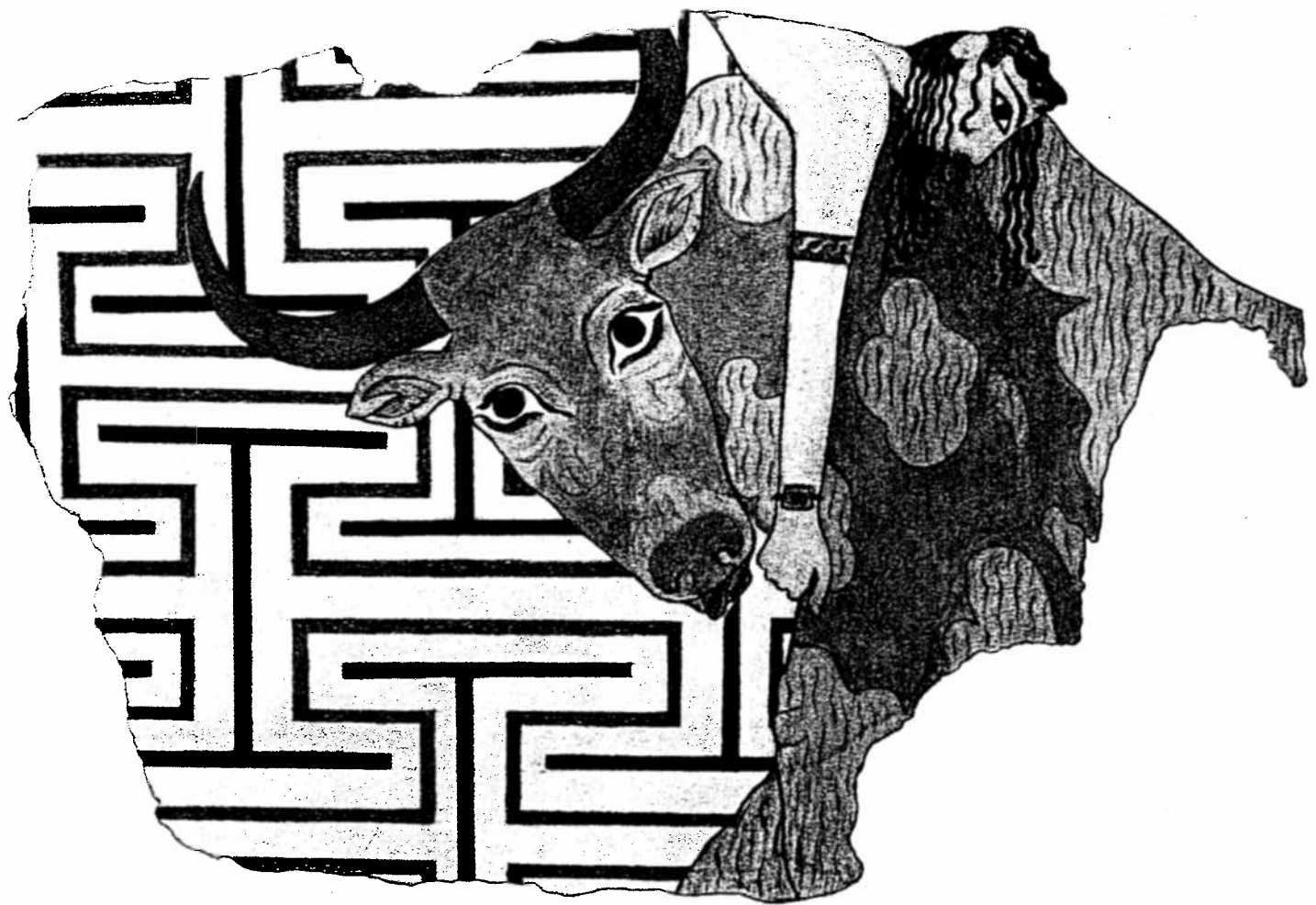


Egypt, the Aegean and the Levant

Interconnections in the Second Millennium BC



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EGYPTIAN AND NEAR EASTERN IMPORTS AT LATE BRONZE AGE MYCENAE*

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Introduction

The present paper is concerned primarily with the Egyptian and Near Eastern imports (hereafter *Orientalia*) found in Late Helladic (LH) contexts at Mycenae - from c. 1700 to 1080 BC. Of the 857 *Orientalia* in good contexts within the LBA Aegean, nearly 10% have been found at Mycenae - more than at any other site, with the exception of Kommos on Crete. These *Orientalia* include items of faience, ceramic, stone, bronze, glass and ivory.

In all, eighty-two *Orientalia* have been discovered in good LH I-III contexts at Mycenae: thirty-seven from Syro-Palestine, twenty-nine from Egypt, nine from Mesopotamia, four from Cyprus, and three from Anatolia. It will be noted that these numbers (summarized in **Fig. 1** and in the Appendix) do not match the total number of objects found in the accompanying Catalogue. This is the result of two factors. First, although the Catalogue lists all *Orientalia* at LBA Mycenae, including raw materials, objects found in contexts too broad for assignment to a specific period (i.e. LH I-III) and those without known provenance or of dubious import-status, only those objects which were imported worked and which have been found in definite LH I-III contexts at Mycenae are considered in this prose section and are listed in **Fig. 1** and in the Appendix.¹ Second, at least one entry in the Catalogue lists multiple objects under a single Catalogue number, e.g. the four or more Egyptian faience plaques found by Tsountas at Mycenae (26). It is likely that still more imported objects remain to be found at Mycenae, and it can be safely assumed that the absolute numbers presented here will change in the future.

Faience objects appear to be by far the most common imports, but this finding is undoubtedly skewed by the twenty or more faience vessels from Syro-Palestine found in LH IIIB contexts within the House of Shields (56-64, 66-8, 70, 74-80). Other objects of faience found elsewhere at Mycenae in definite LH I-III contexts include cylinder seals, scarabs, plaques and assorted vessels (14-18, 21, 24-6, 45-6, 50, 53). The only ceramic items are the nine Canaanite jars (36-44), all of which presumably originated in the Syro-Palestine region. There is, in addition, a single terracotta wall-bracket (81), in all likelihood imported from Cyprus. Further, there are only three objects of worked bronze (2, 12, 82), all probably originating

in the Syro-Palestine area. There are also ten objects of glass, including seven beads, a pendant and a plaque, all probably originating in northern Mesopotamia (4-11, 27), and fifteen objects in various types of stone (alabaster, lapis lazuli, diorite, haematite and steatite), imported from various areas in the Eastern Mediterranean (19, 22-3, 28-35, 48, 51-2, 55, 83-4). Finally, although all of the ivory found at Mycenae is by necessity to be viewed as imported, only two pieces (3, 65) of all those found in LH I-III contexts are thought to have been imported already worked.

No one single type of Egyptian or Near Eastern import predominates at LH I-III Mycenae, and objects of different materials and of functional, ornamental and devotional character have been identified. It must be recognized that less than half of the *Orientalia* found in LBA contexts at Mycenae may be termed 'functional' items; these are the two stone weights (83-4), the terracotta wall-bracket (81), the nine Canaanite jars (36-44) and possibly the various stone vases and faience bowls. The Canaanite jars appear to be a concrete indication of the exchange of commercial materials between the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, for these jars were exchanged more for their contents than for their own intrinsic value. It has been established that such amphorae were utilized as containers for a wide variety of goods, including wine, oils, orpiment, resins, glass beads and probably grain as well.² Other non-liquid food items of trade were presumably packed in perishable materials such as straw, wood, or leather, which will not have survived until the present day. The stone vases and faience bowls may have contained 'real' trade items such as fragrant oils or perfume, but seem just as likely to have been imported for their own intrinsic value. Most of the remaining Egyptian and Near Eastern objects found at LH I-III Mycenae are small items, such as seals, scarabs, pins and unusual objects of glass and ivory, scattered over the site both areally and temporally. This situation perhaps supports the hypothesis that the majority of the *Orientalia* at Mycenae are the 'bric-à-brac' of international trade, remnants derived from the principal trade in metals, wine, oil, grain and textiles.

Looking briefly at the find-spots of these eighty-two Egyptian and Near Eastern imports at Mycenae, one notes that approximately twenty-three tombs contain imported objects, but no single tomb has more than four such imports, and most have only one. There does not seem to be a great difference between the types of imported objects

Origins	I-II	III	IIIA	IIIA-B	IIIB	IIIC	Total
Egypt	5	4	3	1	15	1	29
Syro-Palestine	-	-	2	5	27	3	37
Cyprus	-	2	2	-	-	-	4
Anatolia	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
Mesopotamia	7	-	-	-	2	-	9
Total	14	6	8	6	44	4	82

Fig. 1. Egyptian and Near Eastern Objects at Mycenae.

number of Pharaohs, from Amenhotep III to Ramesses II.²⁰

Among Late Bronze Age specialists, it is no longer considered accurate to say simply that the LH IIIB period was 'the period of the greatest Mycenaean expansion'.²¹ The great expansion in fact seems to have occurred during the LH IIIA2 and IIIB1 periods.²² However, the majority of the Orientalia at Mycenae have indeed been found in LH IIIB contexts (**Fig. 1**). Thus, on the surface, the LH IIIB period appears to have been the most active in terms of trade or contact between Mycenae and Egypt or the Near East. This observation must bear the caveat that the distribution has probably been distorted by the circulation or heirloom potential of these small imported objects. Some of these Orientalia may actually have arrived amidst the trade and contacts of the LH IIIA period, or even earlier, and then remained in use at Mycenae until some time in the LH IIIB period. The inscribed Amenhotep III/Queen Tiy objects and the glass objects from Mesopotamia in LH IIIB contexts appear to be the best candidates for such a temporal translocation. One must also keep in mind that earlier strata and contexts have generally not been as well preserved at Mycenae as later strata; the situation at Mycenae is heavily weighted in favour of LB IIIB contexts, as these are the best preserved remains at the site. In particular, there is very heavy artefact weighting to phase VII - the period ended by the LH IIIB2 earthquake.²³ Furthermore, our findings may be skewed to some extent since the 'Citadel House Area' is the only part of the Acropolis at Mycenae from which full data for each and every artefact and its depositional context are available.

However, it is of great interest to look at the larger picture at this point in time. The majority of Orientalia in LH/LMI-III A1 contexts within the Aegean area have been found on Crete. Importation of worked Orientalia into Crete suddenly ceased, however, during the LM IIIA2 period, while the following LH IIIB period saw a dramatic, nearly ten-fold, increase of Eastern imports into Mainland Greece. Specifically, the vast majority (76%) of Orientalia in LH/LM IIIB contexts within the Aegean area are found on the Greek Mainland (one hundred and sixteen out of one hundred and twenty-six).²⁴ These figures indicate an overall pattern of importation directed primarily at Crete during the LH/LMI-III A periods. The pattern then changes, and importation during the LH/LM IIIB and LH/LM IIIC periods is directed primarily at the Greek Mainland. There is also a corresponding escalation of Mycenaean LH IIIB products sent to the Eastern Mediterranean at this time. Thus, according to the evidence of both the Orientalia found in the LH/LM IIIB Aegean area and the LH/LM IIIB Aegean objects found in the Near East, Mycenaean merchants and vessels had apparently become the principal representatives from the Aegean by this time, and Mainland Greece was apparently the prime destination of the trade routes from Egypt and

the Near East. Based on these observations, a link between the destruction of Knossos in early LM IIIA2²⁵ and a Mycenaean takeover of the Eastern Mediterranean trade routes seems a likely hypothesis to suggest.

It seems, in fact, a distinct possibility that the LM IIIA2 destruction of Knossos was caused by Mycenaean from the Argolid, perhaps specifically from Mycenae. This is suggested by two observations: (1) much of the LH/LM IIIA2 and IIIB pottery subsequently found in Egypt, Syro-Palestine and Cyprus was made in the Peloponnese on the Greek Mainland specifically for export;²⁶ and (2) Mycenae and Tiryns together have more than half (55%) of the one hundred and twenty-six Orientalia found in LH/LM IIIB contexts in the Aegean.²⁷ Boeotian Thebes, with its cache of thirty-eight cylinder seals, represents the only other site in the entire LBA Aegean area to have more than five Orientalia in LH/LM IIIB contexts.

Moreover, the quantity of Amenhotep III/Queen Tiy objects found at Mycenae and the new papyrus fragments from Amarna (Parkinson and Schofield, this volume, **Plate 8**) depicting Mycenaean warriors in Egypt during the LH IIIA2 period again raise the possibility that these Mycenaean, in their hypothesized destruction of LM IIIA2 Knossos, were aided by Egyptians.²⁸ Egyptian motivations may have ranged from a desire to eliminate the Minoan 'middle-men' to a desire for a mutual defence treaty with the Mycenaean against the newly-resurgent Hittite Empire or other foes.²⁹

The objects inscribed with the cartouche of either Amenhotep III or Queen Tiy found at Mycenae include one vase (**71**), two scarabs (**17-18**) and at least six plaques (**24-6**). Most of these objects have no obvious functional purpose. Since such plaques had a specific votive function in Egypt and since a number of the plaques (and scarabs) have been found in 'votive' contexts at Mycenae, it has been suggested elsewhere that they were used at Mycenae in a religious or devotional capacity.³⁰ It has also been suggested that many or all of the Amenhotep III/Queen Tiy objects at Mycenae originally arrived in the LH IIIA1 period, during the actual reign of Amenhotep III.³¹ It seems likely that all of these royally-inscribed items arrived together and that this time of arrival corresponds to the period immediately preceding the great expansion in trade and relations between the LH IIIA-B Aegean and the Eastern Mediterranean. This is further supported by the inscribed objects of Amenhotep III/Queen Tiy found in various LH/LM III contexts at five other Aegean sites.³²

It is problematic whether these inscribed objects of Amenhotep III/Queen Tiy at Mycenae are the extant remains of a Pharaonic gift to woo a potential ally, to establish trade relations or diplomatic ties with a new Aegean power, or merely to maintain and confirm previously existing ties. The probable link of these nine objects to the 'Aegean List' inscribed on the statue-base from Amenhotep III's mortuary temple at Kom el-Hetan (**Plate 6,1**) and to a formal Egyptian embassy sent to

found in tombs and those found in houses/buildings at LH I-III Mycenae, although there are far more imports in houses/buildings than in tombs. The 'Citadel House Area' (including the 'South House' to the north, the 'Cult Centre' and the 'Tsountas House' to the south)³ contains the most imported goods, but the 'House of Shields' is close behind. The concentration of imported artefacts in the 'Citadel House Area', some apparently out of their 'proper' temporal context, may be related to its function as the principal religious area of LH III Mycenae.⁴ The concentration of Orientalia in the 'House of Shields' is harder to explain, but the fact that they consist almost entirely of faience vessels may indicate some sort of specialized interest or activity in this house - Wace felt that this house, or its occupants, may have been particularly involved in overseas relations.⁵

The paucity of Anatolian, and specifically of Hittite, artefacts at Mycenae is perhaps not altogether surprising, since only twelve such imports are found in the entire LH/LM I-III Aegean.⁶ Moreover, as has been pointed out elsewhere, a parallel situation is found in Anatolia at this time. Although Mycenaean ceramic imports and other remains have been found in quantity along the western and southern coasts of Anatolia, only a single site (Masat) in the inland areas of the Hittite homeland has yielded Mycenaean artefacts. It is clear that little trade occurred between the Hittite homeland and the Mycenaean world during the Late Bronze Age.⁷ The few Anatolian objects (13, 23, 69) at Mycenae provide additional support for a possible lack of trade between Mycenaean and Hittites.

Only three, or possibly four, worked objects identifiable as Cypriot have been found at Mycenae (16, 22, 50, 81). It should also be noted that one whole and three fragmentary ox-hide ingots, of unworked copper presumably imported from Cyprus, have been found in LH III contexts at Mycenae.⁸ Though the numbers are small, the variety of worked imports - scarab, cylinder seal, faience goblet and terracotta wall-bracket - indicates that the old view that the Bronze Age Aegean imported Cypriot copper and little else from this island is outdated.⁹ New research has identified numerous Cypriot ceramic vessels in Late Bronze Age contexts elsewhere in the Aegean; so many, in fact, that Cypriot vessels now appear to be the most numerous ceramic imports extant from LBA Aegean contexts.¹⁰ The view of Cypriot-Aegean trade in the Late Bronze Age must thus be updated accordingly, and a fresh appraisal of the situation is called for.¹¹

Mesopotamian objects make up fully half of the Orientalia found in LH I contexts at Mycenae - they are the only Orientalia found at LH I Mycenae in contexts both within and outside of Grave Circles A and B. In fact, all but two of the Mesopotamian objects in definite LH I-III contexts at Mycenae are in LH I contexts, and these latter two (a 'star disc' pendant and a nude female plaque, both of blue glass and both in LH IIIB contexts within the 'Cult Centre' at Mycenae) may

have originally arrived during the LH I period as well.¹² As an aside, it may be of some interest, in light of the find-spot of the latter two objects within the 'Cult Centre', that in Near Eastern contexts both the 'star disc' pendant and the nude female plaque had some religious meaning and were usually connected to fertility concepts and to the goddess Ishtar.¹³

All nine Mesopotamian imports are made of blue glass (4-11, 27). These findings are apparently consistent with the situation elsewhere in the LBA Aegean. Most of the imports from Mesopotamia in the LBA Aegean are made of blue glass and are found in LH I-II contexts, with the exception of faience cylinder seals found in an LH IIIB context at Boeotian Thebes.¹⁴ Harden originally suggested that the Mycenaean looked to Mesopotamia, not Egypt, for their supply of blue glass (both raw ingots and worked objects);¹⁵ this suggestion has found recent support from the numerous glass ingots found on the Ulu Burun (Kas) shipwreck.

Surprisingly, imported objects from other areas of the Eastern Mediterranean in LH I-II contexts at Mycenae, and within the Shaft Graves in particular, are not as numerous as has previously been stated.¹⁶ Those which do appear were most likely imported via Crete. The well-known inlaid daggers from these graves may be linked, however, in terms of artistic tradition, craftsmanship and probably influence, to a dagger with an inlaid handle bearing the name of the Hyksos king Apophis and to an inlaid axe and an inlaid dagger of Ahmose found in the tomb of Ahhotpe, mother of Ahmose.¹⁷

It is surprising that only two Syro-Palestinian objects (36, 65) and three Egyptian objects (29-30, 71) have been found in definite LH IIIA deposits at Mycenae, considering the quantities of Mycenaean pottery of this period found in these Eastern areas.¹⁸ It may be that the situation at LH IIIA Mycenae has been distorted by the propensity of these objects to remain in circulation, i.e. until the LH IIIB or IIIC periods, or by the relative paucity of such IIIA contexts at Mycenae (apart from tombs).

The substantial increase in Egyptian and Near Eastern artefacts assignable to the LH IIIA-B and IIIB periods at Mycenae is consistent with the abundance of Mycenaean pottery found in the Syro-Palestinian and Egyptian areas during much of these periods. Syro-Palestine as a whole presents a pattern consistent with the continuous importation of LH IIIA and IIIB pottery, except perhaps in the inland regions of northern Syria where LH IIIB ceramics are scarce.¹⁹ Egypt, too, appears to have consistently imported Mycenaean LH IIIA and IIIB pottery throughout most of the 14th and 13th centuries BC. It should be noted that the accumulating evidence from Egypt now indicates that the importation of LH IIIA and IIIB pottery was not unique to Akhenaten, his capital at el-Amarna, or the 'Amarna Period', and suggests rather that such pottery was in use over great areas of Egypt and was imported by a

Mycenae has previously been discussed in detail.³³ It is quite possible that they were part of a larger gift, since these small items found at Mycenae hardly appear worthy of a high-level diplomatic exchange.³⁴ Thus, additional objects found at Mycenae may have originally accompanied these royally-inscribed items. Whether such items suggest more than a phenomenon of expanding contacts remains an interesting question, but the conclusion that Egypt was taking a particular interest in the Aegean during the LH IIIA and IIIB periods seems to be sound.

In contrast to the LH IIIB period, Syro-Palestinian and Egyptian imports found in LH IIIC contexts at Mycenae are rare, as are true Mycenaean IIIC exports to these eastern areas. This is possibly a reflection of the unsettled character of the times in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean. One should note, in fact, that all four of the imports found in LH IIIC contexts at Mycenae (35, 44, 82, 84) - three from Syro-Palestine and one from Egypt - were in secondary deposits (such as 'wash up against the Cyclopaean Wall') and should be regarded as imports which had arrived at Mycenae earlier, i.e. in the LH IIIA or IIIB periods.³⁵ It is now clear that Mycenae was occupied and reasonably thriving in the LH IIIC period. The noticeable decline in imports during the LH IIIC period might be attributable to the collapse of the international trade routes at this time and to the destruction at most of the major Mycenaean citadels during this period, leading to a new focus on areas separate from the dysfunctional palatial centres.³⁶ It is also conceivable that the observable decrease in Orientalia in LH IIIC contexts had its origins in an LH IIIB2 earthquake in the Argolid.³⁷ It is possible that this hypothesized LH IIIB2 earthquake, whose effects may be visible in Mycenae and elsewhere in the Argolid, had a greater impact on these cities and their ability to compete in international markets than has been previously suspected. Certainly, the increase in regional ceramic styles in Greece during the LH IIIB2 period and a possible decline in exports of LH IIIB2 Mycenaean pottery to the Eastern Mediterranean may be indications that the Argolid's influence and mercantile capabilities were severely affected at a point prior to the LH/LM IIIC period.³⁸

We may also note an interesting anomaly in the distribution of Orientalia at Mycenae as compared to other major LBA Aegean centres. At Mycenae and its surrounding territory there is a reasonably large number of Egyptian objects but very few Cypriot objects. However, at Tiryns and its environs, only three kilometres away, Cypriot imports are fairly common while Egyptian imports are virtually unknown. Such a distribution pattern may indicate a directional trade, aimed at specific points of entry. It also suggests that there may have been special relationships between specific Aegean sites and individual Eastern Mediterranean areas. It is possible that instead of speaking in sweeping generalizations about trade between the Aegean and the Near East,

we should be speaking in terms of trade between Mycenae and Egypt, Tiryns and Cyprus, and so on.

The distribution pattern noted for the Orientalia imported into the LBA Aegean as a whole also suggests that Mycenae, along with Tiryns, Knossos, Kommos, Kato Zakro and Ialysos, initially received the Orientalia and then redistributed these objects to the surrounding villages and smaller communities. Thus, Mycenae and the other major centres apparently served as 'Gateway Communities'.³⁹ Such 'Gateway Communities' act as entrances to or from an area, are characterized by long distance trade connections and are located on sites of transportational significance. The ensuing local redistribution, which dispersed the Orientalia from the 'Gateway Communities' to the surrounding villages, can best be described using the 'Central Place' model, which has been used in the past to describe the Mycenaean redistributive system.⁴⁰ In this model, a number of autonomous Central Places (generally either palaces or fortified citadels) are responsible for a surrounding territory, which is best described as a polygon with the Central Place at its nucleus. These areas, situated in what are defined as 'Thiessen Polygons', are interlocking but not overlapping, so that the territory of one borders that of others on all sides.⁴¹ Such a model fits well with the distribution pattern of the Orientalia in the LBA Aegean area, for one can visualize a series of circular or polygonal distribution patterns, with a major site such as Mycenae in the centre of each territory. Of course, once in the Aegean area, some of the Orientalia will also have been subsequently reused in gift-exchanges and other high-level communications between the major LBA Aegean centres themselves.

Summary and Conclusions

In summary, an examination of the worked Orientalia found in LH I-III contexts at Mycenae reveals three categories of items: (1) functional trade-related objects; (2) ornamental 'bric-à-brac' from widely-scattered areas of the Eastern Mediterranean; and (3) inscribed Egyptian objects likely to be associated with more formal diplomatic contacts. The distribution pattern suggests that Mycenae, as a major LBA Aegean centre, served as a 'Gateway Community' for the importation of such foreign goods and was the focal point of a deliberate directional trade from Egypt and the Near East. Such trade, while on-going since at least the LH I period, reached a height in the LH IIIB period, just after the reign of Akhenaten - possibly as a result of Egyptian interest and of an Egyptian 'helping hand' in the Mycenaean destruction of LM IIIA2 Knossos.

By way of concluding, we should note that the Orientalia at LBA Mycenae are of interest not only in light of the leading role which Mycenae played in the Aegean during the 14th-11th centuries BC, but also because the ancient Greeks themselves believed that the origins of Mycenae were inextricably linked with Egypt and the Eastern Mediterranean. They not only

held that Mycenae was ruled during the Late Bronze Age by the Atreid dynasty, whose ancestor Pelops had migrated from Anatolia, but they also believed that Mycenae was founded by Perseus, who was ostensibly of Egyptian descent - being the great-great-grandson of the brothers Danaus and Aegyptus.⁴²

Notes

*The following article represents a comprehensive expansion and update of a paper originally presented at the February 1987 *Tell el-Amarna 1887-1987* conference in Chicago (Cline in press). New research and reappraisals conducted during 1988-1993 have significantly added to, and altered, the data presented in the original paper, which dealt only with the imports found in LH III contexts at Mycenae.

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1. Also not included or discussed here are objects imported from regions other than Egypt or the Near East. Into this category fall a number of amber objects (Beck et al. 1972; Harding and Hughes-Brock 1974; Harding 1984; Bouzek 1985; Hughes-Brock 1985) and one stone 'winged-axe' mould probably of an Italian origin, the latter found in an LH IIIB context in the House of the Oil Merchant (Stubbings 1954, 297-98; Childe 1960, 575-8, fig. 72:16; Bouzek 1985, 151, fig. 75:1).

2. Amiran 1969, 140-1; Raban 1980; Bass 1986; *idem* 1987; Pulak 1988; Haldane 1993.

3. Taylour 1981, 1-2, plan 2.

4. See Mylonas 1981, 318-9.

5. Wace in Bennet 1953, 6; Killen 1985, 267-9; Knapp 1991, 42.

6. See Cline 1994.

7. Mellaart 1968, 188-9; Muhly 1974, 10; Hooker 1976, 131; Yakar 1976, 126; Mee 1978, 150; Macqueen 1986, 107-8; Mellaart 1986, 76. See now discussions in Cline 1991a; *idem* 1991b.

8. Wace 1953, 6-7, pl. 2a; Buchholz 1958, 36 (no. 35), pl. 5:1-2; Catling 1964, 269-95; Bass 1967, 61 (nos. 52-5);

Cadogan 1972, 9.

9. Catling 1964, 49; *idem* 1980, 14, 16-17; Cadogan 1972, 11-13, Muhly 1982, 254; Portugali and Knapp 1985, 77-8.

10. See now Kilian et al. 1981, 170, 184, fig. 40.5; Kilian 1983, 304; *idem* 1988b, 121, abb. 25 for Cypriot pottery at Tiryns; Watrous 1992 and Shaw 1978-86 for Cypriot pottery at Kommos, Crete; Bass 1986 and Pulak 1988 for Cypriot pottery on the Kas shipwreck. Cypriot vessels have been found elsewhere in the Aegean as well, including Khania on Crete, Aegina and Thera on the Islands, and Trianda and Ialysos on Rhodes. For a full compilation, see Cline 1994.

11. The discovery of over two hundred Cypriot sherds at Marsa Matruh, on the northern coast of Egypt, in the company of several Mycenaean and Minoan sherds and Canaanite jar fragments (White 1985, 10; *idem* 1986, 76-8, figs. 26-34), should be borne in mind during any new discussions of such trade or trade routes.

12. A number of lapis lazuli beads were found in Room 19 (Room with the Idols) of the Cult Centre at Mycenae (Taylour 1969, 92; *idem* 1981, 47-8). The lapis lazuli used in these beads most likely originated in the Badkhashan region of northern Afghanistan, beyond even Mesopotamia. The beads have not been actively considered in these discussions because it cannot be ascertained at which point during the journey from Afghanistan to Mycenae the raw lapis lazuli was converted into finished beads. For discussions concerning the origin of the lapis lazuli and the routes by which it reached Mesopotamia and points further west, see among others Hermann 1968, Oppenheim 1970, 9-14, and Muhly 1973, *passim*, with references.

13. See e.g. Barag 1970, 189; Oates 1965, 73-4; *idem* 1966, 125. These two objects may well be part of a cache of objects looted from the 'shrine room' next to Room Gamma as suggested by Barag 1970, 190; see also Mylonas 1981, 310-1, pl. 15. One might therefore disagree with Craig (in Barag 1970, 191), who suggested that the religious association(s) of the plaque and the 'star disc' pendant were not understood by the Mycenaeans.

14. Porada 1981.

15. Harden 1981, 40.

16. This finding is in agreement with Vermeule 1975, 18-22; Hooker 1976, 45-54; Dickinson 1977, 53.

17. Cf. Smith 1965, 26, 29, 77, 155, fig. 37; Hankey 1993.

18. A number of lantern-shaped beads, most in faience, have been found in LH III contexts at Mycenae (Wace 1932, 94, 205-6, pl. IX g; Foster 1979, 145, fig. 97; Taylour 1983, 150, fig. 146). These beads have not been included here since their origins/manufacture are so ambiguous. As Taylour 1983, 150, states, this type of bead 'is possibly Syrian but it might equally well be of Mycenaean manufacture. It occurs in Greece, Rhodes, Cyprus, Syria and in Sicily' (see also Wace and Blegen 1939, 142; Wace 1949, 108; McGovern 1985, 77-8, 82 classifies these as Syro-Palestinian 'double-hubbed "wheel" pendants').

19. See now full discussion in Liverani 1986, 407, and Cline 1994.
20. Redford 1983, 482; also Cline 1987, 13-6.
21. Furumark 1944, 262.
22. Cf. Mountjoy 1986, 67; French 1965, 159.
23. See Taylour 1981, 9 on this phase; cf. also Iakovidis 1986.
24. Cline 1994.
25. Hallager 1977, 81-7; Niemeier 1983, 217.
26. Catling et al. 1963; Jones 1986, 542-71; Mommsen et al. 1992.
27. Cline 1994.
28. Cline 1987; Idem 1990; Parkinson and Schofield 1993.
29. Glotz 1925, 211-2, 226; Burn 1930, 99; Cline 1991b.
30. Weinstein 1973, 1xix; Cline 1987, 10-11; *idem* 1990, 200-12. There is also at Mycenae a sherd from an LH IIIB1 stirrup jar, upon which is depicted a dung beetle/scarab (French 1966, 219, 223, 228, pl. 48a). Such a motif may or may not be the result of contact with Egypt, but the sherd does appear to be unique in the Aegean; the motif is not to be found in either Furumark (1972) or Vermeule and Karageorghis (1982). Furthermore, the sherd was found in the Prehistoric Cemetery, Central (Areas III and IV) at Mycenae, in a deposit that might be of a 'votive' nature (French 1966, 217).
31. Cline 1987, 11-13; *idem* 1990.
32. Cline 1987, 11-12, Map 1. There is also now a scarab of Amenhotep III from Panaztepe on the western coast of Anatolia, in a context of LH IIIA pottery; see Erkanal 1986, 258; Mellink 1987, 13; Jaeger and Krauss 1990.
33. See most recently Helck 1979, 96-7; Hankey 1981, 45-6; Muhly 1982, 260-1; Wachsmann 1987, 95-9, 111-4; Cline 1987; *idem* 1990.
34. Detailed descriptions of royal gifts sent elsewhere by Amenhotep III and Akhenaten can be found in the Amarna Letters, i.e. EA 5, 14 and 31; see Moran 1992, updating Knudtzen 1915.
35. See note by French in Tamvaki 1973, 208.
36. The situation regarding imports in the LH IIIC Aegean may well reflect changes in settlement patterns and the like which seem to have occurred in the Aegean during this time; at Perati, for example, there are approximately fifty Egyptian and Near Eastern imports in LH IIIC contexts (Iakovidis 1970; *idem* 1980).
37. Kilian 1980; *idem* 1988a, 134, 151, n. 2, fig. 10; Iakovidis 1986; but *contra* Zangger 1991; Muhly 1992, 11.
38. Sherratt 1980.

39. As defined by Brughardt, Hirth, Hodges and Smith (cf. Smith 1987, 61-2, 65-6, 133-4, 136, 138, with earlier references).

40. Renfrew 1975, 13, 48, figs. 2-3; Cherry 1986, 21, 23, figs. 2.2, 2.4.

41. Cf. Hodder and Orton 1976, 59-60, fig. 4.3.

42. Paus. II.15.4 - II.16.2; Thuc. I.9.2; Pindar, *Olympian Ode* I.24; Apol. II.4.4.

CATALOGUE OF THE ORIENTALIA AT LBA MYCENAE

I. Figurines and Reliefs

a. Figurines

1. Figurine. Frit (Egyptian Blue). NMA no. 4573. Acropolis; in the vicinity of Mylonas' 'House of the High Priest'. LH IIIB2. Egypt. 18th Dynasty. **Plate 6, 2.**

Small blue frit (Egyptian Blue) figurine of squatting or sitting monkey; cartouche in yellow on right shoulder inscribed '3-*hprw-r*' (Aa-kheperu-re), prenomen of Amenhotep II; details on face incised and outlined in black; cheeks are yellow; in fragmentary condition, only head and upper torso extant; most likely, depiction of a Grivet or Green monkey; H: 3.5 cm; W: (body) 1.5 cm, (max) 2.0 cm; Th: 1.3 cm.

Similar figurine in LH IIIA context at Tiryns; cf. Kilian et al 1979: 405, 443, 447, abbs. 30 and 55a-c.

Hall 1901-2; 188, figure 13; Pendlebury 1930b: 55 (no. 85), 118, plate IV; Cline 1987: 21 n. 97, Table 3 no. D1; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 343-4 (no. 437), plate 82; Cline 1991c.

b. Statuettes

2. Statuette. Bronze. NMA no. 2631. House on Citadel to NE of Lion Gate; Building M or N. LH IIIB. Syro-Palestine. LB II.

Bronze 'Smiting God' statuette; high conical hat with knob at peak; well-modelled features: squarish face, large ears, short chin; big hands and feet; upper left arm held against side, then bent at elbow with forearm extended straight forward; right arm upraised; left leg forward; feet pegged below; wearing a short kilt; has short dagger over right hip; H: 11.3 cm.

Tsountas 1891: 21-2, plate II: 4-4a; Canby 1969: 142-3; Negbi 1976: 37, 40-1, 168 (no. 1408); Muhly 1980: 153-4; Seeden 1980: 128 (no. 1817), plate 114 (1817); Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 353 (no. 479), plate 16.

c. Miscellaneous

3. Tusk, carved. Ivory. NMA no. 2916. Chamber Tomb no. 55. LH III A or B (14th-13th centuries BC). Syro-Palestine. LB.

Small carved ivory tusk, covered with decoration: plants and

lotus blossoms, wild goats, falcons, etc; possible oil container; 'Egyptianizing' style is reminiscent of time of Amenhotep III; H (pres): 25.5 cm; Dm (base): 7.6 cm.

Poursat 1977b: 94-5 (no. 301), plates XXX-XXXI; Sakellariou 1985: 170, 174-5, plate 73; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 350 (no. 466), plate 24.

II. Jewellery

a. Beads

4. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 6534(?). Chamber Tomb no. 516. LH I. Mesopotamia. MB or LB.

Multitubular spacer bead, of blue glass; uncommon decoration: two vertically ribbed oval beads cast in one piece with a flat back and horizontal ribbed borders at top and bottom in front; two holes for threading; L: 2.6 cm; W: 3.5 cm.

Wace 1932: 64-6, 207, figure 25: 5c; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193 n. 210; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

5. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 6534(?). Chamber Tomb no. 516. LH I. Mesopotamia. MB or LB.

Multitubular spacer bead, of blue glass; with four tubular parts cast in one piece with a flat back; two holes for threading; broken.

Wace 1932: 64-6, 207, figure 25: 5b; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

6. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 6535. Chamber Tomb no. 516. LH I. Mesopotamia. MB or LB.

Multitubular spacer bead, of blue glass; with four tubular parts cast in one piece with a flat back; two holes for threading; L: 3.0 cm; W: 3.0 cm.

Wace 1932: 64-6, 207, figure 25: 5b; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

7. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 209.1. Shaft Grave 1, Circle A. LH I. Mesopotamia. 16th-13th centuries BC.

Multitubular spacer bead, with four tubular parts, of blue glass.

Karo 1930: 69, no. 209b, plate 150; Wace 1932: 66 n. 1; Haevernick 1960: 49-50; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

8. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 209.2. Shaft Grave 1, Circle A. LH I. Mesopotamia. 16th-13th centuries BC.

Multitubular spacer bead, with four tubular parts, of blue glass.

Karo 1930: 69, no. 209b, plate 150; Wace 1932: 66 n. 1; Haevernick 1960: 49-50; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

9. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 209.3. Shaft Grave 1, Circle A. LH I. Mesopotamia. 16th-13th centuries BC.

Multitubular spacer bead, with four tubular parts, of blue glass.

Karo 1930: 69, no. 209b, plate 150; Wace 1932: 66 n. 1; Haevernick 1960: 49-50; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 326; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

10. Bead. Glass. NMA no. 209.4. Shaft Grave 1, Circle A. LH I. Mesopotamia. 16th-13th centuries BC.

Multitubular spacer bead, with four tubular parts, of blue glass.

Karo 1930: 69, no. 209b, plate 150; Wace 1932: 66 n. 1; Haevernick 1960: 49-50; Haevernick 1965: 35-40; Barag 1970: 191, 193; Cadogan 1976: 19; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 36 n. 70, 38, 46.

b. Pendants

11. Pendant. Glass. NMA no. 2512. Room Gamma of shrine area of Tsountas House. LH IIIB. Mesopotamia. MB III-LB IIA (16th-13th centuries BC). **Plate 19,1.**

Moulded dark blue glass pendant adorned with eight-pointed star with eight bosses between the rays in high relief; suspension loop with horizontal divisions; H: 6.3 cm.

Tsountas 1886: 78-9; Tsountas 1887: 169, plate 13: 22; Barag 1970: 189-91, figure 100; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 38, 46; McGovern 1985: 30, 35, 77, 82; cf. Grose 1989: 48, figures 20-21.

c. Pins

12. Pin. Bronze. NMA no. 2483. Tomb 52. LH IIIA-B. Syro-Palestine. LB?

Bronze roll-top pin; short in the shank, tip hammered flat and rolled tightly into a scroll; L: 18.0 cm.

Tsountas 1888: 157-8, 173, plate 9: 25; Catling 1964: 238; Sakellariou 1985: 131-2, plate 36 (no. 2483).

13. Pin. Gold. NMA. Shaft Grave IV, Circle A. LH I. Anatolia. LB.

Gold pin, with head in the form of an Argali sheep, which is native to Anatolia.

Evans 1929: 43-5, figure 34b; Higgins 1980: 70-1.

III. Scarabs, Seals and Plaques

a. Scarabs

14. Scarab. Faience. NMA no. 6495.1. Tomb 526. LH III. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Faience scarab, white with traces of green glaze; inscription possibly to be read 'nh Hr (Ankh-Hor), 'Horus lives'; L: 2.0 cm; W: 1.5 cm.

Pendlebury 1930b: 56 (no. 95), plate IV; Wace 1932: 93, 198, plate IX (no. 1); Cline 1987: 21 n. 97; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 345-6 (no. 450), plate 53.

15. Scarab. Faience. NMA no. 6495.2. Tomb 526. LH III. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Faience scarab; white, with traces of green glaze; inscription possibly to be read *s3t-m3't-r'* (Sat-Maat-Re).

Pendlebury 1930b: 56 (no. 96), plate IV; Wace 1932: 93, 198, plate IX (no. 2); Cline 1987: 21 n. 97; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 346 (no. 451), plate 54.

16. Scarab. Faience. NMA no. 6495.3. Tomb 526. LH III. Cyprus (or local). LC?

Faience scarab, with designs; poor imitation of Egyptian work.

Burton-Brown says it is from North Mesopotamia.

Pendlebury 1930b: 56 (in no. 96); Wace 1932: 93, 199, plate IX (no. 3); Burton-Brown 1978: 161.

17. Scarab. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 68-1521. Cult Centre, Room 19 (Room with the Idols). LH IIIB (mid). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

White faience scarab of Queen Tiy, wife of Amenhotep III; inscribed *hmt-nswt Tiy*, 'King's Wife, Tiy'; pierced longitudinally; L: 1.3 cm; W: 1.0 cm; Th: 0.6 cm; Dm (hole): 0.1 cm.

Taylor 1969: 92-3; Cline 1987: 9-10, figure 4, Table 1 no. E; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 344 (no. 439), plate 53.

18. Scarab. Faience. NMA no. 2530. Room Gamma of the shrine area of Tsountas House. LH IIIB. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Faience scarab of Queen Tiy, wife of Amenhotep III; inscribed *Tiy*, 'Tiy'; L: 1.7 cm; W: 1.3 cm.

Tsountas 1887: 169, plate 13: 21-21a; Fimmen 1924: 176, abb. 172; Pendlebury 1930b: 55 (no. 88); Cline 1987: 8-10, figure 3, Table 1 no. D; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 344 (no. 438), plate 53.

19. Scarab. Lapis lazuli. NMA. Area beyond NW side of Grave Rho, Circle B. LH IIA. Egypt. 1450 BC (though debated).

Lapis lazuli scarab; possibly Egyptianizing rather than a true import.

Mylonas says it is part of original remains of Grave Rho; Boufides says it dates to 1700-1600 BC (Hyksos).

Mylonas 1966: 107; Boufides 1970: 273-4, figures 1-2; Hankey and Warren 1974: 145; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 342-3 (no. 436), plate 53.

b. Seals

20. Seal. Faience. NMA no. 9095. Chamber Tomb 517. LH I-IIIB. Syro-Palestine (Mitanni). 1450 BC.

Cylinder seal of blue faience; intaglio with two men with hats/helmets, a rampant wild goat, and a tree; Mitanni 'Common Style'; H: 2.3 cm; Dm: 0.87 cm; Dm (hole): 0.28 cm.

Found within pit in Chamber Tomb.

Wace 1932: 72-3 (no. 32), 197, figure 28, plate 35; Wace and Porada 1957: 201-3, plate 38b; Buchholz 1967: 157 (no. 52); Sakellarakis 1982: 33 (no. 6); Pini 1983: 115, figure 1:6; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 351 (no. 469), plate 13.

21. Seal. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 39-170. North Terrace deposit. LH IIIB1. Syro-Palestine (Mitanni). 13th century BC.

White faience cylinder seal, badly worn; had bird design and three human figures, separated by two trees; Mitanni 'Common Style'; H: 2.7 cm; Dm: 1.0 cm.

Perhaps originally from the Shrine of the Palace (Wace); Lambrou-Phillipson gives this NMA no. 1939.

Wace and Porada 1957: 197-204, plates 37a-b, 38a; Buchholz 1967: 157 (no. 51); Pini 1983: 115, figure 1:5; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 350-1 (no. 468), plate 13.

22. Seal. Haematite. NMA no. 2447. Chamber Tomb 47. LH IIB-IIIA1. Cyprus (or Crete). LC.

Cylinder seal of haematite, badly damaged; Four human figures in a row; H: 2.25 cm; Dm: 1.1 cm; Dm (hole): 0.6 cm.

Tsountas 1888: 151-4, 179-80, plate 10, no. 38; Buchholz 1967: 156 (no. 49); Pini 1980: 81-2 no. C6, 101-2, Abb. 18; Sakellarakis 1982: 30 (no. 3) with references; Porada 1985: 334-6; Sakellariou 1985: 120, 125, plate 34 (no. 2447); Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 354 (no. 482), plate 13; Cline 1991a: 138 (no. 8).

23. Seal/Bulla. Steatite. NMA no. 6511. Chamber Tomb 523. LH IIIA2. Anatolia or Syro-Palestine. LB.

Hemispheroid steatite seal/semi-bulla; engraved with linear characters: a narrow edging of marks all around, with symbols/script inside; diametrically perforated; lentoid, planoconvex; Dm: 2.5 cm.

Hogarth 1920: 23; Wace 1932: 36-7, 203-4, plate 20 (no. 16); Sakellariou 1964: 175 (no. 156); Boardman 1966a: 47-8, figure 1; Boardman 1966b: 267; Erlenmeyer 1966: 49-50, 57, Abb. 1-2; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 355 (no. 485), plate 62; Cline 1991b: 136 (no. 7).

c. Plaques

24. Plaque. Faience. Nauplion Mus. nos. 13-887, 13-888. Room M3, Building M (near North Wall of Citadel). LH IIIB2. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

White faience plaque of Amenhotep III, in two fragments, originally green- or blue-glazed; inscribed *ntr nfr Nb-m3't-r'*, 'the good god, Neb-Maat-Re', on both obverse and reverse sides; Measurements: 7.3 x 7.5 cm; 6.3 x 6.3 cm.

Mylonas 1963a: 67, figure 67; Mylonas 1963b: 101, figure

76; Hankey 1981: 45-6; Cline 1987: 9-10, figure 8, Table 1 no. B; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 345 (no. 447), plate 64; Cline 1990: 200-12.

25. Plaque. Faience. Mycenae Exc. nos. 68-1000, 69-126. Cult Centre, Room 31 (Room with the Fresco). LH IIIB (mid). Egypt. 18th Dynasty. **Plate 6,3.**

Partial white faience plaque of Amenhotep III, originally green-glazed, in two fragments; larger fragment (68-1000) has extant inscription, *ntr nfr Nb-m3't-r' s[3] r[']*, 'the good god, Neb-Maat-Re, s[on of] R[e]', on both obverse and reverse sides; L: 9.8 cm; W: 11.2 cm; Th: 1.25-1.55 cm; smaller fragment (69-126): obverse with two black vertical lines, reverse completely worn away; L: 5.0 cm; W: 4.0 cm; Th: 1.3 cm.

Larger fragment found within Phase VII of room; smaller fragment found within Phase VIII of same room.

Taylor 1969: 95-6; Hankey 1981: 45-6; Harding 1984: 106; Taylor 1981: 49; Cline 1987: 9-10, figure 9, Table 1 no. C; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 345 (no. 448), plate 64; Cline 1990: 200-12.

26. Plaques. Faience. NMA nos. 2566.1-5, 2718, 12582. Area within Citadel, NE of Lion Gate (probably between Buildings M and N). LH IIIB (probable). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Seven fragments of white faience plaques, originally blue- or green-glazed; coming from four to seven original plaques, with varying portions of the inscribed prenomen and nomen of Amenhotep III, *ntr nfr Nb-m3't-r' s3 r' Imn-htp h3k3 w3st di nh*, 'the good god, Neb-Maat-Re, son of Re, Amenhotep, Ruler of Thebes, given life', on both obverse and reverse sides; of varying dimensions.

Tsountas 1891: 18, 23-4, 30, plate III: 3-4; Cline 1987: 9-10, figures 6-7, Table 1 no. A; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 344-5 (nos. 440-6), plate 63; Cline 1990: 200-12.

27. Plaque. Glass. NMA no. 2511. Room Gamma of shrine area of Tsountas House. LH IIIB. Mesopotamia. MB III-LB IIA (16th-13th centuries BC). **Plate 19,2.**

Fragment of nude female plaque (or pendant); in moulded dark blue glass; head and neck only (Muller says portion of naked body once present); head is standing up in relief from a flat plaque with a rounded top; hair fluted above the brow; on unbroken side the hair frames face and ends in heavy curl on shoulder; possible threading hole at shoulder level; H (pres.): c. 2 cm; W (pres.): c. 2 cm.

Tsountas 1886: 78-9; Barag 1970: 188, 190-1; Harden 1981: 40 n. 36; Barag 1985: 38, 45; McGovern 1985: 30, 35, 77, 82; cf. Grose 1989: 39 (colour plate), 47, 58-9 (nos. 1-3), 397 (drawings).

IV. Vessels and Stands

a. Alabastra

28. Alabastron. Alabaster. NMA no. 3252. Chamber Tomb 81 (prob.). LH III. Egypt. 2nd Intermediate Period or 18th

Dynasty.

Baggy alabastron with hole in bottom to make new rim; original rim presumably plugged with separate attachment; converted by Minoans c. MM III-LM I; H (orig.): 26.9 cm; Dm (rim): 6.5 cm (max): 23.5 cm (base, orig.): 10.8 cm.

Found by Tsountas during the 1895 season.

Sakellariou 1985: 266 (no. 3252), plate 130; 3252; Phillips 1991: 842 no. 457.

29. Alabastron. Alabaster. NMA no. 95. Treasury of Atreus; deposit of earth before door. LH IIIA2 (early). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Four fragments of a baggy, flat-bottomed alabastron; wide flat lip.

Wace 1921-3: 356; Pendlebury 1930b: 57 (no. 99); Warren 1969: 108, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 347 (no. 458).

30. Alabastron. Alabaster. NMA. Tomb of Clytemnestra, within doorway and dromos. LH IIIA2 (late)/B1. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Two fragments of a baggy, flat-bottomed alabastron; wide flat lip.

Wace 1921-3: 367; Pendlebury 1930b: 57 (no. 100); Warren 1969: 108, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 348 (no. 459).

31. Alabastron. Alabaster. Mycenae Exc. no. 54-565. House of Shields, Ivory Deposit, NE area. LH IIIB (mid). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Body fragment of an Egyptian alabastron; broken, burnt; H (pres.): 10.0 cm; W: 8.4 cm; Th: 0.06 cm.

Not found by Warren when looked for in 1965, but found again in 1968.

Unpublished.

32. Alabastron. Alabaster. Nauplion Mus. no. 12356 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-787. House of Shields, further extension of East wall, surface. LH IIIB (mid). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Body fragment from large baggy alabastron; H: 8.8 cm; W: 3.1 cm; Th: 1.5 cm.

Wace 1954a: 237; Wace 1954b: 158; Wace 1956: 116; Warren 1969: 108, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 347 (no. 456).

33. Alabastron. Alabaster. Nauplion Mus. no. 12359 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-162. House of Shields, Ivory Area, in SW section. LH IIIB (mid). Egypt. 18th Dynasty. **Plate 7,1.**

Conical, flat-bottomed 'baggy type' alabastron, in eleven fragments: about one-half of jar left; light grey to ivory, with darker grey markings; fluted grey markings around jar; H: 13.4 cm.

Wace 1954b: 158(?); Warren 1969: 108, 114; Lambrou-

Phillipson 1990: 347 (no. 455).

34. Alabastron. Alabaster. Nauplion Mus. no. 14690 = Mycenae Exc. no. 59-230. Citadel House area, North end of Room II below Megaron. LH IIIB (prob.). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Rim fragment from baggy, flat-bottomed alabastron; H: 2.6 cm; W (rim): 3.6 cm; Th (rim): 0.6 cm; Dm (rim): 12.5 cm.

Warren 1969: 108, 114.

35. Alabastron. Alabaster. Mycenae Exc. no. 64-774. Citadel House area. LH IIIC (middle) or Post-Mycenaean. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Small body fragment from baggy flat-bottomed alabastron; H (max): 5.6 cm; W (min): 1.5 cm; W (max): 3.2 cm; Th (min): 0.5 cm; Th (max): 1.1 cm.

Context redated since Warren's publication.

Warren 1969: 108, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 347 (no. 457).

b. Amphorae

36. Amphora. Ceramic. Tomb. LH IIIA. Syro-Palestine. LB.

Canaanite jar; no description available.

Found by E. Palailogou.

Kilian 1988a: 127, figure 4.

37. Amphora. Ceramic. NMA no. 2924. Chamber Tomb no. 58. LH IIIA or B. Syro-Palestine. LB II (15th-14th centuries BC).

Canaanite jar; from area of Tyre; brownish clay with greenish-buff surface layer; angular shoulder; three signs incised on one handle; Raban's Type III: Angular, Classic Jar; H: 5.0 cm; Dm: 25.3 cm.

ountas 1893: 213-4, figures 1-2; Grace 1956: 81-82, 86, 102-3, plate IX: 5-6, figure 8; Akerstrom 1975: 187, 191, figure 11; Raban 1980: 6, Tables D5: 13; E4: 5; Sakellariou 1985: 179, 184, plate 78; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 353 (no. 478), plate 34.

Amphora. Ceramic. NMA no. 2925. Chamber Tomb no. 58. LH IIIA or B. Syro-Palestine. LB II (15th-14th centuries BC).

Canaanite jar; from area of Tyre; brownish clay with greenish-buff surface layer; shoulder less steep and less convex than NMA no. 2924; Raban's Type III: Angular, Classic Jar; H: 48.0 cm.

ountas 1893: 213-4, figures 1-2; Grace 1956: 81-2, 86, 102; Akerstrom 1975: 187, 191, figure 12; Raban 1980: 6, Tables D5: 14; E4: 7; Sakellariou 1985: 179, 184; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 353 (no. 477), plate 34.

39. Amphora. Ceramic. NMA no. 4569. Chamber Tomb no. 95. LH IIIA or B. Syro-Palestine. LB II (15th-14th centuries BC).

Canaanite jar; from area of Tyre; brownish clay with greenish surface layer; plastic neckridge; shoulder flatter, sharper-edged than other jars; each handle incised with a different mark; Raban's Type III: Angular, Classic Jar; H: 54.0 cm; Dm: 25.7 cm.

Grace 1956: 81-2, 86, 88, 100, 104, plate X: 1, 5, 6, figure 8; Akerstrom 1975: 187, 191, figure 13; Raban 1980: 6, Tables D5: 15, E4: 6; Sakellariou 1985: 271, 273, plate 134; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 352-3 (no. 476), plate 35.

40. Amphora. Ceramic. Mycenae Exc. no. 66-518. Citadel House, Room 36, Floor 2. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine. LB II(?). Plate 19,3.

Fragments of one Canaanite jar; shoulder area with handle, plus body fragment with second handle; red clay (grey at core) with very fine grit; red wash surface; carinated with sloping shoulder and tapering lower body; two handles from below carination; H (pres.): 12.5 cm; Dm (shoulder): 26.0 cm; Th: 2.0 cm.

Unpublished, but see Taylour 1981: 40 for description of area and associated finds.

41. Amphora. Ceramic. Mycenae Exc. no. 50-513 = Nauplion Mus. no. 5384. House of the Oil Merchant, among stirrup jars. LH IIIB. Syro-Palestine. LB II. Plate 19,4.

Canaanite jar fragments; thin, buff, sandy fabric; large section with rim, neck, gently sloping shoulder and handle; H (pres.): c. 26.0 cm; Dm (shoulder): c. 27.0 cm; Dm (mouth): 18.0 cm.

Akerstrom 1975: 187; Onassoglou 1979: 36; Yannai 1983: 122 n. 71.

42. Amphora. Ceramic. Mycenae Exc. no. 54-601 = Nauplion Mus. no. 11454. South House Annex storeroom (Room I/Reservoir). LH IIIB2. Syro-Palestine. LB II. Plate 7,2.

Canaanite jar, some fragments of shoulder missing; pale, very hard, buff, sandy clay; surface worn; nearly flat, rather narrow shoulders; fairly short neck; lower body core-shaped, flattened on bottom; deep moulding outside lip; vertical handles below shoulder; red double-axe or butterfly and other design below shoulder; H: c. 50.0 cm.

Bennett 1953: 76-7 (no. 601); Wace 1955a: 179, plate 20b; Wace 1955b: 927, figure 3; Grace 1956: 86-7; Akerstrom 1975: 187-8, 191-2; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 352 (no. 475), plate 34.

43. Amphora. Ceramic. Mycenae Exc. no. 60-214. Debris of area to the north of the South House ('Causeway Deposit'). LH IIIB2. Syro-Palestine. LB II.

Canaanite jar, handle; gritty brick-red fabric, coarse, with much chaff; whitish surface wash; straight-sided jar with sloping shoulder; vertical flattened handle; linear sign inscribed

on handle after firing; possibly Raban's Type II: Bi-Conical Jar; H (handle): 9.0 cm; W (at top of handle): 4.8 cm.

Wardle 1973: 298 (no. 194), 328, 331, figure 18, plate 59d; Helck 1979: 116.

44. Amphora. Ceramic. Mycenae Exc. no. 64-489. Citadel House, wash up against Cyclopean Wall. LH IIIC (middle). Syro-Palestine. LB II.

Canaanite jar, lower body only (without base); very heavy reddish buff fabric with much fine sandy grit; pale whitish buff wash; H (pres.): 10.0 cm; Th: 2.0-4.0 cm.

Unpublished.

c. Bowls

45. Bowl/dish. Faience. NMA no. 2719. Area within Citadel, north-east of Lion Gate (between Buildings M and N). LH IIIB (prob.). Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Fragment of faience bowl/dish; yellow with black design.

Tsountas 1891: 18, 23-4, 30, plate III; Fimmen 1924: 175-6, abb. 171; Hankey 1981: 45-6; Cline 1990: 206.

46. Bowl. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 53-320. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragment of base of white faience bowl; very worn; may once have been green; L (max): 2.7 cm; W (max): 4.0 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

47. Bowl. Diorite or Gabbro. NMA no. 2778. Acropolis (1886). LH I-III. Egypt (possibly via Crete). Predynastic-Early Dynastic Period.

High-shouldered bowl of gabbro or diorite; grey/black/brown with white massed crystals; rope or coil mouldings carved around edge of rim; high shoulders; three pairs of holes on rim near mouth for addition of separate handles; H: 14.0 cm; Dm (max): 25.0 cm; Dm (rim): 18.1 cm; Dm (base): 11.2 cm.

Probably altered by Minoans before reaching Mainland.

Warren 1969: 107, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 348 (no. 460); Phillips 1991: 844 (no. 459).

48. Bowl. Diorite or Gabbro. Mycenae Exc. no. 55-51 = Nauplion Mus. no. 11505. House of the Sphinxes, Room 10, burnt layer. LH IIIB (mid). Egypt (possibly via Crete). Early Dynastic Period/Old Kingdom. **Plate 20,1.**

Rim/body fragment of high-shouldered bowl of diorite or gabbro; grey/white, black, green/black, splodgy; three shallow grooves cut around the flat collar; H (pres.): 6.5 cm; W: 1.2 cm.

Warren says this is a Minoan adaption of an Egyptian vase, with parallels; possibly fallen from upper floor.

Wace 1956: 116, plate 24b; Warren 1969: 107, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 340 (no. 429), plate 73; Phillips 1991: 846 (no. 460).

49. Bowl. Porphyrite. NMA no.? Tomb 515 (Pendlebury) or 518 (Warren). LH I-III. Egypt (possibly via Crete). 1st-4th Dynasty.

Rim fragment of bowl, of porphyritic rock, white crystals in black matrix; small, slightly undercut collar; W: 5.5 cm.

Warren says this is unlikely to be a direct import to the Mainland at this date; more likely came via Crete.

Pendlebury 1930b: 53, 57 (no. 97); Wace 1932: 84, 223; Warren 1969: 107, 114; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 342 (no. 435).

d. Goblets

50. Goblet. Faience. NMA 2372. Chamber Tomb 49. LH IIIA1. Cyprus. LC 1.

Faience goblet with stylized relief lotus petals; five fragments, including two rim fragments, each with traces of one or two pointed petals in relief; traces of yellow and brown glaze.

Tsountas 1888: 155; Cadogan 1972: 10; Peltenburg 1983: 214, figure 539; Sakellariou 1985: 128, plate 35; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 354 (no. 483).

e. Jars

51. Jar. Alabaster. NMA no 829. Shaft Grave V, Circle A. LH I. Egypt (via Crete). 18th Dynasty.

Alabaster jar; originally an 18th Dynasty baggy, flat-bottomed alabastron; modified by MM III-LM I Minoans by being turned upside-down and with addition of spout and gold leaf; wide piriform body; shoulder handles; hollow, footed, moulded base with separate flat plug; holes cut for attachment of separate spout, gold leaf around rim, handles and foot; H: 14.5 cm; Dm (max): 12.3 cm; DM (rim): 6.1 cm; Dm (jar base): 6.0 cm.

Karo 1930: 147, plate 137; Warren 1967: 44 (Q2), plate VII: Q2; Warren 1969: 43, 104, 107-8, 115; Sakellarakis 1976: 177, plate II: 4; Phillips 1991: 839 (no. 455).

52. Jar. Diorite. NMA no 2919. Chamber Tomb 55. LH IIIA or IIIB. Egypt (possibly via Crete). Predynastic.

Heart-shaped jar of diorite; black speckled with white; two horizontal pierced lugs on shoulder; two handles; H: 14.8 cm.

Evans 1928: 31 n 1; Warren 1969: 107, 114; Sakellarakis 1976: 178, plate IV, 8.

f. Jugs

53. Jug. Faience. NMA nos. 123 and 124. Shaft Grave III, Circle A. LH I. Egypt or local. 18th Dynasty (?).

Two fragments of pale-green faience, from a beaked jug; in-

scribed/painted are two men's heads with banded, horned helmets and top of great shields; Shardana?; L: c. 6.0 cm.

Pendlebury thinks it is Egyptian; Hall unconvinced re-Egypt; Foster thinks it is local Mycenaean.

Karo 1930: 60-1, figure 16, plate 23; Pendlebury 1930b: 53, 56 (no. 90); Foster 1979: 125-6, figure 86, plate 33; Schuchhardt 1979: 207-8, figure 198; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 348-9 (no. 462), plate 77.

54. Jug (or Ewer). Alabaster. NMA no. 3080. Chamber Tomb 68. LH II-III. Egypt, via Crete. 18th Dynasty.

Large jug/ewer; high shoulder, tapering body, flat base, no neck or articulated rim, converted from 18th Dynasty baggy, flat-bottomed alabastron in Minoan Crete, original alabastron turned upside-down, original mouth plugged, hole cut out of the original base to receive the separate neck; new neck and handle each separately made of white limestone; an MM III-LM I export to Mycenae; H: 21.3 cm; Dm (max): 21.2 cm; Dm (rim): 4.9 cm; Dm (base): 9.4 cm.

Warren 1967: 48 (Q5); Warren 1969: 43, 44, 107, 108, 115; Phillips 1991: 840-1 (no. 456).

55. Jug. Stone. NMA no. 4923. Chamber Tomb 102. LH II. Egypt (possibly via Crete). 18th Dynasty.

Stone jug; globular body; cylindrical neck; strap handle passing around neck in two prongs; H: c. 18.0 cm.

MM III-LM I export to Mycenae from Crete; Warren corrects for museum number, Pendlebury corrects for findspot.

Bosanquet 1904: 325-6, plate XIVe; Pendlebury 1930b: 57 (no. 98); Warren 1969: 43, 107-8, 115; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 346 (no. 452), plate 74.

g. Kylikes

56. Kylix. Faience. NMA no 7505 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-311. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragments of bowl and base of a kylix; white faience with light blue glaze and brown lines; fragmentary, with glaze almost worn off; X pattern along top of rim and below rim, two horizontal lines 2.2 cm below rim, then vertical lines converging towards bottom; dotted lozenge garland; rosette base; Bowl: H (pres.): 7.3 cm; W (rim): 1.3 cm; Base: H (pres.): 4.2 cm; Dm: 9.4 cm.

Wace 1954a: plate 36a; Wace 1956: plate 18 (drawing); Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171, plate 1d.

57. Kylix. Faience. NMA no. 7506 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-312. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Polychrome faience handle, probably from a kylix; cream coloured; yellow, red and blue lozenges bordered by blue and white squares on either side; H (pres.): 6.7 cm; W: 2.1 cm; Th: 0.6 cm.

Wace 1954a: plate 36a; Wace 1956: plate 21a (drawing); Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171, plate 3 (inset).

58. Kylix. Faience. NMA no 7507 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-314. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Five fragments (joined) of a white faience kylix (like NMA no 7505); very fragmentary; poor glaze; X design along flat top of rim; decoration of brown lines; petals, two papyri and loop (Nile skiff?); L (pres.): 7.0 cm; W (pres.): 4.1 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

59. Kylix. Faience. NMA no 7512 = Mycenae Exc. no. 54-563. House of Shields, north-east area, Section V. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Two fragments of a faience kylix, one from rim (with end of handle); broken, burnt, paint peeling off in places; dark brown/blue decoration; rim fragment has zigzag garland pattern; body fragment has rope pattern; similar to Mycenae Exc. no. 54-416, but not joined; L (rim frag.): 6.0 cm; W: 5.0 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

60. Kylix. Faience. NMA no 7513 = Mycenae Exc. no. 54-564. House of Shields, north-east area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Base fragment of kylix; decoration of lotus blossom, sepals on arcs.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

61. Kylix. Faience. NMA no 7515 = Mycenae Exc. no. 55-216. House of Shields, Area 1, Black layer (= North Room). LH IIIB (mid). Egypt. 18th Dynasty (?).

Part of bowl and base of white faience kylix, with green glaze and black paint; tongue pattern design under rim; flower pattern on body (= lotus flower); lotus base, petal garland; Base: H: 5.1 cm; Dm: 8.7 cm; Bowl: Th (lip): 1.3 cm; H (pres.): 6.6 cm.

Bennett 1953: 25, f. 24; Wace 1954a: plate 36a lower left; Wace 1956: 110, plate 19; Wace and Williams 1963: 11, plate 1a; Peltenburg 1987; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 349 (no. 463), Peltenburg 1991: 171, plate 1b.

62. Kylix. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 53-318. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Three joined fragments of kylix handle with zoomorphic terminal; white faience, brown lines; may once have been green; four parallel lines the length of the handle; Span: 4.7 cm; Distance from bowl: 2.6 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

63. Kylix. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 55-401 = Nauplion Mus. no. 12839. House of Shields, Area VIII, Black layer. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Four fragments including one rim piece, of a white faience kylix with green glaze; very broken, worn and friable; decoration in black paint: band around top of lip; largest piece: 5.2 cm x 2.7 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

64. Kylix. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 55-402 = Nauplion Museum no. 12957. House of Shields, Area I, Black layer. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Four fragments of a white faience kylix; decoration in black paint: row of triangles and row of ovals, separated by double lines; also linked petals, zigzags and lozenges; broken, worn, very friable; largest piece: H: 4.9 cm; W: 9.4 cm; Th: 0.6 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

h. Pyxides

65. Pyxis. Ivory. NMA no 9506. Tomb 88. LH IIIA1. Syro-Palestine or Egypt. LB.

Ivory pyxis, in the shape of a ship; made from lower canine of a hippopotamus; L: 20.2 cm; W: 7.9 cm; Th: 3.3 cm.

Sakellarakis 1971: 188-233, figures 1-2, 13 plates 34-5, 39-40, 46-7; Poursat 1977a: 28; Poursat 1977b: 99 (no. 316), plate XXXIII; Krzyszkowska 1988: 233-4.

i. Rhyta

66. Rhyton. Faience. NMA no 7510 = Mycenae Exc. no. 54-416. House of Shields, north-east area, Sections III, IV, V. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Top half of an elongated-ovoid faience rhyton made in three pieces (neck, shoulders, base); neck splayed with a vertical loop handle; bluish glaze with black or dark brown decoration: diagonal bands with spirals bordered on either side by a sort of rope pattern; badly broken and burnt; H (pres.): 14.6 cm; Dm: 12.5 cm; H (neck): 5.5 cm; Dm (lip): 8.0 cm.

Wace 1956: 111, figure 11, plate 20; Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

67. Rhyton. Faience. NMA no 7511 = Mycenae Exc. no. 54-417. House of Shields, north-east area, Section I. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragment from the lip of a faience rhyton, slightly splaying; dark brown decoration added; on body, head of a man with arm raised in the attitude of a warrior; on lip: running chevron pattern; broken, burnt; H (pres.): 8.0 cm; W: 7.5 cm.

Wace 1956: plate 17c (drawing); Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171, plate 2b.

68. Rhyton. Faience. NMA no. 7514 = Mycenae Exc. no. 55-213. House of Shields, Area VIII, north-west corner. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragment of white faience, possibly from a rhyton; green surface glaze; decoration in black paint of head of a warrior with helmet, arm raised behind head, above this a band with

lozenge design, dots in centre of each; very worn, chipped, friable; H: 3.3 cm; W: 5.0 cm; Th: 1.3 cm.

Wace 1956: plate 17a-b; Wace and Williams 1963: 11, plate 1d; Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171, plate 2a.

69. Rhyton. Silver. NMA no. 388. Shaft Grave IV, Circle A. LH I. Anatolia. 16th century BC (probably).

Silver rhyton cast in shape of a stag, with one antler remaining; spout rising from the centre of its back: Weight 2.5 kg; H: 16.2 cm; H (with antlers): 21.7 cm; L: 25.5 cm; W: 9.0 cm.

New tests indicate it is of silver, not of 2/3 silver and 1/3 lead as Schliemann reported; found in a copper vessel in south-east corner of Shaft Grave.

Schliemann 1878: 257, no. 376; Karo 1930: 94, plates 115-6; Schuchhardt 1979: 245-6, 249, n. 247; Stos-Gale 1985: 72; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 335 (no. 486), plate 76; Cline 1991a: 134-5 (no.3); Stos-Gale and Macdonald 1991: 271-2, 285.

j. Vases

70. Vase. Faience. NMA no. 223. Shaft Grave II, Circle A. LH I. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Faience vase, pale yellow; squat, knobbed, with four legs and traces of black markings on the rim; H: c. 20.0 cm.

Karo 1930: 71, plate 170; Pendlebury 1930b: 55 (no. 89); Foster 1979: 121-2, figure 85; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 348 (no. 461).

71. Vase. Frit (Egyptian Blue). NMA no. 2491. Chamber Tomb 49. LH IIIA. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Vase of Egyptian Blue, inscribed [*Imn*]-*ḥtp ḥk3 w3st*, '[Amen]hotep, Ruler of Thebes'; design of lotus leaves in light and dark blue, with white-filled incisions; H: 11.3 cm.

Tsountas 1888: 156, figures 10, 10a; Hall 1901-2: 188-9, Fimmen 1924: 175, abb.170; Pendlebury 1930b: 56 (no. 91); Sakellariou 1985: 127-8, plate 35; Cline 1987: 8, figure 5, Table 1 no. F; Delivorrias 1987: 150-1, illustration 47; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 345 (no. 449), plate 75.

72. Vase or Krateriskos. Glass. NMA no. 4530. Acropolis. LH III (probably). Egypt. New Kingdom.

Fragment of glass vase/krateriskos; identical in shape to a common type of Egyptian glass vase; brownish in colour with thread decoration in white; probably originally blue, core-formed.

Marinatos 1927-8: 83; Fossing 1940: 25; Weinberg 1961-2: 279; Harden 1981: 31 and n. 6.

73. Vase. Alabaster. NMA nos. 2657 and 6250. Acropolis. LH I-III (probably). Egypt. Old Kingdom.

Two fragments of an alabaster toilet-vase in the shape of a monkey (mother holding her baby); NMA no. 2657 = body,

NMA no.6250 = face; H (approx.): 16.0 cm.

Sakellarakis 1976: 178-9, plate IV, 9; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 342 (no. 434), plate 74; Phillips 1991: 378; Cline 1991c: 38.

k. Vessels

74. Vessel. Faience. NMA no. 7507 (also) = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-313. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragment of polychrome faience vessel; white, yellow and brown decoration; three grayish parallel lines, horizontal; above them a yellow shell, outlined in brown; L (pres.): 4.7 cm; W (pres.): 3.5 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

75. Vessel. Faience. NMA no. 7508 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-315. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Two small white faience fragments from vessel; some glaze; yellow and brown decoration; once possibly blue; bands and petal tips visible on fragments; H (pres.): 4.8 cm; W (pres.): 3.7 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

76. Vessel. Faience. NMA no. 7508 (also) = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-316. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragment of white faience from flat-rimmed vessel; signs of light blue on rim once, possibly also on inside; glaze gone, very worn; H (pres.): 4.7 cm; W (pres.): 4.2 cm; W (rim): 1.3 cm.

Twenty other fragments of various faience vessels are also listed with this Mycenae excavation number, according to Peltenburg. Decoration is dark brown on fragments which have it; one fragment decorated with diagonal stripes; average size: L: 3.5 cm; W: 3.2 cm; Th: 1.2 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

77. Vessel. Faience. NMA no. 7508 (also) = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-317. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Fragment of white (polychrome) faience, decorated; yellow, light blue, brown decoration; worn edges; glaze good; two parallel horizontal blue bands, above them what appears to be a yellow lion's foot, banded in brown; H (pres.): 2.1 cm; W (pres.): 4.4 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

78. Vessel. Faience. NMA no. 7509 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-362. House of Shields, Ivory Area, LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Five fragments of a white faience vessel; worn at edges, fair glaze; yellow, blue, brown decoration; on one sherd the hind-

quarters and tail of a lion in yellow, outlined in brown; on another, the head of a blue bird outlined in brown, with a yellow ground; Lion: L (pres.): 2.3 cm; W (pres.): 2.2 cm; Bird: L (pres.): 2.7 cm; W (pres.): 2.0 cm.

Wace 1956: plate 21b; Wace and Williams 1963: 11, plate 1e; Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

79. Vessel. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 53-319. House of Shields, Ivory Area. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB.

Two fragments of vessel base, of white faience; very worn; H (pres.): 1.4 cm.

Peltenburg 1987; Peltenburg 1991: 171.

80. Vessel. Faience. Nauplion Mus. no. 12209 = Mycenae Exc. no. 53-366. House of Shields, Central part in red fill. LH IIIB (mid). Syro-Palestine (North Syria). LB. **Plate 20,2.**

Faience handle with ears of an animal head at top; condition good but glaze worn; face of animal broken off; rounded on top, flat beneath; grey core, green outside; pattern along handle, up to animal ears in relief; L (pres.): 6.0 cm; W: 1.1 cm.

Peltenburg 1987.

l. Wall-brackets

81. Wall-bracket. Terracotta. NMA no. 2633. Acropolis (probably). LH III(?). Cyprus (Syro-Palestine?). LC.

Terracotta wall-bracket; oblong plate perforated at one extremity with a hole by which it was suspended; lower end forms a scoop-like receptacle.

Stäis 1926: 118 (no. 2633); Leipen 1960: 24; Caubet and Yon 1974: 121 n. 8; Bass, Frey and Pulak 1984: 273, 276.

V. Weapons and Tools

a. Armour Scales

82. Armour scale. Bronze. Mycenae Exc. no. 68-323. Citadel House area. LH IIIC (early). Syro-Palestine. LB. **Plate 20,3.**

Scale of bronze armour; sub-rectangular; top, two sides straight, bottom convex, has rib and groove, 5-6 holes; is from a scale corslet made from several hundred similar scales attached by lacing to a heavy undergarment; L: 5 cm; W: 2 cm.

Widely used in Near East from 16th century on; Helck says possibly Hurrian in origin. Cf. Muhly 1984: 42 n. 15 for recent finds elsewhere in the Mediterranean area.

Catling 1970: 441, 449, figure 1; Karageorghis and Masson 1975: 211-2, figure 4; Helck 1979: 117; Catling 1986: 97.

VI. Weights and Measures

a. Weights

83. Weight. Haematite. Mycenae Exc. no. 60-18. Debris

of area to the north of the South House. LH IIIB2. Syro-Palestine. LB II?

Haematite weight, sphendenoid shape (biconical with truncated ends and flattened on one side); L: 4.6 cm; W (max): 1.9 cm; Weight: 34.5 grams (may be a multiple [3x] of 11.50 gram Hebrew shekel).

Bass 1967: 140, figure 149; Wardle 1973: 298, 337, 340-2, figure 22c; Eran and Edelstein 1977: 56.

84. Weight. Haematite. Mycenae Exc. no. 64-959. Citadel House. LH IIIC (early). Syro-Palestine. LB II? **Plate 20,4.**

Haematite weight, sphendenoid shape; biconical with truncated ends and flattened on one side; ends worn; similar to Mycenae Exc. no. 60-18, but larger and heavier; L: 5.3 cm; Dm (centre, max.): 2.7 cm; Weight (c.): 78.0 grams.

Unpublished.

VII. Raw Material

a. Elephant Tusks

85. Elephant Tusk. Ivory. NMA no. 491. Shaft Grave IV, Circle A. LH I. Syro-Palestine. LB.

Tip of an ivory elephant tusk, apparently unworked.

Karo 1930: 109; Krzyszkowska 1988: 212, 231, plate 24a.

86. Elephant Tusk. Ivory. NMA no. 899. Shaft Grave V, Circle A. LH I. Syro-Palestine. LB.

Tip of an ivory elephant tusk, apparently unworked; L: 3.7 cm.

Karo 1930: 154-5, figure 73; Krzyszkowska 1988: 231.

87. Elephant Tusk. Mycenae Exc. no. 60-108. Outside entrance to Room 1, Citadel House. LH IIIB2. Syro-Palestine. LB. **Plate 20,5.**

Prepared rectangular blank of elephant ivory; L: 11.0 cm; W: 9.3 cm; Th: 0.9 cm.

Wardle 1973: 339-40, figure 23 (no. 60-108); Reese 1985b: 400.

b. Hippopotami Canines/Incisors

88. Hippopotamus Canine. Ivory. Mycenae Exc. no. 62-1058. Room II below Megaron, Citadel House area. LH IIIB. Syro-Palestine (probably). LB. **Plate 20,6.**

One unworked and burnt piece of a large lower Hippopotamus canine (1/3 complete), distal end, fragmented; L: 16.0 cm; W: 7.0 cm; Th: 4.0 cm; Weight: 253 grams.

Found in 1962 excavations by British; room probably a store-room; Gamma 23, Room II, level xvi, no. 148.

Taylor 1981: 33; Krzyszkowska 1984: 124, plate XIIIa; Reese

1985b: 393; Krzyszkowska 1988: 210.

c. Shell

89. Rhyton. Shell, ostrich. NMA no. 552. Shaft Grave IV, Circle A. LH I. Egypt/Syro-Palestine. 18th Dynasty.

Ostrich eggshell converted into rhyton; faience mouth and underpiece; green discoloration on both egg and mouthpiece because they were originally covered with bronze foil.

One of two from this grave; currently associated: faience mouthpiece NMA no. 567, faience underpiece NMA no. 573.

Karo 1930: 114, 116, 239, plate CXLI; Foster 1979: 130-2, figure 87, plate 41; Sakellarakis 1990: 289, 295, figures 24-9; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 349 (no. 464).

90. Rhyton. Shell, ostrich. NMA no. 552.1. Shaft Grave IV, Circle A. LH I. Egypt/Syro-Palestine. 18th Dynasty.

Ostrich eggshell converted into a rhyton, fragments only.

Karo 1930: 239; Foster 1979: 130; Sakellarakis 1990: 289, figure 30.

91. Rhyton. Shell, ostrich. NMA no. 828. Shaft Grave V, Circle A. LH I. Egypt/Syro-Palestine. 18th Dynasty.

Ostrich eggshell converted into rhyton; has faience mouthpiece, gold-covered wooden underpiece, and faience dolphin appliques on shell.

One of two in this grave; currently associated: faience mouthpiece NMA no. 774, gold-covered wooden underpiece NMA no. 651; all added on Crete (Foster).

Karo 1930: 146, 239, plate CXLII; Foster 1979: 130, 132-4, 136-7, figure 88, plate 42; Sakellarakis 1990: 289, 301-3, figures 31-9; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 349-50 (no. 465).

92. Rhyton. Shell, ostrich. NMA no. 832. Shaft Grave V, Circle A. LH I. Egypt/Syro-Palestine. 18th Dynasty.

Ostrich eggshell converted into rhyton; covered with bronze and gold foil sheets fastened through pairs of holes in the eggshell; faience mouth and underpiece.

One of two in this grave.

Karo 1930: 147, 239, plate CXLI; Foster 1979: 130, 132, plate 41; Sakellarakis 1990: 289, 295, figures 40, 42; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 349 (no. 464).

93. Rhyton. Shell, ostrich. NMA no. 2667. Acropolis. LH III(?). Egypt/Syro-Palestine. 18th Dynasty.

Fragments of ostrich eggshell, probably from a rhyton; perhaps from more than one.

Sakellarakis says these are from two shells; Stäis' NMA no. is incorrect (says it is NMA no. 2267).

Stäis 1926: 119 (no. 2667); Karo 1930: 239 n. 2; Sakellarakis 1990: 289, figures 41, 43.

94. Rhyton. Shell, ostrich. Mycenae Exc. no. 62-952. Room II below Megaron in Citadel House area. LH IIIB (mid). Egypt/Syro-Palestine. 18th Dynasty.

Fragment of an ostrich eggshell, probably from a rhyton; thin shell fragment; polished cream yellow outside, slightly rough surface, off-white inside; L (max.): 2.0 cm; Th: 2.0 cm.

Found in Gamma 23, Trench E, Level xiii, no. 135.

Reese 1985a: 373; Mycenae registration card.

VIII. Unknown or Disputed Contexts

a. Vessels and Stands

95. Alabastron. Alabaster. NMA no. 6251. Unknown context. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Baggy, flat-bottomed alabastron; fairly narrow base, ovoid body, large mouth; H: 30.0 cm

Warren says this is probably Pendlebury's no. 101; similar ones at Vapheio and Nauplion.

Pendlebury 1930b: 57 (no. 101); Warren 1969: 114; Sakellarakis 1976: 179; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 369 (no. 521).

96. Alabastron. Alabaster. NMA. Unrecorded tomb. LH IIIA. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Alabaster vase; round shape, flat base, small cylindrical neck; H: 14 cm.

Unpublished, from Tsountas' excavations; restored by Kourachanis.

Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 333-4 (no. 412).

97. Amphora. Alabaster. NMA no. 3225. Chamber Tomb. LH. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Alabaster amphora, with two handles joining the neck; tall, pear-shaped body; rhyton-type neck; ribbed handles; tall spout; small pedestal foot; H: 27.0 cm.

From Tsountas' 1895 excavations; this is not Pendlebury's no. 3225.

Pendlebury 1930b: 57 (no. 102); Warren 1967: 44 (Q3); Warren 1969: 115; Sakellariou 1985: 263, 266, plate 131; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 346-7 (no. 454), plate 74.

98. Jug. Stone. NMA no. 6252. Unknown context. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Body fragment from stone jug; H (original): 30.8 cm.

Pendlebury mistakenly gives this NMA number to another vase.

Pendlebury 1930b: 57 (no. 98); Warren 1969: 115.

99. Pyxis. Ivory. Nauplion Mus. no. 1090. Unknown

findspot. Egypt or Syro-Palestine. LB.

Small ivory neck of a duck pyxis; made from lower canine of a hippopotamus.

Reported as stray find found in 1905; has Nauplion Museum number, but is housed in the Tiryns apotheke.

Krzyszkowska 1988: 234.

100. Vase. Diorite. NMA no. 9739. Unknown context. Egypt (possibly via Crete). 4th-5th Dynasty.

Diorite vase of typical Old Kingdom shape.

Sakellarakis 1976: 179, plate IV, 10.

101. Vessel. Glass. NMA no. 2984. Unrecorded tomb. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Two fragments from a blue glass vessel, with traces of wavy lines; the larger fragment measures: H: 4.5 cm, W: 3.0 cm, Th: 0.8 cm; the smaller fragment measures: H: 3.2 cm, W: 2.5 cm; Th: 0.65 cm.

Possibly Egyptian; from Tsountas' 1893 excavations.

Sakellariou 1985: 214-5, plate 99; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 333 (within no. 410).

IX. Dubious or Problematic Imports

a. Jewellery

102. Bead. Faience. Mycenae Exc. no. 68-1523. Citadel House, Room 19 (Idols), Cult Centre. LH IIIB (mid). Near East(?). LB.

Lantern bead of blue faience; four spokes on either side, plain collars; notched central rib.

The origin of lantern beads is problematic; most likely they were locally manufactured throughout the Aegean and both Eastern and Western Mediterranean.

Unpublished; registration card says Gamma MB, Room 13, Level IV, 30 on plan, within 29 on plan.

103. Diadem. Gold. NMA. Shaft Grave III, Circle A. LH I. Syro-Palestine (Kassite)? LB.

Gold diadem.

Disputed - only the Erlenmeyers suggested this.

Erlenmeyer and Erlenmeyer 1965: 177-8, figures 1-2.

104. Diadem. Gold. NMA. Shaft Grave III, Circle A. LH I. Syro-Palestine (Kassite). LB.

Fragment of possible gold diadem.

Disputed - only the Erlenmeyers suggest this.

Erlenmeyer and Erlenmeyer 1965: 177-8, figures 1-2.

b. Vases and Stands

105. Mortar. Felsite. Mycenae Exc. no. 69-1002. Citadel House. LH III (B?). Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB.

Tripod mortar of igneous rock; black, red and white speckled; shallow, round bowl inside; one surviving leg; H (c.): 10.2 cm; W: 13 x 11 cm.

Probably Cretan or Theran. Cf. Warren 1979 on all of the following mortars.

Unpublished.

106. Mortar. Felsite. Mycenae Exc. no. 66-712. Citadel House. LH III. Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB II.

Tripod mortar of igneous rock; H: 13.7 cm; Dm (rim): 18.0 cm; Th (c.): 2.0 cm.

Probably Cretan or Theran.

Unpublished.

107. Mortar. Felsite. Mycenae no. 66-373/69-445. Citadel House. LH III. Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB II.

Tripod mortar of igneous rock, in two fragments; H: 11.7 cm; Dm (bowl): 20.0 cm.

Probably Cretan or Theran.

Unpublished.

108. Mortar. Felsite. Mycenae Exc. no. 62-20. Citadel House. LH IIIB. Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB II.

Tripod mortar of igneous microdiorite; circular shallow bowl with three squared feet and long spout; H: 11.0 cm; Dm (without spout): 23.0 cm.

Probably Cretan or Theran.

Unpublished.

109. Mortar. Stone. Mycenae Exc. no. 55-255 = Nauplion Mus. no. 11503. House of the Sphinxes, south area. LH IIIB1. Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB.

Hard compact limestone mortar, without feet; shallow basin with square lip; lipped spout; ring base; H: 8.0 cm; Dm: 21.0 cm; Dm (base): 18.0 cm.

Below 'filth from above'; is debated whether local or imported - probably local, since is of limestone; Lambrou-Phillipson

gives this as NMA no. 4576.

Wace 1956: 115-6, plate 24a; Buchholz 1963: 54-5, Abb. 3d, 16; Cadogan 1972: 8 (within no. 31); Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 354 (no. 481), plate 28.

110. Mortar. Stone. Mycenae Exc. no. 68-30. Citadel House area; in corridor to South House Annex (= Room 6). LH IIIB2. Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB.

Three-footed (tripod) hard compact stone mortar; profile over one foot only; pinkish stone with black flecks; shallow bowl with plain rim; broad leg(s) rounded at base; H: 12.7 cm; W (foot): 6.5 cm; Th (min.): 2.6 cm.

Probably Cretan or Theran.

Cadogan 1972: 7-8 (no. 31); Helck 1979: 117; Taylour 1981: 16, 31.

111. Mortar. Stone. Mycenae Exc. no. 62-1341. Citadel House, Room II (= basement?). LH IIIB2. Syro-Palestine (Cyprus?). LB.

Tripod mortar of grey crystalline volcanic stone; thick shallow bowl, three slightly rounded legs; Th (base): 4.0 cm; W (leg): 9.0 cm; L (overall): 20.0 cm.

Probably Cretan or Theran.

Unpublished.

112. Vessel. Glass. NMA no. 2387.8. Tomb 11. LH IIIA. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Glass vessel, in four pieces; largest fragment has the following measurements: H: 2 cm; Dm: 6 cm.

Either Egyptian or local Aegean; positive identification still pending.

Sakellariou 1985: 73, plate 11; Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 333 (no. 411), plate 77.

113. Vessel. Glass. NMA. Tomb. LH IIIA. Egypt. 18th Dynasty.

Vessel of blue glass, with seven horizontal wavy lines on the body; H: 16 cm.

Possibly local Mycenaean; unpublished and reported only in Lambrou-Phillipson 1990; from the excavations of E. Palaologou; positive identification still pending.

Lambrou-Phillipson 1990: 333 (no. 410), plate 77.

Appendix

Egyptian and Near Eastern Objects in Good LHI-III Contexts at Mycenae

<u>Date</u>	<u>Object</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Cat.No</u>
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	7
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	8
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	9
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	10
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	4
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	6
LH I	Bead	Glass	Mesopotamia	5
LH IIIB	Pendant	Glass	Mesopotamia	11
LH IIIB	Plaque	Glass	Mesopotamia	27
LH I	Jar	Alabaster	Egypt	51
LH I	Jug	Faience	Egypt	53
LH I	Vase	Faience	Egypt	70
LH II	Jug	Stone	Egypt	55
LH IIA	Scarab	Lapis Lazuli	Egypt	19
LH III	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	28
LH III	Scarab	Faience	Egypt	14
LH III	Scarab	Faience	Egypt	15
LH III	Vase	Glass	Egypt	72
LH IIIA	Vase	Faience	Egypt	71
LH IIIA2	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	29
LH IIIA2	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	30
LH IIIA-B	Jar	Diorite	Egypt	52
LH IIIB	Plaque	Faience	Egypt	25
LH IIIB	Plaques (4)	Faience	Egypt	26
LH IIIB	Bowl	Faience	Egypt	45
LH IIIB	Bowl	Diorite	Egypt	48
LH IIIB	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	33
LH IIIB	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	32
LH IIIB	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	31
LH IIIB	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	34
LH IIIB	Scarab	Faience	Egypt	17
LH IIIB	Scarab	Faience	Egypt	18
LH IIIB2	Plaque	Faience	Egypt	24
LH IIIB2	Figurine	Faience	Egypt	1
LH IIIC	Alabastron	Alabaster	Egypt	35
LH IIIA	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	36
LH IIIA1	Pyxis	Ivory	Syro-Palestine	65
LH IIIA-B	Tusk	Ivory	Syro-Palestine	3
LH IIIA-B	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	39
LH IIIA-B	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	37
LH IIIA-B	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	38
LH IIIA-B	Pin	Bronze	Syro-Palestine	12
LH IIIB	Statuette	Bronze	Syro-Palestine	2
LH IIIB	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	40
LH IIIB	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	41
LH IIIB	Bowl	Faience	Syro-Palestine	46
LH IIIB	Vessel	Faience	Syro-Palestine	76
LH IIIB	Vessel	Faience	Syro-Palestine	78
LH IIIB	Vessel	Faience	Syro-Palestine	75
LH IIIB	Vessel	Faience	Syro-Palestine	74
LH IIIB	Vessel	Faience	Syro-Palestine	80
LH IIIB	Vessel	Faience	Syro-Palestine	79
LH IIIB	Vessel	aience	Syro-Palestine	77
LH IIIB	Rhyton	Faience	Syro-Palestine	67
LH IIIB	Rhyton	Faience	Syro-Palestine	66
LH IIIB	Rhyton	Faience	Syro-Palestine	68
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	56
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	58

LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	59
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	64
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	63
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	60
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	57
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	62
LH IIIB	Kylix	Faience	Syro-Palestine	61
LH IIIB1	Seal	Faience	Syro-Palestine	21
LH IIIB2	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	42
LH IIIB2	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	43
LH IIIB2	Weight	Haematite	Syro-Palestine	83
LH IIIC	Weight	Haematite	Syro-Palestine	84
LH IIIC	Armour scale	Bronze	Syro-Palestine	82
LH IIIC	Amphora	Ceramic	Syro-Palestine	44
LH III	Scarab	Faience	Cyprus	16
LH III	Wall-Bracket	Terracotta	Cyprus	81
LH IIB-III A1	Seal	Haematite	Cyprus	22
LH III A1	Goblet	Faience	Cyprus	50
LH I	Rhyton	Silver	Anatolia	69
LH I	Pin	Gold	Anatolia	13
LH III A2	Semi-bulla	Steatite	Anatolia	23

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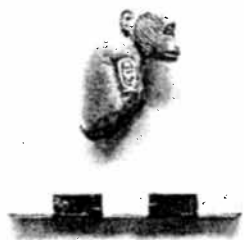
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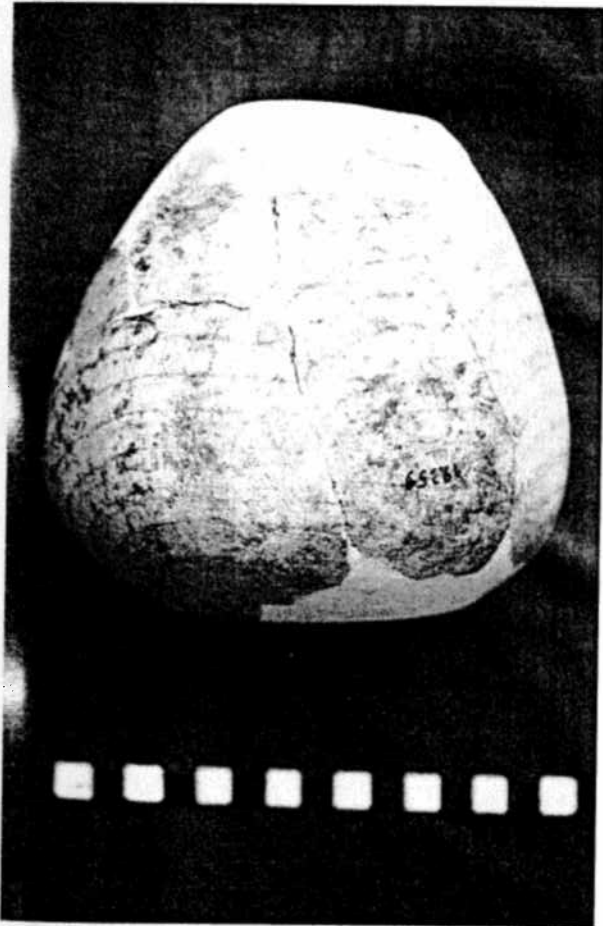
1. Statue-base of Amenhotep III, with Aegean name-rings. Thebes, Kom el-Hetan, 18th Dynasty.



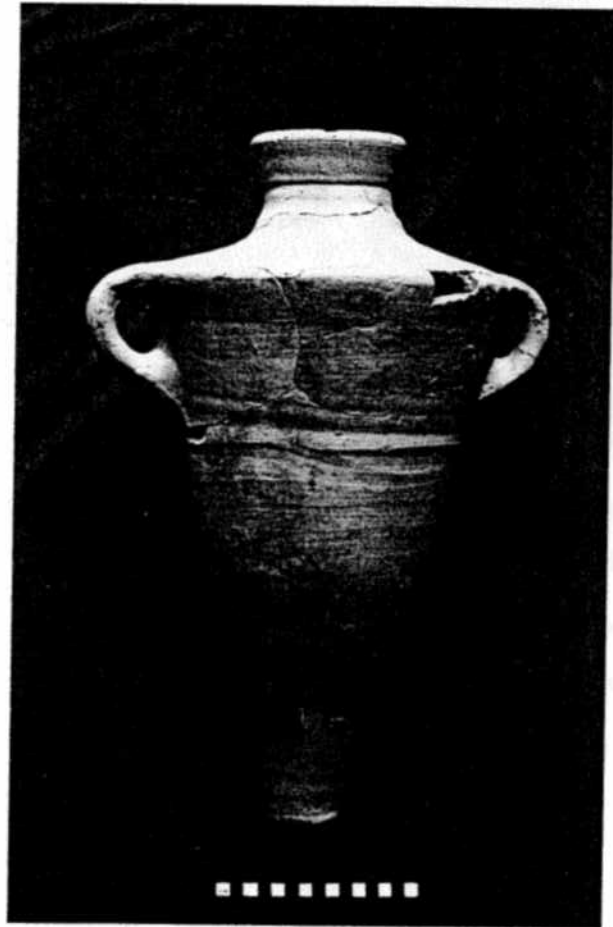
2. Monkey-figurine of Egyptian blue, inscribed with prenomen of Amenhotep II. 18th Dynasty, Cline Catalogue no. 1.



3. Above and below right Faience plaque inscribed on both sides with titles and prenomen of Amenhotep III. 18th Dynasty, Cline Catalogue no. 25.



1. Egyptian alabastron. 18th Dynasty, Cline Catalogue no. 33.



2. Canaanite amphora. Syro-Palestine, LB II, Cline Catalogue no. 42.



1. Glass pendant. Mesopotamia, 16th-13th centuries BC. Cline Catalogue no. 11.



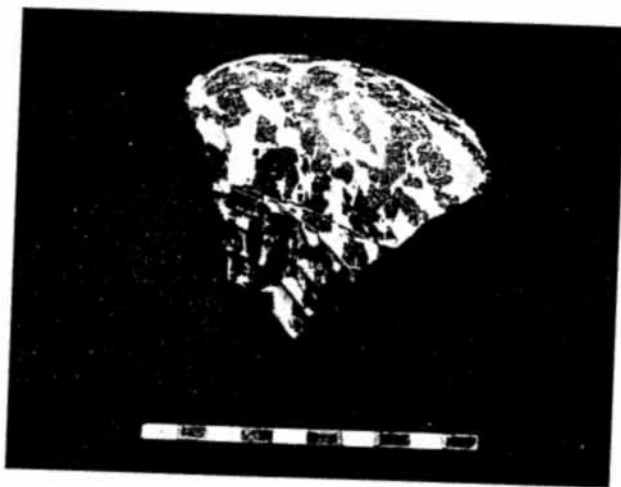
2. Head from glass plaque. Mesopotamia, 16th-13th centuries BC. Cline Catalogue no. 27.



3. Fragments of Canaanite amphora. Syro-Palestine, (?)LB II, Cline Catalogue no. 40.



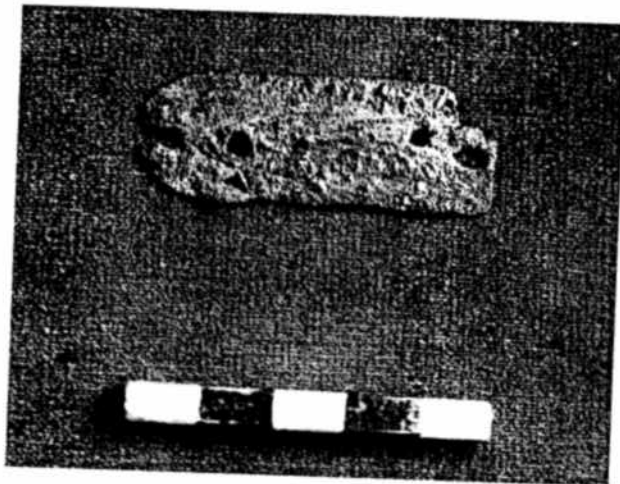
4. Fragments of Canaanite amphora. Syro-Palestine, LB II, Cline Catalogue no. 41.



1. Bowl-fragment of diorite or gabbro. Egypt, Early Dynastic/Old Kingdom, Cline Catalogue no. 48.



2. Handle of faience vessel. Syro-Palestine, LB, Cline Catalogue no. 80.



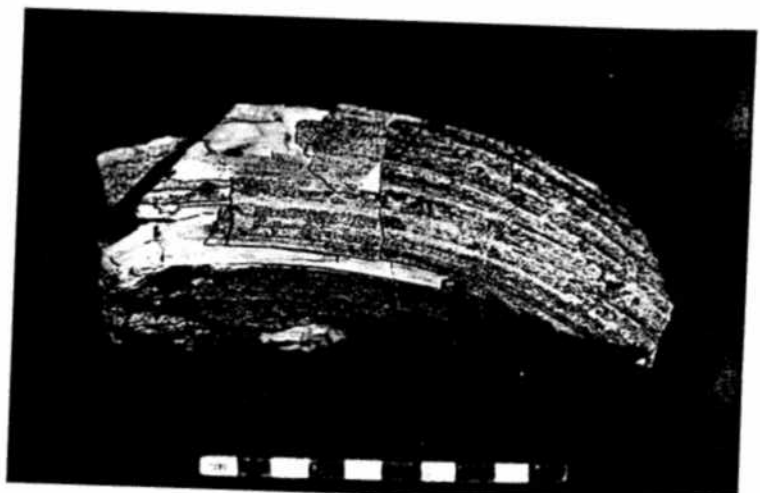
3. Bronze armour-scale. Syro-Palestine, LB, Cline Catalogue no. 82.



4. Haematite weight. Syro-Palestine, (?)LB II, Cline Catalogue no. 84.



5. Blank of elephant ivory. Syro-Palestine, LB, Cline Catalogue no. 87.



6. Piece of hippopotamus canine. Probably Syro-Palestine, LB, Cline Catalogue no. 88.