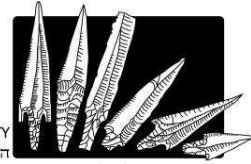


ISRAEL PREHISTORIC SOCIETY
העמותה הישראלית לפרהיסטוריה



New techno-typological study about flint from Ashkelon Iron Age I horizon

Francesca Manclossi

Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Université de Paris Ouest Nanterre la Défense and Centre de
Recherche Français de Jérusalem

framanclo@hotmail.it

Lithic collections from the second millennium BC are not very numerous and the samples are usually small. Recent archaeological excavations in Ashkelon have provided a good chipped-stone assemblage from the Iron Age I horizon with a clear stratigraphic attribution, both chronological and spatial. The relative richness of the assemblage permits us to better characterize the stone tools used in the period of the introduction of iron. To attempt this goal, this current study integrates different approaches to offer a more complete view about this category of objects that is often neglected.

The classical typological description, which permits the identification of the common formal types, is combined with a detailed technological study. This approach recognizes the methods and techniques used in the different phases of the production of the artifacts, and it is used for both formal and *ad-hoc* tools.

If the dominance of sickle segments, and particularly of large geometrics, is the common picture for all the post-Middle Bronze Age assemblages, the finer technological analysis applied on this collection allows the recognition of more differences which concern not only the shape or the size of these tools. The use of particular categories of blanks, obtained using specific procedures, and the differences in their transformation into a tool is one of the most interesting results of this study. At the same time, the *ad-hoc* tools are also analyzed in the same way with the objective to find some recurrences and observe if and how their production is linked to the formal tools.