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CHAPTER

50 Mycenae

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Abstract

Mycenae was inhabited for several millennia before the start of the Bronze Age and remained occupied, if not prosperous, for at least a millennium after its end. The site lies on a rocky knoll between two hills in the northeast corner of the Argive plain some eight miles from the sea. It is probable that the environment of the Bronze Age was similar to that of the earlier part of the twentieth century AD, as it seems that the north and east sections of the Argolid suffered less than other areas from poor land management in the Early Bronze Age, which caused major changes in the landscape. Mycenae was identified through both legend and Homer at least until Roman times, with the walls and Lion Gate remaining visible. All recent interpretive work is based on these excavations.

Keywords: Mycenae, Argive plain, Bronze Age, Argolid, land management, Homer, Lion Gate, excavations

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MYCENAE was inhabited for several millennia before the start of the Bronze Age and remained occupied, if not prosperous, for at least a millennium after its end. The evidence for the early occupation is sporadic and tantalizing but probably often unidentified.

The site lies on a rocky knoll between two hills in the northeast corner of the Argive plain some eight miles from the sea. (The location allowed exploitation of both the pasture and grazing lands of the hills, the arable lands of the adjacent uplands, and the plain below.) A convenient node of routes in all directions, it also became a network of built roads in the LBA. It is probable that the environment of the Bronze Age was similar to that of the earlier part of the 20th century AD, as it seems that the north and east sections of the Argolid suffered less than other areas from poor land management in the EBA, which caused major changes in the landscape.

资源利用：遗址的位置使得人们能够充分利用周边的自然资源。山丘上提供了牧场和放牧地，相邻的高地则有可耕种的土地，而下面的平原也便于利用。

交通枢纽：这个地方是一个四通八达的交通节点，在晚期青铜时代（LBA），这里发展成为了一个由建筑道路构成的网络，极大地促进了与周边地区的交通和贸易往来。

环境稳定性：据推测，青铜时代的环境可能与20世纪早期相似。这主要是因为阿尔戈利斯地区的北部和东部在早期青铜时代（EBA）受到的土地管理不善的影响较小，而其他地区则因此遭受了重大的景观变化。

My cenae 的
位置条件好
在 LBA 也成为
network

Mycenae
被荷马和传说
而为人知,
1700年才被
人发现

Mycenae was identified through both legend and Homer at least until Roman times, with the walls and Lion Gate remaining visible. It had always been assumed that the Lion Gate was never lost, but a surprising lack of mention in travelers' accounts, even of the correct placement of the site on early maps, has led to the suggestion that it was only in 1700 that the Lion Gate was rediscovered during a search for stone by the Venetians (Lavery in French and Iakovidis 2003).

The Archaeological Society of Athens began work on the site in 1841 and has continued ever since. Following the death of George E. Mylonas in 1989, Spyros E. Iakovidis has been in charge. In 1876 Heinrich Schliemann excavated test trenches widely on the acropolis and discovered Grave Circle A. Christos Tsountas (Archaeological Society) worked from 1884 to 1902 and cleared almost the whole area of the citadel, as well as more than one hundred chamber tombs.

Alan发现
的Cult
Center

p. 672

Alan J.B. Wace (on a concession granted to the British School at Athens by the Archaeological Society) worked at intervals from 1920 to 1955, variously on the tholos and chamber tombs, the citadel, and structures outside the walls. His work on what we now know as the Cult Center was completed after his death. Its particular importance lies in the fact that this was the one area within the acropolis not touched by Schliemann or Tsountas, and it has thus given an opportunity to reassess the stratigraphic history of the site.

与第一篇 von Esaki 文章中有对比, MH 到 LH 之间无 Cult activities, 而到了 Mycenae (LBA, 也就是 LH 后) 有了 Cult Center

All recent interpretive work is based on these excavations. The extensive archival material concerning Mycenae, its discovery, and its remains can be utilized most effectively in conjunction with close study of the site itself; notable recent studies are Shelton 1993 on the chamber tombs and Tournavitou 2006 on the West House.

EH 被发现

The first period of the Bronze Age, the Early Helladic, is attested by sherd evidence from the acropolis and several of the adjacent hills. This material appears to be largely from occupation, though occasional whole or restorable pots from near Grave Circle A may indicate that the lower West slope had already begun to be used for burials. The presence of a considerable amount of EH pottery in the fills on the very top of the citadel suggests that it might have been the site of a notable and noticeable building (Palace I), such as those known from Lerna and Tiryns. Grave Circle A 发现大量 pots, 这些 EH pottery 则表明该地有过类似 Lerna 的建筑

EBA 时的
pottery 呈
现出完全的
变化

How the various sites of the Argolid interact at this period is not clear and has not been investigated in depth. There are several small to medium-sized sites nearby, but the organizational structure cannot be determined on present evidence. The Middle Helladic period is widely documented over almost all of the site but, as previously, the evidence is largely from sherds, though now also from burials. Both types of evidence are currently under detailed study. The pottery is easily identified as it exhibits a complete change from that of the EBA, and gray burnished and matt-painted wares are particularly conspicuous. At present, pottery of the types of the transition from EH to MH, well known from Lerna, have not been identified, but this might be because the intrusive new styles were slow to penetrate to a site obviously flourishing in the EH III period. Lerna 发现的 EH-MH pottery 未被识别, 可能因为风格转变在 EH III 很慢

MH 发现的方法

Several walls from the deeper levels in later terraces are assigned to this period, and one structure has been excavated: a kitchen and storage area beside the later ascent to the summit from the Cult Center. It awaits full publication. 新发现

与 first reading,
MH 时 rich
tombs.

The most striking feature of the MH period is the clear growth of wealth apparent in the burial evidence of Grave Circle B. Here the series of pit graves, which gradually transform into full shaft graves and with an accompanying increase in both the number of interments and the number and quality of grave goods, documents this transformation. Manufacturing techniques in both metal and pottery develop to a high standard that will be retained throughout the LBA.

LBA 制造业 ↑

LBA

进口的
LBA时 Mycenae pottery 主要来自 Cyclades, 还有一些 from
北 Greece, 以及 Cretan 风格的 (但实际上很少真的 Cretan pottery)

By the end of the period, pottery is being imported widely, mainly from the Cyclades, but there are also examples from northern Greece and types that are clearly imitations of Cretan wares, though actual Cretan pottery is very rare at Mycenae itself. This is in direct contrast to a site such as Lerna by the coast. It seems clear that during the later part of the period, Mycenae becomes one of the most important sites of the Argolid and that its leaders enjoy a clear degree of preeminence.

p. 673 The Late Helladic period is divided into the usual canonical three divisions, which are copiously subdivided in terms of pottery development. These divisions are not on the whole helpful in defining the architectural phases, though recently it has been decided that the time of the major destructions at the end of the Palace period in the Argolid should be termed in a manner coincident with the pottery terminology (French and Stockhammer 2009). 由 pottery 发展分了 LH 时期, 但 Argolid Palace Period 的 end 需要以 pottery 一致的方法来命名

To overcome the terminological difficulties, it is becoming customary to use the terms coined for Crete (Early Palatial, Palatial, and Postpalatial) to designate the major developments. It is particularly important to understand both that the structures visible on the site today are not necessarily contemporary, that each area within and without the citadel has an independent structural history, and that, on the whole, they can be compared one with another only hypothetically. 现在可见的 structures 不一定是当时的, 各地有独立历史, 所以只可以假设性地对比

By chance, or perhaps because of intensity of study, we can understand the site's structural history best from one of its least well-preserved areas: the so-called Palace. The history of the site is thus discussed in relation to the phases identified there.

即发现宫殿顶部的 elites 证据, 墓穴风格的变化

The Early Palatial period is particularly interesting but has been covered in some depth in a very recent account (French and Shelton 2004). For this period we have evidence (pottery, wall paintings, and domestic debris) of an élite presence on the summit of the citadel (Palace II, plan: French 2002, figure 14), possibly demarcated by a surround wall, and widespread settlement in the surrounding area. It is also marked by the climax of the shaft grave era and the transition to tholos and chamber tomb cemeteries, most of which begin to be used at this time. The prosperity of this period is apparent in the number of tholos tombs built (six of the unique total of nine). 该时期的繁荣与 tholos tombs 的数量有关

Palatial III

The Palatial period as a whole covered most of the 14th and 13th centuries BC. From Palace III, as well as a pottery deposit, there are now some residual walls that show a change of alignment of the major structure on the hilltop. Traces of settlement of this period have been widely found both on the acropolis (notably below the Ramp House) and outside (on the Atreus Ridge and in the Pezoulia area).

A single, perhaps corvée, workforce was likely employed, and when work on this "maison de chef" had been completed, the workers may then have been assigned to the construction of the Treasury of Atreus, which is by far the largest and most elaborate of the tholos tombs. The period is well represented among the chamber tombs, with many richly endowed examples, and both the quantity and the quality of imported material are particularly notable. This well accords with the strong evidence of overseas expansion of Mycenaean culture in this period. 这一段讲 Mycenaean 文化向外扩展, 有很多进口物品丰富的 tombs

Linear B

Related to this expansion is one of the structures on the Pezoulia slope known as Petsas House. Though known from preliminary work in the 1950s, it is only since 2000 that further excavation has taken place. It appears to be a workshop complex for the storage and distribution of pottery. The earliest Linear B tablets not only from Mycenae but also from mainland Greece as a whole have been found here.

在沉船发现 pottery

p. 674

The pottery can be linked closely in style to that found at Tell el-Amarna in Egypt and on the Uluburun wreck. Wood samples have been recovered, and key dating evidence, which may give important cross-cultural links, should become available. Interestingly, one vessel found in the original excavation, a handsome pictorial krater with birds, is considered to be by the same hand as one exported to Enkomi on Cyprus.

在边发现的船的装饰, 与 Enkomi 的一样

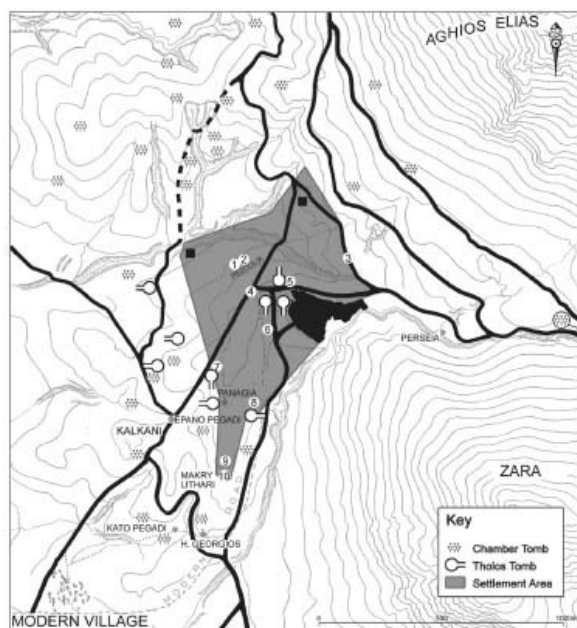


Figure 50.1. Greater Mycenae (copyright Mycenae Archive).

LBA

The first stage of the circuit wall of the acropolis ^{卫墙} was built at this time. The north wall remains today, but both the east and the west walls were altered later.

Then, using the south section as a terrace, the large and elaborate Palace IV was constructed at the very edge overlooking the gorge to the south. This was architecturally sophisticated, with decorative stone work and fresco-painted walls. The plan now shows clearly the division between public and private apartments, as well as workshops and storage areas. When this work was completed, the same workforce turned to the Tomb of Clytemnestra and then to widespread building outside the acropolis and some within.

Outside there was construction in the Pezoulia area, with occupation again in the Petsas House area (figure 50.1:2) and a new structure, possibly not completed, the Cyclopean Terrace Building (figure 50.1:1). To this period can be assigned the workshop complex, found during the construction of the new museum, known as the House of the Tripod Tomb (figure 50.1:5). It is probable that the Plakes House (figure 50.1:3) on the west slope of Aghios Elias also dates to this period.

p. 675 Definitely built now are the large "houses" south of the Tomb of Clytemnestra, known as the Ivory Houses (figure 50.1:6). Farther south other less imposing houses, the Panagia Houses (figure 50.1:8), were built beside the Treasury of Atreus, and another was built at the far end of the Panagia ridge, the House of Lead (figure 50.1:9). These buildings, all well constructed, exhibit the two levels of elaboration devised to describe the nonpalatial structures of the Late Bronze Age and all varieties of plans, including hybrids among them. No evidence exists for the construction date of the other excavated areas outside the citadel (figure 50.1:4 small houses west of the modern parking lot; 1:7 Lisa's House; and 1:10 the Makri Lithari structure). The part of the lower town lying beneath the outer Hellenistic settlement is currently under investigation.

At this time there was a well-organized road network that radiated from the citadel (French 2002, figure 3), as well as other public works such as flood control (French and Iakovidis 2003, 22).

On the acropolis itself, the large and imposing South House (figure 50.2:8) was built on the west slope outside the west wall, which at that time seems to have followed the contour higher up the slope (French 2002, figure 16). The first building of the Cult Center, Shrine Gamma (figure 50.2:11) is somewhat earlier, probably the first structure in the immediate area.

第一个 Cult Center in Mycenae

Cult Center
早于 Citadel
wall 西打

It is less clear exactly when the other main component structures of the **Cult Center** (figure 50.2:10, 14, 15) were built, but **all antedate the west extension of the Citadel Wall**. Indeed, it is likely that the alterations to the **Room with the Fresco** (figure 50.2:15), changing its entrance from east to northwest and adding the fresco from which it takes its name, also belong to the later part of this period. **The Cult Center would at this time have been approached mainly from the west and would have been situated beside the approach to the citadel entrance.**

Room with the Fresco 入口从东改为西北, 且 Cult Center 主要从西侧里墙附近入口

西打 need
full resources
of the city.

且打完后
Cult Center
和入城门能
一起看见

(The extension of the citadel to the west to enclose the Grave Circle and the Cult Center was a very considerable enterprise and must have commanded the city's full resources.) The plan included changing the approach, constructing a monumental gate (the Lion Gate, figure 50.2:1), and completely altering and refurbishing the Grave Circle (figure 50.2:3) at a higher level to make a singularly impressive sight to one entering the walled acropolis. At this point, **the line of sight between the gate and the entrance to the Grave Circle was unimpeded as the Granary had not yet been built.**

说明 Cult Center very important

The **old west wall of the citadel was demolished** as part of this enterprise, and the whole area within the walls was covered with buildings. We know that the Northwest Quarter was built soon after the Citadel wall and probably the Southwest Quarter also. Note that **this latter area is separated from the Cult Center by a built street and flight of stairs and did not form part of that complex.** It seems likely that the old approach from the west was retained with a west gate at the end of that street, now hidden by Hellenistic Tower (figure 50.2:16). We await the full publication of the other building complexes within the citadel, but it is

城市建造

p. 676

旧西墙的拆除: 作为卫城扩展工程的一部分, 旧的西墙被拆除, 整个城墙内的区域都被建筑所覆盖。这表明迈锡尼人在这一时期进行了大规模的城市重建和扩张。

西北区和西南区的建设: 我们知道, 西北区在卫城墙建造后不久就建成了, 西南区可能也是如此。这两个区域的建设进一步证明了迈锡尼人在城市规划 and 建筑方面的活跃性。

西南区与祭祀中心的分离: 值得注意的是, 西南区与祭祀中心之间被一条建筑街道和一段楼梯隔开, 并没有成为祭祀中心的一部分。这表明迈锡尼人在城市规划中注重功能区域的划分和空间的利用。

旧西通道的保留: 似乎很可能保留了从西侧进入的旧通道, 并在那条街道的尽头设有一个西门, 现在这个西门被希腊化塔楼 (图 50.2:16) 所遮挡。这一细节揭示了迈锡尼人在城市交通和入口设计方面的考虑。

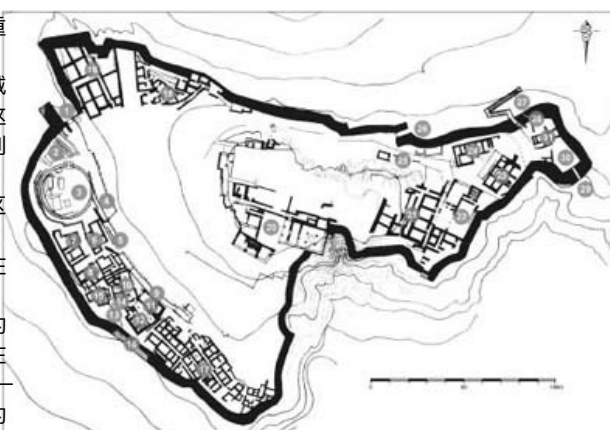


Figure 50.2. Plan of the Citadel at Mycenae: (1) Lion Gate; (2) Granary; (3) Grave Circle A; (4) Great Ramp; (5) Little Ramp; (6) Ramp House; (7) House of the Warrior Vase; (8) South House; (9) Processional Way; (10) Megaron; (11) Shrine Gamma; (12) Tsountas's House; (13) Central Court; (14) Temple; (15) Room with the Fresco; (16) Hellenistic Tower (possibly overlying the West Gate); (17) Southwest Quarter; (18) Northwest Quarter; (19) House M; (20) Palace; (21) Artisans' Quarter; (22) House of Columns; (23) House Delta; (24) House Gamma; (25) North Storerooms; (26) North or Postern Gate; (27) Underground Cistern; (28) North Sally Port; (29) South Sally Port; (30) House Alpha; (31) House Beta (copyright Mycenae Archive).

王权

It is at this time that **palatial authority** becomes very apparent in the **burial evidence** (French 2009). There seems to have been some kind of **building control** that delimited the areas where **chamber tombs could be cut and sumptuary rules on grave goods**. There are **no longer any contemporary imported objects** in the tombs except for rather ill-made scarabs, and the Mycenaean pottery offerings are much less ostentatious.

Mycenae 文明
的结束由灾难
引起

This period is clearly the **acme of Mycenae** itself. The end was brought about by a catastrophe of some kind, **evidence for which has also been found at various other sites in the northeast Peloponnese**. Occupation at some did not resume. This catastrophe is attributed to a major earthquake for several reasons.

灾难

王权在墓葬证据中的显现: 正是在这一时期, 王权在墓葬证据中变得非常明显 (French 2009)。这表明迈锡尼社会已经形成了高度集中的政治权力, 这种权力在墓葬习俗中得到了体现。

建筑控制和墓葬规定: 似乎存在某种建筑控制, 划定了可以挖掘墓室墓的区域, 并对随葬品制定了奢华程度的规定。这一细节揭示了迈锡尼社会在墓葬习俗方面的严格管理和规范。墓葬中物品的变化: 墓葬中不再出现任何当代进口物品, 除了制作相当粗糙的圣甲虫饰物外, 迈锡尼陶器的祭品也变得更加朴素。这一变化可能反映了迈锡尼社会在经济、贸易和文化方面的转变。迈锡尼的鼎盛时期: 这一时期显然是迈锡尼本身的鼎盛时期。这表明迈锡尼文明在这一时期达到了其发展的高峰, 无论是在政治、经济还是文化方面。

文明的终结：迈锡尼文明的终结是由某种灾难引起的，这种灾难的证据也在东北伯罗奔尼撒半岛的其他遗址中被发现。一些地方的居住活动并没有恢复。这种灾难被归因于一场大地震，原因有几个方面。这一结论揭示了迈锡尼文明终结的突然性和灾难性，也为我们提供了关于古代地震活动的重要信息。

对Cult物品
和壁画的
小心处理

There are **no traces of fire at this point**, but **large deposits of pottery are found** on the floors. In the Cult Center, a group of **cult figures with pottery and a variety of small offerings are carefully placed** both in a small room that was then walled up and sealed and also in an adjacent alcove. The **cult fresco is covered with a layer of whitewash** before the room in which it stood was carefully filled.

在灾后重建，
但质量明显
差

p. 677

The **start of the next period sees** widespread repairs, but they are **largely of poor quality**. Notable are walls with gaps infilled in pisé and the quickly laid plaster flooring of the Palace Court instead of the cement. To this phase belongs **Palace V**, which is visible today. It is almost identical in plan with the previous one; there were new wall paintings, but overall the repairs were **shoddy**. **Palace V在此时建造，与以前几乎一样，但质量差**

两个法特
期特点，
大楼梯与
坡道系统

Though this period was very considerably shorter than the one before, it saw the final alterations to the west slope and to the citadel wall. The so-called **Grand Staircase of the Palace** and the **elaborate ramp system** to the east of the Cult Center belong to this phase and seem to be connected, making a processional way between the two areas. **该时期比以前短，但还在对西坡和 citadel wall 作 final 改动**

旧东墙在这
时拆了，
建瞭望台
和通往水库
的道路

Alteration was also undertaken on the citadel wall. In order to construct an eastern extension, the short cross wall at the east end of the circuit was almost totally demolished, and a new Postern or North gate (figure 50.2:26) was built. This allowed two measures that seem to have been occasioned by the need for security: **a lookout post at the southeast corner** (figure 50.2:29) and **a covered approach** (figure 50.2:27) **from within the circuit to the water reservoir**, to which water was brought from the Perseia spring to the west. The other Argive palace sites, as well as Athens, also took precautions at this time with the apparent aim of safeguarding a water supply, but it is not clear whether these measures are the result of an actual threat or merely fashion. **其它地方有相似保障水源的措施，有威胁or一种时尚？**

This **period ends** with a major destruction accompanied by widespread (but not universal) **burning**. It may once again have been occasioned by earthquake, but the circumstances differ considerably. On this occasion **almost nothing is left on the floors**—a factor that has made determining the exact pottery types in use at this historic point in time extremely difficult. **该时期结束伴随火燃烧，没有东西被留下**

There is also some evidence that **conditions following the destructions were made worse by heavy rains falling on the burnt debris** of the limestone walls, turning them into a concreted mass that necessitated rebuilding at a higher level. **灾后大雨让情况更糟**

This **destruction is assumed to be the end of the Palatial period, ending the bureaucratic centralized government** with its elaborate **records in the Linear B script**. Some **form of governance**, however, remained, and in a period of extreme austerity, **rebuilding was organized**. **Linear B 记载官权结束，但一些形式的统治被重建**

粮仓建造，
原Cult center
西侧建筑
群

The **standing walls**, particularly the west citadel wall, were used as extremely heavy foundations, filled with the debris of the burnt destruction, **for a series of new buildings**. The **Granary** (figure 50.2:2) is one, but there is also a pair of elaborate complexes over the west area of the Cult Center and an apparently lesser building over the House of Columns (figure 50.2:22). There may be evidence for other reoccupation of this first Postpalatial phase in the buildings of the east slope, but it is not yet published.

It has been suggested that a **rectangular structure** built closely over the floor of the court of the Palace may have formed some kind of **central focus**. This idea is based on the recent identification of a rebuilt **megaron** **大室** at Tiryns. At Mycenae, the artificial terrace that supported the southeast corner of the megaron of the Palace probably fell into the ravine at the time of the great destruction, thus precluding the reuse of the megaron itself. Unfortunately, **this structure over the court was removed in 1920 without being sufficiently recorded**. If there was such reoccupation in the Palace area, this would form Palace VI.

p. 678

The later phases of the Postpalatial period see very striking prosperity, at least in terms of pottery, but the architectural evidence is extremely meagre. **The Granary**, following some alteration, was fully in use in this

period. From it and another building over the South House Annex, we know that the period ended again with heavy burning. 又着火了

在变成希腊化聚落之前, 该地区还存在(着火后)建造发展
There is some scanty evidence for one further phase of the Bronze Age and for some occupation throughout the first millennium, before an artificial revival as a Hellenistic kome.

Mycenae's prime position in the hierarchy of the Late Bronze Age is shown in the levels of craftsmanship displayed in the many finds now housed in the National Museum in Athens and the Mycenae Museum on the site itself. The grave offerings from the shaft graves are unique, not least in quantity. Other items, preserved mainly from the earlier burials in the chamber tombs, are of high quality and diverse origin. An important development is the growing use of glass ornament. 玻璃制品

Mycenae的
工艺使其重
要

Despite the apparent sumptuary regulation of the Palatial period itself, we may note an intriguing group of artifacts from the House of Shields, consisting of locally made stone bowls, faience vessels that show the influences of a mixture of Near Eastern cultures, and the small-scale carved ivories that have become a hallmark. Several show the same stylistic features as the large-scale lion relief from the Lion Gate itself, one of the earliest examples of such monumental sculpture. 很多物品装饰与Lion Gate有关系

Trade can be assessed only by the materials that are preserved; imports seem to have been mainly raw materials that were often then reexported as value-added products or the invisibles. Exports, probably mainly high-value invisibles, can be traced by the distinctive pottery that served as containers or merely space-filling accompaniments. By the Palatial period, this pottery was very much a mass production of high quality. Through scientific analysis (largely Neutron Activation Analysis), we can test the provenance of this export pottery. Most interestingly, the Argolid area divides into a northern section centered on Mycenae and a southern one centered on Tiryns. Argolid 地区

The palace archives of Mycenae have not been found, but tablets inscribed in the Linear B script have been discovered in several of the so-called Houses (French 2002, figure 61), probably indicating their commercial and administrative activities. The tablets are preserved in buildings destroyed in both the late 14th-century-BC destruction and that of the mid-13th century. Only one inscribed stirrup jar comes from a context at present known definitely to be later than this.

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