

# Surface surveys in the northern Troad and the identification of Çiğlitepe as ancient Arisbe

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## Abstract

The region known as the Troad in western Anatolia is famed not only as the setting of Homer's *Iliad* but also for the Hellespont strait (modern Çanakkale Boğazı) linking the Sea of Marmara to the Aegean. In addition to large cities such as Sigeum, Abydus and Lampsacus, ancient writers also mention smaller cities located on the Hellespont. In this article, the location of the ancient city of Arisbe, presumed to have existed between Abydus and Lampsacus, is examined in the light of new archaeological data. Between 2002 and 2010, the author conducted surveys in the northern Troad. These surveys revealed an ancient settlement with archaeological material belonging to the Late Bronze Age, late Geometric, Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic periods. The location of this settlement, the archaeological data and information from ancient literary sources all indicate that this site should be identified as Arisbe.

## Özet

Küçük Asya'nın kuzeyindeki Troas bölgesi, Ege Denizi'ni Karadeniz'e bağlayan Hellespontus ve İlyada destanı nedeni ile oldukça tanınan bir bölgedir. Hellespont kıyısındaki (Çanakkale Boğazı) Sigeum, Abydus ve Lampsacus gibi polisler dışında daha küçük polislerin varlığı antik yazarlardan öğrenilmektedir. Bu yazıda Abydus-Lampsacus arasında yer aldığı ileri sürülen Arisbe'nin yeri arkeolojik veriler ile irdelenmektedir. 2002–2010 yıllarında Troas'ın kuzeyinde gerçekleştirilen yüzey araştırmasında Hellespontus kıyısında Çiğlitepe'de keşfedilen antik yerleşmede Geç Bronz Çağı, Geç Geometrik-Hellenistik Çağlara ait arkeolojik veriler elde edilmiştir. Keşfedilen antik iskan yerinin konumu, arkeolojik bulgular ve antik kaynakların tanımlarına dayanarak Arisbe olarak lokalize edilmesi önerilmektedir.

The Ancient cities of the Troad have been the subject of much detailed research, prompted in particular by the influence of Homer's *Iliad* (fig. 1). Although primarily focused on Troy/Ilium, excavations have also been carried out at sites such as Assus (Clarke 1881; 1898; Clarke et al. 1902), Neandria (Koldewey 1891), the Sanctuary of Apollo Smintheus (Özgünel 2001) and Alexandria Troas (Schwertheim, Wiegartz 1994), where ruins are better preserved. In addition to these formal excavations, Frank Calvert conducted small-scale fieldwork in the 19th century (Allen 1995: 379–407; 1996: 45–165) and W. Leaf and J.M. Cook both carried out surveys (Leaf 1923; Cook 1973), although Cook's work did not include the region north of Abydus. Later surveys by the Ilium excavation team and Mehmet Özdoğan were limited to prehistoric and Bronze Age settlements (Özdoğan 1993; Arslan et al. 2003). The discovery of Archaic- and Classical-period sarcophagi in the northeastern Troad in the 1990s caused

repercussions in the world of archaeology (Sevinç 1996; Sevinç, Rose 1999; Sevinç et al. 2001). These new discoveries helped draw the attention of scholars to the northern part of the Troad. As a result, a survey at Parium that began in 1997 became a full-scale excavation in 2005 (Başaran 1999; 2013). Between 2004 and 2007, Brian Rose from the Ilium excavation team investigated Biga and its surroundings with the aim of discovering new tumuli and sarcophagi (Rose, Körpe 2006; 2007; Rose 2014). A team lead by the author of this article carried out surveys between 2002 and 2010 in the Abydus-Lampsacus area on the Asian coast of the Hellespont and its hinterland aimed at locating Greek and Roman settlements (Arslan 2004; 2005a; 2005b; 2009a; 2009b; Arslan, Bakan 2012).

Research was carried out in the northern Troad in the districts of Lapseki (Lampsacus) and the area between Nara Burnu and Abydus. Maps of protected sites and the inventory records of the Çanakkale Archaeological



Fig. 1. Map of the Troad.



Fig. 2. Proposed location of Arisbe.

Museum were examined along with works by ancient writers, early travellers and contemporary researchers. The find locations of artefacts, as recorded in the museum's inventory, were visited with a view to determining ancient settlements. Difficulties in identifying these were encountered, especially in the forested and mountainous area east of Lapseki. To overcome this, villagers living in the area were consulted and many settlements were located with the help of local guides. In addition, topographical characteristics of the area were considered while searching for places suitable for settlement.

The primary material for determining ancient settlements was pottery. During the surface survey, no architectural remains or inscriptions earlier than the Byzantine period were found. Thus, apart from those already known along the Hellespont coastline, no settlements with the standing remains typical of a 'polis' were observed. The only substantial remains noted were a small village, a farm house and a military watchtower. The boundaries of a significant settlement at Çiğlitepe were determined in accordance with the distribution of pottery on the surface, and these were recorded on a map by means of GPS. After completion of the survey, this area was secured with the approval of the Board for Protection of Cultural Assets as a first-degree archaeological site.

Smaller cities in the Troad, such as Arisbe, Percote and Paesus, whose locations have been until now unknown due to a lack of archaeological findings, have now been identified as a result of our research. The location of Arisbe, in particular, is the subject of this article (fig. 2).

### Arisbe in the historical sources

Although Homer was the first to mention Arisbe, the written sources contain only very limited information about the city. Homer describes Arisbe in the *Iliad* as a holy city by the river Selleis (Homer *Iliad* 2.836, 5.13, 21, 43). There is no information available about the political allegiances of Arisbe during the upheavals of the Ionian Revolt and Peloponnesian War (Tenger 1995: 147). However, Arisbe is among the city-states that, according to its list of taxpayers for the years 453/2 to 430/29 BC, paid two talents to the Delian League (Shear 1939: 245; Meritt et al. 1950: 6.206; Mitchell 2004: 1004). Arisbe, where the armies of Alexander the Great bivouacked in 334 BC (Arrian *Anabasis* 1. 27), was later used as a base by the Galatians who plundered the region in 216 BC (Polybius *Histories* 5.111; Meyer 1877: 93; Ruge 1939: 541). Vergil mentions Arisbe in his *Aeneid* (9.246). Despite Strabo's claim that there was nothing left of the abandoned city (Strabo *Geography* 13.1,7), Pliny alludes to Arisbe among the cities on the coast (Pliny *Natural History* 5.125). Arisbe, according to Anaximenes, was a colony of Miletus (Strabo *Geography* 13.1, 6.21). But, according to

Stephanus Byzantinus, it was a colony of Mytilene (Lesbos) (Meyer 1877: 85; Hirschfeld 1895: 847; Ehrhardt 1988: 35). The city's name is related to Arisbe, the daughter of Merops of Percote, a city to the east of Arisbe (Apollonius Rhodius *Argonautica* 3.12, 5). Another city called Arisbe is known on Lesbos (Herodotus *Historiai* 1.151).

### Archaeological research

As with Abydus and Lampsacus in the northern Troad, there are now no ruins left from the small ancient cities of Arisbe, Percote and Paesus. The locations of these cities have, therefore, been estimated in accordance with the courses of ancient streams (Praktios/Percote and Paisos/Paesus). Ancient authors report that Arisbe lay somewhere along the course of the river Selleis (Yapıldak) and between Abydus and Percote. Based on this information, scholars chose to locate Arisbe between the Musa (Musaçay) and Yapıldak rivers (figs 3, 4; Pococke 1792: 161; Schliemann 1881: 155; Menge 1905: 9). However, due to a lack of archaeological evidence supporting the suggestions of these scholars, the precise location of Arisbe could not be determined (Mitchell 2004: 1004).

In order to determine the actual location of Arisbe, and other small ancient cities of the region, we searched the area stretching from the hills where the Yapıldak and Musa rivers originate down to the shores of the Hellespont. The geographical features between these two rivers were examined in the course of our search for traces of ancient settlements (fig. 5).

One ancient settlement was identified next to the village of Kangırlı, set in a rocky area 3km east of the Hellespont. In the early 19th century, Robert Walpole reported ancient wall remains in Kangırlı (Walpole 1818: 92). Two-storey mansions that remain standing today bear witness to the village's prosperity during the 19th century. Water flows from the rock on the eastern side of the village, and spreads over a broad rocky plateau. This spring is reached via a long stairway carved into the rock. An abandoned Turkish bath (*hamam*) and abandoned laundry buildings are visible in front of the spring. The fertile land on the slope that overlooks the valley on the eastern side of the baths is covered with plots of vegetables. Sherds found in these fields were observed to be from the Roman period. Inventory records from Çanakkale Archaeological Museum reflect these finds, with Roman-period ceramics having been brought to the museum from this village.

Thus, the archaeological findings at Kangırlı indicate that a small Roman settlement was located here. This settlement was situated at a spot distant from the shores of the Hellespont and the river Musa. No evidence dated prior to the Roman period was found. This eliminates the possibility of associating the settlement at Kangırlı with ancient Arisbe.



Fig. 3. Leaf's map of the northern Troad (1923).



Fig. 4. Meyer's map of the Troad (1877).

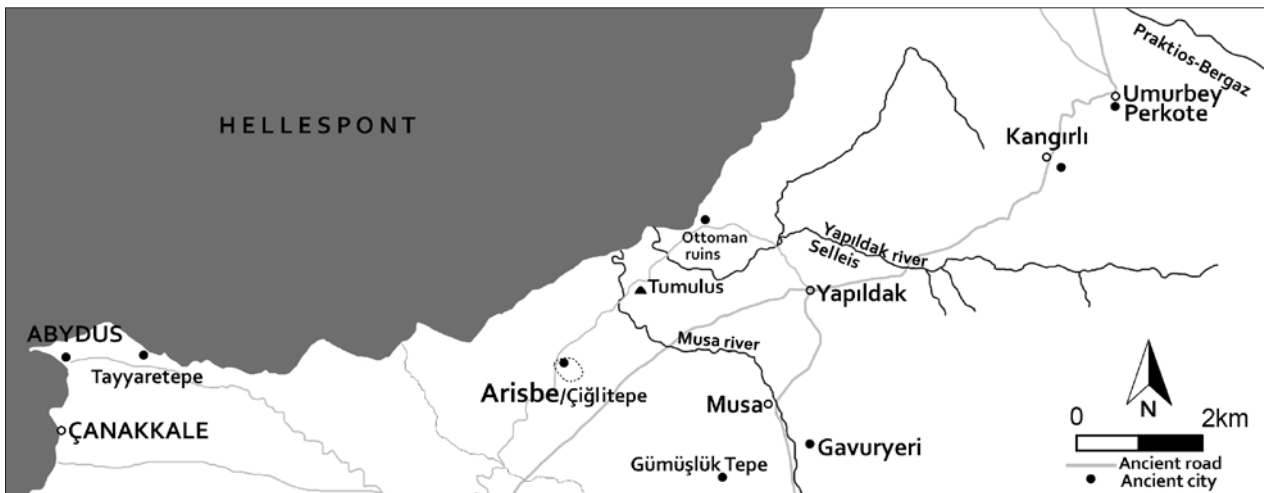


Fig. 5. The proposed location of Arisbe and its surroundings.

An ancient settlement was also identified in an area known as Gavuryeri, 1km south of Musa village, which is 2km southwest of the village of Yapıldak (fig. 5). This settlement, at an elevation of 106m above sea level, is situated on the heights close to the river Musa. The entire Hellespont is visible from Gavuryeri. Sherds in abundant quantities were observed on the banks of the river and on the slopes. No other findings, other than the remains of old buildings, can be seen on the surface because of tree and vegetation cover across the hill. The remains of a lime mortar and rubble stone building were identified on the hill. The building is supposed to have been a church, hence the place name of Gavuryeri (place of non-Muslims). On the rocky slope west of the hill in question, traces of an ancient quarry were observed. A small portion of the pottery gathered from the ancient settlement area belongs to the Hellenistic and Roman periods while the rest dates to Byzantine times (12th to 13th century AD). Byzantine pottery was observed over a very extensive area in large quantities (fig. 6; Böhlendorf-Arslan 2012: 285).

Gavuryeri, 4km as the crow flies from the Hellespont, has been suggested by R. Pococke and W. Ruge as the site of ancient Arisbe (Pococke 1792: 161; Ruge 1939: 547). B. Tenger, without detailed knowledge of the terrain, also proposes Gavuryeri as the location of Arisbe. Given the remote location of Gavuryeri from the Hellespont, Tenger suggests that its essential connection to the sea would have been maintained via the river Musa (Tenger 1995: 147). However, while the water level rises during the rainy season, the Musa tends to dry up during the summer (fig. 7), and it is thus not suitable for transportation by boat in any season. Presuming similar conditions existed in antiquity, Gavuryeri cannot have been the location of ancient Arisbe. Furthermore, although archaeological findings at Gavuryeri date back to the Hellenistic period, no material evidence dating to earlier eras has been recovered.

Heinrich Kiepert (1867) positions Arisbe between the Yapıldak/Selleis and Musa rivers on his map. Leaf, who visited the region in 1911, states that these two rivers probably merged in ancient times due to a lagoon forming between them, and that the name ‘Selleis’ could have been given to the point where the two rivers joined. Leaf also proposes that Arisbe should definitely be placed on the plain between these two rivers (fig. 3; Leaf 1923: 109). To test these suggestions, we carefully examined the area between the two rivers down to the shoreline. Extensive pottery remains belonging to the Ottoman period were found next to several late Roman ceramic sherds on the low hill on the coast where the Yapıldak/Selleis river empties into the Hellespont. The maps and research of Leaf confirm that the road to the side of this hill was used regularly in the 19th century, as it was, in fact, until the mid 20th century. The spot where the pottery was found is assumed to have been used by travellers as a stopover. The river bed, being shallow and covered with pebbles where it reaches the sea, permits both pedestrian and vehicular passage.

By crossing to the southern bank of the Yapıldak/Selleis river and proceeding along an old road, we encountered a small hill, which may be better described as a tumulus (fig. 8). In 1901, Sami Efendi of Lapseki (Lampsacus), who had been collecting antiquities on behalf of Osman Hamdi Bey, Director of the Istanbul Archaeology Museum, excavated a tumulus he had discovered with the permission and financial support of Osman Hamdi Bey (Reinach 1901: 297–98; 1903: 39–48). In this tumulus, roughly 6m in height, a tile grave without gifts was discovered at a depth of 2m. Offerings were also not found in a second grave, found at a depth of 4m. However, another grave was found carved into the bedrock and covered with slabs. Golden beads in large quantities, bronze fibulas, pottery with a black glaze and a hydria

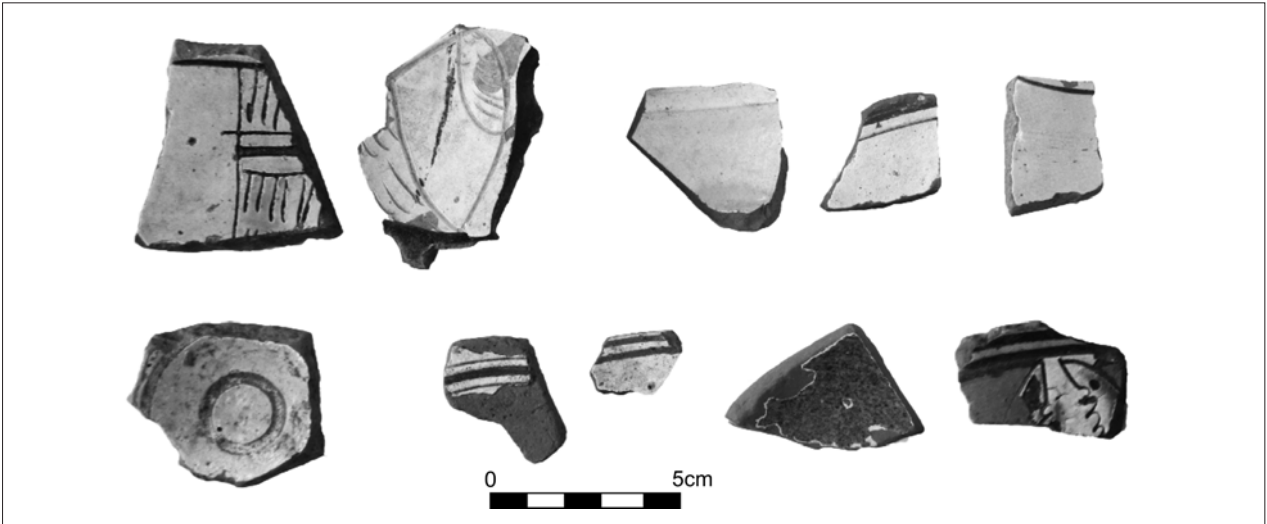


Fig. 6. Byzantine pottery, Gavuryeri.



Fig. 7. River Musa, September 2010.



Fig. 8. Abydos-Lampsacus road and tumulus.

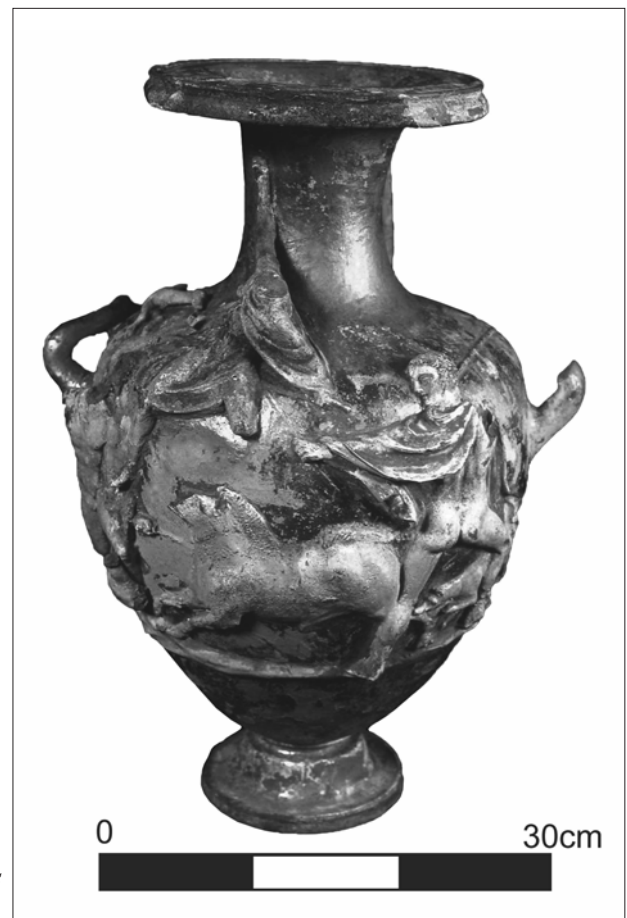


Fig. 9. Hydria found in the tumulus (Istanbul Archaeological Museum 2922).

depicting the Calydonian boar hunt were found in this grave. These pieces were taken to the Istanbul Archaeological Museum (Reinach 1901: 297–98; 1903: 39–48). The hydria depicts a boar-hunt scene using appliqué relief, and this hydria, on which gilding was applied in addition to multi-coloured paint, enables the tumulus to be dated to the middle of the fourth century BC (fig. 9; Diehl 1964: 64, 83; Asgari 1983: 72 B, 168). Although S. Reinach states that the tumulus was near Lampsacus, Leaf and Ruge report it as being near Arisbe (Leaf 1923: 109; Ruge 1939: 548).

While proceeding towards the river Musa, fragments of roof tiles and pithoi were observed randomly scattered across the alluvial plain, which is used for farming today. As these pieces are small and coarsely manufactured, it is difficult to estimate their date.

The site of Çiğlitepe, the focus of this article, sits at an altitude of 22m and is reached by crossing the river Musa and proceeding 450m in the direction of Abydos (figs 10, 11). A deep cove lies to the west of the hill and the marshy ground here is covered with reeds. The other sides of the

hill are surrounded by fertile land. Today, an area almost 100m in diameter is covered with peach orchards and sunflower and wheat fields. Sherds were discovered in large quantities on the top of Çiğlitepe (the name in Turkish means ‘rough, raw, crude hilltop’) and across a vast area around it. The profusion of Bronze Age pottery on the highest part of Çiğlitepe is striking. On the other hand, when descending the slope towards the plain, pottery from the Archaic period covers the entire surface.

The Bronze Age pottery mostly consists of grey pots and a few examples with red glaze. Bowls and cups are the more commonly seen forms among the grey wares (fig. 12). It is known that similar pots, called Grey Ware or Grey Minyan Ware in Ilium 1, were produced without interruption in later periods. However, the pottery of Çiğlitepe displays similarities in terms of form and other characteristics with pottery from Late Bronze Age Ilium (Blegen et al. 1958: figs 214b, 216). Grey Ware, known by various names up to the present day, is the characteristic pottery of Ilium from the Middle Bronze Age until the Late Bronze Age (Troy VI–VIIa) (Aslan et al. 2003: 166).



Fig. 10. Çiğlitepe and vicinity from the east.



Fig. 11. Çiğlitepe from the south.

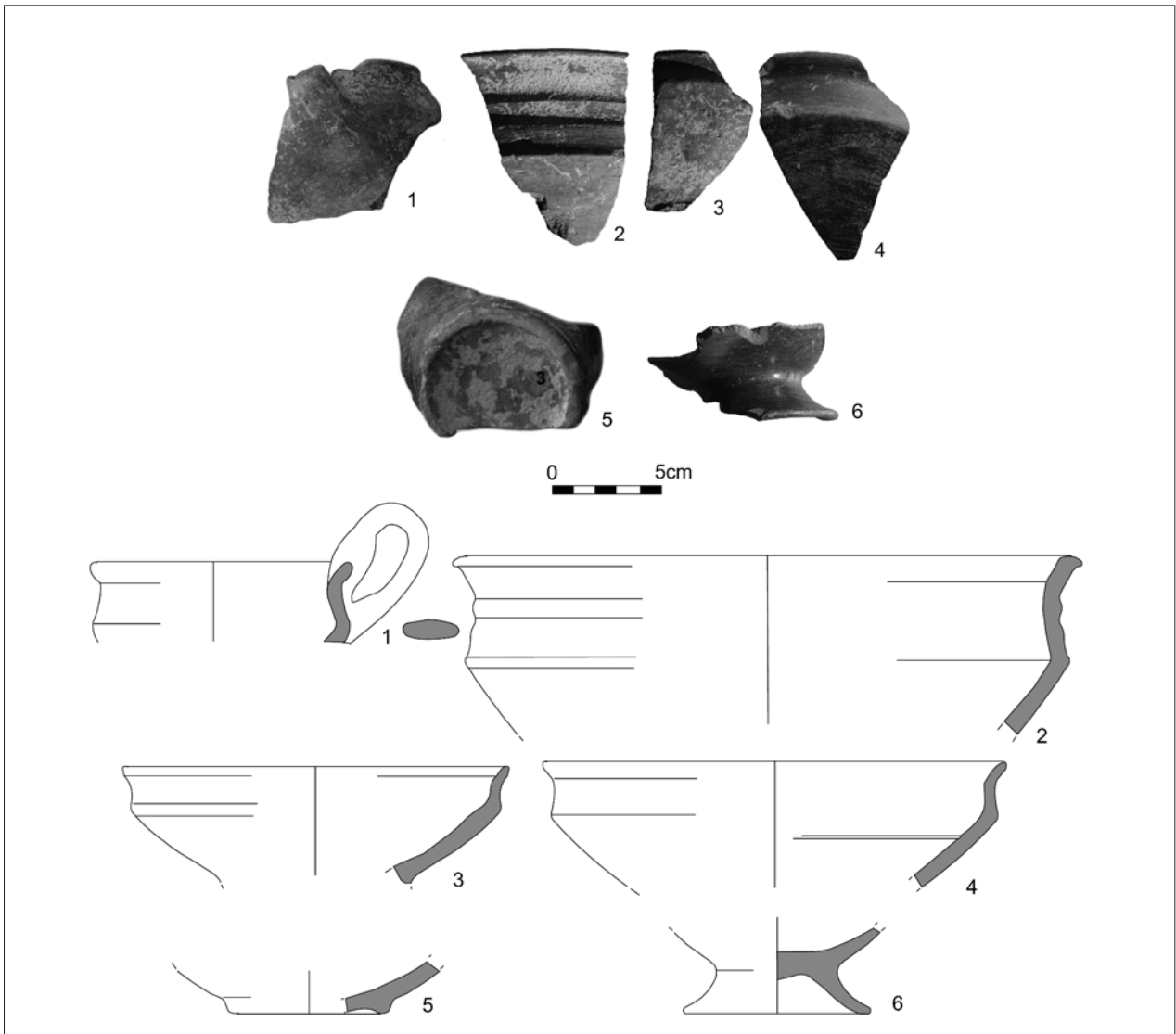


Fig. 12. Grey Ware pottery, Late Bronze Age, Çiğlitepe.

In addition to the examples of Grey Ware vessels, pots made of glazed red clay (Tan Ware) are present in the settlement of Çiğlitepe, albeit in smaller quantities (fig. 13). Similar pottery has been found in the same layers as Grey Ware pottery in Troy VIa–e (1725–1425 BC) (Blegen et al. 1953: 19, 22). Early Iron Age handmade wares, Mycenaean LH IIIC, Protogeometric pottery and G2/3 wares are as yet unknown at Çiğlitepe.

As with the pottery, stone hatchets found at Çiğlitepe (fig. 14) are also thought to belong to the same period as the layers of Troy VI (Blegen et al. 1953: 298, fig. 299, 35–419). It is possible to say that the finds from Çiğlitepe are contemporaneous with the Late Bronze Age, in other words, with Troy VIa–e at Ilium.

However, after the late Geometric period, it is observed that Greek pottery slowly becomes more common amongst the remains from Çiğlitepe. Skyphoi and kraters, dated to the end of the eighth century BC, are early examples (fig.

15; Boehlau, Schefold 1942: 170, pl. 57, 9; Blegen et al. 1958: 278, 300, figs 308.17, 314.5; Cook, Dupont 1998: 24, fig. 5.9). Nevertheless, the layers dated to the late seventh and early sixth centuries contain the most Greek pottery. These latter ceramics consist of closed vases in the Wild Goat Style and especially plates with tall and short stands (fig. 16; Blegen et al. 1958: 301, fig. 315.13). Ionian bowls, also belonging to the time span of the late seventh to early sixth century have also been found at Çiğlitepe (fig. 17; Isler 1978: 150, 525, pl. 13; Aytaçlar, Kozanlı 2012: 34–39, figs 106–25).

The oil lamps and amphorae of Çiğlitepe are particularly significant among the ceramic finds dated to the sixth and fifth centuries BC (fig. 18; Howland 1958: 52–53, pls 4.115, 7.193–94). Examples of Grey Ware amphorae are frequent (Boehlau, Schefold 1942: 123–24, fig. 49; Aslan 2011: 397, fig. 13) along with those well known from Miletus, with wavy, decorated necks (fig. 19; Voigländer



1982: 45, 118–19, fig. 7.41–52). In addition to amphorae, open and closed vessels of the Grey Ware group were frequently found at the ancient settlement (fig. 20). The Grey Ware pottery, either matt or polished, is adorned with plain or incised wavy-line decoration.

Grey Ware was the most common type of pottery made in the Troad during the Archaic period (Koldewey 1891: 15, figs 23.16, 27; Utili 1999: 70–95; Hertel, Schachner 2000: 309–13; Arslan, Sevinç 2003: 223–50; Aslan 2009a; Danile 2011: 134–40). As both the form and simple decoration of Grey Ware were used for a long time without change, the context of its discovery is necessary in order to establish reliable dating. This type of pottery was most widespread at Ilium during the Proto-geometric to Archaic period. It has been claimed that the pottery called Grey Ware or *Aiolis Bucchero* originated

on Lesbos (Lamb 1932: 1) or in Asia Minor (Graham 2001: 175). Carl Blegen also states that the Grey Ware of Troy could be related to Lesbos. However, clay analysis (NAA) carried out in recent years at Ilium has demonstrated that it was produced locally (Blegen et al. 1958: 253; Mommsen, Pavúk 2007; Hertel 2008: 226; Aslan 2009a: 267–68; 2009b; 2011: 398, fig. 14; Aslan, Günata 2014: 88). The Grey Ware pottery that has been most accurately dated was found in the necropolis of Assus; early samples have been dated to the mid seventh century BC (Utili 1999: 70–95). During our surface survey in the northern Troad, Grey Ware pottery was found on the coast of the Hellespont in settlements such as Tayyaretepe, Percote and Paesus near Abydos (Arslan 2005a: 318, 319, figs 1, 7; 2009a: 334, figs 1–3; 2009b: 80, 85, fig. 9).

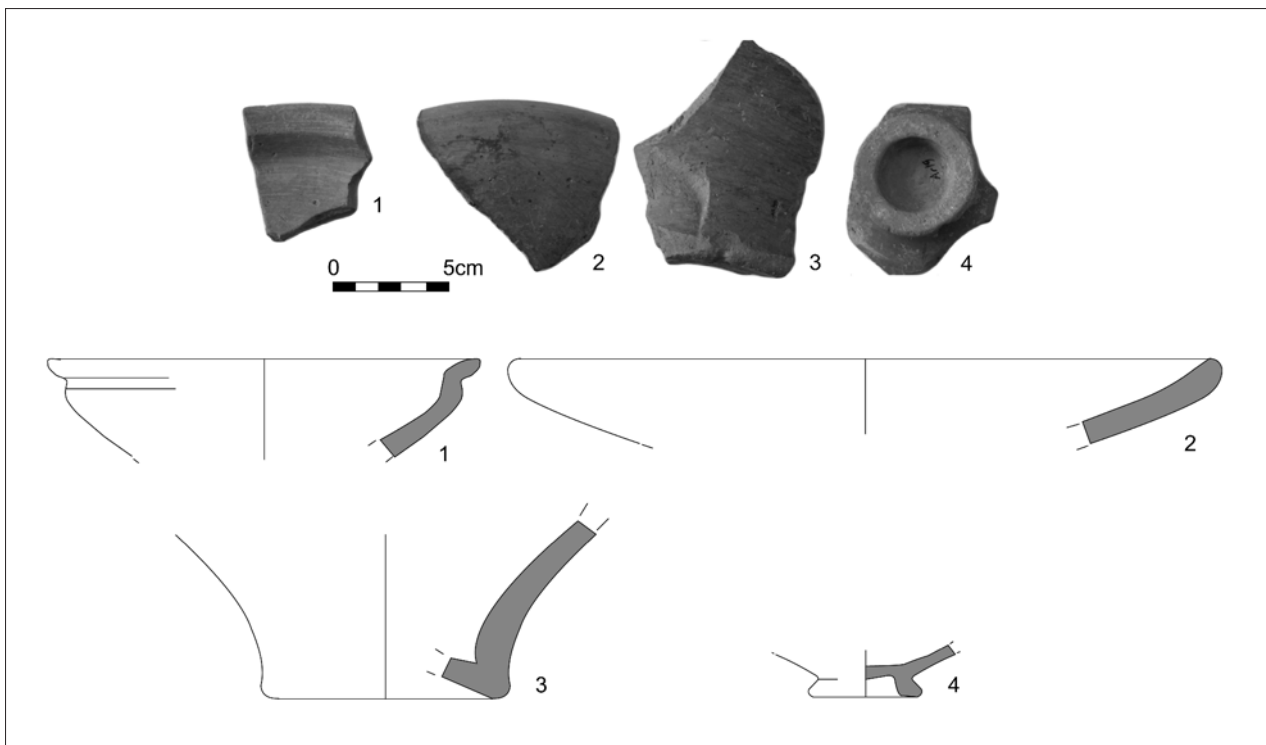


Fig. 13. Tan Ware, Late Bronze Age, Çiğlitepe.

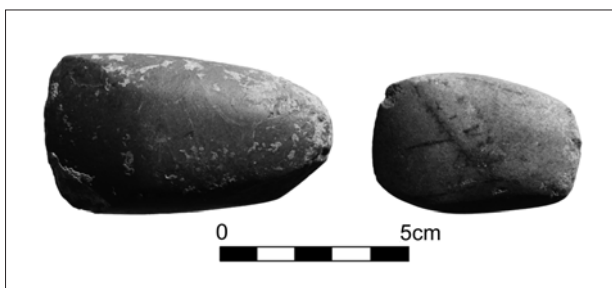


Fig. 14. Stone hatchets, Late Bronze Age, Çiğlitepe.

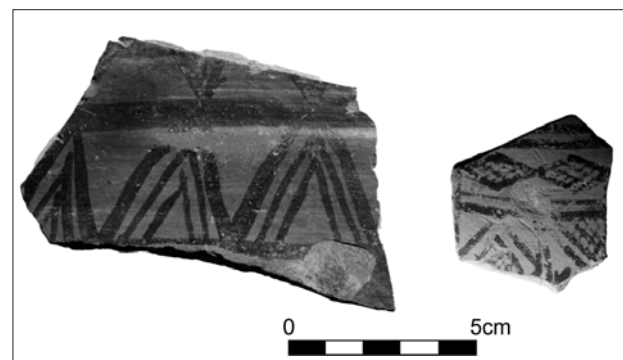


Fig. 15. Late Geometric pottery, Çiğlitepe.

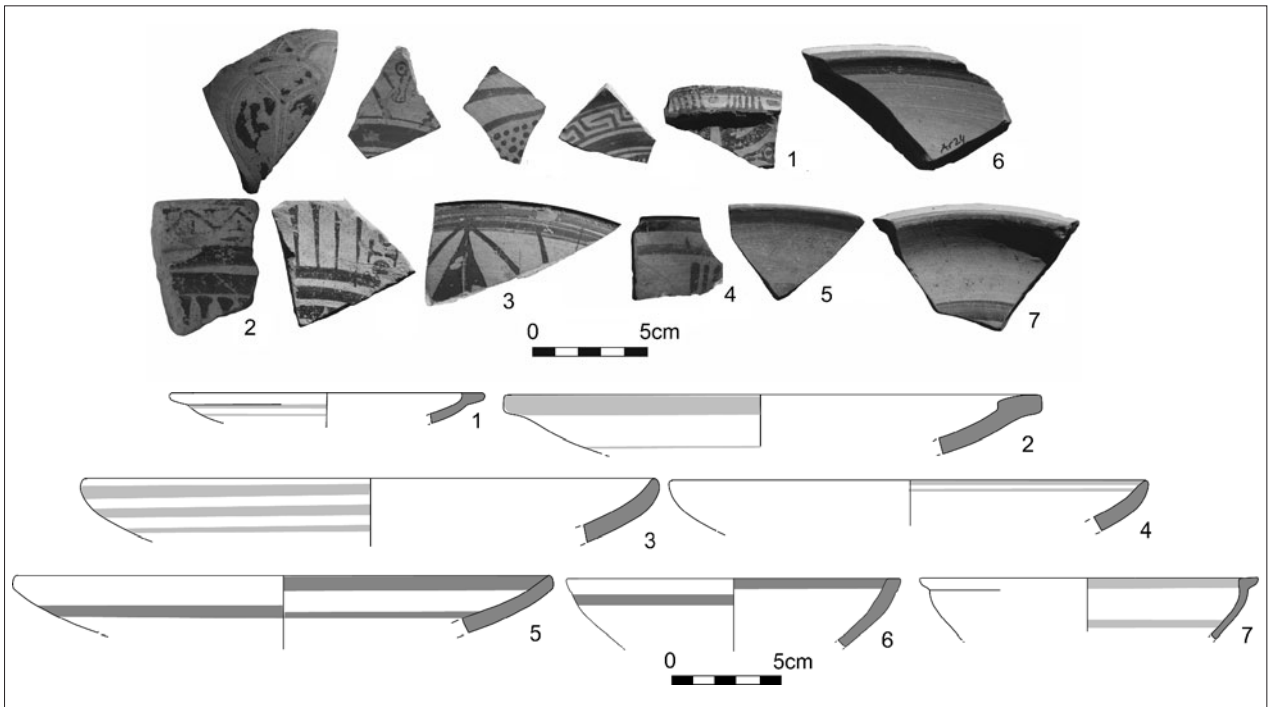


Fig. 16. Archaic pottery, Çiğlitepe.

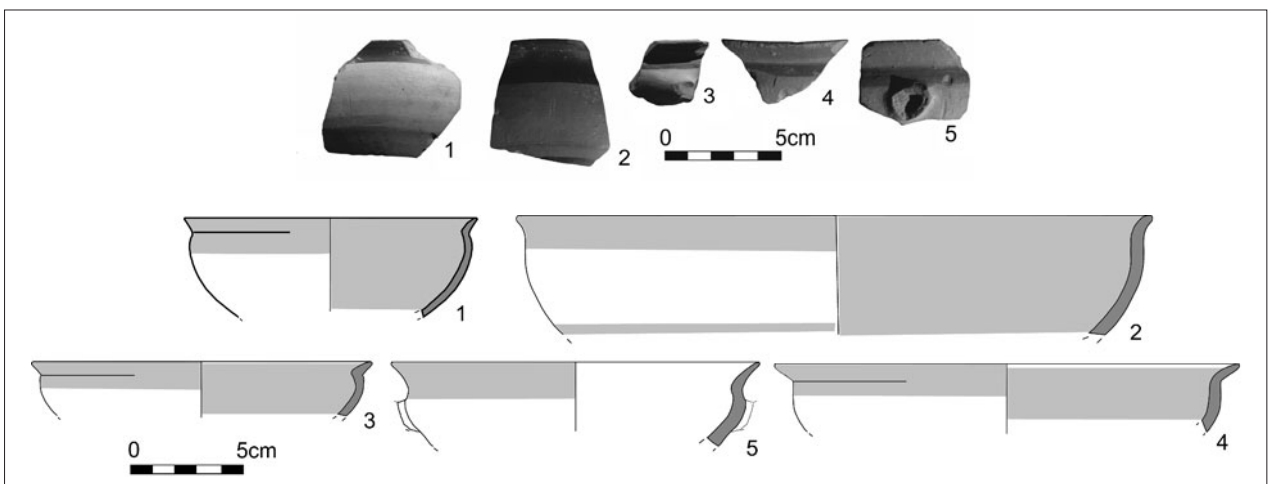


Fig. 17. Ionian bowls, Archaic, Çiğlitepe.

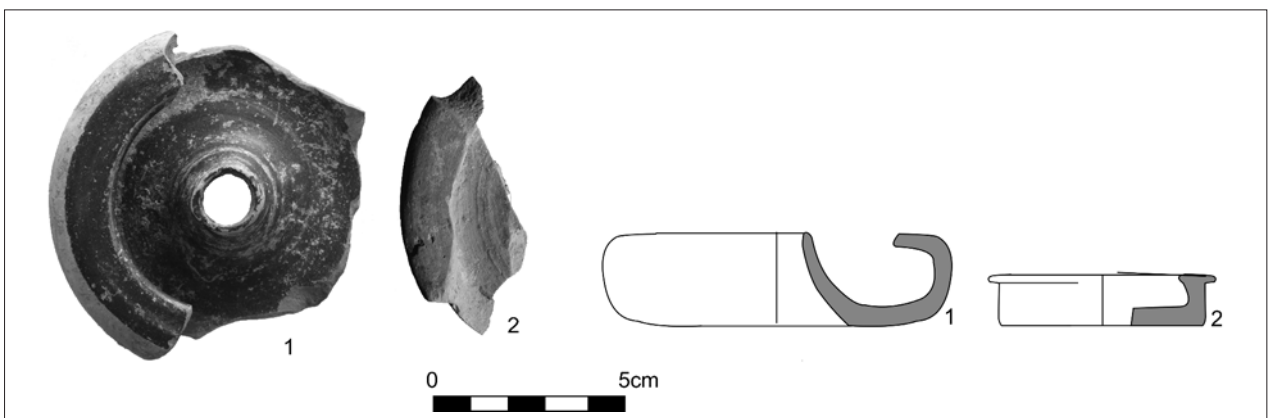


Fig. 18. Oil lamps, Archaic and Classical, Çiğlitepe.

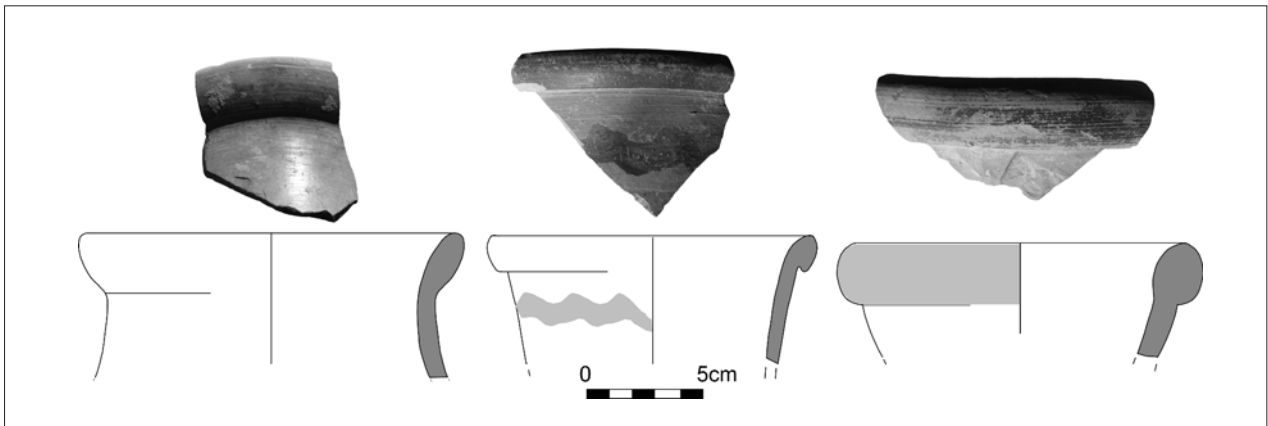


Fig. 19. Amphorae, Archaic, Çiğlitepe.

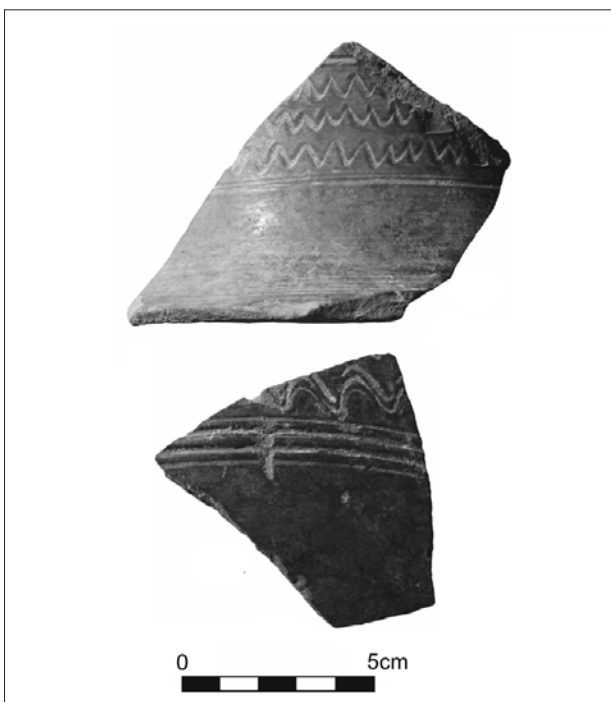


Fig. 20. Grey Ware, Archaic, Çiğlitepe.

Grey Ware, also known as Aeolian pottery, acquired from Archaic settlements in the Troad is likely to be related to Aeolian colonisation of the area (Lamb 1932: 1; Akalın 1991: 13–14). Many cities in the southern Troad (for instance Antandrus, Assus, Gargara, Lamponia, Hamaxitus, Neandria, Larisa) were colonised by the Aeolians. Besides the Aeolians establishing settlements along the coast of the Hellespont (at Ilium, Sigeum, Dardanus, Madytus and Sestus), people from Miletus also founded colonies (for example Abydus, Arisbe, Percote, Lampsacus, Paesus: Bilabel 1920: 49–51; Ehrhardt 1988: 29–37; Tenger 1999: 121–26; Graham 2006: 118–19; Rose 2014: 58). The Grey Ware pottery encountered in dense quantities during the surface survey at Çiğlitepe was found together with pottery painted in the Miletan style.

The Grey Ware pottery samples found at Çiğlitepe, related to Aeolian settlement of the Troad, are thought to belong to the late seventh to sixth century BC, as is the Greek pottery. The ceramics at Çiğlitepe indicate the relation of this settlement with both Miletus and Mytilene. Nevertheless, it is difficult to tell by the ceramics on the surface which city (or cities) colonised it.

Although it is difficult to utilise the surface finds at Çiğlitepe in order to make a contribution to the chronology of Grey Ware pottery, it is nevertheless important to identify the areas to which this type of pottery spread, i.e. its distribution pattern.

Only two fragments of black-figure vases were found at this settlement. These body sherds come from a dinos and a krater, and depict human figures and a palmette pattern (fig. 21). These examples, thought to have originated in western Anatolia due to the characteristics of their clay, should be dated to the sixth century BC.

The Archaic-period pottery found at Çiğlitepe is, with the exception of the Grey Ware, of eastern Greek style and shows similarities with that of Miletus. However, clay analysis (NAA) of pottery found in Greek cities on the coast of the Black Sea and the Hellespont has shown that these wares were most probably produced at a site in the vicinity of the Hellespont (Posamentir et al. 2009: 35–50). Fragments from Çiğlitepe were included in this study. Thus, the results suggest that the Archaic-period pottery of Çiğlitepe was indeed made somewhere near the Hellespont (Posamentir et al. 2009: 43–45, figs 1–3). Clay analysis (NAA) of the Wild Goat Style pottery of Ilium has demonstrated that this too was produced locally in the late seventh century to early sixth century BC (Aslan, Pernicka 2013: 48). Although a potter's kiln has yet to be found, Ilium, Abydus (Posamentir, Solovyov 2006: 27–115) and Parium (Aytaçlar, Kozanlı 2012: 27–117) have each been proposed as the hub where pottery was made in the eastern Greek style during the Archaic period in the Hellespont region.

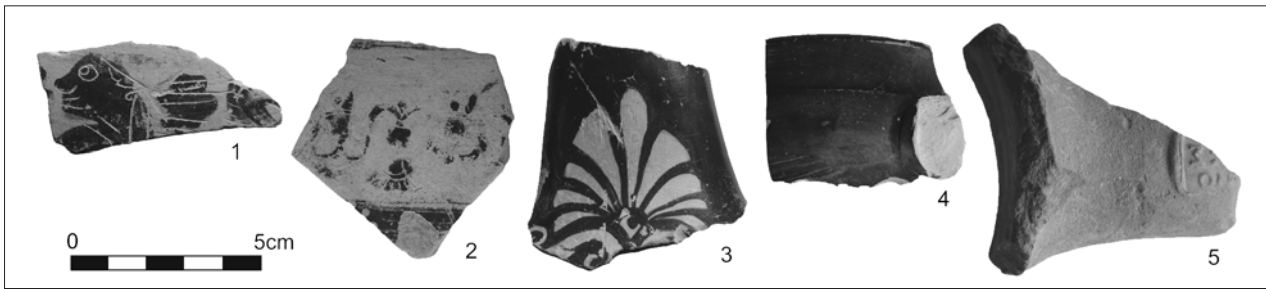


Fig. 21. Archaic (1, 2), Classical (3, 4) and Hellenistic (5) pottery, Çiğlitepe.

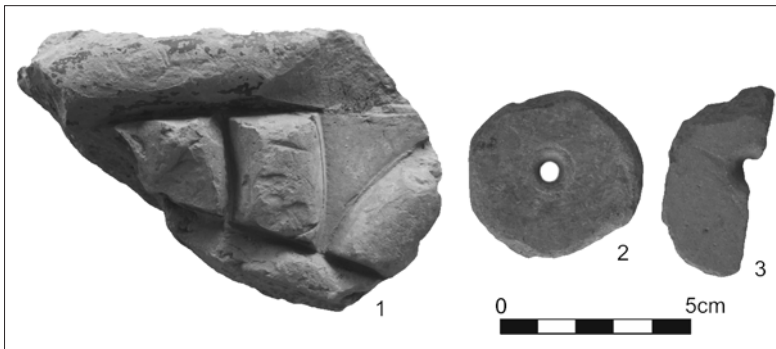


Fig. 22. Architectural terracotta (1) and clay spindle whorls (2, 3), Çiğlitepe.

In addition to pottery, architectural terracotta pieces and spindle whorls (fig. 22) belonging to the Archaic period have also been found in Çiğlitepe. It is known from examples from Ilium that this type of spindle whorl was in use for a long time (Blegen et al. 1958: 269, fig. 236; Young 1975: 191–92, fig. 142, C172–73; Arslan 2009b: 80, fig. 17). The example of architectural terracotta shown in figure 22 indicates the presence of a public building here, perhaps a temple. This type of terracotta has been discovered in most Archaic settlements across the Troad (Åkerström 1966: 5–20, figs 2–3, pls 2–8; Cook 1973: pls 61–63; Arslan 2009a: 335, fig. 5; 2009b: 80, fig. 16).

Among the examples of Classical-period pottery found at Çiğlitepe, a palmette-decorated handle and black-glazed calyx fragments are of Attic origin (fig. 21; Sparkes, Talcott 1970: 268, fig. 5.471; Kunze-Götte et al. 1999: 16, pl. 10, 27, 2).

During the recent field survey, it was noticed that pottery from the Hellenistic period was very scarce (Rose et al. 2007: 64, 105). This may be due to the inhabitants moving to Abydos in order to escape the threat of invasion by the Galatians; Arisbe lay within the territory of Abydos during the Hellenistic period (Polybius *Histories* 5.111). An amphora handle with a stamped seal may be one example from the Hellenistic period (fig. 21).

No finds belonging to later periods were recorded at Çiğlitepe or in its surroundings. However, in the marshy cove to the west of Çiğlitepe, a small settlement area was identified in 2013 by the Çanakkale Archaeological Museum at a depth of 90cm; it dates to the Byzantine period, between the seventh and 12th centuries AD.

## Conclusion

Previously, prior to the acquisition of good archaeological data related to its location, Arisbe was placed either at Gavruyeri or at a spot between the Musa and Yapıldak/Selleis rivers; these identifications were based largely on the writings of Homer. As a result of the detailed research that has now been carried out in the area, we have established that no Archaic- or Classical-period settlement, other than Çiğlitepe, can be located between the two rivers (Musa and Yapıldak/Selleis) or within their surroundings. Thus, due to its location and the data recovered from the site (fig. 5), the settlement at Çiğlitepe, occupied from the Bronze Age onwards with its most active period dated to the Archaic period, should be identified with ancient Arisbe. Çiğlitepe is 8km from Abydos and 9.3km from Percote as the crow flies; the ancient road would have run from Abydos through Arisbe to Percote, just as it did in the 19th century.

No data were obtained that would indicate that Çiğlitepe/Arisbe was used in the period following the Late Bronze Age up to the last quarter of the eighth century BC. Despite the very limited Mycenaean and Protogeometric pottery found at Ilium, the appearance at Troy of Greek pottery, which became more common from the end of the eighth century BC and especially in the seventh and sixth centuries BC, is related to Çiğlitepe/Arisbe regaining power and influence at this time (Aslan 2002: 81–129). During our research in the northern Troad, the only example of Greek pottery belonging to the late Protogeometric period was found at Paesus (Arslan 2005a: 219, 321, fig. 6). Greek ceramics at all the other cities of the

region reach their highest concentration at the end of the eighth to the sixth century BC. Among the ancient cities of the northern Troad, only Parium currently hosts ongoing archaeological excavations (these began almost a decade ago). No archaeological material dated to earlier than the seventh century BC has been found in Parium. Hence, we are obliged to rely solely on pottery found on the surface to date the settlements of Abydos, Arisbe, Percote, Lampsacus and Paesus. The uninterrupted settlement that continued weakly at Ilium from the end of the Late Bronze Age until the end of the eighth century BC is currently in question (Aslan 2009c; Aslan, Günata 2014). Only systematic excavations will make it possible to determine whether similar circumstances also applied at Çiğlitepe/Arisbe and surrounding cities.

The most frequently found Greek pottery at Çiğlitepe/Arisbe dates from the end of the seventh century BC and, especially, to the sixth century BC. This pattern, as noted above, also applies to Ilium. The increase of

pottery in the Troad region can be associated with the founding of colonies there by the city of Miletus (Stephanus Byzantinus *Ethnika* 12.28; Schliemann 1881: 149; Bilabel 1920: 51; Ehrhardt 1988: 32). A decline in Classical-period finds at Çiğlitepe/Arisbe could be the result of a weaker relationship on the part of Miletus with its colonies on the coast of the Hellespont and Black Sea after its defeat by the Persians in 494 BC.

It is astonishing to note that, as a member of the Delian League, while Abydos paid four talents in tax, Arisbe paid a still large amount of two talents. Two other small settlements on the Hellespontus, Percote and Paesus, paid a much smaller amount of tax: only 1,000 drachmai (Ruschenbusch 1983: 141; Tenger 1995: 145, 154). The pottery found on the surface is far from exhibiting Çiğlitepe/Arisbe's prosperity in the fifth century BC. However, reaching a final verdict as to its status without conducting formal archaeological excavations would be misleading.

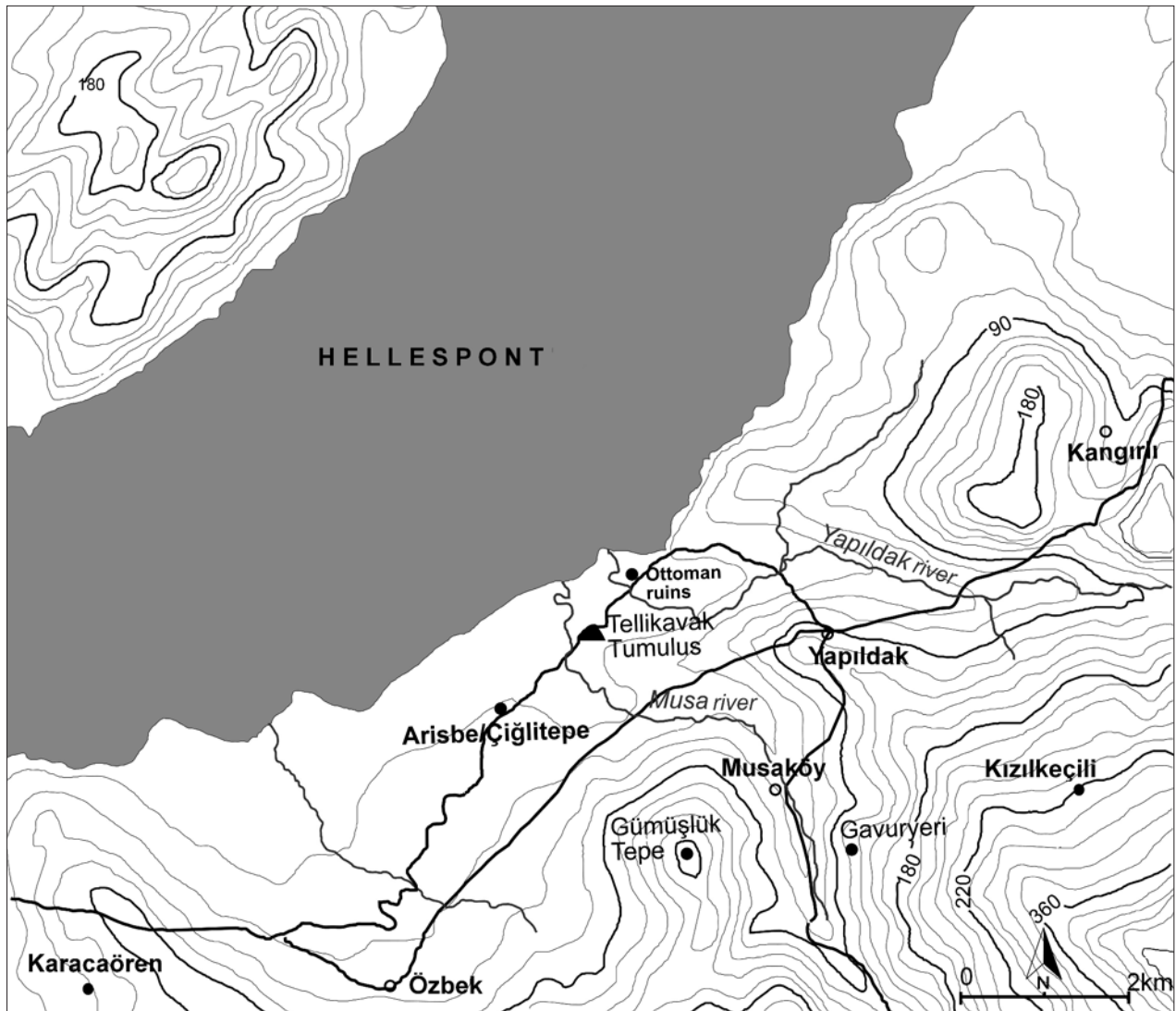


Fig. 23. The proposed location of Çiğlitepe/Arisbe and its surroundings.

The city's dimensions are as yet unknown; the area where it is located is probably covered with the alluvium of two rivers and there are no architectural remains visible on the surface. According to the theory asserting that the amount of tax paid to the Delian League was based on the number of free citizens, it has been suggested that in the fifth century BC Arisbe had a population of 1,600 free citizens and a total population of 6,400 (Tenger 1995: 147).

Three small city-states lie on the coast of the Hellespont in the northern Troad – Arisbe, Percote and Paesus – and all bear common characteristics in terms of position and date of settlement. All three cities were located near abundant plains next to a river. The pottery recovered from these cities shows that they were founded in the Late Bronze Age and reached their apex of power and prosperity during the Archaic period. Another common characteristic is that they did not mint coins. Most likely, Arisbe was included in the territory of Abydus while Percote and Paesus lay within the province of Lampsacus. The location and history of Arisbe as a settlement and city-state have been recounted here according to archaeological surface finds. However, if excavations were to be conducted, it might be possible to show that Çiğlitepe/Arisbe dates from prior to the Early Bronze Age or the phase between the Early Bronze Age and the late Geometric period.

The Galatians, who occupied Arisbe in 216 BC and plundered the region, caused the city to be abandoned and it was never resettled. The population of the city probably moved to the more secure locations of Gavuryeri, to the east of Musa village, and also Abydus. The Byzantine

settlement (seventh to 13th century AD) found during excavation to the north of Çiğlitepe/Arisbe is not associated with the ancient city of Arisbe itself. These Byzantine remains probably represent a farm or fishing village.

Although epigraphical data are still absent, the settlement recorded at Çiğlitepe (fig. 23) should be identified as Arisbe on the basis of its location and the archaeological data retrieved during our survey. Obtaining such rich finds from the surface of Çiğlitepe/Arisbe leaves no doubt that this settlement is an ideal site for excavation aimed at examining Greek colonisation movements during and after the Late Bronze Age. Çiğlitepe/Arisbe still offers abundance, yet, with its fertile plains and rivers, it vanishes a little more every day due to farming of the land.

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