

Synchronizing Palace Destructions in the Eastern Mediterranean

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Abstract: The different destructions of the Mycenaean palaces on the Greek mainland and on Crete unfold their historical relevance on two different levels. Firstly, and in a very concrete way, they signify the sharpening crisis and subsequently the final and definite demise of the *Asiatic Mode of Production* (or else the *Palace State*) in southeastern Europe. Second, these palace destructions happened during a period, in which various *circum-Mediterranean* societies were undergoing profound social and economic changes. Similarly to Greece, those changes were marked by violent destructions of political and economic centers in a number of different regions. Since the developments of the societies living along the central and the eastern coasts of the Mediterranean Sea were interconnected in stronger or weaker relationships of uneven and combined character, especially so during the 14th and 13th centuries BCE, the question arises whether it is possible to uncover causal connections between events separated by many hundreds of kilometers. In order to fully perceive and explain the historical importance of the Mycenaean palace destructions, it is therefore necessary to widen the geographical perspective. As the precondition of any interregional historical analysis is the precise localization of specific events in time, this paper explores the timeline of major eastern Mediterranean destruction events with reference to the palace destructions in Greece as well as in terms of absolute chronology (mainly in relation to Egyptian and Near Eastern rulers' reigns). A comparison of stratified pottery assemblages forms the basis for this endeavor.

Keywords: Cyprus, Late Cypriot IIC, Late Bronze Age II, Mycenaean pottery, Syria

The Material

Synchronization between Aegean and Cypriot as well as Near Eastern settlements of the Late Bronze Age (LBA) has to rely on pottery – to be precise, on painted pottery that is found in the Levant and on Cyprus. This is because pottery of eastern origin is very rare in Greece and if it is present – e.g. in the form of transport amphorae ('Canaanite jars')² – it is not as closely datable as the painted pots of Aegean manufacture. These are obvious facts, of course, but the painted Aegean pottery found in the Levant is not uniform in appearance and therefore merits some introductory comments. There are three different principal classes of ceramics, which are related to the Aegean regions and turn up at many sites on Cyprus and along the Levantine coasts.

- 1) Pots produced in the Aegean and imported by the different populations living in the great and petty kingdoms around the eastern half of the Mediterranean. Those pots include Mycenaean vessels from the Greek mainland, western Asia Minor and the Aegean islands as well as Minoan vessels from Crete.
- 2) Vessels, which were produced in many different regions outside the Aegean, including basically all of Cyprus and the long Levantine coast, but adhere closely to the typological and stylistic categories established by the potters in the Aegean.
- 3) Pots, which in shapes, linear decoration and motifs clearly betray the influence of Aegean ceramics, but at the same time show some impact of local Levantine or Cypriot pot making traditions, which led to inventions that have transformed the Aegean prototypes profoundly –

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² Pedrazzi 2007; Knapp – Demesticha 2017.

i.e. to a degree that one cannot find any close parallels for them among vessels produced in the Aegean regions themselves.

Only categories (1) and (2) can provide reliable dates in terms of the Aegean relative chronology. They can be grouped together using the term ‘Aegean-type’ pottery, while the third category may be referred to as ‘Aegeanizing’ pottery.³

Establishing relative synchronisms with the Aegean crucially depends on the identification of vessels belonging to the Aegean-type repertoire among the stratified find assemblages from any non-Aegean site. In this respect, it is an advantage that the vast majority of imported Aegean ceramics dating to the 14th and 13th centuries BCE and found in the regions between the Nile valley and the coasts of Cyprus and Syria are ‘made in the Argolid’ (in the region of Mycenae to be precise). This fact, established by a whole series of provenance studies using NAA,⁴ paves the way for direct references to the pottery manufacture of the Mycenae workshops and the vertical settlement stratigraphies of Mycenae, Tiryns and Midea – stratigraphies that are of crucial relevance for internal Aegean synchronisms, too – as the contributions to this volume demonstrate once again.

However, even working with vessels imported from the Argolid does not always provide straightforward answers in terms of precise synchronisms. This is due to the fact that some of the most characteristic Argive export products belong to types that are only rarely (if ever) attested in the Argive settlements themselves. Examples include the amphoroid kraters FT 54/55, the pedestal bowl FT 310 and other shapes. Some others, such as the shallow strap-handled bowl FT 296, do appear in both the Argolid and the importing regions of the eastern Mediterranean, but were more frequently used outside Greece than in the Peloponnese.⁵ In the case of those types that were only incidentally used in the Argolid (or happened to break there before being shipped overseas), their Peloponnesian stratigraphic contexts can only be used as *termini ad quem* for a production period of nondescript length. Other types with a scant yet somewhat regular presence in Argive contexts can give us a vague idea about their production period in the Argolid, but it will be difficult to make any quantitative or semi-quantitative statements relative to the development of that production over time. Of course, some of the Argive types such as painted kylikes FT 258A and B that are of prime chronological value in Greece do also appear in the Near East. Yet, due to their general rarity, one often cannot draw straightforward conclusions in terms of relative dates from their presence or absence in a given context.

One final problem arises from the praxis of long-term use in the Near East. There is contextual evidence at several sites supporting the notion that especially during those phases when the Argive pottery export had almost come to an end (LH IIIB Developed, LH IIIB Final, LH IIIC Early 1), the imported vessels were treated with special care on Cyprus and all over the Levant, which led to prolonged use periods in comparison to the Argolid itself.⁶ Sometimes these vessels were also mended with lead clamps.⁷ In addition, pottery studies at various Aegean sites support

³ Jung 2010a, 150–154.

⁴ Jung 2015, 243–251 (with bibliography); Mountjoy 2015. Detailed fabric descriptions of all cataloged vessels and fabric comparison with selected vessels analyzed by NAA help to differentiate imports from local products that can occasionally be of quite high quality (on the methodological problem of simply classifying all vessels with lustrous paint as imports from Greece see also Mountjoy 2018, 31).

⁵ For these phenomena see recently: Jung 2015, 245–249, figs. 3–5; Mountjoy 2018, 31–62.

⁶ Phase E at Deir ‘Alla in Jordan provides a good example. Sealed by the same destruction were a faience vessel bearing the name of Queen Tewosret (Siptah and Tewosret: 1206–1198 BCE) in a sanctuary cella (Franken 1992, 5, fig. 2-1 [Square D500]; 7–9, 23, fig. 3-1; 30–31, fig. 3-9.5), a small Simple Style stirrup jar FT 171 in Room E2 further to the east, and an almost certainly much earlier squat stirrup jar FT 178/180/181 of LH IIIB Early–Middle date in the neighboring Room E1 (Hankey 1967, 131–132, fig. 5a, c; Warren – Hankey 1989, 161; Franken 1992, 5, fig. 2-1 [Square P600]; 37, fig. 4-1; 38, 40, fig. 4-3.17; 43–44, fig. 4-6.9; pl. 5d–e; van Wijngaarden 2002, 103–106). Note that squat stirrup jars are absent from the destruction deposits marking the end of the Argive palaces (see Podzuweit 2007, 159, Beil. 59; for the Epichosis at Tiryns see also Voigtländer 2003, pls. 135.Bü 5–Bü 18; 136–137).

⁷ A perfect example is a krater FT 281/282 with chariot motifs from Room 13 of Complex B in Area II at Pyla-Kokkinokremos: Karageorghis – Demas 1984, 33 cat. no. 12; 50, pl. 33.12 and photos on frontispiece. Güntner 2000,

the hypothesis that the main Argive palace workshops entered a severe production crisis after the first half of LH IIIB.⁸

Historical Dates

Of the different historical chronologies in the ancient Near East, the one based on the pharaonic regnal periods⁹ still provides the most direct and reliable connections to the relative chronological phases of the Aegean Bronze Age. Those connections depend on associations of Aegean-type ceramics with written documents that offer direct references to the reign of a named pharaoh and – ideally – to a specific period or even a year during his or her reign. Indirect references via named individuals such as Egyptian officials or Levantine kings that are known contemporaries of single pharaohs can also be helpful.¹⁰ In the current debate on the pharaonic regnal years, scholars have found new evidence for a shortening of the 18th dynasty (compared to an earlier accepted low chronology) and for Ramesses II's accession date in 1290 BCE.¹¹

This paper focuses on the northern half of the Levantine coast and on Cyprus, because the two latest historical dates known from written sources that we can connect to the Aegean LBA chronological systems, i.e. regnal years 5 and 8 of Ramesses III (1195–1164 BCE),¹² are connected with historical events unfolding in an area between southern Asia Minor, Cyprus and Syria.¹³ We should therefore look for Aegean-type finds from stratified contexts in these Levantine regions in an attempt to find datum lines that can be extended towards the Mycenaean world – given the fact that in Greece itself almost no datable inscribed documents from Egypt or the Near East have been found in contexts of the late Palace period and of the early Post-palatial period.¹⁴ In this context, of course, one must mention the bronze armor scale inscribed with one cartouche of Ramesses II (1290–1224 BCE)¹⁵ and found in the coastal settlement of Kanakia on Salamis.¹⁶ Underneath the earth floor of an anteroom in the upper wing of Building IΔ, the armor scale was hidden in a folded bronze sheet, which, in turn, was part of a small bronze hoard including a Mycenaean-type sickle, a slender chisel and a broad chisel, as well as a fragment of a bronze vessel.¹⁷ Christina Marabea dates the construction phase of the Eastern Complex, which includes Buildings IA, IB and IΔ, to the first half of LH IIIB.¹⁸ If the hoard was hidden during that construction phase (which, however, cannot be proven), this would provide a *terminus ad quem* for LH IIIB Early–Middle during Ramesses II's long reign.

181 cat. no. 'Wagen 168', dates this vessel by style to LH IIIB Developed. However, as mending with lead clamps was a common practice in the Aegean itself, one cannot exclude the somewhat unlikely possibility that the krater had arrived in a mended state in a southern Cypriot harbor town.

⁸ Imports from the Argolid ceased completely at Chania, where the LM IIIB1 strata contained some possible LH IIIA2 and a series of certain LH IIIB Early–Middle imports, while the LM IIIB2 strata did not yield any piece of secure LH IIIB Developed or Final date (Hallager 2005). Even at Tsoungiza in Corinthia, bordering the Argolid to the north, decorated pottery of Argive style had become very rare by that time (Dabney 2016). These observations compare quite well with the situation known from the eastern Mediterranean.

⁹ To cite but a few more recent studies see Höflmayer 2012; Aston 2014; Aston 2016.

¹⁰ Müller 2006.

¹¹ Aston 2014; Aston 2016.

¹² Throughout this paper regnal years are given according to Schneider 2010, 402; Aston 2014, 307.

¹³ Jung 2009a; Ben-Dor Evian 2018; Jung 2018a, 286–296.

¹⁴ Two faience amulets bearing the names of Ramesses II come from the Post-palatial cemetery of Perati, but are most likely heirlooms (Warren – Hankey 1989, 158, 173 n. 37).

¹⁵ Regnal years according to Schneider 2010, 402.

¹⁶ Lolos 2012b, 28–30, 57, fig. 16.

¹⁷ Lolos 2009, 31, 35, fig. 11; 38–39, fig. 16. I am indebted to Yiannos Lolos for information regarding the method of deposition.

¹⁸ Marabea 2012, 164–165.

Ugarit

The city of Ugarit, capital of a small north Syrian kingdom subject to the Great King of the Hittites, burned down around 1200 BCE. The architect Olivier Callot was able to observe that although the fire traces were found ‘absolument partout’, the palace and the richer houses – i.e. those inhabited by state officials and merchants – show the clearest traces of burning, while the ordinary houses were apparently much less affected by that conflagration. In his judgment, this does not necessarily mean that those houses did not burn at all. As they were often built against more important buildings, they should likewise have been affected by an uncontrolled fire.¹⁹ The palace and some richer houses were plundered, as the excavators infer from certain artefact scatters.²⁰ However, the destruction level of the Royal Palace did still yield a wide array of fragmentary objects made of precious and imported materials.²¹

Regarding the cause of destruction, Marguerite Yon interpreted scatters of arrowheads found across the city as evidence for fighting. In the ‘Centre de la ville’ quarter she counted 25 arrowheads on a surface of 1500m² including both streets and buildings. In the ‘Ville sud’ the excavators encountered at least 30 arrowheads with a similarly scattered distribution. Yon furthermore stressed that neither quarter yielded weapon storehouses; they were simple living quarters.²²

The Relative Chronology of Destruction and Reoccupation

During the last decades scholars found evidence for a (probably short-lived) reoccupation following that fiery destruction. The evidence consists of walls built on top of the destruction debris in certain buildings located in different city quarters. According to the estimate by Callot, those reoccupation activities remained limited to approximately one third of the tell surface. One can name as examples the House of the Armorer in the city quarter called the Residential Quarter,²³ and Building B in the ‘Grand-rue’ quarter.²⁴ However, we do not yet have a very clear picture of that reoccupation, of its duration or its end.²⁵

Seen against the background of the rather recent realization that the burnt city was just the penultimate habitation phase followed by a final one in some quarters and buildings, it is certainly problematic that we do not know the exact stratigraphic context of many typologically and chronologically important vessels that allegedly post-date LH IIIB.²⁶ Unfortunately, this is the case for most of the fragmentary deep bowls, which have been ascribed a LH IIIC date. Judging by the published fabric descriptions, two of them might not be Aegean imports.²⁷

The first deep bowl FT 284/285 belongs to Type A as defined by Christian Podzuweit – henceforth FT 284/285A or deep bowl A – and is decorated with a stemmed spiral FM 51 (Fig. 1.3). It is said to have been found inside Tomb LVII in the ‘Ville Basse Ouest’, which is odd because this

¹⁹ Callot 1994, 212–213. On the burnt Temple of Baal on the highest spot of the acropolis: Callot 2011, 63–64, 135, fig. 1. The Royal Palace may have been burned several times, but the different scholars working at Ugarit have not yet resolved all the issues regarding the precise history of that building (Matoian 2008b, 38).

²⁰ Yon 1992, 117–118.

²¹ Matoian 2008a.

²² Yon 1992, 117–118, fig. 14.5a. So far, no detailed mappings of weapon finds at Ugarit have been published.

²³ Callot 2008, 120–122.

²⁴ Matoian et al. 2013, 455.

²⁵ In some houses the architect Olivier Callot has been able to recognize this phase based on a restudy of the architectural structures in combination with Claude Schaeffer’s excavation documentation – for instance regarding the levels of precisely measured small finds – but not pottery (Callot 2008). Other houses were uncovered during more recent campaigns but final publication thereof is outstanding (Matoian et al. 2013).

²⁶ I wish to express my gratitude to Valérie Matoian for checking the context data of the deep bowls FT 284/285 for me.

²⁷ Karageorghis 2000, 64–65, classifies his cat. nos. 71–72 as local products. Indeed, his descriptions of the paint quality and of the inclusions do not fit with regular Argive products.

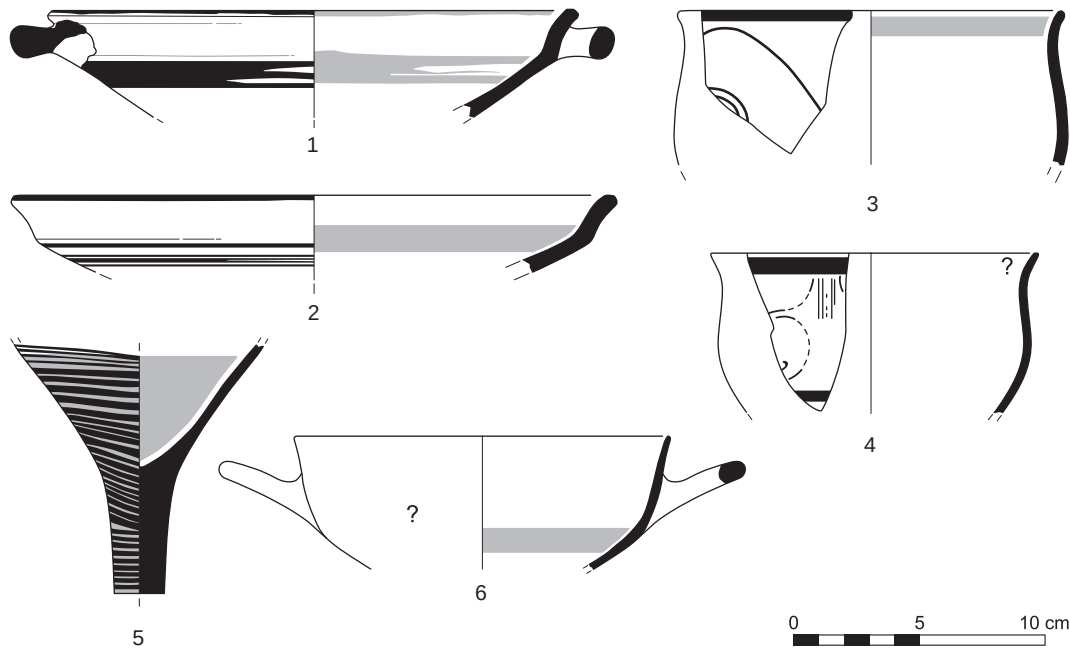


Fig. 1 Mycenaean pottery from Ugarit. Scale 1:3 (digitization St. Fagner, 1–2: after Monchambert 2004, 285 cat. nos. 1631–1632; 3: after Hirschfeld 2000, 242, fig. 32.486; 4: after Hirschfeld 2000, 242, fig. 32.487; 5–6: after Monchambert 2004, 295, fig. 119.1628–1629).

tomb is dated to the 18th–17th centuries BCE.²⁸ In the Argolid, Group A deep bowls with stemmed spirals were produced starting in LH IIIB Developed, but became more common by LH IIIB Final and especially in LH IIIC Early.²⁹ According to Vassos Karageorghis' fabric description and classification, this piece may, in fact, be an import – possibly even from the Argolid.³⁰ The second deep bowl fragment shows antithetic spirals FM 50 flanking a narrow triglyph (Fig. 1.4) and was found in the western part of Courtyard III, which had been a garden in the Royal Palace.³¹ The third fragment also has antithetic spirals FM 50, but not enough is preserved to say whether there was a central triglyph. Its context is entirely unknown.³² Like stemmed spirals, antithetic spirals on Group A deep bowls are not confined to LH IIIC, but appear already in the late Palace period – in this case even in the first half of LH IIIB.³³

Finally, there is a fragment probably belonging to a Group A deep bowl with badly preserved surface. It was found in a building situated to the south of the 'Résidence nord'. That building had three floor levels, and the deep bowl sherd lay on the second floor (Fig. 1.6).³⁴ If its decoration did

²⁸ Hirschfeld 2000, 159 cat. no. 486; 242, fig. 32.486; Karageorghis 2000, 65 no. 70; Yon 2000b, 31; and personal information by Matoïan. For the definition of deep bowl Type A as a deep bowl with a non-monochrome interior see Podzuweit 2007, 24. Type A closely resembles the so-called 'open style' Group A deep bowls of LH IIIB date as defined by Elisabeth French but encompasses a larger variety of linear decorations on the rim and interior/exterior body, while it does not include any specimens with a monochrome interior.

²⁹ Kardamaki 2009, 92, 217, 456–457, tab. 8 (type GT1fa), pl. 20.387.

³⁰ Karageorghis 2000, 65 cat. no. 70. There are several deep bowls FT 284/285A with stemmed spirals in different sectors of Pyla-Kokkinokremos (abandonment level): Karageorghis – Demas 1984, 45 nos. 22–23, pl. 35.1952/22, 1952/23; Bretschneider et al. 2019a, 82, fig. 54. However, these are most probably local products made on Cyprus.

³¹ Hirschfeld 2000, 159 cat. no. 487; 242, fig. 32.487; Karageorghis 2000, 65 cat. no. 72; Yon 2000b, 33; and personal information by Matoïan, according to whom the topographic point 222 is located in the W part of Courtyard III (see also al-Maqdissi – Matoïan 2008, 154). On the garden see Yon 1997, 47, fig. 20; 52–53.

³² Hirschfeld 2000, 159 cat. no. 488; 242, fig. 32.488; Karageorghis 2000, 65 no. 71; Yon 2000b, 35; and personal information by Matoïan.

³³ Kardamaki 2009, 217–218 (with bibliography).

³⁴ Monchambert 2004, 12, fig. 2; 14, fig. 5; 284 cat. no. 1629; 295, fig. 119.1629; 319. The description of the interior decoration ('bandes concentriques') contradicts the drawing, which shows only one broad interior band. If, instead,

indeed include a broad band deep down on its interior wall, this characteristic trait would argue in favor of a LH IIIC Early rather than of a LH IIIB Final date.³⁵ In another excavation sector in the northern part of the city, three more Mycenaean fragments of alleged LH IIIC Early date were found. They lay on a floor of an apparently open space south of the only wall excavated in that square labelled A14l. Together with imports of Cypriot pottery (White Slip, Base Ring 2) and with Palace-period Mycenaean imports, the sherds were part of a destruction layer reaching a thickness of 1m on top of that floor. Jean-Yves Monchambert, who published the relevant pottery, stated that this destruction layer could be ascribed either to the extended LBA destruction of the city or to the subsequent reoccupation phase, but did not discuss these options further.³⁶ Two fragments belong to carinated strap-handled bowls, which do not conform to the regular FT 295 shape, but have a very low and quite everted upper part (Fig. 1.1–2).³⁷ They find parallels among Cypro-Mycenaean bowls of LC IIC and early IIIA date³⁸ and would fit with Penelope Mountjoy's Cypriot bowl Type 8.³⁹ The third fragment from the floor in Square A14l, a conical kylix FT 274 with monochrome decoration type 11.0⁴⁰ (Fig. 1.5),⁴¹ is of greater chronological relevance. The streaky execution of the monochrome paint is known from this Mycenaean shape, and the fabric description might support Monchambert's classification as an Aegean import. In the Argolid, the monochrome conical kylix is a characteristic LH IIIC type, though stem fragments from Tiryns might suggest that the type was in fact an invention of the late Palace period.⁴² However, according to secure attestations, the painted conical kylix FT 274 was not regularly produced prior to LH IIIC Early 1.⁴³ The conical kylix from the destruction layer on floor 1 of Square A14l should therefore, in all probability, be a product of the Mycenaean Post-palatial period.⁴⁴

there were several fine lines, this would be a trait well attested on deep bowls A painted with various LH IIIB motifs. However, the fine interior lines of regular Argive deep bowls A are found lower down, on the bottom or very close to the bottom of the vessel (cf. Voigtländer 2003, pls. 97.S 9; 98.S 14–S 15, S 19, S 30; 99.S 97, S 115; 100.S 126, S 147; 101.S 217, S 226, S 274).

³⁵ See below with n. 106 to 115.

³⁶ Monchambert 2004, 12, fig. 2; 13, 284–285 cat. nos. 1628, 1631–1632; 295, fig. 119.1628; 296, fig. 119.1631–1632; 315–316, 321–322. In part, Monchambert's discussion of the chronological relevance of the three sherds is unfortunately circular reasoning. When he applies Peter Warren's and Vrowny Hankey's absolute date of 1190 for the start of LH IIIC Early in order to fix the destruction date of Ugarit in absolute and relative terms, he does not realize that the Aegean absolute dates depend on precisely such Near Eastern destruction contexts because specific written sources allow us to connect regnal years to those destruction layers with greater or lesser certainty.

³⁷ Although classified as Mycenaean imports, their fabric descriptions (especially the inclusions) argue against Argive products (cf. Monchambert 2004, 285 cat. nos. 1631–1632; 296, fig. 120.1631–1632).

³⁸ Jung 2009a, 43 (quoting South 1988, 226, fig. 2.K-AD1257; 228).

³⁹ Cf. Mountjoy 2018, 117–120, figs. 57–58.

⁴⁰ Decoration types in this paper follow Podzuweit's system (Podzuweit 2007, 311–316, Beil. 78a–j) including later additions (Jung 2002, 575–580, pls. I–XVII; Kardamaki 2009, 14–15, 454–455, tabs. 2–4).

⁴¹ Monchambert 2004, 284 cat. no. 1628; 295, fig. 119.1628. According to the type descriptions provided by Arne Furumark and based on the specimens he quoted, one can differentiate FT 274 from FT 275 by proportion. In general, FT 274 has a deeper vessel and a shorter stem than FT 275 does (cf. the discussion in Jung 2002, 146).

⁴² Podzuweit 2007, 107, Beil. 54. A further exception may be given by a fragment from Mycenae. E. French in: French – Stockhammer 2009, 177, tab. 1; 191, fig. 5.3 (but the vessel is very shallow, which might only fit with FT 275, if it really is a kylix and not a shallow cup).

⁴³ Kardamaki 2009, 324–325, 332, 385, 397, 401. The LH IIIC Early 1 abandonment phase of Building Complex I of the settlement at Kontopigado yielded a well-preserved specimen of FT 274 with decoration type 9.2 (Kaza-Papageorgiou – Kardamaki 2012, 168, fig. 11.33; 173–174), while similarly decorated fragments of conical kylikes are part of the Pit 1 deposit at the same site (Kaza-Papageorgiou et al. 2011, 213, 222, 246–247, fig. 13.83–88). A completely preserved painted vessel from a LH IIIB Final context in the Lower Citadel of Tiryns (Building VI, Room 123) shows a profile which one could typologically classify as halfway between the classical Palace-period FT 258 and the conical FT 274 (Kilian 1982, 401, 404, fig. 15.8; for the context see Damm-Meinhardt 2015, 158, pl. 42.2).

⁴⁴ The rather small sherds of Minoan coarse ware stirrup jars and Trojan kraters with incised wavy lines from the underlying Floor 2 are no real help in establishing a precise *terminus ante quem* in terms of Aegean relative chronology for the three sherds on Floor 1 (but cf. Monchambert 2004, 316, 302–303, fig. 126.1676, 1678; 309–310, fig. 128.1696, 1699).



Fig. 2 Mycenaean krater of southeast Aegean provenance, found at Ugarit in the House of Yabninu (National Museum of Latakia, photo R. Jung, view of the object originally published in Courtois – Courtois 1978, 349, fig. 54B).

Finally, there are various vessels of southeastern Aegean provenance found at different spots inside the settlement as well as in the Royal Palace of Ugarit which are often dated to LH IIIC or to a transitional phase of LH IIIB2 to LH IIIC Early.⁴⁵ The most famous of these vessels is the amphoroid krater FT 56 decorated with men, horses, wild goats and dolphins and found in the destruction level of a storeroom inside the House of Yabninu, also called the Southern Palace (Fig. 2).⁴⁶ The fact that such vessels from the wider region of the Dodecanese and Caria turn up in different contexts of the final LBA phases in the northern and central Levant as well as on Cyprus,⁴⁷ gives them a certain relative chronological value, but as long as we are lacking a detailed publication of a settlement sequence in their region of origin – a sequence covering both LH IIIB and LH IIIC – we cannot use them for establishing precise synchronisms with the Mycenaean relative chronology.

In drawing a conclusion from this discussion of relative chronology, which focuses on the typologically latest Mycenaean-type vessels from Ugarit, one needs to admit that the available evidence does not unequivocally support a synchronization of the conflagration with LH IIIC Early, although a connection with this Mycenaean phase seems to be slightly more plausible than with the preceding phase LH IIIB Final.

⁴⁵ Warren – Hankey 1989, 159–160; Mountjoy 2004.

⁴⁶ Courtois – Courtois 1978, 346–350, figs. 54–54C; Courtois 1990, 104, fig. 1; 129, fig. 3; 135–140, figs. 4–6A, B; Yon 1997, 63, 154–155 cat. no. 32.

⁴⁷ For the distribution see Jung 2009b, 79, 84, 91, fig. 4.

The Absolute Chronology of the Extensive Destruction Preceding the Reoccupation Phase

Fortunately, we are in a better position regarding the stratigraphic location of those artefacts that provide us with anchors for the absolute chronology for the end of Ugarit in its function as the capital of a petty kingdom. The first relevant object is a grip-tang sword of apparently local type with an incised cartouche bearing the *nomen* of Pharaoh Merneptah,⁴⁸ who reigned from 1224 to 1214 BCE.⁴⁹ The sword was part of a larger group of bronze weapons and implements which lay in the House of the Armorer, in a space which may have been a courtyard. Their scattered position and the fact that the level on which they were excavated corresponds to the foot of the wall limiting the courtyard, according to Callot, suggests that these bronzes had fallen from a higher story into the courtyard. During the reoccupation phase the inhabitants raised the floor level of the courtyard and positioned two stone troughs on top of the above mentioned and now ruined wall of the original house. With this amendment the house now had a wide courtyard suited for housing animals, which would drink from the troughs.⁵⁰ Thanks to Callot's architectural and stratigraphic analysis, we can thus be certain that the well-known Merneptah sword was initially stored in the House of the Armorer and got buried during the fire that destroyed the house and the city. This conflagration must therefore have happened during or after Merneptah's reign.

Two written documents help to narrow down the time of the destruction further. These are two letters found inside the House of Urtēnu in the city quarter named 'Sud-Centre'.⁵¹ Both are written in Akkadian and were sent from Egypt to 'Ammurapi, last king of Ugarit. The first (RS 94.2176) is very fragmentary. Apart from the name of the recipient, only the sender's titles are extant, and these identify Pharaoh Seti II (1214–1208).⁵²

The sender of the second letter (RS 86.2230) is Beya (or Bay), chancellor to Pharaoh Siptah (1206–1200):⁵³ 'Ainsi parle Beya, le chef des gardes du corps du grand roi, du roi du pays d'Égypte mē[me]: à 'Ammurapi, roi du pays d'Ou[garit].'⁵⁴ According to a hieratic ostrakon from Deir el-Medina, Siptah had Beya executed in his 5th regnal year,⁵⁵ which would be 1201 BCE. This year is a *terminus post quem non* for the sending of the letter found in the House of Urtēnu. It provides us with the latest date, which we can grasp based on the documents found at Ugarit itself. The time span between this date and Ramesses III's year 8 (1187) amounts to 14 years.⁵⁶ From a purely chronological point of view then, ascribing the arson of Ugarit to the Sea Peoples' destructive actions reported for Karkamiš (northern Syria)⁵⁷ in the year 8 inscription⁵⁸ thus gains in probability.⁵⁹

There is an additional argument supporting this theory. This is the long-suspected connection between seaborne raids leading to the destruction of coastal towns by fire, as reported in various

⁴⁸ Schaeffer 1956, 169–173, fig. 170, pl. 8; Yon 1997, 81, 178–179 cat. no. 62; M. Gabolde in: Galliano – Calvet 2004, 109 cat. no. 82; Bietak – Jung 2008, 214–216, fig. 2 (with further bibliography); Jung 2009c, 139–143, fig. 7.6.

⁴⁹ Regnal years according to Schneider 2010, 402.

⁵⁰ Callot 2008, 120–122, figs. 1–2.

⁵¹ On the House of Urtēnu see Yon 1997, 96–98; Calvet 2004.

⁵² Lackenbacher – Malbran-Labat 2016, 86–87, pls. 36, 138.

⁵³ Regnal years according to Schneider 2010, 402; cf. also Schneider 2003, 138–140, 144, 146.

⁵⁴ Arnaud 2001, 278–279, 289, fig. 15.

⁵⁵ Grandet 2000.

⁵⁶ Cf. Yon 1992, 119–120.

⁵⁷ For Klengel 1992, 113–114, has pointed out: 'When the "land of Karkamish" is mentioned in texts of the 13th century B.C.; this could point not only to the immediate territory of this city but also to all inland Syria in the north, belonging to or controlled by the kings of Karkamish.'

⁵⁸ Edel 1985, 31; see now also Ben-Dor Evian 2018, for a different reading, according to which the destroyers of kingdoms were not seaborne attackers or pirates, but at least initially foreign (land) troops betraying the kings, in whose armies they had been serving. However, further written evidence from the House of Urtēnu does indeed provide evidence for a seaborne enemy attack (see below).

⁵⁹ For a similar reasoning see already Yon 1992, 120.

letters found at Ugarit, on the one hand, and the destructions mentioned in Ramesses' inscriptions, on the other.⁶⁰ One of these letters is dated to the reign of 'Ammurapi, last king of Ugarit.⁶¹ The House of Urtēnu yielded one additional letter that seems to provide some historical background information, as it can be dated to the early regnal years of a king who is generally thought to be 'Ammurapi.⁶² The letter, sent by the Hittite Great King to the governor of Ugarit,⁶³ mentions the Šikalāyū, 'who live on ships' and about whom the Hittite Great King is trying to assemble information by interrogating a former captive of those Šikalāyū. Seaborne warriors virtually unknown to the established military powers in the eastern Mediterranean were thus disturbing the sea routes and endangering the life of the coastal settlements at least during a long period of 'Ammurapi's reign. Moreover, the Akkadian Šikalāyū *ethnikon* has a hieroglyphic equivalent among one of the Sea Peoples *ethnika* listed in Ramesses III's year 8 inscription.⁶⁴ Although there is no consensus among scholars about which equation is the correct one, we have both a lexical correspondence and a parallel in the content of both written sources, for the Šikalāyū / Tjekery or Šekeleš who, according to Ramesses III, come from islands,⁶⁵ while according to the Hittite Great King, they live on ships. Both pieces of information point to some Mediterranean region west of the lands controlled by the Great Kings. This evidence makes an attack advancing from the west coast towards the hinterland a plausible scenario for the cause of conflagration and fighting that ended the Ugaritic kingdom.

One final letter, again from the House of Urtēnu, provides some important topographic detail that could almost be called a confirmation of the mentioned hypothesis. Although fragmentary and addressed to an unnamed king (who might be the king of Karkamiš), this letter is of crucial importance, because it says: 'At the moment the enemy troops are stationed at Ra'šu and their vanguards [?] have been sent against Ugarit.' The sender is named 'Ammurapi', who – though mentioned only as 'servant', without further title – most probably is King 'Ammurapi, and he

⁶⁰ Yon 1992, 116–117 (on RS 34.129 regarding Šikalāyū living on ships as well as on RS L 1 by the king of Alašiya [Cyprus] to King 'Ammurapi regarding enemy ships); Noort 1994, 86–88 (on RS L 1; RS 20.238; RS 20.18); Lackenbacher 2002, 192–194.

⁶¹ RS L 1: Nougayrol 1968, 85–86.

⁶² The text of the letter explicitly states that the king 'is (still) young. He does not know anything' (Dietrich – Loretz 1978, 55 lines 5–7; Klengel 1992, 150; Lackenbacher – Malbran-Labat 2005, 227–228). Provided that king is indeed 'Ammurapi, this probably means the letter was written during the reign of Merneptah (cf. Singer 1999, 732–733, tab.).

⁶³ RS 34.129: Dietrich – Loretz 1978; Lehmann 1979; Malbran-Labat 1991, 38–39.

⁶⁴ Different scholars suggested either the Škr/Šklwš3 (Lehmann 1979, 489; Redford 2008) or the Tkr/T3k3r/T3k3ry (Rainey 1982, 133–134; Edel 1984; Lehmann 1985, 34).

⁶⁵ Edel 1985, 225 line II,3A; now also Wüthrich – Matic' forthcoming. Even when adopting Shirly Ben-Dor Evian's new reading proposal of the inscription, according to which the named foreign lands fell victim to a conspiracy by *thr* troops, who in turn are interpreted as soldiers of foreign origin (Ben-Dor Evian 2018), one has to deal with military actions (in the form of some 'betrayal') occurring on some islands and thus to the west of the Levantine coast. For the crucial point in changing the interpretation, i.e. the *thr* soldiers being the agents of the whole betrayal, uprooting and scattering sequence of actions, Ben-Dor Evian quotes Wolfgang Helck (originally Helck 1979, 136). However, in his translation of the initial passage in the year 8 inscription, Helck has said something different from what Ben-Dor Evian states in her English translation of his reading. Helck wrote 'die Fremdländer ... entwurzelt und verstreut auf die Truppen der Länder [my emphasis]'. In his translation of the inscription, this explains the way in which the foreign lands had left according to the preceding part of the sentence ('die alle zusammen von ihren Inseln aufgebrochen waren'). According to Helck, they had left their islands in the state of being uprooted and scattered among the troops of the lands [i.e. troops of different countries], not 'by the land troops' (which in German would be 'durch die Landstreitkräfte' or something similar). For Helck, they were intermingled with troops of the regions from which they set off. However, in his discussion of the passage Helck states that 'being scattered among the troops of the (foreign) lands' seems to indicate that the Sea People groups had been 'als tuhir, Landsknechte' (lansquenets) in those countries and that they eventually met in some kind of a mercenaries' uprising in Amurru (Helck 1979, 137). He thus arrives at a similar point as Ben-Dor Evian does, but for him the uprising only happens in Amurru. Furthermore, he seems to imply a cooperation of those lansquenets with 'free' seaborne comrades in plundering cities such as Ugarit (Helck 1979, 137).

urges his 'Lord' to send troops and chariots as relief, while mentioning that he has already written to his Lord three times prior to this. Ra'su is modern Rās Ibn Hani, which was an Ugaritic harbor town situated just 4km southwest of Ugarit and housed further palaces of the royal family. Not surprisingly, the editors of the letter ask themselves if the fact that this letter has not been sent was due to the deterioration of the situation under pressure from the enemy.⁶⁶ Thus, this letter may have been one of the last written at Ugarit and reporting on the very reason why the city eventually fell to the unnamed enemy that had evidently come from the sea.

The excavation of the last LBA habitation phase of the North Palace at Rās Ibn Hani again brought to light evidence for a conflagration. In their careful analysis of the stratigraphy, Élisabeth du Puytison-Lagarce and Jacques Lagarce have demonstrated that this destruction by fire resulted from systematic arson aided by additional fuel brought into an almost completely emptied building. Even most of the pottery had not been left inside the palace before the arson. This distinguishes the North Palace of Rās Ibn Hani neatly from the Royal Palace at Ugarit.⁶⁷ Rather than ascribing this very systematic and thus probably planned action to the 'enemy troops', one may think of some kind of scorched-earth policy employed by the Ugaritans themselves before retreating towards Ugarit further inland.

Returning to the House of Urtēnu, we need to take note of several Mycenaean vessels found within it. They originated from different production regions, and this fits nicely with the wide range of international affairs that are documented in the archives of that house. Provided that none of them belongs to any reoccupation phase,⁶⁸ the well-preserved vessels in particular should have been intact and probably in use when the house was destroyed. These include one amphoroid krater, FT 56, from the southeastern Aegean⁶⁹ and an amphoroid krater painted in the Cypriot Rude or Pastoral Style.⁷⁰ For its shape and the standing s-shaped spirals on the neck, the latter finds a very good counterpart at Pyla-Kokkinokremos on the southern Cypriot coast.⁷¹ As the amphoroid krater is a very rare shape among the Pastoral Style vessels,⁷² this parallel is suggestive of a direct synchronism between Pyla and Ugarit. A fragment of a second Pastoral Style vessel from the House of Urtēnu belongs to a bell-shaped krater, FT 281/282.⁷³

In assessing the chronological significance of these vessels, one needs to consider their exact find spot in Rooms 2072 and 2053. As in many Ugaritic houses, the House of Urtēnu has its own built chamber tomb, and this tomb was plundered. Its dromos opens to Room 2072, while Room 2053 communicates directly with 2072 by a door immediately north of the dromos. Therefore, Marguerite Yon has hypothesized that the two vessels may have been among the original grave gifts of that plundered tomb.⁷⁴ The tomb and the neighboring rooms yielded several amphoroid kraters, FT 54/55, of Argive LH IIIB style.⁷⁵ If all these pots were indeed originally deposited inside the tomb, their funerary use may, of course, antedate the last phase of the city by an unknown span of time.

⁶⁶ RS 94.2169: Lackenbacher – Malbran-Labat 2016, 33–35, pls. 8, 106. Surprisingly, Jesse Millek does not discuss this letter in his recent papers on LBA destruction events in the northern Levant (Millek 2020/2021; Millek 2021).

⁶⁷ du Puytison-Lagarce – Lagarce 2006.

⁶⁸ The stratigraphic evidence and the finds are not finally published. The first monographic publications of the House of Urtēnu examine the archival record.

⁶⁹ Lombard 1995, 230, 234, fig. 4.RS 92.2233; Jung 2009b, 84.

⁷⁰ RS 88.2221 + 2228 + 2229 (Yon et al. 1990, 20, 22, fig. 16; Lombard 1995, 230, 234, fig. 4.RS 88.2222).

⁷¹ Surface find from the Dikaioi excavations (Karageorghis – Demas 1984, 48, pls. 19.1953/V-21/25; 35.1953/V-21/25), joining a new fragment (PK18.05.00403-C) from Sector 5, Space 5.16, of the ongoing Belgian excavations (rim diameter 31cm [39%], base diameter 11cm [73%], Jung et al. in press, fig. 11). A further parallel with similar neck motifs comes from Kazaphani (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 207 cat. no. VI.9; Karageorghis 2008, 174–175, fig. 4, pl. 2).

⁷² Karageorghis 2008.

⁷³ Yon 2000a, 14, 22, fig. 5d.

⁷⁴ Yon 2000a, 7; cf. Lombard 1995, 236, fig. 7; Calvet 2004.

⁷⁵ Yon 2000a, 7, 12, 21, fig. 4; 22, fig. 5b, c; 23, fig. 6c–e.

A small globular stirrup jar, FT 173, comes from Room 2135, which is located in the rear (to the east) of the tomb and does not communicate with the dromos.⁷⁶ It should therefore be part of the house inventory. Penelope Mountjoy recently assigned it to a pattern-decorated subgroup of the Cypriot Simple Style,⁷⁷ which unfortunately cannot be used for a fine-phased correlation with Aegean pottery phases.

To sum up, the conflagration of Ugarit gives us some very precise anchors for absolute chronology but leaves us with problems regarding the relative chronological links to the Aegean. These problems mainly arise from uncertainties regarding the exact stratigraphic positions of the typologically latest Aegean-type ceramics and may be resolved in the upcoming volumes of the final publication.

Tell Tweini

Proceeding southwards along the Levantine coast, the next destruction to be examined is that of Tell Tweini. This settlement is situated in the plain of Jebleh and can most probably be identified with LBA Gibala, the southernmost harbor town in the kingdom of Ugarit.⁷⁸ At the end of LBA II a conflagration destroyed the settlement, and, according to the excavators, arrowheads from the destruction level suggest that fighting inside the city accompanied that conflagration.⁷⁹ Although by the end of the last Belgian-Syrian excavation campaign in 2010 the LBA II settlement phase had been detected all over Excavation Field A, not all walls and only a few floor deposits of the LBA buildings were uncovered at that time (Fig. 3). Moreover, the subsequent building activities in the Iron Age I and II periods destroyed parts of the LBA II structures and strata. Therefore, the pottery analysis has to confine itself to a limited number of vessels that can help in the synchronization of that phase with the Aegean relative chronological sequence.

One of the earliest Argive imports at Tell Tweini is an amphoroid krater, FT 53, painted with a pair of chariots confronting each other on either side of the shoulder (Fig. 4). The combination of all its characteristics – from its proportions with a broad shoulder and low neck⁸⁰ to the riders’

⁷⁶ Yon 2000a, 7, 20, fig. 3c; cf. Calvet 2004.

⁷⁷ Mountjoy 2018, 68–69, fig. 28.4.

⁷⁸ Bretschneider et al. 2004, 217–220; Bretschneider – Van Lerberghe 2008, 31–32.

⁷⁹ Bretschneider – Van Lerberghe 2008, 32; Bretschneider – Van Lerberghe 2010, 32–33, 41, ill. 36; Bretschneider et al. 2019b, 6: “... a layer of ashes (ca. 5 to 25cm) superimposing the ruins of various Late Bronze Age buildings (Level 7A).” This brings to mind similar findings from different city quarters at Ugarit (see above).

⁸⁰ TWE-A-01089-C001.C002, TWE-A-01089-C003 + TWE-A-01805-C001.C002.C003.C007, TWE-A-01089-C007 + TWE-A-02605-C014, TWE-A-01805-C004.C005, TWE-A-01805-C006, TWE-A-02016-C010.C011, TWE-A-02016-C002, TWE-A-02016-C005.C012.C015, TWE-A-02016-C009.C013, TWE-A-02016-C014, TWE-A-02532-C008.C009, TWE-A-02532-C010, A-02555-C050, TWE-A-2603-C009.C010.C013.C015.C019.C024, C025 + TWE-A-02605-C003, TWE-A-02605-C008, TWE-A-02605-C010.C011. Rim diameter: 36cm (10%); max. diameter: 42.5cm. For similar proportions see the krater from Maroni in New York (Slenczka 1974, 116, pl. 40.3; Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 196 cat. no. III.16; Güntner 2000, 174 cat. no. ‘Wagen 9’ [supposedly LH IIIA1, but see FM 34.2, the rock pattern from this very krater, dated to LH IIIA2 Early by Furumark 1941, 327, fig. 55; 329]); a krater from Bamboula-Vournes (Johnson 1980, 34 cat. no. 248, pl. 50 [height 42cm; rim diameter 32cm]; Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 197 cat. no. IV.1; Güntner 2000, 177 cat. no. ‘Wagen 74’ [supposedly LH IIIA2]); a krater from Enkomi Chamber Tomb 10, second burial layer (Dikaios 1969/1971, 361, 367 cat. no. 23, pls. 203.19; 204; 223.7; 224; Slenczka 1974, 118, pl. 41.2; Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 198 cat. no. IV.32; Güntner 2000, 224 cat. no. ‘Stier 11’ [LH IIIA2]); and a krater from Tomb 21 at Kalavassos-Ayios Dimitrios. The latter tomb was totally disturbed in antiquity and did not contain any in situ burials. The excavator dates its grave goods to LC IIB (South 2006, 140–144). With a height of 54.5cm, a rim diameter of 39.0cm and a maximum diameter of 49.8cm, it is slightly bigger than the Tweini krater. The composition of the two antithetic chariots driving towards each other is identical for both kraters (South 2006, 140–142, figs. 9–10, 11.K-AD2360).

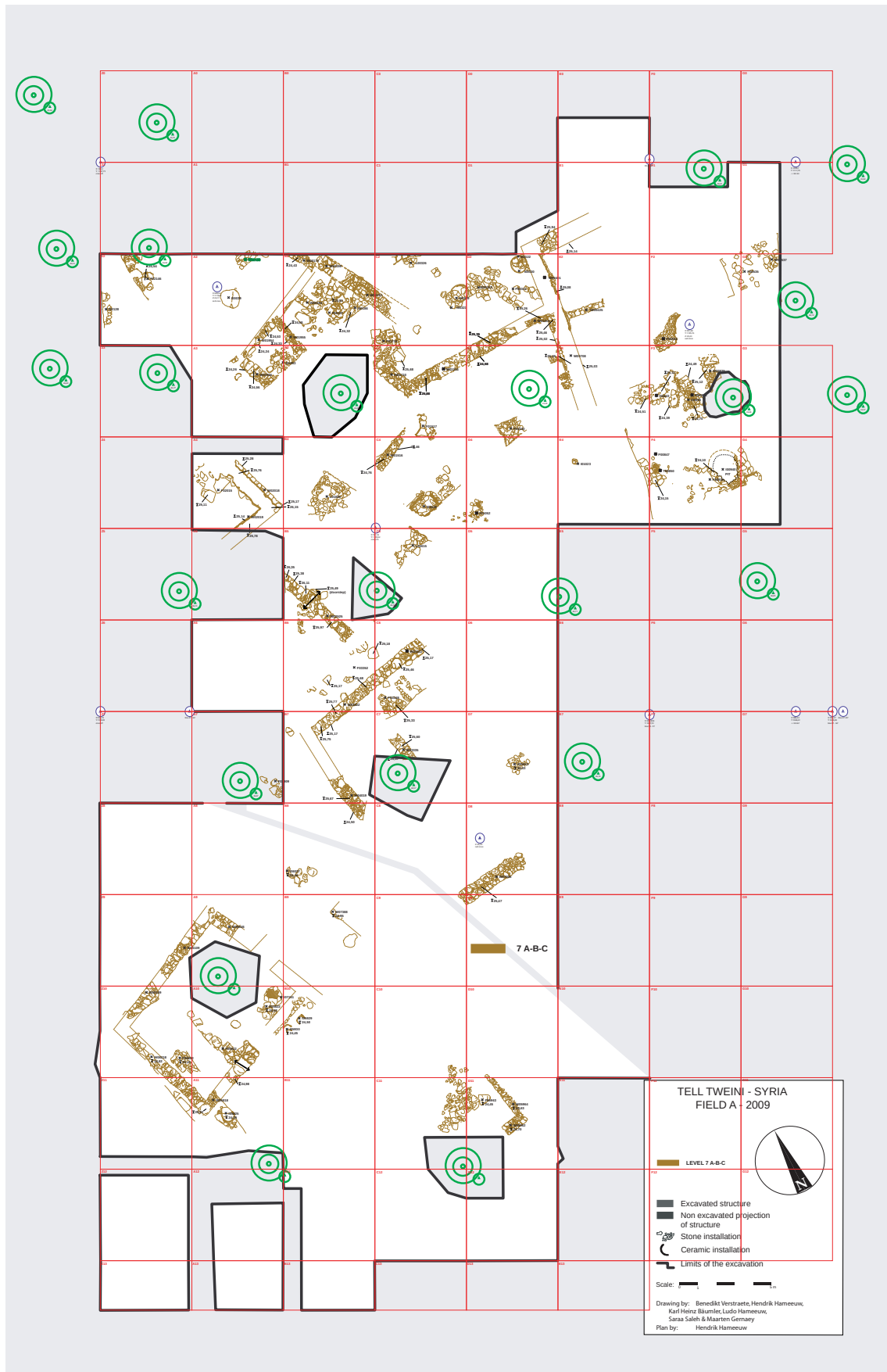


Fig. 3 Tell Tweini, Field A, plan of Level 7A-B-C (after Bretschneider et al. 2019b, 19, fig. 6).



Fig. 4 Tell Tweini, Field A, amphoroid krater of Argive provenance. Scale 1:6 (drawing R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

face profiles,⁸¹ the patterns on the chariot box⁸² and the floating fill motifs in front of the riders⁸³ – suggests a typological-stylistic date in LH IIIA2 Late. The sherds of that krater were dispersed across layers of a street running through the northern part of Field A (Squares A4 and B4). Stratigraphically these contexts antedate the LBA II destruction of the settlement and thus provide a *terminus post quem* for that destruction. The lowermost strata yielding sherds of the krater belong to the LBA II construction horizon called Level 7C.

The fragment of a small Minoan stirrup jar with the characteristic evenly banded body (Fig. 5.1) comes from the construction horizon Level 7C in the northern part of Field A (Square F3) and is

⁸¹ Cf. a krater of unknown provenance in Paris (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 196 cat. no. III.18; Güntner 2000, 174 cat. no. ‘Wagen 11’ [supposedly LH IIIA1, but see the fill motifs FM 11.41 and FM 25.9–10, both dated to LH IIIA2 by Furumark 1941, 265, fig. 34; 267, 315–316, fig. 53; see also below n. 83) and the mentioned krater from Tomb 21 at Kalavassos-Ayios Dimitrios (South 2006, 141, fig. 9).

⁸² For similar though not identical combinations of dots and naturalistic patch pattern on the same chariot box see the mentioned krater from Maroni (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 196 cat. no. III.16) and a fragment of an amphoroid krater from Enkomi Level IIA (Dikaios 1969/1971, 558, pl. 61.38).

⁸³ For the bivalve motif FM 25.9–10 on other amphoroid chariot kraters see the mentioned kraters from Bamboula-Vournes (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 197 cat. no. IV.1; cf. n. 80) and of unknown provenance in Paris (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 196 cat. no. III.18; cf. n. 81); a krater from Tomb 12 of the British excavations at Enkomi (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 196 cat. no. III.17; Güntner 2000, 174 cat. no. ‘Wagen 5’ [supposedly LH IIIA1]); and the krater from Tomb 21 at Kalavassos-Ayios Dimitrios (South 2006, 140–142, figs. 9–10, 11.K-AD2360). For this motif decorating stirrup jar shoulders see the examples of FT 171 found at Tell el-Amarna (Hankey 1995, 116, 119, fig. 5).

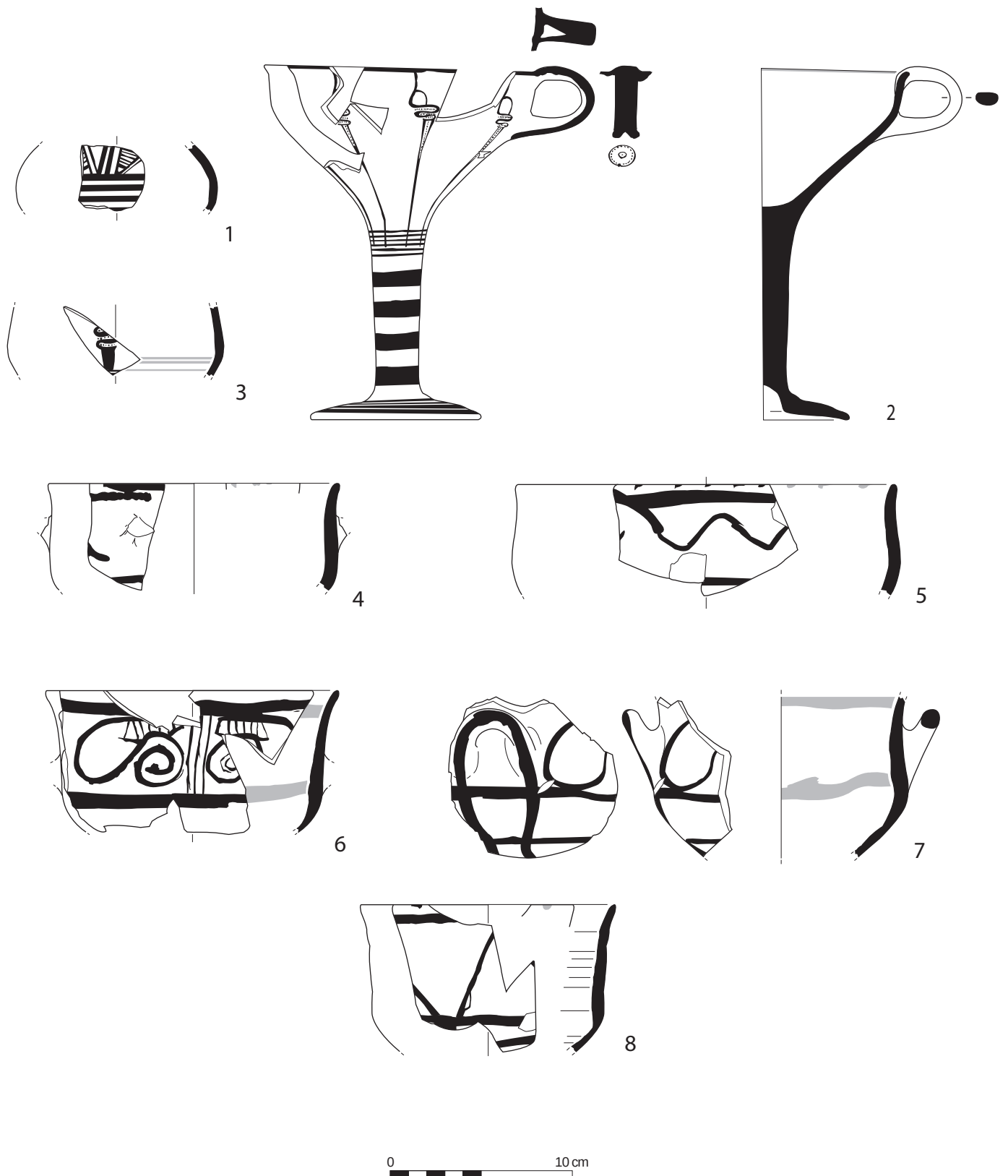


Fig. 5 Aegean pottery from Tell Tweini, Field A, Level 7A-B-C and 6GH. 1. Level 7C; 2–4. Level 7A; 5–7. Level 6GH. 1. Minoan import; 2–3. Argive imports; 4–8. local Mycenaean products. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

connected with a building. It also sets a *terminus post quem* for the LBA II destruction. Its shoulder motif, consisting of hatched triangles with a pair of separating lines, finds quite a good parallel on a large, closed vessel from the LM IIIB2 destruction level at Ayia Aekaterini Square at Chania.⁸⁴

Also in the northern part of Field A, but in another building that is located in Square B2, a classical Argive kylix, FT 258A, (Fig. 5.2) was found as part of a pottery assemblage deposited on a floor during the fiery destruction marking the end of LBA II Tell Tweini (Level 7A) at least in this area of the settlement.⁸⁵ That floor deposit includes two shallow bowls or plates of local type,⁸⁶ a baggy handmade cooking pot, also of local type,⁸⁷ and a Cypriot-type Plain White Wheelmade jug with a conical neck.⁸⁸ The Argive kylix with the typical rim decoration type 1.1 (narrow rim band in and out) shows a series of vertical whorl shells FM 23.8 on the body and a single rosette FM 27.21 underneath the preserved handle. All its characteristics anchor it firmly in the first half of LH IIIB, the phases LH IIIB Early and LH IIIB Middle.⁸⁹ Afterwards, the production of pattern-decorated kylikes FT 258 stopped abruptly.⁹⁰

The body fragment of what must have been an imported Argive deep bowl FT 284/285A comes from an open-air space (Square Z11) in the south of Field A (Fig. 5.3). The context is a layer equivalent to the LBA II destruction Level 7A. This deep bowl is painted with a variety of the vertical whorl-shell motif that has the solid body (similar to FM 23.10) characteristic for the later LH IIIB phases.⁹¹ This might mean that the vessel represents one of the very rare imports dating to the period of the Argive export drop after the phase LH IIIB Middle.

This same architectural Phase 7A has more to offer than imported Mycenaean and Cypriot ceramics, namely a number of local products, which clearly reproduce Aegean prototypes, but add certain elements to a specific style that make it unique in the regions of the Levantine coast. A building in the central part of Field A (Squares C6, C7, D6) contained rim fragments of deep bowls FT 284/285A (in the broader sense of the term characterized by the non-monochrome interior) which were locally made in a light brown/buff fabric with a wiped surface decorated with a dull, dark reddish brown paint (Fabric M 4,⁹² Fig. 6). One fragment is securely stratified in the

⁸⁴ TWE-A-00854-C009. The parallel from Chania was found in Building 1, Room A (Hallager – Hallager 2003, 69, pls. 82.71-P0875; 100c).

⁸⁵ Jung 2010b, 119, ill. 2. The context (locus TWE-A-0185) and its environs exhibited clear traces of fire and an ash layer (personal information Joachim Bretschneider, Greta Jans). The handmade cooking pot TWE-A-0185-C021 shows traces of secondary burning after breakage.

⁸⁶ Plates of Types 1 and 5 in Monchambert's system (Monchambert 2004, 28, 60, fig. 7; 62, fig. 9.101–117).

⁸⁷ For the handmade cooking pot see Vansteenhuyse 2010, 41–43, 51, figs. 7–8.

⁸⁸ According to the NAA result, it is an import from the Larnaca Bay area (sample Twei 47: group CypJ), see Vilain 2019, 331, 365 cat. no. CYP 342; 385, fig. 53 (top, center). For the vessel type see e.g. Bürge – Fischer 2018, 258, 260, fig. 3.26.1.

⁸⁹ TWE-A-0185-C020.C026. Guntram Schönfeld offers a comprehensive discussion of type, decoration and motif (Schönfeld 1988, 155, tabs. 1.43 and 2.39; 158, 163–164, tab. 4; 167–170, 175, fig. 5.4; 182–183, 186, 188, 192) with reference to settlement contexts from Tiryns and Mycenae.

⁹⁰ This is most probably because they were replaced by deep bowls (Podzuweit 2007, 108, Beil. 47).

⁹¹ TWE-A-05764-C015. In the Tirynthian Epichosis (mainly LH IIIB Final, to a lesser extent LH IIIC Early 1, see Kardamaki 2015, 93–94) 13 published deep bowls A include six with a solidly painted stem, two with a dotted stem (the older variety) and one with a stem made up of parallel lines (Voigtländer 2003, 37–38 cat. nos. S 2–S 14, pls. 13.S 2–S 14; 97.S 2–S 12; 98.S 13–S 14). The so-called Potter's Shop at Zygouries provides the earliest attestation of the solid body variety, but on kylikes not on deep bowls (Thomas 2004, 215, fig. 10.3.2). Only 3 out of 42 sufficiently preserved whorl-shell motifs on kylikes FT 258A from this room have a solidly painted stem, 21 have a dotted stem, 16 show other fill motifs between the stem lines, while on two the stem is left blank (Thomas 1992, 585–594, figs. 51–61).

⁹² Fired very hard. Surface wiped, wheel marks and wiping traces visible. Paint dull; diluted to solid cover. Pottery matrix with a medium quantity of fine to coarse voids; very large amount of fine to coarse angular and rounded inclusions (mainly white, but also dark gray particles), handle with chaff temper. Color of paint ranging from 2.5YR 4/1 (dark reddish gray), 4/4 (reddish brown) to 5YR 4/2 (dark reddish gray); color of surface ranging from 10YR 6/4 (light yellowish brown), 7/2 (light gray), 7/3 (very pale brown) to 7.5YR 6/6 (reddish yellow) and 5YR 6/6 (reddish yellow); color of break 10YR 5/4 (yellowish brown) to 5YR 6/6 (reddish yellow), sometimes with a gray core.



Fig. 6 Local Mycenaean deep bowl fragments (Fabric M 4) from Tell Tweini, Field A.
Scale 1:3. Left: TWE-A-03328-C036.C037, Level 6G; right: TWE-A-03338-C015, Level 7A (photo R. Jung).

Level 7A destruction debris (Fig. 5.4); the second one was found higher up (Fig. 5.5), in a layer that should already belong to the following settlement Level 6G. However, given its striking similarity to the 7A specimen, its context might, in fact, be due to secondary deposition of a Level 7A product. The linear decoration of the two deep bowls is confined to the exterior and includes a band, which is either painted on the lip or a little below (in the first case another band follows underneath), and at least one lower band bordering the decorative zone. Patterns consists of a line of dots or rather short strokes on the interior rim (most probably a feature of local inspiration)⁹³ and a single horizontal wavy band with wide swings of medium thickness (FM 53.20). All painted decoration is untidily drawn. While the one specimen has a regular deep bowl diameter of 16cm, the other one is large, with its rim diameter measuring 21cm. These deep bowls recall the wavy band deep bowls of the Argolid in (a) their variability of sizes reaching quite large diameters and (b) in the wide-swung single wavy band occupying the decorative zone.

Those wavy band deep bowls are a characteristic feature of the so-called Epichosis at Tiryns, i.e. strata mainly formed by LH IIIB Final palace destruction debris dumped from the Upper Citadel and most probably also – though to a lesser degree – by further debris thrown down the wall during LH IIIC Early 1.⁹⁴ Most of the wavy band deep bowls from the Epichosis resemble stemmed bowls in their linear decoration of type 7, while specimens with a monochrome interior (decoration type 9) are rare.⁹⁵ The Western Staircase stratigraphy clarified that the main production period of those Tirynthian wavy band deep bowls post-dated the destruction of the palace. It also suggests that they did not belong to the popular table ware vessels.⁹⁶ Elsewhere in the Argolid, deep bowls painted with a single broad wavy band appear to be even rarer.

⁹³ It seems doubtful that this rim pattern could relate to LH IIIB and LH IIIC deep bowls with dotted rim (such as Mountjoy 1999, 151, fig. 39.298; 157, fig. 41.316; 173, fig. 49.366; Voigtländer 2003, pls. 102–103; Podzuweit 2007, pls. 13.10; 20.4–6; or Kardamaki 2009, pls. 4.84–87; 21.422–438, 422), for the dots on the Tweini deep bowls appear in continuous rows of widely spaced short brush strokes rather than as densely placed proper dots. Local reproductions of rosette deep bowls in the Mycenaean sense are unknown in the Levantine coastal regions. Short or longer, more or less widely spaced brush strokes recur, however, on painted Levantine pots (mostly chalices of local types, e.g. Badre – Capet 2018, 82–84, pl. 13.180, 189, 192). These may betray the origin of such patterns on locally made deep bowls in coastal Syria (for this discussion see Jung 2008, 193–195).

⁹⁴ Kardamaki 2015, 93–94.

⁹⁵ Voigtländer 2003, 94 cat. nos. Si 122–Si 125; 172–176, pls. 49–50, 67. Si 122–Si 125; 109–110, 129. Si 122.

⁹⁶ Kardamaki 2009, 221–222, pl. 20.411–412.

Leaving aside regional preferences outside the territories of the Mycenaean kingdom, such as the situation on the central Macedonian tell settlements,⁹⁷ one notes that wavy band deep bowls were in common use in coastal Thessaly. At Dimini the destruction layer inside Megaron B, which fell out of use after its conflagration, contained many wavy band deep bowls with either a banded or a monochrome interior. Most of these have the thickened rim of the stemmed bowl.⁹⁸ The same destruction layer yielded many deep cups FT 215, most of which are painted in the decoration types 14–15 (interior monochrome, sometimes with reserved bottom circle, medium to broad rim band),⁹⁹ which in Argive terms would point to a date in LH IIIC Early 1 rather than LH IIIB Final.¹⁰⁰ The high frequency of deep bowls FT 284/285 with decoration type 9.2 (narrow rim band and monochrome interior)¹⁰¹ provides additional evidence for such a date. The predominance of antithetic spirals, FM 50, and triglyphs, FM 75, on those deep bowls would also be in accordance with that, although one might expect more specimens with running spirals FM 46 (their rarity might be a local trait).¹⁰² So, the parallels from both Tiryns and Dimini suggest that the Tweini specimens were manufactured in LH IIIC Early 1, when wavy band deep bowls occupied a certain place in some Aegean drinking sets rather than being an absolute exception.

At Tell Tweini, further south in Field A (Squares A9, B9, B10) another building yielded examples of locally made deep bowls FT 284/285A, which, however, are made in a different fabric (M 1).¹⁰³ Their contexts belong to the first building activities of the Early Iron Age (Level 6GH).¹⁰⁴ They are mainly rubble layers underneath the first Early Iron Age floors and overlying the LBA II structures. The surfaces of these vessels are wiped (with many visible traces), of yellowish buff color and bear dull, dark-red paint (Fig. 7). The walls of these deep bowls are straight rather than bell-shaped but have clearly flaring rims. Their linear decoration is reminiscent of the Argive stemmed bowl decoration type 7 (rim band + further bands on the interior and exterior surfaces), but differs from the classic stemmed bowl decoration types in leaving the lip without a band and placing the uppermost interior and exterior bands a bit further down. There are long tails descending on both sides from the band painted along the ridge of the horizontal handles. All but one of these deep bowls show antithetic spirals FM 50, which – if sufficiently preserved – flank a central triglyph (Fig. 5.6–7). The one exception has a wide horizontal zigzag painted between the upper and the first lower band (Fig. 5.8). This is clearly not a Mycenaean deep bowl motif (even though one can assign it the FM 61 number). Its local use on this vessel type may have been inspired by large Syrian-type deep bowls, which show similar (but usually broader) zigzag motifs on the upper half of the body.¹⁰⁵ Just like the first group of deep bowls made in Fabric M 4, this group

⁹⁷ Cf. Jung 2002, 81–83, figs. 14–15 (with further bibliography).

⁹⁸ Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 214, tab. 15; 388–389. The fill layer inside Room 2 of the Northern Megaron, a complex situated immediately to the north of Megaron A and overbuilt after the destruction by LH IIIC Early structures, also yielded such wavy band deep bowls (Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 180–181, tab. 9; 470–471).

⁹⁹ Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 206, tab. 12; 208, tab. 13; 211, tab. 14; 214, tab. 15; 349–350, 398–399.

¹⁰⁰ Kardamaki 2015, 90–91, fig. 8.10.

¹⁰¹ Rim band below 1cm width. Decoration type 9.1 starts at 1cm width in Podzuweit's system, while Eleftheria Kardamaki in her modification talks about decoration type 15 if the rim band is narrower than 1.49cm (Kardamaki 2009, 454, tab. 2).

¹⁰² Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 382–387. Cf. Kardamaki 2009, 456, tab. 6; 457, tab. 10.

¹⁰³ Fig. 5.6: TWE-A-07331-C003.C004 + TWE-A-07185-C002; Fig. 5.7: TWE-A-7169-C019; Fig. 5.8: TWE-A-07331-C001 + TWE-A-07336-C001. Fired hard. Surface wiped/covered by a self-slip; fine wheel marks visible on the exterior, on the interior also deeper wheel marks (as if it was a closed vessel). Paint dull; solid cover, but at certain spots diluted. Color of paint 10R 3/4 (dusky red), 4/4 (weak red), 4/6 (red); color of surface 7.5YR 7/4 (pink), 7/6 (reddish yellow); 2.5Y 7/3, 7/4 (pale yellow); color of break 7.5YR 7/6 (reddish yellow). Pottery matrix dense; many angular inclusions of predominantly medium to coarse size (black, reddish brown, very few white ones).

¹⁰⁴ These deep bowls cannot serve to illustrate the pottery that was in use during the Level 7A destruction event (despite Mountjoy 2020, 187–188, fig. 18.14.3), for they are stratified in the first Iron Age level (cf. Jung 2018a, 291–292, fig. 19.13.1–3).

¹⁰⁵ Badre – Capet 2018, 74–75, pl. 9.105.



Fig. 7 Local Mycenaean deep bowl fragment (Fabric M 1) from Tell Tweini, Field A, Level 6GH (photo R. Jung).

of local deep bowls made in Fabric M 1 is characterized by a lack of care in drawing horizontal lines and executing symmetrical patterns. A dotted rim on the zigzag deep bowl links this second group to the first.

Despite the impact that the local potters' creativity had on the execution of painted linear decorations and motifs, these deep bowls are clearly of Mycenaean type and are therefore significant for establishing synchronisms with the Aegean. In the Argolid, antithetic spiral motifs were characteristic Group A deep bowl motifs from LH IIIB Early until LH IIIC Early.¹⁰⁶ The linear decorations of type 7 and, more precisely, the varieties with one or several bands in the middle or on the lower half of the interior wall are chronologically more sensitive. In the Argolid, the habit of decorating deep bowls in this way emerged at the end of the Palatial period, but describing its development in quantitative terms with reference to specific subphases is not easy.

The earliest stratified attestations are to be found in the LH IIIB Final destruction contexts of Mycenae,¹⁰⁷ and Midea.¹⁰⁸ The published Epichosis material from Tiryns includes three deep bowls with single broad lower bands on their interior walls, one of them a Type A deep bowl

¹⁰⁶ Schönfeld 1988, 155, tab. 2.90; 177, fig. 6.14–15, 17, 19; 187; Podzuweit 2007, 26–28, Beil. 3, pl. 2.6–11; Kardamaki 2009, 214–215, 300, 456–457, tab. 8 (Typ GT1fb).

¹⁰⁷ South House Annex, Room 1: E. French in: French – Stockhammer 2009, 185, 187, fig. 2.2 (regular FT 284/285, rim diameter 17cm according to the drawing). South House, Central Room: E. French in: French – Stockhammer 2009, 191–192, fig. 5.6 (large specimen, rim diameter 20cm according to the drawing – although the reconstruction as FT 283/285 rather than as a stemmed bowl FT 304/305 is not entirely secured).

¹⁰⁸ Gateway of the West Gate: Demakopoulou 2003, 81–82, fig. 5.2 (large specimen, rim diameter 20cm according to the drawing). Apart from the stemmed foot, this vessel resembles a stemmed bowl FT 304/305 in all its morphological and decorative details.

bearing whorl shells with filled stems (similar to FM 23.10, see above) as well as a large and a small wavy band deep bowl.¹⁰⁹ However, the character of the Epichosis strata does not allow for a differentiation between LH IIIB Final and LH IIIC Early 1. Among the finds from the Western Staircase, there is no specimen with that kind of interior decoration that we could ascribe with certainty to the LH IIIB Final palace destruction, while two vessels belong to the succeeding LH IIIC Early 1 horizon.¹¹⁰ Likewise, the Lower Citadel stratigraphy did not yield any attestation of that decoration mode on deep bowls in levels antedating LH IIIC Early.¹¹¹ Further towards the southern coast of the Argolid, we find three large wavy band deep bowls in the Iria house annex of probably LH IIIC Early 1 date.¹¹²

Probably the earliest deep bowls (FT 284/285) to be painted with that variety of decoration type 7 were those large specimens that morphologically still betray the model of the stemmed bowl FT 304/305. This might suggest an innovative process, during which potters transferred the new linear decoration to the classic small deep bowl FT 284/285A with rim diameters between 14 and 16cm¹¹³ only as a second step. If this is true, then we might be entitled to date the small (i.e. regular-sized) Group A deep bowls with one or two broad interior bands at medium or lower height to LH IIIC Early 1 rather than to LH IIIB Final.¹¹⁴ These would then be indicators for a *terminus ad or post quem* of LH IIIC Early 1, when found elsewhere.¹¹⁵

Summing up the evidence from Tell Tweini, for the construction period of LBA II Level 7 (Level 7C) we have a *terminus ad or ante quem* of LH IIIA2 Late. The final conflagration occurred when Aegean-type pots were being locally made under the influence of the LH IIIC Early 1 style, while much earlier Palace period imports were still in use among the population. One may assume that the fiery destructions of the capital Ugarit and its southern harbor town Gibala (Tell Tweini) were related historical events, for the mentioned letter from the Urtēnu archives informs us that the northern harbor town Ra'su (Rās Ibn Hani) had fallen to unnamed enemies during 'Ammurapi's reign and because the whole kingdom ceased to exist with the fall of this last king 'Ammurapi. The Aegean relative synchronisms of Tell Tweini would then apply to Ugarit as well. This is conceivable, as the evidence from Ugarit itself points to the time span LH IIIB Final–IIIC Early 1 for the extensive conflagration. It also fits with the stratigraphic evidence for fighting found in both settlements and with the report in Ramesses III's year 8 inscription, which refers to the destruction of entire lands or kingdoms. Accepting that both destructions can be synchronized with LH IIIC Early 1 then leads to the conclusion that LH IIIC Early 1 should have started before at least 1187 (Ramesses III, year 8, the Sea Peoples' destructions in the northern Levant) and possibly – though less plausibly – even before 1201 BCE (Siptah, year 5, the execution of Bay, who had sent a letter to King 'Ammurapi).

¹⁰⁹ Voigtländer 2003, 38 cat. no. S 14 (rim diameter 14.8cm); 74 cat. nos. SW 14 (rim diameter 22cm) and SW 21 (rim diameter 12.2cm), pls. 98.S 14; 110.SW 14, SW 21.

¹¹⁰ Western Staircase, context of either LH IIIB Final or LH IIIC Early 1 date: Kardamaki 2009, 11–12, 56, 204, 207 n. 298, 213, 219, pl. 12.171 (large specimen, rim diameter 20cm, cf. Kardamaki 2015, 85–86, fig. 3.2). Western Staircase, LH IIIC Early 1: Kardamaki 2009, 89, 204, 208, 213, 221, 300, pls. 18.361 (small specimen, rim diameter 16cm); 22.450 (large specimen, rim diameter 19cm).

¹¹¹ Podzuweit 1987, 188, 192 n. 26; Podzuweit 2007, 24–25, pls. 1.2; 2.8; 3.7.

¹¹² Döhl 1973, 169–170, 183, fig. 16.A 5, A 7, A 8; pl. 69.3–5; Mountjoy 1999, 153–154, fig. 40.302. For the date of the complex see most recently Kardamaki 2009, 382–385.

¹¹³ Podzuweit 2007, 29.

¹¹⁴ At Dimini, the deep bowls with interior bands at medium height found in the Northern Megaron (north of Megaron A) in a fill layer most probably deposited during LH IIIC Early 1 and then overbuilt by later LH IIIC Early rooms either show morphological traits of the stemmed bowl FT 304/305 or are very small vessels with a straight rather than bell-shaped profile (Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 465, 471). Thus, they do not represent the regular deep bowl shape.

¹¹⁵ Cf. already Podzuweit 1987, 188 with n. 26 (Pyla and Kalavassos lasting until LH IIIC Early based on those deep bowls); Podzuweit 2007, 25, 269 n. 1815, 276–278, 281.

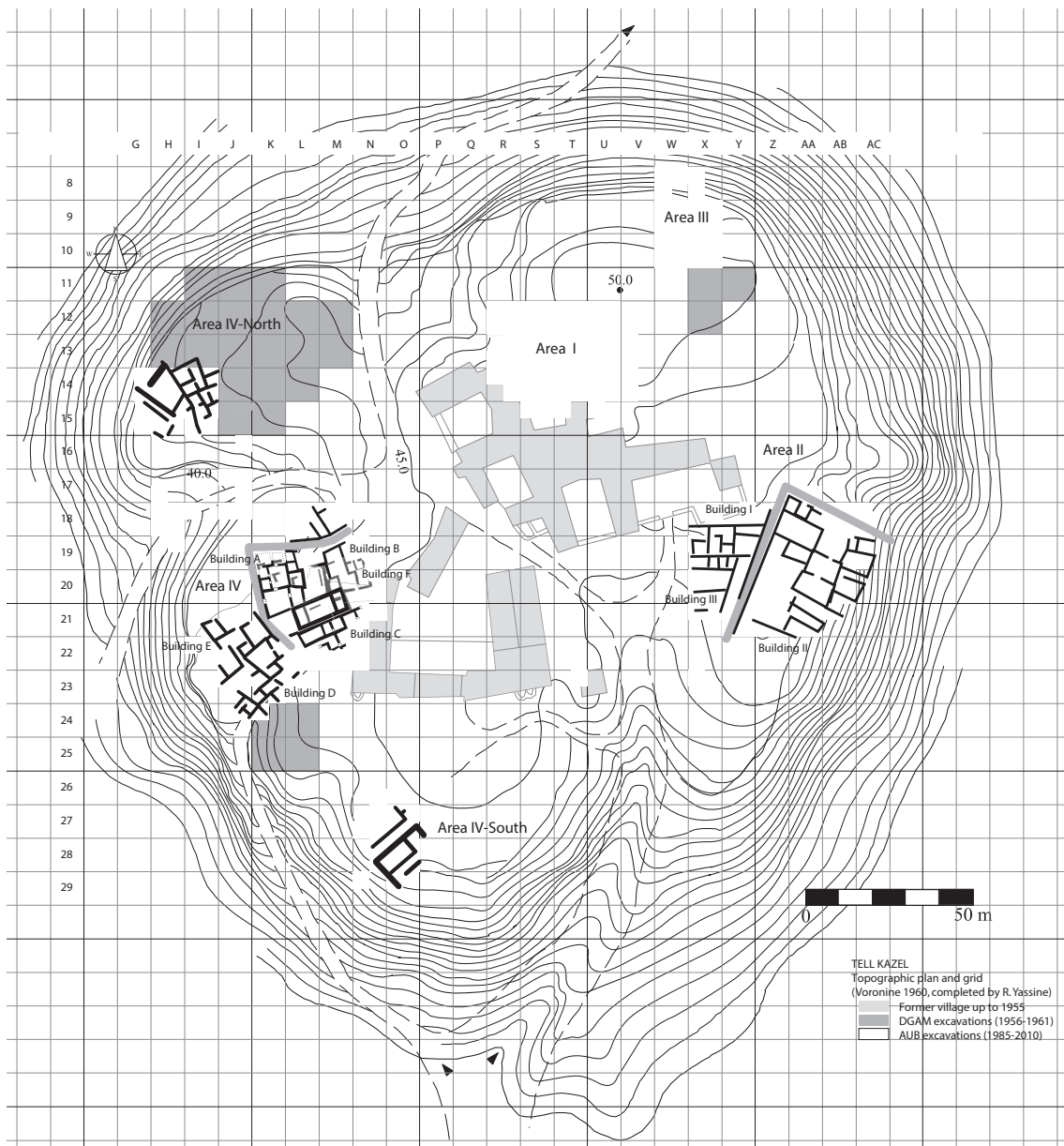


Fig. 8 Excavated buildings on Tell Kazel (digitization St. Fragner, after Badre – Capet 2018, 163, plan 2).

Tell Kazel

The Kingdom of Amurru is one of the major regions affected by those destructions on which Ramesses' inscriptions at Medinet Habu report.¹¹⁶ The Akkar plain, the northern part of which today belongs to Syria and the southern part to Lebanon, formed the central part of Amurru. Many seasons of excavation explored the most important LBA settlement in this plain. This is Tell Kazel (Fig. 8), usually identified with the city of Šumur situated in the kingdom of Amurru and apparently the seat of its king.¹¹⁷

¹¹⁶ Edel 1985.

¹¹⁷ Klengel 1984; Klengel 1992, 160–174. Subsequently, this identification has gained support from petrographic studies on Amarna letters (EA 165–EA 167 and EA 96) either sent by Aziru, king of Amurru, or by an Egyptian general writing from Šumur (Goren et al. 2004a, 108–111, 116, 124–125, tab. 7.1) and on Syrian-type pottery found at Tell Kazel itself (Badre et al. 2005, 23–24, pl. 2a–b; Boileau et al. 2010, 1685, 1687, fig. 6a–c).



Fig. 9 Tell Kazel, Area IV-North, pithos storeroom (photo R. Jung, courtesy of L. Badre, storeroom originally published in Badre – Capet 2018, 33, photo 6 [by L. Badre]).

At the end of LBA II (Akkar Phase K1), Tell Kazel also fell victim to a fiery destruction. A good illustration of its devastation is a storeroom in Excavation Area IV-North, where stones calcinated by the fire became a concrete-like mass due to subsequent reaction with water (Fig. 9).¹¹⁸ The destruction traces are less marked in Area II, yet still exist.¹¹⁹ In direct comparison, the Phase K1 conflagration of Area II is referred to as the ‘incendie’, that of Area IV as the ‘violent incendie’.¹²⁰

Weapons (mainly arrowheads, but also a Syrian-type sword) related to that destruction were found in Excavation Areas II and IV. While there are no human skeletons in the destruction debris, Area IV yielded a complete sheep skeleton lying on a floor of the destruction phase.¹²¹ The excavations did not uncover written documents that would connect Akkar Phase K1 to any known king. However, two of the Medinet Habu inscriptions by Ramesses III explicitly mention a devastating destruction of Amurru by the coalition of ‘ethnic’ groups that scholars conventionally refer to as the Sea Peoples. The first inscription dates to his regnal year 5 (1190 BCE); the second, to his year 8 (1187 BCE). It seems that decades of discussion among Egyptologists have resulted in a now widely accepted view that those reports which refer to destructions in the northern Levant

¹¹⁸ Cf. Badre – Capet 2018, 33, photo 6.

¹¹⁹ In some rooms the destruction layer on top of the last Level 6 floor had been cleared away by the rebuilders of the Iron Age I phase, while in others these same people had apparently moved the Level 6 burnt debris in order to use it as fill material under the first floors they laid (Capet 2003, 66, 73–74, 76, 79, 81, 87, 90, 93, 99). Although stylistically often very similar, the vessels from the Iron Age I destruction should not be intermingled with those from the preceding LBA II destruction (as in Mountjoy 2020, 187–190, fig. 18.14.4–8). Despite initially noting the destruction evidence published for Area II (Millek 2020/2021, 114–116), Millek later neglects it (Millek 2021, 73).

¹²⁰ Capet 2003, 117.

¹²¹ Badre 2006, 85, fig. 15; Jung 2009a, 42.

do have historical value and cannot be discarded as copying main events from earlier pharaonic historical narratives.¹²²

Argive Imports

In many respects, the Tell Kazel pottery evidence is reminiscent of that encountered at Tell Tweini. As part of the destruction level assemblage in Phase K1, there are Argive imports dating to the Palace period (LH IIIB Middle–Developed) and local Mycenaean products adopting stylistic elements of the LH IIIB Final and LH IIIC Early 1 phases. Two series of NAA and petrographic analyses have assigned the majority of the imports to the northern Argolid (chemical pattern MYBE) and have confirmed the origin of the local Mycenaean pots in the region of the Akkar plain.¹²³

Starting with the northern Argive imports from Phase K1 contexts,¹²⁴ Building B to the north/northeast of the temple yielded a number of relevant finds. A chalice FT 278 (Fig. 10.1) comes from the same space in which the sheep skeleton lay (architectural Level 5 upper in Area IV).¹²⁵ Its row of walking men finds close parallels on other chalices in the Levant and on Cyprus as well as on an open vessel of uncertain shape at Berbati, a potters' quarter in the region of Mycenae. Based on the style, they can be dated to LH IIIB Early–Middle.¹²⁶ In addition, stratified in the same Phase K1 destruction context there are fragments of a small globular stirrup jar FT 173 (Fig. 10.3)¹²⁷ as well as of one of the extremely rare specimens of unpainted Argive imports, a conical kylix FT 274 (Fig. 10.2).¹²⁸ The small stirrup jar finds good parallels for all of its typological aspects in Argive contexts from LH IIIB Middle to LH IIIB Final.¹²⁹

The same excavation square yielded a large fragment of a Zygouries kylix FT 258A (Fig. 10.4) lying on the plaster floor covered by a destruction layer of an older building, which the excavators ascribe to architectural phase 6 (Akkar Phase K3 = Level 6 upper in Area IV).¹³⁰ The Zygouries type was an innovative feature of the LH IIIB Early phase and became common only by LH IIIB Middle, and the Kazel specimen with its whorl-shell pair showing empty heads finds plenty of parallels in LH IIIB Middle levels of the Tirynthian Lower Citadel as well as in the LH IIIB Middle eponymous 'Potter's Shop' at Zygouries in Corinthia.¹³¹

This floor sequence therefore suggests that at least the pictorial chalice found almost complete in the Phase K1 destruction layer was an old piece that had remained in use from a previous

¹²² Summing up earlier debates and proposing new pieces of interpretation: Kahn 2010; Ben-Dor Evian 2018; Wüthrich – Matic forthcoming.

¹²³ Badre et al. 2005; Boileau et al. 2010.

¹²⁴ More detailed discussions and pottery editions have been published elsewhere (Jung 2008; Jung 2011c; Jung 2015). What follows is a selection of certain chronologically important pieces.

¹²⁵ 6421.1 + 6652.14 (both Square M 19 SE): Badre et al. 2005, 26, 40 no. TK 72; Jung 2008, 159–161, 165, fig. 7.19; 214 cat. no. 19 (with a Levantine parallel probably found at Kāmid el-Lōz). For the context cf. Badre 2006, 85, fig. 15.

¹²⁶ The parallel on Cyprus comes from the new Belgian-Greek excavations at Pyla-Kokkinokremos (PK15 384 + PK15 604, unpublished). For the stylistic date of the parallels for the human figures see Güntner 2000, 179–180 cat. nos. 'Wagen 114' and 'Wagen 133'; 200–201 cat. nos. 'Mensch 33, 35, 37, 38, 45' (quoting Åkerström 1987, 32 cat. nos. 105, 107–109, 111, 119, pls. 19.5; 20.1–3, 5a–5c; 21.8, and Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 200–201 cat. nos. V.7, V.8). There might be one more distant parallel on Cyprus, found in Temple 2 at Kition (Vermeule – Karageorghis 1982, 202 cat. no. V.33; Mountjoy 2018, 634–635, fig. 317.383). The human figures resemble closely those on the Tell Kazel chalice, but the vessel seems to be a kylix FT 274 rather than a chalice FT 278.

¹²⁷ 6652.12B,C (M 19 SE).

¹²⁸ 6652.13A,B (M 19 SE): Jung 2008, 170, 202, fig. 19.91; 218 cat. no. 91.

¹²⁹ Mycenae, West House destruction, LH IIIB Middle: French 1967, 160–161, fig. 10.5, pl. 38b (right). Mycenae, Corridor in the so-called Citadel House Area, destruction layer, LH IIIB Final: Wardle 1973, 309, fig. 7.10, 13. Tiryns, Epichosis, LH IIIB Final (–LH IIIC Early 1): Voigtländer 2003, 101–102 cat. nos. Bü 9–Bü 15, pls. 73.Bü 13–Bü 15; 135.Bü 15.

¹³⁰ 6689.1A, 6689.1B (Square M 19 SE/S [southern bulk of M 19 SE]): Badre et al. 2005, 41 no. TK 106.

¹³¹ Schönfeld 1988, 155, tabs. 1.42 and 1.65; 176, 188–189; Thomas 1992, 585–587, figs. 51.3, 6–7; 52.1, 3; 53.2–5; Thomas 2004, 212–217, fig. 10.2.1–2.

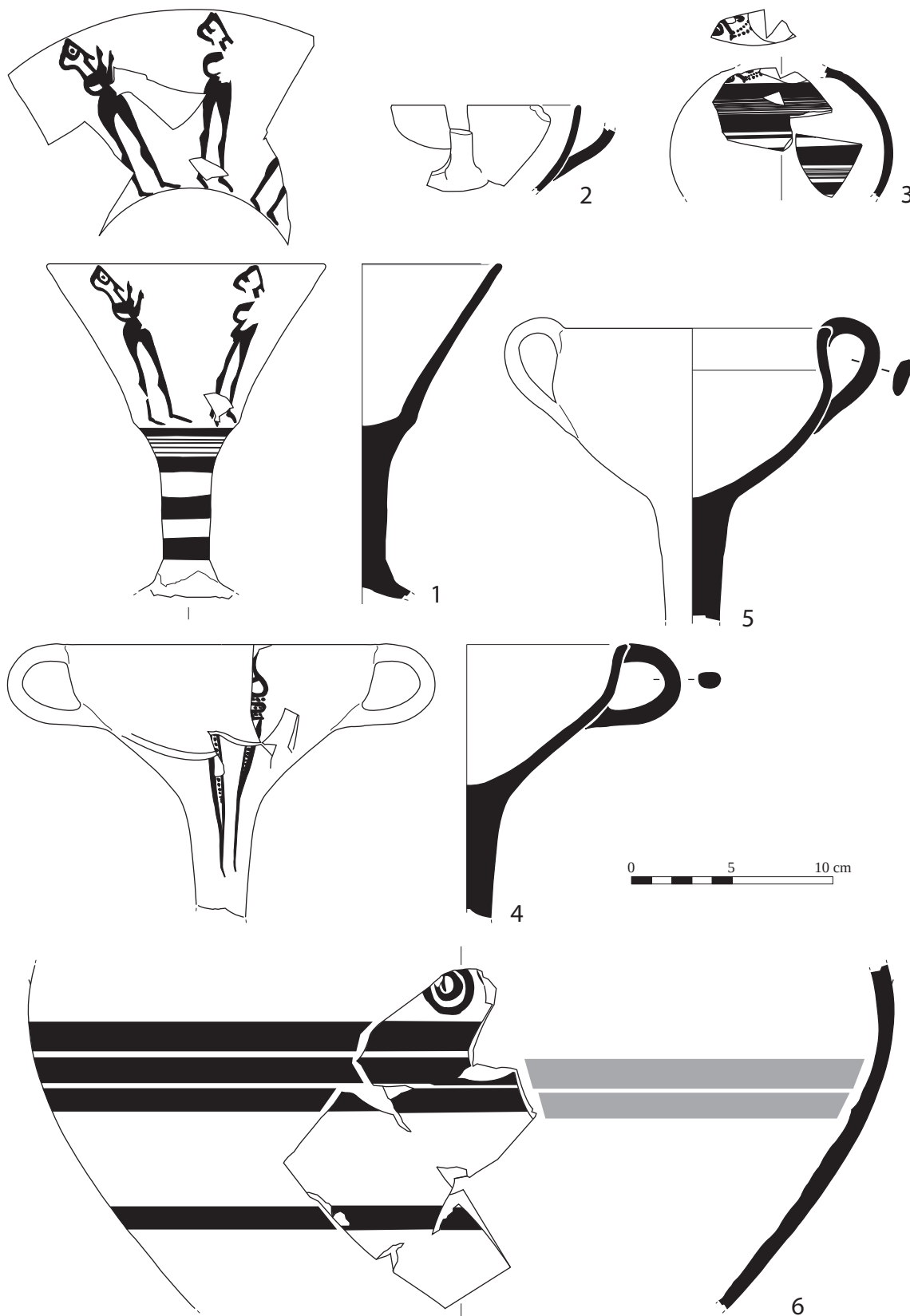


Fig. 10 Aegean pottery from Tell Kazel, Area IV, Building B. 1–3. Akkar Phase K1; 4. Akkar Phase K3; 5–6. probably Akkar Phase K3. 1–4, 6. Mycenaean imports from the Argolid; 5. Gray Ware kylix imported from Troy. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

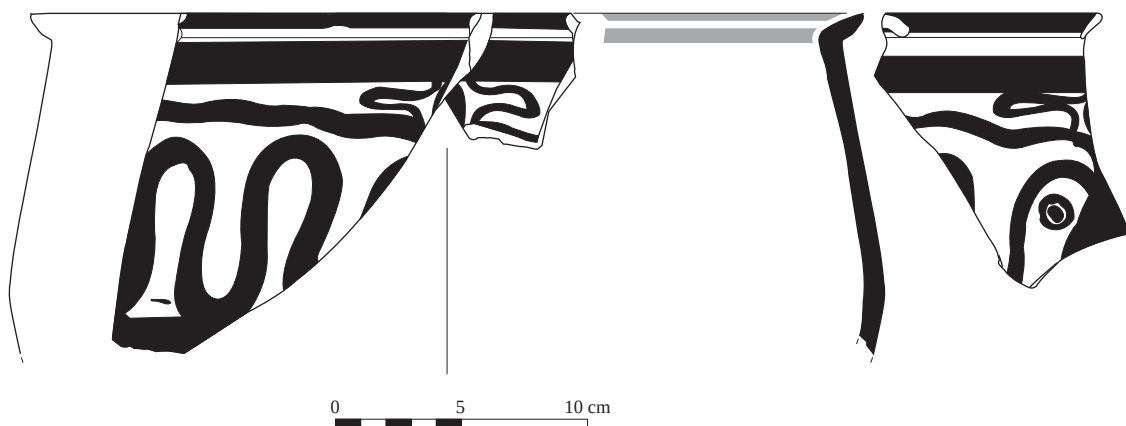


Fig. 11 Imported Argive krater from Tell Kazel, Area IV, Building E, Akkar Phase K1, and Building F, Akkar Phase K3/K4. Scale 1:3 (drawing R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

settlement phase. The same might be true for a Trojan Gray Ware kylix (Fig. 10.5), but a fragment of it did in fact form part of the same Phase K3 context as the Zygouries kylix (Fig. 10.4).¹³² This, in turn, probably means that the fragment from the K1 destruction layer has ended up there due to a process of secondary deposition. At Troy itself, this Gray Ware kylix type (A 85 in Blegen's typology), which is equivalent to the Mycenaean unpainted FT 265, was in use from Troy VI Late to Troy VIIa,¹³³ which would be from LH IIIA2 to the end of LH IIIB or the very beginning of LH IIIC Early in the Mycenaean chronological system.¹³⁴

Further to the west, on a flagstone floor bordering the already mentioned plaster floor of Level 6, another fragment of special chronological relevance was found. It is the body fragment of a krater, which, because of one preserved handle attachment and in view of its interior bands, was clearly a FT 281/282 krater with horizontal handles (Fig. 10.6). In the course of LH IIIB this type largely replaced the earlier one with vertical handles. The new join from Level 6 upper (Akkar Phase K3) suggests that the other fragments had been secondarily deposited in higher levels.¹³⁵

For the relative chronology of Akkar Phase K3 one can further mention a krater with rim decoration type 7.1 and a large octopus motif (close to FM 21.17), again from Excavation Area IV. While the first fragment of it turned up in Phase K1 (Level 5 upper) of Building E, a second sherd, which almost certainly belongs to the other side of the same vessel, turned up in a later excavation season 40m to the east, in a context of Level 6 in Building F. Therefore, the vessel very probably came to Syria when the buildings of Level 6 (Akkar Phases K3 and K4) were inhabited (Fig. 11).¹³⁶ There are only a few parallels for a krater with this motif. The one which is closest to the Tell Kazel specimen is a krater FT 8/9 with vertical handles found in a chamber tomb at Ialysos on Rhodes.¹³⁷ A second, though not as close a parallel, comes from Enkomi, Tomb 48 of the British Museum excavations. It is an example of FT 281/282 with a

¹³² Vessel TK 03.143, joined from 6652.1 (M 19 SE) + 6689.52 (Square M 19 SE/S): Badre et al. 2005, 31–32, fig. 7.4; 41 no. TK 97; Badre 2006, 88, fig. 17.8.

¹³³ Blegen et al. 1953, 40, tab. 9; 52; Blegen et al. 1958, 20, tab. 9; 30.

¹³⁴ Cf. Mountjoy 2006.

¹³⁵ 5396.5 (M 20 NE) + 6392.3 (M 19 NE) + 7564.1 ([7192] N 21 NE/E), 6687.30 (M 19 SE): Jung 2008, 159–160, fig. 4.14; 214 cat. no. 14 (level ascription has to be corrected).

¹³⁶ 6339.1A–D (Square J 22 NW) + 7244.42 (J 21 SW), 8055.1 (N 20 NW): Badre et al. 2005, 40 no. TK 70; Jung 2008, 158–160, fig. 4.12; 214 cat. no. 12 (without the new join).

¹³⁷ The version of FM 21 is very similar to that on the Tell Kazel krater, but the linear decoration is different (decoration type 1.2): Ialysos, Makra Vounara, Chamber Tomb 59 (Benzi 1992, 357 no. 2, pl. 90g; Mountjoy 1999, 1021–1022, fig. 417.101). Unfortunately, this vessel was not associated with one of the in situ burials and can thus not be dated by context (cf. Benzi 1992, 356–357, pl. 124c).

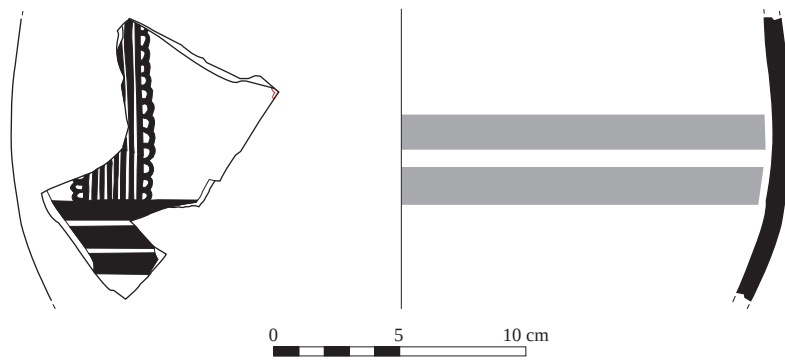


Fig. 12 Imported Argive krater from Tell Kazel, Area IV, Building B, Early Iron Age I phase, and Building C, Akkar Phase K1. Scale 1:3 (drawing R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

slightly diverging version of the motif (including added white paint).¹³⁸ The third parallel is a krater FT 8/9 found in a built chamber tomb of the Lazarides cemetery on Aegina. It already differs considerably from the Argive vessel found in Syria.¹³⁹ Unfortunately, none of these parallels comes from a closed context.

However, the linear decoration type 7.1 consisting of a rim band and a second band below both on the inside and on the outside is chronologically quite sensitive. In the continuous vertical sequence of the Tirynthian Lower Citadel the first kraters decorated with this double rim banding appeared in LH IIIB Middle, but decoration 7.1 became common on kraters only by LH IIIB Developed and Final.¹⁴⁰ In view of the version of the FM 21 pattern (cf. FM 21.17), which is attested on kylikes FT 258B characteristic for the LH IIIB Early to Middle phases,¹⁴¹ the Tell Kazel krater should probably be dated to LH IIIB Middle. Wolfgang Güntner proposed a similar stylistic date for the Rhodian krater, the octopus of which is closest in style to the one found at Tell Kazel.¹⁴² In fact, the above-mentioned krater from Aegina is much closer to Güntner's LH IIIB Developed style.¹⁴³

Taken together, these imports from Level 6 of Area IV demonstrate that by Akkar Phase K3 (the last floors of the Level 6 buildings) the time of the Aegean phase LH IIIB Middle must have been reached. The *excursus* to this earlier level was necessary to understand the complex stratification processes as well as the prolonged use periods of Argive painted vessels in the Syrian settlement of Tell Kazel, which can be regarded as exemplary for the treatment of such pottery in many regions of the eastern Mediterranean.

Returning to the destruction Phase K1, one may finally cite the two joining fragments of an Argive krater FT 281/282, the first of which comes from the burnt layer in Building C (Area IV, Level 5 upper) and the second from a later context of the following Early Iron Age I phase in Building B. The vessel is decorated with two broad interior bands at medium height,

¹³⁸ Murray 1900, 47–48, fig. 73.965; cf. Güntner 2000, 313 cat. no. 'Tintenfisch 208' (stylistically dated to LH IIIB Developed). For a description and color photo (showing decoration type 6.1) see the British Museum online catalog (Crewe 2008, cat. no. 48.14).

¹³⁹ It bears a different version of FM 21 including added white paint, while the rim decoration type is 1.2.2: Lazarides, Built Chamber Tomb B, without stratigraphy (Efstratiou – Polychronakou-Sgouritsa 2016, 9–11, 105–107, fig. 134 and drawing 34).

¹⁴⁰ Podzuweit 2007, 59, Beil. 39.

¹⁴¹ For kylikes FT 258B with FM 21 see Furumark 1941, 629 (258 nos. 13–14, 16–18), and Thomas 1992, 154–155, 546, fig. 12.20–21 (body and foot fragments which either belong to FT 257 or FT 258B from Tsoungiza, EU 2, Rubbish Pit 1, LH IIIB Early). For the production period of FT 258B see Schönfeld 1988, 155, tab. 1.43; 158, 176, 180, 183, 188–189, 200, 205–206.

¹⁴² Güntner 2000, 319 n. 297: 'eine Zwischenstellung zwischen den Darstellungen der Phase SH IIIB 1 und SH IIIB 2'.

¹⁴³ Cf. especially one krater FT 281/282 from the Tirynthian Lower citadel: Güntner 2000, 150, 312 cat. no. 'Tintenfisch 180', pl. 77 (earliest contexts date to LH IIIB Final).

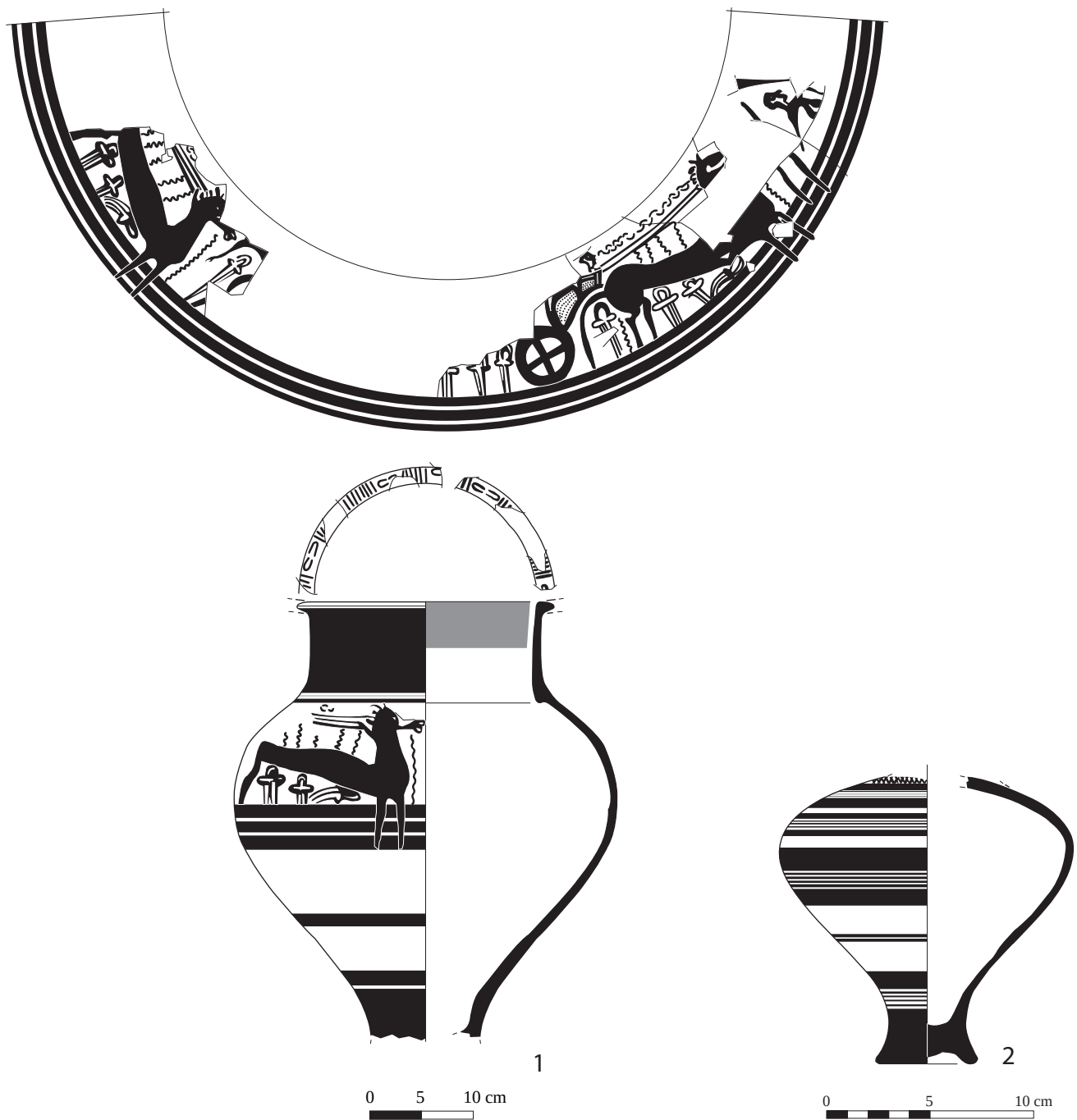


Fig. 13 Imported Argive vessels from Tell Kazel, Area II, Building II, Akkar Phase K2. 1. Room 6IIK; 2. Room 6IIA.
1. Scale 1:6; 2. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, R. Yassine, digitization R. Yassine).

three broad lower bands on the outside and as a motif carries a triglyph of medium width, FM 75.29.¹⁴⁴ Parallels range in date from LH IIIB Middle (perhaps also IIIB Early) to LH IIIB Final (Fig. 12).¹⁴⁵

One may also briefly mention some chronologically relevant Argive imports from Excavation Area II further to the east on the tell. An almost complete amphoroid krater FT 54/55 lay on the lower floor of Room 6IIK in Building II (Akkar Phase K2). It shows a developed chariot motif, which, based on its execution, still seems to belong to the LH IIIB Early–Middle style (Fig. 13.1).¹⁴⁶ On the lower floor in Room 6IIA of Building II in Area II (Akkar Phase K2) lay a stirrup jar FT 166 with net pattern FM 57.2 on the shoulder (Fig. 13.2).¹⁴⁷ This type is especially characteristic for LH IIIA 2 (Late), though FM 57 is a truly exceptional shoulder motif.¹⁴⁸ The type continued into LH IIIB Early.¹⁴⁹

Local Mycenaean Ceramics

Apart from the imports discussed here from the Argolid, Akkar Phase K1 is also characterized by the first appearance of locally made Mycenaean pottery at Tell Kazel. It appears in the same buildings as the earlier Mycenaean imports, but the quantities differ from building to building and from room to room. Occasionally, both of these classes in the same building show the impact of the fire that destroyed the settlement at the end of Phase K1 (Fig. 14)¹⁵⁰ – as is, for example, the case in the presumably ‘Administrative Building’ of Area IV-North.¹⁵¹

The locally produced Mycenaean pottery of Tell Kazel shares certain traits with that of Tell Tweini, but the differences are more notable. Unpainted Mycenaean vessels were a regular part of the set at Tell Kazel, but rarer at Tell Tweini, and the type spectrum of unpainted shapes was different at both sites. Among the painted vessels, those from Tweini generally carry patterned motifs, while at Tell Kazel many bear only linear decoration. The antithetic spirals FM 50, the most common motif on the deep bowls of one local Mycenaean fabric group at Tell Tweini, are completely absent from the local Mycenaean repertoire at Tell Kazel. Simple triglyphs FM 75 without additional motifs are the commonest patterns on deep bowls FT 284/285A and other painted shapes at Tell Kazel. Vertical strokes on the interior rims of the Kazel deep bowls recall

¹⁴⁴ 5720.62, 63 (Square M 22 NW) + 6975.24 (Square N 19 SW/W): Jung 2008, 159–160, fig. 4.13; 214 cat. no. 13 (prior to more complete restoration).

¹⁴⁵ Mycenae, South House, Room 22 (LH IIIB Middle): Mountjoy 1976, 84–85, fig. 4.18 (broad triglyph, FT 281/282). Tsoungiza, EU 2, Rubbish Pit 1 (LH IIIB Early): Thomas 1992, 160 cat. nos. TS 151 and TS 152, fig. 14.2–3; Thomas 2005, 484–485, fig. 13.2–3 (triglyphs, but not exact parallels, FT 281/282 not clearly identified). Tiryns, Lower Citadel, LH IIIB Middle (triglyphs of medium width): Schönfeld 1988, 189, 191, fig. 8.6, 8. Tiryns, Epichorisis, LH IIIB Final (–LH IIIC Early 1): Voigtländer 2003, 76 cat. no. K 10, pls. 52.K 10; 112.K 10 (possible direct parallel or only part of a much broader triglyph like Voigtländer 2003, pl. 52.K 14).

¹⁴⁶ 4189.6, 11: Badre et al. 2005, 38 no. TK 21; Jung 2008, 161–163, fig. 5; 214 cat. no. 16. For the context see Capet 2003, 65, fig. 2; 73–74, 78, fig. 13.

¹⁴⁷ 2090.8 + 4794.2 (both AA 18 SW): Badre et al. 1994, 337, fig. 59d; 340.

¹⁴⁸ Mycenae, Petsas House, Storeroom A: Papadimitriou – Petsas 1951, 209, fig. 8.362, 649; 223–234; Shelton 2015, 31, fig. 6. For FM 57.2 as a shoulder motif on a stirrup jar FT 166 see a specimen (with certain Minoan features) from the Attic cemetery of Brauron, Chamber Tomb 6, excavated by Ioannis Papadimitriou (Papadopoulos – Kontorli-Papadopoulou 2014, 28 cat. no. 27, fig. 3.56; pl. 19.27).

¹⁴⁹ Thebes, 14 Oedipus St. (Kordatzis plot), pit of the so-called ivory-pottery hoard (pottery Group A, LH IIIB Early destruction, Symeonoglou 1973, 16–17, 41, tab. I): The stirrup jars with exclusively linear decoration K26–K28 provide the best parallels for the proportions and the original height of the fragmentary vessel from Tell Kazel (Symeonoglou 1973, 36, pls. 40–41, figs. 121–126), whereas the smaller and less piriform pattern-painted stirrup jars K29–K43 provide better parallels for the type of linear decoration found on the Argive import at Tell Kazel (Symeonoglou 1973, 36–38, pls. 42–50, figs. 127–171; Mountjoy 1999, 663, 665–666, fig. 253.84–85).

¹⁵⁰ The photo shows 7497.19 (I 14 SE), the rim sherd of a linear deep bowl FT 284/285A with decoration type 1.1 and fragments of 7483.1, 7483.12.13, 7483.14, 7483.30 (I 14 NW/S), a small piriform jar FT 45 with N-pattern FM 60.

¹⁵¹ For that possibly administrative complex see Badre – Capet 2018, 14, 33, photo 6; 163, plan 2.



Fig. 14 Mycenaean pottery from Tell Kazel, Area IV-North, 'Administrative Building', Akkar Phase K1. Left: burnt local Mycenaean deep bowl fragment; right: burnt and unburnt fragments of an imported Argive piriform jar (photo R. Jung).

the dotted rims of the Tweini deep bowls in a certain sense, but the resemblance is only superficial.

The linear decorations of the local Mycenaean vessels give us good evidence for establishing a comparative chronology. The high number of deep bowls carrying exclusively linear decoration finds its counterpart in LH IIIC Early, a phase in which purely linear decoration became dominant for the first time on these vessels in the Argolid.¹⁵² At the same time, unpainted table ware was still very much in use in this region and elsewhere in early Post-palatial Mycenaean Greece.¹⁵³

The Southwestern Complex or Building D in Area IV of Tell Kazel yielded two well-preserved local Mycenaean vessels, which can most probably be ascribed to the Phase K1 destruction, an unpainted carinated kylix FT 267 (Fig. 15.1)¹⁵⁴ and a linear deep bowl with vertical handles FT 289 (Fig. 15.2).¹⁵⁵ In addition, there is the sherd of an imported stemmed bowl

¹⁵² Podzuweit 2007, 50–51, Beil. 32–33.

¹⁵³ Mycenae, Citadel House Area, Room XXXIV, Phase IX: 33 painted (42%) and 46 unpainted vessels (58%). The clearly dominant shape of the latter is the kylix, while unpainted deep bowls and shallow bowls are much rarer (French 2011, 42, tab. 2). Among the unpainted kylikes, the conical type FT 274 is more common than the angular one FT 267 (French 2011, 44, fig. 16). For more detailed comparative discussion of vessel statistics see Jung 2011c, 121–123, figs. 1–3; 126–127.

¹⁵⁴ TK 05.101 (Context 7264, K 22 SE/W).

¹⁵⁵ 7264.40 (K 22 SE/W).

FT 304/305, which, in view of its fabric, might actually be the product of a southern Argive workshop (Fig. 15.3).¹⁵⁶ The latter vessel stands out due to its rare 9.1.2 decoration (very broad rim band and monochrome interior) and has its best parallel at Asine-Barbouna, in a settlement layer that – although not strictly speaking a closed context¹⁵⁷ – contained pottery datable to LH IIIB Early/Middle.¹⁵⁸ The carinated kylix shows a profile without articulated rim, which is attested since the early LH IIIB phases and until the end of production of that shape,¹⁵⁹ but the linear deep bowl with vertical handles is chronologically more sensitive. FT 289 was apparently not particularly common in the Aegean, so that only unstratified examples were available for a long time.¹⁶⁰ Therefore, chronological assessments proved to be difficult. Mario Benzi argued for a long production period extending from the first half of LH IIIB to LH IIIC Late¹⁶¹ and quoted unpainted examples as well as others with dotted rims and without linear decoration from LH IIIB Middle contexts as the earliest attestations.¹⁶² In most cases, including the earliest examples, which are unpainted or have dotted rims, the two vertical handles start slightly below or even well below the rim. In other cases, however, they are attached to the lip, as is the case with the one-handled cups FT 215.¹⁶³ One specimen comes from the abandonment level of Building IB at Kanakia on the island of Salamis.¹⁶⁴ It should therefore date to LH IIIC Early 1.¹⁶⁵ Unfortunately, its decoration is largely worn off, but apparently, it had a monochrome interior.¹⁶⁶ Two examples with purely linear decoration come from later LH IIIC contexts in the Lower Citadel of Tiryns.¹⁶⁷ One monochrome, one unpainted and one linear specimen turned up in different houses of the Phase 1b destruction horizon at Lefkandi and thus date to LH IIIC Developed. The unpainted and the linear specimens have the classic handles starting below

¹⁵⁶ 6350.30 (K 22 SW).

¹⁵⁷ Frizell 1978, 82, 84, fig. 70.110. For the context in Trench E, Strata 1–2 see Hägg 1973, 49–53.

¹⁵⁸ This date (rather than a date in LH IIIB Developed, as Vitale 2006, 185–186, 200, tab. 2, proposed) is indicated by the considerable number of pattern-painted kylikes and the absence of rosette deep bowls (Frizell 1978, 82–84, figs. 68, 70.110). These were among the arguments that led Schönfeld to suggest a LH IIIB Early–Middle date (Schönfeld 1988, 163, tab. 4; 207–208).

¹⁵⁹ Cf. Thomas 2011, 298–299, fig. 1.10–14. For LH IIIC Early 1 examples see Phase IX floor deposits in the so-called Citadel House Area inside the citadel of Mycenae (French 2011, CD-ROM, 418, 464). See also the last phase of the settlement at Kontopigado (Kaza-Papageorgiou – Kardamaki 2012, 172, fig. 14.44; 174; Kaza-Papageorgiou – Kardamaki 2014, 70–71, fig. 9.16; 123; Kaza-Papageorgiou – Kardamaki 2017, 55, 57, fig. 31.155–156; 62, fig. 37.181; 82–83).

¹⁶⁰ Furumark 1941, 635, knew only examples from the Italian excavations at the Ialysos cemetery. Since then a few more examples from different regions in Greece have been published (Mountjoy 1999, 577–578, fig. 213.380–381; 715–716, fig. 274.76; 1062–1063, fig. 435.242). The specimen from a chamber tomb at Perati belongs to the completely disturbed grave goods of Chamber Tomb Σ1 (Iakovidis 1969/1970, vol. 1, 18–21 cat. no. 83; Iakovidis 1969/1970, vol. 3, pl. 3γ.83). Likewise, the vessels found in Ialysos Tombs 17, 21 and 32 do not belong to closed contexts (Benzi 1992, 256, 264 no. 57; 266 no. f; 275–277 nos. 13–15; 302, 308 nos. 42–43, pls. 30d, f; 37a–c; 60q–r; 171a–b).

¹⁶¹ Benzi 1992, 147–148, 152.

¹⁶² Mycenae, West House destruction, LH IIIB Middle: French 1967, 163 nos. 49–52; 167 no. 112, fig. 12.51; 170 (classified as ‘Deep Bowl with two vertical handles FS 284 bis’); see also Verdelis 1963, 20–21, fig. 28 (right). Mycenae, House with the Idols, LH IIIB Middle: Wardle 1969, 291–292, fig. 12.122–124; pl. 63a (all unpainted). Cf. one unpainted and one painted specimen from Brauron, Chamber Tomb 19 excavated by Petros Themelis (Papadopoulos – Kontorli-Papadopoulou 2014, 87 cat. nos. 246–247, pl. 74.246–247). The painted one has a dotted rim like the LH IIIB Middle examples from Mycenae, but in addition also a rosette just like a rosette deep bowl. Unfortunately, we do not have stratigraphical data for these two Attic finds.

¹⁶³ Podzuweit 2007, 113, pl. 58.11–12.

¹⁶⁴ Marabea 2012, 173, 202, fig. 13.

¹⁶⁵ This chronological estimate by the pottery specialist of the Kanakia excavation (Marabea 2012, 178–182, 191, tab. 1) has also been discussed by other scholars working in Attica (Kaza-Papageorgiou et al. 2011, 229–230).

¹⁶⁶ Lolos – Marabea 2003, 120–121, 173, fig. 27.

¹⁶⁷ Podzuweit 2007, 113, pl. 58.11–12. These two fragmentary vessels from Room 126 in the Lower Citadel settlement date to LH IIIC Advanced and LH IIIC Late respectively. Their decoration with an upper band running underneath the handle is characteristic for the LH IIIC phases Developed to Late (see Podzuweit 2007, 116).



Fig. 15 Mycenaean pottery from Tell Kazel, Area IV, Building D, most probably Akkar Phase K1. 1–2. Local Mycenaean vessels; 3. Argive import. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, R. Yassine, digitization R. Yassine).

the rim.¹⁶⁸ From the few stratified specimens one might therefore conclude that the early, i.e. Palace-period versions of the deep bowl with vertical handles were either unpainted or had dotted rims, while the linear and monochrome versions were Post-palatial innovations. The type of linear decoration which the Tell Kazel vessel shows (variety of decoration Type 3.2 + base decoration 4.2) is so far without direct parallel in the Aegean, but most probably depends on the linear style of decorating FT 289 in the Post-palatial period.

Much local Mycenaean pottery of the Akkar Phase K1 destruction has been encountered in excavation Area II, and some of the relevant contexts such as the fill layer in Rooms 6IIU–V of Building II have been discussed in detail elsewhere.¹⁶⁹ Suffice it here to present the locally made Mycenaean ceramics from a (so far unnumbered) room inside Building I as an example. These consist of an unpainted rim fragment of a carinated kylix FT 267 (Fig. 16.3), two fragmentary deep bowls FT 284/285A (Fig. 16.1, 4) and a large rim sherd of a mug FT 226 (Fig. 16.2). The larger of the two deep bowls has the row of long strokes on the interior rim so characteristic for the local style, but other than that, these vessels do not carry any patterned decoration. The smaller deep bowl shows linear decoration type 7.8.1, which includes the familiar low interior band hinting at a date in LH IIIC Early 1 (see above). In terms of both linear decoration and its narrow triglyph motif FM 75.9, the mug has close to very close parallels in LH IIIB Final and IIIC Early 1 contexts at Mycenae, Iria and Thebes.¹⁷⁰

¹⁶⁸ Mountjoy 1999, 715–716, fig. 274.76; Popham et al. 2006a, 22 no. P12; 123 no. P60; Popham et al. 2006b, 183, fig. 2.16.3; pls. 17.9; 29.4. The linear vessel shows a monochrome interior, decoration type 9.1 + lower bands 2.1(?) to be precise.

¹⁶⁹ Jung 2008, 192–196, figs. 14.54–59; 15.61, 66, 68–69; 16. Apart from painted and unpainted local Mycenaean table wares including painted and unpainted deep bowls, predominantly unpainted kylikes, painted kraters and painted basins, this context also yielded a fragment of a Mycenaean cooking pot (Jung 2011c, 124–125, figs. 4–5).

¹⁷⁰ These parallels are assembled in Jung 2008, 195. Fig. 16.1: 6472.8A–B (X 21 NE); Fig. 16.2: 6498.1 (X 21 NE/NW); Fig. 16.3: 6472.10 (X 21 NE); Fig. 16.4: 6472.9 (X 21 NE).

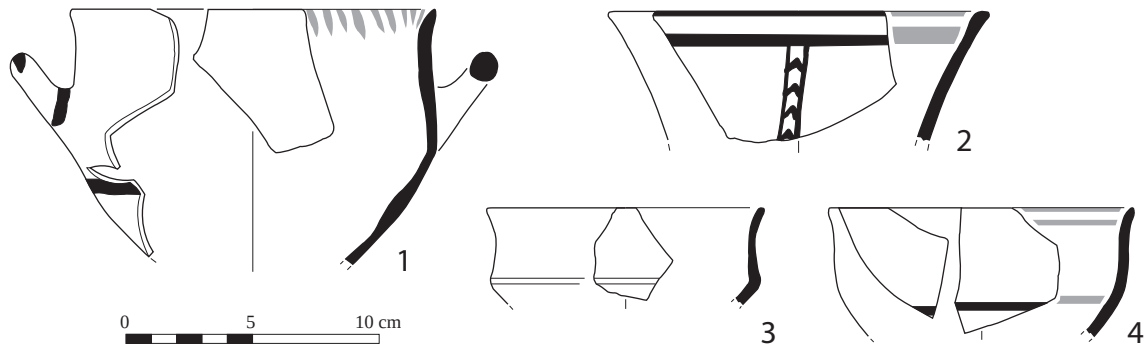


Fig. 16 Local Mycenaean vessels from Tell Kazel, Area II, Building I, Akkar Phase K1. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

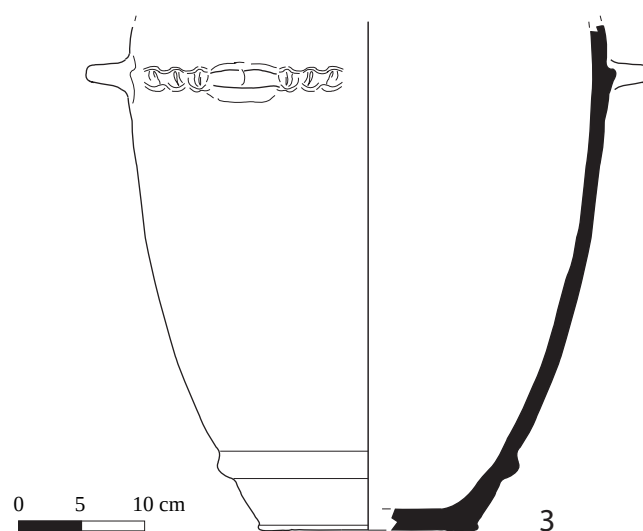
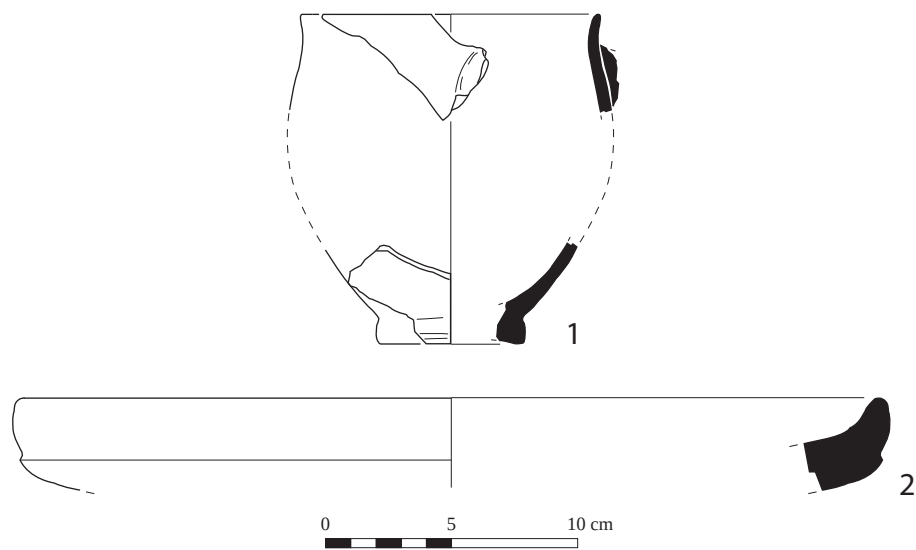


Fig. 17 Mycenaean pottery from Tell Kazel, Area IV, Building C, Akkar Phase K1. 1. Local Mycenaean deep bowl; 2–3. locally made handmade and burnished vessels of Italian type. 1–2. Scale 1:3. 3. Scale 1:6 (drawings R. Jung, R. Yassine, digitization R. Yassine).

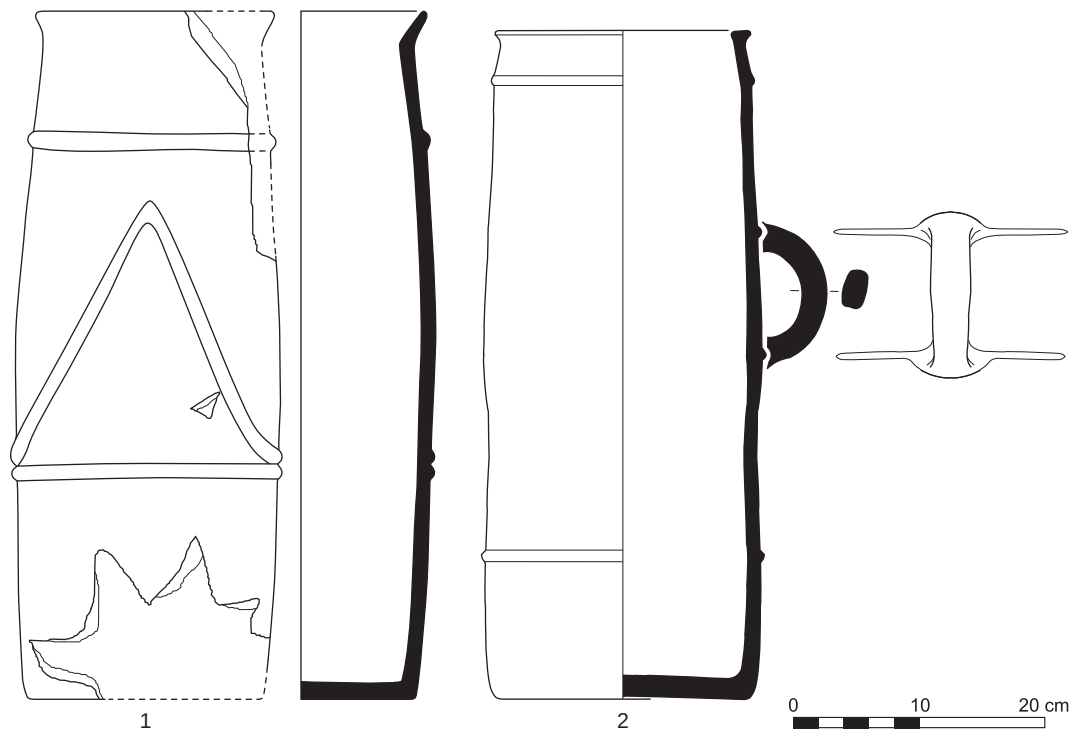


Fig. 18 Cylindrical handmade and burnished jars of Italian type. 1. Dimini, Room Δ, building overlying the Southern Megaron; 2. Tell Kazel, Building C. Scale 1:6 (digitization St. Fragner, 1: after Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 570 no. BE 36014; 2: after Badre – Capet 2018, 140–141, pl. 41.470).

Italian-type Pottery

In Akkar Phase K1, yet another new pottery class made its appearance, which, in terms of stratigraphy, was contemporaneous with the local Mycenaean ceramics. That is (predominantly) locally made handmade and burnished pottery of the Italian Subapennine type.¹⁷¹ Apart from an unpainted local Mycenaean deep bowl FT 284/285 (Fig. 17.1),¹⁷² the Southern Complex or Building C just south of the LBA temple in Area IV contained three such Italian-type handmade vessels.¹⁷³ The first is a fragmentary hole-mouthed jar (Fig. 17.3), the second a completely preserved high cylindrical jar (Fig. 18.2), while the third was a tray and is represented solely by a rim fragment (Fig. 17.2).

Apart from a regular plastic band with finger impressions and a horizontal lug positioned high up on the body, the hole-mouthed jar shows the rare feature of a second plastic band, which is plain and applied a few centimeters above the base (Fig. 17.3).¹⁷⁴ Roca Vecchia on the Adriatic coast of Apulia provides a parallel, differing in the detail that both plastic bands are plain. The excavator dates it to the end of the Recent Bronze Age (RBA 2) or the beginning of the Final Bronze Age (FBA 1), i.e. to some point in time contemporary with LH IIIC Advanced.¹⁷⁵ A vessel from a LH IIIC Developed building in the northwestern part of the Tirynthian Lower Town provides another parallel, which, however, has two plastic bands below the

¹⁷¹ Badre 2006. For a comparative typological discussion see Jung 2009c, 144–146, figs. 9–10; Jung 2018a, 287–289, fig. 19.8–11. For the petrographic and chemical analyses see Badre et al. 2005; Boileau et al. 2010.

¹⁷² 5110.8/9 (M 21 SW).

¹⁷³ Badre et al. 2005, 34–35, fig. 9.1; 39 no. TK 60; Badre 2006, 83–84, fig. 14.2; 86, fig. 16.1–3; Badre – Capet 2018, 140–141, pl. 41.470, 472.

¹⁷⁴ 5042.50 (M 21 SW).

¹⁷⁵ Guglielmino 2005, 646, pl. 167e. For the Aegean synchronisms of RBA 2 and FBA 1 see Jung 2006.

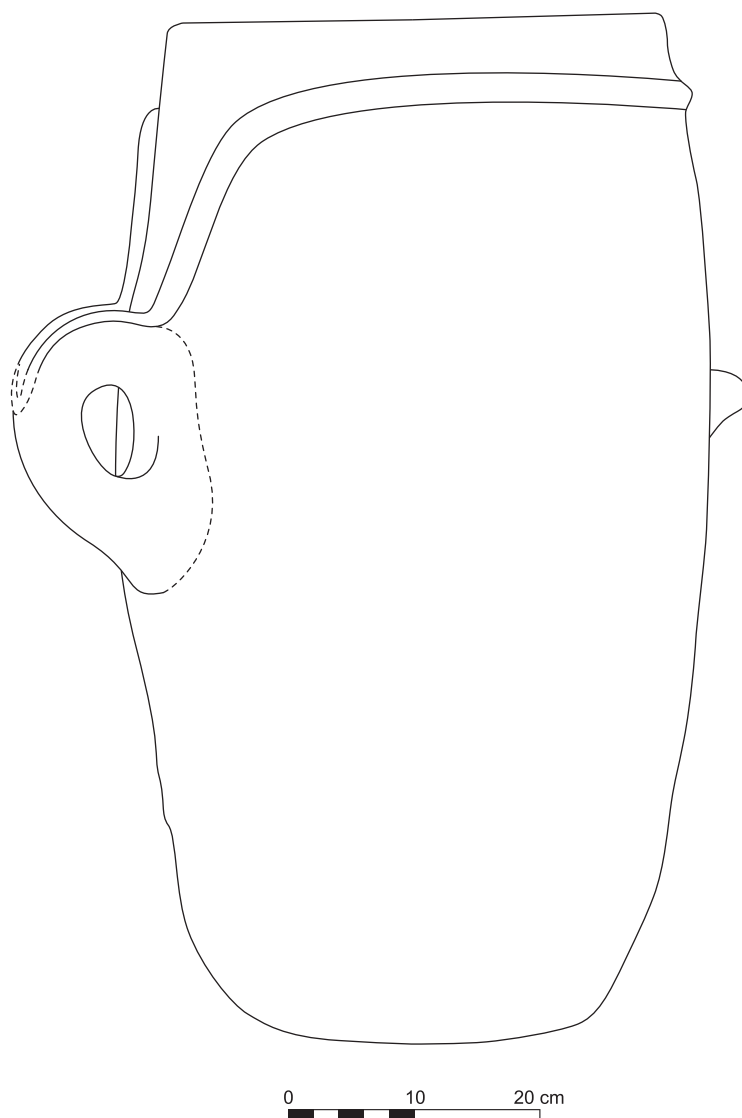


Fig. 19 Slightly convex cylindrical jar used as cremation urn at Timmari. Scale 1:6 (digitization St. Fragner, after Cipolloni Sampò 1979, 508, fig. 4 [left]).

rim.¹⁷⁶ The fact that the specific placement of a plastic band quite low on the body in addition to the regular one below the rim is such a rare feature both in Italy and among the Italian-type products from Greece, suggests constraint in using this vessel from Building C for proposing a very late synchronism.

Chronologically more important are the parallels for the high cylindrical vessel (Fig. 18.2).¹⁷⁷ A southern Italian *comparandum* comes from the Basilicata region (Fig. 19). Like the vessel from Tell Kazel, it has its vertical handle in a central position on the body and also shows applied plastic bands, but it is larger, and the silhouette is somewhat more convex.¹⁷⁸ A complete vessel from a LH IIIC Early 1 building at Dimini is a much better parallel (Fig. 18.1).¹⁷⁹ Apart from the plastic

¹⁷⁶ Maran – Papadimitriou 2017, 50–52, fig. 70; Maran 2018, 236; V. Papamichalopoulou in: Badisches Landesmuseum Karlsruhe 2018, 350 cat. no. 273. It is slightly smaller than the jar from Tell Kazel.

¹⁷⁷ TK 99.274 (Context 5380, M 21 SE): height 53cm; diameter 19.1cm (Badre 2004, 115 cat. no. 91; Badre – Capet 2018, 140–141, pl. 41.470; 157, pl. 1f).

¹⁷⁸ Used as an urn for a cremation burial at Timmari (Cipolloni Sampò 1979, 508, fig. 4 [left]).

¹⁷⁹ Jung 2009c, 144–145, fig. 9 (before the complete restoration).

zigzag band and the missing handle, it is virtually identical to the Syrian product – even regarding its exact height.¹⁸⁰ This is also of special significance in view of the fact that Dimini further shares with Tell Kazel the marked presence of a second pottery class with strong Italian affinities, i.e. a kind of wheelmade Gray Ware, which is not related to the well-known Gray Ware from Asia Minor.¹⁸¹ More precisely, Dimini and Tell Kazel are at present the only sites in the eastern Mediterranean where this specific Gray Ware class appears with a large variety of types, including some of Italian and others of Mycenaean derivation.¹⁸² This hints at some kind of relationship between those two specific settlements. However, that relationship may have had an indirect character, in which the link is due to the wide-ranging actions of seafaring groups with Italian and Aegean backgrounds in the decades around 1200 BCE.¹⁸³

The third handmade vessel from the Southern Complex, a tray of c. 35cm diameter, is preserved only by a rim fragment (Fig. 17.2).¹⁸⁴ Apart from a single parallel found at the Lower Citadel of Tiryns,¹⁸⁵ it is a unique shape from the Levant to southern Greece. However, it has parallels in Italy and more specifically among the RBA 2 ceramic repertoire of Lipari in the Aeolian Islands and Punta di Zambrone in southern Calabria.¹⁸⁶ RBA 2 at Punta di Zambrone represents an early aspect of that phase including Mycenaean pottery imports of LH IIIC Early date.¹⁸⁷

Similar to the situation of Tell Tweini then, by the time of the destruction at the end of LBA II, local products inspired by Aegean ceramics reflect the earliest Post-palatial style of Mycenaean pottery production at Tell Kazel, while the Argive Mycenaean imports from the same habitation phase were already old vessels, if still in use, that had been imported during earlier phases. Only in the Akkar plain do we find local pots modeled on Italian Subapennine handmade and Gray Ware prototypes.

Cyprus

A number of LBA settlements in Cyprus have been excavated and provide evidence for destructions, the date of which we can investigate in terms of Aegean synchronisms.¹⁸⁸ This investigation will have to be limited to relative chronology, because we cannot connect any specific coastal settlement on Cyprus to the destruction of Alašiya mentioned in Ramesses III's year 8 inscription.¹⁸⁹

¹⁸⁰ Dimini, floor deposit inside Room Δ, building overlying the so-called Southern Megaron: height 54cm; base diameter 18cm (Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 268–269, 569–570 no. BE 36014). The vessel was indeed handleless (confirmed by Vassiliki Adrimi-Sismani, personal communication).

¹⁸¹ Trojan Gray Ware does exist at Tell Kazel (see above) as it does at other Levantine sites (see most recently Jung 2018b), but its fabric characteristics clearly differ from those of the Italian-Aegean-type Gray Ware, see Badre et al. 2005, 31–32, 42 (Fabrics G 1 [Italian and Aegean shapes] and G 2 [Trojan imports]).

¹⁸² Jung 2012, 109–111, fig. 10.4; Badre – Capet 2018, 142–143, pl. 42.477–478, 481. For the Gray Ware from Dimini, see Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 559–561. Kastro/Palia in Volos yielded this Gray Ware class as well, but the vessel repertoire is more restricted than at nearby Dimini (Lis – Batziou 2022, 26–27, fig. 16).

¹⁸³ In this context one can also mention Levantine amphorae ('Canaanite jars') at Dimini (Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 376, 556).

¹⁸⁴ 5701.39 (M 22 NW).

¹⁸⁵ This 'pan' as it is called has, however, only a diameter of 18cm. It comes from a LH IIIC Advanced context (Kilian 2007, 31–32, 107 cat. no. 300, pl. 24.300) and differs from the Syrian find in that the rim and the bottom meet at an angle. While the same is true for the RBA 2 trays from northern Calabrian Broglio di Trebisacce (quoted by Klaus Kilian), by contrast, the tray from the Ausonio I level on the acropolis of Lipari has a very similar curved profile as the tray from Tell Kazel (Bernabò Brea – Cavalier 1980, pl. 211.3d; cf. Jung 2018a, 288–289, fig. 19.10). The rim diameters of the latter are decisively larger than in the case of the northern Calabrian and Tirynthian trays.

¹⁸⁶ Jung 2018a, 288–289, fig. 19.10.

¹⁸⁷ Jung et al. 2015, 68–79, 95–99; Jung 2017, 634–636.

¹⁸⁸ For previous studies see French – Åström 1980; Mountjoy 2005; Mountjoy 2007; Podzuweit 2007; Jung 2011a; most recently Mountjoy 2018 (with an emphasis on the LC IIIA and IIIB periods).

¹⁸⁹ Leaving aside the question of how much power its king may have held, it seems clear today that in all probability 'Alašiya' refers to the entire island of Cyprus (Peltenburg – Iacovou 2012, 345–351; Knapp 2013, 432–447). Thus,



Fig. 20 White Slip II and Late White Slip II bowls from Enkomi Level IIB, City Quarter 1 West, Room 1 (photo R. Jung).

Enkomi

At the end of LC IIC, Enkomi was destroyed. The excavations by Porphyrios Dikaïos still provide the most reliable stratigraphy for that turning point in the settlement history, marked by Level IIB contemporary with LC IIC.¹⁹⁰ Two of the city quarters he excavated are most relevant for discussing the comparative chronology of the LC IIC destruction: Area III at the northern fortification wall (or City Quarter 1 West on the overall plan drawn by the French mission) and Area I (or City Quarter 4 West) closer to the city center.¹⁹¹ The excavator ascribed the Level IIB destruction layers in both city quarters to the same events, i.e. an enemy attack ending in the destruction of, ‘presumably, the whole of the town’.¹⁹² There are slight differences in the exact way in which the destruction affected those two city quarters. In City Quarter 4 West, traces of fire on the floors as well as other evidence such as charcoal, ash layers and red earth in Rooms 135, 137, 138, 139, 140 of the South Sector (and to a lesser extent also in Rooms 113 and 114) as well as in Rooms 106, 127 and 128 in the North Sector show that a conflagration accompanied the destruction.¹⁹³ There

many settlements in this kingdom could have been potential victims of a seaborne attack – even if one were to limit the search to coastal sites only. The same would apply if we were to assume a foreign soldier uprising in the way suggested by Ben-Dor Evian (cf. above n. 65). It would be too great a stretch to restrict the realm of Alashiya to central southern Cyprus just on the basis of the petrographic similarities between the southern Troodos foothills and letters sent from Alashiya to Egypt and Ugarit (cf. Goren et al. 2004b). Even if one were to give a special weight to these petrographic results, the political term would still signify the whole kingdom. Furthermore, while the analyzed letters seem to have been sent from either Alassa or Kalavassos-Ayios Dimitrios, the king may have had many different seats/palaces anyway (Knapp 2011; Knapp 2013, 444).

¹⁹⁰ Dikaïos 1969/1971, 451–452.

¹⁹¹ Dikaïos 1969/1971, pl. 240; Courtois et al. 1986, 3, fig. 1; 6, fig. 2; 8–18.

¹⁹² Dikaïos 1969/1971, 170, 513.

¹⁹³ Dikaïos 1969/1971, 164–171, pl. 271. Millek did not accept ashes and red earth on the floors of some of these rooms as traces of fire (cf. Millek 2021, 77, fig. 7).

is no consistent presence of fire indicators throughout the rooms of City Quarter 1 West. In most rooms, in which ash layers and fire traces on the floors do occur, they are either linked to hearths or to the function of those rooms as copper workshops. However, debris layers of pebbles, stones and decomposed mudbricks are frequent and especially thick close to the fortification wall in City Quarter 1 West.¹⁹⁴

Room 1 of the copper workshop in City Quarter 1 West¹⁹⁵ yielded a rich assemblage of pottery, which is representative for the settlement phase of Level IIB. The rim count of three different find contexts assigned to Level IIB in that room resulted in 40 wheelmade rims, 101 handmade rims and 4 undetermined rims.¹⁹⁶ The vast majority (72 rims) of the handmade rim fragments belong to White Slip II and Late White Slip II bowls (Fig. 20).¹⁹⁷

The Argive imports from this room include one shallow strap-handled bowl FT 295/296 with an only slightly thickened rounded rim (rim variety 1), linear decoration type 7.8.2 (+ a band around the base attachment) and a number of interior motifs, of which a hybrid flower, FM 18B, and a flattened variety of chevron, FM 58, are sufficiently preserved for identification (Fig. 21.1).¹⁹⁸ Such shallow bowls, FT 295/296 with interior patterns, were among the most popular imported vessels on Cyprus and along the Levantine coasts.¹⁹⁹ However, in the region from which they were exported, the Argolid, they do not seem to have been a regular element of ceramic banqueting sets, which causes problems for the determination of their exact production period. Early attestations of the painted type date back to LH IIIB Early.²⁰⁰ Specimens with patterns on the interior seem to appear only from LH IIIB Middle onwards,²⁰¹ which may, however, be due to the comparative rarity of FT 295/296 in the Argolid settlement stratigraphies. There are several examples with interior patterns from the LH IIIB Final (–LH IIIC Early 1) Epichosis at Tiryns.²⁰²

Another imported vessel from the Argolid found in Room 1 of City Quarter 1 West is a small-sized monochrome stemmed bowl FT 304/305, of which a rim and a foot fragment survive (Fig. 21.3).²⁰³ Monochrome stemmed bowls were quite common in late Palace-period contexts of the Argolid.²⁰⁴ This specific vessel represents a very small specimen with a rim diameter of 13cm and a reconstructed height of c. 15.5cm. Some fragments from the Epichosis prove the presence of similar small specimens in the Upper Citadel of Tiryns. The reserved circle on the bottom of the

¹⁹⁴ Dikaïos 1969/1971, 49–65, 70–71, 81–92, pls. 252–253, 261.3–4; 264.3, 6.

¹⁹⁵ Dikaïos 1969/1971, 51.

¹⁹⁶ This count includes Find Contexts 2707 and 2715 from the western part of the room and 2762 from its eastern part. There are several joining fragments between Contexts 2707 and 2715.

¹⁹⁷ This photo shows White Slip II and Late White Slip II bowls from Context 2762.

¹⁹⁸ 2707/7 + 2715/7.10 (Jung 2011b, 179, 194, fig. 5.2). Part of it was published, see Dikaïos 1969/1971, 566, pl. 67.21; Mountjoy 2018, 315–316, fig. 164.836. Room 1 contained more vessels of this type, also painted with interior motifs (e.g. 2762/5, fig. 21.2; Mountjoy 2018, 314–315, fig. 164.835).

¹⁹⁹ For some statistics see Jung 2015, 247, figs. 3–4. For a well deposit with many FT 295/296 specimens at Kalavassos-Ayios Dimitrios see South 1988, 225, fig. 2.K-AD 1241, K-AD 1255; 228; pl. 35; South 2008, 311, pls. 62b; 63.

²⁰⁰ Mycenae, Terrace on the Atreus Ridge, LH IIIB Early (Schönfeld 1988, 163, tab. 4; 182–183); French 1965, 177, 180, fig. 7.26; 186–187, fig. 9.5–6. Tiryns, Lower Citadel, LH IIIB Early: Schönfeld 1988, 155, tab. 1.59; 166. They are absent from the LH IIIA2 contexts inside the Petsas House (personal communication by Kim Shelton, to whom I am very grateful).

²⁰¹ Mycenae, use surface in the Prehistoric Cemetery, LH IIIB Middle (Schönfeld 1988, 163, tab. 4; 198–201); French 1966, 223, pl. 49e. Tiryns, Lower Citadel, LH IIIB Middle: Schönfeld 1988, 193, fig. 9.13, 16 (patterns in added white paint); 202. Tiryns, Lower Citadel, LH IIIB Developed: Podzuweit 1981, 198–199, fig. 51; Kardamaki 2009, 482–483, tab. 32j (no. 1).

²⁰² Patterns painted between the interior bands: Voigtländer 2003, 81–82 cat. nos. SC 15–SC 17, SC 19–SC 20, pls. 57. SC 15–SC 17, SC 19–SC 20; 117. SC 15; 118. SC 16–SC 20. Patterns in white paint added on top of one or more interior bands: Voigtländer 2003, 80–81 cat. nos. SC 1–SC 14, pls. 56; 117. SC 1–SC 14.

²⁰³ 2715/19, 2715/B (Jung 2009b, 79, 84, 90, fig. 3.4). The foot shape might suggest a monochrome kylix FT 264, but the rim indicates the stemmed bowl.

²⁰⁴ Podzuweit 2007, 56, Beil. 34 (10.4% of all deep bowl and stemmed bowl types in LH IIIB Developed; 1.0% in LH IIIB Final).

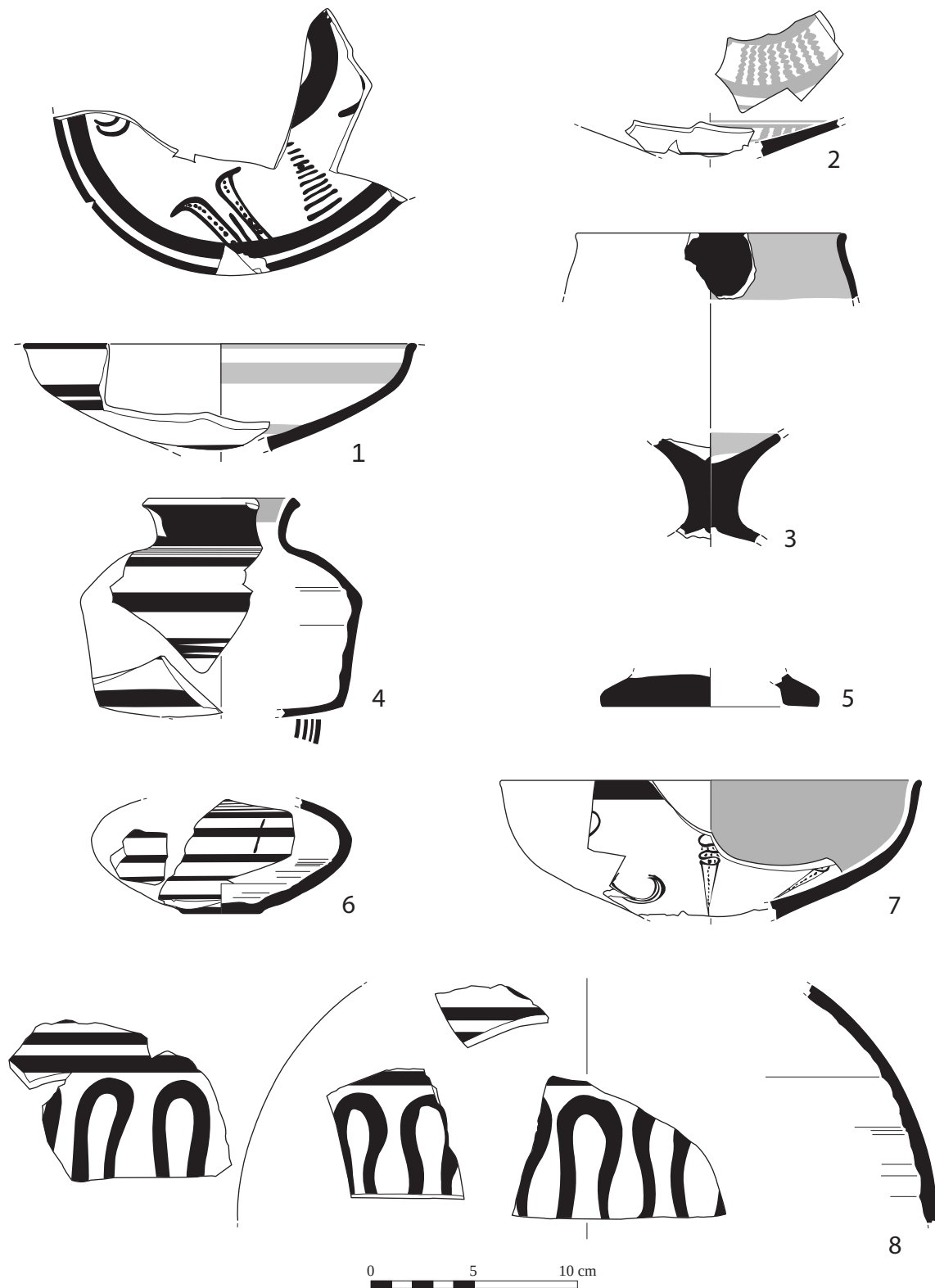


Fig. 21 Wheelmade pottery from Enkomi, City Quarter 1 West, Room 1, Level IIB. 1–5. Mycenaean imports from the Argolid; 6–8. Minoan imports. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, digitization M. Frauenglas, R. Yassine).

vessel is a further stylistic trait linking certain monochrome stemmed bowls from the Epichosis with the vessel from Enkomi.²⁰⁵ Both of the Enkomi fragments are secondarily burnt, which might suggest that the vessel was in use during the fiery destruction of the Level IIB settlement.²⁰⁶

Finally, there are fragments of two closed vessels from the Argolid, a torus base from a large piriform jar FT 35–36 or perhaps an amphoroid krater FT 54/55 (Fig. 21.5)²⁰⁷ and an angular alabastron FT 94–95 without shoulder motif. This vessel has LH IIIB Final and IIIC Early parallels (Fig. 21.4).²⁰⁸

A Minoan kylix with monochrome interior, narrow rim band (decoration type 9.2), a row of vertical whorl shells FM 23, and a palm tree motif FM 15 has several parallels in LM IIIB contexts around Crete (Fig. 21.7).²⁰⁹ A large coarse ware stirrup jar FT 164 with a stylized octopus motif (a tightly swung wavy line with high amplitude FM 53.14) inside a narrow decorative zone bordered by three shoulder bands may be of central Cretan manufacture (Fig. 21.8). In central Crete we find a good parallel at Kalamafka,²¹⁰ while there are others at Tiryns.²¹¹ The contexts of those parallels suggest a later LM IIIB to early LM IIIC date for the Enkomi specimen. A squat fine ware stirrup jar is also of Minoan type and finds parallels throughout LM IIIB in different Cretan regions (Fig. 21.6).²¹²

Several further painted Mycenaean vessels are most probably local products (Fig. 22.1–5). One is an example of the Cypro-Mycenaean bowl, Type 2 in Mountjoy's typology (Fig. 22.3) with its characteristic flaring upper body and more shallow lower body and a purely linear decoration (decoration type 7.4.1).²¹³ Mountjoy proposes a derivation of this very long-lived bowl shape from the Mycenaean FT 210 and quotes several locally made bowls from LC IIC contexts while assigning

²⁰⁵ Voigtländer 2003, 99–100 cat. nos. MO 7 (rim diameter 13.6cm), MO 8 (rim diameter 13.0cm; height 15.3cm), MO 15 (rim diameter 14.0cm), MO 24, pls. 133.Mo 7–Mo 8; 134.Mo 15; 135.Mo 24. Cat. nos. MO 8 and MO 24 have a reserved circle inside on the bottom of the vessel. Although the few published stratigraphical data suggest that vessels with this type of decoration mainly stem from deeper Epichosis layers (Voigtländer 2003, 99), the Lower Citadel layers confirmed the existence of monochrome stemmed bowls right until the end of LH IIIB (Podzuweit 2007, 56). Foot fragments of monochrome stemmed bowls FT 304/305 with a reserved interior circle are also among the pottery finds from the destruction level of Megaron B at Dimini (Adrimi-Sismani 2014, 412), which would suggest a LH IIIC Early 1 date (see above).

²⁰⁶ According to Dikaios 1969/1971, 51, Room 1 was a copper workshop, which means that traces of burning on sherds from this room might also be due to their exposure to the flames of work processes. However, most sherds found on Floors IV and III belonging to Level IIB do not show such traces of secondary burning.

²⁰⁷ 2762/9.

²⁰⁸ 2762/2. 3 (Dikaios 1969/71, 567, pl. 67.10). A good parallel for shape and linear decoration – but with a shoulder motif – was found at Iria, Annex room (probably LH IIIC Early 1, Döhl 1973, 172, 190, fig. 19.A 21; pl. 73.5). A slightly smaller vessel with exclusively linear decoration comes from the LH IIIB Final destruction level of Room VIIb at Midea, West Gate Area (Demakopoulou et al. 1999, 63–64, fig. 29).

²⁰⁹ 2715/1 (Dikaios 1969/1971, 566, pl. 67.29; Mountjoy 2018, 314–315, fig. 164.833). Cf. Knossos, discarded material north of the Little Palace, Context 5.4.3, LM IIIB Late: Hatzaki 2017, 65, fig. 3.10.P592; 70.

²¹⁰ 2715/14 with a belly diameter of 33.5cm (Dikaios 1969/1971, 566, pl. 67.28). Cf. Kalamafka (northern central Crete), Level D, LM IIIB2: Kanta – Kontopodi 2017, 92, 94, fig. 4.24a (belly diameter c. 46cm according to the drawing).

²¹¹ Lower Citadel: Podzuweit 2007, 172, pl. 92.6 (LXI–LXII 36 IVa–d, slightly smaller with a belly diameter of c. 30cm according to the drawing; Sample T12 = south-central Crete, personal information E. Kardamaki); Lower Town, LH IIIC Early 2: Maran 2005, 419–422, fig. 1.2; Stockhammer 2008, vol. 1, 97, 177–178, 190; Stockhammer 2008, vol. 2, 80 cat. no. 1218, pl. 57.1218 (belly diameter 33.4cm).

²¹² 2707/6 + 2715/2, 2715/2. Usually these Minoan squat stirrup jars have an even banding without fine line groups as body decoration, commencing directly below the shoulder motifs, e.g. at Chania in the LM IIIB2 phase (Hallager 2003, 214–217, pls. 56–57) as well as in the preceding LM IIIB1 phase (Hallager 2011, 297–301, pls. 98, 153f; Andreadaki-Vlazaki 2015, 31, 33, fig. 8). However, one squat stirrup jar from an unpublished context in Tomb Γ at Staminii in central Crete and another one from a LM IIIB larnax burial in tomb D at Kalochorafitis in the Mesara Plain show the same combination of a fine line group on the shoulder with an evenly banded body as the Enkomi vessel (Kanta 1980, 56, fig. 25.3–4; Antonakaki 2015, 121; Girella 2015, 144, 205, fig. 6.14.D-Cat.n.4; 207 cat. no. 4; 431, pl. IX.D-Cat.n.4).

²¹³ 2715/3–5. 8. The fabric is of good quality (Enkomi Fabric M 27), but the inclusions (medium to large quantity of medium to coarse dark gray and also reddish brown particles) show that it is not a northern Argive import.

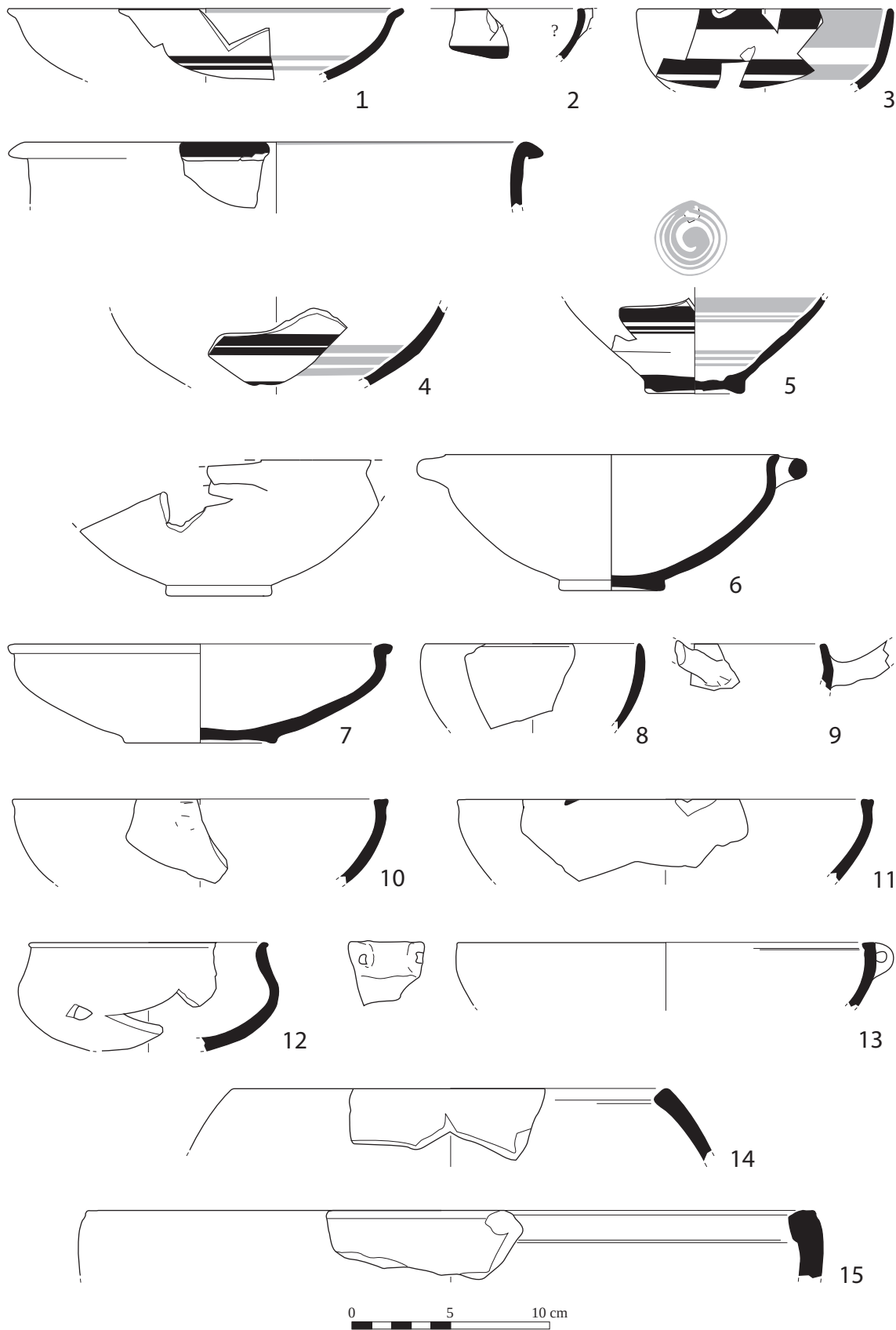


Fig. 22 Pottery from Enkomi, City Quarter 1 West, Room 1, Level IIB. 1–5. local Mycenaean pottery; 6–15. Plain White Wheelmade pottery. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, M. Frauenglas, digitization R. Yassine).

them to FT 210. The fragmentary bowl from Room 1 of Level IIB in City Quarter 1 West is closer to the LC IIC specimens than to the products from Greece, but does not find any exact parallel in terms of both shape and linear decoration.²¹⁴ A fragment of a shallow strap-handled bowl FT 296 painted with decoration type 7.9.3 (Fig. 22.1),²¹⁵ the rim of another similar bowl (Fig. 22.2)²¹⁶ and the lower half of a shallow bowl (Fig. 22.5)²¹⁷ as well as a krater FT 281/282 without (preserved) patterned decoration (Fig. 22.4)²¹⁸ complete the local Mycenaean repertoire from the same room. A locally made unpainted version (Plain White Wheelmade) of FT 295/296²¹⁹ is also present (Fig. 22.6). Another unpainted shallow bowl of local manufacture conforms to the proportions and rim shape of FT 295/296 but was apparently handleless (Fig. 22.7).²²⁰

Among the local unpainted pottery, i.e. the so-called Plain White Wheelmade Ware often covered with the whitish slip so characteristic for Enkomi, there is a wide variety of small, mainly shallow bowls. Some of these are close in shape to handmade White Slip (Fig. 22.8)²²¹ and monochrome bowls respectively (Fig. 22.9).²²² Others, especially the type with a short thickened and flattened rim (rim type a, T-shaped; rim type 3, thickened only on the interior), sometimes with a groove on top (rim type e, T-shaped with groove), and a single, pierced lug are very common even as grave offerings (Fig. 22.10–11, 13).²²³ Large basins with different complex rim profiles are also a common feature and appear in similar shapes, e.g. at LC IIC Kalavassos-Ayios Dimitrios (Figs. 22.15; 23.1).²²⁴ Furthermore, large parts of a plain amphoroid krater are preserved. This vessel has close parallels among the grave gifts in the Enkomi chamber tombs (Fig. 23.2).²²⁵ However, rare types are represented as well, e.g. a cup or bowl with s-shaped profile (Fig. 22.12)²²⁶ and an apparently globular vessel with incurving upper body and angular lip (Fig. 22.14).²²⁷ Other fragments belong to large, closed vessels (Fig. 23.3–4), one of which is a jug of the characteristic LC IIC shape with its handle attached slightly below the lip (Fig. 23.4).²²⁸ The rim of a large storage jar belongs to a vessel that in the tradition of Cypriot research would already be called a pithos despite having a height of far less than one meter (Fig. 24.1).²²⁹

Handmade cooking pots show a variety of sizes, rim and handle types, all of which correspond to classic LC IIC types and have been discussed in detail elsewhere (Fig. 24.2–5).²³⁰

²¹⁴ Mountjoy 2018, 54–55, fig. 20; 91–94, figs. 36–38. For FT 210, which as Mountjoy rightly stresses serves as a label for quite different bowl shapes, see Furumark's definition in Furumark 1941, 620.

²¹⁵ 2707/9, 10 + 2715/11.

²¹⁶ 2762/11. It belongs to Mountjoy's bowl Type 6 with a production period extending to Enkomi Level IIIA (Mountjoy 2018, 105–108, figs. 46–48).

²¹⁷ 2762/13. It might be a quite deep version of Type 6 or Type 8 in Mountjoy's bowl typology (cf. specimens from a shaft at Kouklia-Mantissa, difficult to date, but around the end of LC IIC and the beginning of LC IIIA, Mountjoy 2018, 831–834, figs. 410.84; 411.95, 100).

²¹⁸ 2715/15.

²¹⁹ 2715/25 (Dikaios 1969/1971, 566, pl. 65.3; Jung 2011b, 178, 190, fig. 1.4).

²²⁰ 2715/26. A sufficiently large continuous portion of the rim (60%) is preserved to exclude at least the existence of two strap handles, which are defining for FT 295 and 296.

²²¹ 2715/.. [no sherd number].

²²² 2715/.. [no sherd number]. For the shape cf. e.g. small monochrome bowls from Chamber Tomb 110, excavated by the French mission (Courtois 1981, 135 cat. no. 99; 136 cat. nos. 113, 115; 194, fig. 96.99; 197, fig. 99.113, 115).

²²³ All 2715/.. [no sherd numbers]; cf. Enkomi, Chamber Tomb 110: Courtois 1981, 136–137 cat. nos. 134–135, 140, 144; 201, fig. 103.134–135; 203, fig. 105.140, 144.

²²⁴ Fig. 22.15: 2715/31; Fig. 23.1: 2715/.. [no sherd number]; cf. Schuster Keswani 1989, 19, fig. 20.10–14.

²²⁵ 2715/29, 2715/35. The rim and base most probably formed part of the same vessel. For parallels see Courtois 1981, 139–140 cat. nos. 212, 214; 224, fig. 127.212, 214 (from Chamber Tomb 110).

²²⁶ 2715/24.

²²⁷ 2715/32.

²²⁸ 2715/27. The base fragment Fig. 23.3 is 2715/34 with slag adhering to one fracture surface.

²²⁹ 2715/30 (rim diameter 28cm). Cf. Schuster Keswani's short-necked Group I pithoi, Form IB1 (Schuster Keswani 1989, 14, fig. 16.12–23).

²³⁰ Jung 2011a, 58–59, 79–80, figs. 1–2. Fig. 24.2: 2707/4; Fig. 24.3: 2715/23; Fig. 24.4: 2715/.. [no sherd number]; Fig. 24.5: 2707/.. + 2715/.. [no sherd numbers].

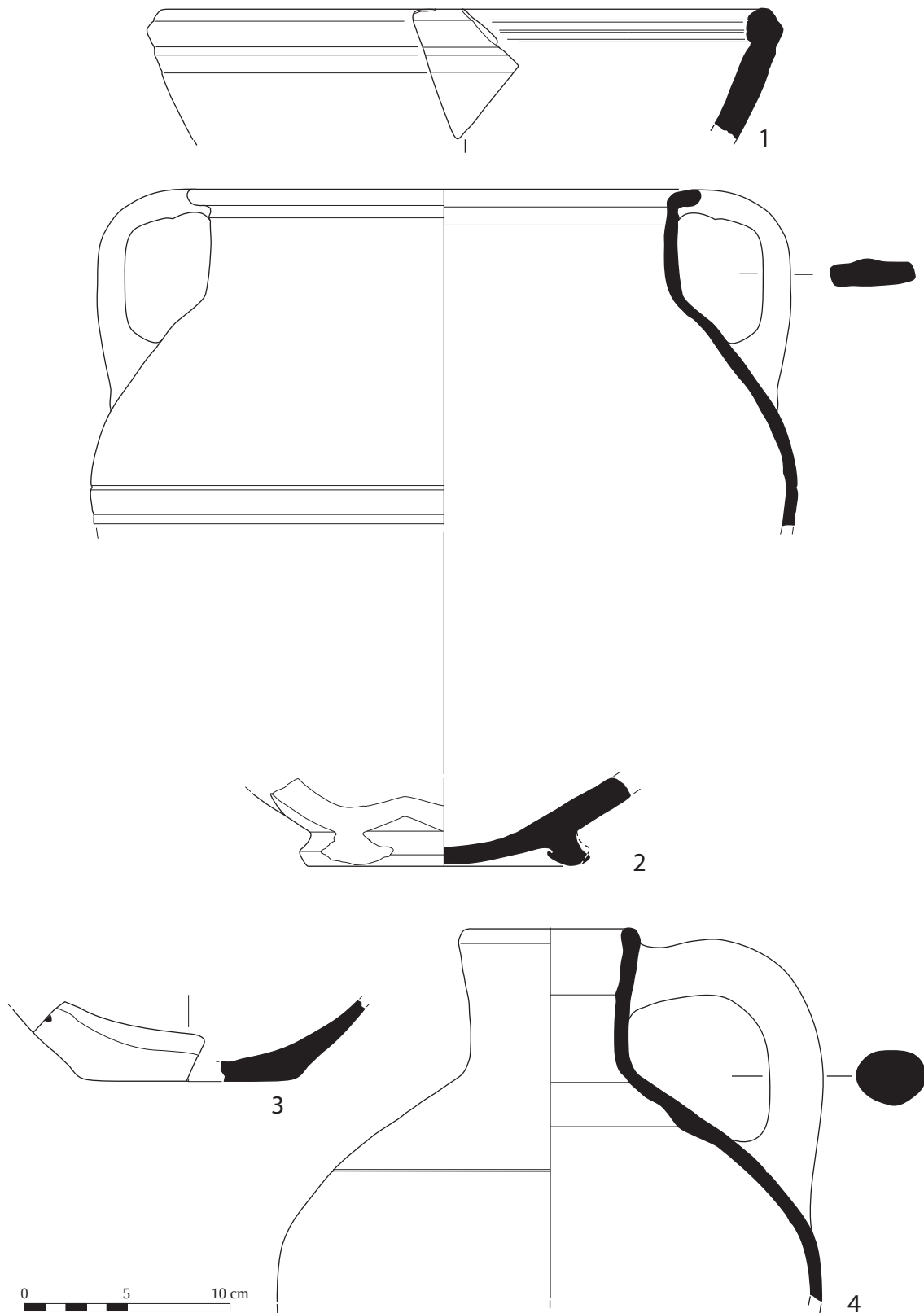


Fig. 23 Plain White Wheelmade pottery from Enkomi, City Quarter 1 West, Room 1, Level IIB. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, digitization M. Frauenglas, R. Yassine).

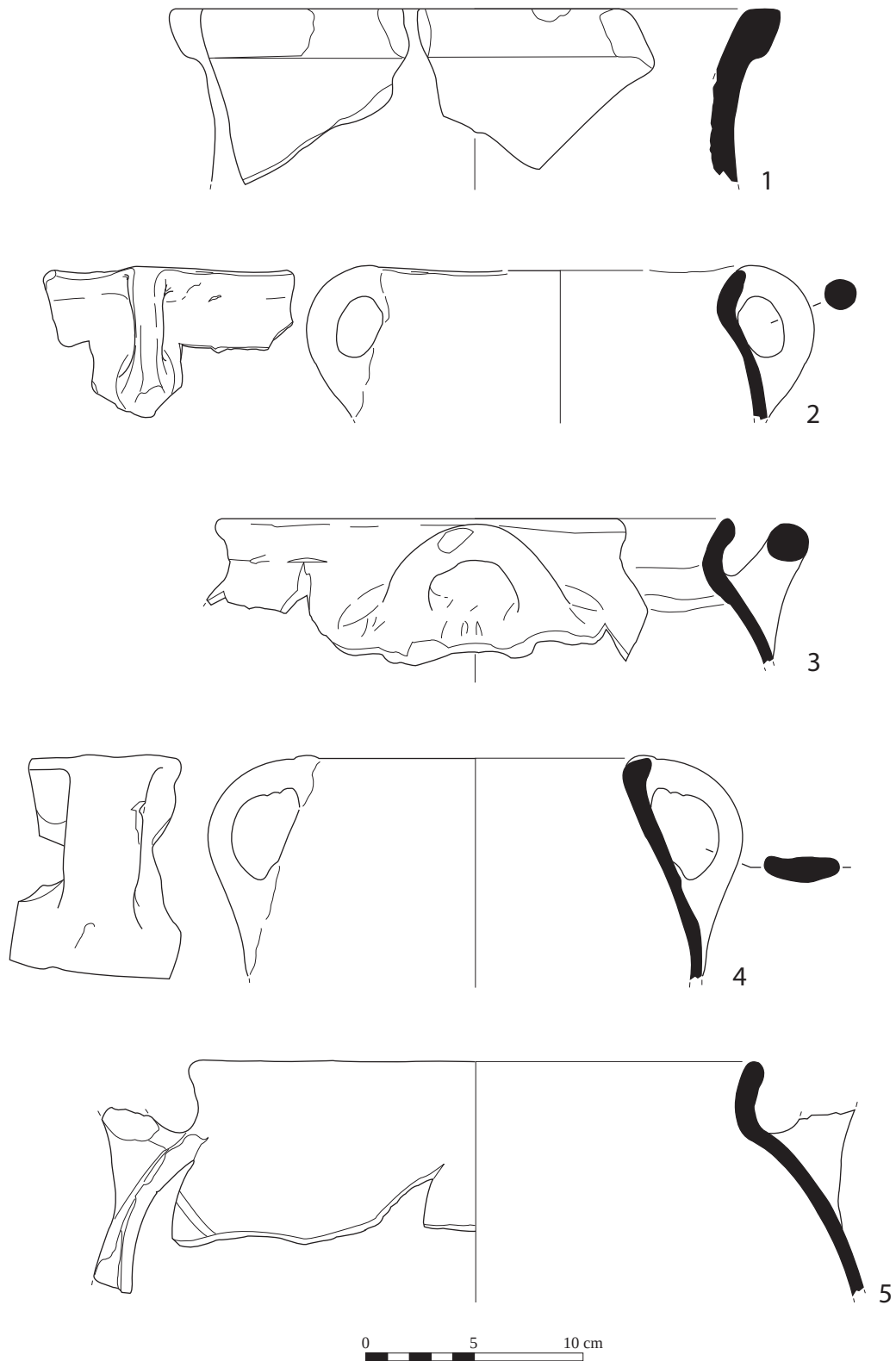


Fig. 24 Local unpainted pottery from Enkomi, City Quarter 1 West, Room 1, Level IIB. 1. pithos; 2–5. handmade cooking pots of Cypriot type. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, D. Knauseder, digitization R. Yassine).

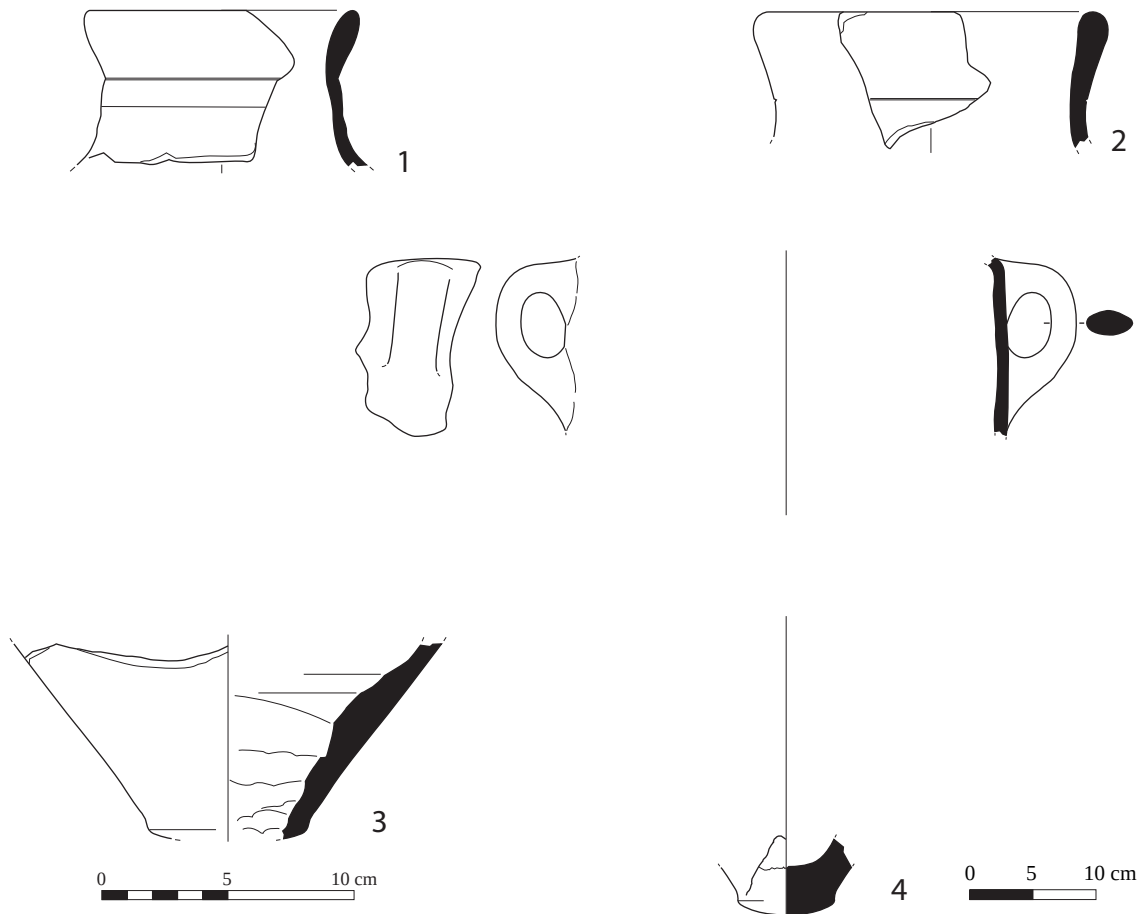


Fig. 25 Canaanite jars from Enkomi, City Quarter 1 West, Room 1, Level IIB. 1–3. Scale 1:3; 4. Scale 1:6 (drawings R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

The unpainted imports in principal consist of Canaanite jars (Fig. 25),²³¹ one of which preserved just enough of the shoulder carination to be assignable to Pedrazzi's Type 5-4 (Fig. 25.4). This type is the main LBA II maritime transport container of the Levant, represented with numerous examples inside the Uluburun wreck and inside a storage room at the Ugaritan port of Rās Ibn Hani among others.²³²

To conclude the Enkomi Level IIB discussion, a few more Aegean-type vessels from its final floors will be mentioned. The first is a Minoan kylix (decoration type 9.2 + lower bands 1.2 + foot decoration 7) from the floor deposit of Room 3A (on Floor IV), the rear room of the so-called West Megaron in City Quarter 1 West (Fig. 26.1).²³³ The combination of the type with raised handles and flower motif finds a good parallel in central Crete, at Pentamodi.²³⁴ According to Eleni Hatzaki, at Knossos the painted version of the kylix type with roll handles raised high above the rim was more common in LM IIIB Late than in LM IIIB Early.²³⁵ Next to this Cretan kylix lay an Argive chalice

²³¹ Fig. 25.1: 2715/28; Fig. 25.2: 2707/.. [no sherd number]; Fig. 25.3–4: 2715/.. [no sherd numbers].

²³² Pedrazzi 2007, 75–77, 306–307.

²³³ 1668 (Dikaïos 1969/1971, 49, 562, pl. 67.1, 3; Jung 2009b, 79 n. 13; 90, fig. 3.2; Mountjoy 2018, 304, fig. 159.773).

²³⁴ Kanta 1980, 14, fig. 6.2. Due to the lack of a drawing, nothing can be said about the interior decoration. Apart from the fact that the zone of the motifs is bordered by three instead of two bands, it is a perfect match for the Enkomi kylix. Unfortunately, its context is unknown.

²³⁵ Hatzaki 2007, 237, fig. 6.27 (decoration type 9.2 except for lower bands and motif); 239, 246–247, fig. 6.35.7 (decoration type 9.2).

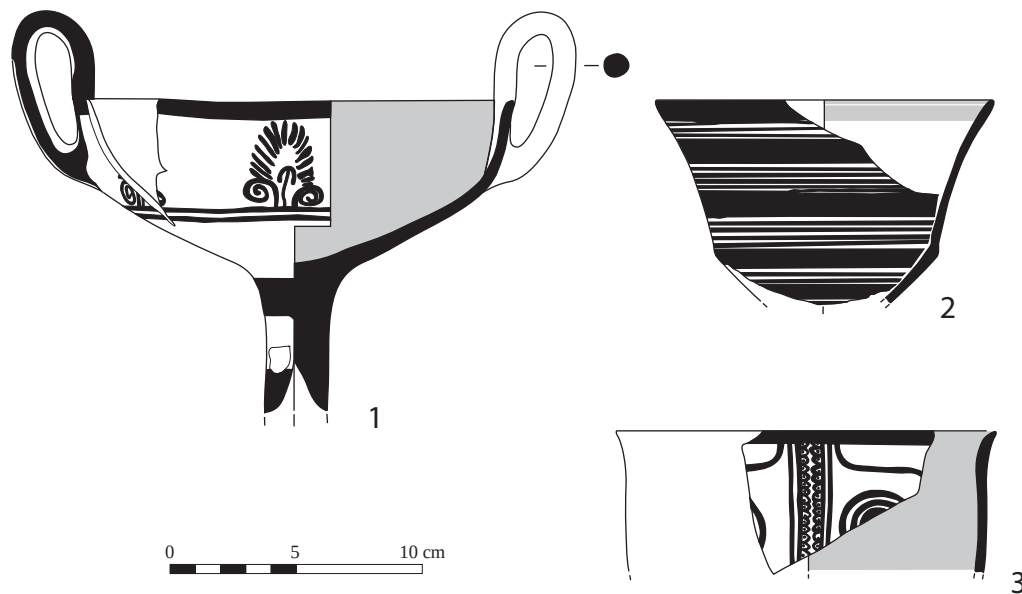


Fig. 26 Aegean-type pottery from Enkomi Level IIB, City Quarter 1 West. 1–2. Room 3A; 3. Room 7. 1. Minoan import; 2. Argive import; 3. local Mycenaean vessel. Scale 1:3 (drawings R. Jung, digitization M. Frauenglas).

FT 278, which, in contrast to the pictorial one from Tell Kazel (see above), bears only linear decoration consisting of fine line groups separated by broad bands on the exterior and two rim bands on the interior (Fig. 26.2).²³⁶ Similar though not identical variations of purely linear decoration occur on a chalice from a LH IIIB Middle context and a second one from a LH IIIB Final context inside the Lower Citadel at Tiryns.²³⁷ Other vessels from this floor deposit include two Base Ring II bowls and fragments of White Slip II bowls, characteristic local table wares of LC IIC.²³⁸

As a last vessel from Enkomi Level IIB, one quite innovative deep bowl FT 284/285 with decoration type 9.2 (narrow rim band and monochrome interior) and a triglyph with antithetic spirals (FM 50) is worth considering (Fig. 26.3). It comes from the upper of two Level IIB floors (Floor IV) in Room 7 of City Quarter 1 West.²³⁹ With regard to the ubiquitous deep bowls FT 284/285 from the following Level IIIA, it is necessary to stress that neither the profile²⁴⁰ nor the fabric of this vessel resemble the later deep bowls from Enkomi IIIA.²⁴¹ The deep bowl from Room 7 in City Quarter 1 West may therefore be an import to Enkomi IIB from another region on Cyprus.²⁴²

²³⁶ 1669 (Dikaïos 1969/1971, 49, 562, pl. 67.20; Mountjoy 2018, 304, fig. 159.774).

²³⁷ LH IIIB Middle: Schönfeld 1988, 191, fig. 8.5. Northern Gateway, floor deposit, LH IIIB Final: Maran 2008, 56, fig. 35; Wirghová, this volume, fig. 6.4.

²³⁸ Dikaïos 1969/1971, 49.

²³⁹ 1157 (Dikaïos 1969/1971, 58, 561, pl. 67.27; Jung 2011a, 62–63, 82, fig. 5.4; Mountjoy 2018, 372–374, fig. 194.1151).

²⁴⁰ For an overview on Enkomi IIIA deep bowls see Mountjoy 2007, 583, fig. 1.3, 8; 585, fig. 2.8–11; 586, fig. 3.1–2, 8–9, 16; 587, fig. 4.4–8; 588, fig. 5.5–7; 589, fig. 6.1, 6–8. The Level IIIA vessels have an s-shaped profile, while the profile of 1157 is much less curved. One deep bowl with broad wavy band found inside the floor layer (Floor V) of the Level IIIA Court 64 has a straight profile with just the lip being everted. Mountjoy therefore ascribes it to the LC IIC destruction of Level IIB (Mountjoy 2007, 584, 586, fig. 3.9), but based on stratigraphy alone, it belongs to the construction period of Level IIIA.

²⁴¹ If deep bowls resembling those of Level IIIA are ascribed to Enkomi Level IIB, they do not come from certain Level IIB contexts (Jung 2011a, 62, 82, fig. 5.3).

²⁴² For the fabric description see Jung 2011a, 63 n. 11. Finally, imported Argive deep bowl FT 284/285 specimens are very rare and their linear decoration and motifs rather suggest LH IIIB Early–Middle dates. An example is 5903/1,

The LH IIIB Final destruction level in the West Gate Area of Midea provides us with a parallel showing the same decoration and motif, while the triglyph is somewhat broader than the one on the Cypriot vessel.²⁴³ A second parallel for type and decoration comes from the same destruction level, but from the West Gate passage itself. In this case, however, the antithetic spirals have taken the shape of two stemmed spiral versions.²⁴⁴ The Tirynthian Epichosis with its known dating range (see above) gave us two examples for this decoration type in combination with a triglyph flanked by antithetic spirals.²⁴⁵

For the Argive fine chronology it is important to note that such deep bowls with decoration type 9.2 (often called FT 284/285A with monochrome interior) appear in the Western Staircase stratigraphy of Tiryns first in Zone 2, in the layers of palace destruction debris (LH IIIB Final), but are common only by Zone 1, i.e. in the early Post-palatial debris deposited on top (LH IIIC Early 1).²⁴⁶ Likewise, deep bowls with decoration type 9.2 showing antithetic spirals are rare even in the Zone 1 layers,²⁴⁷ while the Lower Citadel stratigraphy proves that their innovation dates back to LH IIIB Final.²⁴⁸

If the Cypriot potters of the deep bowl found in Room 7 of City Quarter 1 West drew on Argive prototypes, the presented stratigraphic evidence would favor a LH IIIC Early rather than a LH IIIB Final date for the vessel. In this context it is also interesting to note that Pyla-Kokkinokremos, destroyed and abandoned in LC IIC, provides more examples of deep bowls FT 284/285 than Enkomi IIB, but all of the vessels published so far show a straight profile more or less close to the Enkomi IIB example from Room 7 discussed here and not the s-profile characteristic for Enkomi Level IIIA.²⁴⁹

This overview shows that the Aegean-type pottery from the Enkomi LC IIC destruction layers suggests a synchronism with LH IIIB Final or LH IIIC Early 1, but most probably with the latter phase. In this context, one should also turn to find contexts from the preceding Level IIA in order to narrow down the construction date of that settlement phase. In City Quarter 1 West, Level IIA ended in a destruction including a conflagration.²⁵⁰ The deposit on top of the burnt Floor VIIA inside Room 8 offers a pottery assemblage that is chronologically significant for assessing the end date of this phase.²⁵¹ An Argive shallow strap-handled bowl FT 295/296 with purely linear

a FT 284/285A with decoration type 5.1 and FM 18, from City Quarter 4 West, Room 142 (Dikaios 1969/1971, 309, pls. 66.1; 87.47). Unfortunately, the well-known singular Argive deep bowl FT 284/285B with reserved bottom circle and FM 48 from 'Swedish Tomb' 6 (Mountjoy 2018, 155–156, fig. 83.24) does not help to fix the synchronism of settlement Level IIB. This last vessel fulfills French's and Mountjoy's definition criteria for 'Group B' deep bowls, i.e. a monochrome interior, a very broad rim band of c. 3cm width (measuring 2.7cm in this specific case) and broad lower bands (Verdelis et al. 1966, 139; French 1969, 74–75, 82, fig. 7; Mountjoy 1986, 129–131, fig. 161). In Podzuweit's definition it is a deep bowl B with decoration type 9.1.2 (Podzuweit 2007, 314, Beilage 78g).

²⁴³ Demakopoulou – Divari-Valakou 1997, 18–19, fig. 16.

²⁴⁴ Demakopoulou 2003, 81–82, fig. 5.1.

²⁴⁵ Voigtländer 2003, 95, pls. 68.Si 132a–Si 132b; 129.Si 132.

²⁴⁶ Kardamaki 2009, 455, tab. 5: 'Skyphos A mit monochromer Innenseite'. In the Lower Citadel decoration type 9.2 is well attested by the LH IIIB Developed and Final phases and continues into the LH IIIC phases (Podzuweit 2007, Beil. 5). Podzuweit subsumed all deep bowls with monochrome interior under his deep bowl Type B (Podzuweit 2007, 24, 29).

²⁴⁷ Kardamaki 2009, 229, 358 (about parallels at Mycenae), 457, tab. 10 (Typ GT5d); pl. 23.472.

²⁴⁸ Podzuweit 2007, Beil. 6 (deep bowls with monochrome interior and antithetic spirals: one in LH IIIB Final, four in LH IIIC Early).

²⁴⁹ Karageorghis – Demas 1984, 45 cat. nos. 22–23; 47, pl. 35.1952/22, 1952/23; Bretschneider et al. 2019a, 82, fig. 54. However, the local Pyla deep bowls FT 284/285 do not parallel the monochrome interior of the Enkomi inv. no. 1157.

²⁵⁰ Dikaios 1969/1971, 45–46.

²⁵¹ Context 2597: The label reads 'Room VIIIA. Demolition layer under floor VII. 1460–1475', which corresponds to the Level IIA Floor VIIA in the published plan and in the room description (Dikaios 1969/1971, 40, pl. 249: 'VIIA 14.76–14.55'). Floor VII, the lower floor of Level IIB, follows at -14.42/14.43m (Dikaios 1969/1971, 58, pl. 251). By contrast, the assignation of Floor VIIA to Level IIB in a stratigraphic table (Dikaios 1969/1971, 45: '-14.45m') must be wrong (also based on the section Dikaios 1969/1971, pl. 260.3: VIIA = 'destr. of IIA'). The destruction of

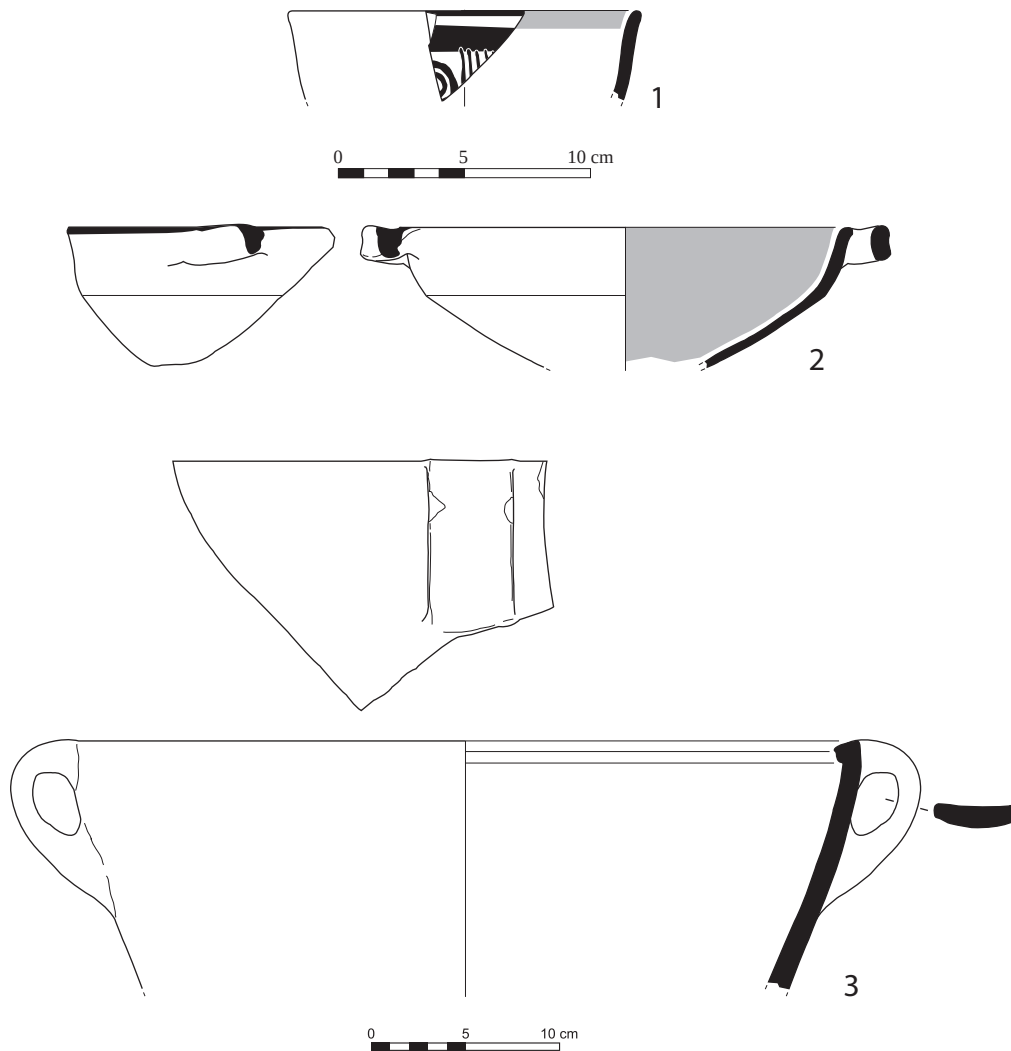


Fig. 27 Pottery from Enkomi, City Quarter 1 West, Room 8, end of Level IIA. 1–2. Argive imports; 3. Plain White Handmade vat. 1–2. Scale 1:3; 3. Scale 1:4 (drawings R. Jung, digitization R. Yassine).

decoration (decoration type 9.2), belongs to this floor deposit (Fig. 27.2).²⁵² Judging by stratified Argive examples of FT 295/296 with a monochrome interior, one might not expect a production date for this decoration prior to LH IIIB Final for the Enkomi vessel.²⁵³ However, one needs to keep in mind that those shallow strap-handled bowls belong to those Argive export vessels that were not often used by the Mycenaeans themselves (see above). On balance, one might assign this shallow bowl a production date in LH IIIB Middle or Developed. The other wheelmade rim sherds from this floor deposit belong to a small imported Argive bowl (Fig. 26.1)²⁵⁴ and two local Plain White Wheelmade vessels, while the handmade rim sherds consist of three White Slip II pieces, one Base Ring fragment, one trefoil mouth of a jug and a large Cypriot vat with vertical

the Level IIA building is indicated by the label of Context 2597 ('demolition layer under floor VII') and probably by the description of Floor VIIA as 'darkened by smoke' as well. The Level IIB Room 8 had three consecutive floors (VII, VI and V according to Dikaios 1969/1971, 58, pl. 251).

²⁵² 2597/8, rim diameter 18cm, rim preservation 19% (for the sherd see Jung 2011a, 62, 82, fig. 5.1).

²⁵³ Cf. Tiryns, Lower Citadel: Podzuweit 2007, 73, Beil. 48 (one specimen in LH IIIB Final and one in LH IIIC Early), pl. 40.6–8.

²⁵⁴ 2597/9.

handles (Fig. 26.3).²⁵⁵ In terms of local pottery, this is a classic LC IIC group, while the handmade vat fits well with a date prior to Level IIB.²⁵⁶

Weighing the different chronological indications, it is possible that the settlement phase Enkomi IIB started by the time of LH IIIB Developed, while it ended in a destruction that most probably occurred contemporaneously with LH IIIC Early 1.

Alassa

The settlement of Alassa located in the center of a plateau above the Kouris River in southern Cyprus includes two excavated quarters, the upper quarters at the location called Paliotaverna and, 250m to the east, the lower quarters at Pano Mantilaris.²⁵⁷ While the evidence at Pano Mantilaris (Fig. 28) shows that this quarter was abandoned ‘without any trace of violent destruction’,²⁵⁸ the picture from the other quarter is entirely different. At Paliotaverna, the excavation uncovered three buildings (Fig. 29). Building II is the largest one with an area of 1545m² including a courtyard of 462m².²⁵⁹ The only partially excavated Building I, separated from Building II by a street to the south, is interpreted as a subsidiary structure to Building II, while Building III, located immediately to the northeast of Building II but with another orientation, served for ‘industrial activities’.²⁶⁰

Buildings II and III burnt down at the end of Paliotaverna Phase 1, but, in the absence of an undisturbed stratigraphic connection between the two, the excavator Sophocles Hadjisavvas refrains from assigning both fires to one and the same catastrophe. However, he also notes that no casual fire could have first broken out in the Pithos Magazine and then expanded over the whole building and further east to Building III, because neither the latter nor the south wing of Building II communicated directly with the pithos storeroom, nor were they attached to it. Apart from an accidental fire, he also considers an attack by foreign raiders (‘Sea Peoples’) as a possible cause of the destruction, but argues that the undisturbed development of the Pano Mantilaris settlement does not support the invasion hypothesis.²⁶¹ Following the fire, Building II was reused in a second settlement phase.²⁶² Considering the significant architectural differences between the simple Pano Mantilaris buildings with their walls made of simply cut stones and mudbricks on the one hand,²⁶³ and the carefully planned and imposing ashlar walls, especially of Building II, including huge storage facilities, on the other,²⁶⁴ one may wonder if the selectivity of the destruction might have had a social dimension. We may then seek those people who burnt down the ashlar buildings while sparing the nearby village among the local population. The archaeological findings might be evidence of class struggle rather than the actions of foreign raiders.

Layers of destruction debris including burnt pottery useful for dating the fire were found in the North Corridor outside Building II. The excavator suspects that the broken objects had been thrown out of (hypothetical) windows of the Pithos Magazine, because they were found lying in groups in the North Corridor.²⁶⁵ Unfortunately, only very few pottery fragments allow identification of the type and decoration. The neck and partially preserved vertical handle of

²⁵⁵ 2597/3.

²⁵⁶ Yet even by Level IIB a large part of the pottery was still produced without the aid of the potter’s wheel (Jung 2011b, 177, 191, fig. 2).

²⁵⁷ Hadjisavvas 2017, 4–7, figs. 1.2–1.4; 132, fig. 4.5.

²⁵⁸ Hadjisavvas 2017, 68.

²⁵⁹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 130–131, fig. 4.3; 139, 232.

²⁶⁰ Hadjisavvas 2017, 131.

²⁶¹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 472–473, fig. 8.3. It remains unclear why Millek denies the existence of any archaeological evidence for destruction in Buildings II and III (Millek 2021, 79).

²⁶² Hadjisavvas 2017, 473.

²⁶³ Hadjisavvas 2017, 10–13, fig. 2.3.

²⁶⁴ Hadjisavvas 2017, 138–170, 176–197, 203–214, 221–225, 232–241; Schmid 2017. The building techniques used for Building III are comparable to those of Building II, ‘but the workmanship is not as fine’ (Hadjisavvas 2017, 255).

²⁶⁵ Hadjisavvas 2017, 225–226, fig. 4.120–4.121; 473.



Fig. 28 Excavation area of Alassa Pano Mantilaris (after Hadjisavvas 2017, 11, fig. 2.3).

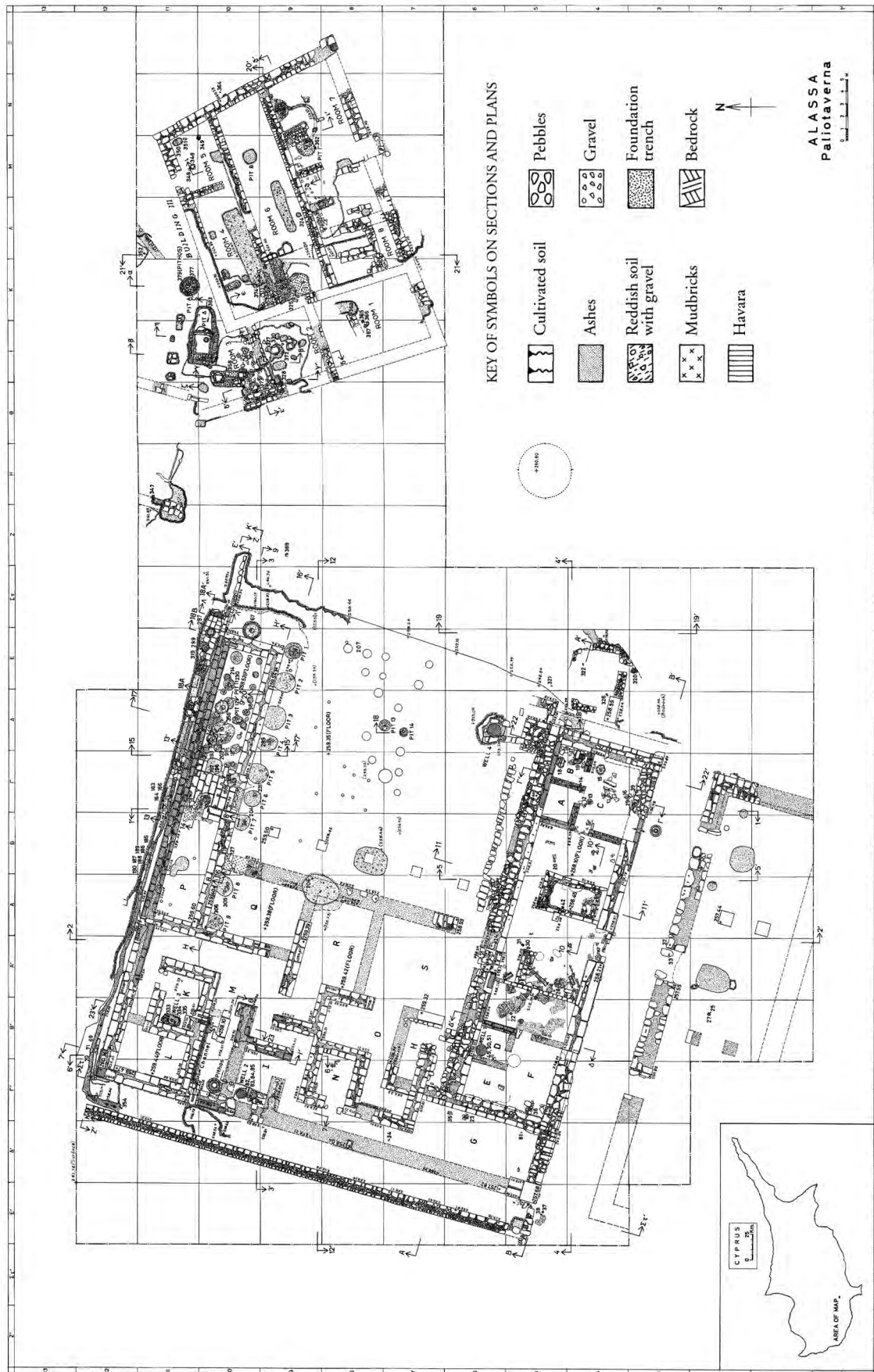


Fig. 29 Excavation area of Alassa Paliotaverna with Buildings I, II and III (after Hadjisavvas 2017, 130–131, fig. 4.3).

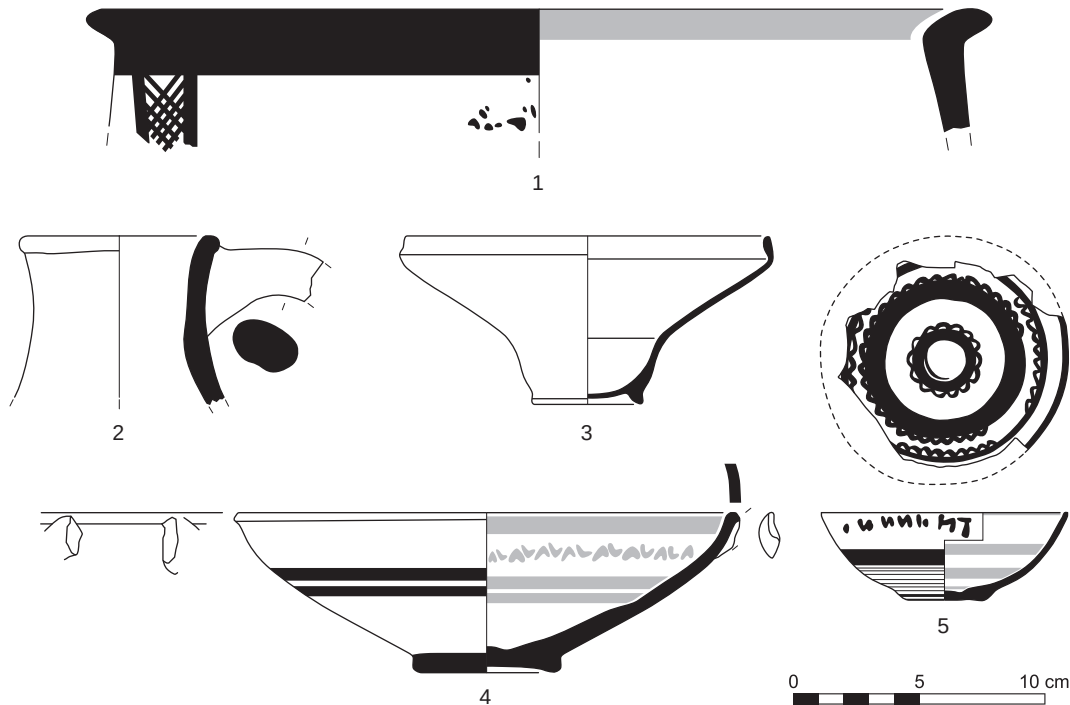


Fig. 30 Pottery finds from Alassa Paliotaverna, Building II. 1. From the Pithos Magazine; 2. from the burnt debris in the North Corridor outside Building II; 3–5. from Well 2 inside Room I. Scale 1:3 (digitization St. Fragner, 1: after Hadjisavvas 2017, 215 no. PT 112; 2: after Hadjisavvas 2017, 227 no. PT 181; 3: after Hadjisavvas 2017, 199 no. PT 89; 4: after Hadjisavvas 2017, 198 no. PT 84; 5: after Hadjisavvas 2017, 198 no. PT 88).

a Plain White vessel is not described in detail and might therefore be either wheelmade or handmade (Fig. 30.2).²⁶⁶ Its shape finds good parallels at Enkomi, in Level IIB (Fig. 23.4, with a different rim variety), and at Pyla-Kokkinokremos.²⁶⁷ An imported Mycenaean shallow cup FT 220 (apparently without sunken base) is painted only with banded decoration. This cup type without sunken base and non-thickened, flaring rim seems to have had its main production period in LH IIIB Early and Middle,²⁶⁸ but is not common in the Argive settlements,²⁶⁹ which impedes its precise dating. There is no reason to classify a further painted fragment as ‘Mycenaean IIIC:1b’, for it seems to carry a pictorial motif and, according to its fabric characteristics, should be an import, too. In the absence of a drawing, one cannot classify it with any certainty.²⁷⁰ A rather coarse krater fragment with the hind legs of an animal is listed with the North Corridor pottery, but according to the square, was not found inside the corridor itself, but outside of it to the north.²⁷¹ It is therefore stratigraphically problematic and cannot help in dating the conflagration of Paliotaverna Phase 1.

²⁶⁶ Hadjisavvas 2017, 227 no. PT 181.

²⁶⁷ Cf. Jung 2011b, 178, 190, fig. 1.3 (Plain White Wheelmade Ware); Karageorghis – Georgiou 2014, 131, pl. 15.140, 142 (Plain White Wheelmade Ware).

²⁶⁸ Hadjisavvas 2017, 229 no. PT 292. Cf. Tiryns, Lower Citadel, LH IIIB Early and LH IIIB Middle: Schönfeld 1988, 155, tab. 1.31; 169, 173, fig. 4.9. Tiryns, Epichosis, LH IIIB Final (–LH IIIC Early 1): Voigtländer 2003, 83 cat. nos. SC 30, SC 39, pls. 58.SC 30, SC 39; 118.SC 30 (with N-pattern); 119.SC 39 (linear). Athens, Agora, Chamber Tomb XXV with two burials, LH IIIB Early–Middle: Immerwahr 1971, 227 no. XXV-3, pl. 53.tomb XXV.3; Mountjoy 1999, 549–550, fig. 199.236.

²⁶⁹ On the rarity see already Mountjoy 1986, 110–111, fig. 136.

²⁷⁰ Hadjisavvas 2017, 229 no. PT 314.

²⁷¹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 230 no. PT 695.

No burnt destruction debris is reported from Well 2 in Room I. This room is part of the West Wing, which, according to Hadjisavvas, ‘most likely belongs to the first period of construction’.²⁷² Nevertheless, the deepest, 0.60m-thick and silty fill layer of the well contained four unburnt vessels which might be related to a phase preceding the last use of the building. However, this hypothesis is based solely on their find depth inside that 1.40m-deep well.²⁷³ The first one is a wheelmade version of a Base Ring bowl (Fig. 30.3).²⁷⁴ At Enkomi, such wheelmade bowls of Base Ring shape – produced either unpainted or with monochrome paint – are first attested by the end of Level IIB, where they belong to the most innovative pottery classes of that settlement phase.²⁷⁵ An almost completely preserved specimen with monochrome decoration (decoration type 11.0) from City Quarter 4 West, found in Room 142 almost directly on Floor VII (the last Level IIB floor), may serve as an example (Fig. 31.1).²⁷⁶ The rest of that floor deposit²⁷⁷ comprises characteristic LC IIC Plain White Wheelmade bowls (Fig. 31.2–3, 5–8),²⁷⁸ a wheelmade vat (Fig. 31.16),²⁷⁹ the rims of a narrow-necked closed vessel, probably a jug (Fig. 31.13),²⁸⁰ a storage jar (Fig. 31.15),²⁸¹ and a pithos (Fig. 31.14);²⁸² and in terms of imports, some Argive Mycenaean body and base fragments (Fig. 31.12),²⁸³ as well as Canaanite jars (Fig. 31.10–11).²⁸⁴ It also includes characteristic handmade shapes such as cooking pots of Cypriot type (Fig. 31.9),²⁸⁵ a shallow bowl (rim variety d) made in the same handmade cooking pot fabric (Fig. 31.4),²⁸⁶ and finally, several rims of White Slip II bowls. None of these finds suggest a Level IIIA date or contamination, so that we can accept the whole wheelmade Base Ring bowl as a genuine Level IIB product. This, in turn, allows us to also assume a LC IIC date for the wheelmade Base Ring bowl from Well 2 in Building II of Alassa Paliotaverna.

In fact, the accompanying finds from that well support such a date. According to fabric descriptions and color photos, the other two published vessels from Well 2 are Mycenaean imports (most probably from the Argolid). The first one is a shallow strap-handled bowl FT 295/296²⁸⁷ with rounded profile, thickened rim flattened on top (rim variety 6), linear decoration 7.2.11 (+ base decoration 1.1), and a row of alternating Λ- and V-patterns, FM 59, on the inside (Fig. 30.4).²⁸⁸ This vessel can give only an approximate chronological hint (see the discussion on Fig. 21.1 above).

The second Mycenaean vessel is a presumably handleless hemispherical bowl FT 210 with an irregular N-pattern, FM 60, below the rim on the exterior and joining semicircles, FM 42, positioned along the different interior bands (Fig. 30.5).²⁸⁹ Examples of FT 210 are known from the Epichosis at Tiryns.²⁹⁰

²⁷² Hadjisavvas 2017, 178.

²⁷³ Hadjisavvas 2017, 183–184, figs. 4.68–4.69.

²⁷⁴ Hadjisavvas 2017, 199 no. PT 89.

²⁷⁵ On the production period of wheelmade bowls of Base Ring shape see Dikaios 1969/1971, 451, 458, 464, 470–471.

²⁷⁶ 5897/3: height 3.8cm, rim diameter 9.2–9.4cm (78%), base diameter 3.1cm (100%) (Dikaios 1969/1971, 572, pl. 65.9).

²⁷⁷ Contexts 5897 and 5898, both between the upper floor of Level IIB, i.e. Floor VII, and the first floor of Level IIIA, i.e. Floor VI (cf. Dikaios 1969/1971, 168, pls. 271, 273).

²⁷⁸ Fig. 31.2–3: 5897/.. [no sherd numbers]; Fig. 31.5–8: 5898/.. [no sherd numbers].

²⁷⁹ 5897/.. [no sherd number].

²⁸⁰ 5898/.. [no sherd number].

²⁸¹ 5898/.. [no sherd number].

²⁸² 5898/.. [no sherd number].

²⁸³ 5898/2.

²⁸⁴ Both 5898/.. [no sherd numbers].

²⁸⁵ 5898/.. [no sherd number].

²⁸⁶ 5898/.. [no sherd number].

²⁸⁷ For a critical discussion of Furumark’s original typological differentiation see Leonard 1994, 123–124; Jung 2008, 155 with n. 30.

²⁸⁸ Hadjisavvas 2017, 198 no. PT 84.

²⁸⁹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 198 no. PT 88: height 5cm; rim diameter 10cm; decoration Type 1.1 + exterior bands 7.7 + interior band 2.1 + interior band 2.1 + base Decoration 3.9.

²⁹⁰ Voigtländer 2003, 82–83 cat. nos. SC 21, SC 32, pls. 57. SC 21; 58. SC 32; 118. SC 21, SC 32. SC 21, with a height of 4.2cm and a rim diameter of 12.0cm has a similar linear decoration and also shares the joining semicircles with

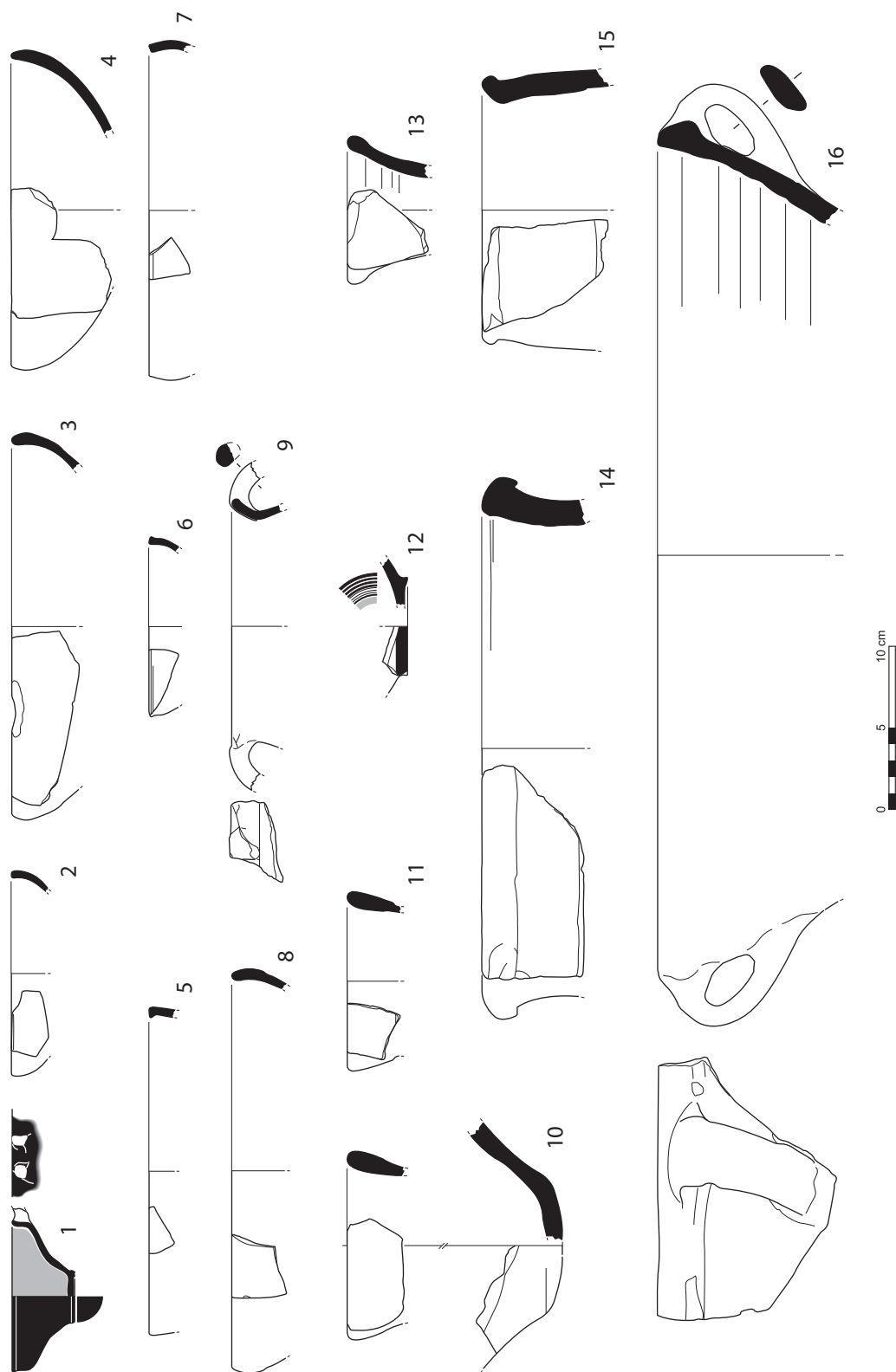


Fig. 31 Pottery from Enkomi, City Quarter 4 West, Room 142, end of Level IIB. 1. Local painted wheelmade Base Ring bowl; 2–3, 5–8, 13, 15–16. Plain White Wheelmade vessels; 4, 9. handmade coarse ware; 10–11. Canaanite jars; 12. Argive import; 14. pithos. Scale 1:4 (drawings R. Jung, D. Knauseder, digitalization St. Fragner, R. Yassine).

The floor contexts of the Pithos Magazine provide the most valuable stratigraphic evidence for the last settlement phase following the conflagration, because it was sealed by a thick layer of decomposed mudbrick that had remained undisturbed after the abandonment of Building II.²⁹¹ Inside a pithos, a large fragment of a krater FT 281/282 turned up, which appears to bear pictorial motifs. Judging from the photo and the fabric description, we may be dealing with a Pastoral Style krater, perhaps showing bulls.²⁹² Pastoral Style kraters were produced in different regions of Cyprus during LC IIC and IIIA.²⁹³ A second fragmentary krater FT 281/282 is in a bad state of preservation, but according to the drawing, a narrow cross-hatched triglyph, FM 75, was one of its motifs (Fig. 30.1).²⁹⁴

Regarding other Mycenaean-type vessels, which may be imports, a fragmentary open carinated vessel with narrow rim band and continuous exterior banding made up by fine lines and a broad interior band at medium height is difficult to classify due to the lack of a drawing.²⁹⁵ Its rim diameter of 11cm could still fit with a chalice FT 278,²⁹⁶ but the part above the carination seems to be too short for that type. Therefore, it is probably a carinated handleless bowl FT 209.²⁹⁷ The fabric description might suggest that this piece is an import from Greece, but if it was locally made, it would belong to Mountjoy's Cypriot bowl, Type 3, which has a long production period lasting from LC IIC to LC IIIB.²⁹⁸ A jug with a rim band, a band around the base of the neck, and a broad wavy line down the vertical handle belongs to the high-necked (Levanto-Helladic) jug version FT 116 – probably an imported specimen.²⁹⁹ Finally, there is the solidly painted torus base of either a large piriform jar or an amphoroid krater as well as a ring base and body fragments with broad body bands, which cannot contribute to the comparative chronology at all.³⁰⁰

The unpainted vessel fragments of Cypriot type from the floors of the Pithos Magazine all find parallels in Enkomi Level IIB and at Pyla-Kokkinokremos. One may name a rim of a Base Ring carinated bowl with wishbone handle, a fragmentary Coarse Monochrome jug, a base and a shoulder of two Plain White Handmade jugs, the rim of a handmade basin with a rim thickened on the exterior, and finally, the upper part of a handmade cooking pot with one vertical handle preserved.³⁰¹

In conclusion then, the destruction of Alassa Paliotaverna Phase 1 happened during LC IIC, most probably towards its end, but no precise synchronization with a specific Mycenaean phase is possible based on the Aegean-type pottery from Alassa itself.

PT 88. An earlier morphological parallel comes from the LH IIIA 2 (Late) context of the Petsas House at Mycenae (Shelton 2008, 228, pl. 36b [right] [exterior decorated with fine lines between a broad rim and a broad base band, interior invisible]).

²⁹¹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 208–211, figs. 4.102–4.106.

²⁹² Hadjisavvas 2017, 208, fig. 4.93 (for the find spot); 217 nos. PT 191 + PT 203. Cf. an example from Enkomi Level IIB (LC IIC): 2889/2, 2889/3 (according to the tray label ‘-14.30–13.80 m. E–Z/15–17’, i.e. the layer between the upper floor of Level IIB, Floor IV, and the Level IIIA Floor III, see Dikaios 1969/1971, 567 [assigned to Level IIB]; Jung 2011b, 174, 190, fig. 1.1; Mountjoy 2018, 373–374, fig. 194.1152).

²⁹³ Mountjoy – Mommsen 2015, 474–475. For a LC IIIA example see Hala Sultan Tekke, City Quarter 1, Stratum 2 (Bürge – Fischer 2018, 238, 296–297, fig. 3.50.2).

²⁹⁴ Hadjisavvas 2017, 215 no. PT 112. Cf. Enkomi Level IIIA, Room 45, below Floor IV, inv. no. 1072: Mountjoy 2018, 246–247, fig. 129.435 (krater FT 281/282: triglyphs to both sides of an antithetic version of stemmed spirals FM 51; net triglyph interpreted as Minoan influence by Mountjoy).

²⁹⁵ Hadjisavvas 2017, 219 no. PT 237.

²⁹⁶ Cf. Schönfeld 1988, 191, fig. 8.5 (rim diameter 10cm according to the drawing).

²⁹⁷ Voigtländer 2003, 83 cat. no. SC 38, 185, pls. 58.SC 38; 119.SC 38 (rim diameter 10.7cm).

²⁹⁸ Cf. Mountjoy 2018, 95–99.

²⁹⁹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 219 no. PT 303.

³⁰⁰ Hadjisavvas 2017, 215 no. PT 78; 218–219 no. PT 216.

³⁰¹ Hadjisavvas 2017, 215 no. PT 98; 216 nos. PT 173 + PT 174a; 218 nos. PT 196, PT 198, PT 214; 220 no. PT 635. Cf. Dikaios 1969/1971, pl. 62.14, 21; Karageorghis – Demas 1984, 34 cat. no. 18; 41 cat. no. 103, pl. 36.18.103; Jung 2011a, 79, fig. 1.1–2, 4; Karageorghis – Georgiou 2014, 129 cat. nos. 107, 114–115; 131–132 cat. nos. 141, 144, 161; pls. 5.115; 14.107; 15.114, 141; 16.144, 161.

Conclusion

The analysis of the available pottery evidence from well-stratified layers leads to the following synchronistic table (Fig. 32). However, due to the widely differing quantities of preserved and published finds from the relevant destruction deposits, it needs to be pointed out again that the Aegean synchronisms are not of the same precision for all the sites on this chart. The firmest dates are those based on the presence of several artefact categories in combination, such as local Mycenaean pottery and locally made Subapennine pottery in Phase K1 at Tell Kazel. The most insecure synchronisms are those that rely heavily on Argive imports, while local pottery classes suggest that the contexts are well beyond the time when the last LH IIIB Middle imports reached the site. This is the case with Phase 1 of Alassa Paliotaverna. At Ugarit we have the *desideratum* of finding more pottery groups in clear reoccupation layers. Only such assemblages would allow a secure date to be fixed to that last settlement phase, which apparently followed more or less immediately on the violent conflagration of the city.

Mycenaean Phases	Ugarit	Tell Tweini	Tell Kazel	Enkomi	Alassa Paliotaverna	Cypriot Phases
LH IIIB Middle			Akkar Ph. K3 destruction			LC IIC
LH IIIB Developed				Level IIA conflagration?		
LH IIIB Final	Conflagration				Conflagration	
LH IIIC Early 1		Level 7A conflagration	Akkar Ph. K1 conflagration	Level IIB conflagration		
LH IIIC Early 2	Partial reoccupation?		Reoccupation	Level IIIA	Reoccupation	LC IIIA

Fig. 32 Comparative chronology chart.

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