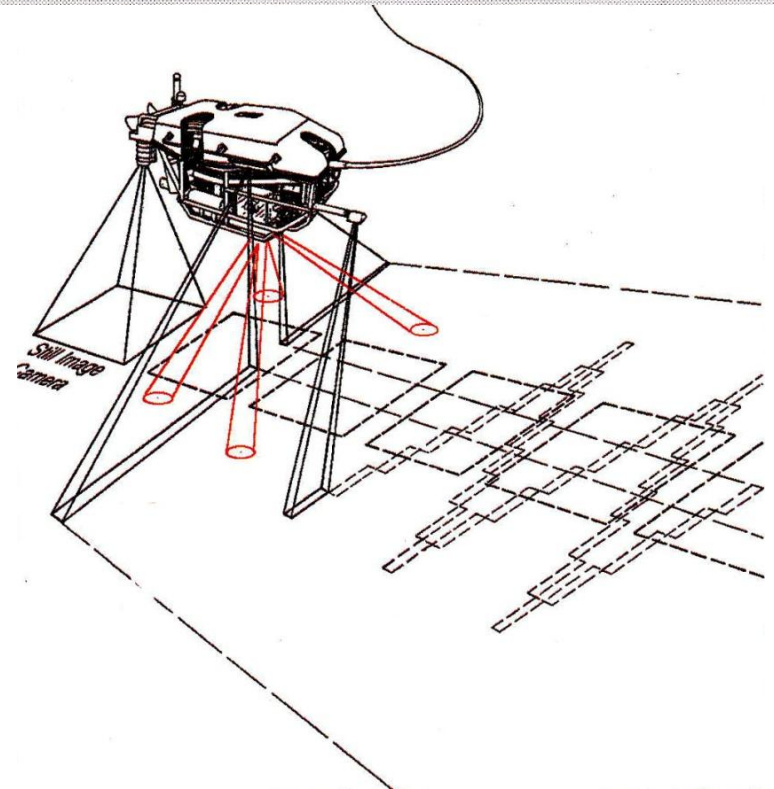
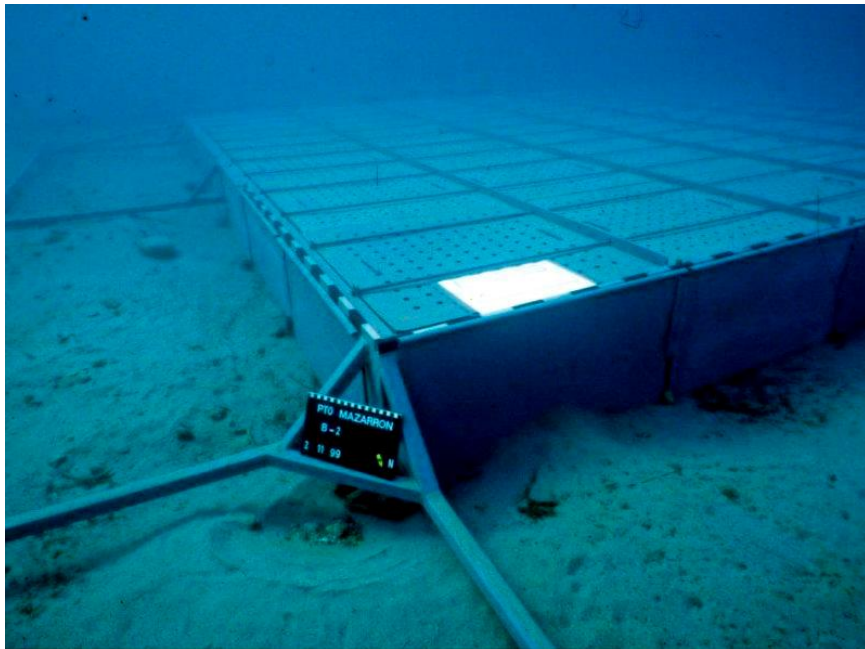


# Iconography of Phoenician ships of commerce, and the strange state of 'Phoenician' shipwreck archaeology



Assyrian reliefs showing 'hippos (horse) ships': several Greek and also Roman chroniclers describe the horse ornamentation on the stem posts of Phoenician ships



Herodotus also describes a different kind of Phoenician merchant ship: *gauloi* = tubs

How many different kinds of merchant ships are the Assyrians representing?



# Shipwrecks of the Phoenicians (?)

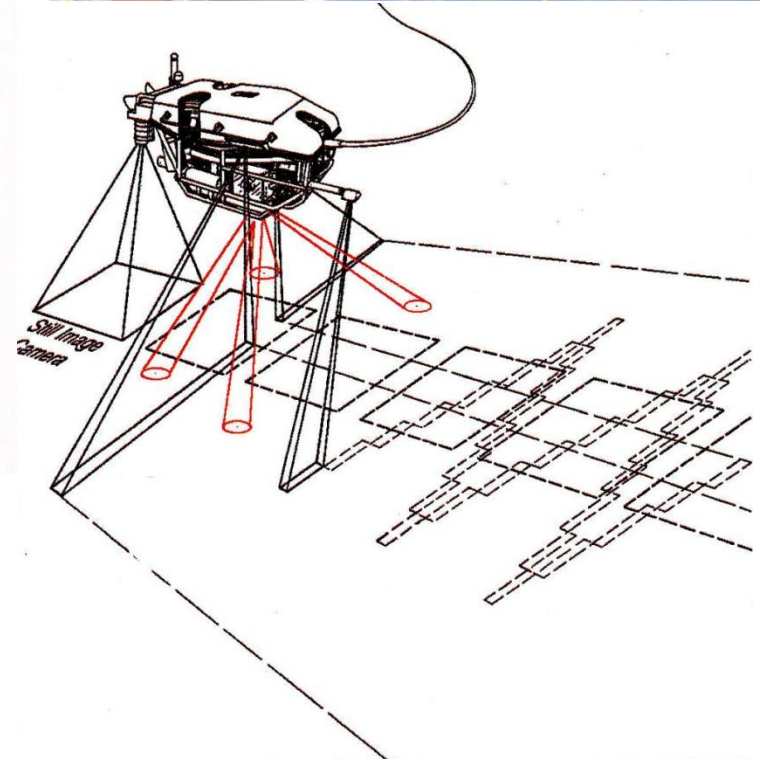
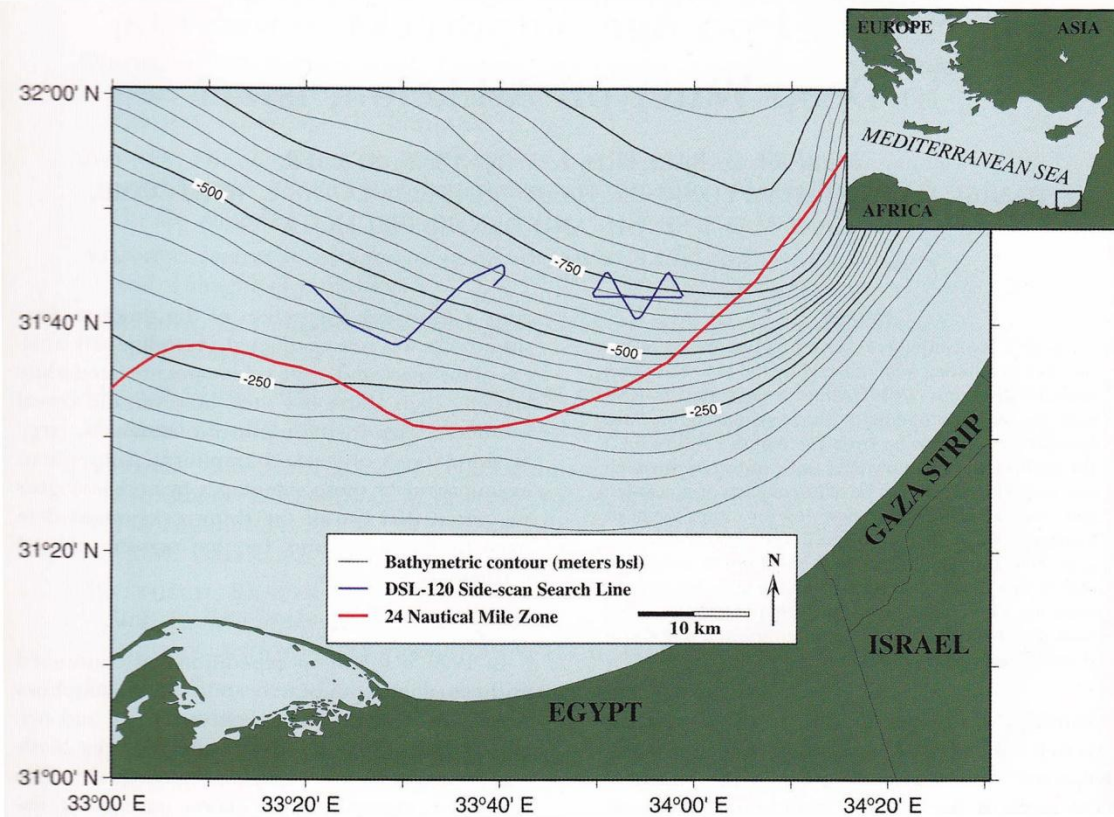


# The Elissa and Tanit shipwrecks (sunk ca. 750 BCE, off the Gaza Strip)

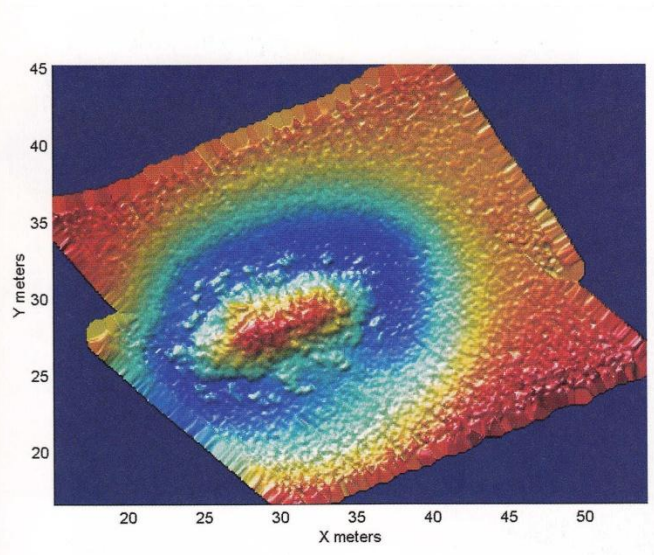
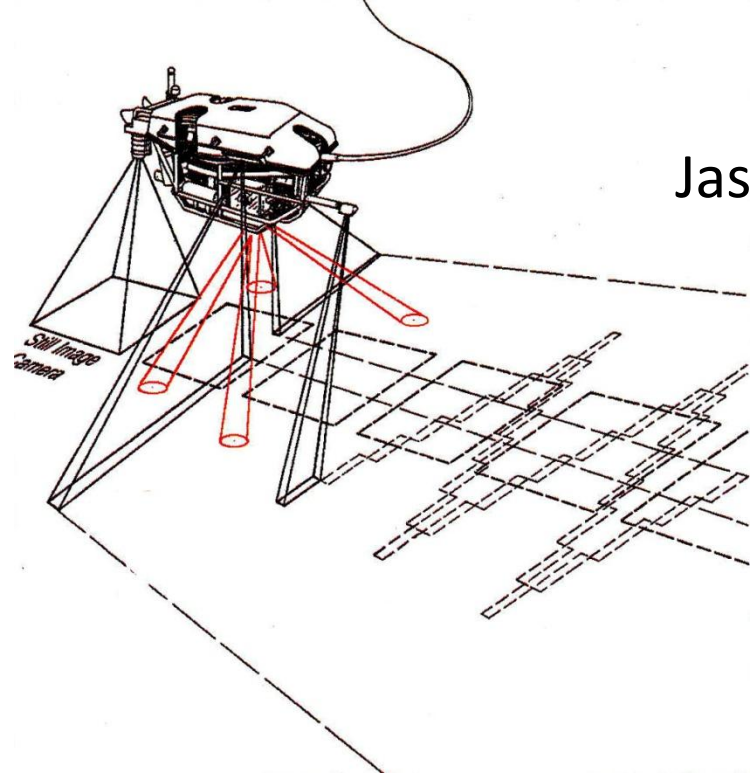


Anomalies on the seafloor discovered by a U.S. nuclear submarine searching for an Israeli diesel submarine (*Dakar*) that sunk in 1968

# Enter Bob Ballard (and several archaeologists, including Shelley Wachsmann)



# Jason's side scan sonar locates two anomalies



Located 2.4 km apart

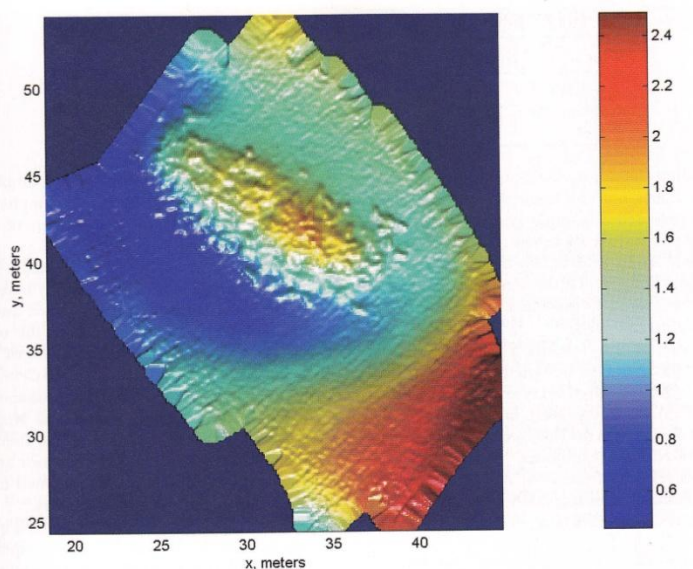
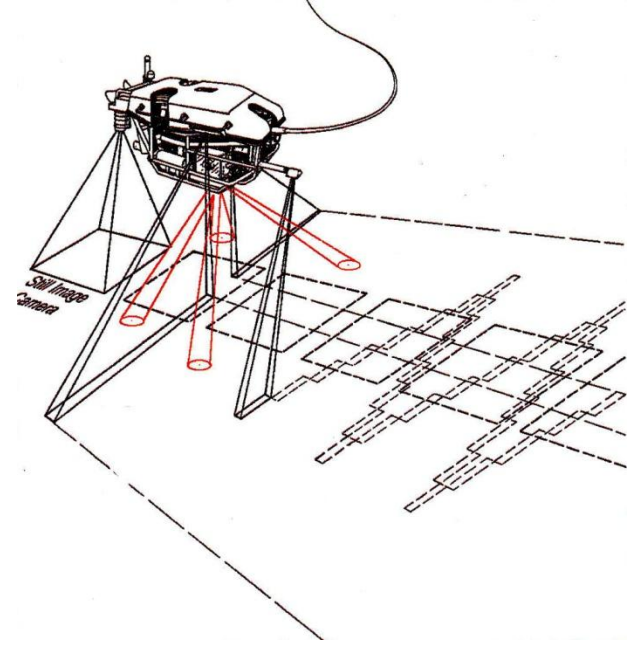
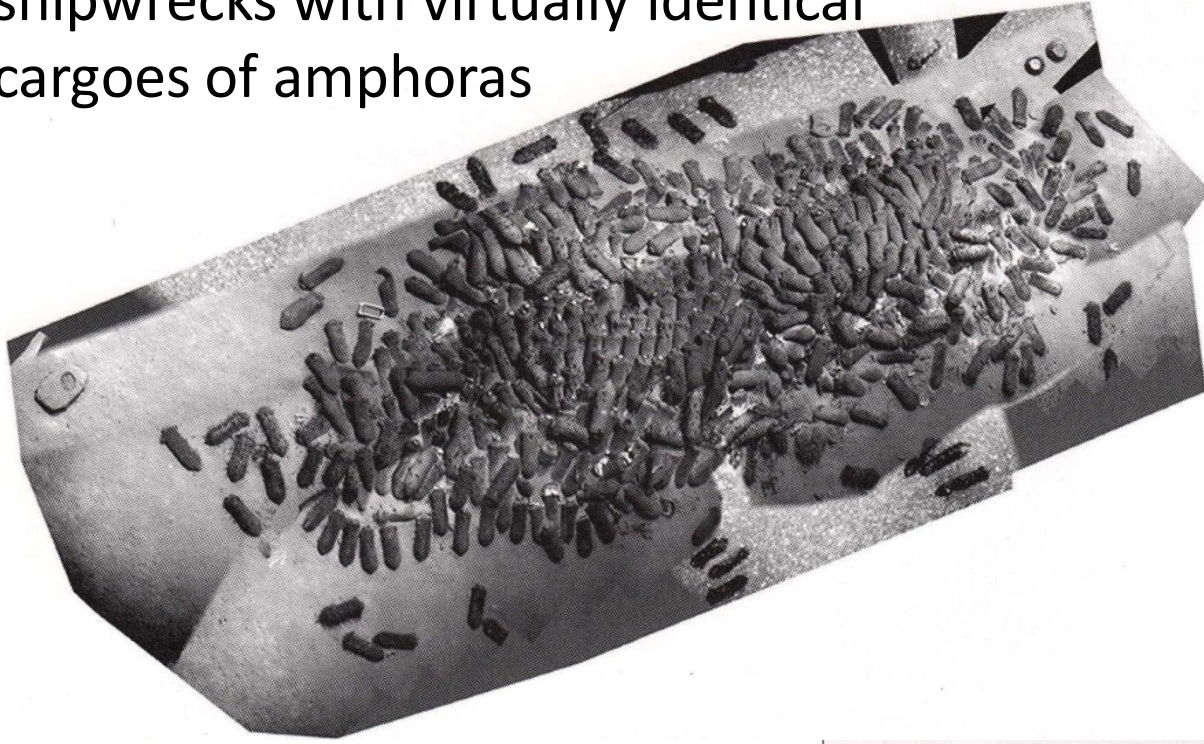
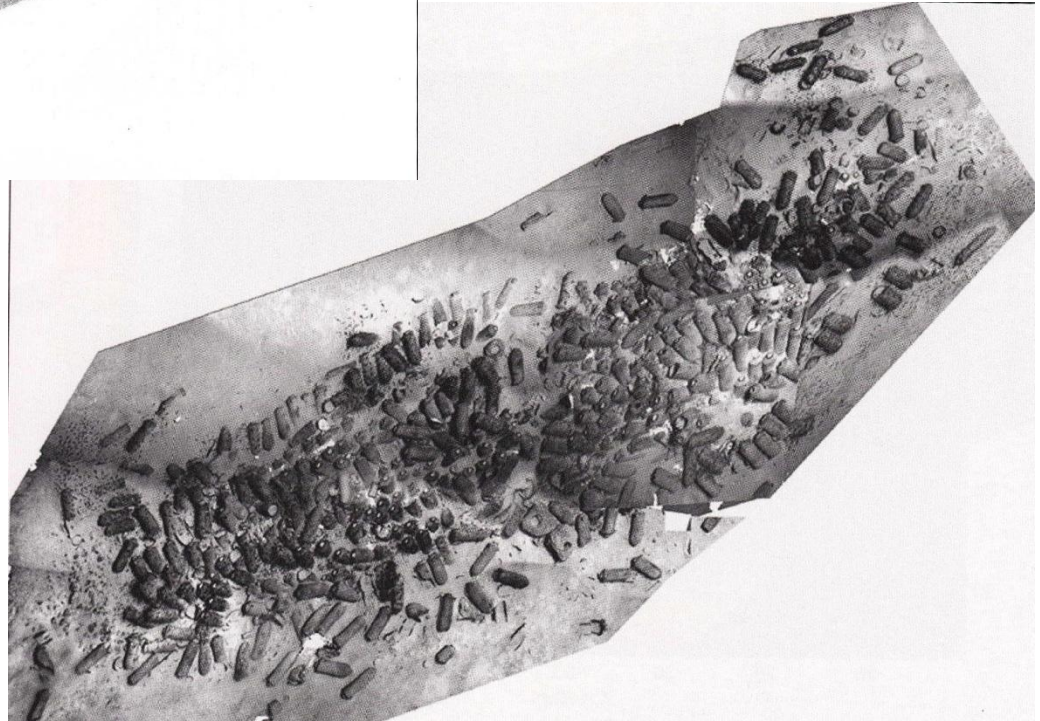


Photo mosaics of the two sites:  
shipwrecks with virtually identical  
cargoes of amphoras

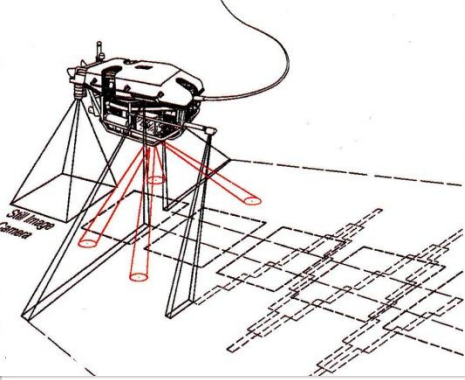


*Tanit* (fancifully named after a Phoenician  
goddess who protected seafarers)

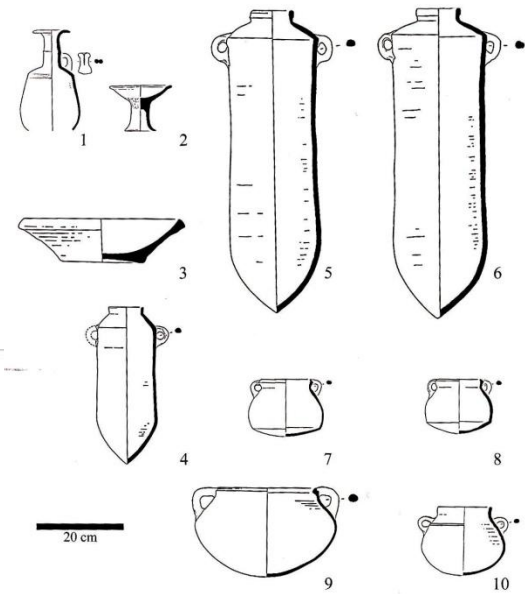


*Elissa* (A princess of Tyre and legendary  
founder of Carthage)

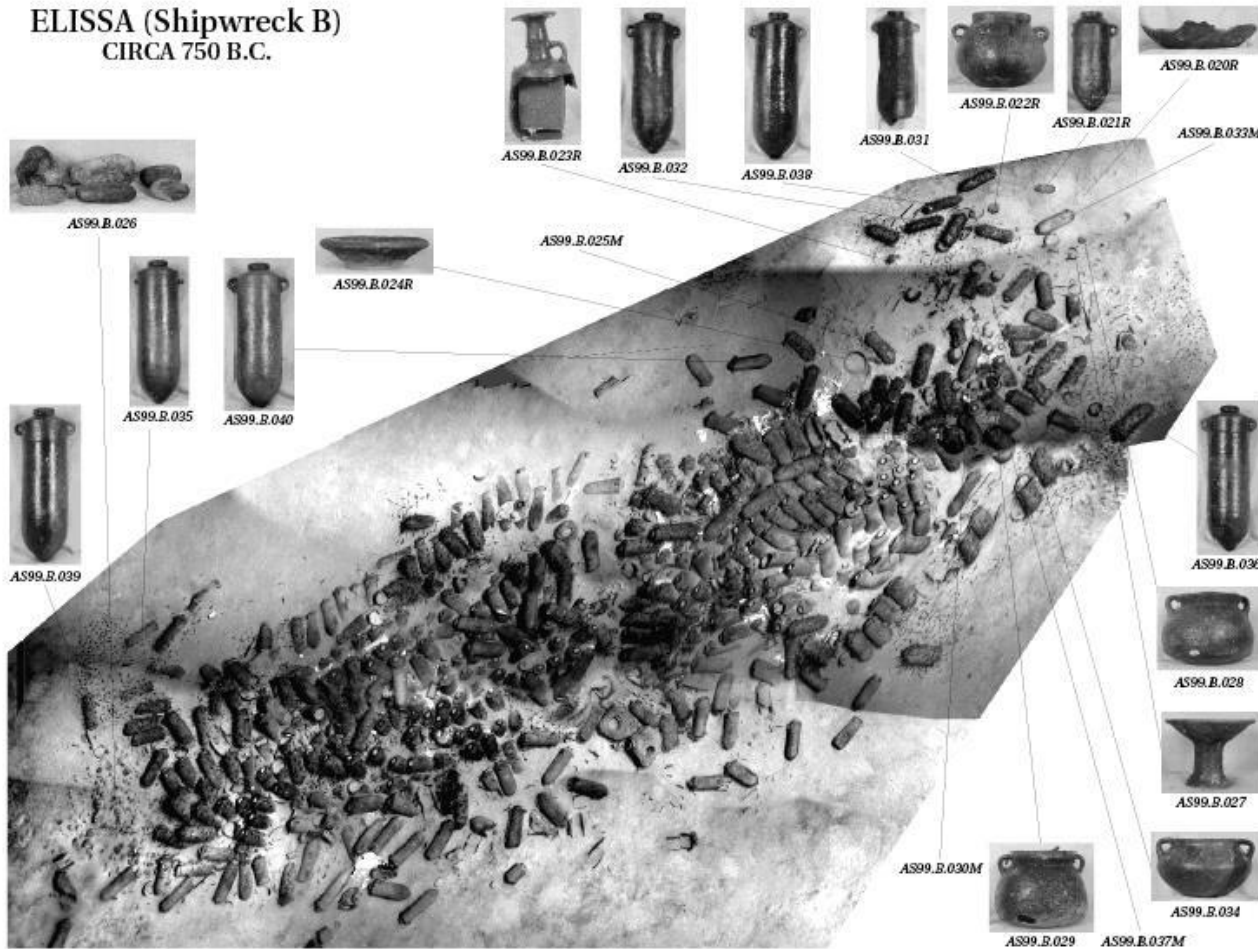




Tongs extending from Jason's arm lifted these objects from the site



**ELISSA (Shipwreck B)  
CIRCA 750 B.C.**

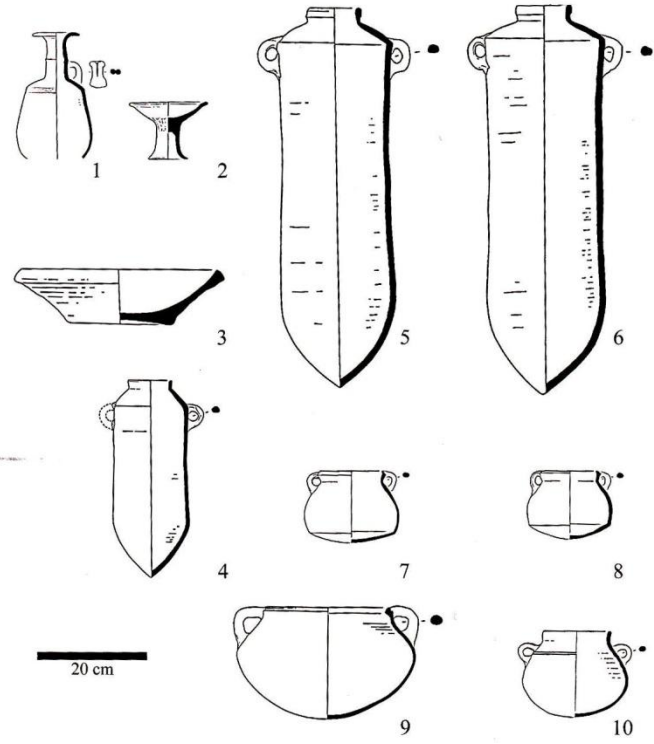
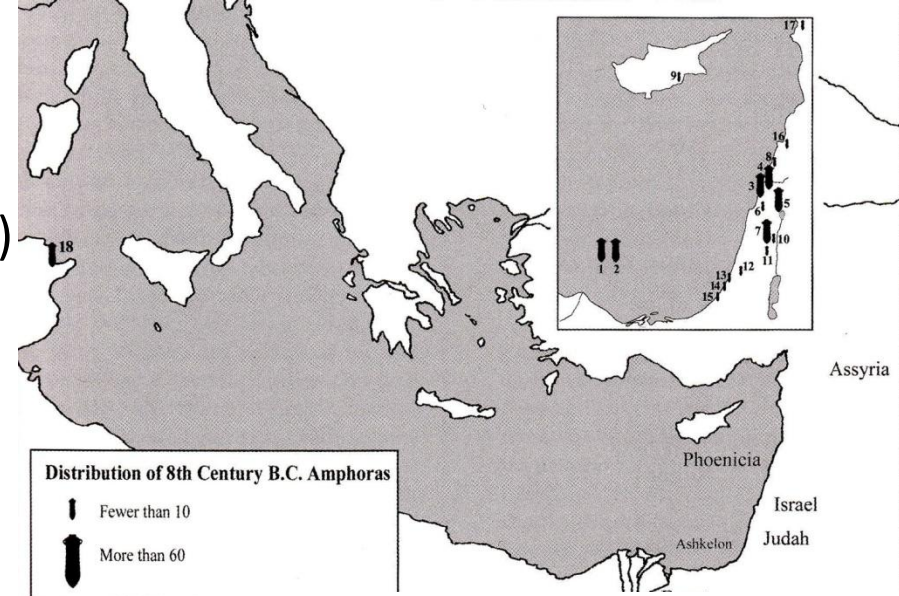
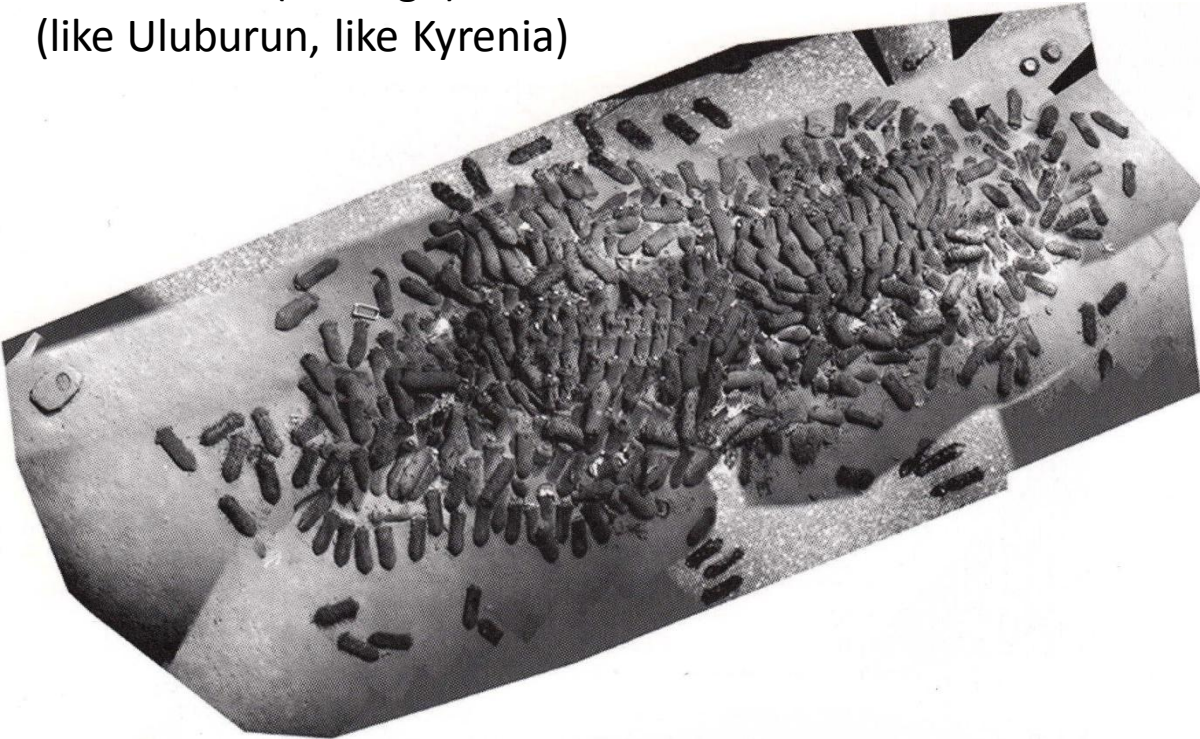


High concentration of galley wares at this end of the shipwreck

# Are these shipwrecks 'Phoenician'?

Carthage (recently founded in the 8<sup>th</sup> century) is the only place outside of the Levant that these 'torpedo' amphoras have been located

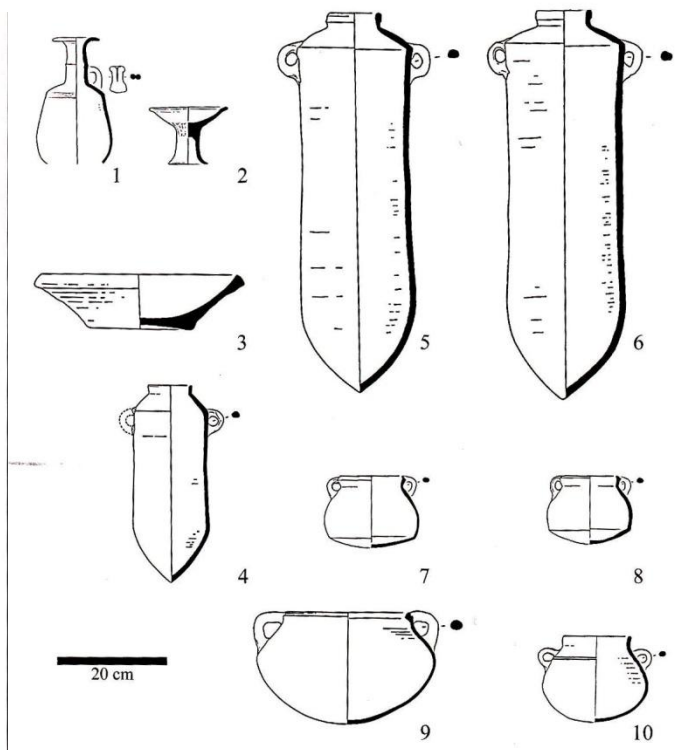
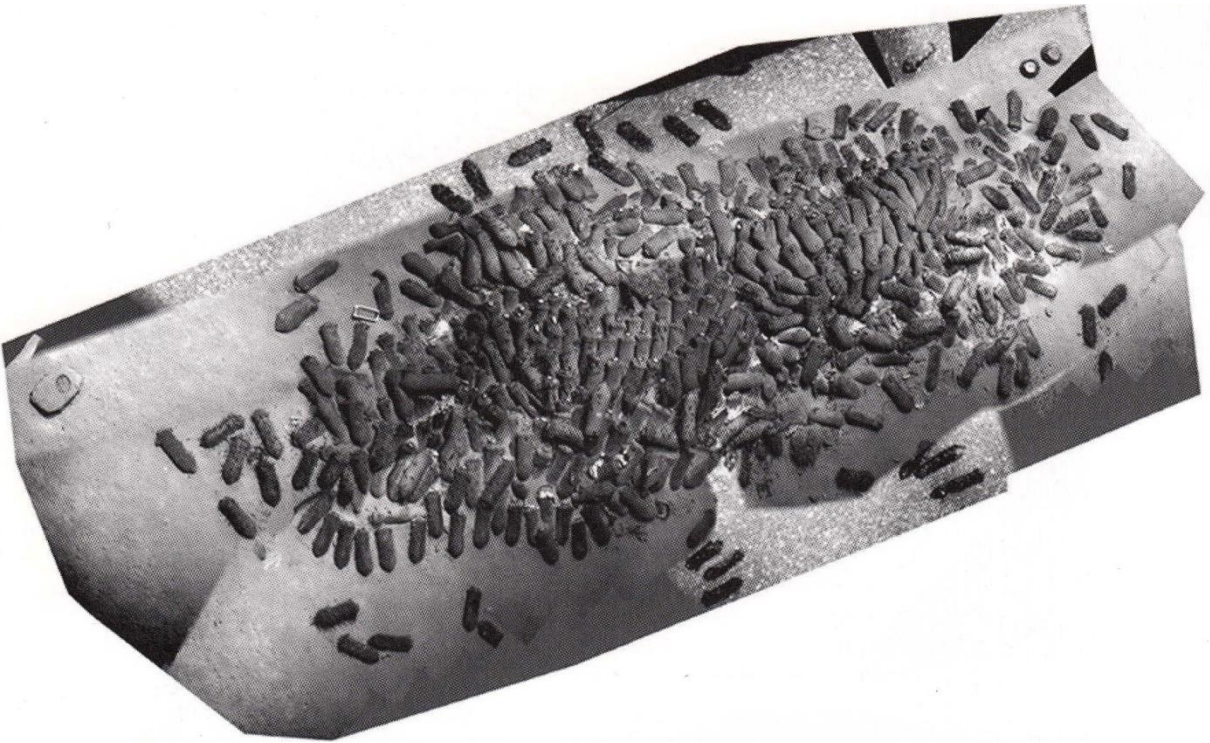
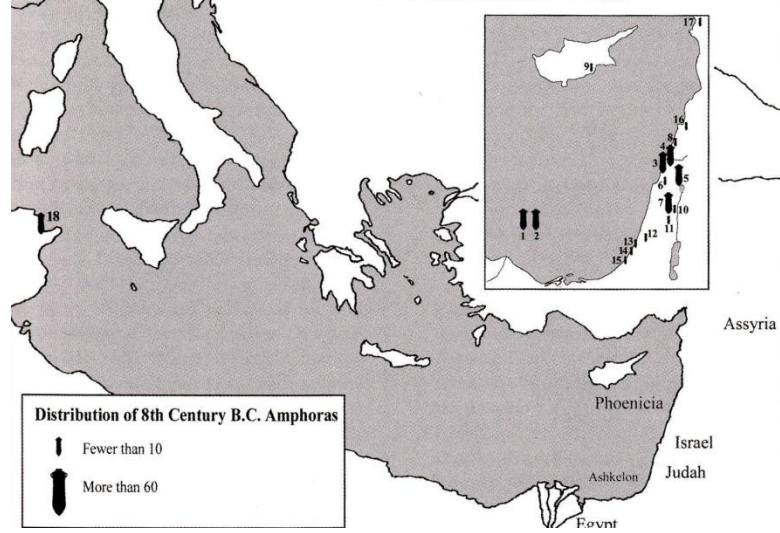
Dimensions (of cargo) = ca. 15x5 m  
(like Uluburun, like Kyrenia)



Cooking jars ('galley wares' nos. 7-10) also at home in the northern Levant (Phoenicia)

What has archaeology gained from this expedition?

Will archaeologists ever revisit the *Tanit* and *Elissa* shipwrecks?



# Shipwrecks of the Phoenicians (?)



The well-preserved and thoroughly excavated Ma'agan Mikhael shipwreck (sunk off the coast of Israel ca. 400 BCE); but why doesn't the excavator think it is 'Phoenician'?

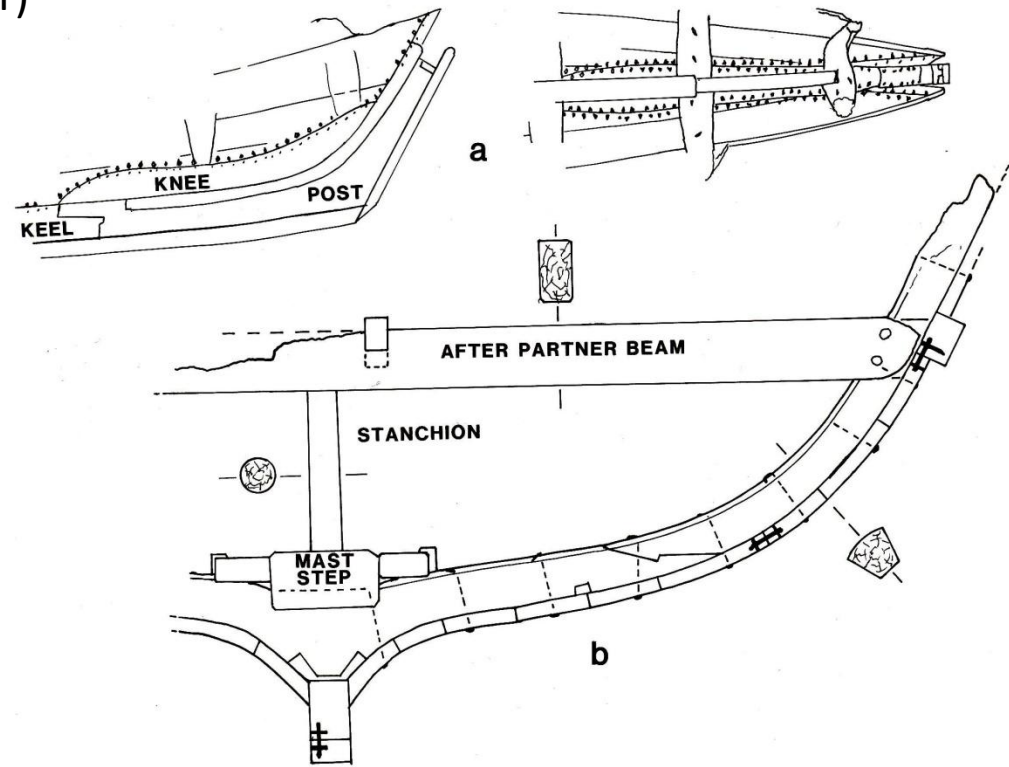


The ballast of the Ma'agan Mikhael ship is a blue schist sourced to the Aegean

The 'galley wares' of the ship are of Aegean, Cypriot and Levantine origin



How was the Ma'agan Mikhael ship built? And can that possibly assist in identifying an origin? (there is no provenience study of the timber)

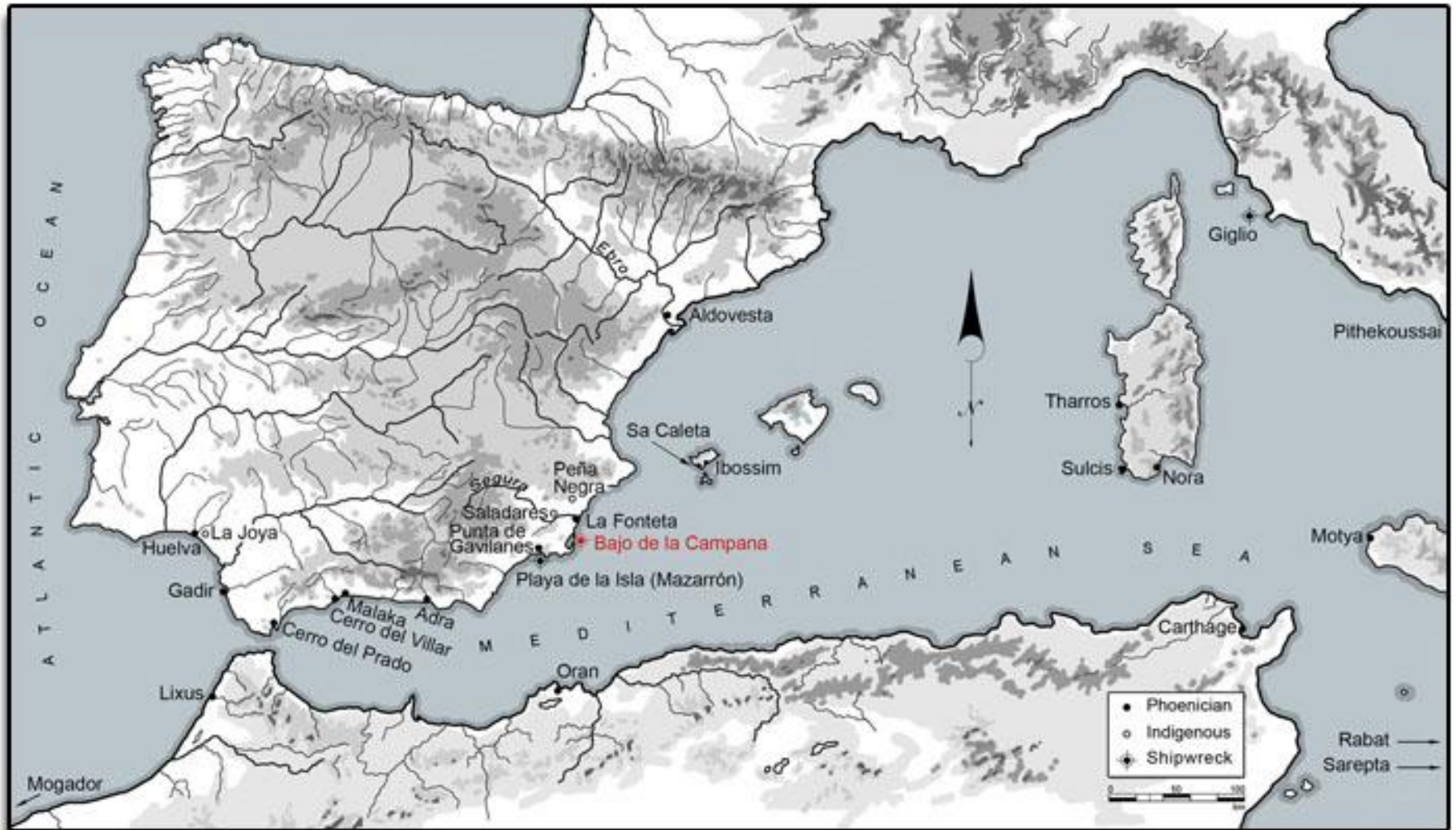


# Shipwrecks of the Phoenicians (?)





# Phoenician 'Tarshish Fleets' from biblical sources



Hebrew Tarshish (Greek Tartessos)=southwestern Iberian Peninsula, most place names mark sites with significant Phoenician material culture

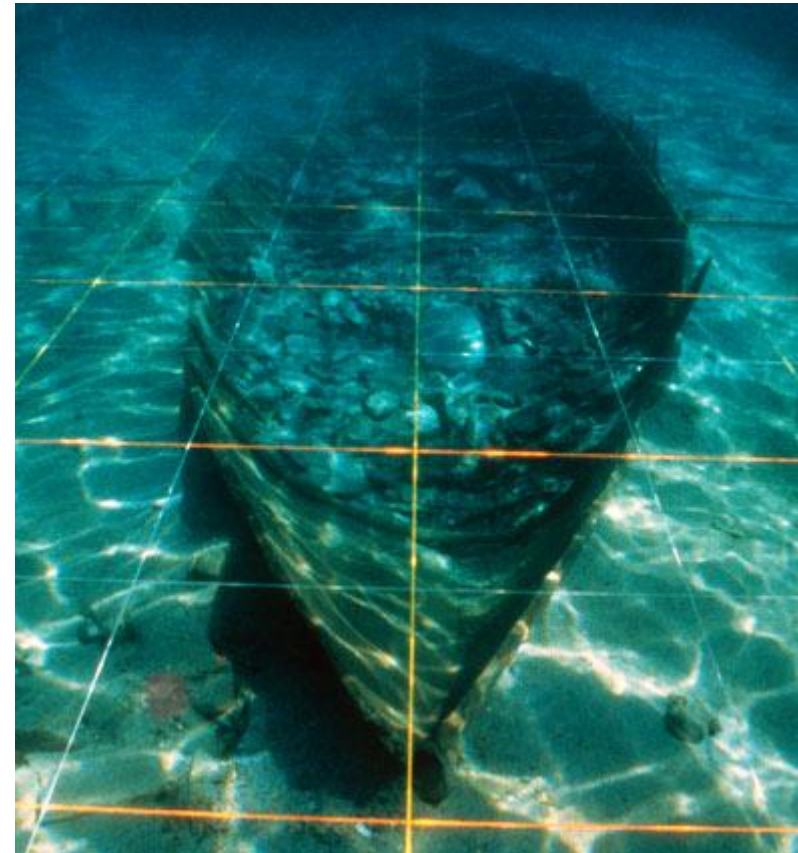
The Mazarrón shipwrecks (2 of them!), both dated to the 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE (and hardly published, but regularly described as Phoenician)

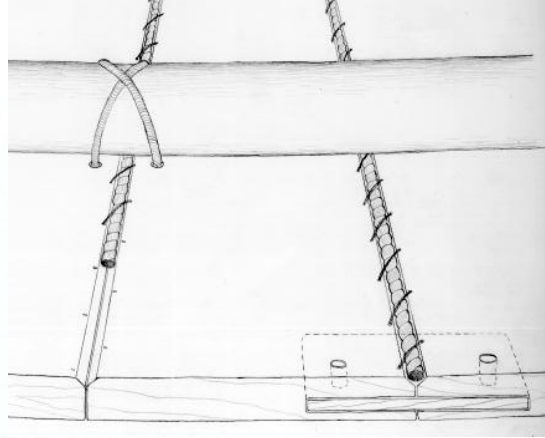
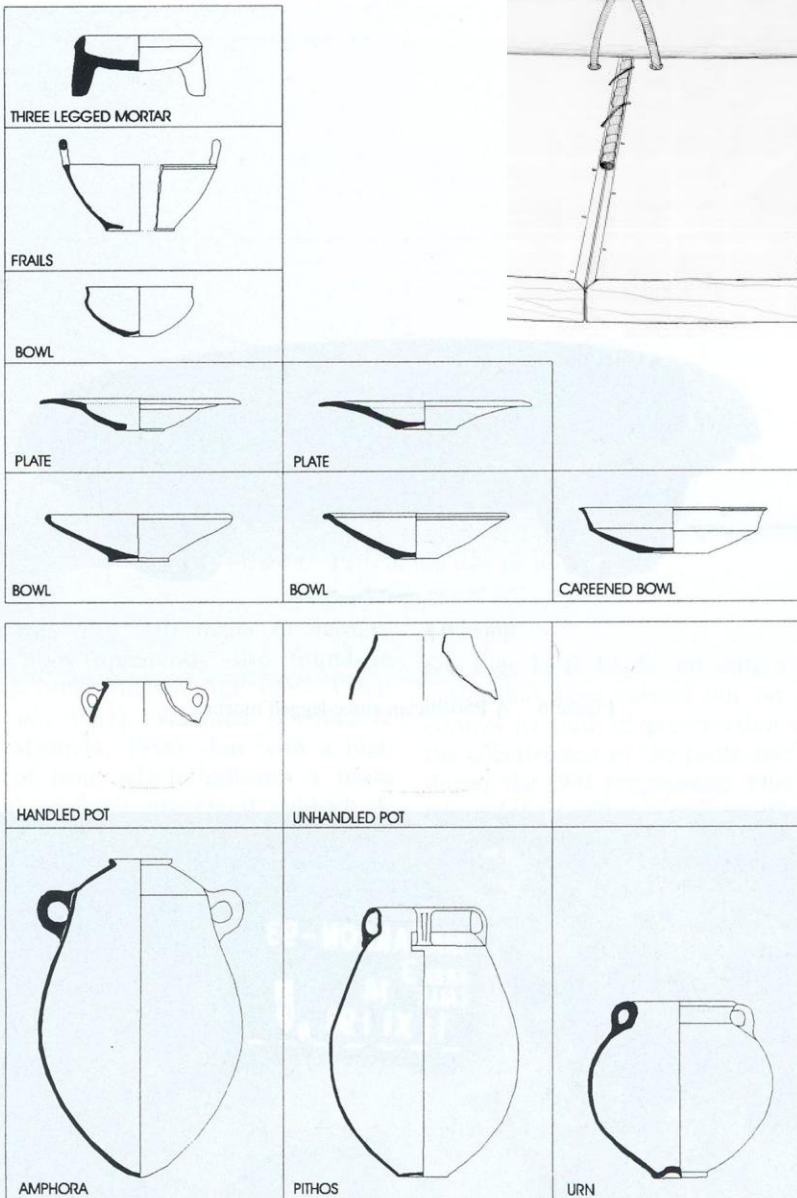


Mazarrón I (excavated in 1993-4)



Mazarrón II (excavated in 1995)





Mazarrón II: length to beam= 10 x 3m

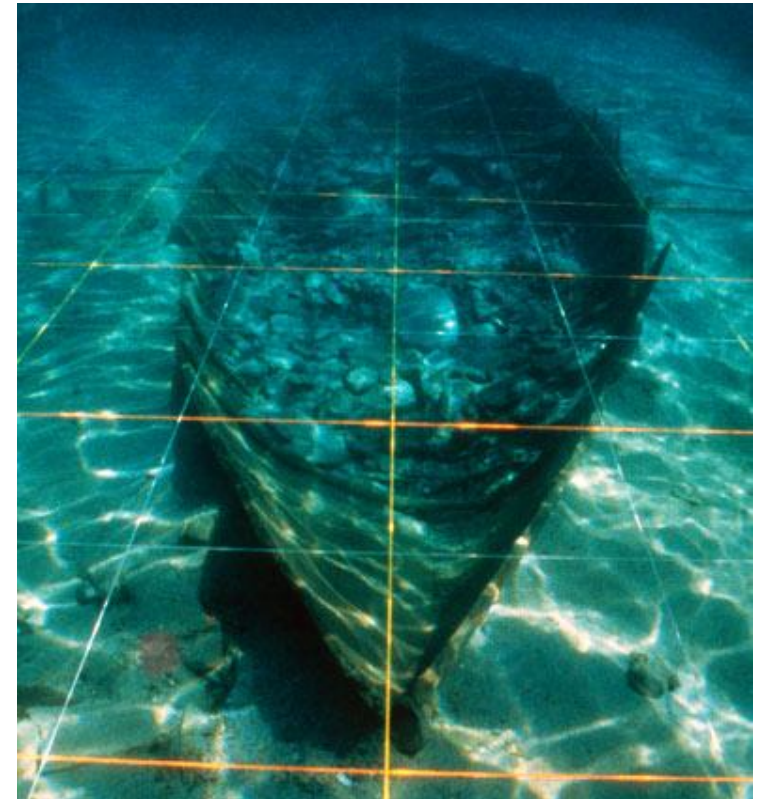
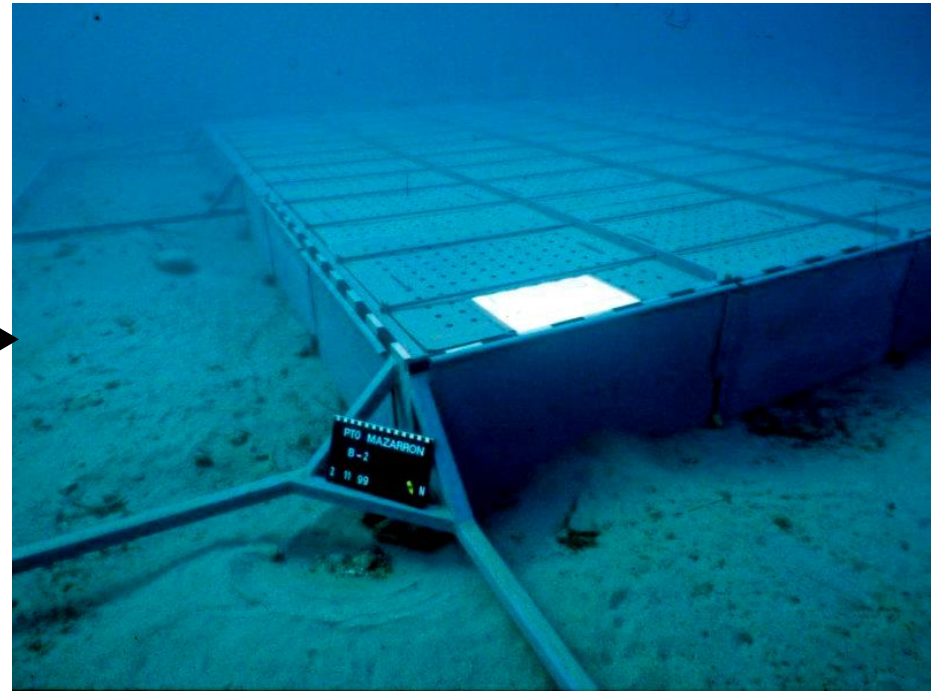


Figure 5. The most frequently occurring forms of Phoenician pottery.

Some of the pottery has been published: forms identified at Phoenician sites like Carthage

*Mazarrón II*: extraordinarily well-preserved and for the moment sealed in a steel box, and periodically uncovered for paying tourists and dignitaries (but not published)



*Mazarrón II* reconstructed in a blue display in a museum in Cartagena



# Shipwrecks of the Phoenicians (?)



There's hope: Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M to the rescue at Bajo de la Campana, begun in 2007



The ship sunk in the 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE (roughly contemporary with the *Mazarrón* shipwrecks)

54 elephant ivory tusks,  
7 of them inscribed  
with Phoenician personal names (!)

amber from the  
Baltic

jars (probably perfumed oils)



tin ingots

bronze furniture fittings

Additional elements of the cargo include timber, copper ingots, amphoras, and pitch (like bitumen)

# Bajo de la Campana appears to be the Iron Age equivalent of Late Bronze Age Uluburun

## Bajo de la Campana



## Uluburun

