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# ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL

# THE MYCENAEAN POTTERY OF THE TEMPLE-TEMENOS AREA FROM KOUKOUNARIES (PAROS) AND THE CONNECTIONS WITH THE OTHER CYCLADIC ISLANDS, LEFKANDI AND THE ARGOLID

#### **Stefanos SPANOS**

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**Abstract**: In the 12<sup>th</sup> B.C. a group of Mycenaean refugees fied to Paros and occupied the Koukounaries hill. On the Upper Plateau a mansion was built behind the fortification wall, which comprised a central building and auxiliary buildings. The pottery may be dated to the Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed period (Main occupation) and consists mostly of local clay. The most popular vase type is the deep bowl, as is also the case at the contemporary Cycladic site of Phylakopi on Melos.

South of the Upper Plateau, in the Temple-Temenos area parts of Mycenaean walls were detected. The pottery from the trenches in the area of the later Temple-Temenos belongs to two groups. The earlier of the two should be dated to the Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced–Late period, the White Ware is here missing. The latter group must be dated to the Late Helladic IIIC Late period, the White Ware is present, but also the vessels with hollow rims, ring-based craters were found. The finds can be compared to material from the Upper Plateau (Reoccupation phase), Lefkandi, Kea and the Argolid. Based on this and other evidence, a *koine* is proposed during the Late Helladic IIIC Late Period.

**Keywords:** Paros, Koukounaries, Temple-Temenos, Mycenaean pottery, White Ware.

#### INTRODUCTION

In the 12<sup>th</sup> century B.C. a group of Mycenaean refugees settled down in Koukounaries and transformed the hill into a fortified acropolis<sup>1</sup>.

Koukounaries is situated on the north-west side of Paros, near the southwest shores of Naoussa Bay<sup>2</sup>. The first remains of a settlement on Paros are from Koukounaries, from the Late Neolithic period<sup>3</sup>. From the Early Cycladic period remains were found on Plastiras and in Koukounaries on the Upper and Lower Plateau<sup>4</sup>. From the Middle Helladic and the Late Helladic period pottery and other objects were found in Paroikia<sup>5</sup>. During the Late Helladic IIIC period Koukounaries also was inhabited after a long gap in time. The hill DOI: 10.14795/j.v11i3.1022 ISSN 2360 – 266X ISSN-L 2360 – 266X

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SCHILARDI 2016, 28–29.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> SCHILARDI 1992, 627; ΣΚΙΛΑΡΝΤΙ 1995, 484.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> KATSAROU/SCHILARDI 2004, 23–48.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> SCHILARDI 2016, 84–89

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> RUBENSOHN 1917, 35–36, 70–72; OVERBECK 1989, 14–15, 21.

on Koukounaries was protected by a wall, something which did not happened in Paroikia, because the hill in Paroikia did not present the same irrefutable strategic advantages as Koukounaries<sup>6</sup>.

Excavations were carried out during 1976–1992 by Prof. Demetrius Schilardi. The dig brought to light successive layers of occupation from the Late Neolithic (fifth millennium B.C.) to the Late Classical period<sup>7</sup>.

The site of Koukounaries can be divided into different areas8. Here we will focus on the trenches cut into the later Temple-Temenos Area.

#### **UPPER PLATEAU**

On the Upper Plateau a central building (Mansion) was constructed. Its southern side was protected by a strong wall<sup>9</sup>. The Mansion extended behind this wall and comprised a central building with north-south orientation, corridors and auxiliary buildings. The first corridor starts from the central gate and leads to the interior of the building, and thereafter to the three storerooms. In the west storeroom a high quantity of vases, bronze tools and weapons were found. To the west of this corridor were two rooms; in one of them was discovered a decorated fragment of ivory (from a throne?) that had fallen into the interior of the room from the first floor. The second corridor of the building, which extends from north to south, borders with the east side of the room containing the ivory fragment. It seems likely that above the ground floor a first floor existed, perhaps with a megaron-like hall. The megaron would have been surrounded by roofed corridors, as seen in megaron buildings on the Greek mainland<sup>10</sup>. A megaron was also built at Phylakopi, but it dates to an earlier period<sup>11</sup>.

An important feature is the discovery of an oblong shrine inside the Mansion. Its floor is covered with lime, while on the north side of the room part of the bedrock was used as a bench. In the interior pottery was found as well as a layer of ashes and a leg of a clay bull figurine<sup>12</sup>.

During the Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed period the acropolis was destroyed and perhaps plundered. According to R. Koehl<sup>13</sup>, the burned walls and the thick deposit of ash covering the basement floor seem to provide evidence that the building complex was destroyed in a fire whose intensity would have been fuelled by the olive oil that was stored in the pithoi on both floors. Not only the Upper Plateau but also the Lower plateau was destroyed at the same time or a little later. There followed a period of reoccupation. After the destruction of the Mycenaean building on the Koukounaries Hill in Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced, small areas appear to have been cleared out and reoccupied. Architectural remains

were found in a stratum observed over the large Mycenaean building. The Reoccupation phase (Late Helladic IIIC Late) is represented by walls built across corridors and rooms of the ruined mansion. A wall was built across the staircase leading to the upper floor of the complex. The door on the east side of the complex was also blocked by a wall. The few architectural remains and the paucity of the other finds suggest that this post-destruction phase is associated with a period of poverty and limited building activity when the site was inhabited by a small number of squatters<sup>14</sup>. Mycenaean pottery is found also in other areas of Koukounaries, f.e. the Lower Plateau<sup>15</sup>, the area of the Tombs<sup>16</sup> and the Temple-Temenos Area. Here we should mention a sherd from the Lower Plateau which bears a ship representation<sup>17</sup>. The ship is shown upsidedown and therefore perhaps the representation is that of a shipwreck. Ship representations were recognized on pottery from Melos and from other areas like f.e. Skyros, Tragana, but, if we have a ship- wreck then it is unique. The material from the area of the Tombs is unfortunately very worn<sup>18</sup>. Furthermore, the material of the material of the Temple-Temenos Area is of particular interest.

#### THE TRENCHES FROM THE **TEMPLE-TEMENOS AREA**

We continue now with the material from the trenches of the Temple-Temenos Area, J13-14/Plot 1–2<sup>19</sup>. To the south of the Upper Plateau and the Lower Plateau lies the Terrace of the temple of Athena. On the eastern side of the Terrace rises a temple around 700 B.C. In the front of the temple extends an open paved area called the temenos. This area seems to be destroyed during the burning of the Mycenaean complex on the Upper Plateau or a little later, according to Schilardi<sup>20</sup>. Excavations trenches dug in the temple (J 13–14/ Plot 1) and the temenos (J 13-14/Plot 2) brought to light Mycenaean walls<sup>21</sup>. The Mycenaean pottery from here consists of sherds from more than 300 vessels. Does this pottery belong to the Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed or is it of a later date? Is it from the Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced and the Late Helladic IIIC Late periods<sup>22</sup>?

Do the earlier layers (Temenos, Layers Ttf 10, Ttf 9) belong to the Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced-Late period? The most common finds are the deep bowls. They are linear on the outside and inside or monochrome, or with spiral on the outside and inside being monochrome.

Two sherds have a spiral decoration. The first sherd (Temenos P.1, Fig. 1a-b) with an isolated spiral (FM 52) and medium belly band recalls a deep bowl with isolated spiral (FM 52) from the storerooms from the Main Occupation phase of the Upper Plateau<sup>23</sup>. A medium belly band appears also on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> SCHILARDI 2016, 25, 30, 86–89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> SCHILARDI 2016, 14–17, 77, 84.

<sup>8</sup> SCHILARDI 1991, 224, Fig. 1; SCHILARDI 2016, 16, Fig. 12

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> SCHILARDI 1992, 627–628; SCHILARDI 1995, 486–487; SCHILARDI 2019, 123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> BLEGEN/RAWSON 1966, 76–92, 110–134, 441; IAKOVIDIS 1983, 9, 14, 55.58-59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> BARBER 1987, 62, Fig. 154, 238; ATKINSON et alii 1904, 56–57, Fig. 49. <sup>12</sup> SCHILARDI 1978, 201, Pl. 137b; SCHILARDI 1984a, 190, Fig. 5; KOEHL

<sup>2021, 117-118.</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> KOEHL 2021, 11, 174.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> SCHILARDI 1984a, 203–204; KOEHL 2021, 127.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> SPANOS 2005; SPANOS 2020, 79–88; SPANOS 2023a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> SPANOS 2021b, 241–250.

<sup>17</sup> SPANOS 2020, 79-88; SPANOS 2021a, 100-104.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> SPANOS 2021b, 244-245.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> SCHILARDI 1989, 256, Fig. 2; SPANOS 2023b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> SCHILARDI 2016, 77. <sup>21</sup> SCHILARDI 1984b, 295-300; SCHILARDI 1985, 126-132; SCHILARDI

<sup>1986, 182-197;</sup> SCHILARDI 1989, 256-261.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> SPANOS 2023b.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> KOEHL 2021, 22, 119; SCHILARDI 2019, 69, 130-131.



Fig. 1a-b. Sherd from deep bowl, photograph from Spanos.

deep bowls from Phylakopi (Late Helladic IIIC Early<sup>24</sup>). On a deep bowl from Siphnos<sup>25</sup> with tri-curved bows (FM 62) and spiral (FM 49) we have a medium belly band, just as on finds on Paros and Melos. The second sherd from the Temenos, from a deep bowl (FS 284 or 285) has a spiral (perhaps FM 51) on the exterior and is monochrome on the interior, like a vase from Lefkandi<sup>26</sup> (Phase 3, Late Helladic IIIC) and vases from the Upper Plateau from the Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed, Main Occupation phase<sup>27</sup>.

As far as other pottery from Siphnos is concerned, a deep bowl (FS 284) with a single spiral (FM 51) looks similar to the vases from Paros and Melos<sup>28</sup> and a *krater* fragment from Siphnos<sup>29</sup> from the Late Helladic IIIC Late period, that are similar to a fragment from the Temple-Temenos Area at Koukounaries (see below). These similarities have prompted P. Mountjoy to suggest a *koine* between Paros, Melos and Siphnos during the Late Helladic IIIC Middle period<sup>30</sup>.

Spirals are particularly common on the Upper Plateau, with panel pattern (FM 50) or isolated spiral motifs (FM 52) with a central triglyph (FM 75) or a lone running stemmed spiral (FM 46)<sup>31</sup>. Spirals are very common also on deep bowls from Phylakopi<sup>32</sup>.

Some deep bowl sherds (FS 284 or 285) are monochrome outside and on the inside have a reserved band, similar to examples in the Mansion storerooms from the Destruction period (Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced)<sup>33</sup>, Mycenae<sup>34</sup> (Late Helladic IIIC Late) and Lefkandi<sup>35</sup> (phase 2a, 3).

Another sherd from a deep bowl with a reserved area around the handle has similarities with examples from

- <sup>25</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 888; TELEVANTOU 2019, 212.
- <sup>26</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 721–722, Fig. 277, no.95.
- <sup>27</sup> KOEHL 2021, 23, nos. 126, 128, 93, no. 765.
- <sup>28</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 888; FILIPPAKI 1973, 102. Fig. 14.
- <sup>29</sup> FILIPPAKI 1979, 227, Fig. 1.
- <sup>30</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 45.
- <sup>31</sup> KOEHL 2021, 140.
- <sup>32</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 918-922.
- <sup>33</sup> KOEHL 2021, 26, nos. 146–147.
- <sup>34</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 188–189, nos. 445–446.

Mycenae, Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>36</sup>. One base sherd has on the interior a circular band on bottom and on the exterior, around the base a band, similar to those found in the Upper Plateau from the Main Occupation phase, Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed period<sup>37</sup>. Some deep bowl sherds have a monochrome interior and exterior. We have also monochrome deep bowls from the Main Occupation phase and the Reoccupation phase of the Upper Plateau<sup>38</sup> and from Phylakopi<sup>39</sup> (Late Helladic IIIC Early).

As far as other open shapes are concerned, cups, kylikes, ring-based kraters and one-handled conical bowls can be recognised. Two sherds could belong to banded foot of Kylikes, similar from Upper Plateau from the Main Occupation phase<sup>40</sup> and from Phylakopi<sup>41</sup> (Late Helladic IIIC Early). One or two sherds could belong to one-handed conical bowls. One of them has a band on lip on the exterior and is monochrome on the interior, similar to a bowl from Lefkandi (phase 3,<sup>42</sup>). Another is monochrome on the interior and has two small bands on the exterior, similar from Lefkandi<sup>43</sup> (phase 3). One-handled conical bowls are mentioned from the Upper Plateau (Destruction phase, Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced) but they have a band at the lip on the exterior and on the inside<sup>44</sup>.

As far as cups are concerned, a cup (fig. 2a-c) from the Temenos Area with high base has on the exterior a band at the base of the lip, a wavy band a little lower and a band around the base. On the interior, there is a band at the lip, a line little lower and two lines beneath as well as a circle (or spiral) at the base. The decoration at the exterior is similar to a cup from Kerameikos (FS 216, Late Helladic Late IIIC<sup>45</sup>), a wavy band on the exterior we also have on cups from

- <sup>37</sup> KOEHL 2021, 29, nos. 201, 203, 204, 95, no. 797, 96, no. 798.
- <sup>38</sup> KOEHL 2021, 21, nos. 115–116, 122, 124, 127, 1170–1171.
- <sup>39</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 921–922, Fig. 375, nos. 181–182.
- <sup>40</sup> KOEHL 2021, nos. 19, 29–34.
- <sup>41</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 917–918, Fig. 373, no. 148.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 918–919, nos. 151, 154.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> POPHAM et alii 2006, 189, Fig. 220.7, 190, Fig. 221.3,5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 188–189, Fig. 58, no. 440.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, Late Helladic IIIC Late, 721, 93–94, Fig. 277, POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 187, Fig. 2.19, no. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, Late Helladic IIIC Late, 721, 93–94, Fig. 277, POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 187, Fig. 2.19, no. 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> KOEHL 2021, 31–32, nos. 233, 234, 237.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 622–623, no. 592; KRAIKER/ KÜBLER 1939, Pl.23.

### Studies



Fig. 2a-c. Cup from the Temenos, photographs and drawing from Spanos.

Lefkandi (phase2b/3<sup>46</sup>) and Asine (FS 216, Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>47</sup>) and from Naxos (FS 216, Late Helladic IIIC Middle<sup>48</sup>). As far the interior is concerned, linear decoration is found on cups from Mycenae (FS 216, Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>49</sup>) and Asine (FS 216, Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>50</sup>). Sherds from the Temenos with linear decoration on the inside and on amongst the finds from the Upper Plateau, the Main Occupation phase, Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed<sup>57</sup>.

The material from these earlier layers should be dated to the Late Helladic IIIC advanced –Late. Not only is the decoration of the deep bowls, the spirals, belly bands similar to material from the Main Occupation (Late Helladic



Fig. 3a-b. Rimsherd from ring-based krater, photographs from Spanos.

the outside possibly belong to cups, and recall cups from Mycenae (FS 216, Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>51</sup>) and Lefkandi (FS 216, phase 2a/2b<sup>52</sup>).

As far as ring-based kraters (FS 282) are concerned, two sherds with squared rims have one band outside and inside (or monochrome perhaps) similar to vessels from the Upper Plateau Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced material<sup>53</sup>, and to Lefkandi, phase 2a<sup>54</sup>. One sherd should belong to a lid with a flat top and linear decoration, similar to those from the Upper Plateau, the Main Occupation phase, Late Helladic IIIC Middle developed<sup>55</sup> and from Athens<sup>56</sup>.

As far as the closed vessels are concerned, one body sherd with linear decoration should belong to a straight-sided alabastron. Alabastra with linear decoration are mentioned IIIC Middle developed) and Destruction (Late Helladic IIIC Middle advanced) as well as similar to pottery from Phylakopi (Late Helladic IIIC Early), but also the White Ware is missing in these layers. Nevertheless White Ware was found, though not in abundance, in the Main Occupation Phase from the Upper Plateau<sup>58</sup>.

The other layers must be dated to Late Helladic IIIC Late. The pottery can be compared with the pottery from Lefkandi (phase 2b–3), Kea, Siphnos (see below) and from the late stratum of the Koukounaries Mansion's storerooms. Koehl published from this period in his book about the Upper Plateau more than 30 ceramic specimens from the Reoccupation phase, most of them made in White Ware<sup>59</sup>.

Most common in this material also found in the Temple-Temenos Area is the deep bowl, as well as on the Upper and Lower Plateau<sup>60</sup>. Deep bowls are monochrome on the outside and inside. Their base can be high. Similar examples can be found in the Reoccupation phase from Upper Plateau<sup>61</sup>.

Insofar as the ring-based kraters (FS 282) are concerned, one sherd from a ring-based krater has one band outside

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 182, Fig. 2.15, no. 12.

<sup>47</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 185–186, nos. 427–428.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 956–957 nos. 55–56.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 185–186, Fig. 56, no. 429.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 185–186, nos. 427, 430.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 185, 186, Fig. 56, no. 429.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 156, Fig. 2.08, no. 5, 168, Fig. 2.11, nos. 3, 4, 171, Fig. 2.12, no. 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> KOEHL 2021, 35, no. 259, 153.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> POPHAM/MILBURN 1971, 343, Fig. 6.41.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> KOEHL 2021, 55, no. 450, 75. nos. 621-622.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 601, 603, Fig. 224, no. 501.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> KOEHL 2021, 44, nos. 346, 349, 69, nos. 570–571.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> KOEHL 2021, 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> KOEHL 2021, 127.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> SPANOS 2023a.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> KOEHL 2021, 127, no. 1170–1171.

# Studies



Fig. 4a-c. Cup from the Temple, photographs and drawing from Spanos.

and inside; another (Fig. 3a-b) has three bands outside and one inside, similar to examples from the Argolid (Mycenae-Asine, Late Helladic IIIC Late,<sup>62</sup>), Lefkandi (phase 2b/3<sup>63</sup>) and Kea from the Temple<sup>64</sup> as well as from the Upper Plateau reoccupation layer<sup>65</sup>. The ring-based kraters from the Upper Plateau (Reoccupation phase) are in White Ware and have three bands inside and outside. Ring-based kraters are also found in the earlier layers of the Temple-Temenos Area.

Concerning the other vase types, we have basins (FS 294), cups (FS 216), the sherd of a possible kylix, a lid (FS 334), amphoras (perhaps FS 58) and other closed shapes. A rim sherd from a basin has on exterior a horizontal band and is monochrome on the interior. Basins are mentioned from the Main Occupation Phase of the Upper Plateau but not from the Reoccupation phase, some with linear decoration on the exterior and monochrome on the interior<sup>66</sup>. Basins with linear decoration on the exterior and with monochrome interior are mentioned from Lefkandi<sup>67</sup> (Phase 3).

A cup (FS 216, Fig. 4a-c) with a high base from the Temple area has a band at the base of the rim and two small lower

to an example found in Lefkandi<sup>68</sup> (phase 2b/3). The cup of Lefkandi has a monochrome interior but not a reserved centre. Another cup from Lefkandi<sup>69</sup> (phase 2b/3) and a cup from Kerameikos<sup>70</sup> (Late Helladic Late IIIC, FS 216) have a different decoration on the exterior, but on the interior a reserved centre. A loop starts from a band on a large collar necked jar from the Upper Plateau<sup>71</sup>.

A sherd of a lid with flat top and linear decoration must be mentioned from the Temenos. A lid with a top and linear decoration was found in Asine, Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>72</sup>. The Upper Plateau lids are not mentioned from the Reoccupation phase but only from the Main Occupation Phase<sup>73</sup>.

White Ware is also important to this period. White Ware is found in a destruction layer (Ttc 9) and in other layers as well. It seems that we have two groups: one with whitish clay and slip of the same colour and one with light brown clay with a whitish slip. It is to these two groups that belongs also the White Ware from Lefkandi, Kea and those from the Upper Plateau also belongs<sup>74</sup>. On the Upper Plateau, White Ware occurs in a small number in the Main Occupation



Fig. 5a-c. White Ware, closed vessel, photographs and drawing from Spanos.

bands and monochrome inside with reserved area at the base. A loop (?) seems to start from the band at the lip. The linear decoration on the exterior, but not the spiral, is similar Phase, open (deep bowls, one-handled conical bowls, ringbased kraters) and closed shapes (amphoriskos, large collar

<sup>73</sup> KOEHL 2021, f.e. 55, no. 449, 75, nos. 622–621.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 187–188, nos. 437–438.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 177–178, Fig. 2.13, nos. 7–9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 886; CASKEY 1984, 251, Fig. 9.e.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> KOEHL 2021, 128, nos. 1776, 1177, 194.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> KOEHL 2021, 67, nos. 546–552, 81, nos. 688–689, 97–98, nos. 822–827,

<sup>112,</sup> nos. 1004- 1010, 122, nos.1118-1119.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 195, 196 Fig. 2.25, no.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 182, Fig. 2.15, no. 11.

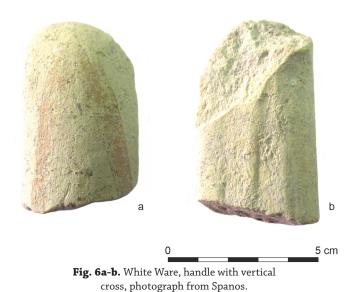
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> POPHAM et alii 2006, 182, Fig. 2.15, no. 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 622–623, no. 592; KRAIKER/ KÜBLER 1939, Pl. 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> KOEHL 2021, 99, no. 835.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 190–191, Fig. 59, no.451.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 865; POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 175; KOEHL 2021, 7.



necked jar or hydria, large jug, small lekythos) are attested<sup>75</sup>. In Lefkandi, White Ware is already present in small quanti-

In Lefkandi, White Ware is already present in small quantities, in the form of deep bowls, kraters, amphoras and jugs from the phase 2a<sup>76</sup>. In phase 2b, White Ware is used more regularly for shapes such as kraters and large closed vessome with circles or other motifs, like a cross on a handle (Fig. 6a-b) and with a circle with crossfilling (Fig. 7a-b). The collar-necked jar (Fig. 5a-c), with a missing mouth and neck, is decorated with two horizontal bands on belly at level of lower handle attachment and a vertical band along the handle and band on the handle. The band on the handle and the bands at the lower handle attachment are similar to those found on vases from the Upper Plateau<sup>79</sup> as well as on a collar-necked jar from Lefkandi, phase 2a<sup>80</sup>. Nevertheless the vertical band is missing.

As far as it concerns the handle from the Temenos that carries a vertical cross (Fig. 6a-b), a similar motif is mentioned on a handle of an amphora (FS 70) from Lefkandi (phase 3)<sup>81</sup>. An amphora (FS 70, White Ware) with cross on the handle is also mentioned from the Upper Plateau from the Reoccupation layer<sup>82</sup>. Other amphoras (FS 70) with a vertical cross are mentioned from Aplomata and Emporio<sup>83</sup>. Antithetic loops (FM 50) are also present on vessels from Mycenae<sup>84</sup> (Late Helladic IIIC Late), Asine<sup>85</sup> and Lefkandi (phase 2a, 2b, 3)<sup>86</sup>. One sherd from the Temenos from a closed vessel shows perhaps a spiral with a cross filling motif. A spiral with cross is also found on White Ware fragment of Siphnos of a straight-sided krater and on a White Ware krater from Kea<sup>87</sup>. A sherd (White Ware, Fig. 7a-b) of a closed

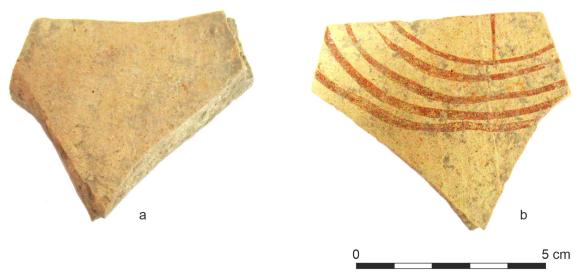


Fig. 7a-b. White Ware, sherd from the Temple, photograph from Spanos.

sels<sup>77</sup>. In Phase 3a, the proportion of White Ware is much higher than that found in Phase 2b and is used particularly for kraters and amphoras/hydrias/jugs, but also for other shapes as well. By Phase 3b, the proportion of White Ware is more than 40 % or even 50% of the whole. Larger vessels and deep bowls are made almost exclusively in White Ware by now yet, but this is not so common for other shapes, such as conical bowls<sup>78</sup>.

The White Ware of the Temple-Temenos Area consists of a closed vessel (collar- necked jar, Fig. 5a-c) and sherds of other closed vessels, one with antithetic loops (FM 50), vessel from the Temple has a spiral perhaps with cross filling. Spiral with cross filling may appear on a fragment of a White Ware straight-sided krater (FS 282) from Siphnos<sup>88</sup> and on a White Ware krater from Kea<sup>89</sup>. Also, one sherd from the Temenos area is from a closed vessel and shows a spiral perhaps with a crossfilling. A vessel (large collar-necked jar)

- <sup>83</sup> MOUNTJOY 2009, 300, Fig. 3–4.
- <sup>84</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 177–178, Fig. 51, no. 390, 187–188, Fig. 57, no. 437.
- <sup>85</sup> MOUNTJOY 2009, 305, Fig. 9. no. 2.
- <sup>86</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, phase 3, Pl.44 a, deep bowl, phase 2a, Pl.47, no. 2, phase 2b, Pl.51, deep bowl, no. 4 (White Ware).
- <sup>87</sup> MOUNTJOY 2009, 304, Fig. 8.3, for Kea and for Siphnos 305, Fig. 9.8.
- <sup>88</sup> MOUNTJOY 2009, 305, Fig. 9.8.
- <sup>89</sup> MOUNTJOY 2009, 304, Fig. 8.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> KOEHL 2021, 7, 23, no. 131, 29, no. 208, 31, no. 233, 35, no. 259, 38, no. 292, 41, no. 326, 46, nos. 363, 372, 102, no. 873).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 151.

<sup>77</sup> POPHAM et alii 2006, 169.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> POPHAM et alii 2006, 175.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> KOEHL 2021, 98, amphoriskos no. 829, collar-necked jar no. 834.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 202, Fig. 230.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 180, Fig. 2.14, no.1; MOUNTJOY 2009, 300, Fig. 4.1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> KOEHL 2021, 128, no. 1178.

from the Upper Plateau has a circle with a cross filling from the Main Occupation phase $^{90}$ .

Also worthy of mention are the hollow rims from the closed vessels (jugs or amphoras) with linear decoration on the interior and exterior, which are similar to examples from the Reoccupation layer above the Mansion store-rooms<sup>91</sup>, Lefkandi (phase 3<sup>92</sup>) and the Argolid (Late Helladic IIIC Late<sup>93</sup>).

These later layers should be dated to the Late Helladic IIIC Late. Pottery like the ring-based kraters and the deep bowls is similar to the pottery from the Reoccupation phase and Lefkandi (mainly Phase 3) but also White Ware is present, like that found on the Upper Plateau during the Reoccupation phase. However White Ware is also present during the Main Occupation Phase, and in others regions like Kea and Lefkandi, while earlier White Ware is present in Lefkandi. If the later layers of the Temple-Temenos Area are from the Late Helladic IIIC Late, then this would mean that the reoccupation happened at the same time as on the Upper Plateau. It's worth mentioning that at one other area of Koukounaries, the Lower Plateau, the reoccupation followed a little earlier and not during the Late Helladic Late, but in the Late Helladic Middle advanced (Spanos 2023a). Does this mean that the people left the Lower Plateau and inhabited than the Upper Plateau and the Temple-Temenos Area?

Besides the pottery in layer Ttf 9 there were two large sea shells. Large shells with holes were found at Phylakopi in the Sanctuary<sup>94</sup>. Except for these shells, however nothing else was found that could be associated with a shrine.

#### **DO WE HAVE ANOTHER KOINE?**

V. Desborough argued for a Mycenaean koine between the Greek mainland and the central, southern Aegean during Late Helladic IIIC95. After the disasters on the Greek mainland, contact with the central Aegean was maintained. S. Deger-Jakoltzy argued against this, stating that despite the uniformity of the pottery, the artistic style should not be called an Aegean koine. Instead, the material culture can be considered characteristic of an international spirit, with the comparability of the artistic styles marked by regionalism<sup>96</sup>. A. Vlachopoulos and M. Georgiadis talk about a strong regionalism and differing developments during Late Helladic IIIC, which cannot support the existence of a *koine*<sup>97</sup>. In the Cyclades there is no uniform picture among the islands during the Late Helladic IIIC period. Each island is open to different influences. The central Aegean has a heterogenous picture.

P. Mountjoy proposed a koine, an East Mainland-Aegean *Koine* for the Late Helladic IIIC Late, based on the appearance of the *amphora* (FS 70) and hydria (FS 128 neck-handled and

long hollow rims), often in White Ware, found in the Argolid and Attica, and on Euboea, Kea, Paros and Chios<sup>98</sup>.

An important piece of evidence, according to Mountjoy, could be the appearance of the straight-sided krater (ringbased krater FS 282) with square rim and corresponding banding on exterior and interior as a feature of the Late Helladic IIIC Late. This krater was, until now, found only in the Argolid, Korinthia and Attica, and on Kea, Euboea, Siphnos and Chios. Recently R. Koehl99 published similar kraters (FS 282) from the reoccupation layer from the Upper Plateau at Koukounaries (see above). The material from the Temple-Temenos Area that was just discussed could perhaps confirm the presence of a koine, i.e. common elements between different regions. In fact, not only do we have at Koukounaries the ring-based kraters with a square rim and banding, but also the sherd with a cross fill from the Temenos and another with the same motif from the Temple area, as well as hollow rims, White Ware, and a handle with a vertical cross. Maybe the material is not enough to attest to a koine between the Cyclades and the other regions. Could the vessels be imports? It is difficult to say. If a koine existed, it would mean that there was a strong connection between the Cyclades and the other regions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> POPHAM *et alii* 2006, 179–180, Fig. 2.14, no. 2; POPHAM/MILBURN 1971, 344–345, Fig. 7.2.

<sup>93</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 175–176, Fig. 50, nos. 377–379.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> RENFEW/CHERRY 1985, 327.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> DESBOROUGH 1964, 228.

<sup>96</sup> DEGER-JAKOLTZY 1998, 115.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> VLACHOPOULOS/GEORGIADIS 2015, 348.

<sup>98</sup> MOUNTJOY 1999, 53-54.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> KOEHL 2021, 128–129, nos. 1176–1177.

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