

# A Hellenistic Find in New York

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IN 1973, THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM received on loan from Christos G. Bastis a find comprising bronze vessels and jewelry as well as silver coins. The group, of Hellenistic date, had previously been sold at auction in Paris.<sup>1</sup> The provenance given in the sale catalogue is Amphipolis, one of the main cities of northern Greece in Greek and Roman times,<sup>2</sup> and, as we shall see, the find is as typical of the area from which it reportedly comes as of the time when it was made. The interest of these objects extends even further, however. Individually and as a group, they can be related to material found all over the ancient world. Though they have never been comprehensively investigated, Hellenistic bronze vessels and jewelry exist in quantity, and the vessels in particular raise questions concerning typology, centers of production, and distribution. The importance of the Bastis bronzes is increased by the five silver drachms whose inclusion in the original find need not be doubted. The dates of the coins provide a *terminus post quem* for the burial of the lot, while their mints interest us for reasons of contemporary monetary policy and communication. The ramifications of the subject are greater than can be pursued here in detail, yet they must enter into the discussion insofar as they supplement the artistic aspect of the objects.

Description of the find begins with the bronze vases—two cups, a ladle, a funnel-strainer, and a bottle—which seem to form a basic set of drinking equipment. The cups (Figures 1, 2) are of the stemmed type with a bowl that is concave in profile; the handles, whose leaf-shaped roots are soldered to the underside of the bowl, curve up to the lip and end in a triangular projection.

Both are of about the same size; in both, the tips of the handle roots have broken away, and, in one, the top of the handle has been mended. The ladle (Figure 3) consists of a shallow bowl at the end of a long handle that has been broken and repaired. Between bowl and shaft are two small projections and, at the top, a duck's head finial<sup>3</sup> that has also been rejoined. The most noteworthy piece in this group is the funnel-strainer (Figures 4, 5). It consists of a rather broad-rimmed bowl that develops into a funnel at the center; this is best seen on the outside, for on the inside, the center is covered by a strainer: a thin disc with holes punched in a pinwheel pattern. The utensil had two loop handles that curve in opposite directions, each ending in a duck's head; the head and most of the neck of one have broken away. Compared with the other pieces, this one is also the most extensively worked. It has beading on the rim, curlicues on the flat portion of the handles, and profiling around the strainer, the funnel, and on the underside of the rim. Finally, the bottle (Figure 6) is a squat, globular vase with a small ring base and a mouth that opens into a narrow, flat lip. It is intact and entirely undecorated.

From a technical standpoint,<sup>4</sup> the bottle is the only

1. Vente Drouot, 14 November 1973, lot 138 (ill.).

2. J. Papastavru, *Amphipolis: Geschichte und Prosopographie* (Leipzig, 1936).

3. Such finials occur on utensils of many kinds in later Greek and Roman art. In the literature, the animals are variously identified as swans, ducks, or geese. Here, they will be called duck's heads.

4. D. K. Hill, "The Technique of Greek Metal Vases," *American Journal of Archaeology* [hereafter *AJA*] 51 (1947) pp. 248–256.

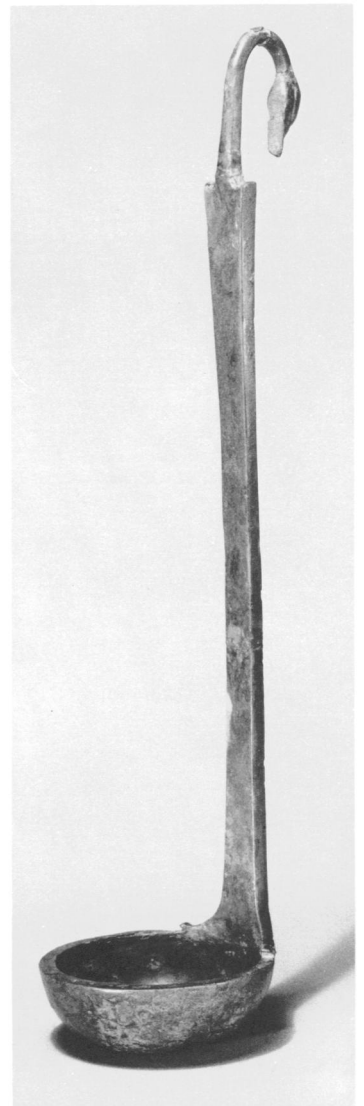


**FIGURE 1**  
Bronze cup. H. 8.34, W. 24.04 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.1



**FIGURE 2**  
Bronze cup. H. 8.44, W. 23.83 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.2

**FIGURE 3**  
Bronze ladle. H. 26.7 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.5





bronze in the group that was raised; it is therefore relatively light. The other pieces were cast and finished according to the requirements of each shape. The cups, for instance, were cast in parts—bowl, handles, foot; the bowl and foot were finished on a lathe and then the parts were soldered together. The funnel-strainer was cast as a funnel, turned, and then provided with the sieve that had been hammered and pierced separately.

FIGURES 4, 5

Bronze funnel-strainer. L. as preserved 20.82, D. 10.85 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.4



FIGURE 6

Bronze bottle. H. 7.33 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.3



The appearance of all the pieces is similar, but suggests some tampering by a modern restorer; the brown surfaces have patches of red and green that look rather pasty for cuprite and malachite. Only the funnel-strainer preserves heavy deposits of green patina.

Although the five vessels do not form a matched set and although we do not know how they were used together, we can identify the general purpose of each. The cups represent the most typical form of drinking vessel; on the basis of inscriptions as well as pictures on vases and in tombs, they seem to have been used mainly for wine. To serve wine from the deep bowl in which it

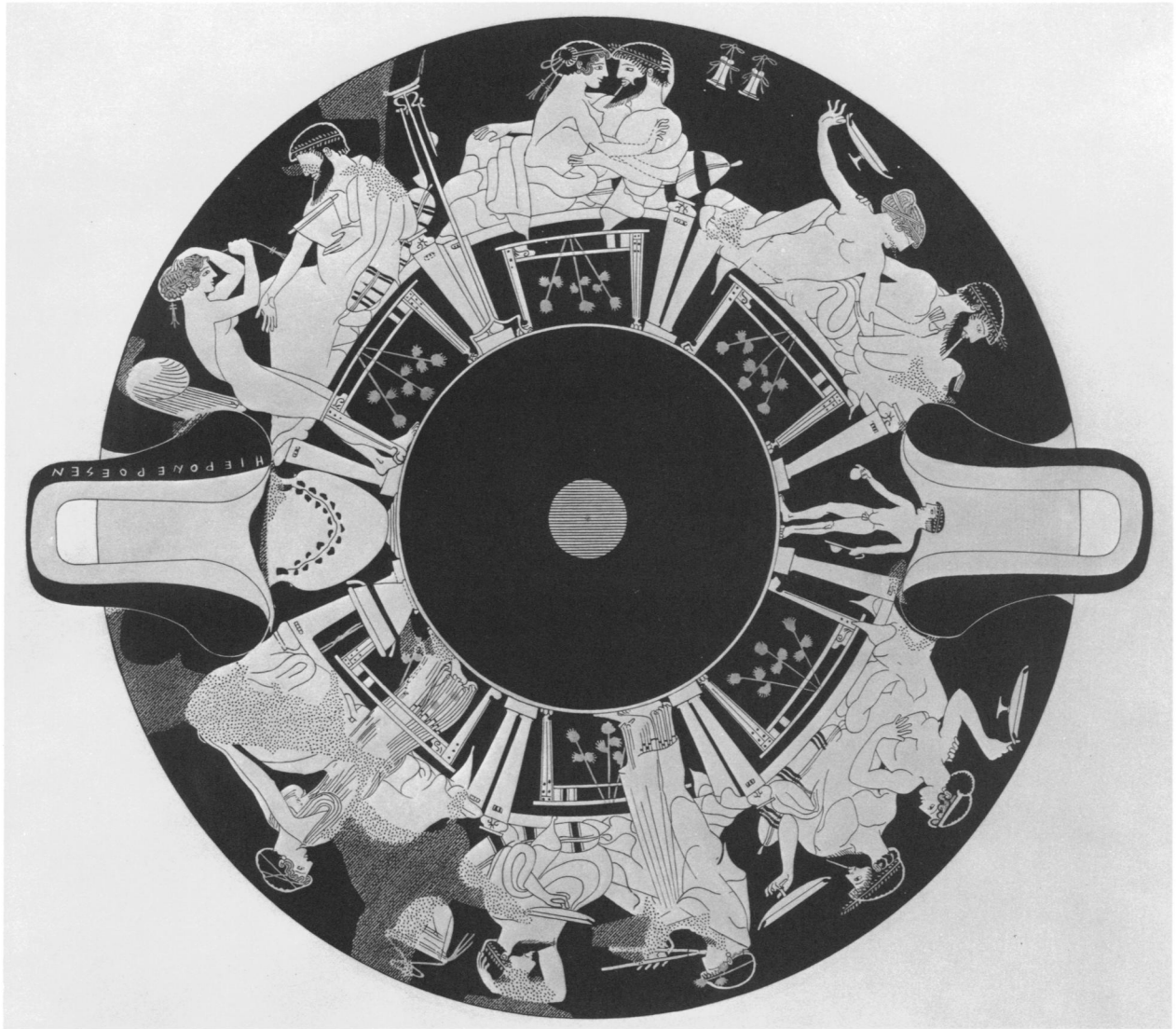


FIGURE 7  
Attic red-figure cup. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rogers Fund, 20.246



FIGURE 8  
Attic black-figure pelike (detail). Vatican Museum, 413 (photo: Courtesy Dietrich von Bothmer)



FIGURE 9

Bronze bracelet. D. 4.6 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.6

FIGURE 10

Bronze ring. D. 2.5 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.7

FIGURE 11

Bronze ring. D. 2.15 cm. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.8

was mixed with water, a ladle and strainer were basic utensils.<sup>5</sup> On a red-figure cup of about 490 B.C. by the potter Hieron and the painter Makron (Figure 7), they are shown hanging from a lampstand, and an additional sieve, together with a small jug, is held by the young attendant beneath the right handle. The ladle was used to dip out the liquid from the mixing bowl, represented under the left handle of the Makron cup. The strainer filtered out the deposit as well as additives to the wine;<sup>6</sup> an unusual form of evidence for this practice exists in a silver strainer shaped like a vine leaf.<sup>7</sup>

The most difficult piece to explain is the bottle. Its generalized shape would allow a variety of uses. It may once have contained the additives mixed into wine at a symposium and, later, been adopted as a convenient receptacle for coins, a function it may also have served in this find. Another possibility is that it contained oil,

scented or plain, in which case the funnel-strainer should perhaps be reconsidered.<sup>8</sup> An Attic black-figure pelike in the Vatican<sup>9</sup> shows an oil merchant removing his finger from the bottom of a funnel to allow its contents to fill a lekythos (Figure 8). While the use of a strainer is better documented with wine than oil, the funnel seems more necessary with a small, narrow-necked bottle than with an open drinking cup. In the absence of conclusive evidence, the connection between the five pieces is best left flexible. In any event, the funnel-strainer and bottle introduce two unusual shapes into a group of otherwise common bronze vessels.

The remaining bronzes in the Bastis find consist of a bracelet and two rings. The bracelet (Figure 9) has a thin hoop with flattened snake-head terminals; its small size suggests that it was made for a child. The rings (Figures 10, 11), by contrast, are for the fingers of an

5. D. K. Hill, "Wine Ladles and Strainers," *Journal of the Walters Art Gallery* 5 (1942) pp. 41–55; M. Crosby, "A Silver Ladle and Strainer," *AJA* 47 (1943) pp. 209–216.

6. A. Jardé, "Vinum," *Dictionnaire des Antiquités Grecques et Romaines* (Daremberg et Saglio) V, p. 920.

7. Crosby, "Ladle and Strainer," p. 212, figs. 4–5, pp. 214–216; D. K. Hill, *Greek and Roman Metalware* (Baltimore, 1976) no. 51. The pieces are now in the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, numbers 72.103, 72.104 (information courtesy J. C. Mannell).

8. The best study of funnel-strainers is H. Sauer, "Ein etruskisches Infundibulum in Kopenhagen," *Archäologischer Anzeiger* [hereafter *AA*] (1937), cols. 285–308 (note especially cols. 288–292 concerning ancient literary evidence). The Etruscan material is reconsidered in M. Zuffa, "Infundibula," *Studi Etruschi* 28 (1960) pp. 165–207. A useful discussion of funnels, sieves, and strainers appears in D. A. Amyx, "The Attic Stelai, Part III," *Hesperia* 27, 4 (1958) pp. 255–264.

9. C. Albizzati, *Vasi Antichi Dipinti del Vaticano* (Rome, 1925–39) p. 183, no. 413, pl. 61. For other representations of a funnel used in an oil shop, see Amyx, "Stelai," pp. 258–259. D. von Bothmer has drawn my attention to a particularly unusual container represented on a red-figure cup by the Scheurleer Painter (J. D. Beazley, *Attic Red-figure Vase-painters* [hereafter *ARV*]<sup>2</sup> [Oxford, 1963] 169, 11; *Paralipomena* [Oxford, 1971] 338). One would certainly agree with Beazley that the youth holds a perfume vase in his left hand and smells the perfume on the fingers of his right hand. The shape of the vase, however, is problematical because one cannot tell whether a spreading lip or a ring base is represented at the top. If the vase had a wide mouth, it would represent a kind of funnel with the stem modified into a dropper. If it has a flat base, the shape is related to the phormiskos (see most recently O. Touchefeu-Meynier, "Un Nouveau 'Phormiskos' à Figures Noires," *Revue Archéologique* 1972, pp. 93–102) as well as to perfume pots and the guttus type of askos (see B. A. Sparkes and L. Talcott, *The Athenian Agora* XII



FIGURES 12, 13  
Silver drachms of Alexander the Great, obverse and reverse. Collection of Christos G. Bastis, L.1973.117.9-13

adult. The hoops are elliptical in cross section. The bezels are decorated with a single motif in intaglio; the circular bezel shows a lion pacing to left, the oval one shows an Eros standing to left and playing the flute. Assuming that the Bastis find represents the grave goods placed with a burial, the inclusion of a child's bracelet adds to the rather heterogeneous character of the material. Was the person buried with mementos of his family or did the choice of objects depend on what was at hand? This is another question that must be left open.

The bronzes we have considered are attractive, but

their main interest is nonesthetic. This applies even more to the five silver coins that complete the find (Figures 12, 13). All are drachms of Alexander the Great with the youthful head of Herakles on the obverse and the image of Zeus seated with eagle and scepter on the reverse. All were minted in Asia Minor between 327 and 304 B.C. Their identification is most succinctly presented in a list, arranged chronologically (Figure 14).<sup>10</sup> This evidence contributes to several aspects of the find as a whole. First and foremost, the coins allow us to estimate when the material was buried, thus the approxi-

FIGURE 14 Identification of the silver drachms

<i>Museum loan number</i>	<i>Mint</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Weight (grams)</i>	
L.1973.117.13	Sardis	327 B.C.	4.15	Thompson-Bellinger 5
L.1973.117.11	Abydos	324 B.C.	4	Thompson-Bellinger 2
L.1973.117.9	Lampsakos	322 B.C.	3.5	Thompson-Bellinger 8
L.1973.117.12	Kolophon	316 B.C.	4.2	Thompson-Bellinger 10
L.1973.117.10	Kolophon	305/304 B.C.	3.85	Thompson-Bellinger 21/22

[Princeton, 1970] pp. 157, 162-164). Although the vessel represented by the Scheurleer Painter is probably of terracotta, a phormiskos of silver from Taman may also be compared (B. Pharmakowsky, "Archäologische Funde im Jahre 1912: Russland," *AA* 1913, col. 187, fig. 18).

10. The basic study of Alexander drachms remains M. Thompson and A. R. Bellinger, "A Hoard of Alexander Drachms," *Yale Classical Studies* 14 (1955) pp. 3-45. The arabic number cited in our list refers to the authors' list of issues in each mint.



mate date before which the bronzes must have been made. From the degree of wear, the latest coin seems to have been in circulation about twenty-five years.<sup>11</sup> A *terminus ante* can therefore be set around 280 B.C.; we shall pursue the question of chronology in discussing the individual bronze shapes. The second noteworthy feature of the coins is that all come from Asia Minor. Under Alexander the Great, Amphipolis and, secondarily, Pella were exceedingly important mints, due partly to their proximity to the mines of Thrace. Both, however, supplied gold and silver currency in larger denominations, the first primarily for foreign trade, the second for local use.<sup>12</sup> "Small change," such as drachms, was evidently issued in Asia Minor for the whole empire; of the seven major centers, four are represented here.<sup>13</sup> Owing to this feature of Alexander's monetary system, therefore, it is not surprising to find coins of rather distant mints in the heartland of his kingdom.

With the information gained, we may now return to the bronzes, especially the vessels, in order to consider more fully their typological, chronological, and, to a degree, their geographical context. The jewelry represents forms that are most familiar in gold and silver. Though by no means restricted to this area, personal ornaments decorated with snake-head terminals occur particularly often in Macedonia;<sup>14</sup> it is noteworthy also that the bracelets found with burials are frequently child-size.<sup>15</sup> Magnificent prototypes for the Bastis example exist in the Stathatos Collection.<sup>16</sup> Closer coun-

terparts, however, may be found at sites like Olynthos<sup>17</sup> and Mesembria.<sup>18</sup> The bronze bracelet is surely a local product, and, in view of the tradition for such objects, it can be accepted as contemporary with the remaining material. The rings present just the opposite situation. While they do not appear characteristic of any one region of Greece, their shape points to a period between the late fifth and late fourth centuries;<sup>19</sup> the fluting Eros also represents a type of subject favored at this time. Parallels from a well-excavated and published site may again be found at Olynthos;<sup>20</sup> other pertinent material, from Derveni<sup>21</sup> and Nikesianes,<sup>22</sup> for example, has yet to be fully illustrated. In publishing the rings from Olynthos, Robinson felt that those of bronze were more likely to have been made locally than imported.<sup>23</sup> One may assume the same for the Bastis examples.

Of the vases, the most difficult to place is the bottle, which has no exact counterparts among Greek shapes. On the other hand, the generally spherical, wide-mouthed, and handleless vase was a characteristic and exceedingly long-lived form<sup>24</sup> in the Balkan regions as well as southern Russia, and it is with this tradition that I should tentatively associate the Bastis bottle. During the period with which we are concerned, contacts intensified greatly between Greece, particularly Macedonia, on the one hand, and ancient Thrace and settlements around the Black Sea, on the other hand.<sup>25</sup> While such an explanation may seem unduly

11. Estimate made by C. Hersch, Mineola, New York.

12. E. T. Newell cited in A. R. Bellinger, *Essays on the Coinage of Alexander the Great* (New York, 1963) p. 44.

13. Thompson-Bellinger, "Alexander Drachms," pp. 6-8.

14. D. M. Robinson, *Excavations at Olynthus X* (Baltimore, 1941) p. 68; P. Amandry, *Collection Stathatos: Les Bijoux Antiques* (Strasbourg, 1953) p. 52. For further bibliography, P. Amandry, *Collection Stathatos: Objets Antiques et Byzantins* (Strasbourg, 1963) pp. 239-240.

15. G. Kazarow, "Zur Archäologie Thrakiens," *AA* (1918) cols. 23, 24, 27, 28; V. Kallipolitis and D. Feytmans, "Nekropolis en Kozane," *Archaiologike Ephemeris* 1948-49, pp. 91-92; D. Lazaridis, "Trouvailles de Mesembria," *Bulletin de Correspondance Hellénique* [hereafter *BCH*] 77 (1953) pp. 422-423; Amandry, *Objets Antiques*, p. 212.

16. Amandry, *Bijoux Antiques*, pp. 50-51, nos. 112-119.

17. Robinson, *Olynthus*, pls. 12-13, pp. 69-72.

18. Kazarow, *AA* (1918) cols. 24, 27, 28.

19. F. H. Marshall, *Catalogue of Finger Rings in the British Museum* (London, 1907) pp. xl-xli; J. Boardman, *Greek Gems and Finger Rings* (London, 1970) pp. 212-215.

20. Robinson, *Olynthus*, pl. 26, esp. nos. 451, 465, 467; pp. 138-145.

21. Apart from the Derveni krater, other finds from this site are still most fully published by C. Makaronas, "Chronika: Derveni," *Archaiologikon Deltion* [hereafter *Deltion*] 18 (1963) pp. 193-196.

22. D. Lazarides, "Anaskaphe tymbou Nikesianes," *Praktika tes Archaiologikes Hetairias*, 1959 (1965) [hereafter *Praktika*] pp. 47-48.

23. Robinson, *Olynthus*, p. 133.

24. For the early period, M. Gimbutas, *Bronze Age Cultures in Central and Eastern Europe* (The Hague, 1965). Some examples of the Sarmatian and Roman periods may be found in M. P. Abramova, "Sépultures sarmates de Don et d'Ukraine," *Sovetskaya Arkheologiya* [hereafter *SA*] 1961, 1, pp. 90-110; I. Velkov, "Neue Grabhügel-funde aus Bulgarien," *Bulletin de l'Institut Archéologique Bulgare* [hereafter *Bull. Bulgare*] 5 (1928-29), pp. 13-55, esp. p. 50, fig. 73; D. Aladzov, "Ausgrabung einer thrakisch-römischen Hügelnekropole in Mericlerci," *Bull. Bulgare* 28 (1965) pp. 77-122, esp. p. 97, fig. 18, 2.

25. For a recent survey, *Découverte de l'Art Thrace: Trésors des Musées de Bulgarie* (Paris, Petit Palais, 1974).

complicated for so simple a shape, a craftsman in Amphipolis may well have made this versatile and well-proportioned vase after a type common in surrounding areas. The development and the diversity of bottle-like vases in eastern Europe can best be studied from the numerous examples in clay.<sup>26</sup> Examples in metal existed as well, and for our purposes it is significant that a considerable number are datable to the fourth century. Despite evident differences, as in the treatment of the neck and mouth, I should compare with the Bastis bottle the globular silver vases from Chmyrev,<sup>27</sup> the Taman peninsula (Sellenskaya),<sup>28</sup> Karagodeuashk,<sup>29</sup> and Gornyani in Bulgaria;<sup>30</sup> several more came to light in the recently excavated "Tolstaya Mogila" not far from Chertomlyk.<sup>31</sup> The finds at Sellenskaya and Gornyani include, respectively, a gold stater of Alexander the Great and a silver tetradrachm of Philip II, thus providing a date roughly contemporary with that of the Bastis group. The bottle may also be compared with a silver vase of very similar form that has been modified by the addition of a handle; it was found near Bresovo,<sup>32</sup> north of Plovdiv in Bulgaria, in a grave that is probably datable to the second half of the fifth century B.C. While the Bastis bottle certainly belongs with the other objects in the group and may well have been made together with the other bronzes, it is set apart by its shape and technique. Our hypothesis is an attempt, subject to correction and revision, at associating the piece with material that is pertinent chronologically, geographically, and stylistically.

In contrast to the bottle, the duck-headed ladle belongs to one of the best documented groups of ancient metal utensils. The development of the shape in silver has recently been traced by D. Strong,<sup>33</sup> and the Bastis piece corresponds perfectly to the Early Hellenistic type with its shallow bowl, short projections, and long handle. Contemporary examples have come to light over much of the Greek world. From northern Greece, we may cite the bronze ladles from Olynthos,<sup>34</sup> as well as silver ones from Potidaea<sup>35</sup> and, evidently, from Thesaly<sup>36</sup> and Akarnania.<sup>37</sup> Another<sup>38</sup> belonged to the group of silver vessels found at Prusias (Bithynia), now with the Walter C. Baker bequest in the Metropolitan Museum. From Russia come still other examples of bronze (Kerch,<sup>39</sup> Kop-Takil<sup>40</sup>) and of silver (Kerch,<sup>41</sup> Sellenskaya,<sup>42</sup> Karagodeushk<sup>43</sup>). The list of ladles with recorded and unrecorded provenances is long and fa-

miliar, so it need not be continued here.<sup>44</sup> The pieces we have enumerated, however, provide a direct frame of reference for the Bastis ladle and indicate that it fits well with what we have seen so far of the find.

With the funnel-strainer and the cups we reach perhaps the most interesting of the objects. In addition to being somewhat larger and more complex in their construction, they admirably demonstrate a typical feature of Greek metal and clay vases, the variations of form within a given shape. Funnel-strainers are known from a number of archaic Etruscan examples<sup>45</sup> as well as from the famous piece in the Chaource Treasure (third

26. Comparanda for the Bastis bottle: S. I. Makalatiya, "Raskopki Dvanskogo Mogilnika," *SA* 11 (1949) p. 232, fig. 11, 1; T. N. Troitskaia, "Pogrebenie u Sela Beloglinki," *SA* 27 (1957) p. 230, figs. 4, 5.

27. B. Pharmakowsky, "Archäologische Funde im Jahre 1909: Russland," *AA* (1910) col. 225, fig. 4; col. 222.

28. Pharmakowsky, *AA* (1913) col. 185, fig. 17; col. 182.

29. A. Lappo-Danilevskij and B. Malmberg, "Kurgan Karagodeuashk," *Materialy po Archeologii Rossii* 13 (1894) p. 44, fig. 10.

30. V. Mikov, "Grabfund von Gornjani," *Bull. Bulgare* 11 (1937) p. 209, fig. 189; p. 213.

31. B. N. Mozolevskii, "Kurgan Tolstaya Mogila," *SA* 1972, 3, p. 305, fig. 41 (only one).

32. I. Velkov, "Grabhügelfunde aus Bresovo in Südbulgarien," *Bull. Bulgare* 8 (1934) p. 6, fig. 4, 2.

33. D. E. Strong, *Greek and Roman Gold and Silver Plate* (Ithaca, New York 1966) pp. 91-92, 115-116, 143.

34. Robinson, *Olynthus*, pp. 194-198.

35. J.-P. Michaud, "Chronique des Fouilles: Potidée," *BCH* 94 (1970) p. 1069, fig. 392; M. Karamanolis-Siganidis, "Chronika: Potidaea," *Deltion* 21 (1966) pp. 342-343.

36. Baltimore, Walters Art Gallery 57.909. Hill, "Ladles and Strainers," p. 40, fig. 1; p. 44; Hill, *Metalware*, no. 50.

37. Crosby, "Ladle and Strainer," p. 210, figs. 1, 2, pp. 209-214; Hill, *Metalware*, no. 51.

38. Metropolitan Museum of Art 1972.118.161. D. von Bothmer, *Ancient Art from New York Private Collections* (New York, 1961) p. 68, no. 266.

39. L. Stephani, "Erklärung der im Jahre 1862 bei Kerch gefundenen Gegenstände," *Compte-rendu de la Commission Impériale Archéologique* [hereafter *Compte-rendu*] (1864) p. 49, note 7.

40. S. Reinach, *Antiquités du Bosphore Cimmérien* (Paris, 1892) p. 95, pl. 44, 9.

41. Reinach, *Bosphore*, p. 80, pl. 30, 1-2; *Compte-rendu* (1864) p. 49, note 7.

42. Pharmakowsky, *AA* (1913) col. 185, fig. 11; col. 181.

43. Lappo-Danilevskij and Malmberg, "Karagodeuashk," pl. VI, 2.

44. See, for instance, Robinson, *Olynthus*, pp. 195-196, note 25.

45. Sauer, "Infundibulum"; Hill, "Ladles and Strainers," pp. 46-47.





FIGURE 15  
Bronze funnel-strainer. British Museum, 1911.1-17.1 (photo: Courtesy of the Trustees of the British Museum)

century A.D.).<sup>46</sup> In Greek art, I am familiar with five examples, all of which seem to be Hellenistic. All, however, were acquired by European museums and have little or no documentation so that their provenances remain uncertain. Best preserved is a funnel-strainer in the British Museum (Figure 15); the holes of the sieve are randomly distributed, the handles end in dog's

46. H. B. Walters, *Catalogue of Silver Plate in the British Museum* (London, 1921) pp. 38, 39, no. 146.



FIGURES 16, 17  
Bronze funnel-strainer. Karlsruhe, Badisches Landesmuseum, F 751 (photo: Courtesy Badisches Landesmuseum)

heads, and the handle plates develop extended curlicues that give this a more ornate appearance than the Bastis piece. In the Ashmolean Museum, there are two funnels, each of which originally had a pair of duck's-head handles; given the rather thick metal and the discoloration at the center of the bowl, they are probably funnel-strainers whose sieves have become detached and lost. The more complete piece (1932.440) resembles the one in London through the developed curlicues

and the beading around the bowl, while the other (1932.441), which lacks one of the duck's heads, is comparatively plain. C. Friedrichs' catalogue of bronzes in Berlin clearly includes at least one funnel-strainer;<sup>47</sup> bought from the Pourtalès collection, it was found at Cumae. The two following entries in the catalogue are described as being similar, but we cannot check their shapes since all three disappeared during the last war. Finally, a variant form of funnel-strainer is in Karlsruhe (Figures 16, 17).<sup>48</sup> It differs from the preceding pieces principally in the placement of the sieve, not within the bowl of the utensil but at the bottom of its relatively short, wide stem. This solution suggests a simplification of the type we have been considering, and the lack of detail in the handle plates and duck's heads points in the same direction.

The material cited presents parallels for the Bastis funnel-strainer, but virtually no chronological evidence. This we may derive, however, from a small number of two-handled strainers, without funnels, that correspond to the Bastis piece in all other respects. An example excavated at Potidaea<sup>49</sup> has the same duck's-head finials, short curlicues on the handle plates, and pinwheel sieve. Though extensively restored, another belongs to the Derveni find,<sup>50</sup> while a third was among a cache of fifth- and fourth-century objects found at Votonisi, near Metsovon.<sup>51</sup> A fourth strainer, reputedly from Thessaly, is in Baltimore.<sup>52</sup> The pieces from Potidaea and Derveni bring us once more to the latter part of the fourth century, where we should also place the Bastis funnel-strainer. As for the other funnel-strainers, we tentatively suggest that Oxford 1932.441 is roughly contemporary, that Oxford 1932.440 and London 1911.1-17.1 are somewhat later, while Karlsruhe F 751

is certainly the latest of the group. These conclusions receive further support from sieves with a single duck's-head handle. As examples from familiar sites, we may mention two of silver from Kerch<sup>53</sup> and Karagodeuashk<sup>54</sup> with which a bronze example in London<sup>55</sup> can be associated. The loop-handled sieve may be less familiar than the straight-handled variety, which is well known from finds and ancient representations; there can be no doubt, however, that it found favor in northern Greece, at least, during the earlier part of the Hellenistic period.

Our identification of the bronzes in the Bastis find has so far tended consistently toward the region in which they came to light and the years around the turn of the fourth century. As the kylikes present no exception, we shall dwell on their typology instead. Hellenistic drinking cups of metal may be divided into stemless and stemmed types and the latter subdivided into three main varieties according to the treatment of the bowl; the bowl may form a continuous curve, it may be non-continuous with a concave profile, and it may be kantharoid with a squat or calyx-shaped profile.<sup>56</sup> In all three cases, bronze examples typically have a fillet halfway up the stem, concentric rings where stem and bowl join, pointed handle roots, and triangular rather than rounded handle terminations at the height of the lip. The two Bastis cups perfectly exemplify the second variety, with the concave-sided bowl. They may be compared with several pieces whose provenances are important. One of these was discovered in grave B at Derveni,<sup>57</sup> thus providing a contemporary Macedonian counterpart. One now in West Berlin (Inv. 7264) reportedly comes from Corinth, and Stackelberg illustrated another, apparently from Ithaka.<sup>58</sup> Two cups of

47. C. Friedrichs, *Geräthe und Bronzen im alten Museum, Berlin* (Düsseldorf, 1871) p. 154, no. 657; Galerie Pourtalès (Paris, 1865) p. 142, no. 806.

48. K. Schumacher, *Beschreibung der Sammlung antiker Bronzen* (Karlsruhe, 1890) p. 94, no. 505.

49. Michaud, *BCH* 94 (1970) p. 1069, fig. 392.

50. Information about this piece from K. Rhomiopoulou. An example of silver from Derveni is illustrated in M. Andronicos, *The Greek Museums* (Athens, 1975) p. 282, fig. 17. It is complete and, on the rim of the bowl, is ornamented with a wreath.

51. J. Vocotopoulou, *Odegos Mouseiou Ioanninon* (Athens, 1973) p. 52, pl. 18; *BCH* 99 (1975) p. 773, no. 23 (includes further comparison).

52. Walters Art Gallery 57.910. Hill, "Ladles and Strainers," p. 40, fig. 1, pp. 52, 55; Hill, *Metalware*, no. 50.

53. Reinach, *Bosphore*, p. 82, pl. 31, 5.

54. Lappo-Danilevskij and Malmberg, "Karagodeuashk," pl. vi, 3.

55. 1847.8-6.139. Although it is possible that the sieve had two handles, the thinness of the metal makes it unlikely and virtually excludes the possibility of its having been a funnel-strainer.

56. Our discussion here will be limited to kylikes and not include skyphoi, phialai, and other vessels with small handles or none at all. For an introduction to this material, as well as to ancient plate generally, see Strong, *Greek and Roman Plate*. Our discussion also omits the ceramic counterparts to metal vessels, which may be found in black-glazed and West Slope wares, especially.

57. Makaronas, *Deltion* 18 (1963) pl. 228, b. See Andronicos, *Museums* p. 281, fig. 15, although the piece may not be the same one.

58. O. M. von Stackelberg, *Die Graeber der Hellenen* (Berlin, 1837) p. 42, pl. 54, 1. The register of objects in the British Museum's

FIGURE 18  
Bronze cup. British Museum, 1878.10-12.6  
(photo: Courtesy of the Trustees of the British Museum)



the concave variety are included among the forty-seven bronzes from Galaxidhi acquired by the British Museum from the English consul Merlin in 1878 and 1882.<sup>59</sup> This find represented to an earlier generation of scholars what the Derveni material is for us today; W. Lamb, for example, called bronze stemmed cups such as we are discussing “the Galaxidhi type.” She also suggested that the chief center of production was Corinth,<sup>60</sup> a hypothesis that seems to be based as much on ancient literary sources like Strabo and Pliny<sup>61</sup> as on archaeological evidence. Given other finds like the twenty pieces once in the Hoffmann collection<sup>62</sup> and indications from the site itself,<sup>63</sup> Corinth probably was a center of production and diffusion, but not the only one.

Before leaving the stemmed cups with concave sides, it is worth recalling four of the most elaborate examples of this shape; they came to light in the Seven Brothers Kurgan<sup>64</sup> and are dated by Strong to the second half of the fifth century B.C.<sup>65</sup> Their technique is noteworthy insofar as they were made of silver, decorated on the inside of the bowl with engraved representations, and gilded without obscuring the scenes. Equally remarkable are the compositions, which in two cases consist of a tondo surrounded by a zone of auxiliary figures; one shows Bellerophon slaying the Chimaera with six warriors around, the other shows a male personage and a maenad surrounded by three pairs of satyrs and maenads. Ceramic counterparts to such objects may be found, for example, in the oeuvres of the Penthesilea

Painter and his colleagues,<sup>66</sup> who were active in Athens around the mid-fifth century. The silver cups are interesting not only in themselves but also for the unmistakable dependence on pottery models. By contrast, their later and simpler counterparts of bronze exist in their own right as utilitarian rather than luxury objects made in some quantity probably according to standardized methods.

The alternate variety of drinking vessel with a non-continuous bowl is frequently called a kantharos. Its squat form, with a convex body surmounted by a flaring lip, is represented by examples in London from Galaxidhi (Figure 18), and in the Metropolitan Museum

Greek and Roman Department notes that their cup 1873.8-20.193 may be the one published by Stackelberg.

59. While the finds from Galaxidhi have become well known, there has never been a comprehensive publication of the whole group.

60. W. Lamb, *Greek and Roman Bronzes* (London, 1929) pp. 185–186.

61. See, for example, H. Payne, *Necrocorinthia* (Oxford, 1931) pp. 348–351.

62. Vente Drouot, 28–29 May 1888, lots 419–446. (Lot 427 is New York 21.88.68.)

63. G. Davidson, *Corinth XII* (Princeton, 1952) pp. 5, 64; H. Payne, *Perachora I* (Oxford, 1940) pp. 123–124.

64. L. Stephani, “Erklärung einiger Kunstwerke der kaiserlichen Ermitage,” *Compte-rendu* (1881) pp. 5–45, pl. 1, 1–5.

65. Strong, *Greek and Roman Plate*, pp. 78–79.

66. Beazley, *ARV*<sup>2</sup> 877–971. Apart from the main piece in Ferrara (*ARV*<sup>2</sup> 882, 35) see *ARV*<sup>2</sup> 908, 14; 934, 66 and 66 bis; 940, 8.



FIGURE 19  
Bronze cup. Munich,  
Staatliche Antikensamm-  
lungen und Glyptothek,  
S.L. 38 (photo: Courtesy  
Staatliche Antikensamm-  
lungen und Glyptothek)



FIGURE 20  
Bronze cup. British Mu-  
seum, 1882.10-9.2 (photo:  
Courtesy of the Trustees  
of the British Museum)

um.<sup>67</sup> A somewhat taller version with a larger interval between the convexity and lip appears in a piece purportedly from Galaxidhi, once in the Loeb collection

67. 07.286.130. G. Richter, *Metropolitan Museum of Art: Greek, Etruscan and Roman Bronzes* (New York, 1915) p. 216, no. 595. An elongated variant of London 1878.10-12.6 occurs in Athens, Melas inv. 15 (*BCH* 99 [1975] p. 569, figs. 38-39). Compare also Melas

and now in Munich (Figure 19),<sup>68</sup> and another in the Metropolitan Museum.<sup>69</sup> The most elongated version of this type has a calyx-shaped body surmounted by a

inv. 16, except for the lip, which is closer to the pieces in Figure 20 and footnotes 70 and 71.

68. J. Sieveking, *Die Bronzen der Sammlung Loeb* (Munich, 1913) p. 84 and pl. 44, above.

FIGURE 21  
Bronze cup. Munich,  
Staatliche Antikensamm-  
lungen und Glyptothek,  
Br 3766 (photo: Courtesy  
Staatliche Antikensamm-  
lungen und Glyptothek)



pronounced lip; two examples came to light in grave D at Derveni;<sup>70</sup> others are known from Galaxidhi (Figure 20) and from the art market.<sup>71</sup> Calyx-shaped cups without a distinct lip have been found, for instance, at Nikesianes,<sup>72</sup> Ithaka,<sup>73</sup> and Galaxidhi.<sup>74</sup> Of special interest is the piece said to be from the vicinity of Amphipolis (Figure 21).<sup>75</sup> Although we shall not discuss them here, it should be noted that these shapes occur among stemless cups as well.<sup>76</sup> We shall conclude with two

special examples of the stemmed variety. The first, which was discovered in Kephallenia and published by Stackelberg,<sup>77</sup> often appears in the older literature because it was found with a Corinthian coin of the late fourth century; though somewhat peculiar in Stackelberg's engraving, the shape of the cup may have corresponded to the taller of the Loeb examples. The second piece is another showpiece of silver, from Chmyrev.<sup>78</sup> It also is of the intermediate kantharoid variety, with

69. 69.266. D. von Bothmer, *Bulletin of the Metropolitan Museum of Art* (October 1970) p. 83.

70. Information from K. Rhomiopoulou.

71. Vente Hoffmann (1888), lots 423–424; Collection Borelli Bey, Vente Drouot, 11–13 June 1913, lot 264.

72. Lazarides, *Praktika* (1959) pl. 53, b.

73. H. Waterhouse, "Excavations at Stavros, Ithaca, in 1937," *Annual of the British School at Athens* 47 (1952) p. 233, pl. 47 a, b.

74. London 1882. 10–9.9. Munich, Staatliche Antikensammlungen und Glyptothek S. L. 37 (Sieveking, *Loeb*, p. 84, pl. 44 below, purportedly from Galaxidhi). From another site: *Allard Pierson Museum: Algemeene Gids* (Amsterdam, 1956) pl. 38, 788 and p. 90. In the Allard Pierson catalogue, the provenance of this piece is variously given as Eleutheræ and Galaxidhi; the catalogue of the Scheurleer collection (C. Scheurleer, *Catalogus* [The Hague, 1919] p. 101, no. 159), from which the piece came, gives Eleutheræ as the finding place. See also *Burlington Fine Arts Club: Exhibition of Ancient Greek Art* (London, 1904) p. 65, no. 112.

75. Ex coll. Arndt. This is the piece mentioned in Scheurleer, *Catalogus*, p. 101, no. 159.

76. Squat kantharoid examples from Galaxidhi (*Allard Pierson: Gids*, pl. 38, 789 and p. 90; same as Scheurleer, *Catalogus* p. 100, no. 158), Anaktorion (London, 1907.5–21.1), and Votonisi (*BCH* 99 [1975] pp. 764–766, nos. 15–18; an example of the elongated variety with pronounced lip (Metropolitan Museum 11.106; Richter, *Bronzes*, p. 217, no. 597); a pair of silver cups from Derveni with calyx form and plain lip (Makaronas, *Deltion* [1963] pl. 228, a). A silver vase with the broad and low shape commonly associated with kantharoi was found at Gornjani (Mikov, "Gornjani," *Bull. Bulgare*, p. 208, fig. 188). A remarkable calyx-shaped bronze cup that seems to have been made without any stem or foot whatsoever comes from Szob, Hungary (E. Baja-Thomas, *Archäologische Funde in Ungarn* [Budapest, 1956] p. 166).

77. Stackelberg, *Graeber*, p. 42, pl. vii.

78. Pharmakowsky, *AA* (1910) cols. 219–220, figs. 18–19.



FIGURE 22  
Bronze cup. British Museum,  
1878.10-12.2 (photo: Courtesy of  
the Trustees of the British  
Museum)

unusual features like fluting on the convex portion of the body and a tondo of sheet gold showing a nereid, helmet in hand, riding a hippocamp.

The last of the cup shapes that we distinguished was that with a continuous bowl. A few examples suggest the range of possibilities even here. A cup in the Metropolitan Museum,<sup>79</sup> another lent by William Rome to the Burlington Exhibition of 1903,<sup>80</sup> and others from Galaxidhi<sup>81</sup> in London have globular bodies of varying depths and handles attached at the sides; a further piece in London resembles the previous types in its shallower bowl with handles attached on the underside (Figure 22). Even greater variation occurs among the stemless examples with a continuous profile.

Our discussion here was not intended to be exhaustive, but rather to indicate several lines of inquiry suggested by the Bastis cups. In presenting the typological context to which the pieces belong, we have also had

the opportunity to survey the artistic diversity and richness existing in a subject that might well seem exceedingly prosaic. Geographically speaking, the material strongly suggests the existence of several centers of production, of which one may be located in Corinth, another or others in northern Greece; the presence of several in Macedonia is made likely by the number of cities in this region as well as by their access to trade routes and metals. Finally, although a few of our examples may be later, chronological indications for the class we have considered point toward the fourth and third centuries B.C., the earlier part of the Hellenistic period.<sup>82</sup> In all of these respects, the cups fit perfectly with the other constituents of the Bastis find. Moreover, by virtue of its coins, this find joins those like Derveni, Nikesianes, Sellenskaya, and Gorniyani in providing fixed points to which a varied, important, and ever increasing amount of material can be related.

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79. 07.286.97. Richter, *Bronzes*, pp. 216–217, no. 596.

80. *Burlington Exhibition* p. 61, no. 97. Christie's 18 December 1907, lot 42.

81. "1878.10-12.4" (probably 1878.10-12.3); 1878.10-12.4; 1878.10-12.5; 1882.10-9.3; 1882.10-9.12.

82. A pair of silver cup handles that came to light at Welwyn, Hertfordshire, in 1906 (R. A. Smith, "On Late-Celtic Antiquities discovered at Welwyn, Herts.," *Archeologia* 63 [1912] pp. 1–30, esp. pp. 20–21) should not be restored on the type of cup we have considered but rather on a stemless cup with an open bowl, as, for example, Strong, *Greek and Roman Plate*, p. 94, pl. 24, p. 111. The handles may also be earlier than the first-century B.C. context in which they were found.