Miscellaneous Objects

Pottery, jewellery, weapons, and furniture are the most common items found in burial contexts. Tools were also sometimes deposited in graves, stone tools having been found in Neolithic burials (Arkell 1949). Clothing would have been another significant item associated with the burial and the body itself. From early times, cloth has enjoyed considerable importance in Sudanic contexts (Edwards 2004, 169–170). Nubians in the time of the A-Group and C-Group wore leather and linen loincloths, belts, and sandals. The Kerma graves included items of leather, linen, and wool. Leather seems to have been the most popular material for clothing. Linen in fine and coarse weaves was found in most of the Kerma graves. In the Meroitic period, Nubians also adorned themselves in finely embroidered woven garments made from high-quality cotton and silk imported from China (Haynes 1992, 44–52) (see also Figs 1 and 3, at the end of this volume). Organic materials, clothes, and accessories were also deposited in post-Meroitic graves (Edwards and Rose 1998; Lenoble 2018). Traces of leather and textiles survived in the graves at El-Zuma, but only in vestigial form, making it impossible to conclude what items they represented. The dead were not buried naked but covered, as seen in type I tumuli, in which the body was wrapped in a shroud and placed on a bed (see Volume I, Chapter 3). Fragments of wood, which are difficult to interpret, may also have come from burial equipment. This chapter presents a variety of grave furnishings that are hard to identify.

The first group of finds [Cat. 1–4] presented here are stone artefacts whose function is difficult to determine. The second group [Cat. 5–33] consists of metal objects: a handle, part of a pair of shears, chisel fragments, and a group of unidentified items of metalwork. The last group [Cat. 34–40] comprises organic material, including leather, *tabaq* remains, wooden artefacts, and fragments of glass. Most of the artefacts presented below were found not *in situ* but in the fill of shafts or tunnels, displaced by robber activity and in a poor state of preservation, especially in the case of the metal objects, which makes it impossible to identify them. This chapter presents various objects of different functions. A discussion of each category is provided immediately after the description of the artefacts.

1 Miscellaneous Objects: Description of the Material

1.1 *Stone Artefacts*

1.1.1 Material

Z16/13 [Cat. 1] is a stone ring recovered from a robber hole in tumulus 16. The ring measures approximately 10–11.2 cm in diameter and 2.9–3.6 cm in thickness; a hole of around 2.5 cm in diameter was pierced in the middle of the stone. The ring is made of sandstone containing a large quantity of coarse quartz, and its surface is uneven and weathered. This artefact was published in a previous archaeological report as a sandstone ring without any post-Meroitic parallels. Because it was found in a robber hole at the top of the superstructure, it is very possible that stone ring Z16/13 did not come from tumulus 16 (Mahmoud El-Tayeb, Juszczak-Futkowska, and Czyżewska 2014, 366). It probably found its way into the grave by accident as a result of robber activity, and it is difficult to ascribe an exact date to this artefact because of the lack of context. Interesting examples, very similar in shape and size to Z16/13, were found during excavation at the Mesolithic site at Khartoum Hospital, where the excavator suggested that the hole in these stone rings could have been used for shaping bone or wooden shafts, and that some of the rings may have been made from grinders. Most of them were found broken (Arkell 1949, 63, Pls 34; 35:2,3; 36:8). A stone ring was also found at the settlement at Saggai, located 40 km from Khartoum and dated to the same period as Early Khartoum (Caneva and Zarattini 1984, 302, 305, Fig. 4). Such examples are also known from the Late Neolithic sites of Rabob (Fernández et al. 2003, 238–239, Fig. 41:1,2) and Qalaat Shanan (Nassr Hmad 2015, 162–163, Fig. 4). Stone rings dating from later periods include examples found in Lower Nubia (at Agordat) and attributed to the C-Group Culture (Arkell 1954, 36, 39, 62, Fig. 4:1). Similar finds dating from the Meroitic period were found at Jebel Moya (Addison 1949, 163–164, Pl. LXXIIIa).

Z3/13 [Cat. 2, see also Fig. 18.5] could be some form of tool. A similar polished stone was found at the Mesolithic Early Khartoum site and described as an axe (Arkell 1949, 112). Various types of tools were placed in graves from the Neolithic period onwards.

Z6/4 and Z6/5 [Cat. 3 and Cat. 4, see also Fig. 18.5] are difficult to identify, though they appear to be decorative items. They were found in the W tunnel of tumulus 6, close

to the pillars running along the centre of the tunnel. The two objects are made of the same material as the rock into which the tunnels were cut. These were the only two artefacts of this type discovered at the site. There are no parallels from other tumuli at El-Zuma or any other archaeological sites. No trace of any such object was found in the other tumuli provided with tunnels (type 1). The closest analogy from post-Meroitic graves, dated to AD 450–550, was found in Gabati, where an oval sandstone item with incised motif was used as a blocking slab (Edwards 1998, 115, 122, Fig. 5.5 T5/54S).

1.1.2 Discussion and Conclusions

The objects described above were not found *in situ*. Stone ring Z16/13 was found in a robber hole in a type II tumulus, while sandstone items Z6/4 and Z6/5 were found in the tunnel of a type I tumulus, and the possible tool Z3/13 was found in the W chamber of a type I tumulus. Stone ring Z16/13 was probably deposited in the grave by accident when the burial was looted, and its exact date cannot be determined because of the lack of context.

Artefact Z3/13, described here as a tool, could be an axe or another kind of tool.

1.2 Metal Artefacts

1.2.1 Material

Among the identified metal artefacts is a copper handle (Z5/9) from a metal bowl, an iron chisel (Z11/36) and part of a pair of shears (Z4/25).

Copper handle Z5/9 [Cat. 5, see also Fig. 18.5] came from a metal vessel and is the only example of its type found at El-Zuma. Metal bowls with handles of different forms and shapes are known from other Meroitic and post-Meroitic sites. Bronze bowls with handles were discovered at El-Hobagi III and IV and dated to the 4th century AD (Lenoble 2018, 84–85, nos. 101, 164, Figs 40, 84–85).

Z4/71 and Z4/86 [Cat. 7 and Cat. 8] are two decorated hoops of identical size and shape. They have an inside diameter of 4 cm, which is too small for a bracelet (Robert Mahler, personal communication). The closest analogies to hoops of this type were found at Qasr Ibrim in house X-17, dated to the X-Group period. They were of similar dimensions to the examples from El-Zuma and served as the handles of a heavy bronze basin (Plumley, Adams, and Crowfoot 1977, 43, Pl. 5:1,2).

An interesting artefact is copper alloy strip Z24/44 [Cat. 6, see also Fig. 18.5]. This grooved strip brings to mind metal bowls with grooved decoration below the rim; however, the walls of these vessels are 3–4 mm thick, while the strip is only 0.5 mm thick and its upper edge is inverted, suggesting that it may have been attached to

another object. There are no known examples of metal bowls with components reminiscent of this strip, but we do have examples of stone jars with applied metal features, although none of them bear a resemblance to this item of metalwork, so we cannot say with any certainty what this object was.

Iron chisel fragment Z11/36 [Cat. 10] has a preserved length of 5.8 cm. The original length is hard to estimate, but it was probably not less than 9–10 cm, meaning that it would have fitted in the palm of the hand. The preserved diameter is relatively small and amounts to 1.3 cm. The cutting edge of the chisel is only 0.7 cm and the angle of the blade is 75 degrees. The blade angle suggests a tool for working in harder materials such as very hard wood, medium-hard stone, or soft metal.

Z4/25 comprises two fragments from a pair of shears [Cat. 9] found in the W tunnel in tumulus 4. One fragment is an almost complete, single-edged blade with a triangular cross-section, a sharp cutting edge and a thick, hefty spine measuring 0.9 cm. In addition to the blade itself, a very slightly curved bow survives, which was identified and glued to the blade. The bow is a characteristic feature of shears. The whole artefact, including the bow, has a length of 9.6 cm, and it seems that the original blade was not much longer, and quite narrow (3.2 cm at its widest point). The blade is triangular, and its spine creates a straight line with the bow. This is another feature that testifies to the fact that we are dealing with scissors and not a typical knife. Only a small fragment of the middle section, broken off at both ends, survives of the second blade.

Among the numerous metal items discovered at the El-Zuma cemetery there is a large group of unidentified objects that cannot be classified, but is interesting and therefore worth presenting. Most of the unidentified material described in this chapter cannot be meaningfully analysed. The state of preservation is the main stumbling block. Heavily corroded metal artefacts, such as those made of iron, do not retain their original shape or mass. This makes them difficult to analyse. It is often impossible to determine whether all fragments found in a given group belong to one or many objects. Yet the presentation of this material is still important. It shows that the graves were not empty, and even where no significant objects were found, there was some burial equipment made of iron inside the grave. Even when the object itself is unidentified, sometimes, the dimensions of preserved fragments can tell us whether it was small or large.

In at least a few cases, these unidentified fragments are larger than, for example, nails or fittings [e.g. Cat. 28, Z4/94; Cat. 17, Z4/142; Cat. 18, Z7/18]. Although we cannot say what these items were, we can rule out certain

categories. We can also make some suggestions based on analogies from other graves at El-Zuma, and even other Early Makurian cemeteries. Small fragments of less than 1 cm are virtually unidentifiable. Sometimes, if they appear in a grave together with other iron objects that are damaged but recognizable, we can assume that we are dealing with their fragments, though not always. In contrast, the largest fragments, with at least two dimensions exceeding 2 cm [e.g. Cat. 22, Z26/91], are open to a greater number of interpretations.

1.2.2 Discussion and Conclusions

Iron chisel Z11/36 from T.11, although found in chamber 1 of this tumulus, was not necessarily part of the original burial equipment, and may have been left there by grave robbers. The chisel was found badly damaged and incomplete. Even though nearly every item of ironwork recorded at El-Zuma was found in a similar condition due to corrosion and robber activity, it cannot be ruled out that this chisel was discarded in the grave when already damaged. It may have been used by the looters during the robbery, like the 11 ceramic scrapers they left in this tumulus (see Volume 11, Chapters 4 and 5). A tool of this type could be used to perform various tasks, such as making the overlapping corner joints of a chest. Its size suggests that it would have been suitable for shaping the thumb hole of an archer's ring, although these were usually fashioned using drill bits and files rather than chisels. The chisel could also have been used to incise a pattern on the surface of an object made of a softer metal, for example, a copper alloy, or for engraving letters in soft stone. Finding this fragment in T.11 is a mystery, all the more so given that there was no sign of a hammer which would have been used in conjunction with the chisel. Several chisels were found at the cemetery in Ballana (Emery and Kirwan 1938, 327–339, Fig. 110) and dated to the 4th–5th century AD. Iron chisels were also recorded at Musawwarat es-Sufra (Rehren 1996, 22, Fig. 2), where they were dated to between the 3rd century BC and 4th century AD. Some chisel-like objects were also found at Abu Geili in Funj grave 400/25 and dated to AD 1500–1700 (Crawford and Addison 1951, 25).

The Z4/25 shears from T.4 were heavily damaged. However, the extant fragment of a slightly curved hoop at the end of the blade allowed this item to be identified as part of a pair of shears. Shears of this type were discovered in one of the graves at the cemetery in Qustul (Emery and Kirwan 1938, 327–339). A similar object was found in Karanog and dated to the 1st–5th century AD (Woolley and Randall-MacIver 1910, 66, Pls 35–36). A fragment of iron shears was also found in Meroe in grave W5 (Dunham 1963, 118, Fig. 91 J). The solid proportions of the blade indicate

that we are dealing with an industrial tool (for cutting large sheets of material or shearing animals) rather than a pair of scissors for personal hygiene.

At first glance, it seems that there is only one example of a tool that may have been deliberately deposited as a grave good, namely the shears. The chisel deposited without a hammer or mallet would not have been usable on its own. Unfortunately, the only metal objects other than the chisel found in T.11 were a javelin fragment and bed-frame fittings with nails.

The unidentified metal objects most likely represent weapons, which were very popular items of burial equipment and were predominantly made of iron. The most common large weapons are spears, long combat knives and axes. Artefacts attributable to the first two categories were recorded at El-Zuma (see Chapter 14, this volume; Zieliński 2014); however, no axes were found at this cemetery, although they have been noted at other sites of the period, among them El-Hobagi (Lenoble 2018, 220, 244). This example is particularly important because, despite being far away from El-Zuma, in many aspects (and above all in its metalwork assemblage) El-Hobagi is extremely similar to El-Zuma. Some fragments, like Z26/91 [Cat. 22] or Z4/142 [Cat. 17], are even large enough to have been axe heads, but are too badly decayed for identification. Another possible explanation for the large fragments found at El-Zuma, among others in tumuli 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 21 and 26, is that they came from tools.

Tools such as hoes, hammers, adzes, and axes were discovered at sites dated to the end of the Meroitic period (Emery and Kirwan 1938, 327–339; Woolley and Randall-MacIver 1910, 66, Pls 35–36; Zieliński 2016). However, they are much rarer finds than weapons, and only solitary examples were found at El-Zuma itself. Large tools were also made of iron and structurally similar to certain large weapons, which makes identification difficult when the object is heavily corroded and in pieces.

Large and small iron fragments were found in different tumuli of all three types (T.3, T.4, T.5, T.7, T.10, T.12, T.13, T.21, T.26 and T.28) [see Table 18.1].

Most of the fragments came from T.4, which was rich in metal artefacts. In this case, many (but not all) of the fragments could have been parts of damaged but identified objects. Some bigger fragments, like Z4/142 [Cat. 17], could have been parts of some larger items that did not survive. In the case of T.28, the unidentified iron fragments Z28/16 [Cat. 33] were the only metal artefacts found in that tumulus.

Larger iron fragments were found in tumuli 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 21 and 26. These large fragments are too big to have been

TABLE 18.1 Distribution of unidentified iron fragments in tombs at El-Zuma

Tumulus no.	Type of tumulus	Sex	Shaft	Tunnel	Ch. 1	Ch. 2	Ch. 3	Ch. 4	Ch. 5
T.1	I	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
T.2	I	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
T.3	I	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
T.4	I	–	–	604	–	–	–	–	–
T.5	I	M(?)	–	3	–	–	–	–	–
T.6	I	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
T.7	I	M(?)	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
T.8	I	F(?)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
T.9	II	M(??)	–		–	–	–		
T.11	II	?	–		–	–			
T.12	II	–	8		–	–	–		
T.13	II	M(?)	1		–	–	–	–	–
T.14	II	F(?)	–		–	–	–		
T.15	II	F(?)	–		–	–	–		
T.16	II	M(??)	–		–	–			
T.23	II	–	–		–	–			
T.24	II	F(?)	–		–	–	–	–	
T.25	II	F	–		–	–	–		
T.26	II	F	–		–	–	–	–	
T.10	III	M	–		–				
T.17	III	M	–		–				
T.18	III	F(?)	–		–				
T.19	III	M(?)	–		–				
T.20	III	M(??)	–		–				

TABLE 18.1 Distribution of unidentified iron fragments in tombs at El-Zuma (*cont.*)

Tumulus no.	Type of tumulus	Sex	Shaft	Tunnel	Ch. 1	Ch. 2	Ch. 3	Ch. 4	Ch. 5
T.21	III	M	–		–				
T.22	III	M	–		–				
T.27	III	M	–		–				
T.28	III	F	–		–				
Total	617								

* sex and age information based on anthropological data (see Volume I, Chapter 6)

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not applicable

bed-frame fittings or nails, or parts of weapons (arrow-heads, javelins and knives) or small tools. They might be remnants of larger weapons and tools, although their state of preservation makes it difficult to verify this theory.

Before the post-Meroitic period, iron tools were small and very seldom appeared in graves. The modest size and quantity of iron tools was linked to the fact that iron was not readily available and to the technological difficulties experienced during the Napatan and early Meroitic periods, when ironworking was in its infancy in Nubia. By the post-Meroitic period, iron was a much better understood raw material and far more widely available, which meant that larger tools could be produced in greater numbers (as observed by Trigger [1969]). However, with the change in burial rite during the Christian period, the tradition of depositing tools in graves disappears, and tool finds in graves become extremely rare.

1.3 Organic Artefacts

1.3.1 Material

This category is represented by eight pieces of leather [Z13/15, Cat. 34, see also Fig. 18.5], fragments of baskets [Cat. 35–37, see also Fig. 18.7], various pieces of wood [Cat. 39, see also Fig. 18.6], and a rope fragment [Cat. 40, see also Fig. 18.6].

The leather remains discovered at El-Zuma are described elsewhere in this volume by Joanna Then-Obluska, who suggests that they are possibly the remnants of a bag for beads (see Chapter 8.5, this volume).

Basket remains found at El-Zuma are represented by fragments Z26/4 and Z26/5 and basket imprint Z1/14 [Cat. 35, see also Fig. 18.7]. Z1/14 is only an impression in soil and was not discovered *in situ*. Two baskets were recorded in chamber 3 of T.26. Similar examples are known from other sites. Basket remains, some of them covered with leather, were discovered at Gabati in late post-Meroitic burials T.27 and T.28 (Edwards 1998, 124–125, 133, Fig. 5.9).

Different kinds of wood fragments [Cat. 39, see also Fig. 18.6] were found in almost all tumuli of type I. Wood fragments were noted in the tunnels of T.1, T.4, T.6, T.7 and T.8. In T.5 pieces of wood were found in chamber 1, and in T.3 fragments were found in the S chamber. Tumulus 2 was the only one which did not yield any finds of this sort. T.26 was the only type II tumulus in which remnants of wood were recorded (in chamber 1). Wooden bed fragments were discovered in the post-Meroitic burials at Gabati and dated to AD 450–550 (Edwards 1998, 112, 118, Fig. 5.1).

1.3.2 Discussion

Most of the wood fragments were not discovered *in situ*. They included some kind of thin sticks (not presented here), which can probably be linked to robber activity or animal activity. Some of the wooden remnants may have come from burial equipment. Looking at the objects recorded in the main burial chambers, we should discuss other possibilities. Some of the wood and rope fragments [Z4/214, Cat. 40, see also Fig. 18.6] may have come from the frame of the burial bed. All of these artefacts were

discovered inside main burial chambers together with the deceased.

The basket remains in tumulus 26 were found along with pottery in chamber 3. The remains of seeds visible on the basket [see Fig. 18.7] suggest that some kind of food had been deposited in the grave.

1.4 Glass

The only glass fragments [Cat. 38] recorded at El-Zuma were found inside the tunnel of tumulus 7, in context 5 [see Fig. 18.7]. The state of the glass is too fragmentary to determine the function of the object it represents.

2 Catalogue

Cat. 1

Stone ring

Inv. no.: Z16/13

Context data: Tumulus 16, robber hole, NW part

Dimensions: D = 11–11.2 cm, hole = 2.5 cm, Th = 3.6–2.9 cm

Material: Sandstone

Description: Ring made of hard yellowish sandstone, pierced in the middle.

References: Mahmoud El-Tayeb, Juszczyk-Futkowska, and Czyżewska 2014, 366

Cat. 2

Tool, possible axe

Inv. no.: Z3/13

Context data: Tumulus 3, W chamber, S part

Dimensions: L = 5 cm, H = 1.3–2 cm, Th = 1.3–1.5 cm

Material: Stone

Description: Polished stone.

Notes: See Fig. 18.5.

Cat. 3

Incised stone

Inv. no.: Z6/4

Context data: Tumulus 6, W tunnel, top layer of fill, close to pillar III

Dimensions: L = 13.5 cm, H = 9 cm

Material: Sandstone

Description: Fragment of rock with incised lines as decoration.

Cat. 4

Incised stone

Inv. no.: Z6/5

Context data: Tumulus 6, W tunnel, top layer of fill, close to pillar III

Dimensions: D = 19.8–17 cm

Material: Sandstone

Description: Fragment of rock with crossed lines as decoration.

Notes: See Fig. 18.5.

Cat. 5

Copper alloy vessel handle

Inv. no.: Z5/9

Context data: Tumulus 5, white fill

Dimensions: D = 3.8 cm, base: L = 4.2 cm, W = 3 cm

Material and technique: Copper alloy

Description: Copper-based vessel handle in form of double-wired loop on tear-shaped base; traces of tin solder on base.

Notes: See Fig. 18.5.

References: Mahmoud El-Tayeb 2010, 211, 213, Fig. 11:5

Cat. 6

Copper alloy strip

Inv. no.: Z24/44

Context data: Tumulus 24

Dimensions: D = 10 cm, Th = 0.05 cm

Material and technique: Copper alloy

Description: Corroded and severely fragmented (reassembled) copper strip (possible vessel rim fitting) with horizontal grooves.

Notes: See Fig. 18.5.

Cat. 7

Decorated hoop

Inv. no.: Z4/71

Context data: Tumulus 4, tunnel, E side

Dimensions: Outside D = 6–5.9 cm, inside D = 4.2–4.3 cm, Th = 0.7 cm × 0.85 cm

Material: Copper

Description: Hoop decorated with running zigzag and dots on both faces, and two grooves with central crimp on the edge.

Cat. 8

Decorated hoop

Inv. no.: Z4/86

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel

Dimensions: Outside D = 6–5.8 cm, inside D = 4.2–4.3 cm, Th = 0.7 cm × 0.9 cm

Material: Copper

Description: Hoop decorated with running zigzag and dots on both faces, and two grooves with central crimp on the edge.

MISCELLANEOUS STONES

FIGURE 18.1 Stone artefacts
Z16/13 DRAWN BY K. JUSZCZYK, DIGITISED BY U. IWASZCZUK; Z3/13, Z6/4, Z6/5 PHO-
TOS BY A. KAMROWSKI

Cat. 9

Shears

Inv. no.: Z4/25*Context data:* Tumulus 4, W tunnel*Dimensions:* Fragment a: L = 9.6 cm, W = 3.2 cm, Th = 0.9 cm

Fragment b: L = 3.5 cm, W = 2.8 cm, Th = 0.5 cm

Material and technique: Forged iron*Description:* Two fragments of heavily corroded shears, triangular in cross-section (single-edged blade); one tip fragment extant.**Cat. 10**

Chisel fragment

Inv. no.: Z11/36*Context data:* Tumulus 11, chamber 1, W part*Dimensions:* L = 5.8 cm, cross-section 1.3 cm (rounded), cutting edge 0.7 cm*Material and technique:* Forged iron*Description:* Heavily corroded and broken chisel fragment featuring flattened point with 0.7 cm cutting edge at an angle of 75 degrees.**Cat. 11**

One of a group of four unidentified fragments (probable sleeve)

Inv. no.: Z12/54*Context data:* Tumulus 12, fill of shaft, S part*Dimensions:* D = 3.4 cm, H = 3.4 cm*Material:* Iron + copper*Description:* Two heavily corroded and broken iron sleeve fragments (traces of copper oxides).**Cat. 12**

One unidentified fragment (probable iron ring)

Inv. no.: Z17/4*Context data:* Tumulus 17, burial chamber, N part (near beer jar Z17/1)*Dimensions:* D = 2.2 cm, Th = 0.3 cm*Material:* Iron + copper*Description:* One heavily corroded and broken iron open-work ring with traces of copper oxides.**Cat. 13**

One unidentified fragment (probable iron ring)

Inv. no.: Z21/12.1*Context data:* Tumulus 21, burial chamber, central part*Dimensions:* D = 5 cm, cross-section c. 1 cm*Material:* Iron*Description:* One heavily corroded and broken iron ring fragment.

One unidentified fragment (probable iron ring)

Inv. no.: Z21/12.2*Context data:* Tumulus 21, burial chamber, central part*Dimensions:* D = 6.5 cm, cross-section c. 1.1 cm*Material:* Iron*Description:* One heavily corroded and broken iron ring fragment.**Cat. 14**

One of a group of four unidentified fragments; probable roundel in sleeve (ring over strip of metal suspended from it)

Inv. no.: Z12/55*Context data:* Tumulus 12, fill of shaft, S part*Dimensions:* Roundel: D = 2.5 cm, Th = 3.5 cm; band: W = 0.8 cm, Th = 0.3 cm*Material:* Iron*Description:* Three heavily corroded and broken rod fragments, and one ring over a strip of metal suspended from it.*Notes:* See Fig. 18.5.**Cat. 15**

One unidentified fragment

Inv. no.: Z4/7.3*Context data:* Tumulus 4, tunnel*Dimensions:* L = 4.4 cm, W = 1.9 cm*Material:* Iron*Description:* One fragment of heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron object (sickle-shaped with no original surfaces).**Cat. 16**

One small iron handle (unidentified)

Inv. no.: Z4/83*Context data:* Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 9.00 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer*Dimensions:* Inner D = 0.4 cm, Th = 0.6 cm × 0.6 cm, shaft cross-section 1 cm × 0.4 cm*Material:* Iron*Description:* One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (handle).**Cat. 17**

One fragment from a group of 29 unidentified fragments

Inv. no.: Z4/142*Context data:* Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, entrance to W tunnel*Dimensions (max):* 9 cm × 2.6 cm × 1.3 cm*Material:* Iron*Description:* Twenty-nine heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron fragments.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL ARTEFACTS

MISCELLANEOUS UNIDENTIFIED METAL FRAGMENTS

FIGURE 18.2 Metal vessel elements, fragments from shears, a chisel and unidentified metal artefacts Z5/9 DRAWN BY A. BŁASZCZYK, DIGITISED BY Ł. ZIELIŃSKI; Z24/44 DRAWN BY Ł. ZIELIŃSKI, DIGITISED BY E. CZYŻEWSKA-ZALEWSKA; Z4/71, Z4/86 DRAWN BY J. GÓRECKA, DIGITISED BY M. MOMOT; Z4/25, Z11/36, Z12/54, Z21/12.1, Z21/12.2 DRAWN AND DIGITISED BY Ł. ZIELIŃSKI; Z17/4 DRAWN BY K. JUSZCZYK, DIGITISED BY E. CZYŻEWSKA-ZALEWSKA

Cat. 18

One unidentified fragment

Inv. no.: Z7/18

Context data: Tumulus 7, context 5, found close to pillar 11

Dimensions: L = 8.6 cm, W = 4 cm, Th = 1.1 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron fragment.

Cat. 19

Ten unidentified fragments

Inv. no.: Z4/215

Context data: Tumulus 4, E tunnel, S part, dark layer

Dimensions: L = 6.2 cm, W = 1.7 cm

Material: Iron

Description: Ten heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron fragments.

Cat. 20

Two fragments from a group of 23 unidentified fragments

Inv. no.: Z4/73

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 8.00–8.50 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer

Dimensions: L = 8.3 cm, W = 1.3–1.4 cm

Material: Iron

Description: Twenty-three heavily corroded and broken iron fragments (the biggest, possibly some kind of rod).

Inv. no.: Z4/73.1

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 8.00–8.50 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer

Dimensions: L = 3.1 cm, inside D = 1.5 cm, Th = 0.5 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (sleeve fragment, possibly the same object as rod Z4/73).

Cat. 21

One unidentified fragment

Inv. no.: Z5/27

Context data: Tumulus 5, tunnel fill

Dimensions: L = 5 cm, D = 2 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (amorphous).

Cat. 22

Two unidentified fragments

Inv. no.: Z26/91

Context data: Tumulus 26, chamber 1, E part, among human bones

Dimensions: L = 6.5 cm, W = 3.1 cm, Th = 0.6 cm

Material: Iron

Description: Two heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron fragments.

Cat. 23

One unidentified fragment (same as Z3/17)

Inv. no.: Z3/11

Context data: Tumulus 3, W chamber, S part of lower fill deposit (white rubble)

Dimensions: L = 2.7 cm, W = 1.5–1.65 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One fragment of heavily corroded and broken object (probably rounded, tapering towards one end).

Cat. 24

One unidentified fragment (same as Z3/11)

Inv. no.: Z3/17

Context data: Tumulus 3, S chamber, near blocking wall

Dimensions: L = 3.1 cm, W = 1.2–1.4 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One fragment of heavily corroded and broken iron object (probably rounded, tapering towards one end).

Cat. 25

One unidentified object

Inv. no.: Z5/28

Context data: Tumulus 5, tunnel fill

Dimensions: L = 5.5 cm, W = 2.4 cm, Th = 1.9 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (amorphous).

Cat. 26

One unidentified fragment (probable rod)

Inv. no.: Z10/40

Context data: Tumulus 10, burial chamber

Dimensions: L = 4.7 cm, cross-section c. 0.5 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (rod).

Cat. 27

One unidentified fragment (probable rod)

Inv. no.: Z5/26

Context data: Tumulus 5, tunnel fill

Dimensions: L = 2.5 cm, rectangular cross-section 1 cm × 1.5 cm

Material: Iron

MISCELLANEOUS UNIDENTIFIED METAL FRAGMENTS

FIGURE 18.3 Unidentified metal artefacts
Z12/55, Z4/7.3, Z4/83, Z4/142, Z7/18, Z4/215, Z4/73, Z5/27, Z26/91, Z3/11, Z3/17
DRAWN AND DIGITISED BY Ł. ZIELIŃSKI

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (rod with rectangular cross-section).

Cat. 28

One fragment from a group of 300 unidentified fragments

Inv. no.: Z4/94

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 9.00 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer

Dimensions: L = 8 cm, D = 1.9 cm

Material: Iron

Description: Three hundred heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron fragments.

Cat. 29

One unidentified fragment

Inv. no.: Z4/27

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 2.40–2.90 m from edge of shaft

Dimensions: L = 4.1 cm, W = 0.9 cm, Th = 0.3 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One fragment of heavily corroded and broken iron object.

Cat. 30

One unidentified fragment (rod)

Inv. no.: Z4/93

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 9.00 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer

Dimensions: L = 6.7 cm, D = 1.6 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (rod).

Cat. 31

One unidentified fragment

Inv. no.: Z4/90

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 9.00 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer

Dimensions: L = 9.4 cm, W = 1.7 cm, Th = 0.7 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment.

Cat. 32

One unidentified fragment

Inv. no.: Z4/91

Context data: Tumulus 4, W tunnel, fill, 9.00 m from edge of shaft, dark bottom layer

Dimensions: L = 9.8 cm, W = 2.3 cm, Th = 0.9 cm

Material: Iron

Description: One heavily corroded and broken iron fragment (tang at one end).

Cat. 33

Three unidentified fragments

Inv. no.: Z28/16

Context data: Tumulus 28, chamber 2, S part, near skull and vessels

Dimensions (largest fragment): L = 3.5 cm, W = 1 cm, Th = 0.4 cm

Material: Iron

Description: Three heavily corroded, delaminated and broken iron fragments.

Cat. 34

Leather remains

Inv. no.: Z13/15

Context data: Tumulus 13, chamber 4, W part, near vessels Z13/12, Z13/13, Z13/14

Material: Leather

Description: Eight fragments of perforated leather.

Notes: See Fig. 18.5.

Cat. 35

Basket imprint

Inv. no.: Z1/14

Context data: Tumulus 1, SE corner of trench 1

Material: Soil mixed with sandstone

Notes: See Fig. 18.7.

Cat. 36

Tabaq

Inv. no.: Z26/4

Context data: Tumulus 26, chamber 3, W part, near vessel Z26/16

Material: Organic material

Notes: See Fig. 18.7.

Cat. 37

Tabaq

Inv. no.: Z26/5

Context data: Tumulus 26, chamber 3, central part

Material: Organic material

Notes: See Fig. 18.7.

Cat. 38

Twenty glass fragments

Inv. no.: Z7/15

Context data: Tumulus 7, context 5

Material: Glass

Notes: See Fig. 18.7.

UNIDENTIFIED METAL FRAGMENTS

FIGURE 18.4 Unidentified metal artefacts and leather fragments
 Z5/28, Z10/40, Z5/26, Z4/94, Z4/27, Z4/93, Z4/90, Z4/91 DRAWN AND DIGITISED BY
 Ł. ZIELIŃSKI; Z28/16 PHOTO BY A. KAMROWSKI, Z13/15 PHOTO BY O. BIAŁOSTOCKA

MISCELLANEOUS
LEATHER

FIGURE 18.5 Various objects discovered in El-Zuma tumuli
PHOTOS BY A. KAMROWSKI

Cat. 39

Wood fragments from various tumuli

Inv. no.: Z3/12

Context data: Tumulus 3, S chamber, near entrance to W chamber

Material: Wood

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.

Inv. no.: Z4/101

Context data: Tumulus 4, fill of W tunnel, 8.70–9.60 m from shaft edge, dark bottom layer

Material: Wood

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.

Inv. no.: Z4/192

Context data: Tumulus 4, fill of E tunnel, between pillars II and III

FIGURE 18.6 Various objects discovered in El-Zuma tumuli
PHOTOS BY A. KAMROWSKI

Cat. 36

Z26/4

Cat. 37

Z26/5

2 cm

Cat. 38

Z7/15

2 cm

FIGURE 18.7 Basket imprints (top), basket fragments (middle) and glass fragments (bottom), discovered in El-Zuma tumuli
PHOTOS BY A. KAMROWSKI

Material: Wood

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.

Inv. no.: Z7/78

Context data: Tumulus 7, context 8

Material: Wood

Inv. no.: Z7/76

Context data: Tumulus 7, context 5, close to pillar II

Material: Wood

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.

Inv. no.: Z7/45

Context data: Tumulus 7, context 5

Material: Wood

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.

Inv. no.: Z26/92

Context data: Tumulus 26, chamber 1, E part

Material: Wood

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.

Cat. 40

Bed fragment?

Inv. no.: Z4/214

Context data: Tumulus 4, E tunnel, S part

Material: Seeds, leather, mat fragment, rope

Notes: See Fig. 18.6.