

Kirk, G.S. "Objective Dating Criteria in Homer", 1960

P. 175 In other words the mention in the Iliad or Odyssey of apparently late-Mycenaean objects is not by itself a necessary proof of Mycenaean poetry. A similar reserve will be manifested towards Mycenaean words in Homer

p. 176 The following is the total list, as it seems to me, of the certainly Mycenaean objects and practices mentioned in Homer . . .

1. the body-shield . . . from the evidence of archaeological finds obsolete even before the Trojan war. +3
2. The silver-studded sword is known both from the 15th and from the 7th century B.C., but its rigidly formular status in Homer shows that it must belong to a relatively old part of the tradition and thus be Mycenaean . . . The possibility cannot be excluded, though it may be small, that such swords continued to be made in the late Mycenaean age.
3. The boar's tusk helmet described in the Doleneia . . . is a common Mycenaean type never yet found in post-Mycenaean contexts. . . . The object is treated in its context as an oddity and an heirloom; the original which inspired the traditional description could conceivably have survived - contrary to what is often asserted - as an antique, down into post-Mycenaean times. +3
4. Nestor's dove cup, . . . whatever its exact type or relationship to the cup from the fourth Shaft-grave, must be Mycenaean and cannot be envisaged as having been made in any later period. +
5. The technique of metal inlay . . . is Mycenaean and not later +3
6. The over-all consistency throughout the poems of references to bronze as the material of weapons and cutting-tools is presumably based on Bronze-age practice, experience or remembered. Yet bronze remained important even in the early Iron Age. +3
7. The reference to the wealth and the hundred broad gates of Egyptian Thebes . . . is presumably derived ultimately from Achaean knowledge of Egypt in the great age of Mycenae. +3
8. Mycenaean geography, particularly of the Achaean Catalogue +
9. The whole background of the Trojan War, which did... take place in the late Mycenaean period. 3

p. 192 Thus only a small number of specifically Mycenaean objects or practices can be identified with any certainty.