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Πληροφοριακό Δελτίο της Ελληνικής Αρχαιομετρικής Εταιρείας

- Φεβρουάριος 2024 -

**For a man to conquer himself is the first and
noblest of all victories.**
(Plato)

Newsletter of the Hellenic Society of Archaeometry

- February 2024 -

Nr. 275

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ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΑ - CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “POTS AND PEOPLES REVISITED – THE SEARCH FOR IDENTITY IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDS”, JUNE 12-14, 2024, LUXEMBOURG SCHOOL OF RELIGION & SOCIETY, L-2728 LUXEMBOURG, CALL FOR PAPERS

Goal:

The conference aims to bring together scholars from different archaeological, historical, and natural science disciplines who have little or no opportunity to meet due to the political situation in the Near and Middle East. The occasion is a research question that currently plays a major role in the archaeology of the Levant and is hotly debated. The project is about finding a new sustainable methodology in archaeology as well as contributing a bit to mutual understanding and cooperation in a region where at the moment hardly any exchange is possible. There will be an overall conference, which will focus more on theoretical issues and the development of a methodology, and a more specific workshop, which will bring together excavators and researchers in the Jordan Valley. Especially in the Jordan Valley, an exchange is essential, since it is an ancient cultural area that was only divided by modern borders. Unfortunately, this exchange has been made almost impossible in the last decade.

For this purpose, Luxembourg, in the center of Europe, is the ideal meeting point, which can be visited by all participants and represents neutral ground for the encounter.

Organizer

Assist.-Prof. Dr. Katja Soenneken (LSRS and DEI Jerusalem – Biblical Archaeology and Theology).

Presentations should be 20 min. (allowing 10 min. for discussion).

Please send a tentative title and abstract to: katja.soenneken@lsrs.lu by February 29th, 2024.

Full Call for papers with argument, bibliography, and schedule can be downloaded here: www.lsrs.lu/article22774

NEW YORK AEGEAN BRONZE AGE
COLLOQUIUM - KNODELL LECTURE -
FEBRUARY 26, 12:00 PM ET

Dear all,

The next meeting of the New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium will be on Monday, February 26, at 12:00 pm Eastern Time (US & Canada), when Alex Knodell will speak on "New Perspectives on Settlement Patterns in the Bronze Age Cyclades: A View from the Margins." The lecture will be held online as a Zoom meeting.

Zoom registration is required. To register, please click here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEuf-igqzwpE9dgj9TpEU53mvzyfXMrBmE1>.

All best,

Jason W. Earle, Ph.D.

Assistant Director
The Institute for Aegean Prehistory
66 Vista Drive
Greenwich, CT 06830
jearle@instap.org

**MACRO X-RAY FLUORESCENCE AND
REFLECTANCE IMAGING SPECTROSCOPY
MEETING, JUNE 4TH TO 7TH, GEORGE
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON
DC, CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

Abstract submission now LIVE! June 2024 Meeting Macro X-ray Fluorescence (MA-XRF) and Reflectance Imaging Spectroscopy (RIS)

The organization committee invites you to attend the 2024 meeting to be held June 4th to 7th in Washington DC at George Washington University.

Topics of interest include the investigation of cultural heritage objects (fine arts to historical artifacts) using MA-XRF and RIS. Both full-length talks (20 minutes) and short talks in lieu of posters (5 minutes) are currently planned. Areas of interest for these talks include:

Case studies using one or both of the techniques.
Advances in instrumentation.
Developments in analysis workflows.
New algorithms, especially using Machine Learning.

The website for the meeting: <https://maxrf-ris-meeting-2024.academic.wlu.edu/>

On the meeting website, you will find instructions for submitting an abstract, as well as the abstract template. **Abstracts are due by February 16, 2024.**

More information about the meeting site, accommodations, and registration fee will be posted in the coming weeks.

Kathryn Dooley
Postdoctoral Research Fellow
National Gallery of Art
Landover MD

8TH ARCH RNT SYMPOSIUM,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH & NEW
TECHNOLOGIES, 10-12 OCTOBER 2024,
KALAMATA, GREECE

The Symposium focuses on the use of New Technologies in the Archaeological Research (Archaeometry, Computing Technology, Conservation and Restoration) notably with the presentation of interdisciplinary approaches, special case studies and research on archaeological material and assemblages.

Special Session: *Modern applications in Bioarchaeology*

Deadline for abstract submission: May 1, 2024

Registration fees

	STUDENT	REGULAR
Early bird (until June 1, 2024)	100	150
Late	200	250

Proceedings

All abstracts will be eligible for publication in a Special Issue of the **Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports** (Impact Factor 1.6 / CiteScore 3)

Proceedings of the 7th ARCH_RNT were also published in a Special Issue of the JAS: Reports. More than 45 papers were submitted, with an overall acceptance rate of 60% and an average publication time of 6 months.
(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-archaeological-science-reports/special-issue/10N8ZS8PCX6>)

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For More Information

WEBSITE: <http://www.laboratoryarchaeometry.gr/symposia.html>
PHONE: +0030-2721065145
E-MAIL: arch_rnt@go.uop.gr

3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ANCIENT GREEK AND BYZANTINE
TECHNOLOGY, 19-21 NOVEMBER 2024,
ATHENS, MEGARON THE ATHENS
CONCERT HALL, 2ND ANNOUNCEMENT

Auspices

The Conference is under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Culture.

Organizers

- Association for Research on Ancient Greek and Byzantine Technology (EDABYT)
- NOESIS Science Center and Museum of Technology, Thessaloniki

Organizational committee

C. Palyvou (Chair), K. Giannakos, E. Chiotis, A. Michailidou, T. Vasiliadou, M. Belogianni, P. Athanasopoulos, P. Toulitos, K. Tanis, S. Xenitidou.

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Giannakos K. (Military technology)
Giannakoudakis P. (Chemistry) Ignatiadou D (Glass working)
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Petrakis V. (Writing)
Stamatopoulou V. (Military technology) 2

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Chaniotis A.
Doulas Ch.
Karasmanis V.
Kritzas Ch.
Labrinoudakis V. Themelis P. (†) Valavanis P.

Conference Languages

Greek and English; the possibility of simultaneous translation will depend on the finances of the Conference.

ONLINE BROADCAST OF THE CONFERENCE
At the headquarters of NOESIS.

Duration of Conference

19-21 November (6-7 Sessions)

Possible side events

Projection of films related to the topic of the Conference produced by EDAByT and NOESIS.

Participation

Applications for participation are sent to the Conference Secretariat by filling in the Participation Form attached to this announcement. Please send your applications by 10 3

February 2024 and the abstracts by 15 March 2024, together with the receipt of payment of the subscription to the Conference. The participation fee is set at 50€.

Payments to be made to the Bank Account, IBAN: GR62 0160 0660 0000 0008 5153 846 Attica Bank. Name of Beneficiary: Civil Law Partnership EDAByT. The depositors bear the costs of their bank. The scope of payment is necessary and must include in capital letters the name of the depositor and the indication CONFERENCE AGBT. The cost of registration covers attending the Conference, as well as the right to present a paper that has been submitted and approved as provided below. It also includes coffee offered during the breaks, as well as receiving the abstracts of the papers before the opening and the Proceedings of the full papers after the Conference, both in digital format.

Important dates (revised)

Due to bureaucratic delays and the intervening holiday period, the Organizing Committee has decided to revise the important dates - as they are stated in the 1st Announcement - as follows:

- Submission of participation application by February 10, 2024 (instead of January 20, 2024). The date is indicative and aims to facilitate the organization of the Conference.
- Submission of abstracts by March 15, 2024 (instead of February 29, 2024). Guidelines for writing the abstracts are provided in the next paragraph.
- Approval of abstracts by April 10, 2024 (instead of March 30, 2024).
- Submission of full text and final abstract by June 30 (instead of June 20, 2024).
- Final approval of articles by July 30 (instead of July 20, 2024)

Proceedings of the Conference

Proceedings of the papers presented at the Conference will be available in digital format. Specifications and templates will be given in subsequent announcements.

TOPICS OF THE CONFERENCE

SESSIONS 1-3: Technologies

Quarrying

Wood working

Pottery

Mining, Metallurgy, Metalwork

Building technology, Geotechnics, Bridge Construction

Plumbing, Harbor Works, Canals

Mechanical engineering (cranes, pumps, presses, carriages)

Shipbuilding

Telecommunications

Agricultural technology, winemaking, furniture, etc.)

Textiles

Technology and Sports

Technology and Art (music, theater, etc.)

Military Technology

Measuring Instruments, Metrology

Medical technology

Chemistry and Glassmaking

Automation

Energy sources

Standardization, quality control

SESSION 4: Technology and society

Technology and Economics (Currency, Writing, Slavery)

Environmental concerns in Ancient Greece

Technology in mythology and religion

Biographies of ancient Greek Engineers

Mobility and cultural interactions

Byzantium and the Arab world

Secretariat of the Conference

Applications for participation, summaries and texts, as well as any other material will be sent to the Conference Secretariat, at the address:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING ABSTRACTS

Given that the abstracts will be submitted for approval by the Scientific Committee of the Conference, authors are kindly requested to use the attached template for formatting the abstract.

- The title of the paper should be written in uppercase letters, bold font, centered alignment and Arial 14 pt fonts.
- Immediately following the title, the names of the authors should be presented (Arial 11 pt fonts). In the case of multiple authors, on the right side of each name, a number in exponent form should be indicated, corresponding to the author's affiliation and organization. The name of the presenting author should be underlined.
- Keywords follow (mention 3 to 5), using Arial 11pt fonts.
- Authors are requested to indicate the thematic section they believe their work falls under.
- The abstract text can be in Greek or English and should not exceed 350 words (excluding keywords, title, names, and affiliations), using Arial 11 pt fonts.
- The text should not include tables, charts, or images.
- The Scientific Committee reserves the right to suggest possible modifications, additions, or clarifications and may choose not to accept the abstract.
- The final categorization into thematic sections is determined by the Scientific Committee, which will evaluate the abstracts.
- Authors will be notified of the acceptance or rejection of their abstracts, as well as any comments from the Scientific Committee, via email by April 10, 2024. Detailed instructions for the preparation of the final text will follow.

For information about the Conference and the activities of EDAByT you can be updated from the website www.edabyt.gr

Application Form

3rd International Conference of Ancient-Greek and Byzantine Technology

ΕΔΑΒυΤ/EDAByT and ΝΟΗΣΙΣ/NOESIS

Megaron Athens Concert Hall

19-21 November 2024

Form to be sent to the Secretariat of the Conference before the 10th of February 2024
at the e-mail address: edabyt.tee@gmail.com, or, edabyt.tee.1@gmail.com

First name:

Last name:

Institution:

Address:

e-mail:

Tel. :

Mob.:

.... I wish to attend the 3rd International Conference of Ancient-Greek and Byzantine Technology

.... I wish to deliver a paper on the topic:

.....

.....

.....

Date

Signature

.....

.....

Template for writing the abstract

TITLE (CAPITAL)

Name Surname-1^{1*}, S², Name Surname-2¹ and Name Surname-3²

¹ Affiliation-1

² Affiliation-2

³ Affiliation-3

Email: abcd@defg.xx

Keywords: 3-5 keywords.

Abstract

Please type your Abstract here (up to 350 words).

TECHNOHERITAGE2024, SEPTEMBER 25-27, **2024, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN**

Dear colleagues

We remind you that the abstract submission period is open until **February 29, 2024**.
Technoheritage2024 will be held on September 25-27, 2024 in Santiago de Compostela (Spain).

In this occasion, it is a joint congress between the 5th International Congress of the Spanish network Science and Technology for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage (TechnoHeritage) and the 1st biennial of the Specialized Group of Chemistry for the Study and Conservation of Cultural Heritage of the Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry (GEQP-RSEQ).

You can find all the information in: <https://technoheritage2024.com/>.

For information on abstract submission go to <https://technoheritage2024.com/abstracts/>.

We look forward to seeing you in September in Santiago de Compostela. Please, spread the word.

Best regards.

Santiago Pozo Antonio
Massimo Lazzari
Maite Maguregui
Jorge Sanjurjo Sánchez
Patricia Sanmartín Sánchez

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST (ICAS-EMME 4), 15-17 MAY 2024, THE CYPRUS INSTITUTE, CYPRUS

The International Congress on Archaeological Sciences in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East (ICAS-EMME) is a leading international conference organised by STARC and the A.G. Leventis Chair in Archaeological Sciences that brings together scientists and archaeologists working in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East. The conference aims to highlight the latest advances in natural, material, and computational science applications to archaeology and cultural heritage in the region, providing an international academic forum for the dissemination of results of current research in these fields.

ICAS-EMME 4

The fourth edition of the ICAS-EMME conference will be held at The Cyprus Institute in Nicosia, Cyprus, from May 15-18, 2024. The conference will cover a wide range of topics, including:

- **Archaeometry:** The study of ancient materials and technology using scientific methods.
- **Bioarchaeology:** The study of human remains from archaeological sites.
- **Environmental archaeology:** The study of human - environmental interactions.
- **Geoarchaeology:** The study of the geological and geomorphological context of archaeological sites.
- **Isotope and elemental analysis:** The use of isotopes and elements to study human diet, mobility, and environment.
- **Computational methods:** The use of computers to analyze archaeological data.

The conference will feature a mix of oral presentations, poster sessions, and workshops. There will also be a social program that will give participants a chance to network and socialize.

ICAS-EMME

The first conference called ICAS-EMNE was held in Paphos in 2008. This was resurrected in 2019 as ICAS-EMME 2 by the then Director of STARC and the A. G. Leventis Chair in Archaeological Sciences, Prof. Thilo Rehren.

ICAS-EMME 2 saw over 100 contributions from 37 institutions with over 22 nationalities. The format facilitated the involvement and representation of each STARC faculty. Each session chair consisted of a STARC faculty member and a senior international scholar.

ICAS-EMME 3 was held in March 2022, at the very tail end of the COVID-19 pandemic in hybrid form attracting over 130 contributions in 12 thematic sessions. 91 contributions took place in person and 41 contributions were online. Over 20 nationalities were represented in ICAS-EMME 3 despite the challenging situations of the pandemic.

ICAS-EMME 4 will be held between 15-18 May 2024 at The Cyprus Institute.

ICAS-EMME Co-Organizers

The ICAS-EMME conferences are co-organized by:

- **The Science and Technology in Archaeology and Culture Research Center (STARC) of the Cyprus Institute**
- **The Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI)**
- **The Archaeological Research Unit (ARU) of the University of Cyprus**

ICAS-EMME Social Media

You can also follow the ICAS-EMME conferences on social media:

- **Twitter:** #icasemme4
- **Facebook:** @icasemme4

Please visit the site: <https://icasemme.cyi.ac.cy/>

**THROUGH THE LENS OF POTTERY:
TECHNOLOGIES IN TIMES OF CHANGE IN
PREHISTORIC MEDITERRANEAN BASIN,
SESSION #988, 30TH EAA ANNUAL MEETING,
28 - 31 AUGUST, 2024, ROME, ITALY, CALL
FOR PAPERS AND POSTERS**

Advances in archaeological science (e.g., aDNA and isotopes analyses) are challenging traditional archaeological narratives and posing new questions especially regarding major transformations in European and Mediterranean societies during prehistoric times. Ceramic is an important component of the material record and gives us insights into cultural, chronological, technological, symbolic and socio-economic information beyond simple chrono-cultural determinations. The combination of stylistic, archaeometric, technological, trace and functional analyses, as well as experimental archaeology, has become established in archaeological research in recent years. At the same time, anthropological, sociological and ethnoarchaeological studies have informed the interpretation of potter's skill and knowledge. This interdisciplinary approach demonstrated to be crucial to detect and explore technical, cultural, symbolic, and socio-economic change. With this in mind, the session aims to bring together a broad range of expertise from archaeological theory, experimental work and the natural sciences, to present research about understandings of periods of change through the lens of ancient ceramic in the Mediterranean basin, from Neolithic to Iron Age.

In particular, we aim to focus on specific questions: What happens to the ceramic production in times of cultural, socio-economic or population transformations? Can periods of change be detected through advanced ceramic analyses? How can these different approaches to ceramics be combined to tackle transitions? What are the mechanisms of resistance and change in contexts of intense socio-cultural innovation? What is the role played by potters' knowledge and skill in these processes? We welcome studies about the ceramic analyses in times of cultural and socioeconomic change with an emphasis on the variety of theoretical and methodological approaches adopted in relation to different contexts and time periods.

As a regular session, it will consist of oral contributions (15 minutes), as well as poster presentations and a final discussion.

The call for abstracts is open until the 8th of February. You may find more about the 30th EAA Annual Meeting at <https://www.e-a-a.org/ea2024>

Please, any questions do not hesitate to contact us.

Maria De Falco
Vanessa Forte
Delia Carloni
Silvia Amicone

Jade Bajeot

ON FIRE! ANCIENT PYROTECHNOLOGIES IN PRODUCTIVE AND RITUAL EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND NEAR EASTERN CONTEXTS, SESSION #661, 30TH EAA ANNUAL MEETING, 28 - 31 AUGUST, 2024, ROME, ITALY, CALL FOR PAPERS

Deadline for submission: 8 February 2024

Fire is a natural element that is the product of an oxidation reaction at high temperatures. With fire hominids started to interface as part of the exploitation of a seasonal natural resource and since then has become a quintessential part of human life. Moreover, the interaction between man and fire is sensorial: heat and light become elements linked to the life of man, who at the end of the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic endowed himself with a technology that guarantees the possibility of transforming elements, primarily food. Fire therefore acquires hybrid characteristics: extremely functional to life, it becomes a cultural element, created by man to satisfy the needs of lighting, heat, defence, cooking, production. Far from a purely physical and natural conceptualization, fire is an agency that intervenes and participates in the construction of the cultural world, a prerogative of the human species alone. The creation of the fire-artifact places its conceptualization within a cultural field, which arises from the creative intent of man in his social context to which he belongs. The monopoly acquired on planet Earth thanks to the long process of domestication of fire results in the creation of pyro-centric cultures capable of synthesizing foods and raw materials for the construction of objects. Indeed, with fire and by the means of fire, the species homo has become properly and metaphorically faber, not only as a creator, but also by developing ever new ways of processing raw foodstuffs, not only by cooking it, but above all by transforming it and producing new aliments.

It is within these premises that the session aims at investigating the use of fire for both productive and ritual purposes in a wide geographical area (i.e., the Eastern Mediterranean and the Near East) from prehistoric times until the first millennium BCE.

The session ON FIRE! is part of the EAA24 theme "Archaeological Sciences, Humanities and the Digital era: Bridging the Gaps", and could involve theoretical approaches, analytical and experimental results aiming to deepen the cultural interpretation of fire within archaeological contexts.

After signing up for Membership to the European Association of Archaeologists (<https://www.e-a-a.org/>), please submit your abstract (150 to 300 words) here: <https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2024/>. The Annual Meeting will be hybrid, allowing both onsite and online participation.

Session organizers:
Nicola Laneri (University of Catania)

Johnny Samuel Baldi (CNRS)

Alice Mendola (Sapienza University of Rome) ON FIRE!

contact information: alice.mendola@uniroma1.it

**PERSISTENT SIGNS ON SURFACES: THE
INNOVATIVE USE OF VISUAL
ARCHAEOLOGY TECHNIQUES IN
INVESTIGATING VOLUNTARY AND
CRAFTING MARKS, SESSION #857, 30TH EAA
ANNUAL MEETING, 28 - 31 AUGUST, 2024,
ROME, ITALY, CALL FOR PAPERS**

Dear colleagues,

Please, see the EAA Call for Papers for Session #857: Persistent Signs on Surfaces: The Innovative Use of Visual Archaeology Techniques in Investigating Voluntary and Crafting Marks (<https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2024/sessions/overview/preview.php?id=857>).

Papers should last 15 minutes.

Proposals should be submitted here: <https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2024/>.

The deadline for submissions for papers is February 8th, 2024.

Proposers must be members of the EAA although you are not required to pay your membership fee until you register for the conference once you know your paper has been accepted.

Session: #857

Theme: 2. Archaeological Sciences, Humanities and the Digital era: Bridging the Gaps
Session format: Regular session

Title: Persistent signs on surfaces: the innovative use of Visual Archaeology techniques in investigating voluntary and crafting marks

Content: The proposed session aims to offer an occasion to compare different Visual Archaeology techniques used to study worked surfaces. In the last decades, the digital age has completely revised archaeological research and documentation methods, changing the way we investigate (or re-investigate) the ancient world. Computational Imaging are now used in topographic analyses as well as in the study of material culture. Furthermore, at higher magnifications, some techniques are helpful to investigate manufacturing and wearing traces.

Visual Archaeology techniques – such as RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging), VRTI (Virtual-RTI), Photogrammetry, 2D/3D image reconstruction – are used to “read” surfaces in more detail than the naked eye. Thanks to these “digital” diagnostic approach, today it is possible to in-depth study inscribed, engraved worked or painted surfaces, made of clay, stone, bone, ivory, and metal. The observation of such traces using

Visual Archaeology techniques helps, for example, to reconstruct and interpret texts, signs of writing and decorations as well as to understand how they were crafted and which tools were used, distinguishing voluntary and processing marks, and exploring the real sequence of artisanal gestures behind the artefact itself.

In this perspective, the main goals of the session are:

- offer a space for comparing different Visual Archaeology techniques in terms of developing various scientific intersections with other approaches (such as experimental archaeology, archaeometry, etc.), its cost-effectiveness, efficiency, light conditions, level of detail, magnifications and fieldwork, and discussing limitations and further potentiality;
- explore the possibility of applying these techniques to provide a renewed perspective in relation to the ancient artefacts and their crafting features and their function in order to define the best areas – distinguished by conservation status, degradation, presence of crafting traces, pigments, clay coatings, and patinas – on which indoor and outdoor microscale analyses can then be carried out.

Keywords: Visual archaeology, Ancient artefacts, Computational Imaging, Crafting marks, Digital techniques, Macro and micro scale.

Organisers:

Giulia Previti (Sapienza University of Rome, Department of Classics, Italy) Lavinia Giorgi (Sapienza University of Rome, Department of Classics, Italy) Martin Langner (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Institute for Digital Humanities, Germany) Jose Luis Lerma (Universitat Politècnica de València, Department of Cartographic Engineering, Geodesy and Photogrammetry, Spain) Marco Serino (Università degli Studi di Torino, Department of Historical Studies, Italy)

Best regards,

Lavinia Giorgi

**CONNECTING STUCCO IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN (C. 300 BCE - 1200 CE).
METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES AND
THE STATE OF RESEARCH, 16TH - 18TH MAY,
2024, BILKENT UNIVERSITY, ANKARA,
TURKEY, CALL FOR PAPERS**

The use of plaster reliefs (stuccoes) as architectural decoration is a well-known phenomenon in the Mediterranean. Recent decades have witnessed a renewed interest in stucco, but it has been mainly done within the boundaries of specific disciplines and chronological specialisations. While this allowed scholars to recognise the relationship of stucco with specific architectural traditions and technologies, it did not allow to spot long-term trends and cross-cultural interactions. This is due to the lack of coordination of scholarship on the study of stucco, which appears to develop at different speeds and aim at different goals depending on the field of study.

The conference aims to connect experts in the Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic periods up to ca 1200 CE to address common questions that can help to see long-term phenomena and cross-cultural exchanges in the Mediterranean.

We encourage papers submission on the following (but not exclusively) topics:

- 1) Technology and makers
- 2) Patterns of transmission (iconographies, styles, knowledge)
- 3) Perception of stucco by past societies
- 4) Stucco and modern discipline boundaries
- 5) The state of studies on stucco

Please submit abstracts of no more than 300 words by Wednesday 31st January 2024 to: connectingstucco@gmail.com.

Applicants will be notified of selection by Thursday 29th February 2024.

For posters, please send an abstract of the topic of no more than 250 words by Wednesday 28th February 2024.

Applicants will be notified of selection by Sunday 31st March 2024.

Free of charge accommodation will be provided for all speakers.

If you need a letter by the Organising Committee for visa purposes, please state it in your application.

For more info and a more detailed CfP: www.connectingstucco.wordpress.com/

Publication of the conference proceedings is planned.

Organisers: Dr Agnieszka Lic (Polish Academy of Sciences), Dr Flavia Vanni (Newcastle University) and Dr Luca Zavagno (Bilkent University).

Organising institution: Bilkent University. Supporting institutions: TÜBİTAK, Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes, The British Institute at Ankara

**FOOD PROCESSING AND COOKING
PRACTICES IN EUROPE, NORTH AFRICA,
AND WESTERN ASIA (NEOLITHIC TO IRON
AGE), SESSION #1008, 30TH EAA ANNUAL
MEETING, 28 - 31 AUGUST, 2024, ROME,
ITALY, CALL FOR PAPERS**

The deadline for paper submission is 08/02.

Session #1008

https://r.esp.klinkhamergroup.com/tr/cl/emYKqrgtN_qEPek3ySY8WRbjdZMZMxm4EYNcZ64tlwWLDtD-fuMN22FAmLOyuxqO7Q1cX7M74fKBOqm63VyEwVTjTXYPPrRbofE49iRUqpAQn2bBmjDyYehm8PIIYUSROZhivgtodKfxJtXaA3Nn1x91Eh3MYNDudHi0YmNzAQwY_OwRL9ZOq8b7xjsM9KLI5oXtdxNCGueDRKDaTox0w1bTktVJfL6DWpheC2sUOLfoo5VCshRBVgd4vwJ2ru60_KyFVuC-uk4GSKc8RKJNS9ywNek3sD2GzodRahUJ9QdRz1-LsEicAjElBkTEBQzOv1swa2dQ21dz2-964RtJBijHQgip562DS5wQ8eSfN4bCT-V5fdmtHg

ORGANISERS

Main organiser Dalla Longa, Elisa (Italy) 1

Co-organisers Alberti, Maria Emanuela (Italy) 2

Arena, Alberta (Austria) 3

Tsafou, Evgenia (Belgium) 4

Affiliations

1. CNR-ISPC (Institute of Heritage Science - National Research Council of Italy)
2. SAGAS Department, University of Florence
3. Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften / Österreichisches Archäologisches Institut
4. Université catholique de Louvain

SESSION THEME

1. The Material Record: Current Trends and Future Directions
SESSION FORMAT Regular session
SESSION TITLE Food Processing and Cooking Practices in Europe, North Africa, and Western Asia (Neolithic to Iron Age)
SESSION TEXT Studies on ancient diet and cooking practices are well developed and help shedding light on various aspects of social and daily past life. Some issues are still to be unraveled in the scholarly debate: to overcome regional and chronological specialisations; to reach a broader perspective; to discern the resources used in food preparation and the use of food-related tools. Additionally, there is an increasing need for the examination of resources as salt, milk, products derived from cereals and legumes, dairy products, natural sweeteners, and other minor ingredients. With this session we aim at bringing together researchers working on different areas and periods, to share methods, contextual and diachronic perspectives, artifacts' studies, including pottery typology and technology, use of tools,

petrographic and residue analysis, as well as experimental activities, actual recipes, and palaeobiological dataset.

We intend to: examine the material characteristics of artefacts, structures, and facilities for food production; uncover the tools employed in the creation of food products; explore the allocation of settlement areas for food production and the production itself. The extensive chronological and geographical scope considered allows us to elucidate how these practices change in tandem with economic and social structures from the Neolithic to the Iron Age. Methodologically, we will adopt a multidisciplinary approach, welcoming contributions in archaeology, archaeometry, functional analysis (use-wear and residue), experimental archaeology, and ethnographic comparison.

The session is the output of the collaboration of two research groups: Elisa Dalla Longa (CNR-ISPC, IT), Alberta Arena (OeAI, AT), Florencia Inés Debandi (DISCI-UniBO, IT), Juan Francisco Gibaja (IMF-CSIC, ES), Giulio Lucarini (CNR-ISPC, IT); and Emanuela Alberti (SAGAS-UniFI, IT), Bartłomiej Lis (IAEPAN, PL), Jerolyn Morrison (Baylor University, US), Evgenia Tsafou (AEGIS Group, UC-Louvain, BE).

According to the number of participants and the themes of the presented papers, the session may be subdivided into distinct sub-sessions.

SESSION KEYWORDS

Food production, Ancient diet, Food resources management, Food-related tools, Food-related structures

All details for submissions: submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2024

<https://tracking.funio.com/c/443/14d0bcb7e2e538baf2e3c290fedd6b6ff226675a64e3b54c71984678b33c4b49ca5f1aa49e5edb96>>.

Molte grazie!

Emanuela

Maria Emanuela Alberti

Professoressa Associata di Civiltà egee L-FIL-LET/01 Dipartimento SAGAS, Università degli Studi di Firenze Membro del Consiglio scientifico della Firenze University Press Delegata per l'Orientamento per il Corso di Studi Triennale L-1 / Storia e tutela dei beni archeologici, artistici, archivistici e librari <<http://www.beniculturali.unifi.it/>>

Via S. Gallo 10, 50129 Firenze

tel. 055/2757954

<https://www.unifi.it/p-doc2-0-0-A-3f2b342c3a2b31-0.html><<https://www.unifi.it/p-doc2-0-0-A-3f2b342c3a2b31-0.html>

16TH INTERNATIONAL GEORAMAN CONFERENCE, 24 - 27 SEPTEMBER, 2024, RHODES, GREECE

Dear all Ramanists and Raman fans,

Our best wishes for a New Year full of health, happiness, prosperity, and creativity!

We are pleased to announce the upcoming 16th International GeoRAMAN Conference, which will take place from 24 to 27 September 2024 on the island of Rhodes, Greece.

Since the first GeoRAMAN conference organised in Paris (France) in 1986, the GeoRAMAN conference has brought together Ramanists from different disciplines from all over the world all these years, creating a vibrant, enthusiastic and long-term committed community that has made the biennial meeting a strong tradition.

The GeoRaman2024 conference will cover a wide range of applications of Raman spectroscopy in the geosciences sensu lato, including:

- Petrology and Mineralogy,
- Gemmology,
- Planetary Sciences and Exobiology,
- Cultural heritage and Archaeometry,
- Geo-environment and Geo-Energy,
- Raman Techniques and Instrumentation.

Following a long tradition of successful special issues on GeoRAMAN conferences, we will also publish a special issue of the Journal of Raman Spectroscopy with peer-reviewed papers.

Details about the Conference:

Date: 24-27 September 2024

Venue: Rhodes Island, Greece

Important dates:

Deadline for the submission of abstracts: 14.04. 2024

Early registration: 31.05.2024

Deadline for submission of the full paper: 15.10.2024

For further information please visit our website <https://georaman2024.ntua.gr/>

We look forward to your participation in this dynamic and enriching event that will bring together Raman experts and enthusiasts to discuss the latest advances, challenges and opportunities and explore new horizons of Raman application in the geosciences.

Attached you will also find the invitation to GeoRAMAN2024, please share it to your colleagues!

Kind regards,

On behalf of the organising committee,

Maria Perraki, Professor

<https://georaman2024.ntua.gr/>

<https://www.facebook.com/georaman2024>

georaman2024@mail.ntua.gr

**PREHISTORIC TECTONICS: LONG- AND
SHORT-TERM IMPACTS IN HUMAN
EVOLUTION (DURING THE HOLOCENE),
SESSION #1126, 30TH EAA ANNUAL
MEETING, 28 - 31 AUGUST, 2024, ROME,
ITALY, CALL FOR PAPERS**

Deadline for submission: 8 February 2024

Submit your abstract (min. 150 words and max. 300 words) here:

<https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2024/>

The reconstruction of human-environmental dynamics for determining prehistoric mobility and occupation patterns has developed into one major research field during recent years. Sophisticated theoretical-methodological approaches and increasing geoarchaeological data from different regions and periods describe human dispersal routes, adoptions of specific strategies, and shifts in site occupation in association with paleo-climatological and environmental proxies. Another factor that has significantly impacted our ancient landscapes is tectonic activity, with its associated geological processes, such as volcanism and earthquakes.

Plate tectonics have been regarded as drivers of early human evolution (as path makers) and as reasons for both the collapse of the Roman Empire (Vesuvius/Pompeii) and major changes in the modern age (Lisbon, 1755). Tectonic processes directly affect topography and associated micro-climatic conditions, hydrology, pedogenesis, fauna, and vegetation. Such changes have opened new worlds, like the Black Sea, but they have also buried old ones, like the Nile Valley and Mediterranean shorelines, and can create new topographic barriers. Tectonic activity creates challenges for human groups.

The session, “PREHISTORIC TECTONICS,” will evaluate tectonic processes in relation to signs of changes in human development during the Holocene. Subjects of our discussion involve short-term events, such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and their associated tsunamis, as well as long-term tectonic processes that transformed the Pleistocene and Holocene worlds. Indeed, we can describe rather recent transformational processes that have likely caused prominent negative evidence in our archaeological maps, including the absence of Early-Middle Holocene occupation in vast regions between the Iranian plateau and Central Asia and the existence of settlement gaps in Western Europe. A comprehensive and comparative synopsis of prominent cases of tectonic-human dynamics will be one goal of this session. Presentations will therefore discuss tectonic activity in relation to changing dispersal routes and site patterns, to demonstrate how this changed humankind’s former well-known world(s).

Organizers:

Judith Thomalsky - German Archaeological Institute, Berlin, Germany Ana Catarina Sousa - Centro de Arqueologia da Universidade de Lisboa Jan Lentschke - German Archaeological Institute, Berlin, Germany

Dr. Judith Thomalsky

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<https://www.dainst.org/standort/eurasien>

Blog zu 190 Jahre DAI:
<https://www.dainst.blog/190JahreDAI/>

Blog zu 25 Jahre Eurasien:
<https://www.dainst.blog/archaeology-in-eurasia/>



OTTOMAN/HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY: MATERIALS AND METHODS IN CONTEXT, SESSION #669, 30TH EAA ANNUAL MEETING, 28 - 31 AUGUST, 2024, ROME, ITALY, CALL FOR PAPERS

Please, see below the Call for Papers for Session #669 on "Ottoman/Historical Archaeology: Materials and Methods in Context", organised in the framework of the 30th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Rome (28-31 August 2024):

The various contexts of the Ottoman Empire span over 600 years and range from the Middle East to North Africa, Eastern and Southern Europe. While the same terminology is used for all regions, the impact of imperial influence among the various provinces is quite distinct, although differences and special characteristics emerge even within the same geographical or modern political units.

Although the field of Ottoman Studies and its focus on textual evidence comprises a well-established discipline, the archaeological investigation of the period is a recent development- grosso modo from the turn of the 20th century. Archaeological surveys, excavation projects and the study of relevant aspects of material culture developed recently as an outcome of systematic regional field projects in the Mediterranean but also from the postcolonial shift that rendered value to the 'local' or 'indigenous' archaeologies of the post-medieval era. Furthermore, the combination of archival research and archaeological methodologies have produced a rich databank that contributes to debates in both disciplines, History and Archaeology.

This Session invites contributions assessing results emerging from the Ottoman-era/Historical Archaeology of Eastern and Southern Europe and the coastal areas of Turkey and the Levant. We focus on a broader methodological framework, from the intersections of Archaeology, Anthropology and Ethnography to material culture studies and the analyses of organic remains, as well as from approaches to natural and cultural landscapes, rural economy and daily life. Beyond addressing a specific subject, site or micro-region, we strongly encourage contributors to reflect on the broader imperial or disciplinary framework, placing their case-studies within a larger context to promote interdisciplinary and trans-border discussions and wider syntheses.

EAA 2024 (e-a-a.org) <https://submissions.e-a-a.org/ea2024/?fbclid=IwAR0hp5bGxBCRbrX6zupyEvUJWR2Nlqc-FENrvaO5DrjXrFdEib5yfhBVGyw>

Session Organisers:

Faidon Moudopoulos-Athanasiou (Catalan Institute of Classical Archaeology)
Athanasios K. Vionis (University of Cyprus)

Athanasios Ἰϋ½. Vionis

Director, Archaeological Research Unit

Associate Professor, Byzantine Archaeology and Art

<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/en/people/vionis><<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/en/people/vionis>>

Director, ArtLandS Lab

<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/artlands><<http://www.ucy.ac.cy/artlands>>

President, International Commission for Byzantine Archaeology

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EXRS-2024, 24-28 JUNE, 2024, ZAPPEION MEGARON, ATHENS, GREECE, CALL FOR ABSTRACTS, 2ND CIRCULAR

Dear colleagues,

The next EXRS edition is to take place in [Zappeion Megaron](#) in Athens, Greece on 24-28 June, 2024 hosted by the Institute of Nuclear and Particle Physics of the National Centre for Scientific Research, “Demokritos” and its 2nd Circular is now available. We are delighted to share with you that **abstract submission is now open** and would also like to bring to your attention some key information regarding the conference.

Abstracts should be submitted prior to the **deadline 8th of March 2024**. Please use this form [EXRS-2024_Abstract_Template](#) (<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PdBEIL8pKSv-L8coTgmYHTs2qKOfzhek/edit>) and follow the submission procedure through [Easy Chair](#). If you do not have already an account, please register following the guidelines available and choose EXRS-2024 to continue the abstract submission. Make sure to read the abstract submission instructions before starting the submission process. Please note that abstracts without a registration (and payment of the registration fee) until **24th of May 2024** will be removed from the programme.

The registration is open through this [online form](#) (deadline for early registration: 26/04/2024).

The registration fees have been set as:

Type of Registration	Early (until 26/04/2024)	Late (after 26/04/2024)
REGULAR	560 €	700 €
STUDENT	350 €	450 €
ACCOMPANYING	160 €	200 €
DINNER	65 €	65 €

Kindly note that the registration fee includes the welcome reception, all coffee breaks, 4 lunch meals, the conference bag and an [excursion](#). The accompanying person's registration fee includes the same, alongside a dedicated [social activity](#). Participation to the [Conference Dinner](#) is not included for either the participants or the accompanying persons and its selection and payment should be completed additionally.

The preliminary programme will be announced in the 3rd circular. The social programme includes a Welcome Reception, an [excursion](#) (3 different options), a dedicated [social activity](#), a public lecture and the [Conference Dinner](#).

Athens during the period of the Conference is rather popular and we strongly recommend early booking for both the tickets and the accommodation.

For the latest updates and all relevant information concerning the venue, programme, accommodation, events etc. please visit the <https://exrs2024.demokritos.gr/>.

We are looking forward to holding another successful and fruitful EXRS Conference, worthy of its brilliant tradition.

Yours Sincerely,

A.G. Karydas, Dr
Chair, EXRS-2024
INPP, NCSR “DEMOKRITOS”

Athens 08/01/2024 Andreas Karydas, Dr.
Director of Research, Head of the XRF laboratory Institute of Nuclear and Particle
Physics-INPP NCSR “Demokritos”, Agia Paraskevi, Greece
Tel. +30-210-6503523
e-mail: karydas@inp.demokritos.gr

Δ' ΔΙΕΘΝΗΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΗ ΣΥΝΑΝΤΗΣΗ
«ΤΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΣΤΗΝ
ΠΕΛΟΠΟΝΝΗΣΟ» (ΑΕΠΕΛ4)
4TH INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC
MEETING “ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN
THE PELOPONNESE” (AWOP4)

ΠΡΩΤΗ ΕΓΚΥΚΛΙΟΣ

Με την παρούσα εγκύκλιο αναγγέλλεται η Δ' Διεθνής Επιστημονική Συνάντηση «Το Αρχαιολογικό Έργο στην Πελοπόννησο» (ΑΕΠΕΛ4). Η συνάντηση οργανώνεται από το Τμήμα Ιστορίας, Αρχαιολογίας και Διαχείρισης Πολιτισμικών Αγαθών του Πανεπιστημίου Πελοποννήσου και θα πραγματοποιηθεί στην Καλαμάτα στις 20-23 Νοεμβρίου 2024.

Σκοπός του ΑΕΠΕΛ4 είναι η ενημέρωση σχετικά με την αρχαιολογική έρευνα των τελευταίων ετών στην Πελοπόννησο, τα νησιά του Αργολικού Κόλπου, τα Κύθηρα και τα Αντικύθηρα και η παρουσίαση στους ειδικούς επιστήμονες και στο ευρύτερο κοινό των αποτελεσμάτων του ανασκαφικού και ερευνητικού έργου της τελευταίας τριετίας και συγκεκριμένα:

- ☐ του πρωτογενούς υλικού, όπως αυτό προκύπτει από πρόσφατες ανασκαφές και έρευνες πεδίου
- ☐ των πορισμάτων από πρόσφατες ή τρέχουσες έρευνες και μελέτες σε παλαιότερο ή νεότερο υλικό
- ☐ των έργων ανάδειξης και διαχείρισης αρχαιολογικών συνόλων και χώρων.

Δεκτές γίνονται, μετά από έγκριση της Επιστημονικής Επιτροπής, πρωτότυπες ανακοινώσεις και παρουσιάσεις σε μορφή αναρτημένων ανακοινώσεων (poster), οι οποίες θα δημοσιευτούν ως πλήρη άρθρα στην τελική έκδοση των πρακτικών. Οι ανακοινώσεις θα είναι διάρκειας 15 λεπτών. Επίσημες γλώσσες του ΑΕΠΕΛ4 είναι η ελληνική και η αγγλική. Κάθε ερευνητής έχει δικαίωμα μίας ατομικής συμμετοχής και μιας δεύτερης σε συνεργασία.

Οι ενδιαφερόμενοι παρακαλούνται να δηλώσουν τη συμμετοχή τους μέχρι την 30ή Ιουνίου 2024, επιστρέφοντας το δελτίο συμμετοχής συμπληρωμένο (σε μορφή Word) στην ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση aepel.awop@gmail.com.

Η Οργανωτική Επιτροπή

FIRST CIRCULAR

With this circular we announce the 4th International Scientific Meeting of the “Archaeological Work in the Peloponnese” (AWOP4). The meeting is organized by the Department of History, Archaeology, and Cultural Resources Management of the University of the Peloponnese and will take place in Kalamata on 20-23 November 2024.

The aim of AWOP4 is to inform specialists and the public on archaeological work undertaken in the Peloponnese, the islands of the Gulf of Argos, Kythera, and Antikythera during the last three years, namely:

- ☐ finds from recent excavations and other fieldwork
- ☐ the results of recent studies of new or old material
- ☐ work relating to the conservation and management of monuments and archaeological sites.

Presentations must be original. Oral presentations are limited to 15 minutes. Posters are also invited and will be published as full papers in the proceedings of AWOP4. All submissions will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee for approval. The official languages of AWOP4 are Greek and English. Participants can submit up to two papers (one on their own and one in collaboration with others).

Interested participants are invited to send a registration form with abstract (completed according to the attached template in Word format) by 30 June 2024 to aepel.awop@gmail.com.

The Organizing Committee

Δ΄ ΔΙΕΘΝΗΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΗ ΣΥΝΑΝΤΗΣΗ
«ΤΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΣΤΗΝ ΠΕΛΟΠΟΝΝΗΣΟ» (ΑΕΠΕΛ4)
ΚΑΛΑΜΑΤΑ, 20-23 ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ 2024

4th INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING
“ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN THE PELOPONNESE” (AWOP4)
KALAMATA, 20-23 NOVEMBER 2024

ΔΕΛΤΙΟ ΣΥΜΜΕΤΟΧΗΣ / REGISTRATION FORM

Παρακαλούμε όπως αποστείλετε συμπληρωμένο το δελτίο με την περίληψη της ανακοίνωσής σας σε μορφή Word στην ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση aepel.awop@gmail.com μέχρι την 30ή Ιουνίου 2024 / Please send the completed registration form with abstract in Word format to aepel.awop@gmail.com by 30 June 2024.

Προφορική ανακοίνωση / Oral presentation ☐

Αναρτημένη ανακοίνωση / Poster ☐

Τίτλος ανακοίνωσης / Title of paper:

Όνομα και επώνυμο / Name and surname:

Φορέας / Institution:

Ιδιότητα-θέση / Status-position:

Ηλεκτρονική διεύθυνση / Email:

Διεύθυνση / Address:

Τηλέφωνο / Telephone:

Λέξεις κλειδιά / Keywords:

Περίληψη (400-500 λέξεις), να διατυπώνει με σαφήνεια τον σκοπό, τη μέθοδο της έρευνας ή μελέτης και τα βασικά συμπεράσματα / Abstract (400-500 words), must clearly communicate the paper's purpose, method, and main conclusions:

ΘΕΣΕΙΣ ΕΡΓΑΣΙΑΣ/ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΕΣ – **JOB VACANCIES/FELLOWSHIPS**

RI FREER PRIZE FELLOWSHIPS - **APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**

Founded in 1799, the Ri is a world-famous independent charity dedicated to enhancing public understanding of science and the role of science in society. Among its many luminaries, the analytical chemist and pioneer of modern experimental physics, Michael Faraday, is the most famous. Philip Freer was a collateral descendant of Faraday and a great philanthropist who established the Philip Freer Trust to support postgraduate students to “make a difference in the world”

Type of award: Prize Fellowship for doctoral candidates in their unfunded writing-up year.

Areas of research supported: history of science and technology; heritage conservation science; history of the Royal Institution.

Stipend: £18,000 (the Fellowship will pay maintenance but not fees).

Duration of Fellowship: 12 months (commencing 1 October 2024).

Type of award: Prize Fellowship for doctoral candidates in their unfunded writing-up year.

How to apply: To apply, please send the following documents via this application form - <https://rigb.tfaforms.net/33> All written application materials should be in PDF format All files must be clearly labeled to include the name of the applicant and the name of the document.

For more information on the application materials please refer to the Freer Fellowship page via the Ri Website <https://www.rigb.org/about-us/work-us/ri-freer-fellowship>

Any queries should be directed to Freer Administrator Hannah Pratt h.pratt@ri.ac.uk

Deadline for applications: 18/03/2024

Ri Freer Prize Fellowship purpose: The Ri Freer Prize Fellowships are intended as writing-up awards for doctoral candidates researching the history of science; history of the Royal Institution; or heritage conservation science. Ri Freer Prize Fellowships are awarded based on candidates’ ability to identify and communicate the significance and potential of their research in a compelling way that can engage a general interest audience. For further details see the Criteria for Assessment.

Ri Freer Prize Fellow support: Ri Freer Prize Fellows will benefit from significant opportunities to promote their research on Ri platforms, and to establish valuable new contacts and collaborations in academia, industry, heritage, policy, charity and media sectors. There will also be opportunities to engage with the Ri’s public lecture programs, archives, masterclasses and education programs. Any Freer Prize Fellowship winners

will also be introduced to the Ri's network and receive training for professional development.

Ri Freer Prize Fellow commitments: Ri Freer Prize Fellows will commit to a number of general interest outputs to promote their research. The precise nature of these outputs will be decided in discussion with the Ri but will include short films; tours for visitors to Ri collections; and blogs. Ri Freer Prize Fellows will be supported to produce these outputs and where appropriate link their work to Ri collections and heritage as part of research promotion. Ri Freer Prize Fellows are not required to live in London but will be expected to attend key events.

Application Process:

Applications will be reviewed by a panel of experts in the specified subject areas.

There will be no interview.

Referees are only contacted at the short-listing stage.

Two Ri Freer Prize Fellows will be announced by May 2024 All queries should be directed to Freer Administrator Hannah Pratt - hpratt@ri.ac.uk

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AT **NUCLEAR PHYSICS INSTITUTE, CZECH** **REPUBLIC**

Apply for a postdoctoral fellowship in Nuclear Physics Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences as hosting organization in the second call of the programme MERIT (Mobility Programme for Excellence in Research, Innovation and Technology). The call is open until 15 April 2024.

Applicants are offered fellowships in the Nuclear Physics Institute for up to 30 months in strategic fields as biotechnology and biomedicine, sustainable energy and materials or space technologies (<https://meritcb.eu/organisation/nuclear-physics-institute-of-the-czech-academy-of-sciences/>). Applicants must have a Ph.D., two years of research experience abroad and be part of a research group that did not participate or was unsuccessful in the first call. Find more (<https://meritcb.eu/about-merit/>) or in video invitation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96FY-bKmGF0>).

FUNDED PHD POSITION

^{14}C dating the Aboriginal occupation of Australia:

Funded PhD position at the University of Waikato Radiocarbon Dating laboratory in collaboration with the University of Western Australia and the OSL laboratory at the University of Wollongong.

Please visit the site: <https://www.waikato.ac.nz/research/phd-opportunities/vacancies/at-the-limit-14c-dating-the-aboriginal-occupation-of-australia>

ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΕΙΣ - ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS PALÉORIENT, **THEMATIC VOLUME**

Paléorient (CNRS éditions) is an international and interdisciplinary open-access journal that publishes specialized articles relating to the various research areas that focus on humanity and human societies in their natural environment, from Prehistory to Protohistory, in Southwest and Central Asia.

<https://journals.openedition.org/paleorient/>

Thematic issue 51.2 - New Methods and Tools Applied to the Study of Prehistory and Protohistory in Southwest and Central Asia Description - Over the past two decades, technical developments and methodological advances have considerably deepened our knowledge of pre- and protohistoric populations. This thematic volume of Paléorient aims to shed new light on key topics specific to the chronological (from Prehistory to the Early Bronze Age) and geographical fields covered by the journal (e.g., the beginnings of domestication, palaeopathologies, subsistence strategies, 6th-5th millennium Mesopotamia, etc.).

Target fields - Micromorphology, Mineralogy - Isotopy, conventional isotopes - Quantitative traceology - Chemistry of organic compounds, food residues and adhesives - Geometric morphometry, 3D imaging including Microtomography - Paleogenetics, Paleogenomics - Chronology - Satellite imaging, Geophysics - ... (non-exclusive).

Expected contributions:

Articles (40,000 characters/10,000 words spaces included) propose original or reviews of long-term research in one of the targeted fields and will highlight their contribution to resolving problems and developing new lines of research.

Notes (20,000 characters/5,000 words spaces included) set out concisely an original study or development in progress.

Submit a pre-proposal (English or French) - To be returned by 20/02/2024 to paleorient@cnrs.fr, including a provisional title and list of authors, short description of the publication project (Article/Note, 500 characters max.), 5 key words.

Timetable - Contributions will be published online after peer-review on a Continuous Article Publication (CAP) basis and will compose Paléorient's thematic issue No. 51.2 in 2025.

February 20, 2024, Receipt of pre-proposals.

March 20, 2024, Feedback from editors on pre-proposals.

September 15, 2024, Deadline for Receipt of contributions for peer-review.

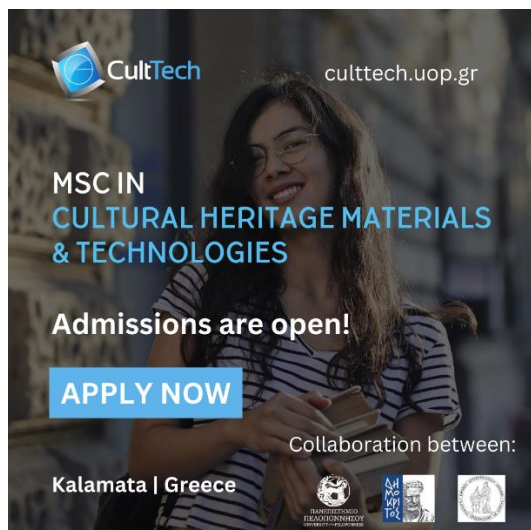
September 16, 2024 - April 1, 2025: Ongoing review.

From May 1, 2025: Online publication of accepted contributions.

December 2025, Print publication of thematic volume.

Victoria de Castéja
Editor-in-Chief | Paléorient
paleorient@cnrs.fr
<https://journals.openedition.org/paleorient/index.html>
MSH - 21 allée de l'Université
F- 92023 Nanterre Cedex

MSC “CULTURAL HERITAGE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES”, CULTTECH



Applications for the MSc CultTech are open for the 10th consecutive year! Studies in the interdisciplinary field of Archaeological Science aim to bridge the gap between archaeology and the physical sciences. MSc CultTech is designed to provide broad but detailed theoretical knowledge, as well as practical experience in the major applications of science in archaeology.

CultTech students will be a part of a diverse and multi-national group and will be given the opportunity to use a wide range of specialist facilities and collections, while being taught by internationally recognized, research-

oriented academic staff. They can use the course to obtain broad expertise in the field, or to specialize in areas such as **materials analysis, cultural heritage management, field prospection, reconstruction of objects and sites**, etc.

Official Language: English

Location: Kalamata, Greece

Duration: 3 semesters

Tuition fees: 4,000 €

Collaboration between:

University of the Peloponnese

National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos"

National Observatory of Athens

Apply for the academic year 2024-25 until March 15th and get a 20% discount for the Field School of the Geoarchaeological Program of Pylos, GEAPP!

[Learn more at http://culttech.uop.gr](http://culttech.uop.gr)

GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL PROGRAM OF PYLOS, GEAPP



The Pylos Geoarchaeological Program (GEAPP) is a five-year (2021-2025) synergy between the Ephorate of Antiquities of Messenia and the Laboratory of Archaeometry of the Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management – University of the Peloponnese. Its purpose is to investigate the natural, archaeological, and cultural environment of the coastal zone of Pylos, Messenia (Greece).

A team of experienced and specialized staff (University Professors, Ephorate Senior Archaeologists, Conservation Scientists, Post-Doctoral Researchers, PhD Candidates), as well as highly skilled invited collaborators, guarantees an effective approach to the program's goals and objectives.

The Pylos Geoarchaeological Field School provides a unique opportunity for undergraduate students in anthropology, archaeology, and sciences to participate in full-scale projects, including extensive **surface survey**, **excavation**, **conservation**, **laboratory analysis** of artefacts/geoarchaeological materials, as well as **aerial/ground survey** (UAS, TLS, etc.).

Duration: June 16 – 13 July (4 weeks)

Location: Pylos-Kalamata (Greece)

Academic Credits: 6 ECTS (3 US credits)

Total cost: 2,900€ (discount for EU citizens)

Field work will be conducted over the initial three-week period, whereas laboratory work, site visits and excursions will be realized during the last week in Kalamata.

Apply now!

Learn more at <http://geapp.uop.gr>

MAA 2024 BEST PHD / MSC THESIS AWARD

Application deadline: 30 May 2024



Dear Candidates.

Dissertations and theses are an important element of the research landscape, adding value to your career provided innovative chapters are included in the Web of Science as research/review articles. This way users are allowed to access published transdisciplinary research.

This substantial update of your research work provides a more extensive literature assessment and recognition, most important for early career studies.

Mediterranean Archaeology & Archaeometry (MAA) introduces the MAA 2024 Best Thesis Award for students and senior scientists.

The application deadline for the *MAA 2024 Best PhD / Master MSc Thesis Award* **30 May**. We are looking forward to applications from all over the world.

The journal *MAA* is **Scopus indexed**, Ei compendex, **WoS (Arts & Humanities Citation Index)** is inviting applications for the 2024 Best PhD / MSc Thesis Award. This prize will be awarded to a PhD / MSc student or recently qualified PhD who has produced a highly anticipated thesis with great academic potential.

The applications will be assessed by an Evaluation Committee led by the journal's Editors, Prof. Dr. Ioannis Liritzis (Henan Univ., China), Dr Elena Pecchioni (Florence University, Italy), and Prof. Changhong Miao (Henan Univ, China); and committee members Prof Anagnostis Agelarakis - (Adelphi University, USA); Dr. Yan (Fiona) Liu (Northwestern Polytechnical University, China), Prof. Dr Nikos Zacharias (Peloponnese Univ., Greece).

Eligibility and Requirements: – The candidate must be a recently qualified PhD /MSc holder;

– The PhD / MSc thesis must have been defended after Jan. 2022.

– The PhD /MSc thesis must be an innovative work;

Required Application Documents:

To be considered for this prize, candidates must submit:

- an executive summary of their PhD or MSc thesis in English (max 2000 words)
- a letter of recommendation from their supervisor and any additional senior scientist support letter
- submit their CV,
- a list of publications (if any) related to their thesis,
- an electronic copy of their PhD/MSc thesis, and
- a scanned copy of their diploma.

Documents should be sent to contact@maajournal.com.

Selection Criteria:

- Novelty, quality of the candidate's PhD /MSc thesis and/or associated publications;
- Motivation of the Candidate for academic potential;

Prizes:

1. Bonus (\$ 800) for **best PhD** and \$800 for **Best MSc**;
2. An electronic certificate;
3. Submission of an excellent part of the thesis as the **best paper**, after peer review, to get published free of charge of MAA after peer review before April 2025. The No 3 prize applies also to the **three first winners**.

The application deadline is **31 May 2024**. The winner will be announced on the MAA website by the end of June 2024.

Kind regards,

MAA Editorial Office

Journal Information

Mediterranean Archaeology and Archaeometry (MAA)

ISSN (Online): **2241-8121**

ISSN (Print): **1108-9628**

Keywords

Dating, Neolithic, Obsidian, Egypt, Bronze Age, Astronomy, Hydration, Crete, Orientation, Rhodes, Architecture, Greece, Chronology, Constellations, Pottery, SIMS, Aegean, Byzantine, Churches, Ceramics, Symbolism, Horizon, Iron, Magic, Ores, Gear, Meteorite, Slag, Dolmen

STUDENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK **OPPORTUNITY AT THE ONGOING** **EXCAVATION OF THE BRONZE AGE** **SETTLEMENT AT AGHIA MARINA** **PYRGHOS (AMP) IN CENTRAL GREECE,** **JUNE 3RD–JULY 14TH, 2024**

See:

- <https://myneko.umbc.edu/>
- <https://kocecola.umbc.edu/>
- @kocecola on Instagram
- Bibliography: Lane, M.F., V.L. Aravantinos, T.J. Horsley, and A. Charami (2020) “The AROURA Project,” *Hesperia* 89: 413–474; Lane, M.F. (2023) “The Mycenaean Northeast Kopais Project,” *Hesperia* 92: 587–643.

*Prior archaeological fieldwork experience is preferable but not required.

Undergraduate or graduate students are to apply for Session 1 (three weeks, June 3rd–23rd, 2024) and/or Session 2 (three weeks, June 24th–July 14th, 2024) of the program. Applicants should be 18 years of age or older (age of legal majority), and they should send a cover letter, relevant résumé or curriculum vitae (including their age or date of birth), and one (1) letter of recommendation from an instructor or supervisor in a relevant field of study or research to Michael Lane, Associate Professor and field director, *

[*mflane@umbc.edu*](mailto:mflane@umbc.edu).

The field director’s home institution, the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), is *unable* to provide academic credit for participation to *non-UMBC students. *HOWEVER*, applicants are *strongly encouraged** to seek academic credit for archaeological fieldwork or field school at their respective home institutions**.* Prof. Lane will gladly vouch for their performance to their instructor of record.

Students are to cover their own travel expenses. There is a flat *200-euro maintenance fee per week,* covering room, board, rental vehicles, and vehicle fuel.

*Any inquiries further to what is provided above should also be addressed to Prof. Michael Lane, [**mflane@umbc.edu*](mailto:mflane@umbc.edu) <mflane@umbc.edu>.*

Feel free to share this announcement with classmates who may be eligible.

*DEADLINE**: MONDAY, MARCH 4TH, 2024*

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bernard.knapp@glasgow.ac.uk

Late Bronze Age Cyprus: A Reassessment of Settlement Structure and Society. Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology PB 192. Nicosia: Astrom Editions (2023).

ABK webpage:
<http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/humanities/staff/bernardknapp/>

Field Projects:
<https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/humanities/research/archaeologyresearch/projectarchive/taesp/>

ΝΕΕΣ ΕΚΔΟΣΕΙΣ – NEW PUBLICATIONS

AN ANCIENT MESOPOTAMIAN HERBAL, **BY BARBARA BÖCK, SHAHINA A.** **GHAZANFAR, MARK NESBITT**

Hardback 200 pages ISBN 9781842467985
Richmond, Surrey Kew Publishing, 2023. £30.00

Throughout the world, traditional medical systems continue to be important to healthcare. They vary greatly in their underlying beliefs, but almost all share the use of herbal medicines as a central practice. Ancient Mesopotamia – the area of modern-day Iraq and adjoining regions – offers a special opportunity to study such medical practice in antiquity. Many thousands of clay tablets survive, some over 5,000 years old, bearing texts relating to life in the past.

Drawing on the expertise of Assyriologists, botanists and archaeologists, An Ancient Mesopotamian Herbal explores the deep history of plants in traditional medicine and offers a groundbreaking reassessment of existing research.

Combining methods from the humanities and science, the authors provide a concise overview of ancient Mesopotamian culture and herbal lore, along with new identifications of Assyrian and Babylonian herbal medicines, focusing on 25 case studies.

Barbara Böck is Senior Researcher at the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). She is author of several books on ancient Mesopotamian divination, magic and medicine, among them The Healing Goddess Gula:

Towards an Understanding of ancient Babylonian Medicine (Brill, 2013).

Shahina A. Ghazanfar is an expert on the flora and vegetation, conservation, and plants of economic importance of the Middle East and has published extensively on these subjects. She is a senior botanist at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and is author of Plants of the Qur’ān (Kew Publishing, 2023) and Flora of Iraq (Kew Publishing).

Mark Nesbitt is a Senior Research Leader at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Visiting Professor at Royal Holloway, University of London. Prior to joining Kew he spent 15 years studying the archaeology of plant use in southwest and central Asia. He has wide interests in the history of useful plants and is the co-author of Just the Tonic: a Natural History of Tonic Water (Kew Publishing, 2019).

Please visit the site: <https://shop.kew.org/an-ancient-mesopotamian-herbal#tab-label-description-title>

BECOMING NEOLITHIC: THE PIVOT OF HUMAN HISTORY, BY TREVOR WATKINS

Published 2024 by Routledge, London.

232 Pages 47 B/W Illustrations.

ISBN 9780415221528

Paperback, \$39.16

Hardback, \$136.00

Becoming Neolithic examines the revolutionary transformation of human life that was taking place around 12,000 years ago in parts of southwest Asia. Hunter-gatherer communities were building the first permanent settlements, creating public monuments and symbolic imagery, and beginning to cultivate crops and manage animals.

These communities changed the tempo of cultural, social, technological and economic innovation. The author sets the story of becoming Neolithic in the context of contemporary cultural evolutionary theory. There have been 70 years of international inter-disciplinary research in the field and in the laboratory. Stage by stage, an up-to-date understanding is unfolded of the archaeology, the environmental and climatic evidence and the research on the slow domestication of plants and animals. Turning to the latest theoretical work on cultural evolution and cultural niche construction, the author shows why the transformation accomplished in the Neolithic began to accelerate the scale and tempo of human history. Everything that followed the Neolithic, up to our own times, has happened in a different way from the tens of thousands of years of human evolution that preceded it.

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3 Changing Subsistence Strategies: Hunting and Herding

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6 Early Pre-Pottery Neolithic – Transforming Their World

7 Late Pre-Pottery Neolithic – Climax

8 Further Transformation: Dispersal and Expansion

9 The Evolutionary Framework for the Story

10 The Epipalaeolithic–Neolithic Transformation: The Pivot of Cultural Evolution

11 The Problem of Neolithic Religion

12 The Triple A: Aggregation, Acceleration, Anthropocene

Trevor Watkins is an emeritus professor at the University of Edinburgh where he taught prehistoric archaeology of the east Mediterranean and southwest Asia for many years. He led excavations in Cyprus, Syria, Iraq and Turkey. For many years, his research has been focused on the Neolithic period in southwest Asia, between twelve and eight thousand years ago. [...]

Please visit the site: <https://www.routledge.com/Becoming-Neolithic-The-Pivot-of-Human-History/Watkins/p/book/9780415221528>

AN ARCHAEOMAGNETIC STUDY OF THE
ISHTAR GATE, BABYLON,
BY ANITA DI CHIARA, LISA TAUXE, HELEN
GRIES, BARBARA HELWING, MATTHEW D.
HOWLAND, E. BEN-YOSEF

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0293014>

Abstract

Data from the marriage of paleomagnetism and archaeology (archaeomagnetism) are the backbone of attempts to create geomagnetic field models for ancient times. Paleointensity experimental design has been the focus of intensive efforts and the requirements and shortcomings are increasingly well understood. Some archaeological materials have excellent age control from inscriptions, which can be tied to a given decade or even a specific year in some cases.

In this study, we analyzed fired mud bricks used for the construction of the Ishtar Gate, the entrance complex to the ancient city of Babylon in Southern Mesopotamia. We were able to extract reliable intensity data from all three phases of the gate, the earliest of which includes bricks inscribed with the name of King Nebuchadnezzar II (605 to 562 BCE). These results (1) add high quality intensity data to a region relatively unexplored so far (Southern Mesopotamia), (2) contribute to a better understanding of paleosecular variation in this region, and the development of an archaeomagnetic dating reference for one of the key regions in the history of human civilizations; (3) demonstrate the potential of inscribed bricks (glazed and unglazed), a common material in ancient Mesopotamia, to archaeomagnetic studies; and (4) suggest that the gate complex was constructed some time after the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem, and that there were no substantial chronological gaps in the construction of each consecutive phase. The best fit of our data (averaging 136 ± 2.1 ZAm2) with those of the reference curve (the Levantine Archaeomagnetic Curve) is 569 BCE.

Please visit the site:

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0293014>

to

download a pdf of this article in full

ISSUE OF AURA 6 (2023)

Dear colleagues,

Volume 6 of AURA, the international archaeological journal issued by the Sector of Archaeology and History of Art of the University of Athens, is now available for downloading from the following links:

Papers: <http://epub.lib.uoa.gr/index.php/aura/index>

Entire volume: http://epub.lib.uoa.gr/index.php/aura/issue/viewIssue/197/pdf_50

For previous issues of AURA here: <http://epub.lib.uoa.gr/index.php/aura/issue/archive>

For the Supplement series here: <http://epub.lib.uoa.gr/index.php/aura/issue/view/156>

Volume 6 has 339 pages, 9 papers (5 in English, 4 in Greek) published after double anonymous review and 3 bookreviews.

The editorial board of AURA

Yiannis Papadatos and Kostas Kopanias

Contents of the Volume are as follows:

Athens University Review of Archaeology (AURA) Vol 6 (2023)

Papers

Μετάλλινες περόνες πρώην Συλλογής Κων/νου Λάμπρου από τη Συλλογή Έργων Μεταλλοτεχνίας του Εθνικού Αρχαιολογικού Μουσείου Αλεξάνδρα Χατζηπαναγιώτου

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The archaeology of exclusion: repatriation, whiteness, and a lost daughter named Carrie Dimitris Plantzos

Έφυρος Ήρωας: νέος μυκηναϊκός τάφος εκτός των τειχών της Εφύρας, Ήπειρος Χρήστος Ν. Κλείτσας, Δήμητρα Δρόσου

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Βασιλική Τσακνάκη

Bookreviews

Bookreview: "G.A. Zachos. 2021. *Tabula Imperii Romani*, J34-Athens: ThessalyTabula"
Robin Rönnlund

Bookreview: Μιχαήλ Σ. Κορδώσης, Ο τάφος του Μ. Αλεξάνδρου. Συμβολή στη μελέτη της τοπογραφίας και ιστορίας της Αλεξάνδρειας. Αθήνα: Εκδόσεις Παπαζήση 2023. [563 σελίδες, 24 εικόνες] Dimitris Plantzos

Bookreview: A. Scarci, R. Graells i Fabregat, R. Lanteri, F. Longo (a.c.d.), *Armi a Kasmenai. Offerte votive dall'area sacra urbana. Catalogo della mostra (Palazzolo Acreide, 13 novembre 2021-28 febbraio 2022)*, Paestum: Pandemos, 2021, pp. 157. ISBN: 978-88-87744-95-8.
Paolo Daniele Scirpo

MAKING WINE IN EARTHENWARE VESSELS: A COMPARATIVE APPROACH TO ROMAN VINIFICATION, BY DIMITRI VAN LIMBERGEN AND PAULINA KOMAR

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 23 January 2024

Abstract

Wine was deeply embedded in all aspects of Roman life and its role in society, culture and the economy has been much studied. Ancient Roman texts and archaeological research provide valuable insights into viticulture and the manufacture, trade and consumption of wine but little is known of the sensory nature of this prized commodity. Here, the authors offer a novel oenological approach to the study of Roman dolia through their comparison with modern Georgian qvevri and associated wine-production techniques.

Far from being mundane storage vessels, dolia were precisely engineered containers whose composition, size and shape all contributed to the successful production of diverse wines with specific organoleptic characteristics.

Please visit the site: <http://tinyurl.com/bdcf55kd>

REPRESENTATIONS: MATERIAL AND IMMATERIAL MODES OF COMMUNICATION IN THE BRONZE AGE AEGEAN, BY JOHN BENNET

Sheffield studies in archaeology.

Oxford: Oxbow Books, 2021.

Pp. 352.

ISBN 9781789256413

BMCR 2024.01.17

Review by Ann Brysbaert, Leiden University; The Netherlands Institute at Athens.
a.n.brysbaert@arch.leidenuniv.nl [Authors and titles are listed at the end of the review.]

The volume *Representations: Material and Immaterial Modes of Communication in the Bronze Age Aegean* presents 16 papers on a wide range of communication modes in the Bronze Age Aegean, based on presentations at two round tables held at Sheffield: *Technologies of Representation* (2008) and *Writing and Non-Writing in the Bronze Age Aegean* (2009). The themes fit well together as both dealt with aspects of representations, whether through art, technology, text, or a combination thereof. In the introduction, John Bennet as volume editor states that texts and images in the Bronze Age Aegean were not produced as sources of evidence for us to read off; instead the contextualized study of their production and consumption aid in understanding how they worked for their interactants. Papers are arranged in three categories: non-written, written combined with non-written, and written representations. The volume forms an innovative ensemble of papers in its approach to studying communication in the Aegean Bronze Age from both the material and immaterial perspective and is well-illustrated by these 16 case studies. Some, by their (im)material representations are more tuned towards discussing elements of communication than others (less so are the topics of Sarah Finlayson and Cynthia Shelmerdine) but all papers present an up-to-date account of their specialized field. The volume was a delight to read and will be for many Aegean Bronze Age scholars. Unfortunately, the list of contributors is without email contact details. Few spelling mistakes in references and typos are noted (e.g., Cooskey = Cooksey, pp. 77, 90; textual = textile, p. 180; number missing in list, p. 222). Some papers would have benefited from illustrations, especially for the descriptive sections by Kate Harrell and Mark Peters, and others from shorter sentences to aid easier reading (Finlayson); some missed earlier research on topics discussed, while it is impossible to be complete of course on everything (Sherratt).

Several papers deal with the imagery and/or materiality of Minoan and Mycenaean painted plaster. Matthew Haysom investigates the iconology (dance, ritual, storytelling, etc.) in absence of texts in order to understand meanings and worldviews laid out in people's material and social worlds, and how change in society and people's practices may mark changes in meaning-producing. Haysom shows how peak sanctuaries and their meaning changed between the Neopalatial versus the Final Palatial worlds through the Knossian Grand Stand Fresco and the Zakros Sanctuary Rhyton. Sue Sherratt analyses

figured (representational) art in three media: painted plaster, pottery, and textiles. The latter seems to form the clue to her questions why figured imagery in both painted plaster and pots disappear at specific times, and why there are important changes in decorative patterns on pots between the Bronze Age and later Iron Age, while she sees no technical reason for this to happen. Sherratt essentially discusses cross-craft interactions between textile patterns — motives on painted plaster,[1] and on decorated pottery — and painted plaster,[2] and also the presence of murex dye on painted plaster.[3] That figured plaster is a cheap substitute to wall hangings is questionable since the cost of logistics and infrastructure to extract and work the raw materials of both are not discussed.

Hariclia Brecolaki et al. provide a colour-palette overview of Pylian painted plaster. This shows chronological differences in terms of colour preferences and colour relationships which are then further explored (especially murex). They discuss colour alterations due to fire-damaged fragments from inside the palace. The 15-year long fresco-secco debate illustrates that Brecolaki cannot accept al fresco evidence/traces beyond scientific analyses, despite such traces being clearly recognized by Lang, Cameron, and many others investigating painted plaster beyond/in the Bronze Age Aegean.[4] Analyses demonstrating al secco, combined with surface traces showing al fresco, including at Pylos, can only emphasize the representational richness of the Mycenaean painted plaster while highlighting the immense creativity of the artisans leaving the combined evidence behind in the plaster, pigments, and binders.

Artisans were the driving force to imbue true value in these paintings, as Mark Peters' fascinating paper on colour analyses of the Pylian painted plaster griffin scenes emphasizes. His methodology outlines the meanings associated with the colours white (life), red (blood, conflict), and blue (transformation, rebirth). These three appear in iconography and Linear B evidence, through which he establishes their meaning. Through iconographic scenes with changing coloured-backgrounds and specific unifying figures, he sees narratives progressing towards the Pylos megaron. These scenes may have formed backdrops for oral performances in which ambiguous scenes allowed for flexibility in the stories narrated. As such, colour constituted a central actor in conveying meaning; it formed a medium that enhanced the narratives, whether of political or diplomatic nature, or both.

The papers by Angelos Papadopoulos and Kate Harrell each investigate bellicose imagery across the Aegean and the whole of the LBA (Papadopoulos) and more focused to Mycenae's LBA (Harrell). Angelos Papadopoulos' survey shows how many types of violent scenes and the wide ranges of media that receive them are strongly linked to context. He notes a particular shift at the end of the LBA when several more luxurious media, associated with the palatial elite culture, went out of use and were replaced by pottery as a canvas. It would have been interesting to see his thoughts on the processes of how (technically) and why the combat theme moved from glyptic art in LH I to the LH III painted plaster medium. Kate Harrell introduces the concept of martial culture which links the material culture of violence 'to the social network that binds these objects to the human performances that give them meaning' (p. 139) She places both objects and practices at an equal footing in order to better understand the power relations in the Mycenaean world. Power relationships linked to ancestors by current elites need explanations and are emphasized by expressing violence through archaic scenery and object usage/depictions. Such scenes and depictions form non-verbal ways to

communicate legitimization of elite's current presence through evoked or real past lineages.

Paul Halstead and Valasia Isaakidou analyse two agricultural scenes and arrive at identifying winnowing forks and additional tools in the hands of a large group of laborers of possibly elite background, depicted in (ritual) procession. The scenery of the "Harvester Vase" (the second scene on the gold sheet of Peristeria supports this), is compatible with textual and archaeological evidence. This is interpreted as representing very large-scale harvesting of grain crops as surplus by the Minoan palaces through sharecropping and herding systems. Likely similar to Mycenaean practices, they argue, the Minoan palaces mobilised and also acquired grain for themselves. Labour mobilization in Minoan contexts took place via ritualized occasions (Harvest vase scene), while for the Mycenaeans this was organised via the damos.

Angeliki Karagianni's paper discusses how aspects of time are represented and extracted from the Linear B tablets relating to taxation, ration provision and offerings. While very few tablets are 'dated', taxation seems to be a gradual process which moves from one to another fiscal year, from prognosis to the recording of received goods later on. Food rations (e.g., for textile workers) seem to be provided once a month, or, in cases of festivals and other ritual festivities, in large amounts at non-specified time slots. The offering tablets revolve around even smaller time units in which specific goods (honey, perfumed oil, etc.) are handed out to religious personnel, possibly for specific usage in rituals performed for/with palatial elites.

Rachel Fox discusses how taste and smell are important sensory technologies that convey messages of hierarchical differences between social groups in palatial feasts (host/elites—guests/others). By serving different meat species, cooking and spicing them differently, serving them in different vessels and different locations, and serving differently tasting wines or not even letting everyone taste (but only smell and drink instead), people's place in society was made clear on the spot and for future reference, as such sensory experiences will have become incorporated. The paper shows how many differentiations were also backed up archaeologically.

Through studying archaeology, art, and language, and employing an adapted Peircian framework, Silvia Ferrara illustrates that the earliest writing on Crete had Prepalatial roots. Via a gradual development, this resulted in full writing in the MM II period, at the same time as seal iconography boomed. A wide range of symbols made for the interplay that caused the transition from picture to sign, and into the start of writing. As narrative sits in logical coherence and in orderly iconic configuration, the Phourni-Archanes seals played a key role as the precursors in the movement from proto- to full writing.

Several papers take Scripta Minoa I as starting point. Artemis Karnava focusses on the symbiotic relationships between logograms and syllabograms, both already used from the earliest stage of writing on Crete. She does so by placing the Archanes Inscriptions as a specific sign-group within the hieroglyphic script and/or Linear A. To her, logograms on hieroglyphic seals form a confirmation of the closeness of both manufacturing and using the hieroglyphs to the Protopalatial administration. Words, thus, existed in writing from the very beginning, whether they form a purely visual symbol or a sign used in abbreviation. The logograms did not inspire the later hieroglyphs; they were linked to

them and disappeared with the script. Some signs also had double role as syllabogram and logogram.

Through disentangling several past assumptions about the purposes of Minoan written and sealed documents, Ilse Schoep thoroughly studies the relationships between both the acts of sealing and writing, and their social contexts on EBA to LBA on Crete. Very useful are her differentiations between structured and accumulated deposition modes, their individual relationship with ritual contexts, and in which stage of the life-cycle the objects per deposition mode were situated. The social aspect of the sealed document is embedded in a tripartite relationship: people's complex networks, people-object relations, and the iconography on seal or ring. She also postulates, in my view correctly, that often enough, the seal (end-product) may be of less concern than the forging and reconfiguring of social relationships during production (e.g., of the seal), as well as employment.

Sarah Finlayson's paper offers an alternative way of defining, recognizing, and accepting writing from the traditional western understanding, by alphabet users, that writing represents speech. Writing represents messages on support materials, and it is less the form of writing that is decisive but more the needs of specific social groups who employ it as part of their infrastructure to meet these needs in their specific contexts. Seeing writing as a way of communication, using specific conventions, and materializing it in a more permanent form than speech, makes different writing systems more equal within their social setting. Writing is only one element next to orality, art, and artisans' social distinction/group identity marks (see also Ferrara).

Different levels of literacy of scribes and local non-palatial officials can be extracted from a range of document types and ways of writing in Cynthia Shelmerdine's paper. She associates high-literacy levels with expansive and double writing, which through the choices and use of ideograms and monograms, needs the same literacy level as when using words. Different levels are understood between uninscribed versus inscribed sealings. Together with the Inscribed Stirrup Jars (ISJs), these also cross over into places outside the palatial administrative centres (but are related to them). Some seals were made by 300-year-old heirloom hard stone seals: signs of authority and controlled circulation. Extra-palatial literacy found in the very early tablets of Iklaina, Pylos and Petsas House were still linked to early Mycenaean palatial administration.

Rupert Thompson discusses the linguistic variations in the Linear B documents in relation to the dialects that existed in the 1st millennium in the region by analysing the 'normal' and 'special' Mycenaean that show five different features. Based on feature 4, 'special' Mycenaean is closest to the dialects of the 1st millennium which seem to be West Greek or proto-Doric. While the tablets represent a uniform language across time and space, there are, however, linguistic variations between sites and scribes, real and orthographical. The Linear B scribes seem to represent the vernacular reality, and the orthographic change delay in relation to the phonetic changes is no reason to call the tablet language 'fossilized' (p. 325).

Jörg Weilhartner demonstrates Arthur Evans's efforts in making sense of the Linear B script by his study of close to 1000 tablets he had excavated and through comparing them with other scripts. In his contributions along the road to decipherment, Evans published several important correct results: the decimal counting system, syllabic and metronomic signs, logograms and ideograms, etc. The pictorial information on the tablets allowed

him to recognize some purposes of the tablets, such as economic and archival (secular) documentation of the palatial administration. He perhaps could have achieved even more if he had not been stuck in wanting to see the script fit his historical preconceptions of the Aegean Bronze Age. That did not allow him to argue certain phenomena correctly, e.g. (among other) that Linear A and B scripts did not represent the same language as he believed.

Authors and Titles

Introduction (John Bennet)

Image, Context and Worldview: Peak Sanctuaries, Tripartite Buildings and the Palace at Knossos (Matthew Haysom) Representations of Palatial Staple Finance in the Late Bronze Age Southern Aegean: the ‘Harvester Vase’ from Agia Triadha and the Gold Sheet with Relief Procession from Peristeria (Paul Halstead and Valasia Isaakidou) Representing in Colours at the ‘Palace of Nestor’: Original Polychromy and Painting Materials (Hariclia Brecolaki, Andreas G. Karydas, Vassilis Perdikatsis and Maria P. Colombini) Representation and Hidden Technologies (Sue Sherratt) Materialising Culture: Images of Violence and their Media as Status Symbols in the Late Bronze Age Aegean (Angelos Papadopoulos)

Resurrection: the Depiction of Martial Culture at LH IIIB Mycenae (Kate Harrell) The Colourless Narrative: Some Thoughts on the Mycenaean Colour Palette and the Art of Pylian Diplomacy (Mark S. Peters) ‘Representations of Time’ in Linear B Documents from Knossos and Pylos (Angeliki Karagianni) Representing People Through Taste and Smell: Social Status and Sensory Experiences in a Mycenaean Palatial Feasting Context (Rachel Fox) Icon, Index, Symbol: Language Notation in the Cretan Hieroglyphic Script (Silvia Ferrara) ‘Picture-Writing’ and Phoneticism after Scripta Minoa I (Artemis Karnava) Minoan Seal-Use and Writing: from a Functionalist to a more Social Approach (Ilse Schoep) Redefining Writing in the Bronze Age Aegean (Sarah Finlayson) Mycenaean Scribes and Literacy (Cynthia W. Shelmerdine) Mycenaean Scribes and Mycenaean Dialect: Interpreting Linguistic Variation in the Linear B Documents (Rupert Thompson) Arthur Evans and Linear B: his Efforts towards an Understanding of the Script (Jörg Weilhartner)

Notes

[1] Important work on this topic: Marcar, A. 2002. “Ancient Aegean Textiles and Dress Design: c. 2500 to 1200 BCE” (PhD, UCL – Institute of Archaeology, London)

[2] On the Kamares connection and beyond: Blakolmer, F. 1999. “The history of Middle Minoan wall painting: the Kamares connection”. In P.P. Betancourt et al. (eds), *Meletemata. Studies in Aegean Archaeology Presented to M.H. Wiener*. Liège, 41–51.

[3] Earliest mention and analysis of murex, and its recognition on painted plaster at Akrotiri: Aloupi, E. et al. 1990. “Analysis of a purple material found at Akrotiri”. In Hardy et al. (eds), *Thera and the Aegean World III* (vol. 1). London, 488–490.

[4] For the full fresco trace list: Brysbaert, A. 2008. The Power of Technology in the Bronze Age Mediterranean. The Case of Painted Plaster. (Monographs in Mediterranean Archaeology, 12). London.

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THE KYRENIA SHIP FINAL EXCAVATION
REPORT, VOLUME I: HISTORY OF THE
EXCAVATION, AMPHORAS, CERAMICS,
COINS AND EVIDENCE FOR DATING,
BY SUSAN WOMER KATSEV, HELENA
WYLDE SWINEY

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Review by Anja Slawisch, University of Edinburgh. anja.slawisch@ed.ac.uk [Authors and titles are listed at the end of the review]

This volume is the first in a series presenting the final reports of the survey and subsequent excavations of the Kyrenia Shipwreck conducted in 1967, 1968 and 1969. Two more volumes are in preparation: Volume II will present all remaining items of the cargoes from the ship, including tools that do not feature in the current volume and an analysis of shipboard diet; Volume III will focus on the ship itself, including scientific analysis of the wooden frame.

The Kyrenia merchant ship was built during the late 4th century BCE and sunk along the north coast of Cyprus in the early 3rd. The remains of the vessel and its cargo are today displayed in the Shipwreck Museum at Kyrenia Castle, the vessel itself having undergone extensive conservation in 1970 and 1971. The project was directed by Michael Katzev who oversaw the application of pioneering and meticulous methods of study. His untimely death sadly prevented him from seeing the publication to completion. (Though sidestepped in the volume, the de facto division of the island from 1974 cannot but have contributed to the delay in bringing the results to print.) The book in hand is instead the product of determination to continue the work by his wife Susan W. Katzev and team member Helena W. Swiney. In total, almost 60 scholars and scientists contributed to the making of this splendid volume (see Table of Contents and p. 43).

It is almost impossible for this review to do justice to the wealth of information and insights that the general reader and scholars will find within this exemplary volume. The history of research as well as personal experience of contributors is woven into the fabric of the text. This is both unusual and enlightening because it allows the reader to understand the different stages of the project. Documented are the personal circumstances, the methods of fieldwork, preservation and analysis, right up to the point of publication. This makes the book a remarkably transparent presentation of the methodology used, observations made, and overall interpretations drawn, in which setbacks and errors are by no means concealed but are an integral part of the narrative.

In terms of structure and presentation: the book is divided into seven chapters of unequal length, with chapters 1 to 5 subdivided into multiple thematic sections. Sections 2.3, 3.1, 5.1 and 5.2 are complemented by appendices (not listed in the contents page) which provide lists of finds, concordances and catalogues. The chapters are very well illustrated but not always consistently cross-referenced. For example, the captions under photos of objects in chapter 2 do not contain appendix or catalogue numbers. Four large foldout plans in colour show the distribution and type of objects by level at a scale of 3:100. Separate bibliographies are provided at the end of chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. An extremely useful glossary at the end of the book explains the terminology used throughout the text, including the many nautical terms. The insides of the front and back cover contain maps, one showing the Mediterranean with all sites relevant to the volume including shipwreck sites, the other the topography of ancient Cyprus and its seashore.

The core of the volume is chapters 2 to 5. Chapter 2 gives a detailed account of the search for the wreck in 1967 and subsequent excavations. Section 2.1 (assembled by Susan W. Katzev and Mary C. Sturgeon) is based on Michael Katzev's reports to the National Geographic Society. It contains more than one hundred photographs and offers details of planning and diving procedures, accounts of major developments during each field season, reflections on the significance of the shipwreck, and information on conservation procedures. It also details the replica built in 1987 and the preparation of the permanent exhibition. In section 2.2, Jeremy N. Green describes the magnetometer and metal detector surveys conducted in 1967, which were at the time the first of their kind. He was also able to reassess the quality of the data in 2018 based on the data from later excavation, which will be of particular interest for scholars dealing with similar types of legacy data. In section 2.3, Helena W. Swiny and Susan W. Katzev give a detailed and insightful description of object labelling and incentives behind the modelling and visualisation of the archaeological data; this is followed by three appendices, one with a list of all amphoras (2.3a.1, pp. 62–107), which contains information on stamps, findspots and types; one with a list of all the pottery that received a P-number and all other ceramics discussed in the volume (2.3a.2, pp. 108–124); and one that lists all non-amphora and non-P objects cited in the volume (2.3a.3, pp. 125–127; C = coin, Cu = object made from copper, Fe = object made from iron, S = silver, Sn = tin and W = wood). Both authors are also responsible for subsection 2.4, in which they discuss the evidence for Octopodia activity and provide a catalogue of displaced objects.

Chapter 3 is dedicated to the vast corpus of amphoras from the shipwreck. Scholars have been discussing amphora types, size and composition of the cargo since the late 1960s, but this is the first account that includes and analyses the entire corpus, roughly 381 pieces, and thus is extraordinarily valuable to scholars working across the Mediterranean. Section 3.1 by Mark Lawall provides a truly holistic approach of the matter, covering the typology, origin, and condition of the amphoras and the wider context, including early Hellenistic distribution patterns and the market value of the goods. In particular, the Rhodian amphoras and their stamps allow us to specify their production, which would have stretched over a period of at least three different years somewhere around the mid-290s. This gives a date for the ship's sinking in the late 290s BCE (cf. pp. 142–143 and Fig. 3.1.17). How the ship was laden, how it landed, and how it fell apart on the seabed is investigated by Helena W. Swiny and Susan W. Katzev (section 3.2). This is followed by sections presenting sampling results (3.3: resin, 3.4: wreck ecology including biofouling and 3.5: the use of bryozoans, commonly known as moss animals), all of which add significant insights to object biographies and paleoenvironmental questions more

generally. The results will no doubt contribute to any future attempts in the preservation of underwater sites.

The first part of chapter 4 by Andrea M. Berlin focuses on goods associated with the crew, including objects categorised by the author as ‘bilge’ (Lawall prefers the term ‘detritus’ in his contribution), namely debris that was already broken and apparently used by the time the ship sank. For example, the tiny fragments of so-called Achaemenid cups pre-date the ship’s final voyage by a generation or more (p. 266). The following sections include contribution on the graffiti (4.2), wood identifications (4.3) and contextual evidence from the wreck (4.4). The results of the various scientific analyses, such as neutron activation analysis (NAA) (5.1), petrography (5.2) and residue analysis undertaken in the past and more recently, are assembled in chapter 5. Here it is impressive how the editors and contributors have allowed space to present and discuss contradictory results, such as the disputed provenance of the black-glazed table ware. While Berlin locates the pottery workshop producing these vessels firmly on Rhodes (pp. 271–272), Michael D. Glascock and Leslie G. Cecil are adamant that they were made in the Athenian Kerameikos (NAA Group 2 and 3, pp. 351–353). Yuval Goren, who did the petrographic analysis (for items of NAA Group 2 and 3 cf. table pp. 370–371 e.g. P5 and P84), ascribes at least some of the examples to a Rhodian fabric class. As all authors note, the impact of seawater on the chemical and mineralogical properties of the clay is not (yet) well enough understood, which potentially casts more doubt on results deriving from NAA as compared to visual examination and petrography. Another strong point of this volume is that it consistently relates the archaeological assemblage back to the reconstruction of the human experience in the past, as well as anchoring observations within the wider social, economic and historical context (see, for example, Berlin’s sections about ‘Life on board’ and ‘Identity and character of the crew’ pp. 274–280).

The coins from the shipwreck are analysed by Paul W. Keen in chapter 6. He notes the absence of Rhodian coins and determines the date of deposition to be between 294 and 290 on the basis of object C7, a bronze coin of Ptolemaic type supposedly minted under Ptolemy I. (Unfortunately, the photographs of the coins are very small; an enlarged photograph of Pb11/C8 can also be found in chapter 2, Fig. 2.1.44, but is not cross-referenced.)

It is clear that the documentation of context and objects was absolutely exemplary at the time of the project. The cornucopia of information presented in this volume is thus at times overwhelming. If one were to be super-critical, scholars using the book may find navigating between chapters and appendices challenging, especially since two numbering conventions are used (some authors prefer catalogue numbers, others the original tag numbers). A single identifier for each object, a concordance, and a final index providing a list of references for each object that features in more than one chapter would have resolved this minor issue.

The Kyrenia shipwreck is one of the most complete and best-documented Early Hellenistic contexts and cargoes in the Eastern Mediterranean, and the assemblage published will be of great value for anyone working in the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond. This volume is a major achievement and will become a major source for scholars, from the ceramic specialist comparing individual vessels to writers of grand narratives. I would argue that it also has great value as a teaching resource: its transparency with regards to methodology and the interpretations derived therefrom, and

the ample illustrations, represent an extraordinary example for students and, indeed, set a benchmark for other research projects.

Authors and Titles

1. Introduction

1.1. Introduction, Susan Womer Katzev

1.2. Dedication to Michael and Susan W. Katzev from excavation members, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny with contributions from David I. Owen, Robert K. “Chip” Vincent, Stephen J. Scheifele, Owen Gander, and Robin C. M. Piercy 1.3. Thanks to Laina, Susan Womer Katzev 1.4. In thanks to all who helped, Susan Womer Katzev with Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny and Robin C. M. Piercy

2. The excavation

2.1. How it began, Michael L. Katzev† [assembled by Susan Womer Katzev and Mary C. Sturgeon] 2.2. Kyrenia shipwreck remote sensing analysis, Jeremy N. Green 2.3a. Kyrenia Ship data: labeling excavation objects, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny and Susan Womer Katzev 2.3b. Kyrenia Ship data: data explanation: creating the amphora plans, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny and Susan Womer Katzev 2.3c. Kyrenia Ship data: the Kyrenia Ship Application, Thomas Myette 2.4. Evidence for Octopodia activity on the wreck site, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny and Susan Womer Katzev

3. Amphoras

3.1. The transport amphoras, Mark Lawall 3.2. Observations on amphora distribution, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny and Susan Womer Katzev 3.3. Analysis of resins from the Kyrenia Ship, Curt Beck† and Dorreen J. Ossenkop 3.4. Tales from taphonomic amphoras: marine biofouling as interpretive ecological tool on wreck-site formation, Carlos Jimenez, Katerina Achilleos, Antonis Petrou, and Louis Hadjioannou 3.5. Wreck site formation process: the use of bryozoans, Katerina Achilleos, Carlos Jimenez, and Antonis Petrou

4. Goods of the crew

4.1. The goods of the crew, Andrea M. Berlin 4.2. Graffiti on the ship’s ceramics, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny, Susan Womer Katzev, Alan Johnston, Christopher Rollston, and Jo Ann Hackett 4.3. Wood identifications of objects in Volume I, Nili Lipshchitz† 4.4. Plotting shipboard life: observations from the find spots of objects related to life on board the Kyrenia Ship, Helena (Laina) Wylde Swiny and Susan Womer Katzev

5. Ceramic analyses

5.1. Neutron Activation Analysis of ceramic samples from the Kyrenia Ship, Michael D. Glascock and Leslie G. Cecil 5.2. Petrographic analysis of the ceramics from the Kyrenia Ship, Yuval Goren 5.3. Organic residue analysis of pottery recovered from the Kyrenia Ship, Joseph A. Palatinus with Ruth F. Beeston 5.4. GC-MS analysis of contaminated Kyrenia Ship ceramic samples, Vic Garner† and Holley Martlew 5.5. Organic residue analysis of ceramic vessels from the Kyrenia Ship: searching for past contents, Lisa Briggs and Léa Drieu

6. Coins

6.1. The coins, Paul W. Keen

7. Conclusions

7.1. Summary closing wrap-up: what's to come in Volumes II and III, Susan Womer Katzev

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**VEGETATION COMPOSITION IN A TYPICAL
MEDITERRANEAN SETTING(GULF OF
CORINTH, GREECE) DURING SUCCESSIVE
QUATERNARY CLIMATIC CYCLES,
BY AIKATERINI KAFETZIDOU, EUGENIA
FATOUROU, KONSTANTINOS
PANAGIOTOPOULOS, FABIENNE MARRET
AND KATERINA KOULI**

Quaternary 2023, 6, 30.

<https://doi.org/10.3390/quat6020030>

Abstract:

The Gulf of Corinth is a semi-isolated basin in central Greece interrupting the Pindus Mountain Range, which nowadays is a biodiversity hotspot. Considering its key location, deep drilling was carried out within the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP; Expedition 381:Corinth Active Rift Development) aiming to improve our understanding of climatic and environmental evolution in the region. Here, we present a new long pollen record from a Mediterranean setting in the southernmost tip of the Balkan Peninsula recording the vegetation succession within the Quaternary. The Corinth pollen record shows no major shifts in arboreal pollen between glacial and interglacial intervals, while Mediterranean and mesophilous taxa remain abundant throughout the study interval. During interglacials, the most frequent reconstructed biomes are cool mixed evergreen needleleaf (CMIX) and deciduous broadleaf forests (DBWB), while graminoid with forb (GRAM) and xerophytic shrubs (XSHB) dominate within glacials. Our findings support the hypothesis that the study area was a significant refugium, providing suitable habitats for Mediterranean, mesophilous and montane trees during successive Quaternary climate cycles.

Keywords:

Quaternary; vegetation cycles; pollen record; Mediterranean vegetation; vegetation refugia

ΕΙΔΗΣΕΙΣ - NEWS RELEASE

AFTER DEVASTATING FIRE, LOOK INSIDE NOTRE DAME'S \$760M RESTORATION

The spire of Notre Dame, crowned by a brand new golden rooster, regained its place in the Paris skyline last week.

As tourists and Parisians gathered outside the UNESCO-listed cathedral to admire the return of one of its most emblematic features — for now, still encased in scaffolding — the Notre Dame worksite remained in full swing. Nearly 500 craftspeople are busy with rebuilding efforts, working to ensure the Parisian landmark is ready for its grand reopening to the public less than a year from now.

“It’s fascinating to see how something of such historical value is being restored,” said Stephan Book, a tourist visiting Paris from Sweden with his daughter and 80-year-old father. “And the ambition to do it all in five years,” he added, “It’s like when Kennedy said (humans) were going to the moon.”

On a recent visit to the construction site, President Emmanuel Macron promised works were “on schedule” for Notre Dame to open to the public on December 8, 2024, five years and seven months after the fire that destroyed large parts of the 860-year-old building in April 2019.

“By the time the Olympic Games come around (in July), we expect to have un-scaffolded the upper part of the spire and completed most of the roofing, so that Parisians and visitors from all over the world can see just how close the cathedral is to reopening,” Philippe Jost of Rebuilding Notre Dame de Paris (the public body responsible for the conservation and restoration of the cathedral), told the French parliament on December 13.

Already, those admiring the gothic structure from the outside are excited by the prospect of being able to re-enter the cathedral.

“The first time I came to Paris was 60 years ago, then 40 years ago,” said Stephan’s father, Göran Book, who remembers entering Notre Dame on every one of his previous visits to Paris. “Now I’m 80,” he added. “If I’m still alive next year, I’ll have to come back to see the reopening.”

A monumental effort

According to Rebuilding Notre Dame de Paris, there are nearly 250 companies and art workshops across France tasked with “working on the cathedral’s renaissance.” This includes carpenters, stonemasons, scaffolders, sculptors, gilders, glassmakers and even organ builders, who are restoring the 8,000 pipes and 115 stops of Notre Dame’s great organ, the largest in France.

After the 2019 fire, the first two years of work were devoted to securing the building, completing project studies and awarding tenders. The restoration phase then officially began in September 2021.

In recent months, the most visible advances have been made on the restoration of the framework of the roof, the spire and the large upper galleries.

Alban Dubois, who works as a waiter in Cafe Panis, just across the street from Notre Dame, has been observing the daily progress from the windows of his workplace.

He was there, serving tables, on the day of the infamous fire, and remembers watching in shock as the flames grew larger and the windows of his restaurant became progressively hotter. “People gathered (in the restaurant) and looked on helplessly,” he said. “Some people were crying... It was all very sad.”

Now, Dubois looks forward to the cathedral reopening and predicts lots of people will stop by to pay it a visit. “Even though (Notre Dame) has been here for so many years, it’s going to be a bit like an inauguration,” he said.

According to Jost, 14 million visitors are expected to “flock to see the results of (the) restoration.”

Marking the 21st century

While Notre Dame’s original appearance will be restored, President Macron has also expressed a desire for our century to “have its place among the many others that feature in the works of this cathedral.”

Earlier this month, he announced a competition to allow contemporary artists to recreate six of the stained glass windows on the southern side of Notre Dame, in order to “mark this 21st century.”

In similarly commemorative fashion, the name of the French general who had been overseeing the reconstruction of Notre Dame before his death in a mountain accident earlier this year, was engraved in the wood of the spire. Jean-Louis Georgelin “will remain forever” part of Notre Dame, said Macron, who personally took part in the engraving process on December 8, the day that the cathedral’s oak spire regained its place.

The names of others who took part in the reconstruction of Notre Dame have also been made a permanent fixture of the new cathedral. A sealed tube was placed inside the golden rooster mounted atop the spire on December 16, containing a document listing the 2,000 names of those who have been involved in the works.

The cathedral spire’s previous rooster had been found, damaged among the rubble, the day after the fire. Inside it were the relics (the mortal remains) of Saint Denis and Saint Geneviève, as well as a fragment of Christ’s crown of thorns, all of which remained intact and have now been placed inside the new rooster, according to the Diocese of Paris.

The old rooster — alongside the six stained glass windows set to be replaced — will be housed in a new museum dedicated to Notre Dame, the opening of which was announced recently by Macron. “It will be a museum of art, a museum of history, a museum to describe the permanent construction site of Notre Dame de Paris,” he said.

The cost of rebuilding Notre Dame is expected to be approximately 700 million euros (\$767 million). In total, 846 million euros (\$928 million) were raised in donations from 340,000 donors in 150 countries, according to Rebuilding Notre Dame de Paris.

Jost has said that any donated money that isn’t spent on the reconstruction will likely be used to “benefit the cathedral” in other ways.

Please visit the site: https://www.wtvr.com/news/international-news/notre-dame-cathedral-restoration-update-dec-24-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_content=0Leeq9ZaVc0OOcf7CKPVphY5qVcrwOsffuZl7f4Edtl_kgBQAXJ4YcHx49k9syZy

THE 15 BEST ART, DESIGN AND ARCHAEOLOGY DISCOVERIES OF 2023, BY JACQUI PALUMBO

Whether lost at the bottom of the ocean, tucked away in a library's archives or hidden behind a kitchen wall, this year's arts, archaeology and literary discoveries spanned an astonishing range. Some had only been mysteries for a few decades, like the identity of a man whose photo was used on the cover one of rock's most famous albums, while others dated back a bit longer — say, 6,000 years? And though many of these great finds were excavated through more conventional means, others required ambitious technological feats: an AI algorithm programmed to identify a centuries-old anonymous play, drones sent high into hard-to-reach caves, and groundbreaking scans made of the Titanic wreckage.

Below are some of the most significant discoveries of 2023.

A still-glimmering sword

It sometimes requires a bit of imagination to visualize a millenia-old artifact in its full glory — but that wasn't the case with an octagonal sword (pictured above) found still gleaming in a Bavarian grave this past June. Thought to be more than 3,000 years old, from the Middle Bronze Ages, the sword required further examination by archaeologists when it was discovered at a site in at a site in Donau-Ries, Germany, along with the remains of three people. But a statement from researchers later confirmed it was a real weapon, rather than ceremonial or decorative, with “the center of gravity in the front part of the blade indicat(ing) that it was balanced mainly for slashing.”

AI discovery in the archives

The author of a 17th-century Spanish play remained a mystery for centuries — until AI technology identified it in January as a late-career work by one of the country's most famous authors, Felix Lope de Vega.

Researchers at the country's National Library were using AI to transcribe some 1,300 anonymous manuscripts and books and check them against works by known authors when it made the discovery. The Spanish Golden Age-era playwright wrote “La francesa Laura,” or “The Frenchwoman Laura,” in the years before his death in 1635. The play is a tale of love, jealousy and poison when the heir to the French throne becomes enamored with Laura, the wife of a Count.

A classic rock mystery, solved

Who is the man carrying a bundle of sticks on the cover of Led Zeppelin's 1971 album? After half a century, his identity has been revealed as a thatcher from the late-Victorian era, according to the Wiltshire Museum in southwestern England, which made the announcement in November after a visiting research fellow located the original image by photographer Ernest Howard Farmer.

Thought to be of a widower named Lot Long or Longyear, who lived the town of Mere in the 19th century, the portrait was part of a larger album of architectural and countryside scenes inscribed to the photographer's aunt. And as to how a colorized portrait wound up the star image of "Led Zeppelin IV"? It was an antiquing find made by the band's lead singer Robert Plant, in a store in Berkshire, southern England.

Lost Truman Capote story resurfaces

The famed American author Truman Capote received a surprising posthumous addition to his oeuvre this year, after an editor from "The Strand" magazine discovered a previously unknown short story scrawled in one of Capote's notebooks. Andrew F. Gulli found "Another Day in Paradise" — a story about a disillusioned American woman uses her inheritance to buy a villa in Sicily — while sifting through works held at Washington's Library of Congress. Along with representatives of the writer's estate, a team of people subsequently worked to decipher the story, which was written in "very challenging" handwriting, according to Gulli.

"These libraries have millions and millions of pages from all sorts of writers. So, you know, I can only guess that sometimes some of these things can just get missed," Gulli said.

Ancient sandals get a new superlative

When 22 woven sandals discovered by Spanish miners in 1857 were first carbon dated in the 1970s, they were thought to be about 5,000 years old. But new analysis from the Autonomous University of Barcelona and Alcalá University in Spain has found that estimation to be shy of about 1,000 years: In September, researchers announced that the footwear, made of plant fibers, are, in fact, the oldest known European shoes.

Preserved thanks to dry conditions in the cave in southern Spain, along with an assortment of fiber baskets and other goods, the sandals demonstrate "the ability of prehistoric communities to master this type of craftsmanship," according to an author of the study.

Two new "Mona Lisa" revelations

So much has been debated about Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" over the years: who she was, why she's smiling, even where she was painted — with an historian recently asserting that the bridge in the background is actually in a different picturesque Tuscan town than previously believed, for example. And now, scientists in France and the UK have discovered a new piece of the portrait's puzzle, hidden within the base layer of Leonardo's paint.

Using X-ray diffraction and infrared spectroscopy, the team detected a mineral compound known as plumbonacrite, which forms when oil and lead oxides are mixed and helps paint dry faster. While it's known that later artists including Rembrandt used such a technique, the authors of the study pose that Leonardo might have been the first.

“Each time you discover something on his processes, you discover that he was clearly ahead of his time,” Gilles Wallez, an author of study, told CNN in October.

A luxurious lavatory

In February, archaeologists released details on what may be the world’s oldest known flush toilet. The 2,400-year-old lavatory and bent pipe — likely a status symbol among China’s elite at the time — were discovered last summer in the ruins of a palace at the Yueyang archaeological site in the city of Xi’an, according to Chinese state media.

The toilet was likely only used by a select few in the ruling class, according to researcher Liu Rui, who helped excavate the broken pieces. Liu told state media that the design likely required the assistance of servants to pour in water with each use.

The Great Pyramid’s hidden hallway

Over the past few years, the Great Pyramid of Giza has given up some of her secrets — including a mysterious ‘void’ — thanks to the Scan Pyramids project, which uses technology including infrared thermography and cosmic-ray imaging to better understand its architectural intricacies and still-hidden areas. The latest finding? A 30-foot corridor close to the main entrance

The space may have been constructed to redistribute weight around the entrance, or possibly to allow access to an unknown chamber, according to Mostafa Waziri, head of Egypt’s Supreme Council of Antiquities, who spoke to reporters in March. An article published in the scientific journal Nature stated that further study of the hallway could help scientists better understand how the pyramid was made.

Sending in the drones

As part of continued efforts to survey an area in Alicante, Spain, known for its prehistoric cave paintings, archaeologists this year employed drones to scout out terrain — caves, quarries and the like — deemed either inaccessible or risky to humans. Within days, the drones had found new imagery of deer, goats and human figures.

With the art later confirmed by climbers, the new group of cave paintings are some of the most significant of their kind in the region found in recent decades, according to the archaeology team.

“On many occasions we have risked our lives to access cavities located in rugged geographical areas,” Francisco Javier Molina Hernández, an archaeologist at the University of Alicante who was dubbed “Indiana Drones” by local press, told CNN in June. “Many other caves have never been inspected because they are located in inaccessible areas.” Next up, they’ll use more powerful drones to continue scouting across in Spain and Portugal, he said.

Extraordinary artworks in unassuming places

Each year, a select few homeowners, treasure hunters or construction workers stumble upon a lost piece of art history in their residences or on a plot of land — always check your attics — and 2023 was no different.

While appraising their home, one family in northern France discovered that the dusty painting in their living room is actually one of the largest-known works of Flemish 17th-century painter Pieter Brueghel the Younger — it later sold for \$850,000 at the Daguerre auction house in Paris.

In northern England, meanwhile, a couple in the midst of renovating their kitchen discovered that their modest one-bedroom in York housed two 400-year-old murals, with the wall in question pre-dating the rest of the apartment building.

And finally, while excavating a plot of land earmarked for a new Aldi supermarket in Buckinghamshire, England, archaeologists uncovered a Roman mosaic with colorful tiles while surveying the area ahead of construction. The mosaic is thought to have been part of a villa with a nearby bathhouse.

Spotlight on Henry VIII's doodles

The mercurial British monarch Henry VIII may have been a bit out of touch at times, reshaping the country's religious trajectory to calamitous effect simply to get a divorce, but in other ways he was just like us, doodling in the margins of books. A Canadian professor spotted the royal marginalia unexpectedly while looking at an ancient prayer book owned by the Tudor king late in his life. His annotations — some 14 in total — were compared to other known markings to confirm their authenticity.

The book, a gift to Henry, “contains prayers for repentance, for wisdom, for the destruction of enemies, and for the King and his army,” according to the professor, Micheline White. “Towards the end of his reign he definitely had a lot to be worried about,” she noted.

Two portrait glow-ups

Chiseled bone structure and lip filler aren't just the beauty standards of the 21st century, it seems — new analysis this year revealed two different paintings hundreds of years old were altered to enhance the features of their subjects.

In one 16th-century painting by Hans Holbein the Younger, X-rays show the artist worked to sharpen the cheekbones of the subject, a young merchant, Derich Born, who had commissioned him.

And a different painting made by Cornelius Johnson a century later, of the noblewoman Diana Cecil, received an unwelcome makeover sometime in the 19th or 20th century, with edits that plumped her lips and filled in her hairline. Conservators restored Cecil to her natural beauty ahead of an exhibition in November.

A necklace on the ocean floor

Move over, (fictional) “Heart of the Ocean,” because there’s a new Titanic necklace ready for the spotlight. A piece of jewelry featuring the tooth of a Megalodon, a prehistoric shark, was identified in the ocean liner’s wreckage by the deep-water investigation company Magellan, as part of its undertaking an ambitious project to produce a full-size scan of the ship, which has been at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, some 13,000 feet deep, since the infamous disaster in 1912.

Richard Parkinson, CEO of Magellan, called the necklace “astonishing, beautiful and breathtaking.”

“What is not widely understood is that the Titanic is in two parts and there’s a three-square-mile debris field between the bow and the stern,” Parkinson told British television network ITV in May. “The team mapped the field in such detail that we could pick out those details.”

And more underwater treasure

A diver’s chance glance at something metallic on the sea floor of the coast of Sardinia, Italy, turned out to be right on the money — literally. In all, the glimmering treasure they spotted totals somewhere between 30,000 to 50,000 large bronze coins dating back to the fourth century AD.

The drowned treasure could point to an as-yet-undiscovered shipwreck in the area, the Italian culture ministry said in a statement in November. In addition to the surprisingly well-preserved coins, divers subsequently found pieces of amphorae, narrow-necked Roman or Greek jars with two handles.

A Stonehenge-like sanctuary

A town east of Rotterdam can now lay claim to an ancient celestial architectural mystery not unlike the enigma of Stonehenge.

Archaeologists have been excavating a site in Tiel since 2017, and have unearthed a 4,000-year-old sanctuary there that they believe was designed to align with the sun on solstices. The massive site contains offerings including animal skeletons and treasures, including a bronze spearhead, as well as graves.

“This sanctuary must have been a highly significant place where people kept track of special days in the year, performed rituals and buried their dead,” said a statement from the municipality of Tiel, where the site is located. “Rows of poles stood along pathways used for processions.”

Please visit the site: https://edition.cnn.com/style/art-design-archaeology-discoveries-2023-scn/index.html?utm_medium=email&utm_content=kK1juzL0rm8sXIu5DlN3uBY5qVcrwOsffuZl7f4Edtl_kgBQAXJ4YcHx49k9syZy

EMORY U. IS RETURNING 3 ALLEGEDLY LOOTED ANTIQUITIES TO GREECE, BY STEPHANIE M. LEE

Emory University's Michael C. Carlos Museum, in Atlanta After years of criticism over its collecting practices, Emory University's Michael C. Carlos Museum is repatriating to Greece three antiquities that are widely regarded to have been looted.

The Atlanta museum said on Monday that it had arranged with the Ministry of Culture of the Hellenic Republic to return a Minoan larnax, or coffin; a statue of the muse Terpsichore; and a statue of a seated figure. The returns follow a Chronicle investigation last summer that reported that the three items, plus more than 500 of the Carlos's artifacts, had passed through owners and sellers linked to the illicit antiquities trade, including some convicted or indicted on charges related to antiquities trafficking.

The three artifacts being returned were purchased in the early 2000s in the museum's effort to bolster its holdings and to rival behemoths like the Metropolitan Museum of Art. A mandate to shore up its ancient Greek and Roman collection, in particular, was funded with a \$10-million gift from the businessman for whom the Carlos is named. But a longtime curator, Jasper Gaunt, went on a shopping spree so aggressive, experts say, that the institution risked fueling the looting and destruction of archaeological sites.

The Carlos now appears to be looking more closely at what it's been putting on pedestals. Last year the museum said it was sending back two antiquities to Italy and relinquishing ownership of three others, which are remaining on display as loans from that country.

As for the three Greek antiquities, the museum said that it discussed them with representatives of the Greek government in Athens in April 2023. The museum said that it had been presented with photographic and other evidence indicating that each piece had very likely been illegally excavated.

"The new provenance histories challenge what was known about the pieces at the time the museum acquired them," the Carlos says on a website about the repatriations.

But outside experts started asking questions about the origins of some of the works more than 15 years ago. They say that the museum has failed to admit how long it took to act on those concerns, and to identify and acknowledge the scholars who raised them.

"People should know the truth, that these are stolen objects. These are looted, stolen, smuggled objects," said Christos Tsirogiannis, who leads research into illicit antiquities trafficking at Ionian University, in Greece. "And the Carlos Museum — despite the published evidence, and their responsibility to exercise due diligence all these years — they waited."

In June 2007, Tsirogiannis told the Greek Ministry of Culture that his research strongly indicated that the Terpsichore statue and the larnax had been looted. The statue of the

muse, still bearing flecks of paint, had been purchased in 2002 from Robert Hecht, a New York art dealer and a notorious fixture of the illicit antiquities trade. Polaroid photos of the larnax — a bathtub-shaped coffin from the ancient Minoan civilization, also purchased in 2002 — were found by Tsirogiannis in the archive of the convicted antiquities trafficker Gianfranco Becchina. But in August 2007, Bonnie Speed, who was director of the Carlos then, wrote to the Greek Ministry of Culture to say that the pieces had been acquired in compliance with international guidelines and “we have no evidence that the provenance of these pieces is improper,” according to a letter provided by Tsirogiannis.

At the time, Tsirogiannis alleged that another piece in the collection, a massive storage jar called a pithos, had also been looted, citing more photos in Becchina’s archive. In 2008, David Gill, an archaeologist and fellow with the Centre for Heritage at the University of Kent, in England, began blogging about the red flags linked to the Terpsichore, the larnax, and the pithos.

“I am amazed that the Carlos has taken since 2007 to sort out this issue, but has not included the pithos that features so prominently in the Becchina archive,” Gill told The Chronicle by email.

Laura Diamond, an Emory spokeswoman, said that a Monday news conference “mentioned that communications began in 2007,” though the date is not mentioned in the museum’s news release. “It was the reopening of this communication in 2022 that resulted in the signed agreement, due in large part to developments in Greece during the last decade related to evidence and judicial proceedings,” she said by email.

As for the pithos, Diamond added, both parties “agreed that the evidence was not sufficient to warrant its return.” Neither Speed nor Gaunt immediately responded to requests for comment.

In November, Tsirogiannis went public with concerns about yet another piece: the seated, headless marble figure that the museum is now repatriating. The Carlos bought it in 2003 from Michael Ward, a New York dealer who was convicted last year of criminal facilitation, and who provided no provenance information at the time of purchase, according to the museum. The museum says that it was presented with evidence in 2022 that Becchina was convicted of trafficking the statue by a Greek court in 2017, and that it has also seen a Polaroid taken in 1989 of the sculpture “either in the process of being removed from the ground or being stored outside.”

In a statement, Henry S. Kim, the Carlos’s director since 2022, called the repatriations the beginning of “many years of expanded cultural cooperation between the Ministry and Emory.” The deal struck by the two parties will create opportunities for Emory students, faculty, and staff to take part in excavations in Greece, and for the Carlos to team up with museums in Greece on loans and exhibitions, according to the museum.

“We hope that other museums abroad will follow the example of the Carlos Museum, which has sought to solve the problem through dialogue and a spirit of cooperation,” said Lina Mendoni, Greece’s minister of culture.

But Cynthia Patterson, an emeritus professor of history at Emory, said she was disappointed that the museum was not being more forthcoming about its failures over the decades to vet the beautiful objects it was snapping up.

“To acquire these objects ethically, they needed to do ‘due diligence,’ which was clearly not done,” she said by email. “Emory students and the Emory community deserve a full and open accounting of past acquisitions of the Carlos Museum’s extensive purchases from the antiquities market.”

Tsirogiannis said he was “very happy” to see his work finally paying off years later — “and for my country, of course.” But, he added, there are plenty of other questionable objects that the Carlos has yet to acknowledge.

“There was no thorough research on provenance before acquisition, there was no due diligence, they were buying objects that they knew were basically unprovenanced,” Tsirogiannis said. “And now they have started only paying the price.”

Please visit the site: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/emory-u-is-returning-3-allegedly-looted-antiquities-to-greece> [Go there for pix]

SLEEP TIGHT: A CURIOUS HISTORY OF BEDS THROUGH THE CENTURIES, **BY ZARIA GORVETT**

From beds for Roman newlyweds, to "hangover" benches for 19th-Century workers: the pursuit of a good night's sleep has followed us through the ages.

Amid the windswept expanse of the Bay of Skail, on the west coast of the Scottish island of Orkney, is the ancient village of Skara Brae. This maze of fuzzy green mounds – large, single-room houses surrounded by thick walls topped with grass and connected with covered stone passageways – was abandoned some four and a half thousand years ago. But inside each residence are two objects that still look familiar to modern eyes – beds.

The dwellings at Skara Brae, in the far north of Scotland, mostly have the same setup – a roughly 40 sq m (430 sq ft) room with a central hearth and an assortment of prehistoric furniture. Alongside storage boxes and dressing tables complete with shelves, there are two rectangular enclosures, around the length of a human. Like most of the artefacts found on this tree-less island, these prehistoric beds are made from slabs of cold, hard stone. And yet, with tall headboards and raised sides, they have an instantly recognisable shape. Setting aside the ancient inscriptions found on some – and the occasional skeleton stashed underneath – perhaps they could almost belong to the 21st Century.

Humans have been making beds for hundreds of thousands of years. In the book *What we did in bed: a horizontal history*, the University of California, Santa Barbara anthropologist Brian Fagan and archaeologist Nadia Durrani chart their development from the very beginning. For most of our species' existence, it's thought that sleeping spaces consisted of deep piles of carefully layered foliage topped with soft, pest-resistant leaves. Then the first bed frames began to appear. The sandstone beds at Skara Brae are among the oldest ever found, along with a series of impressions left in the soil at the settlement of Durrington Walls near Stonehenge – the spectral outlines of long-vanished wooden bed boxes, where the builders of that monument may have once slept.

Emerging just over 5,000 years ago, not long after other pioneering technologies such as writing, bed frames appeared in several places at around the same time. Some 1,700 miles (2,735km) from Orkney, in Malta, ritualised burial tunnels have revealed evidence of early incarnations of this furniture – including a clay figurine of a woman slumbering peacefully on her side, one hand under her head, on a simple raised platform. These early beds were not just places to rest. They often held deep symbolic meanings and links to the afterlife, according to Fagan and Durrani.

In the millennia since, the bed has evolved to take on many different forms – reflecting the beliefs and practical concerns of the cultures that people have found themselves in. Here is a short history of these temples of sleep, at least in the Western world.

When Howard Carter broke through the plaster doorway into King Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922, he was greeted with a glittering hoard of gold objects – and six of these items were beds. The haphazard assortment of items, which had been thrown back in randomly

after two ancient robberies, included a funerary bed decorated with the likeness of the cow goddess Mehet-weret, a gilded wooden bed, and a practical camp bed for travelling that featured revolutionary folding technology and may have been the first of its kind.

Tutankhamun was only briefly in power, and is known primarily for the precious hoard found inside his tomb – including six beds (Credit: Getty Images) Like most ancient Egyptian beds made for wealthy elites, Tutankhamun's mostly consist of a wooden frame with a woven base of reeds or string. And as was customary at the time, the young king would have laid his sleepy head on a rigid, raised headrest each night rather than a soft pillow. This system was often found in hot climates, where it may have improved the circulation of air. It could also have been appealing as a way of protecting carefully coiffured hairstyles – the ancient Egyptians, including Tutankhamun's own grandmother, sometimes wore curled, braided, or plaited styles.

Ancient Rome – a bed for every occasion

In ancient Rome, as in many societies, where people slept depended on their social status. While some slaves may have tucked themselves up each night on a mat of dried leaves or animal skins, or just curled up on the bare ground, others were more comfortable. In 2021, archaeologists were excavating the grounds of an ancient villa in Civita Giuliana, a suburb of the Roman city of Pompeii, when they uncovered a bedroom that had remained frozen in time for almost 2,000 years. Among a clutter of containers, wooden chests, and other items, there were three beds – and underneath, storage jars containing the remains of mice that had been living under them. Made of wooden posts strung with thin rope arranged like netting, they didn't have mattresses and were instead covered with loose blankets.

On the other hand, affluent citizens had more beds than they knew what to do with. The Romans invented a wide taxonomy of different kinds of bed for various different activities, including the lectus lucubratorius for studying, the lectus genialis for newlywed couples, the lectus tricliniaris for communal lounging and eating, and the lectus cubicularis for sleeping. They even had a dedicated bed for funerals. Most of these beds consisted of a raised platform made of metal, topped with a thin mattress.

Early modern Europe – bed bugs and thick mattresses By the 17th Century, Europeans had a wide universe of beds to choose from. There were box beds (Read more from BBC Future about why medieval people slept in cupboards), beds strung with rope – which had to be tightened regularly, possibly leading to the expression "sleep tight" – and elaborate wooden four-posted beds like the Great Bed of Ware, which reportedly once slept 52 people. But one staple ingredient of early modern bedding was the "tick mattress".

These simple sacks, which sometimes reached gigantic proportions, were made of strong, tightly woven materials such as linen, known as "ticking". They could be stuffed with a wide variety of fillings, from feathers to straw. The specific packing material used could have a profound impact on the inhabitant's quality of sleep. According to the book *At Day's Close: A History of Nighttime*, one traveller passing through Switzerland in 1646 complained bitterly about having to spend the night in a bed stuffed with leaves, which "made such a crackling" and pricked his skin through the tick.

Though tick mattresses were – or at least they were supposed to be – aired regularly, they were ideal breeding grounds for biting insects. Combined with the then-common habit of sharing a bed with many other people, including total strangers, they often ended up with formidable infestations. (Read more from BBC Future about the lost ancient habit of communal sleep.)

Victorian England – hangovers and homelessness By the 19th Century, inequality in England had reached a record high, as the working classes struggled to earn a living in the new industrialised economy. This, combined with the rapidly growing population, led to an epidemic of homelessness in towns and cities. In London, charities came up with some unorthodox solutions. One was the "fourpenny coffin" – coffin-shaped boxes, arranged in rows, that people could pay fourpence to sleep in for the night. Another was the rope-bed, also known as the "two-penny hangover", which involved sitting on a communal bench and leaning over onto a long rope, along with hundreds of other people, until the morning when it was cut – abruptly waking anyone who was still sleeping. This is one possible explanation for the origins of the word "hangover".

For those at the other end of the financial spectrum, however, sleep was about to get significantly better. In the late 1900s a German inventor filed the patent for the first coil-sprung mattress – and sleep has never been the same since. Today there are more options than ever, with foam beds, water beds, heated beds, futons, bunk beds, Ottoman beds, canopy beds... the list goes on. We can only wonder what the inhabitants of Skara Brae would have made of them.

Please visit the site: <https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20240126-sleep-tight-a-curious-history-of-beds-through-the-centuries> [Go there for pix and better format]

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN TEENAGER DIED WHILE GIVING BIRTH TO TWINS, MUMMY REVEALS, BY SASCHA PARE

The ancient remains of an unborn fetus found in the headless mummy of an Egyptian teenager shows she died while giving birth to twins, a new study confirms.

When archaeologists excavated and unwrapped the mummy in 1908, they discovered the bandaged body of a fetus and the remains of a placenta wedged between the girl's legs. Field notes from the time reveal the researchers concluded the fetus was related to the mummified female — a girl between 14 and 17 years old who lived in ancient Egypt sometime between the Late Dynastic (from around 712 to 332 B.C.) and Coptic period (between A.D 395 and 642). Researchers incised the mother's abdomen and found the fetus' skull stuck in the birth canal, indicating the girl had died from complications during childbirth.

But it wasn't until a century later that researchers discovered a second fetus, this time mysteriously lodged in the girl's chest.

"This is the first mummy of its kind discovered," said study lead author Francine Margolis, a U.S.-based independent archaeologist. While there are many known burials of women who died in childbirth in the archaeological record, "there has never been one found in Egypt," Margolis told Live Science in an email.

In 2021, researchers announced the discovery of a pregnant Egyptian mummy, but other experts challenged the results and concluded the woman wasn't pregnant when she died in a 2022 study.

Margolis first studied the mummy excavated in 1908 while writing her master's thesis in anthropology at George Washington University (GWU) in Washington, D.C. on female pelvic morphology in 2019. "I CT scanned her to obtain her pelvic measurements," Margolis said. "That is when we discovered the second fetus."

The 3D images showed that the remains of a fetus, which no previous records mentioned, had become lodged in the girl's chest. Margolis and David Hunt, co-author of the new study and an anthropologist at GWU, X-rayed the mummy to obtain a clearer picture of the fetal remains.

"When we saw the second fetus we knew we had a unique find and a first for ancient Egyptian archaeology," Margolis said.

For the new study, published Dec. 21 in the International Journal of Osteoarchaeology, the researchers re-examined the mummy's torso and the external fetus to confirm the teenager's cause of death. They also reviewed and compiled notes and photographs taken during the 1908 excavations.

Margolis and Hunt found that the girl died in labor after the head of the first fetus became trapped in the birth canal, she said. The head of a fetus exiting the womb during childbirth is usually tucked to its chest to enable passage through the pelvis, according to the study. The researchers think that in this case, the fetus' head was untucked in a position that was too broad to get through and became stuck.

Results from the 2019 analysis showed the mother stood around 5 feet tall (1.52 meters) and weighed between 100 and 120 pounds (45 to 55 kilograms). Her small size and young age may have contributed to her unsuccessful delivery of the twins, the researchers noted in the new study.

The mother's mummified head is missing, which limits the researchers' knowledge of her health, Margolis said. "If we found her head and her teeth are present, destructive testing on teeth and hair could provide information on her diet and metabolic stress she was experiencing during her life," she said.

It's also unclear how the remains of the second fetus ended up in the girl's chest. The researchers suggested the diaphragm and other tissues likely dissolved during the mummification process, enabling the small body to migrate upward.

Childbirth in ancient Egypt is poorly documented, according to the study, but existing records suggest twins were undesirable. A papyrus from the third intermediate period (1070 to 713 B.C.), known as the Oracular Amuletic Decree, offered mothers a spell intended to prevent twin births.

Please visit the site: <https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/ancient-egyptians/ancient-egyptian-teenager-died-while-giving-birth-to-twins-mummy-reveals> [Go there for pix]

HEAD OF ANCIENT GREEK STATUE OF DIONYSUS FOUND IN LIBYA, BY MATTHEW NORMAN

In a stream, an archaeologist working in the ancient Greek city of Cyrene in today's Libya, found the head of the statue of Bacchus, also known as Dionysus in Greek, the god of wine and theater.

Archaeology in ancient Greek city of Cyrene While carrying out research in the city of Shahhat near the ancient Greek city of Cyrene in eastern Libya, an archaeologist detected something of interest. Nestled in the foothills of the al-Jabal al-Akhdar region, Issam Al-Menfi spotted a severed part of an ancient statue.

The item is the third to be discovered since Storm Daniel hit the eastern region of Libya last September, according to Libyan News Agency. It was collected by Menfi for scientific purposes.

The agency confirmed that the head of the statue is that of Bacchus, as the Romans called him, or Dionysus, as he was known to the ancient Greeks. The god was symbolic of a number of things, including wine-making, orchards and fruit, vegetation, fertility, festivity, insanity, ritual madness, religious ecstasy, and theater.

Cyrene is believed to have been founded in 631 BC by Greeks from the island of Thera (Santorini), located in the Aegean Sea. The settlers' first ruler, Battus, founded the dynasty of the Battiads, which ruled the city for eight generations until 440 BC.

The city grew under the rule of the Battiads, eventually encapsulating several ports known today as Marsa Susah, al-Marj, and Benghazi.

With the rise of Ptolemaic Egypt in 323 BC, Cyrene prospered intellectually and became one of the classical world's most influential places. In due course, with its great philosophers and renowned medical school, the city caught the attention of the Romans, who brought it under their control in 96 BC.

Temple of Zeus, Cyrene. Credit: David Stanley / wikimedia commons CC by 2.0

Between the years 67 and 30 BC, Cyrene merged with the then Roman province of Crete, where the provincial capital was located. Cyrene became the chief city. Archaeology in Cyrene has been particularly fruitful.

Another Sculpted Head of a Dionysus Statue Discovered in Aizanoi Another manifestation of the sculpted head of Dionysus was discovered earlier in the ancient Greek city of Aizanoi in today's western Turkey. It was found alongside the marble head of Aphrodite, the goddess of love. Aizanoi, like Cyrene, was an important political and economic center in Roman times.

At the time of unearthing, excavation coordinator Gokhan Coskun told Anadolu Agency: “These are important findings for us, as they show that the polytheistic culture of ancient Greece existed for a long time without losing its importance in the Roman era.”

Coskun, an archaeologist at Dumlupinar University in Turkey, went on to explain that the statue heads had been found in a previous dig but weren’t unearthed until some time after in a creek bed in Aizanoi. The archaeologist believes the findings point to a possible sculpture workshop in the region.

In August, a statue of the ancient Greek goddess Hygieia, the goddess of health and cleanliness, was also unearthed in Aizanoi.

Please visit the site: <https://greekreporter.com/2024/01/01/head-ancient-greek-statue-dionysus-libya/>
