

Dr. J. W. Hayes,  
Royal Ontario Museum,  
100 Queen's Park,  
Toronto 5, Ontario.

22nd November, 1974.

Dear Dr. Hayes,

I am sending you a few more drawings and photographs of glass from Aksum in case you are able to give an opinion. They include a drawing of one of the beakers like that of which you already have a photograph, and details of variant bases of others of the set of six; and of one of the associated glass beakers - all from a tomb (GT 2) associated with a small stele. I am still uncertain of the date of the pottery in this tomb, though similar specimens have turned up in this way in contexts that I would think of widely differing date. The purple flask and purple goblet are from another tomb (DA) with pottery not dissimilar to that associated with the GT goblets.

The fragments 440/74 are from the same tomb as the flask; they are deeply engraved and the glass is almost colourless. What we took to be ear-plugs (drawing and photograph) were of a type unknown to Mr. Harden when I showed him a picture. The glass handles 68/74 and 763/74 Dr. Harden thought probably third-fourth century. The strata with which they are associated have yielded coins of considerably later date but the area, which is in the stele park, has been very greatly disturbed.

The colour slides include a selection of millefiore glass, a number of what I take to be gaming-pieces, and a miscellaneous lot marked 'A'. On this last we are rather interested in the honeycomb pattern. Note that

in the shot of the ear-plugs the top two odd-shaped ones and the one at the bottom right are not of glass. The fragments shown on the other drawing may be too small for you to say much about, but I send them just in case.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'H.N. Chittick'.

H.N. Chittick  
Director