

## APPENDIX: THE LITHIC ASSEMBLAGE FROM 'EN SHADUD, AREA C

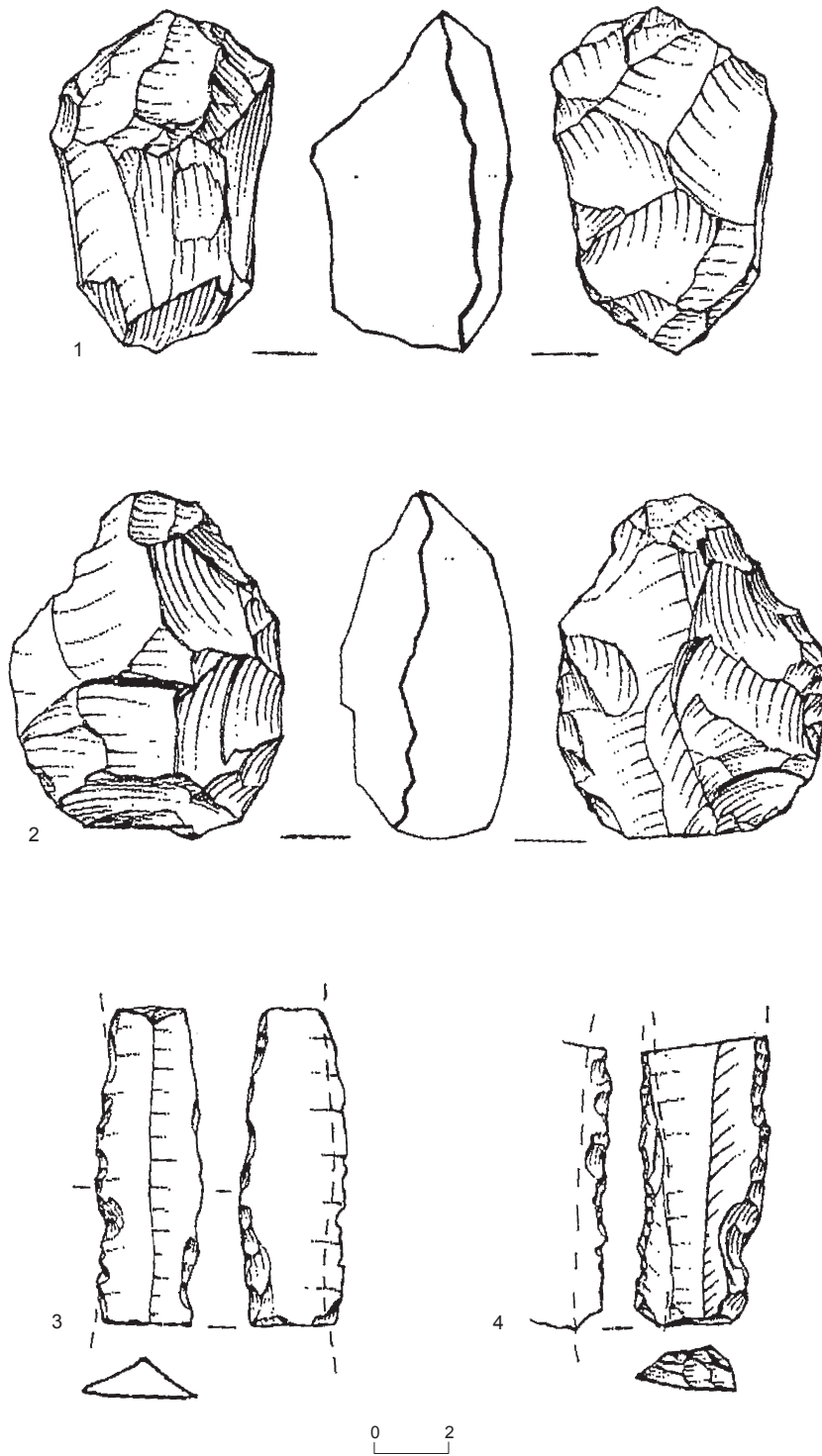
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The lithic assemblage retrieved from the excavation at 'En Shadud, Area C comprises 661 flint items. The distribution of finds by strata is presented in Table 1. The majority of the assemblage (391 items) originated from the uppermost Stratum (I). It is evident that due to the small sample sizes, the differences between the assemblages from the three strata are not pronounced enough to allow a meaningful comparison. Therefore, the following discussion looks at the assemblage as a whole.

In terms of dating, only two categories of the finds in the assemblage allow chronological attribution, namely sickle blades and bifaces. All the sickle blades in the assemblage are of the Canaanite type, characteristic of the Early Bronze Age lithic industries. However, the presence of a small number of bifaces in the assemblages of all three strata (N=4; one adze and three varia; Fig. 1:1, 2; see Table 4) bear evidence of a certain Neolithic/Chalcolithic admixture. Additionally, the assemblage includes numerous (=71) heavily patinated and abraded pieces. Typologically, most of them are of a Middle Palaeolithic character (e.g., Levallois flakes, sidescrapers). One of the patinated items, a typical carinated burin, suggests an Upper Palaeolithic/Epi-Palaeolithic occupation at the site.

**Table 1. The General Composition of the Assemblage**

Type	Stratum I		Stratum II		Stratum III		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
PF	85	22	20	14	9	16	114	19
PB	13	3	1	1	0	0	14	2
Flake	107	27	45	32	11	19	163	28
Blade	13	3	9	6	2	3	24	4
Bladelet	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
CTE	12	3	6	4	2	3	20	3
Burin spall	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Chips	11	3	17	12	6	10	34	6
Chunks	63	16	25	18	15	26	103	17
Tool	58	15	14	10	11	19	83	14
Core	27	7	4	3	2	3	33	6
<i>Total</i>	<i>391</i>	<i>~100</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>~100</i>	<i>590</i>	<i>~100</i>
patina	24		32		15		71	



1. Bifaces (1, 2) and sickle blades (3, 4).

The assemblage contains items made on a variety of raw materials. As evident by the cortex remains, flint from secondary sources (river pebbles) was the main source of the raw material at the site. In terms of technology, the assemblage represents a typical ad-hoc Early Bronze Age industry. Classification of the cores is presented in Table 2. Multiplatform cores (having three or more striking platforms) are the most common type in the assemblage; most of them may be defined as amorphous cores. The character of removals on only six of the cores may define them as blade/bladelet cores for the production of simple, elongated blanks.

Analysis of the debitage (Table 1) confirms the conclusion regarding the ad-hoc character of the assemblage. The flakes to blades ratio in the assemblage is 7:1—typical of a flake industry. The analysis of the tool blanks (Table 3) reveals the same picture: the majority of the tools are made on flakes (66%, including primary flakes).

The tools comprise 83 items (Table 4); the ad-hoc categories dominate the assemblage. The Canaanean blades are the most characteristic component (Fig. 1:3, 4); all of them are broken. Most of them (seven items) bear sickle gloss and can be defined as sickle fragments. In two cases, one of the tool extremities is truncated (e.g., Fig. 1:4).

Scrapers (Fig. 2:1–3) are well represented in the assemblage. The dominant type is a coarse, thick carinated scraper on a thick flake; scraper retouch is typically made by massive removals (denticulate-like; e.g.,

**Table 2. Types of Cores**

No. of platforms	N	%
One	9	27
Two	4	12
Three and more	13	39
Discoidal	6	18
Core fragment	1	3
<i>Total</i>	33	~100

**Table 3. Types of Tool Blanks**

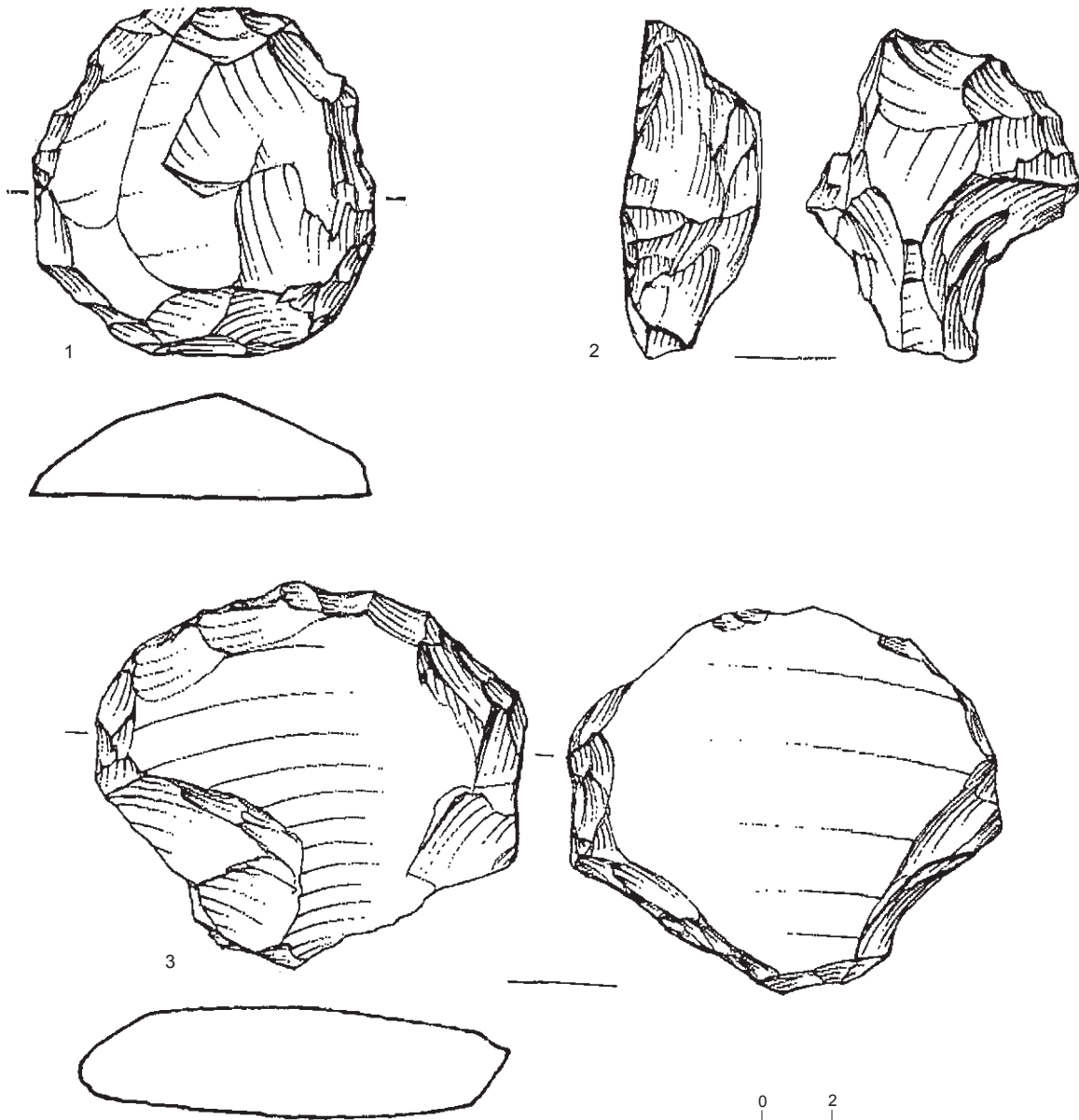
Type	No.	%
Primary item	15	18
Primary blade	8	10
Flake	40	48
Blade	5	6
Canaanean blade	8	10
CTE	1	1
Core	2	2
Pebble	2	2
Tabular flint	1	1
Patinated item	1	1
<i>Total</i>	83	~100

**Table 4. Tool Types**

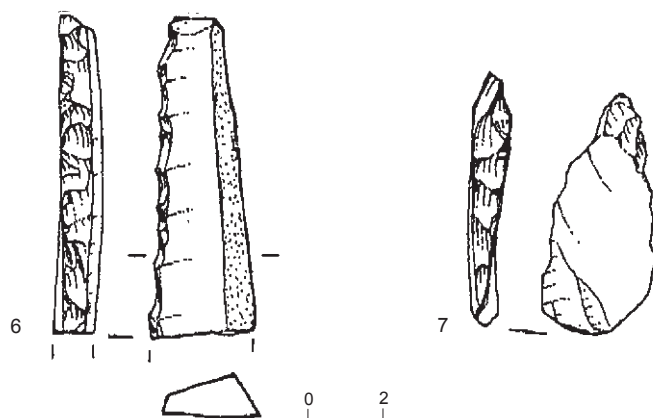
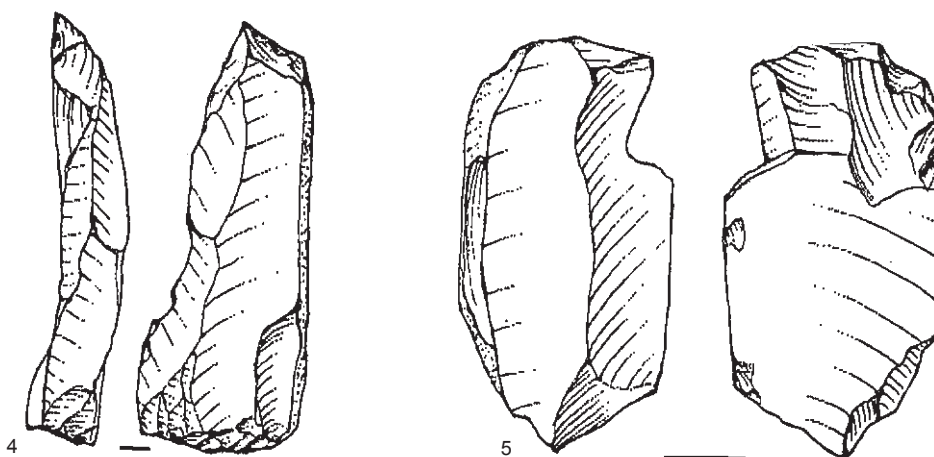
	Stratum I	Stratum II	Stratum III	Total	
	N	N	N	N	%
Canaanean sickles and retouched Blades	5	2	1	8	10
Bifaces	1	2	1	4	5
Scrapers	12	5	2	19	23
Burins	3	0	0	3	4
Truncations	3	0	1	4	5
Perforators	5	0	2	7	8
Notches and Denticulates	11	0	0	11	13
Backed pieces	2	0	0	2	2
Ret. Pieces	10	5	4	19	23
Double tools	1	0	0	1	1
Varia	5	0	0	5	6
<i>Total</i>	58	14	11	83	100

Fig. 2:2). There are 12 such implements. There are two-side scrapers—besides several patinated Mousterian ones (see above)—two circular scrapers (e.g., Fig. 2:1), and the rest are simple end-scrapers. Ventral thinning of the working edge (e.g., Fig. 2:3) is very typical.

Burins are rare, but are represented by typical and well-made examples (Fig. 2:4, 5). All the burins are made on truncations. Truncated items are few, but both flakes and blades are represented. All of the perforators are of an awl/bec type (e.g., Fig. 2:6). More often than not, the point is made by ventral retouch. One of the backed blades closely resembles a Canaanean blade, but bears a significant amount of cortex (Fig. 2:7). The second one



2. Scrapers (1–3), burins (4, 5), an awl (6) and a backed blade (7).



2. (cont.).

is a simple, backed blade. Retouched items are characterized by a high variation of blanks and types of retouch. Typically, these are flakes that are retouched on part of their lateral edge. Ventral retouch is very common. The assemblage also includes one double tool (awl/scrapper) and five items classified as 'varia'; one of them may be defined as an atypical chopper/pick on a pebble.

In sum, the dominance of the ad-hoc production is the most prominent trait of the 'En Shadud. Area C assemblage. The majority of the lithic items seem to have been produced at the site, deploying a simple technology: the use of little-prepared cores and opportunistic flaking. This simple mode of production stands in stark contrast to the highly specialized Canaanean industry, the products of which were clearly imported into the site.