Types of earrings in the cemeteries of Macedonia (Archaic through Hellenistic periods)

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I hereby declare that the work submitted is mine and that where I have made use of another’s work, I have attributed the source(s) according to the Regulations set in the Student’s Handbook.

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Abstract

This dissertation was written as part of the MS in Classical Archaeology and History of Macedonia at the International Hellenic University. Burial archaeology is based on both the evidence that come from the excavations of the cemeteries, their graves, types of graves and offerings, but also on the written sources. The truth is that the burial is only a part of a whole ceremony which we can only assume based on the remains into the graves of the ancient settlements. The jewelry that were found into the graves as offerings to the deceased are separated into two categories, those that were worn in real life and those that were made exclusively for burial use as substitutes of real ones. In any case, based on the amount of jewelry found into the graves, it is clear that the custom of bury the deceased with their jewelry had an important role in antiquity. Jewelry constitute a part of exceptional art in several cases and the fact that they were found in a large quantity in some of the cemeteries or in other contexts, testify to the development and richness of the kingdom in each period. Their existence can also show a social stratification based on the fact that some of the graves are richer in offerings than others.

The aim of this study is to examine the different types of earrings that were found into the graves as offerings to the deceased, their material and their continuation or their absence through the Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic periods in cemeteries of the Macedonian kingdom. I would like to express sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Dr. Despoina Tsiafakis for her valuable assistance and guidance throughout the progress of this dissertation.

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# Contents

ABSTRACT ........................................................................................................................................ III

CONTENTS .................................................................................................................................... IV

INTRODUCTION .......................................................................................................................... 6

CHRONOLOGICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL FRAMEWORK ......................................................... 8

ARCHAIC PERIOD .......................................................................................................................... 8
  Settlements .................................................................................................................................. 9
  Cemeteries .............................................................................................................................. 10

CLASSICAL PERIOD ................................................................................................................... 12
  Settlements .............................................................................................................................. 12
  Cemeteries .............................................................................................................................. 12

LATE CLASSICAL-HELLENISTIC PERIOD .................................................................................. 14
  Settlements .............................................................................................................................. 14
  Cemeteries .............................................................................................................................. 15

CEMETERIES ............................................................................................................................. 16

AIANE ............................................................................................................................................. 16

PYDNA .......................................................................................................................................... 17

MELISSIA IN AIGNIO .................................................................................................................. 18

VERGINA ...................................................................................................................................... 18

ASOMATA ...................................................................................................................................... 19

MIEZA ........................................................................................................................................... 20

ARCHONTIKO .............................................................................................................................. 20

NEA PHILADELPHIA ................................................................................................................... 21

SINDOS ......................................................................................................................................... 21

THERME ........................................................................................................................................ 21

AGIA PARASKEVI ...................................................................................................................... 22

AINEIA .......................................................................................................................................... 22

OLYNTHUS .................................................................................................................................... 23
AKANTHOS..........................................................................................................................23
AMPHIPOLIS.........................................................................................................................24

TYPOLOGY OF EARRINGS ....................................................................................................25

BANDED EARRINGS ............................................................................................................25

Elaborate banded earrings ...................................................................................................25
Earrings with banded terminals ............................................................................................28
Banded earrings made of metal sheet ....................................................................................30

EARRINGS IN THE SHAPE OF THE GREEK LETTER Ω ........................................................31

Earrings with terminals in the shape of snakes’ heads .........................................................32
Earrings with terminals in the shape of a closed flower ......................................................33
Earrings with simple terminals ............................................................................................33

OPEN RINGS WITH ADDITIONAL DECORATIVE ELEMENTS ...........................................34

SIMPLE OPEN RINGS .........................................................................................................34

SPIRAL EARRINGS ................................................................................................................35

EARRINGS OF COILED WIRE ...............................................................................................36

EARRINGS IN THE SHAPE OF HOOPS ................................................................................37

PYRAMID-SHAPED EARRINGS ..............................................................................................38

EARRINGS WITH LION HEAD TERMINALS .......................................................................38

EARRINGS WITH ANIMAL OR HUMAN HEAD TERMINALS ..............................................40

EARRINGS WITH A ROSETTE ...............................................................................................40

EARRINGS WITH EROS OR NIKE .........................................................................................41

EARRINGS WITH A HANGING FIGURE ................................................................................42

EARRINGS WITH A HOOK AND ANIMALS OR BIRDS ......................................................42

CONCLUSIONS ....................................................................................................................44

BIBLIOGRAPHY ...................................................................................................................47

Figures ...................................................................................................................................1
Introduction

The aim of archaeology is to interpret to an extent the social reality of the past through the study of the ancient settlements and cemeteries. Scholars that study the burial archaeology are based on both the evidence that come from the excavation of the cemeteries, their graves, the types of graves and the offerings, but also on the written sources. The truth is that the burial is only a part of a whole burial ceremony which we can only assume based on the remains into the graves of the ancient settlements. More specifically the study of cemeteries dating from the Archaic period when the written sources were scarce we are based mostly on the remains of the graves.

Scholars arrive at conclusions regarding the economic situation and the social distribution of the population that inhabited in a settlement based on differentiations of the types of graves but also on the amount and the types of offerings. However, these may be attributed to different burial customs and beliefs. The absence of rich offerings does not mean that the population was poor; the presence though of rich offerings indicates a prosperous economy. An example is that of the cemetery of Akanthos in which the offerings were poor, although, there are solid indications that the settlement lived in prosperity. Of course, one must bear in mind that metal objects are rare finds in comparison to the terracotta ones because they were often melted and reshaped. Furthermore, the fact that a large amount of graves in most of the cemeteries of Macedonia were found destroyed or looted, does not contribute to the creation of a total picture of the amount and the types of offerings into the graves. In the cemeteries of Macedonia already from the 6th and 5th century BC, there was a common burial custom where men were buried with their weapons and women with their jewelry. This custom is apparent in the cemeteries near the Thermaic gulf such as Sindos, Karabournaki, Therme, Pydna, Archontiko, Mieza, Sphikia in Emathia, Vergina and Aiane. However in the colonies’ cemeteries in Chalcidice there were found only a few jewelry and no weapons, such as in Akanthos and ancient Aineia. Nevertheless, jewelry were also found in male’s graves, such as finger rings and jewelry for the decoration of clothes. It has been argued that the practice of placing metal objects into the graves as offerings was an expression of social promotion by the aristocracy.

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1 For burial archaeology see: Morris 1997.
2 Morris 1987, 183-189.
already from the 6th century BC and it was related with common habits in the territories of Thrace and Illyria. More specifically, as far as the jewelry is concerned, it is not clear if their use started before or after the use of clothes. The existence of metalworking in Macedonia since the Bronze Age is proved by stone moulds used for jewelry that were found in different regions of Macedonia such as Vergina, Kastanas, Aghialos in Chalcidice etc. It seems that there was a local tradition of metalworking, especially, of bronze and iron for the creation of different objects that continued in the following centuries. In Macedonia, the production of bronze items begun in the 9th century BC. They became more common in the late 8th and 7th centuries B.C. and thus continued to be produced in the following periods. The reasons that led people to create jewelry, i.e. whether it was for their personal decoration or it had to do with beliefs regarding to superstitions, such as the aversion of evil, are still under discussion. The jewelry that were found into the graves as offerings to the deceased are divided into two categories, those that were worn in real life and those that were made exclusively for burial use as substitutes of real ones. They were probably used in cases where the economic situation did not allow the use of real jewelry. In any case, based on the amount of jewelry found in the cemeteries, it is clear that the custom of burying the deceased with their jewelry had an important role in antiquity. Scholars agree that jewelry were worn in special occasions and not in the everyday life. In several cases jewelry constitute an exceptional form of art and the fact that they were found in large amounts in some of the cemeteries or in other contexts, testifies to the development and richness of the kingdom in each period. In addition, their existence indicates a social stratification based on the fact that some of the graves were richer in offerings than others. Their placement on specific body parts inside the grave helps us define their type and use. However, a lot of them were not found upon or near the body, so they are considered to be offerings from the relatives of the deceased.

As far as the construction of jewelry is concerned, it is divided into two categories, those that were made of metal sheets and those made of casting. Metal sheets were made of forging, a process that requires a lot of time and persistence. After the process, the metal sheet became thin and sometimes was decorated with additional elements. These elements could be either geometric shapes or linear motifs made of engraving, or relief. Jewelry made of metal sheets were intended mostly for burial use. Casting was a process during which metals were liquidized and poured into moulds to take different shapes. It was used from 3000 BC initially in the territory of Aegean. Filigree and granulation were techniques both used for the decoration of jewelry. The first was used for the decoration of metal sheets or for the construction of jewelry by twisting or gluing them together. In granulation, there were used small pellets in rows.

7 Themelis 2000, 497.
8 Themelis 2000, 495-496.
to surround a motif or to form different shapes such as pyramids, cones etc. These two techniques were used in Mesopotamia, Syria and Asia Minor from 3000 BC. Filigree was popular throughout the years but granulation was undermined during the Roman period and stopped being used from about 1000 AD\textsuperscript{11}.

The aim of this paper is to examine the different types of earrings that were found inside the graves as offerings to the deceased, their material and their continuance or absence throughout the Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic periods in the cemeteries of the Macedonian kingdom. In the first chapter, I will refer to the chronological and geographical framework of this study which is the general area of Macedonia from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period. In the second chapter there is a catalogue of cemeteries in which were found some of the basic types of earnings referred to this paper. These cemeteries are located in western Macedonia, central Macedonia, Thermaic gulf, Chalcidice and eastern Macedonia. In the third chapter the types of earrings are presented in a chronological order.

**Chronological and Geographical framework**

The geographical framework changes in each period, new settlements and furthermore cemeteries were created due to the expansion of the Macedonian kingdom. However, the form of cemeteries and the burial practices did not changed significantly.

**Archaic period**

The Archaic period is characterized by the foundation of colonies on the coasts of Macedonia during the Second Colonization between the 8\textsuperscript{th} and 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC. The “metropoleis” from Euboea (Chalkis, Eretria) and Cyclades (Andros, Paros) established colonies in Pieria (Methone), Chalcidice (Mende, Scione, Sane, Potidaia, Torone, Semyle, Akanthos, Stageia), in the territory of Strymon river (Tragilos, Argilos) and Thasos\textsuperscript{12}. In many cases, the colonies were founded on already existing settlements, creating, thus, extensively mixed colonies consisting of the already existing population and the new colonists. During the Archaic and the Classical period, the colonies had an economic flourish due to the relations (economic and cultural trade) with Euboea, Ionia, Corinth and Attica, as well as with other territories of Macedonia where there was a parallel exploitation of mines and timber. The second important aspect of the Archaic period was the expansion of the Macedonians from the north Pierian mountains towards a wider territory\textsuperscript{13}. The stages of their expansion in each territory

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\textsuperscript{11} Higgins 1969, 11.  
\textsuperscript{12} For Colonization in Macedonia see: Tiverios 2008.  
\textsuperscript{13} Kottaridi 2004g, 547.
and the exact dating are matters which are dealt with by many scholars. The first expansion of the Macedonians was towards the east-southeast and Pieria, which resulted in the relocation of the Pierians to the territory of Pangaion before the middle of the 7th century BC or earlier, in the second half of the 8th century BC. As far as the expansion to Bottiaea and the ejection of Bottiaeans to Bottike in Chalcidice are concerned, they are dated back to the middle of the 6th century or earlier, or even later to the end of the 6th century BC. Finally, the relocation of the Macedonians west and north in the territory of Eordaia and Almopia is a controversial matter that needs to be examined.

Settlements

The settlements in the Archaic period are divided in two groups, those that were continuously inhabited since the Early Iron Age and those which were founded by colonists in the Thermaic gulf and Chalcidice. During the Archaic period, there was a tendency to locate the cemeteries in territories that were unsuitable for cultivation but proper for opening graves, such as the cemetery in Asomata of Beroia. Additionally, they used to place cemeteries near rivers where the soil was also unsuitable for cultivation, such as in Agia Paraskevi. Another commonly used area for the positioning of cemeteries was the natural hills, such as the west cemetery of Archontiko which was used from the early Archaic period and lasted until the late Archaic period. It increased in size and expanded in two near hills with soil suitable for burials. Furthermore, cemeteries were often situated in the coastal and sandy sites of Chalcidice such as Mende and Akanthos, of east Macedonia such as Galepsos and Oisyme, and in the territory of the Thermaic gulf such as Karabournaki. There were also cemeteries in valleys such as Nea Philadelphia. As far as the relation between the settlement and the cemetery is concerned, during the Archaic period there were more than one cemeteries related to one settlement, such as Archontiko, Sindos, Toumba of Thessaloniki, Therme etc. These cemeteries could only be considered separate provided that there was a big distance between them. Otherwise, it is highly possible that these cemeteries were actually parts of a wider undivided space used for burials.

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14Mpesios 2010, 79.
16Kefalidou 2009, 17.
17Sismanidis 1987, 789.
Cemeteries

During this period new cemeteries were created, such as Aegae, Beroia, Sphikia, Mieza, Asomata, Agios Athanasios, Sindos, Karabournaki, Agia Paraskevi etc. Most of them were also used in later periods. During the Archaic period in Macedonia, most of the new cemeteries belonged in a broader category of cemeteries that were wide and flat. There were cemeteries in which the same burial site was used over the ages, while in others there was an extension or a transport of the burial site in another region. For example, in Agia Paraskevi\(^\text{23}\), Sindos\(^\text{24}\), Vergina\(^\text{25}\), Asomata\(^\text{26}\) there was a horizontal extension of the graves over the ages. On the contrary, in the colonies’ cemeteries in Chalcidice such as Akanthos\(^\text{27}\), Mende\(^\text{28}\), Archontiko\(^\text{29}\), Therme\(^\text{30}\), Aiane\(^\text{31}\), Sphikia\(^\text{32}\) etc. the same burial site was used over and over, by placing the new graves over the older ones. Some of the Archaic cemeteries such as Archontiko and Sindos, stand out for the large amount of graves which contain abundant and rich offerings. More specifically, in Archontiko, the west cemetery was used for the burial of the rich population, while the east one for the burial of people coming from the middle and lower class\(^\text{33}\). Moreover, in Vergina there were group burials used probably by certain families that were buried in richer graves than the rest. There were differentiations in the types and the practices used, as well as in offerings of the burials\(^\text{34}\). This indicates a social-economic differentiation among the different sections in the same cemetery\(^\text{35}\). Group burials with differentiations from the rest are also spotted in the cemeteries of Therme, Aiane, Sindos, Karabournaki and the north cemetery of Pydna. It is possible that these groups were related to rich aristocratic families that had an important role into the settlement\(^\text{36}\). However, as far as the burial site is concerned, in some cases, such as Archontiko and Sindos, there was not a demarcation between the richer graves and the simpler ones, they were all integrated into the wider cemetery.

In all territories of Macedonia, the main burial practice was the individual inhumation. Cremations were rare except for cases that were related to the colonies. The practice of inhumation was used exclusively for the burials in the Archaic graves of Karabournaki\(^\text{37}\), Aineia\(^\text{38}\), Agia Paraskevi\(^\text{39}\), Aiane\(^\text{40}\), in most of the graves of Vergina\(^\text{41}\).

\(^{23}\) Sismanidis 1987, 788-789.
\(^{24}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 1997, 153.
\(^{25}\) Kottaridi 1996a, 79-80.
\(^{26}\) Kefalidou 2009, 27.
\(^{29}\) Chrysostomou-Chrysostomou 2000, 478, 484-485, 2006, 703.
\(^{30}\) Skarlatidou-Ignatiadou 1996, 478-480.
\(^{31}\) Karamitrou-Mentesidi 1989, 49-51.
\(^{32}\) Kottaridi-Brekoulaki 1997, 111, Kottaridi 2004g, 544-545.
\(^{33}\) Chrysostomou-Zarogiannis, 2005, 432.
\(^{35}\) Kefalidou 2009, 31.
\(^{36}\) Kakamanoydis 2017, 431.
\(^{37}\) Pantermali-Trakosopoulou 1994, 206.
and Sphikia in Emathia\textsuperscript{42}, maybe because the practice of cremation concerned only some distinguished deceased of the local societies. There is a small amount of cases where the practice of cremation was used in cemeteries that were not related to colonies, such as Therme\textsuperscript{43}, Archontiko\textsuperscript{44} and Sphikia\textsuperscript{45}. In the territories of West Macedonia and Bottiaea, the types of graves are limited, while in the Thermaic gulf and Chalcidice, there is a variety. The types of graves used in this period were: 1) simple rectangular or elliptical pit graves with the deceased into wooden coffins, 2) pits surrounded by stones, 3) cist graves, 4) stone sarcophagi, 5) terracotta sarcophagi, 6) jar burials, 7) primary cremations, 8) secondary cremations in terracotta vases and bronze vases. The offerings found into the graves were: terracotta vases, terracotta figurines, glass and made of faience vases, metal vases, bronze, silver and gold jewelry, weapons, gold sheets and bands for the decoration of clothes, weapons etc.

In the cemeteries of the Archaic period, there are many differences detected regarding the type, the amount and the variety of the offerings as well as the type of graves found in each cemetery of the same territory, as well as in cemeteries situated in different territories. The differences according to the geopolitical distribution of the cemeteries is: those that are related with the colonies of Chalcidice, east Macedonia and Aegean Thrace, those that are located around the Thermaic gulf and central Macedonia and those found in West Macedonia\textsuperscript{46}. There is also a differentiation in the precious metals used for the offerings, and especially for the jewelries in cemeteries east and west of Axios river. In particular, the precious metal offerings were found mainly in Archaic cemeteries west of Axios, except for Sindos which is located between Axios and Echedoros\textsuperscript{47}. On the one hand, there were different preferences and differentiations in the burial customs and practices, as mentioned above, but on the other hand there was also a clear and common cultural background existing earlier than 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC. It is concluded that the expansion of the Macedonians, the foundation of the colonies and the inner movements of the local populations during the period of the Colonization, contributed to the creation of this common cultural background\textsuperscript{48}.

\textsuperscript{38}Vokotopoulou 1990a, 95-111.
\textsuperscript{39}Sismanidis 1987.
\textsuperscript{40}Karamitrou-Mentesidi 1996, 28.
\textsuperscript{41}Kottaridi 1996a, 85.
\textsuperscript{42}Kottaridi-Brekoulaki 1997, 111, Kottaridi 2004g, 545.
\textsuperscript{43}Skarlatidou-Ignatiadou 1996, 483, Skarlatidou 2007, 10.
\textsuperscript{44}Chrysostomou-Chrysostomou 2007g, 115.
\textsuperscript{45}Kottaridi-Brekoulaki 1997, 111.
\textsuperscript{46}Kefalidou 2009,137.
\textsuperscript{47}Tsigarida 2007, 525-526.
\textsuperscript{48}Kefalidou 2009, 59.


**Classical period**

Settlements

During the Classical period, after 480 BC, there was a new expansion of the Macedonian kingdom to the east of Axios river. In this period, Alexander I expanded the kingdom to Mygdonia, Kristonia and Bisaltia as well as to the west of Dysoron mountain and the territory of Strymon river\(^{49}\). As a result, Macedonians were able to control a wide geographical territory. During this new expansion, as in the previous one, there were created mixed populations by the Macedonians and the locals\(^{50}\). During the Classical period, the already existing settlements in the form of “trapeza” (Sindos, Therme etc.) and the colonies established in the Archaic period continued to be inhabited\(^{51}\). In fact, the form of the settlements in the Thermaic gulf does not change until the Hellenistic period. Further, the transfer of the capital from Vergina to Pella is another important aspect of this period with the reformation and the addition of several buildings that accommodated the leadership of the kingdom.

Cemeteries

Except for the cemeteries that continued to be used since earlier periods, there were, also, created new organized burial sites. The parallel use of the cemeteries around the settlements was a common practice which was firstly noticed in the Archaic period and lasted through the Hellenistic period. For instance, in Olynthus there was the west, the north and the east cemetery. The consistent use of the same cemeteries from the Archaic to the Hellenistic period is detected in Vergina, Archontiko, Therme, Akanthos etc. The dominant type of cemeteries in almost all territories is the flat/extensive one, while the graves follow a regular or irregular pattern. The existence of tombs in the Classical period is apparent in the south cemetery of Pydna, dated in the 5\(^{th}\) century BC, in Nea Kallikrateia dated in the first half of the 4\(^{th}\) and in other territories of Macedonia. As far as the organization of the cemeteries in the Classical period is concerned, the north cemeteries of Pydna, Mieza and Edessa were positioned around some tombs or small groups of graves existing already since the Archaic period. In Pydna and, more specifically, in the north cemetery of Pydna a rich burial group was found which stood out from the wide cemetery and dated back from the beginning of 5\(^{th}\) to the middle of the 4\(^{th}\) century BC. Moreover, in Mieza the cemetery expanded gradually with an addition of graves around a main core of graves dated in the late Archaic period. These instances indicate a commonly used practice in the organization of the classical cemeteries of Pieria and Bottiaeia. The graves belonged mostly to males and were

\(^{49}\)Touratsoglou 2010, 10-13.
\(^{50}\)Hatzopoulos 1996, 106-108.
\(^{51}\)Kakamanoudis 2017, 456.
associated to the emergence of aristocratic groups of people during this period. In the important city centers such as Pydna, Vergina, Archontiko and Amphipolis, the organization of the cemeteries is characterized by a dense and systematic use. In Vergina, the dense use of the site is connected to the horizontal expansion of the cemetery as the graves form parallel rows. In Archontiko, the same burial groups from the early and late Archaic period continued to be used in Classical period. The regular pattern of the graves is also evident in parts of the cemetery of Therme, in graves dated in the 4th century BC.

During the classical period, the main burial practice is still the inhumation. The cremation was rarely used. The types of graves are already known from the archaic period. The most common type was the pit grave whereas the cist graves were used in a small quantity. In the group burials of the cemetery of Vergina, the monumental masonry graves used, are considered to be the predecessors of the Macedonian graves that appeared in the late Classical-Hellenistic period. A few tile covered graves were found in Akanthos, Olynthus and the east cemetery of Amphipolis. Stone sarcophagi were found in some cemeteries until the middle of 4th century. The Terracotta sarcophagi discovered in Akanthos and Argilos were scarce. The jar burials were mostly detected in the cemeteries of Chalcidice. A new practice, the primary cremation appeared in Macedonia during the 4th century. It was found into pits in the cemeteries of Aineia and Chalcidice while it was uncommon in Bottiaeа, the Thermaic gulf etc. A small quantity of secondary cremations dated in the early Classical period, were found in Sindos while some others dated in the end of the 5th century were found in Vergina and Pella. They appeared in many cemeteries in the second quarter of the 4th century such as Pydna and Aineia. During the early classical period, in some cemeteries the tendency for abundant burial offerings disappears. This is apparent in Archontiko, whereas in Sindos there were rich burials until the third quarter of the 5th century. On the contrary, in the north cemetery of Pydna there were discovered plenty of rich burials of the 5th century BC. Burials with rich offerings were also detected in the cemeteries of Karabournaki and Therme. As far as the offerings of graves are concerned, there are differences among the territories, among the cemeteries of the same territory and among the graves in the same cemetery. In Nea Philadelphia, all the graves, except for the infants’ had offerings. The richer ones are dated in late archaic-early classical period. In the cemeteries of Sindos there were also differences, some of the graves had more valuable offerings whereas others had less valuable ones. Furthermore, in Vergina and Aiane, there was also a differentiation in the wealth and the types of the offerings in some of the burial groups. In Akanthos, where the offerings were, generally, simple, the graves of the Classical period which were in the higher layers, had richer offerings than the deeper ones. The burials of children and

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52 Kakamanoudis 2017, 461.
53 Andronikos 1969, 149-151.
young people were also richer than the adults’. The most common offerings in this period were: terracotta vases, mostly from Attica, metal vases in the richer burials, glass vases, terracotta female figurines, metal parts for the decoration of clothes and jewelry, weapons, silver and bronze coins.

**Late Classical-Hellenistic period**

Settlements

During the reign of Philip II, the Macedonian kingdom expanded even more. Philip occupied Pelagonia and Dassaritia, while Elmiots and Orestes got integrated into the kingdom. Chalcidice was integrated in the Macedonian kingdom after the destruction of Olynthus in 348 BC. Furthermore, Philip II made some important reforms in the military organization, the administration and the economy of the Macedonian kingdom. In the middle of 4th century, Phillip II had found a local source for gold at Mountain Pangaion in Macedonia. However, the productivity of his mines started to diminish. It seems that the need for gold was an important factor that determined the route of Alexander’s expedition. After the defeat of Persians, Alexander and his soldiers came in possession of large quantities of precious metals from the captured Persian treasuries. In addition, at that time, the foreign mines were exploited by the conquerors, providing the Macedonian kingdom and Greece with great wealth. As a result of the sudden deluge of gold, changes in the cemeteries were apparent. The systematic excavations in Macedonia and the findings regarding the offerings inside the graves have shown that the production of gold jewelry was increased. This period is often characterized as a period of “Persianism” since the Eastern influences in the types of jewelries are obvious. The work of Philip II and Alexander the Great was carried on by their successors. During the 3rd and first half of the 2nd centuries BC the political and economic aspects of the kingdom changed, when the Romans appeared and gradually abolished Macedonia in the middle of the 2nd century BC. During this period, the important cities of Macedonia such as Pella, Vergina, Beroia and Archontiko had been fortified. The reign of Kassander was a period of reorganization of Pella and Dion and of foundation of new cities such as Thessaloniki and Kassandra. The foundation of Thessaloniki had as a result the abandonment of some settlements that were being inhabited since the Early Iron Age, such as Karabournaki, Therme, etc.

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54 Touratsoglou 2010, 22-29.
56 Hoffmann-Davidson 1965, 1-2.
Cemeteries

By the middle of the 4th century BC, there were some important changes in the form of the cemeteries and the burial practices. In this period, as in the previous one, there was a parallel use of different cemeteries in the cities. For example in Pella two cemeteries, east and west of the city, were used simultaneously. Likewise in Pydna, there were cemeteries north, west and south of the city. Some of the cemeteries stopped being used due to the abandonment of the cities, such as Archontiko, Toumba in Thessaloniki, Karabournaki, Therme, Olynthus, Akanthos etc. The north cemetery of Pydna stopped being used in the early Hellenistic period, while a number of new ones started being used, such as the east cemetery of Aiane and Kassandra. Moving on to the organization of the cemeteries in this period, it is worth mentioning that there was an extensive construction and use of burial tombs. They are detected in different territories of Macedonia, such as the cemetery of Pella. The burial tombs were integrated into the broader cemeteries or to their circumferences and were distinguished by their form and size. The tombs of the late Classical and Hellenistic period covered simple graves such as pit and cist graves but also monumental ones such as big cists and Macedonians. A distinct characteristic of the organization of the cemeteries in the late Classical and Hellenistic period is the complexity caused by the large amount of burial tombs, burial groups and precincts. It is also noted that different social groups utilized differently the various parts of the cemeteries. There was a variety in the types of graves, with some of them appearing for the first time in Macedonia, such as the Macedonian and the chamber tombs. The main burial practice was the inhumation, although, there was a gradual increase in the use of cremation during the 4th century, such as in Vergina. The types of the graves were: pits, tile covered, cist, graves built by mudbricks, “Macedonian”, chamber tombs. During this period, there was an increased differentiation in the grave offerings and the types of tombs. The Macedonian graves were rich in offerings with a variety of precious objects, such as Vergina. The cist graves were also full of rich offerings such as the graves of Derveni. The simpler types of graves had offerings of lower value. However there are some examples in which simple graves had more objects. However, by the end of the Hellenistic period there was a decrease in the wealth and the variety of the grave offerings. This had to do with the political-social-economic circumstances that Macedonia encountered in this period. Nevertheless there were still some instances of graves that contained rich offerings. In Aiane, there was a differentiation in the offerings between the Hellenistic graves of the east cemetery and those in the cemetery situated in the area of Leivadia. The older graves were poor in offerings while those of the east cemetery were richer. The grave offerings were: terracotta vases, in the 4th century Attic vases were, also, usual but in the end of 4th-beginning of
In the richer graves there were found bronze, silver and gilded terracotta figurines, bronze, silver and gold jewelry, bronze gilded wreaths in the richer burials, weapons, coins etc. In some of them there were found more earrings while in others there were found only a few. The map depicts the cemeteries mentioned below.

Aiane

Aiane\(^5\) was the capital of the region of Elimiotis and already from the late Archaic period had the form of an organized polis. Dispersed graves, which are dated from the Early Iron Age,

\(^{57}\)For a brief reference to the cemeteries of Aiane see: Karamitrou-Mentesidi 2008.
were found around the city. So it is concluded that the territory was inhabited from that period\textsuperscript{58}. There were also organized cemeteries such as the one in the area of Leivadía that started being excavated from 1987 with rescued excavations. In addition a large amount of graves dating from the Late Bronze Age but also from the Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic period was discovered\textsuperscript{59}. The “royal necropolis” of Aiane from which 12 monumental masonry and small cist graves were excavated, was found to the north-east of the simple pit graves, dating from the Archaic-Classical period. In the Archaic-Classical period, the most usual types of graves were pits and a few cists while in the Hellenistic period there were mostly pit graves. The offerings were: terracotta vases, bronze vases, terracotta figurines, metal parts for the decoration of clothes, bronze, gold and silver jewelry, weapons. Furthermore, with regard to the royal burials, most of the masonry graves were found destroyed. However, the offerings that survived indicate the wealth of the burials. In the Hellenistic period the graves had a small amount of offerings, mostly terracotta vases, bronze coins and some metal jewelry. The east cemetery was excavated between 1985-86 and 2005-2008\textsuperscript{60}. It was located 1km east of the ancient city and was the main “necropolis” of Aiane during the Hellenistic period. The burials are dated from the 4\textsuperscript{th} to the 1\textsuperscript{st} century BC. The main type of grave was the pit grave, while the cist and the cremations were only a few. The majority of the graves were found destroyed but considering the offerings that were rescued, they were rich. The offerings were terracotta and metal vases, terracotta figurines, terracotta gilded beads and rosettes, a few gold, silver, bronze and iron jewelry, bronze gilded leaves of wreaths, iron weapons and bronze coins.

**Pydna**

The city of Pydna is located to the west coast of the Thermaic gulf and, in particular, 2 km south of the today’s settlement of Makrygialos. The earliest inhabitation of the territory is dated in Late Bronze Age. It is also worth mentioning that in the very same area it was discovered the settlement from the Early Iron Age. During the 5\textsuperscript{th} century there was a great wealth because Pydna was the main port of the Macedonian kingdom and the most important urban center until its abolishment in the middle of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} century BC\textsuperscript{61}. The north cemetery was excavated more extensively and it was found that it was being used for burials from Late Bronze Age to early Hellenistic period. The systematic use of the cemetery stopped during the reign of Antigonos Gonatas (277-239 BC)\textsuperscript{62}. In the south cemetery of Pydna the graves are dated in the second half of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} and the first half of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} century BC\textsuperscript{63}. There were also found some individuated burial groups dating from the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC that were associated to lower-middle social classes, but also groups of graves rich in offerings related to rich families. From the reign of Philip II and afterwards it is noted a different orientation of the deceased’s head inside the grave depending on the gender; males’ heads were positioned facing the west whereas females’ facing the east. Furthermore there is a great variety of graves and burial

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\textsuperscript{58}Karamitrou-Mentesidi 1989a, 46.
\textsuperscript{59}Karamitrou-Mentesidi 1990a, 77.
\textsuperscript{61}Besios 2010, 78.
\textsuperscript{62}Besios-Athanasiou 2001, 368.
\textsuperscript{63}Besios 2001, 377.
practices. The most common type was the rectangular pit grave while monumental cist graves appeared in 350-325 BC. There were also found two Macedonian graves. During the second half of the 4th century BC, the findings inside the graves were richer and also common in the other Macedonian cemeteries of this period. Most of the graves that are dated in the 5th century, were found destroyed. The offerings were: terracotta imported vases from Corinth and other territories, as well as some local ones, bronze and glass vases, terracotta figurines mostly in children graves, iron bronze and silver jewelry, iron weapons and coins by the second half of the 5th century and afterwards.

Melissia in Aiginio

The site Mellisia was located near the ancient Methone, in Pieria. Here a cemetery was located in which the excavated graves are dated after the destruction of Methone in 354 B. So it is possible that these graves belonged to the settlement that Philip II created when he distributed Methone to Macedonians. The cemetery in Mellisia was found in 1994 during rescued excavations and it was located 2km Northwest of Methone. Most of the graves are dated from the second half of the 4th and 3rd century B.C. The organization of the cemetery was quite clear, the graves were located in regular distances and there were also a few burial groups that could be attributed to families. The main burial practice was the inhumation while cremations were rare. The types of graves were: pits, cists, tile covered, mostly for children, primary cremations in rectangular pits, secondary cremations with rich offerings. There was a great quantity of graves that contained rich offerings, so it is assumed that Macedonians of the middle and high class inhabited in the territory. The offerings were: terracotta vases, jewelry, terracotta gilded wreaths in graves dating in the middle and late 4th century BC, as well as bronze coins. Based on the damages in some of the jewelry, it seems that they were being used for many years. Also among the archeological finds there were no pins, maybe because women used to wear different clothes in this territory. Most of the jewelry types were created in the late Classical age and survived until the early Hellenistic period. The large amount of jewelry found in this cemetery but also in the nearest cemetery of Pydna and the rest of the cemeteries in north Pieria indicate that there was a powerful tradition of goldsmith and workshops that prospered during the Hellenistic period.

Vergina

According to M. Andronikos, the large amount of the tombs and graves that are dated in the Early Iron age is related to a settlement that has not been found yet, but it was probably located to north of the Vergina’s palace. The settlement is associated to Aegae, the first capital of the Macedonian kingdom. The cemetery that was used from the early Iron Age to

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64Besios 2010, 135.
65Besios 2010, 315.
67Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 179.
68Besios 2010, 315.
70Andronikos 1969, 3-4.
the early Archaic period was being excavated from the decade of 1950 to the beginning of 1960 by M. Andronikos and F. Petsas\(^{71}\). The tombs that are dated from the Archaic period were located to the south-west of the graves dating from the early Iron to the early Archaic period. During the middle of the Archaic period the cemetery stopped being used and new burial groups were created. Most of the graves were of the pit type and were found destroyed. According to A. Kotarridi, the graves that were not found looted were these that were covered by the later Hellenistic ones\(^{72}\). The offerings were: terracotta and bronze vases, terracotta figurines, bronze and silver jewelry, iron weapons, etc. Graves that are dated from the early and middle Classical period were mostly found in “Great Tumulus” and were dated until the middle of the 4th century BC\(^{73}\). The main burial practice was the inhumation while there were also cremations. The main type of grave was the simple pit. There were also cists, tile covered, primary cremations, secondary cremations etc. The offerings were not different from those of the previous ages. A large amount of graves dating from the late classical and Hellenistic period was found in the wider area of the necropolis. The burial groups of earlier periods kept being used while new monumental “Macedonian” graves were added\(^{74}\). The majority of the monumental but also the simple graves were found destroyed. The offerings were terracotta vases and figurines, a limited amount of metal jewelry, bronze gilded wreaths, weapons, bronze coins etc.

**Asomata**

The settlement of Asomata was located to the Southeast foothills of mount Vermion. The inhabitation to this territory is dated from the early Iron Age to the Byzantine period. A part of the cemetery\(^{75}\) was used for burials dating by Archaic through Hellenistic period. The cemetery was divided in two parts. In the northern part, most of the graves are dated from the Archaic period based on the offerings. In the southern part, most of the graves that were excavated are dated in late Classical- early Hellenistic periods. The main burial practice was the inhumation. Almost all the Archaic graves were found destroyed. The offerings were: terracotta vases (local and mostly Corinthian), a few bronze vases, terracotta figurines, a few bronze, silver and gold parts for the decoration of clothes and jewelry, iron weapons etc. Keeping in mind that there were not any differences detected in the size or quality of the archaic graves, as well as in the ways of treating the deceased, it seems that the population of this settlement did not have a social differentiation. Instead this population lived in a small sized settlement, in prosperity, without an accumulation of wealth into the graves\(^{76}\).

\(^{72}\)Kottaridi 2009, 147-151.  
\(^{73}\)Kottaridi 1992, 73-74.  
\(^{74}\)Drougou 1987, 89.  
\(^{75}\)For the publication of the cemetery see: Kefalidou 2009.  
\(^{76}\)Kefalidou 2009, 60.
**Mieza**

The city of Mieza is associated to the archaeological site east of Naousa and the mount Vermion, between Leukadia and Kopanos. The graves of the cemetery are dated in the late Classical and Hellenistic periods. The main burial practice was the individual inhumation while double burials were rare. Most of the graves were pits, while there were a few cremations. Macedonian graves were also found. The offerings into the graves were: terracotta vases, imported from Attica, Corinth and local, terracotta figurines, bronze jewelry and coins, weapons etc. In the earlier periods the graves were constructed more casually and were located irregularly, while in the 5th century BC, there was symmetry in the form of the cemetery. The pit graves of later periods were found without offerings or with a small amount, except for some females’ and children’s graves.

**Archontiko**

The settlement of Archontiko was inhabited since the Neolithic period. It was the most important urban center in north Bottiaea until the end of the 5th century BC when Pella was founded. Some parts of the cemeteries were excavated during 2000-2010 in rescued excavations. The west cemetery that was located 1km west of the settlement was thoroughly searched. Graves of early and late Archaic period were destroyed by the later Classical and Hellenistic ones. There were also some burial groups with long-term use, dating from the early Archaic to the early Hellenistic period. Additionally, the coexistence of males’, females’ and children’s graves indicates a family character in these groups. Some of the burial groups from the Archaic period stand out due to their wealth and their various offerings and can be related with the leading groups of the settlement. From the Archaic to the Hellenistic period the main burial practice was the inhumation while the main type of grave was the pit. The tombs from the early Archaic period contained a small amount of offerings while some of them did not contain offerings at all. The offerings were: terracotta vases, bronze parts for clothes and jewelry, weapons etc. However, during the Archaic period, a large quantity of graves was rich in offerings: terracotta vases, bronze and glass vases, terracotta figurines, metal parts for clothes and jewelry (iron, bronze, silver and gold), gold diadems, weapons etc. In those dating by the Classical to the early Hellenistic period: terracotta, bronze and glass vases, terracotta figurines, bronze and iron parts for clothes and jewelry, bronze gilded wreaths etc. The east cemetery of Archontiko was excavated in 2005 and had graves dating in Archaic, Classical-early Hellenistic period. The main burial practice was the inhumation mostly in pit graves. The burials of the Archaic period were not as rich as the those of the west cemetery. The offerings were: terracotta and bronze vases, iron and bronze parts of clothes and jewelry, iron weapons.

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79 For the excavations to the cemetery see: Chrysostomou-Chrysostomou 2000-2012.
**Nea Philadelphia**

Nea Philadelphia was located east of the Echedoros river, to the north-west part of ancient Mygdonia\(^81\). The earliest residency in the territory is dated from the Bronze Age. The cemetery was excavated during 1995-1998 and most of the graves are dated from the Archaic to the early Hellenistic period\(^82\). The cemetery was flat, without a clear delimitation, in some parts it had a dense layout while in others a sparse one. In some cases, the graves were found in groups. The main burial practice was the inhumation, but there were also some cremations. The most common type of grave was the cist grave but pit graves were used as well. Almost all of the graves contained offerings. The richer ones are dated in late Archaic-early Classical period. The offerings were: terracotta vases from Attica, Corinth, Ionia and local, a few bronze vases, terracotta figurines mostly in children’s graves, bronze, silver and gold parts of clothing and jewelry, weapons, gold triangular sheets for the decoration of clothes and shoes, coins dating from the middle of 5\(^{th}\) century BC etc.

**Sindos**

The settlement of Sindos, known as double “Trapeza” of Aghialos was located west of Echedoros river, on the top of a natural hill. The excavation of the “Trapeza” has shown that it is dated from the late Bronze age to the Roman period. The cemetery on the hill was excavated during 1980-1982\(^83\). Most of the graves found are dated in the Archaic-early Classical period, at a time when this cemetery was being used widely. After 450 BC, the rest of the cemeteries started being used for burials. The main practice was the inhumation and the most usual type of grave was the simple rectangular pits. Besides the looting in most of the graves, they could be characterized as rich in offerings. These were: terracotta vases and figurines, glass vases, bronze vases, iron bronze silver and gold parts of clothes and jewelry, weapons etc. These were mostly placed inside the graves, but there were some exceptions in which the offerings were found outside the graves\(^84\).

**Therme**

The settlement of Therme was located on a hill and was inhabited since Early Iron Age through Hellenistic period\(^85\). The extensive cemetery was discovered in 1987 and the excavated graves were found mostly south-west of the hill. The cemetery was used more extensively in Archaic and Classical period and the graves were densely situated. The main burial practice was the inhumation but there was also a small amount of creations in all periods of its use. During the Archaic and Classical period the types of graves were mostly cists, pits, jar burials and secondary cremations while in Hellenistic period the graves were mostly in the type of tile covered. Most of the graves were

\(^81\)For the publication of the cemetery see: Misailidou-Despotidou 2011.
\(^83\)For the publication of the excavations see: Despoini 2016a-g.
\(^84\)Despoini 2016a, 118-119.
looted. However, they seem to be rich in offerings, these were terracotta and metal vases, figurines, gold, silver and bronze jewelry etc. During the Classical and Hellenistic period the terracotta vases were mostly imported and the rest of the offerings were common in types to those of previous times.

Agia Paraskevi

The settlement was detected to the hills, 1km west of the today's village in the territory of ancient Anthemous. It was a big “Trapeza” (Toumba Aggelaki) in two different levels which constituted the center of the settlement. The cemetery was found in 1981 and excavated in the following years. Between the cemetery and the settlement there were found destroyed graves dating from the Classical period, while to the Northeast of the settlement a “Macedonian” grave was found destroyed. Most of them are dated in the Archaic period and a few of them in the Hellenistic period. The cemetery was gradually extended towards the west so that the newer graves would not to cover and destroy the older ones. As a result, the graves were positioned in parallel rows. The burials were individual, except of two pits with double burials. According to K. Sismanidis, most of the graves were not found looted, instead, they possessed rich offerings. These were: terracotta and glass vases, vases of faience, bronze parts for the decoration of clothes and jewelry, a few gold and silver jewelry, iron weapons, gold rectangular, triangular, trapezoid and banded sheets for the decoration of clothes.

Aineia

Ancient Aineia was founded on a hill, to the south beach of the peninsula “Karabournou”, south-east of the Thermaic gulf. Some of the parts of the cemetery were discovered in rescued excavations. The most important one was the excavation of the three burial tombs, in the site “Toumbes” which were published by I. Vokotopoulou. The cemetery was located around the city, to the northwest of “trapeza” and was excavated in 1994-5, whereas the burial tombs were located to the northeast of “trapeza”. The graves are dated from the late Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic periods. The burial practice of inhumation existed in an equal amount to the cremations. In the Archaic period the types of the graves were stone sarcophagi and pits while in the Classical-Hellenistic pits, cists with secondary cremations, stone sarcophagi, only one tile covered grave and primary cremations into pits. The offerings that were found in archaic graves were terracotta vases, bronze parts of clothing and jewelry and some silver. The most exceptional grave of the cemetery was a sarcophagus which is dated from the beginning of the 5th century BC and contained a large amount of rich offerings such as silver and bronze jewelry etc. In the Classical –Hellenistic burials the offerings inside the four cist graves, in the

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87 Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 18.
89 Vokotopoulou 1990.
tombs A and B, differ from the rest of the cemetery. These were terracotta vases, some gilded, gold jewelry, and bronze gilded wreaths.

**Olynthus**

Olynthus was located on top of two hills and was inhabited since the 7th century BC. The north hill started being inhabited after 432 BC when populations from other sites of Chalcidice moved there. The excavations in the cemeteries of Olynthus were held in 1928-1939\(^91\). Three cemeteries were excavated; the west, the north and the east. The primary cemetery was the west which started being used in the end of the 6th century BC. The north cemetery was the used later. While the east cemetery had burials, from which the oldest are dated from the end of the 5th century BC. The consecutive use of the cemetery stopped during the construction of the settlement by Philip II in 348 BC. The main burial practice was the inhumation but there were some exceptions\(^92\). The types of graves used were tile covered pits, jar burials, primary cremations and secondary cremations. As far as the offerings are concerned, the cremations were richer in offerings than the rest of the burials.

**Akanthos**

Akanthos was located near Chalcidice, on a hill in the site Kastro. North of Akanthos there were found remains of the settlement, related to a cemetery dating before the foundation of the city\(^93\). Its graves are dated from the early Iron age-early Archaic period. Akanthos was founded in the middle of the 7th century BC by the Andrians. It was built on top of three hills near the site of the recent settlement Ierissos. The excavations started in 1970 and the only analyzed publication is that of N. Kaltsas about the plots that were excavated in 1979. The cemetery is dated after the foundation of Akanthos and lies between the sea and the north end of Ierissos. It was used from the early Archaic period to the end of the 4th century BC, and then sporadically in the Hellenistic and Roman periods. The main burial practice was the inhumation. Most of the graves were pits but there were also jar burials, terracotta sarcophagi, tile covered graves, a few cremations, cist graves and one stone sarcophagus. In the cemetery of Akanthos, the amount of graves without offerings is great, although, nine of them were rich in findings, despite their simple form. The terracotta sarcophagi must have been rich in offerings but they were found destroyed. Only one of them was found intact and possessed the richest offerings. As mentioned above, a large amount of graves did not contain offerings, those were mostly jar burials. Most of the offerings were: terracotta vases from different workshops, figurines, jewelry and coins. This cemetery was similar to the rest of the cemeteries found in southern and eastern Greece and in some cities to the east of Chalcidice and Thracian coasts, but it differed from the cemeteries of the central Macedonia. N. Kaltsas notices that despite the fact that the graves were poor in offerings, as there was an absence of vases from precious metals and the jewelry made of gold and silver was limited, they were found in a big quantity in central Macedonia. This may be attributed to a different

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\(^{91}\) For the publication of the cemetery see: Robinson 1942.  
\(^{92}\) Robinson 1942, 146.  
\(^{93}\) For the publication of the cemetery see: Kaltsas 1998.
sociopolitical aspect and organization and not to the poverty of the inhabitants. Besides, the territory had an abundance of natural sources, mines of silver and timber which kept the economy of Akanthians stable. The pottery found inside the graves, originated in the eastern Greece and the islands and, thus, indicates the commercial relations between Akanthos and these territories. The presence of vases from Attica begins from the second quarter of the 6th century BC. There were also found Corinthian, Euboan and Boeotian vases as well as local pottery which imitated the vases made in other workshops.

Amphipolis

The earliest habitation in the territory was detected on a hill to the northeast of the site where Amphipolis was later founded. This settlement was inhabited since the Neolithic, Bronze age, Iron age and the Archaic period until the middle of the 5th century BC. It was founded in 437 BC as a colony of Athens for the exploitation of the natural sources of the mainland. The tomb of Kastas to the northeast of Amphipolis was excavated during 1964-1982 by Lazaridis and revealed a monumental chamber-tomb dating from the Hellenistic period. To a small distance, several graves were excavated that were also dated from the Hellenistic period, while graves of the Archaic and Hellenistic period were found in the wider territory northeast of Amphipolis. The main type of grave was the cist but there were also some pits. Four “Macedonian” graves are dated from the Hellenistic period. The offerings in the archaic graves were: terracotta vases, terracotta figurines, bronze silver and gold jewelry and parts for clothes, weapons, silver coins etc. The east cemetery of Amphipolis, which started being excavated in 1956, was the main cemetery of the city during the Classical period. It continued to be used in the Hellenistic and Roman period. The main burial practice was the individual inhumation. However, there were also multiple burials. As far as the typology of the grave is concerned, there was a wide variety of simple rectangular pit graves. In the Classical period the graves were small, whereas in late the Classical-early Hellenistic they were larger and more impressive. The offerings were quite rich and in a great variety. These were: terracotta vases, glass and bronze vases, terracotta figurines, gold and silver jewelry, bronze gilded wreaths as well as a few gold ones, weapons etc. Several graves dating from the Classical and Hellenistic period were found in the northwest cemetery that was excavated in 1968. Common burial practices in this cemetery were both the inhumation and the cremation, while the type of grave that was mainly used was the pit grave, even though there were also cists, “Macedonian” etc.

96 Peristeri 2010.
Typology of earrings

The types of earrings that are presented in this chapter are divided into 14 types which some of them are separated also in smaller groups based mostly on their decoration. They are presented in a chronological row, starting by these that are dated in Archaic period and ending to these dated in Hellenistic period. However, some of the types were used continuously by the Archaic through Hellenistic period.

Banded earrings

The banded earrings, dating from the Archaic period, were usually made of gold and bronze. They are divided into smaller groups based on the way they were made and their decoration. These groups are: elaborate banded earrings, earrings with banded terminals separated also into smaller groups and banded earrings made of metal sheet.

Elaborate banded earrings

This type of jewelry which was found in Macedonia is known as “gold Macedonian bands” and has raised questions about its origin and use. In the cemetery of Sindos, there were many such earrings discovered with variations on their decoration dating by 560 BC to the end of the 6th century BC, all of them gold. They consist of a band made by filigree. The band becomes tighter to one end forming a noose, while in the other end it becomes wider forming, thus, a kind of “head”. The band is formed of a “plochmo” (decoration made with successive maneuvers of the two parts of a simple wire folded in two), surrounded to both of its sides by two or more wires. The “head” of the band consists of a sheet in the shape of a disk, on which a rosette is formed from coiled wires (figure 1). In some cases, the sheet in the shape of a disk follows the outline of the wired leaves of the rosette (figure 2). Another example with the same decoration comes from the cemetery of Aiane (figure 3).

In other instances the decoration is richer and more elaborate: from the center of the rosette a flower is created which has in its core a second conical rosette. In a gold pair from Sindos, all of the leaves are surrounded by double wires, one of them coiled. Coiled wires decorate also the “plochmo” to its inner side and along its outline (figure 4). Another pair of this kind dated in 510 BC, is found in the west cemetery of

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98 For the variations to the decoration of the earrings see: Despoini 2016g, 106-108, num. 166-171.
100 Such as the example 166 dated in 560 BC, Despoini 2016, 106, Sindos 1985, 290, num. 476.
Archontiko, in the grave of a female \(^{103}\)(figure 5) and another one in Nea Philadelphia where it was casually made\(^ {104}\). In other examples, the central rosette of this flower is replaced by a conical granulated core, and smaller ones to the wide end of the band, near the head, in the shape of a disk. These smaller cores are in some cases small flowers, identical to the flower on the head of the jewelry \(^ {105}\)(figure 6). Another pair of earrings, in Sindos\(^ {106}\), which was decorated with a granulated core, seems to had been made in the same workshops as the earrings of Vergina\(^ {107}\)(figure 7) and some of the earrings from the collection Stahtatos\(^ {108}\).

As far as the use of this type of earrings is concerned, there have been made different assumptions by scholars, due to the lack of evidence from the excavations. However, it is clear that the examples come from graves in Macedonia. Amandry and Laffineur dealt with the issue of the use of these earrings. P. Amandry supported that the bands found in the cemeteries were bracelets, but that was difficult to be verified\(^ {109}\). Laffineur concluded, by examining such bands, that the small ones were wristbands or armbands, the larger thighbands and the smallest earrings\(^ {110}\). So based on their length, each jewelry had a different use. The data provided from the excavation in the cemetery of Sindos contributed for understanding their actual use. All earrings were in the form of circles\(^ {111}\), more or less open and all of them were found in female graves. Also, there were found in pairs and near the ears of the deceased. None of them were found near the forearm or arm. All of the bracelets that were found in female graves, either wristband or armband, gold, silver or bronze are different than the jewelry examined here. They belong all in the common type of bracelets with ends in the shape of snakes’ heads\(^ {112}\). Laffineur also dealt with the way that these jewelries were worn assuming that they were hanging from the ears by a small hoop. The jewelry itself can give us evidence of the way that it was worn and how it was buttoned up. The noose to the narrow end requires an equivalent reception to the other end, but there was nothing preserved to the existing examples. Despoini claimed that they were hanging from a small hook, based on an example of Sindos\(^ {113}\) where in the back side of the rosette there was glued a small gold wired hook. It seems that it had been detached and glued again letting open, not the sharp end that could pierce the earlobe, but the wide one which was initially glued on the back side of the rosette\(^ {114}\). We could presume that similar hooks existed in other examples too but they have not left any traces. Further we could conclude that the noose of the narrow end buttons up to

\(^{103}\)Chrysostomou-Chrysostomou, 2007a, 87, fig.6. Chrysostomou-Chrysostomou 2002, 470.

\(^{104}\)Tsigarida-Ignatiadoy 2000, 44, fig. 39.


\(^{106}\)Despoini 2016g, 108, num. 170, Sindos 1985, 98, num. 150.

\(^{107}\)Tsigarida 2007, 519, fig. 6.

\(^{108}\)Amandry 1953, 35, 42, 71, num. 69, tab. 16.

\(^{109}\)Amandry 1953, 45, 111, 193.

\(^{110}\)Laffineur 1979, 218-224.


\(^{112}\)Despoini 1986, 162.

\(^{113}\)Despoini 2016g, 107, num. 167, fig. 175-177 (p. 575).

\(^{114}\)Despoini 2016g, 101.
a hook glued to the bottom side of the “head” of the band, so we can visualize how they were worn. The sharp end of the hook pierces the ear lobe, comes through the back side of the ear and there the noose of the narrow end buttons up. In this way, the part with the flower decorates the front side of the ear. Some of the earrings that did not have a noose, we can assume that were intended only for burial use.

One example similar to the category of banded earrings is the pair of silver earrings dated in late Archaic (figure 8) from the ancient Aineia, although their construction with filigree is different. They had the shape of a band with half of their length wider and more decorated than the other and ended in a more circular end. The band consists of two parallel braids, surrounded by simple wires, where to the wider half part are moved away from one another to surround a chain of circles. The outer circle becomes wider to form the circular end. In this part, individual dots, or in groups made of silver consist an additional decoration. To the thinner side of the band, there is a noose between the inner wires, which received the hook to the bottom surface of the more circular end, but this was not preserved. It is supposed that these earrings were worn like the gold ones of Sindos, so that the decorated wider circular part could embellish the front side of the ear lobe.

The simpler bands of the Macedonian banded earrings that are not decorated with the “plochmo” but only with the parallel coiled wires glued together and surrounded by simple wires are very similar to the banded earrings of Cyprus of the late Cypriot II period and of Marlik of the beginning of 12th century BC. The motif of “plochmos” surrounded by simple wires appeared in a finger ring from Sousa dating from the last quarter of 2nd millennium BC and in a Mycenaean from Vafeio of Lakonia. It was also detected in late Geometric finger rings from a grave in Athens. However two cylindrical jewelries that consist of three rows of wired “plochmo” separated by zones of multiple wires, are more similar to the bands with “plochmo” and wires of Sindos. They are dating in the 7th century BC and come from Cyme in Euboea.

It is clear that the issue regarding the origin of this type of banded earrings is challenging and needs to be further examined. It is possible that this shape, with the one end being wider, was dominant in Macedonia from earlier periods. P. Amandry supported that the creation of banded earrings was a result of the contacts with Etruria. He noticed that there were similarities between the jewelries in the collection Stathatos and the jewelries of Etruria, where the filigree was widespread in the construction of jewelry from the 8th to the first half of the 6th century BC. However, whether the workshops of the one territory influenced the workshops of the other or whether the craftsmen of both the territories were influenced by the same

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115 For the way that these earrings were worn see: Despoini 1986, 167.
116 Despoini 1986, 166, tab. 4 (p. 167).
119 For the common examples and references see: Despoini 2016g, 105-106.
120 Amandry 1953, 71-72.
archetype is a matter that has not been clarified yet. A. Despoini notices that the stylistic elements of the jewelry found in Sindos are unusual in the Etruscan art. The stylistic differences that are spotted between the examples of the Collection Stathatos and the examples of Sindos, may be attributed to the different artistic influences that the local workshops received. However, the types of earrings of both groups have a common characteristic: a band with its one end wider than the other.\textsuperscript{122} Additionally, Boardman supports that the creation of this type was due to the relations between eastern territories and Cyprus\textsuperscript{123}. Also, it is probable that Euboea contributed to the creation of this type because of the similarities observed between some Euboean jewelry and earrings found in the cemetery of Sindos\textsuperscript{124}. As far as their decoration is concerned, two earrings that were found in a grave in Eretria and are dated from the beginning of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC, are decorated with a rosette similar to the example that was found in Sindos\textsuperscript{125}. There is a similarity between the earrings of Sindos and the Euboean products of goldsmiths. P. Amandry has noticed that the Euboean art is apparent in Macedonia\textsuperscript{126}. The decoration with rosettes onto flowers is a decorative characteristic that appeared in the islands and mostly in Rhodes in 7\textsuperscript{th} century BC. Maybe the inspiration for the decoration of jewelry with flowers came from these areas, such as those of Sindos that were influenced by the Euboean goldsmiths, keeping in mind that there were connections between Euboeans and eastern territories\textsuperscript{127}. Despoini wonders whether the creators of this type were permanent colonists of the territory and, more specifically, Euboeans who combined the common shapes of jewelry of these territories with decorative figures known from their own experiences/knowledge\textsuperscript{128}.

Earrings with banded terminals

The characteristic of this category is the use of a thin hoop made of wire of circular cross section, with its one end being converted with forging to a banded metal sheet while the other end being sharp. Taking into account the earrings of Nea Philadelphia and Agia Paraskevi published by V. Misailidou-Despotidou, this group is divided into smaller ones. In the first group there is a pair of bronze earrings from Agia Paraskevi dating in the third quarter of 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC\textsuperscript{129}. They consist of a thin wire of circular cross section, with the one end being simple while the other one being wider and converted into a triangular sheet. The hoop penetrates a glass bead. Both beads are spherical, yellow and each one is decorated with three white eyes\textsuperscript{130}(figure 9). Another

\textsuperscript{122}Despoini 2016g, 103.
\textsuperscript{123}Boardman 1980, 37.
\textsuperscript{124}Despoini 2016g, 106.
\textsuperscript{125}Despoini 2016g, 107, num. 167, fig. 175-177 (p. 575).
\textsuperscript{126}Amandry 1953, 73.
\textsuperscript{127}Despoini 2016g,103.
\textsuperscript{128}Despoini 2016g,106.
\textsuperscript{129}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 43, tab. 6, num. 1-2.
\textsuperscript{130}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 256.
example is a bronze earring from Nea Philadelphia\textsuperscript{131} dating in the last quarter of 6\textsuperscript{th} or the first quarter of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC which was also made of a thin wire with one end being simple whereas the other one wider and converted into a triangular sheet, with the exception of a decoration of four dots on the sheet. In the second smaller group, there are six bronze earrings\textsuperscript{132} from the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi that are dated by the third quarter to the end of 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC. In this category the thin banded sheet is extended and, therefore, its triangular shape is deformed. The end of the metal sheet which is preserved in one of the examples\textsuperscript{133} has the shape of a disk while the other one consists of a wire with a sharp terminal (figure 10). The metal sheet has a spotted decoration which is apparent in this earring, whereas not in the rest of the earrings. Three rows of dots exist along the metal sheet, while another one follows the outline of the terminal in the shape of a disk. Similar to the earrings of the second smaller group are two bronze\textsuperscript{134}, a pair of gold\textsuperscript{135} and a gold earring\textsuperscript{136}. All of them were found in the cemetery of Vergina indicating that this type existed already from the 7\textsuperscript{th} century BC. In the same period a silver jewelry earring of the same type was found in the cemetery of Tsaousitsa\textsuperscript{137}. Earrings that belong in this type were also found in the Balkans and other territories.\textsuperscript{138}

There is a differentiation among the aforesaid earrings as far as the shape in the end of the banded sheet is concerned; some of them had simple banded terminals and others a cylindrical form. In the earrings of Vergina the metal sheet has the shape of a leaf. The earrings of Agia Paraskevi are not well preserved, so we cannot detect variations. There is also a variety in the spotted decoration in which they used geometric motifs. V. Misailidou-Despotidou notices that in the second smaller group, the combination of a bronze part with triangular end and glass beads is not a common theme\textsuperscript{139}. However, the beads decorated with eyes consist a common finding in the archaic ages, used mostly for the decoration of pendants.\textsuperscript{140}

It is concluded that this type was a local Macedonian creation of the 7\textsuperscript{th} century BC based on the great quantity of earrings found previously. It is worthwhile mentioning that they also used gold and silver for the construction of this type in earlier periods. Their production continued in the 6\textsuperscript{th} century and they became significantly preferable from the second half of the 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC. In that territory they attained a more elaborate decoration while their shape was used also in other types of jewelry. However, the small amount of the bronze earrings does not verify the assumptions made since they are hardly recognizable. The thin metal sheet was usually being

\textsuperscript{131}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 257, num. 3.
\textsuperscript{132}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 257-259, num. 4-9.
\textsuperscript{133}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 258, num. 6.
\textsuperscript{134}Andronikos 1969, 240, fig. 80, tab. 109.
\textsuperscript{135}Andronikos 1969, 137, 224, 259, tab.112.
\textsuperscript{136}Romiopoulou 1969, 13, fig.2-3.
\textsuperscript{137}Bailey 1969, 24, fig. 5.
\textsuperscript{138}For other examples see: Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 45.
\textsuperscript{139}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 46-47.
\textsuperscript{140}Sindos 1985, 95, num. 146 (A. Despoini).
destroyed and not preserved, due to the bad conditions of the ground of the territory since it was not suitable for the preservation of bronze objects\textsuperscript{141}.

Banded earrings made of metal sheet

These earrings have the typical shape of the banded Macedonian earrings but are simpler with a more schematic decoration. They consist of a banded thick metal sheet which becomes thinner to the one end and wider to the other, where it takes the form of a disk\textsuperscript{142}. In the cemetery of Sindos three pairs were found, made of gold, in graves that are dated from the end of 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC. They were made for the burial custom and not for everyday use\textsuperscript{143}. On the example of Sindos (figure 11) the disk at the end of the band is decorated, circumferentially but also in its center, with engraved circles. Three parallel rows of circles decorate also the bands of the earrings while the thin end is undecorated. Furthermore, eight gold banded earrings of this type were also found in the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi\textsuperscript{144} which seems to have been made only for burial use. However, they imitate real and more elaborate examples, such as these of Sindos of the first type\textsuperscript{145}. Another golden earring was found in Therme\textsuperscript{146} but with a different decoration to its wider end, where, instead of a disk, there is a rosette. In other examples, the sheet is combined with decorative wires and dots, such as the one found in ancient Galepsos\textsuperscript{147} and another in a grave dating in the beginning of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC of Gazoros, intended exclusively for burial use\textsuperscript{148}.

The bronze examples from the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi have a simpler form than the golden ones mentioned previously. A banded earring from Agia Paraskevi (figure 12), dating from the third quarter of the 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC, consists of a simple hoop of a banded metal sheet with the same thickness to all of its length and has its ends crossed\textsuperscript{149}. Another one\textsuperscript{150} is dated in the end of the 6\textsuperscript{th} or beginning of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC and consists of a banded sheet which forms an open hoop with parallel terminals (figure 13). The sheet becomes wider in one end and takes a triangular shape while in the other end it becomes tighter. A small hole is at the end of the triangular sheet. The sheet is decorated with spotted line. Simple bronze hoops with a banded sheet with free ends were also found in Early Iron age. More specifically, in the cemetery of Vergina most of the earrings were found near the head\textsuperscript{151}.

\textsuperscript{141}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 47.
\textsuperscript{142}Despoini 2016g, 109, num.172, Sindos 1985, 44-45, num. 58.
\textsuperscript{143}Despoini 2016g, 109, num. 172-174.
\textsuperscript{144}Sismanidis 1987, 798, num. 6.
\textsuperscript{145}Sindos 1985, num. 150, 286, 321,436, 476, 512.
\textsuperscript{146}Moschonisiotou 1988, 285, fig. 4.
\textsuperscript{147}Koukouli- Chrysanthaki 1988, num.198.
\textsuperscript{148}Poulios 1995, 416, fig. 5.Other examples in Amandry 1953, num. 70-73, 78-81, tab. XVII, 1963, num. 101-102, tab. XXIX.
\textsuperscript{149}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 259, num. 10
\textsuperscript{150}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 260, num. 11.
\textsuperscript{151}Andronikos 1969, 240.
**Earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω**

Earrings of this type were mostly made of silver and gold. Silver earrings, dated in Archaic period, were found in the cemeteries of Sindos, Archontiko, Therme, Mieza, Asomata and Agia Paraskevi where, in particular, there were discovered 38 examples, with terminals mostly in the form of snakes’ heads. Bronze earrings were found in the cemeteries of Agia Paraskevi, Archontiko and one example in Mieza. The oldest golden earrings are supposedly originating in the cemetery of Aiane (figure 14). Their division into smaller groups is based on the decoration of their terminals. These groups are: earrings with terminals in the shape of snakes’ heads, earrings with terminals in the shape of flowers and earrings with simple terminals which V. Misailidou-Despotidou divided as well in smaller groups. In the cemetery of Sindos, all the examples were found in pairs, except for one which was placed into a burial vase along with the burnt bones of the deceased young woman. The earrings of Sindos which end in the shape of snakes’ heads are equal in number with those which end in the shape of a closed flower.

Earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω are related to a type of earrings from eastern Ionic and Rhodes with bent terminals, dated back to the late Geometric period, which appears in different variations in the islands during the 7th century BC, and broader in the 6th century BC. It appears until the late Classical period. The earrings in the shape of Ω disseminated to Macedonia during the 6th century BC but in the beginning of the 5th Century this type started to spread in Thrace and northern. A. Despoini thinks it is possible that local craftsmen, who used to produce bronze jewelry, were inspired by Rhodian examples or other earrings with bended terminals and, thus, created this type which was easily made in a mould. It is assessed that the two oldest archaic earrings in the form of Ω come from a grave in the cemetery of Sindos.
dating in 550 BC. One of them has terminals in the form of snakes’ heads\textsuperscript{170} whereas the other has terminals in the shape of a closed flower\textsuperscript{171}. In the earrings made of precious metals, the details of the technique are apparent and, thus, the decorative motifs\textsuperscript{172}. It is concluded that the earrings in the shape of $\Omega$, were used in central Greece by the Geometric period, while in Macedonia, they appeared in the third quarter of the 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC in different variations and they survived until the 4\textsuperscript{th} century BC. In the beginning, maybe they were created by bronze, due to the absence of similar golden or silver earrings in those periods. In the end of the 6\textsuperscript{th} century BC or a little later, the first silver earrings were constructed\textsuperscript{173}. The later earrings made of precious metals appear in graves of the 4\textsuperscript{th} century BC in Pentalofos of Thessaloniki, in a cist grave where it was found a pair of golden earrings\textsuperscript{174}.

Earrings with terminals in the shape of snakes’ heads

This form is the most typical in the Macedonian territory. The use of the snake in the decoration of jewelry was widespread in Macedonia, maybe because of the popular perception of snakes as chthonic symbols and daemon protectors\textsuperscript{175}. In the cemetery of Sindos, there were seven pairs found\textsuperscript{176}. They consist of a silver wire which bends and forms the Greek letter $\Omega$, each end of the wire forms a snake’s head (figure 15). The earrings of this type were hanging from the ear from a hoop probably made of a thin silver wire which is not preserved or from a thread which pierces the ear lobe\textsuperscript{177}. All the examples of Sindos were found near the ears of deceased women and are dated from the middle of the 6\textsuperscript{th} to the middle of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC. A bronze example in the cemetery of Mieza is dated by the middle of the 6\textsuperscript{th} to the first half of 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC\textsuperscript{178}, while the silver in the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC\textsuperscript{179}. Furthermore, a silver pair from the cemetery of Nea Philadelphia is dated from the second quarter of the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC\textsuperscript{180}. Silver examples of this type were found also in graves in the north cemetery of Pydna dating in the 5\textsuperscript{th} century BC\textsuperscript{181}(figure 16) and two in the cemetery of Asomata in Emathia\textsuperscript{182}.

\begin{thebibliography}{99}
\bibitem{170} Despoini 2016g, 111, num. 175.
\bibitem{171} Despoini 2016g, 112, num. 182.
\bibitem{172} Despoini 1996, 32, 284.
\bibitem{173} Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 52.
\bibitem{174} Misailidou-Despotidou 1996, 444.
\bibitem{175} Despoini 2016g, 110
\bibitem{176} Despoini 2016g, 111-112, num. 175-181.
\bibitem{177} Sindos 1985, 51, num. 71.
\bibitem{178} Romiopoulou-Touratsoglou 2002, 82, num. 1067.
\bibitem{179} Romiopoulou-Touratsoglou 2002, 90, num. 1078.
\bibitem{180} Misailidou-Despotidou 1995, 316, fig. 9.
\bibitem{181} Besios 2010, 160, 171.
\bibitem{182} Kefalidou 2009, 109-110.
\end{thebibliography}
Earrings with terminals in the shape of a closed flower

The decoration of these earrings with terminals in the shape of a flower was preserved throughout the years, maybe because the moulds of this shape were in use for many years. It seems this decoration was quite preferable in Macedonia during the Archaic and Classical periods. In the cemetery of Sindos, seven silver pairs were found dating by the middle of the 6th to the middle of the 5th century BC\textsuperscript{183}. This type consists of a wire which forms the Greek letter Ω, has its ends bent and it is decorated to the upper part with an inverted calyx of a flower, on which there is attached a conical part with a pellet to its top. Above the flower, there is a cylinder and a hoop with five relief parts, and ends in five simple hoops\textsuperscript{184}(figure 17). These earrings were worn in the same way as the earrings with terminals in the shape of snake’s heads. In the cemetery of Mieza, two silver earrings and a pair with terminals in the shape of a closed flower were found which are dated from the middle of the 6th to the middle of the 5th century BC\textsuperscript{185}. Also, silver earrings of this type were found in graves in Therme\textsuperscript{186}. Several pairs made of silver and bronze were detected in Archontiko\textsuperscript{187}(figure 18). Finally golden and silver earrings of this type were found in the north cemetery of Pydna which are dated in the 5th century BC\textsuperscript{188}(figure 19).

Earrings with simple terminals

Five bronze earrings of this type were found in the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi. They consist of a wire of circular cross section which bends three times forming the shape of the Greek letter Ω with its ends turned up. According to V. Misailidou-Despotidou, there are three smaller groups based on the decoration of the terminals. However, the exact shape is difficult to be defined because of their damage\textsuperscript{189}. In the first group the earring is made of thick wire and its terminals are formed in the shape of a pellet with a small spherical top\textsuperscript{190}(figure 20). In the second group the shape of the earrings is long and their terminals are egg-shaped\textsuperscript{191}(figure 21). In the third, the shape is also long and the ends are simple and sharp\textsuperscript{192}(figure 22). The earrings of the first and second groups are dated from the third quarter of the 6th century BC while the example of the third in the end of the 6th century BC\textsuperscript{193}. This type is represented in a small amount of earrings without the more elaborate decorative details of the earrings made of precious metals. As the decoration is concerned, the example of the first

\textsuperscript{183}Despoini 2016g, 112-113, num.182-187.
\textsuperscript{184}Sindos 1985, 220-1, num. 353.
\textsuperscript{185}Romiopoulou-Touratsoglou 2002, 50 (1053), 96 (1083-1084), 125(1975).
\textsuperscript{186}Moschonisiotou 1988, 285, fig. 5.
\textsuperscript{187}Chrysostomou 2009, 275.
\textsuperscript{188}Besios 2010, 152,171.
\textsuperscript{189}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011,49.
\textsuperscript{190}Misailidou-Despotidou2011, 260, tab. 6, fig 12
\textsuperscript{191}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 261, tab.6-7, fig.13-15.
\textsuperscript{192}Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 262, tab.7, fig.16
\textsuperscript{193}Misailidou-Despotidou2011,50.
group is similar to bronze earrings which were found in a cist grave of Therme dating by the second half of the 6th to early 5th century BC in which the terminals form a pellet.

Open rings with additional decorative elements

Nine bronze earrings were found in the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi, which consisted of a simple thin hoop of circular cross section with free ends and a decorative element (figure 23). According to V. Misailidou-Despotidou, this type is divided in smaller groups based on the variety of the decorative elements. Some of them were glass or bronze hoops, double hoops, spirals or glass beads. The earrings of this type in the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi are dated during the second half of the 6th and the first quarter of the 5th century BC. They were preferable in Macedonia in the middle and late Archaic ages.

Simple hoops with decorative elements were also found in the Hellenic and Balkan world. Similar jewelry are dated from the Iron Age and were found in Tsaousitsa. Two pairs of silver rings with pendants of crystal that were found in a grave in Sindos are related to this type of earrings as far as the decoration is concerned. However, they cannot be defined as earrings because they were found near the chest. Therefore, it is possible that the same jewelry were used both as earrings and jewelry of the chest. The great variety in the decoration of this type that appears in Macedonia and the Balkan world indicates that they continued to be preferable through the years.

Simple open rings

The quantity of earrings in this group is large. They were found near the ears of the deceased, so their definition as earrings is certain. It is possible that similar rings were also used as earrings but this hypothesis cannot be confirmed due to the damage of the graves in which these were found. Thirty nine bronze earrings were detected in the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi and less in Nea Philadelphia. They were simple rings of thinner or thicker wire of circular cross section. Their ends were open and usually touched each other while in other examples there was a small distance. It is unusual to have thinner ends (figure 24). The earrings of this type are dated in the second half of the 6th and the first quarter of the 5th century BC. It was a common type, not only in these two cemeteries. Published earrings of this period are scarce because their simple

195For the separation into smaller groups, see Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 57-59, tab. 7-8, num. 23-31.
196Kilian 1975a, tab. 37,4.
198Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 59.
199Sismanidis 1987, 791.
200Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 59-61, num. 32-70, tab. 8-10.
form does not attract the interest. In the cemetery of Therme, the presence of hoops as earrings is also common\(^\text{201}\). A wide variety of open rings was also found in the cemetery of Olynthus. Most of them are bronze and have different forms while they are dated in the 5\(^\text{th}\) century BC. Some of them have their one end sharper in order to pierce the ear lobe and the other thicker, while others have their terminals equally thick and crossed\(^\text{202}\). Simple rings are also presented in the publications of excavations but often they are not interpreted because the association with a specific jewelry cannot be proven as long as their position is not specific\(^\text{203}\).

The simple earrings in the shape of rings continue the tradition of the early Iron Age. As we noticed previously, some of the bronze rings in Vergina that are characterized as jewelry for hair actually belong in the category of earrings\(^\text{204}\). Five bronze open circles made of wire, which probably belong in the category of earrings or finger rings, were found in the cemetery of Mieza\(^\text{205}\).

**Spiral earrings**

Three bronze earrings from the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi\(^\text{206}\) belong in this group. They consist of a wire of circular cross section which is curved and forms two spirals and partly a third one. According to V. Misailidou-Despotidou, these earrings are divided in two smaller groups. In the first group of earrings, the terminals are simple\(^\text{207}\) (figure 25), while in the second group, the one end of the wire forms three “leaves” with consecutive maneuvers\(^\text{208}\) (figure 26). In the first earring, the two outer leaves are turned to right while the middle one to left, in the second, the outer leaves are turned to left while the middle to right. According to V. Misailidou-Despotidou, the form of the terminals of this pair is quite rare. The earring of the first group is dated in the end of the 6\(^\text{th}\) century BC, while the pair of the second group in the first quarter of the 5\(^\text{th}\) century BC. Simple spiral hoops were used sporadically in the 6\(^\text{th}\) century BC in Macedonia\(^\text{209}\). In the same period in the Hellenic world golden earrings of the same form, but also with decorative elements to their ends, appeared. The spiral earrings continue the tradition of these dated from the Early Iron Age, when the spiral hoops were a common jewelry. Bronze spiral hoops dating from the Iron Age were found in many places in the Hellenic, Mediterranean and Balkan world\(^\text{210}\). The examples from the cemetery of Vergina\(^\text{211}\) are characterized by M. Andronikos as jewelry intended to

\(^{201}\) Skarlatidou 1995, 461.  
\(^{202}\) Robinson 1929, plate XVII-XVIII, num. 283, 284, 286, 290-1, 292-3, 294, 316-318.  
\(^{203}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 60.  
\(^{204}\) Andronikos 1969, 240.  
\(^{205}\) Romiopoulou-Touratsoglou 2002, 74.  
\(^{206}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 53, num. 17-19, tab. 7, 120.  
\(^{207}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 262, num. 17, tab. 7, 120.  
\(^{208}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 263, num. 18-19, tab. 7, 120.  
\(^{209}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 53.  
\(^{210}\) Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, 53-54.  
\(^{211}\) Andronikos 1969, 225.
hold the hair to the right and left of the head, because they were found in the height of shoulders. I. Vokotopoulou expressed a similar opinion for the spiral hoops of the 9th and 8th century BC in Vitsa that were found on the chest of the deceased\textsuperscript{212}. However, in the same period, golden earrings with a similar form were found in the wider Hellenic world\textsuperscript{213}. R. Higgins supported that the spiral hoops from Leukadi in Euboea may be earrings or jewelry for the decoration of hair\textsuperscript{214}. The different opinions expressed by scholars, indicate that the interpretation of this type of jewelry is difficult, as they were used either as earrings, jewelry for hair or finger rings. In order to understand their exact use, it is important to examine their size and their position into the graves.

As far as the jewelry of the cemetery of Agia Paraskevi are concerned, the large size and the positioning of the earrings, belonging in first of the sub-group, near the ear of the deceased, as well as the positioning of the pair, belonging in the second sub-group, above the head, contribute to their interpretation as earrings. K. Sismanidis claimed that the spiral rings were used as jewelry for holding the hair\textsuperscript{215}. However, the small amount of spiral rings that could be characterized as jewelry for hair indicates that they were not preferable in Agia Paraskevi in the middle and late Archaic ages. On the contrary, the large amount of earrings indicates that women chose them frequently to embellish themselves. Spiral hoops that had one end decorated with motifs were also found in other territories\textsuperscript{216}. A more elaborate example of spiral earrings dating from the 5th century BC was found in the north cemetery of Pydna. It was made of silver and consisted of a spiral of thick wire and decorated terminals. On top of each terminal a kind of pyramid is formed by granulated beads, above them there is a cylindrical part also decorated with small granulated beads\textsuperscript{217} (figure 27).

\textit{Earrings of coiled wire}

The type of earrings made by coiled wire appeared in Macedonia during the late Archaic period and survived until the 5th century BC. In a pit grave that is dated from the 540-30 century BC in Vergina, a silver earring was detected\textsuperscript{218} that consisted of a silver coiled wire. In its wider end a noose is formed, whereas the other end is missing. It probably had a terminal in the shape of a heart with a hook which buttoned up in the noose (figure 28). In addition, a pair of double silver hoops with one end in the form of a heart and four relief pellets that was found in a grave dating in the 5th century BC in Epanome, belongs in this type. The thin bronze hoops that pierce the ear

\textsuperscript{212}Vokotopoulou 1986, 317, I. Vokotopoulou interpreted as finger rings the spiral hoops that were found on the pelvis of the deceased.
\textsuperscript{213}Despoini 1996, 220, num. 47-49.
\textsuperscript{214}Higgins 1980, 105.
\textsuperscript{215}Sismanidis 1987, 797.
\textsuperscript{216}For example in Athytis of Chalcidice, Misailidou-Despotidou1986, 83, tab. 28b.
\textsuperscript{217}Besios 2010, 178, for other examples see Despoini 1996, 87-88, for more earrings dated by the 6th to 4th century BC in this type from Olynthus see also in: Robinson 1929, plate XVIII, num. 307-313.
\textsuperscript{218}Tsigarida 2002, 515, fig. 1.
lobe and from which the silver hoops were hanging, are preserved (figure 29). The silver earrings that are dated in the 5th century BC and were found in Pydna also belong in this type (figure 30).

**Earrings in the shape of hoops**

Earrings in the form of hoops were usually made of gold and silver. In the cemetery of Sindos, three examples were discovered dated in the 5th century BC. A pair of golden earrings, consisting of an open hoop, in which the half part is thicker, while the other one thinner. The thinner part has a sharp terminal to pierce the ear lobe, while the thicker part has a tubular reception in which the sharp terminal buttons up and is also decorated with three rings that have six pellets circumferentially. In each side of the rings, there are two thin granulated wires (figure 31). Another example made of silver was found in the north cemetery of Pydna and is dated in the 5th century BC (figure 32). In another silver pair of earrings from Sindos, the half part of the hoop is thinner and sharp towards the end and penetrates a spherical part or decorative ring. The bottom part of the hoop is thick (figure 33). Another pair made of silver was found in the north cemetery of Pydna and is dated in the 5th century BC (figure 34). The details and shapes of these earrings, as well as the construction of the hoop from two parts, are similar to Ionic earrings of the 7th century BC, such as those found in Samos and Ephesos and are dated in the age of “severe style” and, more specifically, from 470-450 BC. In Epanome of Thessaloniki, in a girl’s cist grave, dated in Classical period, a pair of silver earrings was found (figure 35) which was similar to the pair of Sindos. The half part consists of a thin wire while the other one is thicker. They have the shape of a hoop with a large pellet to the one end while the other is thinner in order to pierce the ear lobe. The hoop to the thicker part is decorated with three relief circles and in each side of the circle there is a granulated decoration with triangles and lozenges. This type was widespread in Chalcidice. An identical pair was found in Trilofo, Mesimeri while some examples were also found in cist graves of Nea Syllata. Bronze earrings in the form of hoops were also found in Therme and are dated, based on other offerings of the grave, back to the middle of the 5th century BC. This type of earrings is dated by the 6th to the 4th century BC and was disseminated in south Greece during the Hellenistic period with some changes to its form.

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219 Tsibidou-Ayloniti 1989, 322-323, fig. 8.
220 Besios 2010, 171.
221 Despoini 2016g, 113-114, num. 188-190.
222 Despoini 2016g, 113, num. 188.
223 Besios 2010, 178.
224 Besios 2010, 178.
225 Tsibidou-Ayloniti 1989, 322, fig. 5.
226 Amandry 1953, 53, num. 10, fig. 29.
227 Papadopoulou 1964, 89-91, num. 3-6, tab. 57γ-3.
228 Skaratidou 1995, 461.
229 For earrings in this type from Olynthus see: Robinson 1929, plate XVII, num. 295-298.
Pyramid-shaped earrings

This type appeared in the Hellenic world in the ages of the so called “severe style” (479-450 BC). It consists of a hook and an inverted pyramid. This type appears up until the end of the 4th century BC with differentiations in its form. These earrings were disseminated in Macedonia but not in the regions of the Hellenic world. However, in South Italy, there was detected a variation of this type of earrings. Five pairs of this type were found in cemeteries of Macedonia, two of them in the cemetery of Pydna. One of them consists of a golden hook, a pyramid with flower decoration, a part with large pellets and a cone made of coiled wire. This example is dated from the third quarter of the 4th century BC. Another example which was also found in the cemetery of ancient Pydna, has a different decoration as it consists of following three parts: a hook which pierces the ear lobe, a rosette on the front side of the earring and a pendant in the shape of a pyramid. This pendant consists of the base of an inverted pyramid decorated with a spiral and a cone decorated with granulation. Chains are hanging from the rosette which restrains speared elements and flowers (figure 36). Based on the morphological elements, the dating of these earrings is estimated in the second half of the 4th century BC.

Earrings with lion head terminals

This type of earring consists of a part which is bend and, thus, forms a curve. It does not have the same thickness to all of its length as it gradually becomes sharper to one of its terminals. The thicker terminal penetrates a cylinder which ends in an animal head. This type was probably an Etruscan creation, originating in Central Europe. In Macedonia, it appeared in the second half of the 4th century BC and remained in use until the 2nd century BC. The decoration with the lion head is possibly related to the cult of Hercules which was widespread in Macedonia during this period. The earrings with the lion head terminals have differences in the way of constructing the part that is hanging from the ear lobe and decorating the collar and the hoop with triangular ends between the coiled wire and the head. The lion head decorates the front side of the ear lobe and is directed upwards, while the sharp terminal is attached to a hole in the mouth of the lion head (figure 37). A gold earring that was found in a pit grave in the cemetery of Akanthos had a simple form, with a wide hoop to the one end and narrower to the other in order to pierce the ear lobe. To the wider terminal,

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230 Despoini 1996, 33-34. For earrings in this type from Olynthus see: Robinson 1929, plate XVII, num. 267-272.
231 Tsigarida 2009, 548.
232 Besios- Pappa 1996, fig. 118Δ.
233 Tsigarida 2009, 548.
235 Despoini 1996, 35.
236 Higgins 1980, 159.
237 Tsigarida 2009, 549.
238 Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 183.
there was a cylindrical metal sheet on which a lion head made of mould was attached. This example is also dated in the middle of the 4th century BC based on the dating of the grave.\textsuperscript{239}

In the second half of the 4th century BC, in most examples, the earrings consist of four or more golden wires twisted together. The characteristics of the lion head are schematic while the pointed terminal of the earring is attached in the open mouth of the head\textsuperscript{240}. The collar was usually decorated with relief, simple and granulated circles and often with spirals. Only one example from ancient Pydna that is dated from the last quarter of the 4th century BC had a core which was surrounded by a golden coiled wire. The thicker terminal of the coiled wire penetrates in a collar decorated with rings and spirals, and above there is a hoop\textsuperscript{241}(figure 38). The earrings made of golden wire coiled around a core are rare in Macedonia. In Aiginio there were discovered five pairs that belong in this type\textsuperscript{242}.

In the earrings of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century BC, both ways of construction appear, either around a core or not. The decoration of the collar of the lion head tended to be simpler and usually had relief circles and a hoop with triangular ends. One of the five pairs that were found in Aiginio, had a collar decorated with relief circles, sigmoid spirals and a hoop with triangular ends (figure 39). The grave, in which the earring was found, is dated from the beginning of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century BC, although, the earring is dated probably in the end of the 4\textsuperscript{th} century BC.\textsuperscript{243} One example detected in Aiginio\textsuperscript{244} has relief circles and a hoop with triangular ends in the collar and, therefore, is quite similar to the examples from Southern Italy which are dated from the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century BC. While the loose wire which coils around the twisted wires, appeared in examples from the same territory, dating from the same period. The decoration of the collar varies, in some examples with rings, spirals or hoops with triangular ends.\textsuperscript{245} Another example of this type was found in the cemetery of ancient Lete dated by the middle of 4\textsuperscript{th} to beginning of 3\textsuperscript{rd} century BC\textsuperscript{246}.

In the middle of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century BC a third variation of this type appears, which consists of a collar decorated only with relief circles and a smaller lion head which protrudes from the thicker end of the part. This variation dominates in the second half of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} century and the first half of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} century BC. The construction of earrings of this variation was simple and as a result the type with the lion head lost its originality. In the meantime, the amount of the earrings with a lion head was reduced.\textsuperscript{247}

\textsuperscript{239}Kaltsas 1998, 34-35.
\textsuperscript{240}Tsigarida 2009, 550, fig. 2 (IY1112).
\textsuperscript{241}Tsigarida 2009, 550, fig. 3 (IY714).
\textsuperscript{242}Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 183, num. IY1112, 1301,1116,1082,1071.
\textsuperscript{243}Tsigarida 2009, 550, fig. 4 (IY1116).
\textsuperscript{244}Besios- Tsigarida 2000, 194, fig.13 (IY1301).
\textsuperscript{245}For the differences to the decoration of the collars see Tsigarida 2009, 551.
\textsuperscript{246}Tsakalou-Tzanavari 1989, 308.
\textsuperscript{247}Tsigarida 2009, 551.
Earrings with animal or human head terminals

In this category, the animals whose heads are used as earrings’ terminals are various, such as bulls, goats, dolphins etc. This type appeared in Macedonia in the last quarter of the 4th century BC (at the same time with the earrings with the lion head) and had a wide dissemination in the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC in the Hellenic world. The oldest examples of this type were found in Macedonia and more specifically in a grave of Derveni and Mieza. After the middle of the 3rd century BC, this type of earrings was also decorated with human heads. By the second half of the 3rd and in the 2nd century BC the heads consisted of semi-precious stones. In Macedonia this variation appeared after the first quarter of the 3rd century BC. However, this type did not have the same dissemination such as the earrings with the lion head. In a cist grave in the cemetery of Amphipolis dating in the 3rd century BC, a pair of golden earrings was detected with terminals in the shape of dog’s head made of a red stone. In addition, four pairs of this type come from the cemetery of Pydna and were decorated with a bull’s head. All of them consisted of a part which formed a curve and was made of golden wire coiled around a core which is not visible. The diameter of this part reduces gradually to one end which is sharp, while the thicker end was adjusted to a cylindrical part (collar) that is decorated with three relief circles, one granulated between two simple ones. To its one end, the collar had a hoop with triangular endings while to the other, a bull’s head was attached, made of semi-precious stone with a golden noose in the neck. The pointed end of the earring was attached into the mouth of the bull’s head. In one of the pairs (figure 40), dating by the end of 3rd to the beginning of 2nd century BC, the collar is decorated with a golden relief circle and a hoop. The earring type with the bull’s head firstly appeared in Egypt in the middle of the 3rd century BC and later it spread to the east part of the Hellenic world. It is concluded though that this type was not very preferable in Macedonia.

Earrings with a rosette

This type consists of a part which bends and forms a curve. Its length reduces gradually to one end which is pointed. To the thicker end, a rosette is attached. This type appeared in the late Classical and the beginning of the Hellenistic period and it was preferable in the South Italy in the 3rd century BC, while in Macedonia it was rare. One pair found in the cemetery of Aiginio belongs to this category. Its parts imitate a chain and to the thicker end a rosette with seven petals is attached. When the earrings were worn to the ears, the sharp terminal part of the earring went through the noose.

248 Despoini 1996, 35.
249 Tsigarida 2009, 551.
250 Nikolaidou-Patera 1993, 478.
251 Tsigarida 2009, 552, fig.5 (ΠΥ29)
252 Tsigarida 2009, 552.
that was on the rosette (figure 41). The rosette was made of mould and it was found in a grave dating from the middle of the 3rd century BC253.

**Earrings with Eros or Nike**

This type consists of a part which bends and forms a curve while a figure of Eros or Nike which is also bended, completes the curve of the earring. This type was created in Macedonia and is dated in the beginning of the Hellenistic period. It appeared in the end of the 4th century and survived until the first quarter of the 3rd century BC. In north Pieria, twelve pairs of earrings were found, most of them in the cemetery of Aiginio254. Most of those earrings had a simple construction and were characterized by the repetition of the same pattern without an elaborate form. The large amount of earrings in Aiginio may be attributed to a local workshop or a craftsman that produced this type of earrings in the end of the 4th and beginning of the 3rd century BC, or to the preference of the local clientele255. They consisted of a braided rope of gold, of four or six wires twisted together. The one end of this part became thinner and pointed while the other one was thicker and penetrated a simple cylinder, to which the feet of the figure were attached. The figure was bended backwards and, thus, formed an arrow. The figures were made of moulds and the details were worked with the hands. In most examples, the figure is a winged and naked Eros with a band which goes from the shoulder to the hip and its hands are bended on the pelvis256 (figure 42). The second example is decorated with a winged Nike 257 (figure 43) and the third with a winged Seilino258, a figure that is unusual in the Greek mythology (figure 44). The wings of the figures and the vase that one of them was holding were made of separate leaves of gold that were glued afterwards. The earrings were worn so that the figure was on the front side of the ear lobe while the sharp end went through a noose or a hole in the back side of the figure’s head. In the rest of Macedonia, this type was not widely disseminated. Earrings of this kind were found in graves dating in the second half of the 4th century BC in Vergina and Pydna259. Variations of this type which are dated in the middle of the 3rd century BC were found in the cemetery of Tarantas, or are held in private collections260.

253Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 184, fig. 14 (ΠΥ1079).
254Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 182, num. ΠΥ1094, 1302, 1446, 1103, 1152, 1100, 1080). The graves in which they were found are dated in the first quarter of the 3rd century, except of ΠΥ1080 which was found in a grave of the second quarter of the 3rd century BC.
255Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 185.
256Tsigarida 2009, 553, fig. 7 (ΠΥ1302).
257Tsigarida 2009, 553, fig. 8 (ΠΥ1152).
258Tsigarida 2009, 553, fig. 9 (ΠΥ1100).
259Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 182.
260For more bibliography see: Besios-Tsigarida 2000. 192.
Earrings with a hanging figure

This type of jewelry appeared in the beginning of the Hellenistic period with a wide dissemination across the Hellenic world until the end of the 3rd century BC\textsuperscript{261}. Different variations of this earring were preferable in South Italy. It commonly consisted of a hook which pierced the ear lobe while on the front side a disk was decorated with a rosette made of filigree. In some examples its curve was surrounded with a spiral made by the same technique. In the back side, a part of circular cross section was attached. Its one end was bended and formed a hook to pierce the ear lobe, while the other end formed a noose from which the figure was hanging. The figures were made of mould with the details worked on afterwards. It consisted of a hook usually decorated with a rosette or a disk from which a figure was hanging. The figures had mainly the shape of Eros, Nike, Pan, Siren, dancers etc. More specifically, in Macedonia, this type appeared in the end of the 4th century BC. Two examples were found in Amphipolis\textsuperscript{262}; the first depicted a naked Eros that was holding a theatrical mask while in the second Eros was holding a vase (figures 45-46). The earrings detected later in other territories of the Hellenic world had a wide variety of types\textsuperscript{263}. Earrings of this type, with hanging figures, are found both in public and private collections\textsuperscript{264}. The earring from the south cemetery of Pydna\textsuperscript{265} consists of a hook to which a disk, decorated with rosette spirals made of filigree, is attached, while the disk is surrounded by a wire. The winged naked Eros, hanging from the hook, is holding an arrow with one hand, while the other is elevated. It is dated in about 300 BC (figure 47). The example from Aiginio\textsuperscript{266} is dated in the first quarter of the 3rd century BC. Similar earrings were found in Tarantas. Further, another earring comes from a grave in Abdera, dating in the 4th century BC\textsuperscript{267}. This type of earrings were widespread across the Hellenic world\textsuperscript{268}.

Earrings with a hook and animals or birds

This type consisted of a hook to which a bird or an animal was attached and it was quite common in Macedonia. Six earrings of this kind were found in Pieria\textsuperscript{269}. The oldest earring found in the south cemetery of Pydna consists of a thick part; the one end is bended, creating, therefore, a noose from which an ibex is hanging, in a

\textsuperscript{261}Higgins 1980, 161.
\textsuperscript{262}Bonias 2000, 203, 214-215, fig. 7A-7B, 8A-8B.
\textsuperscript{263}Hoffmann-Davidson 1965, 12.
\textsuperscript{264}Marshall 1969, 204-209, num. 1876, 1888-90, 1892, 1911, 1914.
\textsuperscript{265}Tsagarida 2009, 555, fig. 10(IY769).
\textsuperscript{266}Besios-Tsagarida 2000, 184, fig. 15(IY1118).
\textsuperscript{267}For the similar examples and references see: Besios-Tsagarida2000, 184.
\textsuperscript{268}Higgins 1980, 161.
\textsuperscript{269}Tsagarida 2009, 555, IY5745, 1095, 93, 770, 790.
galloping position with a head frill, horns and wings. The tail is bended and creates a noose to which the one end of this part is attached (figure 48). The ibex had an Achaimenid origin and appeared with a wide variety of horns, with bulls’ horns, goats’ horns, antelopes’ horns, rams’ horns etc. In this pair the horns detected in each earring are completely different. In one of them, there are bull’s horns, while in the other there are ram’s horns. The head of the ibex was used in Egypt and Cyprus for the decoration of this type of earrings by the beginning of the 3rd century BC. The earrings of Pydna were found in a grave dating in the second half of the 4th century BC, indicating that this type of earrings was adopted from the Macedonians, at the time after the expedition of Alexander the Great.

The earrings with the hook and the figure of a rooster originate in the grave of a young female in Aiginio which is dated in the first quarter of the 3rd century BC. One such earring was found on the belly area and it was probably used as a pin to hold a cloth. It consists of a thick part which is bended and forms a hook. The one end is attached to the back of the rooster following its curve while the other end is free in order to pierce through the lobe of the ear. The rooster consists of two golden sheets made of mould which are glued together (figure 49). The details were worked with the hands and two spirals were added to form the tail. The figure of the rooster was rarely used by the goldsmith, usually in Etruscan products.

Three pairs of earrings that come from three different graves from the cemetery of Pydna and are dated in the first half of the 2nd century BC, consist of a hook of golden wire with a surface which imitates a coiled wire and thickness that is gradually reduced to the one end which becomes, pointed. The thicker end penetrates a collar with relief circles which, on their turn, penetrate the back of the bird. In one of the examples from Pydna, a golden disk that is attached to the wire is decorated with a rosette made of filigree. The dove has two wings decorated with a golden wire that is extended and also covers the neck and the tail. Finally, a noose of golden wire for the positioning of the hook is attached to the tail (figure 50). Similar earrings from the first half of the 2nd century BC are common in south Italy where the theme of the dove is quite preferable. Also, similar pairs were found in the collection Stathatos. Finally, the earrings of Pieria which are dated in the first half of the 2nd century BC were probably produced in the same workshop.

270 Pfrommer 1990, 156.
271 Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 185, fig. 16 (I1Y1095).
272 Higgins 1980, 164.
273 Besios-Pappa, 114-115, (I1Y93, 770, 790)
274 Amandry 1953, 142, num. 295-297.
275 Tsigarida 2009, 557.
In conclusion, through the study of cemeteries we try to interpret the social reality of the past. However, we should examine all the available evidence, both the archaeological finds and literary sources, to reach to safe conclusions. The types, amount and quality of graves as well as the offerings inside them, lead scholars to conclusions about the economic and social background of the inhabitants in each settlement. However, as said above, the absence of rich offerings in a cemetery does not necessarily imply the poverty of the population. Nevertheless the presence of rich offerings indicates a prosperous economy. The differentiation is detected among the cemeteries in the different sites of Macedonia, among cemeteries in the same site but also among graves into the same cemetery. As was mentioned earlier, there are cemeteries with differences in the types and offerings of the graves. Some of them contained a greater quantity of offerings, in a wide variety and made of precious metals, which is an indication of their wealth and maybe their prominent role in the community. It is possible that these graves belonged to families or individuals that had an important role within the settlement. Before reaching any conclusions we should bear in mind that the differences detected are probably due to the destruction and looting of many of the graves.

The purpose of this paper is not to compare the cemeteries of Macedonia and answer to the aforesaid questions, since, in that case, it would be necessary to examine all the material coming from the excavations. It is important to examine not only the types of graves but also all the types of offerings that these contained, both metal objects and terracotta ones. Through the study of the earrings, that were mentioned in the corresponding chapter, we can perceive what types were most commonly offered to the deceased in the cemeteries of Macedonia, which types appear in each cemetery, of what material and period. Starting from the Archaic period the types that appeared into the graves were: banded earrings, earrings in the shape of Ω, open rings with decorative elements, simple open rings, spiral earrings, earrings of coiled wire and decorated hoops. However, most of them were not created in this period; instead they continued the tradition of previous periods. Some of these types, such as the earrings in the shape of Ω, the simple open rings, the spirals, the earrings made of coiled wire and the hoops continued to be used in the Classical period, when new types of earrings started being used such as the pyramid-shaped earrings, the earrings with lion head terminals, with animal or human heads, with Eros and Nike, and with rosettes that survived through the next period and were used simultaneously with new types of earrings, such as these with hanging figures and those decorated with animals or birds.

In the Archaic period some of the cemeteries, such as Sindos’s cemetery, had some of the most elaborate earrings, such as the banded earrings decorated with rosettes. This
type appeared mostly in gold and was also found in Aiane, Vergina, Archontiko and Aineia but in a smaller amount in comparison to those found in Sindos. This type of earrings as well as other types found in Sindos that were mostly made of gold, may be an indication of the wealth of this settlement during the Archaic period. This type appeared until the end of Archaic period when it took a simpler form, reducing to a circular terminal such as the example of Aineia. Also the decoration of the band with the “plocho” disappeared and was replaced by parallel wires. A variation of the banded earrings is the pair with the banded terminals and those made of a metal sheet. Although their forms are usually simple, they were also found in gold as well as in bronze in the cemeteries of Nea Philadelphia, Agia Paraskevi and Vergina. The earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω but also their variations with different decorations in the terminals, were mainly made of precious metals such as silver, but there were also bronze earrings in simpler forms such as the examples of Agia Paraskevi with the simple terminals and gold. There were found in the cemeteries of Sindos, Archontiko, Therme, Mieza, Agia Paraskevi, Aiane and Asomata. The large amount of them found in graves indicates that this type was quite preferable until the late Classical period. The most common type of earrings is that of the simple rings, open or with decorative elements such as beads which were mostly made of bronze. They were found in large quantities in cemeteries but due to their simple form they do not appeal to the excavators’ interest, so most of them were not published. Spiral earrings of bronze and silver dating from the late Archaic period were found in Agia Paraskevi and Pydna. Another type made mostly of silver is dated from the late Archaic period and was found in Vergina, Epanome and Pydna. Hoops made of gold, silver and bronze and decorated only to the half part, were found in Sindos, Pydna and Therme and were used until the 4th century BC.

During the late Classical and Hellenistic periods, there is a change in the kingdom which is also apparent in the cemeteries and their offerings. More specifically, during the reign of Philip II in the third quarter of the 4th century BC, a period of wealth for the Macedonian kingdom, there was a flourish of Macedonian goldsmiths, due to the expansion to territories rich in natural sources. The types of earrings in the cemeteries of Macedonia are similar to those of other Hellenic territories as well as those of South Italy, Asia Minor etc. At the same time, as it was mentioned before there were some new types such as this with the lion head decoration, a type that it is supposed to serve the purpose of propaganda and the religious beliefs of the kingdom. Other types of earrings were: pyramid-shaped, with animal or human head terminals, decorated with rosettes, Eros or Nike, with hanging figures and with animals or birds. The gold was abundant in the kingdom, especially after the expedition of Alexander the Great to the East which brought, apart from large quantities of precious metals, new techniques for the decoration of jewelry. The earrings are characterized by a naturalistic style and a preference for luxurious decoration as it is observed from the examples that were found in the cemeteries of Pieria. There was probably a powerful
tradition of goldsmiths and workshops that flourished during the Hellenistic period\textsuperscript{276}. The decoration of earrings was influenced by the East. For example, heads of animals or mythological creatures such as the ibex which had an Achaemenid origin, the figures of Eros and the use of semi-precious stones for the decoration of earrings. Based on the various decorations of the earrings in the cemeteries of Macedonia, it is clear that they constituted an important element of the personal decoration of women. The fact that a lot of them were found destroyed made the excavators question their definition as earrings and, thus, in some cases they interpreted them as jewelry for the decoration of hair since both of them were placed near the head. Finally, it is clear that except of some types appeared in a small quantity, most of them are common in the cemeteries of Macedonia indicating that there was a common practice to the construction and decoration of earrings.

\textsuperscript{276}Besios-Tsigarida 2000, 191.
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Figures

Figure 1. Gold banded earrings from Sindos (Despoini 2016, 576)

Figure 2. Gold banded earrings from Sindos (Despoini 2016, 575)

Figure 3. Gold banded earrings from Aiane (Karamitrou-Mentesidi 1988, 24)

Figure 4. Gold banded earrings from Sindos (Sindos 1985, 307)

Figure 5. Gold banded earrings from Archontiko (A. Chrysostomou-P. Chrysostomou 2007, 87)

Figure 6. Gold banded earring from Sindos (Sindos 1985, 194)
Figure 7. Gold earring from Vergina (Tsigarida 2002, 527)

Figure 8. Silver banded earring from Aineia (Vokotopoulou 1990, 108)

Figure 9. Bronze earring with banded terminals from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab. 6)

Figure 10. Bronze earring with banded terminals from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab. 6)

Figure 11. Gold banded earring made of metal sheet from Sindos (Desponi 2016, 576)

Figure 12. Bronze banded earring made of metal sheet from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.6)
Figure 13. Bronze banded earring made of metal sheet from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.6)

Figure 14. Gold earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Aiane (Karamitrou-Mentesidi 1988, 24)

Figure 15. Silver earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Sindos (Despoini 2016, 577)

Figure 16. Silver earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Pydna (Besios 2010, 160)

Figure 17. Silver earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Sindos (Sindos 1985, 221)

Figure 18. Silver earring in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Archontiko (A. Chrysostomou 2009, 275)
Figure 19. Gold earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Pydna (Besios 2010, 152)

Figure 20. Bronze earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.6)

Figure 21. Bronze earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.7)

Figure 22. Bronze earrings in the shape of the Greek letter Ω from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.7)

Figure 23. Bronze open ring with additional decorative element from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.7)

Figure 24. Bronze simple open ring from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab.9)
Figure 25. Bronze spiral earring from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab 7)

Figure 26. Bronze spiral earrings from Agia Paraskevi (Misailidou-Despotidou 2011, tab 7)

Figure 27. Silver spiral earring from Pydna (Besios 2010, 178)

Figure 28. Silver earring of coiled wire from Vergina (Tsigarida 2002, 527)

Figure 29. Silver earrings of coiled wire from Epanome (Tsibidou-Ayloniti 1989, 329)

Figure 30. Silver earring of coiled wire from Pydna (Besios 2010, 171)
Figure 31. Gold earrings in the shape of hoops from Sindos (Despoini 2016, 578)

Figure 32. Silver earrings in the shape of hoops from Pydna (Besios 2010, 178)

Figure 33. Silver earrings in the shape of hoops from Sindos (Despoini 2016, 578)

Figure 34. Silver earrings in the shape of hoops from Pydna (Besios 2010, 178)

Figure 35. Silver earrings in the shape of hoops from Epanome (Tsibidou-Ayloniti 1989, 328)

Figure 36. Gold pyramid-shaped earring from Pydna (Besios 2010, 202)
Figure 37. Gold earrings with lion head terminals from Pydna (Besios 2010, 189)

Figure 38. Gold earrings with lion head terminals from Pydna (Tsigarida 2009, 550)

Figure 39. Gold earrings with lion head terminals from Aiginio (Tsigarida 2009, 550)

Figure 40. Gold earring with bull head terminal from Pydna (Tsigarida 2009, 552)

Figure 41. Gold earrings with a rosette from Aiginio (Tsigarida 2009, 552)

Figure 42. Gold earrings with Eros from Aiginio (Tsiagarida 2009, 553)
Figure 43. Gold earrings with Nike from Aiginio (Tsigarida 2009, 553)

Figure 44. Gold earrings with Seilino from Aiginio (Tsigarida 2009, 553)

Figure 45. Gold earrings with hanging figures from Amphipolis (Bonias 2000, 214)

Figure 46. Gold earrings with hanging figures from Amphipolis (Bonias 2000, 215)

Figure 47. Gold earrings with hanging figures from Pydna (Besios 2010, 215)

Figure 48. Gold earrings with ibexes from Pydna (Besios 2010, 233)
Figure 49. Gold earring with a rooster from Aiginio (Tsigarida 2009, 557)

Figure 50. Gold earrings with doves from Pydna (Besios 2010, 208)