

The Damon Collection: Canterbury Museum's Roman glass

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Among the lesser known artefacts in Canterbury Museum is a substantial assemblage of ancient glass. Some 30 objects are acquisitions made by the founding director, Sir Julius von Haast, or are later bequests. The bulk, however, comprises the Damon Collection. Purchased in 1901, this (mostly Roman) glass collection was put together by English geologist Robert Damon. The vessels, almost all in superb condition, were found in Cyprus, and at Tyre and Sidon in Lebanon around 1875–1882. Until now the origins and content of the collection have been obscure. This article reports some of the findings of recent research into the objects and their history as a collection. It will present the collector, the collection, and compare the assemblage to other material from the Levant during the Roman period. From archaeological finds and ancient literary sources we can learn the original context of the vessels now in Canterbury Museum. The collection, in turn, offers further insight into glass production and use in Tyre and Sidon, cities that played a significant role in the Roman East especially in relation to glass.

Keywords: Ancient glass, grave goods, Roman glass, Sidon, Tyre, Victorian collecting

Introduction

It would be difficult to find a museum that does not have unpublished material carefully stored away; the storehouses of museums present a largely untapped source of archaeological evidence. This article deals with such material. Among types of small finds from Roman sites, glass vessels like those in the Damon Collection are prone to subtle regional variation, as they were typically free blown and produced for local markets. This article aims to make known the content of the Damon Collection of Roman glass in context with similar material. The objects are presented in the accompanying catalogue, assigned numbers 1 to 134 by the author. The article examines trends that have emerged in analysis of the shape, colour and fabric quality, suggesting areas of further research regarding the material culture of Tyre and Sidon in the Roman period.

Robert Damon

Although originally a hosier and glover, Robert Damon made a name for himself in the field of natural science. With his son he established a prominent dealership supplying museums across the world with specimens ranging from shells and fossils to skeletons.¹ Although he does not seem to have had any formal tertiary education he produced a volume concerning the geography of Dorset. His widely published obituaries (1889) comment on collections he acquired for prominent museums, his extensive travelling and the breadth of his connections in scientific circles. Damon was well known as a geologist; only one article also named him an antiquarian (*Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, 9 May 1889: 6). Nevertheless, his museum of shells and geological specimens probably also housed his collection of ancient glass. Antiquities, and ancient glass in particular, seem to have been a personal interest. Shortly before his death Damon wrote an article concerning a Roman

amphora found in Weymouth. The article shows a sound understanding of existing archaeological methodology (Damon 1890). Its existence raises the possibility that Damon might have made notes on the discovery of his ancient glass, but if any do still exist, they remain unknown.

Articles reporting Canterbury Museum's purchase of the Damon Collection imply that it was Robert Damon himself who found the antiquities, having "spent a great deal of time investigating the tombs of the ancient cities of Sidon and Tyre" (*Star*, 1 May 1901: 3). There is likely truth at the heart of this statement, but it is improbable that Damon personally uncovered all the objects in his collection. At present there is not enough evidence available to state with certainty which objects he discovered and which he purchased. Nevertheless, a plausible picture of his acquisitions can be built on what information there is.

In 1873 Robert Damon travelled in association with the Palestine Exploration Fund. Established in 1865, the Exploration Fund was founded with the aim of researching the Holy Land.² Damon, a Sunday School teacher and deacon, was a perfect example of the type of Christian intellectual who might relish the idea of scientifically documenting a religiously paramount place. Archaeology was a key subject for the Exploration Fund, but geology – especially concerned with the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea, which were "expected to illuminate Biblical narratives" – was also among the subjects its prospectus listed (Goren 2001: 154). The time he spent with the Exploration Fund surely introduced Damon to archaeology and archaeologists, developing his interest in antiquity as well as geology.³ This is the context in which Damon undertook travels that would lead him to form his antiquities collection.

Cyprus, from where Damon obtained 27 of his glass vessels, would have been a natural waypoint travelling to the Levant. There he probably took interest in the recent excavations of the American consul Luigi

Palma di Cesnola, and likely bought from the glass already uncovered in great quantities at Idalium (near modern Dali).⁴ These artefacts were displayed at a local event in Weymouth in 1879. The objects were described in a local newspaper as having been "discovered in ancient tombs and temples" of Cyprus (*Southern Times and Dorset County Herald*, 22 February 1879: 3–4), a description which continued into Canterbury Museum's records although there is no evidence of glass having been uncovered at temples.⁵ It may, however, have been a generic classification for Cesnola's discoveries, as the phrase also forms the title of his 1877 publication.

The majority of Damon's collection comes from Tyre and Sidon, which he certainly first visited with the Palestine Exploration Fund. Lieutenant Conder, the leader of the expedition, made a passing comment in his reports from 1873 that they undertook the journey to Jaffa by land "partly in order to see Tyre and Sidon" (Conder 1873–1874: 17).⁶ Between their departure from Beirut on 29 September and their arrival in Jaffa on 3 October there would have been little time for Damon to fossick at these sites, which were not the primary concern of the expedition and which had been abandoned by earlier French excavations. He likely returned to pursue his own interests. In any case, by February 1879 he had vessels from Tyre but not yet Sidon. No year is specified on the labels of his Tyrian vessels, but his Sidonian objects were uncovered in September of 1879 and 1881. Evidence from Damon's correspondence with a colleague suggests that Damon is unlikely to have been there in person in 1881.⁷ It is also possible that his son made trips of his own and uncovered some artefacts.⁸ Damon senior also had several contacts in the field of natural history. The French natural historian and archaeologist Bourguignat certainly supplied him with shell specimens from Sidon and may have been aware of Damon's personal collection (Dance 2006: 10). A small number of items were acquired in October 1882.

The provenance of these is not specified on Damon's labels, but their forms indicate that they were from the same area.

Damon sold a small number of glass vessels from Tyre and Sidon to the British Museum in 1879 along with many glass beads, but kept the vast majority of his finds.⁹ His personal collection was bought by Canterbury Museum in 1901, hailed in local newspapers as an important addition to the collection (*Star*, 1 May 1901: 3; *Lyttelton Times*, 3 May 1901: 7). The Damon Collection was celebrated as being of a kind difficult to acquire, which added to its value. Because of the 1884 Ottoman Antiquities Law prohibiting the removal of antiquities from the Ottoman Empire it was, the newspapers reported, "now practically impossible to obtain further relics from those ancient localities" (*Star*, 1 May 1901: 3). While this was no doubt an exaggeration, the people of Christchurch clearly appreciated the acquisition. A portion of the collection was displayed in the Museum's Antiquity Room until the room was repurposed as the Early Colonial and Historical Room in 1946. While the Damon Collection had been described in 1901 as "one of the most remarkable collections the Museum has ever been fortunate enough to acquire", the subject of classical antiquity fell into disfavour during the post-war period (*Star*, 1 May 1901: 3). Although it is possible that the disappearance of the Antiquity Room is entirely coincidental, the timing does suggest that the Museum was responding to wider trends in public and academic opinion. The collection then fell into anonymity.

The Collection

Until 2019 the ancient glass collections of Canterbury Museum, including the Damon Collection, were unresearched, with the existing catalogue containing brief descriptions often based on the scanty nineteenth-century records. Canterbury Museum generously loaned the collection to the University of Canterbury's Teece Museum

for the purpose of a master's thesis. This research involved identifying and dating the items, illustrating the vessels, and analysing the Tyrian and Sidonian finds for trends in form and manufacture. The project also included research into the value of glass in Roman antiquity and archival investigation of the value of these same artefacts to Victorian collectors and the public.

The collection consists almost entirely of vessels from the Roman period, spanning the first to fourth or early fifth centuries AD.¹⁰ The vessel types include both table and storage ware in a variety of forms (Table 1). The Damon Collection consists of 135 vessels (Table 2), one of which cannot be identified within the remaining Roman glass collections of Canterbury Museum.¹¹

Table 1.

| Object Type | Quantity |
|-----------------|----------|
| Bowl | 10 |
| Plate | 1 |
| Jugs | 4 |
| Drinking vessel | 5 |
| Flask (table) | 6 |
| Stirring rod | 1 |
| Lamp | 1 |
| Jar | 13 |
| Bottle | 27 |
| Flask (storage) | 66 |

Table 2.

| Provenance | Quantity |
|------------|----------|
| Cyprus | 27 |
| Tyre | 61 |
| Sidon | 38 |
| Unknown | 9 |

Grave Goods

Damon indicated on a few labels that vessels were found in tombs at Tyre (for example, number 13), but one might infer from their remarkable condition that his other finds were probably also from burials. A thorough comparative study of documented burial sites in Roman Syria was conducted by Lidewijde de Jong (2017). In the total assemblage, one fifth of the goods were pottery or glass. These were discovered in 80% of tombs dating from before the second or third century AD, at which point the distribution of goods per tomb fluctuates. As might be expected, the ratio of glass to pottery increases in favour of glass over time, and glass vessels were particularly common close to centres of manufacture like Tyre and Beirut; Sidon is not included in the study (de Jong 2017: 83–84).¹² Complete examples of glassware are usually only found in tombs, typically placed at the feet of the deceased. Such depositions perhaps resulted from the belief that physical remains of the deceased could threaten the living; it is possible that this pollution risk carried over to objects that were used for the dead (de Jong 2017: 85–86, 148). They may also be interpreted as ritual objects in funerary rites, or a means of paying respect to the deceased. Through comparison of Damon's finds with the results of de Jong's study we can determine the likely context the objects were found in, how typical they were, and note new insights the collection might offer.

The contents of vessels rather than the containers themselves were typically more closely related to the funerary ritual. Inhumation was the preferred mode of burial, with cremation unusual in Syria.¹³ Interestingly, the original label that accompanied the portion of the Damon Collection on display in Canterbury Museum listed "cinerary urns" among the objects. None of the vessels are of the typical cinerary urn shape, but occasionally storage vessels were repurposed for holding ashes. If this label has any basis

in fact – for example, if Damon noted finding ashes in a vessel – only one jar is a possible candidate (number 37). Other than this tentative possibility we must assume that most of the vessels were part of inhumation burials. The most common type of tomb in Roman Syria were hypogea, built underground. They were typically entered by a corridor leading to a small vestibule which opened to a central chamber. Burial niches were generally cut into the walls of this chamber, although sarcophagi and graves dug in the floor were also used (de Jong 2017: 37–86).

Maintaining the condition of the deceased's body appears to have been important in funeral ritual in Roman Syria, at least during the liminal phase between death and burial.¹⁴ This is reflected in grave goods; by far the largest group of grave goods are the vessels that contained scented oils, perfumes, and makeup, many of which are made of glass (Fleming 1997: 27–35, 53–59). During burial rituals the body was adorned and embalmed for both practical and ritual reasons; the cosmetics used may also have served as offerings (de Jong 2017: 174). The contents of the Damon Collection are typical in this respect. Among the jars (numbers 29–41), and particularly the small, wide-mouthed examples (numbers 29–35), are likely to have been containers for cosmetic creams and powders. A double-tubed flask (number 134) belongs to a type used for kohl. Bottles (numbers 42–68) and flasks (numbers 69–134), generally the containers of oils and perfumes, constitute the largest portion of the collection.

A number of vessels in the Damon Collection may not only have had utilitarian value but also some kind of intrinsic value, possibly related to offerings. One type is the miniature flasks, which seem unlikely to have held enough scent to be practically useful (numbers 95, 111, and 124). Rather, they are more likely to have held expensive perfumes, indicating that quality was desirable. Items that indicate expense, whether in the contents or the vessels themselves, like the emerald

green flasks (numbers 121 and 122), may have also been chosen as some kind of offering. Perfume flasks that were made with aesthetic considerations in mind, like the drop-based vessels (numbers 76–78) are another example. In life, such vessels were more likely to be reused, as indicated by a fresco of a woman decanting into such a flask.¹⁵ Less carefully made vessels that serve the same purpose equally well were easy to come by. Although we cannot discount other explanations such as immediate availability, for some people it was evidently important to use higher quality objects.

The other type of glassware in grave goods are vessels related to the preparation and consumption of food. This type of object constituted about 11% of the assemblage studied by de Jong, and most of these were ceramic. As a proportion of all glass vessels from 12 different sites for which de Jong was able to provide exact numbers, 9.2% were tableware.¹⁶ The proportion of Roman period vessels related to dining in the Damon Collection among the Sidonian finds is 7.9%, supporting de Jong's conclusion that tableware, while typical in other parts of the Roman world, was uncommon in Levantine burial practice. By contrast however, 23.7% of the Tyrian finds appear to be tableware.¹⁷ This number also differs from the results of Chéhab's excavations at the Al-Bass cemetery of Tyre, particularly regarding bowls, of which there were only two (Chéhab: 1986). While we unfortunately do not know the context of Damon's finds, such as proportion of tableware to storage within the specific depositions, the very fact of his having tableware from Tyre is striking compared with the dearth of exemplars uncovered by Chéhab. De Jong classifies tableware with the "unusual" assemblages of early date, noting that the range of vessel types decreases in the second or third century (2017: 86). The tableware of the Damon Collection is fairly evenly distributed in date.

Among possible reasons for the higher representation of Tyrian tableware in the

Damon Collection, personal taste seems unlikely, given that Damon collected many near identical utilitarian forms, apparently interested in all ancient glass. In the extensive evidence examined by de Jong there was only a single example of glass intentionally placed outside the burial space: cups found in the central chamber in a Palmyrene tomb (de Jong 2017: 86). At this point we can only speculate, but there is a possibility that in other tombs items were taken from such chambers by travellers and amateur excavators like Damon without disturbing the actual burials, thus skewing the results of later excavations. While we cannot draw any conclusions based on the evidence of the Damon Collection, its content does suggest that the paucity of tableware among documented excavations is not necessarily indicative of the original deposition of material in tombs. Another point for further investigation is the relative quantity of tableware between Tyre and Sidon. The Damon Collection suggests that glass tableware may have been more common in Tyrian tombs, indicating different trends in funerary rituals, but, particularly given the many different peoples and traditions mixing in the region, until more evidence is available nothing can be determined with certainty.

The presence of tableware in tombs suggests either banqueting or food offerings as a part of funerary rituals. De Jong considers the latter more likely (de Jong 2017: 87). Assemblages and tomb configuration do not suggest that banquets were held in the tomb, though they may have been held elsewhere. On the other hand, there is evidence of libations and incense burning in tombs of Palmyra, forms of worship also common in Palmyrene religious ritual outside funerary traditions (de Jong 2017: 152–154). Offerings could have been intended either for divinities, protective and chthonic, or for the deceased, in order to appease and ensure good will. It might also be because rituals differed between urban centres, if the prevalence of glass tableware among Damon's Tyrian finds is indeed an indication

that such vessels were more common in tomb assemblages of the area. As with cosmetics vessels the value of tableware will have been related largely to their usefulness in performing burial and commemoration rituals, but some items were probably chosen with care. Among the serving flasks recorded by Damon as found in tombs are large decorated pieces (numbers 21–22). To take something relatively costly and useful in everyday life out of use implies that the quality of vessels used as grave goods could be important in venerating the dead.¹⁸

Production

Glass vessels were produced foremost for daily use, becoming grave goods as a secondary function. Glass manufacture in the ancient world was divided between primary workshops, where the raw glass was produced, and secondary workshops, where vessels were formed from the imported slabs of glass. The majority of vessels in the Damon Collection are almost certainly of eastern Mediterranean production, most likely Syro-Palestinian, at both primary and secondary stages, intended for local consumption.¹⁹ Items exported across the Empire were typically tableware, but the majority of the Damon Collection are types probably produced primarily for the local market, especially since most of the collection postdates the growth of glass working in Italy (Stern 2004: 103). Pliny refers to Sidon as “*artifex vitri*” (crafter of glass, *Naturalis Historia* 5.17), while elsewhere commenting that Sidon was “formerly” famous for its glass (*Naturalis Historia* 36.66). After initial Sidonian innovations, developments in glass manufacture such as furnace improvements seem to have centred in Italy rather than in the province of Syria-Palestina (Stern 2004: 82–89). It is possible that in this period the export of fine finished vessels from Syria-Palestina had declined. Almost all of Damon’s glass artefacts were thus likely both made and used locally in Tyre and Sidon.

Vessels in the Damon Collection produced

elsewhere were probably imported to Tyre and Sidon for their contents. Two flasks, for example, are emerald green, a colour predominately associated with Egyptian manufacture (numbers 221 and 222).²⁰ The examples in the Damon Collection are of a particularly deep colour, while the other two vessels in the collection, a miniature jar (number 32) and a candlestick flask (number 120), are a lighter variant. These may all have been imported as finished vessels, although we cannot discount the possibility of importing recycled, or raw coloured glass. In any case, the presence of these vessels (10% of the Sidon finds), suggests the possibility of differing trade connections and fashions between Sidon and Tyre. The remainder of the Damon Collection comes from Cyprus and contains or comprises mostly first to second-century forms. Analysis of Cypriot glass from late antiquity has shown the use of sand from both Egyptian and Syro-Palestinian origin, though largely the latter (Ceglia et al. 2015). With the island’s proximity to the Levantine coast this is hardly surprising, and we can expect glass of earlier centuries, like that in the Damon Collection, to follow a similar pattern. Glass was shaped in secondary workshops in Cyprus, and the quantities of vessels discovered in tombs suggest a thriving local market. Glass was used the Empire over, but the artisans of different regions shaped it in their own ways. Regional trends in style of beaker, for example, are recorded in Rabbinic literature, noting a distinction between vessels from Alexandria, Galilee, and Judah (Israeli 2003: 159).

Differences in form may have been more noticeable in tableware, but trends in the Damon Collection open the possibility that there may have been local variations in storage vessels on the Levantine coast. Bottles make up 52.6% of Damon’s Sidonian finds, in sharp contrast with 8.5% of the sample from Tyre. Flasks, on the other hand, make up about 50.8% of the vessels from Tyre and 21% of the Sidonian glass.²¹ Both vessel types were used for storing liquids, though bottles generally

have a larger capacity. Unless further archival material is uncovered to provide details of context for Damon's finds, these results must be treated as idiosyncratic to the Damon Collection, but do suggest possible lines of inquiry regarding wider trends in regional variation.

The late first to second-century bottles also show stylistic differences between the two cities. Both types of bottle are cylindrical and have broad lips, but the rims are narrowly folded on the Tyrian examples, whose necks are constricted before the shoulder (numbers 48–50). The shoulder of the Tyrian bottles is also more horizontal and, on some examples, with a fairly deep impression encircling the neck. Sidonian bottles appear to have straighter sides (numbers 44–47). Differences in the first to second-century forms are, however, typically quite subtle. A variety of small flasks, for example, are common across the Roman Empire (numbers 69–74), but several new, distinctive forms of glass vessel appear among the later finds from Tyre. Some are more locally concentrated, such as the large, flattened flasks (numbers 132 and 133)²² while others, like the long fusiform vial, appear across the Empire during the fourth century (number 131). There are also differences in the occurrence of decorative aspects. Among the vessels of the Damon Collection, features that are more decorative than practical, such as the drop-shaped bases of scent flasks (numbers 76–78), are not particularly common. Decoration, especially applied trails (numbers 38–40) or blobs (numbers 10 and 28), increases significantly among the collection's vessels from the third to fourth centuries. Decoration is also much more common among all the Tyrian finds of the collection. Again, these observations cannot be extrapolated to reflect on a wider context and must currently serve merely to suggest trends and features for further analysis that may lead to deeper understanding of regional trends over time.

Why there appears to have been more distinction in form between glass of the

western and eastern Empire in the third and fourth centuries is a complex question that this article cannot fully address. Certainly, the Third Century Crisis must have had an impact on the glass industry, with the short-lived Palmyrene Empire cutting off both Egypt and Syria-Palestina – the main sources of material for glass production – from the rest of the Empire. The stability of the East under Diocletian is seen as a contributor to the flourishing of crafts such as glass making. It is also possible that the distinctive nature of vessels produced in this period was also the result of earlier regional divisions; perhaps disruption of trade slowed the spread of ideas, or objects may have been deliberately unique in order to show the place of origin, in the manner of the Egyptian emerald green glass. In any case, glassware of the late third and fourth centuries seems to attest both to growing differences across the Empire, but also the continuity of trade connections.²³

Glass from Sidon and Tyre not only show differences in shape and style but also in the quality of fabric. In the Damon Collection there are many vessels with impurities such as bubbles and striae. These impurities can be skimmed off the surface if the glass is heated to high enough temperature; many impurities may indicate sub-standard furnaces, or simply less time spent in making a vessel (Stern 2004: 93). High demand may be a reason for such flawed vessels making the market. Certainly, poor-quality fabric does not always equate to a poorly formed vessel; in the Damon Collection a very symmetrical, neatly formed flask has some of the greatest impurities (number 107). The same is true of a small jar (number 35). The Damon Collection shows great variation in fabric quality among vessels, and the trends differ depending on origin. While all locations represented by the collection have a majority of high-quality glass, the difference in numbers of high and low-quality fabric is much more extreme in Sidon than Tyre. Vessels with mixed natural colour and burgundy streaks, typically caused by incorrect mixing of

manganese, are all from Tyre (numbers 34, 83 and 125). Another Tyrian flask (number 112) shows evidence of recycling with mixed cullet (broken remains of glassware). Tyre was the more important city, and in 194 AD was made the capital of Syria Phoenice by Septimius Severus. It was considered a main urban centre when Septimius Severus reorganised the provinces of the Near East in 193, and was granted privileges as reward for supporting him. While speculative, it is possible that a larger urban population meant that secondary workshops were less concerned with quality and relied more on recycling to meet market demand.

Different degrees of technical skill were also involved in the manufacture of raw glass, resulting in differences in cost also based on colour. This is certainly apparent in Diocletian's *Edict of Maximum Prices*, implemented in 301 AD. While this code cannot tell us the exact prices of glass, in attempting to set a maximum cost for objects and wages for services it provides an indication of the relative value of materials and labour. All glass was more expensive than pottery, but distinctions between categories of glass show significant variation in price. The passage from the edict as translated by Dan Barag reads thus (2005: 184):

Alexandrian glass,
one pound.....24 denarii
Judaean greenish glass,
one pound.....13 denarii
Alexandrian plain
glass cups and vessels,
one pound.....30 denarii
Judaean plain glass cups
and vessels, one pound.....20 denarii

Barag has suggested that the categories "Alexandrian glass" and "Judaean greenish glass" refer to types of glass rather than geographical location, with Alexandrian as the colourless glass and Judaean as the natural light-green hued glass (Barag 2005).²⁴ While

David Whitehouse argues that Judaean glass in fact refers to the location of production, he too acknowledges this glass to be naturally coloured (Whitehouse 2004). Regardless of the true geographical origin of raw glass production, it is likely that the price distinction was based on the colour, or lack thereof.

The highly fragmentary Greek version of the edict reveals that there were a further three types of glass listed, possibly distinguished by colour. Barag suggests that one of the fragmentary categories, also priced at 30 denarii, refers to an artificially coloured, possibly purple glass (Barag 2005: 184). While fashion apparently favoured colourless glass, stronger, manufactured coloured vessels were still as valuable. Coloured glass was also applied as decoration to clear and naturally coloured vessels around this time. As both colourless and artificially coloured glass are achieved by careful addition of minerals, these types were more highly valued than the natural bluish and greenish hues resulting from iron oxide impurities in sand.

In spite of being more expensive, colourless glass was nevertheless used for several humble storage vessels in the Damon Collection, such as storage bottles (for example numbers 44, 45 and 47). The vast majority of the Damon Collection is naturally coloured, but a sizeable portion is colourless and most of these are storage vessels. A high proportion of the bottles are colourless, especially in comparison to flasks. This may be related to the place of production rather than the vessel type: most of the bottles come from Sidon, and the naturally coloured portion is largely made up by the Tyrian examples.

All vessels of intense, often quite dark, colour were from Sidon. Two of these are items made of deep blue glass, from approximately the first to second centuries (numbers 27 and 29). Fashion for artificially coloured vessels is associated with the Augustan period, but obviously there was still reason to use vividly coloured glass in later periods. Some of these second- to third-century vessels have been

described as being of low value apparently based on their small capacity (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 251). Stuart Fleming similarly remarks that such “chunky” flasks were “produced to satisfy simpler, rural needs” (Fleming 1999: 85). According to the *Edict of Maximum Prices*, however, these strongly coloured, heavy vessels would have had relatively high value. The small capacity could indicate that they contained luxury goods and the sturdiness would make them suitable for export.

Value of Glass

What value would the objects of the Damon Collection have had in antiquity? As we have seen, many vessels were made of material with impurities, suggesting that they were valued for utility over anything else. *The Edict of Maximum Prices* indicates that artificially coloured and de-coloured glass had greater monetary value than naturally coloured glass. While this was likely based on the labour and skill level involved, colourless glass appears to have long had high aesthetic value. Early vessels, of which there is possibly one example in the Damon Collection (number 1) were probably made to resemble rock crystal. Other examples were found in the palace of Nimrud, a possible indication of their use by the aristocracy.²⁵ Vessels of similarly moulded glass continued to be produced down the centuries, although their status apparently became more fraught in Republican Rome.²⁶ With the advent of glass blowing, colourlessness did not mimic crystal and was appreciated for the new merits it offered. Trowbridge observes that the range of attributes expressed by poets making comparisons with glass extends beyond its transparency, such as “shining, sparkling” and “bright” (1930). Essentially, the poets admire the quality of light seen in or reflecting off glass. Among the most frequent references are those describing water as glass-like.²⁷ Other poets describe things as brighter or more glittering than glass;

glass seems to be a standard example of this glittering quality against which a comparison may be made. The phrase “*splendidior vitro*” – “brighter than glass” – is used by both Ovid, referring to Galatea (*Metamorphoses* 13.791) and Horatius, describing a spring (*Carmina* 3.13.1). The transparency of glass was also enjoyed by fresco painters. Still life images utilise colourless glass vessels through which the contents or other objects can be seen (Cool 2016).

Ancient literature otherwise provides evidence of a great range of cost in glass: while some glass was common and cheap, other objects “could be classed with precious metals” (Trowbridge 1930: 136). From Strabo we learn that a glass bowl could be purchased for the lowest denomination of currency (*Geography* 16.2.56) and in poetry of a similar period glass appears to be associated with poverty.²⁸ It is certainly likely that small vessels were cheap around glass producing centres such as Sidon and Tyre. There are also references to: “costly” glass, and glass vessels valued equally with gold and silver (Petronius *Satyricon* 55. Apuleius *Metamorphoses* 2.21.9), which appear to refer to items requiring more complex technique, such as painted or mould-blown vessels with intricate friezes like circus beakers (rare among extant finds) or even cameo glass.²⁹ The Damon Collection does not contain such vessels, and we can assume that most of this collection was, in antiquity, on the cheaper end of available vessels.

The practicality of glass had bearing on its status-value. Thus we hear from Petronius' Trimalchio in the *Satyricon* of c. 54-69 AD:

*You will forgive me, what I will have said:
I myself prefer glasses, they certainly
do not taste. If it were not breakable I'd
prefer it to gold...(50)*

Trimalchio would prefer glass, but gives an excuse for choosing gold. The fragility of glass was certainly so renowned it found its way into poetic metaphors; “glass-like” could

thus be used to describe the ephemeral nature of life and fortune (Trowbridge 1930: 75–76). This also manifests in the myth of flexible glass; a craftsman presents a glass object to the emperor, letting it fall and become damaged before promptly beating it back into shape. His work is then destroyed, or he himself killed to prevent the knowledge from being handed down, because flexible glass would lead to the depreciation of precious metals (Pliny the Elder *Naturalis Historia* 36.67). “Gold would be regarded as mud!” exclaims the Caesar of Petronius’ version (*Satyricon* 51).³⁰ It seems incredible that even an unbreakable glass would be more highly valued than gold, but glass does have an important feature that no other material had until the advent of porcelain; it does not affect the flavour of its contents. There is perhaps another element behind Trimalchio’s comment, however; when a material becomes common due to its utility, it loses value as a marker of status.

Trimalchio, however, as a caricature of a vulgar *nouveau-riche* freedman, does not necessarily reflect culturally elite opinion. From Pliny the Elder we learn that glass has replaced gold and silver for drinking vessels (*Naturalis Historia* 36.67). Vessels requiring greater craftsmanship were no doubt preferable to the elite, but some change may have been prompted by a general culture shift in Pliny’s time, with the pragmatic Vespasian presenting a pointedly different persona to the flamboyant Nero. The fourth-century AD work *Scriptores Historia Augustae* tells us that the emperor Gallienus always drank from gold cups, “disdaining glass”, while a later emperor admired finely crafted glass cups. Trowbridge cites these examples as demonstrating that the favoured glassware held among the wealthy was subject to the “whims of fashion or individual taste” (1930: 137). While this is certainly true, the status of glass tableware was perhaps not quite so dire. The comment regarding Gallienus’ taste in drinking vessels is among examples illustrating luxury and depravity of lifestyle (*Historia Augusta* 17.5).

While we cannot know if this was indeed true of Gallienus, the passage implies that although it was often humble, glass was in fact not vulgar. Rather, in scorning glass for its cheapness, figures like Gallienus reveal their favour of luxury over practicality, and thus moral baseness. While at the cheaper end of glassware, the tableware in the Damon Collection could thus have been used in a variety of households by many people for a wide range of purposes.

As an industry, glass production connected several different trades and crafts, and was even of some value to the state for its dependence on the tightly controlled natron supply. Stern has calculated from the *Edict of Maximum Prices* that an unskilled labourer would have been able to afford one or two small vessels of the cheapest glass (Stern 2007: 384). Such a person might have opted for the even cheaper, and sturdier, pottery instead. Nevertheless, we do not have to look much further up the social ladder to find glass in use in daily life. Glass tableware may have been less common among the wealthy due to its more humble status compared to precious metal, though highly crafted objects were still desirable. The versatility of glass meant that it could be both extremely cheap and very costly. Being non-porous and transparent, so that the contents were visible, glass was used daily at all levels of society. It was valued for its practicality in storage vessels and dinnerware and aesthetically for its beautiful transparency that no other material could produce. Glassware was also subject to tastes and styles that could be similar across the Empire or differ on a very local level. Determining the value of a particular item requires negotiating all the different aspects of value. While this may be complicated and often subjective, considering each facet of monetary, utilitarian, and intrinsic value gives a richer view of the links a single vessel could have to many ideas and aspects of society in the ancient Roman world.

Summary

Robert Damon appears to have collected whatever was readily accessible to him from the graves of Tyre and Sidon. Recent excavation on Cyprus by Cesnola likely resulted in a flourishing local market where Damon acquired material. The greater part of the collection consists of vessel types typically used in burial rituals: jars, bottles and flasks, which usually contained oils, perfumes and cosmetics. Although also probably from burials, the percentage of tableware, including bowls, drinking vessels and serving flasks, is unusually high in the collection.

The homogeneity of much Roman glass is often so astonishing that differences can be hard to spot. Trends in the Tyrian and Sidonian vessels of the Damon Collection suggest anomalies that research on other finds, particularly from controlled excavations, could explain. Damon's artefacts give an image of Sidon as a city that maintained a high quality of glassware no matter how humble the object, perhaps out of skill and pride in their reputation as the inventors of the craft. The former *artifex vitri* may have also imported coloured wares from Egypt, holding trade connections and fashions that Tyre did not have. The same first-century beakers were used in both cities, but Tyre may have favoured flasks as storage vessels over the bottles dominant in Sidon. The Tyre that Damon's glass reflects was a city with great local demand for glassware, content to sell wares with significant impurities to meet the needs of a large populace. While decorative wares increase in both cities around the third to fourth centuries, they were consistently more favoured by Tyrian fashion. The relatively high percentage of tableware among the Tyrian sample also hints at the possibility of differing funerary practices between these Levantine centres. All together the impression Damon's glass gives of these cities is one of both trade and localised fashions and traditions, tastes and craft, that give a richer image of Sidon and

Tyre in the Roman period. This image may be a mirage. The possibilities, however, must be investigated further.

In time, further excavations from the sites of Tyre and Sidon will, hopefully, provide more information on vessels like those in the Damon Collection, and will correct any inaccuracies presented here. Robert Damon did not conduct controlled excavations, and if he bought from local dealers there are further problems to consider. Given what is known of his work and character, it is likely his artefacts were serendipitous finds encountered in the process of seeking geological specimens. Nevertheless, thanks to his proclivity for labelling, we have some indication of their provenance. This collection thus builds on existing knowledge of Roman glass from the Levantine coast and extends the foundations for future study.

Catalogue

Entries are formatted with my own catalogue number, the Canterbury Museum catalogue number, object type and date. The dimensions given are the height, maximum body diameter and maximum rim diameter, in millimetres. If the body and rim or mouth diameter is the same, this measurement is simply referred to as 'Max. D'. The weight is given in grams. Damon's penchant for labelling has provided the place of discovery for most objects. On most of the vessels from Sidon and Cyprus he noted a year and sometimes a month, presumably of excavation. This is given in brackets. The catalogue entries otherwise contain a physical description, including production related damage and impurities. This is followed by a brief condition report, and parallels are given where another example is particularly similar. Both the author's catalogue number and the Canterbury Museum catalogue number are given; see table 3 for comparative numbers. It is the author's hope that publication will lead to any necessary emendations and corrections to the identification.

Table 3. Author's catalogue numbers and corresponding Canterbury Museum catalogue numbers

| Author's Catalogue Number | Canterbury Museum Catalogue Number | Author's Catalogue Number | Canterbury Museum Catalogue Number | Author's Catalogue Number | Canterbury Museum Catalogue Number |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | C1956.134.1 | 34 | EA1979.633 | 67 | EA1979.608 |
| 2 | C1956.134.2 | 35 | EA1979.599 | 68 | EA1979.581 |
| 3 | C1956.135 | 36 | EA1979.534 | 69 | EA1979.557 |
| 4 | C1956.137 | 37 | EA1979.521 | 70 | EA1979.622 |
| 5 | C1956.136 | 38 | EA1979.515 | 71 | EA1979.572 |
| 6 | EA1979.551 | 39 | EA1979.514 | 72 | EA1979.523 |
| 7 | EA1979.604 | 40 | EA1979.516 | 73 | EA1979.619 |
| 8 | EA1979.603 | 41 | EA1979.549 | 74 | EA1979.594 |
| 9 | EA1979.601 | 42 | EA1979.517 | 75 | EA1979.535 |
| 10 | EA1979.602 | 43 | EA1979.584 | 76 | EA1979.556 |
| 11 | EA1979.550 | 44 | EA1979.504 | 77 | EA1979.544 |
| 12 | EA1979.605 | 45 | EA1979.503 | 78 | EA1979.546 |
| 13 | EA1979.606 | 46 | EA1979.502 | 79 | EA1979.560 |
| 14 | EA1979.519 | 47 | EA1979.505 | 80 | EA1979.569 |
| 15 | EA1979.520 | 48 | EA1979.610 | 81 | EA1979.506 |
| 16 | EA1979.598 | 49 | EA1979.573a | 82 | EA1979.533 |
| 17 | EA1979.558 | 50 | EA1979.574a | 83 | EA1979.541 |
| 18 | EA1979.559 | 51 | EA1979.586 | 84 | EA1979.529 |
| 19 | EA1979.637 | 52 | EA1979.579 | 85 | EA1979.530 |
| 20 | EA1979.600 | 53 | EA1979.585 | 86 | EA1979.518 |
| 21 | EA1979.596 | 54 | EA1979.582 | 87 | EA1979.589 |
| 22 | EA1979.620 | 55 | EA1979.575a | 88 | EA1979.528 |
| 23 | EA1979.597 | 56 | EA1979.613 | 89 | EA1979.526 |
| 24 | EA1979.570 | 57 | EA1979.612 | 90 | EA1979.525 |
| 25 | EA1979.522 | 58 | EA1979.614 | 91 | EA1979.527 |
| 26 | EA1979.629 | 59 | EA1979.611 | 92 | EA1979.524 |
| 27 | EA1979.547 | 60 | EA1979.578 | 93 | EA1979.510 |
| 28 | EA1979.501 | 61 | EA1979.588 | 94 | EA1979.627 |
| 29 | EA1979.513 | 62 | EA1979.583 | 95 | EA1979.536 |
| 30 | EA1979.634 | 63 | EA1979.577 | 96 | EA1979.621 |
| 31 | EA1979.635 | 64 | EA1979.609 | 97 | EA1979.568 |
| 32 | EA1979.631 | 65 | EA1979.576 | 98 | EA1979.593 |
| 33 | EA1979.632 | 66 | EA1979.580 | 99 | EA1979.553 |

Table 3. Author's catalogue numbers and corresponding Canterbury Museum catalogue numbers (continued)

| Author's Catalogue Number | Canterbury Museum Catalogue Number | Author's Catalogue Number | Canterbury Museum Catalogue Number | Author's Catalogue Number | Canterbury Museum Catalogue Number |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 100 | EA1979.591 | 112 | EA1979.628 | 124 | EA1979.630 |
| 101 | EA1979.567 | 113 | EA1979.531 | 125 | EA1979.626 |
| 102 | EA1979.615 | 114 | EA1979.512 | 126 | EA1979.623 |
| 103 | EA1979.565 | 115 | EA1979.590 | 127 | EA1979.624 |
| 104 | EA1979.563 | 116 | EA1979.561 | 128 | EA1979.625 |
| 105 | EA1979.562 | 117 | EA1979.618 | 129 | EA1979.587 |
| 106 | EA1979.564 | 118 | EA1979.555 | 130 | EA1979.636 |
| 107 | EA1979.552 | 119 | EA1979.554 | 131 | EA1979.538 |
| 108 | EA1979.616 | 120 | EA1979.507 | 132 | C1956.133.1 |
| 109 | EA1979.617 | 121 | EA1979.607 | 133 | C1951.133.2 |
| 110 | EA1979.566 | 122 | EA1979.595 | 134 | EA1979.542 |
| 111 | EA1979.537 | 123 | EA1979.508 | | |

Each catalogue entry includes an illustration of the vessel, useful for noting features that may be obscured in photography. The right view shows the exterior, including any decorative details, whilst the left interior cross-section reveals greater detail of the method of crafting and the variation in glass thickness at different points of the vessel. Due to printing requirements the scale varies in the illustrations here featured.

Bowls

The distinction between bowls and cups can be difficult to determine, and bowls may have been used by the Romans both for serving food and as drinking vessels. One bowl in the Damon Collection is possibly Phoenician (number 1), similar to examples found at Nimrud (British Museum accession numbers 91534 and 91523). As this would be an extremely rare item, further, more specialist, identification is necessary. Moulded bowls with wheel-cut grooves (number 2) were very common in the Hellenistic to early Roman period and were produced in the eastern Mediterranean (Weinberg 1970; Dussart type A.II.11. 1998: 51). Glass moulding continued in the first

century AD with ribbed bowls (number 3), produced throughout the Roman Empire (Isings form 3a. 1957: 18). Bowls with a tubular ridge (number 4) are also found throughout the Empire, and the example here is perhaps the smallest documented (Isings form 69a. 1957: 89; Israeli 116. 2003: 120; Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 5. 2005: 36). A deceptively simple bowl (number 5) does not have any parallels known to the author. The fire-rounded rim may indicate a second to third-century date, although this is very tentative. Bowls with tubular rim and foot appear to have been made throughout the Empire, but the example here (number 6) is probably of eastern Mediterranean, and perhaps specifically Syro-Palestinian production (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 521. 2005: 190; Lightfoot 99–101. 2017: 106–107). Similar examples also come from Cyprus. Hemispherical bowls (numbers 7–10) are also common across the Empire and are typically dated to the third or fourth centuries. Those with wheel-cut lines (numbers 7 and 8) already appear in the second century, generally with polished rims and quality fabric in contrast to later examples (numbers 9 and 10). Applied blobs (number 10) are a later form

of decoration (Isings form 96. 1957: 113–116; Jennings and Abdallah 2001: 255; Jennings 2004–2005: 260). These bowls have also been found in an early fifth-century context.

Plate

There is one plate (number 11) in the Damon Collection, of a well-documented type attributed to Syro-Palestinian production (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 356).

Drinking vessels

Beakers with wheel-cut grooves (number 12) are a common type dated to the first half of the first century AD. Production has been attributed to Italy and the northwestern provinces, and eastern examples may be considered imports (Isings form 29. 1957: 44; Stern 20. 2001: 46 is closest in shape). An example in the Louvre, however, has been attributed to eastern Mediterranean manufacture (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 528. 2005: 192). Carinated beakers (number 13) have been found at Cyprus, Israel, and Jordan; they were probably produced around the eastern Mediterranean (Israeli 161. 2003: 160; Lightfoot 70. 2017: 88). Indented beakers (numbers 14 and 15) are common throughout the Empire from the second half of the first century, particularly in Italy and southern France. There are variations in the form; the examples here are like those from Cyprus, possibly produced in the eastern Mediterranean (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 26. 2005: 28; Lightfoot 82. 2017: 96). The small goblet (number 16) appears to be an unusual form. The method of shaping the foot is found on eastern Mediterranean beakers that appear to have been a precursor to the stemmed goblet popular in the late fourth century (Weinberg 1988: 62–63; Israeli 2003: 162–163).

Jugs

Jugs were for serving wine and perhaps sauces, but also for decanting perfumes. There is a lot of variation within each broad type. Small globular jugs with folded rims (number 17)

are very common in Cyprus and are believed to have been produced there (A variant on Isings form 14. 1957: 31; Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 184). A larger jug (number 18) has a close parallel for body shape in an example from the Louvre, but a completely different rim (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 39. 2005: 44). The collar rim is found on first to second-century vessels. Jugs with a pear-shaped body (number 19) were identified by Vessberg as a possibly Cypriot type (Vessberg 1952: 125, 128). The rim is a type common on second-century bottles. The most common form of late Roman jug among fragmentary Beirut finds has a fire-rounded rim with a thick trail applied below (Jennings and Abdallah 2001: 242. Fig. 3.19, 5). A jug in the Damon Collection with identical features (number 20) may provide an example for the complete vessel shape.

Flasks (serving)

A number of large flasks were probably intended for serving as well as storage and could perhaps be classed as decanters or carafes. A large spherical flask of quality glass (number 21) seems a probable decanter. These flasks, with either wheel-cut or abraded decoration, were produced in the eastern Mediterranean. They are rarer in the western Empire, where they were probably imported in small numbers (Isings form 70. 1957: 90; Stern 37, 38. 2001: 101–103; Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 885. 2005: 291 where it is classed among vessels for serving). The globular body and wheel-abraded lines remained popular on a later type (number 22) found across the Empire with varying types of decoration (Isings form 103. 1957: 121–122). Some examples have been attributed to Syro-Palestinian manufacture, as is probable for the one here (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 1113–1114. 2005). The fourth-century vessels with funnel-like mouths or necks are more obviously suited to pouring relatively large quantities of liquid (numbers 23–26). Most of their features are found on vessels across the Empire, but the worked rims are more typical of eastern examples

(Isings form 104b. 1957: 123–125). Number 24 appears to be an undecorated example of a type attributed to Palestinian manufacture, or more general eastern Mediterranean production (Stern 104. 2001: 215; Israeli 179. 2003: 168). From the same period are optic blown globular flasks (number 25) and flasks with pinched ribs (number 26) (Israeli 177. 2003: 167). The latter is decorated similarly to flasks of the same type as number 24, but is a shape that continues into the Byzantine period with applied decoration (Dussart type BX.322. 1998: 143–144).

Stirring rod

These rods (number 27) appear across the Roman Empire, with the twisted form the most common. Their use is still conjectural, but it is generally supposed that they were used for mixing and applying cosmetics and medicines, or stirring wine (Vessberg 1952: 152; Isings form 79. 1957: 945). A second to third-century letter among the *Oxyrhynchus papyri* refers to a delivery of four glass *πλευρά* and four glass flagons (*λάγυνοι*) delivered together in a breadbasket (Trowbridge 1930: 170–171). The standard meaning of *πλευρόν* is 'rib', and it is tempting to identify it as a reference to these thin rods. This is purely conjecture, but if ever verified could add evidence for the use of such implements in stirring wine.

Lamp

Conical vessels are variously lamps and beakers. Examples from Karanis had an oily residue in the interior while others are inscribed with "Drink, Live" (Israeli 2003: 193). The Damon Collection example (number 28) is almost certainly a lamp on account of its proportions. The exact same pattern of decoration appears on another example, and also on fine tableware found at Cyprus (Israeli 229. 2003: 195; British Museum dish and bowl/beaker: accession number 1871.1004.2–3).

Jars

Jars do not appear to have been common in

the eastern Empire until around the third century. One unusual example is a miniature of an artificial blue associated with Egyptian glass that may have been an import, very tentatively given an early date based on colour. Further investigation is required (number 29). An unusual miniature jar is conical (number 30), but most follow a common globular pattern (numbers 31–34) attributed to Syro-Palestinian manufacture (Chéhab 1986: 228–231. pl. 35.2–5; Israeli 297, 298. 2003: 235–236; Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 1163–1166. 2005: 362). Globular jars with funnel mouths (number 35) have been found at both third and fourth-century sites (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 1167–1168. 2005: 362). A sack-shaped miniature jar (number 36) is so simple a form that it appears throughout the Roman period, more commonly attested on western sites. Another example without a base was found in a Claudian era grave at Trier (Isings form 68. 1957: 88–89; Goethert-Polaschek 1977: 242). Mould-blown square jars (number 37) are relatively uncommon among documented finds. Other examples, from the end of the third to the fifth century, are believed to be of Syrian production (Dussart type BVII 2425. 1998: 92). During the fourth century, jars with zigzag trailing (numbers 38–41) were very popular throughout the Near East (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 1181–1183. 2005: 362).

Bottles

Square handled bottles (number 42) are generally a western form, frequently bearing maker's marks. Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna do not exclude the possibility of an eastern variant, however (2005: 184). The lack of a maker's mark and the broad, flattened lip of the example here are more typically eastern features. Cylindrical bottles are an eastern form spanning the end of the first century until the fourth century. The collar rim (number 43) or broad, hollow rim, sometimes described as a disc (numbers 44–47), are characteristic of the earlier examples (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 185). The lip is believed to

have facilitated slow, drop-by-drop pouring (Stern 1977: 76). A variant of cylindrical bottle are the thinner-walled bottles with broadly splayed but only slightly folded rim (numbers 48–50), a feature similar to second to third-century flasks (numbers 116 and 117). Stern plots a development of bottle rims, the fold becoming narrower and tighter in the third century, although rim types no doubt overlap in use (Stern 1977: fig 1B). Israeli dates a bottle with a broad hollow rim to the third to fourth centuries (2003: 245). A group of smaller bottles with varying rims (numbers 51–55) all have a more steeply sloping shoulder. Another eastern Mediterranean form is that of the pointed bottles (numbers 56–58). They appear to have been developed before the mid-third century, produced in Syrian workshops (Stern 1977: 80–82). A more unusual variant (number 59) has a flattened base (Stern 22A. 1977: 80). Pointed bottles with similar rim but rounded base are Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 1150 (2005), and Stern 127 (2001). Funnel mouthed bottles with cylindrical body were introduced in the fourth century (Stern 1977: 79; Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 360). Variants are folded rims (numbers 60 and 61) or rounded (numbers 62–66) (Dussart type BXI 3211a-b. 1998: 160–161). Bottles with an impression in the middle of the rim, creating a lower ridge (numbers 67 and 68), are a type produced across the Empire (Isings form 102. 1957: 120; Goethert-Polaschek form 110a, 110b. 1977: 187; Dussart type BXI 3212. 1998).

Flasks

Isings describes tubular vials with constriction between neck and body (number 69) as one of the most common first-century perfume bottles. They tend to be naturally coloured and are found across the western Roman Empire (Isings form 8. 1957: 24). Other common flasks (numbers 70–73) have wider bodies (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 30–31 class these as variations of Isings form 8). The necks tend to be very short relative to the body, which tapers outwards with contour varying between

rounded and steep. Although they are found across the Empire, folded rims are much more common on eastern examples. Less common are small globular flasks (number 74), also an Empire-wide type (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 573–576. 2005: 185). Flasks with a double bulge (number 75) are mostly found in the Near East and are attributed to Syro-Palestinian workshops. All examples in the Louvre have a long neck (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 619–634. 2005: 185). The small necked variation has been found on Cyprus (Lightfoot 2017: 203–206). Unlike this example, they tend to have a flattened bottom. Fusiform flasks with a drop-shaped base (numbers 76 and 77) are particularly common in Cyprus and the southeast coast of Turkey. The general form is known throughout the Empire, with several variations in specific shape and rim technique. Among the frescoes of the early first century AD Villa Farnesina is an image of a seated woman decanting perfume from a jug into a small flask that may be of this type (Isings form 9. 1957: 24–25; Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 617–618. 2005: 185). Number 78 may be a miniature version. Flasks with long necks and flattened globular bodies (numbers 79 and 80) are a less common type. The form appears in jugs catalogued by Vessberg, dated as Antonine–Severan. Vessberg remarks that they may be a “special Cypriote type”, as they have not been found elsewhere (Vessberg 1952: 215–216. Type A1 α , pl. XV, 2. Vessberg’s dates have often been revised). Flasks with a long neck and short conical body (numbers 81 and 82) are common in the western Empire. These have somewhat shorter necks and folded rims, features that may indicate eastern production (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 31). Number 83 may the body of a similar flask.

A common type of second-century Syro-Palestinian flask (numbers 84–87) is distinctive for the rounding of the body towards the base (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 557–605. 2005: 185). A variant has a narrow, elongated body (numbers 88–94). Two examples in the Louvre were acquired by Renan, and another comes

from Sidon (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 601–605. 2005: 210–211). Number 95 appears to be a miniature version of the same form. Flasks with a broader high conical body (numbers 96 and 97) are especially common on the Levantine coast. They are attributed to Syro-Palestinian or Cypriot workshops (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 672–684. 2005: 230–233). A flask with an ovoid body (number 98) is an unusual type. Other examples are unknown to the author. The thick, hollow rim is common on second-century bottles.

Flasks with long necks and bulbous bodies (numbers 99–110) are typically attributed to Cypriot or Syro-Palestinian workshops (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 685–703. 2005: 233–237). The examples in the Damon Collection are all from Cyprus. The bulbous body shape ranges in contour from somewhat globular (numbers 99–101) to more conical (numbers 102–110). Number 111 may be a miniature version. A variation on smaller scale is made of very thin glass (numbers 112–114). It does not seem to occur among Cypriot finds and may be a more exclusively Levantine type.

Flasks with wheel-cut grooves (numbers 115 and 116) also appear to be a specifically Near Eastern type that was exported to the West. One example in the Louvre is from Sidon, others less specifically from the area of Phoenicia, acquired by Renan (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 733–742. 2005: 245–247).

A bulbous flask with funnel mouth (number 117) appears to be the same type as others found at the Al-Bass cemetery of Tyre. A similar flask, but with folded rim, is dated by Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna to the second to third centuries (729. 2005: 244), while those discovered by Chéhab came from contexts with third and fourth-century coins (1986: 217–218. pl XII 1–2). On bottles, funnel mouths occur in the third to fourth centuries.

Certain second to third-century flasks with short conical bodies are often referred to as "candlestick unguentaria". They were produced across the Empire. The eastern examples, unlike their western counterparts,

never have maker's marks and are often of small capacity (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 186). Numbers 118 and 119 are relatively short, broad type (Isings form 82 A2. 1957: 97–98), while number 120 is a quite different variation, in dark green glass often attributed to Egyptian manufacture (Isings form 82 B2. 1957: 99). Another example was found on Cyprus (Lightfoot 361. 2017: 248). The vessel itself may have been fashioned elsewhere from imported glass.

Thick walled, emerald green-flasks (numbers 121 and 122) are extremely common in the Egyptian region but very rare elsewhere; these may be imports (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 251). Some examples of this type have been identified as kohl containers. Number 123 has a similar rim, thickness, and capacity, but is more roughly made of lower quality glass, and has a high conical body. It may have served a similar purpose, but been a cheaper, locally produced variant. Flasks without distinction between neck and body (number 124) are generally dated to the third century. The type was common among finds at Karanis, Egypt (Harden 1936: 276–277; Matheson 175. 1980: 67–68). Number 124 is a miniature version.

Indented globular flasks (numbers 125–129) seem to be Syro-Palestinian. Examples appear to have been found in the Al-Bass Cemetery of Tyre (Chéhab pl V, VI.1–6. 1986: 206). Spouted flasks (number 130) were produced in both the western and eastern Empire. Examples have been found on a number of coastal and inland sites of the Near East from third and fourth-century contexts (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 359). Long fusiform flasks (number 131) are common throughout the Roman Empire in the fourth century. These vessels are associated with a funerary context (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 2005: 362). This type of vessel has been found at sites in modern-day Israel, Syria and Jordan (Isings form 105. 1957: 126; Chéhab 1986: 255. pl. 69, 2). Flattened globular flasks (numbers 132 and 133) are of another Syro-Palestinian form that appears in the third

century and have been found in contexts from the third until the beginning of the fifth centuries. Other examples of the extremely flat type are attested at Tyre, from a third-century context (Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna 1065–1067. 2005: 360). Double-tube flasks (number 134) are concentrated in the Levant and are believed to be a local type. Examples have been found with instruments for applying make-up, and occasionally traces of the contents (Dussart type BXIII.212. 1998: 173–174; Israeli 2003: 227). Interestingly they are extremely rare on nearby Cyprus. They continue into the Byzantine period with decoration growing evermore elaborate and bulky. The very fine trail on this one places it as an early example.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the reviewers for their helpful suggestions. Any remaining errors are my own.

Endnotes

- 1 His success is evident in his position of sole British agent for the Blaschkas, creators of exquisite glass models of natural specimens traded across the world – including to Canterbury Museum.
- 2 “No country should be of so much interest to us as that in which the documents of our faith are written”; the opening of the Palestine Exploration Fund’s prospectus, quoted in Goren 2001: 154.
- 3 Damon later sought out shell specimens specifically from sites important in antiquity. Dance 2006: 10.
- 4 Cesnola reports having excavated “from 1867 till the end of 1875 at different intervals”; although Damon probably never crossed paths with Cesnola, he must have been aware of the excavation sites. Cesnola 1878: 83.
- 5 Author(s) unknown. 1977–1980, entry(?) 164. Accession number 2010.189.1, Box 6/10, file B11/F20. Canterbury Museum Archives.
- 6 Damon gave a public lecture in 1876 on his travels with the Palestine Exploration Fund. Author unknown. Travels in the Holy Land. *Southern Times and Dorset County Herald*, 5 February 1879: 4.
- 7 A letter to ALCG Günther in 1881 places him along the Volga in late August and in London in October, with some suggestion that he intended to be back in England already in September. Damon 1881. DFZOO_200_20_106-108, Natural History Museum Archives.
- 8 Among the collections that Damon dealt in were cretaceous fish fossils from Lebanon; the name of his son is also linked to these collections. Smith 2016: 64.
- 9 British Museum accession numbers 1879,1108.1–85. The glass vessels contain two bottles from Sidon and nine items from Tyre: six bottles of varying shapes, a jug, beaker, and jar. Photography and descriptions of these vessels is in the process of being updated; among the more fully documented is 1879,1108.7, a bottle (flask) closely resembling number 115 (EA1979.590) in the Damon Collection at Canterbury Museum.
- 10 There are two exceptions: a cast bowl possibly predating Roman rule in the Levant, and another bowl possibly from the eighth or seventh centuries BC, during the Phoenician period. A third cast bowl is a Roman ribbed bowl. 134 objects out of the total collection of 135 have been securely identified as Damon’s; numerous possible candidates for the final object exist.
- 11 More than 135 objects are listed as being part of the Damon Collection. If we accept that the reported total of 135 is indeed accurate, multiple objects have unknown provenance. Several items do stand out as unlikely to have been collected by Damon; four of these are in the mis-identified section. Labels in Damon’s writing were on 132 objects; another two are of types well represented among the labelled examples. This leaves one object unaccounted for. The possible candidates are a slender first century flask, recorded as being from Sidon (EA1979.511. Isings type 8. 1957: 24). The Sidon identification does not occur in the Museum’s 1977–1980 catalogue. A fragmentary flask (EA1979.540), probably similar to n. 73, is apparently from Tyre, although only the accession number is written on the object and no other label remains. The same is the case for the neck of a flask (EA1979.539). A more unusual flask (EA1979.532) is also said to be from Tyre. ‘Tyre’ is written on the object with the 1979 accession number, but this information is not given in the

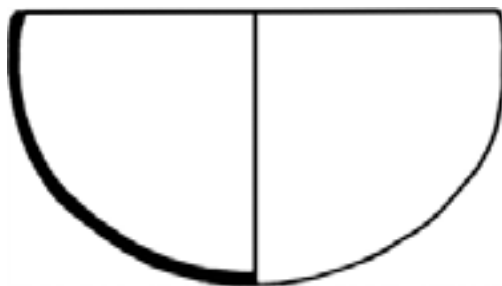
- 1977–1980 catalogue. Chéhab documents a few flasks with ovoid body from the Al-Bass cemetery, found with third and fourth-century coins, which may be similar (Chéhab, pl. XVII. 1986: 211).
- 12 Due to the incomplete nature of many early excavation reports, de Jong's analysis of grave goods uses only those objects from reliably documented tombs, and the investigation of the original context focuses on a smaller group of "relatively undisturbed" tombs.
- 13 de Jong suggests that cremation burials may have been "restricted to the Roman military" in Syria, 2017: 150.
- 14 Families do not appear to have had reluctance about reusing the burial spots of past generations, de Jong 2017: 158–159.
- 15 Villa Farnesina, early first century AD, now in the Museo Nazionale Romano di Palazzo Massimo. See Olthof and Teunissen 2018, 110–11.
- 16 de Jong 2017, 235–334. I have left out the results from Hama as it was too difficult to determine exact numbers from the graph. The glass vessels from that site were only bottles and small jars; including this data would lower the percentage of tableware further.
- 17 Due to the different identifying terminology it is difficult to determine whether a "flask" refers to a storage or serving vessel. Nevertheless, if serving flasks are removed from Damon's finds the percentage of tableware remains relatively high, at around 17%.
- 18 Suggestions have also been made that quality goods may indicate the wealth and social status of the deceased or their relatives (Lightfoot 2017: 187). The items in the Damon Collection are generally of the quality deemed to be "not used as status symbol" for the deceased (Lightfoot 2017: 69).
- 19 General opinion long held that there were few primary workshops in the Roman period, almost all exclusively in the eastern Empire (see summary in Stern 2004: 96). Although the Levant still appears to be the most common source for glass-making sand, increasingly refined analysis of raw sand materials have suggested the possibility of primary production factories in the western Empire (Gaino et al. 2012). For more on composition of ancient glass see Rehren and Freestone 2015.
- 20 For more on emerald green glass see Rosenow and Rehren 2014.
- 21 There are 11 additional items discovered by Damon so the British Museum in 1879; two of the nine Tyrian vessels appear to be third-century "pointed" bottles (see catalogue numbers 56–58). He also sold two Sidonian cylindrical bottles. Including these in the analysis of forms results in negligible difference, however.
- 22 Examples are also found on Cyprus. Lightfoot 2017: 290.
- 23 For further speculation on the effect of political and other events – such as plague – on glass industry see Fleming 1999.
- 24 This theory is supported by Stern (2007). I am inclined to agree with them. In addition to their arguments, the interpretation that these are types of glass makes sense given that there were other sources of raw glass, and broken glass from potentially several sources was recycled to create new vessels, none of which would be accounted for if "Alexandrian" and "Judaean" only refer to glass from those localities.
- 25 These are now in the British Museum (accession numbers 91534 and 91523). Barag numbers 20–30.1985: 63.
- 26 Cicero (*Pro Rabirio* 14.40) in 54 BC referred to glass as "fucosus" – beautified or counterfeit – and "fallax" – deceitful. Glass imitation rock crystal was perhaps scorned by some as mimicry.
- 27 For example Ovid, *Metamorphoses* 4.355–6 and *Heroides* 15.157–6.
- 28 Propertius *Elegies* 4.8 mentions a glass service described as "summery", an idiomatic way of referring to poverty, possibly deriving from association of lighter, inexpensive clothing with warmer months. Lewis and Short, 1927, 62.
- 29 See also Martial's epigram 14.49. For the changing value of glass in the ancient world: Stern 2012. Circus beakers: Stern 1995: 96.
- 30 In Petronius' version the emperor is unnamed. Pliny simply relates that this is rumoured to have happened "in the reign of Tiberius", and dismisses the story as fiction. Cassius Dio associates the craftsman with an architect from another story, who suffers death at the hands of Tiberius, though the exact reason is not specified (57.21).

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Catalogue



Author Number 1. C1956.134.1
Bowl, circa eighth–seventh century BC
H: 4.7 cm. Max. D: 8.3 cm. W: 5 g
Damon Collection (October 1882)

Possibly Phoenician cast glass, colourless, translucent. Vertical rim, ground lip. Hemispherical body, rounded base. Pinprick bubbles.

Two small surface accretions on the exterior near the rim. Small abrasion on body, some soiling. Iridescence on interior and rim appearing bright violet. Complete.



Author Number 2. C1956.134.2
Bowl, circa second–first century BC
H: 4.3 cm. Max. D: 10.5 cm. W: 9 g
Said to be from a tomb in Tyre
Damon Collection

Moulded glass bowl, green hue, translucent. Vertical rim, ground lip. Two horizontal wheel-cut grooves on interior. Body curving to slightly concave base. Pinprick bubbles.

Interior iridescence, surface soiling. Circular marks on base, probably from production. Complete.



Author Number 3. C1956.135
Ribbed bowl, first century AD
H: 3.9 cm. Max. D: 10.65 cm
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Moulded and tooled glass bowl, blue-green hue, translucent. Vertical rim, ground lip. Wheel-cut ridge on interior beneath rim. Convex body with 27 ribs, concave base. Pinprick bubbles, tooling marks.

Minor surface soiling exterior and interior, some surface accretion on exterior between ribs. Chip from rim, otherwise complete.

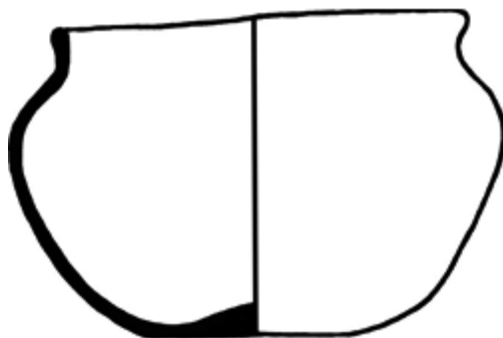


Author Number 4. C1956.137
Bowl, circa first–second century AD
H: 2.5 cm. Max. D: 6.2 cm. W: 2 g
Said to be from a tomb at Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, blue-green hue, translucent. Rounded rim, slightly splayed, tubular ridge beneath rim, short hemispherical body. Largely flat base, small concave circle in the centre. Pinprick bubbles.

Surface accretions under rim, iridescence mostly on interior, appearing bronze coloured in some places. Pitting. Complete.





Author Number 5. C1956.136

Bowl, possibly second–third century AD

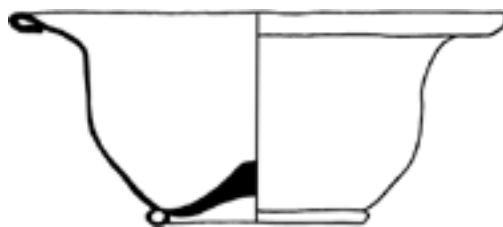
H: 4.4 cm. Body: 6.6 cm. Rim: 5.6 cm. W: 4 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, blue hue, translucent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed so that it almost appears to have a neck. The widest point is quite high, and the body then curves downward with a relatively steep contour. Flat base with protruding pontil scar. Bubbles, striae.

Cracks in body and base. Surface soiling and iridescence on interior. Exterior iridescence on base. Complete.



Author Number 6. EA1979.551

Bowl, second–third century AD

H: 5.9 cm. Body: 9.5 cm. Rim: 13.95 cm. W: 9 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, colourless, transparent. Splayed tubular rim, interior shoulder. Convex body, slightly misshapen. Integral tubular base ring. Concave base with pontil scar. Pinprick bubbles.

Minor interior and exterior surface soiling, scratches. Iridescence on interior and exterior at base. Complete.

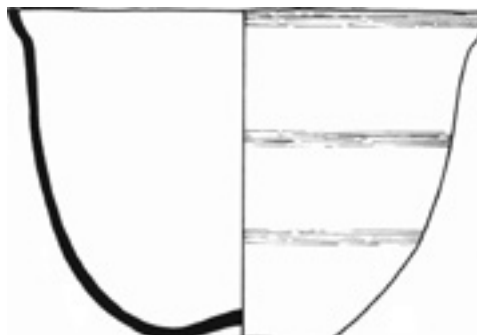


Author Number 7. EA1979.604
Bowl, third–fourth century AD
H: 4.7 cm. Body: 8.2 cm. Rim: 8.8 cm. W: 4 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, colourless, transparent. Splayed rim, cracked off and unworked. Hemispherical body, flat base. Band of lightly abraded lines under rim, on upper and lower body. Pinprick bubbles, and some larger bubbles.

Surface accretions, exterior and interior, particularly at the rim. Interior iridescence. Chip from rim, otherwise complete.

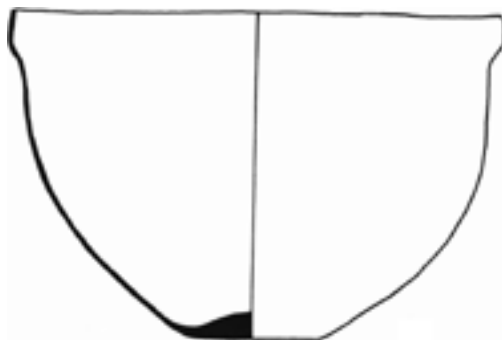
Parallel: Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna, 2005. Number 1209



Author Number 8. EA1979.603
Bowl, third–fourth century AD
H: 8.3 cm. Body: 11.3 cm. Rim: 12 cm. W: 21 g
Said to be from a tomb at Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, green hue, transparent. Cracked off and polished rim, everted. Convex body, almost hemispherical, concave base. Three bands of very faintly abraded lines, one below the rim and two on the body. Very few pinprick bubbles and one larger bubble.

Weathering and iridescence on exterior and interior. Minor cracks near rim, one crack possibly associated with stress lines from production. Complete.

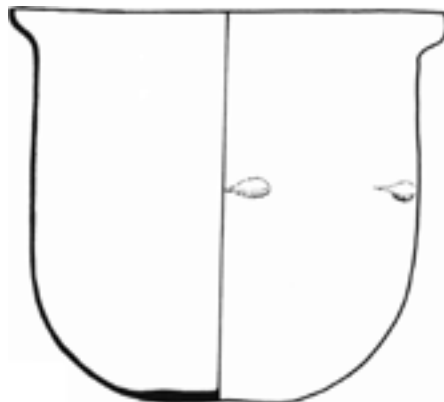
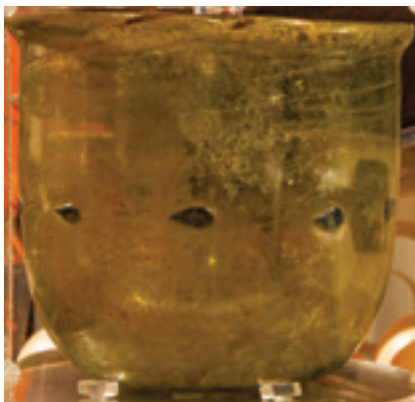


Author Number 9. EA1979.601
Bowl, fourth–early fifth century AD
H: 8 cm. Max. D: 12.2 cm. W: 12 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, blue hue, transparent. Everted rim, cracked-off, uneven and unworked. Hemispherical body, slightly concave base. Extensive pinprick bubbles and some larger bubbles in body. Tooling marks.

Some surface soiling, iridescence on body, several minor abrasions. Complete.

Parallel: Jennings and Abdallah, 2001. Fig 11.13.1

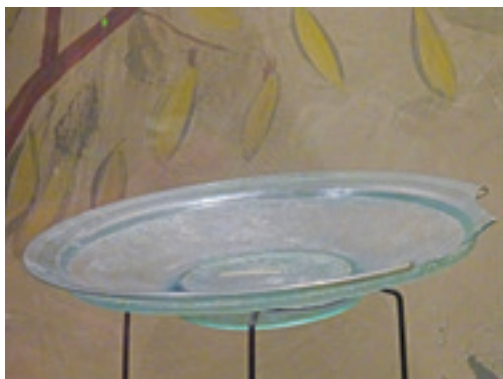


Author Number 10. EA1979.602
Bowl, fourth–early fifth century AD
H: 9.4 cm. Body: 9.2 cm. Rim: 10.4 cm
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bowl, green hue, dark green tinted blobs, transparent. Everted rim, cracked-off, unworked. Cylindrical body, curving inwards towards flat base. Eleven applied blobs, uneven, irregular spacing. Tooling marks on lip and body. Bubbles.

Dulling, minor surface soiling, some flecks of iridescence, crack and chip in rim, otherwise complete.

Parallel: Jennings and Abdallah, 2001. Fig 6.2



Author Number 11. EA1979.550
Plate, fourth century AD
H: 4 cm. Max. D: 21.1 cm
Damon Collection (October 1882)

Free-blown plate, blue hue, transparent. Tubular rim, tubular ring on body, tapers down to folded base ring. Bubbles, some fairly large.

Minor surface soiling and iridescence. Broken rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 12. EA1979.605
Beaker, first century AD
H: 6.35 cm. Body: 7.6 cm. Rim: 7.3 cm. W: 6 g
Damon Collection (October 1882)

Free-blown beaker, yellowish hue, transparent. Cracked off unworked rim, uneven, curved slightly inwards. Cylindrical body, slight outward taper, curving towards base. Almost flat base, very slightly concave. Five bands of wheel-cut lines, with outer two thinner than inner three. Most are shallow, two are deeper grooves. Pinprick bubbles.

Exterior and interior surface soiling, exterior iridescence in patches at rim and base. Surface accretions interior base. Small cracks in body near abraded bands. Complete.





Author Number 13. EA1979.606

Beaker, first-second century AD

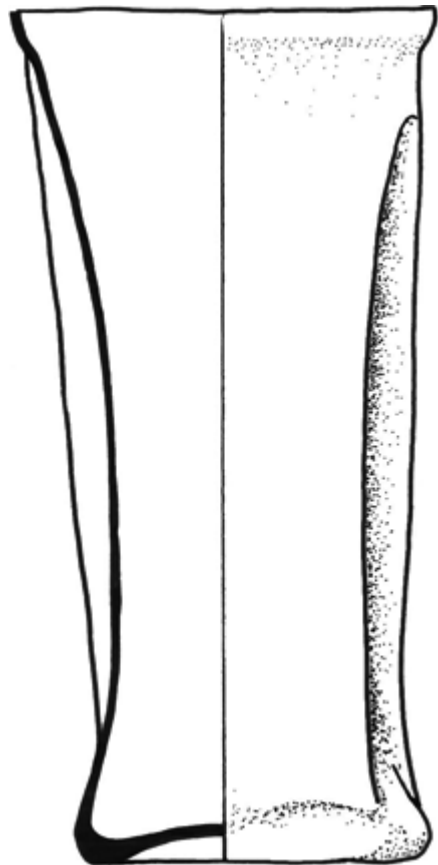
H: 8.2 cm. Body: 6.9 cm. Rim: 8.2 cm. W: 8 g

Said to be from a tomb at Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown beaker, green hue, translucent. Splayed rim, cracked-off. Very slight interior shoulder. Carinated body, concave base. Two abraded bands with space in between on body before it tapers down. Possibly abraded band below rim (difficult to discern beneath accretion). Small number of bubbles.

Large area of surface accretion on exterior body, with smaller patches of milky accretion and flakes of iridescence. Interior surface accretions particularly around rim. Repaired crack on lower body. Complete.



Author Number 14. EA1979.519

Beaker, late first–second century AD

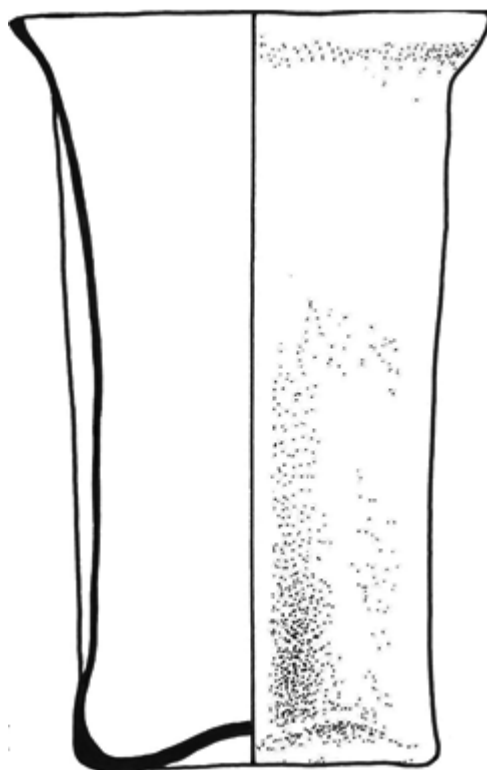
H: 11.2 cm. Body: 5 cm. Rim: 5.7 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown beaker, slight greenish hue where thicker, otherwise colourless, transparent. Cracked-off rim, splayed, unworked. Roughly squared body with deep ovoid impressions, slight inward taper, misshapen, roughly square concave base.

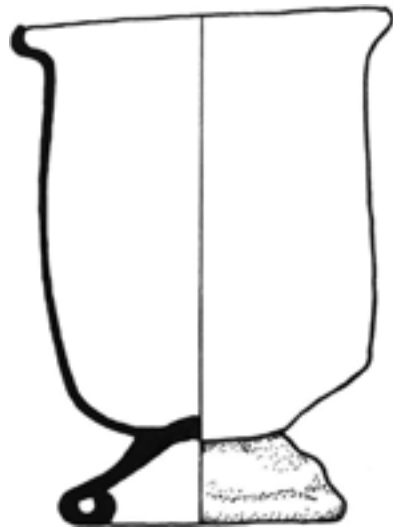
Surface accretions exterior and interior lip, some interior and exterior iridescence. Minor chipping at rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 15. EA1979.520
Beaker, late first–second century AD
H. 10.3 cm. Body: 5.1 cm. Rim: 6.4 cm. W: 4 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown beaker, slight greenish hue where thicker, otherwise colourless, transparent. Cracked-off rim, splayed, unworked. Roughly square body, with a fairly deep ovoid impression on each side. Concave base, roughly circular. Pinprick bubbles, tooling marks below rim.

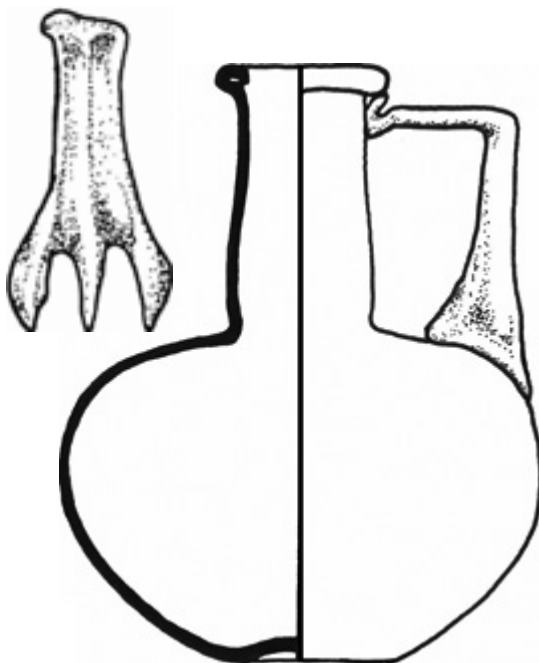
Extensive surface accretions exterior and interior, iridescence appearing silver in some places. Complete.



Author Number 16. EA1979.598
Goblet, circa fourth century AD
H: 6.7 cm. Body: 4.3 cm. Rim: 5.1 cm. W: 3 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown goblet, green hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed. Cylindrical body, fairly straight, curving before foot. Pushed in foot with misshapen tubular ring, pontil scar. Stands aslant. Very few pinprick bubbles.

Slight abrasions. Minor surface soiling, dulling, slight accretions on interior. Some iridescence, mostly on interior. Complete.



Author Number 17. EA1979.558

Jug, first century AD

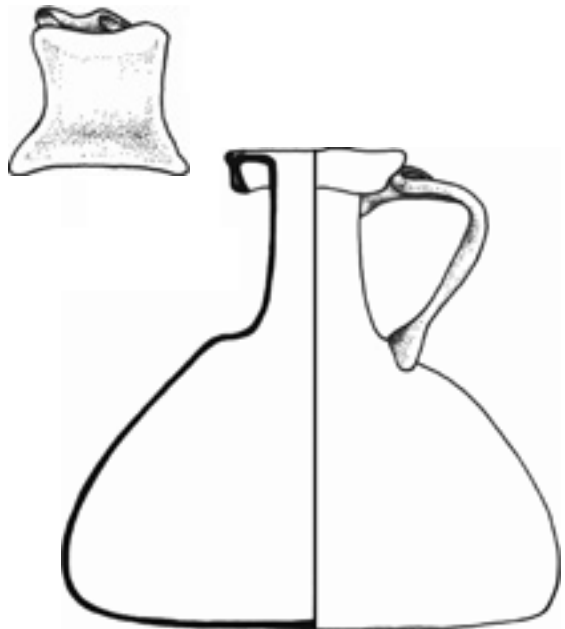
H: 7.9 cm. Body: 6.4 cm. Rim: 2.3 cm. W: 5 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown juglet, blue hue, transparent. Folded rim, horizontal lip, splayed. Cylindrical neck, broad sloping shoulder, squat globular body, concave base. Handle applied at shoulder, reeded with three rather evenly spaced ridges and claws at shoulder, drawn up, applied at neck, drawn up slightly under rim. Chill marks on lip.

White surface accretions exterior and interior, minor abrasions. Complete.



Author Number 18. EA1979.559

Jug, first–second century AD

H: 11 cm. Body: 11.5 cm. Rim: 4.1 cm

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown jug, blue hue, transparent. Pale blue handle with streak of green. Collar rim. Cylindrical neck, tapering out to slight shoulder sloping conical body, flat base. Broad ribbon handle, applied at shoulder, drawn up and folded under the lip.

Extensive shallow abrasions to exterior, minor soiling exterior and interior, slight surface accretions, some iridescence particularly at lower body. Surface accretions thicker on interior base. Complete.



Author Number 19. EA1979.637

Jug, circa second–early third century AD

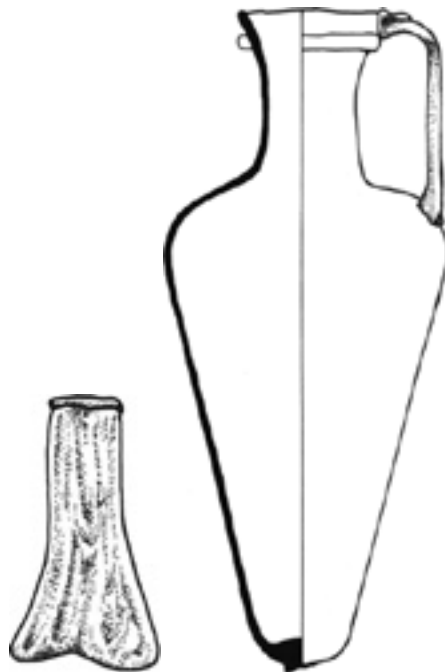
H: 7.8 cm. Body: 5 cm. Rim: 2.7 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown juglet, green hue, transparent. Thick folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, inward taper, tooled at junction with body. Conical body, outward taper, roughly flat base. Handle applied to body with two pads, one much larger than the other. Handle drawn up, folded above rim to form a thumb rest, applied to rim, folded under. Some striae and pinprick bubbles.

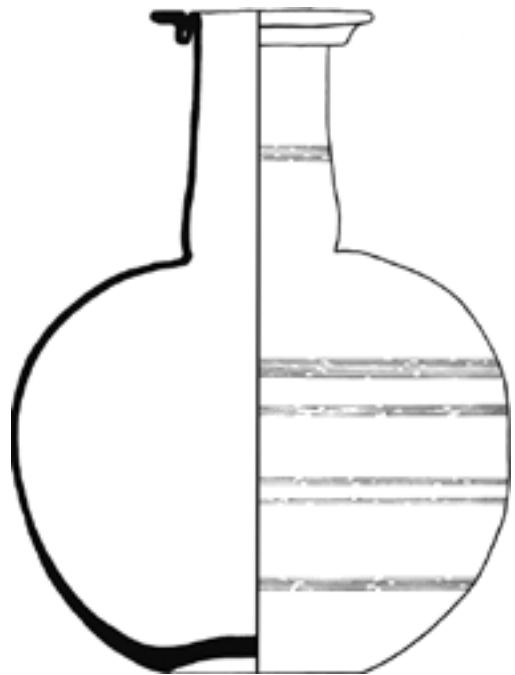
Thin flakes of iridescence and weathering exterior and interior. Complete.



Author Number 20. EA1979.600
Conical jug, fourth century AD
H: 15.8 cm. Body: 6.9 cm. Rim: 3.5 cm
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown jug, olive-green hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim. Trail applied unevenly below rim, overlapping at ends. Concave neck, sloping shoulder, conical body tapering in to rounded base, protruding pontil scar. Reeded ribbon handle, applied at shoulder, drawn up and applied at rim, folded back. Pinprick bubbles.

Minor surface soiling, iridescence and soiling on interior. Hairline cracks on body and neck. Complete.



Author Number 21. EA1979,596

Flask, late first–early second century AD

H: 18.5 cm. Body: 13.5 cm. Rim: 6.25 cm. W: 20 g

Said to be from a tomb at Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown serving flask, green hue, translucent. Collar rim with splayed edge. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before shoulder. Horizontal shoulder, globular body, concave base. Lightly wheel-abraded bands of decoration: one mid neck, five of varying width on the body. Tooling marks at the base of the neck. Quality glass with negligible impurities.

Exterior accretions, particularly on the neck and the underside of the rim, black accretions on the interior base. Exterior weathering and iridescence, loose flakes. Complete.



Author Number 22. EA1979.620

Flask, late third–fourth century AD

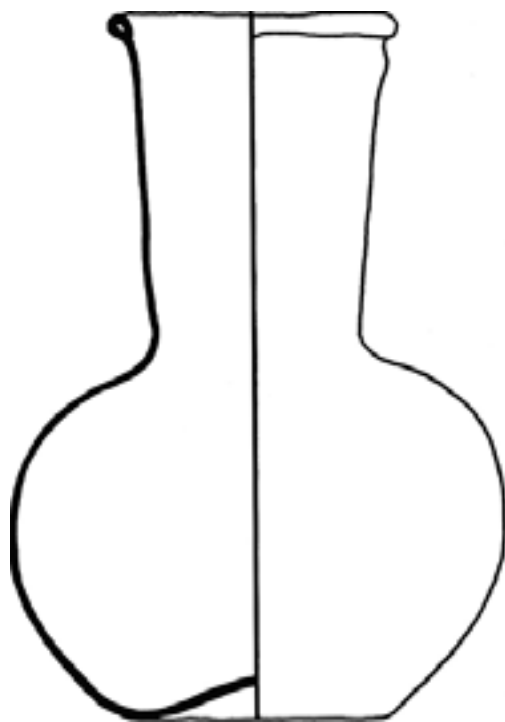
H: 16.5 cm. Body: 11.1 cm. Rim: 2.3 cm. W: 9 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown serving flask, very slightly green hue, transparent. Cracked off and polished rim. Cylindrical neck, narrow relative to body, constricted, then sloping outward. Horizontal shoulder, globular body, slightly concave base. Light wheel-abraded lines below rim, mid neck, and five or six bands around the body; one seems to have slipped, and crosses between other bands. Few bubbles.

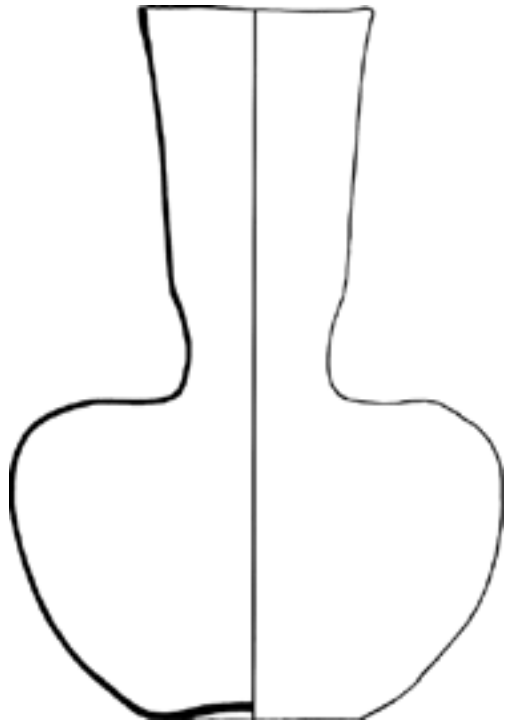
Minor exterior surface soiling, interior weathering and iridescence, flaking off, small accretions. Complete.



Author Number 23. EA1979.597
Flask, late third–fourth century AD
H: 12.6 cm. Body: 8.75 cm. Rim: 5.05 cm. W: 7 g
Said to be from a tomb at Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown serving flask, green hue, transparent. Steeply folded rim, uneven. Conical neck tapering inward, bulge below rim on one side (misshapen). Bulbous, almost globular body. Concave base, fairly high kick. A lot of bubbles, several of them large and elongated on the neck.

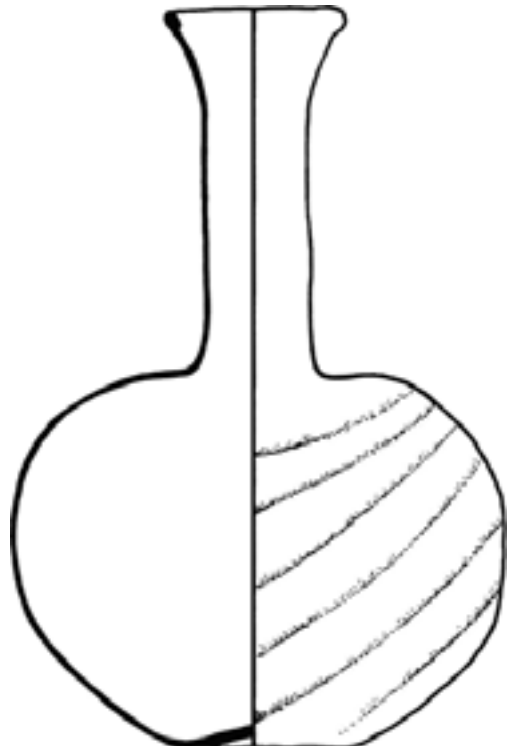
Minor interior weathering and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 24. EA1979.570
Flask, late third–fourth century AD
H: 18.6 cm. Body: 12.7 cm. Rim: 6.2 cm. W: 13 g
Damon Collection (October 1882)

Free-blown serving flask, green hue, transparent. Ground rim, uneven. Conical neck tapering inward, sloping outward to horizontal shoulder, globular body, concave base. Some slight striae and pinprick bubbles.

Thin weathering and iridescence on exterior and interior, loose on the interior, dulling. Complete.

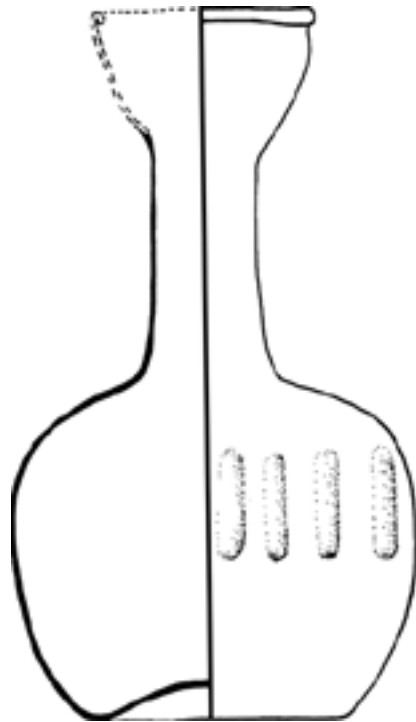


Author Number 25. EA1979.522
Flask, fourth century AD
H: 13.75 cm. Body: 9.1 cm. Rim: 3.3 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from a tomb at Tyre
Damon Collection (1876)

Optic blown flask, green hue, transparent. Narrow folded rim, funnel mouth. Straight cylindrical neck. Horizontal shoulder, squat globular body, slightly concave base. Thin ribs diagonally across body, closely together at shoulder and flaring out to vanish at lower body. Narrow elongated bubbles in the neck, otherwise clear.

Thin creamy and black weathering exterior and interior. Interior iridescence. Contains some fine sediment. Complete.

Parallel: Israeli, 2003. Number 177



Author Number 26. EA1979.629

Flask, fourth century AD

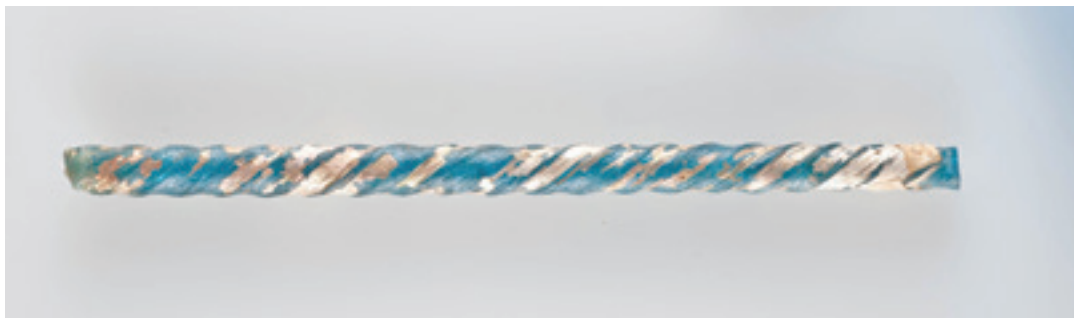
H: 15.1 cm. Body: 8.2 cm. Rim: circa 4.6 cm. W: 5 g

Said to be from a tomb at Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown serving flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Narrow folded rim, convex funnel mouth, cylindrical neck with outward taper. Sloping shoulder, globular body, concave base with high kick. Band of short, pinched ribs in shallow relief around the middle of the body, unevenly spaced. They were pinched before the final blowing. Negligible impurities.

Majority of rim and mouth missing. Weathering on interior and exterior, iridescence interior and exterior.



Author Number 27. EA1979.547

“Stirring rod”, first–second century AD

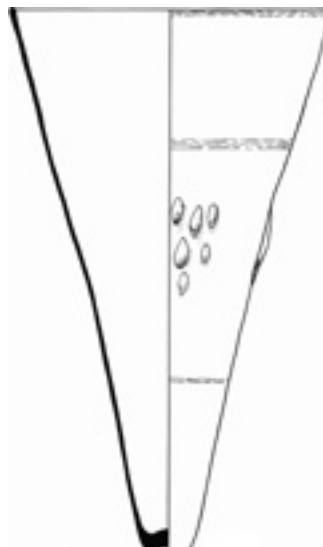
Max. D: 0.75 cm. Length: 13.9 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (1881)

Dark blue rod, translucent. Twisted, tapering slightly inwards.

This is a section of a longer rod, with a piece missing from at least one end if not both. Iridescence, appearing mostly rose-gold in colour, sitting between the raised ridges.



Author Number 28. EA1979.501

Lamp, fourth century AD

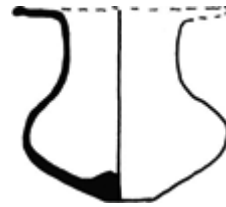
H: 21.6 cm. Max. D: 12.75 cm. W: 27 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown lamp, colourless, applied dark blue blobs, transparent. Ground rim. Slight constriction below rim. Conical body tapering inward. Slightly concave base. Applied blobs: three large, interspersed with groups of six smaller blobs, arranged roughly in an inverted triangle shape. Band of lightly wheel-abraded lines below rim on exterior and interior, on upper body, smaller band on lower body. Negligible impurities.

Minor exterior and interior surface soiling, interior weathering and iridescence. Shallow scratching. Complete.



Author Number 29. EA1979.513
Miniature jar, possibly circa first century AD
H: 2.8 cm. Body: 2.85 cm. Rim: circa 3.1 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, dark blue tint, translucent. Polished rim, splayed. Concave neck. Sloping shoulder, conical body tapering sharply inward. Flattened base. Bubbles, one large, some striae.

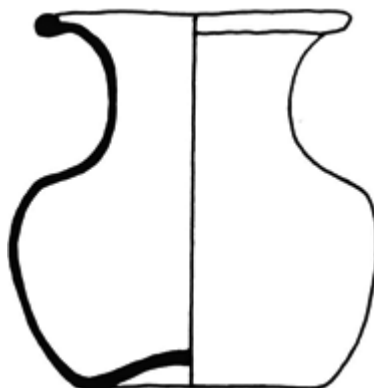
Most of the rim missing, and section of the upper neck. Some exterior accretion. Interior accretions and iridescence. Pitting.



Author Number 30. EA1979.634
Miniature jar, circa third century AD
H: 3.2 cm. Body: 3.6 cm. Rim: 2.55 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Concave neck, horizontal shoulder with impression around neck. Conical body tapering inward, flattened base.

Missing section in shoulder, otherwise complete. Interior and exterior weathering and iridescence.



Author Number 31. EA1979.635
Miniature jar, third century AD
H: 4.9 cm. Body: 4.9 cm. Rim: 4.15 cm. W: 2 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Concave neck, sloping shoulder, bulbous body. Concave base, fairly high kick. Pinprick bubbles.

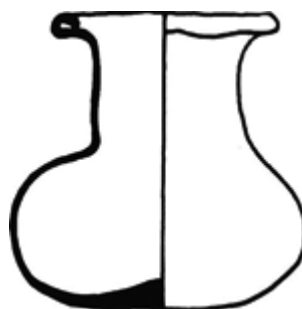
Minor exterior soiling, some interior accretions and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 32. EA1979.631
Miniature jar, third century AD
H: 4.1 cm. Body: 4 cm. Rim: 3.5 cm. W: 2 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown jar, emerald green tint, translucent. Steeply folded rim, short concave neck, bulbous body, concave base.

Thick exterior and interior accretions. Exterior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 33. EA1979.632
Miniature jar, third century AD
H: 4.05 cm. Body: 3.8 cm. Rim: 3.1 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, burgundy tint, transparent. Steeply folded rim, somewhat uneven, splayed. Slightly concave neck, misshapen. Narrow horizontal shoulder, squat bulbous body, roughly flattened base with pontil scar. Impression on interior neck, possibly from a bubble. Bubbles, large in neck, some striae, spot on body.

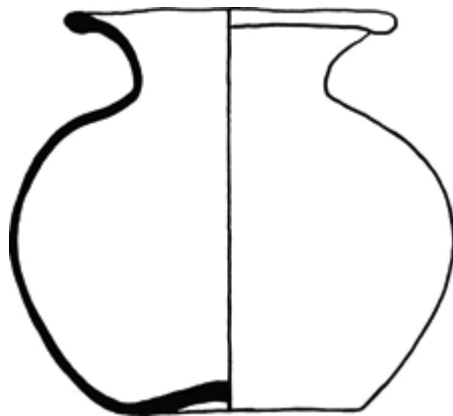
Minor exterior soiling. Interior weathering and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 34. EA1979.633
Miniature jar, third century AD
H: 3.85 cm. Body: 3.6 cm. Rim: 3 cm. W: 2 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, green hue, burgundy coloured streaks, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, slightly splayed. Concave neck, sloping shoulder, squat bulbous body, concave base. Pinprick bubbles, some striae.

Chip from rim, otherwise complete. Interior weathering, iridescence, some iridescence on exterior base.



Author Number 35. EA1979.599

Miniature jar, third-fourth century AD

H: 5.35 cm. Body: 5.9 cm. Rim: 4.5 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, slight blue hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed. Short concave neck, globular body. Very lightly concave base with pontil scar. Slightly misshapen on one side. Pinprick bubbles, striae, dark spots in rim.

Minor soiling, interior iridescence and weathering. Complete.



Author Number 36. EA1979.534

Miniature jar, first-fourth century AD

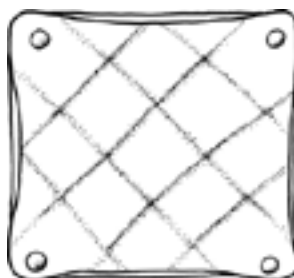
H: 4.2 cm. Body: 2.4 cm. Rim: 2 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, green hue, transparent. Folded rim, horizontal lip, splayed. Piriform body. Bubbles, striae.

Interior surface soiling and iridescence. Crack in body. Complete.



Author Number 37. EA1979.521
Square jar, late third–early fourth century AD
H: 12 cm. Body: 7.1 cm. Rim: 7.3 cm. W: 16 g
Said to be from an ancient tomb at Tyre
Damon Collection

Mould-blown jar, greenish hue where thick, otherwise colourless, transparent. Folded rim. Short concave neck, narrow shoulder sloping to squared body. Concave base with cross-hatching pattern, tiny rounded feet in corners. Very few pinprick bubbles.

Exterior and interior surface soiling. Iridescence on body and base. Complete.

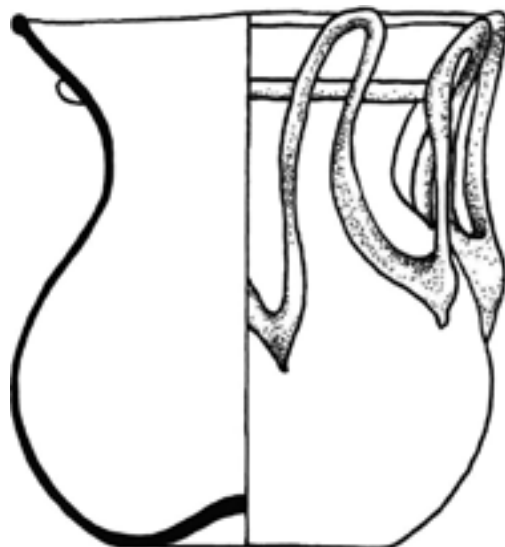


Author Number 38. EA1979.515
Trailed jar, fourth century AD
H: 7.7 cm. Body: 8.7 cm. Rim: 6.2 cm. W: 9 g
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, blue hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed. Short concave neck, sloping shoulder, bulbous body tapering inward. Concave base with high central kick. Trail applied beneath rim, overlapping at edges. Trailing applied at shoulder and rim in twelve zigzags. Large application point on shoulder where the trail begins. Pinprick bubbles.

One section of trail missing, otherwise complete. Minor exterior surface soiling, accretions at neck and base, interior surface soiling and iridescence.

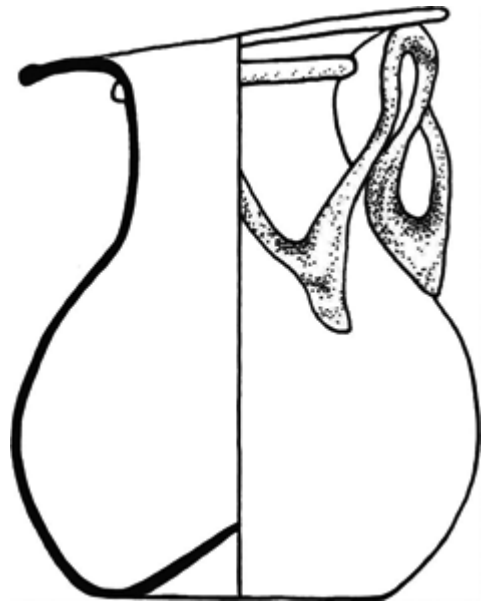
Damon's label is missing.



Author Number 39. EA1979.514
Trailed jar, fourth century AD
H: 7.3 cm. Body: 6.5 cm. Rim: 6.45 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown jar, blue-green hue where thick, otherwise colourless, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, uneven, splayed. Concave neck, globular body, concave base with high central kick, pontil scar. Trail below rim, uneven thickness, large overlap at edges. Zigzag trail unevenly applied at shoulder and rim, passing across the rim at one point. Applied at twelve points on the rim and eleven at the shoulder. Pinprick bubbles.

Missing piece from rim, associated crack. Two sections of trail missing. Exterior and interior surface soiling and iridescence, minor accretions.



Author Number 40. EA1979.516

Trailed jar, fourth century AD

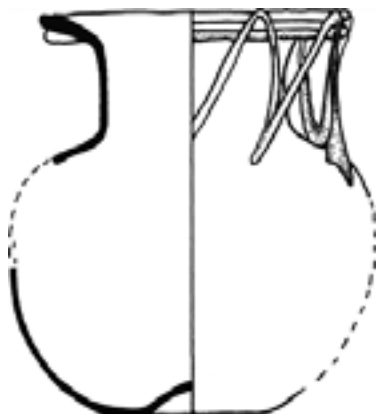
H: 7.8 cm. Body: 6.2 cm. Rim: 5.4 cm. W: 4 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, olive-green hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed, cylindrical neck sloping seamlessly to body. Globular body, concave base, prominent central kick. Zigzag trail applied at body and drawn up to rim, applied at the body seven times and nine times at the rim. Some overlap in tendrils, one going across the lip. Irregularly spaced. Very slight striae, pinprick bubbles.

Patch of surface accretion on exterior body, exterior and interior surface soiling. One missing section of trail, otherwise complete.



Author Number 41. EA1979.549
Trailed jar, fourth century AD
H: at least 6.6 cm. Body: 6.5 cm. Rim: 5.7 cm
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown jar, green hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed. Concave neck, sloping shoulder, bulbous body, concave base with central kick. Trail applied beneath rim, overlapping at edges. Trail applied at shoulder, drawn up and applied at rim, repeated in zigzag pattern. A few pinprick bubbles.

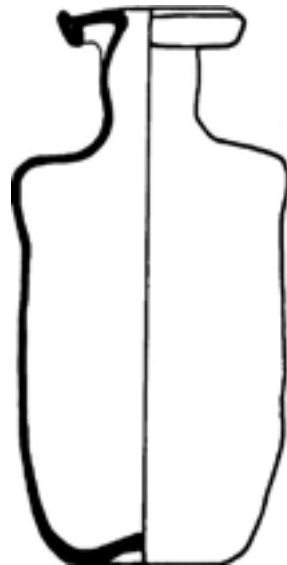
Broken into nine fragments; it was probably whole when Damon found it. Interior weathering and iridescence, exterior soiling. Exterior accretions below rim and at shoulder.



Author Number 42. EA1979.517
Bottle, late first–second century AD
H: 8.6 cm. Body: 4.2 cm. Rim: 3.2 cm. W: 4 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1881)

Mould-blown bottle, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, broad lip. Cylindrical neck tooled before shoulder. Sloping shoulder with rounded corners, squared body, depressed sides. Thick concave base. Ribbon handle, applied with two claw pads at shoulder, drawn up, applied to neck, drawn up to rim. Pinprick bubbles.

Some pitting to base. Soiling mostly on interior and underside of handle. Trace of iridescence on interior of one shoulder corner, very slight flake at base of handle near claw pad. Complete.



Author Number 43. EA1979.584

Bottle, second century AD

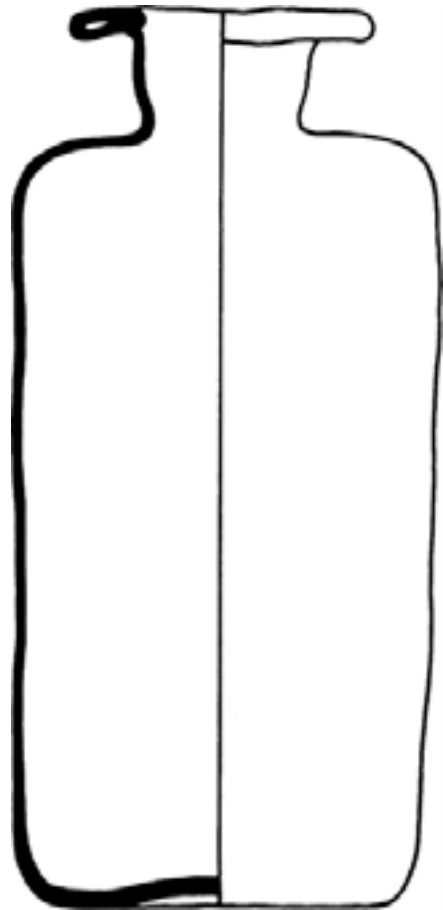
H: 7.4 cm. Body: 3.65 cm. Rim: 2.45 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Collar rim, broad lip. Convex neck sloping out to horizontal shoulder. Slight bulge at shoulder. Cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base. A few bubbles.

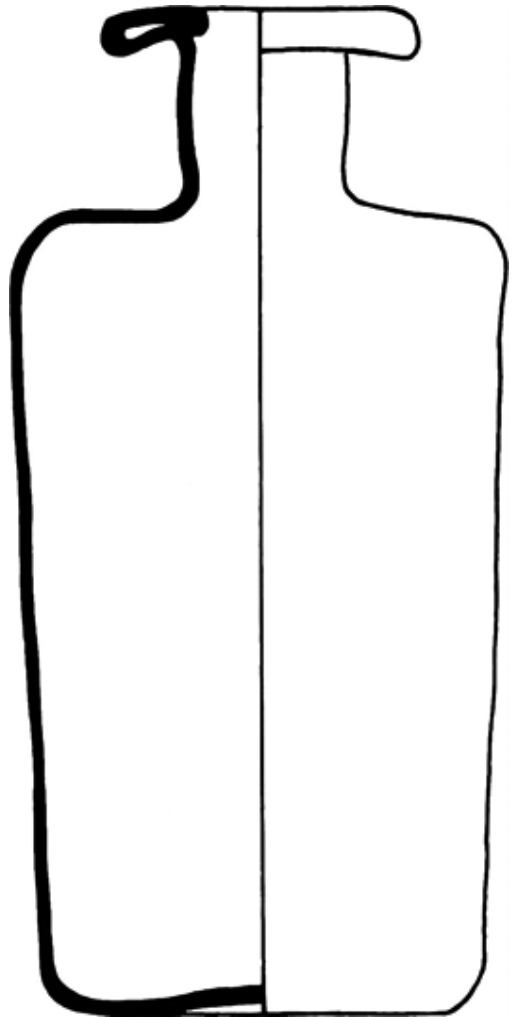
Interior and exterior surface soiling, extensive interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 44. EA1979.504
Bottle, end first–second century AD
H: 15.1 cm. Body: 7.1 cm. Rim: 5.8 cm. W: 11 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, broad lip. Misshapen cylindrical neck, horizontal shoulder, cylindrical body, slightly convex, rounding before concave base.

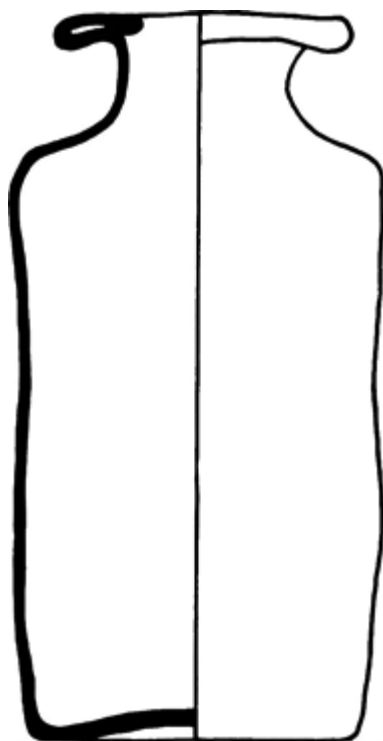
Surface accretions exterior and interior, exterior iridescence. Loose iridescence flakes of interior collected in bottom. Complete.



Author Number 45. EA1979.503
Bottle, end first–second century AD
H: 14.2 cm. Body: 6.9 cm. Rim: 4.4 cm. W: 12 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, broad lip. Short convex neck sloping outward to horizontal shoulder. Cylindrical body tapering slightly inward. Concave base.

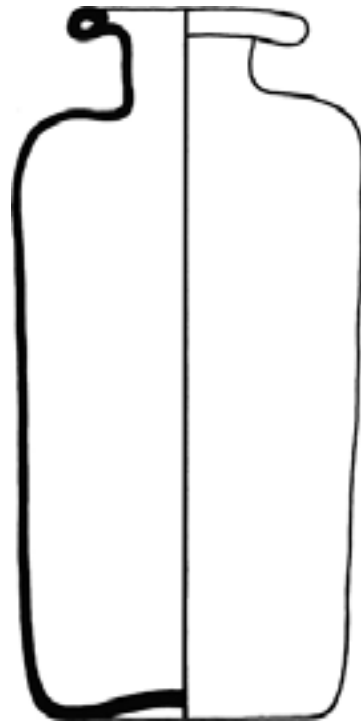
Extensive surface accretions, slight iridescence on exterior, more on interior, dulling. Complete.



Author Number 46. EA1979.502
Bottle, end first–second century AD
H: 9.7 cm. Body: 4.9 cm. Rim: 3.6 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, broad lip. Short concave neck, narrow shoulder sloping down to cylindrical body with slight bulge in lower half. Concave base. Some bubbles in interior lip as it folds down, some bubbles in body.

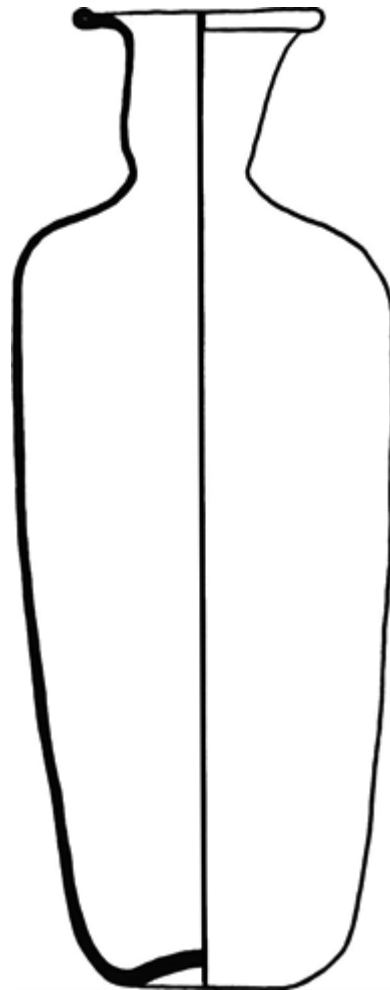
Surface accretions, particularly on base coming up one side. Soiling and iridescence most extensive on interior. Complete.



Author Number 47. EA1979.505
Bottle, second–third century AD
H: 12.8 cm. Body: 6.3 cm. Rim: 4.2 cm. W: 7 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim. Slightly misshapen cylindrical neck. Shoulder horizontal on one side, more sloping on the other. Cylindrical body tapering inwards. Concave base. Very few pinprick bubbles, bubble on shoulder.

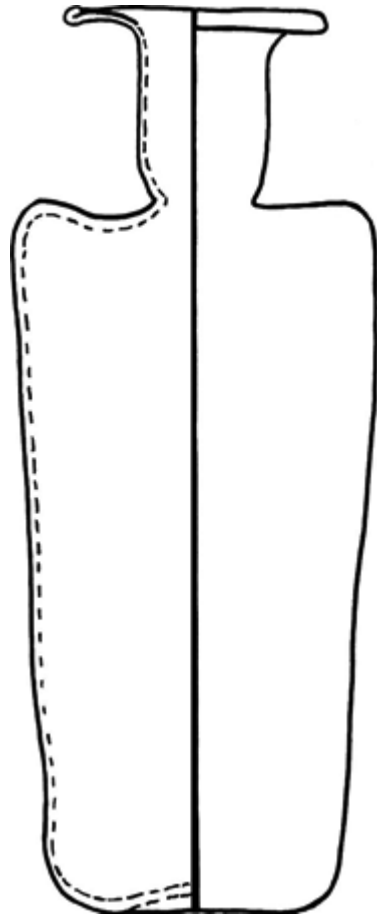
Surface accretions interior and exterior, iridescence on body exterior, mostly on interior. Complete.



Author Number 48. EA1979.610
Bottle, second–third century AD
H: 13 cm. Body: 5 cm. Rim: 3.3 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bottle, slight greenish hue, transparent. Splayed rim, narrow folded edge. Convex neck, tooled before shoulder. Horizontal shoulder, misshapen with large impression on one side. Cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base. Tooling marks base of neck. A few bubbles on body.

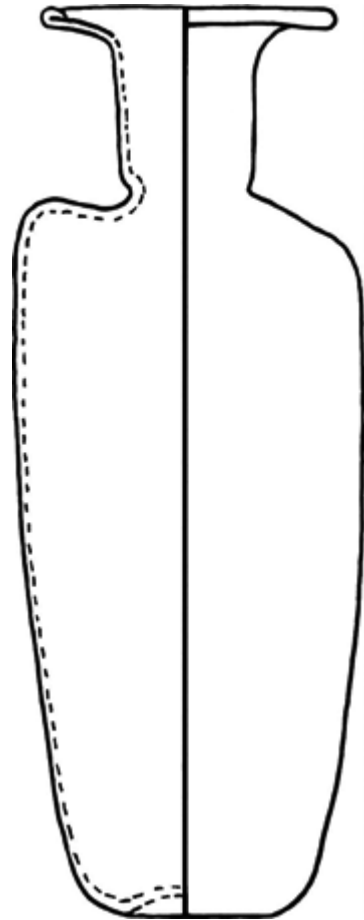
Exterior and interior surface accretions, extensive interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 49. EA1979.573a
Bottle, second–third century AD
H: 12 cm. Body: 4.7 cm. Rim: 3.5 cm
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bottle, slight greenish hue, transparent. Splayed rim, narrow folded edge. Convex neck, tooled before shoulder. Horizontal shoulder, impression around neck. Cylindrical body, tapering inward, concave base. Extensive striae, bubbles.

Surface accretions exterior, iridescence on interior. Filled with sediment. Complete.



Author Number 50. EA1979.574a

Bottle, second–third century AD

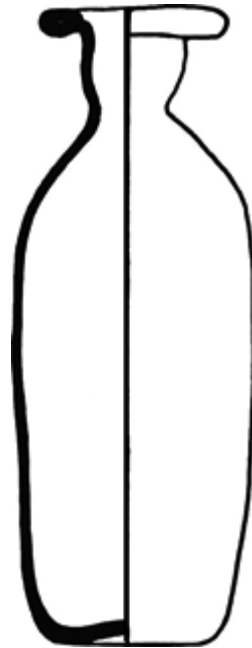
H: 12.1 cm. Body: 4.55 cm. Rim: 3.85 cm

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown bottle, slight greenish hue, transparent. Splayed rim, narrow folded edge. Concave neck, tooled before shoulder, off-centre. Horizontal shoulder, impression around neck, misshapen. Cylindrical body tapering inwards, slight bulge on one side, concave base. Extensive striae, minor bubbles.

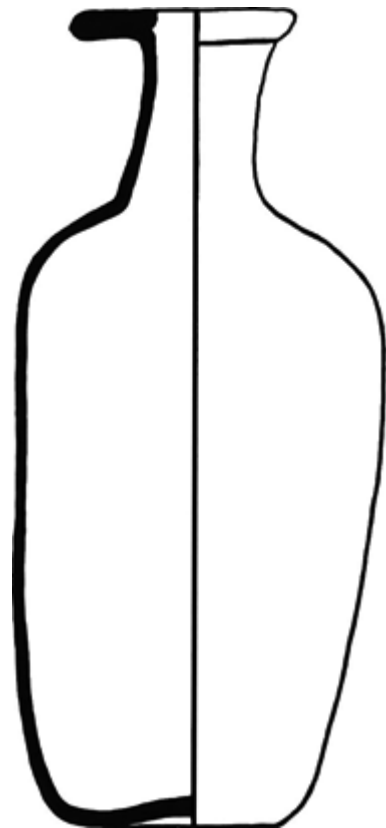
Minor exterior surface accretions, interior iridescence. Filled with sediment. Complete.



Author Number 51. EA1979.586
Bottle, second–third century AD
H: 8.5 cm. Body: 3.2 cm. Rim: 2.55 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Very short concave neck tooled before steeply sloping shoulder. Cylindrical body tapering inwards, concave base.

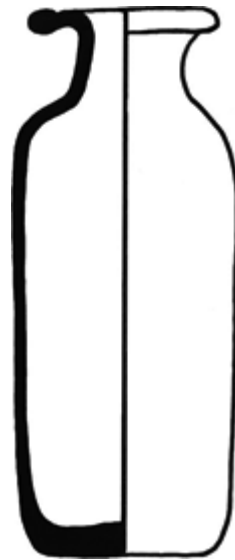
Extensive accretions and iridescence exterior and interior. Complete.



Author Number 52. EA1979.579
Bottle, second–third century AD.
H: 10.85 cm. Body: 4.8 cm. Rim: 2.9 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Sidon.
Damon Collection (1879)

Free-blown bottle, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Lip is broad on one side, narrow on the other. Cylindrical neck, broad sloping shoulder, cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base. Bubbles, some striae.

Extensive interior surface accretions and iridescence, some exterior soiling. Complete.



Author Number 53. EA1979.585
Bottle, second–third century AD.
H: 7.3 cm. Body: 3 cm. Rim: 2.5 cm. W: 4 g
Said to be from Sidon.
Damon Collection. (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, slight greenish hue where thicker, otherwise colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed, short concave neck, sloping shoulder, cylindrical body, roughly flat base. Bubbles at base.

Interior iridescence, surface soiling and accretions. Complete.



Author Number 54. EA1979.582

Bottle, second–third century AD

H: 9.35 cm. Body: 3.95 cm. Rim: 2.95 cm. W: 4 g

Damon Collection (October 1882)

Free-blown bottle, slight greenish hue where thick, otherwise colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim sloping slightly toward interior, splayed, very short concave neck, cylindrical body, concave base.

Interior and exterior surface soiling, iridescence exterior lip and interior. Complete.

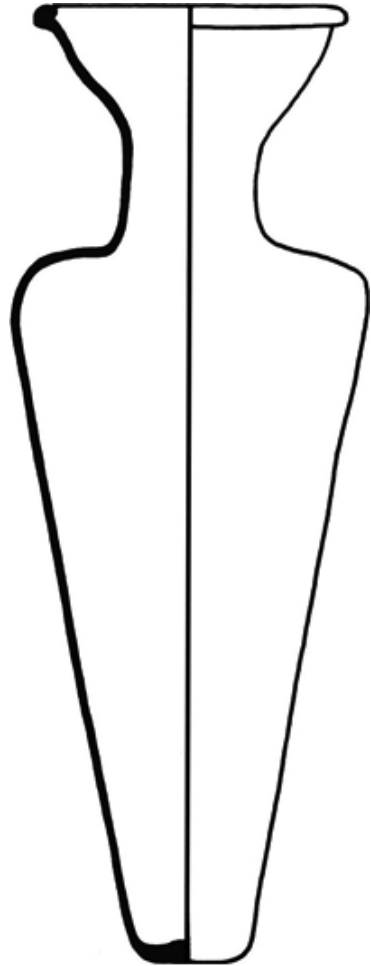
Parallel: Verlaeck 1997. Number 15 (Lokeren Museum).



Author Number 55. EA1979.575a
Bottle, third–fourth century AD
H: 7.35 cm. Body: 2.8 cm. Rim: 3 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, splayed, misshapen. Short concave neck. Cylindrical body tapering inwards, flat base. Extensive striae.

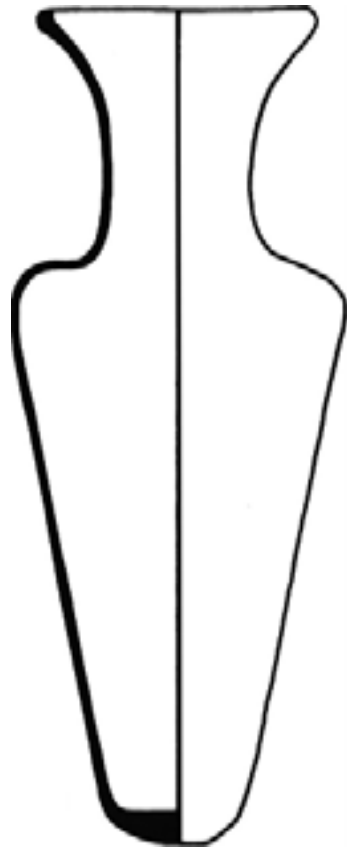
Soiling, surface accretions and iridescence on interior. Complete.



Author Number 56. EA1979.613
Bottle, third century AD
H: 14.1 cm. Body: 4.5 cm. Rim: 4.25 cm. W: 3 g
Damon Collection (October 1882)

Free-blown bottle, blue hue, transparent. Burgundy streaks about mouth, neck, shoulder and upper body. Folded rim, funnel mouth, concave neck, horizontal shoulder. Conical body tapering inwards, small roughly flat base very slightly protruding pontil scar. Pinprick bubbles, striae.

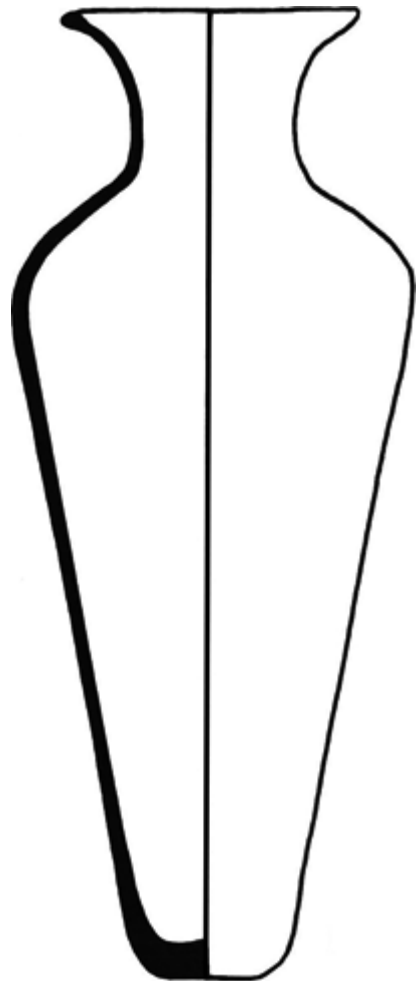
Exterior and interior surface soiling, interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 57. EA1979.612
Bottle, third century AD
H: 12.9 cm. Body: 5.1 cm. Rim: 4.25 cm. W: 3 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, funnel mouth. Concave neck, horizontal shoulder, conical body tapering inwards, roughly flat base.

Interior and exterior surface soiling and accretions, interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 58. EA1979.614

Bottle, third century AD

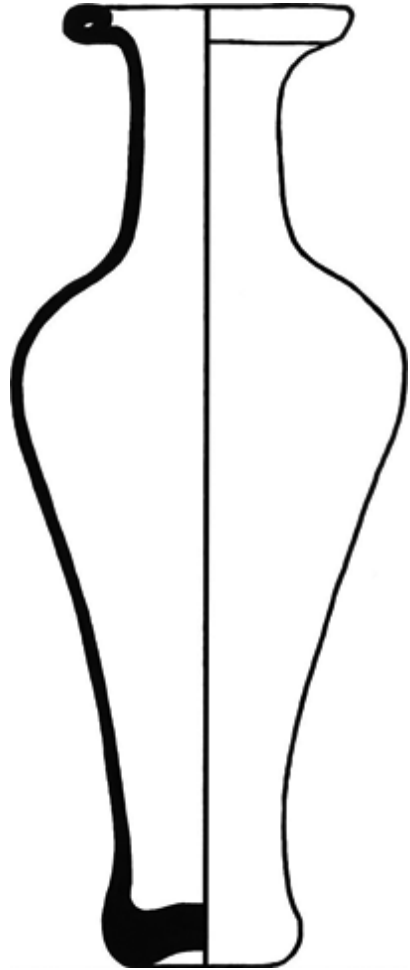
H: 12.9 cm. Body: 5.25 cm. Rim: 3.9 cm. W: 4 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown bottle, slight greenish hue where thicker, otherwise colourless, transparent. Polished rim, splayed, slightly concave neck. Sloping shoulder, conical body tapering inwards, roughly flat base. Two small impressions just below shoulder. Extensive striae.

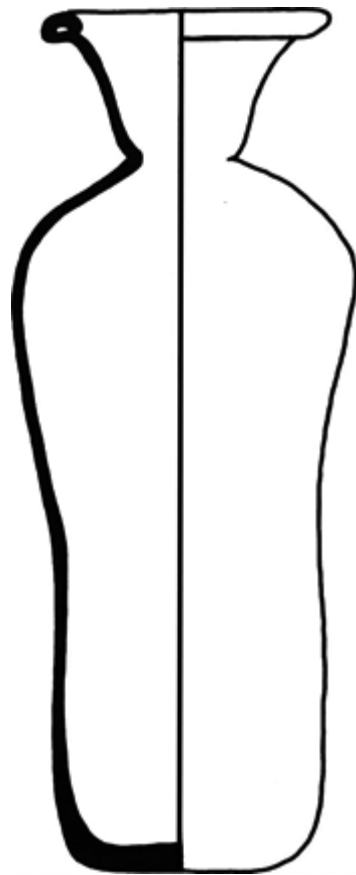
Major surface accretions exterior and interior, iridescence and minor pitting. Missing section in rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 59. EA1979.611
Bottle, third century AD
H: 12.85 cm. Body: 5.1 cm. Rim: 3.8 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown bottle, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, neck, sloping shoulder. Conical body tapering inward, widening out slightly and flattening before concave base. Some striae and pinprick bubbles.

Surface accretions interior and exterior neck, iridescence on interior appearing silver. Complete.



Author Number 60. EA1979.578

Bottle, fourth century AD

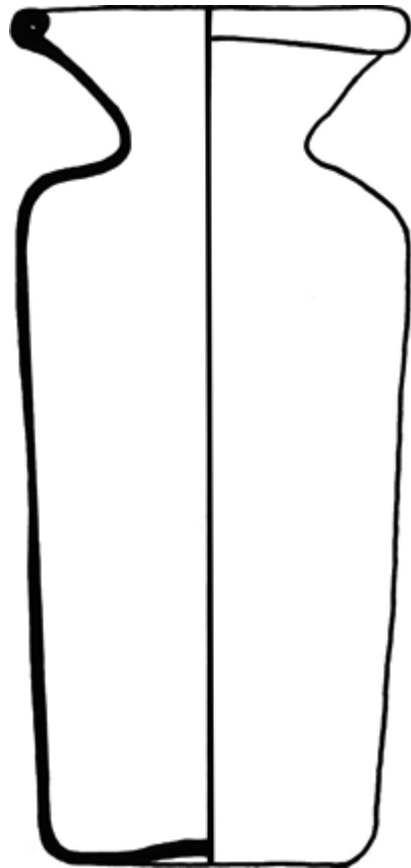
H: 11.45 cm. Body: 4.4 cm. Rim: 3.7 cm. W: 5 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown bottle, green hue, transparent. Folded rim, splayed, constricted before sloping shoulder. Cylindrical body tapering inwards, slightly concave at middle, flat base. Possible pontil scar; a slight protrusion is visible under the label. Bubbles in rim.

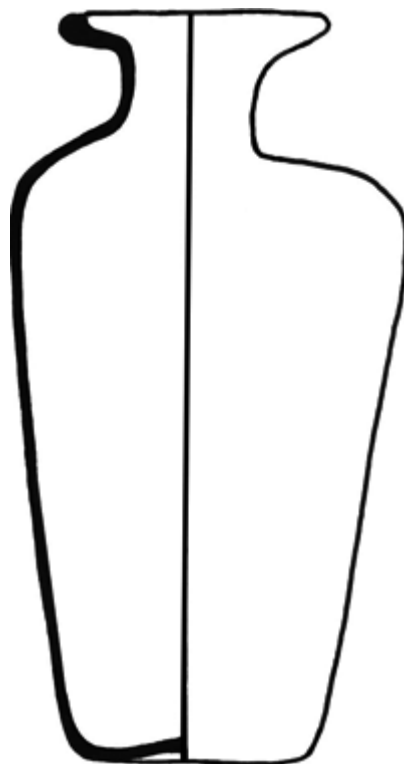
Exterior and interior surface soiling, extensive interior iridescence, interior surface accretions. Complete.



Author Number 61. EA1979.588
Bottle, fourth century AD
H: 11.4 cm. Body: 5.2 cm. Rim: 5.25 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown bottle, green hue, transparent. Folded rim, wide funnel mouth, very short concave neck. Sloping shoulder, cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base. Bubbles, particularly in rim.

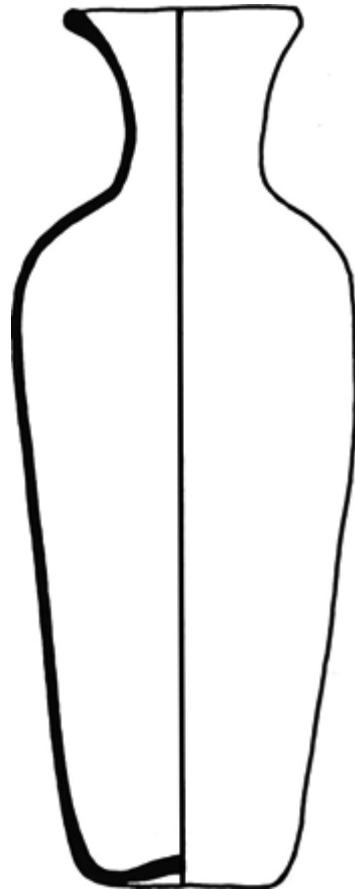
Interior surface soiling, accretions, and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 62. EA1979.583
Bottle, fourth century AD
H: 9.8 cm. Body: 5.3 cm. Rim: 3.4 cm. W: 3 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown, blue hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed, neck concave on one side, shoulder sloping on one side. Cylindrical body tapering inward, slightly concave base with pontil scar.

Surface accretions exterior and interior, mostly exterior, interior iridescence, particularly in neck and shoulder. Missing section in rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 63. EA1979.577

Bottle, fourth century AD

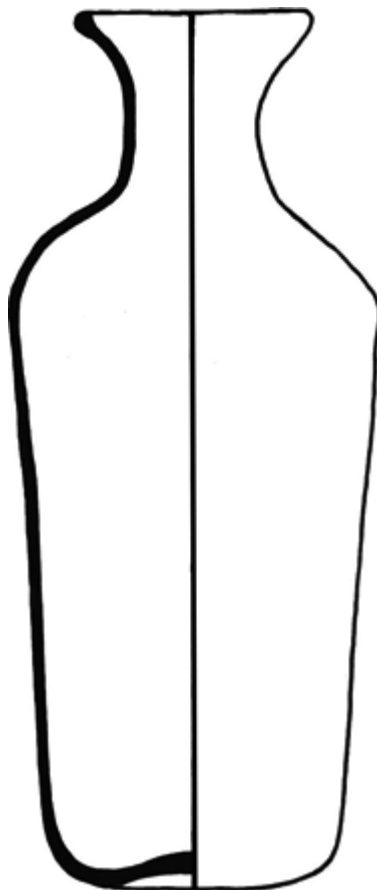
H: 11.7 cm. Body: 4.5 cm. Rim: 3.15 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown, green hue, translucent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed, concave neck. Sloping shoulder, cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base. Slightly protruding pontil scar.

Surface accretions exterior and interior, significant iridescence on interior. Complete.



Author Number 64. EA1979.609

Bottle, fourth century AD

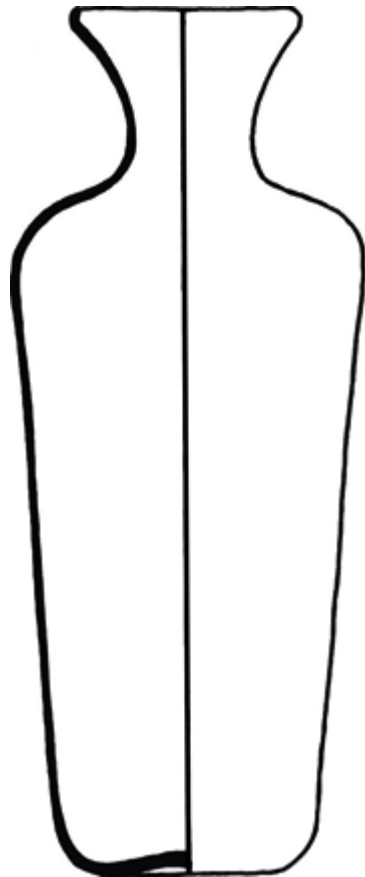
H: 11.7 cm. Body: 4.75 cm. Rim: 3.1 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown bottle, greenish hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, funnel mouth, concave neck, sloping shoulder. Cylindrical body tapering inwards, concave base with traces of pontil scar.

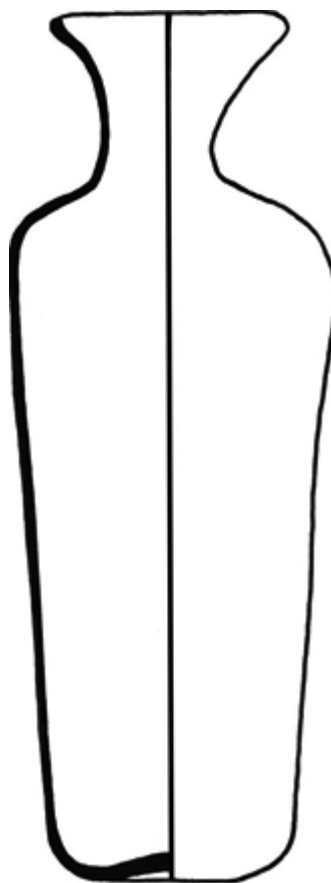
Exterior and interior surface accretions, interior iridescence, flaking off. Complete.



Author Number 65. EA1979.576
Bottle, fourth century AD
H: 11.5 cm. Body: 4.7 cm. Rim: 3 cm. W: 3 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, funnel mouth, short concave neck, horizontal shoulder, cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base.

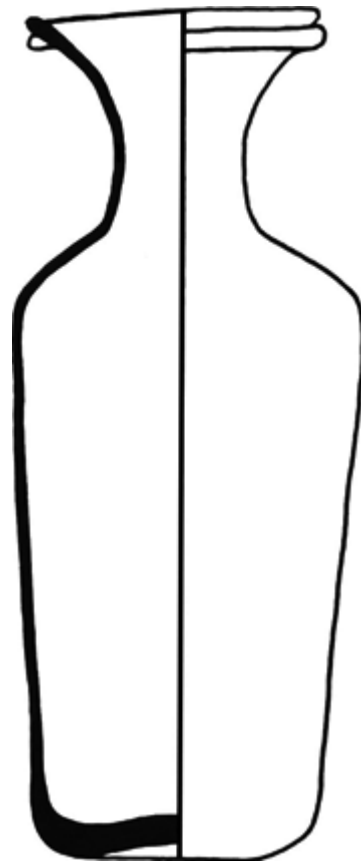
Extensive brown weathering, exterior and interior surface accretions, interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 66. EA1979.580
Bottle, fourth century AD
H: 11.5 cm. Body: 4.7 cm. Rim: 3 cm. W: 3 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, funnel mouth, short concave neck, horizontal shoulder, cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base.

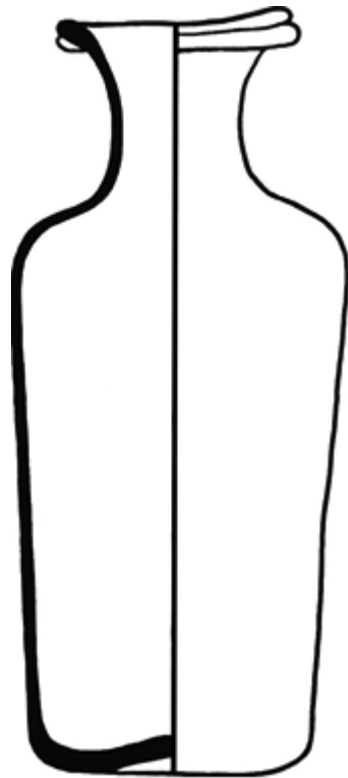
Extensive brown weathering, exterior and interior surface accretions, interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 67. EA1979.608
Bottle, fourth century AD
H: 11.3 cm. Body: 4.5 cm. Rim: 3.8 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown bottle, greenish hue where thick, otherwise colourless, transparent. Folded rim with impression in centre, uneven. Funnel mouth, concave neck, sloping shoulder. Cylindrical body tapering inward, concave base.

Minor exterior surface abrasions. Interior surface accretions and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 68. EA1979.581
Bottle, fourth century AD
H: 10.2 cm. Body: 4.4 cm. Rim: 3.2 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown bottle, colourless, transparent. Uneven folded rim, concave neck. Sloping shoulder, cylindrical body tapering inwards, concave base. Some bubbles.

Exterior and interior surface soiling and accretions, extensive interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 69. EA1979.557

Flask, first–second century AD

H: 10.7 cm. Body: 2.5 cm. Rim: 1.8 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Polished rim, flared. Long cylindrical neck constricted before body. Narrow conical body tapering outward, flat base. Bubbles.

Minor interior surface soiling, accretions and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 70. EA1979.622

Flask, first century AD

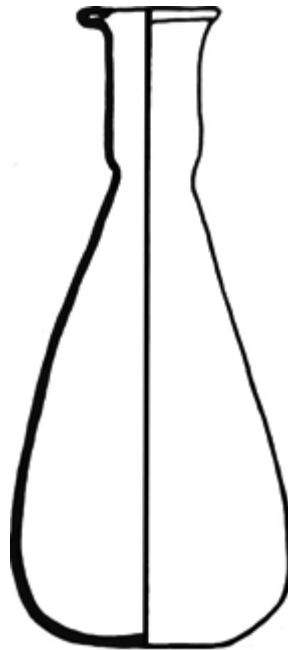
H: 9.7 cm. Body: 4.5 cm. Rim: 2.1 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed, lopsided. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, tooled before body. Piriform body, very slightly concave base. Bubbles, one particularly large on the body.

Minor exterior and interior surface soiling. Repaired cracks, missing section upper neck and rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 71. EA1979.572

Flask, first century AD

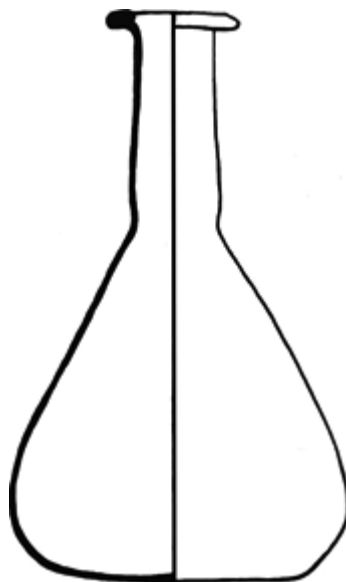
H: 8.5 cm. Body: 3.7 cm. Rim: 1.8 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Piriform body. Flat base.

Large hole at base of neck, smaller hole below, associated cracks in neck and body, otherwise complete. Exterior and interior accretions. Flakes of iridescence around smaller hole.



Author Number 72. EA1979.609

Flask, first century AD

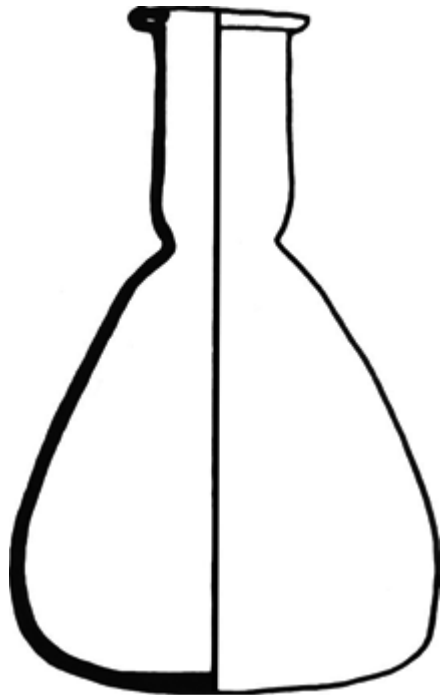
H: 7.6 cm. Body: 4.5 cm. Rim: 1.9 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed, lopsided. Cylindrical neck, constricted before body. Conical body, flat base. Some pinprick bubbles.

White surface accretions exterior, interior accretions, some exterior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 73. EA1979.619

Flask, first century AD

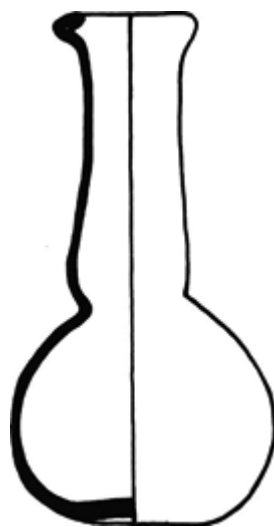
H: 9.1 cm. Body: 5.7 cm. Rim: 2.2 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, tooled before body. Wide conical body, roughly flat base. Slight striae, some pinprick bubbles.

Crack in neck and upper body. Some exterior weathering and iridescence, interior accretions, iridescence and white weathering. Complete.



Author Number 74. EA1979.594

Flask, first–second century AD

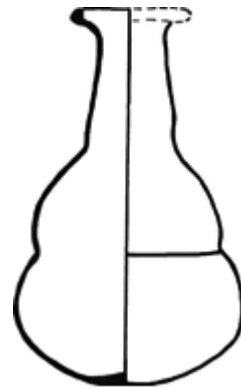
H: 6.8 cm. Body: 3.5 cm. Rim: 2 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Rounded rim, turned in but not folded, splayed. Straight neck, bulging on one side, constricted before body. Globular body, flat base. Pinprick bubbles.

Surface soiling and interior iridescence on interior body. Complete.



Author Number 75. EA1979.535

Flask, first–second century AD

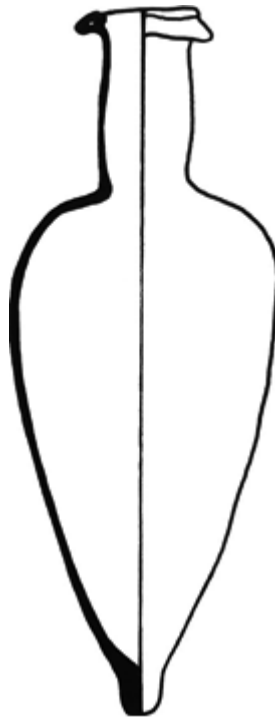
H: 5 cm. Body: 3 cm. Rim: circa 1.6 cm

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, bluish hue, transparent. Cracked off and polished rim, splayed, cylindrical neck. Piriform body with constriction approximately one third of the way down from the neck. Twisting impression at base of neck. Striae.

Surface accretion exterior at base of neck, entirely filled with sediment. Small iridescence flakes on upper neck. Missing section from rim and upper neck.



Author Number 76. EA1979.556

Flask, first century AD

H: 9.4 cm. Body: 3.5 cm. Rim: 1.8 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection

Free-blown perfume flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded rim, splayed, sloping upward toward the interior edge, higher on one side. Cylindrical neck, constricted at base. Sloping shoulder, fusiform body with drop-shaped base. Tooling at constriction, tooling marks midway on the neck. Shallow chill marks on the lip.

Weathering and minor accretions exterior and interior, small patches of iridescence on exterior. Complete.

Parallel: Vessberg, 1952. Pl. VII, 44, also from Cyprus



Author Number 77. EA1979.544

Flask, first century AD

H: 8.2 cm. Body: 2.2 cm. Rim: 1.55 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from a tomb at Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown perfume flask, colourless, transparent. Folded and roughly flattened rim sloping inwards on one side. Splayed, more on one side than the other. Cylindrical neck tapering inward, fusiform body with drop-shaped base. Striae and elongated bubbles, one large.

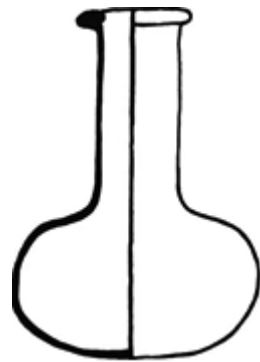
Interior and exterior weathering. Interior white weathering, accretions, iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 78. EA1979.546
Miniature flask, first century AD
H: 4.2 cm. Body: 1.7 cm. Rim: 1.2 cm. W: under a gram
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, very slightly greenish hue, transparent. Folded and roughly flattened rim, sloping slightly inward. Cylindrical neck tapering inward, constricted before body. Fusiform body. The shape of the body, point of break and thickening of glass towards the break suggest it may have had a drop base. Tooling marks at constriction.

Crack in rim and neck. Base missing. Interior weathering and iridescence.

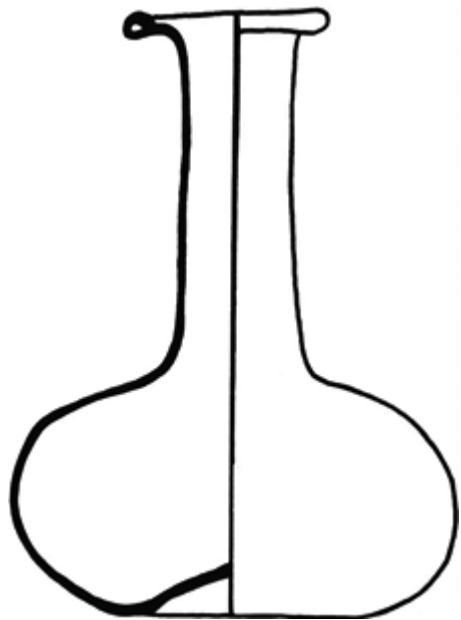


Author Number 79. EA1979.560

Miniature flask, circa first–second century AD
H: 4.65 cm. Body: 3.25 cm. Rim: 1.55 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, slight outward taper, constricted at junction with body. Sloping shoulder, flattened globular body, roughly flat base.

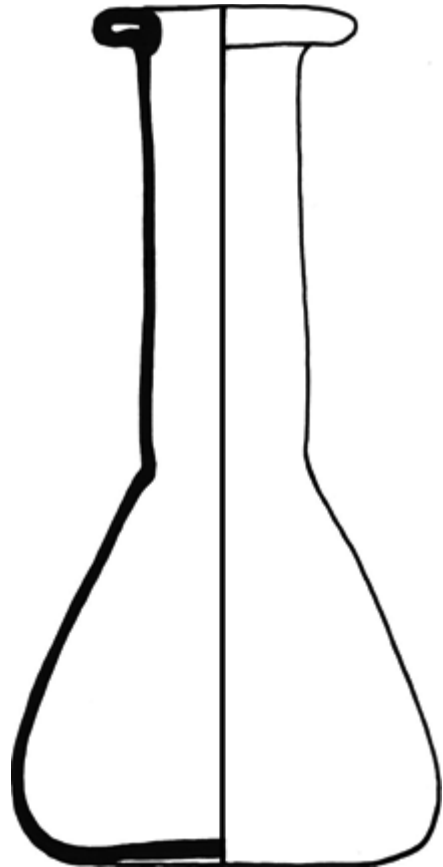
Soiling exterior and interior, interior accretions. Complete.



Author Number 80. EA1979.569
Flask, circa second–early third century AD
H: 8.1 cm. Body: 5.85 cm. Rim: 2.6 cm. W: 2 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, very slight blue hue, transparent. Unevenly folded rim, rounded, splayed. Slightly concave neck, flattened globular body, concave base, fairly high kick. Bubbles, smaller in neck than in body.

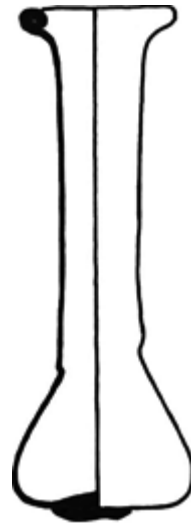
Minor abrasions and surface soiling. Small patches of exterior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 81. EA1979.506
Flask, late first–second century AD
H: 11.4 cm. Body: 5.7 cm. Rim: 3.5 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1879)

Free-blown, blue-green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, tooled before body. Conical body, slightly concave base.

Extremely heavy decay: the outer layer is grey, cracked off around the body, and the exposed layer is vividly iridescent, with a mottled texture to the surface. Only one fairly clear patch remains near the base.



Author Number 82. EA1979.533

Flask, first–second century AD

H: 6.6 cm. Body: 2.4 cm. Rim: 2 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, slightly splayed. Cylindrical neck, constriction before body, misshapen. Squat conical body tapering outwards, concave base. Protruding pontil scar. Bubbles, extensive striae.

Minor surface soiling, interior iridescence and accretions. Complete.



Author Number 83. EA1979.541

Flask, probably first–second century AD

H: 4.35 cm. Body: 3 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, burgundy streaks, transparent. Conical body rounding before flat base. Striae.

Neck and rim missing. Interior soiling and iridescence.



Author Number 84. EA1979.529

Flask, first–second century AD

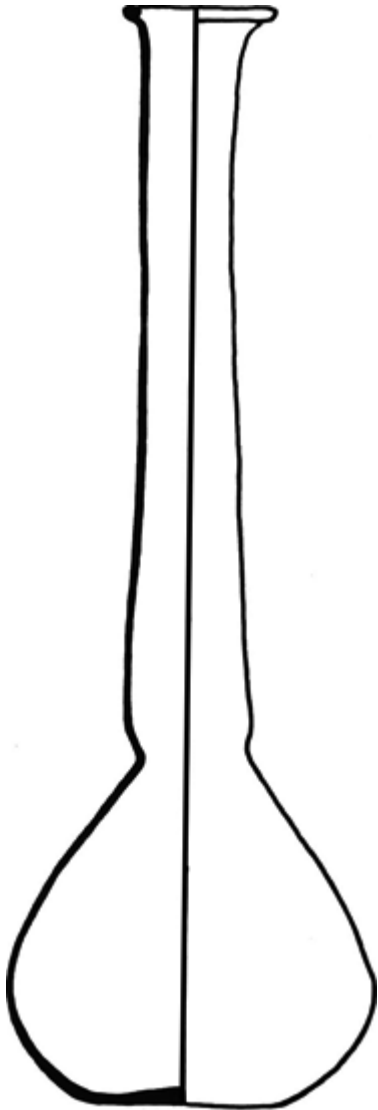
H: 15.9 cm. Body: 4.9 cm. Rim: 2.6 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, constricted before body. Conical body rounding before concave base. Slight striae, minor bubbles.

Surface soiling exterior and interior, interior iridescence. Cracks in neck. Missing piece in rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 85. EA1979.530

Flask, first–second century AD

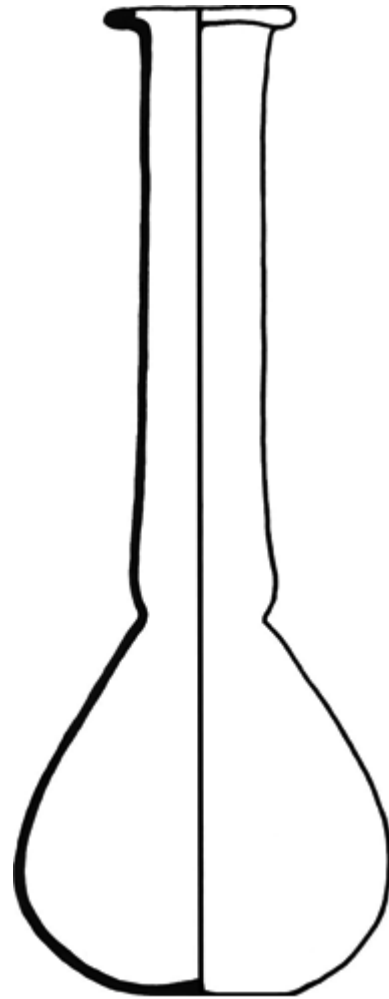
H: 14.5 cm. Body: 4.9 cm. Rim: 1.9 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, yellow-green hue. Folded rim, splayed. Narrow cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Conical body rounding before flat base. Striae, bubbles, two opaque white lumps on upper neck.

Interior surface soiling and iridescence. Broken section with associated cracks in body, fragments maintained. An entry in the Museum's 1977–1980 catalogue notes that it was broken on 3 February 1984.



Author Number 86. EA1979.518

Flask, first–second century AD

H: 13.1 cm. Body: 5 cm. Rim: 2.55 cm. W: 5 g

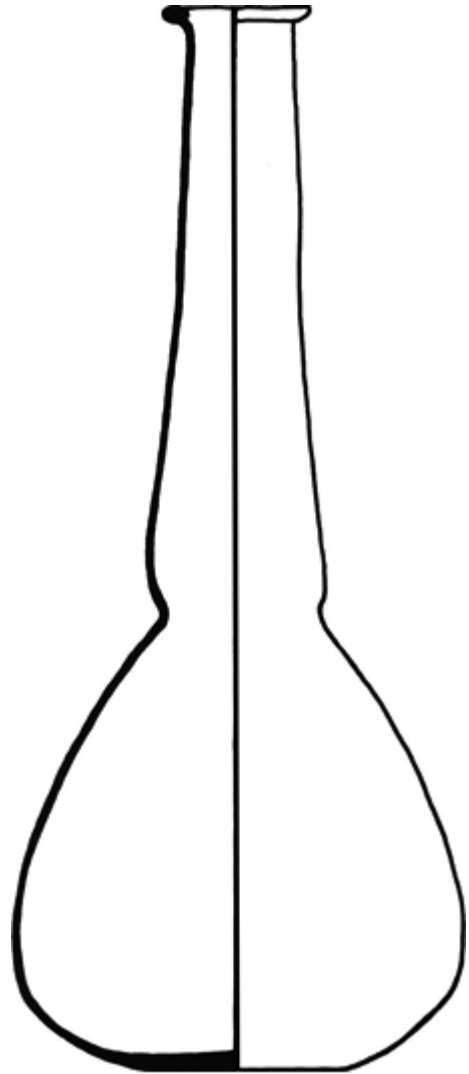
Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown flask, yellow to yellow-green hue, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, constricted before body. Conical body rounding towards flat base. Striae, pinprick bubbles.

Surface soiling exterior and interior, iridescence exterior and interior neck, milky weathering. Complete.

Parallel: Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna, 2005. Number 597, almost identical in dimensions and colour, acquired Renan



Author Number 87. EA1979.589

Flask, first–second century AD

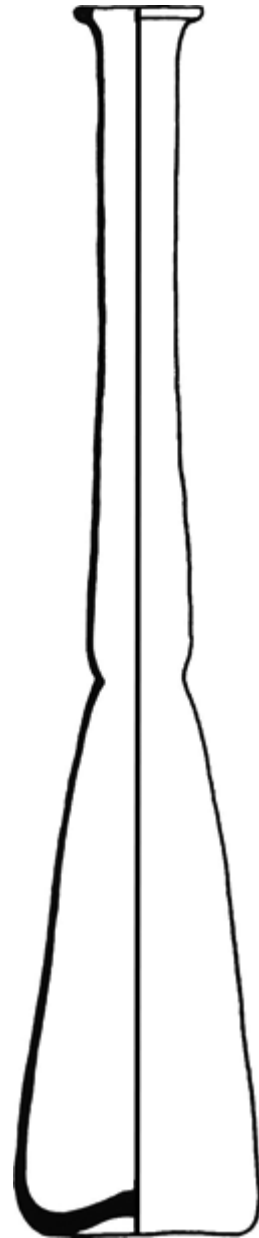
H: 14.1 cm. Body: 6 cm. Rim: 2 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, translucent. Folded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Bulbous body rounding before flat base, some protruding traces of pontil scar. Pinprick bubbles, some striae.

Pitting, interior surface soiling, extensive iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 88. EA1979.528

Flask, first–second century AD

H: 16.3 cm. Body: 3.25 cm. Rim: 1.7 cm. W. 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, slight greenish hue, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Slightly concave neck, tooled before narrow conical body. Slightly concave base. Bubbles, striae.

Hairline cracks on neck and body. Interior iridescence and minor surface soiling. Complete.



Author Number 89. EA1979.526

Flask, first–second century AD

H: 14.9 cm. Body: 3.8 cm. Rim: 1.6 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Narrow cylindrical neck, slightly concave, constricted before body. Elongated conical body, rounding to flat base with pontil scar. Striae and narrow elongated bubbles.

Interior soiling and iridescence. Minor exterior soiling. Complete.



Author Number 90. EA1979.525

Flask, first–second century AD

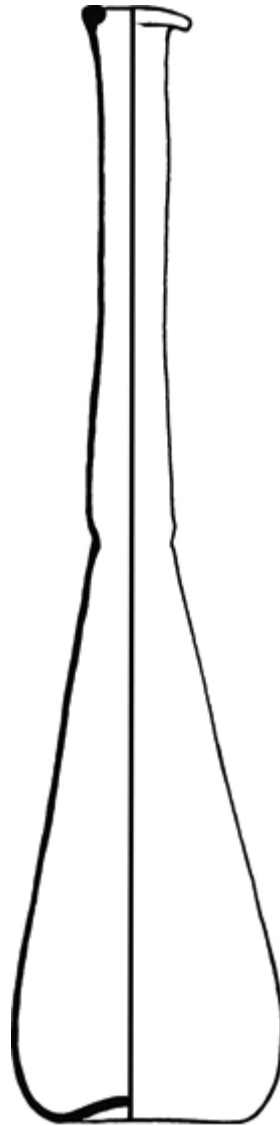
H: 14.8 cm. Body: 4 cm. Rim: 1.8 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, slightly splayed. Slightly concave neck, narrow elongated conical body, slightly concave in upper section, curves to subtly concave base. Slight striae and pinprick bubbles.

Missing section in lower body, associated cracks, repairs visible. Interior soiling and iridescence, minor exterior soiling.

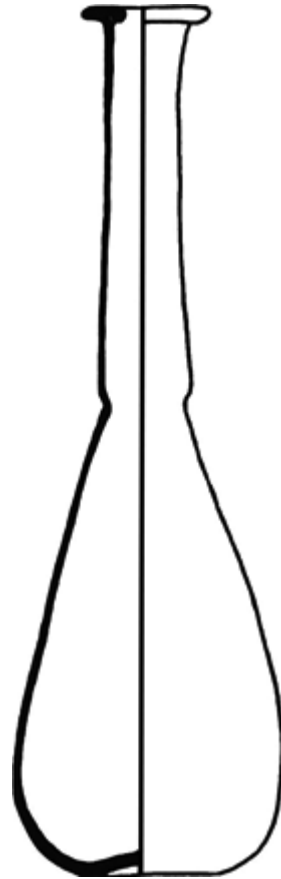


Author Number 91. EA1979.527
Flask, first–second century AD
H: 14.8 cm. Body: 3.6 cm. Rim: 1.55 cm. W: 2 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, green hue, translucent. Folded rim, splayed on one side. Long cylindrical neck tapering outward, tooled before narrow conical body. Slightly concave base with trace of protruding pontil scar. Bubbles, striae.

Surface soiling and iridescence exterior and interior. Complete.

Parallel: Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna, 2005. Number 601



Author Number 92. EA1979.524

Flask, first–second century AD

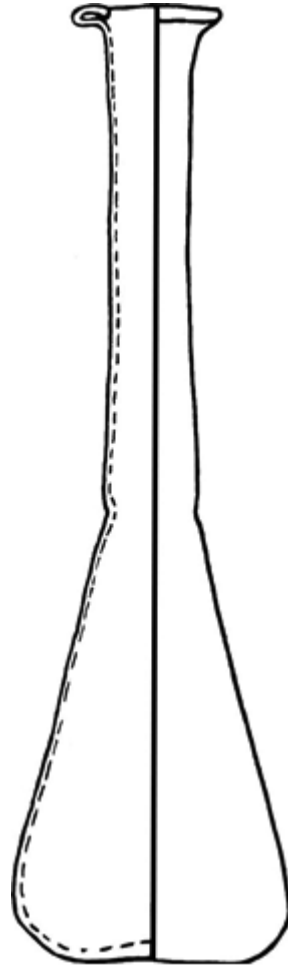
H: 11.55 cm. Body: 3.6 cm. Rim: 1.8 cm

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Uneven flattened and folded rim, splayed. Slightly concave cylindrical neck, constricted before body. Conical body, flattened base. Extensive striae, thin elongated bubbles.

Interior weathering, accretions, and iridescence. Minor exterior soiling. Filled with sediment. Complete.



Author Number 93. EA1979.510
Flask, first–second century AD
H: 12.7 cm. Body: 3.7 cm. Rim: 1.9 cm. W: 3 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1879)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Elongated conical body, rounding before slightly concave base. Striae.

Exterior surface soiling, more extensive on the interior, some interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 94. EA1979.627

Flask, first–second century AD

H: 9 cm. Body: 3.5 cm. Rim: 1.5 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Rounded rim, slightly splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Conical body tapering outward, roughly flattened base. Protruding ridge at rim and inner neck. Pinprick bubbles, notable striae. Tooling at constriction.

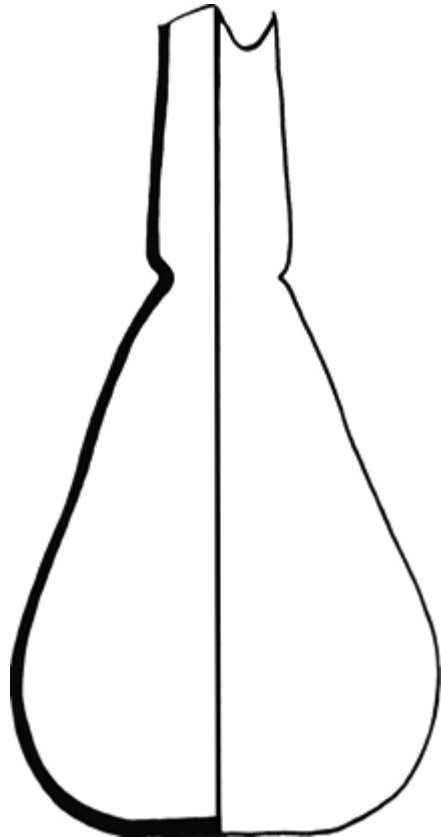
Sections of rim and upper neck missing. Extensive interior weathering, iridescence and accretions. Scaly black weathering with bright silver layer underneath. Cracks in body.



Author Number 95. EA1979.536
Miniature flask, circa first–second century AD
H: 4.6 cm. Body: 1.1 cm. Rim: 1.4 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown miniature flask, green hue, transparent. Folded rim, splayed on one side. Cylindrical neck, constricted before body. Conical body tapering outward, roughly flat base. Slight striae.

Interior accretions and iridescence. Minor exterior surface soiling. Shallow chip from base. Complete.

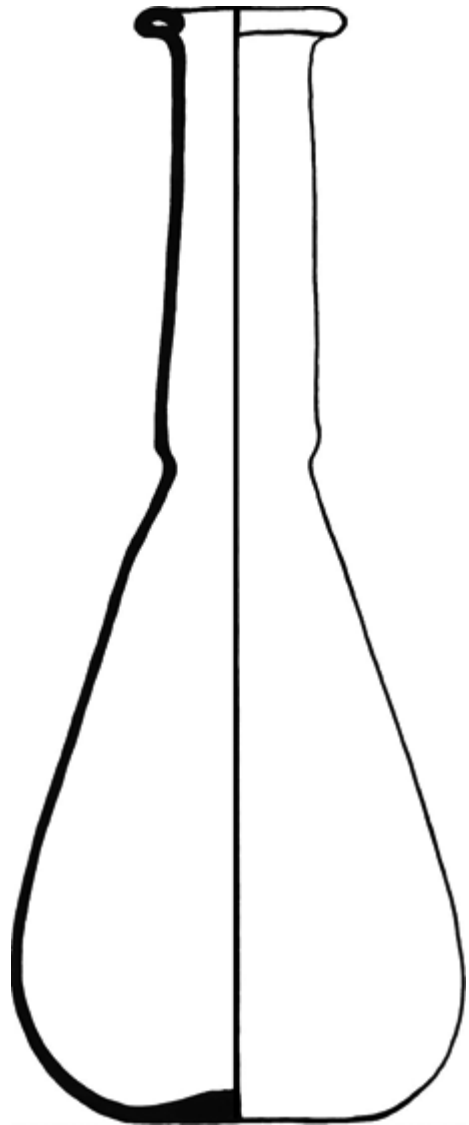


Author Number 96. EA1979.621
Flask, late first–second century AD
H: 11 cm. Body: 5.7 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, tooled before body. Piriform body rounding before flat base.

Surface soiling, largely on interior, slight iridescence on interior. Dulling, minor abrasions and pitting. Neck broken, probably about mid-way.

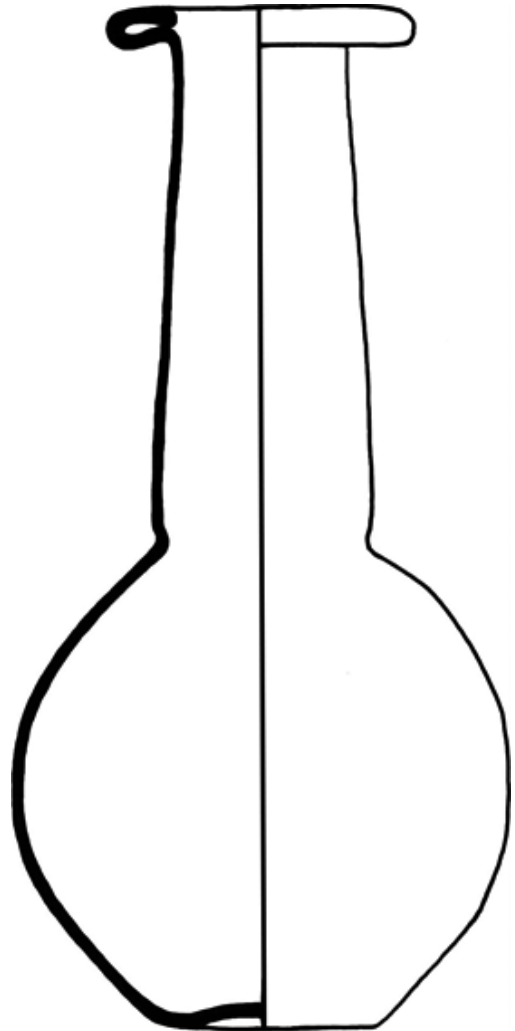
Parallel: Arveiller-Dulong and Nenna, 2005. Number 591



Author Number 97. EA1979.568
Flask, late first–second century AD
H: 14.8 cm. Body: 6 cm. Rim: 2.25 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, slight greenish hue where thicker, otherwise colourless, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, constricted before body. Conical body, flat base with pontil scar. Pinprick bubbles, some striae, tooling at constriction.

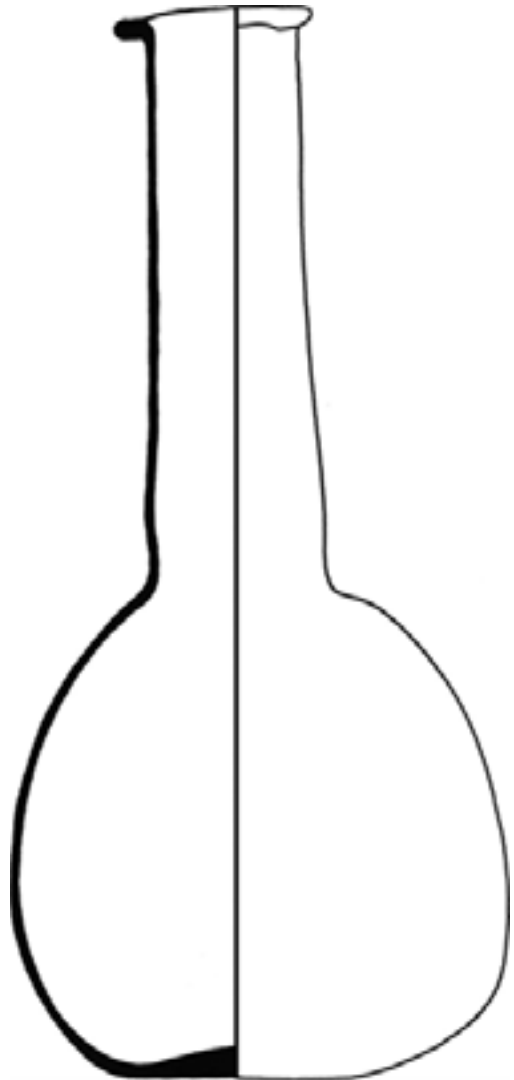
Surface soiling exterior and interior, slight exterior iridescence on body. Complete.



Author Number 98. EA1979.593
Flask, circa second century AD
H: 15.05 cm. Body: 7.3 cm. Rim: 4.3 cm. W: 8 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, very thick, fairly broad lip. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Ovoid body, concave base. Very minor striae.

Interior surface soiling and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 99. EA1979.553

Flask, second century AD

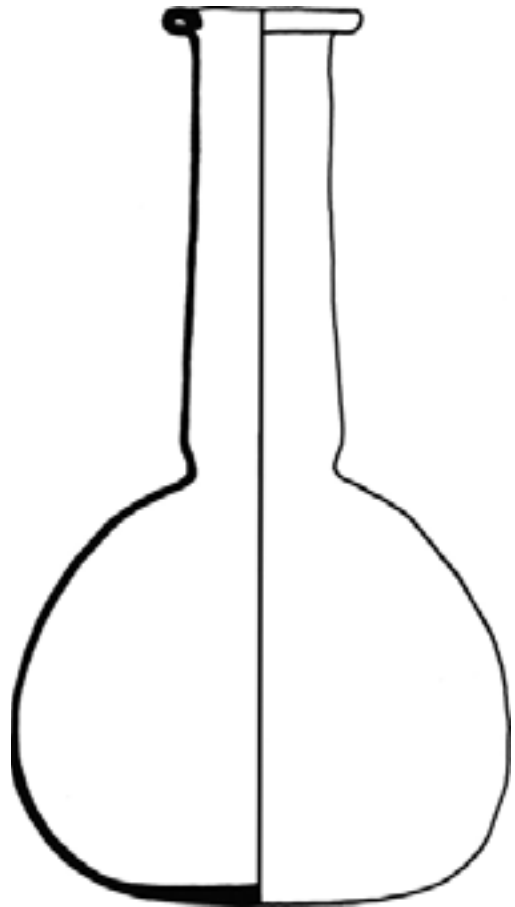
H: 17.8 cm. Body: 8.2 cm. Rim: 3.3 cm

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, yellow-green hue, transparent. Uneven rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, bulbous body, flat base. Extensive striae. Pinprick bubbles.

Surface soiling exterior, soiling and iridescence interior, contains sediment. Complete.

This vessel is missing a label from Damon.



Author Number 100. EA1979.591

Flask, second century AD

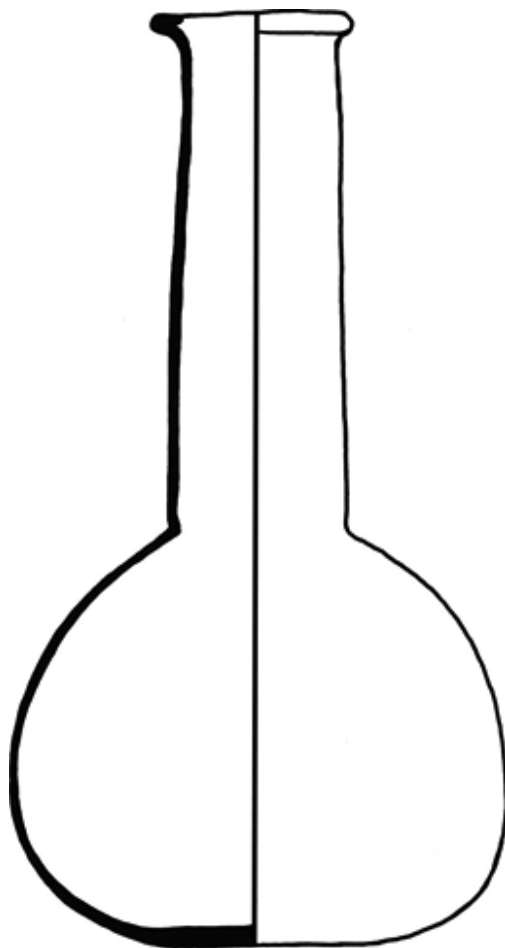
H: 14.6 cm. Body: 8.25 cm. Rim: 3.25 cm. W: 11 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Bulbous body, roughly flat base.

Weathering and iridescence on exterior and interior. Accretions below rim. Complete.



Author Number 101. EA1979.567

Flask, second century AD

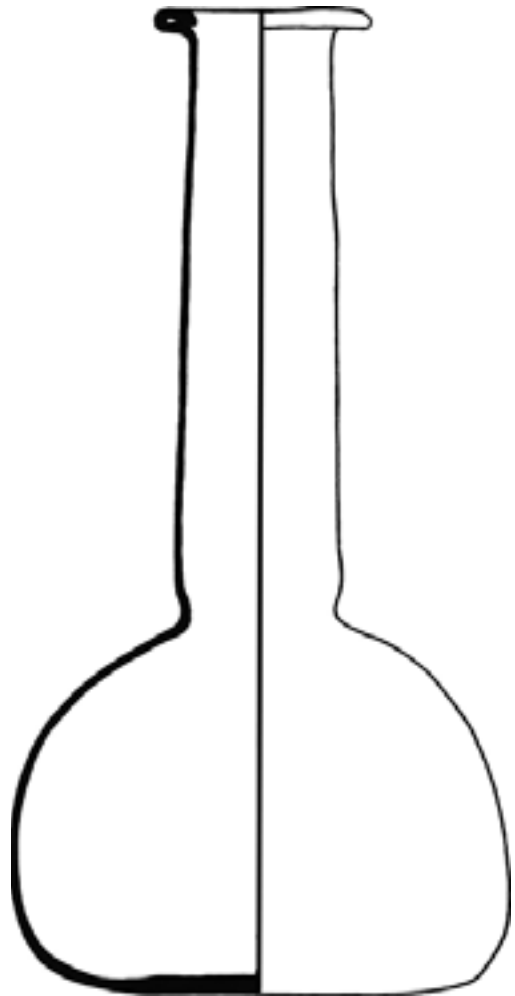
H: 12.8 cm. Body: 6.8 cm. Rim: 2.7 cm. W: 6 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, slightly splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, constricted before body. Bulbous, almost globular body. Flat base. Tooling at constriction. Elongated bubbles in neck, some pinprick bubbles.

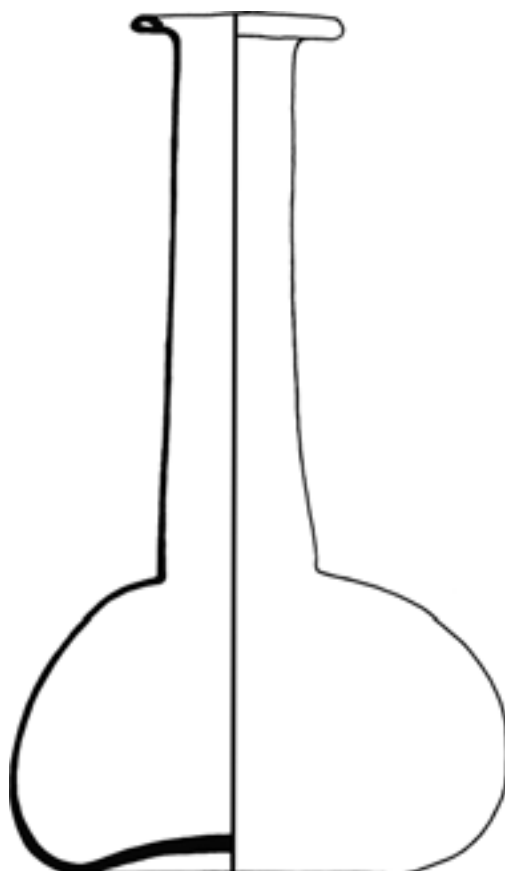
Creamy weathering on exterior. Surface soiling and some iridescence exterior and interior. Complete.



Author Number 102. EA1979.615
Flask, second century AD
H: 17.4 cm. Body: 8.8 cm. Rim: 3.8 cm. W: 10 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Bulbous body, roughly flat base. Some striae.

Surface accretion and iridescence exterior and interior, particularly interior base. Complete.



Author Number 103. EA1979.565

Flask, second century AD

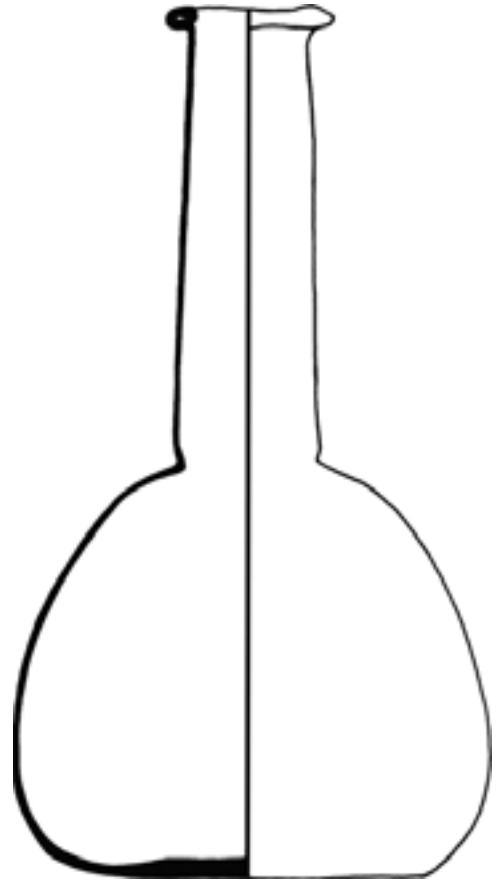
H: 17 cm. Body: 9.85 cm. Rim: 4.15 cm. W: 8 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body on one side (misshapen). Bulbous body, wide concave base, trace of very slightly protruding pontil scar. Neck offline with body. Tooling marks at constriction, pinprick bubbles.

Surface soiling exterior and interior, exterior iridescence. Surface accretions interior neck. Minor pitting. Complete.



Author Number 104. EA1979.563

Flask, second century AD

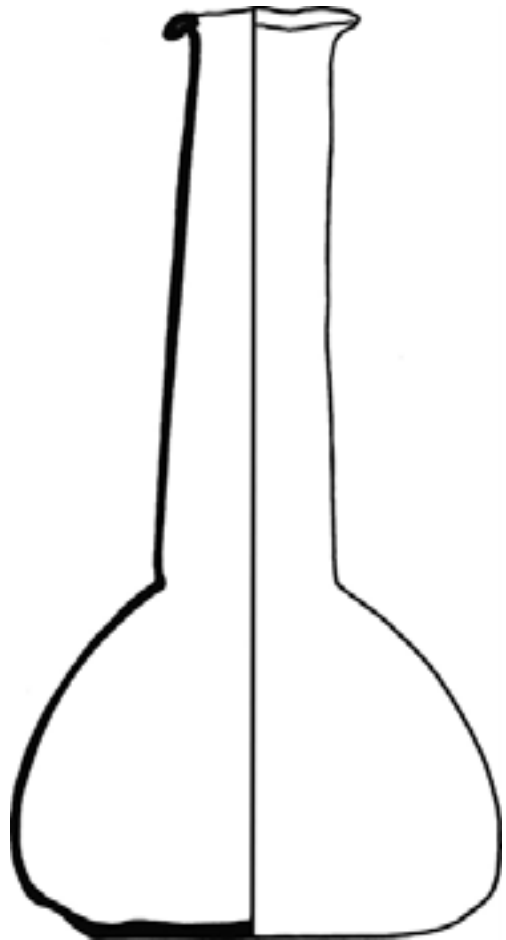
H: 16.8 cm. Body: 9.2 cm. Rim: 3.2 cm. W: 12 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Unevenly folded and roughly flattened rim. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Bulbous body, flat base. Some chill marks on rim. Tooling at constriction. Pinprick bubbles, elongated bubbles in neck.

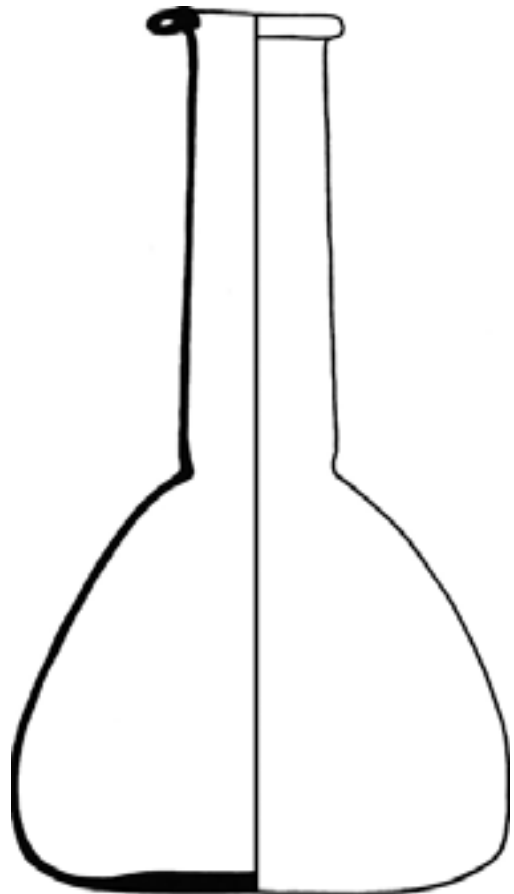
Minor exterior and interior surface soiling, minor accretions exterior neck, accretions below interior rim. Some exterior and interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 105. EA1979.562
Flask, second century AD
H: 15.45 cm. Body: 8.1 cm. Rim: 3.1 cm. W: 7 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Lopsided rim, unevenly folded and roughly flattened. Roughly straight cylindrical neck, bulbous body, flat base. Very few bubbles.

Minor exterior soiling, extensive interior accretions. Interior iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 106. EA1979.564

Flask, second century AD

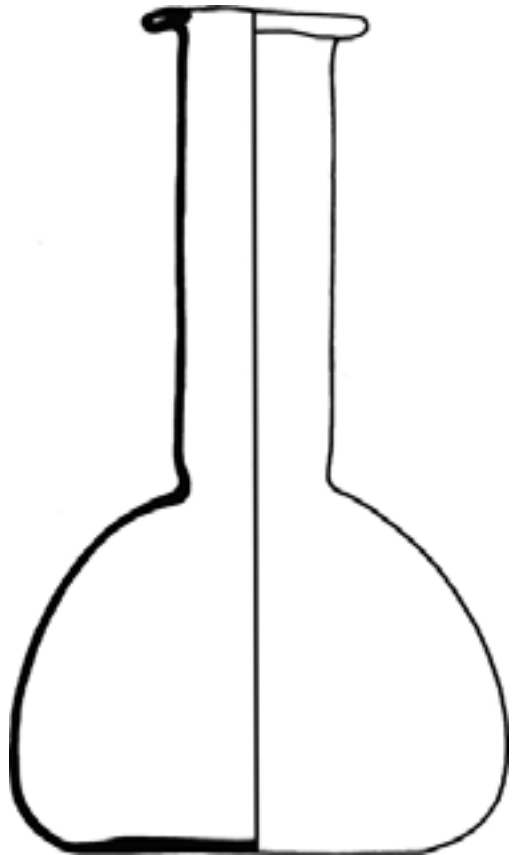
H: 15.3 cm. Body: 8.7 cm. Rim: 3.5 cm. W: 9 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue-green hue, transparent. Folded and roughly flattened rim, sloping on one side, misshapen. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Bulbous body, roughly flat base. Tooling at constriction. Striae and elongated bubbles in neck, body clear. Tooling marks mid body.

Minor exterior surface soiling, interior iridescence and accretions. Complete.



Author Number 107. EA1979.552

Flask, second century AD

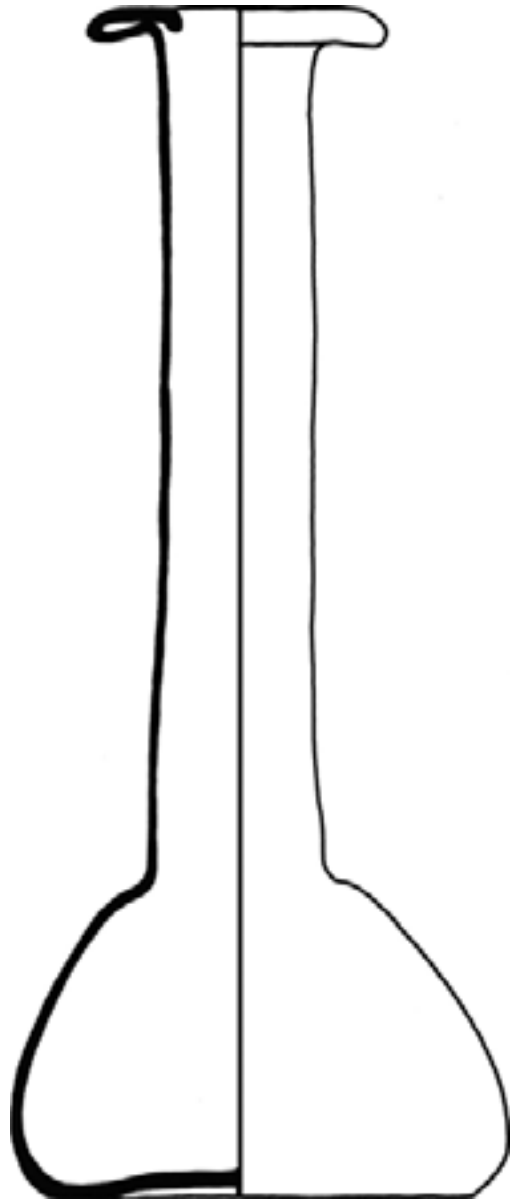
H: 14.6 cm. Body: 8.6 cm. Rim: 3.9 cm. W: 11 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed and slightly lopsided. Cylindrical neck, constricted before body. Bulbous body, roughly flat base. Many bubbles, several large, elongated in the neck.

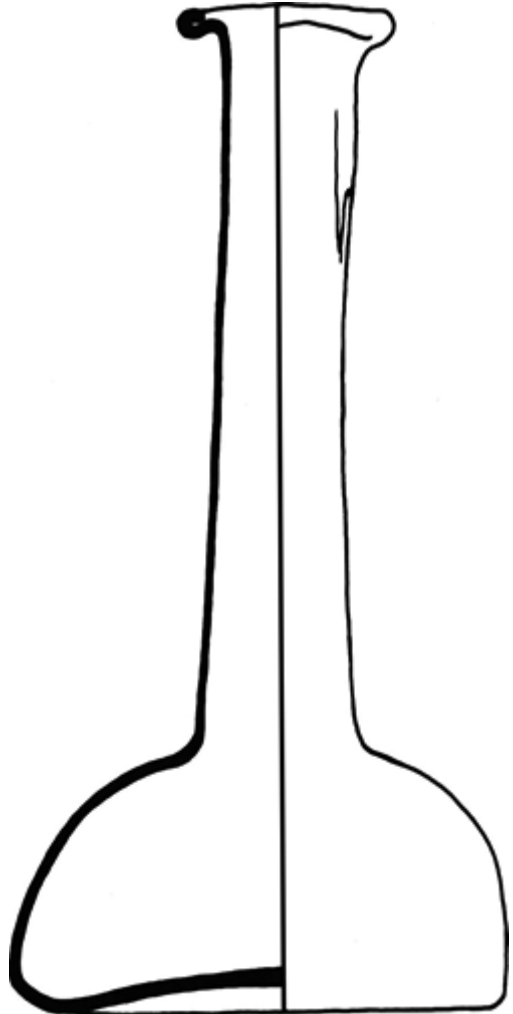
Interior accretions, particularly at the base. Some exterior iridescence, more on the interior. Complete.



Author Number 108. EA1979.616
Flask, second century AD
H: 18.6 cm. Body: 7.8 cm. Rim: 4.7 cm. W: 10 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, very broad lip of uneven width. Cylindrical neck tapering outward, constricted before body. Squat bulbous body, fairly steep sides. Thick base, very slightly concave. Pinprick and elongated bubbles, minor striae.

Minor surface soiling exterior and interior. Complete.



Author Number 109. EA1979.617

Flask, second century AD

H: 13.4 cm. Body: 6.6 cm. Rim: 3.2 cm. W: 4 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, largely colourless, some blue in the rim, transparent. Folded rim, splayed, misshapen. The glass is thickened on one side, stretching down the neck in a blue strip. Cylindrical neck, slightly concave and misshapen. Squat bulbous body, concave base. Some striae, very few pinprick bubbles, one large bubble.

Surface soiling interior and exterior. Weathering and iridescence largely on the interior, patches on the exterior neck. Complete.



Author Number 110. EA1979.566
Flask, second century AD
H: 16.8 cm. Body: 6.1 cm. Rim: 3.9 cm. W: 10 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Thick folded and flattened rim. Cylindrical neck, outward taper, constricted at junction with body on one side (misshapen). Squat bulbous body, slightly concave base. Elongated bubbles in neck and body, some striae.

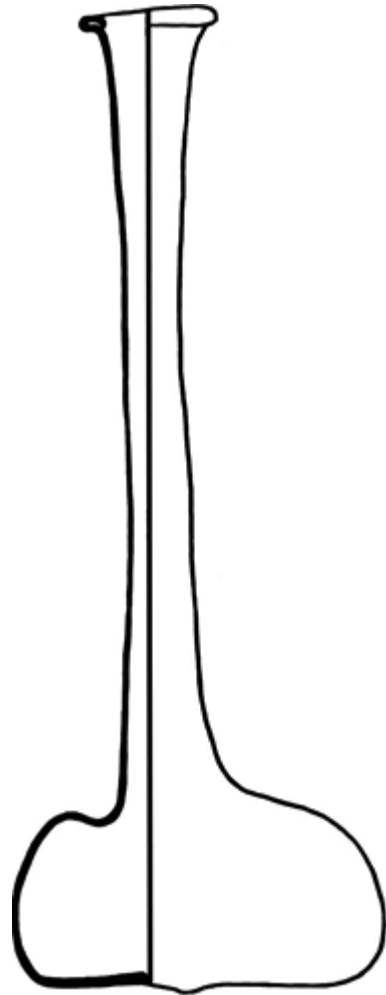
Brown weathering on exterior, especially the rim and upper neck. Contains very small pieces of sediment. Surface accretions on interior neck. Iridescence on interior, especially the neck. Complete.



Author Number 111. EA1979.537
Miniature flask, circa second century AD
H: 4.7 cm. Body: 1.4 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown miniature flask, colourless, transparent. Cylindrical neck tapering slightly outward, constricted before body. Bulbous body, flat base. Pinprick bubbles, slight striae.

Rim missing, missing section at the top of the neck. Weathering and iridescence.



Author Number 112. EA1979.628

Flask, circa second century AD

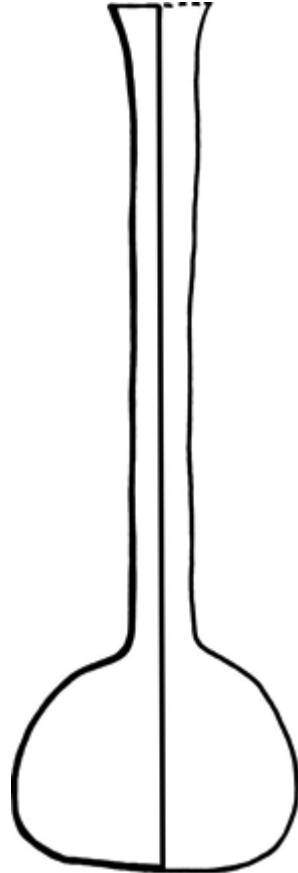
H: 13.1 cm. Body: 4.8 cm. Rim: 1.7 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, mostly colourless; bluish hue and slight green streaks in rim, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Slender slightly concave neck, impression in horizontal shoulder, misshapen. Short squat body, rounded sides, roughly flat base with slight outward central bulge. Bubbles, striae. A few dark specks of other material in the body.

Surface soiling, interior accretions and iridescence. Complete.



Author Number 113. EA1979.531

Flask, circa second century AD

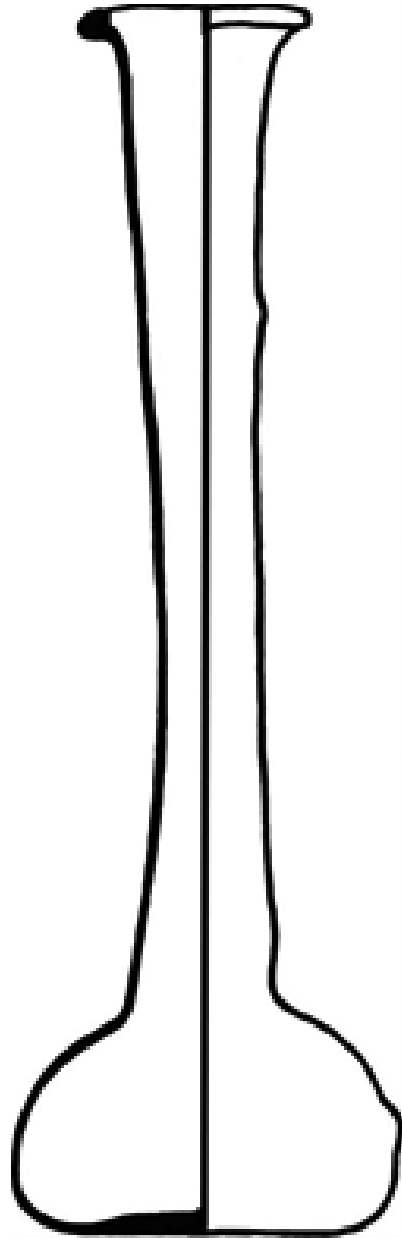
H: 11.5 cm. Body: 3.8 cm. Rim: 1.3 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Rounded rim, very slightly splayed. Slender, slightly concave neck, off-centre to body. Squat globular body, roughly flat base. Does not stand upright.

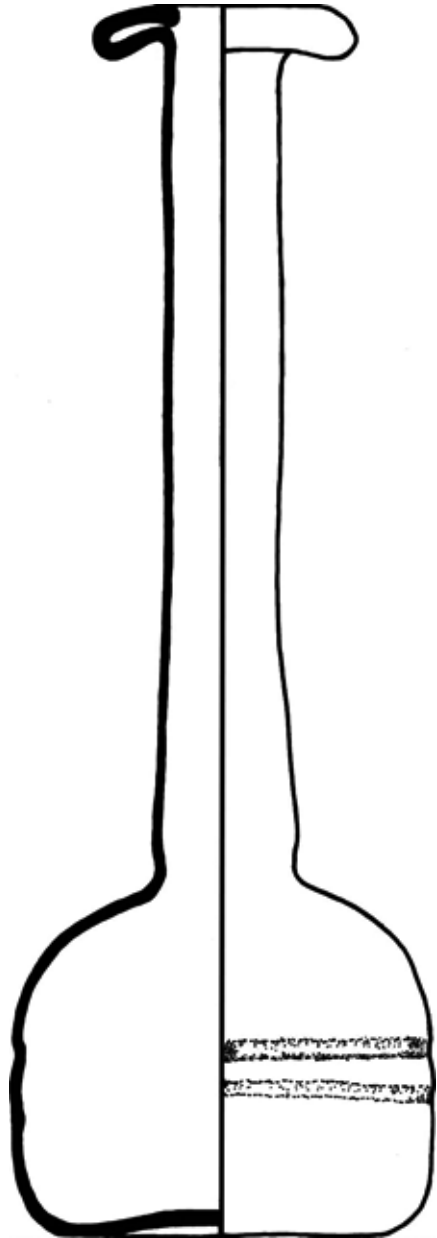
Rim and top of neck missing a fragment, otherwise complete. Surface accretions neck and body exterior and interior, iridescence mostly on interior.



Author Number 114. EA1979.512
Flask, circa second century AD
H: 10.4 cm. Body: 3.3 cm. Rim: 1.95 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, slightly sloping, splayed. Slender concave neck, tooled before body. Squat bulbous body, flat base. Protruding ridge on body. Slight pontil scar. Extensive striae, pinprick bubbles.

Two holes in body, otherwise complete. Interior weathering and iridescence, minor accretions. Exterior soiling.



Author Number 115. EA1979.590

Flask, second–third century AD

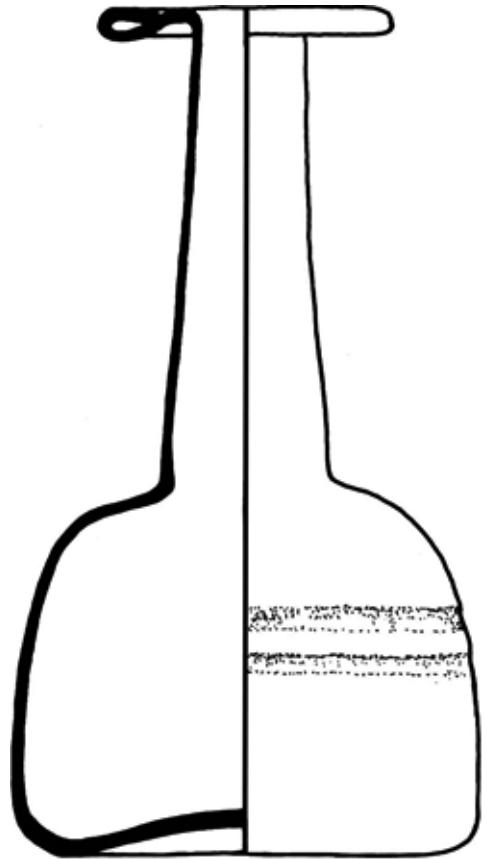
H: 17 cm. Body: 5.8 cm. Rim: 3.6 cm. W: 9 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and roughly flattened rim with slight upward slope towards interior edge. Concave neck, long and narrow, tooled before body. Bulbous body, concave base. Two wheel cut grooves on mid body. Slight striae, very narrow elongated bubbles.

Dulling, minor surface soiling. Interior iridescence and accretions. Complete.



Author Number 116. EA1979.561

Flask, second–third century AD

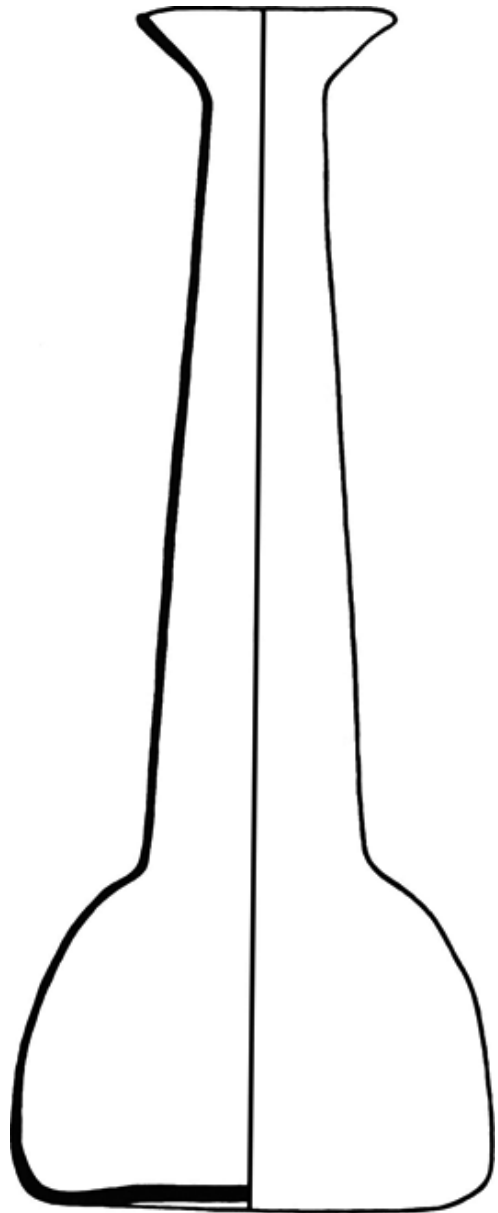
H: 11.6 cm. Body: 6.5 cm. Rim: 4.05 cm. W: 8 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed, broad lip. Narrow cylindrical neck tapering outwards, constricted before body. Bulbous, almost cylindrical body, concave base. Two shallow, wheel cut grooves at mid body. Pinprick bubbles, thin elongated bubbles in neck, extensive striae.

Interior weathering and iridescence. Minor exterior surface soiling. Complete.



Author Number 117. EA1979.618

Flask, third–fourth century AD

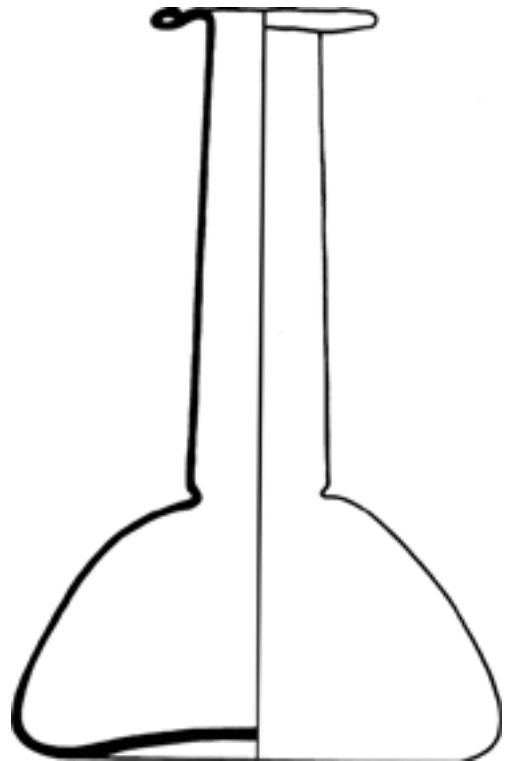
H: 17.4 cm. Body: 7 cm. Rim: 3.7 cm. W: 6 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, blue hue where thicker, otherwise colourless, transparent. Funnel mouth, cracked off and polished rim. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, squat bulbous body, very slightly concave base. Some slight striae.

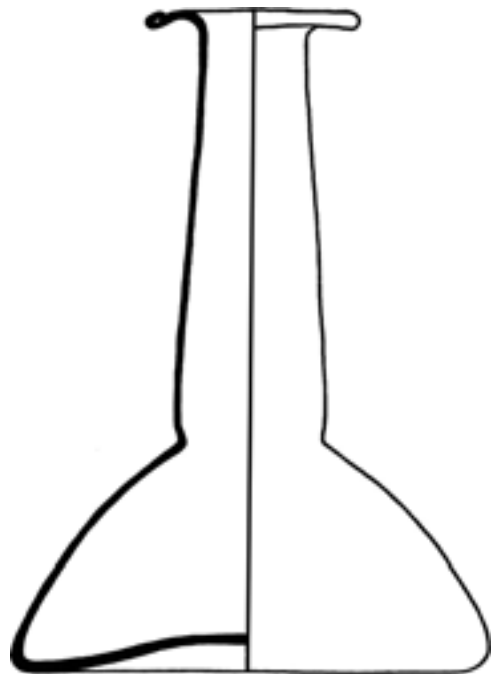
Weathering and iridescence exterior and interior. Complete.



Author Number 118. EA1979.555
Flask, second–third century AD
H: 15 cm. Body: 9.8 cm. Rim: 4.55 cm. W: 6 g
Said to be from Cyprus
Damon Collection (1873)

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, constricted before body. Squat conical body, broad concave base. Some bubbles in neck, few striae. Tooling at constriction.

Exterior and interior surface accretions. Interior iridescence, particularly on base and body. Complete.



Author Number 119. EA1979.554

Flask, second–third century AD

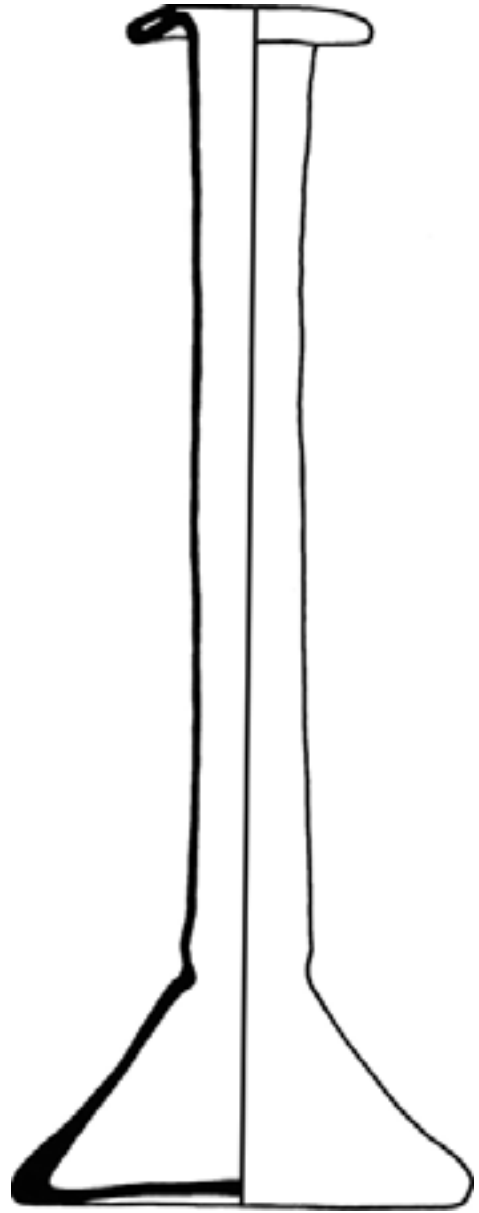
H: 13 cm. Body: 9.5 cm. Rim: 4.1 cm. W: 6 g

Said to be from Cyprus

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck tapering outwards, constricted before squat, conical body. Concave base. Striae, pinprick bubbles.

Surface accretions exterior and interior. Small patches of iridescence on lower body and neck, more extensive on interior base. Dulling, brown weathering, flaking off. Complete.



Author Number 120. EA1979.507
Flask, second–third century AD
H: 19.3 cm. Body: 7.4 cm. Rim: 3.7 cm. W: 12 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown, emerald green tint, translucent. Folded rim, slightly sloping. Fairly broad lip. Cylindrical neck, long and narrow, subtly concave. Steeply sloping, squat, conical body, concave base. Pontil scar with some protrusion. Elongated bubbles, striae, tooling marks at constriction.

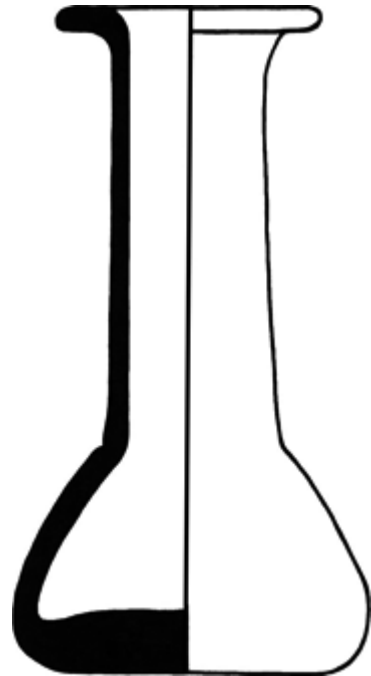
Surface soiling exterior and interior, extensive iridescence appearing silver on interior, some patches on exterior body and base. Some pitting. Complete.



Author Number 121. EA1979.607
Flask, second–third century AD
H: 9.9 cm. Body: 5.55 cm. Rim: 4.2 cm. W: 19 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1879)

Blown flask (possibly mould blown), emerald green tint, translucent. Rounded rim, flattened, splayed. Slightly concave neck, squat conical body, roughly flat base with pontil scar. Striae.

Minor surface soiling exterior and interior, iridescence interior neck, some on body. Complete.



Author Number 122. EA1979.595

Flask, second–third century AD

H: 8.85 cm. Body: 4.75 cm. Rim: 3.85 cm. W: 13 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (1881)

Blown flask (possibly mould-blown), emerald green tint, translucent. Slightly concave neck, squat conical body. Slightly concave base with pontil scar, deeper impression about it. Pinprick bubbles. Entirely covered in striae, creating rippling surface.

Hole in one layer of the base, shallow pitting, Minor surface soiling, mainly interior. Possibly some iridescence on interior neck. Complete.



Author Number 123. EA1979.508

Flask, circa second–third century AD

H: 6.5 cm. Body: 2.5 cm. Rim: 2.6 cm. W: 3 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Fire-rounded rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, slightly concave, tooled before body. High conical body, thick flattened base. Striae, bubbles in rim.

Creamy weathering on interior neck and both sides of rim. Weathering and accretions on exterior base. Interior iridescence. Cracks in body, otherwise complete.



Author Number 124. EA1979.630
Miniature flask, circa second–third century AD
H: 3.7 cm. Body: 2.2 cm. Rim: 2.2 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Sidon
Damon Collection (1881)

Free-blown miniature flask, blue hue, transparent. Unevenly folded rim, quite steep. Cylindrical neck, roughly straight, tapers seamlessly to bulbous body, rounding before concave base with pontil scar.

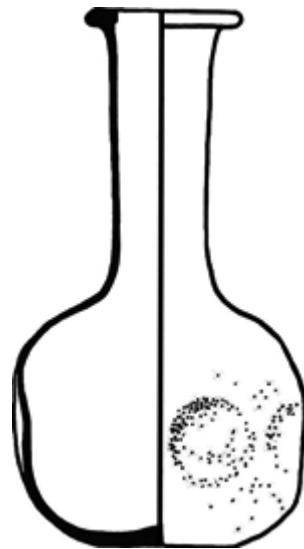
Minor exterior weathering and iridescence. Interior weathering, iridescence, and accretions. Dulling. Complete.



Author Number 125. EA1979.626
Flask, circa third–fourth century AD
H: 7.4 cm. Body: 3.7 cm. Rim: 2.25 cm. W: 1 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless with burgundy streaks, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed, misshapen. Constricted below the rim more on one side than the other. Cylindrical neck, slightly concave. Bulbous body with five deep impressions midway. Small roughly flattened base. Extensive striae, several bubbles, many very large.

Large holes in the centre of two impressions, one hole on the edge of an impression, another hole related to a bubble. Otherwise complete. Interior weathering, accretions, and iridescence.



Author Number 126. EA1979.623

Flask, circa third–fourth century AD

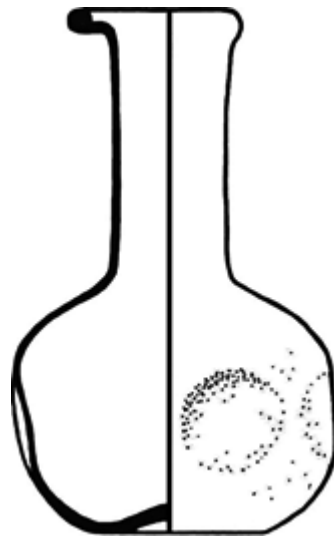
H: 7.15 cm. Body: 3.85 cm. Rim: 2.1 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, sloping slightly downward toward the interior, splayed. Long cylindrical neck, slightly concave. Globular body, concave base. Band of eight roughly circular impressions at the middle of the body, unevenly spaced. Very few pinprick bubbles.

Surface soiling exterior and interior, interior weathering, iridescence, some accretions. Complete.



Author Number 127. EA1979.624

Flask, circa third–fourth century AD

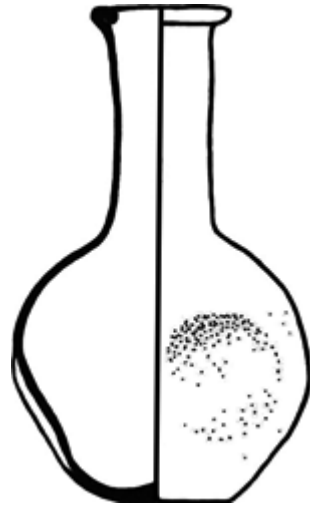
H: 7 cm. Body: 4.3 cm. Rim: 2.2 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Sidon

Damon Collection (September 1881)

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Unevenly folded rim, splayed on one side. Cylindrical neck, very slightly concave. Globular body with roughly circular impressions in band midway. Very slightly concave base. Bubbles, several large.

Exterior and interior accretions, exterior weathering and iridescence. Dulling, shallow pitting. Complete.



Author Number 128. EA1979.625

Flask, circa third–fourth century AD

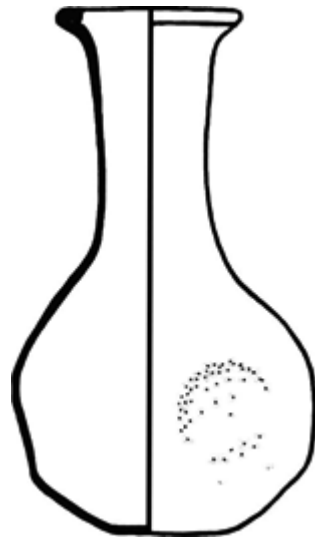
H: 7 cm. Body: 4 cm. Rim: 2.4 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless, transparent. Folded rim, slightly splayed. Cylindrical neck, roughly straight. Globular body with very shallow circular impressions in band across body, unevenly spaced. Flat base. Pinprick bubbles.

Extensive surface soiling exterior and interior, significant iridescence, largely on interior and exterior neck. Crack in rim, otherwise complete.



Author Number 129. EA1979.587

Flask, circa third–fourth century AD

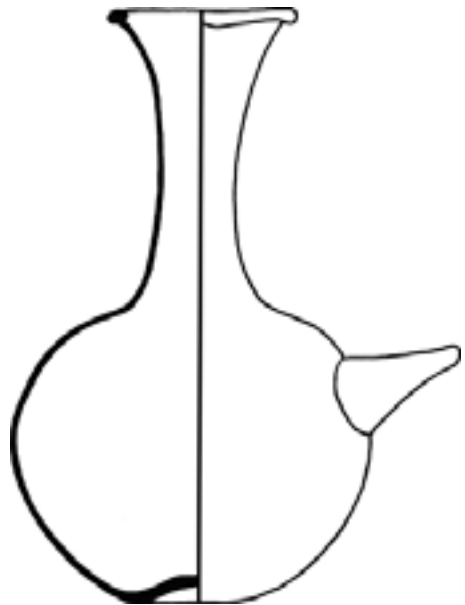
H: 6.6 cm. Body: 3.9 cm. Rim: 1.85 cm. W: 1 g

Said to be from Tyre.

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, colourless or very slightly bluish hue, transparent. Folded and roughly flattened rim with inward slope, slightly splayed. Slightly concave cylindrical neck. Bulbous body with band of roughly circular impressions midway, roughly flattened base. Pinprick bubbles, slight striae.

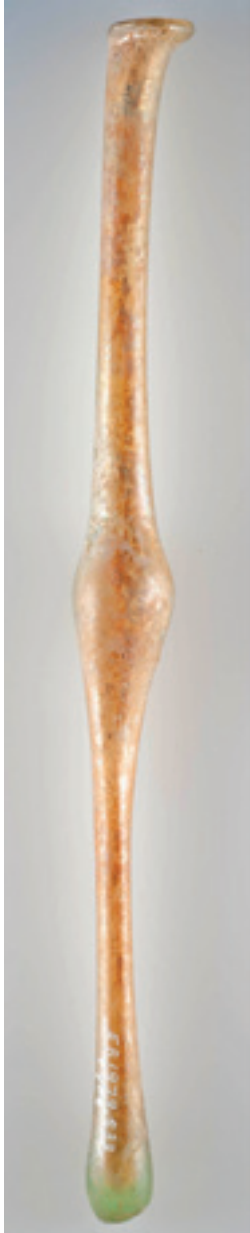
Interior and exterior weathering and soiling. Interior iridescence. Small hole in body, otherwise complete.



Author Number 130. EA1979.636
Pourer flask, third–fourth century AD
H: 10.6 cm. Body: 6.85 cm. Rim: 3.3 cm. W: 4 g
Said to be from a tomb at Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded rim, funnel mouth. Cylindrical neck, roughly straight on one side, concave on side with spout. Narrow shoulder, globular body, concave base. Short spout applied to body just above midway point. Bubbles, pinprick bubbles, striae.

Surface soiling, surface accretions exterior and interior, iridescence on interior, particularly neck. Repaired cracks at top of body around neck, over shoulder. Edge of spout chipped, soiling and iridescence on interior, accretions. Otherwise complete.



Author Number 131. EA1979.538

Flask, third–fourth century AD

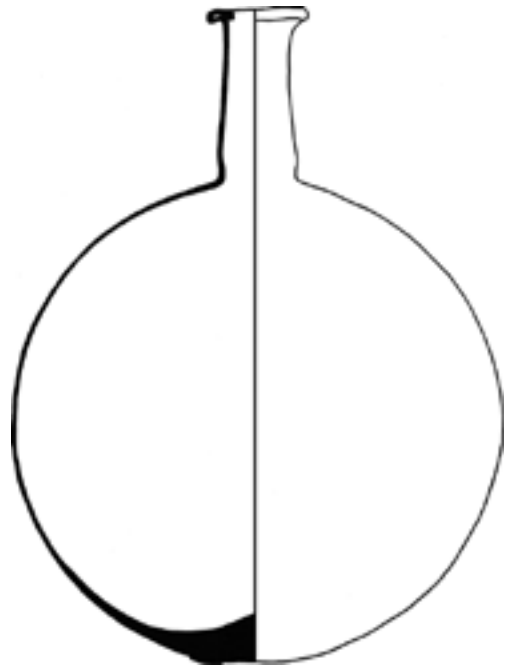
H: 23.8 cm. Body: 2 cm. Rim: 1.7 cm. W: 2 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown vial, green hue, transparent. Misshapen folded rim, splayed on one side. Fusiform: narrow concave neck, small piriform body, long concave extension, broadening and rounding to thick base with pontil scar. Striae and narrow elongated bubbles.

Surface soiling and iridescence exterior and interior. Chips around base associated with pontil scar. Complete.



Author Number 132. C1956.133.1

Flask, third-fourth century AD

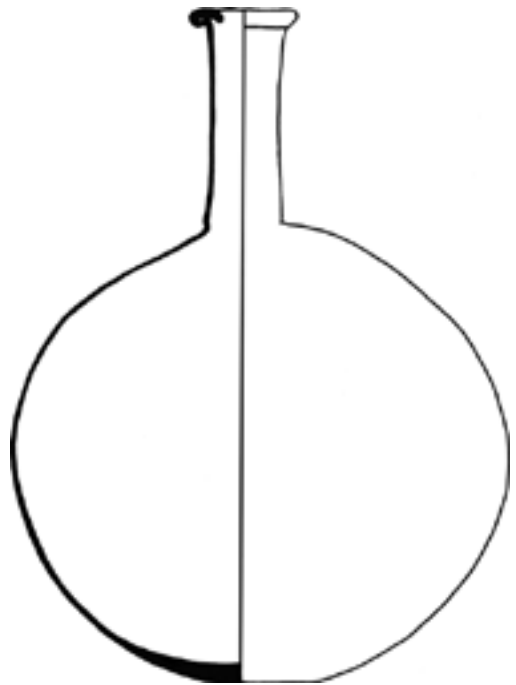
H: 21.4 cm. Body: 16 cm. Rim: 3.25 cm. W: 18 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, green hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, splayed. Cylindrical neck, outward taper, constricted at body. Flattened globular body. Protruding pontil scar, clearly separate glass wrapped around bottom edge to avoid pontil damage to the vessel. Not evenly flattened. Slight striae.

Chip in base, otherwise complete. Minor exterior surface soiling on one side, other covered in accretions on body, neck and lip. Interior iridescence and accretions. Minor pitting on body near base, some deeper pits.



Author Number 133. C1951.133.2

Flask, third–fourth century AD

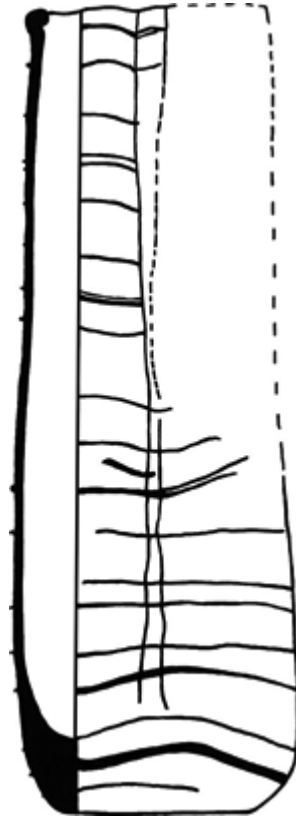
H: 18.3 cm. Body: 13 cm. Rim: 2.95 cm. W: 14 g

Said to be from Tyre

Damon Collection

Free-blown flask, blue hue, transparent. Folded and flattened rim, fairly broad lip, splayed. Cylindrical neck, roughly straight. Globular body, flattened (15 mm thick). Striae, bubbles, some large.

Missing section from lower side of body. Crack in shoulder, chip in base. Surface soiling, some exterior, largely on interior. Interior iridescence.



Author Number 134. EA1979.542
Double kohl flask, fourth century AD
H: 11.3 cm. Body: 3.85 cm. Rim: 1.5 cm. W: 5 g
Said to be from Tyre
Damon Collection

Free-blown kohl flask, green hue, transparent. Narrow flattened and folded rim. Cylindrical body, slightly concave, rounded at the base on the interior. Exterior base is thick, with a flattened and polished bottom. A very fine trail was wound around both tubes. Some striae and pinprick bubbles.

Half of one tube is missing, as are several sections of the trail. There is a hole at the seam of the remaining tube, where it joined the other. Minor exterior soiling, interior weathering and iridescence.