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EXCAVATIONS AT TRIANDA (IALYSOS) ON RHODES:  
NEW EVIDENCE FOR THE LATE BRONZE AGE I PERIOD

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Εἰς μνήμην  
Άννας Γρηγοριάδου

RIASSUNTO. — I recenti scavi nell'abitato preistorico di Trianda hanno dimostrato che all'epoca della sua massima fioritura (TM IA) l'insediamento si estendeva su un'area di 17,52 ettari ed era uno dei più vasti nell'Egeo. La prima occupazione del sito risale alla Media Età del Bronzo ed è caratterizzata da ceramica di produzione e tradizione locali. Nelle fasi iniziali della Tarda Età del Bronzo (TM IA-IB) l'abitato è caratterizzato da tre fasi edilizie molto ben distinte stratigraficamente: 1) primo abitato databile al TB IA iniziale (TM IA iniziale) distrutto da un terremoto; 2) secondo abitato databile al TB IA evoluto (TM IA evoluto) a sua volta distrutto da un terremoto e ricoperto poco tempo dopo da uno spesso strato di *tephra* eruttata dal vulcano di Thera; 3) terzo abitato databile al TB IB (TM IB) costruito sulle rovine del precedente, ma di più piccole dimensioni e limitato alla parte settentrionale di quello precedente. In quest'area sono stati trovati anche muri micenei e ceramica micenea databile al TE IIIA:1-2.

INTRODUCTION

Rhodes is a large island with a surface area of 1.400 sq km, situated just 11 miles from the coast of Asia Minor, in a strategic position on the routes between the Aegean and the East. The territory of the island in the historical period included part of the opposite mainland, the area known by the term *Rhodian Peraea* (Fraser-Bean, 1954: 51-77). The mainland Rhodian territory was of two kinds, a territory participated in the deme system (Incorporated Peraea) and a territory acquired (Subject Peraea). That is an interesting example of the way the large island was communicating, operating and incorporating the nearby mainland in later historical times. The island is fertile and agriculturally self sufficient.

Trianda lies on the west coast of Rhodes, about 9 kms southwest of the

(\*) Nell'adunanza del 19 giugno 1997.

modern and ancient city of Rhodes, on the fertile plain of Ialysos, north of Mt Philerimos and about 500 m south of the modern coastline. The LB settlement at Trianda lies within the boundaries of the rich Archaic and Classical state of Ialysia. The prehistoric architectural remains are covered by alluvial deposits (locally called *aspropilos*), up to 2 or 3 m thick, formed by the erosion of Mt Philerimos.

The prehistoric settlement was first excavated by the Italian Archaeological Mission in 1936 (Monaco, 1941). The significance of the site has been stressed since Furumark's fundamental 1950 article (Furumark, 1950), which defined the important role of the settlement in Aegean prehistory. Furumark established the chronology of the three different occupation phases of the settlement from LM IA up to LM II/LH IIIA early. Since 1978, 23 rescue excavations conducted by the Greek Archaeological Service at Trianda, have yielded further important evidence about the nature of the settlement (Papazoglou-Manioudaki, 1982; Marketou, 1988; 1990; AD, 1984; 1987; 1988; 1989; 1990; 1991; 1992; 1993; 1994). The excavations, while still in progress, have demonstrated that, during the Late Bronze Age IA, the prehistoric settlement at Trianda on Rhodes was one of the largest towns in the Aegean, occupying an area of 17.52 hectares. One of the first aims of the recent excavations is to elucidate the nature of the LB IA occupation at Trianda and place the site within the wider historical developments in the LB IA Aegean.

The Late Bronze Age settlement shows connections with the nearby settlement at Serayia on Kos and the important sites at Miletus and Iasos in Caria. Other neighbouring sites are on the islands of Kalymnos, Telos as well as the island of Karpathos. Some influences from the large palatial centres of Minoan Crete have also been documented. The excavations have uncovered parts of Late Bronze Age IA town site, comparable to Akrotiri on Thera and considerably larger than Phylakopi on Melos, Ayia Irini on Keos and Kastri on Kythera (Wiener, 1990).

The broader area of Ialysos was first inhabited in the Middle Bronze Age. The LB IA architectural remains belong to two different phases: the first coinciding with the earlier LB IA phase and the second with the mature LB IA phase. The late phase was sealed with volcanic tephra from the Thera eruption. After the eruption the town decreased in size and only its northern part, closer to the coast, remained in occupation. The new settlement was built on top of the volcanic ash layer and a different town plan developed. The late Minoan II town, contemporary with the earlier Mycenaean cemeteries in the nearby hills of Moschou and Macria Vounara, was built on the same site (Maiuri, 1923-1924; Jacopi 1930-1931; Benzi 1992). The recent evidence suggests that life continued in the settlement until at least the LH III A2 period around 1300 B.C. The settlement corresponding to the later periods of the Mycenaean cemetery, which lasted until the LH IIIC has not yet been identified.

#### AIMS OF THE RECENT EXCAVATIONS

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1. The recovery of the plan and size of the successive settlements.
2. The systematic documentation of the stratigraphy and the establishment of chronological synchronisms with other Aegean sites.
3. The understanding of the nature of the community living in Trianda during the different phases.
4. The elucidation of relationships between the local population and the Minoans or other Aegean communities.

The sequence of occupation based upon the up-to-date evidence is the following:

#### THE MIDDLE BRONZE AGE

The character of the LB IA settlement in the plain of Trianda and its relationship to the other sites in the Aegean can now be more fruitfully discussed in the light of new evidence for occupation in previous periods. Therefore the recent excavation at Asomatos on Rhodes (Marketou, 1990a; AD, 1989; 1991; 1994) sheds light on the relatively poor picture of the Early Bronze Age in the island. At Asomatos architectural remains, belonging to megaroid buildings (Marketou forthcoming) were recovered. These remains have similarities to contemporary cultures of the NE Aegean; while quite close connections with Serayia on Kos, and Heraion on Samos. Influences from the Cyclades and inland Asia Minor can also be observed. The Early Bronze Age 2-3 settlement at Asomatos is the earliest nucleated settlement on the island before the settlement at Ialysos (Trianda). The site was abandoned by the end of the Early Bronze Age.

The most recent excavations at Trianda provided evidence for the Middle Bronze Age occupation of the area after the Asomatos period. The chronology of the Middle Bronze Age in the Dodecanese, still under investigation is mainly based on the stratigraphical evidence identified in deep soundings within the prehistoric town of Serayia on Kos (Marketou, 1990: 101-104; AD, 1984: 329-330; 1986: 620-621; 1987: 625). There the MB stratum, usually a thin layer of occupation corresponding to just a single architectural phase lies over the layers of the Early Bronze Age 3 settlement at Serayia. Since then, occupation appears to have been continuous at the site from the end of the Early Bronze Age through Middle and Late Bronze Age.

The first evidence for the period on Rhodes was recovered from unstratified deposits on the acropolis of Ialysos at Mt Philerimos southwest of the temple of Athena Poliàs excavated by the Italians in 1923, 1925; (Hope Simpson-Lazenby, 1973: 137; Benzi, 1984). The pottery was first stressed out by Coldstream as of a MM I date (Coldstream, 1969: 1, note 6), comparable with the Minoan colonial context at Kastri on Kythera. In 1982, M. Benzi in his detailed publication of the Philerimos material proposed a MM IB/MM II date for the most of the finds (Benzi, 1984: 98).

A new site was discovered in 1983 and excavated in 1985 at the north-eastern

side of Mt Philerimos, close to the church of Profitis Elias (Marketou, 1988: 27-28; AD, 1987: 616). Other locations<sup>(1)</sup> (nrs 1 and 2 in plan) yielding similar material in the plain of Trianda, recovered near the Late Bronze Age IA town (AD, 1988; 1990). The area, around 200 m inland of the large Late Bronze Age settlement, was sparsely occupied by clusters of installations, on a low hill, higher than the elevation of the Late Bronze Age settlement. This is now blanketed by recent alluvium. The same phase was also revealed in the deepest layers of the Trianda Late Bronze Age settlement, coinciding only with some parts of it.

These small clusters of habitation are scattered across a large area beyond the outline of the later LB I town, in different parts of the Ialysos plain. Around 700 m to the west/southwest of the main prehistoric settlement, a Middle Bronze age pithos burial was found (pl. I, b). Moreover a new Middle Bronze Age site has also been recently discovered in the northern part of the island, in the area of the prosperous Hellenistic city of Rhodes<sup>(2)</sup> (AD, 1988: 593-594; 1989: 474; 1991: 449).

#### MIDDLE BRONZE AGE ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS

MBA architectural remains were found scattered underneath some of the LB IA walls within the settlement as well as outside it. However it is not yet clear whether they belong to a settlement or are part of the dispersed pattern of habitation extended outside the area of the LB IA settlement. The most characteristic example for a Middle Bronze Age house (nr 1 in plan, pl. I, a) was found at the south part of the plain outside the main settlement (AD, 1988: 612-614; 1989: 502). Although the house has not been completely revealed it does not appear as sophisticated as the elongated megaron type houses of the latest EBA period at Asomatos. There is evidence for a narrow corridor and small spaces, as well as a pebble-paved court to the eastern part of the excavation, closer in layout to the Middle Bronze Age houses of Phylakopi than to the megaron at Asomatos. The walls are constructed of two rows of stones at the faces with a filling of rubble in the middle. The pavements were constructed with beaten earth and pebbles covered with a layer of whitish clay.

In the same plot were found some fragments of white wall plaster of good

(1) The layout of these settlement-clusters, as well as the type of the houses is based on fragmentary evidence from 4 excavations outside the settlement: Profitis Elias on Mt Philerimos, MARKETOU, 1988; nr 1 (Tsakiris' - Marouklas' and Metaxotos' plot): AD 1988: 613-614 for the continuation of the excavation see also nr 1 (Metaxotos' plot): AD 1990: 487-488; nr 2 (St. Liamis' plot): AD 1989: 502, Cavalieros' plot: AD 1992 forthcoming, and four more in the deepest layers in the area of the main Late Bronze Age settlement, nr 12 (Theocharis' plot): some of the walls of phase Trianda I: PAPAZOGLOU, 1982: 142-144, nr 15 (Markos' plot): AD 1984: 325-326, nr 5 (Bourni's plot) and nr 3 (Xenakis' plot): AD 1987: 614.

(2) ABETH, Kostaridis' plot.

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quality. A lot of local pottery was found among the remains. This allowed us to establish a typology of the local wares of the period. This site was abandoned at some stage in the MBA and re-occupied much later during the late Roman and early Christian period, when a cemetery with tombs constructed by tiles, was established in the area around.

MIDDLE BRONZE AGE POTTERY

The wheel-made pottery of the period is of fine quality, made from well prepared clay. The typology of the pottery suggests a continuity in forms and fabrics from the end of the EBA up to the Late Bronze Age. The repertoire of the shapes remains traditional and quite similar to the EBA prototypes: carinated and straight sided cups (fig. 1), high-necked jugs (fig. 2), vases with tubular spouts, amphorae and basins.



Fig. 1 — Trianda. Middle Bronze Age cups.

These are usually unpainted, or red-monochrome. The matt-painted examples are decorated with curvilinear and other geometric motifs. The study of the pottery suggests local production, without obvious imports, except for a part of a jar in Kamares style from the MBA layers within the area of the LB I town as well as one sherd of a cup from Serayia on Kos. There is a local production of carinated cups within the MB pottery at Serayia on Kos, one of them found *in situ* in a kiln. Some of the MB Koan pottery seems rather influenced by the MC matt painted pottery than by Minoan pottery. Examples of MC pottery have been already discussed (AD, 1979: 457). A related example is known from the Vathy Cave on Kalymnos (M. Benzi, personal communication).

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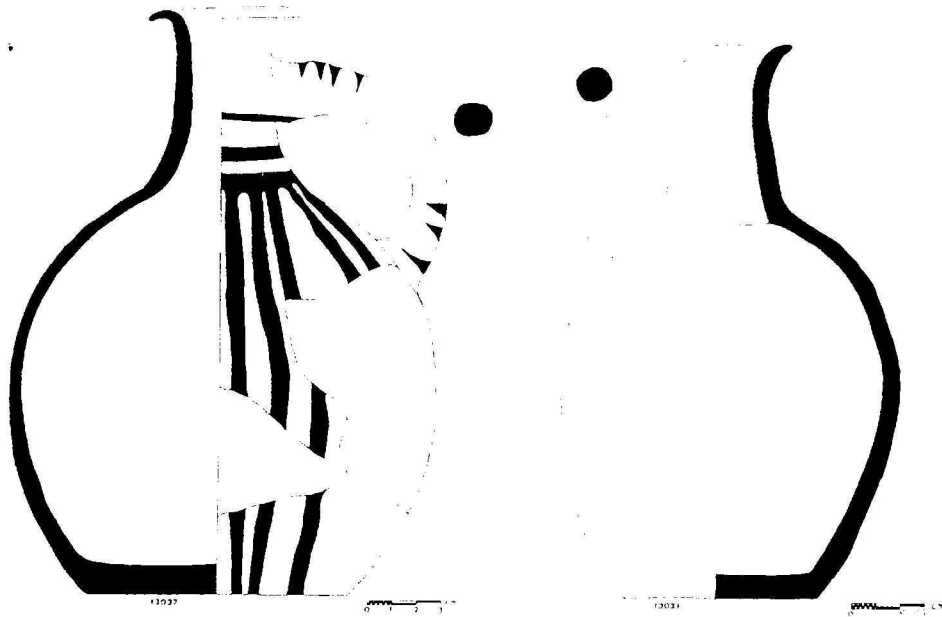


Fig. 2 — Trianda. Middle bronze Age jugs.

*Catalogue of illustrated Middle Bronze Age pottery*<sup>3</sup>

1. (H. 13036). Trianda, plot 1. Carinated cup. Incomplete, less than half preserved. H. 0.065, D. rim 0.133, D. base 0.06. Soft with small grits, white speckles and some golden mica fabric, reddish yellow 7.5 YR 8/6-7/6, grey core. Wheel-rings marks in interior. Reddish yellow slipped in and out. Brownish-red painted on lip, interior of rim and top of handle (fig. 1).
2. (H. 13034). Trianda, plot 1. Carinated cup. Nearly complete, restored. H. 0.065-0.07, D. rim 0.138-0.14, D. base 0.06. Soft with black grits, many white speckles and mica fabric, reddish yellow 5 YR 6/6. Dark reddish brown all over (fig. 1, pl. VI, c).
3. (H. 13063). Trianda, plot 15. Carinated monochrome cup. Partially preserved, restored. H. 0.05, D. rim 0.108, D. base 0.04. Soft, clear with some black inclusions fabric, pink (7.5 YR 7/4). Highly smoothed outside. Dark brownish all over (fig. 1).
4. (H. 13064). Trianda, plot 15. Conical unpainted straight sided cup. Partially preserved. Restored. H. 0.075, D. rim 0.108, D. base 0.04. Hard with some dark and white inclusions and some inclusions fabric, reddish yellow (7.5 YR 7/6). Cloth<sup>2</sup> impression on base (fig. 1).
5. (H. 13032). Profitis Ilias Filerimos. High-necked painted jug, nearly complete, restored. H.

(3) The dimensions of all the illustrated finds are in meters and the colours of the fabric according to Munsell soil values.

0.24, D. max. 0.174, D. rim 0.06, D. base 0.107. Soft pure fabric, very pale brown (10 YR 8/4). Slipped and burnished. Three dark brown horizontal parallel stripes around neck. Four groups of vertical stripes around body. Two short horizontal stripes on top of handle. Painted lip (fig. 2, pl. VI, a).

6. (H. 13033). Trianda, plot 1. High-necked unpainted jug. Nearly complete, restored. H. 0.23, D. max. 0.136, D. rim 0.056, D. base 0.081. Semi-coarse with small and large inclusions fabric, reddish yellow (7.5 YR 7/6) in exterior, grey (2.5 YR 7/4) core and interior. Slightly burnished (fig. 2, pl. VI, b).

#### MIDDLE BRONZE AGE PITHOS BURIAL

The discovery of an individual pithos burial near the prehistoric settlement has provided some evidence for the mortuary practices of the period<sup>(4)</sup>. The four handled pithos was placed on its side and was sealed with a stone slab (pl. I, b). The skull was placed in the base of the jar, and the body set in a crouched position. In an area just west of the above site, which was carefully investigated (Kavalieros' plot: AD 1992 forthcoming), no continuation of the cemetery was found, but a layer of Middle Bronze Age date was investigated in the local *aspropilos* at a depth of 1.80 to 2.30 m. This included many fragments of the characteristic Middle Bronze Age pottery and a large number of fragments of loom-weights. The only evidence of occupation were lumps of clay, but no architectural remains were found.

#### THE LATE BRONZE AGE IA EARLY PERIOD. THE SITE AND THE ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS

The settlement of the Late Bronze Age period at Trianda covered an area of 17.52 hectares. The Bronze Age topography was quite different from what we see today. The plain had some low hills and a different pattern of stream-beds. Trial soundings, one in the stream of Trianda<sup>(5)</sup> (AD 1989: 502) and two closer to the modern streamlet *Potamouli tou Peristeriou* suggested that the LB IA remains have not been interrupted underneath their beds (AD 1984: 327; 1992; 1993)<sup>(6)</sup>. The morphology of the Bronze age coastline was completely different and much closer than today to the Bronze age settlement. Therefore Trianda can be considered as a coastal town. A port must have also existed, as the prosperity of Trianda must have been made largely on its maritime connections with the other so called "Minoanised" sites of the Aegean.

(4) Giannikouris' plot, AD 1990: 487.

(5) Large stream of Trianda.

(6) Nr 4 (Kattavenos' plot) and nr 9 (Platsis' plots).

The peaks of Mt Philerimos could provide an attractive site for a Minoan-type peak sanctuary. Yet the evidence so far does not support such a hypothesis: the majority of the Mt Philerimos finds are earlier than the date of the floruit of the Trianda settlement and they anyway bear no relationship to peak-sanctuary finds<sup>(7)</sup>.

From the beginning of the LB IA until the end of the period, which coincides with the eruption of Santorini<sup>(8)</sup> the town of Trianda reached its maximum size (plan, plots 3-9). The nature of the MBA Trianda settlement pattern appears to be more dispersed than the picture of the next period. However it is possible that this is due to our sampling biases. Moreover many sherds of the so called MM III pottery should be dated in the earlier phase of LB I, or the transitional MM III-LM IA period which is now well defined in Crete by P. Warren (1991) and exists also at Thera and other sites.

Most of the architectural remains of that period have been investigated in small deep soundings underneath the latest phase of the Late Minoan settlement. It is therefore very difficult to reveal the whole plan of the buildings. The construction and the material of the walls are similar to the previous phase. A local characteristic is also the use of lumps of clay as part of the masonry of the upper parts of the walls. The pavements are constructed from beaten earth and small pebbles and are usually covered with a layer of whitish clay, with hollow cavities for post holes. One of the stone bases for a wooden column was found *in situ* at the South-west part of plot nr 16 (AD 1989: 500-501) at the north-western part of the settlement (plan).

The early LB IA phase of the town was destroyed by an earthquake which coincides with the MM IIIB/LIMA or LB IA early destruction as documented at Akrotiri and other sites (Warren, 1990-1991: 29, note 6). The same layout of buildings was in some cases retained during the next period, although a different plan was followed after the second earthquake, which coincides with the volcanic destruction at the mature LB IA period at Akrotiri.

#### THE EARLY LATE BRONZE AGE IA POTTERY

The pottery from these earlier phases is mostly local, made from a soft clay of a rather poor quality compared to that in use in the Middle Bronze Age. The most common open shapes are semiglobular rounded cups (fig. 3), shallow handleless bowls and shallow open lamps. Jugs and the handleless jars used in the cemetery are

(7) According to the research of PEATFIELD (1987; 1990) there are no clear ties between peak sanctuaries and palaces during the old Palace period. That changes in the New Palace period. *Contra* SAKELLARAKIS 1996: 93-94.

(8) In that sense Furumark's phase Trianda I (LM IA) must be retained instead of an earlier MM III date proposed by PAPAZOĞLOU-MANIOUDAKI, 1982.

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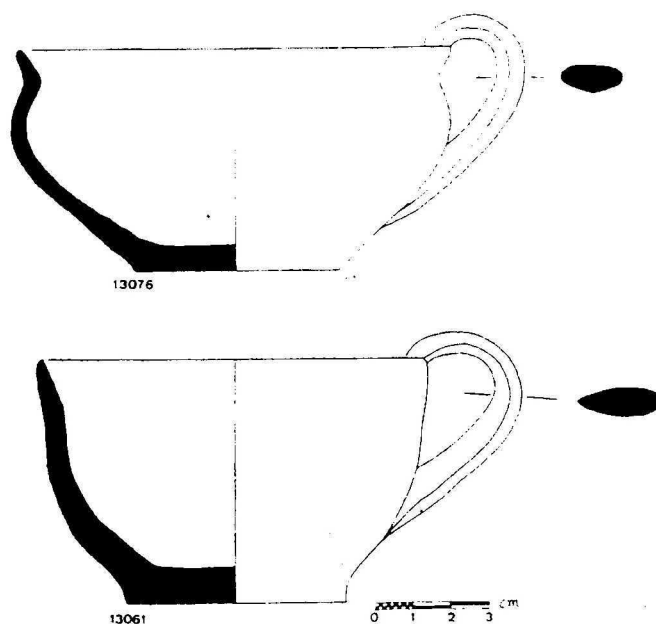


Fig. 3 — Trianda. Early Late Bronze Age IA semiglobular cups.

the most diagnostic close shapes of the period. The decoration is matt and simple with bands or trickle pattern<sup>(9)</sup>.

*Catalogue of illustrated early Late Bronze Age LA/LM LA pottery*

1. (Il. 13076). Trianda, plot nr 3. Rounded unpainted cup. Incomplete mended and restored. H. 0.059, D. rim 0.012, D. base 0.053. Soft with some white speckles and golden mica fabric, pink (7.5 YR 7/4) (fig. 3).

2. (Il. 13061). Trianda, plot nr 15. Rounded cup<sup>(10)</sup>. Nearly complete. Mended. H. 0.064, D. rim 0.10, D. base 0.057. Soft with white and black speckles and mica fabric, reddish yellow (7.5 YR 7/6) (fig. 3).

THE MATURE LATE BRONZE AGE I. THE SITE AND THE ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS

The town was rebuilt after the first earthquake. The architectural remains of the new town seem to have a minoanising appearance, similar to the palaces and

(9) The existence of imported pottery and an attitude of more systematic imitation by local potters are characteristics of the LB IA mature period.

(10) For similar early Neo-palatial cups at Palaikastro see BERNINI, 1993, fig. 3.

villas of Minoan Crete and the buildings at Akrotiri on Thera, with polythra, isodomic façades, and multiple storeys suggested by the thickness of the walls. We have also found a medium size pair of horns of consecration. Fragments of frescoes of remarkable artistic quality were also yielded.

I should first mention the building with the pier-and-door partitions (polythyron) in the north-western part of the town<sup>(11)</sup> (plan, nr 15; pl. II). It is connected with a courtyard to the south. The study of the stratigraphy south and east of the polythyron indicates that the area around the polythyron was disturbed by building activities after the earthquake.

A part of a Late Bronze Age/IM IA late street was excavated close to the western-north-western end of the settlement, around 50 meters northwest of the polythyron (plan, nr 16)<sup>(12)</sup>. It is running north to south and it was found covered by tephra. The street is 3.00 m wide with a raised central paved walk-way 1.30 m wide, and was therefore suitable for the transportation of chariots. Either side of the walk-way the surface of the road consists of beaten earth with small pebbles. Such neopalatial streets are typical in Minoan centres.

The most important buildings, according to recent evidence, are assumed to be located southwest of the old Italian excavations. These buildings following an orientation north-east to south-west occupy a large area of around 130-135 sq m in the middle and south area of the town. A corner built in ashlar masonry was revealed in 1985<sup>(13)</sup>, 120 m south-east of the polythyron (plan, plot 14; Marketou, 1988: 30, fig. 7). Both the walls of the corner were 0.90 m thick. Three bronze Minoan statuettes were found south of this building. Very recent investigations at Trianda allow us to study in more detail the extension of the buildings with ashlar masonry, and to see whether they form one complex or they belong to separated buildings. As the investigation is still in progress I can only point out the nearly same orientation, the same masonry, the large thickness and the presence of fragments of frescoes coming from their interior face, similar to the already known from the old Italian excavations.

All these walls in ashlar masonry are constructed from large porous stone blocks, which were shaped to fit to each other at their edges. The backs of the blocks, being irregular, are filled out with smaller rough stones and pebbles. A second corner in the same masonry was found in 1992-1993<sup>(14)</sup> southwest of the above plot. A small room to the north of it could be interpreted as a light well (AD, 1992; 1993).

Since 1992 an excavation, still in progress in the south-western part of the settlement has uncovered some more thick walls in ashlar masonry. In that area (plan,

(11) Nr 15 (Markos' plot), AD 1984: 325-326.

(12) Nr 16 (Liamis' plot), the street was revealed for 10 m of its total length (AD 1989: 500-501).

(13) Nr 14 (Papaemmanouil-Chalkiopoulos' plot) AD 1987: 614-615.

(14) Nr 9 (Platsi' plot).

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(15) Farmakidou (16) I

plot nr 7) a second polythyron is now appearing<sup>(15)</sup>. The layout of the above structures seem quite similar to the town plan at Akrotiri. Although it would be premature to announce the discovery of administrative public buildings it is possible to identify an élite centre, with perhaps a ceremonial significance, interpreted as such on the basis of the architecture, the frescoes and other ceremonial finds.

The end of the Late Bronze Age IA/Late Minoan IA occupation is sealed by the eruption of the Santorini tephra (Galloway *et al.*, 1990) after a second devastating earthquake. The date coincides with the volcanic destruction of Akrotiri (Marthari, 1984: 119-133; Palyvou, 1984: 134-147; Warren, 1990-1991: 29-30). We have found layers of tephra up to 30 cm thick over open ground areas, such as courtyards and streets. There is also evidence of tephra covering some of the ruined walls and debris coming from the incomplete repairs after the earthquake. The calendar year for the eruption is around 1630 B.C. (Betancourt, 1987; Hammer *et al.*, 1987; Manning, 1994: 200-216) could be supported by archaeological evidence of the stratified material at Serayia on Kos (Marketou, 1990). The study of the samples of stratified charcoals from Trianda are still under investigation in a project with the Democritus Laboratory<sup>(16)</sup>.

The repair phase between the last earthquake and the fall of the volcanic ash, which is also observed at Akrotiri (Doulas, 1978: 780) can be seen clearly on some of the excavated ruins. Ruins and debris covered with tephra as well as some unfinished repairs indicate that the inhabitants had been back after the seismic destruction and started a project of rebuilding a new town which was never completed. Therefore it could be supposed that the population have abandoned the town twice: once after the earthquake and a second time when the tephra began to fall. The estimation of the intervals between the two abandonments is not yet clear (Doulas, 1983: 134). A substantial period is implied by the evidence of both large scale rebuilding and new building activities between the earthquake and the tephra fall.

We also have some evidence for the consequences of tephra fall on the countryside around Trianda. The tephra layer, found at a depth of around 3 m from the surface shows the Bronze Age situation of the landscape of the countryside in the broader area. The presence of Late Bronze Age IA late sherds beneath the tephra layer suggests occasional human activities, though not permanent installation, during the short periods of the abandonment (AD 1987: 618; Doulas, 1988).

#### THE MATURE LATE BRONZE AGE/LM IA PERIOD. THE POTTERY AND OTHER FINDS

The pottery is largely local. Typical very pale brown clay is rather soft and

(15) The excavation had started by the late Anna Gregoriadou is now directed by Miss E. Farmakidou and Mrs F. Zervaki. I thank both of them for the above information.

(16) In collaboration with Prof. Maniatis and Dr. Fakorrelis.



Fig. 4 — Trianda. Mature Late Bronze Age IA bridge spouted jar.

porous. The plain conical cup is the most common vessel in the period at Trianda, just as in all the Minoan and minoanising sites across the Aegean. The conical cups are very often badly and poorly fired and sometimes nearly not fired. They are recovered in large quantities, replacing the one handled semiglobular cups of the previous period<sup>17</sup>. Bridge-spouted jars are common; most have their rims folded back and decorated with dark brown bands of wavy lines, running spirals, interlocking double spirals and festoons (figs 4 and 5). Pithoi, jars, jugs, cups, peg-top (Marketou, 1990: fig. 18) and conical rhyta (fig. 5) and bowls are decorated with dark brown or reddish spirals, reed pattern, ripple pattern and some floral patterns with quirks and lilies, most of them imitating Minoan prototypes. The coarse pottery: fire boxes braziers, tripod cooking vases (fig. 13, pl. VIII, b; IX, a) are made from red hard clay with admixtures.

Moreover there is a very small quantity of Minoan imports, mainly cast Cretan:

(17) All the nearly complete conical cups as well as the metal objects have been recorded in detail and studied by the late A. Gregoriadou. Her manuscripts about this study will appear soon.

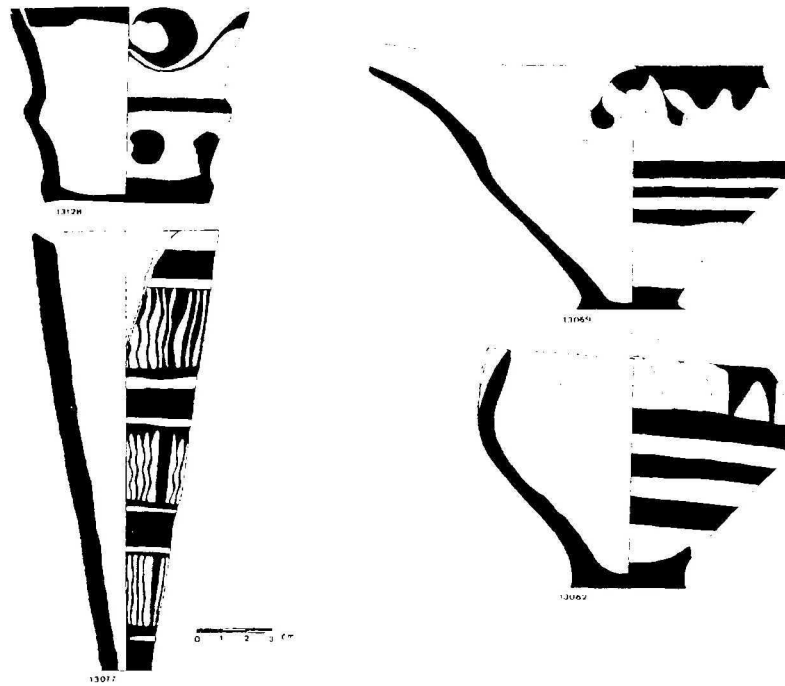


Fig. 5 — Trianda. Mature Late Bronze Age IA bridge spouted jars, Vapheio cup and conical rhyton.

bridge-spouted jars, rhyta and cups. A Vapheio cup which looks local imitates late Helladic prototypes (fig. 5, see note 20). Greek mainland Vapheio cups have been also found at Akrotiri in Thera (Lolos, 1990; Marthari, 1990). The percentage of Minoan and other imports cannot not be estimated yet<sup>(18)</sup>. There is also imported Light on Dark pottery from Serayia which is dated in LB I (Marthari *et al.*, 1990). A handle from an Egyptian jar<sup>(19)</sup> is also found. A group of some jugs and a false necked jar with a dark-brownish paint made by light brown hard clay with large red inclusions is not local, but its provenance remains unknown. It seems however that the imported wares have a rather small percentage.

*Catalogue of illustrated Mature Late Bronze Age IA/LM LA pottery*

Most of the pottery from Trianda is incomplete. Large groups of sherd material are still under restoration, systematic taxonomy and specific statistical analysis,

(18) The project of the detailed recording of the large amount of the material is still under progress.

(19) I would like to thank L. Watrous, for identifying this Egyptian import.

but the catalogued nearly complete and restored vases are sufficient to be representative of the settlement pottery as an introduction. They are mainly locally produced. All of them are wheelmade, unless otherwise stated. The local fabric is soft with black grits, white speckles and some mica, pink reddish yellow/brown peaked around 5 YR 5/4-5/6 and even more 7.5 YR 7/4, 7/6, 8/4 and 8/6.

#### *Painted pottery*

1. (Il. 13013). Trianda, plot 15. Painted large bridge-spouted jar. Incomplete, restored. H. 0.241, D. max. 0.241, D. rim 0.137, D. base 0.10. Soft and porous with some inclusions fabric, pink-reddish yellow (7.5 YR 8/4-8/6). Slipped and painted orange reddish: band and pendant festoon on rim and in a zone underneath the attachment of handles. Row of large running interlocking spirals, connected by diagonal double line, underlined by thick festoon band. A shorter running interlocking spiral to the left of right handle instead of festoons. Bands on lower part. Upper part of handles monochrome. Bands around base of handles and the attachment of spout (fig. 4; Marketou, 1990: 109, fig. 14).

2. (Il. 13069). Trianda, large stream of Trianda. Painted bridge-spouted jar. Nearly complete. Mended and restored. H. 0.099, D. rim 0.102, D. max. 0.125-0.130, D. base 0.44. Rough with many dark speckles and some white, mica fabric, pink (7.5 YR 8/4). Strong wheel-ring marks in interior. Slipped. Dark brownish bands, pendant festoon on exterior of rim (fig. 5, pl. VI, d).

3. (Il. 13062). Trianda, plot 15. Painted bridge-spouted jar. Incomplete, mended. Spout missing. H. 0.88-0.95, D. rim 0.11, D. max. 0.122, D. base 0.046. Soft with some black grits fabric, reddish yellow (7.5 YR 7/6-8/6). Slipped and roughly smoothed. Faint dark reddish brown decoration: horizontal bands, pendant festoon on the exterior of rim (fig. 5).

4. (Il. 13128). Trianda, plot 14. Painted Vapheio cup. Preserved in 1/4. Restored. H. 0.081, D. max. 0.082, D. rim estimated 0.0935, D. base estimated 0.065. Soft and pure, porous with some brown speckles and mica fabric, pink-reddish brown (7.5 YR 7/4-7/6). Slipped and painted with orange-brown: alternative running stemmed scrolls on upper part and frieze of horizontal solid disks on lower part. Bands on rib and in interior of rim. Local imitation of Late Helladic Vapheio cup<sup>(20)</sup> (fig. 5).

5. (Il. 13077). Trianda, plot 3. Conical rhyton, painted. Incomplete, upper part missing. H. preserved 0.176, D. max. 0.074. Soft porous with black grits pink (7.5 YR 8/4) fabric. Strong wheel-ring marks in interior, thick walls. Smoothed and slipped exterior. Faint brownish horizontal bands, added white thin bands and zones with ripple pattern. Band around base (fig. 5).

6. (Il. 13029). Trianda, plot 15. Painted basin. Incomplete and mended. H. 0.12, D. rim 0.34, D. base 0.34. Rough fabric with inclusions, reddish yellow (5 YR 7/6). Slipped in and out. Horizontal inverted rim. Vertical and horizontal handle under rim, dark brownish bands on exterior rim and around base, vertical thinner stripe (fig. 7).

#### *Imports*

7. (Il. 13113). Trianda, plot 15. Painted large stirrup-jar. Incomplete, mended. Part of spout,

(20) I wish to thank professor O.P.T.K. Dickinson for calling my attention on the Mycenaean provenance of this Vapheio cup.

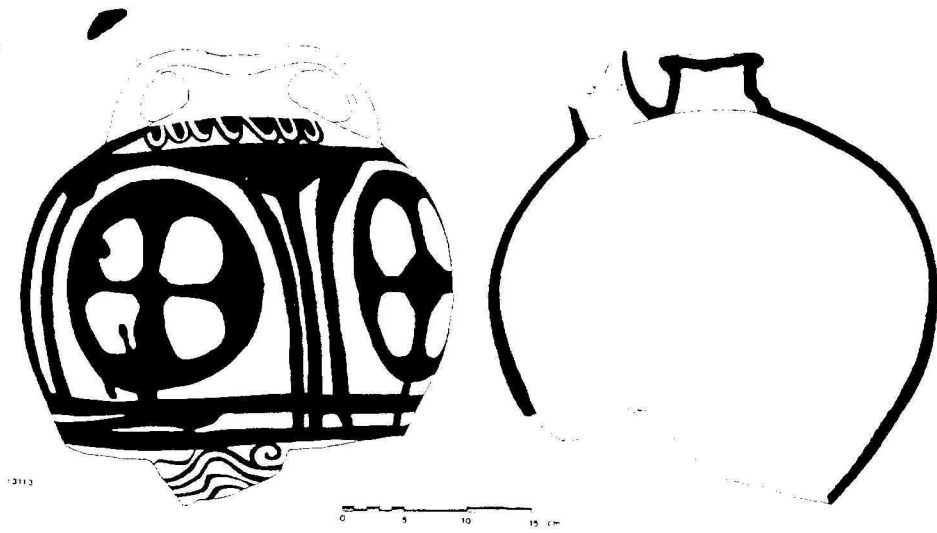


Fig. 6 — Trianda. Mature Late Bronze Age IA stirrup jar.

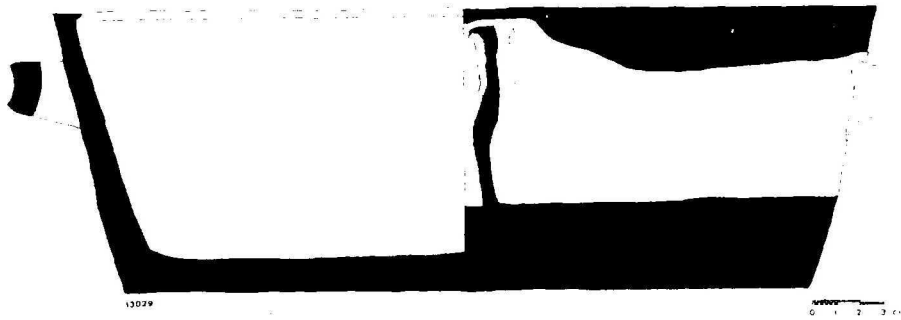


Fig. 7 — Trianda. Late Bronze Age IA lekane.

shoulder, belly, lower body and base missing. H. 0.375, D. max. 0.37. Hard, with many buff pebbles, white speckles and mica fabric, reddish yellow (5 YR 7/8-6/6). Rough and lumpy slipped surface. Squat shape, short neck false mouth with a plastic button in middle. Two vertical handles and strained spout. Faint dark brownish decoration: row of foliate band around shoulder and wavy band beneath, groups of three vertical stripes forming four metopes, each with a wheel-shaped medallion on belly. Two antithetic foliates, separated by a vertical line, around spout. Two horizontal bands and zone of wavy bands with scrolls on lower part (fig. 6, pl. VII, a).

8. (H. 13014). Trianda, plot 15. Painted peg-top rhyton. Partially preserved. H. max. 0.092. Restored, imported. Hard and pure fabric, pink-reddish yellow (5 YR 7/4-7/6). Slipped and painted reddish-orange, dark-orange, added white. Running white speckled eye spiral on shoulder. Reddish orange white speckled bands with a dark-orange band among them and rows of crescents on lower part. Import from Eastern Crete, probably Palaikastro (Marketou, 1991: 109, 111, fig. 18).

9. (H. 15081). Tranda, plot 16. Belly of close painted vase (jug or alabastron-shaped rhyton?); Incomplete, mended from 5 sherds. H. preserved 0.1076. Hard fine with white speckles and small brownish inclusions fabric, reddish yellow (5 YR 6/6). Strong wheel-marks in interior. Shipped and burnished. Shoulder rounded, raised ridge at lower preserved part. Brownish-red decoration, added white. Frieze of continuous medallions with single white speckled ivy leaves whirled around a small circle in centre. Added white dots and thin stripe on outer frame of medallions. Horizontal bands around lower body with added white thin stripes, a wavy stripe and an orange painted band among them. Row with horizontal double scrolls beneath (fig. 8, pl. VII, b). Import probably from Palukastro (personal communication with Dr. J.A. MacGillivray).



Fig. 8 — Tranda, Mature Late Bronze Age IA imported close painted vase.

*-Amphora*

10. (H. 15112). Tranda, plot 15. Painted amphora. Incomplete, mended. H. 0.293. D. max. 0.213-0.22. D. base 0.086-0.09. Porous with rough surface and small black inclusions fabric, reddish yellow (5YR 7/4-7/6). Shipped, faint reddish brown bands on neck, belly and base, thin stripe around rim, trickles around neck, two in exterior and one in interior. Striped diagonally handle (fig. 9).

11. (H. 15111). Tranda, plot 15. Painted amphora. Incomplete, mended. H. 0.46. D. max. 0.268-0.27. D. base 0.146. Rough and porous with inclusions and white speckles fabric, brown (7.5YR 5/2-5/4). Matt surface rather weak painted decoration: diagonal bands from lower part all over shoulder, three horizontal on lower body. (Occasionally trickles (fig. 10, pl. VIII, a).



14. (H. 13028). Trianda, plot 13. Tripod tray. Incomplete. Restored. Missing part of one leg.

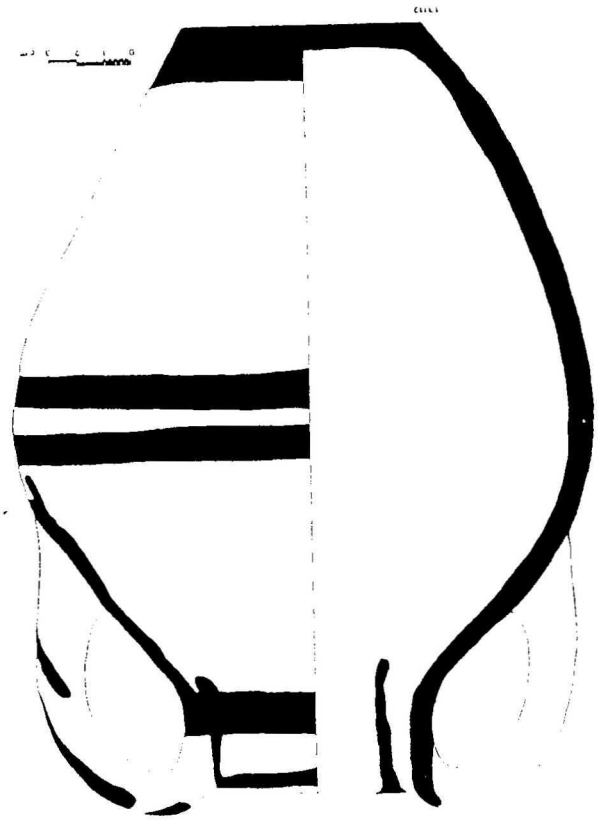
*Cooking pots*

13. (H. 12521). Trianda, plot 3. Painted pithos. Incomplete mended and restored. (One vertical part of both horizontal handles and parts of neck, shoulder and lower body missing. H. 0.64-0.655. D. max. 0.499. D. rim 0.245-0.26. Soft with white pebble-inclusions and porous surface with impressions of pebbles fabric, reddish yellow (7.5 YR, 7/6-8/6). Roughly smoothed on exterior. Handmade. Three vertical strap handles around base of neck, two horizontal handles on base of shoulder. Body built up with zones of clay, neck and rim attached by the potter's fingers after the surface had been scored. Plastic rope attached around base of neck. Dark brownish washy trickie pattern, vertical irregular wavy bands around belly occasionally (fig. 12).

12. (H. 12522). Trianda, plot 3. Painted pithoid amphora. Incomplete and restored. H. 0.496-0.474. D. max. 0.35. D. rim 0.182. D. base 0.174. Soft with some inclusions fabric, reddish yellow (7.5 YR 7/6. Slipped and smoothed. Two vertical handles on base of neck, two horizontal on shoulder. Dark brownish washy reddish paint over rim and upper part of handles, irregular circular, diagonal other bands and trickie pattern all over body occasionally (fig. 11).

*Pithoi*

Fig. 9 -- Trianda. Late Bronze Age I B amphora.



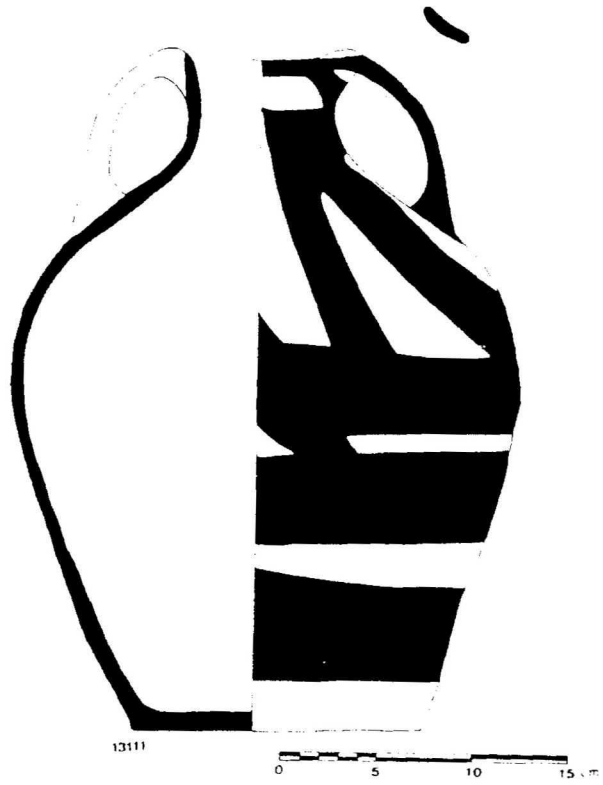


Fig. 10 — Trianda. Late Bronze Age IA amphora.

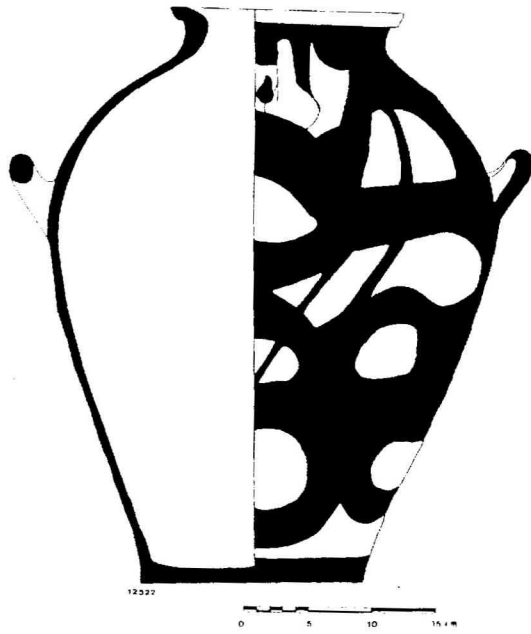


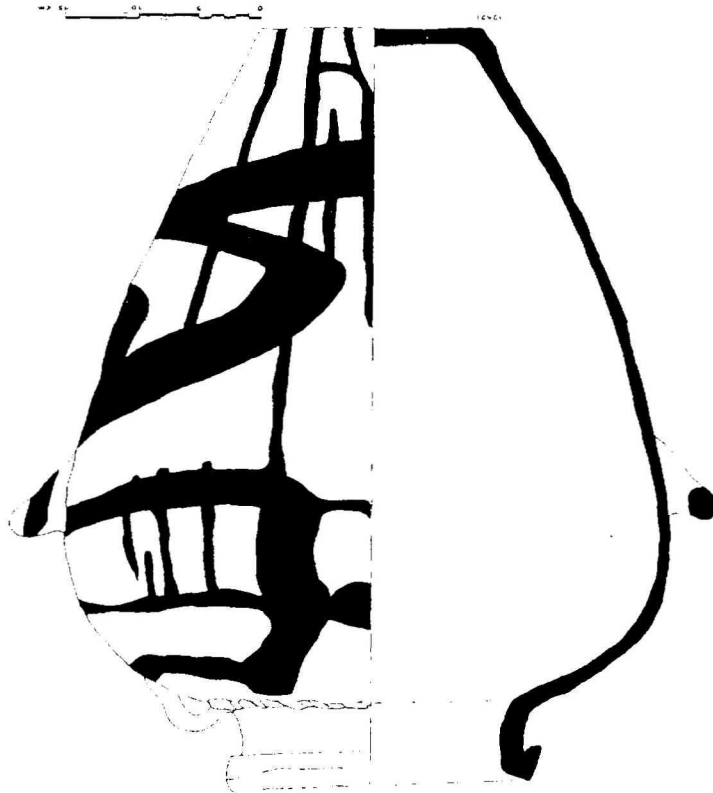
Fig. 11 — Trianda. Late Bronze Age IA pithoi.

18. (H. 12531). Trianda, plot 3. Fire-box of the type of spreading bowl. Nearly complete. Missing part of rim and shoulder. H. 0.104, D. rim estimated 0.24, D. base 0.071. Flat base, flaring side, lip spaying out horizontally. A hole in wall. Traces of burning in interior (fig. 13).
17. (H. 13030). Trianda, plot 13. Fire-box. Nearly complete. H. 0.06, D. max. 0.16. Coarse with inclusions fabric, reddish yellow (5YR 6/6). Traces of burning in interior (fig. 13).

*Fire boxes*

16. (H. 12533). Trianda, plot 5. Tripod cooking pot. Nearly complete. H. 0.19, D. max. 0.17, D. rim 0.162-0.167. Mended and restored. Coarse hard with dark grus and white speckles fabric, light reddish brown (5YR 6/3-6/4) fabric. Strong wheel-rings on interior. Simple everted rim forming a rather simple spout. Traces of burning in exterior, highly burnt in and out spout (pl. IX, a).
15. (H. 13031). Trianda, plot 16. Tripod cooking pot. Incomplete. H. 0.16, D. rim 0.105. Coarse reddish brown (5YR 5/4) with inclusions. Wheelmade, handmade legs. Traces of burning (fig. 13).
- and part of rim. H. 0.18, D. rim 0.36. Wheelmade tray, handmade legs. Coarse yellowish red fabric (5YR 5/6). Traces of burning on top (pl. VIII, b).

Fig. 12 — Trianda. Late Bronze Age IA pit-hor.



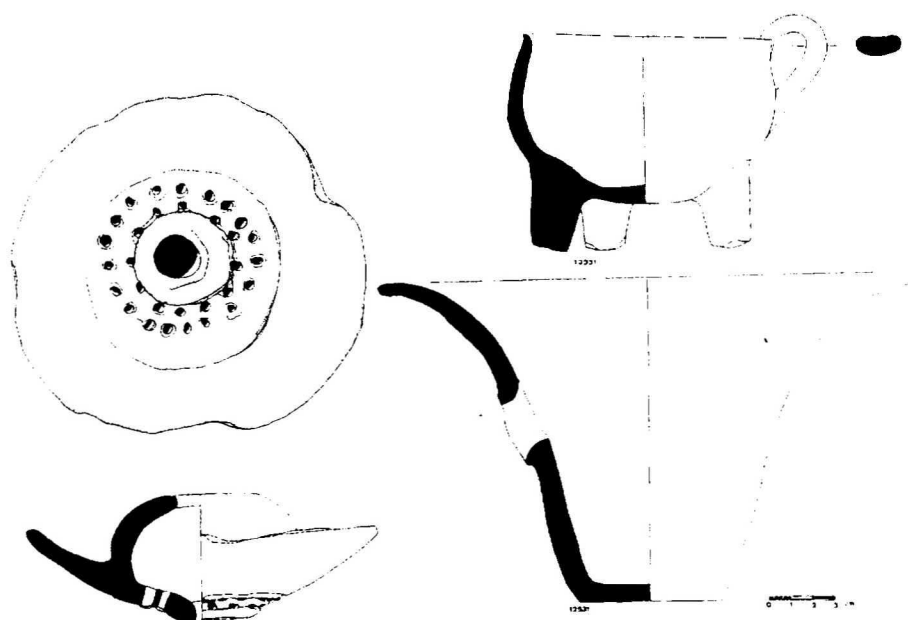


Fig. 13 — Trianda. Late Bronze Age IA Fire boxes and tripod cooking pot.

*Plain ware table ware*

19. (H. 13060). Trianda, plot 15. Small conical plate. Part of rim missing. H. 0.036, D. rim 0.102, D. base 0.042. Soft and pure fabric, very pale brown (10 YR 8/3-8/4). String mark on base (Marketou 1990: 103, fig. 5d).

20. (H. 13059). Trianda, plot 15. Miniature jug<sup>(21)</sup> unpainted. Nearly complete. H. 0.10, D. max. 0.072, D. rim 0.028, D. base 0.036. Soft with white speckles fabric, very pale brown (10 YR 8/3-8/4), (fig. 14).

21. (H. 13103). Trianda, KM 603. Miniature jug unpainted. Incomplete. Mended.

H. 0.09, D. max. 0.062, D. 0.042. Soft uneven fired, porous with gray grits fabric, very pale brown (10 YR 7/4) (fig. 14).

22. (H. 13080). Trianda, plot 16. Lid, monochrome. Nearly intact. H. 0.0175, D. rim 0.087, D. base 0.03. Rather hard porous with black grits and mica fabric, reddish yellow 7.5 YR 7/6. Conical profile, straight splaying lip. Button in centre of interior. Light brownish all over (fig. 14).

The numerous fragments of frescoes from all through the site at Trianda, especially in the areas of buildings in ashlar masonry, suggest that the interior of the

(21) Milk jugs: POPHAM, 1977: 157, pl. 143, 15.16.17; Similar also: CASKEY, 1972: pl. 90, sherd F3.

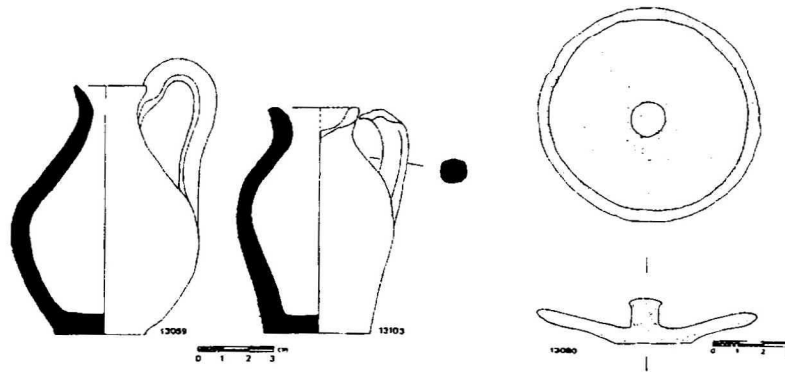


Fig. 14 — Trianda. Late Bronze Age miniature jugs and lid.

buildings were decorated with frescoes depicting naturalistic themes comparable with Phylakopi, Akrotiri and Minoan centres in Crete. Some of the frescoes show red lilies on white (Monaco, 1941: 70-71, pl. VII; Furumark, 1950: 177) or white on red ground (APX 1130, pl. IX, b), yellow lotus or honeysuckles (Monaco, 1941: 88-89, pl. IX). A fragment decorated with double axe and a loop sacral knot was found near the polythyron at Markos' plot. It is observed that most of the recently found frescoes, some of them large blue painted pieces from friezes of the buildings were recovered in the area of the walls in ashlar masonry, from the area suggested above as being the main centre of the Late Bronze Age IA town. An incomplete tripod table of offerings made from fine plaster decorated with a *Neolithic* landscape was found close to the above first mentioned polythyron.

#### *Catalogue of fragments of frescoes*

1. (APX 1130). Trianda, plot 15. Fragment of fresco. Max. dim. 0.105 x 0.105, wall thickness 0.0059. Cracked and mended. White polished and painted surface. Double axe and sacral knot. Yellow (10YR 7/6) double axe with black outline. Thinner vertical and diagonal lines indicate incisions on the surface of the golden like axe. Pendant light blue sacral knot behind, depicted by a loop above the axe and a triangle with diagonal black lines covered by a vertical red band in the middle<sup>(22)</sup>.

(22) The theme is depicted in the small ivory relief from Palaikastro, EVANS, 1921: 433, fig. 310d; in a bridge spouted jug from Gournia. BOYD HAWES, 1908: 44, pl. IX, 12; P.M. I, fig. 310 and rather similar in a pithos: BOYD HAWES, 1908, pl. IX, 28a-b. Moreover it has been interpreted as an Ankh, as it appears in the gold signet ring from the Vapheio tomb: EVANS, 1901: 176, figs 52 and 54, 5-4; DAWKINS, 1904-1905: 284.

Incised decoration on golden double axes are well known from the Cave at Arkalochori in Crete, HAZZIDAKIS, 1912-1913: 46; MARINATOS, 1936: 212, figs 19-20; 1934: 251, fig. 3, as well as in a bronze double axe *ibid.* 1935: 252, fig. 4. The theme is rare in frescoes, except for sacral knots: e.g. IMMERWAHR, 1990: 95, 111.

2. (APN 1131). Trianda, plot 14. Fragment of fresco. Max. dim. 0.0429 x 0.0386, wall thickness 0.0018. White lily on red ground.

Many bronze objects (see note 17), chisels, needles, spear heads, spatulas, one fishing hook, two earrings, several sheets of bronze and lead weights were recovered from the Late Bronze Age IA deposits. The most impressive bronze finds to be added to this list are the three bronze statuettes of adorants, two female and one male. The discovery of these figurines outside Crete is interesting and might throw some light both on the significance of adorants figurines, but also on the impressive complex where they were found. Another Minoan figurine was found in the Kalamonas area in south-western Rhodes<sup>(23)</sup>, a site connected with a LM IA stirrup jar.

According to the evidence from the plot nr 18<sup>(24)</sup>, where the paved walk-way street was found, it could be suggested that there is a metal workshop in the above area, during the next phase of the settlement (LM IB), where waste material, sheets of bronze, fragments of crucibles are found in ash layers. The deposit is well dated from the appearance of characteristic LM IB pottery, moreover some charcoal samples in the process of being radiocarbon dated. The crucibles from the area of the first mentioned polythyron and the Bronze adorants might have been made locally, as the stylistic appearance of the two of them suggests. It is important to stress here the tradition of Telchines<sup>(25)</sup>, a mythology connected closely with metallurgy. Crucibles were also found at Serayia in Kos.

#### THE CEMETERY

The northern limit of the Late Bronze Age town was investigated during the excavations in 1987-1991. The stratigraphy of several deep soundings in the area suggests that the coastline was closer to the settlement in the Bronze Age than it is now. Therefore the old Italian excavations are located towards the northern end of

(23) Kato Kalamonas, location Agriochiroi, BENZI, 1992: 211, 410-411.

(24) AD 1989: 500-501.

(25) The mythology of Rhodes is connected with Telchines who appear as *oikistae*. It is remarkable the quite clear separation of the first settlers of Rhodes to those of Kalymnos and Nisyros-Kos might also possibly included. The minoanising character of Karpathos is also clear in Diod. V, 55.3: «τὴν δὲ νῆσον τὴν ὀνομαζομένην Ῥόδον πρῶτοι κατώκησαν οἱ προσαγορευόμενοι Τελχίνες, ἐνὼ τὴν Κάλυδναν καὶ τὴν Νίσυρον οἱ Κἄρες καὶ τὴν Κάρπαθον ᾤκησαν οἱ μετὰ Μίνω τινὲς συστρατευσαμένων, καὶ ὃν χρόνον ἐθαλασσοκράτησεν πρῶτος Ἑλλήνων».

It seems as if Diodorus had attempted a first approach of cultural assemblages of the above islands. The continuity of the habitation in the area appeared in the mythological tradition as it had been written by Strabo.

Strabo, *Geography*, XIV.7: «Μετὰ τοὺς Τελχίνας οἱ Ἰλιάδαι ὦν ἐνὸς Κερκάφου καὶ Κυδίπτης γενέσθαι παίδας τοὺς τὰς πόλεις κτίσαντας ἐπωνύμους».

the settlement. An excavation<sup>(26)</sup> at the north-north-east of the Italian excavations, nr 17 (plan) has revealed a part of a cemetery with 31 inhumations placed in crouched position in the sandy earth of the area. Among these there were 3 inhumations in jar burials. Between these inhumations and close to a human skeleton, a horse burial, in crouched position, was also discovered (pl. III, b). The horse burial is process of study by Dr. K. Trantalidou and it is hoped that we will find out more about its presence on this context. All the inhumations were found without burial offerings, completely poor, except for the presence of the buried horse, a bull's skull<sup>(27)</sup> and a goat's skull, located 5.00 m south of the group of the burials close to the horse. Due to the lack of offerings and the disturbed stratigraphy of the sandy layers it has been very difficult to date this cemetery.

Another part of the same cemetery was investigated around 160 m east-south-eastward of the previous site at plot nr 18<sup>(28)</sup> (plan), where fortunately the stratigraphy was in a better condition. Some foundations of the LH IIIA2 settlement were preserved in the area, which is very close to its northern end. The 13 inhumations of the site had similarly no offerings. In addition 4 jar burials and two built cist tombs were also found (pl. IV). The burials were scattered among three thick (90 cm) parallel Late Bronze Age IA walls. The relation of these walls with the cemetery and the settlement is not yet very clear. A date between the earlier and later phase of the Late Bronze Age/LM IA could be suggested for this cemetery, according to the stratigraphy and the evidence of an overfired burial pithos, with typical Late Bronze IA early semiglobular cups attached on it (pl. V, a-b).

#### THE LATER PHASES

During the LM IB/LM II period the inhabitants of Trianda built a new settlement, in smaller size, limited to the northern part of the large town of the previous periods, as the southern part was abandoned after the tephra fall. We need to investigate further why the large buildings were never rebuilt again. The tephra was never removed even in the case of structures in the northern part of the area, such as the polythyron and the street in plot nr 15 and 16 (plan). A plausible explanation is that serious geological changes, obliged the inhabitants to change the town plan. One of the innovations of the period was the huge system of two parallel walls built over the tephra layer south of the first polythyron area (pl. II). The complex is interpreted as a flood control structure, rather than a defensive wall. South and close to the above structure a LH IIIA structure of thick walls provides evidence of a similar use.

(26) Kostas' plot, AD, 1988: 616-617.

(27) Bull's skull also found at Toumba tou Skourou: VERMUELE-WOLSKY, 1990: 150. B1 38.

(28) Ioannides' plot, AD, 1988: 615-616; 1989: 501; 1990: 488; 1991: 482-484.

The earthquake could have caused redirection of the streams in different locations from their previous beds as in the case of Tiryns (Zangger, 1991). Deep soundings just south to these walls proved that the area was unoccupied. Although there have not been yet undertaken geological cores at the area, the archaeological stratigraphy suggested that the area south of the flood control systems of both the LB IB and the LH IIIA periods had suffered an early as LB IA flood. An excavation<sup>(29)</sup> revealed a layer including some pottery of this period which was covered by thick alluvial deposit (up to 5 m). There were not architectural remains. The size of this area is impossible to be estimated precisely but it seems to cover the site south to the flood control systems running roughly to the area of the south westernmost walls in ashlar masonry.

During LM IB there are imports from Crete, mainly Marine Style pottery which is frequent over the area of the SE Aegean. Recent excavations at Trianda yielded some more Late Bronze Age IB/LM IB Marine style Pottery (Doumas, 1988: fig. 7)<sup>(30)</sup>. The majority of this pottery is imported (Marketou, 1987: 169; 1988: 31). The previously known imports from Cyprus (Furumark, 1950: 165, fig. 6. 97; Monaco, 1941: 58, fig. 8. 2, 94, fig 41. 12.; Popham, 1963: 92-93 and Catling 1991) increase in number by a few fragments of White slip I milk bowls and one incomplete Base Ring I jug. In addition to local imitations of Floral Style pottery (Marketou, 1988: 31, fig. 10), bowls with wish-bone handles were produced locally imitating the milk bowls of White slip I ware. The new evidence suggests that Rhodes was interacting with Cyprus since the LB IB or even earlier. It is a reasonable question whether they can be reconciled with a picture of Trianda — and probably Thera and Phylakopi (Popham, 1963: 93) — operating under a centralised control from Crete.

The settlement at Trianda was occupied continuously into the LH IIIA2. Yet the town plan of the later periods is not very clear. There are some examples of LH IIIA I houses in the northern area of the settlement<sup>(31)</sup>. The LB IB flood control system in plot nr 15 has been interrupted by a part of a Mycenaean house, while the similar function structure of the Mycenaean period has been removed a little southward (pl. II). Recent remarks on the stratigraphy of the thick flood plain deposit at Trianda in combination with the presence of the above structures, the nature of the soil of Mt Philerimos as well as the possible redirection of the stream banks suggested that the site was abandoned during the later phases of the Mycenaean period. It is obvious that the inhabitants were not any more able to control the torrential floods. The same happened at Tiryns. The phenomenon found its way into the oral tradition and it was later described by Diodorus<sup>(32)</sup>. The

(29) Doukakis' plot, AD 1988: 617.

(30) The LM IB Marine style pottery from Ljamis' plot at Trianda (nota 12) will be studied in detail by my colleague E. Farmakidou.

(31) Plots nr 15, 12 16 and in the area of the Italian excavations.

(32) Diod. V 56.1 and 57.8.



site was never occupied again in antiquity, except for the presence of an early Christian basilica at the north easternmost extend of its area, over the western part of the cemetery (plot 18, nota 28).

#### DISCUSSION

The Late Bronze Age settlement at Trianda on Rhodes must have been an important centre in the Aegean during the crucial LB IA period. Recent rescue excavations provide scattered evidence, something like the pieces of a difficult puzzle and even then for only small areas of the site. The sequence of the occupation in the site and the broader area of Ialysos suggests that the settlement in Ialysos had a long local history before the organisation of the Late Bronze Age IA town. In that sense Trianda cannot be considered as a Minoan settlement colony. The strong Minoan features of the settlement indicate the prosperity of the town. The relationships and interactions with the powerful towns of the Aegean and the Cretan palaces are still being investigated.

The problem of the Minoan Thalassocracy is usually discussed on the basis of the Cycladic evidence at Kastri on Kythera. We still need to explore the problem from a Dodecanesian perspective. The investigation has so far been based mainly on pottery. We need however to know more about the exact situation at other centres such as Ayia Irini, Phylakopi, and Thera (an uncertainty already stressed by Davis - Lewis, 1985: 83). The adoption of Near Eastern administrative systems and the use of orthostats, ashlar façades and various Near eastern motifs (Manning, 1994a: 246) does not mean that Crete was a Near Eastern colony. On the other hand minoanising architecture appearing in Kos has several peculiar characteristics: a polythyron decorated with blocks of fossil stone, selected in purpose as a decorative element<sup>(33)</sup> or other features as e.g. orthostats were not made by Minoan technicians. Ceramic continuity is apparent in both EB-MB and MB-LB I transitions in both Rhodes and Kos. The character of the EB pottery is not Minoan. There is no EM pottery in Rhodes and Kos (misunderstood by Melas, 1988: 300-302, nr 1<sup>(34)</sup>).

To support moreover a theory of a settlement colony we also need to consider the size of the well-known Minoanised settlements of the Aegean. Kastri on Kythera covers an area of just 1 hectare (Coldstream-Huxley, 1972: 67-76, fig. 3) Phylakopi only 2 hectares (Wagstaff-Cherry, 1982: 139-140).

The remarks suggested by the above evidence are strong enough to support that Trianda could not have been a *settlement colony* (Branigan, 1981: 26; 1984;

(33) Koutsourades' plot, AD 1990: 496.

(34) For the site Kolymbia at the east coast of Rhodes, which was supposed to have yielded among other EM pottery, see also MARKETOU, in AD 43 (1988): 627-628, where a LB IA layer was found under the volcanic ash from the Thera eruption.

Papazoglou-Manioudaki, 1982: 182; Benzi, 1984: 100), nor can we interpret it as a governed colony, since there is nothing to prove the character of the administration system. There are no archives and there are no strong elements to support the view of a community colony, since the local nature of the culture is very strong. The growth of the population in the transitional periods from the end of the Early Bronze Age period seems gradual and supported strongly by the physical environment of the area. The majority of the pottery is local. The incorporation of Minoan styles is more obvious in architecture than in other aspects of the material culture. From this point of view Minoanising styles could be seen as part of a new prestige concept of an emergent Rhodian élite.

It is accepted that pottery trade in the Cyclades was in the hands of specialists (Davis-Lewis, 1985: 87). The possibility of a monopoly or the reality of a Cretan competition in the Aegean market in pottery trade and exchange might well not have existed after the entry of other small Aegean markets. The present distribution of Light on Dark pottery from Serayia on Kos suggests a kind of Eastern and central Aegean string (Marthari *et al.*, 1990) operating either with or without a Cretan intermediary or collaborating with Minoan Crete.

Moreover it is accepted that the potter's wheel was in use in the Cyclades earlier than in Crete (Caskey, 1972; Rutter, 1979). The above early introduction of the potter's wheel has played a decisive role for the intensification of ceramic production in the Aegean.

The plain of Trianda was settled before the LB I. The installations belonged to smaller communities widespread over the fertile plain as well as on Mt Philerimos (Marketou 1988; 1990). It is clear that the installation on the Acropolis occurred at the same period as the others around the settlement<sup>(35)</sup>.

The LB IA town at Trianda lies in a large and rich island located in a key position. The settlement developed interconnections with other important centres of the Aegean as well as with the neighbouring settlement at Serayia on Kos. Both settlements at Serayia and Trianda are facing the coast of the large land of Asia Minor. It could be suggested that these settlements could even influence other smaller sites close to their area. There is no strong evidence that the nearby LB settlements at Iasos and Miletus were under a stronger minoanising atmosphere than Trianda and Serayia appear to have been.

It is surprising that the present day plain of Trianda, an ideal location for the so far important successive prehistoric settlements, was never occupied during the era of the Ialysian Archaic and Classical period. It seems that the area had been for a long period deserted due to further devastating floods. Ialysos however continued to be occupied during the later periods to the west and southwest of the location of the prehistoric settlements. The only exception of a later Archaic-early Classical

(35) To the contrary PAPAZOGLOU-MANILOUDAKI, 1982: 182.

occupation in the above deserted site is the presence of a strange open air cult-  
place located above the eastern part of the prehistoric cemetery<sup>(36)</sup>.

In spite of the importance of the above rescue excavations, the site is still in  
danger since 1985, when the area with the polythyron and some of the most  
impressive architectural remains were covered up for building a modern hotel. The  
local Ephorate of antiquities had proposed the protection of the site since 1989.  
The final decision has not been made yet.

(36) Ioannides' plot, AD 1991: 484.

## PROVENANCE OF ILLUSTRATED FINDS \*

Nr	SHAPE	PROVENANCE	LOCATION	DATE
Il. 13032	Carinated cup	Profitis Elias, Philemos	Surface find from the eroded ravine in the NE sides close to the old church of Pr. Elias	MBA
Il. 13033	Carinated cup	Trianda, 1 Metaxotos' plot	Destruction level, court pavement. Depth - 244 - 259 m from surface.	MBA
Il. 13033	Carinated cup	Trianda, 1 Metaxotos' plot	Destruction level, court pavement. Depth - 244 - 259 m from surface.	MBA
Il. 13034	Carinated cup	Trianda, 1 Metaxotos' plot	Destruction level, court pavement. Depth - 244 - 259 m from surface.	MBA
Il. 13063	Carinated cup	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	AB <sub>1</sub> , level ζ.	MBA
Il. 13064	Conical cup	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	AB <sub>1</sub> , level ζ.	MBA
Il. 13076	Rounded cup	Trianda, 3 Xenakis' plot	BII area with stones.	LBA IA early
Il. 13061	Rounded cup	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	2Ba, North of tephra layer, level ε.	LBA IA early
Il. 13013	Bridge-spouted jar	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	South west of polythyron, underneath tephra layer IV.	LBA IA late
Il. 13062	Bridge-spouted jar	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	A <sub>5</sub> B <sub>6</sub> /B <sub>7</sub> δ, level ε <sub>1</sub> .	LBA IA late
Il. 13069	Bridge-spouted jar	Trianda, Large Stream	Bed of large stream west of Markos' plot.	LBA IA late
Il. 13128	Vapheio cup	Trianda, 14 Papaemmanouil-Chalkiopoulos' plot	Section A, level VI.	LBA IA late
Il. 13077	Conical rhyton	Trianda, 3 Xenakis' plot	A1, level ε.	LBA IA late
Il. 13113	Stirrup jar	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	Aα1, level γ.	LBA I
Il. 13029	Basin	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	4Ba, level σ.	LBA IA
Il. 13014	Peg-top rhyton	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	South west of polythyron, underneath tephra layer IV.	LBA I late
Il. 13081	Close vessel	Trianda, 16 Liamis' plot	A1, locus 1, level η.	LBA IA late

Nr	SHAPE	PROVENANCE	LOCATION	DATE
Il. 13111	Amphora	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	Γ <sub>3</sub> Δ <sub>3</sub> , level δ.	LB IA-II
Il. 13112	Amphora	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	Α <sub>4</sub> Β <sub>5</sub> , level ε 1.	LBA IA
Il. 12521	Pithos (jar)	Trianda, 3 Xenakis' plot	Sector Α, level στ 2 pavement III.	LBA IA late
Il. 12522	Pithos (jar)	Trianda, 3 Xenakis' plot	Sector Α, level στ 2 pavement III.	LBA IA late
Il. 13028	Tripod tray	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	γ Γ' α, level ε 1.	LBA IA
Il. 13030	Fire-box	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	Α <sub>5</sub> Β <sub>6</sub> , level ε .	LBA IA
Il. 13031	Tripod cooking pot	Trianda, 16 Liamis' plot	Γ <sub>3</sub> , ε , level -3.50 -3.61 m.	LBA IA
Il. 13060	Conical plate	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	Β <sub>1</sub> Γ' 2, North of, tephra, level δ.	LBA IA
Il. 13059	Miniature jug	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	Β <sub>1</sub> Γ' 2, level ε.	LBA IA
Il. 13103	Miniature jug	KM 603 north of plot 14	Α <sup>Δ</sup> , level ε 1.	LBA IA
Il. 13080	Lid	Trianda, 16 Liamis' plot	Γ' II, level ε.	LBA IA
APX 1130	Fragment of fresco	Trianda, 15 Markos' plot	3 Γ' Α, level γ.	LBA IA late
APX 1131	Fragment of fresco	Trianda, 14 Papaemmanouil Chalkiopoulos' plot	Sector Α, level - 2.80 m from surface	LBA IA late

\*The provenance of the illustrated examples of finds is provided here in case they would be connected with the future publication of the rest of the material.

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a. Tranda, plot 1. Part of a Middle Bronze Age House, from the south.



b. Tranda, Middle Bronze Age Pitios Burial at Giannikouris plot from the south.



Trianda, plate 18 from the south.



a. Trianda, plot 9 from the south.



b. Trianda, plot 17. Horse Burial and an inhumation from the west.

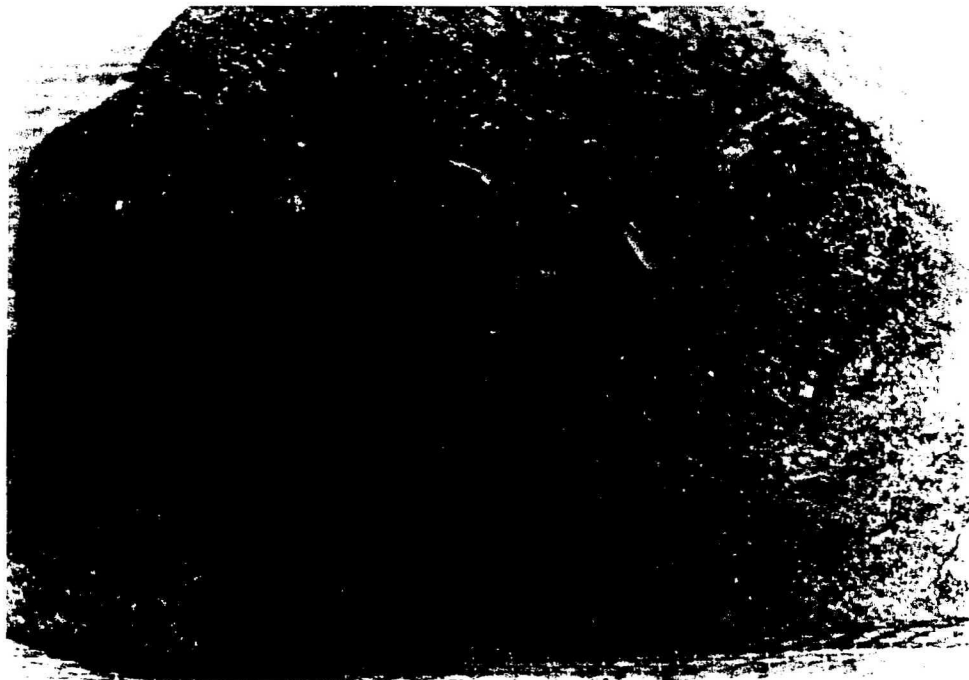
Tranda, plot 19. Built cist tomb from the north.



Pl. 19



a. Trianda, plot 19. Burial in an overfired pithos from the west.



b. Detail of the walls of the burial pithos with rims and handle of semiglobular cups attached on it.



d. P. 13009. Bridge-spouted jar from the large stream at Tranda west of plot 13.



c. P. 13034. Caninated cup from plot 13.



b. P. 13033. High-necked jug from plot 13.



a. P. 13032. High-necked jug from Profus Has, Philemmos.



eye stream at



for 1.



PL. VII

b. P. 13081. Fragment of a close vase from plot 18.



a. P. 13113. Stirrup jar from plot 15.



PL. VII

Pl. VIII



a. P. 13111. Amphora from plot 15.



b. P. 13028. Tripod tray from plot 15.

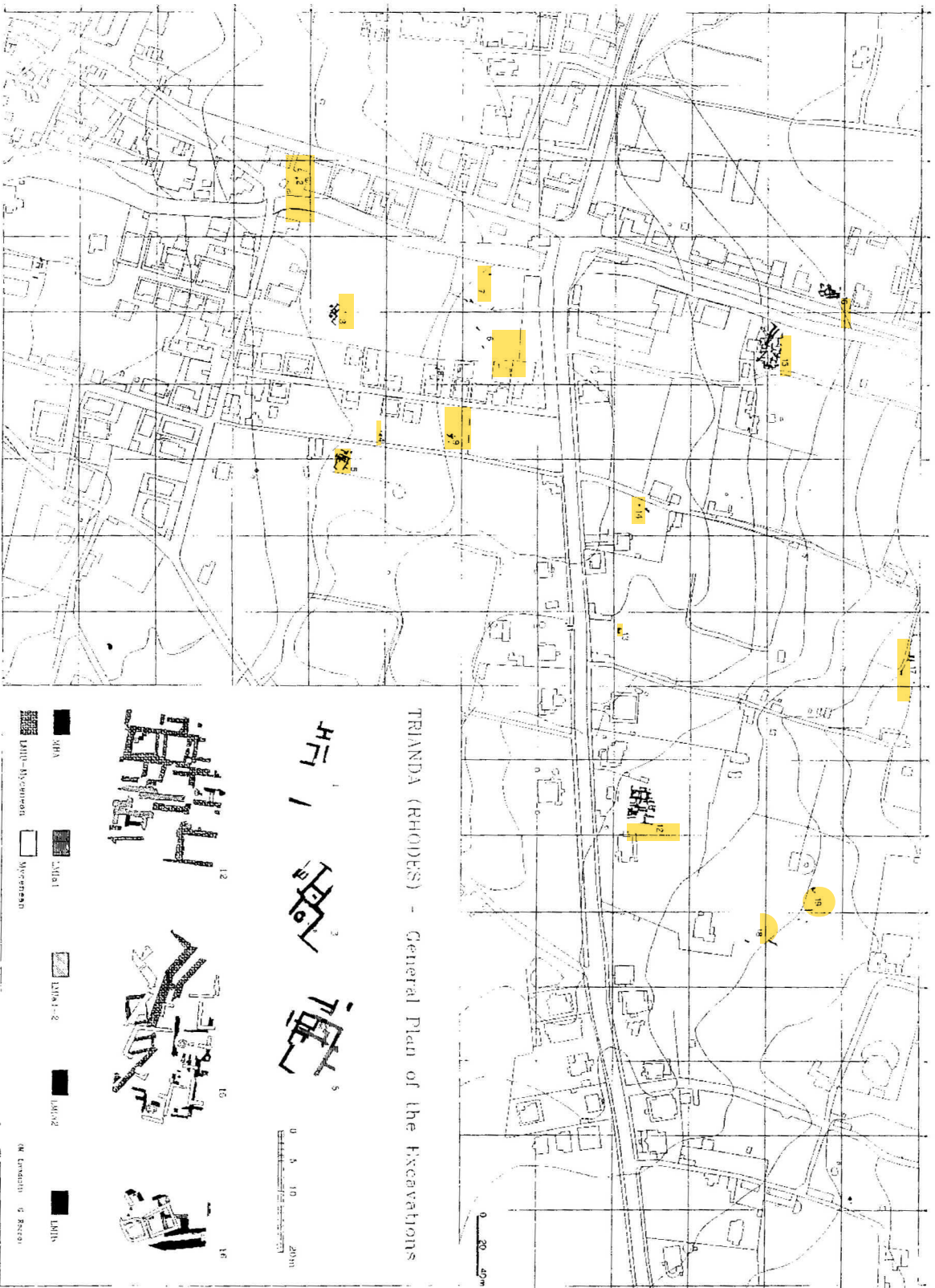
Pl. IX



Pl. IX, a. P. 12333. Tripod cooking pot from plot 3.



Pl. IX, b. APX 1130. Fragment of fresco depicting double axe and sacral knot.



TRIANDA (RHODES) - General Plan of the Excavations

MHV 1

0 5 10 20m

Legend:

- MHV
- MHV1
- MHV1-2
- MHV2
- MHV3
- MHV4
- MHV-Division
- Mycenaean

Architectural Plans:

- 12
- 13
- 16

(M) indicates 5 Feet