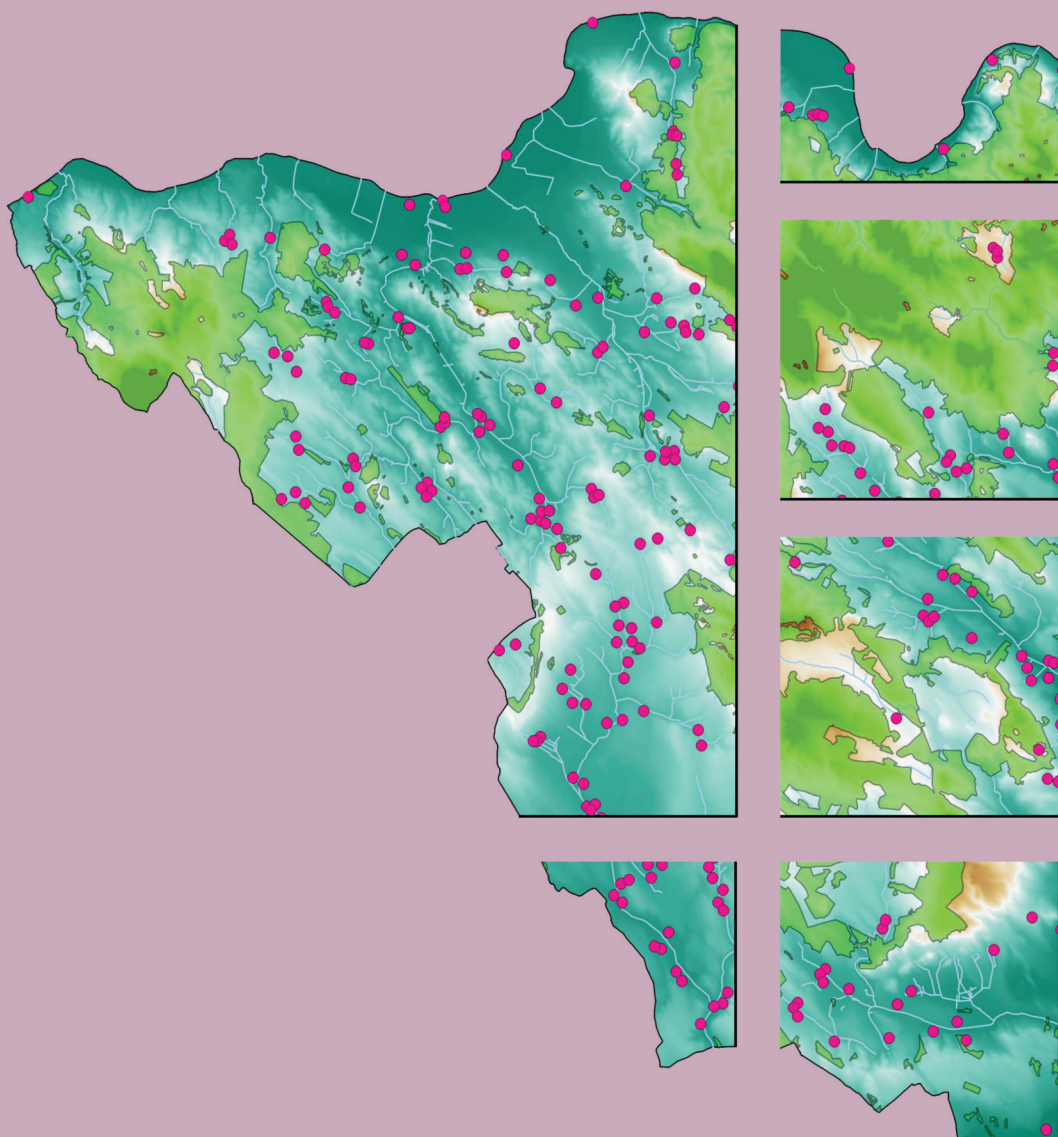


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ex Instituto Archaeologico Universitatis de Rolando Eötvös nominatae



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The Middle Assyrian Ceramics at Sheikhi Choli Tomb

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Abstract

On the 18th of March in 2017 the associates of the Directorate General of Antiquities and the Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage of Erbil found an Assyrian vaulted tomb near to the mosque of Sheikhi Choli in the Arab quarter of Erbil. In the robbed grave 143 complete vessels and further sherds were found in high numbers. This article gives the preliminary technological and typological report and interpretation of these ceramics, furthermore it identifies that, as it was expected from the form of the tomb, they can be dated mostly to the Middle-Assyrian Period. The implementation and the architecture of the tomb, the great number of the pottery, the wide range of shapes and their high quality indicates that the tomb might have been used by a family of high social status and wealth. Furthermore, the location itself suggest that the lower city of Erbil was a residential area of important, high rank families.

Introduction and acknowledgments

On the 18th of March in 2017 the associates of the Directorate General of Antiquities and the Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage of Erbil found an Assyrian vaulted tomb near to the mosque of Sheikhi Choli in the Arab quarter of Erbil (*Fig. 1*).¹ The tomb was discovered accidentally by construction workers about 5 m below the street level during the grounding of a commercial building. The aim of this paper is to present the ceramics found during the excavations, and to give an overview on the typological and fabrication technique groups.²

The tomb is located in the ancient city of Erbil, in the Arab quarter, close to the Sheikhi Choli Mosque. The attached photo pinpoints the precise location of the tomb, which is indicated both on the Corona 1951 and on the Digital Globe Quick bird (9 June 2004). The tomb lays approximately 1 km far from the center of the Erbil citadel, in the lower town of the ancient city. In the opposite direction it lays 650 m far from the minaret of Mudzaffariyya (*Fig. 3*).

The excavation

- 1 All the drawings, illustrations, photos and descriptions have been made by the author.
- 2 I would like to thank Mr. Babakr Mohammad, the director of the Directorate of Erbil Antiquities for the permission to work on the ceramics, and Mr. Goran Mohammad, the director of excavation for his kind help and all the facilities he provided. Furthermore I am grateful for all the assistance from Mr. Qadri Ali, Mr. Khalil Ali Barznji, Mr. Rebwat Jalal, Mr Ahmad Jawdet and Ms. Amina, and also to all the members of the Restoration Department (Mrs. Nihayat, Lawin, Byar, and Mr. Pishtivan) for the restoration work of the vessels and the laboratory examinations in the museum. I am greatly indebted to the Directorate of Erbil Antiquities for all their help.



Fig. 1. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. The photo was taken by the Directorate of Antiquities team of Erbil.

After the discovery of the tomb Mr. Nader Babakr Mohammad (Director of Directorate of Erbil Antiquities) entrusted a team led by Mr Goran Mohammad (Archaeologist and head of the Excavation Department of the Directorate of Erbil Antiquities) to carry out a salvation excavation at the site.³

Due to the short time limit the main aim of the excavation was to rescue the remains and finds, as well as to document the archaeological situation and layout as much as possible. First of all, they excavated the entrance which has been found by the grounding of the commercial building. The construction workers helped the team to clean the entrance of the vaulted tomb to start the excavation.

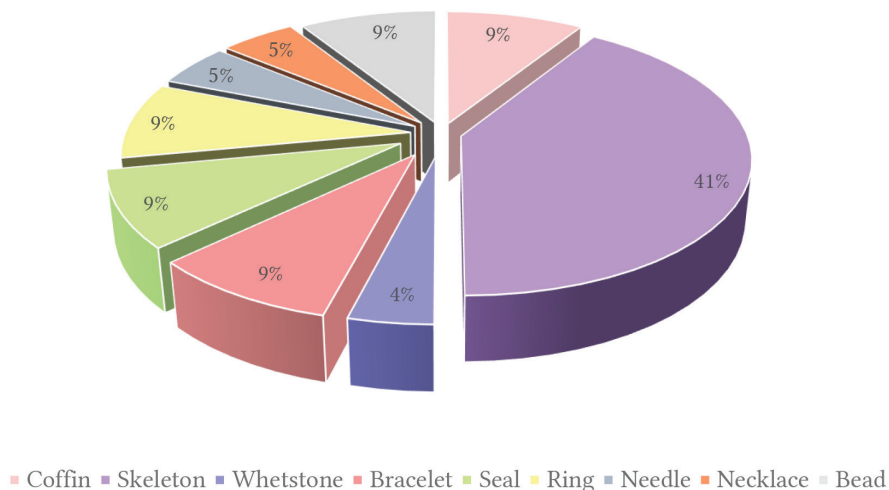


Fig. 2. The type of grave contents.

3 The team included Mr Qadri Ali (Archaeologist from the Erbil Civilization museum), Mr Khalil Ali (Archaeologist from Directorate of Erbil Antiquities), Mr Shuwan Ahmed (Archaeologist from Directorate of Erbil Antiquities) and Mr Rozhgar Rashid (Archaeologist from Directorate of Erbil Antiquities).

The excavation team discovered two ceramic coffins and nine skeletons, with a huge number of complete and non-complete pottery vessels between and around them. Furthermore, one whetstone, two lapis lazuli and two bronze bracelets, a bronze and an ivory ring, two necklaces, ivory beads, two black stone seals, a needle, and some loose beads were found (Fig. 2).

Despite the difficult circumstances the archaeologists could document the site and rescue all the remains. Moreover, the vaulted tomb could be preserved under the commercial building, which the owner of the site and the Directorate of Erbil are planning to open to visit for the wider audience.

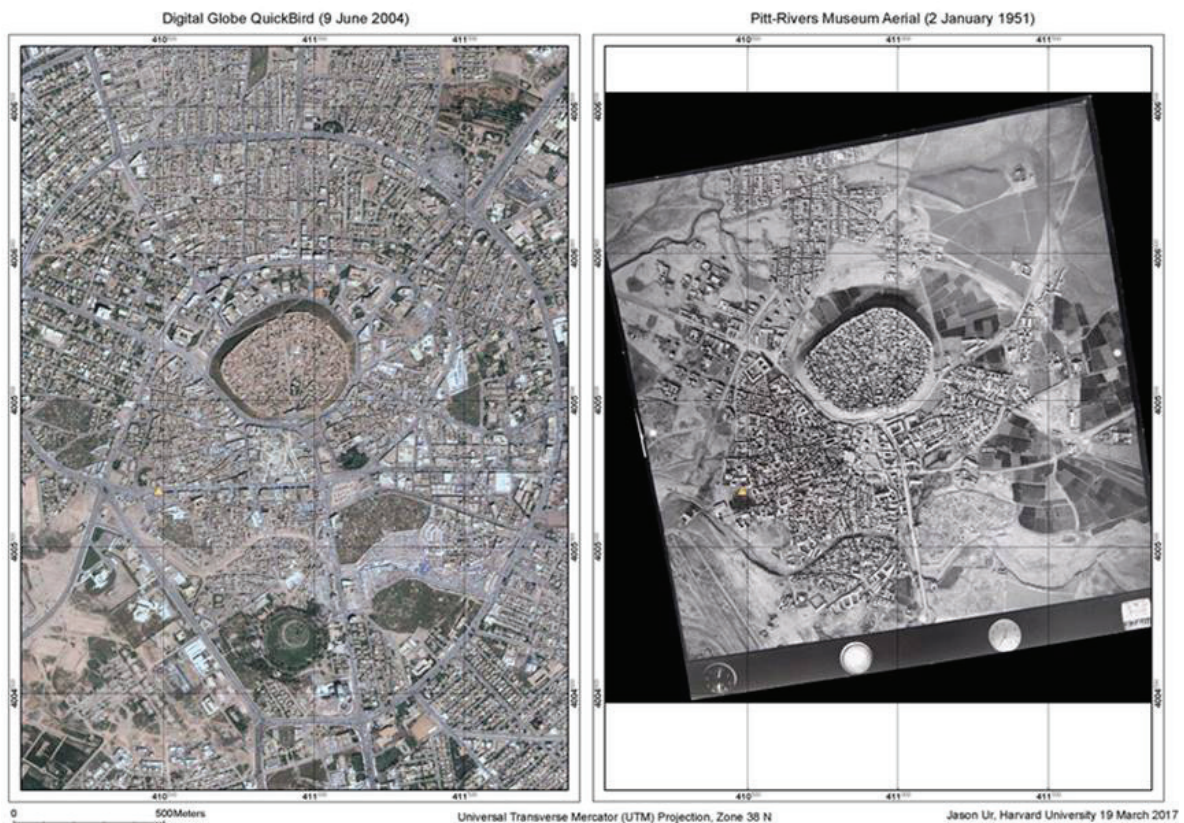


Fig. 3. The location of the tomb from the Corona in 1951 and 2004 (UR, J. – KAHLIL, A. B. EPAS Project, 2017).

The vaulted tomb, its analogies, and their architecture

The tomb is a typical example of the middle Assyrian barrel vaulted tombs with parabolic profile.⁴ The vault was built from baked bricks (40×40×12 cm) and started on the floor. The chamber itself is narrow and has a semi-square layout of a 300×225 cm size (Fig. 4).⁵

The chamber has three niches on the three walls: the northern, the eastern and the western part, but not all are in the same height. The bones were scattered all over the tomb, except the two bodies which were protected by their coffins. Unfortunately, most of the bones were mixed but nine human skeletons could be distinguished, from which three could be clearly

4 E.g. Gruft 37 = ASS 13707 (HALLER 1954, 114–115, Abb. 148; PEDDE 2015, 73–74, Taf. 14–15).

5 The others types of grave goods will be published elsewhere, I only have the permission to examine the ceramics.

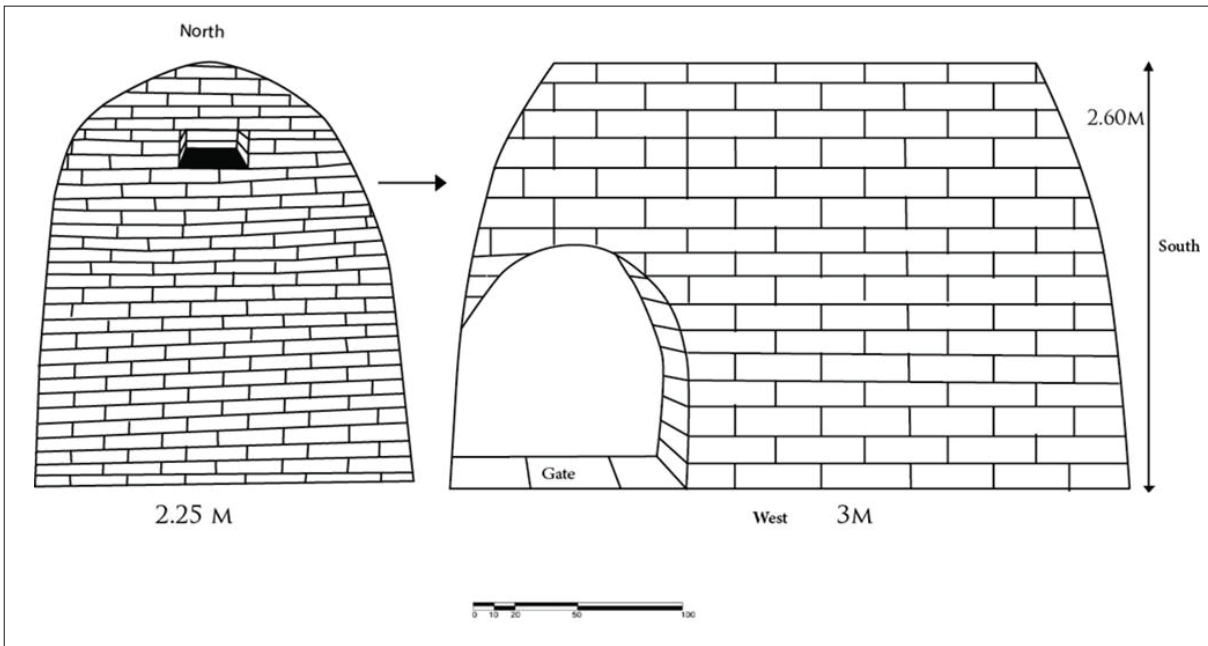


Fig. 4. The gate of the vaulted tomb with its sections and measurements.

identified: the two found intact in the coffins, and one in the north-eastern part separated with three vertical standing bricks. The rest of the skeletons were highly disturbed and lay approximately in the middle of the chamber (Fig. 5). Both the pottery and the other finds were scattered between and all around the skeletons.

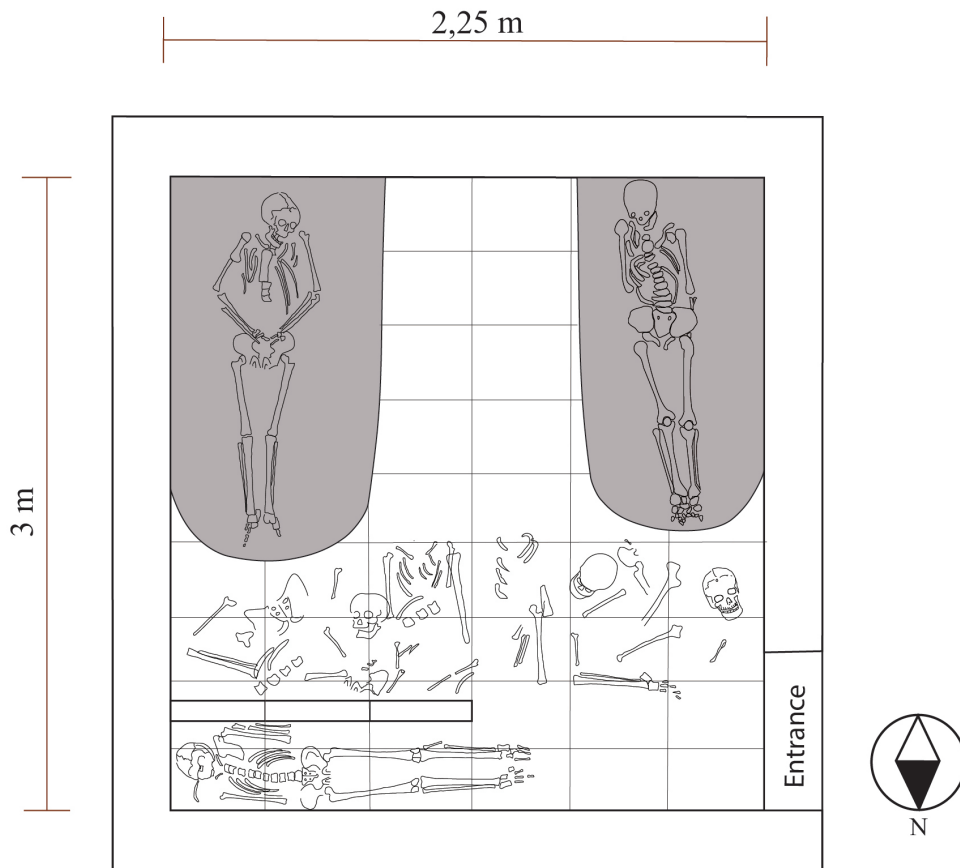


Fig. 5. The vaulted tomb with the reconstructed position of the human remains.



Fig. 6. The Middle Assyrian vaulted tomb at Kilik Mishik (after IBRAHIM 2011).



Fig. 7. The Middle Assyrian vaulted tomb at Kilik Mishik with its entrance. (after IBRAHIM 2011).

The same type of vaulted tomb was found at Tell Kilik Mishik⁶, Erbil (about 5 km south from Sheikhi Choli tomb) in 2011, with a size of 2.6×2.2×2.1 m (Fig. 6). The entrance of the Kilik Mishik tomb was a double arched door in the north with 80 cm width (Fig. 7), and in the wall were two niches located in the southern part of the construction. The entrance was closed

6 The Tell is located in south-west Erbil, in the Shade quarter. The site was excavated by a French team in 2010 for one season and by Salahaddin University teams for four seasons from 2010–2013, during these excavations Islamic, Hellenistic, Neo-Assyrian, Middle-Assyrian and Middle Bronze Age layers were identified. In 2011 a Middle Assyrian vaulted tomb (K.7) in level II has been found.



Fig. 8. The Middle Assyrian vaulted tomb at Kilik Mishik with its entrance and the jars (after IBRAHIM 2011).



Fig. 9. The inside of the Middle Assyrian vaulted tomb at Kilik Mishik (after IBRAHIM 2011).

down by bricks and four jars from different sizes (*Fig. 8*). Also, bricks were used to pave the chamber. It seems obvious, that more than one body was buried in this tomb, although no coffins were found. Human and sheep bones were lying mixed on the floor which made the identifications of number of the individuals rather hard.

The grave goods consist of some bronze bracelets, bronze rings, necklaces, eight earrings, needles, a huge number of red and white frit, coral and precious stone beads, which probably

belonged to the jewellery. The pottery was presented only by a small jar with painted red bands, and a medium sized jar under the brick floor which contained human remains (*Fig. 9*).⁷

In both of the tombs the arc of the vault starts on the ground, and contains niches, which layout is typical in the Erbil and Mosul region. A tomb like this can be found also in Assur,⁸ but in contrast the Sheikhi Choli has a semi-square layout, and was built from thicker, square shaped bricks. It is clearly visible that in all three cases we can speak about the same form of middle Assyrian vaulted tombs.

Though no architectural remains were found, according to the parallels mainly from Assur, and its locational and architectural features, we can assume that a house stood above it. During the Assyrian period tombs were mainly built under the floors of the houses. The tombs usually have small entrances (60–80 cm), which were closed with stones or bricks (*Fig. 7*).⁹ Unfortunately at the Sheikhi Choli tomb no stones or bricks couldn't been observed, and there was also no chance to examine the traces of the upper building, because of the commercial building covering all the archaeological layers. It is not certain whether the tomb could be accessed through a temporary shaft without brick lining, that was filled up right after the funeral, or it had a permanent, built entrance shaft, which was destructed during the construction work.

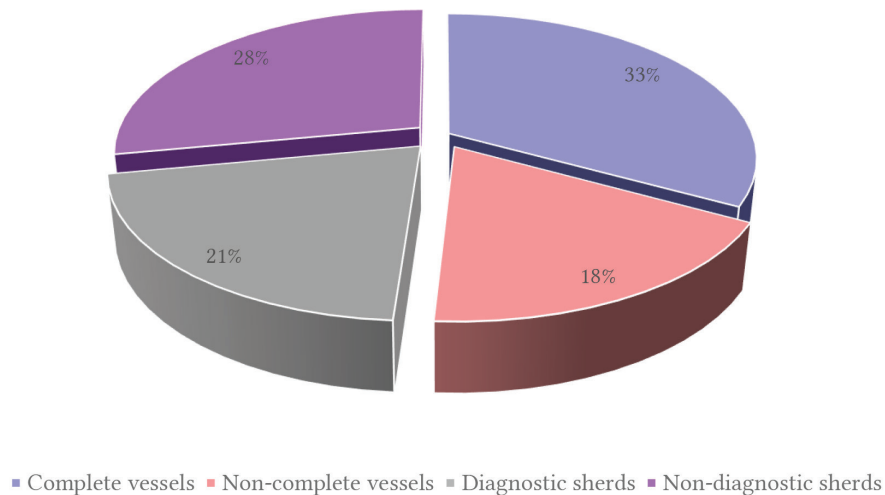


Fig. 10. The proportion of the ceramics.

The pottery

From the study of the pottery finds it became clear that they were used to offer funerary meals, nevertheless traces of former use were noted on some of the items.

During the excavation of the tomb 143 complete vessels, 60 diagnostic and 80 non-diagnostic sherds, were found. The restoration work was not completely finished at the time of the submission of this paper, therefore the study could be only based on the 60% of the material (*Fig. 10*).

7 IBRAHIM 2011, 5–6.

8 Gruft 45 = ASS 14630 (PEDDE 2015, 89–95, Taf. 52.A–D)

9 HAUSER 2012, 329–330, Abb. F-8b, F-9a)

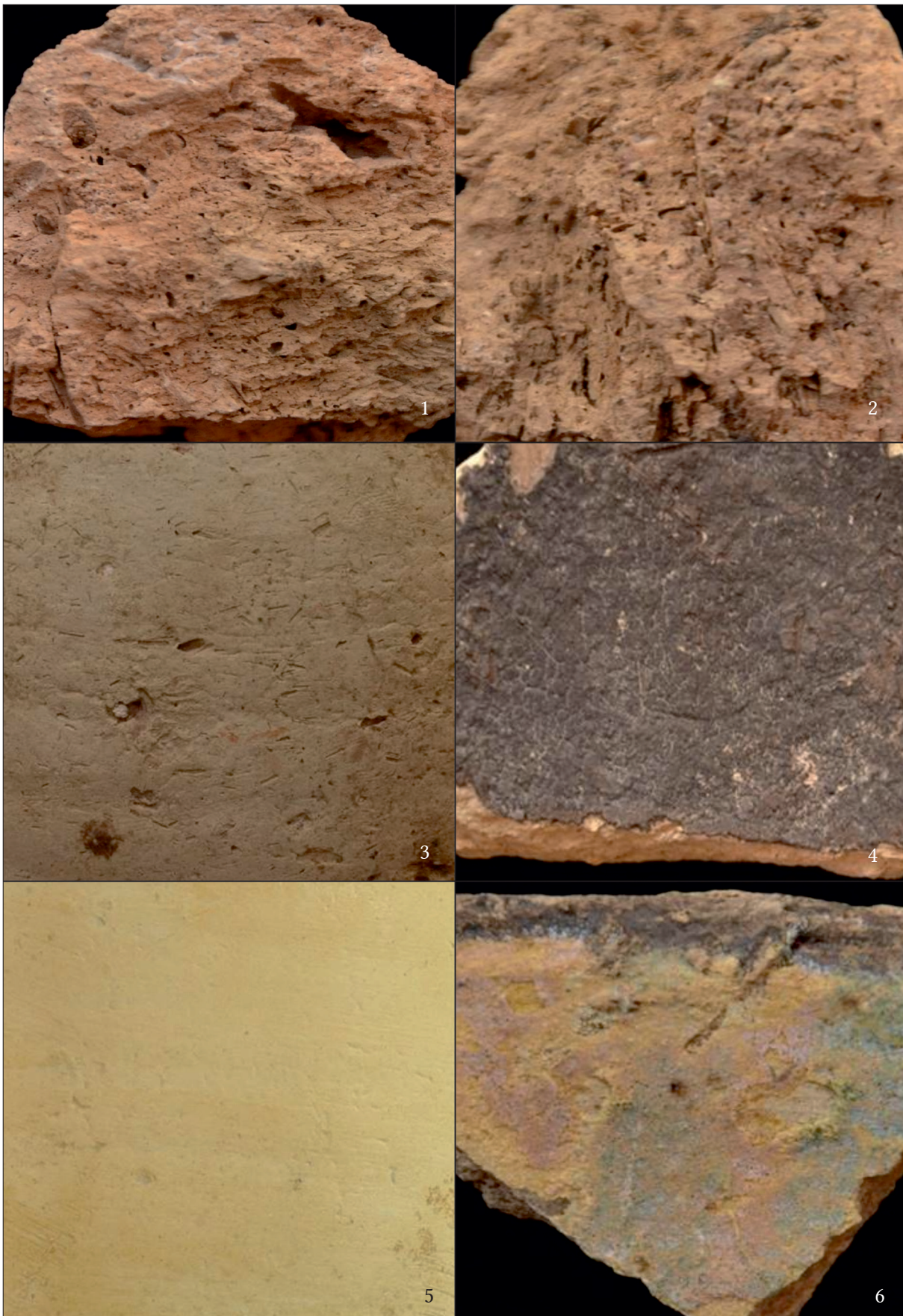


Fig. 11. The fabric groups. 1 – Group 1, 2 – Group 2, 3 – Group 3A, 4 – Group 3B, 5 – Group 4A, 6 – Group 4B.

<i>Big jar</i>				
open shape	disk base	3		
	concave base	4		
	pointed base	2		
	round base	5		
closed shape	pointed base	1		
	disk base	1		
	knob	concave	7	
		flat	1	
rounded		1		
<i>Small jar</i>				
open shape	pointed base	1		
	ring base	1		
	tripod base	3		
	round base	1		
	disk base	1		
	knob	round	17	
		flat	3	
		concave	1	
		pointed	7	
		ring	1	
square		1		
closed shape	tripod	1		
	disk base	1		
	concave, triangle formed	1		

Fig. 12. The types of the jars and its number in the material.

The study of the fabric of the pottery was based on the examination of complete vessels, the diagnostic and the non-diagnostic sherds.¹⁰ The recent study concentrates on the description of the main four fabric types, and their variations.

1. Fabric groups

1.1. Very coarse ware

The percentage of vegetal tempers is about 50% with long rectangular shaped imprints diffused all over the surface and the clay itself. Approximately 2% of the samples belong in this group (Fig. 11.1).

10 This preliminary fabric group study was based on the characteristics of the inclusions and the feature of coarseness, but the final results were made after the magnifying glass examination according to Munsell Charts and the estimating of the proportions of mottles and coarse fragments. MUNSELL 1994, 9–10; RADNER ET AL. 2016, 86.

1.2. Coarse ware

In this group the mineral temper is presented with about 5% of white sub-angular, rounded, and about 5% of small grey rounded temper, nevertheless with vegetal temper around 15% in rectangular shape (Fig 11.2).

1.3. Medium Coarse ware

The sherds belonging in this group have about 15% of vegetal temper with rectangular shapes. The mineral temper is about 2% in big sub-angular white calcite (Fig. 11.3–4).

The bitumen ware makes a sub-group in this type of medium coarse vessels, which is presented on some non-diagnostic sherds with a thin layer of black bitumen on the surface, which originally covered the inside of the vessels. This ware was mainly used in the production of big bowls or jars, which were made to store liquid materials, such as oil, water, etc. in them. We have a very high number of sherds from this group in the material (Fig. 11.3).

1.4. Fine ware

The clay contains well sorted inclusion, such as 2% of small, rounded calcite and 2% of vegetal temper. The walls of the vessels are very thin, and they are well fabricated (Fig. 11.5–6).

A sub-group of the fine wares are the glazed wares, which we have only few sherds of, but they make a unique type of the pottery. They usually contain 2% of small, grey mineral temper with 5% of vegetal temper. This was probably the smallest group of the sherds with a very small number (Fig. 11.5).

<i>Bowls</i>		
Small bowls	round base	4
	flattened base	4
	flat base	9
	concave base	13
	knob	4
	ring base	5
	disk	2
Big bowls	ring base	1
<i>Glazed bowls</i>		
	ring base	2
	flattened base	2
<i>Other</i>		
Beakers	rounded base	1
Plates	disk base	2
	flattened base	1

Fig. 13. The types of bowls, bakers and plates, and their number.

2. Form groups

The study of the complete vessel first focused on the various forms and typological groups according to the rim and base types. The main groups were the bowls, jars, beakers and plates. The bowl types were defined by different base forms, such as: round base, flat base concave, ring base, and disk foot (Fig. 13). The jars had four main types according to the shape of their body: the big and small jars both with open and closed shapes, as it is explained on the graph below (Fig. 12). There is only one beaker or a cup, which has a round base. Plates are also presented by three pieces, from which two are ring base, and one is a disk foot type (Fig. 13). The shapes which are represented in the Sheikhi Choli tomb.

1. Open shapes

There are only a few pieces of the *open and deep bowls*. The diameter of the rim is usually about 19 cm, the height is about 14 cm. The bowl has straight-triangular rim with open shape and with disk grooved base (Fig. 14.1).¹¹ The second group contains *high bowls* with pedestal bases. The few vessels found in the Sheikhi Choli Tomb have protruding rims. The shapes are convex and usually are on a high or pedestal base (Fig. 17.1,¹² Fig. 17.2,¹³ and Fig. 18.1¹⁴).

The medium and small bowls have mostly horizontal bevelled rim (Fig. 15.1,¹⁵ Fig. 15.2,¹⁶ Fig. 15.3¹⁷), straight triangle shaped (by the small bowls) (Fig. 17.3¹⁸), or round-folded rims (Fig. 23.2¹⁹). The squared rims are also presented (Fig. 22.1,²⁰ and Fig. 22.3²¹), as well as rectangular bases (Fig. 17.4²²).

There were only a few plates found during the excavation. The rims are round, straight and sometimes bevelled with concave shape and with disk concave bases (Fig. 16.1,²³ and Fig. 16.2,²⁴ Fig. 22.2²⁵).

2. Closed shapes

In the material only small and big jars belong to the closed shapes. Although we have a considerable amount of *big jar* sherds, the small jars are more numerous. They include jars with triangular folded rim, ovoid body and concave button, which almost seems square shaped (Fig. 19.2²⁶), square folded rim and button base (Fig. 19.1²⁷).

- 11 For parallels see: Tell Rimah (POSTGATE ET AL. 1997, Pl. 64.613).
- 12 For parallels see: Assur Tombs (HAUSLEITER 2010, Taf. 1, Ass. 1479).
- 13 For parallels see: Tell Sheikh Hamad and Bderi, (PFÄLZNER 1995, Taf. 77.A).
- 14 For parallels see: Tell Sabi Abyad (DUISTERMAAT 2007, Fig IV.39.ai).
- 15 For parallels see: Syrian Jazirah (PFÄLZNER 2007, Pl. XXX.344).
- 16 For parallels see: Syrian Jazirah (PFÄLZNER 2007, Pl. XXX.344).
- 17 For parallels see: Tell Hawa (BALL ET AL. 1989, Fig. 16.7).
- 18 For parallels see: Tell Sheikh Hamad and Bderi (PFÄLZNER 1995, Taf. 169.h).
- 19 For parallels see: Tell Sabi Abyad, (DUISTERMAAT. 2007, Fig IV.14.a).
- 20 For parallels see: Syrian Jazirah, (PFÄLZNER 2007, Pl. XXX.344).
- 21 For parallels see: Tell Sabi Abyad (DUISTERMAAT 2007, Fig. IV.15.I).
- 22 For parallels see: Tell Sabi Abyad (DUISTERMAAT 2007, Fig. IV.100.K).
- 23 For parallels see: Sabi Abyad, (DUISTERMAAT 2015, Fig. 7.3.c).
- 24 For parallels see: Tell Sheikh Hamad and Bderi (PFÄLZNER 1995, Taf.113.e).
- 25 For parallels see: Neo Assyrian pottery (ANASTASIO 2011, Pl. XX.c).
- 26 For parallels see: Tell al-Rimah (PFÄLZNER 1995, Taf. 177.f).
- 27 For parallels see: Tell al-Rimah (PFÄLZNER 1995, Taf. 159.b; FUJII 1987, 71–72).

Different types of *small jars* were also found, with pointed, flat or knob base (Fig. 21.1,²⁸ Fig.21.2,²⁹ Fig. 21.3³⁰). Square based jars make a rather unique type with rounded rims, flaring concave neck and ovoid body (Fig. 21.2³¹). Five pieces of the unique three feet small jars³² were found, which are characteristic in the middle Assyrian period. This group has two types: the first has rounded, grooved rim, conical neck and globular body (Fig. 20.1³³); and the second one has grooved rim, ovoid body and small neck (Fig. 20.2³⁴).

There are only a few samples of the *beakers*. These vessels usually have a fine fabric, with rounded rim, cylindrical body and button base.³⁵

The Sheikhi Choli Tomb pottery about 60% of the material had an oxidized firing, and approximately 40% shows grey or black core, with pale yellow, red, light brown, orange edges, indicating a semi oxidized firing. Pottery with reducing atmosphere was not presented in the material.

Comparison of shape and function

The study of the pottery focused on two main aspects: the observation of the fabric and the typology of the vessels, and the examination of the signs of usage. It is certain from the goat bones found in some of the bowls, that the smaller vessels were used to give funerary meals to the deceased ones, furthermore traces of subsidence was also visible on the sherds. The analyzation of the subsidence would be the task of further scientific research. We can assume that all of the vessels were originally used to contain meals.

The capacity and the surface treating of the vessels are also clues to determine the original function of the ceramics. It seems like that the pottery was used on a daily basis before it was put into the tomb. It is conspicuous that no storage vessels were found, but sherds with glaze, burnishing and bitumen show that some of them were used to contain liquids. The presence of glaze can also suggest that this was a burial place of a wealthy family with a high social rank,

The comparison study of the pottery was based on the rim and base types, and the morphology of the vessels. Several sherds have a unique form, but in general they can be dated to the middle- and post middle Assyrian period. Compared to other tombs from the period in the region both the architectural layout and the finds fit in the tradition of the middle Assyrian burial custom. Pottery of the same kind can be found at other sites such as: Tell Kilik Mishik L.7. Level II, Assur Tomb 45, Tell al-Rimah Site A. 1, Site C. 2–4, Site D. 3, Tell Sabi Abyad levels 3–6, Tell Bderi 2–5, Sheikh Hamad MA II–III, Tell al-Hawa Area A., and etc.

Conclusion

This report presents a general outlook of the Sheikhi Choli Tomb ceramics, but the work has to be continued as a part of my PhD dissertation. The ceramics found present the well-known

28 For parallels see: Assyrian pottery (ALNUAMI 1995, Pl. 34.8).

29 For parallels see: Tell Al Rimah (POSTGATE ET AL. 1997, Pl. 82.950).

30 LINES 1954, 164–167, Plate 38.1–2.

31 For parallels see: Tell Al Rimah (POSTGATE ET AL. 1997, Pl. 82.950).

32 MALLOWAN 1950, Pl. 32.

33 Unique Form.

34 Unique Form.

35 ALNUAMI 1995, 79. Pl 34–36.

types and groups of the Middle Assyrian Period.

The fabric of the pottery can be classified as very coarse, coarse, medium coarse, and fine. The firing could be characterized as oxidized and semi-oxidized, which also means that the fabric was well fired. No sherds fired in reducing atmosphere were found.

The shapes are unique in the region of Erbil, the fabric groups and the inclusions are different from other regions regarding the temper and the high quantity of vegetal remains of chaff. The glazed wares are of a good quality, in a light green colour. The other significant type which is covered with bitumen indicates that these vessels were also used to contain liquid material in the grave. Furthermore, bones of a goat could be found in some of these bowls, which were also probably used for the funerary offerings. In addition, cereal grains were found in the big jars.

The implementation and the architecture of the tomb, the great number of the pottery, the wide range of shapes and their high quality indicates that the tomb might have been used by a family of high social status and wealth. Furthermore, the location itself suggest that the lower city of Erbil was a residential area of important, high rank families.

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<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001682 (Fig. 14.1)	Oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 19 cm Rim thickness: 1.5 cm Body thickness: 0.7 cm Base thickness: 0.5 cm Base diameter: 8.5 cm Height: 5 cm	Ware: Medium Coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 10%, mineral 2%, smoothed, pale yellow clay	Tell al-Rimah	Middle Assyrian

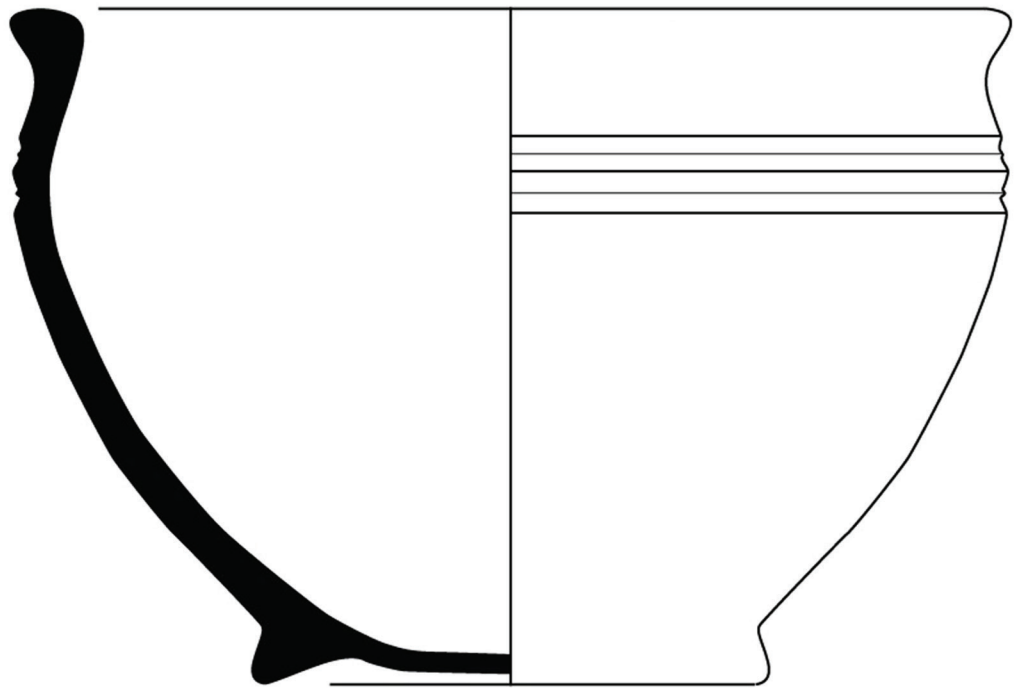


Fig. 14. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001682.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001657 (Fig. 15.1)	Semi oxidizing	Complete Bowl	Rim diameter: 4 cm Rim thickness: 1 cm Body thickness: 0.8–1 cm Base thickness: 0.7 cm Base diameter: 3.4 cm Height: 4 cm	Ware: Coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 2%, non-smoothed, very pale brown clay	Syrian Jazirah	Middle Assyrian
HM001664 (Fig. 15.2)	Semi oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 12 cm Rim thickness: 1 cm Body thickness: 0.8–1.5 cm Base thickness: 0.8 cm Base diameter: 4 cm Height: 4.5 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 5%, smoothed, brown clay	Syrian Jazirah	Middle Assyrian
HM001700 (Fig. 15.3)	Oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 10.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.5 cm Body thickness: 0.5–8 cm Base thickness: 0.5 cm Base diameter: 4 cm Height: 5.3 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 10%, mineral 2%, smoothed, yellow clay	Tell Hawa	Middle Assyrian
HM001695 (Fig. 15.4)	Oxidizing	Complete Jar	Rim diameter: 7 cm Rim thickness: 0.4 cm Body thickness: 0.4 cm Base thickness: 1.5 cm Base diameter: 1.4 cm Height: 9.5 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 5%, mineral 2%, smoothed, pale yellow clay	Syrian Jazirah	Middle Assyrian



Fig. 15. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001657, 2 – HM001664, 3 – HM001700, 4 – HM001695.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
0060 (Fig. 16.1)	Oxidizing	Non-complete plate	Rim diameter: 13 cm Rim thickness: 1 cm Body thickness: 0.5–0.8 cm Base thickness: 0.5 cm Base diameter: 5 cm Height: 4 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 1%, non-smoothed, very pale brown clay	Sabi Abyad	Middle Assyrian
0070 (Fig. 16.2)	Semi-oxidizing	Non-complete plate	Rim diameter: 9 cm Rim thickness: 0.4 cm Body thickness: 0.4–0.8 cm Base thickness: 0.8 cm Base diameter: 3.6 cm Height: 3.3 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 5%, mineral 2%, smoothed, olive yellow clay	Tell Sheikh Hamad and Bderi	Middle Assyrian
001723 (Fig. 16.3)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small jar	Rim diameter: 3×3.8 cm Rim thickness: 0.5 cm Body thickness: 0.5 cm Base thickness: 0.5 cm Base diameter: 0.8 cm Height: 10.2 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 15%, mineral 2%, smoothed, strong brown clay. Heart rim jar	Unique form	Middle Assyrian

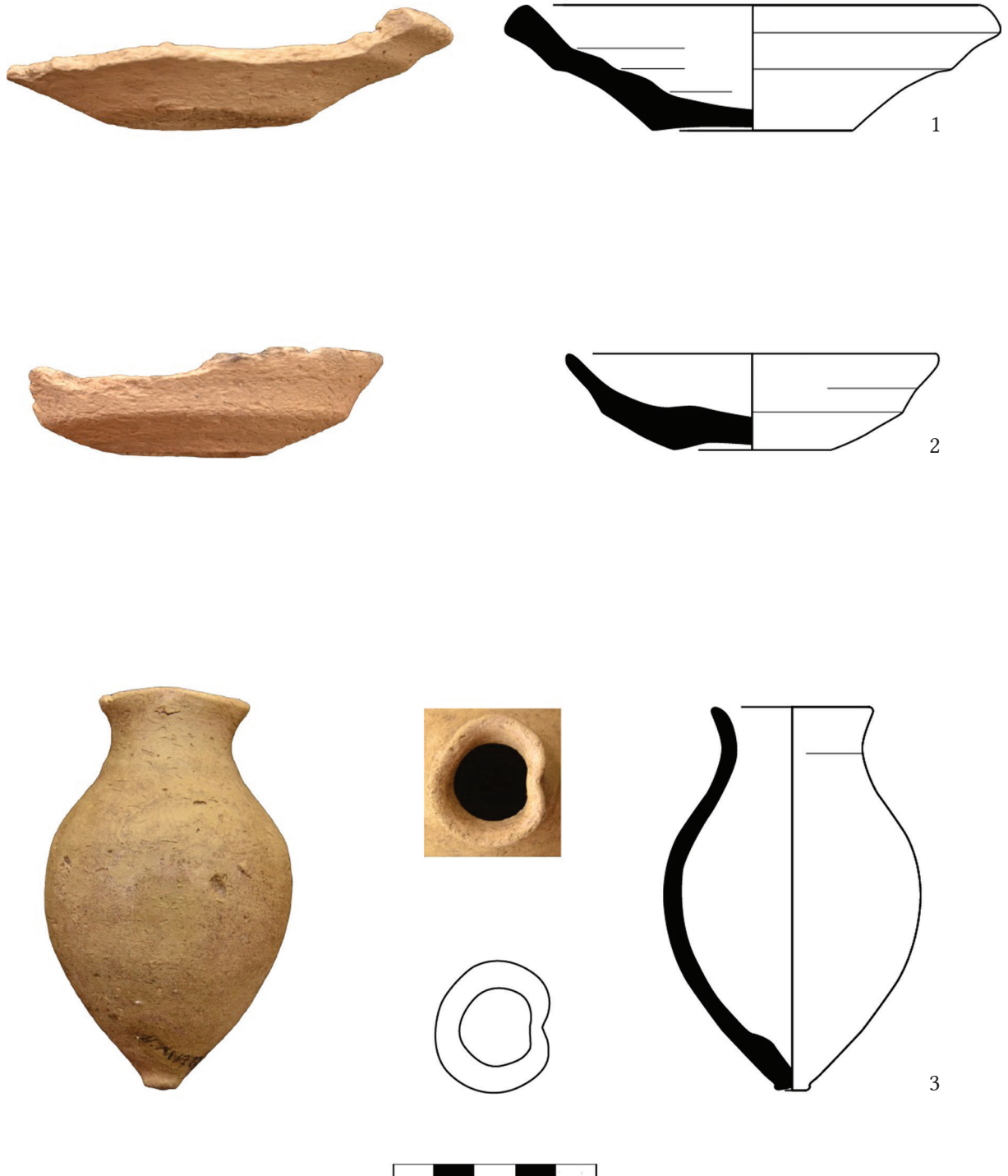


Fig. 16. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – 0060, 2 – 0070, 3 – 001723.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
0104 (Fig. 17.1)	Semi-oxidizing	Non-Complete high bowl	Rim diameter: 16 cm Rim thickness: 1.4 cm Body thickness: 0.7–1 cm Base thickness: 0.9 cm Base diameter: 7 cm Height: 9.5 cm	Ware: coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 30%, mineral 3%, smoothed, reddish yellow clay	Assur Tombs	Post Middle Assyrian
HM001656 (Fig. 17.2)	Oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 13 cm Rim thickness: 0.8 cm Body thickness: 0.7–1.5 cm Base thickness: 1.8 cm Base diameter: 5.5 cm Height: 7 cm	Ware: fine. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 5%, mineral 1%, smoothed, pink clay	Tell Sheikh Hamad and Bderi	Middle Assyrian
HM001673 (Fig. 17.3)	Oxidizing	Non complete small bowl	Rim diameter: 8.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.8 cm Body thickness: 0.5–0.7 cm Base thickness: 0.4 cm Base diameter: 3.4 cm Height: 4.3 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 10%, mineral 1%, smoothed, Yellow clay	Tell Sheikh Hamad and Bderi	Middle Assyrian
HM001655 (Fig. 17.4)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 10.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.8 cm Body thickness: 0.6 cm Base thickness: 0.7 cm Base diameter: 3 cm Height: 4.3 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 15%, mineral 2%, smoothed, reddish Yellow clay	Tell Sabi Ab-yad	Neo Assyrian



Fig. 17. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – 0104, 2 – HM001656, 3 – HM001673, 4 – HM001655.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001684 (Fig. 18.1)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 17.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm- 1 cm Body thickness: 0.7- 1 cm Base thickness: 0.7 Base diameter: 7 cm Height: 9 cm	Ware: glazed. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 1%, mineral 5%, non-smoothed, greyish greenish yellow clay	Tell Sabi Abyad	Middle Assyrian
HM001685 (Fig. 18.2)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete bowl	Rim diameter: 16 cm- Rim thickness: 1 cm Body thickness: 1- 1.5 cm Base thickness: 1.5 cm Base diameter: 6 cm- Height: 10.5 cm	Ware: glazed. Wheel made, Temper: vegetal 2%, smoothed, brilliant yellow green clay	Tell Sabi Abyad	Middle Assyrian

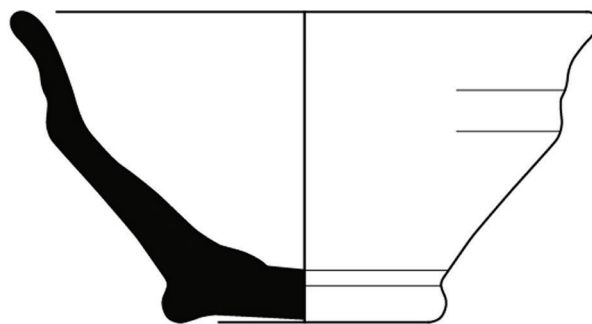
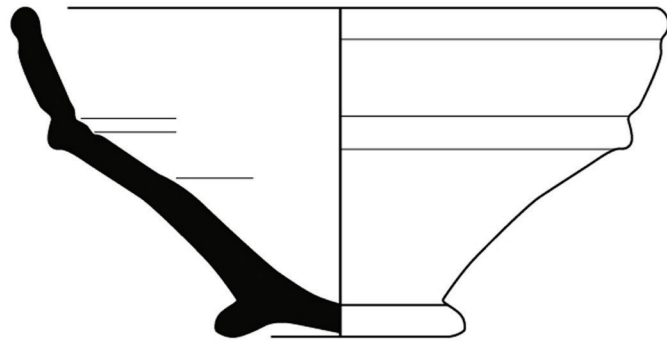


Fig. 18. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001684, 2 – HM001685.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001675 (Fig. 19.1)	Oxidizing	Complete big jar	Rim diameter: 7.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm Body thickness: 0.7–1 cm Base thickness: 1.8 cm Base diameter: 2 cm Height: 27 cm	Ware: fine. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 2%, mineral 2%, non-smoothed, moderate orange yellow clay	Tell Al Rimah	Middle Assyrian
HM001676 (Fig. 19.2)	Oxidizing	Complete big jar	Rim diameter: 8.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.9 cm Body thickness: 0.7–1.8 cm Base thickness: 4 cm Base diameter: 2 cm Height: 27 cm	Ware: glazed. Coil and Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 2%, mineral 2%, smoothed, strong yellow clay	Tell Al Rimah	Neo-Assyrian



Fig. 19. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001675, 2 – HM001676.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001678 (Fig. 20.1)	Oxidizing	Complete small jar (2 feet have broken)	Rim diameter: 3.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.5 cm Body thickness: 0.4–0.8 cm Base thickness: 2 cm Base diameter: 4 cm Height: 8 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 1%, mineral 1%, smoothed, pink clay. Tripod base	Unique Form	Middle Assyrian
HM001677 (Fig. 20.2)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small jar (one foot has broken)	Rim diameter: 9 cm Rim thickness: 0.6 cm Body thickness: 0.5 cm Base thickness: 1 cm Base diameter: 2 cm Height: 9 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 5%, mineral 1%, smoothed, pale yellow clay. Tripod base	Unique Form	Middle Assyrian
HM001733 (Fig. 20.3)	Oxidizing	Complete small jar (one foot has broken)	Rim diameter: 6.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.4 cm Body thickness: 0.5 cm Base thickness: 1.5 cm Base diameter: 1 cm Height: 9 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Coil and Wheel made Temper: vegetal 5%, mineral 1%, smoothed, pale olive clay. Square base	Tell Al Rimah	Middle Assyrian



Fig. 20. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001678, 2 – HM001677, 3 – HM001733.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001735 (Fig. 21.1)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small jar	Rim diameter: 6.6 cm Rim thickness: 0.8 cm Body thickness: 0.8–1.5 cm Base thickness: 2.5 cm Base diameter: 1 cm Height: 16 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Coil and Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 15%, mineral 1%, smoothed, Reddish yellow clay	Assyrian pottery	Neo-Assyrian
HM001683 (Fig. 21.2)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small jar	Rim diameter: 7.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm Body thickness: 0.5 cm Base thickness: 0.5 cm Base diameter: 5 cm Height: 16 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 2%, mineral 5%, smoothed, yellow clay	Tell Al Rimah	Middle Assyrian
HM001634 (Fig. 21.3)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small jar	Rim diameter: 8 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm Body thickness: 0.7 cm Base thickness: 4 cm Base diameter: 1 cm Height: 2 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 1%, smoothed, reddish yellow clay		Middle Assyrian



Fig. 21. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001735, 2 – HM001683, 3 – HM001634.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001658 (Fig. 22.1)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small bowl	Rim diameter: 12.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm Body thickness: 0.7 cm Base thickness: 1.9 cm Base diameter: 2.5 cm Height: 5 cm	Ware: Coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 12%, smoothed, Reddish yellow clay	Syrian Jazirah	Middle Assyrian
HM001667 (Fig. 22.2)	Semi-oxidizing	Complete small bowl	Rim diameter: 13.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm Body thickness: 0.9 cm Base thickness: 1.2 cm Base diameter: 5 cm Height: 5.5 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 10%, smoothed, pale yellow clay	Neo Assyrian pottery	Middle Assyrian
HM001659 (Fig. 22.3)	Oxidizing	Complete small bowl	Rim diameter: 8 cm Rim thickness: 1 cm Body thickness: 1–1.5 cm Base thickness: 1 cm Base diameter: 5.5 cm Height: 6 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 20%, mineral 1%, smoothed, reddish yellow clay	Tell Sabi Abyad	Middle Assyrian

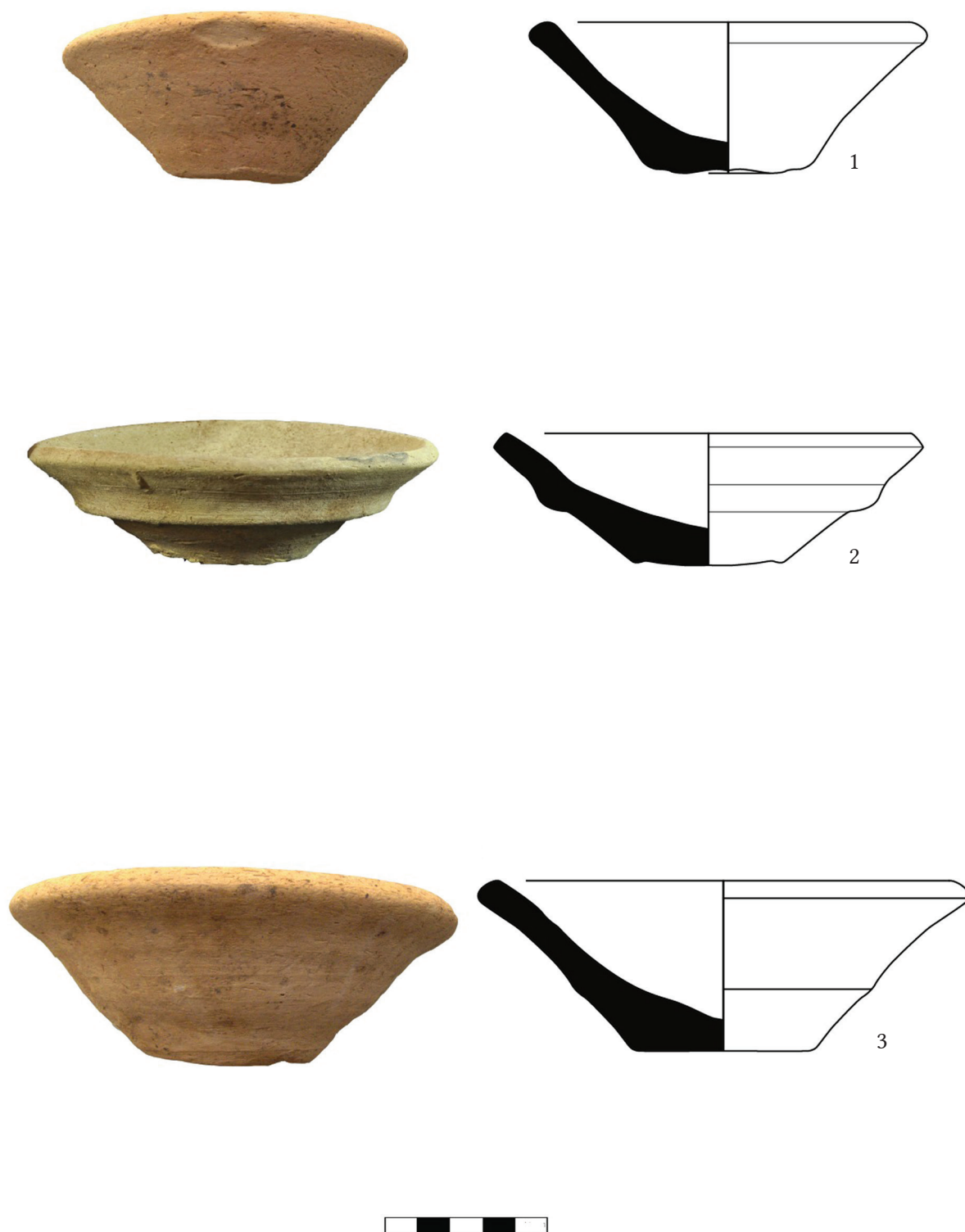


Fig. 22. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001658, 2 – HM001667, 3 – HM001659.

<i>Pot sherds No.</i>	<i>Burning</i>	<i>Sherds portion</i>	<i>Dimension</i>	<i>Fabric</i>	<i>Comparison</i>	<i>Period</i>
HM001681 (Fig. 23.1)	Oxidizing	Complete cup	Rim diameter: 8 cm Rim thickness: 0.4 cm Body thickness: 0.4–0.8 cm Base thickness: 1 cm Base diameter: 2 cm Height: 9.5 cm	Ware: fine. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 1%, mineral 1%, Smoothed, yellow clay	Assyrian pottery	Middle Assyrian
HM001661 (Fig. 23.2)	Oxidizing	Complete small bowl	Rim diameter: 12 cm Rim thickness: 0.6 cm Body thickness: 0.7–1 cm Base thickness: 1.8 cm Base diameter: 5 cm Height: 7 cm	Ware: Medium coarse. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 1%, mineral 1%, Smoothed, pale yellow clay	Tell Sabi Abyad	Middle Assyrian
HM001690 (Fig. 23.3)	Oxidizing	Complete small bowl	Rim diameter: 11.5 cm Rim thickness: 0.7 cm Body thickness: 0.7 cm Base thickness: 0.6 cm Base diameter: 4.3 cm Height: 3.5 cm	Ware: glazed. Wheel made. Temper: vegetal 10%, mineral 2%, yellow clay	Tell Al Rimah	Middle Assyrian

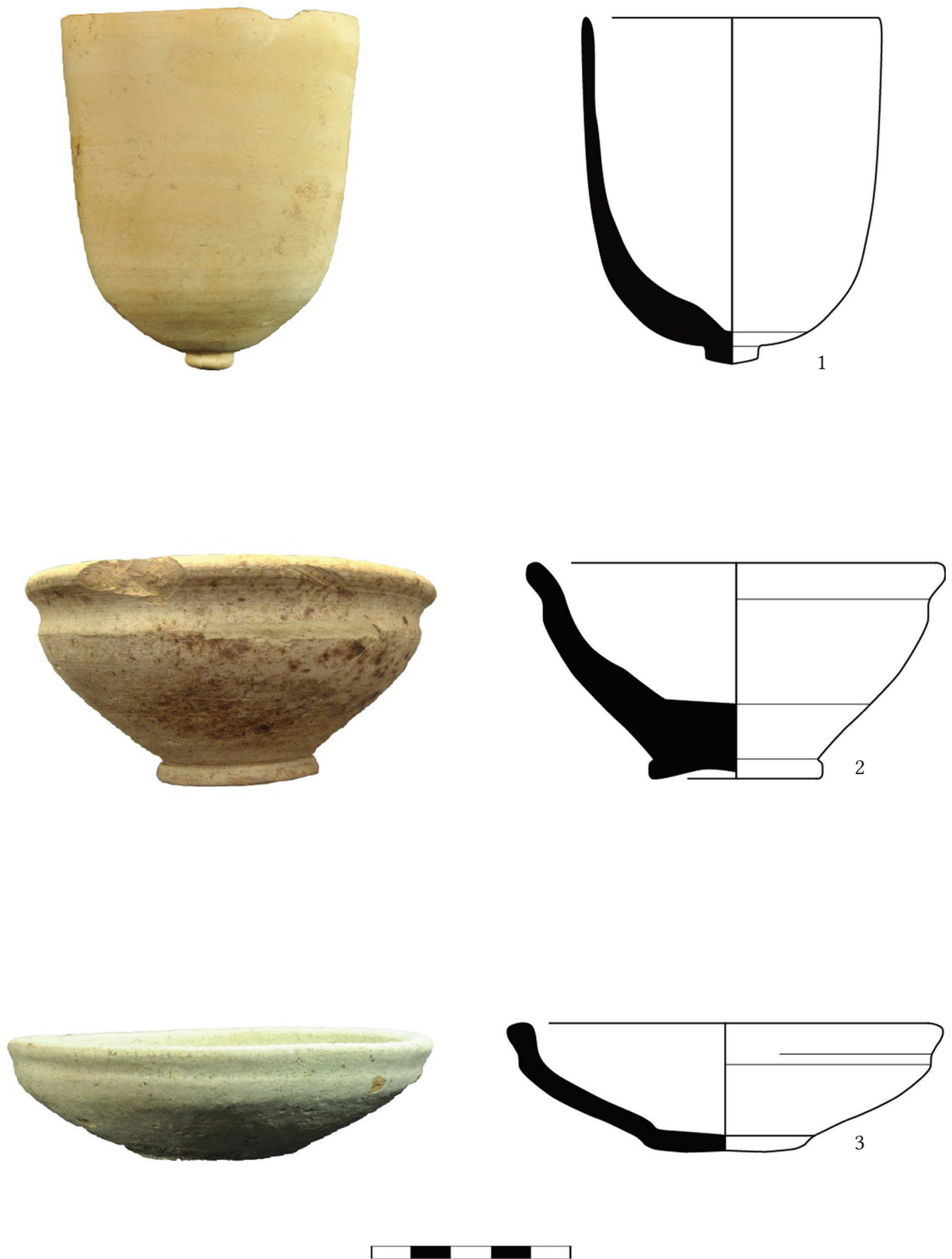


Fig. 23. Sheikhi Choli Tomb. 1 – HM001681, 2 – HM001661, 3 – HM001690.