

# Late Third Millennium Ceramics from the Akkadian Administrative Building (AAB), Tell Leilan, Syria

The ceramics recovered from the 1000m<sup>2</sup> Akkadian Administrative Building (AAB) excavation during the 2002, 2006 and 2008 excavations belong to five strata of this building, dating to period IIa, IIb, and IIc (Table 1). Together with the ceramics excavated to the south in the initial Acropolis Northwest soundings in 1993, 1999 and 2002 (Ristvet and Weiss 2000; Ristvet, Guilderson, and Weiss 2004; De Lillis-Forrest, Milano, and Mori 2007), this is the largest assemblage of late third millennium ceramics excavated from a broad exposure of an elite building in Northern Mesopotamia. This ceramic sequence parallels the one excavated in 1987 and 1989 in the Lower Town South (Senior 1998). Period IIb material at Leilan has also been retrieved from Operations 7 and 8 in the Lower Town, Operation CG at the city gate (McCarthy and Ristvet N.D.), and operation 4 at the city wall (Stein 1990). Along with the radiocarbon dates and the sealings, the pottery recovered here provides a chronology of the AAB excavation.

Table 1: AAB Architectural Phasing and Ceramic Lots.

Stratum	Period	Description	Lots <sup>1</sup>	Acrop NW	Total # of sherds
9	IIc	Post-Akkadian reoccupation	<b>44S16 (2002)</b> : 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 40, 41 <b>44S16</b> : 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 113 <b>44V16</b> : 9, [14]		228
10-11	IIb2- IIb1	Main Floors of AAB, Tannur Rooms, Indus- trial Kitchens, Room 12	<b>44S16</b> : 20, 36, 46, 109, 110, 111, 112, 115, 116, 117, 118, 202, 203, 204, 206, 210, 211, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217 <b>44T15</b> : 21, 26, 29, 31, 36, 37, 43, 45, 46 <b>44T16</b> : 10, 43, 45, 46, 100, 105, 106, 107, 108, 122, 127, 128 <b>44V13</b> : 4; <b>44V14</b> : 21, 46, 65, 69, 70 <b>44V15</b> : 13, 15, 16, 18, 21, 22, 23, 29, 30, 33, 34, 34, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 48, 50, 55, 57, 200, 202, 204 <b>44V16</b> : 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 24, 25, 42, 100, 114, 127, 207, 209, 210, 212, 213, 214	Kitchen Building, Unfinished Building	1369
12	IIa/IIb	Ash layer be-	<b>44T16</b> : 35	44X15	259
		low IIb tannur	<b>44V14</b> : 67, 71, 73	Foundation	
ag talang	n.	room floor	<b>44V15</b> : 46, 201, 207, 208, 211	Deposit	
13	Period Ha	Lower tannur room,	<b>44T16</b> : 38, 39, 103	44X15, deep room	34

<sup>1</sup> Excavated in 2006 unless otherwise noted.

Although more than 5,000 sherds were recorded during the excavation of strata 9-13 only 1890 well-stratified examples were analyzed for this report. All of these sherds came from sealed contexts within the building. We recorded the following characteristics when processing these ceramics: ware (paste, color, and temper), rim, base and decoration. Base and rim diameters were recorded for vessels that tended towards standardization. Munsell values were only taken of drawn diagnostic sherds. Since all sherds were processed during the excavation season, we were unable to make thin sections of the examined ware types. Nevertheless, the results allow us to describe the AAB IIa/IIb-IIc assemblages and quantify how ware and shape changed over time.

### Stratum 13: The Deep Tannur Room, IIa (Fig. 1-2)

This pottery came from the only excavated IIa context in the AAB, stratum 13, the ashy fill of the deep tannur room in 44T16. Although further excavation is necessary to clarify the details of this stratum, the quantity of ash and the many excavated and unexcavated tannurs encountered here indicate that much of this area had served as an industrial grain processing area before the massive walls of this area were built, as part of it did in strata 10-11 as well.

34 diagnostic sherds were analyzed from this stratum: 21 rim sherds, 12 base sherds and one decorated body sherd. Three sherds (9%) were decorated (fig. 13), two of these with multiple ribbing (Decoration 41), a characteristic that was not found at all in the IIb assemblage. The other decorated type was the rope pattern appliqué (Decoration 65, fig. 16:a), one of the most common decorations found in strata 11-10.

The most popular rims (fig.15) of the excavated assemblage (each category has more than one sherd) are as follows: beaker rims, non-clinky ware (Rim 3, 5, 23.81%, Fig. 2: 11-15); sila bowl (beaker) rims, clinky ware (Rim 12, 2, 9.52%; Fig.5); large coarse bowls, flat base, flattened or rounded simple rims (Rim 31, 2, 9.52%, Fig. 2: 22), asymmetrical rims, small jars, mixed temper (Rim 39, 2, 9.52%; Fig. 1: 2-3); and multi-ridged rim bowls (Rim 70 2, 9.52%). As is true for all strata, simple beaker rims pre-dominated. In comparison with other strata, however, medium ware jars were very poorly represented.

Several bases occurred in this assemblage (fig.14), but the most common (each category has more than one sherd) are the following: beaker bases, not clinky ware (Base 1, 3, 255%, Fig. 2: 11-12); large coarse flat bases (Base 5, 3, 25%); round bases (Base 10, 2, 16.67%, Fig. 2: 17); and medium-large flat bases (Base 6, 8, 8.1%, Fig. 2: 22).

# Stratum 12: Destruction/Construction, IIa-IIb (Fig. 1-2)

Stratum 12 is an ashy destruction layer underlying the stratum 11 and 10a floors of the AAB. Material from this stratum is mixed and includes IIa types from stratum 13, as well as debris from the construction of the AAB. This stratum was sampled in 44T16, above the deep tannur room, as well as in soundings into the ashy deposit below the stratum 11 floors in 44V15.

259 diagnostic sherds were analyzed from this stratum: 172 rim sherds, 6 whole profiles and 81 base sherds. There was just one decorated sherd found within this assemblage, a colander (Decoration 40). The nine most popular rims (all representing more than 2%) of the excavated sherds accounted for more than 70% of the rim sherds (fig. 15). They are

as follows: sila bowl (beaker) rims, clinky ware (Rim 12, 47, 26.4%, Fig. 5); beaker rims, non-clinky ware (Rim 3, 34, 19.1%, Fig. 5); beaded fine ware (Rim 2, 11, 6.18%, Fig. 2: 12-14, 21); cooking ware pots with flared rims and flattened tops (Rim 25, 10, 5.62%, Fig. 1:1); coarse storage jars (Rim 4, 9, 5.06%, Fig. 1/11; Fig. 1: 10); large coarse bowls, flat base, flattened or rounded simple rims (Rim 31, 6, 3.37%, Fig. 1:9); common/medium bowls large but not coarse, horizontal flat rims (Rim 16, 6, 3.37%, Fig. 2: 18); small jars, everted rims with ridge (Rim 47, 6, 3.37%, Fig. 2: 9); and small jars, mixed tempers, protruding but squared, straight, everted rims (Rim 43, 6, 3.37%, Fig. 3: 28). As is true for all strata, simple beaker rims pre-dominated. In comparison with other strata, however, medium ware jars were very poorly represented with the most common type being quite uncommon in strata 11-10 and absent entirely in stratum 9. Similarly, the common cooking bowl and coarse bowl types, although still present in strata 11-10, are a much larger percentage of the stratum 12 assemblage.

Most bases occurred in this assemblage (fig. 14), and the most common (>5%) are the following seven: sila (beaker) bases, clinky ware (Base 2, 41, 47.13%, Fig. 5); large coarse flat bases (Base 5, 8, 9.2%); round bases (Base 10, 8, 9.2%, Fig. 2: 17); medium-large flat bases (Base 6, 8, 8.1%, Fig. 2: 27); beaker bases, not clinky ware (type 1, 7, 8.05%, Fig. 2: 11-12); tea cup bases (Base 11, 7, 8.05%, Fig. 1: 6-8); string cut fine ware bowl bases, curved sides (Base 4, 5, 5.751%, Fig. 7: 68, 70). The most common ware type in this stratum was clinky ware (buff to green, hard-fired, with either light grit or no visible temper, n=91, 35%).

#### Strata 11-10: Akkadian Administrative Building, IIb (Fig. 3-9)

The ceramics from these strata come from a range of floors within the AAB: the area bounded by the massive walls in 44V13, 44V14, 44V15, and 44T15, the floors of the courtyards with the tannurs in 44V15, 44V16, and 44T16, the floors of the adjacent kitchen suite in 44S16, and the administrative suite in 44T16. They date to two levels within the AAB, periods IIb1 (stratum 10a) and IIb2 (stratum 11), however, with the exception of room 12, the material from both strata was so uniform that they were lumped together for analysis. Due to the broad horizontal exposure in strata 11-10, this is the largest sample analyzed here, consisting of 1369 sherds: 941 rim sherds, 44 profiles, 368 base sherds and 16 decorated body sherds. 31 sherds (1.6%) are decorated.

Room 12 (44T16 lots 105, 106, 108) is probably an administrative area within the building, unlike the other food preparation areas that make up most of the excavated sample. Given its different function and unusual contents it is unsurprising that the ceramic assemblage is also unique. The single floor retrieved in this room, is stratigraphically linked with stratum 10a, period IIb1. Eighteen complete or reconstructable vessels (and four sherds) were found here alongside a two liter stone grain measure, balls of sealing clay, and a tablet blank. With the exception of one medium ware jar (fig. 4: 38) and two broken vats (fig. 4: 43), only open forms were recovered. The most common type were five rounded bowls, slightly carinated, with beaded rims, mini-flat bases and radial burnishing (fig. 7: 73) – a type which does not occur in other AAB contexts and is usually assigned to EJZ 4c (Rova, 2011: 69). Otherwise, the assemblage was divided between four other open forms, simple rimmed, shallow bowls with rounded bases, one of which was a sherd of a dark-rimmed orange bowl or DROB (fig. 16:B); sila bowls (fig. 5); a beaded, "balloon" shaped bowl (fig. 3:31); and common medium bowls (fig. 8: 76).

In the assemblage as a whole, five types of surface features occurred (fig. 13). They are from most to least frequent: colanders (Decoration 40, 12, 38.%, Fig. 9: 84, 86); a rope motif, "braidlike twist appliqué on medium and coarse ware" (Decoration 65, 11, 35.5%, fig. 16a, fig. 9: 87); wavy comb incising (Decoration 2, 3, 9.7%, Fig. 9: 87); handles (Decoration 38, 3, 9.7%); incised horizontal lines (Decoration 4, 2, 6.5%, Fig. 9: 87). The ten most common rims, each of which formed 2% or more of the assemblage, comprised 64.8% of the assemblage, which is unsurprising when one considers how many different functional areas are represented by these strata. The rims are as follows, from the most to the least common (fig.15): beaker rims, nonclinky ware (Rim 3, n=261, 26.5%, Fig. 5); sila bowl (beaker) rims, clinky ware (Rim 12, n=94, 9.5%, Fig. 5); simple rim, slightly inverted shallow bowls (Rim 36, n=63, 6.4%, Fig. 7: 68, 70); small jars, mixed tempers, asymmetrical rims (Rim 39, n=45, 4.6%, Fig. 3: 27); inverted rim beakers (Rim 30, n=41, 4.2%, Fig. 12: 87); coarse storage jars (Rim 4, n=37. 3.8%; Fig. 1: 10); small jars, mixed tempers, thickened asymmetrical rims (Rim 45, n= 31, 3.2%, Fig. 3: 24, 29); beaded fine ware (Rim 2, n=25, 2.5%, Fig. 6: 59, 61, 64-5); small jars, mixed tempers, protruding square rims (Rim 43, n=20, 2%, Fig. 3: 28); large coarse bowls, flattened or rounded simple rims (Rim 31, n=19, 1.9%, Fig. 1:9, Fig. 2:22).

The strata 11-10 assemblages include all but two of the bases that we coded (fig. 14). The most common (>5%) are the following four: sila (beaker) bases, clinky ware (Base 2, n=102, 24.8%, Fig. 5); string cut, flat bowl bases with curved sides (Base 3, n=80, 19.4%, Fig. 7: 68, 70); sila (beaker) bases, not clinky ware (Base 1, n=60, 14.6%, Fig. 5); medium-large flat bases (Base 6, n=41, 10%, Fig. 8: 80). As in, stratum 12, clinky ware was once again the most common ware-type (n=196, 14.5%).

## Stratum 9: The Post-Akkadian Reoccupation, IIc (Fig. 10-12)

Period IIc is the last period attested in the third millennium occupation of Tell Leilan and is represented by stratum 9. This stratum is mainly attested in 44S16. The corresponding architectural level was excavated during the 2002 and 2006 seasons. Architectural remains consist of mudbrick walls, badly built as a rule, that delineate five areas (enclosed rooms and courtyards) (Weiss et al., this volume: 163). 228 diagnostic sherds from controlled contexts were analyzed (153 rim sherds, 7 profiles, 56 base sherds, and 5 decorated body sherds for this report. Five types of surface features occur (fig.13). They are from most to least frequent: incised-punctate ware (Decoration 10, n=4, 40%; Fig. 9: 88); incised horizontal lines (Decoration 4, n=2, 20%, Fig. 9: 85, 87); colanders (Decoration 40, n=2, 20; Fig. 9: 84-6); handles (type 38, n=1, 10%); multi-ridge rim bowls (Decoration 41. n=1, 10%). Decoration 10, incised-punctate ware, is unique to this stratum and does not occur at all among the decorated sherds in strata 10-13.

The fifteen most common rims (fig. 15), each of which formed 2% or more, comprised 67.6% of the assemblage, indicating greater diversity in this assemblage than in the earlier strata. From the most to least common, the best represented rims are the following: beaker rims, non-clinky ware (Rim 3, n=18, 11.3%, Fig. 12: 110-11); simple rim, slightly inverted shallow bowls (Rim 36, n=13, 8.1%, Fig. 10: 92-3); simple rims, top flattened and thickened straight sides, thicker walls (Rim 38, n= 11, 6.9%, Fig. 10: 95, Fig. 12: 108); beaded fine ware, probably tops of pedestaled bases (Rim 2, n=8, 5%, Fig. 12: 113); large coarse bowls, flattened or rounded rims (Rim 31, n=7, 4.4%; Fig. 2: 22); small jars, mixed tempers, thickened flattened top (Rim 46, n=7, 4.4%; Fig. 11: 102); standard vertical vat rims (Rim 49, n=6, 3.8%; Fig. 4: 37); small jars,

rounded, thickened asymmetric rims (Rim 52, n=6, 3.8%, Fig. 11: 105); clinky ware, sila bowl rims (Rim 12, n=5, 3.1%; Fig. 12); common/medium bowls-large but not coarse, horizontal flat, tiny ledge curved sides (Rim 17, n=5, 3.1%, Fig. 10: 101); small jars, mixed tempers, flat vertical, very everted (Rim 42, n=5, 3.1%, Fig. 3: 26); small jars, thickened asymmetrical rims (Rim 45, n=5, 3.1%, Fig. 3: 24); black burnished bowl, pinched rims (Rim 7, n=4, 2.5%, Fig. 5: 70-1); small jars, mixed tempers, protruding but squared rims, straight or slightly everted (Rim 43, n=4, 2.5%, Fig. 3: 28); medium ware jars, mixed temper, everted flat rims (Rim 63, N=4, 2.5%, Fig. 11: 106). As in the earlier strata, beaker rims continued to form the most common type in the assemblage, although they represented a much smaller proportion than in previous strata. Similarly, the common ware type had changed from over-fired clinky ware to a brownred paste, and rims and bases both became thicker. In general, the common forms in this stratum differ from the earlier two, with the presence of fewer beakers and more bowls (forming more than 17% of the assemblage), perhaps attesting to a change in economy or cuisine. Two of the bowl sherds are of the dark-rimmed orange bowl (DROB) type, well-known at Mozan (Bianchi 2008; Fig. 16b) and plentiful in Eastern Anatolia, especially the Upper Tigris area (D'Agostino 2012), from the late third-early second millennium. Additionally, vats make an appearance in this stratum as a vessel type, represented by two different common rims.

In stratum 9, protruding bases (Base 8) disappear, and a new base, a very thick beaker base appears (Base 14). Additionally, no stands were recognized in this stratum. The most common (>5%) bases are the following four (fig. 14): thickened beaker base, straight sides, not string cut (Base 14, n=14, 22.2%, Fig. 12: 111); string-cut bases, flat bowl bases, (Base 3, n=9, 14.3%, Fig. 4: 62); sila bases, not clinky ware, (Base 2, n=8, 12.7%, Fig. 12: 114); and beaker/cup bases, string cut, straight sides (Base 1, n=8, 12.7%, Fig. 12: 108). By this stratum, clinky ware has almost entirely disappeared from the assemblage (n=8, 3.5%) and is replaced by a reddish buff to dark red brown paste. Clinky ware occurs in such small quantities, compared to the earlier assemblages, that it could be an intrusive type. In general the IIc types are not as well fired and are much thicker than the earlier IIb types. The mean wall thickness for beakers (Rims 3, 13, and 38) increases from 3.9 mm to 7.4 mm. The IIc curved bowls (Rim 36), probably the most common type from this stratum considering the quantity of whole vessels and complete profiles, do not appear to be standardized.

# Concluding remarks

The ceramics from the five strata analyzed here (stratum 13, period IIa; stratum 12, IIa/IIb; strata 11-10, period IIb; stratum 9, period IIc) are similar to those published from other 3<sup>rd</sup> millennium Ḥabur plains sites, particularly those in the Eastern and Central Jezirah, especially, Mohammed Diyab (Nicolle 2006), Hamoukar (Gibson et al. 2002; Colantoni and Ur 2011), Brak (Oates, Oates, and McDonald 2001), Barri (Orsi 2011), Beydar (Rova 2003) and Mozan (Bianchi 2008; Schmidt 2007). The ARCANE project has recently produced a synthesis of third millennium ceramic traditions, providing a useful regional framework for the Leilan material (Rova 2011, table 2).

At the AAB, a number of changes may be detected in the shift from IIa to IIb, particularly the introduction of a number of beaker, open bowl, and medium jar forms, as well as changes in manufacturing. Most importantly, the typical "sila bowl" form is introduced in large quantities in stratum 12 and replaces the probable round-bottomed beaker form generally used in IIa (and present in strata 12-13). Although the two beakers probably served a similar purpose

within the palace, sila bowls exhibit greater standardization of rim diameters and volume capacities, indexing changes in administration (Senior and Weiss 1992; Ristvet, this volume). Strata 11-10 also sees a change in small and medium bowl forms, particularly the introduction of the simple or interior beaded, inverted and rounded bowls (type 36), and a decline in straight-sided bowls. Additionally, jar rims in period IIb tend to be rounded or squared rather than simply everted.

Perhaps more importantly, this period also saw changes in the organization of ceramic production. First, clinky ware, usually related to sila bowls, is introduced in stratum 12 and is the most common ware type for strata 10-12. The new dominance of the ware points to changes in manufacturing practices, particularly a standardization of ware preparation and firing techniques, although these vessels continued to be produced in multiple workshops (Blackman, Stein, and Vandiver 1993). Second, during IIb, potters decreased the amount of time they devoted to manufacture, with very little use of smoothing, decoration or other finishing techniques, a trend that had begun in the previous period (Senior 1998).

At Leilan, period IIc witnessed a shift in the nature of the ceramic assemblage from this area, as well as in manufacturing techniques. In general, and as we might expect, the assemblage from Leilan IIc is that of a simple house and not of an administrative building; it is more diverse and lacks the standardization and restriction of types that we see in IIb. Moreover, increased use of surface decoration, particularly the introduction elsewhere in the Jezirah of time-consuming appliqué techniques, meant that manufacturing time increased, with concomitant changes to the organization of production.

Table 2: Leilan Stratigraphic Sequence and EJZ Ceramic Phases.

Leilan Stratigraphic Period	EJZ Ceramic Phase
IIa/b	EJZ 3b/EJZ 4a
IIb	EJZ 4a/EJZ4b
IIc	EJZ 4c
-	EJZ 5

The shift between IIb and IIc, or EJZ 4a-b to EJZ 4c in the Jezirah framework, has begun to be elucidated in the past decade with the ceramic assemblages from the sites discussed in this volume: Brak (Emberling, p. 65; McMahon, p. 25; Colantoni, p. 45; Oates, Oates, and McDonald 2001), Chagar Bazar (McMahon, p. 25; McMahon and Quenet 2007), Mozan (Pfälzner, p. 145; Schmidt 2012), Barri (Orsi, p. 89; Orsi 2011), Mohammed Diyab (Nicolle, p. 129; Nicolle 2006), and Hamoukar (Paulette, Grossman and Reichel, p. 279; Colantoni and Ur 2011). The Leilan AAB occupational sequence indicates that some ceramic types previously considered "post-Akkadian" at other sites were used during the Akkadian period IIb at Leilan. The "post-Akkadian" ceramic assemblage therefore is redefined with Leilan IIc, the Brak TC pise Building, (Emberling, p. 65), and Chagar Bazar Batiment 1 (McMahon and Quenet 2007).

The distinction between EJZ 4c and the following EJZ 5 period is clear. Stratified EJZ 5 ceramic assemblages only occur at Mozan alongside Ur III tablet fragments and numerous sealings (Schmidt 2007; Dohmann-Pfälzner and Pfälzner 2001). The Leilan IIc assemblage as presented here clearly differs from that material, particularly in the absence of carinated bowls (which are abundant at Mozan) and the lack of bitumen painted and red-brown slipped

decoration. The pottery from IIc has close parallels with Hamoukar and Chagar Bazar, particularly given the large number of vats and simple curved bowls excavated here, although it differs in the absence of incised wavy lines (more commonly seen in Leilan IIb), the type fossil for this period at Hamoukar (Colantoni and Ur 2011; McMahon and Quenet 2007). Leilan IIc immediately follows IIb, and shares many features with that assemblage (see Strata 11-10-9 presented above). Stratum 9 is ceramically equivalent to EJZ 4c (*versus* Quenet 2011) as defined at Tell Brak (Emberling, this volume: 65), Tell Chagar Bazar (McMahon and Quenet 2007) and probably Tell Arbid (Kolinski, this volume: 109), before the subsequent Mozan Ur III-related assemblages standardization of the ceramic repertoire in both northern and southern Mesopotamia (Rova 2011).

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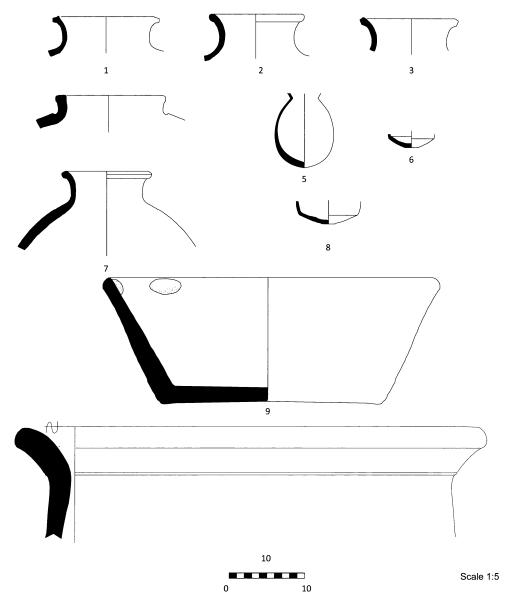


Fig. 1: Tell Leilan, IIa Closed Forms.

1) L-06, 44V15, stratum 12, lot 201.2. Rim d=12cm,int, ext 2.5Y8/2, buff, and core 5YR7/4, pale greenish yellow, medium grit temper. Rim 40. 2) L-06, 44V14, stratum 12, lot 71. Rim d=11.6cm,int and ext, 2.5Y8/2 buff, 7.5YR7/4 pale greenish yellow, medium straw and lime temper. Rim 39. 3) L-06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 45. Rim d=12cm. Int, core 2.5Y8/2, ext 10YR7/3, light grayish yellow, straw temper. Rim 39 (Rova 2011: type 65, pl. 15: 11-13). 4) L-06, 44V15, stratum 13, lot 207. Rim d=14cm, int, ext and core 5Y8/2, light greenish yellow, straw temper. Rim 25. 5) L-06, 44V15, stratum 12, lot 46. ext, 5Y7/3, blackish green metallic ware, very fine lime and grit temper. 6) L-06, 44V14, lot 71. Base d=1.8cm, core and int 10YR8/3 buff, ext 2.5Y8/2, pale greenish yellow, no visible temper. Base 7. 7) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 25. Rim d=11cm. int 10YR8/4, ext 2.5Y8/2, core 5YR7/4, pale greenish yellow, no visible temper. Rim 47 (Rova 2011: type 64, pl. 15: 10). 8) L-06, 44V14, lot 71. Base d=1.6cm, int and ext, 10YR8/3, very pale buff and core, 7.5YR7/4, light reddish buff, no visible temper. Base 7. 9) L06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 25. Rim d 44cm, int and ext 10YR8/2 and core 5YR6/6 and 5YR5/1, light whitish buff, medium straw temper, lug. Rim 31; Base 6 (Rova 2011: type 57, pl. 8: 13). 10) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 15. Rim d=120cm, int, ext and core 5Y8/3, light greenish yellow, coarse straw temper. Rim 4 (Rova 2011: type 103, pl. 17: 8).

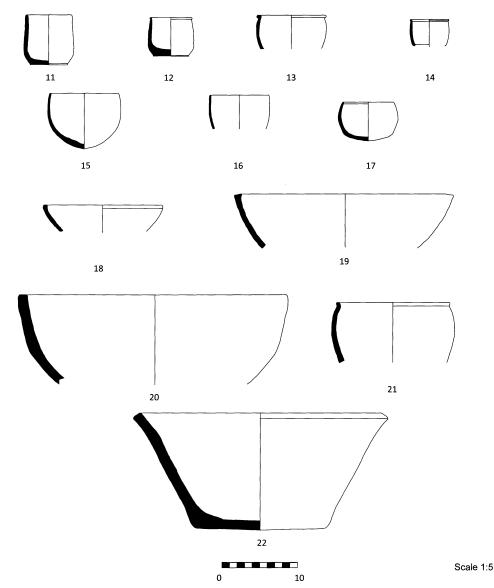


Fig. 2: Tell Leilan, IIa Open Forms.

11) L-06, 44V14, stratum 12, lot 20. Rim d=5.5cm, int, ext and core 5YR6/6, pale reddish brown, very fine grit temper. Rim 3. 12) L-06, 44V15, stratum 12, lot 20. Rim d=5.5cm, int, ext and core 5YR7/4, pale greenish buff. Ext slip 2.5Y8/2 light greenish yellow, no visible temper. Rim 2. 13) L-06, 44V15, stratum 13, lot 46. Rim d=14.2cm, int, ext and core 2.5Y8/2, pale buff, fine no visible temper. Rim 2. 14) L-06, 44V14, stratum 12, lot 73. Rim d=5cm, int, ext and core 5Y8/3, pale greenish yellow, fine, no visible temper. Rim 2. 15) L-06, 44V14, stratum 12, lot 73. Rim d=8.8cm, int, ext and core 5Y8/3, pale buff, fine, no visible temper. Rim 3. 16) L-06, 44V14, stratum 12, lot 73. Rim d=7.7cm, int, ext and core 5Y8/3, pale buff, fine, no visible temper. Rim 3. 17) L06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 204. Rim d=7cm, int and ext 5Y7/4 and core 5Y8/3, pale buff, fine, no visible temper. Rim 23; Base 10 (Rova 2011: type 49, pl. 7: 6). 18) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 43. Rim d=15.7cm, int, ext and core 10YR4/1, burnished very dark gray, medium grit temper. Rim 16. 19) L-06, 44V15, stratum 12, lot 38. Rim d=28, int, ext and core 5Y8/4, light greenish yellow, straw and lime pop temper. Rim 15. 20) L-06, 44V15, stratum 12, lot 46. Rim d=32cm, int and ext 10YR8/2, light buff, core 7.5YR8/6 gray, medium straw temper. Rim 16. 21) L06, 44V15/16, strata 11-10, lot 46. Rim d=14.2cm, int, ext and core 2.5Y8/2, pale buff, fine, no visible temper. Rim 32 (Rova 2011: type 93, pl. 14: 16). 22) L06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 15. Rim d=32cm, base d=18cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR7/3 and core 10YR3/1, pale buff, medium straw and lime temper. Rim 31; Base 6.

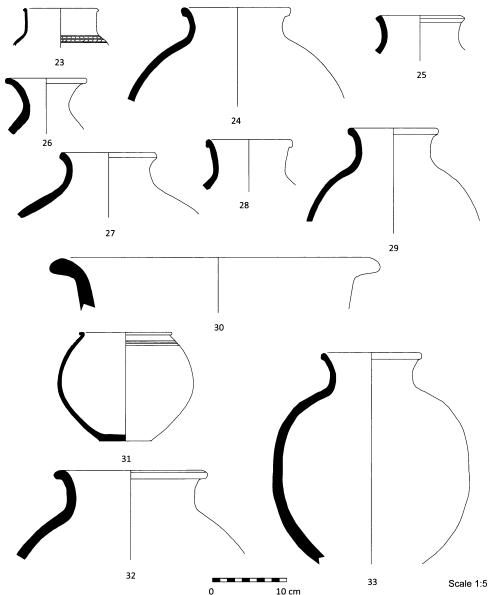


Fig. 3: IIb, Closed Forms.

23) L-06, 44T16, lot 105. Rim d=9.4cm, int and ext 2.5Y8/2, whitish pale yellow, core 10YR7/3, buff, fine no visible temper. Rim 62. Incised. 24) L-06, 44T16, stratum 13, lot 35. Rim d=14cm, int, ext and core 10YR8/3, buff, grit temper. Rim 45 (Rova 2011: type 68, pl. 10: 7). 25) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 25. Rim d=10.6cm, int, ext and core 2.5Y8/2, light greenish yellow, no visible temper. 26) 73, L-06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 26. Rim d=10.6cm, int, ext 10YR8/3, core 10YR8/3, light greenish buff, fine grit with lime pops. Rim 42. 27) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 210.4. Rim d=12.4, int and ext 2.5Y7/4, buff, fine, no visible temper. Rim 39. 28) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 117. Rim d=10cm, int and ext 2.5Y8/2, core 1.5YR7/4, light greenish yellow, lime and grit temper. Rim 43 (Rova 2011: type 65, pl. 15: 11-13). 29) 100, L-06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 35. Rim d=11cm, int, ext and core 10YR8/2, light greenish yellow, grit and straw temper. Rim 45 (Rova 2011: type 64, pl. 15: 10). 30) 46, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 20/16. Rim d=40cm, int, ext and core 10YR8/3 buff, medium grit temper. Rim 60. 32) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 106. Rim d=11.7, int, ext and core 10YR8/3 buff, medium grit temper. Rim 47 (Rova 2011: type 64, pl. 15: 10). 33) 86, L-06, 44V15/16, strata 11-10, lot 20. Rim d=12.2, int and ext 10YR7/4, pale greenish yellow, straw, grit and lime pop temper. Rim 47 (Rova 2011: type 64: pl. 15: 10).

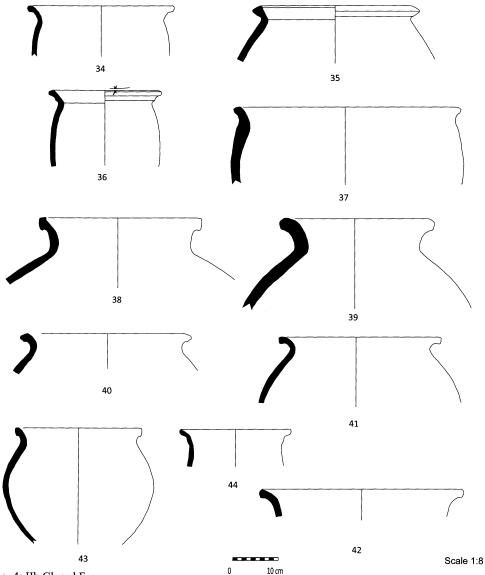


Fig. 4: IIb Closed Forms.

34) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 16. Rim d=30cm, int and core 5Y8/1, ext 5Y8/3, light greenish yellow, medium straw temper. Rim 61. 35) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 202. Rim d=34cm, int and ext 7.5YR7/6, core 7.5YR1/5, pale reddish brown, medium grit and lime temper. Rim 6.1. 36) L-06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 55. Rim d=23.2cm, int and ext 10YR8/2, core 7.5YR7/4, pale greenish yellow, fine lime and grit temper. Incised potter's mark. Rim 55 (Rova 2011: type 105, pl. 19: 1). 37) L-06, 44T15, strata 11-10, 45. Rim d=48cm, int and ext 5YR5/6, core 5YR4/1, reddish light brown, black grit temper, cooking ware. Rim 49 (Rova 2011: pl. 20: 5). 38) L-06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 108. Rim d=34cm, int 7.5YR6/4, ext 10YR7/2 and core 7.5YR6/4, grayish light brown, mixed straw and grit temper. Rim 60 (Rova 2011: type 70, pl. 17: 3). 39) L-06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 127. Rim d=32cm, int and ext 2.5Y8/2, core 7.5YR7/4, light greenish yellow, medium straw and lime temper. Rim 57 (Rova 2011: type 101, pl. 16: 10). 40) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 117. Rim d=38cm, int 7.5YR6/6, ext 7.5YR7/6 and core 7.5YR1/5, light reddish brown, medium grit temper, cooking ware. Rim 26 (Rova 2011: type 114, pl. 21: 5). 41) L-06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lots 35, 127, 128. Rim d=34cm, int, ext and core 7.5YR6/6, light reddish brown, block grit temper, cooking ware. Rim 24. 42) L-06, 44V15, lot 13, Rim d=44cm, int, ext and core 7.5YR6/2, light greenish yellow, medium straw and grit temper. Rim 27. 43) L-06, 44T16, lot 106, Rim d=24cm, int and ext 5YR6/6, reddish brown, core 5YR5/1, straw temper. Rim 55. 44) L-06, 44V16, lot 25, Rim d=34cm, int and core 7.5YR7/4, ext 10YR8/2, light pinkish buff, very little grit temper. Rim 52.

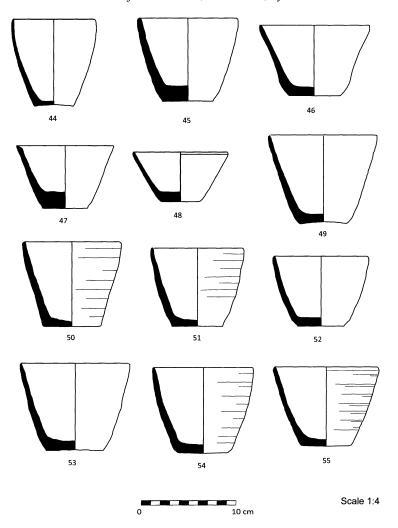


Fig. 5: Tell Leilan, IIb Beakers.

44) 12, L-06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 38. Rim d=8.2cm, base d=4cm, int 5Y5/3, ext 5Y6/4, and core 7.5YR1/4, pale olive green, no visible temper. Rim 12; Base 2 (Rova 2011: type 84, pl. 13: 6-9). 45) L-06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 46. Rim d=10cm, base d=5.2cm, int, ext and core 5Y7/4, greenish yellow, fine grit temper. Rim 3, Base 1 (Rova 2011: type 83, pl. 13: 2-5). 46) L-06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 37. Rim d=11.2cm, base d=5cm, int and ext 10YR8/3, core 5YR7/6, pinkish light brown, fine grit temper. Rim 3, Base 1. 47) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 117. Rim d=10cm, base d=5cm. int 5YR7/6, and core 5YR6/6, light brift, fine grit temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 48) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 118. Rim d=10cm, base d=4cm, int, ext and core 2.5Y6/6, light redish brown, fine, no visible temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 49) L-06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 37. Rim d=11.3cm, base d=5cm, int, ext and core 5Y7/3, light greenish yellow, fine, no visible temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 50) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 23. Rim d=10.5cm, base d=6cm, int, ext and core 7.5YR7/6, light reddish brown, fine grit temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 51) L-06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 41. Rim d=8.6 cm, base d=5cm, int, ext and core 5YR7/6, pale reddish brown, fine grit temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 52) L-06, 44V14, strata 11-10, lot 70. Rim d=9.8cm, base d=4.8cm, int and ext 10YR8/2, core 5YR7/6, reddish beige, fine lime and grit temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 53) L-06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 202. Rim d=11cm, base d=5.2cm, int, ext and core 10YR7/4, pale berown, fine grit temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 53) L-06, 44V16, fine grit and lime temper. Rim 12; Base 2. 53. Rim d=11cm, base d=5.3cm, int and ext 10YR8/4, core 7.5YR7/6, light pinkish buff, fine grit and lime temper. Rim 12; Base 2.

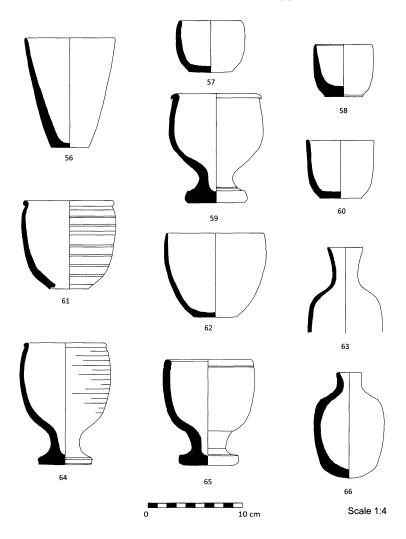


Fig.6: Tell Leilan, IIb, Fine Ware Cups.

56) L-06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 25. Rim d=9.4cm, base d=4cm, int, ext and core 5YR6/4, pale reddish brown, fine lime and grit temper. Rim 3, Base 1 (Rova 2011: type 84, pl. 13: 6-9). 57) L06, 44V15, stratum 13, lot 46. Rim d=14.2cm, int 10YR8/3, ext 5Y8/1 and core 10YR8/3, very pale greenish yellow, fine lime and grit temper. Rim 23; Base 1. 58) L06, 44V14, lot 65. Rim d=6cm, int, ext and core 5YR6/6 pale reddish brown, very fine lime grit temper. Rim 3; Base 11 (Rova 2011: type 55, pl. 8: 5; pl. 13:1). 59) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 26. Rim d=8cm, base d= 6cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR6/3 and core 5Y6/3, pale olive, fine, no visible temper. Rim 2; Base 8 (Rova 2011: type 87, pl. 13: 21). 60) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 127. Rim d=7cm, base d= 4.3cm, int and ext 2.5Y8/2 and core 7.5YR7/6, pale greenish yellow, fine grit temper. Rim 3; Base 1 (Rova 2011: type 55, pl. 8: 5). 61) L-06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 115. Rim d=9.5cm, int, ext and core 10YR8/3, buff, fine grit temper. Rim 2. 62) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 127. Rim d=10cm, base d= 4.5cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR8/3 and core 5YR7/6, pale pinkish buff, fine, no visible temper. Rim 11. 64) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 45. Rim d=8.3cm, base d= 5.5cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR8/2 and core 5YR6/4, pale buff, fine lime derif temper. Rim 2; Base 8 (Rova 2011: type 87, pl. 13: 21). 65) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 45. Rim d=8.2cm, base d= 6cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR8/3 and core 5YR6/4, pale buff, fine lime temper. Rim 2; Base 8 (Rova 2011: type 87, pl. 13: 21). 65) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 45. Rim d=8.2cm, base d= 6cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR8/3 and core 5YR6/4, pale buff, fine lime temper. Rim 2; Base 8 (Rova 2011: type 87, pl. 13: 21). 66) L06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 19. Int, ext and core 7.5YR7/6, reddish yellow, medium grit temper. Base 10.

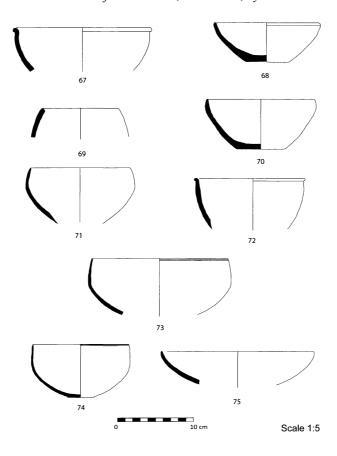


Fig. 7: Tell Leilan, IIb Bowls.

67) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 36. Rim d=17.5cm, base d= 4.5cm, int and ext 10YR2/1, core 5YR3/2, burnished black ware, grit temper. Burnished. Rim 9 (Rova 2011: type 94, pl. 14: 17). 68) L06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 210. Rim d=13.6cm, base d= 5.5cm, int 7.5YR7/4, ext (slip) 2.5Y8/4-5YR7/6, core 5YR6/6, reddish fading to pale yellow ext, fine lime and grit temper. Rim 33; Base 4 (Rova 2011: type 91, pl. 14: 10-12). 69) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 43. Rim d=10cm, base d= 4.5cm, int and ext (slip) 10YR/1, core 5YR3/1, black cooking ware, heavy grit temper. Rim 8. 70) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 100 rim d=14cm, int 7.5YR7/4, ext (slip) 2.5Y8/4-5YR7/6, core 5YR6/6, reddish fading to pale yellow ext, fine lime and grit temper. Rim 33; Base 4 (Rova 2011: type 91, pl. 14: 10-12). 70) L06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 13. Rim d=13cm, int 2.5YR4/2, ext (slip) 10R3/1, core 2.5YR6/8, burnished black ware, very fine grit temper. Burnished. Rim 7 (Rova 2011: type 89, pl. 14: 6). 71) L06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 13. Rim d=13cm, int 2.5YR4/2, ext (slip) 10R3/1, core 2.5YR6/8, burnished black ware, very fine grit temper. Burnished. Rim 7. 72) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 43. Rim d=14cm, int, ext and core 2.5YR6/8, burnished black ware, very fine grit temper. Burnished. Rim 7. 72) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 43. Rim d=14cm, int, ext and core 2.5YR6/2, light greenish yellow, medium straw temper. Rim 32 (Rova 2011: type 93, pl. 14: 16). 73) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 106. Rim d=12.6cm, int, ext and core 5YR6/6, reddish pale brown, very fine grit temper. Rim 36.

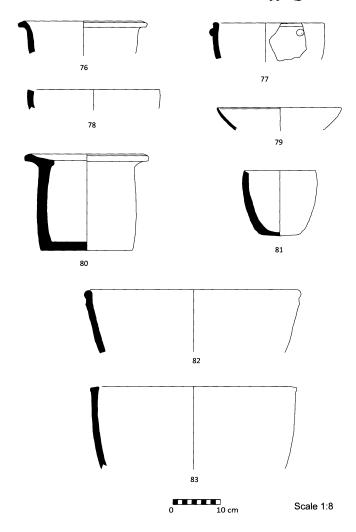


Fig. 8: Tell Leilan, IIb Bowls.

76) L06, 44T15, strata 11-10, lot 45. Rim d=25.5cm, int and ext 7.5YR7/4 and core 7.5YR6/2, light reddish buff, medium to heavy grit temper. Rim 17 (McMahon and Quenet 2007: Pl. 3: 18). 77) L06, 44V15, strata 11-10, lot 207. Rim d=24cm, int, ext and core 10YR5/1, grey, fine grit temper. Appliquéd lug. Rim 16; Decoration Type 32 (Rova 2011: type 58, pl. 15: 4). 78) L06, 44V15/16, strata 11-10, lot 207. Rim d=28cm, int, ext and core 10YR5/1, burnished dark grey, fine grit temper. Burnished. Rim 8. 79) L06, 44V14, strata 11-10, lot 69. Rim d=26cm, int, ext and core 7.5YR8/4, pinkish light buff, fine to medium grit temper. Rim 36 (Rova 2011: type 91, pl. 14: 10). 80) L06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 22. Rim d=24cm, base d=14cm, int and core 7.5Y51/6, ext 10YR8/2, light pinkish yellow slip with pale red surface visible, straw temper. Rim 22; Base 6. 81) L06, 44V15/16, strata 11-10, lot 214. Rim d=15cm, int and ext 7.5YR6/6 and core 7.5YR1/5, light reddish brown, medium lime temper. Base 4. 82) L06, 44V16, lot 9/11. Rim d=44cm, int, ext and core 2.5Y8/2, greenish gray, medium grit temper. 83) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 127. Rim d=40cm, int, ext and core 5Y8/3, light greenish yellow, medium lime, grit and straw temper. Rim 21.

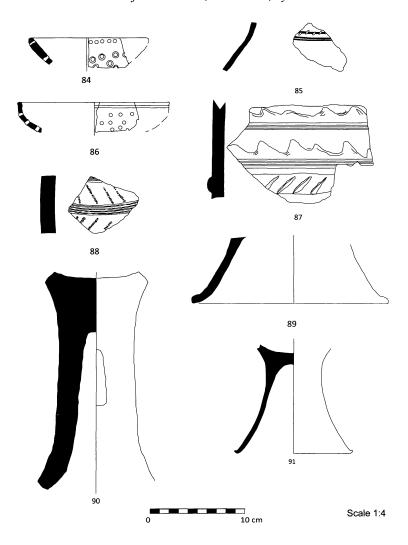


Fig. 9: Tell Leilan, IIb and IIc Stands and Decorated Types.

84) L06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 210. Rim d=11.2cm, int, ext and core 7.5YR6/6, light brown, fine, no visible temper. Incised holes. Rim 13; Decoration Type 40. 85) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 3, int and core 7.5YR5/4, and ext 7.5YR4/2, light brown, fine lime grit temper. Incised. 86) L06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 116. Rim d=15.8cm, int, ext and core 2.5Y7/4, buff, fine, no visible temper. Incised holes. Rim 13; Decoration Type 40. 87) L06, 44V16, strata 11-10, lot 10. Int and ext 10YR8/3 and core 7.5YR7/4, light whitish yellow, medium straw temper. Incised and appliquéd. Decoration Type 2 and 4 (Rova 2011: pl. 21: 2; pl. 17: 5-7). 88) L06, 44V16, stratum 9, lot 9. int, ext and core 2.5Y8/3, very pale yellow, fine grit temper. Incised and punctuate design. Decoration Type 10 (Rova 2011: pl. 21: 4-6). 89) L06, 44T16, strata 11-10, lot 35. D=20cm, int, int, ext and core 7.5YR7/6, light brown, medium straw temper. Base 12 (Rova 2011: pl. 22: 9). 90) L06, 44T15, lot 26. Int, ext and core, 10YR7/4, light brown, medium straw temper. Base 12. 91) L06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 107. Bd= 12cm, int and ext 10YR8/3, light buff, core 5YR6/6, no visible temper. Base 12.

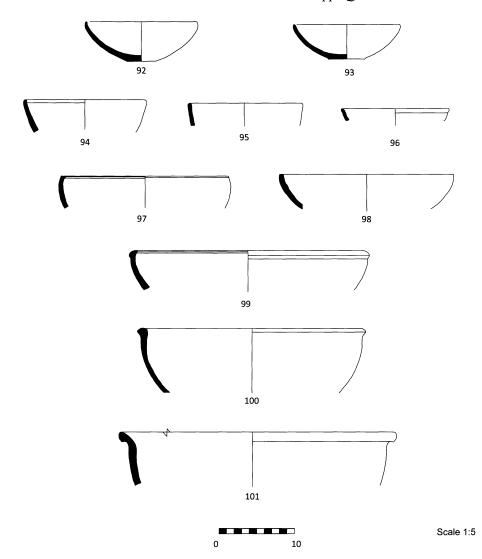
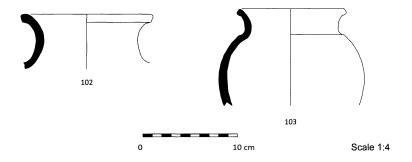


Fig. 10: Tell Leilan, IIc Smaller Bowls.

92) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40. Rim d=14.5cm, int, ext and core 5YR6/6, reddish pale brown, lime pops and straw temper. Rim 36, Base 7 (Rova 2011: type 91, pl. 14: 10-12). 93) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40. Rim d=14, int, ext and core 7.5YR6/4, light brown, lime and sand temper. Rim 36, Base 7. 94) L06, 44T16, lot 106. Rim d=12.6, wheel-made, int, ext and core 5Y8/3 light greenish yellow, fine, no visible temper. Rim 32, Base 7. 95) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 30. Rim d=16, ext 10YR8/2, core 10YR6/3, pale creamy yellow straw temper. Rim 38. 96) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 32. Rim d=14, ext 2.5Y8/2, core and int 7.5YR7/4, greenish yellow, fine lime grit temper. Rim 2 (Rova 2011: Pl. 21: 15). 97) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 35. Rim d=21, ext 5YR7/3, core and int 5Y7/3, greenish buff, lime grit temper. Rim 16. 98) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 35. Rim d=22, ext, core and int 5Y7/3, pale olive, lime grit temper. Rim 16. 99) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 35. Rim d=22, ext, core and int 5Y7/3, pale olive, lime grit temper. Rim 21 (Rova 2011: type 94, pl. 14: 17-19). 100) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40. Rim d=29, ext 7.5YR7/4, core 10YR4/1, int 5YR7/6, light reddish buff, grit and straw temper. Rim 21(Rova 2011: type 94, pl. 14: 17-19). 101) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 30. Rim d=38, ext 2.5YR8/2, core 10YR6/4, int 10YR6/3, greenish pale yellow, straw and rare lime pops temper. Rim 17 (Rova 2011: type 70, pl. 17: 1-2).



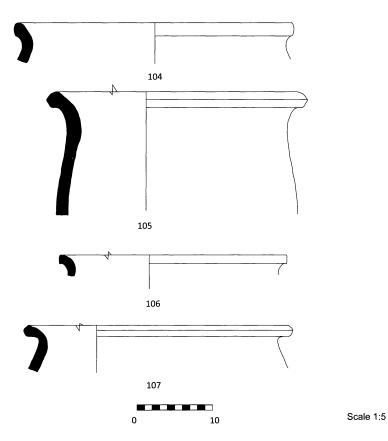


Fig. 11: Tell Leilan, IIc Jars.

102) L06, 44S16, strata 11-10, lot 210. Rim d=14, ext, int and core 10YR6/2, greyish brown, no visible temper. Rim 46 (Colantoni and Ur 2011: fig. 25; McMahon and Quenet 2007: Pl. 3: 25). 103) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40. Rim d=11, ext, int and core 10YR6/4, light brown, abundant sand, Cooking Ware. Rim 25. 104) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 30. Rim d=36, ext 10YR4/2, rim top 5YR6/6, core 10YR3/1, brown with blackish spots, limestone and black sand grit temper. Rim 60. 105) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 32. Rim d=ca.40, ext (outside and inner rim) 10YR7/3, core 10YR6/4, int 10YR7/4, buff, heavy straw temper and rare lime pops. Rim 52 (Rova 2011: type 103, pl. 17: 5-8, P. 21: 3-6). 106) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 30. Rim d=36, int, ext and core 2.5YR8/4, pink, barely visible mixed temper. Rim 63 (Rova 2011: type 69, pl. 10: 12). 107) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 30. Rim d=ca.50, ext 2.5Y6/2, core 2.5Y1/4, int 5Y5/2, greenish light buff, lime pops and straw temper. Rim 57 (Rova 2011: Pl. 17: 8).

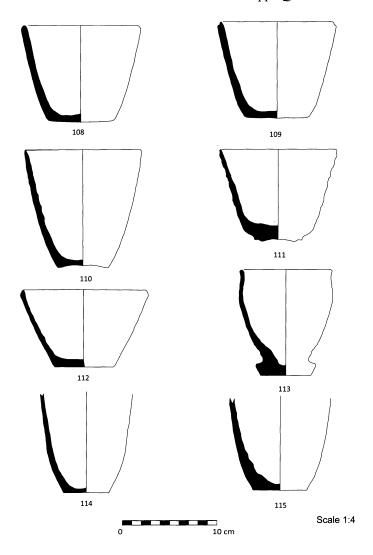


Fig. 12: Tell Leilan, IIc Beakers.

108) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 24. Rim d=9.8, base d= 5cm, wheel-made, int and ext 5YR6/6, light buff, medium chaff and abundant limestone temper. Rim 38, Base 1 (Rova 2011: type 84, pl. 13, 6-9). 109) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, 24. rim d=11, base d=6, wheel-made, int and ext 5YR6/4, pale reddish brown, medium chaff and medium limestone temper. Rim 30, Base 1. 110) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 24. rim d=11, base d=6, wheel-made, int and ext 10YR7/2, grayish light brown, medium straw and limestone temper. Rim 3, Base 1 (Rova 2011: Pl. 13: 9). 111) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 24.1. rim d=11cm, base d=4cm, wheel-made, int and core: 5YR6/8, ext two-tone, 5YR6/6 to 10YR8/3, medium chaff and abundant lime-stone temper. Rim 3, Base 14 (Rova 2011: 7). 112) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 24. rim d=11.6, base d=5.6, wheel-made, int and ext 5YR6/4, occasional chaff and abundant limestone temper, bitumen coating on int. Rim 38, Base 1. 113) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40.1, rim d=8.6cm, base d=4.8cm, wheel-made, int and ext 2.5Y7/2-2.5Y7/4, Buff, medium chaff and medium limestone temper. Rim 2, Base 8 (Rova 2011: type 87, pl. 13: 22-3). 114) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40.5, base d=5cm, wheel-made, int and ext 5YR6/6, reddish light brown occasional chaff, medium limestone, and occasional sand temper. Scraped ext. Base 2. 115) L02, 44S16, stratum 9, lot 40.5. base d=5cm, wheel-made, int and core: 5YR6/4, ext 10YR7/4, medium chaff and abundant limestone temper. Base 13.

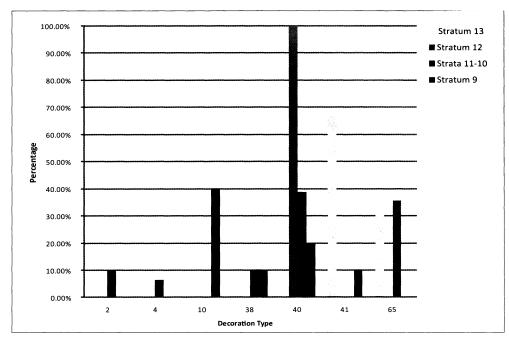


Figure 13: Decoration by Stratum.

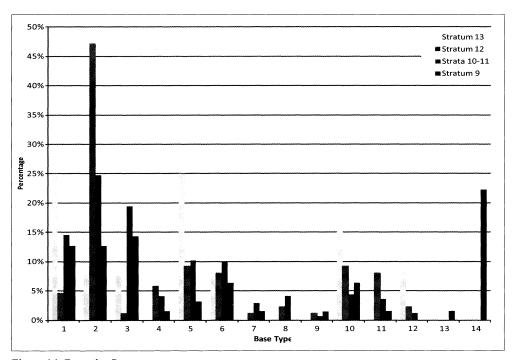


Figure 14: Bases by Stratum.

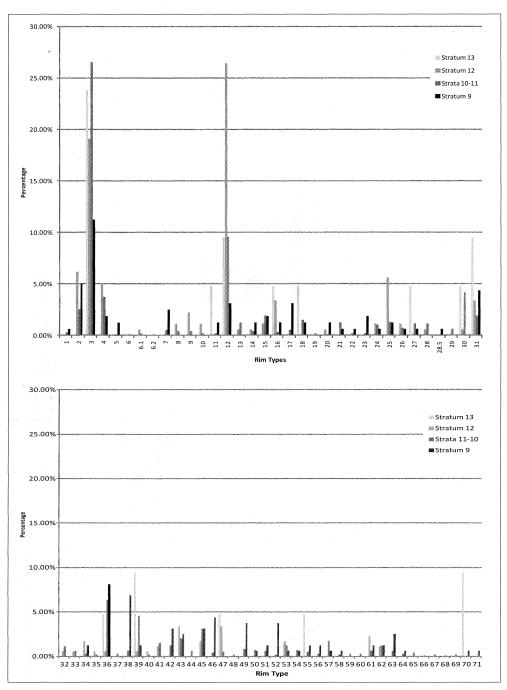


Figure 15: Rims by Stratum.

For the past twenty years, the Khabur Plains of northeast Syria have been a testing ground for the Akkadian collapse c. 2200 BC and remnant post-Akkadian occupations. On May 2, 2012, a workshop for the presentation and discussion of the latest archaeological data was convened in Warsaw, at the 8th International Congress for the Archaeology of the Ancient Near East. The fifteen research papers from that conference present the analyses and perspectives from eight excavated sites, Arbid, Barri, Chagar Bazar, Brak, Mohammed Diyab, Leilan, Mozan, and Hamoukar, and two regional surveys. The new data include the Tell Leilan high-resolution radiocarbon chronology for the Akkadian collapse, an Akkadian palace built within the shell of a destroyed pre-Akkadian palace, The Unfinished Buildings at Tell Leilan and Tell Mohammed Diyab, the terminal occupations at Tell Brak, Chagar Bazar, Hamoukar, Arbid, Mohammed Diyab and Leilan, quantified regional settlement distributions across the Akkadian collapse, measured paleobotanical data for imperial Akkadian and remnant post-Akkadian agriculture, and documentation for the collapse of the imperial Akkadian administration.







Figure 16: a) Rope pattern appliqué, strata 11-10; b) dark rimmed orange bowls, stratum 9.