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*The Chronological Implications
of Relief Ware Bucchero
at Poggio Civitate*

BY ANTHONY TUCK AND ERIK NIELSEN

Piano del Tesoro at Poggio Civitate preserves evidence of the only 7th century BCE architectural complex known to date in Central Italy.¹ Thus far, three buildings of this complex have been identified. These consist of OC1/Residence, an apparently aristocratic household, the furnishings of which attest to the wealth of its inhabitants, OC2/Workshop, a large and ornately decorated multifunctional workshop, and OC3/Tripartite, a building whose tripartite interior division conforms to what we might expect of a religious structure of the Etruscan seventh century. All stood together on the plateau by the last quarter of the seventh century BCE.²

Stratigraphic evidence suggests that the three buildings were destroyed in a single conflagration.³ Although the specific causes of the fire can not be determined, evidence from OC2/Workshop suggests a sudden catastrophe. Numerous unfired cover tiles had been carefully placed on the floor to dry under the shade of the roof. As the building caught fire, either in an attempt to put out the fire or to flee from the building, those within the structure trod upon the tiles, leaving their footprints in the drying clay.⁴ The fire may have begun in or near the workshop. Substantial evidence of bronze working has been recovered in the vicinity and it is certainly likely that a kiln for the manufacture of ceramics and/or architectural terracottas was located nearby. The considerable quantities of grain and possibly olive oil stored in the vicinity would have provided a ready fuel to augment the wood timbers of the roof.⁵ Aided by even a modest breeze, the fire would have swept through the site, destroying the other buildings to the east.

The Greek pottery found on the floor of OC1/Residence and OC2/Workshop enjoys a relatively narrow floruit, providing a *terminus post quem* for the conflagration around the end of the seventh century BCE.⁶ Recovered from the floor of OC1/Residence, were an Early Corinthian skyphos dated to the end of the seventh century, fragments of Laconian II pottery, and numerous examples of East Greek pottery including a fragment of an East Greek 'dead hare' alabastron, all falling within the period 620-600 B.C.E.⁷

Nielsen and Phillips originally suggested a *floruit* for OC1/ Residence of approximately 50 years, with a construction date some time around the middle of the seventh century.⁸ Since the publication of these initial thoughts and as a consequence of continued excavation, several examples of fragmentary vessels have come to light at Poggio Civitate that support arguments for a construction date for one or more of these buildings within the second quarter of the seventh century, consistent with Phillips' later hypothesis.⁹

Among the examples of imported pottery recovered from the excavations of Piano del Tesoro, only one fragment recovered thus far can be assigned to a date appreciably earlier than the last quarter of the seventh century.¹⁰ However, several examples of bucchero characteristic of the earliest phases of production of that ceramic form were recovered from the destruction horizon of the complex and represent a class of materials manufactured at a date somewhat earlier than the Greek ceramic examples examined previously by Phillips. This class of bucchero, distinctive by virtue of its early type of relief decoration, is not of local production, reflecting contacts with other emerging urban centers along the coast of central Italy, especially Cerveteri and perhaps Populonia.

This bucchero displays a specific form of relief decoration as well as a remarkably high level of craftsmanship and precision in execution. One example, Catalogue 3, indicates that the relief decoration typically found on the interior of this class of pottery was manufactured separately and applied onto the surface of the thrown vessel. The relief decoration itself along with several other typological elements of ceramics in early bucchero *relief ware* suggests that many of the vessels of this class draw their inspiration from metal prototypes.¹¹

Examples of *relief ware* bucchero at Poggio Civitate and elsewhere are found in a limited number of typological forms.¹² Bonamici, in her analysis of this class of vessels identifies a subset displaying several distinct typological and decorative details that suggest at least two centers of manufacture. One group is characterized by a detailed rendering of relief figures with additional details added in incision.¹³ Among kyathoi of this group, most display broad, ribbon handles. These handles are often ribbed throughout most of their length, often framing an interior element that consists of a herringbone design.¹⁴ The majority of *relief ware* vessels displaying these types of characteristics are found in tombs in the vicinity of Cerveteri, leading most scholars to identify that city as their place of manufacture.¹⁵

Bonamici's second group does not utilize additional incision to highlight details of the relief decoration. Moreover, the figures rendered in relief are significantly more geometric and stylized in comparison to examples from her Cerveteri group.¹⁶ The vessels of this second group display several eclectic and distinctive typological characteristics that point to a locality of manufacture distinct from that of the Cerveteri group and are found at a limited number of sites in northern Etruria, including Vetulonia, Populonia, and Roselle.¹⁷ The highly unusual handle form of many of the kyathoi of this group is notably similar to numerous examples of ceramics from Populonia, suggesting that vessels displaying the typological and decorative characteristics for this second class of *relief ware* bucchero are manufactured at that location.¹⁸

Fragments of both groups of *relief ware* bucchero are found at Poggio Civitate. All of the fragments appear to come from kyathoi or kantharoi, although the fragmentary nature of the examples from the site makes typological determination difficult. Catalogue 1 preserves the upper part of a conical base with a small portion of the tondo of the bowl.¹⁹ This fragment preserves the wide annular molding separating the bowl from the base, identical to that of an inscribed relief ware kyathos from the Tomba del Duce from Vetulonia, but generally thought to manufactured in Cerveteri.²⁰ The preserved portion of the tondo indicates that the interior of the bowl was decorated in relief with the center composed of a conical knob.

A second group of fragments of this Cerveteri class, Catalogue 3, represent portions of the rim and bowl of what is probably a kyathos. The exterior of the bowl is decorated with portions of an incised double lotus chain broken by a register of stamped hatched triangles while the interior preserves portions of two animals, rendered in low relief. Based on the comparable Tomba del Duce example, this is probably the location of the attachment of the ribbon handle.

Stylistically, the relief decoration on the interior of the bowl suggests that this vessel was manufactured in Cerveteri. Immediately below the area of the attachment of the handle are the preserved portions of two opposed animals, rendered in relief. Details such as the eyes, ear and mane are rendered with additional incision, a characteristic apparently limited to the products of the Cerveteri workshop.²¹

Fragments of the base of such a vessel, Catalogue 13, were recovered on the floor of OC3/Tripartite. This example displays a carefully incised design of a double lotus chain as well as significant portions of an inscription, both of which suggest that this vessel was manufactured in Cerveteri.²² The relatively close proximity of Catalogue 1, Catalogue 3, and Catalogue 13 may suggest they represent a single vessel.

Fragments of a handle decorated with the ribbing characteristic of the Cerveteri class of *relief ware* bucchero were recovered some distance from the three fragments described above. Catalogue 4 and Catalogue 5 are portions of the same handle. However it is clear from the manner of the break edges that these two fragments do not join to Catalogue 3. Thus we conclude that at least two vessels of this *relief ware* bucchero type were present at Poggio Civitate.

A larger number of vessels characteristic of the northern, possibly Populonia version of relief ware bucchero have been recovered at Poggio Civitate. Catalogue 8 is a fragment of a vessel wall preserving a portion of an incised lotus chain similar to that incised on a vessel commonly known as the Monteriggioni kyathos,²³ as well as on a *relief ware* kyathos from Vetulonia's Tomba del Duce. Catalogue 7 is also a portion of the vessel wall of another example preserving a similar incised pattern on the exterior and an indeterminate relief design on the interior.

Catalogue 9, recovered in the vicinity of OC2/Workshop, preserves a portion of the tondo and conical base separated by a molding of an annulus, although one of a somewhat smaller size than Catalogue 1. The tondo is decorated with a central cone from which radiate four curved rays. The lower portion of the base preserves part of an inscription. In comparison to Catalogue 1, the significantly small size of the ring sepa-

rating the base from the tondo of this example suggests that the vessel is a northern product. An additional example, Catalogue 11, also found in the vicinity of OC2/Workshop, preserves portions of an impressed rosette in the center of the tondo, similar to that of the Monteriggioni kyathos and an example from Massarossa.²⁴ The attachment scar in the center suggests an omphalos was originally present on this example as well.

An additional example of such a vessel was recovered from the floor of OC3/Tripartite.²⁵ Catalogue 12 is a portion of an inscribed conical base with a crudely rendered double lotus palmette chain design and portions of four letters of an inscription. Catalogue 16 and Catalogue 14 both appear to be the interior portions of handles of such vessels. Catalogue 15 preserves a design rendered in deep incision and appears to be the back portion of such a handle. The typological similarity of these fragments to the form of the Monteriggioni kyathos suggests all were manufactured at the same location, presumably the northern workshop engaged in the manufacture of relief ware bucchero.

Examples of such *relief ware* bucchero are found in the *Tomba del Duce* from Vetulonia, excavated by Falchi in the spring of 1886.²⁶ Camporeale, in his comprehensive publication of the material from the *Tomba del Duce*, argues that the circle originally contained five distinct groups of materials and that these represent separate burial groups.²⁷ Strom's analysis of Groups I and II suggests that these should probably be considered part of the same deposition and earlier than Groups IV and V. Furthermore, she considers Group IV to be slightly earlier than Group V.²⁸ Group III, the deposition located in the center of the circle, was looted prior to Falchi's excavations.²⁹

Group IV preserved a large group of burial goods, many of which are imports from the Greek world, thus representing a valuable chronological anchor for such early Etruscan burials. In addition to imported wares, this burial also contained the inscribed bucchero ribbon handled kyathos consistent with other examples of the class of relief ware ceramics produced at Cerveteri mentioned above. Moreover, the burial also contained a hooded handled kantharos with stylized relief decoration, the typological and decorative form of which suggest it belongs to the northern, possibly Populonian group of relief ware vessels.³⁰

Camporeale's original date of this interment within the *Tomba del Duce*, in the last decades of the 7th century, has not found wide acceptance.³¹ Rasmussen's stylistic examination of bucchero within the burial points to a date around the middle of the seventh century,³² while Strøm has argued exhaustively that, "All dateable imports of Group IV of the *Tomba del Duce* are placed within the first half of the 7th century B.C.E. Judging in particular from the relationship to the south Etruscan tombs, *Tomba Castellani* late in the first quarter of the 7th century and the *Tomba Barberini* in the second quarter of that century, a date in the second quarter of the 7th for Group IV appears most probable."³³

The examples of relief ware bucchero presented here are found exclusively within the stratum associated with the destruction horizon of the Orientalizing Period complex. Of these, Catalogue items 12 through 17 were recovered resting directly on the floor of OC3/Tripartite and Catalogue 9 was found on the floor of OC2/Workshop. At a minimum, if the arguments pertaining to the chronology of Group IV of the *Tomba del Duce*

detailed above are accepted, materials within the stratum associated with the function and destruction of the Orientalizing Period complex fall from within the second quarter of the seventh century to the years around the end of the same century or beginning of the sixth BCE.³⁴

Additional evidence exists to substantiate occupation at Poggio Civitate during the early stages of the above mentioned period. Tombs dateable to the years between roughly 660 to 640 BCE from Poggio Aguzzo, the hill adjacent Poggio Civitate, have produced two examples of relief ware kyathoi characteristic of the northern workshop.³⁵ One (Poggio Aguzzo Artifact ID 1972 0049) displays the handle form found on relief ware kyathoi such as the Monteriggioni kyathos and the examples recovered from the floor of OC3/Tripartite. The second (Poggio Aguzzo Artifact ID 1972 0017) displays a broad ribbon handle and a hemispherical bowl with relief decoration of a series of griffons. Moreover, Catalogue 6, a fragment of a ribbon handled kyathos published previously by Berkin, appears to represent a local imitation of kyathoi such as the relief ware class.³⁶ This fragment was recovered from the floor of OC1/Residence, further suggesting some degree of chronological overlap between the period represented by the deposition of the known examples of burials from Poggio Aguzzo and the Orientalizing Period Complex of Piano del Tesoro.

At a minimum, these burials point to an occupation of Poggio Civitate somewhat earlier than the date of most Greek pottery within the destruction horizon of the Orientalizing Period complex. The discovery of examples of this class of relief ware buccero resting directly on the floor of OC3/Tripartite and OC2/Workshop suggests that the Poggio Aguzzo burials represent a population contemporary with the early stages of architectural development on Piano del Tesoro. Therefore, we would posit at this time that the overall occupation of the Orientalizing Period Complex on Piano del Tesoro can be reasonably reconstructed as falling within a time frame between the later years of the second quarter of the seventh century and the end of the seventh century or possibly as late as the beginning of the sixth century BCE.³⁷

Catalog of Relief Ware Bucchero and Related Wares from Poggio Civitate:

CATALOGUE 1 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1966-0102)

BUCCHERO ANNULAR MOLDING



Trench: Tesoro 2F

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Diameter, 0.056 m, Max. Pres. Height, Approx. 0.031 m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

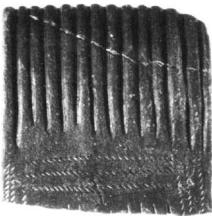
Description: This fragment consists of a rounded annular molding that served as a separating element between the base and bowl of a bucchero kantharos or kyathos. The upper portion of the fragment preserves a small portion of the interior of the vessel's bowl and displays preserved traces of indeterminate relief decoration. The elements of decoration consist of a raised, central knob and at least one band of relief running off-center to the knob.

Previous Bibliography:

Phillips (1967) pl. 45. fig. 26.

CATALOGUE 2 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1969-0092)

STRIATED HANDLE FRAGMENT



Trench: Civitate A 28

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height 0.048 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.054 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.0055 m

Munsell: N/A

Description: This fragment preserves the upper two-thirds of a handle displaying fine parallel ridges running along the handle's surface, creating a combed design. Below the combed design, three incised hatched lines run across the width of the handle, forming right angles with three similar lines on either edge.

Previous Bibliography:

Donati in Stopponi (1985) 132, cat. # 486.

Cristofani and Phillips (1971) 412, fig. 2.

In considering the date of this fragment in the late seventh century, the Cristofani and Phillips refer to the dating of the Tomba del Duce derived by Camporeale, which, as discussed above, is now widely viewed as to late.

CATALOGUE 3 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1970-0170)
RIM FRAGMENT WITH INTERIOR RELIEF DECORATION AND INCISED
EXTERIOR DECORATION



Trench: Civitate A 28

Dimensions: Fragment A: Max. Pres. Height Approx. 0.035 m, Max. Pres. Width Approx. 0.068 m, Pres. Thickness 0.003 (Rim)-0.004 m, Max. Pres. Length of Rim 0.017 m (Oddly Shaped)

Fragment B: Max. Pres Height Approx. 0.044 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.061 m, Pres. Thickness 0.003- 0.004 m, Max. Pres. Length of Rim 0.010 m

Fragment C: Max. Pres. Height 0.048 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.030 m, Pres. Thickness 0.003-0.004 m, Max. Pres. Length of Rim 0.018 m

Fragment D: Max. Pres. Length 0.036 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.020 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.004 m

Fragment E: Max. Pres. Length 0.024 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.015 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.003 m

Munsell: GLEY N 2.5/ black

Description: These fragments preserve elements of a thin-walled and a slightly thinner rimmed vessel with gently curving walls and a straight rim. The vessel was decorated inside and out: the interior pattern consists of two distinct areas of raised relief, both covered with fine incisions of straight parallel lines with zig-zags running between them. Although highly fragmentary, the relief design appears to represent two animals, facing one another. The head of the left facing animal is preserved. The exterior surface of the fragments displays two portions of an incised pattern of a double lotus palmette chain. The incised design is interrupted by a series of stamped designs consisting of triangles filled with a net pattern.

CATALOGUE 4 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1972-0180) & CATALOGUE 5
(POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1972-0181)

STRIATED HANDLE FRAGMENT



Trench: Tesoro 19

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Length 0.043 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.037 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.007 m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: This fragment consists of a portion of a large bucchero handle, very slightly concave in section, and decorated with a series of deep, parallel, longitudinal lines of a comb pattern that taper at the handle's attachment point to the vessel. At the termination of the lines are a series of eight stamped designs consisting of short horizontal lines, graduating in size to form triangular patterns.

CATALOGUE 6 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1972-0419)

RIBBON HANDLE FRAGMENT WITH ROLL STAMP DECORATION



Trench: Tesoro Rectangle 7

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height 0.044 m, Max. Pres. Diameter 0.033 m, Thickness 0.005 m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: This fragment consists of a segment of a curved bucchero ribbon handle. The outer surface of the handle displays a border design of four ridges on either side of the handle. Between these ridges is a roulette stamped procession of winged quadrupeds.

Previous Bibliography:

Berkin (2003) 48-49.

CATALOGUE 7 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1980-0131)
INCISED BUCCHERO FRAGMENT



Trench: Tesoro 25

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height 0.034m; Max. Pres. Width 0.022m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: This bucchero fragment preserves an incised decoration of a large tear drop with a curved interior design rising from the lower portion of the tear drop. The interior of the fragment displays a relief design consisting of portions of two intersecting curved lines.

CATALOGUE 8 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1980-0229)
INCISED BUCCHERO FRAGMENT



Trench: Tesoro Trench 25

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height 0.033m; Max. Pres. Width 0.028m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: This fragment preserves a portion of what appears to be the rim of a vessel on which is incised a single element of a lotus palmette chain, similar to numerous other examples of this class of relief ware bucchero. This fragment preserves one full lotus palmette and portions of two others created by two lines intersecting at an upward curve to form the bud of the lotus palmette.

CATALOGUE 9 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1987-0053)

TONDO AND BASE FRAGMENT WITH RELIEF DECORATION AND INCISION



Trench: Tesoro Trench 26

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height: 0.046m; Max. Pres. Width of Cup; 0.051m Diameter of molding: 0.030m;

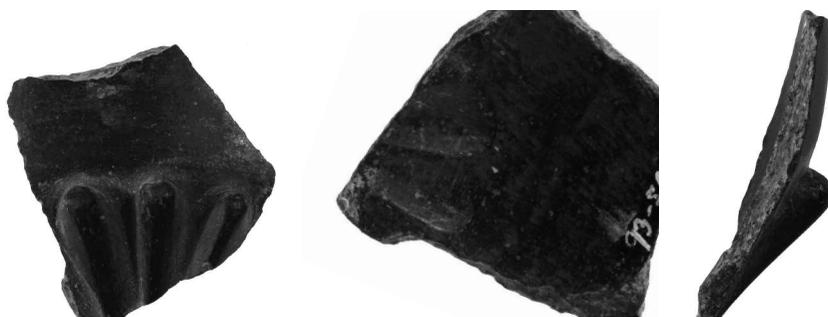
Thickness of Ceramic: 0.0026m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: The fragment preserves the central portion of a tondo and the upper portion of a conical base of a bucchero cup. At the point of intersection between the tondo and the base, the cup displays an annular molding. The interior of the tondo is decorated with relief decoration of a small, central raised cone from which emerge four raised, curving rays. A portion of a raised circle surrounding the four rays is preserved at one edge of the tondo. Below the molded annulus, on the base of the vessel, one full letter, possibly a delta, and portions of perhaps as many as five other letters are preserved.

CATALOGUE 10 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1993-0056)

VESSEL FRAGMENT WITH EXTERIOR RIBBED DECORATION AND IMPRESSED INTERIOR DECORATION



Trench: Tesoro Trench 21

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Length 0.033 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.036 m, Min. Pres. Thickness 0.004 m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: This fragment preserves a portion of three raised flutes on the exterior of the fragment and three corresponding flute-like impressions on the interior surface. The flutes appear to emerge from a common central point (not preserved). Each interior flute is rounded in form but has a slightly flattened upper surface.

CATALOGUE 11 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1993-0080)

FRAGMENT OF A TONDO WITH MOLDED AND IMPRESSED DECORATION



Trench: Tesoro Trench 22

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height 0.017 m, Max. Pres. Diameter 0.040 m, Min. Pres. Diameter of Conical Foot 0.033 m

Fragment A: Max. Pres. Height 0.031 m

Fragment B: Max. Pres. Length 0.019 m

Fragment C: Max. Pres. Width 0.012 m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: The surface of the tondo preserves molded ridges which radiate out from the center to form a fluted design. The center preserves the scar from a raised central knob no longer preserved. The preserved elements of the vessel's base splay outward from the attachment point of the tondo.

CATALOGUE 12 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1997-0126)

BASE FRAGMENT WITH INCISED DECORATION AND INSCRIPTION



Trench: Tesoro South Flank

Dimensions: Fragment A: Max. Pres. Width 0.064 m, Max. Pres. Height 0.055 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.004 m

Fragment B: Max. Pres. Width 0.22 m, Max. Pres. Height 0.040 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.003 m

Fragment C: Max. Pres. Width 0.011 m, Max. Pres. Height 0.030 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.003 m

Munsell: GLEY N 2.5/ black

Description: Fragment A: This fragment preserves decoration on the exterior in three registers. At the bottom is an incised line running laterally about 0.006 m above the finished edge of the base. Above the incised lines is a row of an inverted double lotus palmette chain. Three complete palmettes are preserved along with

portions of two others. One of the fully preserved palmettes is irregularly shaped. The lotus palmette chain is separated from the upper portion of the base by another incised line. Above this incised line is a fragmentary inscription consisting of a digamma and an alpha as well as portions of two other letters.

Fragment B: This fragment also preserves portions of the lower incised line as well as portions of the portions of two lotus palmettes of the chain design.

Fragment C: Fragment C also preserves portions of the lower incised line as well as portions of one lotus palmette of the chain design.

CATALOGUE 13 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1997-0127)

BASE FRAGMENT WITH INCISED DECORATION AND INSCRIPTION



Trench: Tesoro South Flank

Dimensions: Fragment A: Max. Pres. Height 0.089 m, Max. Pres. Width of Base 0.077 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.004 m

Fragment B: Max. Pres. Height 0.040 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.050 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.003 m

Fragment C: Max. Pres. Height 0.028 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.018 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.003 m

Munsell: Worn Fragments GLEY N 3/ very dark gray, Well Preserved Fragments GLEY N 2.5/ black

Description: Fragment A: This fragment preserves a large portion of the base of a vessel. The decoration of the vessel's exterior is rendered in three registers. The lowest register, running about 0.005 m from the base, consists of a row of incised or stamped inverted triangles, ten of which are preserved. The second register is an inverted double lotus palmette chain. The head of each lotus palmette is surmounted by three radial projections. Four palmettes are intact and portions of three others are preserved. The third register consists of a set of parallel incised lines running laterally across the preserved surface of the fragment. Above the third register is a retrograde inscription. The inscription begins with fragments of two letters, one surmounting the other, suggesting the inscription originally ran in a spiral fashion across the surface of the vessel's base. Fragment B: Fragment B preserves a portion of the base's edge, six downward pointing triangles, and portions of three lotus palmettes. Fragment C: This piece preserves several incised lines which form part of the vessel's inscription.

CATALOGUE 14 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1997-0128)
HANDLE FRAGMENT WITH STAMPED DECORATION



Trench: Tesoro South Flank

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Height 0.066 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.039 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.010 m

Munsell: GLEY N 3/ very dark gray

Description: This fragment preserves elements of a bucchero handle which is slightly concave on one side and convex on the other. The piece flares outward toward one end as it approaches the attachment point to the rim of the vessel. The handle also thins as it flares outward, so that one end is almost round and the other end is flat. On the concave side decoration is preserved. Approximately 0.017 m from the narrow, thick broken edge, there are four transverse, incised lines composed of a fine rope design. Below that are five rows of stamped rhombi. The first row has four rhombi, the second row has five, the third row has six, the fourth row has seven, and the fifth row has eight. In the fifth row of rhombi, six are fully preserved, and there are portions of two others. Portions of a sixth row are visible, preserving portions of five rhombi. Each rhombus is composed of five horizontal lines.

CATALOGUE 15 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1997-0129)
HANDLE FRAGMENT WITH INCISED DECORATION



Trench: Tesoro South Flank

Dimensions: Fragment A: Max. Pres. Width 0.066 m, Max. Pres. Height 0.041 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.005 m

Fragment B: Max. Pres. Length 0.025 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.017 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.002 m

Fragment C: Max. Pres. Length 0.039 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.020 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.004 m

Munsell: GLEY N 2.5/ black

Description: Fragment A: This fragment preserves portions of one of the finished sides of a bucchero handle. It also preserves incised decoration on the exterior consisting of a central incised circle from which four arms project radially. The arms are connected by another circle forming a circumscribed cross. Three arms are completely preserved as well as portions of the fourth. Another incised circle encloses the circumscribed cross, but only portions of this circle remain. An incised, recessed area protrudes from the outermost circle, but no decorative pattern is discernible. Fragments B and C: These fragments preserve portions of one finished edge, perhaps portions of the sides of the handle.

CATALOGUE 16 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1997-0179)

HANDLE FRAGMENT WITH STAMPED DECORATION



Trench: Tesoro South Flank

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Length 0.025 m, Max. Pres. Height 0.017 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.006 m

Munsell: 5YR 2.5/1 black

Description: The fragment is generally trapezoidal, with 0.024 m of one side edge preserved but only 0.009 m of the other. The fragment preserves two distinct decorative patterns, both of which decorate the same face. The upper, narrow portion of the handle displays portions of three parallel registers of stippled dots. The second pattern consists of a register of hatched lozenges which occupies the wider edge of the fragment. One complete and two partial stamped lozenges are visible.

CATALOGUE 17 (POGGIO CIVITATE ARTIFACT ID 1997-0181)

INCISED RIM FRAGMENT



Trench: Tesoro South Flank

Dimensions: Max. Pres. Length 0.047 m, Max. Pres. Height 0.031 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.004 m

Munsell: 7.5YR 3/1 very dark gray

Description: This fragment preserves portions of a rounded bucchero rim of a hemispherical bowl. Some incised marks and perhaps inscribed letters are visible on the interior face. Three possible letters are visible along the upper, interior rim. Two take the general form of upsilons while the rightmost appears to be a mu. Moving away from the rim, a curvilinear line runs the length of the fragment, beneath which are several individually delineated hatched marks. One additional upsilon shape, or perhaps simply a triangular shape, is attached to this curvilinear line in an approximately 180 degree orientation to the other letters, possibly suggesting the back of an animal.

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NOTES

1. Nielsen and Tuck 2001.
2. Nielsen and Tuck 2001, 45.
3. Nielsen and Tuck 2001, 44.
4. Nielsen 1987, 92.
5. Nielsen & Phillips in Stopponi 1985, 65.
6. For Greek material from OC1/Residence, see Phillips in Stopponi 1985, 74-75 and Phillips 1989. For fragmentary examples of Ionian pottery from the floor of OC2/Workshop, see Nielsen & Tuck 2001, 38.
7. Phillips 1989, 29-31.
8. Nielsen and Phillips in Stopponi 1985, 64. Phillips 1989, 29-35.
9. Phillips 1992, 54.
10. Poggio Civitate Artifact ID 19950094
 Painted Pottery Fragment
 Tesoro Trench 25
 Grid: E135.353,S55.0840
 Dimensions: Max. Pres. Length 0.019 m, Max. Pres. Width 0.012 m, Max. Pres. Thickness 0.002 m
 Condition: Broken of all four sides. Piece relatively well preserved with much paint still intact.
 Description: Piece is rectangular in shape and is slightly curved. Brown paint is preserved on interior of fragment and covers the entire inner surface. Brownish-red paint is preserved on the exterior surface in the form of portions of three wavy lines running parallel to one another.
 This small fragment of a vessel's shoulder at the intersection of the rim preserves traces of brown paint on the interior and parallel zigzag lines on the exterior. This painted scheme suggests the fragment comes from an Italo-Geometric cup, possibly

manufactured in the final years of the 8th century or beginning of the 7th century BCE. Examples of such cups have been recovered from tombs at Veii and dated to the final years of the third quarter of the eighth century (see Berardinetti Insam in Moretti Sguaini (2001), 104-105) and are known from the necropolis of Poggio Buco, near Pitigliano and are dated to the years between the end of the 8th to the middle of the 7th century BCE (see Pellegrini (1989), 75). An additional fragment of a similar cup from Telamone is dated by von Vacano more broadly to the first half of the seventh century (see von Vacano (1982), 268-269), but this rather late date has not found broad acceptance. However, the absence of additional examples of such early ceramic cautions against drawing conclusions heavily dependent on this single fragment.

11. Camporeale 1967, 118-119, points to the molding that separates the tondo from the upper element of the vessel's base, seen on some examples of this type of vessel, as well as the broad, ribbon handle characteristic of many of the kyathoi of this group.
12. Kyathoi comprise the largest number of examples of *relief ware* vessels, although kantharoi, pyxides, cups, situlae, ollette, and plates are also represented. See Bonamici 1972, 95-97.
13. Bonamici 1972, 95.
14. Rasmussen 1979, 114-115.
15. Camporeale 1967, 199. Bonamici 1972, 98. Rasmussen 1979, 115.
16. Bonamici 1972, 111.
17. Kyathoi and kantharoi of this group often preserve distinctively shaped handles, attaching to the vessel's rim and tapering as they rise to the handle's apex at which point they splay out to form a broad hood. For an example, see the Monteriggioni kyathos in Cristofani in Bonamici 1972, 86 fig. 5.
18. As Bonamici (1972, 113) points out, stamped decoration identical to that found on many relief ware kyathoi occurs on numerous non-relief ware examples of ceramics from Populonia as well. However, she notes that the distribution of examples from this group of relief ware at sites such as Volterra, Vetulonia, Roselle, and Populonia makes the certain determination of a specific center of manufacture difficult. The specific clustering does suggest the workshop was located in northern Etruria, possibly on the coast. Bagnasco Gianni (1993, 210) arrives at a similar conclusion.
19. Phillips 1967, pl. 45. fig. 26
20. Camporeale 1967, 116-120.
21. Bonamici in Bonamici, Cristofani and Martelli 1972, 111
22. Nielsen and Tuck 2001, 54-55. The inscriptions of these vessels is currently under study by Rex Wallace and will be presented at a later date. Wallace's analysis of the epigraphic forms raises questions regarding the assumption that the "Cerveteri" form of these vessels is in fact manufactured at Cerveteri.
23. See Cristofani in Bonamici 1972, pl. XIII.
24. Cristofani in Bonamici 1972, 90.
25. Nielsen and Tuck 2001, 52-55.

26. Falchi 1967, 109-152.
27. Camporeale 1967, *passim*.
28. Strøm 1971, 178.
29. Camporeale 1967, 79.
30. Attribution of these vessels to particular workshops has a complex academic history. Camporeale 1967, 120-122, indicates that the kyathos is a Cerveteri product, although he suggests that the kantharos is also from Cerveteri. Camporeale (1969, 87) restates this opinion. However, Bonamici (1972, 110-113) persuasively argues that the kyathos is most likely a Cerveteri product while the kantharos is a Northern product, probably from Populonia or possibly Rosellae. The similarity between this kantharos and the Monteriggioni kyathos suggests that both are from the same production center. Bagnasco Gianni (1993, 210) agrees that the Monteriggioni kyathos is inspired by examples manufactured in Cerveteri but also reflects influences from bucchero and impasto wares from the northern region of Etruria. The current consensus appears to favor the belief that the Tomba del Duce kyathos is in fact a Cerveteri product while the kantharos from that burial and the Monteriggioni kyathos are from the same production center, which is most likely Populonia.
31. Camporeale 1967, 134.
32. Rasmussen 1979, 5.
33. Strøm 1971, 180. Strøm's analysis of the materials contained in Group IV is the most exhaustive and convincing treatment of the chronology of this burial.
34. In this regard, the authors wish to bring attention to the recent publication of the bucchero from OC1/Residence in Berkin (2003), which did not include relief ware bucchero since no examples were recovered from within that building. While we stand in agreement with Berkin's analysis concerning the date of the building's destruction, this relief ware bucchero, along with additional evidence still under study, suggests a broader chronological spectrum for the Orientalizing Period Complex than reflected in the bucchero sample studied by Berkin.
35. Tuck forthcoming. These tombs are datable by the presence of Protocorinthian pottery assignable to the years between 660 and 640 BCE.
36. Berkin 2003, 48-49. For arguments concerning the local production of this vessel type, see Tuck (forthcoming).
37. The chronological nature of an occupation horizon must be treated somewhat differently than that of a burial. While burials may contain materials reflecting a range of dates, the singular event of the burial can only be dated according to the latest material contained within. The Piano del Tesoro conflagration that destroyed the Orientalizing Period complex is also a singular event, but the materials contained within the destruction horizon in all likelihood represent the overall chronological range of activity during the occupation of the buildings, not merely the final event of its destruction.

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