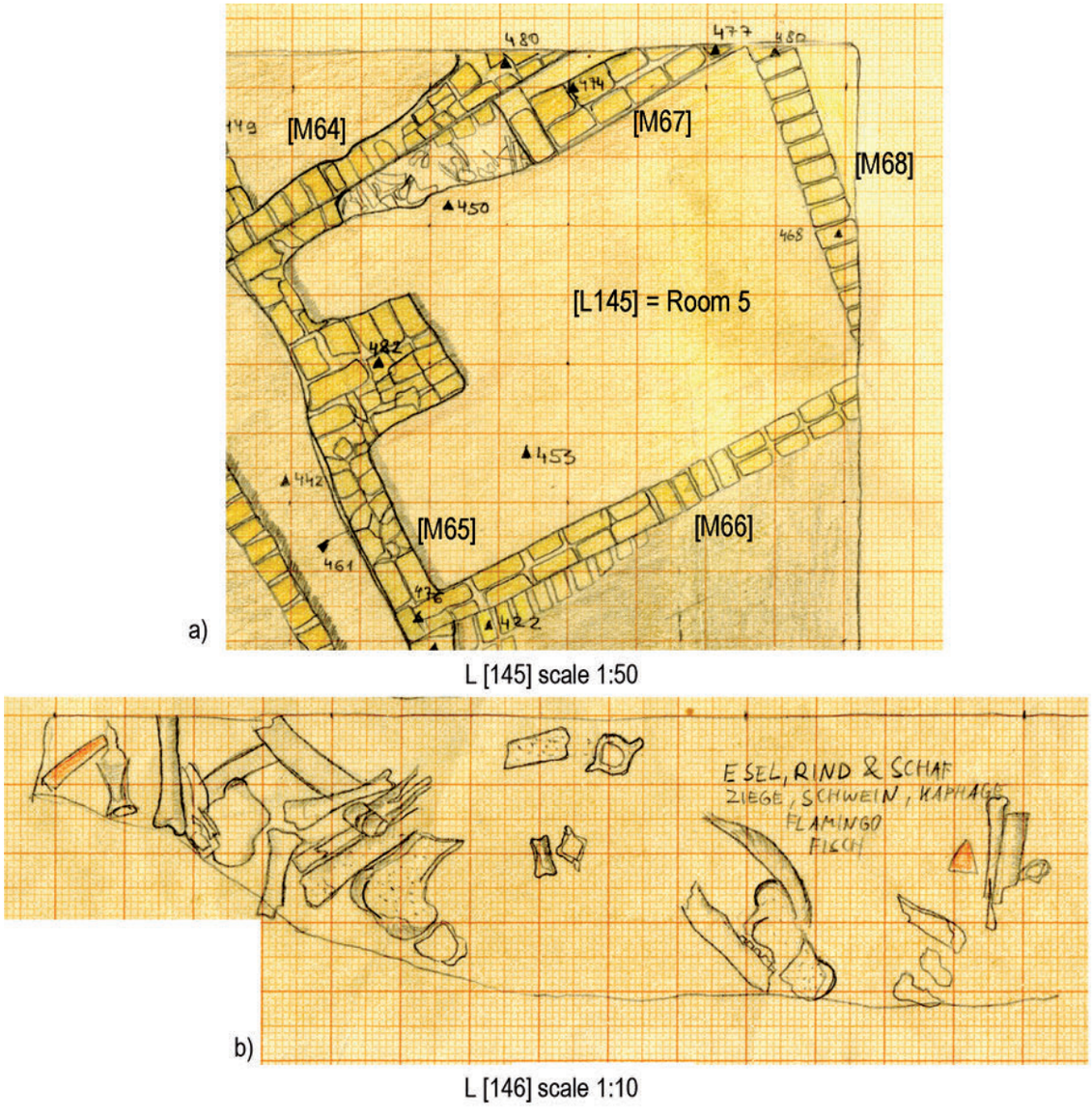


Fig. 6.40 A/II-n/13, detail drawings of L [145] and L [146], TDplan no (311). Drawings by K. Hegedüs

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/13[674])

The northern section (A18, drawn in spring 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of about 4.20 m/NN in most places (Fig. 6.43.a). The dominating feature is the tomb of Phase E/3 (section no A18-30 (pit), A18-31 (tomb)) in the western half of the section.[675] In the very western corner wall **[M48]** was running into the baulk, but is not visible in the section plan or in any of the relevant plan drawings.[676] Approximately at running metre 7.0 from the west a thin wall is visible without section no, which may represent **[M64]**. The whole area from running metres 6.5 to 10.0 from the

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

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

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

west represents the array of walls in this area. The corner of Building/Room 5 extends from running metres 8.5–10.0 counting from the west and represents the corner of walls **[M67]** and **[M68]** at an elevation of ca 4.60 m/NN, although the brick work seems denuded. At an elevation of about 5.0 m/NN a sandy layer (section no A18-33) covers the top of the walls, which are preserved up to three courses high. Again on top of that a quite thick ashy layer (without section no) and covering some sand was deposited above the structures of Phase G/2–1.[677] Section no A18-34 represents the collapse of sand tempered mud-bricks of the walls, that fell on top of the finely stratified compacted layers assigned section no A18-36. The finely layered ashy and sandy deposits with no A18-39 seal Phase H according to the original section analysis. Below that are more sandy layers (section no A18-41), which were interpreted as *gezirah* sand, thus, the natural untouched ground of the tell.[678] The bricks (three courses high) with section no A18-38 represent the earlier phase's corner of walls **[G/3-M36]** and **[G/3-M35]** see Fig. 9.6. Again it is demonstrated that the walls are regularly rebuilt on those of the earlier phases, thus showing considerable continuity.

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

The western section (A64, drawn 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of about 4.20 m/NN (Fig. 6.43.b). In the lowest part a substantial ashy deposit expanding over most of the section is noticeable (provisional section no A64-29). The layer is up to 0.3 m thick, but irregular. The wall **[M60]** is visible as provisional section no A64-27 at running metre 4.0 from south with a base level of ca 4.45 m/NN. That wall is only preserved two brick courses high. Wall **[M55]** is also visible in the section (without section no; provisionally it is numbered A64-27a). Tomb A/II-n/13-no 9[679] is just on top of it but does not entirely destroy it. The base level is also about 4.40 m/NN, but only one brick course is preserved. Both these walls **[M60]** and **[M55]** were built on top of the ash layer, which is also visible in Fig. 6.1. At the spot where the appearance of wall **[M59]** might be expected, at running metre 2.0 from south, some sand tempered mud-brick rubble was observed, with a base level of 4.46 m/NN. Two other thin walls were recorded in the western section, namely the walls with provisional section nos A64-30a at running metre 6.0 from south (= **[G/3-M38]**) and A64-30b at running metre 7.40 from south (= **[G/4-M33]**), see Fig. 9.1 and 9.6. Both are only one brick course high (and it is likely they continue further down below 4.40 m/NN) and contain much more sand temper than the later walls. Over their preserved tops the ash layer seals them and the associated rubble is most probably derived from them. On top of wall **[M60]** (= Phase G/2–1[680]) and on layers belonging to that phase consisting of sandy and loamy finely compacted layers, another building phase was built with a base level of approx. 5.0 m/NN (provisional section no A64-20; and without section no). These walls also consist of sand tempered mud-bricks, but they are not very well preserved, only 1–2 brick courses high.[681]

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

[677] The original section analysis assigns this ashy layer to Phase G.
[678] M. Bietak, discussion of section, no 41.
[679] M. Bietak, TD V, 90–93, plan 4.
[680] Assigned specifically to Phase G/2–1 by M. Bietak in the analysis of the section.
[681] This phase may be Phase F, but it was left an open question by M. Bietak.

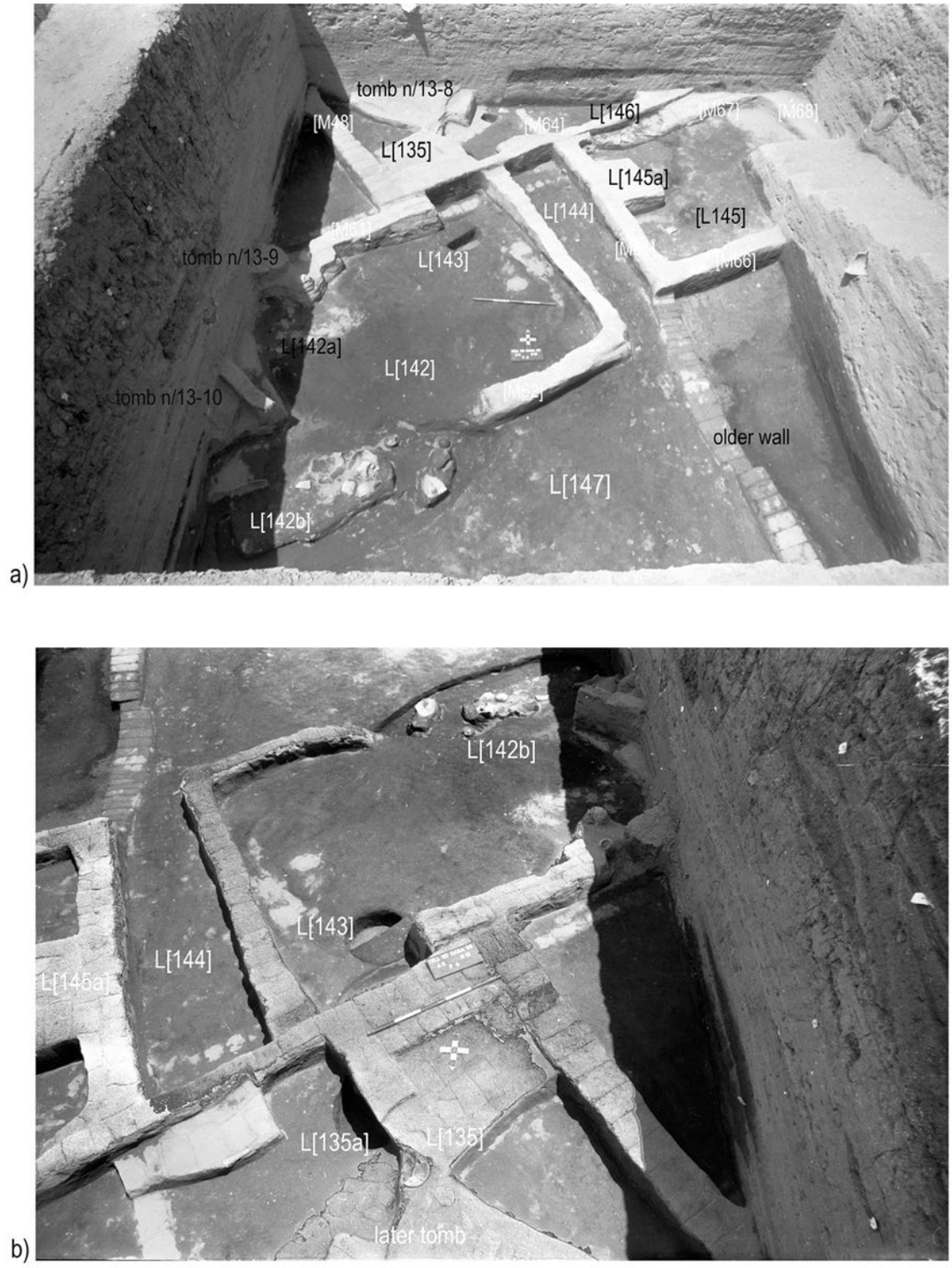


Fig. 6.41 A/II-n/13, pl 6. a) Overview facing north, SW1097/46. b) View towards south: L [135] brick platform, L [142] pit and pottery, part of L [145a] brick platform, SW1097/52

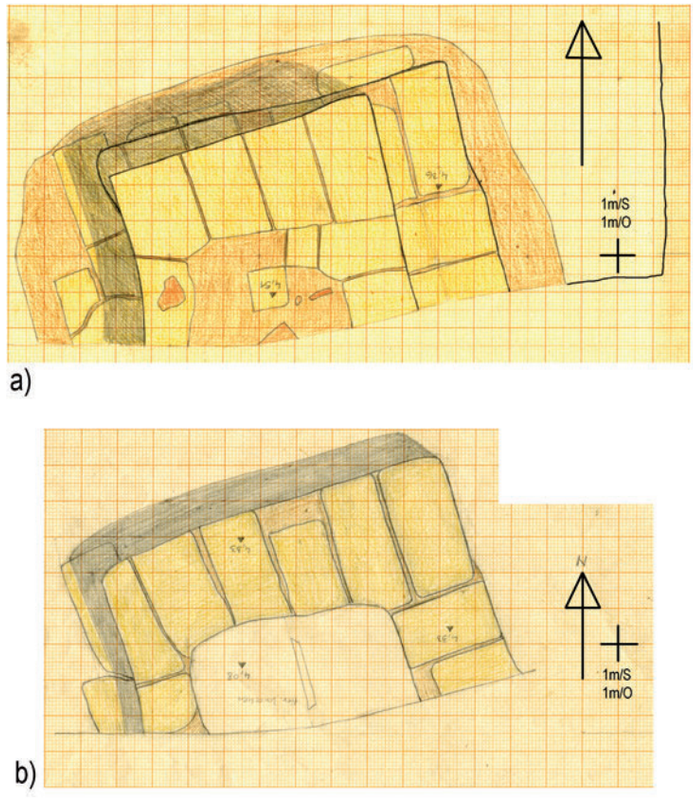


Fig. 6.42 Detailed plan of tomb 11 (TDplan 314). a) Situation 1, b) Situation 2, scale 1:20. Drawing by H. Adler

no A39-65) corresponds to the single wall visible in planum 7 (**[G/4-M38]** in Fig. 9.1, see also chapter 9). M. Bietak assigned this wall without known base level[682] to Phase H, but it might equally likely belong to Phases G/4 or G/3. The reason for this doubt is that base levels of walls in other squares which were assigned to Phase H were quite low down, at an elevation of about 3.90–4.00 m/NN. This means that this wall would have had to be exceptionally well preserved to an unusual number of preserved brick courses. However, the uneven topography of the *gezirah* may enable such phenomena but without more excavation this assignation cannot be resolved.

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

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

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

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

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

Stone

Reg.no **1706** (KhM, A 1771), 'alabaster' lid of *koḥl* pot. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, 2.60 m/S; 2.70 m/W; H = 4.30 m/NN in an ashy layer on top of a pottery deposit (fragments of large vessels).[684]
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/13–14, SW1131/38–39; drawing ZN 130/68; redrawn and re-recorded.

[682] The wall seems to have continued below the exposed elevation.
[683] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968, pp. 67–67a.
[684] It is possible that this lid is from an ashy layer dividing the lower contents of the pit and the two pieces that were recorded as lying on top: reg.nos 1708 and 1737.

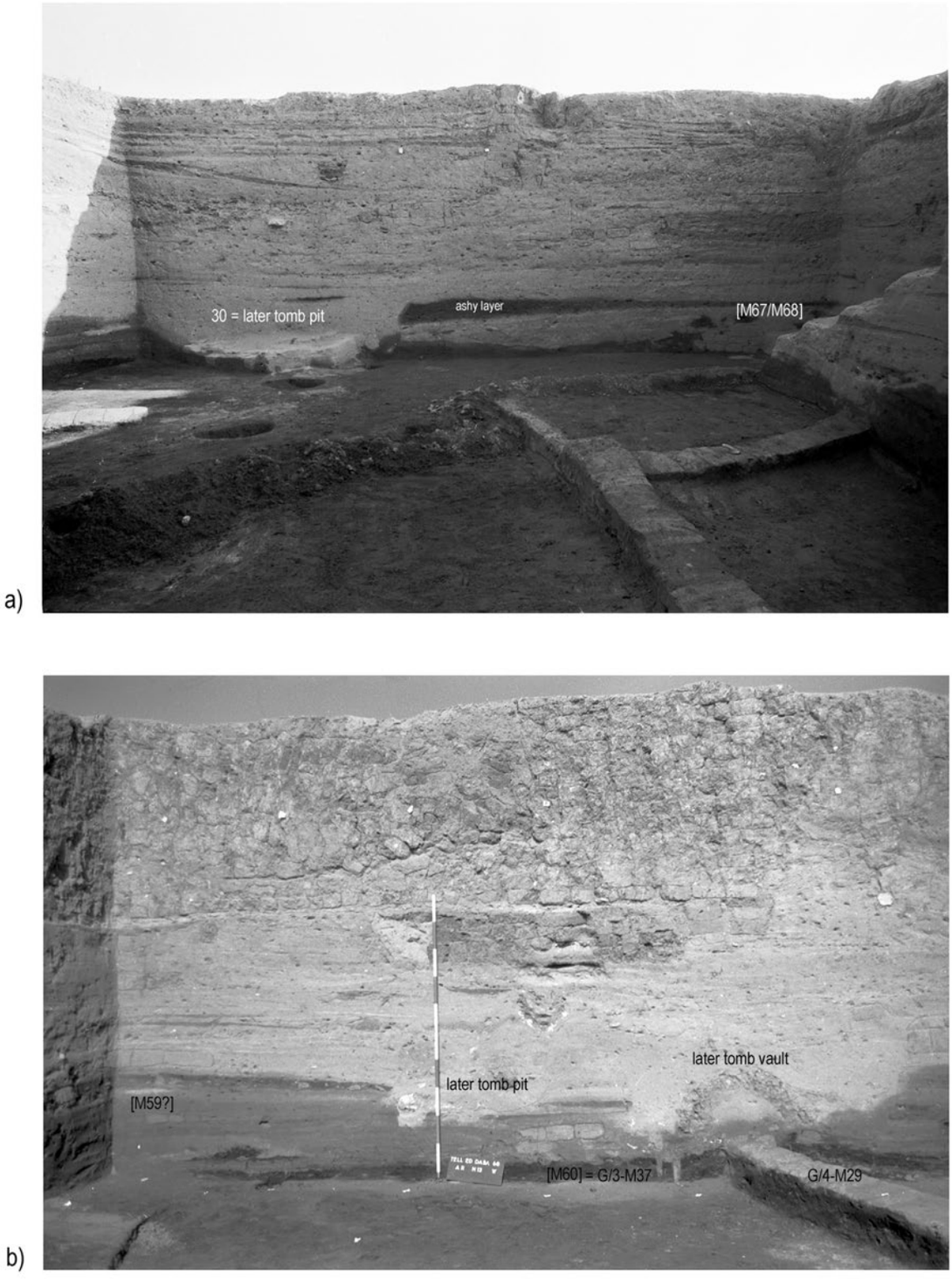


Fig. 6.43 A/II-n/13. a) Northern section, with corner of building [M67/M68] and the earlier [G/3-M36/G/3-M35] below it, SW1108/28. b) Western section, SW1108/35

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

Pottery

A.) Nile B1 pottery
A.a) Hemispherical cups (Fig. 6.44.b, 6.45.d–e)
One almost intact hemispherical cup belongs to this group of vessels and vessel fragments. The shape is open with a thin red rim band, and a tool scraped base (Fig. 6.45.e). The fabric is the fine variant of Nile B1 (see Fig. 6.45.d). The vessel index of 163.5 was used in the original composition of the chart published by M. Bietak under G/3–1.[685]

Reg.no **1733** (KhM, A 3175), hemispherical cup with round base. Position: pottery deposit close to south western corner.
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/53–54, SW1131/8–9; drawing ZN 134/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-1	fine	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 11.8–12.0, (rim: 100% preserved); max.d. = 12.1; wd. = 0.5; H1 = 7.4 (base: 100% preserved); VI 163.5
Surface colour: 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown, red slipped rim: 10 R 5/6 red. Section: thin grey core, red and light brown oxidation zones; vessel very well smoothed.

B.) Marl C1 pottery
B.a) Large jars (with corrugated neck?) (Fig. 6.44.f)
The neck of the vessel just starts to show the turned part towards the rim and may, thus, belong to a corrugated neck jar. A linear pot mark was incised post-firing, perhaps some of it pre-firing, but the sherd is so badly eroded that it cannot be ascertained.

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

TG	II-c-2	mi	Ha2	–	ox	3

Wd. = 1.2; height = 16.1; width = 15.2;
Surface colour: scum on the outside 5 YR 8/3 pink; inside uncoated 10 R 6–7/6 light red; Section: uniform light red; surface partly eroded.

B.b) Large storage jars (Fig. 6.44.d–e)
The following two body sherds are derived from large storage vessels often made from Marl C1 in this period. No further assessments of the shape can be made. In both instances the pot marks were incised post-firing. Some rim fragments belong to konvolute K202 (see below, 219) which may well have joined these body sherds. As none of the konvolute fragments was available for re-study, they are mentioned together with the original records.

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

TG	II-c-2	mi	Ha1	–	ox	3

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

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

TG	II-c-2	mi	Ha1	–	ox	3

Wd. = 0.8; height = 4.6; width = 4.6;
Surface colour: scum on the outside7.5 YR 8/3 pink; inside uncoated 10 R 6/6 light red. Section: uniform light red; Inclusions finely distributed limestone particles, mostly small; mark incised post-firing.

C.) Imported pottery
C.a) Imported fine wares: dipper juglets (Fig. 6.44.c, 6.45.f–g)
The upper part of a dipper juglet is missing the rim. The slip was more brownish than red but this could

[685] M. Bietak, Problems of Middle Bronze Age Chronology: New Evidence from Egypt, *AJA* 88 (1984), 471–485.
[686] See footnote for reg.no 1738 concerning the level, which is probably wrong and should be 4.30 m/NN.
[687] See footnote for reg.no 1738 concerning the level, which is probably wrong, should be 4.30 m/NN.
[688] See footnote for reg.no 1738 concerning the level, which is probably wrong, should be 4.30 m/NN.

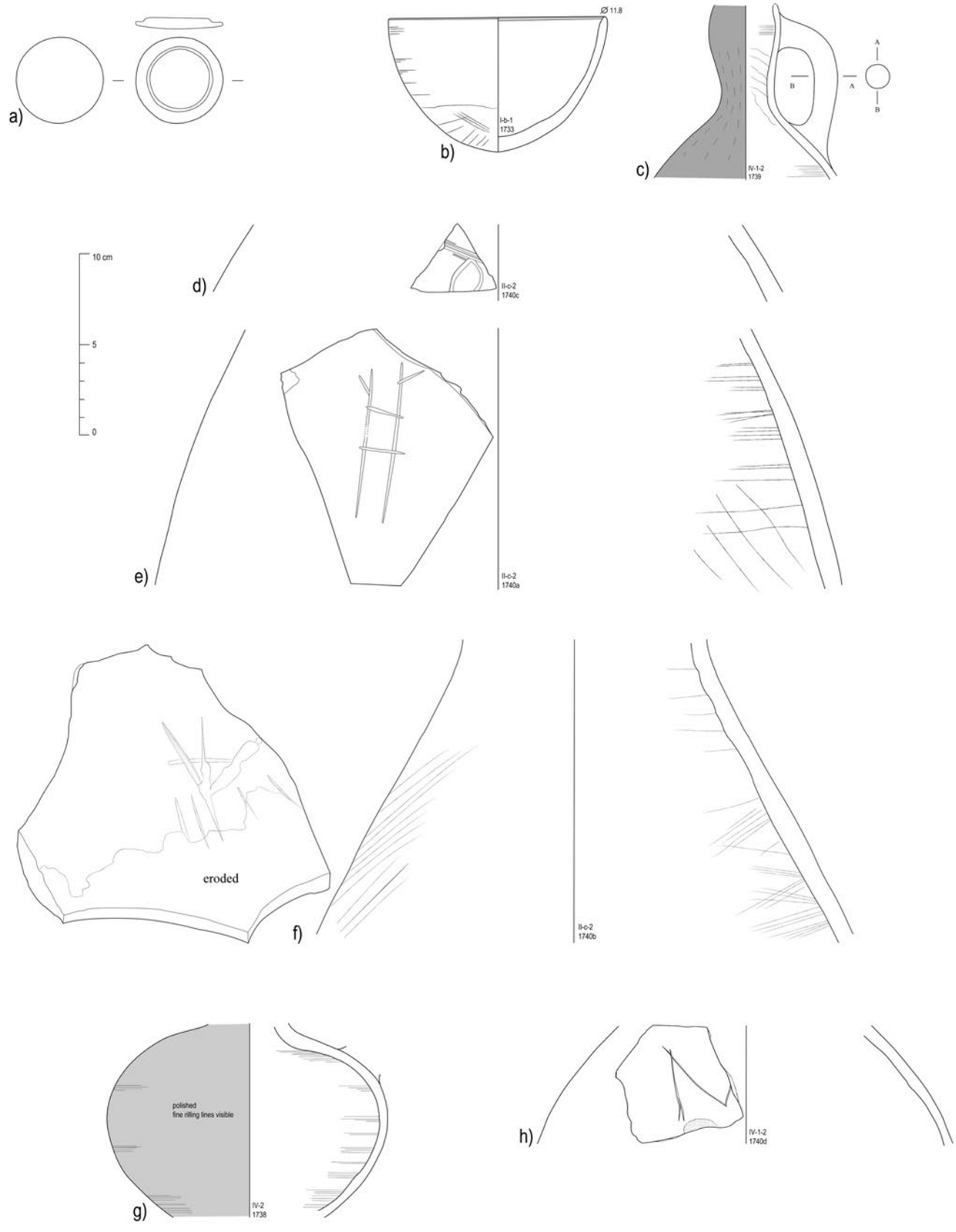


Fig. 6.44 Pottery from pottery deposit L [142b] in A/II-n/13, pl. 6

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

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

BP	IV-1-2	m.	W2	–	ox	3	1 RST

Pres. max.d. = 11.0; neck diameter = 3.3; H1 = 10.7 + x; actual rim missing; base missing;
Surface colour: brown slipped and burnished outside 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown; inside uncoated 10 YR 6/4 light yellowish brown. Section: dark grey core, migrated to the inside; one red oxidation zone on the outside.

C.b) Imported fine wares: bi-conical jug (Fig. 6.44.g, 6.45.h–i)
This bi-conical jug was burnished/polished in some manner, but no burnishing strokes or directions of strokes were discernible. Under the red/brownish colour slip the rilling lines were visible. The handle scar suggests that it was formed of three strands, where the middle one is the largest with two smaller ones to each side (Fig. 6.45.h).

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

RP	IV-2-9	fine	W(1–)2	–	ox	3	3 RST

Max.d. = 15.4; Wd. = 0.5; H1 = 10.6 + x; rim and base missing.
Surface colour: red/brownish slipped and polished outside 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow to 2.5 YR 6/6 red; inside uncoated natural colour 10 YR 6/3 light yellowish brown. Section: two-coloured: yellowish beige on exterior; greenish-grey on interior; well-polished probably with a cloth; inclusions: many small quartz grains;

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

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

TG	IV-1-2	mi	W2	–	ox	3

Wd. = 0.6; height = 7.0; width = 5.5;
Surface colour: uncoated on the outside 2.5 YR 7/4 pale red; uncoated on the inside 7.5 YR 7/6 reddish yellow. Section: uniform reddish brown with many also large inclusions.

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

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

Discussion of fragments[693]
fragments of storage jars made of Marl C (probably C1 = II-c-2); the sketched rim most probably represents rim type 3 or 4.[694] The remark concerning their white surface leaves not much doubt about this identification. As average rim diameter 28.0 cm are mentioned (cf. also digging diary[695]).
Diagnostic rims of corrugated neck jars also made from Marl C.[696]
The rims of medium jars with their characteristic thickening of the lip consist most probably also of Marl C.[697]

[689] See footnote 690 concerning the level, which is probably wrong, should be 4.30 m/NN.
[690] It is very likely that this is a mistake for 4.30 m/NN, because the group was described as having been found together in the lower levels of the pit, which has the elevation of 4.30 m/NN. This has been mentioned also by M. Bietak in connection with reg.no 1737.
[691] See footnote 690 and 701 concerning the probably wrong level.
[692] See footnote 690 concerning the probably wrong level.
[693] In the light of the recording of the material derived from later seasons, which could be re-assessed, the assemblage fits well with what is known from other contemporary loci.
[694] Cf. B. Bader, TD XIX, 225, fig. 142. They appear most frequently in Phases G/4, G/3–1 and still in Phase F.
[695] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968.
[696] Cf. B. Bader, TD XIII, type 46, 129–145; B. Bader, TD XIX, type 140, 442–447.
[697] Cf. B. Bader TD XIII, type 36, 108–120; B. Bader, TD XIX, type 138b, 438–441.



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

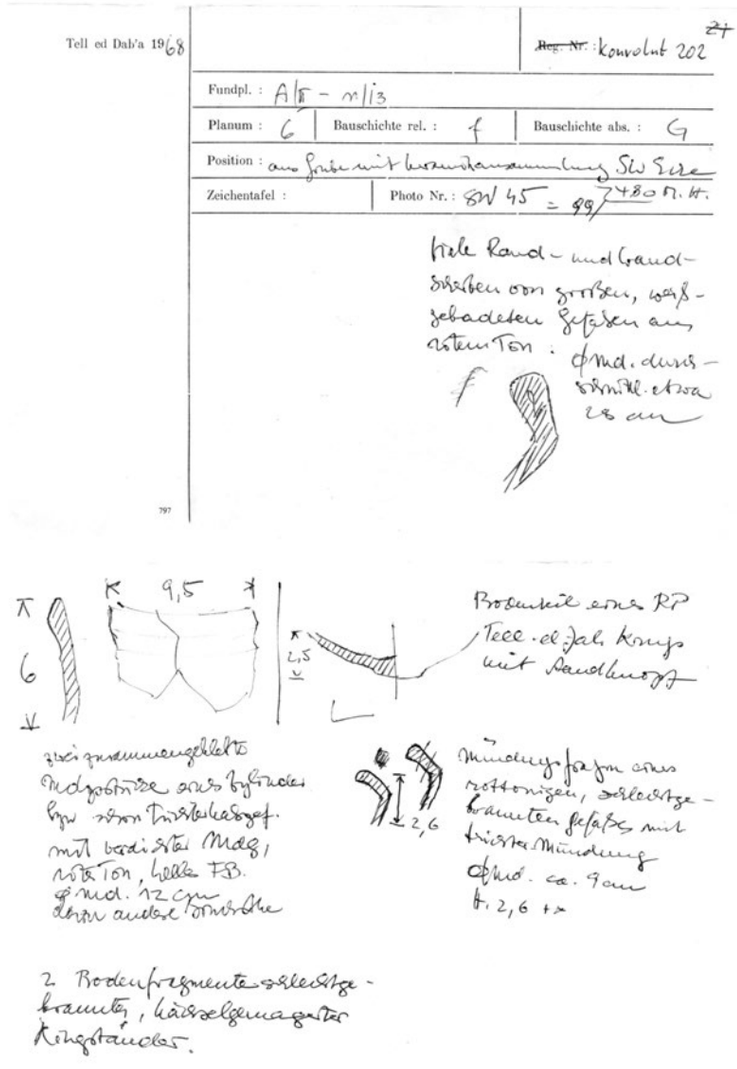


Fig. 6.46 Original recording of konvolute K202, scale 1:2

Base of a red polished/burnished juglet that was also shown in the detailed drawing (cf. Fig. 6.39).
Two base fragments of coarse ringstands probably made from Nile C2 are also mentioned (they can also be seen in the detailed plan drawing, see Fig. 6.39).

The digging diary[698] also mentions transport amphora bases and body fragments with attached handles (as visible in detailed plan drawing, see Fig. 6.39). Unfortunately it was not possible to identify any of these unregistered finds.

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

Stone

Reg.no **1705** (KhM, A 1838), three edged artefact made from a hard red stone.[699] Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 5–6, 1.5 m/S and 1.5 m/W; 3.3 m/D [H~4.50 m/NN[700]] in the south western corner (Fig. 6.47).
Record: B/W negative SW1131/36–37; drawing ZN

[698] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 27 June 1968.
[699] It seems unlikely to be hematite, because no colour comes off, when rubbed.
[700] Measured at southern and western sections (TDplans 322–323).

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

L [142b1]

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

Pottery

A.) Imported pottery
A.a) Imported fine wares: juglets (Fig. 6.47–6.48)
Two imported fragments of juglets with otherwise rather rare bell-shaped necks were found in this position. They remain largely the only examples of that vessel type in the settlement.

Reg.no **1708** (KhM, A 3157), bell shaped neck of juglet. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, ca 2.5 m/S and 2.5 m/W, H ~ 4.50–4.60 m/NN above pottery from **L [142b]** in a sandy layer and above the ash layer dividing strata H and G. Relative stratum f or g.
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/19–20 and SW1131/42–43; redrawn and re-recorded.

R/BP	IV-2-9	f. – m.	W1	–	ox	2–3	2 RST

Neck diameter = 1.4; H1 = 5.1; d. of handle = 1.8; rim not preserved.
Surface colour: 2.5 YR 4/4 dusky red; brownish patches: 7.5 YR 4–5/2 brown. Section: uniform brown; Inclusions very many, very fine quartz particles only; burnishing was done very well, but not to a metallic sheen.

Reg.no **1737** (KhM, A 3177), ovoid jug with bell shaped neck. Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, same position as reg.no 1708.[701]
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/63–64, SW1131/18–19; drawing ZN 135/68; redrawn and re-recorded.

RP	IV-2-1	fine	W2	Bd. abg.	ox	2–3	2 RST

Rd. = 1.6 (rim 75% preserved); nd. = 1.7; max.d. = 11.9; wd. = 0.3–0.6; bd. = 2.0 (base 100% preserved); H1 = 22.3; d. of handle = 2.0;
Surface colour: red burnished 10 R 4/4 weak red; natural surface: 5 YR 6/6 light red; colour inside: 10 YR 5/2 grayish brown. Section: inside dark grey core, outside light brown oxidation zone; Burnishing almost completely eroded, direction of burnishing strokes not determinable, vertical direction probable. The burnishing goes under the flat base of the jug. The fabric shows a high content of very small quartz grains. A sample was tested by NAA analysis (BNL JH 306) and assigned to a southern Palestinian origin.[702]

In Wall **[M68]**
Reg.no **1707** (KhM, A 1349), chipped silex knife.[703]
Position: A/II-n/13, pl. 6, ca 1.2 m/E, 0.6–7 m/N, H = 4.80 m/NN; in relative phase f wedged between two bricks, thus, in secondary use.
Records: B/W negatives SW1112/15–16, SW1112/17–18, SW1131/40–41; drawing ZN 47E section, redrawn and re-recorded (Fig. 6.49).
Bifacial retouched flint tool with straight back and curved cutting edge; light beige chert; end broken off, no use traces were detected.
Length = 18.0 cm; max. width = 4.8 cm; thickness = 0.9–1.1; weight 100.3 grams.
Due to the fact that the knife was found embedded in a wall indicates that it belongs to an earlier phase, thus a dating into the (late) Middle Kingdom is not amiss. At least one knife with a length of 21.0 cm of similar shape but with a narrower blade was found at Lahun.[704] A few others of varied lengths including one broken example were also found there as well as at Harageh.[705] Perhaps the knife found at Tell el-Dabᶜa was unused[706] and therefore not continuously sharpened so that it retained its shape quite well.[707] The reason for deposition in a wall remains unknown

[701] According to the find slip it came directly from the pit **L [142b]**, but the digging diary (M. Bietak, 27 June 1968) describes that 1708 and 1737 were found together slightly above the pit in a sandy layer. Previously published in D.A. Aston, TD XII/1, 125–126; TD XII/2, pl. 111, cat.no 361.
[702] P.E. McGovern, *Foreign Relations*, 128.
[703] In 2017 on display in the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Room VI.
[704] W.M.F. Petrie, *Illahun, Kahun and Gurob*, London 1891, pl. XIII.6.
[705] W.M.F. Petrie, *Illahun*, pl. VII. 7–8, 14, 27.6 cm to 14.1 cm; W.M.F. Petrie, *Kahun, Gurob and Hawara*, London 1890, pl. XVI.third from the left in the top row, length approx. 15.5 cm. Also at Harageh from feature 135. That knife also lacks a handle. It was found together with pottery of type 12q and 67s (date in 12th Dynasty likely) and beads 58x and 68k (tubular beads with angular section). Note that 135 does not represent a tomb but a 'pottery dump'. Cf. R. Engelbach, *Harageh*, BSAE 28, London 1923, pl. VII.8 for the knife and pl. LIX for the context.
[706] However, the tool did not show sickle gloss, but probably such knives were not used for cutting plants anyway.
[707] A. Tillmann, *Neolithikum in der Späten Bronzezeit, Steingeräte des 2. Jahrtausends aus Auaris-Piramesse*, FoRa 4, Hildesheim 2007, 134–135.

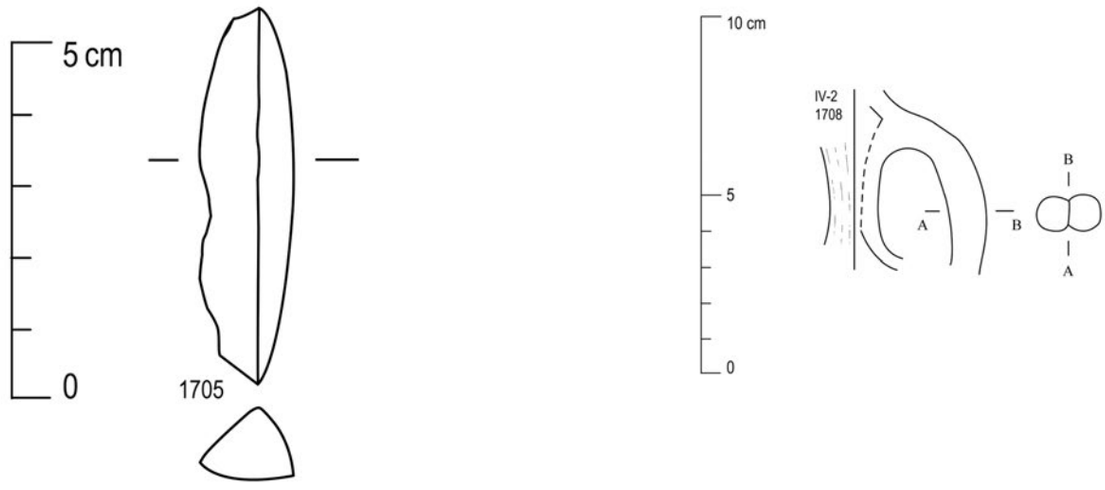


Fig. 6.47 Finds from L [142b] and close to it reg.nos 1705, 1708, drawn by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

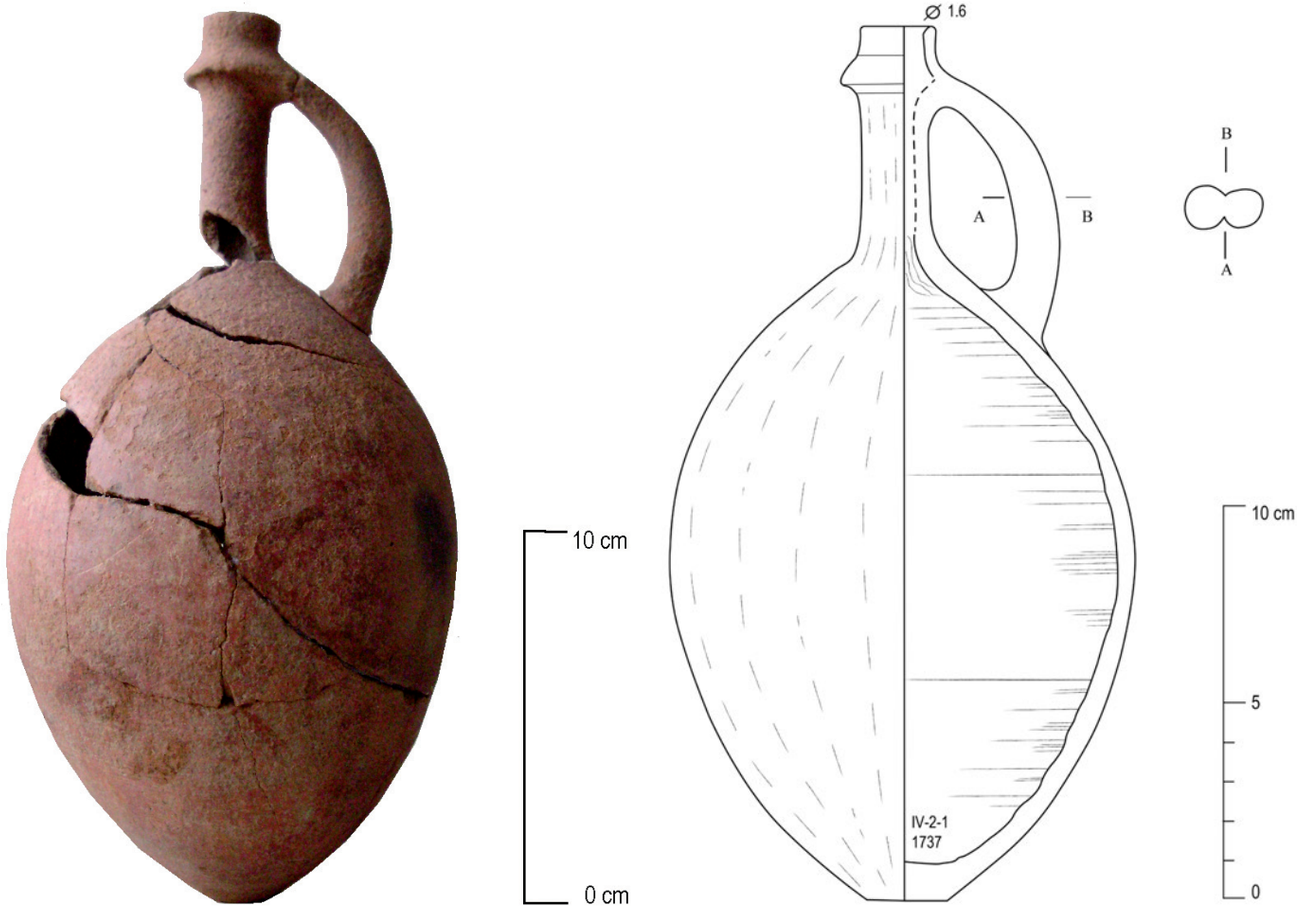


Fig. 6.48 Finds from close to L [142b1], reg.no 1737, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

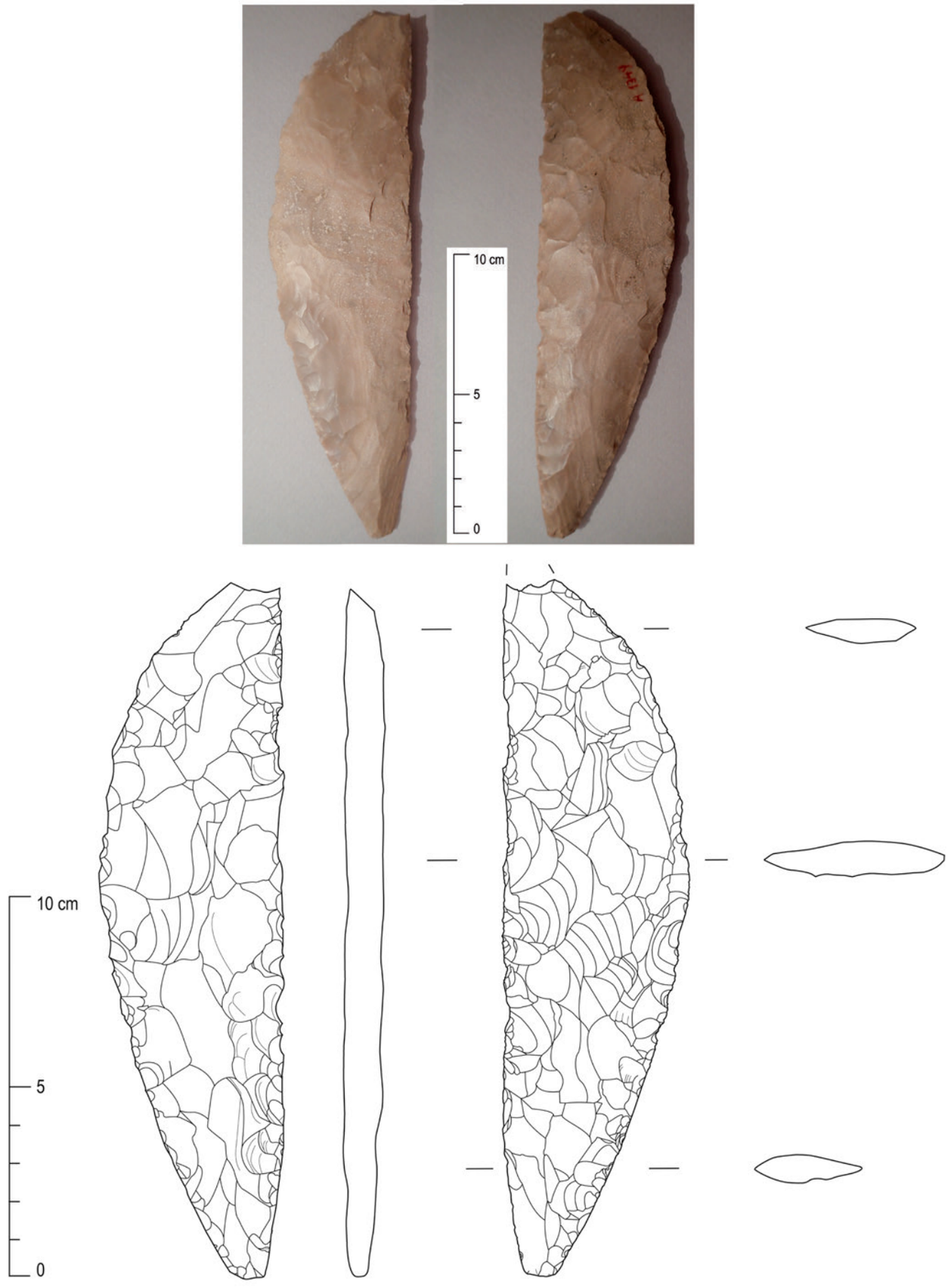


Fig. 6.49 Reg.no 1707 silex knife from wall [M68], drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

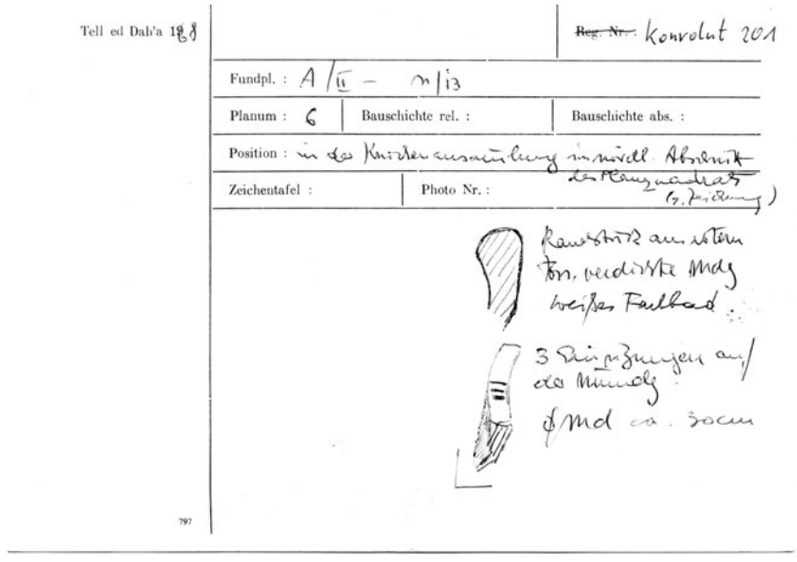


Fig. 6.50 Konvolute card K201, Marl C storage jar rim from L [146], scale approx. 1:2

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

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

Pottery

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

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

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

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

[710] A. Tillmann, *Neolithikum*, fig. 132.5.

[711] A. Tillmann, *Neolithikum*, 188. It has to be noted though that between the early 12th Dynasty and the late Middle Kingdom (i.e. Phase G/3–1, even if in a secondary context) a considerable time span passed, in stark contrast to the statement "Der Griff ist nicht einmal mehr andeutungsweise abgesetzt, womit sich das Stück deutlich von den *nur wenig älteren Exemplaren aus der frühen 12. Dynastie* unterscheidet." We have to assume at least 170 years as a rough estimate for this time span, thus it is not only "wenig älter". Because this is the only such knife found in the settlement of Phases H, G/4 and G/3–1, Tillmann not mentioning the reg.no could have only meant this example.

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

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

Animal bones

Several bones were found within the feature[714] although it remains unclear whether they are derived from a primary deposition or not.
Cattle: 3 frags. neurocranium; 1 horn core; 1 lower jar in splinters; 4 frags. ribs; 2 frags. vert. lumb.; 3 frags. scapula; 1 humerus, distal part, epiphyseal cartilage closed; 1 frag. pelvis; 1 femur in splinters; 1 frag. femur of a calf; 1 femur proximal part, adult; 1 femur distal part, adult; 1 part of the shaft of a tibia; 1 metatarsus proximal part. The minimum number of individuals is 3; 1 calf, 2 adult animals.
Sheep: 1 frag. neurocranium with horn core; 1 radius + ulna belonging together proximal part; 1 ulna proximal part tuber lose; 1 half of pelvis, female. Minimum number of individuals is 3; 1 juvenile, 2 adult animals.
Goat: 1 horn core.
Sheep/Goat: 1 frag. upper jaw; 1 lower jaw with m[olar]3, medium abraded; 2 parts of lower jaw, broken; 1 atlas in splinters; 1 frag. vert. thor.; 1 frag. vert. lumb.; 2 frags. ribs; 1 frag. of a shaft of radius; 1 frag. ulna; 1 frag. metacarpus shaft; The animal bones present do not allow the interpretation of one additional animal in either category.
Donkey: 1 adult donkey: 1 humerus, distal part; 1 radius, proximal part; all belong together
Pig: 1 part neurocranium with scars on parietale;[715] 1 scapula (tuber closed).
Cape hare (capus lepensis): 1 frag. pelvis.
Flamingo: 1 frag. coracoid.
Fish: probably clarias anguillaris (cat fish), 1 frag. of neurocranium [Schädelpanzer], 1 cleithrum.
Tilapia: 1 cleithrum sin.

Distribution of animal bones in **L [146]**

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

Square A/II-o/13

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

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

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

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

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

Also to the north a "stepped" void is visible **L [148]**, which contained sand brick rubble and the body of a pottery jar (to judge from the plan drawing) (see Fig. 6.52). The lowest point within this feature is at 4.30 m/NN. The interpretation of this feature varied between a pit[719] or possibly a robbed tomb.[720]

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[714] J. Boessneck, TD III, 17, fig. 8.
[715] See in addition, J. Boessneck, TD III, 33, fig. 11.
[716] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 2 July 1969.
[717] In the digging diary of 2 July 1969, M. Bietak assigns those walls to the same phase with reference to the eastern section: "südlich und teilweise nördlich unklare Sandziegelbauten und eine Hürde südlich, die stratigraphisch zu dieser Schichte gehört (O-Profil)".
[718] See TDplan no 368.
[719] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 2 July 1969.
[720] Original plan drawing TDplan no 364.

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

At the eastern edge of the square another sand brick structure was unearthed that may also belong to Phase G/2–1 although it is not represented in the published plan of the phase (added to Fig. 6.1). In the first phase of excavation this structure appeared roughly square and seems to be covered by some brick collapse, whilst the second cleaning shows a square feature with a "step" in front of it oriented towards the north east (Fig. 6.51). The base level of this feature (or rather the collapse on top of it) is at an elevation of 4.54 m/NN. Thus, it seems very possible that the feature belongs to Phase G/2–1 or the older Phase G/4–3. About the function of this feature not much can be said as only the dagger pommel reg.no 2481 was found on top of the first excavation phase. It is possible that the feature represents an altar connected to a tomb in the neighbouring square A/II-o/14. Unfortunately that square was not excavated down to this level in the renewed excavation of 1997.[722] Thus, any hypothesis must remain speculation. It seems noteworthy though that feature **L [149a]** has similar dimensions to feature **L [123]** in A/II-m/13, namely 0.8 by 0.7 m[723] as well as to feature **L [145a]**. Despite these similarities, **L [149a]** shows a kind of 'step' or access at the southern edge, whilst the other feature is surrounded by a miniature wall. Overall, the current structure looks similar to an offering table judging purely by shape. Interestingly in the later Phases E/2–1 a slightly bigger square altar is situated immediately to the west of the current feature.[724]

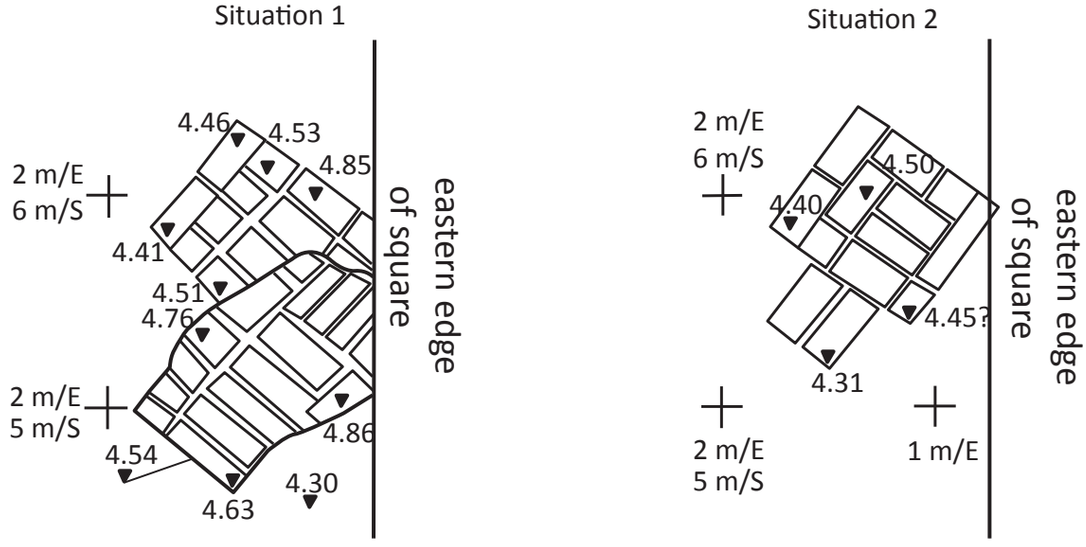


Fig. 6.51 Detail from TDplan no 364 with the square brick structure L [149a] in the first and second cleaning. Top of the page is north, scale 1:33, inked by B. Bader

[721] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 2 July 1969.
[722] Cf. I. Forstner-Müller, *Ä&L* 11, passim.
[723] Feature **L [123]** measures 0.7 by 0.6 m.
[724] M. Bietak, TD V, Friedhofsbezirk IX, 154 and plans 5–6, size is 1.1 by 1.15 m.

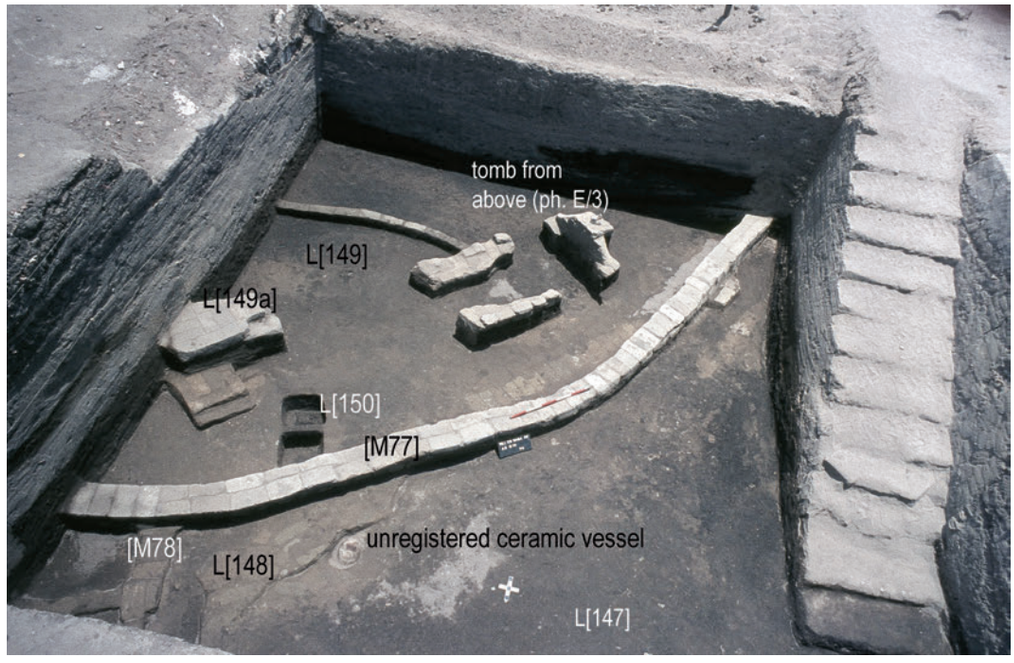


Fig. 6.52 A/II-o/13, pl. 6, view towards the south, Cairo archive

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-o/13[725])

The northern section (A23) was only recorded down to an elevation of ca 4.80 m/NN, so that the relative dating of the wall running into the northern baulk (see photo Fig. 6.53.a) can be assigned to Phase E/3 (with a base level of 4.90 m/NN). It forms part of the enclosure wall of the cemetery and the older Mortuary Temple I according to M. Bietak.[726] No other wall belonging to Phase G/3–1 in that square runs through the northern section. Due to the absolute elevation of 4.80 m/NN nothing can be said about the nature of the depositions in the southern part of **L [147]** because they would have been situated at a lower elevation.

The eastern section (A91) was also not recorded down to the actual excavated elevation (only to 4.80 m/NN), thus, it is difficult to decide the position and relation of wall **[M77]** to the later one that ends at running metre 8.0 from south (provisional section no A91-20). It is interesting that on top of this wall, dated to Phases F–E/3 (the base level was not securely reached, below 4.80 m/NN), another one dating to Phase E/2 was erected on top of it, showing a high degree of continuity over the phases up to the later Second Intermediate Period. In some locations of the site continuity from at least the earlier phases up to Phase F can be repeatedly observed. Wall **[M77]** was only just not recorded by the section, but the top of the rubble covering the installation **L [149a]** is represented (provisional section no A91-22, between running metres 4.50–6.10 counting from south to north). The scant information makes it difficult to understand the nature of these features.

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

L [147] Open space

Pottery

The digging diary of the 2 July 1969[727] mentions a Tell el-Yahudieh juglet (fragment?) that could not be identified. The then current use of the term "Tell el-Yahudieh ware"[728] might have referred to a mono-

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

[726] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 4: Friedhofsbezirk I.

[727] M. Bietak.

a)



b)



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

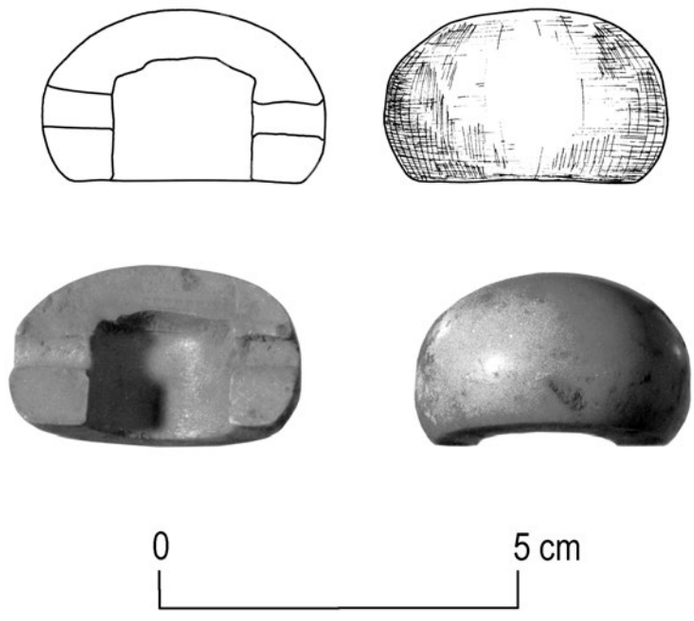


Fig. 6.54 Pommel of dagger, reg.no 2481, limestone. a) drawing, scale 1:1. b) SW1190/34–36

chrome polished juglet of unknown type.

L [148] "Pit"

Pottery

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

L [149a] Square brick platform

Stone

Reg.no **2481** (Museum Cairo, JE 94663), pommel of dagger.[729] Position: A/II-o/13, pl. 6, 4.25 m/N, 1.0–1.1 m/E, H = 4.50–4.60 m/NN directly on top of rectangular sand brick structure; relative phase f (Fig. 6.54).
Records: B/W negatives SW1190/34–36; drawing ZN 8E/1966–1969.
The pommel shows a hemispherical shape with the ends coming in a little (= sub-globular). Judging by the photo it was very well polished and the register book states that it was made of limestone. The material is whitish-yellow.[730] Two horizontal holes were drilled into the sides of the pommel in order to fix a tenon through the pommel and the hilt of the dagger and keep it in place.
Diameter = 3.9 cm; height = 2.3 cm; diameter of holes 0.5 cm; diameter of socket = 1.9; depth of socket = 1.7.

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

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

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

Chapter 7: Compound 13 (= Bezirk VIII) – A/II-o/12

This only partly preserved house is situated close to the southern limitation of the excavation field in square A/II-o/12, pl. 6. It consisted of at least two rooms, perhaps even three which were orientated NW-SE. Unfortunately the excavation was not continued towards the west or south, thus it remains unknown whether the compound continued further towards the west or south beyond the room programme indicated by the excavated remains. It seems likely that M. Bietak's reconstruction as a two-room house is well founded.[731] The comparison to the other bipartite houses in Phase G/3–1, which are on average between 7.40–8.30 m by ca 9.0 m,[732] makes such a reconstruction very possible. It is also possible though, that to the north of the two rooms some activity space was enclosed by a wall or that a proper room was situated there (see Fig. 7.1).[733]

Square A/II-o/12

Excavation and available records

Square o/12 was excavated in the spring season of 1969.[734] All together seven plana were excavated and recorded. The original level on the top of the tell was 7.56 m/NN in the north western corner, 7.70 m/NN in the north eastern corner, 7.54 m/NN in the south western corner and 7.25 m/NN in the south eastern corner. The eastern edge of the square ascended in the middle to about 7.97 m/NN.

Available records include the plan drawings of the seven plana,[735] the section drawings of the eastern, northern and southern sections,[736] the register book, the position data file, B/W photos, and object drawings. Whilst some of the features of plana and tombs within were also described in the digging diary, there is no description of those relevant for Phases H to G/4–1, namely plana 6 and 7 (TD 351–352) in the available digging diary. As they were the last two plana excavated, it is possible that the site had to be abandoned in the middle of the work, due to the war with Israel.[737]

Structures relevant for the late Middle Kingdom settlement Phases G/3–1, G/4 and H begin to appear at an elevation of approximately 5.30 m/NN up to which some of the tops of the walls were preserved (see Fig. 7.1).

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

The excavated part of the compound takes up the south western corner of the square A/II-o/12 (Fig. 7.2). The presumptive eastern exterior wall built from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks runs from the north western corner almost towards the south eastern corner **[M47a]** and follows, thus, the general orientation of the settlement. The wall is 3.35 m long and reached a thickness of one and a half brick's width. The preserved top reached an elevation of ca

[731] See plan in M. Bietak, Houses, Palaces and Development of Social Structure in Avaris, fig. 14.

[732] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

[733] M. Bietak, TD V, 31.

[734] After the spring season the excavations were interrupted until 1975 due to the precarious security situation between Egypt and Israel after the Six-Day war along the Suez-Canal zone, M. Bietak, personal communication.

[735] TDplan nos 345–349, 351, 352.

[736] TDplan nos 356–358. The western section is partly available as a photograph, see Fig. 7.4.

[737] The prolonged conflict between Egypt and Israel started after the Six-Day war in 1967 on the 6 March 1969 and lasted to 7 August 1970. Source: Kriege Archiv der Universität Hamburg (Sozialwissenschaften): http://www.wiso.uni-hamburg.de/fachbereiche/sozialwissenschaften/forschung/akuf/kriege-archiv/vorderer-und-mittlerer-orient/aegypten/, accessed on 22 February 2016. It was apparently possible to see the spring campaign through until 10 July 1969, M. Bietak, personal communication 22 February 2016, but then the team had to leave and was not allowed back until 1975.

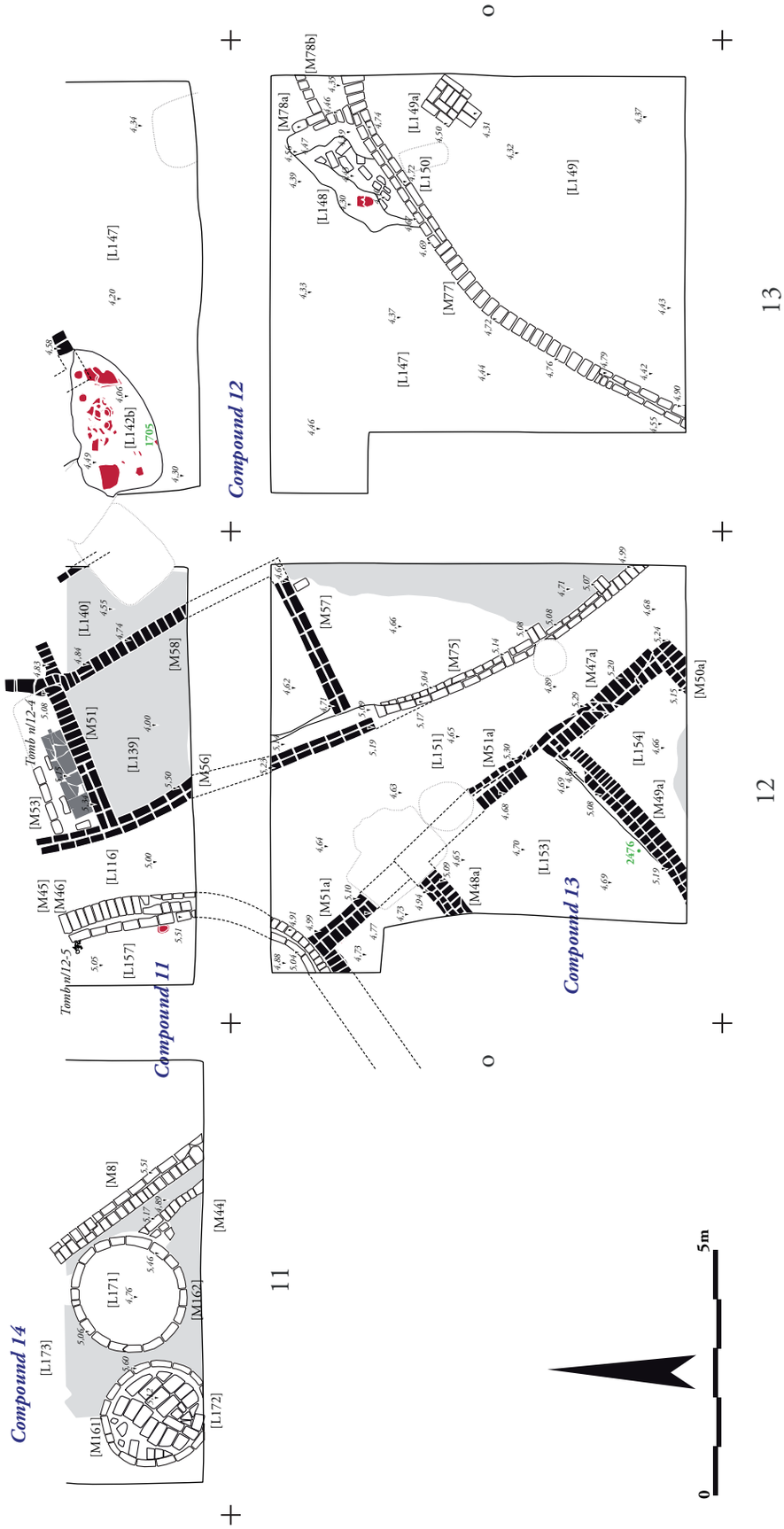


Fig. 7.1 Schematic plan of Compound 13. Adapted from M. Bietak, TDV, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

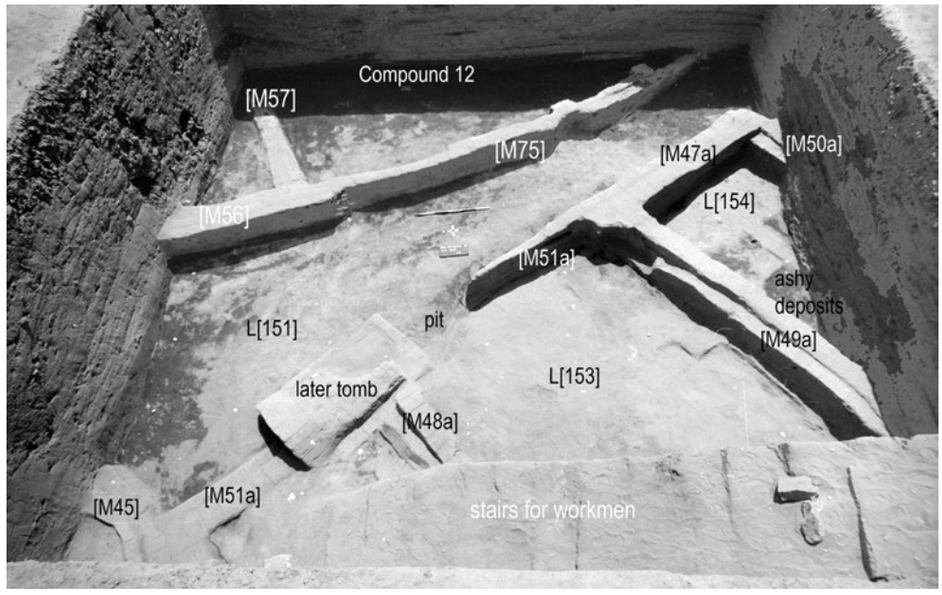


Fig. 7.2 A/II-o/12, pl. 6, view towards east, SW1165/44

5.30 m/NN in some places. In the northern part it runs against the dividing wall to the open space/court L **[156]** of Compound 11, **[M45].** Thus, it seems to form the western part of the limitation of the alleyway **L [151]** that leads towards the northern part of the settlement (numbered there **L [116]** and **L [115]**). The space of ca 1.30 m between walls **[M47a]** and its eastern counterpart **[M75]** is quite narrow, which may hint at a lesser thoroughfare or roofing with palm fronds or similar materials. The same width can be found further north between walls **[M45]** and **[M52]**.

The size of the bricks of this wall, **[M47a]**, is 0.37–0.45 m by 0.15–0.17 m, and the bricks were ca 10 cm high.[738] To the west of wall **[M47a]** three perpendicular walls run towards the south west **[M48a–M50a]** forming a ground plan to be reconstructed in a minimum version as the typical bi-partite nuclear unit consisting of a narrow and a wide room side by side. It is very likely that this unit is of similar size as the other ones in area A/II.[739] The overall length in north-south direction can be determined as 7.5 m (or just over 13.5 cubits), whilst the single rooms measure 3.5 m (**L [153]**) and 2.3–2.2 m (**L [154]**) on the interior in north-south direction, which do not exactly correspond to even cubit measurements (6 2/3 cubits and 4 1/3 cubits). M. Bietak thinks it possible that an additional room was originally present to the north of the house, but was taken down in favour of the alleyway north of Compound 13 (**L [155]**, Fig. 3.1) and the walls encircling **L [156]**.[740] It is equally possible, though, that a tripartite house plan might have existed there or even a bigger one, such as Compound 11, continuing further towards the south or west. Only renewed excavation of squares A/II-o/11 and A/II-p/11–12 will reveal whether this was the case or not.

The position of the main door cannot be precisely ascertained, but there is a good probability that it was situated in the eastern wall of the unit, **[M47a]** or perhaps more likely in **[M51a]**, namely towards the northern corner of the house. A gap in the wall is recognisable, although a pit partially disturbs that area. In addition tomb A/II-o/12-9 cuts into the house from the later Phase E/3. The plan published in *Tell el-Dabᶜa V* shows that it was thought that a doorway was situated there.[741] For the same reason it must remain unclear if access could be gained from alleyway **L [151]** to that compound north of the actual housing unit where a short wall connects the house unit of Compound 13 and the precinct wall **[M45]** of Compound 11.[742]

[738] Measurements were taken from the plan 1:50.
[739] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.
[740] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 31.
[741] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.
[742] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 31.



Fig. 7.3 A/II-o/12, northern section, note the later tomb cutting into the settlement on the left side of the photograph, the alleyway L [151] delimited by walls [M51a] and [M56] runs into the northern section, colour slide TD2518

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-o/12[743])

The northern section (A22, drawn in 1969) shows a series of walls belonging to Phases G/2–1 and probably G/4–3. The section was recorded down to an elevation of approximately 4.40 m/NN (see Fig. 7.3 and Fig. 6.37.b). Thus, it is unlikely that the oldest phase, Phase H, was reached in this square. The most relevant features are represented by two series of overlying walls **[M56]** and **[M45]**. The western series of walls is represented in plan Fig. 7.1 by **[M45]**. In the provisional section no A22-30 represents **[G/3-M39]** and is positioned in the western part close to running metre 2.0 (from west). This is the oldest wall visible in a superimposed series of walls (prov. section nos A22-30, A22-26a [= **[M45]** and A22-22a[744]). Unfortunately a much later pit (provisional section no A22-5) destroyed the finely stratified layers running against those superimposed walls from the east. Therefore the connection to the walls, provisional section A22-22b and A22-26b, between running metres 5.0 and 6.0 from the west cannot be unequivocally made with the help of these layers. The latest western wall of this series (at running metre 2.0) is that with provisional section no A22-22a.[745]

To sum up, it can be said that the wall with provisional section no A22-26 **[M45]** has a base level of about 4.85 m/NN and a preserved top of 5.10 m/NN. Because the preserved top of **[M45]** is at 4.91 m/NN in the plan drawing Fig. 7.1 it is likely that provisional section no A22-26 at running metre 2.0 represents

[743] Only the northern section is available in ink with provisional section nos derived from the original plan drawing. The analysis was conducted by M. Bietak.

[744] It is unclear whether section no A22-22a belongs to Phase F or the last part of Phase G/3–1. The fact that seven brick courses are preserved speaks against the assignation to G/3–1 because such good preservation is unusual for this phase even more so for a precinct wall. On the other hand, this wall was also not assigned to Phase F (cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3) and there is no wall in Phase E/3 at this position, cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 4. The wall of Phase E/2, on the other hand, visible in M. Bietak, TD V, plan 5, is represented by section no A22-21.

[745] The original pencil/crayon drawings were labelled with absolute phases, but the blue prints scanned in Cairo showed that the walls were then thought to be one phase older each than originally thought. Cf. notes on the copy of the section. The final labelling of the section did not happen as yet.

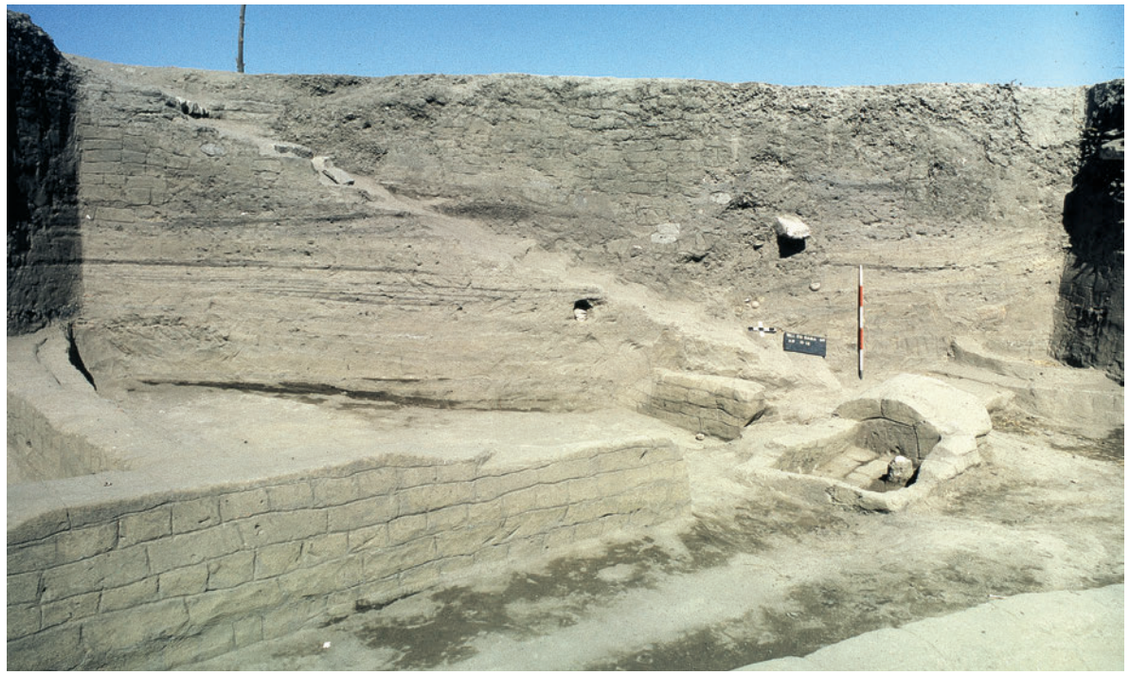


Fig. 7.4 A/II-o/12, western section, note the later tomb cutting into the settlement, the wall in the foreground is wall [M47a/M51a] (Cairo Archive)

the preserved top of wall **[M45]** of Phase G/2–1, at least. Thus, the wall below, with provisional section no A22-30 is older and probably belongs to the phase below, G/3, so wall **[G/3-M39]**[746] was identified with it. Unfortunately the recording of the section was cut short at 4.70 m/NN, so that no further information on the relation of the earlier walls and their base levels is extant, because wall **[G/4-M27]** might have come through this baulk at a lower elevation (cf. Fig. 9.1). This feature of superimposed walls is again evidence for the continued renewal of walls in the same location. Another series of superimposed walls exists at running metre 5.50 from the west, visible as **[M56]** in the plan Fig. 7.1,[747] and the oldest one starts at a base level of 4.70 m/NN. There are only two phases of walls represented by provisional section nos A22-26b and A22-27 (beside each other) and A22-22b above them slightly shifted towards the west (base level ca 5.15 m/NN).[748] The wall with section no A22-26b is preserved up to an elevation of ca 5.0 m/NN which fits quite well with wall **[M56]**. Also the width of the drawn wall plus the sand tempered wall sticking out at the east of it fits well the width of section no A22-26b and A22-27. It does not seem necessary to reconstruct a perpendicular wall running into the baulk, although, of course, it is possible.[749] In fact, it seems as if in pl. 6 both walls section A22-26b and A22-22b were drawn, because in the section the same shift of the top wall (A22-22b) towards the west is visible as in the plan drawing. Thus, the top of this with the

[746] This is the oldest wall reached in this location and it is visible in Fig. 9.6.

[747] Belongs to Compound 12, Room/Building 3, cf. Fig. 6.1.

[748] This second wall with provisional section no A22-22b ca at running metre 5.5 and base level of 5.10 m/NN does not appear at all in the published plans and may be either assigned to Phase F or E/3. M. Bietak thinks Phase F more likely due to the similar elevation of the base levels, namely at about 5.10 m/NN and the fact that the finely layered compacted levels of the alleyway ran towards the Phase F version of wall **[M45]**, personal communication 5 September 2017. Also N. Math chose Phase F in her overall plan of A/II, personal communication.

[749] M. Bietak remarked on this in the provisional section analysis but it was not reconstructed in TD V, plan 2, square A/II-o/12, Compound 12. It is notable that the wall section no A22-27 noted in the northern section as abutting the western wall of Compound 12 could not be identified in the southern profile of A/II-n/12, which probably means that if it existed it only served as an installation but not an element dividing a room.

mud-bricks drawn in is, in fact, the wall of the next phase, perhaps Phase F.[750]

Finally there is another wall at a lower elevation at running metre 4.70 from west: it carries the provisional section no A22-30 and the preserved top of the wall reaches an elevation of ca 4.70 m/NN and just the top mud-brick course was recorded. Again the base level of this wall was not reached, although another 0.3–0.4 m were excavated to reach planum 7. This wall may belong to Phases H–G/4 and/or G/3, but a lack of base levels makes this assumption arbitrary. Two potential walls are in the correct position of running metre 4.70 from west, namely **[H-G/4-M9]** and **[G/4-M40]** cf. Fig. 9.1. However, it seems unlikely to belong to Phase H, proper because the elevation of that phase is usually much lower. Further, the western lower portions of this section show layers of broken mud-bricks in the tiny area that belongs to **L [156]** south and east of Compounds 11 and 14, respectively (cf. Fig. 4.17). The alleyway (in square A/II-o/12 numbered as **L [151]**) is represented in the section from running metre 2.40 to ca 4.50 counting from the west by a series of finely stratified ashy, humic and sandy layers (provisional section no A22-33). On top of this phase the stratified layers between the walls numbered A22-26 and A22-30 contain more ash as well as charcoal. They were described as aeolic (section no A22-28).

The western section (A63) was either not recorded or the records are no longer available (see Fig. 7.4).

The eastern section (A86, drawn spring 1969) is not relevant for Compound 13, because that only covers Compound 12 (see above, chapter 6, 206).

In the southern section (A45, drawn in 1969[751]) the most prominent walls belonging to the earlier phases are section no A45-21a and b (**= [M50a, M49a]**) with a base level of ca 4.60 m/NN (see Fig. 6.38). They both belong to the actual housing unit and A45-21a represents the southern exterior wall **[M50a]**, whilst A45-21b represents the inner partition wall **[M49a]**. Notable is the layer of mud-brick rubble between those walls with provisional section no A45-22, which covers the rather thin package of stratified layers of settlement activity (provisional section no A45-25) and represents a fill of the room **L [154]**. The walls are preserved six to eight courses, which is relatively well preserved compared to the other walls discussed so far. These two walls were well and evenly built. The section shows very clearly that there was no building activity here until the beginning of Phase E/2,[752] providing some evidence for the area having fallen in disuse after Phase G/2–1.

Below the walls just discussed, there is another phase visible (planum 7), with a single wall running through the southern baulk, (**[G/3-M46]**). In the section it is represented by provisional section no A45-27. The base level was not reached because it lies below the exposure. It is interesting to note that the older wall was not destroyed to make the floor of the later building of Phase G/2–1 even. It took some time and accumulations until it was slightly more straight. The lowest elevation reached altogether in this area is 4.40 m/NN, but it is very probable that the settlement layers continue further down below. This wall no A45-27 is preserved at least three brick courses high and up to a height of 4.80 m/NN. It is clear that the phase of G/2–1 e.g. **[M50a]** is built on top of an older phase, which is more probably G/4 or G/3 than Phase H. Phase H generally exhibits an even lower elevation for its base levels, although the unevenness of the *gezirah* might have created more differences in base levels than hitherto appreciated. The elevation of the base level of wall no A45-27 remains unknown so that the two phases could even have been superimposed H and G/4–3.[753] There are series of finely stratified layers with both phases of walls (provisional section nos A45-21 and A45-27). The stratified layers east of wall **[M50a]** represent again **L [151]**, which is the alleyway/thoroughfare east of Compound 13. The package of layers (provisional section no A45-24) consists of sandy, ashy and humic elements, just as in the northern section (cf. above, 234–236). The phase below also contains sandy, ashy and humic layers which run towards and against the wall with provisional section no A45-27, from both the west and the east in a way that suggests that they are contemporary with the wall (slightly rising against the wall).

[750] This has been corrected in Fig. 7.1.

[751] This section is not yet inked but drawn in crayon (TDplan 357) with provisional section nos, analysed by M. Bietak.

[752] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 5.

[753] Cf. chapters 5 and 9.

Finds from square A/II-o/12, pl. 6

L [153] Room

Stone

Reg.no **2476** (Museum Cairo), cosmetic palette.[754]
Position: A/II-o/12, pl. 5–6, 1.60 m/S, 3.60 m/W 2.80 m/D [= ~4.60 m/NN], relative level g (Fig. 7.5).
Records: B/W negative SW1187/11.
Measurements: Preserved length = 9.3 cm, width = 9.7 cm, height = 3.3 cm. About 2/3 preserved. Trapezoid section, traces of red colour. Material: quartzite (colour of material 7.5 YR 6/4), well smoothed (or polished?); the inner ledge is rounded and the dimensions of the inner depression is 5.2 cm in width and 7.0 + x in length.

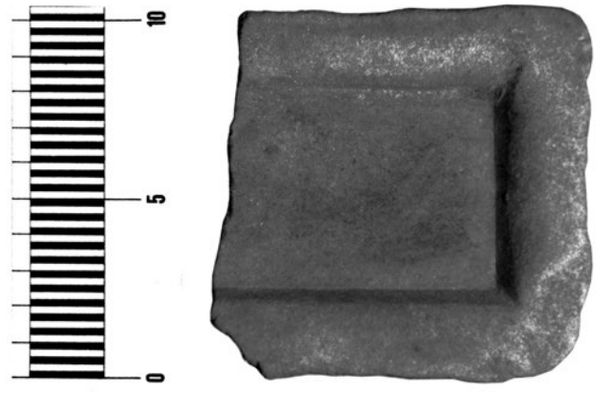


Fig. 7.5 Reg.no 2476, cosmetic palette, SW1187/11

[754] This object was seen and re-evaluated by M. Bietak on 21 November 1983 and he added some entries to the register book in his hand writing.

Chapter 8: Compound 14a and 14b (= Bezirk VII) – A/II-m/10; n/10–11

Compound 14 is situated slightly south-west of Compound 11 and consists of several elements and stretches over at least three squares, namely the larger part of A/II-m/10, A/II-n/10 and A/II-n/11. It is likely that the Compound continues further to the west and north, but the excavation did not expose that area. There are hints that this compound may have been divided into two units. Because of the spatial closeness of the two and their incompleteness they are discussed together here. Compound 14a expands over the western half of A/II-m/10 and the north western part of A/II-n/10 (see Fig. 8.2).

Included in compound 14a are at least three round silos, part of a building that consisted of at least two rooms, most probably in the usual ground plan of one wide room with a narrow one added laterally[755] as well as at least one open space probably used as a courtyard and activity area **L [161]**.

A. Compound 14a

Square A/II-m/10

Excavation and available records

The division of Compound 14a from Compound 14b is based on the following considerations. It seems to be clear though that the open space **L [161]** belongs more to Room 2 than to Room 1, especially because of a southern hurdle wall **[M40]** starting at the south-western corner of Room 2 and leading towards the south dividing the space south and west of Buildings 2 and 1 into two. Thus, space **L [174]** may even be situated outside of Compound 14 altogether. Another point to consider is the very narrow distance of 0.4 m between the north-western corner of Room 1 and the eastern exterior wall **[M28]** of Room 2. This space could not have been used as a passage except by children and small animals. However, due to the partial excavation and the ambiguity of the access paths it remains unclear whether Compound 14a and b are to be considered belonging to the same general unit or not.

A small part in the east of square m/10 belongs to Compound 11 and is described there. For the details of the excavation and records available see Compound 11.[756]

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-m/10)

In the relevant planum 6 it is clear that two phases were uncovered (Fig. 8.3–8.4),[757] the lower of which probably belongs to Phases G/3 and/or G/4.[758]

To the west of the dividing wall between Compounds 11 and 14 (**[M8]**) at least three round silos were uncovered **L [158]**, **L [159]**, and **L [160]**. The remains of silo **L [160]** were very scant and consisted only of a few bricks that were destroyed and overlain by more silos in the subsequent Phase F.[759] The silos were built of heavily sand tempered mud-brick walls of half brick's width laid out as headers as usual and measured 2.5 and 3.5 Egyptian cubits in diameter, respectively (= 1.7 and 2.4 m). It seems that in this area a courtyard was situated as already suspected by M. Bietak.[760] The courtyard may have been accessed through an opening in a flimsy precinct (?) wall **[M26]**, which may be a continuation of, or an

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[755] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

[756] See chapter 3, Compound 11, 110–112.

[757] See chapter 3, Compound 11, 110–112.

[758] See chapter 5. In general it was difficult to connect the stratigraphy of A/II-m/10 to the remainder of the area, because this is the only square that could potentially connect the archaeological remains of the earlier phases of the northern part to those of the southern part, cf. chapters 5 and 9. As it has no direct stratigraphic connections to the neighbouring squares much of the phasing must remain tentative. It is mostly due to the fact that Mortuary Temple I was left standing so that the area between the northern and southern parts remained largely unexplored. Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

[759] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3, A/II-m/10.

[760] M. Bietak, TD V, 30.

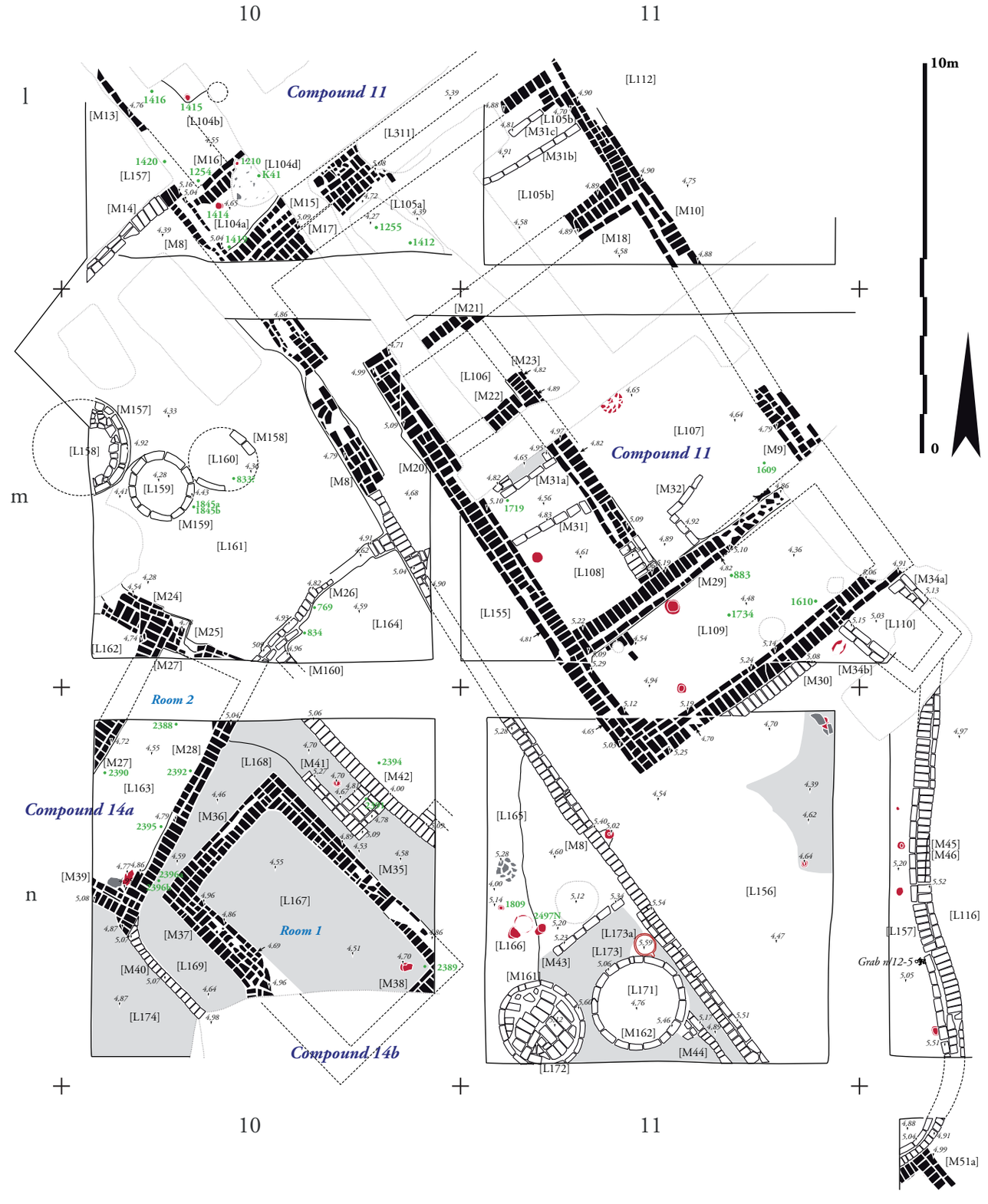


Fig. 8.1 Schematic plan of Compounds 14a and b. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution by N. Math

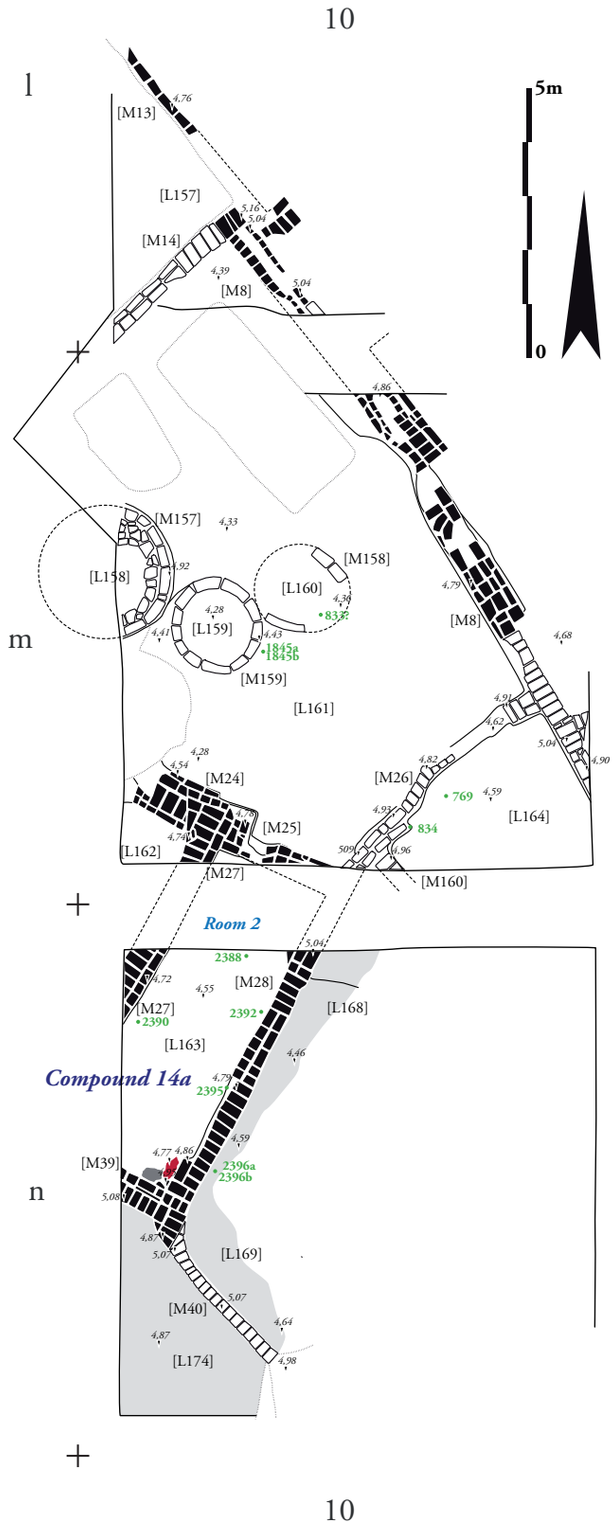


Fig. 8.2 Compound 14a. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution N. Math

addition to wall **[M28]** or a partition wall to Compound 14b.[761] It is unclear if this wall was built in bond with **[M8]** or just abutted the corner.

The northern part of this compound may have continued on into the area of square A/II-l/10, where **L [157]** is situated. Whether this space also belonged to Compound 14 originally must remain unclear because the limited excavation did not provide a secure plan with doors and thoroughfares. Moreover, that space **L [157]** was destroyed by two later tombs, belonging to Phase F (A/II-m/10-8 and 9).[762]

In the southern part of square A/II-m/10 the northern part of a house with a presumably bipartite ground plan was recorded that continues further to the south into square A/II-n/10 (see Fig. 8.2 and 260–269). The heavily sand tempered mud-bricks of **[M24]** were of ca 0.35–0.37 by 0.18–0.19 m.[763]

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-m/10[764])

The northern section[765] of A/II-m/10 (A10, drawn in 1968) was exposed to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN in most places, except for tomb A/II-m/10-no 8[766] going down to 4.20 m/NN. As most of these tombs and their construction pits destroyed the settlement layers west of the compound walls **[M8/M19]** nothing much can be said, except that **[M8]** (= section no A10-47a) seems to have been built later than **[M19]** (= section no A10-47b[767]) of Compound 11, if the assumption is correct that a shallower base level may mean later construction, cf. chapter 3.[768]

The western section (A50,[769] drawn in 1968) was excavated down to a level of roughly 4.00 m/NN,

761 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
762 Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
763 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 May 1968, p. 7.
764 Please note that the sections relevant for Compound 11 are mentioned in chapter 3. The analysis of the sections throughout was conducted by M. Bietak. Inked versions of these sections with final section nos are available for the northern, western and southern sections. The eastern one is not available.
765 See also relevant section in chapter 3, Compound 11.
766 M. Bietak, TD V, 61–70, plan 3, Phase F.
767 The base level of this wall goes beyond the excavated elevation.
768 There are three section nos A10-47 in section A/II-m/10-north, which I have divided into a, b and c. A10-47a (= **[M8]**) is located at running metres ca 5.00–5.30 and was founded at a base level of ca 4.40 m/NN. It is three brick courses high preserved.
769 Please note that the assignation of A50 in M. Bietak, TD V, 215 to the "O-Profil" is a printing error. It should read "W-Profil", which is clear from the description of the item in the text.



Fig. 8.3 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, view towards north with ashy floor layers, silo L [159] is on the left side of the photo, while [M26] limits the entrance to the southern part of the compound on the right side of the photo, SW1076/10



Fig. 8.4 A/II-m/10, pl. 6, view of square towards north east, for locus numbers see plan above, SW1076/14

except in the northern part (running metres 7.5 to 10.0 from south) because there was the pit of tomb A/II-m/10-9 belonging to Phase F.[770]

In this area of the site no substantial buildings seem to have been located, neither in Phase G/3–1 nor in the older Phases H and G/4. Only in the later Phase F is there a massive wall (section no A50-32) of more than 1.5 m width, which represents the western circumference of a silo.[771] The base level for Phase F is probably about 5.00 m/NN as noted by M. Bietak in the section (no A50-37). Close to the southern end of the section is another feature of Phase F (no A50-31) but very badly preserved. The extension of wall **[M24]** (the northern exterior wall of Room 2 towards the west, see Fig. 8.1–8.2) is in turn not visible as an articulated wall. It is possible that the heavily sand tempered mud-brick rubble section nos A50-46 and A50-47[772] (mixed with ashes) represent all that is left of this continuation. There is a disturbance in this area recorded in the plan drawing of

[770] M. Bietak, TD V, 70–73.

[771] It was cut obliquely in the section, section no A50-32. The structure is in M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3, **[207]**. I would like to thank M. Bietak and N. Math discussing that structure with me.

[772] Only between running metres 2.0 and 3.0 counting from the south.

planum 6.[773] The base level of this rubble is at ca 4.40 m/NN. To Phase G/2–1 belongs a rounded feature built from sand tempered mud-bricks (section no A50-42), that equals **L [158]** at running metre 7.0 counting from the south. The base level of this round silo is around 4.60 m/NN and therefore would appear to belong to the later stages of Phase G/2–1. To the south of **L [158]** there may have been situated another silo that is badly disturbed and was originally drawn into the settlement plan as a hemispherical disturbance, beginning at running metre 2.5 and ending ca at 4.60 m from the south.[774] There are only a few sand tempered bricks left at an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, which indicates perhaps an earlier date for this silo than for **L [158]**. Apart from this latter feature at a level of ca 4.40 m/NN and below down to 4.00 m/NN a series of finely layered sands, ashes and humic/humous layers were found (section no A50-50) as it is usual in places were thoroughfares or open areas are situated. Thus before Phase G/3 no specific activity took place in this area. Below that the *gezirah* sands were just about reached (section no A50-52), but it remains unclear if the settlement remains stop there or not. A flimsy wall of two heavily sand tempered mud-bricks (section no A50-51) was also found, which may belong to an earlier phase (Phase G/4 or H).[775] Section no A50-49 represents a pit that was dug some time in Phase G/3–1, the purpose of which could not be discerned because it was filled exclusively with clean sand.

The interpretation derived from this evidence suggests that this area **L [161]** was a thoroughfare/courtyard used for storage and probably also a limited amount of cooking/industrial activity(?) at least in the earlier periods of its use life (cf. the ovens and the ashy layers in planum 6). The lack of continuation for wall **[M 24]** in the section suggests either that it did not continue towards the west – the reason may be that there was perhaps a doorway or that **[M 24]** served as a feature for some other purpose. The only other possibility is that no A50-47 in the western section represents this wall after its total denudation.

Noteworthy is wall **[M14]** (= section no A50-38, at the northern limit of the section)[776] already visible in square A/II-l/10 built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks. This was cut by a later pit (Phase E/1–D/3) and thus, belongs to an earlier phase, perhaps Phase F or G. This wall continues towards the north into A/II-l/10, but because the base level is below the excavated exposure, not much can be said about its relative date of foundation.

The southern section (A37, drawn in 1968) illustrates the position of the walls **[M8]** (= section no A37-66), **[M25]** (= section no A37-61), **[M26] + [M160]** (= section no A37-59), and **[M27]** (= section no A37-61 and A37-63). Like all the other walls they were built from heavily sand tempered mud-bricks. To start in the eastern part of the section wall **[M8]** is relatively thin and ca four to five mud-brick courses high preserved (section no A37-66), the base level can be discerned at an elevation of ca 4.20 m/NN. The base level of wall **[M26] + [M160]** may have been at an elevation of about 4.00–4.10 m/NN (section no A37-59), which appears to have been built in a very irregular way. The base levels of **[M25]** and **[M27]** may also have been at the same elevation, but the exposure of the trench stops at 4.00 m/NN. It is, thus, possible that the original base levels were even below that elevation because the exposure does not allow a decision as to whether any of the described walls continued further down below. Remarkably, in contrast to many others, they are preserved up to eight or nine mud-brick courses high. This may serve as an additional hint that perhaps more building phases existed here, and that a renewal was initiated immediately on top of the old walls, as more frequently seen in several parts of the settlement.

Finds from square A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5 and 5–6

A few finds were recorded, some of which may belong to Phase G/4–1. As most of them lack exact elevations, it must remain quite uncertain if they can really be assigned to this phase. They were all found in the courtyard **L [161]** (see Fig. 8.2, for the distribution).

[773] I would like to thank M. Bietak and N. Math discussing this matter with me.

[774] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2.

[775] It seems as if just a trench along the western baulk was dug for the purpose of recording the section, because there is no planum with such a low exposure of 4.00 m/NN that would show any structures.

[776] This wall is situated effectively in square A/II-l/10 but the first running metre had been added to the drawing of section of A/II-m/10.

Stone

Reg.nos 1854a and b are probably those most securely belonging to Phase G/3–1, because they were found in planum 5–6, albeit without a more precise level. The level between planum 5 and 6 is about 4.86 m/NN (recorded in pl. 5) to 4.30 m/NN. No pits were recorded in this area.

Reg.no **1854a**,[777] (Museum Cairo), vessel/mortar made of limestone. Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 5–6, 3.3 m/W; 4.10 m/S, just south east of silo **L [159]**, relative stratum f (Fig. 8.5.b, 8.6).
Records: B/W negative SW1547/26–31, drawing ZN 165/68.
Rd. = 20.0 (67 % of rim preserved); bd. = 16.3, wd. = 1.8–3.0; H1 = 11.3.
The photo (Fig. 8.6.a) shows a cut mark in the rim of the vessel.

Reg.no **1854b**,[778] stone object made of green stone, round. Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 5–6, 3.3 m/W, just south east of silo **L [159]**. 4.10 m/S. relative stratum f. H = between 4.30 m/NN and 4.86 m/NN (recorded in pl. 5) (Fig. 8.5.a).
Records: drawing 165/68.
Max.d. = 12.5 cm; height without protrusion 2.0 cm.
Surface rough and uneven, one central protrusion/core was left in place and rough, whilst around it polishing was noticed. Initially the object was interpreted as a large lid of vessel. M. Bietak identified the object as possible part of a potter's wheel.[779] The material is described as greenish stone, thus it might be identified as siltstone or schist.[780]

Reg.no **833** (KhM, A 1833), pierced stone ('loom weight'). Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, relative level e, in central round feature of pl. 6,[781] (Fig. 8.5.b).
Records: drawing ZN 137/67, redrawn and re-recorded.
Material: limestone, with irregular brown stains.
Measurements: length = 6.8 cm, max. width = 4.5, thickness = 1.8–2.9, weight = 93.4 grams. The stone was roughly worked at the bottom, if the part with the hole is considered the top. Some rough smoothing marks were visible with the naked eye. The small amount of weight of this object makes it difficult to assess its possible function in the weaving craft, because while light enough for a warp weighted loom, this type is not attested that early. See the comprehensive discussion in chapter 3, 72–75. Other functions such as a rough plumb bob are possible.

Pottery

The following finds from **L [161]** and **L [164]** may belong to Phases F or G/3–1 and are mentioned here rather for completeness' sake.

Reg.no **769** (KhM, A 2571), base of amphora, reused.
Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, 1.70 m/S, 3.80 m/E, relative level e, below wall of Phase E/3–2, therefore Phases F or G/3–1 (Fig. 8.7.a).
Records: B/W negative SW1057/69, drawing ZN 137/67, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	IV-2	m	W1–2	Bd. W	ox	3

Bd. = 13.0, (100% preserved); H1 = 2.5 cm + x
Surface colour: outside 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown; inside: 7.5 YR 5/3 brown. Section: wide dark grey core with reddish brown (exterior) and light brown (interior) oxidation zones. Dense fabric; broken into two halves; outer surface not combed. NAA was conducted: The result suggested it was Nile alluvium, but the fabric did not look like a Nile clay fabric at macroscopic examination.[782] The base seems to have been re-used as a plate, the edges being cut seemingly deliberately because they show some sort of abrasion although not as smooth as a scraper. The corner of the transition between the base and the body was sharply executed with a tool. The interior of the base shows irregular rilling lines.

[777] This find was re-registered in 1981 under reg.no 3377 in order to be brought to the Museum in Cairo. It was not possible to re-assess that find physically.
[778] This find was not available for re-study.
[779] Entry in the register book in M. Bietak's hand writing.
[780] For other objects made from this material see B. Bader, Stone Objects, 25–41.
[781] All documentation shows the same description of the location, therefore it is unclear if the object came from pl. 4–5 or 6 because it was not stated in the register book. The fact that it was registered with other finds from pl. 4–5 does not allow for more certainty. Also both pl. 5 and 6 contain separate central rounded features, which are also shown as find sketch on the find slip.
[782] P.E. McGovern, *Foreign Relations*, 127. The fragment was identified by McGovern as the base of a flat based cooking pot, made of Ie3. This seems unlikely in the light of the new study, because the vessel fragment has a convex and wheelmade base, which would not be able to rest stably on a flat surface. The bases of handmade cooking pots are really flat. The base of an amphora with wider base and without handles seems much more likely, cf. for example D. Aston, Ceramic Imports, fig. 10.4–5. Ultimately an error with the reg.nos among the samples taken cannot be discounted.

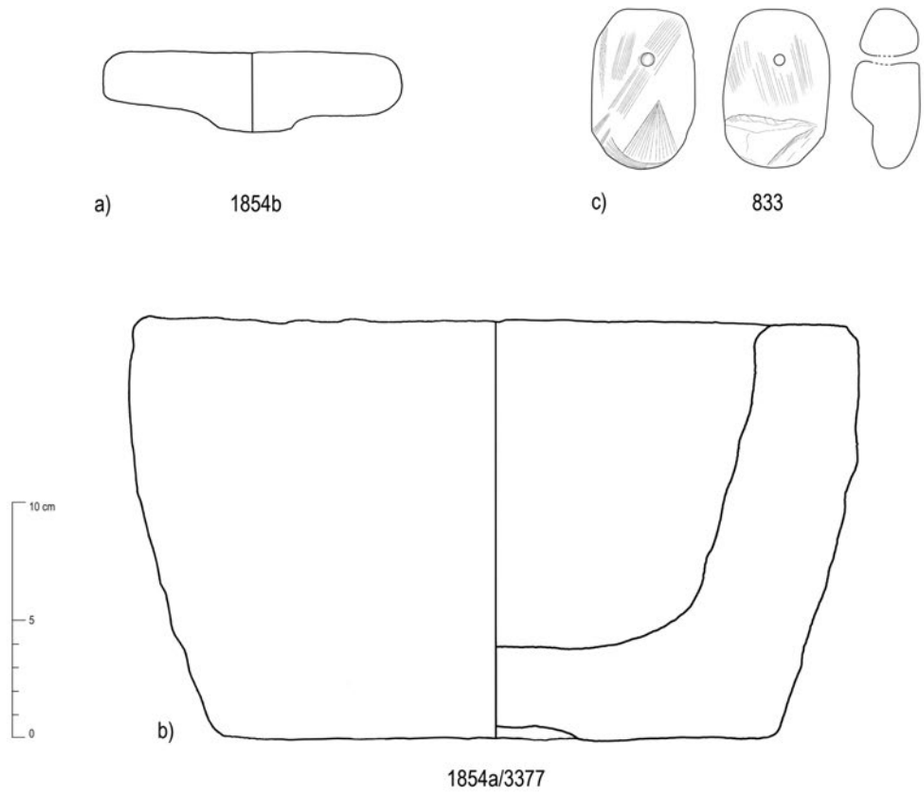


Fig. 8.5. a) Reg.no 1854b, lid/potter's wheel made from greenish stone, L [161], b) reg.no 1854a, mortar made from limestone, L [161] ZN 165/68, c) reg.no 833, pierced stone, drawing 139/67

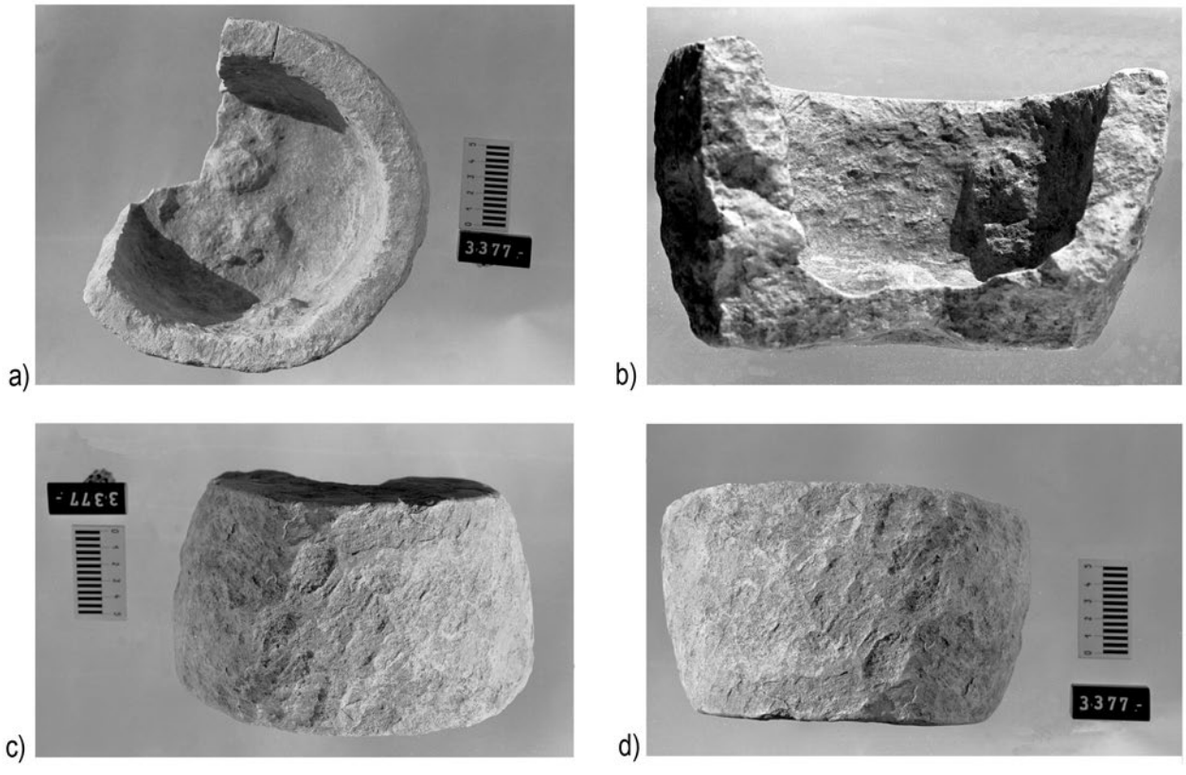


Fig. 8.6 Reg.no 1854a, limestone mortar, a) SW1547/26, b) SW1547/32, c) SW1547/27, d) SW1547/28

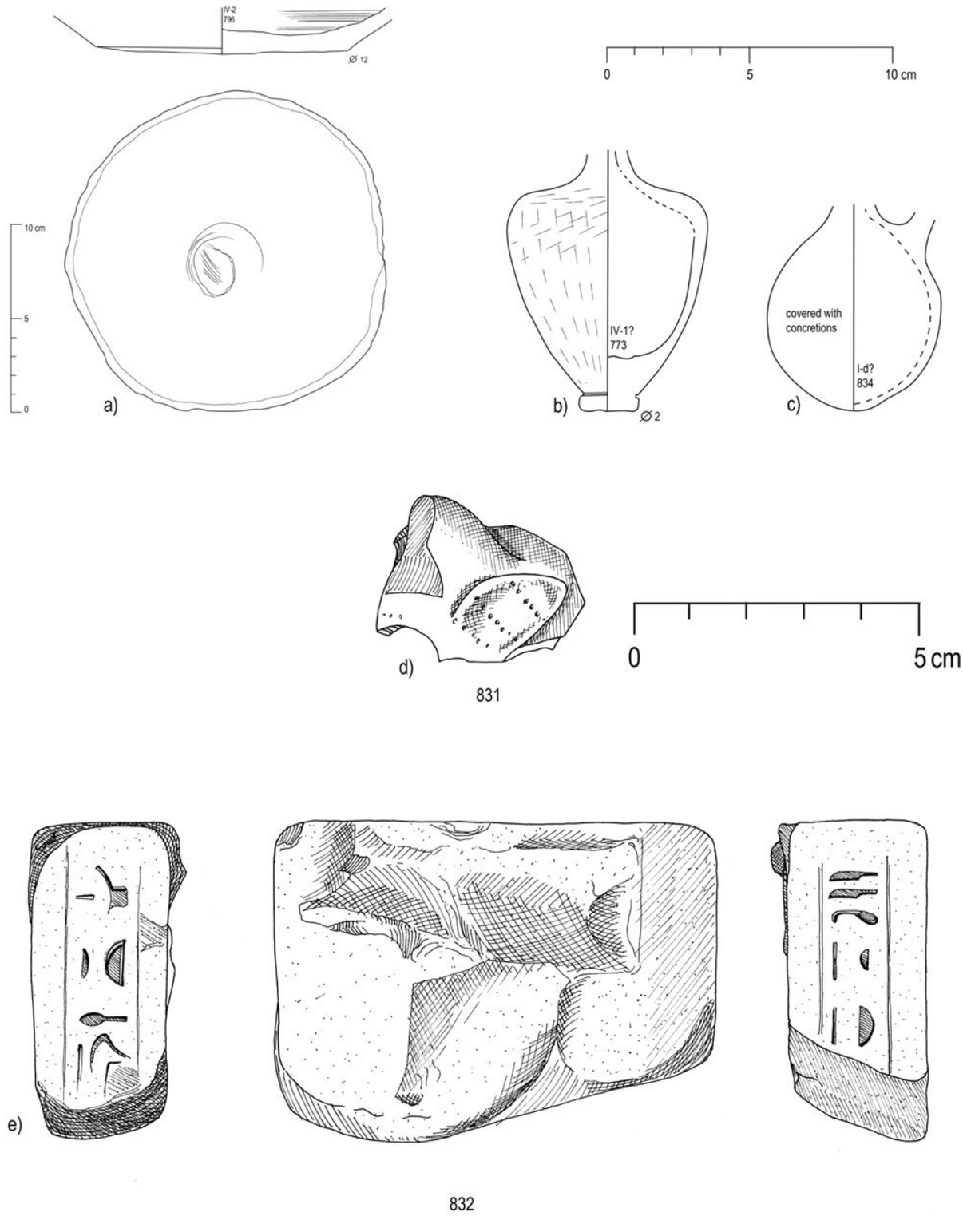


Fig. 8.7 a) Reg.no 769, re-used base of amphora, scale 1:3, b) reg.no 773 piriform juglet, scale 1:2, c) reg.no 834, globular juglet, scale 1:2, d) reg.no 831 bovine (?) Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, scale 1:1, e) reg.no 832, pedestal of a statuette, scale 1:1

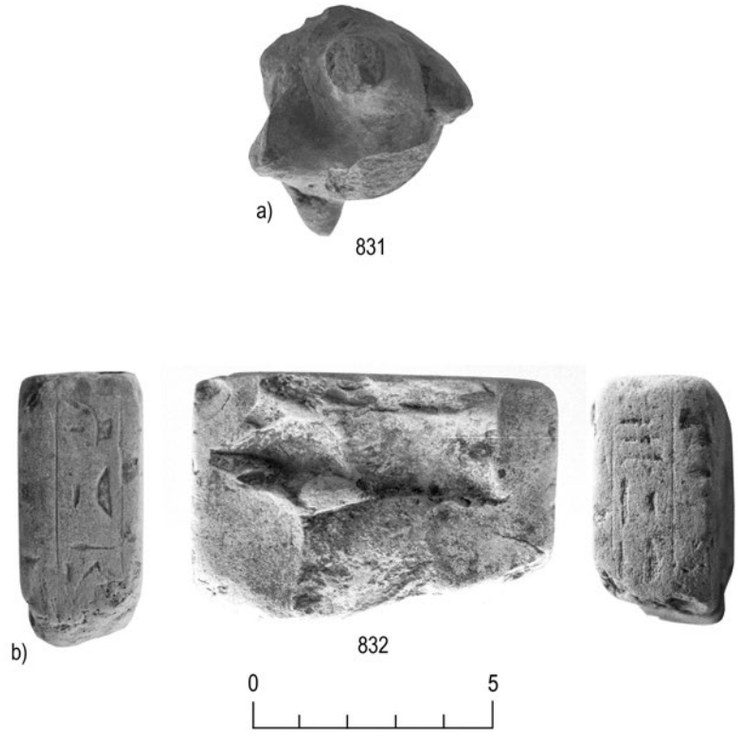


Fig. 8.8 a) Reg.no 831, bovine (?) Tell el-Yahudieh juglet SW1053/14, b) reg.no 832, statuette base, view from top SW1053/11, inscriptions on the sides SW1049/75, SW1053/9

Reg.no **773** (KhM, A 2575), juglet with button base. Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, relative level e, 1.40 m/S, 4.90 m/E, #JH 283, Str. F or G (Fig. 8.7.b).
Records: B/W negative SW1057/59, drawing ZN 8b/67, redrawn and re-recorded.

BP	IV-1-2?	f	W1–2	Bd. W	re	3

Max.d. = 7.0; wd. = 0.45; bd. = 2.0, (100% preserved); H1 = 9.3;
Surface colour: brown burnishing 7.5 YR 5/3; red in places 10 R 4/6 red. Section: uniform black, not fresh; fabric contains many limestone particles (small and large); quartz, small and large; handle scar does not allow identification if a strap or a round handle was present; neck and rim not preserved; the burnishing was conducted vertically on the juglet body, and roughly horizontal on the shoulder, where it was more eroded; inside and on some places outside the juglet shows green discolouring as if from an offering pit;[783] the juglet was tested by NAA (#JH 283) as attested by a drill hole and was found to be of "Fayyum-marl".[784] As this result would represent the only juglet made of "Fayyum marl" that equals Marl C, it must be regarded with utmost scepticism.[785] Because no fresh break was available, macroscopic examination does not add any knowledge.

Reg.no **834** (KhM, A 2606), juglet, globular, black burnished, A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, level e, 2.60 m/S, 4.20 m/E (Fig. 8.7.c).
Records: B/W negative SW1049/73–74, drawing ZN 137/67, redrawn and re-recorded.

Also derived from **L [161]** are reg.nos 830, 831 and 832 (Fig. 8.7–8.8), but it is rather unlikely they should belong to Phase G/3–1, and are only mentioned here to provide a complete overview, especially considering the parallels of some of these items.

[783] V. Müller, TD XVII/1, 216, esp. foot note 487.
[784] P.E. McGovern, *Foreign Relations*, 127.
[785] It might perhaps be possible that sample numbers were mixed somewhere during the analysing process. The same holds true for reg.no 769.

Reg.no **830** (KhM, A 2605), Cypriot WPPLS. Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, 2.90 m/S, 1.20 m/E, 2.50 m/D (~ H = 5.10 m/NN); under a wall of relative level d [and close to a wall of Phase E/3 (cf. plan 4, of TD V)]. Previously published by L.C. Maguire as belonging to Phases E/3 or F.[786]

Reg.no **831** (KhM, A 1809), fragment of an animal shaped (bovine?) Tell el-Yahudieh juglet.[787] Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, 1.80 m/W; 2.10 m/S [on top of wall **[M26]**, therefore certainly later than Phase G/3–1], relative level e (Fig. 8.7.d, 8.8.a).
Records: B/W negative SW1053/13, drawing ZN 139/67.

SPI	I-d	f	W+H	–	re	3

H1 = 1.3; wd. = 0.35; measurements: 3.6 by 3.2 cm. Surface colour: 2.5 Y 4/1 very dark grey; burnished slip: not preserved. Section: uniform dark grey; decoration added with a five toothed comb. The drawing shows at least three rows of incised dots.

Reg.no **832** (Museum Cairo, JE 91579), part of a pedestal base of small statuette. Position: A/II-m/10, pl. 4–5, in central round feature, relative level e (Fig. 8.7.e, 8.8.b).
Records: B/W negatives SW1049/75–80, SW1053/7–12, colour slide nos TD896, TD1090, drawing ZN 139/67.
Material: yellowish limestone, one half of base is missing, on top of base traces of the missing figure perhaps with a back pillar, but it remains unclear whether the space was sufficient for a standing, a sitting or a kneeling figure; Colour: 2.5 Y 7/4 pale yellow. The two shorter sides of the base fragment carry an incised fragmentary inscription, the left side (from the observers point of view) reads *.....m3ᶜ*[788] *ḫrw nbt jm3ḫ(w)* and the right side *....(n) nb n Ttjj* (?).[789] The back of the base pedestal seems to remain more or less intact not bearing an inscription (no photograph or drawing of the back exists). The front seems to have been damaged. The statuette could have been of a standing figure with a back pillar, judging from the traces on top of the pedestal. Measurements: width = 7.8 cm, length = 5.6+x cm, thickness = 2.6 cm.

The inscription reads "...True of voice, Lady of dignity" ["Gerechtfertigte, Herrin der Würdigkeit"].[790] The inscription on the right side seems to contain the name *Ttjj* or *Tjj*[791] "...for the lady *T(t)jj*". Epigraphic work resulting in personal dossiers of women in the Middle Kingdom attests at least the occurrence of the name *Tjj* several times.[792] Because no other names of relatives such as husband or children are known it is not possible to provide any more information except that the name written without another *t* is known from the Middle Kingdom.

The search for parallels did not yield many: female statuettes, as indicated by the preserved name, are exceedingly rare and even more so with inscriptions around the sides of the pedestals rather than on top of them. Such material in general is also rare and none was inscribed with a similar name.[793]

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[786] L.C. Maguire, TD XXI, 93, DAB 8, fig. 26.

[787] D.A. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 526, cat.no 649, pl. 116. All dated parallels for similar items are in the so-called Late Egyptian Group, representing Phases E/2–1 up to D/2, cf. D.A. Aston and M. Bietak, TD VIII, 524–529.

[788] The writing of *m3ᶜ* with the sickle seems to be rather rare, judging from comparing to stelae of the 12th and 13th Dynasty at least.

[789] A. Wüthrich and R. Gundacker kindly shared their opinions (2019) with me: Either a name, a title or an offering formula would be expected in this space. For each of these options an emendation of the hieroglyphs would be necessary: either the addition of *nb(t pr)* or the assumption of an hitherto unknown name. For the offering formula there is least evidence.

[790] Wörterbuch, vol. 2, Leipzig 1928, 17 for *m3ᶜ-ḫrw*; Wörterbuch, vol. 1, Leipzig 1928, 81 for *nb jm3ḫ*. This phrase appears also on Stelae, e.g. on the stela of *Ỉr-gmt.f* dating to the late 12th/13th Dynasty in Vienna, AS 133. Cf. I. Hein and H. Satzinger, *Die Stelen des Mittleren Reiches I*, Corpus Antiquitatum Aegyptiacarum, Kunsthistorisches Museum Wien, Lieferung 4, Mainz 1989, Wien 4, 42, line 11. Note that *im3ḫ* is written without the *m33* sickle here.

[791] H. Ranke, *Die ägyptischen Personennamen*, vol. 1, 385, no 13 as female and male name, known from the Middle Kingdom, but only written with one reed, cf. also 383, no 21 and the variants there. Other possible names could be *Tjj* (H. Ranke, *Personennamen*, vol. 1, 377, no 22) for both gender occurring in the Middle Kingdom, or *Tj* as a female name in the Middle Kingdom (H. Ranke, *Personennamen*, vol. 1, 377, no 12). I would like to thank G. Moers for some comments on that name and additional references. Cf. for the Old Kingdom also K. Scheele-Schweitzer, Die Personennamen des Alten Reiches, *Philippika, Marburger Altertumskundliche Abhandlungen* 28, Wiesbaden 2014, 722, [3611].

[792] D. Stefanović, *Dossiers of Ancient Egyptian Women in the Middle Kingdom and the Second Intermediate Period*, London 2016, 202, dossier no 399 with references.

[793] Checking the statuary corpora of B. Hornemann, Types of Ancient Egyptian Statuary, vols 1–7, Kopenhagen 1951–1969, E. Delange, *Catalogue des statues égyptiennes du Moyen Empire 2060–1560 av. J.-Chr.*, Musée du Louvre, Paris 1987; J. Vandier, *Manuel d'archéologie égyptienne*, Tome 3: *Les grandes époques: La statuaire*, Paris 1958, for similar statuettes of the Middle Kingdom did not provide exact parallels.

If this find, indeed, was a burial gift, as originally thought by M. Bietak, then this find is certainly older than the level in which it was found. This means on the one hand that the inhabitants knew that there were earlier tombs around and also that they themselves most probably emptied them. Whether it should be called robbery or if some statuettes were at least for some time used as cult objects or on private altars, cannot be fathomed sufficiently due to the archaeological circumstances of the find. The find spot in the silo clearly indicates that the object had been discarded by the inhabitants of Phases G/2–1 to F. This indicates perhaps that some of the older tombs were already robbed and, thus, that those inhabitants were not descendents of those buried earlier, although this is speculation. This statuette base indicates a female person adhering to Egyptian funerary traditions. Furthermore this fragment indicates a familiarity with Egyptian traditions in that area prior to Phases G/2–1 to F.

Animal bones[794]

In planum 5–6 without a precise description of the location the following bones were assigned to Phases F–G:
Cattle: 1 frag. of a lower jaw; 1 talus.
Sheep: 1 frag. of humerus.
Sheep/goat: 1 rib.

Again in planum 5–6, several animal bones were found at the bottom of the pit of tomb A/II-m/10-8,[795] more exactly to the south of the tomb chamber. Thus, these bones belong to Phase G/3–1, into which the later tomb cut.
Cattle: splinters of scapula with closed tuber; 1 radius with distal epiphyseal cartilage closed (adult); 1 metatarsus distal part, epiphyseal cartilage open (calf).
Sheep: 1 radius, proximal epiphyseal cartilage closed, distal epiphyseal cartilage open.

Square A/II-n/10

Excavation and available records

The excavation of square A/II-n/10 started on 29 April 1969 and continued to 8 June 1969. The top soil of A/II-n/10 was very much disturbed and pitted by *sebakh* diggers.[796] The first levels recorded start at an elevation of about 7.00 m/NN. All 5 plana were excavated in 1969.[797] The structures uncovered in planum 4 were assigned to Phase F, which will be also shown here, for completeness sake (see below).[798] Most relevant for the settlement of Phase G/3–1 is planum 5. There most structures found have been assigned to the plan of sub-phases G/2–1. There are a few walls present, which may belong to the phase below, probably G/3.

For the evaluation of this square and its interpretation the following records were available: digging diary, original plan drawings, the register book, konvolute card recordings of sherd material, a card index of finds, archival photographs, and drawings of the objects.[799]

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-n/10)

Only the building in the western part of the square (Room 2) belongs to Compound 14a (Fig. 8.2), because presumably the eastern exterior wall **[M28]** and its continuation **[M26]** seem to delimit Room 2 from Room 1 situated further to the east. There is a gap between wall **[M8]** and **[M26]** which may constitute a thoroughfare between the two.

Most of the surface outside of the presumed two-room house (Room 2) **L [163]** is covered by a thick layer of ashy and charcoal deposits[800] (see Fig. 8.2, 8.9.a).[801] The interior of **L [163]** shows a sandy layer on the presumed floor without any traces of ash (Fig. 8.9.a). Room 2 in square A/II-n/10 runs into the

[794] J. Boessneck, TD III, 12–13.
[795] M. Bietak, TD V, 61–70, Phase F.
[796] According to TDplan no 267.
[797] TDplan nos 267–270, 276.
[798] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3.
[799] It seems no section drawings for this square exist. The work there could not be finished due to the need to leave the site because of war related activities in 1969, see note 737 above.
[800] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 8 June 1969, "thick layer of charcoal".
[801] The southern section of A/II-m/10 shows as position 51 a multiple deep layer of ash at an elevation of ca 5.00 to 5.30, covering the structures of Phase G. Cf. section no A37-51.

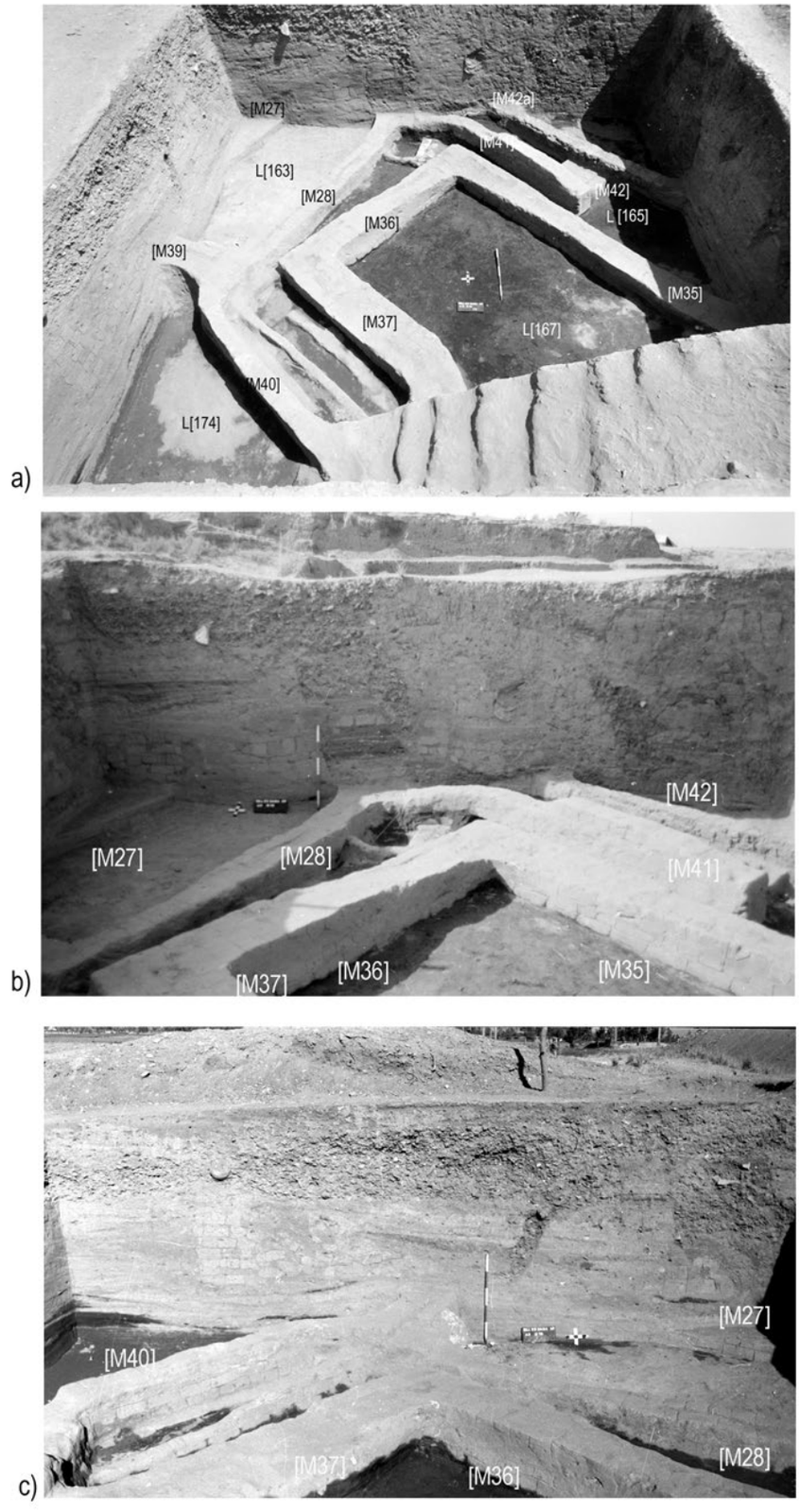


Fig. 8.9 A/II-n/10, pl. 5, a) view towards north, SW1165/40, b) northern section with walls running into it, SW1172/4, c) A/II-n/10, western section with all the walls and the later features cutting into the top of the late Middle Kingdom settlement layers, SW1167/71

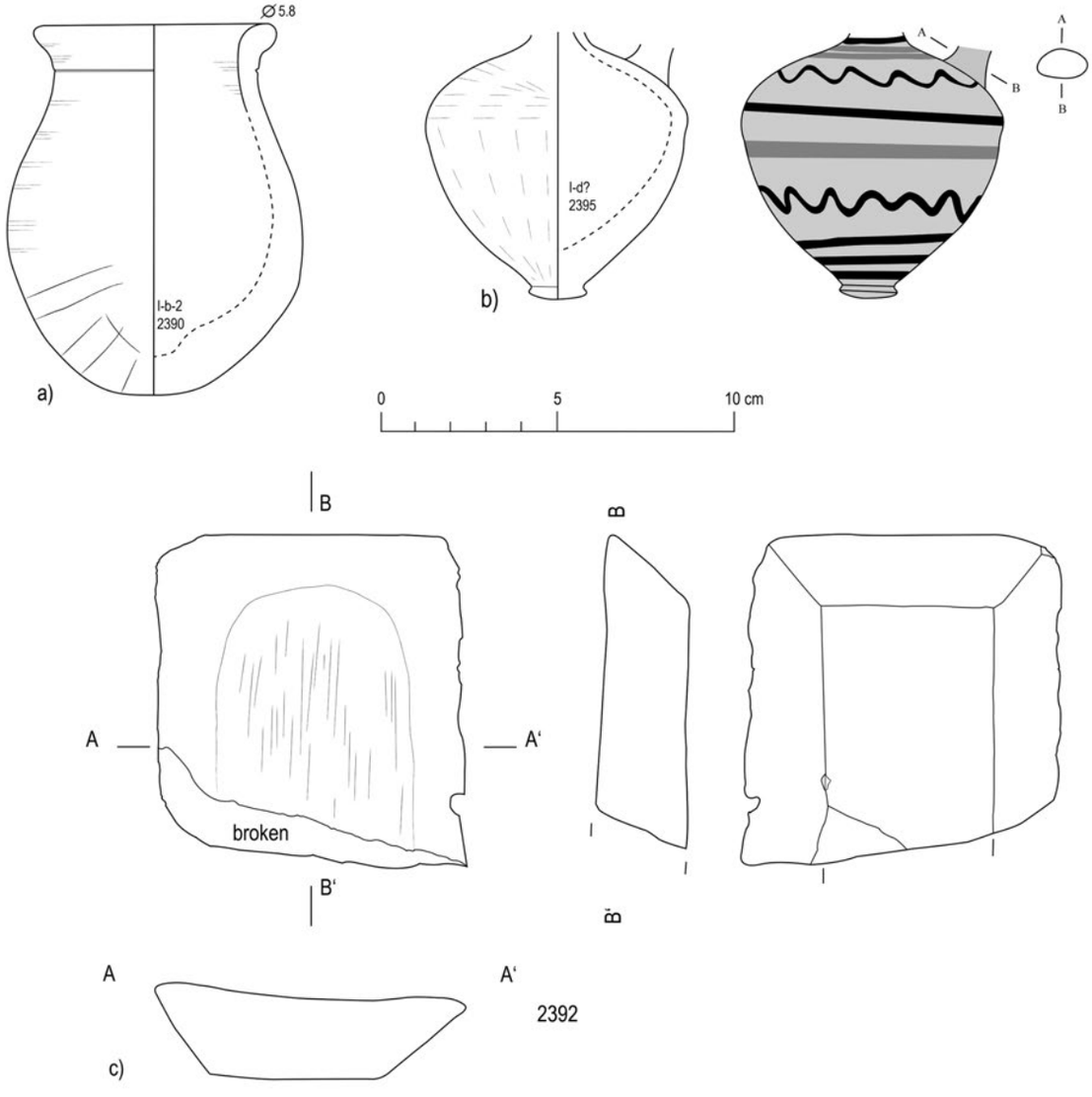


Fig. 8.10 Finds from A/II-n/10. a) reg.no 2390, small jar, b) reg.no 2395, painted juglet, c) reg.no 2392, siltstone palette, drawn by B. Bader

western baulk and beyond the limit of the excavation. Due to the preserved remains it is at least possible to assume a two-room house here, because wall **[M24]** runs further to the west and suggests at least a second room. M. Bietak suspected the door opening just in the western profile because there is no articulated wall in this spot.[802] Whether there were more rooms further west is impossible to state without new investigations.[803] Walls **[M25, M28, M39 and M27]** constitute the narrow room **L [163]** of Room 2. The base level of wall **[M28]** is at an elevation of 4.58 m/NN, very similar to that from wall **[M37]** of Room 1 (see below, 255). The possible position of doors/doorways cannot be ascertained from the fragmentary plan. An opening is likely to have been located at the south-western end of wall **[M27]** or towards its north-eastern end. The dimensions of the bricks are very similar to those of Room 1 0.33–0.35 m by 0.17–0.185 m.[804] The inner

[802] M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
[803] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.
[804] M. Bietak, TD V, 30.

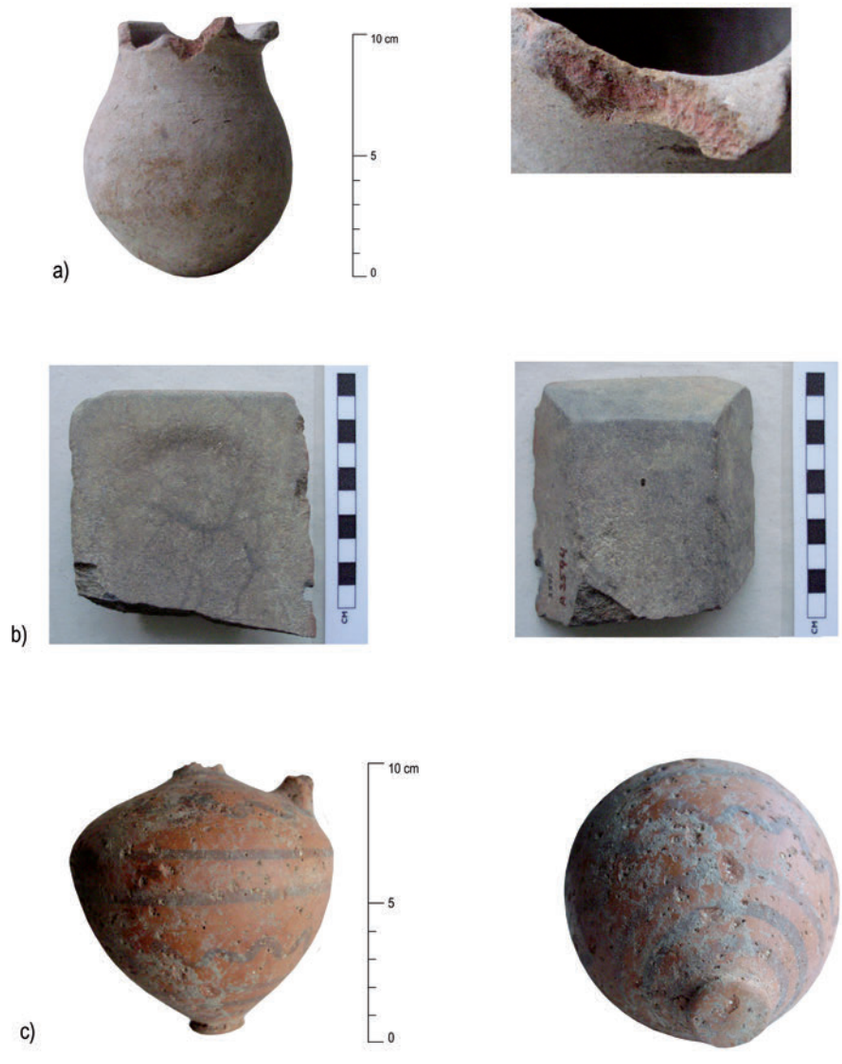


Fig. 8.11 Finds from A/II-n/10. a) reg.no 2390, small jar, b) reg.no 2392, siltstone palette, c) reg.no 2395, painted juglet. Photos taken by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

dimensions of the room **L [163]** are ca 6.0 m by 2.20 m resulting in an area of 13.3 m². In cubits this would equate 4 by 11.5 with an area of ca 46 square cubits.[805] The earlier phases of G/3 and those below were not reached in this square. The photo, Fig. 8.9.a, indicates that there were earlier structures below Phase G/2–1.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/10)

There are no section drawings available for this square only two archival photos for the northern and the western sections (Fig. 8.9.b–c).

[805] It has to be noted though that the room is not perfectly rectangular, the same as many mud brick buildings. Cf. for the general size of such houses B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

Finds from square A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5 and 5

L [163], Room 2

It is possible that the finds listed below do indeed belong to Phase G/2–1, but because the relative elevation could only be estimated this is not entirely certain.

Stone

The plan (Fig. 8.1–8.2) shows in the south eastern corner of room **L [163]** a stone implement, that was described as a column base. The shape of the stone find suggests that it was already broken or only a fragment. Besides, the room in which the object was found would not have needed a column to bridge a distance of only 2.20 m. Perhaps the stone implement represents a quern or a mortar. Unfortunately no photo of this detail was available.

Pottery

The plan (Fig. 8.1–8.2) also shows in the south eastern corner of room **L [163]** a collection of pottery that does not seem to have been recorded.

Reg.no **2390** (KhM, A 3592), small jar. Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5, in rubble of wall of rel. level g, 1.15 m/W, 2.00 m/N, 2.50 m/D (H~ 5.00 m/NN).[806]
Records: B/W negative SW1189/62–63, drawing ZN 124/69, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-2	f.	W1	Bd. gesp.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 5.8 (22% preserved); nd. = 5.7; max.d. = 8.4; H1 = 10.5; (Base 100% preserved).
Surface colour natural: 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown. Section: red core, yellowish brown oxidation zones. Vessel well smoothed (Fig. 8.10.a, 8.11.a). The type seems to be a smaller version of a well-known Marl C pottery type,[807] and it could be argued that the vessel was perhaps white slipped. The traces were not unequivocal. The fabric is fine and therefore typical for the late Middle Kingdom rather than a later date ('Hyksos' period), when quartz inclusions become much more abundant than in the earlier phases.[808]

Small finds

Reg.no **2388** (KhM, A 3965), two tubular faience beads. Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5, [0.]80 m/N, 3.10 m/W, 2.85 m/D (H~ 4.55 m/NN),[809] relative level g.
Records: not drawn, not photographed, disintegrated in the KhM. It was possible to see the remains of these beads with light blue glaze.
a) length = 0.7; width = 0.35; b) pres. length = 0.8; width = 0.4.

Close to or within the wall **[M28]**, respectively; two more finds were recorded, which are likely to belong to the later Phase F. This is because directly on top of the denuded walls of Phase G/2–1 those of Phase F are set along the same size of rooms and orientation.[810]

Stone

Reg.no **2392** (KhM, A 3594), part of a palette of siltstone.[811] Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5, 1.90 m/N, 3.40 m/W, 2.40 m/D (H~ 5.00 m/NN).[812] Found within wall of relative level f.
Records: B/W negatives SW1190/42–44, redrawn and re-recorded.
Rectangular palette with a shallow depression in the middle (due to wear?) edges damaged (Fig. 8.10.c, 8.11.b). Traces of red paint in one corner of the palette. Length = 9.4 + x, width = 8.8, height = 2.3–2.6. Section shows form of irregular rhomboid.

Pottery

Reg.no **2395** (KhM, A 3595), red burnished juglet with bichrome decoration, Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 5, 2.70 m/W, 3.20 m/N, 2.30 m/D (H~ 5.20 m/NN).[813] Found within the wall of relative level f, perhaps foundation deposit ['Bauopfer'].

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[806] Height estimated by means of southern section of A/II-m/10.
[807] B. Bader, TD XIII, 108–120, esp. cat.nos 174, originally recorded by C. Gallorini, cf. *Potmarks from Kahun. Systems of Communication in Egypt During the Late Middle Kingdom*, unpublished PhD Dissertation, University College London 1998, fig. 7.3–7.4.
[808] B. Bader, TD XIX, 610–612.
[809] The elevation was estimated by means of southern section of A/II-m/10.
[810] Cf. M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 8 June 1969. Southern section of A/II-m/10, running metre 9.0, section no A37-52.
[811] Cf. B. Bader, Stone Objects, 27–32.
[812] Elevation estimated from southern section of A/II-m/10.
[813] Elevation estimated by means of southern section of A/II-m/10.

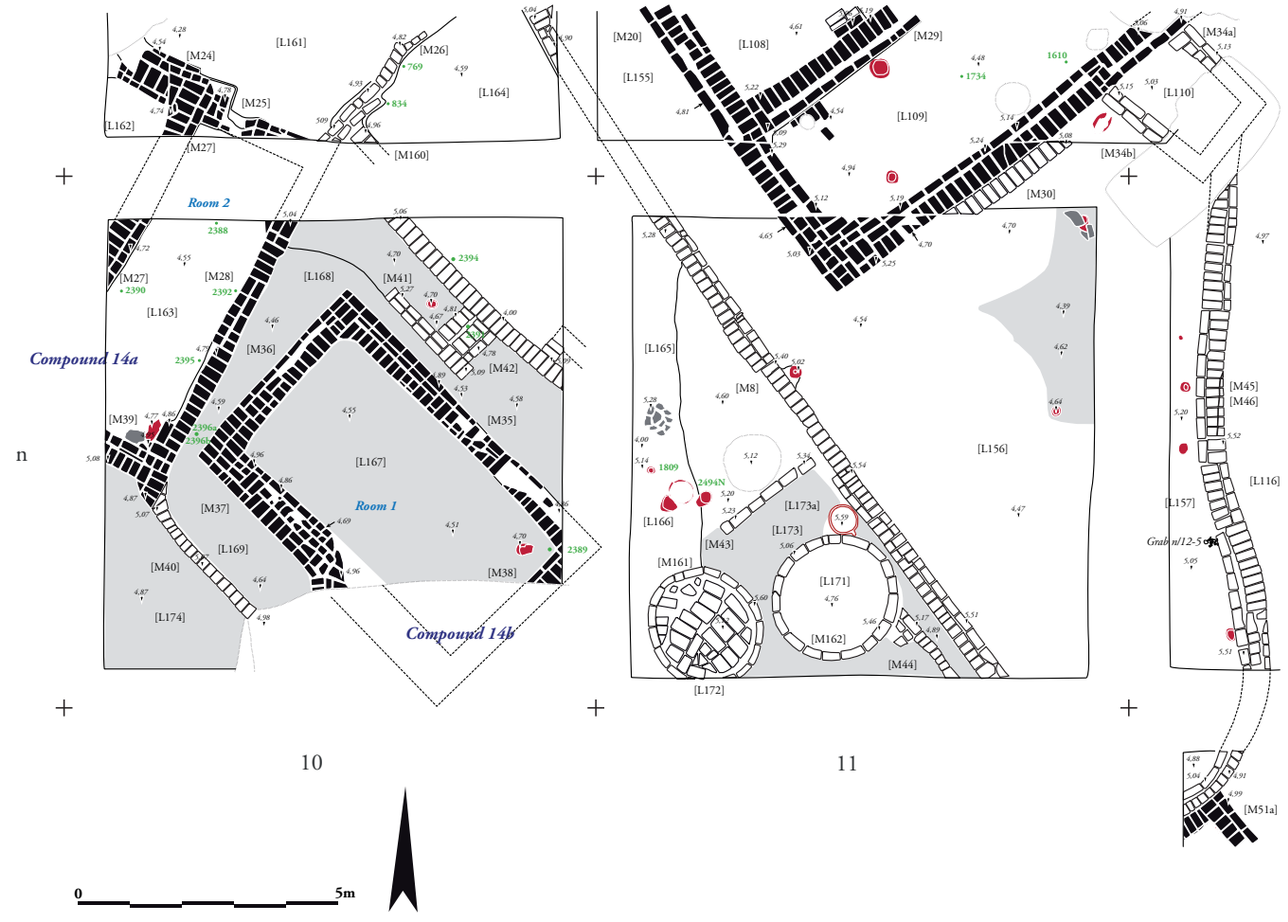


Fig. 8.12 Schematic plan of Compound 14b. Adapted from M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2 and archival records, graphic execution by N. Math

Records: B/W negative SW1189/30–31, drawing ZN 124/69, redrawn and re-recorded.[814]

RPBI	Id[815]	f.	W1-2	Bd. W	ox	3	1Bd?

Max.d. = 7.4; bd. = 1.6 (100% preserved); H1 = 7.6 +x. Surface colour of red slip beneath burnish: 2.5 YR 5/6 red; black/dark brown paint: 2.5 YR 3/1 reddish brown; red paint: 2.5 YR 4/4 dusky red. Section: lilac core inside with reddish brown outer oxidation zone. The fabric is dominated by limestone particles coming through the surface as well as abundant amounts of mica. The groundmass looks very much like a Nile clay fabric. Handle and neck missing. The remains of the handle suggest a strap handle, one black line runs around the handle. The bi-chrome pattern consists of black/dark brown wavy and straight horizontal lines, where only three of them are red (see drawing). The paint was applied after the juglet was burnished and the burnishing was horizontal on the shoulder and vertical below the max.d. The base is rounded (probably button base) and does not allow for the juglet to stand up by itself (Fig. 8.10.b, 8.11.c).

B. Compound 14b

Compound 14b consists of the more southern part of the structures in squares A/II-n/10 and A/II-n/11 (see Fig. 8.1, 8.12).

814 T. Bagh, TD XXIII, cat.no TD 0084, 206–207, fig. 27c, dated to Phase F.

815 Macroscopic scrutiny of a non-fresh break. Cf. with McGovern's results JH 318 also P.E. McGovern, Foreign Relations, 129, dates the juglet to Phase F or earlier.

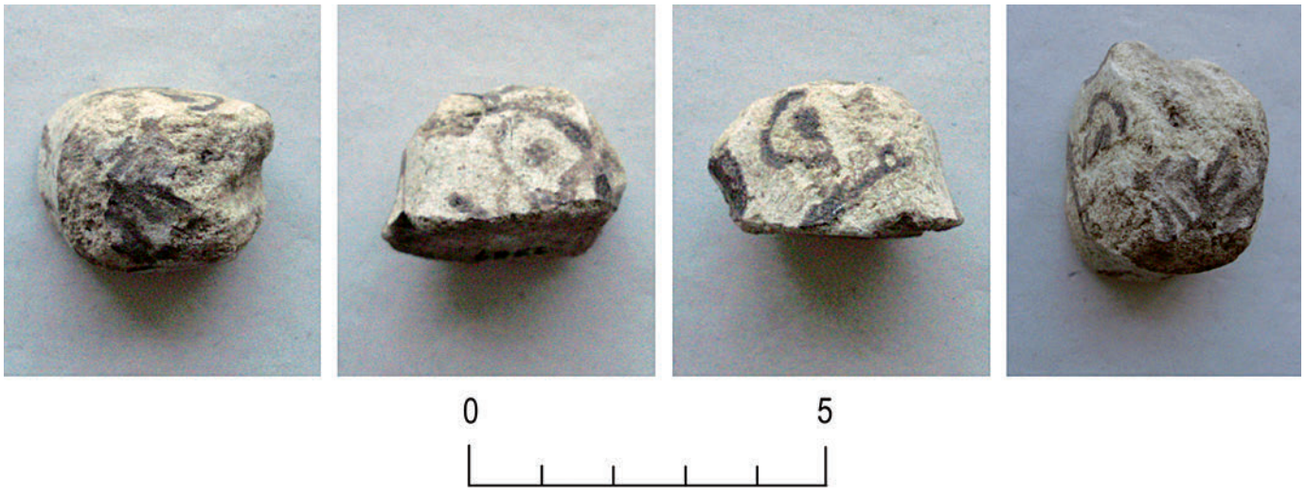


Fig. 8.13 Reg.no 2389, faience object, photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

Square A/II-n/10

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-n/10)

The main feature in square A/II-n/10 is a rectangular house (Room 1) consisting of only one room **L [167]** with walls **[M35–M38]**.[816] It is oriented in a NW-SE direction, almost in the same way as the main building of Compound 11 but slightly more tilted towards the west. It is unclear if there were more rooms (not directly connected) belonging to this domestic house unit in squares A/II-o/10 or A/II-o/11, because these were left unexcavated. The base level of wall **[M37]** could be ascertained at 4.69 m/NN. The walls show a thickness of 1 1/2 brick's width with the western wall **[M 37]** being slightly thicker, about two brick's width. The size of the bricks varies as follows: 0.33–0.35 m by 0.17–0.185 m. The walls were only preserved three to four brick courses high.[817] It is noteworthy that a lot of the bricks drawn into the plan are not of regular size, but shorter or thinner, and in wall **[M37]** they even make an impression as if they were reused rubble or very close to, or actually, the first brick layer (see also Fig. 8.9.a). This may also be due to the preservation of the walls. The internal dimensions of the building are 5.75 m by 2.90 m resulting in 16.68 m² (cubits: almost 11 by 5.5 resulting in 60.5 square cubits). The proportion is 2:1. The outside dimensions are 6.80 m by 4.5 m, which is equivalent to an even cubit number, 13 by 8. Only walls **[M35]** and **[M36]** are preserved in their entire length, and they show no obvious door opening. Thus it is likely that a door was situated close to the south western corner in wall **[M37]**, because that would provide a bent axis access and thus more privacy. If the entrance was situated in wall **[M38]** a frontal access would have to be proposed. Such a reconstruction seems unlikely in view of the location of other doorways in the settlement. Structural reasons may also favour a door opening in a longer wall.[818]

The narrow space between Rooms 1 and 2 at the north western corner of Room 1 and the south eastern corner of Room 2 prevents passage between those two, but **L [168]** as well as **L [169]** could have been activity areas accessible from different directions. The finding of two limestone weights (see below) does not suggest an area particularly designed for dumping.

Wall **[M40]** creates a narrow alleyway **L [169]** of 1.15 m width along the south-west wall of Room 1, and at the same time prevents direct access to Room 2, as it runs directly into the south eastern corner of Room 2. This arrangement may indicate a property

[816] See also description in M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
[817] See M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
[818] See M. Bietak, TD V, 30. See also B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, 112–114.

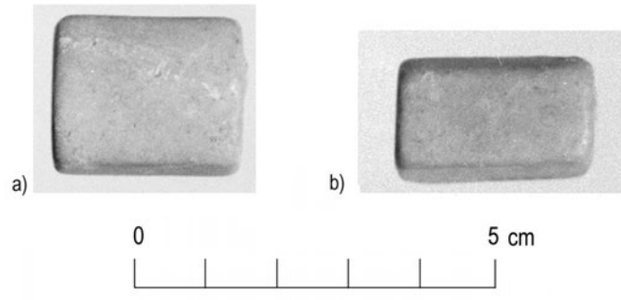


Fig. 8.14 a–b) Reg.no 2396b, stone weight, from top SW1187/17 and the side view SW1187/19

boundary and protects Room 1 suggesting again that the entrance was in the western wall **[M37]**. More evidence for Room 2 belonging to a separate compound can be found in the deviating orientation as well as in the presence of wall **[M26]**, which creates if not a screen at least some sort of boundary between Compounds 14a and b. M. Bietak thinks that the compound was only divided at a later stage.[819] Whilst this is possible, it cannot be proven because the exact point where wall **[M26]** abuts **[M28]** was within the southern baulk of A/II-m/10.

In addition there were a few more walls in the square **[M41, M42, M42a]**, probably functioning as dividers or as features to be used in daily life. Because **[M41]** and **[M42]** are cut by a later tomb (A/II-n/10-1, Phase D/2[820]) it must remain unclear what function this feature could have had. The closeness to wall **[M35]** makes a passage between them impossible (distance 30 cm). Thus it is possible that they belong to an area **L [165]** formed by **[M8]** and **[M43]** in square n/11, in which several finds were recorded (see below). It has to be said though that these walls do not meet exactly at right angles.

Finds from square A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5 and 5

L [167] Fill of room

Close to the south eastern corner of **L [167]** a faience object was found.[821]

Small finds

Reg.no **2389** (KhM, A 3966), faience object in the shape of a bird's head (?). Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5, [0.]80 m/E, 2.90 m/S, 2.10 m/D (H~5.10 m/NN),[822] relative level f (Fig. 8.13).
Records: none available; seen and photographed.
Fragment of faience with white (?) glaze[823] and black drawing. Length = 3.2; width = 2.6; height = 1.9.

Pottery

Although a relatively large piece of pottery was drawn into the plan of A/II-n/10, pl. 5, close to the south east corner inside the house **L [167]** no sherd collection was recorded, thus, the type cannot be identified.

819 M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
820 M. Bietak, TD V, 309–313.
821 There are numerous small animal figurines made of white faience with black painting known from the Middle Kingdom. E.g. Jerboas. Cf. K. Yamamoto, Comprehending Life. Community, Environment, and the Supernatural, in: A. Oppenheim, Do. Arnold, Di. Arnold and K. Yamamoto (eds), *Ancient Egypt Transformed – The Middle Kingdom*, New York 2015, 208–209, cat.no 145.
822 The elevation was estimated by means of western section of A/II-n/11.
823 The original registration entry mentions a blue-green glaze but this was not observed in the re-study of the object.

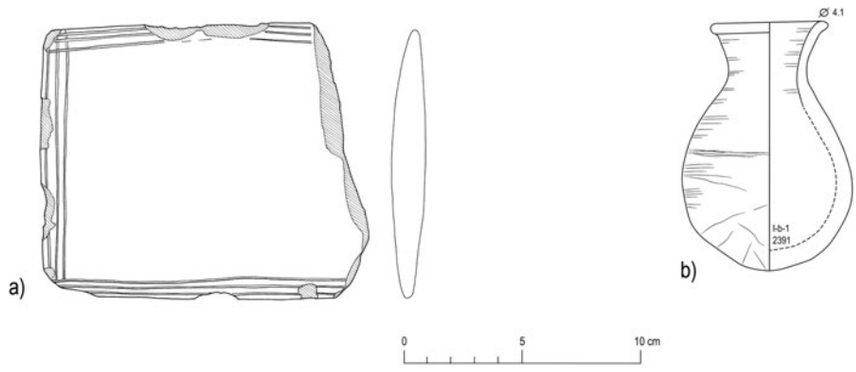


Fig. 8.15 a) Reg.no 2394, pre-historic palette L [164], b) reg.no 2391, small jar, on top of wall [M42].

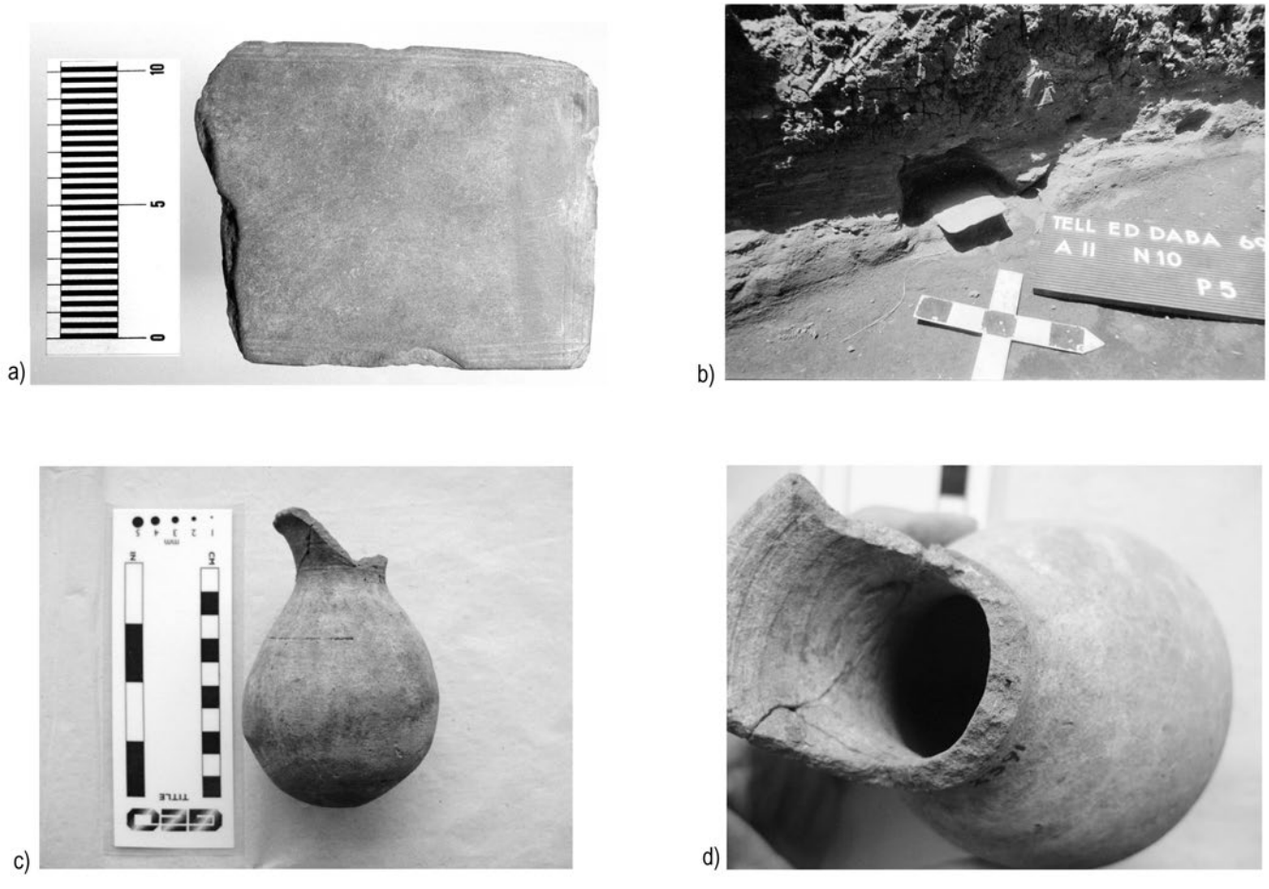


Fig. 8.16 a) Reg.no 2394, pre-historic palette L [164], SW1190/46, b) 2394 in situ, SW1165/52. c–d) reg.no 2391, small jar, on top of wall [M42], photos by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

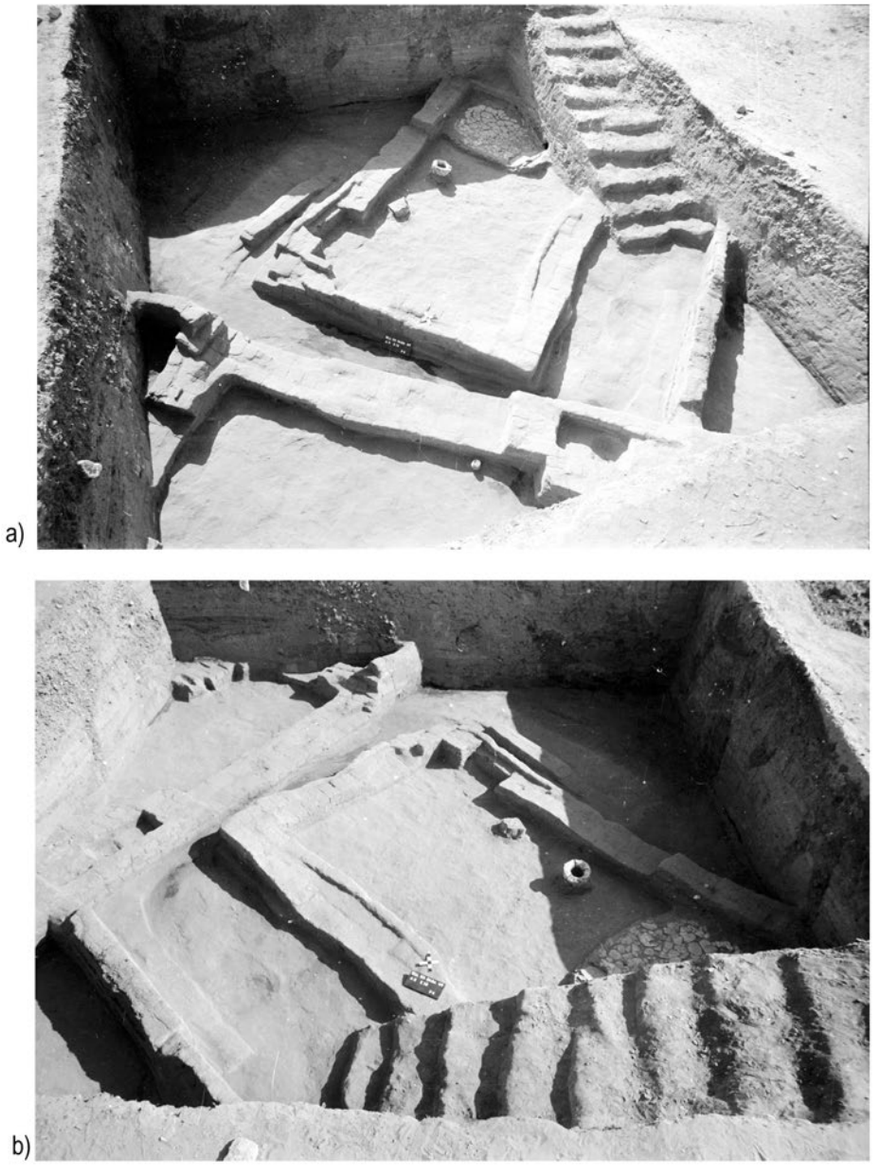


Fig. 8.17 A/II-n/10, pl 4. a) View towards south-east, SW1183/61, b) view towards north, SW1183/59. Both represent a later stage with installations of the following Phase F, although the lay-out is very similar to Phase G/3–1 (cf. Bietak 1991, plan 3)

L [168] Open space north of Room 1

Stone

Reg.no **2396a, b** (Museum Cairo), two limestone weights. Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 5, 2.40 m/W, 4.80 m/N (H~ 4.70–4.80 m/NN), 15 cm below preserved top of wall of relative level g.[824]

Records: B/W negatives SW1187/19, 17.
a) prismatic, slightly damaged, on top 8 incised lines, two times four beneath each other; Length = 5.9; width = 4.7; height = 3.4; weight = 215 grams, not photographed.
b) small prismatic shape, top convex; Length = 2.7; width = 2.1; height = 1.6; weight = 29 grams (Fig. 8.14.a–b).

[824] From the records it did not become entirely clear which wall was meant: **[M36]**: H~4.80 m/NN; **[M28]**: H~4.70 m/NN; **[M40]**: H~4.80. **[M28]** is the most likely wall because it is the nearest to the find.



Fig. 8.18 Square A/II-n/11 in pl. 4, SW1095/14

L [164] Open space east of Room 1

Stone

Reg.no **2394** (Museum Cairo, JE 94641), stone palette. Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 5, 1.60 m/N, 2.10 m/E, 2.90 m/D (H~ 4.70 m/NN. The object was found below the base level of wall **[M42a]**, and below base level of the tomb chamber of A/II-n/10-1 (Phase D/2). Records: B/W negative SW1190/46, drawing ZN 8E. Rectangular palette of grey slate (siltstone?) with tapering sides and slightly rounded edges (Fig. 8.15.a, 8.16.a); on the top of the palette three incisions run along the edges and overlap in the corners. Measurements: length = 13.8 + x; width = 11.8, thickness = 1.4.[825]

According to the parallels this is an ancient palette even in the time of the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom. Now it is impossible to find an evidence based explanation of how this palette got there, or if Tell el-Dab^{c}a was indeed already founded in early dynastic times. However, it should be kept in mind that Minshat Abu Omar and Tell Ibrahim Awad are perhaps close enough to ancient Avaris to hypothesise that a stone palette might have been taken from there to the settlement. Beside undecorated palettes[826] also very similar ones with the three incisions crossing each other in the corners have been found at least at one of these sites.[827] A hitherto unknown site of this date may be closer than those two mentioned.

On top of wall [M42]

Due to this find position of the vessel it is very possible that this jar belongs to a later phase than G/2–1, perhaps Phase F. Small jars appear often in offering pits[828] but there are parallels dating to Phase G/3–1 as well.[829]

[825] Some very good parallels were found in Minshat Abu Omar from "Dynasty 0" see note 827, see also the palette from Dendarah, reg.no 98.4.56 dated to the pre-dynastic period to the 1st Dynasty.

[826] K. Kroeper and D. Wildung, *Minschat Abu Omar I, Ein vor- und frühgeschichtlicher Friedhof im Nildelta*, Mainz 1994, 106, 758/1.

[827] K. Kroeper and D. Wildung, *Minschat Abu Omar II, Ein vor- und frühgeschichtlicher Friedhof im Nildelta*, Mainz 2000, 34–41, tomb 137 (866) palette 1: 27.7 × 19.5 × 1.3 cm; palette 2: 14.5 × 10.2 × 1.1 cm dated to Dynasty 0/MAO Phase III; 69–72, tomb 152 (400), palette 17.8 × 12.4 × 1.5 cm dated to Dynasty 0/MAO Phase III; 144–146, palette 19.2 × 15.5 × 1.2 cm dated to Dynasty 0/MAO Phase III; 169–172, tomb 203 (434), palette 1: 18.1 × 14.6 × 1.1 cm, palette 2: 21.2 × 16.9 × 1.3 cm dated to Dynasty 0/MAO Phase III. All these palettes were described as „slate" siltstone.

[828] Cf. V. Müller, TD XVII/1, 157–167, Phases E/1–D/3 but usually Nile B2. For Phase E/3 see A/II-o/12 pit A, M. Bietak, TD V, 97–100.

[829] Cf. **L [123]** in Compound 12, chapter 6, 179; M. Bietak, TD V, 32–33.

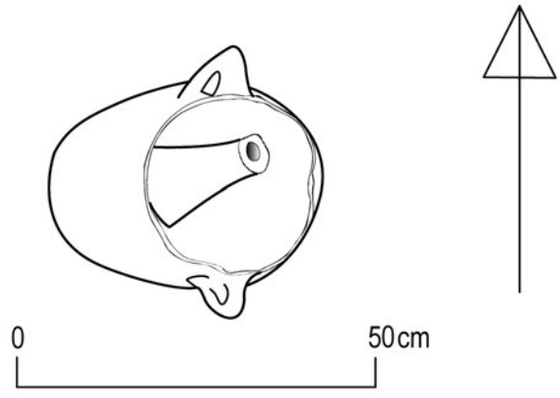


Fig. 8.19 Detail of imported transport amphora reg.no 2497N with the base of a stand reg.no 2497O within it, TDplan 280, inked by B. Bader

Pottery

Reg.no **2391** (KhM, A 3593), small jar. Position: A/II-n/10, pl. 4–5, 2.30 m/E, 2.80 m/N, 2.40 m/D (H~ 5.00–5.10 m/NN), relative level g).
Records: B/W negatives SW1188/1 and 3, SW1189/ 74–75, ZN 124/69, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-b-1	f.	Ha1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 4.0 (25 % preserved), nd. = 3.3; max.d. = 7.2; H1 = 10.4; (base 100% preserved).
Surface colour: 7.5YR 6/3–4 light brown. Section: uniform brown section. Joining line is visible in the height of the max.d. The base is well smoothed the fabric is not very sandy (Fig. 8.15.b, 8.16.c–d).

Compound 14b in Phase F (A/II-n/10)

Of interest for the settlement history is the fact, that Compound 14b in square A/II-n/10 was used along the same lines than in the phase before (Fig. 8.17). The walls follow the same lay-out and were probably just renewed as can be seen in so many instances throughout the whole settlement. In Phase F the buildings were numbered **L [214]** and **L [216]**.[830] Only the precinct walls seem to have been abandoned. The plan drawing of planum 4 shows a stone mortar in **L [216]**. The digging diary mentions a thin walled vessel in **L [214]**,[831] but it could not be identified in the records, presumably it turned out to be a non-diagnostic body sherd. The heavily sand tempered mud-bricks show an average measurement of 0.34–0.35 m by 0.16–0.18 m. The walls were built to 1 1/2 brick's width.[832]

Square A/II-n/11

Excavation and available records

The history of excavation and records of square A/II-n/11 has already been discussed in chapter 3.

Description of architecture and archaeological features (A/II-n/11)

The south-western corner of Compound 11 (corner constituted of **[M20]** and **[M30]**) continued into square A/II-n/11 and protruded from the northern baulk of the square. Also the open space south of Compound 11, **L [156]**, was already discussed (see chapter 4, 140–142).

The south-western half of the square, in the triangular shape of an English sandwich, belongs to Compound 14b, whilst the eastern half represents space **L [156]** and could have belonged to and been used by both the inhabitants of Compounds 11 and 14b (Fig. 8.18). Unfortunately the access to Compound 14b remains unclear as square A/II-o/11 was not excavated. It is possible that a door opening existed there in the precinct wall. It has to be assumed that the walls enclosing the Compounds were too high to just step over them although they were never more than a few brick courses preserved. A low wall seems unlikely because it would not protect privacy and appear entirely superfluous. Wall **[M8]** continued from square A/II-m/10 into A/II-n/11 and seems to constitute the eastern border of Compound 14b. This wall shows a thickness of about 1 to 1 1/2 brick's width. The heavily sand tempered mud-bricks measure about 0.33–0.36 m by 0.16–0.18 m with a thickness of 0.08–0.10 m.[833] The preserved height of the wall is at an elevation of 5.50 m/NN at the highest. No base levels were taken in the square, but from the southern section it can be seen at an elevation of around 4.70 m/NN (section no

[830] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3. This is roughly equivalent to the plan drawing of pl. 4 in square A/II-n/10.
[831] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 27 May 1969, p. 7.
[832] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 27 May 1969, p. 7.
[833] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968, p. 32.

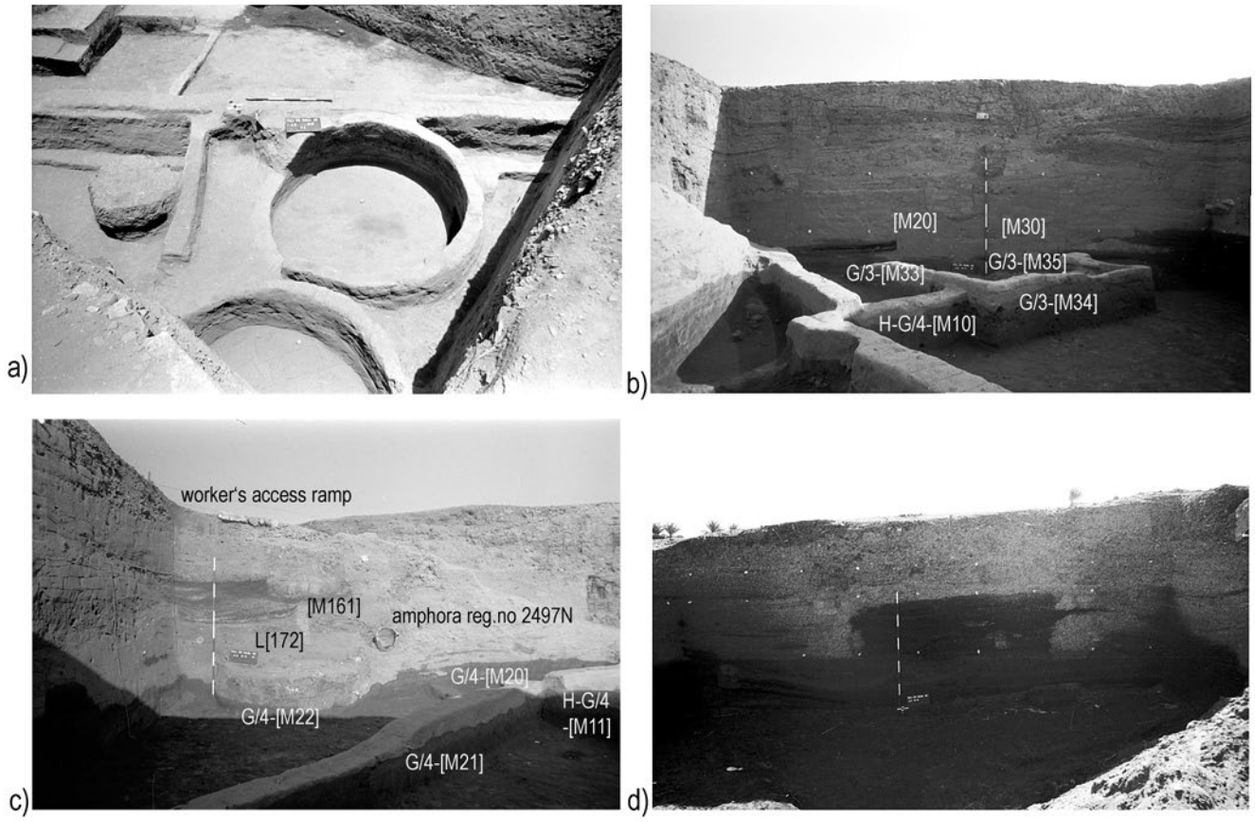


Fig. 8.20 A/II-n/11. a) detail with the silos, [M43], the oven and the treepit, not yet removed, SW1095/16, b) northern section, SW1114/5, c) western "section" (work stairs) with amphora, SW1114/11, d) southern section with wall [M8] in the left part of the photo, and the wall of the silo on the right, the other walls are obscured by the dampness of the earth, SW1153/34a

A41-37). Approximately in the middle of the wall as it runs in square A/II-n/11 a perpendicular thin wall of half a brick's width was built **[M43]**, but only one course of it was preserved, so that it remains totally unclear whether it was a real wall or just a screen like feature. **[M43]** is about 2.0 m long and does not directly abut **[M8]** but stops short before it would reach it. It is also obvious from the plan drawing that the mixture of the paste for the mud-brick does not contain as much sand as the other parts of this assemblage.

To the north of wall **[M43]** there is a presumably open space **L [165]**, which might have been bordered by wall **[M44]** in square n/10, but due to the disturbance of tomb 1 there, this must remain unclear. Within this space a seemingly planned arrangement of smaller limestone fragments was found. "Nothing special" was situated below these stones.[834] Their top was at an elevation of 5.28 m/NN.[835] There is a possibility that this installation served for a wooden column and this column in turn provided some sort of roofing (reeds are as possible as palm fronds) much in the way that modern stables for cattle are provided in the Delta. The distance to be bridged from the presumed column base to walls **[M42]**, **[M8]** and **[M43]** would have been about 1.5 and 3.0 metres and seems manageable. Perhaps such a roofing possibility would also explain the gap and the strange angle between Buildings 1 and 2 and wall **[M41]** that is too narrow for passage. M. Bietak assumed that this area might have been used as a bath,[836] or as a dumping ground

[834] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968, back of p. 32.

[835] This elevation appears very high in relation to the other features of that square that were assigned to Phase G/2–1. It is possible that it belongs actually to Phase F (see Fig. 8.17).

[836] A sherd pavement has not been located in this area.

because three broken amphorae were found here (Fig. 8.12) dug into the ground **L [166]**. This feature is approximately 1.0 m to the south of the stone feature. The amphorae contained animal bones, and pottery sherds (see Fig. 8.19). The vessel in the middle contained a stone (probably unworked, as no records of it were found). North of these vessels a jar with a spout was found (see Fig. 8.12, reg.no 1809) made from Nile B1 (see below for finds).[837] The tops of these vessels were at an elevation of 5.14–5.20 m/NN. The vessel height of ca 0.45 m of the amphora makes it likely that the amphora belonged to Phase G/2–1. With reg.no 1809 of ca 0.2 m height such an assignation is more questionable. Thus, the vessel may belong to Phase F. Fig. 8.18 shows that vessel 2497N was found half in the descending ramp for working access of the square that was only removed later.

South of wall **[M43]** an oven **L [173a]** with a burnt wall was situated in space **L [173]**, immediately adjacent to silo **L [171]**. The oven showed a diameter of one cubit.[838] Only south of wall **[M43]**, which also seem to have been covered by ash, there are noticeable ashy layers[839] up to 0.5 m (see Fig. 8.12), which fill the south west corner of the square up to the preserved tops of the walls. It seems as if an ash layer is extending across this south west area close to the floor level, running up the walls and covering the lower parts of them.[840] Whilst the western section of A/II-n/11 does not show massive layers of ash the eastern section does (see chapter 4, Fig. 4.19a and in the plan drawing, section no A80-59) especially in the northern half of it. This ash layer is thickest in the first two running metres (H = 4.20–4.80 m/NN and decreasing towards the south), but this belongs to the space **L [156]** east of wall **[M8]** (see chapter 4, 141). The same ash layer is also visible in the drawing of planum 4 (TDplan no 280). Due to the sterility of this layer without any settlement refuse a wind blown deposition was assumed.[841] The southern section shows moderate ash layers (section no A41-46). This can be interpreted as a local feature in the SW area of the square, which may be derived from the oven **L [173a]**.[842] The elevation of the top of the oven is at 5.59 m/NN, which means if it belonged to Phase G/2–1 it was very tall. The base level was not taken, but the level of the floor around it seems to be at about 4.80 m/NN. Thus, an estimate of the height of the oven installation can be made at about 0.80 m.

Further south two round silos were excavated **L [171]** and **L [172]**, the western one of which showed a pavement with an elevation of 5.12 m/NN also built of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks. The southern section suggests that there were two building phases on top of each other. The base level of the first wall, taken from the southern section is at an elevation of ca 4.70 m/NN (section no A41-57). The second, later base level is at an elevation of ca 5.00 m/NN (section no A41-39).[843] The size of the bricks of the silo is 0.36–0.37 by 0.175–0.18 m.[844] South of silo **L [171]** another wall of sand bricks **[M44]** abuts the silo, at a distance of 0.5 m west of wall **[M8]**. It may have been part of an installation to access the silo, as it becomes wider close to it, or a skin wall to **[M8]**. The interpretation of this wall is all the more difficult because the next square to the south, where it might have continued was not excavated. It is perhaps represented by section no A41-58 in the southern section but it is only one brick course high preserved surrounded with some rubble.

Discussion of relevant parts of the sections (A/II-n/11)

The northern section (A16, drawn in 1968) was excavated and documented to an elevation of 4.00 m/NN but only in the eastern corner. To the west the exposure goes down to about 4.50 m/NN. An ash layer **L [156]** (= section no A16-74) runs over the two oldest walls with section no A16-78 in the eastern part of the section (= A16-78a), but in a rather thin layer, whilst the more eastern wall section no A16-78b is overlain by a homogenous level of sand with small mud-brick fragments. Both these walls were assigned to Phase H. Their base levels were not reached because

[837] M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
[838] M. Bietak, TD V, 30.
[839] Visible in TDplan no 280.
[840] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 21 June 1968.
[841] M. Bietak, analysis of southern section, TDplan no 290.
[842] Presumably it is possible to assume that some ashes of the oven **L [173a]** may also have been dumped in **L [156]**, but there is no proven opening in the wall **[M8]** close to the oven. Thus the effort to go and dump ash in the far corner of **L [156]** seems perhaps an unlikely solution because it appears impractical.
[843] M. Bietak, section nos of southern section of A/II-n/11.
[844] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, late June 1968.

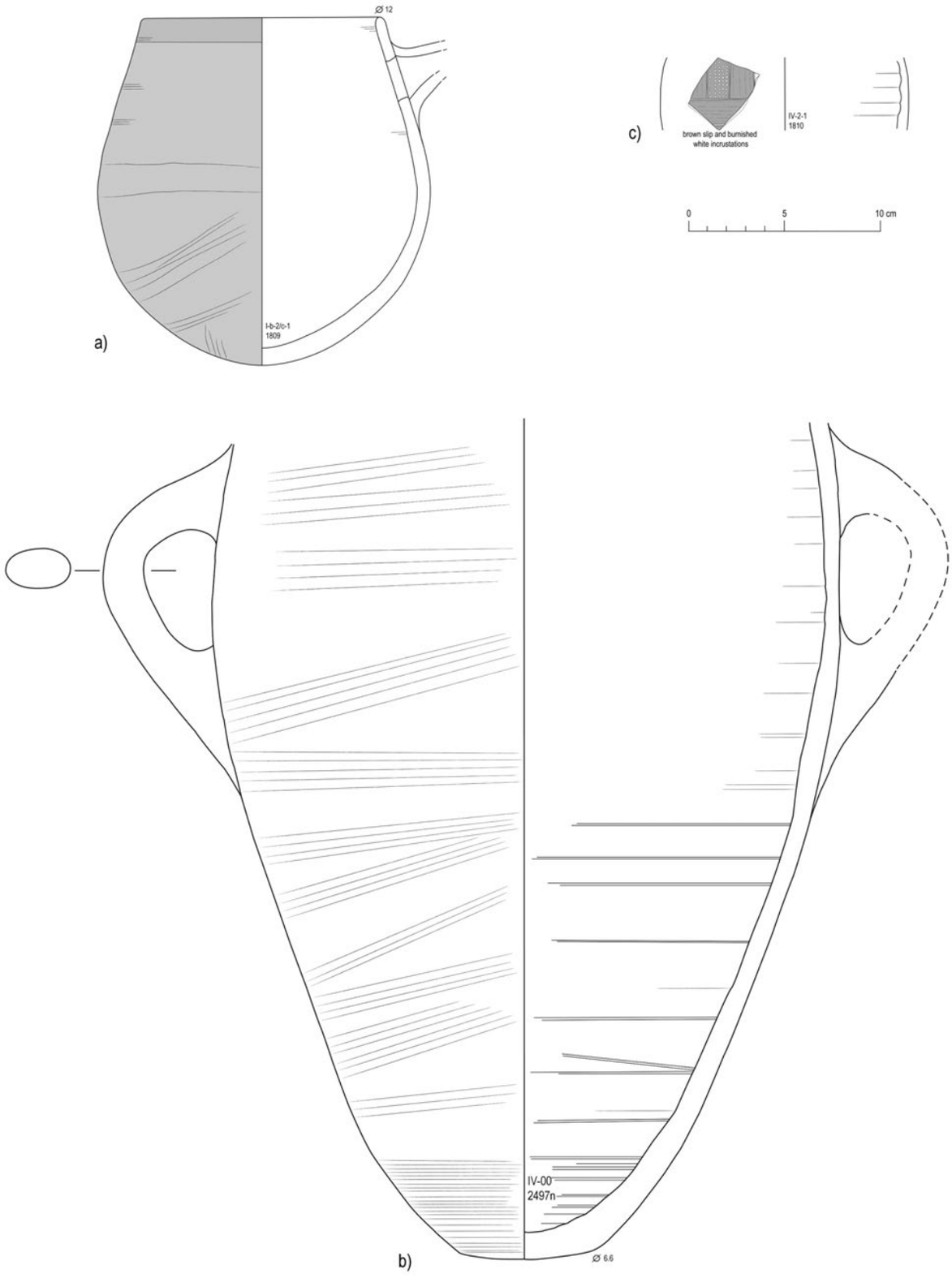


Fig. 8.21 a) Reg.no 1809, vessel with spout, b) reg.no 2497N, transport amphora, c) reg.no 1810, Tell el-Yahudieh sherd

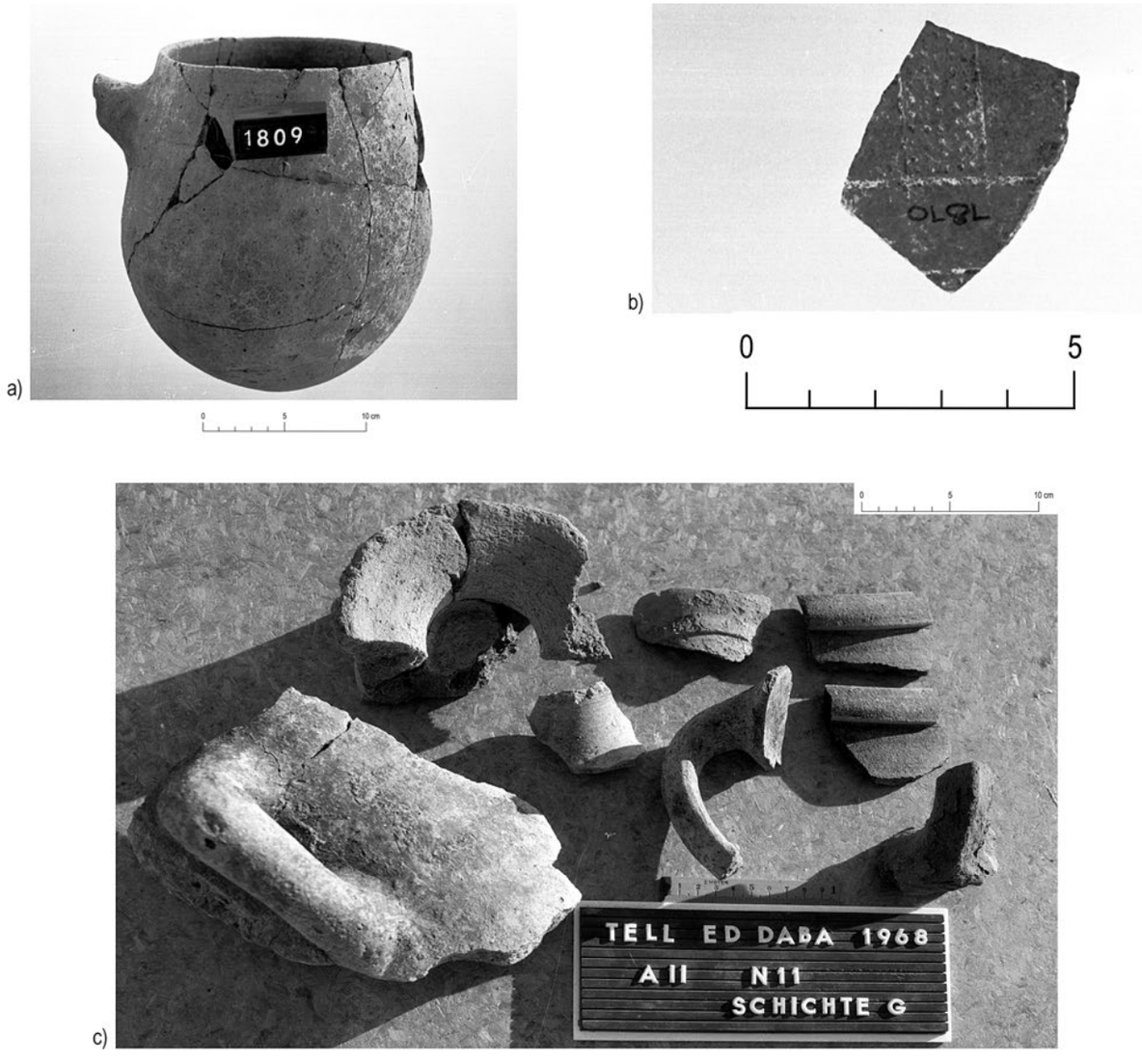


Fig. 8.22 a) Reg.no 1809, SW1146/15a, b) reg.no 1810, Tell el-Yahudieh sherd, SW1146/16a, c) konvolute K151, SW1152/15–16

they were below the exposure of the excavation and their preserved tops are at an elevation of 4.40 m/NN and 4.30 m/NN, respectively. They can be identified with (**[H-G/4-M6]** (= A16-78a) and **[H-G/4-M7]** (= A16-78b). There is no separate plan drawing for these early walls.[845] At a base level of 4.50 m/NN there is a single sand brick (section no A16-73) visible and only one course of mud-bricks preserved, approximately at running metre 5.75 measured from the west. This wall corresponds to the wall **[G/3-M35]** in planum 4 that runs underneath that of Compound 11 **[M30]** (= section no A16-60) and is therefore earlier than Compound 11 (cf. chapter 3), probably to be assigned to Phase G/3 (cf. Fig. 9.6). It is noteworthy that this wall **[G/3-M35]** was razed almost to the ground with just one brick preserved. Exactly on top of that wall and much wider and more thoroughly built section no A16-60 represents the corner of walls **[M30]** and **[M20]** at a base level of 4.70 m/NN. Five brick courses are preserved, taking the elevation of the preserved

[845] These oldest walls as they are overlaid with ashes were assigned to Phase H. Because there is no connection to the other parts of the early levels it is difficult to reconstruct the layout of the earlier settlement structures in this area.

top to 5.30 m/NN. **[M20]** is less well preserved than **[M30]** and seems to have been repaired at one point. The fill belonging to Compound 11 (**L [109]**) consists of several fine layers of building rubble, a compacted layer of loamy rubble (section no A16-62) and a very thin white floor (no number). On top of these are layers section no A16-61, upper fill of the room, and section no A16-57, which runs already over the preserved top of the wall and signifies the end of the room phase. Section nos A16-62 and A16-75 signify building rubble of Compound 11. East and west of Compound 11 there are a series of finely layered levels indicating a certain amount of domestic activities there and perhaps free passageways on either side of Compound 11. It is interesting that no walls were assigned to Phase F and the older Temple I of Phase E/3 is almost exactly superimposed on top of the ruined core unit of the older Compound 11.[846]

The western section (A54, drawn in 1968) was exposed down to an elevation of 4.40 to 4.20 m/NN. It seems that the *gezirah* was reached here at a level of 4.20 m/NN in the middle part of the section (section no A54-75). The relevant levels for Phases G/3–1 and below are situated between the elevations of 4.20 and about 5.00 m/NN and consist of a series of finely stratified layers made up of various sand and ash layers. Only one ash layer is slightly thicker namely that with section no A54-72 which is less than 10 cm deep. The 6.0 running metres from north towards south are devoid of any walls, indicating that this area was used as an open space like a courtyard with some activity involving open fire perhaps, here again the oven **L [173a]** can be mentioned (see above). From running metre 1.65 to 3.0 from the south a heavily sand tempered mud-brick structure of 1.40 m width with section no A54-73 was recorded. Its base level was below the excavated elevation, but there can be little doubt that this item represents the superposition of the paved silo L **[172]** with a preserved top elevation of 4.90 m/NN (from pl. 4) and an older silo slightly shifted to the south (from pl. 5) with a base level of 4.17 m/NN measured in the plan drawing, but the section was not recorded down that far in this area (see Fig. 8.12, 8.20.a: visible in the photo). Whether the older silo **[G/4-M22]** belongs to Phases H, G/4 or G/3 remains quite unclear. If section no A54-75 represents indeed the *gezirah*, as stated, there is not much choice than to assume section no A54-73 belongs to Phase H or to assume this area was not used so early and assign it to G/4, cf. Fig. 9.1.

The southern section (A41, drawn in 1968) was also exposed down to an elevation of 4.00 m/NN and it contains several walls in the relevant elevations. The oldest wall seems to be section no A41-63[a] between running metres 6.0 and 7.0 counting from the east. It is three courses high and preserved up to an elevation of 4.40 m/NN, while the base level was not reached. No wall is recorded in this position in the plan drawing of planum 5 (TDplan 281), which I cannot explain. It must have been overlooked in the varied and dense mud-brick rubble filling the square in the area delimited by walls **[G/4-M20]** and **[G/4-M21]** and the western and southern baulks, cf. Fig. 9.1. The wall section no A41-63[b] (= **[G/4-M21]**) is visible and is seemingly the predecessor of wall **[M8]** of the following Phase G/2–1. Its base level is at an elevation of 4.22 m/NN. The area between running metres 3.0 and 6.0 from east was disturbed by a pit dug from the next later phase, namely G/3–1. Between running metres 5.0 and 6.0 from the east a wall with section no A41-41[a] was built. It consisted of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks and six courses were preserved (up to 5.10 m/NN). The base level was at ca 4.50 m/NN, but there is no suitable wall shown in any of the plan drawings. The same holds true for wall no A41-41[b], whose base level is slightly higher at an elevation 4.70 m/NN. Those two walls A41-41 [a] and A41-41 [b] are only 0.4 m apart from each other and they were set into a pit or pits that was/were dug from the surface of the same phase into which silo **L [172]** belongs. Why these two walls are not traceable in the plans can only be explained by their seemingly total destruction there. It is unfortunate that square o/11 was not excavated to try and trace these enigmatic walls. It might be possible that they belong to another round silo that was not discovered in the baulk between A/II-n/11 and A/II-o/11 although the distance seems a bit too close.

The wall with section no A41-37 represents the boundary wall of this Compound **[M8]**. Its base level is at 4.70 m/NN and it is rather well preserved with eight courses of heavily sand tempered mud-bricks up to an elevation of 5.60–5.70 m/NN. It seems possible that it was rebuilt once after the fifth course, because it is slightly uneven there. The area east of this wall comprises a series of thicker levels among them again

[846] Cf. M. Bietak, TD V, plan 4.

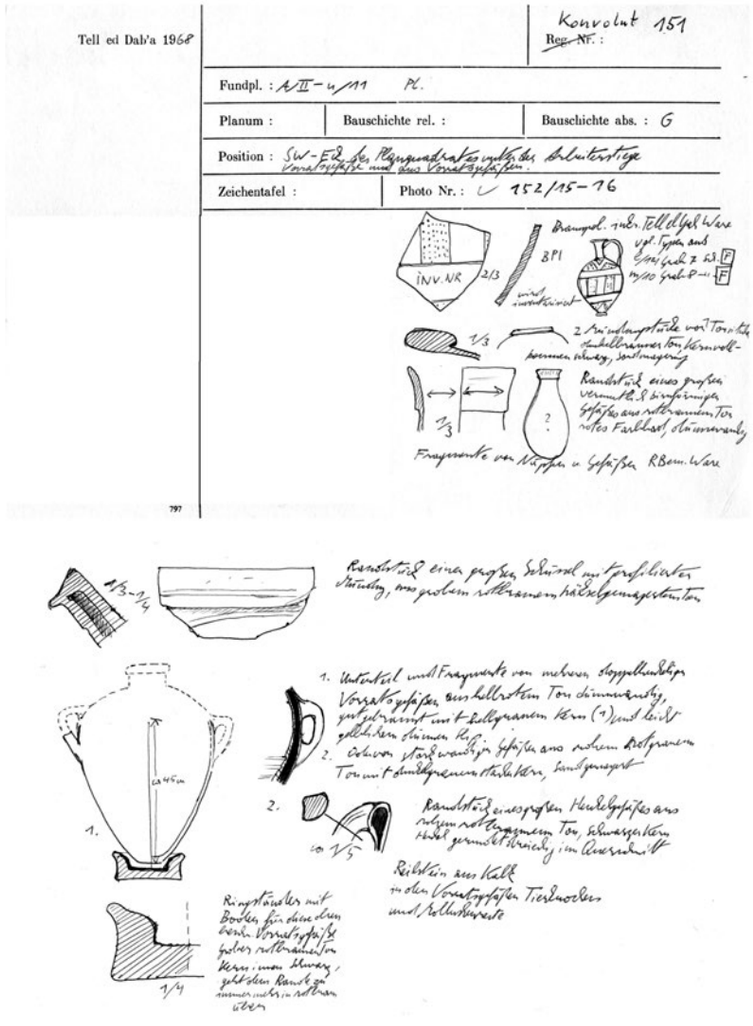


Fig. 8.23 Original record of konvolute K151, which was no longer available, scale approx. 1:2

rich clayey loam which was interpreted as the remains of collapsed roof constructions. They continue east into square A/II-n/12.

Note that here the *gezirah* was not reached, although the excavation went down to the elevation of 4.00 m/NN! This seems to corroborate the unevenness of the original topography of this area.

The eastern section, A80, is discussed with **L [156]** in chapter 4.

Finds from square A/II-n/11, pl. 4 and 4–5

L [166]

Pottery

Reg.no **1809** (KhM, A 3225), round based jar with spout. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 4, 1.0 m/W, 4.5 m/S, H = 5.14 m/NN, relative phase g,[847] (Fig. 8.21.a, 8.22.a).

[847] Published in D.A. Aston, TD XII/1, pl. 17, no 82, as Phase F, with the old drawing.

Records: B/W negatives SW1153/12A–13, SW1146/15a, drawings ZN E/23, ZN 157/68, redrawn and re-recorded.

RF	I-b-2/c-1	f. – m.	W1	Bd. gesp. g.	ox	2–3

Rd. = 12.2 (97 % preserved); max.d. = 17.4; wd. = 0.5–0.7; H1 = 18.1; (bd. 100% preserved).
Surface colour: red slip 7.5 R 5/8 red; uncoated: 7.5 YR 6/4 light brown. Section: red core, brown oxidation zones. The fabric is not yet as full of quartz as the later fabric variant. Perhaps there was a red slipped rim as well, but the surface is not well enough preserved to be certain. The interior of the vessel was very well smoothed, the trimmed base also on the outside. In the middle of the height at the max.d a joining line is very visible although it has been smoothed very well. Perhaps this vessel is to be dated to Phase F, if it was found in the fill of the space and not on the floor. Due to the vast difference in height between this and the following vessels this need not necessarily mean that 2497n and the others must belong to Phase F. Also M. Bietak did not think there were any structures belonging to Phase F in this area.[848] Thus, remains the question, why an almost complete vessel would have been deposited there in Phase F, if no structures were in use at that time. Nevertheless, some activities might not have necessitated any built structures.

Reg.no **2497N**, Canaanite transport amphora, lower part. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 4, 4.0 m/S, 2.0 m/W, top of vessel H = 5.20 m/NN, from ash deposit close to the silo in the SE corner, drawn into plan (Fig. 8.12).[849] Found together with two more fragmentary Canaanite jars,[850] (Fig. 8.21.b).
Records: B/W negatives SW1114/11–12, 9–10; drawing ZN 173/68; partly redrawn.[851]

TG	IV-00	mi. – r.	W2	Bd. W	ox	3

Bd. = 6.6 (100 % preserved); H = 45.0 +x; rim and handles missing.[?]
Surface colour: 5 YR 7/5 reddish yellow. Section: uniform reddish yellow. Inclusions: quartz, Limestone particles, very hard, homogeneous. NAA JH 71.[852]

Reg.no **1810 (**KhM, A 3226), Tell el-Yahudieh juglet, body fragment. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 4, within one of the storage jars of **L [166]** together with molluscs[852a] and animal bones (Fig. 8.21.c).
Records: B/W negative SW1146/16a–17, drawing ZN 157/68, redrawn and rerecorded.

BPI	IV-2-1 brown	fine	W2	–	n.r.	n.r.

Length = 3.5; width = 2.7;
Surface colour: Brown burnish: 10 YR 5/2 grayish brown; inside 10 YR 6/1 gray. Section: dark brown core inside outside very thin oxidation zone. Of the decoration one incised rectangle standing on its shorter side is filled with incised dots. The two rectangles beside it are burnished, and below this the part of another rectangle is just visible. The dots were incised with a comb not with a single point (see Fig. 8.22.b). The reconstructed diameter of the body is 12.0 cm.

The sherd collection derived from the interior of the amphora including reg.no 1810 was recorded as konvolute K151 (Fig. 8.22.c,[853] 8.23). It is clear that this fill does not represent the original contents of the amphora, but that it had been filled later either by rubbish from the settlement – similar to the deposition of such material in a silo – or that the earth filling the jar already contained these ceramic fragments.

Konvolute **K151**. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 4. Storage jars and finds from within storage jar (reg.no 2497n). The sherd collection comprises pottery that can be paralleled in the better known settlement repertoire of the area further to the east belonging to Phase G/3–1 (cf. vol. 2, in preparation). But Phase F cannot be entirely excluded due to the composition of the context.
2 Fragments of Nile E2 cooking pots, ca 33% preserved (two top sherds close to the right edge of photo, Fig. 8.22.c).
1 Rim fragment of a Canaanite transport amphora, ca 33%.
1 Base/lower part of a Canaanite transport amphora, + several fragments, including at least two handles or parts thereof.
1 Rim fragment of a large Nile C2 dish, ca 25%.
1 Stand fragment, perhaps belonging to complete profile 2497o (see below), Nile C2, ca 25%. Such a type of stand with a closed base is hitherto unparalleled in the settlement pottery from Tell el-Dabᶜa in the late Middle Kingdom layers.

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[848] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 3.
[849] M. Bietak, TD V, plan 2, L [166].
[850] The other material was recorded as konvolute K151.
[851] I would like to thank David Aston for redrawing the remaining parts of this vessel and checking the fabric.
[852] P.E. McGovern, *Foreign Relations*, 119, provenience according to NAA Southern Palestine, dated to Phase G/2–1.
[852a] The mollusc sample has been located in the KhM. Identification is pending.
[853] Note that not all fragments mentioned on the card are shown in the photo, because those incorporated in the official register were processed differently.

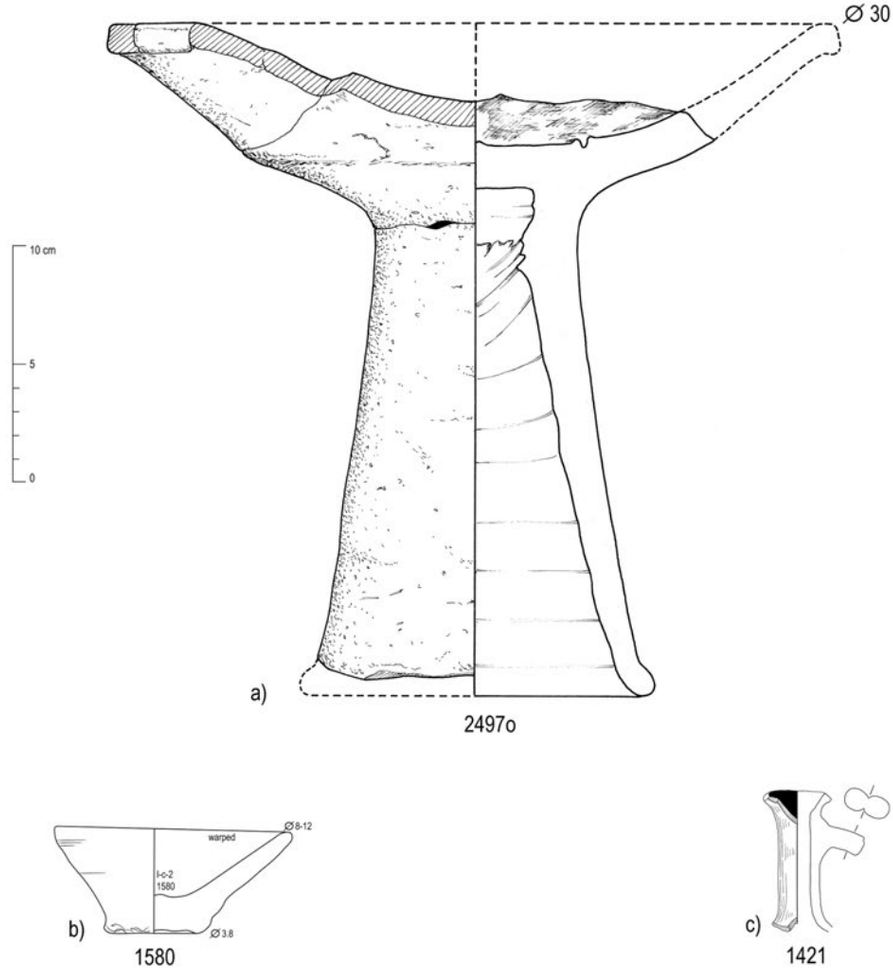


Fig. 8.24 a) Reg.no 2497O, footed bowl, b) reg.no 1580, warped small dish, c) reg.no 1421, red burnished juglet, ZN 86/68

For the following vessel no specific find spot was recorded.[854] Most likely, this footed dish belongs to **L [166]**, because the detailed drawing of the Canaanite jar 2497N, shows the foot of a footed dish inside (see Fig. 8.19). This is the more likely explanation and is corroborated by the consecutive numbering of reg.nos. Also the rim with out-turned lip of konvolute K151 would fit with this reconstruction: left upper corner on the back of card, cf. Fig. 8.23.

Reg.no **2497O**, footed bowl. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 4 (Fig. 8.24.a).[855]
Records: drawing ZN 141/68.

TG?	I-c-1/2?	m. – r.?	W1?	Bd. W1?	ox?	2–3?

Rd. = 30.0; bd. = 14.8; H1 = 28.2.

Animal bones

Among the animal bones from the Amphora the scapula of a sheep, with the distal end broken was recorded.[856]

[854] Perhaps the ceramic find in planum 4 at ca 3.75 m/W and 3.60 m/N at a level of 5.02 m/NN is actually this footed dish but usually if the pottery was recognisable it was drawn as correct type even in the plans in scale 1:50.

[855] Similar examples of footed bowls occur in Phase G/4 and later at Tell el-Dabᶜa. Cf. D.A. Aston, TD XII/2, plates 27–28.

[856] J. Boessneck, TD III, 15.

In the south western corner of A/II-n/11, pl. 4, presumably close to the silo **L [172]**, a large number of animal bones was found and identified by J. Boessneck.[857]
Cattle: a minimum of 33 bone fragments of cattle from all parts of the skeleton (minimum number of animals; 1 calf and 1 adult).
Sheep: 1 scapula; 2 phalangae (minimum number of animals: 1 adult).
Sheep/goat: 1 frag. of upper jaw; 1 frag. of lower jaw; 2 vert. cerv.; 2 rib frags.; 1 frag of humerus; 1 frag. of the shaft of a metacarpus; 1 frag. of a pelvis; 1 frag. of a femur, proximal part; epiphyseal cartilage closed; 1 frag. of the shaft of a metatarsus.
Goat: 1 scapula frag.
Pig: 1 frag. of neurocranium; 1 upper jaw of female, adult; 2 frags. of scapula; 1 humerus, distal part in the process of closing (minimum number of individuals 2: one female adult, 1 juvenile).
Donkey: 1 complete metacarpus.
Fish: lates niloticus or Nile perch: 1 distinctive fin ray of the dorsal fin.

Distribution of animal bones in south west corner of **L [173]**

cattle	sheep	sheep/goat	goat	pig	donkey	lates
33	3	11	1	5	1	1

Finds from square A/II-n/11, pl. 3

These finds most probably do not belong to Phase G/2–1 but to F or even E/3. They are listed here for completeness' sake. The layout of the features in this square is already roughly the same as in the next older layer below (planum 4), with the silos and the boundary wall being perhaps still in use.

L [173] Fill of open space in south west corner of square

Pottery

Reg.no **1580** (KhM, A 3076), small dish with straight base. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 3, from between the two round silos 2.40 m/[S] (H~5.15 m/NN), recorded as relative phase e = G. Perhaps it belongs to filling/dumping still Phase G/3–1 or F.
Records: drawing ZN 28E, redrawn and re-recorded.

TG	I-c-2	roh	W1	Bd. abg.	ox	2

Rd. = 8.0–12.0 (45% preserved), bd. = 3.8 (100% preserved); H1 = 4.3–4.6;
Surface colour: 7.5 YR 7/4 pink. Section: red core with brown oxidation zones. The vessel is warped and the vessel orifice oval; the vessel was carelessly made and cut off the wheel (clay hump) with a string. The fabric contains ample quartz, which can also be observed on other vessel types made from Nile C2 of Phase G/3–1 (e.g. beer bottles[858]).

The following ceramic find comes from the fill/dump north of **[M43]** probably from a disturbance. It comes from above **L [165]**, quite close to the find spot of reg. no 2497n but above it.

Reg.no **1421** (KhM, A 2969), rim of jug. Position: A/II-n/11, pl. 3, 3.80 m/S; 2.2 m/W elevation not given, from sand brick building emerging from under the work stairs.
Records: B/W negative SW1126/30, drawing ZN 86/68. Not re-recorded.

RP	?	?	W2	–	?	2–3	2 RST

Rd. ~3.0; (~60% preserved); H1 = 6.0 + x.

[857] J. Boessneck, TD III, 15–16. He stated also that the bone material was generally in a bad state of preservation, very broken up and flaky.

[858] Cf. B. Bader, TD XIX, 622–625.

Chapter 9: Older phases below Compounds 11 to 14 – A/II-n/11–13; o/12–13

In the southern part of the area excavated in 1966–1969 the archaeological exposure was also executed below Phase G/2–1 like in the northern part (see chapter 5). As mentioned before, the row of squares which contained the main part of Mortuary Temple I (A/II-m/10–13) was not explored beneath it, because of the intention to restore the temple of Phase E/2–1 and thus it remained standing and sealed the layer below.[859]

Older Phases

Excavation and available records

Excavation history and preserved records for the squares discussed here were already described in chapter 4 (A/II-n/11), chapter 6 (A/II-n/12–13, A/II-o/13) and chapter 7 (A/II-o/12). Thus, it seems sufficient to list the relevant plana[860] for the phase(s) older than G/2–1:

A/II-n/11, pl. 5[861]
A/II-n/12, pl. 5 and 6[862]
A/II-n/13, pl. 7[863]
A/II-o/12, pl. 7[864]
A/II-o/13, pl. 6[865]

As in previous instances the architectural description proceeds from north to south and from west to east. It has to be noted in the beginning that the lowest elevation reached in the north-western part of the area was around 4.00 m/NN in some places, whilst towards the east it was around 4.40 m/NN. The base levels of some of the walls visible in these exposures may even belong together when their base levels are quite different (e.g. wall **[G/4-M26]** starts somewhere below the elevation of 4.00 m/NN in A/II-n/11 but runs through the northern baulk of A/II-n/12 at an elevation of almost 4.30 m/NN, which encompasses a difference of 0.3 m). These differences may exist due to the unevenness of the natural ground – the *gezirah* – below the settlement structures, which necessitated those different levels.

The main problem for the synchronisation of these walls is that for A/II-o/12–13 the sections only reach an elevation of 4.50 and 4.80 m/NN, respectively. However, because most of the older walls in the southern row of squares were not covered by the sections it is now impossible to be certain how they related to each other. Thus, in large part, the reconstruction of the building phases in these squares remains conjectural. Even more so as there were not many finds connected with these earlier phases. Thus, no sequence of finds helps in supporting even a relative chronological framework in this part of the area in the earlier levels.

Phases H to G/4 and G/4

A proposed phasing is shown in Fig. 9.1 and 9.6 but it has to be stressed that especially the older phase – termed H to G/4 is extremely hypothetical. This is also the reason why the Phases H–G/4 and G/4 are shown together in one plan (Fig. 9.1). The numbering of the walls continues from the northern part of the excavation in 1966–1969 with **[H-G/4-M6]** (see Fig. 5.4). For Phase G/4, which is defined by slightly higher elevations the numbering continues with **[G/4-M20]** from the northern part of the excavation, see Fig. 5.5.

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859 M. Bietak, TD V, 27.

860 Please note, that the number of the plana excavated is ultimately relating to the original preservation of the tell that was very uneven at this stage: The higher the tell originally was the more plana had to be taken off to reach a similar elevation down below.

861 TDplan 281. A planum 6 appears in the photographic archive, which looks essentially the same as the pl. 5 plan drawing (cf. SW1099/8–24; SW1099/52–64). It seems that the numbering in this photograph series is erroneous.

862 TDplan 298.

863 TDplan 312.

864 TDplan 352.

865 TDplan 364.

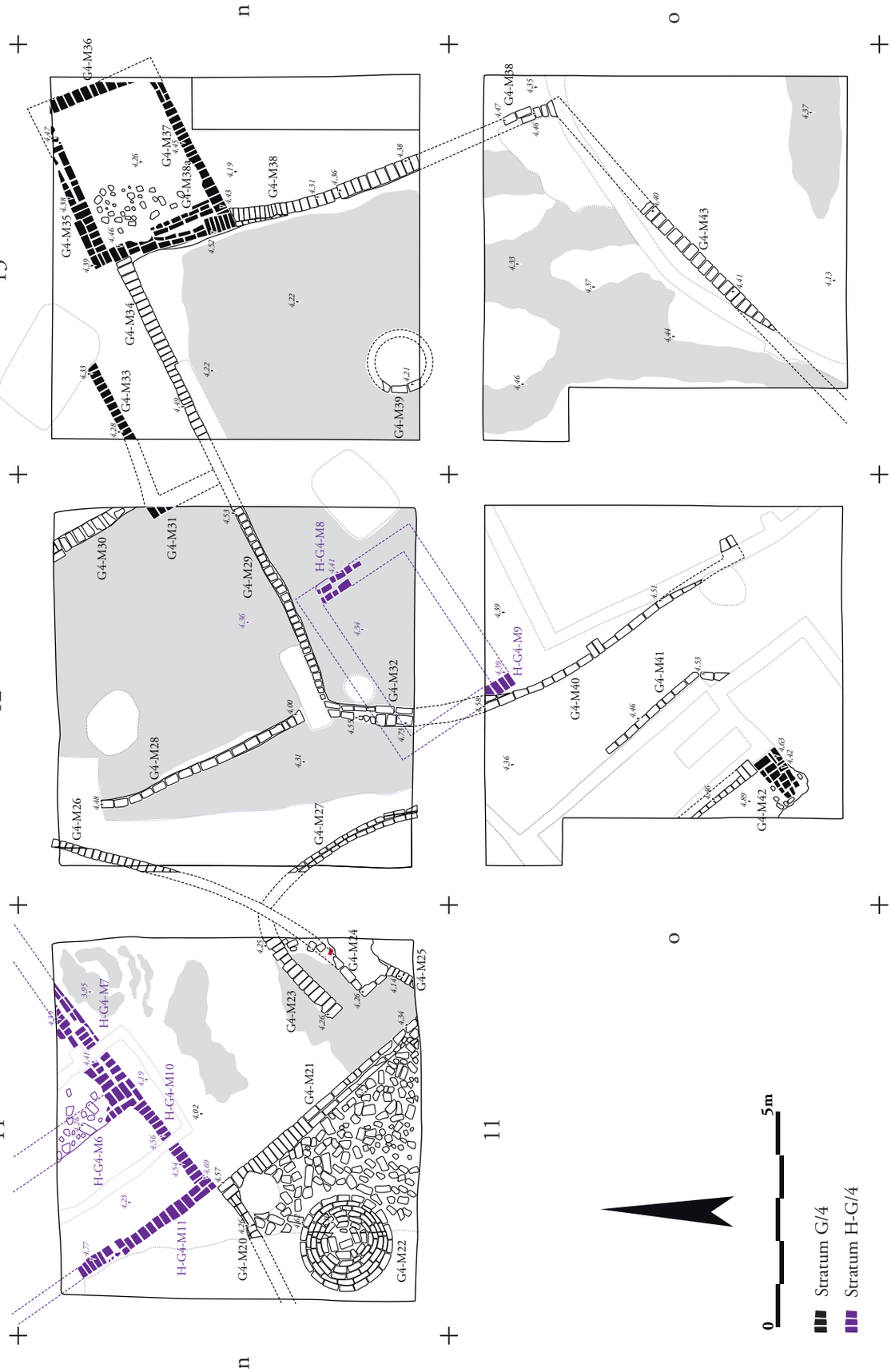


Fig. 9.1 Schematic plan of Phases H, H–G/4 and G/4, compiled by B. Bader, graphic execution N. Math

A. Description of architecture and archaeological features (Phase H?)

In the north-western part a very badly preserved corner of a building is constituted by walls **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4-M7]** (see Fig. 9.2.c). Presumably the heavily sand tempered mud-brick walls were 1 1/2 brick's width wide by analogy with the other walls of the settlement, so far presented, but they were very badly preserved.[866] Around this corner of the building and inside it plenty of mud-brick rubble of the same material constituted the detritus derived from these walls.[867] These two walls belong to the south-western corner of this fragmentary building. The base levels of these wall fragments were not reached by the excavation because they were below the elevation of 4.10 and 4.00 m/NN, respectively.[868] From within the building stone tools such as rubbing/grinding and hammer stones were reported as well as a fossilised piece of wood.[869] This corner was reconstructed as a two-room house on the pattern of the measurements from Compound 10 with an exterior dimension of 15 by 16 1/2 Egyptian cubits.[870] Most probably this building belongs to Phase H judging from the tentative elevation of the base levels and the ash layer covering their preserved tops at an elevation of 4.45 (**[H-G/4-M7]**) and 4.30 m/NN (**[H-G/4-M6]**), respectively in the northern section.

Adjacent to the building formed by walls **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4-M7]** two thin walls of one brick's width appear, namely **[H-G/4-M10]** and **[H-G/4-M11]**. They either form some sort of annexe or enclose an open space. The preserved tops of these walls are at an elevation of ca 4.55 to 4.70 m/NN and it must be noted that **[H-G/4-M11]**, which is 4.25 m long, may be the precursor of wall **[M8]** belonging to Compound 11 of Phase G/2–1 (see Fig. 3.1), although this later wall is slightly shifted to the east. Because wall **[H-G/4-M11]** runs into the baulk before running metre 1.0 counting from the west it was not recorded in the northern section of A/II-n/11 and thus the base level of the wall (or a series of walls) is not known. The same holds true for **[H-G/4-M10]**, which is not running into any baulks and is 2.65 m long. For this reason it is not possible to prove whether these walls belonged to Phase H rather than to Phase G/4. The only certainty is that wall **[G/3-M33]** (see below, Fig. 9.6) cuts into or overbuilds this wall and thus that it must be later. Although walls (**[H-G/4-M10]** and **[H-G/4-M11]**) seem to form a useful unit with the corner of the housing unit, it is also possible that they are remnants of an even earlier unit, which was also overbuilt by walls **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4-M7]** because their walls are only one brick's width wide rather than one and half.

In squares A/II-n–o/12 there are more very scant remains of a possible building, **[H-G/4-M8]** and **[H-G/4-M9]**, which may also belong to Phase H because a slightly later building phase covers these remains and possibly exhibits a different architectural layout (see Fig. 9.1). It has to be borne in mind, that this 'building' may be an artefact of reconstruction precisely because so little of it is preserved. Moreover, there is no additional information from the sections (baulk between A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12) because they were not exposed/recorded down to this level. Thus, it remains unclear if the sections would have shown the walls where they are expected according to this reconstruction. The preserved tops of these walls are at an elevation of 4.39 and 4.41 m/NN, respectively and thus fit with that from walls **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4M7]**, although this does not provide a particularly convincing argument.

The base levels, however, are unknown. Interestingly these wall fragments (of ca 0.85 m length each) are exactly 3.65 m apart from each other in north-east direction, which corresponds very nicely to 7 Egyptian cubits. Using the preserved wall remains results in a reconstructed width of the 'building' of ca 4.2 cubits. However, the destroyed mud-brick feature to the east of **[H-G/4-M8]** may provide evidence against the reconstruction of a proper one room building but it remains unclear if this feature is contemporary, earlier, or later. On the other hand it may represent an installation of some kind such as a placement for a quern.

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866 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 29 June 1968.

867 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 29 June 1968.

868 A16, A/II-n/11 northern section, section nos A16-78 a and b. Note that those two walls continue below the elevation of 4.20 m/NN and the eastern one with a deep ash deposit east of it. A thin ash layer ran over the preserved top of **[H-G/4-M7]**, which suggests its belonging to Phase H according to M. Bietak's observation that ash is covering the whole of Phase H.

869 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 29 June 1968, p. 33.

870 Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, 112, table 2.

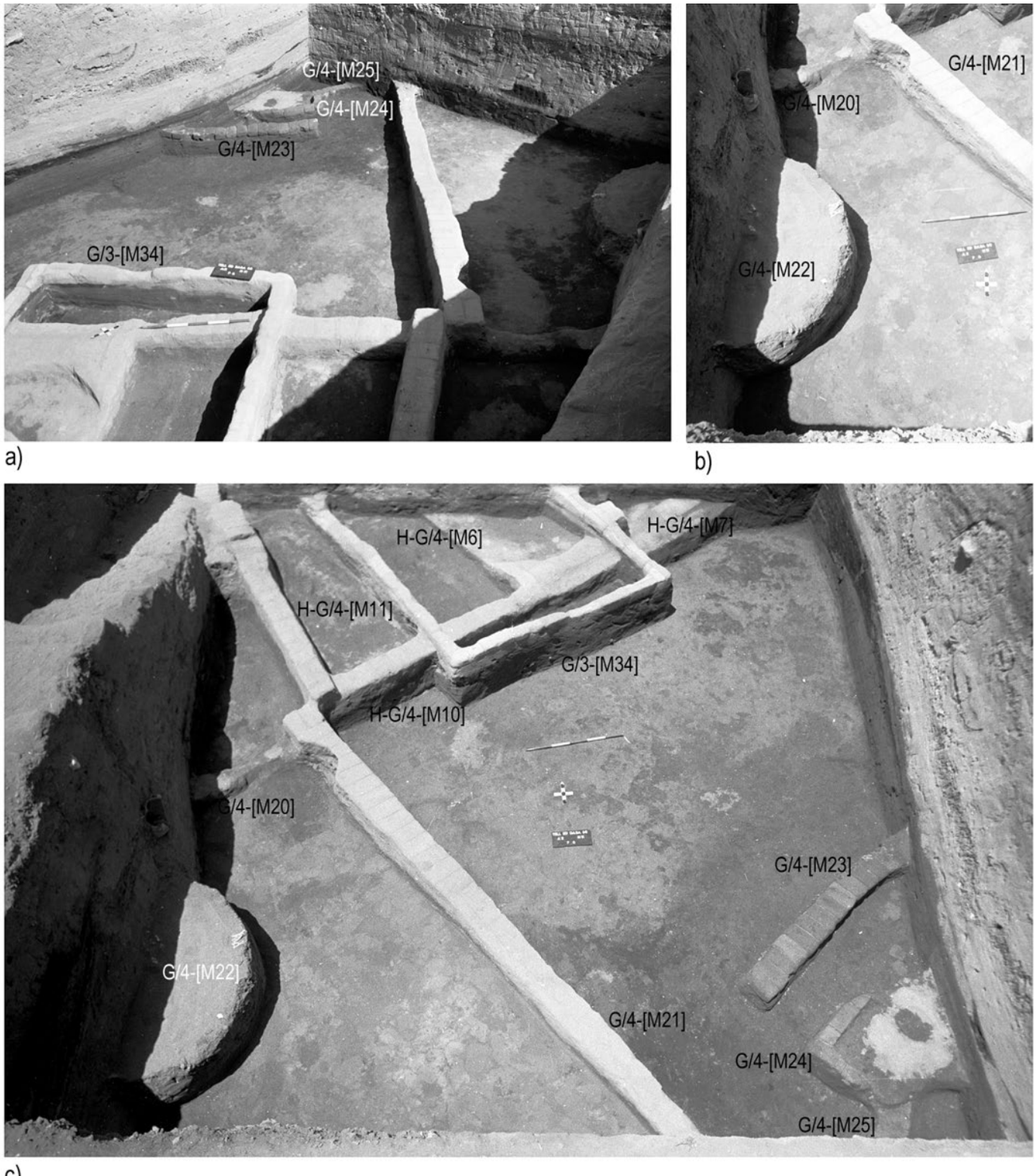


Fig. 9.2 Archival photos of square A/II-n/11, pl. 5 (SW1099/18, SW1099/58, SW1099/56),
a) view from north-west to south-east, b) detail of silo from south to north, c) square from south to north

B. Description of architecture and archaeological features (Phase H–G/4)

The remaining architecture cannot be really assigned to one of the two phases except that it lies most likely slightly above the already described features, therefore the description follows again from north-west to south east.[871]

In the south western part of square A/II-n/11 the corner of a building or enclosure contains a very carefully built round silo with a well-executed mud-brick floor with the heavily sand tempered mud-bricks carefully laid out in rings. On top of this floor a lot of animal bones were found (see below, 277). The bricks were laid as headers as usual for this type of installation. The diameter of the silo is ca 2.25 m, which corresponds to 4 1/3 Egyptian cubits. The preserved top of the wall **[G/4-M22]** was at an elevation of 4.62 m/NN at the highest point, whilst the base level was measured in the planum at 4.17 m/NN. The size of the bricks was 0.34–0.36 by 0.14–0.16 m.[872] A preservation of almost 0.5 m is quite unusual for a silo in the settlement at Tell el-Dabᶜa, thus, it is possible that two or even three phases were preserved on top of each other.[873] Unfortunately the western section was not exposed low enough to know the elevation of the base level of the circular silo there also. The two walls forming the enclosure for this silo are **[G/4-M20]** and **[G/4-M21]**. These two walls meet at right angles and they were one brick's width wide but laid out variably as stretchers and headers in some places and as stretchers in others, presumably to provide better bonding and stability. The walls were preserved up to an elevation of 4.36 and 4.57 m/NN, the base levels were not reached but are certainly below 4.30 **([G/4-M20]**[874]) and 4.20 m/NN **([G/4-M21]**[875]). Of wall **[G/4-M21]**, which is 6.1 m long, running into the southern baulk of A/II-n/11 three mud-brick courses were visible in the southern section of A/II-n/11. Wall **[G/4-M20]** is 1.45 m long. The format of the bricks was reported as 0.31–0.35 m by 0.16–0.18 m.[876] Depending on the duration of the existence of walls **[H-G/4-M10]** and **[H-G/4-M11]** there may have been no thoroughfare between the silo court and the housing unit. The southern section, A41, shows another wall for which no equivalent was found in the plan drawing.[877]

In the south-east corner of the square a thin wall extends towards the north-east, **[G/4-M25]**. It was 1 brick's width wide and the base level was at an elevation of 4.10 m/NN[878] at its southern end. Perhaps this is the same wall as **[G/4-M26]** that was recorded in A/II-n/12, which follows the same general direction. If this is so then the stretch of wall would extend for ca 9.0 m. The eastern section of A/II-n/11 (A80) shows **[G/4-M25]** running between metres 2.0 and 3.0 counting from the south. The base level must have been below 4.00 m/NN and only one or two brick courses are visible in the section.[879] The preserved top was measured at 4.14 m/NN. Another wall with the same base level is **[G/4-M23]** that seems to start at right angles to **[G/4-M21]** but leaving a gap.[880] It is preserved ca three or four brick courses high and is 2.4 m long. Between **[G/4-M23]** and **[G/4-M25]** another feature consisting of several sand tempered mud-bricks was situated, **[G/4-M24]**. Five bricks constitute a thin half brick's width wall laid out as headers and forming a 90° corner of 1.20 m and 0.7 m. This feature may have belonged to a rectangular silo (such as seen in Compound 11, chapter 3, 118) but it seems to have been destroyed by a pit and perhaps also by wall **[G/4-M25]**. The purpose of **[G/4-M23]** is difficult to fathom because it remains unclear if this is just what remains of an installation or if it served to protect **[G/4-M24]** to which it is aligned parallel at a distance of 0.5 m. Slightly ashy layers fill the area around these features but they do not seem to have been massive as they are not visible in the eastern section. In the southern section they appear only as a thin layer, ca 5 cm.

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871 The sections will not be discussed separately because so little can be said.

872 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968, p. 34.

873 Note that on the same spot, just shifted a little to the north there was another silo dated to Phase G/2–1, chapter 8, Compound 14. Cf. also M. Bietak, Digging Diary, autumn 1968, p. 34, who ascertains a strong continuity of activity in this area.

874 This wall was given section no A54-73 b, close to running metre 4.0 in A54, the western section of A/II-n/11.

875 A41, section no A41-63b, in the southern section of A/II-n/11.

876 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 29 June 1968.

877 Presumably it was just below the sand tempered brick rubble recorded in the plan drawing that covered the interior of the space enclosed by **[G/4-M20]** and **[G/4-M21]** towards the west. Section no A41-68, between running metres 6.0 and 7.0 counting from east.

878 A41, final section nos not yet assigned in inked plan drawing.

879 A80, section no A80-62b.

880 A80, section no A80-62a.

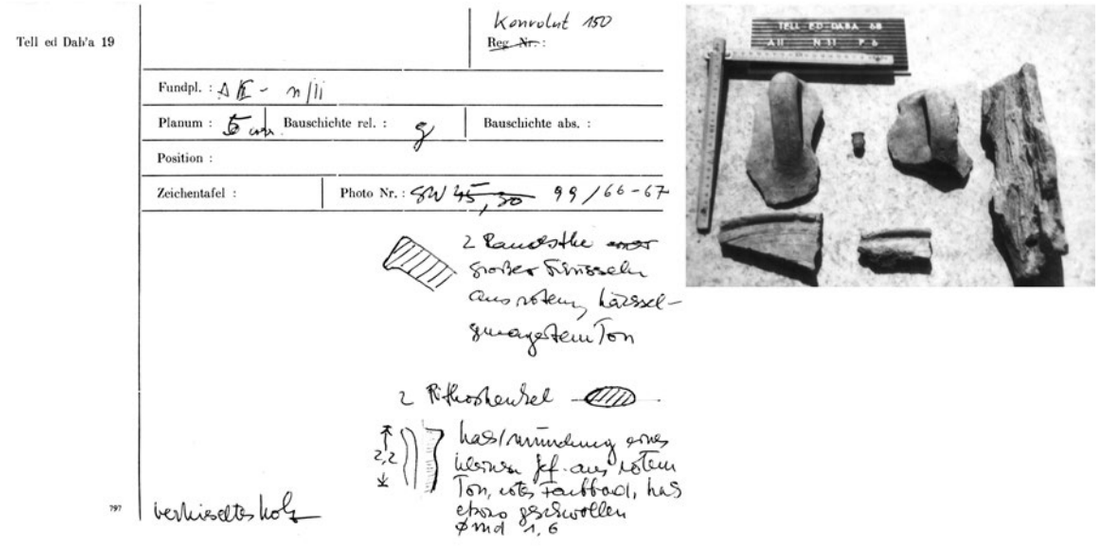


Fig. 9.3 Sherd collection/convolute card K150 with photo, scale approx. 1:2

The digging diary also relates that the floor of the planum in A/II-n/11 showed red-burnt earth in many places suggesting either local conflagration[881] or other activity in connection with fire. The continuation of the architectural layout towards the south must remain unknown because A/II-o/11 was not excavated. Also the continuation towards the north except for the reconstructed building walls **[H-G/4-M6]** and **[H-G/4-M7]** remains unknown.

Finds from square A/II-n/11

Pottery

Sherd collection K150 is perhaps derived from the 'building' formed by **[H-G/4-M6 and M7]** or just around it, although this is not clear from the description on the card (Fig. 9.3). The fact that the digging diary mentions a piece of fossilised wood from within this building connects the sherd collection with it.[882]

The material described in the original recording fits quite well with the material as it is known from other parts of the settlement in the earlier Phases H to G/3–1 although no details can be ascertained:

1.) two rim fragments of large coiled and wheel-turned dishes with a folded lip of probably large diameter, of rough looking material (most likely Nile C2).
2.) 2 handles of two different large transport amphorae of imported fabric with a flattened handle section.
3.) a tiny kernos fragment of 2.2 cm height, with a rim diameter of 1.6 cm and a red slip.
4.) a piece of fossilised wood.

Animal bones

The silo formed by wall **[G/4-M22]** yielded a considerable collection of animal bones that was published by J. Boessneck.[883]
Cattle: 30 bone fragments from all parts of the animal resulting in a minimum number of 2 individuals, consisting of one young animal and one adult.
Sheep/goat: 1 frag. of upper jaw, molar very abraded; 2 frags. of lower jaw; 1 frag. of a radius shaft; 2 pelvis in fragments.
Goat: 2 scapulae, sin.
Pig: 1 frag. of upper jaw of male; 1 frag. of lower jaw of male, both adult; 1 frag. of scapula; 1 fragment of humerus shaft.
Dog: 1 humerus, distal part, adult.[884]

881 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 29 June 1968.
882 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 29 June 1968, p. 33.
883 J. Boessneck, TD III, 16. N/11, SW–Eck des Planums 5, im Rundhürdenbau, Str. f = H. The assignation of the phase is rather G/4 than H, although it cannot be ultimately proven due to the sketchy information on base levels.
884 J. Boessneck, TD III, 34.

Distribution of animal bones in this silo

cattle	sheep/goat	goat	pig	dog
30	6	2	4	1

C. Description of architecture and archaeological features (Phase G/4)

It remains unclear if the structures in the west (A/II-n/11) continued to be in use up to Phase G/4. For this reason the description continues in the east.

Towards the east (A/II-n/12–13, A/II-o/12–13) another set of buildings perhaps divided from the western one by walls **[G/4-M25]** and **[G/4-M26]** seems to have been built. Due to the fact that the base levels of these walls in the south are also very low it seems legitimate to assign these buildings at least roughly to the same Phase H–G/4. Interestingly though, the base level of **[G/4-M26]** in the northern section of A/II-n/12 is at an elevation of ca 4.30 m/NN,[885] which may reflect the natural unevenness of the *gezirah* at this early stage. Of course, it is possible that this wall belongs to Phase G/3 but it is unlikely to be later as it is not shown in the published plan of Phase G/2–1 because at that stage this area accommodates the open space south of Compound 11 **L [156]**, see chapter 3.

Wall **[G/4-M28]** runs roughly for ca 5.2 m in north-south direction with a slight bend to the north-east in its northern part. The wall was built with heavily sand tempered mud-bricks laid out as headers of 1/2 a brick's width. The size of the bricks is approximately 0.34–0.345 by 0.17–0.175 m.[886] The base level of this wall lies below 4.10 m/NN in the northern section,[887] whilst it does not reach the southern section of the same square. The preserved top of this wall is at an elevation of 4.48 m/NN.[888] This wall seems to form some sort of enclosure together with walls **[G/4-M29]**, which is 4.9 m long, and perhaps **[G/4-M30]**, which is 2.10 m long. Those walls are also half a brick's width and 1 brick's width wide, respectively. It is, thus, extremely unlikely that these walls could have held any type of roofing, even more so as the space to be bridged is more than 5.50 m wide. The 'enclosure' was cut in its presumed south-western corner by the limestone sarcophagus of Tomb 4 of Phase G/2–1 (see chapter 5). Thus, the connection with the one brick's width wide wall **[G/4-M32]** running towards the south is destroyed and it can only be assumed that the meeting point of these three walls delimits either alleyways or property boundaries. The base level of **[G/4-M32]** is at an elevation of 4.50 m/NN and it is four brick courses high preserved with an elevation of the preserved top at ca 4.70 m/NN.[889] It is 2.05 m long. While the relationship of wall **[G/4-M28]** to the eastern walls cannot be ascertained exactly, it is possible to gain information on the relation to **[G/4-M26]**, see above and Fig. 9.1. The northern section of A/II-n/12 (see chapter 6, 200) clearly shows that **[G/4-M28]** is older than **[G/4-M26]**, because the finely stratified layers abutting the eastern face of that wall run over the top of **[G/4-M28]** and towards the east. Although this is clear, it is less certain whether **[G/4-M28]** should therefore be grouped with Phase H–G/4 or assigned to G/4[890] because no more information is coming forwards from any of the other walls.

Wall **[G/4-M30]** protrudes from the northern baulk and towards the south east until it disappears in the eastern baulk of the same square. The top of this wall is preserved up to an elevation of 4.60 m/NN (in the eastern section[891]), whilst the base level was not reached but is below 4.40 m/NN.[892] The top of wall **[G/4-M29]** was preserved up to an elevation of 4.53 m/NN close to the eastern section. Again the base level lies below 4.40 m/NN.[893] A few bricks protrude from the eastern section with number **[G/4-M31]** which may constitute a cross wall to **[G/4-M29]** (see reconstruction in Fig. 9.1). The base level is at an elevation of below 4.40 m/NN and the wall seems to directly abut wall **[G/4-M30]**.[894] It seemed likely for the reconstruction of this wall that it continued further towards the north-east including wall fragment **[G/4-M33]** in square A/II-n/13. Unfortunately **[G/4-M33]**

885 A17, section no A17-78a.
886 M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 28 June 1968.
887 A17, section no A17-78b at running metre 3.0 from west.
888 The original plan drawing suggests an older wall below it.
889 A40, final section no A40-63a = **[G/4-M40]** in the southern part.
890 In Fig. 9.1 this wall, however, was assigned to Phase G/4 assuming that not too much time passed between the falling out of use of **[G/4-M28]** and the erection of **[G/4-M26].**
891 A85, no section number because there is only rubble preserved in the section. It starts at running metre 2.20 and continues to 2.75 counting from north.
892 The lowest elevation reached in this section was ca 4.40 m/NN. Thus what lay beneath has not been recorded in the section.
893 A85, section no A85-56b at running metre 5.0.
894 A85, section no A85-56a. Two brick courses are visible in the section, but the wall was probably founded earlier.

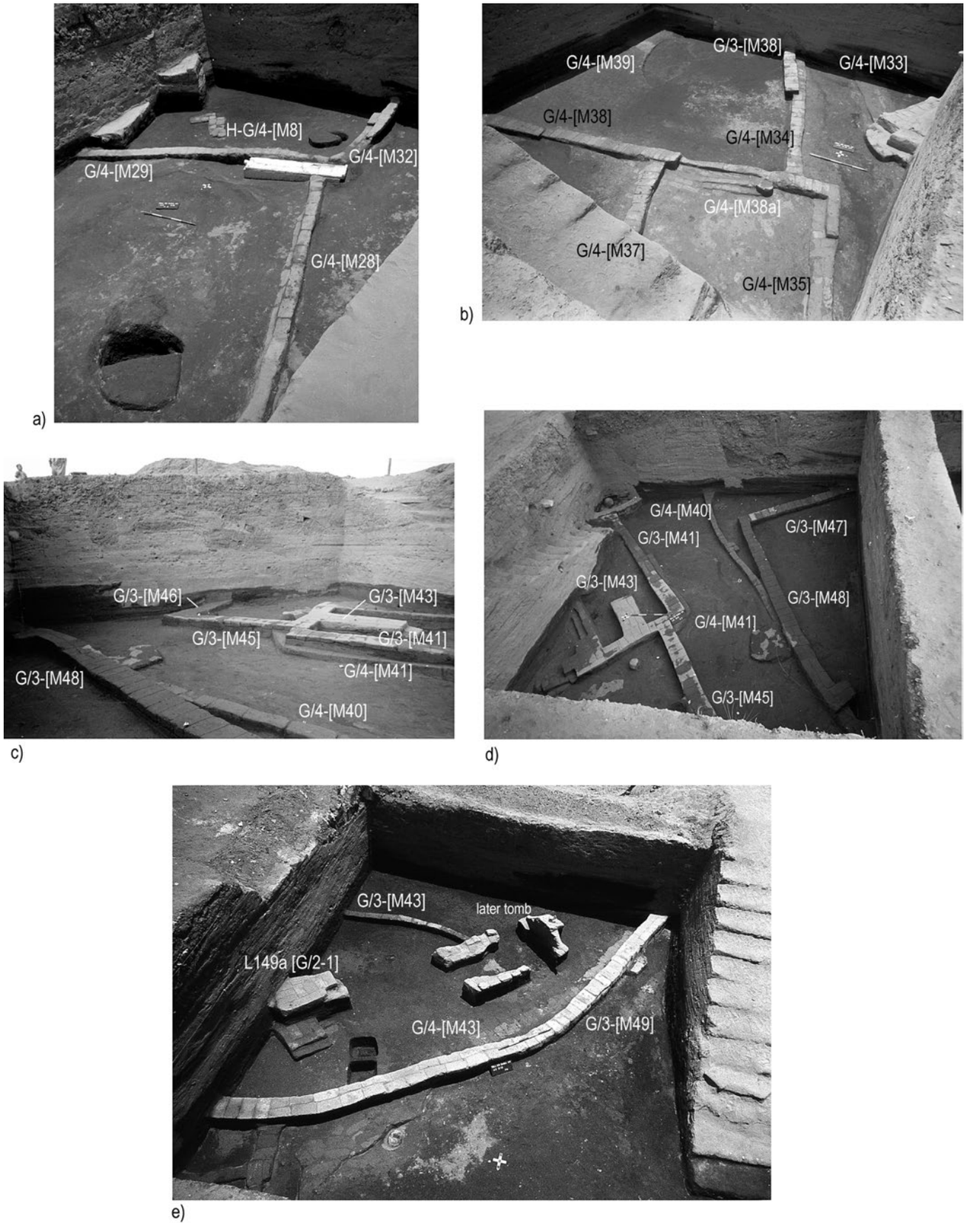


Fig. 9.4 a) A/II-n/12, pl. 6, view from north-west to south-east SW1097/41–42. b) A/II-n/13, pl. 7, view from east to west SW1117/62. c) A/II-o/12, pl. 7, view from north-east corner towards south-west SW1176/8. d) A/II-o/12, pl. 7 view from south towards north, SW1176/4. e) A/II-o/13, pl. 6, view towards the south, Cairo Archive

is cut by a later tomb,[895] thus it remains unclear what function this wall had or up to which point it continued. However, it ran through the northern section of square A/II-n/13, where three to four brick courses were preserved. The wall is preserved for 1.95 m. The base level of this wall was not reached but it lies certainly below the elevation of 4.15 m/NN. The preserved top is at ca 4.60 m/NN, which fits reasonably well with the preservation of 4.28 and 4.33 m/NN in other parts of the wall.

Except for ash depositions visible in the plan drawings no more archaeological features belonging to this early phase were reported.

The only other feature in the western part of square A/II-n/12 is wall **[G/4-M27]**, which is ca 3.15 m long. Its base level recorded in the western section of the square lies below 4.0 m/NN and thus presumably belongs to the earlier phases of the settlement although this placement cannot be more specific. The base level in the northern section of A/II-o/12 was not reached because that section was only recorded to an elevation of 4.60 m/NN. For this reason it must remain unclear whether that wall continued towards the south east. It is unlikely that the southern part belongs to the structure in the north-western corner of A/II-o/12 because the ground plan would result in a very irregular layout. The elevation of the preserved tops of these walls can also not be compared because this data is only known for the southern walls (at 4.61 m/NN) and it seems as if **[G/4-M27]** was lower. In the same way it remains unknown how the arrangement at the northern end of **[G/4-M27]** was laid out. It may have abutted **[G/4-M26]** as reconstructed (see Fig. 9.1). Another possibility is that they formed a unit with **[G/4-M23]** and, thus, **[G/4-M25]** may have existed earlier and/or later. Also a difference in denudation is not a criterion for the assignment to a phase.

In the very north-eastern corner to the east of wall **[G/4-M30]** a deep ash accumulation (ca 0.3 m), perhaps some kind of fire pit, was found.[896] The entire square within and without this enclosure was covered by an ash layer[897] as well as the area further east in square A/II-n/13.[898] This layer accumulated to a thickness up to about 0.4 m in the southern part of the square.[899] Partly this ash is compacted and partly mixed with very fine sand. This fact led M. Bietak to the opinion that the ash was carried by winds and mixed with sand layers, implying that the ash was lying around on the ground for some time. Most probably the ashes were derived from fire related activities such as from firing pits or similar features and distributed across the square. Perhaps such ashy accumulations are more usual in settlements and need not be derived from outright destruction, especially as no burnt brick work was reported. Open fires and fire pits used for heat and cooking must have produced enormous amounts of ash over time that then needed to be discarded or at least spread within the settlement as soon as it was cold. Unfortunately the nature of the fire installation in the north-east corner cannot be ascertained because it was covered by the baulk, which had not been taken down.

South of wall **[G/4-M29]** the north-south wall **[G/4-M32]** runs over the burnt remains of the possible earlier housing unit of Phase H–G/4 **[H-G/4-M9]** (see above 273 and Fig. 9.1). The wall **[G/4-M32]** continues southwards through square A/II-o/12 as **[G/4-M40]** and was at least partly overbuilt there by a later wall (**[G/3-M48]**, see below and Fig. 9.6). Thus, it remains unclear how its course runs exactly and if it continues even further to the south. It may have abutted wall **[G/4-M43]** further south. Again this assumption must remain hypothetical. Where wall **[G/4-M40]**, which is ca 5.65 m long and roughly one brick's width wide, is not built over by the later wall two buttresses/pilasters are recorded. This building technology, presumably used to strengthen the stability of this rather flimsy wall, also occurs in the northern part of the excavation (see Fig. 5.5), square A/II-l/12 in this phase but also in Phase G/3 and G/2–1 in singular cases. The two buttresses/pilasters are built by means of two heavily sand tempered mud-bricks laid out as protruding stretchers, two at a time and in bonding with the remainder of the wall, which was

[895] A/II-n/13-no 8, Phase E/3, cf. M. Bietak, TD V, 86–91. Section A18, tomb section no A18-31, wall **[G/4-M33]** cut by it and situated immediately east, no section no.

[896] A85, section no A85-55. The base of the accumulation was not reached. The north east corner of the square may have contained a pit, but only a depression is really visible.

[897] It is interesting to note that Tomb A/II-n/12-no 4 (Phase G/2–1) cut through those ash layers. Cf. M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 28 June 1968, p. 50; M. Bietak, TD V, 33–34.

[898] This is also visible in the western section of A/II-n13 A64, where an ashy layer extends from north to south descending from 4.60 down to 4.20 m/NN with decreasing thickness from 25 to 10 cm. The final section nos were not yet assigned in the inked section.

[899] Cf. also section A40, A/II-n/12 southern section.

mostly built of headers. Also the wall becomes thinner in the southern part. Presumably this happens somewhere within the baulk between A/II-n–o/12. The distance between the two buttresses/pilasters is ca 3.5 m equals exactly 6 2/3 cubits). Unlike the situation in the north the distance between the pilasters does not amount to an even number of cubits. The reconstruction of a third buttress/pilaster, which might be hidden under the later wall, (see Fig. 9.1) would lead to an even cubit count of almost 3 cubits as the buttresses/pilasters themselves measure exactly 0.35 m, which constitutes exactly two thirds of an Egyptian cubit of 0.525 m.

To the east, in square A/II-n/13, some other archaeological features need to be mentioned. There is a rectangular structure close to the eastern section. The feature was constituted by walls **[G/4-M35]**, **[G/4-M36]**, **[G/4-M37]** and a part of **[G/4-M38]**, namely **[G/4-M38a]**. It seems from the photograph (Fig. 9.4.b) as if **[G/4-M38]** not just abutted the rectangular feature in a later phase after the building of the rectangular feature but was bonded into it. Whether this represents an adjustment from the original plan must remain uncertain. The internal measurements of the feature are 3.35 m by 2.50–2.60 m (= 6.4 cubits by 5 cubits[900]). The walls are all of one brick's width and the construction pattern alternates between stretchers and headers laid out beside each other, presumably again to provide stability. The fill inside these walls is represented by brick rubble and collapse as well as some other walls adjacent to **[G/4-M/38a]** (see Fig. 9.4.b). Thus, the real floor level had not been reached. Again it remains unclear whether there would have been precursors for the whole structure or installations within the feature. The structure lies exactly below the later one of Phase G/2–1 (see Fig. 6.1) and thus continuity in the settlement structures can be once more demonstrated. The base level of none these walls was reached, because in the northern section wall **[G/4-M35]** runs below the elevation of 4.20 m/NN,[901] and in the eastern section walls **[G/4-M36]** and **[G/4-M37]** are below the elevation of 4.40 m/NN.[902] The preserved tops of these walls are at an elevation of around 4.40 m/NN but no floors have been mentioned in the digging diary dividing the buildings of Phases G/2–1 and G/4–3. It remains unclear how long the building was used and if it could have existed in Phase G/3.[903] The format of the bricks was given as 0.33 by 0.16 by 0.085 m.[904] Abutting the rectangular structure just described are walls **[G/4-M34]** and **[G/4-M38]** forming a rectangular space that was probably open because the distance between the walls appears to be too wide to be covered. Both these walls are one brick's width wide and **[G/4-M34]** is preserved on a stretch of ca 5.7 m and perhaps continues towards the west as **[G/4-M29]**. Both the base levels of these walls, **[G/4-M34]** and **[G/4-M38]** are below an elevation of 4.30 m/NN whilst the preserved tops are at 4.40 m/NN and 4.31–4.52 m/NN. Approximately in the middle of wall **[G/4-M38]**, which is ca 4.5 m long, there is one single brick visible that was laid out as a header at the lower elevation and may constitute the precursor of wall **[G/4-M38]**. Therefore the first course of bricks is visible presumably with a base level of around 4.25 m/NN in this area. This would fit well with the information from the southern section[905] because the base level of that wall is below an elevation of 4.30 m/NN. Presumably this wall continues towards the south and probably forms an enclosure with **[G/4-M43]** in square A/II-o/13 (see Fig. 9.4.e).

Within the space enclosed by the walls just mentioned the fragment of a rounded wall laid out as headers **[G/4-M39]** is situated running into the southern baulk of the square (see Fig. 9.4.b). It belonged to a circular silo and the reconstructed diameter is very approximately 1.75 m (= 3.3 cubits). The feature is cut by a large pit that was filled with ash.[906]

The whole square was described as filled with a deep ash layer distributed by wind[907] (although the plan drawing does not show such large amounts. The 'floor' level given for the space in the south-west corner is at 4.22 m/NN. The 'floor' level given for the area east of wall **[G/4-M38]** is at an elevation of 4.19 m/NN. No finds were reported from squares AII-n/12–13.

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[900] This represents a ratio of length to width of almost exactly 4:3 although the building is not exactly regular.

[901] A18, final section no A18-38 is exactly below that of 35 which belongs to G/2–1.

[902] A90, preliminary section nos. Only the walls belonging to G/2–1 are recorded in this section but it is likely that the older ones are situated just below as visible in the northern section.

[903] In the plan in Fig. 9.6 it has been omitted.

[904] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 7 July 1968.

[905] A39, section no A39-34.

[906] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 7 July 1968.

[907] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 7 July 1968.

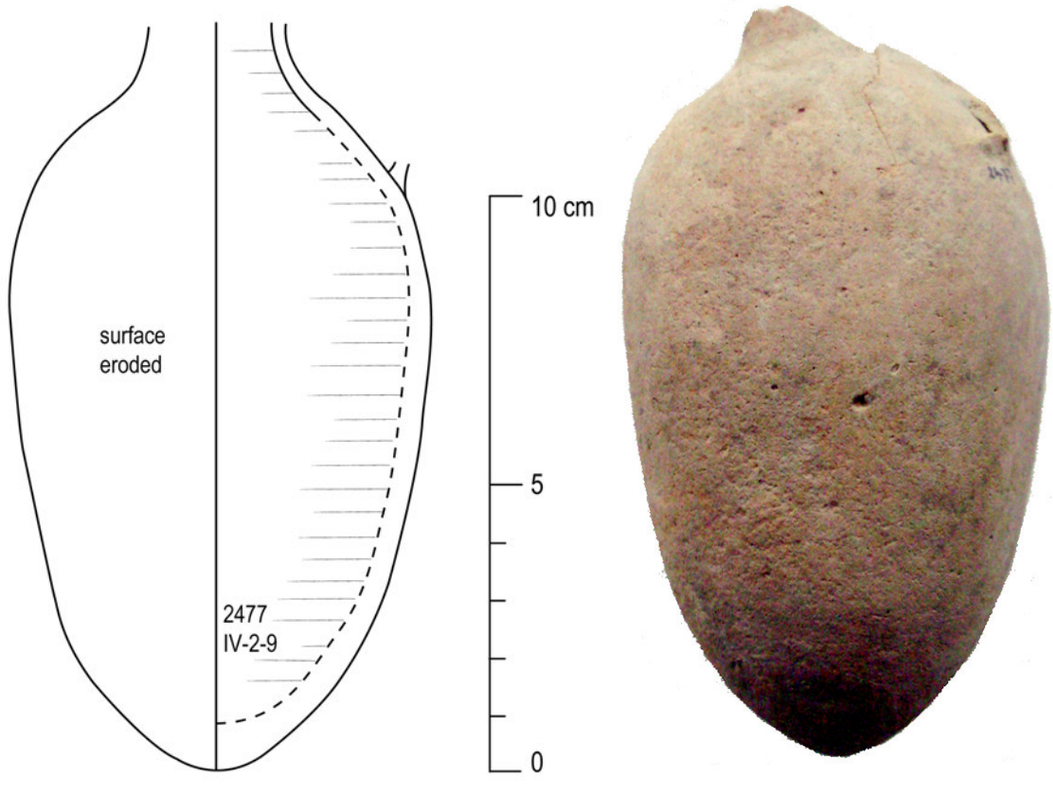


Fig. 9.5 Reg.no 2477, dipper juglet surface severely eroded, drawn and photographed by B. Bader, courtesy of KhM

The surrounding wall of the presumed open space constituted by walls **[G/4-M29]**, **[G/4-M32]**, **[G/4-M34]** and **[G/4-M38]** in the northern part (A/II-n12–13) continues towards the south with walls **[G/4-M40]** and **[G/4-M43]** (A/II-o/12–13). The base levels of the walls in square A/II-o/12–13 are not known in the relevant sections because they were only recorded down to 4.40 m/NN in square A/II-o/12 and to 4.80 m/NN in square A/II-o/13, which means that they cannot give any information on the phasing of these walls. In planum 6 of A/II-o/13 the preserved top of wall **[G4-M43]** was just exposed at an elevation of 4.41 m/NN (see Fig. 9.4.e). The wall is one brick's width wide and can be followed on a length of 4.05 m. The preserved tops of wall **[G/4-M40]** with the buttresses/pilaster (see above) are at an elevation of ca 4.50 m/NN. The fact that the latter wall is only 1/2 a brick's width wide may cast some doubt on the assignation to this phase but it is possible that at first all the walls were only 1/2 a brick's width wide and only in a second stage was it replaced by a slightly thicker wall. The base level of **[G/4-M40]** is recorded in the southern section A40 with the final section no A40-63a at a base level of 4.50 m/NN. That wall may just be visible beside **[M56]** in the plan drawing of planum 6.

The purpose of the enclosed space remains unclear due to a lack of finds, only the presence of ashy layers in the fill of the enclosure may suggest activities of dealing with open fires (cooking, industrial activities or something similar). It needs to be made clear though that in A/II-o/12 the plan drawing does not show any ashy layers (the digging diary for this planum was not preserved). The photo (Fig. 9.4.d) on the other hand makes it difficult to decide whether the dark colour is derived from ash or the fact that the features are still somewhat wet owing to the high water table. Thus, this interpretation may be only valid for part of the space.

Finally parts of a structure in the south western corner of square A/II-o/12 probably belong to Phase G/4 (see Fig. 9.1 and 9.4.c–d). There are two walls apparently below later structures just about visible in the plan drawing of planum 7. Unfortunately, for this reason, there are no base levels for the fragmen-

tary walls **[G/4-M41]** and **[G/4-M42]**. The preserved tops of these walls are around an elevation of about 4.40–4.50 m/NN and might thus belong to the earlier of the two phases, namely Phase G/4, even more so as the walls only seem to be one brick's width wide at the most. The two wall fragments run more or less parallel to each other in a north-north-western direction. Interestingly both **[G/4-M41]**, which is ca 3.0 m long, and **[G/4-M42]**, which is 2.65 m long, are also parallel to the southern part of wall **[G/4-M40]** before it bends in a slight curve towards the east forming a passage way of about 1.65 m width.

The general 'floor' level in this square was around an elevation of 4.36 m/NN roughly corresponding to the northern and the eastern squares.

Finds from square A/II-o/12

Pottery

Reg.no **2477** (KhM A 4026), dipper juglet. Position: A/II-o/12, pl. 7, 1.4 m/E, 2.8 m/N, relative stratum h (Fig. 9.5).
Records: drawing ZN 24/69, redrawn and re-recorded.

RP	IV-2-9	m	W2	Bd. geschl.	ox	3

Wd. = 0.3–0.6; base 100% preserved; max.d. = 7.3; H1 = 13.0 +x.
Red burnished: 10 R 4/6 red, natural colour: 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow. The red slip and burnishing are totally eroded except for a few traces of colour. No fresh break, Section: uniform pink, slightly powdery look. The vessel was slightly malformed at the shoulder due to pinching it. The handle scar was not well enough preserved to provide evidence for a rounded or squared section. The base was very eroded but there was a slight elongated gap visible, which may have been derived from not properly closing the base.

D. Description of architecture and archaeological features (Phase G/3)

Phase G/3 (Fig. 9.6) is distinguishable in squares A/II-n/11–13, but to a greater extent in squares A/II-o/12–13. In some areas it was difficult to decide whether a building or part of a building was in use through Phase G/3 up to G/2–1, such as the circular silos in A/II-n/11 or most of the walls in the eastern part of square A/II-n/12.

In some parts of these squares a definite tradition of architectural features can be noticed as remarked several times before: a series of buildings in A/II-n/11 into which the south western corner reached; the use of silos in the south western corner of the same square; a series of walls running north-south in square A/II-n/12; the smallish one room unit in the north eastern corner of Square A/II-n/13 and lastly the presence of some sort of building in the western part of square A/II-o/12.

One feature in square A/II-n/11 must definitely belong between Phases H–G/4 and G/2–1, namely the rectangular 'room' protruding from the northern baulk southwards (see Fig. 9.2.a, 9.2.c, 9.6). It consists of walls **[G/3-M33]**, **[G/3-M34]** and **[G/3-M35]**. Their base levels were recorded in the northern section of the square[908] at an elevation of 4.46 m/NN and 4.50 m/NN, while the base level of **[G/3-M34]** itself was measured at 4.62 m/NN. The preserved tops of these walls ranged from ca 4.60 m/NN to 4.70 m/NN. This means a preservation of about 10–20 cm, which is equivalent to about two to three brick courses. These walls were only 1/2 a brick's width wide and it remains unclear if they cut into the older structures of **[H-G/4-M6]**, **[H-G/4-M7]**, and **[H-G/4-M10]** (Fig. 9.1) or set on top of the ruins.[909] The interior width of the 'room' is 2.60 m, which equals quite well 5 Egyptian cubits. The exterior measurement is 2.95 m, which is to be equated with 5.6 Egyptian cubits, i.e. 5 2/3 cubits. The length of the 'room' cannot be ascertained because the northern square A/II-m/11 was not excavated to the necessary depth, but a trench along the southern section of that square was dug and the section recorded to an elevation of 4.0 m/NN (cf. Compound 11, chapter 3, 120). Here a suitable wall may appear with section no A36-66a at running metre 7.0 from the east. The preserved top of this wall is at 4.60 m/NN, which makes it too low to be identified with Phase G/2–1 and **[M20]**.[910] For the oldest wall **[H-G/4-M6]** might be in the correct position (should be roughly at running metre 7.0 from the east) but the top of that wall is not preserved to sufficient height to be no A36-66a. Moreover, the equivalent of **[M30]** is also not visible in the southern section of A/II-m/11 (= A36). Thus, the building must have been

[908] A16, **[G/3-M33]** equals final section no A16-75 (more like rubble), whilst **[G/3-M35]** equals final section no A16-73.

[909] In Fig. 9.2 it seems as if these walls have been set onto a pied-estal suggesting the later date as well.

[910] Base level 4.70 m/NN.

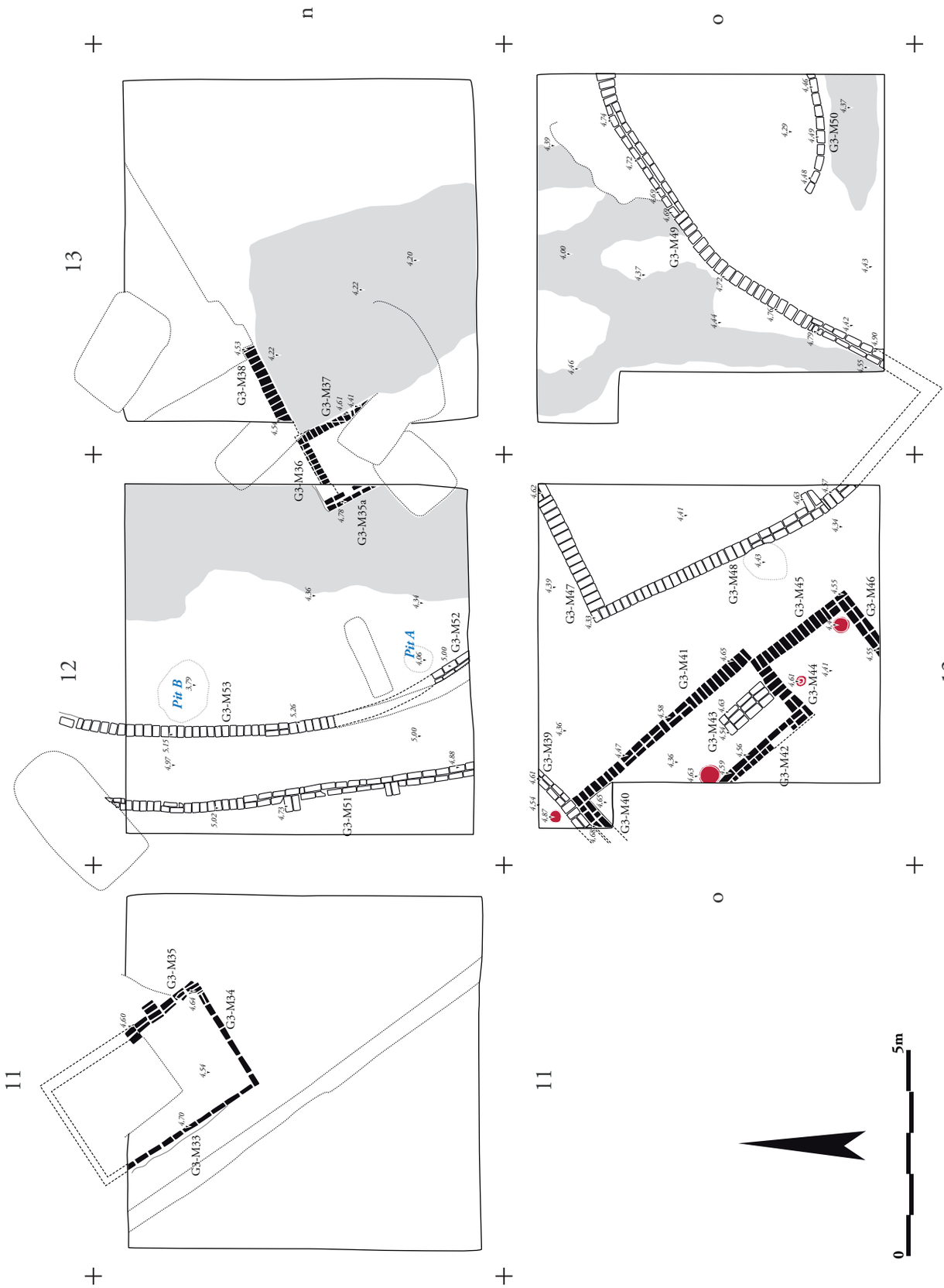


Fig. 9.6 Schematic plan of Phase G/3, compiled by B. Bader, graphic execution N. Math

quite thoroughly destroyed. A possibility that cannot be proved is that A36-66a represents **[G/3-M33]** if the north western corner is situated within the baulk, which was not taken down. This reconstruction is also not perfect because in the same way that **[M30]** is not visible in the southern baulk of A/II-m/11, wall **[G/3-M35]** also does not appear, although it should come out somewhere between running metres 4.0 and 5.0 from the east.[911] But the section shows in this area just sandy fill of a shallow depression and heavily sand tempered mud-brick rubble (section no A36-67). This could be the remains of both **[M30]** and **[G/3-M35]**. The distance between walls **[G/3-M33]** and **[G/3-M35]** provides us with the interior width preserved of this room and results in 2.65 m (= 5 cubits). The minimum length on the other hand for the 'room' is 3.55 m provided by the preserved length of **[G/3-M33]**. That is a minimum of 6.8 cubits. The interior length of the room according to the hypothetical reconstruction would amount to ca 4.07 m equating ~7 2/3 cubits.[912]

The space to the south of the feature mentioned before was either free of any structures or those from the previous phase were still in use, because in the eastern section of A/II-n/11 no other walls above **[G/4-M23]** and **[G/4-M24]** were encountered. The deep ash layer in the northern part of the section covers this phase as well and, to the south of it thin layers of mud, sand and ash alternate. However, these layers are not as numerous and thin as in other parts of the site (e.g. in A/II-k/12) thus the level of activity in this area might have been different without the possibility to verify this hypothesis.

Whether the installations in the south western corner of A/II-n/11 were still in use in Phase G/3 or not cannot be ascertained, but it seems likely, because a similar installation albeit with two silos was in use in the next later Phase G/2–1 as well (see chapter 8).

A similar problem is met in square A/II-n/12 because there are no vitally different architectural features to before or after, except some minor modifications in the courses of some walls. The main features remain the same. The roughly north-south wall in the west of square A/II-n/12 **[G/3-M51]** replaced the bent walls **[G/4-M26]** and **[G/4-M27]**, which might have formed an ensemble. Wall **[G/3-M51]** shows two buttresses/pilasters formed by two protruding stretchers in bond with a one brick's width wide wall. The bricks protrude on the western face of the wall, whilst in **[G/3-M48]** the buttress/pilaster protrudes on the eastern face of the wall. If there is a meaning behind this choice it is as yet unclear. **[M45]** of Phase G/2–1 is superimposed on wall **[G/3-M51]** again in a slightly different course.[913] The second dominating feature is wall **[G/3-M53]** probably belonging together with **[G/3-M52]** which is just preserved on a short stretch in the south of the square. Because the Phase G/2–1 wall **[M52]** was not taken down it remains unclear if the course of it was exactly the same as in the previous phase. That there is another wall between **[G/4-M28]** and G/2–1 **[M56]** is clear from the northern and southern sections although not much of them was left.[914] If the dividing wall **[M51]** also had a predecessor in Phase G/3 cannot currently be ascertained. Unfortunately there are no finds that might have helped to define the phases of usage here.

In the area east of **[G/3-M53]** two pits were discovered, whose stratigraphic position is not entirely certain, but which seem to rather belong to Phase G/3 than G/4. Both of these pits did not contain any finds that would have helped in dating. In the north-western part of the space enclosed by wall **[G/3-M53]** a quite deep pit (Pit B) was unearthed. Its shape is irregular and the measurements were 1.42 by 1.25 m. The elevation of the excavated rim of the pit was roughly at 4.41 m/NN whilst the deepest point measured was at 3.79 m/NN. Thus the pit was at least 0.62 m deep if the original top of the pit has not been cut away. The digging diary relates that the pit was probably dug from a slightly higher level because the rim is higher than the preserved tops of the walls belonging to Phase G/4. Thus, Pit B should probably belong to Phase G/3. The section of this pit included a kind of step and the upper fill (ca first 0.4 m) consisted of unstratified mud, whilst the lower fill consisted of

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911 The wall in the section is 0.75 m thick. The reconstructed thickness of a 1/2 brick's width wide building comes to about 0.5 m. But 0.75 m would be slightly too thin for **[H-G/4-M6]**, which should be about 0.8 to 0.9 m if cut obliquely. This question cannot be solved without renewed excavations.

912 The ratio of width to length would then be 4:2.5 (almost 4:3 as is often proclaimed to be architecturally ideal, cf. J.Ph. Lauer, La triangle sacré dans les plans des monuments de l'Ancien Empire, *BIFAO* 77 (1977), 55–78; J. Dorner, *Die Absteckung und astronomische Orientierung ägyptischer Pyramiden*, PhD Dissertation, University of Innsbruck, Fakultät für Bauingenieurwesen und Architektur, 1981, 91. See also C. Rossi, *Architecture*, passim for a cautious approach to geometry in ancient Egypt.

913 For the discussion of the relevant sections see chapters 4 and 6, 140–141, 144–146, 199–200.

914 See discussion in chapter 6, 202–206.

sandy earth (*gezirah?*). The pit was assumed to aid storage.[915] The relation of Pit B and wall **[G/3-M53]** cannot be ascertained because there was no stratigraphic connection between the two. It is of course possible that the 'enclosure' was already built earlier and continued into Phase G/3 with the upper parts destroyed later. As there were no finds reported from this part of the excavation the definition of use phases remains extremely difficult. The pit is visible in Fig. 9.4.a as the structure in the lower left corner of the photo. South of wall **[G/4-M29]** an oval pit (Pit A) was dug immediately to the east of **[G/4-M32]** (see above, 277). The diameter is 1.22 by 1.15 m and the pit is at least 0.4 m deep. Again this feature was interpreted as a storage pit rather than belonging to Phase G/3.[916] It would have destroyed the reconstructed wall of the earlier building **[H-G/4-M8-M9]** but no notes exist that a wall might have been visible in the profile of the pit. For this reason the reconstruction of the presumed building in Fig. 9.1 might be unlikely.

Further to the east a probable single room unit is formed by walls **[G/3-M35a]**, **[G/3-M36]** and **[G/3-M37]**.[917] However, the southern part of this presumed 'room' was destroyed by later tombs in square A/II-n/13-no 8,[918] A/II-n/13-no 10[919] and A/II-n/12-no 7.[920] The base levels of walls **[G/3-M35a]**, **[G/3-M36]** and **[G/3-M37]** were recorded: **[G/3-M35a]** at an elevation of 4.50 m/NN,[921] **[G/3-M36]** at an elevation of 4.40 m/NN[922] whilst the base level of **[G/3-M37]** was also at an elevation of 4.40 m/NN.[923] The preserved top of wall **[G/3-M35a]** was recorded at 4.78 m/NN, whilst that of **[G/3-M37]** was at 4.61 m/NN. This structure, with some modification, may have become part of the later Compound 12 in Phase G/2–1. Either the structure was reused for Phase G/2–1 or it did not exist before. Unfortunately this cannot be further clarified from the sections. The walls are preserved to a length of 1.40 m **[G/3-M35a]**, 1.95 m **[G/3-M36]** and 2.10 m **[G/3-M37]**. The distance between **[G/3-M35a]** and **[G/3-M37]** is 1.55 m equalling almost exactly 3 cubits. The length of the 'room' must be at least 2.10 m, which amounts to exactly 4 cubits. An overall length of 5 to 6 cubits is therefore very possible.[924] Nothing much can be said about its function due to a lack of finds, but usage as stables and barns for storage of fodder may be suggested.[925]

In square A/II-n/13 the archaeological description cannot go beyond the assertion that wall **[G/3-M38]** preserved to a length of ca 2.10 m overlies **[G/4-M34]** (see Fig. 9.4.b). The other, older structures may still have been in use, but no more details can be related.

The situation is different in the southern part of the area, A/II-o/12[926]–13, where several features must have been built between those of Phase H–G/4 and G/2–1 because they partly overlie or cut into each other or were used differently in the next phase. One of the most striking new features are walls **[G/3-M47]** and **[G/3-M48]**, which are 3.65 m and 6.90 m long, respectively (see Fig. 9.4.c–d). The base level for wall **[G/3-M47]** is below 4.60 m/NN[927] whilst that of **[G/3-M48]** also lies below the recorded elevation of 4.50 m/NN and both are thus unknown. Although no section has been drawn where these walls met, it seems that they overlaid each other, with **[G/4-M40]** being the one below and **[G/3-M48]** being the one on top.[928] In contrast to the wall underneath **[G/3-M48]** was built to one brick's width with a buttress/pilaster in the south that is ca 0.35 m wide, approx. two thirds of a cubit.[929] It protrudes from the wall into which it was bonded, for 0.3 m towards the east. The presence of a buttress/pilaster in this wall suggests a surrounding wall of an open space. It remains unclear how, and if, **[G/3-M47]** continued towards the north east, because it seems to stop dead as it runs into the baulks of A/II-n–o/12 and A/II-n–o/13. Because **[G/3-M47]** does not appear in the southern section of A/II-n/13,

[915] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 28 June 1968, p. 50.
[916] M. Bietak, Digging Diary, 28 June 1968, p. 50.
[917] These are the same walls as **[M59]**, **[M55]** and **[M60]**. It was not possible to decide without any associated finds whether these walls belong to Phases G/3 or G/2–1. It is even likely that the walls were in use in both these phases. Thus, they have been included into the plans of both phases.
[918] M. Bietak, TD V, 86–90, Phase E/3.
[919] M. Bietak, TD V, 93–94, Phase E/3.
[920] M. Bietak, TD V, 207–209, Phase E/1.
[921] The remains of this wall consist only of rubble in the western section of A/II-n/13.
[922] A85, final section no A85-50, it was perhaps reused for **[M55]** of Phase G/2–1.
[923] A63, provisional section no A63-27.
[924] Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.
[925] M. Bietak, personal communication 25 July 2017.
[926] For the lower elevations of this square no digging diary was preserved in the records.
[927] A86. The section was not recorded below this elevation; it is also below wall **[M57]** with final section no A86-56a.
[928] The plan drawing of A/II-o/12 planum 7 certainly evokes this impression.
[929] Two thirds of a cubit amount to 4 2/3 hands. 1 hand is 75 mm, thus 0.35 m are exactly 4 2/3 hands based on a cubit of 0.525 m.

A39,[930] it must be assumed that it turned southwards through the baulks of A/II-o/12–13. But as the access ramp for the excavation workers had not been taken down, its continuation remains unclear. The two walls **[G/3-M47]** and **[G/3-M48]** were included or overbuilt in the next Phase G/2–1 to form Compound 12 (cf. chapter 6) by connecting wall **[G/3-M48]** to **[M56]** by means of **[M75]** (see Fig. 6.1). It needs to be noted that the course of the later walls of Phase G/2–1 is roughly the same but often a little more rounded or straighter (compare the plans Fig. 9.1, Fig. 9.6 and Fig. 6.1).

In the western part of square A/II-o/12 several walls and wall fragments **[G/3-M39]** to **[G/3-M46]** were found that are difficult to connect to a meaningful ground plan of a single housing unit.[931] It seems quite certain that close to the western section several walls overlay each other in a sequence, but unfortunately the lack of information from a section does not allow going into more detail. It is possible that the rectangular 'room' formed by walls **[G/3-M40]**, **[G/3-M41]**, **[G/3-M44]** and **[G/3-M42]** constitutes the narrow part of a two-room unit[932] with an installation (bench, shelf, or similar) **[G/3-M43]**. **[G/3-M41]** is 5.60 m long, whilst **[G/3-M40]** is only preserved on a stretch of 1.10 m. The 'installation' **[G/3-M43]** is ca 1.50 long and the preserved top is at an elevation of 4.47 to 4.61 m/NN. Finally **[G/3-M42]** is preserved for a length of 2.75 m. To the west a slightly wider room might have continued.

The rectangular space south of this structure delimited by **[G/3-M45]** and **[G/3-M46]** may have constituted an addition to the basic room unit similar to Compound 11 (see chapter 3), but if so on a smaller scale. If this was the case, the building process was divided into at least two sub-phases, because **[G/3-M41]** and **[G/3-M45]** were not built in bond but slightly set off according to the plan drawing. Also **[G/3-M45]**, which is 2.83 m long, does not constitute a perfectly straight continuation of **[G/3-M41]** but is slightly tilted towards the southwest at its southern end. Moreover, the interior space from wall **[G/3-M44]** to **[G/3-M46]**, which is 1.65 m long, is 2.20 m wide, which corresponds to 4.2 cubits, but this is not an even measurement as in many other instances. Whether this is enough evidence to decide that these two parts did not belong together, is difficult to judge. Significantly, all of these walls are one brick's width wide. The preserved tops of these walls vary from 4.47 m/NN to 4.65 m/NN and it is not impossible that several building sub-phases are encountered here and that parts of these walls overbuilt each other. If they existed, they may have been rather short lived.

The course and function of wall fragment **[G/3-M39]**, which is only preserved on a stretch of 1.70 m, remains uncertain. There is no proven continuation towards the north east because the wall does not appear clearly in the southern section of A/II-n/12. If the wall continued in a straight line, it should be visible in this section at about running metre 4.5 counting from the west and at an elevation for the top at about 4.60 m/NN.[933] But if it curved through the baulk between A/II-n/12 and A/II-o/12 it could represent the continuation of **[G/3-M51]** and anticipate the truly curved compound boundary wall **[M45]**, see Fig. 4.17. In the, at the moment, unlikely case that **[G/3-M39]** continues in a straight line, it would go through roughly the same spot (at running metre 5.0) in the southern section of A/II-n/12 as the series of walls the latest one of which was numbered **[M56]**.[934] Because it was not entirely clear if walls **[G/4-M32]** and **[G/4-M40]** are one and the same or not, they have been numbered differently in the different squares. However, below wall **[G/4-M32]**[935] one single brick with some rubble appears in the southern section at running metre 5.5 from the east. The top of this brick rubble is at an elevation of 4.45 m/NN clearly divided from the later wall **[G/4-M32]** by overrunning layers of some rubble and sand. These remains with low elevation are unlikely to be identified with wall **[G/3-M39]**, because it does not tally with the preserved elevation of it of 4.61 m/NN. Unfortunately the base level is not recorded because the excavation did not reach so low in this area. There is one wall too few at running metre 0.5 in the southern section of A/II-n/12 and the northern one of A/II-o/12 was not exposed far enough to know. It also does not seem logical in this phase because this wall would block the thoroughfare from north to south by a cross wall. The sequence of walls in this area according to available information would then be as follows: 1)

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930 No walls at all are recorded between running metres 1.0 and 7.0 from west to east between the elevations of 5.20 and 4.20 m/NN.

931 Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

932 Comparison with the measurements of other bi-partite house units shows in contrast that they usually larger from from around 8.0 to ca 10 m. Cf. B. Bader, On Simple House Architecture, passim.

933 A40.

934 Cf. chapter 6.

935 The wall is called **[G/4-M40]** in square A/II-o/12.

[H-G/4-M9], 2) **[G/4-M40]** and **[G/4-M32]**[936] and 3) **[M56]** (Phase G/2–1). It is possible, though, that wall **[G/4-M32]** should rather belong to Phase G/3. Due to the sketchy information it is difficult to be certain. However, without further exploration of the actual walls this problem cannot be solved.

Finally, there are only two further walls to discuss, namely in square A/II-o/13. The main wall is **[G/3-M49]**, which divides the square almost into two equal halves. It is not straight like its precursor **[G/4-M43]** but more curved and irregular on a length of ca 10.0 m. However, the width is the same: one brick's width and again the building technique alternates in using stretchers and a double row of headers, presumably for an increase in bonding stability. The preserved top of the wall **[G/3-M49]** at its southern end is at an elevation of 4.90 m/NN, whilst in the northern part it is around 4.70 m/NN. Such an elevation in preservation suggests prolonged use and continued renewal of this wall and the base level of one of these walls in the northern part is at 4.65 m/NN, which fits well with Phase G/2–1. Another base level of the wall for Phase G/3 more towards the south may be at about 4.40 m/NN where it overlies the older wall **[G/4-M43]** as seen in the plan drawing. It seems that in this part another tradition of open space was established as only this wall and a few other features are present, from the earliest phase (H–G/4) onwards up to G/2–1.

Wall fragment **[G/3-M50]** protrudes from the eastern baulk and runs in a slight curve westwards for about ca 3.0 m, after which it is no longer preserved. It could have only been preserved one brick course high, because the base level was taken at 4.40 m/NN and the preserved top was measured at 4.48 m/NN. The purpose of this wall remains entirely unclear, especially as it stops suddenly, due to denudation. Unfortunately the excavations of I. Forstner-Müller of 1997[937] cannot help in clarifying this structure and the others in this square because the exposure of the neighbouring square A/II-o/14 did not reach down far enough.

Finds from square A/II-o/12, pl. 7

Stone

One stone implement was found to the east of wall **[G/3-M48]**, which was described as a stone 'head' in the plan drawing. As this find does not reappear in the records, it must be assumed that it was rather a pounder or a rounded grinding stone. The diameter according to the plan drawing (1:50) is 13.0 cm. For a grinding stone this appears to be of rather large size, thus perhaps a pounder or stone hammer is more likely. About the material nothing much can be said, except that the drawing convention at Tell el-Dab^{c}a indicates that it was made of limestone.

Pottery

Also drawn into the plan are four pottery vessels, which seem to belong to this phase. Unfortunately they could not be identified and re-studied. The two vessels in the southern space in square A/II-o/12 seem to have been medium to large jars, whereas the northern one (according to the photo Fig. 9.4.d) was deposited with the base on top (contrary to the plan drawing). The preserved height of the vessel was around 20.0 cm. The other jar seems to have been deposited with the base on the floor (although this vessel had already been taken out when the photograph was taken). Thus, it might have been *in situ*. The same holds true for the vessel close to wall **[G/2-M42]**, which was preserved to a height of ca 27.0 cm. Both the latter vessels had a very wide body diameter of 45.0 and 55.0 cm. The only vessel type attested for other parts of the settlement of the late Middle Kingdom with such a large body diameter is that of large storage vessels made from Marl C.[938] The other two slightly less wide jars (one in the north-west corner close to wall **[G/3-M39]** preserved height 33.0 cm, the other close to **[G/3-M44]**) have a body diameter of ca 30.0 to 35.0 cm. Also for these jars medium to large sized Marl C vessels either with bulbous rims[939]

[936] It is also possible that **[G/4-M32]** and **[G/4-M40]** are not the same but that **[G/4-M40]** is older. Unfortunately this cannot be verified because the northern section of A/II-o/12 was not recorded to this elevation.

[937] I. Forstner-Müller, Vorbericht, 197–220. I. Forstner-Müller, Colonization/Urbanization, 83–95.

[938] B. Bader, TD XIII, Type 57, 155–193. The heights range from ca 40 to almost 60.0 cm, whilst the max. diameter varies from 37.0 to almost 52.0 cm.

[939] B. Bader, TD XIII, Type 36, 108–120. Comparing the heights of the completely preserved examples they appear perhaps a little too small (around 25.0 to 28.0 height, 15.0 to 21.0 max. diameter).

or with corrugated necks[940] come to mind, because closed vessels made from Nile clay fabrics are exceedingly rare in this period in the late Middle Kingdom settlement. Imported transport amphorae – also rarely occurring without handles – may also be a possibility. As there were no handles drawn into the plan, it seems slightly less likely that the vessels were imported amphorae. Both of them were found with the base up, which may hint at secondary deposition of these pottery vessels.

[940] B. Bader, TD XIII, Type 46, 129–145. The heights range from ca 40.0 to 50 cm, the max. diameter is usually around 22.0 to 29.0 cm. See also B. Bader, Vessels in Ceramics and Stone: The Problem of the Chicken and the Egg? in: D. Aston, B. Bader, C. Gallorini, P. Nicholson and S. Buckingham (eds), *Under the Potter's Tree, Studies on Ancient Egypt Presented to Janine Bourriau on the Occasion of her 70th Birthday*, Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta 204, Leuven – Paris – Walpole, MA 2011, 125–171.

Appendix

Internal and external dimensions of the rooms and houses in the settlement of Phase G/3–1

Locus	Measurements metres (interior of rooms)	Measurements cubits (0.53 m)	Area square metres	Area square cubits
L106	2.0 × 2.2	3.75 × 4	4.4	15
L107	7.8 × 4.2	15 × 8	32.76	120
L108	2.0 × 5.2	3.75 × 10	10.4	37.5
L109	2.4 × 7.1	4.5 × 13.5	17.04	60.75
L117	~2.1 × 7.2	4 × ~14	~15.12	~56
L118	7.4 × 3.7	14 × 7	27.38	98
L129	6.3 × 2.7	~12 × 5	17.01	~60
L137	2.8–3.4 × 5.6–6.4	~12 × 6.5	15.68–21.76	~78
L139	2.9–3.3 × 4.8	9 × 5.5–6	13.92–15.84	49.5–54
L142	3.95 × 2.8–3.0	7.5 × 5.75	11.85	43.125
L145	3.5 × 2.4–2.6	6.6 × 4.5–4.9	8.4–9.1	29.7–32.34
L163	6.0 × 2.20	4 × 11.5	13.3	46
L167	5.75 × 2.90	almost 11 × 5.5	16.68	60.5

Comparison of various cubit lengths with the interior measurements of the rooms

Locus	Measurements metres	Measurements cubits (0.53 m)	Measurements short cubits (0.45 m)	Measurements cubits (0.525 m)	Measurements cubits (0.4875 m[941])
L106	2.0 × 2.2	3.75 × 4	4.44 × 4.88	3.81 × 4.19	4.10 × 4.51
L107	7.8 × 4.2	15 × 8	17.33 × 9.33	14.86 × **8**	**16** × 8.62
L108	2.0 × 5.2	3.75 × **10**	4.44 × 11.56	3.81 × 9.91	4.10 × 10.67
L109	2.4 × 7.1	4.5 × 13.5	5.33 × 15.78	4.57 × 13.52	4.92 × 14.56
L117	~2.1 × 7.2	4 × ~**14**	4.67 × **16**	**4** × 13.71	4.31 × 14.77
L118	7.4 × 3.7	**14** × **7**	16.44 × 8.22	14.1 × 7.1	15.18 × 7.59
L129	6.3 × 2.7	~**12** × **5**	**14** × **6**	**12** × 5.14	12.92 × 5.54
L137	2.8–3.4 × 5.6–6.4	6.5 × ~**12**	7.56 × 14.22	6.48 × 12.19	6.97 × 13.13
L139	2.9–3.3 × 4.8	5.5–6 × 9	7.33 × 10.67	6.29 × 9.14	7.33 × 9.85
L142	3.95 × 2.8–3.0	7.5 × 5.75	8.78 × 6.67	7.52 × 5.71	8.10 × 6.15
L145	3.5 × 2.4–2.6	6.6 × 4.5–4.9	7.78 × 5.78	6.67 × 4.95	17.18 × 5.33
L163	6.0 × 2.20	**4** × 11.5	13.33 × 4.88	4.19 × 11.53	12.31 × 4.51
L167	5.75 × 2.90	almost **11** × 5.5	12.78 × 6.44	10.95 × 5.52	11.8 × 5.95

[941] This measurement was proposed by E. Roik, Unter der Lupe: Die Handhabung antiker Längenmaße, *Göttinger Miszellen* 172 (1999), 76. In order to see if the results are more even than the other lengths it was tested here.

Exterior measurements of houses including walls

Square	Measurements	Cubits (0.525 m)	Wall thickness
A/II-k/11–12 (C.10)	8.70 × 7.90 (68.73 m²)	16 1/2 × 15	0.53–0.58 ~1 cubit
A/II-n/10 (C.14b)	7.00 × 4.20 (29.4 m²)	13 1/3 × 8	0.55–0.80 ~2/3–1 1/2 cubit
A/II-m/10–11 (C.11 core)	9.30 × 8.50 (79.05 m²)	17 2/3 × 16 1/3	0.65–0.70 ~1 1/3 cubit
A/II-n13 (L145)	4.20 × 3.20 (13.44 m²)	8 × 6	0.30–0.40 ~2/3 cubit
A/II-n/12 (L137)	6.50–7.0 × 3.70–3.90	12 1/2–7 1/3 × 7–7 1/3	0.30–0.35 ~2/3 cubit
A/II-n–o/12 (L139)	5.50 × 3.50–3.90 (21.45 m²)	10 1/2 × 6 2/3–7 2/3	0.30–0.35 ~2/3 cubit

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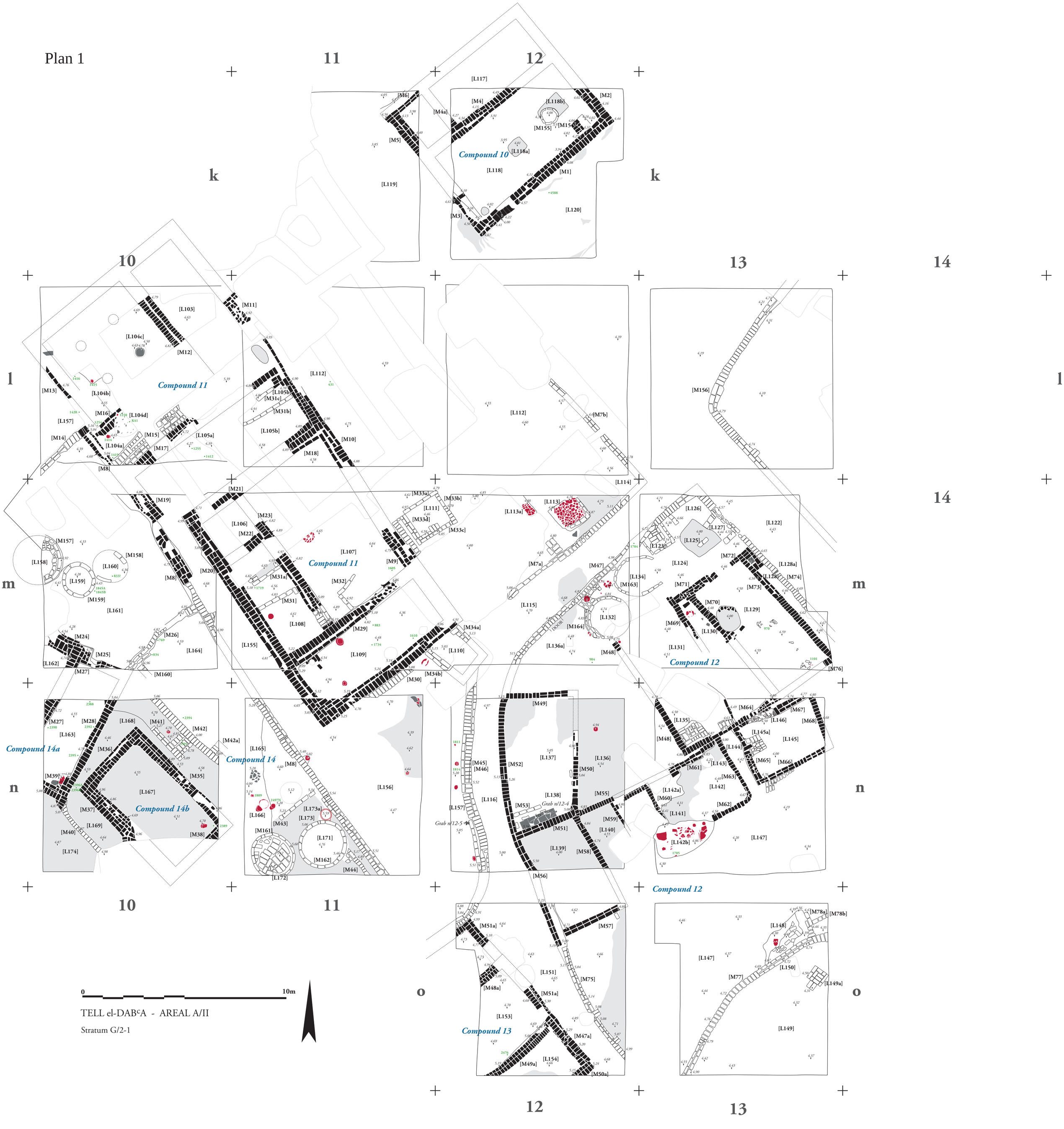
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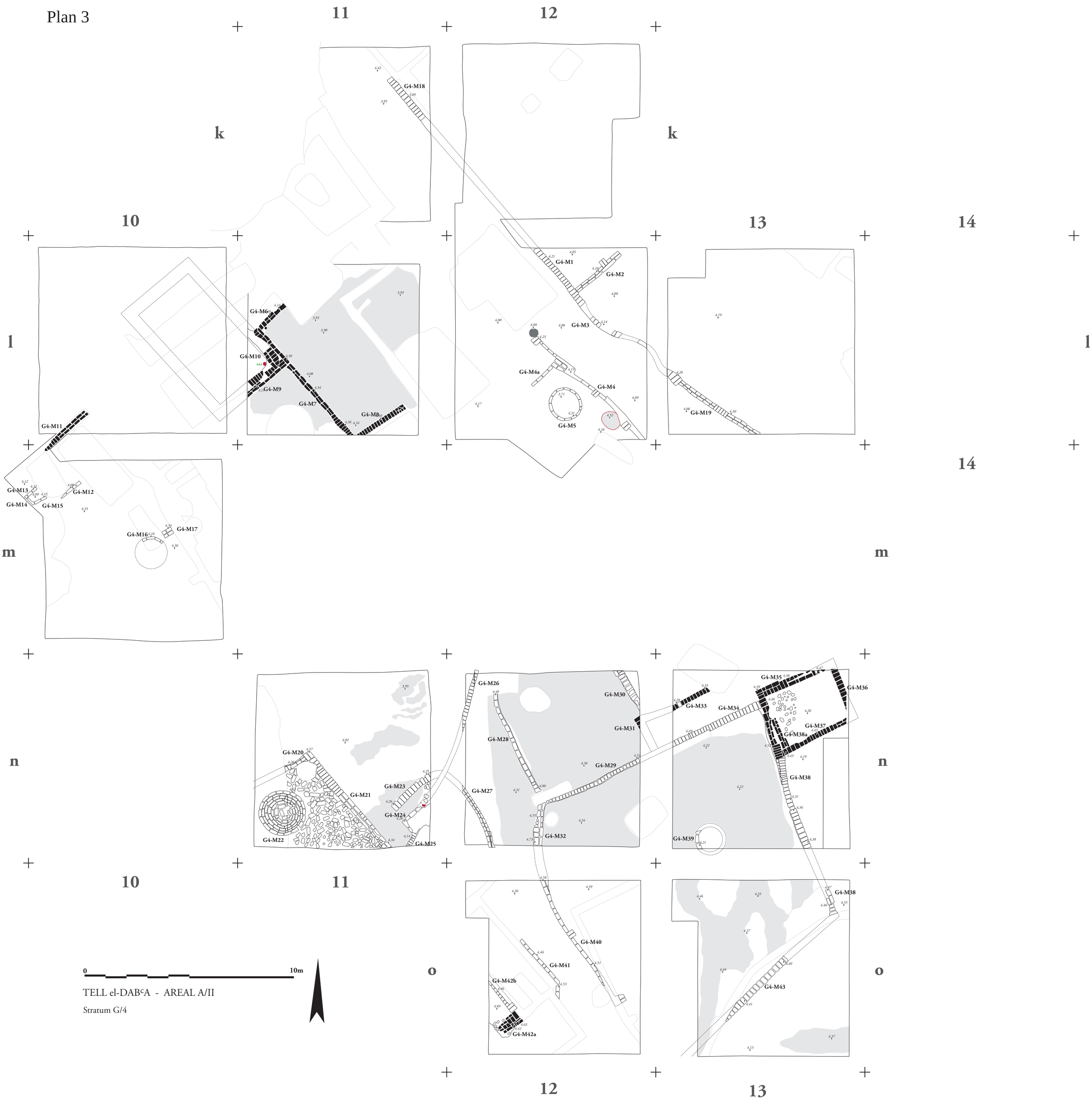
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TELL el-DABᶜA - AREAL A/II
Stratum G/2-1

Plan 2

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G3-M2
G3-M2a
G3-M1
G3-M29
G3-M27
G3-M28
G3-M4a
G3-M3
G3-M4
G3-M5
G3-M1
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G3-M8
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G3-M12
G3-M10
G3-M11
G3-M54
G3-M32
G3-M30
G4/3-M55
G3-M31
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G3-M51
Pit A
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G3-M36
G3-M37
G3-M35a
G3-M39
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G3-M41
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G3-M44
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Stratum G/3

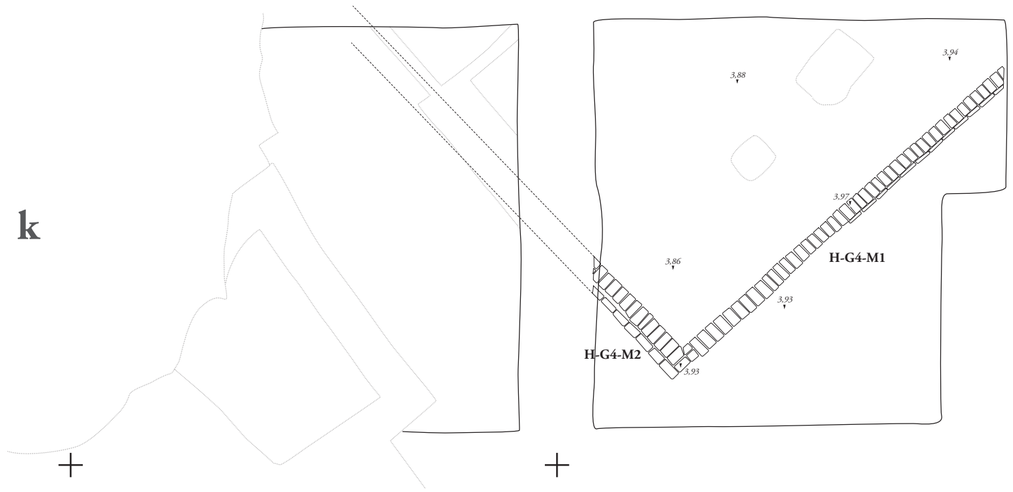
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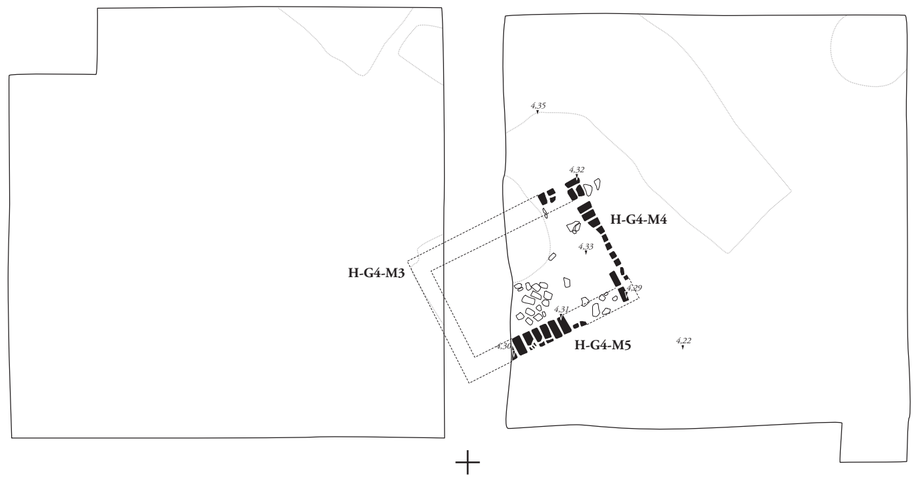


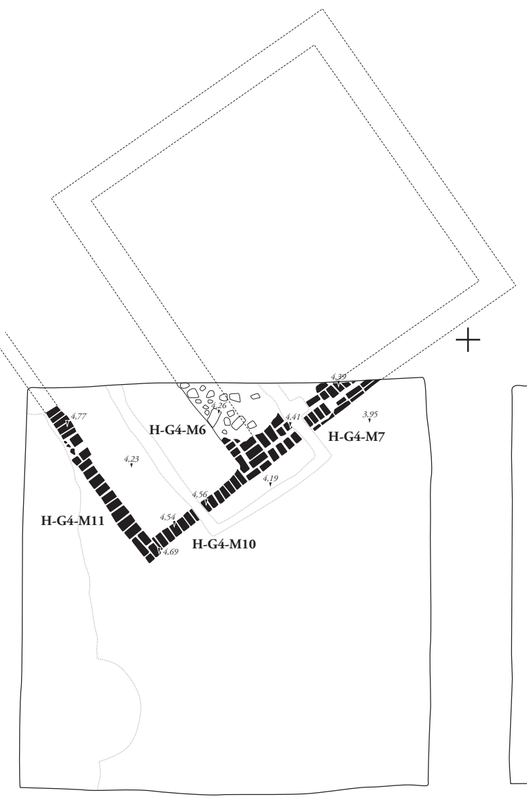
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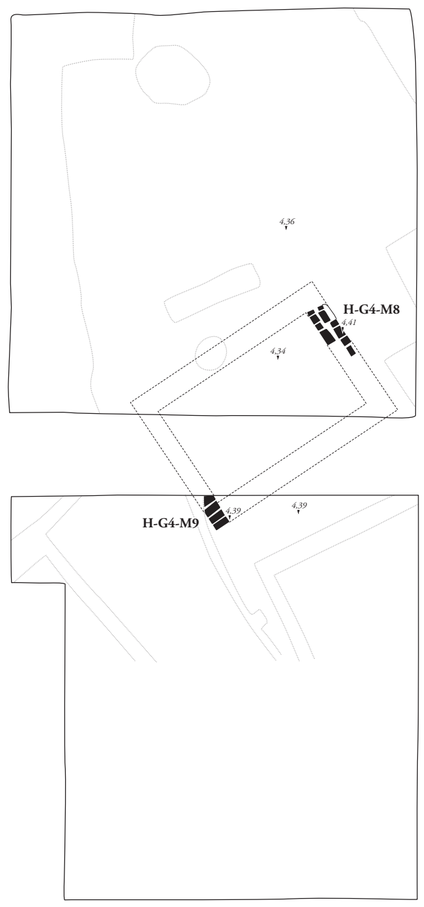
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Plan 4







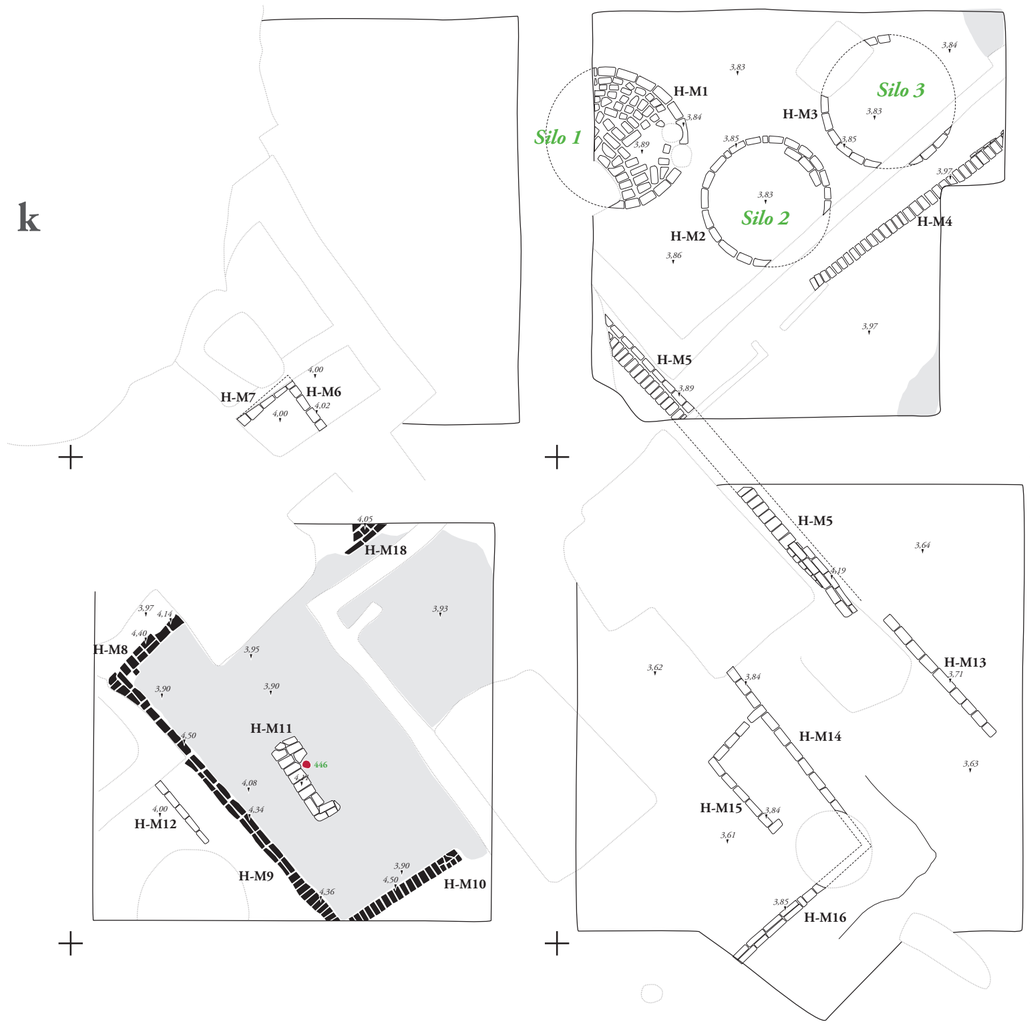


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TELL el-DABᶜA - AREAL A/II

Stratum H-G/4

Plan 5


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H-M2
H-M3
H-M4
H-M5
H-M6
H-M7
Silo 1
Silo 2
Silo 3
3,83
3,84
3,89
3,85
3,97
3,86
4,00
4,02
H-M18
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H-M17
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TELL el-DABᶜA - AREAL A/II
Stratum H