

A GROUP OF DISTINCTIVE PATTERN-DECORATED EARLY HELLADIC III POTTERY FROM LERNA AND ITS IMPLICATIONS

(PLATES 98–100)

ONE of the hallmarks of Early Helladic (EH) III ceramics, and one which serves to distinguish it sharply from the pottery both of the preceding EH II phase and the subsequent Middle Helladic (MH) period, is its pattern-painted pottery.¹ Such pottery falls into two classes: one decorated in a dark-on-light style achieved by the application of geometric ornament in dark-firing paint directly on a paler-firing clay ground, and the second characterized by a light-on-dark style effected by the superposition of similarly abstract patterns in a pale-firing paint on top of a vessel surface already completely coated with dark-firing paint. These two classes were first attributed to the Early Bronze Age (EBA) some sixty years ago, when it was recognized that such pattern-painted pottery became more common at the end of the period.² The excavations at Lerna in the 1950's by the

¹ I should like to thank the following for their indispensable contributions to this article, for their invaluable assistance in the research associated with it, or for both: Julie Baker, Kathi Donahue, and Sally Rutter for executing the drawings; Craig Mauzy for taking the photographs of the Lerna pottery; Dr. Nancy Bookidis of the Corinth Excavations for supplying photographs of the pottery from Korakou and Zygouries; Dr. Aik. Demakopoulou, Ephor of Antiquities for the Argolid and Corinthia, and Dr. K. Tsakos, Ephor of Antiquities for Elis and Messenia, for their cooperation in connection with my research in Argos and Olympia; Dr. C. K. Williams, II, Director of the Corinth Excavations, for giving me permission to study and either publish or republish some of the Early Helladic III material from Korakou and Zygouries stored in the Corinth Museum; Professor F. Felten and Dr. M. Koumouzelis for allowing me to examine the EH III pottery from the German excavations at the Kolonna site on Aigina and from the Greek excavations under the New Museum at Olympia, respectively; Mr. Elmar Christmann for permitting me to study the Early Bronze Age pottery from the German excavations at Pefkakia, and Dr. G. Chourmouziades, Ephor of Antiquities in Volos, where this material is stored, for his cooperation in this research. Special thanks are due to Miss G. Chatzi, Epimeletria of Antiquities in Olympia, for her help in locating the EH III pottery from both the Greek and German excavations at Olympia not actually on display in the New Museum but kept in the basement storerooms. The research on which this article is based was supported by a Research Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities during the years 1980 and 1981. A preliminary version of this article was presented orally at the annual meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America on 30 December 1981 in San Francisco under the title "Lerna IV and Prehistoric Olympia: A Neglected Group of Early Helladic III Pattern-decorated Pottery."

Works frequently cited below are abbreviated as follows:

- Caskey, 1966 = J. L. Caskey, "Houses of the Fourth Settlement at Lerna," *Χαριστήριον εἰς Ἀναστάσιον Κ. Ὀρλάνδον*, III, Athens 1966, pp. 144–152
- Dörpfeld, 1935 = W. Dörpfeld, *Alt-Olympia. Untersuchungen und Ausgrabungen zur Geschichte des ältesten Heiligtums von Olympia und der älteren griechischen Kunst*, Berlin 1935
- Koumouzelis, 1980 = M. Koumouzelis, *The Early and Middle Helladic Periods in Elis*, diss. Brandeis University 1980, University Microfilms International 8024537
- Weege, 1911 = F. Weege, "Einzelfunde von Olympia 1907–1909," *AthMitt* 36, 1911, pp. 163–192
- ² A. J. B. Wace and C. W. Blegen, "The Pre-Mycenaean Pottery of the Greek Mainland," *BSA* 22, 1916–18, pp. 177–179.

American School of Classical Studies at Athens under the direction of Dr. J. L. Caskey clearly demonstrated that the vast majority of EH pattern-painted pottery dates from the EH III phase. The findings of Caskey and his staff also strongly supported a thesis proposed long before to the effect that the Dark-on-Light class was at home in the northern Peloponnese while the Light-on-Dark class was more typical of Boiotia and other areas in central Greece, a thesis which has been further sustained by French's survey of the prehistoric ceramic sequence in central Greece.³

No doubt partially as a result of the fact that the pattern-painted pottery of the EH III phase is so distinctive, as well as being fairly common, most surveys of EH III ceramics tend to overlook other modes of decoration which, although perhaps not quite so copious, are in some cases equally peculiar to this relatively short-lived interlude in southern Greek prehistory. For example, a particularly dense version of plastic and impressed decoration, usually in the form of horizontal banding but occasionally consisting of abstract geometric motifs as well, is not well paralleled in either EH II or MH pottery.⁴ Another mode of patterned decoration employed to form geometric motifs relies on finely incised lines and small impressions having a variety of different outlines; quite often, both the incisions and the impressions are filled with white paste, which contrasts sharply with the generally dark surface color of the pottery to produce a light-on-dark effect comparable to that of the more common Light-on-Dark pattern-painted class. It is the primary purpose of this article to publish a corpus of the EH III pottery from the sites of Lerna, Korakou, and Zygouries decorated exclusively with such finely incised or impressed ornament or both.⁵ Comparanda securely

³ J. L. Caskey, "The Early Helladic Period in the Argolid," *Hesperia* 29, 1960, pp. 292, 295–296; W. Donovan, *A Study of Early Helladic Pottery with Painted Decoration*, diss. University of Cincinnati 1961, University Microfilms International 61-5219; H. Goldman, *Excavations at Eutresis in Boeotia*, Cambridge, Mass. 1931, p. 116 and note 2; D. H. French, *Prehistoric Pottery Groups from Central Greece*, Athens 1972, pp. 20–22.

⁴ Published examples from Lerna: J. L. Caskey, "Excavations at Lerna, 1955," *Hesperia* 25, 1956, pls. 43:f, 44:c; Caskey, 1966, pl. 51:7. Small fragments decorated in this fashion are commonly found at a number of other sites in the Peloponnese: K. Müller, *Tiryns*, IV, *Die Urfinniskeramik*, Munich 1938, p. 40, pl. XIV:4, 5 (Tiryns); H. Döhl, "Die prähistorische Besiedlung von Synoro," *Tiryns* VI, Mainz 1973, p. 217, pl. 86:4 (Kandia); A. J. B. Wace, "Excavations at Mycenae. VII.7: The Grave Circle," *BSA* 25, 1921–23, p. 114, fig. 26:f (Mykenai); C. W. Blegen, *Prosymna, The Helladic Settlement Preceding the Argive Heraeum*, Cambridge, Mass. 1937, p. 377, fig. 638:9 (Prosymna); G. Säföund, *Excavations at Berbati 1936–1937*, Uppsala 1965, fig. 107:a (Berbati); E. J. Holmberg, *The Swedish Excavations at Asea in Arcadia*, Göteborg 1944, fig. 74:b, e, h (Asea); Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 151, fig. 38:1, 2, pls. 92:b, 108:c (Olympia, New Museum). An unpublished fragment from Corinth (inv. no. C-40-523; to be published in a forthcoming article by Dr. G. Merker, to whom I am grateful for permission to mention it here) extends the geographical range of this class of material a bit further to the north.

⁵ Specifically omitted from consideration here are the following: 1) Coarsely incised pottery of the class termed "Adriatic ware" (M. N. Valmin, *The Swedish Messenia Expedition*, Lund 1938, pp. 256–269, fig. 60, pls. I:1, XVI:1, 103, XXI) which is characteristic at Lerna of later EH III and MH contexts and which is easily differentiated from the material treated here not only by the coarseness of its incised decoration but also by the fact that almost without exception (but see G. S. Korres, "Ἐρεῦναι καὶ Ἀνασκαφαὶ ἀπὸ τῆν Πυλίου," *Πρακτικά*, 1978, pl. 212:b, of MH date) it occurs in the form of a wide-mouthed jar or deep bowl having a single high-swung vertical strap handle from the rim to the body's point of maximum diameter (French, *op. cit.* [footnote 3 above], pp. 37–38); 2) pottery decorated with raised plastic ornament in addition to incised or impressed decoration or both (e.g. the pottery cited in the preceding note); 3) solidly painted and burnished pottery decorated exclusively with one or more groups of

dated to the EH III phase either by form or by context from other sites in southern Greece indicate that pottery decorated in this fashion was widespread south of the Isthmus of Corinth, although perhaps common only in certain areas and at a particularly early stage within the EH III phase. The evidence available suggests that the most elaborate versions of this mode of decoration may prove to be typical of the earliest pattern-decorated EH III pottery of any kind in the Peloponnese. Such material may therefore become a particularly valuable tool in future attempts to determine the immediate antecedents of this highly distinctive archaeological assemblage whose pronounced differences from that which defines the EH II cultural phase have led many Aegean prehistorians to posit a migration or invasion of new peoples into the Peloponnese at this time.

CATALOGUE

The following catalogue is divided into two parts. The first consists of fragments of finely incised or impressed pottery from Lerna, while the second includes similarly decorated pieces from Blegen's excavations at Korakou and Zygouries. Within the longer first part, the material is listed according to shape, first the open vessels and then the closed. Each piece in this section is dated by its provenience in terms of the three ceramic phases identified within the various levels of occupation which together constitute the EH III settlement represented by Lerna stratum IV (Table 2).⁶ Colors are described verbally in the catalogue and semiquantitatively in Table 1, in both instances using the terminology of the Munsell Soil Color Charts. Clays are characterized as coarse if they contain inclusions with a maximum dimension exceeding 4 mm., as medium coarse if the same dimension exceeds 2 mm., and otherwise as fine; only three pieces (2, 26, 39) contain inclusions all smaller than 0.5 mm.⁷ All the items are handmade. Most pieces are dark surfaced, and the few exceptions (8, 25, 29, 37–39) are light brown, yellowish red, or red rather than very pale brown, yellow, or white. Only one piece (29) lacks a burnished surface, although tankards (1, 2, 39), some pedestal-footed cups (6, 9, 11, 41, 42) and almost all closed shapes (29–31, 33, 35–38) are roughly smoothed on the interior below the level of the base of the neck rather than being burnished all over; the undersides of all handles and exterior body surfaces immediately behind handles are likewise smoothed due to the difficulty of applying a burnish to such areas; the undersides of feet may be either burnished (11, 41) or smoothed (9).

Dimensions are given in meters.

A. LERNA

1 (L.525) Rim-handled tankard Fig. 1, Pl. 98

Complete profile. H. 0.098–0.104, diam. rim 0.081, max. diam. of body 0.099, diam. base 0.051–0.055.

Mended from 7 sherds. Coarse clay; reddish

brown fracture; surface mottled from black to yellowish red. Incised decoration, partially obliterated by subsequent burnishing, consists of five loops on each side pendent from an incised line.

Phase 2. (Lot G 73)

Published: Caskey, 1966, pl. 54:16.

shallow horizontal incisions or grooves, a group which is common at Lerna in the last ceramic phase of the EH III settlement and which is limited, with three exceptions, to shoulder-handled bowls and kantharoi (for a published example, see P. and W. Gercke and G. Hiesel, "Tiryns-Stadt 1971: Graben H," *Tiryns VIII*, Mainz 1975, p. 35, no. 97, fig. 11:2, pl. 38:2). The holes pierced completely through the vessel wall of most of the EH III pedestal-footed cups from Lerna and other sites are not considered to constitute "impressed decoration" but presumably were perforations designed to serve a particular functional rather than decorative purpose.

⁶ Phase 1 is equivalent to the architectural phase IVA, phase 2 to IVB, and phase 3 to IVC–D, as these architectural subphases have been defined (Caskey, 1966).

⁷ This classification of clays is based on the Wentworth scale (A. O. Shepherd, *Ceramics for the Archaeologist*, Washington, D.C. 1965, p. 118).

Table 1: Colors of Incised and Impressed Pottery from Lerna IV, Korakou, and Zygouries

| | FRACTURE | | SURFACE | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| CAT. NO. | CORE | NEAR SURFACE | INTERIOR | EXTERIOR |
| 1 | 2.5YR 4.5/4 | | Black to 3.75YR 4/8 | |
| 2 | 7.5YR 5/4 | 2.5YR 6/6 | 5YR 6/6 | Black to 2.5YR 3/6* |
| 3 | 10YR 4.5/2 | 3.75YR 5/4 | Black to 10YR 5/3-4 | |
| 4 | 2.5YR 5/7 to 10YR 4.5/1 | | Black; 10YR 4/2; 7.5YR 5/3, 5.5/6 | |
| 5 | Black, 5YR 3.5/3, 2.5YR 4/4 | | | |
| 6 | 10 R 5.5/4 | | 10YR 5/1 to 7.5YR 5/4 | 5YR 5/6 to 2.5YR 4/6 |
| 7 | 10YR 5/1, 7.5YR 5/4-6, 2.5YR 5/4 | | | |
| 8 | 10YR 5.5/1 | 6.25YR 6/6 | 5YR 6/6 | |
| 9 | 10YR 5/1; 2.5YR 4/0, 5/4, 5/6 | | Black to 8.75YR 5/4 | 10YR 4/2 to 5YR 5/4 |
| 10 | 10YR 4/2, 8.75YR 5/6, 2.5YR 5/4 | | | |
| 11 | Black, 10YR 4/3, 5YR 5/4, 3.75YR 5/8 | | | |
| 12 | 7.5YR 3-4/0 | | Black to 5YR 4.5/4 | |
| 13 | 10YR 5/1 | 2.5YR 5/5 | 7.5YR 3.5/2 to 2.5YR 5/5 | |
| 14 | 7.5YR 5.5/4 | | | |
| 15 | 10YR 4/1 | | Black to 10YR 3/2 | |
| 16 | 10YR 5/1.5 | 2.5YR 3.5/4 | 10YR 3/1 to 6/4 | |
| 17 | 10YR 4/2 | 2.5YR 4/6 | 10YR 4-6/2 to 5YR 5/8 | |
| 18 | Black | 2.5YR 3/4 | Black, 5YR 4.5/3 | |
| 19 | 10YR 3.5/1 | | Black, 7.5YR 4/2, 2.5YR 4/6 | |
| 20 | 10YR 6/3 | 5YR 5.5/4 | 10YR 4/2 to 6/4 | |
| 21 | 7.5YR 5/2 to 10YR 4.5/2 | | Black to 10YR 3.5/1 | |
| 22 | 7.5YR 5/2 | 5YR 5/4 | 10YR 4/1 to 6/3 | |
| 23 | 10YR 4.5/1 | | 10YR 4.5/1 to 7.5YR 5.5/4 | |
| 24 | 10YR 3/1 | | | |
| 25 | 10YR 5/1 | | — | 7.5YR 6/4 |
| 26 | 10YR 4/1 | | 10YR 4/1 to 5/2 | |
| 27 | 10YR 6/3 | | — | Black |
| 28 | 10YR 5/1 | 10YR 5/2 | 10YR 5/2 | |
| 29 | 2.5Y 5/2 | 2.5YR 5/6 | — | 3.75YR 5.5/6 |
| 30 | 10YR 5/1 | | 10YR 4/1.5 | 7.5-10YR 6/4 |
| 31 | 2.5Y 3.5/0 | 5YR 5/4 | 10YR 4.5/1 to 7.5YR 5/6 | |
| 32 | 5YR 4/6 to 2.5YR 4/8 | | 10YR 4/2 to 5YR 4.5/4 | |
| 33 | 10YR 5/1.5 | | Black; 10YR 5/1; 7.5YR 5/0, 5.5/4-6 | |
| 34 | 10YR 3/1 to 6/4 | | | |
| 35 | 10YR 3/1 | | — | Black |
| 36 | 10YR 3/1 | | — | Black |
| 37 | 10YR 6/2.5 to 2.5YR 6/6 | | — | 10YR 6.5/4 to 7.5YR 7/6 |
| 38 | 10YR 4/1 to 5YR 5.5/4 | | — | 10YR 5/3 to 7.5YR 6.5/6 |
| 39 | 7.5YR 4/0 | 5YR 4.5/4 | 5YR 4-5/8 to 2.5YR 3.5/2 | |
| 40 | Black to 7.5YR 6.5/6 | | | |
| 41 | 5YR 4/1-2 | 2.5YR 5/4 | — | 10YR 4/2 to 7.5YR 6.5/6 |
| 42 | 2.5YR 4/2 | | — | 5YR 3/1 |

* = solidly painted exterior surface

Table 2: Contexts and Decorative Treatment of Incised and Impressed Pottery from Lerna IV, Korakou, and Zygouries

| Cat. No. | Shape | Context (Ceramic Phase within Lerna IV) | Incised Only | Impressed Only | Incised and Impressed | Filled with White Paste | Painted |
|----------|----------------------------------|---|--------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 1 | Rim-handled tankard (L.525) | 2 | × | | | | |
| 2 | Shoulder-handled tankard | 2 | | | × | | × |
| 3 | Pedestal-footed cup | 2? | | | × | | |
| 4 | Pedestal-footed cup | 3 | | × | | | |
| 5 | Pedestal-footed cup | 3 | | × | | | |
| 6 | Pedestal-footed cup | 1-3 | | × | | × | |
| 7 | Pedestal-footed cup | 3 | | × | | | |
| 8 | Pedestal-footed cup (L.44) | 3? | | × | | | |
| 9 | Pedestal-footed cup | 3 | | × | | | |
| 10 | Pedestal-footed cup | 3? | | × | | | |
| 11 | Pedestal-footed cup | 3? | | × | | | |
| 12 | Pedestal-footed cup (L.415) | 2? | | | × | × | |
| 13 | Pedestal-footed cup | 1 | | | × | | |
| 14 | Pedestal-footed cup | 1 | | | × | | |
| 15 | Pedestal-footed cup | 1 | | × | | × | |
| 16 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1 | | | × | | |
| 17 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1 | | | × | × | |
| 18 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1 | | | × | | |
| 19 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1-3 | | | × | | |
| 20 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1 | | × | | × | |
| 21 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1 | | × | | | |
| 22 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1 | | | × | | |
| 23 | Shoulder-handled bowl | 1-2 | | | × | | |
| 24 | Bowl with horizontal handles | 1-2 | | | × | × | |
| 25 | Unidentifiable open shape | 1 | | | × | × | |
| 26 | Unidentifiable open shape | 1 | | | × | | |
| 27 | Unidentifiable open shape | 3 | × | | | × | |
| 28 | Unidentifiable open shape | 1-3 | | | × | | |
| 29 | Narrow-necked jar (L.373 + 1653) | 3 | | | × | | |
| 30 | Narrow-necked jar | 3 | | | × | | |
| 31 | Flask | 3 | × | | | | |
| 32 | Flask | 3 | | × | | | |
| 33 | Askos (L.718) | 1 | | | × | | |
| 34 | Askos | 1? | | × | | | |
| 35 | Unidentifiable closed shape | 1 | | | × | | |
| 36 | Unidentifiable closed shape | 1 | | | × | | |
| 37 | Unidentifiable closed shape | 1-3 | | | × | | |
| 38 | Unidentifiable closed shape | 2? | | | × | | |
| | | SITE AND CONTEXT | | | | | |
| 39 | Neck-handled tankard (CP 132) | Korakou, P IX | | | × | | |
| 40 | Pedestal-footed cup (Z 250) | Zygouries, R East VI | | | × | | |
| 41 | Pedestal-footed cup (CP 292) | Korakou | | | × | × | |
| 42 | Pedestal-footed cup | Korakou P VIII | | | × | | |

- 2 Shoulder-handled tankard Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Handle-and-body fragment. Max. diam. of body 0.082.

Mended from 3 sherds. Very fine clay; fracture brown at core, light red near surfaces; reddish yellow, unpainted interior surface; mottled black to dark red paint, applied after execution of shallow impressed decoration, covers all exterior (except for underside of handle and shoulder behind it) and top of preserved profile on interior. It is uncertain whether the complete shape had one or two handles.

Phase 2. (Lot G 206)

- 3 Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Rim-and-handle fragment plus non-joining fragment of lower body with pedestal foot. Diam. rim not measurable.

Two non-joining sherds. Coarse clay; dark reddish brown fracture, sometimes with a dark grayish brown core; surface mostly black but with some mottled brown patches. Upper stump of handle attached by means of small cylindrical plug.

Phase 2(?). (Lot B 749)

- 4 Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Rim-and-handle fragment. Diam. rim 0.14.

Mended from 5 sherds. Coarse clay; red to dark gray fracture, surface mottled from black through brown to reddish yellow. All or parts of four T-shaped perforations preserved on shoulder; parts of two cruciform perforations preserved on lower body.

Phase 3. (Lot A346)

- 5 Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Rim sherd. Diam. rim 0.12.

Single sherd. Medium-coarse clay; fracture and surface mottled from black to reddish brown.

Phase 3. (Bothros B-F I)

- 6 Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Rim fragment. Diam. rim 0.13.

Mended from 3 sherds. Medium-coarse clay; weak red fracture; mottled surface, mostly brown on interior and red to yellowish red on exterior. At point of maximum diameter and below, two rows of widely spaced cruciform perforations; some of the

roughly triangular impressions on the shoulder above actually break through to the interior as perforations; all impressions were originally filled with white paste.

Context mixed, with contents ranging in date from phases 1-2 to the Transitional IV-V phase.⁸ (Bothros B-M)

- 7 Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Body sherd. Max. diam. of body 0.12.

Single sherd. Coarse clay; mottled gray to reddish brown fracture and surface. Single row of circular perforations partially preserved on lower body; at point of maximum diameter, a row of impressed quatrefoils of which three of the four wholly or partially preserved examples have circular perforations at their centers.

Phase 3. (Lot B 325)

- 8 (L.44) Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98
Fragment of stem connecting bowl and pedestal foot. Max. pres. H. 0.058, min. diam. of stem 0.050.

Single sherd. Medium-coarse clay; fracture gray at core, reddish yellow near and at surfaces. Impressed decoration, partially obliterated by subsequent burnishing, consists of 32 vertical or slightly curving rows of small dots, of which the maximum number preserved in any given row is 14.

Phase 3(?). (Trench A, cleaning scarp)

- 9 Pedestal-footed cup Pl. 98
Fragment of stem connecting bowl and pedestal foot. Max. pres. H. 0.043, min. diam. of stem 0.038.

Single sherd. Coarse clay; variable fracture, dark gray through red; mottled surfaces, dark grayish brown to reddish brown on exterior, black to yellowish brown on interior. Impressed decoration, partially obliterated by subsequent burnishing, consists of six roughly horizontal rows of dots.

Phase 3. (Lot G 199)

- 10 Pedestal-footed cup Pl. 98
Fragment of stem connecting bowl and pedestal foot. Max. pres. H. 0.061, min. diam. of stem 0.044.

⁸ For the definition of this transitional EH III/MH I ceramic subphase at Lerna, see C. W. Zerner, *The Beginning of the Middle Helladic Period at Lerna*, diss. University of Cincinnati 1978, University Microfilms International 7904772, pp. 191-192.

Single sherd. Coarse clay; mottled fracture and surface, dark grayish brown through reddish brown. Impressed decoration consists of at least seven roughly horizontal rows of dots.

Phase 3(?). (Lot J 527)

11 Pedestal-footed cup Pl. 98

Fragment of stem connecting bowl and pedestal foot. Max. pres. H. 0.077, min. diam. of stem 0.039.

Single sherd. Coarse clay; mottled fracture and surface, black through yellowish red. Impressed decoration, partially obliterated by subsequent burnishing, consists of three horizontal rows of dots.

Phase 3(?). (Lot J 527)

12 (L.415) Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98

Foot fragments. Max. pres. H. 0.052, diam. foot 0.095.

Mended from 3 sherds into 2 non-joining fragments. Coarse clay; dark gray fracture; surface mottled from black to reddish brown. All incised and impressed decoration originally filled with white paste.

Phase 2(?). (Lots B 747 and B 748)

13 Pedestal-footed cup Fig. 1, Pl. 98

Foot fragment. Diam. foot 0.072.

Single sherd. Fine clay; fracture mostly gray but reddish brown to red near surface; mottled dark brown to red surface.

Phase 1. (Lot G 65)

14 Pedestal-footed cup (?) Fig. 1, Pl. 99

Rim fragment. Diam. rim 0.08.

Single sherd. Fine clay; brown fracture and surface.

Phase 1. (Lot BD 618)

15 Pedestal-footed cup (?). Fig. 1, Pl. 99

Foot fragment(?). Diam. foot not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; dark gray fracture; surface mottled from black to very dark grayish brown. This sherd is more likely to be a foot fragment than a flaring rim. Impressed decoration all originally filled with white paste.

Phase 1. (Lot BD 438)

16 Shoulder-handled bowl Fig. 1, Pl. 99

Rim-and-handle fragment plus non-joining rim. Diam. rim 0.22.

Two non-joining rim fragments. Fine clay; fracture mostly gray to grayish brown, occasionally mottled to reddish brown near exterior surface; surface mottled from very dark gray to light yellowish brown.

Phase 1. (Lot G 209)

17 Shoulder-handled bowl Fig. 1, Pl. 99

Rim fragment. Diam. rim *ca.* 0.18.

Mended from 2 sherds. Fine clay; fracture mostly dark grayish brown, mottled occasionally to red near exterior surface; surface mostly dark grayish brown to light brownish gray but mottled to yellowish red at rim. Incised and impressed decoration all originally filled with white paste.

Phase 1. (Lots G 62 and GL 39)

18 Shoulder-handled bowl Fig. 1, Pl. 99

Rim and body sherds. Diam. rim not measurable.

Two non-joining rim fragments and a non-joining body sherd. Fine clay; fracture and surface mostly black, with slight mottling of the exterior surface and some of the fracture to reddish brown and dark reddish brown, respectively.

Phase 1. (Lots B 1512, G 78, and G 162)

19 Shoulder-handled bowl Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Handle-and-body fragment. Max. diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; dark gray fracture; surface mostly black, but there is scattered mottling of the exterior to brown (body) and red (back of handle).

Context mixed, with contents ranging in date from Phase 1 to Phase 3. (Lot J 465)

20 Shoulder-handled bowl Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Medium-coarse clay; fracture pale brown at core, reddish brown near surface; surface mottled from dark grayish brown to light yellowish brown. Swelling of wall thickness at left end of sherd indicates proximity of upper handle attachment. Impressed decoration, all originally filled with paste, probably consisted of a horizontal series of pendent triangles framed at each end by a rough rectangle flanking the handle(s).

Phase 1. (Lot G 164)

21 Shoulder-handled bowl Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

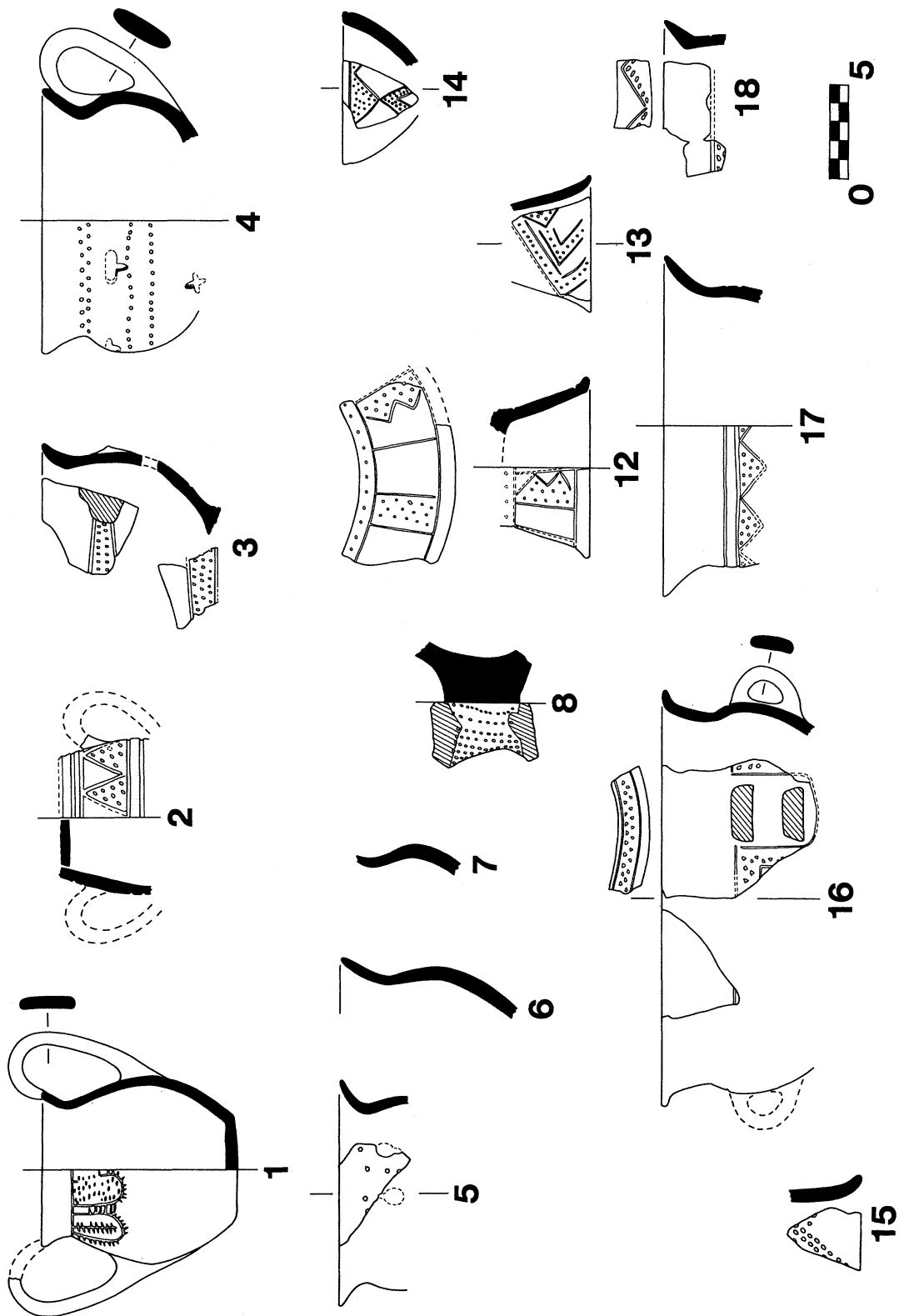


FIG. 1. Incised and impressed pottery from Lerna IV

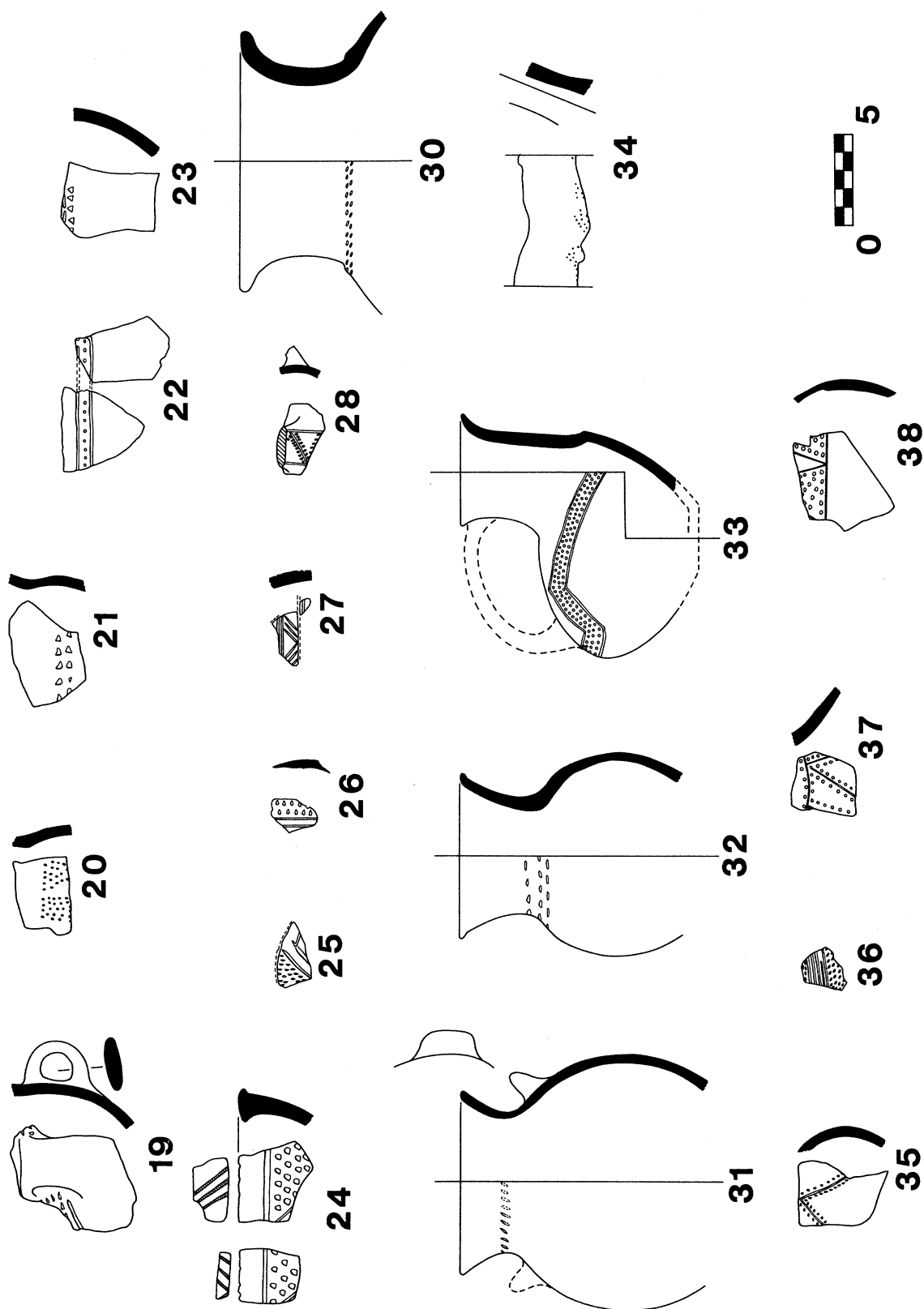


FIG. 2. Incised and impressed pottery from Lerna IV

Single sherd. Fine clay; fracture mostly brown, occasionally mottled to grayish brown; surface mottled from black to dark gray.

Phase 1. (Lot BD 617)

22 Shoulder-handled bowl (?) Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Body sherds. Diam. not measurable.

Two non-joining sherds. Fine clay; fracture mostly brown, mottled to reddish brown near exterior surface; surface mottled from dark gray to pale brown.

Phase 1. (Bothros J-R)

23 Shoulder-handled bowl (?) Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Coarse clay; dark gray fracture; surface mottled from dark gray to light brown.

Phases 1-2. (Bothros B-W)

24 Bowl with horizontal handles Fig. 2, Pl. 99
or lugs.

Rim sherds. Diam. rim not measurable.

Two non-joining rim fragments. Fine clay; very dark gray fracture and surface. This shape would have been furnished either with two horizontal handles, trianguloid in section, or with two broad horizontal ledge lugs, in either case attached below the rim at approximately the level of the exterior decorative zone. Incised, impressed, and cord-impressed decoration all originally filled with white paste.

Phases 1-2. (Lots BE 452 and BE 455)

25 Open shape; precise form undeterminable Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; gray fracture; light brown surface. Incised and impressed decoration all originally filled with white paste.

Phase 1. (Lot J 149)

26 Open shape, precise form undeterminable Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; dark gray fracture; surface mottled from dark gray to grayish brown.

Phase 1. (Lot J 514)

27 Open shape, precise form undeterminable Fig. 2, Pl. 99

⁹ See footnote 8 above.

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; pale brown fracture; black exterior surface. Incised decoration all originally filled with white paste.

Phase 3. (Lot GP 17)

28 Open shape, precise form undeterminable Fig. 2, Pl. 99

Handle-and-body fragment. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; fracture mostly gray, becoming grayish brown near and at surface. This sherd probably belonged to a rim- or neck-handled tankard.

Context mixed, with contents ranging in date from Phases 1-2 to the Transitional IV-V phase.⁹ (Bothros B-M)

29 (L.373 + 1653) Narrow-necked jar Fig. 3, Pl. 99

Rim, neck, lug and body fragments. Max. pres. H. (composite) 0.275, diam. rim 0.166, max. diam. 0.493.

Mended from 60 sherds into 24 non-joining fragments, four of which reveal traces of having been burnt after the vase was broken. Fine clay; fracture mostly grayish brown, red near surface; light red to reddish yellow exterior surface, possibly coated with a thin wash. The shape had at least two, and probably four, unperforated spool lugs. The diagonal groove incised before firing on the neck fragment (L.373) is probably to be identified as a potter's mark.

Phase 3. (Lots B 748, 1476, and 1506; G 101, 118, 250, 253, 273, 276, 279, 282, 284, 287, and 289)

30 Narrow-necked jar Fig. 2, Pl. 100

Rim-, neck-and-shoulder fragment. Diam. rim 0.142.

Mended from 2 sherds. Fine clay; gray fracture; surface dark gray to dark grayish brown on interior, light brown to light yellowish brown on exterior.

Phase 3. (Bothros J-B)

31 Flask Fig. 2, Pl. 100

Rim-, lug-and-body fragment. Max. pres. H. 0.135, diam. rim 0.100, max. diam. 0.140.

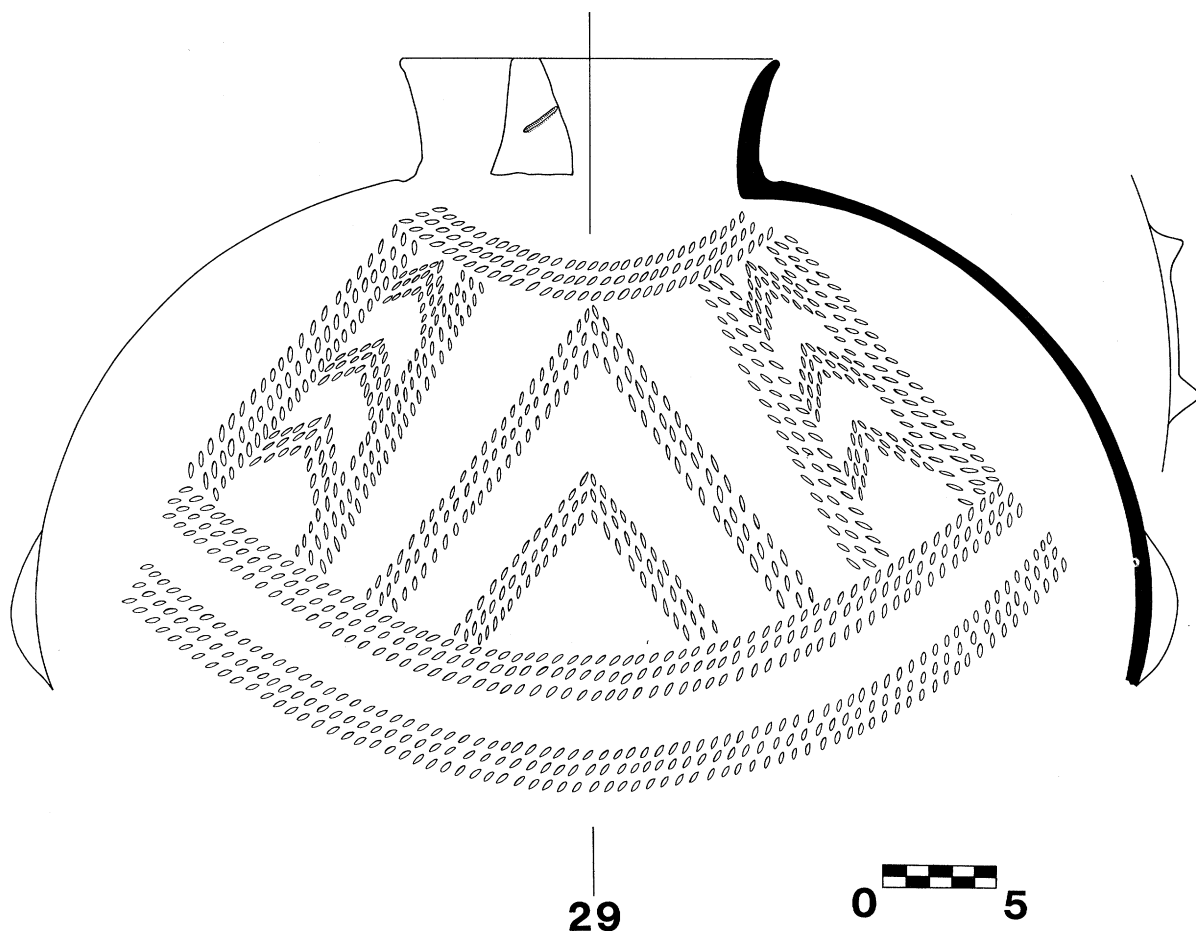


FIG. 3. Narrow-necked jar 29 from Lerna IV

Mended from 10 sherds. Medium-coarse clay; fracture mostly dark gray, reddish brown near surface; surface mottled from dark gray to strong brown.

Phase 3. (Bothros B-Ff)

32 Flask

Fig. 2, Pl. 100

Rim plus non-joining shoulder fragment. Max. pres. H. (composite) 0.12, diam. rim 0.09, max. diam. 0.11.

Two non-joining sherds. Medium-coarse clay; yellowish red to red fracture; surface mottled from dark grayish brown to reddish brown.

Phase 3. (Bothros B-At + BD-X + BF3)

33 (L.718) Askos

Fig. 2, Pl. 100

Rim-, neck-and-body fragment. Max. pres. H. 0.120, diam. rim 0.061, max. diam. 0.122.

Mended from 7 sherds. Fine clay; gray to grayish brown fracture; surface mostly black to gray but mottled in patches to strong brown. Thickening of wall on upper neck suggests that upper handle attachment was near or at rim.

Phase 1. (Lot G 181)

34 Askos

Fig. 2, Pl. 100

Neck fragment. Max. pres. H. 0.038, diam. neck ca. 0.025.

Single sherd. Medium-coarse clay; fracture and surface mottled from very dark gray to light yellowish brown. Impressed decoration at base of neck probably to be identified as horizontal double-zigzag pattern. Near the top of the neck is a single partially preserved triangular impression, considerably larger than the tiny circular impressions below (omitted from drawing, Fig. 2:34).

Phase 1(?). (Lot BD 353)

- 35** Closed shape, precise form Fig. 2, Pl. 100
undeterminable

Body fragment. Diam. not measurable.

Mended from 2 sherds. Fine clay; very dark gray fracture; black exterior surface. Possibly from the same vase as **36**.

Phase 1. (Lot J 475)

- 36** Closed shape, precise form Fig. 2, Pl. 100
undeterminable

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; very dark gray fracture; black exterior surface. Possibly from the same vase as **35**.

Phase 1. (Lot J 470)

- 37** Closed shape, precise form Fig. 2, Pl. 100
undeterminable

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; fracture mottled from light brownish gray to light red; exterior surface mottled from light yellowish brown to reddish yellow.

Context mixed, with contents ranging in date from phase 1 to early Lerna V. (Lot A 361)

- 38** Closed shape, precise form Fig. 2, Pl. 100
undeterminable

Body sherd. Diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Fine clay; fracture mottled from dark gray to light reddish brown; exterior surface mottled from brown to reddish yellow. Interior surface blackened from secondary burning.

Phase 2(?). (Lot B 1508)

B. KORAKOU AND ZYGOURIES

- 39** (Korakou CP 132) Neck-handled Pl. 100
tankard

Almost complete profile, lacking base. Max. pres. H. 0.098, diam. rim 0.075–0.078, max. diam. of body 0.072.

Mended from *ca.* 25 sherds. Fine clay; fracture gray at core, reddish brown near surface; exterior surface mostly yellowish red but mottled in spots to weak red. Base completely restored in plaster; preserved stumps of both handles show them to have been narrow vertical straps. Incised and impressed decoration, partially smeared over by subsequent burnishing, is identical on both sides; the band of ornament on the upper shoulder steps down around the base of both handles and is thus continuous around the entire vase.

Trench P, level IX.¹⁰

Published: C. W. Blegen, *Korakou, A Prehistoric Settlement Near Corinth*, Boston and New York 1921, pp. 13–14, fig. 17.

- 40** (Zygouries Z 250) Pedestal-footed Pl. 100
cup

Complete profile. H. 0.090–0.093, diam. rim 0.082–0.086, max. diam. body 0.086, diam. foot 0.052.

Intact and complete except for almost half of foot. Medium-coarse clay; fracture and surface mottled from black to reddish yellow, the black probably the result of secondary burning. Foot pierced at 120° intervals by three circular fenestrations; single vertical strap handle attached at top to exterior face of rim. Incised and impressed ornament on foot consists of a series of panels whose decoration alternates between those containing a circular fenestration ringed by an irregular row of tiny circular impressions and those consisting of three to four incised vertical lines between each pair of which are one or two vertical rows of similar impressions.

¹⁰ The preserved sherd material from this level stored in the Corinth Museum suggests that this stratum is contemporary with phase 1 of Lerna IV.

Trench R East, level VI.¹¹

Published: C. W. Blegen, *Zygouries, A Prehistoric Settlement in the Valley of Cleonae*, Cambridge 1928, p. 124, fig. 116.

41 (Korakou CP 292) Pedestal-footed cup Pl. 100

Stem-and-lower-body fragment. Max. pres. H. 0.117.

Mended from 2 sherds. Medium-coarse clay; fracture dark gray at core, reddish brown near surface; exterior surface mottled from dark grayish brown to reddish yellow. Uppermost portion of hollowed foot preserved at base of stem. Within the over-all decorative scheme of multiple dot-filled horizontal zigzags, the largest circles are true perforations, while two of the smallest circles preserve traces of a filling of white paste.

Context at Korakou unknown.

42 Pedestal-footed cup Pl. 100

Body sherd. Korakou, uninventoried fragment. Max. pres. L. 0.061, max. pres. W. 0.044, diam. not measurable.

Single sherd. Medium-coarse clay; weak red fracture; very dark gray surface. Thickening of vessel wall at lower end as illustrated probably occurs in the vicinity of what was the vessel's everted rim; all but two of the impressed circles are true perforations whose interior diameters are considerably smaller than they are on the exterior surface; within the acute angle defined by the impressed decoration is part of a considerably larger perforation which was evidently triangular in outline. The obtuse angle formed by the incised ornament is probably indicative of the fact that the decorative band stepped down around a handle base (cf. 16, 22, 33, and 39).

Trench P, level VIII.¹²

COMPARANDA

The remaining pieces of pattern-decorated pottery, incised or impressed or both, that are well dated to the EH III phase from other sites are few enough to be listed in their totality prior to an analysis of the material from Lerna.¹³

¹¹ The discovery of Zygouries Z 250 is reported in Harland's 1921 Zygouries field notebook, kept in the Corinth Museum, on pages 108–109; it was apparently found when the excavations tunneled under a cross wall. A dating for the piece to the EH III phase may be considered certain on the grounds of external parallels, but its circumstances of discovery and the lack of associated sherd material make any more precise dating in terms of the ceramic sequence within Lerna IV difficult.

¹² The preserved sherd material from this level stored in the Corinth Museum is mixed: most of it belongs to MH II ("Classical Minyan") types, but between a quarter and a third of it dates from a stage of EH III seemingly somewhat later than that represented in the underlying level P IX (for which see footnote 10 above). The incised and impressed fragment 42 belongs with the EH III material in this level. In both his field notes and later pottery notes (Corinth Notebook 81 [1915], pp. 226–228, 361–363), Blegen records a deep layer of ash and burnt debris at the bottom of level P VIII. It is unfortunately unclear whether this burnt stratum is to be dated to the end of the early stage of EH III represented by the contents of P IX or to some later stage of EH III represented by the EH III material from P VIII. There is, of course, no way to tell whether the burnt destruction was restricted in scope or affected the site as a whole.

¹³ Pieces are listed only if their shape is a characteristic EH III type or if the context from which they come is securely datable to EH III. Quite a few incised or impressed sherds from, for example, such sites as Asea and Eutresis are not included since they fail to meet either of these criteria. Also omitted for these reasons are five vases from Group III of the chamber tombs at Manika on Euboea, a jar from one of the R-graves on Lefkas, and four jugs from the Macedonian sites of Hagios Mamas and Gonia, as well as fragments from Thessaly, Pelikata (Ithaka), Thermi (Lesbos), Vathy (Kalymnos), Saratse and Vardaroph-

*Argolid-Corinthia*¹⁴

Korakou: (see above, 39, 41, and 42).

Mykenai: Pyxis: Wace, *op. cit.* (footnote 4 above), p. 117, fig. 26:h.

Prosymna: 1) Neck-handled jug: Blegen, *op. cit.* (footnote 4 above), p. 378, fig. 638:7.
2) Narrow-necked jar (?): *ibid.*, fig. 638:1–2.

Tiryns: Unidentifiable shape: Gercke, Gercke, and Hiesel, *op. cit.* (footnote 5 above), p. 35, no. 89, pl. 35:3c.

Zygouries: (see 40 above).

Arcadia

Asea: Flask: Holmberg, *op. cit.* (footnote 4 above), p. 83, fig. 89:a.

*Elis**Olympia: Dark Burnished*

- 1) Rim-handled tankards, two-handled: Weege, 1911, p. 167, nos. 11, 12, pl. V:1, 2; Dörpfeld, 1935, pl. 22:1, 2.
- 2) Neck-handled tankard, one-handled: Weege, 1911, p. 165, no. 1, pl. V:7, 8; Dörpfeld, 1935, pl. 22:3, Beil. 25:c, d.
- 3) Neck-handled tankards, two-handled: Weege, 1911, pp. 166–167, nos. 9, 10, pl. V:5, 6; Dörpfeld, 1935, pl. 22:4, 5, Beil. 25:b; Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 165, fig. 38:4, pl. 108:g.
- 4) Shoulder-handled bowls, one-handled: Weege, 1911, pp. 170–171, nos. 29–31, 173, no. 38, figs. 12–16, pl. V:3, 4; Dörpfeld, 1935, pl. 22:7, 8; Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 165–166, figs. 33:10, 35:3, 38:5, 6, 8; pls. 108:f, l, o, 109 *passim*.
- 5) Bowl with horizontal handles or lugs: Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 156, 166–167, fig. 33:9, pl. 108:n.
- 6) Unidentifiable shapes: Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 174, fig. 39:4, 5.

Fine, gray-burnished (= Gray Minyan)

- 1) Shoulder-handled bowl: Weege, 1911, fig. 18, upper left.
- 2) Kantharoi: Weege, 1911, pp. 167–168, figs. 5–7, 18, lower left; Dörpfeld, 1935, fig. 12:1, 3, pl. 22:14; Koumouzelis, 1980, fig. 38:7.

*Ionian Islands**Pelikata (Ithaka): Fine, gray-burnished (= Gray Minyan)*

Kantharoi: W. A. Heurtley, "Excavations in Ithaca, II," *BSA* 35, 1934–35, p. 31, nos. 106–109, figs. 24, 26.

tsa in Macedonia, and Troy, all of which are cited as parallels by Koumouzelis (Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 168 and notes 37–41). A cord-impressed sherd from Eutresis said to come from an EH III context at this site is not listed since it is uncertain which of the illustrated cord-impressed sherds this piece in fact is (Goldman, *op. cit.* [footnote 3 above], p. 123, fig. 169). Similar cord-impressed fragments from Aghia Marina in Phokis come from uncertain contexts (*ibid.*, p. 123, note 6; V. Milošević, "Zur Frage der Schnurkeramik in Griechenland," *Germania* 33, 1955, fig. 1:1–5).

¹⁴ The three fragments from Argos published by Deshayes as examples of EH III incised pottery (J. Deshayes, *Argos, Les fouilles de la Deiras*, Paris 1966, pp. 113–114, pls. XII:1, XLIX:4, LXXXIV:3, lower right, XCIX:6, lower left and upper and lower right) are in fact of early MH date, as is clearly indicated by close parallels from near-by Lerna which have been identified as "Cycladic Dark-burnished" imports (Zerner, *op. cit.* [footnote 8 above], p. 73, D594/19, fig. 5, pl. XI; p. 118, B1486/6, fig. 15, pl. XVII; pp. 179–180). The askos Z 205 from Zygouries bearing both Dark-on-Light painted decoration and fine incised and impressed ornament (C. W. Blegen [under 40 above], p. 105, no. 205, pl. XII:2) was found on an EH II floor (Harland's 1921 Zygouries field notebook, pp. 74–75, 87) and is consequently also omitted from consideration here.

*Saronic Gulf and Attica*¹⁵

- Aigina* 1) Pedestal-footed cup: Walter and Felten, *op. cit.* (footnote 15 above), pp. 110, 161, no. 228, pl. 97.
 2) Rim-handled tankard (?): *ibid.*, pp. 106, 158, no. 171, fig. 102, pl. 89

ANALYSIS (Table 2)

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LERNA MATERIAL

The vast majority of the 38 samples of pottery from Lerna IV bearing finely incised or impressed decoration are unpainted and burnished, with mottled, generally dark surfaces (i.e., brown, grayish brown, gray, or black). In terms of their fabric, they range from fine to coarse, the coarse pieces tending to date from phases 2 or 3 and to be pedestal-footed cups, while most of the remaining shapes, as well as the bulk of the phase 1 material, are made of fine or medium-coarse clay. There are no examples from Lerna of fine, gray-burnished pottery, the EH III ancestor of MH Gray Minyan, decorated with finely incised or impressed motifs, in marked contrast to the situation at Olympia and Pelikata.

The single example of painted pottery, **2**, belongs to a common class of Lerna IV pottery which is typified by a fine, reddish yellow and micaceous fabric coated solidly with paint and subsequently burnished.¹⁶ Although the decoration of shoulder-handled tankards, shoulder-handled bowls, and kantharoi of this class with groups of shallow horizontal incisions or grooves begins on tankards in phase 2 and becomes common on bowls and kantharoi during phase 3 of Lerna IV,¹⁷ **2** is unique in having patterned rather than purely linear ornament and in featuring impressed decoration. This piece, however, is almost

¹⁵ Incised and impressed pottery of Phylakopi I types from sites in and around the Saronic Gulf is all, to judge from the well-dated excavation proveniences of much of this material at the Kolonna site on Aigina, no earlier than the beginning of the MH period (H. Walter and F. Felten, *Alt-Agina*, III, i, *Die vorgeschichtlichen Stadt. Befestigungen, Häuser, Befunde*, Mainz 1981, pp. 117, 124–126, nos. 393–395), and it is therefore omitted here. For a selection of such pottery in the characteristic shapes of duck askoi, conical pyxides, and lids, see R. Wünsche, *Studien zur äginetischen Keramik der frühen und mittleren Bronzezeit*, Munich and Berlin 1977, pp. 51–59 (Aigina), G. Mylonas, *Προϊστορική Ἐλευσίς*, Athens 1932, fig. 84 (Eleusis), and O. Broneer, "Excavations on the North Slope of the Acropolis in Athens 1931–1932," *Hesperia* 2, 1933, p. 357, fig. 27 (Athens). The incised and impressed pottery from Aghios Kosmas, some of it white filled, appears to be uniformly of EH II date, like the few pieces of pattern-painted Dark-on-Light pottery from the site (G. Mylonas, *Aghios Kosmas. An Early Bronze Age Settlement and Cemetery in Attica*, Princeton 1959, p. 127 and note 43, figs. 122:1–4, 160, nos. 311, 312, the last two certainly of types current in the EB 2 Cyclades). The most popular incised and impressed shapes are frying pans and pyxides with close Cycladic affinities. One of the pyxides closely resembles in the style of its decoration some of the EH III pieces from Lerna, but its context, albeit somewhat disturbed, suggests a date no later than EH II for the piece (*ibid.*, fig. 161, nos. 305–310). A pedestal-footed cup from Eleusis having three incised horizontal lines alternating with two rows of circular perforations on the shoulder is reminiscent of the pedestal-footed cups of EH III phase 3 from Lerna but is dated to the MH period (Mylonas, *Προϊστορική Ἐλευσίς*, p. 86, no. 133, fig. 57, left).

¹⁶ Caskey, *op. cit.* (footnote 3 above), p. 296 where this class is described as slipped and burnished. The substance used to coat these vases, Caskey's "slip", appears to be identical to the paint utilized for the execution of geometric motifs in the pattern-painted Dark-on-Light class, hence the use of the term "paint" rather than "slip" here.

¹⁷ See footnote 5 above, under (3).

certainly to be identified as a local imitation of a mode of decoration normally restricted to unpainted burnished pottery on shapes other than shoulder-handled tankards at the site.

29 is unique in having an unburnished surface and in bearing what is best identified as a potter's mark on the neck. Its unusual fabric and elaborate decoration, at a time (phase 3) when most of the finely incised or impressed pottery from Lerna is decorated with horizontal bands of such ornament, strongly suggests that it is an import to the site. **30**, the only other certain example from Lerna of a narrow-necked jar belonging to this decorative group, is also atypical in its fabric and may likewise be an import.

SHAPES

By far the commonest shapes from Lerna decorated with finely incised or impressed ornament are the pedestal-footed cup and the shoulder-handled bowl. Together these account for slightly more than half of the preserved corpus of material. It is nevertheless striking how many different shapes, both open and closed, were in fact decorated in this fashion. The comparanda from other sites extend this shape range even further, so that it eventually includes all the major EH III vessel forms produced in fine fabrics with the exception of the ouzo cup and the rim-handled, flat-based cup. Each shape represented at Lerna is worth considering in some detail.

Rim-handled tankard. **1** is unique among the finely incised or impressed pottery of Lerna IV, not only in terms of its shape but also because it is the only vase in the collection decorated with curvilinear motifs; it is also one of the few, along with **27** and **31**, to bear only finely incised ornament and no impressed decoration. Its shape is not well paralleled elsewhere, but the style of its decoration, if not the actual motifs, is close to that on the flask from Asea, and it may be that **1** is actually an Arcadian import.

Shoulder-handled tankard. **2** has already been discussed (p. 473 above). Here it is only worth noting how surprising it is that the shoulder-handled tankard, common at other EH III sites in the northeastern Peloponnese, is so rarely decorated with fine incisions or impressions, particularly when rim- and neck-handled versions of the same basic form are quite commonly so decorated (cf. **1**, **28**, **39**, and the comparanda from Olympia).¹⁸

Pedestal-footed cup. At least two varieties of the basic form appear to be attested, the more common having an everted rim and a deep bowl (**3–7**), while a rare variant with a vertical rim and a shallow bowl is probably represented by **14**. The comparanda from elsewhere (**40–42** from Korakou and Zygouries and the example from Aigina) are probably all of the

¹⁸ This peculiar circumstance is potentially of considerable significance with regard to the evolution and ancestry of the characteristic EH III shoulder-handled tankard in the Peloponnese. The evidence from Olympia to be considered below indicates that the rim-handled and particularly the neck-handled versions are the earliest forms of the EH III tankard; they also most closely resemble the "Lefkandi I" tankard, from which all EH III tankard forms are most plausibly derived (J. B. Rutter, *Ceramic Change in the Aegean Early Bronze Age. The Kastri Group, Lefkandi I, and Lerna IV: A Theory Concerning the Origin of Early Helladic III Ceramics*, Los Angeles 1979, a discussion to be modified somewhat now that all the sherd material from Lerna IV has been studied). The shoulder-handled tankard may thus be a somewhat later development which appeared at a time when finely incised and impressed decoration was no longer commonly applied to the tankard form, its place having been taken by pattern-painted Dark-on-Light decoration.

commoner Lernaean variety. The fenestrated feet of the examples from Aigina and Zygouries (40) are not attested at Lerna, although the paneled system of decoration on the foot of 40 is paralleled at Lerna on 12. From the point of view of decoration, the pedestal-footed cups from Lerna divide neatly into two groups, an earlier (3, 12–15 of phases 1–2) and a later (4–11 of phase 3). The earlier group normally bears both incised and impressed ornament (3, 12–14), and in two cases the relief decoration is filled with white paste (12, 15). In contrast, the later group regularly bears only impressed decoration in the form of horizontal rows of circular impressions which is in only one case filled with white paste (6). If these decorative criteria can be validly applied at other sites, then all the comparanda from Aigina, Korakou, and Zygouries should predate phase 3 of Lerna IV.

Shoulder-handled bowl. Unfortunately, not one of the fragments of this shape from Lerna is fully enough preserved to indicate whether bowls of this form decorated with incised or impressed ornament had two handles or only one. There is no certain example of the one-handled variant of this shape among any of the ceramic classes of Lerna IV, although there are well over 50 examples of such bowls which definitely had two handles. At Olympia, however, the incised and impressed shoulder-handled bowls, when fully enough preserved for the shape to be entirely reconstructed, are exclusively one-handled. The fragments from Lerna which have fully preserved handles (16, 19) both exhibit a ringlike form of strap handle which is not at all uptilted or high swung, a characteristic feature of shoulder-handled bowls during phase 1 of Lerna IV. Six of the total of eight incised or impressed examples of this shape from Lerna (16–18, 20–22) come from contexts of phase 1, while the other two come from mixed (19) or imprecisely datable (23) contexts which include material of the same early phase. It thus seems likely that this shape, when decorated with finely incised or impressed ornament, is restricted to the earliest EH III subphase of Lerna IV.

Bowl with horizontal handles. 24 is of particular interest in that it is the only preserved fragment of pottery from Lerna IV to be decorated with cord impressions and is the only example of such ceramic decoration from any EBA context in the entire Peloponnese, indeed from any EH site south of Eutresis in Boiotia.¹⁹ But before this piece is hailed as the southernmost occurrence of central European “corded ware”, several observations should be made. First, the cord impressions on the upper surface of the rim were originally filled with white paste, with the result that the corded decoration itself would not have been visible.²⁰ Second, neither shape nor fabric nor the remaining decoration of the piece suggests that it was an import. Bowls with similarly thickened, T-shaped rims occur in the Dark-on-Light pattern-painted class in phase 1 contexts of Lerna IV: the pattern of opposed diagonals executed by means of corded impressions is common enough on the interior rim of pattern-painted bowls with horizontal handles, although bowls with such decoration only become common in late phase 2 and in phase 3; the dot-filled triangles on the exterior are a motif

¹⁹ E. Hanschmann and V. Milošević, *Die deutschen Ausgrabungen auf der Argissa-Magula in Thessalien*, III, i, *Die frühe und beginnende mittlere Bronzezeit*, Bonn 1976, pp. 231–235 for the most recent discussion of cord-impressed pottery from EBA contexts throughout Greece. See also Milošević, *op. cit.* (footnote 13 above), pp. 151–154.

²⁰ In her publication of the four cord-impressed sherds found in EH levels in Eutresis, Goldman makes no mention of white filling matter in the impressions (Goldman, *op. cit.* [footnote 3 above], p. 123).

commonly represented among the small number of incised or impressed fragments which form the subject of this article. On the other hand, all the above notwithstanding, it remains true that the closest over-all parallel for **24** is a cord-impressed rim sherd from the distant site of Pefkakia in Thessaly.²¹

Fragments from unidentifiable open shapes. **27** and **28**, both from phase 3 contexts, are probably earlier than these contexts suggest. **28**, likely to be from a rim- or neck-handled tankard (cf. **39** and the comparanda from Olympia), should be early since neck-handled tankards are apparently restricted to phase 1 at Lerna while rim-handled tankards are very rare after phase 2. **27** is probably early because of the white paste which fills its incised decoration (see below under "Decoration").

Narrow-necked jar. **29** and **30** have been discussed above, where it was suggested that both are likely to be imports. It is further worth noting that both come from late (phase 3) contexts. Neither seems closely related to the only potential parallel from another site, a fragmentary vase from Prosymna which is in any case not certainly an example of this shape. The source from which such jars might have been imported to Lerna must remain problematic in the present state of our knowledge.

Flask. Like the jars just discussed, both flasks, **31** and **32**, come from late contexts. Both are simply decorated and belong to a variant of the flask form having a flaring neck and lugs on the shoulder, the latter either solid or pierced vertically by circular perforations. This shape appears in phase 3 of Lerna IV to replace an earlier type having a cylindrical neck and vertically pierced, tubular lugs attached on the neck. The earlier type occurs rarely in phases 1 and 2 decorated with Dark-on-Light pattern-painted ornament and is paralleled elsewhere by the incised flask from Asea, as well as by examples from Tiryns, Nemea, Olympia, and Troy.²² The later type is occasionally decorated with Dark-on-Light painted patterns at Lerna but is usually unpainted; comparanda come from a late EH III context at Tiryns and from early MH contexts both at Asine and at Lerna itself.²³

Askos. Both examples of the askos form, **33** and **34**, belong to a version of the shape which seems to be restricted to phase 1 at Lerna. This variant is small, has a cylindrical neck offset sharply from the body, and at Lerna occurs only as an unpainted shape.²⁴

²¹ V. Milošević, "Bericht über die deutschen Ausgrabungen in Thessalien," *Δελτ* 28, 1973, B' 2 [1977], pl. 305:c, lower right; Hanschmann and Milošević, *op. cit.* (footnote 19 above), p. 232 (d) and note 999. Note that the bowl with a thickened rim also occurs in the EH III repertoire of finely incised and impressed shapes at Olympia, although here without corded decoration: Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 166–167, fig. 33:9, pl. 108:n.

²² H. Schliemann, *Tiryns. The Prehistoric Palace of the Kings of Tiryns. The Results of the Latest Excavations*, New York 1885, p. 59, pl. XXIII:d (Tiryns); C. W. Blegen *et al.*, *Troy, II, The Third, Fourth, and Fifth Settlements*, Princeton 1951, pp. 109, 138, 214, figs. 170:10, 185 (Troy); Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 150, II-175, fig. 37:2, pl. 93 (Olympia). Several examples from Nemea are unpublished; I am grateful to Professor G. Mylonas for permission to mention them here.

²³ Gercke, Gercke, and Hiesel, *op. cit.* (footnote 5 above), p. 33, no. 85, fig. 11:6, pl. 36:2a (Tiryns); O. Frödin and A. W. Persson, *Asine. Results of the Swedish Excavations 1922–1930*, Stockholm 1938, p. 264, fig. 184:8 (Asine); Zerner, *op. cit.* (footnote 8 above), p. 104, BD155/4, fig. 12, pl. XV (Lerna). A coarse EH flask from Asea may also be cited (Holmberg, *op. cit.* [footnote 4 above], fig. 81:b).

²⁴ For an undecorated version of this phase 1 variant at Lerna, see Caskey, 1966, pl. 55:18. This version was evidently sometimes decorated with Light-on-Dark painted patterns in Boiotia (D. Fimmen,

Fragments from unidentifiable closed shapes. Of the four pieces in question, **35** and **36** are certainly datable to phase 1, while **37** comes from a mixed deposit containing some material assignable to phase 1 and is also likely to be early. **38**, from a context whose date is somewhat uncertain, closely resembles **37** in its style of decoration and is probably contemporary with it. All four pieces have been attributed to closed shapes because of their roughly finished interior surfaces. They all, however, belong to rather small, thin-walled vases with strongly convex body profiles. It is likely that some of them, perhaps even all, come from tankards with high, relatively narrow necks such as **39** from Korakou and the tankards cited as comparanda from Olympia, although they could equally well belong to pyxides such as the example from Mykenai. In the complexity and fineness of their decoration, their only parallels among the closed shapes from Lerna itself are the askoi **33** and **34**.

DECORATION (Table 2)

The evidence of the 38 vases and fragments from Lerna with finely incised or impressed decoration strongly suggests that, if complex, it is characteristic of the earlier phase of EH III (Lerna IV phases 1–2), whereas very simple decoration is typical of later EH III (Lerna IV phase 3). On the assumption that **27** and **28** are early pieces in late contexts, the decoration on vessels dated by context to phase 3 consists exclusively, with the single exception of the chevron-filled panels and multiple triangles on the jar **29**, of several horizontal rows of circular (**4–11**) or elliptical (**30, 32**) impressions or a single row of incised diagonal bars (**31**).²⁵ With the exception of the two jars **29** and **30**, both likely to have been imported, decoration in this subphase is either purely incised or purely impressed but not a combination of both; even the jars are purely impressed except for a single horizontal groove at the base of their necks. There is only one example of the use of white paste as a filling material in phase 3 (**6**). Finally, ornament is restricted to the body of the vase in phase 3 and to the shoulder on all shapes except for the pedestal-footed cup, where decoration may cover the body and also the stem. Like the shape range at this time, which has been reduced to the pedestal-footed cup, the narrow-necked jar, and the flask, the repertoire of motifs, if one should dignify simple rows of dots and dashes with that term, is impoverished.²⁶

By contrast, the material from phases 1 and 2, which boasts six or more distinct shapes in comparison to the three of phase 3, also exhibits a far broader range of motifs and a greater variety in the placement of them on the vase. Furthermore, of the total, from all phases, of eight pieces with traces of white paste used as filling, five (**15, 17, 20, 24, 25**) come

Die kretisch-mykenische Kultur, Leipzig and Berlin 1921, fig. 128, left, from Aghia Marina). The later and more common variety of EH III askos, normally solidly painted, is exemplified by published specimens from Tiryns and Gonia (Müller, *op. cit.* [footnote 4 above], pl. IX:1; C. W. Blegen, "Gonia," *MMS* 3, 1930–31, fig. 20).

²⁵ Possibly to be added to **29** as an exception is the pedestal-footed cup fragment **7** which has, inserted between its rows of impressed circles at its point of maximum diameter, a zone of impressed quatrefoils ringing circular perforations.

²⁶ A phenomenon parallel to this narrow range of impressed ornament in terms of its simplicity and lack of variety is the contemporary popularity at Lerna of broad belts of incised lines or grooves on the shoulders of solidly painted and burnished kantharoi and shoulder-handled bowls (see footnote 5 above under [3]).

from securely dated early contexts and serve as a strong argument for confirming the suggested phase 2 date for **12** and a generally early date for **27**. Of the 26 pieces (including **19**, **27**, **28**, and **37**) certainly or probably to be dated to phases 1 or 2, fully 20 combine incised and impressed ornament rather than using either one or the other in isolation, and three of the remaining six make use of white paste as filling matter. In view of the fact that many of the pieces are only small sherds from vases which no doubt originally bore fairly extensive zones of decoration, it is likely that the number of vases datable to phases 1 and 2 which bore only impressed or only incised decoration was in reality even smaller.

During phases 1 and 2, incised or impressed ornament or both may appear on the interior (**16**, **18**) or on top (**24**) of the rim, on the neck of closed shapes (**34**), on the shoulder (*passim*), on the foot (**12**, **13**, **15**), or on the back of the handle (**28**). The presence of at least two decorative zones is attested on the pedestal-footed cups **3** and **14** (shoulder, lower body), on the shoulder-handled bowls **16** and **18** (interior rim, shoulder), and on the bowl with horizontal handles **24** (top of rim, shoulder), and is almost certain to have existed on numerous other vases as well (e.g., **12**, **13**, **15**, **28**). There are, however, no parallels at Lerna for decoration pendent from the handles or on the underside of the base as on the kantharoi and shoulder-handled bowls at Olympia.

With the one exception of the incised loops on the tankard **1**, all finely incised and impressed decoration is rectilinear throughout Lerna IV. The commonest motif consists of one or more horizontal rows of impressions or short diagonal incisions (**4–11**, **21**, **30–32**), a pattern restricted to the shoulder except on pedestal-footed cups where such rows may extend all over the body and onto the stemmed foot as well. Slightly more elaborate is a band consisting of two incised lines framing one or more rows of impressions (**3**, **12**, **16**, **19**, **22**, **33**) which normally occurs on the shoulder but which may also appear on the interior of the rim (**16**) or on the lower body at the transition to the foot (**3**, **12**); when on the shoulder, such a band often (**16**, **22**, **33**) but by no means invariably (**3**, **19**) jogs around the base of a handle attached at the same level. Zigzag, purely impressed (**34**?), incised and fringed by impressions (**28**, **35**), or made up of two incised lines framing two rows of impressions (**14**), may be either framed (**28**) or unframed (**14**, **34**, **35**); among the preserved material, it occurs on the neck (**34**?), shoulder (**35**), lower body (**14**), and back of the handle (**28**). Opposed diagonals, like zigzag, may be framed by incised lines (**27**) or unframed (**24**) and occur on the top of the rim (**24**) or on the shoulder (**27**). Parallel chevrons, consisting of incised pairs of lines framing a single row of impressions, occurs only once, on the foot **13**. The most common geometric motif is the triangle. Generally, these are incised and filled with impressions (**2**, **14**, **17**, **24**, **38**); in this form, they occur only on the shoulder, either pendent (**14**, **17**, **24**) or upright (**2**, **38**). Triangles may also consist of pendent V's with a fringe of impressions on the inside only, as on the interior rim of **18**, or of groups of impressions lacking an incised outline altogether, pendent on the shoulder of **20** and perhaps also on the foot of **15**. Finally, large, multiple-triangle groups, made up of impressions only, occur on the shoulder of **29**. Panels with a variety of different fills occur on the shoulders of **29** (alternating with multiple-triangle groups) and **37** and on the foot of **12**. The elaborated fringed loops which decorate the shoulder of **1** have already been mentioned as unique.

In a general sense, the geometric ornament which characterizes this incised or impressed pottery parallels the painted ornament of early Dark-on-Light pattern-decorated pottery at Lerna. The painted fringes of short diagonal bars which are so common a feature of the EH III Dark-on-Light class are in fact the precise equivalent of the impressed or incised fringes which appear on **1**, **28**, and **35**. Painted hatched and crosshatched fills are substituted for the various forms of impressed fills within bands, triangles, and panels (**2**, **3**, **12–14**, **16**, **17**, **19**, **22**, **24**, **33**, **38**). There seem to be no grounds for considering the pattern repertoires or the syntactic schemes of the finely incised and impressed pottery to be fundamentally different from those of the commoner painted pottery; the two modes seem to be alternative forms of expression of essentially the same artistic aesthetic.

That pedestal-footed cups with painted patterns do not occur at either Lerna or any other EH III site is, however, one indication that the choice of mode to be applied to a particular shape was not a free one. Rather, certain shapes, if decorated at all, could only be treated in one way. At Lerna, the shapes to be decorated only with fine incisions or impressions consist of the pedestal-footed cup and the small askos with offset, flaring cylindrical neck.²⁷ All the other shapes represented among the finely incised and impressed fragments from Lerna are also attested in the Dark-on-Light pattern-painted class. An interesting, although possibly misleading, index of the importance of finely incised and impressed decoration within the EH III ceramic tradition is that, excepting only the two pattern-painted modes, this form of decoration appears to have been applied to a broader range of shapes than any other distinct EH III mode.²⁸

SUMMARY

The evidence from Lerna, meager and extremely fragmentary though it may be, nevertheless indicates that certainly two, and arguably as many as three, stages in the development of a distinctive group of finely incised and impressed pottery can be distinguished. During the first, equivalent to Lerna IV phase 1, such pottery most commonly occurs in the form of shoulder-handled bowls (**16–23**), but there are also several examples of pedestal-footed cups (**13–15**), one bowl with horizontal handles (**24**, probably of this phase rather than phase 2), and a pair of examples of an early form of askos (**33**, **34**). In addition, one handle fragment (**28**) and several body sherds among those not assignable to specific shapes (**25–27**, **35–38**) probably belong to neck- or rim-handled tankards comparable to an almost fully preserved example from the site of Korakou in the neighboring Corinthia (**39**). The

²⁷ Another example from Lerna IV of this sort of decorative restriction exists in the form of the rim-handled, wide-mouthed jar which can only bear coarse incised ornament if it is to be decorated at all (see footnote 5 above, under [1]).

²⁸ For example, the only shapes to have been decorated with the dense plastic and impressed ornament of which examples are listed above in footnote 4 are narrow-necked jars and giant shoulder-handled tankards; coarse incised ornament is restricted almost entirely to rim-handles, wide-mouthed jars (see footnote 27 above); the combination of shallow horizontal grooves or incisions with a burnished solid coat of paint is restricted to shoulder-handled bowls and tankards, kantharoi, and one example of a neck-handled jug (see footnote 5 above under [3]).

decoration of these pieces is often quite elaborate, the combination of both incised and impressed ornament normal, and the use of white paste filling is relatively common.

In the second stage, equivalent to the fairly short period represented by Lerna IV phase 2, the amount of pottery treated in this fashion declines quite sharply in frequency. The shoulder-handled bowl is no longer decorated with incised and impressed ornament, and the small amount of evidence available suggests that the pedestal-footed cup now becomes the most common shape to bear such decoration (3, 12). There is some slight indication in the form of the solidly painted and burnished tankard fragment 2 that the elaborately incised and impressed pottery of phase 1 was now being imitated occasionally in classes of pottery to which this mode of decoration had heretofore been alien. The incised rim-handled tankard 1, the single fully restorable example found in a context of this subphase, is probably an import, perhaps from Arcadia.

In the third and final stage, the range of shapes has shrunk to three: the pedestal-footed cup, which is certainly by far the most popular; the narrow-necked jar, represented by two fragmentary pieces which are both likely to have been imported (29, 30); and a late form of flask. Decoration, except on one of the probably imported jars, is now extremely simple, and the frequent use of white paste filling is a thing of the past.

In a few cases, it is not possible to propose any more precise date for the comparanda from other EH III sites in terms of the three-phase ceramic sequence established for Lerna IV. It has, however, been suggested above (footnote 10) that the neck-handled tankard 39 from Korakou is contemporary with phase 1 at Lerna. The flask from Asea is likely to be contemporary with phase 2 in view of the parallels for its shape in phases 1 and 2 at Lerna and for its decoration on the tankard 1 of phase 2. The neck-handled jug from Prosymna should be contemporary with phase 3 on the basis of shape parallels at Lerna and its relatively simple if incompletely preserved decoration. As for the pedestal-footed cups 40–42 from Zygouries and Korakou and a fourth piece from Aigina, a suggestion that they are contemporary with phase 2 at Lerna must be very tentative. The sizeable number of incised and impressed vases and sherds from Olympia, including pieces both from within the Altis and from an apparently distinct site under the New Museum to the northwest, where salvage excavations were conducted during construction, make it desirable to discuss the Olympia material in greater detail, particularly in view of the fact that the finds from the Altis have traditionally been dated to the MH period, although never with much confidence. The date established for the latter will then be applicable to the fragments from Pelikata which are exactly paralleled only in the Olympian Altis.

DÖRPFELD'S APSIDAL HOUSES IN THE ALTIS AT OLYMPIA (Table 3)

Between 1907 and 1909, Dörpfeld, with the assistance of Weege, systematically excavated a series of prehistoric apsidal buildings, together with two contemporary pithos burials of children, within the Altis at Olympia. A conspectus of the pottery from these tombs and buildings was published shortly after the excavations by Weege, but it was only after

Table 3: Ceramic Shapes Attested in EH III Houses within the Altis at Olympia

| <i>Shape</i> | <i>Decoration</i> | <i>Weege, 1911</i> | <i>Dörpfeld, 1935</i> |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| (1) Rim-handled tankard (two-handled) | Incised or incised and impressed | Taf. 5:1, 2 | Taf. 22:1, 2; Beil. 25:a |
| (2) Neck-handled tankard A (one-handled) | Incised and impressed | Taf. 5:7, 8 | Taf. 22:3; Beil. 25:c, d |
| (3) Neck-handled tankard B (two-handled) | Incised and impressed | Taf. 5:5, 6 | Taf. 22:4, 5 Beil. 25:b |
| (4) Rim-handled cup | Plain | Abb. 9 | Taf. 22:9; Abb. 10:5, 6, 8 Taf. 22:10 |
| (5) Shoulder-handled cup | Knobbed | — | — |
| (6) Shoulder-handled bowl (one-handled) | Knobbed | Abb. 10 | — |
| | Incised or incised and impressed | Abb. 12–16; Taf. 5:3, 4 | Taf. 22:7, 8 |
| | Incised gray ware | Abb. 18, upper left | — |
| | Plain | — | Taf. 22:6 |
| (7) Kantharos | Incised or impressed gray ware | Abb. 5–7, 18, lower left | Taf. 22:14; Abb. 12:1, 3 |
| | Plain | Abb. 8 | Taf. 22:15; Abb. 10:2, 3, 16:1 (also Abb. 10:1?) |
| (8) Rim-handled jug/juglet | Plain | Abb. 1 | Taf. 22:11, 12; Abb. 10:7 |
| (9) Shoulder-handled amphora | Dark-on-Light pattern-painted | Abb. 19, 20:b, c | Taf. 22:16 |
| (10) Askos | Plain | Abb. 2–4 | Taf. 22:13; Abb. 10:4, 12:2, 16:2, 19 |
| (11) Rim-handled wide- mouthed jar | Coarsely incised (“Adriatic”) | Abb. 18, right | — |
| (12) Handleless wide-mouthed jar | Knobbed | several sherds in Abb. 17 | — |
| (13) Lid | Plain | Abb. 11 | Taf. 22:17 |
| (14) Pithos | Plain | Abb. 21 | Abb. 15, 17 |

another quarter of a century that Dörpfeld fully published the architecture and the associated artifacts.²⁹ As early as 1921, Blegen compared an EH tankard (39) found during his excavations of 1915/16 at Korakou with the incised and impressed tankards published by Weege.³⁰ The implication that Dörpfeld’s apsidal buildings should be dated within the Early Bronze Age was, however, largely ignored in subsequent literature dealing with them, and both the buildings and the tombs are more or less canonically dated to the MH

²⁹ Weege, 1911; Dörpfeld, 1935, pp. 73–102. Dörpfeld’s publication includes a third pithos burial excavated in 1880 and apparently contemporary with the other two.

³⁰ C. W. Blegen, *Korakou, A Prehistoric Settlement Near Corinth*, Boston and New York 1921, p. 14, note 1.

period, although many scholars have stressed the tentative nature of such a dating and have commented on the peculiar character of the pottery; only Koumouzelis in her recent dissertation has argued that the material in question is actually of Early Helladic III date.³¹

The MH dating of the Olympia material has up to now been a reasonable one on the basis of the published comparanda. The pottery from the apsidal buildings included fine, gray-burnished (= Gray Minyan) pottery, mostly kantharoi but also at least two shoulder-handled bowls; the coarse ware was frequently decorated with knobs on the shoulder; both the shoulder-handled bowls and the kantharoi, whether fine and gray-burnished or somewhat coarser and having mottled, generally darker surfaces, were characteristic MH open shapes best paralleled in early MH contexts elsewhere; some sherds published by Weege were clearly fragments of coarsely incised, rim-handled jars of the class commonly termed "Adriatic", although none of these were specifically identified by either Weege or Dörpfeld as belonging to one of the rich floor deposits within the buildings they had excavated;³² and the single vase bearing painted decoration from these contexts was described by Weege as having "matte Bemalung".³³ All this evidence was in favor of a MH date. Against an EH date was the absence of common EH shapes (sauceboats and saucers for EH II, shoulder-handled tankards for EH III) or decorative classes (Urfirnis or Yellow-mottled for EH II, pattern-painted Dark-on-Light or Light-on-Dark for EH III).³⁴ To be sure, the most distinctive feature of the Olympia pottery, namely the elaborate incised or impressed decoration on tankards (described as jugs and amphoras by Weege), shoulder-handled bowls, and kantharoi, was not well paralleled in MH pottery elsewhere, but Olympia, far removed from the better known regions of the northeast Peloponnese, Attica, and Boiotia, could be expected to have had peculiar local ceramic traditions, both decorative and morphological. Even the preliminary publications of the findings at Lerna during the 1950's, which revealed among other things that fine, gray-burnished (Gray Minyan) pottery was current from the beginning of the EH III phase and that the shoulder-handled bowl was one of the most common EH III vessel forms, provided no particularly strong argument for a redating of the Olympia material.

Now, however, the present publication of the finely incised and impressed pottery from Lerna IV and the republication of the similarly decorated and contemporary tankard from Korakou make it possible to propose a new and far more secure date for the Olympia pottery and hence for the buildings and tombs that contained it. This new dating is not only

³¹ For major listings of the bibliography, see H.-V. Herrmann, "Zur ältesten Geschichte von Olympia," *AthMitt* 77, 1962, pp. 3-34, especially p. 24, note 97, and R. Hope Simpson and O. T. P. K. Dickinson, *A Gazetteer of Aegean Civilization in the Bronze Age, I, The Mainland and Islands*, Göteborg 1979, pp. 94-95, site B 71. For a dating to the EH III period, see Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 133, 136-138, 160-165, 221-228.

³² For the term "Adriatic", see footnote 5 above, under (1). For the published pieces of this class from Dörpfeld's excavations, see Weege, 1911, fig. 18, four sherds at right.

³³ Weege, 1911, p. 176. The legend for the illustration, *ibid.*, fig. 19, is "Mattbemalte Amphora".

³⁴ The amphora referred to in the preceding footnote is in fact an example of the pattern-painted Dark-on-Light class but was misidentified as an example of MH matt-painted ware, probably because of the heavy wear suffered by the painted decoration. Koumouzelis notes the difficulties in distinguishing matt from slightly to moderately lustrous paint in the case of the similarly worn, EH III pattern-painted pottery from the near-by New Museum site (Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 142).

firmer but is also considerably earlier and far more specific, since the parallels from the site of Lerna, where the EH III cultural assemblage is more copiously and fully represented than at any other known site in southern Greece, clearly suggest that the Olympia material belongs to the earliest stage of ceramic development recognized within the EH III phase.³⁵

There are some 14 shapes exemplified among the published pottery from Dörpfeld's excavations of the prehistoric strata in the Altis (Table 3).³⁶ All these shapes are attested among the pottery of Lerna IV, although the knobbed shoulder-handled cup and the coarsely incised ("Adriatic") form of rim-handled jar do not appear at Lerna until phase 3.³⁷ The neck-handled tankard, however, occurs only in phase 1 at Lerna, as do shoulder-handled bowls with finely incised or impressed decoration. The dark-ground style of the pattern-painted amphora from Olympia, the single reserved area on the vase being the shoulder decorated with large, multiple-triangle groups, is also characteristic of phases 1 and 2 at Lerna, particularly of the earlier phase, and has almost completely disappeared from the large closed shapes by phase 3. The balance of the evidence suggests that the Olympia material, at least that from buildings nos. 2, 3, and 6 and the graves, is contemporary with phase 1 of Lerna IV.

The presence of only a minuscule amount of pattern-painted pottery in these EH III contexts at Olympia is a circumstance paralleled at Korakou in the deposit which contained

³⁵ Koumouzelis has also argued for an EH III date for the finely incised and impressed pottery from the apsidal buildings within the Olympian Altis, but she assigns this material to a late phase within this period, indeed to a phase transitional to MH I, rather than to the very early phase of EH III advocated here (Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 136–138, 193, 224, 226–228). While her arguments to the effect that the bulk of the finds from the spatially distinct Altis and New Museum sites at Olympia define two chronologically separate phases within the EH III period are sound, there is little in the stratigraphic or typological evidence which she presents to warrant the dating of the majority of the New Museum material prior to the Altis finds. Rather, the clear stratification within Lerna IV and the close typological similarities between its pottery and the pottery from both the Olympia sites indicate that the Altis buildings nos. 2, 3, and 6 are earlier in date than most of the EH III material recovered from the New Museum site.

³⁶ The only shape certainly attested among the unpublished sherd material which is not represented by a published fragment is the pedestal-footed cup (one definite foot, handle, and body fragment and one probable foot fragment).

³⁷ At Olympia, the knobbed shoulder-handled cup is attested only once, as the single vase from the floor of the apsidal building no. 5. The floor of this structure at –1.67 m. lies well above that of the buildings nos. 2 and 3 to the northeast, and one wonders if it is somewhat later in date than those two.

No fragments of coarsely incised "Adriatic" jars are specifically located among the floor deposits of buildings nos. 2, 3, and 6 nor in the graves 1–3 which produced the bulk of the prehistoric pottery excavated by Dörpfeld and Weege and virtually all the restorable vases. One incised vertical strap handle, perhaps from such a vase though possibly from a tankard such as Dörpfeld, 1935, pl. 22:3, Beil. 25:c, d, is labeled in pencil "III 2.00", which is almost certainly to be interpreted as an abbreviation of "Haus III-2.00", since the floor of the apsidal building no. 3 lay at this level. It is therefore just possible that "Adriatic" jars at Olympia are contemporary with the floor deposits from buildings nos. 2, 3, and 6, although Koumouzelis reports that fragments of such vases tend to be restricted to the upper levels of the EH III deposits at the near-by New Museum site, an indication that, as at Lerna, such "Adriatic" jars do not in fact appear at Olympia before a late phase of the EH III period (Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 174, fig. 39:1–3).

It should be noted that kantharoi only become common in phase 3 of Lerna IV, although one certain example and several probable fragments come from deposits of phases 1 and 2. Interestingly, the early kantharoi of Lerna IV have relatively deep bowls and compare well in profile to the examples from Olympia, whereas the kantharoi of Lerna IV phase 3 are a good deal shallower. Moreover, as at Olympia, several of the early kantharoi of Lerna IV are manufactured in the fine, gray-burnished ceramic class which is the EH III forerunner of MH Gray Minyan.

the neck-handled tankard 39. The small amount of preserved sherd material from this deposit, stored in the Corinth Museum, consists of pieces from some 40 pots but includes not one scrap of pattern-painted pottery, although pottery decorated in this fashion is abundantly represented in other EH III contexts at the site.³⁸ Likewise at Olympia, where excavations in the area of the New Museum revealed traces of EH III occupation, pattern-painted pottery of types current in phases 1 and 2 at Lerna is fairly common. One striking feature of the finds from the New Museum is the presence of shoulder-handled tankards, of which no less than three fully restorable examples, both undecorated and Dark-on-Light pattern-painted, are now on display. Totally absent from the material excavated by Dörpfeld and Weege, where its place seems to be taken by rim- and neck-handled variants with sharply offset necks, this vase shape is extremely common at Lerna from phase 1 until well into phase 3, when it appears to decline rapidly in popularity. Its absence among the finds from the Altis is a further indicator, in concert with the early parallels at Lerna for the finely incised and impressed decoration and the neck-handled tankard shape, that the deposits from the Altis predate the bulk of the EH III pottery recovered under the New Museum which, it must be stressed, itself is best paralleled in phases 1 and 2 at Lerna. In other words, the finds from the New Museum support the thesis that the pottery from the Altis belongs to a very early stage within the development of EH III ceramics.³⁹

The importance of such an early EH III dating for most of the apsidal buildings⁴⁰ and probably all the pithos burials within the Altis is manifold. On the most basic level, it is of considerable value to add such a corpus of settlement architecture to the relatively small amount of data which we possess for this period, particularly in the area of the northwestern Peloponnese. At least as valuable is the information on contemporary burial customs which are very poorly documented for any area of southern Greece at this time. That neither apsidal forms of domestic architecture nor the practice of inhumation burial in pithoi is in any way inconsistent with what we might have expected to find in early EH III Elis on the

³⁸ For the pottery from Trench P, level IX which included the tankard 39, see footnote 10 above. The underlying stratum P X produced about the same amount of pottery as did level IX and is mixed EH II and EH III. Like level IX it contained no pattern-painted pottery of the EH III Dark-on-Light or Light-on-Dark classes and but a single restorable vase, the solidly painted but unburnished EH III pyxis inventoried as CP 133.

³⁹ The site under the New Museum is that listed by Hope Simpson and Dickinson, *op. cit.* (footnote 31 above), p. 95 as "Modern Olympia". Through the kindness of Drs. N. Yialouris and P. Themelis who directed the excavations and Dr. M. Koumouzelis who included the EH material in her dissertation (Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 125–191), I was able to examine both the restorable vases and the associated sherd material at Olympia in April, 1981. Early types include a dark-ground, shoulder-handled tankard (*ibid.*, p. 143, Π-1657, fig. 29, pl. 82), bowl or jar rims with hatched triangles on the interior rim (*ibid.*, p. 147, fig. 32:1–3, pl. 87:b, d), and ouzo cups (*ibid.*, pp. 149, 153, Π-1660, figs. 33:7, 8, 34:5, pls. 92:c, d, 96). The three fully restorable tankards are *ibid.*, pp. 143, Π-1657, 159–160, Π-176 and Π-177; figs. 29, 37:1, 2; pls. 82, 106, 107; fragments of others are illustrated as figs. 31:2 and 32:7. The perforations in the handles of Π-177 represent a feature which does not occur on tankards of this shape in Lerna IV before phase 2 there.

⁴⁰ Building no. 5 may be slightly later in date (see footnote 37 above). The apsidal building no. 4 is obviously much later to judge from the discovery of a fragment of iron in its ruins and of a Mycenaean sherd below its floor (Dörpfeld, 1935, pp. 90–92). Building no. 7 is undatable (*ibid.*, pp. 92–93).

basis of contemporary houses and funerary customs in neighboring areas in no way diminishes the real value of a reliable dating at last for the Altis material.⁴¹

From the point of view of the pottery and its interconnections elsewhere in southern Greece, several observations may be made. First, it is surprising to find that curvilinear decoration, in the form of incised double spirals and curved hooks pendent both from handles and from the tops of rectilinear panels on the neck, was popular early in the EH III phase, at least in Elis. The notion that the decoration of EH III pottery was exclusively rectilinear may still hold true for the Dark-on-Light and Light-on-Dark pattern-painted classes,⁴² but incised pottery from both Olympia and Lerna (e.g., the rim-handled tankard 1) show that curvilinear decoration was not uncommon in this variant decorative tradition. A body sherd from Prosymna bearing an incised spiral, although not certainly of EH III date, may be a contemporary parallel from the Argolid for the incised spiraliform decoration found at Olympia, as the fine, gray-burnished and incised kantharoi from Pelikata certainly are.⁴³

Second, the appearance at Olympia in considerable quantities of a class of fine, gray-burnished pottery indistinguishable in fabric from later MH Gray Minyan at this early stage within the EH III phase confirms the evidence both from Lerna in the Argolid and Lefkandi in Euboea that such gray ware is yet another feature of EH III ceramics which appears from the very beginning of the phase and which serves to distinguish it sharply from the ceramic corpus of the preceding EH II phase.⁴⁴ At Olympia the gray ware occurs in only two shapes, the kantharos and the shoulder-handled bowl, both invariably handmade. At Lerna, by comparison, such gray ware is both wheelmade and handmade throughout the

⁴¹ For the remarkable dearth of evidence on EH III burial customs, see R. J. Howell, "The Origins of Middle Helladic Culture," *Bronze Age Migrations in the Aegean*, R. Crossland and A. Birchall, ed., London 1973, p. 79. The relevant data for Lerna IV are presented in E. T. Blackburn, *Middle Helladic Graves and Burial Customs with Special Reference to Lerna in the Argolid*, diss. University of Cincinnati 1970, University Microfilms International 71-1536, pp. 29-33. If the tumulus under the New Museum at Olympia was indeed designed to cover a pithos burial, as argued by Koumouzelis, then there is evidence from both earlier and later phases in the EH III period at Olympia for the practice of intramural burial in pithoi (Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 139-140, 225-226). For EH II pithos burials in Elis, see *ibid.*, pp. 51-55, 219 (Strephi); note that these earlier burials appear to contain secondary rather than primary inhumations. For a survey of the custom of pithos burial in contemporary, neighboring culture zones, see T. S. Wheeler, "Early Bronze Age Burial Customs in Western Anatolia," *AJA* 78, 1974, pp. 415-425.

⁴² Or very nearly so. Circular dots are, to be sure, quite a common element in Light-on-Dark painted patterns, and the pendent solid triangles so commonly used for the decoration of interior rims in the Dark-on-Light class often take the form of semicircles, particularly in the latest EH III stage represented by phase 3 of Lerna IV. Upright or pendent rows of joining semicircles (or, festoons) are also sparingly represented in both classes.

⁴³ Blegen, *op. cit.* (footnote 4 above), p. 378, fig. 638:3.

⁴⁴ Caskey, *op. cit.* (footnote 3 above), pp. 296-297; R. J. Howell in *Excavations at Lefkandi, Euboea, 1964-1966*, M. R. Popham and L. H. Sackett, ed., London 1968, pp. 8-9. The occurrence of "gray Minyan" kantharoi in the apsidal buildings within the Altis appears to be the chief reason for Koumouzelis' dating of the final phase of occupation of these buildings to the beginning of the Middle Helladic period (Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 193), in spite of the fact that such gray ware appears to have been found in close conjunction with purely EH III pottery in both Trenches B 1959 and B 1960 in the New Museum excavations (*ibid.*, pp. 130, 155).

EH III sequence; in phase 1 it definitely occurs in the forms of shoulder-handled tankards and kantharoi or rim-handled cups, but the shoulder-handled bowl, securely attested by phase 2, is likely also to have been produced in this fabric during phase 1.⁴⁵

Third, it has been noted that at least two of the finely incised and impressed vases from the Olympian Altis "show unmistakable signs of the use of the fast wheel. . .".⁴⁶ Thus, although none of the gray ware from EH III Olympia was wheelmade, there can be no doubt that here, as elsewhere in the Peloponnese, the wheel made its first appearance in pottery manufacture at the beginning of the EH III period.

Fourth, a characteristic feature of the shoulder-handled bowls from Olympia is the fact that they have only one handle rather than the two which characterize this shape not only at Lerna but at all other EH III sites in the northeastern Peloponnese. The one-handled version is, in fact, a form attested elsewhere only in Boiotia.⁴⁷ This connection with central Greece rather than with the Argolid can be amplified by an appraisal of the tankards from Olympia. Neck-handled tankards, which regularly have high necks sharply offset from a squat globular body, are rare at Lerna and elsewhere in the Argolid.⁴⁸ Invariably early in date within the EH III phase, such tankards from Olympia, Tiryns, Lerna, and Korakou are very close morphologically to the tankards of the "Lefkandi I" assemblage characteristic of the later EB 2 period in Euboea, eastern Attica, the northern Cyclades, and the Thessalian site of Pefkakia in the Gulf of Pagasai.⁴⁹ These "Lefkandi I" tankards, which must

⁴⁵ Several fine, gray-burnished rim sherds with vertical strap handles attached at the rim from contexts of both phase 1 and phase 2 within Lerna IV cannot be assigned with certainty to a particular shape, even when a complete profile is preserved, since it is uncertain in all cases whether the complete vessels had one (cups) or two (kantharoi) handles. The evidence from Olympia, however, strongly suggests that these Lerna fragments ought to be assigned to kantharoi rather than to cups. See footnote 37 above.

⁴⁶ Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 164. The vases in question are a shoulder-handled bowl and a neck-handled tankard (Weege, 1911, figs. 15, 16 and pl. V:7, 8, respectively).

⁴⁷ Goldman, *op. cit.* (footnote 3 above), p. 118, nos. 105, 145, 181, fig. 153:2, 160, pl. IX:4 (Eutresis); G. Sotiriades, "Fouilles préhistoriques en Phocide," *REG* 25, 1912, fig. 13, top row, second from left; E. Kunze, *Orchomenos, III, Die Keramik der frühen Bronzezeit*, Munich 1934, p. 50, note 2, pl. XIX:1 (Aghia Marina); *ibid.*, pp. 50–51, nos. 34–38, 74, no. 66, pls. XIX:2–4, XX:3, XXIV:3 (Orchomenos).

⁴⁸ Fragments of less than a half-dozen examples are preserved among the thousands of sherds from Lerna presently stored in the Argos Museum. Not one of the over five hundred inventoried, largely or fully restorable vases from Lerna IV is an example of this shape. From other sites in the Argolid, I know of only one example from Tiryns (K. Kilian and C. Podzuweit, "Ausgrabungen in Tiryns 1976," *AA [JdI]* 93] 1978, fig. 36:11). All the Lerna fragments come from contexts of phase 1, and the Tirynthian piece, which has an almost identical parallel at Lerna, is presumably contemporary, as is the example from Korakou republished here as 39. Among the sizeable number of both fully restorable and fragmentary tankards recovered from the New Museum site at Olympia, only one shoulder fragment belongs to an example of the neck-handled form, and it comes from a finely incised and impressed specimen of a type that is best represented in the Altis houses (Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 165, fig. 38:4, pl. 108:g). It would appear that, whereas some pottery of the early EH III phase characteristic of the Altis buildings occurs among the material from the New Museum site, no pottery unmistakably of the later EH III phase typical of most of the New Museum material is represented among the Altis finds. See, however, footnote 37 above for the possibility that the floor deposit in Altis building no. 5 may be of advanced EH III date.

⁴⁹ Rutter, *op. cit.* (footnote 18 above), tables 1 and 2, fig. 1:3, 4. The tankards of "Lefkandi I" type from Pefkakia are unpublished, and I am grateful to Mr. Christmann, who will publish the EBA pottery from Pefkakia as his doctoral dissertation, for permission to mention them here. For other "Lefkandi I" shapes at Pefkakia, see Milojević, *op. cit.* (footnote 21 above), pl. 304:a, c, d.

surely be the direct ancestors of the early EH III neck-handled tankards found in the Peloponnese, are unknown from Peloponnesian sites but are well attested in late EH II contexts at a number of sites in inland Boiotia (Aghia Marina, Eutresis, Orchomenos, Thebes) which appear to lie outside the area in which the "Lefkandi I" assemblage is fully represented or, so to speak, at home.⁵⁰ It seems likely that the EH III neck-handled form of tankard, at Olympia as in the Argolid-Corinthia, diffused from Boiotia or at least the mainland of central Greece rather than from Euboia or the Cyclades. This suggestion is supported by the fact that the shoulder-handled bowl, one of the two commonest shapes in the EH III repertoire at Lerna and likewise well represented at Olympia, albeit in a one-handled form, has no apparent connection with the "Lefkandi I" ceramic assemblage.⁵¹ Rather, this shape is descended from a bowl which, like the "Lefkandi I" tankard, is well represented in late EH II contexts both in Boiotia and eastern Attica.⁵² The implications of this rather tangled skein of evidence are that the earliest EH III pottery from several widely scattered sites in the northern Peloponnese (Korakou, Lerna, Olympia), which is quite different from that of the immediately underlying EH II levels at two of the sites (Korakou, Lerna),⁵³ is more closely related to the pottery from late EH II contexts in Boiotia and eastern Attica than it is to any other known body of ceramic material. Such a finding may alter considerably our reconstruction of events associated with the appearance of the highly distinctive EH III culture in the Peloponnese. Against this backdrop, it is of considerable interest that the earliest appearance in southern Greece of the apsidal house plan, characteristic both of the prehistoric levels in the Altis at Olympia and of the earliest phase of Lerna IV, occurs at

⁵⁰ Kunze, *op. cit.* (footnote 47 above), p. 56, note 1 (Aghia Marina); *ibid.*, p. 55, note 5; Goldman, *op. cit.* (footnote 3 above), p. 105, fig. 138 (Eutresis); Kunze, *op. cit.*, pp. 54–55, nos. 41–44, figs. 14, 15, pl. XXII:2–4 (Orchomenos); Th. Spyropoulos, "Ὁδὸς Πελοπίδου 14 (οἰκόπεδον Ἀθ. Σταμάτη)," *Δελτ* 28, 1973, B' 1 [1977], pl. 231:b; Aik. Demakopoulou, "Εἶδεσεις ἀπὸ τῆς Θήβας: Ἀνεύρεση Πρωτοελλαδικοῦ Ἀψιδωτοῦ Οἰκοδομήματος," *AAA* 8, 1975, pp. 197, 199, fig. 6, right; Aik. Demakopoulou and D. Konsola, "Λείψανα Πρωτοελλαδικοῦ, Μεσοελλαδικοῦ καὶ Ὑστεροελλαδικοῦ Οἰκισμοῦ στὴ Θήβα," *Δελτ* 30, 1975, A' [1978], pp. 60–61, figs. 5:2, 7:19, pls. 23:a, 26a:a (Thebes).

⁵¹ Pace Rutter, *op. cit.* (footnote 18 above), p. 12, where the EH III shoulder-handled bowl is viewed as a squat form of the shoulder-handled tankard and is thus indirectly derived, like this variant of the tankard form, from "Lefkandi I" prototypes. The suggestion of Hood, on the basis of not very convincing parallels from Beycesultan, that this form of bowl is ultimately of Western Anatolian origin seems to me to go unnecessarily far afield (S. Hood, "An Early Helladic III Import at Knossos and Anatolian Connections," in *Mélanges offerts à André Varagnac*, Paris 1971, pp. 427–436); the imported bowl of this shape from Knossos has now been redated to the earliest phase of MH (Zerner, *op. cit.* [footnote 8 above], pp. 178, 197).

⁵² Kunze, *op. cit.* (footnote 47 above), pp. 43–45, pls. XVI:2, XVIII:4 (Orchomenos); *ibid.*, p. 44, note 1, pl. XVI:1 (Aghia Marina); D. R. Theochares, "Ἀνασκαφὴ ἐν Ἀραφῇνι," *Πρακτικά*, 1953, pp. 113–114, fig. 6 (Raphina). Bowls of this type are also found in contemporary Thessalian contexts where the evidence of Boiotian influence at this time is copious (Hanschmann and Milošević, *op. cit.* [footnote 19 above], pp. 161, 169–170, Beil. 27:57, 28:42). The shape dates back to earlier EH II and even to EH I in both Boiotia and Euboia (*ibid.*, Beil. 29:3, 6; Th. Spyropoulos and H. Tzavella-Evjen, "Lithares: An Early Helladic Settlement near Thebes," *AAA* 6, 1973, p. 372, fig. 2; J. L. and E. G. Caskey, "The Earliest Settlements at Eutresis, Supplementary Excavations, 1958," *Hesperia* 29, 1960, p. 146, V.4, fig. 7).

⁵³ No EH II finds of any kind underlay the apsidal buildings within the Altis at Olympia. Although scattered bits of EH II pottery were found below the EH III levels at the near-by New Museum site, these hardly represented a continuous EH II stratum (Koumouzelis, 1980, p. 132).

Thebes; dated to EH II, it includes among the pottery on its floor at least one example of the "Lefkandi I" form of tankard.⁵⁴

CONCLUSION

It remains only to emphasize the potential importance of the finely incised and impressed pottery which forms the subject of this article. The evidence from at least two EH III sites indicates that pottery decorated in this fashion may be the only (Korakou) or almost the only (Olympia) kind of pattern-decorated pottery which was current at the beginning of the EH III phase. It is by no means impossible that the periods of EH III occupation represented by Trench P, levels IX–X at Korakou and by the apsidal buildings nos. 2, 3, and 6 at Olympia predate the earliest evidence of EH III occupation at Lerna, although presumably not by very long. Alternatively, it is possible that the Dark-on-Light pattern-painted class of EH III pottery, far more frequent in phase 1 contexts of Lerna IV than the incised and impressed pottery so common at Olympia, was developed in the Argolid and spread from there north to the Corinthia and west to Elis, in which case the first levels of Lerna IV could be contemporary with or even predate by a little the earliest EH III material from Korakou and Olympia. Whatever the truth of the matter, the point that needs to be stressed is that, at least in some areas of the Peloponnese, the earliest phase of the EH III period is to be identified by ceramics decorated with fine incisions or impressions or both and not by pattern-painted pottery.⁵⁵

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⁵⁴ Demakopoulou, *op. cit.* (footnote 50 above), pp. 192–199; D. N. Konsola, Προμυκεναϊκή Θήβα, Athens 1981, pp. 91–94, fig. 2. Note also that, of the two early EH III vases from the Olympian Altis identified as being wheelmade, one is very close to the occasionally wheelmade "Lefkandi I" form of tankard while the second is a one-handled bowl of Boiotian type (see footnote 46 above).

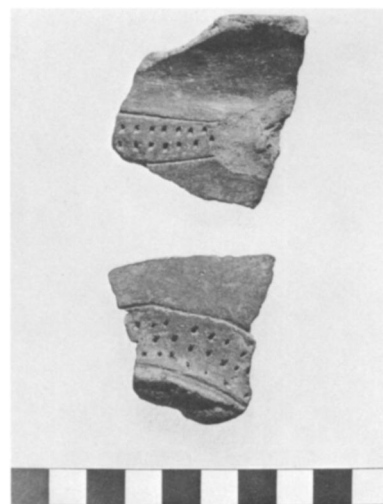
⁵⁵ Any hypothesis concerning the ancestry of this finely incised and impressed style of decoration seems premature at the present time in view of the relatively small body of published material, almost all of which comes from only two sites. Koumouzelis (Koumouzelis, 1980, pp. 169–171) considers the ultimate origin of this pottery to be the Cotofeni culture of Romania and connects its appearance in southern Greece with the roughly contemporary appearance of the distinctive terracotta anchors recently treated in detail by J. Weisshaar, "Ägäische Tonanker," *AthMitt* 95, 1980, pp. 33–49.



1 (L.525)



2



3



4



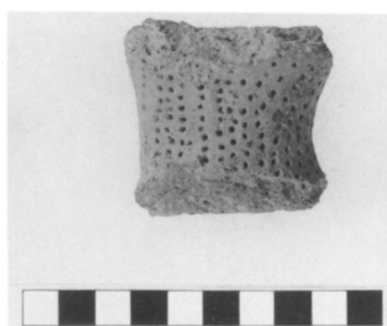
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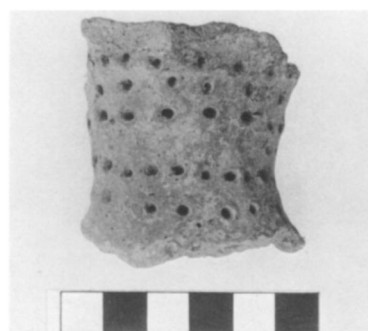
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8 (L.44)



9



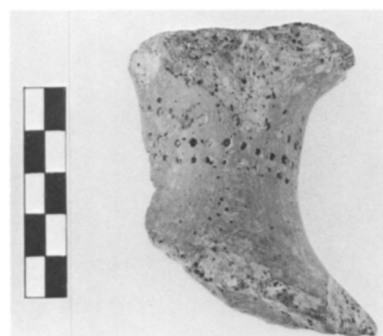
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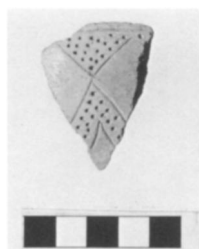
12 (L.415)



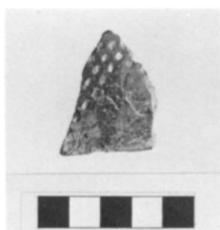
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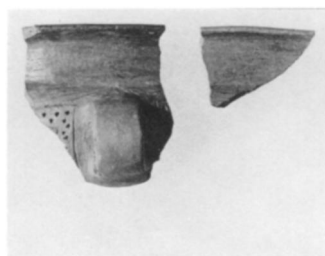
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14



15



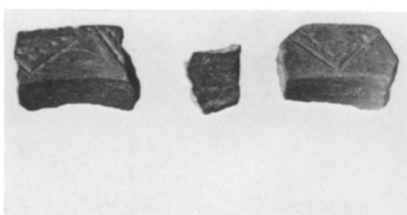
16 (exterior)



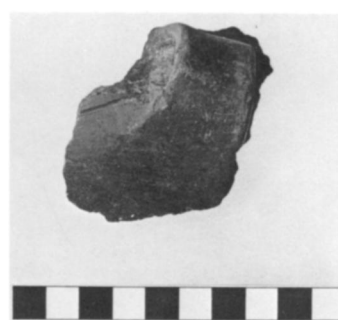
16 (interior)



18 (exterior)



18 (interior)



19



17



20



21



22



23



24



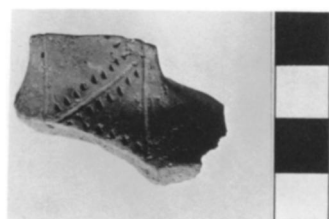
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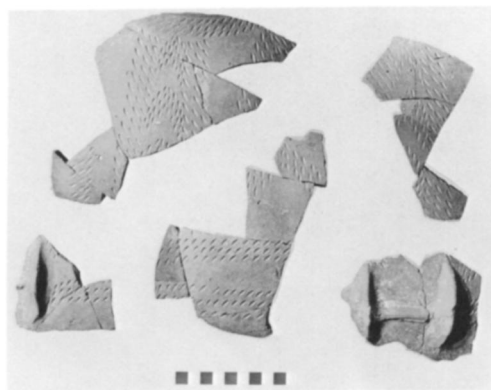
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27



28



29 (L.373 + L.1653)



30



31



32



33



34



35



36



37



38



39 (Korakou CP 132)



40 (Zygouries Z 250)



41 (Korakou CP 292)



42 (Korakou P VIII, uninventoried sherd)