



An Object Lesson: Rediscovering Iron Age Artifacts from the Israel Museum Collection

Eran Arie

This volume is dedicated to the Israel Museum's former curators of the Iron Age and Persian Period Department Ruth Hestrin and Michal Dayagi-Mendels.

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Cover: Detail of the kernos from Tel Sasa

IAA collection, Photo: $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, by Laura Lachman

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Introduction

This volume of Israel Museum Studies in Archaeology (IMSA) is special in its structure, content, and authorship. In contrast to this journal's usual mélange of topics and authors, this issue comprises five subjects of research on themes related to Iron Age objects from the Israel Museum Collection, all initiated and led by a single author (one co-authored with Prof. Yuval Goren). Some of these items have long been on display in the permanent exhibition of the Bronfman Archaeology Wing, while others have languished in obscurity owing to having been reburied in the darkness of the storerooms of the Department of Iron Age and Persian Period Archaeology. I had the privilege to study these objects during the period of 2013 to 2020, when I had the honor to serve as the department's curator. The lengthy process of preparing this publication culminated after I was appointed as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Cultural Heritage and a member of the Leon Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, both in the University of Haifa.

These articles reflect my enthusiasm and love for archaeological artifacts, some of elite or symbolic function, but others of everyday use, lacking the requisite museum splendor and, thus, reducing their chances of ever being on display. I had the rare opportunity to have unfettered access to examine these objects closely in the department's storeroom, exploring their otherwise inaccessible parts, obtaining a tactile impression of their surface texture, searching for evidence their ancient treatment, divining their hidden secrets, and, ultimately, drawing out their innate, mute memories to reveal their long object biographies. In other words, in these studies, I sought to do what we curators do best—tell the story of objects!

Yet, some of the objects dealt with in these papers presented special challenges. Some were illicitly excavated from archaeological sites and, subsequently, via unknown intermediaries, sold or donated to the Museum. Naturally, this is a contentious issue, but I believe that since these artifacts are today in public hands, they indeed deserve publication and discussion by the archaeological community, both regarding

the ethical implications and their archaeological contribution. The articles herein do not shy away from these questions in any way. In fact, the precise provenance of some of these items is presented here for the first time.

Finally, it is my honor to dedicate this special IMSA volume to the two women who curated the Iron Age and Persian Period Department before me, Ruth Hestrin and Michal Dayagi-Mendels, and are more than deserving of public recognition for their contributions. Ruth, whom I unfortunately did not get to know, founded the department at the Museum's inauguration in 1965, and immediately understood the crucial importance of having a permanent display of the Biblical Periods, both to the Israeli audience and to world heritage culture (For more on her career, see the Israel Exploration Journal, Vol. 43, 1993, pp. 199-200). In the case of Michal, with whom I worked closely, she raised the profile of the department in many exhibitions and strengthened the department's connection with the general public by publishing catalogues and addressing broad and diverse topics. Michal also served as chief curator of the Archaeology Wing from 2004 to 2013 and successfully lead it through a challenging renovation process that culminated in 2010.

Moreover, in recent years, the Archaeology Wing of the Israel Museum has undergone massive changes in personnel, and, thus, I believe that there is great importance in mentioning these salient persons and their work to the younger generation. I believe that only if they are cognizant of the long journey taken by the Museum, will they be able to carry it forward along its future path. Curators mostly stand in the shadows, and museum visitors usually do not encounter them. Often the public does not realize how central is a curator's role in how they experience a display. Thus, the twenty-first century is not too late, but rather high time to acknowledge two dedicated individuals who labored at the museum for decades, and molded the public's experience we call 'The Israel Museum'.

Dr. Eran Arie, 14.3.2023



Cat. No. 17, see Fig. 3:12 (Photo @ The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, by Valdimir Naikhin).

Iron Age Strainer Juglets in the Southern Levant

Abstract

This article presents the Iron Age strainer-juglets as a distinct pottery type, and examines their date, geographical distribution, and function. Two main types are defined, based on the location of the juglet's strainer. In the Southern Levant, Type 1 (with a strainer at its base) is found primarily from Jerusalem southwards, while Type 2 (with a strainer at or near its top) has a somewhat broader geographical distribution. It is possible that the origin of the latter was in northern areas of the Southern Levant, and only later spread southwards. Both types were intended to strain liquids from outside inwards. The mechanism used in Type 1, was more sophisticated than that of Type 2, but in both the purpose of the vessel was to strain and transfer liquid from a large container to another, probably smaller, vessel (for individual use) in a single continuous action.

Introduction

This paper introduces the Iron Age strainer juglets from the southern Levant as a distinct pottery type, examining their dates, geographical distribution, and function. Five strainer juglets housed in the Israel Museum (Cat. Nos. 11, 17, 18, 30 and 34) were the initial motivation for this study, which included tracking down all known examples. While this was no simple task, it was a rewarding one, and revealed a hitherto unknown ceramic phenomenon. In all, I identified thirty-five

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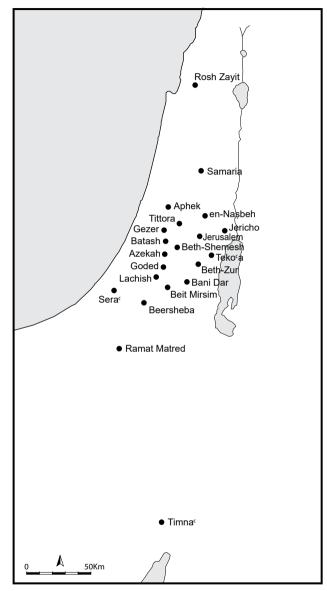


Fig. 1. Map showing the location of sites mentioned in the text.

such juglets at twenty-one sites (Fig. 1). As some examples did not derive from proper scientific excavation, their dates and archaeological contexts remain obscure. Nevertheless, due to the limited number of the specimens affiliated with this type, each example enhanced our understanding and enabled the elucidation of the type's distinctive features.

The juglets were divided into two main types (Fig. 2): Type 1 has a strainer located at the base of the vessel and Type 2 has a strainer at or near the top. Type 2 was further subdivided into four subtypes (2a–2d), which are discussed below at length. The straining system of each type was researched utilizing parallels and by applying common sense and understanding of basic gravity to its specific morphology. The catalog accompanying this paper presents the juglets by type and subtype (where relevant), and the vessels in each category are organized according to the sites in which they were found, from north to south; strainer juglets of unknown provenance appear last in each group.

Each type is morphologically different and has a distinct straining mechanism and, thus, are dealt with separately. It appears that although they are functionally related, the two juglet types have different ancient biographies that are based on their chronology and geographic distribution.

Type 1: Juglets with strainers at their base

Eighteen strainer juglets belong to this group; all have a perforated base. Most of these examples have an ovoid body, resembling typical Iron Age II dipper juglets. Their bases are usually round (apart from Cat. Nos. 3 and 7) and are perforated by as few as seven to as many as thirty-six holes. Notably, two juglets have a slightly different shape: Cat. No. 5 has a conical body and Cat. No. 16, has a squat spherical shape. Another recurring feature is the deliberate narrowing of the juglet's mouth by an inverted rim (Cat. Nos. 4, 8, 9, 11, 14) and/or a pinched one (Cat. Nos. 8, 17, 18). One juglet, however, has an upright rim (Cat. No. 16), and in three cases the rim flares out slightly (Cat. Nos. 5, 13, 15). All juglets are wheel-made except for two handmade examples (Cat. Nos. 15, 16), that belong to the "Negebite" ware family.

No. 1: Jericho (1)

Dimensions: H 8 cm (preserved height; it is unclear whether the entire profile survived).

Description: Small piriform juglet; light-brown ware; perforated strainer base. Although no drawing or photograph was



Fig. 2. Strainer Juglet Types and Subtypes: (1) Type 1 (Cat. No. 11=Fig. 3:7); (2) Type 2, Subtype 2a (Cat. No. 28); (3) Type 2b (Cat. No. 30=Fig. 5:7); and (4) Type 2, Subtype 2c (Cat. No. 34=Fig. 5:10). Note, for Type 2d, see Fig. 4:1. (Nos. 1, 3-4 Photo © The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, by Valdimir Naikhin; No. 2 courtesy of the Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam).

included in the excavation report, the written description and that this juglet was found next to a second juglet (see Cat. No. 21, below) with a strainer at its top indicate that it belongs to Type 1.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Sellin and Watzinger attributed the vessel to the "Jewish Settlement" (Die jüdische Ansiedlung); vessels described in the ceramic plates of this stratum are all dated to Iron Age II.

Reference: Sellin and Watzinger 1913: 139, no. 38.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 2: Gezer (1)

Dimensions: Fragment H 5.2 cm; Max. D 4 cm.

Description: Bottom part of a juglet (not including neck and rim); the sherd is poorly drawn, and its shape is hard to discern. It appears that the base was perforated by 16 holes.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Unknown. Macalister attributed the vessel to the "Second Semitic Period"—that is, to the Middle or Late Bronze Age; however, some Iron Age vessels originated in the same stratum as the juglet, so that Macalister's attribution of the stratum cannot date the vessel.

Reference: Macalister 1912a: 165; Macalister 1912b: Pl. 156: 21. Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 3: Jerusalem (City of David)

Dimensions: Fragment H 5 cm; Max. D 9.8 cm.

Description: Juglet base perforated by seven holes; flat base; reddish brown ware. This sherd represents a vessel larger than most juglets discussed here. Additionally, some of the holes appear to have been pierced from the vessel's interior wall outward (as attested by an uneven surface where the clay was pushed out), which makes it possible, therefore, that this was an open strainer rather than a closed vessel. Nevertheless, I have included this vessel in the discussion as it shares some traits with the rest of the studied vessels.

Context: Stratum 12A; Area E South; L1709; residential building near the city wall.

Date: Iron Age IIB (late eighth century BCE).

Reference: De Groot and Bernick-Greenberg 2012: Fig. 14: 4.46.

Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh; not yet registered.

No. 4: Beth-Shemesh (1), Fig. 3:1

Dimensions: Height 11.4 cm; Max. diam. 6.5 cm.

Description: Complete juglet; handle incomplete; inverted rim; base perforated by 20 holes.

Context: Stratum III; fill.

Date: Iron Age I, according to the excavators; however, taking into account the shortcomings of the field methods and publication, a wider date range should be considered.

Reference: Grant 1929: 214, 207: 249; 249. Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 5: Tel Azekah, Fig. 3:2

Dimensions: H 11.8 cm; Max. D. 7.1 cm.

Description: Cylindrical juglet; body widens toward a convex base; flaring rim; base perforated by 36 holes.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Bliss and Macalister ascribed the stratum that yielded this juglet to the "Late pre-Israelite Period". Although many finds from this stratum date to the Late Bronze Age, it is difficult to date this vessel with certainty, owing to the limitations of the field methods and to the presence of later finds in that stratum.

Reference: Bliss and Macalister 1902: 88, Pl. 32:13; Duncan 1930: Pl. 67: W; Tubb 1982: 176.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 6: Tel Goded, Fig. 3:3

Dimensions: H 11.5 cm; Max. D 6.4 cm.

Description: Base perforated by 25 holes.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Bliss and Macalister attributed the stratum that yielded this vessel to the "Jewish Period". Nearly all finds from this stratum date to the Iron Age, and in light of the typological resemblance of this vessel to other Iron Age juglets, it appears that it might be dated to that period as well.

Reference: Bliss and Macalister 1902: 104, Pl. 53:10; Duncan 1930: Pl. 67: X; Tubb 1982: 176.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

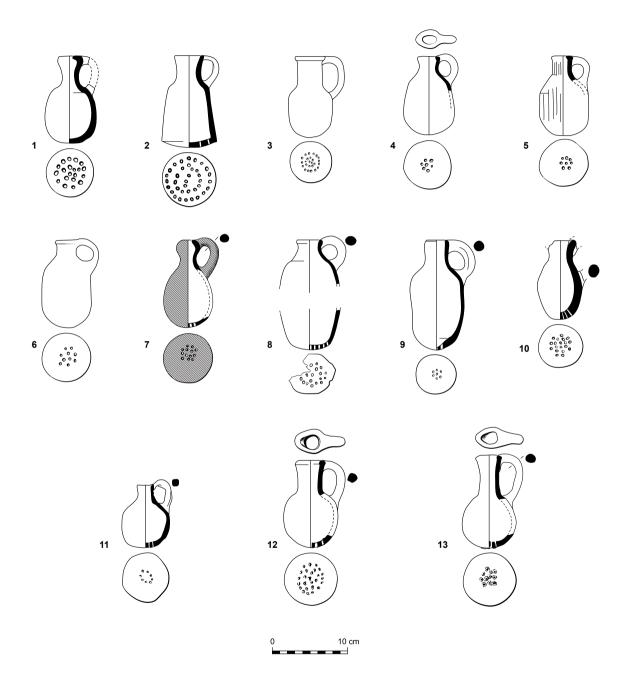


Fig. 3. Type 1 strainer juglets: (1) Beth-Shemesh (Cat. No. 4); (2) Tel Azekah (Cat. No. 5); (3) Tel Goded (Cat. No. 6); (4) Lachish (Cat. No. 8); (5) Tell Beit Mirsim (Cat. No. 10); (7) Tel Sera' (Cat. No. 11); (8) Beersheba (Cat. No. 13); (9) Beersheba (Cat. No. 14); (10) Ramat Matred (Cat. No. 15); (11) Timna' (Cat. No. 16); (12) Unknown provenance (Cat. No. 17); (13) Unknown provenance (Cat. No. 18).

No. 7: Beth-Zur

Dimensions: Fragment H 7.4 cm; Max. D 14.3 cm. The dimensions were calculated based on the illustration's scale; however, the scale on many plates in this report may be inaccurate. The vessel was described in the report as a jug rather than a juglet, which strengthens this suspicion.

Description: Bottom of a strainer juglet; flattened base; the number of perforations in the base is unknown.

Context: Found at the opening of an incompletely excavated plastered, rock-hewn water cistern of unknown date. Sherds dating from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic period were recovered in the area.

Date: Although the excavators did not suggest a date for this vessel, they published it in a plate of Bronze Age vessels.

Tubb (1982: 176) assigned this vessel to the Middle Bronze Age without explanation; however, as there is a good parallel from Beersheba (Cat. No. 13), an Iron Age II date is more likely.

Reference: Funk 1968: 41, Fig. 5:15, Pl. 17:15; Tubb 1982: 176.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 8: Lachish, Fig. 3:4

Dimensions: H 10.3 cm; Max. D 6.7 cm.

Description: Pinkish ware; inverted rim; narrow, ovoid mouth; base perforated by seven holes.

Context: Tomb 116—a rock-hewn tomb with a rich pottery assemblage.

Date: Iron Age IIC (from the final stage of a tomb that was first used in the Iron Age IIA).

Reference: Tufnell 1953: 190-192, Pl. 88:308; Tubb 1982: 176.

Current location and reg. no.: The British Museum, London (1980,1214.88).

No. 9: Tell Beit Mirsim (1), Fig. 3:5

Dimensions: H 11.7 cm; Max. D 6.5 cm.

Description: Inverted rim; vertical burnish; base perforated by eight holes.

Context: Stratum A; house in the northwestern residential quarter; Room A-9 (Square 22).

Date: Iron Age IIB (701 BCE).

Reference: Albright 1943: 197, Pl. 18:19; Tubb 1982: 176.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 10: Tell Beit Mirsim (2), Fig. 3:6

Dimensions: H 11.7 cm; Max. D 6.5 cm.

Description: Grayish ware; vertical burnish; base perforated by eight or ten holes (there is a discrepancy between the written description and the illustration).

Context: Stratum A; Pillared house in the southeastern residential quarter; Room A-11 (Square 51).

Date: Iron Age IIB (701 BCE).

Reference: Albright 1943: 166, Pl. 26B:8; Tubb 1982: 176.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 11: Tel Sera', Figs. 2:1, 3:7

Dimensions: H 12.1 cm; Max. D 6.5 cm.

Description: Complete vessel; brown ware; red slip over entire vessel; sharply inverted rim; base perforated by thirteen holes.

Context: Stratum VI (public structure adjacent to the eastern part of the Assyrian fortress, L2127).

Date: Iron Age IIC.

Reference: Oren and Bernick-Greenberg, forthcoming: Pl. 10.61:15. Current location and reg. no.: The Israel Museum, Jerusalem; IAA collection 1987-5.

No. 12: Beersheba (1)

Dimensions: Fragment H 3 cm; Max. D 7.5 cm.

Description: Strainer base perforated by seven holes.

Context: Stratum III, residential House 2713 in the southern part of the city (L2700).

Date: Iron Age IIB.

Reference: Singer-Avitz 2016: 634, Fig. 12.14:8; Herzog 2016a: 256–257, Fig. 5.16.

Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh; not yet registered.

No. 13: Beersheba (2), Fig. 3:8

Dimensions: Reconstructed H c.14.3 cm; Max. D c. 8.1 cm.

Description: Two parts of a strainer juglet that form a nearly complete profile; flattened base; vertical burnish; base probably perforated by twenty-one holes (only twenty were preserved).

Context: Stratum II, residential House 1119 in the city's center (L1120).

Date: Iron Age IIB (701 BCE).

Reference: Singer-Avitz 2016: 634, Fig. 12.148:12; Herzog and Beit-Arieh 2016: 391, Fig. 7.23B.

Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh; not yet registered.

No. 14: Beersheba (3), Fig. 3:9

Dimensions: H 14.6 cm; Max. D 7.2 cm.

Description: Complete strainer juglet; rim slightly inverted; vertical burnish; base perforated by seven holes.

Context: Strata III-II, room in casemate wall (L1684).

Date: Iron Age IIB.

Reference: Singer-Avitz 2016: 634, Fig. 12.183:7; Herzog 2016b: 206. Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh; not yet registered.

No. 15: Ramat Matred, Fig. 3:10

Dimensions: H 10.5 cm; Max. D 6 cm.

Description: Handmade vessel (belonging to the "Negebite" ware family); orange-brown ware; slightly everted rim; base perforated by 19 holes.

Context: The inner space of a four-room house (Building D, L. 135).

Date: Iron Age IIA.

Reference: Cohen and Cohen-Amin 2004: 60, 140, Figs. 40:8; 19:15. Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 16: Timna', Fig. 3:11

Dimensions: H 8.3 cm; Max. D 6.2 cm.

Description: Complete juglet; handmade; reddish ware; simple, upright rim; base perforated by eight holes.

Context: Stratum II at the "Mining Temple" (Site 200).

Date: Rothenberg (1988: 277–278) described Stratum II as "Midianite" and dated it to a time shortly after the Egyptians abandoned the site in the late twelfth century BCE. Recent studies, however, date most of the activity at Timna' to the end of Iron Age I (Kleiman, Kleiman, and Ben-Yosef 2017: 256–257, and passim.). However, considering the "Negebite" parallel for this juglet (Cat. No. 15) from Ramat Matred, a later date for Timna temple Stratum II may be favorable; thus, the present example

should therefore be lowered as well, i.e., to the early tenth century BCE.

Reference: Rothenberg 1988: 94, 302, Pl. 106:2, Fig. 15:3.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 17: Unknown provenance (1), Fig. 3:12 and unnumbered figure opposite the first page of the paper.

Dimensions: H 11.5 cm; Max. D 7 cm.

Description: Intact juglet; handmade; light brown ware; thickened, slightly pinched rim; base perforated by 26 holes.

Context: Unknown. Source: The Louis and Carmen Warschaw Collection, Gift of Susan Warschaw Robertson and Hope Warschaw, Los Angeles, to the American Friends of the Israel Museum.

Date: Iron Age II(?).
Reference: Unpublished.

Current location and reg. no.: The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, 2013.52.507.

No. 18: Unknown provenance (2), Fig. 3:13

Dimensions: H 12.2 cm; Max. D. 7.3 cm.

Description: Complete juglet; grayish buff ware; large white grits; rim slightly pinched and slightly inverted; base perforated by eleven holes.

Context: Unknown. Bequest of Dan Barag, Jerusalem.

Date: Iron Age II(?).

Reference: Unpublished.

Current location and reg. no.: The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, 2010.65.2490.

The chronology and geographic distribution of Type 1 juglets

Type 1 strainer juglets are doubtless a homogenous group both chronologically and in terms of spatial distribution. Ten out of eighteen vessels in this group can be dated securely based on their archaeological provenance: one item dates to late Iron Age I (Cat. No. 16); one to Iron Age IIA (Cat. No. 15); six, to Iron Age IIB (Cat. Nos. 3, 9, 10, 12–14); and two to Iron IIC (Cat. Nos. 8, 11). Juglet No. 5 from Azekah may differ chronologically; its cylindrical shape places it in an earlier period (Middle or Late

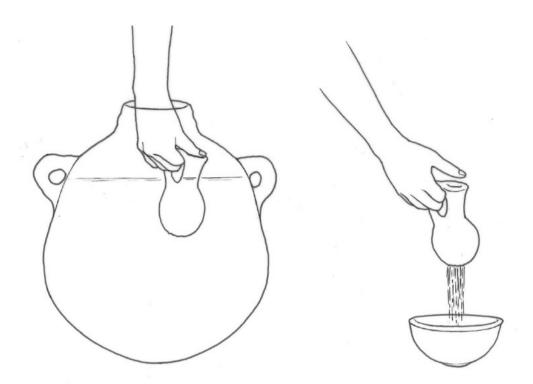


Fig. 4. A proposed reconstruction of the functioning of the Type 1 strainer juglet: dipping the juglet into liquid in one container, while sealing its mouth with a thumb (left); removing the thumb from the juglet mouth above a bowl to dispense the liquid (right) (Drawing © The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, by Esther Stark).

Bronze Age). However, given the excavation methods of those early excavations at the site, the lack of any Bronze Age parallels² argues against its date being raised and, therefore, presumably, despite its unique morphology, it dates to the Iron Age.

Geographically, all Type 1 juglets were found in southern Israel, within the borders of the Kingdom of Judah or south of it, in the Negev (Cat. No. 15) or the Arabah (Cat. No. 16). The example from Gezer (Cat. No. 2) is the only one originating in the Kingdom of Israel, but this might reflect the site's proximity to the border with the Kingdom of Judah. Therefore, it may be concluded that Type 1 strainer juglets are an Iron Age II Judahite phenomenon and that the peak of their production was in the eighth century BCE.

The function of Type 1 juglets

Few scholars have addressed the function of Type 1 juglets. Kelso and Thorley (1945: 87) believed that the strainer bases were used "for sprinkling aromatic seeds upon cakes before baking", an interpretation based on no evidence whatsoever. Tubb (1982: 177), on the other hand, identified these juglets as cultic vessels used for libation practices. He published a juglet with an applied decoration of a female figure (Tubb 1982) from the British Museum collection (unknown provenance; but likely from Syria), which he dated to the Early Bronze Age (2400-2000 BCE), based on stylistic features. Two similar vessels from Tell Bi'a (ancient Tuttul) in northeastern Syria, on the Middle Euphrates, were published recently (Recht 2014: Figs. 6, 7). Unfortunately, while they originated in a methodical excavation, their archaeological context is unclear, and they were dated to the Early Bronze Age based solely on style. Recht (2014: 16-17) also attributed the Type 1 juglets to cultic libation rites, postulating that they contained aromatic oils. An additional perforated jug(let) base, with eleven holes, was found at Tell Chuera, in northeastern Syria, between the Balikh and Khabur Rivers, on the border with Turkey.

Unlike the vessels from the British Museum and Tell Bi'a, it was recovered in a documented domestic context that is dated securely to the third millennium BCE (Kühne 1976: 78, Pl. 25:4).

Two additional similar, but larger, vessels (jugs) come from Ugarit (Lombard 1987: Figs. 1, 2; Yon 2006: 140–141). One was dated to the transition between the Middle and Late Bronze Ages and the other, to the last days of Ugarit, in the thirteenth century BCE. Both jugs have an extraordinarily narrow neck and mouth (D. c. 1 cm) and a strainer base. They were found in domestic contexts and interpreted as commonplace vessels used by members of the upper class.

I identified the function of Type 1 juglets independently, even though Tubb (1982: 176), Lombard (1987: 356) and Recht (2014: 16) came to a similar conclusion previously. The narrow mouth of these vessels would never have enabled the easy pouring of their contents. Moreover, had liquid been poured into the juglets for straining, it would have been exceedingly difficult to clear the dregs away, due to the vessel form. The logical conclusion, therefore, is that straining was conducted through the base into a vessel (Fig. 4). First, the juglet was submerged vertically into a container with liquid that required straining, while its rim remained above the liquid. Strained liquid would fill the vessel through the base strainer, displacing the air, which was expelled through the juglet's mouth. At that point, the user would place a thumb over the narrow mouth juglet to create a vacuum by preventing any reentry of air and the escape of liquid from the bottom. After the juglet was situated over another vessel, presumably a drinking bowl, the thumb would be removed, allowing the strained liquid to flow out of the juglet through the perforated base and into the intended vessel below it. Thus, in contrast to earlier drinking sets that comprised a separate juglet and strainer, a single composite vessel could draw liquid from one container and transfer it to a smaller one, straining it without losing a single drop. Tubb (1982: 176) conducted an experiment, drawing purified water using the juglet in the British Museum, and showed that a wet thumb sealed the juglet mouth more effectively than a dry one.

Tubb further noted that, in contrast to the British Museum juglet, those from Judah (he was aware of only six; see his catalog) were used either for straining, by filling them through the mouth rather than the base, or for steeping infusions. I have no doubt, however, given that most of these juglets' mouths were deliberately narrowed, that all Type 1 vessels were used in the aforementioned manner.

Apart from the six vessels from the northern Levant (in the British Museum collection and from Tell Bi'a, Tell Chuēra and Ugarit) and the eighteen examples from the southern Levant, introduced above, there are notable vessels from the Aegean that employed a similar mechanism (Koehl 2006: 263–269, Figs. 5–11; 2013: 244, Fig. 12). Although, there, this type was termed "rhyton," it appears to have functioned similarly to the Type 1 strainer juglets—enabling the easy drawing of strained liquid from one container and its transfer to another. The main difference between the two vessel types is that, unlike the Levantine strainer vessel form, the Aegean type has only a single hole in its base.

Moreover, the use of Type 1 juglets may be compared with that of the *klepsydra*—a relatively rare, later, sixth to fourth century BCE, Athenian vessel type. This ornate globular vessel has a strainer base and a hollow basket handle perforated by a single small hole. Despite its different shape, it was used in a manner similar to the Type 1 Levantine strainer juglet (Derenne et al. 1994: 2235-2236). The most splendid example of this type is housed at the University of Mississippi (Robinson 1938), but there are also similar vessels in the Louvre Museum in Paris (CA822), in the National Museum of Denmark in Copenhagen (ABC1020) and in the National Archaeological Museum in Athens (NA57.AA.44). Another notable vessel, even later than the Greek ones, is probably referred to in Jewish sources as titros (Zevulun and Olenik 1978: 51; Dayagi-Mendels 1999: 69; Sperber 2006: 50-51). The titros, like the klepsydra, has a strainer base and a perforated hollow basket handle, but its body is elongated, and only modestly decorated, as typical of its period. There is a complete vessel of this type, dating to the Byzantine period (sixth century CE), in MUZA—Eretz-Israel Museum (MHP 109560).

Examination of the archaeological contexts in which Type 1 juglets were unearthed reveals that apart from the examples from Timna', Tel Sera' and Lachish, which were found in a temple, a public building, and a tomb, respectively, all other juglets (nine examples) from secure provenance come from domestic contexts. We may conclude, therefore, that strainer juglets were commonplace items in Judah, where they were used in domestic buildings, like the jugs from Ugarit (Yon 2006: 141), as opposed to the cultic use for libation rites that has been suggested for Early Bronze Age strainer juglets from the northern Levant (Tubb 1982: 177; Recht 2014: 16-17). This domestic use is also strengthened by the plain design of the Judahite examples, as opposed to the strainer juglets from the northern Levant, which were adorned by human figures that held additional symbolic meaning. The limited volume of the Judahite strainer juglets indicates they were meant for personal use, perhaps for drawing and straining (alcoholic?) beverages from a large container and transferring them to a drinking bowl for immediate consumption. Moreover, having handled these vessels personally, I would like to suggest that they were intended to be used by women.3 The palm of my hand was too large to grasp the handle optimally.

The long gap in time between the dates of the Bronze Age northern Levantine vessels and the Iron Age II Judahite ones, as well as the morphological differences between the Judahite and Ugaritic vessels, indicates that they should not be viewed as forms of the same vessel on a single continuum of development, but rather as the independent products of different regions (at least until new finds are discovered). All the same, the use of strainer juglets was not common at any point in time.

Type 2: Juglets with strainers at or near their top

Type 2 strainer juglets resemble Type 1 juglets in their general shape, but instead of a perforated base their strainer is located at or near the top of the vessel. I assigned seventeen juglets to this group, which is divided into four subtypes, based on the presence or absence of a vent hole and its location. Subtypes 2a–2c are juglets with a vent hole, while Subtype 2d does not (Fig. 5:11). The vent hole in Subtype 2a is located above the

handle (Fig. 2:2), in Subtype 2b it is below the handle (Fig. 2:3), and in Subtype 2c juglets it is in the center of the strainer (Figs. 2:4, 5:10).

Subtype 2a: juglets with a strainer at the top and a vent hole above the handle

Ten juglets belong to this subtype. Six (Cat. Nos. 20, 21, 25–28) were fully preserved and have a rounded base. The strainers sealing the juglets mouths are perforated by between eight and fifty-three holes. Three of the vessels (Cat. Nos. 23, 25, 26) are relatively large and may be described as small jugs. The edges of the vent holes are either smoothed out (Cat. Nos. 22, 28) or left unfinished (Cat. No. 27), and, in one case (Cat. No. 23), the vent hole is located at the end of an elevated tube. The strainers' form also differ: some are rounded (Cat. Nos. 20, 28) and others, slightly rounded (Cat. Nos. 22, 27) or flat (Cat. Nos. 23, 25, 26). Furthermore, sometimes the entire area of the strainer is perforated (Cat. Nos. 20, 24, 27), while, in other cases, the holes are on one side (Cat. Nos. 19, 22).

No. 19: Samaria, Fig. 5:1

Dimensions: Fragment H 2 cm; strainer D 4 cm.

Description: Only the upper part of the juglet was preserved; reddish ware; convex strainer; 20 holes in strainer arranged in four parallel rows and a large round vent hole in its side; the handle did not survive but based on parallels, it was likely located below the vent hole.

Context: Tomb 207 in the north of the city.

Date: Iron Age IIA-IIB (based on other finds in the tomb).

Reference: Crowfoot, Crowfoot and Kenyon 1957: 172, Fig. 23:14.

Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 20: Tell en-Nașbeh, Fig. 5:2

Dimensions: H 14.5 cm; Max. D 7.3 cm.

Description: Light brown ware; double-stranded handle; remains of red slip and vertical burnish; convex strainer with twenty-two holes; round vent hole above handle; Fig. 5:2 has been adapted courtesy of Badè Museum, Pacific School of Religion.

Context: Rock-hewn Tomb 54—rich in finds and located in the eastern part of the northern cemetery.

Date: Iron Age IIA (based on other finds in the tomb).Reference: Wampler 1947: 26, Pl. 41:796; McCown 1947: 83, Pl. 35:12.Current location and reg. no.: Badè Museum, Pacific School of Religion; M 2410.

No. 21: Jericho (2)

Dimensions: H 12.5 cm; Max. D 4.5 cm.

Description: Reddish brown ware; convex strainer at the top of the vessel perforated by eight holes; the ninth hole, adjacent to the handle, is larger and should be identified as a vent hole.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Sellin and Watzinger attributed the vessel to the "Jewish Settlement" ("Die jüdische Ansiedlung"); vessels described in the ceramic plates of this stratum are all dated to Iron Age II, which is also the date of this juglet.

Reference: Sellin and Watzinger 1913: 139, No. 37; PAM 1961: 37, no. 313.

Current location and reg. no.: Rockefeller Archaeological Museum; V-594.

No. 22: Ḥorbat Tittora (Modi'in), Fig. 5:3

Dimensions: Fragment H 4 cm; W 2.7 cm.

Description: Upper part of a strainer juglet (drawing published upside down); light brown ware; handle was probably located below the hole beside the strainer (where there is a missing part). The strainer at the top of the vessel comprises fifty-three holes.

Context: Rock-hewn cave in the western side of the site (Cave 4).

Date: Kogan-Zehavi dated this vessel to the Persian period, based on a parallel purportedly published by Ephraim Stern; however, the reference cited is erroneous and should not be considered reliable. The juglet most likely dates to Iron Age II, like the remainder of the ceramic finds from the cave.

Reference: Kogan-Zehavi 2012: 36–38, Fig. 14:11.

Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh; 2018-1924.

No. 23: Gezer (2), Fig. 5:4

Dimensions: Fragment H 8.8 cm.

Description: Upper part of a strainer juglet and the beginning of a

handle and neck; strainer appears flat and is perforated by thirteen holes; diagonal tube affixed to it near the joining point of the handle probably functioned as a vent hole.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Macalister attributed the vessel to the "Second Semitic Period", i.e., to the Middle or Late Bronze Age; however, some Iron Age vessels also originate in the same stratum as the juglet, rendering Macalister's attribution unreliable.

Reference: Macalister 1912a: 220; Macalister 1912b: Pl. 184:13. Current location and reg. no.: Unknown.

No. 24: Gezer (3)

Dimensions: Fragment H 8 cm.

Description: Handle and neck of a strainer juglet; strainer at the top of the vessel; one of the holes, which is closer to the handle, is larger than the other fourteen, but the drawing is not precise enough to determine this with certainty.

Context: Unknown.

Date: Macalister dated the vessel to the Hellenistic period; however, Iron Age vessels also originate in the same stratum as the juglet, rendering Macalister's attribution unreliable.

Reference: Macalister 1912a: 220; Macalister 1912b: Pl. 184:14. *Current location and reg. no.:* Unknown.

No. 25: Teko'a(?)

Dimensions: H 21.8 cm; Max. D 13 cm.

Description: Globular jug; light brown ware; red slip and vertical burnish; slightly pinched rim; handle connects shoulder to rim; strainer at the top of the vessel, below rim, perforated by ten holes; ring base.

Context: Unknown (presumed provenance given by the supplying antiquities dealer). Purchased by Reuben Hecht on 11.7.1968.

Date: Iron Age II.

Reference: König et al. 1987: 216 (left photo on top, left), 386 (left photo on top, left).

Current location and reg. no.: Hecht Museum, University of Haifa, R-780 (previously held in the Dagon Grain Museum, Haifa).

No. 26: Hebron area(?)

Dimensions: Height 18 cm; Max. D 12.5 cm.

Description: Globular jug; red slip and vertical burnish (also

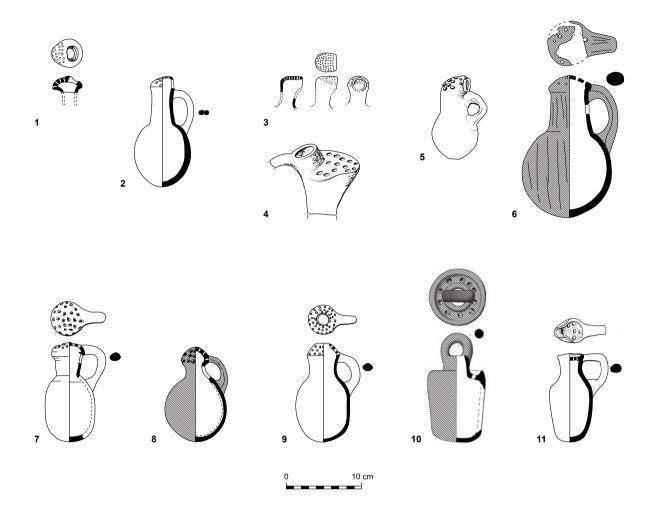


Fig. 5. Type 2 juglets: (1) Samaria (Cat. No. 19); (2) Tell en-Naṣbeh (Cat. No. 20); (3) Ḥorbat Tittora (Cat. No. 22); (4) Gezer (Cat. No. 23); (5) Bani Dar (Cat. No. 27); (6) Tel Aphek (Cat. No. 29); (7) Beth-Shemesh (Cat. No. 30=Fig. 1:3); (8) Bani Dar (Cat. No. 31); (9) Ḥorbat Rosh Zayit (Cat. No. 33); (10) Unknown provenance (Cat. No. 34=Fig. 1:4); (11) Tel Batash (Cat. No. 35).

on the base); ring base; handle connects shoulder to rim; the strainer at the top of the vessel is perforated by 53 holes; part of the holes are on the vessel's neck; a large vent hole is located at the top of the handle (at the same elevation as that of the strainer); a small rounded bulge is located on the strainer near the vent hole.

Context: Unknown (presumed provenance given by antiquities dealer who sold the vessel). Purchased by Reuben Hecht on 3.4.1970.

Date: Iron II.

Reference: König et al. 1987: 216 (left photo on top, right), 386 (left photo on top, right).

Current location (and reg. no.): Hecht Museum, University of Haifa (R-921, previously held in the Dagon Grain Museum, Haifa).

No. 27: Bani Dar (South Mount Hebron)? (1) Fig. 5:5

Dimensions: H 11.5 cm; Max. D 6.5 cm.

Description: Ovoid juglet with strainer in its upper part;

orange-brown ware; poorly executed strainer; vent hole with unfinished edges located above the handle; the number of holes in the strainer is indeterminable from the publication.

Context: probably originated in a looted tomb, as it was confiscated intact in a village close to Bani Dar's large cemetery.

Date: Iron Age II(?). Regev (2018: 195) dated the juglet to the tenth century BCE, based on a parallel from Rosh Zayit (see below, Cat. No. 33), but, based on other parallels presented here, the date range should be expanded to include the entire Iron Age II.

Reference: Regev 2018: IV, 195.

Current location and reg. no.: Storerooms of the Staff Officer of Archaeology at the Department of the Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria, T19285-210.

No. 28: Unknown provenance (3) Fig. 2:2

Dimensions: H 10.9 cm; Max. D 7.7 cm.

Description: Intact juglet; pinkish brown ware; hemispherical strainer at the vessel's top is perforated by over forty holes arrayed in a spiral pattern. There are twenty-two additional incomplete, i.e., non-penetrating holes below the strainer on the body of the juglet, arranged in two groups: one is T-shaped and the other, ovoid. These were probably a form of decoration, but of unknown meaning. A straight line carved on the center of the handle, turns into a curving, snake-like line on the vessel's body. A large, round vent hole with smoothed out edges is located above the handle.

Context: Unknown. This juglet was in the possession of Moshe Dayan, as indicated by the Hebrew notation on the base of "Ramallah", which is likely where he acquired the juglet. It was purchased from Dayan by Sylvie (Sara) Gumprecht-Linke for the Linka Gallery in Amsterdam, probably in 1969 (see Heymans 2018 for the history of this collection), and eventually reached the Allard Pierson Museum.

Date: Unknown.

Reference: Unpublished.

Current location and reg. no.: Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam, APM 17.623.

Subtype 2b: juglets with a strainer at the top and a vent hole below the handle

Four juglets belong to this subtype. Most have a rounded body (Cat. Nos. 29, 31, 32), but one example is more conical in shape (Cat. No. 30). The strainer is either rounded (Cat. Nos. 29, 30), globular (Cat. No. 31) or pointed (Cat. No. 32), and the vent hole is round (Cat. Nos. 31, 32) or square (Cat. No. 30). The number of holes in the strainer could be determined only for juglet No. 30, which had twenty-eight.

Cat. No. 29: Tel Aphek (Antipatris), Fig. 5:6

Dimensions: H 18.6 cm; Max. D 11.7 cm.

Description: Dark brown ware; red slip; irregular hand burnish; soot marks (likely related to the site's destruction); a hole located below the strainer and a handle (it was not mentioned whether the edges were finished or not); the strainer was broken and reconstructed with plaster, so the number of holes in it cannot be determined.

Context: Four-room house (L586, Stratum A7).

Date: Iron Age IIA.

Reference: Kleiman 2015: 180-181, 190, Fig. 21: 9.

Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh (not yet registered).

No. 30: Beth-Shemesh (2), Figs. 2:3, 5:7

Dimensions: H 13 cm; Max. D 6.6 cm.

Description: Intact juglet; reddish brown ware; strainer comprises twenty-eight holes made in a spiral pattern; rectangular opening in the neck, below the handle (with visible prefiring cut marks).

Context: Unknown. The Clark Collection. Purchased through the Louis and Carmen Warschaw Endowment Fund for Archaeological Acquisitions. Herbert Clark was an antiquities collector who operated in late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century Jerusalem. He would inscribe his acquisitions with their provenance and the year in which they were purchased (see Shay 2014: 90–93 for the nature and uniqueness of his collection). This juglet bears Clark's inscription, "Beit Shamash, 1909", in black ink.

Date: Iron Age II(?).
Reference: Unpublished.

Current location and reg. no.: The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, 90.24.343.

No. 31: Bani Dar (South Mount Hebron)? (2) Fig. 5:8

Dimensions: H 12.5 cm; Max. D 8 cm.

Description: Globular juglet with globular strainer at its top; light brown ware; opening below the handle and strainer with smoothed out edges; remains of red slip (not mentioned in the report) are clearly visible in the photograph of the vessel; the number of holes in the strainer are indeterminate.

Context: This juglet probably came from a looted tomb, as it was confiscated intact in a village close to Bani Dar's large cemetery.

Date: Iron Age II(?). Regev (2018: 194) dated the juglet to the tenth century BCE, based on the parallel from Rosh Zayit (Cat. no. 33), but, based on the additional parallels presented here, it appears that the date range should be expanded to the entire Iron Age II.

Reference: Regev 2018: IV, 194.

Current location and reg. no.: Storerooms of the Staff Officer of Archaeology at the Department of the Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria, T19284-210.

No. 32: Unknown provenance (4)

Dimensions: H 12.8 cm; Max. D 7 cm.

Description: Intact, globular juglet; triple-strand handle connects the top of the rim to the shoulder; the handle is thickened at its points of attachment; grayish ware with black grits. The strainer at the top of the vessel is pointed; there is a round opening in the neck, under the handle.

Context: Unknown.

Date: The date of this juglet cannot be determined with certainty because its provenance is unknown. Nevertheless, according to the Museum registration card it was dated to the Middle Bronze Age by Uza Zevulun, based on its light-colored ware (resembling the northern material from Hazor at this period), its triple-stranded handle (however, compare with the double-stranded handle

from Tell en-Naşbeh, Cat. No. 20, above), and the way in which the handle was affixed to the vessel's body and rim (see above, Cat. No. 28 and also the discussion below).

Reference: Unpublished.

Current location and reg. no.: MUZA—Eretz-Israel Museum, MHP 843.60.

Subtype 2c: juglets with a strainer at the top and a vent hole in its center

Only two juglets belong to this subtype, both of which are complete, although they differ significantly. One is rounded and has a loop handle (Cat. No. 33), while the other is cylindrical and has a basket handle (Cat. No. 34). Furthermore, the strainer of the former juglet is located at the top of the vessel and was punctured by forty-one holes, while the latter's strainer is on the juglet's horizontal shoulder and perforated solely by ten, rather large holes. Nevertheless, in both vessels the vent hole was in the center of the strainer, above the level of the strainer holes.

Two jugs, of which only fragments were found, are notable in connection with Subtype 2c juglets, as their top parts resemble those of the aforementioned juglets. One was unearthed at Khirbet Marjameh (Mazar 1995: 112–113, Fig. 22) and the other, at Jericho (Sellin and Watzinger 1913: Pl. 34:46; although referred to as the lid of an incense burner, it was probably the top of a jug, based on comparison with strainer juglets). The elaborate vessel (a "beer jug") from Marjameh includes, apart from a strainer on its top, a strainer spout and it is possible that the Jericho example was of the same type. A basket handle and a loop handle attached to the Marjameh jug may indicate that it was used like Subtype 2c juglets (see below).

Cat. No. 33: Ḥorbat Rosh Zayit Fig. 5:9

Dimensions: H 13.5 cm; Max. D 7 cm.

Description: Light brown ware; conical strainer placed on the rim and perforated by forty-one holes and a large, round vent hole in its center.

Context: The northeastern room of the Stratum II fort.

Date: Iron Age IIA.

Reference: Gal and Alexandre 2000: 63–64, Figs. III.43, III.91:14. Current location and reg. no.: Archaeological Museum at Kibbutz Ein-Dor, IAA Collection 1996-2516.

Cat. No. 34: Unknown provenance (5), Figs. 2:4; 5:10

Dimensions: H 14.3 cm; Max. D 7.2 cm.

Description: Intact vessel; reddish brown ware; red slip (including base) and gentle burnish; cylindrical body; the strainer is located at the top of the cylinder and a thin cylindrical neck with a basket handle on top of it; the strainer is perforated by ten holes.

Context: Unknown. Purchased from Moshe Dayan in 1968.

Date: Iron Age II. A vessel similar in shape and size was unearthed in Cave 1 in Jerusalem, excavated by Kenyon (Eshel and Prag 1995: Fig. 26:2, Pl. 16:10). The main difference between the two vessels is that a strainer and a spout are attached to the Jerusalem example.

Reference: Unpublished.

Current location (and reg. no.): The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, 68.32.118.

Subtype 2d: juglets with a strainer at the top and no vent hole

Only a single Type 2 juglet (Cat. No. 35) belongs to this subtype. The strainer is sunk below the level of the rim and the juglet mouth is pinched and thus can function for pouring. Complete jugs similar in shape to this juglet, from Iron Age IIB–IIC Judah, were found in Jerusalem (De Groot and Bernick-Greenberg 2012: 81, Fig, 4.5:5; Eshel and Prag 1995: Fig. 26:3), Lachish (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 86:229), Beersheba (Singer-Avitz 2016: 630, Figs. 11.12:8, 12.148:10) and Arad (Singer-Avitz 2002: Fig. 20: J8). These examples indicate that liquids were strained from outside the vessel into it and subsequently poured out, also through the strainer.

No. 35: Tel Batash, Fig. 5:11

Dimensions: H 12 cm; Max. D 5.4 cm.

Description: Intact juglet, similar in its shape and pinched rim to other dipper juglets from the same stratum, but, unlike them, its mouth is covered by a sunken strainer with six holes.

Context: Stratum II, domestic House F608.

Date: Iron Age IIC.

Reference: Mazar and Panitz-Cohen 2001: 126, Pl. 69: 5.

Current location and reg. no.: IAA storerooms in Beth-Shemesh,
1999-2881.

The chronology and geographic distribution of Type 2 juglets

Among the seventeen strainer juglets of Type 2, only six, representing all four subtypes, originate in secure, datable contexts (Cat. Nos. 19, 20, 22, 29, 33, and 35). The juglet from the Eretz-Israel Museum (Cat. No. 32) was dated in the past to the Middle Bronze Age based on its morphology and ware. The example from Tell en-Nasbeh, however, is well-dated to Iron Age IIA and demonstrates that ceramic considerations alone are not enough, as this vessel has a double-stranded handle—foreign to the Iron Age ceramic tradition. This anomaly was mentioned already in the excavation report (Wampler 1947: 26). The "snake" incised on another unprovenanced juglet (Cat. No. 28) does not necessarily indicate an early date either. It appears, therefore, that all Type 2 juglets are dated to Iron Age II. This conclusion notwithstanding, if a strainer juglet is ever found in a Middle or Late Bronze Age context (and see Note 2), the dates of Cat. Nos. 28 and 32 will have to be reconsidered.

As for the geographical distribution of Type 2 strainer juglets, they appear to be common from Ḥorbat Rosh Zayit in the north to Beth-Shemesh in the south. If we consider as reliable the information given about the acquisition of the vessels in the Hecht Museum (Cat. Nos. 23, 26) and the confiscation of the juglets from Bani Dar (Cat. Nos. 27 and 31) by the Staff Officer of Archaeology at the Department of the Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria, we may expand this range all the way to the south of Mount Hebron. It appears, therefore, that, as opposed to the Type 1 Judahite strainer juglets, the earlier Type 2 juglets (Horbat Rosh Zayit [Cat. No. 33], Samaria [Cat. No. 19], Aphek [Cat. No. 29] and Tell en-Naṣbeh [Cat. No. 20]) are of a more northern origin. The discovery of further examples may help clarify whether these juglets were produced across the

Kingdom of Judah already at their earliest stage, or whether their appearance in the south is indeed a later phenomenon.

The function of Type 2 juglets

The functioning of Type 2 juglets has been discussed only in two publications: Gal and Alexandre (2000: 63-64) claimed that the Rosh Zayit juglet (Cat. No. 33) was meant to be filled through the large hole at the center of the strainer, which was subsequently stoppered so that liquid could be poured out through the strainer holes. This seems improbable as the diameter of the central hole is smaller than 1.5 cm; additionally, it is unlikely that the strained dregs would have been left in the juglet. A second short note on this type's use is in regards to the Jericho example (Cat. No. 21), which was proposed to have functioned as a present day pepper-shaker (PAM 1961: 37: no. 313). This is comparable with Kelso and Thorley's (1945: 87) suggestion for Type 1 juglets (see, above, for reasons to reject it). One must therefore reassess the use of Type 2 juglets. Seeing that the mouth of the juglet was blocked by a strainer and that its "vent hole" is too small to be used to fill the juglet easily, one have no choice but to assume that the liquid was strained as it entered the vessel (i.e., there were never any dregs inside the juglet). The larger holes in Subtypes 2a-2c were used as vent holes that allowed air to escape as liquid displaced it, entering the juglet through the strainer holes. As Subtype 2d juglets have no separate vent hole, one or more of the strainer holes must have served this purpose. It is thus clear that Subtypes 2a and 2b were lowered into large containers of unstrained liquid horizontally. Since the vessels were grasped by their handle, which was not immersed in liquid, the vent holes for Subtypes 2a and 2b are located near it. In contrast, Subtype 2c juglets were lowered into the container vertically; this would have been the only way that would leave the vent hole open while enabling liquid to fill the juglet through the strainer. Subtype 2d juglets may have been used either horizontally or vertically, since, as mentioned above, the strainer itself was used for venting. Once the juglet was filled, it would be pulled out of the container when it is tilted, so that the liquid remained in the juglet's lower part. Subsequently, the juglet was emptied out through the strainer

into a smaller vessel (a drinking bowl?). During this pouring stage, the vent hole would allow air back into the juglet, to replace the liquid.

Unlike Type 1 juglets, most of which were found in domestic contexts, a large number of Type 2 juglets (Cat. Nos. 19, 20, 22, 27, and 31) come from tombs. This number is probably higher given that several intact juglets (Cat. Nos. 28, 30, 32, 35), which found their way to the antiquities market, likely originated in robbed tombs. Apart from these, two juglets (Cat. Nos. 29, 35) come from domestic contexts, and one (Cat. No. 33), from a public building. In my opinion, the presence of this type in tombs indicates that they were personal belongings interred with their owners and not related to burial rites. Therefore, this context still attests to their commonplace use in the population's daily life.

Conclusions

This paper is the first to introduce Iron Age strainer juglets as a distinct type, examining their dates, geographic distribution, and usage. There are two main distinguishable types that are defined by the location of the strainer. While Type 1 (with a strainer base) was more common in the south of Israel, Type 2 (with a strainer at the top) enjoyed a broader spatial distribution. It may be that Type 2 was first produced in the north and made its way to the south only at a later stage.

The two principal juglet types were both used to strain liquids as they were drawn into them. Although the mechanism of Type 1 was more sophisticated than that of Type 2, the purpose of both vessels was to strain liquids while transferring them from a large container to another, probably smaller vessel for individual use. The number of strainer juglets unearthed and presented here is rather limited; future discoveries may afford a better understanding of these unique vessels.

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Postscript

As this article was going to press, several additional relevant vessels came to my attention: a Late Bronze Age ring base of an unidentifiable jug type that is perforated by 18 holes and was found in Stratum 1 in Area D of the lower city of Hazor (Yadin et al. 1958: Pls. CXXVII: 13; CLIX: 19); a Judahite decanter with a strainer mouth from Tomb W.H. I in Jericho (Kenyon 1965: 481; Fig. 258:3); and an unprovenanced and unpublished strainer juglet of Type 2b from the Dr. David and Jemima Jeselsohn Collection (Reg. No. J 4386). Moreover, several additional Anatolian strainer jugs are worth mentioning (Buchholz 2001: 108–110, Fig. 1: h and note #15). While not dealt with in this article, all support the general conclusions presented here.

Notes

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- In an earlier publication, Cohen (1986: 390, Fig. 102:10) erroneously attributed this juglet to Kadesh Barnea. Subsequently, Herzog and Singer-Avitz (2015: 222, Pl. 19.4.2:10) made the very same
- An intriguing small, lower fragment of a red-slipped strainer from Middle Bronze Age I Tel Aphek was tentatively identified as a juglet (Beck 2000: 114, Fig. 8.12:13). However, the fragment's dimensions and its rarity preclude any attempt to draw conclusions about strainer juglets during this period.
- While their size would have made them suitable for a child's hand, as well, this use seems to be less likely.

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