CORINTHIAN BLACK-GLAZED POTTERY
WITH INCISED AND STAMPED DECORATION

(Plates 18–30)

For Evelyn B. Harrison

ONE FORM OF CLASSICAL POTTERY, stamped black glaze, well known at Athens and at other sites, was also made, albeit briefly and sporadically, at Ancient Corinth. Very few pieces have been published. This study attempts to redress that lacuna by providing a catalogue of most pieces found in the excavations at Corinth. After the catalogue, each shape is discussed separately. A final section presents arguments concerning workshop identification, the relationship with Athenian production of the same forms, and general conclusions about the reasons for the Corinthian production.1

The catalogue is organized by shape and, within each shape, by context. This allows the reader to see more easily the findspots of the individual pieces, many of which were found together. Because the contexts have fairly narrow chronological limits, it did not seem necessary to arrange the catalogue entries by date. The discussion of each shape does, however, include the relative chronology wherever possible.

CATALOGUE

All dimensions are in meters. The prefixes C, CP, MP, KP, and T indicate Corinth pottery-inventory numbers;2 but some examples have numbers preceded by L. These are sherds left in the lot (context pottery), often too small, poorly preserved, or repetitive in type for full inventory, though in some instances they have been drawn or photographed. Munsell (Soil Color Charts) numbers are included to give the range of colors in Corinthian clay. The abbreviation s.g stands for “stamp group”, more fully described in Appendix I, where palmettes from the same stamp are listed together. Thus, stamps are described in the catalogue only if they are singletons. The abbreviation u.s. in the catalogue refers to the pattern on the underside of the floor of the vase (drawn with the profile); vases with the same u.s. design are listed together in Appendix II. Most catalogue entries are correspondingly short, as I rely on the appendices to give data

1 I am, as always, most grateful to Dr. C. K. Williams II, Director of the Corinth Excavations, and to Dr. Nancy Bookidis, Assistant Director, for permission to study and publish the material, and for discussion of the material. Dr. Ian McPhee read several drafts and gave invaluable assistance. The manuscript was greatly improved by the helpful comments from the two anonymous referees. A paper focussing specifically on the relationship between the imported Attic vases and the Corinthian versions and on the functions of stamped wares at Corinth was presented in Athens at the conference on Athenian Potters and Painters, December 3, 1994, and is published in the proceedings of that conference (Pemberton 1996).

2 CP was the early rubric in the Corinthian system; the use of year designation began in 1928. KP was employed for the Potters’ Quarter and T for the North Cemetery. MP was used for a discrete group of vases now in the Corinth Museum.

Hesperia 66.1, 1997
of stamp and undersurface pattern more succinctly. \(^3\) Grid locations for central Corinth can be found in Figure 17, p. 91 below. The illustrations on the Plates are at 1:1.

**STEMLESS CUPS**

**Forum South Central**

1. Stemless cup  
   C-37-348. Well 1937-1. Grid 50:L. One fragment of foot and part of wall. P.H. 0.018, D. foot 0.049. 7.5YR 8/4.  
   Discussed by Kazazis.

   u.s. design 16. The red-figured cup C-38-627\(^4\) (Fig. 1) has the same u.s. design.

   ![Fig. 1. Red-figured cup C-38-627. Scale 1:2](image)

   Four unlinked palmettes, on central circle. Nine-petal form, curly volutes, triangular calyx.  
   Similar, but not the same stamp: 68 (cup-skyphos).

2. Stemless cup  

   No similar u.s.; closest to u.s. design 7 but with a much wider outer reserved area.

   At outer break, above foot (broken away), a row of O’s bordering a wide tongue pattern of double incised lines.\(^5\)

3. Stemless cup  
   C-37-2623. Pit 1937-1. Grid 52–53:K–L. Half preserved, with full profile, parts of handles. H. 0.03, D. foot 0.046, D. lip 0.074. 7.5YR 7/4.

   u.s. black.

   s.g. 14. Four unlinked palmettes, on circle.

   This is a small example, with a curious profile, but closer to the 4th-century type of stemless than to a bolsal.

**Forum Southwest**

4. Stemless cup  

   No similar u.s. design. Black of underside bounded by rings at outer and inner edges and divided by a scraped groove; center of underside with circle and dot.

   Floor has central rosette, two zones of incised tongues separated by O’s lightly impressed. Peeling glaze.

5. Stemless cup  

   No similar u.s. design.

   Four linked palmettes, 7 petals, around central circle; outer zone of O’s. Resembles s.g. 1.

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\(^3\) The photographs are by Ino Ioannidou and Lenio Bartzioti. Claudia Sagona and the author drew the profiles. “Kazazis” is an abbreviated reference to the discussion by Dr. D. Kazazis of the drinking material from well 1937-1 and drain 1937-1 (deposits 79 and 80, *Corinth* VII, iii, pp. 216–217) in an unpublished manuscript by D. Kazazis, S. Morris, and T. McNiven, retained in the excavation house at Ancient Corinth. I am most grateful to Dr. Kazazis for releasing that material to me.

\(^4\) *Corinth* VII, iv, no. 178, p. 72, pl. 29.

\(^5\) I use the term “O” for the debased or simplified form of egg pattern. Many of the Corinthian examples have this and not the well-cut defined form, which I designate by the term “ovule”.
Fig. 2. Stemless cups 1, 3-6, 8, 10-16. Scale 1:2
6. Stemless cup  
   Fig. 2  
   u.s. not preserved.  
   Outer stamped design of grooves with O's preserved; no trace of palmettes.

7. Stemless cup  
   Pl. 27  
   u.s. black, with molding before break.  
   Floor preserves part of one zone of tongues, dividing grooves, linked palmettes of probably 7 petals; no similar stamp.

8. Stemless cup  
   Fig. 2, Pl. 27  
   u.s. not sufficiently preserved to determine type. There is a slight ridge between the small outer reserved area and the black band.  
   Floor preserves outer zone of closely linked palmettes, 11 petals, curly volutes, very well stamped; probably from the outer zone of a design like 7. No similar stamp.

Sacred Spring

9. Stemless cup  
   L5791-1. One fragment of floor. Max. p. dim. 0.032. 5YR 8/4.  
   u.s. mostly black with slight groove, raised ring at inner edge of black; reserved area to break; probably similar to 4.  
   Floor preserves part of zone of incised tongues, border of grooves with ovules.

Peirene Court

10. Stemless cup  
    Fig. 2, Pl. 19  
    C-66-249. Lot 3466. Hexastyle Stoa, fill between paving and floor level. One fragment of foot, floor, and lower wall. PH. 0.015, D. foot 0.048. 10YR 8/3.  
    u.s. design 3.  
    s.g. 3. Six linked palmettes around small circle; outer ovule border.

East of Theater

11. Stemless cup  
    Fig. 2  
    L1985-7-1. Grid 98:AV. One fragment of floor, foot. PH. 0.016, est. D. foot 0.053. 7.5YR 8/6.  
    u.s. design 8.  
    s.g. 10. Four linked palmettes (only one preserved) around central circle; zone of outer ovules.

Miscellaneous

12. Stemless cup  
    Fig. 2, Pl. 23  
    CP-509. From early excavations, no recorded context. Complete profile, stub of handle. Plaster restoration. H. 0.026, D. foot 0.053, D. lip 0.108. Glaze peeling. 10YR 8/4.  
    u.s. design 16.  
    s.g. 10. Four unlinked palmettes, attached to reserved, not grooved, circle. The interior of the cup has a reserved area midway with two black lines. The central reserved area on which the palmettes are placed has a central circle and dot (like the underside).

13. Stemless cup  
    Fig. 2, Pl. 24  
    u.s. design 12.  
    s.g. 12. Four linked palmettes around central circle; two grooves beyond (often reduced to one); eight outer unlinked palmettes.

14. Stemless cup  
    Fig. 2, Pl. 24  
    MP 11. Same context as last. Half of one handle restored. H. 0.054, D. foot 0.078, D. lip 0.165. Some peeling glaze. 10YR 8/3.  
    u.s. design 11.  
    s.g. 12. This is a larger version of 13.

15. Stemless cup  
    Fig. 2  
    L7184-4. From early excavations, no recorded context. Complete foot. D. foot 0.056. 7.5YR 7/4–6.  
    u.s. design 11.
s.g. 12. The general syntax is as 13 and 14 but with more outer palmettes, placed without any regularity.

16. Stemless cup Fig. 2
L7184-5. From early excavations, no recorded context. Complete foot. D. foot 0.053. 10YR 8/2.
As 15.

**Bolsals**

*Forum South Central*

17. Bolsal Fig. 3, Pl. 18
Discussed by Kazazis.
u.s. design 1.
s.g. 1. Six unlinked palmettes on circle. There is an ancient hole in the center of the floor, drilled after firing, not for an ancient repair. Did this bolsal function as a sort of rhyton?

18. Bolsal
C-37-347. Context as last. One fragment of lower wall; foot broken off. Est. D. foot 0.068. 7.5YR 7/4.
Discussed by Kazazis.
u.s. not sufficiently preserved to determine pattern. Outer zone of ovules; design of center missing.

19. Bolsal Fig. 3, Pl. 18
C-37-350. Context as last. One fragment of part of foot, lower wall. PH. 0.026, est. D. foot 0.066. 10YR 8–7/3.
Discussed by Kazazis.
u.s. design 4.
s.g. 1. Four unlinked palmettes around circle, not evenly aligned; outer groove. One palmette stamped on top of another.

20. Bolsal
Discussed by Kazazis.
u.s. design 5.
s.g. 5. Four unlinked palmettes (two preserved) on circle. Glaze has abraded from the interior, making it difficult to see the palmettes.

21. Bolsal Fig. 3, Pl. 20
C-37-355. Context as last. Three joining fragments of part of foot, lower wall. PH. 0.031, est. D. foot 0.064. 7.5Y 8/4.
Discussed by Kazazis.
u.s. design 4.
s.g. 5. Four unlinked palmettes around circle. 20 and 21 appear to be virtual duplicates of each other.

22. Bolsal Fig. 3, Pl. 22
C-37-3007. Drain 1937-1. Grid 50–51:M. Joining fragments preserve full profile, no handle. H. 0.052, D. foot 0.068, est. D. lip 0.108. 10YR 8/2.
u.s. design 7 but with inner line closer to center.
s.g. 7 or very close. Four palmettes in loose cross pattern; no outer boundary.

23. Bolsal Fig. 3, Pl. 22
L37-2-25. Context as last. One fragment preserves full foot, beginning of lower wall. D. foot 0.07. 2.5YR 8/2.
u.s. design 16.
s.g. 9. Six linked palmettes around central groove.

24. Bolsal Pl. 20
u.s. design 18, probably, with wide black band, but center is gone.
s.g. 4. Four unlinked palmettes (two preserved); outer border of ovules.

*Forum Southwest*

25. Bolsal Fig. 3
Close to u.s. design 16 but very sloppy.
s.g. 8. Four unlinked palmettes around circle.

26. Bolsal Fig. 3
Fig. 3. Bolsals 17, 19, 21–23, 25, 26, 29–37. Scale 1:2
u.s. design 4.
Two very faint, carelessly stamped unattached palmettes of 7 petals, without clear syntax; details are not clear.

27. Bolsal
Pl. 20
Surely u.s. design 18, although most of it has gone.
s.g. 4. One preserved unlinked palmette; outer zone of ovules.

28. Bolsal
u.s. design 18; most is missing.
Close to s.g. 8. Palmettes (only one preserved) of 9 petals, probably unlinked, outer zone of ovules.

29. Bolsal
Fig. 3, Pl. 19
u.s. design 3.
s.g. 3. Four linked palmettes around circle; outer grooves.

30. Bolsal
Fig. 3
No similar u.s. design.
Four unlinked palmettes of 9 petals, around narrow circle. No similar stamp. A small example.

31. Bolsal
Fig. 3
u.s. design 3.
Reduced stamp design of four small ovules attached to narrow circle.

32. Bolsal
Fig. 3, Pl. 28
Many joining fragments give full profile including both handles. H. 0.046, D. foot 0.06, D. lip 0.102. 2.5YR 8/4 (but discolored).
Williams 1980, no. 1, p. 111, pl. 17.
u.s. design 3.
Four linked palmettes around circle; outer grooves. Small 7-petal palmette. No similar examples.

Forum East
33. Bolsal
Fig. 3
u.s. design 17.
Originally four linked palmettes, probably 9 petal, around circle, no outer zone; poorly executed. No apparent similar stamp.

Sacred Spring
34. Bolsal
Fig. 3
u.s. design 14.
Four palmettes in form of cross on narrow circle, 9-petal palmette, very close to s.g. 7: possibly recut from the same matrix?

Peribolos of Apollo
35. Bolsal
Fig. 3, Pl. 19
C-66-91. Lot 3465. Four joining fragments give full profile. H. 0.043, Est. D. foot 0.064, est. D. lip 0.10. 10YR 8/3.
u.s. design 3.
s.g. 3. Four linked palmettes (two preserved) around circle; two outer grooves.

Lechaion Road
36. Bolsal
Fig. 3, Pl. 19
C-1973-294. Lot 1973-76. Lechaion Road east, shop 5. Three joining fragments of most of foot, part of lower wall. P.H. 0.027, D. foot 0.066. 10YR 8/3.
u.s. design 3.
s.g. 3. Four unlinked palmettes around circle; two outer grooves, five unlinked palmettes on outer groove.

_Asklepieion_

37. Bolsal C-32-240. From the Asklepieion, votive deposit. One fragment of half of foot, beginning of wall. P.H. 0.018, D. foot 0.067. 10YR 8–7/3.

u.s. design 7.

s.g. 7. Four unlinked palmettes on circle. Slight groove on outer floor.

38. Bolsal C-32-248 bis. Context as last. Full profile. One fragment of one third of foot, wall; no handle. H. 0.044, D. foot 0.062, D. lip 0.095. 7.5YR 8/4.

u.s. design 18.

s.g. 8. One palmette, tips of second preserved (originally probably five), linked, with outer zone of ovules between grooves.


u.s. design 4.

s.g. 1. Four linked palmettes (two preserved) around central circle; outer groove.

_Potters' Quarter_

40. Bolsal KP 2516. Terracotta Factory. One fragment gives one third of foot, lower wall. P.H. 0.026, D. foot 0.094. 7.5YR 8/4. 

_Corinth XV, iii, no. 1230, pl. 51.

u.s. design 6.

s.g. 7. Three linked palmettes (originally six) around central circle.

_North Cemetery_

41. Bolsal T 1199. Intact, peeling glaze. H. 0.031, D. foot 0.051, D. lip 0.08. 10YR 8/3.

_Corinth XIII, grave 412-7, pl. 67._

Fig. 4. Bolsals 38–40, 42, 44–48. Scale 1:2
u.s. design 19.
  s.g. 16. Four unlinked palmettes in cross design.
  This is a small version of bolsal, with kotyle foot
  but no lower-wall offset. Very low wide profile.

42. Bolsal  Fig. 4, Pl. 25
  T 1201. Intact. H. 0.032, D. foot 0.053, D. lip
  0.079. 10YR 8/3.
  Corinth XIII, grave 412-8, pl. 67.
  u.s. design 19.
  s.g. 16. 42 is a duplicate of 41.

43. Bolsal
  T 1327. Intact. H. 0.02, D. foot 0.037, D. lip
  0.06. 7.5YR 8/4.
  Corinth XIII, grave 443-3, pl. 71.
  Black overall, including u.s.
  s.g. 14. Six unlinked palmettes on circle; one
  palmette in the circle.

Miscellaneous

44. Bolsal  Fig. 4, Pl. 19
  L7184-1. From early excavations, no recorded
  context. One fragment of foot, lower wall.
  P.H. 0.016, est. D. foot 0.06. 10YR 8/3.
  u.s. design 3.
  s.g. 3. Five linked palmettes around central circle;
  outer zone of well-cut ovules. The stamp shows
  wear.

45. Bolsal  Fig. 4, Pl. 28
  CP-3271. From early excavations, no recorded
  context. One fragment of foot, lower wall. Est.
  D. foot 0.062. 7.5YR 7/6.
  u.s. design 18 (broken at beginning of glaze)
  Floor with concentric grooves placed directly
  above foot; five preserved rosettes of 8 petals placed
  between the grooves. The surface shows a very good
  slip.
  There are two additional sherds from what must
  have been duplicate bolsals: part of a thinner floor
  in lot 5234 (Sacred Spring) and a smaller foot from
  lot 1979-64 (grid 63:C, Building IV), both preserv-
  ing identical rosettes. Neither can come from the
  catalogued example.

46. Bolsal  Fig. 4
  L7184-2. From early excavations, no recorded
  context. One fragment of half of foot and floor,
  part of lower wall. Est. D. foot 0.058. 7.5YR 8/4.
  u.s. design 3 but with thicker outer line than is usual
  for the design.
  Resembles s.g. 10 but thinner. Four unattached
  palmettes of 9 petals around circle.

47. Bolsal  Fig. 4
  L7184-3. From early excavations, no recorded
  context. One fragment of foot, lower wall of
  large bolsal. Est. D. foot 0.085. 7.5YR 7/4.
  u.s. design 8.
  s.g. 10. Four small unlinked palmettes on circle.

48. Bolsal  Fig. 4, Pl. 28
  CP-3270. From early excavations, no recorded
  context. Two joining fragments giving full pro-
  file of a miniature bolsal; scar of one handle pre-
  served. H. 0.026, D. foot 0.046, est. D. rim 0.058.
  10YR 8/3.
  u.s. design: band, four lines, too small to link with
  other designs.
  Four palmettes on a central circle, ovules placed
  between the palmettes. No similar stamp. Flat disk
  foot; no miltos on reserved areas.

Cup-skyphoi: heavy wall

Forum South Central and Southwest

49. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos
  fragment of foot, lower wall. P.H. 0.028, Est. D.
  foot 0.056. 10YR 8/3.
  u.s. insufficiently preserved.
  Inner zone of ovules, linked palmettes outside
  zone (one poorly preserved).
  The foot is not well preserved, but the reserved
  band at the bottom of the round wall, the concave
  “neck” above the foot, and the profile of what re-
  mains of the foot all suggest the heavy-wall cup-
  skyphos.

50. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 5, Pl. 28
  Many joining fragments of full profile, no handles.
Fig. 5. Heavy-wall cup-skyphoi 50–55. Scale 1:2

H. 0.063, D. foot 0.056, est. D. lip 0.118. 7.5YR 8/4. Williams and Fisher 1973, no. 19, p. 18, pl. 10. u.s. design 3.

Two grooves enclosing ovules; six unlinked palmettes of 9 petals, lightly stamped; details are unclear.

Forum Southeast

51. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 5, Pl. 24
C-47-864. Southeast Building well 1947-2. Grid 33:V. Missing only one handle, chips from lip. H. 0.064, D. foot 0.054, D. lip 0.108. 10YR 8/3. u.s. design 10.

s.g. 12. Four linked palmettes around central circle; two outer grooves, eight outer unlinked palmettes.

Sacred Spring

52. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 5
C-70-62. Lot 6457. Many joining fragments of full profile. H. 0.056, D. foot 0.062, D. lip 0.102. 7.5YR 8/4. Williams and Fisher 1971, no. 41, p. 33, pl. 9. u.s. design similar to 16 but with two lines, not just one, by the black band.

Four linked palmettes (center missing), outer grooves with ovules. Palmette of 9 petals with long thin petals (only the tips are preserved); it resembles s.g. 5 but is insufficiently preserved.
Asklepieion

53. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 5, Pl. 23
  C-32-243. From the Asklepieion, votive deposit. One fragment of foot, part of lower wall. P.H. 0.042, D. foot 0.056. 10YR 8/3.
  u.s. design 16, though the inner line is thicker than usual.
  s.g. 11. Inner zone of ovules within grooves, eight linked palmettes. Meticulous work.

Miscellaneous

54. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 5, Pl. 24
  C-47-919. Well or manhole 1947-1, beneath Panagia Church. Two joining fragments, giving full profile. H. 0.067, D. foot 0.074, D. lip 0.156. 10YR 8/3.
  u.s. design 2. Inner top of foot also reserved.
  s.g. 12. Four linked palmettes around circle; two outer grooves, thirteen unattached palmettes over grooves.

55. Heavy-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 5, Pl. 23
  CP-3272. From early excavations, no recorded context. One fragment preserves all of foot, part of wall. P.H. 0.037, D. foot 0.053. 7.5YR 7/4.
  u.s. design 16.
  s.g. 11. Small zone of ovules between grooves, four unlinked palmettes outside the zone. This is a very well potted vase.

Cup-skypho: Light Wall

Forum South Central

56. Light-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 7, Pl. 21
  C-37-343 + C-37-357 + C-37-344. Well 1937-1. Grid 50-L. Many joining fragments, full profile, part of one handle; plaster restoration. H. 0.061, D. foot 0.064, D. lip 0.112. 10YR 8/4.
  Discussed by Kazazis.
  u.s. design 13.
  s.g. 6. Four linked palmettes (three preserved; one is double stamped) around central dot; two outer grooves with ovules above, deeply cut (by hand). The palmette has a central "handle" between the volutes, thus resembling a fan. The same stamp appears (in better form) on an Attic heavy-wall cup-skyphos from the same context, C-37-339 (Fig. 6, Pl. 21).

57. Light-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 7
  C-37-346. Context as last. One fragment of part of foot, beginning of wall. P.H. 0.054, est. D. foot 0.061. 10YR 8/3 and 7.5YR 7/6 in a few areas. Discussed by Kazazis.
  u.s. design 17.
  s.g. 1. Four linked palmettes around circle; two outer grooves with dotlike O's, almost like proto-rouletting.

58. Light-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 7, Pl. 20
  C-37-349. Context as last. One fragment of most of foot, part of lower wall. P.H. 0.033, D. foot 0.057. 10YR 8/2.
  Discussed by Kazazis.
  u.s. design 16.
  s.g. 5. Four linked palmettes around irregular circle; two outer grooves with irregular small O's.

59. Light-wall cup-skyphos
  C-37-352. Context as last. One fragment of outer floor; foot has broken away; part of lower wall preserved. P.H. 0.03. 10YR 8/3.
  Discussed by Kazazis.
  u.s. design possibly 16 or 17. There is a vestigial molding between the reserved and black areas. Only part of outer zone of ovules preserved.

60. Light-wall cup-skyphos  Fig. 7, Pl. 18
  C-37-359. Context as last. Many joining fragments, plaster restoration; most of foot, half of
Fig. 7. Light-wall cup-skyphoi 56–58, 60–62, 64–66, 68–73. Scale 1:2
wall, part of one handle, full profile. H. 0.059, D. foot 0.062, D. lip 0.12. 7.5YR 8/4.

Discussed by Kazazis.

u.s. design 13.

Four linked palmettes (two preserved) around circle; outer grooves with O's. Palmettes of 6 or 7 petals, strong arch, vestigial volutes. The stamp is worn, and although it appears to belong to s.g. 1, it is difficult to be certain.

61. Light-wall cup-skyphos


u.s. design 17.

s.g. 5. Four linked palmettes around two small circles; outer grooves with O's.

62. Light-wall cup-skyphos


u.s. design closest to 18, but the black band, beginning at the foot, is narrower than other examples in that group.

s.g. 5. Syntax as last.

63. Light-wall cup-skyphos


u.s. not well preserved; narrow reserved, outer black line, beginning of black band: see possibly u.s. design 8.

s.g. 7? Unattached palmettes around a groove, inside of which is a poorly stamped zone of ovules; the palmettes are very lightly stamped, with only the tips showing, but the rounded form and full volutes resemble s.g. 7 quite closely.

Forum Southwest

64. Light-wall cup-skyphos

L6785-3. Grid 58–59:K. One fragment of foot. P.H. 0.015, est. D. foot 0.06. 7.5YR 7/4.

u.s. design 17, with slight offsets marking borders of black band.

s.g. very close to 1. Four linked palmettes (one preserved); outer border of O's.

65. Light-wall cup-skyphos

L6785-3. Grid 58–59:K. One fragment of foot. P.H. 0.015, est. D. foot 0.06. 7.5YR 7/4.

u.s. design 17.

Four linked palmettes, inner circle, no outer border. Palmette of 9 petals, thin, slightly clubbed. 1 (stemless cup) seems similar.

Sacred Spring

66. Light-wall cup-skyphos

L6268-1. One fragment of foot, beginning of wall. P.H. 0.018, D. foot 0.078. 5YR 8/3.

u.s. design 14.

Four linked palmettes, inner circle, no outer border. Palmette of 9 petals, thin, slightly clubbed. 1 (stemless cup) seems similar.

Baths of Aphrodite

67. Light-wall cup-skyphos


u.s. design probably 17, but center not preserved.

Resembles s.g. 2. Outer zone of ovules (one sideways) between grooves; tips of two deeply stamped 7-petal palmettes. The palmettes appear to be re-touched.

68. Light-wall cup-skyphos


u.s. design is probably 16 or 17 but is insufficiently preserved.

Tips of three petals of palmette, at same height; outer border of O's. The stamp is surely s.g. 5. It would appear to be a duplicate of 58.

69. Light-wall cup-skyphos


u.s. design 14.

Four linked palmettes, inner circle, no outer border. Palmette of 9 petals, thin, slightly clubbed. 1 (stemless cup) seems similar.


u.s. design 16.

Ten enclosed small unlinked palmettes of 7 petals, placed on circle; central inner circle. A small design. Very faint abortive rouletting as outer border. No similar stamp.
Asklepion

70. Light-wall cup-skyphos Fig. 7, Pl. 19
  C-32-242. From the Asklepion, votive deposit. One fragment of about one half of foot, part of lower wall. P.H. 0.034, est. D. foot 0.056. 10YR 8/3.
  u.s. design 15. Two rings offset the wide black band. s.g. 2. Four linked palmettes around central groove, two outer grooves. The stamp was worn, and thus only the tips of the petals appear.

71. Light-wall cup-skyphos Fig. 7, Pl. 18
  C-32-244. Context as last. One fragment of foot, lower wall. P.H. 0.03, D. foot 0.063. 10YR 8/3.
  u.s. design 17.
  Probably s.g. 1. Four linked palmettes around circle, outer grooves with irregularly placed ovules inside, eight linked palmettes (six preserved) outside the grooves. The stamp is very worn but appears similar to the small 7-petal palmette of group 1. Peeling glaze.

North Cemetery

72. Light-wall cup-skyphos Fig. 7, Pl. 28
  T 2684. Complete; handles mended. H. 0.055, D. foot 0.045, D. lip 0.101. 10YR 8/4.
  Corinth XIII, deposit 30a, pl. 73.
  Top of inner foot reserved, continuing onto outer area of u.s.; black line, central black dot. Resting surface of foot also reserved. Peeling glaze.
  Four linked palmettes, inner circle. Very curly volutes of 9 petals, deeply stamped. The style is like 69 (cup-skyphos), but it is not the same stamp. Small version of the cup-skyphos.

Miscellaneous

73. Light-wall cup-skyphos Fig. 7
  C-67-177. Grave near Perigiali (modern Lechaion). Complete profile, plaster restoration. H. 0.053, D. foot 0.052, D. lip 0.11. 7.5YR 8/6.
  u.s. design 17.
  The stamping is simpler than other light-wall cup-skyphoi, with two sets of grooves containing O's, no palmettes.

Bowls

Forum South Central

74. Bowl with projecting rim Fig. 8, Pl. 19
  C-37-342. Well 1937-1. Grid 50:L. Almost half preserved, full profile. H. 0.033, D. foot 0.056, D. lip 0.10. 10YR 8/3 (but gray in places).
  Discussed by Kazazis.
  u.s. design 15.
  s.g. 2 on both floor and rim. Rim: series of unlinked palmettes. Bowl: four-palmette cross (one preserved, parts of two others); outer grooves with deeply cut ovules.

75. Bowl with outturned rim Fig. 8
  C-37-2865. Drain 1937-1. Grid 50–51:M. Full profile (about one quarter preserved). H. 0.051, est. D. foot 0.074, est. D. lip 0.128. 10YR 8/3.
  Discussed by Kazazis.
  u.s. design 9. A narrower outer reserved area would bring this close to u.s. design 16.
  Most probably s.g. 10, although the petals are slightly more linear than on most examples (worn stamp?): four linked palmettes around circle, two outer grooves with ovules.

76. Small echinus bowl (saltcellar) Fig. 8, Pl. 29
  C-37-219. Context as last. Half preserved, full profile. H. 0.022, D. foot 0.05, max. D. 0.082. 5YR 8–7/4.
  Corinth VII, iii, no. 41.
  u.s. black, small nipple.
  Four palmettes in cross. Palmette of 11 petals, separate petals slightly clubbed. Very well executed. No similar stamp.

Forum West and Southwest

77. Small bowl
  u.s. black.
  Unlinked palmettes of 9 petals, originally four (parts of two preserved), around central circle; the details are not clear, but the palmette seems very similar to s.g. 16 (miniature bolsals), especially in the tall central petal. The glaze is peeling.
78. Echinus bowl (Corinthian?) Fig. 8, Pl. 29
Williams and Fisher 1972, no. 63, p. 171, pl. 28. u.s. black. Fairly shiny glaze, slightly yellow clay.
Not Attic; Corinthian?
Four unlinked palmettes on central circle. Outer rouletting faint. Palmette of 7 petals, all separate and linear (one missing on left side); vestigial volutes. No similar stamp.
79. Bowl with outturned rim  
Fig. 8, Pl. 26  
Black u.s., resting surface of foot reserved.  
s.g. 15. Five linked palmettes around circle, outer groove, rouletting between groove and palmettes. Palmettes appear to have been retouched by hand: they are very deep, with bits of clay rising up.

80. Small bowl  
Fig. 8, Pl. 20  
C-1973-272. Lot 1973-78. Grid 69:H. One fragment, preserving over one-half profile. H. 0.017, D. foot 0.043, D. lip 0.061. 10YR 8/3.  
u.s. black, with ridge.  
s.g. 4. Four central circles, ovules, two grooves, five unlinked palmettes outside grooves.

81. Bowl with outturned rim  
Fig. 8, Pl. 29  
C-1978-356. Lot 1978-38. Grid 61:C. Many joining fragments of half of rim and wall, small part of foot (without complete profile). P.H. 0.052, est. D. foot 0.068, D. rim 0.175. 10YR 8/4.  
u.s. design closest to 16.  
Ten or eleven unattached palmettes of 7(? ) petals (several are ‘double struck’); no outer border. No similar stamp.

82. Small echinus bowl (saltcellar)  
Fig. 8  
u.s. completely black.  
s.g. 5, most likely, but only the tips of two palmettes are preserved. No outer boundary.

Sacred Spring  
83. Bowl with outturned rim  
Fig. 8, Pl. 25  
C-68-379. Lot 5211. Three joining fragments give full profile. H. 0.047, D. foot 0.049, est. D. rim 0.115. 10YR 8/4.  
u.s. completely black.  
s.g. 13. Four unlinked palmettes in cross pattern, outer rouletting. The foot is very high; the center of the underside is thickened but not yet a true nipple.

Miscellaneous  
84. Echinus bowl  
Fig. 8  
C-60-64. Well 1960–4, by excavation dump. Many fragments give full profile, with plaster restoration. H. 0.045, D. foot 0.067, D. lip 0.138. 7.5YR 8/4.  
Corinth VII, iii, no. 23, pl. 43.  
u.s. black, nippled. Glaze peeling.  
Four linked palmettes, outer rouletting, poorly done. The palmettes are so worn and badly stamped that no details can be discerned.

85. Bowl with outturned rim  
Fig. 8, Pl. 24  
C-71-136. Lot 6838. Demeter Sanctuary. One fragment gives full profile, about two thirds preserved. H. 0.051, D. foot 0.074, D. lip 0.14. 10YR 8/3.  
Corinth XVIII, i, no. 449, pl. 47.  
u.s. design 12.  
s.g. 12. Four linked palmettes, outer grooves, unlinked palmettes placed over the grooves.

PLATES  
Forum Southwest  
86. Plate with rolled rim  
Fig. 10, Pl. 29  
u.s. has the design of 17, surely coincidental, as this plate is later than the members of that group.  
Ten alternately linked palmettes around circle, outer rouletting. Palmette of 9 petals, neat in form but very faint. No similar palmette.

87. Plate with rolled rim  
Fig. 10, Pl. 26  
C-71-642. Context as last. Complete though chipped. H. 0.023, D. foot 0.107, D. lip 0.155. 7.5YR 8/4.  
u.s. black, nippled.  
s.g. 15. Four linked palmettes around circle, light rouletting, two light grooves on upper interior. For ridges of u.s. see Forum Southwest, well 1934-11 (well at B:10–11), C-34-2529, Attic (Fig. 9); the full profile is, however, different.
Fig. 9. Attic plate C-34-2529. Scale 1:2

88. Plate
C-1978-66. Lot 1978-48. Destruction fill, debris of Building IV. Grid 60:C. Two non-joining fragments; only A illustrated and described. One fragment retains outer floor to rim. Est. D. lip 0.19, inner D. at break, ca. 0.07–0.08. 5YR 8/4.

u.s. black.

Traces of tips of palmettes on floor at inner break; on outer floor, nine unlinked palmettes of 9 petals, closely spaced, between light grooves. For the same or close stamp, s.g. 10.

Sacred Spring

89. Plate
L5215-3. Two joining fragments (and a third non-joining) of foot, floor. High, vertical ring foot. H. foot 0.017, est. D. foot 0.085. 7.5YR 7/4.

u.s. design with two wide black bands, inner lines; center not preserved.

s.g. 10. Four linked palmettes (only one preserved), outer boundary of single groove with unlinked palmettes on it.

90. Plate

u.s. with black bands, perhaps like 89.

Linked palmettes (only one preserved) of 9 petals; outside, a zone of sloppy O's. No similar stamp.

Fig. 10. Plates 86–91. Scale 1:2
Fig. 11. Fragments of undetermined shape 94, 96, 98, 103, 107. Scale 1:2

Miscellaneous

91. Plate with rolled rim Fig. 10, Pl. 25
C-31-17. New Museum well (cistern) 1931-1. Fragment of foot and lower wall. P.H. 0.025, D. foot 0.077. 10YR 8–7/3.
   u.s. black. Peeling glaze overall.
   s.g. 13. Four palmettes in cross design, outer grooves filled with rouletting. Elaborate, good work.

94. Foot of cup or kantharos
   Fig. 11
   u.s. design 16.
   s.g. 9. Two linked palmettes (originally four?). The foot is high and in two degrees; it probably was a stemless cup (see 7), but the foot could also be that of a kantharos.

95. Floor and foot fragment
   No similar u.s., with narrow reserved area, narrow and wide black bands, inner line; center broken away.
   s.g. 10. Linked palmettes (only one preserved), outer zone of ovules.

96. Cup-skyphos?
   Fig. 11
   u.s. design 17, with slight rings articulating black band.
   Four linked palmettes of 9 petals, outer groove as boundary. No similar stamp although the very curly horizontal volutes (but not the rest of the stamp) recall 1.

FRAGMENTS OF UNDETERMINED SHAPE

Forum South Central

92. Floor fragment
   C-37-353. Well 1937-1. Grid 50:L. Part of thin floor, lower wall. Est. D. foot 0.055–0.06. 10YR 8/3.
   Discussed by Kazazis.
   u.s. design 17.
   Top of one palmette preserved, outer grooves with O's between. Closely resembles 93.

93. Foot-and-wall fragment
   Discussed by Kazazis.
   u.s. design 17, with ridge or ring on u.s. defining zones.
   s.g. 5. Seven linked palmettes around circle; two outer grooves with O's.
Most likely from a cup-skyphos, but type unclear as foot is not sufficiently preserved.

97. Floor fragment Pl. 20

u.s. with raised ring between two black bands; inner reserved area. Insufficiently preserved to see similar examples.
s.g. 5. Parts of two palmettes preserved (probably four originally); groove; outer linked palmettes alternating with impressed dots; outer groove.

98. High foot

u.s. design closest to 8.
s.g. close to 10. Four linked palmettes (unevenly placed) around small circle; outer groove with ovules. For similar syntax see 75, which also has a rather similar foot. 106 is a similar fragment.
The high foot suggests either a bowl or plate.

Sacred Spring

99. Floor fragment
L5215-1. One fragment of thin floor. Max. p. dim. 0.038. 10YR 8/3.
u.s. design insufficiently preserved.
s.g. 10. Four unlinked palmettes around central circle.

100. Floor fragment
L5215-2. One fragment of thick floor. Max. p. dim. 0.054, Th. 0.005. 10YR 8/3.
u.s. design closest to 89.
Four palmettes of 9 petals, poorly stamped, unlinked around central circle; outer zone of ovules. No similar stamp.

101. Wall of closed vase Pl. 20
C-68-380. Lot 5215 B. Two joining fragments of wall of curved closed vase. P.H. 0.039, PW. 0.031. 10YR 8/3.

Interior unglazed. Exterior: below top break, horizontal groove probably as border for pattern; zone of ovules; below, linked palmettes of 7 petals, resembling s.g. 3 but not identical.
The shape suggests either a lekythos or an amphoriskos.

Asklepieion

102. Floor fragment Pl. 23
C-32-241. From the Asklepieion, votive deposit. One fragment of thick floor. Max. dim. 0.07. 7.5YR 8/4.
u.s. design 8.
Almost certainly s.g. 10. Four linked palmettes (two preserved, badly chipped) around circle, outer grooves with O's. Probably from a bowl such as 75 with identical syntax of design.

Potters' Quarter

103. Bowl or plate Fig. 11
KP 2726. Part of foot and lower wall. P.H. 0.023, D. foot 0.06. 7.5YR 8/6.
Corinth XV, iii, no. 1236, pl. 51.
u.s. black, central nipple. Brown and peeling glaze.
s.g. 11. Two grooves, seven unlinked palmettes (originally ten?).
From a bowl or rolled-rim plate to judge by the profile of the foot.

104. Floor fragment Pl. 29
KP 2782. Rectangular South Pit. Fragment of thin floor. Max. dim. 0.05. 7.5YR 8/2.
Corinth XV, iii, no. 1231, pl. 51.
Similar to u.s. design 4 but with narrow band inside, not outside band.
Four linked palmettes (two preserved), of 9 small petals, no circle.

Miscellaneous

105. Pedestal foot
One fragment of narrow pedestal foot and floor. P.H. 0.024, D. foot 0.042. 10YR 8/2.
Pemberton 1970, no. 106, p. 297, pl. 73.
u.s. reserved with central black dot.
Linked palmettes (two preserved), very chipped and difficult to see. Possibly s.g. 9.
106. Floor fragment

CP-910. From early excavations, no recorded context. Fragment of thick floor. Max. dim. 0.036. 7.5YR 8/4.

Perhaps u.s. design 8; insufficiently preserved to be certain.

Probably s.g. 10. Five linked palmettes around central circle, very worn; details are unclear.

107. Foot-and-floor fragment

Fig. 11, Pl. 20

CP-3269. From early excavations, no recorded context. One fragment of foot and floor of plate?

Est. D. foot 0.075. 10YR 8/2.

u.s. completely black, with molded ridges. Very good black glaze.

Close to s.g. 3; outer border of O’s, linked 7-petal palmettes (four preserved, of perhaps ten to twelve palmettes originally).

Floor is divided by horizontal groove, as in a light-wall cup-skyphos, but the profile is not appropriate.

SHAPE COMMENTARY

The vases made in Corinth with stamped and incised designs are shapes borrowed from Athens; indeed, most of the bolsals and cup-skyphoi made in Corinth have such decoration. They are not common shapes: the preferred form of drinking vessel in Corinth in the later 5th and 4th centuries B.C. is either the kotyle or the skyphos; another popular vase is the one-handled cup with partial slip. There are very few cups equivalent to the Athenian versions. Only a very few bowls and plates show the borrowed type of decoration.

STEMLESS CUPS

Although there were a large number of stemmed Attic cups imported into Corinth in the 6th and 5th centuries, the Corinthian potters showed little interest in making their own stemmed drinking vessels. The Corinthians clearly preferred to make the more stable kotyle or deep kylix, although they imported other forms.

Attic stemless cups first appear in Corinth in the earlier 5th century B.C. Well 1934-10, which closed in the third quarter of the 5th century, included a few Attic stemless cups, as well as what appear to be the first Corinthian examples. C-34-1048 a and C-34-1096

6 For discussion of these shapes see Bentz 1982 and Corinth XVIII, i.
7 See, for example, the cups found in the North Cemetery, Corinth XIII, pp. 156–161.
8 Only a few examples are known to me, of which one (T 2285) is published from the North Cemetery: Corinth XIII, grave 358-3, third quarter 5th century, with added red on handles and foot, surely Attic imitating. A few earlier examples from the Museum West well at K:23 imitate Lakonian cups (Bentz 1982, D6-32, pp. 379–380).
9 See North Cemetery examples, Corinth XIII, p. 161, including Rheneia cups. Other Rheneia cups from Corinth without stamps: CP-648, CP-649, CP-2021, C-34-1629, C-1975-131, C-1978-167, all unpublished. Stamped examples: C-46-137, from the South Stoa, Shop XXX, Fig. 12 (cited as C-46-131 in Agora XII, p. 100, note 13); C-71-126, unpublished, from a fill south of Building II, Fig. 12. There are additional fragments in that context, lot 6724, from duplicate cups.
10 The contents of this well were published by Pease (1937). For the date see also Corinth VII, iii, deposit no. 10.
11 Published example: C-34-1562 (Pease 1937, no. 45, p. 274); C-34-1206, not published in Pease 1937, belongs to the class of Agora P 10359.
(Fig. 12) are Corinthian versions of the Rheneia class. Both are without the reserved band of the lower wall, found on most of the Attic examples. Neither of these two is stamped, and I have been unable to find Corinthian examples of Rheneia-class cups with such decoration. It was never very popular in its Corinthian adaptation.

In the same well was C-34-1097 (Fig. 12), a Corinthian version with plain rim, showing a small bracelet foot and wide shallow profile, and fully black glazed except on the underside; it has no stamped decoration. This form of stemless cup comes to be used not just for stamped work but also for Corinthian red figure.

For a brief period in the later 5th century, Corinthian potters produced a few examples of the Delicate Class with complex stamped and incised designs. At least one of them, 4, has the molded foot and evidence for an interior offset characteristic of the Attic

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12 Pease 1937, nos. 225–226, p. 308, figs. 37, 39.
13 There is no Attic Rheneia cup in the well, although C-34-1048 a at first glance appears fairly red in its clay (7.5YR 8/4), and the clay is also harder, but I do not believe that this cup is Attic.
14 Pease 1937, no. 224; the foot seems narrower than Attic examples illustrated in Agora XII, p. 102.
15 For the stemless cup in Corinthian red figure see Corinth VII, iv, p. 70, where Herbert notes that the shallow profile suggests a ritual, not bibulous function. It is also the form, in a smaller version, that was used for the small cups decorated in the workshop of the Sam Wide Group, which also appear in the third quarter of the 5th century. For this group see Corinth XV, iii, pp. 368–371 and Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 134–136.
16 Agora XII, pp. 102–105.
2, 7, 8, and 9 are even more fragmentary examples of the same type. 4, 7, 8, and 9 also have raised rings or scraped grooves on the underside to articulate reserved and slipped areas. The context of 4, lot 6789, has a terminal date well before 400 B.C.

Other early Corinthian stemless cups, 1, 5, and 10, show a simpler foot and rounded wall, based most likely on the Attic stemless cup with plain rim. These examples belong to the late 5th or early 4th century at the latest. 10 has the palmettes (s.g. 3) and underside design (u.s. 3) of the first group of bolsals, dated by contextual evidence to the last quarter of the 5th century (see below). There is a red-figured example, C-38-627 (Fig. 1), with a design on the underside identical to that on 1. Not only are the bands the same but the outer reserved band of the underside continues onto the inner face of the foot. It would not be surprising to have red-figured and stamped examples made in the same workshop, as the problem of imitating Attic black glaze is the same in both.

Two cups, 11 and 12, share the same stamp but have very different foot profiles. They would appear to be late 5th- or early 4th-century examples (though neither comes from a controlled context), datable largely by the other examples with the same stamp and underside designs (12 and 1 have very similar designs). The foot of 12 resembles that of the heavy-wall cup-skyphos.

There is a very fragmentary lower wall from an Attic stemless cup, L1979-3-9 (Fig. 13), which could be the model for 4. The molded foot, groove at juncture of wall and foot, and decoration, which preserves the outer edges of incised tongues, all correspond very closely.

This appears to be an early feature. Compare, for example, Agora XII, no. 498, dated to ca. 420 B.C. One red-figured example, CP-1705 (Corinth VII, iv, no. 175, p. 72, pl. 29), preserves the beginning of the underside, with a groove probably for defining a band.

Agora XII, pp. 268–269.

Corinth VII, iv, no. 178, p. 72, pl. 29.

One other red-figured stemless cup preserves the underside, with a simpler design of a single central dot and line midway: C-68-114 (Corinth VII, iv, no. 174, p. 71, pl. 28).
The stemless cups of the 4th century, 13–16, have different profiles, although all have the molded, heavier foot and are without any interior offset. All have the same palmette and decorative syntax and very similar underside designs. Although none of these cups has a datable context,²² the palmette (s.g. 12) is found on other, better-dated examples. Despite what must be a common workshop origin, the foot profiles show diversity, suggesting that there was no standard model.

The lack of an interior offset in the Corinthian cups is interesting, for that feature does appear in the Corinthian version of the light-wall cup-skyphos, a related shape.²³ The Attic stemless cup with offset was certainly imported into Corinth. Five Attic examples of the 4th century were found in pit 1937-1;²⁴ another example, C-71-103 (Fig. 13) of the same date and by the underside pattern probably from the same workshop as the 1937 examples, came from drain 1971-1 (lot 7079).²⁵ All have the canonical elements of interior offset: scraped lower-wall groove, kylix handles reaching slightly above the rim, and molded foot in two degrees. 13 and 14, at least, copy the Attic form of foot and lower-wall groove.

There is also one stamped miniature, 3, whose profile seems to lie somewhere between the stemless and the bolsal. There is an offset at the base of the interior wall, and it lacks the outer ridge of the bolsal, but its foot seems closer to the latter shape than to any of the forms used for the stemless cup. Indeed, the four unlinked spidery palmettes are identical to those of the miniature bolsal from the North Cemetery, 43. The context requires a mid-4th-century date.²⁶

The decorative schemes of the stemless cups are as varied as the profiles. For example, 4 and 7 show carefully radiating incised tongues, 5 and 10 have the pattern of the cup-skyphos, and 1 shows a very small design. The late examples, 13–16, all have the same syntax of decoration, suggestive of a common workshop.

Although 4 may be the earliest extant Corinthian example of the Atticizing decoration on any shape, the stemless cup was not so popular for stamped decoration as the cup-skyphos and the bolsal. Certainly the relationship between 1 and the Corinthian red-figured cup helps us understand workshop relationships (see pp. 86–88 below). Even the form with sturdier foot and greater capacity (as 13 and 14) never quite caught on.

²² 13 and 14 were taken in 1930 from a private collector. See Shoe 1932. Since many of the vases in that “collection” are Attic (including a Geometric jug and stand, MP 3 and MP 4, and white-ground lekythoi, MP 89–93), we cannot be sure that all the material was found locally, but these two cups are definitely Corinthian and, given their condition, from a grave somewhere in the Corinthia. They were not published in Shoe 1932.
²³ Agora XII, p. 110.
²⁴ C-37-2495–C-37-2498, C-37-2531. All are stamped: C-37-2495 is cited in Agora XII, no. 517, p. 271, but it could be later than the date of 375 B.C. given there, for the Corinthian context suggests at least a mid-4th-century date.
²⁵ Williams and Fisher 1972, pp. 154–163. There are additional examples in the context pottery, with the same design on the underside.
²⁶ There is a foot of a stemless cup, L1979-7-2, which seems to have the same four palmettes of s.g. 14; the glaze has gone, and the stamps are almost without detail. It was too poorly preserved to include in the catalogue. Lot 1979-7 contains material of both the 5th and the 4th centuries.
Attic bolsals were imported to Corinth quite soon after their invention in the third quarter of the 5th century; the first bolsal listed in Agora XII was found in Corinth.\textsuperscript{27} The Forum well 1934-10 included five stamped Attic bolsals,\textsuperscript{28} all with the same wall

\textsuperscript{27} Agora XII, no. 532, p. 273: C-36-1135 (Fig. 14), from well 1936-1, under the South Stoa terrace. It has a very experimental form, with grooved foot, spur handle, lower-wall ridge, rings on the underside, and very elaborate stamped design. There is a foot fragment from a very similar or even identical bolsal, lot 6785-1, with the same uncanonical foot, interior design syntax, and pattern on the underside. The stamp is slightly smaller but of the same configuration.

\textsuperscript{28} Pease 1937, nos. 40–44, p. 274, figs. 15, 16: C-34-1058, C-34-1059 (Fig. 14), C-34-1061–C-34-1063. For the date of this well, see p. 68 above. Excepting the first, they are virtually identical in profile; they also share the same stamp, decorative syntax, and underside design and so would seem to be products of the same workshop. The first, C-34-1058 (Fig. 14), has a higher wall without the groove and has a different stamp and
profile of a continuous curve. Comparison of 31, early in the Corinthian series (fourth quarter 5th century B.C.), and C-34-1059 from well 1934-10 (Fig. 14) demonstrates that the Corinthian potters imitated the Attic profile quite closely.

Lot 1972-92, with a terminal date of the early 4th century, has fragments of at least five Attic bolsals, some stamped, others not, all with a profile that shows a strong concavity above the foot (e.g. L1972-92-8, Fig. 14; L1972-92-9). The examples from that lot compare well with Corinthian bolsals from well 1937-1, such as 21, of the late 5th or early 4th century. Attic bolsals continued to be imported into Corinth during the 4th century. An unstamped example, C-1972-105 (Fig. 14), shows a rather extreme profile of the lower wall; and there is at least one Attic example with rouletting, L7184-6 (Fig. 14), unfortunately without good context.29

Corinthian bolsals appear in the late third or early fourth quarter of the 5th century.30 This two-handed drinking vessel is certainly based on Attic examples already imported into Corinth, but it should be noted that there is also a purely Corinthian form of two-handed “drinking bowl”.31

Corinthian examples show the two different profiles of the Attic prototypes, the first with full convex wall: 22, 26–29, 31, 32, 34–36, 38, 40, and 44–46; the second with a reverse curve, concave above the foot, then becoming convex as it rises to the simple lip: 17–21, probably 23, 30, 33, and 47 (some of the examples are insufficiently preserved to determine the profile). The authors of Agora XII warn against using the distinction as a criterion for chronological sequence or workshop identification.32 Yet, the different profiles of the Corinthian examples do seem to fall into distinct chronological groups, produced by different workshops.

The bolsals with underside design 3 (29, 31, 32, 35, 36, 44, 46) use only the convex profile; one stamp (s.g. 3) is also present on some of them. The lower wall is marked by a groove or slight offset. The feet are typically Corinthian: the low, flaring kotyle form, often cut back so that the wall begins almost horizontally (e.g. 32, Fig. 3). This group of bolsals is linked by stamp and underside design to an early stemless-cup fragment, 10, helping to confirm the date. I would see this group as the product of a single workshop, which ceased production before 400 B.C. It should also be noted that the simple design of u.s. 3 (one or two thin lines, no strong use of black) has a parallel in the design found on many black-slipped Corinthian kotylai33 and parallels the design on C-34-1058 (Fig. 14) and

underside design (the pattern of thin concentric circles is characteristic of Attic kotylai and skyphoi). All five have the same kotyle form of foot.

29 C-1972-105 comes from lot 1972-63, Forum Southwest, with a terminal date of the last quarter of the 4th century; L7184-6 was found in early excavations at Corinth, without recorded context.

30 See pp. 84–86 below on contexts, for a summary of the critical lots with bolsals, closed before the end of the century.

31 Bentz 1982, pp. 35–36, from the late second quarter of the 5th century into the 4th century. Some examples are in well 1934-10 (Pease 1937).

32 Agora XII, p. 107. For a recent discussion of the development and chronology of the Attic bolsal, see Gill 1984; he notes the use of the same stamp on both bolsals and other shapes, as here in the Corinthian examples.

33 See Bentz 1982, p. 27. These kotylai appear in the middle of the 5th century. In discussing the earlier kotylai from the EC and MC periods, often with distinctive underside rings, Bentz [citing Lawrence's
Attic skyphoi. It is entirely likely that the workshop(s) that made Corinthian kotylai was responsible for the first bolsals, represented by the full-curve profile and u.s. 3.

This earlier profile is not confined to u.s. 3 and s.g. 3. Three bolsals show u.s. 18 (27, 28, and 38), and another four (22, 34, 37, and 40) have a common stamp (s.g. 7) but different u.s. patterns. Of these, 37 and 38 from the Asklepieion and 22 from the 1937-1 drain could belong to the early 4th century.

All four examples from well 1937-1 (17–21), a deposit closed in the early 4th century, show the second profile with concave lower wall, but there is some variation. The concavity of 17 is not so pronounced as that of 21; it has a horizontal groove in the foot, a feature noted in Agora XII as early. The other examples with this profile come from varied contexts and are not closely datable, but none can be securely placed earlier than the bolsals with single curve.

We may note that examples in this second group of bolsals are linked by stamps and underside patterns with some of the cup-skyphoi, a shape which does not appear even in Athenian imports until the end of the 5th century. Thus, bolsals with this second profile may have been made in a different and later workshop which expanded its repertoire of shapes to include cup-skyphoi.

There are also several miniatures that cannot be linked with the workshops of the larger examples. Three come from the North Cemetery (41–43), two of which are virtually identical (and from the same burial); the third, 43, is probably the latest bolsal, of the second quarter of the 4th century. There is also one miniature without clear context (48) and with a novel design of four unlinked palmettes alternating with ovules.

Corinthian potters did not continue to make this shape for very long. Attic craftsmen produced bolsals until the late 4th century, but so far as can be determined by context, no Corinthian example is later than the first quarter of the 4th century, with the exception of the miniature, 43. None shows the flaring upper-wall profile of Attic examples in the second quarter of the century, and only 43 has a black underside.

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observations) believes the patterns cannot be used for workshop attribution or for relative dating (Bentz 1982, pp. 18–19). This problem is discussed at greater length in Pemberton 1996.

34 The fragments from the Asklepieion were not included in the original publication and cannot be given a specific context in that sanctuary.

35 This is the date suggested by D. Kazazis, S. Morris, and T. McNiven (note 3 above), as against the date given in Corinth VII, iii, deposit 79, p. 216; see also Corinth VII, iv, deposit 4, p. 18. Some of the material in the well dates to the late 5th century.

36 Agora XII, p. 107.

37 30 was found in the destruction debris of Building IV; that building was built ca. 400 and destroyed ca. 350 B.C. See Williams 1979, pp. 129–130. 47, an exceptionally large bolsal, finds Attic parallels in lot 1972-92, discussed p. 73 above.

38 Gill (1984, p. 104) attributes the concavity of the lower wall in the bolsal to influence from the cup-skyphos.

39 It shares its stamp with 3, a cup from pit 1937-1, one of the last Corinthian deposits with Corinthian stamped vases. Another miniature comes from lot 1978-41, grid 61–62:B–C, in Building IV; with four thin unattached palmettes, reminiscent of s.g. 10 but not identical.

40 Agora XII, p. 108.
There remain a number of fragments of bolsals in many lots of context pottery, primarily black wall fragments but also some tiny stamped fragments, too poorly preserved for inventory. Most Corinthian bolsals of normal size appear to have been stamped, although there is one example, C-1972-179, without stamping.\textsuperscript{41} In general, it would seem that most bolsals made in Corinth were stamped; the shape and the decoration go together. No Corinthian bolsals with rouletted decoration have been found as yet.\textsuperscript{42}

**Decorative Schemes**

A. Cross palmette unlinked around a small circle
   - no outer zone: \textsuperscript{20, 21, 22, 25, 30, 34, 46, 47}
   - light groove: \textsuperscript{37} (unintentional?)
   - definite outer groove: \textsuperscript{19, 29}
   - variant of ovules in cross: \textsuperscript{31}

B. Four linked palmettes
   - two outer grooves: \textsuperscript{29, 32, 35}
   - outer grooves and ovules: \textsuperscript{38, 44} (5 linked)
   - one plain outer groove: \textsuperscript{39}
   - no outer boundary: \textsuperscript{33, 46}

C. Other forms
   - four(?) unlinked palmettes, outer zone of ovules: \textsuperscript{24, 27, 28} (probably)
   - four unlinked palmettes, two grooves, five more unlinked: \textsuperscript{36}
   - six unlinked palmettes on wider circle (close to well 1934-10 examples [Pease 1937]): \textsuperscript{17}
   - six linked palmettes around a circle: \textsuperscript{23, 40}
   - ? unlinked palmettes outside wider circle: \textsuperscript{26}
   - rosettes within grooves: \textsuperscript{45}

D. Miniatures
   - four palmettes in cross: \textsuperscript{41, 42}
   - four palmettes with ovules between them: \textsuperscript{48}
   - six unlinked palmettes around circle: \textsuperscript{43}

No Corinthian bolsals imitate the elaborate designs present on the first Attic bolsals, such as C-36-1135. Corbett notes that for the late 5th century the decoration of the bolsal “. . . normally consists of a series of palmettes set round a circle.”\textsuperscript{43} Yet this popular Attic design is present in less than half of the Corinthian examples. Instead, the Corinthian potter (and buyer) preferred a more compact form of four palmettes in a cross pattern.

\textsuperscript{41} Many of the fragments still in the lots are sherds of distinctive bolsal profile (walls or feet). If the stamped design was the compressed-palmette form without ovule border (which is normally placed close to the foot ring), there often could be no trace of the stamp. Miniature bolsals, as in the North Cemetery (Corinth XIII, p. 129), are often unstamped; and there are a few other miniatures from other areas of Ancient Corinth, such as C-37-2581, also without decoration. T 686, deposit 20, described in Corinth XIII, p. 305, as stamped, is not. This example, though small, has the slight offset of the lower wall and, interestingly, a double-dipping streak below the lip on one side.

\textsuperscript{42} For rouletting on Attic bolsals, see Agora XII, nos. 558–560, p. 275, pl. 53.

\textsuperscript{43} Corbett 1949, p. 303.
The other typical pattern in the Corinth group is that of four linked palmettes, also small and compressed. Only a few of the Corinthian examples, 24, 27, 36, and 40, have larger patterns. The Corinthian bolsal may be closely related to its Attic prototype in profile but not in decorative syntax.

**CUP-SKYPHOI**

Although the light-wall cup-skyphos appears in Athens ca. 440–430 B.C. and the heavy-wall cup-skyphoi slightly later, the first Attic examples found in Corinth appear to be contemporary with the first local versions, found in Forum South Central well 1937-1 and thus datable to the end of the 5th century. The light-wall variety is the more popular form for both the imported and locally made cup-skyphoi. Attic examples appear sporadically in contexts of the early 4th century; the shape does not last, apparently, after the first quarter of the 4th century. There are a few examples from the end of the heavy-wall series, with rouletting in place of ovule border.

Certainly the most interesting Attic cup-skyphos in Corinth is C-37-339 (Fig. 6, Pl. 21), with heavy-wall profile, from well 1937-1, because, significantly, the stamp used for its decoration reappears on 56, a Corinthian light-wall example from the same context. As suggested by Kazazis, the simplest explanation is that an Attic potter, an emigrant to Corinth, introduced Corinthian artisans to the cup-skyphos, although some other shapes with stamped decoration (stemless cup and bolsal) had already been made in Corinth.

C-37-339 also provides a standard profile with which the seven heavy-wall Corinthian cup-skyphoi can be compared. So few examples make a chronological sequence difficult. The earliest context for this shape in its Corinthian version, the 1937 drain, unfortunately contained the most fragmentary example, 49. The six with more discernible profiles show for the most part an adherence to the Attic form. The foot profile shows "... a large rounded lower section and a narrow, sharp upper one." Only 54 has a different foot. By Attic chronology the ribbing of the wall and the wide profile of 54 suggest an early

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44 *Agora* XII, p. 110.
45 *Agora* XII, p. 112.
46 *Agora* XII, p. 112.
47 *C-1978-63* (Fig. 15) and *C-1978-64*, from destruction debris of Building IV in Forum South Central: Williams 1979, no. 48, p. 134.
48 *Agora* XII, p. 110.
49 This important observation was made by Kazazis in the unpublished study of the 1937 well and drain material by Morris, McNiven, and Kazazis (see note 3 above); the last named was responsible for the discussion of bolsals, cup-skyphoi, and other drinking vessels. A very fragmentary sherd from a Corinthian cup-skyphos (probably light wall), L1979-7-1, preserves the outer ovule border and, at the inner break, the tips of a palmette that seem similar to the palmette of C-37-339 and 56. There is not enough of the stamp, unfortunately, to be sure. Nor is there sufficient u.s. pattern to assign the sherd to a possible workshop. Lot 1979-7 also contained the stemless-cup fragment 8.
50 *Agora* XII, p. 112.
date, but the foot, unthickened rim, and late stamp (s.g. 12) argue against it. The context provides no help.

The underside design (u.s. 3) of 50 is found on examples of the early bolsal workshop, which ceased production before 400 B.C. (see p. 73 above). The profile of 50 also suggests an early date: the lip is not clearly offset from the convex wall, and the foot appears to be lighter than those of the other heavy-wall examples. The care taken in the stamping also suggests an earlier date.

The other four examples, two of which have complete profiles (51 and 52), come from different contexts, but three (52, 53, and 55) have the same or similar underside patterns (u.s. 16) and not dissimilar foot profiles. In addition, 53 and 55 have the same stamp (s.g. 11), and both have the resting surface of the foot reserved. These links suggest a common workshop origin, and that is not unlikely since so few examples of the shape seem to have been made in Corinth. 51 is probably the latest of the seven examples, as it bears a late stamp (s.g. 12), found on late stemless cups and other 4th-century shapes.

The heavy-wall cup-skyphos appears to have had little impact in Corinth; its successor in Athens, the cup-kantharos, was rarely made in Corinth. With eighteen examples, the light-wall cup-skyphos was more in vogue and was especially popular at the turn of the century. A comparison between an Attic import, C-33-418 (Fig. 15), and 56 demonstrates

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51 *Agora XII*, no. 612, pp. 111–112.
52 It may not be entirely correct to equate neat stamping with early examples, but consideration of later work as on s.g. 10 and 11 does suggest some correlation of date and quality.
53 A few of the fragmentary feet might be from kantharoi, but the specific type cannot be determined. See the discussion under fragments of undetermined shape, especially 94 and 105. Despite the lack of local versions, the kantharos was certainly imported. In fact, some of the earliest Attic cup-kantharoi appear to be the ones in drain 1937-1, published in *Agora XII*, nos. 648–650, p. 282. I have counted at least sixty such stamped Attic examples in Corinth as well as many undecorated ones.
that, as with the bolsal, Corinthian potters adhered quite closely to the Attic form of the light-wall cup-skyphos. 56 has the same stamp as an Attic heavy-wall vase, C-37-339, from the same context (see p. 76 above). The craftsman was not very skilled, as there is an overstrike on one of the palmettes on the Corinthian vase, and the ovules with deep centers appear clumsy.54

By Attic standards, 64 and 70 should be among the earliest examples, as both show moldings on the underside and a groove dividing the outer face of the foot.55 Both also have early stamps. Neither context is helpful for dating: 64 came from a lot with a terminal date of the first quarter of the 4th century or later, and 70 was found in the Asklepieion. 71, from the same context, also has a grooved foot, but it is bigger, clumsier; yet the vase also has the most elaborate stamped design of the light-wall examples. 73, from a grave without other vases or artifacts in the tomb for comparative dating, would appear to be early also, though lacking underside moldings, as the foot profile compares well with 64 and 70 and the upper wall has no flare.

The eight (56–63) light-wall examples found in the 1937 well and drain exhibit differences of profile. The early form of foot, as noted above, is visible on several of the examples, such as 58, 61, and 62; would the missing walls resemble 73? 56 does show that slight flare to the upper wall which on Attic examples begins at the turn of the century. In addition, the foot now shows a much heavier upper element. 57 and 60 have a slight contraction of the foot diameter in relation to the height.

But none is so late as 69 and 72, both with quite narrow, heavy feet, ledges in place of the finely demarcated outer foot profile, nipping at the center of the underside, and flaring rims. 72 also shows a strongly bent handle, imitative perhaps of the cup kantharos. The stamped palmettes in both cup-skyphoi have clear 4th-century characteristics. 69 was found in a cistern of the Baths of Aphrodite (cistern 1960-1, fill II), a context which, according to Edwards,56 dates to ca. 375–300. This cup-skyphos by shape, stamp, and context was made in the middle of the 4th century.

Another example should be placed towards the end of the series. 65 not only has a very curious foot but the stamping is unique (Pl. 28): ten little enclosed palmettes attached to the central groove, with an outer border of very faint rouletting. Rouletting requires a date at least in the early 4th century; how soon Corinthian artisans adopted the technique is not determinable from the relevant contexts.57 It is most likely that 65 belongs among the last examples of this shape, perhaps in the second quarter of the 4th century.

54 Similarly cut ovules appear on the bowl with projecting rim 74, discussed p. 80 below; for similar ovules on an Attic example, see Agora XII, no. 593, p. 278.
55 Agora XII, p. 110.
56 Corinth VII, iii, deposit no. 22, p. 204.
57 See p. 76 above for Attic heavy-wall examples with rouletting. The context of 65 is not helpful, as the material extends into the third quarter of the 4th century. Examples with rouletting: light-wall cup-skyphos 65, bowls 78, 79, 83, 84, plates 86, 87, 91. None of the contexts has a limited date. Rouletting probably began to be used just when Corinthian production of stamped vases began to wane, but Attic examples with rouletting appeared in Corinth almost as soon as they were made. C-37-229, an Attic cup-kantharos from drain 1937-1, has a zone of rouletting over the ovule border; the context was closed before the second quarter of the 4th century. This example is discussed in Agora XII, p. 282, under no. 651.
The Corinthian cup-skyphos, like the bolsal, shows experimentation with an Attic shape for a limited period. With the exception of 65, 69, and 72 (light wall) and 51 and 54 (heavy wall), the cup-skyphoi were probably made in a short period at the turn of the century and in the early 4th century, in a very few workshops. They began later than the bolsal\(^{58}\) and stemless cup and also lasted slightly longer in Corinth. The last examples show some affinities with the cup-kantharos, not, however, a Corinthian shape.

**Decorative Schemes**

A. Four palmettes linked around circle (light wall unless specified as heavy wall)

- outer zone of grooves with ovules or O's: 52 (heavy wall), 56, 57, 58, 60, 61, 62, 64, and probably 66, 67
  - outer zone of grooves, no ovules: 70
  - outer zone of grooves with ovules, more palmettes beyond zone: 71
  - outer zone of grooves with palmettes: 51, 54 (both heavy wall)
  - no outer zone: 68, 69, 72

B. Zone of ovules, palmettes outside

- linked: 49, 53 (both heavy wall)
  - unlinked: 50 (heavy wall), 55 (heavy wall), 63 (u.s.?)

C. Two zones of grooves with O's: 73

D. Ten unlinked palmettes on circle with outer rouletting: 65

The first group (A) shows that although most examples are light walled and related to the bolsal group, an early heavy-wall vase was also given the same syntax; indeed the stamp of 52, though poorly preserved, could be the same as or close to those of the light-wall vases (as 58) and bolsals (as 20, s.g. 5). Thus it is possible that both varieties of cup-skyphos were made in the same workshop, although the heavy-wall form is far less numerous than the light-wall form, and the shape overall was not so popular as the bolsal.\(^{59}\) Thanks to the apparent longer stretch of time for production of the shape, there is also more variety and perhaps more experimentation. Two heavy-wall examples (4th section of A) have the same stamp and syntax, yet very different profiles.

In several cases the design extends farther over the floor than does the typical bolsal pattern, although the curving wall makes such a design more difficult to stamp. 50 and 53 (B) are such examples; 71 (A) is even more elaborate. No bolsal is so extensively decorated, although the floor of the bolsal, retaining more of a flat surface, would more easily contain such elaborations. 68 is relatively close to the simpler bolsal designs but without any outer boundary.

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58 There are no contexts limited to the late 5th century with discernible cup-skyphoi, unlike bolsals. This may be purely coincidental, of course, but some of the stamps and u.s. patterns on the cup-skyphoi also suggest a slightly later starting date.

59 There are a few more fragments of cup-skyphoi in the lots (identifiable by foot or by interior offset but insufficiently preserved to include in the catalogue). It must be noted that plain black body sherds (without the offset) could come from either black kotylai or light-wall cup-skyphoi, but the former were certainly far more popular in Ancient Corinth.
93 is so similar to 58 and 61–63 that it may also be identified as a light-wall cup-skyphos. If so, it becomes a third cup-skyphos with at least one ring used to define zones on the underside (see 64 and 70). 96 is also most appropriately identified as a light-wall cup-skyphos; though lacking the outer boundary, the four linked palmettes also belong to the popular syntax of this shape.

BOWLS

Projecting rim

Well 1937-1 produced a new form of bowl in Corinthian fabric, 74. In the same well is a rim and upper-wall fragment from an Attic bowl, C-37-499, very close in profile to 74 and perhaps serving as a model.60 Interestingly, none of the early examples from the Athenian Agora appears to be stamped. The underside of the Corinthian bowl is incomplete: no trace of a central circle is preserved, but the wide black band and narrow outer reserved area link it with 70, a cup-skyphos (u.s. 15). The floor design is popular, used especially in cup-skyphoi; there are additional palmettes on the rim.61

Outturned rim

The bowl with outturned rim is a shape taken from Athens62 which becomes popular in Corinth and undergoes its own development. There are, to my knowledge, only five certain Corinthian examples with stamped designs (75, 79, 81, 83, 85), all exhibiting differences in shape and decoration.63

The first, 75, comes from drain 1937-1 and should date by profile to the earlier 4th century: the rim is not yet sharply articulated, and the foot is somewhat closer to the original ring form and is not very high.

81 has a more articulated rim, but unfortunately the foot is incomplete, so that comparison is difficult. The third example, 85, from the Demeter Sanctuary, has a more pronounced rim and slightly higher foot but no trace of a nipple. The stamp (s.g. 12) is duplicated on four stemless cups (13–16) and on two heavy-wall cup-skyphoi (51, 54). All these examples probably belong in the first or early second quarter of the 4th century.

The fourth bowl, 79, comes from the latest closed context, drain 1971-1,64 and in addition to the later profile (steeper, more pronounced turn of the lip, heavier foot, nipple)

60 For the type, see Agora XII, no. 879, p. 298 and fig. 9, dated 425–400 B.C.
61 Another Corinthian example with projecting rim was found in manhole 1938-2 (Museum West at G2; see Corinth VII, iii, deposit 35, p. 207, ca. 400 to ca. 275); the profile is incomplete (the foot is missing), and the glaze has mostly peeled. The rim is decorated with poorly preserved, unlinked palmettes at wide intervals; the tips of one palmette are visible at the break of the floor. The form of the stamp seems closest to s.g. 7.
62 Corinth VII, iii, pp. 33–34. Edwards does not find any examples (stamped or undecorated) earlier than the 4th century, although the shape in Athens begins in the late 5th century: Agora XII, p. 128.
63 Building IV (grid 63:C, L1972-2-4) yielded a high foot, stamped with linked palmettes, which may be from a bowl of this type. Among the Miscellaneous Fragments in the Catalogue are also several feet that come from plates or bowls, but the precise shapes cannot be determined.
64 The drain material has a lower date of the fourth quarter of the 4th century. See Williams and Fisher 1972, pp. 155–163. 79, 86, and 87 were found in drain 1971-1.
the stamping is also later, with an outer border of rouletting. This technique, though anticipated in some of the quickly (and carelessly) applied O’s on cup-skyphoi and bolsals, may not have been used in Corinthian workshops until sometime after its appearance on Attic pottery. The palmette on this bowl is large, of flamen form, and has duplicates in another form of plate from the same context (rolled rim, 86) and in a late cup-skyphos, 69.

The last of this type, 83, is probably one of the latest Corinthian stamped pieces excavated, in both profile and decoration. The shape has now gained the almost carinated profile of the late 4th century; the rim is no longer thickened. The decoration of rouletting and four palmettes in cross pattern of pronounced flamen form is also late.

**Echinus bowl**

Like the bowl with outturned rim, the echinus bowl also became a popular Corinthian form and thus has only a few examples of stamping. 84, of the mid or later 4th century, is the only certain example of average size with stamped decoration, although there are a number of stamped Attic imports. The decoration of 84 is worn, with very faint evidence of abortive rouletting.

78 is a medium-size steep-wall echinus bowl, whose clay is not Attic but not certainly Corinthian either. The nipple of the underside and the rouletting around the four palmettes suggest a later-4th-century date, as does the context.

There are two Corinthian echinus bowls of saltcellar size, 76 and 82. The former, from drain 1937-1, is meticulously glazed and in fact is one of the best stamped pieces.

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65 For the eight examples with rouletting, see note 57 above.
66 For the shape: *Corinth* XVIII, i, pp. 42–43.
67 One published example comes from the Rachi well at Isthmia, also of Corinthian fabric: Anderson-Stojanović 1993, no. 39, p. 280, fig. 9, pl. 61, with rouletting and traces of two stamps. It is of medium size and dated to the mid 4th century. Although the stamp is not well preserved (the right side is blurred), the palmette does appear similar to the 11-petal type of s.g. 15 (see 79 above). I am most grateful to Dr. Anderson-Stojanović and Dr. Elizabeth Gebhard for allowing me to see the Isthmia material. I must also note C-31-406 (Fig. 16, Pl. 30), a puzzle. It belongs to the second quarter of the century; the clay appears to be more Attic than Corinthian, but the stamp is exceedingly close to a number of Corinthian pieces in stamp group 10.
68 G. R. Edwards (*Corinth* VII, iii, p. 31) dates this bowl to ca. 300, but I doubt that any Corinthian stamped vessel is that late.
The second, from Building IV, appears to have palmettes of s.g. 5; its underside, like that of 76, is completely black but not so well formed or finished. As the floor is rather thin and thus precludes the presence of a nipple in the center; it is probably also slightly earlier, in the early 4th century, consistent with the palmette form that appears in well-and-drain group 1937-1.

Small bowl

80 is a very small version of an Attic type of the late 5th century. The profile, with underside ridge, concave inner foot, and heavy rounded lip, duplicates an example in the Athenian Agora. Imitative also is the design of unlinked palmettes around an enclosed circle of ovules. The context of 80 appears to have a lower date of the late 5th century.

77 may be a possible second example of the shape, slightly larger, but the foot has entirely disappeared. There is no ridge on the underside as in 80. The floor is badly eroded, leaving only traces of the 9-petal palmettes, unlinked, around a (fugitive) circle. The context of 77 closed in the early 4th century.

Plates

Rolled rim

The two more complete examples, 86 and 87, both from drain 1971-1 and therefore most likely to be at least mid 4th century, show different versions of this plate, never very popular in Corinth. The smaller example, 87, all black with nipple and ridges on the underside, appears to follow an Attic prototype. The foot is concave on the interior and merges with the underside. The relatively small size of the plate meant that only four palmettes could be accommodated within the rouletting. The stamp is the same as that used on the bowl from the drain, 79, and the late cup-skyphos, 69 (s.g. 15).

86, though approaching the size of later examples of the shape and showing both a high foot with groove on the resting surface and another groove demarcating the external “roll” of the rim, is yet atypical in the circles of black and reserved area on the underside, not found in Attic examples. Nor is there a nipple. The stamp is unfortunately too worn to compare with others, but one may note the very meticulous placement of the ten alternately linked palmettes. The outer rouletting is extremely faint. This example may be earlier than its companion from the same context (drain 1971-1).

The fragmentary 91 would also appear to be from a plate of this shape. The upper break is at the turn of the rim. It also has the concave inner foot, the nipple, and is all black glazed, although there are no ridges articulating the underside. The stamp is a very fine palmette of flamen variety, within rouletting, also found on bowl 83. Both examples with this stamp are from contexts of the later 4th to 3rd century and so should be among the latest Corinthian stamped pieces.

69 Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 41–42.
70 Agora XII, no. 874, p. 298, ca. 400 B.C.
71 Corinth VII, iii, pp. 36–37. These two examples are apparently earlier than any published therein.
72 Like C-34-2529 (Fig. 9), earlier in date, with similar ridges, underside and foot merging.
73 Agora XII, p. 147.
Unknown shape

There is one plate fragment, 88, whose stamp (s.g. 10) links it with a number of other examples (e.g., 75, 106) of the turn of the 5th into the early 4th century, and whose context (lot 1978-48) gives a similar date. But I know of no parallels for the shape, which appears to be a plate with disk foot. The inner break could be at the inner edge of the articulated disk; alternatively, there might have been a flat outer ledge with the foot descending at the break. The diameter of the inner break is ca. 0.07–0.08 cm. It is a fine piece, well fired and carefully decorated, with a hard, almost brown slip.

89, with the same stamp, shows a very high foot like that of 86, though without the groove of the resting surface. The type of plate cannot be determined. The context has a general date of the 4th century. Another fragmentary plate, 90, with similar high vertical foot and a groove on the resting surface as 86, shows no traces of miltos on the resting surface such as 86 and 89 have. Most of the material in the same context as 90 belongs to the first half of the 4th century (although there is also a small amount datable to the 3rd century). There are too few plates to attempt any relative dating except by context.

Fragments of Undetermined Shape

101 is so far the only Corinthian example of exterior stamping, most likely from a lekythos or amphoriskos. The linked palmettes cannot be attributed to a specific group with certainty, although the configuration is very close to the palmette of s.g. 3. That stamp belongs to the first bolsals and so helps confirm a date early in the Corinthian stamping sequence.

Fragments of floors are numerous. 92, 93, 95–97, 99, and 104 are thin sherds and so are likely to come from cup-skyphoi or bolsals. Without a foot, the particular profile cannot be determined, although the type of decorative scheme may give clues. 100, 102, and 106 are quite thick and so from bowls or plates. One example is not from either of these shapes: 107 has a foot resembling that of a light-wall cup-skyphos, yet is completely black glazed on the underside and has two very finely molded rings. The syntax is not typical for the cup-skyphos, which prefers four palmettes with outer boundary. The outer ovule zone is indeed present on 107, but instead of the cross pattern there are closely set linked palmettes, a much wider scheme of decoration than is usual. 98 and 103 have the high foot of either a bowl or plate.

Both 94 and 105 are of interest for the shape. The latter is surely a kantharos foot, stamped with a design that has affinities with s.g. 9, found on two fragments from drain 1937-1.74 The foot of 94, in two degrees, is most likely that of a stemless cup, but it would also be appropriate for a kantharos. Manufacture of Corinthian kantharoi is rare before the end of the 4th century,75 and to my knowledge, the typical Corinthian forms of the Hellenistic period were never stamped. But the context of 94 is drain 1937-1, which contained some of the earliest examples of Attic kantharoi with molded rim.76 If 94 is a Corinthian

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75 Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 34–35.
76 Agora XII, p. 117, nos. 648–650 (C-37-211, C-37-212, C-37-215), from drain 1937-1.
experiment in a kantharos form, it would strengthen the interpretation of stamped material in both the well and drain as under strong, even direct Athenian influence.77

CONCLUSIONS

Contexts

As the catalogue arrangement indicates, the Corinthian stamped fragments come from a number of different areas in Corinth, but a few contexts provide many examples. These are well and drain 1937-1 (fourteen and ten respectively)78 and the area of Buildings I–IV, Forum Southwest (twenty-three examples). The Sacred Spring yielded ten, the Asklepieion seven; other sanctuary sites provided only a few. Only seven come from burials. With just three examples from the Potters’ Quarter, the place of manufacture of stamped vases must be elsewhere. It would be helpful to know more about the origins of the thirteen from unrecorded contexts of the early excavations.

The dating of the material is based primarily on the relationship with the Attic prototypes; no Corinthian cup or bolsal can be earlier than the Attic models. But that dating can be verified in Corinth. There are six lots containing stamped black-glazed fragments of cups, bolsals, and one bowl that are important for determining the dating of the earliest Corinthian examples. These are lots 5791 (9), 6789 (4), 1972-98 (34), 1973-78 (26, 80), 1975-120 (27), and 1977-50 (28).

Lot 5791, with the early stemless cup 9, has only a few sherds, mostly nondescript body fragments of lekanai and the like. What is diagnostic seems to date well before the end of the 5th century, and much of it is early 5th. Lot 6789 also has an early stemless cup, 4, and contains more helpful fragments, including an early blister-ware oinochoe wall and one possible Corinthian red-figured sherd. There is one fragment of a pithos with ridged handle that could be late 5th or early 4th century, but most of the material belongs to the later 5th century and earlier. These two contexts suggest that the stemless cup, with incised tongues, was made in Corinth not too long after its introduction to the Attic repertoire. Both 4 and 9 have raised rings on the underside, another criterion for an early date.

26-28, all bolsals from Forum Southwest, also have limited contexts. Lot 1973-78 has only seventy-two sherds (including the bolsal 26 and bowl 80), and there is little else that is closely datable. Lot 1975-120 has even fewer sherds, only forty-two, and all are equally fragmentary, with the exception of one Corinthian skyphos rim that appears to be late 5th or early 4th century in date. Lot 1977-50 is larger, with about 150 sherds,

77 One Attic kantharos from the drain is particularly interesting, as it combines both the outer zone of ovules and very light rouletting; see note 57 above. Another Attic kantharos from the drain (C-37-3006; Fig. 16, Pl. 30) has similar light rouletting but without the ovule zone, surrounding four small palmettes in cross pattern, the more typical design of such molded-rim kantharoi. Thus these examples would seem to support the date for the beginning of rouletting in the second decade of the 4th century (Agora XII, pp. 30–31).

78 For the date of well 1937-1, see p. 74 above. The closing date of the drain is slightly later, but there is a great deal of overlapping material, as the stamped pieces in this catalogue indicate. See Corinth VII, iv, p. 18, note 33 and Corinth XVIII, i, p. 26, note 68.
all 5th century including much conventionalizing material, which helps to date the lot to the later 5th century.

Finally, lot 1972-98, with bolsal 34, contains a large number of sherds, including Corinthian conventionalizing material, which, according to Martha Risser, dates to the middle and to the third quarter of the 5th century.\(^\text{79}\) Other material in the context includes typical 5th-century ovoid kotylai, blister ware with pronounced ribs, and early Corinthian red figure. The context has a terminal date before the end of the century.\(^\text{80}\)

None of the contexts containing cup-skyphoi has such an early date. It seems likely, therefore, that the stemless cup and the bolsal were the first shapes to be decorated with the new type of decoration, borrowed from Athens in the third quarter of the 5th century. The early stemless cups, such as 4, cannot be linked with any of the early groups (see p. 87 below). But the underside of 4, with raised rings and a scraped groove dividing the black of the underside into zones, is very close to Attic examples.\(^\text{81}\) The stemless cup may have been made in Corinth before the first bolsal. The cup-skyphos would seem to be late 5th century in its introduction in both variants.\(^\text{82}\)

The specific contexts of most of the material suggest limited use. Few are funerary, for of the 107 examples, only seven are from graves: three miniature bolsals (41-43) from the North Cemetery, two cup-skyphoi (72 from the North Cemetery and 73 from a grave near Lechaion); the condition of the stemless cups 13 and 14 suggests that they are also from a burial.\(^\text{83}\) No full-size bolsals, bowls, or plates were found in burials. Many of the vases can be associated with sanctuaries, especially the Asklepieion and Sacred Spring, or with ritual dining, particularly in the buildings of the Southwest Forum area.\(^\text{84}\) We cannot be sure of the purpose of the many examples from the 1937 well and drain. They might be discards from pottery outlets, but it is quite probable that they derive from Buildings I and II. One bolsal, 17, from the South Central well of 1937, may have been intended as a sort of rhyton, as it has a central hole made after firing.\(^\text{85}\) If the functions are not

\(^{79}\) Risser 1989; nos. 21, 22, 37, and 266 come from this lot.

\(^{80}\) In addition, lot 1973-69, with a great deal of Attic and Corinthian black glaze (including, in the Attic material, both Vicups and stemless versions as well as skyphoi and kotylai) and with Corinthian conventionalizing material that seems no later than the third quarter of the 5th century, has three Attic stamped fragments (all stemless cups) but no Corinthian.

\(^{81}\) See Agora XII, p. 269, no. 487 of ca. 430, and discussion p. 103. See Attic bolsals L1976-136-1 (Fig. 14), with scraped lines, and C-36-1135 (Fig. 14), with rings.

\(^{82}\) This would conform with the dates suggested for the Attic prototypes: the delicate stemless in the second quarter of the 5th century, the bolsal in the third quarter, the light-wall cup-skyphos ca. 440-430, the heavy-wall cup-skyphos in the last quarter. See Agora XII, pp. 102-104, 107, 110.

\(^{83}\) There is one additional light-wall cup-skyphos (T 2644) from grave 450, of the mid 4th century (Corinth XIII, p. 281). It was stolen in the April 1990 robbery of the Ancient Corinth museum and is thus unavailable for study; hence it is not included here.


\(^{85}\) Holes in the bottoms of vases are more usually to be found in vessels associated with the grave, either to allow liquids to pour through or, for larger forms, to anchor the vase to the ground. Holes in other areas may be “brennlocher”. The hole in 17 cannot have had any of these functions. Margot Schmidt kindly informed me that such a hole can turn a sherd into a protective face guard, against the heat of the kiln; but the context of 17 has no evidence that the material came from a pottery-making establishment (no spoiled vases, no
always certain, what is clear is the chronologically limited period of production and the rather restricted contexts of these stamped wares.

Workshops

The first such decorated vases are most likely to have been made in the workshops producing the Atticizing kotylai, which began about the middle of the 5th century or slightly earlier. Bentz notes that “... Corinthian potters in the fifth century were capable of producing a glaze that rivals all but the very best Attic. ...” Among the stamped pieces it is possible even to see specific workshops, through the nexus of stamp, profile, and in particular the underside pattern.

The pattern with one or two narrow lines, u.s. 3, is the most suggestive of a workshop utilizing a limited range of shapes and decoration. Of the seven bolsals with this pattern, the same stamp appears on four (29, 35, 36, 44), two have no parallels for the stamp (31, 32), and the stamp of the last, 46, resembles s.g. 10 but is not the same. All these bolsals have the simpler continuous profile but with some variation, as three (29 and 44, which are virtual duplicates, and 46) have a more vertical rise at the top of the inner foot. There are two other shapes represented in this u.s. group: a heavy-wall cup-skyphos, 50, is probably the earliest extant example of the type, with a lighter foot and thinner wall than is customary. 10 is an early stemless cup with palmettes also of s.g. 3.

Underside group 4 (and u.s. 5 as well, for they are very close) includes a number of the examples from well 1937-1 and like u.s. 3 is probably comprised of bolsals (fragment 104 is likely to be either a bolsal or cup-skyphos). Here, two pairs have the same stamp: 19 and 39 (s.g. 1), a group which also has several cup-skyphoi from the same context, and 20 and 21 (s.g. 5), a popular stamp, also with cup-skyphoi from well 1937-1. It is important to note that there is really no overlap with u.s. 3 in stamp or profile, for where it is discernible, these bolsals show the concave profile of the lower wall.

The other examples linked through the underside pattern do not fall into such neat groups. The five examples of or related to u.s. 8 all appear to have the same stamp (s.g. 10), but that stamp, on probably twelve different vases in the catalogue, thus appears in combination with other u.s. patterns, and so the hypothesis of a workshop is not so...

test pieces, etc.). As Kristine Gex wrote in connection with holes in the bottoms of lekythoi (Eretria IX, p. 57, with bibliography) “... wenn aber kein praktischer oder technischer Zweck in Betracht zu kommen scheint, wird am ehesten ein—uns nicht mehr fassbarer—rituellen Gedanke im Hintergrund stehen.” See also three Geometric pyxides from the Kerameikos with holes in the bottom (“... vielleicht für die Verwendung der Pyxis als Spendengefäß”: Kerameikos XIII, no. 70, p. 85), and also a number of grave vessels with holes drilled after firing, from graves at Halieis: Rahn 1984, pp. 305–308. The hole in 17, drilled after firing, also must have given some sort of ritual use to the bolsal.

87 Bentz 1982, p. 117. But it was difficult. Bentz continues: “With the ready availability of Attic black-figured pottery at Corinth, it must have been unprofitable for the Corinthian potters to take the extra time to produce a good Attic imitation. ...”
88 This mannerism is not restricted to this particular group but also appears in 37, which has the same simpler profile but belongs to u.s. 7 and s.g. 7.
89 We might include also 17, except that the outer line on the underside was omitted.
strong. The stamp is also not well executed, and a precise attribution is conjectural for some of the examples.

Similarly, the pattern of u.s. 16 and 17 is quite diverse, with links to other groups. Some have the same stamp as s.g. 1 and 5 above (and indeed are also from well 1937-1), others find a home in s.g. 11. It is perhaps coincidental, but the design of u.s. 16 and 17 does bear similarity with that on C-37-339 (Fig. 6), the Attic cup-skyphos in well 1937-1 with the same stamp as 56. Although 56 shows an entirely different pattern, other vases from that well and the related drain 1937-1 have u.s. 16 and 17, which did not appear in any of the earlier bolsals or stemless cups. It is conceivable that those responsible for making the material that ended up in those two deposits adopted a version of the Attic work, presumably the product of an Athenian craftsman who introduced the stamped cup-skyphos to the Corinthian repertoire of shapes in the late 5th or early 4th century.

Well 1937-1 produced a considerable number of these stamped pieces, of apparently limited date (early 4th century at latest). It is tempting to see the fourteen catalogued examples as products of a small number of workshops. Sharon Herbert first discussed this group and postulated at least two potters' shops for the material. The underside designs suggest at least three major groups, represented by u.s. 4 + 5, 16, and 17; but u.s. 13 and 15 are also represented, as is u.s. 1, which may be an abbreviated version of u.s. 4. As noted above, u.s. 16 and 17 are quite similar, but there are other differences in the examples; compare the light-wall cup-skyphoi 57 (u.s. 17) and 58 (u.s. 16), with different foot profile. If one adds to this the different stamp groups, as summarized in Appendix I, there are no exact correspondences. It is very possible that there was much more material from the hypothetical pottery establishments or workshops that produced the well 1937-1 material, as the Asklepieion examples 39 and 71 and a few additional examples from other contexts (such as drain 1937-1) indicate. The greater number of underside patterns and stamps used might well be an argument for postulating a large workshop, reinvigorated by renewed Attic influence (an emigrant potter?), producing more, and more varied, material than the first essays into the decorative type, as suggested by the more restricted earlier material represented in u.s. 3 and s.g. 3. But it must be reiterated that the well 1937-1 material has no overlap with s.g. 3 and u.s. 3. In other words, it seems possible that at least one workshop produced bolsals in the later 5th century, perhaps another the first stemless cups; and then an entirely different establishment (or several shops) made both bolsals and cup-skyphoi at the end of the century and into the early 4th century.

The first stamped or incised vases were certainly made on the Attic model, in decoration as well as shape (though to a lesser degree). Although no exact duplicates of stamps for the first stemless cups and bolsals have yet been found, there is a close correspondence in the next "wave" of stamped work, at the end of the 5th or in the early 4th century. Stamp group 6 appears on both an Attic heavy-wall (C-37-339) and

90 Designs of u.s. 16 and 17 appear on (well) 1, 57, 58, 92, 93, and (drain) 23, 61, 94. Some of the stamped Attic vases in drain 1937-1 have the u.s. of C-37-339.

91 1, 17-21, 56-60, 74, 92, 93. There are a few additional fragments but with insufficient decoration to warrant discussion here.

92 Corinth VII, iv, p. 19.
a Corinthian light-wall cup-skyphos, 56, both from well 1937-1. 93 The stamp of group 7, on at least two bolsals, may be a neat recut version with slightly more clubbed petals: the “handle” found on s.g. 6 has diminished, the central petal is slightly less prominent, but the rounded, quite plastic quality is similar. The plump volutes of both are also quite alike. These two are very different from the palmette of stamp group 4, which also has a “handle” on the palmette, and yet the syntax of 56, stamp group 6, is the canonical syntax of the cup-skyphos.

It is, therefore, not entirely clear what is the relationship of underside designs and stamps within the same shape or between shapes. Just as the stamps used in the production of moldmade relief bowls move between centers and workshops, so too here. 94 The most significant element is the sharing of a stamp between Attic and Corinthian examples (stamp group 6). Kazazis interpreted this as the work of an emigrant Attic potter (p. 76 above), but per litt. Sarah Morris noted the possibility of transference of stamps by means of casts. That is certainly plausible and is quite likely for the complex movement of stamps in the Hellenistic period. 95 But the traveling Athenian or returning Corinthian is more probable as the agent in this case (for s.g. 6), as indeed may be postulated for the earliest stamped material, although no precise Attic counterpart has as yet been found in Corinth for the earliest stemless cups and bolsals. There is an interesting parallel in the activity of the Suessula Painter, who seems to have worked both in Athens and Corinth in the late 5th century; and there may be other red-figured pieces from Corinth in different fabrics but by one hand. 96 Moreover, the potters of the first Corinthian stamped pieces, stemless cups, bolsals, and cup-skyphoi, had very specific Attic models in front of them. There are technical aspects also of glaze application and retention that suggest Attic input. Thus it is simpler to suggest an Attic potter in Corinth with samples of his work, certainly for the cup-skyphoi of s.g. 6 (and one might say generally for the stamped material of the 1937 well and drain) and most likely for the earlier stemless cups and bolsals.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

There are in all some 145 pieces of Corinthian stamped vases, 97 some of which have stamps that appear on a number of vases (s.g. 5, 10, 12 in particular), but many are without duplicates, confirming that we are indeed missing many stamped vessels. Yet, there are twice as many extant Attic stamped pieces imported into Corinth. 98 Why did the Corinthians manufacture these foreign shapes with foreign decoration? Corinthians did not lack forms of drinking vessels in the Classical period. Moreover, as already stated

93 And also possibly on a fragment from lot 1979-7, note 49 above.
96 For the Suessula Painter, Corinth VII, iv, no. 76, pp. 47–48. For the other material, McPhee, in preparation, and see Corinth XVIII, i, no. 339, p. 145.
97 Those that are very fragmentary, with designs almost invisible to the camera, have not been included in the catalogue. Others are virtual duplicates of catalogue entries (see for example 45).
98 This relationship is more fully discussed in Pemberton 1996.
above, the major shapes used for stamping do not enter the general repertoire at Corinth; the stemless cup, bolsal, and cup-skyphos have limited appeal; and most of the Corinthian examples of these shapes are stamped. Popular local shapes, with an appropriate surface for stamping, were not so decorated. One may think specifically of the type 2 form of one-handler,99 not so far removed from the bolsal in profile, appearing in the first half of the 4th century. Similarly, the saucer, beginning in the middle of the 4th century, is also without stamps.100 The lack of stamping for such shapes might be explained by noting that the vogue for stamping was waning when these suitable shapes appeared. Nevertheless, stamping on black-glazed vessels seems to have been associated with Attic shapes.

Curiously, there was a clear split between these Atticizing works and Corinthian stamped work of another sort, one with a long history: the use of stamps on coarse ware and, in particular, perirrhanteria.101 Such work began early in the Archaic period and continued into the Late Classical period and even later, on the exterior of vessels, normally in running horizontal zones, with far greater variety than the limited palmettes and ovules of the Classical fine-ware vases. Even if, as Talcott and Sparkes suggest,102 Corinthian stamping tradition played a part in the development of the technique in Athens, the Corinthians themselves did not adapt their own earlier form of stamping to their black-glazed vessels but in fact learned the fine-ware version from the foreign source.

Nor did the Corinthians really develop such black-glazed stamped ware. It was extremely limited, as the range of examples discussed in this study shows: limited in motifs, designs, and shapes so decorated. Corinthians certainly were aware of more elaborate designs (there are any number of Attic stamped vases in Corin with quite complex motifs and syntax103), but they did not imitate them.

Although Attic imports served as both catalyst and model for Italiote potters to develop uniquely Italiote forms of stamped black glaze (the Campana wares, also imported into Corinth), Corinthian potters seem to have been content to follow the Attic model without much alteration. They demonstrated their ability to produce a fair imitation, and then,

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99 See Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 36–38.
100 Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 47–49 with earlier bibliography. One saucer, C-37-2583, from pit 1937-1 (Corinth VII, iii, no. 171, p. 43), has two neat grooves in the center of the floor and one outer one, as if meant as boundaries for linked palmettes or a similar stamp. One can hear the potter chiding his apprentice: “We do not stamp saucers!”
101 See Weinberg 1954; Iozzo 1987; Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 75–78. Cording patterns used on moldings of Archaic pieces are really a form of rouletting; a good example is an Archaic bowl, C-1989-45 (Williams and Zervos 1990, pl. 61:1).
102 Agora XII, pp. 24–25.
103 For example, KP 2705 (Fig. 13, Pl. 30), a late-5th-century stemless cup from the Potters’ Quarter: Corinth XV, iii, no. 2325, pl. 126, with elaborate star pattern. C-34-278 (Pl. 30) is a very fine echinus bowl, with tiny, neat rouletting both inside the bowl and on the underside; the latter placement is found on no Corinthian example, and the very fine stitch rouletting is also unknown on Corinthian work. Thus I am hesitant about the identification of one fragment in Perachora as Corinthian, for it has a maeander motif, so far not found in any examples from Corinth: Perachora II, no. 3855, pl. 151. Such maeander borders imitate the borders of red-figured cups: Rotroff and Oakley 1992, p. 17; the early experimentations of red figure on the exterior and stamping inside are not found on any extant Corinthian work, although as suggested here, examples of stamped ware and red figure may have come from the same workshop.
with only sporadic work in subsequent years after the experiments of the third to early fourth quarter of the 5th century, and again ca. 400–390, dropped the experiment in the mid 4th century or slightly later.

There are interesting parallels for this Corinthian flirtation with Attic decorative systems in several periods. One is contemporary: red figure, also limited to Attic shapes not otherwise in the Corinthian repertoire, with the exception of the skyphos (itself originally Attic) and the few examples of red figure on the Corinthian form of bell-krater. So too is the Atticizing group of black-figured vases, best known from C-37-944, an olpe with the brettspiel scene of Ajax and Achilles, most likely based on the Exekian composition. Amyx writes: “The olpai of Attic type are confined within a short period, corresponding to that of the ‘Deianeira’ lekythoi and the globular oinochoai.” Bentz goes further, stating that C-37-944 and a number of other very Atticizing black-figured vases (as distinct from the ordinary red-ground Corinthian vases, which are not so Attic in glaze, figure style, or vase shape) probably come from one workshop. One may postulate a similar situation for the early stemless cups and bolsals and again in the ca. 400 B.C. group of stemless cups, bolsals, and cup-skyphoi. If they did not emanate from just one workshop, certainly they came from a few cooperating ones. There are 107 pieces in the catalogue, that is not a very large corpus, given the far greater numbers of undecorated black-glazed kotylai, skyphoi, one-handlers, bowls, etc. But there is a consistency of use of borrowed shapes for Corinthian experiments in stamping.

If these are in fact rightly observed patterns in Corinthian pottery vis-a-vis Attic, we might postulate the following obvious but important thesis. Corinthian potters and painters were inherently conservative, willing to experiment with foreign shapes and decorative techniques but rarely absorbing them into the repertoire. The animal frieze of Protocorinthian and Corinthian vessels (late 8th to 6th century) reappears in the 5th century; shapes such as the kotyle, column-krater, and pyxis continue for hundreds of years; even foreign shapes adopted for a time, such as the kantharos, may have affinities with local forms. Shapes that are taken from outside, such as the echinus bowl, are yet less popular than native bowl forms. The Corinthians were very resistant to outside ideas. It may be an indication of the strength of tradition in what was a very stable society.

104 Corinth VII, iv, p. 34. It is also decorated in early West Slope technique. See McPhee, “Stemless Bell-kraters from Ancient Corinth,” pp. 99–145 below.
105 C-37-944; Amyx 1988, p. 640.
107 Bentz 1982, pp. 112–116. See also Bentz 1992 concerning black-glazed vases, where it is noted that (1) traditional Corinthian shapes may gain features of foreign shapes (as the kotyle); (2) alien shapes like the askos may go into the local repertoire (but not in great numbers); (3) copies of imported shapes may appear. The latter “reflects the popularity of imported black wares at Corinth.”
108 Out of the ca. 145 known pieces; see note 97 above. There was a concerted effort to search through much of the context pottery in which uninventoried stamped fragments might appear. Certainly not every lot could be examined, but those from appropriate areas of excavation and of the appropriate dates were checked and stamped material inventoried, given lot numbers, or at the very least, in the case of fragmentary sherds, recorded.
109 Corinth XVIII, i, pp. 34–36.
Fig. 17. Plan of Corinth, central area, ca. 400 B.C.
Early Groups (late 5th/early 4th)

1. 7 petals, enclosed, small
   cup: 5 is close but not the same stamp.
   bolsal: 17 (u.s. 1), 19 (u.s. 4), 39 (u.s. 4).
   cup-skyphos: 57 (u.s. 17) and probably 60 (u.s. 13) and 64 (u.s. 17); see also 71 (u.s. 17).

2. 7 petals, not enclosed, squared-off tips
   cup-skyphos: 70 (u.s. 15); 66 (u.s. 17) is close.
   bowl: 74 (u.s. 15).

3. 7 petals, not enclosed; higher central petal
   stemless: 10 (u.s. 3).
   bolsal: 29 (u.s. 3), 35 (u.s. 3), 36 (u.s. 3), 44 (u.s. 3).
   fragment (plate?): 107 (u.s. black) is close. See also 101.

4. 7 petals, not enclosed; plump “fan” handle between volutes
   bolsal: 24 (u.s. 18), 27 (u.s. 18).
   bowl: 80 (u.s. black).

5. 9 petals, not enclosed; central three at almost uniform height (often indistinct)
   bolsal: 20 (u.s. 5), 21 (u.s. 4).
   cup-skyphos: 58 (u.s. 16), 61 (u.s. 17), 62 (u.s. 18?), 67 (u.s. 16 or 17?), and probably 52 (u.s. 16).
   bowl: possibly 82 (u.s. black).
   fragment: 92 (u.s. 17), 93 (u.s. 17), 97 (u.s. unclear).

6. 9 petals, not enclosed; larger central petal, bottom “fan” handle
   cup-skyphos: 56 (u.s. 13) and (Attic) C-37-339 (Pl. 21).

7. 9 petals, enclosed, round and neat, visually similar to s.g. 6
   bolsal: 37 (u.s. 7), 40 (u.s. 6); 22 (u.s. 7) is very similar, and 34 (u.s. 14) appears related.
   cup-skyphos: 63.

8. 9 petals, unenclosed, plump (visually like 4 but with two more petals)
   bolsal: 25 (u.s. 16?); 28 (u.s. 18) is very close; 38 (u.s. 18).

9. 9 petals, unenclosed; fairly thin, separate petals
   bolsal: 23 (u.s. 16).
   fragment: 94 (u.s. 16), 105 is close.

10. 9 petals, enclosed, thin, almost triangular (most of the examples of this group are not well stamped,
    and there are some variations, suggestive of different stamps employed. But the shape of the palmette is consistent).
    stemless: 11 (u.s. 8), 12 (u.s. 16).
    bolsal: 47 (u.s. 8); 46 (u.s. 3) is related.
    bowl: 75 (u.s. 9).
    plate: 88 very close (u.s. black), 89 (u.s.?).
    fragment: 95 (u.s. ?), 99, 102 (u.s. 8); 98 (u.s. as 8) is close, and probably 106 (u.s. 8?).
    There is an additional sherd, L5215-4, with only one palmette preserved (89 and 99 come from the same lot).
Later Groups (4th century)

11. 9 petals, rather thin, in round enclosed configuration
      cup-skyphos: 53 (u.s. 16), 55 (u.s. 16).
      fragment: 103 (u.s. black).

12. 9 petals, vertical lyre volutes
      stemless: 13 (u.s. 12), 14 (u.s. 11), 15 (u.s. 11), 16 (u.s. 11).
      cup-skyphos: 51 (u.s. 10), 54 (u.s. 2).
      bowl: 85 (u.s. 12).

13. 7 petals; very curving petals and volutes
      bowl: 83 (u.s. black).
      plate: 91 (u.s. black).

14. 9 petals, small, spidery leaves
      stemless: 3 (u.s. black).
      bolsal: 43 (u.s. black).
      Third example, L1979-7-2, foot of late stemless cup

15. 11 petals, not enclosed, linear
      cup-skyphos: 69 (u.s. with one circle).
      bowl: 79 (u.s. black).
      plate: 87 (u.s. black).

Miniatures

16. 2 miniature bolsals: 41 and 42 (u.s. 19), with stamp of 9 petals, taller central petal. See also bowl 77 (u.s. black).

Stemless cups with incised decoration

4, 7, 9. None with an u.s. with parallels.

The following belong to no stamp group:

stemless cup: 1 (u.s. 16), 2 (u.s. ?), 4 (u.s. ?), 6 (u.s. ?), 7 (u.s. black), 8 (u.s. ?), 9 (u.s. ?).
      bolsal: 18 (u.s. ?), 26 (u.s. 4), 30 (u.s. ?), 31 (u.s. 3), 32 (u.s. 3), 33 (u.s. 17), 45 (u.s. 18), 48 (u.s. undefined).
      cup-skyphos: 49 (u.s. undefined), 50 (u.s. 3), 59 (u.s. 16 or 17?), 65 (u.s. 16), 68 (u.s. 14), 72 (u.s. ?), 73 (u.s. 17).
      bowls: 76 (u.s. black), 78 (u.s. black), 81 (u.s. probably 16), 84 (u.s. black).
      plates: 86 (u.s. 17?), 90 (u.s. black bands).
      fragments: 96 (u.s. 17), 100 (u.s. ?), 104 (u.s. like 4).
      But note that 1 and 68 have similarities.
APPENDIX II: UNDERSIDE DESIGNS

The designs are given from the outside to the center. There seems to be no standard classification of the patterns, and so I have arbitrarily organized them according to the relative amount of reserved area of the outer u.s. All bands and lines are black, unless specifically called dilute. The reserved areas almost always have miltos, but it has often peeled away. A few with peculiar or unrelated designs are not included.

Wide outer reserved area
1. wide band, center gone, possibly = u.s. 4 without first narrow band
   bolsal: 17 (s.g. 1).
2. narrow line, medium band, 2 more lines, central circle
   cup-skyphos: 54 (s.g. 12).
3. 1 or 2 diluted line(s), central circle and dot; no conspicuous use of black
   stemless: 10: 2 lines (s.g. 3).
   bolsals: 29: 2 lines (s.g. 3), 31: 1 line; 32: 2 lines, 35: 2 lines (s.g. 3), 36: 1 line.
   (s.g. 3), 44: 1 line (s.g. 3), 46: 2 lines (close to s.g. 10).
   cup-skyphos: 50: 1 line.
4. narrow band, wide band, central circle
   bolsals: 19 (s.g. 1), 21 (s.g. 5), 26 (s.g. ?), 39 (s.g. 1).
   fragment, similar: 104.
5. black band with narrow line either side, central circle (very close to previous)
   bolsal: 20 (s.g. 5).

Medium outer reserved area
6. wide band with lines either side; 2 more circles, dot
   bolsal: 40 (s.g. 7).
7. medium band, inner dilute line, central dot (see also u.s. 16)
   bolsal: 37 (s.g. 7), 22 (s.g. 7?).
8. narrow band with lines either side, central circle (quite like u.s. 2)
   stemless: 11 (s.g. 10).
   bolsal: 47 (s.g. 10).
   fragment: 102 (s.g. 10), 98 (with central large dot; close to s.g. 10), and possibly 106 (s.g. 10).
9. wide band, 2 more circles, central circle and dot (close to u.s. 16)
   bowl: 75 (s.g. 10).
10. 2 lines, central circle
    cup-skyphos: 51 (s.g. 12).
11. medium band with dilute lines either side, line, heavy central circle, dot
    stemless cup: 14 (s.g. 12), 15 (s.g. 12), 16 (s.g. 12).
12. dilute line, wide band, central circle
    stemless: 13 (s.g. 12).
    bowl: probably similar except central area faded: 85 (s.g. 12).

Narrow outer reserved area
13. narrow band, 2 dilute lines, central circle
    cup-skyphos: 56 (s.g. 6), 60 (close to s.g. 1).
14. medium band, inner circle, central dot and circle; very similar to previous
   bolsal: 34 (s.g. 7?).
   cup-skyphos: 68.

15. wide band, central circle
   cup-skyphos: 70 (s.g. 2).
   bowl: 74 (s.g. 2).

16. narrow band, line close to band, central circle or dot (u.s. 7 is quite similar but with a wider reserved area)
   stemless: 1, 12 (s.g. 10).
   bolsal: 23 (s.g. 9); 25 is close but sloppy (s.g. 8).
   cup-skyphos: 53 (s.g. 11), 55 (s.g. 11), 58 (s.g. 5), 65; 52 has two lines either side of band, center gone
   (related to s.g. 5).
   bowl: probably 81.
   fragment: 94 (s.g. 9).

17. very like u.s. 16 but with wider black band
   bolsal: 33.
   cup-skyphos: 57 (s.g. 1), 61 (s.g. 5), 64 (close to s.g. 1), 71 (s.g. 1), 73, probably 66 (s.g. 2?), 67 is either
   u.s. 16 or 17 (s.g. 5).
   plate: 86 very similar but bigger; most likely coincidental as the plate is later.
   fragments: 92 (probably s.g. 5), 93 (s.g. 5), 96.

*No outer reserved area; black from inner foot onto u.s.*

18. dilute line, center gone (width of black extending from foot varies)
   bolsal: 24 (s.g. 4), 27 (s.g. 4?), 28 (s.g. 8), 38 (s.g. 8), 45. See also 62 (s.g. 5).

19. band, circles, no central dot
   bolsal: 41, 42 (there are slight differences between them; both s.g. 16).

*All black*

   stemless: 3 (s.g. 14), 7.
   bolsal (miniature): 43 (s.g. 14).
   bowl: 76, 77, 78, 79 (s.g. 15), 80 (s.g. 4), 82 (s.g. 5), 83 (s.g. 13), 84.
   plate: 87 (s.g. 15), 88 (s.g. 10), 91 (s.g. 13).
   fragment: 103 (s.g. 11), 107 (s.g. 3?).
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