

VRG\_Folder\_0542

FROM THE DIRECTOR

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

52, ODOS SOUEDIAS,  
ATHENS, 140  
GREECE.

Miss V R Grace  
American School of Classical Studies  
Odos Souedias 54  
ATHENS 140

4 November 1981

Dear Virginia,

I am most grateful to you and to Philippa Matheson for the trouble you have taken to attend to Dr Ericsson's enquiry. I am sure he will be very appreciative of such a careful and informative reply.

I much look forward to seeing you - it seems a very long time since we last met.

All good wishes from Elizabeth and myself,

Yours ever



H W CATLING



The American School of Classical  
Studies,  
54 Souidias Street,  
Athens 140.

October 28, 1981

Dr. Christoffer H. Ericsson,  
Department of Art History,  
University of Jyväskylä,  
Jyväskylä,  
Finland.

Dear Dr. Ericsson,

Your letter of September 24, 1981, to the British School of Archaeology was passed on by the Director, Dr. H.W. Catling, to Miss V.R. Grace at the American School of Classical Studies: Miss Grace is in charge of a large collection of amphoras, found in the excavations of the Athenian Agora, and has extensive files on amphoras and amphora stamps. She has asked me to send you the following information about the stamps of which you enclosed drawings.

Your stamps are all from amphoras made in the city of Knidos, and date from the 2nd and 1st centuries BC. Miss Grace has compared your drawings with her records and we have entered the readings on the second copy of your drawings, which I enclose; your examples have been added to our files. I enclose also two photographs (unfortunately not very good prints) of other examples of your no. 5, so that you can see the kind of comparisons which enable a stamp to be "read" when not very many letters are preserved; also you can see how the accuracy of your drawings made these readings possible.

The dates of your stamps are:

- no. 4 Early 2nd century BC
- no. 2 Middle of the first half of the 2nd century BC (188-166 BC)
- no. 5 Mid 2nd century BC
- no. 1 Third quarter of the 2nd century BC (probably)
- no. 3 1st Century BC

We know of 15 or more examples of each of these types, except for no. 4, which is comparatively rare (only 5 others are known).

I enclose also a Picture Book by Miss Grace, Amphoras and the Ancient Wine Trade, which illustrates a number of whole Knidian amphoras (Fig. 1, 36, 38, 64) and some Knidian stamps (Fig. 21, 39, 40, 65). The drawing on the title page is a stamp very like your no. 5 in style (although somewhat earlier, from the same period as your no. 2), and the jars in Fig. 64 show a sequence of shapes, changing by date, which can also be seen in the amphoras represented on the stamps: your stamp no. 5 shows an earlier jar, more like the 3rd from the left in Fig. 64, than your no. 3, which has a "baggier" body, more like the 5th from the left.

For a more detailed discussion of Knidian amphoras and their dating, see Chapter XIV, by Miss Grace and Mrs. Petropoulakou, of Explorations Archéologiques de Délos, XXVII, 1970, specially pages 317-324. On p. 323 there is an explanation of the KT (Knidian Type) numbers which have been assigned to the different readings found on Knidian stamps, and on p. 354, under E 220, there is a discussion of stamps like your no. 3, with reference to an example of the same type published by A. Dumont in Inscriptions Céramiques de Grèce, Paris 1871.

We hope that this information will help you to identify your unusual cargo from Turkey!

Yours sincerely,

Philippa MW Matheson (for Miss V.R. Grace)

cc. Dr. H.W. Catling,  
British School at Athens

FROM THE DIRECTOR

COLLECTIONS: Finland

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BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

52, ODOS SOUEDIAS,  
ATHENS, 140  
GREECE.

Miss Virginia Grace  
American School of Classical  
Studies  
Odos Souedias 54  
Athens 140

21 October 1981

Dear Virginia,

I enclose a letter recently received, the contents of which are self-explanatory, wondering (a) whether he has already written to you himself, and (b) if not, whether there is anything of interest for you and whether it is worth sending Dr Ericsson a note about it. I feel a little mean in passing this on to you but it is such an unusual enquiry coming from that particular quarter that I thought you might be interested!

All best wishes from Elizabeth and myself for the coming winter,

Yours ever

*Hect cat*

H W CATLING

UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ  
JYVÄSKYLÄ FINLAND

DEPT. OF ART HISTORY

Date: 24th Sept. 1981

4.01

RECEIVED 20 OCT 1981

The British School of Archaeology  
at Athens

Factory Marks on Amphora-Handles.

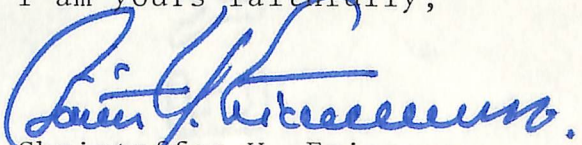
Some years ago a Finnish professional truckdriver, taking industrial cargoes to Turkey and apparently frequenting coastal roads, handed over a total of seven fragmentary amphora handles bearing makers trade-marks to the undersigned. Unfortunately I was unable in finding out the Turkish names of the sites where the fragments were recovered from dry "dumps". Some amphorae with marine crustae smuggled out from Turkey by the man bear evidence for coastal sites, most probably Ionian and Aiolian.

I have drawn the factorymarks in ink as photos probably would'nt have given the letters, partially badly worn; the symbols stand out perfectly.

Please check these marks with your records. Should the producers be known please let me have your comments. Should photos be of interest for your *FILES* please let me know.

The undersigned was during a long period in charge of our countrys underwater archaeology but I remain a keen observer of mediterranean activities and a writer on Graeco-Roman shipcarpentry, grain-carriers etc.

I am yours faithfully,

  
Christoffer H. Ericsson  
Dr.Phil., Assoc.professor of  
Art History

Attached: 2 sketches.

with letter from

Dr Chr. H. Ericsson 29.12.81

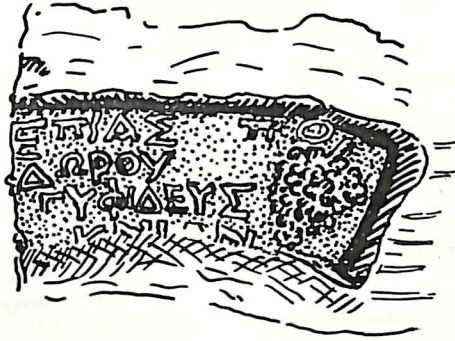
28.x.81

All filed

①

Ἐπι Ἀ[κλ]η[π]ῶ-  
δ[α]ίου  
[θ]υφιδίου grape  
κνιδίου cluster

KT 782



CLAY: YELLOWISH.

Probably from the 7th c. B.C.

(ca 40?)

②

Ἐπι Ἀριστάρ-  
χου Ἐσφροσῶ  
του κνιδίου rudder

KT 655

ca. 15



CLAY: YELLOWISH.

188-186 B.C (N A)

(3)

Let Kudin

amp here  
Kλεν [τ ε / θ ε] υς



CLAY: RED.

Typical  
with the  
mark

q. Durrant p. 319,  
no. 141 (drawing)

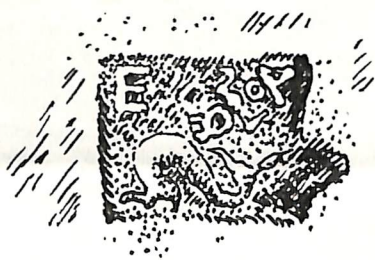
Hard to read because of  
incomplete, except underlying  
letters. Many no. 5

1st BC. (cont'd. x, all of 24/100)

(4)

Ευβοῖς  
[Αἴου  
dolphin

KT 615



CLAY: YELLOW/SOFT.

only 5 other known,  
and the one in Delos  
is now lost (1913 Paris list)

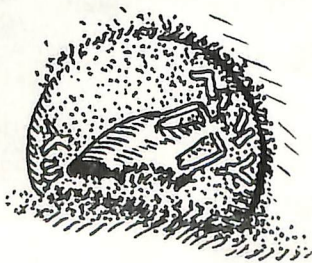
Early 2nd BC

(a variant, in O, occurs in MSBF - 2 or 3?)

(5)

Ἐπι[ ] Αἰού[ ] (ἢ Ἐπι[ ])  
Κυ[ ] ἀμφων[ ] δε(ος)

KT 591



CLAY: BROWN-YELLOWISH

18 no., mostly from  
Alys.

mid 2nd B.C.

filed



COLLECTIONS: FINLAND

542