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AEGEAN SEALS OF THE LATE BRONZE AGE: STYLISTIC GROUPS

V. MINOAN GROUPS CONTEMPORARY WITH LM III A 1*

Synopsis of Text

- I. The Spectacle-Eye Group (p. 121)
 - A. Thin Faces, no dotted lower jaw
 - B. One or two small dots on the jowl
 - C. One large dot on the jowl
 - D. Mumps, several large dots on the jowl
 - E. Swollen jowl, no dots
 - F. Frontal faces with spectacle eyes
 - G. Spectacle-Eye Groups using Dot-Eyes
 1. The Tamvaki Group
 2. The Pauvert Group
 3. The Group of the Nafplion Bucrania
 - H. Miscellaneous
- II. The Armenoi Group (p. 138)
- III. Gold Finger-Rings carrying Shields and Robes (p. 140)

* In the text the plain citation of Roman and then Arabic numerals refers to the volumes and catalogued seals in the *Corpus der minoischen und mykenischen Siegel* (Berlin, 1964ff.). For abbreviations, see the Introduction, *Kadmos* 21, 1982, 104–105.

Add:

CMS Beiheft 0 = Die kretisch-mykenische Glyptik und ihre gegenwärtigen Probleme (Boppard 1974).

Masters, I = John H. Betts and John G. Younger, "Aegean Seals of the Late Bronze Age: Masters and Workshops. Introduction," *Kadmos* 21, 1982, 104–121.

Masters, II = John G. Younger, "Aegean Seals of the Late Bronze Age: Masters and Workshops. The First-Generation Minoan Masters," *Kadmos* 22, 1983, 109–136.

Masters, III = John G. Younger, "Aegean Seals of the Late Bronze Age: Masters and Workshops. The First-Generation Mycenaean Masters," *Kadmos* 23, 1984, 38–64.

Masters/Groups, IV = John G. Younger, "Aegean Seals of the Late Bronze Age: Stylistic Groups. Almond- and Dot-Eye Groups of the Fifteenth Century B.C.," *Kadmos* 24, 1985, 34–73.

Papapostolou 1977 = I. A. Papapostolou, *Ta Sphragismata ton Khanion* (Bibliothektes en Athenais Archaïologikes Hetaireias no. 7, Athens 1977).

Pini 1980 = I. Pini, "Kypro-Ägäische Rollsiegel," *JDI* 95, 1980, 77–108.

Illustrations

Text	Nr.	Ref.	Text	Nr.	Ref.
I. A	1	VII 98	32	II 3.115	
	2	II 4. 122	33	II 3.112 b	
	3	VIII 149	34	CS 321	
	4	AGDS II Berlin 29	35	XII 285	
	5	I 24	36	XII 265	
	6	Louvre A02188	37	VII 96	
	7	I 202	38	I 81	
	8	A cylinder from Enkomi	39	I Supp. 109	
	9	I Supp. 71	40	II 3.119 3.199	
	10	I 412	41	XII 242	
	11	IX 145			
	12	CMCG 306	D	42	VIII 147
	13	XIII 68		43	II 3.69
B	14	I Supp. 110		44	II 3.106
	15	V 297		45	XII 227
	16	IV 38D		46	II 3.44
C	17	IX 153	E	47	V 674
	18	I Supp. 27		48	II 4. 161
	19	V 675		49	II 4. 160
	20	V 246	F	50	IV 267
	21	CMCG 190b			
	22	II 3.112 a	II. A	51	VII 108
	23	AGDS II Berlin 39		52	VII 123
	24	CMCG 190c		53	CS 246
	25	VII 236		54	CS 342
	26	IX 130		55	CMCG 379
	27	VII 103		56	II 4.157
	28	VII 124		57	V 252
	29	II 3.107	B	58	VII 248
	30	XII 288		59	IX 131
	31	CMCG 190a		60	IX 24D

Savignoni 1904 = L. Savignoni, "Scavi e scoperte nella necropoli di Phaestos," *Mon-Antichi* 14 (1904) 501-666.

The drawings in Figures 1-74 are numbered consecutively, and are cited in bold face, 1, 2, etc. The reader is cautioned that the figures constitute solely an aide-mémoire to stylistic features; more detailed understanding is given by the primary and secondary publications cited in the text.

Once again I wish to thank Dr. Ingo Pini for his permission to use the drawings made for CMS as the basis for the following illustrations: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9-11, 13-20, 25-28, 30, 35-47, 50-52, 57-62, 64-74. The other illustrations are reproduced either from their primary publications or from other publications cited in the text.

Several HM seals have been re-published recently in CMS II 3 and II 4; their better illustrations permit several seals to be reclassified here.

Corrigenda: Groups IV, 70 and 73, for section headings 13 and 14 read 11 and 12.

Text	Nr.	Ref.	Text	Nr.	Ref.
C	61	II 3.310	68	XII 244	
	62	V 591	69	V 247	
	63	I 515/HMs 109	70	IX 169	
III.	64	V 244	71	V 248	
	65	V 242	72	V 250	
	66	IX 149	73	XII 301	
	67	IX 150	74	V 400	

I. The Spectacle-Eye Group

The Spectacle-Eye Group consists of 260 seal-types that carry, for the most part, animals whose most distinctive trait is a ring created by the hollow drill encircling a single-dot eye; the animals thus look as though they are wearing eye-spectacles.

The preceding article (IV, Kadmos 24, 1985, 34) showed how the emphasis on technique had increased towards the end of the fifteenth century; frequently among the late Almond-/Dot-Eye groups the jowl was enlarged with one or two large dots ('Mumps'), the ear was enlarged and outlined, and a single dot, like a rivet, was applied to the shoulder. The Spectacle-Eye (hereafter, Specky) artists inherited all three traits and used them often.

In addition, these artists not only continued the earlier trend towards thin and tight bodies, but they also preserved several traits associated predominantly with the Cut-Style and the Line-Jaw Lion groups. The encircling ring of the Spectacle-Eye often appears on Cut-Style seals (e.g., II 3.132, 3.153, and 251); and L-J lions appear on XII 213 and on the Enkomi cylinder (8), both in Specky Group A, and on AGDS I Munich 61 in Specky Group G3, the Group of the Nafplion Bucrania.

Apart from the distinctive ring around the eye, the Specky masters also concentrated, far more than their predecessors did, on circular and symmetrical compositions. Seal-types in the major Specky groups listed below, groups A-F and H (Miscellaneous), often (20%) use circular compositions involving an animal posed with the head below the belly (see VII 124 (28) in Group C) or with the head wrenched back over the back (see V 279 in Group D).

Symmetrical compositions involving two animals are also common. Axial compositions are mostly heraldic (18.5%; see IX 153 (17) in Group C, where two lions flank a Master of Animals, and XII 288 (30) also in Group C, where two agrimia flank a central column); a few axial compositions (e.g., IX 130 (26) in Group C) consist of crossed animals.



Fig. 1

- 1, 2: Specky A, Cretan - Subgroup 1
 3, 4: Specky A, Cretan - Subgroup 2
 5, 6: Specky A, Mainland? - Subgroup 3
 7: Specky A, Mainland? - Subgroup 4
 8: Specky A, Miscellaneous

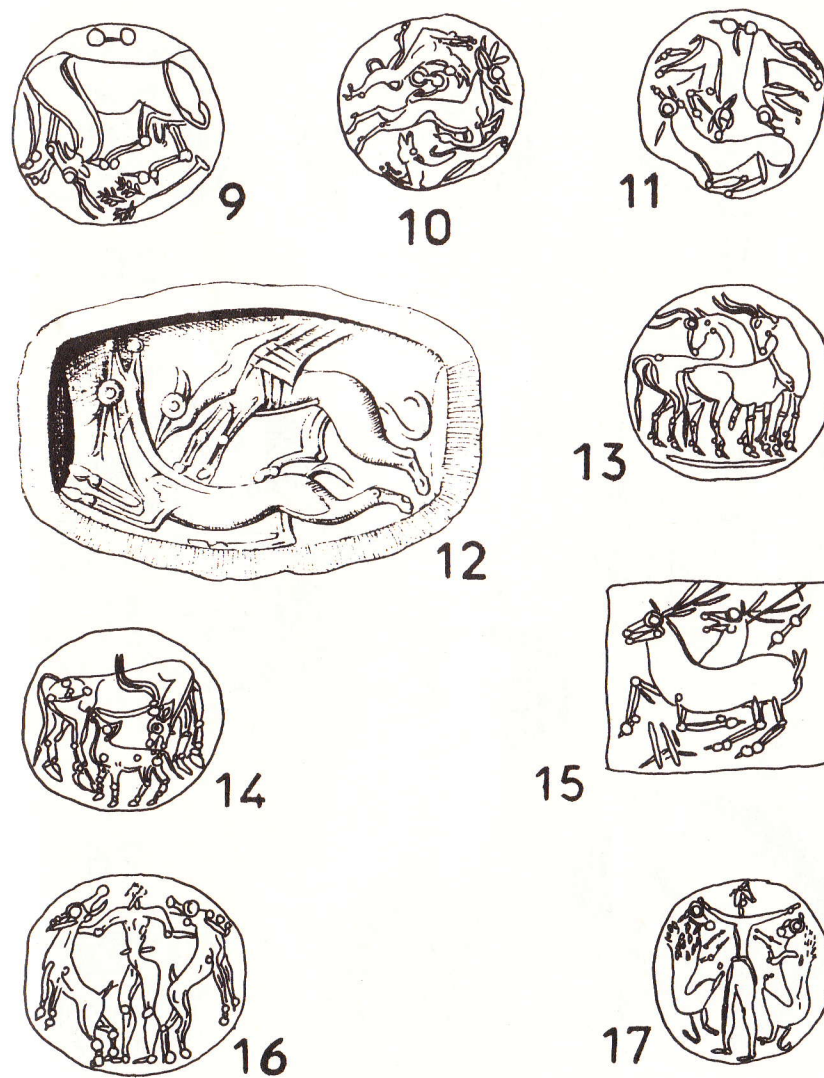


Fig. 2

- 9-12: Specky A, Miscellaneous (cont.)
 13-16: Specky B
 17: Specky C



Fig. 3
18-26: Specky C (cont.)



Fig. 4
27-36: Specky C (cont.)

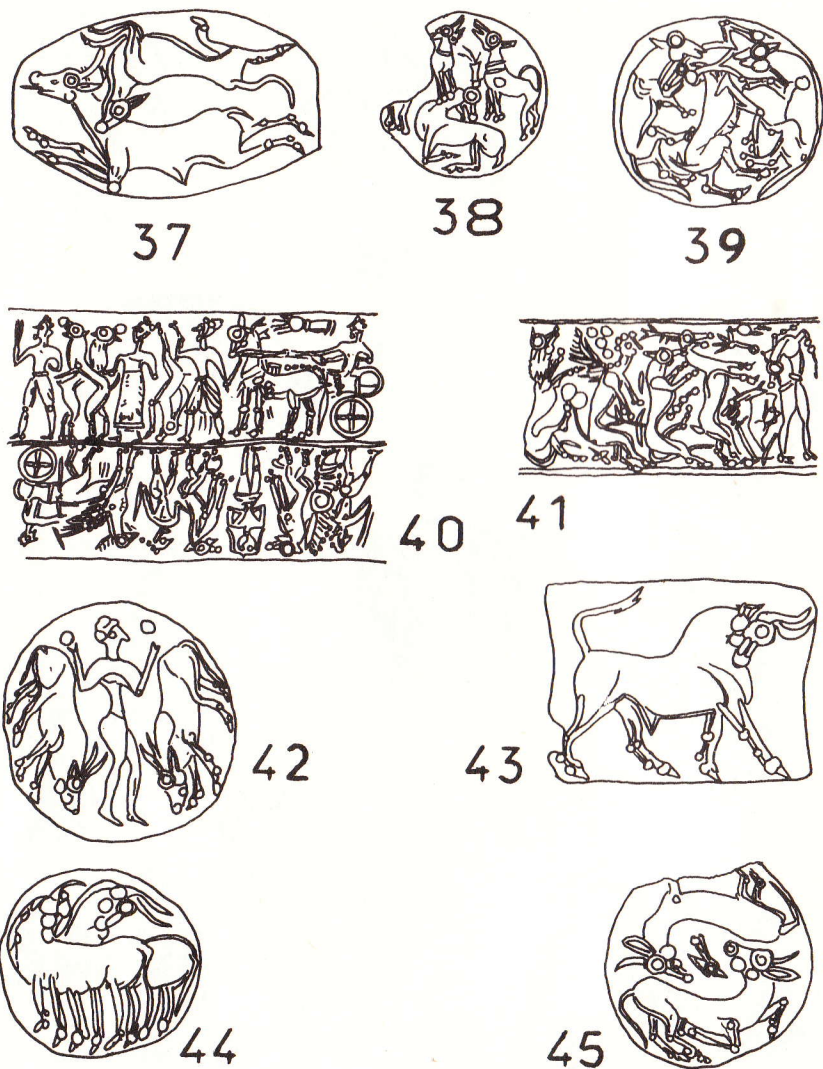


Fig. 5
37-41: Specky C (cont.)
42-45: Specky D

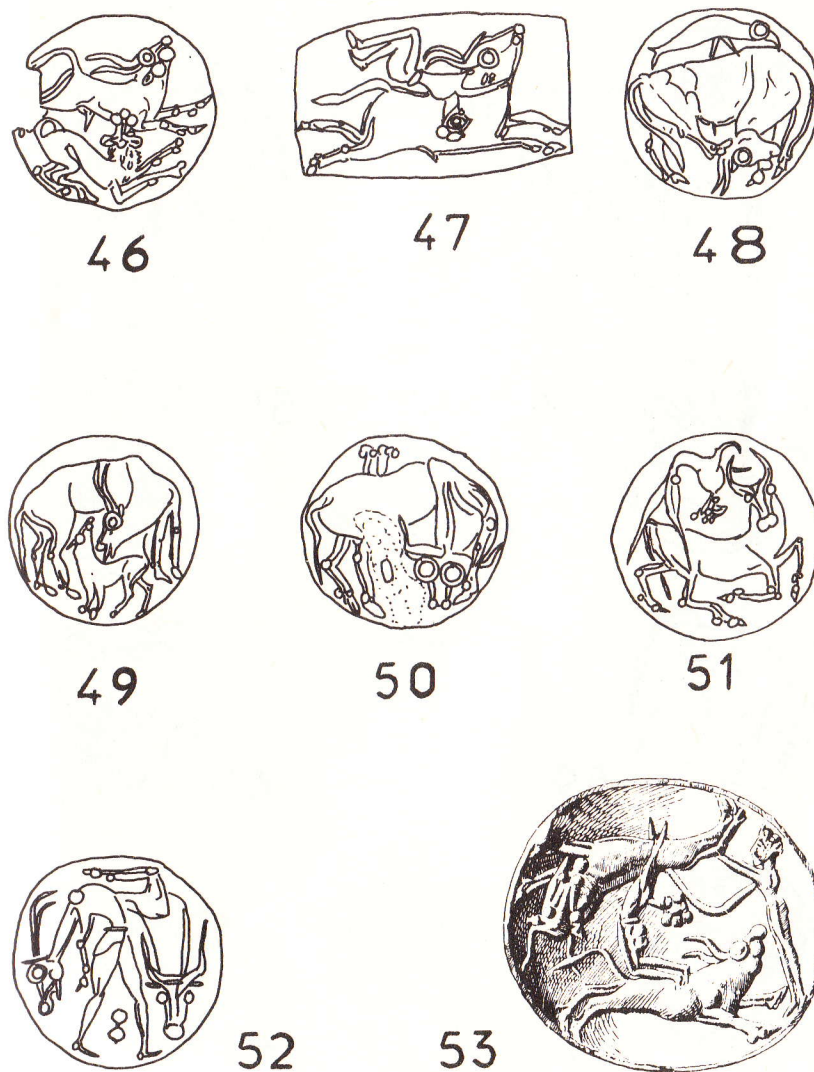


Fig. 6
46: Specky D (cont.)
47-49: Specky E
50: Specky F
51-53: Tamvaki's Group

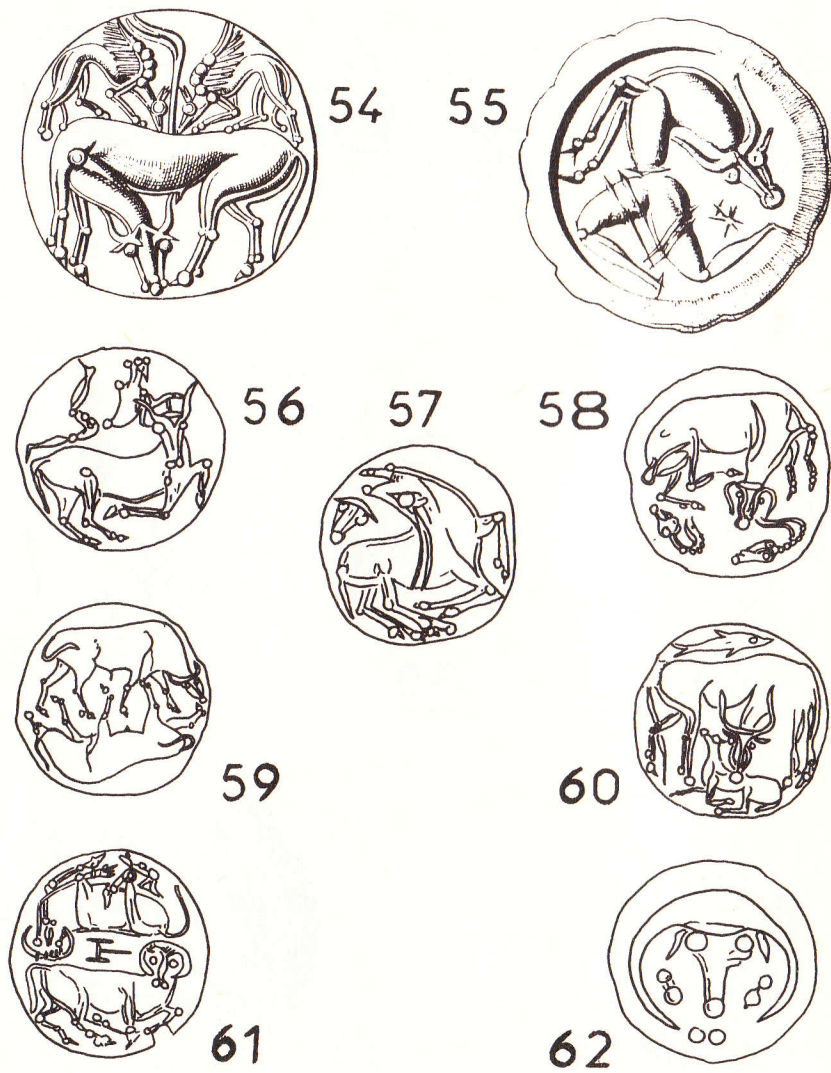


Fig. 7
 54-57: Tamvaki's Group (cont.)
 58-60: The Pauvert Group
 61, 62: The Group of the Nafplion Buerania



Fig. 8
 63: The Group of the Nafplion Bucrania (cont.)
 64-74: The Armenoi Group

Some symmetrical compositions are radial (7%; see II 3.115 (32) in Group C). Other compositions, especially attack scenes, often achieve the false effect of being symmetrical: axially, for instance, on VII 96 (37) in Group C (cf. IX 145 (11) in Group A), and radially, for instance on AGDS II Berlin 35 in Group G (cf. I 412 (10) in Group A).

Specky seals are also distinctive physically. As one would expect, more than 25% of the seals are of agate, a material commonly encountered, especially in the fifteenth century and later. Cornelian, however, and its amalgamates sard and sardonyx rate almost equally high among the Specky seals; if it is the color here that is important, as Boardman suggests (Gnomon 1966, 266, and GGFR 379), then, including red jasper, red seals comprise more than 20% of the total number of Specky seals. This is a surprisingly high percentage, considering that cornelian, its varieties, and red jasper together probably account for little more than 10% of all the non-talismanic, Late Bronze Age seal-stones. Haematite, never particularly common in other periods or in other styles, is also here abundant (more than 10%), comprising as it does 30% of the seals in the Tamvaki Group, and six of the seven Specky cylinders (the exception is V 675 (19) in Specky Group C). Lapis lace-daemonius is also fairly common (8%) amongst the Specky seals.

Conical reverses, perhaps developed originally for glass seals, like those in the Group of the Gold Box, begin to appear on hard-stone seals from at least the middle of the fifteenth century B.C. At first, conical reverses are rare, but by the end of the 15th century they are common, and especially so amongst the Specky seals.¹ In the next generation's Mainland Popular Group, conical reverses seem characteristic and typical.

¹ The following Specky seals have been published or reported as having conical or conoid reverses, or have been examined by the author and found to have such reverses: I 81; II 3.44, 67, 106, 107, 109, 110, 115, 133, 193, 210, 224, 225, and 288; IV 267 and 311; V 320; VII 154; IX 130, 131, 137, 145, and 155; XII 227 and 265; CS 248, 339, and 4P; and HM 1232, 1248, 1249, 1867, and 2271. VII 106 and CS 246 once had a conical reverse that was later cut down.

The argument that conical reverses may have been devised originally for glass seals perhaps as early as the late sixteenth century, and thereafter found increasing favor on hard-stone seals in the fifteenth century is found in Masters III: 51–52; the recent publications of CMS vol. II3 includes four seals, with conical reverses, that probably date to the fifteenth century: the sphinx on II 3.118 has a dot-eye placed in a shallow depression like some of the Bulls from Ayios Ioannes T. 3, as well as a plethora of dots and 'rivets' that characterize many of the seals in the Dot-Eye Group; 131 is a soft-stone seal that seems close to the Monumental Group; 303 should be in the Group of the Crystal Rings; and 331 seems to be close to the Dot-Eye Mump Group.

The overwhelming majority of the Specky seals come from Crete. There are 27 sealings from Knossos, four sealstones from Knossos, and 18 seals and one sealing from the Knossos area (Sellopoulo, Zafer Papoura, Archanes, Poros, Gournes, and Nirou Chani), and two seals bought in Herakleion; eight seals come from the Kalyvia and three from the Armenoi cemetery, 36 seals from other named places or areas in Crete, and 29 seals are said to be from Crete. From Mainland excavations come 20 seals, three sealings, and one jar sealing; five other seals are said to come from the Mainland. From the Islands come, or are said to come, seven seals; and two cylinders come from Cyprus. Of the 158 seal-types, therefore, with a known or reasonably certain provenience, 50 (31.7%) come from Knossos or the Knossos area, and it is probably here that the workshop should be located.

Apart from the 27 Specky sealings from Knossos, the earliest contexts for the Group's seals date to LM/LH III Ai: Tholoi A and B at Archanes (HM 2271 and 2300), Sellopoulo T. 4 (HM 2383), and Kalyvia T. 9 (II 3.111 and 112), all in Crete; and, on the mainland, Prosymna T. 33 (I Supp. 27 and 28). Slightly later contexts include the LM III Aii Kalyvia T. 8, from which come II 3.106–110 and 115, and the LH III Aii Prosymna T. 41, from which comes I 216. I 265 comes from Tragana T. 2, dated LH III A, and I 64 comes from Mycenae T. 26, which also may be dated to LH IIIA. From LM/LH III Aii-B tombs come II 3.66–69 and 4.122 (Sellopoulo Ts. 1 and 2), V 252 (Armenoi T. 24), and V 440 (Nichoria Tholos). Seventeen seals come from later contexts. From such contexts it seems certain that Specky seals were being produced within the first quarter of the fourteenth century B.C.

Because the Specky masters continued uninterruptedly many of the traits developed by the Almond-/Dot-Eye masters of the late fifteenth century B.C. (e.g. 'Mumps'), who also seem to have worked primarily at Knossos, it is possible that the Specky circle of artists evolved directly from them. If the Almond-/Dot-Eye masters ceased to produce their distinctive pieces a decade or so before the turn of the century, we may then raise the date for the earliest recognizable Specky seal (from Group A or G; see below) to ca. 1410 B.C. If the Specky style lasted a generation, we may imagine that it ran its course by 1385 B.C.

More Knossos sealings were impressed by Specky seals than by seals from any other single group. With one, possibly more, important exceptions, the Specky Group is also the latest group to be represented amongst the Knossos sealings. The exceptions are HMs 255², definitely

² Pini, "Ein Siegelabdruck in Archäologischen Museum Iraklion," CretCong III, pp. 221–230.

in the Rhodian Hunt Group, and HMs 259 (KSPI C15), probably in the same group; the Rhodian Hunt Group is a subgroup of the Island Sanctuaries Group, dateable to the second or third quarter of the fourteenth century (see the following article in this series).³ If these stylistic judgments and their chronological implications be correct, then they support a date later than ca. 1375 B.C. for the fire at Knossos that baked the latest sealings.

Because of the uniform quality of the Specky seals, they are divided here into groups A–F according to the amount of solid drill-work on the jowls of the depicted animals.

Group A consists of seals whose animals lack 'Mumps'; these then, along with the naturalistic Specky Group G2, the Pauvert Group, may be early in the development of the Specky style. Within Group A four distinct subgroups can be distinguished, two of which found favor in the Argolid.

Groups B–F consist of the canonical Specky seals, which are listed here by iconography.

Three Groups include seals that depict frontal bulls with dot-eyes rather than Spectacle-Eyes; often bulls, goats, or agrimia occur on the same seal-face, but these, however, are provided with the characteristic Specky eyes. These three Groups, the Tamvaki Group, the Pauvert Group (perhaps early in the development of the Specky style), and the Group of the Nafplion Bucrania, are discussed together under Specky Group G.

The final Group, H, consists of the miscellaneous Specky seals.

A. Thin Faces, no dotted lower jaw

Distinguishable Subgroups

1. (Cretan) Goats: VII 98 (1), CS 286 from Goulas, and 287; II 4.122 (2) from Sellopoulo T. 2.

Close:

- a) V 246, the agrimi kid, from Armenoi T. 15 (LM III B; the lion is in Specky C, below), and CS 3P from Palaikastro.
- b) cylinder VII 173 from Golgoi, Cyprus (for a new drawing, see Pini 1980: no. A2, fig. 2).
- c) I Supp 111, and 140; AGDS II Berlin 54; and see below, IV 38D in Specky B.
- d) VII 248, the goat/agrimi heads, in the Pauvert Group (see group G, below).

³ Younger, CMS Beiheft I, pp. 263–272.

2. (Cretan) Lions Attacking Bulls: VIII 149 (3), CS 5P, II 4.202 from the Diktaian cave, and AGDS II Berlin 29 (4) from Crete.

Close: V 201.

3. (Mainland?) Agrimia and Sheep: I 24 (5) and 176, both from Mycenae.

Close: Louvre A02188 (6), a cylinder (Pini 1980: no. A8).⁴

4. (Mainland?) Agrimi kids: I 202 (7) from Nafplion, and 214 from Prosymna T. 41 (LH III Bi).

Miscellaneous

Men and animals: VII 131, and a cylinder from Enkomi, now in the Nicosia Museum (8; Gill, AM 79, 1964, no. 46 pl. 6.2; Pini 1980: no. A7; Buchholz and Karageorghis, Prehistoric Greece and Cyprus, no. 1753).

Lions: VII 154 from Ialysos; and AGDS II Berlin 41 from Olympia?

Bulls: I Supp. 71 (9) from Melos?; V 312 from Delos; VII 97; and X 2.

Associated sealing: Kn HMs 397 (KSPI Lb; for a new photograph, see Papapostolou 1977, pl. 46b).

Caprids: II 3.133 from Nirou Chani (LM III B).

Attack scenes:

- i. Lion, bull: X 127 (near the Group of the Lions with Occipital Dots; Groups IV = 67f.).
- ii. Lion, caprid: CS 349 from east Crete.
- iii. Dog, caprid: I 412 (10) from Syros; II 3.210 from Lyktos; IX 145 (11); X 130; XIII 71; and CS 350.

Associated sealing: Kn HMs 300/NH/OB (KSPI R12/R14/R27).

iv. Griffin, caprid: X 125, and 126; AGDS II Berlin 33 from Syme; and CMCG 306 (12).

B. One or two small dots on the jowl

Compare the bulls on a bell krater (from Kition?) in the Pierides Collection (Vermeule and Karageorghis, MycPictVP V. 48), dated Ripe Pictorial I, ca. 1300–1270/60 B.C.

Bulls: IX 124; XIII 68 (13); CMCG 292; and AGDS I Munich 60 from Crete.

Cows and calf: I Supp. 110 (14).

Agrimia: CS 339 from Goulas.

Stags: V 297 (15) from Maleme T. 18 (LM III B); and IX 2D.

Attack scenes: VII 117; and a lentoid in Tübingen.

Men and goats: IV 38D (16) from Vrontisi, Crete.

C. One large dot on the jowl

This is one large, fairly coherent group.

Men and animals

Master of lions:

- a. same pose: IX 153 (17), CS 9P, and Kn HMs 219 (KSPI R 43).

⁴ A new photograph appears in Pini, "Cypro-Aegean Cylinder Seals," Acts of the International Archaeological Symposium 'The Relations between Cyprus and Crete, ca. 2000–500 B.C.', pp. 121–127 pl. XV. 2.

add VII
213 line
p. 121)

add HMs Kn 255

- b. similar pose: I Supp. 27 (18) from Prosymna T. 33 (LH III Ai), and V 675 (19) from Thebes (LH III Bi).
- Bull-leaping: CS 209 from Gythion, and 248; CMCG 357 from Knossos.
- Stag-leaping: II 3.66 from Sellopoulo T. 1 (LM III Aii-B; mistakenly listed as HM 1863 in Dot-Eye Mumps, Stags b (Masters/Groups IV: 72).
- Man holds an agrimi kid by a hindleg: V 246 (20) from Armenoi T. 15 (LM III B; lion listed below).
- Man behind, as if restraining, a bull; a double composition composed of two bull-forequarters conjoined in axial symmetry: CMCG 190b (21) from Vasilika Anogeia.
- Lions
- One, head under belly: II 3.112a (22; Savignoni 1904: fig. 10b) from Kalyvia T. 9 (LM III Ai); and CS 298 from Gortyn, with cub; and see V 246 above.
- Two, in axial symmetry: CS 337 from Zyros, AGDS II Berlin 39 (23; Evans, JHS 21, 1901, 161 fig. 41) from Crete, and Kn HMs 233 (KSPI R88).
- Bulls
- One, standing: II 3.212 from "Gouves Pediada" (mistakenly listed as HM 954 from Gournes in Dot-Eye Mumps, Bent horn, b (Masters/Groups IV, 70).
- One, head under belly: II 3.216 from Mallia; CMCG 190c (24) from Vasilika Anogeia; and Kn HMs 121 (KSPI N 10).
- Cow and calf: VII 236 (25), X 255, and Kn HMs 1037 (Betts 13).
- Two, in axial symmetry: IX 130 (26) from Crete, II 4.203 from the Diktaian Cave, 2383 from Sellopoulo T. 4 (LM III Ai; BSA 69, 1974, 224-225 no. S2, fig. 14b), and Kn HMs 118 (KSPI 05), and 414.
- Two, in radial symmetry: IX 160 said to have been found in a tholos tomb at Spata, and Kn HMs 289 (KSPI R3).
- Calves
- One runs: Kn HMs 416 from Zafer Papoura T. 56.
- Two run: VII 103 (27), and Kn HMs 232 (KSPI R 17).
- Agrimia
- One, head under the belly: VII 124 (28); softstone imitation: X 321.
- Two, in axial symmetry
- Kid between: AGDS I Munich 59, and Kn HMs 288a (KSPI R 85).
- Misc. between: II 3.107 (29; Savignoni 1904: fig. 92) from Kalyvia T. 8 (LM III Aii), XII 288 (30), and CMCG 190a (31) from Vasilika Anogeia.
- Kids?
- Two, in radial symmetry: II 3.109 from Kalyvia T. 8 (LM III Aii).
- Goats
- One walks
- simple: II 3.111 from Kalyvia T. 9 (LM III Ai; mistakenly listed as HM 179 in Caprids from Isopata T. 3, b (Masters/Groups IV: 61).
- above two goat-men conjoined: HM 2624 from Kato Syme (AR 1976-1977, p. 64 fig. 113).
- Two stand: HM 2271 from Archanes Tholos A (LM III Ai; ILN 26 March 1966, 22-23 fig. 7).
- Two, in axial symmetry: II 3.108 from Kalyvia T. 8 (LM III Aii), and Kn HMs KH (KSPI Q 7).
- Two, in radial symmetry: II 3.110 and 115 (32; Savignoni 1904: fig. 96), probably both from Kalyvia T. 8 (LM III Aii).
- Three stand: a lentoid in the Sparta Museum.

Stags

- Two, in axial symmetry: Kn HMs 263.
- Two, in radial symmetry: X 140.

Dogs or lionesses, two in axial symmetry: II 3.306 from Chandra, Siteia.

Monsters

Genius

- One carrying an agrimi kid: V 209 from Arkades.
- Two in axial symmetry, without jugs: II 3.112b (33; Savignoni 1904: fig. 10c) from Kalyvia T. 9 (LM III Ai).

Winged man carrying a stag: XIII 60.

Minotaur

- One conjoined with a sheep and goat head: CS 324 from the Diktaian cave.
- One, with a lion-man: CS 321 (34; PM IV fig. 558).
- Two conjoined: BSA cast 186.

Agrimi-man: IX 128 from Crete.

- Kid (Calf?)-man: I 216 from Prosymna T. 41 (LH III Aii), and XII 238 from Crete?
- Goat-man, two conjoined, below a goat: HM 2624 from Kato Syme (AR 1976-1977, p. 64 fig. 113).

Attack scenes

- Lion, bull: AGDS I Munich 44 (unfinished), and Kn HMs 293 (KSPI R 4).
- Lion, agrimi: XII 285 (35) from Crete? and, accompanied by a dog, CS 6P.
- Lion, agrimi kid: X 271 from Crete.
- Lion, stag: IX 142, X 128 and 129, CS 4P, and AGDS I Munich 37.
- Two lions, animal: Kn HMs 304 (KSPI R21).
- Dog or lioness, bull: XII 265 (36) from Crete?
- Dog, stag: VII 96 (37; the reverse illustrated is really for VII 87).
- Two dogs, stag: I 81 (38) from Mycenae T. 47; I Supp. 109 (39); and HM 2500 from Phourni, Archanes.

Animal-Heads: Kn HMs 656 (KSPI U115).

Cylinders: II 3.199 (40) from Astritsi Pediados, and 282 from Palaikastro (LM III), and XII 242 (41) from Poros, the harbor town of Knossos.

Close seals: VII 186, 190, and 191 from Crete, and IX 155.

D. Mumps, several large dots on the jowl

Men and bulls

- Master? of bulls: VIII 147 (42).
- Bull-leaping: I 314 from Pylos (LH III Bii-Ci).

Bovines (bulls, unless otherwise stated)

- One, in various walking or running poses: II 3.69 (43) from Sellopoulo T. 1 (LM III Aii-B), V 279 from Armenoi T. 60 (LM III Bii), IX 123, and a lentoid once in the Evans collection (GGFR pl. 135).
- One, with head below belly: II 3.224 from the Diktaian cave, V 320 from Krissa, X 145, and Kn HMs MZ (Q6).
- Two, standing or running: II 3.106 (44) from Kalyvia T. 8 (LM III Aii), and XII 263 (calves).
- Two, in axial symmetry: X 256, CS 334a from the Diktaian cave (side b is in the Tamvaki Group, below), and HM 2300 from Archanes Tholos B (LM III Ai; Archaeology 20, 1967, 278 fig. 7a).

Two, in radial symmetry: X 294 (calves), XII 227 (45; calves) from Crete?, and Kn HMs Lambda Epsilon (R20).

Four: Kn HMs 139 (C51).

Lion attacks a bull: II 3.44 (46) from Zafer Papoura T. 99 (LM III Bi), and IV 259 from Tsoutsouros.

Minotaurs: II 3.67 from Sellopoulo T. 1 (LM III Aii-B), and XIII 84 from Knossos.

E. Swollen jowl, no dots

Man and bulls: VII 100 from Crete.

Bull-leaping: V 674 (47) from Thebes (LH III Bi).

Bulls

One, running: II 3.68 from Sellopoulo T. 1 (LM III Aii-B; mistakenly listed as HM 1864 in Dot-Eye Mumps, Bulls m [Masters/Groups IV: 71]), and II 3.89 from Knossos (mistakenly listed as HM 202 in CP Bulls D [Masters II: 125]).

One, head below belly: II 4.161 from Gournes T. 2, and X 269 and HM 1247 (48) from Gournes T. 2 (LM III Bi; Deltion 1918, 71-72 pl. 5.5).

One, trussed on a sacrificial table: I 203 from Nafplion.

Two, in axial symmetry: XIII 11.

Cow and calf: I 376 from Pylos (LH III Bii-Ci); I Supp. 28 from Prosymna T. 33 (LH III Ai), and II 4.159 and 160 (49) from Gournes Ts 1 and 2 respectively (LM III Bi).

Lion attacks a bull: X 241.

F. Frontal faces with spectacle eyes

Man in chariot: IV 37D from Lastros.

Bulls

One, head below belly: I 265 from Tragana T. 2 (LH III A), and IV 267 (50) from Asimi.

One, sitting: AGDS II Berlin 52 from the Islands.

Cat: IV 311 from Siteia.

Lion attacks bull: XIII 58, and CS 331 from central Crete.

Animal-heads: IV 301 from the Messara.

Griffins, two conjoined: I 73 from Mycenae T. 42.

G. Specky Groups using Dot-Eyes

1. The Tamvaki Group:

(Tamvaki, AAA 6, 1973, 308-315; Betts, BICS 23, 1976, 122-123).

A. Tamvaki was the first to draw attention to this Group, ascribing to its workshop VII 257, CS 341, II 4.157 from Gournes, and HM Metaxas 1385; close to it she places VII 108 and 109, and CS 248.

She dates the workshop to LM III Bi on the basis of the dated context for the Gournes seal.

Tamvaki seals typically depict bulls whose frontal heads are roughly triangular and have dot-eyes, one or two dots for the muzzle, and dotted hooves; occasional 'rivets' dot the tops of the legs. The bodies are sleek and smoothly modeled.

Four seals in Tamvaki's Group carry not only bulls with the characteristic frontal face, but also a bull or agrimi head in profile with a Spectacle-Eye: CS 320 and VII 123 both carry agrimi heads with one dot on the jowl as in Specky Group C; and CS 246 and the obverse of 334 both carry bull-heads with two dots on the jowl as in Specky Group E.

II 3.225 from the Diktaian cave, and 338; II 4.157 (56) from Gournes T. 1 (LM III Bi); VII 108 (51) from Crete, 110 from Melos, 123 (52) from Crete, and 257; X 141; CS 246 (53; PM III fig. 150) from the Peloponnese, 320 from Mirembello, 334b from the Diktaian cave (side a is listed in D, above), 336, 342 (54; PM IV fig. 611) from Crete, 345, and 346; CMCG 379 (55) from Phaistos; AGDS I Munich 61; Metaxas 1385 (AAA 6, 1973, 308-315, figs. 1a-c); Istanbul 12807, a cylinder (Pini 1980: no. A3 fig. 3); a lentoid in Holland (Festoen 1975, 209-211) and one in Tübingen.

Soft-stone imitation: CMCG 249.

Close: I 64 from Mycenae T. 26 (LH III A? context); V 252 (57) from Armenoi T. 24 (LM III Aii-Bi); VII 106; X 296; CS 323 from Milatos, and 341.

Related: I 198 from Asine; and X 143, and 159.

Associated sealings: I 378 from Pylos (LH III Bii-C); and Kn HMs 240/1023 (KSPI G3/Betts 17), 312 (Gill, Kadmos 5, 1966, 15 no. 8), 367 (KSPI R38), and no No. (KSPI U93).

2. The Pauvert Group:

Since Pauvert bulls have bodies that are bulkier and more naturalistic than those of the other Specky groups, they may represent an early stage in the Specky style. The faces of the Pauvert bulls also have a slightly convex profile and either a straight line for the septum or, as on HM 2137, one of the Group's better works, two lines that converge over the eyes to form a curved V-shape. Though the profile head of the attacking lion on the Berlin seal has a dot-eye, the profile goat-heads on VII 248 resemble those in Specky Group A, Cretan Subgroup 1. The Group's name comes from the masterpiece IX 131, which once was in the Pauvert de la Chapelle collection.

VII 248 (58); IX 131 (59) from Crete, and 137; and HM 2137 from Amnisos.

Hard-stone mannerist: IX 24D (60).

Soft-stone imitator: XII 306 from Crete?

Close: AGDS II Berlin 35.

3. The Group of the Nafplion Bucrania:

The frontal faces of this Group's bulls are framed by horns that curve down strongly; the small dot-eyes are so deeply drilled that they appear to stare; and the bodies are outlined with a profile line. The effect is stylized and mannered. The profile caprid-heads on II 3.5 have Spectacle-Eyes and a single large dot on the jowl, a characteristic of Group C; this latter trait appears on the profile heads of the lions flanking the bucranium on the Munich lentoid (cf. AGDS II Berlin 39 in Group C).

II 3.5 from Axos, and 3.310 from Siteia (61); V 591 (62) and 592, both from Nafplion; AGDS I Munich 56.

Close: V 607 from Naxos T. 4 (LH III C).

Associated sealings: I 515/Kn HMs 109 (KSPI J2; 63; Gill, CMS Beiheft 0 pp. 32–33 fig. 1); and Kn HMs 145/247/1020, and 665 (KSPI R101).

H. Miscellaneous Spectacle Eyes

II 3.193 from "Poros" (mistakenly listed as HM 1583 in Dot-Eye Mumps, Dogs (Masters/Groups IV: 72)), and 3.288 from Lasithi; II 4.143 from Knossos; V 424 from Lefkandi (LH III Ci), and 440 from Nichoria (LH III Aii–B); VII 182 from Crete; IX 144 from "Knossos", and 196; XII 286 and 296, both from Crete?; CMCG 307; CS 208; AGDS I Munich 52; Florence 82820 (Laviosa, SMEA 40, 1969, 7–18 no. 8).

With Cut-Style traits: Melos Museum 577 from the Mycenaean Sanctuary at Phylakopi (Renfrew, Phylakopi 282 no. 5; LH III C late), and a lentoid once in the Stratigraphical Museum at Knossos (Younger, BSA 74, 1979, 270–273 no. 4).

Soft-stones: IV 308 from the Messara; VII 260; IX 172 and 19D; XII 267 and 304, both from Crete?; II 4.167 from Mallia; and CMCG 303 from Knossos.

Associated sealings: Kn HMs 292/E (KSPI R19/30), IA, and Gamma; and a jar sealing in the Sparta Museum impressed by a lentoid, from the Menelaion House (LH III B1; BSA 16, 1909–1910, 4–11 fig. 5).

II. The Armenoi Group

From the Armenoi cemetery near Rethymnon comes a group of relatively well-preserved soft-stone lentoids that strongly resemble those in the Cretan Popular Group. These seals display some common CP traits, besides soft stones, the most obvious including harsh shoulders and dotted tail and jaw-tips (e.g., V 242). Armenoi griffins have hatched wings that are shaped as curved ellipses, much like those of some CP monsters (cf. CMCG 376), though their outlined, wedge-shaped faces resemble those belonging to an even earlier group, the Middle Minoan Group of the Couchant Agrimi (cf. I Supp. 92 and XIII 19).

The differences between the Armenoi and the CP groups are subtle. CP animals are generally rendered with smooth but fast strokes of the engraving blade; the incisions for lion-manes, for example, are numerous, and swiftly but carefully placed. The Armenoi Group, on the other hand, consists of animals rendered heavily with thickly engraved strokes and barely controlled jerky curves; lion-manes, for instance, are textured with heavy dots. CP animals, too, do not usually crowd the seal-face, but are set off from the rim of the seal with ample room for filling-motifs such as fronds and branches. The Armenoi animals, however, often strike their poses vigorously, with filling-motifs that appear oddly out of balance or squeezed in, as if competing for attention (compare the CP seal V 241 with V 242 in the Armenoi Group). One CP hallmark is missing altogether in the Armenoi Group: the line-jaw.

Other traits, however, link the Armenoi Group to the Spectacle-Eye Group: the drilled ring around the eye (e.g., IX 149) and the shoulder 'rivets' (e.g., V 247) are common Specky traits, while the frontal faces on V 247, IX 150, and XII 244, with their single stroke, once (IX 169) flanked by wavy lines, for the septum, seem to imitate the bull-faces in the Pauvert Group.

The seals from dated contexts, V 242 from Armenoi T. 13 (LM III Aii), 264 from Armenoi T. 39 (LM III Aii–Bi), 253 from Armenoi T. 24 (LM III A–Bi), 400 from Medeon T. 239 (LH III C), and the two Knossos sealings, all seem to indicate that the group should be dated within LM III A; the conical reverses of nine lentoids (II 3.124, 167, and 333; V 247, 248, and 651; IX 150 and 169; and XII 301) do not contradict that date. For stylistic reasons, the Armenoi Group should probably date to the first quarter of the fourteenth century, since it has closer ties with the Spectacle-Eye and earlier groups than with the later (mid-fourteenth century) and more curvilinear Island Sanctuaries Group; contrast V 248 in the Armenoi Group with both V 249 in the Island Sanctuaries Group and its contemporary V 255 in the Mainland Popular Group.

The findspots of the Armenoi seals suggest that, although the workshop's home may have been at Knossos, it is more likely to have been located farther west, at Rethymnon near the Armenoi cemetery, or even at Chania.

One Woman: II 3.124 from Tylissos (mistakenly listed as HM 919 in CP Women D [Masters II: 123]).

Master of animals: II 3.167 from "Knossos" (mistakenly listed as HM 367 in CP Lions B [Masters II: 124]).

Two men?: V 244 (64) from Armenoi T. 15a.

Two women saluting: II 4.70.⁵

Cult scene (woman and lioness): V 253 from Armenoi T. 24 (LM III A–Bi).

Woman and bull: CS 21 P.

Lions: I Supp. 97 from Crete; V 242 (65) from Armenoi T. 13 (LM III Aii), 264 from Armenoi T. 39 (LM III Aii–Bi); IX 149 (66) and 150 (67); X 151 and 152; XII 244 (68) from Crete?; and Chania Museum Sigma 72 from Armenoi.

Near: V 651.

Bulls: V 247 (69) from Armenoi T. 18; IX 169 (70); and CMCG 267 from Knossos (mistakenly listed as a member of CP Lions B [Masters II: 124]).

Associated sealing: Kn HMs 298 (KSPI R9).

Agrimia: V 248 (71) from Armenoi T. 18, and 250 (72) from Armenoi T. 19 (LM III Bi); X 165; XIII 6; and CS 19 from “the Ayia Pelagia tholos” (LM III B), and 20P.

Close: I 485 from Crete.

Agrimi kids: I 495 from Crete; and V 272 from Armenoi T. 54.

Close: XII 223 from Crete?

Animal, *associated sealing*: Kn HMs ME.

Griffins: XII 300 and 301 (73), both from Crete; and CS 23 P.

Close: IX 18D, and X 170.

Winged agrimi: V 400 (74) from Medeon T. 239 (LH III C).

Lion attacks a caprid: II 3.333.

III. Gold Finger-Rings carrying Shields and Robes

The contexts and find-spots of these iconographically distinctive rings all point to their manufacture at Knossos in LM III Ai.

II 3.113 from Kalyvia T. 10 (LM III Aii); and HMm 990, 1002, 1003, and 1004 from Archanes tholos A (LM III Ai; Sakellarakis, ILN 26 March 1966, 32–33 figs. 6 and 8).

Associated sealing: Kn HMs 664 (KSPI C11).

⁵ Alexiou, *He Thea meth Hypsomenon Cheiron*, p. 219 pl. 11.3, dates the seal to LM III because the women's long necks seem to reflect the terracotta idols.