EXCAVATIONS IN THE ATHENIAN AGORA 1998–2001

ABSTRACT

This article summarizes the results of four seasons of excavation (1998–2001) in the Athenian Agora. Work concentrated on the Byzantine settlement (roads, houses, and large pithoi) built over the area of the Stoa Poikile in the 10th and 11th centuries. Further work was done in the Classical Commercial Building (ca. 400 B.C.), and a mid-5th-century B.C. well was cleared. Two Mycenaean (LH II–IIIA) chamber tombs, the first discovered in the Agora in over a generation, represent the earliest material yet found in the Agora excavations north of the Eridanos River. The report concludes with the texts of two Hellenistic inscriptions.

Excavations were carried out in the Athenian Agora in the summers of 1998–2001 by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. As in the recent past, work was concentrated largely at the northwest corner of the Agora, north of and behind the buildings identified as the Stoa Poikile and the sanctuary of Aphrodite. Here the area under excavation was expanded to the northwest by the expropriation and demolition in 1997 of the structure at 9 Astingos Street (city plot 1370/9). Much of the work in 1998–2001 has been concentrated on this new plot, excavated as the northeastern continuation of section BZ. We also continued investigations into the earlier and lower levels immediately to the east, in section BE.

As a result of our collaboration with our colleagues from the 1st Ephoria, who are responsible for the improved presentation of the Agora

Randolph–Macon College, the Panathenaic Society, and various individuals. I would like to record here my personal thanks to David W. Packard, Nicholas Burns, Roger Martin, C. N. Dombalis, Tom Skordas, Nick Kafantaris, Maria Keritsis, Pat Sotos, Kitsa Panos, Ned Moore, and Lisa Pratt. I am indebted also to the anonymous referees for Hesperia, whose suggestions have greatly improved the text.

Our colleagues in the 1st Ephoria of Classical Antiquities have continued to aid our work in every possible way and their good will and collaboration have been constant. I would like to express our appreciation to the successive ephors, Ismene Triandi and Alkistis Choremis, and especially to their representative, Eleni Phoka, and her staff in the Stoa of Attalos.
Figure 1. Plan of Byzantine levels in sections BE and BZ (grid squares I–K/1–2): north–south street with houses on either side. R. C. Anderson
As always in the Agora, the recent excavations have produced a large body of varied material representing a wide chronological range: chamber tombs of the Late Bronze Age, a well of the 5th century B.C., Hellenistic inscriptions, and a domestic quarter of the 11th century A.C. We begin with the latest material, in the area of the northwest corner of the Agora.

**MIDDLE BYZANTINE REMAINS**

Immediately below the modern building we encountered the continuation of the medieval settlement which has been uncovered throughout the excavated area north of Hadrian Street. Though not yet fully excavated, in general the remains encountered here seem to correspond closely to the neighboring houses published in earlier reports. This part of town was densely inhabited, with houses crowded together, sharing party walls. Parts of four houses and a north–south street were cleared in the new area (Figs. 1, 2). The houses have walls of fieldstones set in clay, ca. 0.55–0.60 m thick, with a fair number of reused blocks. Several of the reused pieces are funerary (reliefs, sarcophagus lids, and columnar grave monuments), indicating that the builders made use of material from earlier cemeteries outside the walls, some 500 m to the northwest. Other, larger, reused architectural blocks were harder to move and presumably were recovered from the immediate vicinity.

The floors of the rooms were of packed earth and there was a surprisingly large number of pithoi or built storage containers set beneath floor level (Figs. 3, 4). For the most part these were found empty or partially filled with earth or water. The walls of some are sealed with a waterproof mortar, while others are simply built stone-lined pits. The few samples

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**Figure 2.** East–west cross-section through road and Byzantine houses, looking north–northwest through J 2. D. Scahill

2. For the Eleusinion area in general, see *Agora* XXXI.
Figure 3. Byzantine house west of street, with pithoi as found in 2000; road at extreme left. Coin hoard J 2:15 found just beyond central pithos. View from the northwest.

Figure 4. Byzantine house shown in Figure 3, as cleared in 2001, with pithoi at right, road at top, and cistern at left. View from the west.
of earth collected have not yet been analyzed for possible traces of the contents, but a roughly contemporary source (*Life of St. Luke of Steiris* 80) indicates that they may have been used for the storage of wine, oil, or legumes. Other subterranean chambers could be recognized as cisterns or cesspits. The depth of the foundations for the walls (between 1.0 and 1.5 m), as well as the large area reserved for storage, with pithoi in almost every room, suggests that the houses had two stories: the ground floor used largely for storage, with the domestic quarters located upstairs.

Two phases could be made out within many of the rooms; most of the floor levels were raised substantially (ca. 0.30 m) at least once, along with the mouths of the storage bins in order to keep them accessible (Fig. 5). Minor rebuilding of the walls of some rooms and the addition of some pithoi are associated with the second phase, though in general there seem not to have been major changes to the basic plans of the houses. A hoard of twenty-one copper coins (Fig. 6) was found in one of the rooms, apparently associated with the later phase; they were all anonymous folles, minted between A.D. 976 and 1035, indicating—as have several wells found in the adjacent area—that the neighborhood was in use primarily in the 10th and early 11th century.4

Dating the pottery in this period remains a problem. The assemblage is bracketed by the fine red wares of the Late Roman period and the more diagnostic Byzantine decorated and polychrome lead-glazed examples of the 11th to 13th centuries.5 The very coarse fabrics with large inclusions

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5. From our floor levels we have none of the earliest green and brown painted wares, which, according to Frantz (1938, p. 436), “were introduced at some time early in the eleventh century.”
encountered in the houses are occasionally covered with a thin clear lead glaze, revealing the brown color of the underlying clay. Among the shapes, plain water jars, open casserole on low stands, and tall lamps predominate. Almost no complete vessels were recovered in the stratified fills. A clearer picture of the chronology of the pottery should emerge after the material from several of the household wells in this neighborhood has been studied in detail.

The north-south street running through the area consists of layers of very hard-packed gravel, contemporary with the houses. These surfaces are the uppermost preserved layers of a deep deposit of successive roads; immediately to the south, this street has been traced back at least as early as the 5th century B.C. The house walls along the street have a large number of reused blocks built into their fabric.

The provisions for storage are impressive, as is the crowded aspect of the neighborhood. It is not clear if these features represent troubled times, with a need for collective security and hoarding of produce and coins, or good times, with a growing population and the storage of accumulated wealth. The construction of several small churches in the vicinity, including the Church of the Holy Apostles, perhaps suggests that the happier interpretation of a growing and prosperous town is more likely.

Beneath the Byzantine levels we encountered the first traces of the Late Roman levels below, usually in the form of walls set with a hard white lime mortar; in some instances the Byzantine walls were founded directly on earlier Roman ones. The plan of these Roman remains, as well as their chronology, is not yet clear, though it appears that they go out of use late in the 6th century A.C. The Roman levels were disturbed by the deep wall foundations of the Byzantine houses, the pits dug for pithoi, and the practice of reusing earlier blocks. In later fill we recovered two carved gemstones (1, 2) of the Roman period, as well as a concentration of some 114 bronze coins, which seem to represent the scattered remains of a hoard earlier than that mentioned above.  

6. For the shapes and the glazed ware, see Frantz 1938, group B, pp. 433–434, 457–461; Corinth XI, pp. 36–42.
7. See, for instance, Shear 1997, pp. 528–530, 533–535.
9. Deposit J 1:2, containing coins BZ 979, 1001–1113, found July 10–12, 2000, at J/8–1/16, 17 at 53.50–53.08 m. Most of the coins are heavily corroded and not all have been fully cleaned, but it seems that the latest coins date to the 4th or 5th century A.C.
Catalogue

1  J 229: Carved gemstone  
   From Byzantine road fill at J/20–1/9, at 55.38 m.  
   H. 0.014, W. 0.010, max. Th. 0.003 m.  
   Intact. Oval carnelian bezel with intaglio of Fortuna Panthea, turned to her left. Beveled edges, convex upper face. Standing winged female figure wearing helmet, holding a cornucopia in her right hand, an ear of wheat in her left. Indistinct object below. A ship's rudder(?) at her feet.  

2  J 230: Carved gemstone  
   From footing trench for north wall of Byzantine room C (J/17–1/13), at 55.12 m.  
   H. 0.009, W. 0.006, max. Th. 0.0035 m.  
   Intact. Translucent green oval bezel with intaglio of Athena Parthenos type. The goddess is helmeted and a shield rests by her side, with a figure of Nike on her outstretched hand on the other side. A short column rises under but not actually supporting the outstretched arm. No trace of the aegis, nor is the serpent readily discernible.  

Classical Commercial Building

To the east of section BZ and at a lower level, we continued investigating the floors of the Classical Commercial Building along the east side of the north–south street (Fig. 8). Two more Early Hellenistic pyre deposits (J 2:16 with twelve objects and J 3:7 with twenty) were recovered, the sixth and seventh to be uncovered thus far in the building. These shallow pits, full of small vases and containing traces of burning and a few bones, represent a ritual not attested to in the literature. The pits are found in houses and shops, and rarely in public buildings or sanctuaries, and thus seem to be an expression of a private cult activity. The vases indicate that

10. For other gems with “Pantheistic Fortuna,” see Richter 1971, p. 52, nos. 235–237. I am indebted to Carol Lawton for her views on the identification of the figure and its multiple attributes.  
12. For the Agora pyres and earlier bibliography, see Camp 1999, pp. 278–280 and n. 16; the entire corpus of such pyres in the Agora is the subject of a forthcoming study by Susan Rotroff and Lynn Snyder.
Figure 8. Plan of the Classical Commercial Building in section BE and earlier remains behind the Stoa Poikile, showing the position of the Early Hellenistic pyres, well J 2:14, and Mycenaean chamber tombs.

M. Djordjevitch and D. Scahill
dining and drinking were part of the ceremony, while the invariable presence of a lamp perhaps suggests that the rite was nocturnal. The Classical Commercial Building in section BE has a higher concentration of these pyre deposits than anywhere else in the excavations.

Some of the floor levels also produced signs of light industrial activity: small chunks of slag and pieces of soft poros limestone marked and worn in such a way as to suggest that they were used for burnishing.

The different construction techniques of the walls of the building are noteworthy (Fig. 9). The south wall is built of large poros limestone ashlers (1.28 × 0.60 × 0.45 m), resting on an equally well built euthynteria course (0.46 m high, left rough for the lower 0.27 m). The parallel crosswall between rooms 1 and 2 is made up of hard Acropolis limestone pieces set in a polygonal style, with stack work or laddering filling the interstices. The ladders are found only on the south face of the wall, and such a style is often used for exterior walls; the wall is ca. 0.46 m thick and sits directly on bedrock, with no foundations. The next crosswall to the north, between rooms 2 and 3, is composed of a proper foundation course of Acropolis limestone, measuring some 0.70–0.77 m wide, one or two courses high; it is leveled on top to carry the wall itself, one orthostate of which, of Acropolis limestone, survives in situ at the west. We have not yet discovered the northern wall for room 3.

The differences in technique and material of the three walls raise the possibility that the building was constructed piecemeal, room by room, rather than according to a single, unified plan. Further work is needed to determine if this is the case, and if there is a chronological distinction to be made among the rooms or if the varied construction simply reflects the resources and choices of different owners of the establishment. Determining the significance of the different floor levels of the individual rooms will also require further study, though generally throughout all periods one can see a stepping down of the ground level toward the south and the banks of the Eridanos River.
CLASSICAL WELL J 2:14

To the northeast of the Classical Commercial Building we encountered the shaft of an unlined well, ca. 1.20 m in diameter, sunk into bedrock (J 2:14; Figs. 8, 10). We dug some 4 m before collapsing sides caused us to abandon the operation in 1999. Following the stabilizing of the walls by Craig Mauzy, we continued the excavations in 2000, reaching a depth of 5.30 m (at 46.90 masl). The lowest 0.45 meters contained a concentration of thin-walled water jars and must represent the period of use. A mass of sterile fill and a large terracotta wellhead found immediately above should reflect the original collapse of the upper part of the well. Pottery recovered in the uppermost fill suggests that the well went out of use and was filled up at some time early in the second half of the 5th century B.C. Its association with the adjacent Commercial Building is uncertain. It lies outside and behind the building, the rooms of which, where preserved, face west toward the street. The date of abandonment of the well seems to correspond to the construction of the Commercial Building rather than to its use. Pieces of burnishing stones similar to those found in the Classical Commercial Building were also recovered from the well, however, and may reflect activity carried out in the area just prior to the construction of the building. The fill in the well also contained a variety of standard black-glazed shapes, large fragments of three red-figured lekythoi (3–5), a complete red-figured pelike (6), and a lead vessel (9).

13. Some fifty pieces were cataloged from the well, and some fourteen tins of fragmentary pottery were recovered and saved. In all this material there were no examples of the type of stamped or incised decoration that became so popular in the third quarter of the 5th century B.C. on Athenian black-glazed open shapes: *Agora XII*, pp. 22–30. Beyond the figured pieces presented in the catalogue below, the shapes represented include lamps, lekythoi, lekanides, cups, bowls, skyphoi, mugs, plates, and oinochoai. A few animal bones were recovered; water sieving and flotation produced little additional floral or faunal material.
Figure 11. Red-figured lekythoi 3, 4, and 5

**Catalogue**

3  P 33584: Fragmentary red-figured lekythos

Dumped fill at 49.65–49.15 m.
P.H. 0.144, max. W. 0.075 m.
Mended; most of body preserved, missing base, shoulder, and mouth. Reserved band below shoulder with meander on white ground. Armed Athena, striding right with spear lowered. Reserved groundline, added white on helmet. Attic clay; good black glaze, cloudy on one side.
Context date: ca. mid-5th century B.C.

4  P 33585: Red-figured lekythos fragment

Dumped fill at 49.15–48.80 m.
P.H. 0.109, p.W. 0.055 m.
Three joining fragments preserve lower body and part of wall. Reserved band with meander at top. On reserved groundline: a draped female figure seated right, holding a small mirror. Attic clay; lustrous black glaze.
Context date: ca. mid-5th century B.C.

5  P 33586: Fragmentary red-figured lekythos

Dumped fill at 49.15–48.80 m.
P.H. 0.145, Diam. 0.075 m.
Mended; most of body and disk foot preserved, missing from shoulder on up. Reserved band below shoulder with meander between two lines. On reserved groundline: draped female figure walking right toward a garlanded altar. Outside and underside of foot reserved. Attic clay; somewhat dull black glaze, streaky on lower body.
Context date: ca. mid-5th century B.C.
Figure 12. Red-figured pelike 6, two views

6  P 33647: Red-figured pelike

Period-of-use fill.
H. 0.325, Diam. 0.23 m.
Mended; small chips missing. Large torus foot, squat rounded body, outturned rounded lip. On one side: a draped barefoot woman in profile moving right, hands held out in front of her as though carrying something like a fillet, now missing. Left hand higher than right. Hair pulled back in a loose, large bun; simple loop earring. Other side: a barefoot heavily draped youth standing left. Right arm bare and outstretched, holding some sort of stick or wand. Left arm concealed in drapery. Short hair. Underside of vessel foot unglazed; outside of foot reserved, with added red; two reserved lines on inside of mouth, the uppermost with added red. Attic clay; dark lustrous black glaze.
Context: mid-5th century B.C.

7  P 33644: Black-figured chous, proccessional scene

Period-of-use fill.
H. 0.155, Diam. 0.135 m.
Complete except for vertical handle. Flaring ring foot, round body, trefoil mouth. Glazed juncture of foot and body, two glazed rings on lower body, glazed ring around neck with the inside and outside of the mouth glazed. Black-figured scene on front: a heavily draped woman walking right, carrying an indistinct object (stool, basket, tray?) on her head, followed by a male figure in a short chiton playing a long musical instrument (salpinx), held in his left hand. In front of each figure a single large ivy leaf rises from the groundline. Poor incision and fugitive added white for details of figures. Attic clay.
Context: mid-5th century B.C.
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Figure 14. Black-figured oinochoe 8 (right), and drawing of scene on body (above): Dionysos and rams.
C. Grainger

8 P 33643: Black-figured oinochoe, Dionysos and rams
   47.80 masl, period of collapse of the well.
   H. 0.12, Diam. 0.088 m.
   Intact. Disk foot, tall elongated body, trefoil mouth. Lower part of body, handle, and mouth glazed. Very faded scene on body: Dionysos, draped and bearded, standing right, a crown of some sort on his head, holding a drinking horn. Flanked by two rams with large curving horns. Grape clusters and other floral tendrils in background. Attic clay; very fugitive black glaze throughout, with poor incision.
   Context: mid-5th century B.C.

9 IL 1939: Lead bottle
   Period-of-use fill.
   H. 0.21, Diam. 0.12, Weight 2.182 kg.
   Intact. Cylindrical lead bottle. Flat base, slightly tapering body, narrow neck, wider tall vertical lip. Thick upper surface of lip deeply grooved, presumably for a lid. Two curved handles, round in section, loop from shoulder to lower part of rim. Vertical seam where rolled sheet of lead was joined to form body. Another seam for outer part of rim, which was made separately; base also made of a separate piece and joined at bottom of body.
   Context: mid-5th century B.C.
MYCENAEAN GRAVES

More work was also carried out under the Classical Commercial Building. Here, two Mycenaean tombs (J–K 2:2 and K 2:5; Fig. 8) were excavated in 1998 and 1999. They are the earliest remains discovered north of the Eridanos River in this part of the Agora excavations, some 300 years earlier than the two simple cist graves of Late Submycenaean times found in 1996 and 1997.14 The new tombs are roughly square chambers, between 2.00 and 2.50 m across, their lower parts preserved to a depth of 0.65–0.75 m. They are cut into relatively soft virgin fill and, if roofed, their roofs collapsed in antiquity and the upper parts were then quarried away during later building activity in the area. Both tombs were used for multiple burials and contained considerable amounts of disarticulated and broken bones, most of them pushed toward the sides of the chambers.

Numerous vases—both fragmentary and intact—and several bronze weapons or tools were found in the tombs (see catalogue, below). Grave K 2:5 also contained two terracotta figurines (45, 46) and several hundred beads (48, 49). Though not as rich as the chamber tomb with ivory pyxides found earlier on the north slopes of the Areopagos, these two graves are somewhat richer in grave goods—in particular in terms of bronzes (two in one tomb, five in the other)—than most of the other graves in the Agora cemetery.15 As noted, the new tombs are north of the Eridanos River, which will have been more of a barrier in the Bronze Age than in later times, and it may be that these graves should be regarded as part of a separate burial ground from that found south of the river.16

The majority of the datable pottery in the two tombs seems to fall in the LH IIIB–IIIA1 period; as the tombs contain multiple burials, a span of this sort need not worry us unduly.17 A wide range of shapes is represented, and most vessels are small. As in most Mycenaean tombs excavated in the Agora, there is an absence of stirrup jars.18

The tombs add to the substantial corpus of LHIIIA burials known from Athens, in sharp contrast to the relative paucity of material from LH IIIB.19 This imbalance raises significant issues of mortality, population, or chronology among those who concern themselves with the Bronze Age generally or Athens in particular.20

Grave J–K 2:2

The limits of grave J–K 2:2 were obscured both at the south and east by the walls of room 2 of the Classical Commercial Building (Figs. 8, 9, 16). The other two sides were better defined, though more work needs to be done along the west side, which is partially covered by a Late Roman wall. The chamber measured at least 2.35 × 2.50 m and was preserved to a maximum depth of ca. 0.75 m. The floor lay at approximately 50.40 masl and was usually wet due to the high water table in this area near the Eridanos River. Preliminary analysis of the skeletal material by Maria Liston suggests that the remains of at least two adult males, one adult female, and a child are preserved. In all, seventeen vases were recovered from this tomb, including a fragmentary Late Protogeometric pyxis, which indicates a later intrusion or reuse. Two bronzes were also found: a dagger with gilded rivets (27) and a spear point with a central rib (28).

15. See Agora XIII, pp. 158–169, for the tomb with the pyxides (N 21–22:1); pp. 170–177 for a tomb with comparable bronzes (M 21:2).
16. Where, how, and if the river was bridged from Mycenaean to Archaic times has not yet been determined.
17. On the uncertain division for many shapes between LH IIIB and LH IIIA1, see Mountjoy 1981, p. 14. For her views on the dates of many of the vases I am indebted to Penelope Mountjoy, who examined the material in the Stoa of Attalos on March 28, 2000. Dates in the catalogue given without bibliography represent assessments expressed during her visit.
18. For the scarcity of stirrup jars in Mycenaean tombs in the Agora, see Agora XIII, pp. 124, 151–152, where Sara Immerwahr argues that at this early period the squat alabaster served the same purpose. There are three such alabstra in tomb J–K 2:2, and one in tomb K 2:5. See also Townsend 1955, pp. 204–208, for similar alabstra from the Agora.
19. A rough count of the tombs in Agora XIII and Panteliou 1975 shows that there are many more of the earlier tombs: forty-four date to LH IIIA (plus the two reported here), while only six date to LH IIIB.
20. The issue is briefly addressed in Mountjoy 1995, p. 71; see also Agora XIII, pp. 110, 151–157.
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Figure 16. Plan of Mycenaean
chamber tomb J–K 2:2. D. Sciahill

CATALOGUE

10 P 33177: Ewer

H. 0.285, Diam. 0.24 m.

Mended from numerous fragments found together. Disk foot, rounded body, narrow neck, rising trough spout. Juncture of neck and shoulder defined by a raised ridge. Ridged handle, knob at base. Decoration: outside of foot glazed, with one glazed band above, two glazed bands higher up; on upper body, three lilies attached to clusters of five spirals below; groups of small wavy lines high up on body. Two painted bands below, one above, at juncture of shoulder and neck. Neck decorated with linked spirals and vertical wavy lines. Bands of glaze on spout and rim. Quirk pattern on handles, tendrils at base. Buff clay with numerous coarse inclusions; dull reddish-brown glaze, peeling in places.

LH IIIA1. Cf. Mountjoy 1993, p. 76, no. 165, for shape; see also Furumark 1941, pp. 29–33, fig. 5, shapes 143 (LH IIB) and 144 (LH IIIA).

11 P 33166: Jug with cutaway neck

H. 0.288, Diam. 0.20 m.

Mended; complete except for chips. Disk foot, piriform body, narrow neck flaring at top and cut away at back. Strap handle with central ridge. Lower part of body glazed, with a single band above. Main body decorated with curved stripes, one broad stripe alternating with a group of three narrow ones. Neck, mouth, and handle glazed. A row of glazed dots on upper shoulder; juncture of shoulder and neck defined by a raised ridge. Dark buff clay with inclusions; dull dark brown glaze, peeled in places.

LH IIIA2. Cf. Mountjoy 1993, p. 76, no. 164 (= Mountjoy 1986, p. 75, fig. 87, from Mycenae, Nauplion Museum 2586). Also Athens, NM 1806, from Ligoriou. For curved stripe pattern, see Furumark 1941, p. 403, fig. 70, no. 9, motif 67.
12  P 33163: Shallow cup with stylized argonauts
Fig. 17
H. 0.05, Diam. 0.139 m.
Mended; complete except for small chips. Small disk foot, concave underneath, broad body, flaring outturned rim, vertical strap handle. Body decorated with three groups of three coiled tentacles (no bodies). Foot, band above foot, rim, and handle glazed. Buff clay with inclusions; orange-brown glaze, peeled in places.
LH IIIA1. Cf. Furumark 1941, pp. 46–51, fig. 13, shape 219. It seems clear that the creature so sketchily depicted is not a nautilus but an argonaut. For the identification of argonaut versus nautilus, see Bradfer 1998; Wurtz 1989.

13  P 33165: Squat alabastron
Fig. 18
H. 0.05, Diam. 0.18 m.
Mended; largely complete, one handle and part of lip missing. Very slightly concave underside, low body, outturned rim, rounded on top, three vertical handles on shoulder. Concentric glazed bands on underside; handles and rim glazed. Body once decorated with ivy tendrils now almost entirely gone. Dark buff clay; dark brown glaze on top, mostly gone, and reddish-brown glaze on underside.
LH IIB/IIIA1. Cf. Furumark 1941, pp. 39–43, fig. 11 (shape 84) and p. 299, fig. 19, no. 1 (motif).

14  P 33160: Squat alabastron
Fig. 18
H. 0.062, Diam. 0.13 m.
Mended; complete except for part of rim. Slightly concave base, rounded rising upper body, low neck with outturned rim, three slightly canted handles on shoulder. Decoration: a cross on underside of base, with glazed bands on lower body, stylized rock pattern on body, row of glazed dots on upper shoulder; neck, rim, handles glazed. Buff clay; orange-brown glaze, peeling in places.
LH II. Cf. Mountjoy 1993, p. 76, no. 159; the cross instead of concentric circles on the base makes it likely that this piece dates to LH II (Mountjoy, pers. comm., 2000).
15  P 33164: One-handled alabastron  
H. 0.075, Diam. 0.09 m.  
Intact, except for small chip from rim. Small flat base, rounded biconical body, low neck, everted rim, single vertical strap handle on shoulder. Glazed around base and with a band on lower body. Upper body decorated with two horizontal loops. Glaze on neck, rim, and handle. Dark buff clay; worn, dark orange-brown glaze.  
LH II (hatched loop). For the shape, see Furumark 1941, p. 41, fig. 11, type 87.

16  P 33161: Squat pitcher  
H. 0.123, Diam. 0.123 m.  
Mended; chips missing from body, rim, and handle. Flat base, rounded biconical body, high flaring rim, vertical strap handle. Coarse dark buff clay; outside covered with a thin, dull, light brown wash.  

17  P 33167: Small amphora  
P.H. 0.115, Diam. 0.11 m.  
Upper neck, rim, and handles missing. Low disk foot, low rounded body, wide neck, broken above. Attachments for two vertical strap handles at point of largest diameter. Dark reddish-brown clay with inclusions; totally glazed (except under handles) with a poor, thin, very dark brown wash.  
Cf. Mountjoy 1981, pl. 2.
Figure 20. Small amphora 17 and pitcher(?) 18

18  P 33162: Pitcher(?)
     P.H. 0.155, Diam. 0.20 m.
     Mended; upper part missing. Flat, slightly convex base. Curved biconical body, almost carinated at midpoint. Dark buff clay with inclusions; upper body covered in a very thin light brown wash.

19  P 33579: Amphora
     H. 0.14, Diam. 0.13 m.
     Mended; complete. Small disk foot, ovoid body, wide low neck, everted rim, two strap handles from lip to shoulder. Dark brownish-buff clay with mica and inclusions; dull orange-brown glaze.

20  P 33580: Jug with cutaway neck
     H. 0.212, Diam. 0.165 m.
     Mended; complete except for chips. Disk foot, rounded body, narrow upright neck with slightly everted lip. Strap handle. Coarse dark orange-brown clay with numerous inclusions; heavily worn slip.

Figure 21. Amphora 19 and jug with cutaway neck 20
21  L 6038: Decorated lamp(?)

H. (with handle) 0.05, Diam. 0.092 m.
Mended; complete. Flat base, shallow open saucer with flat horizontal rim. Looping strap handle at rim. Painted with dark brown glaze: outside with glazed circle, two ivy leaves with tendrils, rim; circle inside, oblique stripes on handle. Fine pale greenish-buff clay.
LH IIIB. Cf. Furumark 1941, p. 48, fig. 13, no. 236, for shape.

22  P 33581: Amphora

H. 0.159, Diam. 0.14 m.
Mended; complete except for chips. Flat base, rounded body, wide neck, large mouth with slightly everted lip. Vertical thickened strap handles from body to upper neck below lip. Dark orange-brown clay with inclusions, smoothed on outside; traces of a darker orange wash.

23  P 33582: Jug with cutaway neck

H. 0.13, Diam. 0.12 m.
Intact except for chip. Disk foot, rounded body, slightly flaring cutaway spout, handle round in section. Decorated with dull brown glaze around foot, base of neck, and rim; five linked spirals on shoulder. Coarse dark buff clay with inclusions.
For simple line spiral, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 356, fig. 60, nos. 51–52.

24  P 33583: Amphora

H. 0.221, Diam. 0.175 m.
Mended; more than three-quarters complete. Flat base, ovoid body, broad
Figure 24. Jug with cutaway neck 23

Neck with slightly everted lip, two vertical strap handles. Dark buff clay with inclusions; dull reddish-brown wash outside and inside rim.

25  P 33673: Amphora

H. 0.23, Diam. 0.182 m.

Mended; complete except for chips. Flat base, ovoid body, broad neck with slightly everted lip. Two vertical strap handles from just below rim to shoulder. Smoothed on outside, with reddish-orange wash outside, and inside rim; coarse orange-buff clay with inclusions.

For similar shape, see Mountjoy 1981, pl. 2a, no. 7, from well E.
26  P 33578: Late Protogeometric globular pyxis  Fig. 26

P.H. 0.11, est. Diam. ca. 0.14 m.
Mended; base and half of body missing. Round-bodied vessel, with low wide neck, everted lip. Two holes for suspension pierce lip. Band of geometric ornament at maximum diameter: oblique bars framed by oblique zigzags; dogs' teeth below, zigzags above. Fine dark buff Attic clay; good dull black glaze.


27  B 2033: Bronze dagger  Fig. 27

L. ca. 0.412, max. W. (blade) 0.07, W. (pommel) 0.052 m.
Complete, but broken into three pieces. Long, tapering blade, rounded near point. Handle widens at end to thin, curving pommel. Narrow, raised flange at end of blade and around handle. Remains of five rivets to hold missing handle (bone, wood?) to bronze: three on handle, two near end of blade. Four gilded bronze rivet heads recovered from same area of tomb.

For this relatively common Mycenaean form, see Papadopoulos 1998, pp. 21–24, pls. 14, 15 (cruciform type, variant C).

28  B 2032: Bronze spear point  Fig. 27

L. 0.285, W. 0.034, Diam. (socket) 0.028 m.
Complete, mended at socket. Elongated leaf-shaped blade, with thick rounded central rib, tapering to point. Hollow socket for attachment to shaft, pierced on either side with a small nail hole (ca. 0.004–0.005 m in diameter) for securing shaft.
Grave K 2:5

The cutting for the tomb chamber of K 2:5 measures 1.90–2.20 m east–west by 2.10 m north–south, and is preserved to a depth of ca. 0.65 m, with its bottom at ca. 50.40 masl (Figs. 8–10, 28). The grave goods, catalogued below, consisted of pottery, bronze weapons and tools, figurines, and stone and glass jewelry. There are multiple examples of piriform jars, kylikes, and, possibly, imitation ostrich eggs. A preliminary analysis by Liston of the skeletal material from the chamber suggests that we have here the remains of at least four adults—one a male who survived a broken collarbone and ribs—and three children.

A dromos ca. 1.00 m wide approaches the tomb from the west. Partially obscured by a Late Roman wall and well J 2:14 of the mid-5th century B.C., it was only uncovered in the 2001 season. Carefully set upright on the floor of the dromos, ca. 2.50 m from the blocked doorway, was the lower part of a Late Archaic Lesbian amphora, within which was some...
ash and a single large iron nail. The dromos enters the tomb at the north end of the west side and at an oblique angle. The reason for this irregularity became clear later in the summer of 2001, when the corner of another—presumably earlier—chamber tomb (J 2:19; Fig. 28) was found just to the south of the dromos. The westward orientation of the dromos suggests that in early times the natural slope ran not only downhill toward the Eridanos River to the south, but also sloped down to the west, toward the later north–south street, the line of which may in fact be very early.

**Catalogue**

29  P 33171: Small piriform jar with striped panels  
Fig. 29
H. 0.093, Diam. 0.087 m.  
Intact, except for small chips from rim. Ring foot, slightly rounded rim, three canted round handles on shoulder. Lower body decorated with glazed bands, shoulder decorated with groups of vertical stripes, five or six stripes per group. Neck glazed inside and out. Dark buff clay; dark brown glaze.

LH IIIA1. Date based on the use of decoration under the handle (Mountjoy, pers. comm., 2000).

30  P 33169: Piriform jar with cross-hatching  
Fig. 30
H. 0.15, Diam. 0.13 m.  
Mended; complete except for chips and one handle. Projecting ring foot, outturned sloping rim, three canted handles on shoulder. Lower body decorated with glazed bands of unequal thickness and placement. Shoulder decorated with cross-hatching or a net pattern. Neck (inside and out) and handles glazed. Yellowish-buff clay; dark brown glaze, worn to orange-brown in places.

LH IIIA1. Cf. Furumark 1941, p. 22, fig. 3, for the shape. According to Mountjoy (pers. comm., 2000), the down-sloping rim is a late feature. For the “diaper net” motif, see Furumark 1941, p. 383, fig. 67, no. 57.2.

31  P 33170: Piriform jar with scale pattern  
Fig. 30
H. 0.138, Diam. 0.115 m.  

For scale pattern, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 403, fig. 70, no. 1, motif 70.

32  P 33629: Alabastron  
Fig. 31
P.H. 0.056, Diam. 0.137 m.  
Mended from numerous pieces; fragmentary. Most of body, two handles, and part of rim preserved. Flat rounded body, outturned rim. Bands of glaze on lower body, wave decoration in dark brown paint on body. Rim glazed inside and out. Greenish-buff clay.

33  P 33175: Unglazed kylix  
Fig. 31
H. 0.134, Diam. 0.143 m.  
Mended; complete except for chips. Disk foot with high central dome, tall

21. The jar (P 33587) resembles an amphora found in the Kerameikos, dated by context to ca. 500 B.C.: Clinkenbeard 1982, p. 265, no. 2, pls. 70, 71.
Figure 30. Piriform jars 30 and 31

narrow stem, everted rim, two strap handles attached to rim. Hard yellowish-buff clay, pinkish in places.

LH IIIA1. For shape, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 60, fig. 16, no. 264.

34  P 33176: Unglazed kylix

H. 0.097, Diam. 0.12 m.

Mended; complete except for small chips. Disk foot with high central dome, tall narrow stem, everted rim, two strap handles attached to rim. Buff clay.

LH IIIA1. For shape, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 60, fig. 16, no. 264.

35  P 33174: One-handled goblet

H. 0.115, Diam. 0.138 m.

Mended; complete except for chips. Disk foot with high central dome, very low stem, deep rounded body, offset rim, single vertical strap handle. Pinkish slip outside, remains of dark brown glaze on interior. Somewhat greenish-buff clay.

LH IIB. For shape of body, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 60, fig. 16, no. 263.
Figure 31. Alabastron 32, unglazed kylikes 33 and 34, one-handled goblet 35
Figure 32. Handleless jars 36 and 37

36  P 33168: Handleless jar  
H. 0.08, Diam. 0.09 m.  
LH IIIA1. Cf. Mountjoy 1993, pp. 63–67, no. 128 (“diagnostic for LH IIIA1”); also EM 3902, from Markopoulo. For stippling, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 422, fig. 73, motif 77.2; and p. 423 for its suggested use in imitation of an ostrich egg.

37  P 33173: Handleless jar  
H. 0.15, Diam. 0.14 m.  
Mended; complete except for chips. Orange-buff clay.  
LH IIIB/IIIA1. For the shape, cf. Furumark 1941, p. 596, form 15, no. 77.

38  P 33178: Unglazed shallow bowl (lamp?)  
Diam. 0.09, H. 0.023, H. (of handle) 0.055 m.  
Intact. Flat base, low open body, angled on outside, broad flat rim, high-swung vertical handle. Inside and top of handle discolored gray. Coarse dark buff fabric with inclusions and mica; unglazed.  
LH IIA/B. Cf. Furumark 1941, p. 48, fig. 13, shape 237.
P 33172: Small jar

Diam. 0.11, H. 0.113 m.

Mended from several fragments. Missing two-thirds of neck and rim, sections of shoulder and body. Disk foot, slightly concave below, flaring lower body, rounded at midpoint and shoulder, high neck, slightly outturned rim. Outside of foot glazed, lower body reserved. Shoulder decoration: five running spirals, offset with bands of glaze above and below. Pale orange-buff fabric; buff slip, dull brown glaze, mostly worn off.

LH IIIA. For running spiral motif, cf. Furumark 1941, pp. 352-358, motif 46, fig. 60; for shape, cf. p. 35, fig. 7, no. 135.

B 2038: Bronze “axe” blade

L. 0.101, W. 0.083 m.

Mended from several pieces; corroded. Very thin sheet of bronze. Tapers slightly, with wider edge very slightly curved. At opposite, narrow end, one corner has the shafts of two rivets for attachment to handle and the other corner is cut away in a broad crescent.

B 2035: Bronze dagger

L. 0.32, W. 0.065 m.

Complete, but handle broken. Wide blade, tapering near base, then straight for two-thirds of length before ending in a blunt point. Handle surrounded by raised flange or rim. End of handle is wider and curved. Remains of two rivets for attachment of handle survive, one near the end of the handle, the other at the base of the blade. Possible trace of a third, midway along handle, at break.

LH IIIA. For similar Mycenaean daggers, see Papadopoulos 1998, pp. 21-24, pls. 14, 15 (cruciform type, variant C).

B 2034: Bronze dagger

L. 0.355, W. 0.065 m.

Intact; some corrosion. Broad blade tapering to somewhat rounded point. Handle area surrounded by raised flange or rim. End of handle widened and curved. Handle originally attached by means of five rivets, two on shaft of handle, three across base of blade. Later repair represented by one additional rivet added to each side. Three broad rivet heads survive in situ on one side, two on the other.

LH IIIA. See 41 for parallels.
Figure 35. Bronze “axe” blade 40, bronze daggers 41 and 42, bronze blade 43, bronze shaft 44
43  B 2036: Bronze blade  
L. 0.21, W. 0.035 m.  
Mended; complete but corroded. Wide flat blade with rounded point, tapering slightly toward handle. Two rivets for attachment to handle (now missing).

44  B 2037: Bronze shaft  
L. 0.225, W. 0.01 m.  
Intact; some corrosion. Long square shaft tapering gradually to point. Slight indentation from wear or use just below upper end.

45  T 4474: Terracotta figurine: standing female  
H. 0.087, W. 0.036 m.  
Intact. Proto-phi type; standing female figurine, with molded eyes, hair, arms, and breasts. Right hand at abdomen, left arm curved up with hand between breasts. Ponytail halfway down back. High recessed dome underneath, face pinched. Eyes, hair painted, rest of body decorated with wavy stripes. Dark buff clay; dull, somewhat worn, dark brown glaze.  
LH IIIA1. Cf. Mountjoy 1993, pp. 13–14, fig. 6 (from cist tomb 12, Deiras cemetery, Argos). See also French 1971, p. 108.

46  T 4475: Terracotta figurine: seated female  
H. 0.08, W. 0.62 m.  
Complete; head reattached. Proto-phi type; figure made separately and molded to three-legged throne. Eyes and breasts molded, position of arms indicated in paint. Hair, eyes, and front of face glazed. Body and chair decorated with wavy glazed stripes. Yellowish-buff clay with inclusions; orange-brown glaze.  
For a similar female figure seated on a tripod throne, found at Mycenae and now in the Louvre, see Higgins 1967, p. 14, pl. 4A; for an unoccupied three-legged terracotta throne from another grave in Athens, see Pantelidou 1975, pp. 78–79, no. 4, figs. 19, 20.

47  ST 951: Stone plaque(?)  
H. 0.063, W. 0.054, Th. 0.012 m.  
Figure 37. Terracotta figurine 46: multiple views

48  Necklace components

Various materials, but primarily carnelian, glass, and glass paste; ca. 765 in all, various sizes, plus another 20–25 other components of differing materials and shapes, which may or may not be part of the same necklace.

a  J 227: Carnelian scarab
L. 0.01, W. 0.009, Th. 0.005 m.
Intact except for chips. Features of beetle carved on convex upper surface, group of radiating lines incised on underside. Pierced longitudinally for stringing or attachment.

b  J 228: Rose quartz bead
Diam. 0.011–0.012, Th. 0.007 m.
Worn cylindrical bead, pierced for suspension with a hole much larger (worn?) at one side than the other.

c  J 236: Carnelian bead, biconical
Diam. 0.01, Th. 0.005 m.

d  J 236: 10 carnelian beads, round, small
Diam. ca. 0.004–0.006 m.

e  J 236: 18 carnelian beads, oval
L. 0.008–0.011, Diam. 0.006–0.007 m.

f  J 231: 10 glass beads, round, large
Diam. 0.01–0.013 m.

g  J 235: 59 glass beads, round, of medium size
Diam. 0.006–0.009 m.

h  J 232: 17 glass beads, small
Diam. 0.002–0.005 m.

Figure 38. Stone plaque(?) 47
J 233: 18 glass paste beads, elongated, grooved
L. 0.005–0.015, Diam. 0.003–0.006 m.
Elongated, tapering beads, decorated with three or four grooves incised longitudinally.

J 234: ca. 635 glass and glass paste beads, miniature
Diam. 0.002–0.0025, Th. ca. 0.001 m.
Beads include many doublets, resulting from imperfect separation during manufacture(?), and fragments. Mixed colors: white, gray, tan, buff, bluish, and brick-red.

The carnelian scarab and hundreds of small faience beads presumably are intended to imitate Egyptian prototypes. An interest in Egyptian forms is also suggested by the ceramic imitation of ostrich eggs (36, 37), found in the same tomb. Actual Egyptian imports to Athens are virtually nonexistent in this period, while jewelry generally is rare in Mycenaean Athens.22

49 Conical buttons/beads
Twenty-one conical beads or buttons of stone, varied sizes, colors, and forms.

a ST 964, ST 966 (2 beads), ST 967, ST 968 (5 beads), ST 970: Conical buttons, straight sides, flat bases
Diam. 0.014–0.018, H. 0.009–0.011 m.
Dark gray, light brownish-gray, or deep purple in color.

b ST 962: Conical button, flat above and below, rounded edges
Diam 0.024, H. 0.016 m.
Greenish stone.

c ST 963: Conical button, straight sides, flat base
Diam. 0.02, H. 0.014 m.
Dark purple stone.

22. Lambrou-Phillipson 1990, pp. 281–282; in Attica some Egyptian material is found, but only at the LH IIIC cemetery of Perati: see pp. 282–294. For the jewelry, see Konstantinidi 2001, pp. 126–127; for the technique of bead-making, pp. 10–11 and the bibliography.
EXCAVATIONS IN THE ATHENIAN AGORA

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23. I 7577, a fragment of the revision of the law code by Nikomachos at the end of the 5th century B.C., is being prepared for publication by Laura Gawlinski.


d  ST 961: Conical button, straight sides, flat base
    Diam. 0.025, H. 0.015 m.
    Dark brown-gray stone.

e  ST 969: 5 conical buttons, concave sides and concave bases
    Diam. 0.013–0.021, H. 0.009–0.013 m.
    Light gray (4) and dark gray (1).

f  ST 965: Conical button, straight side, concave underneath
    Diam. 0.017, H. 0.008 m.
    Raised, well-worn lip or rim around upper hole.

g  ST 960: Conical button, straight side, flat base
    Diam. 0.019, H. 0.018 m.
    Flat base, beveled above. Clear translucent stone: rock-crystal or quartz?

h  ST 971: Biconical bead/button
    Diam. 0.024, H. 0.019 m.
    Dark brown-black stone.

INSCRIPTIONS

The Alliance with Sikyon

Agora I 2636b+n

P.H. 0.35, p.W. 0.238, Th. 0.15 m
L.H. line 1: 0.0095; lines 2–17: 0.006–0.007 m

Found during demolition of a modern wall on August 20, 1988, in grid square J 3. Preserved is the upper right-hand corner of a stele with pedimental top, broken at left and below. Part of a corner acroterion and moldings of the pediment survive. A raised band under the tympanum carries line 1 in larger letters, with a flattened ovolo below. Parts of sixteen lines of text below. Back rough-picked, top and sides finished with a claw chisel. Hymettian marble.

The lettering of the decree is somewhat sloppy, characterized by the use of a simple upright cross for the letter phi. It is the work of a prolific letterer known prosaically as the “Cutter of IG II² 1262,” who carved some fifty texts in the years around 320–296 B.C.²⁴

303/2 B.C.  
Stoich. 50 (lines 2–22)
The new piece, fragment n, preserves the opening lines of a treaty (lines 1, 15) between Athens and Sikyon (line 9). It joins Agora I 2636b (lines 17(fin−22 of the consolidated text), published by E. Schweigert in 1939. Fragments a−m of I 2636 were found along the west side of the Panathenaic Way (grid square N 10), some 175 m to the southeast of the new fragment, mostly in contexts of the 3rd century A.C. On the basis of references in fragment a to Demetrios and the “Saviors,” Schweigert dated the alliance to 303/2 B.C., when both Sikyon and Athens were under the control of Demetrios and Antigonus. From formulas in the publication clause he restored a stoichedon line of fifty letters, even though no single line had more than fifteen letters preserved.

The new fragment confirms Schweigert’s skills as an epigraphist: both the date of 303/2 B.C. and the line length of fifty letters may now be regarded as certain. The opening preamble on the new piece, though fragmentary, must be restored with the name of the archon Leostratos (303/2 B.C.), and a line length of fifty letters on the basis of the name of the proedros, Deximbrotos Arkesilou Paianieus (lines 5−6). The preamble indicates that

25. Schweigert 1939; also Schmitt 1969, no. 445; SEG XLI 50. See also Agora XVI, no. 115, pp. 182–186, with the addendum on p. 186 referring to this new fragment, as well as SEG XLV 91.
the decree was passed on the same day as *IG II²* 493 (honors for Nikof of Abydos) and the more fragmentary *IG II²* 494.  

Schweigert’s date of 303/2 has been challenged on the grounds that Sikyon was renamed after Demetrios following his capture of the city in 303 B.C. (*Plut. Dem. 15.2, Diod. Sic. 20.102.3*) and yet the alliance refers to the Sikyonians (line 9). The new fragment now lays to rest all questions as to the date of the treaty, however one addresses the problem of Sikyon/Demetrias.

Athens and Sikyon had been allies not long before, during the Lamian War in 323/2 B.C., according to Pausanias (1.25.4) and Diodorus Siculus (18.11.2). *IG II²* 448 of that year, honoring Euphon of Sikyon, refers to this alliance as well, with supplementary honors added in 318/7 B.C.

For language similar to lines 10 and 14 in other inscriptions of this period, see *IG II²* 456, 466, 470, 483, 492, and 503.

### Honors for the Kydonians

Agora I 7602  
Fig. 41

P.H. 0.28, p.W. 0.20, p.Th. 0.103 m  
L.H. 0.004–0.005 m

Found July 18, 2000, against the east face of the Late Roman fortification wall, south of the Eleusinion, in grid square T 14–22/1. Upper right-hand corner of a stele of Hymettian marble, broken above, below, at back, and at left. Part of right side preserved, finished with a chisel, with the beginning of a crowning molding preserved. The face is marred by several gouges and worn smooth from lines 15 to 22.

Late 3rd century B.C.  
Non-stoich. ca. 33 letters


27. Ferguson 1948, p. 126, n. 39; Taeuber 1981 (*SEG* XXXI 86). There are several instances where a population or part of a population kept its name even though it had been relocated physically: e.g., the Phokians in list 2 (453/2 B.C.) of the Athenian Tribute Lists, col. VIII, lines 7–9 (see Camp 1974, pp. 314–318) or the Geloans in the 3rd century B.C., resettled in Phintias (Diod. Sic. 22.2.2; Loomis 1996, p. 146, n. 47).
EPIGRAPHICAL COMMENTARY

Dotted letters:

Line 3. First (left) sloping stroke of the first mu and the last (right) sloping stroke of the second.

Line 6. Psi: tip of the left and part of the vertical stroke; epsilon: bottom horizontal.

Line 7. Lambda: lower part of the right stroke; kappa: left vertical stroke; rho: vertical and part of top.

Line 8. Omega: lower left tip.

Line 10. Gamma: lower part of the left vertical stroke; epsilon: bottom horizontal stroke.

Line 11. Eta: right vertical stroke; alpha: lower part of left stroke.

Line 15. Iota: trace of the upright of the vertical stroke; omicron: upper curve of a round letter.

Line 16. Lower part of vertical stroke of tau; alpha: two sloping strokes of a triangular letter; iota: part of a vertical stroke.


Several of the letter forms are distinctive, with an open apex on the alpha and delta; the opening on the deltas is noticeably wider than on the alphas. In the epsilons, the middle stroke extends as far to the right as those at top and bottom, but does not join the vertical stroke at the left. The omegas are rounded, with the bottom strokes horizontal or even declining. The hand is recognizable as that of the “Cutter of IG II² 1706,” active between ca. 229/8 and ca. 203 B.C.28

Line 1. The initial delta of the tribe holding the prytany is clear and the restoration of Demetrias therefore secure, indicating a date prior to 200 B.C.

Line 2. The secretary, Nikanor, appears also in the undated and fragmentary IG II² 865 (line 2).

Line 10. In view of the close ties between Kydonia and Athens (see below), the restoration [σ]υγγενε[ις] το[ν] δῆμο[ν] seems likely.

28. Cf. Tracy 1990, pp. 44-54; I am indebted to Professor Tracy for guidance in identifying the cutter.
Commentary

Kydonia was a city of western Crete, now occupied by the modern town of Chania. The new inscription is one of several that attest Athenian relations with Crete, and specifically Kydonia, from the 4th to 2nd centuries B.C. At least one of these concerns the recovery of Athenians by ransom, inevitably bringing to mind the Cretan reputation for piracy in the Hellenistic period. From the 4th century, IG II² 399 records honors for Euryschochos of Kydonia, with a reference to his ancestors, and Meritt, Woodhead, and Stamires 1957, no. 86 (pp. 229–231) concerns Crete and possibly Kydonia. According to IG II² 844, the Athenians had occasion, following the Social War of 220–217 B.C. (Polyb. 4.53–55), to honor one Eumaridas son of Pankles of Kydonia with a bronze statue, originally to be set up on the Acropolis and eventually erected in the sanctuary of Demos and the Graces (lines 1–48). His son, Charmion, was also honored several years later (lines 49–70). Other indications of Athenian contacts with Kydonia in the 3rd century include the very fragmentary IG II² 745, part of a stele of Pentelic marble found on the Acropolis. Dating to the early 2nd century is IG II² 1130, a decree found in Athens, passed by an unidentified Cretan city in honor of the Athenians Lysikles and Thrasippus, sons of Kallias.29

In the years around 200 B.C. Athenian ties with Crete, whether political or commercial, were close. Kydonia, along with the cities of Gortyn, Hierapytta, Knossos, Lappa, Polyrhenion, and Priansos, began to mint imitations of Athenian New Style tetradrachms, complete with the head of Athena on the obverse and the owl standing on an amphora within a wreath on the reverse. The traditional reverse of Kydonian coins, a hound suckling an infant, now appears only as a small symbol, along with the legend ΚΥΔΩΝΙΑΤΩΝ, on the reverse.30

Work in the Stoa of Attalos and Future Plans

In the Stoa of Attalos the staff provided essential support for the excavations (processing and recording of new finds, photography, conservation), maintained the permanent collection, provided logistical support for scholars working on numerous Agora publication projects, and addressed the requests and needs of hundreds of visitors and other scholars. The Samuel H. Kress Foundation has provided support for the publication program of Agora material. In recent years the following scholars have worked in the Stoa as Kress Fellows: John Hayes (Roman pottery), Susan Rotroff (Hellenistic pottery), Barbara Tsakirgis (Greek and Roman houses), Marianne Stern (glass), and Carol Lawton (votive reliefs).

At the instigation of the Packard Humanities Institute (PHI), and with its support, we are well into a five-year project to computerize the Agora records and to put them into a unified database: object catalogue, coins, conservation records, photography, and architectural drawings are all being scanned or entered by hand. In addition, we are working on the useful application of computer technology in the field. Also with the support of PHI, improvements were made to the conservation department. In particular, a special climate-controlled storeroom for all our metal objects

29. For Cretan piracy and commentary on some or all of the inscriptions listed above, see Brulé 1978, pp. 16–24; de Souza 1999, pp. 65–67. I have benefited from discussion of this text with John Morgan.
was created by Craig Mauzy, according to specifications drawn up by our conservators, Alice Paterakis and Julie Unruh.

In the future, we plan to remove the medieval remains in section BE and explore the Roman and earlier levels below. We have also acquired another property, to the east (Astongos 3, city plot 1370/6). Four of the remaining six properties overlying the Painted Stoa are under expropriation and we hope to acquire those shortly. Two more houses and a short stretch of Hadrian Street will then be all that stand in the way of fulfilling the original commitment by the American School to fully excavate the civic center of ancient Athens and to present it as an archaeological park.

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REFERENCES

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