
THE OLD POTTER'S ALMANACK

Volume Twenty, Number One: June 2015. ISSN 0965-7479

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

This June issue of *The Old Potter's Almanack* presents three papers on Corsican and Iranian ceramics, and a book review on the portable digital microscope and atlas of ceramic pastes.

In the first paper, Kewin Peche-Quilichini discusses the technical choices made to manufacture coarse ware at the Late Iron Age site I Palazzi, in north-eastern Corsica. The paper focuses on detailed macroscopic analyses of 260 sherds, which enable the identification of ceramic traditions, such as manufacturing techniques, stylistic variations and paste choices, including asbestos temper.

In the second article, by Milad Shalikarian and Mohammadamin Emami, a multidisciplinary analytical approach was applied to the study of Bronze and Iron Age Grey Pottery from Gohar Tappe, in north Iran, south-east of the Caspian Sea. The analyses of 25 potsherds by thin sectioning, XRF and XRD show continuity of technological choices and exploitation of similar raw materials throughout the Bronze and Iron Ages.

The third article, by Maria Daghmehchi, Jebrael Nokandeh and Fatemeh Wakil, focuses on the petrographic analysis of Sasanian coarse ware from Qal'eh, in north-eastern Iran. Petrographic analysis of the fabrics and the microfossils were used to address provenance and manufacturing choices, such as firing.

These are followed by a thoughtful review by Rob Ixer of the latest volume by Isabelle Druc on the *Portable Digital Microscope - Atlas of ceramic pastes*.

Finally, I would like to mention a book which might be of interest to ceramic scholars, the just published *Ceramics, Cuisine and Culture* volume distributed by Oxbow (Oxford). This volume is based on the interdisciplinary exchange of ideas and approaches to the study of kitchen pottery between archaeologists, material scientists, historians and ethnoarchaeologists. You will be able to find more details in the News section.

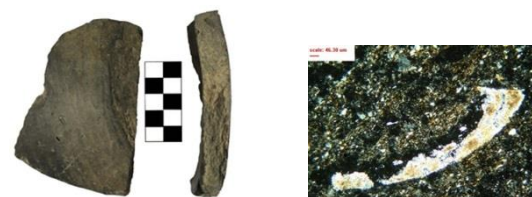
Michela Spataro

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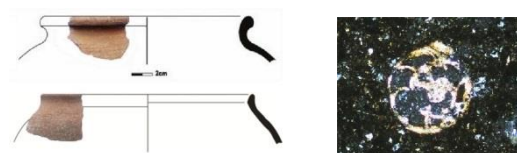
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Book review: *Portable Digital Microscope-Atlas of Ceramic pastes: Components, Texture and Technology*. Isabelle C. Druc **Page 22**
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