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EARLY CERAMICS FROM THE NORTHERN SECTOR
(10TH – LATE 7TH CENTURY B.C.)

Introduction

Early Iron Age pottery was found in great abundance in the recent excavation in the cella and the pro-naos areas of the temple of Athena Alea at Tegea; a detailed analysis of this material can be found in *Tegea I* (section **iii**, Voyatzis).

From the excavation in the northern sector a very different spectrum of pottery was uncovered, with the majority of material dating to the Archaic and Classical periods.¹ There is also a far greater amount of coarse ware from the northern sector than from the temple. A few dozen fine-ware sherds from the northern sector, however, appear to be earlier in date, ranging from the 10th century to the third quarter of the 7th century B.C. These pieces are catalogued, illustrated and briefly described here, organized in the five groups indicated in the table above. Most of these early ceramics were found in mixed, secondary contexts in the northern trenches, but a handful may have been uncovered in their original, undisturbed contexts.

Protogeometric pottery

There are five sherds from the northern sector which fall into the Protogeometric or Laconian Protogeometric styles of pottery: two examples of standard Protogeometric, and three of Laconian Protogeometric. The Protogeometric pieces are from closed vessels, and the three Laconian Protogeometric fragments are all from open vessels: skyphoi or bowls. Three of the sherds were found in the stratigraphical unit C7/89 (**CN-PG 1–2** and **CN-LacPG 2**), one in D7/14 (**CN-LacPG 1**), and one in D7/66 (**CN-LacPG 3**).

CN-PG	Protogeometric
CN-LacPG	Laconian Protogeometric
CN-G	Geometric
CN-PC	Protocorinthian
CN-SG	Subgeometric

CN-PG 1 is a small thick piece from an unidentified closed vessel decorated with a group of compass-drawn concentric circles. It is likely to be from a Late Protogeometric vase like those found in the cella excavation.² **CN-PG 2** comes from the belly area of a jug – either a lekythos, an oinochoe or a lekythos-oinochoe of Protogeometric date. It is decorated with groups of nested triangles.³

CN-LacPG 1 consists of two joined pieces from the rim and body of a carinated skyphos. It is a classic example of Coulson's Type E2 of the carinated skyphos type, of which 20 were catalogued from the temple excavation at Tegea, and 45 are known from Laconian sites.⁴ The decoration with metopal panels and hatched triangles is characteristic of this type of pottery.⁵ The reddish yellow fabric and the grooves and ridges of this piece are also typical of this ceramic style.⁶

CN-LacPG 2 is a small fragment that also comes from a carinated skyphos with horizontal grooves on the belly area. It is a body sherd, painted in shiny dark paint and with two grooves visible at the carination. It is similar to other pieces found in the temple excavation at Tegea, as well as in Laconia.⁷

CN-LacPG 3 is broken from the base of a skyphos, painted in dark paint. The style of the base and the fabric recall other examples of Laconian Protogeometric sherds from Tegea and Laconia.⁸

In terms of fabrics, the two Protogeometric sherds are light grey and very pale brown. The light grey colour

² See *Tegea I*, section **iii**, 210–1, **C-PG 59–64**; Wells 1983, 240 no. 598, fig. 181.

³ For a similar shape, see section **iii**, 282, **C-EG 103** from the bothros excavation, in *Tegea I*; see also Courbin 1966, pl. 23 no. C.2483; Lemos 2002, pls 9.9 (decoration) and 24.4.

⁴ See *Tegea I*, section **iii**, 233–5, **C-LacPG 31–50**; Coulson 1985, 70–1, 41–5 with figs 3–4.

⁵ See *Tegea I*, section **iii**, 234, **C-LacPG 41**; Coulson 1985, 71 no. 90, fig. 4.

⁶ Coulson 1985, 33–4 and 43–4.

⁷ *Tegea I*, section **iii**, 235–6, **C-LacPG 59, 61**; Coulson 1985, 68 no. 39, fig. 2.

⁸ *Tegea I*, section **iii**, 238, **C-LacPG 95**; Coulson 1985, 81–2 no. 387, fig. 11.

The drawings in this section are all made by L. Kain, the photographs by D. Newton.

¹ See section **viii** (Iozzo).

(**CN-PG 1**) is unusual for Tegea and may indicate that the piece was an import. The very pale brown (**CN-PG 2**) is standard for Tegean ceramics in all periods. The three Laconian Protogeometric pieces are all reddish yellow in fabric colour (**CN-LacPG 1–3**), and this is absolutely typical for this type of pottery, as we have seen from the material recovered in the temple excavation.⁹

The few pieces discussed above mirror the many hundreds of such early sherds from the cella excavation, and especially the material found in the bothros. They are very fragmentary and in worn condition. Most of these early sherds from the northern sector were found in Archaic contexts (C7/89, D7/66); only one comes from the mixed contents of the Late Classical stratigraphical units (here, D7/14) where the majority of the rest of the Archaic sherd material from the northern sector was found. It is likely that the material from these mixed, late contexts originally came from the temple area and was later deposited in the northern sector.¹⁰

Catalogue, Protogeometric pottery

Closed shapes

CN-PG 1

Fig. 1

Body sherd from a closed vessel. Group of concentric circles (five visible). Fabric: light grey (10YR 7/2), soft clay. Preserved dimensions: 1.5 H × 2.1 W cm.

Location: C7/89 (second pebble floor, Archaic).

Date: PG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 210–1, **C-PG 59–64**; Wells 1983, 240 no. 598, fig. 181.

CN-PG 2

Fig. 1

Body sherd from a closed vessel, probably from the shoulder and belly area of a jug. Decorated with groups of nested triangles on the shoulder and horizontal bands below; solid dark paint under bands. Fabric: very pale brown (10 YR 7/4). Preserved dimensions: 4.5 H × 1.5 W cm.

Location: C7/89 (second pebble floor, Archaic).

Date: PG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 282, **C-EG 103**; Courbin 1966, pl. 23 no. C.2483; Lemos 2002, pls 9.9 (decoration?) and 24.4.

Catalogue, Laconian Protogeometric pottery

Open shapes

CN-LacPG 1

Fig. 1; Pl. 1

Rim from a carinated skyphos (two pieces joined together). Short, carinated rim painted black (not too shiny) with horizontal groove below. Panel decoration with a cross-hatched angle separated by three vertical bands. Solid dark paint below

and another horizontal groove on belly area. Fabric: reddish yellow (5YR 7/8). Preserved dimensions 4.4 H × 4.1 W; 10.0 D cm.

Location: D7/14 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LacPG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 234, **C-LacPG 41**; Coulson 1985, 71 no. 90, fig. 4.

CN-LacPG 2

Fig. 1

Body sherd from a carinated skyphos. Belly area of sherd with two grooves visible. Interior and exterior painted in dark, somewhat shiny paint. Fabric: reddish yellow (5YR 7/6). Preserved dimensions: 3.1 H × 2.8 W.

Location: C7/89 (second pebble floor, Archaic).

Date: LacPG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 235–6, **C-LacPG 59, 61**; Coulson 1985, 68 no. 39, fig. 2.

CN-LacPG 3

Fig. 1

Base from an open vessel. Ringed foot, probably from a flaring skyphos painted with dark paint on interior and exterior. Fabric: reddish yellow (5YR 7/6 front, 7.5YR 8/6 back). Preserved dimensions: 2.0 H × 2.4 W cm.

Location: D7/66 (7th-century debris layer).

Date: LacPG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 238, **C-LacPG 95**; Coulson 1985, 81–2 no. 387, fig. 11.

Middle and Late Geometric pottery

11 sherds have been catalogued from the northern trenches, and they exhibit characteristics which could conceivably allow us to date them to the Middle or Late Geometric. Some are very fragmentary, so a more precise date may not be possible. Five pieces were found in unit C7/80 (**CN-G 1, 5, 6, 8, 11**) and one in D7/14 (**CN-G 10**), mixed contexts of Late Classical date; the units C7/89 (with two sherds, **CN-G 2, 4**), C7/90 (with one, **CN-G 3**) and D7/65 (with one, **CN-G 7**) are Archaic, but much later than the sherds themselves.

Middle Geometric

CN-G 1 is a rim sherd from a Middle Geometric skyphos with a panel containing a group of vertical bands in the handle zone. There are a number of parallels already known for this type of vessel and its decoration from the Argolid and Tegea.¹¹

CN-G 2 is from the belly area of an open vessel, probably a cup or skyphos, and depicts rows of thin multiple zigzags. It could be Middle or Late Geometric, as this type of decoration has a long life.¹²

CN-G 3 is a complete base with a ring foot from an open vessel. It has solid dark paint on both the interior

⁹ See the discussion in *Tegea* I, section **iii** (Voyatzis), 224 on Laconian Protogeometric pottery; see also section **xii** (Fenn, Ponting and Voyatzis) in the same volume on ceramic analysis.

¹⁰ For this hypothesis, see section **iv** (Tarditi), 64 and 67–8.

¹¹ Coldstream 1968, 122, pl. 24.g; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 70, 286 no. P19, fig. 10; *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 283, **C-MG 1**.

¹² Coldstream 1968, 119, 123, 128, pl. 24.b.

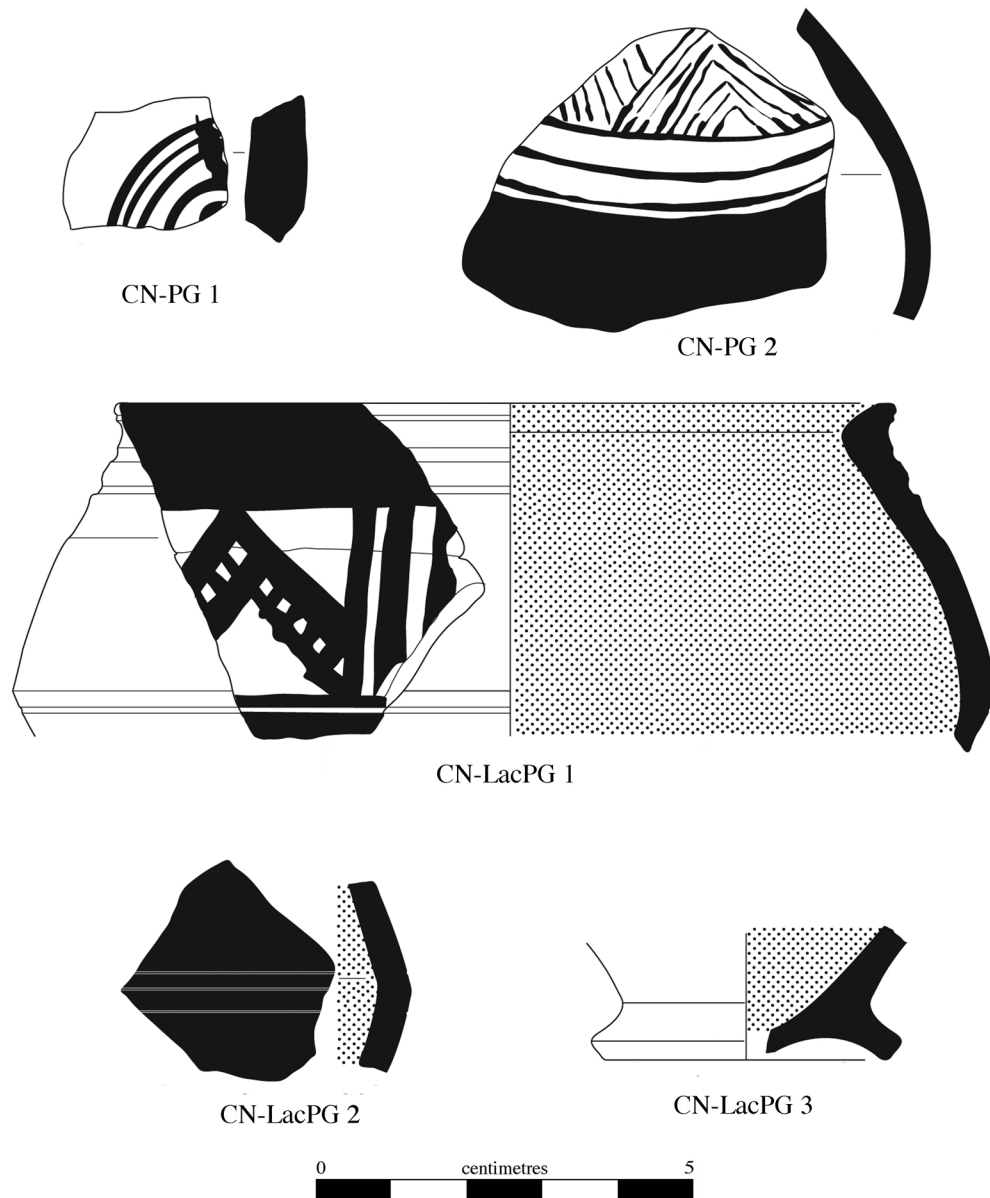


Figure 1. Protogeometric and Laconian Protogeometric pottery from the northern sector (CN-PG 1–2, CN-LacPG 1–3).

and exterior. It could be broken from a Middle Geometric skyphos.¹³

Middle Geometric II – Late Geometric

CN-G 4 is a rim sherd from a drinking vessel with a slightly out-turned lip. It has evidence of a very worn meander painted on it, and may be MG II or LG in date. It has possible parallels from the Argolid.¹⁴

CN-G 5–6 are open body fragments of very small size.

CN-G 5 is a tiny fragment decorated with a horizontal chain of rectilinear, plain lozenges, a typical LG I–II decoration.¹⁵ CN-G 6 is a body sherd probably broken from a Late Geometric cup with a horizontal row of dots. Such examples are familiar from Tegea and the Argolid in Late Geometric.¹⁶

CN-G 7 is a body fragment from an open vessel painted with nine thin horizontal bands. It is fairly straight-sided in shape. One wonders if it could be from a Late Geometric pyxis?¹⁷

¹⁵ Coldstream 1968, 128, pl. 27.a.

¹⁶ Courbin 1966, pl. 71 no. C.1577; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 77, 293 no. P56, fig. 13, pl. 27.

¹⁷ Such as Coldstream 1968, 132–3, pl. 20.e.

¹³ Coldstream 1968, 122, pl. 24.g.

¹⁴ Courbin 1966, pl. 76 no. C.29; pl. 81 (“pyxis de Monasteraki”).

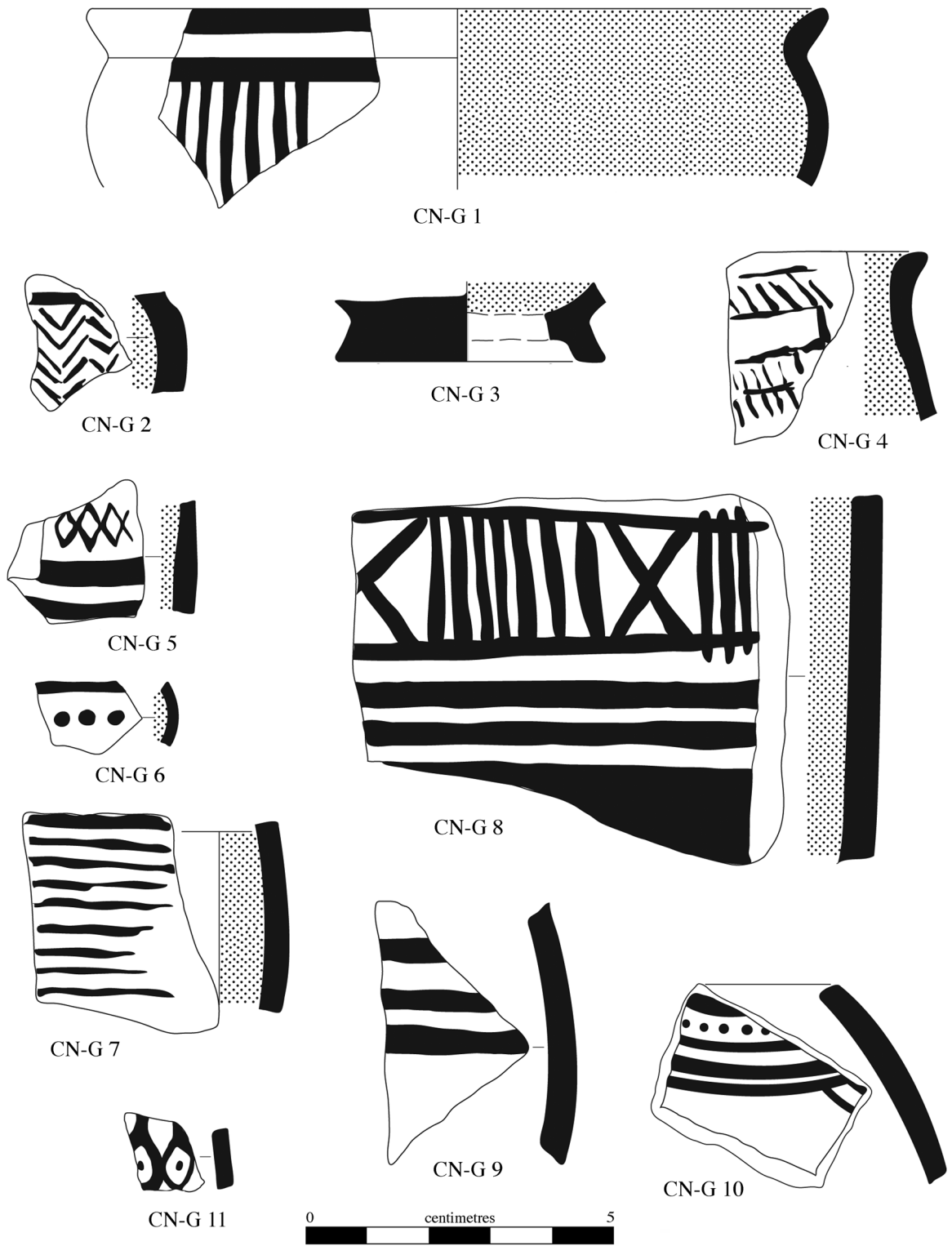


Figure 2. Geometric pottery from the northern sector (CN-G 1-11).

CN-G 8 is a large, thick body fragment from a big, open vessel decorated with a central panel containing groups of vertical lines separated by large X-designs. It is likely LG II.¹⁸

CN-G 9 is a body sherd broken from a closed vessel with three horizontal bands visible. Not enough is preserved of this pot to determine its original shape or to date it accurately, but it could be Late Geometric.¹⁹

CN-G 10 is a fragment from the shoulder area of a large closed pot and has parts of four large concentric circles visible with a row of dots between the third and fourth circles. There are parallels for this sort of decoration from the Argolid and Laconia of LG II date.²⁰

CN-G 11 is a very tiny fragment from a closed vessel with dotted leaf-lozenges. The shape of the lozenges suggests that it is probably LG II.²¹

This small sample of Geometric sherds from the northern sector is largely in keeping with the very large corpus of Geometric material already known from the temple excavation.²² Early Geometric sherds, which were so plentiful from the bothros especially, are absent.

In terms of the fabrics of the Geometric ceramics, there are five examples of very pale brown, two reddish yellow, two pink, and one each of pale yellow and light grey. Despite the fact that this is a broad range of sherds, from MG I to LG II, the fabrics are totally keeping within the image we have from the temple excavation in the same periods.²³

Catalogue, Middle Geometric pottery

Open shapes

CN-G 1 *Fig. 2; Pl. 1*

Rim sherd from a skyphos. Rim with out-turned lip painted with two, thick horizontal bands. Seven vertical lines visible below on belly area. Interior painted. Decoration is very worn. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 7/3), hard. Preserved dimensions: 3.1 H × 3.5 W; D 12.0 cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: MG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 283, **C-MG 1**; Coldstream 1968, 122, pl. 24.g; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 70, 286 no. P19, fig. 10.

CN-G 2 *Fig. 2*

Body sherd from an open vessel, probably a skyphos. Rounded sherd from belly area decorated with multiple zigzag lines (five visible). Thick horizontal band along top. Fabric: pale yellow (2.5YR 8/3), soft. Preserved dimensions: 2.1 H × 1.3 W cm.

¹⁸ Coldstream 1968, 132–3, pl. 28.a.

¹⁹ Courbin 1966, pls 115 no. C.4687 and 121 no. C.4366.

²⁰ Courbin 1966, pl. 115 no. C.4656; Margreiter 1988, pl. 16.182.

²¹ Coldstream 1968, 144, pl. 29.d.

²² Discussed in *Tegea* I, section **iii** (Voyatzis).

²³ See *Tegea* I, section **iii** (Voyatzis), 282–320 on Middle and Late Geometric pottery.

Location: C7/89 (second pebble floor, Archaic).

Date: MG

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section **iii**, 287, **C-MG 48**; Courbin 1966, pl. 56 no. C.2477; Coldstream 1968, 119, 123, 128, pl. 24.b.

CN-G 3 *Fig. 2*

Base from an open vessel, with a ring foot and solid dark paint on interior and exterior. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 8/4). Preserved dimensions: 1.2 H × 3.2 W; D 5.0 cm.

Location: C7/90 (first pebble floor, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: MG II

Parallels: Coldstream 1968, 122, pl. 24.g.

Catalogue, Middle Geometric II and Late Geometric pottery

Open shapes

CN-G 4 *Fig. 2*

Rim sherd from an open vessel. Very thin rim and body from a skyphos or cup with slightly outturned lip. Hatched meander design visible with oblique hatching. Decoration is very worn. Interior painted. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 8/4), soft. Preserved dimensions: 2.9 H × 1.9 W cm.

Location: C7/89 (second pebble floor, Archaic).

Date: MG II–LG

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pl. 76 no. C.29; pl. 81 (“pyxis de Monasteraki”).

CN-G 5 *Fig. 2*

Body sherd from an open vessel. Panel with three to four lozenges in a horizontal band, with thick horizontal bands below. Interior painted. Brownish paint, very worn. Fabric: reddish yellow (7.5YR 8.6), soft. Preserved dimensions: 2.5 H × 2.4 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LG I

Parallels: Coldstream 1968, 128, pl. 27.a.

CN-G 6 *Fig. 2*

Tiny fragment from body of an open vessel. Decorated with a horizontal row of dots (three visible). Fabric: reddish yellow (7.5YR 8/6). Preserved dimensions: 1.2 H × 1.6 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LG I

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pl. 71 no. C.1577; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 77, 293 no. P56, fig. 13, pl. 27.

CN-G 7 *Fig. 2*

Body sherd from an open vessel. Straight-sided fragment decorated with thin horizontal bands in brown paint. Top band is reddish brown. Interior painted. (Could it be a pyxis fragment?) Fabric: exterior light grey (2.5Y 7/2), interior reddish yellow (5YR 7/6). Preserved dimensions: 3.7 H × 2.6 W cm.

Location: D7/65 (fourth walking surface, Archaic).

Date: LG

Parallels: Coldstream 1968, pl. 20.e.

CN-G 8 *Fig. 2; Pl. 1*

Body sherd from a large open vessel. Large and thick fragment probably from a krater, decorated with a panel containing two large X-designs separated by seven vertical bands. Two

horizontal bands below and then solid dark, brownish paint. Interior painted. Fabric: pink (7.5YR 8/4), hard, few inclusions. Preserved dimensions: 7.1 H × 6.0 W cm.

Location: C7/80a (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LG II

Parallels: Coldstream 1968, 132–3, pl. 28.a (for decoration).

Closed shapes

CN-G 9

Fig. 2

Body sherd from a large closed vessel. Three thick horizontal bands painted in dark paint visible. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 8/4), soft. Preserved dimensions: 4.3 H × 2.4 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LG II

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pls 115 no. C.4687 and 121 no. C.4366.

CN-G 10

Fig. 2; Pl. 1

Body sherd from a large, closed vessel. Curved piece with four large, concentric circles visible; row of dots separate the two innermost circles. Two painted lines tangential to outer circle visible at break. Dark paint. Fabric: exterior pink (7.5YR 8/3), interior reddish yellow (7.5YR 8/6). Preserved dimensions: 2.6 H × 3.3 W cm.

Location: D7/14 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LG II

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pl. 115 no. C.4656; Margreiter 1988, pl. 16.182.

CN-G 11

Fig. 2

Body sherd from closed vessel. Tiny fragment with two dotted lozenges visible. Interior unpainted. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 7/3), fine. Preserved dimensions: 1.0 H × 1.1 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LG II

Parallels: Coldstream 1968, 144, pl. 29.d.

Protocorinthian pottery

Seven catalogued sherds from the northern trenches are Protocorinthian or Transitional Corinthian pieces. Three were found in unit C7/80 (CN-PC 1, 6, 7), two in D7/66 (CN-PC 4–5), one in D7/34 (CN-PC 2), and one in the cleaning of a section in square D7 (CN-PC 3).

Most of these pieces are likely to have been imports to judge from their pale yellow, fine fabric (*i.e.* CN-PC 2, 3, 6, 7). Two of them are possible local products with their very pale brown fabrics (CN-PC 4–5). Finally, CN-PC 1, with its pink fabric, may be a local imitation of Protocorinthian.

CN-PC 1 consists of three body fragments (joined) from a kalathos, decorated with nine thin horizontal bands below and a tight horizontal squiggle above. It is likely to be Early Protocorinthian in date.²⁴

CN-PC 2 comes from the top of a Protocorinthian aryballos with a wide, flat lip. The top of the lip is decorated with a painted eleven-pointed star. Its shape, size and decoration suggest that it comes from a conical to ovoid aryballos of MPC II date.²⁵ It was found in unit D7/34 and thus provides a *terminus post quem* for it to the mid-7th century B.C.

CN-PC 3 is a base from an aryballos, probably of the conical to ovoid type. It is well preserved and has one or two painted narrow rays barely visible coming up from the base. It may be MPC II, but was found in a context which is not useful for dating purposes.²⁶

CN-PC 4 consists of a large base from a lekythos-oinochoe decorated with intersecting horizontal and vertical lines. It is similar to other examples found in the cella excavations at Tegea.²⁷ There are also many examples of such vessels from Corinth and Perachora.²⁸ Its profile, decoration and size suggest that it is likely Middle Protocorinthian in date, and like CN-PC 2 and 5 it is important for the dating of the context where it was found.

CN-PC 5 comes from the rim of a thick, circular lid. It is decorated with thick concentric circles and has purple paint. There are parallels for this type of lid from other sites.²⁹ It is likely to be MPC II in part because of its polychromy.

CN-PC 6.a–b are two tiny body sherds likely from the same vessel; they could be broken from an aryballos or an olpe. They are decorated with a scale pattern design consisting of overlapping incised double-concentric circles with dots in the middle. Such decoration is typical in Late Protocorinthian and Transitional phases.³⁰

CN-PC 7 seems to be broken from the base of a piriform type aryballos. It is very worn, but one can discern a couple of thin, horizontal bands at the base. It is probably Late Protocorinthian or Transitional in date.³¹

The Protocorinthian pottery from the northern sector is very much in keeping with the Protocorinthian spectrum found in the cella excavation as well as in the earlier French excavations at the site.³² Moreover, it is interesting that the four pieces that seem to be Corinthian imports based on their fabric (CN-PC 2, 3, 6, 7) all come from closed vessels (aryballoi), suggesting that they could have been transported to the site as containers for oil.

It seems that CN-PC 2 (D7/34), 4 and 5 (both from D7/66) were found in their original contexts in the

pl. 26.5; Morgan 1999, 122 nos 365–367, pl. 48.

²⁵ Neef 1987, 93 (Stream A) Subgroup B no. 9, and 115 (Stream C) Subgroup A no. 1.

²⁶ Neef 1987, 114–5.

²⁷ Tegea I, section iii, 345, C-PC 59–64.

²⁸ Weinberg 1943, 45 no. 147, pl. 22; Dunbabin 1962, 39–42, pls 10–13; Stillwell and Benson 1984, 67 no. 295, pl. 15.

²⁹ Dugas, *Sanctuaire*, 417 no. 313 and 421 no. 330, fig. 61; Dunbabin 1962, 118 no. 1155, pl. 53; Stillwell and Benson 1984, 47–8 nos 183 and 185, pl. 10; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 78, 294–5 nos P65–P66, pl. 31.

³⁰ Neef 1987, 283 fig. 165; Cook 1997, 52, pl. 11.A.

³¹ Neef 1987, 296 fig. 174.

³² Dugas, *Sanctuaire*, 419–21; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 77–9; Tegea I, section iii, 320–46, C-PC 1–72.

²⁴ Tegea I, section iii, 341, C-PC 7–8; Payne 1940, 61, pl. 14.5, and 95,

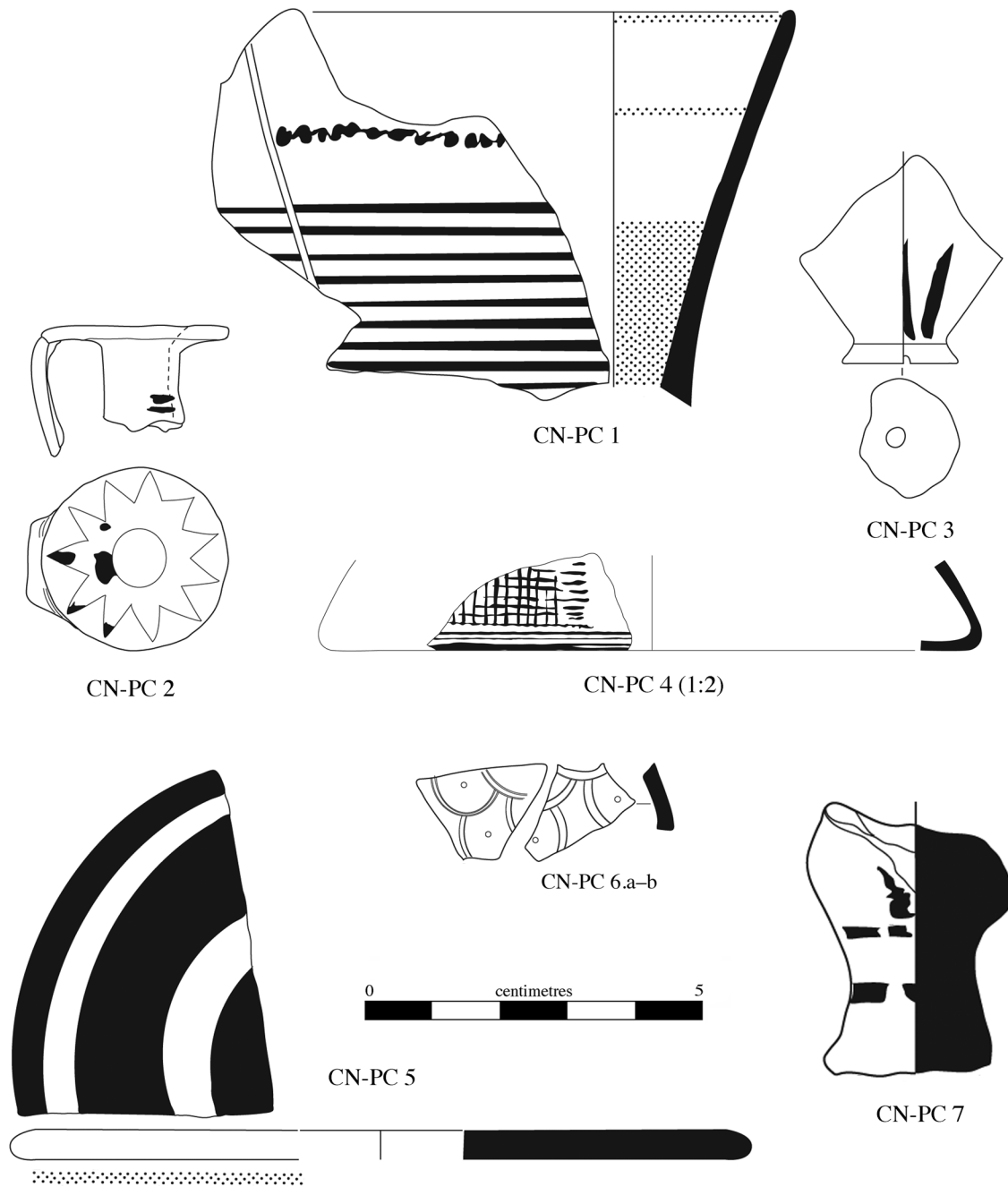


Figure 3. Protocorinthian pottery from the northern sector (CN-PC 1–7).

northern sector. We may therefore date these contexts to approximately the mid-7th century B.C.³³

Catalogue, Early Protocorinthian pottery

Open shapes

CN-PC 1 *Fig. 3; Pl. 1*
Body fragments from a kalathos (three joined together). Nine

thin horizontal bands visible and above is a reserved area with a tight, horizontal squiggle in the middle. Interior painted. Fabric; pink (7.5YR 8/4), hard. Preserved dimensions: 5.5 H × 5.1 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: EPC

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section iii, 341, C-PC 7–8; Payne 1940, 61, pl. 14.5 and 95, pl. 26.5; Morgan 1999, 122 nos 365–367, pl. 48.

³³ See section iv (Tarditi), 79, where the layers in question are dated to the late 7th century.

Catalogue, Middle Protocorinthian pottery*Closed shapes*

CN-PC 2 *Fig. 3; Pl. 1*
Top of an aryballos. Wide flat lip, narrow neck and wide flat handle from what appears to be a conical to ovoid aryballos. Trace of painted horizontal lines visible on neck. Evidence also originally of a star pattern on the top, flat part of lip around opening. Fabric: pale yellow (2.5Y 8/2), soft. Preserved dimensions: 1.6 H × 2.8 D (rim) cm.

Location: D7/34 (7th-century debris layer).

Date: MPC II

Parallels: Neeft 1987, 93 (Stream A) Subgroup B no. 9, and 115 (Stream C) Subgroup A no. 1.

CN-PC 3 *Fig. 3*
Base and body from aryballos. Lower body of what appears to be a conical to ovoid aryballos with a completely worn surface. One or two narrow rays barely visible at the base. Fabric: pale yellow (2.5YR 8/3), very hard. Preserved dimensions: 2.5 H × 3.1 W; D (base) 1.75 cm.

Location: D7 (section cleaning).

Date: MPC II

Parallels: Neeft 1987, 114–5.

CN-PC 4 *Fig. 3*
Lekythos-oinochoe base. Big piece of lower body and base from a large lekythos-oinochoe, decorated with five horizontal bands at the base. Above painted with a worn pattern of horizontal and vertical lines intersecting. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 8/4), soft. Preserved dimensions: 2.9 H × 6.3 W; D (base) 20.0 cm.

Location: D7/66 (7th-century debris layer).

Date: MPC–LPC

Parallels: *Tegea* I, section iii, 345, **C-PC 59–64**; Weinberg 1943, 45 no. 147, pl. 22; Dunbabin 1962, 35, pls 10–13; Stillwell and Benson 1984, 67 no. 295, pl. 15;.

CN-PC 5 *Fig. 3*
Rim and body from a pyxis lid. Flat pyxis lid fragment with painted concentric bands, alternating with dark paint and purple/red paint. Interior of lid has dark paint around edges of rim only. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 8/3). Preserved dimensions: 4.5 L × 5.8 W; 11.0 D (rim) cm.

Location: D7/66 (7th-century debris layer).

Date: MPC II

Parallels: Dugas, *Sanctuaire*, 417 no. 313 and 421 no. 330, fig. 61; Dunbabin 1962, 118 no. 1155, pl. 53; Stillwell and Benson 1984, 47–8 nos 183 and 185, pl. 10; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 78, 294–5 nos P65–P66, pl. 31.

Catalogue, Late Protocorinthian and Transitional pottery*Closed shapes*

CN-PC 6.a–b
Two tiny body sherds, possibly from an aryballos or olpe. Decorated with scale pattern design consisting of overlapping, incised double-concentric circles with dots in middle. All traces of paint are gone. Fabric: pale yellow (2.5YR 8/3), soft, very fine. Preserved dimensions: 1.6 H × 1.4 W and 1.9 H × 1.3 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LPC/Transitional (ca. 640 B.C.)

Parallels: Neeft 1987, 283 fig. 165; Cook 1997, 52, pl. 11.A.

CN-PC 7 *Fig. 3*
Piriform base from an aryballos. Small narrow base which widens as it goes up, with some evidence of painted decoration above. Looks like it had horizontal bands and traces of a vertical band. Very worn. Fabric: pale yellow (2.5YR 8/3), soft, with tiny inclusions. Preserved dimensions: 2.0 H × 1.5 W; 1.2 D (base) cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: LPC/Transitional

Parallels: Neeft 1987, 296 fig. 174.

Subgeometric and 7th-century B.C. pottery

13 sherds of Subgeometric or 7th-century B.C. style from the northern sector trenches were catalogued. They reflect a mixture of material in terms of open and closed shapes and with varying degrees of adherence to Geometric design schemes. Some have very clear parallels from other sites (*i.e.* the Argolid or Laconia), while others are more challenging to identify.

This material was found in the following stratigraphical units: seven sherds were from C7/80 (**CN-SG 1, 6–7, 10–13**), two from C7/89 (**CN-SG 3, 5**), two from C7/90 (**CN-SG 4, 8**), and one each from D7/66 (**CN-SG 2**) and E6/38 (**CN-SG 9**).

There are a number of rim sherds from open vessels. **CN-SG 1–5** all seem to be Subgeometric in style. **CN-SG 1** is possibly from a kyathos or a kotyle, decorated with wavy vertical bands below horizontal bands. It has a parallel from Gortsouli and reflects some Early Protocorinthian traits in its shape and decoration.³⁴

CN-SG 2 is from the rim of a thin-walled skyphos or kantharos with a tall flaring rim. It has possible parallels among kantharoi from the Argolid, probably of the second half of the 7th century B.C.³⁵ It is conceivable that this piece was found more or less in context in unit D7/66.

CN-SG 3 is a rim sherd from a large, thick-walled open vessel. It is decorated with big, wide dotted lozenges. It recalls a Late Geometric krater fragment from Amyclae, also with dotted lozenges around the rim, but the style of the ornament on the Tegean example appears more mannered, so I believe it may be a bit later.³⁶

CN-SG 4 is a rim from a krateriskos with a broad, flat lip. It is painted with dark paint and has a sloppy reserved band below the rim. It has possible parallels from other

³⁴ For a parallel, see Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 88–9 no. GP8, fig. 21. The pottery from Gortsouli is all Subgeometric in date. See also Coldstream 1968, 407.

³⁵ Cook 1953, 42 no. B3, fig. 16.

³⁶ Courbin 1966, pl. 62 (“coupe de Mycènes”); Coldstream 1968, 216, pl. 46.o.

sites in the Argolid and also at Mavriki.³⁷ There are good parallels for the shape from the Agamemnoneion at Mycenae of early 7th-century date.³⁸

CN-SG 5 is a rim sherd, possibly from a kalathos with a splaying rim. It is painted with horizontal bands on the body. There are parallels from other sites, including the nearby sanctuary of Artemis above Mavriki.³⁹ The sloppy decoration suggests that it should be assigned a Subgeometric date.

CN-SG 6 is a tiny fragment from an open vessel with a figurative drawing. It seems to be painted with a head in outline and an eye with a dot in the centre; the three bands coming out of the head may represent hair. There are examples of such depictions from Artemis Orthia and Amyclae with both bird heads and human heads.⁴⁰ There are a number of ceramics with figurative scenes known from Tegea from the late 8th and early 7th centuries, so it is not surprising to find such a piece here.⁴¹ The style of the painting with the large area of the eye in reserve suggests an early 7th-century date for this piece.

CN-SG 7 is a body fragment from an open vessel with the bottom of wavy lines at an angle floating above two rows of horizontal bands visible. The wavy lines may represent the feet of a horizontal row of birds that have become mere squiggles. It is likely LG II or Subgeometric.⁴²

CN-SG 8–10 are all base fragments from open vessels. **CN-SG 8** seems to be a base from a small cup. It has curvilinear decoration, and the underside of the base seems to be painted too. One wonders if it could conceivably be from a lid.⁴³

CN-SG 9 consists of the foot and part of the stem from a krater, painted in brown, slightly dilute paint. It has some good parallels from the Argolid and can be dated to the early 7th century.⁴⁴

CN-SG 10 is a base and body from an open vessel decorated with a single zigzag on the body. It is a rather unusual piece with a wide, flat base with a reserved unpainted area at the bottom. It is decorated in a somewhat sloppy manner. There is a single zigzag visible on the body of the vessel with a horizontal band going through it. One wonders if it could be a test or practice piece of some sort. It may be from a kotyle or similar open shape, although the body is quite thick and the base

is unusual, without the typical ring foot.⁴⁵ Based on the hints of Protocorinthian traits, I suspect it may be a local product of early 7th-century B.C. date.

CN-SG 11 is a body sherd painted with a thick, dilute horizontal band with a zigzag painted on top of the band. A parallel from Laconia has related ornament.⁴⁶

CN-SG 12 comes from a large thick vessel with three horizontal rows of zigzags. It may come from the neck of an amphora and has some similarities with pieces from Laconia.⁴⁷

CN-SG 13 is a body fragment broken from a closed vessel decorated with a wavy line superimposed on a thick, dilute horizontal band. Although there is no precise parallel for this piece, there are examples with related ornament known.⁴⁸ It is also similar in style to **CN-SG 11**, which has a zigzag depicted in a similar fashion.

The spectrum of fabrics for this material is the following: seven sherds have very pale brown, three are pink, two are reddish yellow, and one is light grey. The predominance of very pale brown fabric is again in line with what we know about Tegean ceramics in this phase.⁴⁹

One of the Subgeometric pieces, **CN-SG 2** found in D7/66, may have been found in its original 7th-century context. It was uncovered together with some Protocorinthian sherds and may date to around the middle of the 7th century B.C. The pieces **CN-SG 3–5, 8, 9** were also found in Archaic contexts (units C7/89, /90 and E6/38), but are clearly earlier. Seven pieces (**CN-SG 1, 6, 7, 10–13**) were found in unit C7/80 which is Late Classical and mixed in nature, so the early sherds found in them were hardly in their original contexts.

Catalogue, Subgeometric and 7th-century B.C. pottery

Open shapes

CN-SG 1

Fig. 4; Pl. 1

Rim sherd from an open vessel, possibly a kyathos. Very thin-walled piece with a straight lip and two horizontal bands below rim. Four wavy, vertical lines visible below bands. Interior painted. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 7/4). Preserved dimensions: 2.4 H × 1.5 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Coldstream 1968, 407; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 88–9 no. GP8, fig. 21.

CN-SG 2

Fig. 4

Rim sherd from an open vessel. Tall out-turned rim from a skyphos or kantharos, painted in solid dark paint on both interior and exterior. Paint is very streaky and worn. Fabric:

³⁷ Coldstream 1968, 146–7; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 85, 301 nos MP4–MP5, fig. 17, pl. 48.

³⁸ Cook 1953, 40–2 nos A31–A32, figs 14–15.

³⁹ See Courbin 1966, 219–20, pl. 69 nos C.557 and C.1131; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 86, 302 no. MP11 (from Mavriki), fig. 18, pl. 52.

⁴⁰ Margreiter 1988, 71, fig. 17.64, pl. 42.488.

⁴¹ Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 72–5, 286–90 nos P23–P25, P32, P40.a, figs 10–11, pls 10, 11, 15, 19; *Tegea* I, section iii, 313 and 319, **C-LG 121, 200, 201**.

⁴² Courbin 1966, pl. 57 no. C.565; Margreiter 1988, pl. 31.369.

⁴³ Margreiter 1988, pl. 47.567.

⁴⁴ Cook 1953, 40–2 no. A34, fig. 14 (from the Agamemnoneion at Mycenae).

⁴⁵ Weinberg 1943, 39–40 nos 123–124, fig. 14, pl. 17.

⁴⁶ Margreiter 1988, pl. 46.536–539.

⁴⁷ For instance, Margreiter 1988, pl. 34.498.

⁴⁸ Courbin 1966, pl. 52 no. C.4306; Margreiter 1988, pl. 45.525.

⁴⁹ See *Tegea* I, section iii (Voyatzis), 346–55, on Subgeometric and 7th-century pottery from the temple excavation.

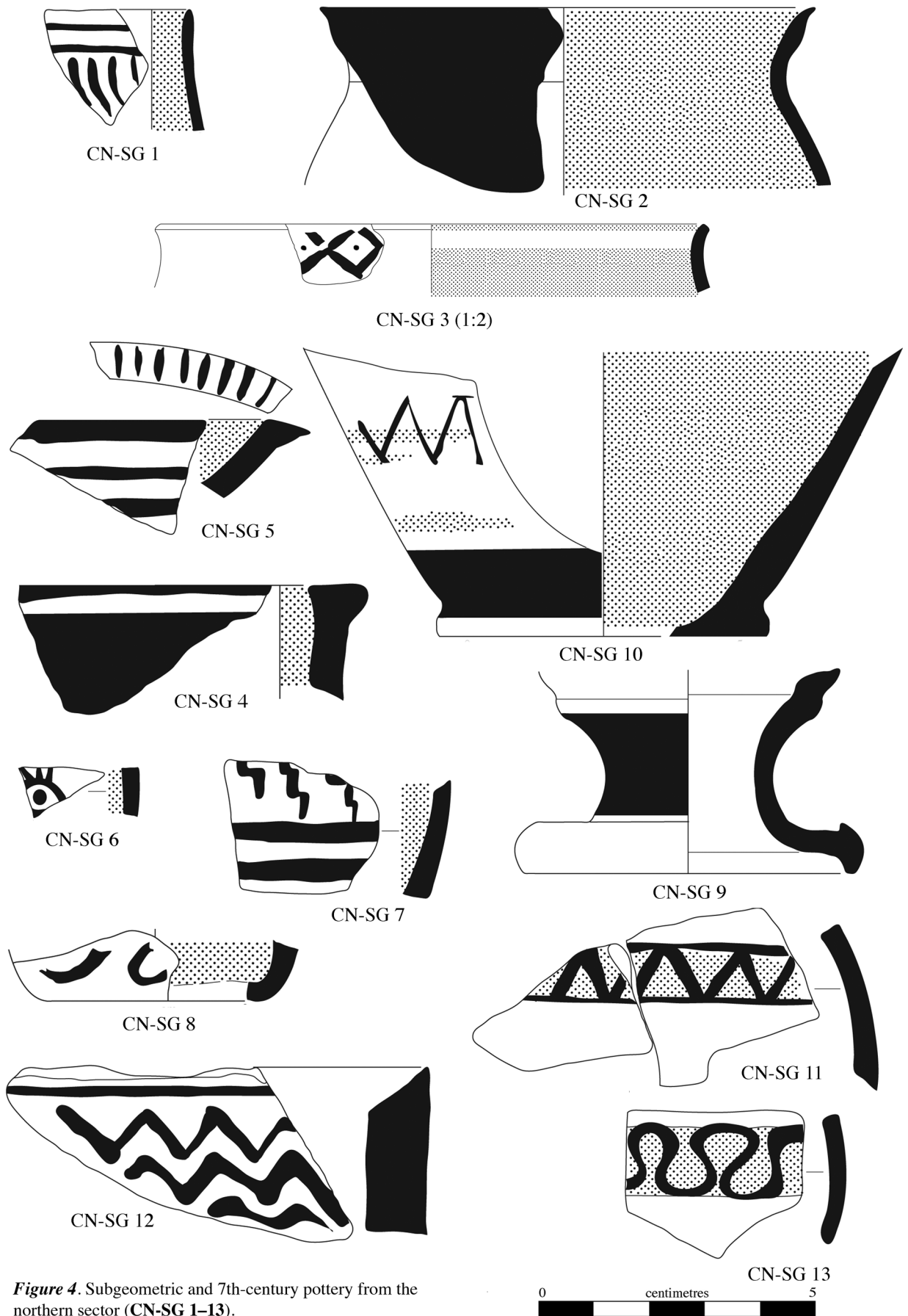


Figure 4. Subgeometric and 7th-century pottery from the northern sector (CN-SG 1–13).

very pale brown (10YR 8/4). Preserved dimensions: 3.0 H × 4.5 W; D 9.0 cm.

Location: D7/66 (7th-century debris layer).

Date: mid-7th c.

Parallels: Cook 1953, 42 no. B3, fig. 16.

CN-SG 3*Fig. 4*

Rim sherd from a large open vessel. Rim from a large skyphos or krater decorated with two big lozenges with dots in the middle. The interior is also painted with a reserved band below the rim. Fabric: reddish yellow (7.5YR 8/6). Preserved dimensions: 2.1 H × 3.2 W; D 16.0 cm.

Location: C7/89 (Archaic pebble floor).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pl. 62 (“coupe de Mycènes”); Coldstream 1968, 216, pl. 46.o.

CN-SG 4*Fig. 4*

Rim from a krateriskos. Broad, flat lip with pronounced protrusion on exterior. Solid dark paint on interior, exterior and along top of lip. Horizontal reserved band below rim. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 7/4). Preserved dimensions: 2.3 H × 4.8 W cm.

Location: C7/90 (first pebble floor, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Cook 1953, 40–2 nos A31–A32, figs 14–15; Coldstream 1968, 146–7; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 85, 301 nos. MP4–MP5, fig. 17, pl. 48.

CN-SG 5*Fig. 4*

Rim sherd from a shallow bowl. Flaring rim with downturned lip. Painted in streaky black paint. Short vertical lines go all around top of lip. Fabric: pink (7.5YR 8/4). Preserved dimensions: 2.1 H × 3.5 W cm.

Location: C7/89 (Archaic pebble floor).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Courbin 1966, 219–20, pl. 69 nos C.557 and C.1131; Voyatzis, *Sanctuary*, 302 no. MP11, fig. 18 (from Mavriki).

CN-SG 6*Fig. 4*

Tiny body sherd from an open vessel. Painted with what appears to be a head in outline with a dot for an eye in the centre; three vertical lines coming out of top of the curved line may be depiction of hair – could be a bird head or a human head. Interior painted. Fabric: pink (7.5YR 8/4). Preserved dimensions: 0.7 H × 1.5 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Margreiter 1988, 71, fig. 17.64, pl. 42.488.

CN-SG 7*Fig. 4*

Body sherd from an open vessel. Bottom part of three zigzag lines visible painted at an angle, with two thick horizontal bands below. Surface very worn. Fabric: very pale brown (10YR 7/4). Preserved dimensions: 2.5 H × 2.7 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pl. 57, C.565; Margreiter 1988, pl. 31.369.

CN-SG 8*Fig. 4*

Base sherd from an open vessel. Small flat base, probably from a cup. Exterior painted with crescent lines (part of two visible), interior of base painted too. Underside of base appears painted – could it be a lid? Fabric: very pale brown (7.5YR 8/4), soft. Preserved dimensions: 1.5 H × 2.3 W; D 4.0 cm.

Location: C7/90 (first pebble floor, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Margreiter 1988, pl. 47.567.

CN-SG 9*Fig. 4; Pl. 1*

Krater base: foot and part of stem. Many pieces joined together. Stem painted in solid dark brown paint, slightly dilute. A band of paint on underside of tall foot. Fabric: reddish yellow (7.5YR 7/6 – 7/8), soft, with white and red inclusions. Preserved dimensions: 3.9 H; D 6.7 cm.

Location: E6/38 (fourth walking surface, Archaic).

Date: Subgeometric/early 7th c.

Parallels: Cook 1953, 40–2 no. A34, fig. 14 (from the Agamemnoneion at Mycenae).

CN-SG 10*Fig. 4; Pl. 1*

Base and body from an open vessel. Flat base with a thick horizontal band of brown paint above. Further up the body are horizontal bands and a single zigzag painted on top of a horizontal band. Interior painted. Decoration is somewhat sloppy. Vessel is quite thick. Fabric: pink (7.5YR 8/4), hard; medium white inclusions. Preserved dimensions: 5.8 H × 5.3 W; D (base) 6.0 cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric/7th c.

Parallels: Weinberg 1943, 39–40 nos 123–124, fig. 14, pl. 17.

*Closed shapes***CN-SG 11***Fig. 4*

Three joining body fragments from a closed vessel. Thick horizontal band with a darker band of a single zigzag line on top. Rest of body and interior are unpainted. Fabric: exterior very pale brown (10YR 7/4 – maybe slipped?); interior reddish yellow (5YR 7/6). Preserved dimensions: 3.2 H × 5.0 (joined) W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Margreiter 1988, pl. 46.536–539 (related ornament).

CN-SG 12*Fig. 4; Pl. 1*

Body sherd from a closed vessel. Very thick fragment from a large pot (amphora?) with three horizontal rows of multiple zigzag lines. Horizontal band above. Fabric: very pale brown (7.5YR 8/4), soft. Preserved dimensions: 3.0 H × 5.5 W cm.

Location: C7/80c (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric/early 7th c.

Parallels: Margreiter 1988, pl. 34.398.

CN-SG 13*Fig. 4; Pl. 1*

Body sherd from a closed vessel. Decorated with a thick dilute, horizontal band, with a wavy dark-painted line on top

of the band. No decoration underneath. Interior unpainted. Fabric: Light grey (10YR 7.1), soft, with small white and dark inclusions. Preserved dimensions: 2.5 H × 3.3 W cm.

Location: C7/80 (first layer with bronze objects, Late Classical/mixed).

Date: Subgeometric

Parallels: Courbin 1966, pl. 52 no. C.4306, and Margreiter 1988, pl. 45.525 (both for related ornament).

Conclusions

The early pottery from the northern sector can be seen from the above analysis to span the period from the mid-10th to the third quarter of the 7th centuries. This period saw the development of the sanctuary at Tegea from what appears to have been an open-air shrine in the 10th–9th century to a major Geometric sanctuary with a series of superimposed temples in the 8th–7th century. Exactly what was going on in the northern sector during these early centuries is not clear.

We do know that nearly all of this pottery was found in mixed contexts with much later material. The possible exceptions are the following few pieces: **CN-PC 4–5** and **CN-SG 2** all from D7/66, **CN-PC 2** from D7/34. These few sherds may be dated to the mid-7th century, and provide a reliable *terminus post quem* for those stratigraphical units.

The overall picture of the early pottery from the northern sector is consistent with the image we have of the ceramics found in the temple excavation. The range of the dates, styles, and the fabrics represented nearly all mirror the pottery from the temple sector. For various reasons, including the mixed nature of the sherds, it is likely that most of it was deposited in the northern area at a much later date, perhaps in the Classical period,

when the foundation trenches were being dug for the 4th-century temple.⁵⁰

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⁵⁰ See section iv (Tarditi), 64–8, for more details regarding this question.

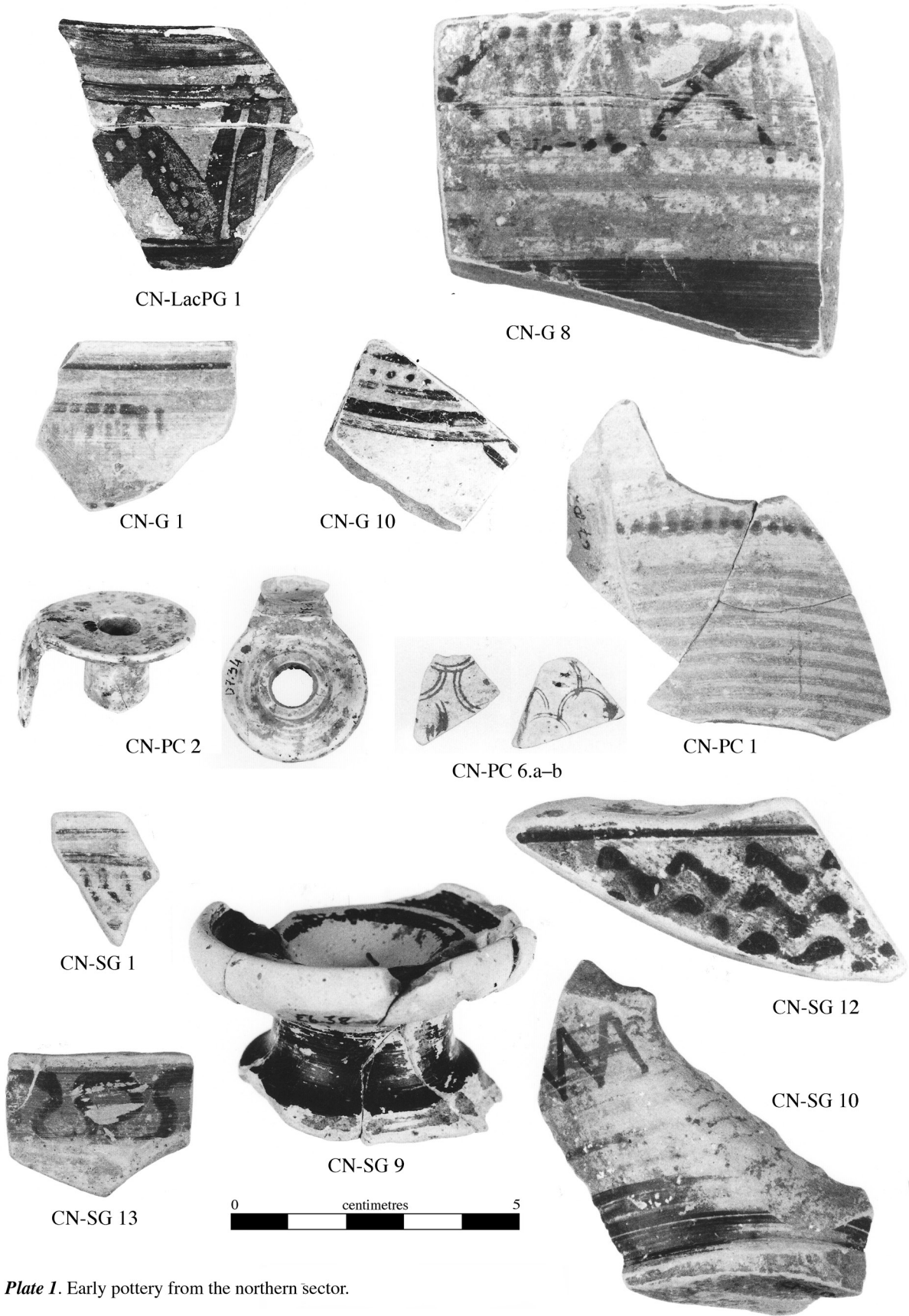


Plate 1. Early pottery from the northern sector.

