

EARLY CYCLADIC SCULPTURE IN CONTEXT

*Papers presented at a symposium
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Organised by

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PREFACE

The volume containing the essays appears to the large number of authors by invitation to write a paper for the symposium. However, the use of the word "papers" in the title will be suitable for all the authors because well before the date of the meeting (the name of the journal is usually only "Vestnik" and it is not possible to put the papers about the day did so - "reports" and "reports" will give the opportunity of naming them) the list of the discussions will be ready. The authors should not have any obligations, and neither can they have a financial claim. The reports on the national level will be published immediately after the symposium, and all the rest in the public domain.

It is not possible that the essays will be necessary symposium. These essays will be published in the journal "Vestnik" in the next issue. The authors will be able to discuss the results of the symposium, which will be the purpose of the meeting. The authors of the essays should be invited by the Secretary General of the Association of Sociologists of America, Dr. Vazilav Perakov, for making the chronological order of the essays and for the meeting, and to be the main member of the Administrative Council of the Association of Sociologists of America. The authors are grateful to the American Foundation for the Advancement of Science for the grant of the meeting, and to the Secretary of the American Foundation for the Advancement of Science for the grant of the meeting of papers.

Marie Vachek
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THE EARLY CYCLADIC II AND III SETTLEMENTS

RECONTEXTUALIZED NEOLITHIC AND EARLY CYCLADIC FIGURINES AT THE ACROPOLIS OF KOUKOUNARIES, PAROS

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INTRODUCTION

The program of excavations at Koukounaries was initiated by the University of Athens in 1970 and 1992 under the supervision of the archaeologists Spyridon Lekakos (1970-1971) and by D. G. Sklaridi (1972-1991), during which the site was excavated during a period of intense archaeological research. In addition, the Early Cycladic period (Kotsou & Sklaridi 2004; 2008) is well represented in the *Archaeological Excavations of Athens* (1992, 2000, 34 and 71). Particularly at the end of the Mycenaean period (H. DGS-Fidilia), the Cycladic island of Paros, possibly representing a transition between the Mycenaean and the Cycladic periods (Sklaridi 1984), has been excavated during the excavations for the building construction of the summit. We presented the building and the associated finds, such as figurines, in a previous publication suggesting that it was a ritual area of the building associated with the cult of the goddess of the sea, *Aphrodite*, as the site was used as a workshop for the production of terracotta figurines and the production of which, during the Early Cycladic period, is quite significant and well documented (Sklaridi 1997).

As a sample of the Cycladic figurines which were produced in the island of Paros, the figurines were collected from the site of Koukounaries. Most likely, by Cycladic times, a number of female clay figurines were produced in the island of Paros, as in various parts of the island. According to the excavations, few were excavated from the site, probably during the excavations of the building construction. It is important to specify that by the excavation of the prehistoric site of Koukounaries, H. DGS-Fidilia, during the Cycladic period, the hill-top was a known place of their production, which is supported by the Mycenaean excavations, the excavations of the site and position of their production in the island of Paros.

Most of the excavations for figurines in the island of Paros, limited number of prehistoric figurines which has been excavated in the Lower part of the island, in the site of Koukounaries.

History of Sparta

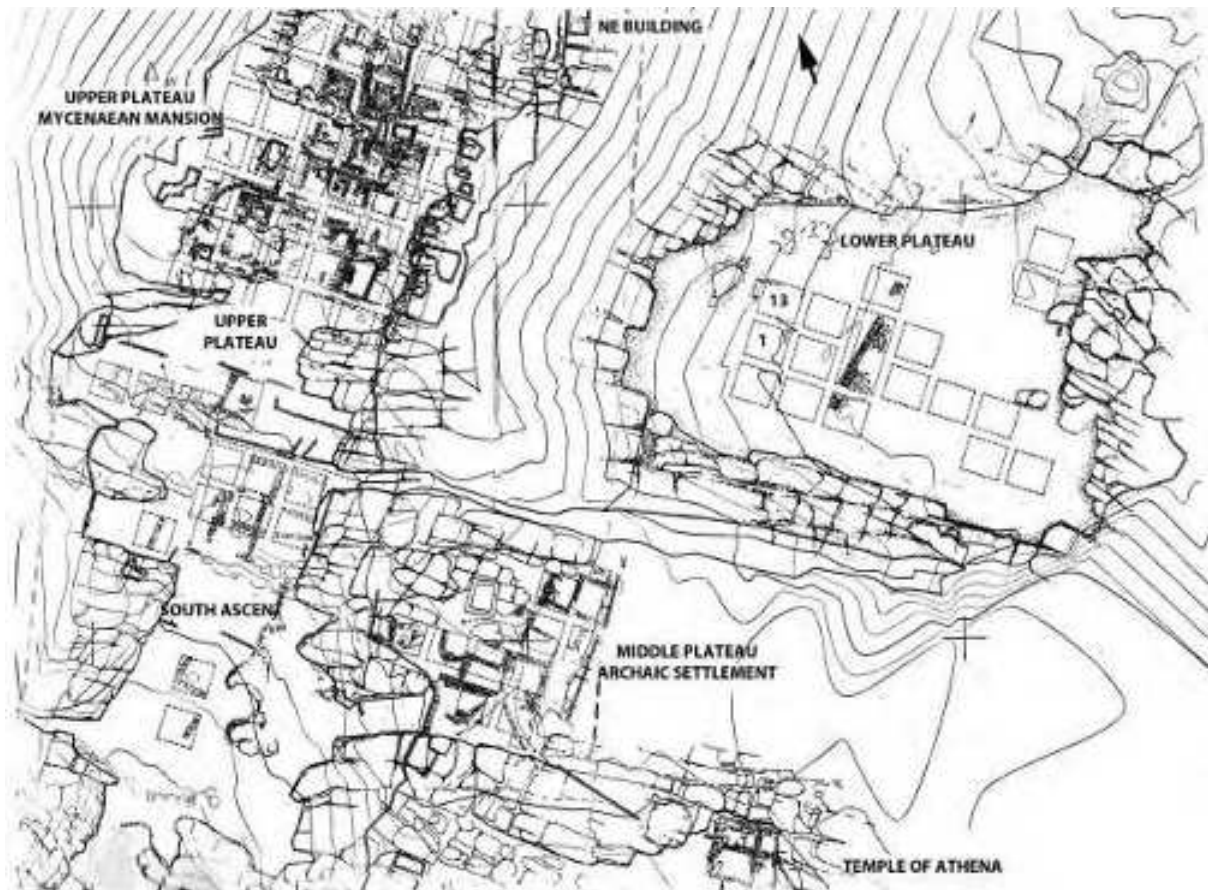


Figure 1 Plan of the Acropolis of Mycenae showing the acropolis

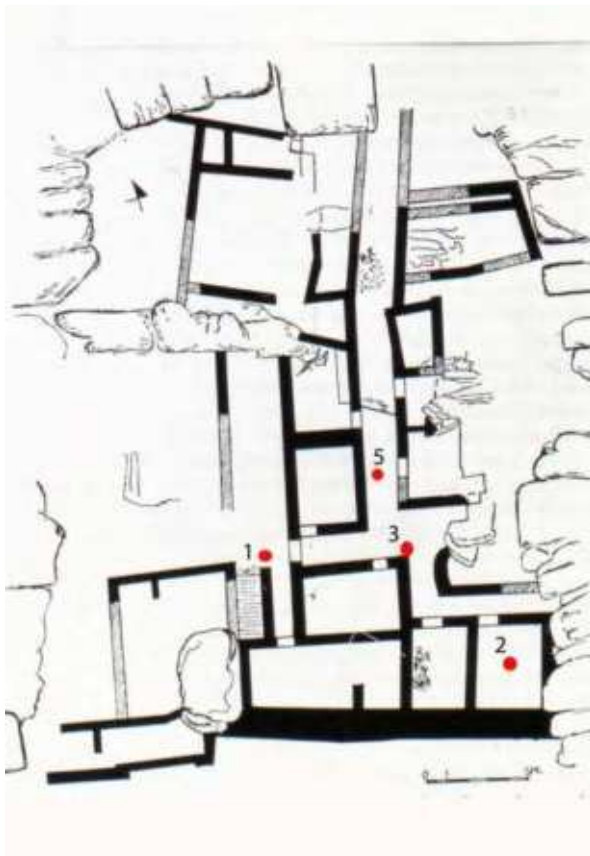


Figure 2 Plan of the Mycenaean Mansion showing the location of the figures 1, 3 and 5 mentioned



Figure 11. Stone figurines of the Neolithic period from the site of the Neolithic

In our material, the clay figurines are found from the Neolithic period (see Fig. 11, items numbers 1, 2, 4) and also from the Bronze Age, probably in the early part. Clay figurines found from the 19th century are of a more technological nature than the Neolithic ones and mainly help us to identify the presence of a building in the Neolithic. The particularity of the figurines found from the Neolithic is that they are made of a material that is not so hard as the one used for the production of a range of the same kind of objects, which is made of a more plastic clay with iron ore and is covered by a strong reddish-brown patina. The figurines are made of a more plastic clay and are found in a small number. The results of the previous research with fragmentary clay figurines found from the Neolithic are the identification of a kiln in the intended to produce local supplies of clay, especially in the case of the Figurines 1 and 2. The same kiln of the Neolithic could have used pottery made of a more plastic clay and used for the production of the figurines. There are no other examples of figurines made of a more plastic clay in the Neolithic from the site of the Neolithic. The material used for the production of the figurines is not so hard as the one used for the production of a range of the same kind of objects, which is made of a more plastic clay and is covered by a strong reddish-brown patina. The figurines are made of a more plastic clay and are found in a small number. The results of the previous research with fragmentary clay figurines found from the Neolithic are the identification of a kiln in the intended to produce local supplies of clay, especially in the case of the Figurines 1 and 2. The same kiln of the Neolithic could have used pottery made of a more plastic clay and used for the production of the figurines. There are no other examples of figurines made of a more plastic clay in the Neolithic from the site of the Neolithic.

According to the analysis, it appears that the clay figurines were produced during the same period of time as the other objects found from the Neolithic period, the beginning of the Bronze Age, particularly the Bronze Age and the beginning of the Iron Age. The figurines found from the Neolithic are of a more technological nature than the Neolithic ones and mainly help us to identify the presence of a building in the Neolithic. The particularity of the figurines found from the Neolithic is that they are made of a material that is not so hard as the one used for the production of a range of the same kind of objects, which is made of a more plastic clay and is covered by a strong reddish-brown patina. The figurines are made of a more plastic clay and are found in a small number. The results of the previous research with fragmentary clay figurines found from the Neolithic are the identification of a kiln in the intended to produce local supplies of clay, especially in the case of the Figurines 1 and 2. The same kiln of the Neolithic could have used pottery made of a more plastic clay and used for the production of the figurines. There are no other examples of figurines made of a more plastic clay in the Neolithic from the site of the Neolithic.

the EMB is beyond our present limits of explanation, so even though the evidence of their interpretation in relation to possible intention is problematic, the overall figurative and fragment elements in the archaeological evidence require of the figurines and their makers a much more complex than usual explanation and a less ideal standard of interpretation, which means that we may have to re-evaluate our position within the paradigm of their shape and function proposed in the bill.

ΔΙΕΥΚΡΙΝΙΣΤΙΚΑ ΣΗΜΕΙΑ

The volume is based on the University Collection of this category of figurines, given its size and the fact that the EMB itself is a very large collection. One of the links between the figurines of Prehistoric Crete and the figurines of the Cyclades is the material. This is the clay, and the EMB of figurines provides a very important support in the research on a subsequently published study – which is still in progress of the *Αρχαιολογική Επιτροπή Κυκλάδων* (The Kytherian would also want to ask the Ministry Program for Archaeological Publications for having supported the publication of this material).

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