

ANIMAL BONE DEPOSIT UNDER SIDON'S MINOAN CUP: C14 ANALYSIS

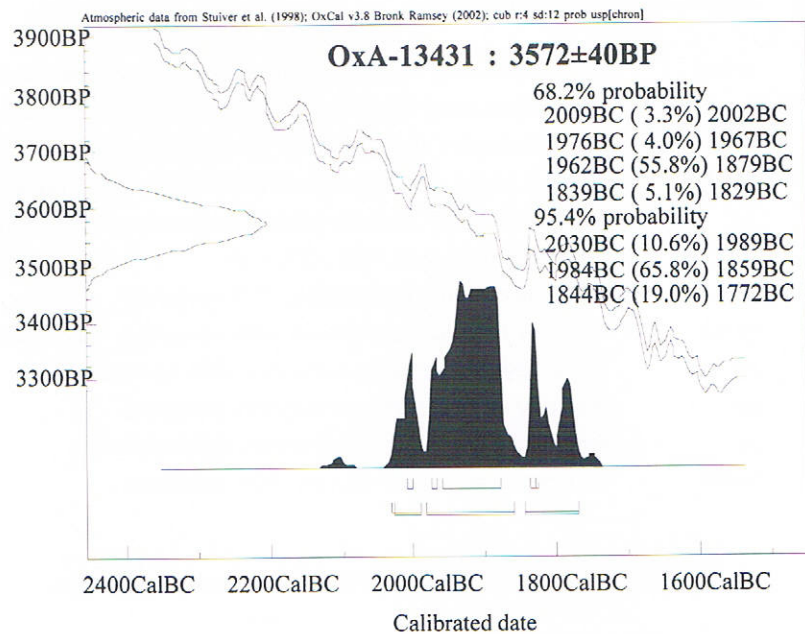
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References - Atmospheric data from Stuiver *et al.*, 1998, OxCal v3.8 Bronk
Ramsey (2002); cub r:4 sd:12 prob usp[chron]

OxA-13431 : 3572±40BP

68.2% probability
2009BC (3.3%) 2002BC
1976BC (4.0%) 1967BC
1962BC (55.8%) 1879BC
1839BC (5.1%) 1829BC

95.4% probability
2030BC (10.6%) 1989BC
1984BC (65.8%) 1859BC
1844BC (19.0%) 1772BC



According to Alexander MacGillivray, who published the Minoan cup in *AHL*, 18, p. 20-24, the C14 date seems to fit well with the larger picture of Mesara pottery in Egypt in the middle of the twelfth dynasty there. It was suggested in *Knossos, Pottery Groups of the Old Palace Period*, London, 1998, that MM IB ended around the same time as the reign of Senusret I in 1908 BC. If the MM IIA Sidon cup and bones were deposited around then, as this C14 date suggests, it would have been quite fresh at the time. Then again it may be necessary to push the start of MM IIA back by a generation to approximately 1925 BC to suit the results better.