

Terqa Preliminary Reports, No. 3:
**OBJECT TYPOLOGY OF THE SECOND SEASON:
 THE THIRD AND SECOND MILLENNIA**

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A typological analysis of 30 objects found during the second season, all dating to the third and second millennia, including a stamp seal; clay figurines; metal pins, weapons and tools; beads, rings and miscellaneous implements. A descriptive catalog provides a detailed entry for each item, most of which are also illustrated in line drawings and half-tones.

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1. Introduction

During the second season at Terqa, we excavated a number of objects of various types dating from the Islamic period to the third and second millennia B.C. (for a discussion of the pottery vessels see *TPR* 4). These objects are analyzed here according to typology, so that for instance, all metal objects are grouped together no matter what their stratigraphic location. It is envisaged that future fascicles of the *Terqa Preliminary Reports* will reconstitute the most important cultural assemblages and discuss these as a whole. For example, William R. Shelby is preparing a report on the residential unit from SG4 which will include all pertinent artifacts. Another fascicle will cover burial customs at Terqa from all periods.

One category of objects not included here are the stone tools. They will be discussed in a later fascicle, but a few samples included here (Ill. 17) present the range of tool types found this season. Also not included are the objects dating to the Islamic period; they will be discussed by As'ad Maḥmūd in a separate fascicle along with the Islamic pottery.

2. Typological Analysis

2.1. Stamp Seal

One seal, a stamp seal, was found this season at Terqa. It was excavated in the general area of the infant burials inside the standing ruins of the burned house in SG4 (*TPR* 1, 3.4.2). The seal was lying near a group of goblets—possibly used as burial offerings—and it may have rolled out of one of them—a ring base vessel of which only the base was intact. The seal itself is a single piece of stone carved in such a way as to present three parts: a spheroidal handle at the top, a truncated cone as a body, and a circular platform on which the design was carved. The rounded handle is perforated horizontally; the cone is undecorated. The design centers around an elegant prancing quadruped, its front legs flung upward, its underbelly extended forward and upward. It has long ears, a beard, a high S-curved tail, and wears what appears to be a collar. Some aspects of this animal resemble the hare often represented on Hittite stamp seals, but the prancing attitude and tail are unusual. Around the exterior of the composition are two opposing rows of oblique slashed lines separated by a thin line, thus giving a herringbone effect.

Parallels for the shape of the seal can be found at Boğazköy in the Assyrian Karum levels, Alacahüyük and Karahüyük. Some of these seals have hares depicted on them, with the best parallels being from Boğazköy, as cited in the catalog. Slashes also occur on Hittite seals with or without a hare in the center.

The chronological position of this seal is established by the number of similarly shaped seals with analogous designs from the Assyrian Karum level at Boğazköy equated with Karum Kaniš Ib (Beran 1958). However, the Karum at Hattusha probably existed earlier than the Karum Kaniš so that the Terqa seal may predate the reign of Šamši-Adad (Bittel 1970, pp. 42-47). Even though we cannot pinpoint a more exact date for its carving, it was found in a later context at Terqa, possibly held as an heirloom and used in our context as an infant burial offering.

2.2. Figurines

Several fragments of clay figurines came from different areas of the excavation. Three are human females of which two have only the legs preserved, while of the third only the torso is left, but no head or feet. All three were made in a mold with the bodies projecting (about 7 mm.) from a flat background which is 1 cm. thick. The two examples with only the legs preserved have straight legs touching each other and no indication of the knees. In both cases, the feet are barely shown; two faint lines represent anklets. One, *TPR 3 3*, appears to be standing on a small pedestal. The female torso, *TPR 3 2*, is finely made with both hands cupping the breasts. The hips are wide; a faint horizontal line above the pubic area forms a triangle. The female holding her breasts is a common figurine type in second millennium Mesopotamia. This torso was found together with *TPR 3 3*—a fragment with only the legs preserved—near an overturned jar used as a burial. The other figurine, *TPR 3 4*, with the legs only preserved, came from a pit.

In addition to these molded female figurines, two hand-modeled quadrupeds were found this season. Both had short tails, broad hindquarters, and pointed faces without facial features. *TPR 3 5* appears to have had two broad horns now broken. The other example, *TPR 3 5*, is better preserved; its four legs are modeled in cone shapes without joints. This animal had a long neck and large widespread horns. Both were found in SG5, one on the surface and the other (*TPR 3 5*) in a level which may be third millennium.

2.3. Metal Objects

A variety of metal objects came from all areas of the excavation as well as those given to the excavation by the local townspeople. The objects include pins, a spear, sickles, possibly an armor scale, and part of a knife blade. None have thus far been analyzed for their metal content. However, an axe recovered from a third millennium grave by Thureau-Dangin and Dhorme was analyzed; it contained 91% copper and nearly 7% tin (1924:292).

Two pins were found on the humerus of the female in Burial 1 of SG5. Both have a bulbous head with a disc-shaped top. Their shanks are round in section with a hole near the top. One pin, *TPR 3 7*, has an engraved spiral decoration. The pins must have been used to fasten the woman's garment together with the white shell ring and black bead found nearby: a shell inlay from Mari (Parrot 1962, pl. XI:3,4; pl. XII:3) shows well how such pins, rings and beads were used. This type of pin is dated to Sargonid and Ur III levels at Brak, while at Chagar Bazar and Gawra they appear to be Ur III or slightly later.

Possibly also a pin (or a bent nail) is *TPR 3 9*; it is generally square in section with one pointed end (the other end is not preserved). This piece was found in the storage room of SG4. Another metal object from a burial in SG2 (*TPR 3 10*) may be typologically connected with this group. It is round in section with one curved end.

From the surface of the mound came a very well preserved spearhead (*TPR 3 11*). It was given to the expedition by Mr. Maamar 'Aṭīya whose father found it many years ago along the river bank near the water pump (SF4; see *TPR 1*, fig. 2). A number of similar examples came from the Ur graves including a set of four ceremonial spears of this type with long

handles decorated by alternating gold and silver bands (Woolley 1934, Vol. I, pp. 303-04). It was found at Brak in "probably Sargonid" levels (Mallowan 1947, pp. 169-70) but its use may have continued later since the example from Assur is dated to Ur III.

Other metal objects included a sickle (*TPR* 3 12) from SG4 of a well known type. A metal piece from the private house in SG4 (*TPR* 3 13) may be part of an armor scale with the preserved end pierced and having a curved shape similar to the curvature of the Nuzi armor scales. The end of a knife blade (*TPR* 3 14) also came from the burned level of this house.

2.4. Stone, Bone and Shell Objects

A number of small polished stone objects was found in the excavation as well as river pebbles which were brightly colored or had interesting shapes. Among the objects was a haematite weight (*TPR* 3 15) from the burned house in SG4. The perforation at the top was started from both sides of the stone but never went completely through. Other stone objects included were a crude pendant and a number of beads, one of which, *TPR* 3 17, came from Burial 1 in SG5.

An unusual object carved from a soft stone was found in SG3, level 9 (*TPR* 3 21). A series of incised parallel lines were drawn on what appears to be one side of the object; the top had two depressions. It may have been a container for a substance that comes in small quantities such as cosmetics; but its poor state of preservation makes it difficult to determine its original function.

In Burial 1 in SG5, we found a bone or shell ring, *TPR* 3 22, which was probably suspended along with the bead (*TPR* 3 17) from the two pins still in place at the shoulder of the woman (see above 2.3). A similar shell ring came from the SG2 baulk cleaning. Parts of two shell beads were excavated in the burned house in SG4, but the most interesting shell object from this house is a conical shell pendant pierced on the top and on one edge (*TPR* 3 25). The shell had been polished in antiquity which makes it more difficult to identify. Photographs of the pendant were shown to Drs. C. Hall and Lou Ella Saul of the Geology Museum at UCLA who identified it as probably *Conus (Lautocomus) mediterraneus* Bruguière found in the Mediterranean, or *Conus monachus-achatinus*, an Indo-Pacific species. Similar shells used as pendants are found at Mari.

Tools made from bone include a perforated antler, *TPR* 3 26, which may have been utilized as a hammer and a well preserved awl (*TPR* 3 27).

The last two items in our inventory are a clay wheel, *TPR* 3 28, and a crude, but well preserved, jar stopper, *TPR* 3 29, from the storage room of the SG4 house. It was baked when the house burned. Another clay jar stopper was found on the surface of the mound, *TPR* 3 30. This example shows the ridge of clay folded over the rim of the jar with a diameter 10 cm. wide.

3. Descriptive Catalog

3.1. Introduction

The Catalog consists of two basic parts, placed side by side: a verbal description and a graphic representation of the objects (for fuller description of this catalog see *TPR 4*). The verbal description is divided into three columns which include the following:

Designation and Documentation. Each object in the catalog is given a *TPR 3* number followed by the type of object it is and then by the field (register) number which has the prefix ASH2. Following this is the Deir ez-Zor Museum number (DeZ), the figure number in the catalog, and the illustration and color slide number whenever applicable.

Dimensions and Stratigraphy. The height (H) or length (L), width (W), thickness (Th), or diameter (D) are cited for each object in centimeters. Only essential stratigraphic designations are listed. For a fuller discussion of the stratigraphy, see *TPR 1*.

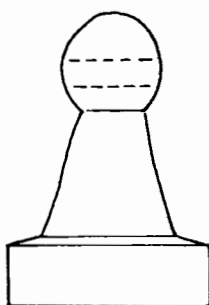
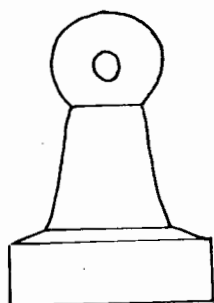
Description and Date. A brief description is given for each object, including material, decoration, and technical aspects of the object's manufacture. A date based on the stratigraphic position of the object is cited. Photographic illustrations of the objects are presented separately in the plates.

Comparative Material. Whenever relevant, we have provided documentation on similar objects excavated elsewhere.

Figures. All drawings are 1:1 unless otherwise indicated.

3.2. The Catalog

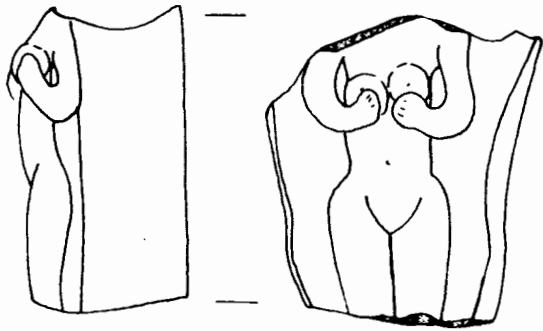
Designation and Documentation	Dimensions and Stratigraphy	Description and Date
<p>TPR 3 1 Stamp Seal ASH2-60 DeZ-954 Fig. 1 Ill. 1 AVM DS-1 91,93</p>	<p>H: 3.8 D: 2.5 (base)</p> <hr/> <p>SG4, Level 11, Locus 35, ST2, associated with small goblets</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Comparative Material</p> <p>Shape of seal:</p> <p>Boghazköy: Beran, 1958, Abb. 50a-c. Abb. 50d (incomplete); Abb. 51a, c. Beran, 1962, Abb. 51b, Abb. 52 Bittel, 1970, pl. 7, left</p> <p>Alaca Hüyük: Arik, 1937, pl. CXXIII:Al. 551 Kosay and Akok, 1973, pl. LXXXII: Al.t 120, Al.t 124 (bronze?)</p> <p>Karahüyük: Alp, 1968, Abb. 20:11 photo no. 19/46; Abb. 20:12, photo no. 20/39 (incomplete)</p> <p>Design on seal:</p> <p>Hare - Boghazköy: Bittel, 1967, Abb. 18 (leaping hare) Bittel, 1970, pl. 7, right (leaping hare with collar)</p> <p>Hare with oblique slashes - Boghazköy: Beran, 1958, Abb. 50c (leaping hare with lines possibly indicating a collar on neck, one row of oblique slashes around the outside of the design) Beran, 1962, Abb. 52b (hare with front legs flung upward but with back legs tucked under body, two rows of oblique slashes going in opposite directions around central design like Terqa seal except for the separation between these rows found on the Terqa seal)</p> <p>Karahüyük: Alp, 1968, Abb. 20:11 photo no. 19/46 (hare has a collar, one row of oblique slashes)</p> <p>Oblique slashes:</p> <p>Boghazköy: Beran, 1958, Abb. 50d (two rows of oblique slashes both going in the same direction, not separated by undecorated band); Abb. 51a (double row of oblique slashes with undecorated band between, but all slashes going in the same direction); Abb. 51b (single row of slashes); Abb. 53a (single row of slashes). Beran 1962, Abb. 51b; Abb. 52a,c</p> <p>Karahüyük: Alp, 1968, pl. 20:12 photo no. 20/49 (two rows of slashes)</p>	<p>Brown beige stone, polished. Conical shape with horizontally pierced handle, high round base; seal design: prancing quadruped with long ears, beard, high S-curved tail. Collar surrounded by double oblique lines in herringbone pattern Old Hittite.</p>



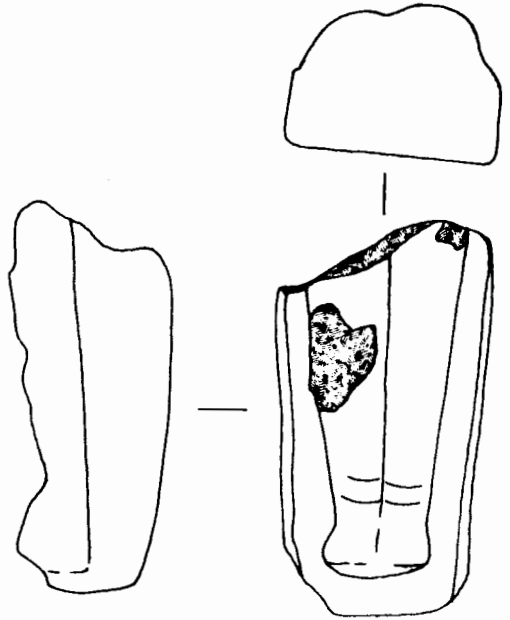
TPR 3 1

Figure 1.

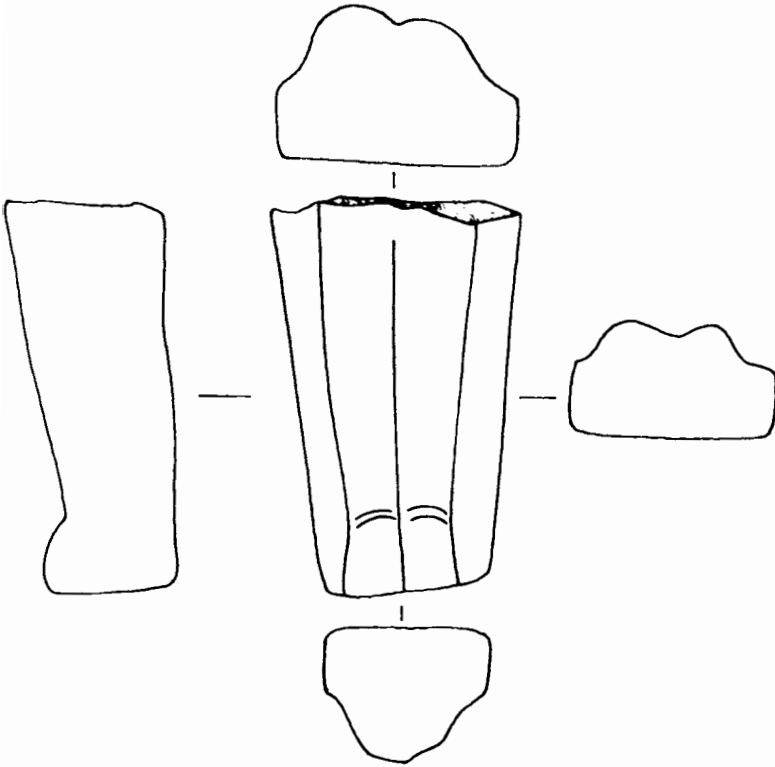
Designation and Documentation	Dimensions and Stratigraphy	Description and Date
<p>TPR 3 2 Female Figurine ASH2-7 DeZ-903 Fig. 2 Ill. 13 AVM DS-1 115</p>	<p>L: 4.0 W: 2.2 - 3.3 Th: 1.7 - 2.0</p> <hr/> <p>SG2, Level 34, found with <i>TPR 3 3</i> in association with burial jar</p>	<p>Nude human female fragment with torso only. Well preserved, molded, clay. A standing type with hands on breasts. Pubic area indicated by very faint horizontal line; figurine projects about 7 mm. from background. Mid-second millennium.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Comparative Material</p> <p>Alalakh: Wolley 1955, pl. LVI:a,c; pl. LVI:b (made of pale blue grass, comes from the level VI temple)</p> <p>Chagar Bazar: Mallowan 1937, fig. 9:17 Mallowan 1947, pl. XLII:5 with line drawing on pl. LV:8</p> <p>Kish: Barrelet 1968, pl. LXI:653</p> <p>Nippur: Legrain 1930, pl. IX:58-59; pl. X:66</p> <p>Nuzi: Starr, 1937, pl. 99:M-P,R; pl. 11:C,E</p> <p>Tello: Barrelet 1968, pl. XLII:436,454; pl. XLIV:465</p>
<p>TPR 3 3 Figurine ASH2-8 DeZ-904 Fig. 2</p>	<p>L: 5.3 W: 2.2 - 2.7 Th: 1.6 - 2.2</p> <hr/> <p>SG2, Level 34; found with <i>TPR 3 2</i> in association with burial jar</p>	<p>Human figurine fragment with legs only preserved. Molded, clay, standing on poorly defined pedestal, 2 lines indicating anklets. Mid-second millennium.</p>
<p>TPR 3 4 Figurine ASH2-31 DeZ-926 Fig. 2 Ill. 12</p>	<p>L: 5.2 W: 3.1 Th: 2.0</p> <hr/> <p>SG2, Level 32 in pit</p>	<p>Human figurine fragment with legs only preserved. Molded clay; 2 lines indicating anklets; ridge on side of base may be the impression of the mold. Mid-second millennium</p>
<p>TPR 3 5 Quadruped Figurine ASH2-166 DeZ-1058 Fig. 2</p>	<p>L: 6.2 W: 2.2 H: 3.1</p> <hr/> <p>SG5, mound surface</p>	<p>Clay, crude hand modeling. Broad hind-quarters, short legs, tail broken, horns or ears broken, pointed face without features, light brown coloration. Possibly third millennium.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Comparative Material</p> <p>Chagar Bazar: Mallowan 1937, fig. 10:3-4</p> <p>Mari: Starr 1937, pl. 102:K,L,Q</p> <p>Tepe Gawra: Speiser 1935, pl. LXXVII:3</p>



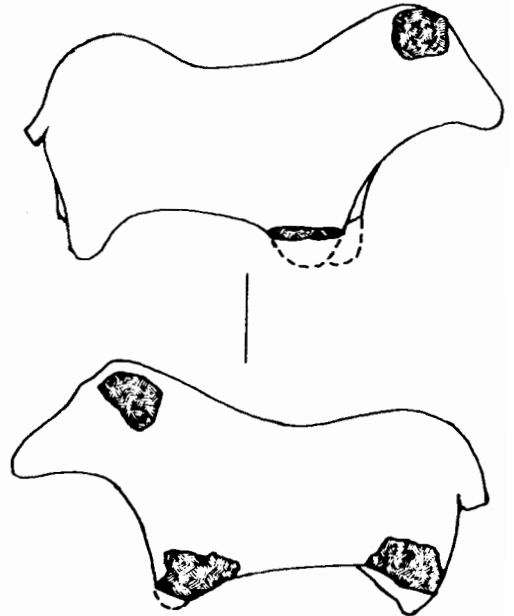
TPR 3 2



TPR 3 3



TPR 3 4



TPR 3 5

Figure 2.

Designation and Documentation	Dimensions and Stratigraphy	Description and Date
<p>TPR 3 6 Quadruped Figurine ASH2-103 DeZ-997 Fig. 3 Ill. 16</p>	<p>L: 5.8 W: 2.0 H: 3.2 _____ SG5, ST1, Level 3</p>	<p>Clay, crude hand modeling. Broad hind-quarters, legs shaped like small cones, long neck, horns or ears very large, face small and without details. Possibly mid-third millennium.</p>
<p>TPR 3 7 Pin ASH2-161 DeZ-1053 Fig. 3 <i>AVM DS-1 67</i></p>	<p>L: 12.2 W: 8 mm. (head) Th: 3 mm. (mid body) _____ SG5, ST1, Level 5, Burial 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Comparative Material</p> <p>Brak: Mallowan 1947, pl. XXXII:2 (silver); pl. LIII:31 (copper) Chagar Bazar: Mallowan 1937, fig. 12:6; pl. XVIB Gawra: Speiser 1935, pl. L:1</p>	<p>Bronze or copper. Bulbous head with pillow-shaped top; incised spiral near top; hole about three-fourth of the way to the top; point corroded. (See <i>TPR 3 17</i> and <i>TPR 3 22</i>.) Mid-third millennium.</p>
<p>TPR 3 8 Pin ASH2-162 DeZ-1054 Fig. 3 <i>AVM DS-1 67</i></p>	<p>L: 10.6 W: 9 mm. (head) Th: 4 mm. (mid body) _____ SG5, ST1, Level 5, Burial 1</p>	<p>Bronze or copper. Bulbous head with pillow-shaped top; section between head and hole in shank almost square; point broken. Mid-third millennium.</p>
<p>TPR 3 9 Pin or nail ASH2-98 DeZ-992 Fig. 3 <i>AVM DS-1</i></p>	<p>L: 6.7 W: 5 mm. (max.) _____ SG4, FT13, Level 15</p>	<p>Bronze or copper. Rectangular in section; pointed at one end, broken at the other. Second quarter of second millennium.</p>
<p>TPR 3 10 Pin or nail ASH2-22 DeZ-918 Fig. 3</p>	<p>L: 7.3 W: 1.0 (at widest) _____ SG2, Level 36, Burial 1</p>	<p>Bronze or copper. One curved end, other blunt, round in cross-section. Mid-second millennium.</p>

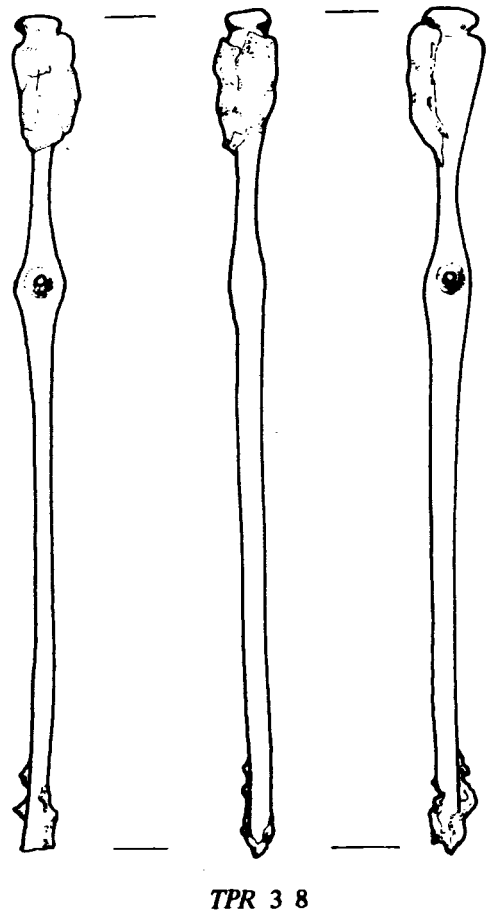
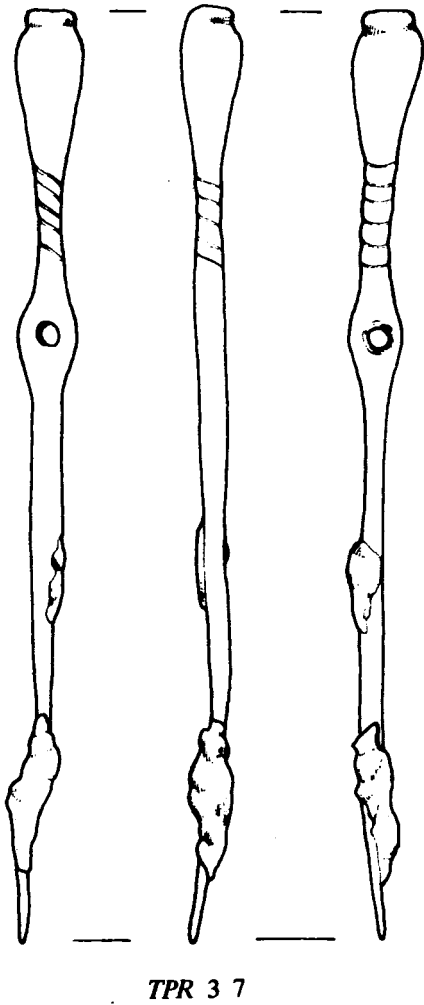
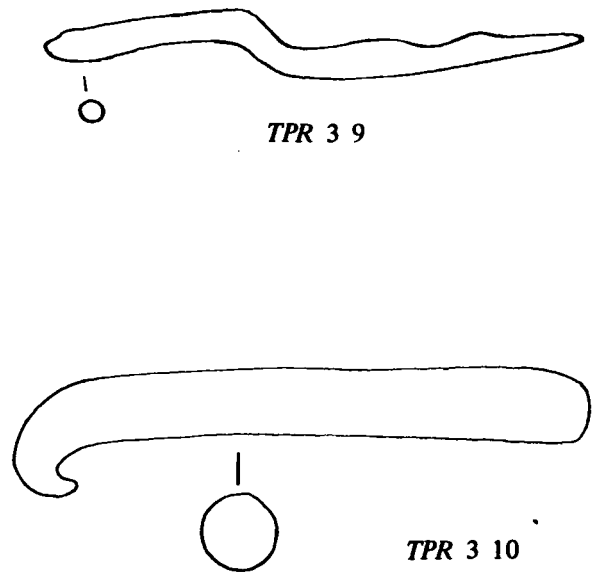
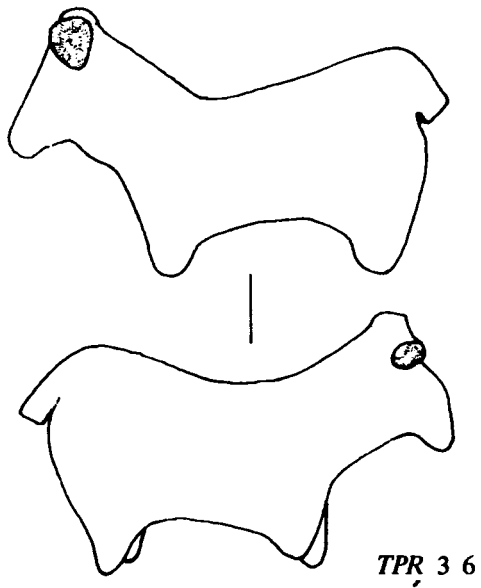


Figure 3.



1. TPR 3 1 (ASH2-60) Stamp Seal



2. *TPR 3 12* (ASH2-46)
Sickle



3. *TPR 3 7*
(ASH2-161) Pin



4. *TPR 3 8*
(ASH2-162) Pin



5. *TPR 3 13* (ASH2-65)
Armor Scale?



6. *TPR 3 14* (ASH2-112)
Knife Blade



7. *TPR 3 11* (ASH2-147)
Spearhead



Metal Objects



8. TPR 3 15
(ASH2-50) Weight



9. TPR 3.25
(ASH2-114) Pendant



10. TPR 3 17
(ASH2-160)
Bead



11. TPR 3 22
(ASH2-159)
Ring



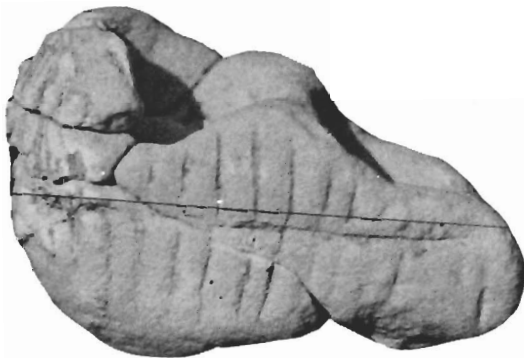
12. TPR 3 4 (ASH2-31)
Figurine
(Note 2 lines indicating anklets)



13. TPR 3 2
(ASH2-7) Female Figurine



14. TPR 3 27
(ASH2-47) Awl



15. TPR 3 21 (ASH2-155)
Small Container



16. TPR 3 6 (ASH2-103)
Quadruped



Clay, Bone, Stone and Shell Objects

