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On the history of Olympia during the transitional period of the Byzantine era

A reappraisal of the published ceramic data from the settlement

ANNA J. LAMBROPOULOU – ANASTASIA G. YANGAKI

Zur Geschichte Olympias in der Übergangsphase der byzantinischen Zeit. Eine Neubeurteilung von Keramikfunden aus der Siedlung

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG Im antiken Olympia sind zahlreiche Gebäudereste einer bedeutenden Siedlung der frühbyzantinischen Zeit durch die Grabungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts in Olympia zutage gekommen. Nach dem bisher gängigen Verständnis der Befunde wurden diese Bauten und die Siedlung im frühen 7. Jahrhundert n. Chr. infolge des im späten 6. Jahrhundert erfolgten slawischen Eindringens aufgelassen. Die Neubewertung eines Teils der publizierten Siedlungskeramik aus der Übergangsphase der byzantinischen Zeit und Ergebnisse der Untersuchung noch unpublizierter Schnallen werfen nun ein neues Licht auf den wahrscheinlichen Zeitpunkt der Aufgabe der Siedlung. Insbesondere der Vergleich der Keramik mit in den letzten Jahren vorgelegtem Material von anderen Fundorten legt den Fortbestand einer wirtschaftlich selbständigen Siedlung in Olympia wenigstens bis ins späte 7. Jahrhundert und wahrscheinlich darüber hinaus sowie eine Koexistenz indigener Bevölkerung und slawischer Einwanderer in deren Umgebung nahe.

Schlagwörter Peloponnes; Olympia; byzantinische Zeit; Keramik; Schnallen.

ABSTRACT In ancient Olympia numerous building remains belonging to an important early Byzantine settlement have been uncovered in excavations by the German Archaeological Institute. According to the generally accepted interpretation of the archaeological evidence, these buildings and the settlement itself were abandoned in the early 7th century A.D., as a result of the Slavic penetration into the Peloponnese in the late 6th century. A reappraisal of some of the published pottery from the settlement, dating from the transitional period of the Byzantine era, and data derived from some as yet unpublished buckles shed new light on the probable date of the settlement's abandonment. In particular, comparison of the documented pottery types with recently published material from other sites suggests the survival of a self-sufficient settlement at Olympia at least until the late 7th century and presumably beyond as well as a coexistence of indigenous people with Slavic newcomers in the area.

Keywords Peloponnese; Olympia; Byzantine era; pottery; buckles.

Η ιστορία της Ολυμπίας κατά τους μεταβατικούς χρόνους της βυζαντινής εποχής. Επανεκτίμηση δημοσιευμένων δεδομένων για την κεραμική του οικισμού

ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ Πολλά κτήρια του σημαντικού πρωτοβυζαντινού οικισμού της αρχαίας Ολυμπίας έχουν αποκαλυφθεί χάρη στις ανασκαφές του Γερμανικού Αρχαιολογικού Ινστιτούτου. Με βάση την έως τώρα ερμηνεία των αρχαιολογικών δεδομένων τα κτήρια αυτά και ο οικισμός εγκαταλείφθηκαν στις αρχές του 7^{ου} αιώνα μ. Χ., ως αποτέλεσμα της σλαβικής διείσδυσης στην Πελοπόννησο κατά τον ύστερο 6^ο αιώνα μ. Χ. Ωστόσο, η επαναξιολόγηση ήδη δημοσιευμένης κεραμικής, που χρονολογείται στη μεταβατική περίοδο της βυζαντινής εποχής, σε συνδυασμό με τα στοιχεία που προκύπτουν από τη μελέτη αδημοσίευτων μεταλλινων πορπών, συμβάλλουν στο πολυσυζητημένο θέμα της ερήμωσης του πρωτοβυζαντινού οικισμού. Ειδικότερα, η σύγκριση της κεραμικής του οικισμού με πρόσφατα δημοσιευμένο υλικό από άλλες περιοχές υποδηλώνει την επιβίωση μιας αυτόνομης εγκατάστασης στην Ολυμπία πέραν των μέσων του 7^{ου} αιώνα και πιθανόν υστερότερα, όπως και τη συμβίωση στην περιοχή του γηγενούς πληθυσμού με τους επήλυδες Σλάβους.

Λέξεις-κλειδιά Πελοπόννησος. Ολυμπία. Βυζαντινή περίοδος. Κεραμική. Πόρπες.

INTRODUCTION

The German Archaeological Institute has excavated a number of buildings belonging to the early Byzantine settlement of Olympia in the Peloponnese. This early Byzantine site provides information about the Christian population that settled in the area around the middle of the 5th century A.D. at the latest, after the Olympic games and the cult in honor of Zeus had ceased to function¹.

The first early Christian settlement was situated in an arc to the west of the Altis precinct around its most important building, an early Christian church built in the middle or latter half of the 5th century on top of the former Workshop of Phidias². Another settlement consisting of house complexes with small rooms emerged later with a focal point to the east of the temple of Zeus³. During the time of this later settlement, houses and graves were also constructed in the former Altis. At the same time, the eastern central nave and choir of the church were rebuilt. The houses from this later phase are smaller and are distinguished by their construction⁴. Earlier buildings were widely reused and transformed during the early Byzantine period, and new structures were erected. Several winepresses and agricultural tools found in Olympia indicate that the economy of this community was based primarily on the agricultural exploitation of the adjacent area⁵. Rotation querns and iron tools attest to the growing of vines and cereals, while clay molds, a kiln, and lime kilns point to the production of both pottery and lime⁶. The production of bronze ornaments moreover indicates the presence of bronze smiths and possibly also blacksmiths⁷. A large number of isolated coins and coin hoards, as well as imported lamps and fine pottery, mostly from North Africa, and amphorae from the Aegean, Asia Minor, Syria, and Palestine indicate that

This study constitutes an extended version of a paper presented at the 38th Annual Byzantine Conference organized by the Byzantine Studies Association of North America (BSANA), November 1–4 2012, Boston. A related, short paper was presented on February, 14th, 2014 at the National Hellenic Research Foundation, after Dr. D. Athanasouli's lecture 'The Slavs in the Peloponnese. New evidence on the excavation of two cemeteries in Arcadia'. We would like to express our gratitude to Professor Dr. Ulrich Sinn, head of the project on Olympia during the Roman period and late antiquity, for giving us permission to study the material from the excavations of the German Archaeological Institute at Olympia; as well as to the Second Director of the German Archaeological Institute in Athens, PD Dr. Reinhard Senff, for his collaboration and assistance over the course of this study, enabling us to retrieve useful information from the excavation diaries. We also thank Dr. Christa Schauer for the useful discussions we had with her and for sharing with us a copy of an unpublished article of hers. Also, we would like to thank our colleagues at the Ephorate of Antiquities of Elis for their help during the preparation of this study. Finally, we would like to thank the journal's reviewers for their detailed comments and useful remarks.

The following abbreviations are used in the catalogue:

h. height
th. thickness
b. diam. base diameter
b. th. base thickness

h. th. handle thickness
h. w. handle width
r. diam. rim diameter
r. th. rim thickness

All dimensions in the catalogue are given in centimeters.

¹ Adler 1892, 103; Sinn 2001, 229 f.; Völling 2001a, 304; Gutsfeld 2004, 164–167.

² Adler 1892, 93–105 fig. 52 pl. 67–70; Sotiriou 1929, 164, 172 f.; Mallwitz – Schiering 1964, 16; Velissariou 1980, 159–166; Lambropoulou 1991, 287–289; Lambropoulou 2000, 101, 104 f.; Völling 2001a, 303–323; Sinn 2001, 229 f.; Sinn 2002a, 191; Sinn 2002b, 61; Sinn 2004, 245 f.; Baitinger – Völling 2007, 4. 5. 7 n. 35. The publication of the church is being prepared by F. A. Bauer.

³ Völling 2001a, 305.

⁴ Völling 2001a, 305; Sinn 2002b, 61. For further details on the site of Olympia and its monuments, see the preceding note and Lambropoulou et al. 2001, 214–216 (with bibliography). For the two church inscriptions, see also the commentary by Lambropoulou 2013, 791–815.

⁵ See also: Völling 2001a, 306; Völling 2001b, 34–36.

⁶ For the clay molds, kiln, and the production of pottery: Schauer 1991, 373–378; Völling 2001b, 34–36; Schauer 2002, 208–218; Schauer 2010, 29–35. For agricultural implements: Völling 2002, 195–207.

⁷ Schauer 1991, 373–378; Sinn 2001, 230 f.; Schauer 2002, 208–216; Völling 2001a, 306 f.; Völling 2001b, 34 f.

the Christian community of Olympia engaged in wide-ranging trade between the 4th and 6th centuries⁸. A Slavic community was established in the area from the first quarter of the 7th century until at least the late 8th century, as illustrated by the Slavic cremation burials partially uncovered during the construction of the New Museum north of Kronos Hill; the location of this Slavic settlement, however, has not yet been identified⁹.

On the basis of coins, ceramics, and other small finds, colleagues working at Olympia date the end of the Christian settlement to the late 6th/early 7th century – which is to say immediately or at least shortly after the Slavs settled in the area¹⁰. Th. Völling, who has predominantly worked on objects for everyday use from the settlement, claims that »a reduced settlement activity« subsisted for some time from the late 6th century¹¹ until the very early 7th century¹². This seems to be supported by ancient written sources (specifically the *Chronicle of Monembasia*)¹³. According to Völling, the fact that no destruction layers with weapons and irregularly buried skeletons have been found suggests that the Slavs did not take the settlement at Olympia by force¹⁴. On the contrary, A. Avramea has argued that the two populations coexisted at the site; she relies, however, on complicated arguments to establish the presence of so-called Slavic pottery at a number of Peloponnesian sites, rather than cite tangible archaeological evidence from Olympia¹⁵. I. Anagnostakis and N. Poulou-Papadimitriou have expressed a similar view, citing primarily the occurrence, discussed further below, of a few coins (of Phokas and Heraklius) that they interpret as evidence of the survival of the early Byzantine settlement at Olympia until the early decades of the 7th century¹⁶. One should also note that the remarks of D. Athanasoulis¹⁷ in favor of a potentially later date for the apse of the basilica of Olympia and the morphology of its construction also point toward a reappraisal of the last phase of the early Byzantine settlement.

A review of selected pottery published from the site, however, indicates the coexistence of the newcomers and indigenous people in the area even after the Slavic invasion, rather than the abandonment of the early Byzantine settlement at the end of the 6th or in the early 7th century¹⁸. In particular, this study proposes to reevaluate the established view that the Christian settlement was abandoned on account of the arrival of the Slavs in the area. This conclusion is supported by a reappraisal of ceramic material published by J. Schilbach¹⁹ (from the southeast sector of the excavation), a clay vessel from the so-called *Spolienhaus*, and vessels from graves, as well as by analysis of two unpublished metal buckles, which shed new light on the date of the settlement's abandonment.

⁸ Martin 1996, 127–134; Martin 1997, 211–216; Martin 2000, 427–433; Völling 2001a, 307; Martin 2014, 761–768; Lambropoulou forthcoming.

⁹ For the Slavic cremation burials at Olympia, see: Gialouris 1960, 126; Gialouris 1961/1962, 106; Gialouris 1964, 176; Gialouris 1965, 209; Gialouris 1966, 170; Vryonis 1992, 15–42; Vida – Völling 2000, 41–101. 118–127; Völling 2001a, 310–316; Poulou-Papadimitriou et al. 2012, 394 f. For the handmade Slavic ceramics of Olympia, see also Anagnostakis – Poulou-Papadimitriou 1997, 260–264. 293 f. 296 f. 306 f. n. 202; 311.

¹⁰ For some of these views, see: Völling 1995, 451 f. 455–458; Völling 1996a, 404 f. 408; Jahresbericht 1997 des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, AA 1998, 541; Schilbach 1999, 148–151; Sinn 2002a, 192; Schauer 2010, 29. 32. 34; Fuchs 2013, 337.

¹¹ Völling 2001a, 309.

¹² Völling 1995, 451–458 with n.; Völling 1996a, 408.

¹³ For the *Chronicle of Monembasia* and its contradictions concerning the Peloponnese: Avramea 1997, 67–104; Lambropoulou et al. 2001, 189–225; Lambropoulou 2009, 197. 214; Lambropoulou – Moutzali 2011, 239–249.

¹⁴ Völling 2001a, 309.

¹⁵ Avramea 1997, 82–86.

¹⁶ Anagnostakis – Poulou-Papadimitriou 1997, 262–264.

¹⁷ Athanasoulis's remarks are based principally on the obvious similarities between the morphology of the apse of the basilica of Olympia and of those of three churches dating from the transitional period investigated in Elis (Oleni, Daphniotissa, Skillountia): Athanasoulis 2006, 82. 89 f. 219–221. 454. 519.

¹⁸ This selected pottery, deriving from the south-eastern sector of the settlement (the *Spolienhaus*) and from graves around the basilica and the surrounding area, is included in Schilbach 1999.

¹⁹ Schilbach 1999, 146–151.

THE STATE OF THE RESEARCH ON THE ROMAN AND EARLY BYZANTINE POTTERY FROM THE SITE

Although some of the pottery found during the systematic excavations of Olympia by the German Archaeological Institute has been published, a thorough and synthetic publication of the Roman and early Byzantine pottery from the site has yet to appear. Such a publication would help us complete the picture of the site's contacts with other communities both inside and outside the Peloponnese, and – through analysis of the site's imports and potentially also its exports – would reveal how these contacts changed over time. Furthermore, while studies dedicated to specific categories of pottery or pottery from a specific excavated area have appeared, these mainly concern pottery from the Roman period²⁰. For pottery dating from the early Byzantine period, our partial knowledge stems either from the individual objects published by A. Furtwängler²¹ in the early 1890s or, closer to the present day, from the selected pottery – mostly from contexts from the Southwest Building south of the Leonidaion and from the Eastern Baths (the *Amphorenlager*) – published by A. Martin²², the pottery from the area north of the Prytaneion published by Ch. Schauer²³, and selected objects from specific excavated contexts published by Schilbach²⁴. These studies provide information primarily about amphorae and lamps from the site and rarely attempt to associate pottery with other artifacts from the same excavated unit, so as to reconstruct a full archaeological horizon for a specific trench or area, or attempt to illustrate in detail the various categories and forms of pottery found in a specific area.

THE SELECTED POTTERY MATERIAL

Introduction

Having outlined the state of the research, we will now attempt to reevaluate specific published clay and metal objects in order to offer a new interpretation of the life of the early Byzantine settlement after the Slavic raids. The ceramic material under investigation consists of complete or nearly complete vessels.

Most of the published ceramics fall into two groups. The first group comprises amphorae and jugs found in layers containing a large number of sherds predominantly in the area to the southeast of the Odeum (cat. 2–4. 11. 12. 14, with one vessel, cat. 15, from the *Spolienhaus*). Structures identified as remains of houses from the early Byzantine period have been excavated here²⁵. The second group consists of small jugs found in graves outside the early

²⁰ Eilmann 1944a, 70–96; Eilmann 1944b, 96–104; Walter 1958a, 54–73; Walter 1958b, 75–83; Sinn et al. 1995, 174–179 (A. Martin); Martin 1996, 127–131; Martin 1997, 211–215; Martin 2000, 427–433; Martin 2001, 313–321; Kyrieleis – Herrmann 2003, 22. 24 figs. 25. 26; Schauer 2003, 271–278; Martin 2011, 85–94; Fuchs 2013, 278–325; Martin 2014, 761–768. At the 27th Congress of the *Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautores* ›Late Roman and Early Byzantine Pottery: The End or Continuity of the Roman Production?‹, 19–26 September 2010, National Museum of Belgrade, Ch. Schauer has recently presented various pottery types from specific excavated areas and sketched the

development of some of the pottery types over the centuries; the full study remains forthcoming.

²¹ Furtwängler 1890, 213 no. 1273.

²² Martin 1996, 128–131; Martin 1997, 211–216; Martin 2000, 427–433; Martin 2001, 313–321; Martin 2011, 86–94; Martin 2014, 761–768.

²³ Schauer 1991, 373–378; Schauer 2002, 208–218; Schauer 2010, 29–35.

²⁴ Schilbach 1999, 146–151. For further information about the early Byzantine pottery from the site, see Fuchs 2013, 326–331.

²⁵ Schilbach 1999, 146–148.

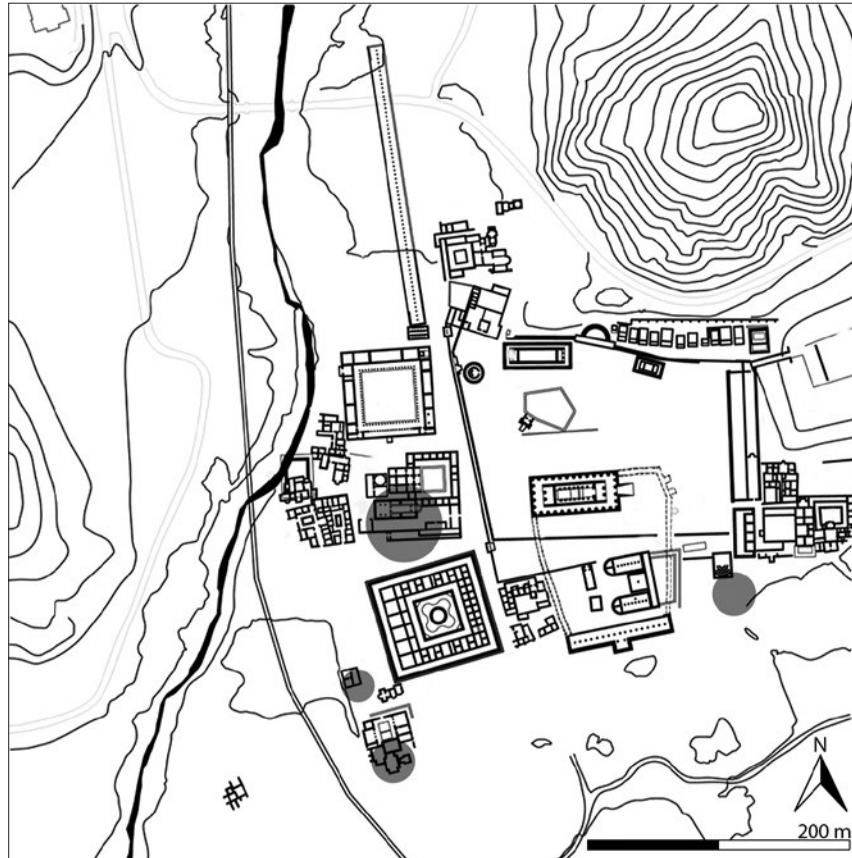


Fig. 1 Plan of ancient Olympia with areas under study marked

Byzantine basilica and in the adjacent area²⁶. This material is supplemented by isolated finds with similar characteristics from the Leonidaion and the *Spolienhaus*²⁷ (fig. 1), which serve as useful comparative material.

Schilbach attempted to associate the published ceramic material with other archaeological data attesting the existence of two main phases in the history of Olympia's early Byzantine settlement, to which he added a later, third phase²⁸. The first phase extends from the 5th to the first half of the 6th century, to which the main part of the early Christian settlement belongs²⁹. This phase ended with the earthquake of A.D. 551. The second phase dates from 551 to the invasion of the Slavs. The third phase dates from some time after the Slavic invasion to the second quarter of the 7th century at the latest, with the flooding of the Kladeos river suggested as a *terminus ante quem*³⁰. This interpretation has the merit of recognizing that at least some evidence indicates that the area continued to be used by non-Slavs even after the end of the 6th century, a view that has also recently been proposed by Schauer³¹. Nevertheless, a reinterpretation of the existing data, supplemented by important comparative material from other sites dating from the 7th and the 8th centuries, suggests a rather different view of the settlement.

²⁶ Schilbach 1999, 146–148.

²⁷ For this building: Schilbach 1999, 146 n. 290; 149 f. figs. 107, 108; Kyrieleis – Herrmann 2003, 2 f. figs. 1, 2.

²⁸ Schilbach 1999, 146–149. For these two main phases, one covering the 5th and the early 6th century, the other starting after the earthquake of A.D. 551 and

lasting until the end of the 6th century, see also: Herrmann 1972, 196–199; Schauer 2002, 208 f. 214.

²⁹ For this first phase, see the previous note.

³⁰ Schilbach 1999, 147–149.

³¹ Schauer 2010, 32. See, also, the earlier remarks of Völling 2001a, 309.

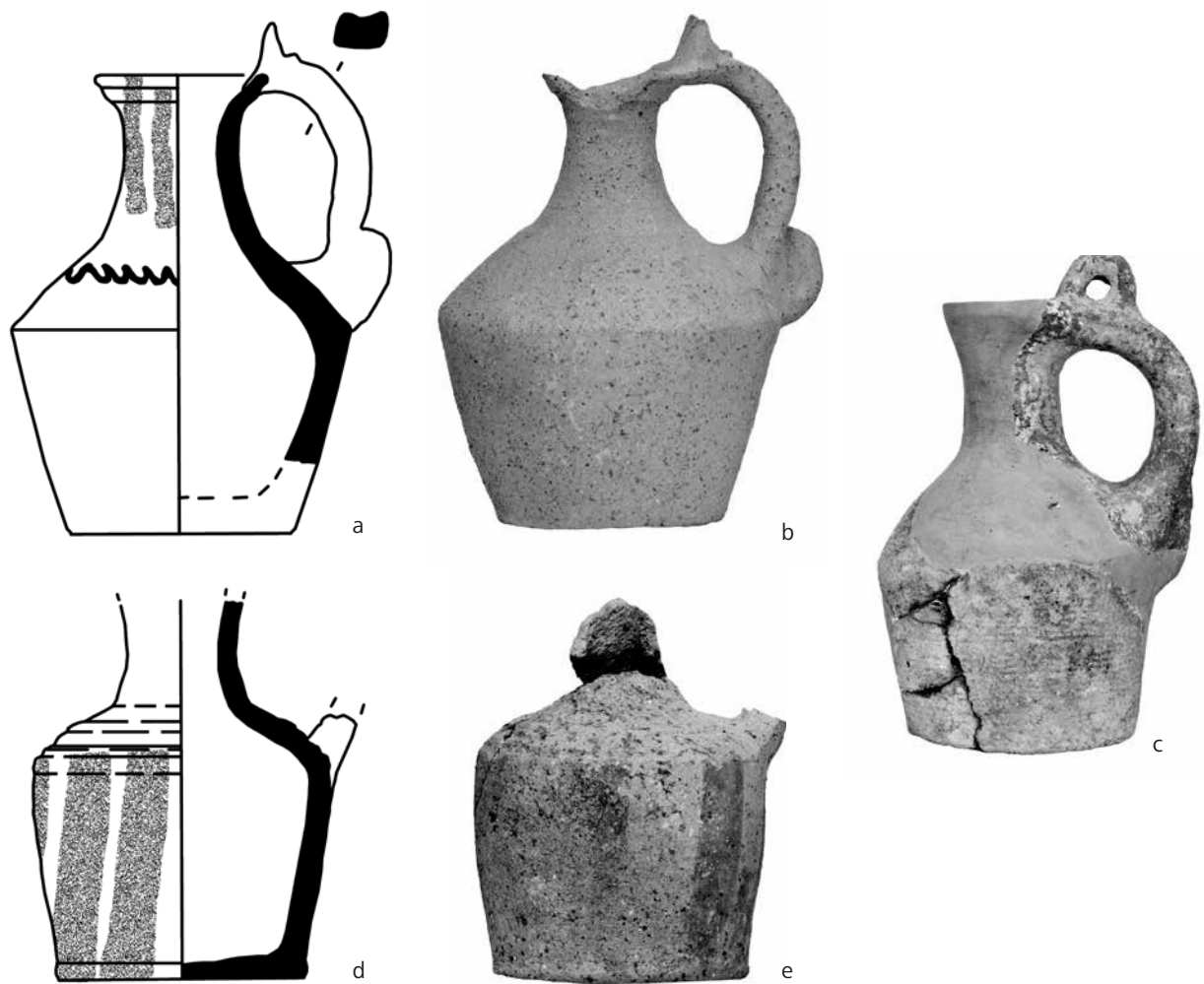


Fig. 2 Small jugs of the first group:

a. b. Cat. 1, inv. no. K 2977. – c. Cat. 2, inv. no. K 3064. – d. e. Cat. 3, inv. no. K 2892 (scale 1 : 2)

The jugs

The first group of pottery is comprised of small jugs 15 cm or less in height, most of which can be divided into two groups: a) those with a flat base, vertical (fig. 2) or sloping body with a clear ridge on the shoulder, and either a funnel-shaped or large, long neck (fig. 3); and b) those with a hollow, knobbed base (figs. 4, 5), a convex body with a less marked ridge, and two variant neck shapes: i) long and narrow (fig. 4 a) or ii) large (fig. 5) ending in most cases with a trefoil mouth. Isolated examples like jugs K2946 or K3112 (fig. 6) might represent products that lie between these two basic categories. The majority of the jugs have a rather large – relative to their overall size – and usually rounded vertical handle, which sometimes forms a semi-circle³². Jugs found either in graves or in the layers to the southeast of the Odeum share a common shape, with or without a clear-cut ridge under the mouth, as well

³² For a similar handle form, see some examples of jugs from Argos (Aupert 1980, 427 fig. 40 no. 230; 428 no. 230; 429 no. 232; 430 fig. 41 no. 232).

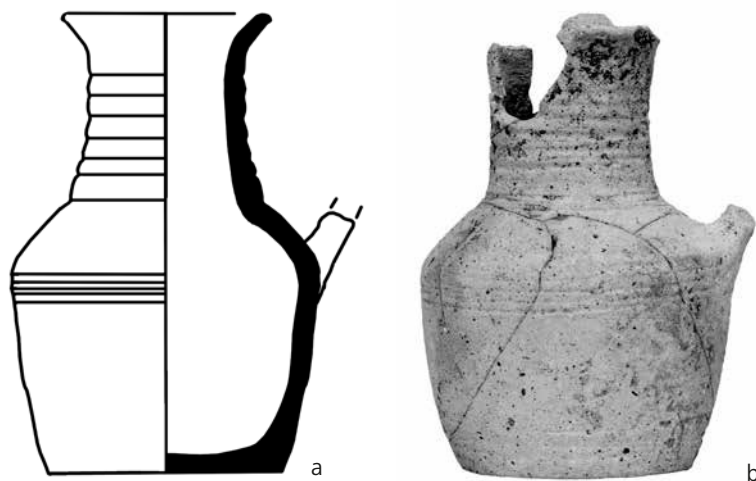


Fig. 3 Small jug of the first group, cat. 4, inv. no. K 2891 (scale 1 : 2)

as sometimes having small raised particles of clay on the upper or the lower joints of the handle to the body, a double handle, and bands of fine incisions or abstract painted themes on the surface in a reddish-brownish color.

The small jugs cat. 6 and 7 (*fig. 5*) have hollow bases with a button, curved bodies, large necks, trefoil mouths, and vertical handles. Associated finds are vessels that have a round body, a large, high cylindrical neck, a straight rim, and a handle, but without a trefoil rim; these jugs were very common in various parts of Greece during the 6th and especially the 7th centuries³³, as examples from Corinth, Argos, Sparta, Attica, Eretria, Delion, Samos, the Yassi Ada I shipwreck, and various sites in Crete show – to name just a few of the numerous cases³⁴. A vessel similar to the jugs cat. 6 and 7 was found among the material from the *Hortfund* of the settlement³⁵. An example from a grave in the neighboring area of Miraka closely resembles the jugs in both shape and decoration and dates to the 6th or 7th century³⁶. The body shape of the small jugs cat. 2 and 9 (*figs. 2 c; 6 c. d*) is very similar to that of two jugs from a grave at Delion (Boeotia) dated to the late 6th / early 7th century³⁷. The body shape and especially the funnel-shaped neck of jug cat. 9 (*fig. 6 c. d*) has direct analogies to larger jugs

³³ For an analytical presentation of this shape and its various examples from Greece, see: Yangaki 2004, 118 nos. 3. 4; 139 f. 143; Yangaki 2005, 138 f. (variant b), particularly 138 n. 551; Gini-Tsophopoulou – Yangaki 2010, 700 n. 55.

³⁴ Corinth: Wiseman 1967, 38 pl. 15 b 6. Argos: Aupert 1980, 429 nos. 239. 240; 430 fig. 41 nos. 239. 240. Sparta: Themis et al. 2010, 750. 762 fig. 12, on the right. Attica, Drivlia (Porto-Rafti): Gini-Tsophopoulou – Yangaki 2010, 699 f. 711 fig. 19. Eretria: Themelis 1974, pl. 28 β. Boeotia, Delion: Chamilaki 2010, 589 no. MEX 3471; 591 no. MEX 3486; 608 fig. 4 MEX 3471. MEX 3486. Samos: Martini – Steckner 1993, 122 fig. 36 no. 2.1. Yassi Ada I: Bass 1982, 171 figs. 8–12 no. P32. Crete: Catling – Smyth 1976, 37 nos. P. 3. P. 4. P. 6; 34 fig. 8 nos. P. 3. P. 4 (Knossos); Albertocchi – Perna 2001, 438 pl. 97, II 1.1 / 1-1.1 / 2 (Gortyn); Yangaki 2004, 118 no. 3. 4; 139. 140. 143; Yangaki 2005, 138–139 (Eleutherna).

³⁵ Völling 1995, 452 no. 7; 453 fig. 9; Wamser 2004, 384

no. 894 (A. Rettner); Gutsfeld – Lehmann 2013, 15 fig. 11 b.

³⁶ Vikatou 2006, 388 f. 403 fig. 10. However, it should be taken into consideration that a pair of silver earrings found in the same grave (Vikatou 2006, 389. 404 fig. 11) show some similarities with a pair of gold earrings from the basilica at Tegani in Mani (Drandakis – Gkioles 1980, pl. 148 ε), for which a later date than that suggested by the excavators has recently been proposed (in the middle Byzantine period) by A. Bosselmann-Ruickbie (Bosselmann-Ruickbie 2011, 60); cf., however, Albani 2012, 387. For a similarly late date for the Tegani earrings: Langó 2010, 372 fig. 2, 1; 373–379. For additional remarks on the dating for some of the Tegani finds: Poulou-Papadimitriou et al. 2012, 393 f.

³⁷ For more details on this grave, its date, and the jug: Chamilaki 2010, 587 f. nos. MEX 3458. MEX 3460; 590. 608 fig. 4, MEX 3458. MEX 3460.



Fig. 4 Small jug of the second group with hollow knobbed base, cat. 5, inv. no. K 2978 (approx. scale 1 : 2)

from Emporio on Chios and the Eupalinos tunnel on Samos, which date from the first half of the 7th century³⁸.

Cat. 6 (*fig. 5 a. b*) has incised decoration on its shoulder. Similar fine incisions are found on small to medium-sized closed vessels, usually jugs or juglets but also jars, dating from at least the 7th century, though usually not its beginning; examples have been recovered from the Yassi Ada I shipwreck, from Emporio on Chios, and from the Eupalinos tunnel on Samos³⁹. Such incisions also appear on small vessels from graves in Calabria dating from the latter 6th and the 7th centuries⁴⁰ and in Naples from the 7th and 8th centuries⁴¹, and on small, closed vessels and large basins from Eleutherna (Crete) and the Crypta Balbi (Rome) from the 7th century⁴².

In two cases, small jugs from graves bear traces of a so-called double handle (*fig. 2 c*), that is, a second handle attached on top of the basic handle to which a lid was attached. Metal prototypes seem to have influenced this shape⁴³. Clay jugs with these characteristic double handles are found mainly in 7th-century and, also, in 8th-century contexts⁴⁴; earlier evidence, dating from the second half of the 6th century but also common during the 7th century, has so far come to light only in Elaiussa Sebaste in Cilicia⁴⁵.

Very small clay pellets are also attached to the upper part of the handle of one small jug (cat. 6; *fig. 5 a. b*), while, in the case of two others, large pieces of clay are attached either to the upper and lower parts of the handle (cat. 1; *fig. 2 a. b*) or only to the lower part (cat. 2; *fig. 2 c*), while the upper part forms a >dou-

³⁸ Chios, Emporio: Boardman 1989, 101 fig. 32 no. 181; 103 no. 181. Samos, Eupalinos tunnel: Hautumm 2004, 228 no. 1407 pl. 49, 1407.

³⁹ Yassi Ada I: Bass 1982, 168 figs. 8–10, P 18; 169 no. P 18; 170 figs. 8–11, P 18. Chios, Emporio: Boardman 1989, 101 fig. 32 no. 181; 103 nos. 179. 181 pl. 22 no. 179. Samos, Eupalinos tunnel: Hautumm 2004, 228 nos. 1405. 1407; 236 no. 1453; 237 nos. 1460. 1461; 302 no. 1772 pl. 49 nos. 1405. 1407; pl. 52 no. 1453; pl. 53 nos. 1460. 1461; pl. 78 no. 1772.

⁴⁰ Raimondo 2006, 424. 428 fig. 11, 9.

⁴¹ Grifa et al. 2009, 77. 79 fig. 2 a (first row, second vessel from the left).

⁴² Crete, Eleutherna: Vogt 2000, 73 f. 146 f. fig. 23, 3. 5; 148 f. fig. 24, 1; 150 f. fig. 25, 3. 4; 152 f. fig. 26, 1–3; 154 f. fig. 27, 1–6, 8. Rome, Crypta Balbi: Sagui et al. 1997, 40 fig. 3, 1. 4. 6.

⁴³ For characteristic metal jugs from the 5th to 7th centuries: Pitarakis 2005a, 673–686, esp. 676 figs. 1. 2; 679 figs. 3. 4; 684 fig. 13; 685 fig. 12 a–c; Pitarakis 2005b, 16 figs. 7. 8; 18 fig. 9. For a similar view: Sodini 2005, 165 f.

⁴⁴ Samos: Gerousi 1992/1993, 261 f. no. 3 fig. 13 pl. 51 α. Gortyn: Albertocchi – Perna 2001, 506. 513 fig. 195, type B I 1.1/1. Constantinople: Hayes 1968, 204 fig. C, 4. 5; 206 nos. 26–29; 207 fig. D, 26. 29; Hayes 1980, fig. 17, 4. 5; Hayes 1992, 101. 109 nos. 17. 18; 160 fig. 39, 26. 29; 173 fig. 53, 17. 18. Anemurium: Williams 1989, 87 no. 527 fig. 52, 527. Jerusalem: Bagatti 1969, 210 fig. 10, 5; 211. 221. For a later example: Hayes 1992, 50 f. fig. 19, 12; 222 fig. 19, 12.

⁴⁵ Ferrazzoli – Ricci 2007, 673 f. 682 fig. 8, 24; 684 fig. 12, 42.



Fig. 5 Small jugs of the second group:
a. b. Cat. 6, inv. no. K 2979. – c. d. Cat. 7, inv. no. K 3062 (scale 1 : 2)

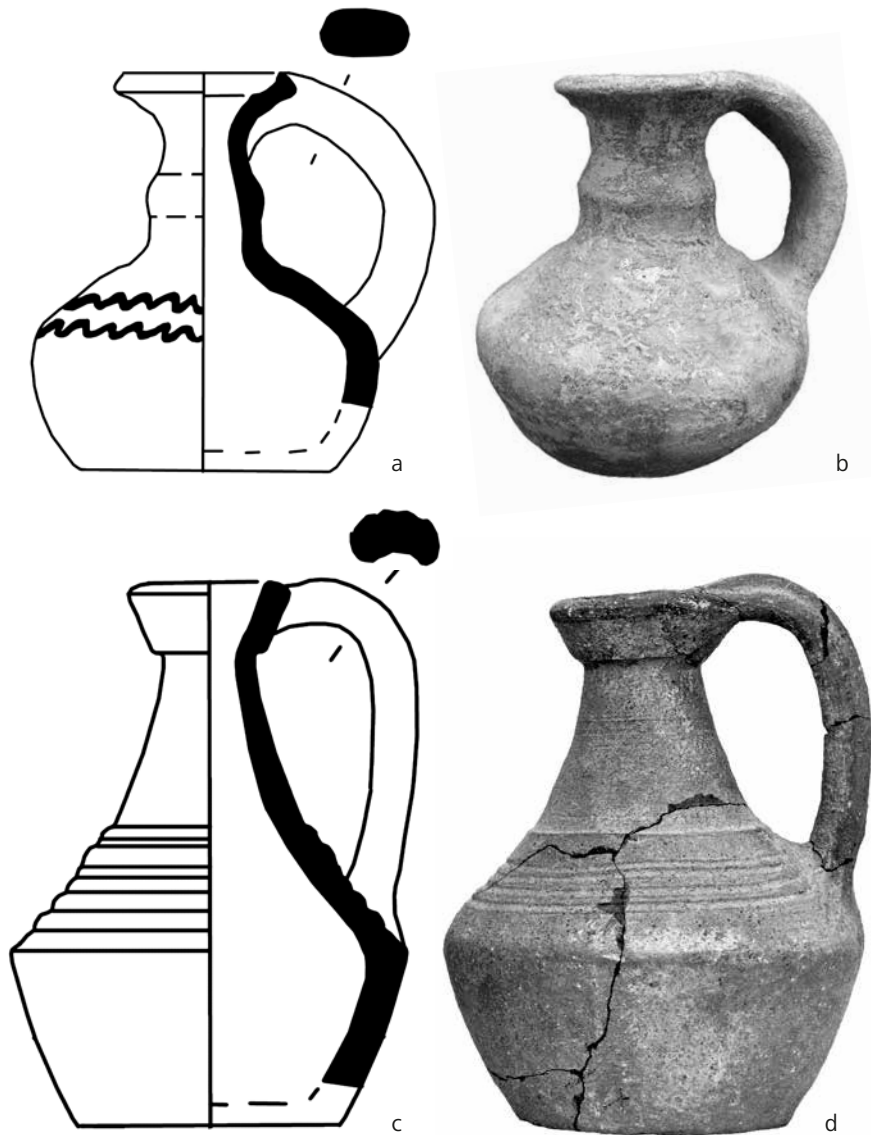


Fig. 6 Isolated examples of small jugs: a. b. Cat. 8, inv. no. K 3112. – c. d. Cat. 9, inv. no. K 2946 (scale 1 : 2)

ble handle. The practice of adorning the handle of closed vessels with small clay particles, possibly imitating metal jugs, is found in the 7th century⁴⁶, but also later during the middle Byzantine period, as shown by examples excavated in Amorium⁴⁷. The second form of decoration, with large pieces of clay, can be explained only by comparison to metal jugs from the 6th to the 8th century⁴⁸. It is paralleled exactly on a small jug found in a grave at Prasino, dated to the 6th or 7th century, which is identical in shape to the small jug cat. 9 (*fig. 6 c. d*) and also bears painted decoration⁴⁹.

A jug of the first group, with the high, cylindrical neck with ridges all around it (*fig. 3*) shows significant similarity to jugs from Emporio (mid-7th century), Athens (6th century), and Argos⁵⁰ in terms of the form of its neck and body, its angled shoulder, and the way the handle is attached.

⁴⁶ Paphos: Gabrieli et al. 2007, 801 fig. 6, 7. Anemurium: Williams 1989, 85 nos. 510. 511 fig. 51. See, also, an example of a jug from Velesino, though without precise dating: Stafida 1989, 225 pl. 138 α (on the left).

⁴⁷ Böhlendorf-Arslan 2010, 363–366 figs. 16, 1; 17, 1.

⁴⁸ For a similar protuberance on the upper part or lower

end of the handle: Koilakou 1988, 82 pl. 47 α; Papanikola-Bakirtzis 2002, 148 f. no. 161 α. β (Ch. Pennas); Rovina 2002, 171 fig. 130; Pitarakis 2005b, 16 fig. 7; Ilieva – Cholakov 2005, 55 no. 8.

⁴⁹ Arapoyanni 1997, 248 pl. 99 γ.

⁵⁰ Emporio: Boardman 1989, 103 no. 196 pl. 22 no. 196.

A large jug (*fig. 7*) with a trefoil, pinched mouth, and a piriform body with a hollow base and a central ›button‹ or ›boss‹ may also date from the late 7th century: a similar pinched, trefoil mouth is found on jugs from Athens, Aegina, Emporio on Chios, Constantinople, and Knossos, all dating from the 7th century⁵¹, while the habit of pinching the trefoil mouth to create two different cavities is encountered in various jugs from the second quarter of the 6th century found at Elaiussa Sebaste in Cilicia⁵². Similar plain, closed vessels with a hollow base also occur during the mid and late 7th century at sites on Cyprus (Paphos, Saranda Kolones, Salamis), in Constantinople,⁵³ and in the Crypta Balbi (Rome)⁵⁴.

The body of most of the small jugs of the first group from Olympia is decorated with bands of reddish slip (*figs. 2 a. d. e; 4 a; 5*), sometimes creating cross-hatching. The use of reddish slip seems to have been a long-standing tradition at Olympia, since such painted vessels occur during earlier centuries as well⁵⁵. Characteristic examples include the painted vessels published by Schauer, dated to the 5th century, and the material dated by Martin after the beginning of the 6th century⁵⁶. Red-painted vessels with a reddish slip covering the body in bands or splashes that create geometric or abstract designs become quite common in Italy from the 5th century onward and during the 7th century⁵⁷. Plain pottery painted with a reddish color is encountered in the 7th century at sites in the Near East, on Cyprus, and in Asia Minor, for example in Paphos and Elaiussa Sebaste⁵⁸. In regions of Greece, painted pottery with reddish and occasionally white decoration is very common from the 4th century onward,



Fig. 7 Large jug with a trefoil, pinched mouth and piriform body, cat. 10, inv. no. K 1320 (approx. scale 1 : 3)

Athens, Makriyianni: Manoli 2010, 637 NMA 4840; 646 fig. 38. Argos: Aupert 1980, 427 fig. 40 no. 226; 428 no. 226 (for a reappraisal of the date of the material from the last quarter of the 6th into the 7th century, see, in detail: Anagnostakis – Poulou-Papadimitriou 1997, 269–273). Yassi Ada I: Bass 1982, 172 no. P 31; 174 figs. 8–14, P 31.

⁵¹ Athens: Tzavella 2010, 653. 658 no. 8118; 667 fig. 3β, A 8118. Aegina: Wamser 2004, 388 no. 906 (A. Rettner; 6th–7th century). Chios, Emporio: Boardman 1989, 101 fig. 32 no. 185; 103 nos. 185. 187. 196. 200 pl. 22 no. 196; pl. 23 nos. 187. 200. Constantinople: Hayes 1968, 208 no. 37; 209 fig. E, 37; Hayes 1992, 101. 160 fig. 39, 26; 161 fig. 40, 37. Knossos: Hayes 2001, 447 no. 46; 448 fig. 8, 46. See also some examples from Eretria (Kaltas et al. 2010, nos. 435. 436) and Kenchreai (Adamshack 1979, 132 RC63b pl. 36, RC63b).

⁵² Ferrazzoli – Ricci 2007, 674. 684 fig. 12, 40. 41.

⁵³ Cyprus: Gabrieli et al. 2007, 795. 801 fig. 6, 3. 4. Constantinople: Hayes 1968, 206 no. 26; 207 fig. D, 26.

⁵⁴ Sagui et al. 1997, 45 fig. 7, 7. 8.

⁵⁵ Walter 1958, 69 figs. 59. 60.

⁵⁶ Martin 1996, 130; Schauer 2002, 208–218.

⁵⁷ Molise: Albarella et al. 1993, 171. 175 f. fig. 9; 177 fig. 10. Tuscany: Francovich – Valenti 1997, 133 f. 135 pl. 4, A2; Cantini 2010, 355. 361 fig. 6. Campania, Naples: Arthur 1994, 206 f. type 111; 208 type 122.3; 214 type 158 fig. 97, 111; fig. 98, 122.3; fig. 100, 158; 214. 215, types 161–172 fig. 101. 161–172. Carsana et al. 2007, 425 f. 434 fig. 6, 3–7; Grifa et al. 2009, 77. 79 fig. 2 a. Calabria: Di Gangi – Lebole 1998, 765 fig. 4, 1; Raimondo 2006, 424. 428 fig. 11, 10. 11. For a brief presentation of red painted ware in Italy and its characteristics: Albarella et al. 1993, 171 (with the related bibliography). For a similar tradition in painted pottery during the 7th and 8th centuries in Albania: Hoti 2003, 237–239 fig. 1, 1–4.

⁵⁸ Paphos: Hayes 2003, 490 no. 253. 254 fig. 23, 253. 254; Gabrieli et al. 2007, 794 f. 801 fig. 6, 1. 2. Elaiussa Sebaste: Ferrazzoli – Ricci 2007, 674. 686 fig. 15. Ephesos: Turnovsky 2005, 218. 221 fig. 5, 1. 2.

witnessing its largest distribution during the 6th and 7th centuries⁵⁹. Among the numerous vessels with random painted decoration, two specific productions stand out for their careful decoration, which presents a variety of well-executed designs: Central Greek Painted Ware and *Ceramica sovradipinta*⁶⁰. Thus, the painted decoration of the vessels from Olympia follows a general trend that had a tradition there, as Schauer noted already in connection with earlier examples of red-painted pottery from the site⁶¹. However, a somewhat later date for the examples under study here is indicated by the use of a lighter colored slip than that used on earlier red-painted pottery and by a preference for bands as the main decorative theme.

Schilbach, as discussed above, dates this material from Olympia to the 6th century, with the Slavic invasion at the end of the century constituting a terminus ante quem. Within this chronological framework, he distinguishes two separate groups of vessels, the first dating to the period before the earthquake of A.D. 551⁶², the second to the period from the earthquake to the Slavic raids. His analysis is based solely on the morphology of the vessels: in brief, earlier vessels differ from later vessels in that the separate parts of the former are more clearly distinguished. However, this distinction is somewhat subjective. Jugs with hollow bases continued to be produced throughout the 7th century, as cat. 10 (fig. 7) shows. Also jug cat. 5 (fig. 4 a), which is considered an 'earlier' example, bears deeper ridges on the upper part of the body and a few shallow ridges on its lower part, making the distinction between the various parts of the vessel quite clear. Other characteristics, such as clay pellets on the handle, can be found on vessels (cat. 1. 6) that Schilbach attributes to different chronological groups.

In our opinion, the preceding analytical presentation makes it clear that several characteristics are found either uniquely or in combination on vessels dating from the 7th century and not before. Thus the 6th-century date should be questioned and a date in the first three quarters of the 7th century taken into consideration, particularly since it is clear that 'double' handles and the use of fine incisions and small clay protuberances on the handle are distinct markers of contexts dating from the very early 7th century onward.

In addition, several researchers have expressed doubt as to the consequences of the earthquake of 551 in certain regions of the Peloponnese and have questioned scholars' tendency to connect several archaeological strata with this seismic event⁶³, suggesting instead that the earthquake cannot have been as destructive for the whole of the Peloponnese as previously believed. An illustrative example is the city of Corinth, which in the Peloponnesian region was closest to the epicenter of the earthquake; its consequences for Corinth have now been reassessed by G. D. R. Sanders⁶⁴. A similar opinion has been expressed for Tegani as well⁶⁵. Regarding Olympia, F. Adler and H.-V. Herrmann have insisted that the earthquake had serious consequences in the mid-6th century, especially in relation to the temple of Zeus⁶⁶.

⁵⁹ For some of the numerous examples, see: Robinson 1959, 117 f. M362. M364. M366 pl. 33 M362. M364. M366; Yangaki 2005, 126–131 (mentioning numerous examples from various sites), particularly n. 439. See also: Aupert 1980, 442 nos. 333. 334. 336; 444 fig. 47 nos. 333. 334. 336 (Argos); Hjothman 2005, 184 no. 138 fig. 51, 138; 193 (Pyrgouthi); Kokkotaki – Tsoka 2010, 368. 381 figs. 11. 12 (Maroneia); Chrysostomou 2010, 508. 512 nos. 21–23 (Edessa); 514 figs. 4–6; 517 fig. 10.

⁶⁰ For further details on these productions and their places of manufacture: Hayes 1972, 413; Yangaki 2005, 126 f. (with related bibliography); Vitale 2008; Ntina 2010, 566. 573 figs. 18–20; Petridis 2010a, 129 f.; Petridis 2010b, 88 f.

⁶¹ Schauer 2010, 32.

⁶² Schilbach 1999, 146–149. For the earthquake of A.D. 551, see: Guidoboni 1994, 331 f.

⁶³ See the views expressed by N. N. Ambraseys, J. A. Jackson, and D. White (Ambraseys – Jackson 1997, 433–474; Ambraseys – White 1997, 603–632) and G. D. R. Sanders in particular (Sanders 1999, 475). See also, recently: Bosselmann-Ruickbie 2011, 59 f.

⁶⁴ Sanders 2004, 170 f.

⁶⁵ For Tegani: Bosselmann-Ruickbie 2011, 59–61.

⁶⁶ Adler 1892, 103; Herrmann 1972, 198. For the reference to two earthquakes, those of 522 and 551, see: Herrmann 1972, 198. See, also, more recently, the view of A. Gutsfeld and S. Lehmann (Gutsfeld – Lehmann 2013, 5 f. with n. 13 fig. 13).

However, clearer archaeological documentation of the allegedly catastrophic impact of the event should be sought⁶⁷. As U. Sinn has pointed out in regard to Olympia, repeated flooding of the river Kladeos during the transitional period brought about significant geological changes to the countryside – events he attributes to the period after the beginning of the 7th century⁶⁸.

The amphorae and storage vessels

The second group of vessels under reexamination consists of three amphorae: The first amphora (*fig. 8*) comes from the same context as the jugs, that is, from a layer belonging to a habitation complex in the southeast sector. The other two amphorae⁶⁹ (*figs. 9. 10*) were found in a very sandy layer in the area southwest of the Leonidaion and southeast of the Odeum. In addition, two further vessels were recovered from a similar layer: a large storage vessel with one handle (*fig. 11*) and another storage vessel (*fig. 12*) with two horizontal handles, found in the structures southwest of the Leonidaion⁷⁰.

This sandy layer was found in various parts of the excavation and has been interpreted as the result of the flooding of the river Kladeos, which caused the final destruction and abandonment of the settlement. Schilbach dates this layer to the second quarter of the 7th century at the latest⁷¹. A later date than that suggested for the jugs is implied by the archaeological evidence itself, since the layer in which two of the amphorae were found (*figs. 9. 10*) is above the layer that contained the jugs (»Schicht I«)⁷². However, this distinct layer, which is several meters deep⁷³, must have been deposited gradually on the site, and the flooding of the Kladeos must have taken place even later, over the 8th century, as part of a longer process⁷⁴.

The pottery evidence also points in this direction. Poulou-Papadimitriou has suggested that a later date should be envisaged for some of these amphorae⁷⁵. In fact, the characteristics of the three amphorae connect them to the large group of »globular« amphorae common in Mediterranean sites from the 7th to the 9th century. The specific form of this group varies considerably, whether in terms of the shape of the body (more ovoid or more globular), the rim, neck and handles, or in terms of decoration⁷⁶. Such »globular« amphorae have either a round or a hollow base with a knob, and their maximum diameter is at the shoulder.

Amphora cat. 11 (*fig. 8*), which comes from the same layer as the jugs analyzed above, differs somewhat from the other two amphorae in that its maximum diameter is lower on the body rather than at the shoulder (*fig. 8*); the shape of its neck and the position of its handles and rim also resemble amphorae from Paleapoli and Naples dating from the 6th and particularly the 7th century⁷⁷, and an amphora from the Crypta Balbi (Rome) dating from

⁶⁷ See also the remarks in Gutsfeld – Lehmann 2013, 6 n. 13.

⁶⁸ Sinn 2001, 234.

⁶⁹ Schilbach 1999, 148 f. *fig. 103 pl. 40, 3. 4*; Fuchs 2013, 329 *fig. 109*. For the flooding of the Kladeos river even during a later period see below.

⁷⁰ Schilbach 1999, 149 f. *figs. 105–108*.

⁷¹ Schilbach 1999, 149.

⁷² Schilbach 1999, 149.

⁷³ Sinn 2001, 234.

⁷⁴ Jahresbericht 1997 des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, AA 1998, 542–543; Sinn 2001, 234 and also the comment of H. Kyrieleis (Kyrieleis – Herrmann 2003, 35); according to Kyrieleis, the whole process was completed by the 9th century.

⁷⁵ Poulou-Papadimitriou 2001, 245 n. 71; see, also, the view in: Lambropoulou et al. 2001, 215 n. 117; Lambropoulou 2009, 207 f.

⁷⁶ The bibliography on these amphorae is very rich, presenting examples from various sites in the Mediterranean. To state only the most representative work that adds information on variations in the forms, and thus on existence of various sub-types, their dates, areas of production and content: Murialdo 2001, 289–293, esp. 289 *fig. 25, 6*; Yangaki 2005, 193–197, 216 f. 388 map 3; Poulou-Papadimitriou – Didioumi 2010, 742–744; Poulou-Papadimitriou – Nodarou 2014, 874.

⁷⁷ Paleapoli: Lebole di Gangi 1991, *fig. 10, 1*. Naples: Carsana et al. 2007, 424. 433 *fig. 5, 5*.



Fig. 8 Amphora, cat. 11,
inv. no. K 1774 (approx. scale 1 : 5)



Fig. 9 Globular amphora, cat. 12,
inv. no. K 3065 (approx. scale 1 : 5)



Fig. 10 Amphora, cat. 13,
inv. no. K 1144 (approx. scale 1 : 5)



Fig. 11 Globular storage vessel, cat. 14,
inv. no. K 1752 (approx. scale 1 : 5)



Fig. 12 Large storage vessel, cat. 15, inv. no. K 1753 (approx. scale 1 : 5)

the mid-7th century⁷⁸. Amphora cat. 11 also differs from the other two amphorae from Olympia in that it has a simpler rim form, a slightly conical neck, and reddish bands on its body. Given these details, it represents an early example of ovoid-globular amphorae. Its occurrence alongside the painted wares mentioned above is paralleled exactly by contexts in Neapolitan and Roman (Crypta Balbi) sites dating from the 7th (mainly the latter half) and early 8th centuries⁷⁹.

The general form of amphora cat. 13 (fig. 10), with an ovoid body, a round base with a knob, and a large band of continuous, deep incisions on its shoulder, bears the greatest resemblance to an amphora from Nichoria in Messenia.⁸⁰ The Nichoria amphora was initially dated to the late 5th to early 6th century, but Poulou-Papadimitriou subsequently suggested a later date in the

7th century⁸¹. Both these amphorae are related to Late Roman Amphora 2 (LRA2). Nevertheless, cat. 13 differs in several ways: a) its body, slightly curving in its lower part, is more elongated than that of the standard LRA2, a characteristic observed in various ›globular‹ amphorae; b) its neck is longer and not as conical; c) the handles are placed more vertically, standing almost upright. In contrast, though, its round base, ending with a prominent knob, has more in common with the LRA2 type than the rounded and sometimes concave bases of the ›globular‹ amphorae, which lack a prominent knob. In sum, its form incorporates both details of the LRA2 type and those found in later, globular forms, most prominently the oblong rather than broad-bellied body. All these characteristics lead us to consider it an intermediate form between the standard LRA2 with its three sub-types⁸² and the complex family of ›globular‹ amphorae⁸³. Its find spot, namely the upper sandy layer related to the flooding of the Kladeos discussed above, moreover suggests a date after the middle of the 7th century.

The third amphora under consideration (cat. 12; fig. 9) has a globular body with the greatest diameter at the shoulder, a round base, slightly concave in the center, a rather large neck, and a high rim that is slightly hollow in the interior; it has parallels to the family of ›globular‹ amphorae. The most representative comparative material is furnished by examples from Emporio in Chios, the tunnel of Eupalinos in Samos, Eleutherna in Crete, Naples (Campania), S. Antonino di Pertì (Liguria), the Crypta Balbi (Rome), and Cagliari (Sardinia) dating mainly from the second half of the 7th and the first half of the 8th centuries⁸⁴. Amphora cat. 12 also bears close resemblance to 8th-century amphorae from Constantinople (types 38 and 40) in

⁷⁸ Sagui et al. 1997, 40 fig. 3, 7; Ricci 1997, 370 fig. 11, 1.

⁷⁹ For these sites: Arthur 1993, 231–241, esp. 235; Ricci 1997, 351–381.

⁸⁰ McDonald et al. 1975, 98 pl. 26 a; Rosser 1983, 384 P1756 pl. 10–10.

⁸¹ Poulou-Papadimitriou 2001, 243 n. 57.

⁸² For these sub-types and their characteristics: Pieri 2005, 86–89.

⁸³ For more details on these see above, n. 76.

⁸⁴ Emporio: Boardman 1989, 106. 109 no. 238 pl. 25 no. 238. Samos: Hautumm 2004, 296 no. 1744 pl. 76, 1744. Eleutherna, Crete: Yangaki 2005, 445 fig. 56 f. Naples: Carsana et al. 2007, 424. 433 fig. 5, 5. 20. S. Antonino di Pertì (Liguria): Murialdo 2001, 291 type 47a; 292 pl. 18, 218. Rome, Crypta Balbi: Sagui et al. 1997, 39 fig. 2, 4. 5; 43 fig. 6, 1. Calabria: Di Gangi – Lebole 1998, 765 fig. 4, 5; 766 (end 6th – beginning 8th). Cagliari (Sardinia): Mureddu 2002, fig. 139.

terms of the rather accentuated transition from the shoulder to the body of the vessel, the form of the neck, body, and handles, the way the handles are placed on the neck and the shoulder, and the presence of a hollow – although, in this case, rather short – rim⁸⁵. In terms of the clear distinction made between the high rim and the neck by means of a shallow ridge, both containers resemble 7th-century amphorae from the Crypta Balbi, which served various domestic uses⁸⁶, while the continuous bands of incisions on their shoulders have exact counterparts in J. W. Hayes's types 29 (Yassi Ada I, type 2)⁸⁷ and 36⁸⁸ from the 7th and 8th centuries. They differ from amphora cat. 11 in that they have a very fine, reddish to brownish slip covering their entire surface. Amphorae from Calabria and Cagliari bear similarities not only to amphora cat. 12 (*fig. 9*) but also to storage jar cat. 14 (*fig. 11*)⁸⁹. This one-handled storage jar from the southeast sector, which was also found in the sandy layer, must fall in the same chronological range as amphora cat. 12, given such details of its form as its large, rather ovoid body with the largest diameter below the shoulder, its slightly concave base, bearing a small knob, and its tall neck. It shares general features with other vessels found in Corinth, Argos, and Pyrgouthi⁹⁰; the latter, though described as jugs or pitchers because of their single handle, are actually large storage jars with globular bodies similar to those of the globular amphorae.

The foregoing analysis makes clear that the latest date for the settlement should not be placed in the second quarter of the 7th century. Instead, the chronological range of the last three vessels falls after the second half of the 7th century, around the last quarter of the 7th and the beginning of the 8th century. A large storage jar (cat. 15; *fig. 12*) made of a very coarse fabric with a bulbous, globular body, somewhat rough exterior, thick walls, long, high neck, and horizontal handles – a form not reported from earlier contexts – belongs to the same chronological framework and lends further support for a later date. Comparative material for jars is rare, and their dating is difficult, but the general, crude form of the example from Olympia is comparable to that of a storage jar found in an 8th-century layer in Eleutherna, Crete⁹¹. Furthermore, the use of horizontal handles for large storage amphorae – although these vessels differ in form from the jar – is encountered in a Corinthian context of the second or third quarter of the 7th century⁹², in the cave at Andritsa in the Argolid⁹³, in Pyrgouthi, Nemea, and Argos⁹⁴. Further to the north, storage amphorae with horizontal handles and a form similar to those from Corinth, Andritsa, Pyrgouthi, Nemea, and Argos have been found in Thebes Phthiotides⁹⁵.

The large storage jar (cat. 15), the ›globular‹ amphorae, and the one-handled jar comparable to the ›globular‹ amphorae all are large-capacity vessels and have multi-purpose forms intended for a range of domestic uses⁹⁶. Similar amphora forms are found in later contexts (7th and 8th centuries) at other sites as well, as mentioned above, including Gortyn and Eleutherna on Crete⁹⁷. Indeed, their absence from earlier contexts at these sites and

⁸⁵ Hayes 1992, 71. 111 no. 73; 112 no. 36; 113 no. 43; 174 fig. 54 no. 73; 177 fig. 57 nos. 36. 43.

⁸⁶ Ricci 1997, 369–372 esp. fig. 11, 1–3; 12, 3. 4.

⁸⁷ For this type of amphora and references to various examples attributed to local production: Bass 1962, fig. 6 a; Hayes 1992, 68 fig. 23, 4; 71. 172 fig. 52, 9. See also: Portale – Romeo 2001, 354 figs. 172–175; 356 f.; Yangaki 2005, 217 f.; Poulou-Papadimitriou – Didioumi 2010, 743 types II. III; 749 fig. 11 d–f.

⁸⁸ Hayes 1992, 71. 107 no. 9; 172 fig. 52, 9 (deposit 32).

⁸⁹ Calabria: Di Gangi – Lebole 1998, 765 fig. 4, 5; 766 (end 6th – beginning 8th). Cagliari: Mureddu 2002, fig. 139.

⁹⁰ Corinth: Slane – Sanders 2005, 276 fig. 12, 4–38; 280 no. 4–38. Argos: Aupert 1980, 427 fig. 40 nos. 221. 222.

Pyrgouthi: Hjohlman 2005, 139 no. 14; 140 fig. 13, 14; 221 no. 258 fig. 85, 258; 238 fig. 99.

⁹¹ Yangaki 2005, 91 no. 522; 164 f. 451 fig. 62 a. b.

⁹² Slane – Sanders 2005, 276 no. 4–16; 277 fig. 14, 4–16.

⁹³ Kormazopoulou – Hatzilazarou 2010, 173. 181 fig. 4 d.

⁹⁴ Pyrgouthi: Hjohlman 2005, 144 fig. 17, 33; 145 nos. 33. 34 fig. 18, 34; 237 fig. 98, 241; 242. Nemea: Miller 1983, 87 pl. 26 f. Argos: Hjohlman 2005, 237 n. 301 (for reference to unpublished material from Argos).

⁹⁵ Ntina 2010, 565. 572 figs. 12. 13.

⁹⁶ For these views: Portale – Romeo 2001, 393; Yangaki 2005, 304.

⁹⁷ For these forms: Portale – Romeo 2001, 308–311. 393 pl. 44 g; 46 a–d fig. 148; Yangaki 2005, 193–197. 304.

their appearance later have been connected to the development of regional and local production during this transitional period, leading to forms that, given their shape and properties, were intended to meet several everyday needs.

To date, the latest pottery evidence at Olympia is an almost complete thick-walled, round-bellied amphora with wide sloping shoulder, heavy handles, and a flanking neck (fig. 13). In many ways, its form – a large, piriform shape with maximum diameter at the shoulder, body slightly tapering towards the end, and its neck and handles – resembles that of the middle Byzantine amphora type I of N. Günsenin's⁹⁸ typology (Hayes's type 54), which has been dated between the 9th and 11th / early 12th century⁹⁹. The late Olympia amphora also shows traces of its technique of fabrication, being luted together from large pieces, a technique also found in type I amphorae¹⁰⁰. The form of its neck, which is lightly ribbed and ends in a relatively wide rim, recalls Hayes's variety (A) of type 54, while its handles, which are quite arched, resemble the later variety (B)¹⁰¹. However, it deviates from the basic type I form in that its body has only two zones on its upper section consisting of three incisions rather than being completely covered in heavy ridges; it also has a rather prominent knob on its base. Some imperfections in the workmanship can be observed; these are quite common on amphorae of this type¹⁰² and mainly appear at the handle joints and in the transition from the upper to the lower body, where the surface has not been smoothed. Type I amphorae witnessed a large diffusion not only in the Balkans, but also in the Black Sea coastal region and in Asia Minor¹⁰³. Kiln areas for the production of this type of amphora have been identified in the area near the villages of Ganos and Hora on the Northern coast of the Sea of Marmara¹⁰⁴. Given the various minor differences between the Olympia amphora and 'typical' examples of type I, it may represent a somewhat earlier variant of the type that would predominate in the Empire during the middle Byzantine period. The presence of incised zones connects it with earlier globular amphorae like Hayes's type 29, dating from the 7th century¹⁰⁵. Some of these globular amphorae also exhibit body shrinkage¹⁰⁶. The Olympia amphora arguably may be a transitional form in use during the 8th–9th centuries. Its precise find spot is unknown¹⁰⁷. Nevertheless,



Fig. 13 Middle Byzantine amphora, cat. 16, inv. no. K 1140 (approx. scale 1 : 5)

⁹⁸ Günsenin 1989, 269–271 fig. 2–4. See also: Hayes 1992, 70 fig. 24, 1–7; 73. 75 (type 54).

⁹⁹ Hayes 1992, 73. 75; Todorova 2011, 133.

¹⁰⁰ Hayes 1992, 73. 75.

¹⁰¹ For these two varieties and their characteristics: Hayes 1992, 73. 75.

¹⁰² See, respectively, Günsenin 1989, 269; Todorova 2011, 132 f.

¹⁰³ For their diffusion: Günsenin 1989, 268 fig. 1 and,

more recently, Todorova 2011, with added bibliography. For variants of this type, see also: Papanikola-Bakirtzis 2002, 145.

¹⁰⁴ Günsenin 1993, 193–201; Günsenin 1995, 165–178; Günsenin 2009, 147.

¹⁰⁵ See above, n. 87.

¹⁰⁶ Poulou-Papadimitriou – Didjoumi 2010, 743 type II; 749 fig. 11 d.

¹⁰⁷ See also a similar remark by Schilbach 1999, 149.

the fact that 9th-century pottery has been found in a layer in the so-called Southwest Building¹⁰⁸ is further evidence of some sort of activity on the main axis of the ancient settlement of Olympia during the middle Byzantine period. This conclusion is corroborated by coins from excavations at the site dating from the 10th and 11th centuries¹⁰⁹.

LOCAL POTTERY PRODUCTION: SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Already Schilbach insisted that the vessels from Olympia, and in particular the amphorae, were produced locally¹¹⁰. A thorough macroscopic examination of their fabric (*fig. 14*) supports this view: all of them exhibit the same clay matrix with similar inclusions (with the exception of the latest example, cat. 16). Local pottery production in late antique Olympia is suggested by the existence of local lamp production¹¹¹, the discovery of a kiln and wasters¹¹², and by observations on the fabric of cooking and plain wares¹¹³. Excavations at Olympia have revealed evidence that a variety of artisanal workshops operated in the late antique settlement; these provided important self-sufficiency in goods such as pottery, glass, and metal objects, which are believed to have been produced on site¹¹⁴. Given the revised date of the pottery, this tendency towards self-sufficiency in various products emerges in the 6th century¹¹⁵, intensifies in the late 6th century, and continues through the entire 7th and into the early 8th century.

The onset of local production was accompanied by a decline in resources and trade relations as reflected by the scarcity of imported pottery and, most significantly, the absence – at least based on the data published so far – of fine pottery, such as African Red Slip Ware or Late Roman C Ware, in contexts dated later than the 6th century¹¹⁶. This absence is sig-

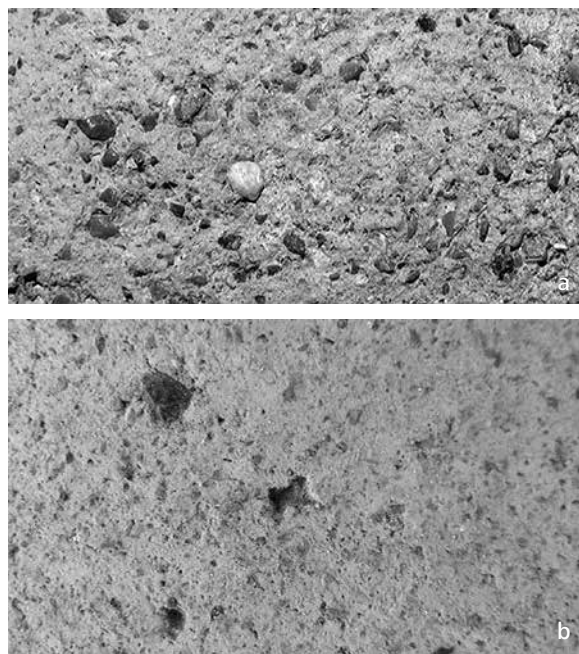


Fig. 14 a. Fabric of small jug, cat. 3, inv. no. K 2892. – b. Fabric of storage vessel, cat. 15, inv. no. K 1753

¹⁰⁸ For this pottery, see a first reference in: Jahresbericht 1997 des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, AA 1998, 542 f.; Kyrieleis – Herrmann 2003, 35.

¹⁰⁹ Karamesini-Oikonomidou 1963, 104 no. 3; Penna 1996, 208, 262; Penna 2002, 229, 231.

¹¹⁰ Schilbach 1999, 146, 148 f.

¹¹¹ Schauer 1991, 373 f.; Kyrieleis – Herrmann 2003, 8, 10 fig. 8; Schauer 2010, 32, 34 f. See also: Martin 1996, 130; Schilbach 1999, 148.

¹¹² Schauer 2002, 208–216; Schauer 2010, 29, 32.

¹¹³ See, for example, the remarks by Völling 1995, 442; Martin 1996, 130; Schauer 2002, 211 and the recent description of the most common fabrics, attributed to regional or local production, by Martin 2014, 762, 768 figs. 5–9.

¹¹⁴ For bibliography, see: Schauer 1991, 373–378; Sinn 1992, 79; Moutzali 1994, 262 (with references); Sinn et al. 1995, 171–173; Schauer 2001/2002, 35–39; Sinn 2001, 224, 226, 228, 231–233; Schauer 2002, 208–218; Kyrieleis – Herrmann 2003, 8; Schauer 2010, 29–34, esp. 32. See also: Yangaki 2008, 65 f. with n. 147–151 (wherein all the related bibliography).

¹¹⁵ See the remarks of Martin 1996, 130 f.; Martin 2014, 763.

¹¹⁶ For the latest forms of these wares dating from the 6th century and found during the excavation of the Southwest Building: Martin 1996, 129 f.; Martin 1997, 213, 215; Martin 2014, 761. For some examples of Late Roman C Ware, form 3 see also: Schauer 1991, 373.

nificant, particularly because specific forms of these wares, such as forms 105 and 109 of African Red Slip Ware and sub-forms of forms 3 and 10 of Late Roman C Ware – the latter witnessing a wide diffusion in the Aegean area¹¹⁷ –, are used as markers for contexts dating to either the late 6th or the 7th century¹¹⁸. More particularly, detailed comparison of archaeological contexts from different sites in the eastern Mediterranean, including both important urban centers like Constantinople and Rome and sites of a more rural character like Knossos and Eleutherna, taking into consideration the nature of each site, has outlined the main pottery circulation trends from the 7th to the 8th century¹¹⁹. According to this study, imports gradually declined from the second half of the 7th century on, but less markedly in urban than in rural sites and intensifying from the third quarter of the century on. Thereafter and throughout the 8th century, local production played a far more important role in each area¹²⁰. The image emerging from Olympia is consistent with this model, although indigenous factors must also have played an important role here. The volume of imports began to fall as early as the 6th century and continued to decline over the centuries that followed, when the site was probably influenced still further by historical factors such as the aforementioned Slavic raids. The rural character of the early Byzantine settlement of Olympia, which many researchers have stressed, would have become more pronounced during this transitional period.

THE SELECTED METAL OBJECTS

The evidence of the pottery is corroborated by information derived from specific metal objects, primarily buckles, jugs, and coins. No exhaustive study of early Byzantine metal objects from Olympia has been made, but sporadic information on jugs, jewelry, and buckles found at the site is available¹²¹. Only a few of these objects have been published¹²² in a reconstruction of the entire excavated context in which they were found.

Three buckles, two of which have not previously been published, are of particular interest. First, one buckle has the characteristic shape of the Sučidava type (inv. no. Br 3669; Schulze-Dörrlamm D1)¹²³. This type and its variants date from the second half of the 6th cen-



Fig. 15 Buckle from Olympia with »schildförmigem Beschlägende« (scale 3 : 2)

¹¹⁷ For this diffusion: Yangaki 2005, 286 f. (with additional bibliography).

¹¹⁸ For the absence of fine wares dating to this period, see the comments by Martin, Schauer and Schilbach emerging from the study of pottery from different excavated areas (Martin 1996, 130; Martin 1997, 214 f.; Schilbach 1999, 148; Schauer 2010, 32).

¹¹⁹ For these contexts and their comparison, see in detail: Yangaki 2005, 271–275.

¹²⁰ According to J. F. Haldon (Haldon 1985, 79) »the Empire was in essence an agglomeration of subsistence economies«. For the economy of Byzantium through the seventh century, see Haldon 1990.

¹²¹ To state some of this: Furtwängler 1890, sporadi-

cally; Walter 1958b, 75. 83 fig. 16; Völling 1992, 491–498; Völling 1995, 425–459; Völling 1996b, 146–154; Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 140 n. 614; 150 fig. 54 no. 40; Pitarakis 2005b, 14 f. fig. 3; Riemer 2005, 278 f.; Philipp 1981.

¹²² Völling 1992, 491 f.; Völling 1995, 434–440 pls. 93–97; Völling 1996b, 146; Völling 2002, 195–207.

¹²³ Inv. no. Br 3669; l.: 4.7 cm, max. w.: 3 cm. See: Furtwängler 1890, 184 no. 1150 pl. 65, 1150; Völling 1992, 493 f. fig. 4. For references to the specific buckle from Olympia: Werner 1955, 45 list 1 no. 1; Uenze 1992, list 5, 33; Lambropoulou et al. 2001, 215 n. 116; Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 150 fig. 54 no. 40.

tury, while some variants indicate use even during the 7th century, if not beyond¹²⁴. The type was widely diffused in northern and central Europe¹²⁵, and the example from Olympia corresponds exactly to buckles from Italy and northeastern Europe¹²⁶. A second, previously unpublished buckle found during the 1880 excavations in the *Gymnasiumsgraben* has a long, narrow plate (fig. 15) with a sharp profile consisting of projecting moldings and a pointed end¹²⁷. It is decorated with an incised saltire beneath the tongue-hole and, at the opposite extremity, an incised circle and a circular perforation. It matches S. Uenze's buckles with »schildförmigem Beschlägende« (shield-shaped plate tip)¹²⁸, Csallány's group 20, and – as scholars have stressed – its general form is closely related to the well-known Salona-Histria type¹²⁹, which exhibits a variety of plate forms¹³⁰. Besides its ending, which is reminiscent of the shape of a shield (»schildförmig«), examples of this type, including the buckle from Olympia (inv. no. Br 11782), are distinguished by an X incised on their upper part between two incised lines. This buckle form, generally associated with leather purses, was quite common in northern regions¹³¹, while identical buckles are found in Mediterranean regions, for example, at Anemurium and Amorium, where they date from the 7th century, in Syria¹³², on Samos, in the Eupalinos tunnel, which was in use until the mid-7th century¹³³, and also at Halieis and Corinth, where they also date from the 7th century¹³⁴. Buckle type D35 of the typology established by M. Schulze-Dörrlamm based on the material from the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum¹³⁵ – dating from the beginning until the fourth quarter of the 7th century – can also be compared to the general form of Uenze's buckles with »schildförmigem Beschlägende«. Smaller buckles recognized as a different type (Schulze-Dörrlamm's D20¹³⁶) but bearing a similarly arranged incised X have also been found in various regions of Greece and elsewhere¹³⁷, dating mainly from the first three quarters of the 7th and potentially as late as the early 8th century¹³⁸. Interesting examples of how this type of buckles was worn are given by E. Chajredinova¹³⁹. A general form similar to the buckle from Olympia, con-

¹²⁴ Poulou-Papadimitriou 2004, 235. 244 no. 2; Nallbani 2005, 659 fig. 2 a (for a buckle of this type, dated to the late 6th, the 7th and even the 8th century); Cheimonopoulou 2011, 73 nos. 62. 63. 278. 279.

¹²⁵ For this type, its date and its diffusion: Werner 1955, 38–42. 45 f. map 1; Csallány 1962, 55–77; Vinski 1967, 37–41 pls. 30–32, 1–4; Teodor 1991, 118–125. 137; Uenze 1992, 186 f.; Varsik 1992, 78–80; Garam 2001, 95–97 pl. 61, 1–9; Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 146–151, 150 fig. 54; 246 D1; Poulou-Papadimitriou 2004, 235. See also: Wamser 2004, 408 no. 936 (B. Wührer); Nallbani 2005, 657. 659 fig. 2, 2a.

¹²⁶ Werner 1955, 45 no. 21 pl. 8, 7; Csallány 1962, 61 pl. 2, 6; 67 pl. 4, 7; Vinski 1967, 37 pl. 31, 5; Teodor 1991, 119 fig. 1, 10 (for exact parallel); Garam 2001, 312 pl. 61, 5; Ivanišević 2010, 767. 769 fig. 18, 9 (for exact parallel, coins of 565–578). For the sites in Greece and Asia Minor where this type is found: Poulou-Papadimitriou 2004, 235 n. 30.

¹²⁷ Inv. no. Br 11782; l.: 4 cm; max. w.: 0.9 cm.

¹²⁸ Uenze 1966, 165–167 figs. 13. 14, 1.

¹²⁹ Csallány 1956, 275 pl. 7, 1. 1a; 285 f. 291; Uenze 1966, 165–166; Teodor 1991, 125–128. 137. Varsik 1992, 80 f.; Garam 2001, 109 pl. 75, 1–11.

¹³⁰ Csallány 1956, 285–288; Vinski 1967, 24 pl. 17, 6; Teodor 1991, 125–128; Varsik 1992, 80 f.; Riemer 2005, 273; Tsivikis 2012, 66 f.

¹³¹ For the use: Uenze 1966, 173–178; Kazanski 2003, 48; Tsivikis 2012, 67 f. For an analytical reference: Uenze

1966, 166 fig. 13; Vinski 1967, 24 pl. 17, 6; Varsik 1992, 91 f.; Garam 2001, 109.

¹³² Anemurium: Russell 1982, 139 no. 10; 161 fig. 7, 21; Amorium: Lightfoot 2003, 86 no. 11; 99 pl. 6/17; Syria: Kazanski 2003, 48. 113 fig. 5, 10. For an exact parallel, see also a buckle from Sicily (Manganaro 2002, 505 fig. 7, 82) and another from Poreč (Varsik 1992, 99 pl. 1, 18).

¹³³ Jantzen 2004, 121 nos. 738. 740 pl. 19, 738. 740.

¹³⁴ Halieis: Rudolph – Sheehan 1979, 320 no. 57 fig. 14, 57. Corinth: Davidson 1952, 268. 272 no. 2209 pl. 114 no. 2209. See also the remarks of Kazanski 2003, 48 and Poulou-Papadimitriou 2004, 236 (both with references).

¹³⁵ Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 221–224. 250 D35.

¹³⁶ Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 189–192. 248 D35.

¹³⁷ Russell 1982, 139 no. 10; 161 fig. 7, 22; Manganaro 2002, 479. 505 fig. 7, 86–88; Poulou-Papadimitriou 2002, 129 no. 3; 130 nos. 1. 2; Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 189–192 fig. 67; 248 type D20; Lightfoot 2003, 85 no. 8. 98 pl. 6/14; Stampolidis 2004, 226 no. 229; 301 no. 412 (Poulou-Papadimitriou); Jantzen 2004, 121 no. 739 pl. 19, 739; Poulou-Papadimitriou 2005, 697. 702 figs. 9. 10.

¹³⁸ Poulou-Papadimitriou 2005, 697. 702 figs. 9. 10 (with all the related bibliography on sites in the Aegean region).

¹³⁹ Chajredinova 2010, 59–94, esp. 78 fig. 12. Byzantine buckles were mostly worn by men (Schulze-

sisting of geometric elements on the same axis, appears on a key from Thessaloniki dated to the 5th–6th centuries¹⁴⁰. It should be noted that one of the centers for the manufacture of Salona-Histria type buckles has been identified at Turnu-Severin (Drobeta) in Oltenia (Romania); similarly shaped keys were produced there along with buckles¹⁴¹. Of course, there were other centers that produced these examples of Byzantine material culture¹⁴².

Furthermore, another buckle (inv. no. B 3599; *fig. 16*) was excavated in the western part of the Leonidaion in 1956. It consists of a shorter, narrow plate with a sharp profile and pointed ends (Schulze-Dörrlamm D34); dating from between the second and the third quarter of the 7th century, it would seem to be quite rare¹⁴³.

As to the users of the buckles¹⁴⁴, it is speculated that they were primarily representatives of the military, the imperial administration, and the Church¹⁴⁵; the examples found in Olympia thus raise questions as to the potential special status of the owners among the inhabitants during the second and the third quarter of the 7th century.

Other metal vessels offer additional evidence for at least a 7th century date. The morphological similarity of the metal jugs from the excavation published by Völling, which were used as containers for the coin-hoard of 1877¹⁴⁶, to jugs from sites in various parts of the eastern Mediterranean, including sites in the Peloponnese¹⁴⁷, implies that the two basic forms, types II and III according to B. Pitarakis's typology¹⁴⁸, remained in use in the 7th century (at least) and not – as has been suggested – merely until the late 6th century. According to Pitarakis's findings, these types of metal jugs witnessed their widest diffusion during the 7th and 8th centuries¹⁴⁹. In fact, drawing on specific evidence from the middle Byzantine period, she speculates that these metal jug forms may have been produced, almost unchanged in shape, for several centuries¹⁵⁰. Furthermore, it should be noted that three metal jugs – from Eleutherna, Umm al-Walid in Jordan, and Amorium – with similar morphological characteristics



Fig. 16 Buckle from Olympia of Schulze-Dörrlamm's type D34 (scale 3 : 2)

Dörrlamm 2009, 300. 308. 310; Albrecht 2010, 79–95; Metaxas 2012, 91, with additional bibliography). It must be noted, however, that in the previously mentioned study the author deals with buckles that were worn by women.

¹⁴⁰ Papanikola-Bakirtzis 2002, 277 no. 289 (N. Karydas).

¹⁴¹ For this workshop: Bejan 1976, 268; Varsik 1992, 79–81.

¹⁴² Poulou-Papadimitriou 2004, 241 (with references); Nallbani 2005, 666. 668; Poulou-Papadimitriou 2005, 701 (with references).

¹⁴³ Inv. no. B 3599 (496a); l.: 4.1 cm; max. w.: 1.4 cm. Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 219–221. 250 D34.

¹⁴⁴ Russell 1982, 133–136.

¹⁴⁵ For an interesting problematic concerning the layers of the population to which these buckles allude, see: Poulou-Papadimitriou 2004, 241 f.; Poulou-Papadimitriou 2005, 701–703 with n. 106–112; Schulze-Dörrlamm 2009, 308–316; Albrecht 2010, 79–95; Metaxas 2012, 91 n. 61 (with further bibliography); Poulou-Papadimitriou et al. 2012, 389.

¹⁴⁶ Völling 1995, 434–436 nos. 5–8 pl. 93, 1. 3. 4; pl. 94, 1–3. See, also, recently: Curta – Gândilă 2011/2012, 51. 53 f. 101 no. 158. For the metal jugs and the vessels used as coin hoards (*thesauraria*) for the coin hoards found in the site of Olympia: Lambropoulou forthcoming.

¹⁴⁷ For metal jugs of similar shape: Pitarakis 2005b, 14 f. fig. 3 (with numerous parallels). For sites in the Peloponnese: Corinth: Davidson 1952, 74 no. 559 pl. 51 no. 559 (there dated to the 13th century). Mantinea: Steinhauer 1973/1974, 300 pl. 192 β. Zogeria, Spetses: Koilakou 1989, 6 f. Priolithos: one metal jug dated to the 7th century and possibly later, Lambropoulou 2015, 289–304; Cave at Andritsa: three metal jugs dated after 582, Kormazopoulou – Hatzilazarou 2005, 39.

¹⁴⁸ Pitarakis 2005b, 13 fig. 2, 14.

¹⁴⁹ Pitarakis 2005b, 13. 27; Pitarakis 2010, 679–681.

¹⁵⁰ See in detail: Pitarakis 2010, 680–682.

and matching the aforementioned typology, have been dated by the stratigraphy of their archaeological contexts respectively to the 8th and 9th centuries¹⁵¹, thus confirming that such forms circulated for a longer period of time.

Further evidence that the settlement survived well into the 7th century may be inferred from numismatic data from the site. The latest coins found are of Tiberius II (fourth quarter of the 6th century) and Phokas and Heraklius (first quarter of the 7th century)¹⁵². Here, it is important to stress the ›use-life‹ of coins: as several researchers, such as V. Penna, K. Sidiropoulos, G. D. R. Sanders and recently P. Armstrong and G. Nikolaou, have emphasized, the scarcity of new coins is not necessarily proof of the cessation of activity but rather reflects changing economic conditions¹⁵³. Detailed publication of archaeological contexts, e.g. from Corinth and Lepcis Magna¹⁵⁴, tend to reinforce this view, suggesting that in some cases copper alloy coins remained in use over a prolonged period of time, even over a century, in response to local conditions¹⁵⁵; with pottery, however, it is possible to date specific contexts more precisely. Hence, it cannot be ruled out that the aforementioned coins from Olympia circulated long after they were minted.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The revised date proposed for the two main settlement periods at Olympia in the period of transition into the middle Byzantine period clearly changes our picture of this settlement. It decouples the existence or non-existence of the settlement from the Slavic raids and, if we take into account the existence of an adjacent Slavic community during the 7th and 8th centuries, offers evidence for the simultaneous development of a Christian community living in humble contemporary dwellings in the ruins of earlier structures¹⁵⁶. This community depended heavily on the exploitation of local commodities and was characterized by a high level of self-sufficiency, as attested by locally produced vessels. This emerging transitional settlement at Olympia was contemporary with other sites in northwestern Elis, such as Olena, Dafniotissa, and Skillountia (Mazi), where three churches have an architectural phase in the same period¹⁵⁷. Moreover, further to the North, there is evidence that the town of Patras, the largest city in the northwestern Peloponnese, also survived during this period, as suggested not only by ecclesiastical sources (*Taktikon of the Iconoclasts*), but also by the study of specific buildings, coins and coin hoards¹⁵⁸.

The aforementioned evidence for later centuries, such as the amphora matching Günsegin's typology and dating to the 8th–9th centuries, 9th-century pottery, and coins from the

¹⁵¹ Eleutherna: Tsigonaki 2012, 99. fig. 9; Umm el-Walid: <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/view?exhibitionId=%7b60853040-AE7E-4162-8FA7-525505D6B6> (12/1/2013) and also: Pitarakis 2005b, 14 n. 20; Amorium: Lightfoot 2007, 282 figs. 12. 13.

¹⁵² Postolakas 1885, 60 f.; Avramea 1983, 85 n. 6–9; Völling 1995, 452. 458 n. 111; Völling 1996a, 405 f.; Völling 2001, 309 with n. 23; Lambropoulou forthcoming.

¹⁵³ Penna 1996, 199 f.; Sidiropoulos 2002, 108–110; Sanders 2004, 172–174; Armstrong 2009, 175. Nikolaou 2010, 90 f.

¹⁵⁴ We are referring to Assemblage 4 from Corinth (Slane – Sanders 2005, 273) and Context 4 from Lepcis Magna (Bonifay et al. 2013, 104 with n. 125. 126

with related comment on the date of the coins in comparison with the date emerging from the study of the pottery).

¹⁵⁵ For the use of copper coinage: Flament – Marchetti 2011, 261–281.

¹⁵⁶ For their characteristics see: Schilbach 1999, 148–150. For a simultaneous existence of these two social groups see also the opinion in: Jahresbericht 1997 des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, AA 1998, 543.

¹⁵⁷ Athanasoulis 2004, 255 f. fig. 5; 260 f. fig. 10; Athanasoulis 2006, 77–90. 91–112. 213–224; Lambropoulou 2009, 204–210.

¹⁵⁸ Lambropoulou 2009, 200–204 figs. 2, 3; 4 a–c; Lambropoulou – Moutzali 2011, 239–271.

10th and 11th centuries, although still fragmentary, makes one wonder about the nature of the later occupation of the site, but this remains to be fully explored.

This paper has addressed the much debated question of the continuity or abandonment of Olympia's Christian settlement following the invasion of the Slavs. We have hopefully made a convincing case in favor of the continuity of the settlement. Does continuity also apply to the whole 8th century and, beyond, to the isolated evidence for 9th- and 10th-century Olympia? It is very tempting, but further evidence is needed to substantiate this hypothesis. What the preceding discussion has made clear, though, is that a thorough, global re-examination of the architectural remains of the site from the early Byzantine period and beyond – including an analytical presentation of the respective archaeological contexts and the related pottery, metal objects, and coins – is crucial for a detailed understanding of the characteristics and lifespan of the settlement.

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APPENDIX: CATALOGUE OF SELECTED POTTERY FINDS

1. Grave found on 4/7/1879. Inv. no. K 2977. Small jug (*fig. 2 a. b.*).

h. 13.7; th. 0.4; b. diam. 6; h. w. 1.4; h. th. 1.

Fabric: orange (7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow), coarse; abundant large, rounded-tabular, gray inclusions; common medium, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; common small, rounded, white inclusions; abundant rounded-tabular voids.

Form: flat base; conical body with maximum diameter at the shoulder; narrow, slightly conical neck; part of outturned rim with rounded edge; one vertical handle from the rim to the shoulder.

Decoration: broad groove on the handle; small triangular protuberance on the upper part of the handle; small ellipsoid protuberance where the handle joins the body; shallow groove at the junction of neck and shoulder; two shallow ribs under the rim.

Decoration: fine reddish slip on parts of the exterior surface; red slip on part of the handle and the shoulder; traces of three vertical bands of red slip on the neck and the shoulder; wavy incision on the upper part of the body.

Remarks: almost complete vessel.

Bibliography: Furtwängler 1890, 211 no. 1361; Wal-

Sources of illustrations: *Fig. 1*: Plan by A. Lambropoulou and T. Papadogonas, based on the topographic plan of the German Archaeological Institute; Kyrieleis 2002, folding plan. – *Figs. 2 a. d; 3 a; 5 a. c; 6 a. c*: Drawings by A. G. Yangaki. – *Fig. 2 b*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0084 (G. Hellner). – *Figs. 2 c. e; 3 b*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0085 (G. Hellner). – *Figs. 4 a; 6 d*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0083 (G. Hellner). – *Figs. 4 b; 6 b; 8. 14*: Photos

by A. G. Yangaki. – *Fig. 5 b. d*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0092 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 7*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0093 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 9*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0095 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 10*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0096 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 11*: D-DAI-ATH-1981-1131 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 12*: D-DAI-ATH-1981-1133 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 13*: D-DAI-ATH-1984-0094 (G. Hellner). – *Fig. 15*: D-DAI-ATH-1994-0249 (E. Gehnen). – *Fig. 16*: D-DAI-ATH-1994-0273 (E. Gehnen).

ter 1958b, 79 fig. 7; Schilbach 1999, 147 K2977 pl. 39, 9; Wamser 2004, 384 no. 893 (A. Rettner).

Parallels: Anemurium: Williams 1989, 85 no. 510. 511 fig. 51 no. 510. 511 (for a jug with a similar protuberance on the handle).

2. SO. 15B. Inv. no. K 3064. Small jug (*fig. 2 c*).

h. 12.7; th. 0.7; r. th. 0.6; b. diam. 6.1; h.w. 2; h. th. 1.2. Fabric: orange-red (5YR 7/8 reddish yellow), medium; frequent very small-small, rounded-tabular, gray inclusions; few small, rounded-spherical, white inclusions; few small, rounded-tabular, red inclusions.

Form: cylindrical body tapering toward the shoulder; flat base; tall, narrow, cylindrical neck flaring slightly towards the rim; straight rim with rounded edge; ridge on the interior of the rim; one vertical handle from the rim to the shoulder.

Decoration: incised band on the exterior; flat groove along the handle; triangular knob at the end of the handle; small ring on the upper surface of the handle, creating a sort of a double handle.

Remarks: complete, restored jug.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 147 K3064 pl. 39, 10.

Parallels: Constantinople: Hayes 1992, 101. 160 fig. 39, 26. 29 (second half of the 7th c. A.D., circa A.D. 655–670; for a jug with a similar double handle in white ware); Samos: Gerousi 1992/1993, 261 f. no. 3 fig. 13 pl. 51 α (7th c., after A.D. 615; for a bigger jug with the characteristic double handle); Gortyn: Albertocchi – Perna 2001, 506 fig. 195; 513 (type B I 1.1/1; 7th c.; for the same double handle); Anemurium: Williams 1989, 87 no. 527 fig. 52 no. 527 (for a jug with double handle).

3. SO. 14C. Inv. no. K 2892. Small jug (*fig. 2 d. e*).

h. 10.2; th. 0.5; b. diam. 7; h. th. 1.1; h. w. 2.2.

Fabric: orange (7.5YR 7/6 reddish yellow), coarse; abundant large, rounded-tabular, gray inclusions; common medium, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; common small, rounded, white inclusions; abundant rounded-tabular voids.

Form: small jug, approximately $\frac{2}{3}$ of it surviving. Cylindrical body tapering toward the shoulder; flat, slightly raised base; low, narrow, cylindrical neck; the end of a vertical handle with an elliptical section has survived.

Decoration: three parallel grooves running around the shoulder; broad reddish-brown vertical bands running down the length of the vessel; traces of a similar vertical band running the full length of the surviving neck section.

Remarks: $\frac{2}{3}$ of a small jug.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 147 K2892 pl. 39, 11.

Parallels: Corinth: Roebuck 1951, pl. 67, 5 left (6th c. A.D.; similar body form); Knossos: Hayes 2001, 438 A15 fig. 3 A15 (6th–7th c. A.D.; similar body shape, but larger, different base).

4. SO. 16C. Inv. no. K 2891. Small jug (*fig. 3*).

h. 12.2; th. 0.5; b. th. 0.6; r. th. 0.3; b. diam. 6; r. diam. 5.5.

Fabric: brownish (10YR 8/4 very pale brown); abundant medium-large, rounded-tabular, brownish inclusions; common small-medium, rounded-tabular, white inclusions; common small-medium, angular-tabular voids; abundant medium-large, angular-tabular, gray inclusions; a few mica.

Form: cylindrical body; flat base; large, high, cylindrical neck; outturned rim with rounded edge; section of a vertical handle on the shoulder of the body. Decoration: parallel ridges on the neck; four deep incisions on the upper part of the cylindrical body near the shoulder; band of similar incisions on the lower part of the body.

Remarks: $\frac{2}{3}$ of a small jug.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, K2891 pl. 39, 12.

5. Grave N-NE of the Byzantine church. Inv. no. K 2978. Jug (*fig. 4*).

h. 15; th. 0.8; r. th. 0.3; b. diam. 11.

Fabric: orange (7.5YR 7/6 reddish yellow); abundant medium-large, rounded-tabular, brown-red inclusions; common small-medium, rounded-tabular, white inclusions; common small-medium, angular-tabular voids; abundant medium-large, angular-tabular, gray inclusions; a few mica.

Form: lower half of the body has cylindrical walls, the upper part has sloping walls; ridge where the two parts meet; concave base with small knob in the middle; narrow, cylindrical neck; trefoil mouth whose straight rim has a rounded end; ridge marking the upper $\frac{1}{3}$ of the body; one vertical handle from rim to shoulder.

Decoration: flat groove on the handle; traces of fine brownish slip on the whole exterior surface; band of deep incisions on the shoulder of the vessel; large red bands on the body in a cross-hatched design (5YR 5/8 yellowish red).

Remarks: complete jug.

Bibliography: Furtwängler 1890, 211 no. 1360; Walter 1958b, 78 fig. 5; Schilbach 1999, 146 f. K2978 pl. 39, 5.

Parallels: Athens: Robinson 1959, 104 P12935 pl. 40 P12935 (for a jug with similar painted decoration); 117 M362 pl. 33 M362; Threpsiadis 1971, pl. 5 last row, right (for the general form, not the neck); Saraçhane: Hayes 1968, 208 figs. 37. E, 37 (second half of the 7th c. A.D.; white-ware jug with similar neck, rim, and trefoil mouth); Yassi Ada: Bass 1982, 174 no. P31 figs. 8–14, P31 (7th c. A.D.; similar shape); Gortyn: Albertocchi – Perna 2001, 505 (type C XI 2.4/1. C XI 2.4/2 pl. CXXV; C XI 2.4/1. C XI 2.4/2; 6th–7th c. A.D.; for similar mouth form).

6. Grave at the Echo Stoa. Inv. no. K2979. Small jug (*fig. 5 a. b*).

h. 14.3; th. 0.7; b. th. 0.7; r. th. 0.4; b. diam. 8.8; r. diam. 8.3; h. th. 1.1; h. w. 2.9.

Fabric: greenish (2.5Y 6/4 light reddish brown), medium; abundant small-medium, rounded-tabular, gray inclusions; few small-medium voids; common small-medium, rounded, white inclusions; few small-medium, rounded-tabular, red inclusions.

Form: convex body widening toward the middle; slightly concave base with small knob in middle; wide, cylindrical neck; outturned rim with trefoil mouth and rounded end; one broad, vertical handle from rim to shoulder.

Decoration: broad ridge on the handle; small protuberance on the upper part of the handle; two parallel bands on the shoulder consisting of thin wavy incisions; five large bands of brownish slip on the shoulder and body; similar band running from the handle to the jug's base.

Remarks: $\frac{2}{3}$ of a jug.

Bibliography: Furtwängler 1890, 211 no. 1359; Walter 1958b, 78 fig. 6; Schilbach 1999, 147 K2979 pl. 39, 6.

Parallels: Argos: Aupert 1980, fig. 41 no. 234 (7th c. A.D.; similar body form, but no trefoil mouth); Aegina: Felten 1975, 68 no. 87 pl. 20 no. 87 (similar body, neck, trefoil mouth, and handle; differs as to the lower body and base; larger size); Chios: Boardman 1989, 103 no. 179 pl. 22 no. 179 (second half of the 7th c. A.D.; jug bearing a similar form of incised decoration); Paphos: Gabrieli et al. 2007, 801 fig. 6, 7 (7th c.; similar protuberance on the handle); Anemurium: Williams 1989, 85 nos. 510. 511 fig. 51 nos. 510. 511 (similar protuberance); Velestino: Skafida 1989, 225 pl. 138 α left (small protuberance on the handle).

7. Grave excavated on 4/10/1879. Inv. no. K3062. Small jug (*fig. 5 c. d*).

h. 12.7; th. 0.5; r. th. 0.7; b. diam. 10.7; r. diam. 10.5.

Fabric: orange (5YR 6/6 reddish yellow), coarse; abundant large, rounded-tabular, gray inclusions; common medium, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; common small, rounded, white inclusions; abundant rounded-tabular voids.

Form: concave base with small knob in the middle; large, cylindrical body narrowing toward the large, slightly conical neck; outturned rim with rounded edge; one vertical handle from the end of the rim to the shoulder.

Decoration: deep groove on the handle; three grooves on the shoulder; thin brownish slip on the surface; large vertical band of red slip covers the body of the jug below the trefoil mouth; large red band on the lower part of the body toward the base; traces of red slip on the base; on the rest of the body,

traces of red slip in continuous circles, one around the point where the handle is attached to the body.

Remarks: complete.

Bibliography: Völling 1995, pl. 97, 4; Schilbach 1999, 147 K3062 pl. 39, 7; Wamser 2004, 384 no. 894 (A. Rettner).

Parallels: Argos: Aupert 1980, fig. 41 no. 234 (7th c. A.D.; similar body shape, but no trefoil mouth; more globular body).

8. Grave excavated on 5/18/1877. Inv. no. K3112. Small jug (*fig. 6 a. b*).

h. 10.6; th. 0.5; r. th. 0.5; b. diam. 6.9; r. diam. 5.3; h. w. 2.5; h. th. 1.3.

Fabric: orange (5YR 6/6 reddish yellow), coarse; abundant medium-large, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; abundant medium-large, rounded, whitish inclusions; common medium-large, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; few small, rounded, white inclusions; common large voids.

Form: small intact jug. Flat, non-concave base; compressed spherical body with maximum diameter at the center; narrow, cylindrical neck; outturned rim, triangular in section; vertical handle, elliptical in section, from the rim to the middle of the vessel.

Decorations: deep, horizontal grooves in the interior and on the rim; raised ring around the mid-point of the neck; wavy incised band around the point where the neck is attached to the body; two similar incised wavy bands around the upper half of the body. There are deposits on the surface of the vessel.

Remarks: complete.

Bibliography: Wamser 2004, 384 no. 892 (A. Rettner). Parallels: Argos: Aupert 1980, fig. 41 no. 232 (7th c. A.D.; same body form, although less spherical); Athens: Threpsiadis 1971, pl. 5 last row, right (similar raised ring on the middle of the neck); Alexandri 1973, fig. 23 δ left.

9. From a grave above the Palaistra. Inv. no. K 2946. Small jug (*fig. 6 c. d*).

h. 14.5; th. 0.9; r. th. 0.6; b. diam. 6.5; h. w. 2.3; h. th. 1.1.

Fabric: red (2.5YR 5/8 red), medium; abundant very small-small, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; few small-medium, angular-tabular, black inclusions; few small, rounded-tabular, white inclusions; a few mica.

Form: conical body ending in a conical neck; flat base; high tubular rim with a rounded edge; groove between the rim and neck; one vertical handle starting at the rim and ending at the shoulder.

Decoration: two ridges on the handle; one rib where the shoulder and neck meet; six incisions underneath; dark brown slip on the surface; ridge on exterior side of the handle.

Remarks: complete, restored; on the base, traces of the vessel's removal from the wheel.

Bibliography: Furtwängler 1890, 211 no. 1362; Walter 1958b, 79 fig. 8; Schilbach 1999, 146 f. K2946 pl. 39, 8.

Parallels: Prasino: Arapoyanni 1997, 248 pl. 99 γ (6th–7th centuries A.D.; very similar shape; it also has bands of reddish slip and a small protuberance on the upper part of the handle); Pyrgouthi: Hjohlman 2005, 190 no. 174 fig. 57, 174; 199 (second half of the 6th – early 7th c. A.D.; same form); Yassi Ada: Bass 1982, 168. 169 P22 fig. 8–10 P22 (7th c. A.D.; lower $\frac{1}{3}$ of the body, similar form).

10. On top of the Kladeos wall. Inv. no. K1320. Jug (*fig. 7*).

h. 25; r. th. 0.6; th. 0.5; h. th. 1.3; h. w. 2.5; r. diam. 5.6; b. diam. 7.5.

Fabric: grayish-brown (5YR 5/6 yellowish red – 2.5Y 4/1 dark gray), medium; common small-medium, rounded-tabular, white inclusions; abundant angular-tabular, small, gray inclusions; few small, rounded, red inclusions.

Form: body curving toward the shoulder; wide cylindrical neck; concave base with knob in the middle; straight rim with rounded edge; trefoil mouth formed by joining two sides of the rim; one vertical handle, elliptical in section, from the rim to the shoulder.

Decoration: groove running down center of handle; groove running around inside of rim; dark grey slip covering entire exterior; uneven firing.

Remarks: complete vessel, restored.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K1320 pl. 41, 2.

Parallels: Athens: Tzavella 2010, 653. 658 no. 8118; 667 fig. 3 β no. 8118; Aegina: Felten 1975, 68 no. 86 pl. 20, 86 (7th–8th c. A.D.; similar body form, excepting the neck and rim); Agira: Wamser 2004, 388 no. 906 (A. Rettner; 6th–7th c.; for the rim); Chios: Boardman 1989, 101 fig. 32 no. 185; 103 nos. 185. 187. 196. 200 pl. 22 no. 196; pl. 23 nos. 187. 200 (similar trefoil mouth); Constantinople: Hayes 1968, 208 no. 37; 209 fig. E, 37; Hayes 1992, 101. 160 fig. 39, 26; 161 fig. 40, 37; Knossos: Hayes 2001, 447 B46; 448 fig. 8 B46; Eretria: Kaltsas et al. 2010, nos. 435. 436 (handle and trefoil rim); Kenchreai: Adamsheck 1979, 132 RC63b pl. 36 RC63b (similar trefoil mouth); Yassi Ada: Bass 1982, 168 f. nos. P14. P16 figs. 8–11, P14. P16 (7th c. A.D.; similar body, neck, and rim).

11. SO. 14E. Destruction layer. Inv. no. K 1774. Amphora (*fig. 8*).

h. 37; th. 0.8; r. th. 0.9; h. th. 2.2; h. w. 3.5; r. diam. 9.

Fabric: pink (7.5YR 7/4 pink); abundant medium-large, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; abundant rounded-tabular, small, gray inclusions; few small, rounded, red inclusions.

Form: body with maximum diameter at shoulder; tapering body; high, cylindrical neck; straight rim with rounded edge; one complete handle and part of a second vertical handle; handles from the middle of the neck to the shoulder.

Decoration: deep groove on the handle; one ridge in the middle of the neck; brownish slip over the whole exterior surface; on the body, traces of reddish bands creating cross-hatching on the shoulder and similar, larger, vertical bands on the lower end of the vessel.

Remarks: $\frac{1}{3}$ of the amphora.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K1774 fig. 103.

12. SO. 15C. Inv. no. K 3065. Amphora (*fig. 9*).

h. 41; th. 0.9; r. th. 0.8; h. w. 3.6; h. th. 2.2; r. diam. 9.5.

Fabric: orange-red (7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow); abundant small-medium, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; common rounded-tabular, red inclusions; few medium, rounded, white inclusions.

Form: oval body with maximum diameter on upper part; high, cylindrical neck; high, straight rim with rounded edge; two vertical handles from the middle of the neck to the shoulder.

Decoration: two deep grooves along the handles; ridges around the center of the neck and under the rim; traces of gray slip on the whole exterior surface; two bands consisting of four deep incisions on the shoulder; three large, double, wavy incisions between these bands.

Remarks: $\frac{2}{3}$ of the vessel; deep dent on part of the body reveals a manufacturing imperfection.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K3065 pl. 40, 3.

Parallels: Aegina: Felten 1975, 70 no. 107 pl. 22 no. 107 (similar shape); Pseira: Poulou-Papadimitriou 2001, 263 fig. 24 α . β ; Poulou-Papadimitriou – Nodarou 2014, 875 f. (end of 7th – early 9th c. A.D.; similarly shaped handles and neck).

13. From the upper sandy layer in a hut, southwest of the Leonidaion. Inv. no. K 1144. Amphora (*fig. 10*).

th. 0.8; r. th. 1.1; h. th. 2.2; h. w. 3.5; r. diam. 8.6.

Fabric: pale brown (7.5YR 7/4 pink), medium; abundant medium-large, angular-tabular, red inclusions; common medium-large, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; few medium, angular, gray inclusions; common small voids.

Form: oval body narrowing in the middle of the vessel; rounded base with small knob; tall, cylindrical neck with a slight ridge where the handles are attached to the body; high, straight rim with rounded edge; two vertical handles from the middle of the neck to the shoulder.

Decoration: two grooves on interior and exterior of the rim; brownish slip over the whole surface of the

vessel; row of deep incisions on the upper half of the body; traces of irregular small cavities on the exterior.

Remarks: currently fragmentary; numerous reassembled sherds.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K1144 pl. 40, 4; Fuchs 2013, 327. 329 fig. 109.

14. SO. E / F15. From a sandy layer over the debris of the second settlement. Inv. no. K 1752. Storage vessel (*fig. 11*).

h. 37.5; th. 0.8–0.6; r. th. 1.1; h. th. 2; h. w. 4.2; b. diam. 6; r. diam. 11.

Fabric: orange (7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow), coarse; abundant medium–large, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; abundant medium–large, whitish inclusions; common medium–large, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; few small, rounded, white inclusions; common large voids.

Form: oval body with maximum diameter at the shoulder; high, large, cylindrical neck that narrows toward the rim; concave base with small knob; out-turned rim with rounded edge; shallow cavity on the interior of rim; part of one vertical handle on shoulder of the neck.

Decoration: row of ribs around the neck; one ridge at lower part of the neck.

Remarks: almost complete storage vessel.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K1752 figs. 105. 106.

Parallels: Knossos: Hayes 2001, 442 A58; 441 fig. 5, A58 (7th c. A.D.; similar body shape); Paphos: Hayes 2003, 497 no. 295 fig. 27 no. 295 (end of 7th c. A.D.; for similar body shape); Saraçhane: Hayes 1992, 113 no. 43 (type 38); 177 fig. 57 no. 43 (late 8th–early 9th c. A.D.; similar upper part of the body and neck shape); Chios: Boardman 1989, 109 no. 238 pl. 25 no. 238 (second half of the 7th c. A.D.; similar shape as to the upper $\frac{2}{3}$ of the vessel).

15. From a sandy layer in a corner of the *Spolienhaus*. Inv. no. K1753. Storage jar (*fig. 12*).

th. 1.7; r. th. 0.8; h. th. 2.2; h. w. 3.2; b. diam. 4.7; r. diam. 13.2.

Fabric: brownish (5YR 6/6 reddish yellow – 7.5YR

6/4 light brown); pinkish core; coarse; abundant medium–large, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; abundant medium–large, whitish inclusions; common medium–large, rounded-tabular, red inclusions; few small, rounded, white inclusions; common large voids.

Form: globular body with maximum diameter at the shoulder; short, wide, cylindrical neck; straight, thick rim with rounded edge; concave base with large knob in the middle; one horizontal handle with a round section is preserved.

Remarks: $\frac{2}{3}$ of a storage jar.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K1753 figs. 107. 108.

Parallels: Eleutherna: Yangaki 2005, 91 no. 522; 164 f. 451 fig. 62 a. b (similar, crude body form, but with different base and neck; dating from the 8th c.); Corinth: Slane – Sanders 2005, 276 no. 4–16; 277 fig. 14, 4–16 (similar use of horizontal handles).

16. Unknown find spot. Inv. no. K1140. Amphora similar in general terms to Günsenin's type I (*fig. 13*).

h. 44; th. 1.2; h. th. 2.9; h. w. 3.7.

Fabric: orange–reddish (5YR 6/8 reddish yellow), coarse; common medium, angular-tabular voids; abundant large, rounded-tabular, black inclusions; abundant medium, angular-tabular, gray inclusions; few very small, rounded, red inclusions.

Description: globular body with maximum diameter at the shoulder; large, cylindrical neck narrowing toward the rim; part of a high rim; concave base with knob in the middle; two vertical handles that start from the middle of the neck and end at the shoulder.

Decoration: row of ridges round the neck; two peripheral bands consisting of three incisions each on the shoulder; deep incision between the two bands; central ridge and single groove running along the handle.

Remarks: $\frac{2}{3}$ of amphora.

Bibliography: Schilbach 1999, 149 K1140 pl. 40, 5.

Parallels: Günsenin 1989, 269–271 figs. 2–4; Saraçhane: Hayes 1992, 70 fig. 24, 1–7; 73. 75 (type 54).

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