lamps, amphorae, glass vases and gold objects. The tholos monument has an entrance, two small ante-chambers and a larger one at the centre; the underground portion has a groined vault. Yet more chamber tombs to the N, alongside the Rom, were used by the first Ch inhabitants.

He also remarks on the existence of a tomb of the 'Punic' sort.

KOINOTITA GAVDOU

Gavdos, Siopata. K. Kopaka (Crete) reports on a **M burial** excavated in 2004, at Sto Papouro, on a hill. The pithos, painted, was set on its side in an E–W orientation, within a depression cut into the soft, limestone bedrock (**Fig. 145**). A small wall of stones protected its mouth, and another small slab its base. Inside were the skeletal remains, reasonably preserved, of an adult, in a crouched position; the head towards the rim of the vessel. The body was accompanied only by a fine stone bowl. The pithos (of L MM or E LM date) was 0.83m in *h*., with a maximum *di*. of 0.64m: it recalls those in the Messara pottery production, but is made of local clay.

The burial was isolated, as further trial trenches opened revealed, but perhaps it is associated with a relatively large building nearby, which has been under investigation since 2005. A few more pithoi, perhaps funerary too, are recorded around the island.

This find not only provides the first PH inhumation so far excavated on Gavdos, but also, and importantly, highlights and confirms the practice of pithos burials on this remote micro-insular territory. Thus the small island of Gavdos is added to the distribution map of such burials around the M2nd millennium BC: a funerary habit well-attested in the PH E Mediterranean, without being universally adopted.

In *Eleftherotypia* (03/10/2006), K. Kopaka (Crete) reports the recovery of 766 stone finds from the Pal era (before 10,000 BC) from 32 locations on the island. The finds are dated from aspects of both their shape and method of production; and will re-open the vexed and vital question on the earliest human inhabitants to settle Crete.



145. Gavdos: pithos burial

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