

NOTE ON A CEMETERY AT KARM AL-SHAIKH,
JERUSALEM

THE site known as Karm al-Shaikh is situated about 40 metres north of the north-east corner of the City wall. It is referred to by Clermont-Ganneau, who gives an account of some tomb-chambers he examined on this site.¹ He had intended, he says, to resume exploration later on, but adds 'our other labours unfortunately gave me no leisure to do so'. He believed that these tombs 'may have an important bearing upon the question, still awaiting solution, of the third wall of the City'. He added:² 'whatever their age may be these sepulchres . . . are worth clearing out; perhaps one might find, if not an inscription, at all events some characteristic object which would enable one to decide the period to which they belong.'

The new Palestine Archaeological Museum is now being built upon this site. During the course of excavating for the foundations it was necessary to clear and to examine a number of tombs. The following is a short summary of the discoveries. The tombs were of three categories: (a) rectangular rock-cut graves; (b) caves; and (c) rock-cut chambers. Of these, 68 rock-cut graves, 5 caves, and 4 rock-cut chambers were cleared.

Fig. 1 gives a plan of the site and the positions of these tombs.

The rock-cut graves were rectangular in shape, measuring, on the average, 1.80 m. long, 0.50 m. wide, and 2.00 m. deep. The majority ran either from north to south or from east to west. Fig. 2 gives a plan and section of rock-cut Grave No. 3. This grave may be taken as typical of this category. In this grave, and at a depth of 1.40 m., bones were found huddled together in the west end of the grave. Under these bones were stone slabs resting upon ledges. Beneath these was a skeleton with the skull at the west end of the grave. Round the skull were found the objects illustrated on Plate I.

In Grave No. 19 the stone slabs that, in other graves, occurred usually at a depth of about 1.50 m. were found immediately beneath the surface of the ground, thus leaving almost the full depth (about 1.80 m.) for burials. In this grave were found nine skeletons and the objects illustrated on Plate III.

Grave No. 55 was exceptionally long, 2.35 m., 0.70 m. wide, and 2.00 m. deep. It contained, beneath the stone slabs, two skeletons.

The presence of bones above the stone slabs in some of the graves, as, for

¹ Charles Clermont-Ganneau, *Archaeological Researches in Palestine*, translated for the Palestine Exploration Fund by Aubrey Stewart, Vol. I, p. 248.

² *Ibid.*, p. 253.

example, in No. 3, suggests the possibility of a practice similar to the modern Greek Orthodox custom of burying the eldest son in his father's grave. On opening the grave the father's bones are collected, and placed, in a linen sheet, over the son's coffin, and wine is poured over the bones of the father.

With the exception of Nos. 19 and 55 the rest of the graves were similar to No. 3 above described. The objects found in them are illustrated on the Plates.

The five caves are marked A, B, C, D, and F, see Fig. 1. As is seen on the plan, A, B, C, and D communicate with one another.

The objects illustrated on Plates IX, X, and XIV were found in caves B and F. Cave B contained twenty-six skulls, and other parts of skeletons were found scattered on the floor of the cave.

The four rock-cut chambers are marked E, G, H, and J on Fig. 1. In chamber E (Fig. 3) were seven rock-sunk graves. Access to the chamber was given by a rectangular opening in the roof (1.50 m. long, and 0.60 m. wide). This opening was covered with three slabs. Plates X and XIV illustrate the objects found in this chamber.

Chamber G (Fig. 4) had two entrances: one to the south measuring 0.40 m. by 0.50 m.; the other, a circular one, of 0.50 m. in diameter, in the roof. In this chamber a coin of Arcadius was found. The other objects discovered in this chamber are illustrated on Plate VIII.

Chamber H (Fig. 5) had one entrance, measuring 0.40 m. by 0.50 m., on the north side. In it were three rock-sunk graves fitted with stone slabs. For contents see Plates XI and XIII.

One sarcophagus was discovered (Plate XVIII). Its box is 1.97 m. long, 0.63 m. wide, and 0.70 m. high; its lid is 0.31 m. high. It contained two skeletons and four gold ear-rings (see Plate XVIII).

Surface finds are illustrated on Plates XIII and XIV. The inscribed stones illustrated on Plate XIV appear to be tombstones.

The first is inscribed ΚΑΝ ΔΙΔ ΟC in three lines; and the second is fragmentary.

A summary of the coins found is given on p. 6; they are all of bronze and, as isolated specimens, comparatively unimportant; but taken collectively they may give some idea of the extent to which the site was used at different times.

Two coins date from the end of the second century B.C. Six coins belong to the middle of the first century A.D. Then there are only three coins covering about a century and a half, from the victory of Titus in A.D. 70 to the beginning of the third century A.D. The period from the middle of the

third century to the end of the fourth is covered by twelve coins, the fifth century by two (or possibly three), and the sixth century by six or seven coins. For the twelve centuries separating the Arab conquest from the present day there are only thirteen coins (Mamluk, Crusader, and recent).

Though the number of coins found on this site during the clearance of the surface soil and the examination of the burials is relatively small, it is of interest to note that the number of coins belonging to each of the periods indicated roughly corresponds, in proportion, to the numbers traceable to the same periods in the list of coins found during excavations in the Tyropoeon Valley, Jerusalem,¹ during 1927. D. C. B.

¹ Published in the Palestine Exploration Fund Annual, No. 5 (1929) by J. W. Crowfoot and G. M. FitzGerald.

SUMMARY OF COINS FOUND

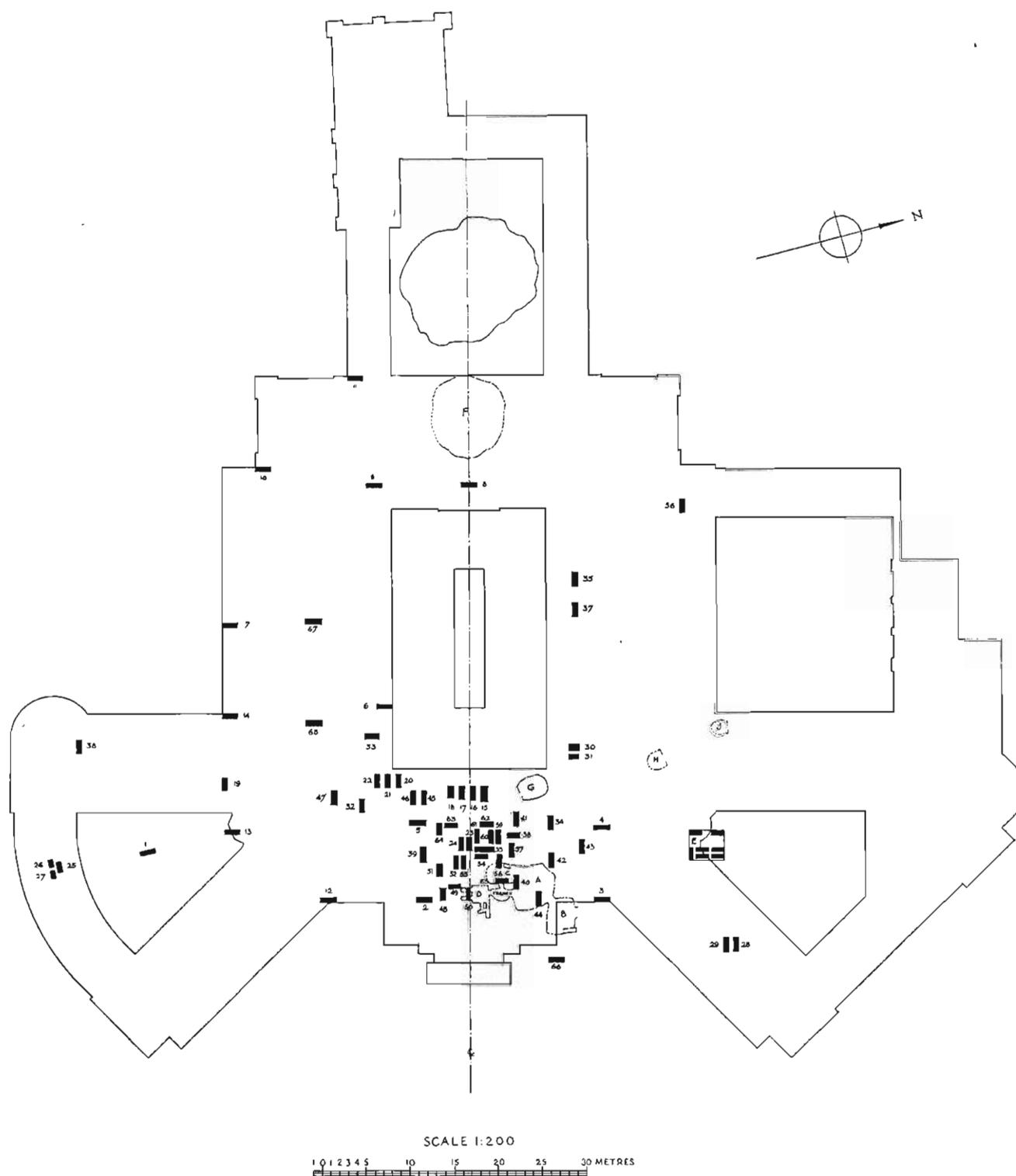
Diameter (mm).	Obverse.	Reverse.	Provenance.	Notes.
19	Winged and draped bust of Eros r. crowned with myrtle; dotted border.	Head-dress of Isis; on r. (2 lines) and l. (1 line) inscr.: [BA]ΣΙΑΕ[ΩΣ] ANTIOX[OY] EYEPΓETOY in ex.: [Θ OP (year 179, Seleucid era); in field l., monogram: †	Cave F.	134-133 B.C.
16	Anchor; around: [BA]ΣΙΑΕ [ΩΣΑΛ] --- dotted border. (B.M.C. <i>Palestine</i> , p. 207, Series F.)	Wheel, with eight spokes; inscr. between spokes (illegible).	Cave A.	Alexander Jannaeus. 103-76 B.C.
15	Lituus; around: ΤΙΒΕΡΙΟΥ --- dotted border.	Wreath containing: ΛΙΖ (year 17 of Tiberius); dotted border.	Surface soil.	A.D. 30-1. A coin of the Procurator Pontius Pilatus.
17	As preceding coin.		Cave A.	
16	Male head r. (almost obliterated) no inscr.; dotted border.	Figure standing to front, within a wreath; inscr. (if any) illegible; dotted border.	Surface soil.	Thick fabric (? Herodian). 1st century A.D.
18	Narrow-necked amphora; inscr.: טלח[wx]לח (חנת שחם - year 2); dotted border.	Vine-leaf and tendril; inscr.: --x9⊖ dotted border.	Surface soil.	First revolt of the Jews. A.D. 67-8.
16	As preceding coin.		Cave F.	
23	Bust of Trajan r. laureate; inscr. illegible; dotted border.	City-goddess standing l.; at her feet on l. an altar; in field r. a dove and date: ΕΙΓ (year 215 of Ascalon); inscr. on r. illegible; dotted border.	Cave B.	A.D. 111-12. Struck at Ascalon.
21	Bust of an emperor r. laureate; (much worn).	Traces of a female bust r.	Surface soil.	Possibly a coin of Hadrian struck in Arabia. 2nd century A.D.

20	Bust of Elagabalus r. laureate, wearing paludamentum and cuirass; around: IMPCMAVPANTWNI - dotted border.	Founder ploughing r.; above: PETM; in ex.: COLON dotted border.	Surface soil.	A.D. 218-22. Coin of a colony founded by Elagabalus; attributed by de Saulcy to Petra in Arabia, but this attribution has been considered improbable, the coins always being found in Palestine, generally in Jerusalem. (See B.M.C. <i>Arabia</i> , p. xxxviii.)
20	Bust of Claudius (II) Gothicus r. draped; around: -- AVDIVSAVG	Equity standing l. holding in r. hand a balance and in l. cornucopiae; around: AE[QVIT]ASAVG	Cave B.	A.D. 268-70.
21	Bust of Aurelian r. radiate; around: - CAVRELIANVSAVG	Bust of Vabalathus r. laureate; around: VABALATHVSVCRIMDR	Surface soil.	Struck probably at Antioch by the Palmyrene ruler Vabalathus in the earlier part of the reign of Valerian. (A.D. 270-75.)
20	Bust of an emperor r. radiate; illegible.	Type (obliterated) in wreath.	Surface soil.	Probably early to middle 3rd century A.D.
22	Bust of Philip Junior (?) r. wearing paludamentum and cuirass; illegible.	Type indistinct (apparently Mount Gerizim supported by an eagle).	Cave B.	Possibly a coin of Neapolis. Middle of the 3rd century A.D.
24	Traces of (female?) bust r. with oval countermark containing a small male head.	Traces of bust of Sarapis r.; inscr. obliterated.	Chamber E.	Probably middle of the 3rd century A.D.
22	Type obliterated.	Traces of figure standing; -- VTA --	Chamber J.	End of 3rd century A.D. (Similar to Antoniniani of Gallienus.)
21	Bust of Constantine r. laureate; around: IMPCONSTANTINVS · AVG	Sol, radiate, standing to front, r. hand raised, in l. a globe; around: SOLIINVI CTOCOMITI in ex.: TES	Chamber H, Grave III.	A.D. 307-37. Struck at Thessalonica.

	<i>Diameter (mm).</i>	<i>Obverse.</i>	<i>Reverse.</i>	<i>Provenance.</i>	<i>Notes.</i>
∞	15	Bust of an emperor r. laureate; illegible.	Soldier advancing r. with head turned to l. holding a spear in l. hand and dragging a small captive with r.	Surface soil.	Middle of the 4th century A.D.
	16	Bust of an emperor r. laureate; illegible.	Emperor spearing a fallen enemy.	Chamber G, Grave II.	Middle of the 4th century A.D.
	15	Bust of an emperor r. laureate; illegible.	Emperor spearing a fallen enemy; [F]ELTEM --	Surface soil.	Middle of the 4th century A.D.
	17	Bust of Constantius II (?) r. laureate; illegible.	Emperor spearing a fallen enemy. FEL[TEMP]REPARATIO	Surface soil.	Middle of the 4th century A.D.
	18	Bust of Arcadius r. laureate; around: DNARCADI --	Type indistinct; apparently a male figure in military habit, standing r., resting r. hand on a spear and looking towards Victory advancing l. to crown him; around: VIRTVS [EXERCIT · ·]	Chamber G, Grave IV.	A.D. 395-408.
	14	Bust of an emperor r. laureate; illegible.	Traces of a figure standing l. (winged or holding a shield?)	Surface soil.	Late 4th or early 5th century A.D.
	14	Type obliterated.	Victory advancing l.; illegible except in ex.: ANTΔ	Surface soil.	5th century A.D.
	10	Bust of an emperor wearing diadem in early Byzantine style; illegible.	Standing figure (? Victory—head and wings obscure); in field r. uncertain object (? crown) resting on the ground.	Grave 51.	Late 5th or, more probably, early 6th century A.D.

FIG. 1

PLAN SHOWING POSITION OF GRAVES, CHAMBERS AND
CAVES, AND THE AREA (OUTLINED) TO BE OCCUPIED
BY THE PALESTINE ARCHÆOLOGICAL MUSEUM



PLAN SHOWING DETAILS
OF GRAVE 3 AND CHAMBERS 'E', 'G' AND 'H'

FIG. 2

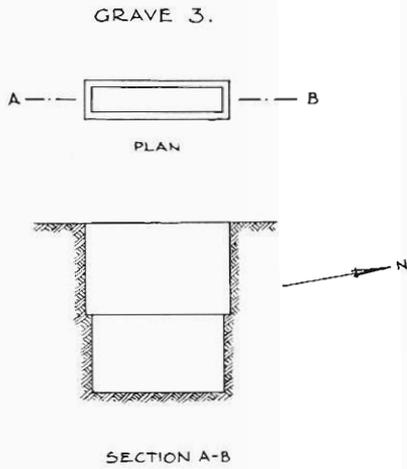


FIG. 4

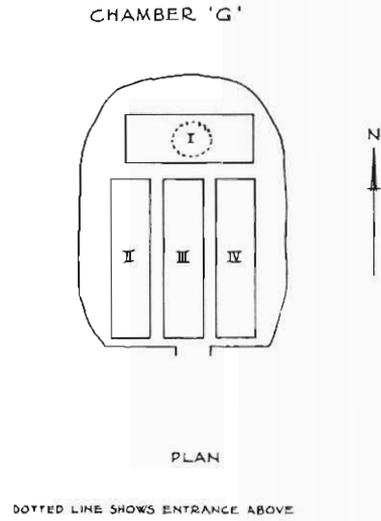


FIG. 3

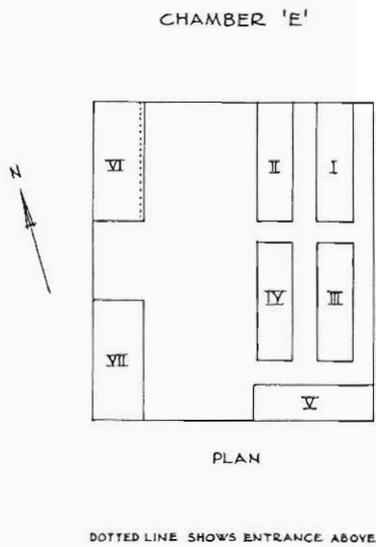
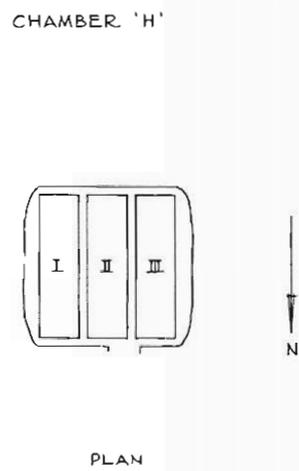


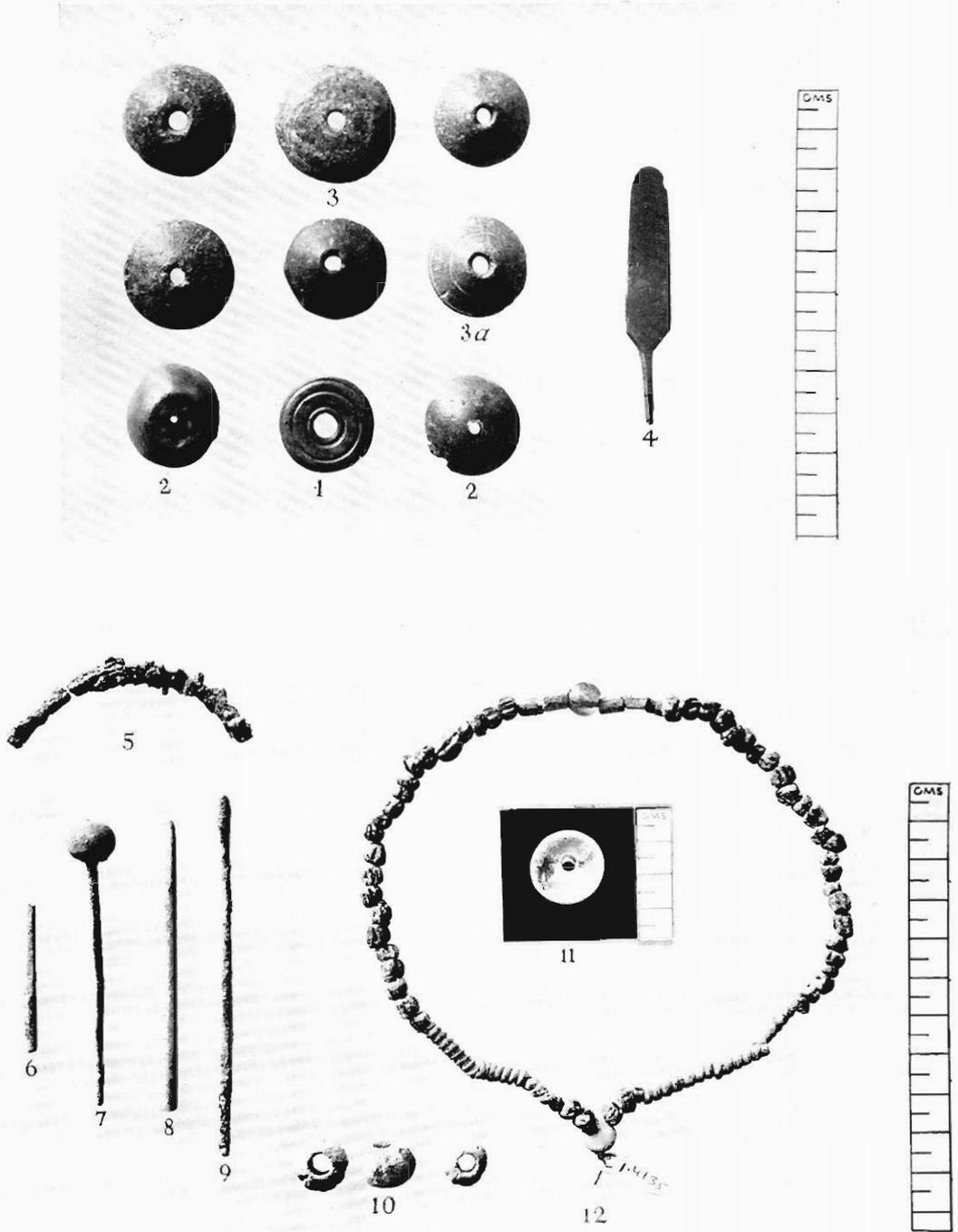
FIG. 5



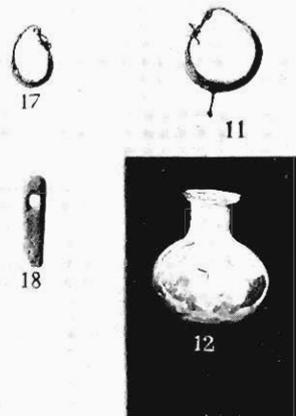
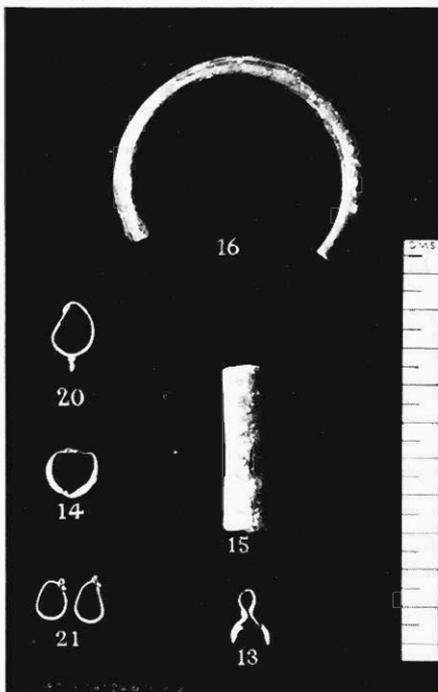
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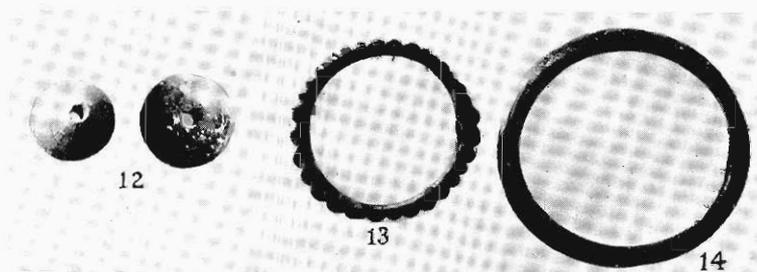
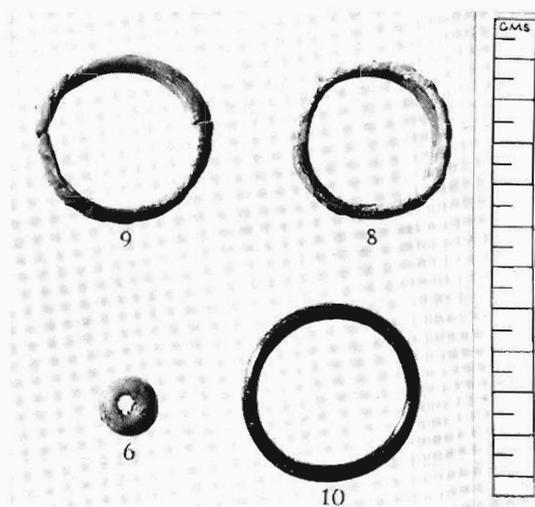
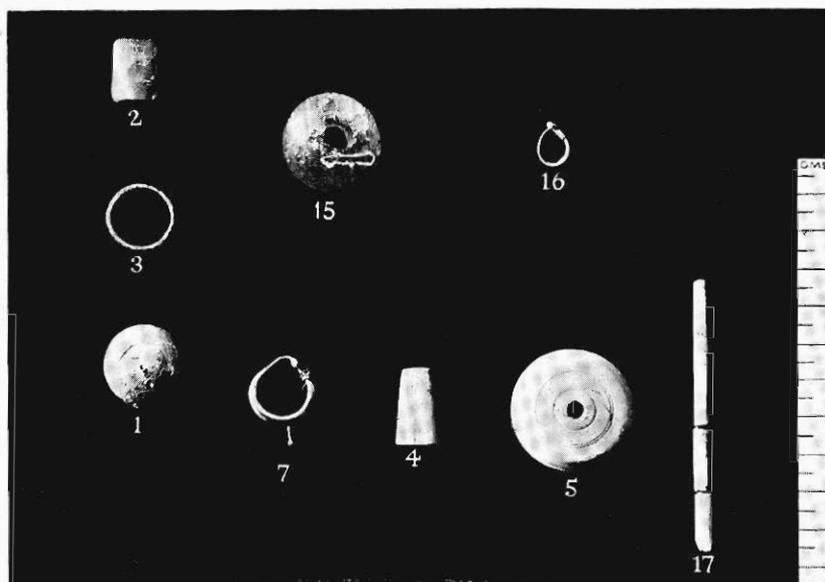
PLATE IV



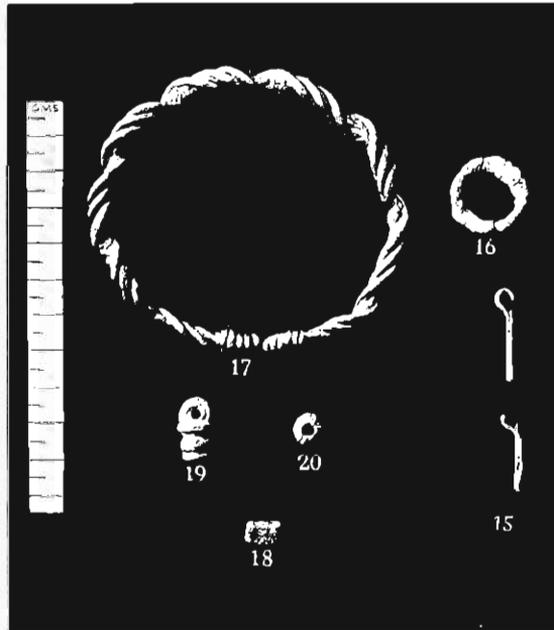
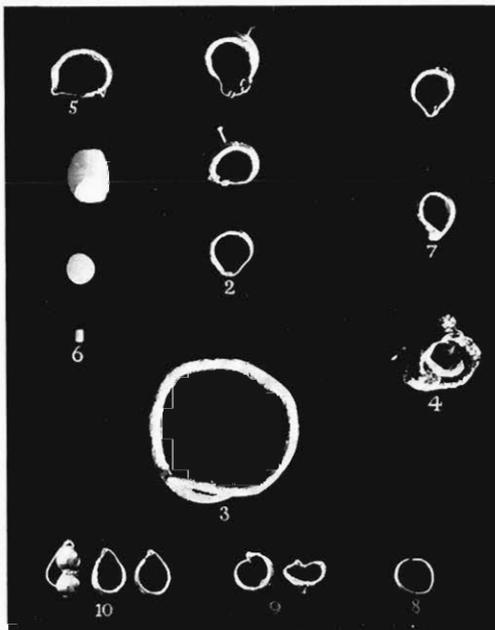
Contents of Grave 3: (1) Bronze lower case for buttons (3). (2) Bronze upper cases for buttons (3). (3) Five grey dioritic buttons and one (3 a) in brown stone. (4) Bronze spatula. (5) Fragments of an iron ring. (6) and (8) Fragments of ivory pins. (7) and (9) Bronze pins. (10) to (12) Glass beads of various colours.



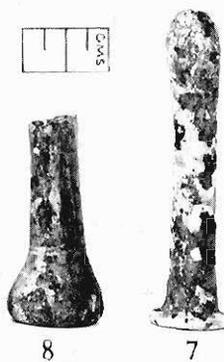
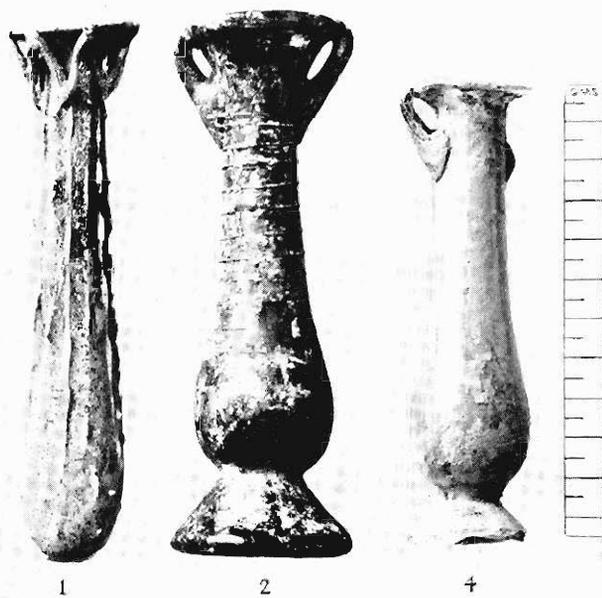
Contents of *Grave 14*: (1) Scarab. (2) Carnelian bead. (3) Cowrie shell with lead cover. (4) to (6) Glass beads. (7) Three lead rings. (8) Two bronze bracelets. (9) Gold necklace. (10) Gold ear-ring. *Grave 12*: (11) Gold ear-ring. *Grave 6*: (12) Glass bottle. (13) Bronze fibula. (14) Gold ear-ring. (15) Bronze tube. (16) Fragment of glass bracelet. *Grave 13*: (17) Gold ear-ring. (18) Head of an ivory needle. (19) Purple glass bottle. *Grave 42*: (20) and (21) Gold ear-rings. (22) Glass bottle.



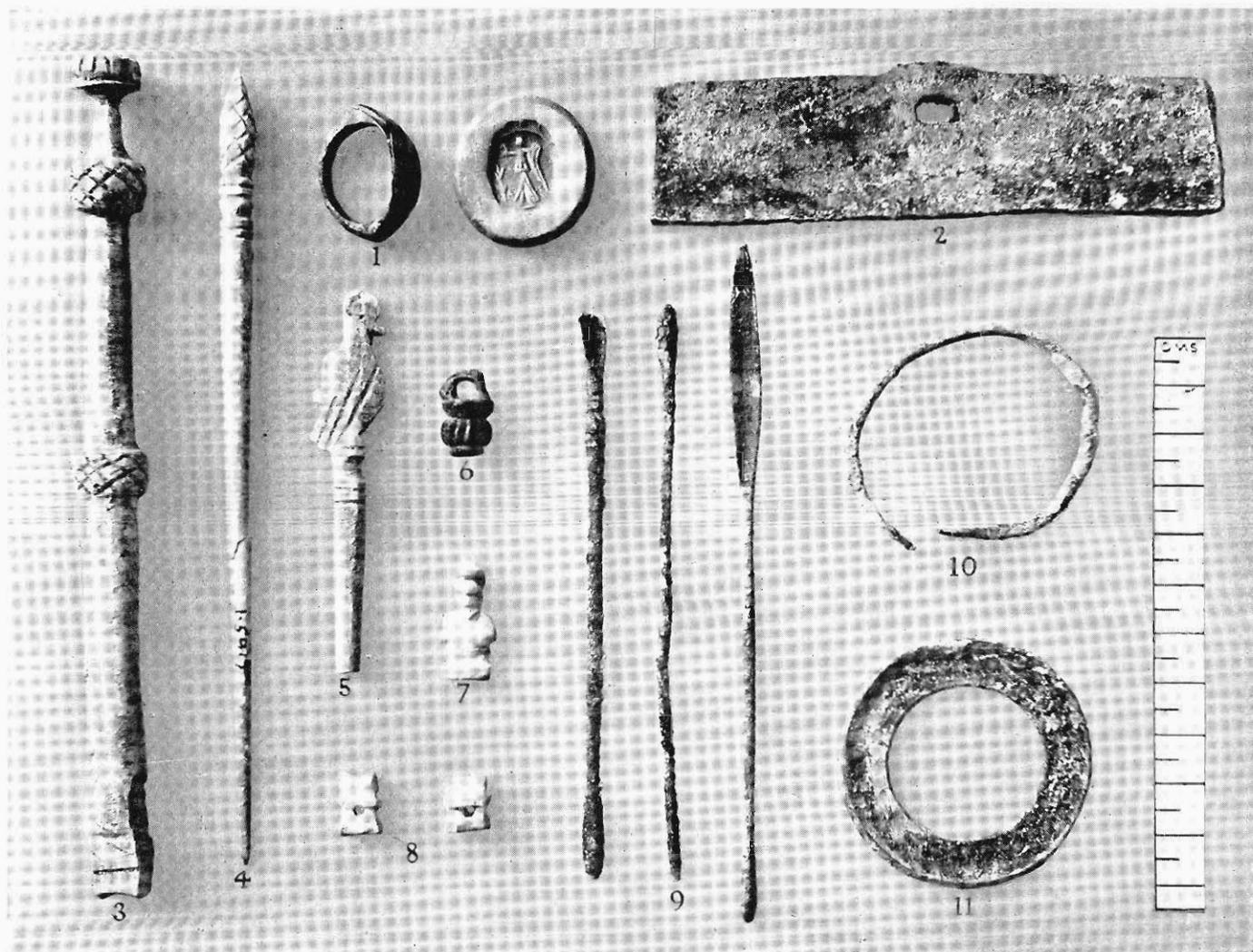
Contents of Grave 24: (1) Bronze button cover. (2) Green glass and yellow paste bead. (3) Bronze ring. (4) Ivory stopper. (5) Ivory button. (16) Gold ear-ring. (17) Ivory pin. *Grave 19:* (6) Glass head. (7) Gold ear-ring. (8) to (10) Glass bracelets. (11) Roman pottery lamps. *Grave 15:* (12) Diorite buttons. (13) and (14) Glass bracelets. (15) Glass button.



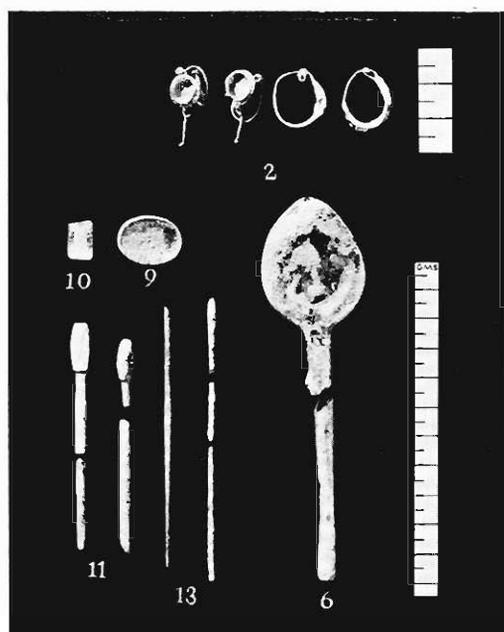
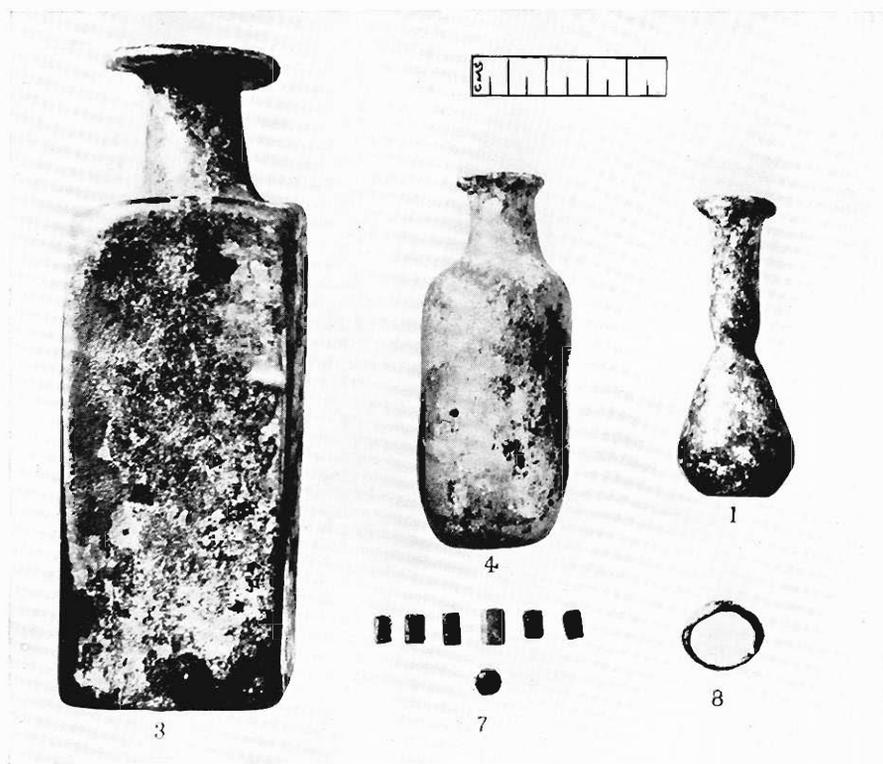
Contents of *Grave 36*: (1) Fourteen pieces of gold sheet. *Grave 33*: (2) Gold ear-rings. (3) Bronze bracelet. (4) Iron ring encircling the neck of a glass bottle. *Grave 64*: (5) Gold ear-ring. (6) Resinous and glass beads. *Grave 30*: (7) Gold ear-rings. *Grave 29*: (8) Gold ear-ring. *Grave 37*: (9) Gold ear-rings. *Grave 38*: (10) Gold ear-rings. *Grave 32*: (11) Glass tear bottle. (12) Iron nail. (13) Glass plate. (14) Purple glass unguentarium. *Grave 35*: (15) Bronze fibulae. (16) Iron ring. (17) Bronze bracelet. (18) and (20) Glass beads. (19) Glass pendant.



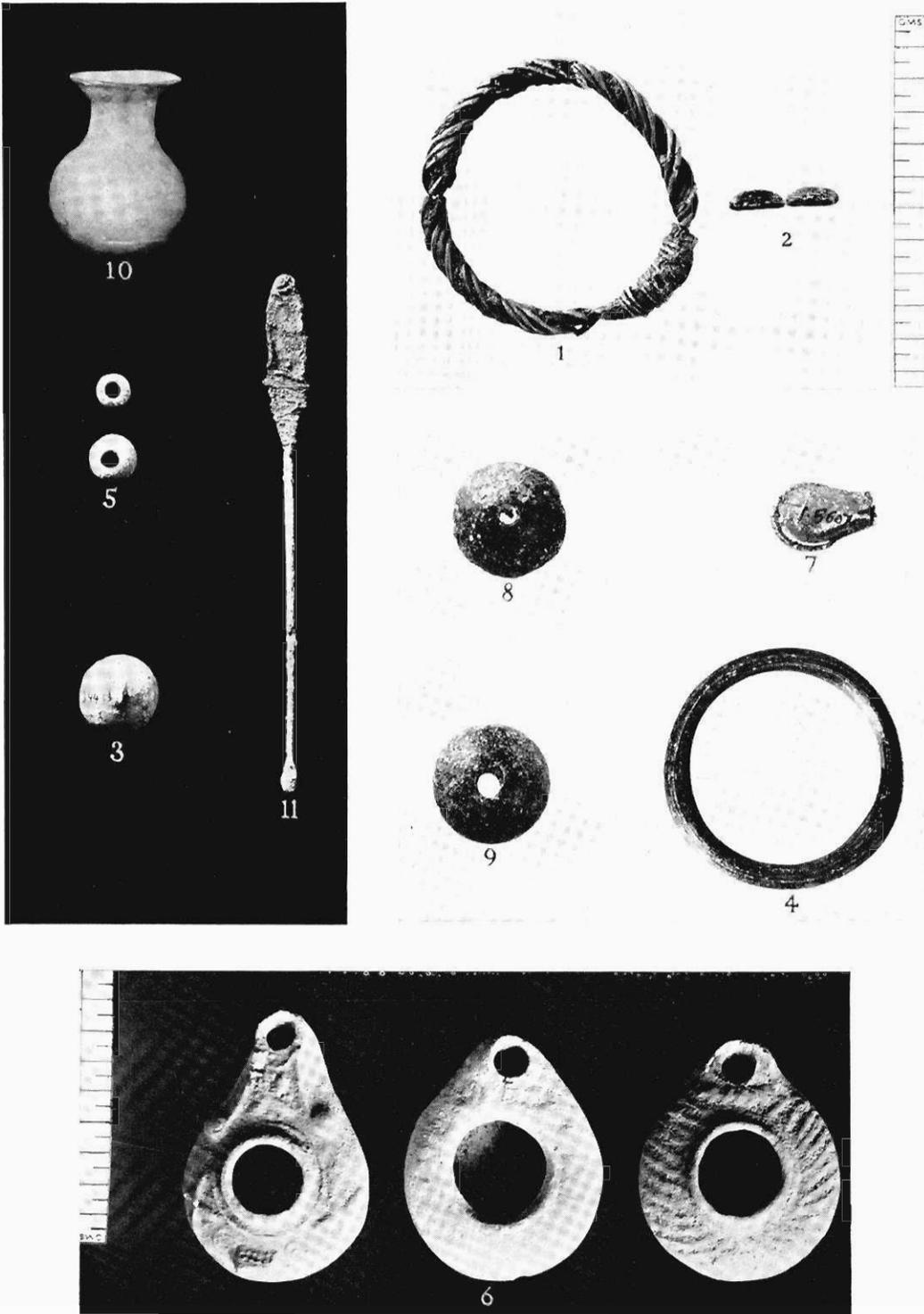
Contents of Grave 39: (1) and (2) Glass unguentaria. (3) Gold ear-rings. (4) and (6) Glass unguentaria. (5) Glass urn.
Grave 41: (7) Slender glass bottle. (8) Fragment of glass bottle. (9) Gold ear-rings.



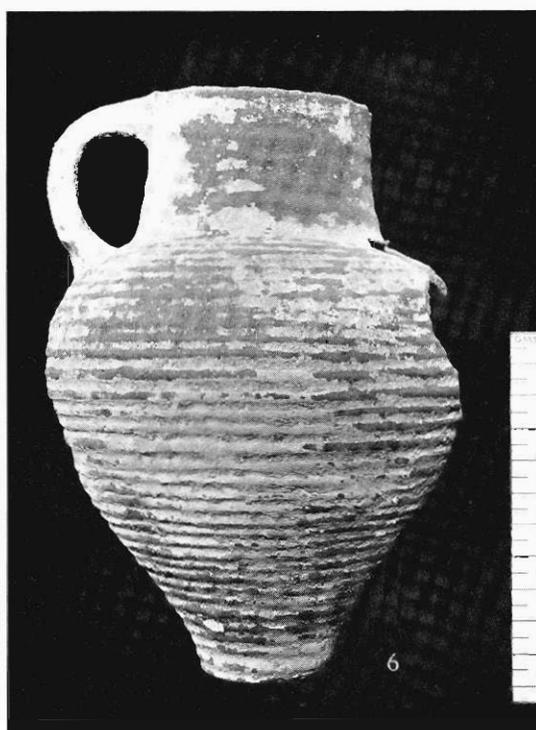
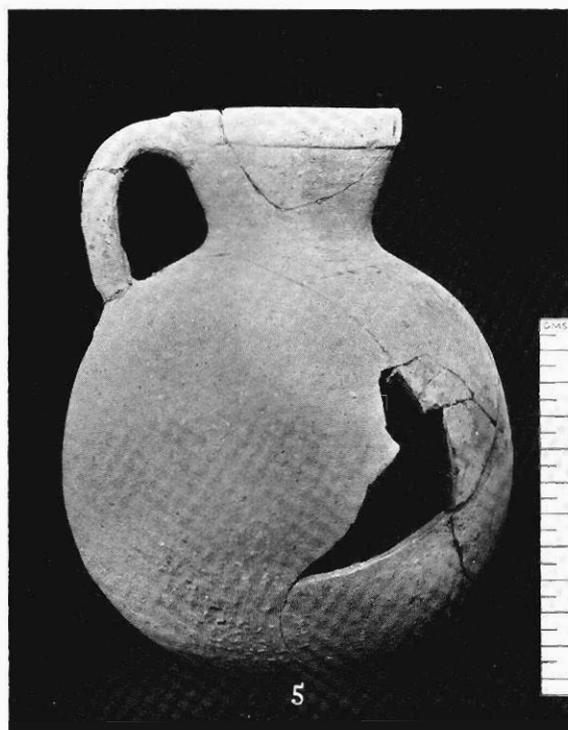
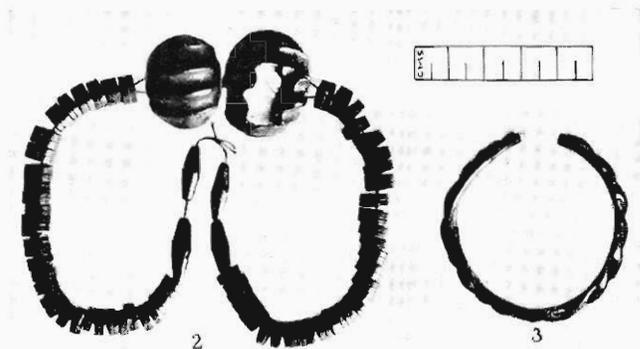
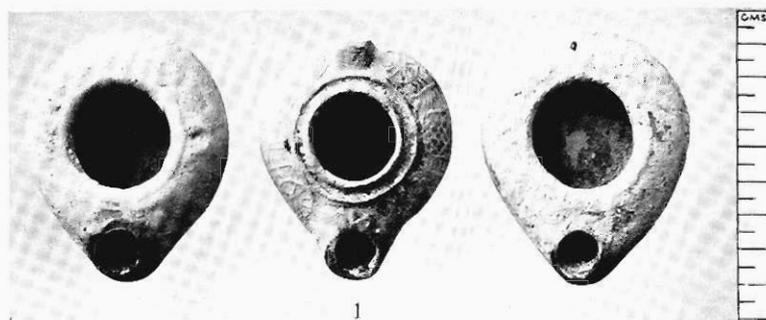
Contents of Grave 44: (1) Bronze finger ring. (2) Bronze plate. (3) to (5) Ivory pins. (6) Glass pendant. (7) Ivory bust. (8) Ivory beads. (9) Bronze spatulae. (10) Bronze bracelet. (11) Bronze ring.



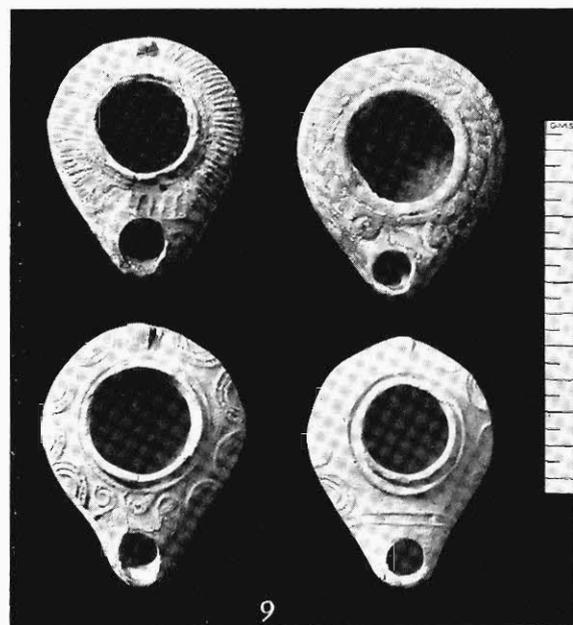
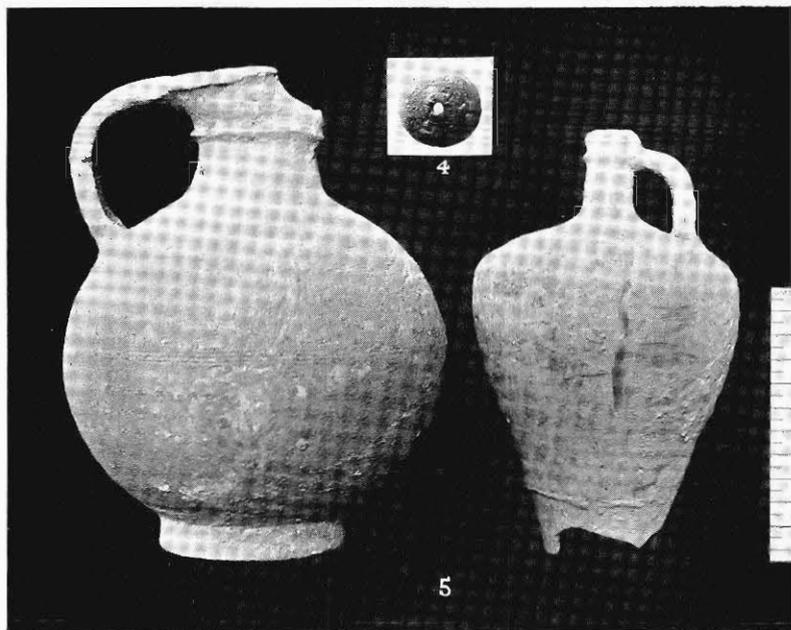
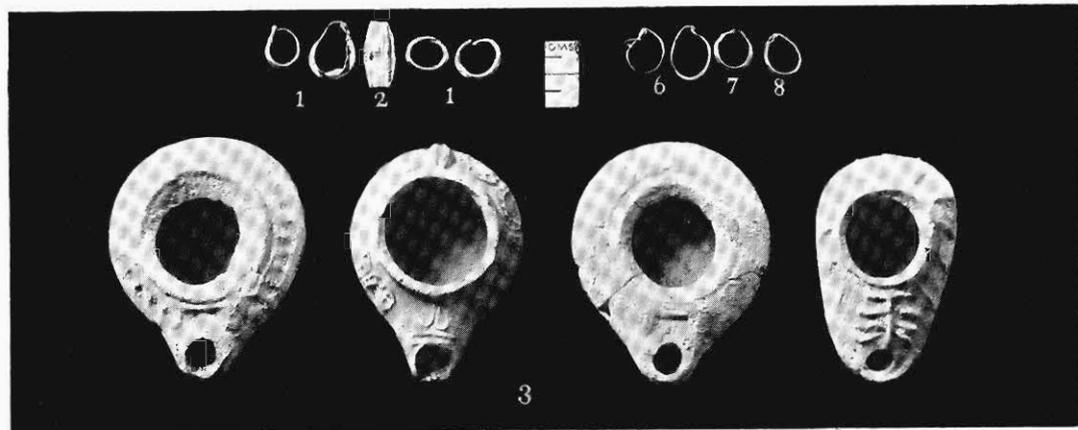
Contents of Grave 40 : (1) Glass bottle. (2) Gold ear-rings. (3) and (4) Glass bottles. *Grave 66*: (5) Glass unguentarium. (6) Glass bottle. (7) Glass beads. (8) Bronze finger ring. (9) Glass plaque. (10) Glass bead. (11) Ivory pins. (12) Glass bottle. (13) Bronze pins.



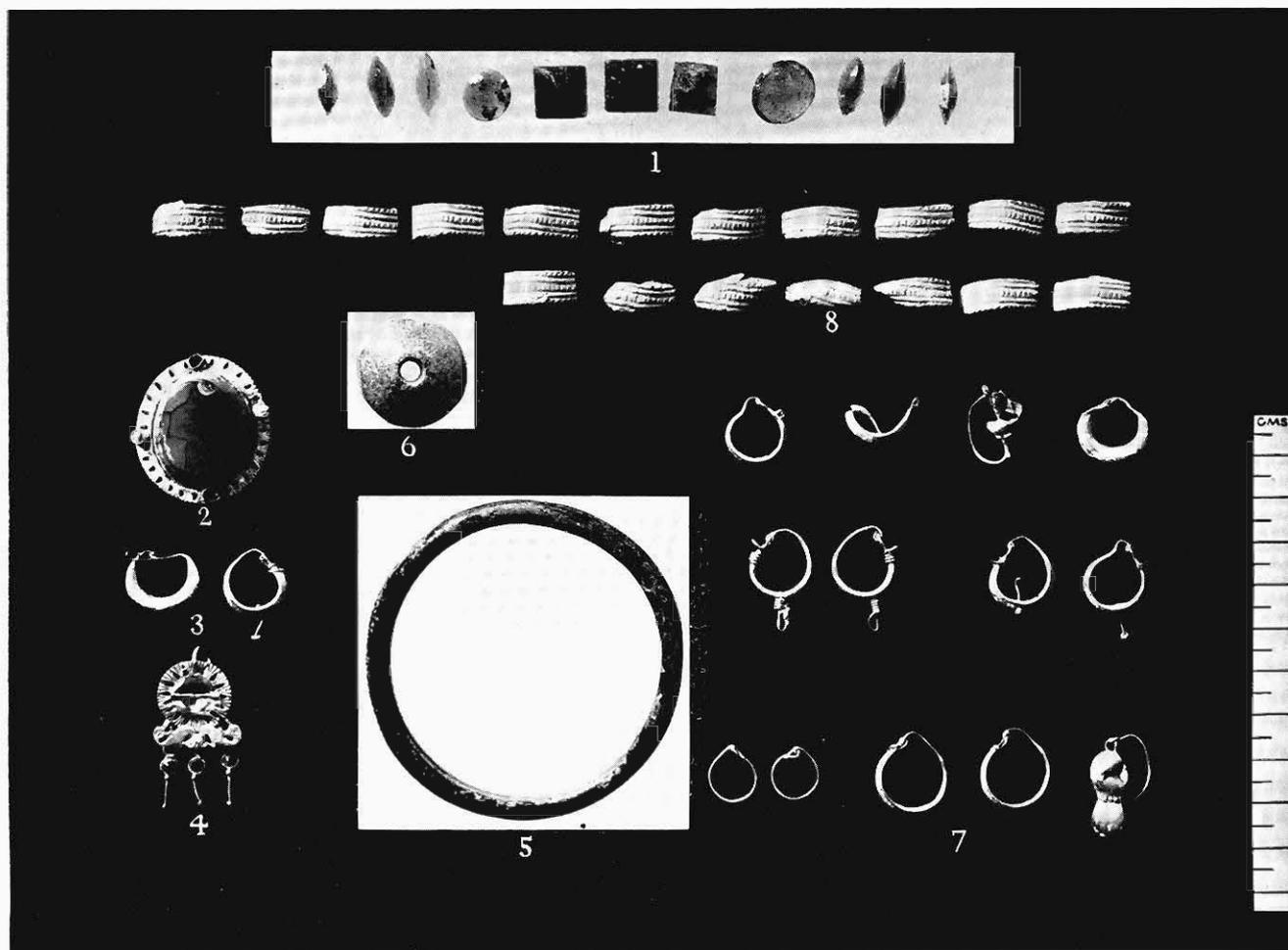
Contents of Chamber G (Grave III): (1) Bronze bracelet. (2) Blue glass beads. (3) Bronze button case. (6) Three Roman lamps. Grave 67: (7) Glass fragment. (8) Diorite button. Grave 68: (9) Glass button. (10) Glass tear bottle. Chamber H (floor): (4) Glass bracelet. (5) Glass beads. Chamber H (Grave III): (11) Bronze spatula.



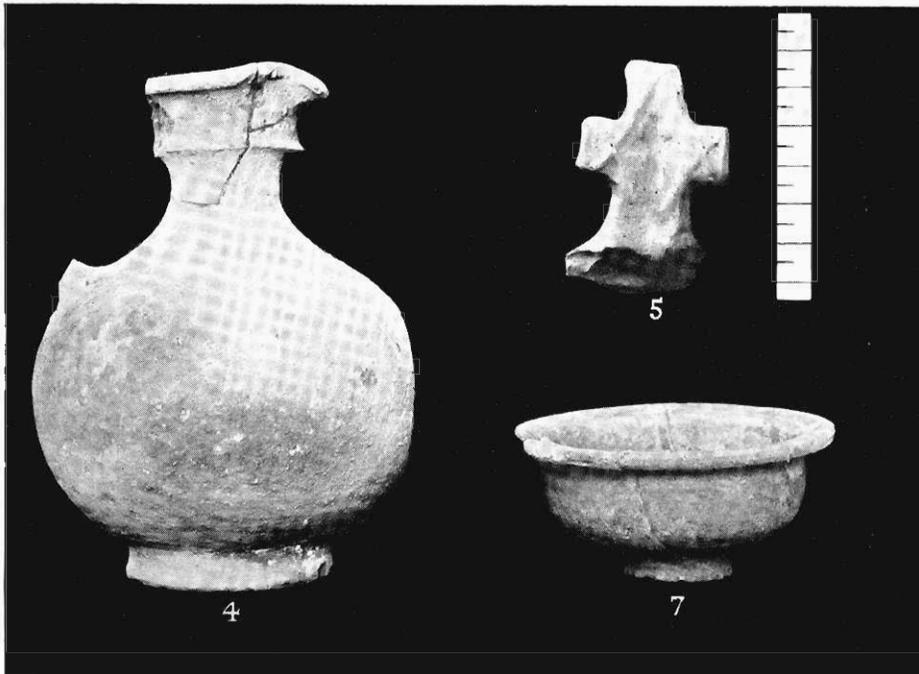
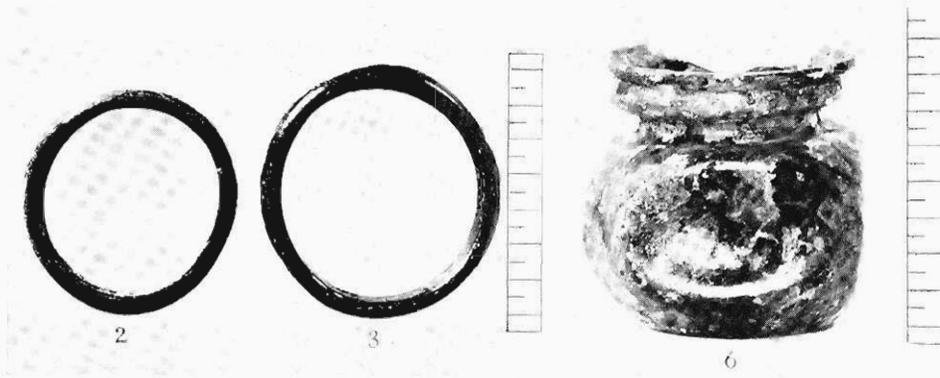
Contents of Cave B: (1) Pottery lamps. (2) Jet necklace. (3) Glass bracelet. (4) Glass bottle. (5) and (6) Pottery juglets.



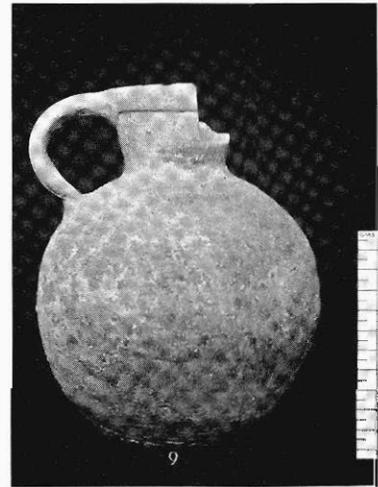
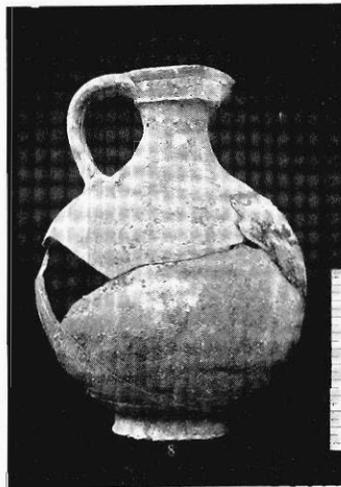
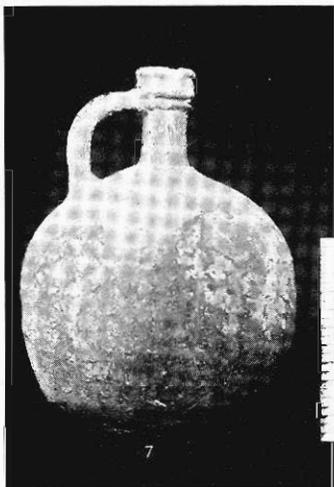
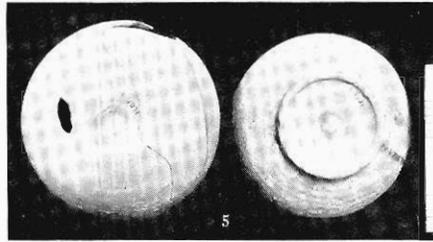
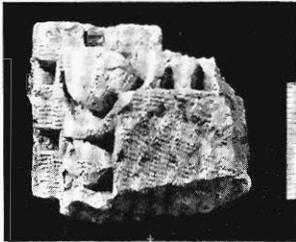
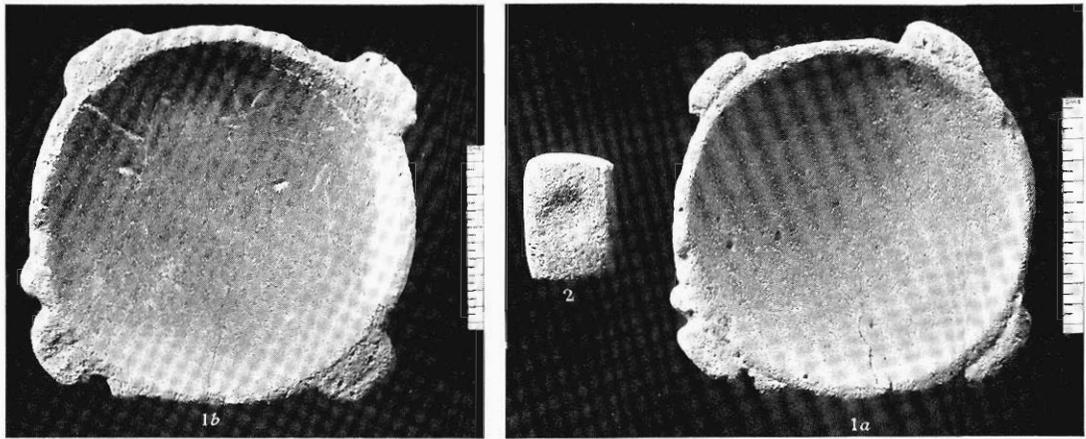
Contents of Cave F: (1) Gold ear-rings. (2) Gold sheet. (3) Pottery lamps. (4) Diorite button. (5) Pottery juglets. Chamber E: (6) Two gold ear-rings (Grave V). (7) Gold ear-ring (Grave VI). (8) Gold ear-ring (Grave VII). (9) Pottery lamps (floor of Chamber).



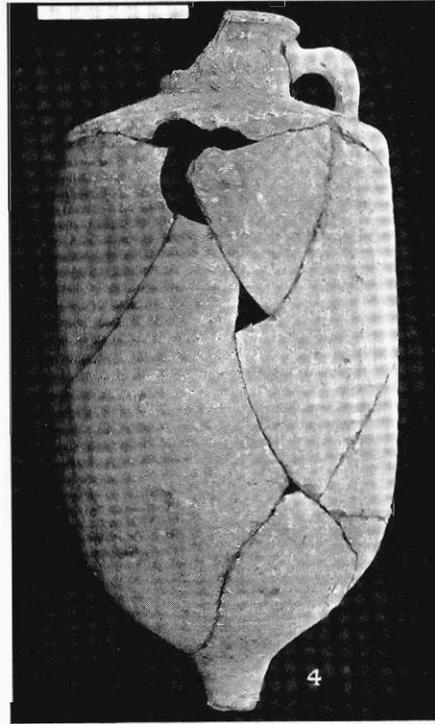
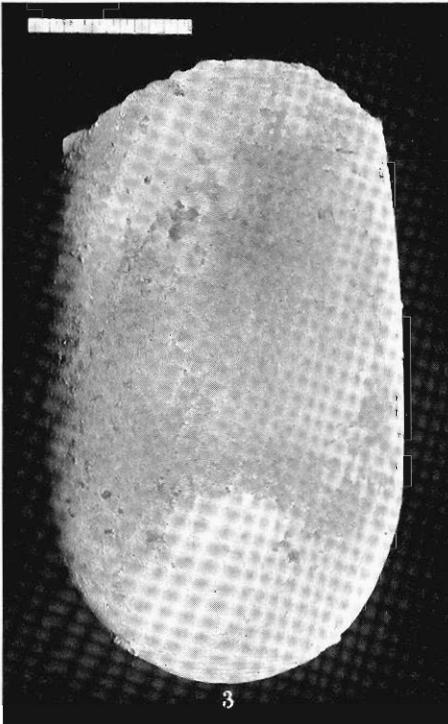
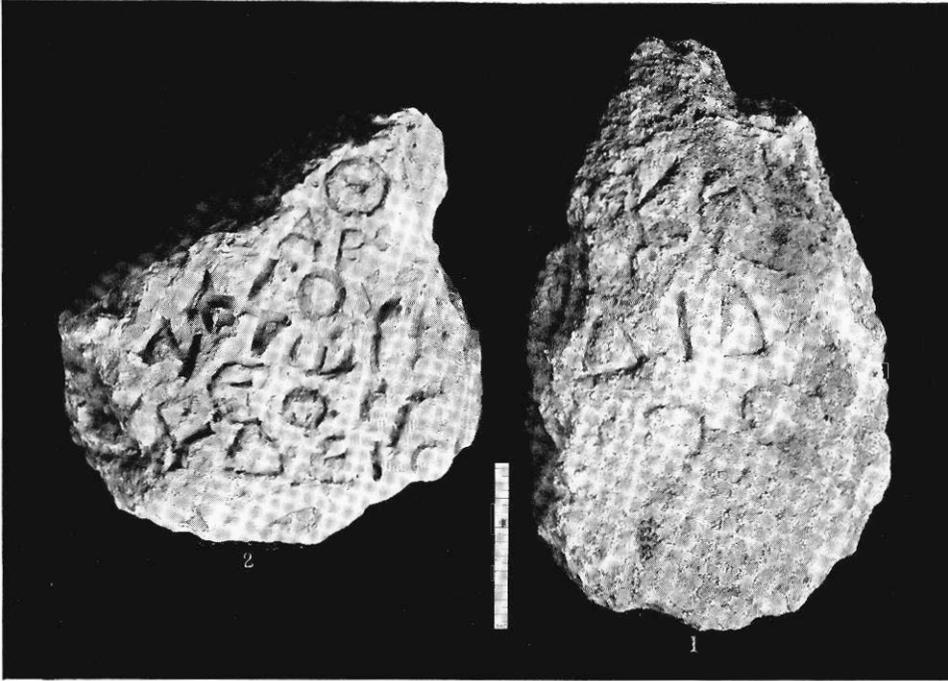
Contents of Chamber J (floor): (1) Glass beads, lozenges, &c. Chamber H (Grave III): (2) Agate brooch in gold setting. (3) and (4) Gold ear-rings. (8) Gold sheet. Chamber H (floor): (5) Glass bracelet. (6) Diorite button. (7) Gold ear-rings.



Contents of Chamber 7: (1) Pottery lamp. (2) and (3) Glass bracelets. (4) Pottery jug (3). (5) Handle of pottery lamp. (6) Glass vase. (7) Pottery bowl (3).



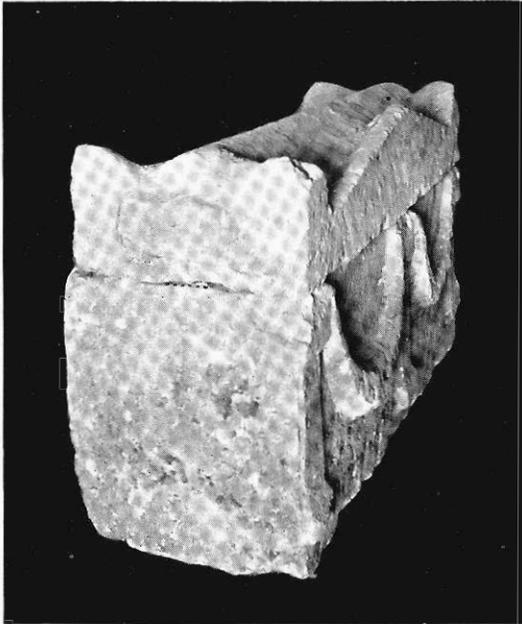
Surface finds: (1) Basalt mortars. (2) Basalt pestle found with (1 a). (3) Modern bronze candlestick. (4) Moulded stone. (5) Typical bases of juglets found on site. (6) to (9) Pottery juglets.



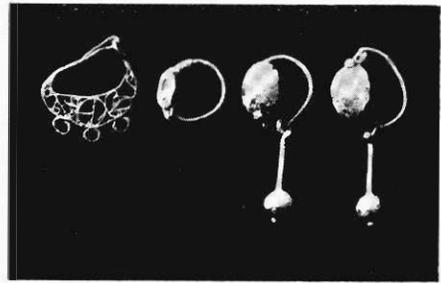
Surface finds: (1) and (2) Inscribed tombstones. Chamber E: (3) Jar. Cave F: (4) Jar.



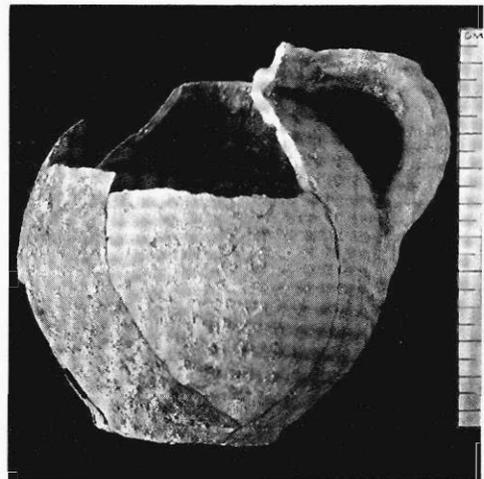
(1) Sarcophagus.



(2) Sarcophagus.



(3) Gold ear-rings found in sarcophagus.



(4) Jug which contained the hoard of Phoenician coins (see p. 10).

30	Bust of Justinian I facing, holding in r. hand globus surmounted by a cross; in field r. cross; around: DN --	M on l. and r. A X N X N X O I (Year 31) above, a cross; below: B; in ex.: CON	Surface soil.	Struck at Constantinople in A.D. 557-8.
30	Justin II and Sophia seated to front; illegible.	M on l. and r.: A N 4 N O (year 6) above, a cross; below: A; in ex.: NIKO.	Surface soil.	Struck at Nicomedia in A.D. 570-1.
28	Justin and Sophia seated to front; around: -IVSTI NVS PP --	M on l. and r.: A N 41 N O (year 7) above, a cross; below: A; in ex.: NIKO.	Surface soil.	Struck at Nicomedia in A.D. 571-2.
21	Bust of Tiberius II facing, holding in r. hand globus surmounted by a cross; around: DN ΠΤΑ	K inscr. illegible.	Cave B.	A.D. 574-82. Probably struck at Antioch.
28	Much worn.		Surface soil.	Probably 6th century A.D.
10	Traces of bust of an emperor r.	Monogram (only part visible).	Surface soil.	Probably 6th century A.D.

In addition there were found in the surface soil:

5 Mamluk coins;

7 coins of recent origin (Turkish and Egyptian);

also, in Cave A, 1 coin of the Crusader period.

3

A HOARD OF PHOENICIAN COINS

ON the 15th of August 1930, a hoard of Phoenician coins was discovered at Tall Abu Hawwam,¹ near Haifa.

All the coins have the same types and belong to series attributed to Tyre. The types are:

Obverse: Winged sea-horse moving r. over waves, represented by two lines, carrying a bearded male rider,² bust alone visible, with hair in a knot at the back (and bound with diadem?³), arms bare, wearing a garment showing vertical folds, resembling kandys; holding a bow in l. hand, outstretched, and reins in r.; cable border.

Reverse: Eagle-Owl standing r., looking to front; across field, crook and flail, placed diagonally behind owl, also numerals, letters, or both; cable border.

The hoard lay just over one metre below the original surface of the Tall, among stones forming the foundations of a wall of the Hellenistic period. Near the coins was found a broken jug (pl. XVIII. 4) to the inner surfaces of which still adhere short bands of silver corrosion, showing that the coins had been buried in the jug. Sixty-two coins were collected from the loose soil lying between the stones, by personnel of the Department of Antiquities, at the time of the discovery. A further batch of 47 coins, believed to complete the hoard, was sold on the same day to a Haifa antiquity dealer by an unknown individual, probably to be identified with the labourer who found the coins in the first instance and who afterwards left the work and disappeared. A list of the coins is appended; those belonging to the batch of 47 obtained through the antiquity dealer are distinguished by an asterisk (*).

The first fourteen coins in the list are Phoenician staters of thick fabric, considerably worn and apparently struck from worn or imperfectly finished

¹ Tall Abu Hawwam is a small artificial mound lying between the foot of Mount Carmel and the Bay of Acre, a mile and a quarter to the south-east of Haifa Railway Station. The greater part of the mound has been demolished, in the past, to provide material for filling in adjacent swamps and, during the summer of 1930, some earth was taken from the small remaining portion to construct an embankment. During the latter work the hoard was found.

² Melqarth (Hill, *B.M. Catalogue, Phoenicia*, pp. 229-32) or 'Divinité' (Babelon, *Traité*, Pt. 2, Vol. II, p. 618). The appearance of the rider, his hair, clothing—so far as it is distinguishable on the coins—and manner of holding the bow, suggest an imitation of the figure of the Great King on darics; but the rider is not crowned with the kidaris which was a particular attribute of the Great King (Xenophon, *Anab.*, II, 5).

³ The rider seems to be wearing a kind of turban with loose ends on some specimens (Nos. 9, 15) and, on others, a tiara that almost takes the form of the kidaris (No. 99).