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## List of Abbreviations Used in this Volume

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ÄA</td>
<td>Ägyptologische Abhandlungen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHL</td>
<td>Archaeology &amp; History in Lebanon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCE</td>
<td>American Research Center in Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASAE</td>
<td>Annales du Service des Antiquités de l’Égypte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AV</td>
<td>Archäologische Veröffentlichungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Abt. Kairo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAR</td>
<td>British Archaeological Reports, International Series</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASOR</td>
<td>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCE</td>
<td>Bulletin de liaison du groupe international d'étude de la céramique égyptienne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bd’E</td>
<td>Bibliothèque d'Étude, Institut français d’archéologie orientale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BES</td>
<td>Bulletin of the Egyptological Seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIFAO</td>
<td>Bulletin de l’Institut français d’archéologie orientale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSAE</td>
<td>British School of Archaeology in Egypt (and Egyptian Research Account)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSzAK</td>
<td>Studien zur Altägyptischen Kultur, Beihefte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCE</td>
<td>Cahiers de la céramique égyptienne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNRS</td>
<td>Centre national de la recherche scientifique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVO</td>
<td>Egitto e Vicino Oriente</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIFAO</td>
<td>Fouilles de l’Institut français d’archéologie orientale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GM</td>
<td>Göttinger Miscellen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFAO</td>
<td>Institut français d’archéologie orientale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JARCE</td>
<td>Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAS</td>
<td>Journal of Archaeological Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JEA</td>
<td>Journal of Egyptian Archaeology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JNES</td>
<td>Journal of Near Eastern Studies, University of Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSSEA</td>
<td>Journal of the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LÄ</td>
<td>Lexikon der Ägyptologie, Vols. 1–v1 (Wiesbaden)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MÄS</td>
<td>Münchner Ägyptologische Studien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDAIK</td>
<td>Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Abt. Kairo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OLA</td>
<td>Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAM</td>
<td>Polish Archaeology in the Mediterranean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAGA</td>
<td>Studien zur Archäologie und Geschichte Altägyptens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAK</td>
<td>Studien zur Altägyptischen Kultur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDAIK</td>
<td>Sonderschriften des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIMA</td>
<td>Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SSEA  
Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities

WES  
Warsaw Egyptological Studies

ZÄS  
Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde
Ceramics are usually the most abundant artifacts present at Egyptian archaeological sites. They are often found in large quantities and their analysis requires great patience and due attention. Such analysis is generally time-consuming and sometimes simply boring. The final result of ceramic study, however, can be very rewarding. Ceramics can offer a great deal of useful information. For example, they can date a site or its phases, and provide evidence for different activities and purposes of a site or its smaller units. Ceramics sometimes indicate different routes of product exchange between various sites or regions. For these reasons, all excavated pottery should be kept and stored for documentation and further analysis before the final publication of a site.

Ancient Egypt Research Associates (AERA) organized its first Field School in spring 2005 in conjunction with the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE). The main aim of the Field School, supervised by Mohsen Kamel and Ana Tavares, was to train the official inspectors of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) in the excavation techniques of field archaeology, as well as in specialist studies of material culture and environmental analysis, such as ceramics, objects, fauna, flora, and human osteology. In response to the success of the first Field School, Dr. Mark Lehner, director of AERA, along with the Field School teachers and the AERA team decided to organize an Advanced Field School in 2006 according to new guidelines. Returning students were divided into smaller groups and took classes with different AERA specialists on various subjects. As the AERA ceramicist, I was responsible for teaching pottery analysis. During my preparation of the pottery classes, Dr. Lehner suggested that I prepare an AERA Field School Pottery Manual. At first the manual was to be a concise catalogue of ceramics from different periods of Egyptian archaeology. Over time, however, the manual expanded to include additional information related to material, manufacturing techniques, surface treatment, and context. After several months of work, I compiled a large corpus of Egyptian ceramics from all periods of Egyptian history, from Neolithic to Modern times. Certain imported vessels are also briefly presented in parts of the manual to remind archaeologists that pottery from Egyptian sites often includes vessels brought in from other regions, and is, therefore, not always homogenous.

This AERA field manual is divided into four volumes:

- **Volume 1**: Egyptian Neolithic Fayum A, Merimde, Omari, Badari, Naqada I, Naqada II, and the Lower Egyptian Culture
- **Volume 2**: Naqada III, Archaic Period, Old Kingdom, First Intermediate Period, and Middle Kingdom
- **Volume 3**: Second Intermediate Period, New Kingdom, Third Intermediate Period, and Late Period
- **Volume 4**: Ptolemaic Period, Early and Late Roman Periods, Medieval, and Modern times

Each of the volumes consists of nine sections (the first five of which repeat in each volume):

- **Section 1**: General information on pottery production in Egypt
- **Section 2**: Methods of pottery recording in the field
- **Section 3**: Post-excavation procedures leading to the publication of the material
- **Section 4**: A list of terms and abbreviations related to ceramics
- **Section 5**: A selected bibliography concerning technological aspects of Egyptian pottery
- **Section 6**: Descriptions of the clays mentioned in the text
Section 7  The pottery from all Egyptian periods, organized chronologically:  
Each subsection, treating each of the periods, consists of two parts: 1) an introduction to the 
pottery, showing its general trends, and 2) a catalogue of the main ceramic types, organized 
not according to a detailed chronological order but, rather, by shape (restricted followed by 
unrestricted vessels).  
Each ceramic type is illustrated with a drawing, accompanied by a short description with 
the general name of the find site (e.g., Giza, Abydos). More specific information about the 
provenance is provided by the reference cited for each drawing. The shape, material 
(according to the original publication and in relation to the Vienna System if possible), 
surface treatment, publication, and other information pertinent to dating are provided. 
Additional remarks and bibliography are sometimes included. The vessel description is based 
only on the text from the original publications. If information was not presented in the 
original text, it is labeled as “not stated.”  

Section 8  A selection of references related to the particular ceramics described in a given 
volume. While the manual does not contain drawings from publications after 2006, most 2006 
references are included in the bibliographies.  

Section 9  Color plates, including a selection of photographs of ceramics from different periods. 
For Volume 4, in addition to the color photos of the Medieval pottery, there are also color 
drawings. The Medieval glazed ceramics are usually very colorful. Thus it is very difficult to 
illustrate their precise hues, and therefore, the colors are approximate.  

This AERA manual was originally meant to be a quick field guide for the Egyptian SCA inspectors as 
they recovered pottery in the course of their own excavations, especially because many may not have 
regular access to libraries. It is essentially an illustrated list of ceramic types from different periods, 
meant to show only the most general trends in Egyptian ceramics. Drawings and photographs of 
pottery for the manual were selected to show those general types most characteristic for the different 
periods. For this purpose a kind of typology of Egyptian ceramics was created based on the ceramic 
forms themselves, rather than the typologies presented in the publications on specific sites. However, 
the descriptions here come from the original publications from which I drew my types. Most of the 
language is that of the reference cited. As the task of describing a ceramic vessel is highly subjective, 
each researcher may describe pots in somewhat different ways. Hence the terminology, such as for 
vessel shape (plate, bowl, ewer, dish, bottle, etc.), is not entirely uniform or consistent throughout 
this volume. Nor are all vessels described in the same detail. In addition, the user may not find in 
the manual every single vessel from each period. Further editions of the book may expand to include 
more comprehensive typologies. It was not my intention to document shape changes of any given type 
over time, nor to indicate regional variations within periods. Indeed, the division of ceramic material 
into historical periods is rather artificial, since many types were in use longer than a single period. I 
am fully aware that my pottery manual does not address every question related to Egyptian pottery 
but I hope it will be a useful resource for archaeologists working in Egypt. As a specialist in Old 
Kingdom pottery myself, I am grateful for any comments and suggestions concerning ceramics from 
other periods.
Acknowledgments

Our excavations at Giza are part of the work of Ancient Egypt Research Associates (AERA), directed by Dr. Mark Lehner. I would like to thank a number of foundations and individuals for their financial support of the AERA excavations and analysis. Some of these are the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Foundation, the David H. Koch Foundation, the Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences, Ted Waitt Family Foundation, Peter Norton Family Foundation, Glen Dash Foundation, Marjorie Fisher, Ed and Kathy Fries, J. Michael and Marybeth Johnston, Jason G. Jones and Emily E. Trenkner-Jones, Bruce and Carolyn Ludwig, David Marguiles, and Ann Thompson. I would also like to thank Dr. Zahi Hawass and Egypt’s Supreme Council of Antiquities, along with all of my Egyptian colleagues. This work would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of Dr. Lehner to create and finance an exemplary research and education program at Giza, Egypt.

The present manual is a result of cooperation between numerous individuals and institutions. First I would like to again thank Dr. Lehner for his idea of creating the manual and publishing it as an AERA publication.

My deepest appreciation goes to Wilma Wetterstrom and Cindy Sebrell who are responsible for the present shape of the book. I would like to express my special gratitude to Alexandra Witsell who prepared the book layout. It required a lot of skill, perseverance, and patience, especially in the case of my multiple changes and rewritings during the course of the work. Thank you, Ali.

Mary Anne Murray, Richard Redding, Janine Bourriau, and Teodozja I. Rzeuska were also always ready to give me very useful advice.

I would like to express my particular indebtedness to Dina Faltings and Dietrich Raue for their kind and insightful reviews of Volumes 1 and 2 of the manual.

Drawings used in the manual were prepared by Edyta Klimaszewska-Drabot, Mariola Orzechowska, and myself. The collection of color photos was compiled from photographs provided by the following individuals and projects:

Krzysztof Ciałowicz, Mariusz Jucha: photographs of the pottery from Tell el Farkha;
Harco Willems, Marleen De Meyer, and Stefanie Vereecken in particular: photographs from the Dayr al-Barsha Project;
Tonny de Wit, Willeke Wendrich: photographs from the Fayum;
Włodzimierz Godlewski: Late Roman and Medieval pottery photographs from Naqlun monastery in Fayum;
Yukinori Kawae: photographs of the ceramics from Giza and el Nazla village;
Mariola Orzechowska: New Kingdom pottery photos from Giza;
Teodozja I. Rzeuska, Dietrich Raue: photographs from Elephantine.

I also would like to thank Sławomir Rzepka for the permission to use the ceramic photos taken by myself at Tell el Retaba. The majority of photographs came from the Petrie Museum thanks to Stephen Quirke and Richard Langley. I am deeply grateful for their help.

And last but not least I would like to express my gratitude to employees of the Institute of Egyptology in Prague, especially Jaromír Krejčí, for the opportunity to use their Egyptological library. My research in Prague was financed by the Department of Egyptian and Nubian Archaeology of the Institute of Archaeology (the University of Warsaw, Poland), thanks to its head, Prof. Włodzimierz Godlewski. I am very grateful for his trust in my work.
Pottery Workshop

Please see Ceramic Glossary, pages 11–13, for definitions of terms.

Clay (based on Bourriau and Nordström 1993)
All ceramics are made of clay. Scholars have divided Egyptian clays into two general categories based on the raw sources, Nile Alluvium and Marl. The two different clays are characterized by different physical properties.

Nile clay contains greater amounts of silica and can be fired at lower temperatures, around 700 to 800°C. The surface after firing is usually dark red or brown. The break of a pottery wall shows different color layers: red/brown with a black core. Nile clay used in pottery production often contains organic inclusions (small fragments of grass, chaff), or material introduced to the raw clay by a potter as temper.

Marl clays are fired at higher temperatures, between 800 and 1000°C. The clay shown in the break is very homogenous and dense. The color of surfaces is generally beige, pink, or very light yellow. Marl clay is very hard after firing. Marl pots usually do not contain any organic material.

Nile and marl clay can be further divided into subgroups according to inclusions, hardness, and density. The so-called Vienna System (Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 168–186) classifies the different clays that were used in Ancient Egyptian pottery. The AERA settlement (the Heit el-Ghurob site) has its own Clay Classification system (Wodzińska 2007: 287–289, Table 11.3).

Clay for manufacturing pots has to be properly prepared. The raw material contains inclusions that can damage the pot wall during shaping or later firing. The raw clay is levigated (mixed with water) in special pools and then kneaded until the mass is smooth. That process can take days or sometimes months before the clay is ready for shaping into a vessel.

Shaping Methods (Arnold and Bourriau 1993; Hope 1987)
There are a few general methods for shaping pots: hand-shaping, hand-shaping and finishing with a turning device, or shaping on a wheel. Hand-shaping methods include: 1) forming a single piece of clay by the use of free-hand shaping, 2) shaping with a paddle and anvil, 3) shaping on a core or over a hump, 4) shaping with a mold, and 5) building with a slab/coil.

Surface Treatment
The surfaces of ancient Egyptian pots were treated in various ways. The most common method consisted of simple smoothing prior to firing. The smoothed surface could also be coated and subsequently burnished or polished. When a coat is applied before firing it is called a slip, while a wash designates a coat applied after firing (Rice 1987: 151).

Decoration
Pottery can also be decorated. We can distinguish several kinds of decoration: painted (before or after firing), incised (before or after firing), applied (before firing), molded (before firing), and “cut-out” (before firing).
Pottery Processing in the Field

Pottery retrieved from archaeological excavations can be processed in many ways (e.g., Orton, Tyers, and Vince 1993; Rice 1987). Over several years, I have developed a system that works well for the specific case of the ceramics from the Heit el-Ghurob site. The same system, but slightly modified, can be used at other sites.

The bags of pottery collected from the excavation are sent to the lab for processing. All pottery fragments from the site are first sorted into two groups: 1) diagnostic: those from which the original form of the whole vessel can be deduced; i.e., complete pots, complete profiles, parts of rims, parts of bases; as well as sherds with decoration, and fragments with potmarks, and; 2) non-diagnostic fragments.

Diagnostic fragments are classified according to the AERA Typology, and then recorded on AERA Pottery Forms. For a sample of an AERA Pottery Form, which consists of several descriptive categories, see Table 1 (page 7). The non-diagnostics are sorted according to two types: pieces that belong to bread-molds, and other non-diagnostic types that are not parts of bread-molds. These are weighed separately, their weights are recorded on the AERA Pottery Form, and the sherds are discarded.

Pots slated for drawing (rendered at a scale of 1:1) are segregated and stored separately (for pottery drawing techniques, see Becker 1987; Joyce and Dillon 1987). In addition to the drawings, pots are documented with two sets of photos. One captures complete vessels, significant shapes, pots with decoration, and potmarks. The second shows the clay in the breaks of the pottery wall. The tools used for pottery processing, drawing, and photography are listed in Table 2 (page 8).

All information about pottery from the site is stored in a digital database. This greatly facilitates the data analyses, especially in the case of a very large assemblage. The more data we collect, the more relations between data we create in the database, and the more relations we have, the better the material is described. All the ceramics data from AERA are stored in the AERA Pottery Database in the general format presented in Table 3 (page 9).

Shape Designation (based on Rice 1987: 212–220)
All pots can be divided into two groups: Restricted and Unrestricted vessels. The rim diameter of a restricted vessel is smaller than the maximum diameter of its body, whereas that of an unrestricted vessel is greater than, or equal to, the maximum diameter of its body. These groups can be further divided into formal groups:

- **Restricted vessels:**
  - Jars (restricted vessel with neck, has a height greater that its maximum diameter)

- **Unrestricted vessels:**
  - Bowls (unrestricted vessel with base)
  - Stands (unrestricted vessel without base)
A vessel consists of three components: rim, body, and base (Figure 1). The body of the pot can be divided into neck and belly, especially in the case of jars.

Figure 1. Basic vessel parts (partly based on Shepard 1995: 244, Figure 31).
The shape of the body can be described using geometric shapes: sphere, ellipsoid, ovaloid, cylinder, hyperboloid, and cone (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Vessel shape descriptions derived from geometric figure names (based on Rice 1987: 219, Figure 7.6).
The bases of most Egyptian pots are round, but they can also be flat, slightly flat, or pointed. There are also ring bases (Figure 3). The rims can be pointed, round, flat, or recurved (Figure 4).

![Figure 3. Different base shapes.](image)

![Figure 4. Description of different rim shapes.](image)
Figure 5. Example of a jar typology, arranged by production method, shape, clay, and surface treatment.

**Typology**
After examining a collection of pots, we sort them into types, based on a number of shared traits. The traits include a combination of production method, shape, clay, and surface treatment. In this way we create a typology, or a classification of all pottery from the site into type. Figure 5 shows a sample of a jar typology.
Table 1. Example of an AERA Pottery Form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pot number</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Fabric (clay, surface treatment)</th>
<th>Part of vessel, diameter - cm</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Weight - kg</th>
<th>Remarks (presence of potmarks, traces of vessel usage, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>AB1</td>
<td>GN3, WWh</td>
<td>R, 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Potmark–external surface, after firing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>CD7</td>
<td>GN4, WWh</td>
<td>R, 20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>F2</td>
<td>GN8</td>
<td>R, 20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>Burned rim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date: 20iii2004
Bag number: 5
Context: 6-S25/21221
Processor: AW
Non diag. weight: 0.5
F2 non diag. weight: 1.5

Data base entry: AW
Table 2. Pottery processing tools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pottery processing</th>
<th>Drawings:</th>
<th>Photos:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handbook—for any additional remarks on the described material</td>
<td>Contour gauge, caliper</td>
<td>Camera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand lens, min. 10x magnification—used during clay description and</td>
<td>Long ruler, triangles</td>
<td>Photo background—for example, a piece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>identification</td>
<td></td>
<td>of fabric or paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scales—for weighing</td>
<td>Pencil</td>
<td>Photo scale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glue—used during reconstruction of broken pots</td>
<td>Tracing paper, Grid paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pen with black water-proof ink—for marking the sherds</td>
<td>Pencil eraser</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munsell color charts</td>
<td>Circles for measuring diameter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3. General categories of the AERA Pottery Database (example).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of pot</td>
<td>Follows the number assigned to every diagnostic fragment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawing</td>
<td>Drawing prepared, name of draftsperson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photo</td>
<td>Photo taken, photo number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context</td>
<td>Area, grid, square, feature number, feature type, building, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Year of excavation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>According to the site typology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Variants</td>
<td>Variants of types</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel part</td>
<td>R – rim, B – base, W – wall (body sherd), Cpr – complete profile, Cpot – complete pot, H – handle, O – object made of ceramic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
<td>Quantity of sherds/pots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>Percentage of pot, rim, base preserved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>PH – preserved height, CH – complete height, L – length, in centimeters (cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rim diameter</td>
<td>Measured in centimeters (cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base diameter</td>
<td>Measured in centimeters (cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max diameter</td>
<td>Maximum diameter of body of a vessel, in centimeters (cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AERA clay</td>
<td>According to the site clay description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardness</td>
<td>1 – soft, 2 – middle (scratched with fingernail), 3 – hard (scratched with copper wire), 4 – very hard (scratched with window glass)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of production</td>
<td>HM – handmade, WT – wheel-turned, M – molded, WM – wheel-made or HM-WT – handmade and later turned on a slow wheel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base shaping</td>
<td>M – molded, SC – string cut, Kf – knife cut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base surface treatment</td>
<td>See surface treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break sections</td>
<td>Colors of break sections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break porosity</td>
<td>Open, medium, dense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface treatment (outside and inside)</td>
<td>Sm – smoothed, P – polished , U – untreated, C – slipped (before firing), Wh – washed (after firing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface color</td>
<td>Using the Munsell color charts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoration (outside and inside)</td>
<td>Painted, incised, applied, molded, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall thickness</td>
<td>Measured in centimeters (cm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Measured in kilograms (kg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remarks</td>
<td>Usually description of the state of surface preservation, traces of ancient usage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potmarks</td>
<td>Marks made on the surface: types, made before or after firing, on external or internal surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage</td>
<td>Location where stored</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Post-Excavation Studies

The work after excavation is the most time consuming part of pottery analysis. The field work is very demanding and usually pottery specialists do not have enough time for a detailed analysis of the material. During field work, however, the pottery is well documented in order to provide a basis for further study. Time during the “off-season” is used for database entry, analysis of the data, and a study of the results. Additionally, pencil drawings are prepared for publication; they are inked or redrawn in a computer graphics program. The final and most important stage of the pottery study is its publication. The article or book should be a comprehensive account of the material, including all the information that is available.
Ceramic Glossary


Clay

AERA Clay Classification: the classification of clay types known at the AERA site
Break: a fresh break of the vessel wall made in order to be able to describe the clay
Break porosity: the volume of pores in the break, described as open, medium, or dense
Clay: the material the pottery is made of, mostly consisting of silica
Grog: small pieces of fired and crushed ceramic; often added to clay
Groundmass (or matrix, paste): the fine particles of clay and silt that make up the composition of the clay
Hardness: the resistance of a material to mechanical deformation, measured in Mohs' scale
Inclusions: particles present in the clay
Levigated clay: clay mixed with water
Marl clay: a calcareous clay, also known as a desert clay (or tafla in Arabic)
Mohs scale: a hardness scale, consisting of a series of increasingly hard minerals from 1 (talc) to 10 (diamond); determining which mineral is sufficiently hard to mark the ceramic
Nile clay: an alluvial clay associated with the Nile valley
Organic inclusions: organic particles present in the clay
Provenience: the geographical or geological origin of the clay source
Qena/Ballas: a marl clay from the Qena/Ballas region
Raw material: a material from the original source, before preparation
Tafla: marl clay
Temper: inclusions added by the potter
Vienna System: a general classification of Egyptian clays

Manufacture

Coil/slab-building: hand-building by the successive addition of slabs or coils of clay
Core/hump: hand-building on a core or over a hump
Handmade: building without the use of a potter's wheel
Knife-cut: finishing the base using a knife/hard tool
Method of production: techniques of vessel shaping
Mold-shaping: hand-building in a mold
Paddle- and anvil-shaping method: shaping with the use of two tools:
    anvil: a round instrument to press against the vessel wall from the inside
    paddle: a flat tool to beat and support the wall from the outside
Potter's wheel: a revolving platform which moves on and around an axial pivot
String-cut: finishing the base using a string or wire
Turning device: a device without a pivot incapable of sustained rotations
Wheel-turned: building with the use of a potter's wheel

Surface Treatment

Burnishing: producing a luster on the surface by rubbing it with a hard object (a pebble for instance); characterized by the presence of individual parallel facets
Color: surface color description, often using the color terms in the Munsell color charts
Munsell color charts: charts for the standardized identification and description of colors
Polish: a glossy luster on the surface, produced by rubbing with a yielding tool; lacks the individual parallel facets characteristic of burnishing
Slip: a coat added to the surface before firing
Smoothing: the process of evening the surface, usually without using tools, by hand
Surface treatment (outside and inside): surface finishing methods
Wash: a coat added to the surface after firing

Decoration
Application: adding, before firing, decorative elements to the exterior of the vessel
Cut-out decoration (also called fenestration): a design created by cutting away sections of the wall, before firing, in the leather-hard stage
Decoration: additional surface treatment techniques
Incised decoration: designs executed, before or after firing, with the aid of a sharp tool, sometimes filled with a pigment
Modeling: modeling of the vessel wall, also in a mold, before firing, while the clay is still moist
Painted decoration: painting applied to the vessel before or after firing
Potmarks: marks incised on the vessel (internal or external), before or after firing

Type/Ware Classification
Type: a category of ceramics defined by a common set of attributes (combination of technology, kind of clay, surface treatment, and shape of vessel) that distinguishes it from another class of pots
Typology: a system of classification that organizes ceramics into types
Ware (fabric): combination of technology, clay, and surface treatment

Drying and Firing
Atmosphere: composition of gases in the air surrounding pottery during firing
Drying: the process of evaporating water from the formed vessel
Firing: transforming the clay into ceramic material under the influence of high temperatures
Leather-hard: the stage of the drying process during which clay contains enough water to be carved or joined
Oxidation: a firing atmosphere characterized by an abundance of free oxygen
Pottery kilns: an oven or other installation in which pots are fired
Reduction: a firing atmosphere without the presence of oxygen
Vitrification: the action or process of becoming glass

Pottery Processing
Diagnostic pieces: those from which the original form of the whole vessel can be deduced: complete pots, complete profiles, parts of rims, and parts of bases. Sherds with decoration, and fragments with potmarks are also included
Non-Diagnostic pieces: those from which the original form of the whole vessel cannot be deduced: non-descript body parts, and sherds without decoration or potmarks
Pottery Drawing Form: a form with a drawing of the individual vessels
Pottery Form: a pottery recording form
Pottery processing: the process of sorting pottery according to types and fabrics
Shape of Vessel

- **Base**: the underside of a vessel
- **Belly**: the lower part of the vessel body
- **Body** (wall): the part of the vessel between the rim and the base
- **Bottle**: a jar with a globular or ovoid body and an elongated narrow neck
- **Bowl**: an unrestricted vessel with base
- **Carination**: the concave part between the rim and the maximum diameter of the body
- **Complete pot**: a vessel preserved in its entirety
- **Complete profile**: a profile of a vessel preserved in its entirety
- **Jar**: a restricted vessel with neck, with a height greater than its maximum diameter
- **Max diameter**: the maximum diameter of the body of a vessel
- **Neck**: the part of the vessel between the shoulder and the rim
- **Plate**: an unrestricted vessel with low, short walls and a flat base
- **Profile**: a vertical cross section through the body of a vessel
- **Restricted vessel**: a vessel with a rim diameter smaller than the maximum diameter of its body
- **Rim**: the opening of the vessel
- **Shoulder**: the upper part of the belly
- **Stand**: an unrestricted vessel without a base
- **Tray**: an unrestricted vessel similar to a plate in shape, but often larger in size
- **Unrestricted vessel**: a vessel with a rim diameter greater than or equal to the maximum diameter of its body
- **Sherd**: a broken fragment of pottery

Special Analyses

- **Elemental analysis**: the identification of the chemical elements in ceramics; may reflect technological changes, or define clay sources or kiln products
- **Organic residue analysis**: the identification of residue in pots; may reflect the diet of the people using the pottery
- **Petrography**: the microscopic study and description of rocks or other mineral material on the basis of optical properties
- **Seriation**: the chronological ordering of a group of artifacts in which the most similar are placed adjacent to each other in the series; used as a relative dating technique
- **Thermal analysis**: determining the temperature at which the pot was fired

Pottery Drawing

- **Contour gauge**: a drawing tool that helps trace the vessel shape
- **Diameter measuring circle**: a drawing tool used to determine the rim/base diameter of a broken pot
- **Profile drawing**: a drawing of the vertical cross section of a pot, showing wall thickness and details of the rim, as well as the configuration of the base
Bibliography for the Introduction


Further Reading: a General Selection on Ceramics


*Bulletin de liaison du groupe international d'étude de la céramique égyptienne*. Cairo.


*Cahiers de la céramique égyptienne*. Cairo.


Clay Descriptions Used in Volume 1

Vienna System

Material: NA
Groundmass: homogenous fine
Inclusions: abundant fine, often medium-sized and occasionally coarse, sand; mica is common
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 170–171, Plate I a–c

Material: NB1
Groundmass: homogenous medium-fine
Inclusions: numerous fine with some medium-sized and coarse sand; mica is common; scattered fine
(< 2 mm) straw particles
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 171, Plate I d–h

Material: NB2
Groundmass: homogenous medium
Inclusions: abundant fine sand and common medium-sized sand; scattered limestone particles;
noticeable fine to medium straw, with scattered coarse straw
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 171–173, Plate II a–d

Material: NC
Groundmass: coarse
Inclusions: numerous fine to coarse sand; some medium-sized limestone particles; predominance of
fine to coarse straw; sometimes grog

Material: ND
Groundmass: fine to medium
Inclusions: abundant limestone particles in fabrics such as NA, NB1, or NB2–NC
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 174–175, Plate III a–c

Material: NE
Groundmass: medium fine
Inclusions: abundance of fine to coarse sand
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 175, Plate III d–h

Material: MA1
Groundmass: homogenous fine
Inclusions: relatively abundant fine-medium crushed limestone, some fine sand
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 176, Plate IV a–c

Material: MA2
Groundmass: fine
Inclusions: fine sand and limestone particles
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 176, Plate IV d–i
Material: MA3

Groundmass: homogenous fine
Inclusions: few mineral inclusions; characteristic pores in the clay; a few accidental organic inclusions
Remarks: very similar to the modern Qena ware
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 177, Plate V a–c, g–h

Material: MA4

Groundmass: medium to coarse
Inclusions: large quantity of fine to coarse sand; mica particles are also present; and some straw particles
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 177–178, Plate V d–f, i–j

Material: MB

Groundmass: homogenous and very dense
Inclusions: without voids; abundant quantities (around 40% of the paste) of sand added as a temper
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 178–179, Plate VI a–c, g–h

Material: MC

Groundmass: fine and dense
Inclusions: abundant more or less decomposed limestone particles; fine and medium sand added as a temper
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 179–180

Material: MD

Groundmass: fine and homogenous
Inclusions: predominantly fine to coarse limestone particles added as a temper (25% of the paste); fine to coarse sand; mica; dark rock material
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 181–182, Plate VII a–c, e–f

Material: ME

Groundmass: medium to coarse
Inclusions: very similar to MB except for straw particles, here very abundant medium to coarse; numerous medium to coarse sand; some mica
Reference: Bourriau and Nordström 1993: 182, Plate VII d

Material: MF

Groundmass: medium
Inclusions: abundant fine to medium sand, some mica and few red particles
Lower Egyptian Culture: Maadi (Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 23–33)

Ia Black ware, Nile alluvium, moderate temper (grains 1 mm and arger) of sand, and some crushed stones (usually limestone); also organic inclusions up to 10 mm in size

Ib Reddish brown ware, Nile alluvium, moderate temper (grains 1 mm and larger) of sand (rounded quartz grains), and some crushed stones (usually limestone); also organic inclusions up to 10 mm in size

Ic Local painted ware, Nile alluvium, moderate temper (grains 1 mm and larger) of sand, and some crushed stones (usually limestone); also organic inclusions up to 10 mm in size

Id Local black-topped ware, Nile alluvium, moderate temper (grains 1 mm and larger) of sand, and some crushed stones (usually limestone); also organic inclusions up to 10 mm in size

II Red burnished ware, Nile alluvium with grit temper (grains smaller than 1 mm) consisting of sand and sometimes crushed limestone; organic inclusions are very rare

III Yellowish washed ware, Nile alluvium with thin brownish, reddish yellow, yellowish green, greyish green slip (“desert clay slip”); no organic inclusions, large amounts of sand and crushed limestone particles smaller than 1 mm

IV Imported (from Upper Egypt) black-topped ware, Nile alluvium with small amounts of very small grains of sand and ground stone

V Palestinian ware


AM1 fine Nile clay, with sand equal to or greater than 250 microns

AM2 medium Nile clay, with sand of medium size (50 to 500 microns)

AM3 coarse Nile clay with coarse sand (to 500 microns)

AM4 fine Nile clay with sand and large particles of feldspar

AV1 fine Nile clay with numerous straw particles

AV2 fine Nile clay with organic inclusions (ruminant excrement)

AV3 Nile clay with carbonized particles, probably ash used as temper

AO4 Nile clay with long and very fine organic particles, but not of plant origin (perhaps animal fur)

AVC5 Nile clay with fine and short organic inclusions and lime particles

AV6 medium fine Nile sandy clay with fine and short plant particles

AV7 coarse Nile sandy clay with fine and medium fine plant remains

AV8 Nile clay with coarse mineral particles (quartz equal to or greater than 0.07 mm) and fine plant remains

AV9 Nile sandy clay with rare coarse plant remains

C1 red-orange clay with abundant lime particles

C2 dense clay with very small rare quartz and white diffused particles

C4 red-orange clay with rare lime particles

CV marl clay with organic inclusions

CM marl clay with quartz

P clay, probably from an oasis
Bibliography for Clay Descriptions, Volume 1


Fayum A, Neolithic

5300–4200 B.C.

**Site**
Neolithic culture Fayum A was identified among material from the sites of Kom κ and Kom w on the north side of Lake Moeris, at the northern rim of the Fayum. Subterranean silos for storing grain were found at Upper κ associated with Kom κ.

**Material**
All the Fayum A ceramics are made of coarse Nile clay and are full of chaff.

**Manufacture**
This early Egyptian pottery was handmade, using the simplest method of construction, known as pinching and hollowing.

**Surface**
The surfaces of Fayum A pots can be described as follows: red/black-slipped, unpolished slipped, rough-faced brown or red-polished with horizontal smears below the rim, and, rarely, black-polished and unpolished slipped. There is no evidence of decoration of any kind.

**Types**
These early ceramics are characterized by their simple shapes. Caton-Thompson (Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: 35) grouped the Fayum pots into five categories: small bowls and cups, cooking bowls and pots, pedestal cups, cups with knobbed feet, and rectangular dishes with peaked rims.

Shapes of the large vessels are simple ovoids or bag-like. Bowls have straight or slightly flaring walls. All the pots have very simple rims, in most cases incurved. Bases of the vessels are predominantly flat, but rounded and knob-shaped are also present.

For photos of ceramics representative of this period, see Color Plates 1 and 2.

**Bibliography**
Fayum A 1

Site: Fayum  
Shape: small bowl with slightly flaring walls and flattened base  
Material: rough red  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 15  
Dating: Fayum A

Fayum A 2

Site: Fayum  
Shape: deep bowl with slightly flaring walls and flattened base  
Material: rough pinky-gray  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 1  
Dating: Fayum A  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 1.2

Fayum A 3

Site: Fayum  
Shape: deep bowl with flaring walls and flat base  
Material: rough red-brown  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 4  
Dating: Fayum A  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 1.4

Fayum A 4

Site: Fayum  
Shape: simple bowl with incurved walls and flat base  
Material: rough mottled  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 6  
Dating: Fayum A
Fayum A 5

Site: Fayum  
Shape: simple bowl with incurved walls and flat base  
Material: rough mottled  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 6  
Dating: Fayum A

Fayum A 6

Site: Fayum  
Shape: deep bowl with slightly incurved walls and flat base  
Material: rough pinky-gray  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 11  
Dating: Fayum A  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 2.3

Fayum A 7

Site: Fayum  
Shape: deep vessel with rounded shoulder, slightly recurved rim, and flat base  
Material: rough red  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 10  
Dating: Fayum A

Fayum A 8

Site: Fayum  
Shape: carinated vessel with rounded shoulder, long neck, slightly recurved rim, and flat base  
Material: rough pinky-buff  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 14  
Dating: Fayum A
**Fayum A 9**

| Site: Fayum |
| Shape: ovoid-shaped pot with incurved rim and rounded base |
| Material: dark gray |
| Manufacture: handmade |
| Surface: polished |
| Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 22 |
| Dating: Fayum A |

**Fayum A 10**

| Site: Fayum |
| Shape: bag-shaped pot with slightly recurved rim and rounded base |
| Material: rough red-gray |
| Manufacture: handmade |
| Surface: plain |
| Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 20 |
| Dating: Fayum A |

**Fayum A 11**

| Site: Fayum |
| Shape: ovoid-shaped pot with incurved rim and rounded base |
| Material: rough red-brown |
| Manufacture: handmade |
| Surface: plain |
| Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XX, 44 |
| Dating: Fayum A |
| Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 1.3 |
Fayum A 12

Site: Fayum  
Shape: ovoid-shaped pot with incurved rim and flat base  
Material: rough red-brown  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 28  
Dating: Fayum A  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 1.3

Fayum A 13

Site: Fayum  
Shape: hemispherical pot with slightly incurved rim and rounded base  
Material: rough red-brown  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XVIII, 30  
Dating: Fayum A
Fayum A 14

Site: Fayum  
Shape: large vessel with straight, slightly incurved walls, and flattened base  
Material: rough red-brown  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate xix, 42  
 Dating: Fayum A
Fayum A 15

Site: Fayum
Shape: large bag-shaped vessel with incurved walls and rounded base
Material: rough red
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate xix, 41
Dating: Fayum A
Fayum A 16

- **Site:** Fayum
- **Shape:** bag-shaped vessel with short neck, simple straight rim, and flat base
- **Material:** rough mottled red
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** plain
- **Reference:** Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XIX, 3
- **Dating:** Fayum A
Fayum A 17

Site: Fayum
Shape: large vessel with rounded shoulder, simple rim, and flat base
Material: rough red-brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934:
Plate XX, 45
Dating: Fayum A

Fayum A 18

Site: Fayum
Shape: hemispherical bowl with flat base
Material: rough red-brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934:
Plate XX, 46
Dating: Fayum A
Fayum A 19

Site: Fayum
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base
Material: rough red-gray
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate xx, 47
Dating: Fayum A
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 2.1 and 2.2

Fayum A 20

Site: Fayum
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base
Material: rough pinky-buff
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate xx, 49
Dating: Fayum A
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 2.1 and 2.2
Fayum A 21

Site: Fayum
Shape: rectangular bowl with peaked rim and flat base
Material: rough red
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: traces of polished surface
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XX, 50
Dating: Fayum A
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 1.1

Fayum A 22

Site: Fayum
Shape: rectangular bowl with peaked rim and flat base
Material: rough brown-red
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Caton-Thompson and Gardner 1934: Plate XX, 52
Dating: Fayum A
Merimde Beni Salame, Neolithic

5000–4400 B.C.

Site
Merimde Beni Salame is located on the western edge of the Delta, close to modern Cairo.

Material
All the Merimde pots are made of Nile clay, primarily without inclusions. Later in the period, vessels are tempered with organic chaff material.

Manufacture
Like the ceramics from Fayum A, the Merimde pottery was handmade by pinching and hollowing. The potters also probably started experimenting with slab construction.

Surface
Vessels from Merimde are poorly fired, with a burnished surface that has visible traces of a hard tool. Some pots were also smoothed. Decoration is very rare. Incised decoration with a herringbone pattern applied before firing was typical for the early stage of the Merimde culture. In the later stages, applications and incised decorations were added to vessels, especially cooking pots.

Types
The shapes in most cases are very simple: bowls with incurved rims and straight, relatively thick walls. Large oval trays appear in the later phase of the culture. Restricted vessels were also common, especially red burnished jars. Later more restricted vessels can be found, with round or cylindrical bodies. There were also large plates. Bases were not only rounded or flat, but also ring-shaped. In addition, there are a few cases known of a base in the shape of a human foot. Clay spoons are also known.

For photos of ceramics representative of this period, see Color Plate 3.

Bibliography


Merimde 1

Site: Merimde  
Shape: medium large bowl with straight rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 66, Plate 2.1.18  
Dating: Merimde 1

Merimde 2

Site: Merimde  
Shape: small bowl with straight rim and rounded base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 96, Plate 37.1.674  
Dating: Merimde 1

Merimde 3

Site: Merimde  
Shape: medium bowl with steep walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 68, Plate 4.1.45  
Dating: Merimde 1
Merimde 4

| Site: Merimde |
| Shape: hemispherical bowl |
| Material: Nile clay |
| Manufacture: handmade |
| Surface: horizontally burnished |
| Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 72, Plate 10.1.167 |
| Dating: Merimde I |

Merimde 5

| Site: Merimde |
| Shape: bowl with steep walls and rounded base |
| Material: Nile clay |
| Manufacture: handmade |
| Surface: horizontally burnished |
| Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 73, Plate 11.1.179 |
| Dating: Merimde I |

Merimde 6

| Site: Merimde |
| Shape: vessel with slightly incurved rim and rounded base |
| Material: Nile clay |
| Manufacture: handmade |
| Surface: horizontally burnished |
| Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 73, Plate 11.1.186 |
| Dating: Merimde I |
**Merimde 7**

- **Site:** Merimde  
- **Shape:** very small vessel with straight rim and rounded base  
- **Material:** Nile clay  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** plain  
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 96, Plate 37.1.679  
- **Dating:** Merimde I

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**Merimde 8**

- **Site:** Merimde  
- **Shape:** very small vessel with incurved rim  
- **Material:** Nile clay  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** plain  
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 97, Plate 37.1.681  
- **Dating:** Merimde I

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**Merimde 9**

- **Site:** Merimde  
- **Shape:** bowl with slightly incurved rim  
- **Material:** Nile clay  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** diagonally burnished  
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 57, Plate 1.II.2  
- **Dating:** Merimde II

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**Merimde 10**

- **Site:** Merimde  
- **Shape:** bowl with slightly incurved rim  
- **Material:** Nile clay  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** plain  
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 81, Plate 24.II.507  
- **Dating:** Merimde II
Merimde 11

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: diagonally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 74, Plate 17. II.362  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 12

Site: Merimde  
Shape: small bowl with flaring rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 82, Plate 25.II.533  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 13

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with slightly incurved rim and flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished inside, diagonally burnished outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 59, Plate 3.II.42  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 14

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with incurved sides and flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: diagonally burnished outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1992: 78, Plate 1.IV.10  
Dating: Merimde IV
Merimde 15

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside, diagonally burnished inside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 73, Plate 11.1.190  
Dating: Merimde I

Merimde 16

Site: Merimde  
Shape: large vessel with slightly incurved sides  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside  
Dating: Merimde IV
**Merimde 17**

- **Site:** Merimde
- **Shape:** vessel with incurved rim and rounded base
- **Material:** Nile clay
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** horizontally burnished outside
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 77, Plate 15.1.268
- ** Dating:** Merimde I

**Merimde 18**

- **Site:** Merimde
- **Shape:** vessel with incurved rim and rounded base
- **Material:** Nile clay
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** horizontally burnished outside
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 77, Plate 16.1.279
- **Dating:** Merimde I

**Merimde 19**

- **Site:** Merimde
- **Shape:** jar with internal ledge
- **Material:** Nile clay
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** horizontally burnished outside
- **Dating:** Merimde IV

**Merimde 20**

- **Site:** Merimde
- **Shape:** vessel with incurved rim and bent walls
- **Material:** Nile clay
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** plain
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 93, Plate 34.1.607
- **Dating:** Merimde I
**Merimde 21**

- **Site:** Merimde  
- **Shape:** vessel with incurved rim and bent walls  
- **Material:** Nile clay  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** plain  
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 94, Plate 35.1.624  
- **Dating:** Merimde 1

![Merimde 21 diagram]

**Merimde 22**

- **Site:** Merimde  
- **Shape:** vessel with bent walls  
- **Material:** Nile clay  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** plain  
- **Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 94, Plate 35.1.625  
- **Dating:** Merimde 1

![Merimde 22 diagram]
Merimde 23

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside, with incised decoration of herringbone pattern  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 80, Plate 18.1.330  
Dating: Merimde I

Merimde 24

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside, with incised decoration of herringbone pattern; diagonally burnished inside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 80, Plate 18.1.336  
Dating: Merimde I
Merimde 25

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with slightly incurved rim and flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished inside, diagonally outside  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 26

Site: Merimde  
Shape: hemispherical cup with flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished at rim, diagonally on body  
Reference: Eiwanger 1992: 81, Plate 6.OF.2  
Dating: Merimde III

Merimde 27

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with incurved walls and rounded base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 28

Site: Merimde  
Shape: deep bowl with straight rim and flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 81, Plate 25.II.528  
Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 29

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** oval bowl with slightly incurved rim and flat base  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** plain  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 87, Plate 32.11.685  
**Dating:** Merimde II

Merimde 30

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** oval bowl with slightly incurved rim and flat base  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** plain  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 87, Plate 32.11.669  
**Dating:** Merimde II

Merimde 31

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** vessel with incurved walls  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** horizontally burnished  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 67, Plate 12.11.220  
**Dating:** Merimde II
Merimde 32

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with incurved walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: diagonally burnished outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 65, Plate 11.11.182  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 33

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: diagonally burnished outside  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 34

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: burnished outside, horizontally on the rim, diagonally on the body  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 71, Plate 15.11.295  
Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 35

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: diagonally burnished outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 67, Plate 12.11.222  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 36

Site: Merimde  
Shape: small ovoid jar  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 73, Plate 16.11.333  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 37

Site: Merimde  
Shape: jar with slightly recurved rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished inside, diagonally outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 80, Plate 22.11.483  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 38

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 71, Plate 15.11.293  
Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 39

Site: Merimde
Shape: jar with small collar
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 86, Plate 31.II.648
 Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 40

Site: Merimde
Shape: jar with flaring rim
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: horizontally burnished outside
 Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 41

Site: Merimde
Shape: vessel with incurved rim with a pierced knob below rim
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: horizontally burnished outside
 Dating: Merimde I

Merimde 42

Site: Merimde
Shape: vessel with incurved rim with a pierced knob below rim
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: horizontally burnished outside
 Dating: Merimde I
Merimde 43

Site: Merimde
Shape: small jar with rounded rim and ovoid body
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: horizontally burnished outside
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 73, Plate 16.II.329
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 44

Site: Merimde
Shape: small jar with incurved rim and flat base
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: horizontally burnished
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 73, Plate 16.II.331
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 45

Site: Merimde
Shape: small pear-shaped jar with incurved rim and flat base
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: horizontally burnished outside, inside diagonally
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 73, Plate 16.II.332
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 46

Site: Merimde
Shape: jar with long neck and slightly recurved rim
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: vertically and diagonally burnished outside
Dating: Merimde V
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Merimde 47</strong></th>
<th><strong>Merimde 48</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Merimde</td>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Merimde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> large ovoid jar with flat base</td>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> large jar with spherical body and long neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> Nile clay</td>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> Nile clay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> diagonally burnished</td>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> body horizontally burnished and neck vertically burnished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dating:</strong> Merimde v</td>
<td><strong>Dating:</strong> Merimde v</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Merimde 47 diagram](image1)

![Merimde 48 diagram](image2)
Merimde 49

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with flaring walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 94, Plate 35.1.623  
Dating: Merimde I

Merimde 50

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with flaring walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside, inside diagonally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 71, Plate 15.11.288  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 51

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with flaring rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished inside and along rim zone, diagonally outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 73, Plate 16.11.334  
Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 52

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally and diagonally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 59, Plate 3.11.50  
 Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 53

Site: Merimde  
Shape: large bowl with flat-topped rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 80, Plate 22.11.485  
 Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 54

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls with groove in rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Dating: Merimde IV

Merimde 55

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally and diagonally burnished  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 59, Plate 3.II.55  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 56

Site: Merimde  
Shape: medium bowl with flaring walls  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Dating: Merimde I
Merimde 57

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls, slightly incurved rim, and flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: inside and outside of rim horizontally burnished, vertically burnished outside  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 59, Plate 4.II.57  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 58

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with recurved rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 86, Plate 31.II.642  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 59

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved thick rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1984: 94, Plate 35.I.629  
Dating: Merimde I
Merimde 60

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** sieve-like jar with pierced walls  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** plain  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 86, Plate 31.II.652  
**Dating:** Merimde II

Merimde 61

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** large tray (?)  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** horizontally burnished outside, inside burnished in vertical strips  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 86, Plate 22.I.447  
**Dating:** Merimde I

Merimde 62

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** large tray (?) on four feet  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** horizontally burnished outside  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1984: 87, Plate 22.I.450  
**Dating:** Merimde I

Merimde 63

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** pot with two compartments  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** horizontally burnished  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1992: 86, Plate 13.IV.147  
**Dating:** Merimde IV
Merimde 64

Site: Merimde
Shape: large bowl with flat rim
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: diagonally burnished outside
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 75, Plate 18.II.377
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 65

Site: Merimde
Shape: large bowl with straight rim and flat base
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 81, Plate 24.II.510
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 66

Site: Merimde
Shape: bowl with straight rim and flat base
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 86, Plate 31.II.641
Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 67

Site: Merimde  
Shape: bowl with straight walls and irregular rim  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 86, Plate 31.11.647  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 68

Site: Merimde  
Shape: large flat tray with flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 85, Plate 30.11.633  
Dating: Merimde II

Merimde 69

Site: Merimde  
Shape: large bowl with incurved rim and flat base  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plain  
Reference: Eiwanger 1988: 85, Plate 30.11.630  
Dating: Merimde II
Merimde 70

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** large bowl with straight rim and flat base  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** plain  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 85, Plate 30.11.632  
**Dating:** Merimde II

Merimde 71

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** stand (?)  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** horizontally burnished  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1988: 73, Plate 16.11.345  
**Dating:** Merimde II

Merimde 72

**Site:** Merimde  
**Shape:** jar with incurved sides  
**Material:** Nile clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** partially horizontally burnished outside, applications below rim  
**Reference:** Eiwanger 1992: 86, Plate 13.1V.150  
**Dating:** Merimde IV
Merimde 73

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel with incurved sides  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished, applications below rim  
Dating: Merimde IV

Merimde 74

Site: Merimde  
Shape: vessel body part  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished outside, applications on body  
Dating: Merimde IV

Merimde 75

Site: Merimde  
Shape: feet  
Material: Nile clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: horizontally burnished  
Dating: Merimde IV  
Representative Example: similar base in Color Plate 3.2
Omari, Neolithic

4700–4400 B.C.

Site
Wadi Hof, Helwan

Material
Omari pottery material consists of two types of local marl clay with organic and, sometimes, mineral inclusions—mostly fine to coarse sand has been identified. The sand does not seem to be deliberately added to the clay as a temper. In rare cases, the pottery is made of Nile clay that also contained organic inclusions.

Manufacture
All the pottery is handmade, with some traces of simple turning around the rim that could be the result of smoothing. It is likely that a coiling technique was used, or that bodies were made of clay strips. In general, all the shapes are very irregular. Some bases have a concave inner surface that seems to be the result of using a sherd for shaping during their manufacture.

Surface
Omari pots were either smoothed or burnished, and some were well polished. Some bear a red, iron-rich slip. In some cases a straw brush was used on the internal surface.

Decoration
Ceramics from Omari do not bear any traces of decoration. Some pots have knobs applied just below rims.

Types
The shapes of pottery from the Omari period are rather simple. Jars tend to have globular or rounded bodies with plain, straight, flaring, or incurved rims. Bowls have rather straight or sometimes rounded sides. In most cases Omari pots have flat bases, but some rounded bases also occur.

Bibliography
Omari 1

Site: Omari
Shape: jar with rounded body, conical neck, and straight rim
Material: clay with medium to coarse straw, fine sand, and calcite particles
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: polished outside, smoothed inside
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 1: 13, Type II.1a
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 2

Site: Omari
Shape: jar with flaring rim, globular body, and flat base
Material: clay with fine to medium straw and small amounts of fine sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red/brown-slipped, polished outside, smoothed inside
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 1: 1, Type I.1
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 3

**Site:** Omari  
**Shape:** jar with high neck, everted rim, and possibly rounded body  
**Material:** clay with medium to coarse straw, fine sand, and calcite particles  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** dark brown, polished outside, smoothed inside  
**Reference:** Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 2: 9, Type II.2  
**Dating:** Neolithic in Omari

Omari 4

**Site:** Omari  
**Shape:** jar with high neck, thickened rim, and possibly rounded body  
**Material:** clay with medium to coarse straw, fine sand, and calcite particles  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red/brown-slipped, polished overall except rim  
**Reference:** Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 2: 10, Type II.2  
**Dating:** Neolithic in Omari

Omari 5

**Site:** Omari  
**Shape:** jar with plain straight rim and rounded body  
**Material:** clay with medium straw and some sand  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** polished outside, smoothed inside  
**Remarks:** shape very similar to Merimde jars  
**Reference:** Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 2: 13, Type IIIa  
**Dating:** Neolithic in Omari

Omari 6

**Site:** Omari  
**Shape:** jar with plain incurving rim (hole-mouth jar) with a globular body  
**Material:** clay with medium straw and some sand  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** light green, smoothed  
**Reference:** Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 3: 10, Type IIIb  
**Dating:** Neolithic in Omari
Omari 7

Site: Omari  
Shape: beaker with plain rim, straight side, and flat base  
Material: clay with small amount of fine straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated (?) outside, smoothed inside  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 3: 30, Type IV

Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 8

Site: Omari  
Shape: beaker with rounded body, vertical rim, and flat base  
Material: clay with small amount of fine straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: plum/red-slipped, polished outside, smoothed inside  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 4: 8, Type IV

Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 9

Site: Omari  
Shape: beaker with rounded body, vertical rim, and flat base  
Material: clay with small amount of fine straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red/brown-slipped, polished  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 4: 12, Type IV

Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 10

Site: Omari  
Shape: pot with incurved plain rim  
Material: clay with coarse straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: coarsely polished  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 4: 22, Type Va

Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 11

Site: Omari  
Shape: pot with incurved plain rim and knob handles  
Material: clay with coarse straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: brown, smoothed  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 5: 9, Type vaa  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 12

Site: Omari  
Shape: pot with incurved plain rim and knob handles  
Material: clay with coarse straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: polished  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 5: 6, Type vaa  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 13

Site: Omari  
Shape: pot with a plain rim and straight sides  
Material: clay with coarse straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: coarsely smoothed  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 5: 17, Type vb  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 14

Site: Omari  
Shape: cylindrical beaker with plain flaring rim and flat base  
Material: clay with medium to coarse straw  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red/brown-slipped, polished outside, smoothed inside  
Remarks: likely similar to pots from Merimde phase II  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 6: 7, Group VI  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 15

Site: Omari  
Shape: bowl with plain, slightly incurved rim  
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-slipped, polished  
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 6: 12, Group VII  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 16

Site: Omari  
Shape: bowl with plain, slightly flaring rim  
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red/brown-slipped, polished  
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 6: 15, Group VII  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 17

Site: Omari  
Shape: bowl with plain, slightly flaring rim  
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: brown, polished  
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 2, Group VII  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 18

Site: Omari
Shape: bowl with plain, slightly flaring rim
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: brown, polished
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 3, Group VII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 19

Site: Omari
Shape: bowl with plain, slightly flaring rim and flat base
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red/brown/black-slipped, polished
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 9, Group VII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 20

Site: Omari
Shape: bowl with plain, slightly flaring rim
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, polished
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 10, Group VIII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 21

Site: Omari
Shape: deep beaker with S-shaped sides
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, polished outside, smoothed inside
Remarks: similar to pots from Merimde
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 20, Group VIII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 22

Site: Omari
Shape: small bowl with S-shaped sides
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: polished
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 23, Group VIII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 23

Site: Omari
Shape: bowl with rounded sides and plain rim
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: brown-slipped, polished
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 30, Group VIII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 24

Site: Omari
Shape: bowl with rounded sides and plain rim
Material: clay with medium straw and some sand
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 7: 15, Group VIII
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 25

Site: Omari
Shape: open oval basin with curving sides and flat base
Material: clay with coarse straw
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 8: 9, Group X
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 26

Site: Omari
Shape: open oval basin with curving sides and flat base
Material: clay with coarse straw
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, polished (?)
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 9: 1, Group X
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 27

Site: Omari
Shape: base from a closed vessel
Material: clay with coarse straw
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: polished outside, smoothed inside
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 10: 6
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 28

Site: Omari  
Shape: base of an open vessel  
Material: coarse ware  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 13: 12  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 29

Site: Omari  
Shape: small elongated bowl with two “feet”  
Material: coarse clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 14: 4  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Omari 30

Site: Omari  
Shape: lower part of bowl with three “feet”  
Material: coarse clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 14: 5  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari

Omari 31

Site: Omari  
Shape: flat tray with thickened rim  
Material: clay with sand  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Debono and Mortensen 1990: Plate 14: 6  
Dating: Neolithic in Omari
Badari

4100–3700 B.C.

Material
Badarian ceramics were all made of Nile silt with a small amount of sand as an inclusion. The clay used for production of large pots contained organic (chaff, straw) inclusions.

For a key to clay type abbreviations, please see Clay Descriptions, pp. 21–23.

Manufacture
Pots were handmade, usually from a single lump of clay.

Surface
The surface of the pots is usually smoothed, very often red-coated with black rims (“black-topped” vessels) or with a black surface. At the end of the finishing process, the surface was often burnished. The most characteristic surface treatment for Badari pots was the rippling decoration that appears mostly on the outside of the vessel. Sometimes the pots were incised before firing and, rarely, red-painted. Some pots bear applied decoration, but this is rare.

Types
The Badari ceramic assemblage is rather simple. The most common shapes for the period are simple bowls with straight rims and rounded bases, although hemispherical bowls with incurved rims are also present. The bowls occasionally have slightly carinated or bent walls. Oval bowls also seem to be characteristic for the period. Large basins are known, especially with straight sides and rounded or flat bases. There are also neckless jars with ovoid or bag-shaped bodies with flat or round bases as well as globular jars with rounded bases. Some fancy forms are also known, such as jars with spouts, spoon-like bowls, or rectangular bowls. Handles are very rare and it appears that they come from settlements where the pottery repertoire is larger than those from cemeteries.

For photos of ceramics representative of this period, see Color Plate 4.

Bibliography


### Badari 1

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** neckless jar with ovoid body and flat base  
**Material:** fine brown (Nile) with straw  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** black-slipped  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 18  
**Dating:** Badari

![Badari 1 Diagram](image1)

### Badari 2

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** bag-shaped jar with rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** rippled  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 29D  
**Dating:** Badari

![Badari 2 Diagram](image2)

### Badari 3

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** bag-shaped jar with flaring rim and flat base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** not stated  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 51M  
**Dating:** Badari

![Badari 3 Diagram](image3)
Badari 4

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: bag-shaped jar with flaring rim and flat base  
Material: coarse brown  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XIX, 44K  
Dating: Badari

Badari 5

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: bag-shaped jar with short flaring rim  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XIX, 44K  
Dating: Badari

Badari 6

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: spherical jar with short rim and rounded base  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XXI, 51H  
Dating: Badari  
Representative Example: similar to  
Color Plate 4.3

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Badari 7

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** large bag-shaped jar  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** black top, coarsely rippled  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVII, 57Q  
**Dating:** Badari

Badari 8

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** hemispherical jar without neck with rounded base and short spout  
**Material:** rough brown (Nile)  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** blackened by smoke  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 34  
**Dating:** Badari

Badari 9

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** bag-shaped jar without neck, straight rim, and rounded base; probably with a loop handle  
**Material:** rough brown (Nile)  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** slightly blackened by smoke  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 35  
**Dating:** Badari
**Badari 10**

- **Site:** Mostagedda
- **Shape:** squat hole-mouth jar with rounded base
- **Material:** not stated
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** not stated
- **Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XIX, 45P
- **Dating:** Badari

**Badari 11**

- **Site:** Mostagedda
- **Shape:** bowl with bent walls and rounded base
- **Material:** not stated
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** black top, rippled, with incised decoration inside
- **Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 3Q
- **Dating:** Badari
Badari 12

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: shallow bowl with rounded base  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: black top, rippled  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 16f  
Dating: Badari

Badari 13

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: simple oval bowl with rounded base  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XIX, 7P  
Dating: Badari
Badari 14

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: simple oval bowl with rounded base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, rippled inside, burnished, with incised decoration
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 15D
Dating: Badari

Badari 15

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: carinated bowl with rounded base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, rippled inside rim, with incised decoration
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 4M
Dating: Badari
**Badari 16**

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** carinated bowl with rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** not stated  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XIX, 41H  
**Dating:** Badari

**Badari 17**

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** bowl with bent walls, ledge rim, and rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** incised decoration outside and on rim  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 19  
**Dating:** Badari

**Badari 18**

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** bowl with straight walls  
**Material:** gray-brown hard clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** incised decoration inside and outside  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 33  
**Dating:** Badari
Badari 19

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: rectangular bowl with slightly incurved walls
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-polished, rippled inside and outside
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XI, 1
Dating: Tasa-Badari

Badari 20

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: bowl with slightly incurved walls with flat base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: not stated
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 4M
Dating: Badari
Badari 21, 22

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** deep bowl with bent walls  
**Material:** dark gray-brown clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** vertically rippled  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XII, 35–36  
**Dating:** Tasa-Badari

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Badari 23

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** deep bowl with slightly incurved walls and flat base  
**Material:** dark gray-brown clay  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** not stated  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XI, 17  
**Dating:** Tasa-Badari  
**Representative Example:** similar to Color Plate 4.4
Badari 24

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep basin with rounded base
Material: rough brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed clay coating
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XI, 26
Dating: Tasa-Badari

Badari 25

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: bowl with incurved walls and rounded base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: burnished inside and outside
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 6
Dating: Badari

Badari 26

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: hemispherical bowl with round base
Material: rough brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: not stated
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XI, 4
Dating: Tasa-Badari
Badari 27

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: nearly spherical bowl with slightly flat base
Material: rough brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed clay coating
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XI, 19
Dating: Tasa-Badari

Badari 28

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep vessel with incurved walls and flat base
Material: rough brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: not stated
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XI, 32
Dating: Tasa-Badari

Badari 29

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep bowl with bent walls
Material: dark gray-brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, vertically rippled
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XII, 45
Dating: Tasa-Badari
Badari 30

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: large vessel with bent walls and flat base
Material: brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XII, 42
Dating: Tasa-Badari

Badari 31

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: bowl with bent walls and rounded base
Material: gray-brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, rim vertically rippled
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XV, 14N
Dating: Badari

Badari 32

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: bowl with straight walls and rounded base
Material: brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, diagonally rippled outside, vertically rippled 5 cm down from rim inside
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XV, 40E
Dating: Badari
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 4.2
Badari 33

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** deep hemispherical bowl with rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** black top, diagonally rippled  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 24C  
**Dating:** Badari

![Image of Badari 33](image1)

Badari 34

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** deep basin with straight walls and rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** black top, diagonally rippled  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XV, 44G  
**Dating:** Badari

![Image of Badari 34](image2)

Badari 35

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** deep bowl with incurved walls and rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** black top, faint ripple on sides  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XV, 77F  
**Dating:** Badari  
**Representative Example:** similar to Color Plate 4.5

![Image of Badari 35](image3)
Badari 36

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep bowl with incurved walls and flat base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVII, 57D
Dating: Badari

Badari 37

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep bowl with incurved walls and flat base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, rippled
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XV, 70M
Dating: Badari
Badari 38

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep beaker with straight walls and flat base
Material: dark red
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, smoothed
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 5T
Dating: Badari

Badari 39

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: large deep beaker with flat base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black top, fine diagonal ripple, rippled 5 cm down from rim inside
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVI, 10D
Dating: Badari

Badari 40

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: beaker with flaring rim and flat base
Material: rough brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: not stated
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 27
Dating: Badari
Badari 41

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: beaker with flat base
Material: not stated
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, polished inside and outside, rippled outside
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 30
Dating: Badari

Badari 42

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: deep basin with incurved rim and flat base
Material: fine clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: coarsely worked
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XX, 20M
Dating: Badari
Badari 43

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: deep basin with incurved rim and narrow flat base  
Material: fine clay  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: coated, finger rippled  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XXI, 43M  
Dating: Badari

Badari 44

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: basin with incurved rim  
Material: drab-red  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: applied decoration inside  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 41  
Dating: Badari
Badari 45

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: large basin with incurved walls and knob–like base
Material: gray-brown, hard
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: not stated
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XX, 26E
Dating: Badari
Badari 46

**Site:** Mostagedda  
**Shape:** deep conical vat with rounded base  
**Material:** not stated  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** black top, smoothed black slip  
**Reference:** Brunton 1937: Plate XX, 27D  
**Dating:** Badari
Badari 47

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: small conical bowl  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XX, 27S  
Dating: Badari

Badari 48

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: small beaker with flat base  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XX, 20V  
Dating: Badari

Badari 49

Site: Mostagedda  
Shape: conical basin  
Material: not stated  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: not stated  
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XX, 27A  
Dating: Badari
Badari 50

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: spoon
Material: rough brown
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XVIII, 36
Dating: Badari

Badari 51

Site: Edfu (?)
Shape: beaker
Material: NB with limestone inclusions
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: irregularly burnished
Decoration: bands of impressed dots filled with white pigment
Reference: Bourriau 1981: 22, Figure 21
Similar pots in: Brunton 1937: 28, Plates XII, XXVI; Brunton, Caton-Thompson 1928: 23,
Plate xvi, 24–5, Plate xxvi, Lung 1931: 22, Plate IV
Dating: Tasian–early Badarian
Badari 52, 53

Site: Mostagedda
Shape: bell-shaped vessel
Material: Nile clay
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: black-polished, with white-filled incised decoration on outside
Reference: Brunton 1937: Plate XII, 53–54
Dating: Tasa-Badari
Naqada I

3900–3500 B.C.

Material
The pottery is made of Nile silt with organic and non-organic inclusions.
For a key to clay type abbreviations, please see Clay Descriptions, pp. 21–23.

Manufacture
Manufacture was by hand, usually from a single lump of clay, but the coiling method was also used. There was sporadic use of a turning device to shape rims (Bourriau 1981: 44).

Surface
Naqada I pots were smoothed, or red-slipped with black tops, as was common in the Badari culture as well (“black-topped” pots). Rippling decoration, seen in the Badari period, disappears completely. The black-polished ceramics gradually vanish, while more red-polished pots appear. The most characteristic surface decoration for this period is white paint on a red-polished surface (“white cross-lined”). Some applied decoration is also seen.

Types
The Naqada I pottery repertoire includes a variety of jars and bowls. In general the shapes are more elaborated than those from the Badari culture. Jars with elongated or ovoid bodies occur with slightly recurved or straight rims and flat bases. There are also bottles with ovoid bodies, slightly recurved rims, and flat bases. Very common are tall beakers with slightly recurved rims and flat bases, simple shallow bowls with round or flat bases, and deep basins with straight or flaring walls and flat bases. Also common are hemispherical bowls with ring bases and simple shallow bowls on four legs. Fancy forms also appear as double beakers; globular jars with two small handles on the shoulder; vessels with slightly carinated walls and one loop handle attached to the rim; jars with conical lids; vessels shaped like a pair of breasts; segmented bottles; and human figure or animal-shaped vessels, which appear late in the Naqada I.

For photos of ceramics representative of this period, see Color Plate 5.

Bibliography
Naqada I1

Site: Naqada
Shape: large beaker
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: hand-turned
Surface: red-coated with black rim; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim, applied decoration outside
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 22, 105
Dating: Naqada I
Naqada I 2

Site: Hu  
Shape: bottle  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB)  
Manufacture: hand-turned  
Surface: red-coated with black rim; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim, applied decoration outside  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 23, 107  
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 3

Site: Naqada or Ballas  
Shape: vase with wide rim and small flat base  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated with black rim; polished  
Reference: Regner 1998: 43  
Dating: Naqada I C–II A
Naqada I 4

Site: Naqada
Shape: jar with ovoid body, simple rim, and narrow flat base
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black rim; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 25, 229
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 5

Site: Naqada
Shape: bottle
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black rim; hematite (red) coating outside, vertically burnished over body, horizontally over neck and mouth
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 26, 311
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 6

Site: Abadiya
Shape: jar with ovoid body, recurved rim, and flat base
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: hand-turned
Surface: red-coated with black rim; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 25, 230
Dating: Naqada I
Naqada I 7

Site: Naqada
Shape: tall beaker
Material: NB
Manufacture: body is coiled, rim is turned
Surface: red-slipped, pink-painted decoration
Decoration pattern: flock of sheep and goats within border of double triangles
Reference: Bourriau 1981: 28, Figure 34
Compare: Petrie 1974: Plate XXIX, 91, 93, 95; Baumgartel 1970: Plate lii;
Petrie 1921: Plate XXV, C92; Kaiser 1957: Plate 21
Dating: late Naqada I
Naqada I 8

Site: Naqada  
Shape: bottle  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated with black rim; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim, with incised potmark  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993, Figure 26, 309  
 Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 9

Site: Naqada  
Shape: double beaker  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: hematite (red) coating outside; vertically burnished outside, horizontally on base; band of white-painted triangles filled with white lines run around each beaker  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 22, 96  
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 10

Site: Naqada  
Shape: small spherical jar with rounded base and two small vertical handles  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: black rim with hematite (red) coating and remains of horizontal burnish outside  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 26, 335  
Dating: Naqada I
Naqada I 11

**Site:** Naqada  
**Shape:** small vessel with incurved rim and flat base  
**Material:** fine Nile (probably NB1)  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** hematite (red) coating and horizontally burnished outside; decoration outside with white painted triangles filled with V-lines in band around upper part  
**Reference:** Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 29, 413  
**Dating:** Naqada I

Naqada I 12

**Site:** Abadiya  
**Shape:** carinated jar with slightly recurved rim, flat base, and one loop handle  
**Material:** fine Nile (probably NB1)  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** hematite (red) coating outside and over top of handle; burnished outside, perhaps diagonally; decoration outside with white painted hatched triangles hanging from rim and rising from base  
**Reference:** Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 29, 412  
**Dating:** Naqada I

Naqada I 13

**Site:** Adaima  
**Shape:** neckless bag-shaped jar with flat base, simple rim, and with a hole made prior to firing (for suspension?)  
**Material:** AV6  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed, with red painted decoration  
**Reference:** Buchez 2002: 221, Figure 2.10: 193  
**Dating:** Naqada IC
Naqada I 14

Site: Abadiya
Shape: neckless jar with ovoid body, ring foot, and two small vertical handles
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1) with some chaff
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: brown-coated, with gray patches; vertically burnished outside
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 32, 584
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 15

Site: Mahasna
Shape: double pot with two suspension holes
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: brown/black-coated; vertically burnished outside, horizontally near top
Remarks: incised potmark
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 32, 576
Dating: Naqada I
Naqada I 16

Site: Naqada
Shape: segmented bottle
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black top; hematite (red) coating; vertically burnished outside
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 26, 331
Dating: Naqada I
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 5.4

Naqada I 17

Site: Naqada
Shape: tall beaker
Material: NB
Manufacture: body is coiled, rim is turned
Surface: red-washed, polished, top of rim is black
Reference: Bourriau 1981: 18, Figure 3
Compare: Baumgartel 1970: Plate X
Dating: late Naqada I
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Naqada I 18</th>
<th>Naqada I 19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Site:** not stated  
**Shape:** tall beaker  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated with black rim  
**Reference:** Regner 1998: 41  
**Dating:** Naqada IB |
| **Site:** Naqada  
**Shape:** beaker with flaring rim  
**Material:** fine Nile (probably NB1)  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated with black rim; hematite (red) coating outside; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim; decoration with white painted horizontal bands containing plain and filled triangles  
**Reference:** Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 22, 95  
**Dating:** Naqada I |
Naqada I 20

Site: Mahasna
Shape: beaker with flaring rim
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black rim; hematite (red) coating inside and outside; vertically burnished over the body, horizontally over the rim
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 24, 154
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 21

Site: Naqada or Ballas
Shape: small cup with steep walls and flat base
Material: NA
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black rim, polished
Reference: Regner 1998: 42
Dating: Naqada IB-IIC

Naqada I 22

Site: Naqada
Shape: simple bowl with slightly flattened base
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black rim; hematite (red) coating inside and outside; horizontally burnished inside and outside, strokes crossing
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 24, 117
Dating: Naqada I
Naqada I 23

Site: Abadiya
Shape: oval bowl with rounded base
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated; hematite (red) coating; horizontally burnished inside and outside;
   decoration with white painted swimming crocodile surrounded by zigzag lines inside;
   along one side a net attached to a weight at each end on outside of bowl
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 27, 388
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 24

Site: Naqada
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black rim; hematite (red) coating inside and outside, vertically burnished
   outside, horizontal over mouth
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 24, 119
Dating: Naqada I
Naqada I 25

Site: Naqada
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated; hematite (red) coating inside and out; vertically burnished outside, horizontally inside and over mouth; decoration with white painted crosshatched bands, and triangles filled with V-shaped lines
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 27, 394
Dating: Naqada I
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 5.1

Naqada I 26

Site: Naqada or Ballas
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base
Material: NA
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished, with white painted decoration
Reference: Regner 1998: 82
Dating: Naqada IC
Naqada I 27

Site: Naqada  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base  
Material: NA  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished, with white painted decoration  
Dating: Naqada 1c

Naqada I 28

Site: Abydos  
Shape: hemispherical bowl on stem, base hollowed  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: brown-coated; traces of burnish outside, vertically on stem, horizontally on bowl  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 596  
Dating: Naqada 1

Naqada I 29

Site: Naqada  
Shape: hemispherical bowl with high ring base  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red- and black-coated; hematite (red) coating over upper part of outside; horizontally burnished inside and outside, lines crossing; decoration with cream wash outside over foot and lower part of bowl  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 22, 102  
Dating: Naqada 1
Naqada I 30

Site: not stated
Shape: oval bowl on four legs
Material: NA
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished, with white painted decoration inside
Dating: Naqada I–II A

Naqada I 31

Site: Nag el-Alawna
Shape: oval bowl on four legs
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated; horizontal burnish inside and outside, with white painted decoration inside
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 27, 389
Dating: Naqada 1
Naqada I 32

Site: Abadiya  
Shape: figure vase  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: hand-turned  
Surface: red-coated with black rim; thin hematite (red) coating and vertically burnished outside; decoration consisting of face and stump-arms modeled separately and attached  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 22, 104  
Dating: Naqada I

Naqada I 33

Site: Naqada  
Shape: fish vase  
Material: fine Nile (probably NB1)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: hematite (red) coating outside; burnished from head to tail and around opening at tail; black over head; decoration with details of eyes, gills, and fins  
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: Figure 23, 109  
Dating: Naqada I
Material
Pots of the Naqada II period are made largely of Nile silt. However, this period is also characterized by the introduction and mastery of new marl material. The development of highly sophisticated kilns is another important change in pottery production during the Naqada II period.

For a key to clay type abbreviations, please see Clay Descriptions, pp. 21–23.

Manufacture
The pots are mostly made by hand-coiling. Traces of shaping are visible on rims and indicate the use of some kind of turning device.

Surface
The Naqada II ceramic material is characterized by painted decoration on the plain surface of pots made of marls. The patterns include boats, plants, human figures, birds, animals, landscape details, and geometric motifs, such as spirals and zigzags. The painted motifs very often imitate the surface of stone vessels. The surfaces of the vessels were smoothed and also red-coated. Black-topped vessels still appear in this period.

Types
Some shapes of the Naqada period are imitations of contemporary stone vessels, especially globular jars with small handles. Their bases are rounded but also flat. Some jars with elongated bodies have footed bases. Tall vases and smaller slender cups with steep walls and flaring rims, also with black rims, seem to have been very popular. Open forms with flaring walls are also common. Jars with wavy handles, imports from Canaan, were an inspiration for local Egyptian pottery production at the end of the Naqada II period. But the Egyptian wavy-handled jars were produced in different, more slender shapes. The presence of small handles is an innovation of the period. They are pierced with small holes and suggest that the handles were used to suspend the pots.

For photos of ceramics representative of this period, see Color Plates 6 and 7.


Bibliography


Naqada II 1

Site: Adaima
Shape: small bag-shaped jar
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.12: 227 (3b1x/1)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 2

Site: Adaima
Shape: globular jar with ledge rim and rounded base
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.12: 231 (4b1/1)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 3

Site: Adaima
Shape: globular jar with rounded rim, rounded base, and two small horizontal handles
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.12: 228 (3b1x/1)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 4

Site: Adaima
Shape: globular jar with ledge rim, rounded base, and two small vertical handles
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.12: 233 (4b4/2)
Dating: Naqada II
Representative Example: similar shape seen in Color Plate 73
Naqada II 5

Site: Adaima
Shape: ovoid jar with ledge rim, flat base, and two small vertical handles
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.12; 235 (4b4/2)
Dating: Naqada II
Representative Example: similar shape seen in Color Plate 7.1

Naqada II 6

Site: Adaima
Shape: jar with elongated neck and recurved rim
Material: C1 and C6
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed, with red painted decoration
Reference: Buchez 2002: 226–227, Figure 2.27: 4
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 7

Site: Naqada
Shape: ovoid jar with ledge rim, flat base, and two small vertical handles
Material: MA1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed, with red painted decoration
Dating: Naqada IIC–D1
**Naqada II 8**

- **Site:** Adaima
- **Shape:** neckless jar with recurved rim
- **Material:** C1 and C6
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** smoothed, with red painted decoration
- **Reference:** Buchez 2002: 226–227, Figure 2.27: 1
- **Dating:** Naqada II

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**Naqada II 9**

- **Site:** not stated
- **Shape:** ovoid jar with footed base and two small vertical handles
- **Material:** MA1
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** smoothed, with red painted decoration
- **Dating:** Naqada IIIB–C
Naqada II 10

**Site:** Semaineh  
**Shape:** globular jar with recurved rim, flat base, and two tubular handles  
**Material:** MD  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed; with dull, red painted decoration outside  
**Reference:** Crowfoot Payne 1993: 107, Figure 40: 861  
**Dating:** Naqada IID1
Naqada II 11

Site: Abydos
Shape: ovoid vase with flat base and two horizontally pierced triangular lug-handles
Material: probably a mixture of clays
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed; with dull, red painted decoration outside
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: 108–109, Figure 44: 873
Dating: Naqada IID2
Representative Example: similar shape seen in Color Plate 6.2

Naqada II 12

Site: not stated
Shape: globular jar with wide recurved rim, flat base, and two tubular handles
Material: MD
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed; with dull, red painted decoration outside
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: 108, Figure 44: 871
Dating: Naqada IID2
**Naqada II 13**

**Site:** Adaima  
**Shape:** small jar with recurved rim and two small vertical handles  
**Material:** C1 and C6  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed, with red painted decoration  
**Reference:** Buchez 2002: 226–227, Figure 2.26: 11  
**Dating:** Naqada II

**Naqada II 14**

**Site:** Naqada  
**Shape:** bag-shaped jar with two small pierced handles  
**Material:** MA1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed, with red/brown painted decoration  
**Reference:** Regner 1998: 102–103  
**Dating:** Naqada IID  
**Representative Example:** similar to Color Plate 7.2

**Naqada II 15**

**Site:** not stated  
**Shape:** two joined bag-shaped jars with small pierced handles  
**Material:** MA1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed, with red/brown painted decoration  
**Reference:** Regner 1998: 104–105  
**Dating:** Naqada IID
Naqada II 16

Site: Adaima  
Shape: jar wall fragment  
Material: C1 and C6  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with red painted decoration  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 226–227, Figure 2.27: 5  
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 17

Site: Naqada  
Shape: globular jar with ledge rim, rounded base, and two small vertical handles  
Material: MA1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with red painted decoration  
Dating: Naqada II B–C  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 6.3 and 7.3
Naqada II 18

Site: Naqada
Shape: ovoid jar with slightly recurved rim, flat base, and four horizontally pierced triangular lug-handles
Material: MD
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed; with dull, red painted decoration
Reference: Crowfoot Payne 1993: 107, Figure 41: 864
Dating: Naqada IID1
Naqada II 19

Site: not stated
Shape: ovoid jar with flat base, recurved rim, and two wavy handles
Material: MA1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed, with red/brown painted decoration
Dating: Naqada IIID–IIIA
Naqada II 20

Site: Adaima  
Shape: ovoid jar with flat base, recurved rim, and two wavy handles  
Material: C1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.13: 257 (4b2/2)  
Dating: Naqada II  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 6.1

Naqada II 21

Site: Adaima  
Shape: small bag-shaped jar with slightly flaring neck and two small handles  
Material: AM1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.5: 78 (4a1/1)  
Dating: Naqada IIIC
Naqada II 22

**Site:** Adaima  
**Shape:** bottle with rounded base  
**Material:** AV1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** polished  
**Reference:** Buchez 2002: 216, Figure 2.10: 178 (AV1.8)  
**Dating:** Naqada IIB

![Naqada II 22](image)

Naqada II 23

**Site:** Adaima  
**Shape:** bottle with flat base  
**Material:** AM1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated with black top, polished  
**Reference:** Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.5: 79 (4a2/2)  
**Dating:** Naqada IIIC

![Naqada II 23](image)

Naqada II 24

**Site:** Adaima  
**Shape:** ovoid jar with recurved rim and pointed base  
**Material:** AM1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated, polished  
**Reference:** Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.4: 59 (4b1/3)  
**Dating:** Naqada II

![Naqada II 24](image)
**Naqada II 25**

- **Site:** Adaima
- **Shape:** ovoid jar with recurved rim and narrow flat base
- **Material:** AM1
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** red-coated, polished
- **Reference:** Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.4: 63 (4b1/2)
- **Dating:** end of Naqada I–beginning of Naqada II

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**Naqada II 26**

- **Site:** Adaima
- **Shape:** squat jar with recurved rim and flat base
- **Material:** AM1
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** red-coated, polished
- **Reference:** Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.4: 58 (3b2/2)
- **Dating:** Naqada II
Naqada II 27

Site: Naqada or Ballas  
Shape: globular jar with flattened body, recurved rim, and rounded base  
Material: NA  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished  
Dating: Naqada IIC–D

Naqada II 28

Site: Naqada (?)  
Shape: globular (?) jar with narrow neck, recurved rim, and long spout  
Material: NA  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished  
Dating: Naqada IIC–D
Naqada II 29

Site: Naqada  
Shape: tall beaker with recurved rim and narrow flat base  
Material: NA  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished  
Dating: Naqada II B

Naqada II 30

Site: Naqada  
Shape: small beaker with flaring walls and flat base  
Material: NA  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished  
Dating: Naqada II A–C

Naqada II 31

Site: Naqada or Ballas  
Shape: ovoid beaker with recurved rim and pointed base  
Material: NB  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished  
Dating: Naqada II C–D
Naqada II 32

Site: Adaima
Shape: neckless vase with incurved rim and narrow flat base
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.5: 66 (3a1/2)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 33

Site: Adaima
Shape: bag-shaped jar with flat base
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.5: 80 (4a3/2)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 34

Site: Adaima
Shape: tall ovoid beaker with small rounded rim and flat base
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.5: 70 (3b1/2)
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 35

Site: Adaima
Shape: ovoid neckless jar with small rounded rim and flat base
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated with black top, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.5: 76 (3b1/2)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 36

Site: Adaima
Shape: conical vase with wide open rim and pointed base
Material: AV1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: roughly smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.7: 132 (3a1/1)
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 37

Site: Adaima  
Shape: vase with wide rim and rounded base  
Material: AV1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: roughly smoothed  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.7: 133 (3a1/1)  
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 38

Site: Adaima  
Shape: hemispherical vase with wide rim and rounded base  
Material: AV1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: roughly smoothed  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.7: 134 (3a1/1)  
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 39

Site: Adaima
Shape: hole-mouthed jar
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.15: 14
Dating: end of Naqada I–beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 40

Site: Adaima
Shape: hole-mouthed jar
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.15: 15
Dating: end of Naqada I–beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 41

Site: Matmar
Shape: small beaker with rounded rim
Material: NC
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: plain, with vertical lines of triangular notches
Reference: Bourriau 1981: 21, Figure 15
Similar pots in: Eggebrecht 1975: 356, Figure 348b
Dating: middle Naqada II

Naqada II 42

Site: Adaima
Shape: hole-mouthed jar with flat base
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed, with incised decoration
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.12: 226 (3a3/2)
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 43

Site: Adaima  
Shape: small hole-mouthed beaker with rounded base  
Material: AV1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: polished  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 216, Figure 2.10: 177 (3a3/1-01)  
Dating: Naqada IIB

Naqada II 44

Site: Adaima  
Shape: small squat hole-mouthed beaker with rounded base  
Material: AM1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.3: 44(3a2/1)  
 Dating: end of Naqada I–beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 45

Site: Adaima  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base  
Material: C1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.11: 204 (1a1/2)  
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 46

Site: Adaima  
Shape: bowl with bent walls and rounded base  
Material: C1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.11: 209 (3a1/2)  
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 47

Site: Adaima  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls, rounded rim, and flat base  
Material: C1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.11: 206 (1b1/2)  
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 48

Site: Adaima  
Shape: bowl with convex walls with small, slightly recurved rim  
Material: C1 and C6  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with red painted decoration  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 226–227, Figure 2.26: 25  
Dating: Naqada II
**Naqada II 49**

- **Site:** not stated
- **Shape:** duck-shaped vase with two barrel-lug handles for suspension
- **Material:** MA4
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** smoothed, with red painted decoration
- **Decoration patterns:** zigzag on rim top and handles, stripes on head, base of neck and tail, horseshoe and S-design on body
- **Reference:** Bourriau 1981: 30, Figure 37
- **Dating:** late Naqada II

**Naqada II 50**

- **Site:** Abadiyeh
- **Shape:** hedgehog (?)-shaped vase with two horizontal barrel-lug handles for suspension
- **Material:** MA1
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** smoothed, with red painted decoration
- **Reference:** Bourriau 1981: 31, Figure 39
- **Dating:** middle Naqada II
Naqada II 51

Site: Adaima
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and incurved rim
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.3: 47 (3a1/2)
Dating: end of Naqada I–beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 52

Site: Naqada
Shape: beaker with flat base
Material: NB
Manufacture: handmade, rim turned
Surface: red-coated, burnished outside and inside, incised leaf scrabble patterns inside
Reference: Bourriau 1981: 25, Figure 29
Dating: early Naqada IIe
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Naqada II 53</strong></th>
<th><strong>Naqada II 54</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> plate with straight walls and flat base</td>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> bowl with straight walls and flat base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AM1</td>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AV1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> red-coated, polished</td>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> red-coated, polished inside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.2: 28 (1a1/2)</td>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 200–201, Figure 2.3: 48 (2a1/2)</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Naqada II 55</strong></th>
<th><strong>Naqada II 56</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> bowl with straight walls and flat base</td>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> bowl with straight walls and flat base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AM1</td>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AM1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> red-coated, with black top</td>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> red-coated, polished inside</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.6: 103 (1a1/2)</td>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.3: 56 (1a1/2)</td>
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<td><strong>Dating:</strong> Naqada II C</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Naqada II 57

Site: Adaima
Shape: bowl with straight walls and incurved rim
Material: AM1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.2: 18 (1a1/2)
Dating: beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 58

Site: Adaima
Shape: bowl with straight walls and flat base
Material: AV2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 217, Figure 2.10: 181 (1a1/2-01)
Dating: end of Naqada I–beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 59

Site: Adaima
Shape: bowl with straight walls, incurved rim, and flat base
Material: C1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 225–226, Figure 2.11: 200 (1a1/2)
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 60

Site: Adaima
Shape: bowl with straight walls and flat base
Material: AV1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: roughly smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.6: 101 (1a1/2)
Dating: Naqada II

Naqada II 61

Site: Adaima
Shape: shallow bowl with straight walls and flat base
Material: AV1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: roughly smoothed
Reference: Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.6: 111 (1a1/2)
Dating: Naqada II
Naqada II 62

Site: Adaima
Shape: beaker with flat base
Material: AM
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, with black top
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.3: 49 (2a1/2)
 Dating: Naqada IIC

Naqada II 63

Site: Adaima
Shape: beaker with flat base
Material: AM
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, with black top
Reference: Buchez 2002: 199–200, Figure 2.3: 53 (2a1/2)
 Dating: Naqada IIC

Naqada II 64

Site: Adaima
Shape: bowl with straight walls, recurved rim, and flat base
Material: AM
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.2: 29 (1b1/2)
 Dating: beginning of Naqada II

Naqada II 65

Site: Adaima
Shape: beaker with flat base
Material: AM
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.3: 38 (2a1-2/2)
 Dating: beginning of Naqada II
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Naqada II 66</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> bowl with flaring walls and flat base</td>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> bowl with flaring walls and flat base</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AM1</td>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AV1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> red-coated, polished</td>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> roughly smoothed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 197–199, Figure 2.3: 39 (2a1-2/2)</td>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.6: 114 (2b1/2)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Naqada II 68</th>
<th>Naqada II 69, 70</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
<td><strong>Site:</strong> Adaima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> bowl with flaring walls and flat base</td>
<td><strong>Shape:</strong> small bowls with straight walls and flat bases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AV1</td>
<td><strong>Material:</strong> AV1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
<td><strong>Manufacture:</strong> handmade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> roughly smoothed</td>
<td><strong>Surface:</strong> roughly smoothed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.6: 124 (2a1/2)</td>
<td><strong>Reference:</strong> Buchez 2002: 208, Figure 2.7: 140–141 (3a1/2)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dating:</strong> Naqada II</td>
<td><strong>Dating:</strong> Naqada II</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Naqada II 71

Site: Adaima  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls  
Material: AM1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished, with white painted decoration  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 200, Figure 2.16: 1  
Dating: Naqada IIC

Naqada II 72

Site: Adaima  
Shape: beaker with slightly incurved walls  
Material: AV3  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished, with incised decoration  
Reference: Buchez 2002: 215, Figure 2.24: 7  
Dating: Naqada IIIB
Lower Egyptian Culture (Buto-Maadi)

3800–3200 B.C.

Material
Lower Egyptian vessels can be divided into two chronological phases based on their inclusions. Pots from the earlier Phase I, described as Chalcolithic, are made of clay without organic inclusions. Those from Phase II are always made of Nile silt tempered with organic particles. Marl pots imported from Upper Egypt are also present, but are rare.

For a key to clay type abbreviations, please see Clay Descriptions, pp. 21–23.

Manufacture
Chalcolithic ceramics from Phase I were made with a rotating device that was probably of Palestinian influence. All the pots of Phase II are handmade. The bases of many vessels are made from round lumps of clay, while the walls from upright slabs are pinched and pressed together (Faltings 2002: 165, Figure 10.1).

Surface
Buto-Maadi pots from Phase I are characterized by their well finished surfaces, often with applied decoration such as bands and knobs. Some vessels bear painted decoration with white horizontal bands.

The surface of Phase II vessels can be either smoothed or red/brown-coated and vertically/horizontally/diagonally burnished. Sometimes the pots are decorated with incised motifs (e.g., rocker-stamp decoration). Occasionally the pots bear applied knobs. The pots from Maadi can also be red-painted, but this is very rare. The paint is usually applied to a slipped surface. Sometimes the painted decoration appears on a smoothed face.

Types
Buto-Maadi types vary in shape but the most common are bag-shaped jars with rounded bases and large storage jars with ovoid bodies and rounded or pointed bases. Also frequent are basins with slight carination and recurved rims, and hole-mouthed restricted vessels or bowls with direct, incurved, or flaring walls. In later phases of the culture some imitations of Upper Egyptian marl jars, made of Nile alluvial materials (especially the wavy-handled jars), can also be found.

For photos of ceramics representative of this period, see Color Plate 8.
Bibliography


Lower Egyptian Culture 1

Site: Buto  
Shape: beaker with slightly recurved rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 2

Site: Buto  
Shape: beaker with incurved rim and flat base  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, vertically polished outside, roughly smoothed inside  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 3

Site: Buto  
Shape: jar with cylindrical neck  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 4

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring neck  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, vertically polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 174, Plate 1: 10, Type G1A.2  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 5

Site: Ezbet el-Qerdahi, near Buto
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring neck
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, vertically polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 174, Plate 1: 9, Type G1a.2
Dating: not stated
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 8.1

Lower Egyptian Culture 6

Site: Maadi
Shape: elongated barrel-like jar with flat base, regular, flat base, and a short everted rim
Material: 1a, black ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed
Remarks: hole in the base made after firing
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 36, 85, Plate 8: 6, Type 4a
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 7

Site: Maadi
Shape: jar on raised base
Material: 1b, reddish-brown ware
Manufacture: handmade, base and rim finished on a wheel
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 34, 83, Plate 2: 2, Type 1
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 8

Site: Maadi  
**Shape:** jar on raised base  
**Material:** 1b, reddish-brown ware  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** dark red-slipped, smoothed  
**Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 34, 84, Plate 3: 5, Type 1  
**Dating:** not stated

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Lower Egyptian Culture 9

Site: Maadi  
**Shape:** globular jar with flat base and two lug handles on shoulder  
**Material:** II, red burnished ware  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-slipped, burnished  
**Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 95, Plate 39: 9  
**Dating:** not stated

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Lower Egyptian Culture 10

Site: Maadi  
**Shape:** globular jar with flat base  
**Material:** resembles II, red burnished ware  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** eroded, with incised decoration and a knob below rim  
**Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 94, Plate 39: 2, Type 5a  
**Dating:** not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 11

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring neck  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 174, Plate 1: 11, Type G1a.2  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 12

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with recurved rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 175, Plate 3: 2, Type G1b.4  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 13

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with narrow cylinder neck  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 174, Plate 1: 1, Type G1a.1  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 14

Site: Maadi  
Shape: globular jar with rounded base  
Material: ib  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: well smoothed to slightly burnished, with incised decoration on neck  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 95, Plate 39: 5  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 15

Site: Maadi  
Shape: ovoid jar with pointed base  
Material: Ia, black ware  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: well smoothed to slightly burnished  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 36, 84, Plate 6: 8, Type 2  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 16

Site: Maadi  
Shape: small globular jar  
Material: II, red burnished ware  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-red/brown-slipped, burnished, with pale, red painted decoration outside  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 96, Plate 42: 3, Type 5a  
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 17

Site: Maadi  
Shape: globular jar with flat base  
Material: III, yellowish washed ware  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: green/yellow-washed, well smoothed, with red painted decoration outside  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 106, Plate 67: 6, Type 5a  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 18

Site: Maadi  
Shape: bottle-like ovoid jar  
Material: 1a, black ware  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: burnished  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 36, 85, Plate 7: 3, Type 3a  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 19

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with rounded rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 175, Plate 3: 8, Type G2a.1  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIIC–D1)  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 8.2 and 8.3

Lower Egyptian Culture 20

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with rounded rim  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 175, Plate 3: 6, Type G2a.1  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIIC–D1)–III  
Representative Example: similar to Color Plate 8.2 and 8.3
Lower Egyptian Culture 21

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with rounded rim  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 175, Plate 3: 13, Type G2a.2  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

---

Lower Egyptian Culture 22

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring rim and wavy handles  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Remarks: imitation of Upper Egyptian marl jar  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 176, Plate 4: 7, Type G2a.3  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)–III (Naqada IID2–IIIB2)

---

Lower Egyptian Culture 23

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with rounded rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 5: 6, Type G2a.4  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)–IIIa (Naqada IID2)

---

Lower Egyptian Culture 24

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with thickened, rounded rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 5: 11, Type G2a.5  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 25

**Site:** Maadi  
**Shape:** ovoid jar with flaring rim and pointed base  
**Material:** ta, black ware  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** eroded  
**Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 36, 84, Plate 6: 6, Type 2  
**Dating:** not stated

![Ovoid Jar](image)

Lower Egyptian Culture 26

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** large ovoid jar with small, rounded rim and short neck  
**Material:** NB2  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated, horizontally polished  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 6: 3, Type G2a.6  
**Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIC–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 27

Site: Buto
Shape: large ovoid jar with rounded rim and short neck
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, horizontally and vertically polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 6: 4, Type G2a.6
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 28

Site: Buto
Shape: large ovoid jar with flaring rim
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 6: 5, Type G2a.6
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 29

Site: Buto
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring rim
Material: NB (?)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 7: 5, Type G2b.3
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 30

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** ovoid jar with straight rim  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated, horizontally polished  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 7: 6, Type G2b.3  
**Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIc-D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 31

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** ovoid jar with flaring neck and recurved rim  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated, horizontally polished  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 178, Plate 9: 8, Type G3a.2  
**Dating:** Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc-D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 32

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** ovoid jar with flaring neck and recurved rim  
**Material:** NB2  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated, horizontally polished  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 178, Plate 10: 4, Type G3a.3  
**Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIc-D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 33

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** jar with vertical neck  
**Material:** NB2  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** red-coated, horizontally polished  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 178, Plate 10: 6, Type G3b  
**Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIc-D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 34

Site: Buto
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring neck and recurved rim
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 178, Plate 11: 4, Type G3c.2
Dating: Phase Ia (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 35

Site: Buto
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring neck and recurved rim
Material: NC
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 178, Plate 11: 7, Type G3c.2
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 36

Site: Buto
Shape: large ovoid vessel with rolled rim
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 37

Site: Buto  
Shape: large ovoid vessel with rolled rim  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 13: 6, Type G3e  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIIC–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 38

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with flaring neck and recurved rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, horizontally and vertically polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 15: 2, Type G3c.2  
Dating: Phase 1 (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 39

Site: Buto
Shape: large ovoid vessel with rolled rim
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 18: 1, Type G3e
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 40

Site: Buto
Shape: ovoid jar with recurved rim
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: polished outside, roughly smoothed inside
Reference: von der Way 1997: 187, Plate 38: 5, Type G2a.4
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 41

Site: Buto
Shape: jar with incurved rim
Material: NB (?)
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 14: 6, Type G5
Dating: Phase Ia (Chalcolithic Period)
**Lower Egyptian Culture 42**

- **Site:** Maadi
- **Shape:** large jar with flat base
- **Material:** Ib/II, reddish-brown ware
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** eroded, with two rows of incised strokes
- **Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 94, Plate 38: 1, Type 5c
- **Dating:** not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 43

Site: Maadi

Shape: large globular storage jar with narrow flat base and recurved rim

Material: ib, reddish-brown ware

Manufacture: handmade

Surface: red-slipped, well smoothed

Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 37–38, 91, Plate 29: 7, Type 6b

Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 44

Site: Maadi
Shape: large storage jar with wide flat base, relatively straight vertical walls, and a wide mouth
Material: Ib, reddish-brown ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, well smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 38, 91, Plate 31: 3, Type 7
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 45

Site: Maadi
Shape: large storage jar with wide flat base, relatively straight vertical walls, and a wide mouth, here also with a lid
Material: Ib, reddish-brown ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: light red-slipped, well smoothed, with a horizontal ridge with numerous vertical piercings below the rim and on the matching lid
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 38, 91, Plate 31: 2, Type 7
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 46

Site: Maadi
Shape: cup-like jar with loop-handle
Material: 1a, black ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 91, Plate 32: 1
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 47

Site: Maadi
Shape: cup-like jar with loop-handle
Material: 1a, black ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: slightly burnished
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 91, Plate 32: 3
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 48

Site: Maadi
Shape: large jar with loop-handle
Material: 1a/b, black/reddish-brown ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 91, Plate 32: 7
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 49

Site: Maadi
Shape: large jar with loop-handle
Material: 1b, reddish-brown ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: brown-slipped, well smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 91, Plate 32: 8
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 50

Site: Maadi  
Shape: jar with knob-like base and vertically pierced lugs  
Material: Ia, black ware  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: well smoothed to slightly burnished  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 92, Plate 33: 4  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 51

Site: Buto  
Shape: ovoid jar with small rim  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 177, Plate 6: 6, Type G2b.1  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period) – II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 52

Site: Buto  
Shape: miniature vessel  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Dating: Phase IIIa (Naqada IID2)

Lower Egyptian Culture 53

Site: Buto  
Shape: miniature vessel  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Dating: Phase IIb (Naqada IIC–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 54

Site: Maadi
Shape: small globular jar with ring base and vertical lugs
Material: Ia, black ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed, with decoration consisting of two horizontal and four vertical lines of small, impressed dots
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 92, Plate 33: 5
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 55

Site: Maadi
Shape: miniature jar
Material: II, red burnished ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, burnished
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 92, Plate 33: 16
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 56

Site: Maadi
Shape: small double jar
Material: Ia, black ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: burnished, with row of impressed dots around the neck
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 92, Plate 33: 26
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 57

Site: Maadi
Shape: small double jar
Material: Ib, reddish-brown ware
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 92, Plate 33: 25
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 58

Site: Buto  
Shape: large vessel with incurved walls  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, horizontally and vertically polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 14: 2, Type G4  
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 59

Site: Buto  
Shape: large vessel with incurved walls  
Material: NB1  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, horizontally and vertically polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 14: 3, Type G4  
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 60

Site: Buto  
Shape: large bowl with thick straight walls  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: roughly smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 14: 7, Type O4b  
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 61

Site: Buto  
Shape: large bowl with thick straight walls  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: Plate 14: 8, Type 4b  
Dating: Phase 1b (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 62

Site: Buto  
Shape: large bowl with thick incurved walls  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, horizontally and vertically polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 15: 3, Type G4  
Dating: Phase 1a (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 63

Site: Ezbet el-Qerdahi  
Shape: vessel with incurved walls and recurved rim  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 16: 3,  
Type G6a  
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 64

Site: Buto  
Shape: vessel with carinated walls and recurved rim  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 179, Plate 16: 6, Type G6b  
Dating: Phase 1b (Chalcolithic Period)

![Image of vessel](image1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 65

Site: Buto  
Shape: vessel with carinated walls and recurved rim  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: white-coated inside, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 17: 3, Type G6b  
Dating: Phase 1b (Chalcolithic Period)–II

![Image of vessel](image2)
Lower Egyptian Culture 66

Site: Buto  
Shape: vessel with carinated walls and recurved rim  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 17: 4, Type G6b  
Dating: Phase 1a (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 67

Site: Buto  
Shape: vessel with carinated walls and recurved rim  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 18: 7, Type G6b  
Dating: Phase 1 (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 68

Site: Maadi
Shape: large basin
Material: Ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed, with incised decoration
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 103, Plate 59: 5
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 69

Site: Buto
Shape: vessel with carinated walls and recurved rim
Material: NC
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated and polished inside, outside roughly smoothed with incised decoration
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 18: 2, Type G6b
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 70

Site: Maadi
Shape: basin with flat base and recurved rim
Material: 1b
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-slipped, slightly burnished, with a row of impressed dots
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 103, Plate 57: 2, Type 3
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 71

Site: Maadi  
Shape: bowl with spout  
Material: Ib  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: light red-slipped, well burnished, with a row of impressed dots below rim  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 103, Plate 58: 1, Type 3  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 72

Site: Buto  
Shape: large bowl with slightly flaring walls and rounded rim  
Material: NB-NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 19: 2, Type 04a  
 Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
**Lower Egyptian Culture 73**

- **Site:** Buto
- **Shape:** tray with flaring walls
- **Material:** NC
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** red-coated and polished inside, roughly smoothed outside
- **Reference:** von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 19: 3, Type 05a
- **Dating:** Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

**Lower Egyptian Culture 74**

- **Site:** Buto
- **Shape:** flat tray
- **Material:** NC
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** smoothed
- **Reference:** von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 19: 4, Type 05b
- **Dating:** Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

**Lower Egyptian Culture 75**

- **Site:** Buto
- **Shape:** bowl with flaring walls and rounded rim
- **Material:** NB2
- **Manufacture:** handmade
- **Surface:** smoothed
- **Reference:** von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 20: 6, Type 01a.2
- **Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 76

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with straight walls and flat base
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, vertically polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 21: 8, Type 01a.4
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)


Lower Egyptian Culture 77

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with flaring walls
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 180, Plate 20: 3, Type 01a.1
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIIC–D1)


Lower Egyptian Culture 78

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with lightly incurved walls
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 21: 10, Type 01a.4
Dating: Phase 1a (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 79

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with straight walls and rounded rim
Material: NC
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 22: 7, Type 01a.5
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 80

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with flaring walls
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 22: 3, Type 01a.5
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 81

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and wavy rim line
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 23: 2, Type 01a.5
Dating: Phase Ia (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 82

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with vertical walls
Material: NC
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated (?), polished (?)
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 23: 8, Type 01a.7
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 83

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with slightly incurved walls
Material: NB1
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, horizontally polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 23: 5, Type 01a.6
Dating: Phase Ia (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 84

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with flaring walls
Material: NA-NB
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished inside, smoothed outside
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 23: 10, Type 01a.7
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 85

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with flaring walls
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 23: 7, Type 01a.7
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 86

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with straight thick walls  
Material: not stated, but perhaps NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished inside, smoothed outside, lightly brush-scratched  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 181, Plate 24: 2, Type 01a.8  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 87

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with straight thick walls  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished inside, smoothed outside  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 182, Plate 24: 6, Type 01a.8  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 88

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with slightly flaring walls  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 182, Plate 26: 4,  
Type 01b.5  
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 89

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed, with white painted rim  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 182, Plate 26: 8, Type O2.1  
Dating: Phase 1a (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 90

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and with knob below rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: brown-coated, smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 183, Plate 27: 5, Type O2.2  
Dating: Phase 1a (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 91

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 183, Plate 27: 10, Type O2.3  
Dating: Phase 1 (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 92

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and rounded rim  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 183, Plate 28: 2, Type O2.4  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 93

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and rounded rim  
Material: NA-NB  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: well smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 183, Plate 28: 4, Type O3a  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)–IIIa (Naqada IID2)

Lower Egyptian Culture 94

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and wavy rim line  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 183, Plate 28: 10, Type O3a  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)
**Lower Egyptian Culture 95**

- **Site:** Maadi  
- **Shape:** bowl with recurved rim  
- **Material:** Ic  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** light red-slipped, smoothed, with red painted decoration inside  
- **Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 97, Plate 44: 1, Type 2  
- **Dating:** not stated

**Lower Egyptian Culture 96**

- **Site:** Maadi  
- **Shape:** bowl with recurved rim and flat base  
- **Material:** Ic  
- **Manufacture:** handmade  
- **Surface:** orange-slipped, smoothed, with red painted decoration inside and outside  
- **Reference:** Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 97, Plate 44: 7, Type 2b  
- **Dating:** not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 97

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and ledge rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 183, Plate 29: 4, Type 03a  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 98

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flaring rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184, Plate 29: 7, Type 03a  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 99

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and rounded rim  
Material: NB (?)  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: red-coated, polished, with incised decoration  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184, Plate 29: 8, Type 03a  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 100

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and elongated rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184, Plate 31: 6, Type O3b.1  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 101

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and elongated rim  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184, Plate 31: 8, Type O3b.1  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 102

Site: Buto  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184, Plate 33: 2, Type O5a  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 103

Site: Maadi  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base  
Material: ib  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 101, Plate 52: 2, Type 2b  
Dating: not stated

![Diagram of Lower Egyptian Culture 103](1:4)

Lower Egyptian Culture 104

Site: Maadi  
Shape: bowl with flaring walls and flat base  
Material: ib  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 101, Plate 52: 6, Type 2b  
Dating: not stated

![Diagram of Lower Egyptian Culture 104](1:4)
Lower Egyptian Culture 105

Site: Buto
Shape: tray with flaring walls
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184, Plate 33: 4, Type 05b
Dating: Phase 1a (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 106

Site: Maadi
Shape: pan, probably oval
Material: Ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red/brown-slipped, smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 101, Plate 53: 7, Type 1
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 107

Site: Maadi
Shape: basin-like bowl with straight sides
Material: Ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: gray/red-slipped, smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 101, Plate 52: 8, Type 2b
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 108

Site: Buto  
Shape: tray with very thick walls  
Material: NC  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: roughly smoothed  
Reference: von der Way 1997: 184–185, Plate 33: 5, Type 05b  
Dating: Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)

Lower Egyptian Culture 109

Site: Maadi  
Shape: pan with perforated ring base  
Material: Ib  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 102, Plate 54: 8, Type 3  
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 110

Site: Maadi
Shape: pan on foot
Material: Ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 102, Plate 54: 9, Type 3
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 111

Site: Maadi
Shape: bowl on a raised base
Material: Ia
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: burnished
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 102, Plate 55: 1, Type 2c
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 112

Site: Maadi  
Shape: bowl with flat base  
Material: Ia  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: burnished  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 102, Plate 55: 2, Type 2b  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 113

Site: Maadi  
Shape: bowl on a raised base  
Material: Ia/b  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: burnished  
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 102, Plate 55: 6  
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 114

Site: Buto  
Shape: small bowl  
Material: NB2  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: smoothed  
Dating: Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 115

Site: Buto  
Shape: small bowl  
Material: NA  
Manufacture: handmade  
Surface: well smoothed  
Dating: Phase Ib (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 116

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** small bowl with incurved walls  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** well smoothed  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 186, Plate 35: 15  
**Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

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Lower Egyptian Culture 117

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** small bowl with flaring walls  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** well smoothed  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 186, Plate 35: 16  
**Dating:** Phase II (Naqada IIc–D1)

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Lower Egyptian Culture 118

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** small vessel with straight walls  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 186, Plate 35: 19  
**Dating:** Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)–II (Naqada IIc–D1)

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Lower Egyptian Culture 119

**Site:** Buto  
**Shape:** small vessel with pointed base  
**Material:** NB1  
**Manufacture:** handmade  
**Surface:** smoothed  
**Reference:** von der Way 1997: 186, Plate 35: 25  
**Dating:** Phase I (Chalcolithic Period)
Lower Egyptian Culture 120

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with incurved walls and recurved rim
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Reference: von der Way 1997: 187, Plate 38: 11, Type O3a
Dating: Phase IIA (Naqada IIIC–D1)

Lower Egyptian Culture 121

Site: Buto
Shape: bowl with incurved walls and recurved elongated rim
Material: NB2
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: red-coated, polished
Dating: Phase IIB (Naqada IIIC–D1)
Lower Egyptian Culture 122

Site: Maadi
Shape: multiple vessel
Material: Ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 104, Plate 62: 3
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 123

Site: Maadi
Shape: stand
Material: Ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: possibly slipped, smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 103, Plate 60: 1
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 124

Site: Maadi
Shape: stand with perforations
Material: ib
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: dark red/brown-slipped, smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 103, Plate 60: 5
Dating: not stated
Imports from Palestine

Lower Egyptian Culture 125

Site: Maadi
Shape: jar with two lug handles
Material: V
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: well smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 109, Plate 72: 9, Type 11
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 126

Site: Maadi
Shape: jar with two lug handles
Material: V
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 109, Plate 73: 3, Type 11
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 127

Site: Maadi
Shape: jar with flat base and tall funnel neck
Material: V
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 110, Plate 76: 1, Type 12
Dating: not stated
Lower Egyptian Culture 128

Site: Maadi
Shape: jar with flat base, cylindrical neck, and two ledge handles
Material: v
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 110, Plate 77: 2, Type 10/11
Dating: not stated

Lower Egyptian Culture 129

Site: Maadi
Shape: jar with flat base, cylindrical neck, and two ledge handles
Material: v
Manufacture: handmade
Surface: smoothed
Reference: Rizkana and Seeher 1987: 111, Plate 77: 4, Type 11/12
Dating: not stated
Further Reading: a Selection for Volume 1


Brunton, G. 1930. Qau and Badari III. London: British School of Archaeology in Egypt.


Fayum A, Representative Examples

Plate 1.1. Fayum (Kom W). Similar to Fayum A 21–22 (see p. 35). Photo courtesy Tonny de Wit.

Plate 1.2. Fayum (Kom K). Similar to Fayum A 2 (see p. 26). Photo courtesy Tonny de Wit.


Plate 2.2. Fayum. Similar to Fayum A 19–20 (see p. 34). UC2507, Petrie Museum.

Plate 2.3. Fayum. Similar to Fayum A 6 (see p. 27). UC2504, Petrie Museum.
Merimde, Representative Examples

Plate 3.1. Merimde. UC10944, Petrie Museum.

Plate 3.2. Merimde. For similar base, see Mermide 75 (p. 61). UC10976, Petrie Museum.

Plate 3.3. Merimde. UC10991, Petrie Museum.
Badari, Representative Examples

Plate 4.1. Badari. UC9045, Petrie Museum.

Plate 4.2. Badari. Similar to Badari 32 (see p. 87). UC9086, Petrie Museum.


Plate 4.4. Badari. Similar to Badari 23 (see p. 84). UC9063a, Petrie Museum.

Naqada I, Representative Examples


Plate 5.2. Site not stated. UC15282, Petrie Museum.

Plate 5.3. Site not stated. UC6263, Petrie Museum.

Plate 5.4. Site not stated. Similar to Naqada I 16 (see p. 107). UC6290, Petrie Museum.

Plate 5.5. Site not stated. UC36261, Petrie Museum.
**Naqada II, Representative Examples**


Plate 6.3. Site not stated. Similar to Naqada II 17 (see p. 124). UC6349, Petrie Museum.
Naqada II, Representative Examples, continued


Plate 7.2. Site not stated. Similar to Naqada II 14 (see p. 123). UC6335, Petrie Museum.

Plate 7.3. Naqada. Similar shape seen in Naqada II 4 and 17 (see pp. 117 and 124). UC4242, Petrie Museum.
Lower Egyptian Culture, Representative Examples

Plate 8.1. Tell el Farkha. Similar to Lower Egyptian Culture 5 (see p. 150). Photo courtesy of Mariusz Jucha.

