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Early Iron Age Communities of Southern Italy

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Greek and Greek style pottery in the Sibaritide during the 8th century B.C.

Jan Kindberg Jacobsen, Francesca Ippolito, Gloria Paola Mittica and Søren Handberg,

Abstract

The current article analyzes two aspects of cultural and material interaction between Greek and indigenous populations in Northern Calabria during the 8th c. B.C. The analysis outlines a local production of Oinotrian-Euboean pottery and the appearance of the earliest Corinthian imported ceramics from the Middle Geometric II and Late Geometric periods at the indigenous site of Timpone della Motta, close to present day Francavilla Marittima in Northern Calabria and other indigenous sites in the nearby Sibaritide. Traditionally, the Timpone della Motta has been regarded as a central and important indigenous settlement from the end of the 9th c. B.C and its size and importance increased during the course of the first half of the 8th c. B.C. The importance of the site is reflected in the construction on the summit of large monumental hut structures that seem to have had a ritual function, and in a rapidly expanding necropolis in the nearby Macchiabate area. Until recently, the material culture of the site pointed to an almost exclusively indigenous presence with only a few occasional imported objects, mainly Corinthian Late Geometric ceramics, which have rightly been taken as evidence for direct or indirect sporadic contact between the indigenous population and the Greeks. The foundation of the Greek colony of Sybaris, circa 12 km to the southeast of Francavilla Marittima, became a turning point for the indigenous settlements of the Sibaritide.

Introduction

Since the first identification in 2007 of a particular group of 8th c. B.C. highly Euboeanizing wheel-turned pottery (the so-called Oinotrian-Euboean pottery) at the Timpone della Motta near ancient Sybaris in Northern Calabria, the amount of fragments ascribed to this production has steadily increased. A *kerameikos*, where this Oinotrian-Euboean pottery was most likely produced, has been identified on the southern slope of the Timpone della Motta and two 8th c. B.C. huts situated near the *kerameikos* have been revealed during the 2009 and 2010 excavations. These new finds, as well as the increasing amount of Oinotrian-Euboean pottery, allow for a re-evaluation of the indigenous Iron Age site. A large concentration of Oinotrian-Euboean pottery found in the area of the newly discovered huts and a closer analysis of the distribution of this group of pottery indicates different consumption patterns among different groups of inhabitants of the Iron Age settlement. This difference in consumption practices might correspond to social differences among indigenous groups and a group of resident Euboean immigrants at the site.

The indigenous settlement

At least from the end of the 9th through 8th c. B.C., the Timpone della Motta was an indigenous site of central importance. The importance of the site is reflected in the erection on the summit of large monumental buildings, appearing to have served communal functions.

Contemporary evidence of domestic areas has been identified around the Timpone and the nearby Macchiabate necropolis suggesting that they expanded rapidly at that time.¹ A process of gradual increment

¹ For research prior to 2007 cf. Van Der Wielen-Van Ommeren and De Lachenal 2008, 17-81. For subsequent research cf. Jacobsen and Handberg 2010, 11-42.

in Greek material culture in both the religious center on the summit of the Timpone della Motta and the necropolis had already started in the first half of the 8th c. B.C. The amount of Greek pottery increased substantially by the end of the 8th c. B.C. but after the second quarter of the 7th c. B.C., indigenous material is scarcely represented at the site.² The foundation of the Achaian colony of Sybaris circa 12 km to the southeast of Timpone della Motta must have played an important role in the process during the last quarter of the 8th c. B.C. The foundation of Sybaris is believed to have caused a change in settlement patterns and depopulation. Regardless of the specific circumstances these changes eventually led to a pronounced adoption of Greek material culture among the indigenous population.³ The nature of the initial meetings between the indigenous people and the Sybarites and the pace of this 'Hellenization' have been, and continue to be, divided between two competing theories. One theory argues for a 'soft' co-existential process, another for a 'hard', violent cultural encounter in the period between the foundation of Sybaris and the middle of the 7th c. B.C.⁴

Since 2007, new excavations and research conducted by the Groningen Institute of Archaeology have produced results of central importance for the interpretations of the historical and cultural processes that took place in the Sibaritide in the 8th c. B.C. Prior to the new excavations, information about the initial contact between the indigenous community and the Greek newcomers was observable predominately in occasional imported objects, consisting mostly of Corinthian Late Geometric pottery. However, following the new excavations there is clear evidence, in the form of the two 8th c. B.C. huts mentioned earlier, that suggests the Greeks originating from Euboea lived side by side with the indigenous people at the Timpone della Motta half a century before the foundation of Sybaris. This new information creates a more complex picture of the social, religious and economic organization that requires a closer contextual analysis of material from Timpone della Motta and other sites within a larger geographical area.

Bronze Age evidence from Area Rovitti

During the 2009-10 excavations of Iron Age Structure A and Structure B at the Area Rovitti⁵ evidence for Late Bronze Age material culture was found. Handmade pottery fragments date between the Recent Bronze Age (RBA), the Final Bronze Age (FBA) and the Early Iron Age (EIA). The presence of Bronze Age fragments in EIA levels indicates the probable presence of Bronze Age levels in lower strata partially damaged as a result of the building of the Iron Age structures. Additionally, the presence of out of context Bronze Age material is also a consequence of the construction of the Eiano aqueduct in 1959 that further disturbed the site area.

Evidence from the first phase of the RBA includes a fragment of a handle with snail horn knobs (fig. 1.1),⁶ which was found in the area of Structure B (late 8th – early 7th c. B.C.) in a level dating to the end of the 8th c. B.C. Consequently, the RBA1 fragment may be related to the leveling of the floor within Structure B, which disturbed the Bronze Age levels beneath the IA structures. The same process concerns the Bronze Age fragments found during the excavation of the Structures A-B and in the area North of them, where the Eiano aqueduct was built.

Other RBA fragments were also found. The leveling layer from Structure B (SU 87) includes a jar with in-turning rim and cord-band decoration (fig. 1.6) which resembles similar jars from Torre Mordillo and Castiglione-Roggiano Gravina.⁷ At the latter site, another parallel has been found for a short collared jar coming from SU 83 (fig. 1.7).⁸

² Jacobsen and Handberg 2010.

³ For a recent account cf. Attema, Burgers and Van Leusen 2010, 95-100, 119-24.

⁴ For the competing opinions cf. Kleibrink 2001; Vanzetti 2009.

⁵ Colelli and Jacobsen 2013, 20-32; Jacobsen and Handberg 2012, 688-705; Crudo 2012, 1-3.

⁶ Sherd 369 from layer SU 84, see for instance the parallel

after Damiani 2010, tav. 120A.4, Type B10, var. B (Podere Montaletto, Misano Adriatico, Rimini).

⁷ Sherd 489; for the parallels: Trucco and Vagnetti 2001, fig. 82.14, Torre Mordillo, Spezzano Albanese (CS), Muro Est, US 2, Type 261 A, and Peroni and Trucco 1994, tav. 160.10m, Castiglione, Roggiano Gravina (CS), survey material.

⁸ Sherd 515 is similar to Peroni and Trucco 1994, tav. 160.11, Castiglione, Roggiano Gravina (CS), surface find.

A jar with short and straight rim (fig. 1.5) was found in the leveling layer SU 92, from Structure A (8th c. B.C.). It is comparable to a jar from Torre Mordillo.⁹ At SU 38, which is a surface layer covering Structure A, a fragment of a handle¹⁰ belonging to the type with solar boat made of opposing bird heads was found (fig. 1.2). A RBA2 fragment of a bowl with carena and straight profile (fig. 1.4) was found in SU 82, which is above SU 38; it resembles grey ware bowls from Broglio di Trebisacce.¹¹

At the surface layer SU1, up to the Eiano aqueduct, an out of context proto-Mycenaean fragment, decorated by a running spiral, was found (fig. 1.3).¹² It dates to the Late Helladic IIIB-beginning of Late Helladic IIIC, corresponding to the RBA2-FBA1.

Evidence for the FBA is attested at SU 87 (fig. 1.8)¹³ (Structure B), SU 92 (fig. 1.9)¹⁴ (Structure A) and at the surface layers SU 42 (fig. 2.12),¹⁵ SU1 (fig. 1.10)¹⁶ and SU2 (fig. 2.11).¹⁷ Seven fragments date to the transition between the FBA and the EIA:

- D) Sherd 523 (fig. 2.13) is a grey ware small jug similar to a surface find from Amendolara;¹⁸ the upper part is similar to a specimen from Timpone della Motta.¹⁹

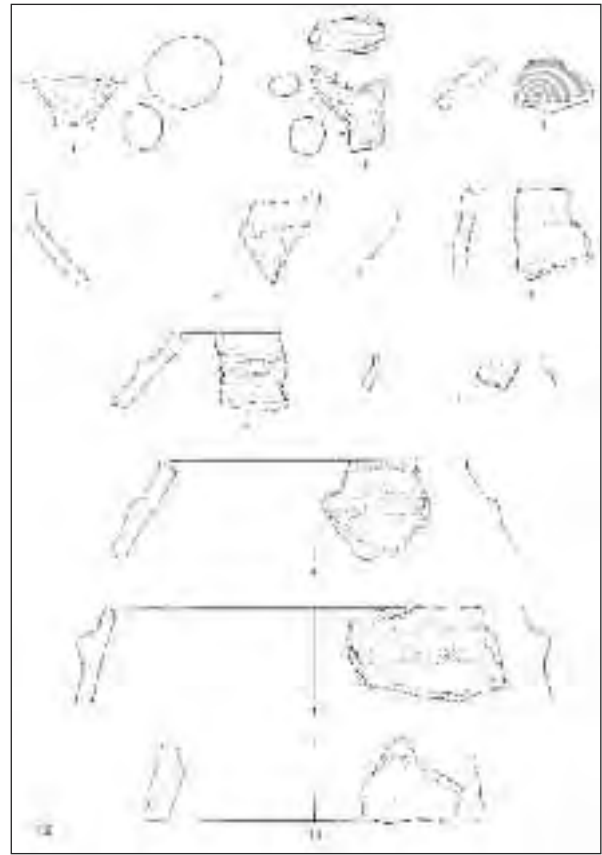


FIG. 1. A selection of Bronze Age material from Area Rovitti (drawings by Siebe Boersma, GIA Groningen).

⁹ Sherd 502 from SU 92. For the parallel: Trucco and Vagnetti 2001, fig. 61.9, Torre Mordillo, Spezzano Albanese (CS), Sett. D12dI, US 145, type 309 A.

¹⁰ Sherd 362 is comparable to Damiani 2010, tav. 114.6.A48, Foggia 4, from Torre Mordillo, DE11US11/87.

¹¹ Sherd 368 is similar to *ibid.*, tav. 64.7, from Broglio di Trebisacce (CS), sett. D, strato 1AIII e S.

¹² Sherd 361. Two parallels have been established, both found at Broglio di Trebisacce. They are Panichelli 1994, tav. 71.2, Sett. B Ovest, liv. 1A, FBA1, and tav. 72.5, Sett. D Est, Liv. 1 Est, RBA2.

¹³ At this SU the RBA fragment 489 was found, see note 3. The FBA sherd 492 is a jar with in-turning and thickened to outside rim and cord-band decoration similar to an example from Torre Mordillo after Trucco and Vagnetti 2001, fig. 72.8, Sett. E8-9, US2.

¹⁴ At SU 92 the RBA sherd 497 was found, see note 5. The FBA sherd 505 belongs to an in-turning rim of a jar with

cord-band, dated based on a parallel after Poggiani Keller and Figura 1979, fig. 5.6, Costoletto di Lamone, Ischia di Castro (VT), Tomba 5, Tumulo III, 346-81.

¹⁵ Sherd 522 belongs to a deep bowl with in-turning and thickened to inside rim. The type of rim is similar to examples from Torre Mordillo, after Peroni and Trucco 1994, tav. 147.7 (survey material), and from Sorgenti della Nova, Farnese (VT), Abitazione 2, Strato 4b after Dolfini 2002, tav. 39.325, BF avanzato.

¹⁶ Sherd 512 is a fragment of a cooking stand, for the parallel see Dolfini 2002, tav. 43.361, Sorgenti della Nova (see note 11).

¹⁷ Sherd 520 is a rim fragment very similar to a rim after *ibid.*, tav. 70.681, Sorgenti della Nova, Abitazione 1, sporadici.

¹⁸ Santo Cavaliatore, Amendolara (CS), survey material, after Bergonzi *et al.* 1982, 35-118; also in Belardelli 1994, fig. 104.5.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, fig. 124.13.

- II) Sherd 507 (fig. 2.14) belongs to a conical and truncated vessel and resembles an example from Broglio di Trebisacce.²⁰
- III) Sherd 519 (fig. 2.19) is a fragment of a dolium comparable to a type from Serre di Altilia (KR).²¹
- IV) Sherd 532 (fig. 2.17) is a part of a bucket similar to a vessel from Broglio di Trebisacce.²²
- V) Sherd 488 (fig. 2.16) is a part of an ovoid jar with a short out-turning rim, which resembles parallels at Broglio di Trebisacce²³ and at SU 92 of Area Rovitti.²⁴
- VI) Sherd 491 (fig. 2.15) is a cut of the inside rim of a shallow bowl that is comparable to an example from Castelluccio della Selva di Marano, at Vitorchiano, near Viterbo²⁵ and to another example from Santa Maria di Vastogirardi, near Isernia.²⁶
- VII) Sherd 527 (fig. 2.18) is a rim fragment of a large jar similar to two jars from Torre Mordillo²⁷ and Timpone della Motta.²⁸

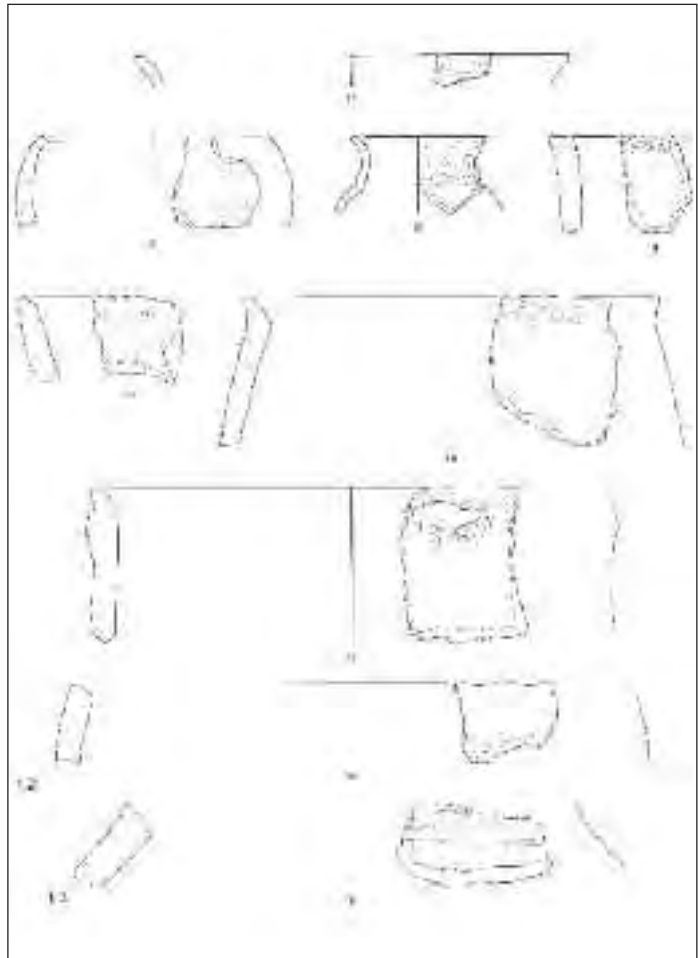


FIG. 2. A selection of Bronze Age material from Area Rovitti (drawings by Siebe Boersma, GIA Groningen).

Iron Age structures at Area Rovitti

In 2007, after a fire had cleared the area of dense vegetation, fragments of Oinotrian-Euboean and indigenous matt-painted pottery were found in the so-called Area Rovitti, situated at the bottom of the southern slope of the Timpone della Motta.²⁹ The fragments were observed at various points along a stretch of loose soil running parallel to the Timpone della Motta in an east-west direction where the Eliano aqueduct had been built in 1959. In at least four places, the excavation for the aqueduct had interfered with Iron Age structures causing a high concentration of 8th c. B.C. material to be visible on the surface. The presence of a *kerameikos* in the area was also suggested by frequent finds of fragments of

²⁰ Peroni and Trucco 1994, tav. 86.36, Sett. B Ovest, Livello H, shape 37.

²¹ Capriglione *et al.* 2012, fig. 9.3.6, Tipo 4, varietà C.

²² Peroni and Trucco 1994, tav. 164.2, Tarsia, surface

²³ *Ibid.*, tav. 88.8, Sett. B Ovest, Liv. H.

²⁴ Colelli 2012, tav. 113. HY102, Struttura A, SU92.

²⁵ Schiappelli 2008, 111, 5.

²⁶ Mieli and Cosentino 2006, fig. 3.10, Santa Maria di Vastogirardi (IS), Settore C, Capanna rettangolare, US 16.

²⁷ Trucco and Vagnetti 2001, Torre Mordillo, fig. 32.11, sett. DE11-12, US 3B/87.

²⁸ Colelli 2012, tav. 9.27, Timpone della Motte, Francavilla Marittima (CS), AC 4.30, Building Vb.

²⁹ The area is named after the Fondazione Casa della Provvidenza Antonio, Diana, Francesco e Lisa Rovitti who are the proprietors of the area.

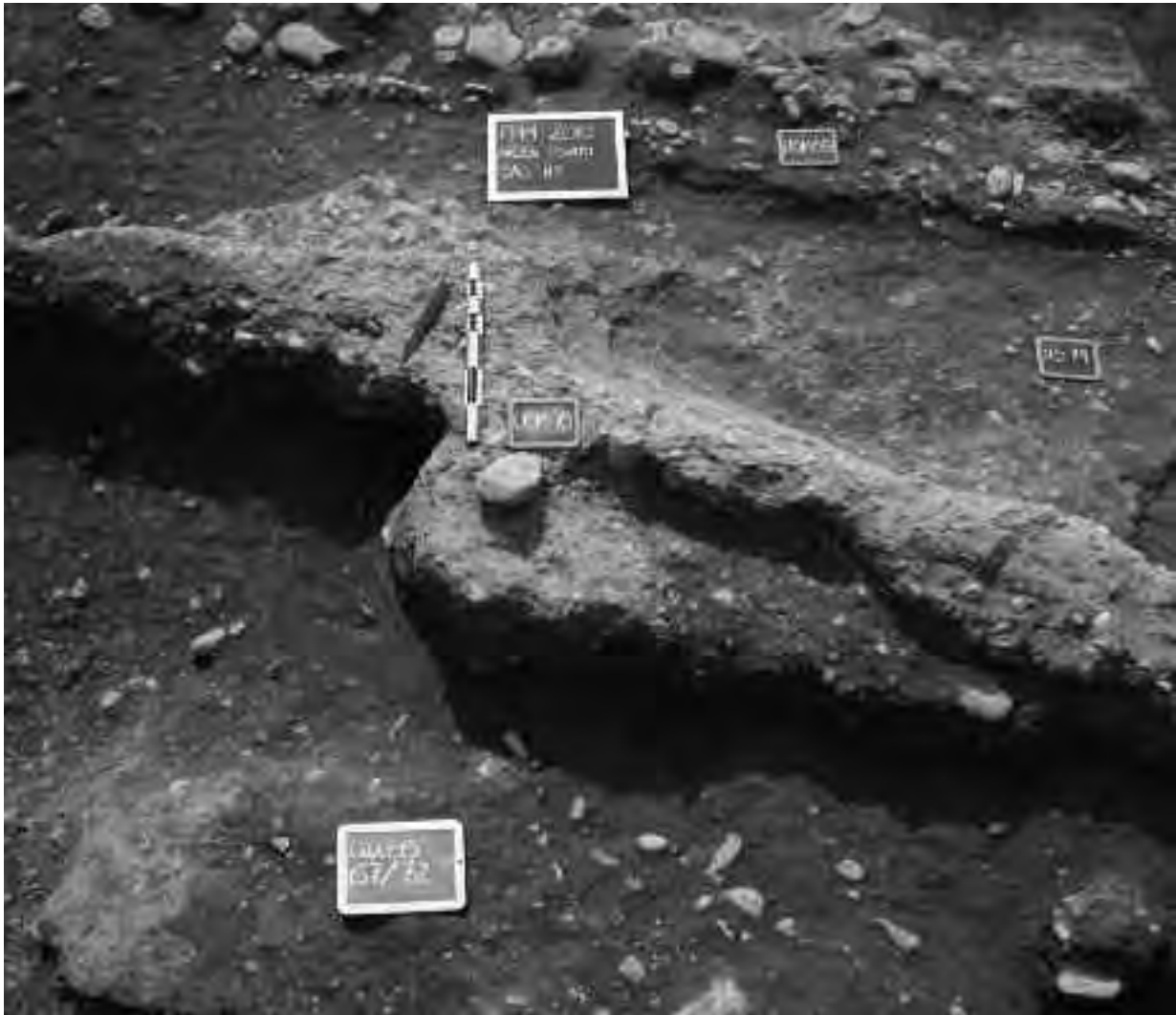


FIG. 3. An Overview of Structures A and B.

pottery kilns. These finds prompted archaeological excavations to be undertaken in the area in 2009 and 2010, revealing the two hut structures (fig. 3). Research is still at an early stage and further excavations are expected to be carried out in the near future. At this stage it is only possible to present provisory characterizations of the two hut structures.³⁰

Structure A is a hut datable to the first half of the 8th c. B.C. The structure is defined by mud brick walls, of which a substantial part measuring 1.30 x 0.60 x 0.40 m, was found *in situ*. The ground plan, as well as the distribution of archaeological material, allowed for the division of the material found inside the hut into two distinct assemblages.

Assemblage 1: This assemblage was first identified during the excavation in 2009 and more extensively excavated the following year. The assemblage is located in the western part of Structure A and is dominated by the presence of tablewares consisting of *skyphoi* and *oinochoai* of Euboean and local origin. The

³⁰ Cf. Mittica 2010 (for brief account of the 2009 campaign). A preliminary report on the two years of excavation is included in Jacobsen 2011.

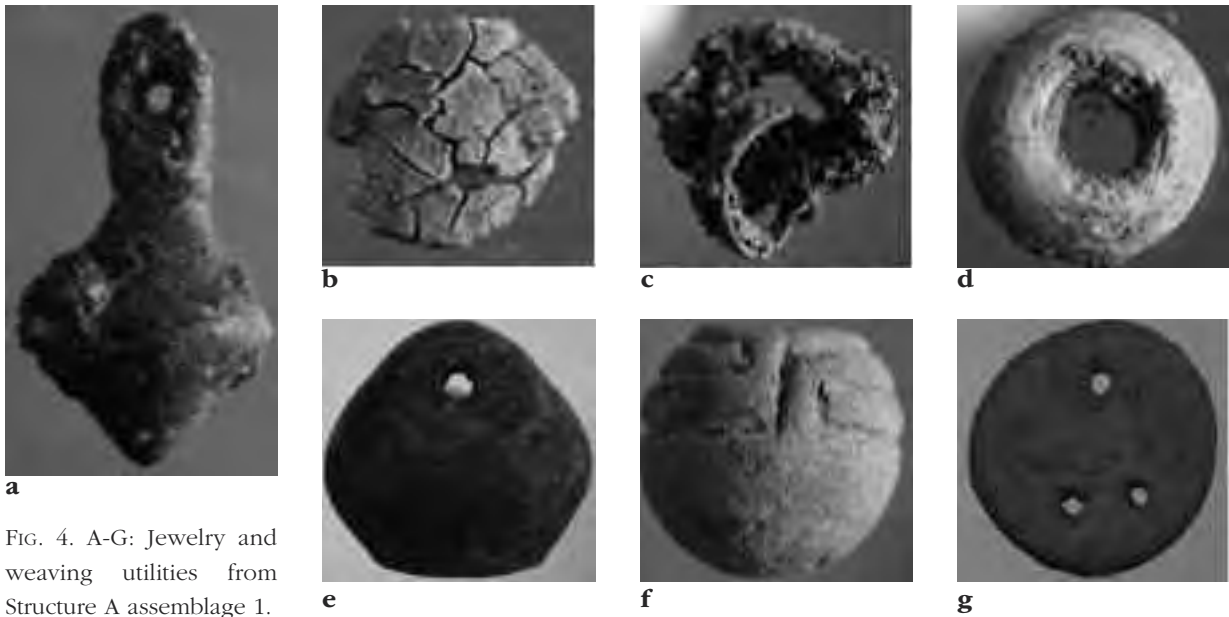


FIG. 4. A-G: Jewelry and weaving utilities from Structure A assemblage 1.



FIG. 5. A: an 'Undulating Band Style' *scodella*; B-C: 'Undulating Band Style' bi-conical jars.

excavations on the summit of Timpone della Motta where they are mainly associated with Building Vb (late 9th/early 8th 725 B.C.). Only a few were found in contexts belonging to the subsequent phase Vc (circa 725-650 B.C.).

The bi-conical shape is represented in Assemblage 2 by fragments of 9 vessels. All are decorated in the 'Undulating Band Style' with 'a *tenda*' motifs on the interior part of the rim. The earliest example (fig. 5B) has a pronounced convex neck and the decoration is irregularly applied. The remaining jars have straight necks and the decoration is applied with precision (fig. 5C). A single fragment of the upper wall of a bi-

assemblage also included amber and glass jewelry as well as bronze objects and weaving utensils (fig. 4A-G).

Assemblage 2: In contrast, this assemblage, consisting overwhelmingly of large storage and cooking vessels in indigenous matt-painted and *impasto* ware. They were found along with fragments of cooking stands, loom weights, and spindle whorls that occupied the eastern part of the structure.

The indigenous matt-painted pottery from Structure A consists mostly of *scodelle* and bi-conical jars decorated in the 'Undulating Band Style'.³¹ The *scodelle* are all decorated with a single undulating horizontal band bordered by horizontal lines and, as such, they form a uniform group. Fragments of 8 *scodelle* were found inside Structure A and all but one, which is carinated, have incurving rims (fig. 5A). Similar *scodelle* are well-known from the

³¹ The term for this type has been proposed by M. Kleibrink, cf. Kleibrink and Barresi 2009.

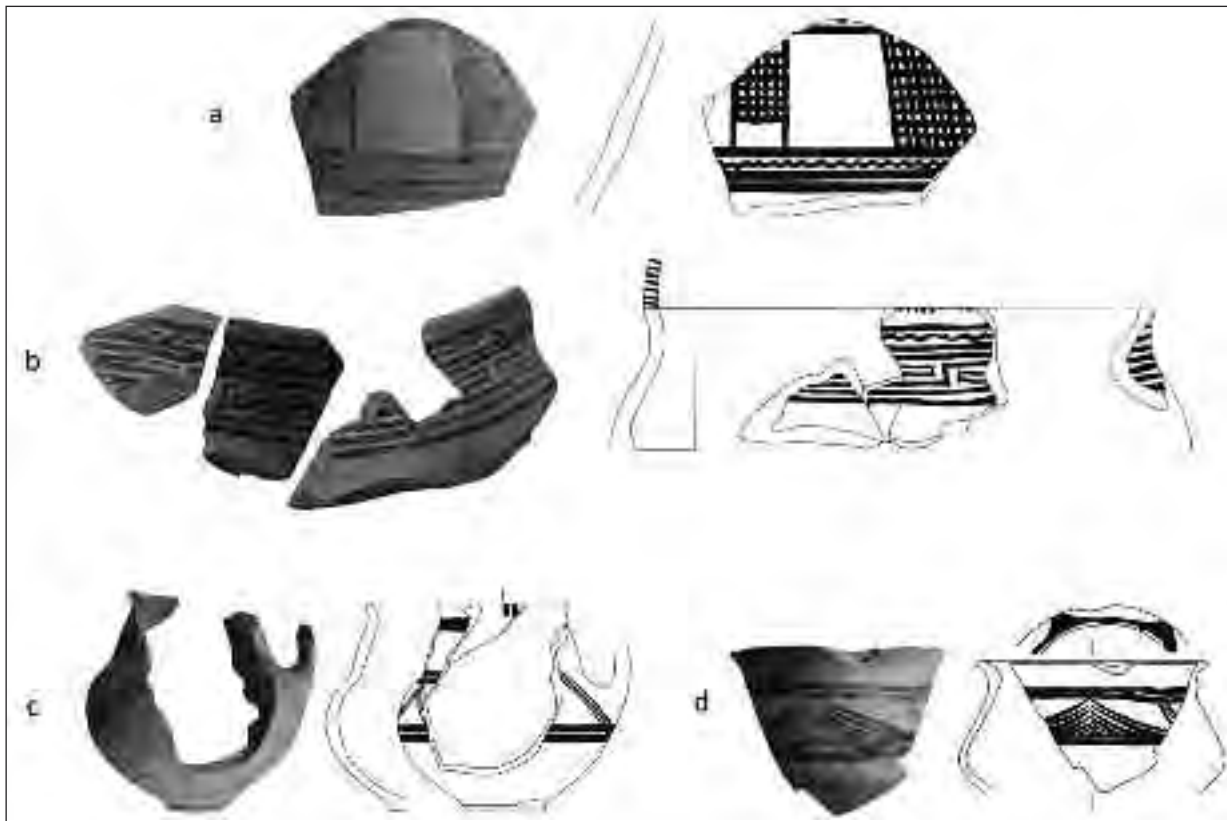


FIG. 6. A: a bi-conical jar with elaborate decoration; B: an open vessel with continuous labyrinth pattern; C-D: *atingittoi* with 'a tenda' motif.

conical jar with more elaborate decoration was also found in Assemblage 2 (fig. 6A). The decoration consisted of undulating and straight lines on the upper and lower areas while the center is covered by a vertical crosshatched area to the right and a small vertical crosshatched area connected by short vertical lines to horizontal lines above and below on the left. The decoration on this fragment can be compared to the decoration on a jug from Grave T57 in the Macchiabate necropolis and related decorations occur on large vessels from the sanctuary.³² Assemblage 2 also contained an open vessel with a continuous labyrinth pattern (fig. 6B) and fragments of small cups with 'a tenda' motifs (fig. 6C).

Fragments of three cups from Assemblage 1 are decorated with undulating horizontal bands and 4 *atingittoi* show 'a tenda' motifs (fig. 6D).³³ *Skyphoi* and *scodelle* are the most common vessels among the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery. The typology of the *skyphoi* represented in the material from Area Rovitti is consistent with the already established typology of *skyphoi* known from the sanctuary.³⁴ The *skyphoi* are all fragmented, but several can be reconstructed to a complete profile. It is worth noting that *skyphoi* of Type 1 (the *skyphoi* with high offset rim and decorated with wavy lines) are not present in the Area Rovitti.

Type 2a, decorated with a horizontal wavy line, is represented by 14 cups, while 15 cups belong to

³² Cf. Quondam 2009, 152, fig. 2.6; Kleibrink 2006a, 149, fig. 7.

³³ The 'a tenda' motif appears to be rare on matt-painted *atingittoi* in the Sibaritide while it was popular on *at-*

tingittoi in the Iron Age necropolis at S. Maria d'Anglona, cf. Frey 1991, Taf. 2-51.

³⁴ Cf. Jacobsen, Mittica and Handberg 2009, 210-12.

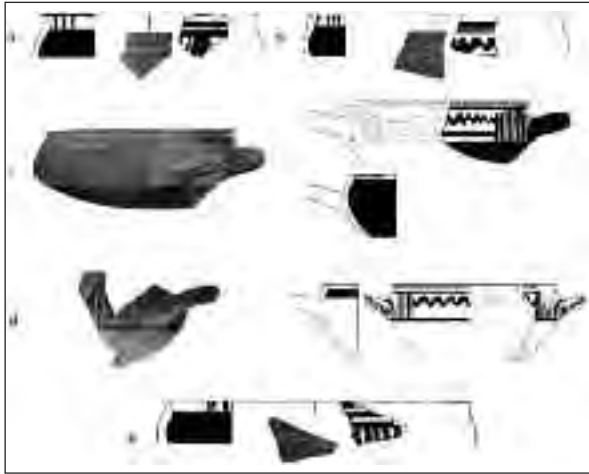


FIG. 7. A: an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* Type 2b; B: an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* Type 2a; C-D: an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* Type 3a; E: an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* Type 3b.

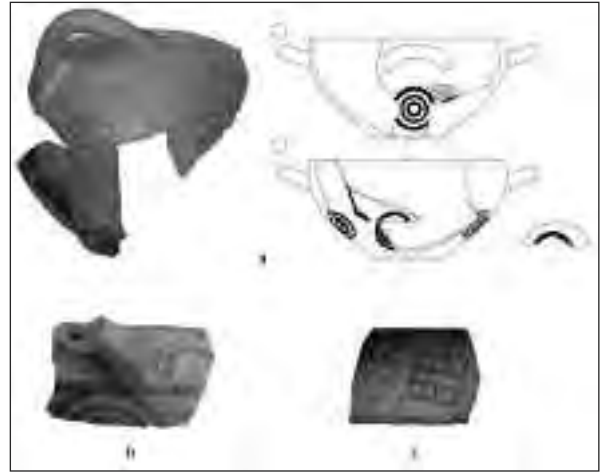


FIG. 8. A: an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* with concentric circles; B: an Oinotrian-Euboean *scodella* Type 1; C: an Oinotrian-Euboean *scodella* Type 2.

Type 2b with *chevron* decoration in the handle zone (fig. 7A, B). The additional 13 rim fragments do not reveal the decoration in the handle zone and can thus only be attributed to Type 2.

The Type 3 *skyphos* is represented by 9 examples in Structure A (fig. 7C, D). All but one belong to Type 3a with a horizontal wavy line. The remaining fragment belongs to Type 3b, decorated with *chevrons* (fig. 7E).

A unique *skyphos* from Assemblage 1 stands out (fig. 8A). This *skyphos* is decorated with a row of concentric circles on the lower body. A close observation of the vessel's surface reveals that the circles have been applied and cancelled three times probably as a result of the potter's difficulties in applying the circles in a uniform sequence. The *skyphos* was also fired without an interior gloss or decoration in the handle zone, normally present on the Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphoi*. A generic parallel to the *skyphos* is found among Italo-geometric pottery in Etruria but is otherwise unknown.³⁵ This *skyphos* cannot be directly compared to an Euboean prototype. Concentric circles are seen on Euboean drinking vessels from the Late Geometric period, but only as a row of small closely placed circles on the lip of *skyphoi* and other cups.³⁶ The concentric circles are notably larger than the Late Geometric Euboean concentric circles and their position on the body of the cup is completely atypical for Euboean *skyphoi*.

The same type of decoration is, however, very common on the Oinotrian-Euboean *scodelle*. Oinotrian-Euboean *scodelle* from the summit of the Timpone della Motta have been divided into three types, the first two present in Structure A.³⁷ Wall fragments of 15 *scodelle* with concentric circles were excavated but it is not possible to ascribe them to a specific type since both Type 1 and two are decorated with concentric circles on the body.

Type 1 *scodelle* decorated with a horizontal wavy line below the rim and concentric circles on the lower part of the body are represented by 11 vessels. 13 examples can be ascribed to Type 2, being decorated with cross hatched lozenges separated by vertical wavy lines and concentric circles on the lower part of body (fig. 8D, C). The remaining Oinotrian-Euboean pottery belongs to a variety of shapes found in Assemblage 1. Fragments of three open vessels, decorated with horizontal straight and wavy lines,

³⁵ Cf. Åkerström 1943, pl. 11.3, 13.5.

³⁷ Cf. Jacobsen, Mittica and Handberg 2009, 208-9.

³⁶ Popham, Calligas and Sackett 1979, 63-64.

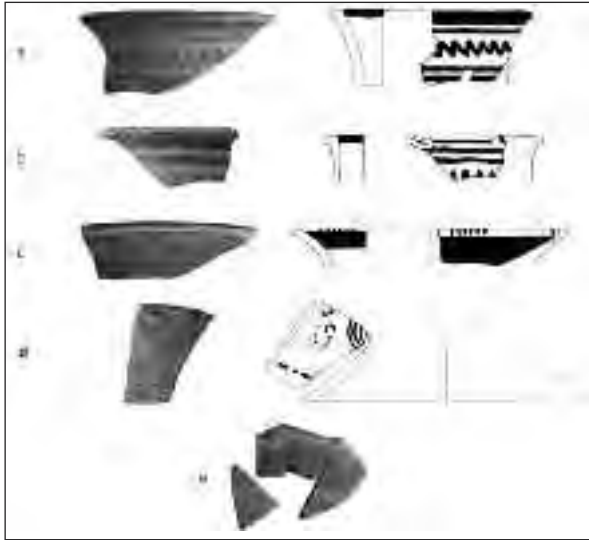


FIG. 9. A-B: Oinotrian-Euboean *amphorai*; C: an Oinotrian-Euboean *olla*; D: a lid from Oinotrian-Euboean vessel; E: fragments from an Oinotrian-Euboean crater.

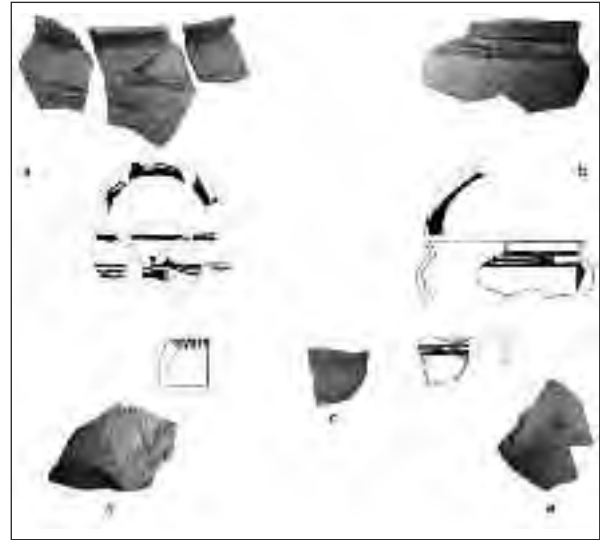


FIG. 10. A: a bi-conical jar with 'a tenda' motif; B: a *kantharos* with fringe style decoration; C: a *scodella* with horizontal line decoration; D: a closed vessel with branch-motif and bird; E: an *askos* with 'a tenda' motif.

supposedly stem from craters, while closed vessels such as *oinochoai* or *amphorai* decorated with horizontal and wavy lines or fully monochrome decoration occur as well (fig. 9A-E).

Structure B is a hut datable to the late 8th and early 7th c. B.C. Parts of mud brick wall are preserved. Inside the hut, a well-preserved stone wall with the dimensions 4.00 x 0.40 x 0.40 m and a pavement of stone pebbles are preserved. The material associated with Structure B covers a large range of pottery classes, such as local and possibly Iapygian matt-painted pottery, *impasto* vessels, Corinthian Late Geometric and Early Proto Corinthian pottery as well as Oinotrian-Euboean vessels.

The pottery from Structure B is still being processed so estimations of the number of represented vessels are thus unavailable at this time. The variety in shape and decoration among the matt-painted pottery from this structure is greater than that among the matt-painted pottery from Structure A. Bi-conical vessels and *scodelle* account for the majority of the material. The bi-conical vessels are decorated in the 'Fringe Style' or with large 'a tenda' motifs composed of three lines (fig. 10A). Both decorative elements and especially the 'Fringe Style' are well-represented on matt-painted pottery found in the sanctuary, at the necropolis and in domestic contexts from the latter part of the 8th and first half of the 7th c. B.C.³⁸

Adjoining fragments pertaining to a large closed vessel are decorated with a vertical branch-motif and what appears to be an elongated bird placed vertically on the vessel (fig. 10D). These specific elements and their position on the lower part of the vessel are not typical for the local matt-painted production, although a similar incised branch-motif occurs on a few loom weights from Building Vb.³⁹ The clay of the vessel is also quite different visually from that of the local matt-painted pottery which could indicate that the origin of this larger vessel should be sought in Puglia or Basilicata.

The majority of the matt-painted *scodelle* are decorated in a rather simple manner with three or four horizontal lines below the rim (fig. 10C) while at least 8 *scodelle* have elaborate 'a tenda' motifs below the

³⁸ Cf. Kleibrink 2006a, 146-47; Kleibrink 2006b, 96-99; Quondam 2009, 151, figs. 4; Yntema 1990, 310-1.

³⁹ Cf. Kleibrink 2003, 75, fig. 20.

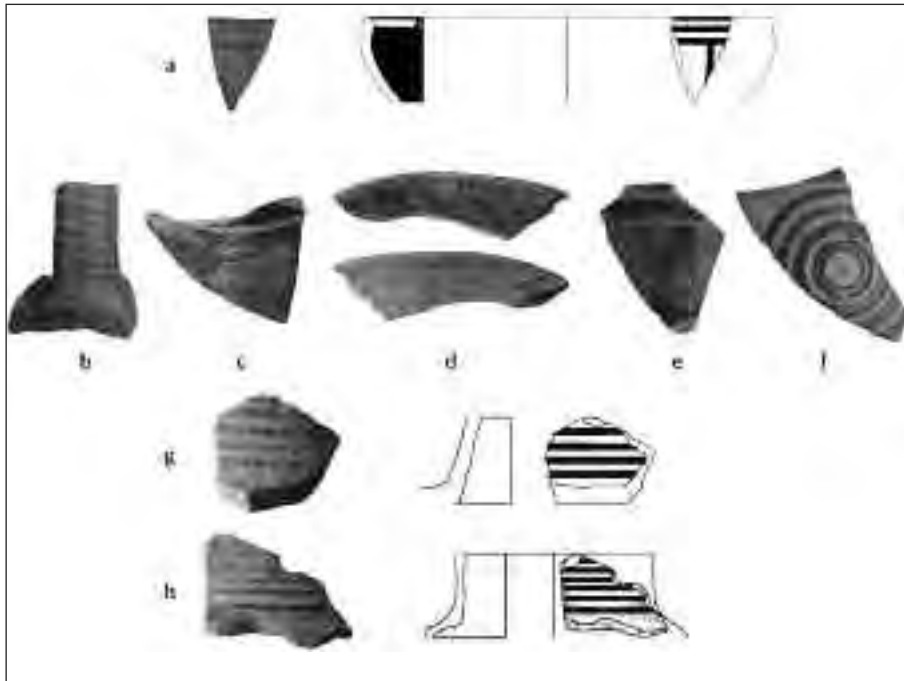


FIG. 11. A: an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* Type 3; B: an Oinotrian-Euboean *kantharos*; C-D, G-H: Oinotrian-Euboean *oinochoai*; E: an Euboean *oinochoe*; F: a wall fragment with concentric circles from a closed vessel.

rim.⁴⁰ Drinking vessels are represented by *atingittoi* and judging by the diameter of some of the rim fragments, *kantharoi* in 'Fringe Style' are also attested (fig. 10B). In addition, fragments of two *askoi* and some bi-chrome wall fragments with banded decoration of uncertain shapes may be noted (fig. 10E). The Oinotrian-Euboean pottery is represented by *skyphoi*, the majority of which belong to Type 3 and some fragments of *kantharoi* (fig. 11A, B). The Oinotrian-Euboean *scodelle* are absent except for a single fragment. Fragments from at least 5 Oinotrian-Euboean *oinochoai* were also found. These *oinochoai* are either decorated with lines or completely monochrome with applied white decoration (fig. 11C, D, G, H). The latter clearly derives from similar Euboean *oinochoai* which are well-represented among the local productions of Pithekoussai.⁴¹ Fragments from two *oinochoai* with applied white paint have distinct clay which is visually different from that of the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery indicating an Euboean origin (fig. 11E).⁴² In addition several wall fragments with concentric circles belong to large closed vessels (fig. 11F).

Four fragments from Structure B carry figurative decoration. Fragments HY1/95X and HY30/203X belong to large open vessels with a glossed interior. On HY1/95X (fig. 12B) a leg and part of the body of a bird are visible. The characteristic leg with diagonal toes is comparable to birds found on several Oinotrian-Euboean fragments from the sanctuary.⁴³ HY30/203X probably also depicts the neck and wing of a bird (fig. 12C). The characteristic Eretrian type birds with an L-shaped wing are well-known from fragments found in the sanctuary.⁴⁴ HY38/240X depicts a figurative scene with a male figure holding a spear and a club engaged

⁴⁰ *Scodelle* with simple line decoration are very common in the Sibaritide. A few examples of *scodelle* with 'a tenda' motifs are known from the sanctuary on the Timpone della Motta.

⁴¹ Buchner and Ridgway 1993, tav. 138.1. (T. 469).

⁴² Coldstream notes similar Euboean LG *oinochoai* from the Monte di Vico, cf. Coldstream 1995, 253-54.

⁴³ Cf. Jacobsen, Handberg and Mittica 2009, 93, fig. 3e.

⁴⁴ Cf. Jacobsen, Mittica and Handberg 2009, 211, fig. 9.



FIG. 12. A: an Oinotrian-Euboean closed vessel with figure decoration; B-C: Oinotrian-Euboean open vessels with bird motif; D: handle fragment from a Corinthian LG/EPC *oinochoe*; E-F: EPC Corinthian *kotylai*; G: handle from an Achaian style *kantharos*.

in combat with a monstrous serpent (fig. 12A). The serpent can be compared to serpents on Late Geometric Greek pottery. Close parallels are found among Argive and Boiotian Late Geometric pottery.⁴⁵ Similar serpents are also frequently found on Early Proto Corinthian pottery, especially on *aryballoi* and *lekythoi*.⁴⁶ A close parallel is also seen on a locally manufactured crater from Pithekoussai.⁴⁷

Moderate amounts of Corinthian Late Geometric and Early Proto Corinthian pottery belonging to *kotylai*, *oinochoai* and *pyxides* have also come to light in Structure B along with a few fragments of Achaian style *kantharoi* (fig. 12D-G). The excavations conducted in the Area Rovitti in 2009 and 2010 has only revealed two structures so far but a survey of the lower southern slope of the Timpone della Motta indicates the existence of an extensive Iron Age settlement which extended towards the north and west of the two already identified structures. The overall range of pottery shapes, indigenous as well as Oinotrian-Euboean, covers all the functional aspects of domestic activity from storage and cooking to the consumption of food. It is possible that the Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphoi* are indicative of wine consumption.

The production of Oinotrian-Euboean pottery

As already mentioned, *in situ* kilns have been identified not far from where the two excavated huts are located.⁴⁸ The proximity of the huts to the kilns and the large amount of pottery found in the huts might

⁴⁵ Cf. Langdon 2006, 212, fig. 9; Dehl 2009, 116-17, pl. 22.2.

⁴⁶ Buchner and Ridgway 1993, T. 483, 482-588, tav. 143, 12 and T. 472, 474-76, tav. 140, 2.

⁴⁷ Ibid., 697-98, tav. 240, S1.

⁴⁸ Cf. Jacobsen, Handberg and Mittica 2009, 90.



FIG. 13. An Oinotrian-Euboean vessel from the summit of Timpone della Motta.

lead to the convenient conclusion that the two structures were storage facilities associated with the production of Oinotrian-Euboean vessels in a *kerameikos*.

The high quantity of Oinotrian-Euboean vessels attested within the structures could be part of a storage depot for the products of the workshop. However, an overall examination of the structure substantiates the idea that we are dealing with a domestic context. Parts of a cooking stand were excavated *in situ* and the frequent finds of animal bones attested to the preparation of food in the building.

Even so, the find of several slightly misfired or otherwise defective Oinotrian-Euboean vessels within the hut structures provides a clear association between the domestic area and pottery production in the nearby *kerameikos*. The huts may have been the homes of the potters working in the area who used the slightly defective pottery in their own households. This suggestion finds some confirmation in particular fragments found in Structure A. On the interior of these fragments the remains of a thin layer of well-levigated and unfired slip are preserved. This vessel appears to have been used as a storage container for clay in a pottery workshop.

The Oinotrian-Euboean production at Timpone della Motta has already been described elsewhere but a brief summary and further remarks on the stylistic repertoire will be given here (figg. 13A-C, figg. 14A-G). On the basis of the particularity of the 'Fringe Style' matt-painted pottery, and more importantly, the presence of wasters of matt-painted pottery, it is fairly certain that indigenous matt-painted pottery was produced somewhere in the vicinity of the Timpone della Motta.⁴⁹

However, the matt-painted and the Oinotrian-Euboean productions were clearly separated both in terms of technology and style. The production of matt-painted pottery was restricted to traditional shapes, such

⁴⁹ Jacobsen, Handberg and Mittica 2009. Handberg and Jacobsen 2011, 178-79, fig. 12.2.

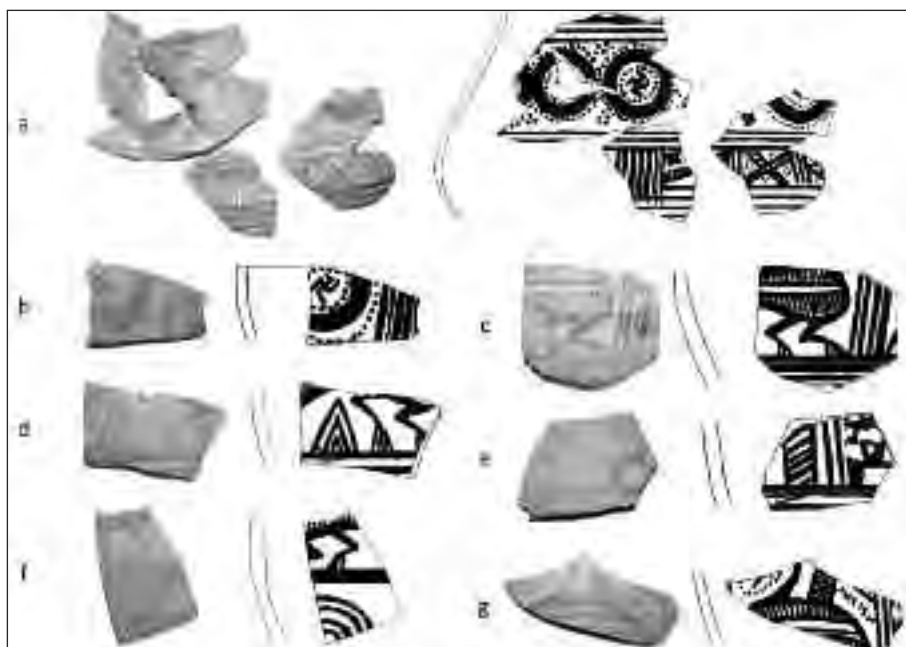


FIG. 14. An Oinotrian-Euboean vessel from the summit of Timpone della Motta.

as *askoi*, *scodelle*, and bi-conic jars, with little development throughout the 8th c. B.C. The Oinotrian-Euboean production consisted mostly of traditional Greek shapes and the development of the *skyphos* followed the development in Greece closely.

Two indigenous shapes, the bi-conical jar and the *scodella*, were, also part of the Oinotrian-Euboean production. This output was presumably destined for indigenous consumers – a phenomenon that can be compared to the Italo-geometric production of bi-conical urns in Etruria for indigenous recipients. These recipients, on occasion, seem to have commissioned specifically designed shapes and decorations.⁵⁰ It may also be observed that the Oinotrian-Euboean *scodella*-type can be compared to the Euboean *lekane* in terms of shape and probably also function. The shape would probably have catered to Greeks and indigenous alike.⁵¹

The decorations on the matt-painted and the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery are remarkably distinctive. Individual elements such as the undulating band, the Thapsos-like panels, lozenges and hourglass motifs occur in both productions and the indigenous potters probably borrowed these elements from either the Oinotrian-Euboean or imported Corinthian pottery. But it should also be considered that the Iapygian matt-painted vessels which arrived at the Timpone della Motta could have had a direct influence on local matt-painted production. The influence acting as both an indirect transmitter of Greek motifs as well as a stimulation for the general development towards specialization that can be observed in local matt-painted production during the second half of the 8th c. B.C.⁵² Apart from these shared elements there are substantial differences in the composition of the decoration. The undulating band is a general motif on much Iron Age pottery and on the matt-painted pottery it is applied in a distinctive manner.⁵³ On the other hand, the wavy line on the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery is often combined with other elements, such as concentric circles. When individual Greek motifs are seen on matt-painted pottery they always supplement rather than replace indigenous motifs.

⁵⁰ Cf. Delphino 1981.

⁵¹ Verdan, Pfyffer and Léderrey 2008, 70-71, cat. nos. 2-5, 74, 90, 202-203, 266-68, pls. 5, 22, 24, 48, 59, 88.

⁵² Cf. Jacobsen and Handberg 2010, 21-22, 26; Jacobsen 2011.

⁵³ Cf. Kleibrink 2008.



FIG. 15. A stand from an Oinotrian-Euboean vessel from the summit of Timpone della Motta.

By the last quarter of the 8th c. B.C., the Oinotrian-Euboean production is characterized by larger vessels with elaborate figurative decoration similar to decoration known from Eretria. A detailed stylistic correspondence can be observed between the Cesnola inspired fragments from the area north of the Daphnéphoros sanctuary of Apollo in Eretria and a decorated stand from the Timpone della Motta (fig. 15A, B)⁵⁴ With this elaborate series, the Oinotrian-Euboean production is consistent with the high craft-specialization observed in the local Euboeanizing production on Ischia.⁵⁵

Several arguments support the idea that the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery at Timpone della Motta was produced by Greek potters with an Euboean background. The largest and earliest production, i.e. the *scodelle* and *skyphoi*, cannot be directly compared to the pottery production known on Euboea. The vessels are generally only of a moderate quality and decoration especially on the *skyphoi*. It is often unevenly applied contrary to the precision of the geometric decoration found on Euboean *skyphoi*.⁵⁶ According to Alan Blakeway, such degeneration in style suggests that the pottery was made by indigenous potters imitating Greek pottery but who had not acquired the necessary skills.⁵⁷ However, evidence from the matt-painted pottery contradicts this suggestion. The matt-painted pottery, especially from the second half of the 8th c. B.C., covers a broad range of complex and highly elaborated styles executed with neatly drawn individual lines.⁵⁸ At the same time, the overall organization of the decoration is well-balanced and subordinate to the shape of the vessels.

Archaeometric comparisons between Oinotrian-Euboean and indigenous matt-painted pottery likewise confirm that the *chaîne opératoire* of the two groups were different regarding firing, manufacturing techniques and the level of the depuration of the clay. The clay used in the production of both Oinotrian-

⁵⁴ Huber 2003, pl. 71, H93-H98.

⁵⁵ Cf. Ridgway 2004, 25-26.

⁵⁶ Id. 1988, 494, has observed the opposite situation for close copies of chevron *skyphoi* at Veii.

⁵⁷ Cf. Blakeway 1933.

⁵⁸ A full publication of the matt-painted pottery from Timpone della Motta is still forthcoming, but cf. Kleibrink 2006a.

Euboian and matt-painted pottery is, however, the same and was extracted from clay deposits close to present day Lauropoli located circa 3 km south of the Area Rovitti.⁵⁹ The lack of precision in the application of the decoration observable on the Oinotrian-Euboian pottery can possibly be better explained by the skills of the craftsmen who might only have had experience with the production of Euboianizing pottery, e.g. a master potter and his apprentice.

The local and regional distribution of Oinotrian-Euboian pottery

Looking at the distribution of the Oinotrian-Euboian pottery within the site of Timpone della Motta an interesting pattern emerges which seems to suggest that this class of pottery was not equally consumed by the indigenous and Greek communities at the site. Indigenous material is vastly overrepresented in the two successive Buildings Vb and Vc on the upper plateau of the Timpone della Motta. Chronologically these two phases cover the entire 8th c. B.C. but even though this was exactly the period of production of the Oinotrian-Euboian pottery it only constitutes a very small percentage of the total amount of pottery in the sanctuary along with imported Greek pottery.⁶⁰ The amount of Greek imports did not increase until the turn of the 8th c. B.C. and not until after circa 680 B.C. did the Greek material numerically outnumber the indigenous material.⁶¹ Interestingly, the relatively few Oinotrian-Euboian vessels that do occur in the sanctuary are mostly larger vessels, like craters decorated with figures, which seem to underline the elevated social and religious importance of Buildings Vb and Vc.

However, excavations in 2008 and 2009 did expand the spatial distribution of Oinotrian-Euboian pottery within the sanctuary. In 2008, remains of an additional Iron Age building were discovered underneath a 6th c. B.C. building in the central part of the sanctuary. The preserved contexts related to this Iron Age hut are limited to stratigraphies in postholes and contexts located immediately on top of the bedrock. But the material exhibits the same ratio with numerous indigenous matt-painted vessels while the Oinotrian-Euboian pottery accounts for only a small part of the total assemblage. Based on these results from recent excavations, we can conclude with a fair degree of certainty that the use of Oinotrian-Euboian pottery on the summit of the Timpone della Motta was relatively limited but nonetheless remained a general phenomenon during the 8th c. B.C. So far, no traces of indigenous habitations contemporary to Structure A in Area Rovitti have been identified at Timpone della Motta but results from a survey on the northern slope of the Timpone della Motta have revealed some interesting finds. Here, in the so-called Area Carnevale, an indigenous settlement has been identified. The indigenous material associated with the site corresponds to that of Building Vb on the Timpone della Motta and Structure B in Area Rovitti and consists mostly of an abundance of *impasto* and matt-painted vessels predominantly decorated in the Undulating Band Style as well as various weaving utensils. On the other hand Oinotrian-Euboian pottery only accounts for two fragments. A similar division can be observed at Casa IVA on the lower western part of Plateau I which was partly excavated by the Groningen Institute of Archaeology between 1996 and 1998.⁶² This Iron Age hut contained a broad range of indigenous coarse- and fine wares. The matt-painted pottery from the hut is decorated in the 'Fringe Style' which makes this hut contemporary with Structure B in the Area Rovitti.

Except for fragments of two Oinotrian-Euboian *oinochoai*, the hut contained only indigenous pottery.⁶³ Additional field surveys conducted on the rest of Plateau I confirmed this scenario. However, a fragment of

⁵⁹ Cf. Andaloro 2011, 85-190.

⁶⁰ Approximately 210 individual Oinotrian-Euboian vessels can be identified among the material from excavations undertaken in the sanctuary before 2005. Cf. Jacobsen 2007, 40-52; Mittica 2007; Jacobsen, Mittica and Handberg 2009; Jacobsen, Handberg and Mittica 2009.

⁶¹ Buildings Vb and Vc still remain to be comprehensively published, but cf. Jacobsen and Handberg 2010; Jacobsen 2007; Kleibrink 2006b.

⁶² Cf. *ibid.*, 79-110.

⁶³ Cf. *ibid.*, 106, fig. 33.20.

a Corinthian *Aetos* 666 *kotyle* and a fragment of a Late Geometric Corinthian *kotyle* were found among hundreds of indigenous fragments in the so-called 'Delvigne trench' excavated at the south-eastern outcrop of Plateau I.⁶⁴ The excavations in the Macchiabate necropolis conducted by Paola Zancani Montuoro in the 1960s have produced two pieces of Oinotrian-Euboean pottery from two graves dating to the 8th c. B.C. A Type 3 *skyphos* was found in Grave CR1 while a possibly Oinotrian-Euboean flask was found in Grave T36.⁶⁵ Recent excavations undertaken in 2007 and 2009 have produced two additional vessels. In 2007, a large amphora on a high foot was found in a grave in the area of the Cerchio Reale tumulus during construction work for the installation of explanatory panels at the site. The decoration on this vessel was lost due to its poor preservation, but the type is comparable to Euboean and Boeotian fineware amphorae of the Late Geometric period.⁶⁶ The second vessel was found during a controlled excavation of the so-called Tomba Strada 2, conducted in 2009 by the Groningen Institute of Archaeology in collaboration with a team from the Basel University.⁶⁷ Even though only smaller fragments of the skeleton were preserved the grave can probably be identified as belonging to a female based on the bronze jewelry and beads. The Oinotrian-Euboean vessel had a matt-painted *attingitoio* placed inside and it was inserted in the southern end of the grave. The vessel itself is wheel-turned and appears to be a hybrid between the indigenous *olla* and a crater. The decoration is not preserved and the shape is still unknown among the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery from Timpone della Motta. The hybrid character of the vessel might indicate that it was a commissioned work.⁶⁸ Thus, on the basis of the currently available material, it seems that there is a clear geographical pattern in the distribution of the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery at Timpone della Motta. This pattern may reflect more than just a geographical division. It might also reflect a difference between the Greek and indigenous social communities.

A survey of other indigenous settlement contexts in the Sibaritide substantiates the situation observed at Timpone della Motta. At these sites, Oinotrian-Euboean pottery is also extremely scarce. At Torre Mordillo, a few fragments of Late Geometric\Early Proto Corinthian pottery are attested but the remaining Iron Age material is indigenous. So far, the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery is not found in the settlement areas.⁶⁹ Oinotrian-Euboean pottery is also absent at the Iron Age settlements at Maria del Castello and Bellolucio.⁷⁰ A single unpublished rim and handle fragment, appearing to be an Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* of Type 3, is exhibited in the Museo Archeologico Statale 'Vincenzo Laviola' (Amendolara, CS). It is reported as a stray find from the 8th c. B.C. settlement at S. Cavalcatore where it was allegedly found with several indigenous matt-painted fragments. Two rim fragments of Euboenizing *skyphoi* belonging to the Oinotrian-Euboean Type 3 are known from Incoronata 'indigena'.⁷¹ The excavations at Broglio di Trebisacce, closer to Timpone della Motta, have, in recent years, produced a small group of Oinotrian-Euboean fragments and a *skyphos* of possibly Aegean origin. The fragments appear to belong to two larger vessels decorated with concentric circles and two small vessels which may be cups or *skyphoi* decorated with *chevrons*.⁷² Although interesting, the fragments currently represent a negligent part of the Iron Age assemblage at Broglio. Other funerary contexts in and outside of the Sibaritide have yielded a limited number of Oinotrian-Euboean vessels. At Torre Mordillo a Type 1 *skyphos* is known from the necropolis while at Roggiano Gravina an Oinotrian-Euboean one-handled cup decorated

⁶⁴ These finds remain unpublished.

⁶⁵ Cf. Zancani Montuoro 1977-79; Zancani Montuoro 1980-82, 100, fig. 36.

⁶⁶ Blandin 2007, 187, pl. 54, 255, pl. 122; Ruckert 1976, pl. 6-9, 11-13.

⁶⁷ Cf. Guggisberg, Colombi and Spichtig 2010, 107-10, fig. 3.

⁶⁸ The same might - in the Valle del Sarno (Grave 928). The grave has been exemplarily published in Greco and Mermati 2006, 179-211.

⁶⁹ Cf. Trucco and Vagnetti 2001; Peroni and Trucco 1994, 717-37.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, 670-717.

⁷¹ Cf. Lattanzi 1980, tav. LXVI.

⁷² Cf. Luppino, Peroni and Vanzetti, 2006, fig. 3b.

with vertical wavy lines was found in Grave 168.⁷³ The cup corresponds to similar cups identified among the Area Rovitti pottery. Another one-handled cup with *chevron* decoration comes from Grave B.5 at Torano Castello.⁷⁴ North of the Sibaritide Euboeanizing pottery is observed from the necropolis of S. Maria d'Anglona. Here a small group of one-handled cups with vertical wavy lines and a Type 3 *skyphos* decorated with vertical bars at and on the handle and groups of dashes on the interior part of the rim have been found.⁷⁵ Currently, it remains to be verified if indeed the Oinotrian-Euboean style vessels found at sites other than Timpone della Motta are part of the production from Area Rovitti. Considering the limited distribution of the class this would be a reasonable assumption. Even without a secure identification of the provenance of the mentioned fragments it is evident that the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery had a wide, albeit limited distribution to indigenous sites. Looking specifically at the evidence from funerary contexts it is, however, clear that the Greek shapes, in the few cases where they do appear, served as functional substitutes for traditional indigenous vessels. The Oinotrian-Euboean *skyphos* excavated from Grave CR1 in the Macchiabate necropolis seems to be a substitute for the indigenous *atingitoio*. The Oinotrian-Euboean flask from the child Grave T36 clearly substitutes the *askos*, found in the remaining child burials within the Temparella tumulus. The *hydria* vessel from Tomba Strada 2 was associated with an *atingitoio* in the same way that matt-painted jars normally occur with an *atingitoio*. It is also likely that the group of Euboeanizing one-handled cups in the graves at S. Maria d'Anglona were replacements for matt-painted *atingitoio*.⁷⁶

The infrequent occurrences of Oinotrian-Euboean vessels in indigenous funerary contexts are probably best understood in behavioral terms where there was no use of Greek pottery for symposia, for instance. The interpretation proposed here stands in contrast to the general use of Euboean *skyphoi* or imitations hereof in funerary contexts in Campania and Southern Etruria.

Bruno d'Agostino has convincingly argued that the Greek cups had a specific value in the indigenous communities there.⁷⁷ At Pontecagnano there is a continuous presence of *impasto* and other indigenous cups in the graves from the earliest phase (IA) through to the end of phase IIb. The Greek drinking cups, which were introduced in the first half of the 8th c. B.C., sometimes outnumber the indigenous cups but never completely replaced them.

The fact that Greek and indigenous cups regularly occur side by side as funeral goods for an extended period of time suggests that they were imbued with different values and possibly also usage. The Greek cups might be regarded as ceremonial gifts that found their way into the indigenous graves or as a result of an act of the social consumption of wine. The Oinotrian-Euboean pottery attested on the summit of the Timpone della Motta and associated with Building Vb and Vc might be regarded as part of the equipment for ceremonial wine drinking since the shape repertoire covered the required vessels such as *skyphoi*, craters, *oinochoai* and fineware amphoras. However, considering that the Oinotrian-Euboean vessels are poorly represented, the consumption of wine, which involved the Oinotrian-Euboean vessels, would have been a rare event.⁷⁸ Since the indigenous community does not appear to have been a big market for the Oinotrian-Euboean vessels the obvious question is: who were the main consumers of the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery?

As already noted, a high concentration of Oinotrian-Euboean fragments was accounted for on the surface

⁷³ Cf. Kilian 1970, 260, tav. 271 II 12; Carrara and Guzzo 1981, 448, no. 15.

⁷⁴ Cf. De La Geniere 1977, 409-11, fig. 24.2.

⁷⁵ Quondam has rightly pointed out the generic similarity between the one-handled cup from Roggiano Gravina and the cups from S. Maria d'Anglona, cf. Quondam 2009, 160 with references. For the Euboeanizing *skyphos* from the same necropolis cf. Malnati 1984, 56-57, tomba VI, tav. XIV, no. 3.

⁷⁶ See note 62.

⁷⁷ Cf. D'Agostino and Soteriou 1998, 365.

⁷⁸ Cf. Jacobsen 2007, 67.

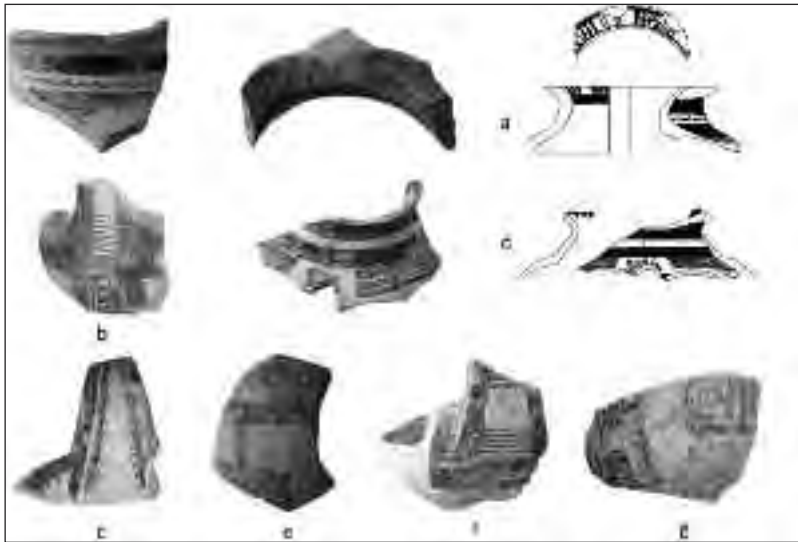


FIG. 16. Corinthian Middle Geometric II proto-*kotylai* from the summit on the Timpone della Motta.

to the north and west of the Area Rovitti suggesting that the inhabitants of this settlement may have been the main consumers of the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery. The *skyphos* was also extremely overrepresented. The excavations so far have found 52 individual *skyphoi* within the circa 11 m² of Structure A. Compared to other areas around the Timpone della Motta, the people who lived in the Area Rovitti appear to have had a predilection for the *skyphos*. The group, who settled in the area, might have been substantially larger than initially assumed. It is possible that they started to produce the *skyphos* because they did not find a suitable replacement among the indigenous shapes. To what degree this can be directly related to wine consumption is difficult to say but they did also produce Greek style *oinochoai*, and it is possible that these two shapes were specifically produced to accommodate a consumptuary tradition that differed significantly from the pre-existing indigenous tradition.

The Influx of Corinthian Geometric and Iapyrgian matt-painted pottery to the Sibaritide

The Late Geometric Corinthian pottery already available in the archaeological literature together with additional finds of Late Geometric and now also Middle Geometric II Corinthian pottery strongly emphasizes that the indigenous networks that reached Incoronata stretched further towards the south and included the Sibaritide. As in the case of Incoronata, the argument for interregional indigenous contacts to the Salento region is strongly supported by the finds of imported Iapyrgian matt-painted pottery. Francavilla Marittima accounts for the majority of the known Geometric Corinthian pottery. In the sanctuary on the Timpone della Motta, Late Geometric Corinthian pottery was noted already from the initial excavations conducted during the 1960s. The more recent excavations conducted between 1992 and 2004 as well as 2008 and 2009 have added additional Corinthian Middle Geometric II and Late Geometric pottery.⁷⁹ The shapes found in the sanctuary are predominantly drinking vessels consisting of *proto-kotylai*, *kotylai* and *kyathoi* but a few examples of Late Geometric globular *pyxides* and *oinochoai* are also known (fig. 16). Late Geometric *kotylai* have been found in graves U15, T8 and T88 in the nearby Macchiabate necropolis.

⁷⁹ Jacobsen, Handberg and Mittica 2009, 89; Jacobsen and Handberg 2010, 18-29.

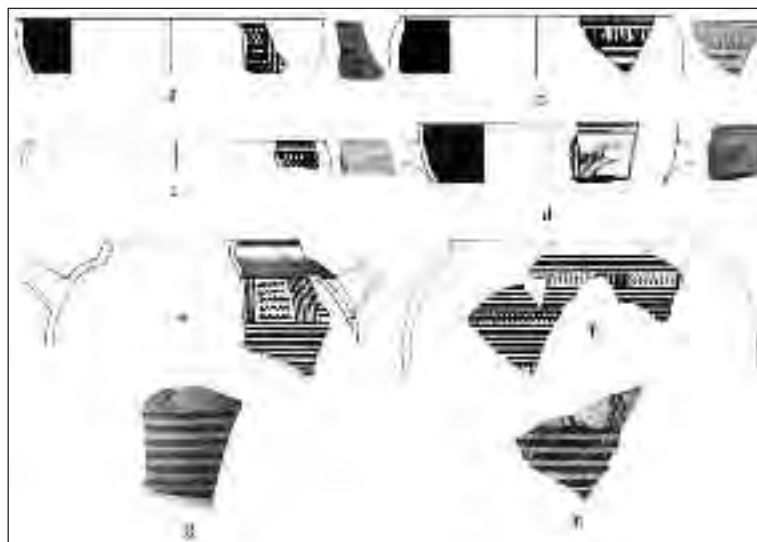


FIG. 17. Iapygian matt-painted vessels from the summit on the Timpone della Motta.

Grave T88 likewise contained a Late Geometric Corinthian globular *pyxis*.⁸⁰ A survey conducted on ploughed fields inside the area of the necropolis in 2009 brought to light fragments from two Middle Geometric II Corinthian *proto-kotylai* which so far constitute the earliest known Corinthian pottery from the necropolis.⁸¹ In a second indigenous necropolis at Roggiano Gravina a Corinthian hemispheric black *kotyle* was found in grave T3.⁸² Other indigenous settlement contexts in the Sibaritide have produced a limited amount of Corinthian fragments of Late Geometric date. At Torre Mordillo fragments of an Aetos 666 *kotyle* are recorded together with fragments probably belonging to a Late Geometric or Early Proto Corinthian *oinochoe*.⁸³ Two additional interesting fragments from Torre Mordillo are a rim fragment from what appears to be a one-handed Late Geometric Corinthian cup, a type which in Italy seems to be limited to the Salento region and a fragment that the excavators suggest comes from Ithaka.⁸⁴ Settlement areas at the Timpone della Motta contribute a few finds of Corinthian Late Geometric pottery, the most notable being a semi-complete Aetos 666 *kotyle* from plateau I, which was excavated in association with a rim and handle fragment of a second Late Geometric *kotyle*.⁸⁵ During the excavation in 2009 and 2010, Corinthian Late Geometric/Early Proto Corinthian fragments belonging to *kotylai*, an *oinochoe* and a globular *pyxis* were found in 'Structure B' in Area Rovitti.

Even though the circulation of matt-painted vessels over long distances is not a known phenomenon, the quantity of Iapygian pottery from the Timpone della Motta distinguishes the group from the finds of matt-painted pottery elsewhere. The high amount of Iapygian pottery on Timpone della Motta suggests the actual import of indigenous pottery from the Salento area rather than occasional circulation or gift exchanges among indigenous individuals. Currently, fragments belonging to some 80 vessels have been identified in the sanctuary on the Timpone della Motta (fig. 17).⁸⁶ The decoration is predominately monochrome, but a

⁸⁰ Zancani-Montuoro 1980-82, 33-37, fig. 12-13, tav. XIII (T8), Zancani-Montuoro 1983-84, 102, no. 3 (T88), Zancani-Montuoro 1977-79, 68, fig. 23, tav. XLIIIe (U15).

⁸¹ Guggisberg, Colombi and Spichtig 2010, 105-106, taf. 20,8.

⁸² Carrara and Guzzo 1981, 485.

⁸³ Trucco and Vagnetti 2001, 339, no. 1-2, fig. 41.1; 51.4.

⁸⁴ Ibid, 339, nos. 3-4, figs. 51.5; 50.11. In regards to the one handed cup compare fig. 51.5 with D'Andria 1994, 490, fig. 23.

⁸⁵ This pottery is unpublished.

⁸⁶ Jacobsen, Handberg and Mittica 2009, 89-91; Jacobsen and Handberg 2010, 21.

few bi-chrome pieces also occur. Most fragments belong to small almost globular *attingitoioi*, but fragments of larger closed vessels are also noted. Other indigenous shapes such as the *scodella* are only represented in a single example. The motivation for the import of Iapygian matt-painted vessel to the Sibaritide seems, first and foremost, to have been an aesthetic preference for the decoration of the Salentine vessels. The style is clearly inspired by Greek pottery and incorporates decorative elements such as meanders. This Iapygian style is in clear contrast to the decoration on the matt-painted pottery produced locally at the Timpone della Motta which were decorated with more simple indigenous motifs. The craftsmanship on the Iapygian vessels is in general very high. Although they are not wheel-thrown, the wall has, on most occasions, been worked very thin. The decoration is complex and balanced and applied in a skilled and controlled manner. The presence of Iapygian pottery in the Sibaritide is for the moment almost exclusively concentrated on the sanctuary on the Timpone della Motta. This might be seen as an indication the interregional importance of the site, which could have attracted pottery and other objects from a large area. At the same time it should be remembered that the large amount of Iapygian fragments from Timpone della Motta might, in part, be explained by the extensive excavations on the Timpone della Motta. The only other find of Iapygian matt-painted pottery in the Sibaritide was made in the excavations of ancient Sybaris itself where several fragments from an *olla* were excavated in association with material datable between the end of the 8th c. B.C. and the beginning of the 6th c. B.C.⁸⁷ The presence of the Iapygian *olla* and a few other indigenous artifacts within the otherwise Greek cultural sphere of Sybaris might reflect an indigenous presence in the colony, but there is no doubt that the cultural and commercial linkage towards Salento originated from the indigenous settlements at the Timpone della Motta.⁸⁸

Considering the clear evidence for interregional indigenous contacts along the Ionian coast provided by the Iapygian matt-painted pottery, it can be suspected that there was a direct relationship between the occurrence of this Salentine matt-painted pottery and the appearance of Middle Geometric II - Late Geometric Corinthian pottery on the acropolis of Timpone della Motta and elsewhere in the Sibaritide. The Middle Geometric II Corinthian pottery found in Francavilla Marittima is closely paralleled in the Middle Geometric II types current in the Salento. At the same time, finds of Middle Geometric II Corinthian pottery are very scarce elsewhere in Italy. The possible Ithacan fragment from Torre Mordillo described above points to the Salento where similar material, as described above, has come to light.

Conclusions

In the Sibaritide, the cultural encounter between Greeks and indigenous peoples did not initiate with the foundation of Sybaris as traditionally believed. From the first half of the 8th c. B.C. the indigenous community at the Timpone della Motta had already experienced its first meeting with Greeks and aspects of Greek material culture were transmitted by Greek individuals who co-existed with the indigenous settlement in the vicinity of a *kerameikos* area. Although the production of Oinotrian-Euboean vessels must be regarded as substantial, the vessels themselves seems to have had a limited reception in indigenous religious, funeral, and domestic spheres during the first and most of the second half of the 8th c. B.C. The difference between the high production output of Oinotrian-Euboean pottery displayed in structure A and B in the Area Rovitti and the relative scarcity in indigenous contexts is noteworthy. Oinotrian-Euboean material is attested at other indigenous sites of the Sibaritide, but only as singular finds, a pattern that seems to confirm the limited indigenous interest in the Oinotrian-Euboean vessels.⁸⁹ This raises the question of for whom was the majority of the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery produced. The excavations conducted in the Area Rovitti in 2009 and 2010 have so far only revealed two structures but a survey of the lower southern slope of the Timpone della Motta

⁸⁷ AA.VV., *Sibari* 1973 134-41.

⁸⁹ Jacobsen, Mittica and Handberg 2009, 214-15.

⁸⁸ Handberg and Jacobsen 2011, 178-83.

indicates the existence of an extensive Iron Age settlement area towards the west and north of structures A and B. High quantity of Oinotrian-Euboean fragments were accounted for on the surface which suggests that the inhabitants of this settlement may have been the main consumers of the Oinotrian-Euboean pottery. The influx of Corinthian Middle Geometric II and Late Geometric pottery to the Sibaritide supports the idea of far reaching interregional contacts along the Ionian coast. These coastal networks could account for the appearance of Corinthian and Iapygian pottery at the central site of Timpone della Motta.

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