

APPENDIX: THE GLASS VESSELS FROM ḤORBAT BUSTAN

NATALYA KATSNELSON

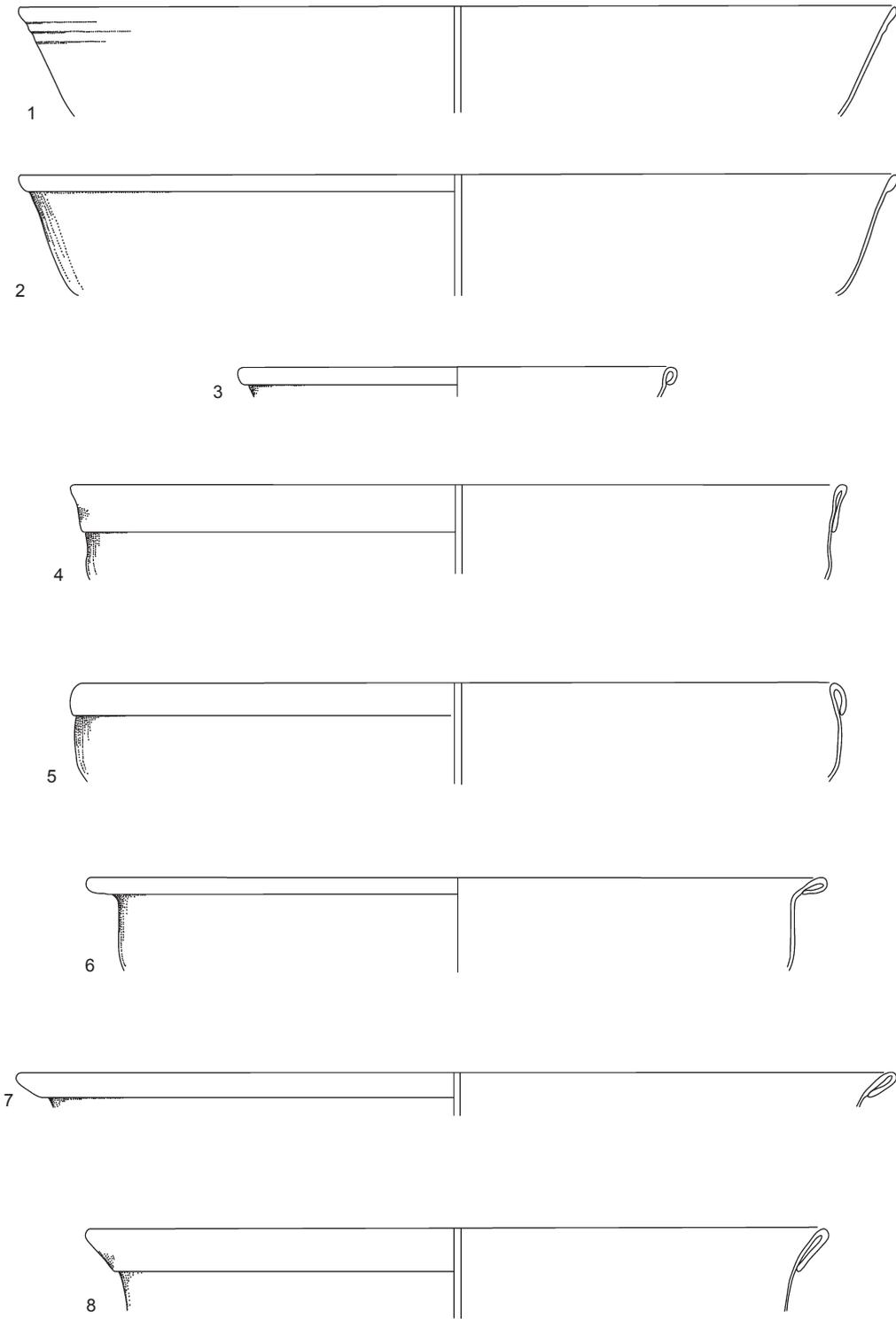
Collecting Vat 132 at Ḥorbat Bustan yielded a large quantity of glass fragments: nearly 200 were found on the paved floor of a collecting vat (L133), and an abundant number were scattered throughout the site. The corpus consists of blown tableware, mostly bowls, wineglasses and bottles. In addition, a few lighting devices, such as stemmed suspended oil lamps, were found. The vessels are chiefly plain; some have a modest decoration of simple trailing or mold-blown ribbing. The range of types is limited, each displaying distinct sets of similar specimens, with only minor variations in size and style. The glass assemblage is homogeneous in both its low-quality, pale fabric and its style of workmanship, indicating local manufacture, probably at a single workshop.

Bowls (Figs. 1, 2).— Many of the glass fragments belong to bowls or dishes. Fifty-seven rim and base fragments were found, 14 of them were chosen to illustrate the main subtypes. The bowls are simple, with slanting, straight or curving walls and rounded or out-folded rims, (Fig. 1). With one exception (rim diam. 12 cm; Fig. 1:3), the bowls are large (rim diam. 21–25 cm). The represented types usually have a pushed-in, hollow ring-base (diam. 6–13 cm, height 1.3–3 cm; e.g. Fig. 2).

The bowl assemblage from Ḥorbat Bustan is an excellent illustration of the Late Roman tradition continuing into the Byzantine period. Among the forms are ones that were produced in the two large production centers at Jalame and Khirbat el-Ni'ana during the fourth and early fifth centuries CE (for discussion, see Gorin-Rosen and Winter 2010:165). Comparable Byzantine-period assemblages with a large proportion of bowls were found in a storage room, or possibly a workshop, at Ḥorbat Raqit (Lehrer-Jacobson 2004: Pls. 2, 3), at Ṭirat Ha-Karmel (L7022; Pollak 2005: Fig. 8:2, 11, 18, 26) and at Tel Bet She'an (Hadad 2006: Figs. 19.1; 19.2:18).

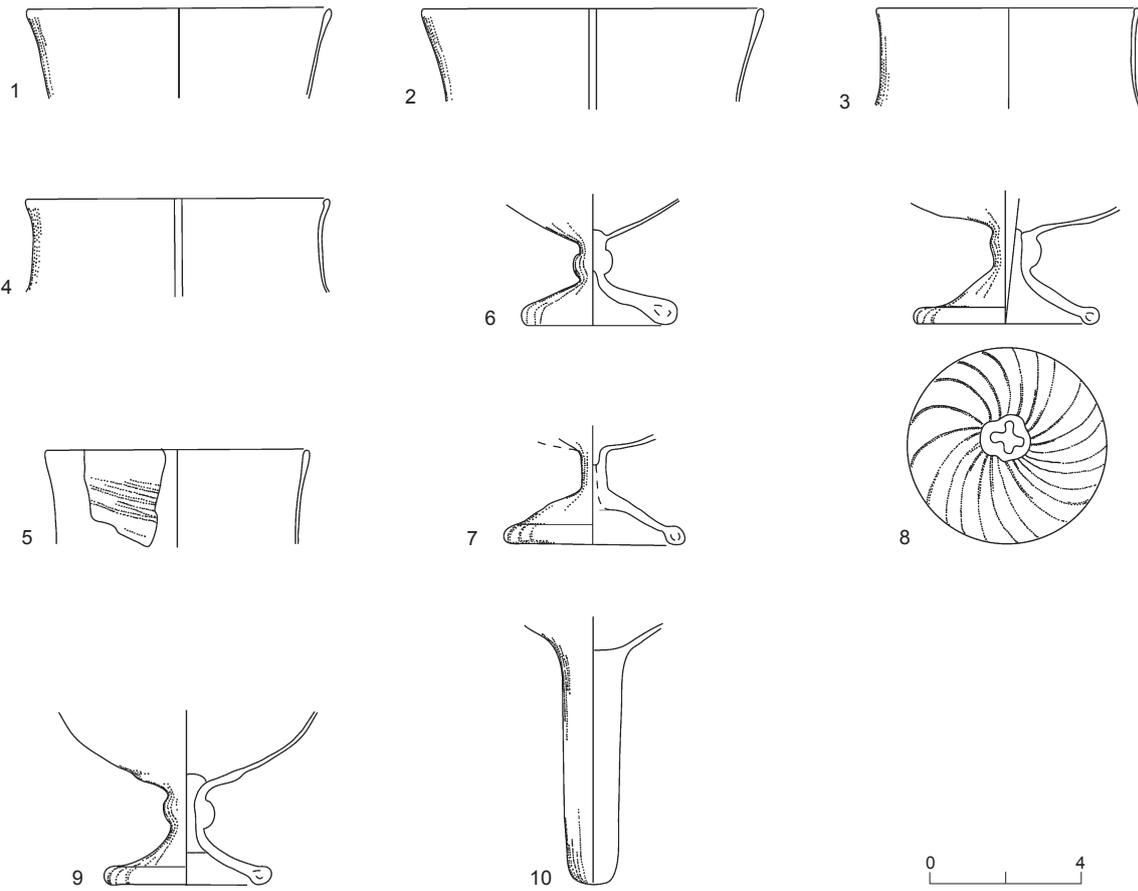
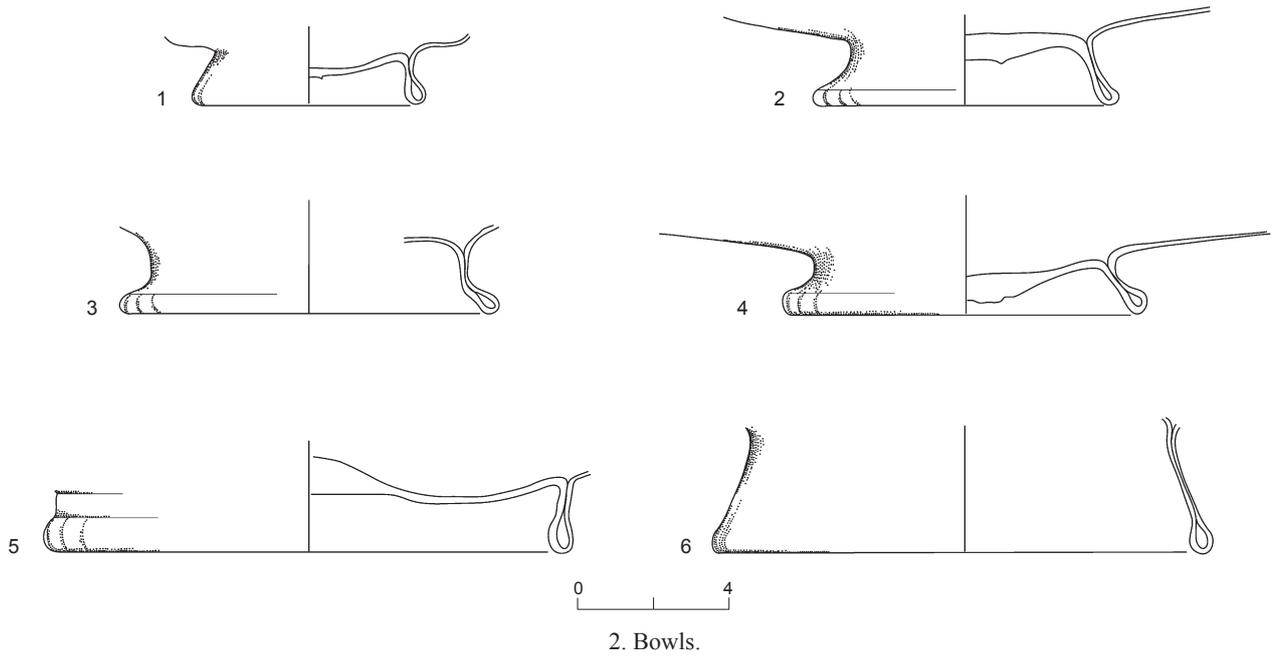
Wineglasses (Figs. 3:1–9; 4).— At least 22 stem-footed wineglasses or similar vessels were collected from the vat; 15 are illustrated. The glass is of bluish and greenish hues, with the exception of one yellowish-olive base (Fig. 4). Fragments of two wineglasses with a beaded stem were found in L130 (B1087, not illustrated).

The wineglasses in Fig. 3:1–5 have a common shape, with a rounded, thickened rim (diam 6.5–8.5 cm) and a slanting, straight, or slightly curving body. They are free-blown and undecorated, except for No. 5, which has a shallow, mold-blown pattern of spiral ribbing. Figure 3:6–9 shows lower bodies with hollow, short stems and ring-bases (diam. 3.5–5.0 cm). Number 6 has a plain stem, whereas Nos. 7–9 have beaded ones. Wineglasses of



0 4

1. Bowls.





4. Wineglasses.

this subtype occurred in the Byzantine-period Jewish village at Sumaqa (Lehrer-Jacobson 1999:337, Fig. 2:23, Pl. B:13); at Ẓirat Ha-Karmel (L7022), where a mold-blown fragment similar to No. 5 was found (Pollak 2005: Fig. 8:33, 34, 36, 37); and at Ḥorbat Raqit, where an exceptionally large number of such vessels imply local production (Lehrer-Jacobson 2004:245, Pl. 5:1–5, Photo A:3, and see references therein).

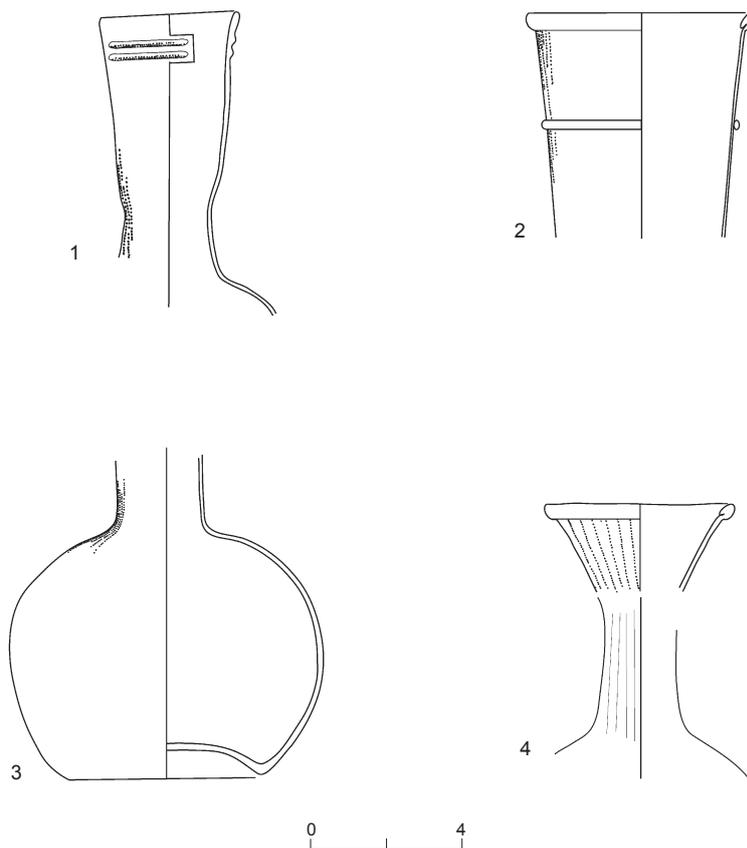
The base in Fig. 3:8 is decorated with a mold-blown design of spiral ribs similar to the wineglass shown in Fig. 3:5, but has a more elaborate fabric, which suggests that it is part of a different vessel. A similar base was found at Ma'oz Ḥayyim, in a synagogue which was abandoned in the seventh century CE (Tzaferis 1982: Fig. 12:8).

All the wineglasses are of subtypes that appeared in the fifth century CE and were widespread during the Byzantine period. The occurrence of hollow bases and the absence of solid ones may indicate a date no later than the sixth century CE (Winter 2011:346, Fig. 12.1:4–9, and see discussion and references therein).

Stemmed Oil Lamp (Fig. 3:10).— This is a bowl-shaped oil lamp with a solid stem base that could be placed in a suspended metal device. The rounded bowls of this lamp-type have thin walls, which are rarely preserved, and a thin, rounded rim that may be mistaken for that of a wineglass. Thus, some of the rim fragments illustrated in Fig. 3 may in fact belong to such lamps.

Although the subtype with the solid stem is best known from sites of the late Byzantine period and later (see discussion, Gorin-Rosen 2010:213–214, Fig. 2:10, 11), it is also known in earlier contexts, alongside vessels with hollow stems (e.g. the fifth–sixth centuries CE synagogue at Ma'oz Ḥayyim—Tzaferis 1982: Fig. 12:1, 2; the Byzantine church at Shave Ẓion—Barag 1967: Fig. 16:24, 25).

Bottles (Fig. 5).— The diagnostic fragments included tall cylindrical necks, with either rounded (Fig. 5:1) or infolded (Fig. 5:2) rims decorated with a horizontal trail; a narrow cylindrical neck with a mold-blown design of shallow vertical ribbing and a funnel mouth (Fig. 5:4); and the lower part of a neck with a squat bulbous body and a concave base (Fig. 5:3). Eight small fragments of rounded vertical rims and ten fragments of concave bases (not illustrated) may also belong to bottles. Similar bottles, with a broad range of shapes and sizes, had a wide distribution in Israel during the Byzantine period (e.g. Sumaqa—Lehrer-Jacobson 1999:337, Fig. 3:33, 36, 37, Pl. C:20, 21; Raqit—Lehrer-Jacobson 2004:248, Pls. 9:1–8; 10:6; Tīrat Ha-Karmel—Pollak 2005: Fig. 8:47, 50). They remained in use until the Umayyad period (see discussion in Gorin-Rosen 2013:102–105, Figs. 25:15–19), but the style of the trailed and ribbed patterns on bottles Nos. 1, 2 and 4, as well as the fabric of the other bottles, point to a date in the fifth–sixth centuries CE.



5. Bottles.

DISCUSSION

The glass assemblage from Ḥorbat Bustan consists of domestic utilitarian ware, mostly bowls and wineglasses. The types are well-known from Byzantine sites in the Mount Carmel region and throughout Israel. The bowls, as is often the case in Byzantine-period sites in Israel, have traditional forms of the fourth–early fifth centuries CE. Similarly, the small ratio of bottles to open vessels in the assemblage seem to suggest a date in the early part of the Byzantine period, since their proportion increased considerably towards the end of the period both in settlements and in burials (for discussion, see Gorin-Rosen and Winter 2010:166–167). However, the archeological context and the ceramic finds at the site do not support firm conclusions on the subject. Furthermore, the purely Byzantine style of the wineglasses and bottles limits the date of the assemblage to the fifth–sixth centuries CE and points to the extended use of bowl-types of the fourth-fifth centuries CE.

Comparable assemblages from the region, but with a wider chronological range (fourth–seventh centuries CE), include Tīrat Ha-Karmel (Pollak 2005), Ḥorbat Raqit (Lehrer-Jacobson 1999) and Ḥorbat Sumaqa (Lehrer-Jacobson 2004), as well as Shiqmona (Gorin-Rosen 2010) and Ḥorbat Qaṣṭra (Castra; Gorin-Rosen 2013). The few parallels of the fifth–sixth centuries CE include a small glass group from a synagogue at Ma‘oz Ḥayyim (Tzaferis 1982) and another from a church at Shave Zīyyon (Barag 1967). Since these assemblages usually have a wider chronological range (late fourth–seventh centuries CE) than the Ḥorbat Bustan assemblage, the context here offers a rare opportunity to narrow down the date-range of the bowl types.

The vessels from Ḥorbat Bustan were probably produced in one of the glass workshops that were active in the Mount Carmel region. The large, homogenous collection that was retrieved from Ḥorbat Bustan—a single, small rural settlement—suggests the existence of a large glass market in the area during the Byzantine period. Remains of glass production were found in most of the sites listed above, pointing to a regional network of workshops that was active during the Byzantine period. One of them may have manufactured the vessels that were found at Ḥorbat Bustan.

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