

VRG_Folder_0795

SMALLER CONTAINERS

Further notes on L. P. Unguiculata

See ^{notes} ~~letter~~ of XII-I. 75-76 on Kenchreai SATT
in folder GREECE - MAINLAND; KENCHREAI, one was
found there, and I give cur. ref. ^{to} (connection) J. W.
Haynes' article —

Paola Mameri in the Great Series

consults about a fragmentary LR
inscription found in the excavation at
Makrygama.

Παυλίνα Μαρνέρι.

Your article will be useful, but less so than as if you had ~~made~~ ~~dealt~~ ~~with~~ ~~people~~ ~~let~~ yourself be helped in a civilized way. On the outside, "compliments" are not a right expression, but are need a civilized acknowledgment

HAYES

With my compliments ^{VS}
John Hayes
4

Reprinted from
THE ANNUAL OF
THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY
AT ATHENS
VOLUME 66
1971

A NEW TYPE OF EARLY CHRISTIAN AMPULLA¹

(PLATES 36-7)

A TYPE of small pottery flask which has so far received little attention from students of the Early Christian period appears regularly on sites of sixth- to seventh-century date throughout the eastern Mediterranean. It is fusiform in shape, with a short tubular mouth marked off from the body by a slight ridge, and tapers at the bottom to a roughly truncated point (FIG. 1). In view of its general similarity in shape to the common fusiform *unguentarium* of Hellenistic times I have suggested elsewhere the name *Late Roman Unguentarium* for the type.² The height of complete specimens may be estimated at c. 18-21 cm.; occasionally one meets larger examples (with small flat bases). Such a flask was obviously not meant to be stood up on its base, but is of a convenient shape and size to be clasped in the hand. One may assume that it was provided with a stopper to keep in the contents (presumably of some perishable material, since no examples survive); the ridge below the mouth may have served to secure this.

1. so called
at the
Agora
before
it was
born.

The ware of these flasks is very distinctive, permitting the easy identification even of small fragments. They are wheel-made, rather thick and sturdy, and have generally been very roughly removed from the wheel at the base. The insides of fragmentary specimens display a series of prominent wheel-marks and ridges; on the outside, in contrast, the surface is generally well smoothed, though finger-marks and slight smears of clay are often to be seen, especially on the lower parts. The body-clay is extremely fine-grained and breaks very cleanly, the only visible impurities being occasional small lumps of lime. A hard firing is normal, giving the vessels a resonant character. The colour of the clay is very variable, depending on the firing; pinkish- or maroon-red, brown, purplish, and steel-grey shades are all common, and a grey core is often found together with a reddish surface, or vice versa. A thin wash of similar clay, normally slightly darker in colour, is applied to the upper part of the exterior and over the rim; this tends to trickle down on to the lower part. On vessels fired grey this wash is often scarcely visible.

Many pieces—though probably not the majority—bear a small circular or rectangular stamp just above the base (PLATE 36a). Some of the major varieties are shown on FIG. 2. Most are in the form of a monogram of clearly Early Christian type; various examples of these (from the Athenian Agora excavations) are shown on PLATE 36b. A considerable number of different monograms, whether built round a single letter or in the form of a cross, are employed; the names which they represent are, as in the case of other monograms of these types, generally far from clear. A few stamps of other kinds are also present; these include a number of animal motifs and a small cross with dots between the arms.³ Of particular interest is a circular stamp which combines an odd assortment of animals (scorpion, pelican-like bird, fox, and crocodile) with an incomprehensible inscription, no doubt some magical formula (PLATE 37a).⁴ It appears

¹ The block from which PLATE 36a is reproduced was kindly made available to me by Dumbarton Oaks; the original photograph is the work of Mrs. Elizabeth Harrison. I thank both for allowing me to reproduce it here. The photographs PLATE 36b were kindly provided by Miss M. A. Frantz, and are here published by permission of the Agora Excavations, Athens. Other acknowledgements appear in the text below.

² See *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* xxii (1968) 212, 214. The name may serve as a convenient designation until such

time as the true source and function of the flasks are revealed.

³ Of the 42 catalogued stamped examples from the recent Saraçhane (St. Polyeuktos) excavations in Istanbul, 32 have monograms built round a single letter, 5 have cruciform monograms, and 5 are of various other types (see n. 4 below). These figures appear to be fairly representative of the stamped series as a whole.

⁴ Examples from Kythera (1965 excavations, under Prof. G. Huxley; cat. no. χ 12 in current publication) and

↑
offered in the catalogue
Not useful for this subject.

to have been impressed from a signet-ring of the Gnostic series, though no close parallels for the type can be cited.⁵ Its presence here among a series of normal Christian motifs is somewhat remarkable.

The most informative stamp in the series, and one which appears to provide a clue as to the function of the vessels, occurs on a piece from Rhodes published several years ago (PLATE 37b).⁶ This stamp, a circular one of abnormal type, bears the inscription CEYHPIANOY EΠΙΣΚΟΠΟΥ (‘of Bishop Severianos’).⁷ Unfortunately the bishop here named cannot be identified satisfactorily with any of the many men of that name recorded in literary and other sources, if we bear in mind the date and probable source of the flask (for which see below). Yet the mere

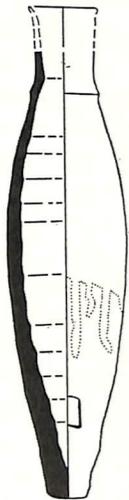


FIG. 1. ATHENS, AGORA
SS 4632. Scale 1:3



FIG. 2. SAMPLE STAMP-TYPES. Scale 1:1

appearance of a bishop's name is significant. Since such a person is hardly likely to have run a pottery works himself, one may reasonably assume that his name appears here to vouch for the contents of the vessel, which were obviously of some value and of some particular interest to the Church. Holy water and oil would seem the most likely candidates in this context. Thus the flasks would appear to have served much the same purpose as the better-known Menas flasks.⁸

Sarāḥane excavations, Istanbul (cat. no. RP. 75). The inscription is in Greek characters and retrograde; the probable reading (beginning at top right, above bird) is

ΤΑΦΟΛΥΚΟΣΑΙΝΩΝΖΒΥΚΕΤΟΝΠΜΙΗΟΖΗΡΟ

The Kythera example is illustrated; photograph kindly provided by Mr. J. N. Coldstream, who has permitted me to reproduce it here.

⁵ For a comparable combination of wild beasts and symbols, see A. A. Barb, *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes* xxvii (1964) 10–17, pl. 2a–b (on an Egyptian amulet in the British Museum, probably of sixth-century date). This was kindly brought to my attention by Dr. Barb, with whom I discussed the stamp.

⁶ *PAE* 1960, pls. 227, 228a. Photograph kindly provided by G. Konstantinopoulos.

⁷ Retrograde, in three lines, with small crosses above and below.

⁸ The bibliography on Menas flasks is considerable. See especially E. Michon, in *Mélanges G.-B. De Rossi (MEFR Suppl., 1892)* 183 ff.; A. De Waal, *Römische Quartalschrift* x (1896) 244–7; O. M. Dalton, *BMC Early Christian Antiquities* (1901) 154–7, nos. 860–96, pl. xxxii; J. Strzygowski, *Koptische Kunst (Cat. gén. Musée du Caire, Wien, 1904)* 223–6, pl. xxi, nos. 8969–76; O. Wulff, *Altchristliche Bildwerke* (Königliche Museen zu Berlin, 1909) 263–73; C. M. Kaufmann, *Die Ausgrabung der Menasheiligtümer* (Cairo, 1906–8) *passim*; idem, *Die Menasstadt* (Leipzig, 1910) *passim*; idem, *Zur Ikonographie der Menasampullen* (Cairo, 1910); *Dictionnaire d'archéologie chrétienne et de liturgie* xi. 1, 380–5, figs. 7977–83, 7985; *Frühchristliche Kunst aus Rom* (Villa Hügel, Essen, exhibition 1962) 110–6, nos. 191–204.

For other classes of ampullae of similar date, see H. Leclercq, ‘Ampoules’, in *Dict. d'arch. chrét. et de lit.* i. 2 (1907) 1722–35 *passim*, with bibliography cited on cols. 1745–7; P. B. Bagatti, ‘Le ampolle-ricordo fittili di Palestina (ca. VI

Their sturdy fabric no doubt facilitated the safe transport of their precious contents, while their shape and size were convenient for individual use.

The evidence for the date of the series is fairly good. The monogram-stamps which characterize it are of the forms current on monuments, coins, and silver plate of the period c. A.D. 450–650. Archaeological evidence permits us to define the dating more closely. A cache of some twenty examples was found in the Athenian Agora in a mid-sixth-century context,⁹ while the group from Rhodes which includes the Severianos piece also contained a number of amphorae of micaceous brown fabric of a type which may be dated c. 450–550.¹⁰ No examples have come to my attention in earlier contexts; in particular, there are none in a series of large groups of c. A.D. 465–80 in the Athenian Agora, which indicates that they can hardly have come on the market before the very end of the fifth century. Most of the Athens pieces noted above bear monogram stamps (see PLATE 36b); I cannot say whether this is also true of the Rhodes group. Further isolated examples were found in the Athenian Agora in levels of early sixth- to early seventh-century date. At Corinth several flasks of this type are present in a group of c. A.D. 600;¹¹ three out of the five bases preserved bear the familiar monogram stamps. I have recently published a deposit from Istanbul, containing material of the period c. 550–650+, in which numerous fragments of the type are present; here only about one-third of the bases bear stamps.¹² The excavations at Tocra in Cyrenaica (1963–5) have produced a fair number of fragments in levels dating from the period around the Arab invasion of 642/3 and the half-century prior to it.¹³ Only one of these pieces is stamped. Finds from the upper levels of the neighbouring site of Tolmeita¹⁴ follow a similar pattern. No examples of later date than these can be cited. On the present evidence, then, the series as a whole may be dated c. A.D. 500/520–650. It would appear that the stamped examples belong more or less exclusively to the sixth century, and that in the seventh century stamps were no longer used; however, the absence of a stamp does not in itself mean that a vessel is late. The Severianos flask, with its explicit indication of the source of supply, may well belong to the very beginning of the series, when the flasks were still a novelty and had not yet become commonly known and accepted.

The known findspots of the flasks are shown on FIG. 3. They indicate a very wide circulation, covering the whole of the eastern Mediterranean. The type appears in quantity at such widely scattered points as Athens, Constantinople, Ephesos, the cities of Cyrenaica, and Syracuse (see list below). From this one must conclude that they were current elsewhere within the same general region, even though specific examples cannot be cited from many of the major sites—this merely indicates that they have not been looked for! Clearly they were produced in enormous numbers.

Where the type was produced is not so clear, though a single source may be assumed on the basis of the uniformity of the fabric. Among Eastern Mediterranean wares, the distinctive

secolo’, *Faenza* xlv. 6 (1958) 123–5, pl. lix; ‘Ampolla’, in *Enciclopedia dell'arte antica* i (1958) 327–8, with refs. cited; *Bull. Amer. Sch. Oriental Research* clxxxii (April 1966) 16–18, figs. 12, 13; A. A. Kalantarian, ‘L'ampoule à l'image de Saint André de Dvine’, *Sov. arch.* 1968, 1, 274–6 (in Russian). Their counterparts in silver are studied by A. Grabar, *Ampoules de Terre Sainte (Monza-Bobbio)* (Paris, 1958).

⁹ Athenian Agora, Deposit O 13: 4. Context material: two coins of Theodoric (493–526) and pottery of mid-sixth-century types.

¹⁰ Type B iv in the British series (following C. A. R. Radford, in *Dark-Age Britain: Studies presented to E. T. Leeds* . . . (London, 1956) 59–70); cf. H. S. Robinson, *Athenian Agora* v,

M 373, pls. 40–1. For the dating of the type, see forthcoming article by Professor A. C. Thomas, D. P. S. Peacock, and myself.

¹¹ Cat. nos. C-56-1 to C-56-6, from a cistern-deposit, associated with a coin of A.D. 575/6.

¹² *DOP* xxii (1968) 212, 214, fig. 19 (here reproduced as PLATE 36a).

¹³ 1964/5 excavations, from levels 2–3. For location, see J. Boardman and J. Hayes, *Excavations at Tocra 1963–1965, The Archaic Deposits* i, 6–7, figs. 3–6. Thirty-three fragments; only one is stamped.

¹⁴ Finds principally from the late Professor R. G. Goodchild's excavations, noted in the Department of Antiquities' stores, Tolmeita (seen in 1964).

fabric finds its closest parallels among the finds from certain Palestinian sites. Particularly close is Baly's 'Ware X' from Nessana (Auja Hafir, Negev),¹⁵ a late painted ware, apparently derived from earlier Nabataean fabrics, which is stated by Baly to be common on a number of Palestinian sites. Pieces of similar appearance, though undecorated, also occur at Dhiban in Jordan,¹⁶ where they seem to constitute one of the local fabrics. A source in either of these regions is therefore a strong possibility.¹⁷

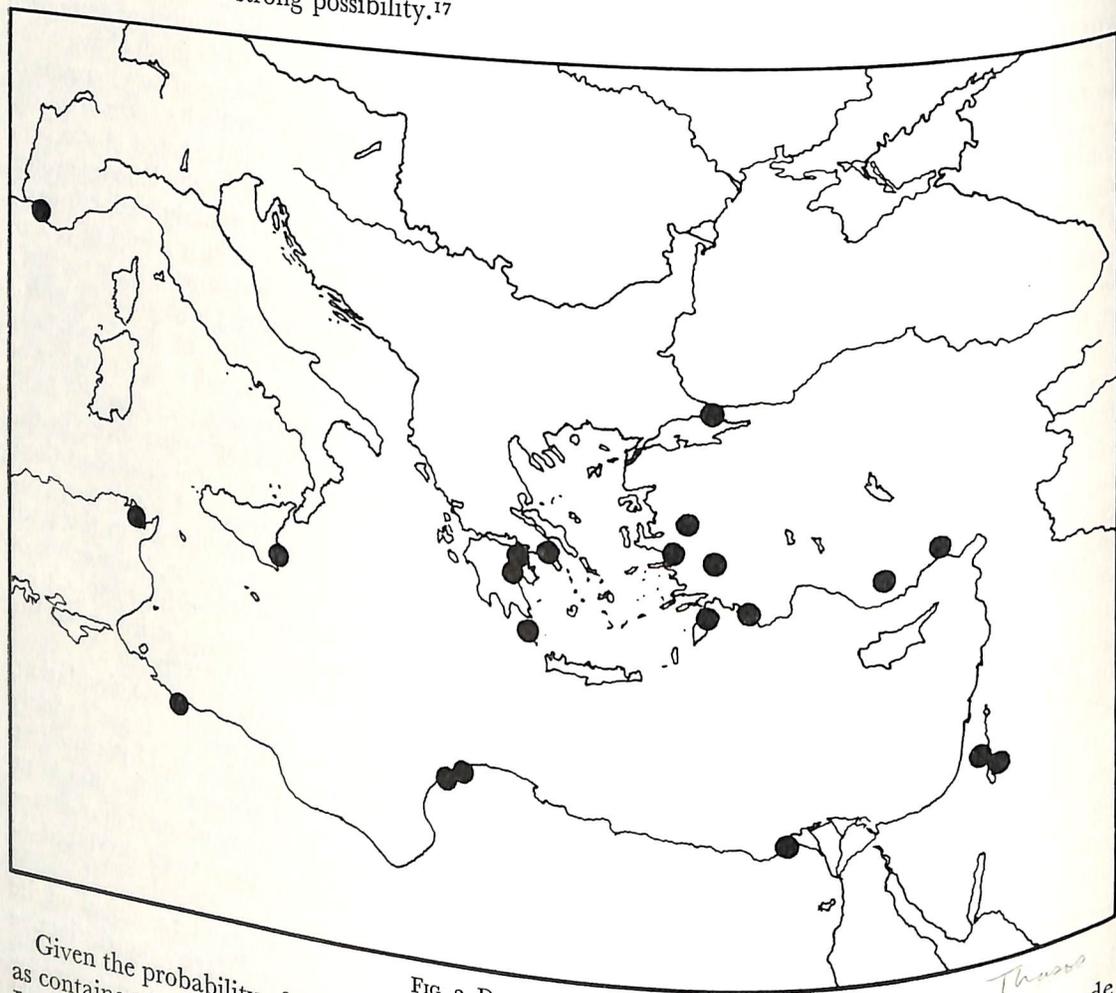


FIG. 3. DISTRIBUTION MAP

Given the probability of a source in Palestine, it would seem likely that the flasks were made as containers for either Jordan water or sanctified oil from one of the great shrines in the Holy Land.¹⁸ The latter is the more likely, in view of the somewhat porous nature of the flasks, which would hardly be suited to the carrying of water over long distances; however, it must be

¹⁵ T. J. C. Baly, in *Excavations at Nessana* i (London, 1962) 278-9.

¹⁶ Kindly shown to me by Dr. A. D. Tushingham, the excavator.

¹⁷ Another contemporary ware which exhibits many similar features is the so-called *Late Roman D* ware, probably of Cypriot manufacture, which I have recently renamed *Cypriot Red Slip Ware* (for discussion see J. W. Hayes, *Late Roman Pottery* 371-86). I exclude this from consideration

here since (1) flasks of the type under discussion have not as yet appeared in any quantity in Cyprus, and (2) major pilgrim-shrines from which they might have emanated are lacking there. The claims of Palestine seem much better substantiated.

¹⁸ The scanty literary evidence is of little help in determining the various sources of holy oil and of the containers used for it at this period. I thank Professor M. R. E. Gough and Professor J. Crehan for help with the literary sources.

admitted that no traces of oil (in the form of dried-up residues) have been noticed to date on the insides of the vessels themselves. In view of the ubiquity of these vessels, it is unlikely that they were used for exclusively liturgical purposes (such as baptisms and the ordination of the clergy). In all probability they served a double purpose, both in the church and in the home, being kept by the faithful for use whenever it was deemed appropriate.¹⁹ To what extent the Church participated in their distribution and sale is a matter for conjecture, though one suspects that a profitable sideline such as this would not be left entirely to outsiders. Be this as it may, these flasks—which appear to greatly outnumber the better-known Menas flasks—served an important role in the Byzantine world of the sixth and seventh centuries. Their disappearance at some time around A.D. 650 is presumably one of the consequences of the Arab conquest of Palestine and the changes in the pattern of trade which resulted from it.

LIST OF EXAMPLES

TUNISIA, LIBYA

Carthage. Musée Lavignerie: base with three small cross stamps (as FIG. 2, bottom right).

Sabratha. Museum: one example (under no. 257).

Tocra (Cyrenaica). 1959 excavations (in old museum): 2 frs., including one with three small cross stamps (as above).

1963/5 excavations: c. 40 frs., including two stamps.

Tolmeita (Cyrenaica). Villa of Four Seasons: base with monogram stamp.

R. G. Goodchild's excavations (1960-3): 13 examples, all plain.

EGYPT

Alexandria region. Benachi Coll.: one near-complete example with monogram stamp.

PALESTINE

Bethany. 1949-53 excavations, B 2662 and B 3095 = S. J. Saller, *Studii Biblici Franciscani Liber Annuus* iii (1952-3) 27-9, fig. 13; idem, *Excavations at Bethany 1949-53* (Jerusalem, 1957) 224, pl. 110d. Monogram and animal stamps.

Dhiban (Jordan). 1952 excavations, no. DO 417 (now in Amman Museum). Stamped base. See report by A. D. Tushingham (to be published shortly).

TURKEY

Tarsus. F. F. Jones, in *Tarsus* i. 296, fig. 177, no. 1051 (cat. no. 37-694; monogram stamp).

Alahan (Cilicia). A plain base and some frs. from recent excavations (by M. R. E. Gough).

Xanthos. Letoön, recent excavations (by R. M. Harrison): one flat base without stamp.

Main site (in depot): one unstamped base.

Aphrodisias. Various examples from recent excavations.

Ephesos. Museum: many examples (no stamped pieces noted).

Sardes. Examples from recent excavations.

Constantinople. Great Palace: R. B. K. Stevenson, in *Great Palace of the Byzantine Emperors* i. 32 ('a pointed jar-base that was stamped with a monogram in relief, probably of the sixth century.')

Sarçhane: *DOP* xxii (1968) 212, 214, nos. 103-5, fig. 19. Several hundred additional frs. from various parts of the site. Forty-two stamped pieces catalogued (mostly with monogram stamps); for examples see *PLATE* 36a.

Kalenderhane Camii: examples from recent excavations.

GREECE

Athens. Byzantine Museum: one example.

Agora excavations: 34 catalogued stamped examples (all monogram type) and various frs. Two are published by V. Grace, *Hesperia* iii (1934) 295, nos. 289-90. See *PLATE* 36b. *Corinth*. C-56-1 to C-56-6 (see text above, with n. 11), and various frs.

Argos. 1953 excavations: one near-complete example (not stamped).

Kythera. Recent excavations: one base with 'Gnostic' stamp; see *PLATE* 37a.

Rhodes. *PAE* 1960, 280, pls. 227, 228a. Some 20 examples, including Severianos stamp (*PLATE* 37b), from a single group. Also one unstamped example in Museum.

¹⁹ For instance, various texts indicate that sacred oil was used for medicinal purposes on account of its alleged healing properties. For a discussion of the functions of ampullae

in general (and the silver ones in particular), see A. Grabar, *Ampoules de Terre Sainte* 63-7.

J. W. HAYES

SICILY AND THE WEST

Syracuse. *NSc.* 1915, 201-2, fig. 15, republished in B. Pace, *Arte e civiltà della Sicilia antica* iv (Rome, 1949) 444. Cache of about 20 examples; the seven stamps which are clear comprise four monograms, one name, and two animal motifs.

Marseille. M. Clerc and G. A. d'Agnel, *Découvertes archéologiques à Marseille* (Marseille, 1904) 82, pl. viii. 1. Simplified monogram stamp.

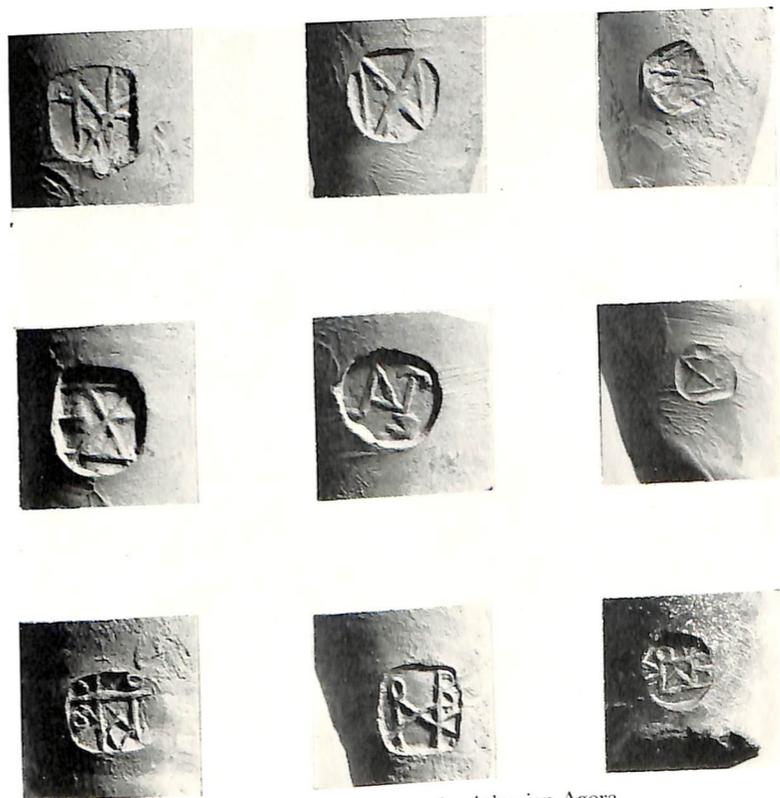
PROVENANCE NOT STATED

R. Pagenstecher, in *Expedition Ernst von Sieglin* ii. 3 (Leipzig, 1913) 165, fig. 168. Stamped fr. in Stuttgart, with ref. to two further stamped frs. in Tübingen.

J. W. HAYES



(a) Flasks from Istanbul (after *Dumbarton Oaks Papers* xxii (1968)). Scale 1:3



(b) Stamps on flasks from the Athenian Agora
A NEW TYPE OF EARLY CHRISTIAN AMPULLA



(a) Stamp on flask from Kythera



(b) Stamp on flask from Rhodes

A NEW TYPE OF EARLY CHRISTIAN AMPULLA

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD
BY VIVIAN RIDLER
PRINTER TO THE UNIVERSITY

J.W. Hayes,
 Royal Ontario Museum,
 Toronto 181.

PRINTED MATTER
ΕΝΤΥΠΑ.

AIR LIFT

MISS. V. R. GRACE,
 AGORA EXCAVATIO

Στοδ' Ἀττάλ
 Ὀδός Ἀδρι

ATHENS,

GREEC

2. TX. 72

There should be opponents
both for the Agon (for which
cards will be marked)
and for me

J. W. Hayes, "A new type of
Early Christian Ampulla," BBA

66, 1971 pp. 243-248

⊕ H₂ ^(p. 243) ^h camp suggested this term

in Dumbarton Oaks Papers xxii ~~212~~

212, 214 (called that at the Agon
at least since 1935)

"... a circular stamp which
contains an odd assortment of animals
(scorpion, pelican-like bird, frog, and
urokothe, with an incomprehensible
inscription, no doubt some magical formula

p. 244 (plate 37a). (2 exs.) It appears to
have been impressed for - separating

of the Quada series, though no date is
for the type can be cited. 8 [the sites
somewhat comparable for Egypt] 9th

presence was among a series of modern
Christian motifs is somewhat impractical

(2)

He later wrote on a piece with
 the name of a bishop: (ITPAKT - 1960, pls
 227, 228a)

It is of course with Menas fleshes.

Ref. to Counterparts by in-nds,
 with absolutely no acts. (C 56 - 1 st.)

He has published a deposit with the
~~Bank~~
 (SOP XXII 1968, 212, 214, 15-15)

He suggests they are for Palestine
 and work for holy water (green) a
 holy oil.

He does not (p. 247) to my publ. in Acad.
III

L.R. Unguentaria

Being studied by Sam Jackson, on a thesis suggested by P. Duranby

He has asked for and is to receive photo. of SS 4624, 4629. They are to relatively complete ones.

9.VI.69

He calls again. Interested in the unguentaria in connection with study of the alabaster.

(He has page proposal)

pp. 243-248

B.S.A. 66, 1971

22.VI.70

It appears that John Hayes is publishing them. Today P.P.D. showed me a letter in which he requested more "contact prints" of the stamps, as the scale was right. It is without enlargements to actual size that he wants, of items which have not been phot. for him at act. size scale, as from some (but not all) have.

In this article, a few stamps appear as ill. but in some cases attempts are made to distinguish multiple examples. He tells me he did consult me, but a) there is no acknowledgment and

11.VI.70

It turned out I was contacts, but of some special photo. by MAF, of which it took a long time for ^{Col. 7} him to find the negative (unreadable)

b.) to draw out lines all in lower (e.g. to Antarctic rocks, or a 2nd ABC no. checked copy)

L. R. UNGUENTARIA

(For Mr. K.'s letter, see under RHODES)

Stoa of Attalos, Athens
Mar March 3, 1961

Dear Mr. Konstantinopoulos,

Thank you very much for your nice letter of February 28, and for all your kindness to my friends.

We do have quite a few handles with stamps naming an eponym APXOKPATHE, but none of them seem to be later than about the first quarter of the 2nd century B.C. I am sorry that I have no knowledge of an APXOKPATHE of the 1st century. I have not got down here the epigraphical publications in which to look for one. Probably you have already looked in them. The best authority I know on Rhodian Hellenistic history is Peter Fraser (All Souls College, Oxford).

On the stamped small flasks of the late Roman period, as on p.295 of Hesperia III:

H. Goldman and others, Excavations at Güzli Kule, Tarsus, Vol.I, fig.177, no.1051 (drawing of stamp only); see also p. 296, where the object is mistakenly called an "amphora" but reference is made to Hesp. III, p.295, so they mean the same kind of thing. Two other references (not recent) are given there.

A. and A.-M. Bon, Les Timbres Amphoriques de Thasos, p.512, no.2255, a stamped fragment found in Thasos.

H. S. Robinson, The Athenian Agora, V, Pottery of the Roman Period, Princeton, 1959, p.118 and pl.34, no. M 369. This is an unstamped one of the late 6th century, which Robinson thinks belongs to the same series though it is rather larger (height 0.26, whereas the complete ^{stamped} one at the Agora - SS 4629 - is slightly less than 0.20).

Three stamped fragments of these flasks were found by Mr. Pallas when excavating in Corinth in 1955 or 1956. They are C 56-2, C 56-3, C 56-4. I believe they had good context. I should be glad to know if he has published

Yours very sincerely,

You know these little flasks are nothing like lekythoi, but are rather unguentaria (as Robinson calls them). They have no handles and hardly any swelling for a body. The mouth is pinched a little to make a spout. I have not seen any with actual words in the stamp except yours.

4629, Late Roman unguentarium with stamped tip, for restoration of 42.9.



Late Roman Stamped Unguentaria

List of catalogued examples

(ca. 450-550 A.D.

See Hesperia III, p. 295.

Also H.S.R. Seven centuries of Roman Pottery manuscript:

On P 9648, an unstamped example from Φ well (his group M), layer XIII, late sixth, and his note on M 369

- 112) E see p. 623 Hesp. III, 295
- SS 123) "
- SS 3198 B : provenience uncertain
- SS 3547 II : 249 ca. 45/E p. 407, 5th to 7th cent. A.D.
- SS 3694 K 1020, disturbed fill in Drain
- SS 3925 II 392 Early Byz. above ^{L.R.}anteroom area
- SS 4259 II 525 38/AA, Coin of Constans II 664-668, p. 889 - } probably a slip from group SS 4624-44
- SS 4624-4644 II 599-619 ca. 37/AZ, p. 943 f.
 - SS 4624-27
 - SS 4628-4630
 - SS 4631
 - SS 4632-3
 - SS 4634-5
 - SS 4636-4644
- SS 5903 N 576, O 12/AB, 5th to 7th A.D. - Described in fil. coins to 7th (N p. 1143)
- SS 6264 T 660, destruction debris, T, LR room 4 - 6th A.D. ?
- SS 13918 T 2999, p. 4664, 6th-7th or later

(V.G. has card for one from Egypt " " " " " from Thebes)

from MC 5. IV. 56

4629, Late Roman unguentarium
with stamped tip, for restora-
tion of 42.9.



9.01

Late Roman Stamped Unguentaria

List of catalogued examples

(ca. 450-550 A.D.

See Hesperia III, p. 295.

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- SS 6264 T 660, destruction debris, T, LR room 4 - 6th A.D. ?
- SS 13918 T 2999, p. 4664, 6th-7th or later

Coin:
 Theodoric 493-526 - 2
 L.R.
 6th A.D. "sating" fabric
 as group M XIII

(V.G. has card for one from Egypt
 " " " " " from Theros)

from MC 5. IV. 56

10.01
Cor. Coins p. 127, no 39

in recess
on 1

B.M. Cat. p. 72 nos 428⁴¹⁸. Justinian

Bury. A Monogram of the VI Century -

Michaelis Schläpfer p. 301
Vs 020

(Comment on seal which he calls "identical" with coin & ascribes to Justin II. It is not quite identical with either the coin or your stamp, but must be of same emperor. Justinian, I think)

Note the B on one Constantinian -
+ no. 417 = mint-official +



p. 165, Alb. 163

10.05 10.06

Stamped amphiaristhvi
10.07

15 1/2 Chambers Street,
Princeton, New Jersey,
October 17, 1933.

you were in
now the next time
be to have you to
latest styles in

little objects of which
I am afraid I can not
remember. As I remember,
turned up along
(C); by late I mean
of the century
of monograms at
also the so-called
and capitals of

columns (as in your illustration).

The only other similar stamps I can recall
are three from Alexandria: Expedition Ernst von
Siegelin, ed. by T. Schreiber, vol II, Part III,
R. Pagenstecher, p. 165. Probably Bury's name has

Arch. Sem.
713, 32
FEXT



Cor. Coins p. 127, no 39

on reverse E B
on 1

B.M. Cat. p. 72 nos ⁴¹⁷428. Justinian

Bury. A misinterpreted kenogram
of the VI Century -

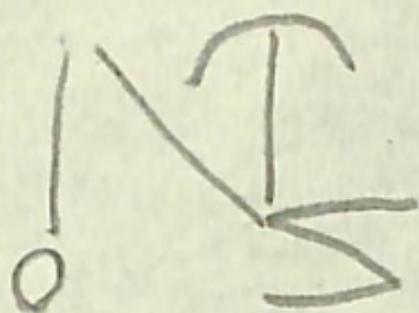
Mélanges Schlumberger p. 301,
Vs 020

(Comment on seal which he
calls "identical" with coin &
ascribes to Justin II. It is not
quite identical with either the
coin or your stamp, but must be
of same emperor. - Justinian, I think)

Note the B on our Corinthe Coin -

+ no. 417 = mint-official. +

10.02





10.036

~~290~~

289

✓ 612

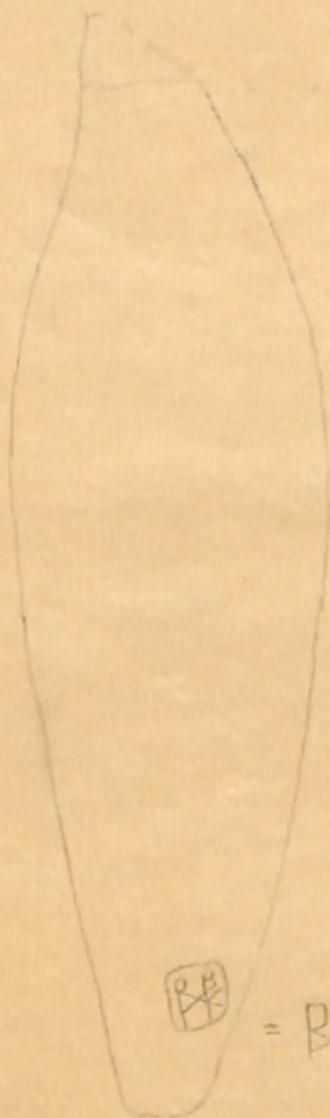


v 123

~~289~~
290

10.04b

Exped. Ernst Siegel II, Pt. 3. 10.05



p. 165.



= R P

p. 165, Alt. 163

26. II. 51

Note on or two of these

Roman amphoroides type
found in Thrasos.

See Vg notes of 1950, and

Bon photo.

15 $\frac{1}{2}$ Chambers Street,
Princeton, New Jersey,
October 17, 1933.

Dear Virginia,

Sorry that I did not know you were in town the other week. Let me know the next time you plan to come. I should like to have you to lunch and learn all about the latest styles in amphora handles.

I remember very well the little objects of which you send photographs but I'm afraid I can not shed much more light upon them. As I remember, I called them late because they turned up along with the latest Roman pottery (C); by late I mean that they should fall in or near the century 450-550. For the popularity of monograms at that time compare the coins (also the so-called "Vandalic coins"), silver plate and capitals of columns (at St. Sofia for instance).

The only other similar stamps I can recall are three from Alexandria: Expedition Ernst von Sipter, ed. by T. Schreiber, vol III, Part III, R. Pagenstecher, p. 165. Probably Bryn Mawr has

copies of these excessively weighty tones but in case not, I'm sending a tracing of the one amphora illustrated and the three stamps. You will notice that the one on the amphora is the same as your 123. The shape is described as of "kleine henkellose Amphoren". In the photograph it is hard to tell where the break occurs but I think that only the mouth is missing. With such thick walls and small capacity, they must have held some special brew.

I have not been on the lookout for such stamps so it is very possible I may have seen some elsewhere without noting the fact. I should suggest that you look through the publications of digs in Palestine and Egypt which you probably know already from the many amphora handles turned up - Samaria (Beisner), Beth-Shean (Pettygerald), Jericho (Wattinger), Roman Echnasya (Petrie) and the several Palestinian periodicals.

The decipherment of the monograms is a task for the epigraphists with their cross-word puzzle powers. Obviously the names are Greek (this supports the date in excluding Italy as the provenience) so it is merely a task of determining all the letters represented and finding

a name, or names, to fit them. It is interesting to note that three of the four have MK in common although the accompanying letters differ, whence various theories might be drawn.

This gives you very little more than you knew before but you might find others in the publications of various eastern digs (perhaps also Asia Minor sites). Often I find perfectly good Samian potter's stamps buried among a lot of filthy stone inscriptions.

I'm sorry I do not remember the rim (do I read the word correctly?) stamps. What are they like? Possibly I knew them by some unprofessional name.

Let me know if you find out anything more about the little amphoras - a better name for them than pithoi, I think, despite the lack of handles.

If I run across any more I shall notify you forthwith. I shall look forward to seeing your opus in print.

With best wishes,

Fred.

P. S. I'm returning the stamped envelope, you may be able to use it. You should not have bothered to enclose it.

Hayford Peirce et Royall Tyler

L'Art Byzantin

Paris 1932

Vol. I fig. 123



at top of an ivory relief

(Sceau d'apothicaire) of ca. 450

from Justinian

monograms (prints)

See Ravenna

= Dr Bernheimer

Dalton Byzantine Art - Archaelogy

Oxford 1911

fig. ^{p. 96} 56, fig. ^{p. 204} 122 (on a spoon
f. Lampsaenus and on an ivory
covered episcopal chair at Ravenna
Both 6th cent.)

fig. ^{p. 114} 67, cap of Ravenna
not quite so good.

10.11

Wahrungen

913.33

FD48

Gom. d. g.
Palästina

1908-1929

Vol. II unfertig

913.3948

FD48

V. 3

Palästina

1921

913.3922

9 H 88

Wahrungen
1904

913.3948

FD48

V. 4

Damaskus

1924

LATE ROMAN UNGUENTARIA

795