

The Aegean and Cyprus

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15.1 Introduction

The Pitt Rivers Museum (PRM) holds *c.* 480 objects from the Aegean (Greek mainland, Crete and the Cyclades) and *c.* 292 objects from Cyprus that are currently defined as archaeological. This chapter provides an overview of this material, and also considers the 25 later prehistoric archaeological objects from Turkey that are held in the Museum (*Figure 15.1*). The objects range chronologically from the later prehistoric (Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age) to the medieval period. Falling outside of the geographical scope of this chapter, elsewhere this volume considers Classical Greek and Roman material from Egypt (Chapter 7) and from the Levant (Chapter 21), Neolithic and Bronze Age material from Italy (Chapter 14), and Iron Age (including Classical Greek) material from Italy (Chapter 16).

The *c.* 797 objects considered in this chapter include material from defining excavations for the Aegean Bronze Age – Schliemann's excavations at Troy (Hisarlık) and Mycenae, and Arthur Evans' excavations at Knossos – as well as Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age collections from mainland Greece, Crete, the Cyclades and Cyprus. As compared with other major archaeological collections with an Aegean component, such as those of the Ashmolean Museum (Sherratt 2000),¹ the later prehistoric and classical material from the Aegean and Cyprus in the PRM was collected, organised and displayed in a less explicitly art historical manner, and was often driven by Henry Balfour's curatorial interests in technology and the PRM's typological series. This latter influence accounts, for example, for the number of lamps that fell within the 'lighting' series. Locational detail is often poor, and – especially for some of those objects defined as 'Greek' – sometimes provenances have been assigned based on style, rather than on documented archaeological contexts. Typical Classical Greek objects such as architectural remains, inscriptions and sculpture (relief and in the round) are not represented. Nevertheless, Pitt-Rivers' own purchases include some significant examples of Cypriote art from the Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods. Around 58% of the Cypriote artefacts (169 objects) were published in Vassos Karageorghis' illustrated catalogue *Cypriote Art in the Pitt Rivers Museum* (Karageorghis 2009).

This chapter begins with an overview of the development of the collections (15.2). It does so by presenting overviews of the objects in the Pitt Rivers Museum founding collection from Greece (15.2.1) and Cyprus (15.2.2), of objects transferred from other museums (15.2.3), and of material that derives from the fieldwork and collecting activities of Heinrich Schliemann (15.2.4), John Myres (15.2.5), Henry

¹ Most of the inscriptions and statues at the Ashmolean Museum were much earlier donations to the University of Oxford, especially through the Arundel and Pomfret collections of marbles, which were presented to the University of Oxford in 1667 and 1755 respectively (Vickers 2006: 10–11, 38, 50, 52).



Figure 15.1 Map of Greece, Cyprus and Western Turkey showing the main sites referred to in Chapter 15.

Balfour (15.2.6), and of other collectors in Greece (15.2.7) and Cyprus (15.2.8). The chapter then presents a chronological account of collections (15.3): from the Neolithic Aegean (including western Turkey) (15.3.1), Bronze Age Greece (15.3.2), Bronze Age Cyprus (15.3.3), Iron Age Greece (15.3.4), Iron Age Cyprus (15.3.5), and the Roman and post-Roman Aegean and Cyprus (15.3.6 and 15.3.7 respectively). Concluding comments (15.4) consider the potential for future research into these collections.

15.2 The Formation of the Collection

15.2.1 The Founding Collection: Greece

The PRM founding collection includes *c.* 133 archaeological artefacts from Greece. Virtually nothing is known about the field collectors for these ceramic, stone and metal objects. However, a rare Bronze Age Cycladic jug (1884.38.78) appears to be associated with a very similar vessel, now in the Metropolitan Museum in New York, which was collected by Captain Richard Copeland around 1829, and donated to Eton College in 1857. It is possible that Pitt-Rivers collected this item during his time in the Mediterranean in the 1850s, or that he purchased it from Copeland's collection (see discussion in 15.3.2 below). A Hellenistic terracotta figurine was purchased at

a sale of artefacts from the collection of William Chadwicke Neligan on 8 April 1878 (Sotheby 1878) (1884.39.18), while 2 Late Archaic/Classical Greek iron spear-heads (1884.120.42–43) are recorded as having been excavated from a ‘tumulus at Marathon’ by Robert Porrett (see 15.3.4 below).

There is no evidence that Pitt-Rivers undertook collecting activities in Greece himself, although some of the collections – for instance the 12 stone tools from Crete (1884.125.123–124, 1884.125.126, 1884.125.371–373, 1884.131.18, 1884.132.347–348, 1884.132.392–394) and the 5 obsidian flakes and cores from Melos (1884.125.125, 1884.132.344–346, 1884.140.983) – might conceivably have been collected by the General during his military service in the Mediterranean.

15.2.2 *The Founding Collection: Cyprus*

The earliest photograph of the permanent displays of the PRM – taken around the time of the opening of the Museum to the public in February 1887 – shows the prominence of the case containing ‘Ancient Pottery from the Island of Cyprus’ (Figures 15.2 and 15.3). The PRM display was one of the first to exhibit Cypriote art and archaeology for its own sake – rather than within Greek and Roman displays.

There is no evidence that Pitt-Rivers undertook collecting activities in Cyprus. The PRM founding collection includes *c.* 205 archaeological objects from Cyprus. For 12 of these, the details of how they were acquired by Pitt-Rivers are not known: a bronze spear butt-spike (1884.119.337), a bronze mirror (1884.70.13), a silver mirror (1884.70.14), 6 Bronze Age ceramic vessels (1884.38.32, 1884.38.79, 1884.41.2, 1884.41.20, 1884.41.23, 1884.140.31), a Roman glass beaker (1884.42.8), and a terracotta figurine from the Cypro-Archaic period (1884.58.45). The remainder of the Cypriote material from the PRM founding collection – 193 objects, many of which were displayed in the case depicted in the 1887 photograph – derive from at least seven separate purchases made by Pitt-Rivers at the Sotheby, Wilkinson and Hodge Auction Rooms in London between 1871 and 1884. Some of the 12 objects listed above may also come from these purchases.



*Figure 15.2 An interior view of the Court of the Pitt Rivers Museum, looking east (PRM Photograph Collections 1998.267.95.3). The case containing Cypriote pottery is central, at the front, but is not yet provided with the label ‘Ancient Pottery from the Island of Cyprus’, as it was between *c.* 1895 and 1901. This photograph was taken between 1887 and 1895 (before the ‘Life of Many Shots’ hide painting (PRM Accession Number 1895.61.1) was installed on the north side of the Court) probably by Alfred Robinson.*



Figure 15.3 Detail of photograph reproduced as Figure 15.2, showing Cyproite pottery (PRM Photograph Collections 1998.267.95.3).

All but one of the objects purchased at Sotheby's had been collected either by General Luigi (Louis) Palma di Cesnola, or by his younger brother Major Alessandro Palma di Cesnola with Edwin Henry Lawrence. The Cesnola brothers had accumulated this material during fieldwork conducted in Cyprus between 1865 and 1873 by Luigi Cesnola while he was Consul of the United States in Cyprus² (cf. L. Cesnola 1873, 1878; Hitchcock 1872), and by Alessandro Cesnola and Edwin Henry Lawrence between 1876 and 1879 (Lawrence 1884: iv). Alessandro

had assisted his older brother in the field during 1873 and 1874 (Lawrence 1883: iv).

The precise provenance for these objects is unclear. Luigi Cesnola undertook excavations 'at Dali, Golgoi, Throni, Salamis [Salaminiā], Paphos, Curium and other sites' (Sotheby 1883), publishing some of this in two books: *The Antiquities of Cyprus Discovered, principally on the sites of the ancient Golgoi and Idalium* (L. Cesnola 1873), and *Cyprus: its ancient cities, tombs, and temples* (L. Cesnola 1888). Similarly, Alessandro Cesnola and Lawrence excavated and collected at numerous sites, and Alessandro published the results of his work at Salamis in *Cyprus: the history, treasures, and antiquities of Salamis* (A. Cesnola 1884). In a famous controversy, the accuracy of the field methods, assigned provenances and restorations of Cesnola's collections were called into question (Marankou 2000). Much of Luigi's collection was purchased by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, of which Luigi became the first Director in 1879: a position that he held until his death in 1904. The collections at the Metropolitan Museum have been published as catalogues by Alessandro Palma di Cesnola (1885–1903), John Myres (1914) and most recently Vassos Karageorghis (Karageorghis *et al.* 2000).

The PRM Cesnola collections have been partially published in different forms, from John Myres' paper 'Painted vases from Cyprus in the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford' (Myres 1927) to Vassos Karageorghis' *Cyproite Art in the Pitt Rivers Museum* (2009). Matching sales catalogue entries with catalogued objects is a difficult task. Some of the objects bought by Pitt-Rivers in these sales must have entered his second collection, rather than coming to the PRM (Petch 2012). However, it is clear that the PRM holds at least 31 objects purchased at the first two sales, held on 1–2 May 1871 and 3–4 July 1871, which were of artefacts excavated in Cyprus by Luigi di Cesnola (Sotheby 1871a, 1871b). Copies of the catalogues for these sales held by the British Museum and the Ashmolean Museum are annotated by hand, listing the purchasers of each lot (although sometimes contradicting each other). Lane Fox's name appears against a number of lots and these can be matched with items in the collection today.

From the first sale, there are at least 5 artefacts: 2 Roman-period carved stone votive plaques reportedly excavated at the Temple of Golgoi in 1865 (1884.56.96, 1884.56.99),³ 2 Iron Age terracotta heads (1884.39.17, 1884.39.24)⁴ and an Iron Age

² Like Pitt-Rivers himself, Luigi di Cesnola was a veteran of the Crimean War: an Italian who fought for the British, before emigrating to America.

³ These two carved limestone plaques appear to be Lot 142 in the catalogue (Sotheby 1871a), described as 'Votive eyes and a votive ear'. In the annotated copy of the catalogue in the Ashmolean Museum, the purchaser for both lots is listed as Lane Fox, but the microfilm of the auctioneer's copy held by the Bodleian Library lists the purchaser as Wareham.

⁴ These 2 terracotta heads appear to be Lots 129 and 131 in the catalogue (Sotheby 1871a), described as 'The head of a helmeted and bearded warrior, his hair and his pointed beard are curled, the eyes and upper lip are painted black ... height 11 in. A most precious specimen of archaic workmanship. The Museum of the Louvre

ceramic jug with painted decoration showing a human figure seizing a bull by its horns (1884.38.74; *Figure 15.4*; see discussion in 15.3.2 below). A sixth lot bought by Pitt-Rivers and described as 'a spear-head with its socket, length 10 in' is probably the bronze socketed spear-head with a small piece of wood in its socket (1884.119.335; Sotheby 1971a: lot 18). A lot described as 'two spear heads' possibly refers to 2 socketed bronze chisels (1884.119.338–339; Sotheby 1871a: lot 20).⁵

Twenty-six artefacts held by the PRM appear to have been purchased at the second sale (Sotheby 1871b): a terracotta votive plaque depicting a pair of female breasts, possibly of Iron Age date (1884.56.98); an Iron Age terracotta votive forearm (1884.56.94); an Iron Age terracotta foot (1884.56.95); 2 Iron Age glass beads (1884.76.141–142); 10 Bronze Age stone and terracotta spindle whorls (1884.103.25–30, 1884.103.37–40); a further 6 undated spindle whorls (1884.103.31–36); an undated stone rubber (1884.128.65); 3 undated whetstones or polishers (1884.129.15–17); and a stone mortar probably of 19th-century CE date (1884.103.24).

From a sale on 22 February 1878 there are at least 4 Bronze Age and Iron Age ceramic objects from Cyprus (1884.38.17, 1884.38.27, 1884.38.31, 1884.38.75), as well as a ceramic lamp apparently from Egypt (1884.116.96) and a further ceramic vessel possibly from London (1884.37.37). Further Bronze Age and Iron Age ceramics, terracotta figurines, limestone plaques and metalwork were purchased at auctions on 21 March 1877, 28 May 1883, 1–4 June 1883 and 15–17 May 1884. The final three sales were of artefacts owned by Edwin Henry Lawrence, some of which he had excavated in Cyprus with Alessandro Palma di Cesnola (Sotheby 1883a, 1883b, 1884), and others he had purchased from Luigi Cesnola (Lawrence 1884: iii). Some of this material may have been included in an earlier publication of 'the Lawrence-Cesnola collection' by Alessandro Palma di Cesnola (A. Cesnola 1881). A single later prehistoric ceramic figurine (1884.39.3) appears to have been purchased from a sale of artefacts owned by William Chadwick Neligan, rather than one of the Cesnolas, at Sotheby's on 8–9 April 1878, along with items from London, Ireland, Egypt and Iraq (Sotheby 1878).⁶



Figure 15.4 Cypro-Archaic I ceramic jug (750–600 BCE) with painted decoration showing a human figure seizing a bull by its horns (PRM Accession Number 1884.38.74).

possesses no Cyprian terracotta of this style' (Lot 129), and as 'The Head of a helmeted Minerva' (Lot 131). In the annotated copy of the catalogue in the Ashmolean Museum, the purchaser for both lots is listed as Lane Fox, but the microfilm of the auctioneer's copy held by the Bodleian Library lists the purchaser as Wareham.

⁵ Lots recorded as purchased by Lane Fox which cannot be associated with particular objects in the PRM comprise Lot 37 ('a cantharus, ornamented with two Phoenician capitals; very valuable for the history of art; 6 3/4 in. diameter'), Lot 49 ('an oenochoe, representing a large hawk crowned with the *pschent* and bearing a little bird in its beak, rosettes and arrows in the field, height 8 1/2 in.'), and 4 coins (Lots 354, 357, 359, 370).

⁶ Neligan's collections were also sold at auction on 5 December 1854 and 23–24 February 1872.

The two further objects in the PRM founding collection, both again from Cyprus, are a Roman ceramic lamp recorded as purchased 'from the Cesnola collection' by Henry Balfour, and donated to the PRM in 1932 (1932.88.471), and a Roman redware lamp from the bequest of Frederick W. Robins (1966.3.111). Pitt-Rivers continued to purchase Cesnola artefacts after the foundation of the PRM founding collection, in 1888 and 1892, and exhibited some of these in his second museum at Farnham (Petch 2012).

15.2.3 *Museum Transfers*

The Greek collections were expanded through transfers from the Oxford University Museum of Natural History (OUMNH) in 1887, 1892 and 1937. The 1892 transfers also included some material from Cyprus.

The main transfer in 1887 was of 11 objects collected by George Rolleston, who was Professor of Anatomy and Physiology (based at the OUMNH) between 1860–1881 (Gosden and Larson 2007: 159–60; Nowak-Kemp and Galanakis 2012). These comprise 4 undated stone spindle whorls from Athens (1887.1.415–418); 2 obsidian flakes from Melos (2010.26.1–2); and 4 artefacts purchased by Rolleston from the Greek Professor and art dealer Athanasios S. Rhusopoulos in 1874: a Late Bronze Age stirrup jar from Athens (1887.1.48), and a Classical Greek *lekythos* (1887.1.52), a strigil (1884.1.414) and a fragmented Classical Greek bronze mirror disc (1887.1.414; *Figure 15.5*) recorded as being from graves excavated in the 1860s and early 1870s.⁷ Rolleston had also purchased 7 ancient Greek skulls from Rhusopoulos, one of which is retained by the OUMNH (no. 604), the rest having been transferred to the Natural History Museum (NHM) in London in the mid-20th century.

Also transferred to the PRM in 1887 were an obsidian core from Melos collected by A.P. Herbert (1887.1.255) and another obsidian blade core for which no collector is listed, recorded as from 'Melos or Attica' (1887.1.82). Six objects from Troy, collected by Bertram Fulke Hartshorne, were transferred from the OUMNH in 1887 (1887.1.71, 1887.1.74–75, 1887.1.251, 1887.1.253–254), and are discussed in 15.2.4 below. A Neolithic polished stone axe from Ephesus (modern Turkey) was also transferred from the Rolleston collection (1887.1.432).

The OUMNH transfers in 1892 comprised *c.* 20 Greek objects from the collection of John Wickham Flower: a 'Tanagra' terracotta head (1892.67.16), a fragment of a carved stone head of a Satyr/Silenus (1892.67.21), perhaps of Hellenistic or Roman date, 10 later prehistoric stone tools from Opous in Locris (1892.67.694), Elis in the Peloponnese (1892.67.608), and Styra on the island of Euboea (1892.67.591–592, 1892.67.607, 1892.67.609, 1892.67.691–693, 1892.67.795, 1892.67.691), and 8 ceramic vessels of Iron Age date (1892.67.50, 1892.67.57, 1892.67.62, 2004.148.16–18, 2004.149.1), including a funerary urn containing human remains (1892.67.58). Another object from Styra – a stone rubber (1884.128.56) – is recorded as from the PRM founding collection, but bearing the same kind of sticker as the Flower collection, and so probably associated with them at some earlier stage.⁸ The stone tools from the collection of Flower, acquired by him prior to 1873, were probably purchased from Athanasios S. Rhusopoulos.⁹

⁷ Correspondence between Rolleston and Rhusopoulos is held in the Rolleston Archive (Ashmolean Museum). A clay hand bell from Thisbe in Boeotia (1887.29.1), donated by Francis Fox Tuckett (1834–1913), is the only other object known to have come to the PRM via Professor Rhusopoulos. For the Aegean objects originating from Rhusopoulos now at the Ashmolean Museum see Galanakis 2008; Galanakis 2011; Galanakis and Skaltsa 2012; Nowak-Kemp and Galanakis 2012; Galanakis and Nowak-Kemp 2013.

⁸ The sticker has a blue rim and writing in Greek giving details of provenance.

⁹ Most of the objects from the J.W. Flower collection viewed as part of this report and presented to the PRM by his widow bear the same sticker type as that on the underside of the Athens stirrup jar (1887.1.48) and the Opous, Elis and Styra objects (1892.67.608–609, 1892.67.692–694, 1884.128.56) said

15.2.4 *Heinrich Schliemann*

The PRM holds *c.* 75 archaeological objects from Mycenae and Troy. Some 12 of these objects may derive from the excavations of Heinrich Schliemann (1822–1890) at Troy in the 1870s (cf. 15.3.1 below). Three stone axes from the PRM founding collection (1884.125.368–369, 1884.125.388) are recorded as coming from Troy, and are probably Bronze Age in date. Two of these axes came to Pitt-Rivers through Robert Philips Greg. Six further Bronze Age objects – 4 stone grinders, pounders or rubbers (1887.1.71, 1887.1.74–75, 1887.1.251), and 2 ceramic loom weights (1887.1.253–254) – were presented to the OUMNH by Bertram Fulke Hartshorne, and transferred to the PRM in 1886. A further stone object – possibly a spindle whorl – is marked ‘Homeric Troy, Univ. Museum (Rolleston)’ (2004.5.1). Two ceramic sherds, from the Henry Acland collection transferred from the OUMNH in 1937, are marked ‘Troy Acland Coll.’ (1937.56.11–12).

As well as these 12 objects, the donation of one object by Schliemann himself – a bronze axe from Troy, recorded as from ‘Temple A, Second City’ – is included in the Museum’s Annual Report for 1883. However, no accession number was issued, and today it is unclear whether the object is in the PRM collections or not. A receipt ‘from the Pitt Rivers Museum for a Troy II bronze axehead’ is held in the Schliemann papers at the Gennadius Library, Athens (Easton 1982: 109, item 280). The donation may have been made when Schliemann was in Oxford to receive an honorary degree in the Encaenia ceremony of 12–13 June 1883, as well as an honorary fellowship from the Queen’s College.¹¹

The material from Mycenae excavated by Schliemann comprises *c.* 54 Bronze Age ceramic vessels and sherds (1887.20.1–53, 2004.194.1),¹² *c.* 9 Bronze Age terracotta figures and heads (1884.20.59–67), and 4 ‘plank’ figurines and a terracotta figure of a horse and rider of Archaic Greek date (1887.20.54–58). These objects were excavated in 1874 or 1876,¹³ and were donated to the PRM by Professor (Friedrich) Max Müller, Oxford’s first Professor of Comparative Theology and a close acquaintance of Schliemann (Meyer 1962).¹⁴

Also from Bronze Age Mycenae are 33 casts of seals and sealings collected by Zara and Charles Seligman (1940.12.556–588) (see 15.3.2 below), 3 spindle whorls

¹¹ Queen’s was the college of his friend and colleague, the Professor of Assyriology Archibald H. Sayce (Traill 1995: 222).

¹² Mostly Late Helladic IIIA–B in date (1400–1200 BCE), with some Middle Helladic and Late Helladic I–II examples (1800–1400 BCE). The PRM also has some index cards (unpublished preliminary study of the Schliemann material) by Dr Stella Raftopoulou.

¹³ Schliemann, having tried to acquire permission to excavate at Mycenae for a number of years, conducted his first (unauthorized) excavations at the site between 24 February and 1 March 1874. Several areas were explored, including the side chamber of the so-called ‘treasury of Atreus’, a Mycenaean *tholos* tomb (see Traill 1995: 128–9). In 1876, the General Ephor of Antiquities (Panagiotis Eustratiades) and the Archaeological Society at Athens granted permission to Schliemann to excavate at Mycenae but, being short of funds, advised that the excavations should be carried out on behalf of the Archaeological Society at Athens at Schliemann’s expense. Excavations began on August 7 and were supervised by Schliemann and the Greek archaeologist Panagiotis Stamatakis. It is probably from these excavations that the material at the PRM comes from (either 1874 or 1876).

¹⁴ In a letter sent to Max Müller (3 February 1881) Schliemann expressed his interest in giving objects to the Oxford University Museum: ‘now regarding the potsherds, I think you and Prof. Rolleston would not mind to receive also entire Trojan vases. I cannot give the latter from the 1st and 2nd cities...but I can give you same from the 3rd, the burnt, and subsequent cities...Shall I also send some stone hammers, an axe and a handmill?’. The gift was brought by Sayce to Oxford in April 1881. The university formally thanked Schliemann in 1882 following the untimely death of George Rolleston in 1881 (Traill 1995: 222; also Meyer 1962: 101, n. 56). These Trojan objects were given to the OUMNH and immediately put on display there in 1882. They were later (in 1887) given to the Ashmolean following the centralization of the archaeological collections in Oxford. Today the Ashmolean has about 200 Trojan objects (mostly sherds, handmade pots, spindle whorls, stone tools, shells, and a figurine), most of which appear to originate from Schliemann’s original gift.

collected by Henry Acland (see 15.2.3 above), and 2 ceramic vessels collected by Denis Buxton (1966.32.29, 1966.32.47) (see 15.2.7 below).

15.2.5 *John Myres*

Some 10 objects from Greece and Cyprus were donated by the Oxford-based classicist, historian and archaeologist John L. Myres (1869–1954). Myres was the first Wykeham Professor of Ancient History, and, along with the German archaeologist Max Ohnefalsch-Richter (1850–1917), was among the first to promote the study of Cypriote archaeology in the late 19th century. Myres donated material from his own excavations in Cyprus, comprising 5 Bronze Age ceramic vessels from Laxia tou Rhiou near Larnaca (1897.33.1–5), a Bronze Age ceramic bowl from Kalopsida (1897.33.6), and 2 further Bronze Age ceramic vessels from Ayia Paraskevi (1897.33.7–8).¹⁵ He also presented 2 objects from Greece: a Middle Minoan bronze chisel (1901.15.2) and a Late Bronze axe from Naxos (1901.15.1), both of which appear to have been purchased from antiquities dealers.

15.2.6 *Henry Balfour*

Henry Balfour donated *c.* 81 archaeological objects from Greece and Cyprus to the PRM. These included *c.* 19 objects from Cyprus: a Roman ceramic lamp purchased from the collection of Canon Ridgeway (1932.88.546); *c.* 17 further ceramic lamps, some of which were from excavations at the Necropolis of Kition at Larnaca (1932.88.469–470, 1932.88.472, 1932.88.531, 1932.88.533, 1932.88.543, 1932.88.553–554, 1932.88.557–560, 1932.88.565–566, 1932.88.570–571, 1932.88.577); and a ceramic figure of the Egyptian god Bes (1899.16.3).

The remaining 62 objects were from Greece: 2 later prehistoric obsidian cores from Crete (1915.37.299–300); 31 Iron Age bronze socketed arrow-heads (1956.1.7); 2 Iron Age ceramic vessels (1938.35.1551, 1938.35.1553);¹⁶ a sherd from a ceramic lamp from Delos (1932.88.344); 9 further ceramic lamps (1932.88.403, 1932.88.482, 1932.88.493, 1932.88.547, 1932.88.551, 1932.88.555–556, 1932.88.561, 1932.88.573); 12 Greek and Roman coins (1933.51.33–44); a human jaw from a Roman grave at Delphi (1898.20.73); an undated ceramic feeding bottle (1938.35.1552); and 3 limestone porcelain dolls (1934.4.3–5: forgeries intended to pass as ancient Greek artefacts).

15.2.7 *Other Collectors: Greece*

Some 83 further archaeological objects from Greece were donated by other collectors, or purchased by the PRM, between 1895 and 1991. Ten more objects were purchased in the market.

The largest of these collections was Charles and Brenda Seligman's donation of *c.* 32 Bronze Age ceramics from Crete and Mycenae (1946.8.83–84) (see 15.3.2 below). Eleven Greek Bronze Age and Iron Age ceramic vessels from Delphi, Corinth and elsewhere (1966.32.8–10, 1966.32.20, 1966.32.25, 1966.32.29, 1966.32.34, 1966.32.47, 1966.32.60, 1966.32.62, 1966.32.78) and 2 Iron Age terracotta figures (1966.32.15–16) were received from the estate of Denis Alfred Jex Buxton (as well as the Cypriote material from the estate listed in 15.2.8 below). Arthur Evans (1851–1941), the Oxford-based archaeologist, donated 2 archaeological objects from Greece: an undated bronze bulla (amulet), possibly from his excavations at the Psychro Cave (1895.15.1), and an unprovenanced ceramic bust of a female wearing a headdress, perhaps of the 5th

¹⁵ More objects from Myres's research at Laxia tou Rhiou, Kalopsida and Ayia Paraskevi exist at the Ashmolean Museum.

¹⁶ One of the Iron Age ceramic vessels (1938.35.1551) was an Archaic period *kylix* with painted decoration of a satyr and winged donkeys, on which J.D. Beazley noted in the PRM Additional Accession Book, 'The winged donkey is rare; in fact I remember no other; a freak of the irresponsible hack'.

century BCE (1888.40.2).¹⁷ As well as the Cypriote material which came to the PRM from his estate (15.2.8 below), during his lifetime E.B. Tylor donated a modern drawing, apparently copied from a Greek vase (1989.35.1 – also 15.3.6 below).

Other collectors represented in the Greek archaeological collections comprise: Anthony John Arkell, who donated a 1st-century BCE coin from Chios (1971.15.1553); Anna MacPherson Davies, who donated a medieval communion spoon ‘dug up in the grounds of a house near Volos’ (1965.11.21); Charles James Longman, who donated 4 undated bronze socketed arrow-heads (1929.24.26–29); Rev. Frederick J. Brown, who donated an undated ceramic head, probably from Greece (1908.7.15); John Spencer Purvis Bradford, who donated a single sherd of Classical Greek pottery from the Mount Hymettus region (2008.92.1); John Winter Crowfoot, who donated 6 obsidian flakes and cores from Melos (1898.42.1–6); Louis Colville Gray Clarke, who donated a Neolithic ground stone axe from Melos (1921.24.42); M.E.G. Robertson, who donated 2 ceramic vessels possibly collected by Clement Philip Maclure (1991.38.43–44); the archaeologist Sylvia Benton, who donated 6 sherds of Neolithic pottery from Dimini and Lianokladi (1946.5.83);¹⁸ Thomas Neville, who donated a bronze helmet (1935.2.1); Robert Powley Wild, who donated 2 undated ceramic lamps (1938.8.6) and Frederick William Robins, who donated an undated ceramic lamp from Greece (1966.3.108) (as well as a Cesnola lamp from Cyprus: see 15.2.2 above). Ten Greek (or possible Greek) archaeological objects in the PRM are from unknown donors: 3 obsidian blade cores (2010.27.1–3), and 7 bronze belt hooks (2005.80.1–7).

As well as these donations, 8 archaeological objects from Greece were purchased from George Fabian Lawrence: an Iron Age lead astragalus (knucklebone gaming piece) (1902.72.1), a ceramic vase (1896.69.2), a bronze mirror (1896.69.17) and 5 bronze belt hooks (1896.69.18–22). Two Archaeological objects from Cyprus were purchased: a Bronze Age Drab Polished Ware ceramic amphora (1937.53.1) from ‘M. Koutsantonos’ (Koutsantonis?), and an undated ceramic rattle (1933.90.28) bought at Stevens auction rooms.

15.2.8 Other Collectors: Cyprus

Some 45 further archaeological objects from Cyprus were donated by other collectors between 1897 and 1966. Thirty of these came from two collectors: George Davis Hornblower and E.B. Tylor. A collection of 21 terracotta figurines from Cyprus – mainly Iron Age in date, but including one Bronze Age (Middle Cypriote II–III) figure (1921.54.1) – was donated by George Davis Hornblower (1920.37.1, 1920.37.4, 1921.54.1–19). Nine objects from Cyprus were donated from the estate of the anthropologist E.B. Tylor, the former Keeper of the OUMNH, after his death in 1917: 8 Iron Age ceramic figurines and jointed ceramic dolls (1917.53.516–520, 1917.53.523, 1917.53.687–688), and a Bronze Age bowl (1917.53.561). Four Bronze Age and Iron Age ceramic objects were received from the estate of Denis Alfred Jex Buxton (1966.32.30–31, 1966.32.46, 1966.32.57) (as well as the Greek material listed in 15.2.7 above).

Other collectors represented in the Cypriote archaeological collections are Arthur Hubert Stanley Megaw, who donated 2 medieval iron objects from the Castle of St Hilarion (1957.1.13–14); Barbara Whitchurch Freire-Marreco who donated a Cypro-Archaic ceramic figure of a man on horseback (1919.40.30); Kenneth Page Oakley, who donated a ceramic counter from Salamis (1978.1.7); Matthew Rix, who donated a Bronze Age bowl, probably from a cemetery at Vounous (1941.4.01); Robert Walter Doyne, who donated

¹⁷ Evans also donated a Greek ‘Charon’ coin from an Iron Age tomb at Kertch, Ukraine (1888.40.1)

¹⁸ http://www.brown.edu/Research/Breaking_Ground/results.php?d=1&first=Sylvia&last=Benton.

4 later prehistoric ceramic vessels (1897.10.1–4); and Rev. Harry Hamilton Jackson, who donated an undated glass flask excavated by him at Larnaca (1919.29.42). Finally, a human skull from a Bronze Age tomb at Lapethos, Cyprus, was donated by Leonard Halford Dudley Buxton (1889–1939), the Oxford Reader in Physical Anthropology and a pioneer in the study of ancient skeletal remains on Cyprus (1932.87.1).¹⁹

15.3 Chronological Overview

15.3.1 Neolithic Aegean (c. 6000–3000 BCE)

The c. 20 Neolithic objects from Greece comprise c. 11 sherds of Neolithic ceramics from Crete (1935.49.3–7) and Dimini (1946.5.83.1–6), and c. 9 Neolithic stone axes from Macedonia (1884.125.370), Crete (1884.125.371–373), Styra (1892.67.607, 1892.67.609), Melos (1921.24.42), Elis (1892.67.608), and another unspecified location (1937.56.60).

The Cycladic material also includes c. 56 more obsidian cores and flakes of Neolithic or Bronze Age date from Crete, Styra and Melos (1884.125.123–126, 1884.131.18, 1884.132.344–348, 1884.132.392–394, 1884.140.983, 1887.1.82, 1887.1.255, 1892.67.591–592, 1892.67.691, 1898.42.1–6, 1915.37.299–300, 1937.56.36–40, 2010.26.1–2, 2010.27.1–3). Museum records indicate that a further stone object (possibly porphyry) may be a natural stone, but it was not physically examined for this assessment (1884.128.56).

The PRM holds no Neolithic (or earlier) objects from Cyprus.

15.3.2 Bronze Age Greece and Turkey (c. 3000–1000 BCE)

The c. 146 Bronze Age objects from Greece include material from the islands (Cycladic), Crete (Minoan) and the mainland (Mycenaean).

One very rare object is a whole Early Cycladic III–Middle Cycladic I jug (2300–1900 BCE), possibly from the island of Melos, which is part of the PRM founding collection (1884.38.78; *Figure 15.6*). Until recently this jug was catalogued as ‘Cypriote’, since at some point it became associated with the Cesnola collections, and was published by Vassos Karageorghis, who was puzzled by this piece, as Late Bronze Age (Late Cypriote III B) in date (Karageorghis 2009: 90, number 6). However, research by Carlos Picón of the Metropolitan Museum in New York has identified the jug as Cycladic. A virtually identical vessel is in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York (Metropolitan Museum accession number 2004.363.3), and Picón has suggested that the New York jug probably originates from a collection acquired by Richard Copeland, a Captain in the British Royal Navy, in 1829, and donated to Eton College (Myers Museum) in 1857. The PRM jug appears to have been acquired by Pitt-Rivers between 1857 and 1874, and ‘may once have been associated with [the] Eton-Copeland finds from Melos’ (Picón 2006: 39). These are the only two intact jugs of this type known outside Greece, and even in Greece this type of jug is primarily represented only by fragments. The Pitt-Rivers jug is now on loan and on display in the ‘Aegean World’ gallery at the Ashmolean Museum (LI1406.1).²⁰

Cretan objects comprise a Middle Minoan bronze chisel (1901.15.2) recorded as coming from ‘Prasès’²¹ and bought at Kritsá in east Crete (Evely type 3b: see Evely

¹⁹ Apart from his 1913 excavations at Lapethos and pioneering work in physical anthropology on Cyprus, Buxton also acted as J.L. Myres’s assistant on his Cypriote researches (Myres 1945: 78–85).

²⁰ It would be desirable to analyze petrographically the two pots from the PRM and the Metropolitan Museum in order to ascertain their provenance microscopically as well as macroscopically.

²¹ A label reads Prasès, Crete (E) but there is no site with this name in east Crete (unless there is a misspelling here of the name Praisos or Praesos, an important site in eastern Crete). Most likely ‘Crete (E)’, written on the object, stands for the region (East Crete) where the object might have come from or, perhaps more likely,



Figure 15.6 Rare, intact Bronze Age jug, possibly from Melos, 2300–1900 BCE (PRM Accession Number 1884.38.78).

1993: 8–10); 3 conical cups from Knossos (1937.56.8–10); and a significant collection made by Charles and Brenda Seligman. The Seligmans' material collected from Phaistos is made up of Middle Minoan and Late Minoan pottery (*c.* 1900–1200 BCE), representing fragments of conical cups, jugs and bowls (1946.8.83). Also collected by the Seligmans are 33 casts of Late Bronze Age Aegean seals and sealings (1940.12.556–588), possibly all from the Herakleion Museum collection. Modern Greek writing on the back of these casts appears to suggest that they were purchased as a group.

Bronze Age objects from mainland Greece at the PRM comprise Middle and Late Bronze Age (*c.* 1900–1100 BCE) sherds, including an assemblage of *c.* 54 ceramic sherds and vessels (1887.20.1–53, 2004.194.1)²² from Mycenae and Schliemann's work at the site. Further Mycenaean material comprises the Seligmans' collection of sherds from Mycenae (1946.8.84); 3 stone spindle whorls (1937.56.89–91); and 9 terracotta figurines (1884.20.59–67) from Schliemann's excavations at Mycenae (including fragments of psi- and phi-types as well as bulls, all dating to the 13th century BCE; the Archaic period figurines from these excavations are discussed in 15.3.4 below). Two sherds of pottery from Tiryns, collected by Henry Acland, are of Late Helladic III date (*c.* 1400–1200 BCE) (1937.56.118–119). The Mycenaean sherds at the PRM include fragments from bowls, jugs, jars, cups, *kylikes*, and the foot of a *rhyton*. Further Mycenaean artefacts comprise 2 stirrup jars (1887.1.48, 1966.32.29), and a further ceramic jar (1966.32.47).

One of the Mycenaean pots – a well-preserved Late Mycenaean stirrup jar from Athens (Late Helladic IIIC *late*/Sub-Mycenaean, dating from *c.* 1100 BCE; 1887.1.48; Figure 15.7) – was bought by George Rolleston from Professor Athanasios Rhusopoulos in 1874, later deposited in the OUMNH, and transferred to the PRM in 1886 (Galanakis 2011; Nowak-Kemp and Galanakis 2011; Galanakis and Nowak-Kemp 2013). A number of letters in the Rolleston Archive, held at the Ashmolean Museum, reveal a close correspondence between Rolleston and Athanasios Rhusopoulos, from 1871 to 1874, during which time Rolleston visited Rhusopoulos in Athens (1871) and the latter visited the former in Oxford (1873). The letters confirm that the PRM stirrup jar comes from the area known as the 'outer Kerameikos', about 300 m NNE of the Kerameikos, the most prominent funerary ground in ancient Athens. It was discovered during the private excavations of the art dealer Ioannis Palaiologos conducted near Plateia (Square) Eleutherias (also known as Place Louis and Plateia Koumoundourou), opposite the Chatzikonsta orphanage, from 13 December 1871 to 13 May 1872

where it was bought (at Kritsá in east Crete). Three sites in different prefectures within Crete claim the name Prasés; all three have yielded Minoan objects: one is located at the *Ellinotrypa Cave* (Neolithic and Late Bronze Age) in the district of Chania (west Crete), the other at the localities *Kastri* (Late Bronze Age) and *Ay. Kosmas* in the Rethymnon district (central-west) and the third in central Crete near Herakleion at *Korakies* (Prasa: Old and New Palace period). If the object is not from Prasos, then the best candidate amongst the other three sites, would probably be Prasa near Herakleion (probably dated to the Neopalatial period). For *Kastri* see Hood *et al.* 1964: 69–70; for Prasa see Driessen and Macdonald 1997: 137–8; Platon 1951.

²² The *askos* (2004.194.1) dates from *c.* 1300–1200 BCE (cf. Misch 1992: 139–42, type 194).

(Galanakis 2011). The potential of this material for contributing to the history of collections from Greece and the trafficking of antiquities under the first Greek archaeological law (in use between 1834 and 1899) is explored in a number of publications that have come out of the research conducted for this chapter (Galanakis 2011; Nowak-Kemp and Galanakis 2012; Galanakis and Nowak-Kemp 2013).²³

Late Bronze Age objects for which no more detailed chronological information is currently known comprise: a bronze spear-head (1884.119.347) and 2 bronze axes, from Achaea (1884.119.427) and Naxos (1901.15.1); 3 stone hammers from Styra (1892.67.692–693, 1892.67.795); a stone rubber from Opous (1892.67.694); and an unidentified ceramic object (1966.32.60) may also be Bronze Age in date.

The Museum's c. 21 Bronze Age artefacts from Turkey (mainly western Turkey) can be mentioned alongside the Greek collections. Most of the material is recorded as coming from Troy, and most appears to derive from Heinrich Schliemann's excavations at the site in the 1870s (cf. discussion in 15.2.4 above). The Troy material comprises 4 prehistoric stone tools from the PRM founding collection, 2 stone axes collected by Robert Philips Greg before being acquired by Pitt-Rivers prior to 1881 (1884.125.368–369), and a third stone axe, with virtually no contextual information, that is recorded as possibly from Troy (1884.125.388). Much more clearly linked with the excavations at the site are 6 artefacts donated to the OUMNH by Bertram Fulke Hartshorne, and transferred to the PRM in 1886. This appears to derive from Schliemann's excavations and comprises 2 early Bronze Age stone grinders 'from the lowest stratum' (1887.1.74–75; presumably Troy I, c. 3000–2600 BCE); 2 early Bronze Age ceramic loom weights (one stone, one ceramic) 'from the pre-Hellenic Homeric stratum' (1887.1.253–254; presumably Troy II–III, c. 2600–2200 BCE); a Bronze Age stone grinder 'from the 8 metre Homeric Ilios level' (1887.1.251); and a Bronze Age stone pounder recorded as 'uncertain what stratum' (1887.1.71). Three further stone and ceramic objects from Troy, from the collections of George Rolleston and Henry Acland (1937.56.11–12, 2004.5.1) are discussed in 15.2.4 above. Six further prehistoric stone axes from Turkey, for which no detailed provenance is known, were donated by Louis Colville Gray Clarke (1924.10.1–5, 1924.10.8). Two



Figure 15.7 Mycenaean stirrup jar (a), with detail of the base (b), obtained by George Rolleston from A.S. Rhusopoulos (PRM Accession Number 1887.1.48). The labels on its base read 'From Athens, 1872, March. From the outer Kerameikos by the Ch.Kosta [Chatziko(n)sta] orphanage. I also have the skull of the deceased'. This important clue has led to a re-evaluation of the relationships between nineteenth-century excavations in Greece, antiquities dealers and museum collecting practices.

²³ The stirrup jar and skull are said by Rhusopoulos to have been found together with a large pin, originally described by him as 'two bronze pins', only later to be changed to an 'iron pin' consisting of two fragments. The whereabouts of the pin, said by Rhusopoulos to have been posted to Rolleston, are not known.

polished stone axes were transferred from the OUMNH: one from Ephesus from the collection of George Rolleston (1887.1.432), and one from ‘mounds to the north-east of Lake Antioch’ (the now drained Amik Gölü) in SE Turkey from the collection of William St Chad Boscawen (1953.12.25). Two further prehistoric objects from Turkey – a stone axe and a spindle whorls from Smyrna – were purchased from George Fabian Lawrence in 1896 (1896.69.4, 1912.57.12).

15.3.3 Bronze Age Cyprus (c. 3000–1000 BCE)

The PRM holds c. 117 Bronze Age artefacts from Cyprus, of which c. 92 came from the Cesnola collections (15.2.2 above).

Around half of the Bronze Age Cesnola collections is made up of ceramics. There are 10 Early–Middle Bronze Age (c. 2500–1900 BCE) Red Polished Ware and Black Polished Ware ceramic artefacts: 3 juglets (1884.38.2, 1884.38.7, 1884.63.67), 5 bowls (1884.38.34–36, 1884.63.69, 1966.32.31), a bottle (1884.38.6) and a jug (1884.38.21). There are 23 Middle Bronze Age ceramic objects (c. 1900–1600 BCE): an *askos* (1884.38.11), a flask (1884.38.12), 7 jugs (1884.38.8–9, 1884.38.13–15, 1884.38.17, 1966.32.30), 6 juglets (1884.38.3–5, 1884.38.16, 1892.67.70, 1998.22.6), 4 bird-shaped vases (1884.38.18–20, 1884.39.40), 3 bowls (1884.38.32–33, 1884.63.68; *Figure 15.8*) and a Drab Polished Ware amphora (1937.53.1). From the Late Bronze Age (c. 1600–1050 BCE) there are 2 bull-shaped ceramic *rhyta* (1884.39.27, 1884.68.115; *Figure 15.9*) and 6 terracotta figurines (1884.39.20–23, 1884.39.26, 1884.58.44; *Figures 15.10, 15.11* and *15.12*). There are 3 further Bronze Age ceramic artefacts for which no further chronological detail is currently known (1884.38.1, 1884.140.603, 1884.38.10).

Other material purchased from the Cesnola collections includes c. 29 copper and bronze weapons and tools: 7 axes (1884.119.16–22); 7 knife blades and daggers (1884.119.280–281, 1884.119.283–286, 1884.119.322); a razor (1884.119.282); 11 hook-tanged weapons (1884.119.323–326, 1884.119.328–334); 2 socketed chisels (1884.119.338–339); and a bronze tanged arrow-head (1884.119.388). Also from the Cesnola collections are 4 seals (1884.140.455–458) and 10 stone spindle whorls of andesite, picrolite and terracotta (1884.104.25–30, 1884.104.37–40; see in detail Karageorghis 2009: 103–6).

The provenance of 2 other objects Bronze Age Cypriote from the PRM founding collection – an Early-Middle Bronze Age juglet (1884.41.23), a spear butt-spike (1884.119.337) – is unknown, but may not be the Cesnola collection. Another hook-tanged weapon from the PRM founding collection (1884.119.327) is recorded as from the ‘Woodhouse collection’.

Further Late Bronze Age material (c. 1600–1050 BCE) comprises 8 ceramic artefacts (ewers, jugs and bowls) donated by John Myres from his excavations at tombs at Laxia tou Rhiou near Larnaca, Kalopsida and Ayia Paraskevi (1897.33.1–8),

Figure 15.8 Ceramic bowl with handle of Middle Bronze Age date (c. 1900–1600 BCE) (PRM Accession Number 1884.38.32).

Figure 15.9 Bull-shaped rhyton of Late Cypriote II (c. 1450–1200 BCE), probably excavated by Luigi Palma di Cesnola in Cyprus and purchased by Pitt Rivers at Sotheby’s (PRM Accession Number 1884.39.27).





Figure 15.10 (Left)
Handmade female
figurine from the Late
Bronze Age (1450–
1100 BCE), probably
excavated by Luigi Palma
di Cesnola in Cyprus and
purchased by Pitt Rivers
at Sotheby's (PRM
Accession Number
1884.39.20).

Figure 15.11 (Centre)
Handmade female
figurine from the Late
Bronze Age (1450–
1100 BCE), probably
excavated by Luigi Palma
di Cesnola in Cyprus and
purchased by General
Pitt-Rivers at Sotheby's
(PRM Accession
Number 1884.39.21).

Figure 15.12 (Right)
Handmade female
figurine from the Late
Bronze Age (1450–
1200 BCE), probably
excavated by Luigi Palma
di Cesnola in Cyprus and
purchased by Pitt Rivers
at Sotheby's (PRM
Accession Number
1884.39.22).

and another bowl excavated by Myres and donated from the estate of E.B. Tylor (1917.53.561). A further ceramic bowl, of Early–Middle Bronze Age date (c. 2500–1900 BCE), was probably excavated from a cemetery at Vounous, and came to the Museum from Matthew Rix in 1938 (1941.4.01). Also from Bronze Age Cyprus is a human skull (1932.87.1), which was presented by L.H. Dudley Buxton in 1932 in exchange for a Bantu skull from Northern Rhodesia given to H. Balfour in 1929. The skull almost certainly comes from Buxton's excavation of Early Cypriote II–Middle Cypriote II/III tombs (c. 2200–1600 BCE) at Lapethos in northern Cyprus in 1913.²⁴ Finally, a highlight of the Bronze Age Cypriote collections is a rare Middle Bronze Age (c. 1800–1600 BCE) terracotta figurine of a woman gesturing that was donated by George Hornblower in June 1921 (in detail Karageorghis 2009: 67–69, no. 63; 1921.54.1).

15.3.4 Iron Age: Greece (c. 1000–100 BCE)

The PRM holds c. 167 artefacts from Iron Age Greece, some 65 of which are from the PRM founding collection. Objects from Iron Age Italy, which include some ancient artefacts made in modern Greece, are considered in Chapter 16.

²⁴The skull's flattened frontal and parietal bones were characteristics that in the past were understood as an indication of race (e.g. Buxton 1920; Fürst 1933: 102): an idea that has long since been discredited. The skull lacks a mandible and probably belonged to a male of about 20–25 years. In their paper 'Anthropomorphic investigation on the island of Cyprus – report of the committee', Myres, Shrubsall and Haddon (1916: 193) stated that 'a number of skulls and skeletons were secured' from Bronze Age tombs at Lapethos for study. The Early and Middle Bronze Age cemetery is situated at Vrysi tou Barba. There are two Late Bronze Age tombs at Lapethos: Ay. Anastasia; there are also some Early Iron Age and even later tombs in the area. For this site see Keswani 2004: 43–6 and 109. On Buxton's research at Lapethos see Buxton 1920; Gjerstad 1926: 73–83; Myres 1945: 78–85. On skulls from Lapethos see also Fischer 1986; Fürst 1933; on recent research in Cypriote bioarchaeology see Harper and Fox 2008. On the issue of headshaping in ancient Cyprus see Lorentz 2009a, 2009b.

There are *c.* 16 ceramic vessels from the Archaic Greek period (*c.* 700–500 BCE): 4 ceramic *aryballoi* (1884.37.52, 1884.140.813, 1884.140.815, 1966.32.62); an *alabastron* (aromatic-oil container) from Rhodes, with painted decoration depicting winged sphinxes and a bird (1884.37.42); a ceramic *patera* dish (1884.37.44); a *kylix* (drinking cup) (1938.35.1551); 3 ceramic *oinochoai* (wine jugs) (1884.37.45, 1884.37.51, 1884.37.79); a *pyxis* container from Corinth (1966.32.10) and another *pyxis* with a lid (1884.40.1); a *lekythos* (aromatic-oil container) (1966.32.78),²⁵ a *skyphos* cup (1884.41.183), and an *exaleiptron* (rounded basin/container) (1884.37.60), and a further 2 ceramic vessels (1884.64.5, 1884.37.80). Also from this period are a fragment of a bronze mirror (1884.70.11) and 6 ceramic ‘plank’ figurines²⁶ (1887.20.55–58, 1966.32.8–9). Four of these figurines (1887.20.55–58), and a clay horseman (1887.20.54), are from Schliemann’s excavations at Mycenae, and are also Archaic in date.²⁷

There is a similarly wide range of *c.* 30 ceramic artefacts, representing at least 14 different forms, from the Classical Greek period (*c.* 500–350 BCE): 2 ceramic lamps (1884.116.50, 1966.32.34), a ceramic vessel with a lid (1884.37.43), a *pyxis* from Corinth (1884.37.46), 6 *skyphoi* cups (1884.37.75, 1884.41.24, 1884.41.49–50, 1884.64.6, 1892.67.62), 2 ceramic lids (1884.37.78, 1884.41.51), an *askos-guttus* (1884.37.81), a saltcellar vessel (1884.37.82), 8 *lekythoi* (1884.37.87–88, 1887.1.52, 1892.67.50, 1994.4.28, 2004.148.16, 2004.149.1), 3 ceramic *oinochoai* (wine jugs) (1884.37.89, 1884.64.7, 2004.148.18), a *pinakion* dish (1884.41.13), an *epichysis* jug (1938.35.1553), a *hydria* (2004.153.1) and 3 further ceramic vessels or sherds (1966.32.20, 1991.38.43, 2008.92.1). Also from this period are 2 bronze figures (1884.67.41, 1884.67.43), 6 gold, silver and bronze fibulae (1884.79.81, 1884.79.93–96, 1884.79.122); a bronze strigil (1887.1.413); a bronze helmet (1884.32.16); and a bronze mirror (1887.1.414); a ceramic figurine (1917.53.688); and 2 iron spear-heads from the PRM founding collection that are recorded as excavated from a ‘tumulus at Marathon’ by Richard Porrett (1884.120.42–43).²⁸

The 12 Greek artefacts from the Hellenistic period (*c.* 350–100 BCE) are all but one ceramic: a *skyphos* (1884.41.184), a stamped amphora handle from Delos (1937.56.117), 4 ceramic votive figurines recorded as ‘from Tanagra²⁹ in Boeotia (1884.67.78–80, 1884.67.82), which were published by Pitt-Rivers in 1876 (Lane Fox 1876); a ceramic funerary urn containing human remains, from the collection of John Wickham Flower (1892.67.58); and 4 further terracotta figurines (1884.67.81,

²⁵ The underside of the black-figure *lekythos* (1966.32.78) is incised with two graffiti, presumably trademarks (Johnston 1979; 2006).

²⁶ At the time of their collection these were known as ‘Papades’, so-called because of their supposed resemblance to Greek Orthodox priests, despite the fact that they are clearly female figures (see for e.g. Burrows and Ure 1908: 297; Walters 1905: 290). Some of the plank figurines still preserve traces of coloured decoration.

²⁷ The Bronze Age ceramics and figurines from these excavations are discussed in 15.3.2 above.

²⁸ Two spearheads from ‘a tumulus at Marathon’ were exhibited by Richard Porrett, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, during the society’s meeting on 5 June 1851 (*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London*, vol. II (1853): 171). It is clear that the two spearheads shown in 1851 are the same with those later acquired by Pitt-Rivers – on the object the following label exists: R. PORRET [sic], F.S.A. Coll. One spearhead is slightly curved (1884.120.43); perhaps intentionally bent during deposition. For a detailed discussion on the Marathon spearheads at the PRM see: Y. Galanakis. ‘Re-thinking Marathon: two ‘memorabilia’ from the battle of Marathon at the Pitt-Rivers’, <http://web.prm.ox.ac.uk/rpr/index.php/object-biography-index/1-prmcollection/648-marathon-spearheads>

²⁹ Tanagra-style terracotta figurines take their name from Tanagra in Boeotia, a site where thousands of graves were looted in the 1870s, thus supplying the art market of the time with these sought-after items and creating a certain taste amongst collectors for terracottas even in later years (Jeammet 2007). Yet, the distribution of these figurines is now far wider than previously thought – especially during the 19th century when the PRM examples were collected. Pitt-Rivers appears to have acquired his figurines through the Paris art dealers Rollin and Feuillant (Lane Fox 1876: 310), who in turn received their supplies from Greek art dealers such as Professor Rhousopoulos, Jean P. Lambros, Alexandros Xakoustis and numerous other sources.

1892.67.16, 1966.32.15–16), including a least one Tanagra-style example. A fragment of a carved stone head of a Satyr/Silenus from the Flower collection (1892.67.21) may date to the Hellenistic or Roman period. Further Iron Age objects include a coin from Chios (1971.15.1553), dating from the 1st century BCE, and a bronze ‘bulla’ (amulet) (1895.15.1), donated to the PRM by Arthur Evans in June 1895. This appears to come from Evans’ excavations at the Psychro Cave in 1895 (Brown 2001: 356; cf. Boardman 1961: 1–75), and is possibly of Iron Age date.³⁰

There are also 20 currently unstudied Iron Age objects for which no detailed date is known. These comprise 4 bronze figures, probably of Jupiter, holding thunderbolts (1884.67.21, 1884.67.35, 1884.67.37); a red-ware *lekythos* (1966.32.25); 2 bronze belt ornaments (1884.80.42–43); 10 belt hooks (1896.69.18–22, 2005.80.1–5); 3 belt fasteners (2005.80.5–7); and *c.* 13 coins (1933.51.33–44). Some 43 bronze socketed arrow-heads from Greece are also of Iron Age date (Early Iron Age, Archaic and Classical; most are probably late rather than early in this date range) (1884.119.380, 1884.119.382–383, 1884.119.391–392, 1884.119.402–403, 1927.24.26–27, 1956.1.7). The arrow-heads are of at least six different types (cf. Boardman 1961: 29–31; Avila 1983: 146–7, nos. 1074–1097; see also Broneer 1933: 341, figures 13a–d). Finally, 4 undated lead sling-shots, three of which have inscriptions (1884.29.18–19, 1884.29.21, 1937.56.59), are probably from Iron Age Greece,³¹ while a further lead sling shot (1884.29.20), with an inscription in Latin, is of Roman date (see 15.3.6 below). These 5 sling-shots were not included in Clive Foss’ review of ‘Greek sling bullets in Oxford’ (Foss 1975).

15.3.5 Iron Age: Cyprus (*c.* 1000–100 BCE)

There are *c.* 140 Iron Age artefacts from Cyprus, *c.* 94 of which derive from the Cesnola collections (15.2.2 above).

Some 20 ceramic vessels (mainly jugs, but also 2 flasks and a footed bowl) date from the Cypro-Geometric period (*c.* 1050–750 BCE: 1884.38.28, 1884.38.41–42, 1884.38.53, 1884.38.57–60, 1884.38.62–65, 1884.38.68, 1884.38.70–72, 1884.38.75, 1884.63.70–71, 1887.10.1). All derive from the Cesnola collections in the PRM founding collection apart from a jug donated by Robert Walter Doyne (1897.10.1). A ceramic bull figurine (1884.39.29) also appears to date to the Cypro-Geometric III period (900–750 BCE).

From the Cypro-Archaic period (*c.* 750–480 BCE) there are *c.* 33 ceramic vessels, mostly jugs and bowls (1884.38.22, 1884.38.29–31, 1884.38.43–46, 1884.38.48–52, 1884.38.54–56, 1884.38.61, 1884.38.66–67, 1884.38.69, 1884.38.73–74, 1884.38.76–77, 1884.39.1, 1884.56.94–95, 1884.68.116, 1897.10.4, 1921.54.5; *Figure 15.13*); *c.* 28 terracotta and carved stone figures (1884.39.5, 1884.39.10–11, 1884.39.13–17, 1884.39.24–25, 1884.39.28, 1884.39.30–32, 1884.39.34–35, 1884.39.38, 1884.58.43, 1884.58.45, 1892.67.22, 1892.67.25, 1892.67.74, 1920.37.1, 1920.37.4, 1921.54.3–4, 1921.54.7); a bronze figure (1884.67.54); a carved stone head (1884.39.12); and a terracotta mask of a bearded male face (1892.67.73). A terracotta figure of a horseman donated by Barbara Whitchurch Freire-Marreco (1919.40.30) and a terracotta female figurine, donated by George Davis Hornblower (1921.54.2) also appear to be Archaic in date.

Some 8 artefacts date from the Cypro-Classical period (*c.* 480–310 BCE): 2 ceramic juglets (1884.38.23, 1998.22.2), a glass bead (1884.76.142), 2 carved stone heads

³⁰ The tag that accompanies the bulla reads ‘Tylor, Internat. Folklore Congress 1891, p. 393’ making a reference to Tylor’s paper (1892) on charms and amulets.

³¹ The inscriptions are all in relief, and in one case an image of a spearhead is cast in relief on one side (1937.56.59). Normally sling bullets are inscribed with the name of the issuing authority, be it a city or a king, or with a personal name.



Figure 15.13 *Cypro-Archaic I ceramic jug (750–600 BCE)* (PRM Accession Number 1884.38.52).

(1884.39.2, 1884.39.6), 2 terracotta figurines (1884.39.36, 1884.39.39), and a carved limestone plaque from the Flower collection (1892.67.49). A further carved stone plaque (1884.56.91) dates from the Cypro-Classical or Hellenistic periods, and a terracotta votive offering from Flower's Cypriote collections, in the form of a uterus, may be Etruscan (1892.67.47). Meanwhile, some 8 artefacts from Cyprus date from the Hellenistic period (c. 310–30 BCE): a bronze mirror (1884.70.13), ceramics, including jars, jugs, an unguentarium (1998.22.1, 1998.22.3, 1884.38.26, 1884.38.37–38, 1897.10.3), and a ceramic 'Tanagra'-type figure (1884.39.8). A further ceramic counter dates either from the Hellenistic or Roman periods (1978.1.7).

The Cypriote collections also include objects that may be of Bronze Age or Iron Age date: arsenical copper tweezers (1884.119.227), 3 ceramic vessels (1884.140.31, 1998.22.4–5), a ceramic bowls or lamp (1884.140.32), 2 terracotta figurines (1884.39.31, 1884.39.19); and 2 bronze spear-heads (1884.119.335–336), one of which has an undated wooden haft (1884.119.335 .2).³² There are also 8 currently unstudied Iron Age objects from Cyprus for which no detailed date is known. These comprise a ceramic jug (1966.32.46), a ceramic rattle (1933.90.28), and 6 pottery lamps excavated from the Necropolis of Kition and elsewhere in Cyprus by John Myres and donated to the PRM by Henry Balfour (1932.88.531, 1932.88.533, 1932.88.554, 1932.88.559, 1932.88.570–571).

15.3.6 Roman and Post-Roman Greece (from c. 100 BCE)

Three objects recorded as from Greece are currently dated to the Roman period: a bronze figure (1884.67.62), a potsherd from Samos (1937.56.6), and a human lower jaw from a Roman grave at Delphi (1898.20.73). A cylindrical bronze bucket-shaped vessel with three moulded feet from Crete dates from the late Hellenistic or Roman period (1884.119.582). Other objects from the Roman Mediterranean are considered in Chapter 16.

Two objects from Greece are probably medieval in date: a silver communion spoon recorded as 'dug up in the grounds of a house near Volos' (1965.11.21), and a ceramic flask with a stamped relief design depicting St Menas the Camels of the 6th–7th century CE (1884.37.47). Five objects relate to the modern history of archaeology in Greece. A drawing, presumably from a Classical Greek vase showing Dionysus and his company, was donated by E.B. Tylor (1989.35.1). There is a Greek text accompanying the drawing, which focuses on the donkey loaded with goods associated with the Great Mysteries at Eleusis, and makes a playful joke: 'by Zeus – at least then I was a donkey leading the Mysteries!' There is also an unprovenanced framed Greek quotation, printed

³² A microsection (1950.4.40) of this object was prepared by Eric Voce in 1950 (Coghlan 1951).

or stamped on paper (2004.21.1), and 3 limestone porcelain dolls, collected by Henry Balfour, which are forgeries intended to pass as ancient Greek artefacts (1934.4.3–5).

Finally, some 65 Iron Age artefacts that are recorded as from Greece remain unstudied: 10 ceramic vessels (1884.37.49–50, 1884.37.53, 1884.70.4–6, 1892.67.57, 1938.35.1552, 1991.38.44, 2004.148.17); a ceramic figure (1937.56.5); 2 ceramic heads (1884.140.158, 1908.7.15); 11 spindle whorls (1884.104.41–47,³³ 1887.1.415–418); c. 24 bronze arrow-heads (1884.119.381, 1884.119.384–386, 1884.119.401, 1884.119.404–420, 1927.24.28–29); 14 ceramic lamps (1884.116.52, 1932.88.344, 1932.88.403, 1932.88.482, 1932.88.493, 1932.88.547, 1932.88.551, 1932.88.555–556, 1932.88.561, 1932.88.566, 1932.88.573, 1938.8.6, 1966.3.108); a bronze handle (1884.68.125); a stone vessel and lid (1884.140.1040–1041); a lead astragalus (knucklebone gaming piece) (1902.72.1); and a stone dice (1884.125.127).

15.3.7 Roman and Post-Roman Cyprus (from c. 100 BCE)

Eighteen objects recorded as from Cyprus are currently dated to the Roman period. These include a glass vessel (1884.42.8), a silver mirror disc (1884.70.14), and 10 ceramic lamps (1932.88.469–472, 1932.88.543, 1932.88.546, 1932.88.553, 1932.88.557, 1932.88.560, 1966.3.111). The remaining 6 objects comprise an assemblage of carved limestone votive plaques representing parts of the human body in relief, recorded as excavated by Cesnola from the Temple of Golgoi in 1870 (1884.56.92–93, 1884.56.96–99) (see Masson 1998; Karageorghis 2009: 100–2). Other objects from the Roman Mediterranean are considered in Chapter 16.

Two objects from Cyprus are probably medieval in date: an iron crossbow bolt (1957.1.13) and an iron nail (1957.1.14). Donated by the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus, probably as specimens for metallurgical analysis, these two objects may derive from a medieval metal hoard at the Castle of St Hilarion. There are no post-medieval objects from Cyprus in the collections. Two artefacts from Cyprus are currently undated: a ceramic animal figure from the Flower collection (1998.22.7), and a ceramic figurine of the ancient Egyptian god Bes, recorded as ‘from Cyprus excavations’, collected by Henry Balfour (1899.16.3).

15.4 Conclusions

The c. 797 archaeological artefacts from the Aegean (Greek mainland, Crete, the Cyclades, western Turkey) and Cyprus include 338 (42%) from the PRM founding collection, which were collected by Pitt-Rivers mainly through purchases at Sotheby's. Some 66% (192 objects) of the c. 292 Cypriote artefacts derive from collections made by the Cesnola brothers (15.2.2 above). Although some of this has been published in Vassos Karageorghis' illustrated catalogue *Cypriote Art in the Pitt Rivers Museum* (Karageorghis 2009), there remains very significant research potential in the Cesnola and PRM founding collection collections. Such potential has been demonstrated by the reanalysis of the Bronze Age Cycladic jug (1884.38.78) which was formerly thought to be Cypriote (see 15.3.2 above). Some 53 of the Cesnola artefacts from Cyprus were omitted from the Karageorghis volume, including c. 33 Bronze Age or Iron Age ceramic vessels (1884.38.1, 1884.38.10–11, 1884.38.14, 1884.38.22–31, 1884.38.38–40, 1884.38.43–53, 1884.38.75, 1884.140.32, 1884.140.603, 1932.88.471, 1966.3.111), 6 terracotta figures (1884.39.3–4, 1884.39.7–8, 1884.39.18–19), a glass

³³ Three disc-shaped weights (1884.104.41–44) are said to come from ‘near Athens’. An exact parallel exists at the Ashmolean Museum (AN1934.99). The Ashmolean piece is said, according to the museum register, to have been found ‘while excavating the Dionysiac theatre...in 1862’ during the excavations of Professor A.S. Rhusopoulos. The PRM weights may well originate from the same source.

bead (1884.76.141) and a votive plaque (1884.56.98), as well as a range of stone artefacts. Many more objects from the PRM founding collection remain unstudied, and may, as the Cycladic jug has been shown to, relate to earlier episodes in the 19th-century history of Aegean and Mediterranean archaeology.

The c. 75 Bronze Age artefacts that may derive from Heinrich Schliemann's excavations at Mycenae and Troy require a full examination, to ascertain their provenance. A similar assessment is required for the wide range of prehistoric stone tools from the Aegean, such as those recorded as coming from Melos. With all these objects, cross-referencing the provenances ascribed to them with the history of fieldwork, collecting and the early antiquities trade will reveal their research potential both as resources for studying Aegean prehistory, and for the history of Mediterranean archaeology as a whole.

A wide range of 'Greek' material lies outside the scope of this chapter, since it is recorded as from beyond the Aegean and Cyprus: such as the Iron Age material from Italy considered in Chapter 16, from Egypt (Chapter 7), from the Levant (Chapter 21), or from elsewhere in Europe. For example, the Museum holds 2 Classical Greek plain white-ground *lekythoi* (oil-containers) donated by Rev. William Keer. They are said to be from the coastal city of Tyre (modern Lebanon) and are evidently Attic imports (1897.47.1–2; cf. Stewart and Martin 2005). Four Iron Age bronze coins (1940.12.66–69) recorded as from Apollonia (now in Albania) – a Greek colony – were collected by Mary Durham. W.D. Sturrock donated a red-figure small *lekythos* (1923.22.1) from Kertch (now in Ukraine): a personal acquisition passed to her through her grandfather, Dr Duncan McPherson, who in 1855 excavated the site of ancient Panticapaeum. Many more such examples could be given, and serve as a reminder of the challenges presented by material from the Aegean region collected not always in a culture-historical framework, but also in one of comparative technology.

Thus, while some of the research priorities for the PRM's Aegean and Cypriote collections lie in supplementing the kind of archaeological research already undertaken elsewhere – for example by adding material online to the currently ongoing digitization projects of Cypriote Collections at the Ashmolean Museum and the British Museum, the details of the vases to the *Beazley Archive Database*,³⁴ and the names inscribed on the lamps and sling bullets to the *Lexicon of Greek Personal Names*³⁵ – there is also particular potential in two areas. The first relates to re-assessing the history of the Greek and Cypriote ceramics from the PRM founding collection and other early collections, considering the collections' potential as resources for understanding the history of archaeology and the antiquities trade in 19th-century Europe and the USA. The second relates to exploring the significance of the stone tools, spindle whorls, metalwork and other non-ceramic material for the study of prehistoric material culture in the Aegean region and beyond.

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³⁴ <http://www.beazley.ox.ac.uk>

³⁵ <http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk>

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