CRETAN BRONZE AGE PITHOI

Traditions and Trends in the Production and Consumption of Storage Containers in Bronze Age Crete
Frontispiece. Pithos from Magazine VI in the West Magazine Complex at the palace of Knossos. Drawn by Nikoletta Ntolia.
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Traditions and Trends in the Production and Consumption of Storage Containers in Bronze Age Crete

by

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All photos were taken by Christos Mbeltes unless otherwise credited.

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28. Pithos from Magazine X in the West Magazines Complex of the palace of Knossos.
The pithos is one of the most distinctive utilitarian forms of the Cretan Bronze Age ceramic repertoire. Because of its use as a storage container, a pithos is the foremost parameter for the evaluation of the economic organization of palatial and domestic sectors of Cretan Bronze Age society. The pithoi as pottery and their significance for the understanding of Cretan Bronze Age economy has been the focus of a research project carried out from 1989 to 1999. The initial impetus for this study came in 1988 at the suggestion of C. Davaras to whom I would like to express my thanks. This book presents the results of the research on the patterns of production and consumption of storage containers. The importance of pithoi in understanding Cretan Bronze Age economy is discussed elsewhere (Christakis forthcoming).


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Herakleion, August 2004
## Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANM</td>
<td>Agios Nikolaos Archaeological Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHM</td>
<td>Chania Archaeological Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HM</td>
<td>Herakleion Archaeological Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM</td>
<td>Ierapetra Archaeological Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSM</td>
<td>Knossos Stratigraphical Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SM</td>
<td>Siteia Archaeological Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AK</td>
<td>Akrotiri, Thera inventory number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSM</td>
<td>Kastelli Chania inventory number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMP</td>
<td>Knossos Stratigraphical Museum pot inventory number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EM</td>
<td>Early Minoan</td>
</tr>
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<td>MM</td>
<td>Middle Minoan</td>
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<td>LBA</td>
<td>Late Bronze Age</td>
</tr>
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<td>LC</td>
<td>Late Cycladic</td>
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<tr>
<td>LM</td>
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