

PART II

SITE CATALOGUE

SETTLEMENT SITES

Settlement Site 1 : 33/390-E9-1

Plates 127 to 128 Map 9

Field Notes A. J. Mills 1978.

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 176–177.

Pottery published C. A. Hope 1979, 194–195, pl. XIX.

The site consists of a large village which occupies about five hectares of rising stony ground in the north western part of the oasis. The extensive cemetery (CS1) is situated nearby in the scarp at the end of the high ridge. Four two-storey buildings, thought to be pigeon lofts or 'columbaria', were well preserved above ground and the tops of mud brick walls are visible on the surface over most parts of the site. Test 1 revealed three rooms where the occupational debris was slight but present in all rooms. Test 2 was undertaken in one of the two-storey buildings. It revealed two levels of building with a sub-surface preservation of up to 1.5 metres. The rooms with packed mud flooring had well-built walls and doorways. In one of the tested rooms a group of nineteen mud weights, which probably belonged to a loom, was recovered. The sherds of 'pigeon pots' were common at this site.

The cooking pot SS1 1a, the large jug SS1 1c and the jar SS1 1d were recovered from the floor level of Room 2 in Test 1. The bowl, SS1 2a, and the large slender jar or 'pigeon pot', SS1 2b, were recovered from the two-storey building or 'columbarium' (Test 2). A number of surface finds were also recorded.

SS1 1a Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P, evenly fired orange (2.5YR 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.5 Md. 19.2

Not published

Form 71: Phase 4.

SS1 1b Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0 Md. 20.4

Remarks: Two small vertical loop handles attached from rim to upper body.

Form 73: Phase 3 or 4.

SS1 1c Large jug

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P (10R 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.0 Md. 23.0 Ht. 32.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with some body sherds missing. The vessel had been competently made by Method 3 and was light for its size; the rim was thickened for added strength; the extant vertical handle was pulled and remained attached to the body.

Not published

Registration number: 1/1/5

ROM. 983-25-158

Form 105: Phase 4.

SS1 1d Large jar with a modelled rim and a round base

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P, surface grey (2.5YR 4/4-6) with a blurred brown core.

Dimensions: Rd. 19.0 Md. 31.0 Ht. 40.0

Not published

Form 126: Phase 4.

SS1 1e Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: L-F2.P.D, very thin cream surfaces with a pinkish grey core (10YR 6/3); decorated with dark brown rim ticks with traces of linear motifs on the body.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 12.8

Not published

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS1 1f Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: L-F2.P.D, cream surfaces (5YR 7/2-3) with a pinkish core (5YR 7/8); decorated with dark brown rim ticks with traces of linear motifs on the body.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.3

Not published

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS1 1g Jug

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 5.6 Md. 19.0

Remarks: The rim had been pinched to form a pouring lip.

Not published

Form 102: Phase 3 or 4.

SS1 1h Platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 42.0 Ht. c.6.0

Form 176: Phase 3 or 4.

SS1 1i Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, orange (5YR 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 5.6

Remarks: One vertical handle was attached from the rim to upper body.

Form 159: Phase 3.

SS1 2a Small bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4 Ht. 4.8

Not published

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS1 2b Large slender jar or 'pigeon pot'

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.8 Md. 26.0 Ht. 49.0

Remarks: These large vessels may have been used for raising pigeons; large numbers of sherds from similar vessels were seen on the surface of the site.

Registration number: 1/0/1

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS1 0a Small bowl with a slightly everted rim

Fabric and wares: L-F2.P, pale yellow fabric with a cream exterior surface (2.5Y 8/4) and a pale brown inner surface.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Not published

Form 25: Phase 4 possibly Phase 3.

SS1 0b Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P, dull brown (2.5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4 Ht. 6.5

Not published

Form 16: Phase 4 or perhaps Phase 3.

SS1 0c Small carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, traces of rim ticks remained.

Dimensions: Rd. 8.7 Ht. 5.0

Not published

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS1 0d Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.4 Md. 12.0 Ht. 6.0

Not published

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS1 0e Large jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0 Md. c.32.0 Ht. c.47.5

Remarks: Sherds from the rim and body were recovered but did not join and the jar has been reconstructed by combining the original drawings; a plant motif was incised into the body of the vessel before it was fired.

Not published

Form 135: Phase 4.

SS1 0f Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P, dark red (2.5YR 5-6/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 5.0

Not published

Form 157: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

Several of the pottery forms from this site have parallels in the early Roman deposits from Ismant el-Kharab. These forms include: Form 71 (SS1 1a) and 73 (SS1 1b) cooking pots; Form 66 deep bowls (SS1 1e and 1f); the Form 6 bowl (SS1 2a); and from the surface: Forms 34 (SS1 0c) and 38 (SS1 0d). The Form 105 jug (SS1 1c) has a parallel (CS13 5a) from the surface of the cemetery site, CS13, situated to the north-west of Ismant el-Kharab.

Form 16 bowls (SS1 0b) were not recovered from material at Ismant el-Kharab and that form may be a little earlier. Only a few sherds from the Form 170 'pigeon pots' were found in the early Roman deposits from Ismant el-Kharab and they do not occur in the late Roman material from the houses at the site. They were, however, used in the construction of some of the large standing tombs on the site. In addition, a number of the vessels had been re-used in the burials at the cemetery to the north-east of Ismant el-Kharab. The 'pigeon pots' occur at other sites in the oasis, particularly SS3 and SS5, with types of vessels well represented in the early Roman Period deposits from Ismant el-

Kharab (Phase 4). It is possible that pigeons were not kept in any numbers at Ismant el-Kharab or, if they were, the later Roman Period building phases obliterated most of the evidence.

Dating:

Most of the ceramic material from SS1: 33/390-E9-1 is dated to the early Roman Period (Phase 4) although some sherds indicate that the site was in use a little earlier, perhaps late in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3).

Settlement Site 2 : 33/390-F8-1

Plate 129 Map 7

Field Notes C. A. Hope 1978, 55.

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 177-178.

The site included a mud brick house and traces of other mud brick structures of a non-domestic nature. The house had a number of vaulted rooms with a pigeon loft or 'columbarium' built above. Fragments of storage bins, querns, small ovens and deposits of ash were evident on the surface of the site. Intact but burned pottery vessels were recovered from near an oven at Test A, and other unusual pieces were collected from the surface. A resemblance between other material on this site and on the settlement site, SS7, was noted by the excavators.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS2 Aa Small bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F6.RS, surface brown (7.5YR 5-6/4), core 10R 5-6/3).

Dimensions: Rd. 8.0 Ht. 4.2

Remarks: A competently made bowl with a string-cut base; it had been blackened on parts of the lower body.

Registration number: 1/A/2

ROM. 983-25-9

Form 13: Phase 3.

SS2 Ab Small bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 4-5/6), core (10R 4-5/2).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: Carelessly finished; string-cut base; blackened on the inside and parts of the outer surface.

Form 13: Phase 3.

SS2 Ac Shallow vessel probably a lid or cover

Fabric and wares: R-F8.CS, surface (2.5YR 4-5/6) with an uneven grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 13.8 Ht. 4.8

Remarks: A vessel made from coarse fabric; the base was uneven; the surfaces were pitted from burned-out organic matter and the edges of the base rough and indented.

Form 1: Phase 3 or 4.

SS2 Ad Small carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (10R 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.9 Ht. 5.6

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS2 Ae Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (5YR 5-6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 8.4 Md. 8.8 Ht. 4.0

Remarks: Parts of rim were missing and the surfaces charred and blackened.

Form 38: Phase 3 or 4.

SS2 Af Small shallow bowl with a restricted rim and a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F5.RS (10R 5-6/8); coated with thick red slip.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0 Md. 6.4 Ht. 2.4

Remarks: Intact; the very small vessel was well made but very fragile with flaking surfaces.

Registration number: 1/A/1

ROM. 983-25-72

Form 39: Phase 2 (Series 1) or 3.

SS2 Ag Restricted bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS (2.5YR 3-4/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 14.6 Md. 15.6 Ht. 6.6

Remarks: Most of the rim was missing; there was some blackening of the surface.

Form 41: Phase 3.

SS2 Ah Restricted bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS (2.5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0 Md. 14.2 Ht. 7.0

Remarks: Height uneven; surface blackened.

Form 41: Phase 3.

SS2 Ai Restricted bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P/CS (2.5YR 5-6/6); possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 22.0 Md. 22.4 Ht. 12.0

Remarks: Carelessly finished.

Form 42: Phase 3.

SS2 Aj Sherd from a bowl with an everted rim

Fabric and wares: R-F6.P

Dimensions: Rd. 24.2

Remarks: A sherd with a similar rim formation to the Form 51 bowls from CS7.

Form 51: Phase 2.

SS2 Ak Spouted vessel

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, surface greyed (5Y 3-4/2), core (5YR 4-5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 14.2 Md. 18.0 Ht. 18.4

Remarks: Restored from sherds. Over half the base was missing, making it difficult to see how the vessel had been made; the spout had been shaped to make a pouring lip; the slip was flaking from the surface.

Registration number: 1/A/1

ROM. 983-25-241

Form 87: Phase 2 or 3.

SS2 Al Jar

Fabric and wares: L-FS.P (2.5YR 5-6/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 8.8 Md. 17.2 Ht. 19.0

Remarks: The surface had been blackened particularly around the base.

Form 113: Phase 3.

SS2 Am Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 18.2 Md. 23.6 Ht. 14.5

Form 70: Phase 3.

SS2 An The lower part of large vessel, possibly a brazier

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Bd. 18.0

Remarks: A perforation had been made in the floor of the bowl section of the sherd.

Form 175: Phase 2 or Phase 3.

SS2 Ao Sherd

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, surface (10R 5-6/4) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 25.6 Ht. c.2.0

Remarks: A sherd with a perforated centre, possibly a pot stand.

Form 175: around Phase 3.

SS2 Ap Sherd from a platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 25.0

Form 176: perhaps Phase 2.

SS2 Aq Sherd

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0 Md. 18.4

Remarks: A sherd possibly from a spouted jar.

Form 87: Phase 2 or 3.

SS2 Ar Small neckless jar

Fabric and wares: The fabric was recorded as R-F2.P fired pink with redder surfaces, but may be L-F2.P or an imported marl.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4 Md. 12.4

Remarks: A sherd from a vessel with a modelled rim and two vertical loop handles attached to the upper body.

Form 97: Phase 2.

Comments and summary:

The ceramic material from this site does not have many parallels in the three early Roman Period deposits (SS17, SS18 and SS19) from Ismant el-Kharab. However, there are a number of parallels in assemblages from cemetery sites and these include:

Form 87 spouted jars (SS2 Ak and possibly SS2 Aq) occur at CS2, CS5, CS8, CS10 and CS15 in Phase 2;

The Form 42 bowl (SS2 Ai) is similar to CS1 7d (Phase 2);

The Form 113 jar (SS2 Al) is similar to CS3 1f and CS15 17l (Phase 2).

The small Form 13 bowl (SS2 Ab) has a number of parallels from both cemetery and settlement sites (Phase 2 and 3) but Form 34 bowls (SS2 Ad) have been recovered only from settlement sites where they are dated to Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

There are parallels for Form 41 bowls (SS2 Ag and SS2 Ah) from Complex IIB at Karnak North dated to the end of the Dynastic Period and the early Ptolemaic Period (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 8: 1-3).

Dating:

A date early in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) or around the end of the Persian Period (Phase 2) is appropriate for most of the vessels from the site, SS2: 33/390-F8-1.

However, if the identification of the sherds, SS2 Aj (Form 51) and SS2 Ar (Form 97), is correct there may have been earlier activity, possibly as early as Phase 1, at the site.

Settlement Site 3 : 33/390-F9-1

Plates 130 to 131 Map 9

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 178.

Kilns published C. A. Hope 1979, 196–201.

This site, known as Deir el-Haggar, includes a sandstone temple and the extensive settlement that surrounds it. Edmonstone visited the temple in 1819 during his journey to the oases of the Western Desert and noted it in his journal (Edmonstone 1822, 48–51). The temple was later published by Bull, a member of the expedition conducted by Winlock in 1908 (Winlock 1936).

In the immediate vicinity of the temple, there is a series of mud brick house ruins and a large complex of mud brick walls comprising approximately one hundred rooms. Less than one kilometre south of the temple there are three large mud brick buildings and two pottery kilns. Tests were undertaken in the complex adjacent to the temple and at the kiln site.

More recently A. J. Mills, the director of the Dakhleh Oasis Project, in co-operation with the Supreme Council for Antiquities, has completed the restoration of the sandstone temple and its precincts.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS3 1a Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.2

Remarks: The sherd retained a small lug attached to the rim.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS3 1b Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired pale brown.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.6 Ht. 5.6

Remarks: A sherd with a ledge at the inner rim.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS3 1c Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 7.6 Md. 8.4 Ht. 4.0

Remarks: Plaster from the jar sealing adhered to the rim.

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS3 1d Necked jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 4.6

Remarks: The vessel had a three hole strainer in the neck and the stub of a vertical handle attached to the upper neck.

Form 103: Phase 4.

SS3 1e Necked flask

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 4.0

Remarks: The vessel had a direct rim; the exterior body was grooved; a strainer had been made by piercing three holes in the body and two vertical handles were attached from the neck to the upper body.

Form 161: late Phase 4.

SS3 1f Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0

Remarks: The sherd retained a carelessly formed vertical loop handle attached to the rim; the outer surface had been blackened.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS3 Ka Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, brown (2.5YR 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 17.0 Ht. 7.0

Remarks: A sherd with a ledge at the inner rim; the surfaces were blackened.

Registration number: 1/7

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS3 Kb Bowl with a wide base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 20.4

Remarks: Recovered amongst the collapse in the entrance to Kiln 3.

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS3 Kc Restricted bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P/CS, orange-brown (2.5YR 4-5/6); possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 15.0 Md. 15.8 Ht. 7.3

Reproduced from the parallel, SS2 Ah.

Remarks: A single groove was incised under the rim but the vessel had been carelessly finished; recovered with the jug SS3 Kd outside the firing tunnel of Kiln 1.

Form 41: Phase 3.

SS3 Kd Necked jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1/2.P.D, four irregularly spaced thin bars were painted on the handle in dark red; traces of decoration could be seen on a few small sections of the upper body but the motif could not be recognised.

Dimensions: Rd. 5.6 Md. 16.4 Ht. 22.6

Remarks: Intact except for old breaks at the rim and neck. The jug had a prominent flange rim and a slight but definite carination at the shoulder; the vertical handle and its boss were neatly made; the surfaces, particularly on and under the body, were thickly encrusted with burnt sand and clay, however, the jug appeared to have been well-made. It was recovered outside the firing tunnel of Kiln 1.

Registration number: 1/6

ROM. 983-25-119

Form 101: Phase 3.

SS3 Ke Amphora sherd

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 15.0

Remarks: The sherd was recovered from the ash in the bottom of Kiln 1 and had been burnt and cracked; stubs of the handles remained on either side of the neck

Form 192: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 Kf Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: L-F3.P (Test S6, Appendix 1, A-8, pl. 178).

Dimensions: Rd. 35.0

Remarks: The sherd has naturally occurring cream surfaces inside and out.

Form 55: Phase 4.

SS3 Kg Large bowl with an everted rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 42.0

Remarks: The sherd retained a horizontal handle on the upper body under the rim.

Form 59: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 3a Small restricted bowl with a round base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, pale brown with a faint core.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 12.0 Ht. 7.8

Remarks: Burnt around the lower body.

Form 66: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 3b Small restricted bowl with a round base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, dark brown.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 12.2 Ht. 8.0

Remarks: Extensively burnt.

Form 66: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 3c Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, pale brown.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0

Form 75: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 3d Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, reddish brown (2.5YR 4/4-6).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0

Form 142: Phase 3.

SS3 3Ba Bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F6.CS.D, evenly fired pale brown; decorated with horizontal black bands on the rim and upper body.

Dimensions: Rd. 18.4

Form 61: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 3Bb Large slender jar or 'pigeon pot'

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface light red (10R 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 19.0 Ht. 46.8

Remarks: The upper body of the vessel was intact but a large section of the base was missing; the rim was modelled and everted; the walls were thickly thrown and the vessel heavy.

Registration number: 1/1/5

ROM. 983-25-344

Form 170: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 Ma Necked vessel with two handles

Fabric and wares: R-F2.RS.D, evenly fired reddish brown (2.5YR 5/8); the decoration in very dark red consisted of vertical branch motifs on the neck, ticks on the prominent ledge around the neck at the level of the handles and horizontal stripes on the handle; the cream and red dots on the body may have represented blossoms.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: The sherds that were recovered made up ten per cent of the rim, part of the neck and a vertical handle with a section of the body attached. The rim of the vessel was modelled and everted; the ledge around the neck at the level of the top attachment of the handle was well defined and quite prominent; three wide grooves

had been incised down the length of the handle and three 'v' shaped nicks made into the edge of the neatly modelled boss of the handle.

Form 100: Phase 3 or 4.

SS3 0a Cup or *skyphos* with raised relief decoration

Fabric and wares: F-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.8

Remarks: A sherd from a moulded vessel which retained a ring handle; the upper and lower horizontal bosses of the handle had been neatly modelled by hand; the rim of the vessel was set off by a narrow incised groove; the leaf and vine design in raised relief was achieved by pressing the clay into an incised mould; a similar sherd, SS4 0f, was recovered from a neighbouring site.

Form 188: late Phase 3 or Phase 4.

Comment and summary:

All the vessels from Test 1 have parallels in the early Roman Period deposits from Ismant el-Kharab and can be dated to that period (Phase 4).

The Form 6 bowl (SS3 Ka) and the Form 10 bowl (SS3 Kb) from Kiln 3 can also be dated to Phase 4 as they occur in the Ismant el-Kharab deposits. However, the vessels from Kiln 1 may be earlier: the Form 41 bowl (SS3 Kc) may be dated to Phase 3 (Spencer and Bailey 1996, 22, pl. 84: 4); if the identification of the amphora sherd (SS3 Ke) is correct, that sherd could date to the early Ptolemaic Period (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 20: 3). The Form 101 jug (SS3 Kd) also from Kiln 1 is the only example of the form in the corpus and, although an accurate parallel has not been found, a Phase 3 date would be possible.

Test 3A: the two Form 66 vessels (SS3 3a and SS3 3b) are similar to CS13 1a from the cemetery CS13 situated to the north-west of Ismant el-Kharab. The sherds from a Form 75 cooking pot (SS3 3c) and a Form 142 jar (SS3 3d) are from types not recovered from Ismant el-Kharab but may be dated to Phase 4 or perhaps Phase 3.

Test 3B: the bowl sherd, SS3 3Ba, could be dated around the Ptolemaic Period (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 14: 3-5). The other vessel from this test was a 'pigeon pot'.

The sherd, SS3 Ma, was recovered during the recent clearance and restoration of the temple at Deir el-Haggar and the skyphos, SS3 0a, was a surface find at that time. The skyphos has parallels dating to around the first century AD and, although a surface find, the sherd is valuable as it shows the foreign influences which reached the oases of the Western Desert during the early Roman Period. Another Form 100 sherd, D6-1/89/19b, similar to SS3 Ma was a surface find at Ismant el-Kharab; however, the form has not been recovered in the excavated material at the site.

Dating:

The similarity of some of this material to that recovered from the early Roman Period deposits (SS17, SS18 and SS19) at Ismant el-Kharab indicates that the site, SS3: 33/390-F9-1, was occupied in the first and second centuries AD (Phase 4). However, a few sherds (SS3 Kc, SS3 Ke and SS3 3Ba) suggest that the site was also occupied during the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3).

Settlement Site 4 : 33/390-F10-1

Plates 132 to 134 Map 9

Field Notes S. V. Brind and A. F. Hollet 1978.

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 182-3.

The site is situated 1.5 kilometres almost due south of Deir el-Haggar (SS3). It consists of two groups of connected rooms which may be joined beneath an intersecting sand dune. Two rooms were tested at the site. Room 1 was a small room in the northern group where the fill was of wind blown sand. The pottery vessels, SS4 1a to SS4 1c, and a pottery lamp were recovered at floor level. In the other tested room (Room 2), two cooking-pots, SS4 2b and SS4 2c, were on the floor. A number of sherds were also collected from the surface of the site.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS4 1a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5/6-8).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Md. 11.1 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with a rim sherd missing. The flat base was string-cut and had sharp untrimmed edges.

Registration number: 1/1/5

ROM. 983-25-86

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS4 1b Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Md. 11.6 Ht. 5.4

Registration number: 1/1/4

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS4 1c Small bowl with a narrow flange rim and a slightly domed base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: Restored complete from sherds. The bowl had been competently made with a pronounced modelled rim; all the surfaces were completely coated with a hard black residue.

Registration number: 1/1/6

ROM. 983-25-23

Form 8: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 1d Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.5 Ht. 7.8

Remarks: Restored complete from three sherds. The base and lower body were thick but the walls tapered towards the rim; the base had been unevenly cut and showed signs of wear. All the surfaces were discoloured and parts were coated with a black deposit.

Registration number: 1/1/3

ROM. 983-25-110

Form 16: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 1e Vessel with a round body and a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Md. 12.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with all the neck and part of the upper body missing; there were no traces on the vessel of the attachment of handles or spout; the surface was blackened and discoloured; the identification of the vessel to the form is not definite.

Registration number: 1/1/1

ROM. 983-25-200

Form 101: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 2a Small bowl with an everted rim and a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS.D, red (2.5YR 5/4); decorated with black rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.8 Ht. 7.0

Remarks: The base was unevenly string-cut.

Registration number: 1/2/6

Form 21: Phase 4

SS4 2b Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 3-4/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 20. Ht. c.16.5

Remarks: Two or three closely spaced grooves had been incised in the upper body below the horizontal handles; the surfaces were blackened.

Form 72: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 2c Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P (5YR 5-6/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 15.4 Md. 26.2 Ht. 25.5

Remarks: Restored from sherds with a few small body sherds missing. This cooking pot had been made by Method 3 and was a very well thrown vessel. The walls were thin and even and the rim formation well defined. The exterior surface had been blackened and the interior discoloured.

Registration number: 1/2/1

ROM. 983-25-167

Form 75: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 0a Small bowl with a modelled everted rim and a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Ht. 6.3

Remarks: A black-glazed bowl dated to the second or first century BC (Charlesworth 1967, fig. 2) is a good parallel for the shape of this sherd and suggests that Form 22 vessels may have been local copies of the type.

Form 22: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 0b Small carinated bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Ht. 6.6

Remarks: The sharply carinated profile of the sherd suggests a sigillata form (Betts 1990, 146, pl. 35: 2 – Dragendorff Type 26a) but as no slip was recorded the vessel may have been a local copy.

Form 35: Phase 4.

SS4 0c Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (5YR 5-6/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Md. 11.4 Ht. 5.8

Remarks: Intact; there were signs of wear on the base.

Registration number: 1/0/2

ROM. 983-25-70

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS4 0d Bowl with a wide base

Fabric and Wares: L-FS.RS.D, pale orange (2.5YR 6/6-8); decorated with unevenly placed red rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 18.4 Ht. 7.2

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS4 0e Deep bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P/RS, pale brown with greyish brown core; possibly red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 17.6 Ht. c.8.0

Form 11: Phase 4.

SS4 0f Cup or *skyphos* with raised relief decoration (pl. 168, fig. 1)

Fabric and wares: F-F4.P, a relatively fine fabric with small white inclusions, probably calcium carbonates, and dark red particles; evenly fired dark red except for a greyed patch on the larger piece, probably a firing fault.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Ht 6.8

Remarks: Six sherds from this hand made vessel were recovered: five joined to make slightly less than one half of the vessel; the other sherd did not join this piece; the handles were not extant. The vessel had been made by pressing clay into a mould previously carved or impressed to make the raised relief design on the exterior of the vessel; the motifs consisted of vine leaves and bunches of grapes.

The standard of workmanship was not high and indentations, finger prints and scrape marks were evident on the interior surface; a groove had been incised freehand below the rim. One edge of the larger piece was noticeably thicker where a handle had been attached and the edge of the other side also showed a slight thickening. The vessel was a copy of the Knidian or Pergamon silverware vessels reproduced in different ceramic fabrics during the first century BC and first century AD. The fabric of these sherds is possibly related to the later Oasis Red Slip wares (Hope 1986, 87-91, figs 8-9). During the recent restoration of the temple at the nearby site of Deir el-Haggar, another sherd, SS3 0a, was collected from the surface. It retained one of the ring handles typically associated with this type of vessel.

Registration number: 1/0/1

ROM. 983-25-97

Form 188: late Phase 3 or early Phase 4.

SS4 0g Cooking pot

Fabric and Wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.8 Md. 20.8

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS4 0h Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: A sherd from a jar with a thick modelled rim and a ledge on the neck.

Form 130: Phase 3.

SS4 0i Neckless jar with a thick modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, fired reddish brown with a grey-brown core (possibly R-F4.P).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS4 0j Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 5.5

Remarks: The original drawing of the keg shows regular pairs of lines which probably represent deep throwing ridges rather than incised grooves. The rim was modelled with a rounded narrow ledge below the lip; a vertical handle was attached to the rim and the body and there was a strainer in the neck; this type of barrel-shaped keg with handle and strainer has not been recovered in either the early Roman Period or the fourth century AD material at Ismant el-Kharab.

Form 159: possibly Phase 3.

SS4 0k Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, orange brown (2.5YR 4-5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4 Md. 18.4 Ht. 19.8

Remarks: Slightly asymmetrical with an angular transition at neck and upper body.

Form 115: Phase 4.

SS4 0l Small bowl

Fabric and wares: F-F2.RS.B, a fine fabric, evenly fired reddish brown.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: A sherd from a small bowl with an everted rim and thin walls; the shape is similar to Eastern Mediterranean types (Robinson 1959, pl. 60: F 12 and F 14); base unknown.

Form 24: late Phase 3 or early Phase 4.

SS4 0m Small bowl

Fabric and wares: F-F2.RS.B, a fine dense fabric, evenly fired light orange red (2.5YR 6/6), exterior surface (slip?) red (10R 5-4/6), interior surface (slip?) dark red (10R 3/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: The walls of this sherd were thin and had been turned when the clay was leather hard. The shape is similar to an Eastern Mediterranean type (Charlesworth

1967, 154, fig. 2: 3).

Form 24: late Phase 3 or early Phase 4.

SS4 0o Deep bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS.D, fired dull brown; traces of red slip on the surface and possibly decorated with a rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 13.2

Form 11: Phase 4.

SS4 0p Large bowl with an everted modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 34.0

Form 59: Phase 3 or perhaps late in Phase 2.

SS4 0q Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2

Remarks: A sherd with one vertical loop handle preserved; burnt surfaces.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS4 0r Large bowl with an everted rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 38.4

Remarks: The sherd retained a horizontal loop handle attached to the upper body.

Form 59: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 0s Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS, fired dull brown (Test S5, Appendix, 1, A-7, pl. 177).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.2

Form 75: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 0t Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS, even grey.

Dimensions: Rd. 20.2

Remarks: A sherd which retained a vertical loop handle.

Form 75: Phase 3 or 4.

SS4 0v Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, fired evenly orange.

Dimensions: Rd. 5.1

Remarks: A sherd from a barrel-shaped keg.

Form 157: Phase 4.

SS4 0w Flask

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS, orange with a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 4.0

Remarks: The identification of this sherd is not certain; however, although the rim

diameter is larger, the formation is similar to that of CS18 1a.

Form 151: Phase 3.

Small jug

A small jug (33/390-F10-1/1/1) was recovered from Room 1 and is in the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM.983-25-200). The condition of the vessel was too fragile for it to be drawn. The jug was made from the fabric, R-F1, and had a vertical handle, a flat base and straight divergent sides; the rim was direct and had been pinched to form a pouring lip. The jug does not have a parallel in the corpus although it has similarities with a vessel recently excavated from the temple at Ismant el-Kharab (not published). Possible parallels from outside Dakhleh Oasis are a vessel from Tomb 36 at Douch (Dunand et al. 1992, pl. 81: 5) and one from Tell Edfou dated Ptolemaic to Roman Period (Michalowski et al. 1938, figs 110 and 144); however, these two vessels do not have handles.

Comments and summary:

In the assemblage recovered from Room 1, Form 38 vessels (SS4 1a and SS4 1b) have parallels in the Phase 4 deposits from Ismant el-Kharab. The Form 8 bowl (SS4 1c) is the only example in the corpus and has no exact parallels. The Form 16 bowl (SS4 1d) has parallels from the settlement sites SS1 and SS12 and the temple site TS3. Form 16 was not recovered from the early Roman Period deposits at Ismant el-Kharab and may be early in Phase 4 or perhaps late in Phase 3.

There are no exact parallels in the Ismant el-Kharab material for the small group recovered from Room 2 and the vertical lugs on the Form 72 cooking pot (SS4 2b) suggests that it is a little earlier than that Phase 4 material. Form 75 cooking pots (SS4 2c) were not common although a few sherds were recovered from sites SS3, SS7 and TS3. The form may be dated to late in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) or early in Phase 4.

A number of very interesting sherds were recovered from the surface of the site. The small bowls from Form 22 (SS4 Oa), Form 35 (SS4 Ob), Form 188 (SS4 Of), Form 24 (SS4 Ol and SS4 Om) show some of the foreign contacts and influences which reached the oasis around the first century BC and the first century AD. The Form 59 bowl sherd (SS4 Op) has a good parallel from Karnak North which could be dated to about the Ptolemaic Period (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 14: 8, Complex IIB).

Dating:

Rooms 1 and 2 at site SS4: 33/390-F10-1 were occupied in the early Roman Period (Phase 4) or perhaps late in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3). Some sherds from the surface have parallels in the early Roman Period deposits at Ismant el-Kharab while others indicate the site had been occupied a little earlier.

Settlement Site 5 : 33/390-H6-2

Plates 135 to 136 Map 9

Field Notes A. J. Mills 1978, 6.

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 179 and pl. XVII.

Pottery published C. A. Hope 1979, 194-195, pl. XIX: 8, 9, 12 and 13.

The site is a village of eleven small houses. Each building contained one to three vaulted rooms at ground level with a pigeon loft above. The ground floor of House 7 contained two vaulted rooms and a courtyard which had been used for storage and for domestic activities such as cooking. Access to the pigeon loft was gained by a ladder to a doorway in the east wall. The loft was divided into four separate arched areas, each of which was filled with the pottery jars thought to be the nesting boxes for the pigeons.

The two vessels, SS5 7c and SS5 7d, were recovered from fill near floor level of the courtyard and the bowl SS5 7b, which contained the remains of plaster, was near the wall of the house.

SS5 7a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (5YR 5/6-8).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 10.6 Ht. 4.8

Remarks: The vessel appears to have a very shallow ring base but this was probably unintentionally formed when the bowl was cut from the wheel.

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS5 7b Bowl with a wide base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, decorated with dark red-black rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.8 Ht. 6.0

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS5 7c Wide mouth jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.6 Ht. 16.4

Registration number: 2/7/1

Form 171: Phase 4.

SS5 7d Wide mouth jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (10R 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.6 Ht. 14.7

Remarks: Intact with small rim chips missing. The walls and base were thick, which made the vessel heavy for its size. The hole in the base had been made before the vessel was fired and had not been neatly finished but left with rough sharp edges. Another vessel (SS13 2a), also from a settlement site, has the same type of perforated base; however, the vessel, SS5 7c, from this site although of similar shape and size does not have a pierced base.

Registration number: 2/7/2

ROM. 983-25-78

Form 171: Phase 4.

SS5 7e Neckless jar with a thick modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P, dark red (2.5YR 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS5 7f Small carinated bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS.D, decorated with red rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Not published

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS5 7g Jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS (2.5YR 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0

Remarks: A sherd with a vertical handle attached from rim to upper body.

Not published

Form 102: Phase 4.

SS5 7h Keg or jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Not published

Form 162: Phase 4.

SS5 7i Small flask

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 2.4

Not published

Form 77: Phase 4.

SS5 7j Large slender jar or 'pigeon pot'

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 5/4-6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Not published

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS5 7k Large slender jar or 'pigeon pot'

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Not published

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS5 7l Large slender jar or 'pigeon pot'

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Md. 24.0

Not published

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS5 0m Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 36.0

Not published

Form 54: Phase 4.

SS5 0n Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 32.4

Remarks: A groove was incised into the outer face of the rim.

Not published

Form 55: Phase 4.

SS5 0o Large spouted bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 35.0

Form 92: Phase 4.

SS5 0p Neckless jar with a thick modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 18.0

Not published

Form 123: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

Several vessels from the tested house at this site are well dated to the early Roman Period (Phase 4) by parallels in the deposits (SS17, SS18 and SS19) from Ismant el-Kharab: the Form 38 bowl (SS5 7a); the Form 10 bowl (SS5 7b); the Form 34 bowl (SS5 7f) and the Form 123 jar (SS5 7e). A number of sherds from the surface can also be dated to Phase 4: the Form 54 bowl (SS5 0m) has a parallel in the material from SS19; the Form 92 spouted bowl (SS5 0o) has a parallel from SS18 and Form 123 jars (SS5 0p) come from all three deposits. The Form 171 vessels (SS5 7c and SS5 7d) may be peculiar to some activity in a domestic context but they are not known at Ismant el-Kharab.

Only a few 'pigeon pot' sherds were recovered from the stratified deposits at Ismant el-Kharab and they cannot, at present, be accurately dated. Although these vessels were probably made over quite a long period, the evidence from this site in the western section of the Dakhleh Oasis indicates that they were contemporary with several of the pottery forms recovered from the early Roman deposits at Ismant el-Kharab (Phase 4).

Dating:

The ceramic material from the tested house and the surface at SS5: 33/390-H6-2 indicates that there was activity at the site around the second century AD (Phase 4). Unlike a number of other surveyed sites, there are no forms in the assemblage to suggest an earlier occupation.

Settlement Site 6 : 33/390-K9-2

Plate 137 Map 5

Site published A. J. Mills 1980, 268-269.

The site is situated south-west of the large town site of Amheida. It consists of a series of eight low mounds covered with sherd scatter and traces of two mud brick structures. One building containing five rooms was tested and, although the preservation was only three bricks high, the house appeared to have been well built.

The funnel, SS6 1c, was found in Room III; the small vessels, SS6 1a and SS6 1b, and the jar, SS6 1d, came from Rooms III and IV. The keg sherd, SS6 0a, and jar sherd, SS6 0b, were surface finds.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS6 1a Small lid or bowl with a rounded base

Fabric and wares: L-F1.P, surface cream (2.5Y 7-8/2) with pale reddish core (2.5YR 4-5/8).

Dimensions: Md. 6.8 Ht. 4.4

Remarks: Intact. The vessel was thrown probably off the hump by Method 2 (Ch. 6), pinched off the clay and summarily smoothed to a rounded shape.

Registration number: 2/1/1

ROM. 983-25-71

Form 43: Phase 1.

SS6 1b Small lid or bowl with a rounded base

Fabric and wares: L-F1.P, surface cream (2.5Y 7-8/2) with pale reddish core (2.5YR 4-5/8).

Dimensions: Md. 6.4 Ht. 3.8

Remarks: Intact. A similar vessel to SS6 1a.

Registration number: 2/1/2

Form 43: Phase 1.

SS6 1c Funnel

Fabric and wares: L-F1.P, the surface was unevenly pale brownish red (2.5YR 4-5/8) and cream (5Y 7-8/2).

Dimensions: Rd. 15.0 Ht. 15.0 Spout 3.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with a few body sherds and rim chips missing. The spout did not appear to have been added to the bowl of the funnel and the vessel may have been thrown in two stages. Some sections of the surface had flaked away showing the pale brownish red fabric under the cream surface layer.

Registration number: 2/1/3

ROM. 983-25-243

Form 172: Phase 1.

SS6 1d Large jar

Fabric and wares: L-F1.P, surface cream (5Y 8/2), pinkish core (5YR 5-6/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 21.5 Md. 41.6 Ht. 58.5

Remarks: Rope impressions had been left in the soft clay around the maximum diameter.

Registration number: 2/1/4

Form 122: Phase 1.

SS6 0a Lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 4.0

Remarks: A sherd from a flask with a lentoid shaped body, a tall neck and two small handles attached from lower neck to body.

Form 154: Phase 1.

SS6 0b Jar

Fabric and wares: L-F9.P, a medium dense green marl fabric.

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0

Remarks: A sherd with a thickened modelled rim; the parallels suggest that this jar had been imported from the Nile Valley.

Form 96: Phase 1 or 2

Comments and summary:

Form 43 vessels (SS6 1a and SS6 1b) also occur in the deposits at the cemetery site CS7 with material dated to Phase 1. The large Form 122 jar (SS6 1d) has parallels from Tombs 18, 20 and 34 at the cemetery site CS15 – the material from these tombs also includes some vessels dated to Phase 1.

The funnel (SS6 1c) is the only example of this type of vessel in the corpus. Funnels have been recovered from the late Roman Period deposits at Ismant el-Kharab but the bowl sections have a different shape and the vessels were made from the red firing fabric R-F1, whereas this earlier funnel, SS6 1c, was made from the marl fabric L-F1.

The Form 96 jar sherd (SS6 0b) has parallels dated from the Saite Period to the Persian Period (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 17: 1, Complex IIA; Marchand 1996, 423, Groupe 10: 42 dated Persian Period; Spencer and Bailey 1996, 20, pl. 79: 4 dated Saite-Persian Period). It was a surface find.

The sherd from the Form 154 lentoid flask (SS6 0a), also a surface find, has a number of parallels dated to the Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth Dynasties (Aston, 1996c, 34, fig. 66: 458; Darnell and Darnell 1994, 49, fig. 3; French 1986, 155 and fig. 9.22: 1 and 2; Hölscher 1954, 74 and pl. 47: U7).

Dating:

The vessels recovered from the tested building at this site indicate that it was occupied in the seventh century BC (Phase 1). The two sherds from the surface also support a date around the seventh or sixth century BC making the settlement site, SS6: 33/390-K9-2, a very interesting one for future excavation.

Settlement Site 7 : 32/390-E1-1

Plates 138 to 140 Map 8

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 175-176.

The site is situated on a slight rise of clay soil. A scatter of pottery sherds, thick-walled storage bins, small ovens and grinding stones were on the surface. Test 1 was carried out in the centre of the site where numerous patches of ash had been observed but further signs of habitation were not found. The purpose of the site was thought to be industrial but the nature of the activity could not be ascertained. A resemblance between this site and the settlement site, SS2, was noted by the excavators. Test 2 was made in the northern sector of the site where a series of ruined mud brick walls, thought to be a storage area, was encountered. A few Demotic ostraca were recovered from Test 2 but have not been published.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS7 1a Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (5YR 3-4/3) with a dark grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 13.2 Ht. 7.6

Form 16: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1b Small shallow vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.5 Ht. 3.4

Remarks: Possibly used as a lamp as the surfaces were blackened; base unevenly cut and the rim edge worn.

Registration number: 1/28

ROM. 983-25-26

Form 1: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1c Small deep vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P, surface (2.5YR 3-4/6) core (5YR 4-5/3).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.5 Ht. 4.4

Remarks: Reproduced from the parallel, SS20 0a.

Form 12: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1d Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 5-6/4) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.3 Ht. 6.3

Form 13: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1f Small vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (10R 4-5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.2 Md. 6.2 Ht. 4.6

Remarks: Carelessly finished

Form 110: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1g Small jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5-6/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 6.2 Md. 8.0 Ht. 8.4

Form 112: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1h Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 4-5/4) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.5 Md. 18.5 Ht. 15.6

Remarks: Vertical handles were attached to the upper body; the rim and upper body were stained black.

Registration number: 1/27

Form 76: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1i Small flask

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 2.4

Remarks: A sherd from a small squat flask or *askos*; a loop handle was placed from the rim to the upper body.

Form 77: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1j Spouted vessel

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: A sherd from a vessel with a flared spout.

Form 87: Phase 3.

SS7 1k Spouted vessel

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (10R 6-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.0 Md. 11.0 Ht. 9.4

Remarks: Restored from sherds with most of the spout and some rim and body sherds missing. The ring base was possibly turned from the thick layer of clay which had been left at the base when the vessel was cut from the wheel. Most of the exterior surface was burnt and blackened. The vessel was recovered in the mouth of the jar, SS7 1dd.

Registration number: 1/26

ROM. 983-25-209

Form 87: Phase 3.

SS7 1l Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D, decorated with alternating vertical panels of solid red and black net motifs below a black horizontal band.

Dimensions: Rd. 15.2

Remarks: The sherd had a thick modelled rim and a pronounced ledge at base of neck.

Form 130: Phase 3.

SS7 1m Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 22.0

Remarks: The identification of this sherd is not definite; however, its rim formation (and that of SS7 1s) is comparable with Form 52 vessels; only a small percentage of the rim may have been recovered and the measurement noted for the diameter may therefore be too small.

Possibly Form 52: late Phase 2.

SS7 1n Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 24.0

Remarks: A groove was incised into the outer face of the rim.

Form 55: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1o Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Form 54: Phase 4.

SS7 1p Large bowl with a grooved flange rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Form 57: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1q Large bowl with a restricted rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 26.4

Form 61: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1r Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 26.0

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS7 1s Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 18.2

Remarks: A sherd similar to SS7 1m and the identification to Form 52 is not definite.

Possibly Form 52: late Phase 2.

SS7 1t Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 17.2

Remarks: The sherd from a cooking pot had vertical loop handles attached from the top of the rim to the upper body.

Form 71: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1u Flask

Fabric and wares: L-FS.P

Dimensions: Rd. 3.2

Form 78: Phase 3.

SS7 1v Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 75: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1w Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Form 130: Phase 3.

SS7 1x Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Form 115: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1y Handled jar

Fabric and wares: L-F9.P, pale greenish-grey (5Y 6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 13.6

Remarks: A small vessel with a modelled rim and two vertical loop handles.

Form 97: Phase 2.

SS7 1aa Jar

Fabric and wares: L-FS.P, evenly fired light red (5YR 6-7/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Form 115: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1bb Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F10.P, red-brown surfaces and a thick brown core.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Remarks: The identification of the sherd is not secure.

Form 125: Phase 2.

SS7 1cc Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F10.P, red-brown surfaces and a thick brown core.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Remarks: The identification of this sherd is uncertain.

Possibly Form 125: Phase 2.

SS7 1dd Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, surface red (10R 5/4) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.2 Md. 25.0 Ht. 44.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with parts of the rim and some body sherds missing. The jar was smaller but very similar to the other jars of Form 130. It had been thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6); the rim was modelled and thickened and the rounded ledge on the neck was well defined; the cream slip was thick and covered the body well. The spouted vessel, SS7 1k, was in the mouth of the jar when found.

Registration number: 1/25

ROM. 983-25-340

Form 130: Phase 3.

SS7 1ee Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D, decorated on the rim and neck with horizontal bands in red and black.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 142: Phase 3.

SS7 1gg Platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Form 176: possibly Phase 1.

SS7 1hh Platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 26.0

Form 176: possibly Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 1ii Platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 36.6

Form 176: possibly Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 2a Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: A sherd with two horizontal lugs.

Form 73: Phase 3 or 4.

SS7 2b Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.4

Remarks: A sherd from a jar with a modelled rim and a well defined ledge at the lower neck.

Form 130: Phase 3.

SS7 2c Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 7.0

Remarks: A sherd from a barrel-shaped keg with a strainer in the neck.

Form 159: Phase 3 or possibly late Phase 2.

SS7 2d Keg or flask

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0

Remarks: The neck of the vessel did not have a strainer.

Form 159: Phase 3 or possibly late Phase 2.

SS7 2e Keg or flask

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 5.0

Remarks: The neck of the vessel did not have a strainer.

Form 150: Phase 2.

Comments and summary:

The survey and testing of the site 32/390-E1-1 yielded a large number of sherds but only a few intact and registered vessels. A few forms have parallels in the early Roman Period deposits at Ismant el-Kharab (Phase 4) including: the large Form 54 bowl (SS7 1o); the Form 62 bowl (SS7 1r) and the Form 57 bowl (SS7 1p). A parallel for Form 57 is dated to the early Ptolemaic Period at 'Ayn Manawir in Kharga Oasis (Marchand 1998, fig. 40: d). Other forms which have parallels dated to early in the Ptolemaic Period or late in the Dynastic Period include the Form 61 sherd, SS7 1q (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 14: 3 to

5 Complex IIB) and the Form 77 flask, SS7 1i (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 21: 9 Complex IIB).

SS7 1dd was smaller but very similar to the other Form 130 jar, CS9 1a, in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum. Exact parallels have not been found for the form and the closest comes from 'Ayn Manawir in Kharga Oasis, which has been dated to the Persian Period (Marchand 1996, Groupe 13: 48). Three sherds from the form (SS7 1l, SS7 1w and SS7 2b) were also recovered from this site.

Although the identification is not certain, two rim sherds (SS7 1m and SS7 1s) are possibly from Form 52 bowls. This form is dated to the Persian Period (Marchand 1996, 420, Groupe 7: 29) which places the bowls in Phase 2.

The Form 97 jar (SS7 1y) has a number of parallels dated to the Persian Period and earlier (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 17: 2–4 Complex IIA; Marchand 1996, Groupe 10: 39–40 dated to the Persian Period; Mysliwiec 1987, nos 430–435 dated to the Late Period; Spencer 1996, pl. 65: 28, 48, 50 dated to the Late Period). The jar sherds, SS7 1bb and SS7 1cc, are possibly from Form 125 with parallels in Persian Period material (Marchand 1996, Groupe 8: 31 and 32). There is also a parallel dated to this period for the Form 150 keg (SS7 2e) in Kharga Oasis (Marchand 1996, 425, Groupe 15: 55).

Form 176 platters are difficult to date; however, a number of parallels, with a similar shape to SS7 1gg, could place that vessel as early as Phase 1 (Holladay Jr. 1982, pl. 27: 6, c.486 BC; Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 3: 9 and 10, Complex I; Mysliwiec 1987, nos 391 dated to the Late Period).

Dating:

Sherds recovered from the tests and the surface finds suggest that the site SS7: 32/390-E1-1 was in use towards the end of the Persian Period (Phase 2) and that the occupation of the site continued through the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) to the first and second centuries AD. There is also evidence from other surface finds that the site was occupied in the late Roman Period.

Settlement Site 8 : 32/390-D1-1**Plate 141****Map 8**

Site published A. J. Mills 1979, 175.

The site is at the foot of a hill that forms a part of the low escarpment. The tombs and graves of the extensive cemetery site, CS1, were built into the nearby scarp. A three-roomed building was tested. The standard of construction of the building was not as high as that encountered on other sites in the area. Preservation was less than one metre and the cultural remains were limited.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS8 1a Small shallow vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 5/6-8) core (2.5YR 5/2-4).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Ht. 3.8

Remarks: There were traces of burning on the rim and the exterior surface and the vessel may have been used as a lamp.

Form 1: Phase 3 or 4.

SS8 1b Small deep vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface pale red (10R 5/4) with a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.6 Ht. 7.8

Remarks: Restored from sherds with parts of the rim and upper body missing. The walls were thick with deep throwing rings inside; the base was string-cut. The vessel had probably been used as a lamp as the interior was stained black with the discoloration covering an old break.

Registration number: 1/1

ROM. 983-25-188

Form 13: Phase 3.

SS8 1c Small shallow vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4 Ht. 2.4

Remarks: The surfaces were blackened throughout probably from use as a lamp; the string-cut base was uneven.

Form 1: Phase 3 or 4

SS8 1d Small restricted bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS.D, surface reddish brown (2.5YR 5-6/6); decorated with pairs of irregular rim ticks in black or dark brown pigment.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4 Md. 11.2 Ht. 6.2

Remarks: Restored from two sherds with a small section of the rim missing. The vessel

had been thrown by Method 1 or 2 and the ring base made by Method B; the groove below the rim was incised as the bowl rotated on the wheel and the ends of the groove overlapped.

Registration number: 1/2

ROM. 983-25-100

Form 40: Phase 3 or 4.

SS8 1e Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS.D, light red brown (2.5YR 5/6-8); decorated with black rim ticks.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Md. 11.4

Remarks: A sherd with two grooves incised below the rim, similar to SS8 1d.

Form 40: Phase 3 or 4.

SS8 1f Small restricted lid or bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 4-5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.2 Md. 10.0

Remarks: A sherd from a Form 38 vessel or possibly from a bowl similar to SS8 1d and SS8 1e.

Form 38: Phase 3 or 4.

SS8 1g Bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, the flat top face of the rim was decorated with bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 20.5

Form 55: Phase 3 or 4.

SS8 1h Platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0 Ht. 2.4

Form 176: possibly Phase 3 or 4.

SS8 1i Body sherd with handle attached, possibly from a 'Phoenician' amphora

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Form 192: late Phase 2 or Phase 3.

Comments and summary:

The Form 40 bowls (SS8 1d and SS8 1e) have a good parallel from Tebtynis where the type has been dated to the end of the Ptolemaic or the beginning of the Roman Period (Marchand 1997a, 20-3, fig. 4). The Form 13 vessel (SS8 1b) is similar to SS12 1d also recovered from a settlement site.

Dating:

The small assemblage from the site, SS8: 32/390-D1-1, indicates that the tested building was occupied late in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) or at the beginning of the Roman Period (Phase 4). If the sherd SS8 1i is correctly identified (Defernez 1997b, 64–5, pl. II, fig. 4: 30, fig. 5: 35–6), there may have been activity at the site around the end of Phase 2 or early Phase 3.

Settlement Site 9 : 32/390-H9-1**Plates 142 to 143 Map 9**

Field Notes J. L. Haynes 1979, 21.

Site published A. J. Mills 1980, 264.

A site with at least four multi-roomed mud brick houses. Test 1 was carried out in a room at the northern sector of the site. The pottery vessels SS9 1a, SS9 1c and SS9 1d were recovered together in the north-west corner of the room. The vessels were found approximately twenty-five centimetres from bedrock and possibly at floor level.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS9 1a Small bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, reddish brown (10R 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with a few sherds missing. A thinly thrown vessel with a clearly defined ledge below the concave zone of the inner rim; the exterior surface and the rim were discoloured and blackened.

Registration number: 1/1/10

ROM. 983-25-121

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS9 1b Spouted necked vessel

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, red (2.5YR 4-5/6) grey core (10YR 4/2).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 17.8 Ht. 17.2

Remarks: The vessel had a modelled rim and a ring base; holes were made in the upper body to form a strainer for the spout.

Registration number: 1/1/4

Form 90: Phase 4.

SS9 1c Small jar with a round base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, reddish brown (2.5YR 4-5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 5.2 Md. 9.5 Ht. 9.5

Remarks: Intact with a few small rim chips missing. The vessel had been thrown by Method 3.

Registration number: 1/1/2

ROM. 983-25-30

Form 112: Phase 4.

SS9 1d Large jar with a modelled rim and a round base

Fabric and wares: R-F4.CS, light red (10R 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Md. 33.2 Ht. 44.4

Remarks: Restored from sherds with a rim sherd and a few body sherds missing. This asymmetrical jar was thrown by Method 3; two grooves were incised at the transition of neck and upper body creating a narrow sharp ledge. A hole had been drilled in the shoulder after firing.

Registration number: 1/1/1

ROM. 983-25-169

Form 136: Phase 4.

SS9 1e Large barrel-shaped keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, thin brownish surface (2.5Y 5/4-6) and a wide grey core (10R 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 6.4 Md. 42.6 Ht. c.36.0

Remarks: Restored from sherds with seventy per cent of the rim and parts of the body missing. The body of the keg was thrown by Method 3 and the neck thrown on from additional clay in a later stage; the rim was modelled and there was no strainer in the neck. The large thinly thrown body was dented and distorted from handling before it was sufficiently dry.

Registration number: 1/1/3

ROM. 983-25-172

Form 157: Phase 4.

SS9 1f Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 29.0

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS9 1g Large bowl with an everted modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 31.0

Form 56: Phase 4.

SS9 1h Large bowl with an everted modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 42.0

Form 58: Phase 4.

SS9 1i Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 32.6

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS9 1j Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 42.0

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS9 1k Lower body of a small restricted vessel

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Md. 11.0

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS9 1l Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 70: Phase 3 or 4.

SS9 1m Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 15.6

Remarks: Vertical loop handles were attached to the upper body.

Form 70: Phase 3 or 4.

SS9 1n Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS9 1o Two-handled necked vessel

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 7.8

Remarks: Vertical handles were attached under the rim and to the upper body.

Form 100: Phase 3 or 4.

SS9 1p Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.8

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS9 1q Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 138: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

A number of parallels can be made between the material from the site 32/390-H9-1 and the early Roman Period deposits SS17, SS18 and SS19 from Ismant el-Kharab. Form 6 bowls (SS9 1a) and Form 62 bowls (SS9 1i and SS9 1j) were recovered from all three deposits. Form 10 vessels (SS9 1f) were recovered in the SS17 and SS18 deposits.

A Form 136 jar, very similar to SS9 1d, occurs in the cache of pottery vessels recovered from the temple site TS1. This deposit also contains a number of other forms with parallels in the first and second centuries AD (Phase 4) from Ismant el-Kharab.

The grooved rims of the Form 70 cooking pots (SS9 1l and SS9 1m) suggest that these vessels might be late in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) or early in Phase 4. The rim of SS9 1m is very similar to that on SS18u although there were no lugs extant on the latter vessel.

The Form 138 jar sherds (SS9 1p and SS9 1q) have parallels in the early Roman Period deposits from Ismant el-Kharab (Phase 4), and a Form 100 necked handled vessel similar to SS9 1o was a surface find from that site. The Form 157 keg (SS9 1e) also has parallels in the SS17ar and SS19az deposits.

There are two Form 90 spouted vessels in the corpus: SS9 1b and CS2 2f. They are very similar except that the wall of SS9 1b was pierced to make a strainer and it is possibly a little later than CS2 2f. The form has a parallel from Karanis dated to the late second century AD (Johnson 1981, pl. 65: 503).

Dating:

The ceramic material recovered from this site is contemporary with that from the three stratified deposits from Ismant el-Kharab and establishes that the tested building at SS9: 32/390-H9-1 was occupied during the first or second centuries AD (Phase 4).

Settlement Site 10 : 32/390-I4-2

Plate 144

Maps 7 and 8

Field Notes R. A. Frey 1979.

Site published A. J. Mills 1980, 264.

The site is a single mud brick domestic building comprising twelve rooms. The house may be one of a group now buried under a sand dune. All the pottery vessels were recovered from the surface.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS10 0a Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F6.P, pale reddish brown (2.5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.6 Ht. 5.6

Remarks: Intact although the surface was weathered and partly eroded. The vessel had been competently made, probably thrown off the hump, and a shell pattern remained under the string-cut base.

Registration number: 2/0/3

ROM. 983-25-32

Form 13: Phase 2 or 3.

SS10 0b Small restricted bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 5/6) core (7.5YR 5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Md. 11.3 Ht. 5.2

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS10 0c Small restricted bowl with a round base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P, pale red (2.5YR 4-5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Md. 11.8 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: Intact but weathered with most of the rim and surface eroded away. The vessel appeared to have been thrown with a turned round base; however, the condition of the bowl made it difficult to be sure how it had been made.

Registration number: 2/0/1

ROM. 983-25-107

Form 66: Phase 3 or 4.

SS10 0d Small deep bowl with a restricted rim and a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, dark reddish brown (2.5YR 3-4/6).

Dimensions: Md. 15.4 Ht. 8.0

Remarks: Intact with a section of the rim completely eroded away and rim chips missing. The vessel was competently made with a flat string-cut base.

Registration number: 2/0/2

ROM. 983-25-201

Form 38: possibly Phase 2.

SS10 0e Deep bowl (ring base reconstructed)

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, pale red (10R 6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 20.6 Md. 21.2

Remarks: Restored from sherds with all of the base and some small body sherds missing. The vessel had been competently made with a evenly formed modelled rim.

Registration number: 2/0/4

ROM. 983-25-132

Form 61: Phase 2 or 3.

SS10 0f Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: A cooking pot with two small vertical lugs below the rim.

Form 70: Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

SS10 0g Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.6

Remarks: A cooking pot with two horizontal loop handles attached from the rim to the upper body.

Form 73: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

The assemblage is a small collection from the surface of the site. Four of the vessels were registered and are in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum. The Form 61 bowl (SS10 0e) has a close parallel from Karnak North (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 9: 1, Complex IIA) which places it in Phase 2 or early in Phase 3. Form 13 bowls, similar to SS10 0a, also appear to span Phases 2 and 3.

Parallels for the Form 38 vessel (SS10 0d) are dated to the Persian Period or perhaps slightly earlier and, if correct, would place the vessel in Phase 2 (Grande et al. 1995, pl. LXVI: a to d, dated to the Persian Period and pl. LV: e to g, not firmly dated but around c.730/700 – 650 BC).

The best parallel for the Form 66 bowl (SS10 0c) is SS16 0c; however, that vessel is not firmly dated as it was also a surface find. Two other Form 66 sherds (SS19n and

SS19o) can be dated to Phase 4 as they were recovered from the Ismant el-Kharab deposit (SS19); these, however, were made from a different fabric. Form 38 vessels (SS10 0b) occur in the three early Roman Period deposits at Ismant el-Kharab.

Dating:

Although this small group of vessels was collected from the surface, they give some indication of activity at the site, SS10: 32/390-I4-2, during the Persian Period (Phase 2). The site also seems to have been occupied in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) and early Roman Period (Phase 4).

Settlement Site 11 : 32/390-I6-2

Plate 144

Map 9

A. J. Mills Field Notes 1979.

Site published A. J. Mills 1980, 265.

The site consists of two mud brick buildings located approximately 100 metres apart. The eastern complex was tested and found to have over twenty rooms with well-built mud brick walls. The two registered bowls, SS11 1a and SS11 1b, were found inverted on the floor. A cache of Demotic ostraca was recovered in a nearby room but has not been published. The vessels SS11 0a, SS11 0b and SS11 0c were surface finds.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS11 1a Carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F6.P (2.5YR 4/6), core (5YR 5/3).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.4 Ht. 5.1

Remarks: The vessel was recorded as asymmetrical and the widest profile may have been drawn; the base was string-cut.

Registration number: 2/1/1

Form 33: Phase 4.

SS11 1b Small carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, surface red (2.5YR 4-5/8); decorated with rim red ticks.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Ht. 5.6

Remarks: Intact with small rim chips missing. The vessel had a sharply carinated wall; the base had been unevenly string-cut and the edges were not turned or trimmed in any way before firing.

Registration number: 2/1/2

ROM. 983-25-41

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS11 1c Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 11.0 Ht. 5.8

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS11 1d Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.2

Form 70: Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

SS11 1e Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0

Form 70: Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

SS11 1f Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.6

Form 70: Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

SS11 1g Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 13.8

Form 70: Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

SS11 1h Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.4

Form 70: Phase 4 or late Phase 3.

SS11 1i Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.6

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS11 1j Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.8

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS11 1k Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0

Remarks: A neck and body sherd from a barrel-shaped keg.

Form 157: Phase 4.

SS11 0a Bowl with a wide base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (7.5YR 5–6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.3 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: The surfaces were blackened.

Registration number: 2/0/5

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS11 0b Small carinated bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5–6/8), core (10R 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.6 Ht. 6.2

Registration number: 2/0/4

Form 35: Phase 4.

SS11 0c Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.4 Md. 16.0

Form 62: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

Form 34 (SS11 1b), Form 38 (SS11 1c) and Form 138 (SS11 1j) were recovered from the early Roman Period (Phase 4) deposits at Ismant el-Kharab. The grooved rims of the Form 70 cooking pots (SS11 1d–h) suggest that they may be dated from the Ptolemaic Period to the early Roman Period. The sherd from the Form 157 keg (SS11 1k) is similar to the vessel, SS9 1e, and the rim sherds, SS17ar and SS19az, dated to the early Roman Period. The surface finds, Form 6 (SS11 0a), Form 35 (SS11 0b) and Form 62 (SS11 0c), are forms recovered from early Roman Period deposits (Phase 4) at Ismant el-Kharab.

Dating:

The vessels recovered from the tested building at site, SS11: 32/390-I6-2, suggest that it was occupied late in the Ptolemaic Period and into the early Roman Period (Phase 4).

Settlement Site 12 : 32/390-J3-2

Plate 145 Map 8

Site published A. J. Mills 1980, 265.

The site comprises three mud brick houses of two-stories. A cache of Demotic ostraca was found in a corner of one room but has not been published.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS12 1a Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS.D, surface (2.5YR 4-5/6); decorated with irregularly spaced red rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Ht. 5.2

Remarks: The base appears rounded but was, perhaps, unevenly cut from the wheel.

Registration number: 2/20

Form 44: Phase 4.

SS12 1b Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, reddish brown (2.5YR 4-5/8); traces of a narrow dark red rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.4 Ht. 7.0

Remarks: Intact with a section of the rim and upper body missing. A competently made vessel but with two gashes accidentally cut into the lower body; a series of narrow grooves, just below rim, may also have been accidental; the flat base was string-cut.

Registration number: 2/3

ROM. 983-25-21

Form 16: Phase 3 or 4.

SS12 1c Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, surface (10R 5/8), core (5YR 4-5/4); decorated with a red rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Ht. 6.8

Remarks: The flat base was unevenly cut.

Registration number: 2/21

Form 16: Phase 3 or 4.

SS12 1d Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, light reddish brown.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.4 Ht. 6.4

Remarks: Intact with sections of the rim missing. Competently thrown with a neatly finished string-cut base; the inside surface, the rim and the upper part of the outer surface were blackened and the vessel may have been used as a lamp.

Registration number: 2/22

ROM. 983-25-20.

Form 13: Phase 3 or 4.

SS12 1e Part of a stand or incense burner

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, reddish brown (5YR 3-4/3) with a thin core in thicker sections (2.5YR 4-5/8).

Dimensions: Bd. 9.8

Remarks: The fragment may be the base of a pedestal bowl or stand; however, the form of the complete vessel is uncertain. To make the extant section of the vessel, a cylinder was thrown and the flanges shaped; the base membrane appeared to have been pushed up into the vessel to form the shallow ring foot of a stand or, if the vessel was to be used inverted, the hollowed cup for burning oil or incense. The cream slip was thin but covered most of the surface.

Registration number: 2/4

ROM. 983-25-43

Form 185: Phase 3 or 4.

SS12 1f Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.4

Form 5: Phase 3 or 4.

Comments and summary:

Vessels from Form 13 (SS12 1d) and Form 16 (SS12 1b and SS12 1c) did not occur in the early Roman Period material from Ismant el-Kharab and these forms seem to be earlier than Phase 4. The bowl, SS12 1a, has been regarded as round-based and placed in Form 44; however, it is possible that it was intended to be a Form 34 or 35 vessel; two forms which were recovered in the deposits SS17 and SS19 from Ismant el-Kharab.

The closest parallel for the Form 185 fragment (SS12 1e) is one from Karanis, which has been dated from the post-Ptolemaic Period to around the third century AD (Johnson 1981, pl. 74: 593). Similar vessels, but without the well-defined flanges, were recovered from Tomb 45 at Douch but are not specifically dated (Dunand et al. 1992, pl. 75: 1). The example held by the Royal Ontario Museum and dated to the Roman Period (Hayes 1976, 45 and fig. 12: 228) is a similar type of vessel but not a close parallel.

Dating:

The tested house at SS12: 32/390-J3-2 appears to have been occupied around the end of the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) or the beginning of the early Roman Period (Phase 4). It may be possible to arrive at a more accurate dating when the cache of Demotic ostraca is published.

Settlement Site 13 : 32/390-L3-1

Plate 145 Map 9

P. J. Sheldrick Field Notes 1979

Site published A. J. Mills 1980, 267.

The site included two structures situated on a slight rise. The larger building (Test 1) had at least seven rooms although preservation was only to forty centimetres. The other building (Test 2) was a house with two vaulted rooms with a pigeon loft above.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS13 1a Lid

Fabric and wares: L-F8.P, surface (10YR 4-5/3).

Dimensions: Rd. 15.2 Ht. 5.0

Form 2: Phase 4.

SS13 2a Wide mouth jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red (2.5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0 Ht. 13.0

Remarks: Intact. A hole was intentionally pierced in the base after the vessel had been thrown but before it was fired. A fragment of red 'crocheted' textile was inside the vessel when it was recovered.

Registration number: 1/2/1

ROM. 983-25-88

Form 171: Phase 4.

SS13 2b Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.4 Md. 14.0

Form 66: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

The vessel, SS13 2a, is similar in size and shape to the vessels, SS5 7c and SS5 7d, also recovered from a settlement site. The bases of SS13 2a and SS5 7d were perforated while the base of SS5 7c had been left intact. The recovery of the three vessels from houses suggests that they had been made for a particular domestic function as yet unknown.

Dating:

The tested buildings at the site SS13: 32/390-L3-1 were probably occupied during the early Roman Period (Phase 4).

Settlement Site 14 : 32/390-M4-1

Plate 146 Map 5

Field Notes J. L. Haynes 1979, 35-7.

The site, situated two kilometres south-east of SS13: 32/390-L3-1, was surrounded on all sides by sand dunes. The diameter of the site measured about eighty metres with a small spring mound undulating in the centre and to the south-east. There were some concentrated patches of sherds on the site and at least fifteen round ovens were seen. There was a thick layer of powdery grey ash in the bottom of the tested oven and the interior wall, which was slightly fired grey, crumbled to the touch. There were no signs of vitrification in the ovens.

Two intact vessels were registered from the site: the spouted jar, SS14 1c, which had been found in mud paving around the ovens and the flask, SS14 1e, recovered from the surface of an oven. A number of sherds were also recovered. Two ostraca, one from slightly below the surface and the other from the fill of the tested oven, were found but have not been published.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS14 1a Small lid or bowl with a rounded base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS, surface (2.5YR 5/6-8), core (7.5YR 4-5/4).

Dimensions: Md. 8.0 Ht. 4.6

Remarks: The base of the vessel was pinched to form a rounded shape.

Form 43: Phase 1.

SS14 1b Bowl with an everted rim and a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 25.0 Ht. 14.4

Remarks: The surface of the vessel was coloured cream in places from carbonates and salt discoloration.

Form 51: Phase 1.

SS14 1c Spouted vessel with ring base

Fabric and wares: recorded as a marl fabric between L-F1 and L-F4, surface (2.5YR 5/6), core (7.5YR 5-6/6).

Dimensions: Md. 10.0 Ht. 10.4

Remarks: A wad of clay had been placed between the spout and the rim to strengthen the attachment; the spout was pinched to form a pouring lip.

Registration number: 1/0/3

Form 86: Phase 1.

SS14 1d Spouted vessel with ring base

Fabric and wares: L-F8.P (5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Md. 12.0 Ht. 12.4

Remarks: A similar vessel to SS14 1c but most of the spout was missing.

Form 86: Phase 1.

SS14 1e Flask or bottle

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P, surface greenish cream (5Y 6-7/3), core greenish grey (5Y 3-4/2).

Dimensions: Rd. 4.6 Md. 14.0 Ht. 24.6

Remarks: Restored from sherds with some small body sherds and rim chips missing. There were no signs of turning to be seen on the surface of the lower body and the vessel may have been thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6); however, this is not certain as it was not possible to see inside the base of the restored vessel. The modelled rim and the ledge on the neck had been neatly formed. The vessel was competently made but the lower body had been distorted from careless handling while it was still too soft. The fabric was more grey than the usual green colour, possibly from deposition.

Registration number: 1/0/4

ROM. 983-25-159

Form 80: Phase 1.

SS14 1f Sherd from a footed cup or goblet

Fabric and wares: L-F8.P/CS.

Dimensions: Bd. 5.0

Form 32: Phase 1.

SS14 1g Sherd from a bowl with a rounded modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 32.0

Remarks: A sherd with a thick rolled rim.

Form 53: Phase 1.

SS14 1h Sherd from a bowl with a grooved horizontal rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Remarks: A sherd from a bowl with a grooved flange rim.

Form 57: Phase 1.

SS14 1i Deep bowl or beaker

Fabric and wares: L-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4 Md. 10.4 Ht. 11.2

Remarks: A complete section of a bowl with a rounded base.

Form 67: Phase 1.

SS14 1j Deep bowl or beaker

Fabric and wares: L-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4

Remarks: A sherd from a vessel probably similar to SS14 1i.

Form 67: Phase 1.

SS14 1k Flask or bottle

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Md. 9.0

Remarks: A sherd from a vessel similar to SS14 1e; the edge of the rim was not extant and the maximum diameter may be too small.

Form 80: Phase 1.

SS14 1l Sherd from a spouted jar

Fabric and wares: L-F8.P

Remarks: A spout and section of a modelled rim from a vessel similar to SS14 1c; a wad of clay had been used to support the spout which had been pinched to form a pouring lip.

Form 86: Phase 1.

SS14 1m Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: A sherd from a jar with a modelled rim.

Form 118: Phase 1.

SS14 1n Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 5.8 Nk. Ht. 7.4

Remarks: A sherd from a large keg with a lentoid-shaped body; small residual handles were attached to the base of the neck and the upper body on either side; the neck had a modelled rim.

Form 154: Phase 1.

SS14 1o Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0 Nk. Ht. 9.6

Remarks: A sherd from a keg similar to SS14 1n but with a taller neck and a larger body; the rim of the neck was modelled; small handles were attached to the base of the neck and upper body on either side.

Form 154: Phase 1.

SS14 1p Sherd from a large keg

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 7.6

Remarks: A neck from a keg; the body of the vessel appears to have been barrel-shaped.

Form 155: Phase 1.

SS14 1q Platter

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 31.6

Remarks: A sherd from a platter.

Form 176: Phase 1.

Comments and summary:

A number of forms from site, SS14, were also recovered from the cemetery site CS7.

These include:

Form 43 lids (SS14 1a);

Form 51 bowls (SS14 1b);

Form 32 goblets (SS14 1f);

Form 53 bowls (SS14 1g);

Form 86 spouted vessels (SS14 1c and SS14 1d).

In addition, sherds from Form 125 and 127 jars were recorded but not drawn.

Parallels for the Form 51 bowls are dated around the Twenty-fifth Dynasty at Amarna (French 1986, fig. 9. 18, MB2.1.1, MB2.2.1 and MB2/3/1) and to Complex IIA at Karnak North (Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 12: 9).

There are a number of parallels for the Form 32 goblets, one of which is from Elephantine dated to the mid eighth or seventh century BC (Aston 1996c, fig. 184: 18236m: 1). A parallel for the Form 67 beakers, SS14 1i and SS14 1j, is included in Aston's Phase III S material dated to the eighth and seventh centuries BC (Aston 1996c, fig. 217o; Phase III Groups 7–10).

The Form 80 flasks, SS14 1e and SS14 1k, have a good parallel dated to the Twenty-sixth Dynasty (Béout et al. 1993, fig. 21, Form 37).

Although the identification is not certain the jar sherd, SS14 1m, may belong to Form 118 – a form which has a parallel from Tell el-Maskhuta dated to the end of the seventh century BC (Holladay Jr. 1982, pl. 6: 3).

Sherds from Form 154 lentoid kegs can be seen on several sites in Dakhleh Oasis and the kegs were undoubtedly produced locally. They have also been recognised at a number of sites outside the oasis where they occur in material dated from around the Twenty-fifth Dynasty and the Saite Period (Darnell and Darnell 1994, 49, fig. 3; French 1986, 155, fig. 9.22: 1 and 2; Spencer 1993, 47 and pl. 71: K1. 5 to 16).

Dating:

The ceramic material recovered from the tests at SS14: 32/390-M4-1 indicates that some activity was occurring on this settlement site as early as the eighth or seventh century BC (Phase 1) which makes the site another interesting prospect for future excavation.

Settlement Site 15 : 31/435-N3-1

Plate 145

Map 8

Site published A. J. Mills 1983, 135.

The site is an almost denuded occupation site with only traces of mud brick structures. A scatter of sherd material, grinding stones and oven pits could be seen on the surface.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS15 0a Small bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 13.8 Ht. 7.2

Registration number: 1/0/1

Form 14: Phase 3.

SS15 0b Jar

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS (2.5YR 6/6-8).

Dimensions: Rd. 7.4 Md. 14.2 Ht. 14.4

Form 113: Phase 3.

Comments and summary:

These two forms occur in the small assemblage from the cemetery site, CS14, with a bowl from Form 52, a form which has parallels dated to the Persian Period (Phase 2). Parallels for Form 14 (SS15 0a) are not very accurate or well dated (Johnson 1981, pl. 63: 483 dated late second century to early third century AD; Mysliwiec 1987, no. 755 dated Late Period to Byzantine Period; Petrie 1906, pl. XXXIXH: 258-9 dated Ptolemaic Period). The Form 113 jars (SS15 0b) are even more difficult to date and were probably made over a considerable period although they did not occur in the early Roman Period deposits (Phase 4) at Ismant el-Kharab.

Dating:

The site SS15: 31/435-N3-1 seems to have been occupied around Phase 3.

Settlement Site 16 : 31/405-M9-1

Plates 147 to 149

Maps 5 and 9

R. A. Frey Field Notes 1980.

A. J. Mills Field Notes 1980.

Site published A. J. Mills 1981, 181.

The site, known as 'Ain Azizi, is the extensive settlement located between Mut and Sheikh Wali on the south side of a wide band of cultivation. There is a number of mud brick domestic buildings scattered over an area of approximately 1 by 1.5 kilometres. Two of the house complexes were partly cleared and tested. The registered vessel, SS16 1a, was recovered from the floor of Room 2 in House 1 (Test 1), and the vessels, SS16 2a to SS16 2g, from floor levels of Rooms 1 and 2 in House 2 (Test 2). The sherds, SS16 1b to SS16 1f, are from House 1 and the sherds, SS16 2h to SS16 2j, were recovered from the fill of House 2.

The mud brick enclosure of a temple, located in the northern sector of the site, is a feature of the site. It is about thirty-five by twenty metres in extent and sandstone fragments, including carved architectural pieces, were scattered on the surface of the area. The registered bowl, SS16 3a, and a number of sherds were recovered from a trench excavated inside the temple complex (Test 3). The sherds, SS16 0a to SS16 0k, are surface finds from the site.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS16 1a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.5 Md. 11.0 Ht. 5.2

Remarks: Not drawn, reproduced from its parallel, SS5 7a. The vessel had an uneven string-cut base with the edges left untrimmed; lumps of plaster from the sealing materials remained on the surface.

Registration number: 1/1/2/1

ROM. 983-25-33

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS16 1b Small bowl with a slightly everted rim

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P.D, decorated with rim ticks.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.2

Form 25: Phase 4.

SS16 1c Small bowl with a slightly everted rim

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P.D, decorated with rim ticks.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Form 25: Phase 4.

SS16 1e Sherd from a necked vessel

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.6

Remarks: The rim formation is similar to that on the jug, SS18ai, but there was no handle extant on this example.

Form 106: Phase 3 or 4.

SS16 1f Keg

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 4.4

Remarks: A sherd possibly from a small barrel-shaped keg.

Form 157: Phase 4.

SS16 2a Small carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 4-5/6).

Dimensions: Md. 10.3 Ht. 6.1

Remarks: A vessel with a marked carination of the wall and a string-cut base.

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS16 2b Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, orange brown (2.5YR 5/6-8).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.5 Md 10.7 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: Not drawn, reproduced from the parallel, SS5 7a.

Registration number: 1/2/1/3

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS16 2c Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 10.3 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: Not drawn, reproduced from the parallel, SS5 7a. The flat base had been unevenly string-cut.

Registration number: 1/2/1/6

ROM. 983-25-28

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS16 2d Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, surface brown (2.5YR 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 12.0 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: Not drawn, reproduced from the parallel, SS5 7a.

Registration number: 1/2/1/5

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS16 2e Deep bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 15.6 Ht. 8.2

Remarks: The rim and outer surface were blackened and discoloured.

Registration number: 1/2/1/4

Form 11: Phase 4.

SS16 2f Lid

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, weak red (10R 5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0 Ht. 4.4

Remarks: Intact. The outer surface and parts of the inner surface were blackened and discoloured; the base (knob) had been string-cut and showed signs of wear.

Registration number: 1/2/1/1

ROM. 983-25-25

Form 2: Phase 4.

SS16 2g Deep bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 17.2 Ht. 10.4

Remarks: Intact. The vessel had been thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6) and the base left slightly domed. The outside surface was completely covered with a black deposit and the rim and the inside of the vessel were stained and discoloured from cooking use.

Registration number: 1/2/1/2

ROM. 983-25-157

Form 11: Phase 4.

SS16 2h Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.6 Md. 22.2 Ht. 18.5

Remarks: The lower body and parts of the rim had been burnt and discoloured.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS16 2i Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: Not known; decorated with rim ticks.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.2 Md. 11.7

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS16 2j Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.4

Form 72: Series 2 Phase 4.

SS16 3a Small deep bowl with a rounded base

Fabric and wares: R-F6.P/CS.D, pale reddish brown (5YR 5/6-8); possibly cream slipped and decorated with bands similar to the bowl, CS5 Fd.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2 Ht. 6.6

Remarks: The vessel was in sherds and in a very fragile condition. The bowl had probably been thrown by Method 2 as the base appeared to have been turned to the rounded shape; a groove had been incised below the rim. The exterior surface of the base was discoloured.

Registration number: 1/3/1/1

ROM. 983-25-223

Form 47: Phase 2.

SS16 3b Spouted bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 18.0

Form 85: Phase 2.

SS16 3c Sherd

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: The rim formation of the sherd is similar to that on some Form 87 spouted jars; however, the identification is not certain.

Form 87: Phase 2.

SS16 3d Sherd from a necked jar with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.4

Form 130: Phase 2.

SS16 3e Sherd from a small necked flask

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 3.6

Remarks: This sherd from a small flask had a modelled flange rim and two handles pressed against the neck.

Form 152: Phase 1.

SS16 3f Sherd from a necked flask

Fabric and wares: R-F5.P

Dimensions: Rd. 5.0

Remarks: The flask had a tall neck and retained parts of two, or possibly three, loop handles on the lower neck and body.

Form 153: Phase 1.

SS16 3g Sherd from a necked flask

Fabric and wares: R-F2.RS

Remarks: Sherd from a flask with three loop handles attached to the lower neck and body.

Form 153: Phase 1.

SS16 3h Sherd from a necked flask

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Remarks: Sherd from a flask with two loop handles attached to the lower neck and upper body.

Form 153: Phase 1.

SS16 3i Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 7.0

Remarks: Sherd with a tall neck and a modelled rim; two small loop handles were attached to the lower neck and upper body.

Form 154: Phase 1.

SS16 3j Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Remarks: A sherd from the body of a large lentoid flask; it retained part of the neck and the two handles, which had been pressed against the neck and body.

Form 154: Phase 1.

SS16 3k Keg

Fabric and wares: Not known

Dimensions: Rd. 8.0

Remarks: The neck from a keg with strainer.

Form 159: Phase 2.

SS16 3l Keg

Fabric and wares: Not known

Dimensions: Rd. 8.4

Remarks: The neck from a keg with strainer.

Form 159: Phase 2.

SS16 3m Potstand

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Diameters 14.0 and 16.0 Ht. 5.0

Form 174: Phase 2 or 3.

SS16 3n Potstand

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Diameters 13.8 and 15.0 Ht. 4.6

Form 174: Phase 2 or 3.

SS16 3o Potstand

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Diameters 17.8 and 18.5 Ht. 7.4

Form 174: possibly Phase 1.

SS16 3p Sherd from a brazier

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Remarks: A small sherd from a brazier with a projecting ledge and two holes, which had been cut or pierced into the wall.

Form 175: Phase 2.

SS16 3q Spout

Fabric and wares: Not known; decorated with a floral motif.

Dimensions: Length 11.0 to 12.2 Diameter 3.8 to 4.4

Remarks: This spout is the only example of the type in the corpus and the form of the vessel to which it had been attached is unknown. The nearest vessel type is the Form 89 spouted jar, CS2 2kk, which was decorated on the body, rim and handle but not the spout. However, one of the motifs on that vessel, a zigzag pattern or, perhaps, vertical palm fronds, may be compared to the pattern on this spout.

Form 190: Phase 2 or 3 but uncertain.

SS16 0a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.6 Md. 11.0 Ht. 5.6

Registration number: 1/0/1

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS16 0b Small carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Ht. 5.8

Remarks: This sherd came from a vessel with a sharply carinated wall.

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS16 0c Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D; decorated with rim ticks.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Md. 11.6

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS16 0d Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D; the decoration consists of a horizontal band on the upper body, an altar design resting on the band, a series of loops or 'swags' on the upper neck and ticks on the upper face of the rim; painted in black.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Form 136: Phase 4.

SS16 0e Sherd from a small lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 2.0 Md. 10.4 Nk. Ht. 2.2

Remarks: The flask had two small loop handles attached to the lower neck and upper body.

Form 152: Phase 2.

SS16 0f Body sherd

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Remarks: A body sherd from a large enclosed vessel, probably a jar; decorated with a floral motif in black.

Form 190: late Phase 2 or Phase 3.

SS16 0g Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 7.0 Nk. Ht. 9.0

Remarks: A vessel with two small loop handles attached to the lower neck and upper body.

Form 154: Phase 1 or 2.

SS16 0h Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.8 Nk. Ht. 10.4

Remarks: A vessel with a tall neck and two small loop handles attached from the lower neck to the upper body.

Form 154: Phase 1 or 2.

SS16 0i Sherd from a large lentoid flask

Fabric and wares: R-F9.P

Dimensions: Rd. 7.2 Nk. Ht. 11.0

Remarks: A vessel with a tall neck; the sherd retained a small loop handle attached from the lower neck to the upper body.

Form 154: Phase 1 or 2.

SS16 0j Sherd from a keg

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 7. 8

Remarks: A neck from a barrel-shaped keg.

Form 157: Phase 2.

SS16 0k Sherd from a keg

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.8

Remarks: A neck from a barrel-shaped keg.

Form 157: Phase 4.

SS16 0l Sherd from a keg

Fabric and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.4

Remarks: A neck from a barrel-shaped keg.

Form 157: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

Many of the forms recovered from Test 1 and Test 2 occurred in the early Roman Period deposits SS17, SS18 and SS19 from Ismant el-Kharab.

These include the following:

Form 2 (SS16 2f) with parallels in SS18 and SS19;

Form 11 (SS16 2e and SS16 2g) in SS19;

Form 34 (SS16 2a and SS16 0b) in SS19;

Form 25 (SS16 1b and SS16 1c) in SS19;

Form 38 (SS16 1a, SS16 2b–d) in all three deposits at Ismant el-Kharab;

Form 66 (SS16 2i and SS16 0c) in SS19;

Form 72 (SS16 2h and SS16 2j) in SS19;

Form 106 (SS16 1e) has a possible parallel in the jug, SS18ai;

Form 157 kegs (SS16 0k and SS16 0l) were recovered from the Ismant el-Kharab deposits, SS17 and SS19.

The material from Test 3 in the temple is earlier than the finds from the houses and there are a number of parallels dated to the Persian Period (Phase 2) or early in the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3) for the forms. Form 47 bowls (SS16 3a) were also recovered from the cemetery site, CS5. There are parallels for this form at Lahun (Petrie et al. 1923, pl. LDX: 24 H to U, particularly 25 M) and a date in the second half of the seventh century BC has recently been suggested for some of this material (Aston 1996c, 39).

The Form 85 spouted vessel (SS16 3b) is similar to CS3 1c, a vessel which was recovered from the cemetery CS3 with a number of forms dated to the Persian Period (Phase 2). The sherd, SS16 3c, may be from a Form 87 spouted vessel, also from the same period.

The Form 130 jar sherd (SS16 3d) has a parallel from Kharga Oasis dated to the Persian Period (Marchand 1996, Groupe 13: 48).

The Form 153 flasks (SS16 3f to SS16 3h) with tall necks and two or three loop handles could be dated early in Phase 1 (Aston 1996c, fig. 214: d Phase II dated between c.1000/950 – c.800/750 BC).

The large Form 154 lentoid flasks (SS16 3i and SS16 3j) can also be placed in Phase 1 by a number of parallels from outside the oasis (French 1986, fig. 9.22: 1 and 2; Hölscher 1954, 74 and pl. 47: U7 dated to Twenty-sixth Dynasty or earlier; Spencer 1993, 47 and pl. 71: K1. 5 to 16). Kegs with a strainer in the neck and a barrel-shaped body similar to the Form 159 sherds (SS16 3k and SS16 3l) are dated to the Persian Period in Kharga Oasis (Marchand 1996, Groupe 14: 54). The Form 174 potstands, SS16 3m to SS16 3o (Allen 1982, pl. XXI: 1; French and Ghaly 1991, 97 and nos 110–111) and the sherd from a Form 175 burner or brazier, SS16 3p (Allen 1982, pl. XX: 9) can be placed in Phase 1 or Phase 2.

The surface finds, SS16 0a to SS16 0c, are similar to vessels from Test 1 and 2, and are dated to Phase 4 by parallels from the Ismant el-Kharab deposits. The Form 136 jar sherd (SS16 0d) has a parallel in SS17ag (Phase 4), although this sherd was not decorated. The large Form 154 lentoid flasks (SS16 0g to SS16 0i) are similar to SS16 3i and SS16 3j from Test 3 in the temple and are from Phase 1 or 2. The Form 157 keg, SS16 0j, has a Phase 2 parallel (Marchand 1996, Groupe 14: 52) while the Series 2 kegs (SS16 0k and SS16 0l) are similar to those from the Phase 4 deposits at Ismant el-Kharab.

Dating:

The assemblages from Test 1 and Test 2, which are contemporary with the early Roman Periods deposits from Ismant el-Kharab, show that the tested houses were occupied at some time during the first and second centuries AD (Phase 4). The material from Test 3 in the temple indicates that the site, SS16: 31/405-M9-1, was occupied possibly in the Saite Period (Phase 1) or early in the Persian Period (Phase 2). However, some surface finds, particularly SS16 3f to SS16 3h, are dated to the tenth or ninth century BC at other sites and may attest an earlier presence at the site.

31/420-D6-1 : ISMANT EL-KHARAB

Site published A. J. Mills 1982, 99–100.

Pottery published C.A. Hope 1983, 149 and figs 8 and 9.

The site of Ismant el-Kharab was tested in 1981–1982 during the fourth season of the survey of Dakhleh Oasis. The site was later selected for excavation because of its obvious importance as an administrative centre for the oasis. Excavations began in 1985 under the direction of C. A. Hope, and reports on the progress of the work are published regularly (see bibliographical entries).

The three deposits, which have been included here, were excavated at Ismant el-Kharab in recent years. They are of great importance in the dating of the ceramics from Dakhleh Oasis and form the end phase (Phase 4) of the chronology of this corpus. The deposits are relatively large and have been treated separately as Settlement Sites 17, 18 and 19.

Settlement Site 17 : 31/420-D6-1 Area B

Plates 150 to 152 Map 9

Site published C. A. Hope 1987, 167–76 and pls XXIII–XXV.

Selected sherds published C. A. Hope 1987, 167–76 and fig. 5.

Area B is in the northern section of the town site of Ismant el-Kharab and consists of three large building complexes. The area selected for excavation was in the most southerly structure where it fronted onto a street separating the buildings from the previously excavated houses in Area A. The types and wares of the pottery recovered from Levels 11, 12 and lower proved to be consistently different to the material that had been excavated from Houses 1 and 2 (Hope 1987, 167–69). A date for the pottery from Area B, not later than the third century, is supported by the palaeography of the dockets from jar sealings, for which a date in the second or third century AD has been suggested (Hope 1987, 170). The pottery material, recovered from the low levels of Area B, was in sherd form, a few of which were complete sections but the majority were rim sherds. Most of the

sherds were very brittle and the fabric greyed and discoloured. There were no registered vessels. The levels from which sherds were recovered are included in the description.

SS17a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.0 Md. 10.0 Ht. 3.4

Remarks: Level 10: A complete section with a string-cut base. A large piece of plaster sealing, which retained the imprint of a woven fabric, remained attached to the vessel.

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS17b Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 6/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4 Md. 9.5 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: Level 17: A complete section with a string-cut base.

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS17c Small carinated bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P, surface green (5Y 7/2), core light reddish yellow (5YR 6/6).

Dimensions: Md. 10.4 Ht. 6.5

Remarks: Level 15: The lower body of this complete section appeared to have been turned before the ring base was thrown on from added clay.

Form 35: Phase 4.

SS17d Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, light red (2.5YR 6/6); decorated with red rim ticks over a cream rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Ht. 4.8

Remarks: Level 15: A complete section, competently made with a shallow concave inner rim which had a small but definite ledge.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS17e Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red surfaces (2.5YR 5/6) and a grey core (5YR 5/1).

Dimensions: Md. 22.4 Ht. 7.5

Remarks: Level 15: A complete section, well made with a shallow concave inner rim and definite ledge.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS17f Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS.D, surface red (2.5YR 5/6) and a grey core (5YR 6-5/1); decorated with a cream rim band and fairly evenly spaced red rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 25.0 Ht. 7.0

Remarks: Level 15: A competently made vessel with a neatly formed rim.

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS17g Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, fired unevenly surface red (10R 5/6-6), core grey (5YR 5/1); possibly red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 27.0 Ht. 8.0

Remarks: Level 16: A competently made vessel; this form was recorded in SS18 and SS19 deposits with lugs attached to the rim; blackened surfaces.

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS17h Shallow vessel or lid with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0 Ht. 2.4

Remarks: Level 11: All the surfaces of the vessel were blackened.

Form 1: Phase 4.

SS17i Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.5

Remarks: Level 16: A sherd with a neatly made modelled rim.

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS17j Large bowl with an everted modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface red (2.5YR 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 34.0

Remarks: Level 12: A rim sherd from a competently made vessel.

Form 56: Phase 4.

SS17k Large bowl with an everted rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 42.0

Remarks: Level 12: A band of plastic 'pie-crust' decoration was applied to the upper body of the bowl and one to two grooves were incised under the band.

Form 59: Phase 4

SS17l Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS; slipped inside and over the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 43.0

Remarks: Sherds from Levels 12 and 11. The upper face of the rim was grooved.

Form 58: Phase 4.

SS17m Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Remarks: Two sherds that joined were recovered from Levels 12 and 11. A well made vessel with evenly thrown thin walls and a neatly formed rim.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS17n Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired reddish (2.5YR 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 23.5

Remarks: Level 16: A well made vessel.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS17o Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P; possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 22.0

Remarks: Level 15: A series of shallow grooves were incised into the upper face of the rim.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS17p Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Remarks: Level 16: As only seven per cent of the rim was recovered the rim measurement of this sherd may be too large.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS17q Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Remarks: Level 15: Two narrow grooves were incised into the upper body.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS17r Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: Level 17: The outer surface of the vessel had been completely blackened.

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS17s Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 15: The outer surface of the vessel had been blackened.

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS17t Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired light reddish brown (5YR 6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS17u Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: Level 15: All the surfaces of the vessel had been blackened.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS17v Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.6

Remarks: Level 15

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS17w Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 15

Form 73: Phase 4.

SS17x Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.5

Remarks: Level 12: A competently made vessel with a grooved rim.

Form 73: Phase 4.

SS17y Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0

Remarks: Level 15: The rim had four grooves incised into the inner face.

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS17z Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 15: A sherd with a ledge on the upper body similar to SS18u.

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS17aa Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.5

Remarks: Level 11

Form 73: Phase 4.

SS17ab Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: Level 16

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS17ac Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: Level 16: All the surfaces of the vessel had been blackened.

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS17ad Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, reddish brown (2.5YR 5/6-8), core grey (5YR 5/1-2).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 16; a sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS17ae Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 15; a sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS17af Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 16

Form 136: Phase 4.

SS17ag Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.0

Remarks: Level 16: The fabric was grey and discoloured from burning.

Form 136: Phase 4.

SS17ah Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 13.6

Not drawn, reproduced from the parallel, CS13 3c.

Remarks: Level 17: Grooves were incised into the upper face of the rim.

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS17ai Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Not drawn, reproduced from the parallel, CS13 8a.

Remarks: Level 16: A ledge had been incised at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS17aj Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red (2.5YR 5/6) with a grey core (10YR 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 16: The sherd had three grooves incised into the upper face of the rim and a carelessly made ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS17ak Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P red (2.5YR 5/6) and dark grey core (10YR 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.5

Remarks: Level 16: Three or four ledges had been made at the transition of the upper body and neck; a black resinous substance had coated the inside of the jar and had splashed over onto the outside surface.

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS17al Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 9.5

Remarks: Level 11: The sherd had a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck; the inside of the vessel had been coated with some type of resinous substance.

Form 143: Phase 4.

SS17am Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Remarks: Level 11: The sherd had a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 137: Phase 4.

SS17an Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired red except for a grey core in thicker sections of the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: Level 17: Possibly a sherd from the type of vessel known as a 'pigeon pot'.

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS17ao Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface (2.5YR 5/4) with a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Level 15: The sherd was originally recorded as decorated but, as it had been burnt and was discoloured, this identification may have been mistaken and the sherd is probably from a 'pigeon pot'.

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS17ap Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface reddish (2.5YR 5/4) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.5

Remarks: Level 15: A rim sherd possibly from a 'pigeon pot'.

Form 170: Phase 4.

SS17aq Necked jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. c.4.0

Remarks: Level 16: The stub of a vertical handle was attached at the rim and the neck had a strainer with four holes.

Form 103: Phase 4.

SS17ar Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0

Remarks: Level 11: The neck from a keg with a barrel-shaped body.

Form 157: Phase 4.

SS17as Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4

Remarks: Level 15: A sherd with a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 137: Phase 4.

Settlement Site 18 : 31/420-D6-1/A/4 House 3

Plates 153 and 154 Map 9

Site published C.A. Hope 1991, 41-43 and 1992, 41-42.

Selected sherds published S. F. Patten 1996, 51-55.

The excavation of House 3 commenced in the season of 1991 and was completed during the following season. The excavation of a trench to bedrock revealed that the structures in the courtyard had been built over several levels of rubbish which contained pottery, jar sealings and dockets written in Greek. The pottery vessels and the fabrics from this deposit resembled those recovered from the deposit, SS17, in Area B. However, a few new types were recorded. The deposit consisted mainly of small sherds which were not registered.

SS18a Small bowl with an everted rim and a ring base

Fabric and wares: L-F5.P, dull grey with thin cream patchy surfaces.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.2 Ht. 3.8

Remarks: The rim of the sherd had been carefully formed and, although mostly missing, the base appeared to have been a very shallow ring. A similar sherd to this

was found on the surface of the site. The shape of the sherd has a strong resemblance to an Eastern Sigillata form (Robinson 1959, pl. 62: M 32) and may have been a local copy of the type.

Form 23: Phase 3 or 4.

SS18b Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface red (10R 5/6), core grey (10R 5-6/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4 Md. 9.7 Ht. 5.2

Remarks: A complete section with a flat string-cut base.

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS18c Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D; the fabric was a pale pinkish brown (2.5YR 6/4-6) with a grey core (5YR 5/1-2); the surface was discoloured and patchy but appeared to have been coated with a thin uneven cream slip; the vessel had been decorated on the upper and lower surfaces and with horizontal bands painted in dark red.

Dimensions: Rd. 23.0 Ht. 4.8

Remarks: Although the bowl was thrown with fairly thick walls, it had been competently made; the floor of the base was missing but the ring foot looked turned; the bands had been painted on the bowl while it was rotating on the wheel and were carelessly applied. The sherd is the only example of its type in the corpus.

Form 4: Phase 3 or 4.

SS18d Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, evenly fired; decorated with red rim dots over a cream rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Ht. 4.0

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made bowl; the well-formed rim had a concave inner rim above a sharp ledge.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS18e Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, greyish red (10R 5/6) and a grey core (10R 5/1); traces of red decoration over a cream band remained on the rim.

Remarks: Complete section with a concave inner rim above a sharp ledge.

Dimensions: Md. 11.8 Ht. 4.5

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS18f Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired grey (5YR 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 16.4 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: The upper face of the rim was flat; no decoration could be seen on this sherd although some examples of the type were decorated with rim bars; greyed but not blackened.

Form 7: Phase 4.

SS18g Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, brownish red (2.5YR 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 16.8

Remarks: Similar to SS18f; the exterior and interior surfaces were blackened and the fabric greyed.

Form 7: Phase 4.

SS18h Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS, surface red (10R 5/6) with a grey core (10R 5/1); red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.8 Ht. 5.5

Remarks: A complete section; the vessel was well made with a modelled rim; a groove had been incised close to the outside edge of the rim while the vessel rotated on the wheel.

Form 9: Phase 4.

SS18i Bowl with a wide base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 16.8

Remarks: Competently made with a neatly finished rim.

Form 7: Phase 4.

SS18j Bowl with a wide base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, brownish red (2.5YR 5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 22.8 Ht. 6.1

Remarks: The upper face of the modelled rim was flat; the surfaces were blackened from use.

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS18k Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P; possibly red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 20.5

Remarks: The sherd had a carefully finished rim with a flat upper face.

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS18l Bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. 32.0

Remarks: A sherd from a large bowl with a round thickened rim.

Form 54: Phase 4.

SS18m Bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 26.5

Remarks: The sherd may be from a stand rather than a bowl.

Possibly Form 54: Phase 4.

SS18n Bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, unevenly fired with a red surface (10R 5/6) and wide grey core (10R 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 32.0

Remarks: A rim sherd with grooves on the upper face and a ledge on the outside surface below the rim.

Form 55: Phase 4.

SS18o Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 22.0

Remarks: The rim of the sherd was well made; the surfaces were blackened.

Form 10: Phase 4.

SS18p Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS18q Lid

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface reddish brown (10R 5/8), core grey (10R 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 19.8

Remarks: Complete section; the knob or base had been string-cut.

Form 2: Phase 4.

SS18r Spouted Bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P/CS, evenly fired except for faint grey cores in thicker sections, surface brownish red (2.5YR 6/6); possibly cream slipped on the outer surface and rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 32.0

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made and neatly finished vessel; the spout had been thrown and attached under the thick rolled rim.

Form 92: Phase 4.

SS18s Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 13.8

Remarks: This sherd had a well-formed rim with a concave inner face.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS18t Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.4

Remarks: A sherd with shallow grooves on the inner face of the rim; the surfaces were blackened and the fabric was greyed from use.

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS18u Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: A sherd with a ledge on the upper body; blackened exterior surface.

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS18v Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS18w Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: A sherd with a series of grooves on the inner face of the rim; blackened exterior surface.

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS18x Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8

Remarks: The sherd was discoloured and blackened from use.

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS18y Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, zoned with thin red surfaces and wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: A sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS18aa Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, thin light red surfaces and a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: A sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS18ab Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: The sherd had resin stains in and over the rim.

Form 136: Phase 4.

SS18ac Large jar with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P; possibly red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 21.6

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made vessel; the rim had a flat upper face and a narrow band of plastic 'pie crust' decoration had been attached to the neck.

Form 126: Phase 4.

SS18ad Large jar with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. c.20.0

Remarks: A rim sherd with grooves incised into the upper face; the diameter may be too large as the edge was chipped and difficult to measure.

Form 126: Phase 4.

SS18ae Large jar with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, unevenly fired with reddish brown surfaces and grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 24.0

Remarks: Competently made with a neatly finished rim and an incised groove below the rim.

Form 126: Phase 4.

SS18af Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 9.5

Remarks: The sherd had a resinous deposit on the inside surface and over the rim.

Form 137: Phase 4.

SS18ag Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0

Remarks: The sherd had two grooves on upper face of the rim and a ledge at the transition of the neck and upper body; a resinous deposit was on the interior surface and over parts of the rim.

Form 138: Phase 4.

SS18ah Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: This well-made rim possibly had a ledge right at the edge of the break.

Form 143: Phase 4.

SS18ai Jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, unevenly fired with red surfaces and grey core in thicker parts of the wall.

Dimensions: Rd. c.12.0

Remarks: There was an incised groove in the upper face of the rim and a series of grooves on the upper body; the lower end of the handle had been attached to the upper body; the rest of the handle was not extant but had probably been attached to the rim.

Form 106: Phase 3 or 4.

SS18aj Jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. c.4.0

Remarks: A vertical handle was attached from the rim to upper body; parts of the rim were broken but enough remained to show that it had been modelled to form a pouring spout.

Form 102: Phase 4.

SS18ak Large potstand

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P/CS (5YR 5/1-2); possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Diameters 32.4 and 27.0 Ht. 10.0

Remarks: A vessel with thick walls; the upper edge had been rolled over onto the exterior surface for added strength.

Form 174: Phase 3 or 4.

SS18al Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: Rim sherd only and the identification of the form is uncertain.

Form 132: Phase 4.

Settlement Site 19 : 31/420-D6-1/A/6 House 4

Plates 155 to 157 Map 9

Site published C.A. Hope 1993, 25-6.

The excavation of House 4 commenced during the 1992-1993 season. In one room, excavations below floor level revealed a series of superimposed earth floors. These floors had been laid on top of a fill of earth which contained a large quantity of pottery sherds. Many sherds in this deposit were from vessel types already encountered in the material from Area B and House 3. However, sherds from new types broadened the range of vessels excavated from the early Roman Period at Ismant el-Kharab, and provided more parallels for the corpus of material recovered from the survey. All the finds were in sherd form and none were registered.

The pottery from House 4 has not been published.

SS19a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red brown (10R 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4 Md. 10.6 Ht. 5.7

Remarks: A complete section of a small vessel with a flat string-cut base.

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS19b Small carinated bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P.D, surface pale grey green (5Y 7/2), core pinkish grey (5YR 6/4); decorated with irregularly placed red rim dots.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.8 Ht. 5.6

Remarks: A complete section; the lower body may have been turned before the ring base was made either from the soft clay left at the base or from additional clay.

Form 35: Phase 4.

SS19c Small carinated bowl with a ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, the surface colour varies but was generally pale red (10R 6/4) with a pale grey core (10R 6/1); decorated with red rim dots.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: A complete section from a vessel similar to SS19b.

Form 35: Phase 4.

SS19d Small carinated bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, brownish red (2.5YR 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.2 Ht. 5.6

Remarks: A complete section of a well made carinated bowl; the base was unevenly string-cut.

Form 34: Phase 4.

SS19e Small bowl with a slightly everted rim and a ring base

Fabric and wares: L-F4.P.D, the surface colour was variable, pale green grey at the lower body (5Y 6/3) and pale yellow brown (2.5Y 8-7/4) at the rim; decorated with small red dots regularly spaced around the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.3 Ht. 6.2

Remarks: The ring base of this complete section had been thrown either from soft clay left at the base or from clay added to the lower body.

Form 25: Phase 4.

SS19f Bowl sherd

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, evenly fired (2.5YR 5/6); decorated with dark red rim bars.

Dimensions: Rd. 15.0

Form 7: Phase 4.

SS19g Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, decorated with red rim dots over a cream rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 15.8 Ht. 6.0

Form 7: Phase 4.

SS19h Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P.D, decorated with red rim bars probably over a cream rim band.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0 Ht. 5.2

Form 7: Phase 4.

SS19i Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red (10R 4/8); possibly red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 13.8 Ht. 4.8

Remarks: Well made with a concave inner rim.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS19j Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface red (10R 4/8) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Remarks: Well made with a concave inner rim and a definite ledge.

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS19l Deep bowl

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS.D, evenly fired orange red (10Y 6/6); decorated with a very dark red rim band unevenly applied.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0 Ht. 8.6

Remarks: A complete section of a vessel competently thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6) and neatly finished; the surfaces were partly blackened but it appeared to have been coated with a red slip before it was decorated.

Form 11: Phase 4.

SS19m Lid

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0

Remarks: A complete section; the base or knob was string-cut.

Form 2: Phase 4.

SS19n Small restricted bowl with a round base

Fabric and wares: L-F2.P.D, thin cream, slightly greenish, surfaces (5Y 8-7/2) and a pinkish core (2.5YR 6/6); decorated with red rim bars and there were traces of decoration on the body.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.0 Md. 11.2

Remarks: A sherd from a well made vessel with thin walls and a modelled rim.

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS19o Small restricted bowl with a round base

Fabric and wares: L-F2.P.D; decorated on the body and possibly on the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.0 Md. 11.2

Remarks: The sherd had been burnt but was similar to SS19n.

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS19p Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, reddish surface zones and a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 34.0

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made bowl; the wide horizontal flange rim had two shallow grooves in the flat upper face.

Form 57: Phase 4.

SS19q Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, wide red surface zones and narrow grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 41.6

Remarks: The thick rim of this large bowl had a concave upper face.

Form 54: Phase 4.

SS19r Large bowl with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS; cream slip inside and over the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 42.0

Remarks: The upper face of the everted rim was grooved.

Form 58: Phase 4 possibly Phase 3.

SS19s Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, surface reddish brown (2.5YR 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 24.0

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS19t Bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS, red surfaces with a grey core in thicker sections; slipped over the rim and parts of the exterior surface.

Dimensions: Rd. 23.0

Remarks: The rim on this sherd is thicker than usual for the type.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS19u Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 36.0

Remarks: A sherd with a rolled modelled rim, neatly finished.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS19v Large bowl with a rolled modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red surfaces with a grey core; possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 40.0

Remarks: The sherd had two grooves incised into the upper body.

Form 62: Phase 4.

SS19w Large vessel

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red surfaces with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 33.0

Remarks: The rim formation and the carination of upper body on this sherd makes it similar to the spouted bowl SS18r; however, as a spout was not extant that identification is not certain and the sherd may belong to Form 62.

Form 92: Phase 4.

SS19x Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.6

Form 73: Phase 4.

SS19y Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 13.8

Remarks: The exterior surface had been blackened.

Form 74: Phase 4.

SS19z Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 70: Phase 4.

SS19aa Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS, slipped on the exterior surface and over the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.4

Remarks: The exterior surface had been blackened.

Form 73: Phase 4.

SS19ab Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: A groove had been incised into the upper body and the exterior surface was blackened.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS19ac Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.8

Form 73: Phase 4.

SS19ad Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: The sherd had a vertical loop handle attached at the rim and upper body; exterior surface was blackened.

Form 71: Phase 4.

SS19ae Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.8

Remarks: Parts of a vertical loop handle remained attached to the rim and upper body; the exterior surface was blackened.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS19af Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 13.2

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS19ag Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: A groove had been incised into the upper body.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS19ah Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Remarks: A groove had been incised into the upper body.

Form 72: Phase 4.

SS19ai Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, red outer surfaces (2.5 YR 6/6) and a grey inner zone.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.6

Remarks: A sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS19aj Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, narrow red surface zones and a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0

Remarks: A sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS19ak Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, red surfaces and a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.4

Remarks: A sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS19al Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, thin red surfaces (10R 5/6) with a grey core (10R 5/1).

Dimensions: Rd. 17.2

Remarks: A sherd from a neckless jar with a thick modelled rim; the rim diameter of this Form 123 jar was larger than usual.

Form 123: Phase 4.

SS19am Jar with a modelled rim

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D; decorated on the rim and the neck in red but only traces of the design remained.

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Remarks: A series of grooves were incised into the upper face of rim.

Form 126: Phase 4.

SS19an Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS; slipped over the outer surface and rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: A sherd with a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 135: Phase 4.

SS19ao Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made jar; it had a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 134: Phase 4.

SS19ap Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D, evenly fired; decorated with red rim bars and traces of decoration on the neck but the motif was not recognisable.

Dimensions: Rd. 15.0

Form 135: Phase 4.

SS19aq Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: A jar sherd with a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 135: Phase 4.

SS19ar Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P/RS; possibly red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. c.17.0

Remarks: Only five per cent of this rim was extant; the sherd had been blackened but appeared to have red slip on the outer surface.

Form 133: Phase 4.

SS19as Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 18.0

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made, although asymmetrical, jar; two grooves were incised into the upper body.

Form 135: Phase 4.

SS19at Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.CS, surface red (10R 6/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Remarks: A sherd with a round everted rim and a ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 132: Phase 4.

SS19au Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P, thin red surface zones and a wide grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 132: Phase 4.

SS19av Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F4.P; possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2

Remarks: The sherd had a carelessly made ledge at the transition of the upper body and neck.

Form 132: Phase 4.

SS19aw Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, red surface and a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 115: Phase 4.

SS19ax Small vessel

Fabric and wares: L-FS.RS, slipped on the exterior surface and over the rim.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.4 Md. 8.4

Remarks: A sherd from a competently made vessel with thin walls and a direct rim.

Form 110: Phase 4.

SS19ay Handled flask or jug

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P, evenly fired.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0

Remarks: The stub of a vertical handle was attached to the neck below the modelled rim; there was no evidence of a strainer.

Form 103: Phase 3 or 4.

SS19az Keg

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0

Remarks: A neck from a keg with a barrel-shaped body; without a strainer.

Form 157: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

The ceramic material from the deposits SS17, SS18 and SS19 is composed of a wide range of domestic wares that are different from the fourth century AD material at Ismant el-Kharab. In recent seasons, ceramic assemblages have been excavated from other areas of the site which show the development of the new manufacturing techniques and fabrics. Finds of coins and ostraca have made it possible to date this material to the third century AD (Dunsmore forthcoming). In order to allow time for the new technologies to evolve, the ceramic material from the deposits SS17, SS18 and SS19 should be dated no later than the first half of the third century AD.

However, parallels for a considerable number of the ceramic forms indicate that these deposits are dated earlier than the third century. Therefore, the date proposed for the deposits SS17, SS18 and SS19 is the first and second centuries AD and the pottery from these deposits makes up the last phase, Phase 4, in the chronology of this corpus.

A few vessels from the deposit SS18 have parallels in the late Ptolemaic Period. The Form 23 bowl (SS18a) has a parallel in a vessel from Edfu dated to the Late Ptolemaic Period (Michalowski et al. 1950, fig. 208). The Form 4 bowl (SS18c) also has a parallel from this site that is dated to the same period (Michalowski et al. 1950, 288: 893 and fig. 224). In addition, a model vessel from Edfu dated to the end of the Ptolemaic Period or early first century has the profile and rim decoration typical of a number of bowl types, particularly those of Forms 10 to 11 (Musée du Louvre 1981).

The Form 106 jug (SS18ai) may also be dated to the Ptolemaic Period (Ballet 1997, 47–53 and pl. II: 10). The large Form 174 potstand (SS18ak) has a possible parallel in a rim sherd from material recovered in undisturbed layers considered to be of Ptolemaic date (Jaritz and Rodziewicz 1996, 238 and fig. 6: 38) – the formation of the rim on the two vessels is noticeably similar.

Many other forms can be dated to the first two or three centuries AD from a number of sites including the neighbouring oasis of Kharga, the Nile Valley and Delta and the site of Quseir el-Qadim on the Red Sea coast. Form 6 vessels, which have a distinctive rim formation, are well represented in all three deposits. Among the parallels for the form, a particularly accurate one is from Tebtynis which is dated to the end of the Ptolemaic Period or early in the Roman Period (Marchand 1997a, 20–4, fig. 7). An example from Quseir is dated within the same period (Whitcomb and Johnson 1979, pl. 33: q). A parallel for the smaller vessels of the form from Douch in Kharga Oasis has been dated to the third century AD (Ballet 1990, 299, fig. 5).

There is an excellent parallel from Abu Rawash for the large Form 57 bowl (SS19p) which is dated to the first two centuries AD (Jones 1996, fig. 4: 10). Bowls with a similar rim formation but straighter body profile are known from the Ptolemaic Period at Kharga Oasis (Marchand 1998, fig. 59: d).

Cooking pots from Form 71 (SS19ad) and from Form 72 (SS19ah) have parallels at Tebtynis dated to the end of the Ptolemaic Period or early in the Roman Period (Marchand 1997a, 20–4, figs 8 and 9).

Dating:

The ceramic material from the three deposits, SS17, SS18 and SS19, establishes that the site, 31/420-D6-1, was occupied during the first centuries of the Roman Period (Phase 4) and indicates that the site was also occupied towards the end of the Ptolemaic Period (Phase 3).

SS20 : 31/405-G10-1

Plates 158 and 159 Map 9

Site published A. J. Mills 1981, 180-1 and 187-8 and pl. XIV.

The site, which is known as Mut el-Kharab, is situated a short distance west of Mut, the modern capital of Dakhleh Oasis. The site comprises a large enclosure inside which are three spring mounds and a number of brick buildings. The enclosure wall was made from mud brick and is generally about three metres thick. The results of the survey indicated that the site was a temple enclosure or precinct, with a stone temple and a number of mud brick ancillary buildings. The site is considered to be the find-spot of the two Dakhleh Stelae now in the Ashmolean Museum (Gardiner 1933 and Janssen 1968).

In the 1978 season, a surface collection of sherds produced ceramics from the late Old Kingdom, the Middle Kingdom, the New Kingdom and the Ptolemaic Period including a black fired and polished bowl sherd (Hope 1981, 233-4). During the 1980 season, a test (Test 1) was made against the inner face of the enclosure's west wall. The pottery from Level 5 of that excavation is reproduced here and sherds from the earlier surface collection are also included.

The pottery from the site has not been published.

SS20 1a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Md. 10.8 Ht. 4.5

Remarks: Uneven flat base; string-cut.

Registration number: 1/1/2

Form 38: Phase 4.

SS20 1b Miniature jar with ring base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS; red slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.2 Md. 9.4 Ht. 6.2

Remarks: A small squat jar with two vertical loop handles placed on the upper body.

Registration number: 1/1/5

Form 95: Phase 3 or 4.

SS20 1c Small vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 5.6 Md. 5.6 Ht. 7.0

Form 110: Phase 4.

SS20 1d Necked jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 8.4 Md. 15.4 Ht. 18.6

Remarks: It is not clear from the original drawing if the base of this vessel was flat or convex. The shape of the body of the vessel is similar to CS10 1k; however, the neck of that vessel was not extant.

Form 108: Phase 3 or 4.

SS20 1f Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: L-FS.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: Vertical loop handles were attached to the rim and upper body.

Form 71: Phase 3 or 4.

SS20 1g Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2

Form 133: Phase 4.

SS20 1h Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D; traces of decoration remained near the break.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Remarks: The identification of the sherd to the form is not certain.

Form 130: Phase 3.

SS20 1i Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D; decorated with horizontal rows of red dots.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2

Form 142: Phase 3.

SS20 1j Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F3.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 19.0

Remarks: A large jar with vertical handles attached to the rim and upper body.

Form 98: Phase 3 or 4.

SS20 1k Keg or jar

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Remarks: A similar sherd, which was a surface find at Ismant el-Kharab, had been competently made from a hard variant of L-FS; the fabric of this sherd is not known.

Form 162: possibly Phase 3 or 4.

SS20 1l Keg

Fabric and wares: L-FS.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.2

Form 158: Phase 3.

SS20 1m Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Form 133: Phase 4.

SS20 1n Small potstand

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Diameters 14.6 and 14.4 Ht. 5.0

Form 174: Phase 2 or 3.

SS20 1o Small potstand

Fabric and wares: R-F1.RS

Dimensions: Diameters 10.6 and 7.0 Ht. 3.0

Form 174: Phase 2 or 3.

SS20 1p Small potstand

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Diameters 14.0 and 14.0 Ht. 4.4

Form 174: Phase 2 or 3.

SS20 0a Small deep vessel with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P (2.5YR 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.8 Ht 5.6

Form 12: Phase 3.

SS20 0b Small bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F2.RS.D; possibly decorated with a cream rim band and red rim dots.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.2 Ht. 5.0

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS20 0c Small bowl with an everted rim and a ring base

Fabric and wares: F-F1.RS; pale reddish brown (7.5YR 6/4-6), the surfaces of the sherd were weathered and bleached.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0 Ht. 5.8

Remarks: The shape of this sherd is similar to an Eastern Mediterranean type (Charlesworth 1967, 154, fig. 2: 3).

Form 24: late Phase 3 or 4.

SS20 0d Small lid or bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS, red (10R 5-6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.2 Ht. 6.2

Remarks: Restored complete from two sherds. A vessel was competently thrown, probably off the hump, but was cut too close to the base making it very thin; a shell pattern remained underneath the base.

Registration number: 1/0/12

ROM. 983-25-128

Form 17: Phase 2 or 3.

SS20 0e Small lid or bowl

Fabric and wares: R-F2.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 12.8 Ht. 7.0

Registration number: 1/0/11

Form 17: Phase 2 or early Phase 3.

SS20 0f Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.8 Md. 11.4 Ht. 3.6

Form 38: late Phase 3 or Phase 4.

SS20 0g Bowl with a wide flat base

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Form 6: Phase 4.

SS20 0h Small restricted bowl

Fabric and wares: L-F2.P, fired pink with greenish cream patches (Test S9, Appendix 1, A-10, pl. 181).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.0 Md. 12.4

Form 66: Phase 4.

SS20 0i Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 72: late Phase 3 or Phase 4.

SS20 0j Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Form 72: late Phase 3 or Phase 4.

SS20 0k Cooking pot

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 4/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 72: late Phase 3 or Phase 4.

SS20 0l Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F8.P

Dimensions: Rd. 28.2

Remarks: The design was incised into the soft clay probably with toothed tool similar to a comb.

Form 99: possibly Phase 2.

SS20 0m Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 122: Phase 1 or Phase 2.

SS20 0n Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS.D; decorated with a red rim band, a horizontal dark brown band on the lower neck, and a frieze of alternating panels of reddish-brown plant motifs and red solid panels on the upper body.

Dimensions: Rd. 15.0

Form 133: Phase 4.

SS20 0p Jar

Fabric and wares: R-F1.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Form 133: Phase 4.

SS20 0q

Fabric and wares: R-F2.P; pale pinkish brown fabric with lighter surfaces or possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 192: Phase 3.

Comments and summary:

Most of the ceramic finds recovered from Test 1 were sherds and only three vessels could be registered, none of which are in the Royal Ontario Museum. A few forms from the site have parallels in the early Roman Period deposits from Ismant el-Kharab including:

Form 38 (SS20 1a);

Form 71 (the cooking pot SS20 1f);

Form 133 jars (SS20 1g and SS20 1m).

Two surface finds were registered, one of which (SS20 0d) was in the Royal Ontario Museum. A number of the sherds have parallels in the Ismant el-Kharab deposits:

Form 6 (SS20 0b and SS20 0g);

Form 24 (SS20 0c);

Form 66 (SS20 0h);

Form 72 (cooking pots SS20 0i to SS20 0k).

A good shape parallel for the Form 99 sherd (SS20 0l) is dated to the Late Period and has a similar pattern of decorative grooving, although made from a marl fabric (Mysliwiec 1987, no. 461). Form 122 jars (SS20 0m) occur at several sites in the oasis with material dated to the Persian Period (Phase 2) or earlier. A number of Form 130 jars (SS20 1h) are in the corpus and they can probably be dated to the beginning of the Ptolemaic Period or earlier. The small potstands have several parallels and these may also be dated to the same time as the jars (Jaritz and Rodziewicz 1994, fig. 5: 33 dated third to second century BC; Jacquet-Gordon in press, fig. 11: 10 – Complex IIA and IIB; Michalowski et al. 1938, fig. 117 dated to the Ptolemaic Period).

Dating:

The site, SS20: 31/405-G10-1, was a major centre in Dakhleh Oasis and the surface survey conducted in 1978 has shown that it was occupied over a considerable period. Some of these surface finds and a few forms from the test indicate the use of the site during Phases 2 and 3 while forms with parallels from Ismant el-Kharab show that the site was still occupied during the first and second centuries AD (Phase 4).

PART II

SITE CATALOGUE

TEMPLE SITES

Temple Site 1 : 31/405-L4-2

Plate 159 Map 9

Field Notes L. F. Mills 1980, 23.

Site published A. J. Mills 1981, 181.

Pottery published C. A. Hope 1981, 233-241 and pl. XXVII.

A mud brick temple of fourteen rooms occupies the site which is situated on the northern slope of a small hill. The excavator's field notes describe a chamber dug 1.3 metres into the floor of a small room (Room 1) in the gateway structure of the temple. The room had a ledge built across the south wall 35 centimetres above the floor level. Seven pottery vessels were found on this ledge and other vessels were at floor level. The pit was thought to be an intrusive burial associated with an adjacent cemetery, 31/405-M4-1. However, the pit or grave was empty and the fill was of shale and sand. Some ash was in the fill 37 centimetres above floor level on the east side of the room, and pieces of burnt palm wood were also recovered from the fill of the room. No human remains were recovered from the test.

TS1 1a Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, red (10R 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 8.5 Md. 9.2 Ht. 4.0

Remarks: A competently made vessel with a string-cut base.

Registration number: 2/1

ROM. 983-25-5

Form 38: Phase 4.

TS1 1b Small restricted lid or bowl with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, red brown (2.5YR 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 9.4 Md. 10.3 Ht. 5.3

Remarks: The base was string-cut.

Registration number: 2/2

ROM. 983-25-4

Form 38: Phase 4.

TS1 1c Small restricted vessel with a round base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, red (10R 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 9.7 Md. 13.5 Ht. 10.1

Remarks: Intact. The vessel was thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6) and a flaw that developed in the rim during throwing was patched before the vessel was fired. The exterior surface was blackened.

Registration number: 2/5

ROM. 983-25-199

Form 69: Phase 4.

TS1 1d Cooking pot

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.2 Md. 17.2 Ht. 14.4

Remarks: Two vertical loop handles were attached at the rim and upper body.

Registration number: 2/19

Form 72: Phase 4.

TS1 1e Cooking pot

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, surface orange brown (2.5YR 5/6).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.2 Md. 18.9 Ht. 18.2

Remarks: The exterior surface was blackened.

Form 72: Phase 4.

TS1 1f Cooking pot

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, brown.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.4 Md. 19.5 Ht. 16.2

Remarks: The exterior surface was blackened.

Registration number: 2/4

Form 72: Phase 4.

TS1 1g Cooking pot

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, orange (2.5YR 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0 Md. 22.0 Ht. 17.9

Remarks: A groove had been incised into the upper body; the outer surface was completely blackened.

Form 71: Phase 4.

TS1 1h Small squat flask

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.RS.D, surface brown (10R 6-5/4); possibly decorated on the shoulder with 'petal' or similar elongated oval motifs.

Dimensions: Rd. 2.4 Md. 9.0 Ht. 8.6

Remarks: Intact except for a section of the rim. The vessel may have been thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6) but it was difficult to see how this intact vessel had been made. It had a modelled rim and a flat shoulder. The surface was flaking but there appeared to be some form of decoration on the upper body.

Registration number: 2/6

ROM. 983-25-69

Form 77: Phase 4.

TS1 1i Spouted bowl with ring base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, surface orange brown (2.5YR 4-5/8); possibly cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 26.0 Md. 27.3 Ht. 22.5

Registration number: 2/3

Form 92: Phase 4.

TS1 1j Spouted necked vessel

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.CS, surface red (10R 5/8).

Dimensions: Rd. 8.6 Md. 23.5 Ht. 28.8

Remarks: Two vertical loop handles were attached from the neck to upper body; the surfaces were worn and the slip patchy.

Registration number: 2/7

Form 91: Phase 4.

TS1 1k Large jar

Fabrics and wares: R-F4.CS, surface red (10R 5/6) with a grey core.

Dimensions: Rd. 11.2 Md. 37.0 Ht. 46.0

Remarks: Restored with some rim and body sherds missing. The vessel had been competently thrown by Method 3 (Ch. 6), although air bubbles were trapped in the clay causing a number of large bloats. The upper face of the modelled rim was flattened and projected on either side of the wall. There was a rounded ledge at the transition of the neck and shoulder. The slip covered the upper body and went over the rim.

Registration number: 2/8

ROM. 983-25-140

Form 136: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

The vessels in this assemblage can be assigned to Phase 4 by parallels in the material from the early Roman Period deposits (SS17, SS18 and SS19) from Ismant el-Kharab. Vessels that have parallels in those deposits include the Form 38 lids or bowls (TS1 1a and TS1 1b) and the Form 72 cooking pots (TS1 1d to TS1 1f).

In addition, the Form 92 spouted bowl (TS1 1i) provides an intact parallel for the sherd, SS18r, from Ismant el-Kharab. A number of sherds from Form 136 jars (TS1 1k) occurred in the Ismant el-Kharab deposits and on the surface of the cemetery, CS13, situated north-west of that site. Moreover, the Form 91 spouted vessel (TS1 1j), although larger, is similar to CS13 1b which was also recovered from the cemetery, CS13.

Dating:

The cache of pottery recovered from the site TS1: 31/405-L4-1 can be dated to around the first and second centuries AD (Phase 4).

Temple Site 2 : 32/405-A2-1

Plate 161

Map 5

Field Notes J. L. Haynes.

Site published A. J. Mills 1981, 181-2.

This site is a small mud brick temple, similar in plan to 31/405-L4-2, situated on high ground at the edge of a large spring mound. It consists of a rectangular building containing nine rooms. The structure shows at least three building phases and testing revealed 1.4 metres of deposits. An unfired clay statuette representing the god, Osiris, was recovered: the face had inlaid eyes of white stone and, although the *atef* crown was not in good condition, traces of blue paint survived on the feathers. Most of the ceramic material recovered was in sherd form and only two vessels were registered. The majority of the sherds came from Room 5 and a few from Room 6. The Room number with the locus is given to show the relationship of the finds if known. Some of the sherds are difficult to identify from the drawings and, in these instances, the forms are tentative.

The pottery has not been published.

TS2 1a Small shallow vessel with a flat base (5)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P, surface cream (2.5Y 7/2), section pale red (2.5YR 6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.6 Ht. 3.4

Remarks: Restored from sherds with a small rim chip missing. The vessel was slightly asymmetrical and the base string-cut.

Registration number: 1/5/9

ROM. 983-25-7

Form 1: Phase 2.

TS2 1b Small shallow vessel with a flat base (5/7)

Fabrics and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.6 Ht. 3.0

Form 2: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1c Sherd from a small shallow vessel (5/4)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.8

Form 2: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1d Sherd from a deep bowl (5/3)

Fabrics and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 18.0

Form 48: Phase 1.

TS2 1e Sherd from a deep bowl (5/8)

Fabrics and wares: R-F2.RS

Dimensions: Rd. 16.0

Form 67: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1f Sherd possibly from a small lid or bowl with a rounded base (5/7)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 8.0

Form 43: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1g Small lid or bowl with a rounded base

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P, surface cream but very discoloured.

Dimensions: Rd. 6.4 Ht. 3.7

Remarks: The vessel was thrown, probably off the hump, and the base roughly modelled to a rounded shape.

Registration number: 1/5/8

ROM. 983-25-10

Form 43: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1h Small lid or bowl with a rounded base (5/14)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 6.2

Form 43: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1i Rim sherd from a deep bowl (5/4)

Fabrics and wares: R-F2.CS

Dimensions: Rd. 18.0

Form 68: Phase 1.

TS2 1j Rim sherd possibly from a flask (5/12)

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 4.0

Form 151: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1k Base sherd (5/14)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Form 82: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1l Base sherd (5/4)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Form 82: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1m Sherd possibly from a spouted vessel (5/4)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 4.0 Ht. 4.2

Form 86: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1n Sherd (5/4)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 4.4

Remarks: A spout similar to the one above.

Form 86: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1o Rim sherd possibly from a spouted vessel (5/19)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.6

Form 86: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1p Rim sherd possibly from a spouted vessel (5/16)

Fabrics and wares: R-F2.CS; cream slipped.

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 86: Phase 1.

TS2 1q Rim sherd possibly from a neckless jar (5/13)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 18.0

Form 96: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1r Rim sherd from a jar (5/5)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.4

Form 113: Phase 2.

TS2 1s Rim sherd from a jar (5/4)

Fabrics and wares: L-FS.P/R-FS.P

Dimensions: Rd. 11.8

Form 114: Phase 2.

TS2 1t Rim sherd from a jar (5/16)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 10.0

Form 125: Phase 2.

TS2 1u Rim sherd from a jar (5/5)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 12.0

Form 122: Phase 2 or Phase 1.

TS2 1v Rim sherd from a jar (6/3)

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 20.0

Form 126: Phase 1 or 2.

TS2 1w Rim sherd possibly from a jar (5/1)

Fabrics and wares: R-F2.P

Dimensions: Rd. 8.2

Remarks: This sherd was recovered from an upper level.

Form 137: Phase 4.

TS2 1y Sherd from a small shallow vessel (5/7)

Fabrics and wares: L-F1.P

Dimensions: Rd. 14.0

Form 2: Phase 1 or 2.

Comments and summary:

Although mostly in sherd form, the ceramic assemblage from this temple site can be dated to Phase 1 and Phase 2. It is very different from the material recovered at the previous temple site, TS1, and may be from the primary use of the temple. The material from this site is also notable in the large proportion of marl fabrics recorded.

Dating:

The ceramic material from the site, TS2: 32/405-A2-1, indicates that the temple was in use during Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Temple Site 3 : 31/435-K3-1

Plate 162 Map 8

Site published A. J. Mills 1981, 181-2.

This is a well preserved mud brick temple, most walls of which stand several metres above ground. The structure shows considerable use and renovation and indicates a continued occupation over an extended period of time. The building stands in the midst of a larger occupation site and was undoubtedly associated with it. The site is H. E. Winlock's Site 2 (Winlock 1936, 17-18).

The pottery was not registered and has not been published.

TS3 1a Lid

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.4 Ht. 4.2

Remarks: From the wall clearance in front of the temple in the forecourt area. The vessel was burnt on the rim and on parts of the exterior.

Form 2: Phase 4.

TS3 1b Lid

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 19.6 Ht. 5.0

Remarks: From the clearance of the structure west of the forecourt. The vessel was burnt.

Form 2: Phase 4.

TS3 1c Small bowl with a wide flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.CS (2.5YR 4-5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.5 Ht. 5.5

Remarks: From the clearance of the forecourt.

Form 6: Phase 4.

TS3 1d Small bowl with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, brown (2.5YR 5-6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 11.4 Ht. 7.2

Remarks: From the wall clearance in the forecourt.

Form 16: Phase 3 or 4.

TS3 1e Small restricted bowl or lid with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P (2.5YR 5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.6 Md. 11.2 Ht. 5.6

Remarks: From the clearance of the structure west of the forecourt. The vessel was

burnt around the lower body.

Form 38: Phase 4.

TS3 1f Small vessel with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.RS (5YR 5-6/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 6.0 Md. 5.9 Ht. 4.2

Remarks: From the wall clearance in the forecourt of the temple.

Form 110: Phase 3 or 4.

TS3 1g Small vessel with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.CS, brown (2.5YR 5/2-4).

Dimensions: Rd. 4.4 Md. 6.8 Ht. 8.3

Remarks: From the clearance of the structure west of the forecourt.

Form 110: Phase 3 or 4.

TS3 1h Small vessel with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.P, fabric greyed from burning.

Dimensions: Rd. 5.0 Md. 6.0 Ht. 8.0

Remarks: From the wall clearance in the forecourt of the temple.

Form 110: Phase 3 or 4.

TS3 1i Cooking pot

Fabrics and wares: R-F1.CS (5YR 4-5/4).

Dimensions: Rd. 13.0 Md. 21.5

Remarks: From the clearance of the forecourt. The outside surface had been burnt.

Form 75: Phase 3 or 4.

TS3 1j Jar

Fabrics and wares: Not known.

Dimensions: Rd. 14.6

Form 135: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

The following forms have parallels in the early Roman Period (Phase 4) deposits at Ismant el-Kharab:

Form 2 (TS3 1b);

Form 6 (TS3 1c);

Form 38 (TS3 1e);

Form 135 (TS3 1j).

Small Form 110 vessels (TS3 1f to TS3 1h) are not known in the Phase 4 deposits at Ismant el-Kharab, but similar vessels have been recovered from the excavation of the

temple (TS4 1/Dc). The Form 16 bowl (TS3 1d) and the Form 75 cooking pot (TS3 1i) are also forms not known in the Phase 4 deposits and cannot be dated by parallels. They are possibly from early in Phase 4 (early Roman Period) or late in Phase 3 (Ptolemaic Period).

Dating:

The ceramic finds indicate that the site TS3: 31/435-K3-1 was occupied during the early Roman Period and possibly late in the Ptolemaic Period. The Form 110 vessels may have had some specific function as they were recovered from the temple at this site and at Ismant el-Kharab.

Temple Site 4: 31/420-D6-1

Plate 162 Map 9

Site published by

Hope 1991, 43–50, pls 9–13.

Hope, Kaper and Bowen 1992, 42–47, pls 6–10.

Bowen, Hope and Kaper 1993, 17–20.

Hope 1995, 51–57, pls 1–4.

Hope and Bowen 1997, 54–62, pls 6–9.

The site, TS4 1/D, is the large temple and environs at Ismant el-Kharab where extensive excavations have been conducted in recent years. The full publication of this work is in progress; however, four vessels have been included in this corpus as they provide parallels for material recovered during the survey.

TS4 1/Da Small bowl with an everted rim and a ring base

Fabrics and wares: F-F1.RS, a relatively fine dense fabric, evenly fired light red (2.5YR 6/6); small sections of red slip (10R 4/4-6) were still visible on the surface (Test S 13, Appendix 1, A-14, pl. 179, A13a, A13b).

Dimensions: Rd. 10.3 Ht. 6.0

Remarks: A number of sherds were recovered from this well-made vessel. The walls were thinly thrown and the narrow ridging on the lower body and the crisp angles on the ring base show that it had been turned at the leather-hard stage. Two fine parallel grooves were incised below the rim. The shape of the bowl is similar to an Eastern Mediterranean type (Charlesworth 1967, 154, fig. 2: 3). However, although the

petrology of TS4 1/Da does not differ substantially from tested local sherds, the rarity of similar sherds suggests that these bowls were not made in Dakhleh Oasis. The same geological formation stretches from the oases of the Western Desert to east of the Nile Valley (Appendix 1, Maps A-1 and A-2) and the bowl probably originated from a pottery workshop located within this environment.

Form 24: Phase 4.

TS4 1/Db Small carinated bowl with a ring base

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P.D, green (5Y 6/3); decorated with small dark red rim ticks, closely spaced.

Dimensions: Rd. 10.5 Md. 11.0 Ht. 6.2

Remarks: Restored from sherds with sections of the body and rim missing. A competently made vessel with a sharp carination below the concave upper body zone.

Registration number: 1/D/2/186

Form 35: Phase 4.

TS4 1/Dc Small vessel with a flat base

Fabrics and wares: L-F4/5.P

Dimensions: Rd. 3.8 Md. 5.8 Ht. 7.0

Remarks: One of a number of similar vessels recovered during excavation of the temple area of Ismant el-Kharab.

Registration number: 1/D/1/2

Form 110: Phase 3 or 4.

TS4 1/Dd Necked flask

Fabrics and wares: L-F4.P

Dimensions: Rd. 4.4 Md. 21.0 and 14.4 Ht. 28.0

Remarks: An intact lentoid or 'drum-shaped' flask. The vessel had been competently made and finished with two vertical handles attached from the upper neck to the body. The flask was found with a length of fibre cord wound around the neck.

Registration number: 1/D/3/26

Form 161: Phase 4.

Comments and summary:

A few sherds from types similar to the Form 24 bowl, TS4 1/Da, were collected from the surface of sites during the survey. These bowls have sigillata forms and the fabrics of some suggest they were imported from the eastern Mediterranean region. However, the fabric of TS4 1/Da and possibly SS20 0c, suggests a closer manufacturing centre, perhaps Kharga Oasis or the Nile Valley, as the type is found too infrequently in Dakhleh Oasis to suggest a local production.

Form 35 bowls, similar to TS4 1/Db, were recovered from the early Roman Period deposits, SS17 and SS19, at Ismant el-Kharab and a number of surveyed sites. Some of these vessels were made from the same light-fired fabric as TS4 1/Db and others were made from red-fired fabrics.

The sherds from flasks made from the light-weight green fabric, L-F4, are relatively common in the fourth century AD material excavated at Ismant el-Kharab, and were also recovered during the survey (Hope 1983, pl. XIIc). However, these flasks have a modelled rim with two or three rounded ledges under the rim while the earlier Phase 4 flasks, such as TS4 1/Dd, have a direct rim with a rounded or slightly bevelled upper face and no ledges.

The small Form 110 vessel, TS4 1/Dc, is similar to TS3 1g and TS3 1h from the temple site TS3. These vessels are lacking firm parallels but may also be dated to the early Roman Period (Phase 4).