

MARIA TRAPICHLER

## Pottery Production in the Bay of Naples

### THE FINE BANDED WARE

#### INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The basis for the definition of the *fabrics* of the Fine Banded Ware is the examination of 213 samples, deriving from various contexts from the excavations in 2001 in the area of the “tempio con portico” conducted by the Università di Studi Federico II in Naples.<sup>1</sup>

The examples for the “Fine Banded Ware” were taken from the class “Ceramica a decorazione lineare” which normally comprises all sorts of vessels with banded decoration, generally from the Archaic to early Classical periods. In this paper, “Fine Banded Ware” comprising simple table ware with banded decoration (code “F”) has been distinguished from “Coarse Banded Ware”, comprising kitchenware like basins and mortaria, and subsumed under “Coarse Wares” (code “C”).<sup>2</sup>

The greater part of the examined samples of the “Fine Banded Ware” (187 examples) shows *fabrics* which are generally rather fine-grained with a low percentage of inclusions (mostly estimated between 2,5 and 5% ) and grain sizes, which range between 0,02 and 0,5 to 0,8 mm and are thus clearly visible to the naked eye. These *fabrics* described below were denominated BNAP-F-1 to BNAP-F-4.

Only a few of the *fabrics* occurring with samples of the class “Fine Banded Ware” were identical with those established for Black Glaze Ware. They are classified as such.<sup>3</sup>

The archaeometric analyses of the examples from Cuma of BNAP-F-1 and BNAP-F-3 so far conducted made the provenance from the volcanic area of the Bay of Naples very likely.<sup>4</sup>

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE OBSERVED FABRICS

The most frequently observed *fabrics* BNAP-F-1 to BNAP-F-2 show close resemblances: BNAP-F-2 was distinguished from BNAP-F-1 only by the higher amount of fine white inclusions. BNAP-F-3 differs from BNAP-F-1 and BNAP-F-2 by the appearance of its matrix, which is riddled with usually very fine carbonate-pseudomorph moulds, the inclusions being similar to that of BNAP-F-1. BNAP-F-4 was less frequently observed and is distinguished by the very high amount of rather coarse carbonate-pseudomorph moulds and the partly large reddish brown and black inclusions.

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<sup>1</sup> For contexts and shapes, see A. Tomeo in: Greco, Febbraro, and Tomeo in this edition of **FACEM**.

<sup>2</sup> For the definition of the ware, see also Tomeo 2009, 56; Cuzzo 2006.

<sup>3</sup> The *fabrics* are BNAP-G-7 and BNAP-G-10, for the description of these examples, see: The Pottery Production in the Bay of Naples, The Black Glaze Ware in this edition of **FACEM**.

<sup>4</sup> Thin sections by Roman Sauer, Universität für Angewandte Kunst, Wien.

**BNAP-F-1**

*Reference sample:* M 143/63; *further examples and variations from Cuma:* M 143/65; M 143/102

*Matrix:* The *fabric* is light brown (7.5YR6/4) and fine grained. It contains a large amount of white and dark mica, which is recognisable in its characteristic cross-sectioned, very elongate shape, measuring up to 0,12 mm. Voids are comparatively frequent in occurrence (estimated between 5–7,5%) and mostly irregular in shape (“vughy”), and less frequently channel-shaped.

*Temper:* Inclusions are not frequent (estimated at 2,5%) and of varying size. Angular and spherical to subspherical, isolated elongated white particles (quartz, feldspar?) are characteristic and frequent. Characteristic but not frequent in occurrence are reddish brown and black particles, rounded and spherical to subspherical, mostly at sizes that range from 0,02 mm to 0,12 mm, only isolated subelongated and up to 0,8 mm (probably iron oxide concretions). Rarely visible are white rounded particles, probably bioclastic grains.

*Shapes:* cups (one handler), lekane

*Chronology:* late Archaic period

*Variations:* M 143/96 contains characteristic large reddish brown, dark rimmed inclusions (probably iron oxide concretions), measuring individually up to 1,5 mm and are thus clearly visible to the naked eye; M 143/127 varies in colour which is reddish yellow (5YR6/6) with a reddish brown core (5YR6/4).

*Remarks:* The *fabric* is very similar to a *fabric* attested with the Ionic cups (BNAP-IC-1), the matrix being slightly more granular.

**BNAP-F-2**

*Reference sample:* M 143/74, *further examples and variations from Cuma:* M 143/73; M 143/86; M 143/163

*Matrix:* The *fabric* is light brown (7.5YR6/4), the fracture surface is slightly more granular than BNAP-F-1. It contains a large amount of white and mostly dark mica, which is recognisable in its characteristic cross-sectioned very elongated shape, measuring up to 0,25 mm. Voids are comparatively frequent in occurrence (estimated between 5–7,5%) and mostly irregular in shape (“vughy”), less frequent channel-shaped.

*Temper:* Inclusions are more frequent than in BNAP-F-1 (estimated at 5%). Very frequent and characteristic are angular and spherical to subspherical, individual elongated white particles (probably quartz or feldspar). Occasionally visible are small clear angular to subspherical particles (probably quartz or volcanic glass), measuring 0,12 mm. Also characteristic but less frequent in occurrence are subangular, subspherical to subelongate opaque black particles (probably vulcanite), ranging in size from 0,05 to 0,4 mm. Less characteristic are some rusty

brown particles, rounded and spherical to subspherical (probably iron oxide concretions), ranging in size from 0,08 to 0,25 mm.

*Shapes:* plate, jug, cups

*Chronology:* late Archaic period

### **BNAP-F-3**

*Reference sample:* M 143/66; *further examples and variations from Cuma:* M 143/117; M 143/185

*Matrix:* The matrix is light brown (7.5YR6/4) and fine grained, the reference sample and many other examples show a reduced gray outer part and a dark brown line which parallels the border. It differs from BNAP-F-1 and BNAP-F-2 by being riddled with mostly small white carbonate-pseudomorph moulds ranging in size between 0,02 and 0,05 mm. Like BNAP-F-1 and BNAP-F-2, it contains a high amount of white and dark mica, which is recognisable in its characteristic cross-sectioned very elongated shape, measuring up to 0,25 mm. Voids are comparatively less frequent in occurrence (estimated at 5%) and mostly irregular in shape (“vughy”), and less frequently channel-shaped.

*Temper:* Inclusions are altogether few (estimated at 2,5%), the particles are very small, measuring only up to 0,25 mm. Comparatively frequent in occurrence are dark brown to black particles, mostly spherical to subspherical, individually subelongate, measuring up to 0,25 mm. Rounded spherical to subspherical particles (quartz or feldspar), ranging in size from 0,08 to 0,12 mm occur less frequent. White rounded, rather large fragments with a diameter of 0,25 mm (probably shell remains) only occur occasionally.

*Shapes:* jug, plate, jug

*Chronology:* sixth century B.C.E., beginning of 5th century B.C.E.

### **BNAP-F-4**

*Reference Sample:* M 143/18; *further examples from Cuma:* M 143/32; *from Cuma, but coarse wares:* M 145/14

*Matrix:* The matrix is light brown (7.5YR6/4), the fracture surface is granular. It is characteristically riddled with carbonate-pseudomorph moulds of irregular size, which are sometimes recognisable only as tiny white spots and sometimes are quite large (up to 0,2 mm), showing a yellow core. Like BNAP-F-1, BNAP-F-2 and BNAP-F-3 it contains white, but mostly dark mica, measuring in its characteristic cross-sectioned, elongated shape up to 0,5 mm. Voids are frequent in occurrence, mostly of irregular shape (“vughy”) and less frequently channel-shaped and usually small, seldom measuring up to 0,5 mm.

*Temper*: Inclusions are few (estimated at 2,5%) and unsorted with grain sizes up to 0,5 mm. Characteristic are some rounded and spherical white particles (probably precipitated calcite) which range in size between 0,08 and 0,4 mm. Seldom recognisable are brownish black and rusty brown rounded spherical particles (probably iron oxide concretions), which range in size between 0,05 and 0,5 mm. Comparatively large clear angular or subangular, subspherical particles (quartz or volcanic glass?), between 0,4 and 0,5 mm in size occur seldomly.

*Shapes*: closed vessel, plate

*Chronology*: Archaic period

*Remarks*: The *fabric* is very similar to BNAP-G-4 observed with Black Glaze Ware in Cuma, differing only in the size of carbonate-pseudomorph moulds which dominate the matrix and are often much larger.

## REFERENCES

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