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ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΑ - CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

8TH ANNUAL MEETING OF POSTGRADUATE IN CYPRIOTE ARCHAEOLOGY (POCA), BRUSSELS, 27TH-29TH NOVEMBER 2008, VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL AND THE ROYAL MUSEUMS OF ART AND HISTORY

Dear colleagues and friends,

The 8th annual meeting of Postgraduate in Cypriote Archaeology (POCA) will be held in Brussels from 27th to 29th November 2008 at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and the Royal Museums of Art and History. The event will be organized by the Mediterranean Archaeological Research Institute (MARI).

POCA will open on Thursday 27th November at 19.00 with a plenary lecture by Dr. P. Keswani at the Royal Museums of Art and History. On Friday 28th and Saturday 29th November, young scholars are invited to present their paper. Prof. Dr. em. P. Åström will close the sessions on 29th November.

This colloquium offers an excellent opportunity to postgraduate students and young scholars, who are currently carrying out research on Cypriote Archaeology, to exchange ideas and meet people who carry out research in the same field.

We welcome all papers regarding archaeological, anthropological, historical, sociological or other aspects of the material culture of Cyprus and related subjects, without any chronological limits.

Interested scholars are invited to register and submit an abstract (max. 150-200 words) by 15th of August 2008 at <http://www.vub.ac.be/mari/OnlineRegistration1.html>.

Papers can be a spoken presentation or a poster presentation. Spoken presentations are preferably in PowerPoint and should not exceed 20 minutes. Every session will be concluded with a discussion.

We encourage all participants to submit their paper for publication. Proceedings will be published after peer review.

There is a small registration fee (15 euro) covering lunches and coffee breaks.

In attachment you may find the flyer of POCA 2008. The organizing committee of POCA 2008 would be pleased if you inform any interested individuals within your research community regarding this event.

Please check the website (<http://www.vub.ac.be/mari/POCA2008.html>) for further details and updates.

If you have any enquiries please contact us at <<mailto:mari@vub.ac.be>>mari@vub.ac.be

We look forward to seeing you in Brussels!

Best regards,

POCA 2008 Organizing committee

CONFERENCE ON THE INCLUSIVE MUSEUM, NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ETHNOLOGY, LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS, 8-11 JUNE 2008

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Conference Organising Committee, we would like to inform you of the: Conference on the Inclusive Museum, National Museum of Ethnology, Leiden, the Netherlands, 8-11 June 2008: <http://www.Museum-Conference.com>

At this time of fundamental social change, this Conference will address the question of the role of the museum, both as a creature of that change, and also as an agent of change. The International Conference on the Inclusive Museum is a place where museum practitioners, researchers, thinkers and teachers can engage in discussion on the historic character and future shape of the museum. The key question of the Conference is 'How can the institution of the museum become more inclusive?'

Main speakers include Tomur Atagok, artist; Allisandra Cummins, Director of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society; Steven Engelsman, Director of the National Museum of Ethnology in the Netherlands; Amareswar Galla, Professor of Museum Studies, School of English, Media Studies and Art History, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia; Denise Hamú Marcos de La Penha, World Wildlife Federation (WWF) Brazil Chief Executive Officer; and Lejo Schenk, Director of the Amsterdam Tropenmuseum (Royal Tropical Institute). The Conference will also include numerous paper, workshop and colloquium presentations by practitioners, teachers and researchers. We would particularly like to invite you to respond to the Conference Call-for-Papers. Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed International Journal of the Inclusive Museum. If you are unable to attend the Conference in person, virtual registrations are also available which allow you to submit a paper for refereeing and possible publication in this fully refereed academic Journal, as well as access to the electronic version of the Conference proceedings.

The deadline for the next round in the call for papers (a title and short abstract) is 13 March 2008. Proposals are reviewed within two weeks of submission. Full details of the Conference, including an online proposal submission form, are to be found at the Conference website - <http://www.Museum-Conference.com>

We are also making available a limited number of free registrations for graduate students who are willing to assist at the conference, and people from developing countries. For details, see the conference website.

We look forward to receiving your proposal and hope you will be able to join us in Leiden in June 2008.

Yours Sincerely,

Amareswar Galla, PhD
Professor of Museum Studies
School of English, Media Studies and Art History, The University of Queensland
Brisbane, Australia For the Advisory Board, International Conference on the Inclusive
Museum

If you have any inquiries about this conference, please reply to the email addresses
above. All emails are answered in person by one of our conference administrators within
two working days.



2009 AIA ANNUAL MEETING CALL FOR PAPERS - FIRST DEADLINE APPROACHING, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, JANUARY 8-11, 2009

The first submission deadline for the AIA's 110th Annual Meeting, to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, January 8-11, 2009, is less than two weeks away. The submission. The schedule for submission of sessions and papers has been revised from past years. Please refer to the explanation below to determine if you need to submit a paper by the March 30th deadline.

The general deadline is being pushed back to late August to allow summer fieldwork to be completed. There is also an early deadline for Joint Colloquia and for any non-U.S. Resident who will need an early decision so they can apply for a visa. If the individual is part of an organized session, the entire session must be submitted by the early deadline. A link to the U.S. State Department site listing the latest visa requirements for the U.S. is provided on the AIA website. The two deadlines are:

Sunday, March 30, 2008

This deadline is applicable to all Joint AIA/APA Colloquia, and any other organized sessions or open session submissions from a non-U.S.

Resident needing an early decision to acquire a visa. Submissions not meeting the above criteria, but submitted prior to this March 30th deadline will be considered in the Fall.

Sunday, August 24, 2008:

This deadline is applicable for all other submissions including colloquia, workshops, open session papers, posters, and roundtables.

The submission system will be open from February 1 through August 24, 2008. If you expect to be in the field without internet access you may submit your abstracts early, but you will not be notified of the PAMC's decision until October 1, 2008.

The full Call for Papers and submission instructions are available on the AIA website (www.archaeological.org). Please be sure to review these instructions prior to submitting your abstract or session. All submissions must be made by means of online submission via the AIA website. The program committee is particularly keen to receive submissions on the following topics: European Prehistory; Ancient Near East; new methods of research and analysis, and thematic papers from any region or period that address use of sacred space, funerary art and practices, patterns of urbanism, and identifying ethnicity in the physical record. All submissions, of course, must pass the PAMC's vetting process to be put onto the program. As with past meetings, all submissions must be made electronically. The online submission forms and supporting documents are available on the AIA website.

*** View the 2009 Call for Papers -**

<http://www.archaeological.org/webinfo.php?page=10454>

*** Online Submission Forms -**

<http://www.archaeological.org/webinfo.php?page=10193>

**JESIUM 2008, JOINT EUROPEAN
STABLE ISOTOPE USER MEETING,
PRESQU'ILE DE GIENS, FRENCH
MEDITERRANEAN COAST, AUGUST 31 -
SEPTEMBER 5**

Dear all,

The **Registration** and the **Abstract Submission** for **JESIUM 2008** are now open (www.jesium2008.eu)

Dealines are on 1st May for abstract submission and on 1st June for early registration fees.

Feel free to **diffuse the Announcement** below to emails lists and anybody who may have interest in stable isotopes.

Thanks a lot

Christine Hatte

Methodological advances in stable isotope studies •
Physiology and biochemistry across the spectrum of life forms •
Plant ecophysiology: from leaf to ecosystem •
Soil, marine and fresh water ecology •
Hydrology, earth science and cosmology •
Climatology, paleoclimatology and archeology •
Isotopic signatures as diagnostic and decision tools for society •
New concepts, future developments •

www.jesium2008.eu

Information: MCO Congres - Julie Faber - julie@mcocongres.com
+33 (0)4 95 09 38 00

ADVANCES IN THE USE OF STABLE ISOTOPES

AIA LECTURE, NY SOCIETY, "DERVENI KRATER", APRIL 3, 2008

Onassis Cultural Center
Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA)
645 5th Avenue (52nd St. Between 5th and Madison Avenues)
New York, NY 10022

Archaeological Institute of America AIA New York society, Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA)

Thursday, April 3, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Lecture by

**Dr Beryl Barr-Sharrar
New York University**

New Reflections on the Derveni Krater and its Ancient Macedonian Context

The Derveni Krater is a large, elaborately ornamented bronze volute krater used as a sepulcher in an undisturbed 4th-century B.C. tomb near Thessaloniki in northern Greece. Dr. Barr-Sharrar discusses her dramatic new conclusions that the Dionysian images form a program alluding to the Underworld and the possibility of rebirth.

Dr. Barr-Sharrar is the 2008 recipient of a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities.

Onassis Cultural Center - Olympic Tower Atrium

645 Fifth Avenue - Entrance on 52nd Street between Fifth & Madison Avenues

Reception to follow the lecture

RSVP: 212-486-8314

Private viewing of the exhibition *From the Land of the Labyrinth: Minoan Crete, 3000-1100 B.C.* from 6 - 8:30 p.m.

Copies of Dr. Barr-Sharrar's new book, *The Derveni Krater. Masterpiece of Classical Greek Metalwork*, will be available at the Hellenic Museums Shop.



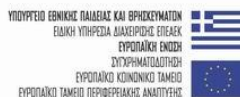
ΔΙΗΜΕΡΙΔΑ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ ΠΕΡΙΒΑΛΛΟΝΤΟΣ

ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗ, 28 – 29 ΜΑΡΤΙΟΥ 2008
ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΕΚΜΑΓΕΙΩΝ

ΧΩΜΑΤΑ ΚΑΙ ΦΥΤΑ

Παρασκευή, 28 Μαρτίου

9:30- 9:45	Χαιρετισμοί	
9:45-10	Κώστας Κωτσάκης	Το ΠΙΜΣ της Ιστορίας του Ανθρωπογενούς Περιβάλλοντος στο ΑΠΘ
10-10:20	Αθανασία Κραχτοπούλου	Γεωαρχαιολογία και ανασύσταση τοπίου
10:20-10:40	Στέλλα Κυριλλίδου	Μικρομορφολογία θέσεων και οικιστικές επιχώσεις
10:40-11	Ευαγγελία Κυριατζή	Μελέτες παραγωγής και διακίνησης κεραμικής στα πλαίσια του ανθρωπογενούς τοπίου: η χρήση αναλυτικών τεχνικών
11-11:40	Διάλειμμα	
11:40-12	Τάνια Βαλαμώτη	Ιστορίες από σπόρους: η αρχαιοβοτανική έρευνα στην Ελλάδα σήμερα
12-12:20	Μαρία Ντίνου	Ανθρακολογία: Η βλάστηση και το ανθρωπογενές περιβάλλον στο μικροσκόπιο
12:20-12:40	Αχιλλέας Γερασιμίδης	Η συμβολή της παλυνολογίας (ανάλυσης γύρης) στην αρχαιολογία του περιβάλλοντος
12:40-14:15	ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ	



ΟΣΤΑ -ΧΗΜΙΚΕΣ / ΒΙΟΜΟΡΙΑΚΕΣ ΑΝΑΛΥΣΕΙΣ

Σάββατο, 29 Μαρτίου

9-9:20	Δήμητρα Μυλωνά	Η ζωο-αρχαιολογία σε νέες διαδρομές. Υπολείμματα στεριανών και θαλασσίων ζώων στο Ιερό του Ποσειδώνα στην Καλαυρία, Πόρος
9:20-9:40	Τατιάνα Θεοδωροπούλου	Προϊστορικές κοινότητες του Β. Αιγαίου και υδροβία περιβάλλοντα: η συμβολή της αρχαιοζωολογίας στην ανασύσταση των αλιευτικών πρακτικών
9:40-10	Χρυσοβαλάντου-Ειρήνη Βεροπουλίδου	Τα όστρεα στην αρχαιολογία
10-10:20	Εύα Παναγιωτακοπούλου	Αρχαιοεθνομολογία και περιβαλλοντική αρχαιολογία: Νέες κατευθύνσεις στην έρευνα
10:20-11	Διάλειμμα	
11-11:20	Σέβη Τριανταφύλλου	Η μελέτη των ανθρωπινων οστών στην αρχαιολογία: παραδείγματα από το Αιγαίο
11:20-11:40	Ευφροσύνη Βήκα	Η μελέτη των σταθερών ισotόπων στην αρχαιολογία: δυνατότητες και περιορισμοί
11:40-12	Λήδα Κοβάτση, Σοφία Κουίδου	Αναλύσεις αρχαίου DNA
12-12:20	Ντούσαννα Ούρεμ-Κώτσου	Αναλύσεις οργανικών καταλοίπων στην κεραμική
12:20-12:40	Γ.Χ. Χουρμουζιάδης	Αρχαιολογία και περιβάλλον
12:40-13	Στέλιος Ανδρέου	Γενική συζήτηση: συμπεράσματα και προοπτικές

13-14:30

ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ



STORAGE SYMPOSIUM: PRESERVATION AND ACCESS TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIALS, JUNE 6-8, 2008 LENART AUDITORIUM, UCLA FOWLER MUSEUM OF CULTURAL HISTORY

Registration deadline is April 15th, 2008

Storage: Preservation and Access to Archaeological Materials will investigate the issues surrounding the creation of stable, accessible storage of portable finds from archaeological excavations. Collection repositories exist in state, county, national, and university facilities for the deposit of archaeological finds, and it is increasingly the case that materials excavated abroad are retained by the host country, with the expedition bearing the financial responsibility for storage. Achieving safe and accessible storage solutions with limited resources continues to remain challenging. The symposium will explore the range of activities, including negotiation, collaboration, proper housing and documentation required to secure preservation and access to burial materials.

The Cotsen Institute, which hosts both graduate archaeology and conservation training, is uniquely equipped to organize this symposium, which deals with an issue of critical importance for the preservation and study of excavated materials. Continued access to finds is required in order for archaeologists, anthropologists, conservators and myriad other specialists, to complete preservation, research and publication activities. The management of finds presently relies largely on digital methods, and the development of virtual collections is a direction that is aiding researchers and conservators, and is increasing access by the general public through schools, universities, libraries and museums. This symposium will bring together directors of excavations and of centralized storage repositories for archaeological collections, archaeological conservators who have achieved innovative and accessible storage methods, and archaeologists who have developed digital management systems for portable finds. The challenges and successes of 3-D scanning and modeling as tools for outreach, research and conservation will be described by an interdisciplinary group of speakers. International speakers will join Cotsen Institute Archaeology and Conservation faculty and students as participants in the program.

For schedule and abstracts see: http://ioa.ucla.edu/conservation/Storage_Symposium.pdf

For travel details see: <http://www.ioa.ucla.edu/conservation/storagesymposium.php>

There are about 60 tickets left to a reception and visit on June 6th to the Getty Villa, a museum and educational center housing Greek, Roman, and Etruscan materials.

The program is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, however views, findings, or recommendations expressed do not reflect those of the National

Endowment for the Humanities. The UCLA Fowler Museum and The Getty Conservation Institute provided additional support. To register contact Sonali Gupta at sonaligupta5@yahoo.com with name, title, affiliation, and interest in attending Villa reception; use "Storage Symposium" as subject of e-mail.

Ellen Pearlstein
Academic Coordinator
Adjunct Assistant Professor
UCLA/Getty Program in the Conservation of
Ethnographic and Archaeological Materials
A 410 Fowler
Los Angeles, CA 90095
310-794-4940
310 440-6900, ext 1990
310 440-7764 (fax)



**TAPHONOMIE DES RESIDUS ORGANIQUES
BRULES ET DES STRUCTURES DE
COMBUSTION EN MILIEU
ARCHEOLOGIQUE, TABLE RONDE, DU 27
AU 29 MAI 2008, SALLE DES CONFERENCES
DU CEPAM, SOPHIA-ANTIPOLIS**



Suite à la création du RTP « Taphonomie » (Robert Chenorkian : coordinateur du département EDDCNRS ; Jean-Philip Brugal : responsable du RTP), nous organisons du 27 au 29 mai 2008 une table ronde sur le thème « Taphonomie des résidus organiques brûlés et des structures de combustion en milieu archéologique ».

L'objectif de cette table ronde est de proposer un état des lieux des études taphonomiques qui portent ou ont porté sur des restes organiques brûlés et des structures de combustion, de favoriser la mise en commun des connaissances et des référentiels, d'initier des collaborations transdisciplinaires et d'engager les équipes vers la mise en place de programmes de recherche.

Cette table ronde concerne en premier lieu les résidus organiques brûlés : ossements humains et animaux, charbons de bois, graines et fruits, phytolithes, etc. Il peut s'agir de résidus de combustions intentionnelles (bois de feu, crémation, déchets, par exemple) ou accidentelles (proximités d'un foyer, incendie). Par leur diversité, ces vestiges documentent pratiques et savoir-faire et témoignent de comportements ou de choix techniques qui couvrent une large palette d'activités (pratiques funéraires, cuisson des aliments, traitement thermique, gestion des déchets, etc.). Il s'agit par conséquent de

restes archéologiques de grande valeur pour la connaissance des sociétés pré-, protohistoriques et historiques. Les structures de combustion, parfois associées à ces résidus, constituent également des éléments d'étude privilégiés pour la mise en évidence des pratiques liées au feu.

L'action conjointe de nombreux agents ou processus taphonomiques entraîne invariablement une transformation, voire une distorsion, qui, sans trahir leur nature, modifie les assemblages et/ou les structures et induit des biais d'identification et/ou d'interprétation. Mieux connaître ce « bruit » est un pré-requis indispensable pour interpréter correctement toutes les étapes qui précèdent la combustion. Les communications proposées, dans le cadre de cette table ronde, se limiteront donc aux processus naturels susceptibles d'affecter les résidus organiques brûlés et les structures de combustion.

[Précision : Si la taphonomie désigne « tous les processus qui interviennent après la mort de l'organisme jusqu'à sa fossilisation », on peut donc être amené en archéologie à inclure sous ce terme tous les choix et gestes plus proprement sociétaux ayant affecté le matériel végétal ou animal. Dans cette table ronde nous souhaitons nous cantonner le plus possible aux processus physiques et chimiques à l'oeuvre à partir de la mise au feu, c'est-à-dire la combustion, les processus dépositionnels et post-dépositionnels.]

Divers aspects pourront être abordés :

► processus physiques et chimiques à l'oeuvre à partir de la mise au feu, c'est-à-dire la combustion, les processus dépositionnels et post-dépositionnels ;

► analyse contextuelle des structures de combustion (construites et non construites) et de leur évolution dans une perspective strictement taphonomique : diagenèse et processus physiques d'altération et/ou de transformation, évolution dans le temps, interprétation du signal.

Les propositions de communications traitant des choix et gestes, plus proprement sociétaux, de la typologie des structures de combustion ou des actes techniques en rapport avec leur utilisation ne seront pas retenues dans le cadre de cette table ronde. Les communications devront s'attacher à analyser des données expérimentales ou archéologiques, dans les domaines de la combustion, des processus dépositionnels et post-dépositionnels, afin de préciser l'effet de ces processus sur les assemblages et structures étudiés.

Par exemple : Comment la combustion influe-t-elle sur la composition des assemblages ? Quel est l'impact des processus post-dépositionnels sur des résidus qui ont été chimiquement et physiquement modifiés lors de la combustion ? Comment sédiment et restes brûlés interagissent-ils ? Comment interpréter les assemblages résiduels observés ? Quel est le devenir des structures de combustion ? Comment les identifier ? Peut-on trouver des points de convergence entre nos disciplines ?

La table ronde sera organisée autour de trois journées, les deux premières consacrées aux présentations orales, la dernière aux discussions et à l'examen de matériel expérimental et archéologique. Les communications qui n'excéderont pas 15 minutes feront une large place aux discussions ayant comme objectifs de dégager des points de convergence entre nos diverses disciplines et d'initier des programmes de recherche.

Françoise Rougemont
Protohistoire égéenne, boîte 16

MAE
21 allée de l'université
92023 NANTERRE CEDEX
francoise.rougemont@mae.u-paris10.fr
49 avenue Gambetta
75020 PARIS
francoise.rougemont@wanadoo.fr



54E RENCONTRE ASSYRIOLOGIQUE
INTERNATIONALE, WUERZBURG,
JULY 20-25, 2008

<<http://www.altorientalistik.uni-wuerzburg.de/rai54/>>

Interested participants are reminded that from April 1 the registration fee will rise to:

IAA members 110 EURO

non-IAA members 120 EURO

Students 55 EURO

Because Wuerzburg is an attractive place for tourism, participants should book a room as early as possible! Go the website for details.

GREEK GEOMETRIC POTTERY FORTY YEARS ON

A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE PRESENTING NEW WORK ON EARLY IRON AGE POTTERY IN MEMORY OF THE LATE NICOLAS COLDSTREAM, 29TH MARCH, 2008

The British School at Athens, Upper House Saloni

Session 1. Chair: Nota Kourou

09:30: Antonis KOTSONAS *Eleutherna and Knossos: ceramic correspondences in the 9th – 7th centuries*

10.00: Giorgos BOUROGIANNIS [Rhodian Geometric pottery: local and foreign elements](#)

10.30: Xenia CHARALAMBIDOU *The Geometric pottery from the cemetery of Tsikalario on Naxos*

10.30-11.00: Coffee

Session 2 Chair: Irene Lemos

11.00: Vicky VLACHOU *A figured Geometric pitcher from Marathon*

11.30: Nancy PSALTI *Ερέτρια. Η μετάβαση από τη ΜΓ ΙΙ στην ΥΓ εποχή. Τα νέα ανασκαφικά δεδομένα*

12.00: Eleni ZAVVOU *New finds of the Lakonian Protogeometric style*

12.30: Anastasia GADOLOU *The Thapsos class reconsidered: the case of Achaea*

13:00: Catherine MORGAN *Summation: Greek Geometric Pottery Forty Years on*

13.30: Alexander MAZARAKIS AINIAN *Nicolas Coldstream – a memorial*

There will follow a reception in the Saloni of the Upper House, in which friends and colleagues of Nicolas Coldstream are cordially invited to join us in celebrating his life and work

SÉMINAIRE "HISTOIRE DES SCIENCES EN ASIE" DE REHSEIS

Dans le cadre du séminaire "Histoire des sciences en Asie" de REHSEIS (<http://www.rehseis.cnrs.fr/recherche/0708/seminaires/Asie/Asie0708.htm>), trois journées concernent le Proche Orient Ancien.

1- Jeudi 10 avril 2008, 9h30-18h00, JOURNÉE D'ÉTUDE: Unités de mesure: sources matérielles et écrites - Organisatrices : Karine Chemla (REHSEIS), Christine Proust (REHSEIS)

Hans Ulrich Vogel (Université de Tübingen) From Yunnan to Beijing: The Problem of Maintaining Weight Uniformity in Governmental Copper Transports (18th-19th centuries)

Grégory Chambon (Freie Universität Berlin) Unités de mesure au Proche-Orient Ancien: entre matérialité et écriture

Répondant : Etienne Bordreuil (Laboratoire des Etudes Sémitiques Anciennes)

Xavier Faivre (HAROC, CNRS)

Notions de capacité standard dans la vaisselle du Proche-Orient ancien : mise en perspective des données archéologiques et textuelles

Répondante : Karine Chemla (REHSEIS),

Michel Teboul (REHSEIS)

Les unités de capacité en Chine ancienne, définition théorique, définition pratique

Répondante : Cécile Michel (Equipe HAROC, CNRS)

2- Mardi 13 mai, 9h30-18h00, 14h00 - 18h00: Circulations de connaissances astronomiques dans les traditions anciennes - Organisatrice : Karine Chemla (REHSEIS)

Alexander Jones (Université de Toronto)

From Tupsar to Astrologos: Babylonian-Greek interactions in the astral sciences

Micah Ross (Institut d'Etudes Avancées, Paris/Île-de-France) Greek representations of Egyptian knowledge, practice, and education of astronomy

3- Lundi 19 mai, 9h30-18h00, JOURNÉE D'ÉTUDE: Le genre des commentaires dans les textes scientifiques anciens - Organisatrices :

Agathe Keller (CNRS, REHSEIS), Christine Proust (REHSEIS)

Antoine Cavigneaux (Université de Genève) Sur quoi et pour quoi les Mésopotamiens rédigeaient-ils des commentaires?

Charles Malamoud (EPHE)

Typologie et hiérarchie des commentaires dans les textes sanscrits

Françoise Bottéro (CNRS, CRLAO)

La tradition commentariale dans les dictionnaires en Chine ancienne

Alexander Jones (Université de Toronto)

Hipparchus' Polemical Commentaries

Répondante : Karine Chemla (REHSEIS)

Lieu: locaux de REHSEIS - Accès: voir

<http://www.rehseis.cnrs.fr/infopratiq/acces1.htm>



**ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΝΕΟΛΙΘΙΚΩΝ ΜΕΛΕΤΩΝ ΔΙΡΟΥ,
ΠΑΛΛΑΚΩΝΙΚΗ ΕΝΩΣΗ ΗΜΕΡΙΔΑ,
ΑΛΕΠΟΤΡΥΠΑ, 50 ΧΡΟΝΙΑ (1958 - 2008), Η
αρχαιολογική αξία και η αναπτυξιακή διάσταση
του Νεολιθικού Διρού, ΑΘΗΝΑ, ΠΟΛΕΜΙΚΟ
ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ, ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 31 ΜΑΡΤΙΟΥ 2008**

ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑ

09.00 – 09.30 Εγγραφή Συνέδρων

Πρωινή Συνεδρίαση

Προεδρείο : Δρ Γ. Α. Παπαθανασόπουλος, Ειρήνη Μουσταφέλλου (Πρόεδρος Παλλακωνικής Ένωσης), Ηρώ Νικολακέα

09:30 – 10:00 Χαιρετισμοί

10:00 – 10:30 Δρ. Γ. Α. ΠΑΠΑΘΑΝΑΣΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ, Επίτιμος Έφορος Αρχαιοτήτων, Διευθυντής Ανασκαφών Διρού

Αλεπότρυπα Διρού. 50 χρόνια (1958 – 2008).

10:30 – 10:45 ΗΡΩ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΚΕΑ, Μ. Phil, Αρχιτέκτων Μηχανικός Τ. Δ. Π. Ε. Α. Ε.

Το έργο στερέωσης, προστασίας και ανάδειξης του Σπηλαιού Αλεπότρυπα Διρού.

10:45 – 11:00 Δρ. ΜΙΧΑΛΗΣ ΑΡΒΑΝΙΤΑΚΗΣ, Πολιτικός Μηχανικός

ANNA ΑΡΒΑΝΙΤΑΚΗ, Πολιτικός Μηχανικός, Ruhr-Universitaet Bochum, Lehrstuhl fuer Grundbau und

Bodenmechanik

ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΟΣ ΜΠΡΕΣΙΑΚΑΣ, Γεωλόγος

Έλεγχοι ευστάθειας του σπηλαιού Αλεπότρυπα.

Επιλογή, διαστασιολόγηση και εφαρμογή μέτρων στερέωσης με αρχαιολογικά κριτήρια στο πλαίσιο του έργου στερέωσης, ανάδειξης και τουριστικής αξιοποίησης του σπηλαιού.

11:00 – 11:15 Δρ. ΕΜΜΑΝΟΥΗΛ ΚΑΠΟΚΑΚΗΣ, Τοπογράφος Μηχανικός

Ειδικά θέματα της τοπογραφικής αποτύπωσης του Σπηλαιού Αλεπότρυπα Διρού.

11:15 – 11:45 Διάλειμμα - Καφές

11:45 – 12:00 ΒΑΡΒΑΡΑ ΚΑΤΣΙΠΑΝΟΥ, ΔΕΑ, Αρχαιολόγος Έργου Διρού

Η Συμβολή της κεραμικής της Ερευνητικής Τομής Β1 στην έρευνα του Σπηλαιού Αλεπότρυπα Διρού. Δεδομένα,

Προβληματισμοί, προοπτικές.

12:00 – 12:15 ΓΙΩΡΓΟΣ ΒΑΛΒΗΣ, Αρχαιολόγος, Εφορεία Σπηλαιολογίας και Παλαιοανθρωπολογίας Νοτίου Ελλάδος

Πίθιοι με ανάγλυφη διακόσμηση από το Σπήλαιο Αλεπότρυπα Διρού.

12:15 – 12:30 ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΡΑΜΜΟΥ, Αρχαιολόγος Β' ΕΠΚΑ, Υποψήφια Διδάκτωρ Α.Π.Θ.

Ανοιχτά, ακόσμητα αγγεία της Νεότερης Νεολιθικής Περιόδου από το Σπήλαιο Αλεπότρυπα Διρού.

12:30 – 12:45 Δρ. ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΠΑΠΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΟΥ, Αρχαιολόγος, Εφορεία Σπηλαιολογίας και Παλαιοανθρωπολογίας

Νοτίου Ελλάδος

Συμπεράσματα που προκύπτουν από την μελέτη του ανθρώπινου οστεολογικού υλικού του Σπηλαίου

Αλεπότρυπα. Ταφικά έθιμα, υγεία, δημογραφία.

12:45 – 13:00 Δρ. ΑΝΑΓΙΑ ΣΑΡΠΑΚΗ, Αρχαιολόγος - Αρχαιοβοτανολόγος, Μεσογειακό Αγρονομικό Ινστιτούτο Χανίων

Μελέτη αρχαιοβοτανικού υλικού από ανασκαφή του νεολιθικού Σπηλαίου Αλεπότρυπα με γνώμονα τις

σημερινές μας γνώσεις.

13:00 – 13:15 Δρ. ΕΥΣΤΑΘΙΟΣ ΧΙΩΤΗΣ, Μηχανικός Μεταλλείων-Μεταλλουργός, τ. Διευθυντής και Σύμβουλος

Διοίκησης ΙΓΜΕ

ΒΑΡΒΑΡΑ ΚΑΤΣΙΠΑΝΟΥ, Αρχαιολόγος Έργου Διρού

Προβληματισμοί για τον εντοπισμό της αρχικής εισόδου του σπηλαίου Αλεπότρυπα Διρού Μάνης

13:15 – 13:30 Ερωτήσεις – Συζήτηση

13:30 – 15:00 Διάλειμμα - Γεύμα

Απογευματινή Συνεδρίαση

Προεδρείο : Μιχάλης Αρβανιτάκης, Ιωάννης Μπασιάκος, Ηρώ Νικολακέα

15:00 – 15:15 Δρ. ΓΕΩΡΓΙΑ ΚΟΥΡΤΕΣΗ – ΦΙΛΙΠΠΑΚΗ, Επικ. Καθηγήτρια Προιστ. Αρχαιολογίας,

Πανεπιστήμιο Αθηνών

Νεολιθικές λιθοτεχνίες και λίθινα εργαλεία από το σπήλαιο της Αλεπότρυπας, Διρός, Ν. Πελοπόννησος

15:15 – 15:30 Δρ. ΓΕΩΡΓΙΑ ΣΤΡΑΤΟΥΛΗ, Αρχαιολόγος ΙΖ' ΕΠΚΑ

Οστέινα αντικείμενα από το Σπήλαιο Αλεπότρυπα. Η συμβολή της μελέτης τους στην σύνθεση

πληροφοριών για την νεολιθική κοινωνία του Διρού Λακωνίας.

15:30 – 15:45 Δρ. ΛΙΛΙΑΝ ΚΑΡΑΛΗ, Καθηγήτρια Προϊστορικής και Περιβαλλοντικής Αρχαιολογίας,

Πανεπιστήμιο Αθηνών

Αλεπότρυπα: Το μαλακολογικό υλικό

15:45 – 16:00 Δρ. ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΜΠΑΣΙΑΚΟΣ, Γεωλόγος, Ερευνητής Α', υπεύθυνος Ομάδας Μελέτης Αρχαίων Μετάλλων,

Ε.Κ.Ε.Φ.Ε. "Δημόκριτος"

Α. Μ. ΖΙΑΝΝΗ, Υποψήφια Διδάκτωρ, Μ.Sc. Αρχαιομεταλλουργίας, Ε.Κ.Ε.Φ.Ε. "Δημόκριτος"

Η τεχνολογική σημασία των μετάλλινων ευρημάτων του σπηλαίου Αλεπότρυπα: Προκαταρκτικές αναλυτικές

μελέτες

16:00 – 16:15 Δρ. ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ ΚΟΥΚΟΥΒΕΛΑΣ, Γεωλόγος, Αναπληρωτής Καθηγητής, Τμήμα Γεωλογίας,

Πανεπιστήμιο Πατρών

Πρόδρομα γεωλογικά στοιχεία για την εξέλιξη του σπηλαίου Αλεπότρυπα Διρού.

16:15– 16:45 Διάλειμμα – Καφές

16:45 – 17:00 ΣΑΡΑΝΤΟΣ ΚΑΡΓΑΚΟΣ, Φιλολόγος, Ιστορικός, Συγγραφέας

Το Διρό στην πορεία του χρόνου.

17:00 – 17:15 ΑΝΤΩΝΗΣ ΞΕΠΑΠΑΔΑΚΟΣ, Ιστορικός Συγγραφέας, π. Κοινοτάρχης Πύργου Διρού

Η σημασία των Σπηλαίων Διρού για τη Μάνη.

17:15 – 17:30 Γενική Συζήτηση

17:30 – 17:45 Σύνοψη Γ. Α. ΠΑΠΑΘΑΝΑΣΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ

ΟΡΓΑΝΩΤΙΚΗ ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ: Δρ Γιώργος Α. Παπαθανασόπουλος, Ειρήνη Μουσταφέλλου, Ηρώ Νικολακέα

ΟΜΑΔΑ ΔΙΟΡΓΑΝΩΣΗΣ: Ευγενία Μπαλάσκα, Πέρσα Παυλάκη, Σοφία Σπυροπούλου, Ολυμπία Τουσλαντζή

ΧΟΡΗΓΟΙ: Αλέκος Βογιατζής, Εκδόσεις Παπαδήμα, James Regas

ΘΕΣΕΙΣ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑΣ/ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΕΣ –
JOB VACANCIES/FELLOWSHIPS

THE SCHOOL OF CONSERVATION IN
DENMARK IS OFFERING A POST
GRADUATE COURSE WITH MARION
MECKLENBURG, 26-30 MAY 2008

Course 2008-02

The Structure of Paintings and the Mechanical Properties of Cultural Materials
Tutor: Marion F. Mecklenburg - Smithsonian Museum Conservation Institute

This is a five day course covering the following topics:

1. The environment, defining relative humidity and sources of moisture
2. An introduction to statics and the sources of forces acting on works of art.
3. The mechanical properties of cultural materials and the effects of temperature and relative humidity. This section will define strength, stiffness, stress, strain and the modulus of materials.
4. The dimensional properties of cultural materials in response to temperature and relative humidity.
5. Introduction to forces acting on composite systems.
6. Introduction to forces and deformations acting on works of art.
7. The effects of relative humidity on works of art, canvas supported and wood panel paintings. Introduction to computer modeling.
8. The effects of temperature on works of art, canvas supported and wood panel paintings. Introduction to computer modeling.
9. The effects of conservation treatment to paintings, canvas supported and wood panel paintings. Information on conservation materials will be included in this section.

The cultural materials covered in this course will include:

- * Oil paints, acrylic paints, alkyd paints, and tempera paints.
- * Wood
- * Textiles
- * Hide and fish glues
- * Gessoes
- * Synthetic adhesives
- * Others

Participants: painting conservators

Date and time: 26-30. May 2008 - 9-17

Deadline for

application: 14. April 2008

Location: School of Conservation, Esplanaden 34, dk-1263 Cph K,
Denmark

Number of
participants: 12-20
Price 3000 DKR incl. materials and lunch

Application should be send by email to kab@kons.dk <<mailto:kab@kons.dk>> or by fax
+45 33 74 47 77 to Karen Borchersen,
School of Conservation,
Esplanaden 34,
dk 1263 Copenhagen K,
Denmark
And must hold
Name and address of participant:
Name and address of the payer:
Emailaddress of the participant
Education level and employment of the participant.

Regards Karen Borchersen

Karen Borchersen
Conservator
School of Conservation
Esplanaden 34
DK-1263 Copenhagen K
tel.: +45 33 74 47 05
fax: +45 33 74 47 77
mail: kab@kons.dk <<mailto:kab@kons.dk>>

POSITION AVAILABLE: AMS PHYSICIST, THE NATIONAL ISOTOPE CENTRE (NIC), NEW ZEALAND

Experimental Physicist

The National Isotope Centre (NIC), a division of GNS Science, is the premier source of applied isotope science capability in New Zealand. Its research and commercial activities are supported by a sophisticated technical infrastructure, including particle accelerators for accelerator mass spectrometry and ion-beam analysis, stable-isotope mass spectrometers, a tritium analysis facility, chemical laboratories for sample pretreatment, and a new ice core research facility.

The successful candidate will support routine operations and conduct his/her own research utilising an AMS system built around an EN-tandem accelerator, within the fields of radiocarbon and/or ^{10}Be dating. Routine operational matters include supervising and assisting a team in cosmogenic isotope-ratio measurements, reporting results, performing quality control and quality assurance steps, fault-finding, and assisting with accelerator system development as required.

The ideal candidate will have a post-graduate qualification and have skills and experience in some or all of these fields:

- A PhD, or equivalent, in the field of accelerator mass spectrometry and/or in some area of experimental physics
- A track record of publications in the field of ^{14}C or ^{10}Be isotope applications
- Excellent organisational skills and ability to work and collaborate within multidisciplinary research teams
- Preference will be given to candidates with practical knowledge and experience with accelerator physics
- Ability to supervise technicians and students to complete routine analyses

Further information and an application form can be obtained from our website:

www.gns.cri.nz/careers

Applications (which must include a GNS application form and a outline of your research plans) can be sent to Human Resources or email us at careers@gns.cri.nz

Closing date: Friday 18th April 2008

JOB OPENINGS FOR THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ARCHAEOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER, THE CYPRUS INSTITUTE

The Cyprus Institute (CyI, www.cyi.ac.cy), a research and educational institution, is developing a new research center for Science and Technology in Archaeology (STARC) in close collaboration with the Centre de Recherche et de Restauration des Musées de France (C2RMF) are seeking applications from individuals with strong technical and organizational skills to participate in the establishment of the Science and Technology in Archaeology Research Center. Three positions have just been advertised. All those interested please check out the following link: http://www.cyi.ac.cy/cyi/front-end/main.php?action=aatext&page=aatext&design=default&aatext_id=94

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Webpage: <http://www.ucy.ac.cy/isa/biografika/kassianidou.htm>

The Cyprus Institute (CyI, www.cyi.ac.cy), a research and educational institution, is developing a new research center for Science and Technology in Archaeology (STARC) in close collaboration with the Centre de Recherche et de Restauration des Musées de France (C2RMF). We are seeking applications from individuals with strong technical and organizational skills to participate in the establishment of the center for the following positions.

1) Research Coordinator in Digital Heritage and Archaeological Sciences

The successful candidate will assist the Interim Governing Board and later the Director in the development of the Center and will be responsible for the scientific coordination and management of specific research projects and teams, contributing actively to the preparation of grant proposals to national and international funding agencies. The successful candidate is also expected to carry out research autonomously at the Center within the framework of its program of activities. Candidates must have expertise in the following areas:

1. Archaeology and archaeological sciences; archaeological science research (e.g. archaeometallurgy, archaeobiology etc.) and laboratory/field practice.
2. Digital heritage, including methods of digital data acquisition and management, appropriate for archaeological and cultural heritage applications, digital documentation and multimedia communication of cultural heritage. Experience in 3D applications and visualization techniques is preferred.
3. Participation in and management of international research and funded projects in the above fields, with proven capacity of coordinating trans-national teams and leading activities.

A Ph.D. in a relevant field with at least three years of post-doctoral experience or other equivalent research experience and proficiency in spoken and written English are essential. Experience in generating and maintaining contacts in academic circles, as well as in obtaining support for research projects from funding organizations, will be considered an important advantage.

2) Research Coordinator in Archaeology

The successful candidate will assist the Interim Governing Board and later the Director in the development of the Center and will be responsible for the scientific coordination and management of specific research projects and teams, contributing actively to the preparation of grant proposals to national and international funding agencies. One of the major responsibilities of the successful candidate will be to liaise with archaeological research teams in Cyprus and the surrounding region. The successful candidate is also expected to carry out archaeological research autonomously at the Center within the framework of its program of activities. Candidates must have expertise in the following areas:

1. Archaeology: Experience of archaeological field investigation, as senior member and/or director of international research teams and/or projects in Cyprus and the surrounding region; proven contacts with archaeological research teams in Cyprus and the surrounding region, including the Eastern Mediterranean and the Near East.
2. Archaeological sciences: Experience of laboratory analyses and a good knowledge of the most relevant technologies; proven ability to coordinate collaborative research between laboratory specialists and field archaeologists, and ability to coordinate collection and export of archaeological samples for scientific analyses; familiarity with the use of modern computer applications and IT support tools for archaeology and archaeological sciences.
3. Participation in the activity of international research teams in funded projects, with proven capability of trans-national cooperation.

A Ph.D. in Archaeology with at least three years of post-doctoral research experience or other equivalent research experience and proficiency in spoken and written English are essential. Experience in generating and maintaining contacts in academic circles, as well as in obtaining support for research projects from funding organizations, will be an important advantage. Knowledge of Greek will be preferred.

3) Researcher in Archaeological Sciences

The position requires active participation in the Center's research, as well as providing specific contributions to the preparation of grant proposals to national and international funding agencies. The successful candidate will assist in the coordination of the collaboration between CyI and C2RMF and s/he is expected to spend substantial time at C2RMF in Paris, France. Candidates must have expertise in either of the following areas:

1. Archaeological sciences: Applications of sciences (physics, chemistry, biology, etc.) to archaeological research and to the analysis of artefacts from different periods.

2. Digitization technology and data management: Data acquisition and management, 3D scanning and image processing applied to archaeological artefacts and heritage objects.

A degree in a relevant field, with a corresponding Ph.D. or equivalent research experience, and proficiency in spoken and written English are essential. Proficiency in French and past participation in research activity of international teams and a good publications record will be an advantage.

For all positions, past experience in higher education and training will be a substantial advantage. The salary will depend on the experience and qualifications of the successful candidates. Applications, which should be accompanied by a letter of motivation, a CV and the names of three contactable referees, should be submitted by March 31st, 2008 via e-mail at jobs@cyi.ac.cy.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR A FULL-TIME, PERMANENT POSITION IN THE ENGLISH HERITAGE SCIENTIFIC DATING TEAM

Assistant Scientific Dating Co-ordinator

£25,000 – £29,000 per annum

Based in Swindon*

English Heritage is the Government's lead advisory body on the historic environment. We identify buildings, monuments and landscapes for protection. We research and carry out high profile archaeological and historic building conservation projects. We give grants and advice to those trying to save the nation's heritage and we provide a great day out at more than 400 historic properties and monuments, including Stonehenge, Eltham Palace and Rievaulx Abbey.

Scientific dating is a core ingredient in the better understanding of heritage, allowing it to be better valued, cared for, and appreciated.

This post will assist with the co-ordination and provision of scientific dating for English Heritage, providing technical advice and analysis to conservation professionals, and helping promulgate information, standards and guidance, and promoting scientific dating to a wide range of audiences.

You will commission scientific dating for English Heritage according to agreed criteria, advising on technical constraints and developing statistical models of chronological problems. You will review manuscripts for publication to ensure that the scientific dating content is accurate, and advise on the proposals for dating in new projects. You will develop expertise and research interests in an applied environment.

A degree and/or post-graduate qualification in a relevant discipline is essential, as is a high degree of computer and/or statistical literacy, general knowledge of scientific dating methods, and a background in archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation analysis. This post is wide-ranging, and therefore you may bring a wide range of other skills and knowledge usefully to the job.

Informal enquiries to Alex Bayliss, email: alex.bayliss@english-heritage.org.uk

* In exceptional circumstances other regional locations or home-working may be considered.

To discover more and apply, please visit www.english-heritage.org.uk/jobs

We are unable to accept CVs.

Tel: 00 44 20 7939 3861.

Closing date: 20 April 2008. Interview date: Thursday 1 May 2008 in London.

BISI GRANT NOTICE

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ promotes, supports and undertakes research on Iraq and neighbouring countries. Its academic coverage includes anthropology, archaeology, geography, history, languages and related disciplines within the arts, humanities, and social sciences from the earliest times until the present.

The Institute invites funding applications twice a year for grants in aid of research or for the organisation of academic conferences. All applications and references must be received by 30 April or 31 October in 2008, and thereafter by 31 January or 31 October in any given year.

Awards will normally fall within a limit of £4000, though more substantial awards may be made.

Applicants must be residents of the UK or, exceptionally, other individuals whose academic research closely coincides with that of the BISI. Two academic references are required. For student applicants one referee must be your academic advisor. (If your advisor is a member of the BISI Fieldwork and Research Committee, a different referee must be selected.) No grants are made to support academic fees and no applicant may receive funding from the British Academy and the BISI for the same research proposal.

Applications are welcomed to support research or conferences on Iraq, neighbouring countries, and the Gulf, in any field of the humanities or social sciences, concerned with any time period from prehistory to the present day. Applicants will be informed of the decision of Council concerning their grant application by early July (2008 only), early April or early January, depending upon the date of submission.

In addition to individual research grant requests, the Institute particularly welcomes funding applications for pilot projects preliminary to larger research projects on Iraq and neighbouring countries. The Institute can offer assistance in drafting a full research proposal to submit jointly to other funding bodies. For more information about this scheme, please contact the BISI Administrator.

Details of the requirements and conditions of grants, as well as an application form, are available from the BISI Administrator, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH, or on the BISI website:

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ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΕΙΣ - ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW ON-LINE ARCHAEOLOGY
MAGAZINE

I'd like to draw your attention to the new on-line archaeological magazine launched just last week by the team at Past Horizons.

It has 32 pages with news of excavations and finds from around the world. The address is www.pasthorizons.com/magazine.

Annie Evans
Cook
Sydney University Archaeological Project
The Ancient Theatre
Paphos, Cyprus



MUSEUM OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST **IN BERLIN PREPARES FOR BABYLON** **EXHIBITION**

From 26 June to 5 October 2008 the Museum of the Ancient Near East at the Pergamonmuseum shows the exhibition "Babylon. Myth and Truth" in cooperation with the Kunstbibliothek/ Berlin, the Musée du Louvre and the Réunion des musées nationaux / Paris, and the British Museum/ London.

We'd like to inform you about the gradual closing of the exhibition rooms of the Museum of the Ancient Near East/ Berlin due to construction work for the oncoming exhibition:

With immediate effect:

Room 6 (Babylonia)

As of 31 March 2008:

Additionally Rooms 4-7 in the South wing (Persia, Babylonia, Sumer, Assyrian Royal Tombs)

As of 28 April 2008:

Additionally rooms 1-3 (Yazilikaya, Syria, Anatolia) and rooms 10-13 in the North wing (Assyria, Assyrian tombs, Urartu).

Only the Processional Way and the Ishtar Gate will be accessible.

As of 1 June 2008:

The whole Museum of the Ancient Near East will be closed.

The permanent exhibition will be removed.

From 26 June to 5 October 2008 the Museum of the Ancient Near East at the Pergamonmuseum shows the exhibition "Babylon. Myth and Truth".

Please note also:

Our reading and study rooms will be closed as of 1 April 2008 until further notices.

Best regards

Katja Sternitzke

Museum of the Ancient Near East

Berlin

Email: k.sternitzke@smb.spk-berlin.de

INTERNET SITES

THE OTHER ACROPOLIS COLLECTIVE - THEOTHERACROPOLIS.COM

Αγαπητοί μου σας προωθώ ένα ενδιαφέρον blog για κλασικούς αρχαιολόγους και όχι μόνον...

Αντίκλεια Μουνδρέα-Αγραφιώτη

theotheracropolis.com

This photoblog is the first stage of a series of projects by *The Other Acropolis Collective*. We have a background in archaeology, anthropology, or media studies, and we all share a desire to intervene critically in the processes that often result in monolithic and exclusivist archaeological and heritage materialities in the present. Our aim is to produce a range of alternative media interventions which will take the iconic site of the Athenian Acropolis as their centre, their point of departure, or their target (in all senses of the word). This project is a follow-up from a number of other, more conventional academic projects, to do with issues such as the role of the Acropolis in nationalist and colonialist discourses and practices, the social, political, and sensual lives of its ruins, the ways by which the transformative power of archaeological and photographic apparatuses have produced and endlessly reproduced the site/sight of the Acropolis, the tourist experience of the site, and so on (see bibliography for some of these projects).

This project can be seen as the attempt to undermine the monolithic discourse on the Acropolis as an exclusively classical site, by bringing into the fore its other lives, from prehistory to the present (the Mycenaean, the Medieval, the Ottoman, the Muslim, the Christian, the contemporary.), especially through their material traces that still survive, despite the extensive processes of archaeological, but also photographic purification. We draw our inspiration from two concepts: the first is multi-temporality, and the second, multi-sensoriality. We believe that the site and the space around it constitute a unique locale which can re-activate different times, evoke different cultures, and reconnect with diverse and fluid identities. At the same time, we hope to encourage a fully embodied, multi-sensory appreciation and engagement with the materiality of the site, beyond the stereotypical, tourist gaze, or the national pilgrimage. We also favour the re-incorporation of this locale into the fabric of daily life, especially for the people who live around it. We hope that the thoughts and the material generated here will lead to other projects and interventions, some on site, some printed, some virtual, with more immediate a printed, portable alternative tourist guide for *The Other Acropolis*. We invite you to post your comment, share your thoughts, and if you are an artist or a researcher already working on a similar project, get in touch with us.

info@theotheracropolis.com

THE
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ARCHAEOMETALLURGY DATASHEETS

The datasheets are intended to provide brief introductions to particular processes or topics, with the emphasis on the types of structural evidence, artefacts and residues likely to be encountered on excavations, with a short bibliography of useful publications.

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Excavation and sampling

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Hammerscale

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X-radiography and archaeometallurgy

[HMS Datasheet 15](#)

The care and curation of metallurgical samples and other residues

[HMS Datasheet 16](#)

Metalworking evidence and the management of archaeological sites

Please visit the site: <http://www.hist-met.org/datasheets.html>

ENGLISH HERITAGE - **ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

For more information about archaeology please visit the site:
http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/cfa_archaeology2.pdf

<http://www.archeozoo.org/>

Site collaboratif en archéozoologie créé par l'UMR 5197 du CNRS avec l'aide de l'INRAP et du CRAVO

Ouvert à tous les chercheurs, Archeozoo.org "permet à tout un chacun, et à la communauté dans son ensemble, de mettre facilement en commun des outils et des informations relatifs à l'archéozoologie".

Les contributions sont soumises à validation.

Très remarquée : la rubrique "Outils" qui met à disposition, sous Adobe Illustrator, des planches de silhouettes et des squelettes d'animaux, ainsi que des cartes de localisation géographique.

PROBING QUESTION: HOW WERE THE EGYPTIAN PYRAMIDS BUILT?



Pyramids at Giza. Photo: Diana Chaytor

The Aztecs, Mayans and ancient Egyptians were three very different civilizations with one very large similarity: pyramids. However, of these three ancient cultures, the Egyptians set the standard for what most people recognize as classic pyramid design: massive monuments with a square base and four smooth-sided triangular sides, rising to a point. The Aztecs and Mayans built their pyramids with tiered steps and a flat top.

The ancient Egyptians probably chose that distinctive form for their pharaohs' tombs because of their solar religion, explained Donald Redford, professor of Classics and ancient Mediterranean studies at Penn State. The Egyptian sun god Ra, considered the father of all pharaohs, was said to have created himself from a pyramid-shaped mound of earth before creating all other gods. The pyramid's shape is thought to have symbolized the sun's rays.

According to Redford, "The Egyptians began using the pyramid form shortly after 2700 B.C., and the great heyday of constructing them for royalty extended for about a thousand years, until about 1700 B.C." The first pyramid was built by King Djoser during Egypt's Third Dynasty. His architect, Imohtep, created a step pyramid by stacking six mastabas, rectangular buildings of the sort in which earlier kings had been buried. The largest and most well-known pyramids in Egypt are the Pyramids at Giza, including the Great Pyramid of Giza designed for Pharaoh Khufu.

For centuries, people have theorized how the great pyramids were built. Some have suggested that they must have been constructed by extraterrestrials, while others believe the Egyptians possessed a technology that has been lost through the ages.

But the process of building pyramids, while complicated, was not as colossal an undertaking as many of us believe, Redford says. Estimates suggest that between 20,000 and 30,000 laborers were needed to build the Great Pyramid at Giza in less than 23 years. By comparison, Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris took almost 200 years to complete.

According to Redford, pharaohs traditionally began building their pyramids as soon as they took the throne. The pharaoh would first establish a committee composed of an overseer of construction, a chief engineer and an architect. The pyramids were usually placed on the western side of the Nile because the pharaoh's soul was meant to join with

the sun disc during its descent before continuing with the sun in its eternal round. Added Redford, the two deciding factors when choosing a building site were its orientation to the western horizon where the sun set and the proximity to Memphis, the central city of ancient Egypt.

The cores of the pyramids were often composed of local limestone, said Redford. Finer quality limestone composed the outer layer of the pyramids, giving them a white sheen that could be seen from miles away. The capstone was usually made of granite, basalt, or another very hard stone and could be plated with gold, silver or electrum, an alloy of gold and silver, and would also be highly reflective in the bright sun.

Said Redford, the image most people have of slaves being forced to build the pyramids against their will is incorrect. "The concept of slavery is a very complicated problem in ancient Egypt," he noted, "because the legal aspects of indentured servitude and slavery were very complicated." The peasants who worked on the pyramids were given tax breaks and were taken to 'pyramid cities' where they were given shelter, food and clothing, he noted.

According to Redford, ancient Egyptian quarrying methods -- the processes for cutting and removing stone -- are still being studied. Scholars have found evidence that copper chisels were using for quarrying sandstone and limestone, for example, but harder stones such as granite and diorite would have required stronger materials, said Redford. Dolerite, a hard, black igneous rock, was used in the quarries of Aswan to remove granite.

During excavation, massive dolerite "pounders" were used to pulverize the stone around the edge of the granite block that needed to be extracted. According to Redford, 60 to 70 men would pound out the stone. At the bottom, they rammed wooden pegs into slots they had cut, and filled the slots with water. The pegs would expand, splitting the stone, and the block was then slid down onto a waiting boat.

Teams of oxen or manpower were used to drag the stones on a prepared slipway that was lubricated with oil. Said Redford, a scene from a 19th century B.C. tomb in Middle Egypt depicts "an alabaster statue 20 feet high pulled by 173 men on four ropes with a man lubricating the slipway as the pulling went on."

Once the stones were at the construction site, ramps were built to get them into place on the pyramid, said Redford. These ramps were made of mud brick and coated with chips of plaster to harden the surface. "If they consistently raised the ramp course by course as the teams dragged their blocks up, they could have gotten them into place fairly easily," he noted. At least one such ramp still exists, he said.

When answering to skepticism about how such heavy stones could have been moved without machinery, Redford says, "I usually show the skeptic a picture of 20 of my workers at an archaeological dig site pulling up a two-and-a-half ton granite block." He added, "I know it's possible because I was on the ropes too."

Please visit the site: <http://www.physorg.com/news125853330.html>

ΝΕΕΣ ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ – NEW PUBLICATIONS

**VOLUME XXI OF THE JOURNAL OF
PREHISTORIC RELIGION**

Paul Åströms förlag (<http://www.astromeditations.com>) would like to announce the publication of volume XXI of the JOURNAL OF PREHISTORIC RELIGION.

Contents:

- P. Åström, A Plank-Shaped Red Polished Figurine with Three Heads
- M. Pietrovito, The Minoan 'Horns of Consecration' and 'Double Axe' as Metaphors of Passage
- C.W. Wiersma, Groups of Notables and Ritual Practices. The Role of Minoan Palaces on Minoan Ritual Practices
- G. Muskett, Images of Artemis in Mycenaean Greece?
- D. Craps, Where are the Children? Identifying Mortuary Rituals for the Late Cypriote III and Cypro-Geometric Periods in Cyprus

Authors who wish to contribute in a future volume, please contact the editor, Karin Nys, at the following address:

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Professor Mediterranean archaeology

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THE AEGEAN IN THE NEOLITHIC, CHALCOLITHIC AND THE EBA

Vasif Şahoğlu <sahoglu@humanity.ankara.edu.tr>:

[summaries for most of these papers are posted at:

http://www.geocities.com/irerp_tr/symppro.html

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I would like to inform you that the long-awaited publication of the Urla Symposium is finally in press and is expected to be published by Ankara University Press within a month's time. I am attaching the list of contents below.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SYMPOSIUM THE AEGEAN IN THE NEOLITHIC, CHALCOLITHIC AND THE EARLY BRONZE AGE

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Η ΤΕΧΝΟΛΟΓΙΑ ΣΤΗΝ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΜΙΚΗΣ ΚΛΗΡΟΝΟΜΙΑΣ

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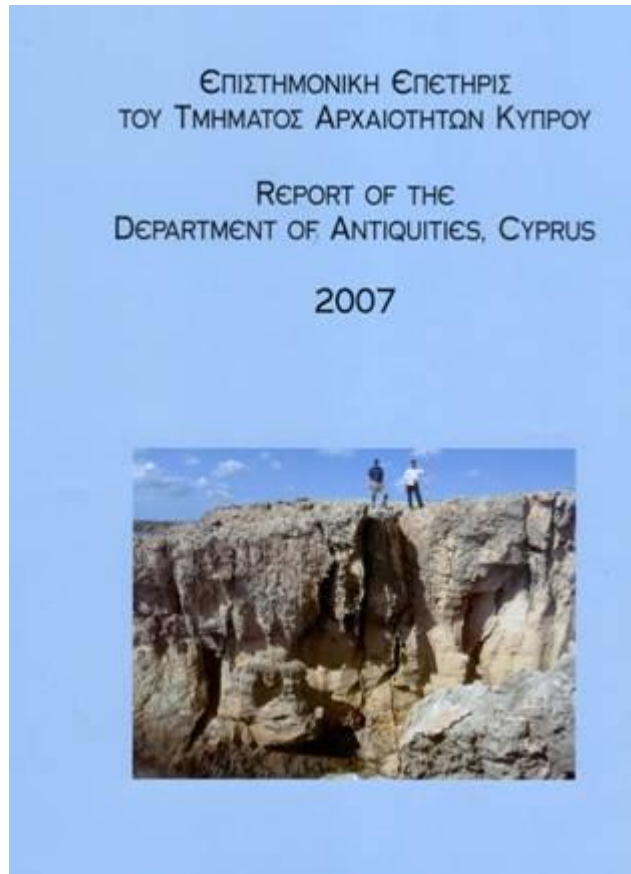
Η χρήση των νέων τεχνολογιών στο χώρο της πολιτισμικής κληρονομιάς έχει πλέον σήμερα εδραιωθεί, με αποτέλεσμα τη διαμόρφωση μιας νέας πραγματικότητας, η οποία προσδιορίζει με τη σειρά της τις σύγχρονες θεωρητικές συζητήσεις και προκαλεί για μια επανεξέταση κεντρικών ζητημάτων σχετικών με τις δυνατότητες διαχείρισης, εκπαίδευσης και επικοινωνίας των πολιτιστικών αγαθών.

Από την άλλη πλευρά, οι τεχνολογικές και κοινωνικές εξελίξεις επηρεάζουν τους τρόπους με τους οποίους οι επισκέπτες (πραγματικοί και εικονικοί ή εξ αποστάσεως) έρχονται σε επαφή με τα πολιτιστικά αγαθά, επικοινωνούν σε έναν πολιτιστικό οργανισμό μεταξύ τους, αλλά και με το προσωπικό, με ειδικούς επιστήμονες και καλλιτέχνες, και βιώνουν την πολιτιστική εμπειρία.

Φυσικά, η επιτυχημένη ένταξη των νέων τεχνολογιών σε έναν πολιτιστικό οργανισμό προϋποθέτει υποστήριξη από τη διοίκησή του, εκπαίδευση του προσωπικού, αλλά και προσεκτική εξέταση των δυνατοτήτων των διαφορετικών εργαλείων, έτσι ώστε να επιλεγεί αυτό που υπηρετεί πιο πιστά τους στόχους του οργανισμού και τις συγκεκριμένες ανάγκες ανά περίπτωση.

Αυτά και άλλα ζητήματα αναπτύσσονται αναλυτικά στα άρθρα του συλλογικού αυτού τόμου. Παρουσιάζονται επιλεγμένα παραδείγματα αξιοποίησης των νέων τεχνολογιών από μουσεία και άλλους πολιτιστικούς οργανισμούς, ενώ παράλληλα αναπτύσσονται θεωρητικοί προβληματισμοί και ερωτηματικά για το μέλλον.

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REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
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SYSTEMES TECHNIQUES ET COMMUNAUTES DU NEOLITHIQUE PRECERAMIQUE AU PROCHE-ORIENT

Sous la dir. de Laurence Astruc, Didier Binder et François Briois (Technical Systems and Near-Eastern PPN communities L.Astruc, D. Binder, F. Briois (eds), Proceedings of the 5th International workshop on the PPN lithic assemblages) Editions APDCA. Antibes. SBN 2-904-110-44-5, 2007, 356 p.

Abstract

Following the tradition of the workshops organised at Berlin (Germany), Warsaw (Poland), Venezia (Italy) and Nigde (Turkey), this volume presents the proceedings of the 5th international workshop on Near eastern PPN chipped stone industries organised at Fréjus (France) in 2004. The major issues discussed here concern the PPNA and PPNB cycles and variability in the whole Levant, in Cyprus, in the High Valleys of Tigris and Euphrates and in Anatolia. The authors propose new interpretative approaches based on experiments and data concerning obsidian trade and the evolution of knapping methods. A session dedicated to the peculiar contexts of caches and to their interpretation reinforces these set of papers mainly focussed upon the characterization of social practices.

Contents (See <<http://www.cepam.cnrs.fr/IMG/pdf/TdmPPN5-2.pdf>>)

1. The validity of our archaeological interpretation. Revaluation of ancient collections and contribution of experimentation
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3. Evolution of the technical systems during the PPN
4. Middle and late PPNB lithic variability
5. Exchange and cultural interaction: Anatolian obsidian as a key
6. Lithic stocks, hoards or caches during the PPN: technological and societal implications

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URUK. THE ARCHITECTURE I. FROM THE BEGINNINGS UNTIL THE EARLY DYNASTIC PERIOD

Ricardo Eichmann

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The architectural remains of the so-called "archaic layers" of the central ruins of Uruk [Ubaïd period, Uruk period, early dynastic period] were uncovered in 40 excavation campaigns. Their preferably complete and systematic description including the stratigraphic sequence and their publication with plans is the aim of the present study, which is based on an earlier volume on stratigraphy. The book is meant to facilitate studies of architecture in relation to artefacts and reconstructions of city development. The presented knowledge is derived from the documentation of finds and features by the excavators and the author's observations on this material from 1984-1994. Partly, there are revisions of interpretations of the excavators, e. g. in the area of "buildings D" and "E" in the area of the "Anu-Ziggurat". The study not only includes buildings considered important, but also seemingly minor features. Mostly, the author deals with in situ remains. Building elements without a clear construction context will be dealt with as small finds. The study is organized by relative chronology, so that archaic Uruk becomes tangible as a living space with a changing development plan.

Please visit the site: <http://www.vml.de/e/detail.php?ISBN=978-3-89646-036-3>

EΙΔΗΣΕΙΣ - NEWS RELEASE

RECENT FINDS AT MACEDONIAN SITE OF PELLA REVEAL A CITY BENEATH THE CITY COMMUNITY PREHISTORIC CEMETERY YIELDS EVIDENCE OF AN EARLY BRONZE AGE



The archaeological site of Pella. To the right of the asphalt road is the agora of the ancient city. Also visible are the old museum at the crossroads, the workshops and storerooms of the site.

By Iota Myrtsiotti - Kathimerini

Exciting new finds at the archaeological site of Pella have opened a new chapter in Macedonian history. Beneath the ruins of the ancient capital of the Macedonian kingdom is a large prehistoric burial ground that has yielded the first evidence of organized life in Pella during the third millennium BC.

It was while they were engaged in conservation, repairs and other work to highlight the site that the excavation team from Aristotle University came across more than 100 Early Bronze Age burials in large jars, accompanied by marble works of art from the Cyclades, local ceramics and metalware.

The finds are so recent that experts at the Demokritos Center have not yet completed the analysis of bones that will yield precise dates. However, the initial evidence supplements what is already known about Pella in the Early Bronze Age (2100-2000 BC), when it was the most important city in Bottiaea, long before it was made capital of the Macedonian realm. What became known as “the greatest of Macedonian cities” was apparently built on top of the prehistoric graveyard when Archelaus moved his capital there from Aiges, excavation director Professor Ioannis Akamatis told Kathimerini.



Grave goods from among the artifacts found at the prehistoric burial ground.

It was on this site that one of the most important urban centers developed. It had what was at the time an innovative, Manhattan-style, rectangular town plan, with an extensive network of water and sewerage pipes, which helped make Macedonia’s largest city one of the most important political and cultural centers of the Hellenistic Era (4th to 1st centuries BC).

The precise boundaries of the prehistoric cemetery cannot be determined because a large part of it lies beneath the urban center of the ancient city, but the graves that have been located so far beneath the city roads provide enough information to form a picture of prehistoric Pella.

In accordance with burial customs in Pella's prehistoric community, the dead were placed in jars, simple trenches or in stone structures. The bodies placed in jars were buried with their limbs folded and the head either close to the mouth or the bottom of the jar.

Many of the jars are between 150 and 160 centimeters tall. One of them will be exhibited in a new museum in Pella as it was found, with the remains of the body and the grave goods.

The position of the body depended on gender: Men were placed facing the right, women to the left. The arms were crossed over the chest and the hands drawn up to the face below the jaw. Some graves contained infants and children up to the age of 3, while several belong to individuals aged 14-16.

The bodies in the jars represent about 30 percent of the burials. "The Macedonian plain was fertile in antiquity too. They stored goods (agricultural products, wood and metal) in storage jars, and that practice also influenced burial customs," said Akamatis.

The dead were accompanied by objects, many of which had long been in everyday use before they ended up in the grave. Most tombs contained at least one vessel. Some of the dead were buried with valuable jewelry such as silver rings, gold earrings, bracelets and necklaces, bronze clasps, needles and daggers. "The prosperity of Pella's prehistoric community is apparent from the metal goods and jewelry," commented Akamatis.

All the clay finds were vessels made by hand using techniques employed in the Early Bronze Age in Macedonia (3100-2200 BC). Expertly worked marble flasks bear traces of red paint (associated with perceptions of death and life after death), indicating that they were used in burial ceremonies.

Akamatis said that the marble vessel of Pella, which is very rare for Central Macedonia, is related to a Late Neolithic Age (4500-3100 BC) example from Alepotrypa Dirou in the Mani, while a series of small Cycladic flasks date from the Early Cycladic I period.

"The flasks, made with marble probably from Paros, found their way to the coast of prehistoric Pella by sea from the Cyclades to the Gulf of Loudia. It is one of the earliest known examples of trade and economic ties between the Cyclades and Macedonia and the broader region."

The settlement to which the burial ground belongs must have been fairly close by, Akamatis believes.

The Bronze Age settlement may have been maintained into historical times, since a few distinctive Early Iron Age objects have been discovered at Pella.

Please visit the site:

<http://www.ekathimerini.com/4dcgi/news/content.asp?aid=94026>

ANCIENT TOMB FOUND ON GREEK ISLAND

BY NICHOLAS PAPHITIS

ATHENS, Greece - Road construction on the western Greek island of Lefkada has uncovered and partially destroyed an important tomb with artifacts dating back more than 3,000 years, officials said on Wednesday.

The find is a miniature version of the large, opulent tombs built by the rulers of Greece during the Mycenaean era, which ended around 1100 B.C. Although dozens have been found in the mainland and on Crete, the underground, beehive-shaped monuments are very rare in the western Ionian Sea islands, and previously unknown on Lefkada.

The discovery could fuel debate on a major prehistoric puzzle - where the homeland of Homer's legendary hero Odysseus was located.

"This is a very important find for the area, because until now we had next to no evidence on Mycenaean presence on Lefkada," excavator Maria Stavropoulou-Gatsi told The Associated Press.

Stavropoulou-Gatsi said the tomb was unearthed about a month ago by a bulldozer, during road construction work.

"Unfortunately, the driver caused significant damage," she said.

She said the tomb contained several human skeletons, as well as smashed pottery, two seal stones, beads made of semiprecious stones, copper implements and clay loom weights. It appeared to have been plundered during antiquity.

With a nine-foot diameter, the tomb is very small compared to others, such as the Tomb of Atreus in Mycenae, which was more than 46 feet across and built of stones weighing up to 120 tons. But it could revive scholarly debate on the location of Odysseus' Ithaca mentioned in Homer's poems - which are believed to be loosely based on Mycenaean-era events. While the nearby island of Ithaki is generally identified as the hero's kingdom, other theories have proposed Lefkada or neighboring Kefallonia.

Stavropoulou-Gatsi said the discovery might cause excitement on Lefkada but it was too soon for any speculation on Odysseus.

"I think it is much too early to engage in such discussion. The location of Homer's Ithaca is a very complex issue," she said.

FSU CLASSICS PROFESSOR EXPLORING A 'LOST' CITY OF THE MYCENAEANS

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -- Along an isolated, rocky stretch of Greek shoreline, a Florida State University researcher and his students are unlocking the secrets of a partially submerged, "lost" harbor town believed to have been built by the ancient Mycenaeans nearly 3,500 years ago.

"This is really a remarkable find," said Professor Daniel J. Pullen, chairman of FSU's Department of Classics. "It is rare indeed to locate an entire town built during the Late Bronze Age that shows this level of preservation."

Pullen and a colleague, Assistant Professor of Classical Studies Thomas F. Tartaron of the University of Pennsylvania, led students from both universities in conducting an initial study of the site during May and June of 2007. What they found was unique: an archaeological site that required very little digging.

"Because of soil erosion and tectonic subsidence" -- the latter induced by earthquakes along the numerous local faults -- "much of the soil had already been stripped from the site," Pullen said. "So the architectural remains of about 20 acres of closely built structures were plainly visible."



A Google Earth image, modified by Saronic Harbors Archaeological Research Project (SHARP) co-director Thomas Tartaron, shows the location of the Korphos-Kalamianos site.

[Click here for more information.](#)

which sits about 40 miles inland to the west, during the period between 1400 and 1200 B.C. when Korphos-Kalamianos was built.



Daniel Pullen, chairman of the Department of Classics at Florida State University and co-director of the Saronic Harbors Archaeological Research Project.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Although more than three millennia of earthquakes and other factors have collapsed the structures, what remains are the

buildings' foundations, walls that in some places still stand nearly 5 feet tall, and a number of clues as to the settlement's construction and purpose.

"All of the structures were laid out in a grid pattern, which suggests that the entire community was planned and then built all at once, rather than piecemeal," Pullen said. "This would indicate that the settlement was built with some strategic purpose -- perhaps as a military or naval outpost."

The settlement, referred to as Korphos-Kalamianos by Pullen and Tartaron, rests on the shores of the Saronic Gulf in the western Aegean Sea about 60 miles to the southwest of the Greek capital, Athens. Directly across the gulf, the ancient city-state of Kolonna on Aigina likely was a rival of the emerging city-state of Mycenae,

“We have identified some fortification walls with gates on the inland side of Korphos-Kalamianos, which does suggest that the town had at least some role as a fortress, possibly to protect the harbor,” Pullen said.

Pullen and Tartaron’s 2007 work involved conducting a systematic study of the architectural remains at Korphos-Kalamianos and producing an accurate map of their location using Global Positioning System and other high-tech instruments. This summer, they plan to return to the site with more students (five FSU graduate students and two alumni will make the trip) to conduct underwater research along the shoreline.

“We don’t know exactly why, but some portion of the settlement is now submerged in the Saronic Gulf,” Pullen said. “We can say that in the Bronze Age the configuration of the coastline at Kalamianos was very different from that of today. So this summer, we plan to collaborate with Greece’s department of underwater antiquities on a bathymetric survey of the shallow waters around the Korphos region that should clarify aspects of the Bronze Age coastline.” (Bathymetry is the measurement of the depths of oceans, seas or other large bodies of water.)

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Pullen and Tartaron have named their three-year undertaking the Saronic Harbors Archaeological Research Project, or SHARP, and shared their initial findings at a meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in Chicago in January. SHARP has received financial support from several groups, including the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, the Loeb Classical Library Foundation, the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation, FSU and the University of Pennsylvania.

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To learn more about the project, visit <http://mailer.fsu.edu/~dpullen/SHARP/>.

Please visit the site: http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2008-03/fsu-fcp031108.php



SCEPTRE FROM ROMAN EMPEROR **EXHIBITED**

BY MALCOLM MOORE IN ROME

The only Roman emperor's sceptre to have been found has gone on public display in Rome for the first time.

The sceptre, which is topped by a blue orb that represents the earth, was discovered at the end of last year and is believed to have been held by Emperor Maxentius, who ruled for six years until 312AD.

Maxentius, who was known for his vices and his incapacity, drowned in the Tiber while fighting forces loyal to his brother-in-law, Constantine, at the battle of the Milvian bridge. Archaeologists believe that Maxentius' supporters hid the sceptre during or after the battle to prevent it from falling into enemy hands.

It was found at the base of the Palatine hill, carefully wrapped in silk and linen and then placed in a wooden box. Alongside it were other boxes holding two other imperial battle standards and ceremonial lance heads. The depth of the burial allowed archaeologists to date the find to Maxentius' rule.

Sceptres, often two to three foot ivory rods topped with a globe or an eagle, were introduced by Augustus as a symbol of Rome's power. They would be carried by emperors while riding in chariots to celebrate military victories.

While emperors were often pictured on coins and in paintings holding a sceptre, no example of the real thing had been found up until last year. "We have never seen them for real before, there have been no similar findings," said Angelo Bottini, the head of Rome's archaeology department.

Clementina Panella, the archaeologist at Rome's La Sapienza University who made the find said that the grip of the sceptre was made of Orichalcum, a legendary gold-coloured brass alloy which parts of the sunken city of Atlantis were said to be forged from.

"These artifacts clearly belonged to Maxentius, the sceptre is very elaborate," she said.

Darius Arya, a professor at the American Institute for Roman Culture, said it was an "amazing" find. "You don't find that kind of wealth in Rome, you find fragments and pieces, but not in such good condition." The sceptre is now on display at the [National Museum of Rome](#).

The Palatine Hill has yielded several important discoveries in the last few months, and is the focus of a major reconstruction plan.



The Roman emperor's sceptre found at the Palatine hill

The Italian government has stepped up attempts to preserve its cultural heritage, and has earmarked €20 million to save the hill from crumbling. More money will be raised in a telethon on Italian television.

Meanwhile, the government has ordered a police investigation into the disappearance of an ancient statue, which is thought to have gone missing when the famous Riace warriors were dredged from the sea in the 1970s.

The 6ft 6in warriors were one of Italy's most important archaeological finds, and attracted over a million visitors when they first went on display.

The two existing statues were spotted by Stefano Mariottini, a scuba diver on holiday. However, Giuseppe Bragho, an art detective, said a third statue "completely different from the other two", as well as two shields and a lance, were seen on the sea bed by Mr Mariottini.

The statues are so lifelike that when Mr Mariottini first saw them, half-buried 300 metres from the Calabrian coast, he thought he had found a set of corpses.

Please visit the site:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/02/27/wroman27.xml>

INDUS VALLEY LINKS UNEARTHED IN QATAR, BY K T CHACKO

A BURIAL site of traders from the Indus Valley, estimated to be 5,000 years old, has been found on the north-west coast of Qatar, strengthening the theories of commercial exchange between the ancient peoples of the Middle East and the subcontinent, according to Qatari explorer and fossil collector, Mohamed Ali al-Sulaiti.

Based on the materials found at a graveyard at Al-Ruwaida, located a few kilometres to the west of Ruwais, al-Sulaiti said the colony belonged to people of the Indus Valley civilisation, which flourished around 3,000 BC.

“These people mostly traded in brass. They also brought in porcelain objects, probably procured from China, for selling in the Gulf countries including Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Abu Dhabi,” al-Sulaiti, also an amateur archaeologist, told Gulf Times in an exclusive interview.

“They mined copper ore for making the brass from the Buraimi mountains in Oman and probably smelted it in Qatar,” said al-Sulaiti, who has found many fragments of brass, an alloy of copper and zinc, at Al-Ruwaida.

“Though the graveyard at Al-Ruwaida gets submerged during high tides and thus much of the remains could have been washed away, we can still piece together some aspects of their life and culture,” he said.

One of the startling discoveries at the site was a small brazen pot with a smaller porcelain vase inside containing a molar.

“The tooth could have belonged to a chieftain or a high priest,” al-Sulaiti reasoned. “It is known that the people of that period saved such relics of important people like kings and religious leaders.”

Also found at the burial site was rice, which has been carbonised with the passing of time. “People used to bury food items along with the bodies of their dear ones during that period,” said al-Sulaiti, who is a US-educated engineer.

According to al-Sulaiti, the Gulf region is dotted with the remnants of the settlements of the people from the Indus Valley civilisation period. He particularly mentioned findings in Mannar in Abu Dhabi and some places in Kuwait.

Another important find at Al-Ruwaida was glass bangles, inlaid with lacquer paintings and parts of necklaces and shells used as ornaments by the ancient visitors. “These decorative items were similar in style and materials used by the inhabitants of the Indus Valley during their heydays,” he said.

Talking about the Indus Valley connection, al-Sulaiti said the “ox” figured prominently on the shards of pottery and coins recovered from the Qatari site. “We also found needles made of brass in one of the graves.”

The Indus Valley civilisation was based at Mohenjodaro in Sindh and Harappa in Punjab in Pakistan.

For the Indus Valley people, the Arabian Sea opened the doors for journey beyond the Arabian world through the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea right into the ancient civilisation of Mesopotamia and Egypt. It is these voyages that gave to the Indus land its earliest name of Meluhha (sailor country) in the Babylonian records. According to historians, the Indus Valley civilisation had close bonds of culture and trade with the Gulf countries. Archaeologists have found the remnants of a “Meluhhan” village in ancient Mesopotamia (present-day Iraq).

The Indus Valley people traded seals, painted pottery and lapis lazuli in exchange for copper and tin and several other items from Oman and the Gulf states. The Baloch and Sindh ports also carried out extensive trade with African ports in Ethiopia, Somalia, Zanzibar, Kenya and Tanzania.

Al-Sulaiti said extensive excavations and research would lead to more definite information on these traders who established temporary settlements as encampments at certain points on their regular routes.

He said he has also found sites of Roman settlements in the region, including Qatar. “The Romans had distinctive art and architecture and their colonies are easy to identify. I have found remains of Roman settlements in Fuwairat, Jassasiya and Umm Almah, all in the north of Qatar,” he added.

Please visit the site:

http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=209451&version=1&template_id=57&parent_id=56

AT JERUSALEM DIG, ARCHAEOLOGISTS GET A PEEK AT PALATIAL GARDENS

By Karin Kloosterman, Catholic News Service

JERUSALEM (CNS) -- Ancient kings, armies, prophets and pilgrims have made their mark on the ancient hills of Jerusalem and have left behind some of the world's most important archaeological finds. But with every stone overturned, puzzling questions about the history of modern Western civilization come to light.

This is especially true at the Tel Aviv University-owned site of Ramat Rachel, an archaeological site from biblical times. For that reason, Jewish and Christian archaeologists, theologians and volunteers come to dig there year after year.

Clues revealed by last year's dig, such as elaborate underground water tunnels, pools, pipes and gutters, suggest that this year's dig, July 20-Aug. 15, could give answers about the rulers who once lived there, said the site director and Tel Aviv University archaeologist Oded Lipschits.

The site, Lipschits said, is the location of an ancient palace replete with an impressive garden, which was built during the end of the First Temple period in the seventh century B.C.

"This is the only palace from the time period of the kingdom of Judah, and today it is a venerated site for all world religions," he said.

For Jews, this palace is believed to have been standing during the time of the Judean kings Hezekiah, Manasseh and Josiah. Christians believe it to be the site where Mary came to rest on her way to Bethlehem. An ancient octagonal church, "Katisma," built around the holy rock down on the slope of the hill commemorated her resting place and is also known as the seat of Mary.

Some scholars believe this church inspired the construction of the golden Dome of the Rock, also an octagonal structure built around a holy rock on Jerusalem's Temple Mount, one of Islam's most sacred spiritual centers.

Ramat Rachel is a modern name for the kibbutz on the high hill on the outskirts of Jerusalem, from which one can see Rachel's Tomb nearby in Bethlehem, West Bank, as well as modern and ancient Jerusalem and mountains surrounding the city.

The excavations at Ramat Rachel first began in the 1950s. Today Lipschits directs the site in conjunction with Manfred Oeming, a professor at Germany's University of Heidelberg. Every year, the dig attracts more than 100 volunteers and scholars from Israel and throughout the world.

A majority of the volunteers are Christians and include priests, theology students, nuns and archaeology students. Daily Scripture readings are made available to volunteers at the site.

All areas of the site are open to the public, and visitors to the archaeological park get a sense of the site's 3,000-year-old history.

They can touch the original walls and fortress of a Judean king and find traces of later inhabitants of Persian, Hellenistic and Jewish descent.

Also on the site are the remains of a Jewish village from the Second Temple period, with numerous Jewish ritual baths, and the remains of the 10th Roman Legion, which built an elaborate villa there and a large Roman bath. During the Byzantine period, the site was home to monks and pilgrims who grew olives and grapes. During the Early Muslim period, there was a large farm on the site, and its remains are being excavated.

One of the most impressive elements of the site, said Lipschits, is an ancient royal garden. It is one of a few palatial gardens of its kind in the world.

Lipschits explained the significance: "The Assyrians and Babylonians believed that gardens represented spirituality. The name for garden in Hebrew represents a protected place, surrounded by a wall or a fence.

This is exactly the meaning of the old Persian word 'pardes,' and this is why the Greeks, when translating the Bible, choose this word to describe the Garden of Eden story.

"From here, it was a short jump to the use of 'pardes' to describe paradise," said Lipschits.

"In a way, we are excavating paradise at Ramat Rachel," he said. "This is the only known garden in Judah from the biblical world, and excavating it is fascinating. We explore its plan and think about the connection between the garden and the attached palace."

In his ongoing research, Lipschits draws parallels between the ancient palatial garden at Ramat Rachel and the Western interpretation of heaven. At the site, he also is researching exotic trees, bushes and flowers imported from across the ancient Near East.

A team is analyzing seeds, pollen and soil. Lipschits said team members hope the garden may give a deeper understanding to imagery and symbolism found in the Bible.

Lipschits also is completing a book of stamp impressions bearing the name of the province "Yehud" from the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, when the Jews left Babylon to go back to their homeland. He wrote "The Fall and Rise of Jerusalem," and continues to author publications in partnership with Boston College and David S. Vanderhooft, a theology professor there.

Please visit the site: <http://catholiccourier.com/tmp1.cfm?nid=76&articleid=100495>

AERIAL SCANNING REVEALS DETAILS OF ANCIENT SITES, BY BRADLEY T. LEPPER

New technologies seem to make almost everyone's job easier, and archaeology is no exception. One of the newest and most exciting tools in the archaeologist's kit is aerial laser scanning, sometimes referred to as Light Detection And Ranging, or LiDAR. It works a bit like radar, but instead of using radio waves, it uses infrared laser pulses. The echoes can "see" through trees and shrubs, revealing the precise contours of the ground surface.

In the April issue of the Journal of Archaeological Science, University of Vienna archaeologist Michael Doneus and colleagues report the results of a LiDAR survey of the Iron Age hill fort of Purbach in eastern Austria.

They were able to map the earthwork in stunning detail, including shallow depressions caused by looting. They even found the remains of mounds less than 8 inches tall that "had been missed by the original trained surveyors in the field."

In Ohio, archaeologists William Romain and Jarrod Burks, with the support of Ohio State University's Newark Earthworks Center, are using LiDAR to study the remnants of the Newark Earthworks.

In two reports published online, they describe the earthworks and their topographic situation in unprecedented detail, permitting insights into how the earthworks and natural features combined to create a sacred landscape.

Also, Romain and Burks sought and discovered remnants of the so-called "Great Hopewell Road," which consisted of parallel walls of earth extending from Newark's Octagon Earthworks an undetermined distance to the southwest.

LiDAR data revealed the walls had been built by removing earth from the road's surface and piling it up on either side.

They conclude their paper with the observation that "although much of the Native American past has been built over and lost, much remains to be discovered."

LiDAR gives researchers a new tool for making those discoveries.

Please visit the site: http://www.thaindian.com/newsportal/india-news/iraqi-archaeologists-unearth-new-babylonian-town_10029838.html
