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UPPER EGYPTIAN VESSELS AT TELL EL-GHABA, NORTH SINAI: LUXURY OBJECTS OF THE LOCAL ELITE

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Tell el-Ghaba is an archaeological site of the 26th Dynasty (late 7th to early 6th century BC) situated next to the Pelusiac branch of the Nile, which at that time was part of the Eastern Delta. The site was part of the expansionary policy towards the Levant adopted by the Saite kings at a period when the commercial exchange across the eastern Mediterranean was at its peak. The Argentine Archaeological Mission undertook research at Tell el-Ghaba as part of a salvage project under the auspices of UNESCO aimed at investigating the Northern Sinai site threatened by irrigation works at the region.¹ Several buildings were found during the excavations in 1995–1999 and 2010. A geomagnetic survey carried out in 2010 by Tomasz Herbich² allowed to determine the limits of the site; also, several buildings and structures were detected that confirmed the urban planning for the site.

Upper Egyptian Vessels at Tell el-Ghaba

Among the broad variety of Egyptian pottery manufactured in Nile clay represented in all excavated areas of Tell el-Ghaba, there are some vessels that were not made locally but of an Upper Egyptian Marl.³ Most of these vessels were found on the floors⁴ and cellar⁵ of Building B located in Area I and a few in Area II⁶ and on the destruction layer of both sectors⁷ (Fig. 1). They consist of containers made of Marl A4, a fabric belonging to the Marl A group according to the Vienna System.⁸ In this Marl A4 nomenclature, fabrics with different granulometry (from coarse to fine) are grouped together and subdivided into two variants, variant⁹ and variant 2, with the latter becoming the more common from the 12th century BC onwards.¹⁰ At Tell el-Ghaba, jars and other Upper Egyptian containers have been reconstructed from sherds, mainly from rim sherds; closed shapes, especially jars, are more numerous than open shapes.

Jars

The morphology of the jars allows us to recognize different and clearly defined types which also appear in Upper Egypt.

(a) Jars with grooved rim

The most common morphology observed is that of jars with grooved rims.¹¹ According to Aston, this type consists of a Theban ceramic production that was exported from the region.¹² The oldest productions do not feature this typical groove under the lip and they date to the reign of Sheshonq V¹³ (767–730 BC).¹⁴ Over time, however, the grooved variant became the most common and the most prominent.¹⁵

Several jars found at Tell el-Ghaba feature grooved rims: P1125A (Fig. 2a),¹⁶ P1208A (Fig. 2b),¹⁷ C-0521 [025],¹⁸ P0218A (Fig. 2c),¹⁹ P1143A (Fig. 2d)²⁰ and C-1112 (7) [001].²¹ They resemble jars found in ceramic contexts in Elephantine²² that Aston attributed to Phase III South (775/725 – 650/625 BC).²³ Their mouth diameters vary from 9 to 10 cm, just like those of the jars recorded at Tell el-Ghaba.

In most cases they are ordinary vessels found in Elephantine as well as in several other sites of Upper Egypt.²⁴ They have been found at Gurna,²⁵ Hermopolis,²⁶ Amarna,²⁷ Herakleopolis Magna (Ehnasya el-Medineh)²⁸ and Karnak.²⁹ Described by Defernez as "*jarre à anses et à haut col renflé*", this type of vessels reached its peak productivity in the 25th Dynasty³⁰ (ca. 747–656 BC),³¹ though it may have continued during the 26th Dynasty.

The vessels identified at Tell el-Ghaba evidence slight rim variants, e.g. P1208A (Fig. 2b),³² P1143A (Fig. 2d)³³ and P1151A (Fig. 2e),³⁴ being the first two very similar to other vessels found in Elephantine.³⁵ Except for P1151A, manufactured in TG 3336 fabric, the others correspond to fabric TG 56.³⁷

P0218A made of TG 26 fabric³⁸ (Fig. 2c),³⁹ exhibits a more incurved rim. Similar jars made of Nile clay have been found at El Amarna⁴⁰ and Gurna.⁴¹ Myśliwiec describes five different types of rims among which the variety found at Tell el-Ghaba⁴² can be identified.

The morphology of these vessels is also present at Buto where it was dated by French to Phase I from the late 8th to the early 7th century;⁴³ this also corresponds to the MJ2 type of El Amarna.⁴⁴

(b) Short-necked jars with modelled rim

At Tell el-Ghaba further jars of a different morphology have also been recorded: these are short necked vessels characterized by a modelled rim, differing from those described above. P1203A made of TG 33 fabric⁴⁵ (Fig. 2f)⁴⁶ and C-1063 [009] bear similarities with vessels found in sites of Upper Egypt and the Delta.

Likewise, in Elephantine similar vessels were found which Aston dated in Phase III South (ca. 775/725 – 650/625). These are squat jars with a modelled rim of ca. 16 cm in diameter.⁴⁷ This type of jars was found at Hermopolis,⁴⁸ Gurna,⁴⁹

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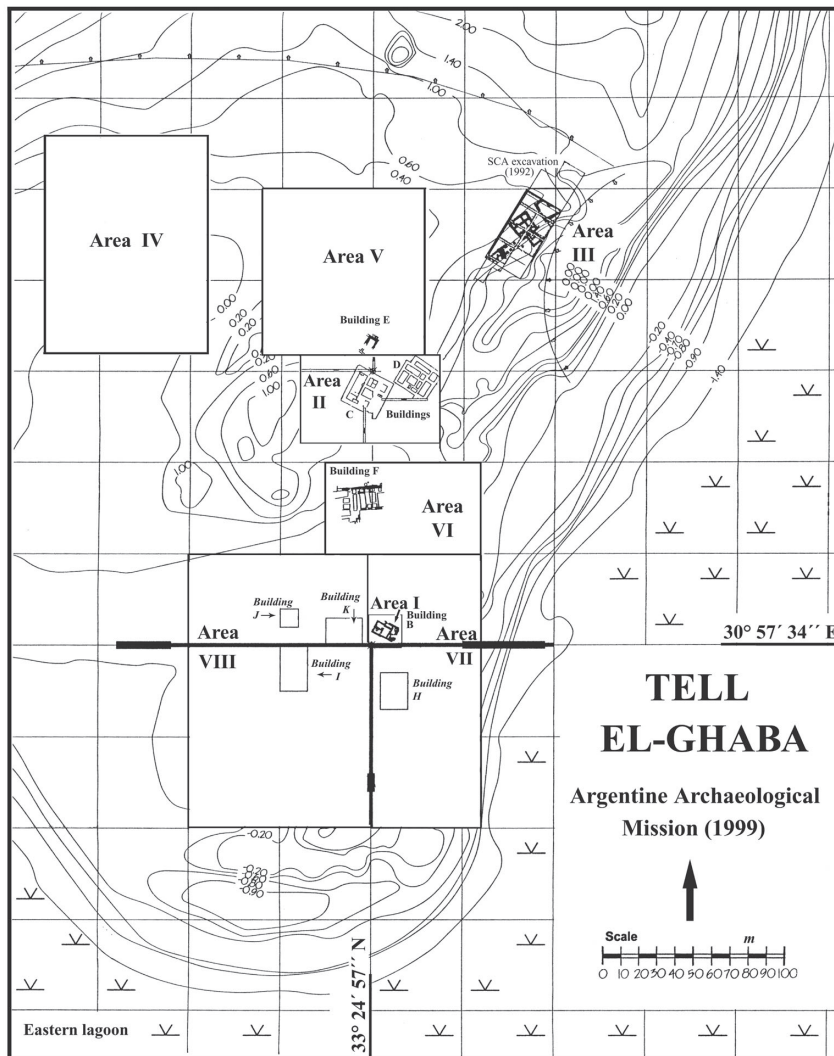


Figure 1. Plan of Tell el-Ghaba.

Karnak,⁵⁰ Amarna,⁵¹ and other sites of Upper Egypt⁵² as well as in Dorginarti.⁵³ In the Delta, they were found at Buto in Phase I.⁵⁴ According to French, the large number of these vessels and their distribution in the South of Egypt in the late 8th / early 7th century BC would signal the development of a pottery industry centred in Upper Egypt, perhaps in Thebes itself or in the Qena/Ballas region.⁵⁵

(c) Short-necked jars of fine manufacture

The third morphological type corresponds to finely manufactured vessels that feature slight variants in relation to the above mentioned. P0742A made of TG 26 fabric (Fig. 2g)⁵⁶ and P0834A⁵⁷ made of TG 33⁵⁸ fabric have a more vertical neck, while P0832A made of TG 56 (Fig. 2h)⁵⁹ has a more incurved neck. Both jars exhibit a semi-globular body. This type has also been found in Upper Egypt, at Amarna,⁶⁰ and in the Delta,⁶¹ at Buto in Phase I.

Several vessels corresponding to our Types a, b, and c were found at Buto and dated by French to Phase I. According to French, the campaigns initiated by Piankhy (747–716 BC) may have facilitated commerce between the North and South of Egypt as apparently the Delta was not fully dominated by this king and remained independent until the reign of Psammeticus I (664–610 BC). Therefore, it is hard to tell whether the early forms of these vessels represented at Buto arrived through interactions with the South at the time of Piankhy or after 664 BC in the Saite period.⁶²

(d) Vessels with slightly everted or direct vertical rim

The fourth morphological type has a slightly everted or direct vertical rim (P1213A (Fig. 2i),⁶³ P2019A,⁶⁴ P0825A⁶⁵ and C-0281 [003]).⁶⁶ P1213A and P2019A made of TG 56 and TG 26 fabrics were found in Areas I and II, respectively; they are associated with jars from Elephantine corresponding to Phase III South.⁶⁷ C-0281 [003], retrieved from the cellar of Building B also has its parallel there as well as in other sites of Upper Egypt⁶⁸ and Gurna.⁶⁹

Storage vessels

Two fragmentary handled storage vessels, both with a ribbed body made of TG 56 fabric were also recorded at Tell el-Ghaba. One (P1169A, Fig. 2j)⁷⁰ was found on one of the floors of Building L in Area II, and the other, P1156A, in Area VI, where Building F is located.⁷¹

Juglets

A neck of a juglet made of TG 26 fabric (P0051A, Fig. 2k)⁷² was found on one of the floors of Building B. Its neck displays a finely manufactured direct everted rim, very thin walls, polished surface and grey slip. It is the only specimen recorded at Tell el-Ghaba for which no parallel has been found in other sites.

Classification of Marl A4 fabric

The Marl A4 found at Tell el Ghaba shares with the Vienna System variants 1 and 2, abundant sand of fine granulometry (with inclusions of quartz clasts frequently observed) and the abundance of pores that may correspond to burnt organic matter or perhaps charred limestone considering an estimated firing temperature of about 750°C. In addition, like in variant 2, these Marl A4 fabrics from Tell el-Ghaba exhibit red inclusions derived from ferric oxide and surfaces featuring a greyish or light grey colour. This may be a consequence of either a pseudo-slip caused by salt migration or a slip application. The presence of plagioclase, K-feldspar and ferromagnesian minerals is recurrent as observed in the petrographic characterization of samples nos. 5, 6 and 8 of H4 fabrics of Memphis/Saqqara.⁷³ Fabrics with textures similar to Marl A4 have been classified as Type V by Hope⁷⁴ previously called Ba.II⁷⁵ and fabric 1a of Amarna.⁷⁶

An overview of Marl A4 fabrics from Tell el-Ghaba

Marl A4 fabrics from Tell el-Ghaba are associated with the TG 26, TG 56 and TG 33 type standards, according to a preliminary classification based on observations at low magnifications under binocular lens,⁷⁷ and they clearly differentiate from the total sample of fabrics by their texture, colour and thin walls. TG 26 and TG 56 are the most frequently observed at Tell el-Ghaba, while TG 33, a variant with a coarser granulometric composition and light colour – very pale brown (10 YR 8/4) – is less common. In all cases, the vessels may show evidence of a coarse light grey slip (10 YR 7/2). Under binocular lens, types TG 26 and TG 56 are very much alike, except for their colour (reddish for TG 56 and grey-brown for TG 26), with being TG 56 the most common. Below is a detailed description of the typical Marl A4 fabrics found at Tell el-Ghaba – TG 26, TG 56 and TG 33 (Marl A4 coarse) – which were examined under low magnification and their petrographic characteristics determined with a polarizing microscope.

TG 26 Marl A4. Fabric characterization using a binocular lens.

Recording File No. 10 – BA/41-L0183-C-0299/97

Fragment of a thin walled vessel – 4mm – soft, regular break but not very resistant. Uniform greyish brown (10YR5/2) section. Non plastic inclusions: small ochre [1]; fine sand [3]; probably small limestone [1], small black [1]. Uniform distribution and abundant (>30%). Rounded shapes and predominantly small sizes, a few are medium size. Looks like kneaded fine sand. Presence of black inclusions. Probably burnt organic material and/or clay nodules. Porosity: open, small and rounded pores and big irregular ones. Fine texture, fine grained porous fabric. Reducing atmosphere. Fragile fabric probably of small vessels. Both surfaces are smooth and greyish brown, 10YR6/2 (outer surface) and dark greyish brown, 10YR5/2 (inner surface) (Fig. 3a).

Fabrics corresponding to TG 56 are very much alike, except for their light red (2.5YR 6/6) colour and a light grey slip (10YR7/2) applied on the outer surface (Fig. 3b–c).

Thin section TG 56 Marl A4. Petrographic characterization using a polarizing microscope.

Recording File No. 61 – BE/68 Locus 1120

The microscopic view of TG 56 (Fig. 3d) features small non plastic inclusions of quartz (white and grey) with sub-rounded to angular shapes immersed in a light red clay matrix with abundant usually rounded heterogeneous pores (in black). In this clay matrix inclusions of ferric oxide (red-orange) and a few opaque minerals are also common. Likewise, some angular plagioclases and K-feldspar clasts, as well as lithoclasts of sedimentary, magmatic and metamorphic rocks (less than 1%) are also observed.

Percentage of Fabric Components (determined by Point counter analysis) and Size Distribution (in microns): clay matrix (58.64 %), pores (25.56%), quartz (11.8 %), K-feldspar (1.2%) , plagioclases (1.8%), fragments of sedimentary rocks (1.8 %), fragments of magmatic rocks (0.6%), fragments of metamorphic rocks (0.4%), opaque minerals [ferromagnesian minerals] (0.1%). Grain size: 15–60 µm (60 %), 60–100 µm (28 %), 100–200 µm (11 %), 1,000–2,000 µm (1 %). Estimated firing temperature: 750° C.

TG 33 Marl A4 coarse

Recording File No. 36 – C-0378/97 BA/43-42 L0001

Fragments of a thick walled vessel (9 mm), medium hardness (3), regular break but not very resistant. The section features three diffuse shades: a pale yellow (2.5Y7/4) layer towards the outer surface, a light yellowish grey layer in the middle and a thin and irregular light yellowish brown (10YR6/4) inner layer. Oxidizing greenish yellow fabric. Non plastic inclusions: Small rounded ochre [2]. Sand [1] corresponding to small and medium sized pebbles of vitreous quartz. Limestone [1] ranging from small to very large and rounded, the very large inclusions are rare and show a brown rim. Red grit: small angular particles. Black grit: small and medium sized angular particles. The fabric matrix has very small inclusions of quartz, ochre, black grit and some red grit, evidencing a heterogeneous distribution. These inclusions are sparse (ca. 10–15%). Porosity: medium. Small and medium sized pores with round and long shapes, medium to very large pores with irregular and elongated shapes. The very large ones are scarce. Pale yellow (2.5Y7/4) fabric with poorly smoothed surfaces and no slip. Clear powder-like fabric, not very compact, porous and somewhat laminar. This fine fabric has large but irregular limestone, little quartz and abundant but very small orange ochre inclusions. Clear inclusions are masked

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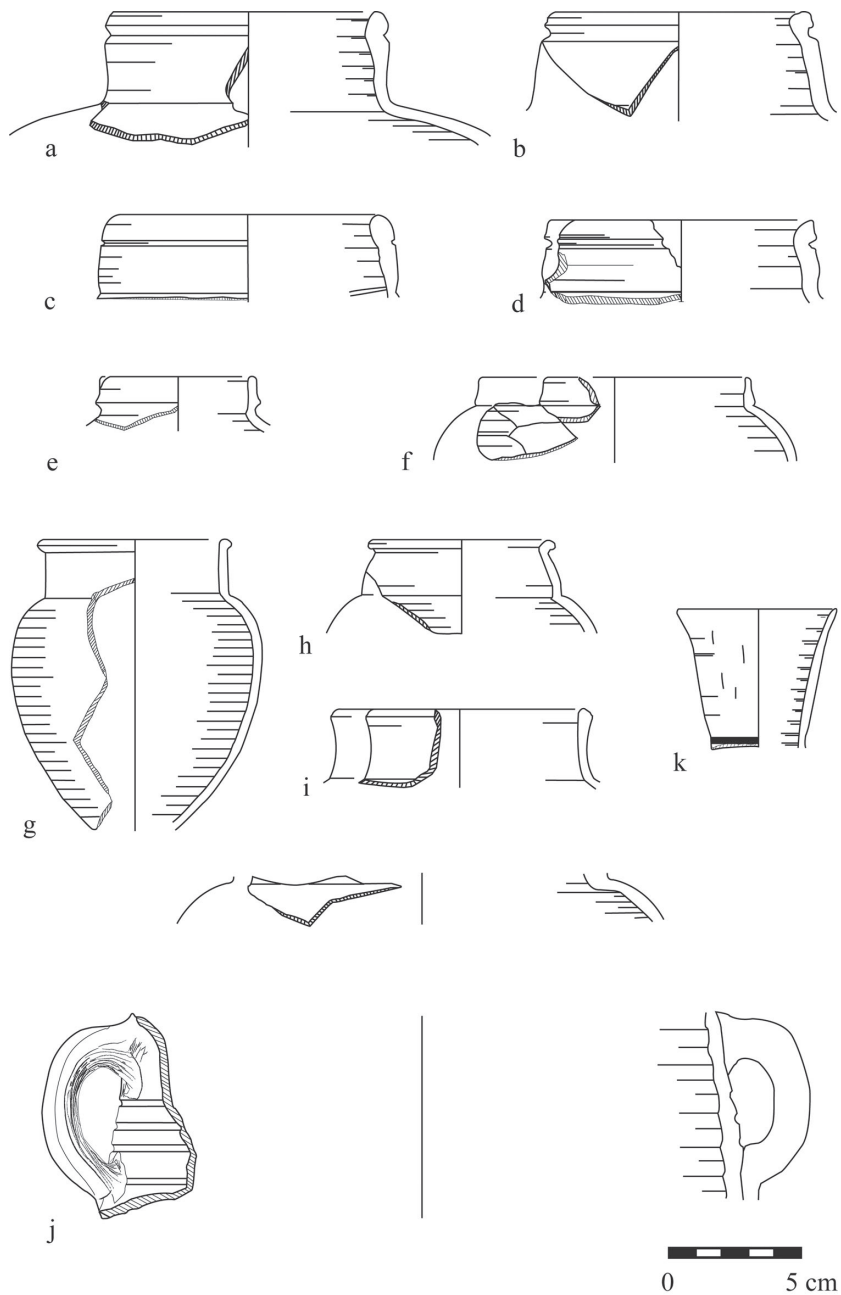


Figure 2. Marl A4 vessels at Tell el-Ghaba.

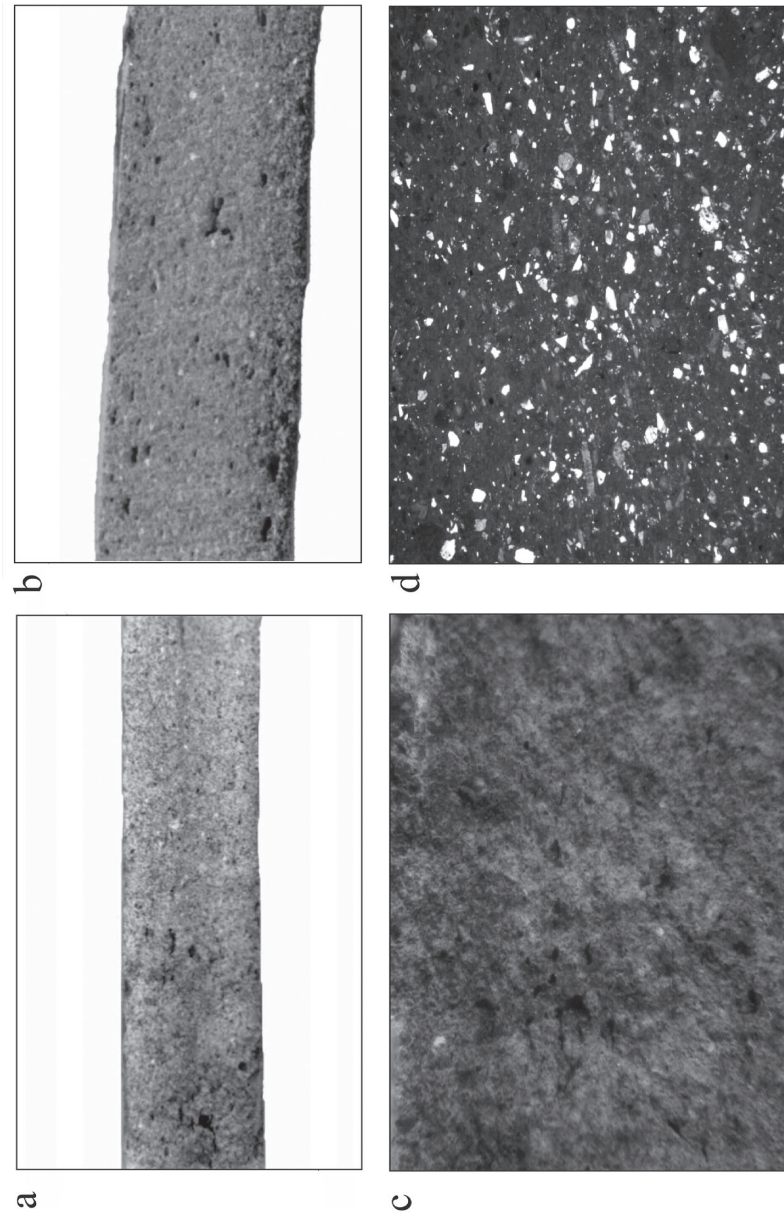


Figure 3. Marl A4 Tell el-Ghaba photomicrographs under binocular lens.
a. TG 26 (10x); b. TG 56 (10x);
c. TG 56 (40x); d. TG 56, crossed Nicoles (60x).

by the fabric's light colour. A relatively small amount of limestone may be found as tiny inclusions. Fabric equivalent to Marl A4 Coarse (Fig. 3c).

Thin section TG 33. Percentage of Fabric Components (determined by Point counter analysis) and Size Distribution (in microns): clay mass (93 %), quartz (3.5 %), K-feldspars (1.30%), Plagioclases (0.3%), fragments of sedimentary rocks (0.9 %), fragment of magmatic rocks (0.6%), fragments of metamorphic rocks (0.3%). Heavy minerals (0.1%). Grain size: 15–60 µm (68 %), 60–100 µm (17 %), 100–200 µm (10 %), 200–400 µm (5 %). Estimated firing temperature: 800° C.

Conclusions

Based on the information available, it may be concluded that the presence of these Upper Egyptian vessels at Tell el-Ghaba does not reflect systematic interactions with the South of Egypt, but rather a situation where relations between both regions were never completely interrupted.⁷⁸

By the end of the Assyrian domination in Egypt, coinciding with the end of the Kushite 25th Dynasty, the Assyrians, with the help of the princes of Sais⁷⁹ confronted the kings of Kush at Thebes. After defeating them, the Assyrians returned to Niniveh to deal with the severe internal problems in their empire, beset by the expansion of Babylonians and the Medes. The Kushite kings, who ruled the south of the Egyptian territory from Thebes, were unable to achieve Egypt's unification during their reign.⁸⁰ This scenario may have allowed the permanence of polities in the Delta, among which were those of the princes of Sais that managed relations quite independently of the Kushite state, building relations with different regions of the Near East.⁸¹ With the Assyrian withdrawal and after a series of struggles, Psammeticus I of Sais took hegemony of the Delta initiating a purely native dynasty. It would appear that during this period people and goods were able to move quite freely between the northern and southern regions.

At Tell el-Ghaba, the Upper Egyptian vessels manufactured in Marl A4 were found in Areas I and II. Several observations strengthen the hypothesis of differential access to these goods and may indicate a higher social status of their owners: their scarcity (30 jars, 3 juglets, 3 bowls and 253 non-diagnostic fragments), their association with the floors of Building B, where a gold bead, a good number of finely manufactured amulets, and small vessels of Cypriot and Aegean origin, especially fragrance containers and juglets, were also found. These fine objects of Marl A4, unique in colour and perhaps in contents, may be considered luxury items. Perhaps they belonged to a local elite related to the state administration. This can be perceived at Tell el-Ghaba in the coherent alignment of several buildings suggestive of urban planning, the existence of a 460 m² mud brick basement for what could have been a large

public construction and the considerable size of another structure revealed by the geophysical survey point to the presence at Tell el-Ghaba of a such an administrative elite.

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- ¹ This study was conducted within the context of the PICT 2007 No. 1526 Project funded by the FONCYT-ANPCYT (National Fund for Scientific and Technological Research), Buenos Aires; the IMHICIHU (Instituto Multidisciplinario de Historia y Ciencias Humanas) is an institute of the National Council of Research (CONICET).
<http://www.pcoma.uw.edu.pl/index.php?id=679&L=2>
- ²
- ³ M.B. Cremonte, "Non local Pottery from Tell el-Ghaba. A Preliminary Classification" in: P. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba II: A Saite Settlement in North Sinai, Egypt (Argentine Archaeological Mission 1995–2004)*. II: *Studies* (Buenos Aires, 2006) 18–53; "Cerámicas locales a través de sus pastas en Tell el-Ghaba, norte de Sinai" in: S. Basílico / S. Lupo (eds.), *Tell el.Ghaba, Egipto: alimentación, producción e intercambio* (Buenos Aires, 2006) 99–112. Studies reveal that the vessels made of Nile clay were mostly used for domestic purposes as evidenced by the multiple bowls, cups, jars and storage vessels, as well as bakery trays, lids, and votive pottery found (P. Fuscaldo / S. Lupo / S. Basílico / M.B. Cremonte, "Pottery from Tell el-Ghaba, a Saite Settlement from North Sinai" in: Z. Hawass (ed.), *Egyptology at the Dawn of the Twenty-first Century. Proceedings of the 8th International Congress of Egyptologists*, I: *Archaeology* (Cairo, 2003) 189–92; S. Basílico / S. Lupo, "Tell el-Ghaba, un asentamiento de frontera de época saíta en el norte del Sinai. La cerámica egipcia e importada del Área I" in: *Actas del I Congreso Nacional de Arqueología Histórica, Mendoza 9–11/11/00* (Buenos Aires, 2002) 843–52; P. Fuscaldo, "Tell el-Ghaba (North Sinai)" in: *Bulletin de Liaison du Groupe International d'Étude de la céramique égyptienne* 21 (2000) 3–6; S. Lupo / S. Basílico, "On the chronology of Tell Ghaba, North Sinai" in: *Bulletin of the Australian Center for Egyptology* 13 (2002) 127–34; S. Lupo / S. Basílico, "The Pottery from Tell el-Ghaba, North Sinai, exhibited at the Abu Seifa Archaeological Centre" in: M. Eldamaty / M. Trad (eds.), *Egyptian Museum Collections around the World. Studies for the Centennial of the Egyptian Museum, Cairo*, vol. II (Cairo, 2002) 753–62; S. Lupo / S. Basílico, "La cerámica como indicadora de la cronología de un sitio de frontera: el caso de Tell el-Ghaba, norte de Sinai, Egipto" in: M. Ramos / E. Néspolo (eds), *Signos en el Tiempo y Rastros en la Tierra* (Luján, 2003) 297–305; S. Basílico / S. Lupo, "Tell el-Ghaba, North Sinai: The Pottery from Buildings A and B" in: *Bulletin de Liaison de la céramique égyptienne* 22 (2004) 3–11; S. Lupo / S. Basílico, "Tell el-Ghaba, Norte de Sinai, Egipto: la cerámica de un asentamiento saíta" in: *RUNA Archivo para las Ciencias del Hombre* 25 (2005) 7–22; P. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba I. A Saite Settlement in North Sinai, Egypt (Argentine Archaeological Mission 1995–2004)*. I. *The Catalogue* (Buenos Aires, 2005); S. Basílico / S. Lupo (eds.), *Tell el.Ghaba, Egipto: alimentación, producción e intercambio* (Buenos Aires, 2006); S. Lupo / S. Basílico, "Tell el-Ghaba, norte de Sinai: los contextos del Área II y su problemática" in: Basílico / Lupo (eds.), *Alimentación, producción e intercambio*, 73–97; S. Basílico / S. Lupo, "Las relaciones de intercambio de Tell el-Ghaba con las áreas locales y con el Mediterráneo

- oriental" in: Basílico / Lupo (eds.), *Alimentación, producción e intercambio*, 33–50; S. Lupo, "Proyecto Sinai. La Misión Arqueológica Argentina. Tell el-Ghaba en el norte de Sinai. Un asentamiento saíta en la frontera oriental de Egipto (siglosVII–VI a.C.)" in: *Anuario de la Academia de Ciencias de Buenos Aires* (Buenos Aires, 2006) 91–101; S. Lupo, "The Last Days of Tell el-Ghaba: The Ceramic Evidence. I. The Egyptian pottery" in: P. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba II*, 54–66; S. Basílico / S. Lupo, "The Final Stage and Abandonment of Tell el-Ghaba, north Sinai: a Border Saite Site" in: J.-Cl. Goyon / C. Cardin (eds.), *Proceedings of the Ninth International of Egyptologists. Grenoble, 6–12 September 2004*, OLA 150 (Leuven, 2007) 151–60.
- 4 L0271 and L0060.
- 5 L0084.
- 6 L1058 (floor preparation), L1224 (floor of Room L-5, Building L).
- 7 L0001 and L1001.
- 8 "Of all the variants of Marl A this is the one with the coarsest texture and the greatest quantity of fine to coarse sand inclusions. Scattered micaceous inclusions are also present and, conspicuously in some examples, particles of straw. It shows a considerable range of colour, porosity and hardness (...) The fracture varies between light red and greenish-grey and is often zoned. Hardness varies between crumbly and soft, and hard and firm, and transverse strength from medium to great": H.Å. Nordström / J. Bourriau, "Ceramic Technology: Clays and Fabrics" in: Do. Arnold / J. Bourriau (eds.), *An Introduction to the Ancient Egyptian Pottery* (Mainz, 1993) 177–78.
- 9 "A characteristic of this fabric is the numerous fine pores from burnt out limestone (?) and the inclusions present in the clay consist primarily of very fine sand together with a little mica. Marl A4 variant 1 tends to exist in both its natural colour, and covered with a thick red slip, usually burnished, though this latter form is generally restricted to fine tableware – plates, bowls, jugs, mugs and small amphorae. In date it is characteristic of Phase I, petering out in Phase II whence it was replaced by variant 2" (D. Aston, *Egyptian Pottery of the Late New Kingdom and Third Intermediate Period (Twelfth-Seventh Centuries BC). Tentative Footsteps in a Forbidding Terrain*, SAGA 13 (Heidelberg, 1996) 8).
- 10 "In many respects this clay is similar to the preceding one [variant 1], but the surface frequently exhibits areas of a beige-grey-green colour. The clay sometimes also contains occasional red inclusions, perhaps pieces of grog. The surface tends to fire grey, usually a deeper shade than that of variant 1, or a creamy white. It is also slightly harder than variant 1, having a more of a metallic 'clang' to it, and it is generally used for a series of jars with ribbed bodies": D. Aston, *Egyptian Pottery*, 8; *Elephantine XIX. Pottery from the Late New Kingdom to the Early Ptolemaic Period*, AV 95 (Mainz, 1999) 4. This variant is typical of Phases I and II when it replaced variant 1 and it is also abundant in Phase III, reappearing during Phases VI (4th and 3rd centuries BC) and VII (late 3rd century to early 2nd century BC) of Elephantine (Aston, *Elephantine XIX*, 4).
- 11 Aston, *Elephantine XIX*, 191.
- 12 *Elephantine XIX*, 186.
- 13 *Elephantine XIX*, 186, pl. 48 (no. 1496), pl. 55 (no. 1697).
- 14 K. Myśliwiec, *The Twilight of Ancient Egypt. First Millennium B.C.E.* (Ithaca / London, 1993) 220.

- ¹⁵ Aston, *Elephantine* XIX, 186.
- ¹⁶ L1231. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 205, fig. 1 (no. 10); S. Lupo, "La influencia extranjera, el Alto Egipto y Tell el-Ghaba, norte de Sinaí, durante la dinastía XXVI (siglos VII–VI a.C.) a través de los hallazgos cerámicos" in: *Actas del I Congreso Internacional da SAB, Arqueologia Transatlântica* (Florianópolis, 2007) fig. 1 (no. 1). Similar to C-1112 (7) [001] (See references below).
- ¹⁷ L1219. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 270, fig. 35:2 (no. 13); Lupo, "La influencia extranjera", fig. 1 (no. 2).
- ¹⁸ L0001. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 168, fig. 40:17 (no. 209); Lupo, in: *Tell el-Ghaba* II, 57, fig. 35.
- ¹⁹ L1001. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 328, fig. 58:8 (no. 70); Lupo, in: *Tell el-Ghaba* II, 57, fig. 37.
- ²⁰ Area VI, top soil.
- ²¹ Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 309, fig. 51:4 (no. 47); Lupo / Basílico, in: *Alimentación, producción e intercambio*, 78, fig. 3 (no. 12).
- ²² Aston, *Elephantine* XIX, 193, pl. 58 (nos. 1736–43); 195, pl. 59 (nos. 1757–59); pl. 56 (no. 1698).
- ²³ Aston, *Egyptian Pottery*, 92.
- ²⁴ D.A. Aston, "Sherds from a Fortified Townsite near Abu 'Id" in: *Cahiers de la céramique égyptienne* 4 (1996) 32 (nos. 77–85).
- ²⁵ K. Myśliwiec, *Keramik und Kleinfunde aus der Grabung im Tempel Sethos' I. in Gurna*, AV 37 (Mainz, 1987) 67 (nos. 523, 525): "grosse dünnwandige Gefasse manchmal eine tiefe, mit scharfen Kanten abgesetzte Rille an ihrem hohen Hals".
- ²⁶ A.J. Spencer, *Excavations at El-Ashmuneim III. The Town* (London, 1993), type E1, pl. 64 (nos. 18, 19, 22), pl. 65 (nos. 25, 26, 30, 35). Found in contexts of site W of the Third Intermediate Period; Aston, *Egyptian Pottery*, fig. 105 (no. 90).
- ²⁷ P. French, "Late Dynastic Pottery from the Vicinity of the South Tombs" in: B.J. Kemp (ed.), *Amarna Reports* III (London, 1986) 183, MJ2.1.2 (D) y MJ2.1.3 (A). MJ1 type refers to "small to medium-sized vessels, some (most?) with handles" and "short, fairly upright necks of variable form but without external groove." MJ2 is similar to MJ1 type "but it is characterized by an external groove below the rim".
- ²⁸ M.J. López Grande / F. Quesada Sanz, "La cerámica" in: *Excavaciones en Ehnasya El-Medina* (Madrid, 1995) § 116, pl. XLVIII a–b: described as big vessels with ovoid body characterized by a grooved neck below the rim that adopts the typical grooved rim profile; they have thin walls, frequently exhibiting a thinned neck base; a light grey pink surface, sometimes yellowish, with a rim diameter of 12–15 cm; these vessels appeared in the 25th Dynasty, but it was not until the 26th Dynasty that they reached their maximum development (W. Kaiser et al, "Stadt und Tempel von Elephantine" in: *Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archeologische Institut in Kairo* 46 (1990) fig. 14.14.)
- ²⁹ C. Defernéz, "Karnak. La chapelle d' Osiris Ounnefer Neb-Djefaou" in: *Bulletin de Liaison* 22 (2004) 37, fig. 12.
- ³⁰ Defernéz, in: *BCE* 22 (2004) 40.
- ³¹ Myśliwiec, *The Twilight of Ancient Egypt*, 220.
- ³² See note 17.
- ³³ See note 20.
- ³⁴ L0271. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 124, fig. 30:5 (no. 38); Aston, *CCE* 4 (1996) fig.

- 84 describes them as "two handled storage jar with grooved rim".
- 35 Aston, *Elephantine* XIX, pl. 58 (no. 1737).
- 36 See description below.
- 37 See description below.
- 38 See description below.
- 39 L1001. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 8, 328, fig. 58:8 (no. 70); Lupo, in: *Tell el-Ghaba* II, 57, fig. 37.
- 40 French, in: *Amarna Reports* III, fig. 9.8, SJ1.2.1 (W); P. French, "Preliminary Study of Pottery in Lower Egypt in the Late Dynastic and Ptolemaic Period" in: *CCE* 3 (1992) no. 3.
- 41 Myśliwiec, *Keramik und Kleinfunde*, 63 (no. 416).
- 42 Myśliwiec, *Keramik und Kleinfunde*, 63: "ein enger, sich nach innen zusammenziehender, oft hoher und dünnwandiger Rand mit zwei bis drei Kerben im Profil".
- 43 French, *CCE* 3 (1992) 83-93, n° 3.
- 44 French, in: *Amarna Reports* III, 183.
- 45 See description below.
- 46 L0084. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 109, fig. 23:6 (no. 27).
- 47 Aston, *Elephantine* XIX, pls. 58 (no. 1733), 59 (no. 1755); H. Jaritz, "Stadt und Tempel von Elephantine Fünfter Bericht. VI Wasserbecken am Südostfuss der Chnumterrasse" in: *MDAIK* 31 (1975) 69, fig. 7 (5751a, 1108GE).
- 48 Spencer, *Excavations at El-Ashmuneim* III, pl. 66 (EI-82-87); Aston, *Egyptian Pottery*, fig. 104 (nos. 72-73).
- 49 Myśliwiec, *Keramik und Kleinfunde*, nos. 497-499.
- 50 Defernéz, *BCE* 22 (2004) figs. 8-9: "jâres sans cols à anses et lèvres en bandeau".
- 51 French, in: *Amarna Reports* III, MJ3.2.3 (J); MJ3 type consists of "globular vessels of various sizes with short necks, some having handles."
- 52 Aston, *CCE* 4 (1996) nos. 61-67.
- 53 L. Heidom, "The Saite and Persian Period Forts at Dorginarti" in: W.V. Davies (ed.), *Egypt and Africa. Nubia from Prehistory to Islam* (London, 1999) 210, fig. 3b.
- 54 French, in: *CCE* 3 (1992) no. 4.
- 55 French, in: *CCE* 3 (1992) 84.
- 56 L1058. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 309, fig. 51:4 (no. 45); Lupo / Basílico, in: *Alimentación, producción e intercambio*, 78, fig. 3 (10); S. Basílico / S. Lupo, "Function of Area II in Tell el-Ghaba, North Sinai, through its pottery evidence"(forthcoming): fig. 2g.
- 57 L0271. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 124, fig. 30:4 (no. 34).
- 58 See description below.
- 59 L0271. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 123, fig. 30:4 (no. 33).
- 60 French, in: *Amarna Reports* III, fig. 9.17: MJ1.1.5 (D?) and MJ1.1.2 (P) defined as "short, fairly upright necks of variable forms but without external grooves".
- 61 French, in: *CCE* 3 (1992) no. 1.
- 62 French, in: *CCE* 3 (1992) 84.
- 63 L0237. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 117, fig. 28:2 (no. 12).
- 64 L1001. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 328, fig. 58:8 (no. 71); Lupo / Basílico, in: *Alimentación, producción e intercambio*, 57, fig. 36.
- 65 L0271. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 124, fig. 30:4 (no. 35).
- 66 L0084. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 109, fig. 23:5 (no. 25).
- 67 Described by Aston as "small two-handled tall storage jars" (*Elephantine* XIX, pl. 55

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- (no. 1695); pl. 58 (nos. 1734–35).
- ⁶⁸ Aston, *Elephantine* XIX, pl. 60 (nos. 1787–88); *CCE* 4 (1996) fig. 68.
- ⁶⁹ Myśliwiec, *Keramik und Kleinfunde*, n° 521; Aston, *CCE* 4 (1996) fig. 68.
- ⁷⁰ L1224. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 243, fig. 21:2 (no. 11); Lupo / Basílico, in: *Alimentación, producción e intercambio*, 89, fig. 9:11; Basílico / Lupo, "Function of Area II in Tell el-Ghaba", fig. 3f.
- ⁷¹ Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 345–61.
- ⁷² L0017. Fuscaldo (ed.), *Tell el-Ghaba* I, 96, fig. 18:2 (no. 21).
- ⁷³ J.D. Bourriau / P.T. Nicholson, "Marl Clay Pottery Fabrics of the New Kingdom from Memphis, Saqqara and Amarna" in: *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* 78 (1992) 42–43.
- ⁷⁴ C.A. Hope / H.M. Blauer / J. Riederer, "Recent Analyses of 18th Dynasty Pottery" in: Do. Arnold (ed.), *Studien zur altägyptische Keramik* (Mainz, 1981) 139–66.
- ⁷⁵ C.A. Hope, *Excavations at the Birket Habu V. Jar Sealings and Amphorae* (Warminster, 1978) 67.
- ⁷⁶ French, in: *Amarna Reports* III, 154.
- ⁷⁷ Cremonte, in: *Tell el-Ghaba* II, 18–53.
- ⁷⁸ We face a number of difficulties with our comparative studies: firstly, not all missions working in Egypt have adopted the Vienna System, and secondly, for Phase IV North that most of the Egyptian material in Tell el-Ghaba's accounts for, there are no published studies about the presence of Marl A4 vessels in contemporary Eastern Delta settlements, i.e. the beginning of the 26th Dynasty, with the exception of the article referring to the Delta by Peter French, *CCE* 3 (1992) 83–93.
- ⁷⁹ A. Lloyd, "The Late Period (664-332 BC)" in: I. Shaw (ed.), *The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt* (Oxford, 2000) 371.
- ⁸⁰ J. Taylor, "The Third Intermediate Period (1069-664 BC)" in: I. Shaw (ed.), *The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt* (Oxford, 2000) 358–59.
- ⁸¹ Lloyd, in: *The Oxford History of the Ancient Egypt*, 371.