

# BRONZE AGE SETTLEMENT PATTERNS IN SOUTHWEST CYPRUS

by S. Swiny

The Kent State University excavations at Episkopi *Phaneromeni* between 1975 and 1978 have shed much light on the cultural manifestations of Southern Cyprus in the first half of the second millennium B.C. Previously, the dating of all Early and Middle Bronze Age material in the region was based on North Cypriot criteria dependent on the absence or presence of White Painted pottery with the result that most tombgroups and settlements were dated to the earlier period.<sup>1</sup>

Over the years numerous chance Bronze Age finds from the Limassol District suggested that *Phaneromeni* was far from being an isolated community, and indeed the contrary would have been surprising in view of the density of occupation during the Neolithic and Chalcolithic periods.<sup>2</sup> The range of local pottery types hinted at the possibility of establishing a sequence of Early and Middle Cypriot settlements that would help fill the gap between Chalcolithic I Erimi *Pamboula*<sup>3</sup> and the earliest M.C. remains at *Phaneromeni*. Such a task could only be undertaken with the new understanding of South Coast ceramics, ceramic styles, and their relative chronology as established by the K.S.U. excavations.

With the intention of deciding whether the M.C. and L.C.IA settlements at *Phaneromeni* were typical communities within a larger framework; of bettering our understanding of the site's environment—especially its relationship with contemporary establishments—and of isolating the local settlement pattern, Kent State University decided to carry out an archaeological survey of the Episkopi region.

## ABBREVIATIONS

E.C.	Early Cypriot
M.C.	Middle Cypriot
L.C.	Late Cypriot
E.M.	Early Minoan
D.P.	Drab Polished
R.P.	Red Polished
W.P.	White Painted (Middle Cypriot)
B.R.	Base Ring
W.S.	White Slip
K.S.U.	Kent State University

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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<sup>1</sup> Far the best example of a M.C. site being dated to the E.C. cf. Weinberg 1956 with reference to Episkopi *Phaneromeni*.

<sup>3</sup> Dikaios 1962: 198 ff.; Watkins 1973: 34–61; Peltenburg 1979: 94 ff.

<sup>2</sup> Dikaios 1961: 1, pl. 1.

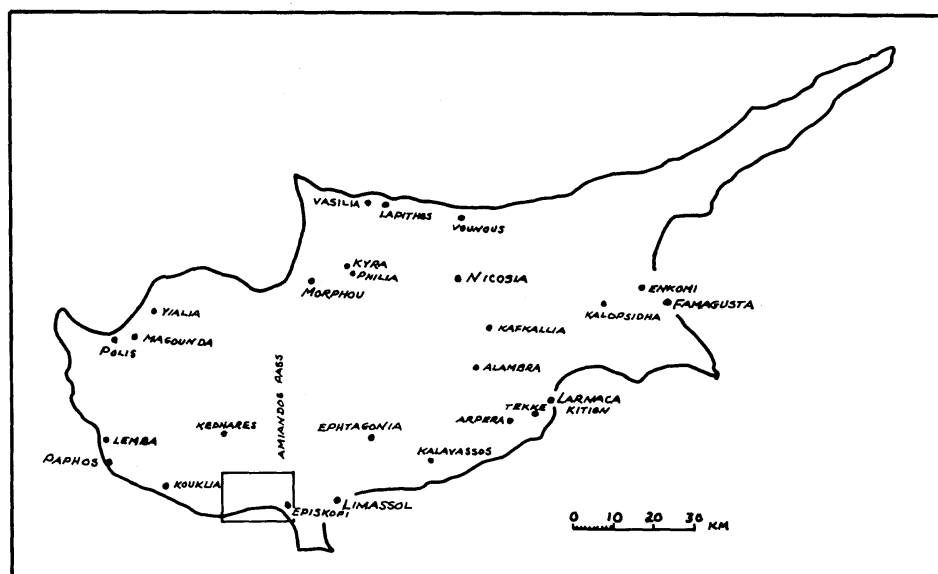


Fig. 1. Map of Cyprus showing location of the area surveyed and sites mentioned in the text.

Limassol District has never been the focus of a systematic prehistoric site survey, although with other sections of the South Coast it has been mentioned at irregular intervals in connection with pre-L.C. remains by E. Gjerstad,<sup>4</sup> P. Dikaios<sup>5</sup> and H. W. Catling.<sup>6</sup> The latter mentions six E.C. sites in the proximity of Episkopi, all of which were previously recorded by Gjerstad or Dikaios, but for the M.C. *Phaneromeni* stands alone.<sup>7</sup> A number of chance Bronze Age finds have recently been reported on by Karageorghis<sup>8</sup> and others,<sup>9</sup> but without reassessment, little new information can be gleaned from this disparate assemblage of data.

The stretch of coastline between the Akrotiri Peninsula and Cape Aspro (Fig. 2) is a discontinuous series of small river plains separated by low foothills that gradually rise up towards the dominant peak of Mt. Olympus, 30 km. inland. The hill country mostly consists of chalks, limestones and marls of the Pakhna formation, with intrusions along the river valleys of the calcareous siltstones and alluvium that predominate on the coastal fringe (Fig. 3). Many plateaux and ridges show a thick deposit of *havara*, sometimes with pockets of terra-rossa. The former is a Cypriot term broadly translated as "limestone", but more specifically meant to indicate "secondary" limestone deposited by the evaporation during the summer months of water rich in calcium carbonate.<sup>10</sup>

The present shoreline owes much of its configuration to the Kouris river that, each winter, carries newly eroded material to the sea. It should be counted as one of the island's major rivers and was perennial until recently.<sup>11</sup> By comparison the so-called Evdhimou and Paramali rivers are mere torrents which dry up for most of their courses during the summer. A number of springs scattered throughout the countryside significantly influenced the settlement pattern.

The Episkopi region shares the semi-arid Mediterranean climate common to most of Cyprus. Mean annual temperature is 19.5°C at Akrotiri,<sup>12</sup> with a mean daily average of about 13°C in winter

<sup>4</sup> Gjerstad 1926: 15.

<sup>5</sup> Dikaios 1940: 160.

<sup>6</sup> Catling 1963: 135, 148 ff.

<sup>7</sup> Catling 1963: 156.

<sup>8</sup> See V. Karageorghis in the *BCH* "Chronique de fouilles et découvertes archéologiques à Chypre".

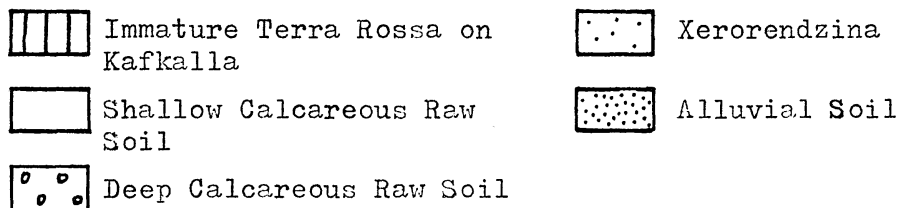
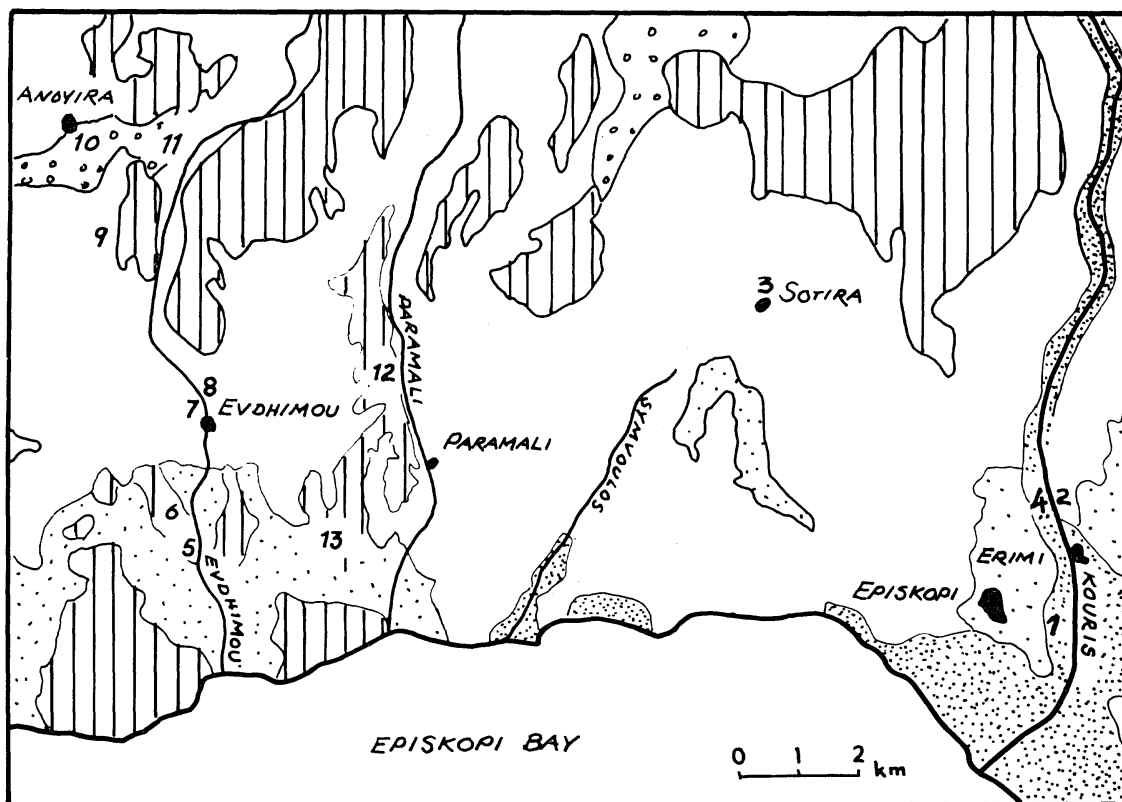
<sup>9</sup> Herscher 1976; Des Gagniers and Karageorghis 1976.

<sup>10</sup> Elliott and Dutton 1962: 75.

<sup>11</sup> Since the tapping of several large springs near Khalassa village the Kouris only flows from November through May.

<sup>12</sup> Data supplied by the Meteorological Service at RAF Akrotiri.





- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Episkopi Phaneromeni | 7. Evdhimou Ambelovounos  |
| 2. Erimi Kafkalla       | 8. Evdhimou Beyouk Tarla  |
| 3. Sotira Kaminoudhia   | 9. Anoyira Kannavokambos  |
| 4. Kandou Balies        | 10. Anoyira Livadhia      |
| 5. Evdhimou Stympouli   | 11. Anoyira Peralijithias |
| 6. Evdhimou Alatomi     | 12. Paramali Mandra t. P. |
|                         | 13. Evdhimou Shilles      |

Fig. 3. Soil Reconnaissance map of the Episkopi area. Based upon the Reconnaissance Soil Map of Cyprus, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Nicosia, Cyprus. 1961. State Copyright.

and 26°C in summer, calculated over a period of 30 years. December, January and February receive 384 mm. of the 460 mm. annual average rainfall, computed over the same period.

Today the local flora is dominated by carobs (*Certonia siliqua*) and olives (*Olea europaea*),<sup>13</sup> to be found on every hill, no matter how steep, and in most fields. Carefully tended in the valleys and near villages, in the areas of marginal productivity they are increasingly abandoned. Localized

<sup>13</sup> Christodolou 1959: 48.

stands of Cyprian Aleppo pine (*Pinus brutia*) are quite common, especially between Episkopi and Sotira villages. Lentisk (*Pistacia spinosum*), thorny broom (*Calycotome infesta*) and spiny burnet (*Poterium spinosum*) are the three main constituents of the local maquis.<sup>14</sup>

The steeper areas are painstakingly terraced, and their thin topsoil put to maximum use for growing cereals. Many of the smaller terraces are now left fallow and invaded by scrub, but the larger ones, and most of the upland plateaux and valley bottoms, are still planted with cereals, or more recently turned over to vines. Despite the fact that the region has suffered from the depredations of goats and erosion, by Middle Eastern standards its diversified agriculture is productive, and until the close of the nineteenth century it supplied a modest, though adequate, livelihood to the indigenous population.

Strictly defined, the survey area of nearly 85 km.<sup>2</sup> is bounded to the east and west by the Kouris and Evdhimou valleys and extends from the villages of Erimi and Anoyira to the sea. The combined population of the 9 villages<sup>15</sup> was about 5,300 in 1974, as compared to around 1,700 a century ago.

The factor determining the size and shape of the survey area was the known location of the Erimi *Kafkalla* and Evdhimou *Beyouk Tarla* cemeteries in the Kouris and Evdhimou valleys. From these reference points the valleys were investigated 4 km. north inland and south to the coast.

Map references to each site are twofold because topographical maps become obsolete quite rapidly, whereas Cadastral Plans are merely updated. The first reference is the 1/5,000 Cadastral Plan number with plot numbers containing archaeological remains. Second, the 1/5,000 Topographical Series DLS 17 (DOS 155) with sheet and grid references to approximately the centre of the site.

Most of the Bronze Age sites described were not discovered as the result of a *systematic* archaeological survey as defined by Schiffer *et al.*,<sup>16</sup> as the thorough investigation on foot, of this hilly, densely wooded area (Fig. 2) was beyond the means of the expedition. Rather than place the emphasis on obtaining a comprehensive regional settlement pattern with little topographical information on each site, stress was placed on the methodical recording of site location, archaeological features (architecture, tombs), the collection of representative artifacts and pottery and mapping of site boundaries.

All sites were located by one of the following means. First through information contained in the Cyprus Survey records, kept in the Cyprus Museum, Nicosia. Part of the records were published by Catling in 1963<sup>17</sup> and directly or indirectly through this source Anoyira *Trapezi*, Erimi *Kafkalla* and Kandou *Balies* were reinvestigated. Four sites listed in the unpublished Museum Records, namely Anoyira *Stavlistmi*, Erimi *Vokolomandra*, Evdhimou *Kilades* and Sotira *Kaminoudhia* were located by a study of the relevant Cadastral Plans. Sites of the third category, Anoyira *Kannavokambos* and *Peralijithias*, Evdhimou *Amolo*, *Beyouk Tarla* and *Shilles*, and Paramali *Mandra tou Pouppou* were discovered through information received from members of the Department of Antiquities and local residents.<sup>18</sup> Finally the K.S.U. archaeological survey discovered Anoyira *Livadhia* and *Kolokos*, Evdhimou *Alatomi*, *Ambelovounos* and *Stympouli*, and Paramali *Pharkonia*, which brings the total of loci with archaeological remains to 18. Not included in this number are three so-called "farmsteads", close to *Beyouk Tarla* and within the boundaries of Episkopi Village (Plate V A).

Since the systematic approach to surveying was not adopted, the representativeness of the results for the area under study might be queried. It should be noted, however, that the writer was in

<sup>14</sup> Op. cit. p. 48, 214; Meikle 1977.

<sup>15</sup> Goodwin 1976. The following villages lie within the survey area: Anoyira, Episkopi, Evdhimou, Kandou, Paramali, Prastio, Sotira, Souni and Zanaja.

<sup>16</sup> Schiffer *et al.* 1978: 2.

<sup>17</sup> Cf. Catling 1963.

<sup>18</sup> K. and P. Cameron discovered Evdhimou *Amolo* and Anoyira *Peralijithias*. A. Campbell of the Army Air Corps discovered the cemeteries of Evdhimou *Shilles* and Paramali *Pharkonia* from the air. He also took the aerial photograph of the Evdhimou valley.

contact with local farmers, rural constables and shepherds for a period of four years, during which time much incidental information was gathered. In addition to these sources, numerous land improvement schemes involving terracing are being undertaken in the area, with the result that many isolated tombs and entire cemeteries have been uncovered and the whereabouts of these finds are usually reported to the custodian of the Curium House Museum. If these methods of information gathering are combined with those making use of museum records and the physical exploration of certain potentially rewarding areas, it is probable that most sites will be discovered. In the present context "potentially rewarding areas" are defined as localities close to perennial water sources and arable land. Previous research<sup>19</sup> has shown that E.C. settlement patterns were dependent on water supplies and arable land and it was a reasonable assumption that the location of pre-L.C. sites in the Episkopi area would be governed by the same criteria. Parts of the Evdhimou and Paramali valleys combined these natural factors and a systematic survey in their vicinity resulted in the discovery of six sites.<sup>20</sup> In most instances the tell-tale remains of a plundered cemetery were first recognized and this led to the discovery of a settlement in the vicinity.

Fortunately the burial customs of Bronze Age Cyprus were, so far as can be ascertained from the surviving evidence, centred around the deposit of funerary offerings in rock cut chambers entered by way of an open passage or *dromos* sealed by a large stone slab. In common with most of the ancient world the Cypriots appear to have believed in after-life,<sup>21</sup> and even humble burials were equipped with pottery, while the more fortunate might receive metal utensils, tools and weapons. Obviously a surface survey can only hope to discover a fraction of the whole picture and must usually be content with partially silted up, back-filled chambers and scattered pot sherds.

In areas of thick soil deposits a tomb was recognized by a concentration of usually newly broken, lime-encrusted sherds scattered around a crater of varying depth, with a small expanse of bedrock at its base. Elsewhere the craters were smaller and the *dromos* often entirely cleared, especially in the Evdhimou valley. The presence of a lime deposit on large sherds is important because with rare exceptions pottery from settlements, even when newly brought to the surface by the plough or through terracing, is broken in small pieces, often with rounded edges. In the Episkopi area vessels are only encrusted with lime after prolonged exposure to water percolating in a tomb chamber. If the vessel is entirely covered over with soil this phenomenon does not occur.

A cemetery is defined as one or more *dromoi*, since throughout the island's history tombs are normally clustered. Isolated burials are interpreted here as the only visible representative of a larger group, obscured by soil or vegetation.

For the purpose of this study, a settlement is defined as an observable cluster of artifacts—ceramic or lithic—covering at least 100 m.<sup>2</sup>. Such units were easily distinguished from small cemeteries by the absence of tombs and presence of saddle querns and handstones. Clusters of less than 10 × 10 m. were arbitrarily classified as farmsteads since they can hardly have included more than one structure.<sup>22</sup> The *Phaneromeni* excavations have demonstrated that the average room size was 3 × 5 m., and that the overall architectural plans were accretive. A single unit would be expected to cover about 100 m.<sup>2</sup>. The term "farmstead" was not applicable to concentrations of sherds from only one type of vessel, on the assumption that it might have originated from the breakage of a single item. At all three farmsteads the pottery was accompanied by architectural remains or stone artifacts.

<sup>19</sup> Catling 1966: 27; Dikaios 1961: 1.

<sup>20</sup> These sites are: Evdhimou *Alatomi*, *Stympouli* and *Ambelovounos*; Anoyira *Livadhia* and *Kolokos*; Paramali *Pharkonias* and *Mandra tou Pouppou*.

<sup>21</sup> Catling 1966: 30; Kassimatis 1973: 121.

<sup>22</sup> Cf. Blackman and Branigan 1977: 71 for a discussion of E.M. farmsteads.

The bulk of the surveying was done by a team of six people over a period of four weeks starting in August 1978.<sup>23</sup> All members were conversant with the typical range of E.C.–M.C. artifacts before work in the field started.

On the 1/5,000 Cadastral Plans most sites were conveniently subdivided into numbered plots, which were sometimes arbitrarily subdivided again by the expedition. Since emphasis was placed on recording architectural features and mapping artifact scatters, the large size of many sites meant that a systematic survey in which every parcel of land is investigated was beyond the resources of the project.

Anoyira *Peralijithias* was chosen as a type-site without a visible necropolis. The exact extent of its boundaries was determined by team members walking at intervals of about 4 m. All sherds and small artifacts were collected, the remainder being recorded with the architectural features. A similar technique was employed for selective areas of Erimi *Kafkalla*, Sotira *Kaminoudhia* and Evdhimou *Stympouli*. It was hoped that the data recovered from these sites might, by extrapolation, enable the better understanding of other communities where the survey was more specific and concentrated on the peripheral areas with regard to determining site boundaries.

All finds are classified according to the typology and nomenclature in use at *Phaneromeni*. For a detailed description of these typologies reference to the forthcoming publication of the K.S.U. excavations at Episkopi *Phaneromeni* is necessary. Fortunately most of the lithic<sup>24</sup> and terracotta types are self evident, but in order to understand the ceramic typology adopted at *Phaneromeni* and to allow comparison with sites outside the South Coast region, a synopsis is provided here on the understanding that it might need revision in the future.<sup>25</sup>

R.P. Chalcolithic III ware.<sup>26</sup> Buff coloured, fine grit and chaff tempered fabric with grey or buff core. Quite thick red-brown slip, lightly burnished, often with clearly visible burnish marks. This last characteristic is the only means of differentiating it from R.P.III ware (see below). Sometimes decorated with incisions, especially the handles.

Dark R.P. ware. Dark brown, from fine to medium grit tempered fabric with a grey or brown core. The thin brown slip, sometimes highly burnished, shows occasional signs of mottling. The fabric is not so hard as, and appears to be sandier than, diagnostic R.P.III Mottled ware (see below). This pottery is undecorated.

R.P.I South Coast ware. Soft, chalky, light brown to buff fabric, usually grit-tempered, but sometimes with unintentional additions of organic matter. Slips tend to be thick, flaky and lustrous, sometimes very well burnished. Slips are mostly red to red-brown, but sometimes vessels are fired to a dark grey-black.<sup>27</sup> By definition it is decorated with incised motifs sometimes accompanied by plastic zoomorphic elements.<sup>28</sup>

R.P.III ware.<sup>29</sup> It is characterized by a typically buff fabric—similar if not identical to R.P.I South Coast—a thickish red-brown well burnished slip often applied with a brush or a rag, and a total lack of incised decoration *on the body*. Some jugs have simple, wide spaced impressed and incised motifs on the neck, handle and upper shoulder, but nothing elsewhere. It is the absence of intricate body decoration alone which differentiates R.P.III from R.P.I South Coast in sherd form.

<sup>23</sup> The following worked on the survey: S. Thome, J. Hanson, H. C. Heywood and J. Bircher often assisted by P. Cameron. I wish to thank them all for their good companionship, dedication and hard work.

<sup>24</sup> For a detailed analysis of the gaming stones cf. Swiny 1980 (forthcoming).

<sup>25</sup> The pottery from the settlements at Episkopi *Phaneromeni* is to

be published by E. C. Herscher who isolated many of the characteristics of South Coast ceramics. See n. 34 below.

<sup>26</sup> Dikaios 1962: 153.

<sup>27</sup> Merrillees 1978: 14 ff.

<sup>28</sup> Stewart 1962, fig. LXXIII: 3.

<sup>29</sup> Stewart 1962: 228.

R.P.III Mottled ware. The fabric is hard, dark, red-brown coarse grit tempered. The less common smaller shapes have a finer almost sandy fabric, sometimes difficult to differentiate from R.P. Punctured ware. All vessels are covered with a lustrous well burnished slip of medium thickness, which never shows brush or rag marks so typical of R.P.III ware. The red-brown slip is normally mottled with well defined grey to black areas, with a matt and often crackled surface. Though common on handles and lugs, incised decoration is otherwise very rare, and always executed prior to the application of the slip,<sup>30</sup> in contrast with other South Coast incised wares. Relief and plastic decoration occurs only rarely, and is normally associated with incised motifs.<sup>31</sup> The walls are thick in relation to vessel size. The repertory of shapes is dominated by a functional vein, unlike R.P.I South Coast ware.

R.P.IV ware.<sup>32</sup> It is characterized by a very hard, dark red-brown coarse grit-tempered fabric, often fired black. The fabric is not overly brittle and it is not uncommon for large R.P.IV jugs to have walls between 2 and 3 mm. thick. Vessels are covered with a thin brown slip of the same colour as the fabric, usually showing a dull lustre, but sometimes well burnished. Most pots have some degree of unintentional mottling. Diagnostic features of this ware are the poorly smoothed exterior and rough scratched interiors of closed vessels. Hastily scratched shallow linear motifs on the necks of jugs are typical. Most of the decoration is done with a multiple toothed comb.

R.P. Punctured ware.<sup>33</sup> The fabric is fairly soft with grit and fine organic tempering, buff to light brown. The thin slip is carefully burnished to a characteristic smooth soapy texture, often with burnish marks showing. Decoration consists primarily of meticulously executed hook and key patterns, lozenges and triangles filled with punctures or hatches. The overall design shows a judicious use of reserve space.

D.P. Blue Core ware.<sup>34</sup> The fine, very hard, buff to orange fabric is fired to a high temperature for a short time. Typically the core is blue-grey, with a pockmarked buff surface. Vessels have a thin slip, sometimes well burnished but more often fugitive and matt. The incised decoration, less carefully executed than that of R.P. Punctured ware, often consists of wavy or zig-zag bands with superimposed circles hanging from the shoulder. The use of hanging triangles filled with incisions is also common. Vessels are usually thin-walled for their size.

Most of the incised decoration of South Coast pottery was originally lime filled for aesthetic purposes.

Sherds were always recorded, counted and stored by plot or sub-plot, but the totals and percentages from each settlement shown in Table 1 always represent the sum total. This convenience was necessitated by the sheer size of many settlements, subdivided into 10 or more plots. Noticeable differences between sherd samples from various areas were carefully checked for, as they could indicate chronological or functional divisions within the site.

In the course of sherding recently plundered cemeteries it was noticed that many pieces from the same vessel might be collected. If such material were to be compared with that from long-since disturbed *dromoi* or from settlements, the results would show a bias in favour of the wares represented by the sherds from the same vessel, therefore it became necessary to determine the minimum number of whole shapes for each ware. The combination of different findspots, shapes, sizes and surface finish of individual vessels, plus the differences in hardness, texture and colour of

<sup>30</sup> Des Gagniers and Karageorghis 1976, pl. XXXIII: 2, 4 and perhaps also pl. XXXII: 2.

<sup>31</sup> Op. cit. pl. XXXIV: 1, pl. XXVIII: 2.

<sup>32</sup> Karageorghis 1965a: 33, no. 59, also nos. 53, 54, 57, 61; Swiny 1979, fig. 82.

<sup>33</sup> Karageorghis 1965b: 225-6, fig. 38, p. 250, fig. 33a; Karageorghis 1969: 489. Usually described as R.P.IV ware; Herscher 1976, pl. I: 1; Swiny 1979: 35-6, fig. 83.

<sup>34</sup> Herscher 1976: 11 ff., pls. I: 2, II: 1-3, 5, III: 6, IV: 4, 5, V: 2-8, described as Drab Polished; Swiny 1976: 47-8, figs. 6, 7; Swiny 1979: 36; elsewhere "Blue Core".

Table 1 Pottery chart with percentages of the most common wares

	R.P. Chalco. III	Dark R.P.	R.P. I South Coast	R.P. III	Black Top Bowl	R.P. III Mottled	D.P. Blue Core	R.P. Punctured	R.P. IV	Coarse	Miscellaneous	Total Sherds or Vessels	Percentage Total	
Gr. I	Trapezi Cem.	50	50									4	100	
	Kaminoudhia Cem.	40	14.5			40	1.7				4	118	100	
	Kaminoudhia Set.	4	21.5			25				1.5	48	200	100	
	Kannavokambos Cem.		14.5	1	39.5	3	10		1		30	89	99	
Gr. II	Amolo Cem. C			36	38	15	2			2	2	78	99	
	Ambelovounos Cem.			31	26	39	3.5					114	99	
	Ambelovounos Set					68	8			24		25	100	
	Amolo Cem. A			6	65	24	25				1.5	190	99	
Gr. III	Amolo Cem. B			3	37	41	12			5	8	185	100	
	Stympouli Cem.			3	39	33	24					33	99	
	Mandra tou P. Cem.			2	4.3	2	30	48	2	6.5	2	46	99	
	Alatomi Cem.				14	3	46	36				67	99	
	Alatomi Set.				3		38	25	2.2		26	87	99	
	Balies Set.				7		72	3	11	0.6	6	170	99	
	Stympouli Set.				5	0.3	52	18		2	20	2.5	160	100
Gr. IV	Kafkalla Set.					11	32	1	4	36	16	81	100	
	Kafkalla Cem.				7		60	10	6	3	4	9	286	99
	Beyouk Tarla Cem.				13	5	41	26	0.3	9	2	4	275	100
	Beyouk Tarla Set.				2		43	11	2	10	21	11	217	100
	Peralijithias Set.				3		40	14	0.9	6	11	25	228	99
	Livadhia Set.				8		31	33	2	7	12	6	189	99
	Kolokos Set.				5		20	25		10	40		20	100
	Mandra tou P. Set.						20	15.5	13	11	13	26.6	45	99
	Shilles Set.						14	27		20		39	131	100
	Phaneromeni Set. G				4.5		59	3	10.5	1.2	14	8	3,275	
	Phaneromeni Set. A			0.03	0.7		2.7	8.4	37	35	11.6	4.2	50,953	99
Phaneromeni A (Surf.)						5	26	25	32		12.7	143	100	

fabrics, makes their separation quite feasible when dealing with such quantities as recorded by the survey.

All ceramic, stone and terracotta finds collected by the survey were inventoried by site and handed over to the Curium House Museum at the close of the season. Considerations of size and quantity precluded the collection of all lithic artifacts, querns especially; however, those left *in situ* were also recorded according to the *Phaneromeni* typology, and included in Table 2.

As noted above, the survey's goal was to collect a maximum of topical data for each site, with the intention of isolating the variables and determining the settlement pattern within the study area. Individual sites will then be discussed under six separate headings and compared with contemporary sites elsewhere on the island.

#### Episkopi *Phinijin*

In 1964 several air-raid trenches were sunk in the southwest corner of *Phiniki* or *Phinijin*,<sup>35</sup> a football pitch in the centre of the village, and almost 2 m. below the surface were found the remains

<sup>35</sup> Map references: Cadastral Plan: LVIII: 5, plot. nos. 59-61; Topographical Series: 58/V, 91080-36730.

Table 2 Lithic artifacts

	Pharkonia	Kafkalla	Balies	Kaminoudhia	Mandra tou Pouppou	Shilles	Stympouli	Alatomi	Beyouk Tarla	Kannavokambos	Livadhia	Kolokos	Peralijithias	Ambelevounos	Phaneromeni A & G	Total
Axe #1	1	1		1					2		2		2		8	17
Axe #2											1				3	4
Adze, chisel				1	1?								1		3	6
Rubber-pounder	1	9	2	6		8	5	4	16		11		16	3	39	120
Rubbing stone	1	7				1	2	1					1		19	32
Grinder-pounder		14		4			3		2		1				29	53
Pounder		26		11		1	1	5	12	1	8		4		35	104
Pestle															3	3
Hammerstone													1		18	19
Pecking stone		1		5					4		1		6		25	42
Whetstone				2		1					1		2		10	16
Mace-head													1		10	11
Spindle whorl															4	4
Perf. stone		10									3		6		19	38
Pers. ornament				1											37	38
Weight whole							2		2		1		1		12	18
Tethering stone							6	1	8			1	1		6	23
Bowl													1		1	2
Mortar					3	2	6	4	6		1		1		29	52
Basin or trough								1	9		1		5	1	3	20
Pedestal basin							6	2	1					1	3	13
Saddle quern #1	6	36	3	3		10	18	13	27	1	12	5	9	3	12	158
Saddle quern #2	11	70	6	33	1	35	18	36	29		32	7	24	2	30	334
Jar cover?		2					1		1		1		2		4	11
Pivotstone		1						1	3						1	6
Threshold							2						3			5
Miscellaneous				1			5	1	5		1		4		9	26
Various games?													3		1	4
Game, <i>Senet</i> #1	1	4			1	3	6	3	17		3		13	1	37	89
Game, <i>Senet</i> #2									6		1		4		4	15
Game, <i>Mehen</i>							2	1	1				1		9	14
Total	21	181	11	68	6	61	83	73	151	2	81	13	112	13	423	1297

of a mudbrick structure and an incised R.P. Punctured ware bowl.<sup>36</sup> Unfortunately the trenches were later backfilled and the survey failed to collect any Bronze Age pottery and lithic artifacts in the vicinity. Were it not for the mention of "mud brick", the bowl might be explained as a stray find. *Phinijin* is indeed an unlikely spot for a Bronze Age settlement, since the nearest water source is the

<sup>36</sup> Karageorghis 1965b: 225-6, fig. 38.

Kouris 1,250 m. distant and the local topography argues against the existence of a spring, even in antiquity. This was probably a small establishment—possibly a single unit—in the midst of prime agricultural land, close to the inland biota, but far from a water supply. The evidence suggests that *Phinijin* was a farmstead, perhaps associated with the large L.C.IA settlement at *Phaneromeni*, 1 km. to the southwest.

#### Erimi *Kafkalla*

The settlement of Erimi *Kafkalla*<sup>37</sup> was established on a broad south-sloping ridge overlooking the east bank of the Kouris. It lies about 3 km. north of *Phaneromeni* at an altitude of between 120 and 140 m. above the sea.

The artifact scatter—both pottery and stone—covers a minimum of 14 ha., and stretches 400 m. along the steep scarp once eroded by the river (Fig. 5). To the east the settlement ends short of a shallow gully, 250 m. from the ridge at the narrowest point. A thin light-brown soil, under half a metre thick but with some more substantial pockets, covers most of the *havara* bedrock in which some 260 chamber tombs were cut. Since the *havara* has been extensively used for domestic or other purposes along most of the west and south scarps, as well as above several *dromoi* it seems that little soil erosion has taken place since the Bronze Age. Then, as now, the bedrock must have been on, or close to the surface.

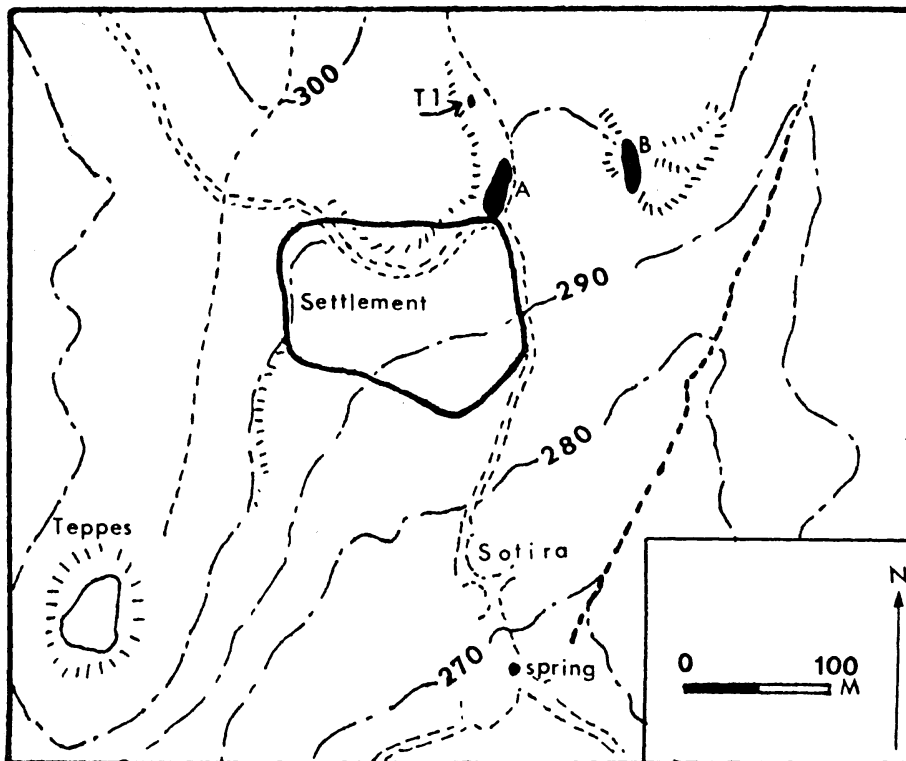


Fig. 4. Topographical map of Sotira Kaminoudhia and Teppes. Contour interval 10 metres.

<sup>37</sup> Map References: Cadastral Plan: LIII: 53, 61, plot nos. 53-7, 79, 229-302, 310/3, 310/4, 311; Topographical Series: 53/

XXIX, 38720-92340. *Kafkalla* or *Kafkallia* is Greek Cypriot for barren limestone crust lands.

The present vegetation consists of a regular scatter of carob, with a few olives and many lentisc bushes.

The reasons for establishing a settlement here are unclear. The nearest source of water is the river, now some 42 m. down a steep slope and about 600 m. distant from the easternmost edge of the settlement. There might have been a spring in the gully to the east, but today there is no evidence of such. Other than offering a fine view in all directions, the position embodies no natural defences other than the scarp. Proximity to arable land was perhaps a consideration, but unless the crops needed constant attention—or protection—a site nearer to the water supply would seem preferable. It might be argued, however, that no other site was available as a small settlement already existed near the foot of the western bluff at Kandou *Balies*, and a short way down stream the inhabitants of *Phaneromeni* would have monopolized arable land on both sides of the river. As we shall see, the ceramic evidence suggests that *Phaneromeni* also preceded the establishment of *Kafkalla*.

Another explanation, more difficult to verify, concerns the possibility of an access or trade route channelling goods and people down the Kouris valley from Morphou Bay and the rich hill country of the Troodos Massif.

The first reference to *Kafkalla* is by Gjerstad who described the site as “. . . a necropolis with tombs from the Early Bronze Age . . .”.<sup>38</sup> Sherds from *Kafkalla* were published by Dikaios in 1951<sup>39</sup> and more pottery was gathered by Catling in 1952.<sup>40</sup> Three tombs were discovered during levelling operations for a water reservoir in 1970 and when excavated by the Department of Antiquities the chambers yielded a number of White Slip and Base Ring vessels, a Proto White Slip jug and a R.P.IV incised bowl.<sup>41</sup>

The tombs at *Kafkalla* are easily visible and numerous and have long been the prey of looters. Some *dromoi* are so weathered they could have lain open for centuries.

A scatter of some 227 *dromoi* extends for 550 m. along the north–south axis of the plateau (Fig. 5). Perhaps due to a thicker soil cover in the Bronze Age no chambers were dug along the east side, which, though inhabited, was lacking in rock-cut basins and mortars.

As shown on the plan (Fig. 6), tomb locations follow no clear pattern, only a random progression from north to south. Entire *dromoi* were seldom visible, and a mere 42 were clearly defined. Since most of the cemetery has a reasonable deposit of top soil, combined with an extensive spread of lentisc bushes, probably one third to one half of the original *dromoi* remain undetected. Their proximity to one another cannot have been dictated by the lack of suitable rock for grave digging as it is locally abundant.

The most common shape, with 15 examples recorded, was oval or approximately oval, averaging 1.60 m. by 1.20 m., followed by the rectangular type with 10 examples, averaging 1.70 m. by 0.95 m. Five *dromoi* were elongated irregular trenches 1.50 m. wide and measuring up to 7.80 m. long. The remainder were either approximately circular, square, triangular, L-shaped or semi-circular. Most *dromoi* were sunk between 0.55 m. and 1.70 m. below the surface of the bedrock. So far as could be ascertained 23 *dromoi* gave access to two chambers, and only four had above that number.

The characteristically round or oval chambers, entered near the domical roof, varied greatly in size. The largest on record measured 5 × 4.70 m., and the norm was around 2.50 m. in diameter.

The overall picture of the ceramic assemblage from the necropolis is shown in Table 1.

Of note is a conspicuous lack of R.P.I South Coast ware. R.P.III ware is rare, and mainly restricted to the northern half of the cemetery, R.P.III Mottled ware remains the most common type throughout and the rare occurrences of R.P.IV ware coincide with the Late Bronze Age pottery

<sup>38</sup> Gjerstad 1926: 15.

<sup>39</sup> Dikaios 1951.

<sup>40</sup> Catling 1963: 130.

<sup>41</sup> Karageorghis 1972: 1008.

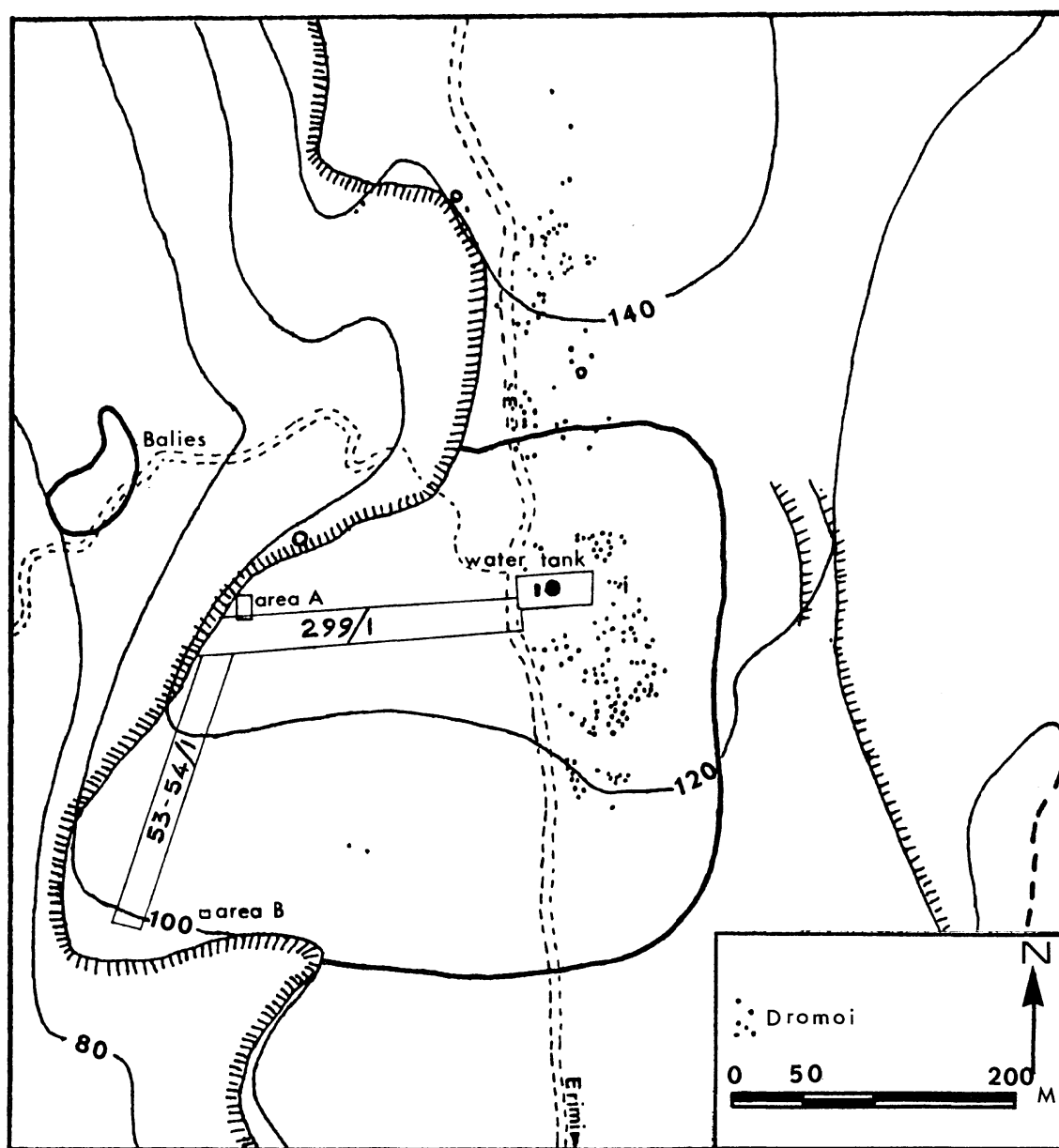


Fig. 5. Topographical map of Erimi Kafkalla and Kandou Balies. Contour interval 20 metres.

distribution pattern. Undecorated R.P. Punctured ware in sherd form is often difficult to distinguish from the smaller and finer R.P.III Mottled ware vessels, a fact which might account for a few of the sherds listed under the former ware. A similar confusion is quite impossible with decorated R.P. Punctured ware. Two small W.P.III sherds are obviously imports from the north or east of the island.

The L.C. sherds, mostly W.S.I with a few occurrences of W.S.II and B.R., were collected from *dromoi* concentrated in the southern third of the necropolis. Scattered amongst tombs of M.C. date,

they might simply come from earlier chambers used by L.C. people who usually buried their dead at *Vokolomandra*, a mere 350 m. to the south.<sup>42</sup>

The 14 ha. scatter of occupational debris shows the highest concentration between the west scarp and the cemetery. Necropolis and settlement do not fully overlap, as the occupation debris ceases nearly 250 m. south of the last chamber.

In order to obtain a fair qualitative and quantitative picture of surface finds within the site, the material from two areas was totally collected.<sup>43</sup> The first, 299/1, measured 219 × 25 m. (5,300 m.<sup>2</sup>) and was proportionally richer than the second, 53-4/1, of 200 × 20 m. (4,000 m.<sup>2</sup>) adjacent to the south (Fig. 5).

Area 299/1 produced 137 lithic artifacts of 12 different categories and 197 sherds, 54 of which were M.C. The small quantity of Bronze Age pottery recovered, contrasts with the number of stones recorded and is probably the result of centuries of ploughing and weathering. The frequency of D.P. Blue Core ware might suggest the area was occupied mostly in a later phase of the M.C., otherwise a higher proportion of R.P.III Mottled ware would be expected. Alternatively the high D.P. Blue Core ratio is due to hardness which ensures its better preservation.

Area 53-4/1 contained 34 lithic artifacts and 54 sherds, only 19 being of M.C. date. The scarcity of finds here was perhaps due to artificial terracing and stone clearance. Three *Senet* gaming stones from the extreme southwest corner of the plateau help define the settlement's boundaries.

Two shallow rectangular troughs, a circular basin and a mortar were found in apparent association with four widely scattered but otherwise typical *dromoi*. Parallel features were similarly located at Evdhimou *Amolo*<sup>44</sup> but nowhere else. Here at *Kafkalla* the cuttings might have belonged to domestic installations, as cemetery and settlement overlap.

The western scarp is dotted with circular mortar-like depressions and rectangular troughs. No alignments or patterns are anywhere visible to suggest that at least some features had architectural associations and a simpler explanation would envisage the inhabitants congregating along the suitably denuded scarp to pound foodstuffs. If the end product required winnowing, this was an obvious spot to take maximum advantage of the prevailing westerly winds.

Evidence for the date of the various cuts and depressions is lacking, since most are now empty of debris and the remainder were not excavated.

### Kandou *Balies*

On the east bank of the Kouris below *Kafkalla*, stand the imposing remains of a water mill that once supplied Kandou village with flour. On the Cadastral Survey maps the locality is shown as Kandou *Pelentros*, but the local villagers usually refer to the area as "*Balies*".<sup>45</sup> The fields surrounding the mill showed evidence of M.C. occupation and the sherd scatter covers the lower portion of the steep eastern bank of the Kouris, extending into the field south of the ruin on the very edge of the riverbed. If the sherds are *in situ* and not displaced by terracing from higher up the scarp, they prove that the river now flows at approximately the same level as in the Bronze Age. Opposite the mill it is only 4 m. lower than the area with the densest sherd scatter.

<sup>42</sup> Catling 1963: 163, no. 83.

<sup>43</sup> A selective sample of lithic artifacts was kept, the remainder being recorded. All sherds were collected. For pertinent remarks on archaeological surveying cf. Hester *et al.* 1975: 283.

<sup>44</sup> Numerous mortar-like cavities and cuts were noted at Episkopi *Bamboula* Area E, of L.C. date. It is impossible to say at present

whether they are associated with the burials or architectural remains.

<sup>45</sup> Map references: Cadastral Plan: LIII: 53, plot nos. 132/2, 293-6; Topographical Series: 53/XXIX, 38750-92000. *Balies* is probably a corruption of "valies" or valley. This must be the site of *Pales* listed as E.C. by Catling but not located by him. Cf. Catling 1963: 150, no. 47.

The settlement at *Balies* is small (Fig. 5) covering about 1 ha. with the main concentration surrounding the mill. Wares and their percentages are shown in Table 1.

The scarcity of R.P. Blue Core<sup>46</sup> in relation to the proportions of R.P.III and R.P.III Mottled ware suggest that the settlement was abandoned early in the M.C., before the main phase of occupation at *Kafkalla*.

No stone artifacts were collected, but nine querns and two handstones were recorded *in situ*.

An absence of local tombs suggests that the dead were buried on the plateau above.

#### Sorira *Kaminoudhia*<sup>47</sup>

The settlement was established a short distance from the spring that first attracted Neolithic people to the area.<sup>48</sup> The site (Fig. 4) lies between 290 and 300 m. above the sea, about 7 km. as the crow flies northwest of *Phaneromeni*. Two distinct tombgroups—Cemeteries A and B—overlook the habitation area, now a series of terraced fields stepping down towards the spring in the south, a mere 250 m. away. Occupational debris covers approximately 2 ha., but the discovery of some querns between the cemeteries suggest this estimate is conservative.

Most topsoil has been eroded in the vicinity of the necropoli, but the terraces below are well covered with a light chalky colluvium, now cultivated for cereals. Olives and carobs are common, with pine and lentisc concentrated on the rocky slopes. The local topography suggests that even prior to terracing there would have been an ample supply of arable land for a small agrarian community.

Architectural remains are restricted to three chamber tombs in the eastern cemetery (B), though others do exist, as proved by Dikaios' excavations in Cemetery A. He reports having discovered a Philia Culture burial here, but the material remains unpublished.<sup>49</sup> Catling mentions the necropolis of *Kaminoudhia* in connection with Episkopi *Linika*, neither of which he located.<sup>50</sup>

The material excavated by Dikaios, labelled as Sotira *Kaminaria* Tomb 1, is now in the Cyprus Museum<sup>51</sup> and consists of the following pieces: T1/1, Coarse ware 2 handled cooking pot; T1/2, R.P. Chalco. III jug with flat base; T1/3, R.P. Chalco. III spouted bowl with flat base; T1/4, R.P. Chalco. III ? straight sided bowl; T1/5, Brown Polished bottle with lime-filled incised decoration; T1/6, R.P. Chalco. III straight sided bowl with flat base.

The material from the tomb finds its closest parallels with the Chalcolithic III period.<sup>52</sup> It is supplemented by sherds recovered during the surface survey of Cemetery A, most of which belong to the same categories. A few interesting pieces are apparently early, cruder forms of R.P.III Mottled and D.P. Blue Core ware, and as such they are classified on Table 1.

This reappraisal of the *Kaminoudhia* material allows comparison with other South Coast ceramic traditions which emphasizes the unique features of the material from Tomb 1. Fabrics are reminiscent of, though separate from, those excavated at Episkopi *Phaneromeni*. The cooking pot, T1/1 is coarser than functionally similar pieces at the latter site, which is also true of the Brown Polished bottle T1/5.<sup>53</sup> Flat articulated bases, as will be seen in connection with Evdhimou *Trapezi*, are a well established feature of the ceramic repertoire. They may be traced to Chalcolithic III

<sup>46</sup> The single R.P.IV sherd is probably intrusive from the *Kafkalla* plateau above.

<sup>47</sup> Dikaios 1948, pl. VI(b); 1961a: 14. Map references: Cadastral Plan LIII: 43, plot nos. 40, 46-47, 52; Topographic Series: 53/XIX, 87160-41630.

<sup>48</sup> Dikaios 1961: 1. spring is no longer visible, the square having been cemented over.

<sup>49</sup> For the location of the tomb cf. Dikaios 1948: 17.

<sup>50</sup> Catling 1963: 154.

<sup>51</sup> I wish to thank the Director of the Department of Antiquities for permission to mention the material from Sotira *Kaminoudhia*, Anoyira *Trapezi* and *Peralijithias*.

<sup>52</sup> Here the term "Chalcolithic III" is used instead of "Philia Culture" for those reasons succinctly outlined by Merrillees in Åström 1966: 33-4.

<sup>53</sup> Dikaios 1962, fig. 82: 6.



archaizing trend, must at this stage be considered as aberrations. The fabric of T1/6 is even softer and coarser than most Neolithic pottery from Sotira *Teppes*! Too little comparative material from this period has been excavated to enable any firm pronouncements on the origin of these two pieces.

The incised motifs of the bottle T1/5 and the two R.P. Chalco. III sherds collected by the survey represent the earliest occurrence of this decorative form in the south.<sup>55</sup> They follow the well established tradition of Philia *Vasiliko*, and should be regarded as the antecedents of R.P.I South Coast ware with its elaborate incised style.

On the far side of several broad terraces, 100 m. to the east, Cemetery B consists of three eroded chamber tombs dug into the hillside. No *dromoi* are visible and it would seem none existed, though it is possible they were obliterated by the looters' spoil heaps and the friable nature of the rock. The best preserved *stomion*, or entrance, is cut 0.7 m. below the rock surface and measures 1 m. wide by 0.90 m. high; it communicates with a circular chamber 1.50 m. in diameter. Cemetery B was obviously long since plundered and the pottery finds were predictably scarce. They are represented in Table 1.

The small size of the settlement permitted a comprehensive survey which resulted in the collection of 72 stone artifacts (cf. Table 2) and 52 pieces of chipped stone, including debitage. The ceramic assemblage is shown on Table 1.

That no gaming stones were found probably indicates none existed, but otherwise the lithic assemblage is typical of southwestern Cyprus. An apparently high dependence on chipped stone is probably indicative of an early date, but could arguably be attributed to the lack of surface cover on a site which had been recently ploughed.

Presuming the settlement and Cemetery A are contemporary, a comparison between the two will emphasize the difference between the function of domestic and funerary wares. Of the 136 miscellaneous sherds from the settlement, most belonged to Dark R.P. or R.P.III Mottled ware, but not R.P. Chalco. III ware which, even when weathered, retains its characteristic fabric. Hard and utilitarian, R.P.III Mottled is already in the ascendancy and will remain the most common pottery at all M.C. settlements. The rarity of D.P. Blue Core ware places the ceramic assemblage apart from all other pre-L.C.IB settlements in the region, and, if the explanation is to be chronological, then *Kaminoudhia* represents the very beginning of the Bronze Age south of the Troodos.

#### Paramali *Mandra tou Pouppou*

From the vicinity of Sotira we must shift our attention 6 km. west to the settlement and aggregate of cemeteries bordering the upper reaches of the Paramali stream, about 130 m. above the sea. The sites were discovered after completion of the K.S.U. survey and only the results of a cursory investigation will be presented here.

*Mandra tou Pouppou*<sup>56</sup> settlement occupies the sloping eastern flank of the valley from the encased bed of the perennial stream to half way up the ridge. The area is terraced and planted with carobs and olives and is rapidly being overrun by lentiscs and spiny burnet. High ground surrounds the settlement on all sides, and other than an easy access to water the location offers no obvious advantages.

Occupation debris covers about 5 ha., and a singular lack of saddle querns and handstones—only six stone objects were found—suggests that terracing has either buried or totally removed most artifacts. Pottery, however, was quite abundant, as shown in Table 1.

<sup>55</sup> A single rim sherd from a bowl decorated with deep punctured dots comes from Erimi *Pamboula* and is classified as "Punctured Ware". Cf. Dikaios 1962: 121.

<sup>56</sup> *Mandra tou Pouppou* means "the doll's sheepfold" in Greek Cypriot. Map references: Cadastral Survey: LII: 41, plot nos. 4-5, 9-10, 25. Topographical Series: 53/IXVII, 81300-40400.

Though small, the sample indicates that the period of occupation is contemporary with the close of the M.C.

Cemeteries A, B and C are loosely clustered about 250 m. north of the settlement. The chambers are dug into the soft chalk, and since the looters found it less time consuming to enter via the roof instead of the *dromos*, only one such, quadrangular in shape, is visible. The three necropoli comprised about 93 visible *dromoi*.

A non-random sample of the pottery from Cemeteries A and B is shown in Table 1, and there is every reason to believe that the cemeteries and settlement at *Mandra tou Pouppou* are contemporary.

#### Paramali *Pharkonia*

At the base of a sheer cliff on the west side of the stream, 1.3 km. north of *Mandra tou Pouppou* a small settlement was noted. The area, which is known as *Pharkonia*,<sup>57</sup> is restricted on all sides by steep ravines and cliffs and one must presume that the inhabitants exploited the plateaux on either side of the valley. So far as could be determined from a cursory survey, occupational debris covers about 1.5 ha. Lithic artifacts (cf. Table 2) were quite common, but only three R.P.III sherds were collected.

Two small cemeteries (A and B) with 25 *dromoi* were located on the east bank opposite *Pharkonia*, and two other clusters (C and D) with 23 *dromoi* were found south of the settlement. It appears that the whole west side of the valley was sparsely inhabited between *Pharkonia* and *Mandra tou Pouppou* as indicated by an irregular scatter of lithic artifacts—including a game stone—and M.C. pottery. The ware percentages from all four cemeteries are similar and have been consolidated in Table 1.

#### Evdhimou *Shilles*<sup>58</sup>

The large settlement with two concentrations of *dromoi* covers much of a well defined south-sloping plateau. The pottery and stone scatter occupies about 15 ha. and terminates about 150 m. short of the high eroded northern extremity of the feature, 67.5 m. above the sea. The settlement commands a fine view in all directions. Bedrock is either visible or covered with a thin deposit of soil, barely sufficient for the usual scatter of olive, carob and wild pistachio bushes. A series of low stone-filled terraces suggests the area was once intercropped with cereals.

There being no perennial stream in the area, the inhabitants must have relied on springs which used to exist 350 m. to the east, before recent changes to the water table caused by the sinking of bore holes.

Cemetery A on the southeast of the plateau has been partially destroyed by modern agricultural terracing and two chambers remain visible in section. The larger measures 2.5 m. in diameter and still shows the ancient tool-marks on the roof and edges. It would seem that a mattock-like object with a blade about 5 cm. across was used, leaving identical marks to those found at Episkopi *Phaneromeni* Cemetery C.

Approximately 10 looted tombs were counted in the area, and where visible, the *dromoi* are rigorously quadrangular. The pottery collected from the cemetery is listed in Table 1. It suggests the burials are earlier than the main phase of occupation on the plateau. The occurrence of a

<sup>57</sup> *Pharkonia* is probably a corruption of the Venetian "falko" for falcon or hawk. The narrow gorge with its strong air currents is a choice spot for birds of prey. Map references: Cadastral Survey: LIII: 41, plot nos. 1, 29; LII: 48, plot no. 58. Topographical Series 53/IXVII, 81000-41750.

<sup>58</sup> *Shilles* means "dogs" in Greek Cypriot dialect. Map references: Cadastral Survey: LII: 64, plot nos. 39-40; Topographical Series: 52/XXXII, 38150-79750.

Red-on-Black sherd is of note. Cemetery B at the centre of the plateau has a minimum of 16 *dromoi* also of quadrangular plan.

Further north, the bedrock has been cut with a series of deep circular depressions of different sizes, four of which were joined by runnels. Nearby there are a few large stone blocks set at right angles to one another, obviously the remains of some cohesive structure. Handstones, querns and M.C. pottery littered the area. The sherd sample from here and the settlement as a whole is shown in Table 1.

The high percentage of D.P. Blue Core is of note and R.P.IV sherds indicate that the site was occupied down to the end of M.C. The small number of miscellaneous late sherds suggests that the rock cuttings and architectural remains are of contemporaneous M.C. date.

The 62 stone objects are shown in Table 2.

Two kilometres west of *Shilles* the *Evdhimou* valley was an important focal point throughout the Early and Middle Cypriot. During the summer months the streambed is dry for much of its length, and the Bronze Age settlement pattern within the valley suggests that then, as now, there existed an intermittent water supply. All the settlements are concentrated in areas where the flow remains perennial.

Proceeding inland from the coast, the first sites encountered are *Evdhimou Stypouli* on the west bank and the large cemetery of *Evdhimou Amolo* covering the ridges on the opposite side of the valley. Both sites are about 40 m. above sea level.

#### *Evdhimou Stypouli*

*Stypouli*<sup>59</sup> is an impressive site, not by location, but on account of the wealth of archaeological remains littering its surface. The sherd scatter covers around 10 ha. of a flat low plateau overlooking the stream.<sup>60</sup> The northern perimeter, studded with at least 58 *dromoi* has recently been levelled and planted with vines. On the north and southeastern perimeter the top soil has been levelled, disturbing and scattering any archaeological remains in the area. To the west the scatter of querns and pottery phases out after some 500 m.

The vegetation, similar to that previously described at *Kafkalla* and elsewhere, grows on rather a poor chalky soil littered with stones. Those of appropriate size for house building are probably the remains of wall foundations, since their local distribution corresponds exactly to that of the artifact scatter. In places the massive chalk bedrock outcrops, but it is generally covered with a good soil deposit.

A disused irrigation ditch runs through the site providing an excellent section. At one point where the bedrock is 0.70 m. below the surface, it has cut into at least one structure (cf. Fig. 7).

Most of the 58 *dromoi* of the northern cemetery communicated with multiple chambers, and are usually circular or almost circular, with vertical edges. Of note are two unusual bath-shaped examples. In view of the recent disturbances of many chambers large numbers of sherds from the same vessel were collected, and the ceramic types listed in Table 1 represent the minimum number of vessels recorded.

The percentage of R.P.III is high and of note is the absence of R.P.IV ware.

The necropolis, even in its present reduced state, is too small for a settlement of such importance and most of the burials must have been elsewhere. *Evdhimou Amolo*, only 200 m. distant, offered the

<sup>59</sup> *Stypouli* may be derived from the Greek Cypriot word for "confluence of 2 streams". Map references: Cadastral Survey: LII: 63, plot nos. 166-9, 171-4, 199, 203-4, 206; Topographical Series: 52/XXXI, 77750-37250.

<sup>60</sup> Although 150 m. upstream there is a year-long flow of water, opposite *Stypouli* it now disappears during the summer months.



Fig. 7. Topographical map of Evdhimou Alatomi, Amolo, Kilades and Stympouli. Contour interval 10 metres.

ideal location in the form of a long ridge and small plateau of soft limestone. Both are mostly denuded of soil today, and their choice as cemeteries in antiquity may have been influenced by the same criterion.

Cemeteries A and C stretch along the ridge that runs northeast from the stream and gradually merges with the wide *Amolo* plateau, forming its steep eastern perimeter. Most of the rock along the southeast side of the ridge has been bulldozed away, probably destroying numerous tombs. From the ridge the land slopes west, joining the eroded bluff of Cemetery B overlooking the Evdhimou stream. Though extensively reconnoitered, this side of the valley produced no evidence of a settlement.

The main necropolis (A) with 172 *dromoi*, extends along the ridge for about 425 m. The shapes of *dromoi* are usually discernible, but not the number of chambers; however, four would seem to be the norm. Most *dromoi* are circular or oval,<sup>61</sup> followed by those of irregular shape, probably due to erosion of the bedrock. Rectangular and triangular shapes are rare.

The ceramic assemblage from Cemetery A is shown in Table 1. For the first time we encounter quantities of R.P.I South Coast ware, but the volume of R.P.III ware is the main point of importance. The three plain R.P. Punctured ware sherds are early, slightly dubious specimens and D.P. Blue Core is equally rare.

<sup>61</sup> Average diameter of circular *dromoi*: 1.70 m. The largest recorded measures 2.30 × 2.15 m. Sides are always vertical.

A minimum of 70 *dromoi* was recorded to the west in Cemetery B. The ratios of shape and size are similar to those of Cemetery A, though one partially cleared *dromos* was an unusual 1.92 m. deep. Many gave access to two or three chambers and the larger circular *dromoi* probably had four.

The Cemetery B pottery types are listed in Table 1. The ratios of R.P.I South Coast and R.P.III are still high, but less so than R.P.III Mottled and D.P. Blue Core ware.

Most of the 40 *dromoi* of Cemetery C were filled with soil and no morphological features could be recorded, but on the crest of the ridge there remained approximately 10 unobscured examples. The common type is shallow, small and D-shaped, averaging 1.22 × 1.0 m. by 0.65 m. Chambers of equally humble proportions, around 1.5 m. in diameter, were sunk below the straight end of the *dromos*.

Broken pottery was abundant in the neighbourhood of the *dromoi* and Table 1 lists the minimum number of vessels recorded, not the total of sherds.<sup>62</sup> The most obvious and interesting characteristic of the assemblage is the large percentage of incised R.P.I South Coast ware. Nowhere else, including Cemetery A, is this pottery so common or found in such varied shapes. Deep bowls are always rare, but six are recorded here,<sup>63</sup> along with a Brown Polished bottle and a number of jars. More typical for *Amolo* is the high percentage of R.P.III ware; by contrast, R.P.III Mottled is poorly represented. The remains of two D.P. Blue Core vessels are probably intrusive.

The size of *Stympouli* and abundance of ground cover hindered a systematic survey of the settlement. Selected areas were covered more thoroughly,<sup>64</sup> but in the absence of typological or functional differences between the ceramic and lithic material from these areas it has been consolidated in Tables 1 and 2.

In relation to the number of querns, mortars, tethering blocks and basins, there are very few handstones, especially perforated hammers. At other sites the ratios are usually the opposite. This might be explained by a general lack of igneous rock in the area—almost all querns were of limestone—that resulted in lithic artifacts being made of the softer material and thereby easily confused with common fieldstones. Pedestal basins and large stone thresholds are other unusual features of the site.

Notwithstanding the differences which must exist between the pottery from domestic and funerary contexts, the material from *Stympouli* settlement compares best with that from its own cemetery and *Amolo B*. The percentages of R.P.III underly that functional differentiation since this soft porous ware is far less suited for household use than R.P.III Mottled, R.P.IV or D.P. Blue Core ware.

### Evdhimou *Alatomi*

A small cemetery-settlement complex was discovered at *Alatomi*,<sup>65</sup> only 250 m. north of *Stympouli*. The occupation debris covers a maximum of 4 ha., stretching from a rocky knoll above the stream in the east, up the steep sides and on to the top of *Alatomi* plateau. Naturally protected on three sides by a scarp, the knoll now rises 12 m. above the valley bottom. If required, it would have been ideal for a fortified position, but the soil cover is eroded and any architectural remains have vanished.

The eastern rim of the plateau has suffered less and is covered with occupational debris extending back for about 100 m. In places the exposed bedrock shows a number of mortar like

<sup>62</sup> If the sherd totals had been included the proportions of R.P.I South Coast and R.P.III would have been greater.

<sup>63</sup> Cf. Stewart 1962, fig. CXLII: 19, 20; Weinberg 1956, fig. 11; Des Gagniers and Karageorghis 1976, pl. V: 1, 2 for jars and pl. VI: 1, 2 for deep bowls; Swiny 1979, no. 45.

<sup>64</sup> These areas were widely distributed throughout the site.

<sup>65</sup> *Alatomi* is Greek for "stone quarry". None are visible in the vicinity today. Map references: Cadastral Survey: LII: 63, plot nos. 24, 136-8, 148-9, 163-4. Topographical Series: 52/XXXI, 77750-37770.

depressions, the main concentration which is a short distance from the edge consists of nine straight-sided hollows arranged without pattern. In their proximity to the scarp they are reminiscent of the mortars at Erimi *Kafkalla*.

An ample supply of water would have been provided by the stream, now clogged with growth and very sluggish. At the furthest point the settlement is 250 m. from and 25 m. above the water. With the addition of a few almonds surrounding the knoll, the vegetation resembles that of *Stympouli*, and there is much arable land nearby.

One hundred and fifty metres to the south lies the cemetery with 39 visible *dromoi*. There are probably more in the vicinity, obscured by the thick soil cover. The *Alatomi dromoi* resemble those of *Amolo A* and *B* and *Stympouli* and are typically straight sided, circular or oval with four chambers and an average diameter of 1.65 m. and depth of *c.* 1.60 m. A few *dromoi*, however, are almost square with rounded corners.

The pottery collected at the cemetery is treated in the same way as that from *Stympouli*, thus the figures in Table 1 represent the minimum number of vessels. The assemblage compares well with those from the cemeteries at *Stympouli* and *Amolo B*, though the ratios of R.P.III Mottled and D.P. Blue Core ware are higher. This might suggest that *Alatomi* is slightly later in date, but not much since R.P.IV ware is unrepresented.

Four hectares is small for the Evdhimou valley, and the site should be considered an extension of the contemporary establishment at *Stympouli*. Surface collection was hampered and distorted by erosion on the top of the plateau and terracing below. Fortunately the local dry stone walls—always rich in artifactual remains if such exist—supplemented the results of the survey.

The lithic artifacts are shown in Table 2, and do not call for comment. The ceramic assemblage is included in Table 1. The high percentage of Miscellaneous Ware is typical of a weathered, eroded site, and, on the whole, the assemblage is comparable to and contemporary with that from the cemetery.

On the opposite bank of the stream, 250 m. northeast of the knoll, three looted tombs were noted on the narrow, extensively terraced ridge in the locality of *Kilades*<sup>66</sup> (Fig. 7). A number of vessels and sherds, including an R.P. Mottled askos, a D.P. Blue Core spouted jug and amphoriskos rim with anthropomorphic decoration, had been handed over to the Limassol Museum after the chance discovery of a tomb. With no evidence of a settlement on this side of the stream it seems likely that the necropolis was associated with the *Alatomi* settlement.

#### Evdhimou *Ambelovounos*

The next Bronze Age community in the valley is that of Evdhimou *Ambelovounos*<sup>67</sup> 400 m. northwest of the village and 2.5 km. inland from *Alatomi*. The site was discovered after completion of the survey and the systematic recording of all features, including the settlement boundaries is incomplete. A dozen or more partially obscured *dromoi* surrounded the flat-topped hill that overlooks the narrow valley and commands an uninterrupted view of the coastline from Akrotiri to Pissouri. It is typical of southern Cyprus in the E.C.–M.C. that such a position of obvious defensive potential was not utilized. The settlement of at least 3 ha. ran down the slope towards the stream. The lithic and ceramic assemblages are represented on Tables 1 and 2.

Of particular note is the lack of R.P.IV and D.P. Blue Core ware that suggests the settlement is early.

<sup>66</sup> *Kilades* is Greek for "little valleys". The area was so disturbed that a systematic survey was unnecessary.

<sup>67</sup> *Ambelovounos* is Greek for "hill vineyard". Map references: Topographical Series: 52/XXXI, 77650-39800.

The sherd sample from the cemetery (Table 1) emphasizes the early features of this site and the differences—i.e. the varying ratios of R.P.I South Coast and R.P.III ware—between the assemblages from necropoli and settlements.

#### *Evdhimou Beyouk Tarla*

Only 500 m. north of *Ambelovounos* on the opposite side of the small gorge which forms the eastern branch of the valley north of Evdhimou village, the broad plateau of *Beyouk Tarla*<sup>68</sup> was once occupied by the largest pre-Late Bronze Age settlement in southern Cyprus. Well defined on the western perimeter by the gorge with its perennial water supply, to the east occupation phases out in a gully 350 m. from the stream bank. The north and south perimeters are unassociated with geophysical features, therefore less obvious, and after a span of 650 m. the artifact scatter phases out. The area so defined covers a minimum of 17.5 ha.

The settlement at the closest is 50 m. from, and 20 m. above the stream; at the farthest point the distance is 400 m. Access to water, no doubt, would have been easier in the Bronze age, since when erosion has probably increased the depth and sheerness of the stream banks.

The centre of the settlement is 150 m. above sea level. Vegetation is typical of that encountered on previous sites and the light chalky soil was until recently planted with cereals. The bedrock protrudes in a few places, but from the soil deposit noted above burial chambers a depth of about 1.50 m. would seem typical. This probably explains the lack of visible *dromoi* which either intentionally or by natural agency, have been backfilled and are only discernible as shallow craters covered with sherds. No complete plans were possible although nearly 10 examples were recognized as belonging to the sub-rectangular class, one of which communicated with two chambers.

The site was discovered in the mid-60's, and two D.P. Blue Core amphorae were published.<sup>69</sup>

Forty-three *dromoi* were plotted, representing a minimum number. The southeast cemetery in particular (Fig. 8, plot 84) was littered with doorslabs and neat piles of fieldstones mingled with sherds, each representing the debris from a backfilled chamber.

Since the sherd material failed to exhibit any chronological or typological differentiation between the various burial grounds, it has been consolidated in Table 1 which represents the minimum number of vessels.

R.P.I South Coast is absent and the main point of interest is the large number of Black Top bowls—three of them incised. The joint occurrence of R.P.III and IV is unusual and suggests a protracted lifespan for the cemetery.

No architectural remains are visible on the plateau, indeed the contrary would be surprising in an area so intensely landscaped by terracing. There is hope, nevertheless, that the thick soil deposit might have preserved some undisturbed structures.

In the southeast corner of the site the recently levelled Plot no. 76 has a neatly cut section showing a number of walls loosely dated to the M.C. by the stratified pottery. Following a pattern previously noted at *Phaneromeni* and *Stympouli*, these are the remains of a single period occupation set on bedrock.

The lithic and ceramic finds from the settlement are listed on Tables 1 and 2. The range of stone artifacts is typical for the period. It is of note that for the 23 *Senets* only one *Mehen* was recorded. The ceramic percentages indicate that the settlement is broadly contemporary with the tombs which span the M.C.

<sup>68</sup> *Beyouk Tarla* is Turkish for "large arable field". Map references: Cadastral Plan: LII: 47, plot nos. 71-91; Topographical Series: 52/XXIII, 38450-47750.

<sup>69</sup> The Cadastral Survey and Topographical (1/5,000 Series) maps show *Kannavokambos* as a locality 2 km. north of *Beyouk Tarla*. Karageorghis 1968: 292, figs. 70-1.

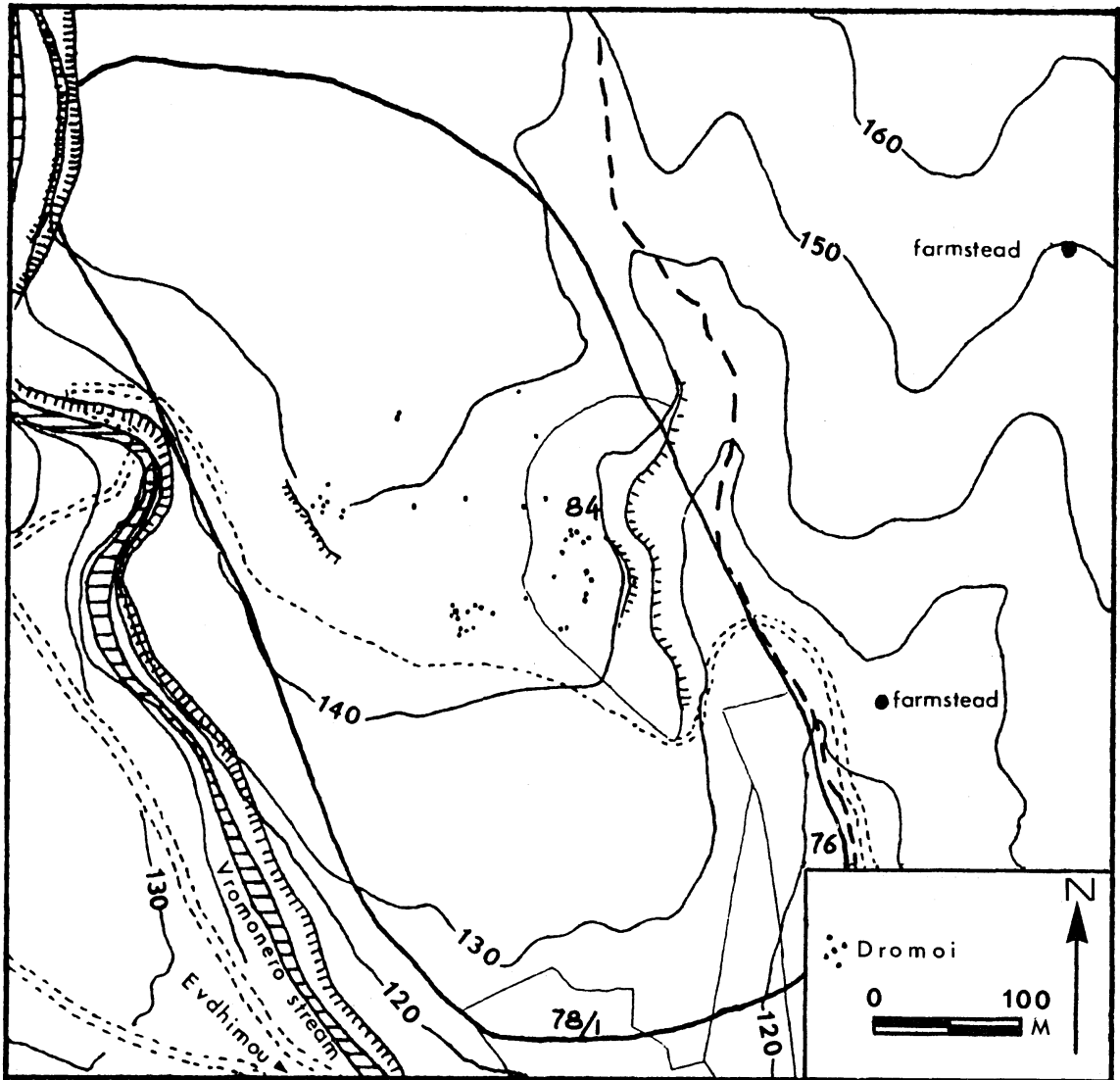


Fig. 8. Topographical map of Evdhimou Beyouk Tarla. Contour interval 10 metres.

Two concentrations of M.C. sherds and stone artifacts were recorded outside the settlement boundaries, 150 and 500 m. to the east. The former consisted of three large tethering stones, which could hardly have been transported any great distance, several querns and a number of R.P.III Mottled and D.P. Blue Core Coarse ware sherds. The other site on the edge of a small terraced depression revealed a few D.P. Blue Core Coarse ware sherds and a gaming stone.

These isolated finds appear to be the remains of farmsteads or small family (?) units living beyond the periphery of the settlement.

#### Anoyira Trapezi

One and a half kilometres northwest of *Beyouk Tarla* on the opposite side of the stream, the long sloping table-top plateau of Trapezi dominates the valley.<sup>70</sup> It is here that Dikaïos excavated a

<sup>70</sup> *Trapezi* is Greek for "table" or "flat-topped plateau". Map references: Topographical Series: 52/XXIII, 76150-41920.

Chalcolithic III (Philia Culture) grave containing several intact and fragmentary vessels,<sup>71</sup> but nothing more is known of the site.<sup>72</sup> Intensive survey along the top and sides of the plateau failed to supply any substantial new evidence; not a single quern or handstone and only eight diagnostic sherds were recorded, all of which could have been intrusive.<sup>73</sup> At 185 m. from the northern end stand the remains of an enigmatic structure comprising five large blocks of unhewn limestone, resembling a U with the opening facing the sea. The original arrangement, however, probably formed a square, for the southern block appears to have toppled inwards. In the absence of pottery no date can be suggested, though the Middle Bronze Age is a possibility in the light of discoveries from Evdhimou *Shilles* and Anoyira *Peralijithias*. Approximately 200 m. further southeast the eroded foundations of a quadrangular structure were recognized on a low prominence known as Athanaros. All vegetation in the area had recently been burnt and sherd collection should thereby have been facilitated, but the assemblage was so small and weathered that no date could be suggested.

Several R.P. sherds were collected on the plateau's southwest slope. Concentrated in a small area, they apparently belong to the same medium sized closed vessel, identical in fabric and surface treatment to the Dark R.P. bowls from Sotira *Kaminoudhia*. Dikaios' Chalcolithic III tomb was probably in the general area, but no evidence of a necropolis could be found. The results of his excavation are of the greatest interest, and it is unfortunate that no contextual evidence is available.<sup>74</sup>

The material which is now in the Cyprus Museum consists of the following pieces: (1a) Dark R.P. ware storage jar with ovoid body, flaring rim and a large flat base. H. 55 cm., D. rim 19 cm., D. base 12.5 cm. (1b) Fragment of a Coarse Ware cooking pot. The Museum records mention a "round base cooking pot 12 cm. high with two handles" of which only one handle remains. (1c) R.P. Chalco. III fragmentary jug. Rim and base missing. (1d) R.P. Chalco. III bowl with flat base and a single vertical lug with horizontal piercing. H. 12.6 cm., D. 15 cm., D. base 7 cm.

Studied as a group, the vessels from *Trapezi* fail, with the exception of flat bases, to provide any comparisons with those from the cemeteries at *Phaneromeni*. The proximity of the two sites should diminish the possibility of regional variation accounting for the differences, which must then be chronological. Apart from flat bases, all the comparisons are with Chalcolithic III<sup>75</sup> or E.C.I<sup>76</sup> material, and there is little doubt that Dikaios' original date is correct and that *Kaminoudhia* and *Trapezi* are contemporary.

#### Anoyira *Kannavokambos*

The cemetery of *Kannavokambos*<sup>77</sup> covers the steep southern bluff of the Anoyira plateau, close by the road heading north from Evdhimou. Watered by a spring further up the hill, it is also an ideal location for a settlement that might wish to control the movement of goods and people within the valley. Unfortunately the only evidence for habitation on the extensively terraced slope was a saddle quern and a pounder from between the spring and the cemetery.

The weathered appearance of the looted tombs suggests the necropolis has been known for a long time. Only six of the 34 *dromoi* were clearly defined. They are generally quadrangular in shape and the average size of five specimens was 1.95 × 1.42 m. with the minimum depth ranging from

<sup>71</sup> Dikaios 1961a: 14.

<sup>72</sup> Catling 1963: 149 lists the site and refers to notes in the Cyprus Museum which are no longer available for study. The tomb group is in the Cyprus Museum.

<sup>73</sup> The landowner who recalled Dikaios' excavation was unable to relocate the spot.

<sup>74</sup> It would be useful to know the shape and size of *dromos*—if such existed.

<sup>75</sup> Dikaios 1962: 152–176.

<sup>76</sup> Stewart 1962, figs. CXXI: 1–9; LXXIV: 4, 6, 7, 12; LXXXIV: 11.

<sup>77</sup> *Kannavokambos* is Greek for "hemp field". Map reference: Topographical Series: 52/XXIII, 76180-42310.

0.70 m. to 1.20 m. Most *dromoi* were filled with debris, making it impossible to determine the number of chambers, though in one instance at least two were recorded.

The sherd sample is represented in Table 1. This is an interesting assemblage with R.P.III Mottled ware represented by only three sherds of indifferent quality. Dark R.P. ware is quite common and offers a close parallel with *Trapezi* only a few hundred yards distant. The single R.P.I South Coast sherd is the only occurrence of this ware north of *Ambelovounos*, and further supports an early date for the first burials. Several D.P. Blue Core and the single R.P.IV ware incised sherd are the latest finds from the cemetery, which remained in use throughout the Early and Middle Cypriot periods.

Set amongst the foothills of the south flank of the Troodos range, Anoyira village commands a fine view of coast and mountains alike. It was in this area of table-land, dissected by eroded gulleys and perennial streams, that Bronze Age settlers established several important communities.

#### Anoyira *Livadhia*

Directly south of the village, the localities of *Katalatsia* and *Livadhia*<sup>78</sup> have recently been levelled for viticulture, with the result that much Bronze Age material has been brought to the surface. The dry stone walls surrounding the vineyards often contain handstones, saddle querns and even a few gaming stones.

The settlement, as determined by the pottery scatter, covers about 5 ha., extending down the gentle south-sloping hill of *Katalatsia* and rising again at *Livadhia*. Nowhere is the perimeter of the site defined by prominent natural features, and unlike many M.C. settlements which command an excellent view of the surrounding countryside, *Livadhia* was almost hidden in the bottom of the valley. The lowest point is about 450 m. above the sea.

No natural water source exists in the vicinity and the closest springs are in the next valley, 400 m. to the east at *Kolokos*.

A number of tombs were apparently uncovered during levelling operations on the boundary between *Livadhia* and *Kolokos*. They probably formed part of the cemetery used by the inhabitants of the former site. The pottery scatter in their general vicinity suggests they belonged to the R.P.III Mottled-D.P. Blue Core ware tradition.

The large and varied lithic assemblage from *Livadhia* is listed in Table 2.

Since the pottery ratios of different wares are nearly constant throughout the site, they have been amalgamated in Table 1. The almost equal proportions of R.P.III and IV suggest that the settlement was occupied for a considerable time.

#### Anoyira *Kolokos*

Archaeological remains were recorded a short distance east and south of *Livadhia*, at the locality of *Kolokos*.<sup>79</sup> The site was established in a narrow, well watered valley whose configuration has been so thoroughly altered by recent terracing that it is impossible to judge the nature and size of the M.C. settlement. A few sherds and artifacts were discovered along the western perimeter amongst the stone piles cleared from the fields below. Such pottery and lithic artifacts as were collected are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

<sup>78</sup> *Livadhia* is Greek for "meadows". Map references: Cadastral Plan: LII: 30, plot nos. 179-84, 404-9, 418. Topographical Series: 52/XIV, 75900-43950.

<sup>79</sup> *Kolokos* may be loosely translated from Greek as "marrow fields", "kolochi" meaning vegetable marrow. Map references: Cadastral Plan: LII: 31, plot no. 105; Topographical Series: 52/XV, 76300-43800.

A M.C. cemetery is recorded<sup>80</sup> a short distance southeast of *Kolokos* at the locality of *Stavlisimi*. This is probably the main necropolis for *Kolokos*, and following the usual E.C.–M.C. pattern we find both settlement and cemetery in close proximity.

On the hill overlooking *Kolokos* to the east, there are the remains of a small chapel, known as *Ayios Ioannis*. The area was probably inhabited from at least the Chalcolithic period, as suggested by the discovery of three stone axes and an adze in the fields surrounding the ruin. Two gaming stones and a M.C. terracotta spindle whorl were also found. A small concentration of copper slag and secondary gossen on the north side of the chapel is perplexing as there are no recorded ore deposits in the vicinity.

### Anoyira *Peralijithias*

*Peralijithias*,<sup>82</sup> the easternmost site of the Anoyira group, would easily have been overlooked were it not for the rich finds attributed to its cemetery. By comparison with other sites the spread of occupation debris is small—7.5 ha. at the most—and there is no tell-tale scatter of plundered tombs.

In common with many other settlements its location is a high broad plateau, tilted south. It commands an excellent view of the sea 400 m. below and is only accessible to the north, the three other sides being protected by cliffs or scarps. Bedrock is visible in places, protruding from a generally meagre chalky soil, with a few richer pockets of terra-rossa. The plateau, and indeed the whole region, has a good cover of carob and olive, while the more rocky areas are overrun with pistachio and spiny burnet.

To the east of *Peralijithias* the sheer, 100 m. deep Evdhimou river gorge remains a perennial water supply. Of difficult access and too narrow for agricultural use, this cannot have been a determining factor in the location of the site. The source of water, in days of greater rainfall and heavier forest cover (?), was certainly the small spring in the ravine on the western perimeter. At the closest it is 50 m. and at the furthest 400 m. away from any part of the settlement.

An intensive surface survey revealed that only the centre of the plateau was occupied in the Bronze Age.

No tombs are visible today but the landowner indicated a number of spots where chambers had been discovered. The funerary arrangements were apparently typical of the period, and although most contextual and all stratigraphic evidence is lost, we are fortunate enough to have a sizeable quantity of accurately provenanced, well preserved grave goods.<sup>83</sup> The largest collection west of *Phaneromeni* it serves as a useful comparison with the large body of material from Limassol and Pyrgos to the east.

The 22 vessels recorded fall into three distinct categories, each of which is well represented at *Phaneromeni*. R.P.III Mottled ware is the largest with 12 examples, followed by D.P. Blue Core with nine and R.P.IV with one. According to the trend recognized at *Phaneromeni* Cemetery C and most other sites (cf. Table 1), R.P.III Mottled ware predominates and is followed by D.P. Blue Core ware. Although no R.P.III vessels are recorded here, the six sherds of this type collected on the survey prove it existed at *Peralijithias*.

<sup>80</sup> Cyprus Survey CS 2419. From here came a large R.P.III Mottled ware jug.

<sup>81</sup> Bear 1963.

<sup>82</sup> *Peralijithias* is Greek for "distant valleys". Map references:

Cadastral Plan: LII: 31, plot no. 219; Topographical Series: 52/XV, 77350-44150.

<sup>83</sup> All the material from *Peralijithias* stored in the Limassol Museum is catalogued as LM RR 619/1, ff.

In addition to pottery the tombs contained a number of terracotta spindle whorls of typical M.C. manufacture, a copper sword, two knives and a pair of tweezers. On stylistic grounds the metal can all be dated to the M.C.

The lithic assemblage, with 24 categories shown in Table 2, is remarkable in its variety. The predominance of querns is typical, but 22 gaming stones is unusually high for a site of this size.

Surface sherds were rare in comparison with the abundance of stone and the reason(s) for this discrepancy are unclear. Table 1 represents the total of sherds recovered. Most were small, weathered and difficult to recognize, hence the high percentage of miscellaneous ware.

The percentage of wares broadly tallies with the funerary material mentioned above.

Alignments of large weathered stone blocks were noted in different parts of the site. Structure 1 is a quadrangular multi-roomed complex; but elsewhere a recognizable ground plan was lacking. In the absence of sufficient ceramic evidence the date of these remains is uncertain, but following a process of elimination it is probably M.C. The lack of dating criteria suggests that the period of occupation is far removed in time, since pottery is always found in association with Bronze Age buildings. The surface survey indicated that 67% of the ceramic assemblage is M.C., the remainder being a motley collection of Hellenistic or later sherds, with no single type predominating. However unsatisfactory, this does support a M.C. date, a view strengthened by a study of the lithic finds.

Architectural remains of a more mundane and less controversial nature were located in the northwest section of the site. They consist of several dry stone walls, probably belonging to a domestic structure. In the corner of one room the neck of a large R.P. storage jar had recently been smashed by the plough. The depth of deposit cannot be gauged accurately, but since the amphora was previously intact, it had probably been standing *in situ* in about 1 m. of undisturbed debris.

Having surveyed the evidence from each site an attempt may now be made to isolate the factors determining the local Bronze Age settlement pattern.

1. Nature of the site: settlement; cemetery; settlement-cemetery complex; farmstead. What relationship exists between these units? Settlement pattern within each unit; determination of site boundaries.

With the exception of *Trapezi*<sup>84</sup> where no contemporary settlement was discovered, all sites showed signs of habitation. By far the largest settlement was *Beyouk Tarla* with 17.5 ha., followed by *Stympouli* and *Kafkalla* with 15 and 14 ha. each. Published comparative material for the E.C. and M.C. is lacking, but an approximate size estimation of the important *Alambra*<sup>85</sup> and *Kalopsidha*<sup>86</sup> settlements shows 15 and 20 ha. respectively. To gain a better idea of settlement sizes in Cyprus, it is instructive to compare these figures with those available for the L.C. If dimensions are any indication of importance and if the outline of the ancient city wall at Kition is accurate,<sup>87</sup> it is then unquestionably the largest Bronze Age town in Cyprus, with an area of over 70 ha. The contemporary city walls at *Enkomi Ayios Iakovos* and *Hala Sultan Tekke*<sup>88</sup> protected smaller townships in comparison; the former measured 12 ha. and the latter, as estimated by Åström, was 27 ha.

*Beyouk Tarla*, *Shilles* and *Kafkalla* compare very favourably with Bronze Age settlements elsewhere on the island and it might be possible to gain some idea as to the number of inhabitants by comparing them with the present size/population ratios of local villages. *Sotira* is a traditional community and will provide a reliable guide. The stone houses built in the last century when the

<sup>84</sup> In order to abbreviate the text hereafter the site localities will not be prefixed by the village name.

<sup>85</sup> Coleman 1977: 77 ff.

<sup>86</sup> Åström 1966, fig. 1. These are very approximate figures based on the location of trenches and reported finds.

<sup>87</sup> Nicolaou 1976, fig. 1; Karageorghis 1976, fig. 5.

<sup>88</sup> Åström 1972, fig. 12; Åström *et al.* 1976: IV.

population stood at 181, occupy an area of roughly 5 ha. Kandou, with 9.5 ha., counted 513 inhabitants in 1974, and Erimi with 13 ha. has over 600. In none of these villages are the houses tightly clustered; they are usually separated by small gardens and orchards.<sup>89</sup> The evidence suggests that the same open plan formula was adopted for much of the Bronze Age, which explains the size of most settlements, *Phaneromeni* especially, where excavation has proved that a discontinuous settlement pattern existed during L.C.IA. The apparent size of settlements as defined by artifact scatter is further increased by a constant shifting of the inhabited areas within the geographical boundaries of the site. The M.C. and L.C.IA occupation at *Phaneromeni* was hundreds of yards apart and the evidence from the survey suggests this phenomenon occurred at other large Bronze Age sites in the region.

The smallest settlement investigated is *Kaminoudhia* and with 2 ha. it would seem that here at least the dwellings were in close proximity.

At *Kafkalla*, *Beyouk Tarla*, *Livadhia* and *Peralijithias* the cemeteries partially coincided with the inhabited areas, but elsewhere the two were clearly defined. There is no evidence to suggest that the L.C. custom of placing tombs and habitations in direct association, was current during the Early and Middle Cypriot.<sup>90</sup> As the settlements were large, there was sufficient room to reserve open spaces for necropoli. Elsewhere the living and the dead were clearly separated, and the distance might vary from a few metres to 350 m.

The survey, with one exception,<sup>91</sup> has proved that all cemeteries are associated with a settlement. Since chamber tombs are normally easy to recognize due to the activities of looters, and since this form of burial remained in fashion from the Chalcolithic III to the Byzantine period, the presence or absence of a settlement in any given area can usually be ascertained by a study of the local necropoli. Generally, the lack of a cemetery argues against the existence of a settlement in the vicinity.

There are a few references to the relationship of settlements and cemeteries,<sup>92</sup> but exact figures are rare. Catling<sup>93</sup> published about 125 Early and Middle Cypriot settlements, most of which are associated with cemeteries, but his comments are all of a general nature. When cemeteries and settlements are given the same locality name it implies their proximity, and it would seem, therefore, that the pattern diagnosed for southern Cyprus is typical of the island as a whole in the pre-L.C.II period.

Cemeteries always consist of dense clusters of randomly placed *dromoi*, a pattern which is typical of the Cypriot Bronze Age as a whole.<sup>94</sup> The smallest number recorded in one spot, excluding the single *dromos* at *Trapezi*, was at *Kilades*. The greatest concentration at one site was at *Amolo* where a minimum of 282 *dromoi* probably gave access to around 750 chambers. Single burials should be interpreted as the only visible specimens of larger groupings.

Isolated artifact clusters were recognized east of *Beyouk Tarla*, and it would seem, in Episkopi village. These locations are far from perennial water supplies, but surrounded by arable land. That no tombs were found in their vicinity supports the theory that they were closely associated with a settlement.<sup>95</sup> Small sites of this type with a low obtrusiveness are extremely difficult to locate and it is

<sup>89</sup> Christodolou 1959: 63.

<sup>90</sup> This practice is perhaps associated with the lack of space in walled towns and a reluctance towards extra-mural burials.

<sup>91</sup> Only at Anoyira *Trapezi* was no settlement located.

<sup>92</sup> For a possible E.C. settlement near Vounous cf. Stewart 1950: 40-1; for references to settlements near Vounous, Vasilias and Karmi *Palealonia* cf. Birmingham (ed.) 1974: 61-2; for a more specific reference cf. Overbeck and Swiny 1972, fig. 4.

<sup>93</sup> Catling 1963: 148 ff.

<sup>94</sup> For Vounous cf. Stewart 1950, fig. 3; Dikaios 1940, fig. 1; for Lapithos cf. Gjerstad 1934, plan V: 1, 2; for Karmi *Palealonia* cf. Stewart 1963, fig. 1; for Lapithos cf. Herscher 1975, plan I; for Dhali *Kafkallia* cf. Overbeck and Swiny 1972, fig. 4.

<sup>95</sup> Cf. Blackman and Branigan 1977: 70 with reference to Early Minoan farmsteads.

a fair assumption that all three farmsteads are part of a larger system common to most settlements. Their role in animal husbandry and crop rearing was probably considerable.

Parallels for this form of settlement are entirely lacking in other parts of Cyprus.

2. What environmental, agricultural or social reasons governed site location? Were physiographic features like hill tops, rises, ridges or valleys of importance? To what extent does accessibility to water, arable land, the sea, the local biota or the altitude play a role? In which order of precedence were these factors taken into account?

The information gathered by the survey points to water as the one constant factor determining the location of occupation sites. Excluding the so-called farmsteads, each community is within easy reach of a perennial water supply and 600 m. is the greatest distance measured between the two. Rivers or streams are the main source, for they attracted eight out of the 13 settlements recorded, and amongst these the largest. The remainder were dependent on springs.

The second, and somewhat less obvious factor is the role played by agriculture. If water were the prime consideration, it was only in conjunction with the proximity of arable land. There is no consistency, however, in the choice of soil, a fact demonstrated by the soil map (Fig. 3) with sites superimposed. Once a perennial water supply had been selected, the local soils were exploited, whether alluvium, immature red earth, zerorendzina or calcareous marl. Few sites have been recorded in the narrow, deep valleys of the streams and none were located in gorges. No Bronze Age occupation was detected north of Kandou where the Kouris is restricted by the gorge and arable land is scarce.

Evidence for irrigation is lacking, but it could have been practiced with little effort in the lower reaches of the Evdhimou valley or at *Balies*. The local topography, however, suggests that dry farming must have been the main source of foodstuffs. Even if most of the land would be considered as marginal today (cf. Fig. 2), at the turn of the century, traditional agricultural methods produced in a normal year a minimum of 15 to 18 bushels (405 to 486 kg.)<sup>96</sup> of wheat or barley per acre. These figures are high for those generally accepted for the Mediterranean, which quote an average yield of 12 bushels per acre for cereals—higher for barley and lower for wheat.<sup>97</sup> Traditionally, the bread consumption of a family of five would require slightly more than half a bushel of wheat per week.<sup>98</sup> According to these figures 3 acres of land could feed such a family, although the necessity to retain seed-grain—about 10% of the crop—to provide against crop failure and to fallow the fields on a 50:50 basis would necessitate the cultivation of over double that area.

Once the factors of water and arable land have been taken into consideration there remains little consistency in the geophysical aspect of sites. The inhabitants of *Kafkalla*, *Beyouk Tarla*, *Peralijithias* and *Shilles* chose plateaux with a commanding view, naturally protected on one flank at least. Their size, nevertheless, would have made defence difficult if not impossible. Other settlements such as *Alatomi*, *Ambelovounos* and *Kannavokambos* spurned strong natural positions far from water for the slopes below. The remaining sites were located with little regard for the view and even less for natural protection.

Nowhere has any suggestion of a perimeter wall been suggested and defence can hardly have been a consideration in the minds of the Bronze Age settlers. Such facts suggest that peaceful conditions prevailed throughout the period under study. This stability is further emphasized by the

<sup>96</sup> Christodolou 1959: 128 mentions an average low yield of barley of 11.1 bushels per acre for 1947. The Episkopi area information was from local villagers.

<sup>97</sup> Michell 1940; Allsborough 1953.

<sup>98</sup> Local information.

existence of farmsteads or small family units living beyond the periphery of the settlements in comparative isolation.

Access to the local biota and exploitation of the region's natural resources are factors that must be taken into consideration when studying settlement systems. The lowlands were probably covered with light forest<sup>99</sup> or parkland, providing an ideal habitat for the small selection of indigenous game.<sup>100</sup> It has been suggested that towards the end of M.C. hunting only played a minor role when compared with stock breeding,<sup>101</sup> but in the L.C.IA at *Phaneromeni* in any event, Persian fallow deer was important to the settlement's subsistence system.

Timber was surely an economic factor of some importance, locally available to all sites. Nothing, as yet, is known about the sources of clay and flint.

Slag was recorded at Ayios Ionnis, which suggests indigenous copper ores, although none were previously reported in the area. Whether extraction of the metal was linked with the settlements at *Livadhia* and *Kolokos* is undetermined, although the scarcity of metal in the local tombs suggests that metal objects were imported.

Altitude and access to the sea were certainly incidental factors governing the choice of site. The highest point within the survey area is under 500 m., and M.C. sites are recorded at Ephtagonia and Kedheres well above this altitude.<sup>102</sup> There is reason to believe that new discoveries would result from investigations further inland, to the point where the steepness of the hills and the postulated heavy forest cover made agriculture impossible. That the sea was exploited as a source of foodstuffs has been proved at *Phaneromeni* by the presence of crustacean claws and edible mollusc shells, but never does the positioning of sites indicate any interest in the former as a means of communication.

There is little doubt that the physiographic aspect of the land had a bearing on the choice of cemetery sites. Eroded plateaux and ridges with a good deposit of *havara* were preferred. *Dromoi* might be cut into the flat top of such features or scattered along the slope of a hill, possibly depending on which had the least soil cover.

With few exceptions the above data correspond well with our previous view of the Early and Middle Cypriot settlement patterns.<sup>103</sup> Water and arable land determined the choice of site at the beginning of E.C., but towards the end of the period the mining areas show a slight attraction. Changes which occur in the northern half of the island during the M.C. are not mirrored in the south, where the evidence for fortifications, mass burials and tribal organization is quite lacking.

### 3. Access to trade routes. Evidence for external contact.

Contacts between the Chalcolithic III Philia Culture, *Kamminoudhia* and *Trapezi* have already been mentioned. Since most of the grave goods from these two sites have a strong Philia Culture flavour we should envisage a straightforward adoption of ideas originating in the Ovgos valley rather than a trading relationship. Whether the appearance of northern pottery styles is explained by the arrival of a culturally distinct group, or by the indigenous population adopting new ideas cannot be determined. However the stimulus is explained, it probably reached the south via the Amiandos pass and the Kouris valley.

The survey failed to generate any direct information on possible trade routes, but by emphasizing the importance and slightly awkward position of *Kafkalla* it suggests that trade might have been responsible for the location. The settlement was perhaps the southern terminal of a route

<sup>99</sup> Christodolou 1959: 47, 109.

<sup>100</sup> Watson *et al.* 1977: 246 ff.

<sup>101</sup> Ekman, p. 168 in Åström 1977.

<sup>102</sup> Catling 1963: 151, 156.

<sup>103</sup> Stewart 1962: 286 ff.; Catling 1963; 1966: 23 ff.; 1973: 165 ff.; Åström 1972: 274 ff.; Frankel 1974: 47 ff.

that extended north via the Kouris valley towards the heavily settled Morphou region.<sup>104</sup> The distance of about 70 km. was easily covered in three days and once the Morphou bay had been reached it was but a short trip of 20 km. to Philia or 35 km. to the north coast near Vasilia. Nowhere else is the crossing of the Troodos range made with such ease, and it is surely no coincidence that the present main road from Morphou to Limassol follows a similar path.

*Kafkalla* yielded the only W.P. and Proto W.S. sherds of the survey and the presence of these imported wares, which were also common at *Phaneromeni*, should be seen as the result of trade.

A Red-on-Black sherd discovered at *Shilles* was certainly an import from the Karpas region and a fine wheel-made Bichrome ware sherd at *Beyouk Tarla* probably came from the east of the island.

#### 4. Architectural remains, including those of a funerary nature.

Architectural remains were too rare and fragmentary to be of much comparative value for the limited material from contemporary sites elsewhere in Cyprus.<sup>105</sup> Dry stone walls were recorded in section at *Stympouli*, *Beyouk Tarla* and perhaps *Livadhia*. Various cuts in the bedrock at *Kafkalla* make little sense unless related to structures long since disappeared. The more tangible remains at *Peralijithias*, *Shilles* and *Trapezi*, though comparable to Dhali *Kafkallia*, are difficult to interpret as isolated occurrences of building techniques not adopted in Cyprus until L.C.III. In this context the so-called thresholds should be mentioned. If our interpretation and M.C. date of the six limestone thresholds is correct, they indicate a strong tradition in stone carving, especially at *Stympouli* and *Peralijithias*. Here the craft was not only concerned with utilitarian objects, but also applied to architecture and one may ask why these superior techniques in stone cutting and building did not become more widespread until an advanced stage of the L.C., whereas ceramic technology never ceased developing.<sup>106</sup> This apparent disregard for progress is one of the major unanswered problems of the Bronze Age archaeology of Cyprus prior to around 1200 B.C.

Funerary architecture, however, is more informative than that of domestic function, as developments can be traced in the shape and size of *dromoi*.

No *dromoi* are visible at *Kaminoudhia*, and a study of the plan and photograph of the excavation shows it was small and ill defined, a fact which provides another link with the Chalcolithic III burials at *Kyra Kamina*, *Philia Vasiliho* and *Ayia Paraskevi*.<sup>107</sup>

The small oval single-chambered *dromoi* characteristic of *Amolo* and probably *Ambelovounos*, are reminiscent of the earliest examples at *Vounos*, some of which are dated to Chalcolithic III.<sup>108</sup> With one exception, all the *dromoi* containing R.P.I South Coast at *Phaneromeni* were small.

Following these early parallels with areas north and east of the Troodos, the *dromoi* of the Episkopi region show an indigenous character which was to prevail well into the L.C. The cemeteries of *Kafkalla* and *Phaneromeni* contained two main types of *dromoi*, namely those of an irregular or oval shape, usually with single chambers and a smaller group of elongated "trench-*dromoi*" measuring up to 9.80 m. with nine chambers or more. Most *dromoi* have vertical sides and flat bottoms, unlike the stepped arrangement so common in the north and east.<sup>109</sup>

At *Kafkalla* the sherds collected from the different shaped *dromoi* belong to the same pottery types and there is no suggestion that shape and size of *dromos* is of chronological significance. More probably it was determined by such imponderables as personal taste, family or kinship ties and perhaps the availability of suitable bedrock.

<sup>104</sup> Catling 1963: 135.

<sup>105</sup> Gjerstad 1926: 20 ff.; Coleman 1977: 71 ff.; Åström 1966; Dikaios 1960: 8; Overbeck and Swiny 1972: 25 ff.

<sup>106</sup> Wheel-made pottery is not so rare as generally believed prior to L.C.III. Cf. Artzy *et al.* 1976.

<sup>107</sup> Dikaios 1948, pl. VI(b): 1962: 156, fig. 73; 1962: 160, figs. 75-9; Stewart 1962: 82, fig. 40, Tomb 88 etc.

<sup>108</sup> Stewart 1950: 82.

<sup>109</sup> Stewart 1962, fig. 88: 2, 4, fig. 89: T317.

The *dromoi* at Parmali *Mandra tou Pouppou*, *Pharkonia* and *Evdhimou Shilles* are quite small and deep. They tend to be quadrangular, even square, and multi-chambered.

In the *Evdhimou* valley deep, circular to oval *dromoi* with vertical sides and multiple chambers were preferred. This form is not dissimilar to the "bath-shaped" type from *Lapithos*,<sup>110</sup> which is normally multi-chambered. So far as is known, however, circular *dromoi* are unknown in the north.

Quadrangular-shaped *dromoi* were preferred at *Kannavokambos* and in view of the associated pottery including Dark R.P. ware, these tombs may represent an intermediate stage between the Chalcolithic III type and the small D-shaped *dromoi* characteristic of *Amolo C*. This interpretation, however, does create a problem because the *Kannavokambos* tombs are larger and more carefully cut than their successors at *Amolo C* and *Ambelovounos*.

##### 5. Non-ceramic artifact assemblage. Determination of site function.

The non-ceramic finds from each site have been arranged in a synoptic table to emphasize the similarities and differences between each unit. The material from *Phaneromeni* has been included to serve as a standard.

Table 2 does much to emphasize the underlying similarity between the various assemblages. The typical pattern is for Type 2 saddle querns to head the list of surface finds from any site, followed by the larger Type 1 querns, then rubber-pounders and pounders. With a few notable exceptions other stone objects are more or less evenly distributed. An apparent lack of gaming stones at *Kaminoudhia* contrasts with other settlements systematically covered by the survey. Here, by contrast with the lack of games there was an abundance of chipped stone, suggestive of an early period within the Bronze Age.

If our interpretation of the 10 x 3 and spiral patterns as games is correct, then certain sites are particularly attracted to this form of entertainment. With 19 and 24 games each, *Peralijithias* and *Beyouk Tarla* head the list. The abundance and wide distribution of games at so many sites suggests a commonly shared degree of leisure and various socio-economic implications.

The absence/presence of perforated hammerstones and tethering stones in certain communities might have a bearing on the activities of their inhabitants. An increase in the former could suggest a parallel increase in materials that needed to be crushed, and the quantity of tethering stones should reflect the number of animals to be made fast.

The overall view shows a general lack of site specialization, and industrial activity can only be deduced from negative evidence.

Unfortunately the published stone objects of Early and Middle Cypriot date, often described in vague or ambiguous terms, are of little or no comparative value to the present study. The more diagnostic lithic objects from the *Episkopi* area, such as perforated hammerstones, troughs, pedestal basins, thresholds and gaming stones receive no mention in the literature<sup>111</sup> and were either non-existent or unrecorded.

##### 6. Ceramic assemblage. Determination of site function and relative chronology.

The ceramic assemblage collected by the survey is of no assistance in attempting a functional analysis of different settlements. No site specialization was recognized and in this respect it should be noted that none was detected at *Phaneromeni* either.

Unless a settlement and its attendant cemetery show identical ceramic percentages, their contemporaneity must remain in doubt. In practice this never occurred in the survey region and the

<sup>110</sup> Stewart 1962: 221, fig. 89: T301.

<sup>111</sup> Excluding Coleman's reports on *Alambra Moutes*. Cf. Coleman 1977 and Coleman and Barlow 1979.

alternatives must be considered. Either none of these cemetery-settlement complexes are contemporary, which is unlikely in the case of small communities like *Kaminoudhia* and *Alatomi*, or there are indeed differences between household and funerary wares.

The gap which exists between the Chalcolithic II<sup>112</sup> and the L.C.IA must logically be filled, at least in part, by the wide range of intervening ceramic styles found in the Episkopi neighbourhood, an area too small for all the differences to be described as "regional variations".

Table 1 demonstrates how the sites may be divided into four chronological groups on the basis of their ceramics. To Group I belong *Trapezi*, *Kaminoudhia* and *Kannavokambos* with percentages of R.P. Chalcolithic III and Dark R.P. ware. These sites provide a useful link between the Chalcolithic I Erimi Culture and the Bronze Age.<sup>113</sup> Our present knowledge of Chalcolithic III in the south remains limited to surface sherds and 10 vessels from two sites, but hopefully new material will be discovered. Studied as a group, the vessels from *Trapezi* show stronger ties with the Chalcolithic II than the Early Cypriot, which suggests the burial is slightly earlier than Tomb 1 at *Kaminoudhia*. Fortunately the latter site has provided an excellent ceramic assemblage from necropolis and settlement alike. R.P. Chalcolithic III and Dark R.P. ware are not found at other sites in the area, therefore we may discount the possibility of regional variations as an explanation for their presence at *Kaminoudhia*. If this factor is combined with the high percentage of chipped stone and lack of gaming boards, the evidence strongly favours a date at the very end of Chalcolithic III or beginning of the E.C.

The few sherds with broad, deep, lime-filled incisions are within the Chalcolithic III repertory of decorative motifs, and the technical features of the incision heralds the elaborate R.P.I South Coast style. The poorly fired and rare D.P. Blue Core sherds are the earliest occurrence of this ware.

The only other site with Dark R.P. ware is *Kannavokambos*, where R.P. Chalcolithic III is replaced by R.P.III and D.P. Blue Core ware. A single piece of diagnostic R.P.IV ware suggests the necropolis had a long life-span, as there is no question of its contemporaneity with Dark R.P. and R.P.III ware.

If D.P. Blue Core and R.P.III Mottled ware are taken as a sign of development, then *Amolo* Cemeteries A and C and *Ambelovounos* are assemblages that resemble *Kaminoudhia* most closely. All three sites, classified in Group II, have a high percentage of R.P.I South Coast and R.P.III, usually associated with smaller quantities of R.P.III Mottled ware. The drop in R.P.III Mottled at *Amolo* is unexpected since it was the most common ware at *Kaminoudhia* and *Ambelovounos*, a fact which suggests that R.P.I South Coast and R.P.III had become "funerary wares" par excellence, with more utilitarian R.P.III Mottled being reserved for domestic use.

The extremely low percentage of D.P. Blue Core and complete absence of R.P. Punctured and R.P.IV ware is the reason for placing these sites early in the sequence. Only at *Ambelovounos* is there evidence for a small settlement associated with a Group II cemetery, and the importance of this site must be emphasized. Nowhere else in Cyprus has it been possible to isolate a settlement only inhabited at a time when R.P.I or R.P.I South Coast ware was being deposited in tombs.<sup>114</sup> At *Ambelovounos* better than anywhere else in the Evdhimou valley, the differences between funerary and domestic wares are apparent. R.P.I South Coast and R.P.III wares are *absent* from the settlement with the obvious implication, previously hinted at, that they were primarily reserved as funerary offerings. It would seem that R.P.III Mottled, Coarse ware and small quantities of D.P. Blue Core

<sup>112</sup> Watkins 1973: 45; Peltenburg 1979.

<sup>113</sup> Watkins 1973: 75, map 4; Peltenburg 1979: 94 ff.

<sup>114</sup> R.P.I (E.C.I and II) has only been recognized at Vounous, Arpera and perhaps Lapithos. Cf. Stewart 1962: 389 for a list of E.C.I and II tombs. The E.C.I and II settlements at these sites

remain to be discovered. R.P.I South Coast has only been located at the sites described in the present article. The vessels of R.P.I or R.P.I South Coast style from the Yialia area are not from controlled excavations. Cf. Karageorghis 1975: 817, fig. 31; Des Gagniers and Karageorghis 1976, pl. VI: 1.

were the only pottery types used at this time. The small amounts of R.P.III collected at other settlements suggest that sometimes it too saw use as a minor household ware.

There is every reason to believe that contemporary establishments exist at *Phaneromeni*, *Mandra tou Pouppou* and *Stympouli* where R.P.I South Coast is found, but occupation of this period is either eroded away, unlocated or covered with later material.

The sites in group III show R.P.I South Coast as almost obsolete and R.P.III decreasing in importance. R.P. Mottled is in the ascendancy again and D.P. Blue Core can represent up to a quarter of the assemblage. The probable differences between contemporary cemetery and settlement ceramic assemblages are again demonstrated by the ratios of R.P.III and Coarse ware at *Alatomi*. The contemporaneity of settlement and cemetery is here argued on the same grounds as at *Kaminoudhia* and *Ambelovounos*.

The IVth Group of sites, the largest and most heterogeneous, is characterized by the occurrence of R.P.IV and a tentative increase of R.P. Punctured ware. The continued use of R.P.III and a high percentage of R.P.III Mottled suggests both cemeteries and settlements remained in use for a long time, since neither of these pottery types belong to the L.C.IA assemblage at *Phaneromeni*, dominated by R.P.IV and R.P. Punctured ware. The percentages in Table 1 suggest that all sites in the area precede the establishment of *Phaneromeni* Settlement A, a view perhaps distorted by the sometimes erratic nature of surface collections.

In order to verify whether the surface sherd collections from sites with shallow deposits are representative of the stratified archaeological remains below, all ceramic material from an area of 300 m.<sup>2</sup> adjacent to Settlement A was collected. The results, presented in Table 1 as "Phaneromeni A, (Surf.)", compare satisfactorily with the stratified assemblage excavated nearby.

*Kafkalla* must be at least partially contemporary with settlement A, as indicated by the discovery of Proto W.S. and decorated R.P. Punctured ware. The other settlements with high percentages of R.P.IV are probably but not certainly of the same date as none of their surface collections mirror that from Settlement A, low in R.P.III Mottled ware. If, then, the picture is undistorted, it suggests a sudden change of fortune at the end of M.C., translated by the abandonment of R.P.III Mottled "phase" sites. Settlement G, of this class, was apparently forsaken in favour of Settlement A for reasons apparently unconnected with violence or destruction.

Now that the picture is complete in all its known details, it is possible to suggest the following well-defined settlement pattern for the Episkopi region.

A few Chalcolithic III settlements were established in river valleys or near springs, but always far from the sea. Either these communities represent an intrusion of northerners arriving via the Amiandos Pass and the Kouris valley, who then co-existed with the local and as yet unrecognized Chalcolithic II culture,<sup>115</sup> or they were the result of the assimilation of new ceramic styles by the indigenous population.

The succeeding period, as represented by Group II and tentatively dated to E.C., shows a local diffusion of the settlement pattern from the Kouris in the east to the Evdhimou valley in the west. The similarities between R.P.I and R.P.I South Coast can hardly be the result of chance and some form of contact must have existed, again via the Amiandos Pass, as the latter ware is unrecorded in the vicinity of Kalavassos, Limassol or Paphos.<sup>116</sup> The settlements were probably small as at *Ambelovounos* and in many instances have been eroded or covered with later M.C. material.

A unified ceramic tradition stretching from Larnaka via Kalavassos to Anoyira and from Kato

<sup>115</sup> Watkins 1973.

<sup>116</sup> Personal information from Dr. I. A. Todd with reference to the Vasilikos Valley. All the Bronze Age material in the Limassol

District Museum was studied by the writer. For the Paphos area cf. Peltenburg 1979 and personal information.

Kivides<sup>117</sup> to the sea, is represented by the next period which opens with Group III, probably early in M.C., and closes with IV in L.C.I. Settlements and cemeteries are large, on occasion made use of sophisticated building techniques, and had time to spare on non-productive activities.

Throughout the entire period under discussion, factors governing the settlement pattern remain unchanged, which is also true of the basic life-style so far as we can determine from the present evidence.

The focus was either along the river valleys or near the springs, but always close to a perennial water supply. Indeed, the maximum distance between a major settlement and its nearest possible water supply is 250 m. This inflexible dependence on water is only broken in the case of farmsteads, with their specialized requirements.

With the passage of time and the many changes caused by man, it is, at present, more difficult to assess the importance accorded to soils and biota by the Bronze Age settlers. In all likelihood, the presence or absence of a soil deposit was more important than its actual composition, and there is no correlation between the richer soil types and larger settlements. The local flora and fauna were certainly factors of some importance to the community, although probably taken for granted.

The general impression is that of peaceful agricultural communities with no need for natural or man-made defences and little heed for the outside world. Contact with other areas of Cyprus was limited and sporadic, but nonetheless real. Ideas and pottery reached the area and were either adopted or rejected but the region's apparent self-sufficiency and creative instinct are not to be underestimated. The shape and decorative motifs found on R.P.I South Coast and R.P. Punctured ware are second to none in character and style, and had the early researchers of the Early and Middle Bronze Age—Dikaios, Schaeffer and Stewart—focused their attention on the South, rather than the more easily accessible North Coast, our view of the period would certainly be reversed!

The upheavals marking the latter part of M.C. in the north and centre of the island, reflected by the construction of fortresses and digging of mass graves, are absent from the southern region, which merges peacefully into the L.C. At *Phaneromeni*, and probably elsewhere, the transition to L.C. is also accompanied by prosperity. The great number of games that suggest a certain amount of leisure, may be taken as one aspect of this prosperity, which is also hinted at by the plurality of imported wares—W.P., Red-on-Black, Bichrome and Proto W.S. A community fighting for survival would, theoretically, lack the means of exchange, the spare time or the inclination for such dispensable items and non-productive activities.

<sup>117</sup> M.C. pottery has been discovered in Kato Kivides village, cf. Limassol District Museum LM RR817.

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