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Introducing the Levantine Ceramics Project (LCP; www.levantineceramics.org)

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<https://hdl.handle.net/2144/43679>

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Introducing the Levantine Ceramics Project (LCP; www.levantineceramics.org)

*Andrea M. Berlin*¹

The Levantine Ceramics Project (LCP; www.levantineceramics.org) is a new model for communicating, linking, and expanding the use of ceramic data. The LCP is a public, crowd-sourced web application focused on ceramics produced anywhere in the Levant, meaning the modern countries of Turkey, Syria, Cyprus, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, and Egypt, from the beginnings of ceramic production in the Neolithic era (c. 5500 BCE) through the time of the Ottoman empire (c. 1920 CE).

The Challenge – and the LCP solution

As archaeologists, we are always in a mode of discovery – finding new sites, re-thinking earlier ideas, posing new paradigms. Our traditional mode of dissemination has been, and continues to be, print publication. But publication alone is no longer sufficiently pliable. We need a tool that can accommodate new data and bring it into dialogue with older information, fosters the sharing of information, is easy to access and use, enables us to refine and correct information, and allows us to readily learn from each other. We need a tool that will allow us to discover new connections and generate new understandings.

The LCP was built to be such a tool. As a public research application, it is an open, collaborative platform that is continually expanding, so that we can remain up-to-date, connect new data with older material, share with and learn from each other.

How does it work?

Anybody may register as a contributor on the LCP, and any contributor may add information on vessels, wares, petro-fabrics, scientific analyses, kiln sites, whether already published or newly discovered. There are no restrictions on terminology; contributors may submit the information they have, using their own names and descriptions. All submitted information remains linked to its original contributor(s), thus maintaining intellectual property; every submitted item carries a stable URL and constitutes a digital publication. Items can be edited, re-arranged, or removed, making the LCP an archive and a research tool – a critical

¹ Andrea M. Berlin, Boston University, is founder and Editor-in-Chief of the Levantine Ceramics Project.

aspect since archaeology is predicated on new discoveries along with reconsideration of older material. Finally, all entries carry various sharing options: public; restricted; or private. These options can be changed at any time.

The *LCP* also functions as a partner for print and digital publications. Including *LCP* links in original published work will allow future readers to click directly to the *LCP* page, and see updates, search for related data, etc. *LCP* links enhance a publication's long-term utility.

Looking ahead

This year the *LCP* is ten years old! Since launching in Spring 2011, the site has grown every year: from an initial group of 29 contributors now to over 500 contributors worldwide. In the 12 months from May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021, the *LCP* received over 80,000 page views from over 10,000 users, from every continent and almost every country around the globe.

Eventually the *LCP* will allow us to address questions for which pottery offers basic evidence. Examples: what is the relationship between an imperial economy and local prosperity? Under what conditions do small-scale producers expand? Is the vitality of major exporting centers a function of location, political circumstance, or resource advantages? Do certain clay types lend themselves to certain sorts of products across long periods of time? Right now it is difficult to collect the data necessary to answer such queries. By continuing to build up the *LCP*'s storehouse of information we can build a tool that will help launch a new era of ceramic research.



If you are an archaeologist who works in the Levant, please consider registering and submitting material to the site! Go here:

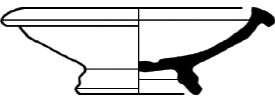


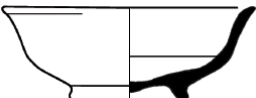
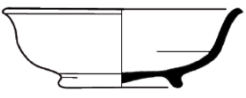

https://www.levantineceramics.org/users/sign_up



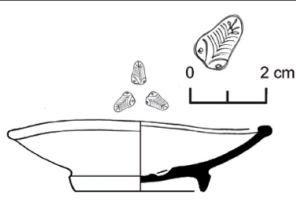

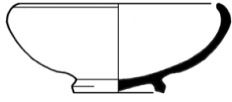

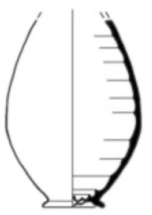




LCP links for
 »R. Rosenthal-Heginbottom, Cave 169 at Marisa: The Imported Ptolemaic Red Ware«



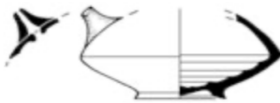

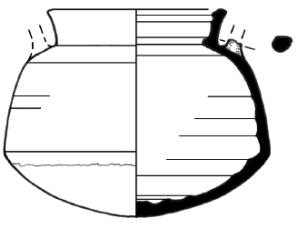


JHP 4 (2019) entry

<i>WARES & PETRO-FABRICS</i>	<i>LCP link</i>
Ptolemaic Red Ware (PRW)	Ptolemaic-Roman Red-Slipped Nile Silt ware (Lower Egypt): https://www.levantineceramics.org/wares/338-ptolemaic-roman-red-slipped-nile-silt-ware-lower-egypt
Ptolemaic Black Ware (PBW)	Ptolemaic Black Slipped ware: https://www.levantineceramics.org/wares/273-ptolemaic-black-slipped-ware
Delta silt fabric	Egypt/Nile clay: https://www.levantineceramics.org/etrofabrics/95-egypt-nile-clay

<i>PBW VESSELS in Fig. 3</i>		<i>LCP link</i>
Fig. 3, a	Projecting rim saucer 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20735-maresha-sc-169-3-4-1
Fig. 3, b	Projecting rim saucer 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20842-maresha-sc-169-3-4-4
Fig. 3, c	Projecting rim saucer 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20748-maresha-sc-169-3-4-7
Fig. 3, d	Bowl with outturned rim and carinated wall 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20755-mares-ha-52-01-3567-02-169-06-188
Fig. 3, e	Bowl with outturned rim and carinated wall 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20757-mares-ha-4099-04-52-01-4099-04-169-47-720
Fig. 3, f	Echinus bowl 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20760-maresha-sc-169-3-4-12



PRW VESSELS in catalogue		LCP link
1	Plate with rolled rim 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20784-maresha-sc-169-3-5-1
2	Bowl with outturned rim 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20786-maresha-sc-169-3-5-2
3	Echinus bowl 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20787-maresha-sc-169-3-5-3
4	Echinus bowl 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20788-maresha-sc-169-3-5-4
5	Olpe 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20791-maresha-sc-169-3-5-5
6 & 7	Olpe + Handle 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20792-maresha-sc-169-3-5-6
8	8 Kyathos, handle 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20793-maresha-sc-169-3-5-7
9	9 Kyathos 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20794-maresha-sc-169-3-5-8
10	Juglet 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20795-maresha-sc-169-3-5-9

PRW VESSELS in catalogue		LCP link
11	Aryballos 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20796-maresha-sc-169-3-5-10
12	Aryballos, neck and handle 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20798-maresha-sc-169-3-5-11
13	Guttus 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20799-maresha-sc-169-3-5-12
14	Chytra with high neck, flanged rim, and broad ledge handles 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20800-maresha-sc-169-3-6-1
15	Chytra, small, angled rim 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20802-maresha-sc-169-3-6-2
16	Reversible lid 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20803-maresha-sc-169-3-6-3
17	Reversible lid 	https://www.levantineceramics.org/vessels/20805-maresha-sc-169-3-6-4

