Newsletter on Aegean Prehistory

15 March 2014

No. 49
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1. NEW BOOKS

Amelikou Aletri. Metallurgy and Pottery Production in Middle Bronze Age Cyprus
David Frankel & Jennifer Webb (with contributions by M. Georgakopoulou, T. Rehren, G. Constantinou & I. Panayides)

City & year: Uppsala 2013
Publisher: Åströms Förlag
Series: Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology 138
Description: Hardback, 245 p., numerous colour and b/w figures, 14 tables, 30x21.5 cm
Price: ca. €80

Abstract
This volume presents the full documentation, analysis and discussion of the excavations carried out by Porphyrios Dikaios in 1942 at Amelikou Aletri. The site lies to the west of the modern village of Amelikou, northwest of the Skouriotissa copper mines, in the northern foothills of the Troodos Mountains. It has always been known for the evidence of copper mining and processing through the discovery of Middle Bronze Age pottery in modern mines and the casting moulds and other evidence for metal processing at the site itself. Less well known is a potter’s workshop. Here the catastrophic abandonment of the workshop, its installations and artefacts (including some four dozen jugs from the last kiln load) provides an insight into aspects of craft practices shortly after 2,000 BCE.

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J.R.B. Stewart. An Archaeological Legacy
Edited by Bernard Knapp, Jennifer Webb & Andrew McCarthy

City & year: Uppsala 2013
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Description: Hardback, 239 p., numerous colour and b/w figures, maps, 30x21.5 cm
ISBN: 978-91-7081-253-8
Price: ca. €85

Abstract

This volume presents the extensively revised papers from a conference held in honour of J.R.B. Stewart at the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI) in March 2013. It is arranged in two sections: in the first, authors discuss aspects of current research on chronology, community, ceramic production, copper, environmental thought and the emergence of the state in Cyprus, demonstrating how
Stewart's legacy has impacted the discipline, our interpretations of prehistory and our methodologies; the second contains a number of biographical pieces about Stewart, his colleagues and the role his widow, Eve, played in sustaining his work. Part archaeology, part historiography and part biography, the volume seeks to assess Stewart’s legacy within 20th century archaeological scholarship and in the context of our current understanding of Cyprus in the Bronze Age.

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**Maritime Networks in the Mycenaean World**
Thomas F. Tartaron

**City & year:** Cambridge/New York 2013  
**Publisher:** Cambridge University Press  
**Description:** Hardback, 353 p., 71 b/w illustrations, 25 maps, 11 tables, 26x18.2 cm  
**ISBN:** 9781107002982  
**Price:** $99 (ca. €72)

**Abstract**
In this book, Thomas F. Tartaron presents a new and original reassessment of the maritime world of the Mycenaean Greeks of the Late Bronze Age. By all accounts a seafaring people, they enjoyed maritime connections with peoples as distant as Egypt and Sicily. These long-distance relations have been celebrated and much studied; by contrast, the vibrant worlds of local maritime interaction and exploitation of the sea have been virtually ignored. Dr. Tartaron argues that local maritime networks, in the form of “coastscape” and “small worlds,” are far more representative of the true fabric of Mycenaean life. He offers a complete template of conceptual and methodological tools for recovering small worlds and the communities that inhabited them. Combining archaeological, geoarchaeological, and anthropological approaches with ancient texts and network theory, he demonstrates the application of this scheme in several case studies. This book presents new perspectives and challenges for all archaeologists with interests in maritime connectivity.

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Την Παρασκευή 31 Μαΐου 2013 έγινε στην Αρχαιολογική Εταιρεία επιστημονική ημερίδα στη μνήμη του Γεώργιου Εμμ. Μυλωνά (1898-1988) που οργανώθηκε από την Εταιρεία, την Ακαδημία Αθηνών και την Έδρα Ελληνικών Σπουδών του Πανεπιστημίου Missouri St. Louis των Ηνωμένων Πολιτειών της Αμερικής την οποία κατέχει ο εταίρος καθηγητής αρχαιολογίας κ. Μιχάλης Κοσμόπουλος.


Με την ημερίδα υπενθυμίζεται το τέταρτο του αιώνος που πέρασε από το θάνατο του Γεώργιου Εμμ. Μυλωνά και γίνεται ανασκόπηση του έργου και της προσφοράς του στην επιστήμη.

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Abstract

Situated between the worlds of the Near East, Europe and Africa, the archaeology and culture of Cyprus are central to an understanding of the ancient Mediterranean world. This book treats the archaeology of Cyprus from the first-known human presence during the Late Epipalaeolithic (ca. 11,000 BC) through the end of the Bronze Age (ca. 1000 BC). A. Bernard Knapp examines the archaeological and documentary records of prehistoric Cyprus within their regional context, paying special attention to the Levant and the Aegean. The appendix (compiled by Sturt W. Manning) analyses all published radiocarbon dates from the island, providing for the first time a comprehensive chronological framework for all of Cypriot prehistory. Focusing on key themes such as identity, insularity and connectivity, and society, community and polity throughout, this book provides a remarkably up-to-date and integrated synthesis of human activity on the Mediterranean’s third-largest island.

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Living on the Margin: Chryssi Island and the Settlement Patterns of the Ierapetra Area, South-Eastern Crete
Konstantinos Chalikias

City & year: Oxford 2013
Publisher: Archaeopress
Series: BAR International Series 2549
Description: Paperback, vii & 154 p., 29 b/w figures, 32 b/w plates, 29.7 x 21 cm
ISBN: 9781407311692
Price: £30 (ca. €37)

Abstract
This monograph examines the settlement history of a small island off the coast of southeast Crete and its exploitation by the settlements in the southern part of the Ierapetra Isthmus. Recent archaeological discoveries by the 24th Ephoria on Chryssi Island led to an intensive survey that uncovered numerous sites, dating from the Final Neolithic to the Ottoman period. The results from this study provided significant evidence for the exploitation of this small island (i.e. purple dye) through the centuries, and in turn the broader changes in settlement patterns that occurred along the south coast of Crete. Further, the archaeological investigation on Chryssi Island helped better our understanding of the ‘colonization’ of such marginal landscapes, the insular character of their communities, and their ties with the nearby coastal towns.

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Monumenta. Studien zu mittel- und späthelladischen Gräbern in Messenien
Michaela Zavadil

City & year: Wien 2013
Publisher: Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften
Series: Denkschriften der Philosophisch-Historische Klasse 450 / Mykenische Studien 33
Description: Hardback, 698 p., 93 b/w illustrations and drawings, 24.5x30 cm
Price: €147.70

Abstract
Tombs are an important source for reconstructing ancient social structures. The region of Messenia in south-western Peloponnese was a centre of the Middle and Late Helladic culture (2100/2000–1200 BC). Basis of the present study of tombs in Messenia is a catalogue of 57 find-spots with about 240 tombs. With an analysis of the topographical setting of the tombs, of their architecture and of the burial gifts which were found, the book offers a contribution to the better understanding of the social hierarchies and the political changes that took place during this phase of Greek history.

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2. NEW ARTICLES

2.1. A Prepalatial Tholos Tomb at Mesorrachi Skopi, near Siteia, East Crete
Yannis Papadatos & Chrysa Sofianou
_Aegean Archaeology_ 10 (2009-2010) [2013]: 7-31.

**Abstract**

This report is concerned with the excavation of an Early Minoan circular 'tholos' tomb of the Mesara type and the survey of the surrounding area at the site of Mesorrachi, near the modern village of Skopi, in the region of Siteia, East Crete. The excavation and the survey were undertaken during two different seasons, the fall of 2005 and the summer of 2010 by the 24th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in collaboration with the University of Athens, Department of History and Archaeology. The excavations revealed a circular tomb. Through surface survey it was possible to identify the location of the corresponding settlement, but test trenches did not reveal any other structures in the area. According to the finds, the use of the tholos and the habitation site are contemporary, dated to EM I, probably the beginning of the period. the EM IA phase. The existence of such an early tholos tomb in this remote area of East Crete, very far from south central Crete (Mesara and the Asterousia), which constitutes the core area of this type of tomb, allows a reconsideration of the issue of the origin and the first appearance of the tholos tombs in Crete and contributes with new data to the ongoing discussions about population movements, cultural and/or ethnic diversity and integration in Prepalatial Crete.

[Read the article](#)

2.2. Searching for the Missing "Palace": Proto- and Neopalatial Settlement Dynamics in the Southern Ierapetra Isthmus. The Recent Evidence
Konstantinos Chalikias
_Aegean Archaeology_ 10 (2009-2010) [2013]: 33-46.

**Abstract**

During a two year period (2006-2008) the author, inspired by two contemporary archaeological projects along the northern part of the Isthmus (Kavousi and Gournia Surveys), attempted to explore the diachronic settlement patterns of the South Ierapetra Isthmus. Even though the project was promising at the beginning, it failed to provide answers to basic research questions regarding the Bronze Age settlement history of the Ierapetra area. How was the coastal valley used during the Bronze Age? How did the area respond to the rise of the first hierarchical societies in East Crete? Was there a local administrative center that controlled the area during the Proto- and Neopalatial period or was the region dependent from other dominant settlements in the area? The most striking gap in the archaeological survey was a general lack of Bronze Age settlements in the area which could not be easily explained at first sight. With further study it became clear that dramatic landscape transformation in the area had greatly affected the way we record and interpret site patterns around Ierapetra. The main reason for this incomplete and puzzling picture was extensive agricultural exploitation of the landscape through greenhouse farming. Additionally, deep alluvial depositions that were formed in the coastal valley of Ierapetra over many centuries obscured a large number of sites, mainly the ones dating to the Bronze Age. As a result, an alternative way to explore the settlement patterns of the region was sought on a small uninhabited island off the coast of Ierapetra, called Chryssi Island. Much like other off shore islands such as Pseira, Kouphonisi and Dionysades have proven to be reflections of the coastal activities on the mainland of Crete, Chryssi Island should also be recognized as a reflection of the events that took place and shaped the settlement topography of the Ierapetra basin during the Bronze Age.
2.3. The Askulpis Reconsidered: A Preliminary Report on the Chronology and Burial Practices of an Early Bronze Age 2 Cemetery on Kos
Salvatore Vitale
Aegean Archaeology 10 (2009-2010) [2013]: 47-63.

Abstract
In May 1943, L. Morricone directed a brief archeological investigation of the Askulpis area, situated in northeast Kos. Four Early Bronze Age tombs, including ten vases, a spindle whorl, and a dagger, were brought to light together with a relatively small assemblage of stray finds from a nearby trial trench. This paper presents a reassessment of the evidence recovered from the tombs with particular attention to the analysis of the site and its wider area, attested burial practices, the relevant finds, and their chronology.

The data suggest that the tombs may be assigned to an advanced stage of Early Bronze Age 2. The defining characteristics of the pottery repertoire and funerary customs indicate that, during this phase, the Askulpis and more generally Kos shared significant cultural features with contemporary sites in the Dodecanese, western Anatolia, and Aegean islands located in the vicinity of the Anatolian coast. Elements of continuity emerge between Koan Early and Late Bronze Age ceramic assemblages, suggesting that the former may have represented the formative stage of the island’s "local tradition" during the Bronze Age.

2.4. The EM III Phase in South Central Crete: New Data from Phaistos
Simona Todaro

Abstract
The Prepalatial period in south central Crete is largely known through the rich but generally unstratified deposits that have been retrieved from the communal tholos tombs, and which have been dated by virtue of stylistic and typological comparisons with ceramic deposits excavated elsewhere in Crete. This dating procedure has been misleading as the lack of criteria through which the EM IIB and the EM III could be distinguished has meant that many ceramic classes or single shapes have been cautiously attributed to a non-specific ‘EM I - MM’ phase. The discovery of uninterrupted sequences of habitation levels at Phaistos from FN to MM I, has shed an important new light on this crucial period of the history of Crete. The new stratigraphic data has in fact shown that many of the fossil-types that had long been considered to be diagnostic of the MM IA period actually appeared in the Phaistian assemblages in EM IIB, with a specific typology and decorative patterns, and only slowly developed through time. In this paper I will focus on four occupation phases (Phaistos VIII a, b, c and Phaistos IX), which have all been attributed to the EM III, and will try to highlight the continuity and changes that occurred in terms of typology, surface treatment, fabric, and forming technique of the most frequent coarse and fine wares.

2.5. Site in Transition: John L. Caskey, Ayia Irini and Archaeological Practice in Greek Archaeology
Evi Gorogianni
Aegean Archaeology 10 (2009-2010) [2013]: 105-120.

Abstract
The present article is a study of archaeological practice in Greek archaeology, assessed through the methods used by John L. Caskey in excavation and post-exavcation procedures, as well as in publication. Archaeological practice is an interpretive exercise rather than mere recovery of artifacts and data. It is influenced by a range of factors including the questions that motivate the primary investigator in their research, the nature of the site, and the general zeitgeist (not to mention
unforeseen circumstances). Since archaeological practice influences and conditions archaeological data by favoring certain questions, sites, or datasets more than others, it also conditions the trajectory of archaeological knowledge. Reference to fieldwork techniques and methodologies that Caskey employed mainly during the Ayia Irini excavations on the island of Kea, the last excavation project of his illustrious career, are used to delineate the theoretical underpinnings of his research agenda (and by extension also his generation of Greek archaeologists). It also highlights his dialectical relationship with the intellectual and collegial environment in Greek archaeology, which not only influenced him in designing his research strategy, but also effected changes over time in its implementation and the resulting publication program. The contribution of such a study, especially of a prominent figure in Greek archaeology, constitutes a foray into the history of archaeological thought and knowledge in Classical archaeology, a history so poorly discussed (especially after the 1930s onwards) in otherwise excellent treatises on Anglo-American traditions in the discipline, often positing as histories of world-wide archaeological thought.

2.6. Early seventh-millennium AMS dates from domestic seeds in the Initial Neolithic at Franchthi Cave (Argolid, Greece)
Catherine Perlès, Anita Quiles & Hélène Valladas
Antiquity 87:338 (December 2013): 1001-1015.

Abstract
When, and by what route, did farming first reach Europe? A terrestrial model might envisage a gradual advance around the northern fringes of the Aegean, reaching Thrace and Macedonia before continuing southwards to Thessaly and the Peloponnese. New dates from Franchthi Cave in southern Greece, reported here, cast doubt on such a model, indicating that cereal cultivation, involving newly introduced crop species, began during the first half of the seventh millennium BC. This is earlier than in northern Greece and several centuries earlier than in Bulgaria, and suggests that farming spread to south-eastern Europe by a number of different routes, including potentially a maritime, island-hopping connection across the Aegean Sea. The results also illustrate the continuing importance of key sites such as Franchthi to our understanding of the European Neolithic transition, and the additional insights that can emerge from the application of new dating projects to these sites.

2.7. Ground-penetrating radar investigations at Kalavasos-Ayios Dhimitrios offer a new look at Late Bronze Age Cyprus
Thomas M. Urban, Jeffrey F. Leon, Sturt W. Manning, Kevin D. Fisher, Catherine M. Kearns & Peregrine A. Gerard-Little
Antiquity 87:338 (December 2013): Project Gallery

From the introduction
During the Late Bronze Age (1650–1100 BC) Cyprus witnessed an increase in social, political and economic complexity, with settlements becoming urban in composition and international in scope. These ‘urban’ settlements and associated elite place-making both created and defined a new Late Cypriot society. Kalavasos-Ayios Dhimitrios (K-AD) is among the sites key to understanding this pivotal transformation and settlement type. Here we report on the use of ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to locate and map previously unknown structures at K-AD.

Read the article
2.8. Form, Function and Context of the Triton Shells in Minoan Culture
Julia Binnberg

Abstract
In the very first excavations on the island of Crete the shells of triton snails were found. Over the years they were joined by numerous imitations made of stone, clay and faience whose exact function was initially unclear. By comparison of the morphology and the find contexts and by examination of the role of triton shells in Minoan art an attempt is made to identify what function the shells had in Bronze Age culture. It becomes apparent that in most, though not all, cases they possessed a ritual connotation and consequently can be seen as part of shrine inventory. It turns out moreover that the triton shells probably fulfilled a variety of functions according to the situation, the material or the form. As a result of the investigation we can conclude that they were used as amulets, votive gifts, shell trumpets, rhytons, libation and household vessels as well as status symbols.

2.9. Off-Site Scatters and the Manuring Hypothesis in Greek Survey Archaeology: An Ethnographic Approach
Hamish Forbes

Abstract
This article addresses the debate over the origin(s) of “background” artifacts found between archaeological sites in Greek survey projects, within the general context of refuse disposal practices. Ethnographic and practical data on manure formation and deposition, combined with archaeological and ethnoarchaeological studies, indicate that both the definition of refuse and its disposal are governed by complex, culturally determined rules. In antiquity these rules meant that the wholesale disposal of artifact trash into organic waste used as fertilizer was not the norm. Quantified models demonstrate that despite this fact, the high levels of “background” found in some survey projects are best interpreted as resulting from low levels of artifacts inadvertently incorporated in manure.

2.10. The New Swedish Cyprus Expedition 2011. Excavations at Hala Sultan Tekke. Preliminary results
Peter M. Fischer (with contributions by T. Bürge, L. Franz & R. Feldbacher)

Abstract
The main objective of the excavations of the Late Cypriote city of Hala Sultan Tekke is the investigation and determination of the complete occupational sequence of the pre-12th century levels. The groundpenetrating radar survey (GPR) led to the discovery and excavation of numerous rooms of a large Late Cypriote complex. During the second year of excavations at the site the expedition exposed a third phase of occupation (Stratum 3). A Stratum 2 compound, with extraordinarily wide walls was uncovered in the eastern part of the excavations. Intact vessels include Base-ring I and II, and White Painted VI, and Late Helladic imports. Other wares include: White Painted Pendant/Cross Line Style, Red-on-Black/Red, Bichrome Wheel-made, White Slip I and II, Monochrome, Base-ring I and II, Red Lustrous Wheel-made, White Painted/Plain-White Wheel-made, and White Shaved. Unique discoveries amongst the small finds are a haematite cylinder seal and a stone pendant figurine. The numerous tools related to textile production point to the manufacture of fabric on a larger scale.

Read the article
2.11. From Greek Boar's-Tusk Helmets to the First European Metal Helmets: New Approaches on Development and Chronology
Marianne Mödlinger

**Abstract**

After more than a century of research into Bronze Age helmets throughout Europe, both the development and chronology of conical helmets with spool-shaped sockets still remain unclear. The comprehensive studies and analysis of the helmet from Biecz have not completely resolved the discussions. Other helmets, when not solitary finds, have been usually dated according to their alleged associations in a hoard but have never been extensively discussed as a single helmet type of one date range. By introducing to the discussion a Greek bronze helmet with incised boar's tusks as well as those boar's-tusk helmets with bronze cheek plates, more light is shed on the development and chronology of these very first European bronze helmets.

2.12. Do we know the Minoans 134 years after the first excavations, by Minos Kalokairinos, at Knossos? (in Greek)
Gerald Cadogan
*Αριάδνη* 18 (2012-2013): 91-117.

**Abstract**

134 years after Minos Kalokairinos started excavating at Knossos, and 112 years after Arthur Evans began, Minoan archaeology has reached middle age. Where are we? Where are we going? And where perhaps should we be going? In the discovery of early Crete, I discern three periods: from Kalokairinos till World War I; between the wars; and everything thereafter up till now. The first period was marked by an extraordinary number of major excavations, most notably at Knossos where Evans and Duncan Mackenzie moved tonnes of earth and worked hard to make sense of their findings and establish the nine-part Minoan system, which still holds today, but is complemented by Nikolaos Platon’s palatial system. The second period saw, besides the publication of The Palace of Minos (1921-35), the pioneering achievements of the young John Pendlebury in excavating a whole settlement at Karphi, writing a still unduplicated synthesis The Archaeology of Crete (1939), and in combining programmatically diachronic survey of Lasithi with selected excavations of sites of different periods, to produce a full picture of human activity.

Since World War II we have seen a prolonged burst of intensive surveys and fruitful stratigraphic excavations, which have tended to confirm Evans’s scheme, while producing new “palaces” and new palatial buildings, and developing west Crete archaeologically. An unfortunate side-effect, however, is the mass of unpublished material hidden in storerooms. The most important discovery is not archaeological: the decipherment of Linear B as Greek.

A selective review then discusses landscape, pottery, fresco and writing studies, as well as modern interpretative approaches and the recent interest in the historiography of Minoan archaeology. As for the future, we are still far behind in understanding the social, economic and political contexts of the Minoan civilisation. We need theoretical approaches, and the help of anthropology and local ethnology, provided they are tempered by the realisation that archaeology is an inductive discipline. And we need to promote Minoan archaeology as the serious study it is.

The paper closes with brief discussions of the poem ‘Archaeology’ by W. H. Auden and of two heroes of Minoan archaeology: Minos Kalokairinos and Nikolaos Platon. The answer to the question in the title is: “Not yet”.

[Read the article]
2.13. Selective reburial: a potential approach for the in situ preservation of waterlogged archaeological wood in wetland excavations
George Amendas, Glenn McConnachie & Anastasia Pournou

**Abstract**
Excavations at Dispilio, a prehistoric lakeside settlement in northern Greece, have revealed a significant number of vertical wooden piles that need to be protected during and after excavation. Lifting of the piles is not possible and approaches such as reburial, cannot currently be implemented as excavation is still in progress. In 2005, several posts were “selectively buried” on an experimental basis, by encasing them in PVC pipes and backfilling with the surrounding sediment. This approach appeared to be capable of protecting the piles during excavation and be a potential solution for their post-excavation preservation. This preliminary study sets out to assess if this alternative approach to reburial could be an effective in situ preservation method.

2.14. Tracing the source of Late Neolithic Spondylus shell ornaments by stable isotope geochemistry and cathodoluminescence microscopy
Bernadett Bajnóczi, Gabriella Schöll-Barna, Nándor Kalicz, Zsuzsanna Siklósi, George H. Hourmouziadis, Fotis Ifantidis, Aikaterini Kyparissi-Apostolika, Maria Pappa, Rena Veropoulidou & Christina Ziota

**Abstract**
Determination of the source of Spondylus objects is essential for the interpretation of Late Neolithic exchange systems and the social role of shell ornaments. We performed stable isotope analysis combined with cathodoluminescence microscopy study on ornaments (beads, bracelets) made of Spondylus shells excavated at the Aszód-Papi földéke archaeological site in Hungary, to define their origin. For comparison Spondylus finds from Neolithic sites of Greece, modern Spondylus shells from the Aegean and the Adriatic, as well as fossil Spondylus and Ostrea shells from the Carpathian Basin were also examined. Oxygen isotope composition of Spondylus finds from Aszód ranges between −1.9 and 2.1‰ and overlaps with the oxygen isotope range of shell objects from other Neolithic sites. Modern Spondylus shells from the Aegean and the Adriatic show overlapping δ18O values with one another and with the Neolithic objects; while recent shells of the Black Sea clearly are separate isotopically from the Mediterranean ones and most of archaeological artefacts. Spondylus shells from the Aszód site have Mediterranean origin; their source can be the Aegean or the Adriatic. Based on a former strontium isotope study the use of fossil Spondylus shells is excluded as raw material used for ornaments, however, in recent years the use of fossil shells was reintroduced. The shell ornaments from Aszód-Papi földéke and the fossil oyster shells collected from the Carpathian Basin exhibit some overlapping oxygen isotope values; however, cathodoluminescence microscopy indicates that the Spondylus objects retained their original aragonite material. Diagenetic calcite, which occurs typically in the fossil shells, was not detected in the ornaments suggesting that the studied objects were made of recent shells. Calcitic parts observed in some Spondylus objects are not related to fossilisation.
2.15. On the flow characteristics of the conical Minoan pipes used in water supply systems, via computational fluid dynamics simulations
G. Tseropoulos, Y. Dimakopoulos, J. Tsamopoulos & G. Lyberatos

**Abstract**

The Minoan Terracotta pipes with their conical shape were widely used in the water distribution system in the ancient Minoan civilization. They remain one of the brightest achievements of the Minoan tribe in water supply technology and raise admiration as well as many questions about the technological advancements of antiquity, that are yet to be understood. The present work aims at answering the following questions: a) what inspired the Minoans to manufacture pipes with such a peculiar shape, that differs greatly not only from later pipe designs of antiquity, but also from contemporary cylindrical pipes and b) why was the design of those pipes abandoned after the fall of the Minoan civilization? It tries to address these questions by investigating the flow physics and dynamics that take place in such pipes, adopting advanced numerical and computational methods. The time-averaged Navier–Stokes equations along with the $k – \varepsilon$ turbulence model are solved for a variety of geometrical parameters, pipe orientations and flow rates, in order to produce a comparative picture of the hydraulic efficiency of the conical Minoan pipes. The flow field is visualized and critical flow parameters, such as the head loss, the velocity magnitude and turbulence intensity, are calculated. These calculations show clearly that the conical Minoan pipes exhibit significantly higher pressure drops along their length compared to an equivalent straight pipe.

2.16. Cultural dynamics and ceramic resource use at Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age Troy, northwestern Turkey
Peter Grave, Lisa Kealhofer, Pavol Hnila, Ben Marsh, Carolyn Aslan, Diane Thumm-Doğrayan & Wendy Rigter

**Abstract**

Changes in resource use over time can provide insight into technological choice and the extent of long-term stability in cultural practices. In this paper we re-evaluate the evidence for a marked demographic shift at the inception of the Early Iron Age at Troy by applying a robust macroscale analysis of changing ceramic resource use over the Late Bronze and Iron Age. We use a combination of new and legacy analytical datasets (NAA and XRF), from excavated ceramics, to evaluate the potential compositional range of local resources (based on comparisons with sediments from within a 10 km site radius). Results show a clear distinction between sediment-defined local and non-local ceramic compositional groups. Two discrete local ceramic resources have been previously identified and we confirm a third local resource for a major class of EIA handmade wares and cooking pots. This third source appears to derive from a residual resource on the Troy peninsula (rather than adjacent alluvial valleys). The presence of a group of large and heavy pithoi among the non-local groups raises questions about their regional or maritime origin.

2.17. Models of settlement hierarchy based on partial evidence
Andrew Bevan & Alan Wilson

**Abstract**

The modelling of past settlement and landscape structure from incomplete evidence is a well-established archaeological agenda. This paper highlights a model of spatial interaction and settlement evolution that has long been popular in urban geography and which was first applied to model
historical settlement hierarchies some twenty-five years ago, but whose use since then for archaeological purposes has been very limited. Via a case study from Bronze Age Crete, we extend the analytical range of this model by suggesting ways in which it can (a) remain effective in the presence of missing data, (b) be given a stronger grounding in the physical landscape, and/or (c) be used to consider the evolutionary trajectory of settlements and physical routes over time.

2.18. Inferences from the human skeletal material of the Early Iron Age cemetery at Agios Dimitrios, Fthiotis, Central Greece
Anastasia Papathanasiou, Eleni Panagiotopoulou, Konstantinos Beltsios, Maria-Foteini Papakonstantinou & Maria Sipsi

Abstract
The Geometric cemetery of Agios Dimitrios (850–740 B.C.) yielded a human osteological sample, with an MNI of 51 and equal numbers of males and females and adults and subadults. This site is of significant archaeological importance, as it provides information on human health status, diet, and activity patterns as well as mortuary behavior for a little studied time period. The results, including a) stable carbon and nitrogen isotopic data suggesting a C3 low-protein plant diet, b) relatively high infant mortality, c) low stature estimates, d) significant prevalence of possible anemic conditions, and e) high dental infection and loss rates, all point to a rapidly increasing, stressed, and relatively malnourished population which did not exploit nearby marine resources, experienced suboptimal living conditions, and could not reach its biological potential. Furthermore, the study of this group provides evidence of equal burial treatment of all age and sex categories, no dietary differences in terms of sex and status, and no sex differentiation in pathological conditions.

2.19. New evidence of early use of artificial pozzolanic material in mortars
Magdalini Theodoridou, Ioannis Ioannou & Maria Philokyprou

Abstract
Hydraulic building composites, such as mortars and plasters, produced with artificial pozzolanic materials, became widely popular thanks to the Romans. Reports on earlier uses of such composites can also be found, mainly in archaeological and historic documents. These date back as far as the time of Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations. Here, we present a holistic analytical investigation of Late Bronze Age mortars from various archaeological sites of Cyprus. We focus on petrographic observations of thin sections, scanning electron microscopy and energy dispersive X-ray microanalyses and we investigate the microstructure and texture of the samples and the chemical composition and interface of their binders. Results of powder X-ray diffraction analyses are also presented, alongside a series of measurements using mercury intrusion porosimetry and vacuum saturation, aiming to estimate the pore size distribution and the physical properties (i.e. open porosity and bulk density) of the specimens under investigation. We also report on tests carried out to assess the drilling resistance of the mortars using a novel, portable system. The results thoroughly confirm, for the first time, the earliest intentional use of crushed brick as an artificial hydraulic additive in lime mortars in Cyprus, in order to enhance their performance and longevity in the absence of natural pozzolanas.
3. NEW BOOK REVIEWS

   Read the book review

   Read the book review (HTML version)

   Read the book review (HTML version)


4. DIGITAL BOOKS

   Text

   Text

5. DIGITAL ARTICLES

   Text (the whole volume 8 of Ariadne)

   Text (the whole volume 7 of Ariadne)

   Text (the whole volume 5 of Ariadne)

   Text (the whole volume 5 of Ariadne)

   Text (the whole volume 5 of Ariadne)

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Text (the whole volume 5 of Ariadne)


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6. DIGITAL DISSERTATIONS


Text


Text

7. USEFUL WEBSITES

The Social Archaeology of Early Iron Age and Early Archaic Greece

URL: http://aristeia.ha.uth.gr/index.php

The three-year project, entitled The Social Archaeology of Early Iron Age and Early Archaic Greece, is directed by Professor Alexandros Mazarakis Ainian of the Department of History, Archaeology and Social Anthropology of the University of Thessaly at Volos.

The project seeks to collect and re-examine all the available evidence concerning the archaeology of the Greek World in the Early Iron and Early Archaic Age, from the beginning of the 1st millennium BC down to the end of the 7th c. BC. The data derives from the settlements, necropoleis and sanctuaries and is systematically collected and entered in a database for facilitating its extensive study. The study will take into account all modern scientific approaches, such as social anthropology, gender studies, bioarchaeology, archaeometry, as well as quantitative methods. Moreover with the use of GIS applications, new reconstructions, several of them in 3D, will be prepared and presented. For this purpose a number of case-studies have been selected.
8. AEGEUS’S NEWS

Next Aegean Lecture on 21 March

Aegeus and the Swedish Institute at Athens are happy to invite you to the lecture: ‘Neolithic Alepotrypa Cave and the surrounding area: Past and present research’, by Anastasia Papathanasiou (Ephorate of Palaeoanthropology and Speleology of Southern Greece).

The lecture will take place at the Swedish Institute at Athens (Mitseon 9, Acropolis Metro station), on Friday 21 March 2013, 19:00.

Invitation

Constantinos Paschalidis’ lecture

We would like to thank warmly Constantinos Paschalidis for his excellent lecture on the Mycenaean cemetery at Clauss, Patras. We wish him the best of luck for his ongoing research, the final publication of the findings, as well as his upcoming PhD VIVA at the University of Ioannina. We would, also, like give our sincere thanks to all members and friends who attended the lecture.

A few photographs

NEW DISSERTATIONS

Defining the regional characteristics of Final Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pottery in Attica

Margarita Nazou
University College London (UCL), 2013

Situated between mainland and island-defined archaeological entities, Attica has traditionally been treated as a transitional borderland between what is perceived as ‘Helladic’ versus ‘Cycladic’ culture. Most discussions of social and cultural interactions in the southern Aegean have so far assumed a peripheral role for Attica during the Final Neolithic (4100-3100 BC) and the Early Bronze Age (3100-2000 BC). This is mainly an accident of investigation, due to the lack of systematic research focusing on the stylistic character of FN-EBA material culture excavated at sites within this region. Among the archaeological evidence from Attica, pottery is the most abundant artefact type and its presence at all the excavated sites provides considerable research potential for detailed inter-site comparisons. This thesis systematically describes, summarises and presents a large body of FN-EB II pottery from Attica. Two as yet unpublished ceramic assemblages in southeastern Attica provide the principal case studies: Kontra Gliate (also known as Kiapha Thiti) and Mine 3 at Thorikos. The stylistic characteristics and variation within and between these ceramic assemblages are defined in terms of time and space, and the relationships between fabrics, forms and surface treatments are explored.

Read more
9. UPCOMING LECTURES & CONFERENCES

A selection of upcoming lectures and conferences:

**Greece, Athens, 17 March 18:30**
National Archive of Monuments (Psaromiligou 22, Keramikos)
Lecture
Amalia Kakissi (British School of Athens)
«Πατουχιά με πατουχιά»: Έρευνώντας τα προσωπικά χαρτιά του John Pendlebury στη Βρετανική Σχολή Αθηνών
Organised by the Friends of the Archive
Map
Invitation and abstract

**Croatia, Zagreb, 17 March 18:30**
Conference Hall, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Zagreb Aegean Seminar
Eleni Konstantinidi (National Archaeological Museum, Athens)
A glimpse at the beauty case of a Mycenaean lady

**Netherlands, Amsterdam, 19 April 15:00**
University of Amsterdam, Bungehuis, Spuistraat 210, Room 401
Lecture
Artemis Karnava (University of Vienna)
Production and administration in the 2nd mill. BC in the Aegean: archaeological and epigraphical evidence
Further information

**Greece, Thessaloniki, 20 March 19:00**
Aristotle University
Annual Meeting & Lecture
James C. Wright (Director, ASCSA) & Merle Langdon (Research Professor, University of Tennessee at Knoxville)
Work of the School during 2013 & Rupestral Inscriptions in the Greek World
Further information

**Greece, Athens, 21 March 19:00**
Swedish Institute at Athens (Mitseon 9, Athens)
Lecture
Anastasia Papathanasiou (Ephorate of Palaeoanthropology and Speleology of Southern Greece)
Neolithic Alepotrypa Cave and the surrounding area: Past and present research
Further information
Invitation

**Spain, Madrid, 24 March 15:30**
Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Aula VII-302
Lecture
Metaxia Tsipopoulou
Becoming palatial in Eastern Crete: The Proto-and Neopalatial palace of Petras and its Prepalatial background
USA, Ann Arbor, 24 March 17:00
The Kelsey Museum of Archaeology
Lecture
Leslie Preston Day
From Palace to Polis on Crete
Further information

Greece, Athens, 27 March 19:00
Alkis Argiriadis amphitheater (University of Athens central building), 30 Panepistimiou St.
Mycenaean Seminar of Athens
Elana Kountouri
Title to be announced soon

Greece, Athens, 04 April 18:30
Archaeological Society, 22 Panepistimiou
Minoan Seminar
Valasia Isaakidou
Animals as food, capital and symbols: The contribution of Zooarchaeology to the investigation of Cretan prehistory (in Greek)
Minoan Seminar on Facebook

Greece, Athens, 07 April 18:00
National Archaeological Museum (auditorium), 1 Tositsa st.
Lecture
Anna Filippa-Touchais
Η πρώιμη ιστορία του Άργους μέσα από τις αρχαιότητες του λόφου της Ασπίδας: από την πρώτη οργανωμένη κατοχή της 2ης χιλιετίας στην ίδρυση της πόλης-κράτους του 7ου αιώνα

Greece, Athens, 08 April
Association of Greek Archaeologists, 134-136 Ermou st.
Colloquium
Η αρχαιολογική ανακάλυψη της Θηρασίας το 1866 και το ιστορικό και επιστημολογικό της πλαίσιο
Programme

Greece, Athens, 08 April 19:00
Archaeological Society, 22 Panepistimiou
Cycladic Seminar
Lila Marangou
Amorgos: ‘Cycladic’ florilegium

Greece, Athens, 09 April 19:00
The Danish Institute at Athens, 14 Herefondos st. (Plaka)
Lecture
Joanne E. Cutler & Marie-Louise Nosch
Textile production in the Late Bronze Age Aegean
Greece, Athens, 10 April 19:00
American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Cotsen Hall, 9 Anapiron Polemou
Lecture
Dimitris Matsas (19th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities)
Samothrace and the NE Aegean in Prehistory
Map
The event will be livestreamed
Further information

Greece, Athens, 11 April 19:00
Swedish Institute at Athens (Mitseon 9, Athens)
Aegean Lecture
Giorgos Bourogiannis (Postdoctoral researcher, Medelhavsmuseet, Stockholm)
The Ayia Irini sanctuary in Cyprus: Facing the challenges of an old excavation
Further information

To see all the lectures press here.
😊 Visit the website of Aegeus constantly for updates and changes.
10. CALL FOR PAPERS

Public Archaeologies of the Ancient Mediterranean. 116th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America
USA, New Orleans, 8-11 January 2015
Deadline: 20 March 2014

Since the advent of ‘public archaeology’ in the 1970s, scholarship on the topic has moved beyond public education as effective heritage management and protection in the context of CRM work, to debating the active or incidental role of archaeology in the shaping of community identities and identity imaginaries...

read more

NARNIA International Conference: Interdisciplinary Studies of Ancient Materials from the Mediterranean
Cyprus, Nicosia, 17-19 September 2014
Deadline: 31 March 2014

The NARNIA research network is pleased to announce the organisation of the international conference, entitled: “Interdisciplinary Studies of Ancient Materials from the Mediterranean”, to be held at the main campus of the University of Cyprus, in Nicosia, Cyprus, between the 17th and 19th of September 2014.

read more

1st International Geo-Cultural Symposium "Kaldera 2014"
Thera, 6-8 June 2014
Deadline: 01 April 2014

The reputation of Santorini, in recent years, maintained because of the large tourism development and its geological formation. Scientific studies have been published, largely focused in the field of History, Prehistoric Archaeology, Marine Santorini but of Geological changes.

read more

MESO 2015. The Ninth International Conference on the Mesolithic in Europe
Belgrade, Serbia, 14-18 September 2015
Deadline: 01 May 2014

The MESO2015 Committee invite speakers to submit abstracts for 10 minute papers and poster presentations on any subject related to Mesolithic archaeology.

read more

Geomedislands 2015 call for papers/registration
France, Corsica, 30 June-2 July 2015
Deadline: 31 December 2014

The GEOMEDISLANDS 2015: International colloquium on Geoarchaeology of the Mediterranean islands will be taking place next year in Corsica.

read more
11. GRANTS/BURSARIES & JOB VACANCIES

The INSTAP Study Center for East Crete 2014 Richard Seager Fellowship
Deadline: 31 March 2014

The INSTAP Study Center for East Crete is pleased to announce the availability of one Doctoral fellowship to be awarded on a competitive basis to an eligible candidate for work to be done at the Study Center in Pacheia Ammos, Crete in 2014.

read more

The Vronwy Hankey Memorial Fund for Aegean Studies
Deadline: 01 April 2014

The Vronwy Hankey Memorial Fund for Aegean Studies has been funded by gifts to the School’s Appeal in memory of Vronwy Hankey and her husband Henry.

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BSA grants
Deadline: 30 June 2014

During the whole academic year the BSA offers a series of awards, studentships, and fellowships to support research of all types and at all stages of your academic career.

read more

The British Institute at Ankara grants
Deadline: 30 June 2014

During the whole year the British Institute at Ankara provides a number of different grants and awards.

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12. NEWS

Santorini tree rings support the traditional dating of the volcanic eruption
Science Daily, 06-03-2014

Will the dating of the volcanic eruption of Santorini remain an unsolved mystery? The question whether this natural disaster occurred 3,500 or 3,600 years ago is of great historiographical importance and has indeed at times been the subject of heated discussion among experts. After investigating tree rings, a team of scientists led by the WSL has concluded that the volcano erupted in the 16th century BC, rather than any earlier than that. A number of research studies since the 1980s have indicated that the Greek island of Santorini’s volcano may have erupted not in the 16th century BC as traditionally thought but possibly in the century before that. If this dating had been confirmed, it would have involved rewriting the whole history of the cultural development of the eastern Mediterranean region. The latest evidence for antedating the eruption was supplied by a study from Denmark that used radiocarbon dating (14C dating) to examine olive wood from the period of the eruption.

Read more: http://sciencedaily.com

The new issue of Nestor 41.3 (March 2014) is available for download

The new issue of Nestor 41.3 (March 2014) is available for download at http://classics.uc.edu

MSc in Conservation Studies at UCL Qatar

The MSc in Conservation Studies at UCL Qatar is a two-year course that covers a wide range of materials, from objects (metals, glass, stone, ceramics) to textiles and contemporary art, plus archaeological sites and buildings. Students will be trained in the theory and principals of conservation and restoration and will be able to specialise in a material of their choice in the second year. There is a large practical element to the course, including placements at museums, sites and cultural heritage organisations across the Middle East region and further afield, in order to give students the transferrable skills required to assume a leading position as a conservator or within the cultural heritage sector.

Read more: http://archaiologia.gr
Οι μυθικοί χοροί της Μεσσηνίας
Αγγελική Κώττη,
Έθνος, 05-03-2014

Το ενδιαφέρον των Καλαματιανών για τον χορό ξεκίνησε αιώνες πριν από τον γνωστό καλαματιανό και το μεγάλο, διεθνές φεστιβάλ που φιλοξενεί κάθε χρόνο με ιδιαίτερη επιτυχία. Τα ίχνη των βημάτων χάνονται στην αχλύ της προϊστορίας. Το θέμα θα ανιχνεύσει η τοπική Εφορεία Προϊστορικών-Κλασικών Αρχαιοτήτων με μια πρωτότυπη περιοδική έκθεση, που θα εγκαινιαστεί σε λίγες μέρες στο αρχαιολογικό μουσείο της μεσσηνιακής πρωτεύουσας με τίτλο «Μυθικοί χοροί της Μεσσηνίας».

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Noël Harold Gale. 24 December 1931–3 February 2014

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Noël Gale, an academic who for many years in his research in Oxford strived to straddle the Two Cultures of Science and Humanities.

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Constantinos Papadopoulos’ Minoan Seminar online


«Πολλά τα περίεργα στο Κάτω Κουφονήσι»
Ελενί Μαρκού,
AMNA, 19-02-2014

Πολλά «περίεργα» συνέβησαν στο Κάτω Κουφονήσι πριν από χιλιάδες χρόνια. Οι άνθρωποι που κατοικούσαν το μικρό, αλλά διόλου ασήμαντο νησάκι του Αιγαίου, φαίνεται ότι είχαν αναπτύξει μια αρκετά οργανωμένη κοινωνία, με ιδιαίτερα χαρακτηριστικά που μόλις τώρα αρχίζουν να βλέπουν το φως. Οι έρευνες στο νησί πραγματοποιήθηκαν μεταξύ 1968-1970 από την Αρχαιολογική Υπηρεσία την εποχή που κυνηγούσε αρχαιοκάπηλους στην περιοχή, κυρίως στη γειτονική Κέρο, το επίκεντρο της παράνομης δράσης τους. Έκτοτε πέρασαν πολλά χρόνια, με τη δημοσίευση των αποτελεσμάτων να γίνεται πραγματικότητα μόνο όταν η επιχορήγηση ήρθε από το εξωτερικό και συγκεκριμένα από το αμερικανικό ιδιωτικό μη κερδοσκοπικό Ινστιτούτο Αιγαιακής Προϊστορίας, που αναγνώρισε τη σπουδαιότητα των ευρημάτων.

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Αλμυρός. Σημαντική νεολιθική θέση στο φως
Γλυκερία Υδραίου,
Ταχυδρόμος, 17-02-2014

Εξαιρετικά σημαντικό αποτέλεσμα παρουσίασε το κάτοικο της θέσης Καμάρα στην αρχαιολογική έκθεση της αρχαιολογικής επιχείρησης που πραγματοποιήθηκε μεταξύ 1968-1970 από την Αρχαιολογική Υπηρεσία την εποχή που κυνηγούσε αρχαιοκάπηλους στην περιοχή, κυρίως στη γειτονική Κέρο, το επίκεντρο της παράνομης δράσης τους. Έκτοτε πέρασαν πολλά χρόνια, με τη δημοσίευση των αποτελεσμάτων να γίνεται πραγματικότητα μόνο όταν η επιχορήγηση ήρθε από το εξωτερικό και συγκεκριμένα από το αμερικανικό ιδιωτικό μη κερδοσκοπικό Ινστιτούτο Αιγαιακής Προϊστορίας, που αναγνώρισε τη σπουδαιότητα των ευρημάτων.

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