

## HORBAT ZERIFIN (EAST) APPENDIX: THE POTTERY

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The pottery retrieved from the floors unearthed at the site is a typical assemblage of Early Islamic household vessels from Ramla and its vicinity. There was only one fragment of a glazed bowl (Fig. 1:1), a Common Glazed Bowl with green and brown bands on a light-colored background (Avisar 1996:75–78, Type 2). There was one bowl of Egyptian Red Slip Ware (Fig. 1:2). Its form seems to copy Form 105 of the African Red Slip Ware (Hayes 1972: 399–401, Fig. 89:a). This ware probably continued to be produced well into the ninth century CE. Two of the plain bowls (Fig. 1:3, 5) were made of buff clay, which is highly characteristic of the Early Islamic material from Ramla, and were probably a product of the Ramla kilns. The bowl in Fig. 1:4, however, was fashioned from a light reddish-brown, well-fired clay, uncommon in the southern part of the country, from which the krater (Fig. 1:6) and the storage jars (Fig. 1:9–12) were made as well. The krater (Fig. 1:6) is probably a later version of the Umayyad white painted kraters from Jerash (Schaefer 1986: Fig. 12:1–2) and Pella (McNicoll, Smith and Hennessy 1982: Pl. 144:4, 6–7). Cooking ware was represented by a cooking bowl and a matching lid (Fig. 1:7, 8). These long-lived forms were still produced during the Early Islamic period, at least until the tenth century CE if not later (Avisar 1996:139, Type 12, Fig. XIII.99; Type 23, Fig. XIII.110). The storage jars (Fig. 1:9–12) have a straight or tapering neck and an inward-beveled rim. They are all fashioned from light reddish-brown, well fired clay and show traces of a white-painted decoration. Parallels were found in Tiberias (Stacey 2004:126–127, Figs. 5.34:4; 5.58:1), in contexts dating from the late ninth century CE and later, as well as at Yoqne'am (Avisar 1996:147–149, Type 4, Fig. XIII.114:5–6) and Pella (Walmsley 1995: Fig. 7:9). The three storage jars in Fig. 1:13–15 are fashioned of a rather soft brown fabric. They differ only slightly from the rest in the form of their neck and rim, and seem to originate from the same workshop, probably somewhere in the vicinity of Ramla. There were several fragments of Antiliya jars (Fig. 1:16, 17) fashioned from the Ramla buff material. The jug fashioned from the well-fired, reddish clay with a grooved rim and traces of a white-painted decoration (Fig. 1:18) is another vessel of northern origin, while the jug fashioned from buff clay (Fig. 1:19) is a typical Ramla product. Judging by the cited parallels, it seems that this small assemblage can be safely dated to the ninth century CE.

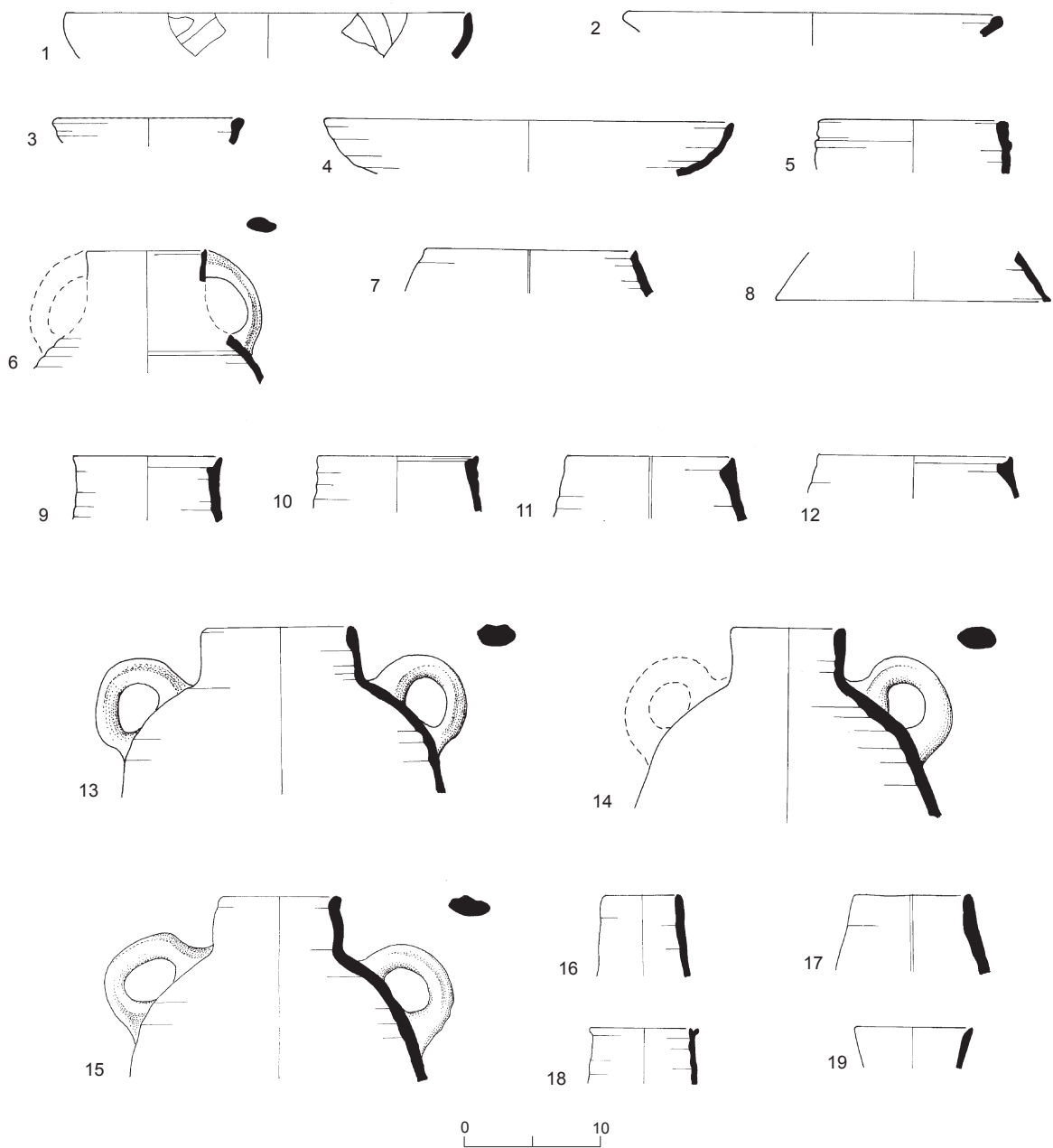


Fig. 1. Pottery.

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