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Neolithic pottery from the DAI collection: Boiotia

Mercourios Georgiadis

Jungsteinzeitliche Keramik aus der Sammlung des DAI: Böotien

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG Die Besprechung der jungsteinzeitliche Funden aus Böotien in der Sammlung des DAI Athen eröffnet einen weite Perspektive auf die Region. Eine ausführliche Analyse der Keramiktypen und landschaftlichen Voraussetzungen der jeweiligen Siedlungen verbessert unser Verständnis des Neolithikums in Böotien. Dazu bietet eine diachrone Analyse der betreffenden Daten eine Betrachtungsgrundlage für jungsteinzeitliche Entwicklungen in Zentralgriechenland. Zeitgleiche Parallelen aus Regionen wie Attika, Euboia, Phthiotis, der Peloponnes und Thessalien bieten einschlägiges Vergleichsmaterial. Die festzustellenden Ähnlichkeiten und Unterschiede heben sowohl gemeinsame Elemente hervor, die überall im jungsteinzeitlichem Griechenland anzutreffen sind, als auch regionale Eigenarten in Verbindung mit den sozialwirtschaftlichen Bedingungen der jeweiligen Phase.

Schlagwörter Boiotia; Jungsteinzeit; Kopais; Orchomenos; Thespiai.

ABSTRACT This presentation of Neolithic finds from Boiotia in the DAI Athens collection allows a broader outlook on this region. A detailed assessment of pottery types and the landscape settings of the respective settlements enhances our understanding of Neolithic Boiotia. Moreover, the diachronic analysis of both these datasets provides a template for the development of the Neolithic period in Central Greece. Contemporary parallels from regions such as Attica, Euboia, Fthiotis, the Peloponnese and Thessaly provide valid comparisons. The similarities and differences highlight both common elements throughout Neolithic Greece and regional idiosyncrasies in relation to the socio-economic conditions of each phase.

Keywords Boiotia; Neolithic; Kopais; Orchomenos; Thespiai.

Η νεολιθική κεραμική από την συλλογή του ΓΑΙ: η Βοιωτία

ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ Η παρουσίαση των νεολιθικών ευρημάτων της Βοιωτίας που προέρχονται από τη συλλογή του ΓΑΙ Αθηνών μας επιτρέπει να σχηματίσουμε μία ευρύτερη άποψη γι' αυτήν την περιοχή. Η λεπτομερής αποτίμηση των κεραμικών τύπων καθώς και των κριτηρίων επιλογής του τοπίου για τους σχετικούς οικισμούς διευρύνει την κατανόηση της νεολιθικής Βοιωτίας. Επιπρόσθετα, η διαχρονική ανάλυση αυτών των δεδομένων παρέχει το πλαίσιο για την παρουσίαση της εξέλιξης της Νεολιθικής περιόδου στη Στερεά Ελλάδα. Ομόχρονες αναλογίες από περιοχές όπως η Αττική, η Εύβοια, η Φθιώτιδα, η Πελοπόννησος και η Θεσσαλία προσφέρουν ισχυρούς παραλληλισμούς. Οι ομοιότητες και οι διαφορές δίνουν έμφαση στα κοινά στοιχεία σε ολόκληρη τη νεολιθική Ελλάδα καθώς και στις τοπικές ιδιομορφίες σε συνάρτηση με τις κοινωνικοοικονομικές συνθήκες κάθε περιόδου.

Λέξεις-κλειδιά Βοιωτία. Νεολιθική περίοδος. Κωπαΐδα. Ορχομενός. Θεσπιές.

INTRODUCTION

This study of Neolithic finds from Boiotia in the DAI collection supplements and continues the work presented so far regarding Attica1. The quantity and provenance of the Neolithic sherds in question suggested a regional approach, which will enrich our understanding of pottery styles, dating and settlement patterns developed throughout Neolithic Boiotia.

Research on Neolithic Boiotia has attracted attention from an early date, as attested by excavations and publications of some important sites (fig. 1. 2). The heyday of these studies was the beginning of the 20th century, work concentrating on Chaironeia², Eutresis³, Orchomenos and a few other sites nearby⁴. These sites, along with Elateia⁵, have been crucial to the early understanding of the Neolithic in Greece, especially so for authors that tried to present a broader picture of this period such as A. J. B. Wace and M. S. Thompson⁶, Γ. Ε. Μυλωνάς⁷ and, more recently, Κ. Συριόπουλος⁸, Ε. Alram-Stern⁹, A. Christidou¹⁰ and E. Τσώτα ¹¹. New excavations and analyses were conducted when Thespiai¹² was presented, and Eutresis¹³ and Magoula Balomenou¹⁴ re-excavated. Important research on the determination of pottery sequences and dating of Central Greece was contributed by the works of E. J. Holmberg¹⁵ and D. M. French¹⁶, of which the latter unfortunately remained unpublished. Apart from these studies, there have been only short reports concerning new

I would like to express my gratitude to Prof. W.-D. Niemeier for entrusting me with the study of this material at the DAI. I would also like to thank the DAI staff for all their help during my research in the facilities of the institute. Generous funding from the J. F Costopoulos Foundation rendered the completion of this article possible. My sincere gratitude goes to Prof. C. B. Mee for reading and commenting on this article. I would also like to thank Mr T. Papadogonas for the illustrations he produced, and Dr D. Grigoropoulos and Dr K. Kopanias for all their kind help and support.

The following abbreviations are used:													
EN Early Neolithic													
MN Middle Neolithic													
LN Late Neolithic													
FN Final Neolithic													
BW Black Ware													
BS Black Slipped													
BSB Black Slipped and Burnished													
BrB Brown Burnished													
BrSB Brown Slipped and Burnished													
GW Grey Ware													
RSB Red Slipped and Burnished													
RB Red Burnished													
RS Red Slipped													
Br brown													
B black													
$G \dots grey$													
R red													
YR yellowish red													
RY reddish yellow													
L light													
ROCream Red-on-Cream													
ROBuff Red-on-Buff													
BrOBuff Brown-on-Buff													
BOBuff Black-on-Buff													
ROG Red-on-Grey													
MP Matt-Painted Ware													

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MP-BOBuff . . . . Matt-Painted Black-on-Buff
MP-BOR . . . . . . Matt-Painted Black-on-Red
MP-BrOBr . . . . . Matt-Painted Brown-on-Brown
MP-ROBuff . . . . Matt-Painted Red-on-Buff
MP-ROR . . . . . Matt-Painted Red-on-Red
BOB . . . . . . . Black-on-Black
BOG . . . . . . . Black-on-Grey
PB . . . . . . . . Pattern-Burnished
I. . . . . . . . Incised
Pl . . . . . . . . Plastic
  . . . . . . . . . . Cordon
  . . . . . . . . height
w . . . . . . . width
th . . . . . . . thickness
Where appropriate, the above abbreviations are also use
in composite designations such as >LBr< (light brown)
or >Rcoarse< (red coarse). All measurements in the cata-
logue are given in centimetres.
<sup>1</sup> Georgiadis 2010; for more details on the researchers
  that collected this material see Grigoropoulos 2011,
  169-181.
<sup>2</sup> Σωτηριάδης 1908; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012.
<sup>3</sup> Goldman 1931.
<sup>4</sup> Bulle 1907; Kunze 1931.
  Sotiriadis 1905; Sotiriadis 1906; Σωτηριάδης 1908;
  Weinberg 1962.
<sup>6</sup> Wace – Thompson 1912.
<sup>7</sup> Μυλωνάς 1928.
<sup>8</sup> Συριόπουλος 1994, 144-156.
<sup>9</sup> Alram-Stern 1996, 277–284.
<sup>10</sup> Christidou 1996.
<sup>11</sup> Τσώτα, forthcoming.
<sup>12</sup> Caskey 1951.
<sup>13</sup> Caskey – Caskey 1960.
^{14} Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 1989; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012.
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¹⁵ Holmberg 1964. ¹⁶ French 1972.

MP-BOWhite . . . Matt-Painted Black-on-White

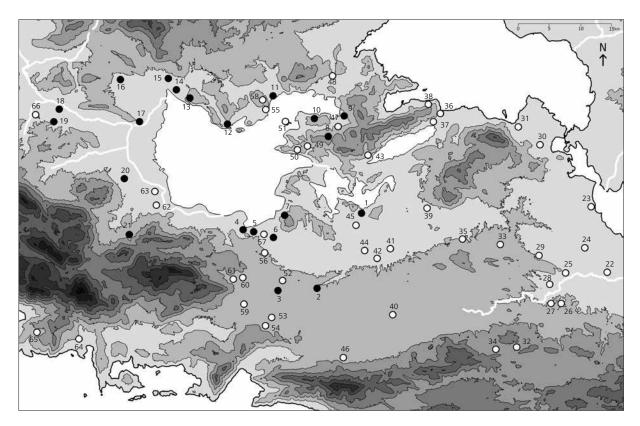


Fig. 1 Map of Neolithic sites in Boiotia

Sites listed in the catalogue indicated by black circles:

1 Lithares (MN, LN, FN) – 2 Eutresis (MN, LN) – 3 Thespiai (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 4 Aliartos (MN, LN) – 5 Pyrgos Aliartos (LN, FN) – 6 Steni (FN) – 7 Kalimpaki (EN or FN) – 8 Perdikovrysi (FN) – 9 Megali Katavothra (FN) – 10 Pyrgos Ayia Marina (FN) – 11 Magoula Kafkala (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 12 Nisi Stroviki (EN, FN) – 13 Pyrgos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 14 Pyrgos Magoula (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 15 Erima Kalyvia (FN) – 16 Polygira (EN, MN, FN) – 17 Orchomenos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 18 Magoula Balomenou (EN, MN, LN) – 19 Chaironeia (EN, MN, LN) – 20 Lyoma (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 21 Koroneia (FN)

Other sites indicated by white circles:

22 Oinofyta (EN, LN) - 23 Dramesi (FN) - 24 Schimatari-Ayios Ilias (FN) - 25 Kokkali-Ayios Thomas (N) -26 Liatani (LN, FN) - 27 Kleidi (LN, FN) - 28 Ayios Konstantinos (N) – 29 Tanagra (MN, LN, FN) – 30 Glyfa (EN) – 31 Drosia Lithossoros (MN, LN) – 32 Scourta (FN) – 33 Eleon (N) – 34 Pyli (FN) – 35 Pyrgos Armatos (EN) – 36 Lousisia (N) – 37 Paralimni NE (N) – 38 Skorponeri-Palaeometochi (FN) - 39 Lachideza Ypatou (N) – 40 Kastellani (EN, MN) – 41 OSE Thebes (FN) – 42 Thebes (EN, LN) - 43 Paralimni SW (N) - 44 Pyri (FN) - 45 Toumpi (EN, MN) - 46 Plataiai (LN, FN) -47 Tsoutso cave (N) - 48 Avios Ioannis-Katavothra (FN) – 49 Akraifnio (FN) – 50 Sarakenos cave (EN, MN, LN, FN) - 51 Glas (MN, LN) - 52 Thespiai Magoula (FN) – 53 Akris Potamos (MN, FN) – 54 Palaikanadra (FN) - 55 Kastro-Topolia (EN, MN, LN, FN) - 56 Mavromati (FN) – 57 Seidi cave (EN, LN) – 58 Kastro Magoula (EN) - 59 Palaioneochori (N) - 60 Valley of Muses 4 (FN) - 61 Askra (FN) - 62 Agoriani (EN, MN, LN) - 63 Alalkomenai (EN, MN, LN) - 64 Korsiai (N) -65 Voulida (N) – 66 Davlia (N)

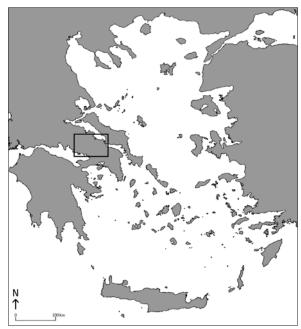


Fig. 2 Map of Greece. Frame indicates area under study, shown in detail in figs. 1. 15–18

sites¹⁷ and useful compilations of the known regions from Central Greece and / or Boiotia¹⁸. Surveys of the plains around Thespiai¹⁹, Tanagra²⁰ and Plataiai²¹ since the 1980s have added important insight into the settlement patterns of the Neolithic period in Central Greece. Moreover, the more recent excavation and publication of Sarakenos cave and research on its environs have added useful material²².

The major excavated sites provide the best-documented evidence for the Neolithic period in Boiotia. At the same time, continuity of occupation in this area made it possible to locate many prehistoric sites. Some of the material presented below comes from excavated sites such as Thespiai, Orchomenos and Chaironeia. However, the majority of finds presented here derive from well-known prehistoric sites whose Neolithic component is only documented in very short reports or where only later prehistoric material has been noted. In addition, a few more sites were previously unknown.

Most of the finds stem from settlements situated around the edges of the Kopais basin, which is a fertile plain today, but was a large lake covering most of the lowland area until the 19th century. Sites are presented beginning east of the Kopais basin, and then following an anti-clockwise direction within the basin, starting from Aliartos and ending just west of it at Koroneia.

CATALOGUE OF SHERDS FROM BOIOTIAN SITES

1 Lithares *figs.* 1. 3. 16–18

Context nos.: 84, 99, 556²³.

Sherds: 97; rims: 47; handles: 7; bases: 6; body sherds: 37; decorated: 2 ROBuff, 33 MP-BOBuff, 1 MP-BOR, 1 Polychrome, 6 I, 4 C, 1 stamp, 1 I + Pl, 2 Knob.

Wares: 14 RSB, 9 BS, 8 GW, 7 RS, 6 BW, 3 YR, 2 RW, 1 Buff, 1 Rcoarse.

Colours: RSB: 10R 4/4 weak red – 2.5YR 6/6 light red; BW / BS: Gley 2 2.5/1–3/1 bluish black – very dark bluish grey; GW: Gley 2 4/1–5/1 dark bluish grey – greenish / bluish grey; RS / Rcoarse: 2.5YR 5/6 red; YR: 7.5YR 6/6–5/6 reddish yellow – strong brown; RW, exterior: 2.5YR 6 light reddish brown – 10R 4/4 weak red, interior: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow; Buff 10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown.

Inclusions: some white, few small stones (R mainly). Few have limited silver mica and one gold mica with larger flakes.

Condition: very good quality clay. Most are slipped and some burnished. MP are very popular as well as RSB, which are slipped and burnished on both sides. Grey surfaces and red or yellowish red are common. Some preserve burnishing marks like the BW. On one GW there are many shallow round hollows on the internal surface, possibly from the firing process. A RS body sherd has a post-firing hole.

Rims: Bowls: 2 with straight bodies and straight round/pointed rims (1 BS, 1 MP-BOR) - 1 with straight body and swollen bead rim from a pedestal bowl (YR; h 5.1, w 5.7, th 0.8; fig. 3 a), parallels found at LN Orchomenos, Corinth, Franchthi, Aria and Alepotrypa²⁴ - 5 with straight bodies and flaring thickened rims with round lip (3 MP-BOBuff with linear decoration on both sides, 1 MP-BOBuff with black dots, 1 MP-BOBuff) - 1 with horizontal line below rim and vertical zigzag (h 3, w 2.7, th 0.8; fig. 3 b), a decoration with LN parallels at Magoula Balomenou in both vertical and horizontal versions, Orchomenos and Corinth²⁵ – 3 almost straight bodies with slightly incurving rim (3 RSB, 2 round, 1 flat lip, 1 MP-BOBuff horizontal zone externally on rim and below) - 9 with curving bodies, of which 6 with simple round / pointed rim and 3 with everted round bead-like rim (3 MP-BOBuff, 1 RS, 1 GW, 1 BW with small unperforated oblique ovoid lug and post-firing hole; h 3.2, w 3, th 0.7; fig. 3 c),

¹⁷ Σάμψων 2000, 135–137; Σπυρόπουλος 1971; Σπυρόπουλος 1973.

¹⁸ Christidou 1996; Fossey 1988; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979; Κόνσολα 1981, 50–52 map 2; Pantelidou–Gofa 1996, 69; Papathanassopoulos 1996, 204 fig. 60; Συριόπουλος 1968; Συριόπουλος 1994; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012.

¹⁹ Bintliff – Snodgrass 1985; Bintliff et al. 2007, 85. 89. 91 f. 129–131. 171.

²⁰ Bintliff et al. 1999; Bintliff et al. 2000, 103; Bintliff et al. 2006.

²¹ Aravantinos et al. 2003; Konecny et al. 2008.

²² Sampson 2008.

²³ These are the reference numbers of sherd groups from the site which contained Neolithic material.

²⁴ Kunze 1931, fig. 11 a; Phelps 2004, 70 f. fig. 25, 2.

²⁵ Kunze 1931, pl. 18, 1 a; Phelps 2004, 71 fig. 38, 31; Σωτηριάδης 1908, 90 fig. 11, 7 pl. 2, 13.

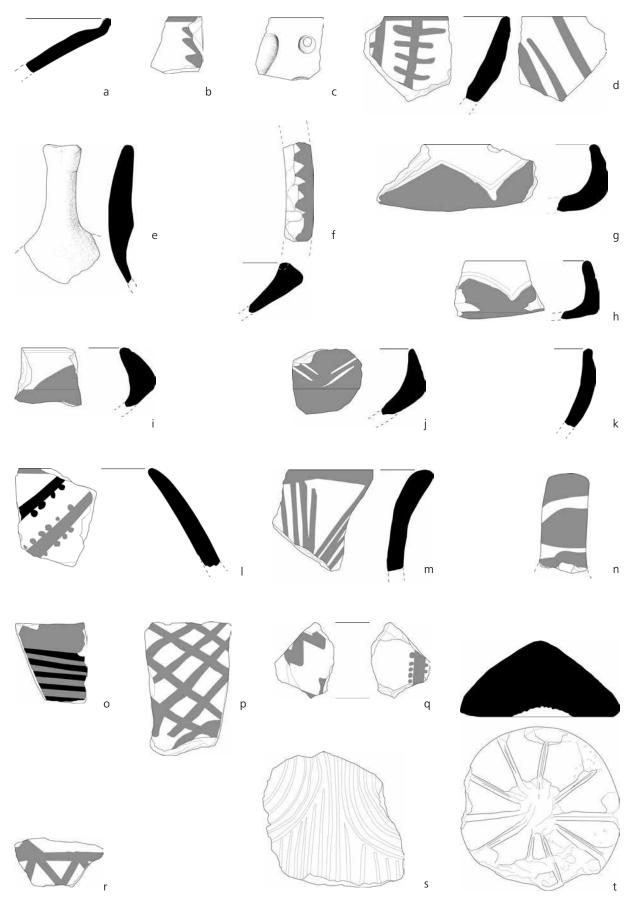


Fig. 3 Neolithic pottery from Lithares, drawings (grey indicates red / brown decoration, black indicates black decoration; scale 1:2)

with parallels from LN Orchomenos, Corinth and Klenia²⁶ – 1 MP-ROBuff on rim – 1 MP-BOBuff with external oblique parallel lines, internally a vertical one with many parallel short horizontal ones like multi-crosses (h 4.6, w 4.8, th 1.1; fig. 3 d), convex bowl shape with LN II parallels from Klenia and Gonia, the external motif also attested at LN Klenia, but in a thicker band version, while the internal motif is rare, somewhat similar to vertical zigzags attested at Corinth and in MN Chaironeia²⁷ – 4 with curving bodies and incurving rims, of which 2 with pointed, 2 with flat lip, 3 RSB, 1 YR, the latter (h 7.7, w 3.9, th 0.6; fig. 3 e) with unperforated lug starting vertically from rim, with similar pieces in MN Asea, FN Eutresis and Alepotrypa²⁸ – 3 slightly curving bodies and T rims (1 GW, 1 coarse with C below rim, 1 MP-BOBuff with a lug) – 1 with straight body and round rim (BW) – 2 with straight bodies and thickened rims flat on top (1 BS, 1 MP-BOBuff with triangles on the rim; h 3.4, w 5.7, th 1; fig. 3 f) - 3 round shallow bodies, 1 of which with bead rim, 2 with round simple ones (1 RS, 2 BS I, 1 with vertical zigzag and more round body; h 3.7, w 10.6, th 1.2; fig. 3 g; and 1 with curvilinear zigzag and more carinated; h 2.7, w 7.7, th 0.8; fig. 3 h; both with black paint on the lower part), the latter BW shoulder bowls, 1 of Phelps variety II with parallels from LN Corinth, Franchthi and Aria, and 1 variety III with parallels from LN II Corinth and Aria (the linear incisions resemble examples from Corinth and Orchomenos, while for the curvilinear parallels are found at Corinth, Magoula Balomenou and Elateia, but the Lithares piece has one line rather than two or three²⁹) - 2 bowls with straight very short bodies with simple round rim with I decoration, 1 of which with horizontal broad incision just below the rim and oblique similar I line above base (h 3.3, w 3.4, th 1.2; fig. 3 i), 1 with two sets of two parallel antithetic oblique I lines above base forming triangle-like motifs (h 3.2, w 3.7, th 0.8; fig. 3 j), both BW shoulder bowls with parallels from LN II Orchomenos, Elateia, Corinth and Aria³⁰ - 3 GW slightly flaring bodies and simple round rims, 1 with slightly incurving body from a shoulder bowl III type with thickened incurving rim (h 4.9, w 2.7, th 1.1; fig. 3 k), with I and MP-BOBuff linear oblique decoration, with parallels in different wares from LN II Corinth³¹, 1 with curving body and a simple pointed rim from a pedestal bowl with linear decoration of two oblique lines, one black dot-fringed on one side and one red with black dot-fringes on both sides (Polychrome; h 5.2, w 4.2, th 0.9; fig. 3 l), with parallels for the shape from LN Corinth and Gonia, where dot-fringed motifs are attested in curvilinear form, while it belongs to Group 1 Polychrome from Central Greece according to Phelps with similar examples at LN Orchomenos, Sarakenos cave and Elateia³². – Jars: 1 with straight neck and thickened rim (MP-BOBuff black vertical and horizontal lines outside, RS inside) - 2 with spreading necks and flaring round rims (1 BS, 1 RSB) - 1 coarse with C below neck - 2 MP-BOBuff, 1 of which with horizontal band on rim, 1 with horizontal band on rim and oblique parallels from the rim downwards, forming a triangle at the edge (h 5.1, w 5.5, th 0.8; fig. 3 m), the latter with close parallels from LN Alepotrypa in terms of decoration and, as to shape, from Elateia, Agora, Kitsos cave, Corinth, Gonia, Alepotrypa as well as in jars with high vertical collar³³.

Handles: 1 small horizontal rectangular unperforated lug (BW) – 2 vertical ovoid-strap from rim (RSB) – 1 vertical ovoid-strap with 2 short incisions on top (RSB) – 1 vertical strap with red paint cross-hatched (ROBuff) – 1 vertical ovoid handle from a closed vessel with painted decoration and an unperforated hole at the centre of its lowest part (MP-ROBuff; h 5.8, w 2.7, th 1.3; fig. 3 n), belonging to a jar with high vertical collar, with LN parallels in shape at Elateia, Agora Kitsos cave, Corinth, Gonia and Alepotrypa, and in decoration at Elateia and Alepotrypa³⁴.

Bases: 1 flat (BS) - 2 feet from a tripod vessel, 1 of which cylindrical, 1 oval (Rcoarse) - 1 ring with MP line externally and perforated hole - 1 ring (GW) - 1 upper part of pedestal (BW).

Decorated: 13 body sherds with linear decoration, thin lines or broad lines, horizontal or oblique (8 MP-BOBuff, 4 MP-BOR, 1 MP-BOR; h 4.8, w 3.6, th 0.8; *fig. 3 o*), the latter with parallels at LN Gonia³⁵ – 1 part of a collared jar neck with net pattern

²⁶ Kunze 1931, fig. 5 pl. 13, 1 e; Phelps 2004, 71 figs. 27, 17. 18; 91, 10.

Phelps 2004, 89. 94 figs. 38, 21. 31; 85, 7. 13; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pl. 20 fourth column last row.

²⁸ Caskey - Caskey 1960, pl. 46 II.28; Phelps 2004, figs. 54, 15; 55, 9; 70, 4; 97, 1.

²⁹ Kunze 1931, pl. 13, 1 d. g; Phelps 2004, 71. 81 figs. 27, 14. 18; 31, 30; 34, 8; Σωτηριάδης 1908, 91 fig. 12, 3; Weinberg 1962, pl. 62. c 3.

Kunze 1931, fig. 4 pl. 13, 1 e; Phelps 2004, 71 fig. 27, 17. 18; Weinberg 1962, fig. 11, 1.

³¹ Phelps 2004, 90 fig. 39, 21.

 $^{^{32}}$ Kunze 1931, pls. 4, 1; 20, 1 b; Phelps 2004, 97. 100 figs. 43, 45; 44, 6; 46, 33; 87, 1; Σάμψων 2000, fig. 17 lower row first from left; Σωτηριάδης 1908, fig. 11, 7; Weinberg 1962, pl. 67 d 3.

Immerwahr 1971, pl. 7, 69. 97; Kunze 1931, pl. 19, 4;
 Lambert 1973, fig. 14; Phelps 2004, 92. 94 fig. 42, 10.
 11; Weinberg 1962, pl. 67 a 1. 3.

Immerwahr 1971, pl. 7, 69. 97; Kunze 1931, pl. 25, 2;
 Lambert 1973, fig. 14; Phelps 2004, 92 figs. 42, 8; 82, 7;
 Weinberg 1962, pl. 67 a.

³⁵ Phelps 2004, fig. 81, 3.

(ROBuff; h 7.6, w 5, th 1; fig. 3 p), with parallels at EN Akrata and Lerna in terms of shape and with regard to decoration at EN Nemea and MN Orchomenos³⁶ -1 with parallel triangles from a jar (MP-BOBuff) – 1 with linear and unclear curvilinear motif (MP-BOBuff) – 1 with internally two parallel zigzag lines and externally an oblique line dot-fringed on both sides (MP-BOBuff; h 5.2, w 2.9, th 0.6; fig. 3 q), the internal motif paralleled at LN Elateia, but on a jar, and Sarakenos cave, while the external decoration is commonly attested at LN Orchomenos, Corinth and Klenia³⁷ – 1 body sherd of a carinated bowl with a horizontal line, two small triangles below it and the beginning of a small undetermined motif above the line (MP-BOBuff; h 2.4, w 5, th 0.7; fig. 3 r), similar to examples from LN Eutresis, Sarakenos cave and Elateia³⁸ - 1 with small and short round knob (BS) – 1 body sherd with vertical curving zone – 1 with two parallel upraised C and a row of 4 unperforated holes parallel to the C between them - 1 body sherd from a closed vessel with I parallel shallow, 0.1 wide, vertical lines at the lower part delimited at the right and left by similar curvilinear ones (h 6.8, w 8.9, th 0.8; fig. 3 s), similar technique with curvilinear and linear motifs found on sherds from Magoula Balomenou, Sarakenos cave and Ayios Nikolaos cave³⁹ – 1 with curving body and everted round rim on which a band of C with thumb impressions appears – 1 conical body from a large seal with round top and ten I lines forming a star symbol (h 4.4, w 9.1; fig. 3 t), similar clay seals have been found in EN and MN sites in Macedonia, Thessaly and Central Greece, most particularly at MN Eutre sis^{40} .

Comments: The clay seal most probably belongs to the MN period, and the same date can be proposed for the ROBuff sherd. The presence of GW, MP of all varieties and Polychrome ware argue for a LN date of occupation for this site and in addition the coarser ware, the C decoration and some of the I suggest use in the FN phase as well.

Location: lowland site close to modern lake Ylike. *References:* Fossey 1988, 244–245; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 241; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 1984, 15 pl. 79 ι.

Date: MN-FN.

2 Eutresis

figs. 1. 16-18

Context no.: 99. Sherds: 2; rims: 2.

³⁶ Kunze 1931, pl. 16, 1 d; Phelps 2004, figs. 7, 6. 7; 66, 9. Kunze 1931, pls. 20, 2 c. d. f–h; 26, 1 b; Phelps 2004, 94 figs. 40, 24; 43, 1. 2; 45. 46. 85, 8. 14; Σάμψων 2000, figs. 16 first row first from left; 17 first row left; Sampson 2008, fig. 66, 795; Weinberg 1962, pl. 67 a 3.

³⁸ Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 43 II.25; Sampson 2008, pl. 26 bottom right; Weinberg 1962, pl. 67 c 6.

Wares: 1 RSB, 1 Buff.

Colours: RSB: 10R 4/6 red; Buff: 10YR 5/3 brown. Inclusions: few white, few black, few transparent quartz, on one large stone 1 cm, silver mica.

Condition: good quality; well slipped and burnished on both sides.

Rims: Bowl: 1 with curving body and upraised simple round rim (RSB). – *Jar:* 1 with spreading neck and a simple round rim (Buff).

Comments: These sherds possibly belong to the FN period.

Location: lowland area in the Thespiai plain.

References: Caskey – Caskey 1960; Fossey 1988, 149–152; Goldman 1931; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 249; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 47; Συριόπουλος 1994, 155–156 map 7, 271.

Date: MN-FN.

3 Thespiai

figs. 1. 4. 5. 15-18

Context nos.: 99, 546.

Sherds: 528; rims: 89; handles: 4; bases: 34; body sherds: 401; decorated: 44 ROBuff, 9 BrOBuff, 17 BOBuff, 1 ROG, 2 MP-BOR, 7 MP-BOBuff, 1 MP-ROR, 1 MP-BOB, 1 MP-BOG, 1 Polychrome, 2 Scribble Burnished, 5 Pl, 3 Knob, 1 I.

Wares: 173 RB, 70 YR, 69 LBr, 36 Buff, 24 Buff/Cream, 20 BW, 19 GW, 6 Gcoarse, 5 RSB, 5 BS, 3 BSB, 2 Rcoarse, 2 Bcoarse, 1 Buff / Grey, 1 Mottled (B / R). *Colours*: RB / RSB: 2.5YR 5/6–6/6 light red / red – 10R 4/6 red; YR: 5YR 5/6–5/4 yellowish red – reddish brown; LBr: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown; Buff: 10YR 7/3–7/4 very pale brown – 6/4 light yellowish brown; Buff / Cream: 10YR 6/3 pale brown – 8/3 very pale brown; BW / BSB / Bcoarse: Gley 2 2.5/1–3/1 bluish black; GW / Gcoarse: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey; BS: 10R 2.5/1 reddish black; Rcoarse: 2.5YR 4/4 reddish brown; Buff / Grey: 10YR 5/1 grey.

Inclusions: few white, the coarser including small stones, 1 with transparent quartz, silver mica.

Condition: very good quality clay; almost all slipped and burnished. There are many sherds with striation marks internally and burnishing marks externally. On some, small spherical and/or irregular hollows are visible internally. 3 BW body sherds are from carinated bowls; 1 thick BW perforated after firing, possibly used as loomweight.

Rims: Bowls: 2 pedestal bowls with straight bodies and straight round/pointed rims (1 Scribble Burnished, 1 ROBuff with linear and triangle motifs) – 1 pedestal bowl with straight body, upraised

³⁹ Benton 1947, fig. 13, 74. 76; Σπυρόπουλος 1973, fig. 2 third row right; Σωτηριάδης 1908, pl. 2, 21. 22.

⁴⁰ Γαλλής 1992, fig. 23; Theocharis 1973, 192 pl. 20; Onassoglou 1996, 163 f. 331–334 figs. 271–274. 276. 277. 279. 282–284.

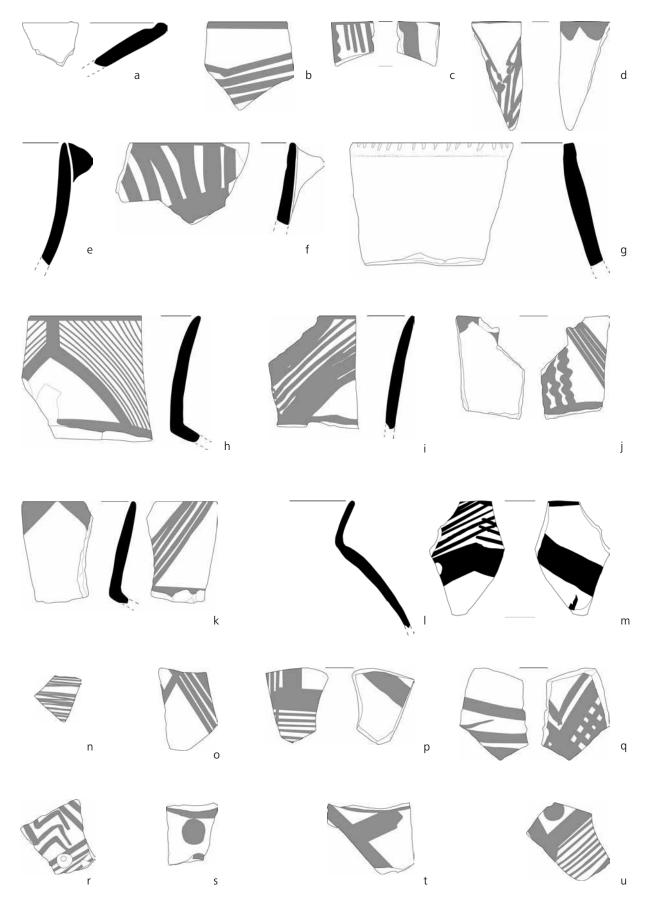


Fig. 4 Neolithic pottery from Thespiai, drawings (grey indicates red / brown decoration, black indicates black decoration; scale 1:2)









Fig. 5 Neolithic pottery from Thespiai, photographs (scale 1:2)

rim forming an angle (BW with a small lug on the rim; h 4.5, w 2.9, th 0.7; fig. 4 a), similar examples at LN Lithares, Orchomenos, Corinth, Franchthi, Aria and Alepotrypa⁴¹ - 1 from a pedestal bowl with curving body with slightly flaring round rim (BOB, with linear and antithetic lines; h 5, w 4.9, th 0.6; fig. 4 b), with parallels in MP decoration from LN Ayios Nikolaos⁴² – 17 with straight bodies and straight round or pointed rims as well as 1 flat rim (1 BrOBuff, 8 Buff, 4 RB, 2 Gcoarse, 1 BSB, 1 RSB, 1 BS, 1 ROBuff), the latter decorated with short vertical lines and a wavy one externally and a thicker longer one internally (h 1.9, w 2.2, th 0.7; fig. 4 c), with parallels on collar jars from MN Elateia⁴³ – 13 with straight bodies and flaring rims, 12 of which round and 1 round/pointed (1 BOG, 6 Buff, 2 Rcoarse, 1 RB, 1 LBr, 1 BW, 1 ROBuff), the latter with very steep oblique antithetic lines and vertical lines between them externally and short triangles internally on the rim (h 6.3, w 2.9, th 0.5; fig. 4 d), somewhat similar in decoration to example from MN Orchomenos⁴⁴ – 1 with curving body and straight round/pointed rim, which has a round relatively high knob below the rim (RB; h 7.2, w 7.6, th 0.6; fig. 4 e), close to MN bowl shapes from Orchomenos and Corinth⁴⁵ – 2 with curving bodies and incurving round rims (1 Buff, 1 Gcoarse) – 10 with curving bodies and upraised round rims, of which 2 ROBuff, both with linear and 1 with a triangle internally, 3 RB, 3 LBr, 1 Buff with lug on external part of rim, 1 ROBuff externally with a lug and internally painted with parallel vertical and oblique lines as well as a horizontal one (h 4.2, w 8.1, th 0.9; fig. 4 f), the latter with parallels in terms of shape at MN Orchomenos, Corinth and Thespiai, while the decoration is common in MN bowls of this type from Corinth, Lerna and Akrata, with a particularly close counterpart

ed rim (1 BW, 1 RB) – 1 with incurving body and upraised rim with indentations (Buff; h 7.2, w 8.9, th 1; fig. 4 g), similar decoration at MN Elateia and MN Chaironeia, parallels in terms of shape at MN Lerna, Corinth and Franchthi⁴⁷. – Jars: 8 spreading necks with simple pointed / round rims, of which 3 Buff, 1 RB, 1 RSB with spout, 1 BOBuff with linear decoration, antithetic bordered oblique parallel lines (h 4.5, w 7.9, th 0.7; fig. 4 h), with similar examples, but upside down, at MN Elateia48, 1 ROBuff with bordered parallel oblique lines (h 5, w 7, th 0.6; fig. 4 i), with parallels from MN Thespiai, Eutresis, Orchomenos, Chaironeia and Elateia⁴⁹, 1 with simple round rim decorated with five parallel oblique lines and three vertical wavy ones (h 5.8, w 3.2, th 0.7; fig. 4 j), with parallels in collar jars from MN Elateia, Orchomenos and Magoula Balomenou⁵⁰, 1 with simple round rim and parallel oblique lines externally and small triangles on the rim internally (BOBuff; h 5.4, w 3.7, th 0.6; fig. 4 k), with parallels at MN Kouphovouno⁵¹ – 8 spreading necks, 7 of which with flaring round rims, 1 with pointed rim, 2 with spout, 4 RB, 2 Buff, 1 BW, 1 LBr, 1 Rcoarse (h 7, w 7.6, th 0.5-0.6; fig. 4 l), the latter belonging to a medium collar jar with parallels from LN Corinth and Tarsina⁵² - 5 cylindrical necks with straight or slightly flaring pound / pointed rims, 1 ROBuff with linear decoration, 1 Buff / Grey, 1 LBr, 2 BOBuff with linear decoration, the latter with antithetic parallel bordered oblique lines, carelessly executed, externally and an oblique band internally (h 7.4, w 4.1, th 0.6; fig. 4 m), with parallels from MN Ayioryitika⁵³ – 6 incurving necks with flaring round rims, 1 of which with a series of short oblique incisions on the rim, 4 Buff,

from Sarakenos cave⁴⁶ - 12 with flaring bodies and

flaring round rims, of which 6 LBr, 4 RB, 1 Buff, 1

BSB, 2 with mending holes – 2 s-shaped with point-

- ⁴¹ Kunze 1931, fig. 11 a; Phelps 2004, 70 f. fig. 25, 2.
- ⁴² Benton 1947, pl. 26, 51.
- ⁴³ Σωτηριάδης 1908, pl. 2, 1; Weinberg 1962, pl. 57 b 3.
- ⁴⁴ Kunze 1931, pl. 19, 4.
- ⁴⁵ Kunze 1931, fig. 26; Phelps 2004, fig. 11, 17.
- 46 Kunze 1931, fig. 26; Phelps 2004, fig. 11, 17; Sampson 2008, fig. 43, 1157.
- ⁴⁷ Phelps 2004, 50 fig. 14, 14; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pl. 2 $\Sigma 66\alpha$; Weinberg 1962, pl. 54 d 7. 8.
- ⁴⁸ Weinberg 1962, pl. 57 d 15.
- ⁴⁹ Caskey 1951, pl. 87, 1. 3. 6. 11; Caskey Caskey 1960, pl. 44 I.10; Kunze 1931, pl. 15, 1 a. g; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pl. 17 K387; Weinberg 1962, pl. 56 c 10.
- 50 Kunze 1931, pl. 18, 1a; Σωτηριάδης 1908, fig. 8; Weinberg 1962, pl. 57 b 3.
- ⁵¹ Phelps 2004, fig. 20, 13.
- ⁵² Phelps 2004, 80 fig. 33, 21.
- ⁵³ Phelps 2004, fig. 21, 9.

1 Rcoarse, 1 LBr – 1 curving body sherd of pithos with thickened flat rim (BW) – 1 pithos with straight body and flat rim (BOBuff with curvilinear undetermined motif).

Handles: 1 vertical lug with horizontal round perforation (RB) – 2 vertical ovoid / strap, 1 of which with MP decoration (1 RB, 1 MP-BOBuff) – 1 vertical cylindrical (Buffcoarse) – 1 horizontal cylindrical upraised with Br band decoration (BrOBuff).

Bases: 3 raised bases (2 RB, 1 BW) - 30 cylindrical (17 RB, 7 Buff, 2 LBr, 1 GW, 1 BSB, 1 YR, 1 Gcoarse). Decorated: 1 Scribble Burnished (BOBuff; h 2.5, w 2.3, th 0.5; fig. 4 n) – 52 body sherds with linear decoration, thin lines, broad lines and both, 28 ROBuff, 9 BrOBuff, 5 BOBuff (1 with oblong horizontal unperforated lug), 1 ROG, 3 MP-BOR (1 body sherd of angular bowl), 1 MP-ROR, 1 Polychrome with post-firing mending hole, 3 MP-BOBuff (1 with oblique lines and possibly a triangle; h 4.4, w 3, th 0.5; fig. 4 o; with a parallel from LN Corinth⁵⁴) -1 with parallel lines and a smaller slightly curvilinear one (MP-BOBuff) - 1 with antithetic bordered parallel lines, carelessly executed, externally and with an oblique band internally (BOBuff; h 4.4, w 3.3, th 0.7; fig. 4 p), with comparisons from MN Ayioryitika, Thespiai⁵⁵ – 5 body sherds with parallel angles (3 BrOBuff, 1 BOBuff, 1 ROBuff, 1 with cross-hatched motifs (ROBuff) - 1 with linear and cross hatched motif (MP-BOBuff) – 2 with triangles (ROBuff) – 1 with parallel oblique lines externally and possible bordered diamond-shaped crosshatched motifs internally (BOBuff, h 4.7, w 3.7, th 0.4; fig. 4 q), presenting similarities with examples of the diamond motif at MN Magoula Balomenou, Franchthi and Ayioryitika⁵⁶ – 1 with triangles or diamonds with broad lines and cross-hatched internally (ROBuff) - 1 with linear, diamond-shaped and zigzag motifs and a post-firing mending hole (ROBuff; h 4.1, w 4.1, th 0.5; fig. 4 r), with a parallel from MN Kefalari, although the motif is vertical and by its own below the rim⁵⁷, displaying parallel lines and a parallel zigzag / quirk (ROBuff) – 1 with black matt dot and lines (MP-BOG; h 2.6, w 2.7, th 0.6; fig. 4 s), a circular motif found in an earlier version at MN Ayioryitika and LN Skoteini cave⁵⁸ - 1 with X-shaped motif (ROBuff; h 4, w 4.7, th 0.9; fig. 4t), with parallels for the motif at LN Eutresis⁵⁹ – 3 with curvilinear undetermined motif (3 ROBuff) – 1 with parallel antithetic lines, bordered by a thicker band, and a dot motif (h 4.4, w 4.8, th 0.7; fig. 4 u), the latter presenting similarities with examples at MN Ayioryitika, LN Skoteini cave and the Thespiai example above, while the rest of the decoration is closer to MN Asea⁶⁰ – 1 part of a cylindrical neck from a jar with a horizontal band where two sets of triangles meet with a wider band below and thinner parallel triangles above it, internally vertical parallel bands (ROBuff) – 1 with relief and I decoration externally, oblique relief bands alternating with a depressed line (BW; h 2.3, w 2.6, th 0.4; fig. 5 a), similar Pl decorations sometimes recovered at LN Corinth and Klenia, although they have a different form⁶¹ – 2 with small short round unperforated knobs (1 Buff, 1 BW) - 3 body sherds with one to three small oblong shallow knobs, 1 of which BW (h 4.2, w 5.1, th 0.3; fig. 5 c), with similar pieces at EN Elateia and Orchomenos⁶², 2 RB, of which 1 (h 6.4, w 8.6, th 0.4; fig. 5 b), with parallels from EN Elateia and Nemea⁶³.

Comments: The sherds with the small round and oblong knobs, of different wares (RB, BW, Buff), belong to the EN pottery tradition. The Urfirnis ROBuff, BrOBuff, BOBuff and ROG wares along with a unique Scribble Burnished argue for a MN date. The MP tradition is more varied at Thespiai with BOR, BOBuff and the more rare types of ROR, BOB, and BOG. Especially the latter two sherds appear to be varieties of the Grey-on-Grey pottery tradition of Thessaly⁶⁴, which is attested in rather limited numbers also at Elateia⁶⁵ and further south at Corinth⁶⁶. The MP along with the Polychrome and the GW argue for a LN period of use at Thespiai. *Location:* lowland area in the Thespiai plain, southeast of the Kopais basin.

References: Fossey 1988, 138; French 1972, 5; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 249; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 48; Συριόπουλος 1994, 154 map 7, 267. Date: EN–FN.

4 Aliartos *figs.* 1. 16–18

Context no.: 84.

Sherds: 96; rims: 28; handles: 5; bases: 9; body sherds: 54; decorated: 6 ROCream, 2 BrOBuff, 1 ROBuff, 3 MP-BOBuff, 2 MP-BOR, 1 MP-BOG, 2 Polychrome. Wares: 30 BW, 11 RScoarse, 8 BSB, 8 LBr, 5 RB, 4 RSB, 4 Buff, 3 Br, 2 GW, 1 G, 1 W.

⁵⁴ Phelps 2004, fig. 81, 12.

⁵⁵ Caskey 1951, pl. 87, 4; Phelps 2004, fig. 73, 1.

Fhelps 2004, figs. 16, 15; 23, 37; 69, 39; Σωτηριάδης 1908, fig. 4; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pl. 19 second column second row.

⁵⁷ Phelps 2004, fig. 23, 30.

⁵⁸ Phelps 2004, figs. 18, 10; 69, 31; Σάμψων 1993, figs. 64, 22; 72, 207.

⁵⁹ Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 44 II.12.

⁶⁰ Phelps 2004, figs. 18, 10; 69, 31; 70, 6. 7. 10; Σάμψων 1993, figs. 64, 22; 72, 207.

⁶¹ Phelps 2004, 75 figs. 27, 4. 7. 11; 28, 11.

⁶² Kunze 1931, pls. 6, 2 g; 13, 1 d. e; Phelps 2004, 41; Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 c 5.

 $^{^{\}rm 63}\,$ Phelps 2004, fig. 9, 1; Weinberg 1962, pl. 53 c 5.

⁶⁴ Phelps 2004, 85.

⁶⁵ Weinberg 1962, 166 pl. 62 a 6. 7.

⁶⁶ Lavezzi 1978, 428.

Colours: BW / BSB: Gley 2 2.5/1–3/1 bluish black – very dark bluish grey; RB / Rcoarse: 2.5YR 5/6 red – 10R 4/6 red; LBr: 7.5YR 6/4 pale brown; RSB: 2.5YR–10R 4/6 red; Buff: 10YR 7/3–8/4 very pale brown; Br: 7.5YR 4/2 brown – 10Y 5/3 brown; GW / G: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey – 2.5Y 5/2 greyish brown; W: 2.5Y 7/1–7/2 light grey.

Inclusions: few white, few black, coarser sherds with small stones, some with silver mica.

Condition: good quality clay. Painted and coarser pieces coexist. Most are slipped and burnished. Some have burnishing marks and fewer have striation marks. Black and red colours predominate.

Rims: Bowls: 6 with straight bodies and straight round rims, of which 1 BW, 2 LBr, 2 ROCream, 1 MP-BOBuff with linear decoration − 8 straight bodies and flaring round rims, of which 4 BW, 1 BrB, 1 LBr, 1 RSB, 1 ROCream, the latter with oblique parallel lines in a triangle − 1 open shallow pedestal bowl with internal bead-like rim (BW) − 2 with curving bodies and upraised simple round rim, 1 BrB, 1 RB, the former with a small horizontal unperforated lug well below the rim. − Jars: 8 with spreading necks and flaring round rims (5 BW, 2 LBr, 1 Buff) − 2 with straight bodies and round flat-on-top rims from jars (1 Br, 1 Rcoarse with an oblong horizontal lug below the rim) − 1 with spreading neck and an everted rim, flat on top with round lip (BSB).

Handles: 3 vertical, of which 1 strap and 2 oval (1 LBr, 1 Br, 1 Rcoarse) – 2 horizontal oblong unperforated lugs (1 LBr, 1 Rcoarse).

Bases: 2 ring (1 RB, 1 Rcoarse) – 1 cylindrical (LBr) – 5 flat, of which 2 G, 2 LBr, 1 Rcoarse, the latter with two perforations made before firing.

Decorated: 5 body sherds with linear decoration, thin lines or broad lines (1 ROCream, 2 BrOBuff, 1 BOGMP, 1 BOR-MP) – 3 with cross-hatching (1 ROCream, 1 ROBuff, 1 Polychrome) – 4 with single or parallel triangles (2 ROBuff, 2 MP-BOBuff) – 2 with wavy horizontal lines (1 MP-BOR, 1 MP-BOBuff) – 1 with bands of red and black and a black dot in the red area (Polychrome).

Comments: The ROCream, BrOBuff and ROBuff argue for a MN date, while the MP varieties, the Polychrome and the GW suggest a continuity into the LN period. The MP-BOG resembles parallel finds at Thespiai and other sites, as discussed above.

Location: possibly on the lowland area just north of the fortified citadel of Aliartos.

Date: MN-LN.

5 Pyrgos Aliartos *figs.* 1. 17. 18

Context nos.: 99, 116.

Sherds: 20; rims: 7; bases: 2; body sherds: 11; decorated: 1 MP-BOBuff, 1 I.

Wares: 6 BW, 4 Mottled (2 G / Y, 2 G / R), 3 BrB, 2 LBr, 2 RSB, 1 GB, 1 RB.

Colours: BW: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black; BrB: 7.5YR

4/3–5/4 brown – 5YR 4/4 reddish brown; LBr: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown – 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown; RSB: 10R 4/6 red; GB: 10YR 5/2 greyish brown; RB: 2.5YR 5/6 red.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, silver mica. *Condition:* good quality clay. All are burnished and some are slipped. Striation marks are visible on some. Brown and red colours predominate. The RSB body sherd belongs to an angular bowl.

Rims: Bowls: 1 with straight body and straight round almost flat-on-top rim (BrB) – 1 with curving body and upraised round/pointed rim (RSB) – 2 with straight bodies and flaring rims, of which 1 round and 1 round/pointed (1 BW, 1 Mottled).– *Jars:* 2 spreading necks with a simple round and round/pointed rim (BrB, Mottled).

Bases: 2 cylindrical (LBR), of which 1 with incisions in the lower part of the base.

Decorated: 1 body sherd with two parallel I lines (BW) – 1 body sherd with linear decoration (BOBuff-MP).

Comments: The MP provides a LN date for this site, but the I and some of the fabrics of the remaining wares argue for a FN occupation as well.

Location: tower at Aliartos, above Seidi cave.

References: Fossey 1988, 301–305; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 242; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 19; Συριόπουλος 1994, 152, map 7, 261.

Date: LN-FN.

6 Steni *figs.* 1. 18

Context no.: 115.

Sherds: 6; body sherds: 6.

Wares: 2 BW, 2 BrB, 1 RB, 1 Mottled (G/Br).

Colours: BW: Gley 2 3/1 very dark greyish black; Br: 5YR 5/2 reddish grey – 3/2 dark reddish brown; RB: 2.5YR 5/6 red.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, silver mica. *Condition*: all burnished; a couple with burnishing marks.

Comments: Given the lack of diagnostic types, the dating of this site must remain uncertain, but the fabric and character of the wares suggest FN rather than an earlier date.

Location: lowland area east of Aliartos possibly by the passage from Kopais basin to the Thespiai plain. *Date:* FN.

7 Kalimpaki

figs. 1. 15

Context no.: 112.

Sherds: 29; rims: 5; base: 1; body sherds: 23.

Wares: 24 Buff, 3 RSB, 2 Rcoarse

Colours: Buff: 7.5YR 5/4 brown – 10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown; RSB / Rcoarse: 2.5YR 5/6 red.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, limited milky quartz.

Condition: All pieces of Buff show many spherical and oblong hollows, resembling a sponge.

Rims: Bowls: 3 with curving bodies and incurving

round rims (Buff) – 2 with incurving bodies and everted rims with round lip (Rcoarse).

Base: 1 flat (Buff).

Comments: The spongy fabric and the buff colour of the ware would argue for an EN date.

Location: Necropolis at Revma; on the west slopes of Mt Sfiggio, at the south-east part of the Kopais basin, not far from Kastraki Daulosis, probably just north of it.

References: Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 241 (noting later occupation).

Date: EN.

8 Perdikovrysi, Ptoon

figs. 1. 18

Context no.: 117.

Sherds: 25; rims: 2; handles: 2; bases: 2; body sherds: 19.

Wares: 14 DBr, 5 LBr, 2 RSB, 2 G, 2 Rcoarse.

Colours: DBr: 10YR5/3 brown – yellowish brown; LBr: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown; RSB: 10R 4/6 red; G: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey; Rcoarse: 2.5YR 4/6 red – 4/4 reddish brown.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, few inclusions of quartz, silver mica.

Condition: On all surfaces, stones form part of the slip/surface. Few are slipped and some burnished. Striation marks are visible on some. Brown colours predominate. Two sherds show small shallow cracks on their surface.

Rims: Bowls: 1 with curving body and upraised round rim, almost flat on top (DBr) – 1 with slightly curving body and slightly flaring round rim (DBr) *Handles:* 2 horizontal long unperforated lugs (DBr, LBr).

Bases: 2 ring bases (LBr, DBr).

Comments: The type of fabric and the wares that are found argue for a FN date of this site.

Location: Perdikovrysi, close to Ptoon.

References: Fossey 1988, 271–273; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 15 a.

Date: FN.

9 Megali Katavothra

figs. 1. 18

Context no.: 116.

Sherds: 15; rims: 2; body sherds: 13.

Wares: 8 Br, 3 RB, 2 BW, 1 Rcoarse, 1 Buff.

Colours: Br: 7.5YR 5/4 brown – 5/6 strong brown; RB / Rcoarse: 2.5YR 5/6 red; BW: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black; Buff: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown.

Inclusions: few white, the coarser including some small stones and quartz, silver mica.

Condition: Few are slipped and burnished. The coarser sherds tend to have a rough interior.

Rims: Bowl: 1 with straight body and straight round rim (Br). – *Jar:* 1 with almost cylindrical neck and everted rim with round lip (Br).

Comments: The type of fabric and attested wares suggest a FN date of occupation for this site.

Location: lowland site at the north-eastern edge of the Kopais basin.

References: Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 241 (noting later occupation); Fossey 1988, 286; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 14; Συριόπουλος 1994, 148 map 7, 250. Date: FN.



Fig. 6 Neolithic sherd from Pyrgos Ayia Marina, photograph (scale 1 : 2)

10 Pyrgos Ayia Marina

figs. 1. 6. 18

Context nos.: 123, 555.

Sherds: 12; rim: 3; body sherds: 9; decorated: 1 C. Wares: 6 Rcoarse, 2 G, 1 Black Burnished, 1 Br, 1 YR, 1 Buff.

Colours: Rcoarse: 2.5YR 4/3 reddish brown; Black Burnished: Gley 2 2.5/1–3/1 bluish black – very dark bluish grey; Br: 10YR 5/3 brown; G: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey; YR: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red; Buff: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, small amount of transparent quartz in single sherd, silver mica.

Condition: Few sherds have a slip and are burnished, two are burnished without slip. One has spherical and irregular hollows from firing.

Rims: Bowls: 2 with straight bodies and straight rims, of which 1 round (Br) and 1 flat, on which deep oblique thumb-like depressions are visible (Rcoarse) – 1 with straight body and rolled rim with shallow parallel oblique Pl bands on the rim (Black Burnished; h 3.8, w 4.4, th 1; fig. 6), with parallels from FN Eutresis and Corinth⁶⁷.

Decorated: 1 body sherd with a horizontal C and thumb impressions (Rcoarse).

Comments: The fabric, the C decoration on some of the sherds and the rolled rim bowl argue for a FN date.

Location: small site at the fortress in Ayia Marina above the north-eastern edge of the Kopais basin, south of Ayios Ioannis-Katavothra and west of Megali Katavothra.

References: Fossey 1988, 283 f.; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 240 (noting later occupation); Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 11.

Date: FN.

⁶⁷ Caskey – Caskey 1960, fig. 4 II.35. II.36; Phelps 2004, 118 fig. 56, 15.







Fig. 7 Neolithic pottery from Magoula Kafkala, drawings and photograph (scale 1 : 2)

11 Magoula Kafkala

figs. 1. 7. 15-18

Context no.: 123.

Sherds: 61; rims: 20; handles: 2; base: 1; body sherds: 38; decorated: 6 ROCream, 1 ROBuff, 1 MP-BOR, 2 Pl.

Wares: 16 LBr, 9 RSB, 9 RB, 6 Buff, 5 BW, 5 Rcoarse, 4 Mottled (2 G / Y, 2 G / R), 1 BSB.

Colours: LBr: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow – 6/4 light reddish brown; RSB: 10R 4/6 red; RB: 2.5YR 5/6 red; Buff: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown-5/3 brown; BW / BSB: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black – 3/1 very dark bluish grey; Rcoarse: 2.5YR 4/3 reddish brown.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones and quartz on some, some with silver mica.

Condition: good quality clay. Most are slipped and burnished. On a few striation marks are visible and on some burnishing marks. Some sherds display spherical hollows; one has a sponge-like surface. Red and brown predominate.

Rims: Bowls: 3 with straight bodies and straight rims, of which 1 pointed (LBr), 2 round (ROCream, 1 with internal wavy pattern, 1 with external band) – 7 with straight bodies and upraised rims, of which 4 with round and 3 with round / pointed rim (2 RB, 1 RSB, 1 Buff, 1 LBr, 2 ROCream, of which 1 with unclear motif and 1 with oblique band and horizontal small knob) - 7 with curving bodies and incurving/upraised round rims (3 RSB, 3 Rcoarse, 1 LBr) – 1 with curving body and incurving round rim, rolled rim (RSB; h 2.8, w 5.3, th 1; fig. 7 a), similar to examples found at FN Eutresis and FN Skoteini cave, though the form was more popular in Attica, the Peloponnese and the Aegean islands⁶⁸. - Jars: 2 with spreading necks and simple round/flat rims (Rcorase, LBr) – 1 with incurving neck and a slightly flaring round rim (LBr).

Handles: 1 small vertical strap, ovoid section (RB). *Bases:* 2 flat (RSB, LBr).

Decorated: 1 with vertical lines (MP-BOR) – 1 with horizontal bands and semicircular motifs at edges (ROCream) – 1 with cross-hatching (ROCream) – 1 with row of small and short round knobs, next to each other under rim (RB; h 3.7, w 3.2, th 0.4;

fig. 7 *b*), similar examples found at EN Orchomenos and Elateia⁶⁹ – 1 with two small, almost horizontal thin relief Pl lines that meet (BW; h 2.4, w 2.7, th 0.3; *fig.* 7 *c*), with parallels from LN Orchomenos⁷⁰.

Comments: The body sherds with small knobs argue for an EN date, the Urfirinis ROBuff and ROCream provide a solid MN dating, while the latter reveals influences from Elateia. The MP and the BW with relief decoration argue for continuity into the LN period, and the rolled rim into the FN phase.

Location: hill 2 km north of Kastron.

References: Fossey 1988, 244 f.; Sampson 2008, 362. Date: EN–FN.

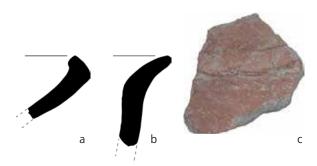


Fig. 8 Neolithic pottery from Nisi Stroviki, drawings and photograph (scale 1:2)

12 Nisi Stroviki

figs. 1. 8. 15. 17. 18

Context nos.: 106, 116.

Sherds: 55; rims: 10; handles: 1; bases: 3; body sherds: 41; decorated: 1 C, 1 IC.

Wares: 11 RSB, 10 YR, 10 Buff, 8 G / Br coarse, 8 BW, 3 Rcoarse, 3 Br, 2 G.

Colours: RSB / Rcoarse: 10R 4/6 red, YR: 2.5YR 5/6 red – 5 YR 6/6 reddish yellow; Buff: 6/4 light yellowish brown – 5/2 greyish brown; G / Br: 5YR 4/2 dark reddish grey; BW: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black; Br: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown – 7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow – 7.5YR 5/3 brown; G: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey – 7.5YR 4/1 dark grey.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, few with silver mica.

Condition: Most sherds are burnished and some are slipped; there are burnishing and striation marks on the surfaces, especially the latter are very visible on some, almost forming patterns. Some have spherical hollows and the surfaces on three resemble a sponge. One displays straw marks.

Rims: Bowls: 1 with straight body and flaring pointed rim (YR) – 4 with curving bodies, of which 2 with incurving round rims, 1 with round / pointed and 1 with flat rim (2 RSB, 1 G / Br, 1 BW), the latter (h 3.1, w 3.3, th 0.9; fig. 8 a) with parallels at LN Or-

⁶⁸ Caskey – Caskey 1960, fig. 4 II.35. II.36; Phelps 2004, 118; Σάμψων 1993, 134 fig. 128, 41–49.

⁶⁹ Kunze 1931, pl. 13, 1 d. e; Phelps 2004, 41; Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 c 3.

⁷⁰ Kunze 1931, pl. 8, 2 f. g.

chomenos and Elateia⁷¹ – 1 with cylindrical neck and everted rim with round lip (Buff; h 5.5, w 5, th 1.1; fig. 8 b), with a parallel from EN Asea⁷². – Jars: 3 with spreading necks and simple round rims (2 BW, 1 RSB) – 1 with almost straight body and thickened flat rim from jar (YR).

Handle: 1 horizontal ovoid (RSB).

Bases: 2 flat (1 YR, 1 Rcoarse) – 1 ring (G).

Decorated: 1 body sherd with horizontal, slightly wavy C and thumb impressions (Rcoarse; h 6.7, w 6.8, th 1.2; *fig.* 8 *c*), like at FN Sarakenos cave and Alepotrypa⁷³.

Comments: The sponge ware and the bowl rim argue for an EN date, the BW for a LN one and the fabric of the rest of the sherds including the decorated ones for a FN date of Nisi Stroviki.

Location: the southernmost low hill on the northern part of the Kopais basin.

References: Fossey 1988, 282 f.; French 1972, 5; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 238; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 7; Συριόπουλος 1994, 149 map 7, 252.

Date: EN, LN-FN.

13 Pyrgos

figs. 1. 9. 15-18

Context nos.: 84, 99, 104.

Sherds: 354; rims: 100; handles: 20; bases: 17; body sherds: 217; decorated: 1 ROCream, 66 ROBuff, 7 BOBuff, 17 MP-BOBuff, 6 MP-BOR, 1 MP-WOB, 1 PB, 1 Polychrome, 7 Pl, 6 I, 2 C, 1 Knob.

Wares: 120 RSB, 35 RB, 26 BW, 25 LBr, 20 Buff (most burnished), 7 BSB, 9 BrB, 4 BrSB, 4 Rcoarse, 3 GW, 1 Cream, 1 Bcoarse, 1 Mottled (G/RY).

Colours: RSB: 10R 4/4–4/6 weak red / red – 5YR 5/6 yellowish red; RB / RCoarse: 2.5YR 5/6–4/4–6 red – reddish brown; BW / BSB / Bcoarse: Gley 2 2.5/1–3/1 bluish black; LBr: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown – 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown; Buff: 10YR 6/3–7/4 pale brownvery pale brown; BrSB / BrB: 7.5YR 5/2–5/4–6/6 brown – yellowish red; GW: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey; Cream: 2.5Y 8/4 pale yellow.

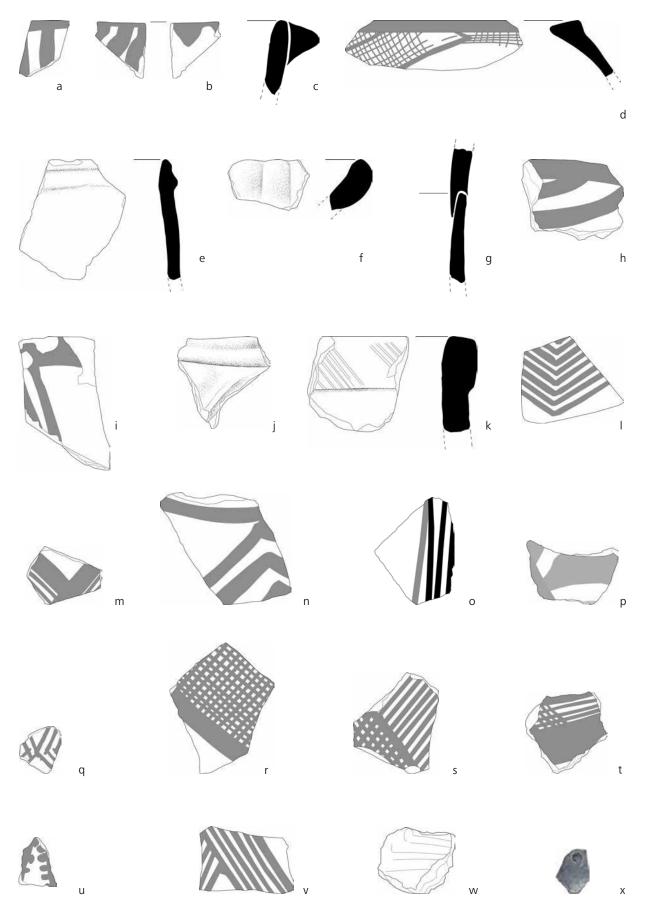
Inclusions: few white, the thicker sherds including some small stones, silver mica.

Condition: very good quality. Most are slipped and burnished on both sides. Some sherds display striation marks and others burnishing marks. A couple show evidence of straw tempering internally; some show spherical and irregular hollows that suggest bad firing. Red and brown colours predominate, but many are decorated as well.

- ⁷¹ Kunze 1931, 12 fig. 8 d; Weinberg 1962, fig. 8, 10.
- ⁷² Phelps 2004, 33 fig. 2, 15.
- Phelps 2004, 116 f. fig. 57, 2; Sampson 2008, fig. 126,
 224 pls. 35 upper left; 36 bottom left.
- ⁷⁴ Phelps 2004, figs. 43, 10; 80, 3; 81, 10. 14.
- ⁷⁵ Benton 1947, pls. 25, 24; 29, 19. 21 a; Kunze 1931, pl. 18, 1 a; Σπυρόπουλος 1973, fig. 6 lower row middle; Sampson 2008, 75 fig. 40, 921; Σωτηριάδης 1908, fig. 8; Weinberg 1962, pl. 57 b 3. 10.

Rims: Bowls: 23 with straight bodies, of which 21 with straight round rims, 2 with pointed rims (6 RSB, 5 ROBuff, 4 RB, 3 LBr, of which 1 with spout below rim, 2 Buff, 1 BrSB, 1 Br, 1 BW) - 36 with almost straight bodies, of which 31 with slightly flaring round rims, 4 with pointed, 1 with thickened flat rim (16 RSB, 5 Buff, 5 RB, 2 BW, 2 Br, 1 G, 1 LBr, 1 BrSB, 1 MP-BOBuff, 1 MP-BOR decorated with two vertical lines with parallels from LN Corinth and Klenia74; h 3, w 2.8, th 0.5; fig. 9 a; 1 ROBuff with three wavy vertical lines with parallels for the motif from MN Elateia, Orchomenos, Magoula Balomenou, Sarakenos cave, Thespiai and Ayios Nikolaos cave⁷⁵; h 3, w 2.7, th 0.5; fig. 9 b) - 9 with curving bodies, of which 5 with round simple rims (1 with unperforated lug below rim with parallels at LN Nea Makri and FN Kitsos cave⁷⁶; BrB; h 4.6, w 5.9, th 0.9; fig. 9 c), 1 with pointed, 1 with thickened and 2 with T-rims (1 ROBuff with cross-hatched decoration, 4 RSB, 1 RB, 1 LBr, 1 BW, 1 Buff), 1 of the examples with T-rim (ROBuff; h 3, w 11.8, th 0.7–1; fig. 9 d) with parallels in shape from MN Lerna and in decoration from MN Orchomenos and MN Chaironeia⁷⁷ – 5 s-shaped with round rim (1 RB, 2 RSB, 1 BrSB with two parallel horizontal relief bands below rim as in LN Orchomenos, Eutresis and LN II Sarakenos cave78; h 5.3, w 5.9, th 0.8; fig. 9 e; 1 MP-BOBuff) – 3 with curving bodies and incurving rims (1 MP-BOR, 1 BSB, 1 Pl on rim, 1 BrB) – 2 with curving bodies and upward round rims (RSB), of which 1 with relief on the rim (RSB; h 2.8, w 4.7, th 1.6; fig. 9 f), similar to an examples from FN Sarakenos cave and to a lesser extent to pieces from FN Alepotrypa⁷⁹ - 2 with straight bodies and thickened rims (1 MP-BOR, 1 RSB) – 1 flaring body sherd with vertical lug starting from rim, ovoid/strap in section (RSB; h 7.1, w 3.6, th 0.9; fig. 9 g), as in Orchomenos⁸⁰ – 2 with flaring bodies and flaring round rims (RSB). - Jars: 6 spreading necks, of which 3 with simple slightly flat rims and 3 with round rims (1 RSB, 1 RB 1 LBr, 1 Bcoarse, 1 Buff, 1 MP-BOBuff), the latter displaying a vertical zone under the rim and two parallel oblique curvilinear motifs (h 4.7, w 6.2, th 1.2; fig. 9 h), similar to examples from LN Orchomenos, Sarakenos cave and Corinth⁸¹ – 1 with spreading neck and flaring round rim (MP-BOBuff), with vertical oblique parallel lines (h 6.9, w 5, th 1.1;

- ⁷⁶ Lambert 1981, pl. 25, 1734; Παντελίδου Γκόφα 1995, drawings 46, 9-158; 60, 12-105.
- ⁷⁷ Kunze 1931, pl. 16, 2a; Phelps 2004, fig. 18, 1; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pl. 17 K364.
- ⁷⁸ Caskey Caskey 1960, pl. 45 II.42; Kunze 1931, pl. 11, 2 c; Sampson 2008, 215. 217 fig. 117, 735.
- ⁷⁹ Phelps 2004, fig. 56, 4; Sampson 2008, fig. 127, 1173.
- 80 Phelps 2004, fig. 41, 21.
- ⁸¹ Kunze 1931, pls. 22, 1 e; 25, 1; Phelps 2004, fig. 85, 12; Sampson 2008, fig. 69, 810.



 $Fig. \ 9 \quad Neolithic pottery from \ Pyrgos, drawings \ and \ photograph \ (grey indicates \ red \ / \ brown \ decoration, \ black \ indicates \ black \ decoration; \ scale \ 1:2)$

fig. 9 i), like examples from LN Orchomenos and Alepotrypa⁸² – 1 with cylindrical neck and round rim (Buff) – 2 with incurving straight neck, of which 1 with thickened flat rim and 1 with everted round rim (1 ROBuff, 1 RB) - 1 neckless jar with everted rim and round lip (Buff) - 1 with curving body and slightly flaring rim with two horizontal parallel reliefs below the rim and an oblique one (LBr; h 6.1, w 6, th 1; fig. 9 j), similar to examples from LN Eutresis, Skoteini cave, Ayios Nikolaos cave, Corinth and Klenia⁸³ – 1 straight jar with straight rim that shows relief band just below rim bearing two sets of oblique short incisions, similar decoration, though not always in the same place (h 5.2, w 5.4, th 1.4; fig. 9 k) attested at FN Sarakenos cave, Skoteini cave and LN Ftelia⁸⁴ - 1 pithos with curving body and upward round rim (RSB).

Handles: 1 large oblong unperforated lug (ROBuff) – 3 small lugs with horizontal perforations (RSB) – 2 small lugs with vertical perforations (1 RSB, 1 RB) – 1 beginning of lug (MP-BOBuff) – 1 elephant lug with vertical perforation (BrSB) – 1 vertical cylindrical (RSB) – 2 vertical ovoid (RSB), of which 1 with deep depression at centre – 1 horizontal strap with incisions on top (RSB) – 1 vertical strap (RB) – 1 long cylindrical with perforation (LBr).

Bases: 5 cylindrical (4 RB, 1 RSB) – 8 ring (3 RSB, 2 Buff, 1 RB, 1 LBr, 1 GW) – 4 flat (2 RB, 2 Buff) – 2 low pedestal (RSB) – 2 tripod legs (RSB).

Decorated: 59 body sherds with linear decoration, thin lines, broad lines and both, among these 40 ROBuff, 1 of which shows parallel antithetic oblique lines without borders (h 5; w 6; th 0.9; fig. 9 l), with parallels from MN Chaironeia, Polygira, Sarakenos cave, Akrata, Ayioryitika and Kouphovouno⁸⁵, 1 with antithetic parallel oblique lines bordering on a thicker line (h 3.3, w 4.2, th 0.7; fig. 9 m), as in MN Chaironeia, Orchomenos, Thespiai, Elateia, Akrata

and Ayioryitika⁸⁶, further 2 BOBuff, 1 BrOBuff, 9 MP-BOBuff, 1 of which shows antithetic oblique lines (h 6.3, w 7.8, th 0.8; fig. 9 n), like examples from LN Orchomenos and Alepotrypa⁸⁷, further 4 MP-BOR, 1 Polychrome (h 6.7, w 4.9, th 0.5; fig. 9 o), similar to finds from LN Elateia, Corinth and Alepotrypa, but with a different arrangement of colours in the lines88, 1 MP-WOB with parallels from LN Corycian cave, Elateia, Eutresis, Agora, Saliagos and Kalythies cave⁸⁹ (h 3.4, w 4.7, th 0.8; fig. 9 p), 1 with diamond motifs (ROCream; h 2.6, w 2.4, th 0.7; fig. 9 q), with similar decoration found at MN Elateia Red-on-White type 90 – 17 with cross-hatched motifs, among them 16 ROBuff, 1 of which displays a very thick border (h 7.7, w 6, th 0.6; fig. 9 r) with parallels from MN Orchomenos91, 1 showing antithetic parallel lines that form a net pattern (h 6.2, w 5, th 0.9; fig. 9 s), with similar examples attested at MN Elateia, Magoula Balomenou, Orchomenos, Eutresis and Ayioryitika⁹², further 1 BOBuff (h 4.6, w 4.8, th 0.5; fig. 9 t), bordered by a thicker band for which comparanda are found at MN Elateia, Chaironeia, Orchomenos, Sarakenos cave and Ayioryitika⁹³ – 4 with parallel angles (3 ROBuff, 1 MP-BOBuff) - 1 with oblique lines that meet on a horizontal band (MP-BOBuff) – 1 with oblique lines that meet and a vertical band (ROBuff) - 3 with solid triangle (1 ROBuff, 1 BOBuff, 1 MP-BOR) - 1 with oblique lines that meet but do not form angles (MP-BOBuff) - 1 with horizontal and curvilinear bands (MP-BOR), as in LN Orchomenos and Corinth⁹⁴ – 3 with quirks / zigzags, of which 2 vertical, 1 oblique (ROBuff) – 1 with circular motif (BOBuff) – 2 with lines bordered by circular motifs (ROBuff; h 2.8, w 1.9, th 0.6; fig. 9 u), with parallels in later LN examples from Lithares and Orchomenos in Polychrome as well as MP versions⁹⁵ – 2 with oblique almost completely parallel I lines (1 Rcoarse, 1 LBr) – 1 PB (BOBuff; h 3.4, w 6.2,

⁸² Kunze 1931, pl. 23, 1 a; Phelps 2004, fig. 42, 11.

⁸³ Benton 1947, fig. 13, 75; Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 45 II.42; Phelps 2004, figs. 34, 26. 27; 93, 1; Σάμψων 1993, fig. 89 Γ15. Γ22.

⁸⁴ Σάμψων 1993, figs. 155, 30. 36; 156, 38; Sampson 2002, figs. 68, 375. 297. 228; 69, 568. 320; Sampson 2008, 220 fig. 120, 218.

⁸⁵ Kunze 1931, pl. 18, 2 a; Phelps 2004, figs. 24, 4; 69, 32; 72, 4; 73, 4; 77, 1; Sampson 2008, 75 fig. 42, 917; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 4 K402; 20 second column first row.

Kunze 1931, pl. 15, 1 i; Phelps 2004, figs. 17, 5; 71, 2; 73, 1; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 5 Σ4α. Σ4β; 15 K264; 19 second column third row; Weinberg 1962, pl. 56 c 1. 5. 9.

Kunze 1931, pl. 23, 2 e; Phelps 2004, figs. 42, 5. 15; 82, 9

⁸⁸ Kunze 1931, pl. 4, 1; Phelps 2004, 100 fig. 45, 11; 82, 8; Weinberg 1962, 198.

⁸⁹ Caskey - Caskey 1960, pl. 45 II.38. I.39; Evans - Ren-

frew 1968, 82 pls. 16. 17 a–c; 18. 20–23. 27 c; Immerwahr 1971, 10 f.; $\Sigma \acute{\alpha} \mu \psi \omega v$ 1987, 36–42 pls. 12–17; Touchais 1981, 144 fig. 26, 350 pl. 10, 350; Wace – Thomson 1912, 105 fig. 55; Weinberg 1962, 188 pl. 62 a 2–5.

⁹⁰ Weinberg 1962, pl. 58 a 8.

⁹¹ Kunze 1931, pl. 16, 2 b. c. e.

⁹² Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 43 I.3; Kunze 1931, pl. 15, 2 c. e; Phelps 2004, fig. 17, 5; 73, 1; Σωτηριάδης 1908, figs. 1. 9, 2; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 4 K355. K357; 5 Σ4α. Σ4β; 16 K355–357; 17 K405; 19 second column third row; Weinberg 1962, pl. 56 c 1. 5. 9.

⁹³ Kunze 1931, pl. 16, 2 b. c. e; Phelps 2004, figs. 70, 9; 73, 1; Sampson 2008, fig. 40, 1355; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 4 K355. K357; 5 Σ4α. Σ4β; 16 K355–357; 17 K405; 19 second column third row; Weinberg 1962, pl. 56 c 1. 5. 9.

⁹⁴ Kunze 1931, pls. 21, 1 g; 25, 1; 26, 3; Phelps 2004, fig. 85, 12.

⁹⁵ Kunze 1931, pl. 23, 2 f.

th 0.4; $fig. 9\ v$) with linear decoration paralleled at FN Orchomenos, Sarakenos cave, Eutresis, Skoteini cave, Kefala, Corinth and Gonia⁹⁶ – 1 with shallow broad incisions including a curvilinear one (RSB) – 1 with shallow ridges / rippled, almost relief, forming angles (LBr; h 3.4, w 4.5, th 0.5; $fig. 9\ w$), similar to examples from LN Elateia, Magoula Balomenou, Lerna, but without the bead decoration of the latter, and FN Sarakenos cave⁹⁷ – 2 with C that bear thumb impressions (1 RB, 1 Rcoarse) – 1 with two parallel relief horizontal lines (LBr) – 1 large, though not high round knob (RB) – 2 with oblong vertical short knob (1 RB, 1 RSB) – 1 with a small and short round knob (BW; h 2.2, w 1.8, th 0.3; $fig. 9\ x$), with parallels from EN Elateia and Orchomenos⁹⁸.

Comments: The sherds with knob(s) argue for an EN date, the painted pottery types argue for a MN date, while the MP varieties, the Polychrome, the GW and the ones with relief decoration suggest occupation during the LN period as well. Some of the coarser ware, the elephant-type lug and possibly the rippled / relief decorated piece indicate continuity into the FN phase.

Location: low spur near the modern village, just south of Pyrgos Magoula and east of Orchomenos. References: Bulle 1907, 119–121; Fossey 1988, 367 f.; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 237 f.; Συριόπουλος 1994, 145 map 7, 245 (noting later occupation); Wace – Thompson 1912, 196 f. (noting later occupation).

Date: EN-FN.

14 Pyrgos Magoula *figs.* 1. 10. 15–18

Context nos.: 104, 105, 531.

Sherds: 153; rims: 44; handles: 3; bases: 6; body sherds: 110; decorated: 14 ROCream, 10 ROBuff, 2 MP-BOBuff, 3 MP-BrOBr, 1 MP-ROBuff, 7 Pl, 3 I. Wares: 34 RSB, 31 LBr, 19 RB, 18 Br, 10 BW, 6 YR, 4 GW, 4 Buff, 3 BrB, 2 Mottled (G/RY), 1 G.

Colours: RSB: 10R 4/6 red; LBr: 5 YR 6/6–5/6 light reddish brown – yellowish red; RB: 5YR 5/6 – 2.5YR 5/6 yellowish red – red; Br: 7.5YR 4/2–5/4 brown; Br: 7.5YR 4/4 brown; BW: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black; YR: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red; GW: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey; Buff: 10YR 5/2–5/3 greyish brown – brown; BrB: 7.5YR 3/4 dark brown.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones, especially in the coarser ones, little quartz on one, silver mica. *Condition:* very good quality clay. Most sherds are burnished and many are slipped; on some, the burnishing marks are visible. Some display striation

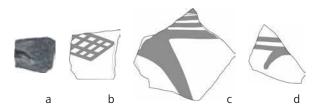


Fig. 10 Neolithic pottery from Pyrgos Magoula, photograph and drawings (grey indicates red / brown decoration; scale 1:2)

marks internally. Small spherical hollows are visible on some sherds due to firing, one of them resembles a sponge. Red and brown colours predominate.

Rims: Bowls: 20 with straight bodies, of which 13 with straight round rims, 1 with thickened upper part and pointed rim, 1 with round and 1 with flat and wide rim and deep nail-like impressions externally, 3 with round / pointed rims, including 1 with small round very short knobs (1 ROBuff, 4 ROCream, of which 2 with unclear motif, 1 with parallel oblique zigzags, 1 cross-hatched and one checkered, 6 Br, 5 RSB, 3 RB, 1 BrB) - 2 with straight bodies and upraised round / pointed rims (RSB) - 1 with straight body and flaring round rim (ROCream with crosshatched motif internally) – 11 with curving bodies and simple round rims, 1 of which is slightly thickened, 2 round-pointed rims and 1 BW with horizontal small and short oblong knob with a kind of tail (h 2.8, w 2.3, th 0.4; fig. 10 a), with parallels from EN Orchomenos, Elateia and Nemea⁹⁹ (3 LBr, 2 Br, 2 BW, 2 GW, 1 Buff, 1 RB) - 1 with curving body and thickened T-rim, flat on top with oblique deep incisions (Br) – 1 with curving body and incurving pound / pointed rim (RB). - Jars: 5 with spreading necks and simple round rims (1 ROBuff with unclear motif, 2 RB, 1 GW, 1 RSB) - 1 with spreading neck and flaring round rim (LBr).

Handles: 1 lug with vertical perforation (LBr) – 1 vertical strap / ovoid, but uncanonical in shape with two vertical bands at its edges and a small perforation made before firing (BrOBr) – 1 vertical strap (Buff). *Bases:* 1 flat with mat impression underneath (YR) – 2 ring (1 RSB, 1 RB) – 3 cylindrical (RB).

Decorated: 6 body sherds with linear decoration, thin lines, broad lines and both (2 ROBuff, 2 ROCream, 1 MP-BOBuff, 1 MP-BrOBr) – 5 with cross-hatched decoration (3 ROBuff, 1 ROCream, 1 MP-BOBuff), in the latter case contained within a diamond frame

⁹⁶ Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 44 I.11. I.12; Coleman 1977, pls. 40 B; 42 B. D; Kunze 1931, pl. 17, 1 l; Phelps 2004, fig. 48, 24. 25; Σάμψων 1993, fig. 193 bottom left; Sampson 2008, fig. 153, 1400. 1417.

⁹⁷ Phelps 2004, fig. 34, 31; Σωτηριάδης 1908, pl. 2, 23;

Sampson 2008, fig. 124, 401. 459 pl. 37 lower row second from left; Weinberg 1962, pl. 60 d.

⁹⁸ Kunze 1931, pl. 13, 2 f; Phelps 2004, 41; Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 d 6. 7.

⁹⁹ Kunze 1931, pl. 13, 2 a; Phelps 2004, 41 fig. 9, 2; Weinberg 1962, pl. 53 d 6.

(h 2.8, w 2.8, th 0.5; fig. 10 b), with a parallel from LN Alepotrypa, but in a different frame¹⁰⁰ – 2 with checker-board (1 ROBuff, 1 ROCream) - 3 with linear and curvilinear motifs (1 ROCream, 1 MP-BOBuff, 1 MP-BrOBr), of which 2 (h 5.3, w 5.2, th 0.4; fig. 10 c; h 3.2, w 3.1, th 0.6; fig. 10 d) are very similar in execution and resemble an MP example from LN Orchomenos on which, however, the curvilinear motif consists of a series of straight ones¹⁰¹ – 1 with three parallel wavy lines (ROCream), with parallels from MN Corinth, Akrata, Franchthi, Asea and Ayioryitika¹⁰² – 1 body sherd with several parallel vertical incisions (YR) – 5 body sherds with small and short ovoid horizontal knob (3 BW, 2 RSB)103 - 1 with three small short round flat-on-top knobs (LBr)104 -2 with post-firing large circular perforation used as loomweights, 1 of which was painted, possibly an MP sherd (YR).

Comments: The sherds with circular and oblong small knobs suggest an EN date, the ROBuff argues for a MN date, as does the ROCream variety, which appears to be close to the Elateia tradition. In addition, the MP painted types and the GW provide a definite LN date for this site, and the bowl with slashes on the rim argues for a FN date.

Location: low mound in the lowland area ca. 500 m north-west of modern Pyrgos.

References: Bulle 1907, 121–124; Fossey 1988, 368 f.; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 238; Συριόπουλος 1994, 145 map 7, 245; Wace – Thompson 1912, 197. Date: EN–FN.

15 Erima Kalyvia

figs. 1. 18

Context no.: 123.

Sherds: 13; rims: 2; body sherds: 11.

Wares: 5 Rcoarse, 4 Br, 3 RB, 1 Mottled (G/R).

Colours: Rcoarse: 2.5YR 4/4–5/6 reddish brown – red; Br: 7.5YR 5/4 brown – 5/6 strong brown; RB: 2.5YR 5/6 red.

Inclusions: few white.

Condition: Few have a slip and few are burnished. Red and brown colours predominate.

Rims: Bowls: 1 with straight body and straight pointed rim (RB) – 1 with curving body and upraised round rim with pointed lip (Br).

Comments: The character of the fabric and the RB sherds suggest a FN date.

Location: lowland area in the north-west edge of the Kopais basin ca. 2 km north-west of Pyrgos Magoula.

Date: FN.

16 Polygira

figs. 1. 15. 16. 18

Context no.: 104.

Sherds: 47; rims: 6; handle: 1; base: 1; body sherds: 39.

Wares: 13 Buff, 12 Rcoarse, 8 LBr, 6 R, 3 RS, 3 Bcoarse, 1 G, 1 RB.

Colours: Buff: 2.5Y 7/4 pale yellow – 10YR 5/3–5/4 brown – yellowish brown; Rcoarse / RB: 2.5YR 5/6–4/6 red – 10R 4/4–4/6 weak red – red; LBr: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown; R / RS: 2.5YR 6/6 light red – 4/6 red; Bcoarse: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black; G: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey.

Inclusions: few white, small stones in coarser sherds, very few inclusions of silver mica.

Condition: limited use of slip and some with burnishing. Burnishing and striation marks are visible on some sherds. Some present several spherical or irregular hollows on their surface. Red and Buff colours predominate as well as coarser types.

Rims: Bowls: 4 with slightly curving bodies and straight round, pointed rims (Rcoarse) – 1 with curving body and simple round rim (Rcoarse). – *Jars:* 1 with spreading neck and slightly flaring round, slightly flat-on-top rim (Rcoarse).

Handle: 1 vertical strap (Bcoarse).

Base: 1 flat (Rcoarse).

Comments: The character of the fabric argues for a FN date.

Location: fortified slope on a low hill at Polygira at the north-western edge of the Kopais basin ca. 5 km west of Erima Kalyvia and ca. 5 km north-west of Orchomenos.

References: Bulle 1907, 116–119; Fossey 1988, 360 f.; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 237; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 4; Μυλωνάς 1928, 71; Συριόπουλος 1994, 144 f. map 7, 244; Wace – Thompson 1912, 196. Date: EN–MN, FN.

17 Orchomenos

figs. 1. 11. 15-18

Context nos.: 99, 126, 130.

Sherds: 171; rims: 42; handles: 2; bases: 3; body sherds: 124; decorated: 28 ROBuff, 8 ROCream, 1 ROG, 7 MP-BOBuff, 6 MP-BOR, 2 PB, 2 I, 7 Pl.

Wares: 62 BW, 23 RSB, 14 Buff, 9 RB, 6 Br, 2 Cream Slip, 1 Buff Slip.

Colours: RSB: 10R 4/4 weak red – 2.5YR 5/6 red; BW: Gley 2 2.5/1–3/1 bluish black – very dark bluish grey; RB: 2.5YR 6/6 light red – 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow; Buff: 10YR 6/4 light yellowish red – 5/3 brown; Cream Slip 10YR 7/3–8/4 very pale brown.

Inclusions: some white, few sherds with few small stones, some with silver mica.

¹⁰⁰ Phelps 2004, fig. 43, 34.

¹⁰¹ Kunze 1931, pl. 21, 1 i.

Phelps 2004, 59 figs. 28, 8; 23, 34; 24, 5–7; 75, 24. 26.

Kunze 1931, pls. 6, 1 c; 13, 2 d. e; Phelps 2004, 41; Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 c 5.

Kunze 1931, pls. 6, 2 f. h; 13, 2 b. c; Phelps 2004, 41;
 Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 c 2. 4.

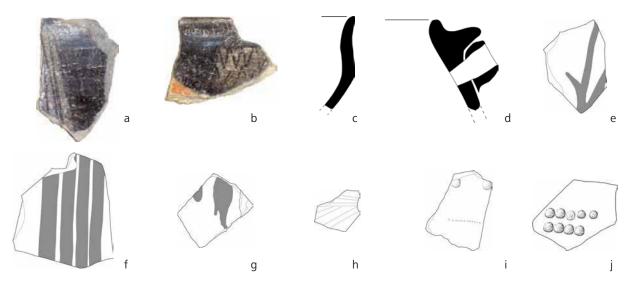


Fig. 11 Neolithic pottery from Orchomenos, photographs and drawings (grey indicates red / brown decoration; scale 1 : 2)

Condition: very good quality clay. Most sherds are slipped and almost all burnished. Few have striation marks, mainly internally; on some burnishing marks are visible. On the coarser buff sherds small spherical and irregular hollows can be seen internally. A single sherd displays straw marks. Many body sherds belong to angular bowl shapes.

Rims: Bowls: 16 almost straight bodies with straight round rims and round/pointed rims, 1 of which displays a round depression stemming either from a knob or a handle that fell off (6 BW, 5 RSB, 1 RB, 1 Br, 1 Buff, 1 Buff Slip, 1 MP-BOBuff) - 4 with almost straight bodies and flaring round rims (RSB, 1 with cream interior) – 1 slightly curving body with simple round rim (BW) - 3 with curving bodies with upraised round rims, 1 of which with two small and short horizontal parallel C (Buff), 2 externally B monochrome and internally with PB decoration, 1 of these with vertical parallel thin lines (h 5.2, w 4, th 1; fig. 11 a), the other with parallel zigzags (h 4.1, w 5.8, th 0.9; fig. 11 b), both with a B solid frame, similar to finds from FN Orchomenos, Eutresis, Corycian cave and Corinth¹⁰⁵ – 3 with curving bodies and slightly incurving rims (2 RSB, 1 RSB externally and BS internally) - 9 from s-shaped or angular bowls with round and pointed rims (BW), 1 of which (h 5.1, w 5.1, th 0.7–0.8; fig. 11 c) with parallels from LN Orchomenos, Elateia, Corycian cave, Corinth, Aria and Franchthi cave¹⁰⁶. – *Jars*: 2 spreading necks, of which 1 with simple round rim, 1 with externally thickened round lip (Cream Slip, Br) – 1 with spreading neck and flaring round rim (Br) – 2 with curving bodies and incurving round rims, of which 1 with large lug with vertical round perforation (Buff) – 1 with curving body and simple round rim from jar with high C parallel to the rim and circular spout (Buff; h 5.5, w 11.8, th 0.9; fig. 11 d), similar to examples, in painted and unpainted versions, from LN Skoteini cave¹⁰⁷.

Handles: 2 with vertical oblong short unperforated lug (1 RB, 1 BrB).

Bases: 2 flat (1 RSB, 1 BW) – 1 ring (Cream Slip). Decorated: 42 body sherds with linear decoration, thin lines, broad lines and both (26 ROBuff, 6 ROCream, 4 MP-BOR, 5 MP-BOBuff), of which 1 with a curvilinear line (MP-BOBuff; h 5.3, w 3.8, th 0.6; fig. 11 e), like the MP examples from LN Magoula Balomenou, Orchomenos and Corycian cave¹⁰⁸, 1 with four vertical parallel lines (MP-BOBuff; h 6.6, w 5.1, th 0.5; fig. 11 f), with parallels at LN Ayios Nikolaos cave, Corinth and Klenia¹⁰⁹ - 4 with cross-hatched decoration (1 ROBuff, 1 ROCream, 2 MP-BOR) – 2 with parallel angles (1 ROCream, 1 ROG) – 1 with herringbone motif (ROBuff) - 1 with two splashes (MP-BOBuff; h 4.5, w 4.2, th 0.7; fig. 11 g), similar in decoration to examples from LN Sarakenos cave, Corycian cave and Klenia¹¹⁰ - 2 body sherds from the same vessel with I vertical oblique pairs of lines and one single line (Buff) – 1 with small short parallel horizontal I

Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 43 I.22; Kunze 1931, pls. 1.
 10, 1; Phelps 2004, 106–108 fig. 48, 3; Touchais 1981, 134. 136 fig. 23, 310. 311.

Kunze 1931, fig. 4; Lavezzi 1978, fig. 4, 21; Phelps 2004, 79 fig. 32, 12; Touchais 1981, 130 fig. 20, 233; Weinberg 1962, fig. 10, 8.

¹⁰⁷ Σάμψων 1993, figs. 62, 107. 108; 71, 192. 193.

¹⁰⁸ Kunze 1931, pl. 21, 1 i; Touchais 1981, fig. 25, 346.

¹⁰⁹ Benton 1947, pl. 29, 21; Phelps 2004, figs. 84, 11; 88, 2.

Phelps 2004, fig. 81, 14; Sampson 2008, fig. 66, 800;Touchais 1981, fig. 26.

lines – 1 with oblique small and short lines forming triangles (BW; h 3, w 4.6, th 0.4; fig. 11 h), with parallels from FN Sarakenos cave and Skoteini cave¹¹¹ – 1 with horizontal short small I lines and small round knobs (BW; h 2.1, w 2.4, th 0.3, fig. 11 i) – 2 body sherds with small, short round knobs, of which 1 with a single knob and 1 with two in a row (BW; h 2, w 2.2, th 0.3; fig. 11 j), similar to examples in EN Orchomenos and Elateia¹¹².

Comments: The BW with small, short round knobs suggests an EN date and the Urfirnis ROBuff and ROCream wares argue for a MN date, the latter suggesting influences from the Elateia style. The MP varieties argue for a LN date, while the PB and some of the I may indicate continuity to the FN phase as well.

Location: east spur of Mt Dourdouvana, at the northwest edge of the Kopais basin by the modern village. References: Bulle 1907, 192; Fossey 1988, 351–356; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 236 f.; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 3; Kunze 1931; Μυλωνάς 1928, 68–71; Συριόπουλος 1994, 147 f. map 7, 248.

Date: EN-FN.

18 Magoula Balomenou *figs.* 1. 12. 15–17

Context no.: 84.

Sherds: 23; rims: 6; handles: 2; body sherds: 15; decorated: 5 ROBuff.

Wares: 6 RSB, 5 Br, 3 BW, 3 BuffB, 1 GW.

Colours: RSB: 2.5YR 4/6 – 5YR 5/6 red – yellowish red; Br: 5YR 6/6–5/6 reddish yellow – yellowish red; BW: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black; Buff: 10YR 6/3 pale brown; GW: Gley 2 4/1 dark bluish grey.

Inclusions: few white, small stones in thicker sherds, limited silver mica.

Condition: very good quality clay. The red and buff sherds have a slip and all have been burnished. Yellowish red and red predominate.

Rims: Bowls: 2 almost straight bodies with straight round rims (1 GW, 1 RSB; h 5.2, w 5.6, th 1.1; fig. 12 a), similar to examples from MN Orchomenos and Ayioryitika¹¹³ – 1 almost straight body sherd with thickened rim, flat on top with vertical perforations (BW; h 5.1, w 6.2, th 0.8; fig. 12 b), parallels in terms of shape at LN Orchomenos and Corinth¹¹⁴ – 1 slightly curving body with simple round rim (Buff) – 1 with straight body and flaring round rim (RSB) – 1 with flaring body and straight pointed rim (ROBuff with cross-hatched decoration; h 4.7, w 4.5, th 0.7; fig. 12 c), similar examples at MN Chaironeia,

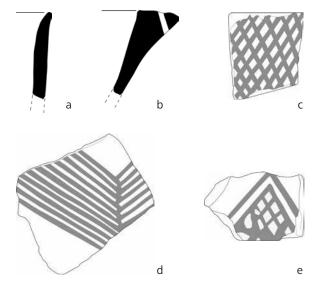


Fig. 12 Neolithic pottery from Magoula Balomenou, drawings (grey indicates red/brown decoration; scale 1:2)

Orchomenos and Eutresis¹¹⁵.

Handles: 1 small vertical handle (RSB) – 1 small oblong horizontal unperforated lug (RSB).

Decorated: 3 body sherds with cross-hatched decoration externally (ROBuff), of which 1 bears many parallel antithetic oblique lines meeting and separated by a vertical line forming most likely zigzag overall patterns (h 4.7, w 7.3, th 0.8; fig. 12 d), with parallels at MN Magoula Balomenou and Elateia, though with thicker borders at the sides¹¹⁶, 1 with a diamond internally, which contains another one inside with diamond-shaped checkerboard motif (ROBuff; h 3.1, w 5.3, th 0.7; fig. 12 e), in a way similar to examples from MN Orchomenos, Akrata and Franchthi, although all of the latter lack the outer diamond outline and appear on the external side of the vessel¹¹⁷ – 1 body sherd with herringbone motif (ROBuff).

Comments: The ROBuff ware argues for a MN date, while the GW and BW suggest use during the LN period if not later.

Location: lowland area ca. 2 km north of Chaironeia village.

References: Fossey 1988, 382 f.; Hope Simpson – Lazenby 1979, 254; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 2; Μυλωνάς 1928, 52–59; Συριόπουλος 1994, 148 f. map 7, 251;

 $[\]Sigma$ άμψων 1993, fig. 166, 4. 5. 7. 10. 11; Sampson 2008, pl. 39 middle row first and second from left.

¹¹² Kunze 1931, pl. 6 d. g; Phelps 2004, 41; Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 d 1–3. 6. 7.

¹¹³ Kunze 1931, fig. 3; Phelps 2004, 49 fig. 13, 10.

¹¹⁴ Kunze 1931, pls. 12, 1 a. d; 21, 1 e; Phelps 2004, fig. 31, 28. 29.

 ¹¹⁵ Caskey – Caskey 1960, pl. 43 I.4; Kunze 1931, pls. 12,
 1 f; 15, 2 d; 16, 2 a; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 3 K265;
 4 K406; 15 K255. K262; 20 first column third row.

¹¹⁶ Σωτηριάδης 1908, fig. 1 pl. 1 a; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 5 K403; 15 K249; Weinberg 1962, pls. 55 g; 57 d 15.

¹¹⁷ Kunze 1931, pl. 17, 2 d; Phelps 2004, figs. 18, 15; 19, 12.

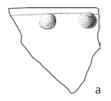




Fig. 13 Neolithic pottery from Chaironeia, drawings (grey indicates red / brown decoration; scale 1:2)

Σωτηριάδης 1908, 63; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 1989; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012; Wace – Thompson 1912, 197–201.

Date: EN-LN.

19 Chaironeia

figs. 1. 13. 15-17

Context no.: 99.

Sherds: 29; rims: 8; body sherds: 21; decorated: 9

ROBuff, 4 Pl.

Wares: 19 BW, 1 BrB.

Colours: BW: Gley 2 2.5/1-3/1 bluish black - very

dark bluish grey; BrB: 7.5YR 5/2 brown.

Inclusions: few white.

Condition: good quality clay. The BW sherds tend to have very thin bodies. Most BW are slipped and burnished. On some sherds, horizontal striation lines are visible.

Rims: Bowls: 5 almost straight bodies with straight round rims (2 ROBuff linear decoration, 3 BW, 1 of which has two small round knobs, with parallels at EN Orchomenos and Polygira¹¹⁸; h 2.6, w 2.3, th 0.3; $fig. 13 \ a) - 2$ slightly curving bodies with simple round rims (BW), 1 of which with round small knob. *Decorated:* 6 with linear decoration, single or parallel thin lines (ROBuff), 1 of which has a series of oblique parallel lines bordered by a thicker band (h 3.9, w 2.8, th 0.3; $fig. 13 \ b$), with parallels at MN Elateia, Chaironeia, Orchomenos and Sarakenos cave¹¹⁹ – 1 body sherd with cross-hatched decoration (ROBuff) – 2 body sherds with one or two small round knobs (1 BW, 1 BrB), similar to examples from EN Orchomenos and Elateia¹²⁰.

Comments: The BW with the small knobs belongs to the EN phase and the ROBuff belong to the MN tradition, but some of the BW argue for a LN date.

Location: the acropolis of the Chaironeia village. *References:* Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 253 f.; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 1; Συριόπουλος 1994, 149 map 7, 251; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012.

Date: EN-LN.

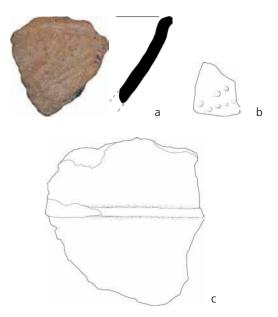


Fig. 14 Neolithic pottery from Lyoma, drawings and photograph (scale 1:2)

20 Lyoma

figs. 1. 14-18

Context no.: 108.

Sherds: 44; rims: 15; base: 1; body sherds: 28; decorated: 1 C, 1 Pl, 1 I, 1 Knob.

Wares: 10 RSB, 10 G / Br, 9 BW, 6 BrB, 5 Br, 3 Rcoarse, 1 Buff.

Colours: RSB: 10R 4/6 red; G / Br: 5YR 4/2 dark reddish grey; BW: Gley 2 2.5/1 bluish black – 3/1 very dark bluish grey; BrB: 5YR 5/3–5/4 reddish brown; Br: 5YR 5/3 reddish brown – 7.5YR 5/4 brown; Buff: 10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown.

Inclusions: few white, few small stones in the coarser sherds, a piece of milky quartz in one, silver mica. Condition: good quality clay. Most sherds are slipped and burnished; in many cases burnishing and striation marks visible on surfaces. On the coarser sherd with C, several straw marks are visible. One sherd has small spherical hollows from firing. The buff sherd has a strange mixture with many white circular inclusions on the lip, producing a unique surface colour.

Rims: Bowls: 7 with curving bodies, of which 4 with upraised round rims, 2 with flat and 1 with T-rim, 4 of the bowls apparently very shallow and curving (4 RSB, 2 BW, 1 Br) – 1 with curving body and flaring round rim with rippling oblique lines (Buff; h 4.7, w 5.2, th 1.2; *fig. 14 a*), with parallels attested at

¹¹⁸ Kunze 1931, pls. 6, 2 a-c; 10, 2 c; 13, 2 b. c.

Kunze 1931, pl. 15, 1 a. c. g-i; Σπυρόπουλος 1973, fig. 5 upper left; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, pls. 3 K264; 4 K356. K387; 5 Σ4α. Σ4β; 14 K225; 16 K355; 19 second column last row; Weinberg 1962, pl. 56 c 3. 10.

¹²⁰ Kunze 1931, pls. 9, 2; 13, 2; Phelps 2004, 41; Weinberg 1962, 171 pl. 53 c 1–3; d 2. 3.

LN Corinth and Klenia in BW and GW varieties¹²¹. – *Jars*: 1 with spreading short neck and everted round rim (G/Br) - 1 with curving body without neck and everted round rim (BrB) - 2 with almost cylindrical neck and everted rim with round lip (1 RSB, 1 G/BR).

Base: 1 cylindrical (RB).

Decorated: 1 body sherd with horizontal and oblique Pl decoration of round knob connected with a thin relief Pl line (BW; h 2.9, w 2.4, th 0.3; fig. 14 b), with parallels from LN Orchomenos $^{122}-1$ body sherd with two parallel horizontal I broad but shallow lines (B/Br), a pithos body with very rough interior and a large circular knob flat on top (BrB) – 1 body sherd from a jar with horizontal C triangular in section (mottled G/Br; h 9.1, w 8.7, th 1.4; fig. 14 c), with parallels from MN Vathykoilo Pelasgias in northern Fthiotis 123 .

Comments: The jar rim with the Pl decoration appears to belong to the MN phase, whilst the BW with relief and Pl decorations argue for a LN date and the I and C decorations belong to the FN pottery tradition.

Location: Kalami-Lyoma.

References: Fossey 1988, 336 f.; French 1972, 4–6. 9 f. 12 f.; Papathanassopoulos 1996, 204; Συοιόπουλος 1994, 149 f. map 7, 255.

Date: EN-FN.

21 Koroneia

figs. 1. 18

Context no.: 120.

Sherds: 7; body sherds: 7. Wares: 3 Rcoarse, 2 Br, 1 B, 1 Buff.

Colours: Rcoarse: 2.5YR 4/6 red – 4/4 reddish brown; Br: 7.5YR 5/4–4/4 brown; B: Gley 2 3/1 very dark bluish grey; Buff: 10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown. *Inclusions:* few white, small stones in coarser sherds, little silver mica.

Condition: All sherds burnished and some slipped. Red and brown colours predominate.

Comments: The fabric suggests a FN date.

Location: acropolis by the Koroneia village, ca. 4 km south-west of Agorgiani and the Kopais basin.

References: Fossey 1988, 324–326; Hope Simpson – Dickinson 1979, 242 f.; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2, 21; Sampson 2008, 363; Συριόπουλος 1994, 152 map 7, 260

Date: FN.

DISCUSSION

Pottery

In the first part of this section, the decorated pottery (*table 1*) from the sites presented above will be discussed in chronological order, followed by an examination of the different monochrome wares (*table 2*).

Although the EN remains stratigraphically elusive in Central Greece, and is known from very few settlements¹²⁴, diagnostic pottery is attested in several sites. One of the earliest forms of pottery decoration is the presence of round or ovoid small knobs on bowls in black and light colour ware, i.e. buff, pink or RSB¹²⁵. These pieces belong to the EN and early MN period and are found in both Boiotia and Fthiotis, and less frequently in Attica and the Peloponnese¹²⁶. Amongst the sites presented here, they are attested at Thespiai, Magoula Kafkala, Pyrgos, Pyrgos Magoula, Orchomenos, Chaironeia and Lyoma (*table 1*).

During the MN period many painted wares appear in Boiotia. Red-patterned wares¹²⁷ include primarily what it is here called ROBuff, and, secondarily, its variations, the ROCream, BrOBuff, BOBuff, ROG and ROB wares. Painted wares were particularly popular and widespread in Boiotia, as in other contemporary regions such as the Peloponnese, Fthiotis and Thessaly¹²⁸. The aforementioned variations concern mainly the colour of either the painted

- ¹²¹ Phelps 2004, 82 fig. 93, 1. 3. 4.
- ¹²² Kunze 1931, pl. 8, 1.
- 123 $\Delta\eta\mu\dot{\alpha}\kappa\eta$ 1994, fig. 23 second row first from right and third row second from right.
- Coleman et al. 1992; Coleman et al. 1999, 294; Phelps 2004, 15 f.; O'Neill et al. 1999; Sampson 2008, 80 f.; Weinberg 1962, 167–172.
- Kunze 1931, 16 pl. 6, 2; Phelps 2004, 41 fig. 3, 16. 17;
 Weinberg 1962, 167–172 pl. 53 c. d.
- Phelps 2004, 41; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen, 2012, 63. 68. 73 f. 77; in later MN phases their shape and size change.

- ¹²⁷ French 1972, 6 f.; Weinberg 1962, 175–177.
- There are some discrepancies, however limited, between regional definitions of the EN and MN periods, with earlier dates in Thessaly and later ones in southern Greece; see Demoule Perlès 1993 fig. 2; Perlès 2001, 110–112 fig. 6, 3; Reingruber Thissen 2009; $T\zeta\alpha\beta\epsilon\lambda\lambda\alpha$ -Evjen 2012, 98 chart 58. While it is acknowledged that this could be seen as an issue for further debate, the southern Greek chronological sequence and dates provide the frame of reference for the purposes of the present paper.

	1 Lithares	2 Eutresis	3 Thespiai	4 Aliatros	5 Pyrgos Aliartos	6 Steni	7 Kalimpaki	8 Perdikovrysi	9 Megali Katavothra	10 Pyrgos Ayia Marina	11 Magoula Kafkala	12 Nisi Stroviki	13 Pyrgos	14 Pyrgos Magoula	15 Erima Kalyvia	16 Polygira	17 Orchomenos	18 Magoula Balomenou	19 Chaironeia	20 Lyoma	21 Koroneia
ROCream				6							6			14			8				
ROBuff	1		44	1							1		67	10			28	5	9		
BrOBuff			9	2																	
BOBuff			17										7								
ROG			1														1				
Scribble Burnished			2																		
MP-WOB													1								
MP-BOBuff	33		7	3	1								18	2			7				
MP-BOR	1		2	2							1		6				6				
MP-BrOBr														3							
MP-ROBuff	1													1							
MP-ROR			1																		
ВОВ			1																		
BOG			1	1																	
Polychrome	1		1	2									1								
PB																	2				
1	6		1		1							2 I+C	6							1	
С	4									1		2	2							1	
PI/R	1 I+Pl		5								2		7	7			7		4	1	
Knob	2		3										1							1	

Table 1 Quantities (nos. of sherds) of decorated wares from catalogued sites

	1 Lithares	2 Eutresis	3 Thespiai	4 Aliatros	5 Pyrgos Aliartos	6 Steni	7 Kalimpaki	8 Perdikovrysi	9 Megali Katavothra	10 Pyrgos Ayia Marina	11 Magoula Kafkala	12 Nisi Stroviki	13 Pyrgos	14 Pyrgos Magoula	15 Erima Kalyvia	16 Polygira	17 Orchomenos	18 Magoula Balomenou	19 Chaironeia	20 Lyoma	21 Koroneia
RSB	16	1	5	4	2		3	2			9	11	120	34			23	6		10	
RS	7															3					
RB			173	5	1	1			3		9		35	19	3	1	9				
BW	6		20	30	6	2			2		5	8	26	10			62	3	19	9	
BSB			3	8							1		7								
BS	9		5																		
GW	8		19	2									3	4				1			
Buff	1	1	63	4			24		1	1	6	10	20	4		12	15	3		1	1
Cream			24										1				2				

Table 2 Quantities (nos. of sherds) of monochrome wares from catalogued sites

slip or the background, in most cases due to intentional or unintentional kiln conditions. However, ROCream ware was apparently treated with care, burnishing on the background surface distinguishing it in terms of quality, and bringing it closer to the Peloponnesian Urfirnis tradition. This pottery type and its decoration is widespread throughout Boiotia and Fthiotis, but limited in Euboia and Attica¹²⁹. Nonetheless, regarding the two latter regions it should be noted that there are only a limited number of known MN sites in general, possibly due to the presence of fewer settlements in this phase altogether. To the numerous known sites where this type of painted pottery is found, few new ones can be added, such as Pyrgos, Magoula Kafkala and Magoula Balomenou. The scribble burnished decoration can be dated to the MN late phase, and belongs to the Peloponnesian Urfirnis pottery tradition¹³⁰. This is the first time such a type is reported in Central Greece and more particularly at Thespiai (*fig. 4 n*), suggesting closer interaction with the Peloponnese.

The syntax of the motifs applied to all these MN painted varieties is shared to an significant degree, and no serious differentiation seems to exist between colours of decoration and patterns. The decoration is common under the rim of the bowls and on the neck of jars as well as lower down on the body of these shapes. Linear motifs are the commonest ones with limited use of curvilinear, but dots also appear on their own or as part of linear motifs. The linear decorations are variations of the oblique or vertical parallel lines, commonly bordered by thicker bands. Wavy and / or zigzag patterns appear to be relatively common in Boiotia, especially when compared to the Peloponnese, perhaps closer to the Thessalian flame motif¹³¹. Common decorations are net pattern / cross-hatches, antithetic or angled lines, diamonds, checker-board and triangles¹³². Their repertoire seems to be more conservative and restricted in comparison to the contemporary Peloponnese and Thessaly.

In the LN period the commonest decorated type is the MP ware, which is found in many variations¹³³. Here, some of the observed colour variations from the available sites are presented, BOBuff, BOR, BrOBr, ROBuff, ROR and WOB. The latter variety is very rare, one example coming from Pyrgos, but the matt white paint is applied on a relatively coarse black surface, which is not slipped or burnished. Thus, it should be considered as a non-typical and uncommon example of a pottery tradition more commonly attested in Thessaly, Central Greece and the Peloponnese¹³⁴, with parallels also from the Aegean islands such as Saliagos, Kalythies and the Koumelo caves on Rhodes, Tigani on Samos, the Ayio Galas cave on Chios and Poliochni on Limnos. MP ware appears to be as popular in Boiotia in quantity and distribution as in the Peloponnese, Attica, and less in Euboia¹³⁵. At the same time it has been identified at new sites in Boiotia, i.e. Lithares, Aliartos, Aliartos Pyrgos, Magoula Kafkala and Pyrgos. Two more painted wares that belong to the grey ware tradition with mattpaint are the rare types of BOG and BOB. They are part of the Macedonian and Thessalian >grey-on-grey< tradition only occasionally found to the south, at Elateia and Corinth¹³⁶, and currently in Boiotia, at Thespiai and Aliartos. Polychrome ware is part of the same phase, and was as popular in Boiotia, Attica, the Peloponnese and less in Euboia and Thessaly¹³⁷. Polychrome ware has been noted in new sites in Boiotia such as Lithares, Aliartos and Pyr-

¹²⁹ French 1972, fig. 3; Σάμψων 1981, 100–105; Sampson 2008, 71.

¹³⁰ Phelps 2004, 59.

¹³¹ Weinberg 1962, 178 f.

¹³² Weinberg 1962, 177 f.

French 1972, 9 f. 12 f.; Kunze 1931, 38–44; Phelps 2004, 67. 87 f.; Weinberg 1962, 182–186. 197 f.

Holmberg 1964, 343 f.; Phelps 2004, 74. 108–111; Σάμψων 1987, 40–42; Sampson 2008, 276.

French 1972, 12 fig. 7; Georgiadis 2010, 22 f. table 2; Phelps 2004, 95; Σάμψων 1981, 105–110.

Lavezzi 1978, 428; Phelps 2004, 85; Σάμψων 1981, 115; Sampson 2008, 99 f.; Weinberg 1962, 166 pl. 62 a 6. 7.

French 1972, 11 f.; Georgiadis 2010, 23 table 2; Kunze 1931, 38–44; Phelps 2004, 96–102; Σάμψων 1981, 110 f.; Σάμψων 1993, 83; Sampson 2008, 198; Weinberg 1962, 198.

gos. Some BW examples have a relief decoration in form of thin rope-like decoration with or without small knobs, which belong to the LN BW tradition. It has been well documented at LN Orchomenos, but new examples have been recovered at Magoula Kafkala, Lyoma and Thespiai ($figs. 5 \ a; 7 \ c; 14 \ b$). The same applies for the relief decoration, which is also attested for the BW and GW tradition¹³⁸, but in this region it is found in brown, light brown and buff versions, as at Pyrgos and Lyoma ($figs. 9 \ e. \ j; 14 \ a$), with parallels from Euboia¹³⁹. Another light brown example from Pyrgos is closer to a rippled decoration ($fig. 9 \ w$). Shoulder bowls should also be mentioned, since their shape is unusual. They bear black monochrome paint on some part or on their whole body, as well as incised decorations of linear and curvilinear motifs ($fig. 3 \ g-k$). They are attested in Lithares, while they are already known from Elateia, Magoula Balomenou and Orchomenos¹⁴⁰.

The painted versions in the LN pottery repertoire mainly comprise MP and Polychrome varieties. Linear decorations predominate, but curvilinear motifs are more commonly attested in comparison to the MN phase. The linear style mainly consisted of oblique and vertical parallel lines, which are less frequently attested and thicker than before, as well as zigzags¹⁴¹. Dots appear to be more common than before, and, occasionally, paint splashes occur. Many elements derive from the MN period, and motifs are repeated in MP versions, as in Corinth and elsewhere¹⁴², which would underline the continuity of older traditions into the new pottery types. Nonetheless, there is a clear preference for simpler and longer decorations along the bodies of the vessels. Although there are distinct characteristics in the local and regional MP repertoire¹⁴³, the general similarities and trends of the MP wares from the Peloponnese, Euboia and Thessaly¹⁴⁴ argue for closer interaction and a common pottery tradition during the LN period. Polychrome motifs are simple, linear and separate from each other, as in the case of the first group in Central Greece identified by W. W. Phelps¹⁴⁵. There is a single case from Lithares of parallel oblique lines, one red and one black, with dots of the same colour (fig. 3 l).

The FN phase is more limited in painted wares, and other types of decoration appear to become more popular, such as the use of incisions and cordons. Although PB ware was popular in Attica, it is rare in Euboia and Boiotia¹⁴⁶; one such sherd has been found at Pyrgos, and two at Orchomenos ($fig. 9 \ v; 11 \ a. b$). Cordon decoration is found mainly on container vessels, and appears to be common in Attica, Boiotia, and less in Euboia¹⁴⁷, with an example from Nisi Stroviki ($fig. 8 \ c$). Incised ware is also relatively common in Boiotia¹⁴⁸, many examples belonging to this phase, as the one from Orchomenos ($fig. 11 \ h$). On the Peloponnese, incision is uncommon, in contrast to Attica and Euboia, where this was a popular decorative technique¹⁴⁹. The shallow and broader incisions belong to a different variety altogether, some possibly of MN and LN date. The presence of knobs or pellets can be divided into different varieties. The first are the small ones already mentioned for the EN tradition, others below rims on the exterior belong to the MN period, but there are other larger ones that can be dated into the FN phase.

Monochrome wares are more common than decorated ones, and some items provide useful chronological information. Buff ware, burnished or plain, appears to be common

- ¹³⁸ Phelps 2004, 82; Sampson 2008, 100.
- 139 Σάμψων 1993, 100–102.
- Kunze 1931, pl. 13, 1 d. g; Phelps 2004, 71. 81 figs. 27, 14. 18; 31, 30; 34, 4. 8; Σωτηριάδης 1908, 91 fig. 12, 3; Weinberg 1962, pl. 62 c 3.
- ¹⁴¹ Weinberg 1962, 185. 197 f.
- ¹⁴² Sampson 2008, 145; Phelps 2004, 96.
- ¹⁴³ Sampson 2008, 137 table 4.
- ¹⁴⁴ Phelps 2004, 93–96 fig. 43; Σάμψων 1981, 108–110.
- ¹⁴⁵ Phelps 2004, 100.
- Phelps 2004, 106–108; Σάμψων 1981, 154–157;
 Σάμψων 1993, 139–149; Sampson 2008, 276.
- ¹⁴⁷ Georgiadis 2010, 23 f. table 2; Phelps 2004, 116 f.; Σάμψων 1981, 150 f.
- ¹⁴⁸ Sampson 2008, 217. 220.
- ¹⁴⁹ Georgiadis 2010, 23 table 2; Phelps 2004, 105 f.; Σάμψων 1981, 150; Σάμψων 1993, 152–154. 159.

from the EN period onwards in this region, sometimes found in pink or cream versions, the latter especially during the MN period¹⁵⁰. It has been found in a number of sites across Boiotia (*table 2*). Spongy ware is common during the EN phase and continues into EN late and MN periods to a lesser extent¹⁵¹. It has been identified at Kalimpaki, Magoula Kafkala, Nisi Stroviki and Pyrgos Magoula, with the exception of the first site in limited quantities. Parallels come from Elateia, Chaironeia, Orchomenos and Glas in Central Greece, and Corinth, Lerna and Asea on the Peloponnese¹⁵².

Black ware is a characteristic pottery type that appears in the LN period and continues into the FN phase 153. However, some black burnished ware was produced during the EN period, and can be differentiated only by the presence of small knobs / pellets¹⁵⁴. There are different treatments of black ware, some examples only slipped, others only burnished, and yet others both slipped and burnished, but all belong to a broader tradition. In Boiotia, BW appears to be widespread, as is the case in Thessaly, Akarnania, Fthiotis, Euboia, Attica and the Peloponnese¹⁵⁵. In some sites the BW display relief decoration, either in form of rippling or in form of thin rope-like decoration, as discussed above. Grey ware is another diagnostic pottery type that belongs exclusively to the LN period¹⁵⁶. Its colour and shapes are very close to the BW, but its distribution is more limited to some sites in the Peloponnese, and few in Central Greece and Thessaly. Attica is an exception, where GW was recently noted in a number of sites, but still in limited quantities¹⁵⁷. The new evidence from Boiotia suggests that the GW, recovered at Lithares, Thespiai, Aliartos, Pyrgos, Pyrgos Magoula and Magoula Balomenou, was more widespread than previously thought, presenting a situation that is closer to the case of Attica. Red colour appears commonly on wares of EN late, MN, LN and FN date, becoming more common during the latter phase 158. Red ware can be found in a variety of forms, slipped, burnished, slipped and burnished, but lacking any stratigraphical information, no dating can be attributed. It is widespread in many sites across Boiotia, in considerable quantities and in most of the sites presented above.

Regarding clay consistency, at half of the aforementioned sites, mica is a common element, and at eight other sites attested on few sherds only. Mica was a common element at Chaironeia I-III¹⁵⁹. At ten of the sites, the clay of a limited number of sherds contained quartz. Microscopic analysis of sherds from the Corycian cave and Chaironeia has confirmed its presence in the consistence of clay from different pottery types ¹⁶⁰. At Nisi Stroviki, Pyrgos, Orchomenos and Lyoma, in the case of one or two sherds, straw was added in order to strengthen the elasticity of the vessel, while in the A2 pottery group from the Corycian cave, the fabric was found to contain organic material¹⁶¹. The use of quartz and straw appears to be less frequent than at sites in Attica¹⁶². Small cracks on the surface of sherds have been noted at Perdikovrysi, with parallels from LN II Pangali in Aitolia¹⁶³.

¹⁵⁰ French 1972, 4; Phelps 2004, 30–32; Weinberg 1962, 172.

¹⁵¹ Phelps 2004, 30. 46; Weinberg 1962, 168. 172.

Holmberg 1944, 36; Ιακωβίδης 1989, 232; Kunze 1931, 44 f.; Phelps 2004, 30. 32; Weinberg 1962, 168 n 10

French 1972, 10. 13 f.; Holmberg 1964; Kunze 1931, 9–22; Phelps 2004, 70–76; Σάμψων 1981, 117–122; Weinberg 1962, 186–190. 198 f.

¹⁵⁴ French 1972, 6; Phelps 2004, 31.

¹⁵⁵ Benton 1947, 179–181; Phelps 2004, 65 f. 76; Σάμψων 1981, 121 f; Σάμψων 1993, 56–62.

 $^{^{156}}$ Phelps 2004, 77–85; Σάμψων 1981, 112–117; Σάμψων 1993, 62; Weinberg 1962, 186–190.

¹⁵⁷ Georgiadis 2010, 21 table 1.

¹⁵⁸ Mavridis 2006, 122; Phelps 2004, 31 f. 45. 77. 104; Σάμψων 1981, 98 f. 147. 151–153.

¹⁵⁹ Τζαβέλλα-Evjen, 2012, 57. 61. 72. 76.

¹⁶⁰ Courtois 1981, 173 f. 176–179; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012, 57. 61. 72. 76.

¹⁶¹ Courtois 1981, 174.

¹⁶² Georgiadis 2010, 24.

¹⁶³ Mavridis 2006, 121.

Landscape

The Neolithic sites of Boiotia have attracted the interest of scholars since the beginning of the 20th century¹⁶⁴. To date, more than 70 Neolithic settlements across Boiotia have been identified, and a number of smaller Neolithic or FN / EH sites have been characterised as farmsteads or activity areas¹⁶⁵. Overall, there are enough sites in Boiotia to present them in chronological order.

Across Boiotia, 22 EN period sites are attested, located in the Asopos and Kephisos plains as well as around Lake Kopais (*fig. 15*). All of these sites are situated in lowland areas close to fertile land and either rivers or lakes, whilst two of them are caves, Seidi and Sarakenos, both in use during the Palaeolithic period as well. The number of EN sites in Boiotia is one of the highest outside EN–MN Thessaly, and it would seem that the fertile land of the region attracted farmers from an early period on ¹⁶⁶. Only one site, Glyfa, had a coastal or near coastal character, considering the sea level during this period. The contrast between EN sites in Attica, which are situated mainly in coastal or near coastal locations in eastern Attica, ¹⁶⁷ and those from Boiotia, inland locations close to lakes and rivers, argues for different strategies in exploiting the available resources. In Euboia, there is a preference for inland locations relatively close to the coast, usually near water sources and a good knowledge of the local topography and its potentials.

During the MN period 15 of the EN sites were still in use and seven new ones appeared (*fig. 16*). All of the MN sites maintained the same locations of the previous phase. Sarakenos was the only cave certainly used in MN times. The number of MN sites in the region remained among the highest outside Thessaly. In Attica, the sites found in inland areas close to fertile land are more common. However, during this phase some of the sites in this region were also either situated on the coast, located near the coast, in caves as well as in one case in a mountainous location. A similar situation can be observed in contemporary Euboia, especially in the area around Chalkis¹⁷⁰. Moreover, the increase of sites in Attica is more rapid than in Boiotia. In the latter region, the number of settlements remains stable, with a preference for locations close to water resources, lakes and rivers, which is a wider trend in southern Greece, including Central Greece and the Peloponnese¹⁷¹.

Most MN sites, 18, continued to be used during the LN period, while four new ones were established and three more were reoccupied after a possible MN hiatus, judging from available evidence (*fig. 17*). This is a rather small increase of sites when compared to neighbouring Attica and Euboia¹⁷². The continuity of many sites and the appearance of only a few new ones suggest limited socio-economic changes, unlike in Attica, where settlements doubled in number. Nonetheless, both in Attica and Boiotia most MN sites continued into the LN period. In both regions there was no decrease of open air sites, whilst an increase

- Alram-Stern 1996, 277–284; Bulle 1907, 192. 196; Hope Simpson Dickinson 1979, 236–254 maps F. G; French 1972, 4–17; Goldman 1931; Konecny et al. 2008; Κόνσολα 1981, map 2; Μυλωνάς 1928, 52–59. 68–75; Papathanassopoulos 1996, 204 fig. 60; Sampson 2008; Σπυφόπουλος 1971, 321–325; Σπυφόπουλος 1973, 203–205; Σωτηφιάδης 1908; Θεοχάφης 1993, map 1; Τζαβέλλα-Evjen 2012; Wace Thompson 1912, 193–202.
- Bintliff et al. 2006, 671 f.; Bintliff et al. 2007, 129–131 figs. 9, 1. 2.
- 166 For the chronological differences between EN and
- MN Thessaly and Central Greece based on carbon dating refer to Reingruber Thissen 2009 and $T\zeta\alpha\beta\epsilon\lambda\lambda\alpha$ -Evjen 2012, 98 chart 58. For the broader issue of supra-regional chronologies, cf. n. 129.
- ¹⁶⁷ Georgiadis 2010, 28 f. map 2.
- 168 Σάμψων 1981, 55–57 chart 5.
- ¹⁶⁹ Georgiadis 2010, 29 map 2.
- 170 Σάμψων 1981, 71–73 chart 7.
- ¹⁷¹ Johnson 2004, 18.
- ¹⁷² Georgiadis 2010, 29 maps 2. 3; Σάμψων 1981, 93–95 chart 10.

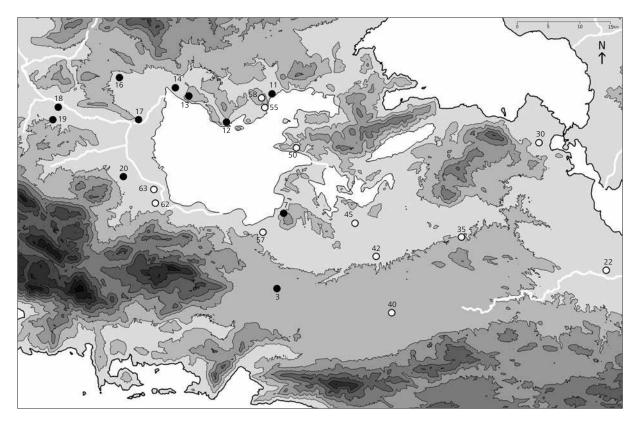


Fig. 15 Map of Early Neolithic sites in Boiotia

Fig. 15

Sites listed in the catalogue indicated by black circles:

3 Thespiai (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 7 Kalimpaki (EN or FN) – 11 Magoula Kafkala (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 12 Nisi Stroviki (EN, FN) – 13 Pyrgos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 14 Pyrgos Magoula (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 16 Polygira (EN, MN, FN) – 17 Orchomenos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 18 Magoula Balomenou (EN, MN, LN) – 19 Chaironeia (EN, MN, LN) – 20 Lyoma (EN, MN, LN, FN)

Other sites indicated by white circles:

22 Oinofyta (EN, LN) – 30 Glyfa (EN) – 35 Pyrgos Armatos (EN) – 40 Kastellani (EN, MN) – 42 Thebes (EN, LN) – 45 Toumpi (EN, MN) – 50 Sarakenos cave (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 55 Kastro-Topolia (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 57 Seidi cave (EN, LN) – 58 Kastro Magoula (EN) – 62 Agoriani (EN, MN, LN) – 63 Alalkomenai (EN, MN, LN)

Fig. 16

Sites listed in the catalogue indicated by black circles:

1 Lithares (MN, LN, FN) – 2 Eutresis (MN, LN) – 3 Thespiai (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 4 Aliartos (MN, LN) – 11 Magoula Kafkala (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 13 Pyrgos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 14 Pyrgos Magoula (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 16 Polygira (EN, MN, FN) – 17 Orchomenos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 18 Magoula Balomenou (EN, MN, LN) – 19 Chaironeia (EN, MN, LN) – 20 Lyoma (EN, MN, LN, FN)

Other sites indicated by white circles:

29 Tanagra (MN, LN, FN) – 31 Drosia Lithossoros (MN, LN) – 40 Kastellani (EN, MN) – 45 Toumpi (EN, MN) – 50 Sarakenos cave (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 51 Glas (MN, LN) – 53 Akris Potamos (MN, FN) – 55 Kastro-Topolia (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 62 Agoriani (EN, MN, LN) – 63 Alalkomenai (EN, MN, LN)

Fig. 17

Sites listed in the catalogue indicated by black circles:

1 Lithares (MN, LN, FN) – 2 Eutresis (MN, LN) – 3 Thespiai (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 4 Aliartos (MN, LN) – 5 Pyrgos Aliartos (LN, FN) – 11 Magoula Kafkala (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 13 Pyrgos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 14 Pyrgos Magoula (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 17 Orchomenos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 18 Magoula Balomenou (EN, MN, LN) – 19 Chaironeia (EN, MN, LN) – 20 Lyoma (EN, MN, LN, FN)
Other sites indicated by white circles:

22 Oinofyta (EN, LN) – 26 Liatani (LN, FN) – 27 Kleidi (LN, FN) – 29 Tanagra (MN, LN, FN) – 31 Drosia Lithossoros (MN, LN) – 42 Thebes (EN, LN) – 46 Plataiai (LN, FN) – 50 Sarakenos cave (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 51 Glas (MN, LN) – 55 Kastro-Topolia (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 57 Seidi cave (EN, LN) – 62 Agoriani (EN, MN, LN) – 63 Alalkomenai (EN, MN, LN)

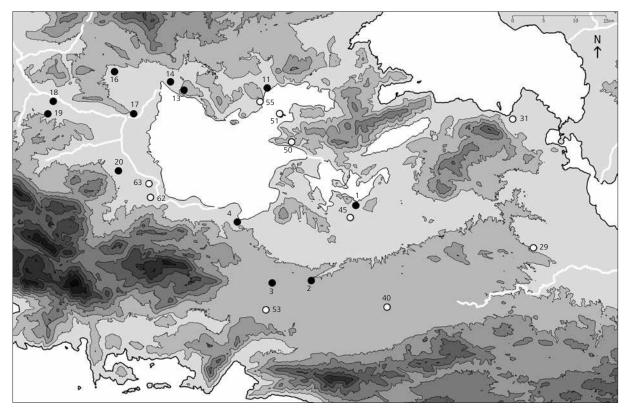


Fig. 16 Map of Middle Neolithic sites in Boiotia

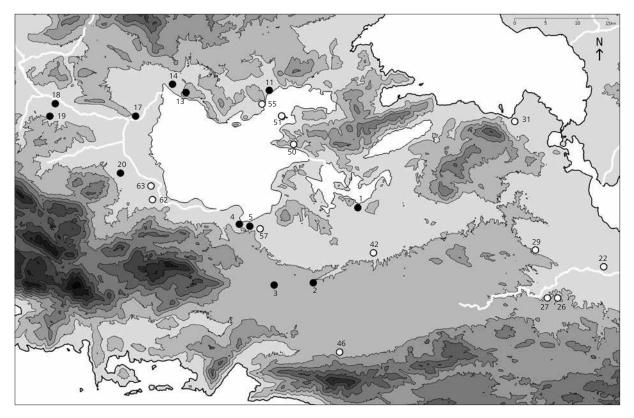


Fig. 17 Map of Late Neolithic sites in Boiotia

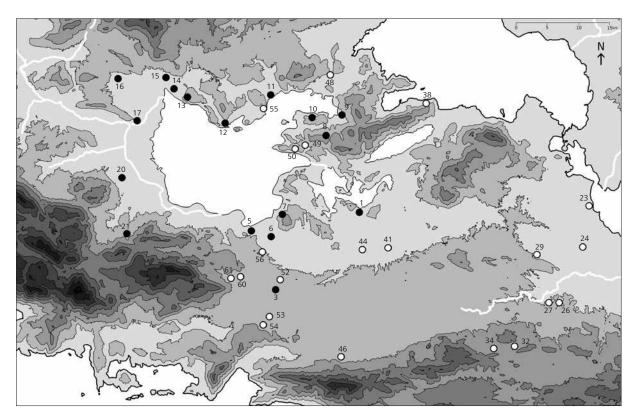


Fig. 18 Map of Final Neolithic sites in Boiotia

Sites listed in the catalogue indicated by black circles:

1 Lithares (MN, LN, FN) – 3 Thespiai (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 5 Pyrgos Aliartos (LN, FN) – 6 Steni (FN) – 7 Kalimpaki (EN or FN) – 8 Perdikovrysi (FN) – 9 Megali Katavothra (FN) – 10 Pyrgos Ayia Marina (FN) – 11 Magoula Kafkala (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 12 Nisi Stroviki (EN, FN) – 13 Pyrgos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 14 Pyrgos Magoula (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 15 Erima Kalyvia (FN) – 16 Polygira (EN, MN, FN) – 17 Orchomenos (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 20 Lyoma (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 21 Koroneia (FN)

Other sites indicated by white circles:

23 Dramesi (FN) – 24 Schimatari-Ayios Ilias (FN) – 26 Liatani (LN, FN) – 27 Kleidi (LN, FN) – 29 Tanagra (MN, LN, FN) – 32 Scourta (FN) – 34 Pyli (FN) – 38 Skorponeri-Palaeometochi (FN) – 41 OSE Thebes (FN) – 44 Pyri (FN) – 46 Plataiai (LN, FN) – 48 Ayios Ioannis-Katavothra (FN) – 49 Akraifnio (FN) – 50 Sarakenos cave (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 52 Thespiai Magoula (FN) – 53 Akris Potamos (MN, FN) – 54 Palaikanadra (FN) – 55 Kastro-Topolia (EN, MN, LN, FN) – 56 Mavromati (FN) – 60 Valley of Muses 4 (FN) – 61 Askra (FN)

of caves has been noted only in Attica and Euboia, as proposed for the whole of southern Greece by M. Johnson, based on examples from the north-eastern Peloponnese¹⁷³.

Among the sites occupied in the FN period, 14 had a LN horizon, whilst at least 20 new sites appeared and three were reoccupied after a possible gap in their use (*fig. 18*). A high concentration of small sites has been identified near Mavromati, Pyli and Scourta, but remains unpublished so far.¹⁷⁴ Taking farmsteads and activity sites into consideration, there is a far higher increase of sites across Boiotia. In fact, during this period the development of the regional settlement pattern presents closer resemblance to both Attica and Euboia. Furthermore, during the FN phase the first positive evidence of an exploitation of marginal locations is available at Perdikovrysi, north-east of lake Kopais, as well as at coastal Skorponeri-Palaeometochi. The latter, along with Dramesi, are the only coastal sites of this period, but Dramesi is close to good arable land as well. This rapid increase of settlements

is a wider phenomenon in southern Greece, including Boiotia, Euboia¹⁷⁵ and Attica¹⁷⁶, most of the Peloponnese¹⁷⁷, Crete¹⁷⁸ and the Aegean islands¹⁷⁹. The introduction of the plough and the development of secondary products have been plausibly related to this trend¹⁸⁰.

It is rather unfortunate that 12 Neolithic sites cannot be attributed to specific phases. These sites are located in different landscape settings such as the plain, the coast and caves. More importantly, they include most sites in marginal locations, especially in south-west Boiotia, where no settlement has been dated. Overall, there was an increase of sites throughout Boiotia during the LN phase, and an even more extensive one in the FN period. However, this trend is far less prominent than the one identified in Attica. Most sites in Boiotia are up to 300 m in altitude, more than 200 m in the specific case of settlements in the Asopos valley, until the LN period with few exceptions. In the FN phase there is a significant increase of sites located above 300 m in altitude, which is comparable to FN Attica rather than FN eastern Thessaly. All these data suggest similarities especially with contemporary Attica and at the same time an important regionalism defining Boiotia.

The topography of Boiotia and the known Neolithic settlements evince a variety of patterns. Boiotia provides four different settlement patterns, enriching the data observed in Attica. The first pattern is attested in the eastern part of Boiotia, where a number of coastal sites are located around the Euboian gulf¹⁸³, continuing the tradition observed along the eastern coast of Attica and the western coast of Euboia. They would have acted as gateways for importing materials in large quantities, such as Melian obsidian, and promoted interaction with these areas as well as with the Aegean islands. There are four such sites, with Glyfa emerging during the EN period and Lithossoros from the MN phase onwards, while the rest were founded during the FN phase. The increase of coastal sites during the FN period is attested for both Attica¹⁸⁴ and Euboia¹⁸⁵, however in eastern Boiotia and southern Euboia this increase appears to be more sudden than in Attica. This strongly suggests that interactions became increasingly important throughout this period.

The second pattern is found in the south-eastern and north-western part of Boiotia, and consists of settlements in the plain situated close to perennial rivers and / or streams. This is evident in the Asopos and Kephisos valleys, where such locations were preferred as early as the EN period and progressively became more popular. Bintliff notes a concentration of such sites in the wetland areas close to rivers from the EN to MN phases ¹⁸⁶. Nonetheless, during the FN period there is a significant increase of sites in the interfluvial areas of the plains, while surveys conducted in the Thespiai and Tanagra areas have shown that a large number of farmsteads and activity areas developed around larger settlements¹⁸⁷. This change has been attributed to the introduction of the plough and secondary products¹⁸⁸. To date, this settlement trend appears to be limited to the south-eastern part of Boiotia. A similar preference for locations close to rivers has been recognised in FN Attica near the Megalo Revma in the Mesogeia area. Interestingly enough, EN–MN settlements of eastern Thessaly, in a similar, but far larger plain, were oriented more towards lakesides rather than

Papathanassopoulos 1996, 205 fig. 60; Σάμψων 1981, 159 f. chart 20.

¹⁷⁶ Georgiadis 2010, 32 f. maps 3. 4.

¹⁷⁷ Cavanagh 1999; Papathanassopoulos 1996, 206 fig. 60; Σάμψων 1997, pls. 54. 55.

¹⁷⁸ Nowicki 2002; Papathanassopoulos 1996, 207. 208 fig. 60.

¹⁷⁹ Broodbank 2000, 123 fig. 34; Georgiadis 2012, 173.

¹⁸⁰ Johnson 1996, 286.

¹⁸¹ Georgiadis 2010, 29–32 maps 3. 4.

¹⁸² Γαλλής 1992, 223. 238; Georgiadis 2010, 33.

¹⁸³ Κόνσολα 1981, 50.

¹⁸⁴ Georgiadis 2010, 33.

Papathanassopoulos 1996, 205 fig. 60; $\Sigma \acute{\alpha} \mu \psi \omega \nu$ 1981, 159 f. chart 20.

¹⁸⁶ Bintliff et al. 2007, 171.

Bintliff et al. 1999, 164 f.; Bintliff et al. 2004/2005, 547–550; Bintliff et al. 2006, 671 f.; Bintliff et al. 2007, 129–131. 171 figs. 9, 1. 2; Sarri 2004/2005, 554.

¹⁸⁸ Bintliff et al. 2006, 672.

rivers and / or streams, but yet some examples of the latter are found by the Peneios River and its tributaries¹⁸⁹. Therefore, to date this settlement pattern appears to be more common in southern Central Greece, mainly in Boiotia and Attica.

The third pattern reflects a preference for marginal locations. This is evident in the south-western part of Boiotia, which in fact is the most mountainous one, dominated by Mt Parnassos. There are at least four settlements in areas with rather limited arable land. It is unfortunate that none of them provides a dating, but a late phase would be expected judging from similar examples in Attica and Euboia. The sites around Pyli and Scourta are located on a mountainous plateau above 500 m in altitude, and can be dated to the FN. This is strengthened by the presence of a similar type of settlement at Perdikovrysi, situated in the hilly area north-east of lake Kopais, and coastal Skorponeri-Palaeometochi, which belong to the FN period. Thus, in Boiotia this trend is more evident during the FN phase, as was the case in contemporary Attica¹⁹⁰.

The fourth settlement pattern is attested in the northern part of Boiotia, with sites centred around lakes, a pattern that did not exist in Attica. This region was a lake district comprising three substantial lakes, Kopais, Yliki and possibly Paralimni. The latter two are surrounded by high hills today, and arable land is limited, but yet a few settlements developed around them. However, it appears that in the past, these two lakes were smaller in size, possibly due to the existence of Lake Kopais¹⁹¹. Around the latter, there were at least 11 sites during the EN phase, in the subsequent MN period 10 sites, while during the LN phase nine existed. During the MN and LN phases, the site of Glas was occupied, which at the time was an islet within Lake Kopais. It is very interesting to note that contemporary parallels of islet occupation stem from Lake Karla in eastern Thessaly¹⁹². Nonetheless, a further increase of settlements to 13 is attested in the FN, following a similar trend identified for Boiotia as a whole. The popularity of lakeside environments in early agriculture has already been noted throughout southern Greece, as well as in Anatolia and the Near East¹⁹³. In Boiotia, this preference is unprecedented when compared with the situation around Lake Karla in Thessaly to the north from the EN phase on 194. The fertile land around the lake and the resources of the lake itself appear to have been of great importance for the development of a dense settlement pattern throughout the Neolithic period.

The use of caves during Neolithic times has been discussed for Attica, where they were frequently occupied¹⁹⁵, while favoured in Euboia as well¹⁹⁶. Boiotia as a region provides a number of caves, but only seven have yielded positive evidence for their use during the Neolithic period, all located around Lake Kopais ¹⁹⁷. Most of these sites have not been dated, but judging from the context, they seem to have been occupied already from the EN phase until the FN period. In this respect, Boiotia appears to present closer resemblances to practices in southern Greece rather than Thessaly and the northern part of the mainland¹⁹⁸.

The presence of clustered settlements has also been noted in Boiotia during the Neolithic period. These settlements consist of two distinct small villages or hamlets very close to each other, a couple of hundred metres apart. This type of settlements has been noted at Askris Potamos and Palaikanadra, Thespiai and Thespiai Magoula, Askra and Valley of Muses

 $^{^{189}}$ Γαλλής 1992, chart 5; Demoule – Perlès 1993, 365; Halstead 1994, 210; Perlès 2001, 135. 143.

¹⁹⁰ Georgiadis 2010, 34.

¹⁹¹ Fossey 1988, 226.

 $^{^{192}}$ Γαλλής 1992, 25; Ιακωβίδης 1989, 232 f.; Ιακωβίδης 1998, 135.

¹⁹³ Demoule – Perlès 1993, 365; Johnson 1996, 282 f.

¹⁹⁴ Γαλλής 1992, 25; Perlès 2001, 128–131. 143 fig. 7, 3. 4.

¹⁹⁵ Georgiadis 2010, 28–30.

 $^{^{196}}$ Papathanassopoulos 1996, 205; Σάμψων 1981, 93–95. 159 f.

Papathanassopoulos 1996, 204; Σάμψων 2000, 135–137; Sampson 2008, 362–385; Σπυρόπουλος 1973, 201–205 map 1 figs. 1–6.

¹⁹⁸ Halstead 1994, 210; Mee 1999, 67.

4, Mavromati, and the Scoutra-Pyli area in the FN period¹⁹⁹. To these, Kastro and Kastro Magoula, and Pyrgos and Pyrgos Magoula should be added, the first being a clustered settlement during the EN phase and the latter in MN and LN periods. This settlement model appears to have a long tradition in Boiotia from the EN onwards, becoming very popular in the FN phase. Parallels to clustered settlements can be found in Attica during the MN phase with clusters in Pousi Kaloyeri and Rhamnous, as well as in FN Athens²⁰⁰. The character of their relationship as well as their contemporaneity remains yet a subject for further thorough analysis. A similar relation may also exist between the Sarakenos cave and the Sarakenos site during the Neolithic period. The close proximity and relation between caves and open air sites has been noted before in several cases in southern Greece, such as Skoteini cave, Franchthi cave and elsewhere.

The study of Neolithic Boiotia may contribute further insight into this period in Central Greece. The research so far conducted on its sites, pottery, other finds and settlement patterns reveals both a distinct regional character and close links and interaction with both the Peloponnese to the south and Thessaly to the north. The pottery presented above, as well as the landscape settings of the settlements that were analysed, certainly call for further discussion within an overall discourse regarding Neolithic Boiotia and, more generally, the Neolithic period in Greece.

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dies at Athens at http://creative.corinth-and-greece (22/06/2016) and licensed under Creative Commons BY-SA 4.0 http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/ (22/06/2016). – *Fig.* 2: M. Georgiadis. – *Figs.* 3–14: drawings T. Papadogonas, photographs M. Georgiadis.

¹⁹⁹ Bintliff et al. 2007, 91. 171; Τσώτα, forthcoming.

²⁰⁰ Georgiadis 2010, 28 f. 32 f. maps 2. 4; Pantelidou-Gofa 2000, 125. 129 f.

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