

Chapter 12

Ceramics

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Database study

Upon encountering structural errors with the pottery database, new ways were looked into to seek solutions in 2014 season.

Crate lists

The unregistered pottery crates from 2013 and the 2014 studied pottery crates as well as all the recently excavated pottery sherds were all registered into the “finds” database. All the 2012-13 units with “flat-no” were queried in the finds registers and were entered into the database.

2014 excavation season, TPC, North, South, and Ground Truthing (GT) sherds

2014 season revealed more condensed pottery sherds in the TPC area compared to the other areas. The pottery sherds came from the upper levels of the above mentioned area which has been disturbed with the post-Neolithic activities. There is the presence of mixed materials most of which belongs to the later period (Chalcolithic, Bronze and Iron Age). Lesser number of sherds came from North, South areas and GT trench in 2014.

Since finishing the unstudied material from previous years were prioritized, the 2014 materials were not closely studied, and were only divided by their period, and the post Neolithic (late Chalcolithic) finds were registered in the database. In 2014 season, the total number of 334 unit have been studied from 2012-13 that came from TPC, North and South Areas.

- Total number of Post-Neolithic pottery pieces: 5,371
- Total number of Post-Neolithic pottery weight: 207,694g (approximately 208kg)

2012-2014 TPC area pottery sherds

2012 and 2013 season excavations revealed the upper/later levels of the Neolithic in TPC area which were disturbed with later (Chalcolithic, Bronze, Hellenistic and Roman) activities of burials or pits making the pottery sherds heterogeneous with multiple periods. The safe units recognized by the excavation director as the Neolithic era were prioritized for analysis and were listed in a table. These units are in B.110, Sp.486 and Sp.485 within this building, B.115, B.121, an oven in the 2-F trench and Sp.506.

The variety of pottery in these units was listed according to their periods. Pot sherds from the Late and Chalcolithic periods were registered into the database. The Neolithic pottery sherds started to be studied and registered into the database. The sherds coming from the upper levels as mentioned earlier are important to understand the later traditions in pottery making. For instance, the B.110 is in the same level as B.5, which Mel-laart excavated earlier and identified as Level III. In 2014, 13 units from Sp.486 in B.110 and (20221) and (20291) from TPC Area have been studied in detail.