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Abstract

Before Sir Arthur Evans, the principal object of Greek prehistoric archaeology was the reconstruction of history in relation to myth. European travellers to Greece viewed its picturesque ruins as the gateway to mythical times, while Heinrich Schliemann, at the end of the nineteenth century, allegedly uncovered at Troy and Mycenae the legendary cities of the Homeric epics. It was Evans who, in his controversial excavations at Knossos, steered Aegean archaeology away from Homer towards the broader Mediterranean world. Yet in so doing he is thought to have done his own inventing, recreating the Cretan Labyrinth via the Bronze Age myth of the Minotaur. Nanno Marinatos challenges the entrenched idea that Evans was nothing more than a flamboyant researcher who turned speculation into history. She argues that Evans was a proper archaeologist who used scientific observation and classification. Evans’ combination of anthropology, comparative religion and analysis of cultic artefacts enabled him to develop a bold new method which the author calls ‘mental anthropology’.

It was this approach that led him to propose remarkable ideas about Minoan religion, theories that are now being vindicated as startling new evidence comes to light. Examining the frescoes from Akrotiri, on Santorini, that are gradually being restored, the author suggests that Evans’s hypothesis of one unified goddess of nature is the best
Explaination of what they signify. Evans was in 1901 ahead of his time in viewing comparable Minoan scenes as a blend of ritual action and mythic imagination. Nanno Marinatos is a leading authority on Minoan religion. In this latest book she combines history, archaeology and myth to bold and original effect, offering a wholly new appraisal of Evans and the significance of his work. Sir Arthur Evans and Minoan Crete will be essential reading for all students of Minoan civilization, as well as an irresistible companion for travellers to Crete.

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Η έρευνα της Νεολιθικής εποχής στην Ελλάδα
EDITED BY GEORGIA KOURTESSI-PHILIPPAKI

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Dedicated to the memory of Giorgos Chourmouziadis (1932-2013)

Abstract (in Greek)

Ο παρών τόμος συγκεντρώνει τις εργασίες δέκα μεταπτυχιακών φοιτητών Α’ κύκλου οι οποίες εκπονήθηκαν κατά τη διάρκεια του μεταπτυχιακού σεμιναρίου στο Τμήμα Ιστορίας και Αρχαιολογίας του Εθνικού και Καποδιστριακού Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών με θέμα «Η ιστορία της προϊστορικής έρευνας στην Ελλάδα και την Ευρώπη κατά τον 19ο και 20ο αιώνα». Κατά τα έτη 2008-2010 το σεμινάριο εστίασε στην έρευνα για τη Νεολιθική εποχή στην Ελλάδα επιθυμώντας να συμβάλει με αυτό τον τρόπο, όπως και άλλες επιστημονικές δραστηριότητες που έγιναν στη χώρα, στην επέτειο των 100 χρόνων από τη δημοσίευση του μνημειώδους και κλασικού έργου του Χρ. Τσούντα Αιρατοπολείς Διμηνίου και Σέσκλου που εκδόθηκε στην Αθήνα το 1908. Στόχος αυτού του διετούς σεμιναρίου ήταν η εξιστόρηση της πορείας της έρευνας και η αποτίμηση τόσο των επιστημονικών αποτελεσμάτων όσο και των μέσων διάχυσής τους στην επιστημονική κοινότητα και την κοινωνία από συστάσεως του ελληνικού κράτους έως τις απαρχές του 21ου αιώνα. Η ημερίδα «Η έρευνα της Νεολιθικής εποχής στην Ελλάδα και η ιστορία της» που διοργανώθηκε στην Πανεπιστημιούπολη Ζωγράφου στις 11 Μαΐου 2010, στην οποία παρουσιάστηκαν οι εν λόγω εργασίες και συμμετείχαν δύο μορφές της Νεολιθικής αρχαιολογίας, ο Τζόζεφ-Πάτρικ Δέμουλ, καθηγητής στο Πανεπιστήμιο Παρίσι 1-Panthéon-Sorbonne και ο Κ. Γαλλής, επίτιμος έφορος αρχαιοτήτων και καθηγητής στο Δημοκρίτειο Πανεπιστήμιο Θράκης, μας έπεισε για τη χρησιμότητα της δημοσίευσης των εργασιών. Το περιοδικό Διαχρονία, επιστημονικό όργανο του Σύλλογο των Μεταπτυχιακών φοιτητών του Τμήματος Ιστορίας και Αρχαιολογίας του Εθνικού και Καποδιστριακού Πανεπιστημίου Αθηνών, δέχτηκε να τις φιλοξενήσει στον τρίτο τόμο των Παραρτημάτων του.

Κάθε εργασία εστιάζει σε μια συγκεκριμένη περίοδο (απαρχές, εμπόλεμες περιόδου, Μεσοπόλεμος, μεταπολεμικά χρόνια, δεκαετία του 1960, του 1970 κ.λπ.). Εξετάζει τις
επικρατούσες ιστορικές και κοινωνικοπολιτικές συνθήκες, παρουσιάζει το θεσμικό πλαίσιο της έρευνας και τους φορείς που δραστηριοποιήθηκαν γι' αυτήν, αναλύει τα επιστημονικά ρεύματα και τις μεθοδολογικές προσεγγίσεις και σχολιάζει τις νεολιθικές θέσεις που ήρθαν στο φως. Υπογραμμίζει, τέλος, τις δράσεις που αναλήφθηκαν για τη δημοσιοποίηση των αποτελεσμάτων όπως τα συνέδρια, τις επιστημονικές δημοσιεύσεις καθώς και τις μουσειακές εκθέσεις μέσα από τις οποίες ο νεολιθικός πολιτισμός έγινε αντικείμενο ανάδειξης και επικοινωνίας με το κοινό.

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From the preface

This volume represents a second edition of *Radiocarbon Dating: An Archaeological Perspective*, written in the late 1980s by the first author. The most dramatic advances in 14C studies since that time have included the further detailed examination of the relationship between radiocarbon time and solar (“real” or calendar) time, particularly the extension of the calibration of the radiocarbon time scale into the late Pleistocene; the further definition of the character of the short-term changes in atmospheric 14C activity at various points along the 14C time scale; and the continuing development of accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS), with the resulting increase in the number of 14C measurements obtained on targeted chemical and molecular fractions extracted in milligram and microgram quantities. Also, the large 14C data sets that can now be efficiently obtained with the use of AMS-based measurements of samples excavated from stratigraphic and other sequential contexts have resulted in the increasingly frequent use of Bayesian statistics.

In addition, over the last three decades, a number of additional areas of scientific research have begun to use 14C data to further their research goals. These include the ability to use natural or near natural levels of 14C as a tracer isotope in biomedical applications using AMS technology. The “Radiocarbon Revolution,” so appropriately characterized by Colin Renfrew as beginning in archaeological science five decades ago, has now spread to a number of other scientific disciplines.

The principal purpose of this volume, as was its predecessor, is to provide an introduction and review of the major advances and accomplishments of the 14C method from an archaeological perspective, with the specific focus of attention on an analysis of those factors that can affect the accuracy and precision of 14C-based age estimates. A number of literature citations published in the earlier edition have been retained in this
volume to provide historical context and continuity in the development of ideas concerning various aspects of the application of 14C dating in archaeological studies.

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Hagios Charalambos: A Minoan Burial Cave in Crete. I. Excavation and Portable Objects

PHILIP P. BETANCOURT

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Abstract

This is the first of five planned volumes to present the primary archaeological report about the excavation of the cave of Hagios Charalambos in eastern Crete. The Minoans used this small cavern as an ossuary for the secondary burial of human remains and grave goods, primarily during the Early and Middle Bronze Age. The geography and geology surrounding the cave is discussed along with the methodology of the excavation. A portion of the pottery and all of the small finds are presented with many illustrations.

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PASCAL DARCQUE, MARTIN SCHMID & ALEYDIS VAN DE MOORTEL

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Abstract

This volume is the first in a series publishing the results of the excavations carried out in the area immediately northeast of the palace of Malia. It presents the history of research and a period-by-period overview describing each building, room, and space with a complete inventory of the associated finds, including some C14-dated samples. The main results of these researches concern the history of the palace of Malia, as well as the evolution of the entire site. On one hand, the identification of houses-with-workshops of the same date as those of Quartier Mu (Middle Minoan II) confirms the homogeneous character of the Malia Protopalatial settlement. On the other hand, the study of the Late Minoan I architectural remains reveals a surprising degree of monumentality for a palace entrance that was previously considered as secondary; the subsequent changes in its exterior arrangements can be interpreted as a gradual encroachment of the palace onto this area of the town. Moreover a new stratigraphically based Neopalatial pottery chronology is presented.
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Abstract

This volume presents the fruits of research that began in the 1980s concerning a class of pottery that has assumed increasing importance in Italian late prehistory, namely pottery of Mycenaean type or style, usually decorated, dating from the 17th to 11th century BC, and found throughout peninsular Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. Its significance lies in the way this pottery reflects Italy’s growing connections with the outside world at this time, mainly with the Aegean but also further afield to the east. Establishing that much of this pottery was made within Italy has led to its labelling ‘Italo-Mycenaean’.

Following the book’s introduction, there is a gazetteer of sites where this and related pottery has been found in Italy. The next chapter provides a comparative chronology between the Aegean and Italy. There is then the presentation of the pottery itself, its characterisation by style and with science-based analysis to determine its origins and technological attributes; the results of experimental reconstruction are included. The impact of external influences on the indigenous cultures within Italy and Italy’s role in the so-called Late Bronze Age ‘International Age’ in the Mediterranean are among the main issues considered in the last chapter.
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**Acknowledgements**

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*R.E. Jones, S.T. Levi, M. Bettelli, L. Vagnetti*

Chapter 2. Gazetteer of Sites  
*L. Vagnetti, M. Bettelli, S.T. Levi, L. Alberti*

Chapter 3. Building a Comparative Chronology between Italy and the Aegean in the Late Bronze Age  
*M. Bettelli, L. Alberti*

Chapter 4. Characterisation and Provenance  

Chapter 5. Technological Investigations  
*S.T. Levi, R.E. Jones (with contributions by V. Cannavò, C. Moffa, E. Photos-Jones, A. Vanzetti et al.)*

Chapter 6. Discussion and Perspectives  
*R.E. Jones, M. Bettelli, S.T. Levi, L. Vagnetti*

Databases (AAS; INAA; ICP-ES; Petrographic-mineralogical data; XRF, SEM-EDAX)  
[R.E. Jones]

Appendix  
*R.E. Jones*

Abbreviations and Bibliography
Abstract

This book presents an archaeological study of Crete in transition from the Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age (c. 4000 to 3000 BC) within the broader South Aegean context. The study, based on the author’s own fieldwork, contains a gazetteer of over 170 sites. The material from these sites will prompt archaeologists in Greece, Turkey, and the Middle East to reconsider their understanding of the foundation of Bronze Age civilization in the Aegean.

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Abstract

Textile and dress production, from raw materials to finished items, has had a significant impact on society from its earliest history. The essays in this volume offer a fresh insight into the emerging interdisciplinary research field of textile and dress studies by discussing archaeological, iconographical and textual evidence within a broad geographical and chronological spectrum.

The thirteen chapters explore issues, such as the analysis of textile tools, especially spindle whorls, and textile imprints for reconstructing textile production in contexts as different as Neolithic Transylvania, the Early Bronze Age North Aegean and the Early Iron Age Eastern Mediterranean; the importance of cuneiform clay tablets as a documentary source for both drawing a detailed picture of the administration of a textile industry and for addressing gender issues, such as the construction of masculinity in the Sumerian kingdoms of the 3rd millennium BC; and discussions of royal and priestly costumes and clothing ornaments in the Mesopotamian kingdom of Mari and in Mycenaean culture. Textile terms testify to intensive exchanges between Semitic and Indo-European languages, especially within the terminology of trade goods. The production and consumption of textiles and garments are demonstrated in 2nd millennium Hittite Anatolia; from 1st millennium BC Assyria, a cross-disciplinary approach combines texts, realia and iconography to produce a systematic study of golden dress decorations; and finally, the important discussion of fibres, flax and wool, in written and archaeological sources is evidence for delineating the economy of linen and the strong symbolic value of fibre types in 1st millennium Babylonia and the Southern Levant.

The volume is part of a pair together with Greek and Roman Textiles and Dress: An Interdisciplinary Anthology edited by Mary Harlow and Marie-Louise Nosch.
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Early Palaeolithic on the Greek islands?
Curtis Runnels
*Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 27.2 (2014), 211-230

**Abstract**
Humans evolved in Africa and colonized Eurasia in successive adaptive radiations, establishing themselves in Europe ca. one million years ago. It is assumed that these dispersals were by land through southwest Asia, or secondarily across the Strait of Gibraltar, because early hominins lacked the cognitive faculties and technical skills needed to cross the open Mediterranean. Such crossings are thought to have occurred only at the end of the Pleistocene, after ca. 11,000 years ago. This reasoning is challenged by the presence of early Palaeolithic artifacts on the Greek islands, suggesting that hominins made sea-crossings more than 130,000 years ago, and indicating that the Mediterranean—and by implication other seas—were at times open roads rather than barriers to hominin dispersals.

Modeling the impacts of Mediterranean island colonization by Archaic Hominins: The likelihood of an insular Lower Palaeolithic
Thomas Leppard
*Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 27.2 (2014), 231-254

**Abstract**
It has been suggested that the islands of the Mediterranean were first settled during the Pleistocene. Attention has in particular been paid to recent claims that the occupation of Crete by hominins dates to the Middle Pleistocene. This paper examines what—if Lower Palaeolithic pre-modern hominins did indeed colonize the Mediterranean islands—environmental and evolutionary impacts this would have had, what forms these impacts would have taken, and what traces these forms would leave. Such impacts are modeled using information derived from island biogeography, historical ecology, and evolutionary biology. Probable outcomes of colonization scenarios—including turnover in insular faunas, ecological cascade events, and morphological changes in isolated populations of Homo—are compared to the palaeontological and palaeoenvironmental record for the Mediterranean islands. The absence of any obvious correlation casts doubt on large-scale and sustained colonization of the more remote Mediterranean islands during the Lower Palaeolithic, although this does not preclude the possibility of chance and short lived colonizations by pre-modern hominins.
Reflections on Pleistocene island occupation
Nellie Phoca-Cosmetatou & Ryan J. Rabett

From the introduction
We are extremely pleased that the topic of hominin island occupation has attracted particular attention in this issue of JMA in the two fascinating and contrasting papers by Runnels and Leppard. These two papers set out to address similar questions, namely: ‘was there an early Palaeolithic human presence on the Mediterranean islands?’ and ‘why has it been so elusive?’ Even so, they come to diametrically opposed conclusions: e.g. ‘the Mediterranean—and by implication other seas—were at times open roads rather than barriers to hominin dispersals’ vs ‘A Mediterranean awash with seagoing archaic hominins is, then, inherently unlikely’.

Why is this? We do not believe the reason to be the different datasets analysed by each author. Rather, such discrepancies are the consequence of a topic still in its infancy. There is great scarcity of reliable evidence of early hominin presence on the Mediterranean islands. As a result, the debate on Pleistocene island occupation often gets caught in A PRIORI expectations that different researchers might have about past hominin behaviour and seagoing abilities. As research into Pleistocene island occupation is currently gathering momentum, it is expected that targeted fieldwork coupled with sophisticated theoretical models will lead to big leaps in our knowledge over the next few years—and quite possibly a subsidence of contrasting views.

In this commentary, we focus on three issues that permeate the Pleistocene island occupation debate as highlighted in the Runnels and Leppard articles. The first of these issues relates to the substantiation of the stone tool evidence, and thus the reliability of the archaeological signature uncovered so far. The second centres around the frequency, and thus the significance, of hominin island presence. The third refers to future directions of research and the application of appropriate models.

Archaic Hominins on Crete: Fact or fiction?
Nena Galanidou
Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology 27.2 (2014), 260-267

From the introduction
The prehistory of Greece begins in the Middle Pleistocene, with compelling Lower Palaeolithic (LP) evidence coming from its north. HOMO HEIDELBERGENSIS lived around the Petralona Cave in Macedonia, a significant Acheulean presence is known at Rodafnidia on Lesvos, and a very few Large Cutting Tools originate from Kokkinopilos in Epirus and Palaioakastro in west Macedonia. The pebble-core industrial tradition has been claimed for a few sites, but is not unequivocally accepted. The story continues into the Upper Pleistocene, with a robust signal of two more large-brained hominins, H. NEANDERTHALENSIS and H. SAPIENS, whose material culture is found in both cave and open-air sites. Judging by the palaeoanthropological remains, the presence of earlier (at Apidima) and classic (at the caves of Kalamakia and Lakonis I) Neanderthals shows a well-established Neanderthal population in the Mani Peninsula. Archaeologically, Nean-
derthals are visible in many upland and lowland corners of mainland Greece and in the majority of the Ionian Sea islands. Although one cannot assert that these three species were the only hominins who lived in Palaeolithic Greece, the discussion of an archaic hominin presence on Crete, the core theme of Runnels’ and Leppard’s papers, is more productive if guided by the existing evidence, rather than by a speculative chain of reasoning based on *H. erectus* roaming Greek waters.

**So... What? Does the paradigm currently want to budge so much?**

Cyprian Broodbank  
*Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 27.2 (2014), 267-272

**From the introduction**

The debate over the extent and significance of Palaeolithic maritime activity in the Mediterranean stands in danger of unhelpful polarisation and dumbing down of its crucial subtleties, a process by which we would all turn out to be the long-term losers. ‘Debate’ may, in fact, be too multilateral a term, given that over the last few years the literature has been dominated by a forcefully advocated, highly publicised maximalist position (of which Curtis Runnels’s contribution here is exemplary), with relatively fewer more sceptical or intermediate opinions expressed. The latter run the danger, furthermore, of appearing out-of-date, boring and pessimistic in comparison. In the modern West, seafaring seems incorrigibly glamorous, so naturally we want it to be tremendously, romantically ancient too. As the author of several such spoil-sport calls for caution, I welcome this opportunity for open discussion, and aim to demonstrate that in contrast to the ‘with us or against us’ tone of much of the discourse so far, a midway, cautious approach can be helpful and insightful, and should enable us to agree upon quite a lot. The best way forward, I argue, lies in a modestly incremental approach to knowledge affirmation, as well as to the legitimate limits of inference-building and interpretation. Despite the avowed efforts by Runnels and others to topple dramatically the current paradigm of an overwhelmingly terrestrial hominin universe, it seems to me that sufficient evidential leverage to effect this is simply not there, at least not for now (if ever?), and that the academic community would therefore also be wise to distinguish carefully between a genuine intellectual impetus to rethink our fundamental frameworks in this regard, and simply getting swept away on the back of some interesting, thought-provoking yet often thoroughly ambiguous discoveries.

**Response: Where do we stand?**

Curtis Runnels  
*Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 27.2 (2014), 272-274.

**From the introduction**

In the spirit of open discussion advocated by Broodbank, I welcome Leppard’s stimulating contribution, as well as the thoughtful comments of the discussants. It is evident that where my work is concerned some of my colleagues have difficulty accepting parts of the evidence, or find some hypotheses too far reaching. This is as it should be. I have formulated hypotheses based on the evidence as I understand it, and these hypotheses must be weighed against future discoveries. Time will tell whether any of them hold water, so to speak.
Response: The elusive insular Lower Palaeolithic and the problem of intentionality
Thomas P. Leppard
Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology 27.2 (2014), 275-278

From the introduction
I am writing this response while sitting in Guam, the largest island in Micronesia. Bathed in sunlight for half the year, drenched by rain the other, surrounded by shallow, productive seas, and tropically verdant, Guam should, accordingly, have been an ideal environment for hominins during Quaternary interstadials. Such species were present in neighboring east Asia: HOMO ERECTUS remains from Java (with a very similar ecological configuration to Micronesia) date to 1.8 mya, and from China to 0.7 mya. Yet despite intensive archaeological study of the island, there is no evidence for archaic hominin colonization of Guam—no colonization by HOMO at all, in fact, until members of our own species arrived only -3.5 kya. This absence is paralleled on the Californian Channel Islands, Diego Garcia, Fiji, Iceland, Kerguelen, Kvitoya, Madagascar, Madeira, and South Georgia. Why? What is it about these places which prevented their colonization or seasonal exploitation by archaic HOMO?

Becoming urban: Investigating the anatomy of the Late Bronze Age complex, Maroni, Cyprus
Sturt W. Manning, Georgia-Marina Andreou, Kevin D. Fisher, Peregrine Gerard-Little, Catherine Kearns, Jeffrey F. Leon, David A. Sewell & Thomas M. Urban
Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology 27.1 (2014), 3-32

Abstract
The transformations entangled in becoming an urban society are increasingly attracting attention in archaeology, including in the Mediterranean. The place-making entailed in the development of urban settlement represents a fundamental change for a society; it creates over time a new urban mentalité and habitus, such that the urban fabric and place become an active part of social life, and its reproduction. While urbanism does not require the ‘state’, urban settlements form key venues for social, economic and political change leading to the potential development of sedentary early complex polities. For several areas of the world and in multiple periods, there are increasingly sophisticated studies of urbanisation. To date, Cyprus has received relatively little attention—but, as increasingly recognised, urbanisation was central to the island’s rapid change into, and emergence as, a substantial element of the Late Bronze Age eastern Mediterranean world. We consider and critique the case of urbanisation on Late Bronze Age Cyprus and highlight its importance to Cypriot and eastern Mediterranean prehistory. We explore in detail one particular case, the Maroni valley area and its Late Bronze Age complex, where relatively detailed information is becoming available from a combination of excavations, pedestrian survey and archaeological geophysics. We argue that only such detailed study allows proper recognition of the nature and anatomy of urban settlements on prehistoric Cyprus; we also argue that the scale (spatial and demographic) of the main Late Bronze Age urban settlements on Cyprus should not be underestimated.
The root of the problem: On the relationship between wool processing and lanolin production
Laura B. Mazow
*Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 27.1 (2014), 33-50

**Abstract**
Reconstructions of ancient wool-processing techniques have generally been based on the assumption that lanolin was a by-product of the woolen textile industry. However, both ancient and modern sources point to significant procedural differences between the extraction and recovery of lanolin and the preparation of wool for spinning and weaving. The different conditions necessary to produce spinning wool or to recover lanolin are, in fact, contradictory rather than complementary, and wool working and lanolin production must therefore have been separate, albeit related industries. Recognizing lanolin as produced by boiling wool offers an explanation for a number of difficult-to-understand Linear B references and supports the interpretation of sign *145 (wool/LANA) in perfumed unguent ingredient lists as ‘wool for its lanolin’. It further enables archaeological reconstructions of these technologies and of cross-craft interactions in the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Commotion, collaboration, conviviality: Mediterranean survey and the interpretation of landscape
Michael Given
*Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* 26.1 (2013), 3-26

**Abstract**
Over the last three decades, Mediterranean survey projects have established a broadly agreed methodology, a wide awareness of the invaluable contribution made by intensive survey, and a wealth of data from across the region. Where they have made less progress is in the interpretation of artefact density figures and other findings to go beyond the dots on the map and gain insights into past human lives, the complexity of past landscapes, and the relationship between people and the environment. The key to this is engaging with theories that connect humans and non-humans. In this article I use the term commotion to suggest the constant and continually changing lines of mobility and interaction that constitute the landscape. Collaboration is the ongoing creation and transformation of place through the elaborately intertwined work of people, animals, plants, soils, water, weather, rocks and landforms. Conviviality stands for the life-giving creativity and transformation that is constantly proliferating from the intricate association and interaction with other beings, both human and non-human. My examples come from the Troodos Archaeological and Environmental Survey Project, an interdisciplinary and multi-period project carried out on the northern edge of the Troodos Mountains of Cyprus.
The social world of Early-Middle Bronze Age Cyprus: Rethinking the Vounous bowl
Louise Steel

Abstract
The Vounous Bowl occupies a privileged position in discussions of prehistoric representations on Cyprus. It has most commonly been viewed as a sacred scene, or a religious ceremony conducted within a rural sanctuary, and several commentators have emphasized the funerary connotations of the scene, perhaps depicting idealized funerary ritual or an ancestor cult. Somewhat mundane interpretations place it within a range of genre scenes, portraying daily life in a Bronze Age village. More recently it has been interpreted as the physical expression of emergent elite authority on Cyprus during the Bronze Age. This study explores the object as a form of social communication: through a detailed structural analysis of the Vounous Bowl it aims to develop a clearer understanding of the social world of Early-Middle Bronze Age Cyprus.

Traces of ethnic diversity in Mycenaean Greece
Fred C. Woudhuizen
Dacia LVII (2013), 5-21

Abstract
The Indo-Europeanization of Greece was a long-term process, which, in my opinion, entailed at least three distinct phases, covering the period from c. 3100 BC to c. 1600 BC. The third and last phase consists of the arrival c. 1600 BC of the founding fathers of...
the royal houses and ethnic identities considered as truly Greek. From this time onwards, which in the modern literature is referred to as the Mycenaean period, the material provided by the literary sources becomes substantial and can even at times be supplemented by contemporary data from the Mycenaean Greek script, Linear B, just as well as from Egyptian hieroglyphic and Hittite cuneiform. This phase is preceded by, in archaeological terms, a Minyan one from c. 2300 BC onwards, which is characterized by the settlement of tribes of Thracian and Phrygian background, of which some information on interactions amongst each other and on their contacts with the royal houses considered as truly Greek is preserved in our literary sources by classical authors. The earliest phase is marked by the settlement of speakers of an Old Indo-European tongue, usually designated as Pelasgians, to whom the memory is almost obliterated, leaving us almost no more than some river- and place-names to rely upon. Now, if we are prepared to take the given scenario seriously, the process of intermingling between the various ethnic groups, made up of the newcomers of c. 1600 BC on the one hand and at that time indigenous population groups on the other hand, can be closely studied. In the following, then, the ethnic diversity of Mycenaean Greece and the process of intermingling between the various ethnē will be reconstructed in so far as the available data allow us to do so. In an appendix, finally, it will be investigated what the literary sources have to tell us on the hotly debated topic of possible political unity in Greece at some time during the Mycenaean period.

Identifying stone tools used in mining, smelting, and casting in Middle Bronze Age Cyprus
Jennifer M. Webb
*Journal of Field Archaeology* 40:1 (February 2015), 22-36

Abstract
Metallurgical production sites are often difficult to identify in the archaeological record because ore beneficiation and slag processing in the past involved the use of ground stone tools that were similar to those used in other contexts to prepare cereals and foods. Analysis of the ground stone assemblage from a Middle Bronze Age copper mining and production site at Ambelikou Aletri in Cyprus provided an opportunity to distinguish industrial and domestic ground stone tools and to identify the types of tools used in different stages of metal production. A comparison of tool morphologies, raw materials, and wear and breakage patterns from Ambelikou Aletri with those from contemporary domestic contexts, suggests that distinctions in the nature and structure of industrial and domestic tool kits do exist and those distinctions have an important role to play in identifying mining, smelting, and casting sites in the future.

3D imaging of Skoteino Cave, Crete, Greece: Successes and difficulties
Loeta Tyree, Floyd McCoy, Jon Frey & Antonia Stamos
*Journal of Field Archaeology* 39:2 (May 2014), 180-192

Abstract
Interpreting cave use, especially from antiquity, requires the perception of subterranean space in all dimensions (floor to ceiling to lateral extent) including spatial variability resulting from geological factors. Subterranean conditions, coupled with variable
atmospheric conditions, create a special environment not readily conveyed by conventional mapping techniques limited to two-dimensional floor plans. Skoteino Cave in north central Crete, Greece was used as a ritual and refuge site in the Bronze Age and later. Mapping of the cave attempted to depict and interpret prehistoric and historical use of this space by employing two mapping techniques: EDM total station mapping and terrestrial/point cloud laser scanning. Comparisons with earlier methods used to map cave show the advantages and disadvantages of various mapping schemes. To date, this was the first use of three-dimensional (3D) scanning to explore the complex shapes and space of a subterranean archaeological site on Crete (and the second such use in Greece), and this use demonstrates its own consequent successes and difficulties.

Metallurgical remains from regional surveys of “non-industrial” landscapes: The case of the Kythera Island Project
Myrto Georgakopoulou
Journal of Field Archaeology 39:1 (February 2014), 67-83

Abstract
This paper explores the potential of studying metallurgical remains recovered during regional surveys in the reconstruction of past metallurgical practices across a given landscape, using as a case study the relevant finds from the Kythera Island Project. The methodology developed includes macroscopic examination of all finds, evaluation of spatial distribution patterns, an assessment of local and regional ore resources, and microscopic and chemical analyses of selected samples. The study suggests that during the Classical period both small scale iron smelting and smithing were taking place in the surveyed Kythera landscape. The picture is less clear for other historical periods. Prehistoric metallurgical finds on the other hand are meager to nonexistent; a picture partly attributable to the scarcity of finds left behind by secondary non-ferrous metalworking.

Revisiting Kokkinopilos: Middle Pleistocene radiometric dates for stratified archaeological remains in Greece
V. Tourloukis, P. Karkanas & J. Wallinga
Journal of Archaeological Science 57 (May 2015), 355-369

Abstract
The red-bed site of Kokkinopilos is an emblematic and yet also most enigmatic open-air Palaeolithic site in Greece, stimulating controversy ever since its discovery in 1962. While early research raised claims for stratigraphically in situ artifacts, later scholars considered the material reworked and of low archaeological value, a theory that was soon to be challenged again by the discovery of in situ lithics, including handaxes. Here we present results of a latest and long-term research that includes geoarchaeological assessments, geomorphological mapping and luminescence dating. We show that the site preserves an overall undisturbed sedimentary sequence related to an ephemeral lake, marked by palaeosols and stratigraphic units with Palaeolithic material that is geologically in situ and hence datable. Our study resolves the issues that have been the
source of controversy: the depositional environment, stratigraphic integrity, chronological placement and archaeological potential of the site. Moreover, the minimum ages obtained through luminescence dating demonstrate that the lithic component with bifacial specimens considerably pre-dates the last interglacial and therefore comprises the earliest stratigraphically defined and radiometrically-assessed archaeological material in Greece. Kokkinopilos has served as a reference site for the interpretation of all other red-bed sites in north-west Greece, therefore our results have significantly wider implications: by analogy to Kokkinopilos, the open-air sites of Epirus should not anymore be considered ‘by default’ as inscrutable palimpsests with limited archaeological potential; rather, these sites can be excavated and chronologically constrained. This realization opens up new prospects for future research in Epirus, an area that is the most prolific in Palaeolithic remains in Greece.

**Optimal foraging, dietary change, and site use during the Paleolithic at Klissoura Cave 1 (southern Greece)**

Britt M. Starkovich

*Journal of Archaeological Science* 52 (December 2014), 39-55

**Abstract**

This paper evaluates a long sequence of zooarchaeological remains from Klissoura Cave 1 (southern Greece) within the paradigm of evolutionary ecology. The prey choice, central place foraging, and patch choice models are applied to the dataset in order to understand subsistence shifts related to local resource depression and changes in the intensity of site use from the Middle Paleolithic through Mesolithic. Major trends in prey choice indicate that Middle Paleolithic hominins tended to focus on high-ranked large game resources, while Upper Paleolithic and Mesolithic occupants shifted to lower-ranked small game, fast-moving animals in particular. Overarching shifts in prey use do not correspond to environmental change, so they likely reflect human impacts on local prey populations. Reconstructions of body part profiles indicate that hunters exploited large game animals locally, possibly as they passed through the gorge or drank at a nearby stream. Occupation intensity at the site was highest at the beginning of the Aurignacian, which is reflected by an increase in material culture such as lithics and hearth features, as well as different subsistence strategies. Specifically, bone marrow processing is more important, evidenced by ungulate transport decisions that focus on marrow-rich elements, and an overall increase in marrow processing intensity. Environmental data indicate that conditions in southern Greece were particularly favorable at the beginning of the Aurignacian, which supported rich ungulate faunas and larger populations of their hominin predators in the area. In general, faunal data from Klissoura Cave 1 fit within larger trends found in the Mediterranean over the course of the Late Pleistocene, which indicate that human hunting pressures were on the rise. However, many aspects of prey use are specific to Klissoura Cave 1, reflecting unique environmental and cultural circumstances of southern Greece at various phases in the occupation of the site.
From the introduction

The identification of feasting events in the archaeological record has relied upon a fairly consistent repertoire of features that relate to four crucial elements identified by Hayden (2001) based on the ethnographic literature on feasts: (a) it is a communal event; (b) it is time- and place-specific and occurs in celebration of a distinctive occasion; (c) it entails the sharing of food/beverage that are consumed in unusually large quantities; (d) it often entails the consumption of unusual types of food/beverage (notably, both points (c) and (d) are scaled relative to those “normally” ingested on a daily basis). These features are manifested in the archaeological record as: (i) Locations with evidence of large or unusual food storage facilities; proximity to cooking/food preparation facilities such as hearths or ovens; presence of special consumption and/or disposal areas such as pits. (ii) Regarding the quantity of remains, feasting entails extremely large numbers of food residues and cooking and/or consumption vessels. (iii) Regarding the quality of remains, feasting includes cooking and/or serving vessels of unusual size; large quantities of standard-sized vessels used for consumption; the presence of rare or prestige objects or remains and/or those associated with ritual. (iv) Special features exhibited by faunal remains are: a narrow range of faunal species, a bias in skeletal element representation, a selected age cohort, the presence of butchery marks and/or burning on the bones indicative of food preparation, and a relative absence of carnivore or rodent damage indicating rapid interment in the pit.

An ivory bowl from Early Iron Age Tell es-Safi/Gath (Israel): manufacture, meaning and memory

Aren M. Maeir, Brent Davis, Liora Kolska Horwitz, Yotam Asscher & Louise A. Hitchcock

World Archaeology 2015, 1-25

Abstract

In 2013, an ivory bowl was discovered in a chalky matrix in the Early Iron Age (Philistine) levels in Area A at Tell es-Safi/Gath. Conservation revealed it to be a shallow vessel with a single lug handle, decorated in the interior and on the base with an incised twelve-petal lotus-rosette surrounded by five concentric circles. Applying an object biography approach, we investigate the history and far-flung socio-cultural connections of the Tell es-Safi/Gath bowl, which is unique within Philistia. Specific reference is made to parallels in the ivory hoard from the Late Bronze/Iron Age transition (c. late twelfth century/early eleventh century BCE) palace at Megiddo, Stratum VIIA. It is proposed that the Tell es-Safi/Gath bowl was one of a set manufactured somewhere in Canaan. The vessel became separated from the set, ending up as a foundation offering at this Philistine site.
NEW BOOK REVIEWS


2 June | 18:00 | Greece, Athens
I. Drakopoulos amphitheater (University of Athens central building), Panepistimiou 30
Colloquium
Modern approaches in the management of monuments
PROGRAMME

2 June | 18:30 | Croatia, Zagreb
Conference Hall, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
Aegean Seminar
Wayne Lee (University of North Carolina)
Chariots, Rams and Helmets: Sharing Military Technology in the Bronze and Archaic Age
Aegean

3 June | 19:00 | Greece, Athens
Ecole française d’Athènes
Annual Meeting

3 June | 20:30 | Greece, Athens
SEA, Ermou 134-136, Thiseio
Book presentation
Presentation of the book of Y. Hamilakis, Η αρχαιολογία και οι αισθήσεις, βίωμα, μνήμη και συν-κίνηση

4 June | 19:00 | Greece, Athens
British School at Athens
Aegeus Annual Meeting
INVITATION

5 June | Greece, Athens
Conference Hall of the French Archaeological School at Athens, 6 Didotou str.
Colloquium
From Mountain to Sea: Investigations on Bronze Age and Geometric Modes of Socioeconomic Organization on either Side of the Corinthian Gulf
INVITATION

10 June | 17:00 | Greece, Athens
Fitch Laboratory, British School at Athens, Souedias 52
Fitch-Wiener Labs Seminar Series
Christos Agouridis (Greek Ministry of Culture & Sport and IENAE)
The Mycenean wreck of the islet of Modi: an interdisciplinary maritime research project in the Saronic Gulf
11 June | 18:00 | Greece, Athens
Netherlands Institute at Athens, Makri 11
Series "Greek Iconographies"
Anne Chapin
Into the Labyrinth: Research Methods and the Study of Minoan Iconography

16 June | 12:00 | Greece, Athens
National Hellenic Research Foundation, Ground floor Seminar Room
Lecture
Stella Souvatzi
Νεολιθικός τρόπος ζωής και οργάνωση των πρώτων αγροτικών κοινοτήτων στη Μικρά Ασία: Συγκρίσεις με την Ελλάδα

18-21 June | Greece, Volos
Conference
Regional stories towards a new perception of the early Greek world
WEBSITE
PROGRAMME
ABSTRACTS

19-20 June | Greece, Thessaloniki
Conference
Διαχρονικοί Νησιωτικοί Πολιτισμοί: η περίπτωση της Θηρασίας
PROGRAMME

3-4 July | Germany, Cologne
Conference
Digging a vertex, finding the edges - Approaches to Social Network Analysis in Archaeology
PROGRAMME

25-26 July | Greece, Chania, Karanou
Conference
Over a hearth: Women in the kitchen
WEBSITE

FOR UPDATES AND CHANGES
VISIT THE WEBPAGE OF AEGEUS
LECTURES / CONFERENCES
CONSTANTLY
HAPPY SUMMER!

Dear members and friends, we wish you a happy summer! During the summer, our website will be updated only sporadically as most of us are participating in excavations and other research projects. Please, don’t forget to renew your subscription. Our next newsletter will be sent on 1 October.

See you in October!

JURBACH AND ORGEOLET’S LECTURE ON 22 MAY

On 22 May at the Swedish Institute at Athens Julien Zurbach (Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris) & Raphaël Orgeolet gave the following lecture: *Reappraising Kirrha. New evidence on landscape, economy and society from Southern Phocis*. We thank them cordially!

ANNUAL MEETING OF AEGEUS ON 4 JUNE 2015

We would like to thank you all for attending Aegeus Annual Meeting that took place in the garden of the British School at Athens on 4 June 2015!

RESULTS OF OUR FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

1st prize: 4 nights stay for 2 people at the luxury hotel VOREINA GALLERY SUITES [http://www.voreinasuites.gr/](http://www.voreinasuites.gr/), including breakfast and a private pool in the traditional settlement of Pyrgos in Santorini: 182 – Athanasia Stathopoulou

2nd prize: 1 piece of jewellery from ΗΛΑΚΑΘ [http://ilakati.blogspot.gr/](http://ilakati.blogspot.gr/) (92 Akadimias): 526 – Senta German


7th prize: 1 Aegeus t-shirt and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 468 – Maria Liston

8th prize: 1 Aegeus t-shirt and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 278 – Tom Brogan

9th prize: Aegeus t-shirt and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 1 – Emelia Besiri

10th prize: 1 Aegeus t-shirt and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 513 – Jan Driessen

11th prize: 1 Aegeus t-shirt and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 307 – Marion Boyd

12th prize: 1 Aegeus thermos-cup and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: Evdoxiadi

13th prize: 1 Aegeus thermos-cup and 1 mousepad-notebook: 630 – G. Salesioti

14th prize: 1 Aegeus thermos-cup and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 440 – Eleni Panagiotopoulou

15th prize: 1 Aegeus thermos-cup and 1 Aegeus mousepad-notebook: 419 – Christo Thanos
CALL FOR PAPERS

15th Meeting of Postgraduate Cypriot Archaeology. An Unexpected Journey. Cypriot ancient communities in Continuity and Transition. Call for Papers
Italy, Torino, 25-27 November 2015
Deadline: 31 July 2015

The Dipartimento Studi Umanistici, Università degli Studi di Torino is pleased to announce the 15thPoCA (Postgraduate Cypriot Archaeology). The meeting will be held on the 25th, 26th and 27th of November at the Università degli Studi di Torino.
MORE

SOMA 2015. 19th Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology: Time, Space and People. Call for Papers
Turkey, Kemer/Antalya, 12-14 November 2015
Deadline: 15 September 2015

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Symposium on Mediterranean Archaeology (SOMA) will be held in Kemer/Antalya (Turkey) from the 12th to the 14th of November 2015. As it has been in the past, this symposium will continue to provide an important opportunity for scholars and researchers to come together and discuss their works in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.
MORE

GRANTS & JOB VACANCIES

Greek Archaeological Committee UK (GACUK). Scholarships in Greek archaeology in the UK for 2015/2016
Deadline: 1 June 2015

Applications are invited for either a FIRST scholarship or, for GACUK scholars, a FURTHER scholarship for postgraduate studies in Greek Archaeology in a university in the United Kingdom. The scholarships are intended to cover all or part of the cost of tuition fees and under certain circumstances, to supplement living expenses. Successful applicants who have no fees obligations may receive part of or a whole scholarship to cover costs relevant to their research and sojourn in the UK. Subject to the conditions of eligibility, listed below, being met, a GACUK scholarship may be awarded for up to three consecutive academic sessions.
MORE
BSA Archive: Project Assistant. The John Pendlebury Family Papers Cataloguing and Digitization Project
Deadline: 1 June 2015

The British School at Athens is pleased to announce the opening of a short-term, full-time position for an archive assistant to process The John Pendlebury Family Papers.

Fitch Laboratory Bursary Awards
Deadline: 5 June 2015

Applications are invited from graduate students or young scholars for an award to support research at the Fitch Laboratory, British School at Athens (BSA) for up to 3 months in the academic year 2015-16 in any of the fields in which the Laboratory is active (e.g. ceramic studies, archaeometallurgy, geophysical prospection, zooarchaeology, archaeobotany, soil micromorphology, ethnoarchaeology, landscape archaeology, archaeology of technology; normally in the context of Aegean/Mediterranean archaeology).

BSA small grants
Deadline: 30 June 2015

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.
The three-year project, entitled *The Social Archaeology of Early Iron Age and Early Archaic Greece*, aims at offering an afresh approach and extensive study of the archaeology of the Greek World since the beginning of the first millennium BC until the end of the seventh century BC, by promoting multidisciplinary research with the application of modern technology, archaeometric and bioarchaeological analysis and studies.

Since the 1970’s distinguished scholars set the basis for the study of the so-called “Dark Ages” and the Geometric period (A. Snodgrass, V. Desborough, J.N. Coldstream), new rich material has come to light and various studies have appeared. However, the information still remains scattered and a full and new detailed account of the period spanning the earlier part of the first millennium up to the Early Archaic period is necessary. It is crucial for the purposes of the project the seventh century BC to be included and examined too. Indeed, despite the fact that new data has been continuously added, it has been either neglected or not presented in a satisfactory synthesis in close association with the developments of the previous period, which is unanimously believed to represent the crucial century which led to the rise of the polis. The seventh century saw numerous changes which have not been satisfactory explained yet. The developments taking place in the Greek world during this period were crucial for the further development of the polis and marked the initial steps for the acme characterising the Greek world of the sixth and fifth centuries. In order to approach and fully understand these developments, the seventh century should be introduced and examined together with the earlier period. As far as the geographical scope is concerned, the project expands over the Aegean but it also includes all the areas around the Mediterranean. Except for the theoretical part of the project, the application of modern scientific approaches, such as social anthropology, gender studies, bioarchaeology, archaeometry, as well as quantitative methods will decisively contribute to the better possible results and to the presentation of a new picture of the period under examination.

The project’s emphasis lies on the study of three main axes of ancient societies: settlements, cemeteries and sanctuaries. The main goal is all the available data, including all the movable finds, found within such contexts, to be collected, entered in a database and studied. A number of cross-issues, several among them interdisciplinary, address to the entire project.
ΚΡΗΤΗ: ΑΝΕΚΤΙΜΗΤΗΣ ΑΞΙΑΣ ΕΙΔΩΛΙΟ ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΑΝ ΝΑ ΠΟΥΛΗΣΟΥΝ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΚΑΠΗΛΟΙ

Συνελήφθησαν χθες το απόγευμα στη Σητεία τέσσερις Έλληνες ηλικίας 35, 41, 35 και 41 ετών, κατηγορούμενοι για παραβάσεις του νόμου περί προστασίας των αρχαιοτήτων και της εν γένει πολιτιστικής κληρονομιάς. Συγκεκριμένα, μετά από έρευνα αστυνομικών της Υποδιεύθυνσης Ασφαλίσεως Αγίου Νικολάου και της Ομάδας Αντιμετώπισης Οργανωμένου Εγκλήματος της Γενικής Περιφερειακής Ασφαλίσεως Κρήτης, προέκυψε ότι οι δύο 35χρονοι και ο ένας 41χρονος, είχαν στην κατοχή τους αρχαίο ειδώλιο, το οποίο διέθεταν προς πώληση. Σύμφωνα με πρώτη εκτίμηση αρμόδιου αρχαιολόγου Εφορίας αρχαιοτήτων Ν. Λασιθίου, πρόκειται για χάλκινο ειδώλιο, Μεσομινωικής περιόδου (16ος – 15ος αιώνας π.Χ.), ύψους 30 cm, που απεικονίζει έναν Κούρο σε στάση λατρείας με τα χέρια διπλωμένα στο στήθος. Φέρει μακριά κόμη, επιχρυσωμένο περίζωμα και σώζει φύλλα χρυσού στις γάμπες και το αριστερό γόνατο. Στη βάση του φέρει έμβολο που παραπέμπει ότι πιθανότατα ήταν στημένο σε βάθρο χώρου λατρείας. Κρίνεται δε ιδιαίτερα μεγάλης - ανεκτιμητής αξίας, καθόσον τα ιδιαίτερα χαρακτηριστικά του, το καθιστούν μοναδικό εύρημα του είδους του, στην ευρύτερη περιοχή της Κρήτης.

More: http://www.athensvoice.gr
http://news.in.gr

ΣΠΗΛΑΙΟ ΘΕΟΠΕΤΡΑΣ ΣΤΗ ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑ: ΜΙΑ ΠΡΟΪΣΤΟΡΙΑ 130.000 ΧΡΟΝΩΝ (ΜΕΡΟΣ 3ο)

Δρ Νίνα Κυπαρίσση-Αποστολίκα
Αρχαιολογία & Τέχνες, 25/5/2015

Το Σπήλαιο της Θεόπετρας αποτελεί το μεγαλύτερο και πιο ολοκληρωμένο έως σήμερα ερευνητικό πρόγραμμα της Εφορείας Παλαιοανθρωπολογίας και Σπηλαιολογίας. Από τα στοιχεία που παρουσιάστηκαν στο 1ο και στο 2ο μέρος του αφιερωμένου Εγχειρήματος της Γενικής Περιφερειακής Ασφαλίσεως Κρήτης, προκύπτει ότι τα ιδιαίτερα χαρακτηριστικά του, το καθιστούν μοναδικό εύρημα του είδους του, στην ευρύτερη περιοχή της Κρήτης.

ΑΠΟΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΙΘΟΥ ΣΤΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟ ΗΡΑΚΛΕΙΟΥ

Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού, Παιδείας και Θρησκευμάτων, 27/5/2015

Στα εργαστήρια συντήρησης του Αρχαιολογικού Μουσείου Ηρακλείου μεταφέρθηκε, προκειμένου να αποκατασταθεί, ο μινωικός πίθος που υπέστη φθορά το περασμένο Σάββατο, όταν επισκέπτρια του μουσείου έχασε την ισορροπία της καθώς περιηγούνταν τον εκθεσιακό χώρο και, στην προσπάθειά της να κρατηθεί ορθά, στηρίχθηκε στο έκθεμα. Ο πίθος υπέστη φθορά στο ένα τρίτο της πρόσδιας όψης του.
ΠΑΥΛΟΠΕΤΡΙ: ΑΝΕΞΕΛΕΓΚΤΟ ΑΓΚΥΡΟΒΟΛΙΟ ΠΛΟΙΩΝ Η ΑΡΧΑΙΟΤΕΡΗ ΒΥΘΙΣΜΕΝΗ ΠΟΛΗ. ΥΠΟΜΝΗΜΑ ΣΕ ΥΠΟΥΡΓΟΥΣ ΚΑΙ ΦΟΡΕΙΣ

in.gr, 21-05-2015

Το ανεξέλεγκτο αγκυροβόλιο πλοίων στο Παυλοπέτρι, την αρχαιότερη βυθισμένη πολιτεία στον κόσμο, καταγγέλλει ο σύλλογος επιστημόνων Ελαφονήσου με υπόμνημα που έστείλε στους αρμόδιους υπουργούς, τους φορείς και στα μέσα μαζικής ενημέρωσης. Ο σύλλογος καταγγέλλει ότι το λιμεναρχείο Νεάπολης Βοιών συνέταξε Σχέδιο Ειδικού Κανονισμού Λιμένα, με το οποίο αποπειράται να νομιμοποιήσει την αγκυροβολία πλοίων στον όρμο των Βατίκων. Παράλληλα, ο σύλλογος χαρακτηρίζει «ανεπαρκή» την δημόσια διαβούλευση, λέγοντας ότι δεν ζητήθηκε η άποψη συλλογικών φορέων της Ελαφονήσου και των Βατίκων και τονίζει: «Είμαστε κάθετα αντίθετοι στην αγκυροβολία πλοίων στον όρμο των Βατίκων και τονίζει: "Είμαστε κάθετα αντίθετοι στην αγκυροβόλα πλοίων στον όρμο των Βατίκων και σε οποιαδήποτε παρόμοια ή παρεμφερή δραστηριότητα αλλούνει την φυσιογνωμία της περιοχής μας, απαξιώνει την πολιτισμική διαδρομή της και απειλεί το ευαίσθητο και προστατευόμενο περιβάλλον της".

ΝΑΞΟΣ: ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΑ ΕΥΡΗΜΑΤΑ ΑΛΛΑΖΟΥΝ ΤΑ ΠΡΟΪΣΤΟΡΙΚΑ ΔΕΔΟΜΕΝΑ ΤΩΝ ΚΥΚΛΑΔΩΝ

in.gr, 21-05-2015

Υπήρχαν Νεάντερταλ στη Νάξο; Πολύ πιθανόν, όπως προκύπτει από τις νέες έρευνες στη Στελίδα της Νάξου, που βρίσκεται στον λόφο βορειοδυτικά του νησιού, σε μια αναπτυγμένη τουριστική περιοχή, τρία χιλιόμετρα από τη Χώρα. Οι έρευνες, που ξεκίνησαν το 2013 από το Καναδικό Ινστιτούτο, σε συνεργασία με την Εφορεία Αρχαιοτήτων Κυκλάδων, έφεραν στο φως υλικό που αφθονεί στο νησί, αν και όχι στη Στελίδα και ακόμα μικρότερες ποσότητες μαρμάρου, που επίσης υπάρχουν στη Νάξο. Η κεραμική που συλλέχθηκε ήταν πολύ σπάνια και η πλειοψηφία της είναι πολύ μεταγενέστερη. Το ενδιαφέρον στην έρευνα, που θα συνεχισθεί, είναι η χρονολόγηση των ευρημάτων, που αλλάζει τα προϊστορικά δεδομένα στις Κυκλάδες. Μέχρι πρόσφατα οι ειδικοί θεωρούσαν ότι η ανθρώπινη δραστηριότητα ξεκινούσε πολύ αργότερα, γύρω στην 5η χιλιετία π.Χ., ενώ μόλις το 1981, με την ανακάλυψη της θέσης στη Στελίδα, εμφανίστηκε δειλά η πιθανότητα μιας πρωινότερης χρονολόγησης.
Αποτροπιασμό, αγανάκτηση αλλά και απογοήτευση έχει προκαλέσει στο χωριό η βάναυση και καταστροφική μανία αρχαιοκάπηλων που “χτύπησαν” με απίστευτη μανία την Ζώμινθο, μια από τις σημαντικότερες ανασκαφές που γίνονται στην Ελλάδα. Την Τετάρτη 29 Απριλίου λίγες ώρες μετά το ξημέρωμα κτηνοτρόφοι διαπίστωσαν ίχνη παραβίασης στα πλέγματα που περιφράζουν τον χώρο. Οι άνθρωποι που βρέθηκαν εκεί αμέσως αντίκρισαν εικόνες καταστροφής και λεηλασίας. Οι αρχαιοκάπηλοι έσκαψαν σε τρία διαφορετικά σημεία (τα δυο από αυτά είναι στον ίδιο χώρο) και έφυγαν χωρίς να πάρουν χρυσάφια όπως λανθασμένα ίσως πίστευαν, αλλά καταστρέφοντας κόπους δεκαετιών, του Γιάννη και της Έφης Σακελλαράκη και της ομάδας ανασκαφής. Η μανία τους κατέστρεψε πολύτιμους χώρους του ανακτόρου και θα μπορούσαμε να γράψουμε ότι έδρασαν με… μανία τζιχαντιστών προκαλώντας χειρότερες ζημιές από ένα σεισμό πολλών Ρίχτερ.

Απογοητευμένη η Έφη Σακελλαράκη Σαπουνά στην επικοινωνία μαζί της δεν θέλησε να κάνει κάποια δήλωση. Απλά τονίζει ότι είναι απογοητευμένη αλλά και έτοιμη να εντείνει τις προσπάθειες της στην ανασκαφή που θα ξεκινήσει τον Ιούλιο για να περισώσει ότι μπορεί να σωθεί. 

Το απόγευμα της Πέμπτης κλιμάκιο της αστυνομίας επισκέφθηκε το χώρο και προχώρησε στη συγκέντρωση στοιχείων, που ίσως τη βοηθήσουν για να μπορέσει να εντοπίσει τους δράστες.

Οικήματα και μέρος της οικισμού της Πρώιμης και Μέσης Εποχής του Χαλκού (3200 π.Χ.-1600 π.Χ.) βρέθηκαν στη Θηρασιά, το μικρό νησάκι απέναντι από τη Σαντορίνη. Θραύσματα μεγάλων, πολύχρωμων, εντυπωσιακών αγγείων, εργαλεία από οψιανό (ηφαιστειακό πέτρωμα, στιλπνού, μαύρου χρώματος), ίχνη υφαντικής και νηματουργίας ανασκάφτηκαν εντός του οικισμού, που βρίσκεται κοντά στο μοναστήρι της Κοίμησης Θεοτόκου και τα σπάνια ευρήματα παρουσιάζονται για πρώτη φορά την Παρασκευή στο Αριστοτέλειο Πανεπιστήμιο Θεσσαλονίκης, στο πλαίσιο του συμποσίου «Διαχρονικοί Νησιωτικοί Πολιτισμοί. Η περίπτωση της Θηρασιάς».

Πρόκειται για ένα πολύ σπουδαίο εύρημα. Ο οικισμός έφερε χοντρούς και προσεγμένους τοίχους, κάποιοι πρέπει να ήταν μέρος της σχύρωσης. Τις κτισμένες σε πεζούλες, αμφιθεατρικά και το πιο εντυπωσιακό είναι πως στην αρχαιότητα βρισκόταν στη μέση μιας μεγάλης πεδιάδας και σήμερα στην άκρη του γκρεμού. Κατοικούνταν συνεχώς όλη την Πρώιμη Εποχή του Χαλκού και μέχρι τη Μέση Εποχή του Χαλκού, δηλαδή από το 3000 π.Χ. ως το 1800 π.Χ., λέει στο «Εθνος» η ομότιμη καθηγήτρια Αρχαιολογίας του Πανεπιστημίου Κρήτης, Ιρις Τζαχίλη, που διενήργησε την ανασκαφή μαζί με τους Κώστα Σμπόνια (αναπληρωτή καθηγητή του Γεωργιανού Ερευνητικού Πάρκου Κρήτης), Ιφιά Ιτσάχιλι, που διενήργησε την ανασκαφή μαζί με τους Στάντον και Μπίργιας, καθηγητές της Αρχαιολογίας του Πανεπιστημίου της Κορίνθου, και Κλαίρη Παλβουρί (αναπληρωτή καθηγήτρια του Γεωργιανού Ερευνητικού Πάρκου Κρήτης), με τη συμμετοχή και του ηφαιστειολόγου, Γιώργου Βουγιουκάλη.
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