

# Petras, Siteia

## 25 years of excavations and studies

Edited by *Metaxia Tsipopoulou*



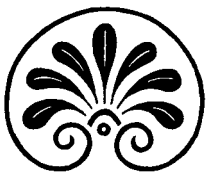
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– 25 years of excavations and studies

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Edited by

*Metaxia Tsipopoulou*



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# Preface

*Βίος άνεόρταστος, μακρά όδός άπανδόχεντος.*  
Demokritos (470–370 BC)

It is indeed hard and dull to lead a life, both personal and professional, without celebrations, anniversaries, gatherings of friends and colleagues, symposia of any type. The 25th anniversary of the Petras excavations offered a wonderful opportunity for me to organize a Symposium, and for an international group of scholars, known for many things, including being members of the Petras team, to work hard, and then gather in Athens and present the results of their studies.

It was an exciting experience organizing and conducting this two-day Conference, and also editing the Proceedings and preparing the present book. I was very happy to be able to work during the multiple tasks of the preparation, the coordination of the contributors, the two days of the event itself, the collection of the papers and the editing of the present volume, with two hard working, creative, and very patient colleagues, Ms Garifalia Kostopoulou and Dr Maria Psallida. They are responsible before the event for the invitations, the preparation of the catering, the reservation of the restaurant for the speakers' dinner, and the printed material of the Conference. During the Symposium they made sure that everything went smoothly. After the Conference they worked for many months to do the pagination, the bibliography and the list of contributors, and they helped significantly with the proof reading and the index (Psallida), and the plates and the cover design (Kostopoulou). The editing of the volume was a very interesting task for me, and having no day job at the Ministry after the end of November 2011, a victim of the crisis that struck Greece, I was able to dedicate myself entirely to it. Furthermore, I am responsible for the transcription of the discussions, an interesting first-time experience. Many thanks go to David Rupp who patiently corrected all the English manuscripts of the 11 non-native speakers, as well as the dis-

cussions. Also my warmest thanks to Melissa Eaby for the final proof reading and significant improvements. The specialized text of Konstantinos Togiias, the developer of the Petras website, was translated from Greek by Ms Effie Patsatzi, Museologist, a specialist in the Management of Digital Heritage.

Dr Erik Hallager is responsible for the final pagination and the insertion of the figures into the text.

I wish also to thank the creators of the four posters presented at the Conference: two posters, one of which was in collaboration with the director of the excavation, were by Ms Clio Zervaki, the Petras Conservator, MA in Museology and MA in Cultural Management, and another two were by Garifalia Kostopoulou.

The Danish Institute at Athens, and its two consecutive Directors, Erik Hallager, a dear old friend and member of the Petras team, and Rune Frederiksen, have my gratitude for hosting the Symposium and for including the publication in the series of monographs of the Institute.

The Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP), which has been supporting the excavations at Petras, the conservation of the finds and the studies since 1987, also funded the Symposium and the publication of the present volume. My deep gratitude goes to INSTAP and its Executive Director, Philip Betancourt, also a good friend and member of the Petras team.

The success of the Symposium, which was really a wonderful and very stimulating experience, is due to all the participants, the speakers, and the chairpersons. More than 100 colleagues, Greeks and foreigners, from the Hellenic Archaeological Service, the Universities and the Foreign Schools of Archaeology in Greece, including senior members and graduate students, were present at the Danish Institute, and were very active during the discussions. They contributed to the creation of a very

friendly and positive atmosphere throughout the Symposium. A very special thanks goes to the chairpersons, Philip Betancourt, Michael Wedde, David Rupp, Erik Hallager, Colin Macdonald, Lefteris Platon, Thomas Brogan, Olga Krzyszkowska and Alexander MacGillivray. I am very grateful to Peter Warren, my mentor, who enthusiastically agreed to write the concluding remarks for this volume.

Three generations of scholars participated at the Symposium, some of the younger ones had come to Petras as undergraduate or graduate students, long ago. Their names in the order they presented their papers are: Yiannis Papadatos, Eleni Nodarou, Tatiana Theodoropoulou, Cesare D'Annibale, Philip P. Betancourt, Susan C. Ferrence, James D. Muhly, Olga Krzyszkowska, Sevasti Triantaphyllou, Heidi M.C. Dierckx, Donald C. Haggis, Maria Emanuela

Alberti, Kostis S. Christakis, Nektaria Mavroudi, Erik Hallager, David W. Rupp, Anna Simandiraki-Grimshaw, Photini J.P. McGeorge, Natalia Poulou-Papadimitriou, Chrysa Sofianou, Thomas M. Brogan and Konstantinos Toggias.

The 25 years of the Petras excavations and studies coincided with a period of crisis for Greece that worsened significantly between October 2010, the time of the Symposium, and spring 2012, the time these lines are written. From the beginning my idea for the organization of this event and its publication was an idea of resistance to the crisis. I am very happy that we succeeded and very grateful to all who worked hard and made this success happen.

Athens, Exarcheia, Easter 2012  
Metaxia Tsipopoulou



# Abbreviations

## *Archaeological periods*

EBA	Early Bronze Age
EH	Early Helladic
EM	Early Minoan
FN	Final Neolithic
LH	Late Helladic
LM	Late Minoan
LN	Late Neolithic
LBA	Late Bronze Age
MBA	Middle Bronze Age
MH	Middle Helladic
MM	Middle Minoan
MN	Middle Neolithic
PPN	Pre-Pottery Neolithic

## *Petras Area*

HT	House Tomb
L	Lakkos
P	Petras

P.TSK	Petras cemetery
P.TSU	Petras-Rock Shelter
Σ-palace	Stratigraphical trenches of the palace

## *Other*

A.S.L.	Above Sea Level
diam.	diameter
gr	gram
h	height
kg	kilogram
w	width
wt	weight
th	thickness
lt	liter
NISP	Number of Identifiable Specimens
MNI	Minimum Number of Individuals
SM	Archaeological Museum, Siteia
vol.	volume

The form of the English language for the native speakers (British or American) was the author's choice. For the non-native speakers the American form was applied.



# Vessels in cooking fabrics from Petras House I.1 (LM IA): overview and capacity measures<sup>\*</sup>

Maria Emanuela Alberti

## Abstract

The focus of the present work is the vessels in cooking fabrics from Petras House I.1, which date to LM IA. At this time, a general and systematic study of Minoan cooking wares is still missing. However, since many contributions on the evidence from various sites are available, the main technical, typological and functional characteristics of this class of vessel have been investigated, as well as the major chronological and geographical distribution patterns. As for Petras in particular, the study of the vessels in cooking fabrics from another Neopalatial structure, House II.1 (LM IB), already completed, has allowed for a development of the established typology and some observations on chronological and regional factors to be made. This analysis is now extended to the assemblage from House I.1 (LM IA), where the percentages of various types of cooking pots are different and where various types of trays and *trapezes* (probably to be identified as pithos lids and/or drain-heads) are particularly abundant.

## Introduction

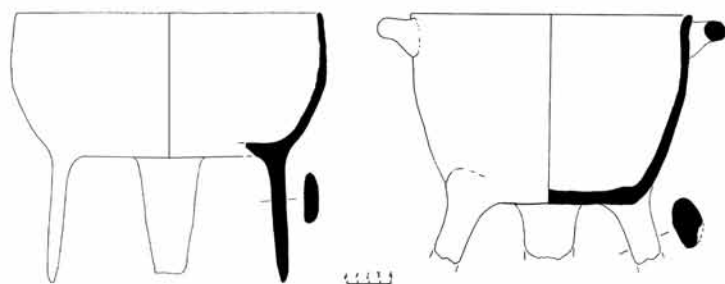
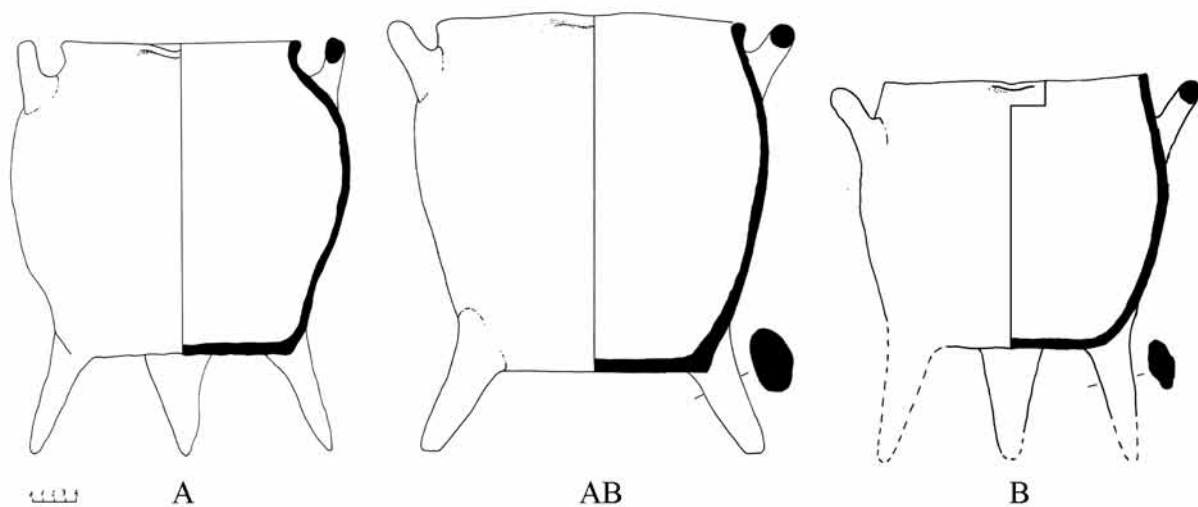
Petras House I.1 (LM IA) yielded a large number of cooking ware vessels. They are very similar to those found in the LM IB Petras House II.1, with some variations resulting from the different composition of the examined samples and chronological factors. However, a major difference should be emphasized: the House I.1 assemblage includes a considerable number of large and thick coarse ware vessels, especially trays and plates. At present, it is not possible to provide a convincing explanation for this fact. In any case, vessels in cooking fabrics can be found widely spread throughout both

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also been drawn. Therefore, I do not deal with those topics in the present work. In the previous work I also illustrated the best *comparanda* for each type of vessel; thus, only the most recent published examples will be mentioned here. Due to the continuing refinement of the House I.1 catalogue, minor changes in the numbers of pottery may occur in the future, especially those regarding non-diagnostic sherds. I wish to express my warmest thanks to Stavroula Apostolakou (24<sup>th</sup> Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities) and Metaxia Tsipopoulou (National Archive of Monuments, formerly 24<sup>th</sup> Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities) for giving me the opportunity to study and publish this corpus of material, and to Paola Càssola Guida and Elisabetta Borgna (University of Udine) and Emanuele Greco (SAIA) for their support during my Ph.D. and Postdoctoral studies. A large part of the work at the Siteia Museum was funded by a Ph.D. scholarship from the University of Udine (2001–2005) and a Postdoctoral scholarship from SAIA (2005). Special thanks are due to my colleagues Garifalia Kostopoulou, Maria Psallida and Clio Zervaki for their continuous help and encouragement during all these years of work. Garifalia and Maria worked out the main assessment of House I.1 find contexts: an indispensable and precious task for the final publication. Without the help and assistance of the staff at both the Hagios Nikolaos and Siteia Museums this study would not have been completed. I take full responsibility for whatever errors may be present.

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\* The present work is complementary to a preliminary study of the vessels in cooking fabrics from Petras House II.1 (LM IB), which is published in the proceedings of the LM IB pottery conference (Alberti 2011). In that contribution I dealt extensively with the general definition of the pottery class, the main problems relating to its use and typology, and the attested regional and chronological variations across the island of Crete. A parallel between House I.1 and House II.1 has



P89/783a

P86/1018

Fig 1. Petras, House I.1. Cooking pots (top and centre left): Type A, AB and B. Cooking pans (centre right and bottom): curving and flaring profiles.

buildings, and they are linked to both the practical and utilitarian spheres of activities that took place therein. House I.1 contained some large pithoi and a wine-press, while House II.1, in its LM IB phase, yielded good evidence for textile production. Large numbers of stone tools, as well as clay vessels, such as basins and jars, complete the picture.<sup>1</sup>

## Typological overview

As is well known, it is not possible to apply a strict typology to cooking ware vessels, especially cook-

<sup>1</sup> Tsipopoulou & Hallager 1996; Tsipopoulou & Papacostopoulou 1997; Tsipopoulou 2002; Burke 2006.

ing vessels. Shapes vary considerably within one major type. In the present work, however, this major division is maintained among the cooking vessels: **pots** are higher than they are wider, and **pans** are wider than they are higher. Technical characteristics and detailed descriptions of the shapes have been given elsewhere, so only the relevant elements of the evidence from House I.1 will be presented here. It should be stressed that the most convincing parallels for the Petras materials can be found, not surprisingly, in eastern Crete, especially at Mochlos<sup>2</sup> and at Palaikastro,<sup>3</sup> while very few elements are common with assemblages from Kommos. There, even the Type B pots are slightly different. Thus, the known differences between eastern and South-Central Crete (for cooking wares) has been confirmed. However, recently published evidence from Knossos points towards possible similarities with North-Central Crete.<sup>4</sup>

### *Tripod cooking pots, pans and jugs (Figs. 1–2)*

A distinction is generally made between pots with a narrow mouth and a globular profile (Betancourt Type A) and pots with a large mouth and a tronco-conical or straight-sided profile (Betancourt Type B) (Fig. 1).<sup>5</sup> This differentiation is generally thought to be linked to chronological factors: Type B is more common in MM and MM III/LM IA (Knossos, Mochlos and Kommos), while Type A can be found mainly in LM IB (Nirou Chani, Malia, Gournia, Pseira, Palaikastro, Zou and Makrygialos, with a strong presence of eastern Cretan examples). In the Petras assemblage some intermediate examples can be found, which were referred to as Type AB: the body is elongated and curved, the shoulder is smooth, almost non-existent, and the rim is plain. The mouth is narrow. The base is flat as usual and in some cases there is a spout.

There are eight Type A pots from House I.1. Generally, they have a globular profile, pronounced shoulders and flaring rims. Few examples have a more piriform profile, and some are shallower.<sup>6</sup>

For type AB there are only three examples. Some comparisons can be found at Kommos, among Type B examples, and Mochlos, among Type A

examples. A possible MM III parallel has been recently published from Knossos.<sup>7</sup>

As for Type B, the ten examples from House I.1 have a curving profile.<sup>8</sup>

Hole-mouthed cooking pots, Type C, attested in House II.1, are seemingly absent from House I.1.

The presence of pans is more common: there are six medium-sized examples with a curving profile and three medium-sized examples with a flaring profile. Parallels from Palaikastro are especially abundant, from both MM IIIB contexts and other chronological phases (LM IB, LM IIIA1). Some comparisons can also be found at Knossos (MM IIIB, LM II).<sup>9</sup>

In addition to typical cooking pots, five very small and fragmentary examples have been found in House I.1. Their presence is important, since they can complete the range of vessels available at the time, making up a typical “cooking set”.<sup>10</sup>

Seven tripod cooking jugs are included in the assemblage of House I.1, occurring in a range of sizes and being a possible indicator of a metric scale for capacities (see below) (Fig. 2). Cooking jugs are not present in House II.1. Their surface treatment is similar to that of cooking pots. The two largest ex-

<sup>2</sup> Barnard & Brogan 2003.

<sup>3</sup> MacGillivray *et al.* 2007.

<sup>4</sup> Hatzaki 2007a; 2007b.

<sup>5</sup> Betancourt 1980.

<sup>6</sup> Petras P85/91/10, P86/21/1, P86/620, P90/1360, P86/A157, P90/1417, P86/283, P85/501b. Recently published *comparanda*: Palaikastro, Well 605, LM II, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 4.14, no. 465.

<sup>7</sup> Petras P86/217, P86/1105+86/941, P85/63/28. Kommos: C900 and C915, Betancourt 1980, fig. 1, Type B; Mochlos IB492 and IB494, Barnard & Brogan 2003, fig. 48, Type A. Knossos, MM IIIB, KS178 Group, Hatzaki 2007a, fig. 5.7, no. 3.

<sup>8</sup> Petras P85/A5, P86/147/1, P86/877, P86/904, P86/A211, P86/A528, P86/1296, P86/896, P86/899, P86/106/3.

<sup>9</sup> Petras P86/1018, P86/1149, P86/991a, P86/992, P89/783, P90/1333, P86/A340, P86/616, P91/63. Recently published: from Palaikastro, LM IB, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 3.6, no. 31 and LM IIIA1, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 4.20, no. 511); from Knossos, MM IIIB, KS178 Group, Hatzaki 2007a, fig. 5.7, no. 2 and LM II, MUM South Sector Group, Hatzaki 2007b, fig. 6.10, no. 4.

<sup>10</sup> Petras P86/147/1, P86/843a, P86/990B, P89/1489, P95/1489. See an example from Knossos, MM IIIB, KS178 Group, Hatzaki 2007a, fig. 5.9, no. 5.

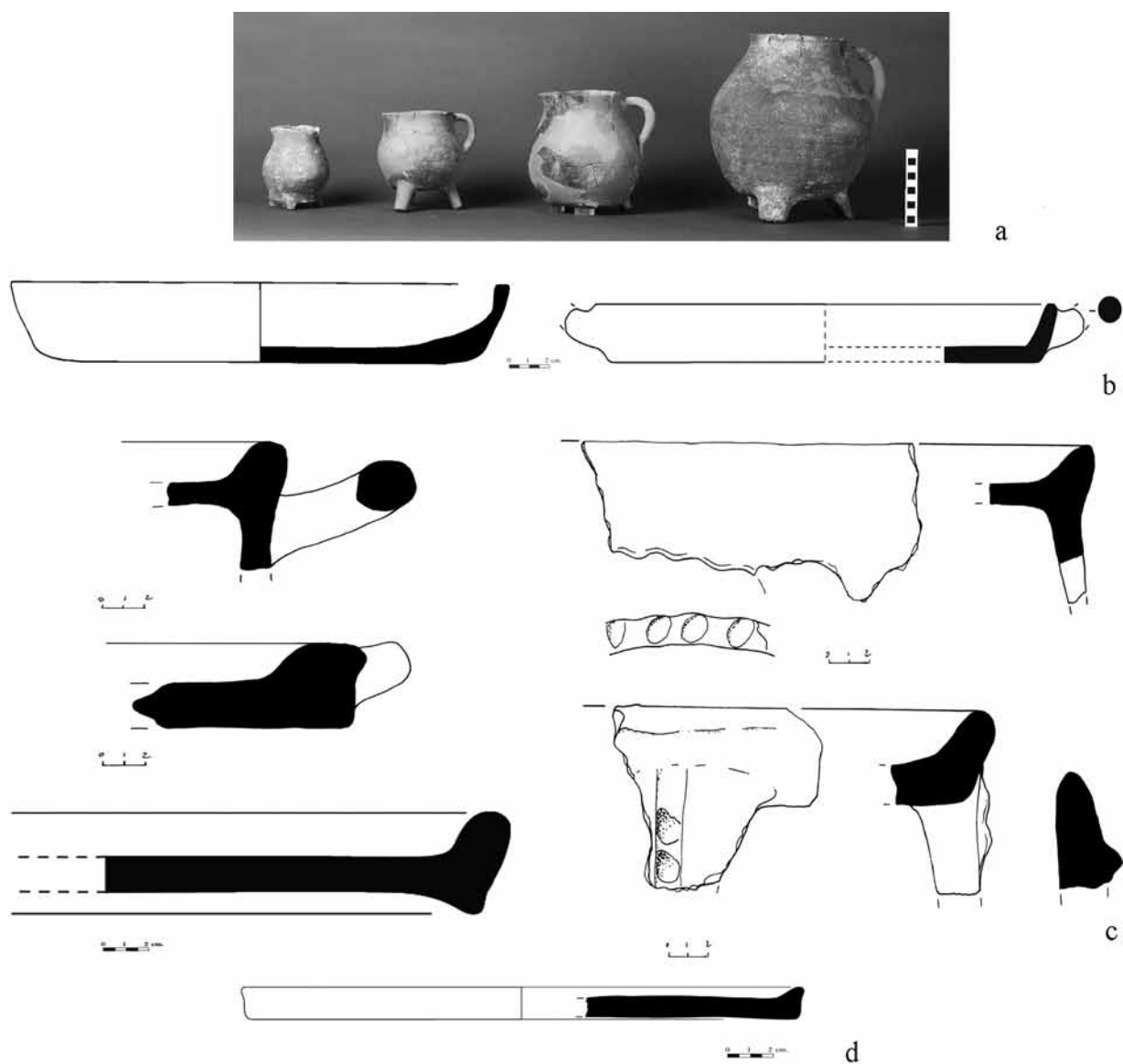


Fig. 2. Petras, House I.1. a) Cooking jugs; b) Thinner cooking trays; c) Thicker cooking trays; d) Thinner dishes.

amples have a trefoiled spout. In most cases, traces of burning are present, especially on the exterior, the base and the front side (below the spout). The overall dimensions range from a height of 11.2 cm and a rim diameter of 5.7 cm to a height of 24 cm and a rim diameter of 12 cm.<sup>11</sup>

In addition to the examples mentioned, there are more than 30 cooking pot sherds (mostly the feet of tripod vessels) that can not fit into any typology.

### *Cooking trays (Fig. 2)*

An important characteristic of House I.1 is the strong presence of cooking trays. A major distinc-

tion can be made between the thinner and smaller, and the thicker and larger examples. This distinction is usually not widely used in publications, but in my opinion, this seems very important as far as the use and the function of vessels are concerned.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Petras: P86/540a, P86/A144, P86/A145, P86/A153, P89/778, P86/1028, P89/983, P86/843. See similar examples from Palaikastro, MM IIIB, Knappett & Cunningham 2003, nos. 290–1, 295.

<sup>12</sup> As usual, Palaikastro and Mochlos offer the best parallel, for both classes of trays: see a thinner example from Palaikastro, LM IB–IIIA1, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 3.22, no. 116. See also some thinner and thicker examples from LM IB Mochlos, Barnard & Brogan 2003, figs. 51–2; thicker trays nos. 582, 590

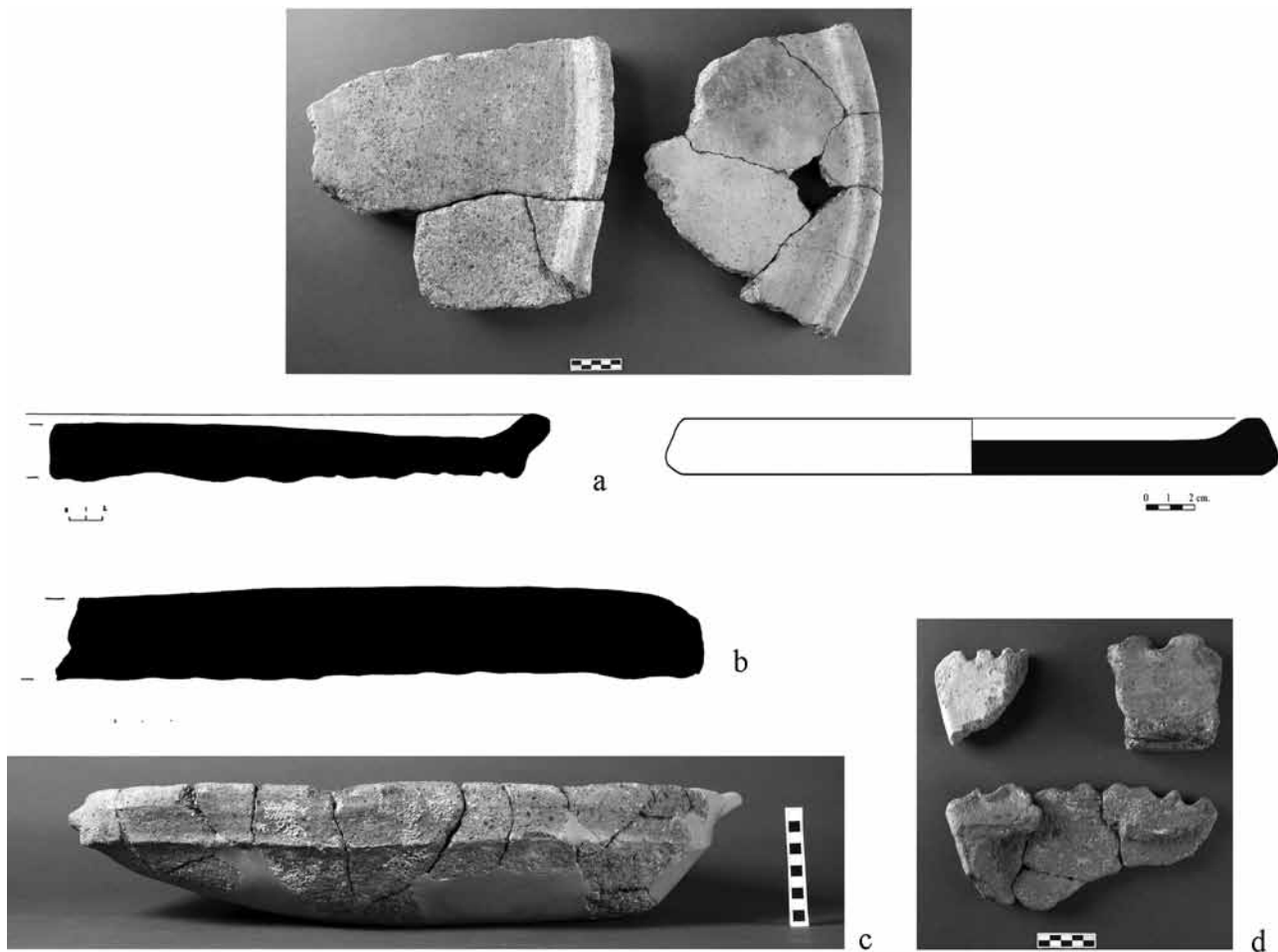


Fig. 3. Petras, House I.1. a) Plates; b) Pithos lid; c) Cooking dish (restored); d) Firestands (Type Scheffer C).

Thinner cooking trays are made of regular cooking fabric. At least 18 examples (including three decorated specimens) with both curving and flaring profiles come from House I.1.<sup>13</sup>

Thicker cooking trays are made of a very coarse cooking fabric with many inclusions. Their dimensions are considerably larger than those of the other trays. At least 50–60 fragments are reported from House I.1, with significant variations in shape.<sup>14</sup> They are generally of tripod form, with very thick legs (long or short). They commonly have horizontal rim handles, but many variations are attested. Some have handles which are either horizontal coils (round in section), pierced lugs or a series of two to three contiguous lugs. Spouts are frequently attested. Many examples have tripod, but trays without legs are also present. They are hand-made. Finally, smaller fragments can easily be confused with the so-called plates or *trapezes*.<sup>15</sup>

and 597. The new classification proposed for trays from the LM III Mochlos assemblage (Smith 2010, 118–21) does not seem applicable to the Petras materials.

<sup>13</sup> Petras: P85/226, P85/232/1, P85/75/1, P85/265, P85/408, P85/449/1, P86/118/2, P90/287/1, P89/71/5.1, P90/1302, P90/1430, P85/23/2–1, P85/294, P88/593, P86/646, P85/538, P86/895, P88/563.

<sup>14</sup> Petras: P85/437, P85/472, P85/505, P85/522, P85/537, P85/574, P85/A285, P85/A348, P85/A537, P86/176, P86/221, P86/260, P86/267, P86/290, P86/293, P86/731, P86/751, P86/767, P86/873, P86/675, P86/956, P86/966/1, P88/662, P88/727, P88/752, P89/784, P89/789, P89/834, P90/75/2, P90/1187, P86/994, P86/1167, P86/1223, P86/1256, P88/569, P88/657, P90/1311, P85/573, P90/1312, P85/22/6, P85/234/2, P88/739, P88/753, P86/1321, P85/A219, P88/560, P86/1013, P88/583, P88/656a, P88/570, P85/282, P86/785, P86/1294.

<sup>15</sup> Non-diagnostic or very small fragments of trays and plates are difficult to distinguish; unfortunately, the number of those items is quite important for House I.1 (ca. 60 sherds).

### *Plates or trapezes (Fig. 3)*

Plates are very important in our study, since at least 60 fragments with a wide range of profiles have been recorded from House I.1. Their use is not clear, but in many cases they could have been used as drain-heads. Indeed some spouted examples are attested: large fragments of plates with simple spouts can almost surely be identified as drain-heads or similar features. The presence of drains is also attested in the house. A few fragments of some  $\Pi$ -shaped spouts have also been found, which could belong to drains or some spouted vats similar to those used as wine-presses (vat-and-jar system).<sup>16</sup> Spouted plates (gutter spouts) seem to be quite common at Palaikastro, where many fragments and one *in situ* example are reported from different contexts and chronologies. Spouted basins are known from many “villas” and other contexts. A recently published assemblage comes from the Mochlos Artisans’ Quarter (LM IB). In any case, the large majority of fragments recovered from House I.1 belong to plates with no spout, though some could have belonged to spouted examples. For the latter there is a parallel from Palaikastro (LM IB-II).<sup>17</sup>

### *Pithos lids (Fig. 3)*

A small number of plates (at least six examples) do not have raised sides and have a rounded edge. As usual, their upper surface and the exterior of the edge are water-wiped, smoothed or slipped, while the bottom surface is left rough. Their diameter varies between 30 and 40 cm. They are probably the fragments of large pithos lids.<sup>18</sup>

### *Thinner dishes (Fig. 2)*

Besides the plates, there are also some thinner dishes.<sup>19</sup>

### *Cooking dishes (Fig. 3)*

Cooking dishes are also present in House I.1: a fully restored example, and 25 other fragments. Only four items are larger and thicker.<sup>20</sup>

### *Fire stands (Fig. 3)*

From House I.1, five fragments of Scheffer Type A and three of Type C are recorded.<sup>21</sup>

### *Other shapes and a possible measurement standard (Fig. 4)*

Other shapes in cooking fabrics are recorded from House I.1, although they were probably not used

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<sup>16</sup> Petras possible drainheads (P86/693+P86/805, P85/148),  $\Pi$ -shaped drain or spout fragments (P85/754, P86/120) and drain fragments (at least P86/968 and P86/1240). Petras plates/*trapezes* (rim+base sherds): P86/662, P86/803, P86/804, P86/880, P86/889, P86/908, P86/951, P86/973, P86/974, P86/1004, P86/1171, P86/1195, P86/1210, P86/1220, P86/1228, P86/A173, P86/A341, P86/A343, P88/713, P88/714, P90/1202, P85/71.2, P85/73/7, P85/75/1, P86/977, P85/474, P89/980, P89/919, P86/1323, P86/1003, P85/348, P86/1319, P86/805+693, P85/526, P86/1177, P86/1213, P86/1312, P85/410, P85/493, P86/1226, P86/1250, P85/294/1, P85/412, P85/436, P85/459, P85/499, P85/A369, P86/254, P86/255, P86/259, P86/278, P86/651, P86/653, P86/657.

<sup>17</sup> From Palaikastro: spouted plate (drainage channel/gutter), Building 4, MacGillivray *et al.* 1989, pl. 65c; spouted plate (drainage channel/gutter), LM IB, Well 576, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 7.4, no. 73; fragment of spouted plate (gutter spout), LM IIIA2, Well 605, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 4.30, no. 639;  $\Pi$ -shaped spout (from drain or basin), LM IIIA1, Well 605, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 4.20, no. 514; simple plate, Well 605, LM IB-II, MacGillivray *et al.* 2007, fig. 4.13, no. 450. Vats with  $\Pi$ -shaped spouts are attested, e.g., at Archanes, Kato Zakros, Malia, Gournia, Tourtoulou and Vathypetro, Kopaka & Platon 1993; Palmer 1994, 18–9. At the LM IB Artisans’ Quarter of Mochlos, both  $\Pi$ -spouted vats and  $\Pi$ -shaped spouts are recorded, Barnard & Brogan 2003, 56–7, IB288–193, fig. 17.

<sup>18</sup> Petras possible pithos lids: P85/532, P85/539, P85/540, P85/450, P86/790, P90/1402.

<sup>19</sup> Petras thinner dishes: P85/71/2, P85/73/7, P85/294/1, P90/1289, P88/588, P88/712, P85/411.

<sup>20</sup> Petras thicker cooking dishes: P86/128b/4, P86/171a/3, P89/1061, P90/1546. Thinner, completely restored example: P85/364. Other thinner examples: P85/239, P85/243, P85/488, P86/227, P86/282, P86/296, P86/923, P86/1216, P90/1416, P85/94/4, P86/60/3, P86/128/4, P86/171/3, P86/192/4, P88/61/2, P89/234/5, P89/260/3, P89/304/10, P90/59/2, P90/77/12, P90/111/2, P90/151/3, P90/187/5, P90/192/6, P90/240/3. *Ca.* ten other minor fragments are also listed.

<sup>21</sup> Scheffer 1984. Petras Type A: P85/577, P89/304/2, P85/484, P90/1436, P85/512; Type C: P86/1295+616, P86/972).

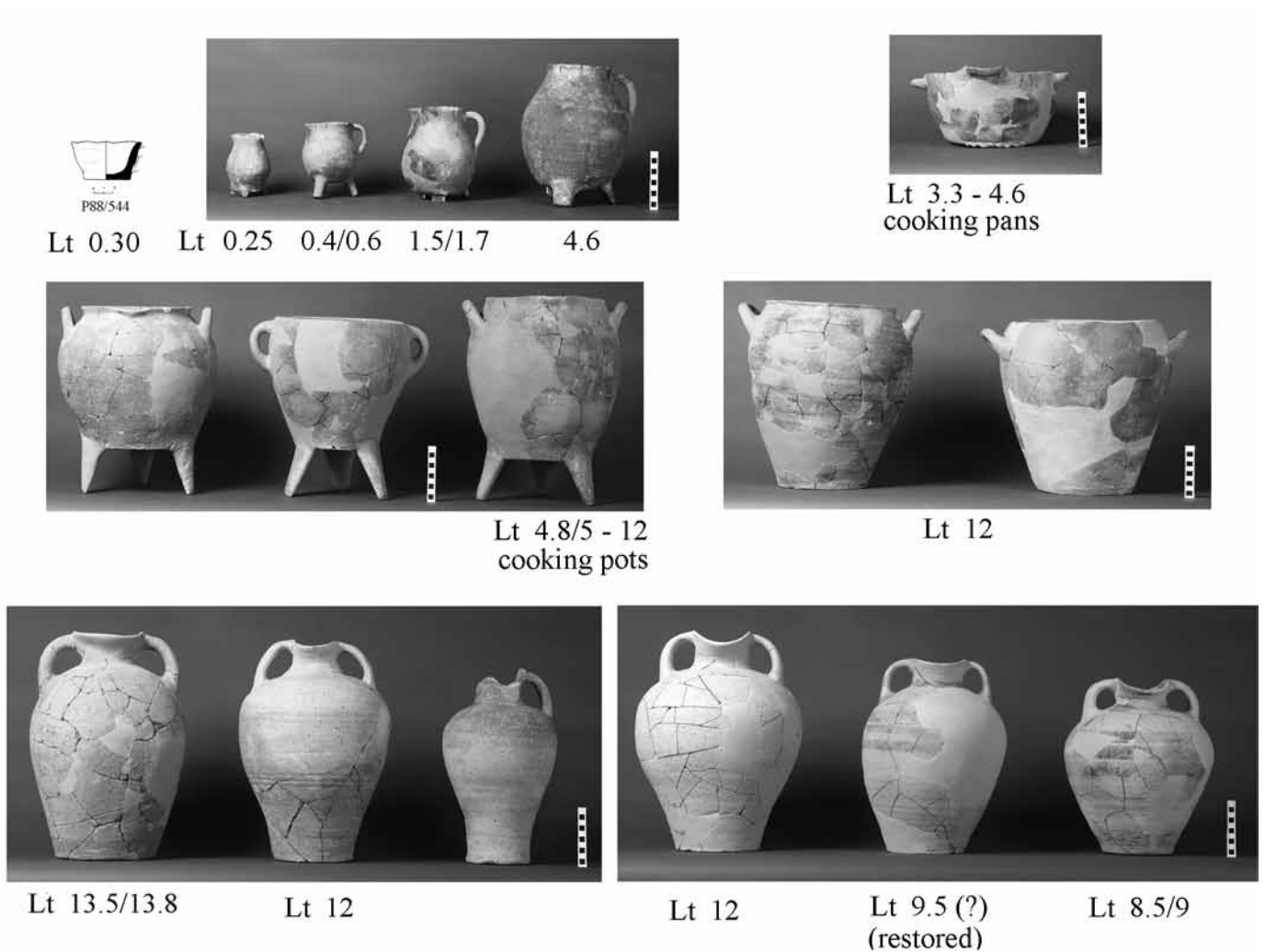


Fig. 4. Petras, House I.1. Capacities in liters (lt).

for cooking: jars, kalathoi and various types of bowls. There are also many utilitarian shapes not in cooking fabric, such as amphorae, jars, basins, impressed and scored basins (“beehives”), etc.

A small handmade coarse cup, with a vertical handle and water-wiped interior and exterior surfaces (P88/544, h. 3.8 cm, rim diam. 6 cm, vol. 0.30 lt.) was quite an isolated find and therefore very puzzling: could it have been a capacity measurement standard?

## Contextual remarks

Some preliminary observations on the find contexts of materials can be made, thanks in particular to the work of my colleagues, Garifalia Kostopoulou and Maria Psallida.<sup>22</sup> Vessels in cooking fabrics were

found in different parts of the building, although some interesting concentrations could be detected. The largest percentage of the materials examined, with the exception of the plates, comes, not surprisingly, from Area Θ, a refuse pit more than 1.15 m deep, which contained enormous amounts of different types of broken pottery.

As to the layers and contexts related to the use of the building, significant concentrations of vessels in cooking fabrics are present in Areas Λ, Ξ, E and Φ. Area Λ in particular yielded important quantities of cooking pots and pans and the large majority of plate fragments. Its basement was probably used for the temporary storage of goods, while the up-

<sup>22</sup> My special thanks go to Metaxia Tsiopoulou, Garifalia Kostopoulou and Maria Psallida for sharing the reconstruction of House I.1 find contexts with me.



Table 1. Capacity measures from Petras House I.1 (restored vases).

Volumes lt	Volumes normalized lt	Unit 0.5 lt	Unit 1.5 lt	Notes
0.25	0.25	1/2	1/6	Small “standard” cup (0.30 lt). Cooking jugs (0.25; 0.4/0.6; 1.5/1.7 lt). Kalathos in cooking fabric 1.6 lt
0.4/0.6	0.5	1	1/3	
(1)	(1)	(2)	(2/3)	
1.5/1.7; 1.6	1.5	3	1	
2	2	4		Small cooking pot
3.3	3	6	2	Pans (3.3; 4.2; 4.5 lt). 1 cooking pot A (3.8 – 4 lt). 1 cooking jug (4.6 lt)
3.8 – 4	4	8		
4.2 – 4.5; 4.6	4.5	9	3	
4.8 – 5	5	10		Cooking pots B (4.8–5; 7 lt)
7	7	14	4? 5?	
8.5 – 9	8.5 or 9	17 o 18	5? or 6	Amphora narrow-based (better as 9 lt)
9.5	9.5	19		Amphora large-based, restored, perhaps 10.5 lt?
10	10	20	6? 7?	Cooking pot A (to be intended as 9.6 lt?)
10.5	10.5	21	7	Ovoid jar. Amphora
12; 12	12	24	8	Cooking fabric jars (12; 12 lt). Cooking pot A (10; 12 lt). Amphora narrow-based
13.5/13.8	13.5	27	9	Amphora large-based

#### Notes

Narrow-based amphorae: 9 and 12 lt, i.e. 3/4 and 1 (“hemikadion”)

Large-based amphorae: 10.5 and 13.5/13.8, i.e. 3/4 and 1 (“heavy hemikadion”)

per storey was possibly the living area of the house, where food consumption was taking place (large amounts of animal bones, sea shells, pouring vessels and stone tools are recorded). The presence of loom weights suggests weaving activities as well. In the southeast corner, three of the cooking tripod jugs (P86/A144, P86/A145 and P86/A153) were found, possibly fallen from the upper storey.

A medium-sized cluster of cooking pots and pans, including some trays, comes from Area Ξ, along with substantial quantities of storage, pouring and drinking vessels, as well as stone tools. The area has been identified as a kitchen or a pantry. The findings from Ξ most probably must be seen in close connection with those from Area Φ, a nearby courtyard which yielded a similar array of cooking pots, pans, (fewer) cooking trays and dishes, along with important quantities of storage vases and other utilitarian vessels. Stone tools, weaving implements, bones and sea shells are also recorded. It can thus be suggested that cooking activities and other domestic tasks were also carried out in the courtyard when possible, with Ξ

being used on such occasions as a storage or work area.

Another minor group of vessels in cooking fabric is recorded from the upper floor of Area E (mainly trays and cooking dishes, though other types are also present). This elongated area in the ground floor was most probably used as a storeroom for perishable goods.

## Capacities

### *Petras (Fig. 4 and Table 1)*

Since a certain number of vases from House I.1 have been restored, it was possible to undertake a small-scale study of capacity measurements on vessels in cooking fabrics and other classes. The vessels in cooking fabrics were first measured: the results were quite interesting, especially with regard to the series of tripod jugs which gave a sound set of values. In particular, the smallest one had the same capacity as the small handmade cup mentioned above as a possible standard (0.25–0.30 lt.). The cooking

pans, pots and the restored cooking dish were also measured. Then the oval-mouthed amphorae, a class which is theoretically more suited to this type of study, were examined: out of the four examples tested, two have a large base and a capacity of 13.5/13.8 lt. and 10.5 lt. respectively, while the other two have a narrow base and a capacity of 12 and 8.5/9 lt. respectively. Therefore, it seems that the volume ratio in both groups was 1:3/4. Could it be possible that the two different shapes are connected with two different measurement standards? When all of the measurements are plotted together (Table 1) it can be observed that different types of vessels belong to different dimensional ranges: it is quite obvious that cooking pots are normally shorter and smaller than amphorae, etc. Volume values follow the same dimensional grouping. In addition, volumes seem to follow a mathematical series of multiples (with some adaptations). The series of measurements from cooking jugs, the small “standard” cup, the volume differences between amphorae, the mathematic sequence of measurements all point to the existence of interrelated standard capacities of **0.25**, **0.5** and **1.5 lt.**, which are the basis for calculating the capacities of the other vessels. The size of **12 lt.** (i.e., 8 times the larger unit or 24 times the intermediate one) is particularly common.

*The “kados” and the “heavy kados”: parallels from Malia and Akrotiri (Table 2)*

The value of **11–12 lt.** for amphorae and jars was quite widely used in the ancient Mediterranean, as was its double (*ca.* **22 lt.**), which was one of the standard measures for amphorae at Ugarit (*kd*, later Greek *κᾰδοϛ*) and other places in the Levant.<sup>23</sup> As for the Bronze Age Aegean, although a systematic review of the evidence is pending, some interesting observations have been made on pithoi from Akrotiri:<sup>24</sup> the analysis of their painted marks pointed to the existence of three standard units, specifically of **22–26 lt.**, **29–30 lt.** and **14 lt.**, the latter being half of the preceding. Unfortunately, no other similar studies are currently available for the Neopalatial phase, and therefore parallels can to be sought only in the evidence from other periods.

Table 2. Malia, Quartier Mu (MM II). Necked jars (*jarres à col*) and amphorae of Type 1: recurrent volumes point to the existence of a series based on the “kados” (19–22 lt, with fractions and multiples) and the “heavy kados” (26–30 lt, with fractions and multiples).

“kados”	“heavy kados”	Recurrent volumes (lt)
1/4		5.5
1/2		10–12
	1/2	13–15 (mostly <i>ca.</i> 14)
1		19–22
	1	26–27
2		40
3	2	63–5
4	3	90–95

A large corpus of capacity measurements from Quartier Mu at Malia<sup>25</sup> has been recently published, although no proper study of the subject has been attempted. Regardless, through the analysis of this important data set some preliminary observations can be made, especially if the different typological pottery groups are considered separately. The first interesting data are provided by the necked jars (*jarres à col*) and amphorae of Type 1 (Table 2): recurrent volumes point to the existence of a series based on two units, one of **19–22 lt.** (with fractions and multiples) and the other of **26–30 lt.** (with fractions and multiples).

The picture is therefore very similar to that from Akrotiri, even if it is dated some centuries earlier. Since a denomination for those units is yet to be found, it is hereby proposed to refer to them respectively as the “**kados**” (**19–22 lt.**) and the “**heavy kados**” (**26–30 lt.**).<sup>26</sup>

<sup>23</sup> E.g., Heltzer 1989; Zamora 2000.

<sup>24</sup> Doumas & Constantinides 1990.

<sup>25</sup> MM II; Poursat & Knappett 2005.

<sup>26</sup> The names are conventional and inspired by contemporary Ugaritic and later Greek standard names. However, the term *ka-ti* occurs at least once in Linear B texts, in PY Tn 996.3, preceding the ideogram \*206<sup>VAS</sup>, which resembles a jar or hydria, Bennett 1955, 108; Ventris & Chadwick 1973, 551; Vandenabeele & Olivier 1979, 257; Aura Jorro 1985, 331.

Table 3. Malia, Quartier Mu (MM II). Jars of Type 2, amphorae of Type 3a and *brocs* of Type 2: the series of measurements has intervals of *ca.* 0.45 lt and is connected to the “kados” standards (shaded standards are not attested in these groups but have been hypothetically restored).

Recurrent volumes (lt)	Unit 0.45–0.5 lt
3	6
3.7–4 (1/8 “heavy kados”)	8
4.5	10
5.7 (1/4 “kados”)	12
6	13
6.5	14
7	15
7.5 (1/4 “heavy kados”)	16
8	17
8.5 (3/8 of “kados”)	18
9.5	20
10	21
10.5 (3/8 of “heavy kados”)	22
11	23
11.5 (1/2 “kados”)	24
12;12	25
12.5	26
13.5	
14.5 (1/2 “heavy kados”)	30
15	
24–25 “kados”	48
29 “heavy kados”	60
36 (3/2 “kados”)	
41 (2 “kados”)	

### *Fractions and multiples from Malia, Akrotiri and Crete (Tables 3–5)*

The capacity measurement system at MM Malia seems to have been quite extensive and complicated. The examination of Type 2 jars, Type 3a amphorae and Type 2 *brocs* produced a series of measures that have an interval of *ca.* **0.45 lt.** and

Table 4. Malia, Quartier Mu (MM II). Amphorae of Types 6 and 9, *brocs* of Type 1, jugs and cups: minor volumes seem to compose a series with very small intervals, of *ca.* 0.10 lt. The standards of 0.25 lt and 0.45–0.5 lt seem to be particularly important. Shaded: recurrent volumes for cups.

Recurrent volumes (lt)	Unit 0.45–0.5 lt
0.10	
0.15	
0.20	1/2
0.24–0.25	1/2
0.30	1/2?
0.3–0.38	
0.4–0.6	1
0.6	
0.7	1+1/2?
0.8	
0.9	2
1.1–1.2	2?, 2+1/2?
1.3–1.4	2?, 2+1/2
1.5/1.7; 1.6	3
1.8–1.9	3 + 1/2?
2	4
2.4–2.6	4 + 1/2?
2.7–2.8	5
2.9–3.1	6
3.3–3.4	7
3.7	8
4.5	10

are also linked to the “kados” and “heavy kados” standards (Table 3): they cover a range between 3 and 41 lt., including both of the “kados” standards, thus providing an idea about the functioning of a system for medium quantities of liquid or dry goods.

Other vessels can illustrate the organization of the measurements for small quantities: Types 6 and 9 amphorae, Type 1 *brocs*, jugs and cups (Table 4).

The smallest recorded volume is of **0.10 lt.** Minor volumes seem to comprise a series with very small intervals of *ca.* 0.10 lt. The standards of **0.15 lt.**, **0.25 lt.** and **0.45–0.5 lt.** seem to be particularly important. The data from other, less numerous vessel groups, such as basins, bowls, tripod jars and bridge-spouted jars fit the proposed series as well.

Table 5. Malia, Quartier Mu (MM II), Akrotiri (LB I) and Crete (all Bronze Age periods). Recurrent volumes of pithoi. For Akrotiri, the proposed ratio based on marks has been accepted, Doumas & Constantinides 1990; Poursat & Knappett 2005; Christakis 2005. Clusters appear in correspondence to the multiples of the “hemikadion” (3, 6, 9 and 12), the “kados” (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10 and 20) and the “heavy kados” (10 and 20).

“Kados standard” (“heavy kados” shaded)	Malia Mu (lt)	Akrotiri (lt)	Crete (lt)
1/2 (“hemikadion”)	<i>ca.</i> 11		
3/4 (= 3/2 “hemikadion”)	15.4		
	<i>ca.</i> 17		
1	<i>ca.</i> 20		20–25
“Heavy kados”	27.1		25–35
3/2 of “kados” (=3 “hemikadion”)	37.5		30–40
2	<i>ca.</i> 45		40–45 and 40–50 (cluster)
3 = 4 “heavy hemikadion” (Akrotiri)	57	56.6	50–60 (cluster)
3 (= 6 “hemikadion”)	<i>ca.</i> 60– <i>ca.</i> 70 (various)		60–70 (cluster)
	75		From 70
4	<i>ca.</i> 80– <i>ca.</i> 95 (cluster)	97.3	To 90, 80–90, and from 90
9 “hemikadion”	<i>ca.</i> 105		To 100 (cluster)
5 (= 10 “hemikadion”)	<i>ca.</i> 110– <i>ca.</i> 125	127.3	100–120
6 (= 12 “hemikadion”)	<i>ca.</i> 135–155	144.3; 158.3	100–150 (cluster); from 150
7?	<i>ca.</i> 165		To 170; 160–170; from 160
	<i>ca.</i> 170		
8 (at Akrotiri, marks point to both an 8 and 7 value)	<i>ca.</i> 180	179; 179.2; 178.6	To 180
	187		And to 190
10	190		From 180–190
10 (Akrotiri 7 “heavy kados”)	<i>ca.</i> 215	206.4; 213.3	To 220; 200–230
10			200–250 (cluster)
12? = 10 “heavy kados”			250–300 (cluster)
12? = 10 “heavy kados”			270–290; 280–320
12? = 10 “heavy kados”	<i>ca.</i> 320– <i>ca.</i> 340		300–350 (cluster)
20			400–450
24 = 20 “heavy kados”			500–550 (cluster)
48 = 40 “heavy kados”			900–1,050
120 = 100 “heavy kados”			2,500–3,000

The evidence from pithoi has to be considered when measuring large quantities: the sample from Malia Quartier Mu can be compared with

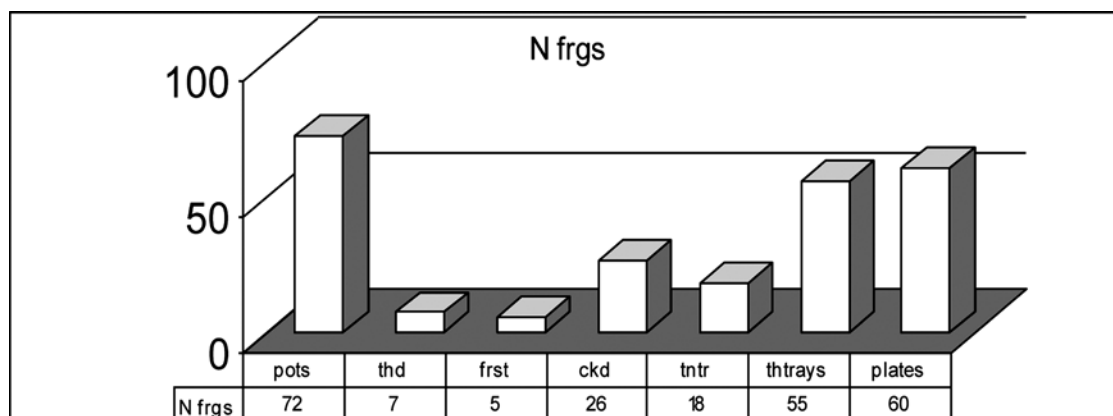
the data from Akrotiri already presented, and with that from Crete (Table 5); the latter is possible thanks to the recent review of the corpus of Mi-

Table 6. General comparison of capacities in the Bronze Age Aegean (MBA-LBA). In bold, standards which seem to be largely employed. Some characteristics seem to be similar in various assemblages, especially the largest samples (Malia, LM III Mochlos and Pylos). Under a liter, a series of volumes with intervals of 0.10 or 0.20 lt, with clustering at 0.15–0.16. At Malia also at 0.25 lt. Over a liter, a series of volumes with intervals of *ca.* 0.45; at Pylos, intervals of

Volume lt	Unit 0.5 lt	Unit 1.5 lt	“Hemikadion”	“Kados”	“Heavy Kados”	Malia Mu MM II	Petras LM IA	Akrotiri LB I	Palaikastro MM IIIB- LM IA	Mochlos LM IB	Mochlos LM III	Pylos LH IIIB/C	Stirrup jars from Pylos and Zygouries LH IIIB
0.07			1/128						skoutelia LM IA				
0.10									skoutelia MM IIIB (0.11 lt)	skoutelia			
0.15			1/64	1/128	1/128					skoutelia ogival cups (0.2–0.3 lt)	cluster		
0.25	1/2	1/6				X	X				X		
0.34			1/32	1/64									
<b>0.4/0.6</b>	1	1/3			1/64	X	X	possibly attested as standard interval and X					
0.7			1/16	1/32		X		X					
0.8								X					
0.9					1/32	X		X					
(1)	(2)	(2/3)				X		X					
1.1–1.2								X					
<b>1.3–1.4</b>			1/8	1/16		X							
<b>1.5/1.7; 1.6</b>	3	1				X	X	possibly attested as standard interval and X					PY 411 1.36 lt; PY 412 1.48 lt
1.8–1.9					1/16	X		X					
2	4					X	x						PY 696 1.90 l
2.4–2.6												V3? cluster	
2.7–2.8	5		1/4	1/8		X		X					
3.3	6	2				X	X	X				cluster	
3.7–4	8				1/8	X	X	X					
<b>4.2– 4.5; 4.6</b>	9 or 10	3				X	X					X	
4.8–5	10					cluster amph	X					X	
5.5	<b>12</b>		1/2	1/4		X		X					PY 401 5.63 l
6	13												



Table 7. Petras House I.1, vessels in cooking fabrics. Distribution of vessel types: pots (including cooking pots, pans and cooking indeterminate); thinner dishes; firestands; cooking dishes; thinner trays; thicker trays; and plates (60 undiagnostic plates/trays fragments not included).



noan pithoi.<sup>27</sup> The review embraces Cretan examples from the Early Bronze Age to the end of the Late Bronze Age and illustrates the capacity range according to pithos type.

From the analysis of these three different groups, a coherent picture seems to emerge. Recorded volumes range from 11 lt. to 3,000 lt., including both the “**kados**” and the “**heavy kados**” units, with their fractions and multiples. Volumes especially cluster corresponding to the multiples of the “**kados**” (multiples of **2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10** and **20**) and of the “**heavy kados**” (multiples of **10** and **20**). The “**hemikadion**” of **11–12 lt.** also seems to be a standard of measurement, with its **multiples** (of **3, 6, 9** and **12**).

#### *General comparison of Neopalatial Crete and LB III Crete and Mainland Greece (Table 6)*

The individuated series thus seems to have been used in MM Malia, LB I Akrotiri and BA Cretan pithoi. A general comparison can now be attempted, including Petras and other Neopalatial sites, such as Mochlos and Palaikastro (Table 6). The observations made for Petras are still valid, with an important detail: *the difference between narrow-based and large-based amphorae seems to be meaningful*, since narrow-based examples refer to the “**kados**” **standard**, while the large-based ones to the “**heavy kados**” **standard**. However, the sample is numerically so reduced that more parallels must be found before considering this difference as sig-

nificant. As for Palaikastro, a reduction of the average volume of conical cups from MM IIIB to LM IA is attested (from 0.11 lt. to 0.07 lt.). Conical cups are very small at Mochlos as well (0.1–0.15 lt.), while the ogival cups are a little larger (0.2–0.3 lt.). Anyway, given the poor number of volumes known from these and other Neopalatial sites, no more comments can be made. More information can be found from the Mycenaean period, especially from LM III Mochlos<sup>28</sup> and LH IIIB/C Early Pylos<sup>29</sup> (Table 6, right). Notwithstanding the great chronological difference, it seems that the structure of the capacity measurement system was still intact during the advanced and final Mycenaean times, with the “**hemikadion**”, the “**kados**” and the “**heavy kados**” units and the plethora of minor units, especially the **0.15, 0.25, 0.45** and **1.4/1.6 lt.** standards, which are largely attested in the sample. Few large vases from this phase have been measured: however, the existence of both the “**kados**” and the “**heavy kados**” is suggested by the volumes of the stirrup jars from Pylos and Zygouries.<sup>30</sup>

The offered outline is still preliminary and more study and data processing are needed to refine it. However, in general terms, the capacity measurement system of the Bronze Age Aegean seems to

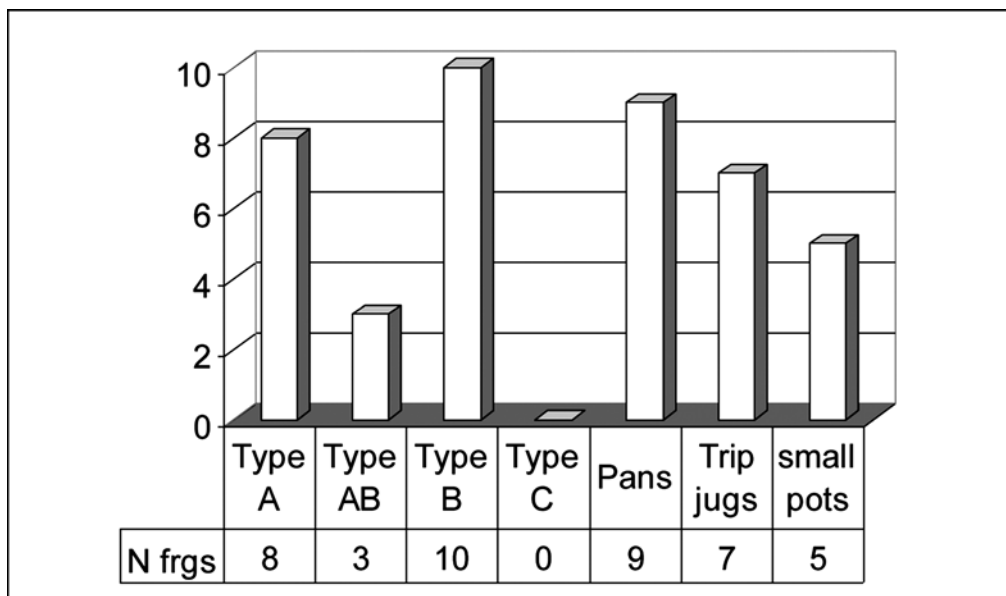
<sup>27</sup> Christakis 2005.

<sup>28</sup> Smith 2010.

<sup>29</sup> Lang 1964.

<sup>30</sup> Darcque 2005, 226.

Table 8. Petras House I.1, vessels in cooking fabric. Types of cooking pots and pans: cooking pots of Type A, cooking pots of Type AB, cooking pots of Type B, cooking pots of Type C, cooking pans, cooking tripod jugs and small cooking pots.



Notes: Type A: Type B: Pans = 1:1:1 ca.

have had a number of constant characteristics over time, at least from MM to the end of LM/LH IIIB (Table 6.1–6). The basic standards are the “**hemikadion**”, the “**kados**” and the “**heavy kados**”. For very small quantities (less than a liter) the system includes a series of volumes with intervals of 0.10 or 0.20 lt., with clustering at **0.15–0.16 lt.**, and at Malia also at **0.25 lt.** Over a liter, the volumes have intervals of *ca.* **0.45 lt.**; at Pylos, intervals are in this case, 0.20 and 0.40 lt. Larger measures are exact multiples of this possible standard of 0.45 lt.: 24 for the “**hemikadion**”, 30 for the “**heavy hemikadion**”, 48 for the “**kados**” and 60 for the “**heavy kados**”. Mathematical ratios between the standards seem, therefore, on preliminarily examination to exist: the main counting unit, however, could have differed according to location and time period (the possible use of the “**heavy hemikadion**” at Akrotiri being an example). The discussion of the absolute value of the measures for dry and liquid foodstuff attested in Linear A and especially Linear B is outside the scope of the present work. However, the data presented and the analysis conducted here could perhaps contribute to this long-standing debate, which cannot be successfully

addressed without an adequate corpus of capacity measurements.

## Final observations (Tables 7–8)

Vessels in cooking fabrics have proven to be quite informative, in regard to daily life, space organization and quantification practices.

First of all, the statistical analysis of the attested types suggests some important equivalence relationships between the various shapes, as well as the possible existence of a “cooking set”. Plotting together the data from House I.1 (Table 7), the major groups within the cooking fabric assemblage are, as already illustrated, cooking pots, thicker trays and plates, occurring in approximately the same numbers. In addition, there is a rough correspondence between the numbers of fragments of cooking dishes and thinner trays, and between thicker trays and plates, but it is impossible to assess if there also exists a functional correspondence.

The typological separation of cooking pots (Table 8) shows an equal number of Types A (globular), Types B (cylindrical), pans, and (perhaps) jugs.



Could it then be possible to hypothesize an ideal “cooking” set consisting of one Type A pot, one Type B pot, a pan, and one small pot? It would have made sense in strictly cooking terms. On the other hand, tripod jugs seem to form a separate series. It is also possible that the set included a fire stand, a thinner dish, one or two thinner trays and one or two cooking dishes.

In addition, it is worth noting the large amount of vessels in cooking fabrics that were associated with the House, especially large pots, pans, thick trays and plates. This raises questions about the activities and the building’s intended use(s). Thus, it seems probable that cooking or other activities involving fire and charcoal were taking place in the structure on a significant scale.

Besides, there was also a substantial need for processing or evacuating liquids, at least judging

from the amount of the recorded plate fragments. As has been seen before, these activities seem to cluster in a restricted number of areas within the House ( $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ ,  $\Phi$  and E).

A better understanding of the scale of activities involved could have been reached through the study of the dimensions of the vases, and especially their capacities, but unfortunately very few vessels were intact or restorable. It is, however, noteworthy that some of the larger cooking pots (Type A) have the same capacity as amphorae and jars (*ca.* 10–12 lt.), possibly due to intense cooking activities (and the standardization of pot volumes). These capacities are linked to the basic “**kados**” unit. In this sense, the collection of pots seems to indicate that Petras shared the same measurement system already in use in other parts of Crete and the Aegean.

# Discussion

**Brogan** That was really cool, what you did at the end with the measurements. And I think Mochlos will have some nice comparisons for you, for the pithoi and the amphorae, and you will be able to find out if that works on a regional scale. The other thing from Mochlos is that when we wrote *Mochlos IB*, we did not have a lot of early Neopalatial deposits to compare with Mochlos. But the 2009–2010 excavations have uncovered six or seven major MM III–LM IA kitchens. So, you will also want to come and look at that, and there you will find those tripod jugs that we never get in LM IB levels; we have them in MM II levels and now in MM III. My question to you is: I have not seen those cooking pans, are they an LM IA or LM IB feature?

**Alberti** Both.

**Brogan** Because at Papadiokampos we do not have that shape at all in LM IB. Because we thought our kitchen stuff was really close to Petras, but that is something very different.

**Alberti** It is only a problem of size, anyway.

**Brogan** Is that common? Do you have a lot of them?

**Alberti** A third of the restorable pots.

**Brogan** So, they are quite a few.

**Alberti** Yes.

**Haggis** I very much enjoyed your paper. The range of things is impressive. What I liked in particular was the juxtaposition in a single assemblage of Type A, Type B and the pans. What occurs to me is that the capacities may be ultimately less important (looking at that limited range of pots) than the possible different functions that is their actual selection, which may show that different shapes may be involved with preparing different kinds of foods in this context. This is something that in Minoan archaeology we have not really even begun to wrap our heads around. There are a couple of problems, one is what is the functional difference between boiling and stewing, and then different kinds of things, meat pot boiling and pot sizing for meat, and then legumes and various plant products. What I am wondering is that if you are picking up a range of vessels that are used for very specific activities, on the whole larger scale, then the ultimate capacity of the large vessels is less important than their actual functions. The biggest problem that I have with cook pots of almost any period is the lack of lids, although we find schist lids or reused pithos sherds, and so on,

which could function as lids, for pot boiling and for stewing, the absence of lids is quite surprising, and I wonder if you knew of any lids or if you would consider what foods they were producing.

**Alberti** I think we have some lids, very, very few. I saw some lids from Petras, not so many. The problem with the difference of shape, is that yes, we can assume a difference in the function. I cook and I cannot perceive the difference in the function. Since I am Italian I would boil noodles in a deep pot and make the tomato sauce in the pan, and probably I would cook lentils in a globular pot. Anyway, as you cook, and also as an archaeologist, you know that you can do anything in any pot. When there is a necessity you use the tool you have. So, I think, from a certain point of view, typologically, if I want to do a serious typological work, then I should separate things, at the same time, in practice they would use anything. I know that at Akrotiri, for example, they found lentils in jugs, something that we could not expect. Furthermore, I think it would be important if we could isolate a cooking set. Perhaps the richest housewives had complete sets.

**Morrison** I just have a question about your ceramic fabrics. Do you have any preliminary results or descriptions of these for your cooking pots?

**Alberti** No, we do not have them yet.

**Morrison** Do they seem to all be the same, or very close to one another? Does it look like they are using one type of clay to produce all these vessels?

**Alberti** I made a fabric classification, but I did not have the opportunity to make a cross comparison with Eleni Nodarou on the samples that she examined. We will find a way to do that. What I saw, personally, and I might be completely wrong, is that we have basically a range of fabrics that are all phyllite, many different phyllite fabrics, and this is the large majority. Possibly there is also some different stuff, that I really do not know if it is different or not. We have grey-black and pink.

**Hallager** Just a short question: I can understand why it would be a good thing to have standard capacities and measurements in storage jars, but what would be the purpose of that for cooking pots?

**Alberti** If you are used to measures, you use measures, anyway. So, I think, we can understand it better in storage jars, because they were made on purpose, if you want, but I think that when I see all the range of cooking jugs, I do not think they were made by chance, they have a rule. If it is conscious or unconscious I do not know, they more or less follow the scale, the same scale the potter follows when he makes jars. I think it is more a question of habit.

**Hallager** But would it not have been much more difficult to make the vases to scale in that way?

**Alberti** I think it is a question of getting used to it. Everything is approximate of course. Not even balance weights are absolutely precise.

- Brogan** If all these are stored in one room could you potentially have cooking beyond the scale of a single household? And do those buildings not have some industrial functions that involve heating, like dyeing. Is there not some textile industry?
- Alberti** We are still trying to understand what these houses were, and what types of activities were carried on. In House I.1 we had wine production, since we had the wine press. We had good indications for textile activities in House II.1 and Nektaria Mavroudi will speak about that. Our probable interpretation of these structures is based on facts. Secondly, “What do we intend for a household?”; “What is big?”; “How much is large?”; “How many are the functions?” There are all these questions. Do we have a good grasp of Minoan society at all?
- Brogan** You can use Mochlos’ cooking sets as the norm for a domestic situation, and then see how different you are, and then be able to say “we are something else”, if it is true.
- MacGillivray** Your basic unit of around of 11–12 is kind of interesting. Have you thought of comparing it against the Zakros pithos, which has 27 units of wine in it?
- Alberti** I did not think about that. I will do it.
- MacGillivray** Because if it is around 10–11 you get up to around 300 liters, which is what that pithos looks like.
- Rupp** Just an observation, having talked to, and observed potters at work, is that an experienced potter can grab a lump of clay from a pile and throw it, as we have seen, because this is what your pottery studies reveal, to a standard profile and size, and I think that what is happening here is that they know what size they want. Whether or not it is exactly to the liter is not important, but they do not have a continuous scale, they are pretty much on the mark. What the statistical studies all reveal is that in fact, when you see the cluster, that these people are regularly hitting these standards, and multiples of them, because that is what their customers wanted. They wanted standard sizes.

### *Greek abstract*

#### Αγγεία από πήλο μαγειρικών σκευών από το Σπίτι Ι.1 του Πετρά

Η παρούσα μελέτη επικεντρώνεται σε αγγεία κατασκευασμένα από πήλο όμοιο με αυτό των μαγειρικών σκευών, προερχόμενα από το Σπίτι Ι.1 (ΥΜΙΑ). Λείπει προς το παρόν μια συστηματική μελέτη των μινωικών μαγειρικών σκευών. Πάντως, καθώς υπάρχουν πολλές δημοσιεύσεις από πολλές θέσεις, έχουν ήδη καθορισθεί τα βασικά τυπολογικά, τεχνικά και λειτουργικά χαρακτηριστικά, αλλά και η χρονολογική και γεωγραφική κατανομή. Ως προς το Πετρά, η ήδη ολοκληρωμένη μελέτη των μαγειρικών σκευών από το ΥΜ ΙΒ Σπίτι ΙΙ.1, μας επέτρεψε να καθορίσουμε μια τυπολογία και να κάνουμε παρατηρήσεις για χρονολογικούς και γεωγραφικούς παράγοντες. Η ανάλυση προχωρεί με την ομάδα αγγείων από το Σπίτι Ι.1, όπου οι αναλογίες των διαφόρων τύπων είναι διαφορετικές, και αφθονούν οι διάφοροι τύποι μαγειρικών δίσκων και τραπεζών.



## Final discussion

chaired by *J. Alexander MacGillivray*

**MacGillivray** I do not know about you, but I feel dizzy after two days full time; Petras information overload in some ways. I think like with all excavations and all research projects you come away with more questions than you do answers, but I guess that is why we do it. Like many people yesterday, I should probably start by asking why Metaxia Tsipopoulou asked me. That is possibly because we are such good neighbors, and we have been good neighbors – I worked at Palaikastro since the very beginning. Hugh Sackett and I went in 1983 to Palaikastro though we did not start digging until 1986. We were both younger then, it was a really long time ago. So I have been associated with Petras, and with Metaxia, for all of those 25 years. One thing that does come through is the sheer amount of hard work that is involved, I do not just mean the digging, that is the easy part, it is the bureaucracy, the fund raising, and she had to deal with land owners. That part does not really show in the Symposium. We sit back now and we marvel at these results, but there is a whole back story to this, that perhaps should never be told, or nobody would ever go into archaeology. In Metaxia's case, it was very complicated, very difficult, and she showed amazing staying power, and we are very grateful that she did. When I first went to eastern Crete in 1983, you would drive by Petras, and there was nothing there, now 25 years later, what Metaxia has done is that she has given us this amazing site, she has put Petras on the map. Bosanquet went through there for a couple of days in 1901, and wrote about it, but Metaxia has effectively put Petras on the map. It has now become a fairly big dot in the discussions of Bronze Age Crete. One of the things she has shown us, and Costas Paschalidis was reminding me that, from the very beginning, from the Final Neolithic IV to the Byzantine period, Petras, I suppose by virtually being by the sea, has an international spirit and it has international connections. We are even talking about connections with Egypt in MM IB, and it functions very well as a harbor town.

What I thought I might do, in order to lead this discussion, and you may want to talk more with the speakers, was really think about what these 25 years at Petras have given us. Being an old school archaeologist I still tend to think chronologically, instead of thematically. I thought it would be simpler really to run through what these excavations have given us in terms of the broader picture of Bronze Age Crete, and then Bronze Age Aegean, and then in the later periods, in Byzantium. Obviously the place to start is FN IV, when we have the first settlers, and we have strong Cycladic influence. What do you think that means? Are the people of Petras like people from Hagia Photia in the next period? I suppose Petras was looking for metals and lithics. The thing that still amazes me is that these people who we see trading abroad, which means that either they are going by the sea, or somebody is coming to them by sea, were not eating fish; there is a problem sailing over all this wonderful food, and not eating it, although we did see the fish hooks.

So, you can look at EM I and EM II and see what that gives us, in terms of the overall picture, what happens in EM III–MM IA, when we have the wonderful ossuaries with their pots, especially that collection of whole vases, at the end of that period. MM IB is a very interesting period when you had very expensive well painted ceramics that were put down in the Lakkos. And there is the wonderful tempting reconstruction that the hill was used, certainly in that period, if not earlier, for social gatherings, people coming together; feasting, if we want to use that trendy term, it is a focal point, for perhaps more than one community going there. What they are consuming is, certainly, when we are looking at the pottery, material locally made, but also imported, and therefore, slightly more expensive. Who are these people, where do they live, are they coming from further afield, to gather at this place? This was obviously important, and then this was replaced by the first palace, which if I am not mistaken, could be fortified; you think that the terrace wall could work as a fortification wall?

**Tsipopoulou** Not entirely, one part yes.

**MacGillivray** So it gives an impression, like the façades of the other palaces, we then have this change. There is enough wealth, enough power and enough desire to build this larger center, and this coincides with the change, it seems, in the Kephala cemetery, where, instead of re-deposited burials, we have these two males, these two fairly interesting individuals, who are using, presumably, these wonderful seals, that we saw Olga Krzyszkowska present. As they coincide with the construction of the palace, it would be interesting to speculate who were these young men, and why they were buried differently, inhumations, as opposed to whatever their normal practice was.

Then there is the destruction of this first palace, at the end of MM IIB, and we have the archive, that is one of the main reasons why we can talk about it as a palace. How big a center is Petras, is it controlling a wide area, can we tell that from the goods in the archive? I am still not entirely convinced, we might be misleading ourselves with these big state maps that we draw for Middle Minoan Crete. They could be much smaller, like Hellenistic city-state areas, much smaller areas of control. I think we are reading back almost from the modern Greek church boundaries, which currently separate Crete, and so we trying to recreate something like that, but that may have not been the case. That is something we can discuss.

This palace then, like many other buildings throughout Crete, towards or at the end of MM IIB, gets trashed, fortunately for people like Erik Hallager, who then have all this wonderful material to work with, and allows him, or us, to reconstruct what is actually being recorded in this building. And does this palace, that is very well excavated now, much better excavated than Knossos, does this allow us to answer the question that Jan Driessen has posed most recently, is this, are these, social ritual centers, or are they really the palaces of a monarch? Are we meant to view kings, or queens, living here? Or is Crete the only place in the ancient world where you do not have some divinely inspired, or actually divinely stated ruler in charge? Can Petras help us to solve that question in this period?

We then go to MM III, and that is something that we will have to see what it gives us over time, but we have that rather amazing rod, with the Linear A inscription. So, certainly there is administration in that period. But where is the building that has

been used? It is probably the building in which they have the LM IA floor deposits afterwards.

The LM IA period is amazing, I thought that we would never go through a whole two-day conference about a site in the Aegean, talking about its Bronze Age history, without mentioning the Thera eruption. But it came through at Papadiokampos, and it is kind of interesting that it was not mentioned by any of the workers at Petras.

**Tsipopoulou** We do not have ash.

**MacGillivray** You would not have ash, because the tsunami does not get up on a hill. That is what is preserving the ash at Mochlos, Papadiokampos, Palaikastro and other places. But even without the ash, you have destruction, you have abandonment, and then you have a change in LM IB, when you have a smaller courtyard, a slightly rearranged building, could that be a reflection of the kind of damage you had in the period, depopulation, etc.? When Zakros and Gournia and Mochlos and other sites have all these wonderful buildings in LM IB, the Late Minoan Renaissance, Petras has suffered somehow, the harbor at Petras may have silted in, as a result of the debris flows coming back? It is worth discussing.

Then you have the LM IB destructions. Petras comes in line with the rest of the world. You do not seem to have evidence for LM II, so there is no instant reoccupation of the area, and in a sense it is your great LM IA palace with the Linear A that may be the last glory days at the site.

It is interesting that there is that memory of the place, where for some reason, I suppose it is the topography that demands it as well, where people would come and relocate, but not necessarily relocate to live, because in different periods you live in different places but some local community, possibly even just a family, was coming through where you have the LM IIIC settlement and megaron on Kephala.

Then in the Byzantine period, with a time span of 150 years for the use of the cemetery, it would not have been simply serving just one family, one farmstead. And they were manufacturing stuff also, up on the hill, but it remains a sacred place.

The fun thing is that Hill I has now become a sacred place again. Metaxia has fought tooth and nail to keep it from becoming a suburb of Siteia, and instead she has turned it into a place that reminds people from Siteia, or at least should remind people from Siteia, like Giorgos Alexopoulos, that they do have a very long and rich history, with a lot of external communications.

These are some of the themes I am thinking of. Then there is the theme of burial practices. That would be very interesting, changes in burial practices, what happens in MM III–LM I. If anybody would like to start, attacking, commenting on ideas that have come up, please do.

**Hallager** I was struck by one thing that you mentioned, at the very beginning, the lack of fish, and if I may suggest one possible solution. Based on my experience from the excavations in Khania, it has always been a very great mystery to me why you have no rubbish pits in the LM I settlement. As I travelled around the island I asked all our colleagues excavating LM I settlements “where are your rubbish pits?”, and they were not there. It was Phil Betancourt who gave me an answer, which I am going to suggest also for the missing fish bones. He said that during that period and probably



also in the earlier periods, such organic remains were very important and they were taken out into the fields to be used as manure. This might be one possible suggestion for the missing fish bones.

**MacGillivray** Interesting.

**Vallianou** I just want to point out that Metaxia must be a very happy Greek archaeologist. After 25 years of hard work, and having faced many difficult problems, she managed to complete an important work, to excavate a particularly important site, to establish its relations with other areas, to have very good collaborators, to publish a lot, to reach almost the end of her research, and to make the site accessible to the public, with modest but appropriate interventions. I would like to wish her luck in the future, and I believe that she deserved all she has achieved up to now.

**MacGillivray** Excellent. She has been very clever about getting the right sort of collaborators.

**Macdonald** Can I just ask about the end of LM IB, perhaps you did not go into detail, at least House II.1 is abandoned, not destroyed by fire?

**Tsipopoulou** There is fire, especially since the industrial activity taking place there was connected with hearths, heating water, etc. The whole of Room E gave evidence for a fire. In the Shaw Festschrift, the *Krinoi kai Limenes* volume (Tsipopoulou 2007c), I published, for the first time, several pictures of the destruction deposit over the central court of the palace. There was a thick LM IB destruction deposit, full of blocks fallen from the upper floor, door jambs, from *polythyra*, many with mason's marks among them (we have identified 29 on fallen blocks, and some more are *in situ*). There was this very thick deposit with intense burning, all over the central court and to the east of it. In the central court we had 10 Byzantine graves and also the ossuary. Some of them, as Natalia Poulou-Papadimitriou said, used one Minoan wall and then built another three walls, to have a cist built tomb. In other cases, they excavated in this very thick and compact destruction deposit, which was like the bedrock, and they put their dead in it.

**MacGillivray** So the LM IB fire destruction reached very high temperatures.

**Tsipopoulou** It is something very similar to the Phaistos "*astraki*". We do not have much LM IB pottery, because what we call the west wing of the palace, the parallel corridors on the plan, are all basement, or rather they are structural features to support the upper floors, so they were practically empty of any traces of the latest use. When we dug deeper, we found the walls of previous buildings. The latest phase of the palace is not well preserved, but we do have the destruction deposit.

Besides the central court, there was a room with an intense LM IB destruction deposit. This room is adjacent to the so-called "shrine" with the 4 m long plastered bench. This room with the bench was Protopalatial, and following the MM IIB destruction was sealed and never re-used. To the northeast of it, there was a long room with a flagstone floor, and in it even the slabs were burnt. It was also full of plaster and mudbricks both from the ground and from the upper floors.

- MacGillivray** That suggests that in LM IB the building was sufficiently important for someone to need to destroy it.
- Tsipopoulou** What always makes me wonder is why they kept this smaller, sort of symbolic, central court, and they did all the re-arrangement with the alternating columns and pillars. It has always been a palace with the memory of the earlier glory.
- MacGillivray** The Linear A tablets come from that?
- Tsipopoulou** Yes.
- MacGillivray** So there is administration.
- Tsipopoulou** Yes, but we do not know about the existence of an archive. There were two tablets, in the same trench, at the west part of the building, the same trench that contained the hieroglyphic archive in a deeper stratum. And in between there was also an LM IA destruction deposit, all that in the same trench, we excavated almost 3 m. Kostas Christakis excavated the LM IA destruction deposit.
- MacGillivray** I wonder if, maybe Kostas Christakis will talk about the notion of foreigners and locals that Tina McGeorge brought up quite clearly.
- Paschalidis** I would like to change the subject, based on a comment we exchanged yesterday with Metaxia. In this Symposium, the LM III period was not adequately represented, not because it did not exist at Petras.
- Tsipopoulou** Right.
- Paschalidis** So, in order to have a complete picture of the site we should need to include this important period as well.
- MacGillivray** Is there LM IIIA and IIIB?
- Tsipopoulou** And also LM IIIC, as we saw.
- Paschalidis** There was a cemetery, Metaxia, that you showed us yesterday.
- Tsipopoulou** Yes, there has been a cemetery; we had the larnakes, both chest-shaped and bathtub. The cemetery started in LM IIIB and continued into LM IIIC.
- MacGillivray** The interesting thing about having a settlement like Petras, that was occupied for thousands of years, is that you can almost visualize populations coming and going. One of the best ways to see them is through their burial practices and to see how these change over time. Because you are dealing with the same spot, but obviously you are not dealing with the same people, you are watching populations come and go.

- Tsipopoulou** I would like to remind you about the Achladia tholos, which is Mycenaean in type and construction. This is very close to Petras, only 4 km from the coast, and it was also almost on top of an earlier settlement, a very small one, a *metochi* type, both Proto- and Neopalatial.
- MacGillivray** Was that the one with the 80-year old in it?
- Tsipopoulou** Not 80, she was 45–65 years old when she died.
- MacGillivray** That is pretty old, anyway.
- Tsipopoulou** It was pretty old, and she had suffered from a very significant stress when she was very young, probably malnutrition.
- MacGillivray** The Theraeruption? No the Mycenaean invasion.  
[Laughs from the audience!]
- Tsipopoulou** The LM IB destruction. She was an upper class lady.
- MacGillivray** Does everybody know whatever they possibly want to know about Petras?
- Blackman** I am actually working on Ramnous and I found out about this conference while studying there, with surprise. It is actually wonderful to be there. We are studying with *EAIKEΘE* [Hellenic Center of Marine Research] the problem of relative sea level change. Relative is the important word here, has the sea gone down and the land gone up, or both phenomena? The question goes back to Spratt and the whole question of what Crete has done, we know about elevation in the west, but something was happening in the east, and we have these submerged buildings at Palaikastro, which we wanted to survey. The whole issue of reconstructing the palaeoenvironment is very important. Now, at Siteia we have a *neoreion* that is classical, too late for our Prehistorian friends, but there you have something which functions with a precise sea level, not far from your site. First the geologists disagree about what has happened to the sea. Secondly the land is not one block, so what applies to Palaikastro will not necessarily apply to Siteia.
- MacGillivray** No, you have local tectonics.
- Blackman** But, nevertheless, a local study of the evidence for submerged beach lines would enable you to understand what has happened in the later periods, including eruptions, what has happened to the shoreline. Geologists can help with all that. Keep working with geologists, it is a challenge, they do not know how to apply for archaeological permits, and also the jealousies of geologists are far greater than the jealousies of archaeologists.
- MacGillivray** Impossible!  
[Laughs in the audience!]

**Blackman** Nevertheless, it is very important for reconstructing communications by sea in the Minoan period, it is very important to try to reconstruct where the coastline was before you can understand the use of harbors, whatever harbors mean. It has been a wonderful conference. Congratulations to Dr Tsipopoulou.

**MacGillivray** I think this is probably the best time, to thank not only Metaxia but also her whole crew, for putting together the Symposium, and obviously these two days represent the end-result of 25 years of hard work, but you are probably less than half way there on the site, so we should probably meet every five years and get all the new information.  
[Laughs in the audience]

And I hope you will all join me thanking Metaxia and her colleagues for this fantastic Symposium!

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*ActaArch* – *Lov Acta archaeologica Lovanensia*

*AJA* – *American Journal of Archaeology*

*AJPA* – *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*

*AR* – *Archaeological Reports*

*ArchDelt* – *Archaeologikon Deltion*

*ArchEph* – *Archaiologike Ephemeris*

*ASAtene* – *Annuario della Scuola archeologica di Atene e delle Missioni italiane in Oriente*

*BAR-IS* – *British Archaeological Reports, International Series*

*BASOR* – *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*

*BCH* – *Bulletin de correspondance hellénique*

*BCH Suppl.* – *Bulletin de correspondance hellénique. Supplément*

*BÉFAR* – *Bibliothèque des Écoles françaises d'Athènes e de Rome*

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*CretChron* – *Kretika Chronika*

*CurrAnthr* – *Current Anthropology*

*JAnthArch* – *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*

*JAS* – *Journal of Archaeological Science*

*JMA* – *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology*

*JPR* – *Journal of Prehistoric Religion*

*Kentro* – *Kentro: The Newsletter of the INSTAP Study Center for East Crete*

*OpAth* – *Opuscula Atheniensia*

*Prakt* – *Praktika tes en Athenais Archaiologikes Etaireias*

*SIMA* – *Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology*

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