

## LATE URUK AND THE TRANSITIONAL NINEVITE 5 POTTERY FROM TELL THALATHAT NO.5

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### Introduction

In the last issue of this journal [Numoto 1997], the present author discussed the research results of re-examination of unpublished Ninevite 5 pottery from Tell Thalathat No.5, which is kept in the University Museum, the University of Tokyo. According to the research results, it is clear that most of the Ninevite 5 pottery from occupation levels with granary and circular kilns belonged to “the Painted and Early Incised Period” (Early Ninevite 5: Mohammed Arab Period 2). Furthermore, the research of the unpublished materials made it clear that a small quantity of pottery, supposed to have belonged to the Late Uruk and the Transitional Ninevite 5 Periods, was unearthed together with the Ninevite 5 pottery analyzed. The main purpose of this paper is to illustrate the pottery belonging to these periods and discuss their remarkable features, for they were not described in detail in previous excavation reports [Egami 1959; Fukai *et al.* 1974].

### Late Uruk Pottery and the Transitional Ninevite 5 Pottery

Pottery, which is regarded to have belonged to the Late Uruk and the Ninevite 5 Transitional Period from Thalathat No. 5 was all fragmentary, and was about one hundred specimens<sup>1)</sup>. These specimens are roughly classified into bevelled rim bowl, plain ware, incised ware, and painted ware as follows:

Bevelled rim bowls (Figs. 1a, b): Eight sherds of bevelled rim bowls which are most typical type in the Late Uruk period were found. The characteristic features of these sherds are as follows: 1) They are tempered with large amount of coarse vegetable except specimen No. 1. 2) All of them are made of mould, and the trace of rough finger-smoothing remains on their inner surfaces and part of bevelled rims, while no treatment on their outer surfaces were found at all. Some specimens are greenish in color caused by the high temperature firing (Nos. 3, 5, 6, 8).

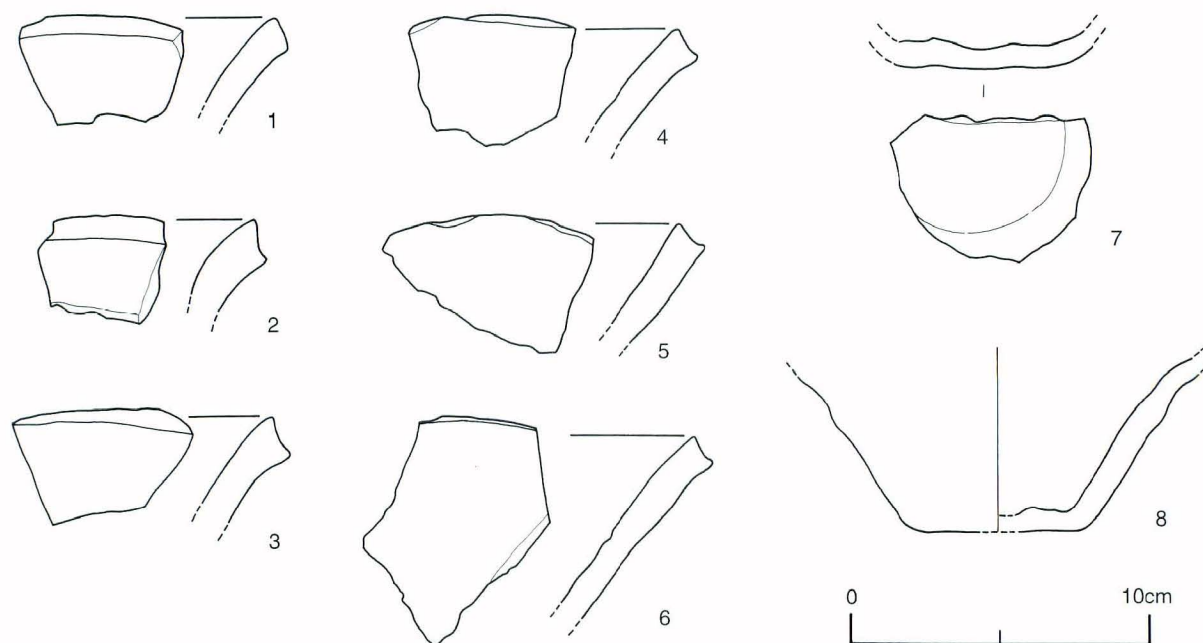
<in Figs. 1a, b>

1. Outside granary at F-III: Rim of bevelled rim bowl; reddish buff surfaces (5YR7.5–7/4); blackish buff core (7.5YR6.5/1); much vegetable (2–10mm) and middle amount of fine sand temper; containing much mica; wet-smoothed (horizontal way) on inner surface and lip (part of bevell); outer surface is not finished; Rim diam.: about 13–15cm; 1/7 extant.
2. D-II/1: Rim of bevelled rim bowl; creamy surfaces (2.5Y9/1); pale pinkish both side of section (7.5YR8.5/3); creamy core (10YR9–8.5/1); partially blackish part of lip (5YR5.5/1); much vegetable (2–7mm) and middle amount of fine sand temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed (horizontal way) on inner surface and lip; outer surface is not finished; Rim diam.: about 15–20cm.
3. F-III R24: Rim of bevelled rim bowl; greenish surfaces and core (7.5Y8.5/1); much vegetable (2–7mm) and middle amount of fine sand temper; containing chalky coarse sand and particles; wet-smoothed on inner surface and lip; outer surface is not finished; slightly distored; Rim diam.: about 15cm.
4. Lower stratum at floor of R6 (granary): Rim of bevelled rim bowl; reddish buff surfaces (2.5YR7–6.5/5); light buff core (5YR7.5/4); much vegetable (2–5mm) and middle to large amount of fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and mica; wet-smooted on inner surface and lip; trace of wet-smoothing remains on outer surface; Rim diam.: about 15cm.
5. Level IV-b at R2 (D-II): Rim of bevelled rim bowl; creamy upper half of surfaces (2.5Y9–8.5/2); greenish core and lower half of outer surface (10Y8.5–8/1); very much vegetable (2–15mm) and middle to large amount of fine sand temper; containing chalky coarse sand (2–3mm); wet-smoothed (horizontal way) on inner surface and lip; outer surface is not finished; Rim diam.: about 20cm.

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1) In addition to specimens illustrated in the present paper, about twenty body sherds were recognized.



**Fig. 1a** Bevelled Rim Bowls.

6. D,E-II/1: Rim of bevelled rim bowl; greenish white surfaces and core (10Y7.5/2–3); very much vegetable (2–15mm) and middle to large amount of fine sand temper; containing chalky coarse sand; wet-smoothed (horizontal way) on inner surface and lip; outer surface is not finished; Rim diam.: about 15cm.
7. F-II/1: Base of bevelled rim bowl; dark brown outer surface (5YR6/3–4); light brown inner surface (2.5YR7–6.5/6); blackish grey core (N5.5/); much vegetable (2–15mm) and middle amount of fine sand and chalky particles temper; finger trace clearly remains on inner surface; outer surface is not finished; Bottom diam.: 6cm; 2/3 extant.
8. C-II/1: Body to bottom of bevelled rim bowl; greenish surfaces and core (10Y8/2–3); very much vegetable (2–15mm) and middle amount of chalky coarse sand and small stone (2–6mm) temper; wet-smoothed on inner surface; outer surface is not finished; distorted body; Rim diam.: about 15–17cm; Bottom diam.: 6cm; 1/3 extant.

The common features recognized among most of plain, incised, and painted wares are as follows: 1) Small to midium-sized wares were made on wheel, and have horizontal lines clearly seen on their surfaces. 2) Most of the surface colors are creamy buff and creamy pink, and the core colors are mainly dark pink and pinkish buff. Most examples have creamy or white slip on their surfaces. 3) The fabrics were always with much fine sand temper, and the surface therefore is very sandy. Moreover, many of the examples contain chalky particles and gold colored mica.

Spouted wares (Figs. 2a, b, 3a, b): Three spout sherds (Nos. 9–11), fragment of a small to middle-sized jar (No. 12), a carinated bowl (No. 13), and a large jar (No. 14) were found. Only one carinated bowl (No. 13) shows the whole shap of the body among these specimens, which is characterized by a keen carination and a flat base. The shape of large-sized jar is closely similar to the most typical shape of spouted-jar in the Late Uruk period. The most remarkable fact found in this large jar is that trace of two small holes remained at the lower part of the spout. Usage of these holes are not known.

<in Figs. 2a, b>

9. E-II/2: Fragment of spout; creamy white slip outer surface (10YR9/1–2); cream inner surface (10YR8.5/3); buff core (10YR8/4); much very fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces; the hole is pierced from outside to inside.
10. A-III/1: Fragment of spout; creamy white outer surface (2.5Y9/1); light buff inner surface (5YR8–7.5/4); pinkish core (2.5YR7–6.5/5); much very fine sand and chalky particles and mica temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces; 1/5 extant.
11. Level IV-b at outside of R10,17 (D-III): Dropped spout; identical to specimen Pl.XXX-1-9 in the excavations report [Fukai et al. 1974]; most of outer surface is reddish buff (2.5YR7/5–6), partially cream (10YR9–8.5/2); reddish buff inner surface (2.5YR7/5–6); buff core (10YR8.5/3); much fine sand and chalky particles and mica temper; wet-smoothed on



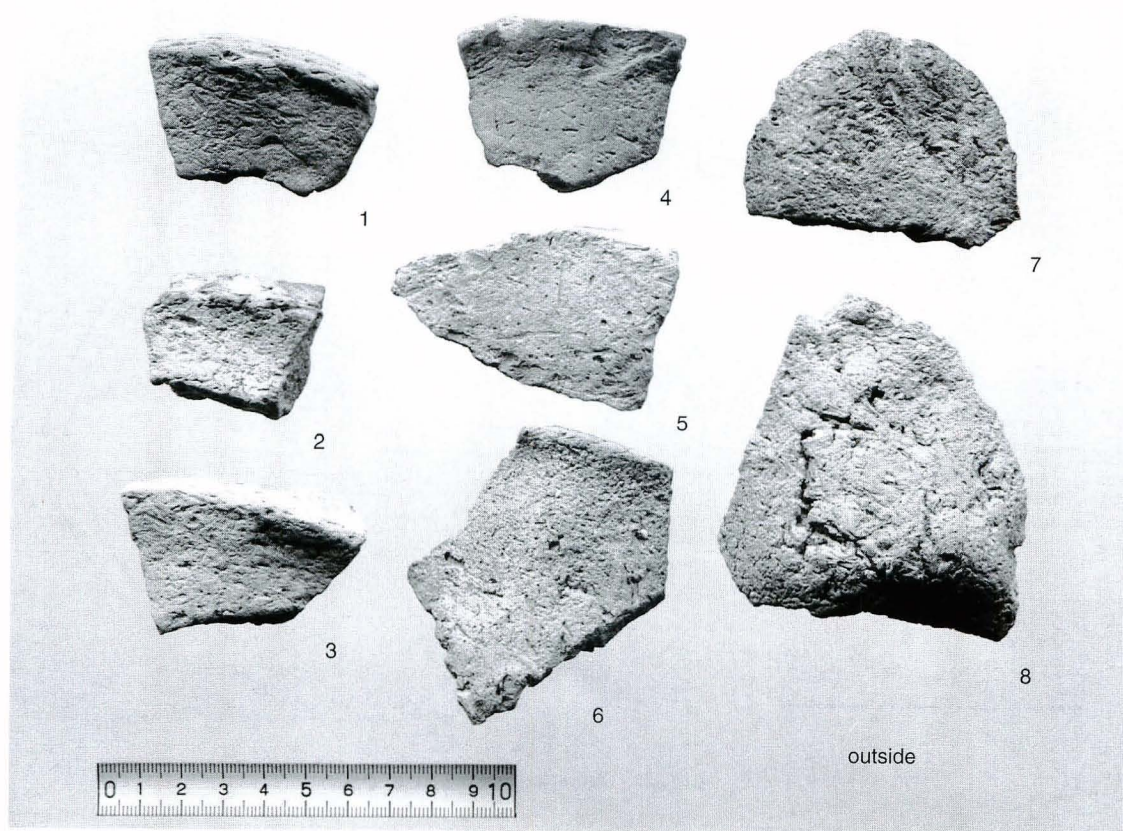
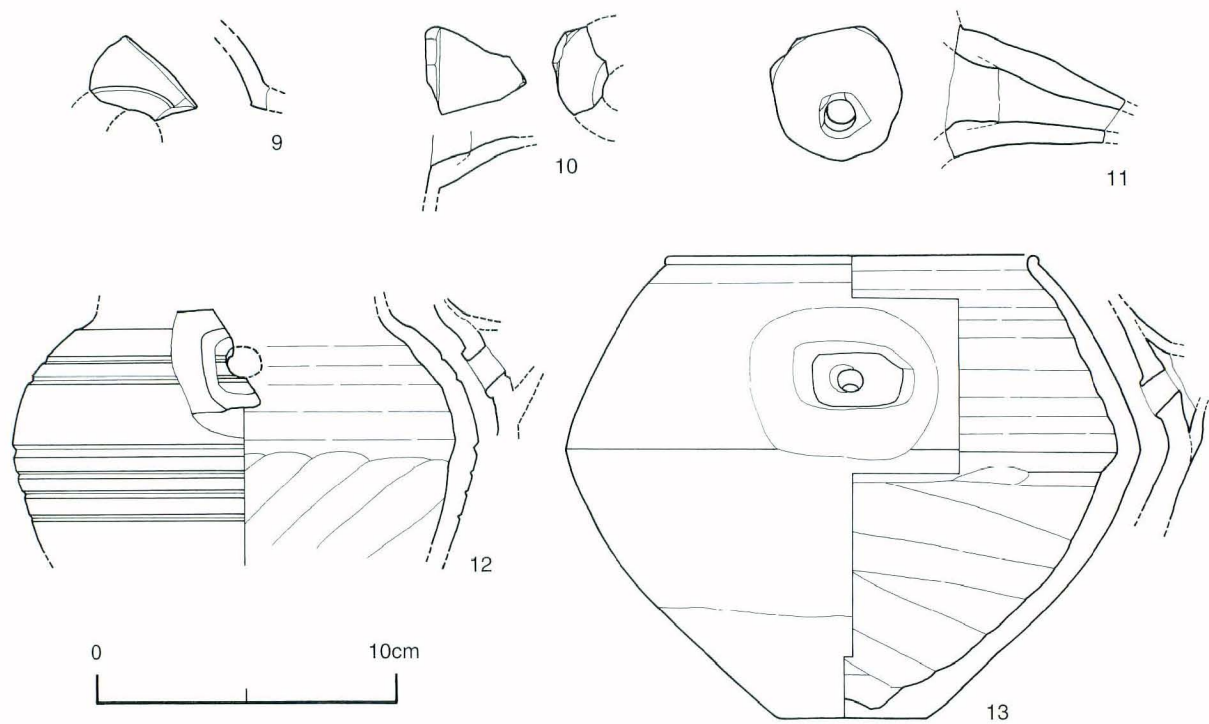


Fig. 1b Bevelled Rim Bowls.





**Fig. 2a** Spouted Wares.

surfaces; relatively hard; Max. diam.: 4cm.

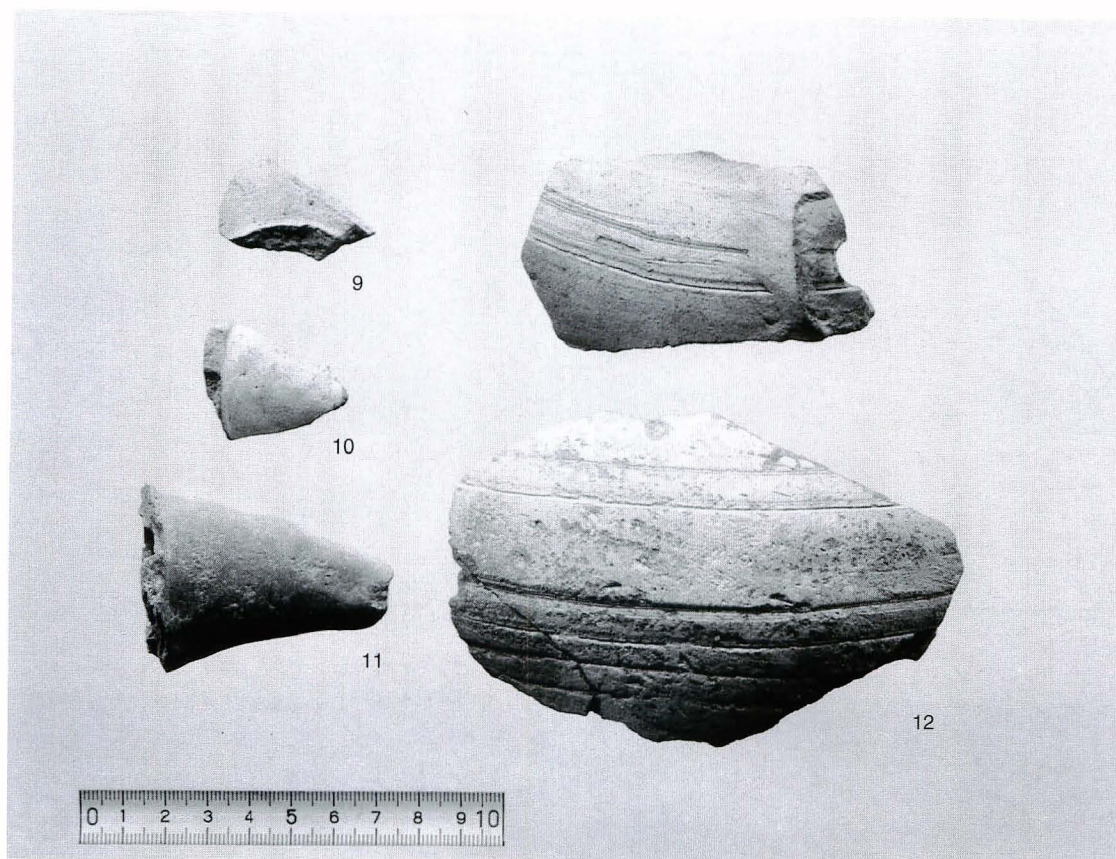
12. O3 and E-III/1: Body of spouted jar; creamy slip outer surface (10YR9/1–2); reddish buff inner surface and core (2.5YR6–5.5/7); much very fine sand, fine sand and chalky particles temper; very gritty; scraped on lower part of inner surface; wet-smoothed on lowermost part of body after scraping; wet-smoothed on upper part of surfaces using the wheel-turn; six horizontal grooved lines are arranged on shoulder to lower body; hard; the hole is pierced from outer surface to inner surface; slightly defaced outer surface; two fragments; Max. diam.: about 15.5cm; 1/4 extant.
13. Level IV-b at R2 (D-II): Spouted carinated bowl; identical to specimen Pl.XXX-1–5 in the excavations report [Ibid]; greenish creamy white upper part of outer surface (7.5Y9/1); creamy buff lower part of outer surface (7.5YR8.5/2–3); creamy buff inner surface (2.5Y9/2–3); pinkish core (5YR8/3–4); much vegetable (1–6mm), chalky particles and a little fine sand temper; wet-smoothed on upper part of surfaces using the wheel-turn; burnished on upper half of lower part of outer surface; wet-smoothed on lower half of lower part to bottom of outer surface; roughly scraped on lower part of inner surface; bottom sherd was used as potstand of large painted footed bowl (specimen Pl.XLVIII-19 [Ibid]); rim remains in part; Max.diam.: about 19 cm; bottom 2/3 extant; lower body 1/3 extant;

<in Figs. 3a, b>

14. R3: Spouted jar; greenish cream (slip) outer surface (5Y8.5/1–2); pinkish buff inner surface and core (2.5YR7.5/3–4); much large-sized vegetable (1–10mm) and fine sand temper; containing chalky coarse sand; wet-smoothed on surfaces of rim using the wheel-turn; roughly scraped and smoothed on outer surface of body; two small holes (about 1cm) remain on lower part of spout; defaced and exfoliated inner surface of body; rim remains partially; Max. diam.: 44cm.

Incised wares (Figs. 4a, b): This type of ware was also all fragments. Incisions were always arranged on their upper part of bodies of bowls and jars. The incised designs can roughly be divided into rough rope pattern (Nos. 15, 16, 20, 21), nail-like impression (Nos. 17, 18), wavy line (No. 19), combing line (Nos. 23, 24), and grooving line (No. 22). Two fragments of incised lugged-jars which are one of the most typical type in the Late Uruk pottery were found (Nos. 15, 16). Fragments with combing lines were found, it is not clear, however, that this incision has been commonly used as design element of the Late Uruk pottery. Judging from the features of their fabrics and surface colors, it is supposed that they belonged to the Late Uruk period.





**Fig. 2b** Spouted Wares.



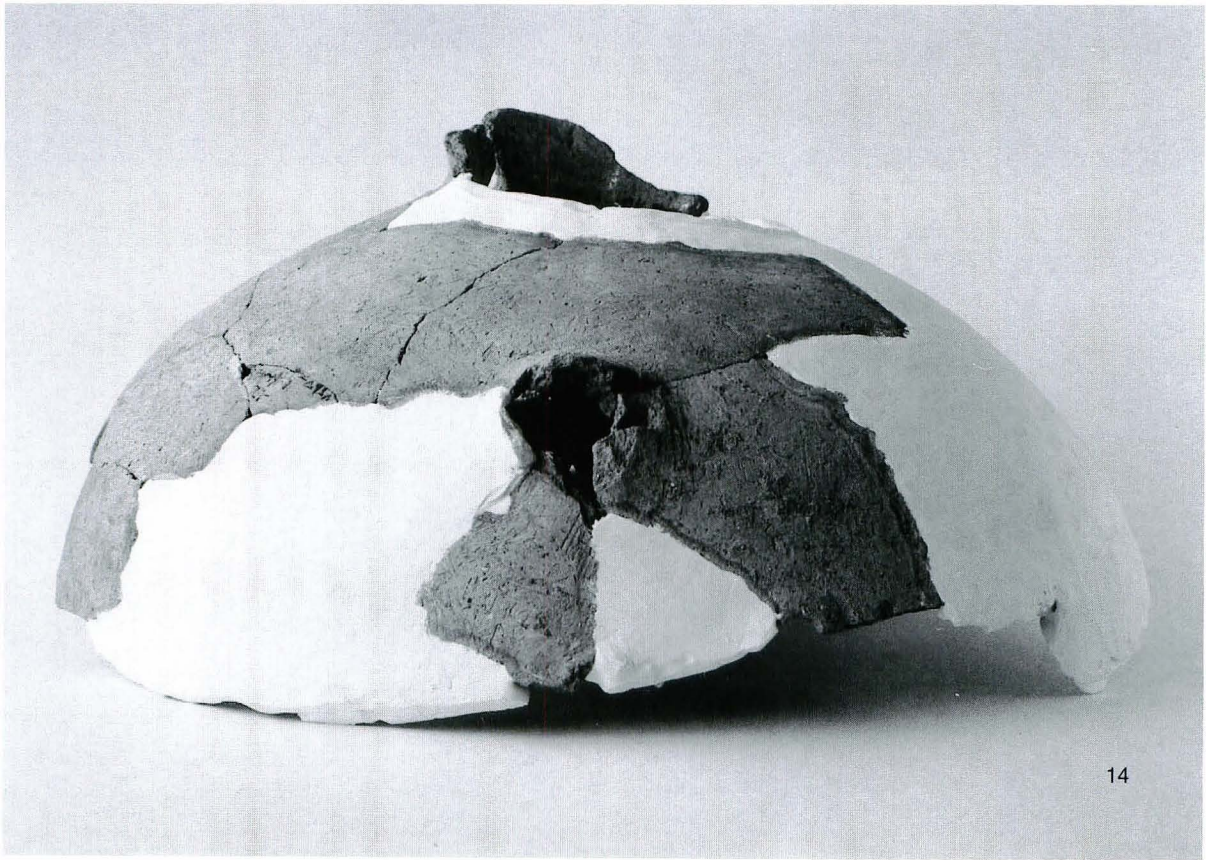
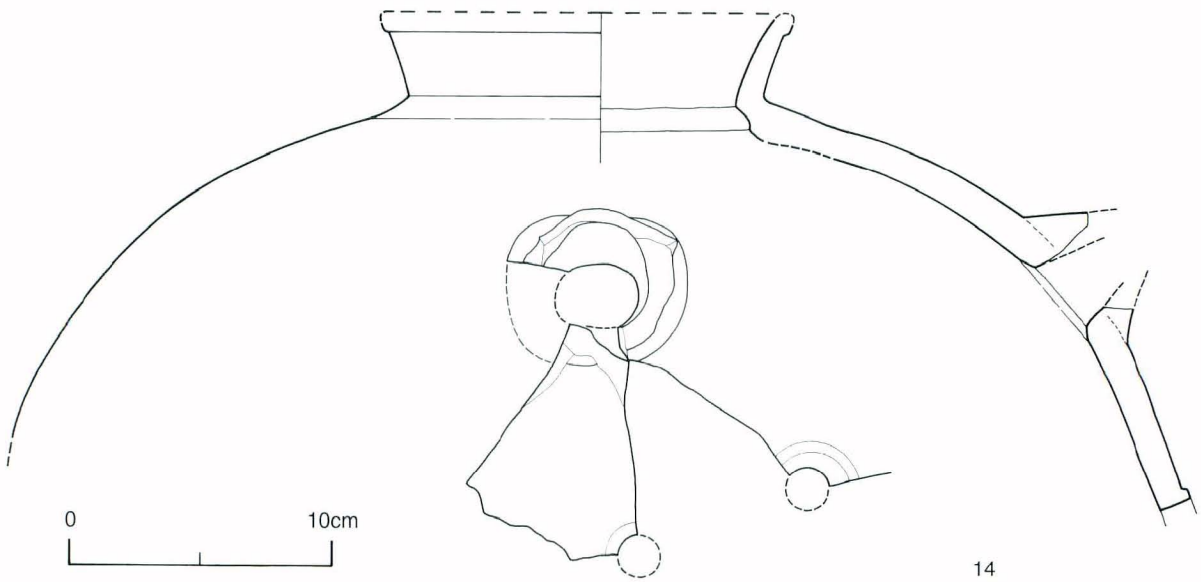


Fig. 3a Spouted Jar.

<in Figs. 4a, b>

- 15. Unidentified: Shoulder of incised lugged-jar; creamy slip densely covered on outer surface (10YR9/2); light buff inner surface and core (2.5YR7/6-7); much very fine sand temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces; relatively hard; feather band incision.
- 16. R1 (granary): Shoulder of incised lugged-jar; reddish buff outer surface; buff inner surface (7.5YR8-7.5/4) and core (10YR8/4-5); much vegetable (1-3mm), a little fine sand and coarse sand temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces; rope



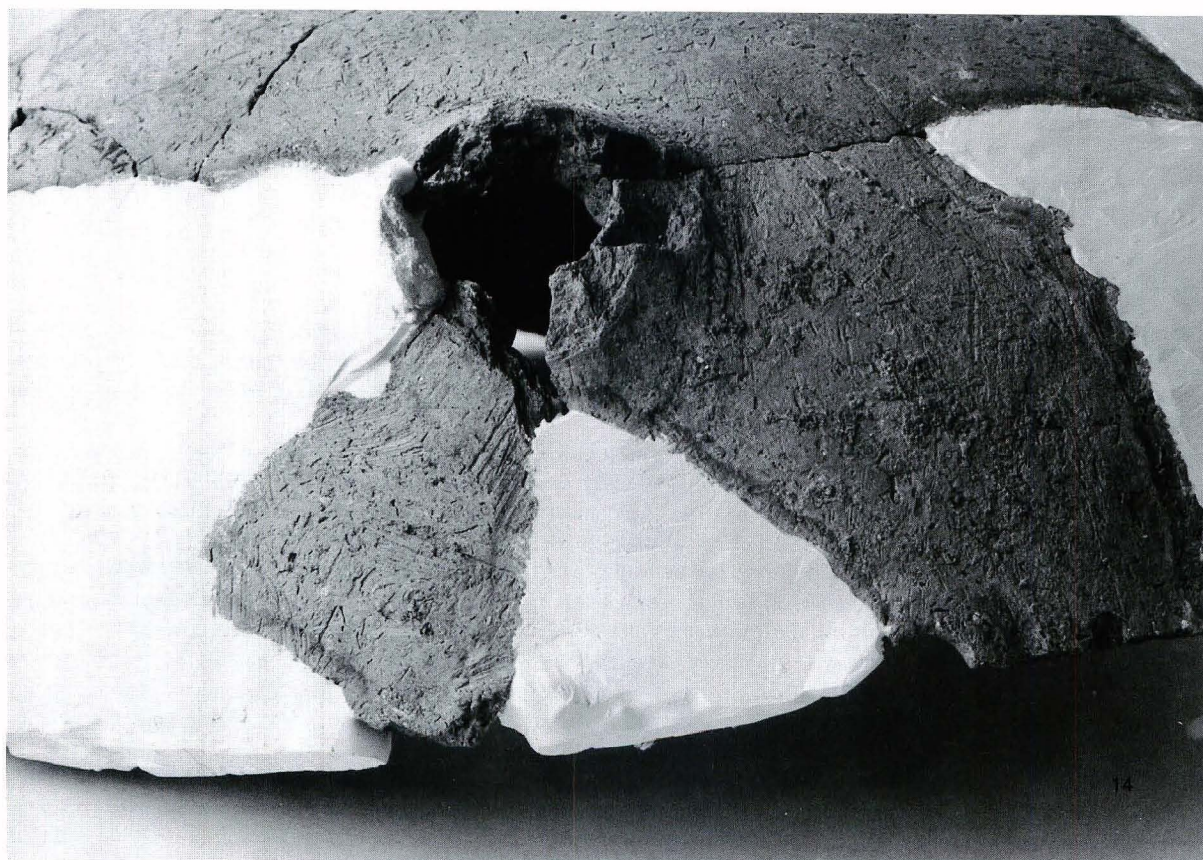
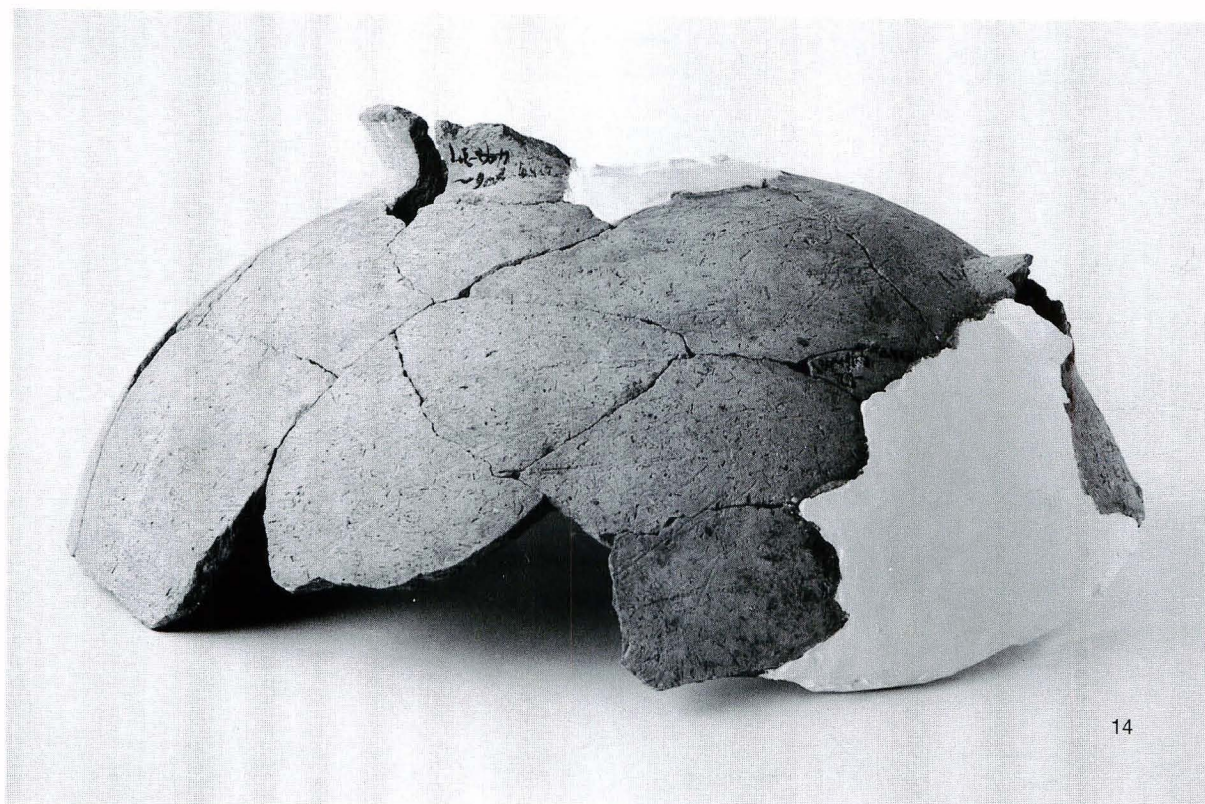
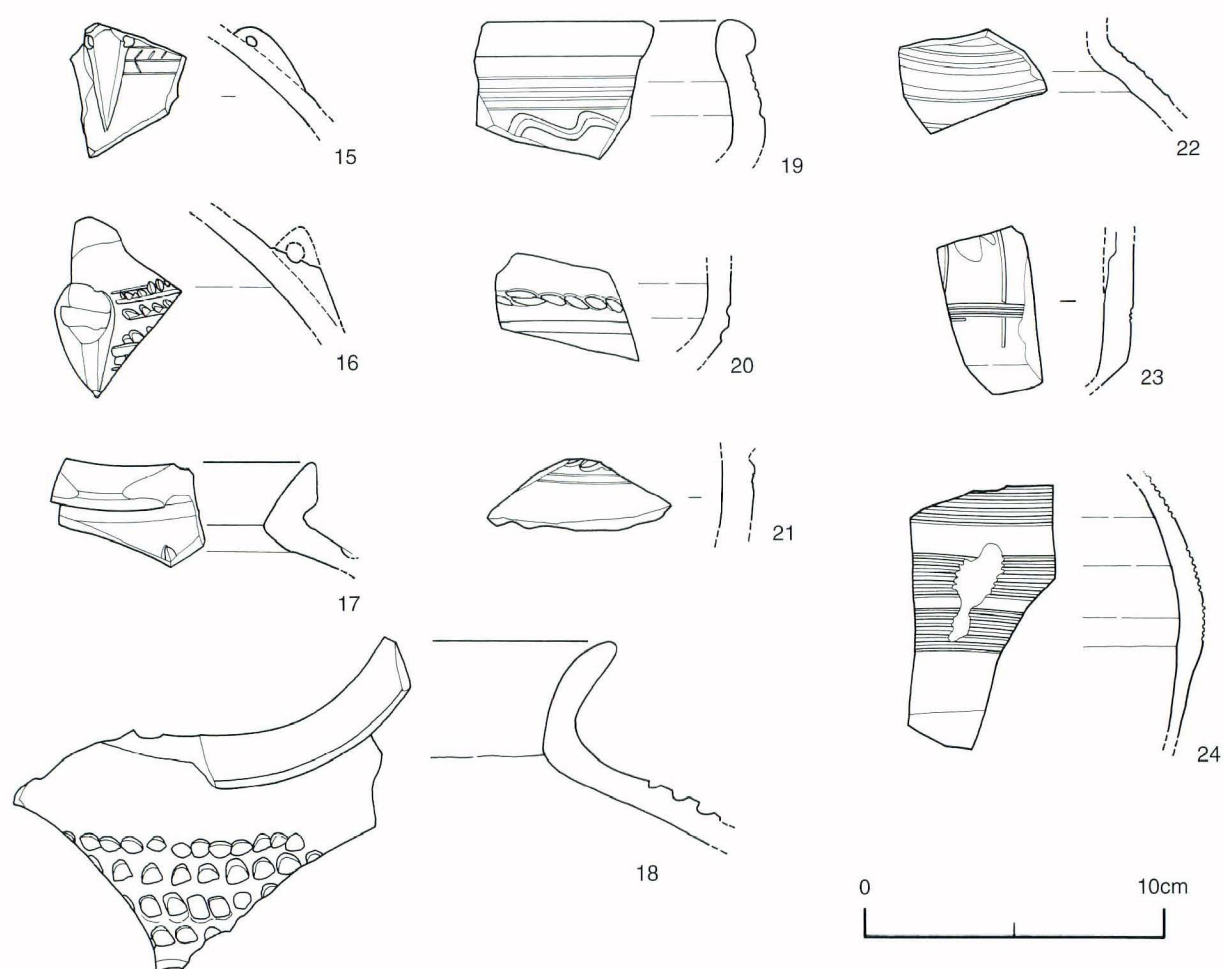


Fig. 3b Spouted Jar.



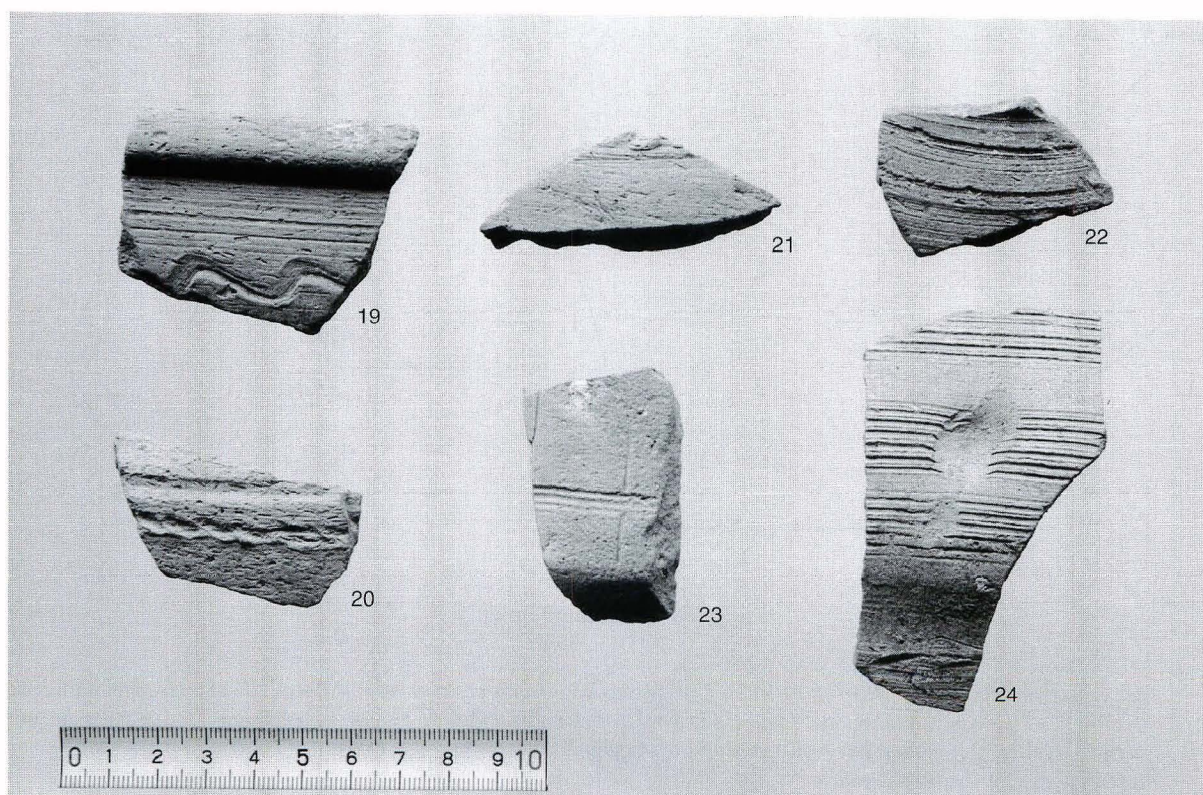
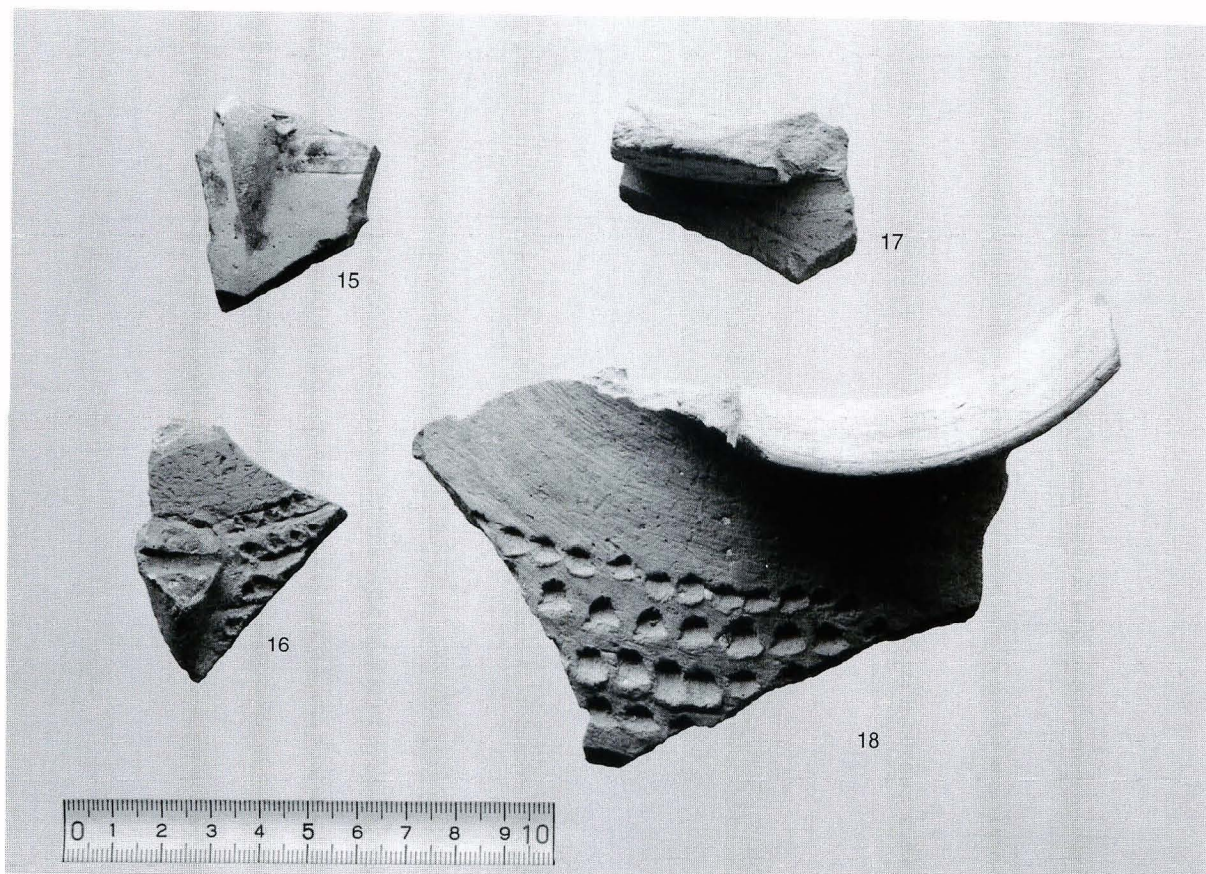


**Fig. 4a** Incised Wares.

pattern incisions are deeply incised.

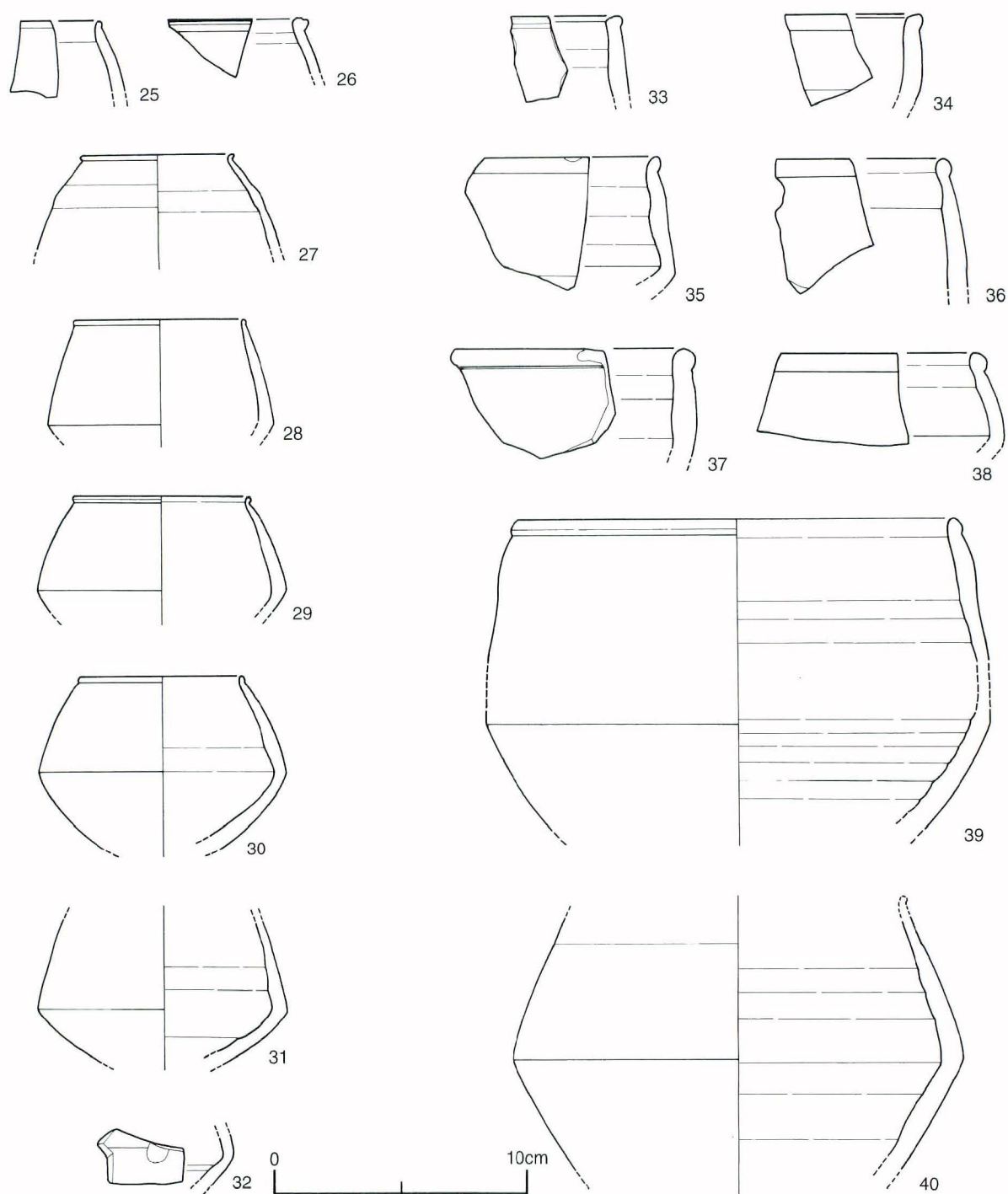
17. E-II/1: Rim of incised jar; creamy (slip) outer surface (7.5YR9/2); pinkish inner surface (5YR8/4); pinkish buff core (2.5YR7.5–7/4); much very fine sand, fine sand and a little vegetable (1–4mm) temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on outer surface and inner surface of rim; scraped on inner surface of shoulder (horizontal way); only one incision remains on the shoulder.
18. R24: Rim to shoulder of incised jar; identical to specimen Pl.XXX-1–9 in the excavations report [Ibid]; greenish creamy white (slip) outer surface to inner surface of rim (7.5Y9/1); buff inner surface of shoulder (7.5YR8/4–5); pinkish core (5YR8–7.5/4); much vegetable (1–4mm) and fine sand temper; containing chalky coarse sand; wet-smoothed on outer surface and inner surface of rim; scraped on inner surface of shoulder; Rim diam.: about 15–17cm.
19. R7 (granary): Rim of incised large bowl; reddish buff surfaces (7.5YR8–7.5/5); blackish buff core (10YR6.5–6/1); middle amount of vegetable (2–5mm) and fine sand temper; containing gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using wheel-turn; horizontal lines are clearly seen on the outer surface; wavy incision; Rim diam.: about 25–30cm.
20. R7 (granary): Body of incised bowl; creamy outer surface (10YR9–8.5/2) (natural slip); light pinkish cream inner surface (7.5YR8.5/3–4); pinkish core (2.5YR7.5/5–6); much vegetable (1–3mm), middle amount of fine sand and chalky particles temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; a rope pattern incision and a groove; slightly soft; Max. diam.: about 30cm.
21. F-III R24: Body of incised jar; creamy buff surfaces (10YR8.5/3–4); pinkish (2.5YR7.5/4–5) and blackish (N5.5–5/) core; middle to large amount of vegetable (1–3mm) and middle amount of very fine sand temper; wet-smoothed on outer surface; scraped on inner surface; rope pattern incision remains in part.
22. B-III/1: Shoulder of incised jar; reddish buff surfaces (10R6/4–5); buff core (5YR7–6.5/3); much very fine sand, fine sand and a little vegetable (1–4mm) temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn; groove lines are formed by the wheel-turn.
23. B-II/1 (The surface soil of Grid B-II had been excavated. However, excavators do not illustrate this fact in the plan of the





**Fig. 4b** Incised Wares.



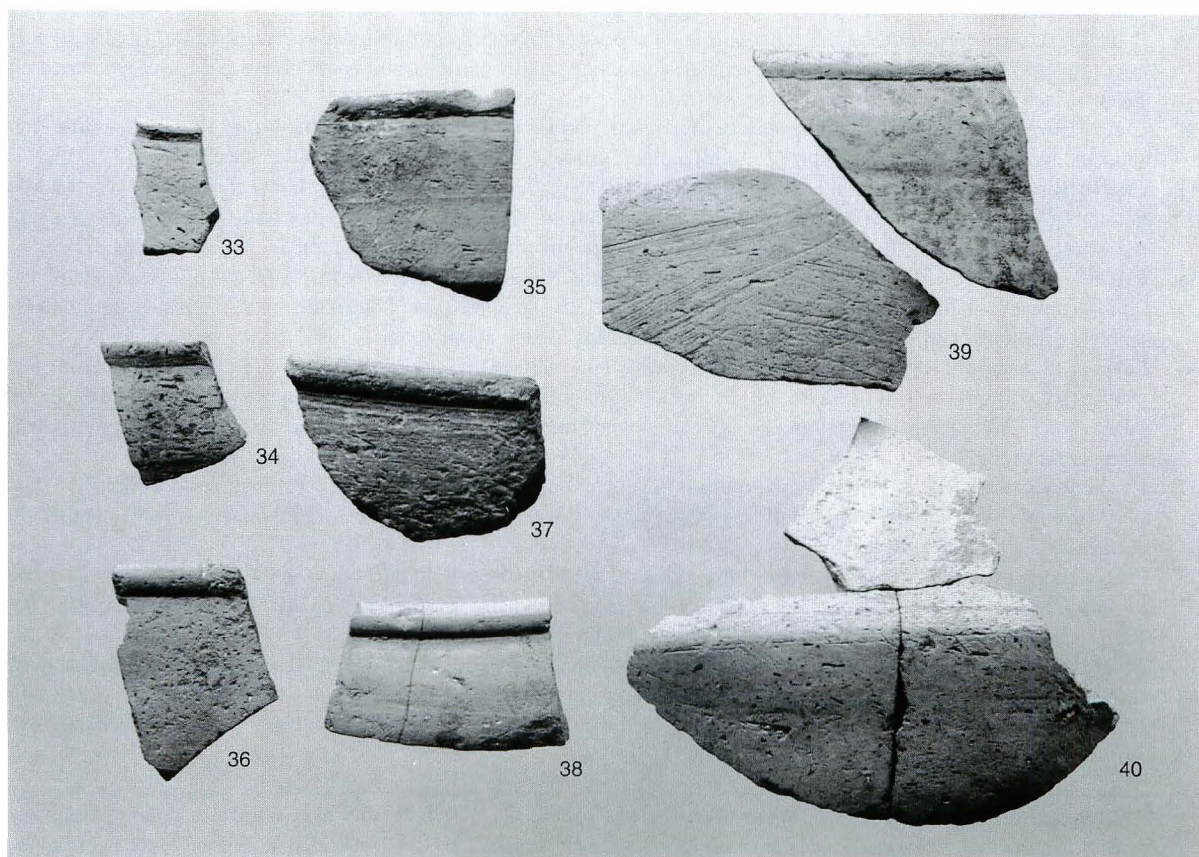
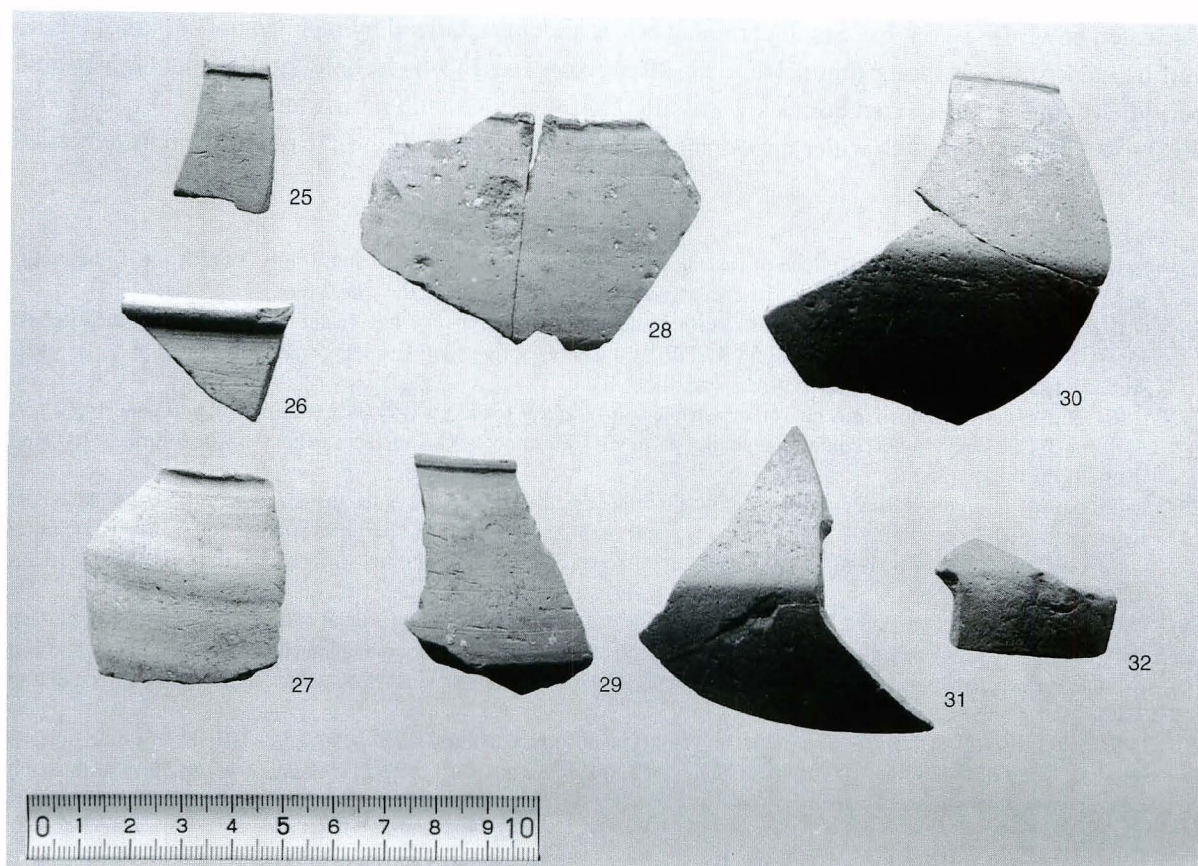


**Fig. 5a** Carinated bowls.

excavation report [Fukai et al. 1974: Pl.XLI ].): Body of bowl; greenish ceamy (slip) surfaces (2.5Y8.5/1-2); pinkish core (5YR7.5/2-3); much very fine sand, fine sand and sparse vegetable (1-2mm) temper; containing chalky coarse sand and particles; gritty; wet-smoothed on surfaces; two vertical incised lines and one horizontal combing line; defaced inner surface; accurate shape is unknown.

24. R7 (granary): Body of incised jar; greenish cream outer surface (2.5Y8/2-3); cream inner surface (10YR8.5-8/3); pinkish buff core (5YR7/3); much fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and mica; gritty; wet-smoothed on upper part of surfaces; scraped on lowermost part of surfaces; each horizontal combing line consists of seven grooves; a finger impression remains on outer surface.





**Fig. 5b** Carinated bowls.



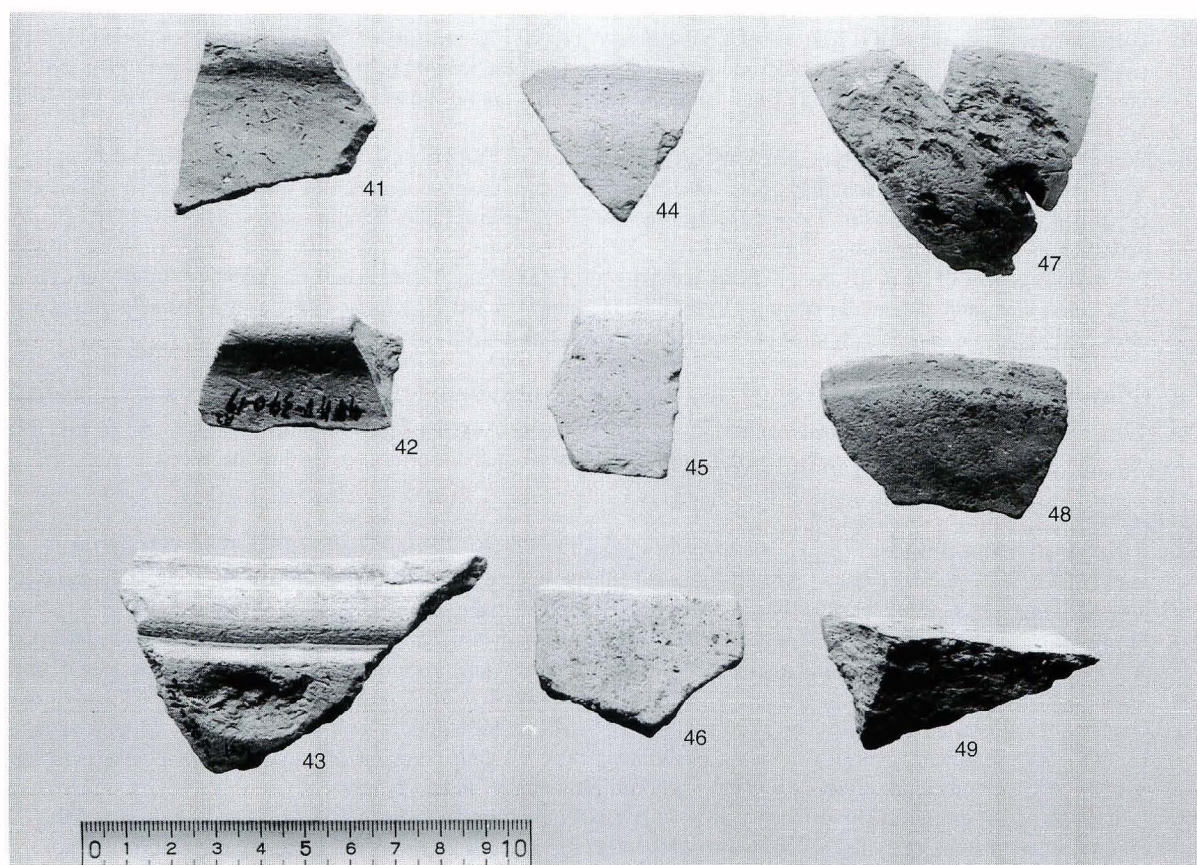
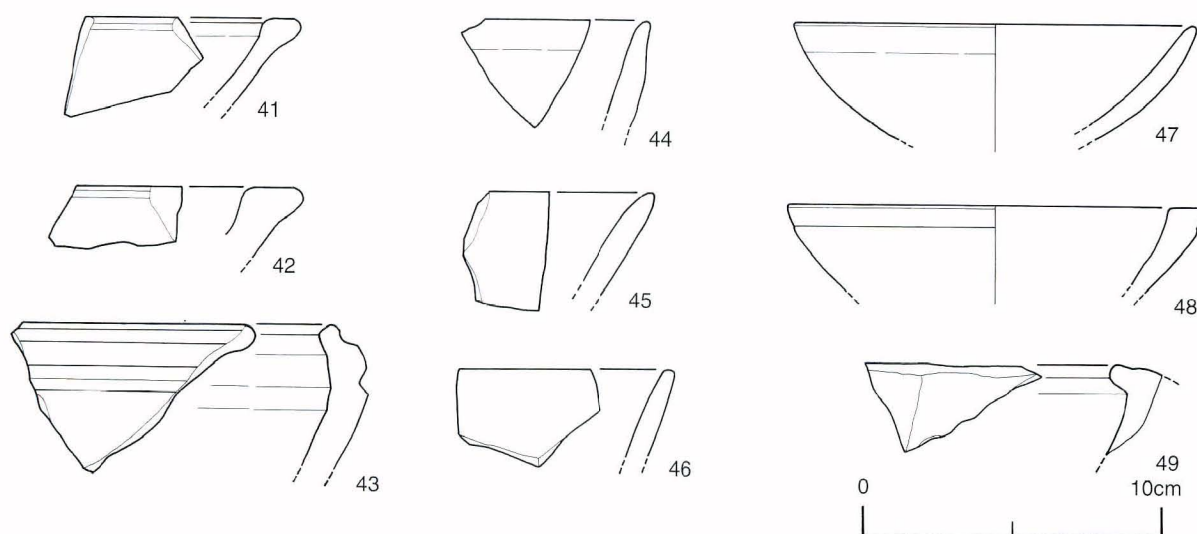
Carinated bowls (Figs. 5a, b): Small carinated bowls are characterized by inclined upper part of bodies and beaded rims<sup>2)</sup>. Among them, Nos. 27–29 are supposed to have belonged to the Transitional period. Middle-to-large-sized bowls are classified into two: one with narrow upper part of body (Nos. 36, 39, 40) and another with wider upper part of body (Nos. 33–35, 37, 38). Both of them have beaded rims.

<in Figs. 5a, b>

25. Level IV at outside of R10 (D-II): Rim of carinated bowl; creamy outer surface (natural slip) (10YR8.5/3–4); light buff inner surface and core (2.5YR7.5/6); gritty; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn.
26. C-II/1: Rim of carinated bowl; creamy outer surface and upper half of inner surface (natural slip) (2.5Y9/2); reddish buff lower half of inner surface and core (2.5YR7.5/5–6); much very fine sand temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed surfaces using wheel-turn; Rim diam.: about 12cm.
27. E-II/1: Rim of carinated bowl; greenish creamy white (slip) surfaces (out:5Y9/1–2) (in:2.5Y9–8.5/3); buff core (10YR8.5–8/4); much fine sand temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; gritty; Rim diam.: 6cm; 1/10 extant.
28. E-II/3 outside of granary: Rim to body of carinated bowl; creamy white (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9–8.5/2); pinkish buff inner surface and core (5YR8–7.5/4); much fine sand, chalky coarse sand and particles temper; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of body using the wheel-turn; scraped on lower part of outer surfaces; Max. diam.: about 9–10cm; 1/7–1/8 extant.
29. B-II/1: Rim to body of carinated bowl; buff outer surface (10YR8/4–5); light buff inner surface (7.5YR8–7.5/4); pinkish buff core (5YR8–7.5/4); a little very fine sand and vegetable (1–4mm) temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface; scraped on lower part of outer surface; relatively fine fabric; Max. diam.: 10cm.
30. D-II/1 and F-III/1: Rim to body of carinated bowl; buff outer surface (natural slip) (10YR8.5/2–3); light buff inner surface and core (7.5YR8–7.5/4); much very fine sand, chalky particles and mica temper; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface; scraped on lower part of outer surface; slightly soft; defaced surfaces; Max. diam.: 10cm; 1/7–1/8 extant.
31. Lower stratum of D-III/1: Body of carinated bowl; light reddish buff surfaces and core (2.5YR7/6–7); much very fine sand and chalky particles temper; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface; scraped on lower part of outer surface; defaced on outer surface; Max. diam.: about 10cm; 1/8 extant.
32. B-III,R3: Body of carinated bowl; creamy buff outer surface (10YR8.5/2–3); buff inner surface (7.5YR8/4); pinkish buff core (5YR8–7.5/3); much very fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn; defaced outer surface; soft; Max. diam.: 12–13cm.
33. C-III/1: Rim of bowl; greenish white surfaces (10Y9/1); pinkish core (2.5YR8/2–3); much very fine sand, a little fine sand and middle amount of vegetable (1–5mm) temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn.
34. C-II/3b: Rim of bowl; creamy white (slip) surfaces (10YR9/1–2); light buff (7.5YR7.5–7/4) and grey (N5.5/) core; middle amount of vegetable (1–3mm) and fine sand temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on outer surface using the wheel-turn; wet-smoothed (hand) on inner surface after smoothing by the wheel-turn.
35. C-II,R8: Rim to body of bowl; light buff surfaces and core (7.5YR8/4); much very fine sand and a little vegetable (1–2mm) temper; containing mica; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface using the wheel-turn; wet-smoothed on lower part of outer surface after scraping; Max. diam.: about 20cm.
36. Level IV at outside of R19 (D-III): Rim of bowl; creamy buff (slip) outer surface (7.5YR8–7.5/3); dark buff inner surface (5YR6.5/2–3); pinkish buff (2.5YR6.5/4–5) and blackish buff (5YR5.5/1) core; very fine sand, fine sand and sparse vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles and mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; hard; Rim diam.: about 20cm.
37. Lower stratum of D-III/1: Rim of bowl; reddish buff outer surface (2.5YR7–6.5/5); buff inner surface (5Yr7.5–7/4); blackish core (N4.5/); middle amount of fine sand, vegetable (1–5mm) and a little coarse sand temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn.
38. C-II,outside of R8; Rim of bowl; creamy buff surfaces (10YR9–8.5/2); light buff core (5YR8–7.5/4); sparse vegetable (1–2mm) and a little to middle amount of chalky fine and coarse particles temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; relatively fine fabric; Rim diam.: about 16–18cm; 1/12 extant.
39. Level IV-b at R2 and R4 (D-II): Rim and lower body of bowl; creamy outer surface (natural slip) (10YR9/1); reddish buff inner surface and core (2.5YR7/6); much very fine sand and middle amount of vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles; slightly gritty surfaces; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface; scraped on lower part of outer surface; four fragments; Rim diam.: 17–18cm.

2) The shape of a carinated bowl illustrated in the excavations report [Fukai *et al.* 1974: Pl. LII-10]) is very similar to those of carinated bowls of the Late Uruk period. However, this specimen was not made on wheel, and its fabric was the same quality as those of middle-to-large-sized Ninevite 5 pottery. Judging from the features mentioned above, there is a great possibility that this specimen did not belong to the Late Uruk period.





**Fig. 6** Rim of bowls.

40. Level IV-b at R2 (D-II): Body of large carinated bowl; greenish outer surface (7.5GY9–8.5/1); pinkish inner surface and core (7.5YR9–8.5/1); a little fine sand, coarse sand, chalky particles (1–4mm) and middle to large amount of vegetable (1–3mm) temper; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface; burnished on lower part of outer surface after scraping; a part of lower section is worn out artificially; Max. diam.: about 17–18cm; 1/5 extant.

Rim of bowls (Fig. 6): Specimens illustrated are rims of conical bowls or deep bowls (Nos. 44–46), bowls with flatted on the topmost part of rims (Nos. 41, 42, 48), and shallow bowl (No. 47). Specimens of peculiar shape are one with thicker deep grooves on the upper part of rim (No. 43) and another with



extremely inclined topmost part of the rim (No. 49).

<in Fig. 6>

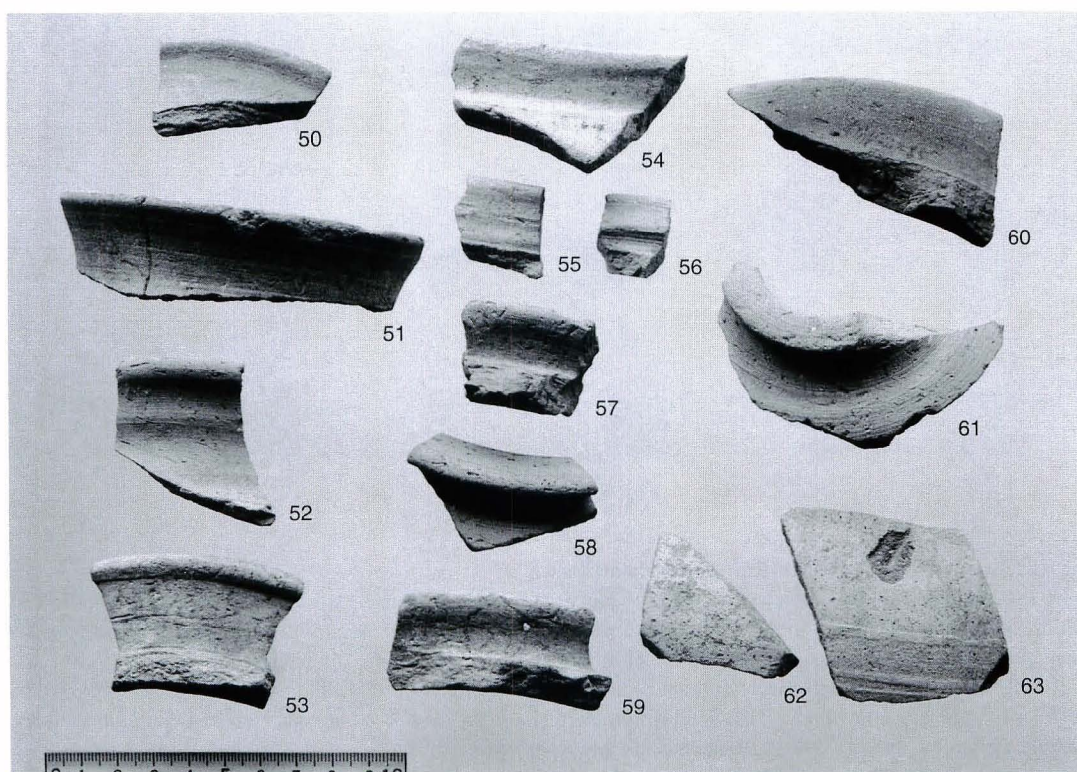
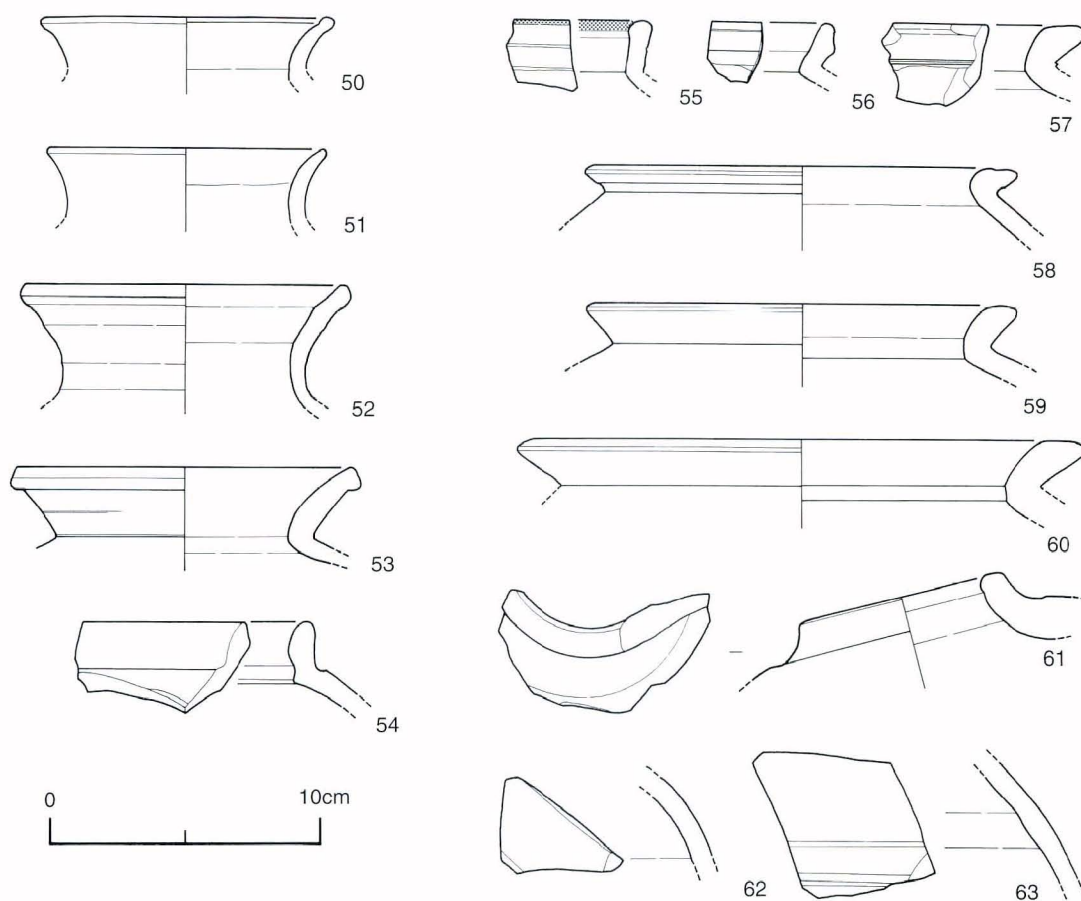
41. R6 (granary): Rim of open bowl; greenish outer surface (2.5GY7.5–7/1); dark green inner surface (10Y6–5.5/2); greyish green core (2.5GY7/1); middle amount of very fine sand, fine sand and vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; very hard; Rim diam.: about 20cm.
42. Level IV-a at R2 (D-II): Rim of large open bowl; creamy white (slip) surfaces (10YR8.5/2–3); pinkish core (2.5YR7.5/4); pinkish buff core (5YR8/3); much very fine sand, fine sand and a little vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles and mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn.
43. F-III/1: Rim of bowl; greenish cream surfaces and core (2.5Y9–8.5/2); very much fine sand and a little vegetable (1–5mm) temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on outer surface and upper part of inner surface; scraped on lower part of inner surface; slightly distorted; two fragments; Rim diam.: about 25cm.
44. E-II/1: Rim of deep bowl; greenish surfaces (7.5Y8.5/1); deep greenish core (N5.5/); middle to large amount of fine sand and a little vegetable (1–3mm) temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; containing chalky particles; hard; Rim diam.: about 15cm.
45. C-III/1: Rim of conical bowl; greenish surfaces (5Y9–8.5/2) and core (5Y8/1); middle to large amount of very fine sand and a little vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn.
46. On the floor of R16 (granary): Rim of conical bowl; greenish white (slip) outer surface (5Y9/1–2); creamy pink inner surface (5YR8/3–4); reddish pink core (10R6.5/6–7); much very fine sand and fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; slightly defaced surfaces; slightly distorted.
47. D-II/2, northern outside of R1: Rim of open bowl; creamy (10YR9/2) and buff (7.5YR8/3–4) surfaces; light buff core (5YR7/5–6); a little fine sand and middle amount of vegetable (1–4mm) temper; burnished on outer surface; wet-smoothed on inner surface and lip; distorted top of rim; not made on wheel; accurate period is unclear; Rim diam.: about 13–14cm; 1/6 extant.
48. Whitish soil of D-III/2: Rim of bowl; creamy buff (slip) surfaces (7.5YR8.5–8/3); reddish pink core (10R6–5.5/6); very much very fine sand temper; containing much chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface using the wheel-turn; wet-smoothed on lower part of outer surface; defaced on lip of inner surface; Rim diam.: about 14cm; 1/7 extant.
49. Level IIIa at outside of R8 (C-II): Rim of bowl; creamy white (2.5Y9/2) and pinkish buff (2.5YR6.5/6) surfaces and core; a little very fine sand and middle amount of vegetable (1–4mm) temper; containing sparse chalky coarse particles and mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces; most part of outer surface is missing.

Jars (Fig. 7): Rims of jars are classified into following types; flared rim (Nos. 50–53), stand collar-like rim (Nos. 54, 55), and extreme out-turned short rim (56–60). A fragment which is supposed to be of a rim of a double mouth jar was found (No. 61).

<in Fig. 7>

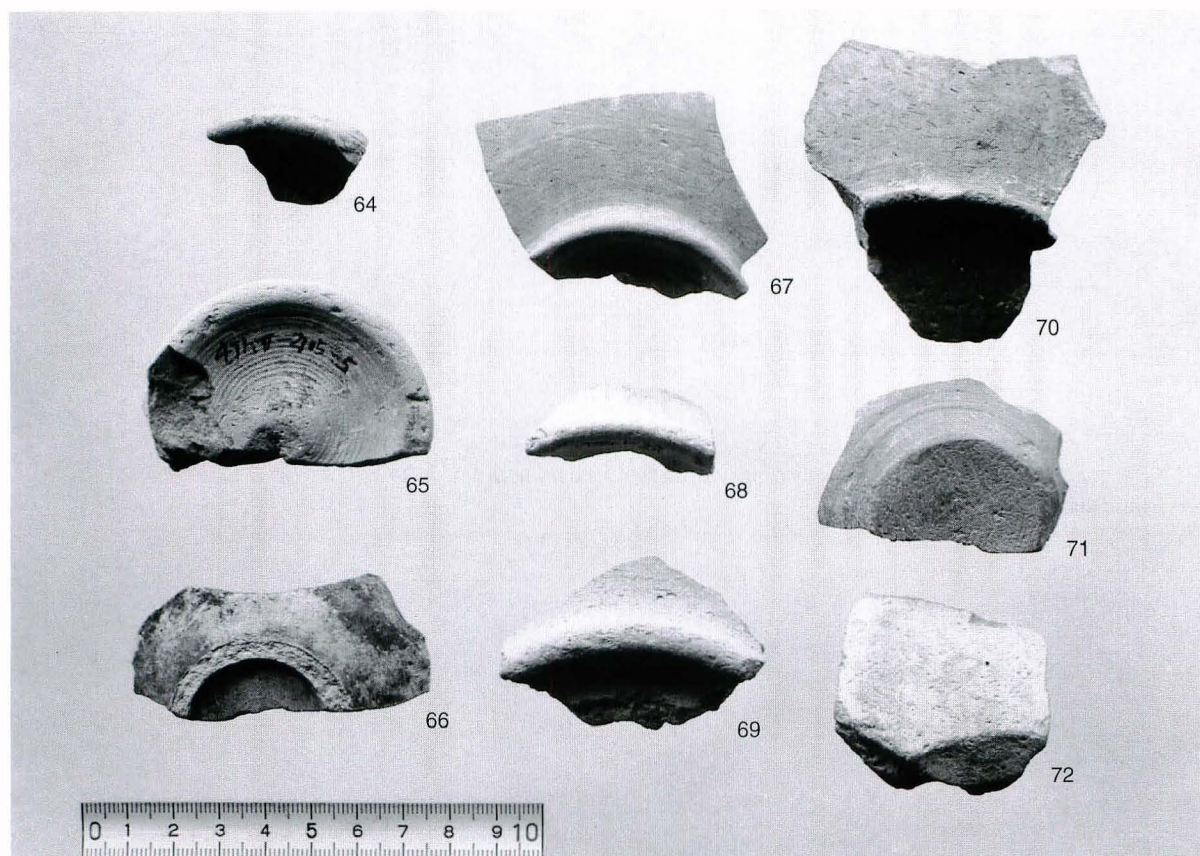
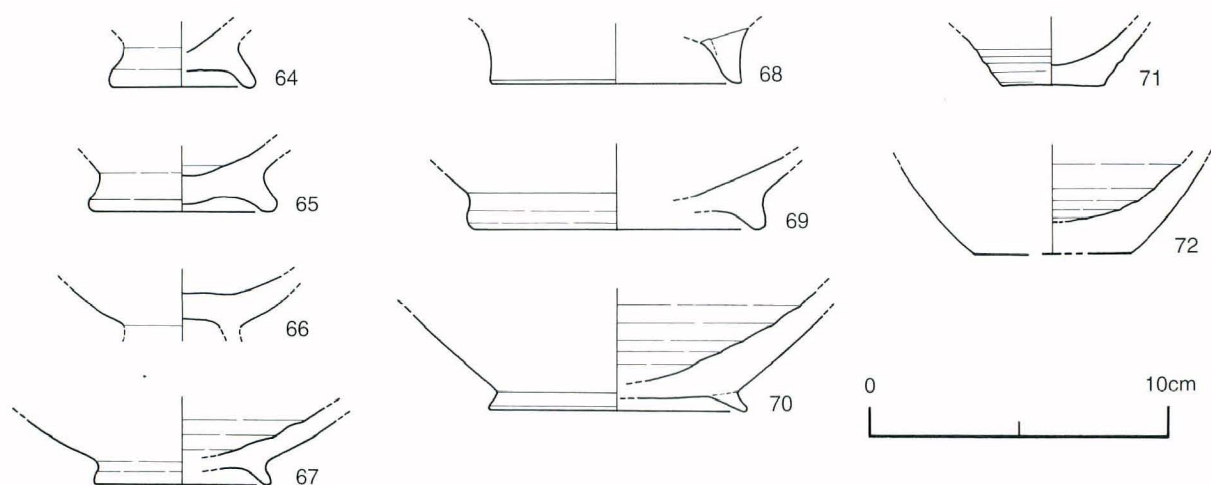
50. R10 (granary): Rim of jar; buffish cream (slip) outer surface (7.5YR7.5–7/4); light buff inner surface (5YR7.5/3–4); buff core (7.5YR7/3); much very fine sand and fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; defaced surfaces; Rim diam.: about 11–12cm; 1/7 extant.
51. Level II at R2 (D-II): Rim of jar; buff surfaces (10YR8/2–3); blackish buff core (7.5YR6/1); very much fine sand temper; wet-smoothed on outer surface and upper part of inner surface; scraped on lower part of inner surface; Rim diam.: 10.4cm; 2/5 extant.
52. O3: Rim of Jar; creamy buff (slip) outer surface (10YR8.5–8/3); reddish pink inner surface (10R6.5/4–5); pinkish core (2.5YR7.5/4); middle amount of very fine sand and vegetable (1–4mm) temper; containing chalky coarse sand and particles; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; Rim diam.: about 12–15cm.
53. F-II/1: Rim of Jar; greenish grey surfaces (2.5Y8–7.5/1); dark grey core (N6.5/); much fine sand and a little vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles and quartz sand; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; gritty; very hard; slightly defaced surfaces; Rim diam.: about 12–13cm; 1/6 extant.
54. B-III/1: Rim to body of jar; greenish white (slip) outer surface (2.5GY9/1); creamy buff (slip) inner surface (2.5Y9–8.5/2); reddish pink core (2.5YR8/3–4); much very fine sand, fine sand and sparse coarse sand temper; containing sparse chalky particles; gritty; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; horizontal section is worn out artificially; Rim diam.: about 15–18cm.
55. D-II/1: Rim of painted jar; greenish white (slip) outer surface (5Y9/1); creamy (slip) inner surface (10YR8.5–8/3); pinkish core (5YR8/3); brown paint (2.5YR6–5.5/4); middle to large amount of very fine sand and a little vegetable (1–2mm) temper; containing chalky particles and mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; painted on top of the rim.
56. Level II at R5 (D-II): Rim of jar; greenish surfaces (out: 5Y8.5/1) (in: 7.5Y8.5–8/1); greenish grey core (5Y8/1); much chalky fine sand and sparse vegetable (1–2mm) temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; very hard.
57. C-III/2: Rim of jar; buff surfaces (7.5YR7.5–7/4); blackish core (N3.5–3/); a little to middle amount of very fine sand, fine sand and much vegetable (1–5mm) temper; containing chalky particles and mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using





**Fig. 7** Jar sherds.





**Fig. 8** Base Sherds.

the wheel-turn; defaced surfaces; Rim diam.: about 20cm.

58. F-III/3 (outside of granary): Rim to body of jar; reddish buff (slip?) surfaces (10R7-6.5/6); light buff core (5YR7.5/4); middle amount of very fine sand and a little vegetable (1-5mm) temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; Rim diam.: 15-17cm; 1/9 extant.
59. D-II/1: Rim to body of jar; greenish white (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9/1); reddish buff inner surface (10R6.5-6/6); light buff core (5YR7.5/4); much very fine sand, fine sand and a little vegetable (1-3mm) temper; containing much chalky particles and mica; wet-smoothed on outer surface and inner surface of rim; scraped on inner surface of shoulder; defaced surfaces; Rim diam.: 16-19cm; 1/9 extant.
60. B-II: Rim of jar; reddish brown surfaces (10R5-4.5/5); dark buff core (5YR7.5/4); much very fine sand, fine sand and a little vegetable (1-3mm) temper; containing much chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces



using the wheel-turn; defaced on inner surface; very hard; Rim diam.: 20–25cm; 1/9 extant.

61. Lower stratum of D-III/1: Rim to body of double mouth jar; buff (slip) outer surface (10YR8.5–8/3); light buff inner surface (2.5YR7/5–6); pinkish buff (2.5YR8–7.5/4) and buffish grey (7.5YR8–7.5/1) core; much very fine sand and a little to middle amount of vegetable (1–6mm) temper; containing chalky coarse sand and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on outer surface and inner surface of rim using the wheel-turn; Rim diam.: about 8cm.
62. F-II/1: Shoulder of jar; greenish white (slip) outer surface (5Y9/1–2); pinkish inner surface and core (10R7/4–5); much very fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; burnished on outer surface; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn; defaced on outer surface.
63. Lower stratum of D-III/1: Shoulder of jar; greenish white (slip) outer surface (2.5GY9–8.5/1); reddish buff inner surface and core (2.5YR7–6.5/5); much fine sand temper; containing chalky particles; gritty; reserved slip on outer surface; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn.

Base sherds (Fig. 8): Base sherds are classified in three types as follows: low pedestal (Nos. 64, 65), ring-base (66–70), and flat base (No. 71, 72). Two low pedestals are supposed to have belonged to the Transitional period. A flat base of No. 71 is considered to be of a conical bowl. Other specimens are believed to be of bases of either jars or bowls.

<in Fig. 8>

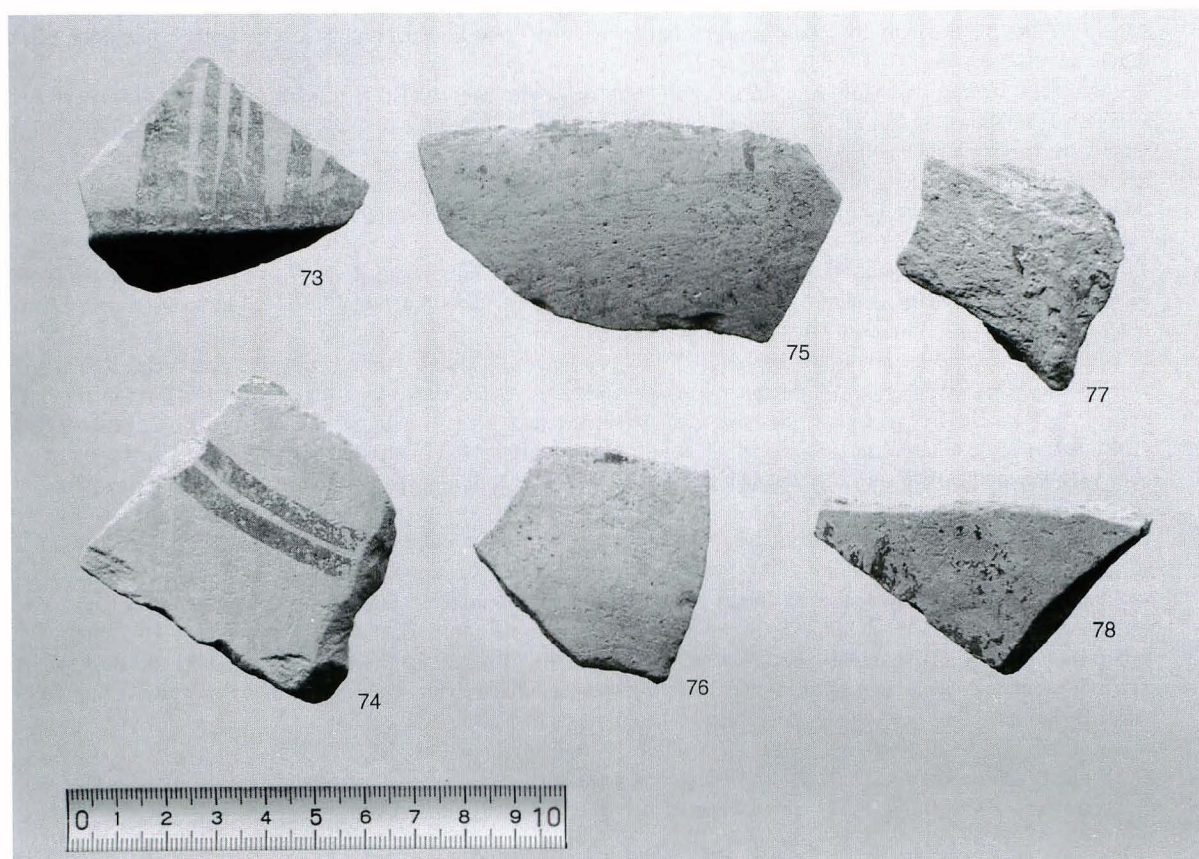
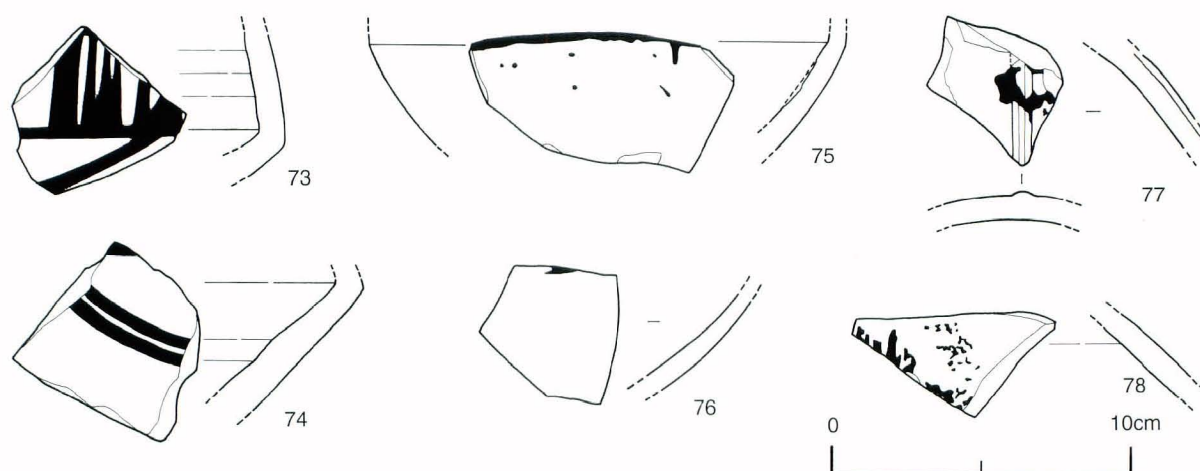
64. C-III/1: Low pedestal; buff surfaces (10YR8/4); partially smoked on outer surface of bottom (7.5YR6.5/1); reddish buff core (7.5YR8/4); a little very fine sand temper; containing mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; Base diam.: 5cm; 1/3 extant.
65. R3: Fragment of ring-base (low pedestal); creamy buff outer surface (10YR8.5/3); dark creamy buff inner surface (7.5YR8.5–8/3) and core (7.5YR7.5/3); middle amount of fine sand and a little to middle amount of vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; Base diam.: 6.3cm; 2/3 extant.
66. R3: Fragment of ring-base; greenish white surfaces and core (2.5Y9–8.5/1); much very fine sand temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; defaced inner surface; carbide sticking; exfoliated ring-base; Base diam.: 4cm; 1/2 extant.
67. A-III/2: Fragment of ring-base; creamy (slip) outer surface (10YR9/2); buff inner surface (7.5YR8.5–8/4); light buff core (5YR8/5); much very fine sand temper; wet-smoothed on surfaces of bottom using the wheel-turn; wet-smoothed on outer surface of body; Base diam.: 6cm; 1/2 extant.
68. C-II/1: Ring-base sherd; creamy (slip) surfaces (10YR9/2); buff core (7.5YR8/3–4); much very fine sand temper; containing much chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on surfaces; Base diam.: about 8–9cm; 1/7 extant.
69. Level IV at R14 (E-II): Fragment of ring-base; creamy (slip) surfaces (out: 10YR8.5/2–3) (in: 10YR9/1–2); pinkish core (10R6.5/4); middle to large amount of very fine sand and much vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on outer surfaces using the wheel-turn; wet-smoothed on inner surface after scraping; Base diam.: 10cm; 1/6 extant.
70. C-II/2: Fragment of body to ring-base; creamy pinkish buff outer surface of body (2.5YR7/4–5); reddish buff inner surface and outer surface of bottom (10R6–5.5/6); buff core (7.5YR7/4); a little to middle amount of very fine sand and vegetable (1–3mm) temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; burnished on outer surface of body; wet-smoothed on inner surface and outer surface of bottom using the wheel-turn; Base diam.: about 8–9cm; 1/6 extant.
71. F-II/1: Base of conical bowl; reddish buff surfaces (2.5YR7/6) (partially buff (7.5YR8/4)); blackish buff core (10YR6/1); much fine sand temper; containing much mica; scraped on outer surface (horizontal way); scraped on bottom after string-cut; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn; Base diam.: 4cm; 2/3 extant.
72. R24 at F-III: Flat base sherd; greenish creamy white (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9/1 or 5Y9/1); pinkish inner surface; (2.5YR7/6); reddish buff core (2.5YR7/4–5); much very fine sand and fine sand temper; containing much chalky particles; gritty; wet-smoothed on surfaces using the wheel-turn; slightly defaced surfaces; Base diam.: about 4–5.5cm; 1/5 extant.

Painted wares (Fig. 9): Six specimens were found, but only two specimens show the part of painted designs (Nos. 73, 74). No. 73 is a body of a carinated bowl, which has elongated triangles motif on its upper body and a part of thin concentric arcs on its lower body. On the other hand, No. 74 is a lower body of a bowl, with very thin two concentric arcs on its outer surface. Both of them have typical features of painted motif found in those of painted ware in the Transitional period [Rova 1993: Pls. XVII, XX-57, 58]. Nos. 75 and 76 are supposed to be of lower bodies of jars or bowls, with almost no paint on their outer surfaces. In addition to above, the remarkable specimen is a fragment of shoulder which is supposed to be of a nose lugged-jar (No. 77).

<in Fig. 9>

73. Level I of R24: body of painted carinated bowl; creamy white (slip) outer surface (10YR8.5/2); pinkish inner surface and core (5YR7.5/3–4); reddish brown paint (2.5YR3.5–3/5); middle to large amount of very fine sand and fine sand temper;





**Fig. 9** Painted Wares.

containing chalky particles; wet-smoothed on inner surface and upper part of outer surface using the wheel-turn; scraped on outer surface of body; defaced paint.

74. C-II/1: Body of painted bowl; greenish cream (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9–8.5/2); pinkish buff inner surface and core (5YR8–7.5/3); dark purple paint (5R3.5/1–2); middle to large amount of very fine sand and fine sand temper; containing sparse chalky particles; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn; scraped on lower part of outer surface (vertical way); defaced surfaces.
75. E-III/2 (outside of granary): Painted body sherd; greenish creamy white (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9/1–2); pinkish buff inner surface and core (5YR7.5/3–4); brown paint (2.5YR6–5.5/5); middle amount of very fine sand and fine sand temper; containing sparse chalky particles; scraped on outer surface; defaced and exfoliated inner surface; Max.diam.: about 16–18cm; 1/6–1/7 extant.



76. C-III/1: Painted body sherd; greenish white (slip) outer surface (5Y9/1); pinkish inner surface and core (2.5YR7/5); reddish purple paint (5R2.5–2/6); much very fine sand, fine sand and sparse coarse sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on outer surface; scraped on inner surface; paint remains in part.
77. E-III/1: Shoulder of painted nose-lugged jar; greenish white (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9–8.5/1); buff inner surface (7.5YR7.5/3); pinkish core (2.5YR7/4); dark brown paint (2.5YR2.5/3); much very fine sand, fine sand and vegetable (1–3mm) temper; soft and fragile; defaced surfaces; most paint exfoliated.
78. E-I/E-II/3 (outside of granary): body of painted jar; creamy white (slip) outer surface (2.5Y9/1–2); light buff inner surface (5YR8/3–4); pinkish core (2.5YR6.5/4–5); light brown paint (10R3/7–8); much very fine sand and a little fine sand temper; containing chalky particles and gold colored mica; wet-smoothed on inner surface using the wheel-turn; most paint defaced.

## Conculusion

Most of pottery illustrated are closely similar to those of Northern Late Uruk pottery from well-known as Late Uruk sites such as Nineveh, Tells Brak, Leilan, Mohammed Arab, Karrana 3, Hawa, Jessary and so on<sup>3)</sup>. In the previous excavation reports of Tell Thalathat [Egami 1959, Fukai et al. 1974], there have not been discussed on the Late Uruk pottery at all. The research results of the study of the unpublished material from Tell Thalathat No. 5 produced pottery of the Late Uruk and the Transitional periods. This fact tell us that occupation levels belonging to the Late Uruk and the Transitional periods have existed in Tells of Thalathat. Most of specimens illustrated are supposed to have derived from other area which is different from excavation area of Tell No. 5, in terms of their amount and findspots<sup>4)</sup>. It seems, therefore, that occupation levels of the Late Uruk and the Transitional periods have not existed at excavation area of Tell No. 5 [Numoto 1997: 121]<sup>5)</sup>. Moreover, no occupation level of the Late Uruk period was found at excavations at Tell No. 2 [Egami 1959], judging from this, main residential areas of the Late Uruk and the Transitional periods are supposed to have spread in Tells No. 1, 3, and 4 as well as that of the Ninevite 5 period.

## Acknowledgements

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- 3) Nineveh [Thompson and Hamilton 1932: Pl. LXI; Thompson and Mallowan 1933: Pls. L-LII; Gut 1995: Tafels 59–70, 122–124;], Brak [Fielden 1981: Figs. 1, 2; Oates 1985: Figs. 1–3; Oates and Oates 1991: Fig. 8; 1993: Figs. 49–54; Matthews et al. 1994: Figs. 3–5], Leilan [Schwartz 1988: Figs. 52–55], Mohammed Arab [Roaf 1983: Fig. 2; 1984: Fig. 8; Killick in press: Figs. 1–3; Roaf and Killick 1987: Fig. 2], Karrana 3 [Rova 1993: Pls. XVII, XXVI–XLIII], Hawa [Ball et al. 1989: Figs. 19–21], Jessary [Numoto 1990: Figs. 1, 4, 12, 16, 17], Thuwailj [Fujii et al. 1989–90: Fig. 6], Jigan [Numoto 1992: Figs. 9–10], Siyana and Abu Dahir [Ball and Wilkinson in press: Fig. 10].
  - 4) Total weight of the Late Uruk specimens is about 4.5 kg only. Most of specimens were excavated from fill and surface layer in various spots of the excavation area at Tell No. 5.
  - 5) The remarkable fact recognized in specimens illustrated is that Late Uruk pottery (Nos. 13, 14, 39, 40) found from Level IV at R2, R4, and inside of R3 are relatively well-preserved than specimens from other findspots. Taking into this fact, there is a possibility that the Late Uruk occupation level had been spread the lower stratum of the Ninevite 5 level at above-mentioned findspots.



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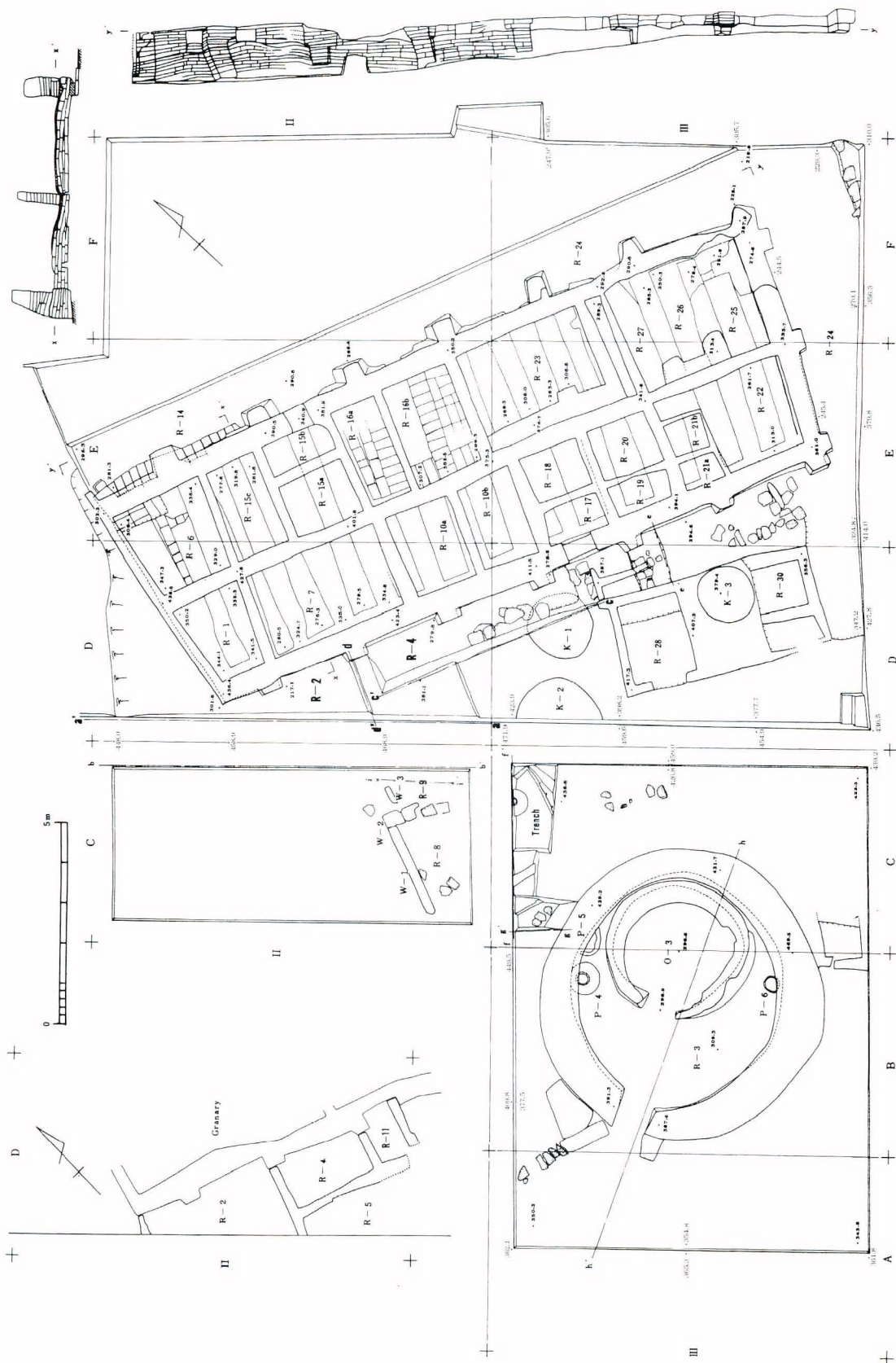


Fig. 10 Plan of structures at Tell Thalathat No. 5 (from Fukai *et al.* [1974: Pl. XLII]).