

The background of the page is a repeating pattern of stylized, light blue symbols. These symbols are reminiscent of ancient Cypriot or Aegean motifs, featuring a central vertical stem with a bulbous base, a horizontal crossbar, and a pointed, leaf-like top. Some symbols have small, curved lines extending from the top, while others have small, curved lines extending from the sides. The pattern is dense and covers the entire page.

Newsletter on Aegean and Cypriot Prehistory

15 October 2011

No. 25

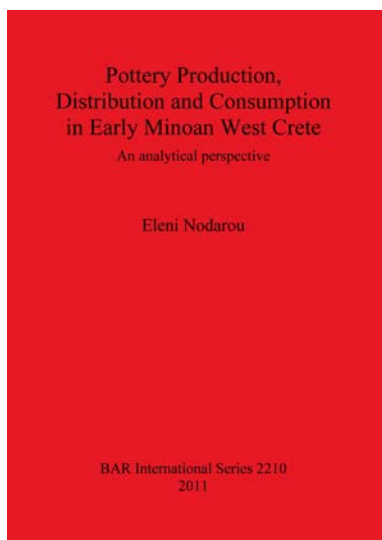
AEGEUS SOCIETY OF AEGEAN PREHISTORY

Contents

1. NEW BOOKS	3
2. NEW ARTICLES	11
3. RECENT BOOK REVIEWS	18
4. FREE DIGITAL BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS	19
5. USEFUL WEBSITES	19
6. AEGEUS'S NEWS	20
7. UPCOMING LECTURES & CONFERENCES	21
8. CALL FOR PAPERS	22
9. GRANTS/BURSARIES & JOB VACANCIES	23
10. MISCELLANEA	24



1. NEW BOOKS



Pottery Production, Distribution and Consumption in Early Minoan West Crete. An analytical perspective

Eleni Nodarou

City & year: Oxford 2011

Publisher: Archaeopress

Series: BAR S2210

Description: Paperback, xvi+137 p., 26 figures, 15 tables, 47 b/w & colour plates, 29,7x21 cm

ISBN: 9781407307688

Price: £ 41 (ca. € 47)

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

This book investigates the provenance and technology of pottery during the earlier Prepalatial period (EM I-EM IIB) in west Crete, using an integrated approach involving stylistic examination and archaeometric analysis. Although the stylistic particularities of the west Cretan Early Minoan assemblages have been acknowledged since the 1960s, there has been no attempt to assess and interpret the differences, and integrate this part of Crete into the broader picture of the Prepalatial period. Due to the lack of publications and analyses, west Crete remained estranged from the new developments that have changed the way the Prepalatial period is considered.

As part of the GEOPRO TMR Network, this project applies an integrated methodology to the ceramic material from selected sites and investigates issues of pottery provenance and technology. The analytical techniques used comprise thin section petrography, neutron activation analysis and scanning electron microscopy. Possible locations of production for the various fabrics are suggested and technological issues, such as clay recipes, firing practices and pottery manufacturing traditions, are discussed. All pottery examined appears to have been manufactured within west Crete and the majority of the fabrics are likely to have been manufactured close to their findspots. There are, however, markedly contrasting traditions of pottery manufacture, one producing relatively high-fired calcareous vessels with off-island stylistic affinities and another with non-calcareous, low-fired vessels, stylistically compatible with the Minoan repertoire. The stylistic correlates of these two very different forms of pottery technology are compared.

Issues concerning technological traditions, the identity and ethnicity of the producers and consumers of this pottery, and the organization of production are discussed. As the research revealed no imports from outside Crete, and this contrasts with central and eastern Crete, the position and role of west Crete in the southern Aegean during the Early Bronze Age is re-assessed.

Contents

List of Figures [v]

List of Tables [vi]

List of Plates [vii-xii]

Abbreviations [xiii-xiv]

Abstract [xv]

Acknowledgements [xvi]

Chapter 1

1. Aims of the study [1]
2. Chronological and geographical limits of the study [1]
3. Book outline [2]

Chapter 2: The Prepalatial Period in west Crete and the sites included in the study

1. The Prepalatial period in central and east Crete [4]
2. West Crete [5]
3. Brief presentation of the sites included in the study [8]

Chapter 3: Methodology

1. Methods and scale of analysis in ceramic studies [13]
2. The analytical background [13]
3. The analysis of EM pottery from west Crete [14]
4. The geological sampling [15]
5. Neutron Activation Analysis [16]
6. Scanning Electron Microscopy [17]

Chapter 4: The geology of west Crete

1. Introduction [18]
2. The geological evolution of Crete [18]
3. Pre-Neogene units [18]
4. Sedimentation [19]
5. Geology of the study area [20]
6. The sites [21]
7. Geological variation and ancient ceramics [22]
8. Clay sampling and experimental briquettes [22]
9. The petrology of the clay samples [24]
10. Discussion [25]

Chapter 5: Early Bronze Age pottery from west Crete

1. Fine- Semi-fine wares [27]
2. Semi-coarse - Coarse wares [29]
3. The pottery from the sites [30]

4. Comment [37]

Chapter 6: Petrographic Analysis

1. Introduction [38]
2. Fabric groups [38]
3. Discussion [47]
4. Discussion [51]

Chapter 7: Neutron Activation Analysis

1. Introduction [53]
2. Statistical procedures [53]
3. The results for the entire data set [54]
4. The chemical groups [58]
5. Comparative discussion of petrographic and chemical groups [65]
6. Discriminant analysis [67]
7. Discussion [68]

Chapter 8: Scanning Electron Microscopy

1. Introduction [71]
2. The wares [71]
3. Discussion [79]

Chapter 9: Pottery production, distribution and consumption in Early Minoan west Crete

1. Specialisation of pottery production [81]
2. On- and off-island pottery exchange [82]
3. Technology, style and identity in EBA west Crete [83]
4. West Crete and long-range maritime interaction in the EBA southern Aegean [87]
5. The social dimensions of Helladic-/Cycladic-style pottery in west Crete [89]
6. Summary of the main points in this research [90]

Appendices

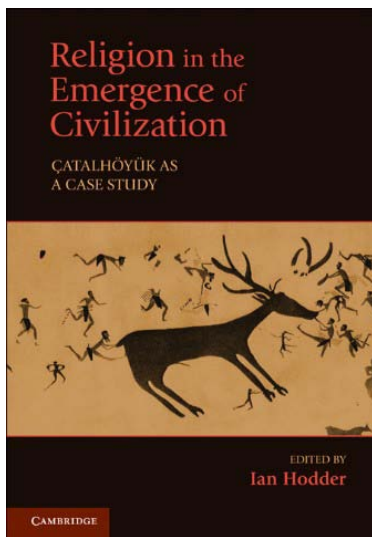
Appendix I: Catalogue of samples [92]

Appendix II: Petrographic descriptions [99]

Appendix III: NAA data [120]

References cited

Plates



Religion in the Emergence of Civilization. Çatalhöyük as a Case Study

Edited by Ian Hodder

City & year: Cambridge 2010

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Description: Paperback, 372 p., 43 b/w illus., 25,3x21,5 cm

ISBN: 9780521150194

Price: £ 24 (ca. € 28)

Aegean Library: 2498

Abstract

This book presents an interdisciplinary study of the role of spirituality and religious ritual in the emergence of complex societies. Involving an eminent group of natural scientists, archaeologists, anthropologists, philosophers, and theologians, this volume examines Çatalhöyük as a case study. A nine-thousand-year old town in central Turkey, Çatalhöyük was first excavated in the 1960s and has since become integral to understanding the symbolic and ritual worlds of the early farmers and village-dwellers in the Middle East. It is thus an ideal location for exploring theories about the role of religion in early settled life. This book provides a unique overview of current debates concerning religion and its historical variations. Through exploration of themes including the integration of the spiritual and the material, the role of belief in religion, the cognitive bases for religion, and religion's social roles, this book situates the results from Çatalhöyük within a broader understanding of the Neolithic in the Middle East.

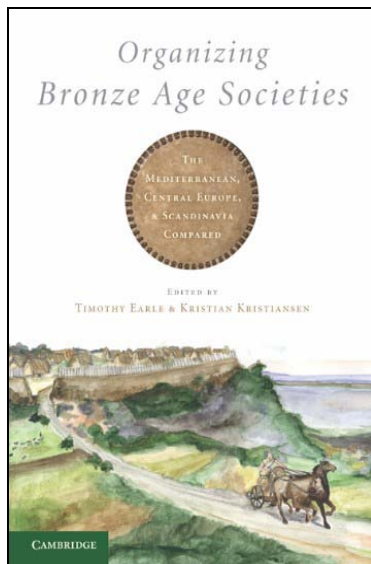
Contents

List of figures and tables

Contributors

1. Ian Hodder, 'Probing religion at Çatalhöyük: an interdisciplinary experiment' [1-31]
2. Ian Hodder & Lynn Meskell, 'The symbolism of Çatalhöyük in its regional context' [32-72]
3. LeRon Shults, 'Spiritual entanglement: transforming religious symbols at Çatalhöyük' [73-98]
4. Wentzel van Huyssteen, 'Coding the non-visible: epistemic limitations and understanding symbolic behavior at Çatalhöyük' [99-121]
5. Harvey Whitehouse & Ian Hodder, 'Modes of religiosity at Çatalhöyük' [122-145]
6. Maurice Bloch, 'Is there religion at Çatalhöyük ... or just houses?' [146-162]
7. Ian Hodder & Peter Pels, 'History houses: a new interpretation of architectural elaboration at Çatalhöyük' [163-186]
8. Webb Keane, 'Marked, absent, habitual: approaches to Neolithic religion at Çatalhöyük' [187-219]
9. Peter Pels, 'Temporalities of religion at Çatalhöyük' [221-267]
10. Paul Wason, 'The Neolithic cosmos of Çatalhöyük' [268-299]
11. Carolyn Nakamura, 'Magical deposits at Çatalhöyük: a matter of time and place?' [300-331]
12. Ian Hodder, 'Conclusions and evaluation' [332-355]

Index



Organizing Bronze Age Societies. The Mediterranean, Central Europe, and Scandinavia Compared

Edited by Timothy Earle & Kristian Kristiansen

City & year: Cambridge 2010

Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Description: Paperback, 328 p., 70 b/w illus., 1 map, 16 tables, 25,3x21,5 cm

ISBN: 9780521764667

Price: £ 20 (ca. € 23)

Aegean Library: 2496

Abstract

The Bronze Age was a formative period in European history when the organisation of landscapes, settlements, and economy reached a new level of complexity. This book presents the first in-depth, comparative study of household economy and settlement in three micro-regions: the Mediterranean (Sicily), Central Europe (Hungary), and Northern Europe (South Scandinavia). The results are based on ten years of fieldwork in a similar method of documentation, and scientific analyses were used in each of the regional studies, making controlled comparisons possible. The new evidence demonstrates how differences in settlement organisation and household economies were counterbalanced by similarities in the organised use of the landscape in an economy dominated by the herding of large flocks of sheep and cattle. This book's innovative theoretical and methodological approaches will be of relevance to all researchers of landscape and settlement history.

Contents

List of illustrations

List of tables

Preface

1. Timothy Earle and Kristian Kristiansen, 'Introduction: theory and practice in the late prehistory of Europe' [1-33]
2. Charles French, 'The palaeo-environment of Bronze Age Europe' [34-56]
3. Magnus Artursson, 'Regional settlement pattern' [57-86]
4. Timothy Earle and Michael J. Kolb, 'Settlement structure and organization' [87-121]
5. Marie Louise Sørensen, 'Households' [122-154]

6. Maria Vretemark, Hans-Peter Stika and Brigitta Berzsényi, 'Subsistence strategies' [155-184]
7. Joanna Sofaer, 'Technology and craft' [185-217]
8. Timothy Earle and Kristian Kristiansen, 'Organizing Bronze Age societies: concluding thoughts' [218-256]

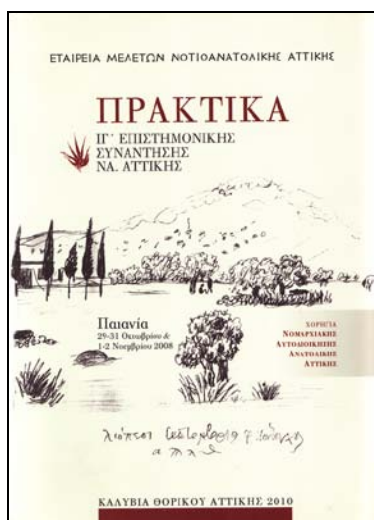
Appendix 1: Participating Institutions [257]

Appendix 2: Doctoral dissertations based on the projects [258]

Appendix 3: Selected publications related to the four projects [259]

Bibliography

Index



Aegean Library: 2495

**Πρακτικά ΙΓ' Επιστημονικής Συνάντησης ΝΑ Αττικής
(Proceedings of 13th Scientific Meeting of SE Attica)**

Edited by Athanasios Stefanis

City & year: Kalyvia Thorikou 2010

Publisher: Society for the Study of Southeast Attica

Series: -

Description: Paperback, 586 p., b/w illus., 23,8x17,2 cm

ISBN: 9789609855020

Price: € 25

Abstract

The book publishes the results of the 13th Scientific Meeting of Southeast Attica, which took place at Paiania on 29 October 2 November 2008. 44 articles are published. Some of them refer to prehistoric times. The articles are written in Greek, followed by a brief English summary.

Contents

Χαιρετισμοί [15-19]

Ελευθέριος Βεκρής, 'Η ζωή και το έργο του Γ. Δ. Χατζησωτηρίου. Μια προσωπική ανάγνωση' [23-32]

Θωμάς Γιαννάκης, 'Οι παρακαταθήκες και οι ευθύνες που μας κληροδότησε ο μεγάλος ιστοριοδίφης Γεώργιος Δημ. Χατζησωτηρίου' [33-38]

Γαλάτεια Δ. Κλαπάκη, 'Αρχαία Αγροικία επί της οδού Γαργηττού στην περιοχή Κέντρου τον Δήμου Γέρακα Αττικής' [39-46]

Αθηνά Χατζηδημητρίου, Ειρήνη Βρεττού, Ευαγγελία Παπαθωμά & Ιωάννα Μουτάφη, 'Νέα ευρήματα από το Μυκηναϊκό νεκροταφείο στο Φούρεσι του Δήμου Γλυκών Νερών' [47-80]

Ανθή Ντόβα, 'Πρόσφατες αρχαιολογικές έρευνες στα Καλύβια Αττικής' [81-93]

Ελένη Ανδρίκου, 'Παράδοση αρχαίων αντικειμένων από την Κερατέα' [95-104]

Παναγιώτα Μιχαηλίδη, Ιωάννα Σπηλιωτακοπούλου & Ηρακλής Τσώνος, 'Παλαιά και νέα ευρήματα από την ευρύτερη (βόρεια & ανατολική) περιοχή της Κερατέας' [105-118]

Ελένη Σ. Παπαφλωράτου, 'Γεωμετρική ταφή στο οικόπεδο Κοτζιά στο Κορωπί' [119-129]

Ευάγγελος Χ. Κακαβογιάννης, Alberto G. Benvenuti, 'Ένα μνημείο της ιταλικής κατοχής στη Νότια Αττική' [131-140]

Δημήτριος Παρράς, 'Λαυρεωτική: Αρχαία τοπογραφία και νέες αρχαιολογικές έρευνες (I)' [141-147]

Ανδρέας Καπετάνιος, 'Λαυρεωτική: Αρχαία τοπογραφία και νέες αρχαιολογικές έρευνες (II)' [149-162]

Κ. Γ. Τσάιμου & Α. Σπ. Τσάιμου, 'Αρχαία μεταλλουργική εγκατάσταση στην περιοχή Αρύ Λαυρεωτικής' [163-170]

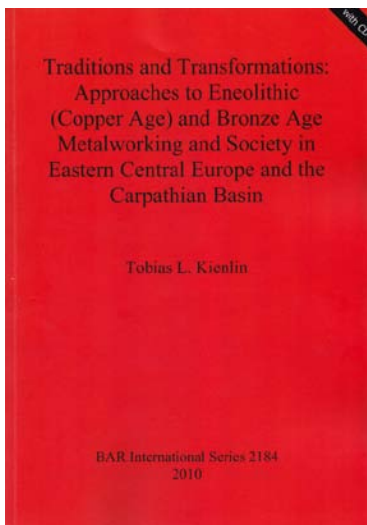
Όλγα Κακαβογιάννη, 'Η περιοχή της Παιανίας κατά τους προϊστορικούς και τους αρχαίους χρόνους' [171-192]

Ηλίας Γιαννίρης, 'Η Ανατολική Αττική και το Αιγαίο: ανιχνεύσεις προϊστορικών σχέσεων μέσα από τους μύθους του Διονύσου, του Δαίδαλου-Ίκαρου, της Αρτέμιδας, του Απόλλωνα, του Ικάρου και του Θέσπι' [193-208]

Γιώργος Ιατρού, 'Το Νησί του Πατρόκλου (Γαϊδουρονήσι) του δήμου Κερατέας' [209-221]

Κωνσταντίνος Πόγκας, 'Μελέτη για τη διάρκεια ζωής των κατοίκων στους δήμους Λαυρίου-Καλυβίων στην περίοδο 1988-2007' [223-234]

- Καίτη Ζηνέλη, 'Οι ρόλοι των δύο φύλων-γονέων στις οικογενειακές δραστηριότητες. Επιρροή στις επιλογές ζωής των εφήβων' [235-246]
- Ευανθία Σύρμου, 'Το Κέντρο Εκπαίδευσης Ανηλίκων (Κ.Ε.Ε.) Ανατολικής Αττικής' [247-256]
- Δημήτριος Καζάνης & Μαργαρίτα Αριανούτσου, 'Ο ρόλος της φωτιάς και των μεταπυρικών πρακτικών στη διαμόρφωση τοπίων και οικοσυστημάτων στη ΝΑ Αττική' [257-266]
- Σπυρίδων Λέκκας, 'Η επίδραση των ανθρωπογενών παρεμβάσεων στους υδροφόρους ορίζοντες των Μεσογείων Αττικής' [267-278]
- Χρήστος Κατσαρός, 'Φύκη, άνθρωπος και περιβάλλον στη Νοτιοανατολική Αττική' [279-290]
- Πέτρος Τσαλιαγκός, 'Οι μεταμορφώσεις του Λαυρεωτικού τοπίου στη λογοτεχνία του φανταστικού' [291-296]
- Άννα-Μαρία Γιαννακοδήμου, 'Το κρητικό στοιχείο στην ΝΑ Αττική: σύλλογοι, δραστηριότητες, μουσική παράδοση, ιστορία' [297-311]
- Αθανασία Μαρκουλή, 'Πλάκα, Οβριόκαστρο Κερατέας. Συνοπτική παρουσίαση της μεταλλευτικής δραστηριότητας της Πλάκας και του Οβριοκάστρου από το β' μισό του 19ου αιώνα και μετά' [313-323]
- Μαρία Κεκροπούλου, 'Το διεθνές σύστημα στην επίλυση του Λαυρεωτικού ζητήματος. Ο ρόλος των δρώντων παραγόντων' [325-336]
- Η. Κ. Κονοφάγος & Γ. Ν. Δερμάτης, 'Η παραγωγή καθαρού μεταλλικού αργύρου στο Λαύριο στην αρχαία και νεότερη εποχή' [337-350]
- Ευάγγελος Κακαβογιάννης, 'Από πού προέρχεται το τοπωνύμιο Καμάριζα της Λαυρεωτικής' [351-372]
- Δημήτρης Νικολάου, 'Αρχείο Δήμου Κρωπίας. Προβληματισμοί ως προς την ταξινόμησή' [373-380]
- Γιάννης Πρόφης & Σεραφείμ Κόλλιας, 'Ερμηνεία και τοπογραφική θέση τοπωνυμίων Κορωπίου' [381-394]
- Παναγιώτης Α. Γκισοσάτης, 'Ζητήματα εφαρμογής του Εθνικού Κτηματολογίου στα Μεσόγεια' [395-402]
- Γεώργιος Χ. Κούζας, 'Ο κόσμος της λαϊκής αγοράς. Χαρακτηριστικά, οικονομικές λειτουργίες και κοινωνικές προεκτάσεις της υπαίθριας λαϊκής αγοράς της Ραφήνας' [403-437]
- Αγγελική Τσεβά, 'Η Μεσογείτικη Παράδοση μέσα από το εικαστικό έργο του Χρήστου Ρεμπούσκου' [439-441]
- Άννα-Ιωάννα Γουήλ-Μπαδιερίτακη, 'Πιθανές ανατολικές επιδράσεις διακοσμητικών θεμάτων σε γυναικεία παραδοσιακά κοσμήματα της Αττικής' [443-450]
- Τιμόθεος Αγγελής, 'Η εξέλιξη του Παλαιοημερολογίτικου ζητήματος στα Μεσόγεια' [451-463]
- Σπυρίδων Κ. Ανδρικός, 'Αρχαίο υδραγωγείο Γλυκών Νερών Αττικής' [465-471]
- Ελένη Τούντα, 'Διερεύνηση των επαγγελματικών προτιμήσεων των γυναικών στην περιοχή των Μεσογείων κατά τη μετάβαση της αγροτικής οικονομίας σε οικονομία των υπηρεσιών και του εμπορίου' [473-486]
- Ελευθερία Παπαδάκη-Λάππα, 'Κέντρο αιτούντων άσυλο ατόμων. Εκπαίδευση των παιδιών των προσφύγων στην περιοχή της Λαυρεωτικής' [487-504]
- Μαργαρίτα Σάκκα-Θηβαίου, 'Το εκκλησιαστικό έργο του Βασίλη Νικολαΐδη στα Μεσόγεια' [505-510]
- Ελευθέριος. Π. Αλεξάκης, 'Μετανάστευση νησιωτών στη Λαυρεωτική. Η περίπτωση των Κείων (1970-2000)' [511-526]
- Μαριλένα Μαρμάνη & Κωνστ/νος Παναγόπουλος, 'Το κτήριο της «Ευτέρπης» στο Λαύριο και η προοπτική της αξιοποίησης αυτού του ιστορικού, διατηρητέου μνημείου του 19ου αιώνα' [527-536]
- Μαρία Γιάγκου-Δημαγκίκα, 'Αρχιτεκτονικές φάσεις του Ιερού Ναού Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου Κορωπίου κατά τη διάρκεια της ιστορίας του' [537-544]
- Ελένη Αλεξίου, Πάνος Τσολάκης, 'Ο «πύργος» του Γιωργ' Αλέξη' [545-553]
- Νίκος Παπαγιαννάκος & Ε. Χαίρη-Παπαγιαννάκου, 'Ίωνικά κιονόκρανα του Μουσείου Βραυρώνας' [555-568]
- Ε. Γκίνη-Τσοφοπούλου, 'Συλλογή εικόνων του ναού της Ευαγγελίστριας Καλυβίων' [569-584]
- Ν. Παπαγιαννάκος, 'Συμπεράσματα ΙΓ' Επιστημονικής Συνάντησης Νοτιοανατολικής Αττικής' [585-586]



Traditions and Transformations: Approaches to Eneolithic (Copper Age) and Bronze Age Metalworking and Society in Eastern Central Europe and the Carpathian Basin.

Tobias L. Kienlin

City & year: Oxford 2010

Publisher: Archaeopress

Series: BAR International Series 2184

Description: Paperback, iii+405 pages; illustrated throughout; 3 appendices; with CD.

ISBN: 9781407307404

Price: £ 61 (ca. € 70)

Aegean Library:-

Abstract (from the introduction)

This study was conceived of some years ago as a sequel to the metallographic examination of Early Bronze Age axes from the north alpine region of central Europe. The original impetus was to provide a long-term perspective on the development of methods of casting and forging by extending the data base to Eneolithic/Copper Age material. In addition, by a shift east to the Carpathian Basin an attempt was made to allow for the existence of different traditions of early metalworking and compare regional trajectories into the metal ages. The approach may be termed cognitive since metallographic data, that is the examination of a metal object's microstructure, is used to reconstruct chaînes opératoires in the production of early metal objects and to compare the knowledge Eneolithic/Copper Age and Bronze Age metalworkers had gained of the different types of copper and copper-based alloys they were working. In the first instance therefore this work represents is an archaeometallurgical study in the early phases of metallurgy in parts of central and south-eastern Europe. Metallographic data from a large series of Eneolithic/Copper Age shaft-hole axes and flat axes is first published here in detail. The findings from this examination are discussed and both groups of implements are compared in terms of variation in their production parameters. This variation is related to both the technological change that came about during the Eneolithic/Copper Age and to a shift in emphasis placed on the production of shaft-hole implements and more mundane flat axes respectively. The conclusions drawn relate to genuinely archaeological questions. At least, the author hopes that they are of wider archaeological relevance and they are framed in such terms as to arise the interest of an archaeological audience beyond the sub-discipline of archaeometallurgy. There is also new data on Bronze Age material contained in this study, but most discussions related to that period draw on previously published data as well and try to integrate both data sets into a more comprehensive picture than was previously available.

Contents

Acknowledgements iii

1) Introduction [1]

2) The Earliest Metalworking in South-Eastern and Central Europe: A Review of the Evidence [3]

3) Traditions in the Making: Aspects of the Production of Eneolithic/Copper Age Shaft-Hole Axes [21]

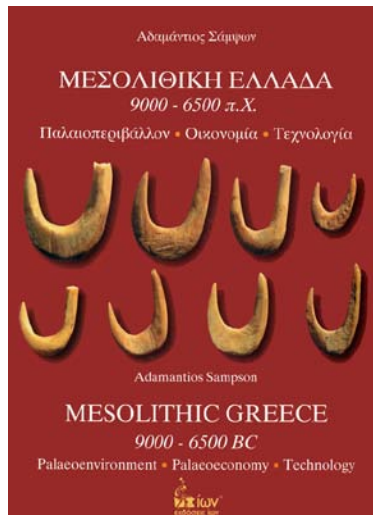
4) Traditions under Transformation I: The Casting and Working of Eneolithic/Copper Age Flat Axes [50]

5) The Axes in Context I: Copper and 'Copper Age' Society [80]

6) Early Bronze Age Metallurgy: A Review of the Evidence [118]

7) Traditions under Transformation II: Technological Choice in Bronze Age Metallurgy [135]

8) The Axes in Context II: A Case Study from the North Alpine Region of Central Europe [173]



Aegean Library: 2499

Μεσολιθική Ελλάδα, 9000-6500 π.Χ. Παλαιοπεριβάλλον, Οικονομία, Τεχνολογία (Mesolithic Greece, 9000-6500 BC. Palaeoenvironment, Palaeoeconomy, Technology)

Adamantios Sampson

City & year: Athens 2010

Publisher: Ion Publishing

Series: -

Description: Paperback, 193 p., 170 b/w and coloured illus., maps, figures, 29x20,8 cm.

ISBN: 9789604117246

Price: € 30

Abstract

The book presents the Mesolithic period in Greece, based on the most recent excavations. The first five chapters present the most important Mesolithic sites in Northwestern Greece (including the Ionian Islands) and Thessaly, in Central Greece, the Peloponnese and the Aegean. Many of these sites have been excavated by the author. The sixth and seventh chapters refer to several subjects such as art, economy, environment, relations with Europe and Anatolia. Each chapter is written in Greek, and is followed by an extensive English summary.

Contents

Εισαγωγή [11-13]

1. Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στη Βορειοδυτική Ελλάδα και τη Θεσσαλία [15-21]
2. Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στην Κεντρική Ελλάδα [23-36]
3. Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στην Πελοπόννησο [37-50]
4. Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στο χώρο του Βορείου Αιγαίου [51-74]
5. Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στο Κεντρικό και Νότιο Αιγαίο [75-140]
Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στην Ικαρία [75-85]
Η Προϊστορία της Κύθνου και ο Μεσολιθικός οικισμός στα Λουτρά [86-138]
6. Γενικά συμπεράσματα [141-172]
Το κλίμα και το περιβάλλον στο Πρώιμο Ολόκαινο [141-143]
Μεσολιθική οικονομία [143-152]
Χρονολογία της ελληνικής Μεσολιθικής περιόδου [152-155]

Η ελληνική Μεσολιθική περίοδος και οι σχέσεις της με πολιτισμούς της Εγγύς Ανατολής και της Ανατολίας [155-156]

Η Μεσολιθική κατοίκηση στον ευρωπαϊκό χώρο [156-159]

Ταφικές πρακτικές στην Ελλάδα κατά τη Μεσολιθική περίοδο και σχέσεις με άλλους πολιτισμούς [159-161]

Ναυσιπλοΐα και μετακινήσεις στο Μεσολιθικό Αιγαίο [161-163]

Η τέχνη στη Μεσολιθική περίοδο [163-164]

Η χρήση του πηλού στη Μεσολιθική περίοδο [164-165]

Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος στην Ελλάδα και οι προοπτικές της [165-172]

7. Η Μεσολιθική περίοδος του Αιγαίου: ένας υβριδικός πολιτισμός, μια εξωστρεφής κοινωνία (Σ. Κατσαρού & Α. Σάμψων) [173-182]

2. NEW ARTICLES

2.1. 'Oiling the wheels of civilization'

Colin Renfrew & Evi Margaritis

Current World Archaeology 48 (2011): 46-50.

Aegean Library: Dig. Renfrew & Margaritis

Abstract (from the introduction)

In his 1972 book *The Emergence of Civilisation*, Colin Renfrew argued that olive cultivation played an important role in this development. Now, new research by Evi Margaritis and Mim Bower at the British School at Athens and the McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, suggest the proof was grown on Crete. A combination of data from archaeological research along with new archaeobotanical information demonstrates that olive oil was a product of considerable importance in Prehistoric Crete. A versatile plant, the olive tree was used for food, fuel, lighting, ritual use, pampering, and trade. It is among the earliest fruit trees domesticated in the Old World: at Teleilat Ghassul, north of the Dead Sea in modern Jordan, olive stones have been found with dates, cereals, and pulses, dating to the 4th millennium BC. As this region is too dry for olives to grow naturally, those found here were likely the products of cultivation, possibly grown under irrigation. If so, then it raises the question: were olive trees being domesticated and cultivated elsewhere, too?

The evidence for the earliest use of the olive comes from analysing organic residues found on the interiors of pots. This is a non-destructive method using, for example, gas chromatography, which detects the chemical signature of olive oil and other contents in vessels used for storage, transport, or cooking. Using these techniques on finds from the cave of Gerani, near the modern town of Rethymno, revealed that Cretans were using olive oil in their cooking as early as the 4th millennium BC.

2.2. 'Modelling of tsunami generated by the giant Late Bronze Age eruption of Thera, South Aegean Sea, Greece'

T. Novikova, G.A. Papadopoulos & F.W. McCoy

Geophysical Journal International 186 (2011): 665–680.

Aegean Library: Dig. Novikova et al. 2011

Abstract

Tsunami generated by the Late Bronze Age (LBA) eruption of Thera were simulated using synthetic tide records produced for selected nearshore (~20 m depths) sites of northern Crete, the Cyclades Islands, SW Turkey and Sicily. Inundation distances inland were also calculated along northern Crete. Modelling was performed by incorporating fully non-linear Boussinesq wave theory with two tsunamigenic mechanisms. The first involved the entry of pyroclastic flows into the sea, assuming a thick (55 m; 30 km³) flow entering the sea along the south coast of Thera in three different directions all directed towards northern Crete, then a thin pyroclastic flow (1m; 1.2 km³) entering the sea along the north coast of Thera directed towards the Cyclades Islands. Flows were modelled as a solid block that slowly decelerates along a horizontal surface. The second mechanism assumed caldera collapse, of 19 km³ and 34 km³ modelled as a dynamic landslide producing rapid vertical displacements. Calculated nearshore wave amplitudes varied from a few metres to 28m along northern Crete from pyroclastic flows, and up to 19 m from caldera collapse (34 km³ volume). Inundation distances on Crete were 250–450 m. Waves produced by pyroclastic flows were highly focused, however, as a function of sea entry direction. Smaller volume pyroclastic flows produced nearshore wave amplitudes up to 4 m

in the Cyclades islands north of Thera. Wave amplitudes in the Cyclades from smaller volume caldera collapse (19 km³) were up to 24 m, whereas in SW Turkey were as low as 2.1 and 0.8 m (Didim and Fethye where LBA tsunami deposits have been found). Wave amplitudes for the larger volume caldera collapse (34 km³) were generally 2.5–3 times larger than those generated by the smaller volume collapse (19 km³). These results provide estimates for understanding possible consequences of tsunami impact in LBA coastal zones, thus providing criteria at archaeological sites for detecting inundation damage, as well as for contemporary hazard assessment; they also provide additional criteria for deciphering homogenite layers in the abyssal stratigraphy of the Ionian and eastern Mediterranean Seas.

2.3. ‘The communicative potential of Theran murals in Late Bronze Age Akotiri: applying viewshed analysis in 3D townscapes’

Eleftheria Paliou

Oxford Journal of Archaeology 30.3 (August 2011): 247-272.

Aegean Library: Dig. Paliou 2011

Abstract

This paper aims to contribute to the discussion of the social functions of Aegean wall painting, by examining the communicative impact and possible socio-symbolic significance of Theran murals in the urban landscape of Late Bronze Age Akrotiri (Thera, Greece). It uses a novel method of computational analysis to investigate the visibility of mural painting in the prehistoric townscape which combines the functionalities of 3D modelling and Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The benefits of this approach lie in that it considers virtually all observer locations in the study area, while taking more fully into account the precise shape of built forms and the physiological structure of the human visual system than other established methods of visibility analysis used in landscape and urban studies. The application of the methodology in the townscape of Akrotiri highlights some previously unobserved spatial relationships that could have played a role in enhancing the communicative impact of Theran murals in the LBA built environment, consequently encouraging the wide production of mural decoration in the settlement.

2.4. ‘Domestic and wild ungulate dietary traits at Kouphovouno (Sparta, Greece): implications for livestock management and paleoenvironment in the Neolithic’

Florent Rivals, Armelle Gardeisen & Jean Cantuel

Journal of Archaeological Science 38.3 (March 2011): 528-537.

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

The objective for this study is to explore interspecific variations in domestic and wild ungulate diets and management at the Neolithic site of Kouphovouno (Sparta, southern Greece). We tested four hypotheses related to environmental context and livestock management using, for the first time, a combination of mesowear and microwear analyses on a Neolithic site. We identified interspecific differences between ungulate taxa, especially between wild and domestic ungulates, however there is no significant difference between *Ovis* and *Capra*. There is no diachronic change in diet from the Middle Neolithic to the Late Neolithic. Changes in animal utilization are not reflected in their diet. Whatever the purpose of the husbandry, animals had access to the same food resources. The study of dental wear patterns gave some insights regarding the management practices for the domestic livestock as well as paleoenvironment through the study of wild ungulates.

2.5. 'Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene seafaring in the Aegean: new obsidian hydration dates with the SIMS-SS method'

N. Laskaris, A. Sampson, F. Mavridis & I. Liritzis

Journal of Archaeological Science 38.9 (September 2011): 2475-2479.

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

Archaeological evidence regarding the presence of obsidian in levels that antedate the food production stage could have been the result of usage or intrusion of small obsidian artifacts from overlying Neolithic layers. The new obsidian hydration dates presented below employing the novel SIMS-SS method, offers new results of absolute dating concordant with the excavation data. Our contribution sheds new light on the Late Pleistocene/Early Holocene exploitation of obsidian sources on the island of Melos in the Cyclades reporting dates c. 13th millennium - end of 10th millennium B.P.

2.6. 'An investigation of cortical bone loss and fracture patterns in the neolithic community of Çatalhöyük, Turkey using metacarpal radiogrammetry'

Bonnie Glencross & Sabrina C. Agarwal

Journal of Archaeological Science 38.3 (March 2011): 513-521.

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

Bioarchaeologists have conducted numerous studies on human skeletal remains using metacarpal cortical bone radiogrammetry. This method allows cortical thickness of the second metacarpal to be quantified. As a sensitive index of bone health metacarpal cortical thickness is evaluated in the context of functional adaptations, growth, ageing and bone loss in osteoporosis, as well as used as a reliable indicator of fracture risk. The focus of this study is an examination of the widely used calculation that expresses second metacarpal cortical bone values, followed by an examination of age and sex-related patterns of cortical bone loss and skeletal fragility fracture in a Neolithic archaeological skeletal sample from Çatalhöyük, Turkey. Using metacarpal radiogrammetry, 49 adult metacarpals ($f = 27$ $m = 22$) were examined. Data were collected for size variables, length (L) and total bone width (TW) as well as quantity variables, medullary width (MW) and cortical thickness (CT). These parameters were then used to calculate the widely used cortical index (CI) and two new indices expressing medullary width and cortical bone thickness in relation to length (medullary width index, MWI and cortical thickness index, CTI). The ratios were then used to explore age- and sex-related cortical bone loss and fragility fracture patterns amongst the inhabitants of Çatalhöyük. Çatalhöyük males and females demonstrate an inverse relationship where CTI decreases as age and MWI increase. Analyses indicate statistically significant age-related change in MWI amongst the oldest females. Despite age-related loss of bone, no typical fragility fractures are observed. We discuss the role of ageing and lifestyle factors at Çatalhöyük that may have been beneficial to skeletal health and a reduction in the risk of fragility fracture.

2.7. 'Biomolecular and micromorphological analysis of suspected faecal deposits at Neolithic Çatalhöyük, Turkey'

Lisa-Marie Shillito, Ian D. Bull, Wendy Matthews, Matthew J. Almond, James M. Williams & Richard P. Evershed

Journal of Archaeological Science 38.8 (August 2011): 1869-1877.

Aegean Library:-

Abstract

Suspected coprolites from midden, burial and room fill contexts at Çatalhöyük were analysed by GC/MS and thin section micromorphology. Assessment of sterol biomarkers enabled a distinction

between faecal and non-faecal sources for the deposits to be made, with bile acid biomarkers indicating that many of the faecal deposits are human coprolites. The relative lack of ruminant faeces could be due to this material being used as a fuel source. Deposits in burials were observed to contain soil and plant derived sterols rather than their faecal counterparts. Further analysis in thin section enabled identification of associated materials and contents. Diagnostic inclusions such as bone and plant fragments were only present in some of the human coprolites, which were observed to have a very similar morphology to decayed plant remains. This study illustrates the difficulties in distinguishing coprolites in the field and under the microscope, and demonstrates the importance of integrating biogeochemical methods, particularly when such deposits are used as the basis for interpreting human health and diet, and use-of-space in settlements.

2.8. 'Egyptian Gold in Prepalatial Crete? A Consideration of the Evidence'

Cynthia S. Colburn

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 3.3 (August 2011): 1-13.

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

This study analyzes the evidence for the origin of gold found in secure prepalatial contexts in Crete. As there are no natural gold sources on Crete, extra-island interaction was required to procure this raw material. Information regarding the origin of prepalatial gold may, therefore, throw light on Crete's interactions during this formative period. Unfortunately, there are many difficulties in sourcing ancient gold, which make it impossible to know with certainty where the gold used in the production of prepalatial objects originated. However, careful analysis of the contexts of prepalatial gold objects, which demonstrates the frequent co-occurrence of gold with hippopotamus ivory, and the distribution of gold products and gold working technologies in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean, provide intriguing evidence to make a strong case for Egypt as a principal source of gold arriving in Crete during the prepalatial period, likely via the port city of Byblos on the Levantine coast.

2.9. 'Insights into Egyptian Horus Falcon Imagery by Way of Real Falcons and Horus Falcon Influence in the Aegean in the Middle Bronze Age: Part I'

Ray Porter

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 3.3 (August 2011): 27-38.

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

The falcon is the most frequently represented bird in Egyptian art. The discovery that falcons were depicted more often than realized in Aegean art, during the author's studies of Aegean faunal iconography, prompted this article which delves into their natural history as a way to understand the falcon gods of Egypt as well as Egyptian and Aegean falcon depictions. This study found that in both cultures the traits of the depicted falcons center around the Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*) and Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) with some Lanner (*Falco biarmicus*) head traits. The black malar facial stripe, hooked beak, and tomial 'tooth' of falcons characterize all Egyptian falcon depictions. In ancient Egypt the falcon was revered and it appears to hold a special place in Egyptian iconography with everyday images of falcon species not being present.

2.10. 'Insights into Egyptian Horus Falcon Imagery by Way of Real Falcons and Horus Falcon Influence in the Aegean in the Middle Bronze Age: Part II'

Ray Porter

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 3.3 (August 2011): 39-52.

Aegean Library: -

Abstract

Falcons were a part of everyday life in the Aegean but also appear in Minoan-Mycenaean art in cult capacity as attending a goddess, being the possible ba bird of a deceased person, and in symbolic ornaments of falcon shape with distinct falcon attributes of sharp talons, hooked beaks, and neck curls. These are possibly major signs of Egyptian influence reaching the Cyclades Islands as well as the Aegeanized Egyptian themes of Middle Bronze Age Minoan art. The bird part of Aegean griffins and griffin wings show distinct origins in falcon traits. The triangular hook markings of kestrels' underwing flight feathers are the basis of the "notched plume" wing pattern of Aegean griffins. The most suggestive presence of the Horus Falcon and the solar disk in the Aegean is the Middle Bronze Age Melos Island pottery bird designs where falcons have large red disk bodies resembling the solar disks of the Egyptian falcon gods.

2.11. 'The Pseudo-Minoan Nestor Ring and Its Egyptian Iconography'

Nanno Marinatos & Briana Jackson

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 3.2 (May 2011): 17-27.

Aegean Library: **Dig. Marinatos & Jackson 2011**

Abstract

The so-called Nestor Ring was found in 1924 and was accepted as authentic by Sir Arthur Evans whereas many other scholars condemned it as a forgery. In recent years, scholars have claimed its authenticity anew. This article examines the background of the find circumstances and judges them suspicious. It also adds the criterion of semantic coherence in the debate and argues that the coherence depends on Egyptian prototypes and that the use of the butterfly motif argues against the artifact's authenticity.

[Read the article](#)

2.12. 'Sailing the Great Green Sea? Amenhotep III's "Aegean List" from Kom el- Hetan, Once More'

Eric H. Cline & Steven M. Stannish

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 3.2 (May 2011): 6-16.

Aegean Library: **Dig. Cline & Stannish 2011**

Abstract

Amenhotep III's "Aegean List," found on a statue base at his mortuary temple at Kom el- Hetan nearly fifty years ago, is critical for the study of Egypt- Aegean relations during the Late Bronze Age. This article reconsiders the Aegean List's toponyms and possible function in light of recent archaeological discoveries made at the site as well as the publication of a recently updated version of Elmar Edel's classic volume on the subject. Among the most important insights in the latter study is the realization that three of the Aegean List's names were recarved at some point. This article weighs the possibility that the inscription reflects the itinerary of an Egyptian expedition to the Aegean region and raises questions about its proper interpretation.

[Read the article](#)

2.13. 'Newly Excavated Artifacts from Hagios Charalambos, Crete, with Egyptian Connections'

Philip P. Betancourt

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 3.2 (May 2011): 1-5.

Aegean Library: Dig. Betancourt 2011

Abstract

The Minoan ossuary at Hagios Charalambos is located in the upland plain of Lasithi in Central Crete. This article discusses eight items with Egyptian connections discovered in the excavations of the site in 2002 and 2003. Two pendants carved from hippopotamus ivory in the form of apes belong to classes already known from Minoan Crete. Six clay examples of the sistrum add to our knowledge of this musical instrument on Crete as only a single MM IA sistrum was known previously from this island. The artifacts increase the very small corpus of "Egyptianizing" objects known from MM IA Crete, a period that is contemporary with the beginning of the Middle Kingdom. They point to a complex trade network reaching Cretan ports on both the south and the north coasts that was already present. These objects help document the distribution of exotic items with overseas connections to the interior of the Minoan island, well away from any coastal seaport or important population center. They also underscore the ambiguous nature of the connections between Minoan Crete and the East Mediterranean at this period when one cannot be sure if the overseas connections are direct or indirect. Within Crete, however, the distribution of hippopotamus ivory and objects made from it suggests that this trade from overseas is with South Cretan ports rather than North Cretan ports, because the distribution is densest in the Mesara and gradually diminishes away from this region.

[Read the article](#)

2.14. 'Ahotep's Silver Ship Model: The Minoan Context'

Shelley Wachsmann

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 2.3 (August 2010): 31-41.

Aegean Library: Dig. Wachsmann 2010

Abstract

The tomb of Ahotep (I) contained two metal ship models—one gold, the other silver—and a four-wheeled carriage. The models are anomalous in time and material. While the gold model represents a typical papyri form wood-planked Nile vessel, the silver model finds its closest parallels with a contemporaneous Minoan/Cycladic vessel crewed by ten rowers, exemplified by the rowed ship in the Miniature Frieze from the West House in Akrotiri on Thera. This conclusion is further supported by a long tradition of metal ship models in the Aegean. The silver model may be a copy of an actual ship or of a model of a ship. Ahotep's models and carriage may represent booty captured by either Kamose or Ahmose during their battles against Avaris (Tell el-Dab'a) and subsequently interred with their mother. If this interpretation is correct, it could indicate a Minoan presence at Tell el-Dab'a during the Hyksos period.

[Read the article](#)

2.15. 'Egyptian Amethyst in the Bronze Age Aegean'

Jacke Phillips

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 1.2 (April 2009): 9-25.

Aegean Library: Dig. Phillips 2009

Abstract

Though the fashion for amethyst in Egypt and the Near East had, by the mid-eighteenth century bc, dried up along with the Wadi el-Hudi mine, the stone's popularity persisted in the Aegean well into the

twelfth century. Though amethyst-colored glass was sometimes substituted, an abundance of genuine, high-quality amethyst nevertheless made its way to the Aegean during a period when even pharaohs settled for subpar specimens. Some of these examples (scarabs in particular) were certainly completed pieces by the time they left Egypt, even if later recut in Aegean workshops. Other examples seem to have been crafted entirely in the Aegean from Egyptian raw materials of dimensions unattested in Egypt itself, even before the Wadi el-Hudi source was mined out. The exceptional quantity and quality of amethyst jewelry in the Aegean suggests avenues of legitimate trade with Egypt must have existed at some point; later tomb-robbing alone is unlikely to account for so much high-grade material dispersing so far afield.

[Read the article](#)

2.16. ‘The Indebtedness of Minoan Religion to Egyptian Solar Religion: Was Sir Arthur Evans Right?’

Nanno Marinatos

Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections 1.1 (January 2009): 22-28.

Aegean Library: Dig. Marinatos 2009

Abstract

Sir Arthur Evans believed that Minoan religion was highly indebted to Egyptian thought. He saw that the two cultures shared a solar theology expressed via similar iconographical schemes, such as the heraldic arrangement of lions on either side of a column and the astral associations of the goddess known to the Egyptians as Taweret and transmuted by the Minoans into leonine “genii.” Evans’ solar theory was not systematically developed and has scarcely been considered since. Yet it is worth reviving in view of recent finds, especially the excavations of Manfred Bietak at Tell el Dab’a, which prove that contact between the royal courts of Egypt and Crete was close indeed.

[Read the article](#)

2.17. ‘The Theran eruption and Minoan palatial collapse: new interpretations gained from modelling the maritime network ‘

Carl Knappett, Ray Rivers & Tim Evans

Antiquity 85 (September 2011): 1008-1023.

Aegean Library: Dig. Knappett *et al.* 2011

Abstract (from the introduction)

We seek in this paper to provide a novel perspective on the possible causes for the demise of Cretan Bronze Age palatial society c. 1500 BC using a mathematical model developed from a previous study (Knappett *et al.* 2008). Various explanations have been proposed for the collapse—a tsunami generated by the Theran eruption destroying the Minoan fleet, an invasion by Mycenaean mainlanders, or internal socio-political turmoil and unrest. Today many scholars would see many such factors, natural and social, combining in some way. And although most do see some role for the Theran eruption, the fact that it took place some 50–100 years before the collapse makes it difficult to envisage what that role might have been. One persuasive argument sees indirect though insidious effects, both economic (such as ash-fall polluting the water supply and compromising crop yields in east Crete) and social, such as ideological uncertainty. However, this accounts for neither the apparent continuing prosperity at some sites, nor the robust exchange activity across the Aegean; for these and other reasons some scholars have resisted the above interpretations

We tentatively put forward a new explanation that has the advantage of accounting for both the continued prosperity post-Thera, and the eventual collapse. Our approach is based on network modelling and sees the dynamics of network exchange at the regional level as critical to the ongoing

success or otherwise of the Cretan Bronze Age palatial system. We argue that the strong continuing economic activity subsequent to the eruption is in reaction to it, yet also ultimately contains the seeds of instability and collapse.

2.18. 'The earlier Neolithic in Cyprus: recognition and dating of a Pre-Pottery Neolithic A occupation'

Sturt W. Manning, Carole McCartney, Bernd Kromer & Sarah T. Stewart

Antiquity 84 (September 2010): 693-706.

Aegean Library: Dig. Manning *et al.* 2010

Abstract

Intensive survey and initial excavations have succeeded in pushing back the Neolithic human occupation of Cyprus to the earlier ninth millennium cal BC. Contemporary with PPNA in the Levant, and with signs of belonging to the same intellectual community, these were not marginalised foragers, but participants in the developing Neolithic project, which was therefore effectively networked over the sea.

3. RECENT BOOK REVIEWS

3.1. Wilkinson, R.H. & Schon, R., 2011. Review of C. Greenlaw, *The Representation of Monkeys in the Art and Thought of Mediterranean Cultures: A New Perspective on Ancient Primates* (Oxford 2011). *Journal of Ancient Egyptian Interconnections* 3.2 (May 2011): 28-30.

Aegean Library: Dig. Wilkinson & Schon 2011

[Read the review](#)

3.2. Bennet, J., 2011. Review of Eric H. Cline (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of the Bronze Age Aegean* (Oxford 2010), *Antiquity* 85 (March): 298-300.

Aegean Library: Dig. Bennet 2011

3.3. Sbonias, K., 2011. Online review of J. Reid, *Minoan Kato Zakro: A Pastoral Economy* (Oxford 2007), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. Sbonias 2011

[Read the review](#)

3.4. Whitley, J., 2011. Online review of A. Stroulia & S. Buck Sutton (eds), *Archaeology in Situ: Sites, Archaeology, and Communities in Greece* (Lanham, Md. 2010), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. Whitley 2011

[Read the review](#)

3.5. Shelmerdine, C.W., 2011. Online review of W.A. Parkinson & M.L. Galaty (eds), *Archaic State Interaction: The Eastern Mediterranean in the Bronze Age* (Santa Fe, N.M. 2009), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. Shelmerdine 2011

[Read the review](#)

3.6. Krzyszkowska, O., 2011. Online review of H. Hughes-Brock, *Corpus der minoischen und mykenischen Siegel. Vol. 6, Oxford, the Ashmolean Museum* (Mainz 2009), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. Krzyszkowska 2011

[Read the review](#)

3.7. Gill, D.W.J., 2011. Online review of K. Kathariou, *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum. Greece 11. Athens 1: Museum of Cycladic Art* (Athens 2009), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. Gill 2011

[Read the review](#)

3.8. D'Agata, A.L., 2011. Online review of P. Muhly, *The Sanctuary of Hermes and Aphrodite at Syme*

Viannou. Vol. 4, Animal Images of Clay (Athens 2008), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. D'Agata 2011

[Read the review](#)

Environment: Papers Presented in Honor of Peter Ian Kuniholm (Oxford 2009), *AJA* 115.3 (July).

Aegean Library: Dig. Höflmayer 2011

[Read the review](#)

- 3.9. Höflmayer, F., 2011. Online review of S.W. Manning & M. J. Bruce (eds), *Tree-Rings, Kings, and Old World Archaeology and*

4. FREE DIGITAL BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

- 4.1. Pendlebury, J.D., 1933. *A Handbook to the Palace of Minos at Knossos, with its Dependencies*, London: Macmillan & Co.

[Press here](#)

- 4.2. Pendlebury, J.D., 1933. *A Guide to the Stratigraphical Museum in the Palace at Knossos*, London: The British School at Athens.

[Press here](#)

5. USEFUL WEBSITES

Kernos - Revue internationale et pluridisciplinaire de religion grecque antique

Kernos est la seule revue scientifique internationale entièrement consacrée à l'étude des faits et phénomènes religieux de la Grèce antique. Elle a pour ambition de fournir aux chercheurs en ce domaine, mais aussi à toute personne intéressée par les questions religieuses, un instrument de réflexion et des outils de travail pour progresser dans la connaissance du système religieux des Grecs.

URL: <http://kernos.revues.org>

Therasia Project

The Therasia Project is a multidisciplinary study of the history of the island that is operated by a) the University of Crete, Department of History and Archaeology (supervisor: Professor Iris Tzachili) b) the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Department of Architecture and the Postgraduate Interdepartmental Program on the Preservation, Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Monuments (supervisor: Professor Clairi Palyvou) and c) the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, 11th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities (supervisor: Dr Marisa Marthari).

URL: <http://therasiaproject.web.auth.gr>

6. AEGEUS'S NEWS

Changes in the annual member fees of Aegeus

Due to the current economic crisis that Greece faces, it has been decided to proceed to certain changes in the annual member fees. Thus, from the 1st October onwards the fees are as follows:

Basic Aegeus membership is maintained at **40** Euros. Membership for unemployed archaeologists and students (from undergraduates to PhD candidates) is set at **25** Euros. Institution membership is reduced to **50** Euros.

We wish to warmly thank all those who decided not to renew their membership, both for their trust to us and also for their financial support.

New Fellows of *Aegeus*

The organizing team of Aegeus is growing! *Aegeus* is proud to welcome three new fellows: Anastasia Christophilopoulou, Ioanna Moutafi and Tatiana Theodoropoulou.

Subsequently, the core group of *Aegeus* will consist of 10 fellows.

Aegeus is pleased and grateful for the opportunity to share creativity, fresh ideas, passion, diversity, perseverance and enthusiasm!

DISSERTATIONS

Fabricating Signification: An Analysis of the Spatial Relationships Between Room Types in Minoan Monumental Architecture

Louise Hitchcock

University of California, Los Angeles 1998

This dissertation analyzes the function of the Minoan “Palaces” in Late Bronze Age Crete. It also makes reference to numerous “Villas” termed “palatial.” The “Palaces” incorporate a “Labyrinthine” ground plan with elaborate halls, storage rooms, and industrial quarters grouped around a central court. Although general similarities exist in the layout of these buildings, regional variations exist in the distribution of room types and the relationships between rooms as determined by the placement of doorways and corridors.

[Read more](#)



7. UPCOMING LECTURES & CONFERENCES

A selection of upcoming lectures and conferences:

Greece, Athens, 18 October, 19:00

ASCSA, Cotsen Hall (9 Anapiron Polemou St.)

Lecture

Jörg Rambach (ΛΗ΄ ΕΠΚΑ)

Recent Prehistoric Finds at the Costa Navarino Resort in Messenia

[Information](#)

[Map](#)

France, Lyon, 19-22 October

Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée "J. Pouilloux"

Conference

POCA -POstgraduate Cypriot Archaeology

[Further information & programme](#)

USA, Chicago, IL, 20-22 October

International Conference

Thera, Knossos and Egypt, 1500 BCE

[Programme](#)

Greece, Rethymnon (Crete), 21-27 October

11th International Cretological Congress

[Read more](#)

Greece, Athens, 3 November, 19:00

Austrian Archaeological Institute at Athens (Leoforos Alexandras 26)

Forschungen zur Frühägäischen Archäologie

Univ.-Doz. Dr. Eva Alram-Stern (Mykenische Kommission, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften)

'Social and Economic Networks and their Emergence at the Dawn of the Early Bronze Age'

[Information](#)

[Map](#)

United Kingdom, London, 12 November, 09:30 – 17:30

British Museum, BP Lecture Theatre

Knossos: from labyrinth to laboratory. A study day at the British Museum.

[Further information](#)

[Study day programme PDF](#)

To see all the lectures of the month [press here](#).

☺ Visit the website of *Aegeus* constantly for updates and changes.

8. CALL FOR PAPERS

4ο ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΣΤΕΡΕΑΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ 2009-2011

Greece, Volos 16-18 March 2012

Deadline: 31 October 2011

Ύστερα από την τρίτη επιτυχημένη συνάντηση για το ΑΕΘΣΕ [ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΣΤΕΡΕΑΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ] και την επικείμενη έκδοση των Πρακτικών προχωρούμε στη διοργάνωση της τέταρτης επιστημονικής συνάντησης, από 16 έως 18 Μαρτίου 2012.

[read more](#)

Computer applications and quantitative methods in Archaeology 2012

University of Southampton, 26-30 March 2012

Deadline: 21 November 2011

The Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology 2012 conference will be focussed around a series of themes.

[read more](#)

The Connected Past: people, networks and complexity in archaeology and history

University of Southampton, 24-25 March 2012

Deadline: 20 November 2011

Over the past decade 'network' has become a buzz-word in many disciplines across the humanities and sciences.

[read more](#)

Θρησκευτικά τοπία της Πελοποννήσου από τους προϊστορικούς έως τους μεταβυζαντινούς χρόνους

Greece, Sparta, 30 March - 1 April 2012

Deadline: 30 November 2011

Το ιερό, σε όλες του τις εκφράσεις - θρησκευτική αρχιτεκτονική, άγιοι τόποι, ιερή τέχνη, μύθοι και θρύλοι - μέσα στην ιστορία, εντοπίζεται αλλά και ανταποκρίνεται στο φυσικό και πολιτισμικό περιβάλλον.

[read more](#)

The Lute from Bronze Age to Iron Age in the Old World

Senate House, Institute of Musical Research, University of London, 1-3 December 2011

Deadline: Not available

Conference jointly organised by ICONEA-International Conference of Near Eastern Archaeomusicology and PLM-Patrimoines et Langages Musicaux, Université de Paris-Sorbonne.

[read more](#)

16th SOMA - Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology

Florence (Italy) , 1-3 March 2012

Deadline: 15 January 2012

The symposium will be organized jointly by the University of Florence, CAMNES and GAMA under the patronage of the City of Florence.

[read more](#)

9. GRANTS/BURSARIES & JOB VACANCIES

Assistant Director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens

Deadline: 31 October 2011

[read more](#)

Four Ph.D. Research positions in Classics at Dutch universities

Deadline: 15 November 2011

[read more](#)

Royal Ontario Museum-Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

Deadline: 18 November 2011

[read more](#)

Υποτροφία «DAAD- Μαρία Trumpf-Λυριτζάκη» διάρκειας ενός έτους για Έλληνες Αρχαιολόγους

Deadline: 09 December 2011

[read more](#)

BSA Centenary Bursaries 2012

Deadline: 09 January 2012

[read more](#)

BSA - The School Studentship 2012

Deadline: 01 April 2012

[read more](#)

Macmillan-Rodewald Studentship 2012

Deadline: 01 April 2012

[read more](#)

10. MISCELLANEA

Pavlopetri: A window on to Bronze Age suburban life

Dr Jon Henderson, *BBC News*, 8-10-2011

Semi-detached houses with gardens, clothes drying in the courtyards, walls and well-made streets - Pavlopetri epitomises the suburban way of life. Except that it's a Bronze Age port, submerged for millennia off the south-east coast of Greece. This summer it became the first underwater city to be fully digitally mapped and recorded in three dimensions, and then brought back to life with computer graphics. The result shows how much it has in common with port cities of today - Liverpool, London, New York, San Francisco, Tokyo or Shanghai - despite the fact that its heyday was 4,000 years ago. Covering an area of about eight football pitches, Pavlopetri appears as a series of large areas of stones indicating building complexes, among which a network of walls can be traced. It is a city of well-built roads lined by detached and semi-detached two-storey houses. There are larger apparently public buildings and evidence of a complex water management system involving channels and guttering.

[Read more](#)



Ανοίγει το μουσείο Μαλεβιζίου

Flashnews.gr, 13-09-2011

Από τη Δευτέρα 17 Οκτωβρίου, ανοίγει τις πόρτες του για το κοινό το μουσείο Μαλεβιζίου, που θα φιλοξενεί πλέον τμήμα της σπανιότατης συλλογή του Νίκου και της Θεανώς Μεταξά. Η συλλογή αυτή, προϊόν 40χρονης συλλεκτικής προσπάθειας, περιλαμβάνει 2229 αρχαία αντικείμενα, που χρονολογούνται από της 4η χιλιετία π. Χ έως τον 3ο μ.Χ. αιώνα και δικαίως θεωρείται ως μια από τις σημαντικότερες ιδιωτικές αρχαιολογικές συλλογές παγκοσμίως.

[Read more](#)

Έρευνες για μινωικά ναυάγια

Έθνος, 22-09-2011

Έτοιμοι να ξεκινήσουν έρευνες στην ευρύτερη θαλάσσια περιοχή του Ηρακλείου είναι οι Έλληνες και οι Αμερικανοί επιστήμονες, οι οποίοι θα αναζητήσουν θησαυρούς που για χιλιάδες χρόνια βρίσκονται κρυμμένοι στον βυθό της θάλασσας. Οι επιστήμονες του αμερικάνικου ωκεανογραφικού ινστιτούτου Woods Hole βρίσκονται ήδη στο Ηράκλειο και αναμένεται σήμερα ή αύριο να ξεκινήσουν έρευνα, την εποπτεία της οποίας έχει η Εφορεία Ενάλιων Αρχαιοτήτων με τη συνεργασία του Ελληνικού Κέντρου Θαλάσσιων Ερευνών (ΕΛΚΕΘΕ).

Read more:

<http://www.ethnos.gr>

<http://www.neakriti.gr>



Έργα του Κυκλαδικού πολιτισμού κατέχει παράνομα γερμανικό μουσείο

M. Thermou, *To Βήμα*, 12-10-2011

Ένα γυναικείο κυκλαδικό ειδώλιο που έχει ύψος 88 εκατοστά και ένα χάλκινο τηγανόσχημο σκεύος, επίσης της Κυκλαδικής εποχής ζητεί η χώρα μας να της επιστραφούν από τη Γερμανία και συγκεκριμένα από το Κρατικό Μουσείο Μπάντεν της Καρλσρούης, που τα κατέχει παράνομα. Γνωστό και από το παρελθόν για κατοχή ελληνικών αρχαιοτήτων που είχαν εξαχθεί παράνομα από τη χώρα το συγκεκριμένο μουσείο έχει υποβάλλει παρ' όλα αυτά αίτημα προς την Ελλάδα για δανεισμό αρχαίων αντικειμένων της Κυκλαδικής εποχής (Εποχή του Χαλκού) προκειμένου να διοργανώσει τον Δεκέμβριο έκθεση για τον Κυκλαδικό πολιτισμό.

[Read more](#)

Rain unearths unknown Mycenaean cemetery

Athens News, 15-09-2011

Five box-shaped Mycenaean era tombs were unearthed in Soha, near Vaskina village, some ten kilometers northwest of Leonidio, by recent heavy rainfall. The most impressive of the funerary gifts found in the graves were several clay sympotic vases. According to archaeologists, the finds dating back to the 14th century BC. A recovery excavation was conducted by the 38th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities.

Read more:

<http://www.athensnews.gr>

[Τα Νέα](#)

<http://www.ethnos.gr>



AGON Film Festival - 9th International Meeting of Archaeological Film of the Mediterranean Area ...and beyond

Athens, May 2012

The International Meeting of Archaeological Film of the Mediterranean Area— AGON is taking place every two years and it is organized by the non-profit association AGON, under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Culture and the Lambrakis Foundation.

– The subject is Archaeology in its wider sense (i.e. Antiquity, Middle ages, or even Industrial archaeology), the Patrimony and the dying Popular Art and Traditions.

– Are accepted all kind of films: documentaries, fiction, animation, reporting, educational etc., produced after January 1st, 2008.

[Further Information](#)

Five-year-old girl digs up 160million year old fossil with seaside spade!

parentdish.co.uk, 13-09-2011

Emily Baldry, five, was armed with a long-handled children's spade better suited to building sandcastles - but that's all she needed to unearth a rare, enormous and perfect fossil thought to be more than 160 million years old. Emily pulled the 9 STONE specimen out of the ground at Cotswold Water Park in Gloucestershire with the help of her father Jon, 40. She took the fossil - which she affectionately dubbed 'Spike' - to school to show her friends who, she says, all thought he was 'great'! The fossilised sea creature has a spiral-patterned shell with inch-long bristles jutting from it to ward off predators

Read more:

<http://www.parentdish.co.uk>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk>



Ξεκίνησαν οι εργασίες ανάπλασης, ανάδειξης και αποκατάστασης του Αρχαιολογικού χώρου της Τυλίσου

Νέα Κρήτη, 29-09-2011

Ξεκίνησαν οι εργασίες ανάπλασης, ανάδειξης και αποκατάστασης του Αρχαιολογικού χώρου της Τυλίσου, το οποίο έχει ενταχθεί και χρηματοδοτείται από το ΕΣΠΑ. Ο Δήμαρχος Μαλεβιζίου Κώστας Μαμουλάκης συναντήθηκε σήμερα στο χώρο με την προϊσταμένη της ΚΓ' Εφορείας Αρχαιοτήτων κα Αθανασία Κάντα και επιθεώρησαν την πρόοδο των εργασιών, μαζί και με τους αντιδημάρχους Μαλεβιζίου, τον πρόεδρο της κοινότητας και στελέχη της ΚΓ' Εφορείας. Παράλληλα επιβεβαίωσαν τη στενή συνεργασία και τον συντονισμό δήμου Μαλεβιζίου και Υπουργείου Πολιτισμού για την ταχεία και ομαλή ολοκλήρωση αυτού του τόσο σημαντικού έργου για την ευρύτερη περιοχή.

[Read more](#)

Ο γητευτής των αλόγων της αρχαίας Ελεύθερνας

M. Thermou, *To Βήμα*, 12-09-2011

Ενας αριστοκράτης πολεμιστής ηλικίας 29-35 ετών με τα όπλα του και όλα τα κτερίσματα που συνόδευαν την ταφή του ήρθε στο φως στην αρχαία Ελεύθερνα της Κρήτης φέτος το καλοκαίρι. Λεπτές σιδερένιες, οξυκόρυφες λόγχες μήκους ως 45 εκατοστά, άλλες από δόρατα κι άλλες από ξίφη, που στέκονταν όρθιες σαν να κρέμονται στον αέρα, αφού τα ξύλινα στελέχη τους, μπηγμένα στον τάφο κάποτε, έλιωσαν και χάθηκαν, αποκάλυψε η ανασκαφή που διενεργεί ο καθηγητής κ. Νίκος Σταμπολίδης. Ανάμεσα στα πήλινα αγγεία που συνόδευαν την ταφή _ αμφορείς, υδρίες, λήκυθοι κ. α. _ βρισκόταν όμως και ένας κρατήρας του 8ου π. Χ. αιώνα, γεμάτος από ζωγραφιστά γεωμετρικά μοτίβα με εμβληματική παράσταση στο πρόσθιο και πίσω μέρος του με ένα θέμα μοναδικό: Μία ανδρική μορφή στη μέση και δίπλα της, ένθεν και ένθεν δύο ίππους. Στην πρώτη περίπτωση μάλιστα ο άνδρας φαίνεται να υψώνει τα χέρια και να «γητεύει» τα άλογα ενώ στη δεύτερη μοιάζει να τα κρατά από σχοινί, που έχει περάσει στο λαιμό τους. Παράλληλα, κοντά στις κεφαλές των αλόγων βρίσκονται δύο τροχοί ενώ στο κάτω μέρος εμφανίζονται και ψάρια.

[Read more](#)



Stone-age toddlers had art lessons, study says

Caroline Davies, *The Guardian*, 30-09-2011

Stone age toddlers may have attended a form of prehistoric nursery where they were encouraged to develop their creative skills in cave art, say archaeologists. Research indicates young children expressed themselves in an ancient form of finger-painting. And, just as in modern homes, their early efforts were given pride of place on the living room wall. A Cambridge University conference on the archaeology of childhood on Friday reveals a tantalising glimpse into life for children in the palaeolithic age, an estimated 13,000 years ago.

[Read more](#)

Η Θήρα «γονάτισε» την Κρήτη

A. Kotti, *Έθνος*, 12-09-2011

Χρησιμοποιώντας ένα στατιστικό μοντέλο και μια μαθηματική εξίσωση, οι αρχαιολόγοι Καρλ Κνάπετ, από το Πανεπιστήμιο του Τορόντο, Τιμ Εβανς και Ρέι Ρίβερς από το Ιμπήριαλ Κόλετζ του Λονδίνου, δείχνουν πως η αρχαία Θήρα έπαιζε σημαντικότερο ρόλο στο διαμετακομιστικό εμπόριο της Κρήτης. Όταν ο οικισμός στο Ακρωτήρι καταστράφηκε από την έκρηξη, η Κρήτη, που στήριζε την οικονομία της κυρίως στις εξαγωγές, γονάτισε οικονομικά. Τα παρακάτω είναι γνωστά ακόμη και στον σημερινό κόσμο: κοινωνική απόγνωση, ταραχές, καταστροφές, μαζί και κάποιες εισβολές, όπως των Μυκηναίων, όλα συνέτειναν στο να αλλάξουν τα πάντα. Οι τρεις μελετητές στηρίζονται σε καθαρά μαθηματικές βάσεις για την απόδειξη της θεωρίας τους, την οποία δημοσιεύουν στο επιστημονικό περιοδικό του Ιμπήριαλ Κόλετζ. Ταυτοχρόνως, αξιοποιούν συμπεράσματα άλλων αρχαιολόγων, όπως του σερ Κόλιν Ρένφριου, επιφανούς μελετητή των Κυκλάδων, τα οποία ερμηνεύουν μέσα από τα μαθηματικά.

[Read more](#)



8,500-year-old remains unearthed in western city

Daily News, 5-9-2011

Researchers conducting excavations in Yeşilova Höyüğü, the oldest known area of human settlement in İzmir, have announced the discovery of fingerprints belonging to former residents of the area that are more than eight millennia old. "We have discovered fingerprints that go back 8,500 years [to the Neolithic era]. Those fingerprints are thought to belong to children and women," Zafer Derin, the scholar leading the excavation, recently told Anatolia news agency, adding that it was the first discovery of its type in the area.

[Read more](#)

**Completion at the 2011 field season
excavations at Erimi – Laonin tou Porakou
Cyprus, Department of Antiquities, 14-09-2011**

The Ministry of Communications and Works, Department of Antiquities, announces the completion of the 2011 field season of the Italian Archaeological expedition at Erimi -Laonin tou Porakou, which took place from August 1st to September 3rd 2011, under the direction of Dr Luca Bombardieri (University of Florence). The investigations were conducted by a team of archaeologists, drawers and topographers of the University of Florence, with the joint support of an anthropologist of the University of Florence and a team of five conservators from the Soprintendenza Beni Archeologici. The site of Erimi-Laonin tou Porakou lies on a high plateau on the eastern river bank facing southward towards the Kouris Dam, just on the border between Ypsonas and Erimi villages. The settlement sequence evidenced at the site indicates occupation throughout two main phases. The first and most significant phase ranges from the Early Bronze Age to the beginning of the Late Bronze Age period (EC II/III- LC I). The site was then re-occupied in the late-Hellenistic and Roman periods, apparently following a long period of abandonment.

[Read more](#)



***Nestor* 38.6**

The September 2011 issue of *Nestor* (38.6) is available now for download. To read it, press:

[September 2011 \(38.6\)](#)

**Ayia Varvara-Asprokremnos: University of
Cyprus, Cornell University and Trent
University**

Cyprus, Department of Antiquities, 14-09-2011

The Ministry of Communications and Works, Department of Antiquities, announces the completion of the 2011 excavations at the 9th millennium site of Ayia Varvara-Asprokremnos. The investigations were directed by Dr. Carole McCartney of the Archaeological Research Unit of the University of Cyprus as part of the EENC (Elaborating Early Neolithic Cyprus) Project, an international collaboration between the Universities of Cyprus, Cornell University and the University of Toronto. Ayia Varvara-Asprokremnos, currently dated by radio-carbon to between c. 8,800-8,600 BC cal, was occupied at the start of the Neolithic period on Cyprus at a time when the transition from hunting to farming economies was beginning throughout the Middle East. Unlike the large early village settlements seen at this time on the adjacent mainland, Ayia Varvara-Asprokremnos provides evidence of intensive resource procurement and manufacturing activity at a relatively small but extensively occupied campsite. The campsite is dated to some 11,000 years before present, during the initial phase of the Cypriot Neolithic known as the Cypriot Pre-Pottery Neolithic A, predating the well know World Heritage site of Choirokoitia by some two and a half to three thousand years.

[Read more](#)





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