THE PROTOGEOMETRIC CEMETERY AT NEA IONIA, 1949

(PLATES 24–30)

THE SITE

The quarry cemetery at Nea Ionia, the third largest Protogeometric find in Attica, came to light by chance in the early months of 1949. The suburb, 7 km. northwest of Athens—a little over an hour’s walk from the Dipylon (Fig. 1)—lies on the edge of the Attic plain in the low foothills that spread down north and west of Tourkovouni. The town lies at the confluence of two branches of the Podonyphitis, a faithful tributary of the Kephissos a few kilometers to the west. The larger channel flows north-south in a deep ravine through the center of the town; the lesser, a broad stony torrent bed, joins it at right angles from the region of Kalogreza. A few

1 This material was generously turned over to me for study and publication by Dr. John Papadimitriou, now Superintendent of the Department of Antiquities. I have had full access to the records of the excavation and have profited from many discussions of the material with him; many of his observations and suggestions are incorporated within. But errors are my own. I am deeply grateful to Mrs. Semni Karouzou, who facilitated at every turn study of the objects on exhibit and in storage in the National Museum, and to its staff, especially to Miss Eve Stasinopoulou, without whose sympathetic assistance photography and technical observations could not have been completed. Photographs of objects in the National Museum were taken by Mr. N. Tombazis; Kerameikos Inv. 609 and Agora objects are by Miss M. Alison Frantz. The plan, Figure 1, was drawn by Dr. J. Travlos. I am much indebted to the staff of the Demarcheion of Nea Ionia, especially to Mr. Antonios Michaelides, Engineer of the Technical Service of the Deme of Nea Ionia, who made available plans in the files of the Demarcheion; the exact location of the site is recorded on Plan No. 115, beneath the eastern half of the house, Odos Kretis 2.


2 Strongly recommended today: the Athens-Peiraeus Electric Railroad (ΕΗΣ, Fig. 1), to Pefkákia, one stop before the Nea Ionia station, ca. 15 minutes beyond Omonoia.

See E. Curtius and J. A. Kaupert, Karten von Attika, Berlin, 1883, Bl. V, where Nea Ionia is called “Poderades.” The settlement, a fairly prominent one of the Middle Ages, was known by that name until, with the influx of refugees from Asia Minor in 1922, it was formally incorporated as the Deme of Nea Ionia. The ancient name is still unknown. Dr. Papadimitriou has suggested its identification with the classical deme of Daidalidai, long assigned to the region northwest of
Fig. 1. Map of Nea Ionia and Environs
hundred meters east of the ravine three artesian wells, tapped just below the modern surface, must have provided in antiquity as now an abundance of cool, clean-tasting drinking water. On the rise around these a dotting of scrub pine still suggests something of the lightly wooded appearance that these low knolls preserved until recent years. Near the southern limits of the town the main highway from Athens crosses the river and hugs its west bank. Here the ground rises abruptly and is rocky. This natural condition was intensified when the hillside was quarried in recent times to provide stone for the houses and tiny domestic factories on its slopes. The largest of these quarry scars, a deep apsidal hollow, provided both the stone and a level site for the new Gymnasium of Nea Ionia built in 1948. A sliver of the natural slope stretching out in a peninsular arm separates the Gymnasium quarry from still other hollows to the south; on this, just below the shoulder of the hill, lay the surviving remnants of the Protogeometric cemetery.

**Exploration and Excavation**

If graves were noticed in the quarrying, they were not reported. It remained for school children playing along the rubble slopes to recover the first pots and report them to Dr. John Papadimitriou, then Ephor of Antiquities for Attica. Two days, March 3-4, 1949, were devoted to a systematic examination and clearance of the remaining unbuilt areas around the quarries. These operations were directed by Dr. Papadimitriou with the assistance of two workmen, thoroughly familiar with Protogeometric burials from pre-war experience at the Kerameikos. Their foreman was the late K. Kasandris, whose services were kindly made available by Dr. Christos Karouzos, Director of the National Museum.

The first day was spent in surface exploration of the entire area. Thanks to the enthusiastic assistance of the Gymnasium pupils, scarcely a sherd escaped; a few remained when I first visited the site in 1954; by 1956, there was nothing. The

Tourkovouni (A. Milchlöfer, *R.E.*, 1901, *s.v.* Daidalidai, col. 1993; *Untersuchungen über die Demenordnung des Kleisthenes*, 1892, pp. 10, 30); its size and residents were undistinguished.

*These wells, now sorely taxed, remained in 1958 the sole source for the community of 70,000.*

*These first finds were routine Early Christian products; an unfluted column fragment, also brought to the school, came in all likelihood from a small Early Christian chapel, whose long-ruinous brick and mortar foundations, together with a few Early Christian graves, lay close by. Brief reconnaissance by Dr. Papadimitriou and the pupils led to the concentration of Protogeometric sherds and the early cemetery.*

*I have not seen all the sherds. “Much” Early Helladic is reported, while a quantity of Mycenaean was recovered near the top of the hill north and west of the quarries, some of first quality and ambitious proportions (*murex* kylix, krateroids, one probably with octopus); the characteristic pieces are LH III A, none certainly later than LH III B. I noted only this Mycenaean and Protogeometric. Characteristic Geometric pieces were lacking, as well as good typical black-glaze, Red-Figure, and rooftiles that might encourage placing a Kleisthenic deme on this hill. But the broader area has been little explored. Fragments of classical walls are reported on both sides of*
Protogeometric area was confined to the quarry arm, though some of its remains had been displaced to the rubble slopes just below to the south. On the following day undisturbed earth filling on the quarry arm was cleared to bedrock, a maximum depth of 1.10 m. below the modern surface. Nothing of the original Protogeometric ground level remained; 3 urn pockets, 2 pyres, 2 cist graves and two stretches of lightly curved wall, all damaged, were exposed. Figure 2 shows the relative position of these remains.

The ravine, and on the east side the many remains of waterworks, both rock-cut channels and aqueducts that probably fed the Kephissia-Athens system (see especially, A. Kordellas, ‘Αθηναί εξετάζομεναι Ἠθο ἱδραυλικήν ἐποιη, Athens, 1879, pp. 75, 90-92; and less full, but more available, E. Ziller, Ath. Mitt., II, 1877, pp. 122-124, pl. VI), deserve careful charting and study while they are still accessible; some of this construction antedates the Roman period, as also the masonry around the wells, though for reasons of hygiene these are now scrupulously enclosed and guarded. Many of these remains were first pointed out to me by Mr. Michaelides.

Three houses built between 1949 and 1954, served by a narrow footpath, now cover the arm; see note 1.
Cremation Burials

There were at least four. Three urns (1, 3, 4) were found in situ, a little less than a meter apart, each in a close-fitting hole in bedrock, their mouths just below the modern surface; each still contained human ash. Urn 4 held in addition four (?) pins (57, a-b, 58, 59) and perhaps a whorl (56, c); its mouth was closed by the skyphos 45. Urn 1 contained at least one pin (perhaps 57, c); its mouth was closed by the pyxis 39. Pins have been found elsewhere in only two neck amphorae, a form of burial urn which was ordinarily reserved for men. These two were 1) in Agora Grave 45, which preserved no other offerings, and 2) Kerameikos Grave 31, which included a handmade cooking pot which suggests that the deceased was, exceptionally, a woman. Grave 31 casts doubt on the male identification of the burials in other neck amphorae containing pins, but which now lack offerings. The exception may read the other way; 1 may be a woman in a neck amphora rather than a man wearing pins. A fibula is found in only one neck amphora, Kerameikos Grave 40, indisputably a man. There is no correspondence between form of urn and stopper; for correlation of urn-type and sex, see Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 5-6, but see note 17, below. Large fragments of a fourth urn, 2, only recently uprooted and freshly broken, were found below in the quarry rubble. There is nothing in these remains at variance with the usual Athenian Protogeometric trench-and-hole form of cremation burial (Ker., V, 1, pp. 7-8), in which the urn stood upright, fully concealed in a round pocket, scooped out to size beneath the floor of the rectangular trench that held the pyre debris; here perhaps the trenches are lost (see below).

Pyres

Pyre A, 8 just east of Urns 1 and 3, was a shallow deposit, about a meter across, consisting of burnt earth, sherds, carbonized matter and animal bones; covering it were large fragments of the krater, 48, coated with oil but unburned.

Pyre B, on the edge of the quarry arm near Urn 4, had been largely destroyed; joining fragments from many of its vases were recovered from the rubble slope below; among these were small closed vases (oinochoai or lekythoi), a chest (42), a bell-shaped doll (54) and some of the clay beads (55), in all an assortment similar to that in the pyre of Kerameikos Grave 48.

The relation of these pyres to the graves is uncertain. There are two possibilities: a) They may be remnants of trench floors severed by modern disturbances from urn pockets 1 (Pyre A) and 4 (Pyre B). The maximum reported dimension is suitable and the concentration of debris at the end opposite the urn-hole was usual in the Proto-

---

8 Mentioned: Ker., V, 1, p. 11, note 36, “Brandplatz” without human bone or ash.
geometric period.\(^9\) b) They may have been surface pyres like some of those reported at the Athenian Agora and Eleusis.\(^{10}\) Pyres of this type were structurally independent of deposits beneath them or burials adjoining them; they were rarely more than a meter across, but some may have been large enough to accommodate corpse and offerings; none showed signs of repeated use as a fixed cult or cremation place.

The position of the krater (48) on Pyre A is exceptional. Elsewhere large Protogeometric kraters have been found in situ only above trench-and-hole graves, their bottoms intact and their bases bedded high above the pyre debris in the pure earth of the trench filling, directly above the urn;\(^{11}\) they were visible above the graves at least briefly for posthumous ceremonies, perhaps longer as markers. A large krater in similar condition and stylistically contemporary with 48 was found in the Athenian Agora in a disturbed deposit containing pyre debris; alongside it a banded amphora like 1 lay in a pocket in bedrock, not in situ. Both may have belonged to one of the plundered grave pits near by.\(^{12}\) Like 48, the Agora krater was unburned, but discolored from its contents; its bottom was not recovered. There are no indications on either 48 or the Agora krater that the bottom had been intentionally removed. The earliest perforated krater bottoms are now Early Geometric.

**Cist Graves**

I, a small rectangular pit, north-south, near Urn 4 and Pyre B, had been rifled and its south end lost down the slope. P. L. ca. 0.80 m.; W. ca. 0.40 m.; P. D. ca. 0.20 m. It was paved and lined with large pithos fragments and stones; large unworked stone slabs closed it. Inside a few bones and Protogeometric sherds remained. The size suggests a child’s burial, normally inhumation in the Protogeometric period, for which the miniature lekythos (13), the feeding bottle (53), or the small unburned lekythos (34) found on the slope just below it might have been appropriate furnishing.

II, a small cist further north, west of Pyre A, was covered with stones and pieces of a “krater” (46 or 47?).

**Curved Wall Fragments\(^{13}\)**

Two lightly curved stretches of wall built of unworked stones lay northeast and northwest of Pyre A and Cist II. The full height and width were not preserved and too little remained to define with any certainty the area they limited. Their alignment

---

\(^9\) A few trenches both at the Kerameikos and the Agora lacked urns, Ker., IV, pp. 3, 47: “Cremation without urn”; these, if analysed, contained human ash.

\(^{10}\) Agora, Hesperia, II, 1933, p. 554, in and around the Geometric oval house, and others unpublished; further references, Ker., V, 1, p. 11, note 36.

\(^{11}\) Ker., V, 1, pp. 7-8.

\(^{12}\) Krater, Agora P 7008 (Area, B 10); amphora P 6997 (Grave 11).

\(^{13}\) Mentioned: Ker., V, 1, p. 17, note 50: “Grabeinfassung.”
suggested to Dr. Papadimitriou an ellipse, L. ca. 5-6 m.; W. ca. 3.5-4 m., enclosing all the remains, its southern half lost down the slope. A terrace wall, lightly bowed toward the north, is also possible, for surrounding levels indicate that the bedrock was still rising over the area that today drops off abruptly to the quarry slope on the south. Cf. curved walls within or adjoining Attic cemeteries of Late Protogeometric or Early Geometric date: Marathon, Arch. Anz., 1940, p. 182; Athenian Agora, Hesperia, II, 1933, pp. 545-551; and cf. the oval house, apparently purely domestic, in the Protogeometric level at Old Smyrna, J.H.S., LXXII, 1952, p. 104 and Protogeometric Pottery, p. 314. Curved walls may have belonged to a variety of structures, for the apsidal end, as an architectural fashion, was applicable equally to terrace walls, enclosures, shrines and dwellings. The walls at Nea Ionia are most simply regarded as defining a family burial area or supporting its terrace.14

Pottery and Chronology

Three context groups were noted in part:

1) 4 and 45; probably with 57, a-b, 58; 59; 56, c may belong.
2) 1 and 39; 57, c may belong.
3) 42, 54 and some or all of the beads, 55.

Six stylistic groups may be isolated with certainty; each is composed of pots made by the same hands (potter and painter; for criteria, see 26) at a single sitting:

a) 9, 10, 23: two oinochoai and a lekythos
b) 14, 15: lekythoi
c) 26-29 and almost certainly 30, 31: lekythoi
d) 43, 44: low cups
e) 46, 47: “skyphoid” kraters
f) 49, 50: kalathoi with handles

Some of these groups could be combined and other pieces, now unassigned, added to them; it is not impossible that all six come, in fact, from a single hand, but this cannot be proved. A very few other hands (most easily recognizable among the lekythoi, 12-33) contributed to the Nea Ionia cemetery.

Because so little of the original groupings can be reconstituted, the finds are

14 Ker., V, 1, p. 10, note 35 with references. It is unlikely that these walls could have served as a podium for a low mound; mounds seem to have marked individual burials rather than a group as here. No mounds of these dimensions are known in Attica before the end of the eighth century.
best treated together and the range for the cemetery as a unit established. As a group
the cemetery is stylistically homogeneous, all falling within Late Protogeometric, to
which most of the rich cremation burials at the Kerameikos and the Agora have been
assigned. Analogous pieces come mostly from rich Kerameikos Graves 39, 40 and
48; comparisons with Agora well groups confirm the limited span. A few pieces recall
the Ripe phase; a few others are most closely matched in Early Geometric groups, but
are of types that began earlier. No characteristic Early Protogeometric or Early
Geometric sherds were recovered anywhere on the hill.

In spite of the large number of pieces, the Nea Ionia group is limited in types.
There is only one large oinochoe (i.e. H. ca. 0.30 m.) and a single skyphos, both
among the better diagnostic types; small oinochoai and lekythoi, which together make
up nearly half the finds, are among the least informative. Common high-footed cups
are lacking among the inventoried finds, but a few uninventoried conical feet and scraps
of lips show that this type was still in use. The paucity of the types reinforces other
indications that a very few graves are represented, and that most of their furnishings
were purchased from a single workshop within a short period of time. Among
familiar pottery types are a few noteworthy variants, such as 43, 45, 48, 49, and other
pieces of rare or unique form are welcome additions to the still limited Attic Proto-
geometric corpus. 34 is a wholly new type, as also the coarse miniature 52. Among
the small finds, the fibula 59 is unique, but surely Protogeometric in date.

The Nea Ionia group is of some assistance to problems of relative chronology,
which will be discussed in the publication of the Agora material. Nea Ionia contributes
nothing independently useful to absolute chronology; by convention,\(^{15}\) a date in the
second half of the tenth century is sufficiently precise.

**Summary**

The remains at Nea Ionia present a tantalizing fragment from the long history
of this suburb that began almost as early as the coming of the first settlers into Attica.
The settlement—villa, farmstead or village—has not yet been found. Whether this
hill was used as a burying ground in those earliest days is not known, for apart from
the Protogeometric cluster, no graves antedating the Early Christian period have
been found. But the presence of early sherds on the periphery makes this likely. Too
little remained to suggest the original area of the cemetery. Its situation recalls that of
the cemetery south of the Eridanos in the Kerameikos: the rocky hillside skirted by a
stream, probably with major roads above and below it as today. The surviving
fragment is from a single plot within a walled enclosure or terrace. It contained at
least six graves, four cremations, perhaps one male and three female, and two inhumed

\(^{15}\) As Protogeometric Pottery, p. 294.
children. All were set down within a very short time during the last half of the tenth century B.C., a few years, even weeks, apart and following the same ritual observed in central Athens. Children and adults were buried side by side as frequently at the Agora, though apparently not in the Kerameikos at this time. The cremation graves were all mutilated, but there is nothing in their remains that suggests other than the familiar trench-and-hole type; the pyres, whether severed remnants of trenches or independent units, have their counterparts in central Athens. Accessory vessels and offerings belong to assortments familiar from the Kerameikos. There is one new detail, not yet reported elsewhere: the fragments of a large oil-coated krater resting on a burned deposit, but itself unburned.

The pottery, like the ritual and architectural remains, reinforces an impression already gained from Marathon and other outlying areas of the cultural unity of Attica at this time. None of these outlying sites gives any evidence of locally produced "provincial Attic." The Nea Ionia vases are all of first quality and were manufactured in the same workshops that equipped families burying at the Kerameikos, the Athenian Agora and the areas to the east, south and west of the Acropolis at Athens. Among them are some of the most exacting and elaborate products of the Protogeometric style, evidence of the wealth that the rich fields near by and unfailing water supply might yield in times of peace. Nea Ionia presents no fresh evidence for absolute chronology or of foreign contacts. Its importance lies in topographical considerations and in the consistently high quality of workmanship and good preservation of its finds.

CATALOGUE

All pieces of Protogeometric date that are tolerably complete or of intrinsic interest are listed below; the only significant omissions are a few scraps from high-footed cups (see 43 and p. 154). The arrangement is POTTERY, by fabric (within this, conventionally by closed, then open shapes): Fine Painted Ware, 1-51; Handmade Gritty ("Cooking") Ware, 52-53; Attic Protogeometric Fine Handmade Incised Ware, 54-56; then METAL, 57-59. Inventory numbers are those of the Athens National Museum. All dimensions are given in meters; the descriptions are to supplement the plates. Unless otherwise stated, all pots are assumed to be mended with missing pieces filled in plaster. Plaster restorations are noted (i.e. portions whose outlines cannot be supplied with certainty from preserved parts). Pyre damage is noted as a key to provenience. Comparative material is drawn by preference from published groups, but a few unpublished Agora groups are cited in anticipation of their publication. Published Agora groups are marked (*); for reference to these and remarks about unpublished groups, see APPENDIX B, p. 177.

18 I know only a few pieces from the Sanctuary of Zeus on Mt. Hymettos that differ noticeably from other Attic finds, but whether imported, provincial or only very bad and atypical Athenian work, we cannot be sure until more pottery is recovered from outlying areas.
1-51. Fine Painted Ware

The fabric has been well described elsewhere (e.g. Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 119-120). In general, I have not described the clay; it is all Attic "pinkish buff," mostly hard-fired. All of it has, or has had, a "skin" or finer surfacing that usually fires lighter in color than the body of the clay. The surface, both clay ground and glaze, had a good gloss, which may have been produced in a variety of ways. Tool marks, whether from finishing or polishing, are noted. I use the term "glaze," admittedly incorrect but conventional in descriptions of Greek pottery; it is the same as Desborough's "paint." Its color and quality, as indicative of the care and control of manufacture, is usually noted where the original survives; the range of pyre discoloration, rarely significant, is not indicated.


Inv. 18089. H. 0.455 m.; D. 0.28 m. Base chipped all around. Part of the shaft of an iron pin rusted against the upper neck inside; a freshly broken shaft-fragment rusted against the base of pyxis 39 suggests that it closed the mouth of this urn. Cf. Kerameikos Grave 28.


Underside of foot rounds up to shallow bottom.

Handles, St. Andrew’s cross.

Deep black glaze, mostly dull and worn.

Decoration, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 9, 11, Type A 3.

Tall neck, like Kerameikos Inv. 910 (IV, pl. 6, Gr. 28). 2 has stockier proportions and shorter neck, but is so like 1 in details of finish as to have been made by the same potter.

2. Banded neck amphora.

Inv. 18111. H. 0.43 m.; D. 0.272 m. Large pieces from one face missing.

Flaring ring foot.
Brownish maroon to light brown glaze.
See 1.


Inv. 18113. H. 0.572 m.; D. 0.395 m. One handle lost.

Deep, crisply turned ring foot, chipped on one side before glazing.

Shoulder, nine sets of plain semicircles (17), evenly spaced; no panels or dividers.

High gloss on unglazed surfaces; brown-black to black glaze, bleeding orange along the edge of the bands.

Shape, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 23-27, Class I; cf. Kerameikos Inv. 560 (I, pl. 56, Gr. 18) especially for the lip with thick flattened top sloping outward as often also on late kraters; full body, cf. Inv. 576 (I, pl. 56, Gr. 20).

3 is one of the rare departures from the special system of decoration regularly and exclusively applied to very large belly-handled amphorae (H. near or above 0.50 m.: the "Grave amphorae") from the Early Submycenaean period downward, i.e. two zones on the shoulder, the lower with semicircles, the upper with semicircles or rectilinear pattern; across the belly front and back, a row of full circles, the confining bands above and below them multiplied: e.g. Kerameikos Inv. 1074 (IV, pl. 33, Gr. 37), Inv. 1089 (IV, pl. 9, Gr. 38) and Early Protogeometric examples, Ker., I, pl. 55. Here instead there is a remarkably successful adaptation to the larger scale of a scheme common on belly-handled amphorae of usual size (H. around 0.40 m.), e.g. Kerameikos Inv. 1073 (IV, pl. 10, Gr. 37). The continuation of the neck glaze down onto the shoulder and the three narrow bands below it reduce the shoulder zone to a height proportionate to the semicircles; so also on Kerameikos Inv. 1089. For the clear belly, cf. Aegina 1326 (H. 0.57 m.), Kraiker, Aigina, pl. 3, 1; Desborough sug-
gests that for small amphorae at least this may be a sign of lateness. Because most of these very large amphorae stood exposed above graves as markers or ritual vessels, few have survived even tolerably complete. A few were buried as urns in very early Protogeometric graves, e.g. Kerameikos Inv. 561 (I, pl. 55, Gr. 5), but they are rare in the developed Protogeometric period; the size becomes popular for urns again only in Earliest Geometric contexts, especially for the neck amphorae in rich male burials.


Inv. 18115. H. 0.385 m.; D. 0.265 m. Body intact; a few small pieces missing from neck. Five pair of mend-holes line an ancient repair to the neck; the V-shaped fragment fits tightly and was perhaps only laced in position for no trace of lead survives in the holes. Cf. 48.

Ring foot.

Handles, laddered with double uprights at the sides.

Black to brown glaze, in places crazed and peeled.

Shape, *Protogeometric Pottery*, pp. 37-39; it is rare in pure Protogeometric contexts, e.g. Kerameikos Grave 39 (Inv. 2131, IV, pl. 12), but in Early Geometric contexts becomes the exclusive form for female burials. The accessories of Agora Inv. 19228 (*Grave 49), are more exaggerated than 4 and most of its context-pottery is Early Geometric and more advanced than anything recovered at Nea Ionia.


Inv. 18100. H. 0.312; D. 0.192. About half preserved with profile complete. No certain discoloration from heat.

Ring foot rounding up to bottom beneath.

Glazed with zigzag girdle in thinned glaze. Handle laddered.

Shape, *Protogeometric Pottery*. pp. 48, 53: Class II. Black pots of medium size (H. about 0.30) occur in Ripe Protogeometric contexts, but they are common only in Late Protogeometric; it is the exclusive form of oinochoe in Early Geometric. The ovoid body of 5 is still pure Protogeometric, as is the solidly glazed neck without panel.

6-11. Small trefoil-mouthed oinochoai (H. ca. 0.15-0.20), found sporadically throughout the Protogeometric period, are much more numerous in the rich Late Protogeometric graves, where singly or in sets they formed part of large ritual services like that from Kerameikos Grave 48 (IV, pls. 15-16). All of the oinochoai and most of the lekythoi from Nea Ionia are burnt or discolored from smoke. There is considerable variation in shape among these small late oinochoai; because of their size they follow more closely the body contours and decoration of lekythoi than of large oinochoai, but many are individual; see *Protogeometric Pottery*, pp. 50-51. The latest form with overpointed oval body, dainty foot, and low slim concave neck is but a short development from the plain pots of Kerameikos Grave 48. These survive, fossilized, into pure Geometric contexts (e.g. Acropolis West Slope, *C.V.A.*, Grèce 1, Athènes 1, pl. 1, 6); none of the Nea Ionia oinochoai has achieved these proportions. A few, particularly of the smaller oinochoai, are solidly glazed with patterned girdle, but the dark frame (i.e. reserved shoulder and glazed lower body and neck) is characteristic; as with late lekythoi, the glaze of the lower body may be continuous or interrupted by a group of reserved bands. The commonest shoulder decoration is four contiguous sets of semicircles (7-10), rarely with dividers (11), a few with latticed triangles (6). Two of the Nea Ionia oinochoai come surely from a single hand (9-10), the same that produced lekythos 23 and possibly 24.


Inv. 18085. H. 0.165; D. 0.107.

Ring foot.

Four narrow reserved bands around mid neck; none on lower body.

Shoulder, 7 triangles, latticed at center front,
then alternating with receding triangles with glazed core.

Black to brownish glaze, lost over large areas. Latticed triangles, not necessarily a late pattern, see 13; receding triangles, rare after the disappearance of Submycenaean stirrup jugs, are found sporadically in pure Protogeometric and Early Geometric contexts: e.g. lekythos, Agora P 5867 (*Grave 20), alternating as here with latticed triangles; miniature oinochoe, Agora P 730 (*Grave 26). Reserved neck rings, found occasionally in the Protogeometric period, are here individual (an inversion of the ringed light-ground neck of lekythoi and some oinochoai) rather than an anticipation of the Geometric neck panel.

7. Small trefoil-mouthed oinochoe. Pl. 25.

Inv. 18083. H. 0.205; D. 0.12.
Foot deeply turned beneath, rounding up to bottom.
Single narrow reserved band on lower body. Shoulder, four sets of plain semicircles (13).
Metallic black glaze, brown where thin.
Decoration, cf. oinochoai from Kerameikos Grave 48 (IV, pl. 16) and Agora P 6851 (Grave 54, a pyre also containing a pair of “branch” lekythoi, one of the commonest types at Nea Ionia; see 26 below).


Inv. 18082. H. 0.182; D. 0.125.
Ring foot.
Three narrow reserved bands on lower body. Shoulder, three sets of semicircles (13) and to the right of the handle, a latticed triangle.
Glossy black glaze, mottling to red-brown.
Careless painting with broad brushes by a heavy hand. The circle-sets are placed erratically, one group centered well down in the supporting bands; the space between the last set and the handle was too small for a fourth set, but awkward if left empty. Two lekythoi from a single hand, Kerameikos Inv. 2015 (IV, pl. 17, Gr. 40) and Agora P 3170 (Grave 22) also have a latticed triangle as gap-filler in this position; 8 has no peculiarities that would assign it to that hand. Elsewhere smaller gaps are filled by combinations of vertical lines (motives commonly used as dividers) as in 22, or left vacant as in 19; two late small oinochoai, attempting symmetry, paint in as much circle (ca. 135°) as will fit, fixing the interrupted arcs against a radius.


Inv. 18101. H. 0.18; D. 0.114.
Foot conical beneath.
No bands on lower body. Shoulder, four sets of semicircles (7), hourglass in the core. Lower handle attachment not ringed.
Good black to brown glaze, warm light brown where thin.

9-10 and lekythos 23 are works of the same potter and painter; 24 may be his too. The hourglass is the commonest core-filling of the Protogeometric period, beginning in the earliest pure contexts and lasting as long as the semicircle itself.

10. Small trefoil-mouthed oinochoe.

Inv. 18075. H. 0.185; D. 0.113. Tip of spout restored.
Identical with 9 from the same hand, but with only two bands supporting the shoulder.
Fat black to red-brown glaze, in places with greenish highly metallic sheen, now largely peeled from one side.


Inv. 18084. H. 0.020; D. 0.125.
Foot conical beneath.
Single reserved band on lower body. Shoulder, three sets of semicircles (7), hourglass in the core; as a divider between each set, a single dot-edged vertical line (“branch pattern”).
Mottled, reddish brown to black glaze, much damaged.
Cf. “branch” lekythoi 26-32; the heavy painting resembles one of those painters (26-30), but cannot be assigned surely to him. Hourglass, see 9.
12-33. Lekythoi. Twenty-two virtually complete vases or substantial fragments are published here; a few more fragments in uninvetoryed storage, duplicate examples below. Only one, the miniature 13, was surely intact at the time it was buried and shows no sign of smoke; two or three others may have been. The rest, from pyres, are discolored in varying degrees from smoke; a few are heavily burned. One, 12, is glazed all over with a patterned girdle around the belly; the others are dark ground (i.e. glazed lower body and reserved shoulder). One to three narrow reserved lines sometimes interrupt the glaze of the lower body, the neck is reserved and banded, the handle barred and the lower attachment ringed. Shoulder decoration is of three kinds: 4 have triangles (13-16); 8 have three sets of semicircles (17-24); 9 have three sets of semicircles separated by dividers (25-33). On 25 the dividers are wavy lines; on 33 one of the dividers is a latticed lozenge; all the others are the "branch" pattern (see 26). Three groups, each made at the same time by a single hand, may be isolated: 14-15; 26-31; 23 and probably 24 were made at the same sitting with the small oinochoai 9-10. The variety of body outline is considerable but not unusual among large groups of lekythoi from a single deposit. All are well-formed of good late fabric; none has an airvent on the shoulder. For glazed cores and "branch" pattern, once thought to belong exclusively to the Early Protogeometric style, see 26. The shape is exclusively funeral, and none has yet come from a grave later than the pure Protogeometric period; the broad-based oinochoe-lekythos which replaces it in Early Geometric graves is lacking at Nea Ionia. Further, see Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 69-77.

12. Lekythos.  

Without number (Nea Ionia Storage, Athens Nat. Mus.). P. H. ca. 0.13; H. of neck ca. 0.045; D. of mouth 0.05. About one-quarter preserved, rim to just below mid body; handle missing. All sherds burned dark gray. Broad band on inner face of lip continuous with the solid glaze of exterior; near mid body patterned girdle with zigzag in thinned glaze.

Cf. 5. The only other lekythoi with this decoration are from a single hand: Kerameikos Invs. 2085 and 2089 (IV, pl. 19, Gr. 48) and Agora P 6702 (Grave 41); this could be his fourth piece.


Inv. 18096. H. 0.10; D. 0.07. About a third missing, profile complete; breaks fresh with no signs of burning. Nearly all miniature lekythoi are from children's burials; this may be from one of the inhumations.

Foot low conical beneath.

No reserved bands on body; glaze on entire inner face of lip carried over the rim in a narrow band outside. Shoulder, five latticed triangles.

Very light pinkish buff clay; chocolate-brown glaze, in places glossy.

Latticed triangles, used on lekythoi of all sizes throughout the Protogeometric period, are especially popular on small pieces where semicircles are more difficult to accommodate; they become the usual decoration on the small oinochoe-lekythos which replaces the lekythos in the Early Geometric period, as Agora P 19235 (*Grave 49).

14. Lekythos.  

Inv. 18077. H. 0.19; D. 0.117. Pyre damage. Ring foot, deeply turned beneath.

Three reserved bands on lower body; band of medium width on inner and outer face of lip continuous over the rim. Shoulder, four latticed triangles.

Light pinkish buff clay; brown-black to black glaze, thinning to walnut on fine lines, much peeled.

Potter and painter as 15.

15. Lekythos.  

Inv. 18078. H. 0.185; D. 0.12. Discolored, probably from burning.

Potter and painter as 14.
16. Lekythos. Pl. 25.

Inv. 18076. H. 0.185; D. 0.116. Broken, but no sure signs of heat.

Foot low conical beneath.

No reserved bands on body; lip glazed all over inside and out. Shoulder, five latticed triangles, the three middle ones doubly outlined.

Hard light pinkish buff clay, lighter buff on the surface; black glaze, shading to greenish or deeper bluish, mostly dull, in a few places glossy.

16 differs from the other Nea Ionia lekythoi in fabric and form. The foot is unusually tall, broad and flaring, the mouth broad and little flattened, the throat open; the handle is high and tucks in close beneath the lip. It looks earlier than the others, but need not be; cf. Kerameikos Grave 39 (IV, pl. 18). The hand is distinct from 14-15. Doubly outlined triangles, while not the usual form, are not rare.

17. Lekythos. Pl. 25.

Inv. 18103. H. 0.192; D. 0.122. Pyre damage.


Ring foot rounding up to bottom beneath.

Three narrow reserved bands on lower body; glaze over one-third of the inner face of lip carried over rim in a broad band on the outer face. Shoulder, three sets of plain semicircles (14), a dot of glaze at the center.

Rich adherent black glaze, thinning to warm light brown.

Plain semicircles without dividers are common on lekythoi of all periods, possibly more popular toward the close of the Protogeometric style; cf. late routine small jugs and oinochoai, particularly those from Kerameikos Grave 48 (see p. 157 and 7); they are generally of excellent fabric, simply and unimaginatively decorated by a practised but hurried hand.

18. Lekythos.

Inv. 18074. P. H. ca. 0.14; H. rest. 0.21; D. 0.127. About two-thirds of body preserved, from base of neck into lower body with lower part of handle. Pyre damage.

Pair of reserved bands on lower body; lower handle attachment apparently not ringed. Shoulder, three sets of plain semicircles (13) drawn with a delicate hand; no dividers on preserved portions.

Pale brown glaze, mauve where thin.


Inv. 18072. H. 0.20; D. 0.127. Pyre damage. Foot low conical beneath.

Single reserved band on lower body; narrow band on inner face of lip continued over rim, outer face of lip and down the neck to level of upper handle attachment. Shoulder, three sets of plain semicircles (12); gap of fair size between the last set and the handle is left empty (cf. 8).

Black to brown-black glaze, in places dull and worn, elsewhere with a metallic, silvery sheen.

20. Lekythos.

Inv. 18069. H. 0.20; D. 0.13. No sure signs of burning.


Deeply turned ring foot, rounding up to bottom beneath.

Three narrow reserved bands on lower body; glaze on most of the inner and outer face of the lip continuous over the rim. Shoulder, three sets of semicircles (12), large dot of glaze in the center point.

Mostly firm red glaze, shading to metallic brown in places.

21. Lekythos.

Inv. 18071. P. H. 0.16; H. rest. 0.196; D. 0.124. Neck, mouth and part of handle missing. Pyre damage.

Ring foot, deeply rounded (almost conical) beneath.

Three reserved bands on lower body. Shoul-
der, three sets of semi-circles (11), a dot of glaze over the central point.

Black to reddish glaze.

22. Lekythos.  

Inv. 18073. H. 0.192; D. 0.124. About half of body and all of base missing. Pyre damage.

Tall ovoid body.

Three reserved bands on lower body; broad bands of glaze on inner and outer face of lip continuous over the rim. Shoulder, three sets of plain semicircles (14); “branch” divider filling the gap between the last set and the handle (cf. 8); at the top of the shoulder, a row of dots edging the lowest neck ring (“dot-canopy”). A large blob of glaze on the front set of circles was accidental. Single horizontal bar the width of the handle just below the handle ring.

Black to brown-black glaze, metallic in places.

For “branch” pattern, see 26. “Canopies” are relatively rare on lekythoi: dots as here, Kerameikos Inv. 2099 (IV, pl. 18, Gr. 39) and other fragments, unpublished, from the Grave Mound; several lekythoi at the Agora have a zigzag canopy, e.g. P 7077 (Grave 21).

23. Lekythos.  

Inv. 18102. H. 0.188; D. 0.116. Pyre damage.

Foot conical beneath.

No reserved bands on body; narrow band on inner face of lip carried just over rim. Shoulder, three sets of semicircles (7), an hourglass in the core.

Fabric and details as oinochoai 9-10; by the same potter and painter.

24. Lekythos.  

Inv. 18070. H. 0.175; D. 0.12. Pyre damage.

Shape and decoration as 23, but body more plump; probably from the same hand.

Black to brown-black streaky glaze, watery mauve where thin.

25. Lekythos fragment.  

Without number (Nea Ionia Storage, Athens Nat. Mus.). P. H. ca. 0.09; D. of mouth 0.056. Pyre damage. Mouth to mid body; handle missing.

Broad band of glaze on inner face of lip carried over rim in broad band on outer face. Shoulder, three sets of semicircles (14); single pinched wavy line, neatly drawn with a fine brush, as a divider between each.

The single wavy line, one of the oldest dividing motives, continues to be used on lekythoi in later Protogeometric contexts: e.g. Kerameikos Inv. 2097 (IV, pl. 18, Gr. 39; note similar cramped hand), one of the Mouseion Hill lekythoi (Aph. Θφ., 1911, p. 251, fig. 20; this grave also contained a “branch” lekythos), and as a gap-filler next to the handle on a solid-core “branch” lekythos, Agora P 5863 (*Grave 20).

26. Lekythos.  

Inv. 18079. H. 0.19; D. 0.134. Pyre damage.

Broad ring foot, bevelled up to bottom beneath.

No reserved bands on body; wide band on inner face of lip carried over rim in narrow band on outer face; lower handle attachment not ringed. Shoulder, three sets of semicircles (8) with glazed cores; between each set, a “branch” divider (dot-edged straight lines, here once triple, once double).

Warm glossy brown (like thin fondant) to brown-black glaze, in places discolored to greenish or bluish.

This “branch painter” uses a compass with defective brushes, and, setting his central point well above the retaining bands, describes plump arcs that enclose more than a semicircle; the cores are large and full. 26-31 are his, produced at the same sitting; for the hourglass cores of 30-31, the two innermost brushes were removed. The other “branch” lekythoi are not by this hand and show no defects in common that would serve as guides to groupings.
Edging dots are a very old embellishment, but the "branch" divider (the "ugly motive," *Protogeometric Pottery*, p. 74) first appears in pure Protogeometric contexts: Agora P 5863 (*Grave 20*), P 6848, P 6853 (Grave 54), Mouseion Hill (*Aρχ. Εφ.*, 1911, p. 251, fig. 20). Many fragments, unpublished, from the Grave Mound at the Kerameikos indicate its popularity at that site as well. Like most dividing motives on Protogeometric lekythoi, it is used over too long a period to be helpful in chronological refinements. Apart from lekythoi it occurs only as a gap-filler on the small oinochoe, 11 above, and once on a large neck amphora, Kerameikos Inv. 566 (I, pl. 34, Gr. D). Cf. a similar "branch" motive incised on small objects of Fine Handmade Incised Ware from Late Protogeometric contexts (see 54).

The glazed core, the commonest filling on "branch" lekythoi, is not necessarily early. Refined from the sprawling half-moon, it is now shown by fresh evidence from Agora grave and well deposits to continue without interruption into Late Protogeometric contexts on all shapes that use semicircles, e.g. neck amphora P 17455, light-ground oinochoe P 17446 (both from Well A 20: 5), dark-ground oinochoe P 1029 (Well H 16-17: 1).

27. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18081. H. 0.191; D. 0.125. Pyre damage.
   See 26; double verticals.

28. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18088. H. 0.19; D. 0.125. Pyre damage.
   See 26; double verticals.

29. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18086. H. 0.18; D. 0.123. Pyre damage.
   See 26; double verticals.

30. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18080. H. 0.186; D. 0.123. Pyre damage.
   See 26; triple verticals. Same compass as 26-29 with the two innermost brushes removed (now 6 units); hourglass in the core, see 9. The outlines of the hourglass are firm and sure, possibly guided by a straight-edge. Cf. 46, in the same spirit, if not from the same hand.

31. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18068. H. rest. 0.20; D. 0.127. Pyre damage. Much of lower body and all of base missing.
   See 26, 30, probably same hand; double verticals; lower handle attachment ringed.

32. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18087. H. 0.185; D. 0.122. Pyre damage. About half of body missing, profile complete.
   Ring foot, very deeply rounded beneath.
   Three reserved bands on lower body; glaze over about half of inner face of lip carried over rim in narrow band on outer face. Shoulder like 31, but with 8 units on compass; only one divider (double verticals) preserved.
   Brown-black to red glaze, much disfigured from heat.
   Fine hand like Agora P 6853 (Grave 54) using the same radii, but no defects in common.

33. Lekythos.
   Inv. 18103. H. 0.19; D. 0.127. Pyre damage.
   Foot low conical beneath; the body contour close to 17.
   Single reserved band on lower body; broad band of glaze on inner and outer face of lip carried just over the rim. Shoulder, three sets of plain semicircles (13); between them on one side, "branch" divider with triple verticals, most of the dots attenuated and touching the verticals like fringe; on the opposite side, a latticed lozenge.
   Originally a fat glossy black glaze.
   See 26; this hand is quite individual. Three lekythoi from Kerameikos Grave 40 (IV, pls. 17-18) use latticed lozenges as dividers; in this use they are unknown in earlier contexts.

Inv. 18106. H. 0.09; D. 0.082. Mended nearly complete; no trace of burning.

Flat bottom with no base.

Body glazed to just above resting surface; inner face of lip glazed just to rim. Shoulder, six latticed triangles. Handle, barred with lower attachment ringed.

Black to brownish glaze, somewhat thin and worn.

Triangles, see 13. The shape is astonishing in a Protogeometric context, but the fabric, indistinguishable from lekythoi 12-33, appears to be Attic and Protogeometric. See *Protogeometric Pottery*, p. 76. Several similar pieces are known from the Corinthia and neighboring areas and from the Islands as distant as Crete, all of pale clay, possibly or certainly Corinthian; none was found with the earliest Geometric and none with context has been dated earlier than the second half of the ninth century. Lists and dating: Weinberg, *Corinth*, VII, i, p. 18; Charitonides, *A.J.A.*, LXI, 1957, p. 170; Brock, *Fortetsa*, no. 668, where for the dating of some in the early eighth century see p. 213, note 5. 34 does in fact look and feel different from these aryballoi, and in the absence of Geometric among the mass of sherds collected at Nea Ionia, I can only assume its date to be Late Protogeometric and the others, so like it, archaic revivals.

35. Pilgrim flask. Pl. 28.

Inv. 18107. H. 0.22; max. D. 0.155; max. Th. 0.10; W. suture band 0.03. Several pieces from body and most of vertical handle shaft above lower attachment missing. Heavily burned.

Assembled from four wheelmade pieces: two caps of spheres form the sides; a shallow cylindrical section into which the neck and handle of an ordinary small trefoil-mouthed oinochoe are fitted forms a suture band between them; the seams are neat and nearly invisible on the outside. A tiny shallow hemispherical depression (just visible, Pl. 28, left), like those often found beneath Mycenaean cup and kylix bases, survives from the turning; it is off-center from the concentric ornament zones which were placed with reference to the finished pot.

Neck and mouth wholly glazed. Handle laddered.

Fat black glaze where best preserved.

Other Late Protogeometric pilgrim flasks: Kerameikos Inv. 2034 (IV, pl. 25, Gr. 48), unnumbered fragment from Grave Mound (IV, pl. 36, top left), with patterns as here; Marathon, *Πρακτικά*, 1939, p. 32, fig. 5, Early Geometric context. Contrast a very early flask, Kerameikos Inv. 536 (I, pl. 62, Gr. 1) with round mouth and stirrup handles as on Mycenaean examples of this shape (e.g. *Hesperia*, XVII, 1948, pl. XL, 2, with foot). No continuity between the Mycenaean, Early Protogeometric and Late Protogeometric-Early Geometric pieces has been established.

36. Fragments from pilgrim flask. Pl. 28.

Inv. 18099. D. est. of disk ca. 0.155. Two large fragments and several non-joining sherds survive from side disks, another (not illustrated) probably from the suture band; other fragments (Nea Ionia storage, Athens Nat. Mus.), among them a small glazed oinochoe-neck and a barred handle, may be from this pot. Burned.

Somewhat flatter than 35.

At center, a broad reserved cross, then triangles pointing inward and latticed zone. Suture band, checkered like 35, one row overlapping onto one side disk, two rows onto the other; solid overpainting covers the checkers and swerves into the lattice where a slight thickening of the fabric marks the attachment of an accessory, probably the neck.

Black to brown and deep chestnut glaze, now mostly dull and flaked.

The same patterns are combined on fragments from an early ring vase, Kerameikos Grave Mound (IV, pl. 36, top right).

37-41. Ovoid or globular pyxides with projecting lip are common furnishings of later
Protogeometric burials, both male and female; most graves contain at least one. They are deposited whole, often closing the mouth of an urn (39 probably), or broken and burned, with the pyre sweepings (37, 38). At least five, each with matching lid, were recovered at Nea Ionia; four bodies and five lids are published here. The type is now first known in a Ripe Protogeometric context at the Agora, P 19020 (Well C 18:5), where the shoulder is high, the lower body pointed, the foot a narrow cone of medium height, and the outside solidly glazed. The rest are a monotonous group. The contours, like those of the developed lekythos, show many but not chronologically useful variations; the decoration is uniformly solid glaze with patterned girdle near mid body, rarely (40) other than opposed lines with glazed intervals (37-39). Multiple zones are found on only a few of the latest pieces, all from Early Geometric contexts; no sherds of this type were recovered at Nea Ionia. The unglazed inside was not meant to be seen, nor was the reserved bottom. They are always lidded; strings, passed through a single or double pair of opposite holes matched on lid and lip, served both as a track for the loose lid and as a basket handle. Other general remarks, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 106-109.


Inv. 18095. Pyre damage.

Heavy fabric; clay mostly burned gray and glaze, once good, largely lost.

a) Pyxis. H. 0.065; D. 0.472.

Low ring foot. Lip flat on horizontal surface; single tie holes.

The exterior glaze, continued over the rim, covers the horizontal surface of the lip.

b) Lid. H. 0.025; D. 0.063.

Low-domed beneath.

Glazed except for knob which is reserved and ringed.

37 and Agora P 6683 (H. 0.055; Grave 38) are the smallest pyxides from Protogeometric contexts. Cf. miniature stamnos, Kerameikos Inv. 939 (V, 1, pl. 15, 13, Gr. G 3, Early Geometric context). Biconical knob, cf. Agora P 6696 (Grave 41); an inverted cone (38-41) is commoner on lids of this type.


Inv. 18105. Pyre damage.

Lighter, thinner fabric than is usual for pyxides. Well polished fat black glaze, in places brownish to greenish and metallic, peeled in a few places.

a) Pyxis. H. 0.118; D. 0.135.

Low ring foot, bevelling up to bottom beneath. Lip crisply turned, its vertical face angular, horizontal surface flat; two pair of tie holes.

b) Lid. H. 0.032; D. 0.13.

Lightly concave on underside.

Vertical sides of knob solidly glazed.


Inv. 18090. Mended; no burning. Rust stain on side and part of pinshaft adhering to foot. Probably the stopper in the mouth of Urn 1.

Black to reddish brown glaze, damaged but glossy where best preserved.

a) Pyxis. H. 0.12; D. 0.13.

Ring foot rounding beneath to bottom which sags a bit at the center. Thin lip tapering to a rim bent sharply outward from the shoulder; upper face sloping gently toward interior. Two pair of tie holes, set well in from rim; the tool that pierced the holes at one stroke through lid and lip penetrated the shoulder inside, but did not actually puncture it; this is a fairly common accident among pyxides in this and the Geometric period.

The first and last sets of opposed bars are inclined in the same direction; between them a narrow glazed parallelogram (Pl. 26, near left side of vase). Other "brooches" masking the ends of girdles of opposed bars: latticed rectangle, kalathos Kerameikos Inv. 615 (I, pl. 72, Grave Mound), parallelogram with vertical zig-
zag, pyxis Kerameikos Inv. 912 (IV, pl. 20, Gr. 28); trapezoid with two superimposed rows of triangles, pyxis Kerameikos Inv. 575 (I, pl. 73, Gr. 7, not visible in photograph).
   b) Lid. H. 0.03; D. 0.09.
   Lightly concave beneath.


Inv. 18091. Mended; no burning.
   Crudely turned and coarsely painted. Poor dull black glaze, shading to greenish and red-
   brown, in places lightly glossy.
   a) Pyxis. H. 0.12; D. 0.11.
   Foot, deep conical beneath, pushing up the floor inside to a conical mound. Lip thickened
   and projecting, the upper surface flattened, vertical face rounded, less heavy than that of 38;
   tie holes lost.
   Top of lip reserved.
   b) Lid. H. 0.031; D. 0.082.
   Lightly concave beneath; top of knob lightly hollowed. Single tie-holes.
   Glazed all over outside, except for reserved dot on top of knob.
   Triangles now only here on a single-zoned pyxis of this form; cf. multizoned pyxis, Agora
   P 386 (Grave 60). The solidly glazed lid is unique; for knob, cf. 38.

41. Pyxis lid.

Inv. 18092 bis. H. 0.045; D. 0.098. Un-
   burned; about a third missing.
   Two pair of tie-holes matching those on the lip of a fifth pyxis, uninventoried, that is pre-
   served in substantial fragments. Its decoration and shape are close to 38; heavy rust stain.
   Lid glazed except for two pair of reserved bands, one near rim, one on vertical face of
   knob; maltese cross on top of knob.
   Streaky blue-black to orange-brown glaze, now rather dull.
   Simple reserved bands are the commonest lid decoration, cf. Ker., IV, pl. 20; combined with
   maltese cross, Agora P 24799 (Grave 47).

42. Chest.  Pl. 28.

Inv. 18104. H. 0.125; L. 0.15; W. 0.075-
   0.084; H. exclusive of legs 0.52. Applied proj-
   ecting ears for lid attachment and lid lost.
   Lightly smoked; from Pyre B.
   Illustrated: B.C.H., LXXIII, 1949, p. 526,
   Fig. 8 (= J.H.S., LXX, 1950, p. 3, fig. 3;

Inside, divided by a crosswall, ca. 0.009-0.012
   wide into two compartments, ca. 0.06 x 0.06 x
   0.037 deep. Carved from a single block of clay;
   thickness of walls variable and floor of box in-
   side poorly smoothed. Only the base line of the
   struts was measured; diagonals, spaced by eye,
   were begun at right; at the left, the last diagonal
   attaches far short of the corner. At the middle
   of either end, an ear (in section 0.025 x 0.014),
   applied flush with the rim, was pierced ver-
   tically by a single hole; one side of the hole sur-
   vives as a short channel in the outer face of the
   chest.

   All exterior faces decorated in panel style.
   Rim, interior, bottom and side faces of struts
   and legs reserved.

   Black to brown glaze with high luster where
   best preserved.

   Fragments from similar chests of good hard
   Late Protogeometric fabric: Kerameikos Invs.
   1258, 1259 (IV, pl. 36, Grave Mound), with
   rectangular cut-outs in the legs. A pair of long
   rectangular lids, also of late fabric, are probably
   from compartmented boxes of this type: Ker-
  ameikos Invs. 632, 1257 (IV, pl. 36, Grave
   Mound). Contrast the technique of the built
   chests from Late Submycenaean and Early Pro-
   togeometric contexts, Kerameikos Inv. 924
   (IV, pl. 3, Gr. 22), Inv. 771 (I, pl. 59, Gr. 13),
   where both the box bottom and lid were turned
   flat on the wheel, trimmed to rectangular out-
   lines, and separate members assembled.

   Translations from other materials into clay
   are especially popular in Late Protogeometric
   and Early Geometric contexts: carved and
   turned wood, wickerwork and basketry, metal-
   work. Cf. cut-out stands, e.g. Kerameikos Invs.
2028, 2029 (IV, pl. 25, Gr. 48, where, exceptionally, all surfaces, inner, outer and resting, are glazed); cut-work kalathoi, Agora P 17445 (Well A 20: 5) and others from Early Geometric contexts; serried lid-hand les, Ker., V, I, pl. 146 ("whorls," see Jantzen, Arch. Anz., 1953, pp. 59 ff.); metallic accessories, e.g. handles 48.

43. Large low-based cup.

Pl. 27.

Inv. 18092. H. 0.088; H. to top of handle 0.092; max. D. 0.13. Intact and unburned.

Foot faintly hollowed beneath. Tapering, unthickened lip, bent out from body, but not actually inset.

Single reserved stripe on inner face of lip, reserved dot on center of floor inside. Handle, laddered.

Brown-black to reddish glaze, with a good polish where best preserved.

Shape, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 101-102; the Agora Excavations offer fresh evidence. The low teacup, lost in the Early Submycenaean period, reappears in the Attic repertory in developed Protogeometric contexts; its ancestry cannot be traced. It may be, like a number of resurgent types, a Mycenaean revival, i.e. a "copy," slightly modernized, of pieces salvaged from disturbed tombs. The earliest (but with handle lacking), Agora P 17435 (Well A 20: 5), is very like 43. The underside of the base is lightly hollowed, the sides full, but deeper, the very narrow lip bent outward and not inset; interior glaze as 43, exterior solid, except for wholly reserved underside of foot. The low base is always the exceptional form; another, Agora P 1048, like 43 in all details except for wholly reserved bottom, comes from the latest of the pure Protogeometric wells (H 16-17: 1); this deposit was rich in cups, about half of them the common high-footed Protogeometric type (as Protogeometric Pottery, pl. 11), half with plain flat bottom that persists as the regular Early Geometric type. A few high conical feet and lip fragments from conventional high-footed cups are preserved among the Nea Ionia sherds.

44. Large low-based cup.

Inv. 18093. H. 0.09; H. to top of handle 0.095; max. D. 0.13. Mended; a few sherds discolored, possibly from smoke.

Identical with 43, from the same hand, but lip, like that of Agora P 1048, is less flaring.

45. Skyphos on low flaring foot.

Pl. 27.

Inv. 18094. H. 0.118; D. at rim 0.149. Complete but for one handle; found upright in mouth of 4, where it served as stopper.

Foot conical beneath. Lip forms a continuous curve with body; thickened and bevelled sharply on inner face.

Glazed inside except for reserved stripe on lip and dot at center of floor; area beneath handles, as usual, reserved.

Glossy fat black glaze, much worn inside and discolored, probably from its contents.

Shape, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 77-79. The foot and decoration of 45 are exceptional; both may be contaminations from the kantharos, which is well established before the old skyphos disappears. The kantharos, like the low cup, appears to be a revival inspired by Mycenaean pieces; Agora P 17441 (Well A 20: 5), perhaps the earliest, has a lip profile and decoration like 45, but its lower body is puffy and the foot is a heavy cone of medium height. The low flaring foot, found rarely on kantharoi before the Early Geometric period (cf. Kerameikos Inv. 2131, IV, pl. 21, Gr. 48), is not preserved elsewhere on skyphoi of Protogeometric shape; note that the base on Agora P 19242 (*Grave 49), though probable from traces surrounding the fracture, is restored. The severe decoration of 45 is common on vases with low offset lip: low cups as 43, kantharoi, and the broad low Geometric skyphos that replaces the kantharos in an advanced stage of Early Geometric.

46. Fragmentary large skyphos ("skyphoid" krater).

Pl. 27.

Inv. 18109. P. H. 0.21; H. rest. 0.234; D. 0.282. Discoloration, possibly from contents
rather than heat. About half of bowl preserved, rim into lower body with one handle; no evidence for base. This or 47 found on top of Cist II.


Lip slightly thickened, the inner face deeply bevelled.

Half of the reverse missing; it need not have been identical with the front (see below).

Black to brown glaze.

Form and decoration are those of the common high-footed skyphos, which was made in a wide range of sizes, D. ca. 0.10-0.30; 46 is the largest of which any substantial part has survived. The decoration is exactly that of the large "Cycladic skyphoi," Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 82-84, Type II a, e.g. Thera, II, p. 30, fig. 81 (D. 0.25), Langlotz, Würzburg, pl. 4, no. 72 (D. 0.26). Kraiker, Ker., I, p. 149, note 2, notes that the base of the Würzburg skyphos, broken and trimmed all around, had been a ringed stem like that of the Theran skyphos and Kerameikos Inv. 1266 (IV, pl. 34). Very large fragmentary bases of this form were found in the Grave Mound at the Kerameikos and in the Sanctuary of Zeus on Mt. Hymentos (both uninventoryed and unpublished; the Hymentos sherds, from the excavations of Blegen and Young, A.J.A., XLIV, 1940, pp. 1-9, are in Athens National Museum storage); Agora P 734 (*Grave 26) could have supported a bowl of the size of 46. A spaying pedestal, ringed or plain like Kerameikos Inv. 609, Grave Mound T 26 (here Pl. 27) appears to be the usual form on very large Protogeometric skyphoi; either is more probable than the low base now restored by analogy with 45. Kraiker believed the fabric of the Würzburg skyphos to be Attic; favoring Cycladic manufacture, see most recently Kunze, Jahreshefte, XXXIX, 1952, p. 55, note 10. Fabric alone can be decisive, since adequate documentation both for the form and decoration now exists in Attica.

The reserved cross as core-filler, predominantly a late pattern (see Protogeometric Pottery, p. 84), is rarely earlier. Narrow auxiliary panels, usually the glazed lozenge column, are fairly common on larger circle and lattice skyphoi, as symmetrical borders or along one side of the lattice only, on one or both faces; while sometimes part of a planned design, often they were inserted as space fillers where pre-drawn circles had been too widely spaced for the span of one lattice panel, cf. Kerameikos Inv. 606 (I, pl. 49, Grave Mound T 25).

The same compass was used on 47; the outlines of the lozenges and core-fillers are bold and straight-edge true, the filling glaze thin and sloppy. The draughtsmanship resembles the work of one of the "branch lekythos" painters (26-31); cf. especially the hourglasses on 30.

47. Fragmentary large skyphos ("skyphoid" krater).

Inv. 18110. P. H. ca. 0.165; H. rest. 0.195; D. 0.229. Discoloration as 46. About a third of bowl preserved, rim into lower body with one handle; all of the handle zone on the reverse is missing; no evidence for base.

Dark brown glaze, pale brownish where thin, in places greenish.

See 46, from the same hand.


Inv. 18114. P. H. 0.45; H. rest. 0.468; D. rim 0.47; D. max. 0.553. Discoloration from oil. About three-quarters preserved, rim almost to base with one handle; no evidence for base. Six pair of mend holes along an ancient fracture curve from near the center of face A into the lower body below one handle and, about a third of the way around face B, up again to the rim; the fragment may have been replaced as in 4 and the holes caulked with gum, for no trace of lead survives. Covering Pyre A.

Discussed: Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 96-97; mentioned: Ker., V, 1, p. 11, note 36.

The lip, beginning just at the top of the decorated zone, is barely offset from the body; thickened and projecting rim with the flat top surface sloping outward.
Decoration, see Pl. 29; a set of quadruple reserved bands on the lower body; top surface of lip glazed. Panels, the basic plan is simple: [aabaa] I [aabaa] II [aabaa] I [aabaa] II . . . , i.e. broad (checkerboard) alternating with narrow (face A, glaze column; face B, latticed lozenge column); between each a unit of five narrow panels (opposed lines flanked by pairs of narrow zigzags). Face A preserves 6 major panels with space for a seventh; B preserves 5 (with space for 7 if cramped). The panels, drawn in order from left to right, were not measured; the "central" panels are far off-axis and the end of each series is pinched or curtailed (note to right of handle). Embellishments: 4 of the 6 checkerboards are confined by narrow horizontal panels above and below: A, central only, by zigzag; B, the first by zigzags, the second by zigzags and dogtooth above, dogtooth below, of the third, only a dogtooth below is preserved.

Thick glaze of good quality, fired light red over much of the outside, shading in places to brown and black, black inside and peeled over large areas.

The shape, a one-time hybrid, combines features of the kantharos and krater; its accessories are adapted from metalwork and probably Mycenaean-inspired. Full high-shouldered body of Late Protogeometric form, cf. the cup 44, the kantharos Kerameikos Inv. 2026 (IV, pl. 21, Gr. 44), and especially a very large pyxis, Inv. 657, (V, 1, pl. 51, from the Grave Mound). For the lip, cf. kraters, Agora P 7008 (Isolated Find, B 10:-) and P 21083 (Well K 12:2); the type begins in the developed Protogeometric contexts, but the sloping top is late; the strong inclination of the vertical face is individual, cf. contemporary stamnoi, e.g. London 1950. 2-28.3 (Protogeometric Pottery, pl. 13). The handles, like the kantharos which appears a little earlier, are metal-inspired, the models plausibly Mycenaean from displaced tombs. Kantharos, cf. Persson, New Tombs at Dendra Near Midea, Lund, 1942, p. 88, fig. 99, 1. No detail-for-detail ensemble has been found like 48, but cf. "amphoroid kraters" common in the Eastern provinces and also on the Mainland; for the handles especially, a metal "amphoroid krater" in Cyprus, Kourion Kaloriziki, No. 40, 11 (G. McFadden, A.J.A., LVIII, 1954, pl. 21) with grooves, semicircular lower attachment plate and "T-bar" attachment at the top, there fitted neatly beneath the projecting rim. For base, see 46; a plain or flaring ringed pedestal is here probable, cf. Kerameikos Inv. 1233, Gr. 1 and Inv. 1292, Grave Mound (V, 1, pl. 16), a type known already in pure Protogeometric contexts at the Agora and elsewhere.

There are no indications that the bottom had been removed intentionally, the bottom of Kerameikos Inv. 1233 is intact; it stood in situ as a grave marker above a "male" amphora; like 48 its bowl had been extensively repaired. The high percentage of mended pots among grave pieces suggests that these large display pieces, more than usually vulnerable in manufacture, on dealers' shelves, and in domestic or ritual use, were often summarily repaired for this one last use; the valuable lead clamps, common on the heavy-duty domestic ware of well deposits, are rare on these pots, where they would have been unsightly as well.

All of the motives in the panels are from the standard repertory of the Protogeometric period, though horizontal subdivision of panels is commoner among late pieces. Cf. the krater Munich 6157 (C.V.A., München 3, Deutschl. 9, plgs. 103-104; Protogeometric Pottery, pl. 12) where shape, fabric and drawing are Early Protogeometric. Sherds from contexts of the intervening periods suggest that the panel style may have been in continuous use on large kraters.

49. Kalathos with handle. Pl. 28.

Inv. 18097. H. 0.082; D. at rim 0.152. Pyre damage. About one-third missing.
Fabric thick at the bottom, tapering upward to thin everted lip.
The two upper zones are interrupted by the handle. Inside glazed except for a narrow re-
served band along the inner face of the lip and dot at center of floor; top surface of lip glazed. Handle, doubled uprights, three bars at top, two just above lower handle attachment, between them herringbone as on 50.

Thick brown to black glaze, glossy where best preserved.

General remarks, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 113-117; 49-51 are exceptional. Convex walls only here and on a larger piece, Athens Nat. Mus. 18419 (Empedokles Collection, provenience unknown: H. 0.18; handleless, with a single suspension hole beneath lip; pattern on upper part of body, solid glaze below). Pattern covering the whole of the exterior is individual; 50, closer to the common type, is from the same hand. Checkered girdle not elsewhere on kalathoi; cf. eared jar, Agora P 21341 (*Grave 24).

50. Kalathos with handle. Pl. 28.

Inv. 18098. H. 0.08; D. at rim 0.152. Pyre damage. About half missing with lower part of handle.

Lighter construction and straighter sides than 49; the thin walls taper to plain everted lip, its upper face nearly horizontal.

Uppermost decorated zone interrupted by handle. Narrow reserved stripe on underside of lip, finely barred; upper face of lip reserved and filled with groups of bars, sloppily perpendicular or slanting. Inside glaze, carelessly applied, has refilled the reserved dot on the center of the floor. Handle as on 49, but with single uprights.

Fabric as 49, from the same hand.

Opposed lines on kalathoi only here and Kerameikos Inv. 615, (I, pl. 72, Grave Mound) which has a latticed rectangle ("brooch") linking the ends of the pattern, cf. 39; note the popularity of lattice in unusual places at Nea Ionia, e.g. 49, 36.

51. Fragments from kalathos with handle. Pl. 28.

Without number (Nea Ionia storage, Athens Nat. Mus.). P. H. ca. 0.06; D. at rim est. ca. 0.14. Pyre damage. Four non-joining fragments preserve about one quarter, rim to mid body with handle: on c) a slight thickening around the lower handle attachment and part of the vertical line framing the zone of triangles it interrupts; the handle, d) preserves a bit of the inner and outer wall faces below and the profile of the lip against the upper attachment.

Splaying sides, apparently straighter than 49 and 50, with thickened, lightly projecting lip, flattened on top.

Outside, parts of two deep decorated zones beginning just beneath the lip: triangles and zigzag. Upper surface of lip reserved and barred.

Dull dark brown glaze, more red-brown inside, the brown partly peeled; not thinned for the zigzag.

High-set decoration, see 49.


There is a long tradition of small pots, handmade from gritty fabric, similar to or undistinguishable from common local cooking fabric. Because of its extremely crumbly fabric, few pieces large enough to be identified have survived. The clay of 52 is porous, lightly micaceous, pale red with white bits and dark specks; the surface is well finished, retaining a fair polish above, but below is much crumbled from fire, more likely pyre than hearth; its finish is unusually careful and the walls thin. 53 is like 52, but more compact, heavier, lighter in color and fired harder. The finish is the same, with marks of a fine finishing tool everywhere visible, but not prominent; the workmanship is delicate. Both could be Attic; neither need be. Almost identical in fabric with 52, but less carefully finished, are a Submycenaean miniature pyxis lid, Kerameikos Inv. 491, and a pyxis, Inv. 2168 (see pp. 174-175); also close, an Early Protogeometric fragment from a tiny closed pot, Agora P 17256 (Well L 11:1), with flattened bottom and delicate thin walls. 52 is not earlier
than Late Protogeometric in date; 53 could be earlier.


Inv. 18120. H. 0.085; D. rest. 0.07; D. mouth 0.027. Heat damage. About half preserved, the profile complete with neck, mouth and handle intact.

Flattened bottom, no base; flaring mouth with neat angular rim; strap handle lightly concave in section. Delicate workmanship.

Shape, cf. 34 with references.


Without number (Nea Ionia storage, Athens Nat. Mus.). H. 0.082; D. 0.062. Unburnt. Single piece, most of mouth missing; upper shaft and attachment of handle restored.

Foot, low neat false ring. Handle round in section. Flaring neck with plain lip, lightly flattened like 52 and bevelled outward. Spout of uniform diameter (ca. 0.01) and bore (ca. 0.004), about 120° from handle. On shoulder, opposite the handle, two small conical bosses, ca. 0.007 apart.

Shape, Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 66-69; cf. especially Agora P 6836 (*Grave 23). Feeding bottles are fairly common in Mycenaean graves, usually with basket handle, rarely with vertical handle, e.g. Blegen, Prosymna, fig. 189, Inv. 455; Graef, Akropolisvasen, I, pl. 5, no. 175 (note restorations, p. 17); there are now no Attic Submycenaean examples of either type. The vertical-handled feeding bottle re-appears in an Early Protogeometric context, Agora P 17236 (Well L 11:1). Cf. a Corinthian Geometric handmade feeding bottle of this type, Corinth, VII, i, pl. 14, no. 90, with round bottom and broad trefoil mouth. Later Attic feeding-bottles are again basket-handled, but at right angles to the spout; the vertical-handled feeder survives in the tubular spouted "feeding cup."

The false ring foot is unusual in cooking fabric of the Protogeometric period; cf. miniature one-handed jar (H. 0.10), Kerameikos Inv. 1101 (IV, pl. 28, Gr. 45). Bosses are very rare on pots of Protogeometric date; large cooking pots: Agora P 17450 (Well A 20:5), one neatly modeled lump on the shoulder opposite the handle; P 3952 (Well K 12:1), a pair on the shoulder, each about 90° from the handle. Bosses were fairly popular on Mycenaean and Submycenaean pots, both coarse and fine painted, generally accenting decorative motives, one on either side of the shoulder, on low cups, belly-handled amphorae, small oinochoai and cooking pots; none have yet appeared on Protogeometric fine painted ware. In the Early and Middle Geometric periods they enjoy a limited revival on low cups and oinochoe-lekythoi, where they are usually enmeshed beneath complex meanders, as veiled apotropaic eyes or, possibly, imitation rivet-heads. Two close-set eyes directly opposite the vertical handle are very common on later Corinthian Geometric large coarse hydriae.

54-56. Small Objects of Attic Protogeometric Fine Handmade Incised Ware.

No comprehensive study of this fabric has been published. It is one of several local handmade fabrics specializing in small objects and miniature vessels, mainly or exclusively for use in tombs or ritual, which appear at a number of sites about this time, e.g. Weinberg, Corinth, VII, i, pp. 7-8; Argolid, Desborough, B.S.A., L, 1955, pp. 240-241. Of these the Attic group is the most sophisticated, the shapes varied and the decoration complex. The fabric is thick and heavy, the clay compact and almost pure, pink to gray at the core, shading to light, creamy tan-buff on the outside, sometimes with pinkish red blushes; it is unslipped, the exposed surfaces slick, highly glossy and free of tool and brush marks; though sometimes hard-fired, it is more often underdone. It is very fragile, flaking easily, pitting and rotting. Decoration, covering almost the entire exposed surface, is incised (lines and strokes) or impressed (cir-
incised pieces made with a hollow reed), sometimes pricked; a few pieces are undecorated. On some pieces from Early Geometric contexts, the incisions appear to be white-filled; none from Nea Ionia is.

Shapes and decoration have little relation to contemporary fine painted or cooking wares. Common Attic types are bell-shaped dolls (54), hole-mouthed pyxides (e.g. Pl. 30, see below, note 20), hemispherical bowls with round, pointed or narrow flat bottom (Ker., IV, pls. 29-30), beads (55), balls, whorls (56); rare or unique, and mostly from Early Geometric contexts, are tripod bowls, collared jars on three toes, pomegranates and a number of fragments apparently from more individual creations. The ware has so far appeared only in tombs or with cemetery debris and may have been restricted to women and children.17

The uniformity of these pieces suggests a single workshop, but a number of hands, both in fashioning and decoration (note the diversity, e.g., among the Kerameikos dolls, IV, pl. 31). The Nea Ionia group is close-knit, its patterns and mannerisms nearly identical with one of the groups from Kerameikos Grave 48, and pieces from Kerameikos Grave 37 and two Agora graves (pyxis P 6695, Grave 41; bowl, P 21344, *Grave 24).

This elaborate and distinctive fabric appears suddenly in later Protogeometric contexts, its repertory virtually complete; the shapes show no evolution, though some new ones are added and a greater variety of patterns is found among pieces from Early Geometric contexts.18 Toward the end of the Early Geometric period the ware drops from fashion and is replaced in Middle Geometric by simpler handmade wares, Attic or imported, mainly aryballoi and small oinochoai, their shapes unrelated to the earlier group, rarely and only sparsely and simply decorated. Much careful work remains to be done with this fabric, its antecedents and successors, as well as its ritual significance; but it is doubtful that present data can provide lasting conclusions. Similarities in isolated details to products of other regions and epochs have been noted,19 and still others could be cited, but so far, decisive combinations of shape and ornament or chronological relationships that would establish a necessary connection with the Protogeometric-Early Geometric Group are wanting. The characteristic hole-mouthed pyxis with tall-stemmed, lentoid lid,20 finds its only near parallels in three pyxides from Attic Submycenaean contexts (see Appendix A, p. 174). A few beads and whorls of this fine fabric come from chronologically intermediate contexts, but otherwise, evidence for a continuous tradition is now lacking; apart from simple melon ribbing (some beads and two of the early pyxides) rarely found among later pieces, the characteristic patterns of the late group are lacking. Though these earlier pyxides put us no closer to explaining the sudden appearance and popularity of the Protogeometric ware, they at least

17 One incised bead, Kerameikos Inv. 2154 (IV, pl. 32, Gr. 41) in the flooded trench of a “male” neck amphora; a smooth bead, Inv. 729 (I, pl. 70) in the disturbed offering trench of Kerameikos Grave 19, also a “male” urn. The analysis of the bones in this last case reads “vermutlich weiblich” (Ker., I, p. 260), again casting suspicion on the rigidity of the rule that only men were buried in neck amphorae; only offerings or, better, bone analysis can be decisive.
18 E.g. at Eleusis and in and around the Agora Geometric oval house, Hesperia, II, 1933, pp. 564-566.
19 Especially the Balkans, Milojčić, Arch. Anz., 1948-1949, pp. 29-34; Cyprus, Daniel, A.J.A., XLI, 1937, pp. 73-75; Thessaly and elsewhere, Kühler, Ker., IV, pp. 15, 19, 25; V, 1, p. 38, note 85, p. 139, note 106, et passim, comment and extensive bibliography. Note especially Early Helladic incised patterns, many of which are reproduced in this later fabric with a plausibly archaistic carefulness.
20 E.g. Pl. 30: Agora P 6695 (Grave 41), H. body 0.077, lid 0.05; D. 0.084.
offer a plausible local model from disturbed graves or heirlooms, for at least one of its forms.

54. Bell-shaped doll with moveable legs. 
   Pl. 30.

Inv. 18112. H. including legs, as suspended, 0.12; H. of bell 0.092; max. D. 0.068; L. of legs 0.042; arc of scars left by arm-nubbins ca. 0.02. A few small bits lost, including the arms; no sure discoloration from heat; some rust stain. From Pyre B. Fragments from a second doll were found in the quarry rubble below.

Body and head in one piece, breasts and arm-nubbins applied separately. The body is a hollow bell; the neck and head solid, triangular in section, rounded toward the back, but pinched sharp in front to form the nasal ridge; the crown is lightly hollowed. A small hole running from inside the bell through the top of the head held a suspension cord; the legs, made separately, are pierced near their top and suspended from a horizontal cord passing through a pair of diametrically opposite holes ca. 0.014 above the hem of the bell.

Other dolls, all from Late Protogeometric contexts: Ker., IV, pl. 31, Graves 33 and 48. Idols generally: Ker., IV, p. 5; V, 1, p. 38, n. 85; bell-shaped dolls: see especially Balkan types, Milojević, Arch. Anz., 1948-1949, pp. 29-34 (legless), and Late Geometric and Archaic pieces, F. R. Grace, Archaic Boeotian Sculpture, Cambridge, Mass., 1939, pp. 10-15; the precise relation of these to the Protogeometric dolls is not clear. None is exactly like 54, but Kerameikos Inv. 2036, Gr. 48, the shapeliest and most carefully made, is closest; 54 may be from the same hand as the pyxides Kerameikos Inv. 1075 (IV, pl. 31, Gr. 37) and Agora P 6695 (Grave 41, Pl. 30).

55. Twenty-eight clay beads

Roughly spherical, lightly flattened top and bottom, pierced through the center. Pyre damaged; many rust-stained. Fragments from a few others as below. Some or all from Pyre B.

a) Inv. 18117. H. 0.018-0.028; D. 0.025. 
   Pl. 30.

Twenty-two beads in graduated sizes, roughly paired as if from a symmetrical necklace. On sides: stroke-serpentine, in the arcs impressed circles, single on the 10 smaller beads, doubled concentric on the 12 larger. Cf. whorls 56, a.

b) Inv. 18116. H. ca. 0.03; D. ca. 0.035. 
   Pl. 30.

Five beads of about the same size. On sides: stroke-girdle top and bottom, a row of doubled impressed circles around the greatest diameter. Identical with some of the beads, Kerameikos Inv. 2118 (IV, pl. 32, Gr. 39). Cf. whorls 56, b.

c) Inv. 18118.

One undecorated bead. Cf. whorl 56, d.

Similar beads in quantity from Kerameikos Graves 39 (14 beads) and 48 (18 beads), IV, pl. 32; single beads from a few other Kerameikos graves, from Agora graves and disturbed Agora deposits containing cemetery rubbish. The earliest individual piece comes from Kerameikos Grave 5, (Inv. 764, I, pl. 74), Early Protogeometric. Its simple melon ribbing, found also on some of the later beads (e.g. Kerameikos Inv. 2117, IV, pl. 32, Gr. 39) recalls dried figs; it is not impossible that these cumbersome “necklaces” may have been inspired by or be imitations of strings of dried figs. Cf. real figs found in near-contemporary Agora graves 49 (Hesperia, XVIII, 1949, p. 262, pl. 66, 4; see also “whorl” MC 760, pl. 72, no. 24) and 48 (Hesperia, XXI, 1952, p. 280).

56. Six spindle whorls. 
   Pl. 30.

Inv. 18119. H. 0.035-0.04; W. at base ca. 0.04; W. at top ca. 0.02. Nearly all discolored from pyre and rust-stained. Fragments from a few others, Inv. 18119 a, as below.

a) Three with stroke-girdle at top and bottom, stroke-serpentine on the vertical face with impressed circles in the arcs; one arc is enclosed above so that its circle is completely
hooped. Cf. beads 55, a, the hem-border of the doll 54, and hemispherical bowls, Kerameikos Invs. 2038, 2044 (IV, pl. 29, Gr. 48).

b) One wide stroke-girdle at top and bottom and a zone of impressed circles at mid height on vertical face. Cf. beads 55, b.

c) One with part of the shaft of an iron pin adhering; possibly from Urn 4. Stroke-girdle at top and bottom; on vertical face, three equidistant sets of tripled lines, stroke-edged ("branch-pattern") top to bottom; between the "branches" a single impressed circle at mid height. Cf. Kerameikos Inv. 2059 (IV, pl. 32, Gr. 48).

d) One undecorated. Cf. Kerameikos Inv. 2064 (IV, pl. 32, Gr. 48) and bead 55, c.

Metal

57. Three iron pins with bronze globes; knob finial.

Pl. 27.

a) Inv. 16363. P. L. 0.36; D. bronze globe 0.022; D. head 0.027; D. finial 0.010-0.015; L. shaft between globe and head 0.028; lowest D. of shaft 0.005. Probably from Urn 4.

b) Inv. 16363 A. P. L. 0.39; D. bronze globe 0.023; D. head 0.026; D. finial ca. 0.012; L. shaft between globe and head 0.04; lowest D. of shaft 0.004. Probably from Urn 4.

c) Inv. 16363 B. P. L. ca. 0.21; D. bronze globe 0.0195-0.022; D. head 0.024; L. shaft between globe and head 0.028; lowest D. of shaft 0.005. A lump on the top of the head suggests a finial, now melted. Perhaps from Urn 1.

Burned and badly corroded; none complete. The preserved members are a little lighter and the original length probably a little less than the longest Protogeometric pins (e.g. Agora B 277 with incised decoration (*Grave 23), this is the best preserved of the bronze examples; the others: Kerameikos Inv. M 22 (IV, pl. 39, Gr. 39; also M 23, not illustrated); Inv. M 11 (IV, p. 42, Gr. 40, not illustrated); Inv. M 3 (IV, p. 45, Gr. 48, not illustrated); Agora B 842-843 (*Grave 49).

58. Bronze fibula.

Pl. 27.

Inv. 16362. L. ca. 0.09; H. ca. 0.06. Surface in good condition; tip and about one-third of pin missing. Perhaps from Urn 4.

Bow fibula with stilted fore-end; bead between single narrow fillets at either end of thickened bow; double spring. Blinkenberg, Type II 19 (Fibules grecques et orientales, Copenhagen, 1926, fig. 61, p. 75). No traces of incised decoration.

Except for 59, this is the only type of fibula known in Attic Protogeometric contexts; it is commonly of iron, very rarely of bronze. See Protogeometric Pottery, pp. 308-309. Apart from Agora B 277 with incised decoration (*Grave 23), this is the best preserved of the bronze examples; the others: Kerameikos Inv. M 22 (IV, pl. 39, Gr. 39; also M 23, not illustrated); Inv. M 11 (IV, p. 42, Gr. 40, not illustrated); Inv. M 3 (IV, p. 45, Gr. 48, not illustrated); Agora B 842-843 (*Grave 49).


Pl. 27.

Inv. 16362 A. L. 0.11; H. 0.062. Well-preserved but with surface corrosion and bits of bone and pyre debris adhering; most of pin and front of catch plate missing. Perhaps from Urn 4.
Flat leaf-shaped bow, apparently with small bead at either end (fillets uncertain); triple spring.

The form is unique in a Protogeometric or Early Geometric context. The only close parallels, a gold pair in Berlin (Antiquarium, Inv. 30553 a-b, Blinkenberg, Type II 23, op. cit., fig. 65, pp. 77-78), are a little more developed (slightly broader catchplate) and may be a little later; they are said to have been found with Geometric pottery in an Attic tomb. For the incised decoration on the Berlin pair, cf. a well preserved bronze pin from the Grave Mound at the Kerameikos, M 113 (IV, pl. 39), and an Early Geometric gold pin, Kerameikos, M 42 (V, 1, pl. 159, Geometric Grave 41); the fibulae, M 47, 48, from this grave are more developed in form and ambitious in decoration than the Berlin pair.

APPENDIX A

KERAMEIKOS SUBMYCENAEAN GRAVE 113

The pyxis, Kerameikos Inv. 2168, Grave S 113, is related in fabric to the handmade miniature 52 and in form to the Later Protogeometric Handmade Incised pyxis (e.g. Agora P 6695, Pl. 30), and through it may have some bearing on the source and inspiration of the latter fabric. It is one of three from Attic Submycenaean contexts:

a) Agora P 14873. Pl. 30. H. pyxis 0.062, lid 0.031; D. 0.072. Debris in well near Klepsydra (Well U 26:4). Fabric quite different from the two pyxides below; it is plausibly Attic and undistinguishable from later Fine Handmade Incised Ware, except for its intentionally gray color. The incised patterns, broad zigzags and scoring (on top of knob) are not found in the later ware. No other vases of precisely this fabric from a contemporary Athenian context.

b) Kerameikos Inv. 491 (I, pl. 25, Gr. S 77). Undecorated. Body probably imported, Kraiker suggests from the Cyclades (Ker., I, p. 74); lid, a local replacement of common cooking fabric, covered with a black wash, now worn. The pierced ears of the lid curl down, cupping closely over the ears on the body. Cupped, pierced ear, cf. miniature handmade lid from Salamis (Ath. Mitt., XXXV, 1910, p. 30, fig. 19); though not exactly like the fabric of any of these pyxides, it recalls Agora P 14873. Wide thought this lid much older than the other Salamis finds, but it need not be. Of the same local fabric as the lid, Inv. 491, black-washed and with traces of polish, are the pyxis Inv. 2168 below and the amphoriskos, Kerameikos Inv. 469 (I, pl. 20, Gr. S 108); 21 of the same base clay, polished but without the black wash, is the tall amphoriskos Inv. 2167 below. 22

c) Kerameikos Inv. 2168, Gr. S 113, below. This piece comes from one of the richest Athenian Submycenaean graves, one of considerable topographical interest. Since it was

21 The large trefoil-mouthed oinochoe, Salamis, Athens, N. M., Inv. 3666, as described in Ath. Mitt., XXXV, 1910, p. 26, note 6, sounds like the same black-wash handmade fabric; I have not seen it.

22 A resemblance to Daniel's Cypriote "Ware VII: Handmade Black Slip Incised" (A.J.A., XLI, 1937, pp. 72-75), probably contemporary and used mostly for miniature vessels, is not confirmed by the clay. But the broad zigzag designs of Agora P 14873 are common in this Cypriote fabric; cf. ibid., p. 73, fig. 7.
found too late to be included with the Sub-
mycenaean burials in Kerameikos, I, it has
remained unpublished. Dr. Kübler has kindly
allowed it to appear here.

Kerameikos Submycenaean Grave 113.\(^{23}\)

Kerameikos, V, 1, Beilage 2 ("Spätsubmyk.

Rectangular trench, L. 1.95; W. 0.75; D. 1.65. Lower part lined with schist slabs, three
on each side, one at each end, the joints care-
fully fitted with smaller stones; inner dimen-
sions of cist, L. ca. 1.90; W. 0.49; D. 0.50. Irregular cover slabs, tightly caulked with small
stones. Skeleton outstretched on its back, head
at south, right hand on pelvis, left hand beneath
it. On left hand, three bronze rings; on either
breast, a simple Submycenaean bronze fibula
without nodes and the remains of an iron pin,
one with spherical ivory head; on left breast
remains also of a bronze pin. Seven amphoriskoi,
empty, at foot of grave, mouths pointing
inward; crushed beneath them an eighth and a
steatite spindle whorl;\(^{24}\) beside the right thigh
a handmade pyxis, its lid alongside.

Amphoriskos.

Pl. 31.

Inv. 2165. H. 0.11; D. 0.093. Intact.

Ring foot, deep beneath, slurred into body
outside.

Decoration same front and back. Lower body
and foot reserved.

Poorly smoothed. Hard deep pinkish buff
clay, unslipped and unpolished. Dark brown to
depth orange-tan glaze, with slight metallic
luster. Not characteristic Attic.

Broad-mouthed with heavy tall ring foot, cf.
Inv. 466 (I, pl. 18, Gr. S 108), less advanced.
Decoration, cf. Inv. 2164 below, Inv. 485 (I,
pl. 20, Gr. S 70).

Amphoriskos.

Pl. 31.

Inv. 2166. H. 0.104; D. 0.083. Intact.

Foot rounding up to bottom with hanging
boss beneath; unevenly turned.

Broad band of glaze inside, continuous with
neck-glaze outside. Decoration same front and
back. Pendant semicircles (4, once 5), hand-
drawn. Thin line encircling join of foot with
body.

Poorly smoothed. Hard light pinkish buff
clay, unslipped and unpolished. Warm dark
reddish brown glaze, slightly lustrous where
fresh. Probably Attic.

Hanging circles are almost unknown on Attic
Submycenaean and Protogeometric vases; Ker.,
I, pl. 38, an isolated find, is one of the few from
Attica. Dot-edging, found sporadically through-
out Submycenaean and Early Protogeometric,
is of no chronological assistance here; e.g.
earlier, Inv. 497 (I, pl. 15, Gr. S 88), later,
Inv. 531 (I, pl. 61, Gr. PG 1).

Amphoriskos.

Pl. 31.

Inv. 2164. H. 0.105; D. 0.096. Intact.

Crisp ring foot, rough at join with body.

Neck glazed inside and out. Upper shoulder,
bold loose zigzag, single line below. Handles
barred, arcs alongside attachments. Belly front
and back, pair of wiggly lines. Broad belt of
glaze from just below handles to a little above
foot; foot reserved.

Unsmoothed. Very hard dull pinkish buff
clay, light buff on unglazed areas, deeper be-
neath peeled glaze. Dull dense black glaze,
almost wholly lost.

Body glaze terminating above wholly re-
served foot in the Granary tradition (e.g. oino-
choe, B.S.A., XXV, 1921-1923, p. 32, fig.
8 b; skyphoi, p. 33, fig. 9 b, e); cf. Inv. 470

\(^{23}\) Temporary No. "Grave 26." My special thanks are due to Dr. K. Kübler for his generous
notes on the circumstances of finding and his ready permission to publish this group; and to Dr. D.
Ohly and Miss J. Perlzweig for many kindnesses. The photographs were taken by Dr. K.
Fierneisel.

\(^{24}\) The eighth amphoriskos, the steatite whorl and the jewelry were not available for examination
in the summer of 1960.
(I, pl. 19, Gr. S 52). Decoration, cf. Inv. 2165 above.

Amphoriskos  

Pl. 31.  
Inv. 2161. H. 0.10; D. 0.086. Intact.  
Low foot beveling up to bottom beneath.  
Most of inside of neck glazed. Decoration same front and back.  
Poorly smoothed. Hard pinkish buff clay.  
Warm dark brown glaze thinning to walnut, in places lost, elsewhere quite lustrous.

Amphoriskos.  

Pl. 31.  
Inv. 2162. H. 0.107; D. 0.083. Mouth and foot chipped.  
Tall narrow ring foot.  
Narrow band of glaze inside neck. Band at join of foot and body. Decoration same front and back.  
Surface poorly smoothed. Compact, hard clay, in places rotted; brush marks on unglazed surfaces. Dark brown to chestnut glaze, dull.

Amphoriskos.  

Pl. 31.  
Inv. 2163. H. 0.103; D. 0.083. Intact; neck rotted inside.  
Decoration as Inv. 2162, but three bands on shoulder.  
Compact, pinkish buff clay, softer than in the other pieces of this group; dull orange-tan glaze, peeled in places.

Handmade tall amphoriskos.  

Pl. 31.  
Inv. 2167. H. 0.176; D. 0.137. Intact.  
Lip flattened on top; crisp flat bottom.  
Handmade from deep rose clay, very micaceous, with dark and light bits, some of fair size that look like marble. Slick surfacing, fairly thick and adherent; tool marks. Here and there a light polish survives. No traces of smoke.  
Same fabric as the pyxis, Inv. 2168. The tall neck is unique.

Handmade pyxis with lid.  

Pl. 31.  
Inv. 2168. H. 0.065-0.075, with lid, 0.098;  
H. lid ca. 0.03. Mouth corroded on one side; one end of lid missing.

Narrow flat bottom; lightly flaring plain lip, pulled out at either side in a triangular ear, vertically pierced to match lid. Lid lentoid, flat beneath, pierced at either end; it rises on one side to compensate the lop-sided body, while its stem remains nearly vertical when the lid is set on the body.

Around top of body, row of impressed dots; close-set vertical grooves below. Lid, impressed dot on top of stem; four rows of impressed dots marking the quadrants are continued up the sides of the stem.

Handmade from the same dark red clay as Inv. 2167, but covered with a black wash, now mostly dull and worn, but with traces of a light polish where thickest.

See above pp. 169, 174.

Although the jewelry was not available for examination in 1960, Kübler’s descriptions give a good idea of the types. The simple nodeless bronze fibulae are pure Submycenaean; others, e.g. Salamis, *Ath. Mitt.*, XXXV, 1910, p. 30, fig. 15, and *Ker.*, I, pl. 27, Grave S 2, both from early Submycenaean contexts. The many fibulae of Kerameikos Grave S 108 are of more complex though not necessarily later types, but one already has the nodules that, fattened and translated into iron, will become the standard Protogeometric type. On these early types, see Furumark, *Chronology*, pp. 91-93. The presence of iron pins puts S 113 among the later Submycenaean graves; at the Kerameikos, only the latest inhumations in the region of Precinct XX, Graves PG 22 and PG 23, had them, as also Agora Grave 31 with offerings of about the same time. The spherical ivory head is exceptional; cf. bone pin with spherical head, Kerameikos Gr. PG 1-N (IV, p. 47), also late Submycenaean; another non-metal head (?), the paste cone found beneath the skull in Grave S 108 (I, pl. 28), probably not (because of the delicate material) a whorl. This quantity of jewelry is unusual in a Submycenaean burial;
this and the handmade pots suggest that the deceased was a wealthy woman.

Amphoriskoi are difficult to date; clumsy turning and cursory painting often give them a deceptively early look. This is an exceptional set, well above average Submycenaean work; the outlines are fairly graceful at best, the painting tolerably neat, the fabric mostly hard-fired, the finish as good as can be expected at this time. Inv. 2166 shows imagination and care, not common on any shape at this time, and otherwise unknown on this one, which, as commonly with those shapes that are about to be discontinued, commands only the most routine treatment. Kraiker (Ker., I, p. 66) noted that good technique as well as topographical considerations placed Grave S 108 among the latest in the Pompeion Cemetery; the amphoriskoi in S 113 are more advanced in technique and shape and are probably still later; only Inv. 2165 recalls one of the vases in S 108. Invns. 2162 and 2163 are like Inv. 489 (I, pl. 16) from Grave S 76, again from the last period of the Pompeion Cemetery (Ker., I, p. 65); the mouth of the lekythos from that grave (Inv. 490, I, pl. 14) is a deep flaring funnel, virtually the form that is found in the earliest Protogeometric graves. The iron pins in S 113 are an additional indication of nearness to the Protogeometric period.

But the drawing on Invs. 2164-2166 is old-fashioned and shows that some careful painters still continued to work in the “thin line style” that was characteristic of most of the better pieces of the early Submycenaean period. On these the brush was finer or at least manipulated more on its tip than later; the glaze was usually thinner and streaky and the drawing often mincing and unsubstantial. Characteristic examples: Kerameikos Inv. 498 (I, pl. 10, Gr. S 81), stirrup-jug; Inv. 450 (I, pl. 15, Gr. S 42), Inv. 497 (same, Gr. S 88), lekythoi; Inv. 466 (I, pl. 18, Gr. S 108) and Inv. 485 (I, pl. 20, Gr. S 70), amphoriskoi. This old style is a survival of one of the Late Mycenaean ways of drawing and is in marked contrast to the contemporary “broad brush style” that leads to and is characteristic of earliest Protogeometric. The three pieces from S 113 are not extreme.

This new grave has passed the early stage of Submycenaean; it is old-fashioned, but may be almost as late as the inhumation graves in the Precinct XX cemetery; it is surely not earlier and may well be later than the first cremations in that lot (Graves 14 and 24). S 113 lay about 20 m. northeast of Grave PG 22 and supports other indications that new lots were at this time beginning to fill out the western section of the Kerameikos.

APPENDIX B

To avoid repetition of lengthy references, Agora groups cited are listed below. (*) denotes published groups; the others will be published in full in a volume of the Athenian Agora series. Desborough and others have referred to some of these groups by temporary designations; those given below will appear in the final volume.

Well A 20:5 Ripe Protogeometric. Almost all light ground vases; “firsts” of a number of types popular in Late Protogeometric and Early Geometric contexts, e.g. banded amphorae, kantharoi, kalathoi, low based cups. Cf. Kerameikos Graves 18, 39, 26, 42, 43, 45, 53.

Well C 18:5 Ripe Protogeometric. P. 164.

Well H 16-17:1 Latest of pure Protogeometric wells. Dark ground and black pots; low cups and high-footed cups in about equal quantity. 26, 43, 44.

Well K 12:1 Ripe-Late Protogeometric. Light ground and dark ground pots in about equal quantity. 53.
Well K 12:2 Early Geometric II (low skyphos and broad-bottomed oinochoe), with much Late Protogeometric in dumped filling. 48.
Grave 11 Late Protogeometric or Early Geometric I. P. 152, note 12.
*Grave 20 Hesperia, V, 1936, P. 24, fig. 22. Ripe Protogeometric. 6, 25, 26.
*Grave 23 Hesperia, VI, 1937, p. 365, fig. 30. Ripe Protogeometric. 53, 58.
*Grave 24 Hesperia, XXI, 1952, pl. 27, c. Late Protogeometric. 49, p. 171.
*Grave 26 Hesperia, II, 1933, p. 553, fig. 11. Early Geometric I. 6, 46.
Grave 38 Late Protogeometric. Cf. Kerameikos Grave 38. 37, 57.
Grave 41 Late Protogeometric. Cf. Kerameikos Grave 48. 12, 37, 54, p. 171.
Grave 45 Late Protogeometric or Early Geometric I. P. 151.
Grave 47 Early Geometric I. 41.
Grave 54 Late Protogeometric. Cf. Kerameikos Graves 40, 48. 7, 26, 32.
Grave 60 Early Geometric I. 40.

Evelyn Lord Smithson

Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, N. J.
EVELYN LORD SMITHSON: THE PROTOGEOMETRIC CEMETERY AT NEA IONIA, 1949
EVELYN LORD SMITHSON: THE PROTOGEOMETRIC CEMETERY AT NEA Ionia, 1949
EVELYN LORD SMITHSON: THE PROTOGEOMETRIC CEMETERY AT NEA IONIA, 1949
Evelyn Lord Smithson: The Protogeometric Cemetery at Nea Ionia, 1949
EVELYN LORD SMITHSON: THE PRE-HISTORIC CEMETERY AT NEA IONIA, 1949
Kerameikos Submycenean Grave 113

EVELYN LORD SMITHSON: THE PROTOGEOMETRIC CEMETERY AT NEA IONIA, 1949