

# **Glass and Glassmakers in Late Bronze Age Egypt.**

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Egypt's role in the production of glass in the Late Bronze age has been a topic of debate for many years. The first reports of late 19th Century scholars believed glass to be an Egyptian invention, although we now have evidence that suggests that glass was first produced in the Near East. W.M. Flinders Petrie, who excavated at a number of sites in Egypt and extensively at Amarna, suggested that glass was at least produced in Egypt from the time of Akhenaten (1352-1336 B.C.) based on his findings at the site. This supposition, although originally challenged, has now found support more widely with new finds from excavations and the use of increasingly sophisticated methods of analysis applied to ancient glasses.

This paper will review some of the evidence for early Egyptian glass, using a few specific artefacts as examples, to illustrate the new advances in our understanding of the development of Late Bronze Age glass in Egypt.