

THE RAMADA CERAMIC TRADITION IN THE VITOR VALLEY (AREQUIPA, PERU) AROUND 850 CE

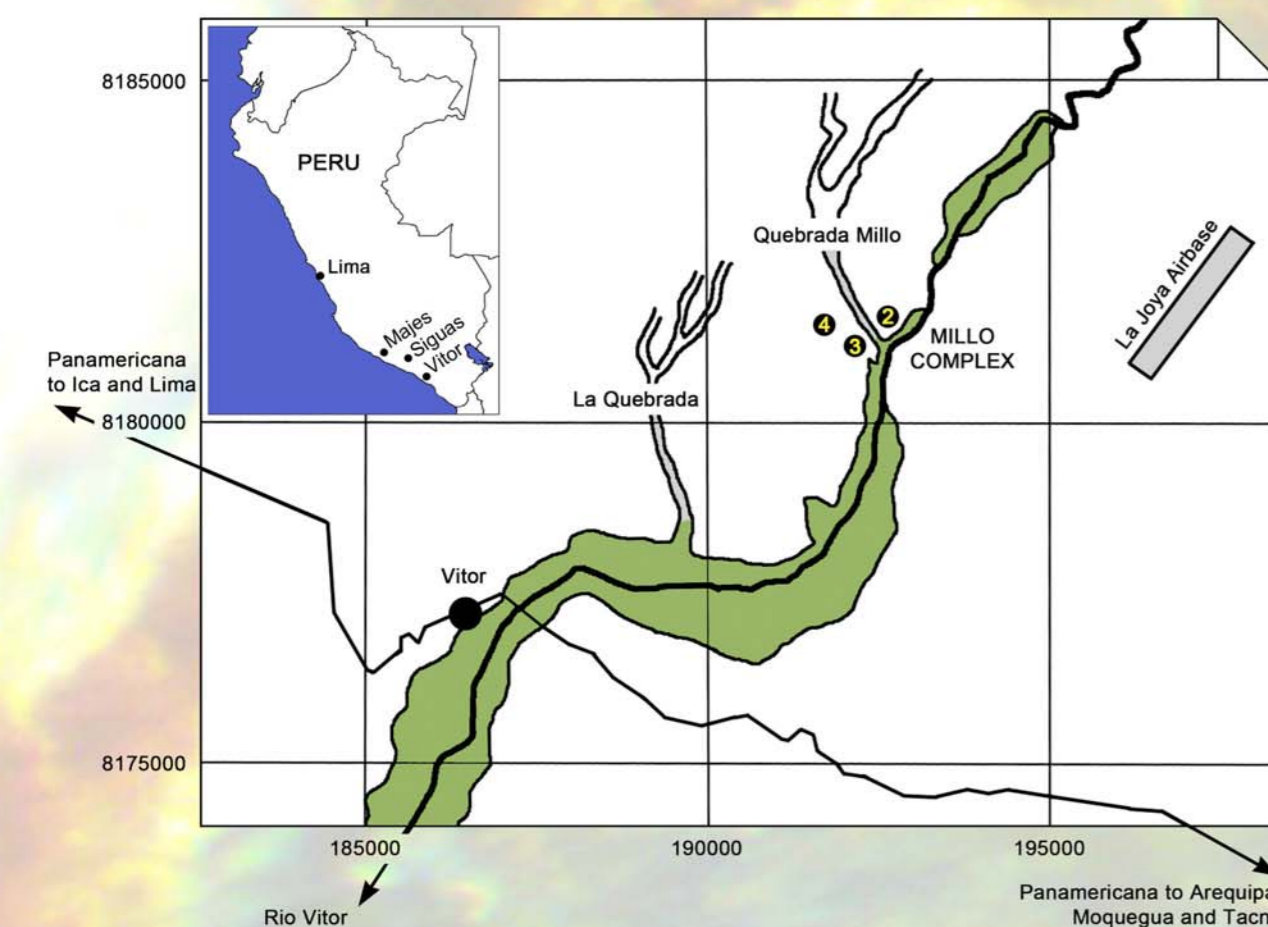
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BACKGROUND



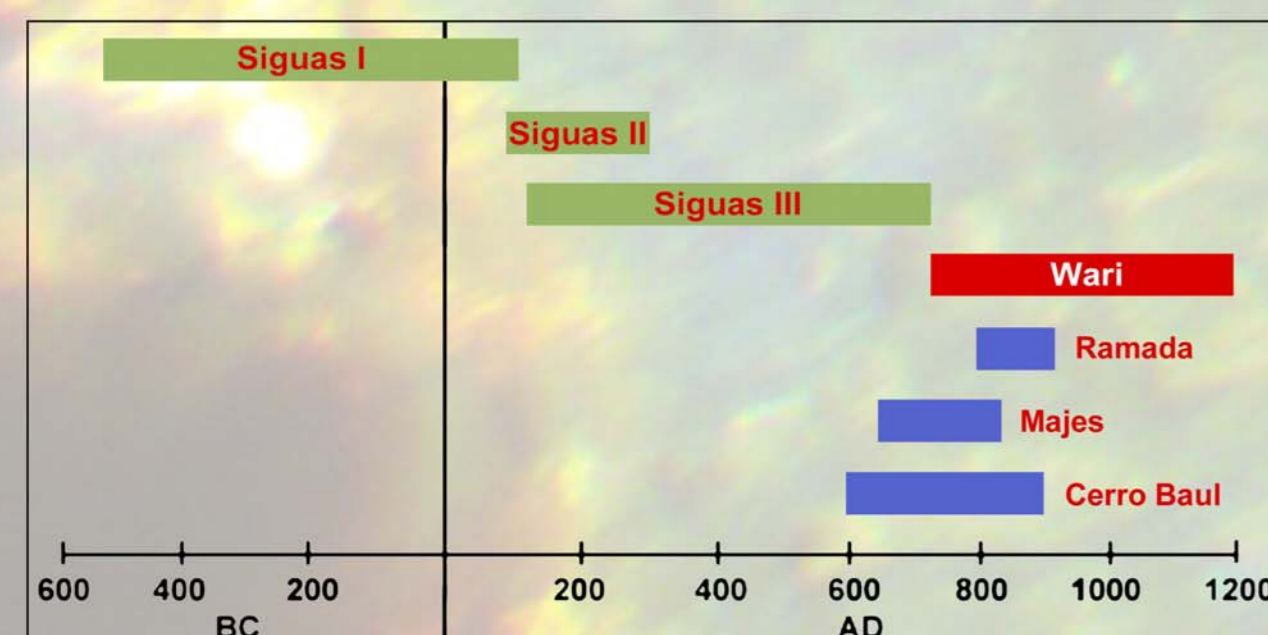
The Millo complex comprises a number of ancient settlements (ca. 1500 mASL) in the Vitor Valley in southern Peru.



Millo 2, the main settlement of the complex, as seen from the southwest (looking towards the volcano Chachani).

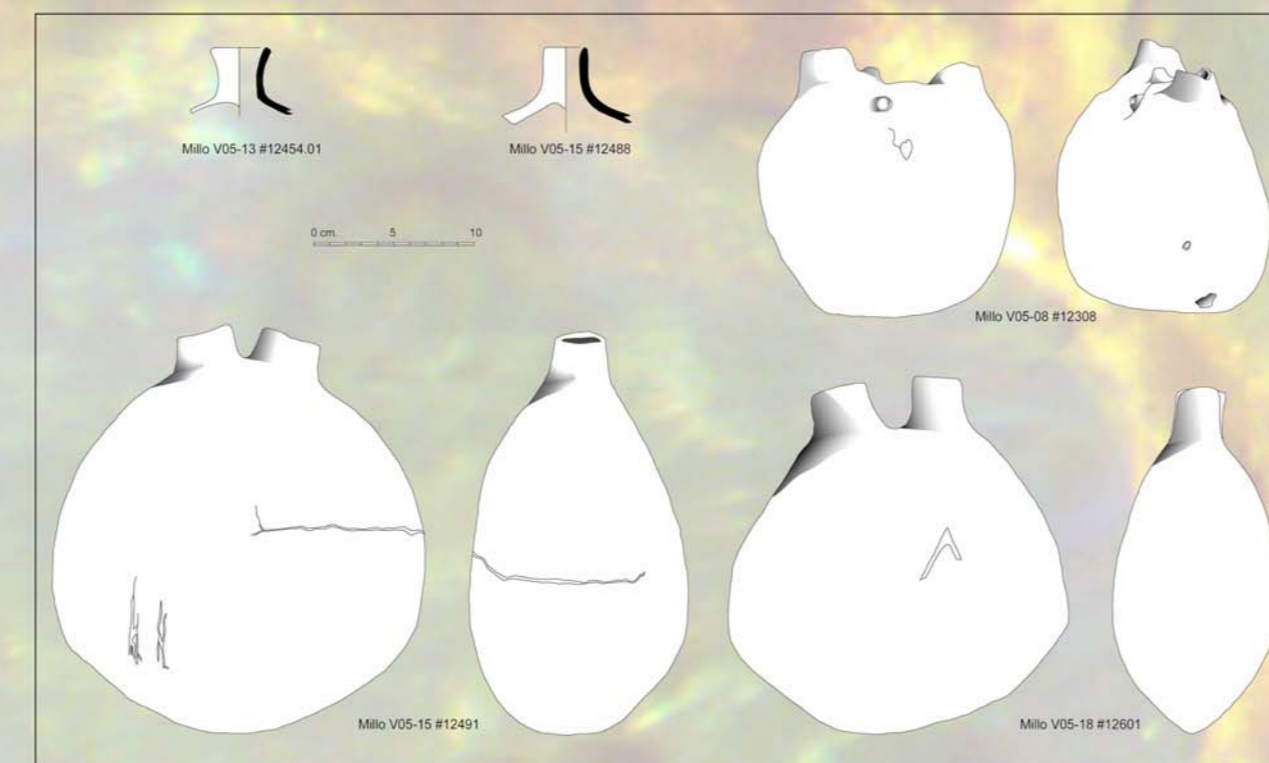


A large, ancient cemetery was found located just northeast of Millo 2; it had been heavily disturbed in both ancient and modern times.



The settlement appeared mostly associated with the Wari culture, the cemetery almost exclusively with the Ramada culture.

MACROSCOPY



Many of the sherds found in the Ramada cemetery were of double-spouted, lentil-shaped canteens without obvious decorations.

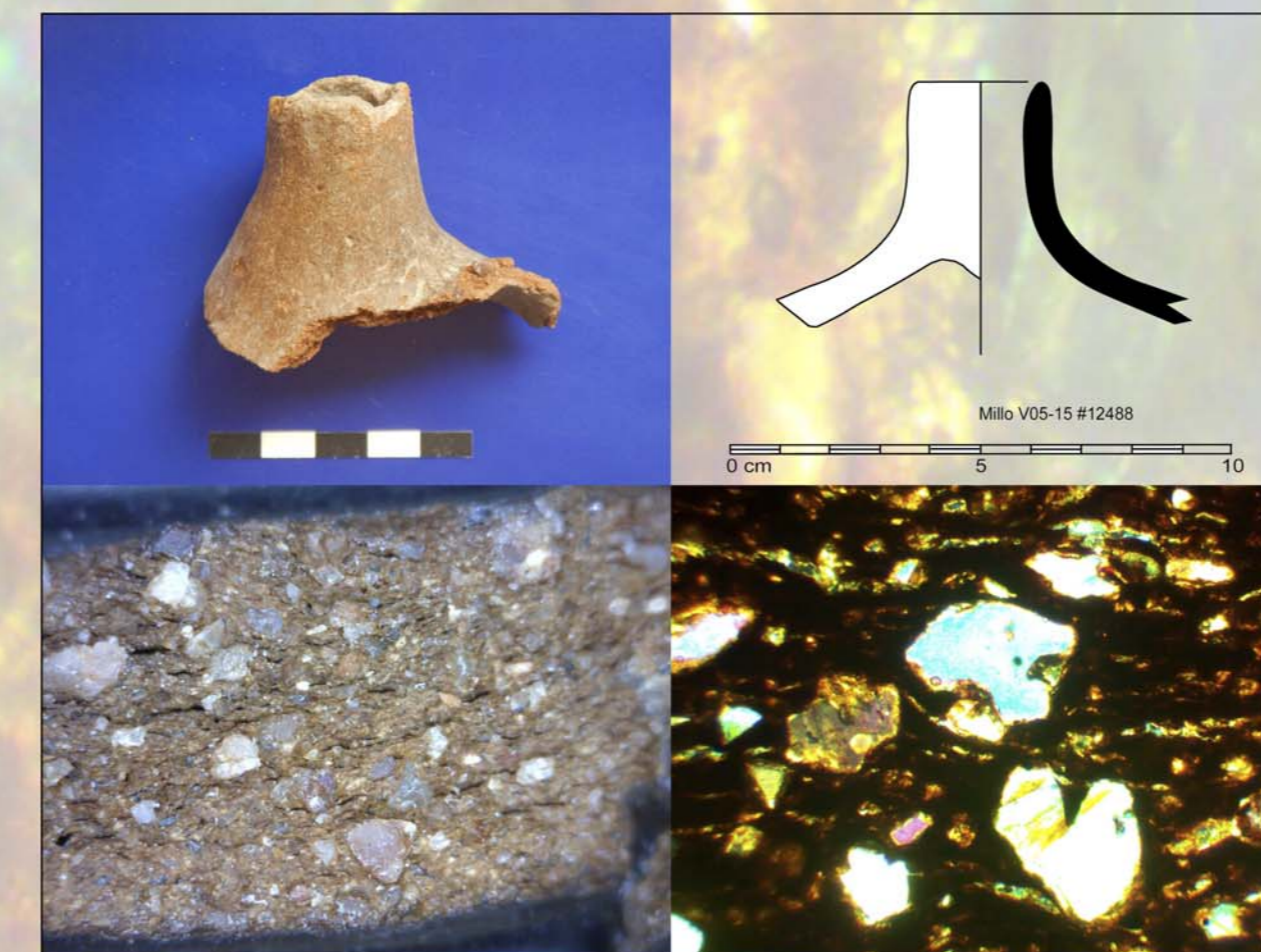


A number of vessels was found (almost) intact; these preserved enigmatic contents, including the above bung and pyro-engraved stick.

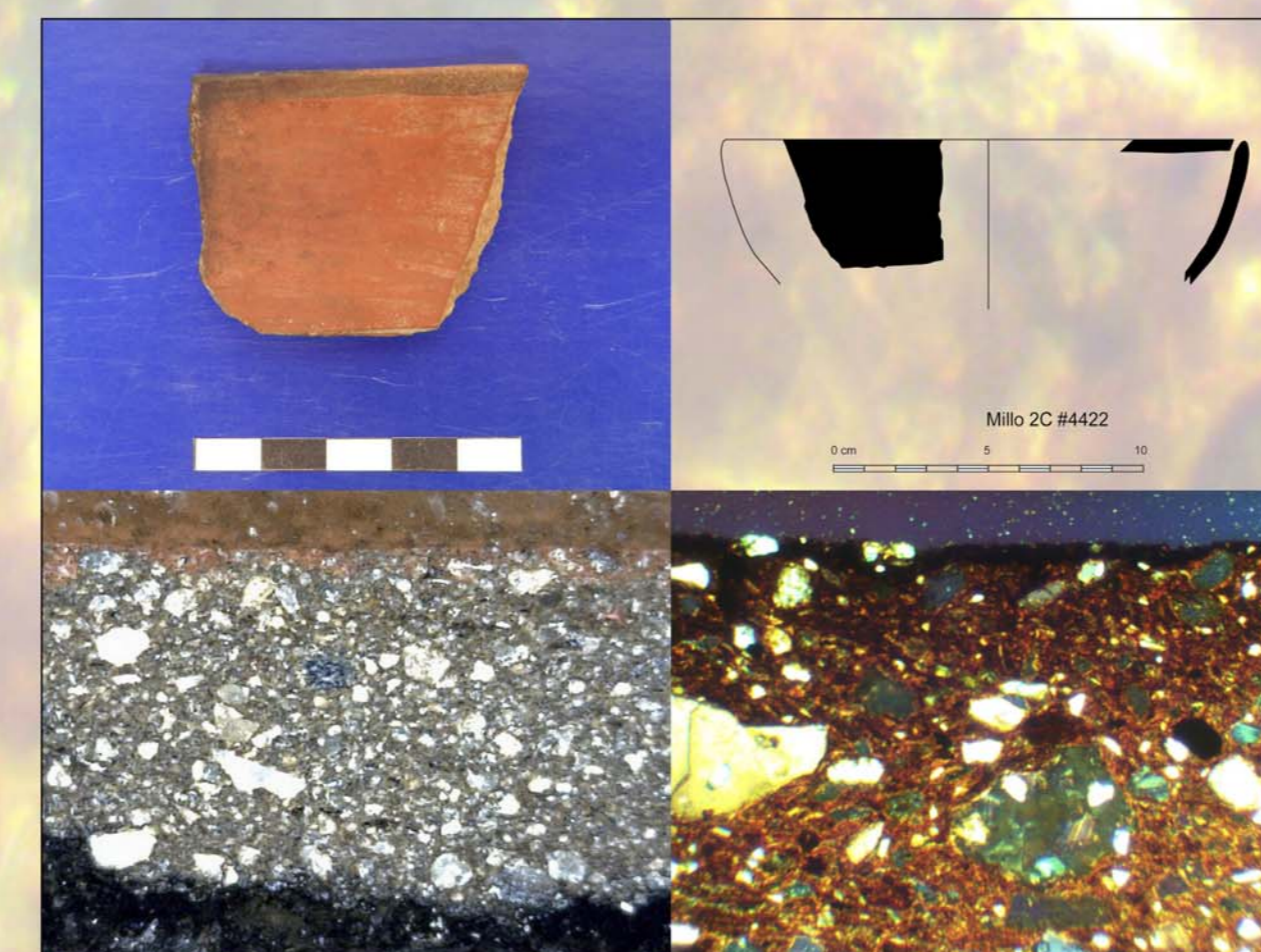


One large vessel from Millo 2, identified as a Ramada cooking-pot, had been reshaped, most likely after it was accidentally broken.

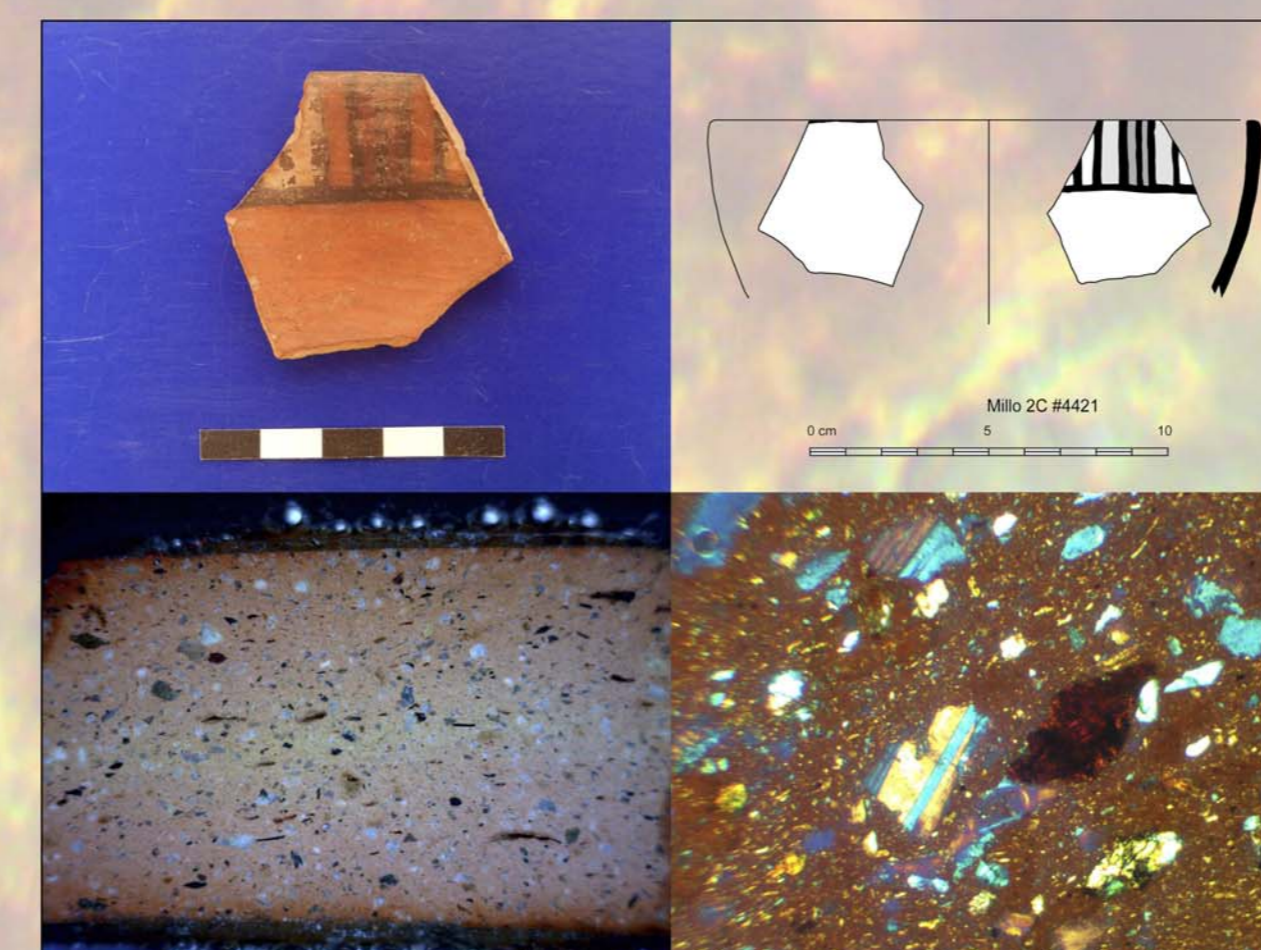
MICROSCOPY



The typical Ramada fabric is characterized by large plagioclase and biotite inclusions.

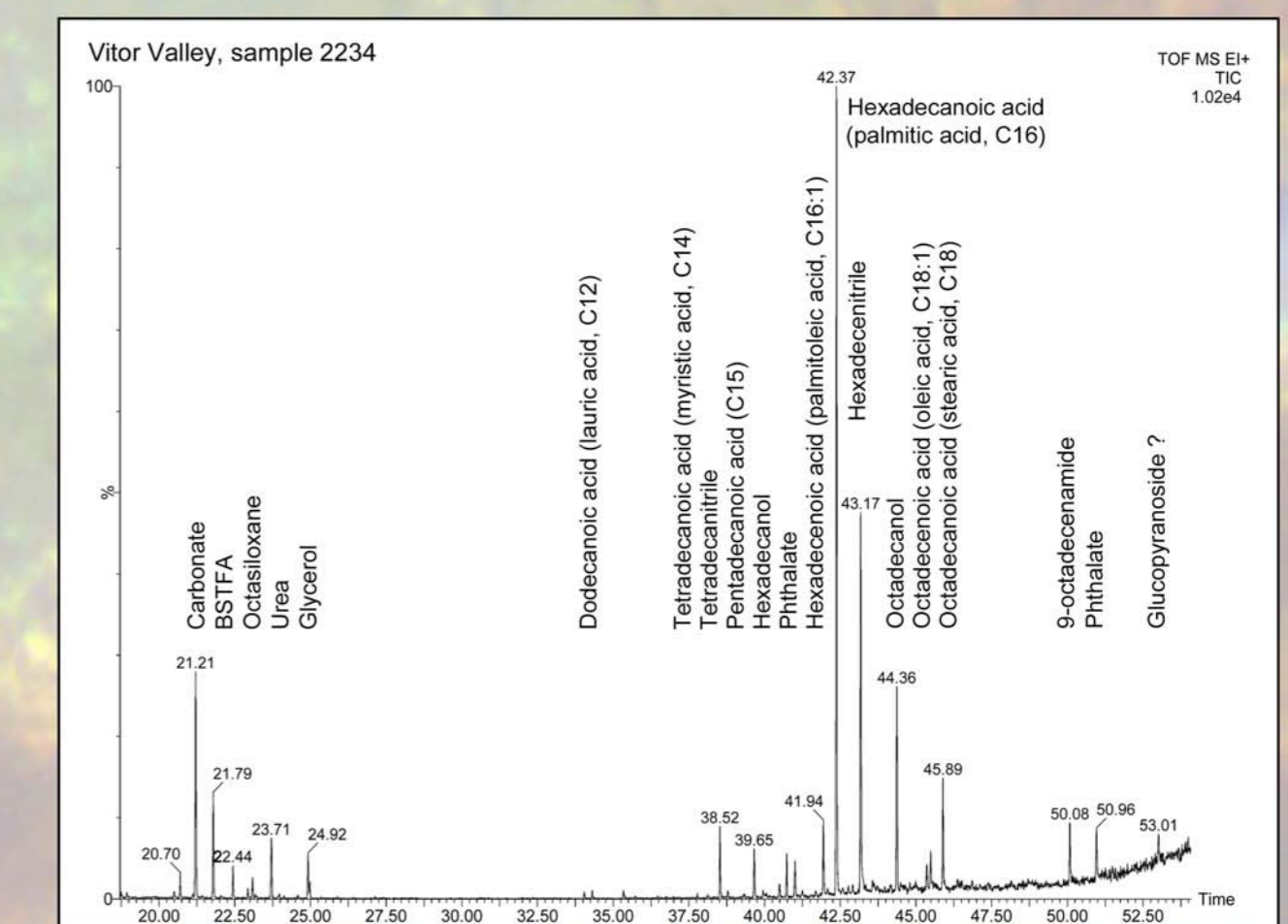


Many vessels that appeared to be Tiwanaku or Wari instead display the typical Ramada fabric.

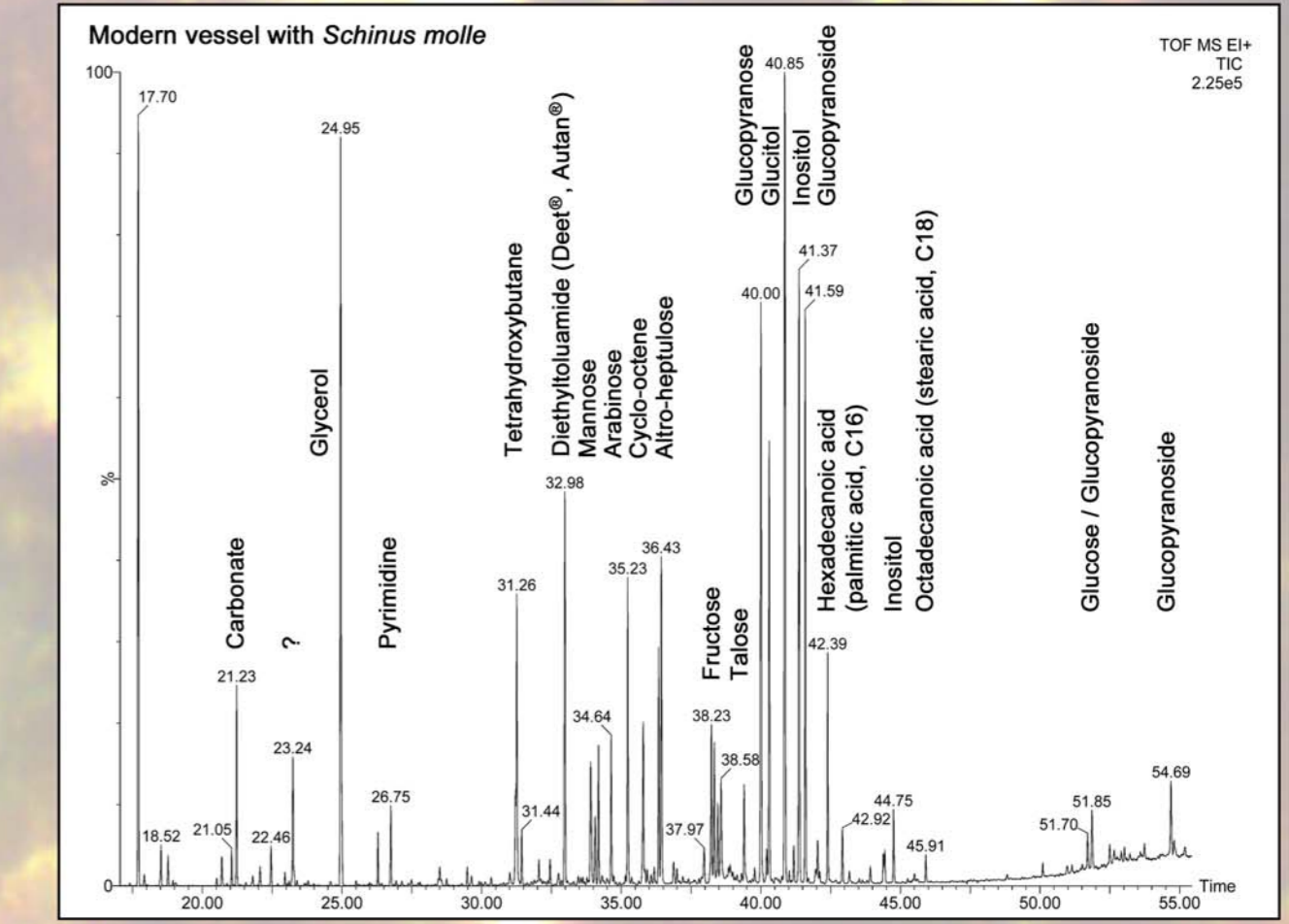


Other vessels were obviously made by workshops using quite different raw materials.

MOLECULAR



GC-MS chromatogram of the residue in a sherd from Millo 2, showing organic preservation.



GC-MS chromatogram of a modern vessel in which chicha de molle was prepared.

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