GEOMETRIC GRAVES IN THE PANAYIA FIELD AT CORINTH

ABSTRACT

This article describes the forms and contents of three Geometric graves excavated at Corinth from 2001 to 2004. The two earliest graves date to the Early Geometric period and contain monolithic sarcophagi that are among the earliest known at Corinth. One of these graves and an adjacent pit grave dating to the Middle Geometric I period were provided with special niches for grave goods. A nearby child's grave, which may be Geometric as well, is also described. The impact of stone sarcophagi on the development of the Corinthian stoneworking industry is considered in an appendix. Stray Early Iron Age finds from the area are listed in a second appendix.

INTRODUCTION

As early as 1999 the discovery of Geometric sherds and a bronze finger ring (149) at the site of the large Roman domus in the Panayia Field at Ancient Corinth alerted excavators to the possibility of Early Iron Age burials or habitation in this area, located a short distance to the south of the southeastern corner of the Roman Forum (Fig. 1).1 In June of 2001,

1. Sherds from two Early Geometric oinochoai (16, 18) were discovered in 1999 in the disturbed upper portion of well 2002-2. These were later determined to join other fragments excavated in 2002 from lower in the same fill and from the robbing trench (RT 85) immediately to the south. The Geometric ring (149) is similar to one found in grave 2003-12 (70; see Fig. 47, below); it was discovered in general fill of the early 19th century A.D. deposited over the northwest quarter of room A4 of the Roman domus. In 2000 two substantial portions of a third Early Geometric oinochoe (92) were discovered in another robbing trench (RT 192).

I would like to thank Guy Sanders, Director of the Corinth Excavations, for inviting me to publish the graves presented here and for explaining to me many aspects of the history of the site and its excavation. I am indebted to James Herbst for the plans, to Karen Sotiriou for most of the pottery profiles, and to Ino Ioannidou and Lenio Barzioti for the photographs of the pottery and small finds. These and the excavation photographs appear courtesy of the Corinth Excavations. Other illustrations are my own. For assistance in the Corinth Museum I am grateful to Nancy Bookidis and Ioulia Tzonou-Herbst. For showing me some of the material from the Early Iron Age graves recently excavated on the line of the high-speed railroad at Corinth, I would like to thank Zoe Aslamantzi-dou and the staff of the Greek Archaeological Service at Corinth. I am grateful as well to the following scholars for providing valuable information in their respective areas of expertise: John Papadopoulos (Attic pottery),
excavation of a robbing trench (RT 222) north of the fountain court of the Roman domus revealed the top of what later proved to be the lid of the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11 (Figs. 2–4). In May of 2002, this grave was positively identified when excavation of another robbed foundation trench (RT 85) along the northern side of the fountain court of the Roman domus brought to light the damaged south end of the sarcophagus beneath the lid. Over the following month, the sarcophagus was fully revealed and the trench into which it was set was carefully excavated.

In the spring of 2003, the area immediately north of grave 2002-11 was excavated below Roman levels to determine whether other graves were located there. This work resulted in the discovery of a second grave (grave 2003-12), which contained an undisturbed sarcophagus. In the following year, the areas to the north and west of grave 2003-12 were explored in the hope of finding additional graves. In May of 2004, excavation revealed a cache of four whole Geometric vessels a short distance to the north of grave 2003-12. Subsequent exploration of the area immediately north of this deposit led to the identification of the trench and burial pit of a plundered grave (grave 2004-4) and revealed that the previously discovered cache of vessels had been deposited in a niche cut into the southern side of the grave trench. At the same time, excavation along the western side of grave 2003-12 brought to light a niche full of grave goods, including 14 whole Geometric vessels and a spearhead. Although cut into the side of the grave trench, this niche had gone undetected at the time of the initial excavation of the trench, owing to the fact that the fill in the niche was nearly indistinguishable from the earth into which the niche and grave trench had been dug. The 2004 season also brought to light the disturbed burial of a child (grave 2004-3), located roughly 6.5 m east-northeast of grave 2004-4. In the absence of any associated finds, this fourth grave cannot be dated with confidence, but its location near the other three suggests that it too may belong to the Geometric period.

What follows is a detailed description and analysis of all four graves together with a catalogue of the finds associated with the first three. For convenience, the catalogue is divided according to context, although items in the catalogue are numbered sequentially in a single series. Other EIA finds discovered between 1999 and 2004 in the vicinity of the graves are listed in...
Figure 2 (opposite). Actual-state plan of the Geometric graves, showing later phases of activity. J. Herbst

Figure 3 (above). Actual-state plan of the Geometric graves, without later phases of activity. J. Herbst
Appendix 2. These additional finds are included to provide an indication of the fuller range of EIA material from this part of the site and to show that EIA activity in the area was almost certainly not limited to the four burials that have so far been uncovered. Confirmation of the existence of additional graves or other features that might have been associated with the various stray finds must, however, await further excavation.

GRAVE 2002-11

Grave Trench

Grave 2002-11 consists of a single sarcophagus set into a roughly rectangular trench cut into reddish brown, pebbly alluvium (Figs. 5, 6). The trench and sarcophagus are both oriented slightly west of true north. The trench is roughly 2.30 by 3.80 m, leaving a space about 0.60–0.70 m wide at the sides of the sarcophagus and about 0.90–1.00 m wide at the ends. The sarcophagus rests at the bottom of the trench in a slightly tilted position. At its northern end, the top of the sarcophagus lies at a level of 91.35–91.36 masl, roughly 0.95 m below the floor of the fountain court of the Roman domus, which is preserved to the south of the grave. The top of the southern end of the sarcophagus (not preserved) would have been some 0.10 m higher than that of the northern end. The original ground level from which the grave trench was dug is uncertain because subsequent leveling of the site for the construction of the Roman domus and/or its predecessor may have removed the top of the trench. At the western side of the trench, where the division between the trench fill and the surrounding earth was preserved to its highest level, the scarp of the trench rises to an elevation of about 91.84 masl (ca. 0.19 m above the top of the lid of the sarcophagus). This gives a minimum depth for the grave trench of about 1.30 m.

As reported at the time of the excavation, the earth fill in much of the grave trench resembled the reddish brown alluvium into which the grave was cut. To this soil, however, were added cobbles from some other source, which were especially concentrated in the lower fill. Immediately north of the sarcophagus was a particularly high concentration of cobbles covered

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8. Soon after this article was submitted, another EIA sarcophagus burial was, in fact, discovered in the area.
9. In the section (Fig. 4), grave 2002-11 is restored with a slightly greater depth. The ground level in this figure is based on the highest preserved level of the scarp of the trench of the neighboring grave 2003-12 and is restored with a gentle incline toward the south consistent with the general slope of the surrounding terrain and with the slope of the bottoms of the graves.
Figure 5. Plan of grave 2002-11 and associated finds. J. Herbst
with a layer of marl (Fig. 6). Although the marl was found at a level slightly below that of the top of the sarcophagus, it is possible, as Guy Sanders has suggested, that the concentration of cobbles and marl may have served as a ramp to facilitate the placement of the sarcophagus lid.10

**Finds from the Grave Trench**

When excavated, the fill in the grave trench was found to contain a number of vessels that were deposited at the time of the closing of the grave (Fig. 5). From the positions of the pieces that were still in situ, it was clear that the grave trench was partially filled before the vessels were deposited. Two oinochoai (3, 4) were placed upright at the northeastern corner of the trench, approximately 0.63 m above the bottom. The mouth of one oinochoe (3) was covered with an upright skyphos (9); the mouth of the other was covered with a one-handled cup (10) tilted on its side. A short distance to the west and southwest were two aryballoi (7, 12), lying on their sides at the same level. To the east of the sarcophagus, a large coarse amphora (11) was found collapsed in place with its bottom at the same level as the preceding vessels. It appears that the east side of the amphora was cut away either when the Hellenistic well 2002-2 was created or when the upper portion of the well was later disturbed.

Between this amphora and the vessels at the northeastern corner of the grave trench were found two more oinochoai (5, 6). In contrast to the previously mentioned vessels, these were evidently not in situ. They lay on their sides at the bottom of the grave trench in the midst of disturbed Hellenistic or Roman fill that extended well to the east of the trench (Fig. 2). It is quite likely that they originally stood upright in this part of the grave trench but were disturbed when the eastern side of the grave was intruded upon. At the western side of the grave trench, a fine painted amphora (1) was found standing upright next to the scarp, approximately 0.38 m above

the bottom of the trench. The mouth of the amphora was covered by an upright skyphos (8). A short distance to the south of this amphora, part of a second nearly identical amphora (2) was found in situ at the same level as the first. The southern portion of this amphora had been disturbed by the robbed foundation trench (RT 85) that crossed from east to west through the southern part of the grave trench (Fig. 2).

The remains of vessels found in situ or only slightly disturbed show that a minimum 12 vessels (1–12) were deposited in the trench. This is, by Corinthian standards, an impressive number of vessels to be associated with a single grave, but the original total may have been considerably higher, since disturbed fills in the immediate proximity of grave 2002-11 yielded fragments of 20 additional vessels (13–32) that are contemporary with the vessels from the grave trench itself. It is impossible to determine precisely how many of these might derive from grave 2002-11, but the most complete pieces, such as 14, 16, and 18, are not likely to have moved far from their original positions and are therefore very likely to belong to the grave group.

**Vases Securely Associated with the Grave**

Unless otherwise noted, the painted fine wares catalogued in this article are of typically Corinthian fabric, characterized by well-levigated, hard-fired clay, ranging in color from light tan (between 7.5YR 7/4 and 10YR 8/4)\(^\text{11}\) to greenish buff (2.5Y 8/2) and yellowish buff (10YR 8/4), with relatively few small dark inclusions and very rare medium-sized white inclusions; the glaze generally ranges from light yellowish brown (7.5YR 6/8) where dilute to dark grayish brown (10YR 3/1) where thick. All measurements are in meters.

**Painted Fine Wares**

1 Neck-handled amphora  

- H. 0.402, Diam. of foot 0.124, max. Diam. of body 0.257, Diam. of neck (center) 0.090, Diam. of rim 0.143–0.147, W. of handle (center) 0.038, Th. of handle (center) 0.015. Mended from numerous fragments. Nearly complete; small gaps in body; chips on rim and foot. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

- Flaring ring foot with flattened resting surface and narrow, beveled outer edge. Underside slightly convex. Ovoid body rising directly to concave neck topped with outward-thickened rim with rounded lip. Two vertical strap handles with rounded outer edges rise from shoulder to upper neck.

- Inside and resting surface of foot and underside of vessel reserved. Exterior of body and neck dark ground with narrow decorative zone at base of shoulder and square handle panel at center of neck. Shoulder zone consists of two horizontal reserved bands above and below a reserved zone filled with opposed groups of narrowly spaced diagonal bands separated by tall glazed triangles. Neck panel divided into quadrants by three glazed bands intersecting at right angles to form St. George's cross; each quadrant filled with diagonally crisscrossed square. Outside of handles decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handles glazed; inside of handles reserved. Inside of rim glazed; rest of interior unglazed.

\(^{11}\) The colors of fabrics and glazes are described using the numerical notations of the *Munsell Soil Color Charts* (Baltimore 1975).
A shoulder zone with opposed diagonals is found on one other Corinthian amphora (W-27: *Corinth* VII.1, p. 12, no. 35, pl. 6), which appears to be earlier than 1. It is also attested on a number of Athenian EG I amphoras; see, e.g., Agora P 20177 (*GGP*, pl. 1:i) and Kerameikos 926 (*Kerameikos* V.1, pl. 25). According to Coldstream (*GGP*, p. 15), the motif of opposed diagonals, which was a carryover from the PG period, disappears from the Attic repertoire by the EG II phase. The small size of the neck panel on 1 is consistent with Athenian EG panels (see again Agora P 20177). I know of no exact parallel within the corpus of Attic EG pottery for the motif used in this panel, but it appears to be related to the divided square patterns with crosshatched areas that are attested in various positions on Attic EG I vessels: e.g., on the belly of an oinochoe (Blegen 1952, pl. 76) or between the handles of a cup (Young 1949, p. 295, fig. 10). Closer parallels for the motif are found on two later (MG I) amphoras identified as Boiotian by Coldstream; one is from Vranesi (unpublished); the other (now in the British Museum) is evidently without provenance (*GGP* p. 199, pl. 43:a). On the published piece, the panel is relatively larger than that on 1, as is consistent with its later date, and the quadrants of the cross seem not to have been filled with crosshatching. Coldstream observed that this cross motif might “prove to be a typically Boeotian feature,” but in light of the presence of the same motif on two EG Corinthian amphoras (1 and 2), it is now clear that, regardless of how typically Boeotian the feature may prove to be, it is not exclusive to that region.

2 Neck-handled amphora

C-1999-52. Lots 2002-30, 2002-33. Part of body found in situ south of 1, in grave trench west of sarcophagus; displaced fragments found in fill inside sarcophagus and fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench.
Figure 8. Amphora 2. Scale 1:4 (detail not to scale). Drawing K. Sotiriou

H. 0.408, Diam. of foot 0.126, max. Diam. of body 0.267, Diam. of neck (center) 0.093, Diam. of rim 0.146, W. of handle (center) 0.035, Th. of handle (center) 0.014. Mended from numerous fragments. Large gap in one side of body; other smaller gaps in foot, underside, body, and rim. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Shape and size virtually identical to those of 1.

Decoration like that of 1, but decorative zone at base of shoulder consists of two horizontal reserved bands above and below a reserved zone filled with groups of narrowly spaced vertical bands separated by double axes.
On a vessel that is in all other respects consistent with the EG I phase of the Attic sequence, it is somewhat surprising to find double axes alternating with groups of vertical bands in the shoulder zone. According to Coldstream (GGP, p. 18, n. 7), this motif is first attested on Attic vases in the EG II phase, but does not come into common use for a shoulder zone until the MG I and II phases.

3 Oinochoe


H. 0.280, Diam. of foot 0.085, max. Diam. of body 0.201, Diam. of neck (at center) 0.059, W. of handle (center) 0.029, Th. of handle (center) 0.012. Mended from numerous fragments. Nearly complete; small gaps in body; chips on rim. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Flaring ring foot with slightly beveled resting surface; convex underside of vessel offset by groove from inside of foot. Full ovoid body rising to concave neck topped with trefoil mouth. Line of attachment between separately made upper body and neck marked by prominent ridge at base of interior of neck. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and rim. The handle (like those of 4, 5, 16, and 17) is high enough to allow all four fingers to pass around it.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Exterior of foot, body, and neck solidly glazed except for decorative zone at base of shoulder consisting of one horizontal reserved band above and below a slightly wider reserved band filled with zigzag executed in dilute glaze. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed; inside of handle reserved. Inside of vessel unglazed.

This oinochoe belongs to a type that is common in EG contexts at Corinth. At least one other example of the type (4) was placed in grave 2002-11, and two further examples (16 and 17) may also have been included in the grave assemblage. Four additional examples (53–56) were placed in the adjacent grave 2003-12. Oinochoai of this type (and variants with plain reserved bands in place of the zigzag zone on the shoulder) were produced in a variety of sizes. With a capacity of 3.6 liters, 3 is the largest so far attested at Corinth.12 The next smallest size, with a capacity of about 2.7 to 3.0 liters, is represented by 54, 55, and 56. Oinochoai of this smaller size seem to have been especially popular at Corinth: one example was found in grave 1940-5 at the western end of the Forum (Weinberg 1948, p. 205, no. B3, pl. 71), and several were included in the grave group(s) discovered at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau in 1928 (Corinth VII.1, p. 10, nos. 22–25, pls. 2–4). The next smallest size, with a capacity of about 1.8 to 1.9 liters, is represented by 4, 5, 16, 18, and 57. Oinochoai of this size too are attested in other contexts at Corinth: one is from grave 1973-6 (C-1973-156, unpublished; see Williams, MacIntosh, and Fisher 1974, p. 24, n. 21), and two are from the grave group(s) at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau (Corinth VII.1, pp. 10–11, nos. 26, 27, pls. 3, 4). The smallest size, represented by 6, has a capacity of about 0.95 liters. To my knowledge, no other well-preserved examples of this size have been found at Corinth. A comparison of the capacities of these oinochoai suggests that their sizes were roughly incremental in a ratio of 1:2:3:4.

4 Oinochoe


H. 0.237, Diam. of foot 0.072, max. Diam. of body 0.167, Diam. of neck (center) 0.055, W. of handle (center) 0.029, Th. of handle (center) 0.012. Mended

12. The capacity of this vessel, and of others mentioned below, was measured using sand poured into the vessel to the level of the bottom of the neck.
Figure 9. Oinochoai 3 and 4.
Scale 1:3. Drawings K. Sotiriou
from numerous fragments. Nearly complete; small gaps and chips on body; chips on foot, neck and rim. Glaze: cracked and worn.

Smaller version of 3. Here the outside of the ring foot flares only slightly; the resting surface varies from rounded to beveled. There is no clear articulation between the inside of the foot and the underside of the vessel. As on the larger oinochoai 3, the body is ovoid, but here (and on the other smaller oinochoai 5, 6, 16, and 18) there is a subtle, rounded ridge in the outer contour of the body just above the midpoint, immediately below the decorative zone. A simple sharp ridge at the base of the inside of the neck marks the point of attachment between the neck and body.

Decoration similar to 3.

5 Oinochoe

C-2002-32. Lot 2002-34. Most of vase found lying nearly upside down against outer east side of sarcophagus, probably tipped over into this position when area east of grave was disturbed. Two rim sherds found in nearby fill.

H. 0.236, Diam. of foot 0.071, max. Diam. of body 0.165, Diam. of neck (center) 0.056, W. of handle (center) 0.024, Th. of handle (center) 0.011. Complete except for chips on rim and foot; cracks through body and rim. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Shape and size similar to those of 4 and 16. Capacity: ca. 1.9 liters. The foot flares more than that of 4 and its resting surface is wider and more consistently beveled.

Decoration similar to that of 4 but with four horizontal reserved bands (no zigzags) at bottom of shoulder. Inside of vessel unglazed except for inner edge of rim.

6 Oinochoe

C-2002-37. Lot 2002-34. Found lying on side in disturbed area east of sarcophagus. Located south of oinochoai 3 and 4 (both in situ) and northeast of oinochoai 5.

H. 0.188, Diam. of foot 0.063, max. Diam. of body 0.143, Diam. of neck (center) 0.043, W. of handle (center) 0.023, Th. of handle (center) 0.011. Mended from numerous fragments. Nearly complete except for forward portion of rim and chips on foot and body. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Shape similar to the preceding oinochoai but smaller. Capacity: ca. 0.95 liters. Foot flares to rounded outer edge and resting surface. Sloping inside of foot partially articulated from underside by incised line. Underside slightly convex. The ridge between the upper and lower body is subtle but crisper than on the other oinochoai from grave 2002-11. There is no distinct articulation between the inside of the body and neck. The handle, though of the same form as those of 3-5, is so much smaller that only three fingers can pass around it.

Decoration like that of 5 but with three rather than four horizontal reserved bands at bottom of shoulder and no glaze on inside of rim.

7 Miniature globular aryballos


H. 0.057, Diam. of base 0.030, max. Diam. of body 0.053, Diam. of rim 0.021, W. of handle (center) 0.013, Th. of handle (center) 0.006. Intact except for very small chips on rim. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Slightly concave base; globular biconical body, rising to small concave neck
curving outward to beveled lip. Small vertical strap handle with rounded edges rises from upper body to lip.

Underside reserved. Body and neck appear to have been solidly glazed. Exterior of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed(?); inside of handle reserved. Inside of rim glazed; rest of interior of vessel unglazed.

Parallels from early EG contexts are lacking. The form of the body is similar to late EG and MG aryballoi, such as C-1961-3 from a late EG grave at Mavrospeia (Lawrence 1964, p. 90, no. M 2, pl. 17) and five aryballoi from MG I grave 1952-2 at Klenia (Charitonidès 1955, p. 126, nos. 5–9, pl. 39), but the neck is not as sharply articulated from the shoulder. This lack of articulation is attested
on a LPG aryballos, CP-1900 from LPG grave 1938-13 at Vello (Corinth VII.1, p. 7, no. 11, pl. 1). This same piece provides the only parallel known to me for the solidly glazed body of 7. EG and MG aryballoi tend, by contrast, to have a reserved shoulder filled with triangular motifs (as in the examples from Mavrospelaies and Klenia cited above).

8 Skyphos

H. 0.082, Diam. of foot 0.051, Diam. of rim 0.115–0.117. Mended from numerous fragments. Nearly complete; small gaps in body and chips on rim. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Fairly small flaring ring foot with narrow beveled resting surface. Concave inside of foot curves into underside without clear articulation. Hemispherical body rises to low concave vertical rim with rounded lip. Two canted horizontal loop handles, round in section, rise from upper body.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Exterior of foot, body, and rim dark ground with handle zone consisting of reserved horizontal band filled with dilute zigzag framed above and below by a single reserved band. On one side, at least, the zigzag crosses into the framing band below. Outside of handles solidly glazed; inside of handles and area of body between handle roots reserved. Reserved band on inside of rim; rest of interior appears to have been solidly glazed (no trace of reserved circle at center of floor).

The shape is typical of EG skyphoi, such as C-1973-154 and C-1973-155 from grave 1973-6 west of the Lechaion Road (unpublished; see Williams, MacIntosh, and Fisher 1974, p. 24, n. 21); the size is intermediate between these two examples. The decoration is most closely paralleled on CP-1895 from MG I grave 1934-13 at Athikia (Corinth VII.1, p. 20, no. 72, pl. 11; GGP, pp. 93–95) and CP-866 from MG I grave 1899-2 north of the fountain of Peirene (Corinth VII.1, p. 17, no. 59).

9 Skyphos

H. 0.076, Diam. of foot 0.047, est. Diam. of rim 0.115. Numerous joining fragments preserving most of foot, roughly half of body, one-third of rim, one complete handle, root of second handle. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Shape like that of 8 but slightly shorter; foot more delicate, with slight articulation between concave inside of foot and underside of vessel.

Decoration like that of 8. On preserved handle zone dilute zigzag extends into lower framing band. Small reserved circle at center of floor.

10 One-handled cup

Figure 12. Skyphoi 8 and 9. Scale 1:2.
Drawings K. Sotiriou

Figure 13. One-handled cup 10.
Scale 1:2. Drawing K. Sotiriou

H. 0.057, Diam. of base 0.033–0.035, max. Diam. of body 0.097, Diam. of rim 0.094. Mended from numerous joining fragments. Nearly complete; small gaps in body, rim, and handle (part of upper handle restored in plaster). Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Small, slightly concave base; roughly hemispherical body topped with low concave vertical rim with rounded lip. One vertical strap handle with rounded edges rises from middle of body to lip.

Bottom reserved. Exterior of body solidly glazed. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed(?); inside of handle reserved. Reserved band on inside of rim; rest of interior solidly glazed (no reserved circle at center of floor).

The closest parallel for the base and body is C-1969-261 from EG grave 1970–9 at the western end of the Forum (Pfaff 1999, p. 104, fig. 41); the rim of 10 is, however, relatively lower and so closer to that of C-1963-645 from MG I well 1963–7 at Anaploga (Pfaff 1999, p. 104, fig. 41).
Plain Handmade Wares

Amphora

C-2002-38. Lot 2002-30. Most of vessel found in situ standing upright in grave trench east of sarcophagus. Two displaced fragments from fill in disturbed upper portion of well 2002-2 east of grave; one from fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench.

H. 0.605, Diam. of base 0.135–0.140, max. Diam. of body 0.495, Diam. of neck (center) 0.135, Diam. of rim 0.179–0.183, W. of handle (center) 0.043, Th. of handle (center) 0.030. Mended from many fragments. Missing large part of one side of body; other smaller gaps in body, neck, and rim. Clay: light orangish brown (5YR 6/6) to orangish tan (5YR 7/4) below surface; light orangish brown (between 5YR 6/6 and 5YR 7/6) on inner surface of body and lower neck; yellowish buff (10YR 8/4 to 10YR 8/6) on most of outer surface of vessel and on inside of upper neck; three large, light orange spots (between 5YR 6/6 and 5YR 7/6) on outer surface, probably where body made contact with other vessels in kiln; many small to large reddish brown and gray mudstone inclusions; some medium to very large lime inclusions that have exploded on surface.

Flat base; very plump ovoid body rising to inward sloping concave neck. Very slight ridge articulates bottom of neck on exterior; no articulation between body and neck on interior. Top of neck curves out continuously to outturned rim with flattened lip. Two heavy vertical handles, oval in section, rise in broad arc from shoulder to top of neck.

Surface appears to have been wiped over while damp, leaving irregular marks on body. One thumbprint at base of each handle. Thumbprints in this position are common on Corinthian Geometric amphoras: cf. C-1963-649, C-1982-133, C-1982-134 (Pfaff 1988, p. 63, fig. 22), and C-1969-52 (Williams 1970, p. 16, no. 16, pl. 7).

There are at present no EG amphoras from Corinth that provide a close parallel for this piece. Two unpublished PG neck fragments that may belong to either coarse amphoras or hydrias (C-1972-302 and C-1972-303, from well 1972-7) lack the inward inclination of the neck of 11 and have almost no rim; the sloping neck of 11 appears on two amphoras from MG I and MG II contexts.
C-1963-650 (from well 1963-7 at Anaploga: Pfaff 1988, p. 63, fig. 22) and C-1982-133 (from well 1981-6: Pfaff 1988, pp. 63, 65, no. 68, fig. 22), but the rims of these amphoras still do not curve out as much as that of 11. Rims similar to that of 11 are not, thus far, attested on amphoras before the MG II phase (see, e.g., C-1982-134 from well 1981-6: Pfaff 1988, pp. 63, 65, no. 69, fig. 22). If 11 is really of MG II date, it must be unrelated to the rest of the EG pottery assemblage of grave 2002-11. If, on the other hand, it does belong to the assemblage, and is therefore EG, then it must be admitted that the typological development of Geometric coarse amphoras is less consistent than my previous study suggested (Pfaff 1988, pp. 29–31).

12 Globular aryballos


H. 0.101, Diam. of base 0.034–0.037, max. Diam. of body 0.093, Diam. of rim 0.031, W. of handle (center) 0.014, Th. of handle (center) 0.008. Intact but cracked on one side of body. Clay: buff (10YR 8/3) with very small dark inclusions.

Small, irregular, slightly concave base; roughly spherical body; small, asymmetrically placed concave neck topped with outturned rim with flattened lip. Small vertical strap handle with rounded edges rises from upper body to lip.

Surface burnished. Mouth closed with marl.

The closest parallels for both the shape and the size are 68 from grave 2003–12 and C-1936-827 from grave 1936–17 beneath the South Stoa, which is not precisely datable (Corinth VII.1, pp. 30–31, no. 89, pl. 14). Also similar is W-17 (Corinth VII.1, p. 15, no. 51, pl. 9) from the EG grave group(s) discovered at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau, but W-17 is larger and its neck is more clearly articulated from the body (perhaps an indication that it is more developed typologically). 12 is similar in size to C-1961-04 from an EG grave at Mavrospelaies (Lawrence 1964, p. 90, no. M 3, pl. 17), but C-1961-04 again has a more clearly articulated neck and its handle is considerably broader. That the broader handle is a later feature is supported by the fact that it also appears on an aryballos (Corinth VII.1, p. 18, no. 66, pl. 10) from MG I grave 1899-2 north of the fountain of Peirene.

Figure 15. Aryballos 12. Scale 1:2.
Drawing K. Sotiriou
Early Geometric Vases Less Securely Associated with the Grave
Painted Fine Wares

13 Attic amphora

C-2002-44a–e. Lot 2002-30. One fragment (a) from fill within sarcophagus; other fragments from fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench.

(a) W. of handle (center) 0.043, Th. of handle (center) 0.025. Four joining fragments preserving one complete handle and portion of attached neck and shoulder. (b) p.H. 0.082, Diam. of foot 0.175. Five joining fragments preserving nearly complete foot and underside of vessel and small portion of lower body. (c) p.H. 0.270, W. of handle (center) 0.043, Th. of handle (center) 0.026. Twelve joining fragments preserving most of one handle and portion of upper body, shoulder, and lower neck. (d) est. Diam. of base of neck (at painted band) 0.160. Two joining fragments preserving portion of lower neck. (e) max. dim. 0.218. Ten joining fragments preserving portion of center of body. Twelve additional nonjoining fragments in lot 2002-30. Clay: tan (7.5YR 7/4) with some small to medium dark red inclusions, few large white inclusions. Glaze: yellowish brown (5YR 5/6) where dilute; brownish red (2.5YR 4/4 to 2.5YR 4/6), dark reddish brown (2.5YR 3/2), and dark brown (5YR 3/1) where thick; well preserved.

Heavy flaring ring foot, very slightly convex underside, broad ovoid body rising to fairly tall cylindrical neck. Two tall handles, oval in section, rise vertically from shoulder and curve in sharply at top to upper neck. Rim (not preserved) would almost certainly have been outward-thickened with rounded lip, as in 14.

Figure 16. Attic amphora 13.
Scale 1:6. Drawing K. Sotiriou
Exterior of foot solidly glazed; resting surface and inside of foot and underside of vessel reserved. Preserved portion of lower body reserved. Broad horizontal glazed band encircles body just below maximum diameter, and second band separates shoulder from upper body; another thinner glazed band marks base of neck; rest of preserved portions of body and neck reserved. Lower ends of handles encircled by single horizontal glazed band. Exterior of handles decorated with elongated, glazed X; crossing of X occurs high on handles. Sides and interior of handle reserved. Interior entirely unglazed.

The shape and basic scheme of decoration are similar to LPG and EG I banded amphoras from the Athenian Agora: P 9667 from LPG Tomb B 10:1 and P 24791 from EG I Tomb N 16:4 (Papadopoulos 2002, p. 171, fig. 16). The fact that the band on the shoulder of 13 is rather thinner than the bands on P 9667, but is similar to those on P 24791 and later Geometric examples, suggests that 13 should be assigned to the EG rather than PG phase.

14 Amphora


H. 0.300, Diam. of foot 0.090, max. Diam. of body 0.201, Diam. of neck (center) 0.073, est. Diam. of rim 0.120, W. of handle (center) 0.029, Th. of handle (center) 0.010. Numerous joining sherds preserving most of foot, slightly more than half of underside and body, two-thirds of neck, one-third of rim, one complete handle, and roots of second handle. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Figure 17. Amphora 14. Scale 1:3
Low, slightly flaring ring foot with flattened resting surface. Inside of foot clearly articulated from slightly convex underside. Full ovoid body rising to concave neck topped with outward-thickened rim with rounded lip. Exterior of body not clearly articulated from bottom of neck. Shallow concavity at inside of rim. Vertical strap handles with rounded outer edges rise from shoulder to upper portion of neck.

Exterior of foot, body, neck, and rim solidly glazed with exception of decorative zone at base of shoulder, consisting of two horizontal reserved bands above and below a narrow reserved zone filled with zigzag executed in dilute glaze. Outside of handles decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed; inside of handles reserved. Inside of rim glazed; rest of interior unglazed.

The decoration of this amphora is obviously related to that of Corinthian EG oinochoai, such as 3. I am unaware of other similarly decorated amphoras from Corinth apart from the very fragmentary vessel that follows (15).

15 Amphora

Lots 2001-20:1, 2002-34:2, 2002-34:3, 2005-6:1, 2005-6:2, 2005-6:3. From fill in upper portion of well 2002-2 east of grave, fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of trench of grave 2002-11, and fill in Roman robbing trench (RT 222) that extended from south to north over top of grave 2002-11 and southwestern corner of grave 2003-12.

(a) p.H. ca. 0.070, Diam. of foot 0.093. Four joining fragments preserving most of foot and underside of vessel, and small portion of lower body. Glaze: cracked. (b) W. of handle (center) 0.032, Th. of handle (center) 0.011. Ten joining fragments preserving portion of upper body and shoulder, complete handle, and very small portion of upper neck. Glaze: worn. (c) max. dim. 0.088, Th. 0.003–0.006, est. max. Diam. of body 0.23. Two joining fragments, broken all around, preserving small portion of central body and shoulder. Glaze: cracked. (d) max. dim. 0.077. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of lower shoulder. Glaze: worn. (e) max. dim. 0.085, Th. 0.003–0.004. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of shoulder and lower neck. Glaze: cracked and worn. Six other fragments likely to belong to this vessel are in lots 2002-34, 2002-35, 2005-6. The fragments are associated on the basis of the scale of the vessel to which they belong and the colors of the clay and glaze (although these are by no means uniform). Clay is generally buff (10YR 8/3), but on some fragments (a, b, and d) it is orangish tan (5YR 7/6) below surface; few small white and dark inclusions. Glaze: light brown (7.5YR 6/6) to brown (7.5YR 4/3), dark brown (7.5YR 3/1), and black (10YR 2/1).

Flaring ring foot with slightly beveled resting surface. Inside of foot clearly articulated from flat, recessed underside of vessel. Full ovoid body rising to concave neck. No clear articulation between outside of body and bottom of neck. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges rises from shoulder to neck.

Resting surface and inside of foot and underside of vessel reserved. Exterior of foot, body, and neck solidly glazed except for decorative zone consisting of two horizontal reserved bands above and below a narrow reserved zone filled with zigzag executed in dilute glaze. Outside of handles decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed; inside of handles reserved.

In lot 2005-6, in addition to a nonjoining shoulder fragment that probably belongs to 15, there are two other shoulder fragments of amphoras or oinochoai similarly decorated with double reserved bands above and below the zigzag zone, which appear to belong to different vessels.
Figure 18. Amphora 15. Scale 1:3

16  Oinochoe

C-2002-41. Lots 1999-27, 2002-30. Fragments from fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) and from fill in disturbed upper portion of well 2002-2 east of grave.

P.H. 0.220, max. Diam. of body 0.174, Diam. of neck (center) 0.061, W. of handle (center) 0.028, Th. of handle (center) 0.013. Numerous joining fragments preserving less than half of body, more than half of neck and rim, all of handle. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Shape and size similar to those of 4. The subtle rounded ridge between the upper and lower body of this oinochoe is located relatively higher than on 4. Here it is possible to see that the ridge does not mark a joint in the fabric of the vessel; the body was evidently thrown in one piece. The junction between the top of the body and the separately made neck is marked by a conspicuous ridge on the interior of the vessel.

Decoration similar to 3. The zigzag band is only slightly wider than the two plain framing bands.
17 Oinochoe, body fragments


(a) max. dim. 0.078, Th. 0.002–0.005, est. max. Diam. of body 0.17. Three joining sherds preserving small portion of upper body and lower shoulder. (b) max. dim. 0.054, Th. 0.002–0.003. Two joining sherds preserving small portion of upper body and shoulder.

Ovoid body of oinochoe similar in size to 16.
Decoration like that of 16. That the zigzag on these pieces is more neatly executed than on 16 indicates that they belong to a different vessel.

18 Oinochoe

C-2002-9. Lots 1999-27, 2002-30. Most of vessel from fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench; two sherds from fill in disturbed upper portion of well 2002-2 east of grave.

PH. 0.211, max. Diam. of body 0.161, Diam. of neck (center) 0.050, W. of handle (center) 0.026, Th. of handle (center) 0.012. Several joining fragments preserving roughly half of body, nearly all of neck; rim and top of handle chipped. Glaze: unusually lustrous; light yellowish brown (between 7.5YR 6/6 and 10YR 6/6) where dilute; dark grayish brown (10YR 3/1) where thick; cracked and very worn.

Shape and size similar to those of 4, 5, and 16, but with slightly narrower neck. There is only a hint of a ridge at the junction of the upper and lower halves of the body. On the inside a conspicuous ridge marks the junction of the shoulder and neck.
Decoration like that of 6.
Figure 20. Oinochoai 18–20. Scale 1:3.
Drawing of 18 K. Sotiriou

19 Oinochoe, body, neck, and rim fragments

Lots 2002-34:1, 2002-35:1 and 2. From disturbed fill in grave trench east of sarcophagus and from fill in disturbed upper portion of well 2002-2 east of grave.

(a) max. dim. 0.052. Single fragment preserving portion of rear lobe of trefoil rim. (b) p.H. 0.071. Two joining fragments preserving portion of shoulder and lower neck. (c) p.H. 0.071, max. dim. 0.150. Six joining fragments preserving portion of upper body and shoulder. In lots 2002-34 and 2002-35 are two other nonjoining body fragments. The fragments are associated on the basis of the color of the clay and glaze and the relatively good condition of the glaze (cracked but not very worn).

The shape and size were apparently close to those of 3. There is a distinct groove along the inside of the rim which is absent from other EG oinochoai associated with grave 2002-11.

Decoration like that of 6 and 18.
20 Oinochoe, rim fragment
Lot 2002-30:1. From fill in sarcophagus and Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut through southern part of grave trench.
P.H. 0.054, Diam. of upper neck ca. 0.065. Two joining fragments preserving roughly one-third of rear lobe of trefoil rim and small portion of upper neck.
Glaze: cracked and very worn.
Trefoil rim similar in size and shape to that of 3.
All of exterior and top of rim solidly glazed. Interior unglazed.

21 Oinochoe or neck-handled amphora, handle fragment
W. 0.038, Th. 0.014. Single fragment of straight lower portion of handle, broken above and below. Glaze: cracked and worn.
Vertical strap handle with rounded edges.
Outside of handle decorated with narrowly spaced horizontal bands; outer edges glazed; inside reserved.
This handle is larger than the handles of any of the oinochoai or amphoras associated with grave 2002-11.

22 Oinochoe or neck-handled amphora, handle fragment
Lot 2001-20:2. From mixed fill above cover slab of sarcophagus.
W. 0.032, Th. 0.011. Single fragment preserving central portion of handle, broken above and below. Glaze: cracked and worn.
Vertical strap handle with rounded edges.
Decoration like that of 21.
This handle is larger than the handles of any of the oinochoai of the grave group. It is similar in size to the handle of the amphora 15 and could possibly belong to that vessel.

23 Oinochoe, handle fragment
Lot 2001-20:3. From same context as 22.
W. 0.027, Th. 0.009. Single fragment preserving lower two-thirds of handle, broken at lower attachment. Glaze: very worn.
Vertical strap handle with rounded edges.
Decoration like that of 21 and 22.
The size of this handle is appropriate for oinochoai of the sizes of 3 and 5.

24 Skyphos
C-2003-30. Lot 2002-30. Over half of vessel exposed by rain in south scarp of Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85); broken, but sitting upright, this portion might still have been in situ near southwestern corner of grave trench. Other fragments found nearby in fill of robbing trench.
Figure 22. Skyphoi 24–29. Scale 1:2

H. 0.066–0.068, Diam. of foot 0.039, Diam. of rim 0.095–0.105. Nearly complete; missing only chips on foot, small portions of body and rim, and most of one handle. Glaze: cracked and worn.

Size and shape similar to those of 8, 9, and 26. Foot similar to that of 9 but even more delicate and without flaring outer face. As on 9, underside clearly articulated from inside of foot. Prior to firing, the upper body and rim of one side were pushed in, thereby distorting the circle of the rim.

Dark ground body with handle zone on each side consisting of horizontal reserved band filled with dilute zigzag framed above and below by single reserved band. The zigzags are particularly neat and do not extend into the framing reserved bands (unlike 8 and 9). Horizontal reserved band on inside of rim; rest of interior solidly glazed; no reserved circle on center of floor.

25 Skyphos, rim fragment


P.H. 0.054, est. Diam. of rim 0.110. Three joining fragments preserving less than one-quarter of rim and portion of attached body. Glaze: very worn.

Size and shape similar to those of 8.

Decoration like that of 24. Here too the zigzag of the handle zone is neatly confined within its reserved band.
Skyphos, rim fragments

Lot 2002-30:3 and 4. From fill in sarcophagus, fill in disturbed upper portion of well 2002-2 east of grave, and fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench.

(a) p.H. 0.061, est. Diam. of rim 0.115. Five joining fragments preserving less than one-quarter of rim and portion of attached body with lower end of one handle attachment. (b) p.H. 0.025. Two joining fragments preserving small portion of rim and upper body with one nearly complete handle. Glaze: almost entirely worn away on both fragments.

Size and shape very similar to those of 8.

Decoration: probably like that of 8, 9, 24, and 25, but handle zone above solidly glazed lower body not preserved. Interior solidly glazed except for reserved band on inside of rim.

Skyphos, rim fragments


(a) p.H. 0.050. Single fragment preserving small portion of rim and body with one complete handle. (b) p.H. 0.030. Single fragment preserving small portion of rim and upper body. Glaze: cracked and very worn. Fragments associated on basis of size of vessel and color of clay and glaze.

Size and shape similar to those of 8, 9, 24, and 25.

Dark ground body with part of zigzag handle zone like those of 8, 9, 24, and 25; area between handle roots reserved. Outside of handle solidly glazed; inside reserved. Inside of vessel solidly glazed except for horizontal reserved band near top of rim.

Skyphos, body fragment


P.H. 0.032, Th. 0.004. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of upper body. Glaze: cracked and worn on interior; slightly worn on exterior.

Convex upper body of skyphos like 24–27.

Lower body solidly glazed below handle zone consisting of horizontal reserved band filled with dilute zigzag framed above and below by two reserved bands. The zigzag stays neatly within its band. Inside solidly glazed.

The use of double rather than single bands to frame the handle zone is also attested on 42, 45–48, and 124.

Skyphos, rim fragment

Lot 2002-35:3. From disturbed fill east of grave.

P.H. 0.022, est. Diam. of rim ca. 0.110. Single fragment preserving about one-tenth of rim and small portion of upper body. Glaze: well preserved.

Convex upper body curving in to low concave vertical rim.

Exterior and interior solidly glazed except for single horizontal reserved band near center of exterior of rim and very thin reserved band near top of inside of rim.

The closest parallel for the profile of the rim and the decoration of the exterior is a one-handled cup from a MG I well at Anaploga (well 1963-7; unpublished), but the larger diameter of the rim of 29 suggests that it belongs to a skyphos rather than a cup. Examples of skyphoi with approximately the same diameter, similar decoration, and similar, though smaller, rims, are W-4, W-12, and W-15 (Corinth VII.1, pp. 13–14, nos. 40–42, pl. 7) from the EG grave group(s) discovered at the
northern edge of the Corinthian plateau, and C-1930-87 (Corinth VII.1, p. 19, no. 68, pl. 11), an isolated find from the “Baths of Aphrodite” at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau. On the basis of these parallels, 29 might date to the EG or MG I phase.

**Plain Handmade Wares**

30 Pitcher(?), base fragment


PH. 0.060, est. Diam. of base 0.095. Two joining fragments preserving nearly half of base and small portion of lower body. Clay: greenish buff (2.5Y 8/2) on exterior surface, yellowish buff (10YR 8/4) on interior surface and below surface, buff (7.5YR 8/4) at core, with many small to large gray mudstone inclusions.

Flat base with rounded outer edge from which fairly broad lower body rises. Body wall concave immediately above base but becoming convex further up.

Underside of base and exterior of body appear to have been wiped over while damp to smooth surface.

Similar bases and lower body profiles are found on EG–MG II pitchers with plump ovoid bodies: C-1940-344 from EG grave 1940-5 (Weinberg 1948, p. 205, no. B4, pl. 72), C-1973-158 from EG grave 1973-6 (Pfaff 1988, p. 69, fig. 27), C-1963-618 from MG I well 1963-7 at Anaploga (unpublished), KP-984 from MG II grave 1931-94 in the Potters’ Quarter (Corinth XV.3, p. 15, no. 7, pl. 1). Because of the range of dates suggested by the comparanda, it is unclear if this pitcher and the two that follow are more likely to be associated with the EG assemblage of grave 2002-11 or with the MG sherds from the area, which might derive from a later burial.

31 Pitcher(?), base fragment

Lot 2002-30:5. From fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench.

PH. 0.025. Single fragment preserving small portions of base and lower body. Interior surface spalled. Clay: yellowish buff (10YR 8/4) at surface, tan (7.5YR 7/4) below surface, with many small to large brown and gray mudstone inclusions.

Flat base with rounded outer edge from which broad lower body rises; similar to 30.

Exterior surface of body burnished.

For parallels, see 30.

32 Pitcher(?), base fragment

Lot 2002-30:6. From fill in Late Roman robbing trench (RT 85) where it cut from east to west through southern part of grave trench.

![Figure 23. Pitchers(?), 30–32. Scale 1:2](image)
P.H. 0.018, est. Diam. of base 0.085. Single fragment preserving about one-third of base and very small portion of lower body. Interior surface spalled. Clay: orangish tan (5YR 7/6) with many small to large reddish brown mudstone inclusions. Three other nonjoining fragments in lot 2002-30 and two in lot 2002-33 (fill in grave trench west of sarcophagus).

Flat base and broad lower body similar to 30 and 31. Nonjoining body fragments confirm that the body had broad rounded form.

Exterior surface of body burnished. For parallels, see 30.

**Sarcophagus**

The individual buried in grave 2002-11 was interred in a sarcophagus carved from a single block of "medium-grained, moderately well-sorted sandstone" (Fig. 24). Its dimensions are as follows: exterior height ca. 0.85, exterior length 1.85, exterior width 1.04, interior height 0.65, interior length 1.58, interior width 0.75 (at bottom) to 0.80 m (at top). The thickness of the sides varies from about 0.12 to 0.15 m. The southern end of the sarcophagus is damaged: it is missing the entire southwest corner and the upper parts of the southern and eastern sides at the southeast corner. This damage occurred in antiquity, either when the foundation trench for the northern side of the fountain court of the Roman *domus* was created or when that foundation was robbed out. (The robbed trench, RT 85, is shown in Figure 2 and can be seen in the lower part of Figure 25.) The preserved sides of the sarcophagus are cracked in a number of places. The sarcophagus is roughly rectangular, with beveled edges, 0.06–0.08 m wide, at the exterior angles between the sides. A similar beveled edge can be observed along the bottom of the east side; it may continue around the other sides as well, but the excavations did not expose the bottom of the sarcophagus on these sides. There are no bosses or notches at the corners, as there are on some later sarcophagi, to anchor ropes for lowering the sarcophagus into the grave trench.

Tool marks on the exterior surface show that the sarcophagus was roughly carved with an adze, the head of which was about 0.09 m wide; most of the marks are consistent with downward strokes of the tool, but in some areas they reflect diagonal and horizontal strokes. Tool marks along the top edges of the sarcophagus indicate that they too were carved with an adze. The interior of the sarcophagus was roughly carved, probably with the same tool, but the tool marks are not as clear as on the exterior. The interior surfaces are pitted as if the stone was here affected by erosion

13. C. Hayward (pers. comm.). As part of his ongoing study of Corinthian quarries, Hayward hopes to verify the likely sources of the stones used for the early sarcophagi and sarcophagus lids from the Panayia Field.

14. This thickness is generally consistent with the range of 0.10–0.14 m in other Geometric sarcophagi for which dimensions are recorded. As Dickey (1992, p. 30) has noted, toward the end of the 8th century B.C. the thickness diminishes to a range of 0.08–0.11 m, and this tendency continues into the 7th century B.C., when the range is 0.07–0.09 m.

from ground water. The junctions between adjacent sides of the interior and between the sides and bottom are not precise, sharp angles but are roughly rounded. As is typical of Corinthian sarcophagi of the Geometric period, there is no stucco on the interior.  

**Sarcophagus Lid**

When discovered, the northern half of the sarcophagus was covered by half of the original lid, carved from fine-grained oolitic limestone. The lid had apparently been shifted westward from its original position at some time in antiquity, leaving a gap of about 0.20 m between the east side of the lid and the east side of the sarcophagus (Figs. 25, 26). The surviving half of the lid has a maximum width of ca. 1.06, a thickness of ca. 0.30, and a preserved length of ca. 0.90 m. The north and west sides are fairly flat but meet at less than a right angle; the west side preserves some tool marks probably made by an adze. The east side is very irregular and shows no sign of tool marks. The bottom also appears to have been worked with an adze; its surface is a rough but generally level plane. The top, which is more irregular than the bottom and shows no clear tool marks, seems to preserve the original exposed surface of the bedrock from which the block had been quarried. That the lid gives the impression of having been worked less thoroughly than the sarcophagus is consistent with observed differences in workmanship between other lids and their associated sarcophagi at Corinth.  

A large stone slab discovered in the upper fill of well 2002-2, approximately 1.10 to 2.10 m east of the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11, was initially thought to be the southern half of the lid of the sarcophagus. When the slab was fully revealed and removed in 2005, however, it proved to be considerably thinner than the northern half of the lid preserved in situ and carved from sandstone rather than oolitic limestone. It is possible that this was the southern of two separate slabs placed end-to-end to cover the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11, but it is more likely to have served as a lid in some other EIA grave in the area.

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16. According to Dicke (1992, pp. 31–32), the earliest securely dated sarcophagi with stucco are of the Middle Corinthian period (ca. 590–570 B.C.), but he notes that several stuccoed sarcophagi in the North Cemetery might be as early as Late Geometric.  
17. C. Hayward (pers. comm.). The ooids of the stone are well cemented by calcium carbonate.  
19. The thickness is about 0.18 m. The length and width (which may or may not be complete) are 1.27 m and 1.05 m. The stone appears to be similar to that used for the sarcophagus itself.
Fill within the Sarcophagus

When the sarcophagus was discovered, it was immediately clear that it had been severely damaged and that any original contents or fill at its southern end would have been displaced in antiquity when the damage occurred. There was reason to hope that the northern half of the sarcophagus might still retain its original contents, but when the preserved northern half of the sarcophagus lid was lifted and the earth fill (0.66 m deep) was excavated beneath it, no skeletal remains or intact grave goods were discovered. The fact that the fill contained Roman painted wall plaster throughout provided further proof that the entire burial had been disturbed in antiquity. Two Geometric sherds were discovered in the fill, but even these may not belong to vessels originally placed within the sarcophagus. Certainly the Attic amphora (13), to which one sherd belongs, is quite unlikely to have been placed within the sarcophagus, owing to its large size.20

A small round stone bead was also found in the fill within the sarcophagus, but whether it was part of a necklace or other ornament once

20. With a height of over 0.60 m and a diameter of ca. 0.44 m, this amphora would have taken up a considerable portion of the interior of the sarcophagus. There is no parallel at Corinth for the placement of such a large vessel within a sarcophagus.
Position and Identity of the Body

In the absence of skeletal remains, direct observations on the position of the body of the deceased are not possible. From the evidence of other contemporary graves at Corinth, including the neighboring grave 2003-12, it is very likely that the sarcophagus contained a single body, and it is all but certain that the body was buried in a contracted position (either on its back or side) with its head pointed to the south. From the large size of the sarcophagus, it is likely that the deceased was an adult, or at least a fully grown adolescent.

21. This bead (MF-2002-21) is carefully carved from a hard brown stone; it has a diameter of 0.008 and a thickness of only 0.001 m, and is pierced by a single hole, 0.002 m in diameter, through its center. The outer edge of the bead is rounded and the edge around the hole is slightly beveled on both sides.

22. The small beads that appear in large numbers in 9th-century graves at Athens and Lefkandi have a simpler disk shape and are made not of stone but faience: see Smithson 1968, pp. 114–115, no. 78a, pl. 33; Lefkandi I, p. 223, pls. 219:a and d, 220:e, 221:b, 223:a, 234:a. At Corinth beads have been found in only two Geometric graves excavated by the American School of Classical Studies: two terracotta beads from MG II grave 1931-98 in the Potters’ Quarter, and several fragmentary amber beads from MG II grave 1937-3 near the Bema in the Forum (Dickey 1992, pp. A-15, A-22).

23. In the Corinthia the largest number of vessels so far attested from within a Geometric sarcophagus is nine (in MG I grave 1952-2 at Klenia: Charetides 1955, pp. 125–128, pls. 39, 40). Two other Geometric sarcophagi contained three vessels when opened (in EG grave 1961-3 at Mavrospelaios: Lawrence 1964, pp. 89–91, pl. 17; and in EG or MG grave 1969-18 north of Anaploga: unpublished; see Dickey 1992, p. A-98). One LPG sarcophagus had two vessels (in grave 1933-204 east of the Asklepion: Corinth VII.1, p. 9, pl. 2). One MG I sarcophagus (in grave 1899-2 north of the fountain of Peirene: Nichols 1905) was found to contain no vessels despite the fact that it was discovered with its lid in place and there were numerous vessels placed outside the sarcophagus. Another sarcophagus probably of MG II date (in grave 1936-3 near the Bema in the Forum: Morgan 1937, p. 543, pl. 13:1, 2) was also found to be devoid of vessels, although its intact lid suggested that the contents had not been disturbed. At least two other undisturbed MG II sarcophagi were found to contain no pottery in salvage excavations carried out by the Greek Archaeological Service in 2003 along the path of the high-speed railroad north of Ancient Corinth.

24. Although it appears that jewelry was more common in women’s graves, pins, rings, and one hair spiral have been found in association with two graves in which the skeletal remains have been judged to be male: transitional LPG–EG grave 1968-1 at the western end of the Forum (Williams 1970, pp. 16–20, pl. 8; Dickey 1992, pp. A-2, A-3) and EG or MG grave 1969-18 north of Anaploga (Dickey 1992, p. A-98). See, however, Dickey 1992, p. 98, A-3, where doubts are raised about the sex of the individuals associated with these graves. For the association of weapons with male graves, see pp. 506–507, below.

25. A full review of Corinthian mortuary practices in the Geometric and Archaic periods is provided by Dickey 1992. In the Geometric period, there are no deviations from burial in a contracted position, and all burials securely dated within that period are oriented with the head toward the south (13), southwest (3), or west (1); Dickey 1992, fig. 2A. Multiple burial (limited to two individuals) is attested in very few graves: an EG and a MG II adult pit burial provided with a burial niche for an accompanying infant or child, a MG II pit grave with two children, and two pairs of MG pit graves set within a single grave shaft. In the Geometric period, there are no examples of multiple burials within a single sarcophagus, although three examples are attested in sarcophagi of Archaic or probably Archaic date: Dickey 1992, pp. 45–46.
A secure determination of the sex of the individual is impossible in the absence of either skeletal remains or gender-specific artifacts, such as weaving implements or weapons. A tentative hypothesis as to the sex of the deceased may, however, be advanced on the basis of the male burial in the nearby grave 2003-12. Because graves 2002-11 and 2003-12 are roughly contemporaneous and share a form of burial exceptional for the period, it is likely that they are the graves of closely related contemporaries. This, taken with evidence at Corinth for the burial of spouses in adjacent tombs, might suggest that grave 2002-11 contained the remains of a woman married to the male occupant of grave 2003-12.26

**Burial Process**

The evidence from grave 2002-11 indicates that the burial process involved the following steps, performed in approximately the following order:

1. A rectangular trench well in excess of the size required for the sarcophagus was dug into sterile soil to a depth of at least 1.30 m below the ancient ground level.

2. The sarcophagus was hauled to the site and lowered into the trench. Considering the amount of labor required to carve and transport the sarcophagus to the gravesite, this work must have been carried out with some haste so that the body would not reach an advanced state of decay before burial. Considerable time could have been saved if the sarcophagus had been made in advance, but given the apparent rarity of sarcophagi at this early date, it seems unlikely that there was an established industry to supply them ready-made.

3. The body was placed in the sarcophagus, perhaps with some small vessels and other items, such as jewelry or craft implements (not recovered). A certain amount of earth fill might also have been put into the sarcophagus at this time.27

4. Earth fill and cobbles were deposited to a depth of about 0.60 m in the bottom of the trench around the outside of the sarcophagus. At the northern end of the sarcophagus, the cobbles were piled up higher and covered with marl, perhaps, as Sanders has suggested, to provide a ramp by which to slide the lid in place.

5. The lid was put in place over the sarcophagus, sealing its contents.

6. A number of vessels, including at least two fine amphoras, two oinochoai, and one coarse amphora(?),28 were set upright on top of the lower fill in the grave trench and packed into place with additional earth fill and cobbles. In some cases, if not all, the mouths of these closed vessels were covered with drinking vessels. Before being deposited in the grave trench, the vessels may have been used for a graveside ceremony in which family members and perhaps other members of the community drank and/or poured out libations in honor of the dead. One might imagine that the amphoras held wine and water and that the oinochoai were used to decant the liquid into the skyphoi and

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26. That husbands and wives were sometimes buried in adjacent graves in EIA Corinth is most clearly indicated by the two pairs of conjoined graves found near the Bema in the Forum (see Morgan 1937, pp. 544–545, pls. 13:2, 14:1).

27. For the intentional addition of earth to the interior of sarcophagi, see Dickey 1992, pp. 34–36.

28. For discussion of whether or not this amphora belongs to grave 2002-11, see below, pp. 527–528.
one-handed cup. That the mouths of at least one of the am-
phoras and two of the oinochoai were purposefully covered
with drinking cups suggests that at the time of burial these
larger vessels still retained some of their liquid contents. If so,
it is possible that the remaining contents were intended for the
dead, to provide some degree of pleasure or sustenance in the
afterlife. Together with the other vessels, two aryballoi were
also placed on the lower fill of the grave. These, however, lay on
their sides rather than standing upright, suggesting that their
contents had been emptied entirely. 29 Since aryballoi are usually
thought to have held oils or unguents, it is tempting to suggest
that those in the grave had been emptied in the process of
anointing the body of the deceased before burial.
7. The remainder of the trench was filled in with pebbly earth fill.
8. Perhaps an earth mound or some kind of marker, such as a stone
slab, was placed over the grave to identify its location. 30

Date of Burial

On the basis of the style of the assemblage of fine wares securely associated
with the grave, the date of the burial in grave 2002-11 can be fixed gener-
ally within the Early Geometric period (ca. 900/875–ca. 850/825 B.C.),
as defined by Coldstream. 31 There is no way to verify how much time
elapsed from the creation of the pottery until its deposition in the grave,
but the stylistic consistency apparent in the fine painted wares suggests a
shorter rather than longer period of time. It is possible that the vessels were
acquired specifically for the grave, in which case the date of the pottery
would provide an almost exact date for the burial. Generally, however, the
vessels are of types appropriate for daily use in the home and so may well
have been owned and used by the family for some time before they were
placed in the grave.

From the evidence of the oinochoai associated with the grave, it is
perhaps possible to determine more precisely the date of the assemblage.
The oinochoai are all of a single type, with a low ring foot and ovoid body
decorated with a horizontal zigzag zone or a single group of plain reserved
bands on the shoulder. This type is descended from LPG oinochoai, such
as CP-1896 from grave 1938-13, C-1933-1439 from grave 1933-204,
C-1972-96 from grave 1972-5, and C-1968-55 from grave 1968-1, but it is
distinguished from these forerunners by the fact that it has lost all hint
of a conical foot and has developed a fuller body profile. 32 Coldstream re-
fers to this type as PG, but since it is distinct in form from the oinochoai

29. When discovered, the mouth
of one of the aryballoi (12) was sealed
with marl. It is, however, doubtful that
this material was deliberately applied
as a stopper; it seems more likely that
the marl entered the mouth of the
aryballos when the vessel came into
contact with the layer of marl depos-
ited in the area north of the sarcopha-
gus.
30. The slight evidence for grave
markers at Corinth is collected in
Dickey 1992, pp. 112–118.
32. For CP-1896 and C-1933-1439,
see Corinth VII.1, p. 6, no. 7, pl. 1; p. 9,
no. 20, pl. 2. For C-1972-96, see Wil-
liams and Fisher 1973, p. 5, no. 5, pl. 2.
For C-1968-55, see Williams 1970,
p. 18, no. 20, pl. 9.
in pure LPG assemblages at Corinth, and since it appears in at least one context with Argive EG I pottery, \(^{33}\) it seems better to assign this more developed type of oinochoe to the EG phase and, accordingly, shift this phase at Corinth back closer to the beginning of the EG I phase in Attica and the Argolid.

From the evidence of other grave groups that include Corinthian oinochoai of this early type, it might be argued that these oinochoai continued to be made to the very end of the Attic EG II phase and that they were never fully supplanted by oinochoai that imitate the Attic EG II type. \(^{34}\) Oinochoai of the latter type, characterized by multiple reserved bands on the body and a simple decorative panel on the neck, were, however, popular in the Corinthia in contexts that might reasonably be regarded as contemporary with the Attic EG II phase. In light of the fact that not one example of this later type is found among the numerous oinochoai of grave 2002-11, it seems likely that the grave was closed before the type was adopted into the Corinthian repertoire.

Whereas the oinochoai from grave 2002-11 do not reflect Attic influence in the adoption of a neck panel, the two fine painted amphorae from the grave (1 and 2) do. Corinthian oinochoai from other contexts that adopt a neck panel appear to have been influenced by Attic EG II prototypes, but the amphorae from grave 2002-11 appear instead to have been influenced by the smaller panels of Attic EG I prototypes, such as Agora P 20177. \(^{35}\) The square motif that fills the panel also seems to have been inspired by Athenian crossing patterns of the EG I phase, such as that on Agora P 19241. \(^{36}\) This connection with Attic EG I models reinforces the impression produced by the oinochoai that the grave assemblage should be placed earlier rather than later in the EG phase and that it falls within the range of Attic EG I (ca. 900–875 B.C., according to Coldstream's chronology). \(^{37}\)

One detail of amphora 2 that might present a challenge to this early date is the motif of the shoulder zone. Whereas the shoulder of 1, its nearly identical partner, has groups of opposing diagonals, a motif that lasts from the PG through the EG periods, 2 has groups of vertical bands alternating with double axes. According to Coldstream, on Attic vases this motif first appears in the EG II phase and does not become common until MG I. On the basis of this motif, considered in isolation, it might seem reasonable to assign 2 a late EG or even MG date, but taken with the evidence of the early form of the neck panel, such a late date seems unlikely. Moreover, since evidence points to the existence of this motif in the repertoire of Argive potters as early as the local EG I phase, it does not seem such a stretch origin, but since those amphorae are later than the two from grave 2002-11, and since there is no evidence that I am aware of to suggest a direct connection between Boiotian and Corinthian Geometric wares, it seems likely that both the Corinthian and Boiotian patterns derived from a common Attic source. \(^{37}\) GGR pp. 327–328, 330.

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34. Oinochoai of the early type were found together with imitations of the Attic EG II type in the grave group(s) at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau: Corinthis VI 11, pp. 10–12, nos. 22–34, pls. 2–6. In grave 1940–5 a Corinthian oinochoe of the early type (C-1940-341) was discovered with an imported Attic EG II–MG I oinochoe (C-1940-342): Weinberg 1948, pp. 204–205, nos. B2, B3, pl. 71.
35. GGR pl. 11.
36. As noted in the catalogue, the cross pattern on the neck of both amphorae is closely paralleled on two amphorae thought to be of Boiotian type. 37. GGR pp. 327–328, 330.
to suggest that Corinthian potters might also have used it well before the end of their EG phase.38

The other vases associated with grave 2002-11 are consistent with an EG date but do not offer much assistance in refining the chronology. The solid glazing of the exterior of the miniature aryballos (7) might be indicative of an early date, as discussed in the catalogue, but it might alternatively reflect a simplification of design in response to the unusually small size of the vessel. The evidence of the one-handled cup (10) and the skyphoi (8, 9) is ambiguous. The small base of the cup suggests an early date, but the pronounced curve of the rim suggests a stage of development beyond that of the earliest examples, such as C-1933-1440 (LPG) and C-1972-97 (end of LPG).39 The profiles of the skyphoi, and in particular the profiles of their rims, are consistent with the EG phase, but the decoration of the handle zone is one of several variants of a zigzag framed by reserved bands that seems, on present evidence, to have been more popular in the MG I phase than in the EG.

A comparison between the entire assemblage of pottery securely associated with grave 2002-11 and other substantial assemblages from published graves at Corinth suggests that grave 2002-11 is, on the one hand, later than grave 1938-13 at Vello (LPG),40 grave 1972-5 near the Bema in the Forum (end of LPG),41 and grave 1968-1 at the western end of the Forum (transitional LPG–EG);42 on the other hand, it is earlier than grave 1940-5 at the western end of the Forum (EG),43 grave 1961-3 at Mavrospelaes (EG),44 and the latest material from the EG grave group(s) discovered in 1928 at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau.45

**Later History of the Grave**

In the Hellenistic or Roman period, the eastern part of the grave trench was disturbed by digging activity that extended down to the level of the bottom of the grave trench (Fig. 2).46 It was probably in the course of this disturbance that the lid of the sarcophagus was shifted to the west. The contents of the sarcophagus might have been plundered at this time,

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38. Evidence for the early use of the double-axe zone by Argive potters is provided by a local EG I stemmed cup from a grave at Mycenae (Desborough 1955, p. 242, no. 9, pl. 48c; *GGP*, pl. 22:b). That Argive potters were not alone in making use of double-axe zones as early as the first half of the 9th century B.C. is indicated by the appearance of such zones on pyxides at Lefkandi that are assigned to the Sub-Protogeometric I phase (roughly contemporary with Attic EG I): *Lefkandi* I, p. 329, fig. 17:c, pls. 155, 179, 180, 220f.

39. For C-1933-1440, from grave 1933-204 east of the Asklepieion, see *Corinth* VII.1, p. 9, no. 21, pl. 2; Pfaff 1999, p. 104, fig. 41. For C-1972-97, from grave 1972-5 near the Bema in the Forum, see Williams and Fisher 1973, p. 3, no. 7, pl. 2; Pfaff 1999, p. 104, fig. 41.

40. *Corinth* VII.1, pp. 6–8, nos. 7–19, pls. 1, 2. The oinochoe in this grave still has a low conical foot.

41. Williams and Fisher 1973, pp. 4–6. The oinochoe in this grave (as in grave 1968-1) has all but lost its conical foot, but the body has a slender ovoid form.


43. Weinberg 1948, p. 204, pls. 71, 72; *GGP*, p. 92. Two of the three oinochoai in this grave are influenced by the Attic EG II type; one is of the earlier ovoid form found in grave 2002-11.

44. Lawrence 1964, pp. 89–91, pl. 17. The amphora has a neck panel with multiple zigzag that suggests familiarity with Attic EG II style.

45. *Corinth* VII.1, pp. 10–15, nos. 22–53, pls. 2–9; *GGP*, p. 92. Seven of the oinochoai from this group are of the Attic EG II type; the remaining six have the earlier ovoid form.

46. The purpose of this digging and its relationship to well 2002-2 to the east of the grave remain unclear.
although the discovery of two oinochoai left lying in disturbed fill to the east of the sarcophagus argues against wholesale looting. Later, perhaps in the 2nd century A.D., a north–south wall was constructed directly over the top of the sarcophagus.

In the following century, this wall was dismantled and its foundations robbed out (RT 222 in Fig. 2), but the lid of the sarcophagus (or at least its northern half) was left undisturbed, as were a few other blocks immediately north of the lid. Perhaps at this time, or somewhat later in the 3rd century A.D., the foundation trench along the northern side of the fountain court of the Roman domus was dug on an east–west line that cut through the southern part of the grave (RT 85 in Fig. 2). 47 This trenching was probably responsible for the destruction of the southern end of the sarcophagus and the removal of the southern half of the lid. 48 The interior of the sarcophagus would then have been exposed and any grave goods still remaining within it could have been taken out. In the 6th century A.D., when the foundation for the northern side of the fountain court was removed, the southern end of the grave would again have been exposed; at this time it is likely that fill containing painted wall plaster spread from the back-filling of the foundation trench into the interior of the sarcophagus. No later activity on the site affected grave 2002-11.

GRAVE 2003-12

Grave Trench

Grave 2003-12 consists of a single sarcophagus set into a roughly rectangular trench cut into the same reddish brown, pebbly alluvium as grave 2002-11 (Figs. 2–4, 27). The trench and sarcophagus are both oriented slightly west of true north on roughly the same axis as grave 2002-11. The southern edge of the grave trench lies at a distance of 1.75 m from the northern edge of grave 2002-11. The dimensions of the trench are roughly 2.00–2.10 × 2.78 m, leaving a space of 0.35–0.55 m at the sides of the sarcophagus and 0.29–0.55 m at the ends. The level of the bottom of the trench is 90.05–90.11 masl (about 0.40–0.60 m below the bottom of the trench of grave 2002-11). As a result of the unequal heights of the four sides, the top of the sarcophagus slopes some 0.30 m from its highest point at the southwestern corner to its lowest point at the northwestern corner. As in the case of grave 2002-11, the original ground level from which the grave trench was dug is uncertain, because later construction in the area may have removed the top of the trench. The highest point from which the cut for the trench was discernible during excavation (at the east side) was about 92.07 masl. This is ca. 1.09–1.38 m above the level of the top of the sarcophagus and ca. 1.97–1.99 m above the level of the bottom of the trench.

When excavated, the earth fill in the upper portion of the trench varied somewhat from place to place, although this variation did not seem to have any significance. In the southern portion of the trench, the fill consisted of a pebbly reddish brown earth similar to that into which the grave was cut; in the northeastern portion, the soil was similar but yellowish brown; and

47. Evidence for the absolute chronology of these later phases of the site is still being assessed. I thank Guy Sanders for presenting me with his current views on the chronology.

48. Sanders (quoted in Whitley 2003, p. 20) suggests that the southern half of the lid had already been removed in the Hellenistic period, when the area east of the sarcophagus was disturbed. I, however, am inclined to link the removal of the southern half of the lid to the later trench that cut through the southern end of the sarcophagus.
in the northwestern portion it was brown with both pebbles and cobbles. The lower fill (beneath the level of the lid) generally consisted of brown earth with an admixture of many cobbles and boulders. A distinct yellowish brown pebbly soil was limited to the very bottom of the eastern side of the trench. The generally dense concentration of cobbles in the lower fill of the trench is a feature shared by the fill in the trench of grave 2002-11.

**Finds from the Grave Trench**

In contrast to the fill in the trench of grave 2002-11, that in the trench of grave 2003-12 did not contain a large number of complete or nearly complete vessels deposited at the time of burial. The only complete vessel, a plain phiale (33), was discovered in the northeastern corner of the trench at about the level of the top of the sarcophagus (Figs. 27, 28). That this phiale lay directly above a lens of marl suggests that the vessel was deposited in the trench after the sarcophagus lid was sealed into position with marl.
Mesomphalic phiale


H. 0.042, Diam. of rim 0.113. Mended from three fragments. Complete except for small chips on rim. Clay: light tan (7.5YR 7/6) to orangish tan (5YR 7/6) with very small to small dark inclusions and very small to large white inclusions.

Small bowl with rounded bottom and convex body wall rising to flattened lip. Low pointed omphalos at center of floor with corresponding dimple on bottom.

Surface smoothed over but not burnished.

No close parallels for this vessel exist among the ceramic finds from Corinth. One bowl, CP-1904 from grave 1938-13, a LPG child's grave at Vello (Corinth VII.1, p. 7, no. 15, pl. 2), has a hint of an omphalos at the center of its floor, but the bowl is smaller and its sides are less convex. There are no other examples of terracotta mesomphalic phialai of Geometric date at Corinth, but a bronze example, MF-6442, was discovered in the mouth of a MG II hydria situated between graves 1936-19 and 1936-20 near the Bema in the Forum: for the phiale, see Corinth XII, pp. 68–70, no. 517, fig. 1; for the graves, see Morgan 1937, p. 544, pls. 13:2, 14:1 (graves A and B); Dickey 1992, p. A-11; for the associated hydria, see Corinth VII.1, pp. 28–29, no. 82, pl. 13. The omphalos of the bronze phiale is pointed, like that of 33, but even more emphatically. In Athens a bronze phiale with a pointed omphalos appears in a grave context dated to EG I by Coldstream (Blegen 1952, pp. 287–288, 293, fig. 4, pl. 77b; GGP, p. 10).

The only other well-preserved vessel from the fill in the grave trench is a Submycenaean skyphos that must be over 125 years earlier than the grave. That more than half of this vessel could be reconstituted from sherds in the fill suggests that it had been deposited in an earlier grave that was disturbed by the digging of the trench for grave 2003-12.

Skyphos


H. 0.095, Diam. of foot 0.041, est. Diam. of rim 0.100. Eight joining fragments preserving all of foot, half of body, one-quarter of rim, one complete handle. Glaze: very worn.

Small deep skyphos with low conical foot, convex lower body, and straight vertical upper body rising to slightly flaring rim with delicate rounded lip. Small nipple at center of underside. Canted horizontal loop handle rises from lower half of upper body. Arc of handle, viewed in plan, is somewhat pointed.

Underside reserved. Exterior solidly glazed except for single reserved handle zone, 0.020 high, decorated with a horizontal zigzag (now barely visible toward the ends of the handle zones). Interior solidly glazed except for reserved band on inside of lip.

There are no close parallels for the foot; it is more conical in form than the foot of C-1969-179 (LH IIIC deep bowl, from the Sanctuary of Demeter
and Kore: Pfaff 1999, p. 88, fig. 18), but not as high as the foot of C-1938-552 (PG skyphos from hearth deposit west of the museum: Pfaff 1999, p. 88, fig. 18) and other PG skyphoi from Corinth. A parallel both for the profile of the body and rim and for the decoration is provided by Lot 1972-122:3 + 122:4 + 122:31 (SM skyphos from the Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore: Pfaff 1999, p. 86, no. 48, fig. 16). Additional parallel for decoration: C-1950-115 (SM, from the area of the South Stoa: Broneer 1951, p. 293, pi. 89:b).

All other ceramic finds from the trench of grave 2003-12 are single, small sherd s that seem to have been mixed inadvertently with the earth fill. Besides a number of Neolithic and Early Helladic sherds (not included here), the datable fragments belong to PG and EG vessels.

### Isolated Sherds in the Grave Trench

#### Painted Fine Wares

35 Oinochoe, neck fragment


Max. dim. 0.042. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of lower neck. Glaze: worn.

Concave neck of oinochoe curving inward from (missing) shoulder. Junction of neck and shoulder marked by conspicuous groove on interior. Exterior solidly glazed; interior unglazed.

Probably LPG or EG, but not precisely datable

In lot 2003-62 two very small fragments that are solidly glazed on the exterior and unglazed on the interior may belong to this or another oinochoe. A small neck fragment in lot 2003-63 is similar in fabric and scale to this piece but does not join it.

36 Attic(?), krater(?), rim fragment


P.H. ca. 0.025, max. dim. 0.042. Single fragment preserving very small portion of rim, missing outer edge of lip. Clay: tan (7.5YR 7/6) with few small to medium brown inclusions. Glaze: dark brown (5YR 3/3) to black (7.5YR 2.5/1).

Vertical rim of large open vessel, probably krater. Outer surface of rim curves outward as it rises to flat horizontal lip.
Solidly glazed on inside and outside of rim. Top of rim decorated with cog pattern(?); projecting from glazed band along inner edge. No known parallels for shape or decoration.

G, not precisely datable

37 Krater(?), body fragment
Max. dim. 0.031, Th. 0.006–0.008. Single body fragment, broken all around.
Glaze: worn on interior, almost entirely worn away on exterior.
Slightly convex body of large open vessel, perhaps krater.
Preserved decoration on exterior consists of single, fairly broad horizontal reserved band on dark ground. Interior solidly glazed.

G, not precisely datable

38 Attic skyphos, body fragment
Max. dim. 0.026, Th. 0.005. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of central body. Clay: tan (5YR 7/4) with few small dark red inclusions, minute sparkling inclusions. Glaze: dark brown (5YR 3/2) to black (10YR 2/1); chipped on exterior.

Convex body of skyphos.
Preserved portion of handle zone includes parts of five concentric circles on a light ground. Interior solidly glazed.

The decoration of the handle zone suggests that this is a skyphos of Desborough's type I (with three sets of concentric circles in the handle zone) or type II (with two sets of concentric circles flanking a central panel). For parallels and bibliography, see Pfaff 1999, p. 90, no. 60.

MPG or LPG

39 Attic skyphos, body and handle fragment
Max. dim. 0.024, Th. 0.005–0.006. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of central body and very small portion of one handle root. Clay: hard-fired, tan (7.5YR 6/4) with few small to large dark red inclusions. Glaze: brown (7.5YR 4/3) to dark brown (7.5YR 3/2); worn.

Convex body of skyphos and part of handle root of canted horizontal loop handle.
Preserved decoration on exterior consists of light ground handle zone with portion of outermost circle of what must have been a group of concentric circles. To left of circle is portion of vertical glazed band that originally flanked handle root. Further left is very small portion of glazed band that originally decorated outside of handle.
Shape and decoration indicate that this belongs to Desborough's type I or II (see on 38).

MPG or LPG

40 Skyphos, body fragment
Max. dim. 0.031, Th. 0.005. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of central body. Glaze: worn, especially on exterior.
Convex body of skyphos.
Preserved portion of handle zone includes parts of five concentric circles on light ground. Interior solidly glazed.

Figure 31. Attic krater 36. Scale 1:2

Figure 32. Skyphoi 38–41. Scale 1:1
This is a local imitation of Attic PG skyphoi such as 38 and 39. For other examples of Corinthian skyphoi of this type, see Pfaff 1999, pp. 91–92, figs. 17, 21.

MPG or LPG

41  Skyphos, body and handle fragment
    Max. dim. 0.029, Th. of handle 0.009. Single fragment preserving small portion of central body wall with one attached handle root. Glaze: worn and chipped.
    Vertical body wall of skyphos and root of canted horizontal loop handle, round in section.
    Solidly glazed inside and out.
    The straight profile of the body wall suggests that this piece belongs to a PG rather than a later skyphos, although it is possible that the profile was distorted in the process of attaching the handle.
    PG?

42  Skyphos, rim fragment
    Max. dim. 0.057. Single fragment preserving small portion of rim and upper body. Glaze: worn.
    Convex upper body of skyphos curving in slightly to concave vertical rim with rounded lip.
    Preserved portion of handle zone consists of two horizontal reserved bands above a reserved zone filled with horizontal zigzags in dilute glaze. Interior solidly glazed except for horizontal reserved band just below top of rim.
    This and the following fragments (43–48) belong to skyphoi of a common Corinthian type found in contexts dated as early as the transition from LPG to EG and as late as MG I. On this example the rim is fairly tall and not much curved, suggesting that the piece may be early in the sequence.
    End of LPG or EG

43  Skyphos, rim fragment
    Max. dim. 0.041. Single fragment preserving very small portion of upper body and rim. Glaze: very worn.
    Convex upper body of skyphos curving in slightly to low concave vertical rim with rounded lip. Probably solidly glazed on inside and out, except for reserved band at top of rim.
    This fragment belongs to a skyphos of the same basic type as 42. That the rim does not curve strongly suggests that the piece is not later than EG.
    End of LPG or EG

44  Skyphos, rim fragment
    P.H. 0.019. Single fragment preserving very small portion of upper body and rim. Glaze: cracked and flaking on exterior.
    Shape similar to that of 43, but rim more sharply articulated from upper body.
    Solidly glazed on exterior except for portion of horizontal reserved band that formed top of handle zone. Interior solidly glazed except for reserved band just inside top of rim.
    End of LPG or EG
Lot 2003-62 includes two other smaller rim fragments that may belong to two other similar skyphoi.

45 Skyphos, body fragment

Max. dim. 0.029, Th. 0.005. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of upper body. Glaze: very worn.
Convex body of skyphos of same basic type as 42–44, 46–48.
Preserved portion of handle zone consists of two horizontal reserved bands above or below narrow zone with horizontal zigzags in dilute glaze. Interior solidly glazed.
PG–MG I

46 Skyphos, body fragment

Max. dim. 0.034, Th. 0.004. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of central body. Glaze: worn.
Convex body of skyphos of same basic type as 42–45, 47, 48.
Lower body solidly glazed below preserved portion of handle zone consisting of two horizontal reserved bands below zone with horizontal zigzags in dilute glaze; of the zigzags only the bottom halves of two are preserved. Interior solidly glazed.
PG–MG I

Figure 33. Skyphoi 42–50. Scale of profiles 1:2, scale of photographs 1:1
47 Skyphos, body fragment
Max. dim. 0.031, Th. 0.006. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of upper body. Glaze: chipped on exterior, very worn on interior.
Convex body of skyphos of same basic type as 42-46, 48.
Preserved portion of handle zone consists of two horizontal reserved bands above or below zone with horizontal zigzags in dilute glaze; of the zigzags only the bottom or top ends of two are preserved. Interior solidly glazed.
PG–MG I

48 Skyphos, body fragment
Max. dim. 0.024, Th. 0.050. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of upper body. Glaze: slightly worn on inside and out.
Convex body of skyphos of same basic type as 42-47.
Preserved portion of handle zone consists of two horizontal reserved bands below(?) and one horizontal reserved band above(?) narrow zone filled with horizontal zigzags in dilute glaze. Interior solidly glazed.
PG–MG I

In lot 2003-62 there are 19 other undecorated body fragments of local skyphoi or related shapes (not precisely datable); in lot 2003-63 there are two others.

49 Skyphos, handle fragment
Max. dim. 0.047, Th. 0.010. Single fragment preserving over half of handle, broken at both ends. Glaze: worn.
Horizontal loop handle, round in section, probably from full-sized skyphos.
Arc of handle, viewed in plan, is somewhat pointed.
Outside solidly glazed; inside reserved.
PG–G, not precisely datable

50 Skyphos, handle fragment
Max. dim. 0.036, Th. 0.010. Single fragment preserving nearly half of handle, broken at both ends. Glaze: worn.
Horizontal loop handle, similar to 49.
Outside solidly glazed; inside reserved.
PG–G, not precisely datable

51 Attic skyphos(?), body fragment
Max. dim. 0.026, Th. 0.006. Single fragment, broken all around, preserving small portion of central body. Clay: light brown (5YR 6/4) with few small to large dark red inclusions, minute sparkling inclusions. Glaze: black (10YR 2/1); almost entirely worn away.
Convex body, probably from skyphos.
Preserved decoration on exterior consists of two horizontal reserved bands crossed by one or two vertical glazed bands. The latter might be handle bands like those on 39.
PG?
52 One-handled cup, rim fragment
Max. dim. 0.031, W. of handle (top) 0.020, Th. of handle (top) 0.009. Single fragment preserving very small portion of upper body and rim with scar of upper handle attachment. Glaze: very worn.
Convex upper body of cup curving in to low concave rim with rounded lip. Vertical handle, oval in section, rises to outside of rim.
Probably solidly glazed inside and out. Whether or not there was a reserved band on the inside or top of the rim is unclear.
Because of distortion to the rim caused by the handle attachment it is not easy to compare the profile of this fragment with those of other cups, but it appears that there is more of a curve to the rim of 52 than is found on LPG cup C-1933-1440 (Pfaff 1999, p. 104, fig. 41). The profile seems closer to those of EG or MG cups (cf. lot 1972-122:14 and lot 1975-269:1, from the sanctuary of Demeter and Kore: Pfaff 1999, pp. 104–105, fig. 40).
EG–MG
Another very small rim fragment from lot 2003-62 might belong to a second similar cup.

**Plain Handmade Wares**

The fill from the grave trench (lots 2003–62 and 2003–63) contained 48 sherds whose fabrics resemble Geometric coarse wares, but some of these, at least, might be Early Helladic, since the fill included recognizable EH II red-slipped sherds and some EH coarse fabrics closely resemble Geometric ones. No diagnostic coarse-ware sherds of recognizably Geometric form were found.

**Niche with Grave Goods**

A small niche was cut into the western side of the trench of grave 2003–12 in order to provide a place for grave goods: 14 complete vessels and an iron spearhead (Figs. 27, 36). This niche, cut into the reddish brown alluvium that forms the sides of the trench, extends from roughly 0.60 to 1.60 m north of the southwestern corner of the trench and is cut back to a depth of roughly 0.60 m behind the western scarp of the trench. The bottom of the niche, which is roughly flat, lies at about 90.66 masl (0.55–0.60 m above the bottom of the trench itself); the maximum preserved height is about 0.55 m. In light of the fact that this niche was cut from the inner face of the grave trench, it is reasonable to conclude that the niche was cut when the trench was still open. The soil that filled the niche was not distinct from that filling the remainder of the trench and there was no indication that the front of the niche had been sealed off in any way. In all likelihood, then, the grave goods were deposited within the niche at the time of the interment and were buried as part of the same process that filled the rest of the trench with earth. From the positions of the vessels it appears that they were originally placed upright across the entire length of the niche but were tipped back onto their sides during the process of filling.

A similar niche (discussed below) was discovered on the southern side of the trench of grave 2004–4, located just north of grave 2003–12; it too...
Figure 36. Niche in west side of grave 2003-12, from east

52. Verdelis and Alexandri 1963, pp. 52–53 (graves 2–5), pl. 52b. For further discussion, see Dickey 1992, pp. 18–19, A-102; for the pottery from the graves, see Isthmia VIII, p. 292.

contained only grave goods and was not sealed off from the grave trench. Another similar niche was found in association with a MG II grave (grave 1937–3) near the Bema in the Forum.49 In this case, however, the niche was sealed off from the rest of the grave trench by a slab, and it contained, in addition to one small vessel, the bones of a child. Another probable niche of similar form was found in association with an EG grave (grave 1940–5) at the western end of the Forum; it contained two vessels and some small unidentified bones, perhaps belonging to a child.50 In this case there was evidently no slab sealing off the niche from the adjoining grave trench.

Although the niches of graves 1937–3 and 1940–5 seem to be related in form to those of graves 2003–12 and 2004–4, their function, as repositories for secondary burials, was evidently different. Closer in function are the “compartments” found in association with five MG II graves in the North Cemetery at Corinth.51 These compartments, like the niches of graves 2003–12 and 2004–4, provided space for grave goods rather than subsidiary burials. In form, however, the compartments are rather different: they are not niches cut into the sides of the grave trenches but extensions of the burial pits, each of which was covered with a stone slab that abutted the end of the main cover slab of the pit. The compartments are also larger and are cut at a lower level than the niches of graves 2003–12 and 2004–4. At present, the closest parallels for the latter are provided by four graves of MG II to LG date at Ayioi Theodori (ancient Krommyon, across the Isthmus from Corinth).52 Although these graves have not been published in detail, the preliminary report indicates that each was provided with a niche at its southwestern end. As in the case of grave 2003–12, and probably grave 2004–4 as well, the bottoms of these niches were evidently at about the level of the cover slabs of the graves (although at Ayioi Theodori these are pit
graves rather than sarcophagus burials). The published photograph of one of these niches shows that it was rounded in plan, similar to the niches of graves 2003-12 and 2004-4. The tops of the niches at Ayioi Theodoroi were apparently not preserved, but the evidence suggests that they too were simply cut into the sides of the grave trenches and not covered with slabs. Again, like the niches of graves 2003-12 and 2004-4, those at Ayioi Theodoroi contained only grave goods (three to twelve complete vessels), not subsidiary burials. The only striking difference between the niches of the two Corinthian graves and those at Ayioi Theodoroi is that the latter were sealed off from the adjacent grave trenches by rough, upright stone slabs. Such slabs may perhaps be seen as a later improvement in the design of grave niches aimed at preventing the earth fill in the grave trench from immediately filling the niches and toppling the vessels deposited within them.

**Finds from the Niche**

The niche of grave 2003-12 contained five oinochoai, one lekythos, two kantharoi, two one-handed cups, three aryballoi, and a small pyxis (Figs. 27, 36). The lekythos (58) was positioned at the center of the niche. Its mouth was evidently sealed with a kantharos (59), which still adhered to the mouth of the jug when it was discovered. On either side of the lekythos was a pair of oinochoai (55 and 53 to the south and 56 and 57 to the north); together, these vessels formed a more or less straight line across the front of the niche. The fifth oinochoe (54) was positioned behind 55 at the back of the southern end of the niche. To judge from its proximity to the mouth of this oinochoe, a one-handed cup (62) might well have been positioned in its mouth, although the round base of the cup could not have effectively sealed the trefoil mouth of the oinochoe. A second one-handed cup (61) was discovered immediately beneath the mouth of the northernmost oinochoe (56), and might originally have been positioned in the mouth of that vessel. A second kantharos (60) was found near the back of the niche. If it, too, had been used to seal the mouth of an oinochoe, the most likely candidate would be 57, located a short distance to the east. Of the three aryballoi, two (64 and 65) were discovered toward the back of the central part of the niche, while the third (63) was found toward the front of the niche near its southern end. The final vessel, a small pyxis (66), which was discovered after the photograph in Figure 36 had been taken, was placed at the far southern end of the niche.

In addition to the vessels mentioned above, the niche contained an iron spearhead (67). It lay near the northern end of the niche beneath the necks of the two northernmost oinochoai (56 and 57). Although a fragment of wood from the shaft of the spear was preserved within the socket of the spearhead, there was no trace of additional wood extending from the spearhead across the niche. This observation, taken with the fact that there would not have been adequate space for a complete spear within the niche, suggests that only the spearhead was deposited in the grave. The breaking away of the shaft might simply have been a matter of convenience in order to fit the spearhead into the niche, but it might also be related to the idea of “killing” a weapon, which some scholars have connected with
the frequent bending and deforming of swords found in EIA graves.\textsuperscript{53} In Corinth, as in Athens, the inclusion of weapons in Geometric graves seems to have been rare.\textsuperscript{54} Only one other Geometric grave excavated by the American School of Classical Studies has produced a spearhead (EG grave 1940-5, at the western end of the Forum).\textsuperscript{55} In addition, one grave recently excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service on the line of the high-speed railroad at Corinth has produced a sword.

**Painted Fine Wares**

53 Oinochoe


H. 0.269, Diam. of foot 0.114, max. Diam. of body 0.205, Diam. of neck (center) 0.064, W. of handle (center) 0.028, Th. of handle (center) 0.013. Mended from numerous fragments. Complete but for minor chips. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Idiosyncratic and poorly crafted oinochoe with a relatively large capacity of ca. 3.45 liters. Flaring ring foot (much larger in diameter than those of other oinochoai from the assemblage), with irregular resting surface. Flat underside. Very broad ovoid body rises to concave neck topped with trefoil mouth. There is no clear articulation between outside of shoulder and neck. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and rim. Height of handle allows all four fingers to pass around it.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Exterior of foot, body, and neck solidly glazed except for decorative zone at base of shoulder consisting of one horizontal reserved band above and below a slightly wider reserved band filled with zigzag executed in dilute glaze. Zigzag somewhat more delicate than that on 55 but not as delicate as that on 54. Short section of zigzag beneath handle is painted with rather thick glaze, indicating that one brushstroke began here. Another section of zigzag beneath spout also seems to have been painted with thicker glaze, but this is difficult to confirm because of the condition. Neck and rim are dark ground with narrow horizontal crosshatched zone framed above and below by two reserved bands. Draftsmanship of this zone is particularly irregular. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed; inside of handle reserved. Inside of vessel unglazed.

The broad lower body of this piece sets it apart from other EG oinochoai at Corinth decorated with a zigzag zone on the body. On other examples with a broad lower body the decorative scheme consists of one or more triple reserved bands (see *Corinth* VII.1, pp. 10–12, nos. 24, 28–34; *GGP*, pl. 16:b).

\textsuperscript{53} Martin Jahn (1916, p. 16) explained the practice of deforming swords in EIA graves of northern Europe as a ritual killing of the weapons so that they could accompany the soul of the deceased warrior. This explanation was subsequently applied to cases of deformed weapons in Greek graves; see, e.g., Dantas 1960, p. 94. Smithson, however, noting that fewer than half of the swords in Greek PG and G graves are deformed or intentionally broken, expressed doubts "that a ritual maiming or 'killing' of the sword was necessary to insure that it follow its dead master..." (1974, pp. 339–340).

\textsuperscript{54} Statistics from the Kerameikos cemetery demonstrate the rarity of weapons in Geometric graves at Athens: only 10 out of a total of well over 100 graves of the 9th and 8th centuries included weapons (*Kerameikos* V.1, pp. 198–199).

\textsuperscript{55} This iron spear is reported to have "almost completely disintegrated" and was not inventoried: Weinberg 1948, p. 204; Dickey 1992, p. A–1. MF-13516 from grave 1936-18 beneath the South Stoa is referred to as a javelin point by Elizabeth Blegen (1937, p. 137) and as a spearhead by Dickey (1992, p. A–10), but upon re-examination it seems more likely to be an iron pin with a tang for attaching an ivory or bone finial (cf. n. 71, below).
Figure 37. Oinochoai 53 and 54.
Scale 1:3. Drawings K. Sotiriou
The addition of decoration on the neck also sets this piece apart from other EG oinochoai with a zigzag zone on the body. The only other vessels from Corinth known to me that have both a zigzag zone on the body and decoration on the neck are the lekythos from this grave (58) and another lekythos recently excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service on the line of the high-speed railroad. On other full-sized Corinthian EG oinochoai with decoration on the neck, the body is decorated with one or more triple reserved bands (see Corinth VII.1, pp. 11–12, nos. 28–34; GGP, pl. 16:b). On these oinochoai the neck decoration consists of a taller panel that covers about half the circumference of the neck; the narrower zone on the neck of 53, by contrast, continues around a full two-thirds of the neck. The narrower zone on 53 is more akin to the treatment of the neck of Attic EG I oinochoai than to that of EG II oinochoai. The broad lower body of 53, on the other hand, may reflect a tendency toward wider, more stable bodies that characterizes Attic EG II oinochoai.

54 Oinochoe


H. 0.268, Diam. of foot 0.077, max. Diam. of body 0.181, Diam. of neck (center) 0.062, W. of handle (center) 0.030, Th. of handle (center) 0.014. Intact except for small chip on spout. Clay: yellowish buff (10YR 8/6) at surface, yellowish tan (7.5YR 7/6) below surface, with few small dark inclusions, one very large white inclusion. Glaze: black (5YR 2.5/1) to brown (5YR 4/4); cracked but otherwise well preserved. The colors of the clay and glaze are similar to those of 58 and 92. The relatively good adhesion of the glaze to the body of these pieces stands in marked contrast to that of most of the other contemporary vessels from graves 2002-11 and 2003-12, in which the clay has a greenish cast. The difference in the adhesion of the glaze seems to have less to do with the qualities of the clay and glaze than with the firing conditions.

Shape similar to that of 3–6 from grave 2002-11 and 55 and 57 from grave 2003-12. Size comparable to that of 55 and 56; capacity: 2.97 liters. Flaring ring foot with slightly beveled resting surface; convex underside of vessel offset by groove from inside of foot. Full ovoid body rising to concave neck topped with trefoil mouth. Junction of outside of body and neck is sharply articulated. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and rim. Height of handle allows all four fingers to pass around it.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Exterior of foot, body, and neck solidly glazed except for decorative zone at base of shoulder consisting of one horizontal reserved band above and below a slightly wider reserved band filled with zigzag executed in dilute glaze. Short section of zigzag beneath handle is painted with rather thick glaze, indicating that one brushstroke began here. Another section of zigzag beneath spout is also painted with thicker glaze, indicating that a second brushstroke began here. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed; inside of handle reserved except for some errant brushstrokes. Inside of vessel unglazed.

55 Oinochoe


H. 0.266, Diam. of foot 0.077, max. Diam. of body 0.185, Diam. of neck (center) 0.056, W. of handle (center) 0.026, Th. of handle (center) 0.013. Mended from numerous fragments. Complete except for minor chips. Glaze: cracked and very worn.
Figure 38. Oinochoai 55 and 56.  
Scale 1:3. Drawings K. Sotiriou
Similar in shape and size to 54; capacity: ca. 2.9 liters. Flaring ring foot with slightly beveled resting surface; flat recessed underside of vessel offset by groove from inside of foot. Full ovoid body similar to that of 54 but without clear articulation at junction of outside of shoulder and concave neck. Neck, rim, and handle all similar to those of 54.

Decorative scheme like that of 54, but zigzag on shoulder zone is rather wider, and upper and lower ends of zigzag often project into outer reserved bands. As on 54, it appears that the zigzag was produced in two strokes, one beginning beneath the handle, the other beneath the spout, although this is more difficult to confirm here owing to the poorer condition of the painted surface.

Small areas of the lower body and shoulder are deformed slightly, probably as a result of pressure from adjacent pots in the kiln. That the glaze on the surface around these deformed areas is reddish brown, in contrast to the prevailing dark gray color of the glaze, can be explained by the fact that the surfaces at these points of contact were protected somewhat from the firing environment of the kiln. Another reddish brown area on the shoulder, which is not accompanied by a deformation of the surface, probably marks another point of contact with an adjacent vessel in the kiln, but one that did not assert adequate pressure to affect the shape of the shoulder.

56 Oinochoe  
H. 0.239, Diam. of foot 0.069, max. Diam. of body 0.182, Diam. of neck (center) 0.060, W. of handle (center) 0.025, Th. of handle (center) 0.010. Mended from numerous fragments. Complete except for small chips and small hole in bottom. Glaze: cracked and very worn.

Oinochoe of roughly the same size as 54 and 55. Capacity: 2.7 liters. Flaring ring foot with beveled resting surface; slightly convex, recessed underside of vessel offset by groove from inside of foot. Full ovoid body rises to unusually low concave neck topped by usual trefoil rim. No articulation between outside of shoulder and neck. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and rim. Height of handle is inadequate to allow all four fingers to pass around it.

Decorative scheme is like that of 54 and 55, except zigzag zone around base of shoulder is framed above and below by two reserved bands rather than one. This variant of the zigzag zone also appears on two amphoras associated with grave 2002-11 (14, 15). As on the preceding oinochoai (53-55), the glaze of the zigzag, which is rather thicker in two areas at nearly opposite sides of the vessel, indicates where the brushstrokes began.

57 Oinochoe  
H. 0.224, Diam. of foot 0.064, max. Diam. of body 0.156, Diam. of neck (center) 0.051, W. of handle (center) 0.024, Th. of handle (center) 0.010. Mended from numerous fragments. Complete except for few small chips and gaps. Glaze: cracked and worn.

Similar in shape to 55, but smaller. Capacity: 1.8 liters. Flaring ring foot with rounded outer edge and flattened resting surface. Concave inside of foot curves into rather small, nearly flat underside. Full ovoid body rising to concave neck topped with trefoil mouth. No articulation between outside of shoulder and neck. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and rim. Height of handle only just allows all four fingers to pass around it.
Decorative scheme similar to that of 55 but without the zigzag in the central reserved band on the shoulder. This alternative to the zigzag zone also appears on some of the oinochoai from grave 2002-11, including 18, which is similar in size and shape to 57.

58  Lekythos  

H. 0.252, Diam. of foot 0.072, max. Diam. of body 0.179, Diam. of neck (center) 0.049, Diam. of rim 0.084, W. of handle (center) 0.027, Th. of handle (center) 0.012. Mended from numerous fragments. Complete except for very small gaps and chips. Clay: yellowish buff (10YR 8/4 to 10YR 8/6), with few small dark inclusions and medium to large white inclusions. Glaze: black (7.5YR 2.5/1) to dull reddish brown (5YR 4/3); cracked but relatively well preserved over much of vase. (See 54 for observations on adhesion of glaze and firing conditions.)

Capacity: 2.55 liters. Flaring ring foot with beveled resting surface; convex underside of vessel not sharply articulated from inside of foot. Full ovoid body (similar in shape and size to that of 54 and 55) rising to rather narrow tapering neck curving out at top to outward-thickened rim with rounded lip. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and upper part of neck.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Exterior of foot and body solidly glazed except for decorative zone at base of shoulder consisting of one horizontal reserved band above and below a slightly wider reserved band filled with zigzag executed in dilute glaze. Zigzag painted with rather broad brush, so that it becomes an almost solidly glazed zone in areas where the glaze is thickest. As on preceding oinochoai, thicker glaze in two areas at nearly opposite sides of vessel indicates where brushstrokes began. Exterior of neck and rim solidly glazed except for decorative zone on upper half of neck consisting of two horizontal reserved bands above and below a slightly wider reserved band filled with zigzag like that on body. Here too the zigzag tends to be obscured because of thickness of the brush used to execute it. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; outer edges of handle glazed, although on one side an errant brushstroke misses part of the edge; inside of handle generally reserved but with a few sloppy brushstrokes. Upper portion of inside of rim glazed; rest of inside of vessel unglazed.

Although the form of the neck, rim, and handle of this vessel are typical of earlier Corinthian PG lekythoi (see, e.g., C-1968-51 and C-1968-54: Williams 1970, p. 18, nos. 21, 22, pl. 9), the larger size and ovoid body are clearly influenced by contemporary EG oinochoai. Only one other similar lekythos from Corinth is known to me; it was found in an EG grave recently excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service on the line of the high-speed railroad. Although the narrow neck and round mouth of 58 may have been designed to allow the vessel to be sealed with a stopper, in grave 2003-12 a two-handled cup (59) was set into the mouth to close the vessel.

The decoration is a variant of the common scheme for EG oinochoai. The addition of a zigzag zone on the neck is attested at Corinth on the similar lekythos from the excavations of the Greek Archaeological Service mentioned above. Similar decoration is found on the necks of oinochoai from Athens (Young 1949, p. 291, no. 5, pl. 68; PG, pl. 15, lower) and Mycenae (Desborough 1955, p. 241, no. 1, pl. 48:b; GGP, pl. 22:d) that come from deposits dated to Coldstream's EG I phase (Athenian Agora grave XXVI ["Boot Grave"] and Mycenae Tomb G 603: GGP, pp. 10, 113).
Figure 39. Oinochoe 57 and lekythos
58. Scale 1:3. Drawings K. Sotiriou
59  Kantharos  


H. 0.068, Diam. of foot 0.044, max. Diam. of body 0.098, Diam. of rim 0.095, W. of handle (center) 0.013, Th. of handle (center) 0.006. Intact except for crack through rim and body. Glaze: cracked and worn.

Small flaring ring foot with flattened resting surface. Inside of foot rises inward to small pointed underside. Ovoid body rises to low concave vertical rim with rounded lip. Two vertical strap handles with rather roughly finished edges rise from middle of body to lip. Arc of handles allows just enough space for index finger to pass through.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Outside of body and rim solidly glazed. Inside solidly glazed except for horizontal reserved band along inside of lip.

This piece and the following are very similar in shape and decoration to W-30 (Corinth VII.1, p. 14, no. 44, pl. 8) from the EG grave group(s) discovered in 1928 at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau. Until recently, W-30 was the only solidly glazed EG kantharos known from the Corinthia. The discovery of 59 and 60, and of similar kantharoi from the recent excavations conducted along the line of the high-speed railway at Corinth, indicates that these vessels were not as rare as it once seemed. The shape of 59 and 60 does not reflect that of the earliest EG kantharoi from Athens, which have a deeper body and low conical foot; it reflects instead the later form that appears before the end of Coldstream’s EG I (e.g., in the so-called “Warrior Grave”: GGP, pl. 1:o) and continues into EG II (see Kerameikos 251: GGP, pl. 2:e).

60  Kantharos  

C-2004-31. Lot 2004–55. Found lying on its side west of 59. It might have fallen from the mouth of that vessel or from that of 57.
H. 0.069, Diam. of foot 0.046, max. Diam. of body 0.098, Diam. of rim 0.094, W. of handle (center) 0.013, Th. of handle (center) 0.009. Intact except for large chip on lower half of one handle. Glaze: cracked and worn.

Shape and size very similar to those of 59, suggesting that both were made to same specifications. Differences are limited to small details: resting surface of foot is beveled; inside of foot rises higher to very small underside with spiraling groove ending in small point at center; handles are slightly thicker, so that index finger cannot pass through.

Decorative scheme same as that of 59. Reserved band on inside of rim is positioned slightly below lip.

61 One-handled cup

C-2004-33. Lot 2004-55. Found lying on its side at northern end of niche immediately below rim of 56. It might have fallen from the mouth of that vessel.

H. 0.059, Diam. of base 0.039, max. Diam. of body 0.091, Diam. of rim 0.084–0.088, W. of handle (center) 0.014, Th. of handle (center) 0.007. Intact except for very small chips on rim. Clay: light tan (7.5YR 7/4) with very small brown inclusions. Glaze: unevenly fired from dark gray (7.5YR 3/0) to brown (7.5YR 4/2) to yellowish brown (5YR 5/6); very well preserved.

Shape and size similar to those of 10, although some differences are noticeable: base is relatively larger; body has considerably tauter, ovoid profile; rim is slightly higher and does not curve out quite as sharply. As in 10, there is a very small bump at center of bottom. Outside of body is very crisply articulated from lower edge of rim. Profile of upper body and rim similar to that of C-1969-261 from EG grave 1970-9 (Pfaff 1999, p. 104, fig. 41), but rim curves out slightly more.

Figure 41. One-handled cups 61 and 62. Scale 1:2. Drawings K. Sotiriou
Same basic decorative scheme as 10, but reserved band on inside of rim is positioned slightly lower, and upper part of outside of handle is solidly glazed. As on 62, there is a small reserved circle at center of floor, which does not appear on 10.

62 One-handled cup

C-2004-29. Lot 2004-55. Found lying on its side immediately north of rim of 54. It might have fallen from the mouth of that vessel.

H. 0.063, Diam. of bottom 0.045, max. Diam. of body 0.102, Diam. of rim 0.098–0.100, W. of handle (center) 0.017, Th. of handle (center) 0.007. Mended from three fragments. Complete except for minor chips. Glaze: very well preserved.

Shape is very similar to 61, but slightly larger. Only noticeable difference is absence of small bump at center of underside.

Same basic decorative scheme as 10 and 61. As on 10, reserved band on inside rim is located just inside lip and banding on outside of handle continues up to rim. A small X is painted at center of reserved underside.

A very similar X appears on the bottom of a one-handed cup from Isthmia (Isthmia VIII, p. 90, no. 232, fig. I.39, pl. 31). It is unlikely that such simple and inconspicuous marks were intended as decoration; it seems preferable to view them as potters' marks. A corpus of related X-shaped or cross-shaped marks of Protogeometric and Geometric date is assembled in Papadopoulos 1994, pp. 439-446.

Plain Handmade Wares

63 Aryballos


H. 0.082, max. Diam. of body 0.071, Diam. of neck (center) 0.014, Diam. of rim 0.023, W. of handle (center) 0.014, Th. of handle (center) 0.004. Intact. Clay: buff (between 7.5YR 8/4 and 10YR 8/4) over most of surface, yellowish tan (10YR 7/6) on one side, with many small to medium brown and gray mudstone inclusions.

Spherical body; small concave neck topped with outturned rim with rounded lip. Small vertical strap handle with rounded edges rises from upper body to lip.

Surface burnished.

This aryballos is similar in shape and size to 69 from within the sarcophagus of grave 2003-12. In the Corinthia, other aryballoi with roughly spherical bodies (without flattened bottoms or bases) come from contexts dated from LPG to EG: CP-1905, CP-1906, and CP-1907 (all miniatures) from LPG grave 1938-13 at Vello (Corinth VII 1.1, p. 7, nos. 16-18, pl. 2); C-1940-347 from EG grave 1940-5 at the western end of the Forum (Weinberg 1948, p. 206, no. B6, pl. 71); C-1969-259 from EG grave 1970-9, also at the western end of the Forum (unpublished; see Dickey 1992, p. A-4); and C-1973-154 from GE grave 1973-6 west of the Lechaion Road (unpublished; see Williams, MacIntosh, and Fisher 1974, p. 24, n. 21; Dickey 1992, p. A-19).

64 Aryballos

C-2004-32. Lot 2004-55. Found lying on its side in northern half of niche, behind 57. It might have fallen from the mouth of that vessel.

H. 0.062, max. Diam. of body 0.056, Diam. of neck (center) 0.014, Diam. of rim 0.021, W. of handle (center) 0.008, Th. of handle (center) 0.004. Intact. Surface of one-quarter of body and top of rim eroded. Clay: orangish tan (between 5YR 7/6 and 5YR 6/6) with small to medium brown mudstone inclusions.
Figure 42. Aryballoi 63–65. Scale 1:2. Drawings K. Sotiriou

Similar to 63 but smaller; neck curves out more toward shoulder; inside of rim is less clearly articulated from inside of neck; handle is much narrower. Surface burnished.

Another similar but slightly larger aryballos made of the same orangish tan clay is C-1969-29 from EG or MG grave 1969-18, north of Anaploga (unpublished).

65 Aryballos


H. 0.061, max. Diam. of body 0.052, Diam. of neck (center) 0.014, Diam. of rim 0.022, W. of handle (center) 0.012, Th. of handle (center) 0.004. Intact. Clay: generally yellowish buff (10YR 8/4), but yellowish tan (7.5YR 7/6) toward top, with many small to large brown and gray mudstone inclusions.

Similar in size to 64; shape closer to that of 63, but instead of a rounded bottom it has a shallow round depression (0.016–0.018 m in diameter) that provides a simple base on which the vessel rests stably. Similar depressions are found on the bottoms of some other Corinthian EG aryballoi: e.g., C-1936-829 and C-1936-831 from grave 1936-17 beneath the South Stoa (Corinth VII.1, p. 31, nos. 91, 93, pl. 14).

66 Ovoid pyxis and lid


Pyxis: H. 0.066, max. Diam. of body 0.045, Diam. of mouth 0.019. Lid: H. 0.019, Diam. 0.023. Clay: buff (10YR 8/3) with many small to medium mudstone inclusions, one large white inclusion exploded at surface.
Small egg-shaped pyxis with plain round mouth at top flanked by two vertical lugs that extend from shoulder to slightly above level of mouth. Both lugs perforated from top to bottom by hole, ca. 0.002 m in diameter, for cord to attach lid; lid perforated from side to side near bottom by similar hole. Lid is conical with shallow flange around outer edge to hold it in place over mouth of pyxis.

Surface of pyxis and lid both burnished.

This pyxis is obviously related to pointed pyxides with painted decoration, such as C-1968-59 from transitional LPG–EG grave 1968-1 at Corinth (Williams 1970, p. 18, no. 24, pl. 8), Agora P 19239 from an EG I grave in Athens (Young 1949, pp. 290–291, fig. 4, pl. 68; GGP, pl. 1:f), and Mycenae 54-269 and 54-270 from an EG I grave at Mycenae (Desborough 1955, p. 241, nos. 5, 6, pl. 47; GGP, pl. 22e, f). C-1968-59 is similar to 66 in having a conical lid attached by means of cords strung through lugs at the top of the pyxis. The lugs of that piece, however, are pierced horizontally and the lid rests on a distinct rim. Pyxis 54-270 from Mycenae, which lacks its lid, is closer in size and shape to 66; it has lugs pierced vertically and a plain rounded rim. The presence of lugs distinguishes the pyxides from Corinth and Mycenae from the Athenian pyxis, which has holes in its flanged rim for the cord to anchor the lid.

**Other Finds**

**67 Iron spearhead** Fig. 44


Total L. 0.245, L. of socket 0.102, L. of blade 0.143, max. W. of blade 0.042, Diam. of wooden spear shaft 0.017, Diam. of socket 0.018–0.022, Th. of blade (at rib) 0.004–0.016, Th. of blade (at edge) 0.002. Intact, though corroded; minor crack at lower end of socket on one side. End of socket preserves tip of wooden spear shaft.

Hollow socket, round in section, diminishes slightly in diameter toward long blade with rounded shoulders and prominent central rib. Broken end of wooden spear shaft, brownish orange to dark red in color, projects only slightly in places from end of socket. There are no holes for rivets to secure shaft to socket, but thin horizontal grooves in surface of shaft where it projects from socket may be impressions (or remains?) of fine wire used to bind shaft to socket. Straight seam runs down one side of socket. Near end of socket are corroded remains of what appears to be a somewhat irregular reinforcing collar. Edges of blade are rather thick and blunt.

This spearhead is similar to examples from Athens dating from PG to EG II: Kerameikos M 8 (from MPG grave 34: Kerameikos IV, pp. 27, 37, pl. 38), Agora...
IL 1057 (from EG I grave XXVII ["Warrior Grave"]; Blegen 1952, p. 289, no. 2, fig. 3, pl. 75:c); Kerameikos M 63 (from EG II grave 2: Kerameikos V.1, pp. 199, 212, pl. 165). A similar spearhead is attested in LPG T tomb 14 at Lefkandi (Lefkandi I, pp. 176, 254, pls. 174, 244:A); other examples from Lefkandi come from T pyre 1 (Lefkandi I, p. 192, pl. 190) and T pyre 8 (Lefkandi I, p. 195, pls. 192, 244:B), both undated. On all the spears cited here, the blade has a prominent central rib, the socket is somewhat shorter than the blade, the socket appears to have been formed by hammering a flat piece of iron into cylindrical form on a mandrel, and the end of the socket is strengthened with a reinforcing collar. The size of these spearheads ranges from 0.19 (Kerameikos M 8) to 0.373 (Agora IL 1057). Given its comparatively small size, 67 was perhaps more likely to have been used to tip a javelin than a thrusting spear (for discussion of the functions of spears, see Snodgrass 1964, pp. 136–139; Lorimer 1950, pp. 259–261).

**Sarcophagus**

The individual buried in grave 2003-12 was interred in a sarcophagus carved from a single, roughly rectangular block of “medium-grained sandstone with layers of very impure limestone.”

56. C. Hayward (pers. comm.). He notes that this stone is less well sorted than that of the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11.

57. For discussion of the thickness of Geometric sarcophaigs, see n. 14, above.
sarcophagus belongs to an early, experimental stage of design. Although the bottom of the grave trench slopes slightly downward to the north, the top of the sarcophagus has a much more pronounced inclination in the same direction, a result of the variation in the height of the sides (Fig. 4).58 As in the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11, the exterior angles between the sides have beveled edges; here, however, the bevels are slightly narrower, ca. 0.05 m wide, and there are no bevels along the bottom edges. Again as on the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11, there are no bosses or notches for the attachment of ropes for lowering the sarcophagus into the grave trench.59

Tool marks on both the interior and exterior surfaces show that the sarcophagus was roughly carved with an adze, the head of which was about 0.07 m wide. On the exterior, the strokes of the tool run in different directions. On the south side, the western half is worked with vertical strokes, while the eastern half is worked with horizontal strokes. On the east side, the southern half is worked with vertical strokes, whereas the northern half is worked with diagonal strokes, except along the northern edge where vertical strokes are used. The north side is worked inconsistently with a combination of diagonal and horizontal strokes, whereas the west side (at least where the marks are most clearly discernible toward the top) seems to be worked predominantly with vertical strokes. The top edges of the sarcophagus appear generally to have been worked with an adze, but the downward-dipping area at the northeastern corner is deeply pitted from erosion, a fact that suggests that this area represents a portion of the original, unworked surface of the natural rock from which the block was quarried. Much lighter pitting of the surface at points around the top of the interior may be the result of erosion from ground water entering the sarcophagus. The sides and bottom of the interior appear to have been carved with the same adze used for the exterior. On the sides the strokes are generally diagonal; on the floor the direction of the strokes varies. The junctions between adjacent sides of the interior and between the sides and bottom are cut to crisp angles in some places but in others they are roughly rounded. As in the case of the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11, there is no stucco on the interior of either the sarcophagus or the lid.60

Near the center of the floor, ca. 0.45–0.50 m from the south side, is an irregular hole that passes entirely through the bottom of the sarcophagus. Whether this hole is natural or manmade is not clear: there are no fissures around it, but as Chris Hayward has noted in his study of Corinthian quarries, roots can penetrate soft Corinthian limestone and produce such holes without otherwise damaging the adjacent areas of the stone.61 That the hole is natural rather than artificial is suggested by the absence of similar holes in other Corinthian Geometric sarcophagi.

58. The elevations of the four corners of the sarcophagus are 90.98 (southwest), 90.93 (southeast), 90.77 (northeast), and 90.69 (northwest) masl.
59. For notches and bosses, see n. 15, above.
60. For stucco on Corinthian sarcophagi, see n. 16, above.
61. C. Hayward (pers. comm.).
Sarcophagus Lid

When excavated, the sarcophagus was covered by a monolithic lid carved from a "fine-grained, slightly impure oolitic limestone" (Fig. 45).62 The lid, like the sarcophagus itself, is not quite rectangular in plan. Its width varies from 1.25 (north) to 1.35 m (south); its length varies from 1.90 (east) to 2.00 m (west); its thickness is roughly 0.24–0.26 m.63 As positioned atop the sarcophagus, the lid did not entirely cover the outer edge of the north side of the sarcophagus but projected up to 0.19 m beyond the south side and up to 0.15 m beyond the west. The top, bottom, and sides of the lid were all worked with an adze of the same size used for the sarcophagus. On the sides of the lid, the strokes of the tool are consistently diagonal, while on the bottom, most strokes are perpendicular to the long axis of the lid. The top appears to have been less thoroughly worked over and the tool marks on its surface show no clear pattern. On the bottom of the lid are two rough, elongated cuttings, which resemble the pry cuttings found on later architectural blocks. The northern cutting is located about 0.52 m from the east edge of the lid and runs from about 0.31 to 0.42 m from the north edge; the southern cutting is located about 0.36 m from the east edge of the lid and runs from about 0.39 to 0.55 m from the original southern edge. These cuttings were perhaps used to give purchase to levers used at some stage in the process of transporting the lid and setting it into place.

When the lid was first unearthed, it was evident that the southwestern corner had broken from the rest of the lid at the time of the burial and that the crack between the fragments had been sealed by a layer of marl. The same marl was also used to fill gaps between the irregular top edge of the sarcophagus and the bottom of the lid. Some of this marl extended into the adjacent fill within the grave trench.

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62. C. Hayward (pers. comm.).
63. These dimensions are derived from J. Herbst’s scaled drawing of

the grave and from measurements recorded by A. Insua and W. S. Bubelis in Corinth field notebook 958, p. 164. The lid, now in seven fragments, could not be measured directly by the author.
FINDS FROM THE SARCOPHAGUS

When the lid of the sarcophagus was removed, the contents were found to be undisturbed. The upper portion of the sarcophagus was free of earth, testifying to the effectiveness of the marl seal that joined the lid to the sarcophagus. At the bottom of the sarcophagus was a filling of loose dark brown earth, roughly 0.05 m thick, together with some chips of limestone like that used for the sarcophagus and lid. There was also some marl, especially in the northern half of the sarcophagus, where it covered the leg bones of the deceased. This marl evidently entered the grave at the time when the lid was sealed in place.

Besides the skeletal remains, the sarcophagus contained two intact plain aryballoi (68, 69). The oil or unguent that they contained might well have been used to anoint the body prior to the sealing of the sarcophagus. Apart from a single small body sherd, perhaps from a skyphos, the fill in the sarcophagus contained no other ceramic material. It did, however, contain two bronze rings (70, 71), a small iron knife blade (72), and an iron straight pin (73).

One bronze finger ring (70) was discovered near the western side of the sarcophagus just north of its midpoint; at the time of discovery the ring was still in place on the fourth finger of the left hand of the deceased. The other bronze ring (71) was discovered near the center of the sarcophagus amid the skeletal remains of the lower torso. Its position suggests that it was not worn by the deceased at the time of burial. In the Corinthia rings have been found in at least 13 other EIA graves of both men and women, and in most cases it is clear that they were worn on the fingers of the deceased at the time of burial. In fact, only one ring from a grave has a recorded findsport that proves beyond a doubt that it could not have been worn on the finger of the deceased. Of the published EIA graves that contain rings, seven have a single ring, five have two rings, and one has no fewer than five.

The iron knife blade (72) was found near the southeastern corner of the sarcophagus. To my knowledge, a knife has been found in only two other EIA graves at Corinth: grave 1940-5 at the western end of the Forum and grave 1937-2 near the Bema. It is interesting to note that all three graves are probably those of men and that two of the three (graves 1940-5 and 2003-12) contained a spearhead in addition to the knife. In Athens,

64. E. Barnes noted in her analysis of the skeleton that there was cupric staining from this ring on the bones of the finger. The evidence of other EIA graves in the Corinthia shows that rings could be worn on the right or left hand, or on both hands simultaneously. For rings on right hands, see Dickey 1992, p. A-9; Morgan 1937, pp. 543-545, figs. 6, 7. For rings on left hands, see Williams 1970, p. 14, no. 11, pl. 6; Corinth XIII, pp. 24, 26, no. 17-9, pl. 7. For rings on both hands, see Corinth XIII, p. 22, nos. 16-1, 16-2; Hill 1927, p. 73. Whether there was some significance to the particular hand or finger chosen for a ring is not clear from the available evidence.


67. For the knife from grave 1940-5 (EG), see Weinberg 1948, p. 206, no. B9, pl. 72; for the knife from grave 1937-2 (MG II), see Morgan 1937, pp. 544-545; Corinth XII, p. 199, no. 1511, pl. 91; Dickey 1992, pp. A-12, A-13.

68. That grave 1940-5 is a man's grave is assumed from the presence of a spearhead among the finds: Weinberg 1948, p. 204. Grave 1937-2 is thought to be a man's grave because it is paired with a second grave that held an indi-
too, knives have often been found in association with male burials that contain weapons, although a few have been found in graves judged to be those of women. With respect to the Kerameikos cemetery at Athens, Kübler observed that knives might have been deposited in graves either because they were possessions of the deceased or because they were used in connection with a sacrifice to the dead. In the absence of any evidence for a graveside sacrifice associated with grave 2003-12, it is probably better to view 72 as a personal belonging of the deceased.

The iron pin (73) was discovered immediately below the knife blade in a position that might suggest that at the time of burial the deceased wore a garment pinned at the right shoulder. Keith Dickey’s study of Corinthian mortuary practice shows that pins are among the most common grave goods in the EIA burials of the Corinthians and that single pins appear with roughly the same frequency as two or more pins. When single pins are discovered in situ, they may appear at the right shoulder, at the left shoulder, or at the top of the skull. What special significance, if any, attaches to the position of 73 on the right shoulder is unclear from the evidence now available. Too little is known about the sex of individuals buried with pins in the EIA to draw firm statistical conclusions about the relative popularity of pins in male and female burials, but the inclusion of a pin in grave 2003-12 provides important confirmation of the fact that pins were, indeed, appropriate for male burials at Corinth.

Near the northeastern corner of the sarcophagus, in the area occupied by the knees of the deceased, was found a cluster of small fragments of worked ivory or bone. None of these fragments is sufficiently well preserved to identify the object or objects to which they belonged. Although located at some distance from the knife blade, these fragments might possibly belong to the handle of the knife. Just as the handles of swords in Attic graves were sometimes separated from their blades, the handle of the knife may have been removed from its blade (perhaps to “kill” the knife) prior to burial.

71. A single pin was discovered at the right shoulder of the individual buried in EG(?) grave 1936-18 beneath the South Stoa. The pin in this grave (MF-13516) is, like 73, an iron pin missing its original bone or ivory finial; owing to its poor state of preservation, it has been misidentified as a javelin point (Blegen 1937, p. 137) and a spearhead (Dickey 1992, p. A-10, pl. 13c). At Corinth, single pins were discovered at the left shoulder of an infant buried in grave 1931-95 (Corinth XV.1, pp. 7, 122, no. 40; Dickey 1992, p. A-21) and an adult woman buried in grave 1971-5 (Dickey 1992, p. A-9; the grave, but not the pin, is briefly noted in Williams and Fisher 1972, p. 145). A single pin was found at the top of the skull of a child buried in grave 1969-22 (Dickey 1992, p. A-4). At Ayioi Theodoroi, across the Isthmus from Corinth, a single pin is attested once at the left shoulder of the deceased and twice on top of the skull (Verdelis and Alexandri 1963, p. 53).

72. To date, pins have been discovered in association with only two other EIA graves at Corinth in which the skeletal remains have been judged to be male: grave 1969-18 north of Analpoga (Dickey 1992, p. A-98) and grave 1968-1 at the western end of the Forum (Williams 1970, pp. 16-20, nos. 33, 34, pl. 9; Dickey 1992, p. A-2). Because grave 1968-1 also contained loomweights and a kalathos, Dickey (1992, p. A-3) doubts that the occupant was in fact male.

73. The separation of handles from swords in Attic graves is mentioned in Kurtz and Boardman 1971, p. 40.
Plain Handmade Wares

68  Globular aryballos
    C-2003-17. Lot 2003-62. Found within sarcophagus near western side, 0.20 m from southwest corner.
    H. 0.098, Diam. of base 0.029, max. Diam. of body 0.092, Diam. of rim 0.030, W. of handle (center) 0.012, Th. of handle (center) 0.005. Intact except for chips on body and rim and cracks on base and body. Clay: buff (10YR 8/3) with small to large brown and gray mudstone inclusions.
    Small, slightly concave base; squat spherical body, slightly concave toward the bottom; small, asymmetrically placed cylindrical neck topped with outturned rim with flattened lip. Small vertical strap handle with rounded edges rises from upper body to lip.
    Surface burnished.
    The closest parallels for both the shape and the size are 12 from grave 2002-11 and C-1936-827 from grave 1936-17 beneath the South Stoa (Corinth VII.1, pp. 30–31, no. 89, pl. 14). For additional parallels, see 12.

69  Globular aryballos
    H. 0.080, max. Diam. of body 0.074, Diam. of rim 0.026, W. of handle (center) 0.014, Th. of handle (center) 0.005. Mended from numerous fragments. Complete except for small chips on rim and body. Clay: buff (10YR 8/3) with very small to small gray inclusions and few small to medium white inclusions.
    Spherical body; small concave neck topped with outturned rim with flattened lip. Small vertical strap handle with rounded edges rises from upper body to lip.
Surface burnished.

This aryballos is similar in size and shape to 63 from the niche of grave 2003-12, but has a more delicate rim and thinner neck wall. For additional parallels, see 63.

Besides the two aryballoi, the only other ceramic find from within the sarcophagus is a very small, undatable body sherd, probably from a skyphos, solidly glazed inside and out.

**Other Finds**

70  Bronze finger ring  
    W. 0.015–0.016, Diam. of exterior 0.021, Diam. of interior 0.017. Intact but corroded.
    Round, broad band, flat on interior, very slightly beveled to central ridge on exterior.

This is a common type of ring for the EIA. In the Corinthia, examples are attested in graves ranging in date from EG to MG II: an EG grave at Zygiouries (Blegen 1928, pl. 76b.), MG I grave 1952–2 at Klenia (Charitonides 1955, p. 127, nos. 14, 15, pl. 40), MG I grave 1958–1 at Athikia (Lawrence 1964, p. 93, nos. A 14–16, pl. 17; Dickey 1992, p. A-127), and MG II grave 17 in the Potters’ Quarter at Corinth (Corinth XIII, p. 26, no. 17–9, pl. 7). In the Argolid, examples are attested over an even longer chronological range, from SM through LG II (Pfaff 1999, p. 113, n. 63). For another ring of this type (a stray find from the Panayia Field), see 149.

71  Bronze finger ring  
    W. 0.009–0.011, Diam. of exterior 0.022, Diam. of interior 0.018. Intact but corroded and cracked.
    Round band, appreciably narrower and more irregular in form than 70, flat on interior, slightly convex on exterior. Although corrosion has distorted the surface, the exterior does not appear to have had a distinct central ridge, as on 70 and 149.

72  Iron knife blade  
    L. 0.106, max. W. 0.017, Th. 0.005. Intact except for chip near point and damage to studs on haft; very corroded.
    Small, curved, single-edged knife blade with short haft for insertion into handle. Cutting edge has double curve: concave toward haft, convex toward point. Haft is 0.022 long and diminishes in width from 0.016 to 0.006. On one side of haft is a slight trace of projecting rivet to secure handle.

For a similar blade at Corinth, see MF-8813 from EG grave 1940–5 (Weinberg 1948, p. 206, no. B9, pl. 72). Elsewhere in Greece, blades of this basic type have been found in contexts ranging from PG to LG: a PG grave at Theotokou, Thessaly (Wace and Thompson 1912, p. 213, fig. 147); an EG II grave at Mycenae (Desborough 1955, pl. 49c); EG II grave 38 in the Kerameikos at Athens (Kerameikos V.1, p. 199, pl. 166); EG II–MG I grave R 20:1 near the Athenian Agora (Thompson 1947, pp. 196–197, fig. 1, pl. XVI.2); MG I grave 13 in the Kerameikos at Athens (Kerameikos V.1, p. 199, pl. 166); two LG graves in the

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**Figure 47. Bronze finger rings 70 and 71. Scale 1:1**
Athenian Agora (Young 1939, pp. 49, 94, fig. 73); and the LG house at Xeropolis, Lefkandi (Lefkandi I, pp. 84, 88, pl. 71:b). With the exception of the example from Mycenae, most comparable knives are considerably larger than 72.

73 Iron pin

Fig. 49


P.L. 0.105, Diam. of shaft ca. 0.007 (top), Diam. of flange 0.004. Iron shaft broken at lower end; very corroded. Poorly preserved remains of bone or ivory cylinder attached to upper part of shaft.

Straight iron shaft, originally round (?) in section, flanged at top so as to accommodate what appears to be narrow cylinder of bone or ivory, 0.020 long and 0.007 in diameter. Flanged upper end of pin extends for additional 0.020 beyond cylinder, becoming gradually flatter toward its end.

Although traces of an unidentified brown material are all that survive of the object originally attached to the upper end of the pin, in the restored drawing (Fig. 49) I have suggested a pomegranate finial, since bone or ivory finials of this form are well attested on iron pins at Corinth: e.g., MF-9447 and MF-9448 from grave 1950-2 (not securely dated; Dickey 1992, p. A-9, pl. 13:b), and MF-6534 and MF-6535 from grave 1936-21 (perhaps MG II; Morgan 1937, p. 544, fig. 6; Corinth XII, p. 276, nos. 2264, 2265, fig. 64, pl. 117; Kilian-Dirlmeier 1984, p. 74, nos. 287, 288, pl. 12; Dickey 1992, p. A-14, pl. 21:b).
Skeletal Remains within the Sarcophagus

The sarcophagus was found to contain the articulated but poorly preserved skeletal remains of a single adult man (Fig. 50). As is usual for Geometric burials at Corinth, the body was buried in a loosely contracted position with the head toward the south. The body was placed on its back, with the torso turned somewhat onto its right side. The head, positioned near, or perhaps against, the southern side of the sarcophagus, was turned to the right (east). The right arm was extended straight from the shoulder along the eastern side of the sarcophagus, while the left arm was extended toward the western side, then bent at the elbow to bring the hand back to the pelvis. The upper legs were brought slightly forward while the lower legs were bent more sharply backward. The right leg was positioned in front of the left with its knee less sharply bent.

Analysis of the skeletal remains by Ethne Barnes has revealed that the deceased was an adult male, between 25 and 29 years of age, who stood 1.73 m tall and had a slender build. Because of the poor state of preservation, it was impossible to reconstruct the skull and facial shape. The skeleton showed no signs of functional stress, such as might result from heavy labor. There were no identifiable signs of the cause of death.

74. I thank Ethne Barnes for providing me with a report of her analysis of the skeleton carried out in the summer of 2003. The sex was indicated by the flaring gonial angle of the mandibular ramus from the left side of the jaw. Age was estimated on the basis of the fusion of the epiphyses of the long bones and vertebras and by the degree of dental wear. Stature was estimated from the length of the radius and ulna, using the regression formula of Trotter and Gleser 1958.
Burial Process

The process of burial in grave 2003-12 is likely to have been essentially the same as that in grave 2002-11 (see pp. 476-477, above). Among the few noticeable differences is the fact that only one complete vessel was deposited in the fill of the grave trench. From the position of this vessel in the fill, it is evident that the grave trench was filled nearly to the top of the sarcophagus before this vessel was placed in the grave. Another difference is that at some point while the grave trench was open, a niche for grave goods was cut into the western side of the grave. Once the vessels and the spearhead were deposited in the niche, it was evidently filled with earth at the same time as the rest of the trench.

Date of Burial

To judge by the associated finds, grave 2003-12 is roughly contemporary with the adjacent burial in grave 2002-11. The pottery assemblage seems consistent with the local EG phase, and, as in the case of grave 2002-11, the oinochoai of the assemblage suggest a date before Attic EG II models had an impact on the local ceramic production. In the absence of any obviously later features among the other vessels, I am inclined to assign this assemblage, like that of grave 2002-11, to an early phase of EG roughly contemporary with Attic EG I.

Whether grave 2003-12 preceded grave 2002-11 or vice versa cannot be determined from a comparison of the assemblages. Other evidence for the relative dating of the two graves appears to be contradictory. The sarcophagus of grave 2003-12, with its exceptionally thick sides, gives the impression of being an early experiment by stonemasons still uncertain about the qualities of the local stone, whereas the sarcophagus of grave 2002-11, with its much thinner sides, seems to point ahead to the sarcophagi that became standard in the 8th century B.C. and later. The positions of the graves, however, suggest that grave 2003-12 is later than grave 2002-11. Because these two graves and a third pit grave (grave 2004-4, discussed below) are roughly aligned, it appears that their positions were coordinated. Moreover, because grave 2004-4 is certainly later than the other two graves, it seems reasonable to suppose that the burials took place sequentially from south to north, beginning with grave 2002-11 and followed by graves 2002-12 and 2004-4. In the end, however, it must be admitted that neither the form of the sarcophagi nor the positions of the graves offer conclusive evidence for the relative chronology.

Later History of the Grave

The burial in grave 2003-12, unlike that in grave 2002-11, was not disturbed in antiquity. In spite of later construction in the area, the sarcophagus and most of the fill in the grave trench remained untouched prior to excavation.

75. There is nothing to indicate whether the niche was cut before or after the sarcophagus was lowered into the grave; because the bottom of the niche lies somewhat below the level of the top of the sarcophagus, it would have been easier to cut the niche before the sarcophagus was in place.
GEOGRAPHIC GRAVES IN THE PANAYIA FIELD

in 2003. Only the top of the trench seems to have been intruded upon, first during the construction of north–south wall 223, which seems to have taken place in the Hellenistic or Early Roman period, and then by the construction and subsequent plundering of the walls represented by the robbed foundation trenches, RT 221 and RT 222 (Fig. 2). These walls, which met at an oblique angle over the southwesterly corner of the grave trench, were perhaps built in the 2nd century a.d. and robbed out in the 3rd. As noted above, RT 222 also crossed the trench of grave 2002-11 to the south.

GRAVE 2004-4

Grave Trench and Pit

Grave 2004-4, in contrast to its neighbors to the south, did not contain a sarcophagus. The burial was made instead in a rectangular pit cut into the bottom of a larger rectangular trench or shaft dug into reddish brown, pebbly alluvium (Figs. 3, 4, 51, 52). The trench has approximately the same orientation (just west of north) as the two graves to the south; the burial pit itself is angled slightly further to the west. The southern edge of the trench is ca. 0.75 m from the northern edge of grave 2003-12, and the long axis is ca. 0.60 m further west than that of grave 2003-12. The trench is about 2.30 m wide and 2.75 m long, whereas the burial pit within it is roughly 1.25 by 1.60 m. Because the top of the trench was cut away by later activity on the site, it is not possible to determine its original depth by direct measurement. The bottom of the trench, however, lies ca. 1.58–1.65 m below what is believed to be the contemporary ground level beside grave 2003-12. The depth of the burial pit in the bottom of the trench is ca. 0.32–0.39 m. When excavated the pit contained no trace of skeletal remains or grave goods. As explained below, the absence of finds within the grave can be attributed to later disturbance of the burial.

The form of this grave is reminiscent of a Mycenaean shaft grave insofar as the deceased was buried in a rectangular pit at the base of a larger trench or shaft. Graves of this type seem to have been fairly common at Corinth in the Geometric period, although it is unlikely that all such graves have been identified, since the shaft above the burial pit has not always been preserved or has not been recognized in the process of excavation. The earliest securely identified example of the type at Corinth is dated to the EG period. Other dated examples belong to the MG II period. As Dicke

With very few exceptions, pit graves at Corinth were usually covered with stone slabs, and this was probably the case with grave 2004-4.\textsuperscript{79} Besides the supporting testimony of many Corinthian Geometric pit graves with cover slabs (32 in the North Cemetery alone),\textsuperscript{80} the existence of an ample ledge around the burial pit speaks in favor of the use of a cover slab or slabs. In light of the evidence (discussed below) that the grave was disturbed on more than one occasion in antiquity, it is not hard to imagine that the cover might have been removed on one of those occasions. Excavation of the fill within the burial pit did, in fact, bring to light a few small fragments of oolitic limestone that might have come from a cover slab, but given the fact that a later wall passed through the grave, we cannot exclude the possibility that these pieces derive from the fabric of the wall instead.

Although in general it seems that pit graves were most common at Corinth before sarcophagus burials became predominant,\textsuperscript{81} the evidence presented below shows that the pit grave in the Panayia Field is later in date than the two adjacent sarcophagus burials.

**Finds from within the Trench and Pit**

Because grave 2004-4 was disturbed by later activity in the area, none of the contents of the trench and burial pit were found in situ. It is possible that an oinochoe (92) and some Geometric sherds (120, 121, 123, 132, and 135) from the immediate vicinity derive from the grave, but since these are predominantly EG in date, while the finds from the niche in the south side of the grave (discussed below) are best assigned to the MG I phase, they may have originated from another source.

**Niche with Grave Goods**

Cut into the center of the southern side of the grave trench is a niche, roughly oval in plan, which contained four complete vessels: an amphora, two oinochoai, and a skyphos (Figs. 51, 53, 54). The niche is approximately 0.95 m long and 0.68 m deep. Its bottom dips to ca. 0.02 m below the level of the bottom of the adjacent grave trench, but remains well above the level of the burial pit. Because the top of the niche was cut away at some time in antiquity, its original height is not known; it must, however, have exceeded the preserved height of 0.60 m. The fact that the back of the niche curves forward as it rises (see Fig. 4) indicates that the niche was hollowed out of the vertical side of the grave trench and not dug from above. At the time of excavation, there was no sign that the front of the niche had been sealed off from the rest of the grave; it appears likely, therefore, that the niche was filled in at the time of burial with the same soil used to fill the rest of the grave. As in the case of the niche associated with grave 2003-12, there were no skeletal remains to suggest that this niche was used for a secondary burial.

\textsuperscript{79} Dickey (1992, pp. 15-16) lists five pit graves that seem never to have had stone cover slabs. Only one of these, grave 1931-94 in the Potters' Quarter, is datable (MG II; *Corinth* XV.1, p. 7 [grave I]; *Corinth* XV.3, pp. 14-15, nos. 5-7, pl. 1).

\textsuperscript{80} *Corinth* XIII, pp. 17–18.

Figure 53. Grave 2004-4 with niche in foreground, grave 2003-12 in middle ground, and grave 2002-11 in background, from north

Figure 54. Niche of grave 2004-4, from north
Finds from the Niche

As noted above, the niche contained four complete vessels. The amphora (74) and the larger oinochoe immediately to its west (75) had evidently been tipped back onto their sides from positions near the front of the niche. The smaller oinochoe (76), found behind and to the east of the amphora, was tilted only slightly from its original upright position. The skyphos (77), which was found directly behind the amphora, had perhaps fallen from the mouth of that vessel.

Painted Fine Wares

74  Attic (?) neck-handled amphora

C–2004–17. Lot 2004–56. Found lying on its side immediately east of 75. H. 0.372, Diam. of foot 0.111, max. Diam. of body 0.220, Diam. of neck (at center) 0.092, Diam. of rim 0.133–0.136, W. of handle (center) 0.031, Th. of handle (center) 0.009. Nearly intact (six small fragments of rim and upper neck are reattached). Clay: grayish buff (7.5YR 8/2) at surface, slightly darker below, with few small brown inclusions. Glaze: generally very dark matte gray (10YR 3/1); worn.
Low, flaring ring foot with beveled outer edge and flattened resting surface. Inside of foot not sharply articulated from nearly flat underside of vessel. Ovoid body rises to concave neck topped with outward-thickened rim with rounded lip. Slight deformaty on one side of lower body, perhaps caused by pressure from another vessel placed against it in the kiln. Two vertical strap handles with rounded outer edges rise from shoulder to upper neck.

Inside and resting surface of foot and underside of vessel preserved. Outside of foot solidly glazed above bevel. Outside of body dark ground with four evenly spaced triple reserved bands. Neck solidly glazed around fairly large neck panels on both front and back. Neck panels, framed above and below by triple reserved bands, consist of two superimposed zones: larger upper zone filled with four superimposed zigzags flanked to either side by three vertical glazed bands; smaller lower zone filled with dogtooth pattern. Outside of rim has reserved zone filled with seven evenly spaced groups of eleven vertical bars, painted with multiple brush. Spaces between groups of bars left void. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands terminating against vertical glazed bands extending along outer edges of handles; inside of handles reserved. Inside of rim glazed; rest of interior unglazed.

The shape, although closely related to that of the earlier amphoras from grave 2002-11, is subtly different in many respects. The foot is not nearly as heavy, the body is slightly narrower, the neck is not as strongly concave, the rim has a thinner, sharper lip, and the handles are considerably thinner. Among Attic amphoras, a close parallel for the shape is Kerameikos 866 (GGP, pl. 3d), dated to the MG I phase. The decorative scheme is consistent with Corinthian and Attic MG tendencies, both in the use of multiple triple reserved bands on the body and in the addition of a subsidiary zone beneath the principal zone of the neck panel. Although Attic neck-handled amphoras tend to add a shoulder zone with bars alternating with double axes and to favor a meander instead of multiple zigzags in the neck panel, at least one Attic MG I amphora, from grave I at Marathon (Soteriades 1940, pp. 28, 31, fig. 1:α), has the simpler banded body of 74 and a neck panel with zigzags above a subsidiary zone (there filled with a gear pattern instead of a dogtooth pattern). The decoration of the rim of 74 is not otherwise attested at Corinth; in other cases where a reserved zone is used on an amphora rim, the groups of bars alternate with another decorative element (a double axe or X). Rims decorated like that of 74 appear on a few Attic amphoras of the EG II and MG I phases: e.g., Kerameikos 254 (EG II; Kerameikos V.1, pl. 26; GGP, pl. 2:h), Eleusis 813 (EG II; Kahane 1940, p. 470, pl. 18), and Eleusis West Cemetery no. 165 (MG I; Mylonas 1975, p. 112, pls. 241, 242).

75 Attic oinochoe


H. 0.300, Diam. of foot 0.140, max. Diam. of body 0.191, Diam. of neck (at center) 0.075, W. of handle (center) 0.037, Th. of handle (center) 0.013. Nearly intact (four small rim fragments are reattached). Clay: yellowish tan (7.5YR 7/6) with few large dark red and brown inclusions, many minute sparkling inclusions. Glaze: generally lustrous black (10YR 2/1); dark greenish gray (5Y 3/2) in places; reddish brown (2.5YR 5/6 to 2.5YR 5/8) in small area on lower body where accidentally oxidized in firing; well preserved except on outside of handle.

Broad low ring foot, subtly but clearly articulated from lower body wall. Foot has rounded outer edge and flattened resting surface. Inside of foot offset by groove from nearly flat underside of vessel. Body has truncated ovoid form, clearly articulated from rather tall, slightly concave neck topped with trefoil mouth. Vertical strap handle with rounded outer edges attaches to shoulder and rim. Height of handle allows more than enough space for all four fingers to pass around it.
Figure 56. Attic oinochoai 75 and 76.
Scale 1:3. Drawings K. Sotiriou

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved; exterior of foot solidly glazed. Body solidly glazed except for three equally spaced triple reserved bands. Neck solidly glazed except for panel extending halfway around bottom of neck opposite handle, decorated with five rows of superimposed multiple zigzags framed below by three horizontal reserved bands and above by two. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands terminating against vertical glazed bands extending along outer edges of handle; inside of handle reserved. Inside of vessel unglazed.
A close parallel for the shape is provided by Kerameikos 870 (from MG I grave 37: Kerameikos V.1, pl. 72; GGP, p. 16, pl. 3:c). The use of three triple reserved bands on the bodies of Attic oinochoai is attested as early as EG II (Kerameikos 927 from grave 2 and 2139 from grave 38: Kerameikos V.1, pl. 71; for the dating, see GGP, p. 13) and continues into MG I (Kerameikos 870). The use of a neck panel with multiple zigzags without a subsidiary zone below is also attested from EG II (Kerameikos 2137 from grave 38: Kerameikos V.1, pl. 70) into MG I (Eleusis 819: Kahane 1940, pl. 17:3; for the date, see GGP, p. 16).

76 Small Attic oinochoe


H. 0.194, Diam. of foot 0.087, max. Diam. of body 0.117, Diam. of neck (center) 0.044, W. of handle (center) 0.021, Th. of handle (center) 0.011. Complete; mended from 12 sherds. Clay: yellowish tan (7.5YR 7/6) with few medium to large dark red inclusions, many sparkling inclusions. Glaze: brown (7.5YR 4/3) where dilute, dark gray (7.5YR 3/0) where thick; misfired in places reddish brown (2.5YR 4/4); very worn.

Low, rather heavy ring foot with rounded exterior. Concave inside of foot curves into flat underside of vessel. Globular body rises to rather tall neck, positioned asymmetrically on shoulder. Slight groove articulates junction of neck and shoulder. Neck tapers slightly as it rises to trefoil mouth. Fairly narrow strap handle with rounded edges attaches to shoulder and rim.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Outside of foot and bottom of body solidly glazed. Lower two-thirds of body covered with 18 narrow, evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands; upper third (shoulder) solidly glazed. Portion of neck beside handle solidly glazed; rest of neck (over half) occupied by neck panel, decorated with seven superimposed zigzags, framed above and below by triple reserved band. Outside of trefoil mouth solidly glazed. Outside of handle decorated with evenly spaced horizontal glazed bands terminating against vertical glazed bands extending along outer edges of handle; inside of handle reserved. Inside of vessel unglazed.

The shape is somewhat similar to that of a small MG I oinochoe probably from a grave in the Athenian Agora (Athens, NM 15327: Smithson 1974, p. 384, pl. 80:d). The decoration is, to my knowledge, without close parallels. Although neck panels with multiple zigzags are common for oinochoai, the use of as many as seven superimposed zigzags is unusual. The narrow continuous banding of the lower body is also exceptional. The only parallels for such banding that are roughly contemporary with grave 2004-4 are an idiosyncratic aryballos (P 27633) from the “Tomb of the Rich Athenian Lady” in the Athenian Agora, which Smithson (1968, p. 86, no. 5, pl. 21) puts near the end of EG II, and a pyxis from grave 5 at Marathon (Soteriades 1940, p. 34, fig. 3:μ), which is assigned to MG I by Coldstream (GGP, p. 16). Another contemporary oinochoe with continuous (but thicker) banding on the body is Kerameikos 868 from grave 37 (Kerameikos V.1, pl. 72). As Smithson (1968, p. 86) notes, such banding is not common before the MG II phase.

77 Attic skyphos


H. 0.071, Diam. of foot 0.079, max. Diam. of body 0.140, Diam. of rim 0.127-0.132, Th. of handles (center) 0.010. Intact except for small pieces missing from
rim; cracks on rim, body and underside. Clay: tan (7.5YR 7/4) with few medium brown inclusions and numerous minute sparkling inclusions. Glaze: brown (5YR 4/3) where dilute, dark gray (7.5YR 3/0) where thick; worn, especially on upper half of exterior.

Low, broad ring foot, beveled slightly to resting surface. Concave inside of foot curves into flat underside of vessel. Squat ovoid body rises to concave vertical rim, flaring slightly to rounded lip. Two canted horizontal loop handles, round in section, rise from upper body to level of bottom of rim.

Underside of vessel and inside and resting surface of foot reserved. Exterior of foot and lower half of body solidly glazed. Upper half of body has reserved handle zone above triple reserved band. Handle zone filled with four superimposed rows of multiple zigzags, framed to either side by two series of three vertical glazed bands separated by vertical row of short diagonal dashes. Small areas between handle zone and handles occupied by many-pointed star. Two glazed bands frame outside of each handle root; four additional bands extend along outside of each handle. Body between handle roots reserved. Outside of rim decorated with triple reserved band. Interior solidly glazed except for small reserved circle at center of floor and fairly wide horizontal reserved band on inside of rim immediately below lip; reserved band decorated with seven groups of 11 bars painted with multiple brush.

The shape and decoration are very similar to an Attic MG I skyphos from the Kerameikos (Kerameikos 2156 from grave 36: Kerameikos V.1, pl. 89; GGP, p. 16, pl. 3b); the only significant difference in the decoration is that the Kerameikos skyphos has three rather than four rows of zigzags in the handle zone.

In addition to the four complete vessels described above, the niche contained an isolated fragment of a large Attic skyphos (78a). Another fragment of the same vessel (78b) was discovered in disturbed fill that extended over the niche and the southwestern corner of the grave trench. Because the fragment from within the niche was discovered in undisturbed fill at the very bottom of the niche, there is no possibility of ascribing the fragmentary
state of the vessel to a later disturbance. Rather the vessel must have been in pieces at the time the grave trench and niche were filled in. From the available evidence it is not clear whether the fragments of this vessel were intentionally deposited in the grave or whether they were inadvertently mixed into the soil used to refill it.

78 Attic skyphos, two nonjoining rim fragments

a) Lot 2004-56:1. Found at bottom of niche west of 75. P.H. 0.060, est. Diam. of rim 0.17. Single fragment, preserving small portion of upper body and rim.

b) Lot 2004-28:1. From disturbed fill in upper part of niche and southeastern corner of grave trench. P.H. 0.0041. Single fragment, preserving small portion of upper body and rim, small portion of root of horizontal handle. Clay of both fragments: tan (between 5YR 7/6 and 7.5YR 7/4) with very few medium to large brown and white inclusions and numerous minute sparkling inclusions. Glaze: brown (7.5YR 5/6) where dilute, black (10YR 2/1) where thick (more lustrous on 78a); very well preserved.

Convex upper body of large deep skyphos curving in to flaring rim with rounded lip. No clear articulation between top of body and bottom of rim. Handle root on 78b confirms that vessel had horizontal handles.

Outside of body solidly glazed, except for small preserved portion of area between handle roots. Two horizontal reserved bands on outside of rim. Wider reserved band on inside of rim decorated with group of 11 vertical bars executed with multiple brush. Rest of inside solidly glazed. If there was any decoration on the body, it could only have been a small panel.

There are three varieties of skyphos of the LPG to EG II phases to which these fragments might belong: the first form has a low conical foot (as in an LPG skyphos from Nea Ionia and an EG III[?] skyphos from Areopagos grave AR II in Athens: Smithson 1961, p. 166, no. 45, pl. 27; 1974, p. 342, no. AR II-1, pl. 71:i); the second has a low ring foot (as in two EG II skyphoi from Thorikos: Thorikos I, pp. 82–84, figs. 97, 98, 100); the third has a pedestal (as in a skyphos from EG II grave 2 at Marathon: Soteriades 1940, pp. 30, 33, fig. 3:γ).

The fill within the niche also yielded a single animal bone (a second phalanx of a juvenile sheep or goat).82 In the absence of any other animal bones in the niche or of signs of fire in the area, there is nothing to suggest that this bone derives from an animal sacrificed at the grave; it may simply be a stray bit of debris mixed with the earth dumped into the grave.83

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82. This bone is the sole item in Corinth bone lot 2004-56. I thank Sherry Fox and Thanos Webb for identifying it.

83. The exact location of this bone within the niche was not recorded. That it was purposefully deposited in the grave would be more likely if it was found at the bottom of the niche rather than “floating” in the fill. It is not a proper knucklebone (astragalos), and so is not likely to be a gaming piece.
Date of Burial

In the absence of material that can be securely associated with the grave trench and burial pit, the date of the burial must be derived from the pottery discovered in the niche. Because the niche was evidently cut from inside the grave trench, it is likely to have been created when the trench itself was dug, and the pottery was presumably placed in the niche before the trench was filled in. The date of the pottery from the niche should therefore reflect, at least approximately, the date of the grave.

Taken together, the four complete vessels in the niche suggest a date in the MG I phase. The Attic skyphos (77) and amphora (74) point unambiguously to this period. The skyphos has the shallower profile and fully light-ground upper body that distinguish it from earlier EG II skyphoi produced in Athens. The amphora still retains the dark-ground scheme inherited from EG amphorae, but the use of multiple triple reserved bands on the body and the addition of a subsidiary zone below the main panel on the neck place it securely within the MG I phase. The larger of the two Attic oinochoai (75) seems less advanced and may, in fact, be a somewhat earlier piece (transitional EG II to MG I). Although the body reflects the tendency to break up the dark ground with multiple reserved bands, the neck still retains the simple panel format of EG examples. The smaller Attic oinochoe (76) is hard to assess because of a lack of parallels. While the simple neck panel points back to the EG II phase, the banded lower body anticipates developments of the MG II phase.

According to the traditional chronology of Attic Geometric pottery, grave 2004-4 should be assigned a date around 850–800 B.C. If, as I have suggested, the two graves to the south (graves 2002-11 and 2003-12) belong to the earlier part of the EG phase (ca. 900–875 B.C.), they would precede grave 2004-4 by at least a generation or two. Within the sequence of datable Geometric graves at Corinth, grave 2004-4 should probably be placed after the MG I sarcophagus grave discovered north of the fountain of Peirene (grave 1899-2), and it should certainly be placed before the rather large number of MG II graves in the area of the Forum, the North Cemetery, and the Potters’ Quarter.

Later History of the Grave

Grave 2004-4 was disturbed on several occasions in antiquity, and as a result of one or more of these disturbances the contents of the grave were removed, with the exception of the grave goods in the niche on the southern side of the trench. In the Hellenistic period, if not earlier, a circular pit was cut down into the northwestern corner of the grave trench (Figs. 2, 52). This pit extended slightly below the level of the bottom of the grave trench but may not have interfered with the burial pit in the center of the trench.

Sometime later, well 2004-1 was cut through the northwestern corner of the grave trench and burial pit. The digging of this well would have broken through the corner of any cover slab that sealed the burial pit, and it might also have exposed at least a portion of the contents of the pit. If
the burial pit had not been filled with earth, an opening into the void of the pit would have appeared in the side of the well shaft, thereby allowing the entire contents of the pit to be plundered. It is unlikely that such a void existed, however, for in all undisturbed pit burials excavated thus far at Corinth, the burial pits, despite being sealed with stone slabs, have been found to be filled to the top with earth.\(^{87}\) If the burial pit in grave 2004-4 was likewise filled with earth, only the objects in the northwestern corner, the area cut by the well shaft, would have been exposed; in the absence of any grave goods in this small area, the well digger might have continued down through the grave without ever realizing that he had done so.

Later still, in connection with the construction of the 3rd-century A.D. \textit{domus} or an earlier predecessor, a deep foundation trench for an east–west wall was dug through the middle of the grave. Any remaining contents within the grave trench and burial pit would almost certainly have been exposed at this time. The grave was disturbed yet again in late antiquity when, after the 4th-century destruction of the \textit{domus}, the east–west wall was plundered, leaving a robbed foundation trench (RT 192 in Fig. 2).

**GRAVE 2004-3**

The final grave to be considered here is a simple oval pit grave located about 6.5 m east-northeast of grave 2004-4 (Figs. 2, 3, 59). The grave pit measures 0.96 by 0.42 m and is oriented just west of north, in roughly the same direction as the other graves discussed above. The preserved depth of the pit is a mere 0.27 m. That its bottom was found at an elevation of 91.40 masl suggests that it was never deeper than about half a meter. No sign of a cover slab was found. The soil filling the pit was described by the excavator as “brown sandy clay” that was distinguished from the surrounding soil “by being softer and containing fewer pebbles.”\(^{88}\) When excavated the grave still contained the upper half of the skeleton of a small child; the lower half (including the pelvis, both legs and feet, the right forearm, and both hands) had been removed probably in the 5th century B.C., when a pit was dug down into the northern half of the grave. The skeleton was placed on its back and oriented with the head toward the south. The arms were extended on either side of the torso and the head was turned slightly toward the left shoulder. Stones were evidently placed beside the head and under the chin to hold the head and jaw in place. The skeletal remains have not yet been cleaned and analyzed, but a tentative assessment of age indicates that the child was between two and five years old, and perhaps no older than three.\(^{89}\)

No grave goods were found in association with this burial. The top of the grave pit was, however, covered by Archaic strata that provide a terminus

\(^{87}\) Young argues that the earth fill in grave pits or cists in the North Cemetery was added at the time of burial (Corinth XIII, p. 17).

\(^{88}\) Corinth field notebook 962, p. 140.

\(^{89}\) I thank Sherry Fox for assisting me with the determination of age. She notes that the fact that the deciduous manibular right second molar has erupted indicates an age of approximately two to five years. The length (0.103 m) of the left humerus, the only fully preserved long bone, suggests a range of one to three years, but skeletal age may lag behind dental age if the child’s body experienced stress from disease or malnutrition.
Although one might imagine that such a simple child's burial could have taken place at any time, it is ironic that at Corinth no such graves were found that can be securely dated to either the EIA or the Archaic period. Of the various graves of children recorded from EIA Corinth, which include pot burials, slab-lined cists, niches appended to adult burials, sarcophagi, and pit burials, the only one known to me that is closely comparable to grave 2004-3 is grave II in the Potters' Quarter. Unfortunately, its date is in doubt, for although it was found in an area with other MG graves and it contained a complete aryballos that appears to be MG, it also contained a fragment of a kotyle that can be no earlier than LG. It is uncertain whether the later date of the kotyle accurately reflects the date of the burial or whether it is an intrusive piece that should be disregarded. That grave 2004-3 is no later than the 8th century B.C. is suggested by the fact that every child's grave at Corinth datable by finds to the 7th or first half of the 6th century B.C. is either a pot burial or a sarcophagus burial.

90. These strata are recorded as B65 and B66 in field notebook 962; the contents are stored in lot 2004-49.
91. For the forms of child burials, see Dickey 1992, p. A-135. For grave II in the Potters' Quarter, see Corinth XV.1, pp. 7, 122, no. 40, pl. 49; Corinth XV.3, pp. 15-16, nos. 8, 9, pl. 1.
92. Stillwell and Benson believed that the kotyle fragment was purposefully deposited in the grave (Corinth XV.1, p. 7; Corinth XV.3, p. 15, no. 8). Dickey, however, has raised doubts about this suggestion (Dickey 1992, p. A-21).
93. It can, of course, be argued that poor simple graves such as this one typically lack datable finds and that therefore the apparent absence of such graves in a given period is inconclusive. Nonetheless, the fact that graves of this type were not found among the other datable Archaic graves of the North Cemetery suggests that such burials were not common after the end of the Geometric period.
THE CULTURAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GRAVES

Given the paucity of evidence for the EIA culture of Corinth, it is difficult to reconstruct the context of the graves from the Panayia Field in any detail. Comparison of these graves with other contemporary burials, however, can help us to appreciate what is typical or exceptional about them, with the understanding that any provisional conclusions risk being overturned by the results of future excavations.

The use of stone sarcophagi in two of the graves immediately marks them as exceptional for their time. Although inhumation was the standard practice in Corinth throughout the EIA, burial in sarcophagi was not common until the second half of the 8th century B.C. Statistics compiled by Dickey indicate that of 101 graves in the Corinthia that are securely dated by associated finds from the PG through the LG periods (ca. 1100–725 B.C.), only six made use of a stone sarcophagus.94 In one of these graves the sarcophagus was made of two conjoined halves,95 but in at least four of the other five burials, the sarcophagi, like those in graves 2002-11 and 2003-12, were carved from a single block.96 Of the other PG and G graves in the Corinthia, the clear majority (86%) are unlined pits cut into either sterile soil or bedrock; decidedly fewer are cist graves (12%) and pot burials (7%).97 Compared to these other forms of burial, the use of a stone sarcophagus set within a pit, as in the case of graves 2002-11 and 2003-12, would have involved a much greater expenditure of time and resources. It is also the type of burial that might be expected to afford the greatest protection to the dead. Without insisting that the best-appointed graves necessarily belong to elite members of a community, I would nonetheless suggest that the individuals originally buried in graves 2002-11 and 2003-12 were highly regarded or were members of an unusually wealthy family. The fact that the sarcophagi in these graves are the largest Corinthian examples securely dated to the Geometric period adds to the impression of conspicuous display, since burial in the usual contracted position could have been accomplished in rather smaller sarcophagi.98

The finds from graves 2002-11 and 2003-12 also speak of higher-than-average wealth. The ceramic assemblage associated with grave 2002-11, which included 12 to 31 vessels, is particularly impressive. Of Corinthian burials dated before the 8th century B.C., only a few have a comparable number of grave goods. A LPG child's grave (grave 1938-13) at Vello

95. This sarcophagus was found in MG grave 1952-2 at Klenia in the southern Corinthia (Charitonides 1955, p. 125).
96. Monolithic sarcophagi were found in an EG grave at Mavropelia (Lawrence 1964, p. 89); in MG I grave 1899-2 north of the fountain of Peirene (Nichols 1905, p. 413, fig. 1); in EG or MG grave 1969-18 north of Anaploga (Dickey 1992, p. A-98); and in MG II(?) grave 1973-12 at the western end of the Forum (unpublished). The small sarcophagus in LPG grave 1933-204 east of the Asklepieion was probably monolithic, but the published description (Corinth VII.1, p. 9) does not explicitly say so.
98. Of published sarcophagi of the Geometric period, the one at Klenia is the next largest, with interior dimensions reported to be 1.615 x 0.68 x 0.40 m deep. A MG II sarcophagus excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service in the spring of 2003 is longer than the one in grave 2002-11, but it is not as wide or high and so is smaller in total volume.
contained 13 vases, mostly miniatures. A transitional LPG–EG grave (grave 1968-1) at the western end of the Forum contained 10 vases. An EG(?) grave (grave 1970-9), also at the western end of the Forum, had nine vases, although most of these were handmade. A MG I grave (grave 1899-2) north of the fountain of Peirene was found to have a total of 16 vases deposited in two groups outside the sarcophagus. Perhaps the largest grave assemblage is a group of 32 EG vessels discovered by accident in 1928 in the course of digging a modern well at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau, close to the line of the Lechaion Road. It is possible that this group derives from more than one grave, as Weinberg and Coldstream have noted, but it seems more likely that it belongs to a single burial, since the whole assemblage was evidently found within the confined space exposed by the modern well shaft. Some additional graves with large numbers of vessels have recently been excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service in the line of the high-speed railroad near Corinth, but exact figures for these have not yet been published.

Although the number of vessels discovered in grave 2002-11 is unusually large, the vessel types are generally consistent with those discovered in other Geometric graves at Corinth. As is typical, the majority of the vessels are local painted fine wares of types normally associated with drinking: closed storage vessels (amphoras), pouring vessels (oinochoai), and cups (one-handled cup and skyphoi). As is also common in other Geometric graves, there were small containers (a fine painted aryballos and a plain handmade aryballos) that are likely to have contained oil or unguent.

One unexpected vessel is the large coarse amphora (11) found in grave 2002-11. Although Corinthian grave assemblages of the Geometric period not infrequently include a large coarse hydria, coarse amphorae are rare. I am aware of only two such amphorae found in association with graves: in one case, the vessel (probably of MG date) was placed on its side and was evidently used for the interment of an infant (although no bones were recovered from within it); in the other case, it seems simply to have been one of the grave goods associated with a burial. The coarse amphora found in grave 2002-11 was almost certainly not a burial urn; its upright position and apparently intact neck would seem to preclude its use for the interment of even a very small infant. It seems therefore most likely that, like the second amphora mentioned above, it was merely one of the grave goods.

It is worth reconsidering, however, whether this amphora ought in fact to be associated with the sarcophagus burial in grave 2002-11. The position of the amphora, resting with its base in situ near the east side of the sarcophagus at a level comparable to that of the other vases, argues strongly (and some might say overwhelmingly) for the association of the vessel with the burial. On the other hand, the form of the amphora and the date suggested by it are difficult to reconcile with the apparent date of grave 2002-11, as indicated by the rest of the pottery assemblage. In the typology of Corinthian coarse amphorae that I proposed in 1988, this example would seem to fall naturally into the MG II period, and thus be dated a century or so later than the other vessels securely associated with the grave. A typology based on a limited number of extant amphorae may

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99. *Corinth* VII.1, pp. 6–8, nos. 7–19, pls. 1, 2.
102. Nichols 1905; *Corinth* VII.1, p. 16.
103. *Corinth* VII.1, p. 10; *GGP*, p. 92.
104. Weinberg (*Corinth* VII.1, p. 10) records that George Kachros, the guard of the Corinth museum who investigated the site after the removal of the vessels, “reported that the vases seem to belong to one burial.”
106. This amphora and the associated grave were excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service in 2003.
not seem to carry adequate weight to counter the evidence of the findspot of the vessel, but it is, in my opinion, sufficient to raise at least the slight possibility that the amphora belongs to an 8th-century B.C. burial located immediately to the east of grave 2002-11 in the area later disturbed by well 2002-2 and the foundation trench for the northern side of the fountain court of the Roman domus. That some MG sherds (included in Appendix 2 below) were discovered in the area might be taken to substantiate the existence of such a grave, but as these sherds all come from disturbed fills, there is no guarantee that they originated in this immediate vicinity. Until more of the area is explored or until the chronology of coarse amphoras is more securely established, it is perhaps best to keep an open mind about the association of 11 with grave 2002-11.

The ceramic assemblage of grave 2003-12, which includes 17 complete vessels in all, is only slightly less impressive than that of its southern neighbor. Again the range of vessel types is generally consistent with that of other contemporary graves. As in grave 2002-11, vessels connected with drinking (an amphora, a jug, oinochoai, cups, and kantharoi) predominate. Of these, special attention should be drawn to the kantharoi, which seem to have been rarer than skyphoi in Corinthian graves and may indicate something special either about the occupant of the grave or about the individuals who might have used the cup in a graveside ritual. Again, as in the case of grave 2002-11, the inclusion of plain aryballoi in the grave may point to the use of oil or unguent in the burial process. The fact that the aryballoi were found in two different contexts—in the sarcophagus and in the niche of the grave—may suggest two different uses for their contents. Finally, among the vessels associated with grave 2003-12, the plain phiale (33) is somewhat unusual. Although bowls of related forms are attested in earlier and roughly contemporary Corinthian graves, this piece marks the first, rather humble appearance of the mesomphalic phiale at Corinth. Although this piece could be counted among the drinking vessels of the grave, its discovery in the grave trench, well away from the cups and kantharoi deposited in the niche, suggests that it served a different purpose.

The impression of wealth conveyed by the sarcophagus and the large array of ceramic vessels associated with grave 2003-12 is further enhanced by the metal finds: two bronze finger rings and an iron pin, knife, and spearhead. Considered in isolation, this collection of metal objects may not appear very impressive, but viewed in relation to the assemblages from other Geometric graves at Corinth, it is notable. Of some 116 graves of likely Geometric date included in Dickey’s survey, only 32 contained metal objects of any kind. Of those graves, only two had knives and only one a spearhead.

The inclusion of the spearhead in grave 2003-12 is consistent with the evidence of the skeletal remains, which indicate that the occupant was an adult male. In light of the close physical proximity and near contemporaneity of this grave with grave 2002-11, it is tempting to suggest that grave 2002-11 once held the wife of the man buried in grave 2003-12. Regrettably, the removal in antiquity of the skeletal remains and other contents of the sarcophagus in grave 2002-11 makes it impossible to establish the sex of the occupant, and any family relationship between the deceased of the two graves must therefore remain speculative.

The proximity of the MG I grave 2004-4 to grave 2003-12 and its near alignment with both grave 2003-12 and grave 2002-11 likewise suggest a

108. See, e.g., two bowls (CP-1903, CP-1904) found in grave 1938-13, a LPG child’s grave at Vello (Corinth VII.1, p. 7, nos. 14, 15, pl. 2), and one (W-18) from the EG grave group(s) at the northern edge of the Corinthian plateau (Corinth VII.1, p. 15, no. 50, pl. 8).

109. See Dickey 1992, p. 6, for the total of likely Geometric graves, and his appendix IV, pp. A-142, A-143, for the number of graves with metal objects.
link, probably familial, between the occupant of grave 2004-4 and those of the two earlier graves. That the location of grave 2004-4 seems to take the earlier graves into account also suggests that the limits of the latter were still discernible when the trench for grave 2004-4 was dug, although no evidence sheds light on how the positions of any of these graves might have been marked.

In contrast to the two impressive sarcophagus burials to the south, grave 2004-4 seems to have been a more ordinary grave for its period. Its form, with plain, earth-cut burial pit set into the bottom of larger grave trench, appears to have been the most common type of grave at Corinth until sometime in the second half of the 8th century B.C.\textsuperscript{110} The addition of a niche for grave goods and the number and quality of vessels deposited there implies a higher level of disposable wealth, or at least a higher level of commitment to the provisioning of the grave, than is indicated by the majority of similar burials at Corinth. For some perspective on the relative richness of the grave, it is useful to note that of the 42 adult pit and cist graves of Geometric date excavated in the North Cemetery, only two contained more vessels than grave 2004-4,\textsuperscript{111} and this despite the fact that only the pottery from the niche of grave 2004-4 survives to provide a basis for comparison, since any pottery that might have been deposited in the grave trench or burial pit itself has been lost through later plundering of the grave.

The significance of the final grave, grave 2004-3, is impossible to assess as long as no finds can be associated with the burial and its date remains uncertain. As noted above, all that can be said with certainty is that the grave must predate the 6th century B.C. That the form of the grave—a plain, irregular burial pit—is different from those of the other neighboring 9th-century graves is obvious, but the reason for the difference is by no means clear. Although the fact that this is a child’s burial may have a bearing on the form of the grave, the evidence at Corinth seems to indicate that children in the Geometric and Archaic periods were not, as a rule, relegated to such simple graves. It would appear, therefore, that other factors that now elude us must have influenced the manner of burial adopted in grave 2004-3.

From the dispersed pattern of graves of SM through MG II date at Corinth and from the fact that these graves appear near areas of habitation (usually indicated by the presence of wells), it is generally assumed that during most of the EIA burial at Corinth took place in family plots near the homes of the deceased. It is not until the 8th century B.C., when burial is first attested in the North Cemetery, that we may have evidence for burial in a specially designated area outside the settlement.\textsuperscript{112} Given this history of local burial practice, it would be natural to infer that the 9th-century graves of the Panayia Field are likely to lie in an area that was used contemporaneously for habitation. As yet, however, no Geometric structures or undisturbed strata of habitation debris have been discovered in the area to confirm this conclusion. It is hoped that future excavation may furnish such evidence, although the extensive leveling of the site in later periods may have eliminated all but the subterranean features of the EIA. For the present, the graves published here amply demonstrate that as early as the 9th century B.C. the high ground southeast of the Lechaion Road valley was used at least for burial purposes, if not also for habitation.


\textsuperscript{111} Graves 17 and 18: Corinth XIII, pp. 24–27, nos. 17–1 to 17–5, 18–1 to 18–8, pls. 7, 8.

\textsuperscript{112} For discussion of the relationship of habitation and burial at Corinth, see Corinth XIII, pp. 13–14; Roebuck 1972, p. 103; Williams 1984, p. 11; Salmon 1984, pp. 75–76; Pfaff 1988, p. 25; Dickey 1992, pp. 121–134.
APPENDIX 1
SARCOPHAGI AND EARLY STONEWORKING AT CORINTH

In his study of Corinthian mortuary practices, Dickey proposes that "the development of a stoneworking industry in poros limestone" was one of the contributing factors in the widespread adoption of sarcophagi for burial at Corinth beginning in the late 8th century B.C.113 In support of this suggestion, he cites a study by Robin Rhodes of the evidence for the working of the local limestone in the second half of the 8th century.114 Dickey concludes, however, that "it is unlikely . . . that the need for stone sarcophagi provided the initial impetus for the establishment of a poros industry; rather, the grave form was probably a by-product, albeit a particularly 'archaeologically visible' by-product, of an industry that was developed primarily to satisfy a need for building stone."115

Faced with the growing evidence for the use of sarcophagi at Corinth well back into the EIA, together with the still minimal evidence for cut-stone architectural elements before the 7th century B.C., I would suggest that the creation of sarcophagi might indeed have provided an important impetus for the development of a stoneworking industry that came to full flower in the 7th century, when nearly all graves were provided with stone sarcophagi and when substantial portions of the early Temple of Apollo at Corinth and the early Temple of Poseidon at Isthmia were likewise made of stone. The fashioning of sarcophagi would have provided an opportunity for Corinthians to acquire skill in working the local soft limestone and to develop the tools appropriate to the task; it could also have opened their eyes to the possibility of building with large squared blocks not very different from those extracted from the quarries for the purpose of making sarcophagi. I would hesitate to call the manufacture of the early sarcophagi an industry, since its scale must have been limited until the end of the 8th century B.C., but already more than a century earlier, when the sarcophagi in graves 2002-11 and 2003-12 were created, there may have been individuals within the community who had specialized knowledge about the quarrying and carving of the local limestone.

The extent to which the technique of carving sarcophagi developed over the course of the Geometric period is hard to determine, since most sarcophagi from other datable burials are either no longer identifiable or no longer visible. A comparison of the workmanship of the sarcophagi of

graves 2002-11 and 2003-12 with a description of the workmanship of the composite sarcophagus from grave 1936-3 near the Bema in the Forum (probably MG II) suggests that there may have been some refinement of technique over time.\textsuperscript{116} In contrast to the rough adze-work that is conspicuous over much of the sarcophagus from graves 2002-11 and 2003-12, the sarcophagus of grave 1936-3 is described by Rhodes as having "a neat, regular finish" with tool marks that appear to have been made by a broad, flat chisel, a favorite tool for Corinthian stone-carvers from the 8th century B.C. through the Classical period.\textsuperscript{117}

\textsuperscript{116} Grave 1936-3 (grave H in Morgan 1937, p. 543, pl. 13:1, 2) cannot be dated independently, but its location near two graves of MG II date suggests that it, too, belongs to that period. These graves are no longer accessible, but the sarcophagus of grave 1936-3 was studied and described in detail by Brookes (1981, p. 286) and Rhodes (1987, p. 231).

\textsuperscript{117} Rhodes 1987, p. 231; cf. Brookes 1981, p. 286. A photographic detail of the inside of the sarcophagus is provided by Brookes (1981, pl. 75:c), but the marks are difficult to see. I accept Rhodes's interpretation of the direction of the tooling rather than that suggested by Brookes.
APPENDIX 2
EARLY IRON AGE FINDS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH KNOWN GRAVES

Excavations in the general area of the EIA graves in the Panayia Field brought to light, in a variety of later contexts, numerous isolated sherds and a bronze ring similarly datable to the EIA. Some of this material might once have been deposited in graves, the contents of which were dispersed by later disturbances; some might also have been left behind by later visitors to the graves. If we are correct to believe that such burials were typically located in or near areas of contemporary habitation, then some of this material might also derive from domestic deposits disturbed by later activity on the site.

The handle of a MG II belly-handled amphora (84) is so large that it calls to mind contemporary vessels used as grave markers in the Kerameikos cemetery at Athens. If this amphora too served as a marker, its existence would point to the presence of at least one MG II grave in the region. No grave has yet come to light in the area east of grave 2003-12 where this handle was discovered, but within a few meters from its findspot excavations have yielded at least 11 sherds of MG II vessels that might be associated with a grave contemporary with the amphora.

In addition to these MG II vessels east of grave 2003-12, there are two other concentrations of ceramic fragments that may be significant. The first, comprising 92, 120, 121, 123, 132, and 135, was found in later contexts above the trench of grave 2004-4. Because the date of these pieces seems rather earlier than that of the complete vessels discovered in the niche of the grave itself, I hesitate to associate them with the same burial. It should be noted, however, that grave assemblages at Corinth do seem on occasion to include vessels that span a considerable period of time. It is not, therefore, impossible that the apparently earlier vessels represented by the sherds were once part of the original assemblage of grave 2004-4.

The second notable concentration of fragments is a group of two or three sherds of MG II fine wares (82, 83, and 110) and at least one of contemporary plain ware (140) from the immediate area of grave 2002-11. As noted above, a complete coarse amphora (11) discovered at the bottom of the east edge of the trench of grave 2002-11 seems typologically more advanced than one might expect for the proposed EG date of that grave. If, 118. It is, of course, difficult to make an objective assessment of the span of time represented by objects in a grave assemblage, not least because it is from such assemblages that we construct our picture of the phasing of ceramic production. A question that arises repeatedly from assemblages containing apparently earlier and apparently later pieces is whether the vessels were collected over some considerable period of time or whether the "older" and "newer" styles of pottery in fact coexisted. The difficulty of sorting out the time span of an assemblage is exacerbated at a site such as Corinth where there are still relatively few assemblages from which to evaluate the progress of change in ceramic design. An example of a grave that appears to show an analogous range from EG to MG I is grave 1899-2 (Nichols 1905, pp. 411-412, pls. 11-16; Corinth VII.1, pp. 16-19, nos. 54-66, pls. 9, 10). With regard to this grave and two others, Coldstream (GGR p. 94) observes: "If they represent single burials, there must have been a considerable overlap between the EG and MG I styles in the Corinthia."
for that reason, the amphora is dissociated from the original assemblage of grave 2002-11, as I have tentatively suggested above, it might be assigned to a neighboring grave, the assemblage of which also included the MG II vessels represented by the sherds found nearby.

Finally, it is worth noting that among the displaced sherds presented here are several of probable Attic origin. Four are PG skyphoi, and these, taken with the similar fragments from the fill in the trench of grave 2003-12 (38, 39, and perhaps 51), bring the total of Attic PG skyphoi from the Panayia Field to six or seven. This number reinforces the impression that Corinth was quite receptive to the importation of Attic pottery, especially drinking vessels, in this early period. Of later date are two Attic amphora rims, one of which can be assigned specifically to the MG II phase. Together with the fragmentary Attic EG amphora associated with grave 2002-11 (13), and with the EG II(?) skyphos rim and three or four complete Attic MG I vessels found in the niche of grave 2004-4 (74-78), these fragments attest to the continued importation of Attic wares down through the 9th and well into the 8th century B.C. If Attic imports are well represented among the EIA finds from the Panayia Field, however, other imports are quite rare. In fact, only two small fragments (89 and 91) seem to derive from non-Attic imports. Both might be Argive, but their identification is by no means certain.

Painted Fine Wares

80  EG or MG amphora, neck fragment. Lot 2004-29:5.
81  EG or MG amphora or oinochoe, neck fragment. Lot 2005-6:8.
85  MG II amphora or globular pyxis, shoulder fragments. Lot 2003-8:2, 3; Lot 2003-12:1; Lot 2003-61:1.
86  MG II belly-handled amphora or globular pyxis, shoulder fragment. Lot 2004-29:3.
88  MG II or LG amphora or oinochoe, body fragment. Lot 2003-71:2.
89  Argive(?) G belly-handled amphora(?), shoulder and handle fragment. C-2000-29.
91  Argive(?) MG II(?) globular pyxis(?), body fragment. Lot 2003-80:1.
92  EG oinochoe. C-2000-6a, b.
94  EG or later oinochoe, rim fragment. Lot 2003-71:1.
95  Large MG II oinochoe(?), neck fragment. C-2003-29.

119. I feel fairly confident in the attribution of these pieces to Attic workshops on the basis of their fabric and style, but without scientific testing the possibility remains that they derive from some other center outside of Corinth; cf. Pfaff 1999, p. 59; Isthmia VIII, pp. 291-294.
Large MG II oinochoe(?), neck fragment. Lot 2003-8:1.
Large MG II oinochoe or globular pyxis, shoulder fragment. Lot 2003-12:2.
Large MG II(? oinochoe or globular pyxis, body fragment. Lot 2004-29:2.
Large MG II(? oinochoe or globular pyxis, body fragment. Lot 2004-29:1.
Large MG II or LG oinochoe or amphora, handle fragment. Lot 2003-12:5.
Large MG II or LG oinochoe or amphora, handle fragment. Lot 2003-61:2.
Large MG II(? oinochoe, body fragment. Lot 2003-74:1.
Large MG II(? oinochoe, body fragment. Lot 2003-74:1.
Large MG II(? oinochoe, body fragment. Lot 2004-37:2.
Large MG II(? oinochoe, rim fragment. C-2002-46.
Imported MG or LG krater, body fragment. Lot 2004-29:6.
Attic MPG or LPG skyphos, rim fragment. C-1998-12.
Attic MPG or LPG skyphos, rim fragment. Lot 2003-12:4.
Attic MPG or LPG skyphos, body fragment. Lot 2003-74:1.
EG skyphos, body fragment. Lot 2004-37:3.
LG kotyle, rim fragment. Lot 2005-6:12.
LG kotyle or MG II protokotyle, body fragment. Lot 2004-49:3.
EPC or later kotyle, rim fragment. Lot 2003-80:2.
Plain Handmade Wares

137  EPC or slightly later amphora, rim fragment. Lot 2003-12:3.
138  EPC or slightly later amphora, rim fragment. Lot 2003-12:8.
139  EG or MG hydria(?), base fragment. Lot 2003-11:1.
140  MG II pitcher(?), base fragment. Lot 2002-34:5.
141  EPC(?) pitcher, rim fragment. Lot 2003-12:10.
142  MG II or later pitcher or hydria, handle fragment. Lot 2002-35:6.
143  G pitcher, handle fragment. Lot 2003-61:3.
144  Small LG pitcher, body and handle fragment. Lot 2003-12:11.
146  LG or EPC pedesteled bowl, foot fragment. Lot 2004-29:8.
147  MG II-EPC pedesteled bowl, rim fragment. Lot 2002-35:7.

Other Finds

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Christopher A. Pfaff
Florida State University
department of classics
205 Dodd Hall
tallahassee, Florida 32306-1510
cpfaff@mailer.fsu.edu