

ANNUARIO

DELLA

SCUOLA ARCHEOLOGICA DI ATENE

E DELLE

MISSIONI ITALIANE IN ORIENTE

VOLUME 97

SCUOLA ARCHEOLOGICA ITALIANA DI ATENE

2019

EVIDENCE AND SOME SPECULATIONS ON BRONZE AGE PRESENCE AT THE WIDER AREA OF KYMISSALA, RHODES*

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Riassunto. Il presente contributo raccoglie le evidenze relative alla presenza micenea nell'ampia area di Kymissala e si basa su dati delle ricognizioni e su rinvenimenti sporadici: in particolare ceramica e armi. I manufatti, esaminati partendo dalla considerazione dei loro rispettivi punti di rinvenimento, attestano che la zona fu abitata fin dal periodo preistorico (probabilmente tardo Neolitico/Bronzo iniziale) e, con ancora maggiore intensità, nella tarda età del Bronzo. Si ipotizza inoltre una presenza micenea e l'esistenza di un insediamento, al momento non ancora identificato. In base a tale analisi quindi anche Kymissala rientra in quel ben noto contesto miceneo stabilizzatosi nella parte meridionale dell'isola.

Περίληψη. Στην εργασία συγκεντρώνονται οι μέχρι σήμερα μαρτυρίες για την παρουσία μυκηναϊκού στοιχείου στην ευρύτερη περιοχή της Κυμισάλας, οι οποίες αφορούν σε αποτελέσματα επιφανειακών ερευνών και τυχαία ευρήματα (κυρίως κεραμική, αλλά και χάλκινα όπλα). Τα ευρήματα συζητούνται χρονολογικά σε σχέση με τα φερόμενα σημεία εύρεσής τους, σε μια προσπάθεια να καταδειχτεί η χρήση της περιοχής κατά την προϊστορική περίοδο. Όπως προκύπτει, υπήρξε μια ουσιαστική παρουσία των μυκηναίων και πιθανότατα μια εκτεταμένη κατοίκηση του χώρου – παρόλο που δεν έχει ακόμη ταυτοποιηθεί κάποιος οικιστικός πυρήνας στην περιοχή – από την ύστερη Νεολιθική/πρώιμη Ελλαδική, με εντατικότερη χρήση κατά την Ύστερη Εποχή του Χαλκού, γεγονός που εντάσσει την περιοχή της Κυμισάλας στο πλαίσιο του καθιερωμένου μυκηναϊκού δικτύου θέσεων της νότιας Ρόδου.

Abstract. The paper is bringing together evidence on the Mycenaean presence in the wider area of Kymissala based on surveys and sporadic finds, namely pottery and weapons. The finds are discussed according to their alleged find-spots in an attempt to show that the area was inhabited since prehistoric – possibly late Neolithic/early Bronze Age – times with a more intensive use in the late Bronze Age, inferring to a Mycenaean presence and maybe a settlement in the area – although such a nucleus has not been identified so far – putting thus Kymissala in the context of the well-established south-Rhodes Mycenaean network.

1. THE REGION OF KYMISSALA IN ANTIQUITY

The region of Kymissala is located on the SW coast of the island of Rhodes (Fig. 1). The area is part of the Natura 2000 EU wide network of nature protection areas¹ and was declared an archaeological zone in 2012, by the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports². During antiquity, the deme of Kymissaleis, the administrative territory of the Camirian *Chora* and the pan-Rhodian state extended here. The area is currently undergoing intensive archaeological research conducted by the Department of Mediterranean Studies of the University of the Aegean and the Ephorate of Antiquities of the Dodecanese since 2006³. *The Kymissala Archaeological Research Project (KARP)*⁴, is the only research project focusing on the study of a deme of the Rhodian countryside to date.

Apart from systematic excavation on selected sites, the wider area has been thoroughly investigated by surface surveying, where a number of sites were located varying from fortified hilltops to settlements, large necropoleis and smaller burial sites, quarries, various other sites and a network of roads, distributed within

* Many thanks are addressed to my colleagues Foteini Zervaki of the Ephorate of Antiquities of the Dodecanese for the fruitful discussion on issues of this paper and Vicky Hatzipetrou for saving it from many language lapses. Also, to the dear friend Filimonas N. Roussos for the photographs of all artifacts illustrated.

¹ *Official Journal of European Union* 2006, L 259, 1-104; ΝΤΑΦΗΣ *et alii* 1997, 322; ΒΕΡΓΩΤΗ 2017, 152.

² *Official Government Gazette* 218/Α.Α.Π./15-06-2012, «Εγκριση κήρυξης και οριοθέτησης αρχαιολογικού χώρου της περιοχής Κυμισάλας-Γλυφάδας Νότιας Ρόδου Δωδεκανήσου, Περιφέρειας Νοτίου Αιγαίου».

³ With the collaboration of the School of Rural and Surveying Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens (Prof. Andreas Georgopoulos) and the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, in Łódź (Prof. Mariusz Mielczarek).

⁴ On preliminary results of the KARP see ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2009; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2015; 2017a; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017d; ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ-ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2009-2011; 2014a; 2014b; 2016a; 2016b; 2016c; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ *et alii* 2015; 2014b; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2014a.

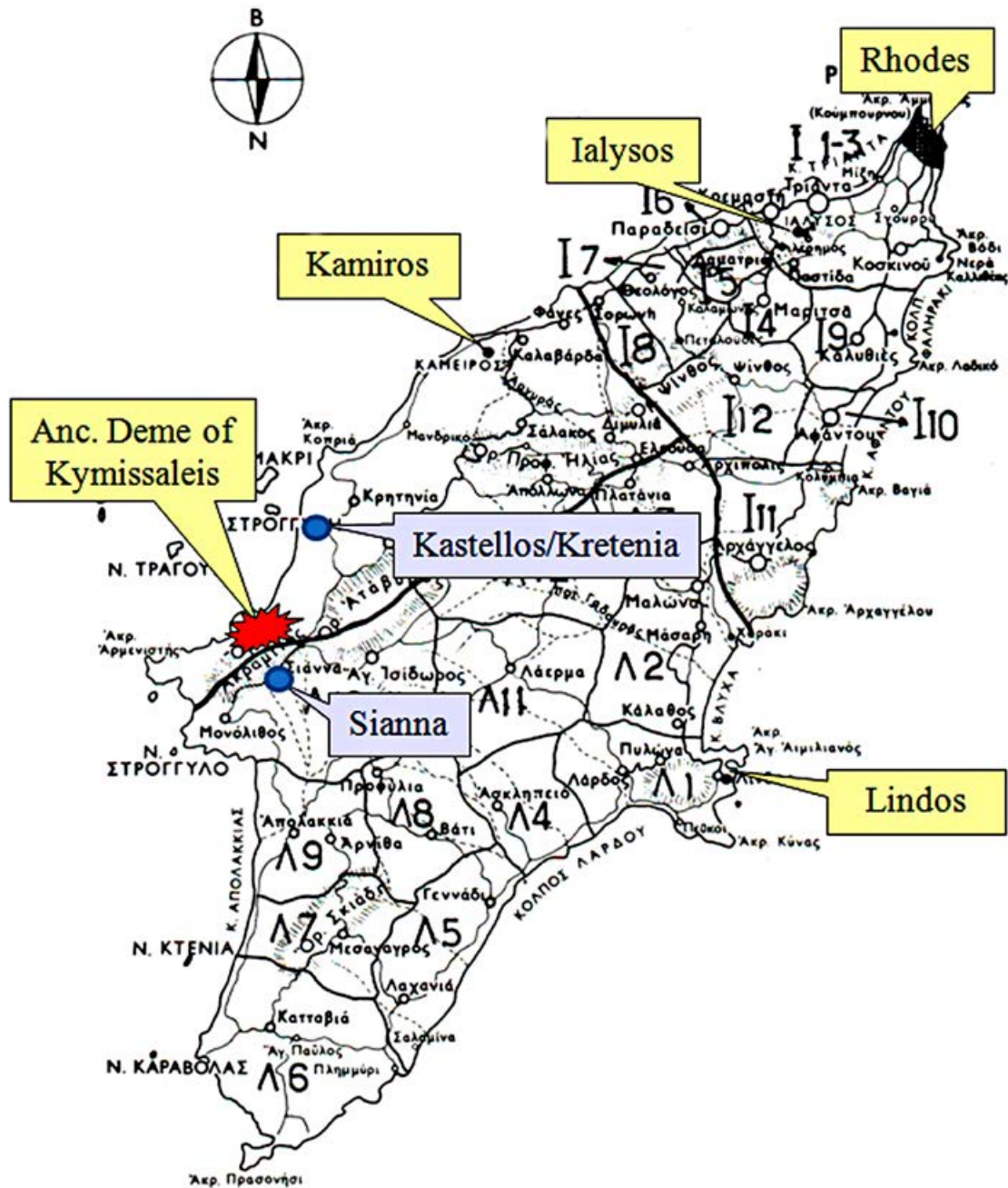


Fig. 1. Rhodes. Maps with ancient sites and modern villages (after ΠΑΠΑΧΡΗΣΤΟΔΟΥΛΟΥ 1989).

two fertile basins to the E and W of the Hagios Phokas' acropolis (Fig. 2)⁵. Although the vast majority of the sites have produced classical and Hellenistic pottery, there have been sporadic finds in the past, forming evidence for a prehistoric to – and mainly – Late Mycenaean habitation of the area⁶.

The paper is bringing together evidence based on surveys and studies published in the past, which included prehistoric finds from the area of Kymissala. Modern research has attempted – but not succeeded so far –, in locating any sites predating Archaic period⁷. A list of 30 published Bronze Age artifacts, pottery and metal objects, from the wider area is compiled. The exact provenance and the archaeological context of the artifacts are unknown. The finds are discussed according to their alleged find-spots (Fig. 3).

⁵ ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017b.

⁶ It is a fact that the Mycenaean influence reached Rhodes, as early as the later 15th century BC, when Mycenaean style pottery, weapons, and jewelry were placed in Mycenaean-style chamber tombs (see, indicatively TARTARON 2013, 17; BENZI 1988a, 59; 1992,

209-212). On a concise discussion on sites by period see MEE 1982, 78-92.

⁷ ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 93. Research funded by INSTAP in 2009-2010 (*Ibid.* 2009-2011, 83, N. 138) did not manage to locate any Mycenaean tomb in the necropolis of Kymissala.

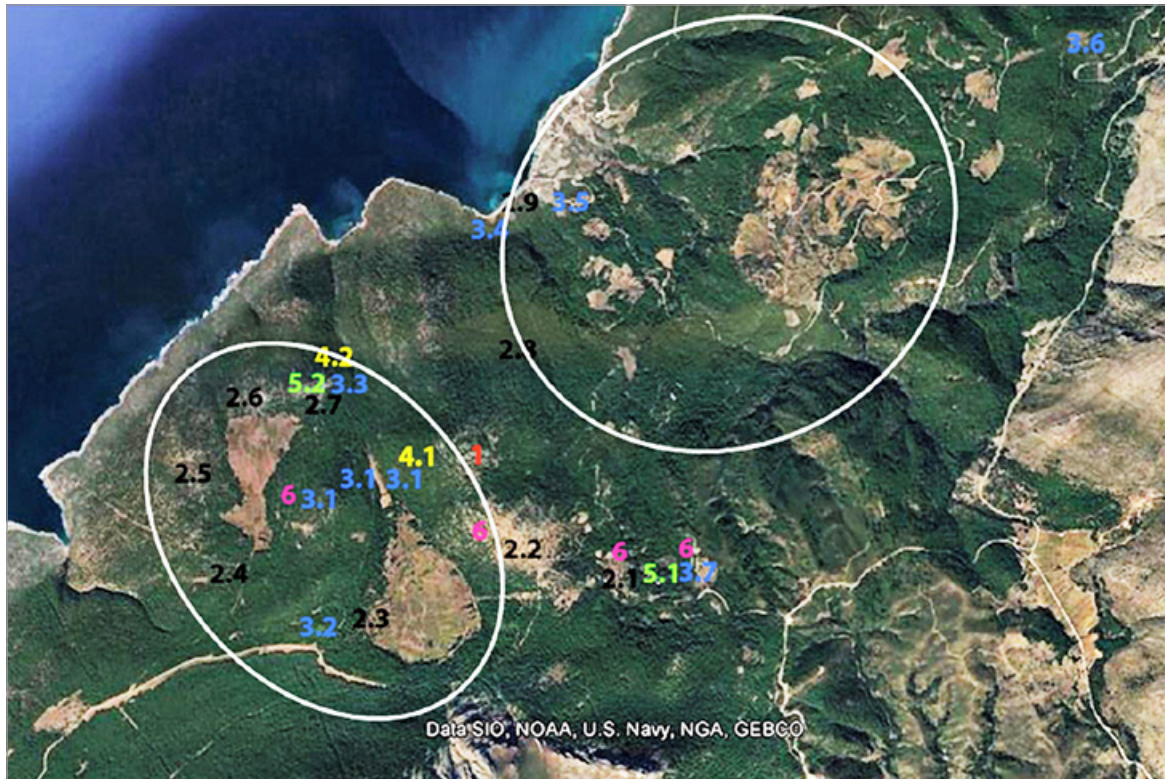


Fig. 2. Kymissala. Map of the wider archaeological area with the two basins: 1. ACROPOLIS (CITADEL). 2. SETTLEMENTS/ INSTALLATIONS: 2.1 Stelies; 2.2 Marmarounia; 2.3 Kampanes; 2.4 Unidentified location W of the hill of Kymissala; 2.5 Atoumas hill; 2.6 Vassilika; 2.7 Napes; 2.8 Charakas, Amelantrou; 2.9 Glyphada, Monossyria. 3. CEMETERIES: 3.1 The Necropolis of Kymissala (Sectors I, III, IV); 3.2 Kampanes; 3.3 Napes; 3.4 Glyphada, Oglyma; 3.5 Glyphada, Hagios Georgios; 3.6 Glyphada, Pouggas; 3.7 Alonia. 4. Quarries: 4.1 Hagios Phokas; 4.2 Napes; 5. OTHER SITES: 5.1 Spring; 5.2 Fort; 6. ANCIENT ROAD (after STEFANAKIS 2017b).



Fig. 3. Kymissala. Map of sites with prehistoric finds (background Google Earth; el. A.).

2. SITES OF THE WIDER AREA OF KYMISSALA WITH SPORADIC MYCENAEAN FINDS

1. Hagios Phokas (acropolis) (Fig. 3.1)

The hill of Hagios Fokas, whose peak served as the acropolis of the area, strongly fortified and containing a small Hellenistic temple, emerges in the centre of the archaeological zone. The site has produced pottery mainly from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period⁸, while prehistoric, Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age habitation, has been suggested by Hope-Simpson and Lazenby in the light of «a few sherds of “oatmeal” fabric, including part of a V-shaped vestigial lug, of coarse clay with white and purple grits, and smoothed orange surface», which were found on the hill of Hagios Phokas⁹. No Bronze Age material has been observed so far by ongoing research.

2. Oglyma/Glyphada (cemetery) (Fig. 3.2)

The cemetery at Oglyma, on the W-SW edge of the Glyphada bay, is extensive and consists of shaft graves of the Classical and Hellenistic period¹⁰. The site by the shore of Glyphada/Monosyria, most likely the ancient *Mnasyrion* (STR. 14.2.12.1), the port of the deme of Kymissaleis¹¹ served the area. Mycenaean tombs have been reported here in the past¹², as well as in later years by locals, at a site called “*mikenaikoi tafoi*” by the locals, but no such cemetery has been located yet by current research¹³.

3. Lakki (Fig. 3.3)

Inglieri reports Late Mycenaean tombs, which came to light during cultivation at the area of Lakki, S of Glyphada/Monosyria¹⁴. Also from this area, an EBIIIB duck-vase, which was regarded as an import from the Cyclades, currently at the Copenhagen Museum (No. 1), has been recorded¹⁵. The vase was purchased by Chr. Blinkenberg and C.F. Kinch, during an expedition either in 1902 or 1905¹⁶. Again, no Mycenaean nucleus has been identified at the area.

4. Kymissala (Necropolis-sector III) (Fig. 3.4)

The particularly large central necropolis of Kymissala, extends from the western foot of the hill of Hagios Phokas to the E, N and NW slopes of the hill of Kymissala¹⁷. Mycenaean tombs have been reported here in the past¹⁸ and a number of known Mycenaean artifacts are likely to have originated from this site¹⁹. The necropolis was heavily looted in the second half of the 19th and the early 20th century²⁰ and a good number of artifacts found their way to the major museums of Europe and the United States, some of which were indeed products of the Bronze Age²¹.

⁸ On the acropolis at Hagios Phokas see ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 72-76; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017b, 11.

⁹ HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 146; HOPE SIMPSON-DICKINSON 1979, 352; HOPE SIMPSON 1981, 197; MEE 1982, 59, 160; BENZI 1992, 432.

¹⁰ On the necropolis of Oglyma see ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 90-91; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017b, 14-15.

¹¹ On Glyphada see *Id.* 2017b, 13; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 91.

¹² INGLIERI 1936, 51, No. 155. See also ΖΕΡΒΟΥΔΑΚΗ 1973, 517, fn. 56; MEE 1982, 60, 106; BENZI 1992, 432.

¹³ There is no mention by HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY at Glyphada bay (HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147).

¹⁴ INGLIERI 1936, 51, No. 154.

¹⁵ DIETZ 1974, 134-135, fig. 1; MEE 1982, 59, 105; RUTTER 1985, 574, 585, I.1; BENZI 1992, 432; ΜΑΡΚΕΤΟΥ 2009, 51.

¹⁶ DIETZ 1974, 133.

¹⁷ On the necropolis see ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 76-86; ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2017; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017b, 14.

¹⁸ INGLIERI 1936, 53, No. 3; PERNIER 1914, 240; ΜΑΙΟΥΡΙ 1928, 84.

¹⁹ HOPE SIMPSON-DICKINSON 1979, 352; HOPE SIMPSON 1981, 197; FURTWÄNGLER 1886, 133; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 146; ΜΑΙΟΥΡΙ 1923-1924, 252; BENZI 1992, 432.

²⁰ PERNIER 1914, 240; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 70; ΜΑΝΟΥΣΑΚΗ 2014, 42-44; 2017, 113-116; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017c, 2.

²¹ ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 68, 70; ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2017, 38; ΜΑΝΟΥΣΑΚΗ 2017, 115-116.



Fig. 4. Map of the maritime trade routes between Glyphada, Chalki and Alimnia (background Google Earth; el. A.).

3. POTTERY FINDS

Regarding the recent excavation, the pottery collected from the majority of the previously investigated or looted graves in sector III of the central necropolis on the E slope of the Kymissala hill, points to the conclusion that this part of the necropolis was in use mainly during the Archaic and Classical periods and not earlier than the 7th century BC²². However, Amedeo Maiuri²³, who also conducted research on the site, reported that Alfred Biliotti²⁴, the first excavator of this area in the second half of the 19th century, dug mainly Mycenaean and Archaic tombs²⁵. If Maiuri's information is correct and since during and after Biliotti's excavations a significant amount of pottery reached many museums worldwide, among which Mycenaean vases are recorded with provenance from Kymissala (cat. Nos 2-7; Figs 5-8) and Sianna, then it is possible that part of the central necropolis, or a nearby area was in use during pre-historic times. From the same necropolis a Mycenaean amphora (cat. No. 8), offered for sale at Sianna and seen by Pernier in 1913²⁶, may also originate.

It is also possible that at least 19 Mycenaean vases (cat. Nos 9-27) with recorded provenance from Sianna/Kastelos today in Copenhagen, originate from Kymissala, since in the 19th century the necropolis of Kymissala was regarded as the cemetery of Krentenia/Kastelos²⁷.

4. METAL WEAPONS (THE "SIANNA BRONZES")

It is plausible that a find of three bronze artifacts, a short sword or dirk, a knife and a spear from the area of Sianna, now in Copenhagen (cat. Nos 28-30), derive from the necropolis of Kymissala. Details of the find, which was purchased as a group of three pieces in Rhodes, are not ascertainable. It allegedly

²² ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 85; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2017b, 14; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ *et alii* 2015, 284; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2015, 61.

²³ On the life and works of Amedeo Maiuri see AMEDEO MAIURI.

²⁴ On the life and works of Alfred Biliotti see BARCHARD 2006; GUNNING 2009, 131, fn. 113; HOLLAND-MARKIDES 2008², 88-89. On his excavational activities on Rhodes, see also BILIOTTI-COTRET 1881,

Δ-Ε (preface); CHALLIS 2008, 146-147.

²⁵ MAIURI 1916, 295; 1926, 252; 1928, 84. Also, INGLIERI 1936, 53.

²⁶ PERNIER 1914, 240; MAIURI 1923-1924, 252.

²⁷ BRISCH 2005, 4-5. See also FURTWÄNGLER 1886, 138; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147; FURUMARK 1941, 649, 653; BENZI 1992, 433.



Fig. 5. Rhodes, Archaeological Museum. LHIIIA2 Stirrup jar (inv. 3384; Biliotti collection; photo F.N. Rousos).



Fig. 6. Rhodes, Archaeological Museum. LHIIIA2 Deep bowl with one handle (inv. 3474; Caravella collection; photo F.N. Roussos).



Fig. 7. Rhodes, Archaeological Museum. LHIIIA2 Deep bowl with one handle (inv. 3475; Caravella collection; photo F.N. Roussos).



Fig. 8. Rhodes, Archaeological Museum. LHIIIC1 Three-handled piriform jar (inv. 3439; Caravella collection; photo F.N. Roussos).

originated from a Mycenaean tomb near Sianna (Kymissala?) and was acquired in Rhodes, in 1904, from a dealer. It is possible that the find originates from the necropolis of Kymissala, where most of the Mycenaean pots of the area probably came from²⁸. According to Sandars these specific types of weapons, attested in a wide area among islands and along the coastal fringe of the Eastern Aegean, Near East, were dated in the 12th century BC²⁹. Benzi, however, whilst examining them in the light of new evidence, suggested that they are local products rather than imports, namely of types that had already appeared before the end of LH IIIA2³⁰.

5. EARLY IRON AGE FUNERARY STELE (THE “STELE OF KYMISSALA”)

Although certainly not Mycenaean, the first documented and most important early Iron Age find from Maiuri’s expedition in 1914, may echo Mycenaean tradition. The still unparalleled funerary stele of Kymissala (Fig. 9a-b) is an early example of a stele made of local limestone, with a preserved height of 83 cm, 21 cm w. of stele and 49 cm diameter of the disc. A rectangular abacus surmounts the upper discoid part. On top of it, one may visualize a decorative element, pegged in the circular socket on the upper surface. The disk is decorated with six birds rendered in low relief on one side and a large incised rosette on the other. A smaller rosette is incised at a lower level on the same side. The disc is placed on the top of a wide neck which was originally fastened to a base of some kind. The date has puzzled archaeologists ever since. Although it was dated by the excavator from late Mycenaean to Proto Geometric years³¹, it most likely dates to the late 8th-early 7th century, an early example of orientaling art of Rhodes³².

As has been already suggested by Sourvinou Inwood³³, the shape seems to share similarities with a type of earlier composite terracotta figurines, which were fastened to the top of Late Mycenaean sarcophagi from Tanagra, as known from the sarcophagus from tomb 6 from the cemetery at the site “Gefyra”, where horns of consecration framed a painted disc on which a winged figure (bird or butterfly) was pegged with a lead plug³⁴. The similarity in form of the stele of Kymissala to these sarcophagus elements may imply relations with or influences from, earlier Mycenaean monuments of the necropolis³⁵.

6. DISCUSSION

With the single exception of the duck vase (cat. No. 1), all artifacts from the wider area of Kymissala, possibly originate from the necropolis of Kymissala (Tab. 1), which in the past was considered as the cemetery of Sianna or Kastellos at Kretenia³⁶.

The scarce evidence of Late Neolithic-Early Bronze Age sherds from the site of Hagios Phokas may point to the existence of a small prehistoric nucleus on the top of the hill, related to the site of Lakki on the E basin³⁷. The EBIIIB duck-vase (bird-shaped askos) from Lakki (cat. No. 1), which belongs to Type I of Dietz (1974) or I.1 of Rutter (1985), is well attested on Rhodes from the EBIIIB phase of the proto-urban settlement at Asomatos³⁸, and belongs to a type widely spread in the Aegean³⁹. Although the bulk of such vases around the Aegean region derive from settlements⁴⁰, this one is likely to originate from

²⁸ SANDARS 1963, 140-142, 152-153 and pl. 27, 53-55; MEE 1982, 60; DIETZ *et alii* 2015, 20, 26, 29; DIETZ-TROLLE 1974, 32; BENZI 1992, 433.

²⁹ On a detailed discussion of the artifacts see SANDARS 1963, 140-142; 1985², 158. BENZI 2009, 50-51; 2006, 17ff.

³⁰ BENZI 2006, 18.

³¹ MAIURI 1916, 296-297, fig. 14; 1926, 252; 1928, 84. See also INGLIERI 1936, 54.

³² On the stele and its uncertain dating see; ΜΠΡΑΚΑΛΑΚΗΣ 1946, 42-43, No. 1; ΑΝΔΡΟΝΙΚΟΣ 1963, 192-194, pl. 88α-γ; ΑΝΔΡΟΝΙΚΟΣ 1968, 120; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; ΜΠΡΑΚΑΛΑΚΗΣ 1974, 247-251; FLOREN 1987, 328; SOURVINOU

INWOOD 1996, 221-222, fn. 455; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ 2009, 98-101; ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 82, fn. 131; ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2017, 38-39.

³³ SOURVINOU INWOOD 1996, 222, fn. 455.

³⁴ ΣΠΥΡΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ 1969, 9-10, 13, pls 2a, 7b; 1970, 190, fig. 8; 1971, 8-9; ΤΑΝΑΓΡΑ, 73-74, No. 27.

³⁵ SOURVINOU INWOOD 1996, 221-222, fn. 455.

³⁶ See above, fn. 27.

³⁷ On the few sites of EBA on Rhodes see MEE 1982, 78.

³⁸ ΜΑΡΚΕΤΟΥ 1997, 401, fig. 6A.

³⁹ DIETZ 1974, 139. RUTTER 1985, 585-589.

⁴⁰ DIETZ 1974, 138.

Provenance	Object	Date	Cat. No.
Lakki	Duck-vase	EBIIIB	01
Kymissala	Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	02
Kymissala	Deep bowl	LHIIIA2	03
Kymissala	Deep bowl	LHIIIA2	04
Kymissala	Three-handled piriform jar	LHIIIC1	26
Sianna/Kymissala	Amphoroid krater of piriform shape	LHIIIB	20
Sianna/Kymissala	Three-handled piriform jar	LHIIIB	21
Sianna/Kymissala	Amphora of piriform shape	“Late Mycenaean”	27
Sianna (Kymissala?)	One-edge bronze knife	LHIIIA/B	28
Sianna (Kymissala?)	Bronze short sword or dirk	LHIIIB	29
Sianna (Kymissala?)	Bronze spear head	LHIIIB-C	30
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Goblet	LHIIIA1/2	05
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Patterned kylix	LHIIIA2	06
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Patterned kylix	LHIIIA2	07
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Patterned kylix	LHIIIA2	08
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Patterned kylix	LHIIIA2	09
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Monochrome rounded kylix	LHIIIA2	10
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Truncated stemmed bowl	LHIIIA2	11
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Piriform Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	12
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Piriform Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	13
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Piriform Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	14
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Piriform Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	15
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Piriform Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	16
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Piriform Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	17
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Globular Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	18
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Globular Stirrup jar	LHIIIA2	19
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Squat alabastron	LHIIIB	22
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Bridge-spouted globular jug	LHIIIB	23
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Squat Stirrup jar	LHIIIB	24
Sianna or Kastellos (Kymissala?)	Askos	LHIIIC	25

Table 1. Sites with Mycenaean finds in the area of Kymissala and dating.

a tomb, judging by its good state of preservation, possibly from the tombs dug in the vicinity by farmers, as reported by Inghieri⁴¹. Regardless whether it denotes a settlement or cemetery, the duck-vase adds to the evidence, already discussed by Dietz, for Rhodian inter-Aegean connections in the later EBA period⁴², with a possibility of being a product of a local production center, maybe from Asomatos in Rhodes rather than of Cycladic origin⁴³.

Regarding the fact that the Hagios Phokas hilltop and the Lakki site (Fig. 3) are located on the W and E side, respectively, of the Monossyria valley, which is rich in water sources (springs at the sites “Stelies”, “Soulountari” and “stis Floues”) and arable land that leads to the Glyphada bay, and taking under consideration the alleged Mycenaean cemetery in the environs of Lakki, possibly in the SE part of the Oglyma necropolis⁴⁴, it would be tempting to conceive the E basin of the Kymissaleis territory as a vital prehistoric area. However, in the lack of securely dated finds, it has to remain only a hypothesis.

With respect to the finds with recorded provenance, apart from those with clearly recorded provenance from Kymissala or Sianna (cat. Nos 2-8), further 18 vases (cat. Nos 9-27) in Copenhagen, with uncertain

⁴¹ INGLIERI 1936, 51, No. 154.

⁴² DIETZ 1974, 143.

⁴³ MARKETOU 2009, 52. On the suggested Cycladic origin of the

Duck-vases see RUTTER 1985.

⁴⁴ See above fn. 12.

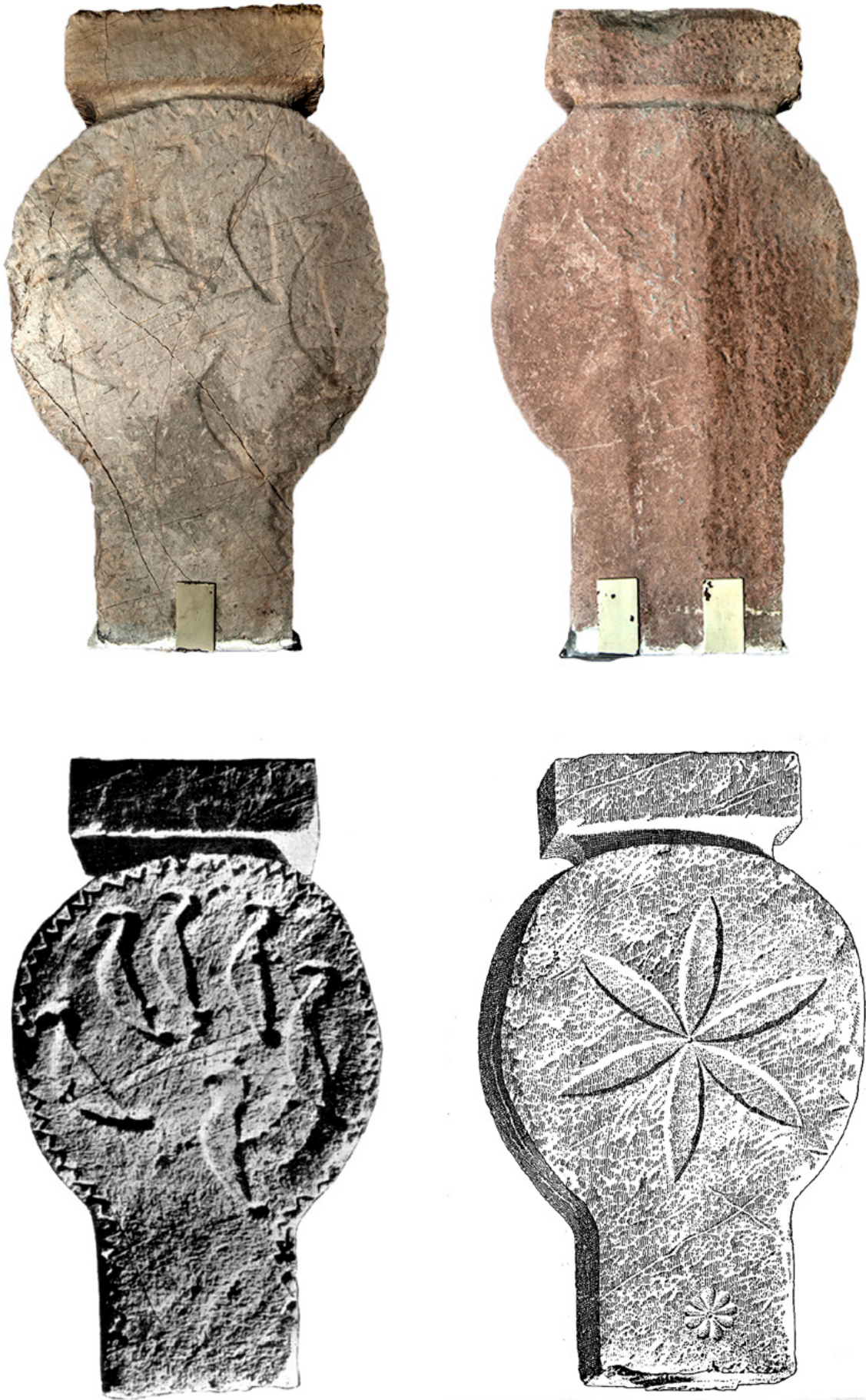


Fig. 9. a: Rhodes, Archaeological Museum. The stele of Kymissala (photo F.N. Roussos); b: drawing of the stele (after AMEDEO MAIURI).

provenance from Sianna or Kastelos, are probably to originate from the necropolis of Kymissala too, as well as the three bronze weapons (cat. Nos 28-30).

The date range for the sporadic finds from the wider area of Kymissala, apart from the EBIIIB duck-vase (cat. No. 1) extends from the LHIIIB, period when the Mycenaeans were already settled in Rhodes⁴⁵ (with five examples – cat. Nos 20-24) to LHIIIC, a period of depopulation of the Rhodian countryside and of great prosperity for Ialysos⁴⁶ (with two examples, cat. Nos 26-27). LHIIIA2, a period of a large-scale occupation of the island⁴⁷ (with 18 examples, cat. Nos. 3-19, 29) and LHIIIB, a period of decrease in burials and pottery production, denoting a general decline (with 6 examples, cat. Nos. 20-23, 28, 30), to be better represented⁴⁸. These are also the two LHIII sub-periods of considerable number of finds in Southern Rhodes⁴⁹.

Finally, echoes of Mycenaean tradition are possibly preserved on the early Greek stele of Kymissala.

Adding the above evidence to the bulk of the sporadic finds, dispersed in museums world-wide during the past 150 years, as well as surveyed sites and investigated tombs of the necropolis of Kymissala by various researchers in the last decades of the 20th century and by the KARP during the last 12 years, one can provide a chronological span for the use of the wider area of Kymissala from the Prehistoric era to Late Antiquity.

The area was probably inhabited since prehistoric – possibly late Neolithic/early Bronze Age – era, at least on the top of Hagios Phokas hill, with use also in the late Bronze Age. Mycenaean pottery and other finds mainly from the necropolis of Kymissala and from other find-spots, point to a Mycenaean presence and maybe a settlement⁵⁰, although such a nucleus has not been identified so far in the area of interest. If the hypothesis is right then Kymissala would be placed in the context of the well-established south-Rhodes Mycenaean network⁵¹.

The expansion of Mycenaean trade incorporated Rhodes, because of its strategic position on the trade routes to the Near East and the South East Mediterranean. Ialysos played undoubtedly a most important role as a trade station on this route and also had intensive contacts with the Cyclades and Crete⁵². The bay of Glyphada, port of the later Deme of Kymissaleis, is likely to have played an important role in aiding sea communication and facilitating the transportation of goods (Fig. 4). It is quite probable that the harbor was an intermediate port of call on the sea route from Ialysos to Karpathos and east Crete and *vice versa*, let alone in direct contact with the other two ports of the area, those of Chalci⁵³ and Alimia⁵⁴, thus forming a “triangle” of trade in the area.

The flourishing of the Kymissaleis, however, should be placed in the Late Classical and Early Hellenistic period with certainty, coinciding with the merging of Camiros in the Pan-Rhodian state. The late Hellenistic and Roman times in Kymissala are still little known, a second prosperity however seems to take place in the Early Christian times, when new settlements were rebuilt, basilicas were erected and the central necropolis was extensively reused⁵⁵.

Systematic research and excavation in the context of KARP in the following years is expected to determine the Mycenaean habitation pattern more precisely and identify any Mycenaean site in the area.

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⁴⁵ BENZI 1988a, 59; MEE 1982, 78-79.

⁴⁶ KARANTZALI 2001, 78; BENZI 1988a, 70; 1988b, 259-262; MEE 1982, 89-92; VLACHOPOULOS-GEORGIADIS 2015, 350-359.

⁴⁷ BENZI 1988a, 62; MEE 1982, 83-87; BENZI 1996, 949; KAPANTZAAH 2009, 223.

⁴⁸ On the change in the settlement patterns on Rhodes in LHIIIA2 and LHIIIB see MEE 1982, 83-89; BENZI 1988a, 62-67; KARANTZALI 2001, 78; BENZI 2013, 511-512.

⁴⁹ KARANTZALI 2001, 78. On a discussion of the Mycenaean presence during that period in the southern Rhodes see DIETZ 1984, 96-115.

⁵⁰ MEE 1982, 84.

⁵¹ DIETZ 1984, 110-115.

⁵² On contacts between Rhodes and Crete from LHIIIA to LHIIIC, see KARANTZALI 2001, 79; KAPANTZAAH 2009, 274; BENZI 1988b, 48, 55. On LHIIIA2 local pottery-finds from south Rhodes bearing Minoan decorative elements see MONTJOY 1995; VLACHOPOULOS-GEORGIADIS 2015, 352.

⁵³ On prehistoric – but not of Bronze Age – finds from Chalci see ΓΙΑΚΟΥΜΑΚΗ 2011, 169.

⁵⁴ On Bronze Age finds from Alimnia, see ΜΠΑΪΡΑΜΗ 2011, 184.

⁵⁵ ΣΤΕΦΑΝΑΚΗΣ-ΠΑΤΣΙΑΔΑ 2009-2011, 93-94; ΖΑΡΡΑΣ 2017.

LIST OF MYCENAEAN ARTIFACTS FROM THE WIDER AREA OF KYMISSALA

Vases

- 01 Type: Duck-vase, dark-on-light pattern painted
Provenance: Lakki
Date: EBIIIB
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 12500
Bibliography: DIETZ 1974, 134-135, figs. 1, 6.1 (drawing); MEE 1982, 59, 105; RUTTER 1985, 574, 585, I.1; MARKETOU 2009, 51-52
Remarks: Cycladic (?) import. Bought by Chr. Blinkenberg and C.F. Kinch
- 02 Type: Stirrup jar
Provenance: Kymissala
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Rhodes, Archaeological Museum: 3384 (Biliotti collection)
Bibliography: MAIURI 1926, 253; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 110; MEE 1982, 60, 141; BENZI 1992, 432-433, tav. 138d-e
Remarks: Imported (Fig. 5)
- 03 Type: Deep bowl with one handle
Provenance: Kymissala
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Rhodes, Archaeological Museum: 3474 (Caravella collection)
Bibliography: MAIURI 1926, 253; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 110; MEE 1982, 60, 142; BENZI 1992, 433, tav. 138f
Remarks: Imported (Fig. 6)
- 04 Type: Deep bowl with one handle
Provenance: Kymissala
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Rhodes, Archaeological Museum: 3475 (Caravella collection)
Bibliography: MAIURI 1926, 253; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 110; MEE 1982, 60, 141; BENZI 1992, 433, tav. 138g
Remarks: Imported (Fig. 7)
- 05 Type: Goblet (with two vertical strap handles from rim to shoulder)
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA1/2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6476
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*: 40, pl. 53, 12; STUBBINGS 1951, 13; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140; MOUNTJOY 1999, 994, No. 16
- 06 Type: Patterned kylix
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6474
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 38-39, pl. 51:10; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140; *BAPD* 9014231
- 07 Type: Patterned Kylix
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6475
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 39, pl. 52:5; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 08 Type: Patterned kylix
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6472
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 39, pl. 52:6; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 09 Type: Patterned kylix
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6473
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 39, pl. 52:7; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 10 Type: Monochrome rounded kylix (with two strap handles from rim to shoulder)
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6477
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 40, pl. 53:9; STUBBINGS 1951, 13; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 11 Type: Truncated stemmed bowl with two horizontal handles
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6478
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 40, pl. 54:13. HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; STUBBINGS 1951, 13; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 12 Type: Piriform stirrup jar
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6484
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 42, pl. 57:1; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140.
- 13 Type: Piriform stirrup jar
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6483
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 42, pl. 57:2; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 14 Type: Piriform stirrup jar
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6482
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 42, pl. 57:7; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 15 Type: Piriform stirrup jar
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)
Date: LHIIIA2
Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6479
Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 42, pl. 57:8; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140
- 16 Type: Piriform stirrup jar
Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII A2

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6480

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 42, pl. 57:9; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140; MOUNTJOY 1999, 1001, No. 36

17 Type: Piriform stirrup jar

Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII A2

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6481

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 42, pl. 57:10; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140

18 Type: Globular stirrup jar

Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII A2

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6485

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 43, pl. 59:12; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140.

19 Type: Globular stirrup jar

Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII A2

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6486

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 43-44, pl. 59:16; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140

20 Type: Amphoroid krater of piriform shape

Provenance: Sianna/Kymissala

Date: LHIII B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6508

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 37, pl. 49.1 (50.1); FURUMARK 1941, 653; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 111; MEE 1982, 60; BENZI 1992, 433; MOUNTJOY 1999, 1015, No. 79; *BAPD* 1010072
Remarks: Imported

21 Type: Three-handled piriform jar

Provenance: Sianna / Kymissala

Date: LHIII B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6492

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National I*, 33, pl. 39.3; FURUMARK 1941, 590, No. 23; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 111; MEE 1982, 60; BENZI 1992, 433
Remarks: Imported

22 Type: Squat alabastron

Provenance Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6494

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National I*, 35, pl. 46:1; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140; MOUNTJOY 1999, 1015, No. 81

23 Type: Bridge-spouted globular jug

Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6490

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 41, pl. 56:5; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140; MOUNTJOY 1999, 1016, No. 83

24 Type: Squat stirrup jar

Provenance: Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6487

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National II*, 43, pl. 59:5; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140; MOUNTJOY 1999, 1019, No. 92

25 Type: Askos

Provenance Sianna or Kastellos (most likely Kymissala)

Date: LHIII C1

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 6489

Bibliography: *CVA Copenhagen, Musée National I*, 36, pl. 46:8; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 112; MEE 1982, 59, 60, 140

26 Type: Three-handled piriform jar

Provenance: Kymissala

Date: LHIII C1

Location: Rhodes, Archaeological Museum: 3439 (Caravella collection)

Bibliography: MAIURI 1926, 253; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn. 110; MEE 1982, 60, 141; BENZI 1992, 432, tav. 138c

Remarks: Local (Fig. 8)

27 Type: «A beautiful painted amphora, with a pear-shaped body with three small handles on the shoulder»

Provenance: Sianna (most likely Kymissala)

Date: «Late-Mycenaean»

Location: Commerce (Seen by Periner at Sianna in 1913)

Bibliography: MAIURI 1926, 252; HOPE SIMPSON-LAZENBY 1973, 147, fn 113.

Bronze weapons

28 Type: One-edge knife with a flanged tang

Provenance: Mycenaean tomb near Sianna

Date: LHIII A/B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 5670

Bibliography: SANDARS 1963, 140, 152-153 and pl. 27, 54; DIETZ-TROLLE 1974, 32, fig. 23, th; MEE 1982, 60, 10; SANDARS 1985², 158, figs. 108-110 (p. 159), c; BENZI 2006, 18; DIETZ *et alii* 2015, 29, No. 43, pl. VIII.

Remarks: Possibly from the same workshop as No. 29 (short sword) below

29 Type: Short sword or dirk. Tapered blade, flanged tang and quillons.

Provenance: Mycenaean tomb near Sianna

Type: "H" in the Aegean series

Date: LHIII B

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 5668.

Bibliography: SANDARS 1963, 140, 152-153 and pl. 27, 53; DIETZ-TROLLE 1974, 32, fig. 23; MEE 1982, 60, 10; SANDARS 1985², 158, figs. 108-110 (p. 159), b; KILIAN DIRLMEIER 1993, 49 No. 97, Tf. 18 ("Hörnerschwerter" Typ 2b 1); BENZI 2006, 18; DIETZ *et alii* 2015, 20, No. 5, pl. II

Remarks: Possibly from the same workshop as No. 28 (knife) above

30 Type: Spearhead. Faceting of the socket and marked splay of the facets at the base of the blade

Provenance: Mycenaean tomb near Sianna

Date: LHIII B-C

Location: Copenhagen, National Museum: 5669

SANDARS 1963, 140-141, 152-153 and pl. 27, 5; DIETZ-TROLLE 1974, 32, fig. 23; HÖCKMANN 1980, 31, Abb. 5 (D29); MEE 1982: 60, 10; AVILA 1983, 48, No. 104, Tf. 16 (Tp. VII); SANDARS 1985², 159, figs. 108-110, f; LAMBROU PHILIPSON 1990, cat. No. 594 and pl. 81; DIETZ *et alii* 2015, 27, No. 32, pl. VII

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