

mostly of a domestic type. The rare tableware sherds include primarily Assuan products (mostly Hayes 91), but also plates of Nile silt without distinguished rim which seem to have been inspired by some more or less unspecified forms of Late Roman pottery. The pottery from Upper Egypt is represented by two pieces: a cup decorated at its widest point with pairs of red and black dots on a cream slip and a conical cup (a chalice) decorated in the same colours, depicting a flying bird (Fig. 6). An interesting sherd with decoration is the upper part of a large storage jar on which birds are shown. Analogous vessels are on display in the Coptic Museum in Cairo; they are biconical, on a ring base, with four handles set at equal intervals around the maximum diameter. The decoration on these vessels includes fish and other animals beside birds.

An interesting group are fragments of plates with bowls made of Nile silt. Most of them are unfortunately very small fragments. Two of the plates could be reconstructed sufficiently to permit the whole shape to be recorded (Fig. 7). On each of the plates there was a central larger depression around which there were four additional bowl-like depressions; of these just one was preserved in each case. All the sherds of this type are covered with a light slip (beige or white), while some fragments are further decorated with brown or red paint. These plates do not form a homogeneous group; the clay is different, as is the colour of the slip and the form of the rims. All this would suggest that the plates are not morphologically homogeneous and that they need not have been created at one time or in one workshop. Perhaps when compared with fragments of compound vessels discovered at Naqlun it will be possible to draw closer to