

## X

# The Late Bronze Age Ceramic Traditions of the Syrian Jazirah

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### THE PERIODIZATION SYSTEM AND THE QUESTION OF CHRONOLOGICAL TERMINOLOGY

The second half of the 2nd mill. BC in Syria has been chronologically labeled either in terms of the system of “metal epochs” as the Late Bronze Age I and II or else labeled according to a culturally and geographically oriented terminology as the “Middle-Syrian”<sup>1</sup> period (ca. 1600/1530-1200/1100 BC). With regard to the strong geographical differentiation of material culture, especially pottery, within Syria to be observed in many periods, it is advisable to introduce a chronological periodization on a regional scale. For the Syrian Jazirah, a region with very distinct ceramic repertoires through all phases from the Early Bronze to the Iron Age, the “Jazirah chronological system” has been defined<sup>2</sup>. In this article, the Late Bronze Age will be classified, for the first time, as the “Middle Jazirah period”<sup>3</sup>. According to typological criteria that will be explained below, it can be subdivided into phases Middle Jazirah (mJ) Ia, Ib, IIa, IIb, and III.

In addition, concerning the region of the Syrian Jazirah, it has always been considered possible and legitimate to apply a purely historical periodization system referring to the Mittani period followed by the Middle Assyrian period. This assumption is still valid and has been strongly supported by a recent comparative analysis of the pottery associated with the two periods<sup>4</sup>. The political entity of Mittani and the succeeding Middle Assyrian Empire are

clearly circumscribed factors in the history and chronology of the Syrian Jazirah. Furthermore, through their specific political and economical organization they considerably influenced the material culture of the Syrian Jazirah. As a consequence, both periods reveal a distinct ceramic repertoire. These two archaeological phases and ceramic traditions can thus be labeled “Mittani” and “Middle Assyrian”.

In order to avoid misconceptions of these terms, it is important to note that the terms “Mittani” and “Middle Assyrian ceramic period” do not imply an ethnic assignment of the pottery concerned. They have a purely political-geographical significance. This is to say that any of the Late Bronze Age Jazirah population groups – for example Hurrians<sup>5</sup>, Assyrians, Aramaeans, etc. – could theoretically have been producers or consumers of the pottery from both ceramic traditions<sup>6</sup>.

The term “Mittani” was used in 2nd mill. BC texts first of all as a geographical term to address the region between the Middle Euphrates in Syria and the Middle Tigris, with the Khabur region in its center<sup>7</sup>. According to this meaning, the term “Mittani pottery” is employed for the homogenous group of ceramics from the core region of Mittani during the time of the Mittani-state.

“Middle Assyrian pottery” is the designation for the ceramics in the Syrian Jazirah during the time of its incorporation into the Middle Assyrian empire starting with Adad-Nirari I (1295-1264 BC). The Syrian Jazirah

1 - KÜHNE 1980: p. 15; MATTHIAE 1981: p. 52; KOHLMAYER & STROMMINGER 1982: p. 370; WEISS 1985: p. 43.

2 - See PFÄLZNER 1997b; 1998; LEBEAU 2000; DOHMANN-PFÄLZNER & PFÄLZNER 2000, fig. 2.

3 - The Early Bronze Age is called “Early Jazirah Period” (3000-2000 BC), the Middle Bronze Age (Old Babylonian time; so-called “Khabur period”) is referred to as “Old Jazirah” (2000-1550) (see DOHMANN-PFÄLZNER & PFÄLZNER 2002, fig. 3), the Iron Age is labeled “New Jazirah” (1050-330).

4 - PFÄLZNER 1995, see especially p. 221-232.

5 - “Mittani” is not the designation of a certain group of people and is thus not to be understood as an ethnic term (WILHELM 1982: p. 34 f.).

6 - See the discussions in BARRELET *et al.* 1977, BARRELET 1984 and BARRELET & GARDIN 1986 concerning the impossibility of assigning specific objects of art and material culture to the Hurrians.

7 - WILHELM 1982: p. 34 f. and personal communication.

pottery of this period is identical to the pottery used in the Assyrian heartland at Assur or Kar-Tukulti-Ninurta. The introduction of this new type of pottery can thus be seen as a consequence of the Middle-Assyrian political domination and administration in the Syrian Jazirah.

The Middle Jazirah period is clearly fixed in time, as an overall period as well as with regard to its internal subdivisions. The beginning of the Middle Jazirah period is marked by the end of the Middle Bronze Age in Syria that is normally correlated with the Hittite incursion in Syria and Babylonia and which opened the way for the establishment of the Mittani state. The absolute date of this historical change of period depends on the insecurities of the Middle versus the Low Chronology (1590 or 1530 respectively). A medium date of 1550 BC is adopted in our sequence.

The end of the Middle Jazirah period can be fixed in correlation with the extension of the Middle Assyrian pottery tradition. Although this tradition can be subdivided into the stages Middle Assyrian (mA) I to III on the basis of quantitative and qualitative changes, the Middle Assyrian pottery reveals an overall typological homogeneity during the period between *ca.* 1270 and 1070/50 BC. Thus, the Middle Assyrian pottery period extends chronologically well beyond the end of the Late Bronze Age (as seen traditionally) into the Iron Age I. The Syrian Jazirah pottery (and material culture in general) was not decisively affected by the disruptions in the other regions of Syria at around 1200 BC<sup>8</sup>. The picture of cultural discontinuity or even collapse at the end of the Late Bronze Age is not valid for this region<sup>9</sup>.

The correlation between the regional periodization system, the regional ceramic traditions and the traditional classification system of "metal ages"<sup>10</sup> can be demonstrated in a chart (Fig. 1).

ABSOLUTE DATE (BC)	PERIOD	CERAMIC TRADITION	METAL AGES <sup>11</sup>
1550/1400-1350	Middle Jazirah I A	Early Mittani pottery tradition	LB I
1400/1350-1270	Middle Jazirah I B	Late Mittani pottery tradition	LB II A
1270-1200	Middle Jazirah II A	Middle Assyrian pottery tradition, phase mA I	LB II B
1200-1120	Middle Jazirah II B	Middle Assyrian pottery tradition, phase mA II	Iron I A
1120-1050	Middle Jazirah III	Terminal Middle Assyrian pottery tradition, phase mA III	Iron I B

Fig. 1 - Syrian Jazirah periodization system in the Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age.

8 - Compare e.g. HALLO 1992: p. 1 ff.; SADER 1992: p. 157 ff.

9 - Similar views of Late Bronze to Iron Age continuity in Inner Syria and Babylonia have already been expressed by McCLELLAN (1992: p. 166-168) and ZETTLER (1992: p. 180).

10 - The chronology of "metal ages" in fig. 1 follows AVI-YONAH 1975; DORNEMANN 1985; LEBEAU 1983b: p. 23, fig. 6.

A cross-dating of Late Bronze Age sub-periods between the Jazirah-Region and the region of Northwestern Syria to the west and the Trans-Tigridian Region to the east is possible on the basis of chronologically distinctive pottery types, like Nuzi-Ware, Grey Burnished Ware, Açana-Ware etc. (see below) that occur at Alalakh<sup>12</sup>, at Nuzi and at Jazirah sites in Syria and Northern Iraq. A comparative inter-regional periodization chart can be established (Fig. 2).

ABSOLUTE DATE (bc)	JAZIRAH REGION		NW-SYRIA/AMUQ-REGION		TRANS-TIGRIS REGION	
1550/1400-1350	Middle Jazirah I A	Brak 3-6	Middle Syrian I A	Alalakh V-III	Middle Trans-Tigridian I A	Nuzi IV-III Nuzi II
1400/1350-1270	Middle Jazirah I B	Brak 2, Bderi 3-5	Middle Syrian I B	Alalakh II	Middle Trans-Tigridian I B	Nuzi I
1270-1200	Middle Jazirah II A	Sh. Hamad mA I	Middle Syrian II	Alalakh I	Middle Trans-Tigridian II	
1200-1120	Middle Jazirah II B	Sh. Hamad mA II				
1120-1050	Middle Jazirah III	Bderi 2 (mA III)				

Fig. 2 - Cross-dating of Late Bronze Age periods in the Jazirah Region, Northwestern Syria and the Trans-Tigris Region.

#### THE SITES AND THEIR CERAMIC CONTEXTS

The presentation of the Late Bronze Age ceramic traditions of the Syrian Jazirah focuses on the Khabur headwater region including the valley of the Middle and Lower Khabur, but has also to take into consideration the Balikh area to the west and the Iraqi Jazirah to the east. This broader region of study embracing the river valleys and steppe areas of Northern Mesopotamia between Balikh, Khabur and Middle Tigris has to exclude the Middle Euphrates valley region, because the latter is considerably distinct from the former region with regard to its material culture and especially its pottery traditions. The region of study defined above constitutes a homogenous ecological zone known as the Syro-Iraqi Jazirah<sup>13</sup> and, at the same time, a coherent ceramic region in the Late Bronze Age (plate I).

11 - Following AVI-YONAH 1975; DORNEMANN 1985; LEBEAU 1983, 23, Fig. 6.

12 - For a recent discussion of the chronological position of Alalakh VI and V, see EDER 2003.

13 - SANLAVILLE 1990: p. 1-12, fig. 1-2.

*Middle Jazirah sites on the Middle and Lower Khabur*

The basic sites for Late Bronze Age ceramics in the valley of the Middle and Lower Khabur are Tell Shaikh Hamad and Tell Bderi. At Tell Shaikh Hamad Middle Assyrian pottery was found in a large storage building on the western slope of the mound. This was part of a Middle Assyrian governor's palace in the provincial capital of Durkatlimmu<sup>14</sup>. Three major phases of use of the building and several sub-phases can be distinguished architecturally and stratigraphically<sup>15</sup>. They provide the basis for a fine chronological differentiation of Middle Assyrian pottery. On the basis of quantitative analyses it is possible to distinguish four typologically distinct ceramic stages: mA (= middle Assyrian) I, II a, II b, and II c (Middle Jazirah II A and II B)

At Tell Bderi, an enigmatic rectangular shaft, 4 by 6 m in size and 11 m deep, was cut from level 2 during Middle Assyrian time into the southern slope of the tell and backfilled after a short time<sup>16</sup>. The homogenous fill contained a number of Middle Assyrian inscriptions of a local ruler called Ashur-ketti-lesher<sup>17</sup> and a rich collection of Middle Assyrian pottery. It is typologically slightly later than the assemblages from Tell Shaikh Hamad and assigned to the ceramic phase mA III (Middle Jazirah III). On the same site phases 5 to 3 on the southern slope and phases 5 to 2 on the northern plateau represent a sequence of habitation levels from Mittani time<sup>18</sup>. Their depositions contain well stratified Mittani domestic ceramic assemblages from the Middle Jazirah I B period.

On the Middle Khabur, Mittani and Middle Assyrian pottery was found in the excavations at two other sites: Tell Umm Qseir and Tell Ta'ban. At Tell Umm Qseir, Mittani and Middle Assyrian pottery was found in the topmost occupation layers of the tiny tell<sup>19</sup>. Middle Jazirah I B pottery<sup>20</sup> characterizes Phases 3a-3c, while a burial in Phase 3d contained three Middle Jazirah II vessels<sup>21</sup>. Tell Ta'ban, ancient Tabetu, has signs of a prominent occupation, especially during the Middle Jazirah III period (levels 4-8, probably also 9)<sup>22</sup>, dated by early 11th century BC brick inscriptions<sup>23</sup> from level 8 and containing quantities of the

mA III type of Middle Assyrian pottery<sup>24</sup>. There is older Middle Assyrian (Middle Jazirah II) material<sup>25</sup>, as well, and a Mittani occupation (levels 10-13) with Middle Jazirah I B pottery<sup>26</sup>.

Among the survey sites in the 'Ajj-region to the east of the valley of the Lower Khabur, Tell Umm 'Aqrebe has a rich surface covering of Middle-Assyrian sherds of Middle-Jazirah II B date<sup>27</sup> and deserves special attention, because it is the only Late Bronze Age site attested in the desert-like steppe zone of the southern Jazirah to the east of the Khabur, probably at a position on an important road from the regional administrative center Durkatlimmu to the capital Assur<sup>28</sup>.

*Middle Jazirah sites in the Khabur headwaters region*

At Tell Brak an important late Mittani (Middle Jazirah I B) pottery collection was recovered in the destruction debris (phase 2) of the Mittani palace in Area HH<sup>29</sup>. The importance of this assemblage lies in the association with mid-14th century BC tablets of the Mittani kings Artashumara and Tushratta<sup>30</sup>. Furthermore, Tell Brak provides, in a series of stepped trenches (A to D in Area HH) south of the palace, the longest sequence of strata (phases 2 through 7) so far recovered for the Mittani period extending over a time from the 16th down to the early 13th cent. BC<sup>31</sup> (Middle Jazirah I A to I B). This sequence is topped by a Middle Assyrian level (phase 1) that dates to the Middle Jazirah III period<sup>32</sup>.

As far as the excavations by Mallowan at Chagar Bazar are concerned, it is difficult to decide if the sequence extends considerably into the Middle Jazirah period. Mallowan's Level 1 was subdivided by him into an Early (A), an Intermediate (B-C), a Late (D) and a Latest Phase (E)<sup>33</sup>. The Intermediate phase 1 C is characterized by the typical Old Jazirah II/III specimens of painted Khabur ware that are stratigraphically to be dated later than the tablets of the time of Shamshi-Adad<sup>34</sup>. The Late phase 1 D might either be attributed to the Old Jazirah III (end of the Middle Bronze Age) or the Middle Jazirah I A period, while the Latest Phase 1 E is definitely Middle Jazirah I<sup>35</sup>.

14 - KÜHNE 1983a; 1983b; 1984a; 1984b; PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 106 ff.

15 - PFÄLZNER, in press; PFÄLZNER 1995.

16 - PFÄLZNER 1989-1990; 1990a.

17 - MAUL 1992.

18 - PFÄLZNER 1986-1987a; 1986-1987b; 1989-1990; 1990a.

19 - TSUNEKI 1998: p. 124-140.

20 - TOMITA 1998: figs. 66/1, 4-11, fig. 67/1-8, fig. 68/2.

21 - TOMITA 1998: fig. 66/2-3, fig. 68/1.

22 - OHNUMA-NUMOTO & OKADA 1999: p. 11.

23 - MAUL 1999.

24 - OHNUMA-NUMOTO & OKADA 1999: fig. 10/22-36 and PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 171, pl. 162/h-i-j.

25 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 171, pl. 161/b-d, g-k, p. 162/a-g.

26 - OHNUMA-NUMOTO & OKADA 1999: fig. 11/4150- and PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 171, pl. 161/a-e-f.

27 - PFÄLZNER 1984: fig. 76/56-; 1986: pl. 16-54; 1993: fig. 84-91.

28 - PFÄLZNER 1993: p. 92 ff., pl. 10.

29 - OATES D. 1985; 1987; 1990; OATES J. 1987; OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997.

30 - ILLINGWORTH 1988: p. 99108-; OATES & OATES 1991b: p. 158; EIDEM 1997.

31 - Joan Oates, personal communication

32 - Joan Oates, personal communication.

33 - MALLOWAN 1947: p. 83 f.

34 - *Ibid.*: p. 82-86.

35 - There are unfortunately no pottery drawings published for phase 1 E.

As Mallowan already pointed out, the “Khabur” and “Nuzi” pottery traditions overlap within Phase I at Chagar Bazar<sup>36</sup>.

The tiny mound of Tell Hwesh on the Wadi Jaghjagh near Hassakeh can be regarded as the smallest Mittani village excavated so far<sup>37</sup>. Small scale house architecture revealed Mittani pottery assemblages of the Middle Jazirah I B period<sup>38</sup>.

The eastern mound of Tell Abu Hafur in the northern Khabur-dam area has a major occupation in the Late Bronze Age<sup>39</sup>. A large number of depositions with Mittani ceramic assemblages were uncovered<sup>40</sup>.

In the excavations since 1993 at Tell Beydar, Middle Jazirah I B Mittani pottery assemblages were uncovered in one single level of domestic architecture situated to the west and outside of the large circular Early Bronze Age tell (field J)<sup>41</sup>. A surprisingly large quantity of Nuzi-ware beakers was found in the rooms of a building and in an adjoining pit.

At Tell Barri in Area G on the south slope of the hill a long stratigraphic sequence of architectural levels and pottery assemblages from the Mittani through the Middle-Assyrian time was excavated<sup>42</sup>. Ten Middle Jazirah I A and I B Mittani levels (levels 25-16 = phases G-A) are superimposed by fifteen Middle Assyrian levels (levels 15-1 = phases I-XI). The latter can be attributed to the Middle-Jazirah II a, II b and III periods<sup>43</sup>. With a combined thickness of seven meters they constitute the most extended sequence of depositions from the Middle Jazirah period so far discovered<sup>44</sup>. While the Middle-Assyrian pottery has been published in preliminary form<sup>45</sup>, the Mittani pottery has not yet been presented in enough detail to allow for the observation of an internal typological development within the Middle Jazirah I sequence<sup>46</sup>.

Tell al-Hamidiya is dominated by a large Late Bronze Age palace erected on a wide mud brick platform<sup>47</sup>. The pottery from the so-called “Mittani phase” (phase M) of the palace<sup>48</sup> is predominantly Middle Assyrian<sup>49</sup> and dates this period of use to the Middle Jazirah II A/B period. The so-called “Middle-Assyrian remodeling” (phase L) is connected with many Neo-Assyrian pottery types<sup>50</sup> and should therefore be dated to the first mill. BC<sup>51</sup>.

At Tell Mohammed Diyab in the upper town, the depositions of level 4 contain Middle Jazirah I B Mittani pottery assemblages<sup>52</sup>, while level 5 seems to include Old Jazirah (Old Babylonian)<sup>53</sup> as well as Middle Jazirah I A (Early Mittani)<sup>54</sup> ceramics<sup>55</sup>. Middle Assyrian pottery (Middle Jazirah II) was mainly discovered in the soundings 3, 6, and 7 of the lower town<sup>56</sup>.

At Tell Arbid two Mittani graves with rich inventories have been discovered recently. The graves contained 16 ceramic vessels each, including a painted Nuzi-ware goblet and bottles with red polished slip typical for the Middle Jazirah I B period<sup>57</sup>.

Tell Mozan has a short Mittani occupation that is very much eroded. Mittani pottery was found in the vicinity of the temple terrace in area B<sup>58</sup>, in pits of area C2, and on hill A to the north of the 3rd millennium palace.

A survey at Tell Amuda in 1984 by Bunnens and Roobaert-Bunnens<sup>59</sup> and the soundings in 1986 by Durand and Charpin at the same site<sup>60</sup> provided material that proves that this site is to be identified with the 13th century BC Middle Assyrian provincial capital of Kulishhinash. Middle Assyrian administrative texts<sup>61</sup>, monumental architectural remains (*Niveau* IV a and IV b)<sup>62</sup>, and assemblages of Middle-Assyrian official pottery<sup>63</sup> – datable to Middle Jazirah II and III (= mA I-III)<sup>64</sup> – combine to testify to a Middle-Assyrian governors seat.

36 - MALLOWAN 1947, p. 86; furthermore (*ibid.*), he states “that most of the level I material from Chagar Bazar falls after the death of Shamshi-Adad I and before the reign of Saushtatar”.

37 - SEEDEN & WILSON 1989; SEEDEN 198990-; BERTHIER 1990.

38 - PFÄLZNER 1990b: p. 137 ff., fig. 1/a-r.

39 - BIELINSKI 1990: p. 24 f.

40 - Andrzej Reiche, personal communication.

41 - BRETSCHNEIDER & DIETRICH 1994: p. 25-29, fig. 28-30, pl. 11; BRETSCHNEIDER 1997a; 1997b.

42 - PECORELLA 1990a: p. 57 f.; PECORELLA 1990b: p. 261 ff.; PECORELLA 1991: p. 56; PECORELLA 1998: p. 83-119.

43 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 184-186

44 - PECORELLA 1998: fig. 62.

45 - ANASTASIO 1998.

46 - See PECORELLA 1998: fig. 3538- (these plates present a mixture of Old Jazirah, Middle Jazirah I A, and Middle Jazirah I B types; parts of the Mittani sequence in Area G, therefore, could possibly be still attributed to the Old Jazirah period).

47 - EICHLER *et al.* 1985: p. 95 ff; 1990: p. 220 ff. p. 237-258.

48 - EICHLER *et al.* 1990: p. 237-258, vgl. 224.

49 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 186 f.

50 - EICHLER *et al.* 1990: 252.

51 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 187 f.

52 - BACHELOT *et al.* 1990: fig. 9/1-4, 19/1; FAIVRE 1992a: p. 63, fig. 7/1-2,

14/2, 16/1, 3-6, 20/1-4, 21/2, 24/15, 27/1-2.

53 - FAIVRE 1992a: fig. 7/4-5, 8, 9, 10, 11.

54 - FAIVRE 1992a: fig. 12/5, 14/8, 24/13.

55 - The division into Levels 5A and 5B (BACHELOT *et al.* 1990) was given up later (BACHELOT & SAUVAGE 1992: p. 10). Nevertheless a distinction between a younger and an older phase of the Level 5 assemblages was re-introduced by the pottery analyst (FAIVRE 1992a: p. 68). The older phase (here: 5 inf.) obviously dates to the later part of the Old Jazirah period, while the younger phase (here: 5 sup.), characterized by the bird motive painted decoration (*ibid.*, 68), must date to the Middle Jazirah I A period.

56 - CASTEL 1992: p. 40 f., fig. 2, 4/3; FAIVRE 1992a: p. 67, fig. 27/3-7, 28/5-11; apart from the lower town Middle Assyrian sherds were discovered in a pit (loc. 836) in the upper town (FAIVRE 1992a: p. 63 f., fig. 16/2, 27/3-7; 28/4, 5-7, 11). See also PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 188 f.

57 - BIELINSKI 2000: p. 276 f., fig. 3; BIELINSKI 2002: p. 281 f., fig. 3.

58 - DOHMANN-PFÄLZNER & PFÄLZNER 1999: p. 34, 43, fig. 12-13 (levels B-S 3 and C 3).

59 - BUNNENS & ROOBAERT-BUNNENS 1988: p. 92.

60 - DURAND 1990: p. 6; CHARPIN 1990: p. 67.

61 - AYNARD & DURAND 1980; MACHINIST 1982: p. 1-12, 34-36.

62 - FAIVRE 1992b: p. 136-141, 149.

63 - BUNNENS & ROOBAERT-BUNNENS 1988: fig. 50; FAIVRE 1992b, p. 136 ff.

64 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 190.

At Tell Fekheriyeh, probably ancient Washukanni<sup>65</sup>, the capital of the Mittani empire, the American excavations of 1940 brought to light (in sounding VI) an inventory of tablets and sealings in a Middle-Assyrian building<sup>66</sup>, but its associated ceramic assemblages have – with few exceptions<sup>67</sup> – not been published. Among the materials from Moortgats excavations in 1955 and 1956<sup>68</sup> Mittani and Middle Assyrian pottery is present, but was not separated chronologically due to a lack of stratigraphic observations<sup>69</sup>. The published pieces can be attributed typologically to Middle Jazirah I B and II<sup>70</sup>. Stratified Middle Assyrian pottery was recently found in the new Syrian-German excavations at Fekheriyeh<sup>71</sup>.

### *Middle Jazirah sites in the Balikh drainage region*

In the regions to the west of the Khabur, Tell Chuera presents important evidence for Middle Assyrian pottery<sup>72</sup> (Middle Jazirah II A and II B)<sup>73</sup> that was found in Area G in a Middle Assyrian administrative building. The building can be dated with the help of cuneiform tablets to the time of Tukulti Ninurta I (1233-1197 BC). The tablets are associated with the oldest (level 3) of three Middle Assyrian levels in Area G. Together, they define the local period II B at Chuera<sup>74</sup>. Local period II A at Chuera is connected with Mittani pottery<sup>75</sup>.

Another example of a Middle Assyrian administrative center is Tell Sabi Abiad on the Balikh River<sup>76</sup>. Here, Middle Assyrian pottery was found<sup>77</sup> that can be attributed to the Middle Jazirah II B period<sup>78</sup>; it closely resembles the Middle Assyrian pottery from the Khabur Area and from the core area of Assyria proper. No Mittani occupation existed at Tell Sabi Abiad. Khirbet esh-Shennef<sup>79</sup> is a small mound in the close vicinity of Sabi Abiad. Here, there is evidence for Middle Assyrian domestic pottery of the Middle-Jazirah II B period that differs functionally from that of the administrative contexts of Tell Sabi Abiad<sup>80</sup>.

At nearby Tell Hammam et-Turkman<sup>81</sup> Phase VIII A contains Mittani pottery with the typical types of the Middle

Jazirah I B period<sup>82</sup>. The younger phase VIII B shows evidence for Middle Jazirah II Middle Assyrian pottery<sup>83</sup>.

Tell Jidle is situated on the Balikh River close to the Syrian-Turkish border near Tell Abiad. Mallowan's excavations provided evidence for Mittani pottery<sup>84</sup> of the Middle Jazirah I A period (Jidle Phase 2). Phase 3 at Tell Jidle might be only slightly older, but obviously still belongs to the Old Jazirah III period, probably shortly before the end of the Middle Bronze Age.

## CERAMIC DATING AND JAZIRAH CHRONOLOGY OF THE 15TH -11TH CENTURY BC

### *Dating Middle Jazirah I A*

The beginning of the Middle Jazirah I A period has to be set at around 1530 BC, if we apply the Low Chronology and if we argue that the Hittite invasion of Syria and Mesopotamia by Murshili I was responsible for major political changes in the regions of Syro-Mesopotamia – as seen in the rise of the Mittani Empire – and social changes accompanied by the emergence of new cultural traditions. The best evidence for Middle Jazirah I A pottery in Northern Syria comes from Tell Brak, where levels 3 to 6 can be attributed to this period. These levels are characterized by types that occur abundantly in the Level II destruction contexts at Nuzi, especially the “gray burnished ware” of Brak level 5<sup>85</sup>. This ware is nearly absent both at Brak<sup>86</sup> and at Bderi<sup>87</sup> during the following Middle Jazirah I B period. Therefore, Middle Jazirah I A and Nuzi “pre-destruction time” can be considered approximately chronologically parallel.

The date of the Nuzi destruction level has been much discussed in recent time. What is clear is that the Saushtatar seal impression at Nuzi does not constitute a *terminus ad quem*, because this seal was still in use long after the time of this king, as is demonstrated at Brak by the use of the Saushtatar seal on the tablets of the much later kings Artashumara and Tushratta<sup>88</sup>. Even more recently, the same practice can be seen in a Mittani tablet of the

65 - For this long-going discussion see recently PRUSS & BAGDO 2002: p. 313.

66 - Mc Ewan *et al.* 1958: p. 4-6, 18-20, 28 (the context was recently re-excavated; see PRUSS & BAGDO 2002, p. 320 ff.).

67 - KANTOR 1958: pl. 32/62, 38/62.

68 - MOORTGAT 1959.

69 - HROUDA 1961: p. 209-222, fig. 7-14.

70 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 191 f.

71 - PRUSS & BAGDO 2002: p. 323 f., fig. 6.

72 - KLEIN 1995: p. 193 ff., fig. 95-98.

73 - The level 3 pottery (KLEIN 1995: fig. 97/18-28, fig. 98/31), associated with the tablets of the time of Tukulti-Ninurta I, is Middle-Jazirah II A by definition. If there is pottery from Middle Jazirah II B can not yet be clearly decided on the basis of the published material. There is no indication for Middle Jazirah III.

74 - ORTHMANN 1995: p. 15 tab. 2.

75 - MOORTGAT 1962: p. 17-22.

76 - AKKERMANS 1987; 1991; AKKERMANS & ROSSMEISL 1990.

77 - ROSSMEISL 1989: p. 337-356; AKKERMANS & ROSSMEISL 1990: p. 25-28.

78 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 192 f. and footnote 126.

79 - BARTL 1990.

80 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 193 ff.

81 - MEIJER 1988: p. 88-91; SMIT 1988.

82 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 196 f.

83 - *Ibid.*: p. 197.

84 - MALLOWAN 1946: p. 132 f., fig. 10-11.

85 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 66.

86 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 74 f.

87 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 79-81, fig. 78.

88 - MATTHEWS 1997: p. 47 ff; EIDEM 1997: p. 41 ff.

time of Shuttarna II (early 14th cent.) from Tell Umm el-Marra in Western Syria sealed with the Saushtatar seal<sup>89</sup>. On the other hand, the arguments of Stein<sup>90</sup> for a very low date at around 1330 BC for the destruction of Nuzi are not convincing<sup>91</sup>, because they mainly refer to a rather general and vague predation of Nuzi II in relation to Middle Assyrian contexts of the 13th cent. BC at other sites. With reference to the Brak sequence, an earlier date of around 1350 BC, as had already been proposed on a different evidence by Wilhelm<sup>92</sup>, is far more plausible for the date of the destruction of Nuzi. On this basis a separation between Middle Jazirah I A and I B at around the same time seems the most logical. To be on a safer ground the first half of the 14th century can be taken as a flexible frame for dating the end of the Middle Jazirah I A period (see fig. 1).

### Dating Middle Jazirah I B

The strongest evidence for the absolute dating of later Mittani pottery is provided by the tablets from the time of the Mittani rulers Artashumara (*ca.* 1380-1360 BC) and Tushratta (*ca.* 1360-1330 BC)<sup>93</sup> in the palace at Tell Brak. They were – together with the later Mittani pottery – part of the destruction debris of level 2 in the main room of the palace. Through this stratigraphical association the tablets and the Middle Jazirah I B pottery are connected chronologically. The duration of level 2 at Tell Brak might well have extended – as Oates argues<sup>94</sup> – into the time of the Assyrian king Shalmaneser I (1263-1234 BC), who might have put an end to the Mittani palace during his well attested raids in the Jazirah. This assumption principally corresponds well with a dendrochronological date from the level 2 palace at Brak of 1293 +/- 37 BC<sup>95</sup>. It can not be excluded, however, that already Adad-Nirari I (1295-1264 BC) destroyed the palace and the temple at Brak during his campaigns<sup>96</sup>. As a consequence, this indicates an overall range of time for level 2 at Tell Brak from around 1380/1360 BC to around 1280/1260 BC. This leads us in connection with the arguments about the end of Middle Jazirah I A (see above) to define the time between 1400/1350 BC. and 1270 BC (as an approximate value) as the absolute date of the Middle Jazirah I B period.

The typological comparison of the late Mittani pottery from Tell Brak with Tell Bderi reveals a perfect correspondence of types. Thus, it gives evidence for a 14th to early 13th century BC date of the Middle Jazirah I B pottery sequence from the latter site. The analysis of the stratigraphical sequences of Mittani pottery assemblages from the northern plateau (levels 5 to 2) and from the southern slope (levels 5 to 3) of Tell Bderi demonstrates that there is no typological development of the pottery within the Middle Jazirah I B period.

### Dating Middle Jazirah II A and II B

The most important dating evidence for the Middle Assyrian pottery of the Middle Jazirah II A period comes from Tell Shaikh Hamad. The tablets found in Room A of the magazines<sup>97</sup> date from the time of Salmanassar I (1263-1234 BC) and Tukulti-Ninurta I (1233-1197 BC)<sup>98</sup>. They are directly associated in Room A with pottery of the ceramic phase mA I (= Middle Assyrian I), which defines the Middle Jazirah II A period. This period can therefore be assigned to the middle and second half of the 13th century BC. A date during the time of Tukulti Ninurta I (1233-1197 BC) also applies to the tablets from Tell Chuera<sup>99</sup> that are associated in level 3 of the building in Area G with Middle Jazirah II A pottery.

The Middle Jazirah II B period is characterized by the ceramic phases mA II a, II b and II c at several sites. The Middle Assyrian tablets from Tell Sabi Abiad date to the later part of the reign of Tukulti Ninurta I (1233-1197 BC) and to the time of Assur-nadin-apli (1197-1193 BC) and Assur-nirari III (1192-1187 BC)<sup>100</sup>. This context is associated with pottery of the ceramic phases mA IIa and IIb<sup>101</sup>, which date to the Middle Jazirah II B period. At Tell Shaikh Hamad, Middle Jazirah II B can be dated stratigraphically on the basis of the sequence of phases in the Middle Assyrian administrative building. Here, a time frame after Tukulti Ninurta I (= after 1197 BC) and before Tiglatpileasar I (= before 1114 BC) is available for this period. The relative sequence of phases and the associated pottery at Tell Shaikh Hamad in combination with historical arguments leads to the conclusion that the ceramic phase mA IIa dates

89 - SCHWARTZ *et al.* 2003: p. 350 f., fig. 34.

90 - STEIN 1989.

91 - See the arguments in PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 216.

92 - WILHELM 1976: p. 159 f. The date of 1360 BC proposed by WILHELM 1976 has to be lowered by 10 years to around 1350 BC with regard to the slightly lowered Middle Assyrian chronology as proposed by BOESE & WILHELM 1979.

93 - Dates following WILHELM 1982: p. 141; for a different date see ASTOUR 1989: p. 70-73, 77.

94 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997, p. 13 f. His arguments are historical on the one hand (the report of the destruction and burning of Taidu and neighboring Mittani places by the Middle Assyrian kings) and refer to

a dendrochronological date from the palace ranging between 1330 and 1256 BC on the other hand (see next footnote).

95 - KUNIHOLM 1997: p. 127 f.

96 - Even a destruction of the Brak palace already during the internal political instabilities and conflicts in the time of Tushratta and Shattiwaza is theoretically possible (see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 234 f.).

97 - KÖHNE H. 1983a; 1983b; 1984a; 1984b; 1984c.

98 - RÖLLIG 1984.

99 - KÖHNE C. 1995: p. 206.

100 - AKKERMANS & WIGGERMANN 1999; AKKERMANS & SCHWARTZ 2003: p. 350.

101 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 193.

to 1200-1190/80, the ceramic phase II b dates to 1190/80-1170/60, and the ceramic phase mA II c dates to 1160/70-1130/20 BC<sup>102</sup>.

### *Dating Middle Jazirah III*

Pottery of the ceramic phase mA III – which defines the period Middle Jazirah III – is directly associated with cylinder inscriptions by a local king, Ashur-ketti-lesher, from the time of the king Tiglatpileser I (1114-1076 BC)<sup>103</sup> in level 2 at Tell Bderi. A late 12th/early 11th century date for stage mA III can, therefore, be clearly inferred for period Middle Jazirah III.

The second point of reference for the absolute dating of Middle Jazirah III is Tell Ta'ban. Here, the cylinder inscriptions of Ashur-ketti-lesher from the time of Tiglatpileser I are unfortunately not directly related to the stratigraphic sequence of Middle Assyrian levels, because they were found in drifted depositions on the slope and at the foot of the tell. Inscribed bricks of a grandchild of Ashur-ketti-lesher, however, have been found in level 8 of the sequence at Tell Ta'ban and are associated to mA III pottery. If we are dealing with a grandson of Ashur-ketti-lesher, these royal inscriptions must be two generations later than those of the latter king. We would, thus, arrive at around 1050 BC for a date of level 8 by a rough estimation.

On the basis of this combined evidence, a date between 1120 and 1050 BC is proposed for the period Middle Jazirah III.

Based on this periodization system and on typological comparisons of pottery assemblages from many different sites, a relative and absolute comparative chronology of the excavated sites in the Syrian Jazirah can be established (Fig. 3 and 4).

## THE MIDDLE JAZIRAH CERAMIC TYPOLOGY

### *Typology of Middle Jazirah I A pottery*

There are to date not many excavated assemblages of Middle Jazirah I A pottery in North-Eastern Syria, and those published have not been processed quantitatively. Tell Brak offers the most complete source of ceramic types for this period.

### *Undecorated Chaff-Tempered Ware*

At Brak the undecorated wares are in most cases chaff-tempered – slightly (Brak ware 3) or heavily (Brak wares 4, 5, 6, 7)<sup>104</sup>. A part of these vessels are of buff fabric, others are orange to brick colored or orange-brown. White grits can occur occasionally as additional temper. A characteristic type is the so-called “Mittani orange-brown” ware (Brak ware 7), which is heavily chaff tempered, has a gritty fabric with mica inclusions and occasionally a dark core.

The shapes at Brak<sup>105</sup> include a variety of different bowl types: there are a) straight sided bowls; b) round sided bowls; and c) carinated bowls. The straight sided bowls are flat, have often an unaccentuated rim, and flat bases (catalogue no. A11) or slight ring bases (no. 2). Besides, there are straight sided bowls with thickened rims to the outside (nos. 3 and 4) or to the inside (nos. 5 and 6). The round sided bowls can equally have an unaccentuated rim (no. 7) or a thickened rim (no. 8). Finally, the carinated bowls have upright sides (no. 9) or slightly everted sides (no. 10). They can also have thickened rims (no. 11) or very accentuated, thickened carinations (no. 12). The carinated bowls with unaccentuated rim can carry a slight groove above the carination (no. 13). Among the very characteristic shapes figure carinated bowls with a double hammer profile (no. 14) or an inside orientated single hammer profile (no. 15).

Among the pots we find hole-mouth vessels with a vertical lip (no. 16). Very characteristic for the period is the so-called “grain measure” form<sup>106</sup>. These are biconical pots with the carination in the lower half of the body and, consequently, a high cylinder-like upper body part (no. 17)<sup>107</sup>. Many of the “grain measures” have a painted decoration (see below).

Among the pots examples with a conical upper body and a grooved rim can be found (no. 18).

In summary, the Middle Jazirah I A shapes of the undecorated ware – with few exceptions (nos. 14, 15, 17) – do not differ decisively from those during the following Middle Jazirah I B period (see below).

### *Undecorated Mineral-Tempered Ware*

A gritty buff fabric, where little or no chaff has been added (Brak ware 2), was used mainly for the footed goblets<sup>108</sup>.

102 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 238.

103 - MAUL 1992.

104 - For ware definitions of undecorated pottery see OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 157 and descriptions of figs. 184-186, etc.

105 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: figs. 184-186.

106 - A term invented by Mallowan (MALLOWAN 1946: p. 148, fig. 10/13;

MALLOWAN 1947: p. 225).

107 - The example shown in Cat. No. 17 (MALLOWAN 1947: pl. LXVII/21) comes from level 2 of Mallowan excavation's in Area HH at Tell Brak (= Oates excavation's level 4-5 = Middle Jazirah I A).

108 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 157 and fig. 194.

PERIOD	DATE (bc)	Tell Shaikh Hamad		Tell Bderi		Tell Brak Area HH		Chag. Bazar	Tell Ham-diya	Tell Barri	T. Moh. Diyab	Tell Mozan	Tell Beydar	T. Abu Hafur East	Tell Hwesh	Tell Amuda	T. Fekheriyeh	Tell Taban	Tell Umm Qseir
		stratigr.	cer. trad.	stratigr.	cer. trad.	Mallo.	Oates												
nJ I	1050							Mallo.	Phase L			B6 / C2	Field J			Niv. II -			
mJ III	1100		mA III	2	mA III	1				XI X IX VIII VII VI V IV III II I					Niv. III ?	4-7 8			
mJ II B	1150	ph. III	mA IIc mA IIb								Locus 836 sound. 3+6+7				Niveau IV a				
mJ II A	1200	(palace) ph. II	mA IIa mA I	hiatus					Palace Phase M						Niveau IV b	"Middle-Assyrian"	9 (?)		
	1250	ph. I																	3 d
mJ I B	1300			3 4 5 a 5 b-c 5 d-e							level 4	aband.	Mittani settlement.		virgin soil		10 11 12 13		3 c 3 b 3 a
	1350				late Mittani	1 2			Palace ??	A B C D E F G		B-S 3 + C 3	Mittani settlement.	Mittani settlement.					
	1400					3 4 5 6 7				-?	level 5 sup.								
mJ I A	1450			hiatus		2		1 E											
	1500																		
oJ III	1550					3		1 D			level 5 inf.	C 4							

Fig. 3 - Comparative chronology for the Late Bronze Age Syrian Jezirah: Khabur Region.

PERIOD	DATE (BC)	Tell Chuera Area G	T. Sabi Abiad	Khirbet Shenef	Hamman Turkman	Tell Jidle
nJ I	1050					
mJ III	1100					
mJ II B	1150	1	mA complex	mA occupation		
mJ II A	1200	2 II B 3			VIII B	
mJ IB	1250					
mJ IA	1300					
	1350	II A			VIII A	
	1400					
	1450					Phase 2
	1500					
oJ III	1550					

Fig. 4 - Comparative chronology for the Late Bronze Age Syrian Jazirah: Balikh Region.

The unpainted footed beakers appear regularly in Middle Jazirah I A. The foot has the shape of a knob base, which can be flat at the bottom, or slightly hollowed. The flat ones (nos. 19, 20) can be found in Middle Jazirah I A and I B similarly, while the hollowed ones (nos. 21, 22) are typical for the “high cups” and other beakers at Nuzi<sup>109</sup> and seem to be a characteristic form for the Middle Jazirah I A. This is another piece of evidence for the chronological correlation of Middle Jazirah I A and the Nuzi II destruction level (see Fig. 2).

There are biconical pots with a rounded bottom, a sharp carination in the middle of the body and an everted rim (no. 23).

*Cooking Pot Ware*

Cooking Pot Ware is recorded from Tell Brak for the Middle Jazirah I A period. It is a dark red coarse ware with mica and dense shell inclusions<sup>110</sup>. Burnishing occurs on the

109 - STARR 1939: pl. 76/T, U, X, Y, Z, AA, BB, CC, DD, pl. 77/A, B, D-G, I-P, R, pl. 78/A-G, I, P-S.

110 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 157 and fig. 207/587.

body and the interior of the rim. The shape is globular with a broad, hammer-like rim in an inclined orientation (no. 24).

#### *Incised Ware*

Incisions can be mainly found on pots and other larger vessels. The most frequent shapes are pots with a rounded upper body and a broad, hammer-like rim that is nearly rectangular in section (nos. 25, 26, 27). As opposed to Middle Bronze Age (Old Jazirah) combed ware, the incisions in the Middle Jazirah period have not been made with a comb, but are single lines, incised with a stick or a similar instrument. The pattern of the incision is mainly composed of a single wavy line, bordered below and above by multiple horizontal straight lines (nos. 26, 27). Multiple horizontal lines can also appear without the wavy line (no. 25). The clay is mainly tempered with white grits and some chaff<sup>11</sup>.

#### *Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware*

The most characteristic and distinguishable ware of the Middle Jazirah I A period is the "Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware" (no. 28 to 41). The designation goes back to Mallowan who called it "black on buff ware"<sup>112</sup>. The typical black painted decoration on buff ground is characterized by the combination of geometric and animal motives, with the bird being the most prominent figure. The latter are larger water birds with long legs that are standing or walking in a row. The big head – executed as an oval or rhomboid line with a dot in the middle – can be raised, turned back or turned down to the base line of the drawing. The figurative motives are arranged in rows that are separated by horizontal lines or a band of geometric motives, like triangles or chess-board motives (Fig. 5). As an alternative to the birds, but occurring much less often, bulls (no. 32) or caprids (no. 35) can be depicted. Human persons are rarely inserted into the decoration: the "wrestlers" from Tell Brak are among the most unusual scenes of this type (Fig. 6 and no. 29).

The typical shapes for this ware are shouldered beakers (no. 39) and concave sided-beakers (no. 33), high cups

(nos. 34 and 40), deep bowls (no. 41), and pots with a wide opening (no. 28, 29, 30, 35, 36). A grain measure shape is also attested within the Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware (no. 38). The best examples of this ware are known from Tell Brak, Tell Mohammed Diyab and Tell Barri, showing that this ware is clearly concentrated on the Khabur headwaters region. It is additionally present in the Balikh Region as is demonstrated by examples from Tell Jidle, phase 2<sup>113</sup>. It does not appear at Nuzi II, except for the contemporary variant of the bird design in a Nuzi-like white on dark paint<sup>114</sup>.

The clearest stratigraphic association of this ware has been established at Tell Brak. Here, it is especially abundant in levels 4 and 5 (Middle Jazirah I A). As the ware does not exist anymore during Middle Jazirah I B (excepting

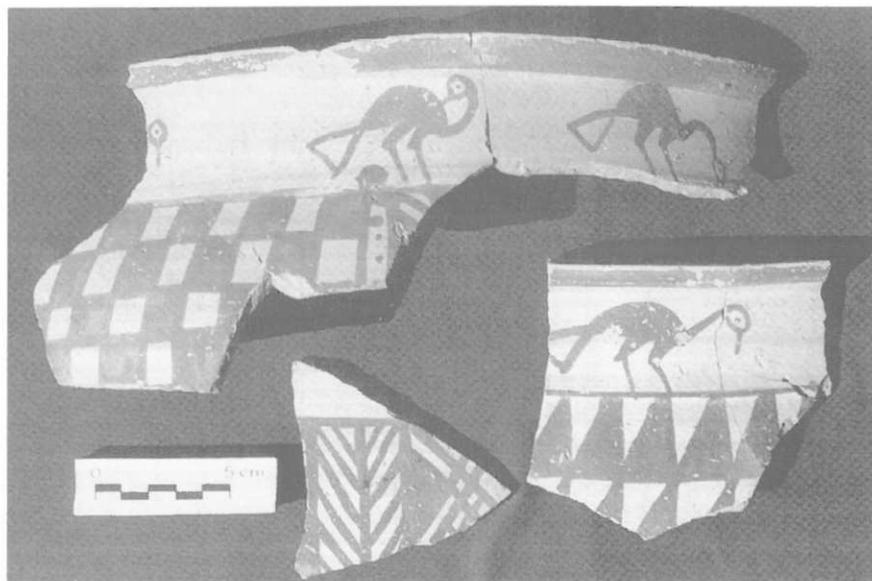


Fig. 5 - Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware from Middle Jazirah I A level 5 at Tell Brak: bird motives (from OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997, fig. 103).

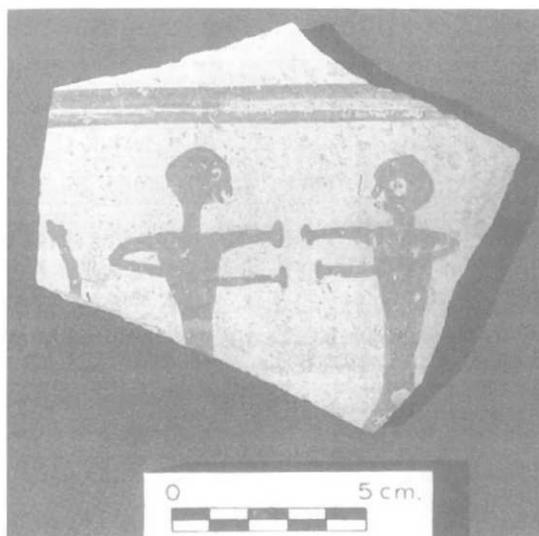


Fig. 6 - Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware from Middle Jazirah I A level 4/5 at Tell Brak: detail of wrestlers (from OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997, fig. 104).

111 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 157 and fig. 214.

112 - MALLOWAN 1947: p. 239.

113 - MALLOWAN 1946: fig. 11/6 and 10, both phase 2.

114 - STARR 1939: pl. 79/F, H, I.

redeposited pieces), it is a very good chronological indicator. At Tell Bderi, where only Middle Jazirah I B levels exist without a previous Middle Jazirah I A occupation, not a single piece of this ware could be identified. As is shown in Tell Brak, the earliest examples occur in levels 6 and 7 (beginning of the Middle Jazirah I A period). As Oates notices<sup>115</sup>, few examples go back to the end of the Old Babylonian (Old Jazirah III) period.

There are also representations of birds in white on black paint, but these examples are attributed to the Nuzi ware on the basis of their decorative style (see below).

#### *Relief vessels*

During Mallowan's excavations at Tell Brak, an extraordinary and well known painted face-vase (no. 42) was found in level 2 (Middle Jazirah I A)<sup>116</sup>. It represents the typical shape of a Mittani goblet with a knob foot. The bearded face is partly painted with dark color on buff ground and partly sculptured by hand and a scalpel; geometric patterns frame the face.

#### *Grey Burnished Ware*

The other very distinctive ware of the Middle Jazirah I A period, beside the Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware, is the Grey Burnished Ware (nos. 43 to 51). The grey clay is tempered with fine white grits and some chaff. Burnishing is applied to the outside of the vessels.

This ware is a good chronological indicator, because it is dominant in Middle Jazirah I A and very rare in Middle Jazirah I B<sup>117</sup>. The ware has a tradition beginning in the Old Jazirah period, but the shapes and the color differ. Generally, the Old Jazirah specimens are darker grey, sometimes black, while the Middle Jazirah I A examples are lighter<sup>118</sup>. During Middle Jazirah I A, a variant of Burnished Grey Ware, the Brown- and Cream-Burnished Ware (no. 52) occurs, with shapes similar to the aforementioned ware, and sometimes showing a vertical burnishing<sup>119</sup>.

The Middle Jazirah I A Grey Burnished Ware is precisely paralleled at Nuzi with many examples from levels IV to II<sup>120</sup>. This is good indication for the chronological correlation of Nuzi IV-II and Middle Jazirah I A (see Fig. 2).

The most frequent shapes of Grey Burnished Ware are carinated bowls with more or less upright sides and ring bases (nos. 44, 45, 46). The sides above the carination can also be slightly inclined (nos. 47, 48). Some of the carinated bowls have a groove below the carination, because their rims are folded (no. 49). A thin groove above the carination

can appear, too (no. 52). Some of the bowls have tripod legs (nos. 50, 51). Rounded bowls occur as well, with thickened lips on the outside of the rim (no. 43).

#### *White Paste Inlay Ware*

This ware is typical for the site of Nuzi (levels IV to II)<sup>121</sup>. In the Syrian Jazirah, it is very rare. At Tell Brak only four examples have been recorded. They all come from Middle Jazirah I A contexts. Thus, the ware is chronologically distinctive.

The fabric is identical to Grey Burnished Ware, with the exception of an additional decoration, which consists of impressions that are filled out with a white lime paste. This creates a strong contrast to the grey or black body color of the vessels (Fig. 7). This very striking decoration appears nearly exclusively on carinated bowls. The location of the designs is restricted to the outside of the rim. The impressions have, in most cases, the form of triangles and circles, often combined with each other (nos. 54, 55). Sometimes, only horizontal grooves are white inlaid (no. 53).

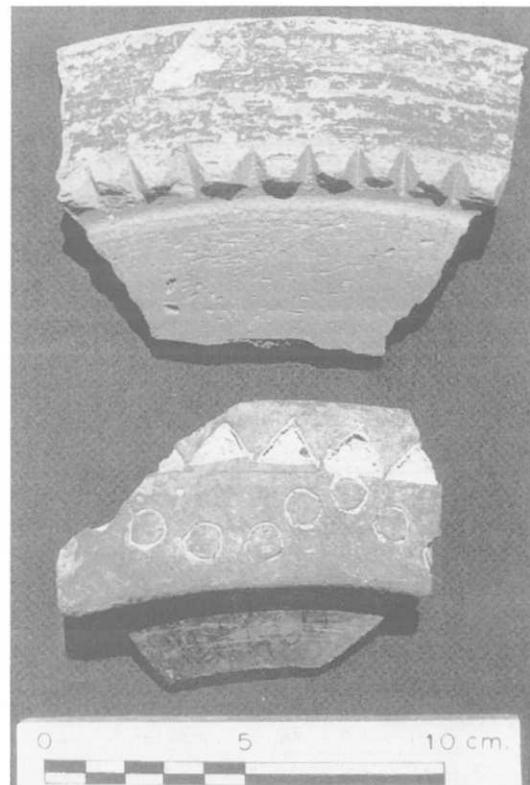


Fig. 7 - Sherd of White Paste Inlay Ware from Middle Jazirah I A level 5 at Tell Brak (from OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997, fig. 108).

115 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 71.

116 - MALLOWAN 1947: p. 185 f., pl. XL.

117 - There are no examples in Middle Jazirah I B contexts at Tell Bderi; at Tell Brak, very few examples in Late Mittani contexts have been found, and only one of these examples came from an actual floor of level 2

(= Middle Jazirah I B) (see OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 75).

118 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 65.

119 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 75.

120 - STARR 1939: p. 401 ff., pl. 91/B-M, pl. 92/V-BB

121 - STARR 1939: p. 402, pl. 91/N-R, T-W, pl. 92/A-S.

*Red-slipped Ware*

This ware is very characteristic for the following period, Middle Jazirah I B (see below). For Middle Jazirah I A contexts, only few fragments have been recorded<sup>122</sup>.

*Red-edged Ware*

This ware is very typical for the succeeding period Middle Jazirah I B (see below). There are, however, some examples from Middle Jazirah I A contexts, especially at Tell Brak<sup>123</sup>. Within Middle-Jazirah I A, they start to appear more regularly in the second half of this period, but still in much lesser quantities than in the following period<sup>124</sup>.

Red-edged Ware is exclusively associated with flat bowls, either straight sided or carinated ones. The red paint is restricted to a narrow band on the inside, the outside and the top of the rim. Middle Jazirah I A examples are either sharply carinated with upright sides above the carination (no. 56; slipped only on the outside), or more softly carinated with nearly upright sides above the carination (no. 57; slipped on the inside and outside). The straight sided bowls have a slightly thickened rim either on the inside (no. 58) or on the outside (nos. 59 and 60), with the red slip equally distributed on the inside and the outside of the rim. The bases can be flat or in ring base shape.

*Khabur Wares*

The Khabur wares have a long tradition from the Old Jazirah I (around 2000 BC)<sup>125</sup> to the Middle Jazirah I B period (around 1270 BC). This coherent decorative pattern consists of painted horizontal stripes in dark-red or brown color, distributed in different positions and combinations above the body of the vessel. There are, however, chronological differences with regard to the arrangement of the painted decoration, the vessel shapes, and even the fabrics. Therefore, a distinction between Older and Younger Khabur Ware has long been suggested and is to be maintained<sup>126</sup>. In addition, a new variant is defined here, Transitional Khabur Ware, and another type, Painted Grain Measures, as a sub-type of Transitional Khabur Ware, is included. These wares are treated independently in the following:

*Older Khabur Ware*

The Older Khabur Ware is – as opposed to Younger Khabur Ware (see below) – a chaff-tempered ware<sup>127</sup>. Additionally, quartz, lime, or dark minerals can be added

as temper. The clay is red, the surface of the sherds is red to yellow, while the color of the paint is brown to dark-brown.

The decorative pattern of Older Khabur ware, which mainly appears on jars and bottles, is characterized by broad horizontal stripes and dark or hatched triangles arranged in rows. Often, the high neck is completely covered with a homogenous paint layer up to the rim.

The Older Khabur Ware is dominant in periods Old Jazirah I to III, while in Middle Jazirah times it is extremely rare. Only one example is recorded for Middle Jazirah I A contexts at Tell Brak (no. 61). It is a rounded pot with a painted decoration of broad horizontal bands and hatched triangles, large dots being inserted between the triangles.

One could tentatively argue that the production of Older Khabur Ware stopped at the end of the Old Jazirah period, the surviving examples in later contexts being either kept by the users or redeposited archaeologically.

*Transitional Khabur Ware*

Transitional Khabur Ware, as it is for the first time defined here, can be distinguished from Older Khabur ware by the way of decoration and by the vessel shapes and rim types. The decoration consists exclusively of horizontal stripes. They are rather thin and sometimes unevenly applied to the vessels resulting in an uneven width of the stripes. The typical triangles of the Older Khabur Ware are missing. Also the complete painting of the neck is not in use anymore. Instead, a small stripe is sometimes painted on the outside and on the inside or on the top of the rim (nos. 63, 64, 67, 68), as is usual for the contemporary Red-edged Ware (see above). The fabric, however, is similar to Older Khabur Ware and different from Younger Khabur Ware: the clay is generally chaff-tempered.

The forms are similar to common Mittani shapes. Pots with wide openings are the most common shape within this group. We find pots with a very wide opening, S-line sides and a slightly everted rim, with several stripes on the upper part of the body (no. 62). Other pots with a wide opening have a beak-like rim in an oblique position (no. 63). This is a very characteristic shape for the ordinary, unpainted Mittani pottery. A wide pot with a slight carination has a hammer-like lip, arranged horizontally to the outside of the rim (no. 64). Another carinated pot type has a rounded lip on the outside of the rim (no. 65).

Further, there are very characteristic wide pots with a high neck, which is visually separated from the body by a

122 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 74, fig. 110, fig. 204/518-519, 521.

123 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: fig. 187/135-136, 144-145, 147, 149, 150-152, fig. 188/155.

124 - *Ibid.*: p. 73, fig. 107.

125 - See DOHMANN-PFÄLZNER & PFÄLZNER 2002: p. 154, for the beginning of Khabur ware at the end of the 3rd mill. BC

126 - See the discussion in PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 38 and 46.

127 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 38-41, fig. 21.

groove (nos. 66, 67, 68, 69). Here, the horizontal stripes are located around the shoulder of the pot and additionally on its rim. A similar necked pot type occurs without groove on the shoulder (no. 70).

More closed pots have a hammer-like lip that is positioned obliquely on the outside of the rim (no. 71). Here, the stripes are arranged on the upper part of the body and on the rim.

A unique type found in this ware is a shouldered cup – a typical shape of the Mittani pottery – with a painted decoration of black triangles and dotted circles on the outside, while the inside has color splashes arranged in lines (no. 72). This is a rare example of a clear hybrid form with the decoration of the Older Khabur Ware and the shape of the Younger Khabur Ware. Stratigraphically, it falls early within the Middle Jazirah I A period (Tell Brak, level 6).

Chronologically, Transitional Khabur Ware is diagnostic for the Middle Jazirah I A period. As far as the evidence from Tell Bderi is concerned, the ware does not appear in the Middle Jazirah I B period.

#### *Painted Grain Measures*

The “Painted Grain Measures” are regarded as a subgroup of Transitional Khabur Ware. This group includes a series of vessels, which represent a distinctive type within the Middle Jazirah I A repertoire, although it is close to the “Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware” and the “Older Khabur Ware” in decorative patterns.

The shape of “grain measures” exists in the undecorated pottery as well (see above). Most of them have a biconical form with a rather low carination. They have a painted decoration on the outside, which is restricted to the upper half of the body and shows strictly geometric patterns. An example from Tell Brak has, between horizontal lines, a broad band of paint in bright red color leaving rows of triangular dotted fields open (no. 73)<sup>128</sup>. Of two examples from Tell Chagar Bazar, one is painted with horizontal lines, the other with crisscross stripes in black color (nos. 74, 75)<sup>129</sup>. Grain Measures from Tell Barri and Tell Mohammed Diyab are covered with series of horizontal stripes (nos. 76, 77). Alternating hanging and standing triangles in two rows are depicted on a grain measure from Brak (no. 78). Another characteristic decoration consists of a painted zigzag line on the flat top of the broad rim of the grain measure decorated on the outside with horizontal stripes (no. 79).

Mallowan’s often cited “prototype” of the Grain Measures from Tell Jidle is not painted but decorated with an incised decoration<sup>130</sup>. It belongs to Jidle Phase 3 and dates to the Old Jazirah III period, thus being slightly older than the Middle Jazirah I A period. It proves that the general shape of this type begins to appear before the Mittani period.

#### *Younger Khabur Ware*

Chronologically, the Younger Khabur Ware appears in both Middle Jazirah I A and I B contexts. Thus, it is principally later than the Older Khabur Ware, and it directly overlaps with the Transitional Khabur Ware during the Middle Jazirah I A period. In Middle Jazirah I B, when Transitional Khabur ware ends, it is the only variant of Khabur wares left.

Younger Khabur Ware is characterized by its fabric and its shapes. The clay is tempered with white lime grits<sup>131</sup>. Chaff is normally not (or only in small quantities) present, which distinguishes this ware clearly from Older and Transitional Khabur Ware. Additional components of the clay are quartz or dark minerals. The texture of the clay is fine to very fine, which supported the tendency to produce thin-walled vessels, which only rarely occur in the other Khabur wares. The matrix is in most cases red in color, occasionally it can be buff, green, gray or brown. The surface color is buff to reddish-buff. The color of the painted stripes is brown or reddish-brown.

There are two distinct shapes for Younger Khabur Ware: shouldered beakers and high beakers. The latter are also called “footed beakers”, due to the presence of either knob or button bases.

The shouldered beakers can have a slightly rounded body, a series of thin stripes at the belly and a broad band of paint below the rim (no. 80). More typical are shouldered beakers with a high neck, which is clearly separated from the body (nos. 81, 82, 83). The thin stripes can either be evenly distributed over the body (no. 81), or be concentrated on the belly in a group of three stripes (nos. 82 and 83). The bases of the shouldered beakers are mainly very small ring bases. Larger beakers, equally with small ring bases, can also show stripes on the lower part of the body (no. 84). The bases are sometimes so small that they can be designated as flat knob bases with concave bottom (no. 85). An unusual feature are painted lines on top of the broad rim of a shouldered beaker (no. 86).

128 - The example from Tell Brak (MALLOWAN 1947: pl. LXVII/19) is from level 3 in Area HH, which is paralleled by Oates with levels 6/7 (transition Late Old Babylonian/Early Mittani-Early Mitani) of the new excavations at HH (OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 35 f.) and datable within the Brak sequence to the late 16th cent. (= transitional Old Jazirah III/Middle Jazirah I A).

129 - The example no. 75 (MALLOWAN 1947: pl. LXXXI/7) comes from a grave at Tell Chagar Bazar belonging to the Late phase of level 1 (= Level I D), a stratum that dates to the beginning of the Middle Jazirah I A period (end of 16th cent./beginning of 15th cent.) (see fig. 3).

130 - MALLOWAN 1946: p. 148, fig. 10/13.

131 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 46, fig. 35.

The concave bottom is a distinctive feature of the Middle Jazirah I A period and is identical with the typical bases of unpainted shouldered beakers from Nuzi<sup>132</sup>, thus supporting the correlation Nuzi II-IV and Middle Jazirah I A (Fig. 2).

The high beakers have knob bases, which can either have a flat bottom (no. 87) or a concave bottom (nos. 88, 89, 90). The horizontal stripes on the rather cylindrical body of these beakers can be unevenly applied (no. 87), or carefully painted in groups of multiple thin stripes (no. 88) or single broader stripes (nos. 89 and 90).

#### *Nuzi Ware*

The white on black or white on red painted Nuzi Ware<sup>133</sup> is abundant both in Middle Jazirah I A and I B contexts. A clear differentiation of Middle Jazirah I A examples is so far only available from the Oates' excavations at Tell Brak<sup>134</sup>. As both Mallowan<sup>135</sup> and the Oates state, there is no formal or decorative development of Nuzi Ware during its existence. As will be argued below, however, there are some hints at a possible development of motives.

The fabric of Nuzi Ware<sup>136</sup> is similar to that of Younger Khabur Ware. It is most often tempered with lime. Additionally, quartz and dark minerals, and sometimes also chaff can appear. The clay is fine to very fine, thus enabling the throwing of very thin-walled vessels. The matrix color is in most cases red.

The most common shapes are high beakers and shouldered beakers. The motives, painted in white color, are predominantly geometric, sometimes floral and rarely figurative. Only few examples from Middle Jazirah I A contexts have a broad field of dark color as sub-surface for the white painted motives, like cat. no. 92. This arrangement of Nuzi Ware is more typical for the Middle Jazirah I B period (see below). More often, Nuzi beakers of Middle Jazirah I A date have several single dark bands onto which the white paint is applied, separated by zones free of paint (nos. 93, 94, 97, 98, 99, 100, 103). A zigzag-line covering more than one dark stripe can appear on these examples (no. 93). A very common motive for the Middle Jazirah I A period are the dotted circles (nos. 95, 98, 101, 102), which rarely appear in later contexts.

A characteristic motive for the Middle Jazirah I A Nuzi pottery are large scale rosette-like flowers with many leaves (nos. 96, 101).

Painted birds, similar in style to those of the Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware (see above), appear frequently on Middle Jazirah I A specimens of Nuzi Ware (nos. 104, 105, 106, 107). They are arranged on separate dark stripes at different heights of the body. This special variant of Nuzi Ware is connected to thicker walled and larger vessels than the non-figurative Nuzi Ware. Similar bird ornamented pieces of Nuzi Ware have been found at Tell Barri (nos. 108, 109, 110). The bird variant of Nuzi Ware is not completely unknown in Middle Jazirah I B (see below) but appears very rarely in the later period.

#### *Glazed ware*

The earliest known evidence for glazed pottery in the Syrian Jazirah – one of the regions where this technique was probably invented – comes from Middle Jazirah I A contexts, namely level 4 in Area HH at Tell Brak<sup>137</sup>.

#### *Typology of Middle Jazirah I B pottery*

##### *Undecorated Chaff-Tempered Ware*

The most common ware of the pottery is a medium to coarse chaff-tempered ware. It comprises 75% of all Middle Jazirah I B sherds from Tell Bderi<sup>138</sup>. Often (34%), no visible additional temper is added. Alternatively, there can be an addition of mineral temper, such as white lime grits or black minerals, or, less often, quartz and glimmer. The matrix clay colors vary from red to green, to a lesser extent brown and yellow. The inner and outer sides are more often greenish, less often red or yellow. The surface is generally wet-smoothed, carrying no slip or showing a "self slip".

Undecorated chaff tempered ware occurs at a large variety of different vessel shapes:

##### a) Bowls (nos. 111-127)

The bowls make up for 48% of all the Middle Jazirah I B form types at Tell Bderi<sup>139</sup>. They show a characteristic variety. The straight sided, conical bowls appear in very high quantities (41% of all bowls). Many of them have an un-accentuated rim without thickening (nos. 111 and 112). They have also a slightly thickened lip on the inside of the rim (no. 113), or, in fewer cases, on the outside of the rim (no. 114). The rounded bowls occur rarely (nos. 115, 116). More characteristic and quantitatively dominating among

132 - STARR 1939: pl. 77/A-P, R-S, pl. 78/A-O; all unpainted; there is with few exceptions (pl. 77/Q) no Younger Khabur Ware at Nuzi.

133 - For general discussions see: HROUDA 1957; CECCHINI 1965; STEIN 1984.

134 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 67 f., fig. 92 (MALLOWAN 1947: pl. LXXVI-LXXVIII did unfortunately not specify the stratigraphic situation of the published Nuzi Ware specimens from his excavations at Tell Brak, so that it cannot be decided which one comes from level 3, 2, or 1).

135 - MALLOWAN 1947: p. 238.

136 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 46 f., fig. 36.

137 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 72, fig. 203/498.

138 - For a complete quantitative statistic of the Middle Jazirah I B Mittani wares from Tell Bderi, see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 33-59 and 81, figs. 77-78.

139 - For a complete quantitative statistic of the shapes of the Middle Jazirah I B Mittani pottery from Tell Bderi, see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 81-105.

the bowls (48% of this class) are the carinated bowls. They can either be slightly carinated (upper part of the wall obliquely oriented) or strongly carinated (upper part of the wall vertical). The slightly carinated forms have in most cases an un-thickened rim (nos. 117, 118, 119). The carination itself can be accentuated in few cases by a sharp thickening (no. 120). The slightly carinated bowls can have a slightly thickened lip on the inside of the rim (no. 121), or a more thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 122).

The strongly carinated forms have equally in most cases an un-thickened rim (no. 123). Soft grooving on the outside of the upper part of the body can appear (no. 124). The upper part of the wall above the carination can also be thickened in a collar-like way (no. 125). Rounded bowls with incurving sides are a rare variant (only 2%) of the bowls (no. 126). Only slightly more frequent (6% of the bowls) are carinated forms with the upper part of wall inclined to the inside of the vessel (no. 127).

#### b) Deep bowls (nos. 128-136)

The deep bowls that make up for 13% of the Mittani shapes at Tell Bderi can be mainly subdivided into the carinated and the rounded types. The carinated deep bowls possess a short upper part of the wall above the carination. Their lip is often thickened to the inside and the outside of the rim (no. 128). A frequent variant of this class are deep bowls with a vertical wall (nos. 129, 130, 132, 133). They have an un-thickened rim (no. 129), a slightly thickened (no. 130) or a strongly thickened lip on the outside (no. 133). The outside of the wall can have a series of grooves below the thickened rim (no. 132).

The wall can also be rounded and slightly curving to the inside, with the vessel typologically still belonging to the open, unrestricted shapes. Thickened lips on the outside of the rim in an oblique orientation are characteristic for this sub-type (no. 131). Un-thickened rim variant with grooves below the rim exists, too (no. 134). A similar type of deep bowl has a slight carination on half height of the body and a slightly thickened rim (no. 135). More clearly carinated deep bowls have their carination higher up on the body, with the upper part of the wall inclined and ending in a strongly thickened lip on the inside and outside of the rim (no. 136). This type can appear in rather large vessels with a rim diameter of more than 60 cm. A stick-impressed band can be applied to the outside of the vessel.

#### c) Beakers (nos. 137-138)

Only few beakers are made of chaff-tempered ware. They include high beakers with thin vertical walls (no. 137) and carinated beakers with everted rims (no. 138).

#### d) Pots (nos. 139-141)

A very characteristic type of Middle Jazirah I B Mittani pottery is a rounded, nearly globular pot without neck. The rim frequently has a thickened lip on the outside, which is oriented obliquely (no. 139). In fewer cases, the globular pots can have a short vertical neck, eventually separated from the body with one or two grooves (no. 140). The neck can also be slightly inclined and sitting on a shoulder-like step (no. 141).

#### e) Bottles (nos. 142-146)

The bottles, comprising all restricted vessels with a narrow opening, often have short vertical necks with a slightly thickened lip (no. 142) or a thick rounded lip on the outside of the rim (no. 143). The lip can also be hammer-like, and a ring can appear at the base of the neck (no. 144). Some bottles have no neck, but a strongly thickened rectangular rim attached rather directly to the rounded wall of the globular jar (no. 145). The same shape can also be connected with a slightly thickened, rounded lip on the outside of the rim (no. 146).

#### f) Potstands (nos. 147-148, 153, 154)

The potstands include surprisingly a very significant Middle Jazirah I B type. These are the so-called "pie crust potstands", a cylindrical potstand with an undulating rim on one side, created by regular finger impressions (no. 147). They are prominent in the level 2 Mittani palace at Tell Brak, too (no. 153 and 154). Apart from this type there are concave potstands with multiple ribbed rims at both Tell Bderi (no. 148) and Tell Brak<sup>140</sup>. Fenestrated potstands are frequently recorded at Tell Brak<sup>141</sup>.

#### g) Storage jars (nos. 155-157)

In the level 2 palace at Tell Brak, a large number of well preserved big storage jars were found. There are ovoid shapes without neck and a wide lip (no. 156), and rounded shapes with a short neck and a high lip (no. 157). A specific type of storage vessels has a low globular body, decorated with rope imitations, and a wide opening with a hammer-like rim (no. 155).

#### *Undecorated Mineral-Tempered Wares*

Besides the chaff-tempered ware, lime-tempered wares (13%), quartz-tempered wares (8%) and black mineral-tempered wares (4%), where organic inclusions are absent, have only a minor significance within the Middle Jazirah I B Mittani ceramic repertoire. A large number of

140 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: figs. 217/685, 681.

141 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: figs. 217/680-687, 689, 691.

varieties concerning the mineral composition of the clay is recorded, accompanied by a large variety of clay colors, from red to yellow to green, or brown. Un-slipped surfaces and self-slips predominate in these wares that are all, as the chaff-tempered ware, thrown on the potter's wheel.

Beakers are the most remarkable shape within these wares. They are mostly made of a fine mineral-tempered clay, with quartz, lime, or black minerals prevailing as inclusions. Probably the most prominent Mittani beaker is the high beaker with nearly vertical, thin walls and an un-accentuated rim. It ends in a high knob-foot with a prominent widening at the base. The bottom side of the base is mainly flat in the Middle Jazirah I B period (nos. 158-160, 167-173). Shouldered beakers are the second significant type, with different body forms. There are beakers with a low, un-accentuated shoulder and a wide neck (no. 161), beakers with a sharply restricted, high sitting shoulder and a narrow neck (no. 162), and – as a rare form – beakers with a soft, S-shaped shoulder and a short neck (no. 163). Shouldered beakers can have different kinds of bases: button-bases are usual, which could either be very flat (nos. 164, 165) or more rounded (no. 166). A flat button-base, which is hollow on the inside, provides the exception (no. 163).

#### *Cooking Pot Wares*

Cooking pot wares occupy a significant place in the Mittani repertoires, at Tell Bderi they make up 5,5% of all sherds in the Middle Jazirah I B levels. They are characterized by a prominent, big-sized calcite temper, the single pieces being 2 to 4 mm in diameter, which decisively increases the heat resistance of the vessels. Six different types of cooking pot ware can be differentiated in the Middle Jazirah I B period on the basis of varying clay compositions: there is calcite temper with chaff, calcite temper with big lime grits, calcite temper with mica, calcite temper with black minerals, calcite temper with big lime grits and black minerals, and calcite temper without additional components<sup>142</sup>. The color of the matrix, as well as the color of inner and outer surface, is in most cases red or, less often, brown. The surfaces are often burnished or simply wet-smoothed, while polishing is rare.

There is one characteristic vessel shape for Mittani cooking pot ware, a pot with a rounded, globular body and no neck (nos. 174-178). The lip can be thickened on the outside and the inside of the rim (no. 174), or there can be a small rounded lip (no. 175) or a thick rounded lip at the outside of the rim (no. 176). Very typical is a large, shoe-shaped lip, standing in an oblique position at the outside of

the rim (nos. 177, 179). Most of the cooking pots have a rim diameter of 20 to 30 cm, some rare examples are much smaller in size (no. 178).

#### *Incised Ware*

Incised decorations are frequent in Middle Jazirah I B Mittani pottery. In most cases they are incised with a single pointed instrument, as opposed to the combed decoration of the earlier, Old Jazirah periods. The same clays as for the undecorated wares have been used, first of all chaff-tempered ware (e.g. nos. 181 to 184), but also mineral-tempered wares (e.g. no. 180).

The most frequent decoration pattern consists of a wavy incised line inserted between horizontal incised lines (nos. 180, 181, 183, 184). Less often one sees several wavy lines inserted between sets of horizontal lines (no. 182). The vessel shapes comprise deep bowls with nearly vertical walls and large, hammer-shaped (no. 180) or shoe-shaped lips (no. 181) on the outside of the rim, or neckless pots with rounded walls (nos. 183 and 184), not much different in overall form from the deep bowls. The rounded pots have a large rectangular lip (no. 183) or an oblique, shoe-shaped lip on the outside of the rim (no. 184). Another form is represented by a high pot with conical walls (no. 182), which has the same typical Mittani obliquely oriented, shoe-shaped lip.

An exceptional piece of incised ware was found in the level 2 Mittani palace at Tell Brak (no. 185). It is a narrow bottle with a high neck and a handle. The whole body is covered with an incised decoration consisting of successive rows of stylized flowers and scrolls (Fig. 8).

#### *Red-edged Ware*

The Red-edged Ware is one of the most significant wares for the Middle Jazirah I B period, although it already exists – in lesser quantities – in Middle Jazirah I A contexts (see above). In Middle Jazirah I B levels at Tell Bderi, it makes up 1,1% of all sherds<sup>143</sup>. It is recorded from most other Middle Jazirah I B sites, like Tell Brak<sup>144</sup> (nos. 191 to 194), Tell Fekheriyeh<sup>145</sup>, Tell Mohammed Diyab<sup>146</sup>, etc. It is even present in Western Syria, for example in 14th cent. BC contexts at Tell Mishrifeh/Qatna<sup>147</sup>, which shows its wide geographical distribution in association with a rather limited chronological extension.

The clay is tempered with a high quantity of chaff. Additionally, black minerals are added in most cases, or – more rarely – lime grits and mica. The matrix color is

142 - Designated as wares 44 to 49 at Tell Bderi; see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 50-53, fig. 41-46, and p. 81, fig. 77-78.

143 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 37 f. (ware 8), figs. 20 and 77.

144 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 73.

145 - HROUDA 1961: p. 221, fig. 15b.

146 - BACHELOT *et al.* 1990: fig. 19/1.

147 - NOVÁK & PFÄLZNER 2003.

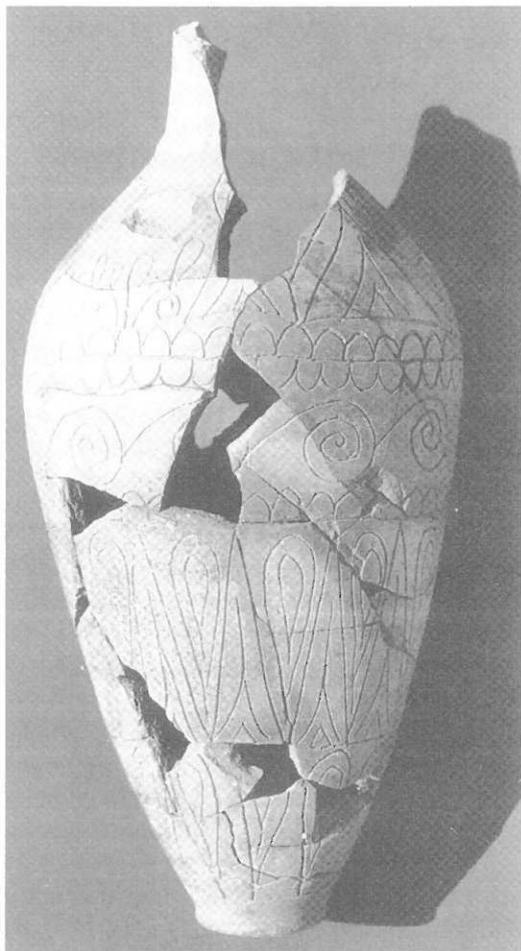


Fig. 8 - Elaborately decorated pot of Incised Ware from Middle Jazirah I B level 2 at Tell Brak (from OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997, fig. 114).

predominantly red, the inside and the outside surfaces are equally red, but with a lighter shade. The characteristic feature of this ware is a red paint on the edge of flat bowls. It can be applied to the inside of the rim, to the outside of the rim, or in varying width to both the inside and the outside. The top of the rim is also covered by the paint. This red paint can vary from dark red to red-brown or light-brown<sup>148</sup>. The painted part is often burnished.

Flat bowls with straight, conical walls are the only existing shape for red-edged ware. They have ring-bases (nos. 186, 191, 192, 193), or flat bases (no. 194). The rim is either un-accentuated (nos. 186, 192) or has a slightly thickened lip on the outside (nos. 187, 194) or on the inside of the rim (nos. 188, 189). Exceptionally, a smaller, slightly

carinated bowl type can appear (no. 190). The carination can be associated with a groove (no. 191).

#### *Red-slipped Ware*

Red-slipped Ware, as defined here, is distinct from Red-edged Ware primarily through its clay composition. The clay is not tempered with chaff, but contains black minerals in low quantities and small grain sizes. Occasionally lime grits or mica can appear in small quantities and grain sizes, as well<sup>149</sup>. Thus, this class is a fine ware, with often thin walls. A red slip is applied either to the whole vessel or to parts of it on the inside or on the outside. The paint can also be restricted to a wide band along the rim of bowls, similar to the pattern of the decoration of the straight-sided conical bowls of the Red-edged Ware (see above), but it is distinguishable from the latter through the characteristic fine clay composition, the thin walls, and the carinated or rounded shape of these bowls. The red color of the paint is very strong and shining, ranging from dark red to red-brown<sup>150</sup>, in many cases having been burnished or polished.

The vessel forms of Red-slipped Ware show a great variety: as mentioned above, bowls appear in this ware, too. There are small flat bowls with slightly curved walls (no. 195) and deeper, perfectly rounded bowls (no. 196). In these examples, only the rim is covered with a red slip. Another rounded bowl is completely red-slipped (no. 198). A slightly carinated small bowl is red-painted with a wide strip on the inside and the outside of the upper part (no. 197), another slightly carinated bowl is completely red-slipped (no. 202). Strongly carinated bowls with vertical upper walls can be completely or nearly completely red-slipped (nos. 199, 200, 201, 203). An unusual type is a rounded beaker with a slightly thickened lip on the inside of the rim, which is completely red-slipped on the outside and only partially slipped at the lip on the inside (no. 204). Bottles with a narrow, high neck are red-slipped only on the outside (no. 205).

At Tell Brak, bottles with a red slip are characteristic for the level 2 destruction in the palace (nos. 206-210). The fabric is different from the type described above in the sense that the red-slipped bottles are heavily tempered with chaff<sup>151</sup>. The bottles are often but not always vertically burnished. The shapes include elongated bottles with a very narrow, short neck and a handle on the shoulder (no. 206), wider, rounded bottles with a handle and a strong neck (no. 207) and very slender bottles with narrow neck, handle and a widening around the shoulder (no. 208). In addition, there are slender pyriform bottles with an open conical

148 - The most frequent colors are: Munsell 10 R 4/8; 10 R 4/6; 10 R 5/8; 10 R 5/6.

149 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 53 f., fig. 53 (ware 56).

150 - The most frequent colors are: Munsell 10 R 4/6; 10 R 4/8, 10 R 5/6; 10 R 5/8

151 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 74.

neck and having no handle (nos. 209, 210). At Tell Brak, Area HH it is evident that red-slipped bottles are most frequent in the Middle Jazirah I B level 2, while they are far less numerous in the Middle Jazirah I A levels<sup>152</sup>. Red-slipped ware is, therefore, not exclusively belonging to the Middle Jazirah I B period, but a very characteristic type of this period.

#### *Older and Transitional Khabur Ware*

Older and Transitional Khabur Ware do not normally occur in Middle Jazirah I B contexts, and seem not to have been produced anymore. Still, there can be an occasional occurrence of sherds of Older and Transitional Khabur ware in Middle Jazirah I B levels, either due to redeposited sherds or to the continued use of older vessels. Single specimens of Older Khabur ware in Middle Jazirah I B levels at Tell Bderi, a site where no Old Jazirah and no Middle Jazirah I A occupations exist, prove that these must stem from individual vessels still in use during this time<sup>153</sup> (no. 211).

#### *Younger Khabur Ware*

The Younger Khabur Ware is the single variant of Khabur wares that is characteristic for the Middle Jazirah I B period. Its clay composition and technical features have been described above. They are constant for both Middle Jazirah I A and I B. The painted pattern shows exclusively a regular distribution of smaller and wider horizontal stripes (nos. 212 to 220).

Younger Khabur ware occurs only on beakers. There are rounded beakers (no. 212) and high beakers (nos. 213, 220). The latter normally have high knob bases (nos. 216, 219, 220). Additionally, there are shouldered beakers, which can have a flat button-base (nos. 214, 215). Very slightly indicated nipple-bases appear as well, which can belong to rounded or shouldered beakers (no. 217).

#### *Nuzi Ware*

Nuzi Ware is continuously in use beginning in the Middle Jazirah I A period<sup>154</sup>. It is definitely better known from Middle Jazirah I B contexts, but it remains to be seen if this reflects an actual quantitative development or if this picture depends on the current state of research.

A vague distinction of motives and decorative schemes of Nuzi Ware between Middle Jazirah I A and I B begins to solidify through recent excavations at Tell Brak, Tell Bderi and Tell Baydar (see above). Several typical decorations of

Middle Jazirah I A Nuzi Ware cease to appear in Middle Jazirah I B time, for example the bird motive<sup>155</sup>, the large-sized rosette, and the dotted circles as filler motives. Instead, the decoration scheme tends to develop from the older kind of arrangement of the painted motives on a series of separate dark bands, typical for the Middle Jazirah I A types, to a younger kind of composition with a single black background field and a large-scale arrangement of painted motives covering nearly the whole vessel. The latter kind is dominant during the Middle Jazirah I B period (nos. 221-225, 227, 233-240, 245). Of course, this observation reflects a stylistical development and a quantitative tendency, not an abrupt change or replacement of style.

These large-scale decorative fields are best to be applied to high beakers, which is why this form type is most abundant in Middle Jazirah I B Nuzi Ware. They are very thin-walled and have no thickening at the lip. The high beakers always have the long knob-foot with an accentuated widening at the base and a flat bottom side of the base, which is generally typical for the Middle Jazirah I B beakers (nos. 221-225, 228, 233, 243). Rounded beakers with thin walls, or sometimes slightly thicker walls, and a beaded rim or a flaring neck are a less frequent variant of Nuzi Ware (nos. 227, 241, 246, 247).

The most frequent individual motives integrated in the large painted fields are dotted fish-scales (nos. 225, 231, 247), interconnected spirals (no. 232), symmetrical volutes (no. 223), ellipsoid lenses with attached half circles (no. 229), dotted spherical fields (nos. 234-237), hatched circles or stripes (nos. 229, 230), and stylized leaves (nos. 222, 224, 233, 239, 240). The complete decorative fields of Nuzi Ware represent either homogenous fields of a single continuous motive (nos. 225, 247), an additive and regular geometrical pattern (nos. 234, 235), or a large scale combination of stylized plants (nos. 222, 224, 239, 240).

An exceptional piece is a large, thick wall jar from the Tell Brak Mittani Palace painted in Nuzi style which shows three different registers of decoration: a double-guilloche band, a row of walking bulls or goats, and a row of stylized palm trees and mountains (no. 248).

#### *Açana Ware*

The so called Açana ware, a term created by Woolley, is a special sub-type of Nuzi Ware, which occurs – in association with normal Nuzi ware – exclusively in level II at Tell Açana/ Alalakh<sup>156</sup>. It is characterized by a Nuzi-style white on dark painted decoration, but the very characteristic motives consist of stylized papyrus and lotus plants, both

152 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 74, fig. 110.

153 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 38 f., fig. 21, pl. 66 e.i. (ware 10).

154 - For ware composition and technical features of Nuzi Ware, see above.

155 - There is one example for an eventual Middle Jazirah I B bird motive at Tell Bderi (PFÄLZNER 1995: pl. 66/m), but the fragmented scene is not surely to be identified as the representation of a bird.

156 - WOOLLEY 1955: p. 348.

mounted on double-axe shaped bases and interconnected by hanging garlands in the shape of water-streams<sup>157</sup>. This type is geographically strongly connected with the site of Aana/Alalakh and seems to be a special stylistic invention at this place, demonstrating a strong resemblance to Late Minoan floral style.

Aana ware is absent at both Tell Brak and Nuzi, as well as on most other sites of the Syrian Jazirah. One of the very few specimens of Aana ware in the Jazirah was found at Tell Baydar, in the rooms of a Mittani house<sup>158</sup>. It is a globular small pot with a wide opening, a shape very characteristic for Aana ware at Alalakh (no. 249). The decoration consists of a row of alternating stylized rounded papyrus plants and palmettes, interconnected with hanging garlands that consist of a double line and an internal dotted line. The vessel is so similar to the examples from Alalakh that it seems possible that the object originated in Northwestern Syria and was imported from there to the Jazirah.

The Tell Baydar Aana ware pot is associated with a typical Middle Jazirah I B repertoire, so that a clear date within this period is indicated for the Aana ware pot. This is important dating evidence that supports a chronological correlation between Middle Jazirah I B and Alalakh II (see Fig. 2).

#### *Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware*

This ware is not known from any clearly stratified Middle Jazirah I B contexts. It is, therefore, an important chronological indicator (see above).

#### *Grey Burnished Ware*

Grey Burnished Ware is also characteristic for the Middle Jazirah I A period (see above). As far as Middle Jazirah I B contexts are concerned, this ware has not been identified at Tell Bderi and is known from Tell Brak only in one clearly stratified example from a floor of level 2<sup>159</sup>.

#### *White Paste Inlay Ware/Impressed Ware*

The White Paste Inlay Ware, which is very seldom at Jazirah sites in general, is a distinctive Middle Jazirah I A feature as can be demonstrated at Tell Brak (see above). At Tell Bderi, a single fragment of White Paste Inlay Ware was found, unfortunately in an unstratified archaeological context (no. 250). Because no Middle Jazirah I A occupation is known at this site, it might have been originally part of a Middle Jazirah I B systemic context. The fragment has impressed and white inlaid triangles on top of the broad rim.

Additionally, there are impressed and inlaid triangles on the outside of the vessel immediately below the rim (Fig. 9). The sherd came from a deep bowl with vertical walls and a hammer-like rim typical for the Mittani pottery.

A sherd of an impressed ware without white paste inlay is known from a Middle Jazirah I B level at Tell Bderi (no. 251). The impressions consist of one row of three-quarter-circles with a central dot and a second row of open



Fig. 9 - Sherd of White Paste Inlay Ware from an unstratified context at Tell Bderi.



Fig. 10 - Sherd of Impressed Ware from Middle Jazirah I B level 3-4 (northern area) at Tell Bderi.

157 - WOOLLEY 1955: pl. CII: a; CIII: a,f; CV: ATP/47/73 and ATP/39/86; CVII: b, and ATP 247, ATP 282.

158 - BRETSCHNEIDER 1997b: p. 231, fig. 1, pl. II/2.

159 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: p. 75, fig. 112.

ovals with multiple internal dots (Fig. 10). The fabric is very similar to Grey Burnished Ware, a coarse chaff-tempered clay of black color with additional lime inclusions. The surface is burnished on the inside and the outside and of dark-red color.

#### *Glazed ware*

While the earliest examples of glazed pottery are known from Middle Jazirah I A contexts (see above), a clear increase in the frequency of glazed ware can be observed for the Middle Jazirah I B period. Especially in the level 2 Mittani Palace at Tell Brak – a clearly elite context –, a large number of glazed vessels were found. The basic color of the glaze is turquoise-blue due to copper as the main coloring agent. Among the shapes of Middle Jazirah I B glazed pottery are small shouldered jars (no. 252), and ovoid bottles with a narrow and high neck (nos. 253 and 254).

#### *Imported wares*

##### *Mycenaean pottery*

Imported Mycenaean pottery is rare in the Syrian Jazirah. One example is recorded from Tell Brak (no. 255): a fragment of a stirrup jar of a stylistic Late Helladic IIIB date (beginning of 13th cent. BC)<sup>160</sup>. It was found as a re-used fragment on a Middle Assyrian floor directly above the Mittani Palace, but might stem originally from the Palace context<sup>161</sup>. It is not of Mycenaean mainland origin but might have been produced as an imitation somewhere in the Levant<sup>162</sup>.

##### *Cypriot White Slip Ware*

In the recent excavations at Tell Fekheriyeh a fragment of a Cypriot Milk Bowl of White Slip Ware was found (no. 256)<sup>163</sup>. It is the painted fragment of a wishbone type of handle that is probably to be attributed to the White Slip II tradition. Unfortunately, the piece is unstratified at Tell Fekheriyeh, nevertheless giving a hint at the exchange of Jazirah sites with the West.

#### *Typology of Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery*

During the Middle Jazirah II period, two contemporary pottery traditions can be distinguished. They are differentiated typologically based on different functional

contexts. The first and most abundantly attested tradition is the so-called “Middle Assyrian administrative pottery”<sup>164</sup>. This significant kind of pottery was found at a number of Middle Assyrian provincial centers in the Syrian Jazirah, such as Tell Shaikh Hamad/Dur-katlimmu, Tell Ashamsani/ Qatni (?), Tell Ajaja/Shadikanni, Tell Ta‘ban/ Tabetu, Tell Barri/Kakhat, Tell al-Hamidiya/Ta‘idu (?), Tell Amuda/Kulishkhinas, Tell Chuera/Kharbe, and Tell Sabi Abiad.<sup>165</sup> At most of these places, the pottery was found within official administrative buildings, and can thus be directly associated with the activities of the provincial administration. It is exactly the same kind of pottery that is known from the Assyrian political centers at Ashur and Kar-Tukulti-Ninurta<sup>166</sup>, so that one can assume that the Assyrian provincial administration brought the specific pottery production principles with them to the provinces. As can be proven through chemical analyses, the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery was produced locally at the different provincial centers<sup>167</sup>.

The second pottery tradition, contemporary to Middle Assyrian administrative pottery in the Jazirah, is the “Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery”<sup>168</sup>. This kind of pottery can be found in non-official contexts and buildings of domestic character. It is known from only a few sites in the Jazirah, due to the concentration of archaeological activities on large, official buildings of the Middle Assyrian period. At the provincial center of Tell Shaikh Hamad/Dur-katlimmu, Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery was found in area L, immediately outside of the Middle Assyrian administrative building<sup>169</sup>. Additionally, domestic pottery was found at the small Middle Jazirah II village site of Khirbet esh-Shennef<sup>170</sup>. Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery is – as a consequence of the complete synchronism – generally similar to the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery, but differs from it typologically and in the quantitative appearance of types.

#### *a. The Middle Assyrian administrative pottery*

The Middle Assyrian administrative pottery – though principally homogenous within the Middle Assyrian period – underwent a continuous and subtle typological development that gets especially visible in the quantitative analysis of pottery assemblages from Tell Shaikh Hamad in connection with the fine stratigraphical ordering of the material from the Middle Assyrian administrative building (see Fig. 3). This enables a differentiation of the pottery from Tell Shaikh Hamad into the developmental phases

160 - FRENCH 1997: p. 79, fig. 118.

161 - OATES, OATES & McDONALD 1997: fig. 31 (locus 220), fig. 210/603.

162 - FRENCH 1997: p. 79.

163 - PRUSS & BAGDO 2002: p. 325, fig. 6/d.

164 - As defined by PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 106.

165 - See PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 241 f., fig. 140.

166 - See PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 212-215.

167 - See PFÄLZNER 1993: p. 82 f., tab. 39-41.

168 - As defined by PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 161.

169 - See PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 161 ff.

170 - See PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 193 ff.

Middle Assyrian I, II a, II b and II c. Phase mA I can be attributed to the Middle Jazirah II A period, while phases mA IIa-IIc are subsumed under the Middle Jazirah II B period. The typological development of Middle Assyrian administrative pottery continues uninterrupted into phase mA III – attested at Tell Bderi – which is dated to the Middle Jazirah III period (see below). The differences between the single phases within the Middle Jazirah II period are mainly based on changing quantitative frequencies of many types<sup>171</sup>. The typology of periods Middle Jazirah II A and II B will, therefore, be described together in the following paragraphs.

*“Middle Assyrian Standard Ware”  
and other chaff-tempered ware*

The “Middle Assyrian Standard Ware” is highly standardized in fabric and technological features<sup>172</sup>. It is by far the most frequent Middle Assyrian ware during all phases, with a percentage of up to 64% of all sherds (in mA I). It has a middle-coarse to coarse chaff temper with nearly no additional temper, except some inclusions of lime grits, quartz or black minerals in minor quantities. The vessels are wet-smoothed, either without slip or with a self-slip. The color of the matrix is red, green or dark, the surfaces having the same colors in lighter variations. Besides the homogenous Standard Ware, there are a number of heterogeneous variations of chaff-tempered ware with a higher amount of additional mineral temper, first of all black minerals<sup>173</sup>.

The vessels of Middle Assyrian Standard Ware, like of the other chaff-tempered wares, have been rather carelessly produced on the wheel with various signs of irregularity and asymmetry visible on the vessel body (Fig. 11). Tiny clay lumps have often been left on the outside or the inside of the vessel, showing that the wet-smoothing was executed imprecisely. This indicates that the principle of pottery production was oriented towards a quick and careless mass production<sup>174</sup>.

There are three mass forms of vessels that have been produced in large quantities, mainly using Standard Ware. These are the “Standard Carinated Bowls”, the “Standard Carinated Cups” and the “Standard Bottles”. Taken together, these three types constitute (in phase mA I) 57,5% of all shapes in the Middle Assyrian assemblages. An overview of the standard types and the other variations of Middle Assyrian administrative pottery is presented in the following<sup>175</sup>.

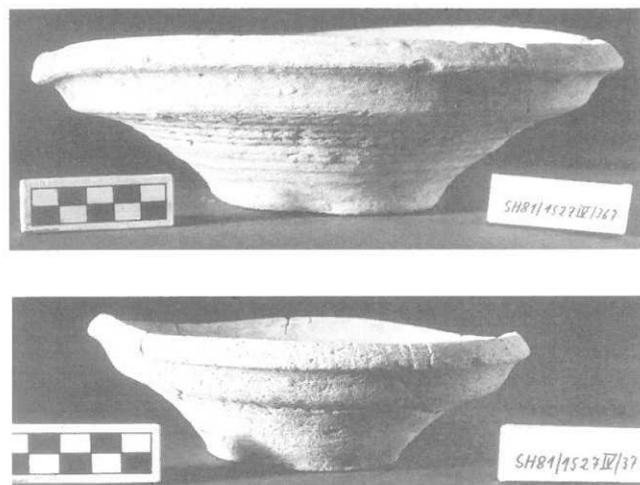


Fig. 11 - Two examples of Middle Assyrian Standard Carinated Bowls from the Middle Jazirah II A/B building P at Tell Shaikh Hamad (from PFÄLZNER 1997, fig. 11a and 11b).

a) Bowls (nos. 257-270)

The bowls, including Standard Carinated Bowls and all other bowl types, are the most abundant of all form classes of Middle Assyrian pottery. Nearly every second Middle Assyrian vessel is a bowl. Probably, this is a consequence of specific functions of bowls within the Middle Assyrian administrative contexts, for example the distribution of food rations.

Conical bowls (nos. 257, 258, 260) with straight side walls have either an un-accentuated rim (no. 258) or a slightly to more obviously thickened lip on the inside and outside of the rim (nos. 257, 260). The percentage of conical bowls doubles between phases mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) and mA II (Middle Jazirah II B).

Rounded bowls are much less frequent, but their percentage increases with time. They have either un-accentuated rims or a slightly thickened lip on the outside.

Slightly carinated bowls are by far the most frequent type of bowls. They are designated as “Middle Assyrian Standard Carinated Bowls” (nos. 259, 261-269; Fig. 11). They are characterized by an un-thickened rim and a slightly concave wall above the carination. While in phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) they constitute nearly the totality of bowls, they continuously decrease in frequency over time, forming only half of the totality of bowls starting with phase mA IIb (Middle Jazirah II B). There are even more subtle variations of the lip form observable through the different Middle Assyrian phases<sup>176</sup>. For example, while the

171 - For details see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 128-161, fig. 115-118/d.

172 - For the definition of this ware (Shaikh Hamad ware 1) see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 128 f. and 245.

173 - These are mainly Shaikh Hamad wares 2, 3, 12, 14; see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 129-131, fig. 115.

174 - PFÄLZNER 1997.

175 - For more details and quantitative data see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 132-161.

176 - For a detailed assessment of the development of the Standard Carinated Bowls see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 132 f.

section of the lip is evenly rounded in phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) (nos. 259, 261-263), the lip is more often triangular (nos. 266, 267, 268) or rectangular in section (no. 269) during phase mA IIa (Middle Jazirah II B). Standard Carinated Bowls can have ring bases or flat bases.

Other types of carinated bowls lack the concave outline of the wall above the carination, but have a slightly thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 270), or reflect other variations of wall and lip.

#### b) Deep bowls (nos. 271-274)

Deep bowls have a low frequency during all Middle Assyrian pottery phases. Deep bowls with conical walls increase continuously in number from phase mA I to mA IIc. Very characteristic for phase mA IIc (Middle Jazirah II B) is a strongly thickened lip on the inside and the outside of the rim (no. 271). Rounded deep bowls are found mainly during phases mA IIb and IIc (Middle Jazirah II B).

Deep bowls with (nearly) vertical walls are the most frequent Middle Assyrian type of deep bowls (nos. 272, 273, 274). Strongly thickened lips on the outside of the rim are especially characteristic for the older phases mA I (nos. 272, 273) and mA IIa. A strong thickening of the lip inside and outside of the rim (no. 274) starts to appear in phases mA IIb and IIc (Middle Jazirah II B).

#### c) Cups (nos. 275-280)

With only few exceptions the cups represent the type of the "Middle Assyrian Standard Carinated Cup" (nos. 275-280). This type is especially dominant within the cups during the older phases mA I and IIa. Typologically, these cups are very similar to the "Standard Carinated Bowls". Their rim diameter is – by definition – limited to a maximum of 11 cm, so that the proportions of the Standard Carinated Cups are more compressed and generally higher. They often have a rather low carination, with a concave wall above it. During the phase mA I the majority of examples has either rounded rims (nos. 275-277, 280) or rims getting thinner at the lip (nos. 278, 279). The bases are flat (nos. 275, 276, 278, 279) or disk-like (no. 280). In the same way as the "Standard Carinated Bowls" (see above), many "Standard Carinated Cups" have been produced rather carelessly resulting in an asymmetrical shape (no. 277). There are slight lip variations during the Middle Jazirah II B period<sup>177</sup>.

#### d) Beakers (nos. 281-285)

Beakers are in the Middle Assyrian pottery – as opposed to the Mittani pottery (see above) – often manufactured

from chaff-tempered ware, especially "Standard Ware". Shouldered beakers with an S-shaped short neck and a wide opening can be frequently found among the chaff-tempered beakers (nos. 281, 282). A type very significant for phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) is a globular beaker with a rounded, thick-walled base (nos. 283-285). It has no neck, but a vertical un-thickened rim sitting directly on top of the rounded side wall. Between rim and body there is a thin groove.

#### e) Pots (nos. 286-290)

Pots are generally very rare in Middle Assyrian pottery of all phases. There are conical pots (no. 286), restricted to phases mA IIa and IIb (Middle Jazirah II B). They have a straight upper side of the wall slightly bent inside with no neck but a wide opening with an un-accentuated rim. There can be grooves and ribs on the outside. An impressed decoration can be applied to ribs on the upper half of the body (no. 286).

More frequent than the conical pots are rounded neckless pots (nos. 287-289). They can have a thickened and grooved lip on the outside of the rim (no. 287). Neckless rounded pots can also have "rolled-over" rims (no. 288), which are especially typical for the pots of phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A). Large neckless rounded pots can have strongly thickened lips on the outside of the rim and an impressed rib on the upper half of the body (no. 289). Some rounded pots have very short necks and a thickened lip on the outside (no. 290), a type only occurring in phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A).

#### f) Bottles (nos. 291-306)

Bottles outnumber the pots enormously and are the favorite Middle Assyrian medium-sized storage and transport containers. Bottles with a high and narrow neck (nos. 291, 292) are especially characteristic for the phase mA IIc (Middle Jazirah II B). They have slightly thickened lips on the outside of the rim and can have a thin groove at the shoulder (no. 292).

The majority of Middle Assyrian bottles are neck-less. The largest group among them is designated as "Middle Assyrian Standard Bottles" (nos. 293-302). They have an elongated, slender body (e.g. no. 293) with a narrow but thickened base (nos. 300-302). The rim sits – without neck – vertically directly on top of the side wall. The rims are always rolled-over and thus have a collar-like shape. The frequency of Standard Bottles reaches its maximum in phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) (57% of all bottles), and declines slightly during phase mA II (Middle Jazirah II B) (43% to 30 % of all bottles).

There are different lip variations, which are sometimes chronologically indicative. In phases mA I and IIa the short rounded (no. 294), the elongated rounded (no. 293) and the oval lip variant (nos. 295, 296, 297) are dominant. The elongated rounded lip variant appears only in phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A)<sup>178</sup>. The short rounded lip variant becomes rare in phase mA IIb and is absent in phase mA IIc (both Middle Jazirah II B), while the oval lip variant remains and gets even more popular from phase mA IIb to mA IIc (Middle Jazirah II B). During phase mA IIb (Middle Jazirah II A), an elongated lip variant with a nearly rectangular section gets prominent (no. 298). A biconical lip variant (no. 299) appears only in phases mA I and IIb.

The narrow bases of Standard Bottles can either be flat (no. 300) or can have a broad (no. 301) or smaller ring (no. 302).

Besides the Standard Bottles there are other neck-less bottles, which do not have a rolled-over rim. Particularly striking are the bottles with S-profile rim on the outside (nos. 303, 304), which appear in all Middle Assyrian phases. Less frequent types are small bottles with a narrow, funnel-shaped neck and a thin lip (no. 305) and bottles with a wider, but short neck and a thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 306).

#### g) Storage vessels (no. 307)

Big storage vessels are extremely rare during all phases of Middle Assyrian pottery. Most of them have nearly vertical walls and a very high, rectangular thickened rim (no. 307).

#### h) Potstands (no. 308)

The typical Middle Assyrian potstands have concave walls and thickened lips at the bottom and the top rims, which are triangular in section (no. 308). Pie-crust potstands, so characteristic for the Mittani pottery (see above), are absent in the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery.

### *Undecorated Fine Chaff-Tempered Ware*

Fine Chaff-Tempered Ware is relatively rare in the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery (between 7 and 12% in the different phases of Middle Jazirah II A and II B)<sup>179</sup>. It has been used mainly for smaller, thin-walled vessels, predominantly beakers, and to a lesser extent bowls and cups.

Thin-walled conical bowls have very thin or medium thin walls, with an un-accentuated rim (nos. 309, 310). There are also thin-walled rounded bowls with a slight groove below the un-accentuated rim (no. 311). Thin-walled carinated bowls with a slightly concave upper wall

have a lip that gets thinner at the end (no. 312). A small, extremely thin-walled conical cup has a thickened lip on the inside of the rim (no. 313). Thin-walled carinated cups of Fine Chaff Ware are very close in shape to the Standard Carinated Cups of Standard Ware (no. 314).

The beakers are the most prominent form class of Fine Chaff-Tempered Ware. The high beakers can either have a button base (no. 315) or a nipple base (nos. 316, 317), the latter being the most distinctive base type of beakers in the Middle Assyrian pottery. Both bases variations appear in all phases of Middle Assyrian pottery. The second common type of Middle Assyrian Fine Chaff Ware beakers are the shouldered beakers with thin walls and an un-accentuated rim (nos. 318, 319). They also have often nipple-bases (no. 318), but button bases appear on this beaker type, as well (nos. 320, 321).

Other vessel shapes, like neckless bottles (no. 322), are very rarely associated with Fine Chaff-Tempered Ware.

### *Undecorated Mineral-Tempered Ware*

Mineral-Tempered Ware without a prominent chaff-tempering appears in very low frequencies in Middle Assyrian pottery. For example, in phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) it covers only 2% of the whole pottery, and this is not much different during the following Middle Jazirah II B period.

Many of the vessels of Mineral-Tempered Ware are bowls. There are slightly rounded bowls with un-accentuated rims (no. 323) and conical bowls with a sharply thickened lip on the inside and the outside of the rim (no. 324).

Beakers are – in contrast to the Middle Jazirah I A and I B Mittani pottery – only very rarely made of Mineral-Tempered Ware. One of the few examples is a very thin-walled shouldered beaker (no. 325).

### *Cooking Pot Ware*

Cooking Pot Ware is equally rare in Middle Assyrian administrative pottery, which can be explained by the administrative functions of the pottery repertoires. In phase mA I (Middle Jazirah II A) only 0,2% of the whole pottery belongs to Cooking Pot Ware. Middle Assyrian Cooking Pot Ware is always tempered with coarse calcite. Additional secondary inclusions can alternatively be chaff, lime, mica, black minerals. The clay is mainly brown, grey or red, the outsides burnished or wet-smoothed.

The existing shapes are rounded, neckless pots with a slightly thickened lip on the outside of the rim (nos. 326, 329), rounded, neckless pots with everted rim (no. 327), and rounded, neckless pots with a strongly thickened, rounded lip (no. 328).

178 - And later again in the Middle Jazirah III period (see below).

179 - See PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 130 f., fig. 115 (Shaikh Hamad wares 15 and 16).

*Younger Khabur Ware*

Younger Khabur Ware is – like Nuzi Ware – generally absent from Middle Assyrian administrative pottery repertoires. There are, however, a few exceptions of Younger Khabur Ware appearing in Middle Assyrian administrative contexts. From Tell Shaikh Hamad, two examples are known (nos. 330, 331). They are both rounded, obviously shouldered beakers with broad knob bases. Only single and thin stripes of painted decoration are applied.

***b. The Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery****Undecorated Chaff-Tempered Ware*

The frequency of chaff-tempered wares – especially that of the chaff-tempered variant without significant additional inclusions – is not as dominant in the Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery as in the contemporary Middle Assyrian administrative pottery (see above). Nevertheless, the large majority of sherds belongs to this class. A high percentage of pieces is, as a secondary addition to the chaff, tempered with black minerals<sup>180</sup>.

The carinated bowls, so frequent in the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery, are not so dominantly represented in the domestic pottery. Particularly, the Middle Assyrian Standard Carinated Bowls occur only sporadically (5,6% of the bowls) in the domestic pottery. It can be argued that these pieces might have been directly brought over from administrative contexts into the domestic spheres. The most frequent shape within the bowls are conical bowls with straight or nearly straight sides (nos. 332, 333). They mostly have un-accentuated rims (no. 332). There can be a slight concave curving below the rim, reminiscent of carinated bowls (no. 333).

The deep bowls are much more frequent in domestic pottery than in the administrative contexts. There are conical and rounded deep bowls. The conical deep bowls can have strongly thickened lips on the inside and the outside of the rim (no. 334). Especially the rounded deep bowls are a characteristic type of the domestic pottery (no. 335). They always have an un-accentuated rim or even a lip getting thinner towards the rim.

Among the pots and bottles, the neckless types, and especially the “Middle Assyrian Standard Bottles”, are not represented. Instead, there are mainly bottles and pots with a short neck, like the example of a bottle with a short neck and a slightly thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 336).

*Undecorated Fine Chaff-Tempered Ware*

Fine Chaff Ware is less frequent in the Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery than in the administrative pottery. It is mainly used in connection with beakers. There are high beakers with thin walls and un-accentuated rim (no. 337) and shouldered beakers with a broad button base (no. 338).

*Undecorated Mineral-Tempered Ware*

The Mineral-Tempered Ware is much more frequent in the contemporary domestic contexts than in the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery. We find a relatively high proportion (8%) of predominantly quartz-tempered variants, besides predominantly lime-tempered variants (4%) and those tempered predominantly with black minerals (4%).

The Mineral-Tempered Ware has often been used for beakers. Also among this ware, we find high beakers (no. 339) and shouldered beakers with button bases (no. 340). In addition, there are pots with a short and wide neck and an everted, un-accentuated rim (no. 341).

*Red-edged Ware*

A striking feature for the Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery is the occurrence of Red-edged Ware that is not present in the contemporary Middle Assyrian administrative pottery. This ware is abundantly known from the older, Middle Jazirah I B Mittani pottery. Its frequency is much lesser than during the Middle Jazirah I B period, but its presence is in itself a significant observation and proves the strong tradition that exists between the Mittani pottery and the later Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery. Like in the previous period, the Red-edged Ware is in the Middle Jazirah II period exclusively associated with conical bowls (nos. 342, 343). They have a very slightly thickened lip on the inside of the rim (no. 343) and can have an equally slight concave outline of the wall below the rim (no. 342). The dark red paint is restricted to a broad stripe on the inside of the rim and a thinner stripe on top and on the outside of the rim.

*Cooking Pot Ware*

As can be expected on functional grounds, Cooking Pot Ware is more frequent in the Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery (2,3% of all sherds) than in the contemporary administrative pottery.

180 - For more details on the quantities of wares and shapes of Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery, see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 162-168.

### *Typology of Middle Jazirah III pottery*

The pottery of the Middle Jazirah III period (compare Figs. 1-4) shows a clear typological continuity out of the Middle Assyrian administrative pottery of the preceding Middle Jazirah II period. This is astonishing, not only because we are chronologically already in the Early Iron Age, but also because the proper administrative background of Middle Assyrian provincial government must have had to a large extent disappeared by the time of Tiglatpileser I. However, the new centers of political power, like the small kingdom of the dynasty of Ashur-ketti-lesher at Tell Ta'ban/Tabetu and Tell Bderi/Dur-Ashur-ketti-lesher (see above), took over the political functions and obviously also the administrative pottery production from the former Middle Assyrian institutions. Therefore, the Middle Jazirah III pottery is in a direct continuum with Middle Assyrian administrative pottery. This justifies labeling it mA (Middle Assyrian) III pottery. Domestic pottery of the Middle Jazirah III has, to date, not been found. We do not know, therefore, if it differed typologically from the administrative pottery.

### *Undecorated Chaff-Tempered Ware*

The Undecorated Chaff-Tempered Ware has the same quantitative dominance in the Middle Jazirah III period as in the administrative pottery of the preceding Middle Assyrian phases. Even the characteristics and the frequency of the "Middle Assyrian Standard Ware", which is purely chaff-tempered without additional inclusions, is exactly paralleled in the Middle Jazirah III period (63% of all pottery in this period).

With regard to shapes, the characteristic standardized types of the phases mA I to mA IIc, like the Standard Carinated Bowls, the Standard Carinated Cups and the Standard Bottles, and many of the other form types are preserved into the Middle Jazirah III period. There are, however, subtle typological and quantitative developments that make the distinction of Middle Jazirah III assemblages possible<sup>181</sup>.

#### a) Bowls (nos. 344-360, 380-382, 385)

The conical bowls with straight sides are increasing decisively in the Middle Jazirah III period. Their percentage (30% of the bowls) is doubled with regard to the Middle Jazirah II B period, and multiplied by five times compared to the Middle Jazirah II A period. Thus, they are one of the most significant types of Middle Jazirah III pottery. Within the conical bowls most examples (every second) have un-accentuated rims (no. 344). Others have a slightly

thickened lip on the inside of the rim (no. 345). Less frequent are conical bowls with a strongly thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 346). The most distinctive and chronologically significant variant of Middle Jazirah III conical bowls are very flat bowls with a thickened lip on the inside of the rim that is oriented so flatly that the lip is looking upwards (nos. 347, 348). This type has also been found at Tell Brak, level 1 (no. 382). Conical bowls with a sharply thickened lip on the inside of the rim are typical for the Middle Jazirah III period, as well (no. 349). They are not known from other Middle Assyrian phases.

Rounded bowls are frequent in phases mA IIc (end of Middle Jazirah II B) and mA III (Middle Jazirah III). The characteristic type of the later period has a slightly thickened rounded lip on the outside of the rim (no. 350).

The carinated bowls are considerably reduced in frequency during the Middle Jazirah III period. They still make up for 44% of the bowls, but this is nearly half of the quantity of earlier Middle Assyrian periods. Within the group of carinated bowls, the "Standard Carinated Bowls" – so characteristic for the phases mA I to mA IIc – still exist but diminish decisively in the Middle Jazirah III period (from 87% in mA I to 18% of the bowls in mA III). The Middle Jazirah III "Standard Carinated Bowls" have preferably a slightly rounded, un-thickened lip and a very flat concave curve below the rim, resulting in a very soft, nearly inconspicuous carination (nos. 351, 352). They can be similarly found in level 1 at Tell Brak (nos. 380, 381). Other examples have a more rounded lip and a more accentuated concave outline of the wall (no. 353).

Many carinated bowls of the Middle Jazirah III period have an even flatter wall curve with a less visible concave outline and a less conspicuous carination (nos. 355, 356). Their lip is slightly thickened on the outside of the rim. They represent another diagnostic type of the Middle Jazirah III period. An example with a very low carination and an uncurved upper wall (no. 354) demonstrates clearly the typological distance from the earlier "Standard Carinated Bowls".

The sharply carinated bowls, which are very rare during the previous Middle Assyrian phases, become a significant type in the Middle Jazirah III period (nos. 357-360). They have a nearly vertical wall above the carination. In some of the examples, the lips get thinner at the rim (no. 357). More often, the lip is thickened on the outside of the rim and has a curved outline. This can be either in the form of a double-ridged (no. 358), a triple-ridged (no. 360) or a multiple grooved section of the rim (no. 359). All three variations are very characteristic for the Middle Jazirah III period. A very similar shape is represented in a piece from level 1 at Tell Brak (no. 385).

181 - For a full documentation of the typology and statistics of Middle Jazirah III (Middle Assyrian III) pottery, see PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 128-161.

## b) Deep bowls (nos. 361-363)

In the Middle Jazirah III period one can observe an increase in the quantity of deep bowls, the majority of which have vertical walls. Very characteristic is a beak-like, sharply thickened lip on the inside and outside of the rim (no. 361). A hammer-like rectangular lip, which is directed towards the outside of the rim, is typical as well (no. 362).

Also frequently attested and significant for the Middle Jazirah III pottery are carinated deep bowls with the wall slightly inclined to the inside of the vessel above the carination (no. 363). They have a thickened rounded lip on the outside of the rim and eventually a thick ridge at the height of the carination that is decorated with oblique stick impressions.

## c) Cups

Cups are found rarely in Middle Jazirah III pottery. The "Standard Carinated Cups" still exist, but appear with much less frequency than in the earlier phases of Middle Assyrian pottery<sup>182</sup>.

## d) Beakers (nos. 364, 365, 378)

The beakers, reduced in quantity compared to the earlier Middle Assyrian phases, are predominantly shouldered beakers (nos. 364, 365). There are very thin-walled specimens, with a narrow neck and a thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 364). There is another variant of shouldered beakers which has only a slightly indicated shoulder and an un-accentuated vertical rim (no. 365). Many beakers seem to have very elongated bodies that can be associated with a nipple-base (no. 378).

## e) Pots (nos. 366-369)

Among the pots, neckless types and types with a neck are equally distributed in the Middle Jazirah III period. The neckless types have rounded bodies and a slightly rounded lip on the outside of the rim (no. 366). There are also neckless types with a rectangular thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 367). A groove outside of the wall can appear below the rim (no. 368). The pots with necks can have – among other variations – slightly everted, double-ridged rims (no. 369).

## f) Bottles (nos. 370-377, 379, 383-384)

Among the bottles, neckless types are prominent in the Middle Jazirah III period. Especially "Standard Bottles" are frequent during this period (nos. 370-374), with even higher relative quantities than in the previous Middle Jazirah II B

period (phases mA IIa-IIc). Within the Middle Jazirah III Standard Bottles there are some new lip variations, which can help to distinguish them from earlier examples. This is a particular variant with a rather flat lip that is slightly concave on the inside and convex on the outside of the rim (nos. 370-372), which does not appear in the earlier Middle Assyrian phases. The second characteristic variation is a lip that is rounded on the inside of the rim but completely flat and vertical on the outside (nos. 373, 374). Also this minor variation of Standard Bottles is not known from the previous Middle Assyrian phases. In addition, other lip variations are frequent that are already common since the early phases of Middle Assyrian administrative pottery.

Besides the Standard Bottles there are neckless bottles with an S-shaped rim profile (no. 375) and neckless bottles with a triple-ridged rim (no. 376). The latter is not known from earlier Middle Assyrian phases.

The Middle Jazirah III bottles have – besides the common Middle Assyrian base forms – one very distinctive base type. It is a massive flat base with a very small base diameter of 5 cm and less (no. 377). The walls of the body are very steep and there are very coarse clay folds visible on the inside of the base. These bottles must have had a very slender elongated shape. This specific kind of bottle base is not known from the earlier Middle Assyrian phases.

A second class of bottles in the Middle Jazirah III period comprises bottles with necks. There are variants with a short neck and a thin everted rim with a concave lip (no. 383). Very significant are thin-walled bottles with a high neck and a sharp, slightly thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 384). They have a very elongated body that results, together with the high neck, in very slender bottle shape. The lower part of the body is very narrow and nearly pointed, ending in a button base (no. 379).

*Undecorated Fine Chaff-Tempered Ware*

This ware is rather weakly represented in the Middle Jazirah III period compared to the earlier Middle Assyrian phases. We find it with carinated cups that belong to the "Middle Assyrian Standard Cups" (no. 386). It is also used with beakers that represent a form type with a narrow neck and a slightly thickened lip on the outside of the rim (no. 387). In addition, one can find it with high beakers that end in nipple bases (no. 388).

*Undecorated Mineral-Tempered Ware*

The Mineral-Tempered Ware has a low frequency in the Middle Jazirah III period. The ware is mainly attested with thin-walled beakers. There are shouldered beakers

182 - See PFÄLZNER 1995: pl. 146/c.

with a funnel-like neck (no. 389), shouldered beakers with a button base (no. 391), and high beakers with a knob base (no. 392). In addition, the ware can appear with thin-walled bottles, like the bottle with a narrow high neck and a thickened lip (no. 390).

#### SYNTHESIS A: LATE BRONZE AGE CERAMIC REGIONALIZATION AND FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERIZATION

The Middle Jazirah I A and I B period Mittani pottery is distributed over a wide geographical area from the Balikh Region in the west to the Middle Tigris Region in the east, including sites like Tell al-Rimah, Tell Mohammed Arab and Tell Billa<sup>183</sup>. The Khabur Region is clearly the center of this typological tradition, with sites as far south as Tell Namliya<sup>184</sup> on the Lower Khabur, close to the junction of the Khabur with the Euphrates.

On the western periphery the Middle Euphrates sites, like Tell Munbaqa, Tell Hadidi and Tell al-Qitar are characterized by a specific pottery tradition<sup>185</sup> that is typologically clearly different from the Jazirah tradition and can be labeled “Northwest-Syrian pottery region”<sup>186</sup>. On the eastern periphery, a site such as Yorgan Tepe/Nuzi reveals a distinct ceramic repertoire considerably different from the Jazirah tradition<sup>187</sup>, in spite of the common occurrence of “Nuzi Ware” in the Jazirah and in the Transtigradian Region. The latter regional pattern of ceramics can, therefore, be labeled “Transtigradian pottery region”.

As a consequence, the Jazirah Region definitely contains a characteristic, independent pottery tradition in the Middle Jazirah I A and I B periods. It strikingly overlaps with the region designated in Late Bronze Age texts as “Mittani”. This geographical sphere constitutes at the same time the core region of the Mittani Empire, excluding the external vassal regions of the expanding empire to the east and to the west, like Nuzi or Alalakh. In a strictly historical-geographical sense it is, therefore, justified to designate the Middle Jazirah I A and I B pottery tradition as the “Mittani pottery region”<sup>188</sup>.

From the observation of archaeological contexts it becomes clear that the “Mittani pottery” is not restricted to specific functional contexts. It is present in Mittani “administrative” contexts, like the Mittani palace at Tell Brak, in domestic areas of towns and cities, like at Tell Bderi, and at small village sites, such as Tell Hwesh. One single pottery tradition exists, therefore, for all aspects of

Middle Jazirah I A and I B society. It must be emphasized that we do not deal with a Mittani pottery in terms of a political attribution to the state of Mittani.

In the following Middle Jazirah II A and II B period the geographical distribution of pottery traditions is similar to that of the earlier period. The “Middle Assyrian pottery tradition” can be found from the Balikh sites in the west, like Tell Sabi Abiad, through all of the Khabur Region to the Assyrian political centers on the Middle Tigris, namely Assur and Kar-Tukulti-Ninurta. Again, in the Middle Euphrates Region in the 13th century BC at sites like Meskene-Emar and Tell Fray, there exists an independent, completely different pottery that stands clearly in the tradition of the earlier “Northwest-Syrian pottery region”. On the eastern periphery the sites beyond the Tigris and to the south of the Assyrian heartland are characterized by a distinct pottery that can be attributed to the “Late Kassite pottery region”<sup>189</sup>.

Interestingly, the typologically homogenous Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery region overlaps perfectly with the geographical extension of the Middle Assyrian provincial administration in the 13th and 12th century BC. Moreover, it can be seen that the characteristic Middle Assyrian pottery is exclusively present in administrative contexts of Middle Assyrian provincial centers and outposts, including the outpost of Tell Umm ‘Aqrebe in the ‘Ajj-Region to the east of the Khabur River. Therefore, we are fully justified when we speak of a Middle Assyrian administrative pottery and, consequently, of a “Middle Assyrian pottery region” in a clear political sense<sup>190</sup>. As can be expected in such a model, a typologically distinct, contemporary tradition of pottery can be observed in non-administrative, domestic contexts. This Middle Jazirah II domestic pottery is, therefore, geographically independent from the extension of the Middle Assyrian political system.

#### SYNTHESIS B: CHANGE IN THE CERAMIC ECONOMY OF THE LATE BRONZE AGE JAZIRAH

The Middle Jazirah I ceramic economy that is responsible for the production of the Mittani pottery can be characterized as a closely integrated network of a “nucleated workshop industry”<sup>191</sup>. This means that a large number of individual workshops must have existed that produced pottery and distributed the vessels within a complex network. This can be concluded from the high number and variability of Mittani pottery types, the

183 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 204-212.

184 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 169.

185 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 197-200.

186 - See the contribution by T. L. McClellan in this volume.

187 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 215-219.

188 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 226 f., fig. 135.

189 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 219-221.

190 - PFÄLZNER 1997a.

191 - Following the model of Peacock (1982: p. 6-11).

multiple and free combinations of wares and shapes, the careful production techniques, the lack of standardization, and the high variation of vessel sizes. There are no traces of mass production in Mittani pottery<sup>192</sup>.

The Middle Assyrian administrative pottery of the Middle Jazirah II and III periods, on the other hand, shows clear traces of mass production. The pottery is highly standardized, resulting in the production of a quantitatively abundant Standard Ware and equally abundant standard shapes like the Standard Carinated Bowls, the Standard Carinated Cups and the Standard Bottles. Moreover, the standard shapes are completely standardized in dimensions. This results in the possibility of stacking the standardized bowls and cups, which makes a mass utilization of vessels possible. The careless manufacture – resulting in the frequent appearance of irregular and asymmetrical

vessels (**fig. 11**) – has to be understood as a consequence of mass production. Taking these indications together, it is reasonable to suppose that the Middle Assyrian pottery was produced in large manufactories. The manufactories must have been organized as institutions of provincial governance<sup>193</sup>.

The change from Middle Jazirah I to Middle Jazirah II and III pottery – which is equivalent with the change from Mittani to Middle Assyrian pottery – is characterized by a remodeling of the techniques and organizational principles of ceramic production and the replacement of a workshop industry by state-manufactories. Thus, a fundamental change of the ceramic economy can be witnessed between these periods. This change is a result of the reversed political organization of the Syrian Jazirah with the establishment of Middle Assyrian provincial administration.

192 - PFÄLZNER 1995: p. 251-255.

193 - PFÄLZNER 1997a.

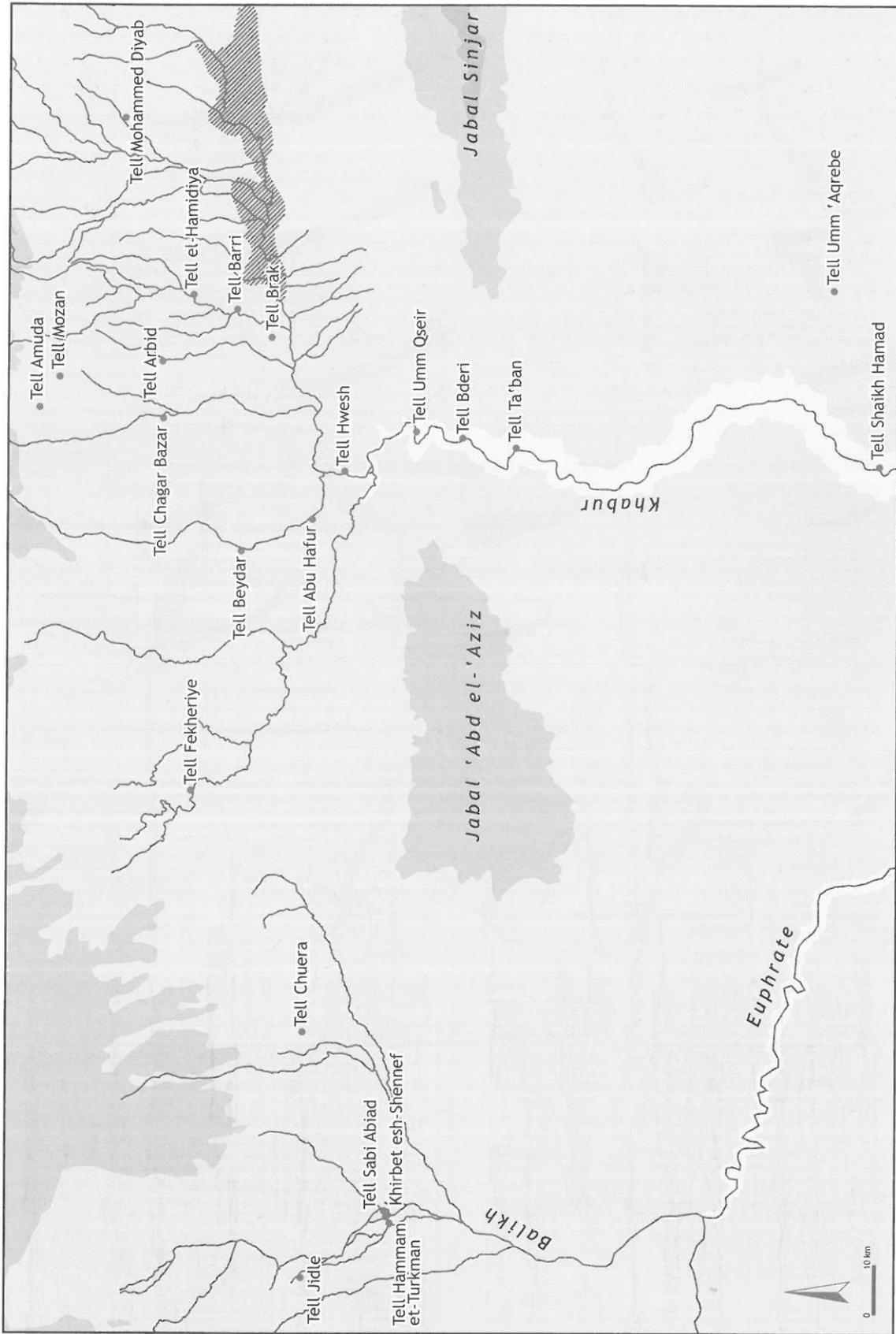
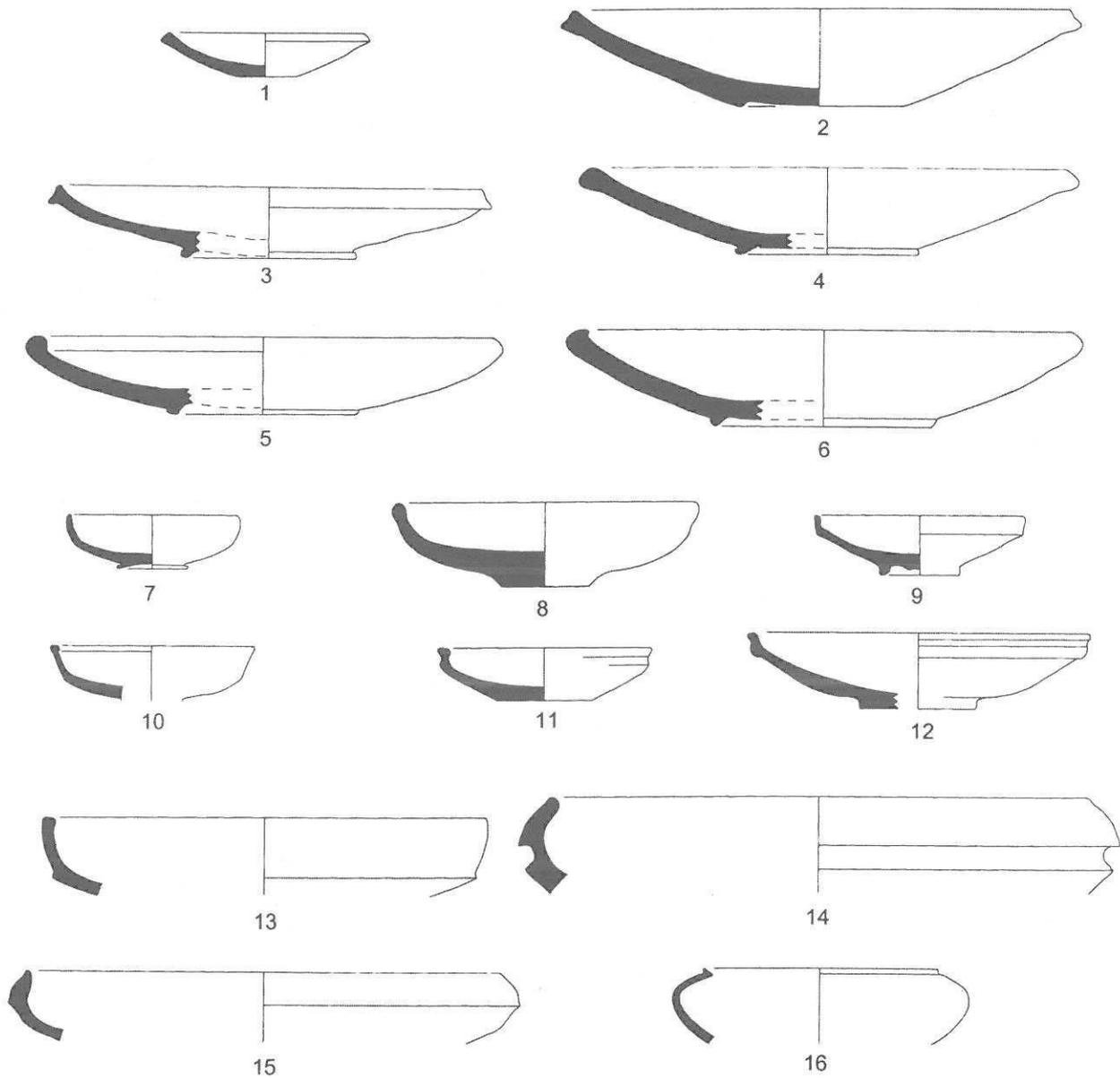


Plate I - Map of the main sites.

Undecorated Chaff or Mineral Tempered Ware:

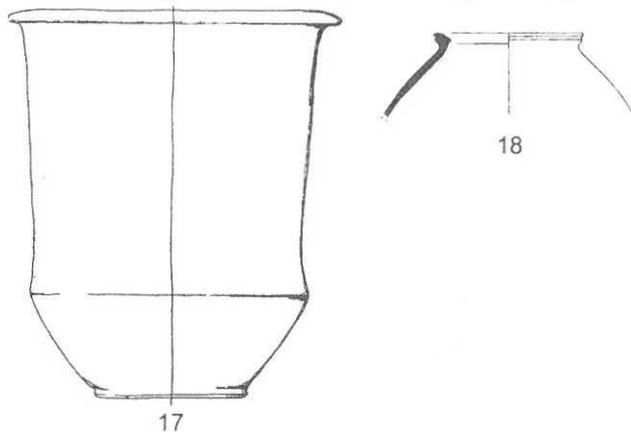


Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)

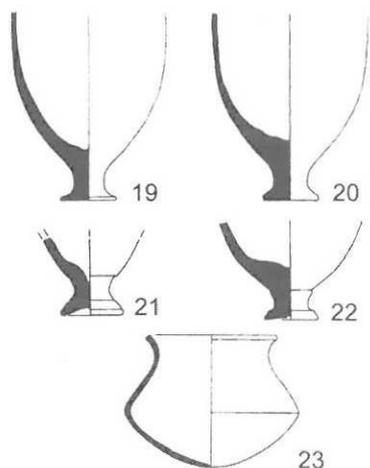
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
1	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 53
2	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 83
3	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 103
4	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 110
5	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 102
6	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 111
7	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 92
8	Tell Brak	5-6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 100
9	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 96
10	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 94
11	Tell Brak	3-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 98
12	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 101
13	Tell Brak	2-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 113
14	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 115
15	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 118
16	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 77

Plate II - Middle Jazirah I A Pottery.

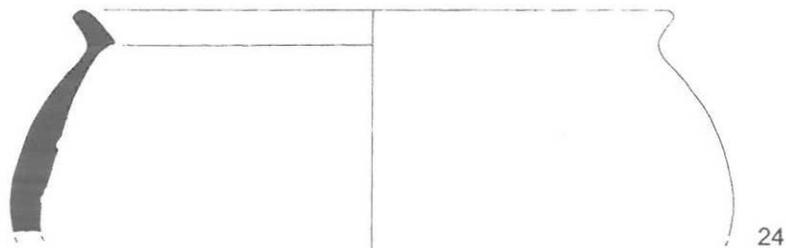
Undecorated Chaff or Mineral Tempered Ware (continued):



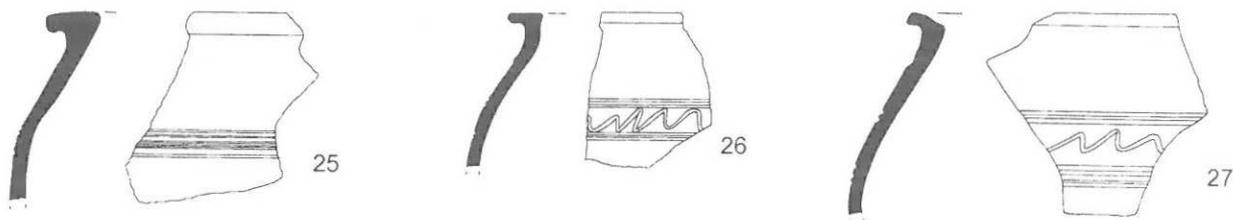
Undecorated Mineral Tempered Ware:



Cooking Pot Ware:



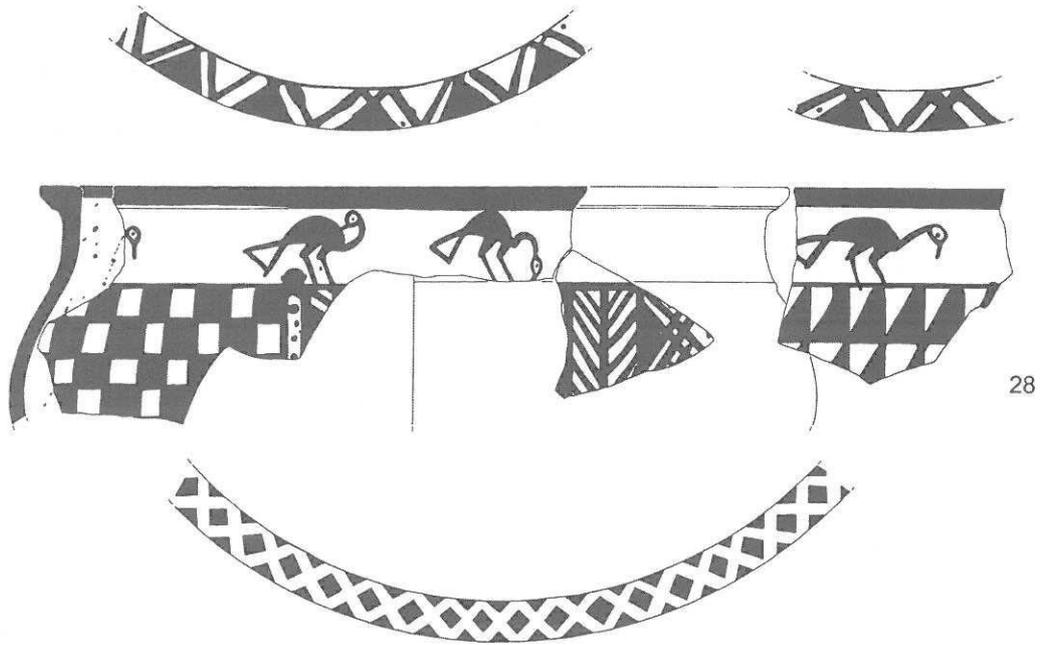
Incized Ware:



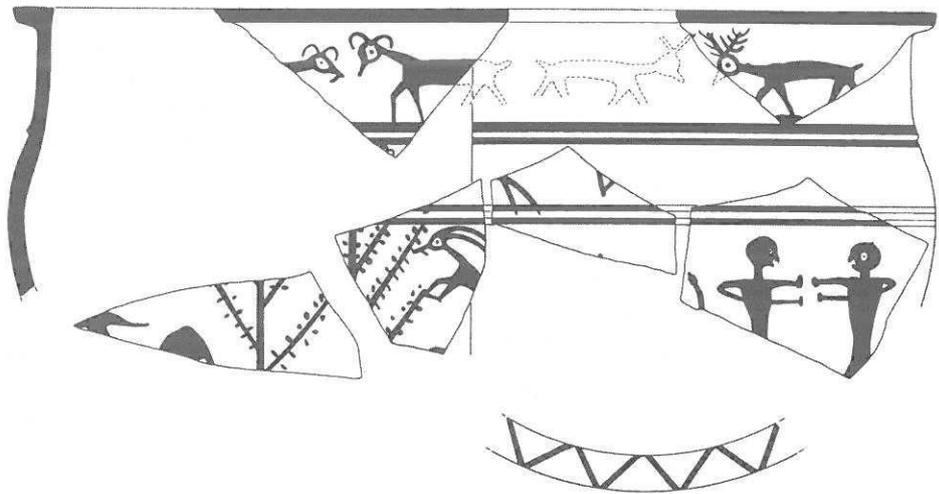
Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
17	Tell Brak	2 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXVII, 21
18	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 638
19	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 338
20	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 340
21	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 343
22	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 347
23	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 565
24	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 587
25	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 642
26	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 645
27	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 647

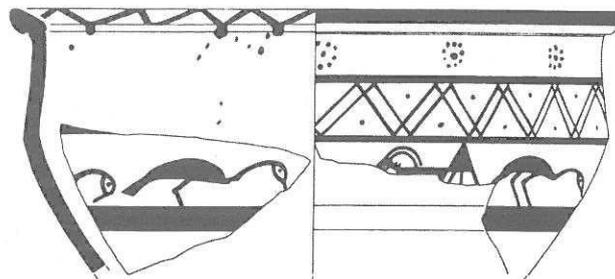
*Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware:*



28



29



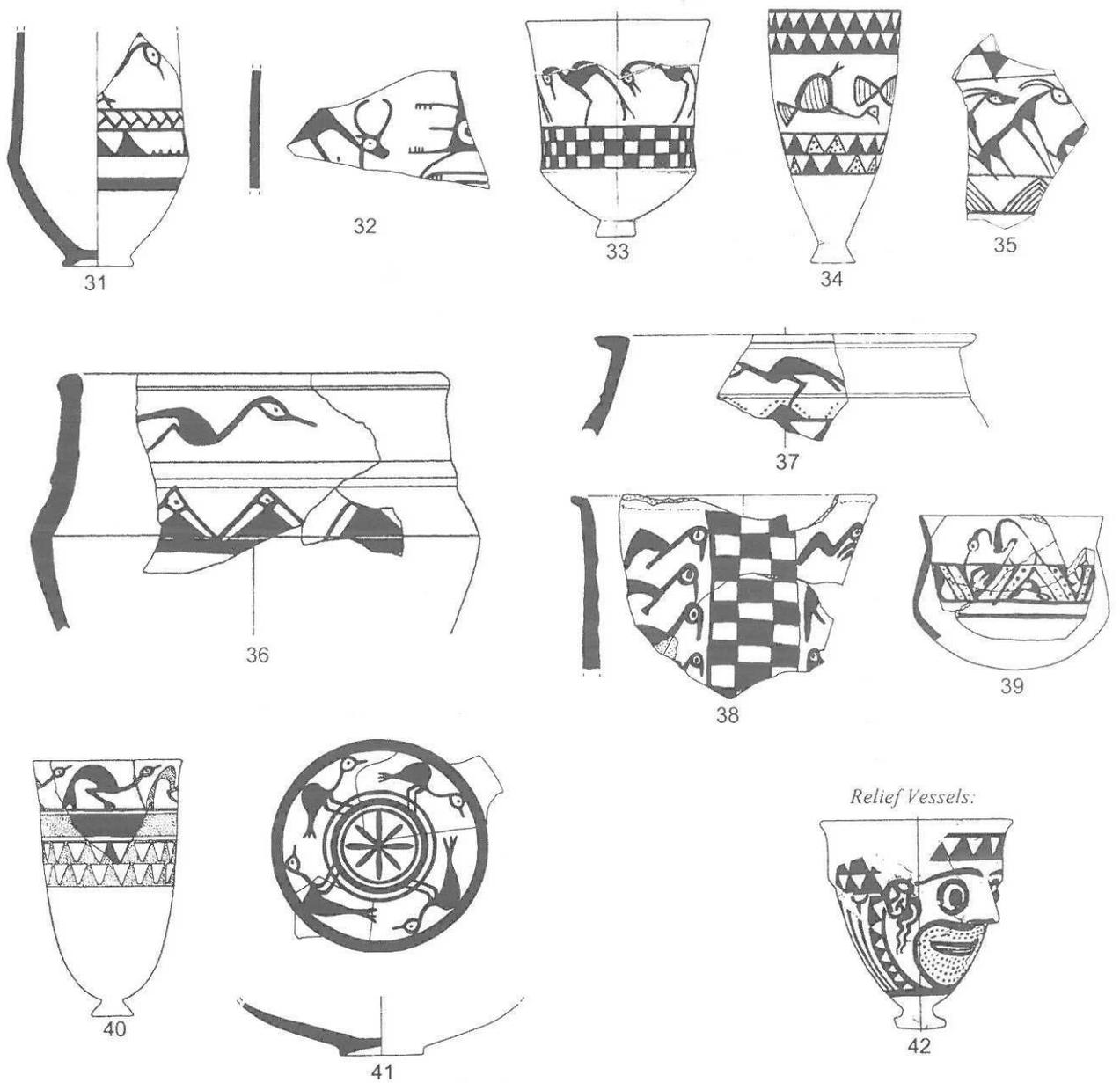
30

**Middle Jazirah I A Pottery** (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
28	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 455
29	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 456
30	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 457

Plate IV - Middle Jazirah I A Pottery.

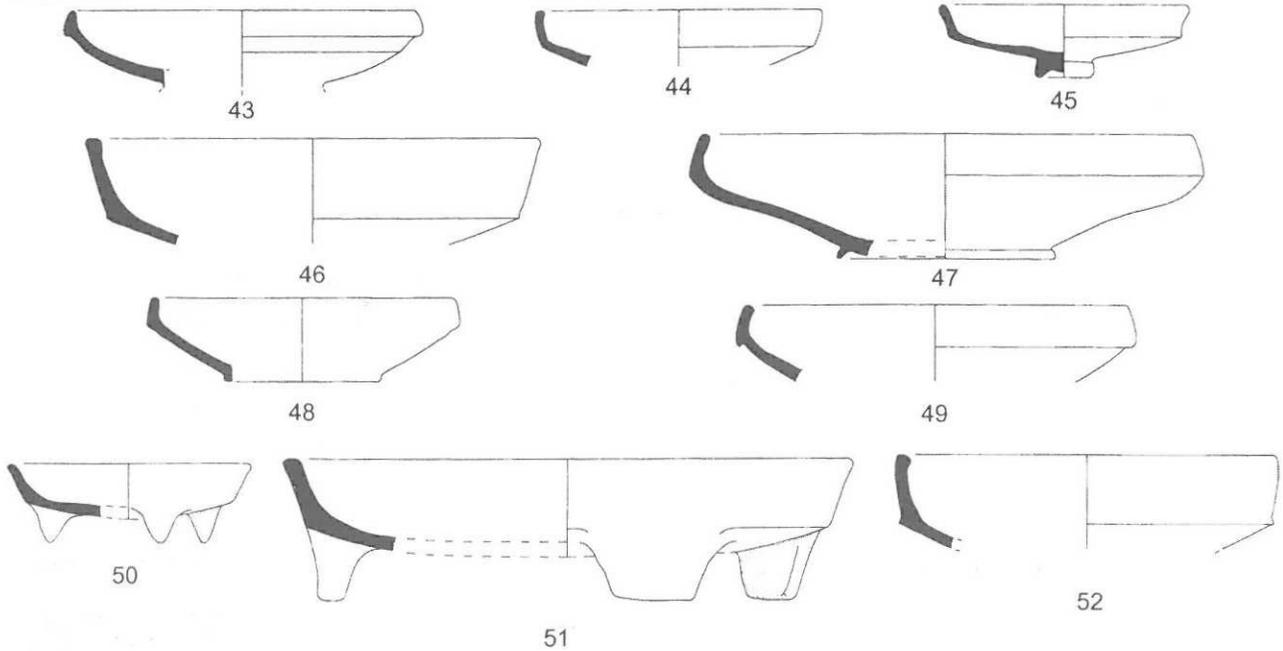
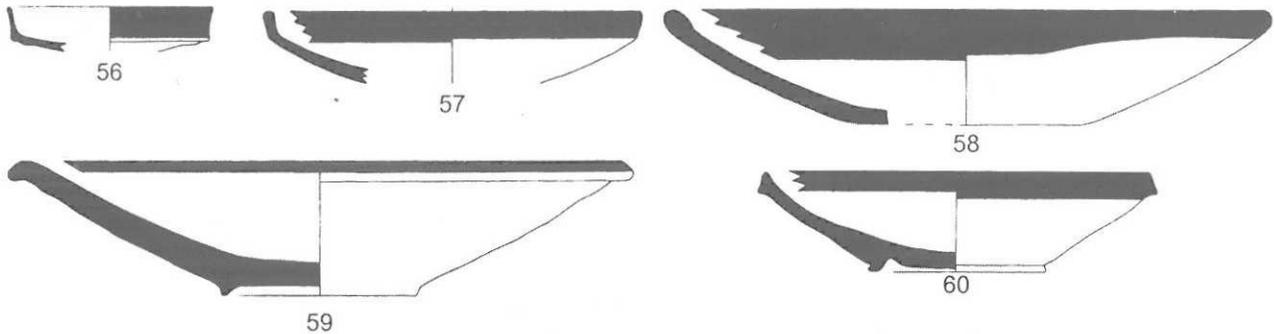
Dark on Buff Animal Ornamented Ware (continued):



Relief Vessels:

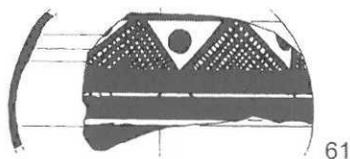
Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
31	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 463
32	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 487
33	Tell Brak	2 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII, 1
34	Tell Brak	2 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII, 5
35	Tell Brak	unspecified	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVIII, 11
36	Tell Mohammed Diyab	-	Faivre 1992, Fig 12: Nr. 5
37	Tell Mohammed Diyab	-	Castel 1992, Fig 4: Nr. 6
38	Tell Barri	Area A1, stratum 1B	Pecorella 1998, Fig. 35: Nr. 8
39	Tell Djidle	Phase 2	Mallowan 1946, Fig. 11: Nr. 6
40	Tell Djidle	Phase 2	Mallowan 1946, Fig. 11: Nr. 10
41	Tell Brak	2-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 475
42	Tell Brak	2 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. XL.2

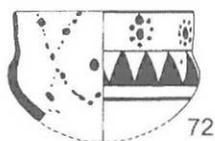
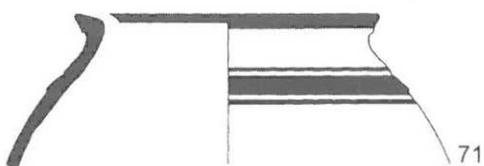
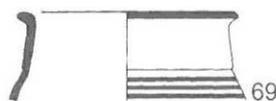
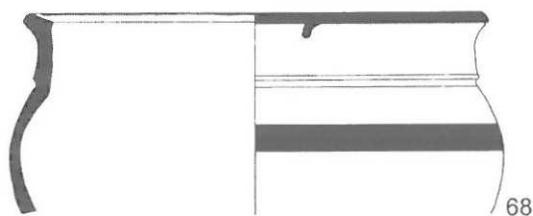
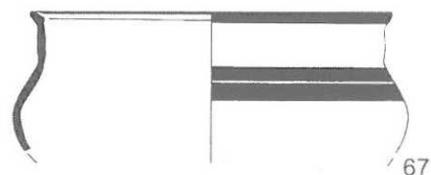
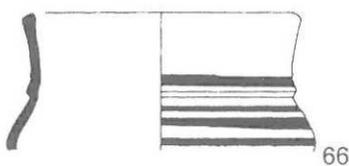
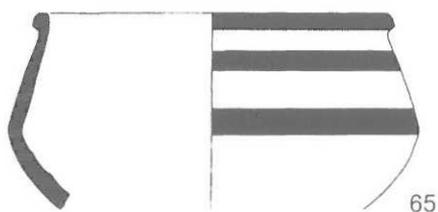
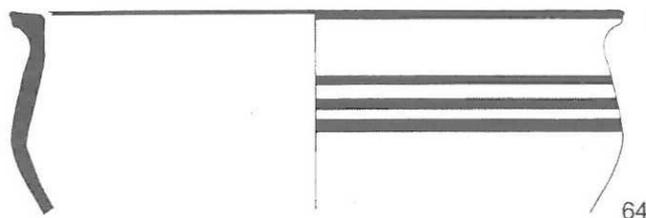
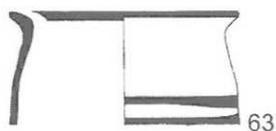
*Grey Burnished Ware:**White Paste Inlay Ware:**Red-edged Ware:***Middle Jazirah I A Pottery** (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
43	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 179
44	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 187
45	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 191
46	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 199
47	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 198
48	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 193
49	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 197
50	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 529
51	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 533
52	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 560
53	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 176
54	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 588
55	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 589
56	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 135
57	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 150
58	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 144
59	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 145
60	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 151

Older Khabur Ware:



Transitional Khabur Ware:

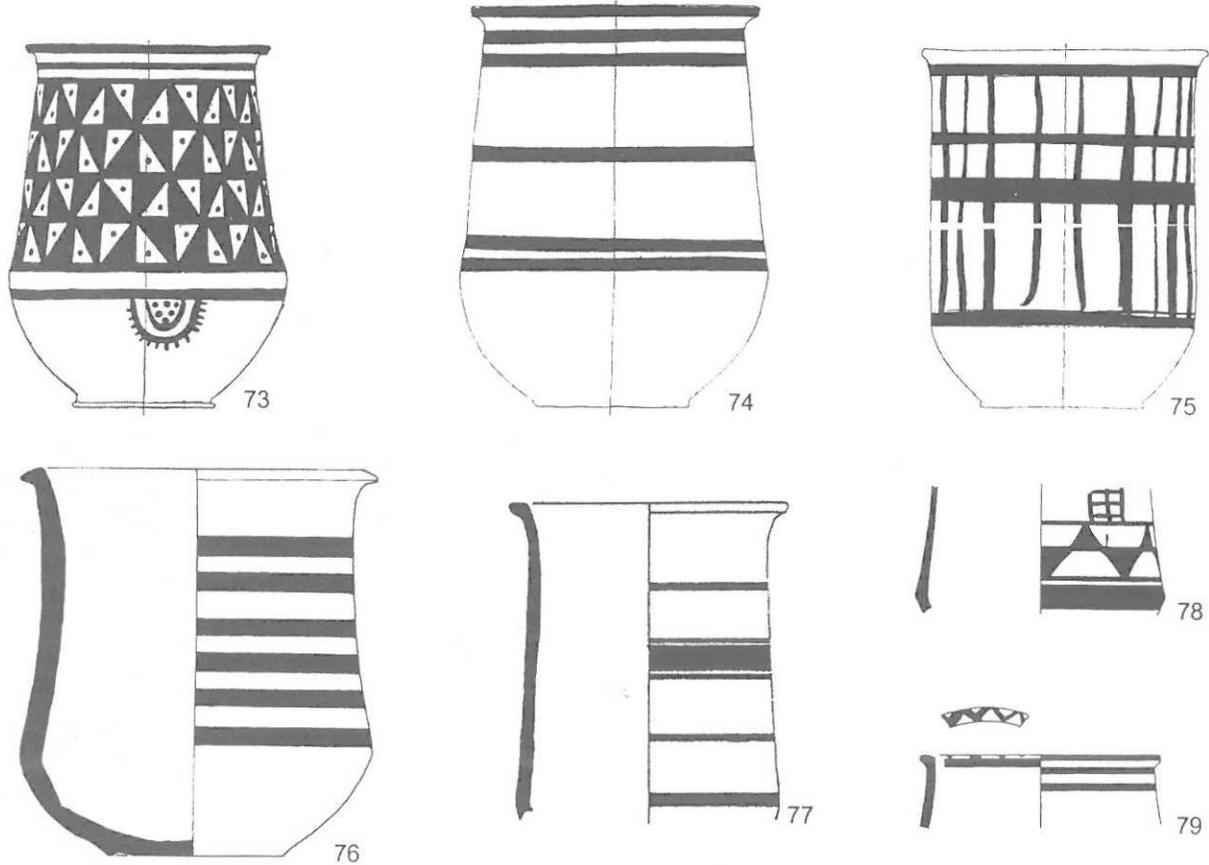


Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)

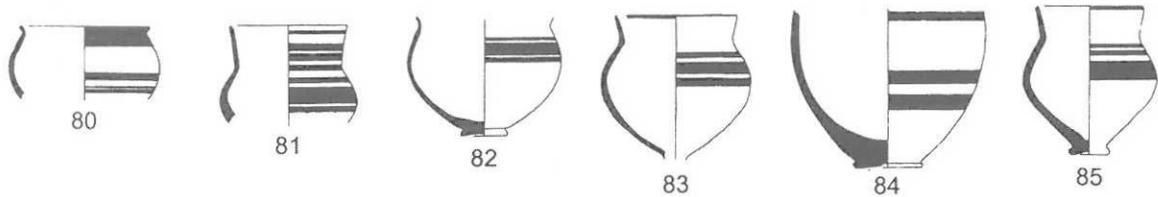
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
61	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 306
62	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 239
63	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 261
64	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 288
65	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 280
66	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 252
67	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 278
68	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 279
69	Tell Brak	3-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 362
70	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 361
71	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 309
72	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 228

Plate VII - Middle Jazirah I A Pottery.

Painted Grain Measures:



Younger Khabur Ware:

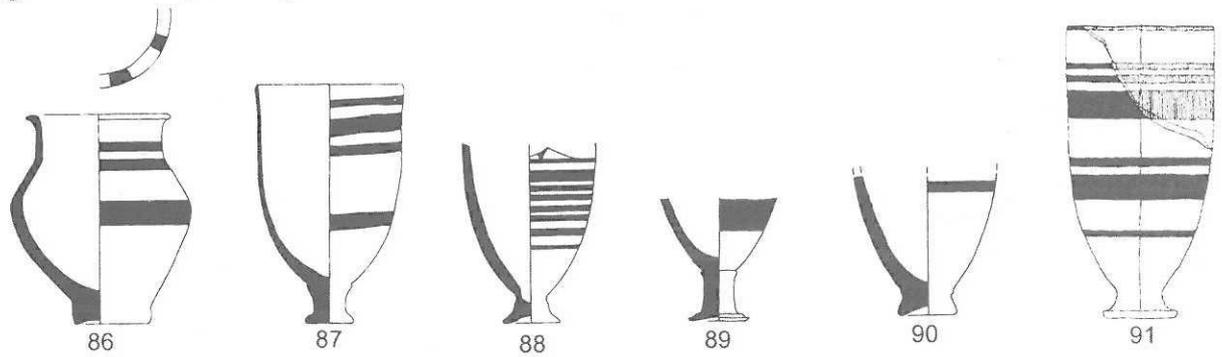


Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)

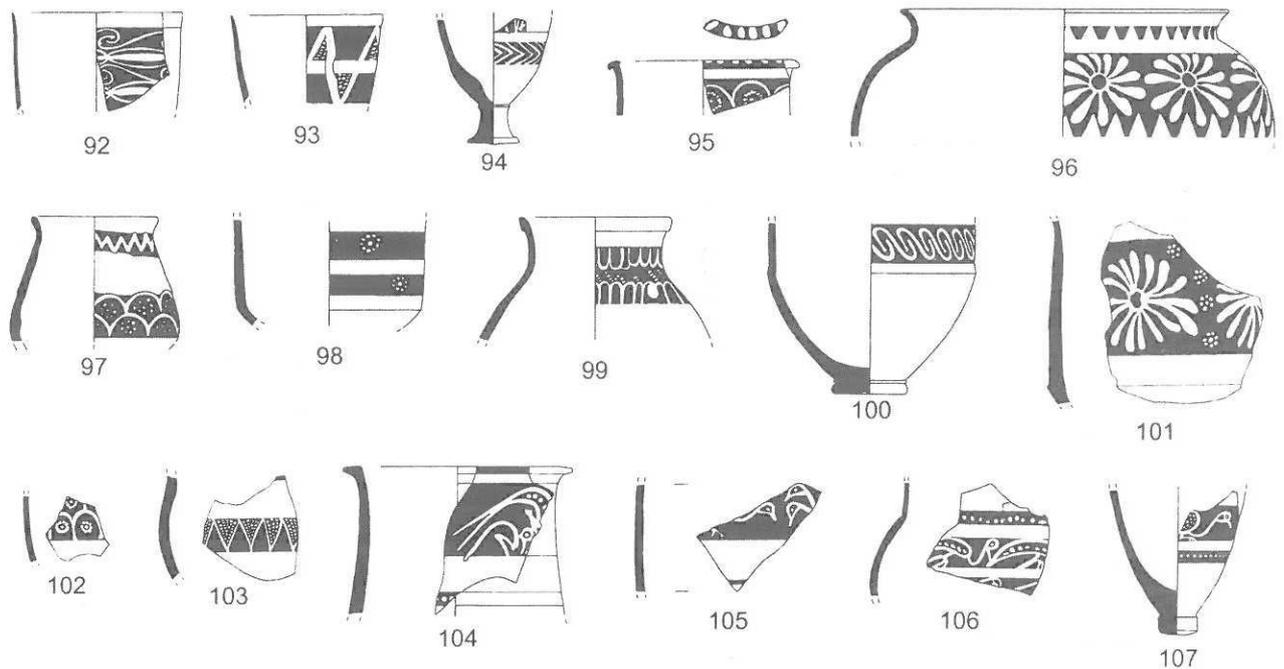
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
73	Tell Brak	3 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXVII, 19
74	Tell Chager Bazar	T.D. sub-surface	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXXI, 6
75	Tell Chager Bazar	level 1 D	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXXI, 7
76	Tell Barri	Area A1, st. 4	Pecorella 1998, Fig. 35, Nr. 4
77	Tell Mohammed Diyab	locus 895, st. 5 sup.	Faivre 1992, Fig. 14: Nr. 10
78	Tell Brak	3	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 274
79	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 270
80	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 204
81	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 351
82	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 352
83	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 353
84	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 369
85	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 382

Plate VIII - Middle Jazirah I A Pottery.

Younger Khabur Ware (continued):



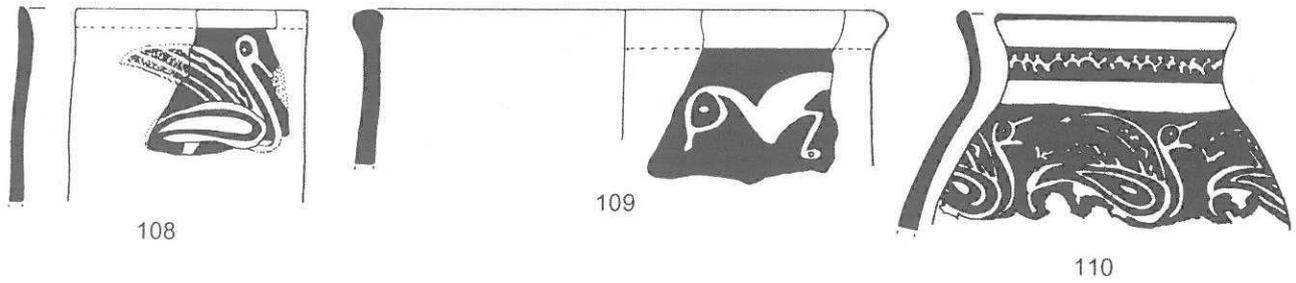
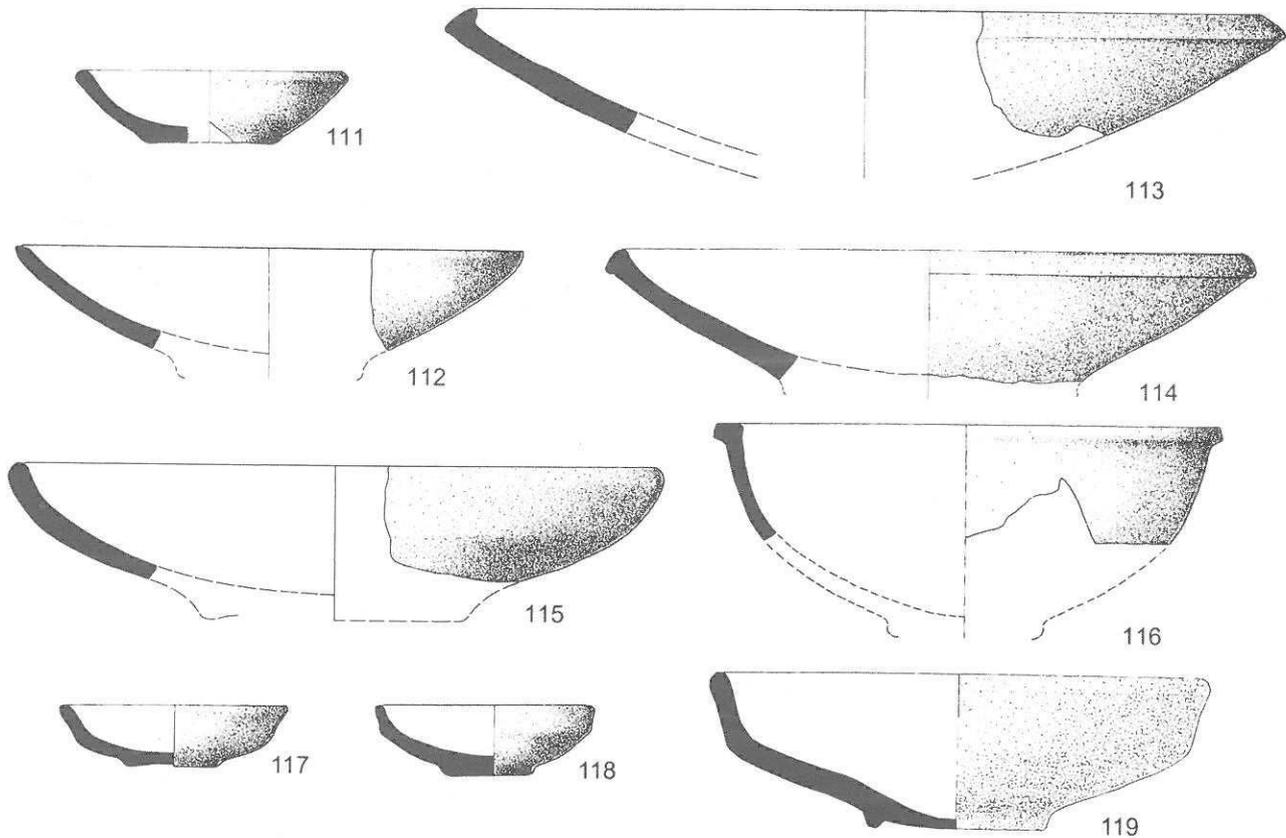
Nuzi Ware:



Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
86	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 383
87	Tell Brak	5b	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 332
88	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 333
89	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 334
90	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 342
91	Tell Brak	2 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII: Nr. 2
92	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 405
93	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 406
94	Tell Brak	6	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 415
95	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 417
96	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 421
97	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 425
98	Tell Brak	4-5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 429
99	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 427
100	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 430
101	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 433
102	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 435
103	Tell Brak	4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 434
104	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 445
105	Tell Brak	5	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 446
106	Tell Brak	-	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 451
107	Tell Brak	3-4	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 449

Plate IX - Middle Jazirah I A Pottery.

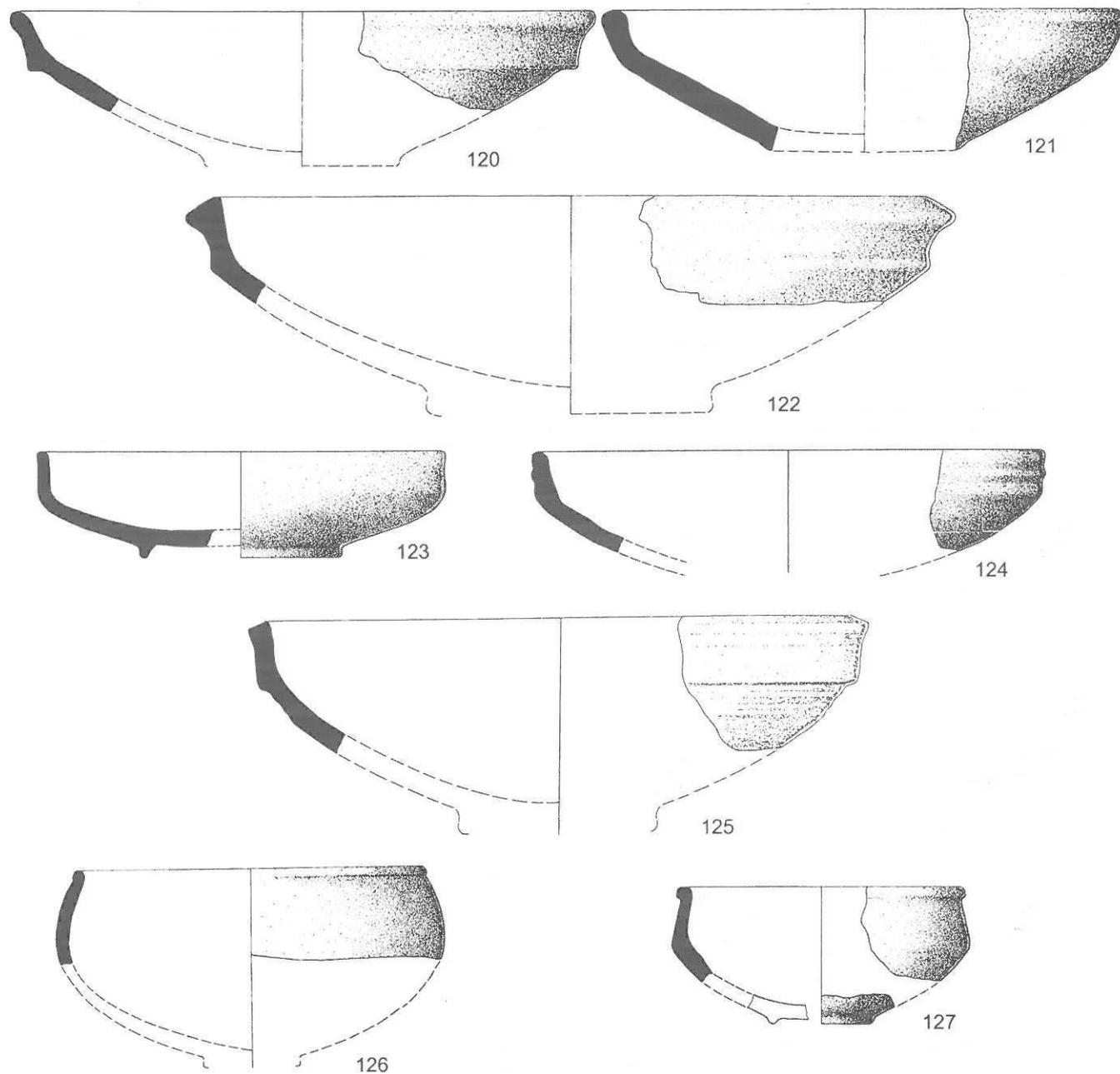
*Nuzi Ware (continued):**Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware:***Middle Jazirah I A Pottery (scale 1:4)**

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
108	Tell Barri	-	Pecorella 1998, Fig. 36, Nr. 6
109	Tell Barri	-	Pecorella 1998, Fig. 36, Nr. 9
110	Tell Barri	-	Pecorella 1998, Fig. 36, Nr. 12

**Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)**

111	Tell Bderi	S 4 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 1 e
112	Tell Bderi	S 4 b	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 1 a
113	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 3 a
114	Tell Bderi	N 5	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 4 d
115	Tell Bderi	N 4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 5 f
116	Tell Bderi	N 4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 7 c
117	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 9 a
118	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 9 f
119	Tell Bderi	S 5 c3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 9 b

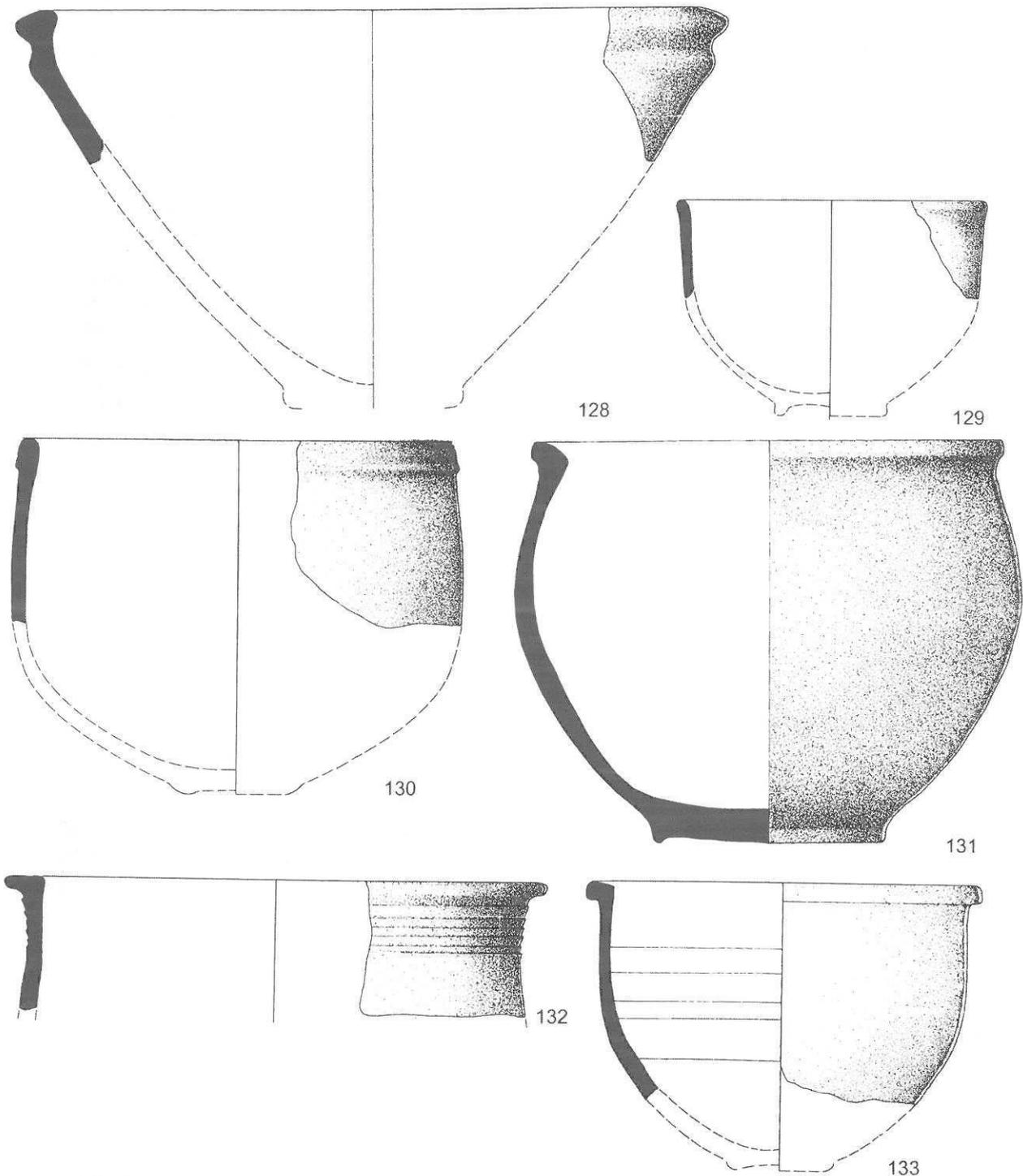
Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):



Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)

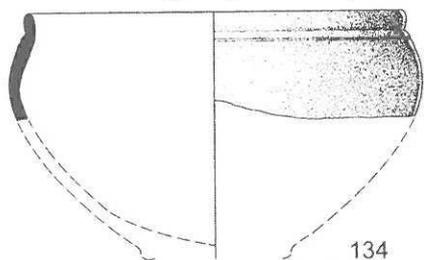
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
120	Tell Bderi	N 2-4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 10 e
121	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 11 a
122	Tell Bderi	S 5 d3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 11 e
123	Tell Bderi	N 2-4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 13 f
124	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 14 e
125	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 16 b
126	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 17 d
127	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 18 g

Plate XI - Middle Jazirah I B Pottery.

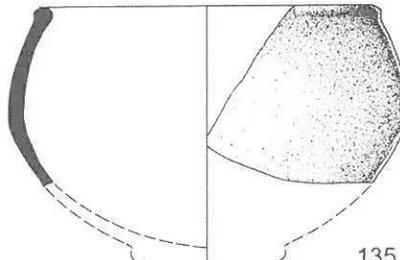
*Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):***Middle Jazirah I B Pottery** (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
128	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 23 c
129	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 24 b
130	Tell Bderi	S 5 c2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 25 b
131	Tell Bderi	N 2b	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 27 a
132	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 27 b
133	Tell Bderi	S 5 1	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 30 d

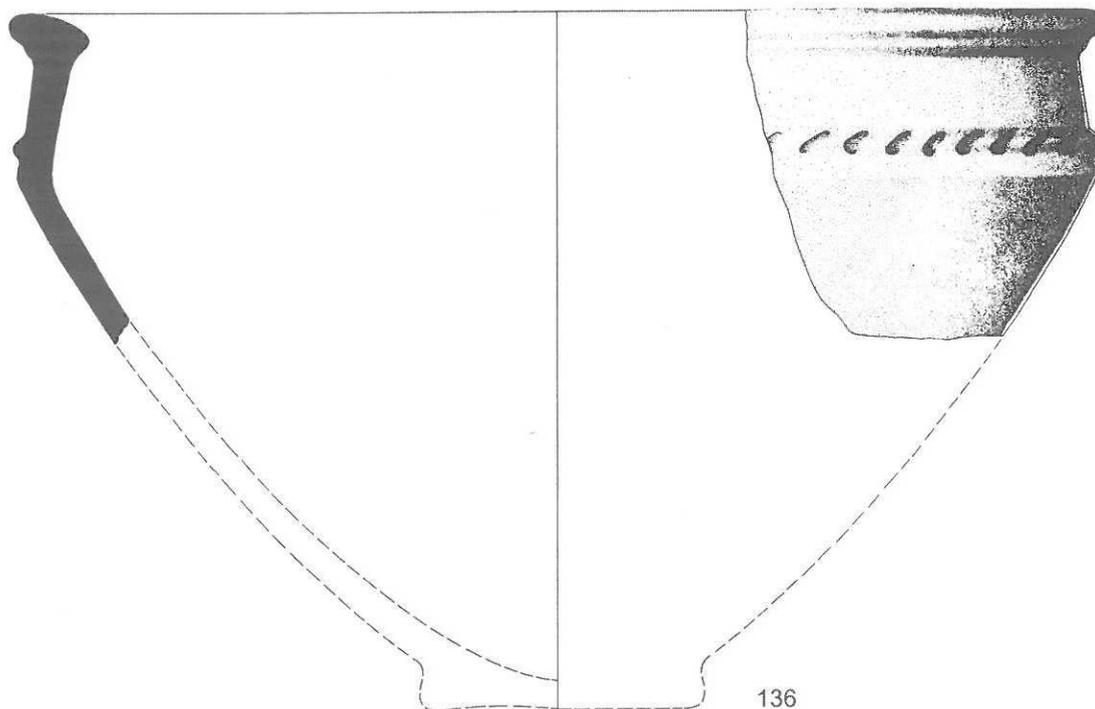
Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):



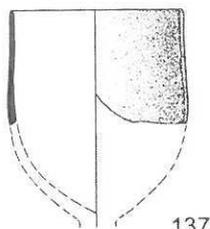
134



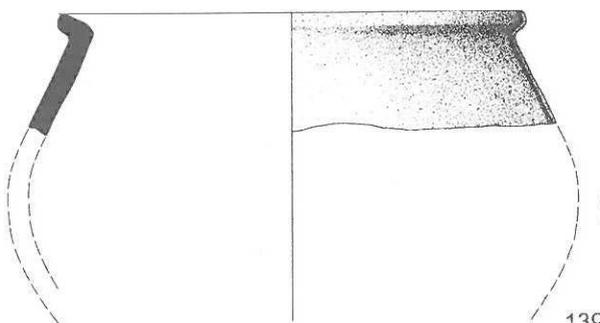
135



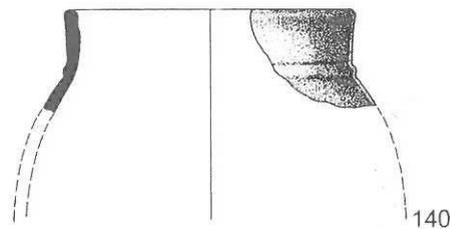
136



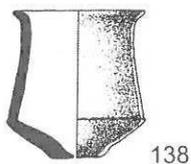
137



139



140

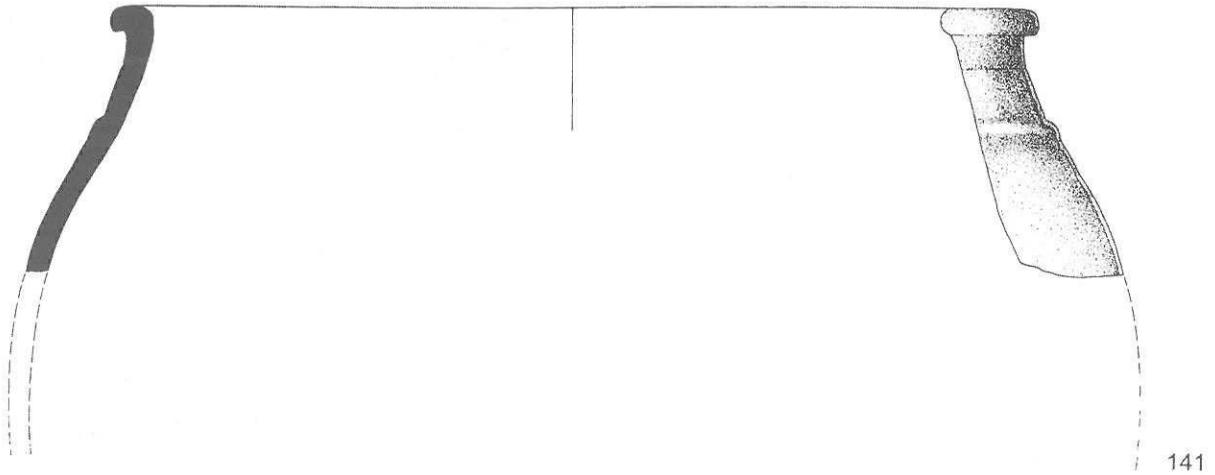


138

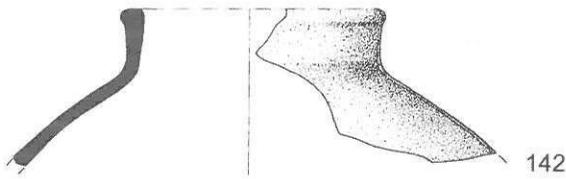
Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
134	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 31 d
135	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 32 c
136	Tell Bderi	N 2-3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 33 a
137	Tell Bderi	S 5 c3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 35 g
138	Tell Bderi	N 3 b	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 36 e
139	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 37 b
140	Tell Bderi	S 5 c3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 39 a

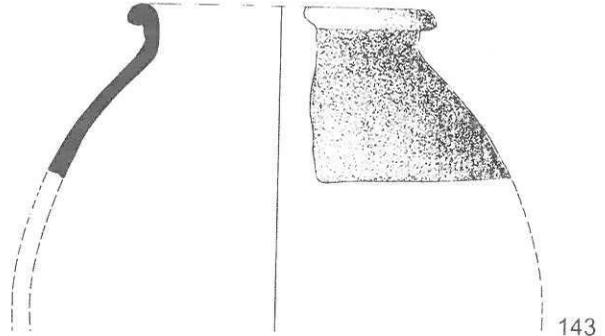
Plate XIII - Middle Jazirah I B Pottery.

*Undecorated Chaff Tempred Ware (continued):*

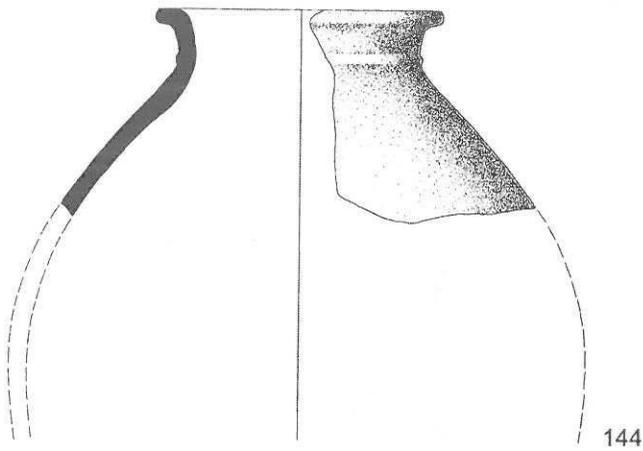
141



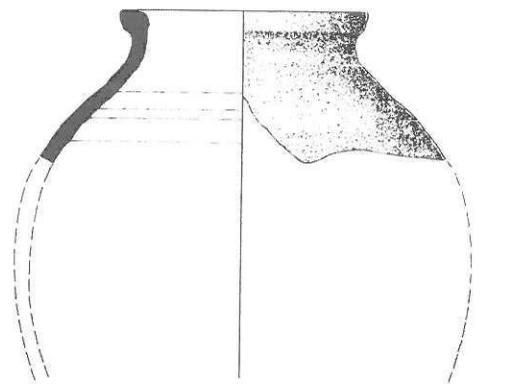
142



143



144

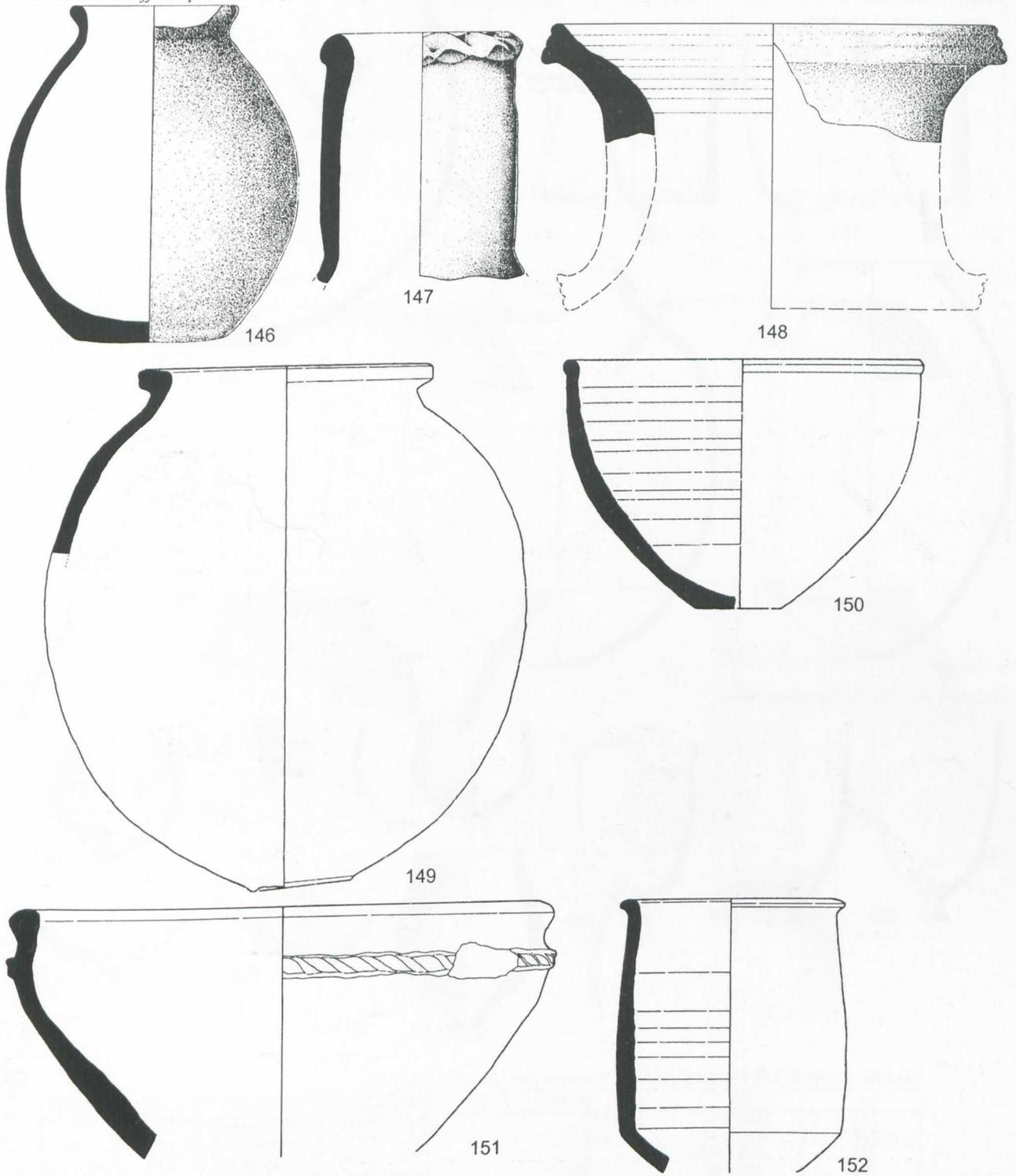


145

**Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)**

<i>No.</i>	<i>Site</i>	<i>Stratum</i>	<i>Reference</i>
141	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 41 a
142	Tell Bderi	N 2-3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 47 f
143	Tell Bderi	N 4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 48 a
144	Tell Bderi	S 5 c1	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 49 f
145	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 51 a

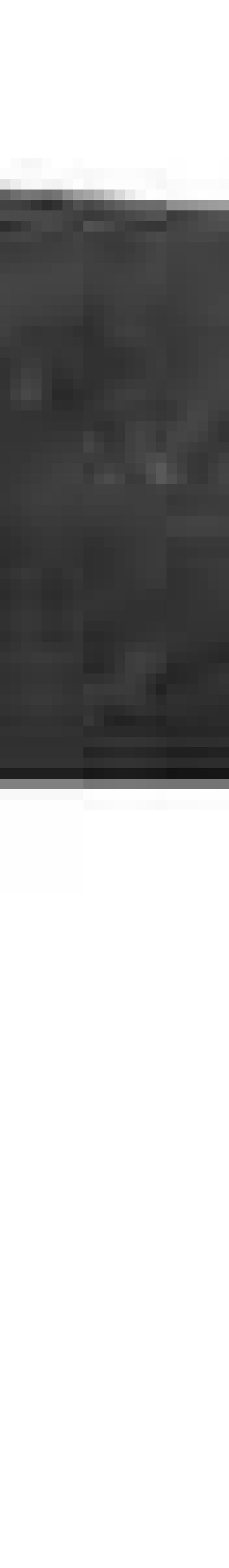
Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):



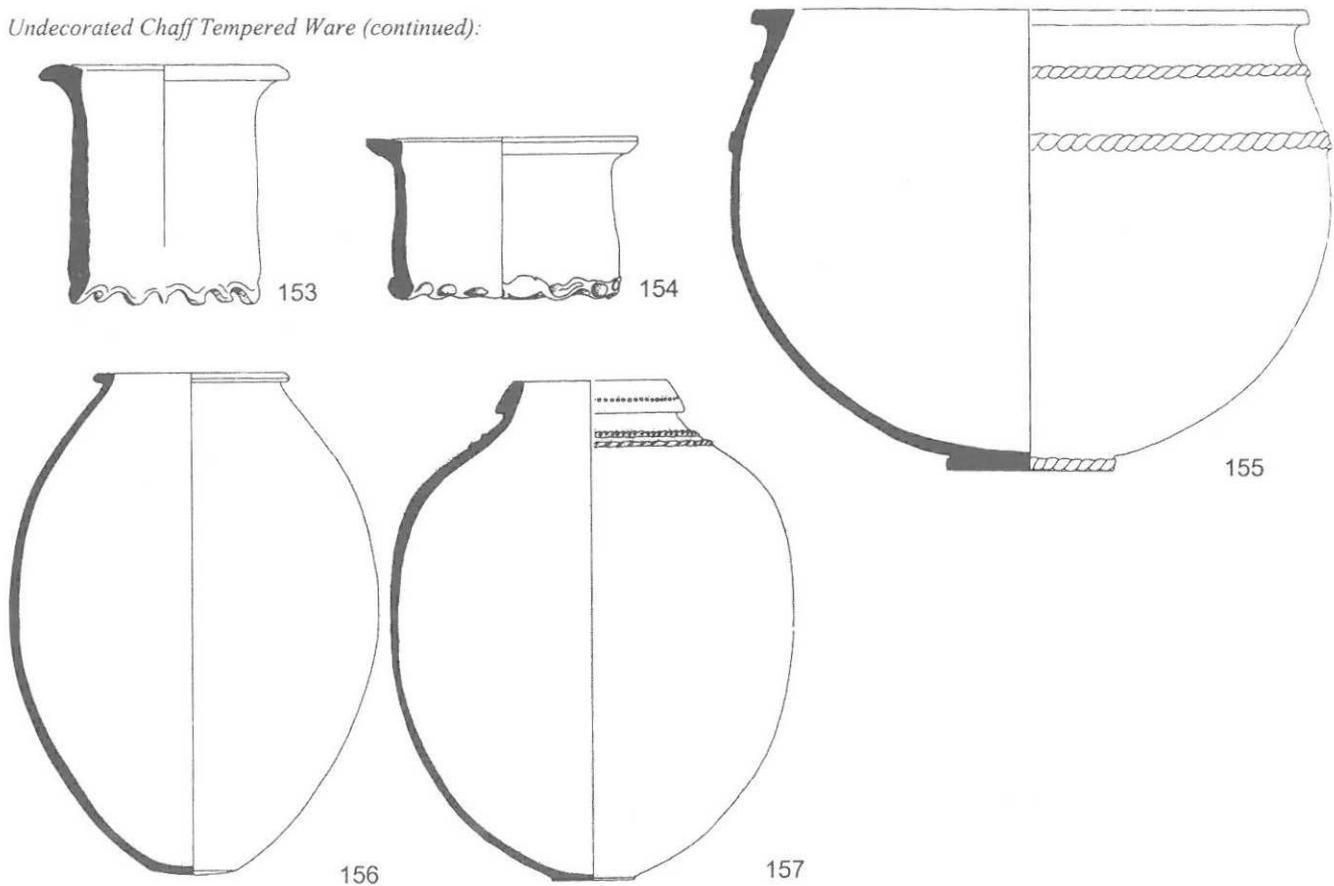
Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
146	Tell Bderi	S 4 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 53 b
147	Tell Bderi	surface	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 57 b
148	Tell Bderi	S 5 c/d	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 58 c
149	Tell Umm Qsir	Phase 3	Tomita 1998, Fig. 68, Nr. 2
150	Tell Umm Qsir	Phase 3	Tomita 1998, Fig. 67, Nr. 1
151	Tell Umm Qsir	Phase 3	Tomita 1998, Fig. 66, Nr. 10
152	Tell Umm Qsir	Phase 3	Tomita 1998, Fig. 66, Nr. 4

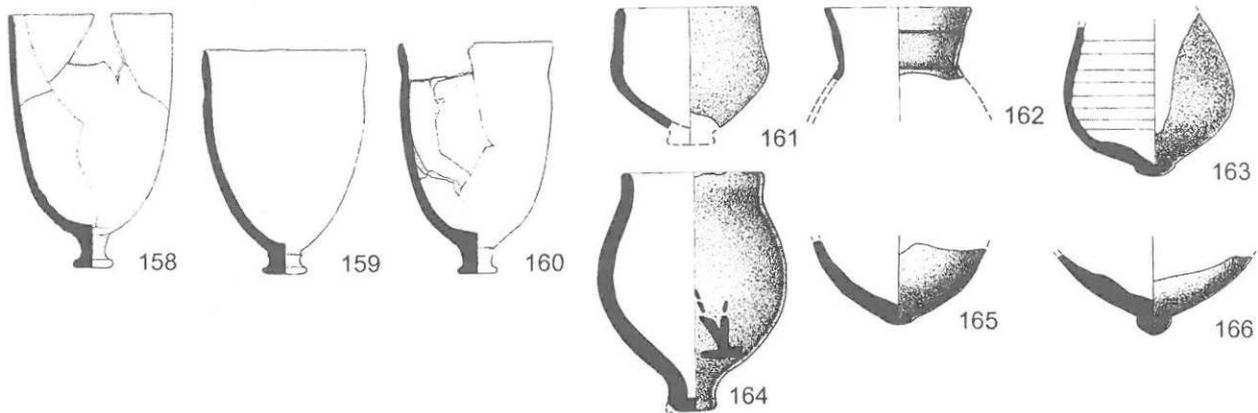
Plate XV - Middle Jazirah I B Pottery.



## Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):



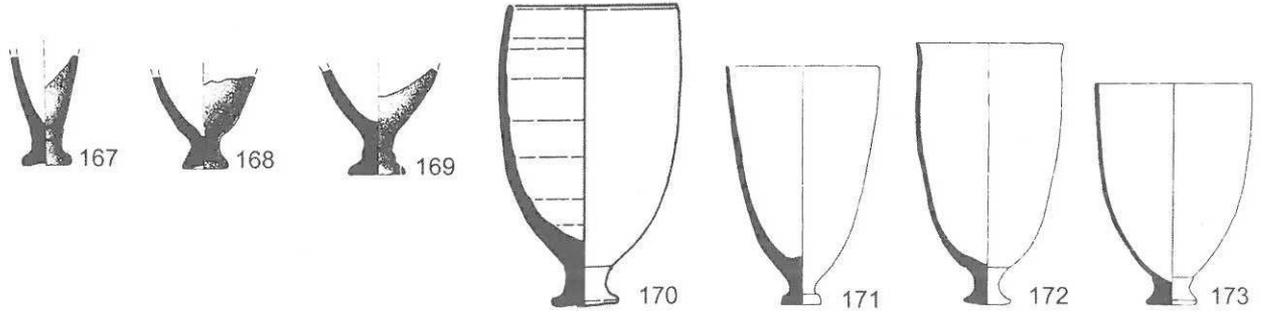
## Undecorated Mineral Tempered Ware:



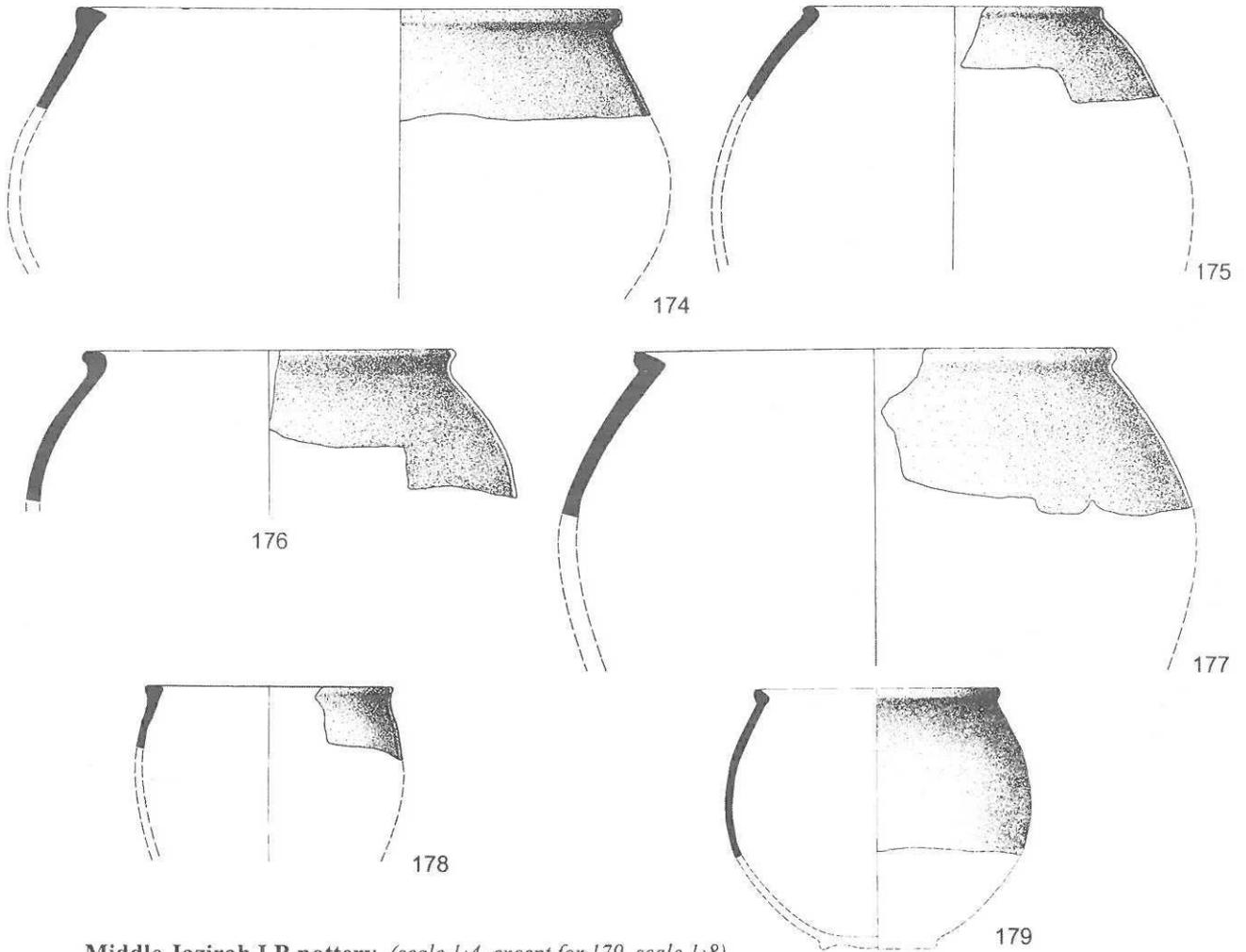
Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4, except for 155 - 57 scale 1:10)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
153	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 663
154	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 666
155	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 615
156	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 624
157	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 625
158	Tell Brak	1 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXIX: Nr. 1
159	Tell Brak	1 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXIX: Nr. 2
160	Tell Brak	1 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXIX: Nr. 3
161	Tell Bderi	S 5 e3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 35 d
162	Tell Bderi	S 5 e3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 36 c
163	Tell Bderi	N 2 b	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 36 d
164	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 63 i
165	Tell Bderi	N 4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 63 d
166	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 63 h

Undecorated Mineral Tempered Ware (continued):



Cooking Pot Ware:

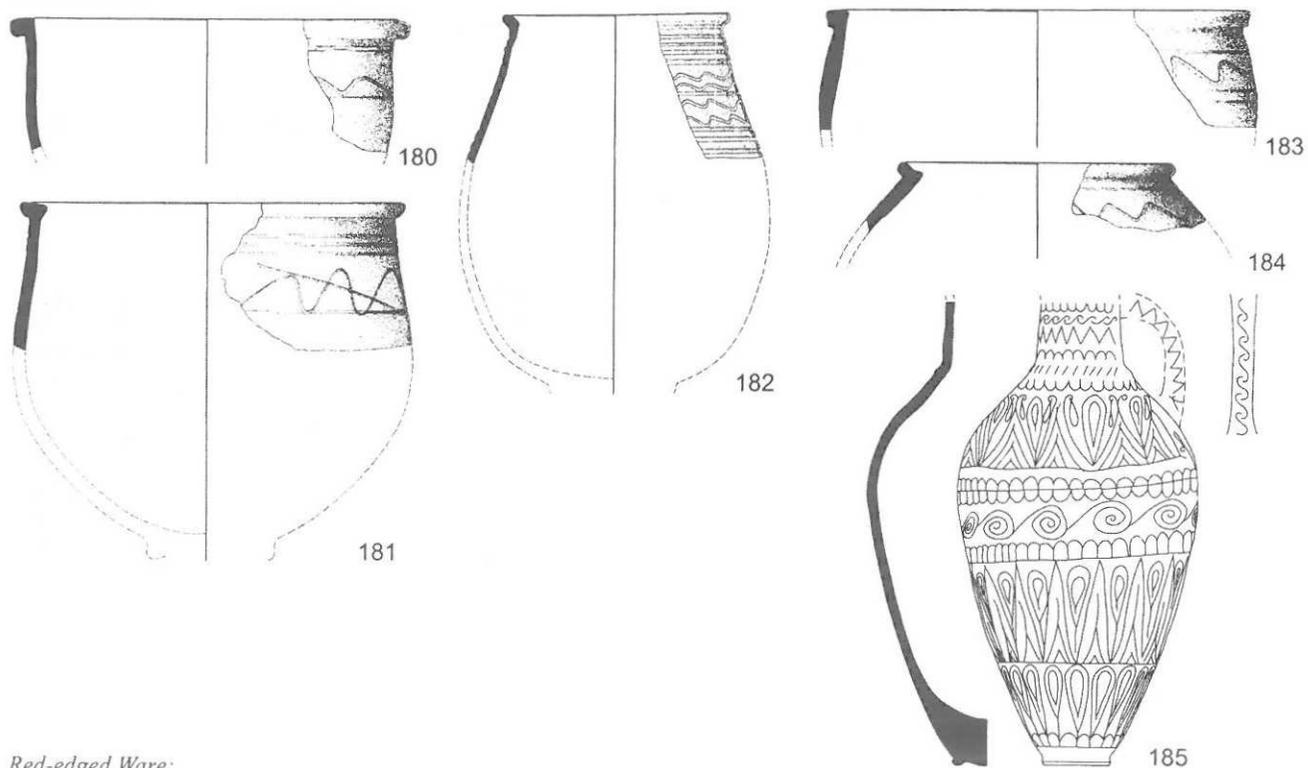


Middle Jazirah I B pottery (scale 1:4, except for 179, scale 1:8)

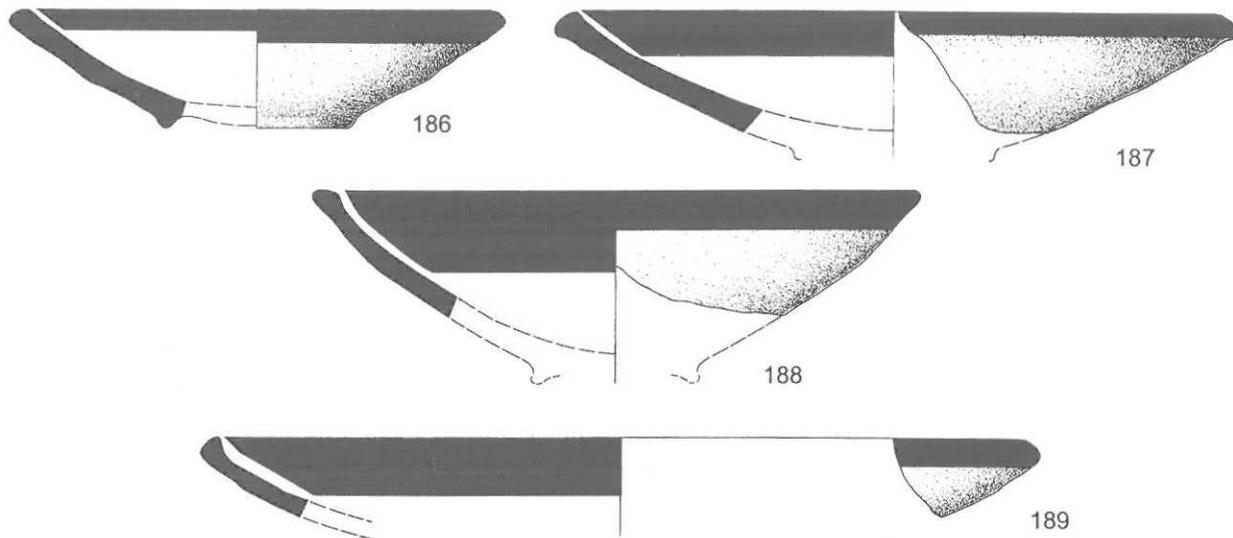
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
167	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 64 n
168	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 64 m
169	Tell Bderi	N 4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 65 b
170	Tell Umm Qsir	Phase 3	Tomita 1998, Fig. 66, Nr. 1
171	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 324
172	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 325
173	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 326
174	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 37 a
175	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 39 b
176	Tell Bderi	N 3-4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 39 f
177	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 40 g
178	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 40 b
179	Tell Bderi	N 5	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 43 g

Plate XVII - Middle Jazirah I B Pottery.

## Incised Ware:



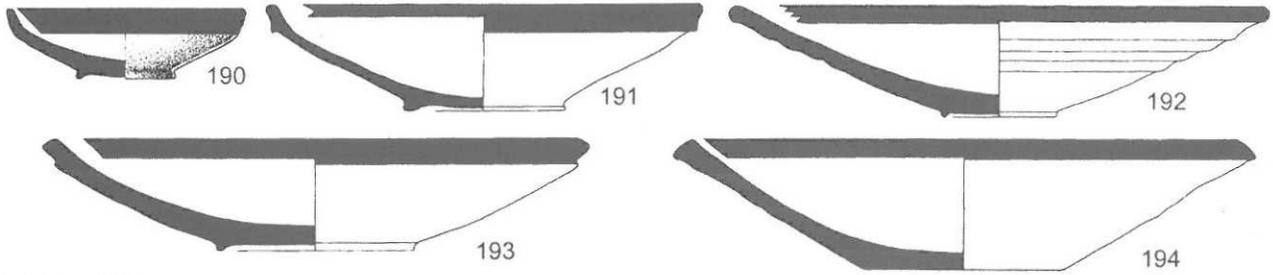
## Red-edged Ware:



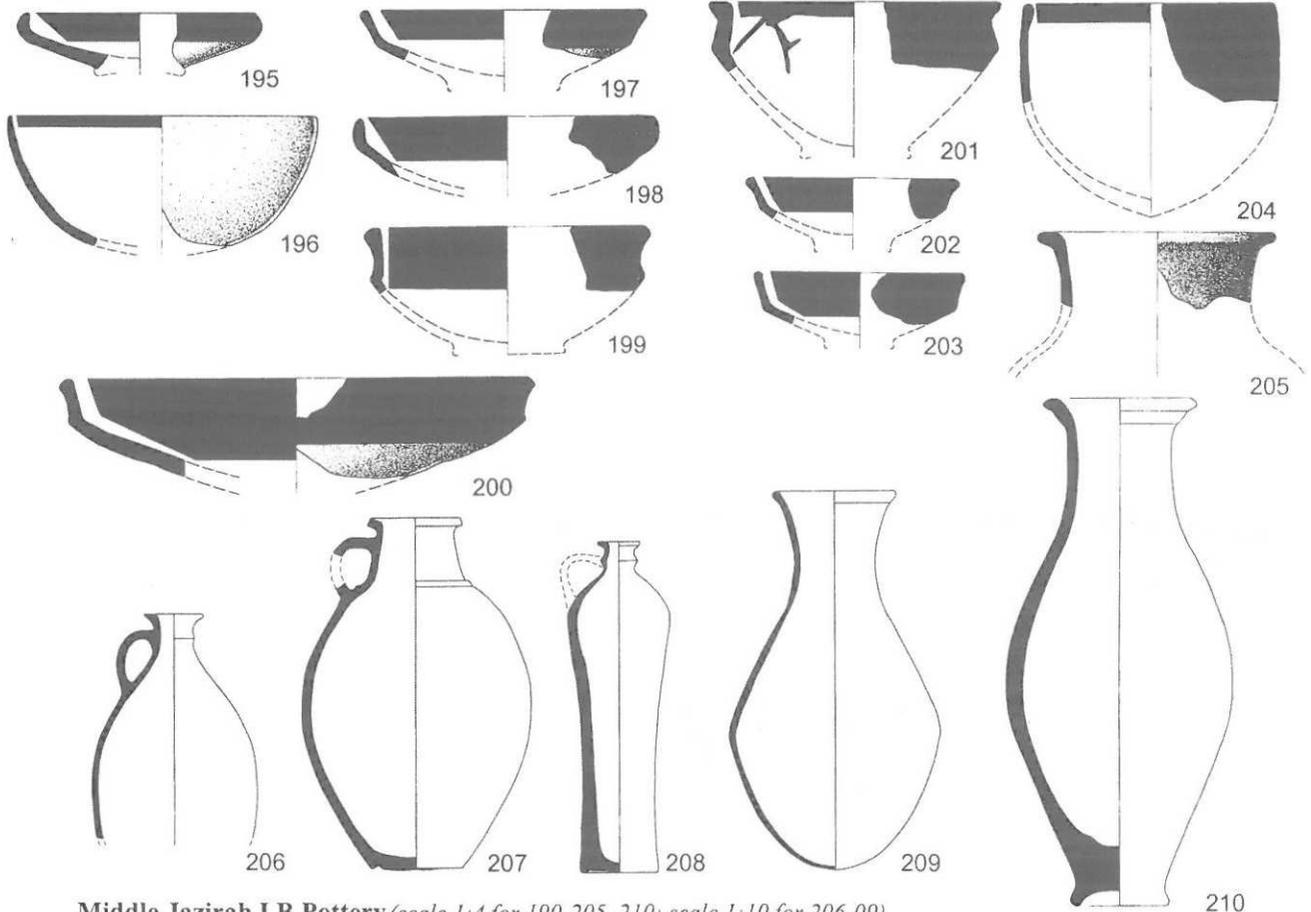
Middle Jazirah I B pottery (scale 1:8 for 180 -84; scale 1:4 for 185 - 89)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
180	Tell Bderi	N 4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 28 a
181	Tell Bderi	N 5	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 29 a.
182	Tell Bderi	S 5 c2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 38 a
183	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 41 d
184	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 42 b
185	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 602
186	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 1 d
187	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 1 f
188	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 2 e
189	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 4 e

Red-edged Ware (continued):



Red-slipped Ware:

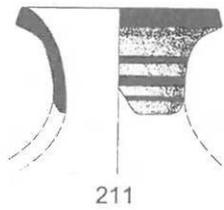


Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4 for 190-205, 210; scale 1:10 for 206-09)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
190	Tell Bderi	S 5 b1	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 9 h
191	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 139
192	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 140
193	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 141
194	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 143
195	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 3 e
196	Tell Bderi	N 3-4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 5 c
197	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 9 c
198	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 13 b
199	Tell Bderi	S 5 e3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 13 c
200	Tell Bderi	S 5 e3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 13 e
201	Tell Bderi	S 5 c	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 22 b
202	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 34 e
203	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 34 h
204	Tell Bderi	S 5 d3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 35 i
205	Tell Bderi	S 5 c1	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 48 d
206	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 509
207	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 510
208	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 511
209	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 512
210	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 517

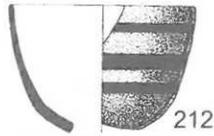
Plate XIX - Middle Jazirah I B Pottery.

## Older Khabur Ware:



211

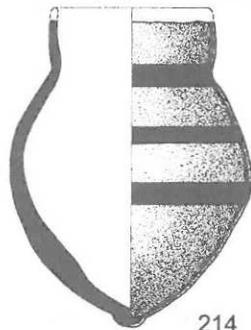
## Younger Khabur Ware:



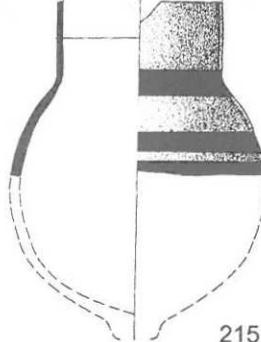
212



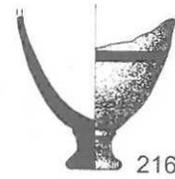
213



214



215



216



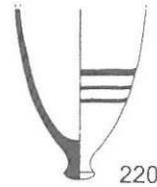
219



217

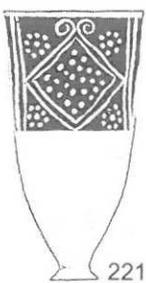


218



220

## Nuzi Ware:



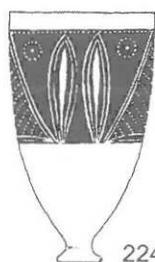
221



222



223



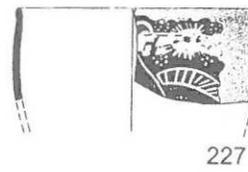
224



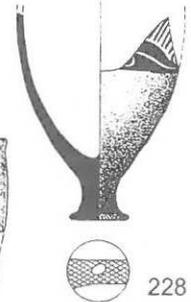
225



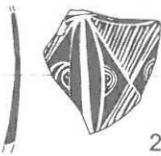
226



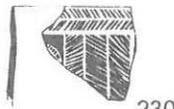
227



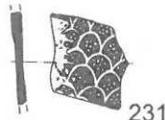
228



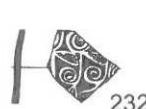
229



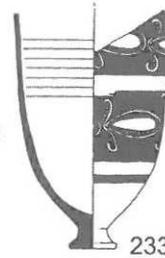
230



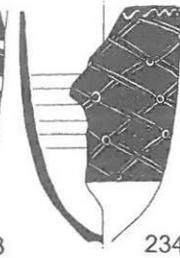
231



232



233



234

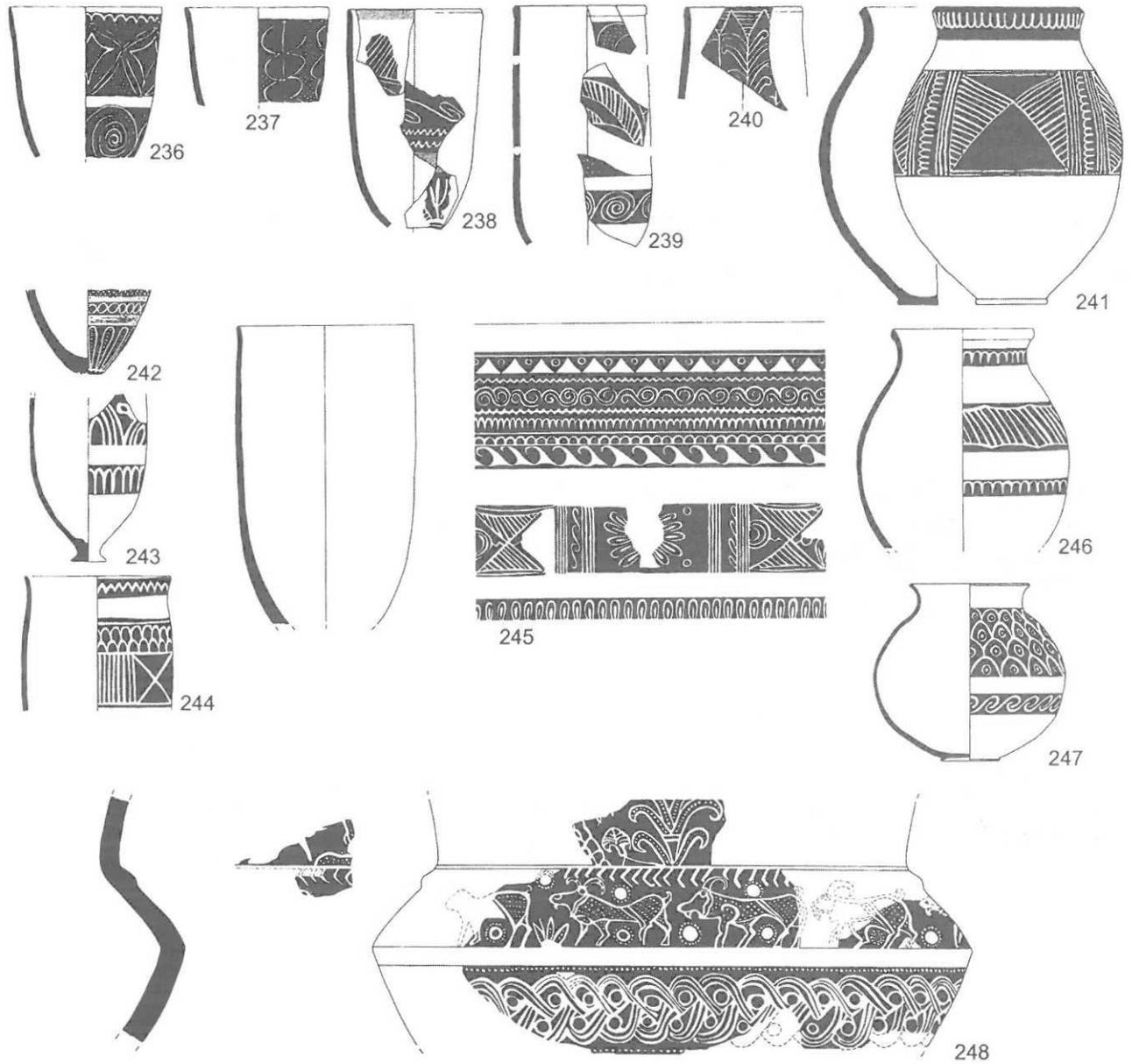


235

## Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
211	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 52 a
212	Tell Bderi	S 5 d5	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 34 b
213	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 35 f
214	Tell Bderi	N 5	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 36 b
215	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 36 a
216	Tell Bderi	S 5 d	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 65 c
217	Tell Bderi	S 5 d	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 65 g
218	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 241, Tf. III: Nr. 8
219	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 241, Tf. III: Nr. 9
220	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 330
221	Tell Brak	1-3 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII: Nr. 4
222	Tell Brak	1-3 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII: Nr. 6
223	Tell Brak	1-3 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII: Nr. 7
224	Tell Brak	1-3 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII: Nr. 8
225	Tell Brak	1-3 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVII: Nr. 9
226	Tell Brak	1 (Mallow.)	Mallowan 1947, Pl. LXXVI: Nr. 14
227	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 35 c
228	Tell Bderi	S 5 e2	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 64 j
229	Tell Bderi	S 5 d	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 66 h
230	Tell Bderi	N 3-5	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 66 b
231	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 66 k
232	Tell Bderi	N 3	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 66 g
233	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 1
234	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 2
235	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 3

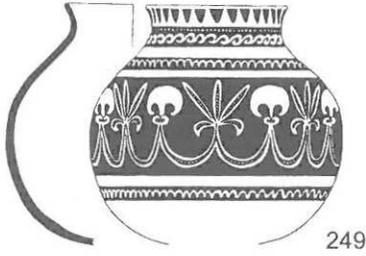
Nuzi Ware (continued):



Middle Jazirah I B Pottery (scale 1:4)

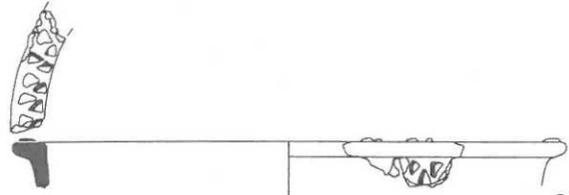
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
236	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 4
237	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 5
238	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 8
239	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 9
240	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 239: Tf. 1, Nr. 10
241	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 243: Tf. V, Nr. 8
242	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 241: Tf. III, Nr. 12
243	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 389
244	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 391
245	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 392
246	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 398
247	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 399
248	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 402

Acana Ware:



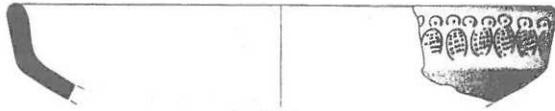
249

White Paste Inlay Ware:



250

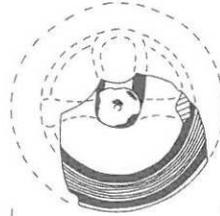
Impressed Ware:



251

IMPORTED WARES:

Mycenian Pottery:

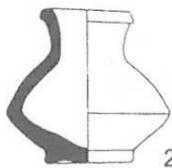


Cypriote White Slip Ware:



256

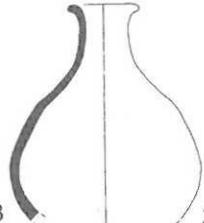
Glazed Ware:



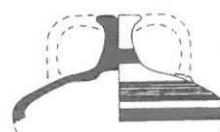
252



253



254



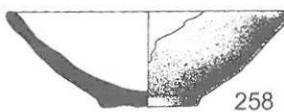
255

THE MIDDLE ASSYRIAN ADMINISTRATIVE POTTERY TRADITION:

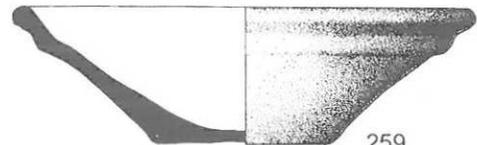
Middle Assyrian Standard Ware:



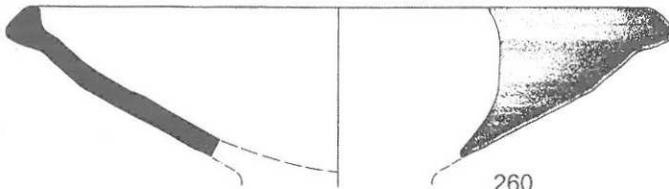
257



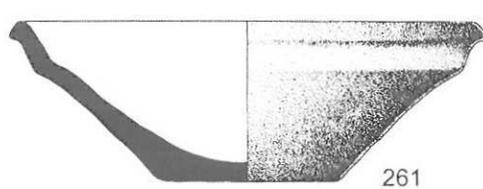
258



259



260



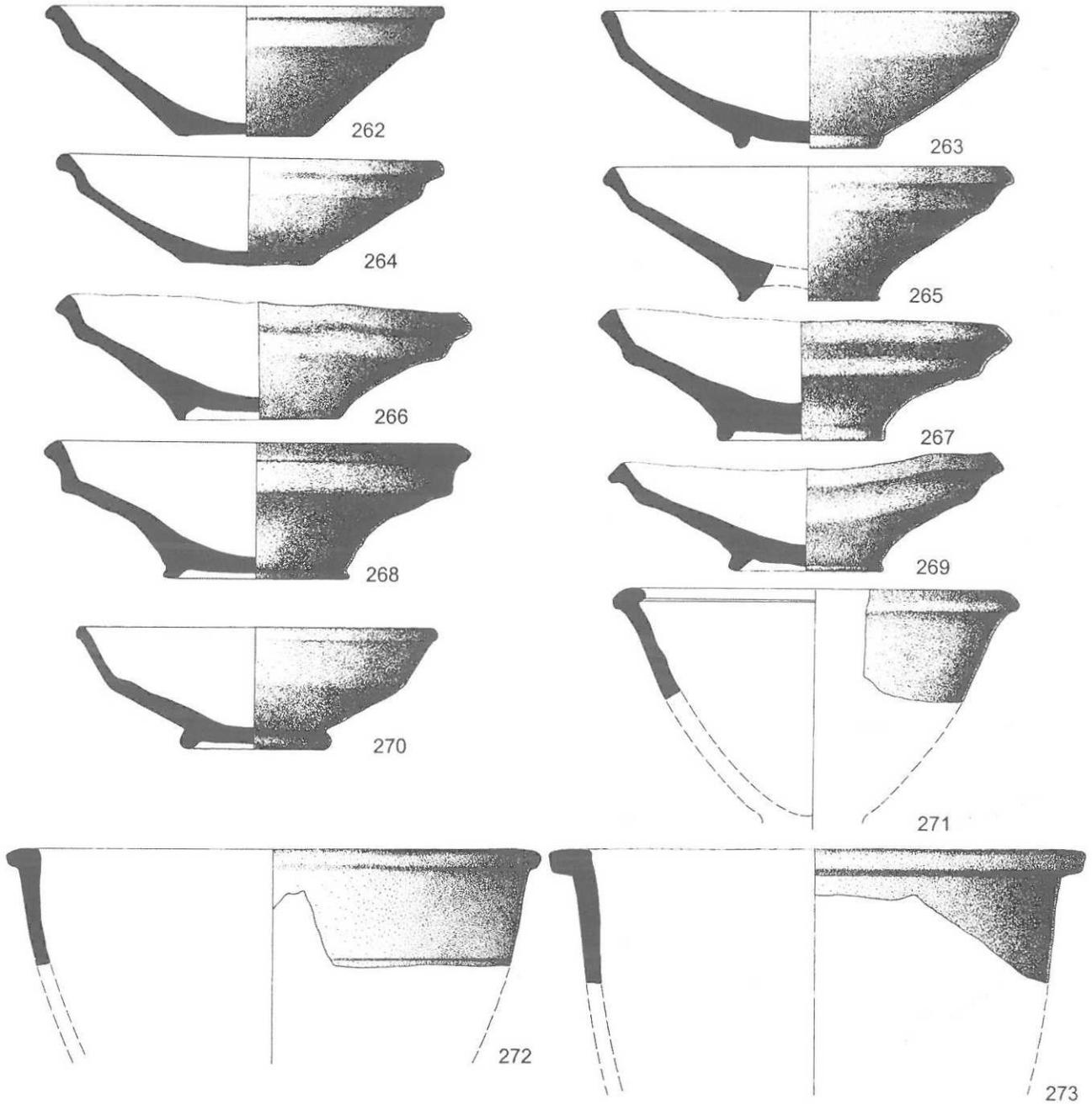
261

Middle Jazirah I B pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
249	Tell Beydar	Field J	Bretschneider 1997b, 240: Tf. II, Nr. 2
250	Tell Bderi	unstratified	Reg. Nr. BD86/2741/6 (unpublished)
251	Tell Bderi	N 3-4	Pfälzner 1995, Tf. 66 a
252	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, No. 497
253	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 500
254	Tell Brak	2	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 501
255	Tell Brak	2/1	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Nr. 603
256	Tell Fekheriyeh	unstratified	Pruss - Bagdo 2002, Fig. 6 d
Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery (scale 1:4)			
257	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A / stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 67 e
258	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room F / stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 98 i
259	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A / stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 69 a
260	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room G / stratum a/b (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 100 f
261	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A / stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 69 b

Plate XXII - Middle Jazirah I B and Middle Jazirah II A-II B Pottery.

Middle Assyrian Standard Ware (continued):

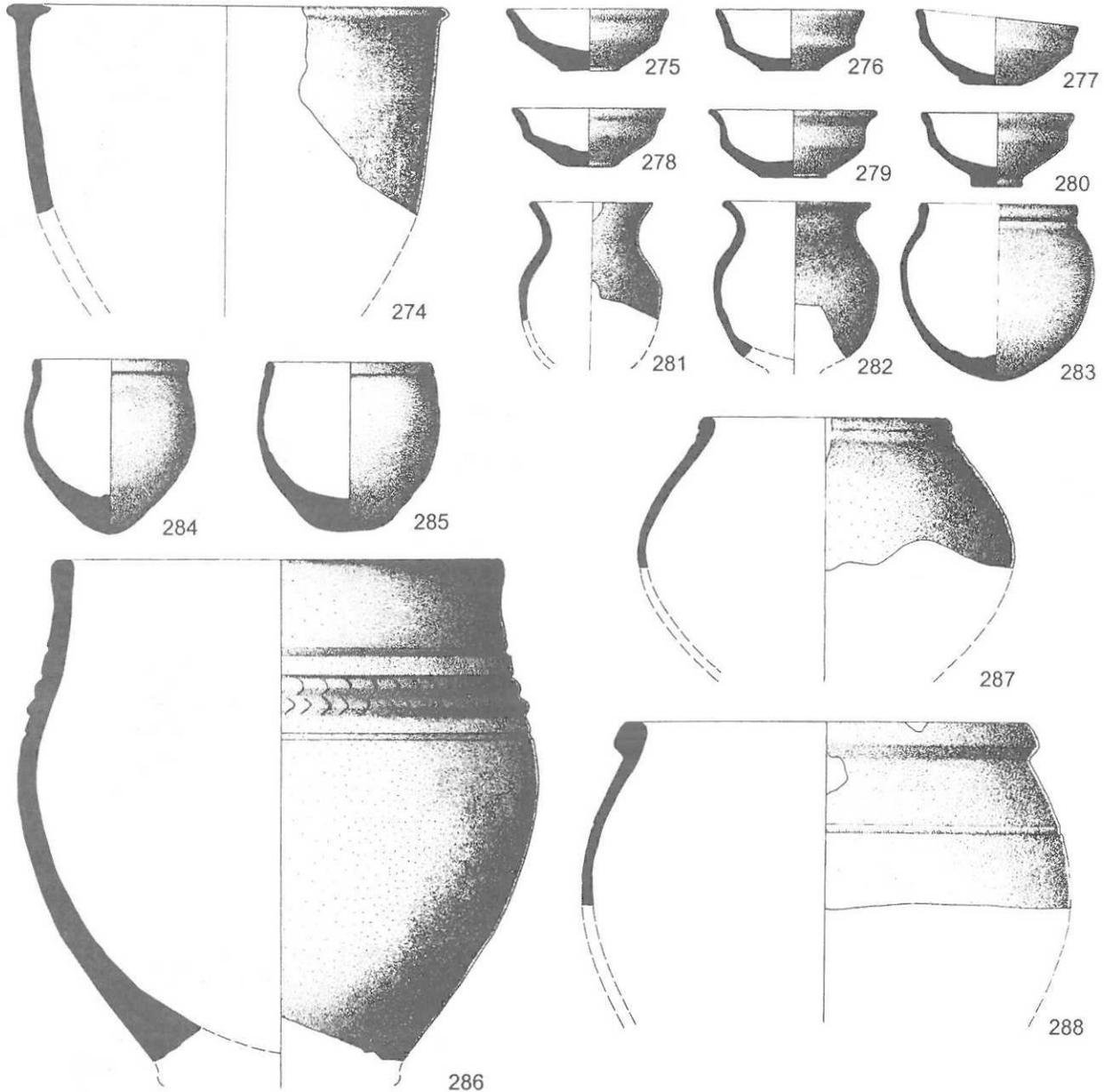


Middle Jazirah II A und II B pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
262	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 69 f
263	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 69 g
264	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room F/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 103 e
265	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum a (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 104 g
266	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum a (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 105 g
267	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum a (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 105 h
268	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room G/ stratum a/b (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 106 a
269	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum a (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 106 c
270	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum c/d (mA IIc)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 107 e
271	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 110 b
272	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 75 b
273	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 76 b

Plate XXIII - Middle Jazirah II A-II B Pottery.

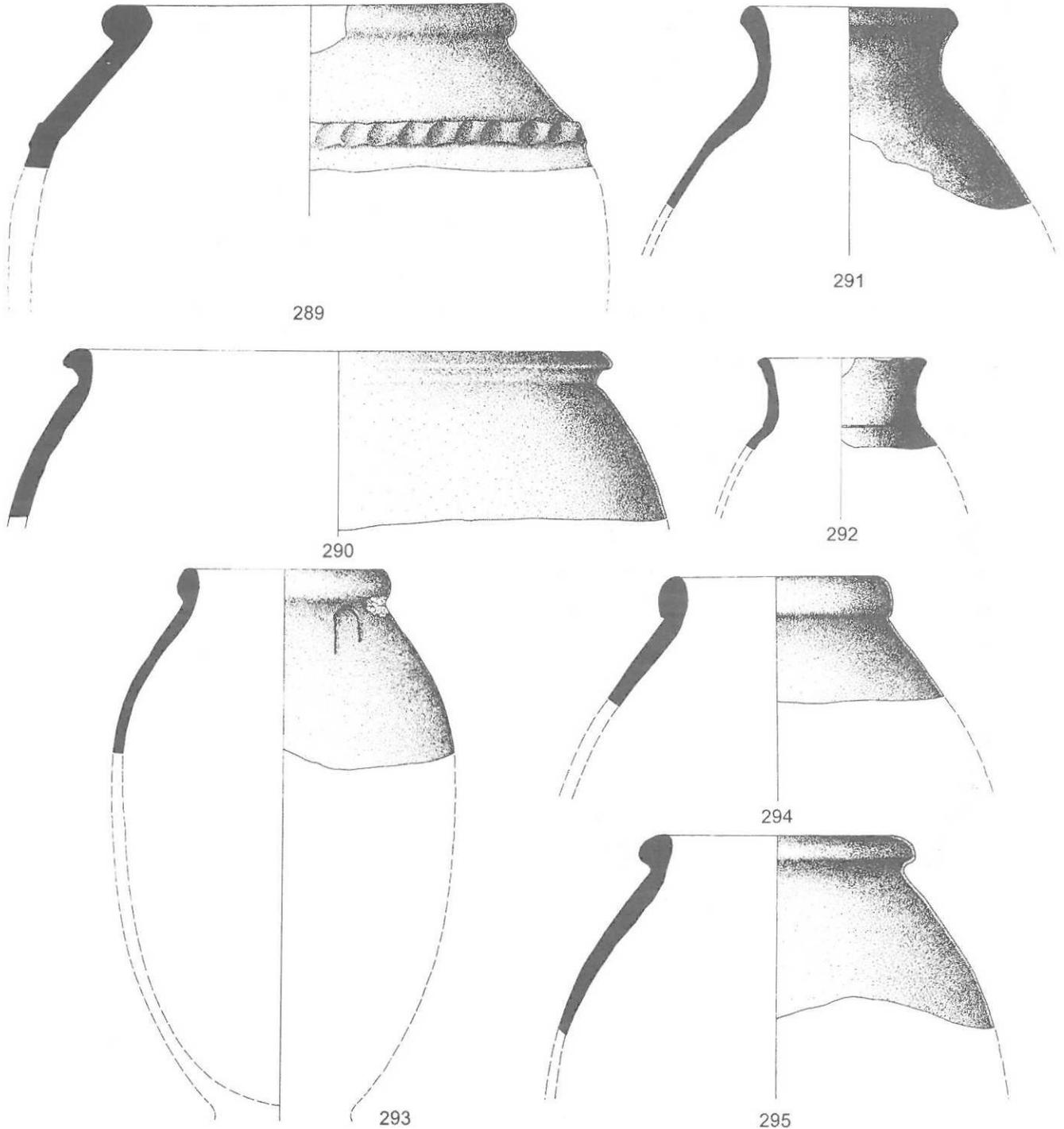
## Middle Assyrian Standard Ware (continued):



## Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
274	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 112 a
275	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 e
276	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 f
277	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 g
278	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 k
279	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 m
280	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 n
281	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum g/h (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 114 f
282	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 114 i
283	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 78 d
284	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 78 e
285	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 78 f
286	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum a (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 115 a
287	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum c (mA IIc)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 117 b
288	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 80 b

Middle Assyrian Standard Ware:

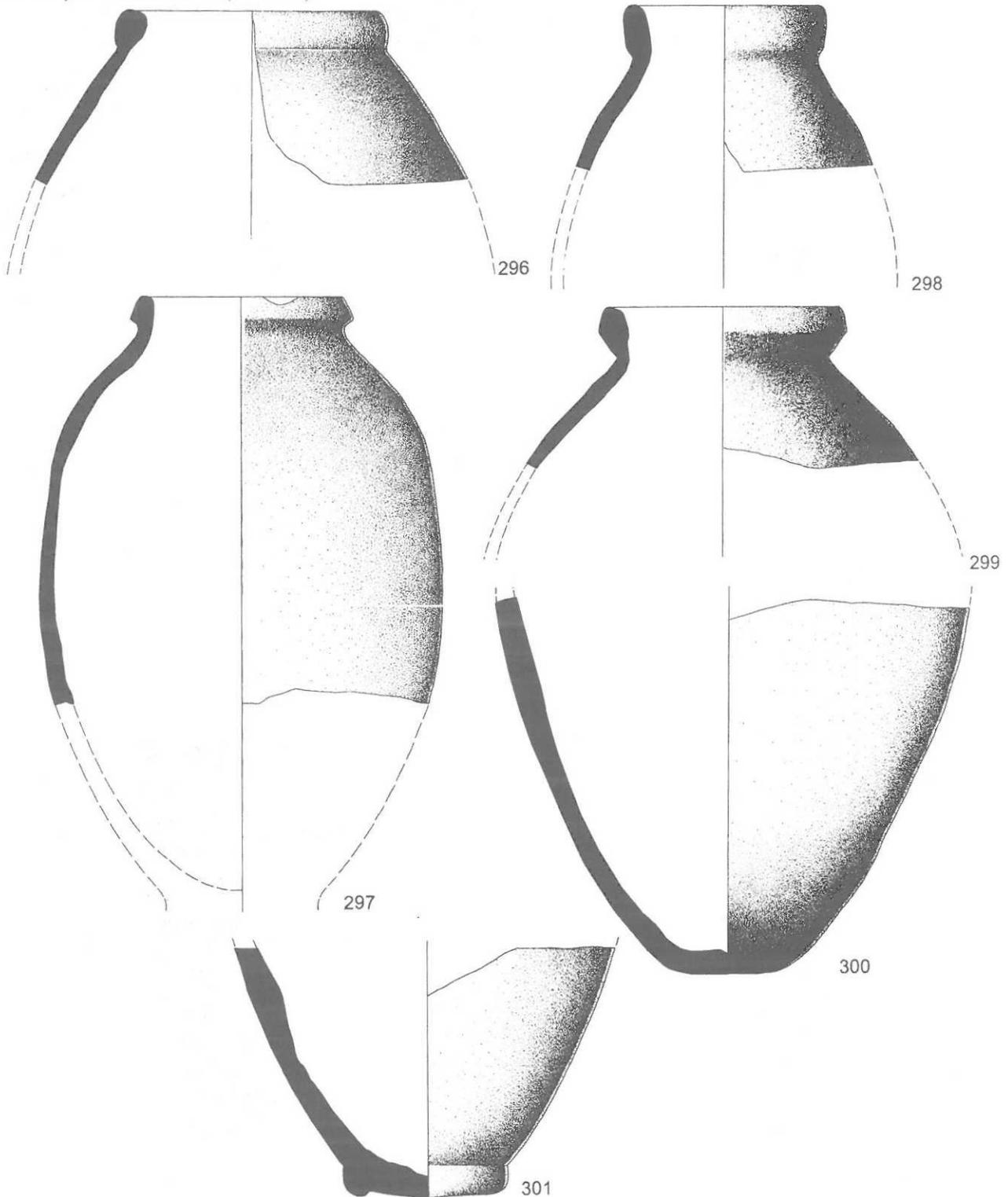


Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery (scale 1:4, except for 293, scale 1:6)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
289	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room F/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 118 a
290	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 83 c
291	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum b (mA IIc)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 119 e
292	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum b (mA IIc)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 119 b
293	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 86 a
294	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 87 b
295	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 88 c

Plate XXV - Middle Jazirah II A-II B Pottery.

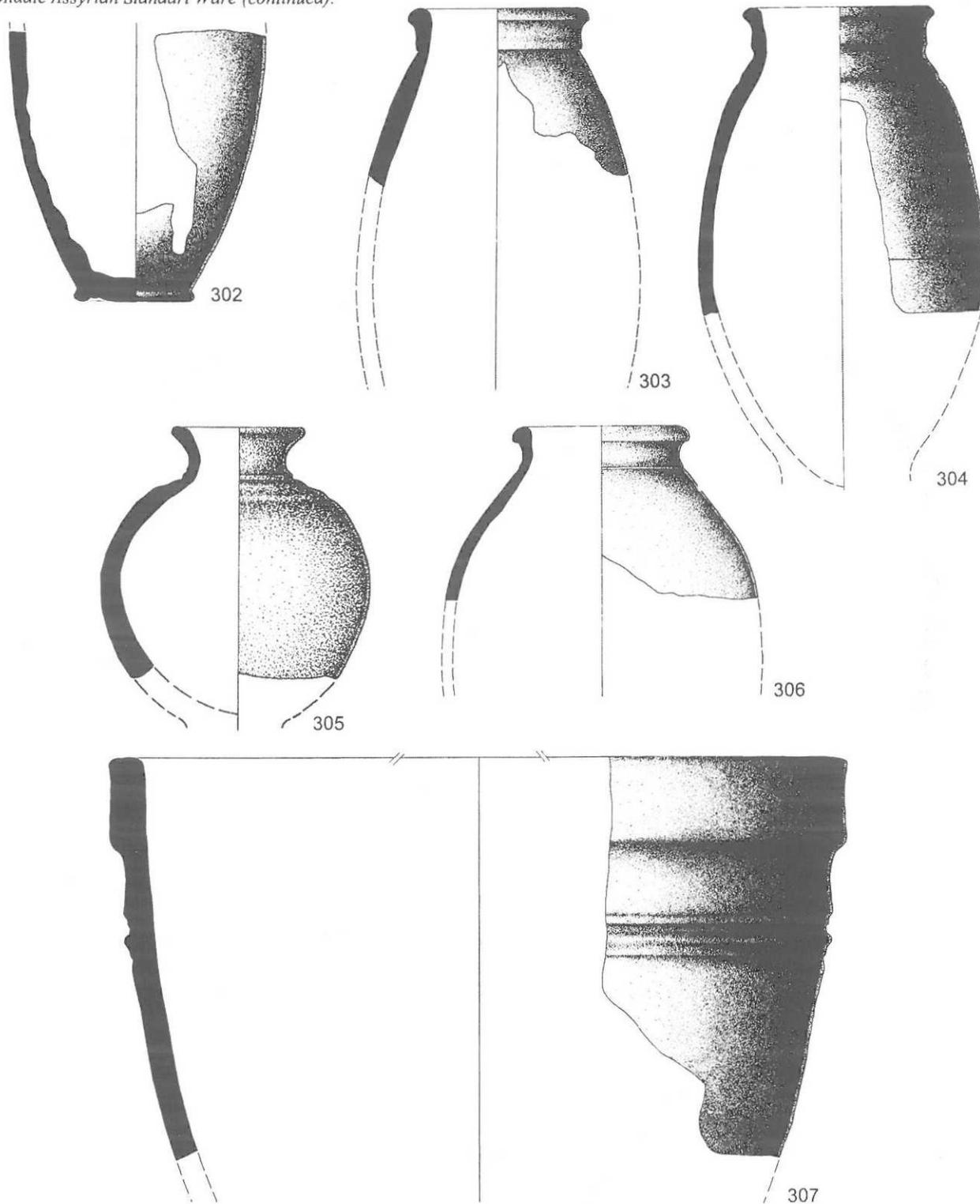
*Middle Assyrian Standard Ware (continued):*



**Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery (scale 1:4)**

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
296	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 88 d
297	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 89 a
298	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 120 b
299	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room E/ stratum b (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 121 c
300	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 95 c
301	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 96 a

Middle Assyrian Standard Ware (continued):



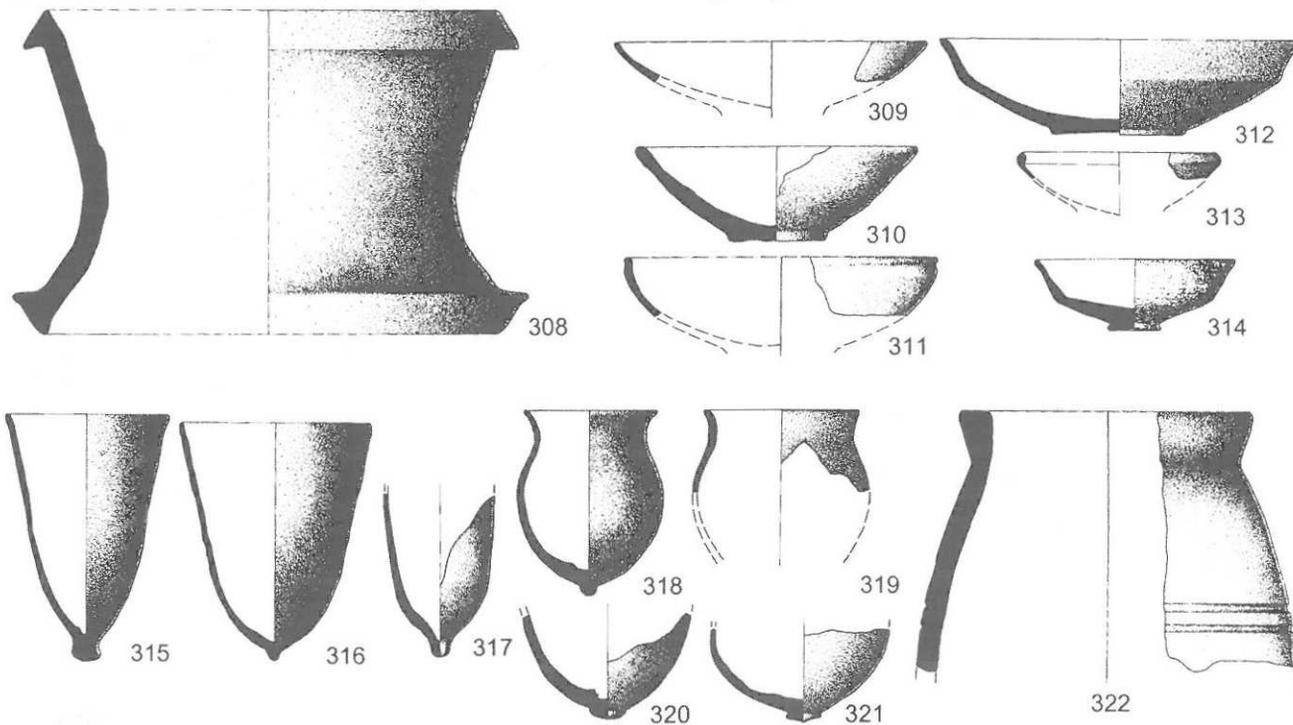
Middle Jazirah II A and II B pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
302	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 97 c
303	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 91 c
304	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum g/h (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 123 a
305	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 92 a
306	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 93 b
307	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room D/ stratum c (mA IIa/b)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 124 a

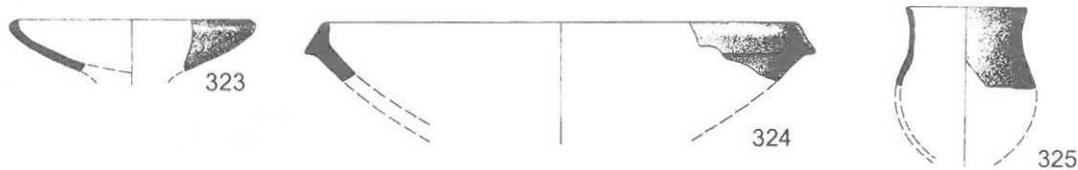
Plate XXVII - Middle Jazirah II A-II B Pottery.

Middle Assyrian Standard Ware (continued):

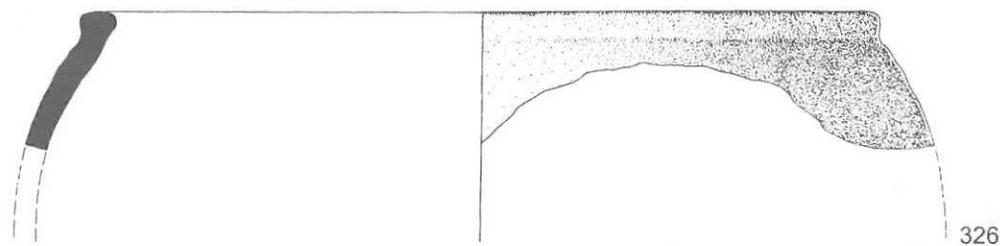
Fine Chaff Tempered Ware:



Undecorated Mineral Tempered Ware:



Cooking Pot Ware:

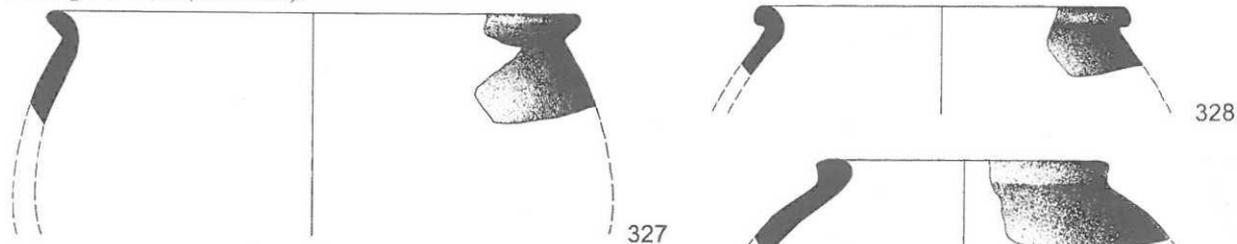


Middle Jazirah II A and II B Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
308	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room G/ stratum a/b (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 127 d
309	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum a (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 98 e
310	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room F/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 98 i
311	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum f (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 102 d
312	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 67 g
313	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 77 b
314	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum c (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 113 f
315	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room D/ stratum d (mA IIa/b)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 114 a
316	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room J/ stratum b (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 114 b
317	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 97 e
318	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room F/ stratum b (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 114 e
319	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 79 b
320	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 97 h
321	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 97 k
322	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 91 d
323	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 67 f
324	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum c (mA IIc)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 102 a
325	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum c (mA IIc)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 114 g
326	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room A/ stratum a-e (mA I)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 80 c

Plate XXVIII - Middle Jazirah II A-II B Pottery.

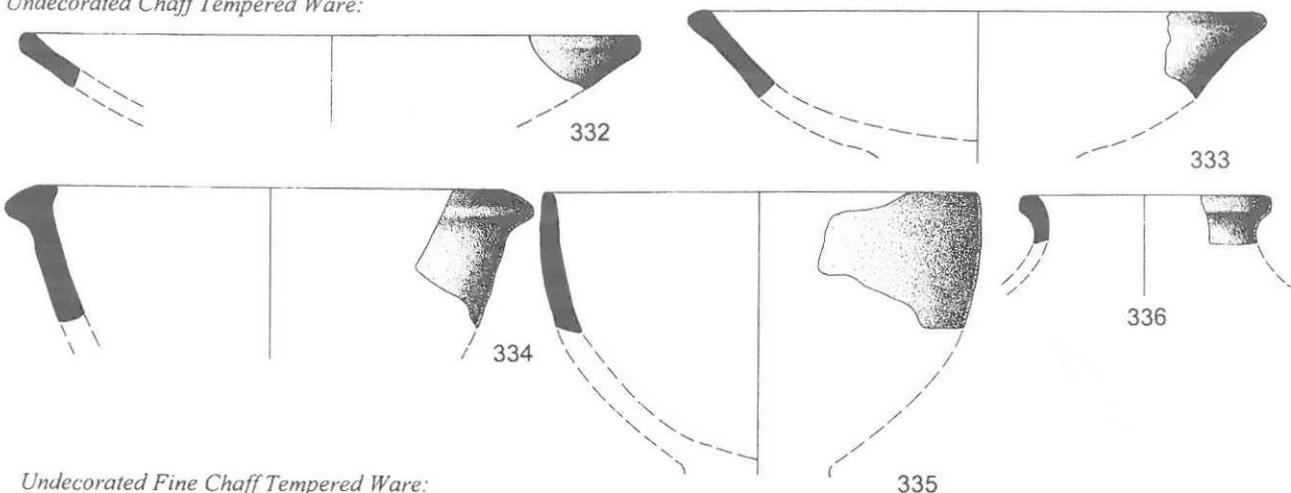
Cooking Pot Ware (continued):



Younger Khabur Ware:



THE DOMESTIC POTTERY TRADITION:  
Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware:



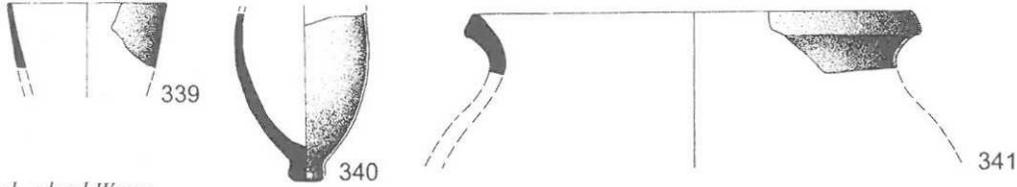
Undecorated Fine Chaff Tempered Ware:



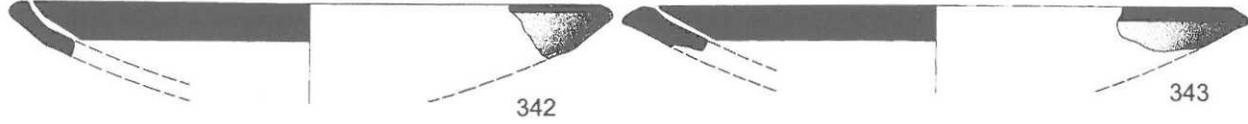
Middle Jazirah II A and II B Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
327	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room G/ stratum b (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 116 c
328	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room G/ stratum a/b (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 116 d
329	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room Q/ stratum i (mA IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 122 d
330	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room W/ stratum - (mA IIa-c)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 131 j
331	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room D/ stratum d (mA IIa)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 131 k
332	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 133 a
333	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 133 d
334	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 134 a
335	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 134 b
336	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum a (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 135 b
337	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 135 h
338	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 135 i

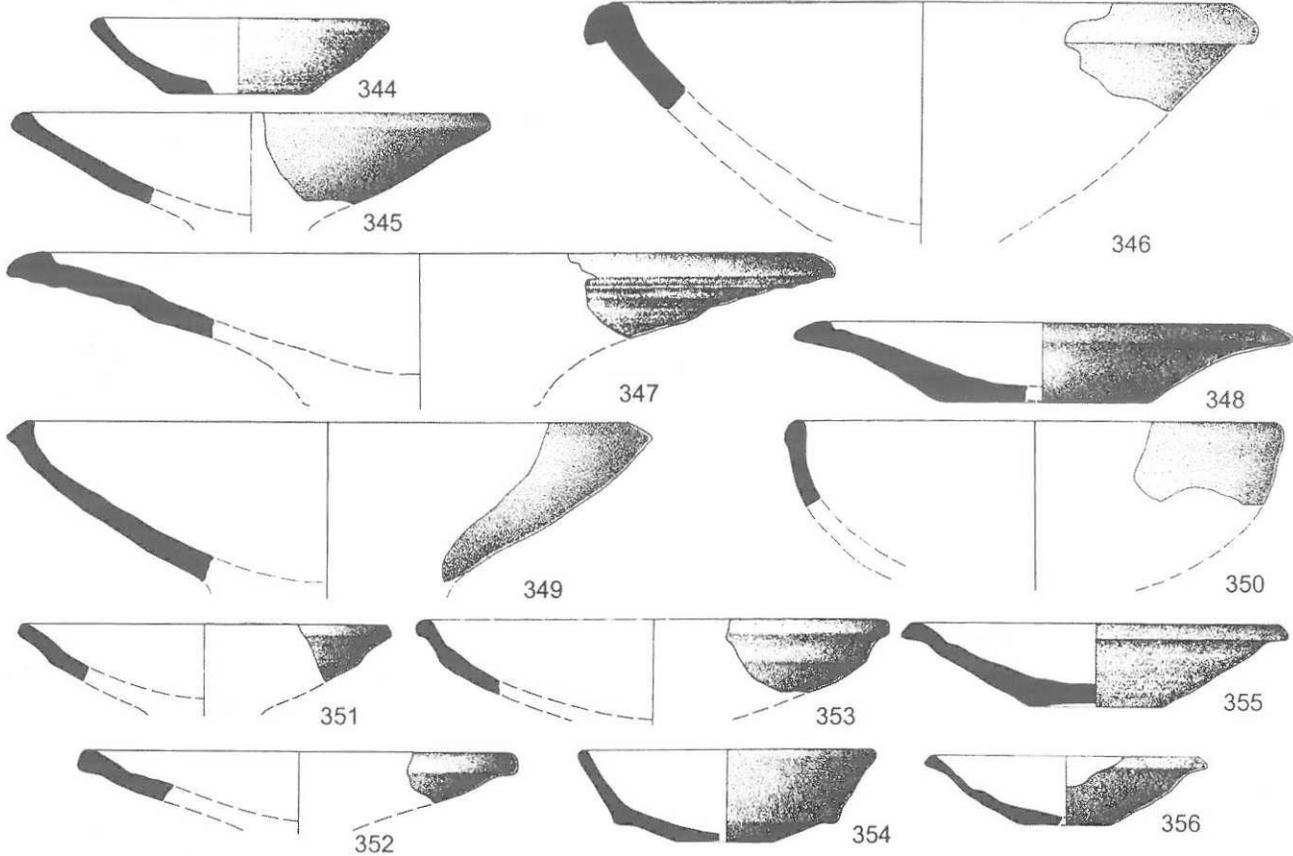
## Undecorated Mineral Tempered Ware:



## Red-edged Ware:



## Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware:



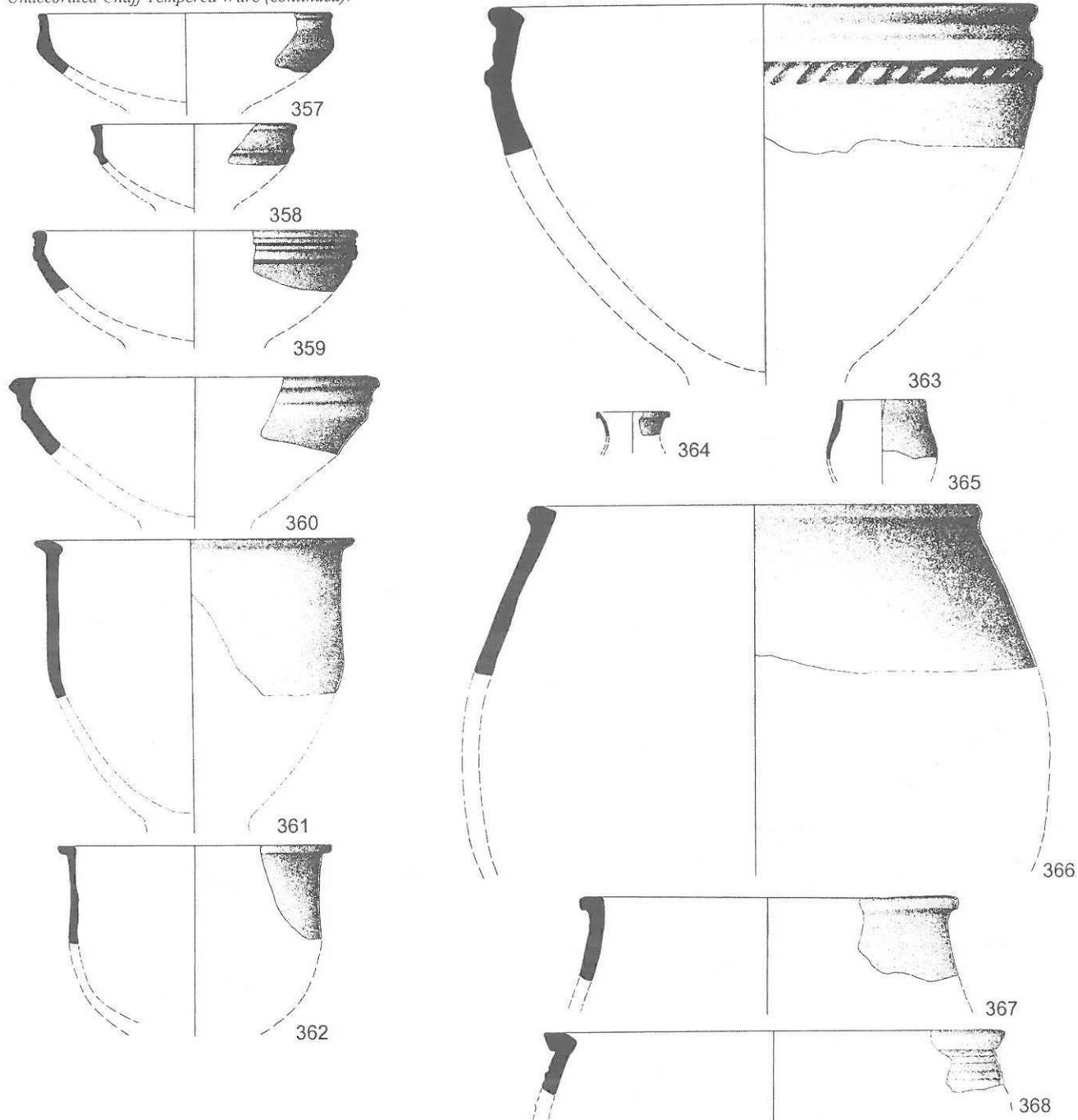
## Middle Jazirah II A and II B Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
339	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 135 g
340	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 135 j
341	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 135 a
342	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 133 b
343	Tell Shaikh Hamad	room L/ stratum b (mA I-IIb)	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 133 c

## Middle Jazirah III Pottery (scale 1:4)

344	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 136 b
345	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 136 e
346	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 136 d
347	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 137 a
348	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 137 b
349	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 137 c
350	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 137 d
351	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 138 a
352	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 138 b
353	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 138 e
354	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 139 a
355	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 139 b
356	Tell Bderi	stratum S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 139 c

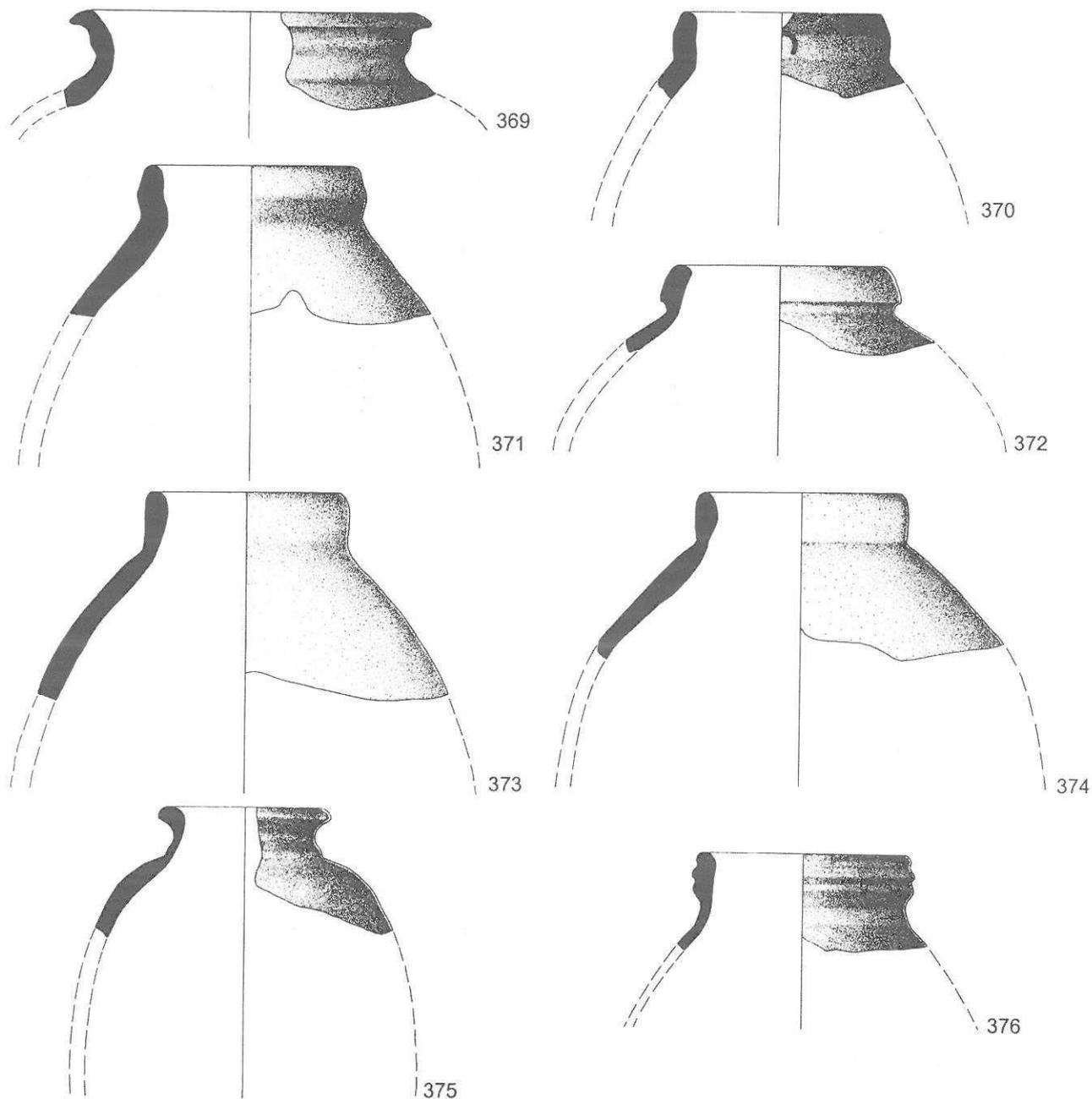
Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):



Middle Jazirah III Pottery (scale 1:6)

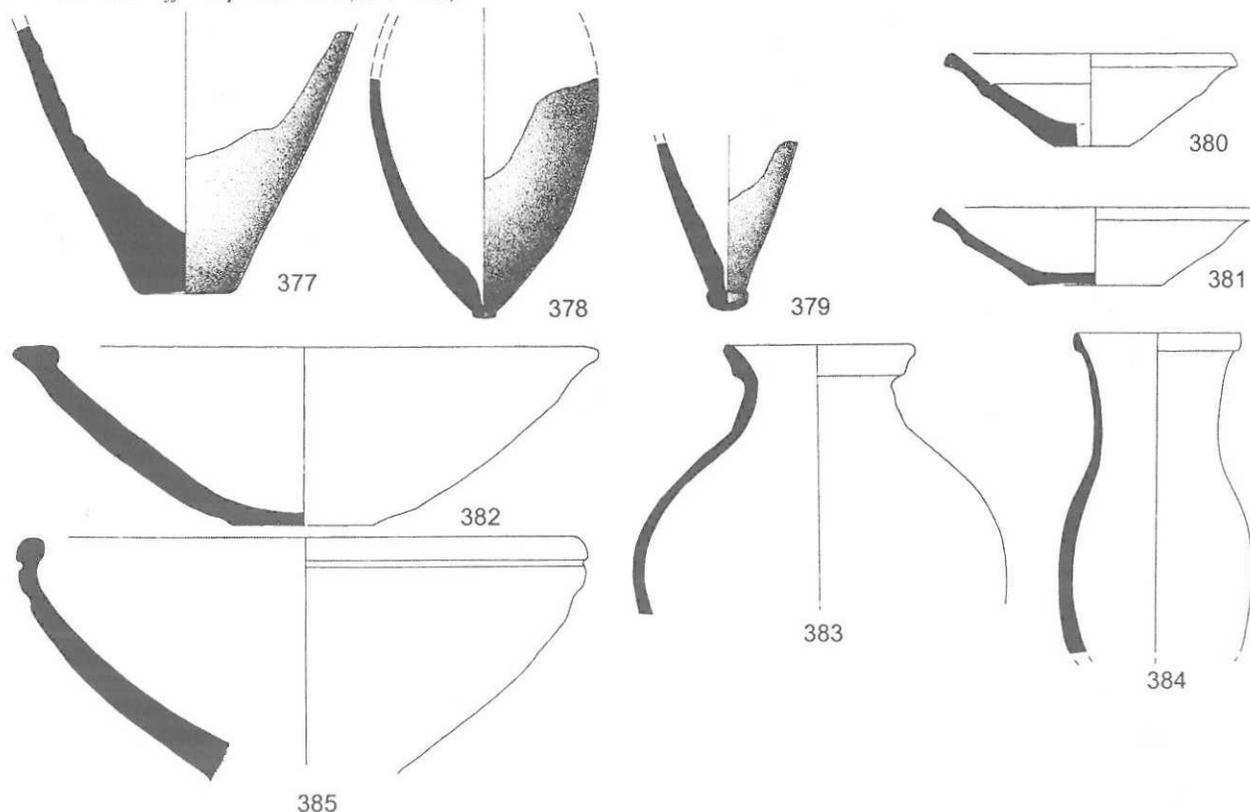
No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
357	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 140 a
358	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 140 b
359	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 140 d
360	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 141 a
361	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 143 a
362	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 143 b
363	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 145 a
364	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 146 f
365	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 146 g
366	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 147 a
367	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 148 a
368	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 148 b

Plate XXXI - Middle Jazirah III Pottery.

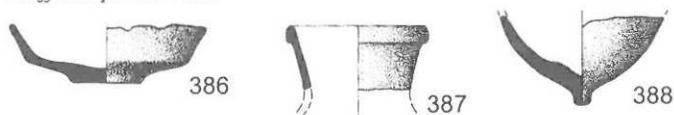
*Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):***Middle Jazirah III Pottery** (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
369	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 149 c
370	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 151 a
371	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 151 b
372	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 151 c
373	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 152 e
374	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 153 g
375	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 155 f
376	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 155 c

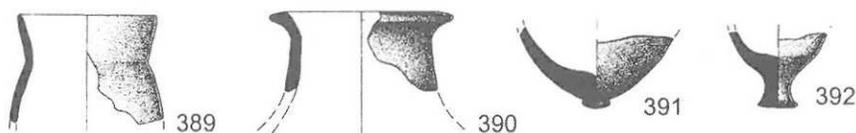
Undecorated Chaff Tempered Ware (continued):



Undecorated Fine Chaff Tempered Ware:



Undecorated Mineral Tempered Ware:



Middle Jazirah III Pottery (scale 1:4)

No.	Site	Stratum	Reference
377	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 156 f
378	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 157 d
379	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 157 c
380	Tell Brak	I	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Fig. 181: Nr. 8
381	Tell Brak	I	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Fig. 181: Nr. 9
382	Tell Brak	I	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Fig. 181: Nr. 12
383	Tell Brak	I	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 168 b
384	Tell Brak	I	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Fig. 182: Nr. 32
385	Tell Brak	I	Oates - Oates - McDonald 1997, Fig. 182: Nr. 41
386	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 146 b
387	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 146 e
388	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 157 e
389	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 146 d
390	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 150 e
391	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 157 f
392	Tell Bderi	S 2	Pfälzner 1995, Taf. 157 g