

PAPERS AND MONOGRAPHS OF THE FINNISH INSTITUTE AT ATHENS VOL. XVI

THE SPARTIA EXPEDITION II ENVIRONMENT AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS



Edited by Björn Forsén and Esko Tikkala

© Suomen Ateenan-Instituutin säätiö (Foundation of the Finnish Institute at Athens),
Helsinki 2011

ISSN 1237-2684
ISBN 978-952-67211-2-5

Printed in Finland by Ekenäs Tryckeri

Cover: Megalo Karvounari seen from the northeast. Courtesy of the 32nd Ephorate for
Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Layout: Esko Tikkala

Contents

Preface		i
Björn Forsén	<i>The Emerging Settlement Patterns of the Kokyos Valley</i>	1
Sjoerd J. Kluiving, Myrsini Gkouma, Jan Graven and Inge De Kort	<i>Multi-proxy Analysis of Lake Sediments in Thesprotia and Its Implications for the Palaeoclimatic History</i>	39
Ruben Lelivelt	<i>A Lithological Analysis of Holocene Lake Sediments in the Kalodiki Fen</i>	57
Björn Forsén, Jeannette Forsén, Kassiani Lazari and Esko Tikkala	<i>Catalogue of Sites in the Central Kokyos Valley</i>	73
Christina Papoulia	<i>Mikro Karvounari in Context: The New Lithic Collection and Its Implications for Middle Palaeolithic Hunting Activities</i>	123
Stefanos Ligkovanlis	<i>Megalo Karvounari Revisited</i>	159
Tommi Turmo	<i>The Sevasto House: Architecture and Finds</i>	181
Mikko Suha	<i>Further Observations on the Hellenistic Fortifications in the Kokyos Valley</i>	203
Asterios Aidonis	<i>Hellenistic Cremation Burial Practices: An Anthropological Study of Thesprotian Graves</i>	225
Björn Forsén and Paul Reynolds	<i>An Early Closed Deposit at the Roman Villa of Agios Donatos</i>	247
Janne Ikäheimo	<i>Italian Sigillata from Agios Donatos</i>	269
Jeanette Lindblom	<i>Glass from Agios Donatos</i>	283
Vivi Deckwirth	<i>A Tower of Meals: Trenches A and F of Agios Donatos</i>	297
Tuukka Talvio	<i>The Coin Finds</i>	311
Jeannette Forsén, Paul Reynolds and Anna Patteri	<i>The Middle to Late Roman Find Assemblage from Darda</i>	319
Mika Hakkarainen	<i>"Vittoria dei veneziani sui Turchi in Albania". History of an Event</i>	333
Evangelia Balta, Mustafa Oğuz and Filiz Yaşar	<i>The Ethnic and Religious Composition of Ottoman Thesprotia in the Fifteenth to Seventeenth Centuries</i>	347
List of Contributors		391

Catalogue of Sites in the Central Kokytos Valley

Björn Forsén, Jeannette Forsén, Kassiani Lazari and Esko Tikkala,

with contributions by Agneta Freccero, Nena Galanidou, Mika Lavento,
Stefanos Ligkovanlis, Ourania Palli, Paul Reynolds and Tatyana Smekalova

In this catalogue all available information concerning archaeological sites in the central Kokytos valley is collected.¹ The central Kokytos valley includes the core of the territory of Elea and roughly corresponds to the area in which an intensive field survey was conducted by the Thesprotia Expedition, although only covering a small part of the total area in question. Therefore this catalogue includes, apart from all sites studied by the Thesprotia Expedition (marked by PS), also sites previously known or excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service (marked by E).² The sites are catalogued starting from the northwest and proceeding towards the southeast (Fig. 1).

The central Kokytos valley covers the river basin itself and the lowermost slopes of the mountains surrounding it to the west and east. The northern limit is drawn at a line between the modern villages of Chrysaugi and Pankratai, whereas the southern limit roughly corresponds to a line between the villages of Agora and Skandalo. Between the villages of Sevasto and Xirolophos the study area protrudes like an appendix towards the west, stretching all the way until the redbeds of Karvounari.

Some of the previously known archaeological sites could never be re-localised by us and have therefore not been included in this catalogue. This goes especially for the Neolithic and Bronze Age sites that Higgs reported on the Paramythia plain, some of them probably inside our study area.³ We have also omitted from the catalogue ‘phantom sites’, i.e. places that for different reasons repeatedly have been referred to as archaeological sites although there exists no real evidence to support this statement. The best example of such a phantom site inside our study area is the fortress on top of the Liminari hill in Sevasto.⁴

¹ This catalogue has been written as a collaboration between the four main authors. The PS entries are written in collaboration between Björn Forsén, Jeannette Forsén and Esko Tikkala, the E entries in collaboration between Björn Forsén and Kassiani Lazari. Data have also been supplied by Mika Lavento (ML) for the geo-archaeological entries, as well by Nena Galanidou (NG), Stefanos Ligkovanlis (SL) and Ourania Palli (OP) for the chipped stone finds, Tatyana Smekalova (TS) for the magnetic survey data, Agneta Freccero (AF) for the R wall paintings and Paul Reynolds (PR) for the R pottery. The passages supplied by them are marked by their initials. For the dating of the arrowhead from PS 28 we owe thanks to Curtis Runnels. Fig. 5 is by Mikko Suha, Fig. 7 by Jeannette Forsén, Figs. 6, 28 and 33-34 by Björn Forsén and Figs. 32 and 39 by Anna Patteri. All other illustrations were produced by Esko Tikkala, apart from Figs. 9-10, 13, 15, 16-17, 20-21, 23, 25, 35, 38 and 40-41 which are courtesy of the Greek Archaeological Service in Igoumenitsa.

² Sites that were excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service, but that of some reason have not been published in *ArchDelt* are not included in the catalogue.

³ Dakaris *at al.* 1964, 204-209.

⁴ There have even been published photographs of this fortress (*HGAtlas* 2008, 74, figs. 100-101). The hill-top was extensively searched by us on several occasions, but we never managed to find even a fragmentary roof tile on it. The fortification walls that often are mentioned and even are visible on satellite photographs are in reality natural stone formations. Another example of such a phantom site is the fortress of Choika, located just to the south of our study area.

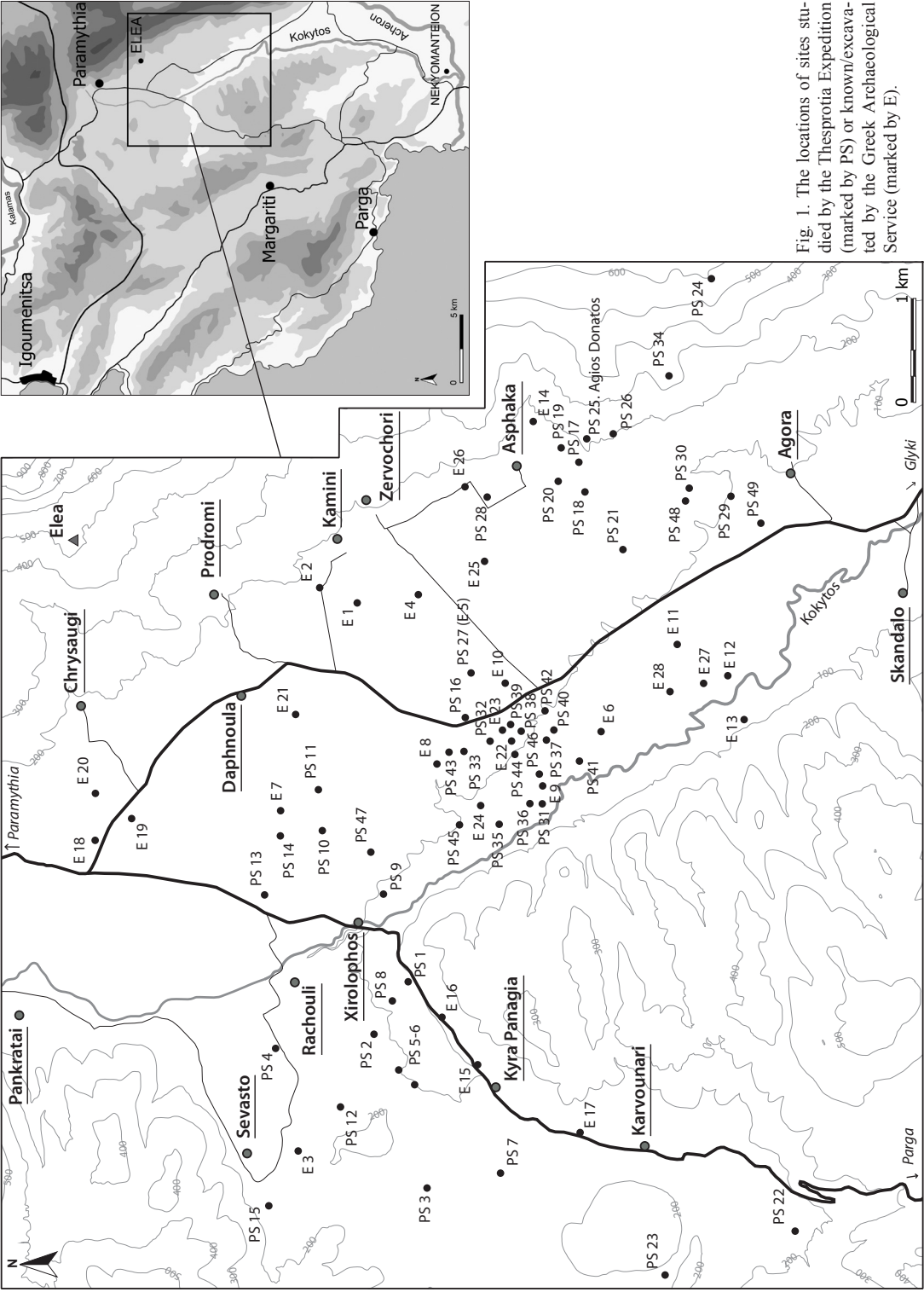


Fig. 1. The locations of sites studied by the Thesprotia Expedition (marked by PS) or known/excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service (marked by E).

The site entries in this catalogue are described with the help of the following headings:

Date and function: The dates of the material found are given with the following abbreviations: MPal – Middle Palaeolithic; UPal – Upper Palaeolithic; Mes – Mesolithic; Neo – Neolithic; EN – Early Neolithic; MN – Middle Neolithic; LN – Late Neolithic; FN – Final Neolithic; BA – Bronze Age; EBA – Early Bronze Age; MBA – Middle Bronze Age; LBA – Late Bronze Age; EIA – Early Iron Age; A – Archaic; LA – Late Archaic; C – Classical; LC – Late Classical; Hl – Hellenistic; EHI – Early Hellenistic; LHI – Late Hellenistic; R – Roman; ER – Early Roman; MR – Middle Roman; LR – Late Roman; Med – Medieval; EMod – Early Modern; Mod – Modern. Following the date a tentative interpretation of site function is given.

References: Under this heading any earlier references or references to the sites catalogued are given. If the sites are treated in other chapters of this volume, this is also mentioned here.

Location: Here the geographical settings of the sites, as well as proximity to other sites, water sources and roads, and altitude (Alt.), are given.

Description: Here information is given on whether the site has been surveyed or excavated, how large it is and what were the main building constructions and other features recorded. Survey methods are mentioned as well as, if possible, find density (as finds/100 m²). Any results reached through magnetometer survey work are also taken up under this heading. For the methods and equipment used, see further *TE I*, 18-19.

Geo-archaeological data: Soil samples were taken from most of the sites in order to define the following characteristics.

- The phosphorus content (P) has been analyzed by diluting the soil samples in a 5% citric acid solution. The results are presented in the unit mgP/kg. Although the exact boundaries are not possible to give, in normal conditions the phosphorus values of natural soil remain below 50 mg/kg. Phosphorus values between 50 and 100 mgP have been interpreted as symptomatic, and values above 100 mgP/kg as anomalous, indicating anthropogenic influence on the soil.

- The pH values have been measured by pH indicator Consort p501 from 5 g samples diluted in distilled water. The pH value expresses the acidity of the soil. Higher pH values usually indicate human influence at the sites, but may in some cases also be caused by the local natural factors of alkaline minerals.

Finds: Under this heading all finds collected on the surface or found during excavations are described in a general way. The aim is to give an overview of the composition of the finds, not a full publication with references etc. More detailed studies of some of the find categories and sites have been or will be published as separate chapters in the Thesprotia Expedition publication series.

PS 23. Mikro Karvounari

Date and function: MPal to Mes temporary camp site and hunting stand. Also EMod house.

References: *ArchDelt* 20B (1965), 364; Higgs and Vita Finzi 1966, 2, 4; Higgs *et al.* 1967, 18; Dakaris 1972, 42, 45; Papaconstantinou and Vassilopoulou 1997, 465-466, 480; Papagianni 2000, 47-50, 66, 80 and 82; *TE II*, 123-158.

Location: In the redbeds to the southwest of the modern village of Karvounari, more exactly to the southwest of the mountain Mavrovouni on the highest point of the pass leading from Megalo Karvounari between Mavrovouni and Simitiri towards the northwest and the seasonal lake/polje

Saita. The finds are spread along the pass beginning at its highest point and continuing downwards in the direction towards Saita. Alt. 140-184.

Description: Consists of eroded spurs of red soil demarcated by areas of impenetrable prickly oak and mourtzia bushes, sometimes also interspaced by flatter ground covered by fern. The site comprises 4.14 ha and was divided into seven units. Each unit constituted a walkable area demarcated from the next unit by impenetrable vegetation or steep drops. From each unit all finds were vacuumed, but no find densities were calculated. On the border between units 4 and 5 there is a ruined EMod house foundation.

Finds: A total of 1175 artefacts of flint were collected in the seven units. The majority of the chipped stone dates to the MPal period (n=978), including 634 flakes, 82 laminar flakes, 43 cores and 128 tools (of which 14 unretouched points). There are also UPal tools, such as perforators, backed knives, endscrapers, burins and crested blades, as well as two refit groups (i.e., individual knapping episodes) of unclear date and a late UPal to Mes component (n=87), including cores, flakes, blades and retouched tools. Next to the ruined house foundation 10 sherds were collected, one of them being a flat base with olive-green glaze on the interior and dark mustard glaze on the exterior.

PS 22. Megalo Karvounari

Date and function: MPal-UPal temporary camp site and hunting stand. Also one LR and one EMod sherd.

References: *ArchDelt* 20B (1965), 364; Higgs and Vita Finzi 1966, 2, 4; Higgs *et al.* 1967, 18; Dakaris 1972, 42, 45; Papaconstantinou and Vassilopoulou 1997, 465-466, 480; Papagianni 2000, 47-50, 66, 80 and 82; *TE II*, 159-180.

Location: In the redbeds to the southwest of the modern village of Karvounari and on the old route leading from Paramythia and the Kokytos valley via Morphi to Parga (still followed by the modern road). The red beds open and erode towards the northeast and the modern village of Karvounari. Mikro Karvounari (PS 23) is located ca. 500 m to the northwest of Megalo Karvounari. Alt. 140-220.

Description: Ancient polje consisting of terra rossa deposits deeply dissected by recent erosional gullies. Divided into 34 units not forming a continuous area, but interspersed by a quarry and parts covered by impenetrable vegetation. The total area covered by the 34 units is 11.7 ha. The border lines between the units often follow the ridge of one terra rossa spur down into the gully and up to the ridge of the next spur. Sometimes the units are demarcated by impenetrable prickly oak and mourtzia bushes. Unit 24, which is located lowermost towards the northeast, differs from the other units in being fairly flat and partly covered by fern. From each unit all finds were vacuumed, but no find densities were counted. An exception was unit 24, which was divided into 14 squares of the size 10x10 m. The highest find density counted in this way in one of the squares in unit 24 amounts to 399 finds/100 m².

Finds: A total of 2997 artefacts of flint were collected in the 34 units. The majority, i.e. 1601 lithics were found in unit 24. They were roughly evenly divided between MPal (n=353) and UPal or Aurignacian (n=361), the rest being unidentifiable. Among the MPal artefacts there are 31 cores and 147 tools (e.g. points, sidescrapers, notches and denticulates), whereas the UPal assemblage consists of 49 cores and 125 tools (e.g. endscrapers, burins, blades, truncations and points). Other units with more than 100 collected artefacts are unit 10 (n=118, of which 9 cores), unit 2 (n=147, of which 5 cores), unit 13 (n=112, of which 5 cores) and unit 34 (n=107, of which 5 cores). Of these units at least also unit 2 and 10 produced Aurignacian blades.

The 34 units finally also produced 8 tile fragments and 43 badly rolled sherds. Only two sherds could be identified, one being a Nikopolis type cooking pot of the fifth century AD (unit 15) and another an EMod strap handle with an olive green and dark green glaze (unit 20).

E 18

Date and function: LR basilica and MR-LR village (?).

References: Sotiriou 1929, 204-205; Evangelidou 1930, 62-65; Hammond 1967, 738; *SEG* XXIV 442.

Location: At Chalasma on the valley bottom on the east side of the Glyki to Paramythia road and ca. 100 m to the south of the small ravine originating above Chrysaugi and bringing water down to the Kokytos further to the west. Another site probably of the same date, E 20, is located only 300 m to the east of E 18. Alt. 150-152.

Description and finds: Triconch basilica, 23x14.5 m large, with the walls standing up to a height of ca. 5 m. Inside the main nave a small modern chapel was erected in the early twentieth century. Reused in the door-side of the modern chapel there is a milestone from the late third century AD, probably found in the vicinity of the chapel. According to local informants, house foundations, tiles and pottery have been found in the nowadays overgrown fields to the east of the chapel. There might have been a small village next to the chapel.

E 19. Plot of Aristoteles Mbika, Chrysaugi

Date and function: EHI cist grave covered by roof tiles.

References: *ArchDelt* 49B (1994), 424.

Location: On the valley bottom just to the west of the Glyki to Paramythia main road. Alt. 150-152.

Description and finds: Cist grave containing a child burial and a lamp (AE 4380) that dates to the late fourth or early third century BC.

E 20. Field of Vasilis Antoniou, Chrysaugi

Date and function: R (?) site of unclear function.

References: *ArchDelt* 33B (1978), 223.

Location: On the eastern edge of the valley bottom, 300 m to the east of the three-aisled basilica E 18 and just to the south of the small ravine originating above Chrysaugi and bringing water down to the Kokytos further in the west. Alt. 158.

Description and finds: The marble base of an Ionian column was found in this field, which also contains large amounts of marble chips. The base is 0.35x0.35 large. No further work has been done at this important site of unclear function.

PS 15. Pano Pigadi of Sevasto

Date and function: EHI village (?) with graves.

References: Dakaris 1972, 139-140, no. 405; *ArchDelt* 60B (2005), in press; *TE* II, 181-201. 309-312

Location: Just to the west of the modern village of Sevasto, in some fields on the lower slopes opening up towards the Kokytos valley in the east. Alt. 132.

Description: The site was detected in an overgrown field with olive trees during extensive survey in the summer of 2004 and revisited the same year in the autumn when the vegetation was less dense. Illicit digging in the northern part of the field had at that time revealed a substantial amount of tiles and pottery. In the winter of 2005 the Greek Archaeological Service conducted a rescue excavation in the field with olive trees, partly revealing a 16.6x9.0 m large house with four rooms (see *TE* II, 182-185).

The extensive survey of the surroundings produced tiles some 30 m further uphill in another field to the north of the excavated house. Furthermore, local informants speak of worked limestone blocks found some 70-80 m to the south of the house, thus indicating that the site continues also in that direction. Finally, the cist graves (one containing an iron sword) that according to Dakaris have been found on the northern outskirts of Sevasto most probably belong to this site. Taken together these finds could indicate a small village (Fig. 2). It is located close to the small fortress (E 3) on a rock-outcrop of the lower Liminari hill, at the chapel of Agios Arsenios, ca. 700-750 m to the southeast of PS 15.

Geo-archaeological data: Four soil samples were taken in a straight line beginning close to the southwest corner of the excavated house and extending towards the south with a distance of 10 m between the samples. The results of the samples were the following. Sample 1 – 403 mgP/kg, pH 7.79; sample 2 – 444 mgP/kg, pH 7.73; sample 3 – 417 mgP/kg, pH 7.62; sample 4 – 252 mgP/kg,

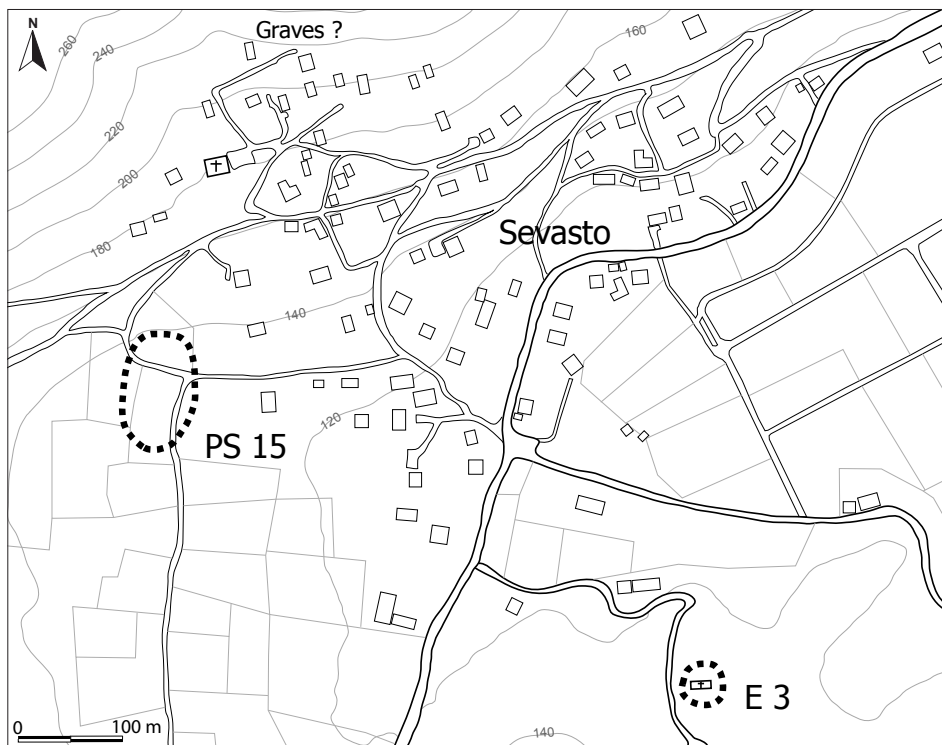


Fig. 2. The locations of E 3, PS 15 and the graves to the north of Sevasto.

pH 7.73. All samples are clearly anomalous, indicating human activity and the possibility of the existence of at least another building to the south of the excavated one.

Finds: In the survey Laconian roof tiles, some pithos fragments, a ring base, a kantharos base, a lekane rim, a cooking ware rim, three black glazed body sherds and some plain sherds were collected, preliminary dated to the LC or EHI period. The excavation produced quite a lot of pottery, lamps, loom-weights and coins, dating to between ca. 275 and 200 BC (for details see *TE* II, 185-194, 309-312).

E 3. Agios Arsenios of Sevasto

Date and function: EHI (?) small fortress.

References: Dakaris 1972, 139, no. 405; *ArchDelt* 49B (1994), 431.

Location: A small rock-outcrop of the northern lowermost slope of the Liminari hill, ca. 500 m to the southeast of the modern village Sevasto (Fig. 2). Alt. 136.

Description and finds: Dakaris reports finding remains of polygonal walls at the small outcrop of Agios Arsenios, which later were documented by the Greek Archaeological Service. The size of the fortress is by Dakaris reported to be only 0.1 ha, i.e., ca. 31.7x31.7 m. The hill is completely overgrown today.

PS 3

Date and function: Mes temporary camp site.

References: *TE* I, 25-38.

Location: Roughly midway between the modern villages of Sevasto and Karvounari, on the eastern lower slope of a small ridge thrusting out into what used to be a seasonally wet area called Nerotopos. Alt. 101-102, today at most one metre higher than the part of Nerotopos nearby. However, the level

of Nerotopos has probably risen by silting since the Mes period, implying that the small ridge at that time commanded the surrounding wet lands in a clearer way than today.

Description: Ca. 90x40 m large area, covered by large amounts of chipped stone, mainly made of beige, light grey and light brown flint. Further towards the south on the ridge a handful of EMod sherds were sampled. The borders of the site were determined by laying out a transect, whereafter several revisits were made collecting more lithics at different times of the year.

Finds: The lithic assemblage consists of a total of 534 artefacts, including cores, flakes and retouched tools. A large part of the retouched tools consists of microliths of non-geometric form (further see *TE I*, 28-32).

PS 7

Date and function: LR farmstead.

Location: Ca. 500 m to the west of the modern village Kyra Panagia, on the northeastern foot of a small hill, opening up towards the seasonally wet area called Nerotopos in the northeast. Alt. 105-106.

Description: Ca. 40x30 m large area in the southwest part of a field, covered by a scatter of pottery and tile fragments. The borders of the site were determined by laying out a transect. Part of the site may continue below the dirt road to the south of the site. Find densities in the ca. 10x10 m large core of the area covered by pottery and tiles varies between 240 and 280 finds/100 m², towards the periphery the densities fall to between 100 and 140 finds. The 10x10 m core area most likely indicates the location of the farmstead itself.

Geo-archaeological data: Two soil samples were taken from the site. One of the samples has the clearly anomalous phosphorus content of 160 mgP/kg.

Finds: The pottery collected is very worn, but includes a sherd of African red slipped ware, the transition from a base to a convex rim probably of the Hayes 57-58 series, which date from the fourth to the early fifth century AD. There are also some fifth and sixth century cooking pots and a piece of a LR C 3E or 3F dish dating to somewhere between the late fifth and mid-sixth century AD (PR).

E 17

Date and function: H1 farmstead.

Location: Just on the eastern side of the Paramythia to Parga road, between the modern villages of Kyra Panagia and Karvounari, ca. 900 m to the southwest from E 15. Alt. 114.

Description and finds: Most of the farmstead is located below the adjacent olive grove. Parts of four perpendicular walls were revealed, defining at least three rooms of unknown use. A small amount of mostly unpainted H1 pottery was found inside the rooms.

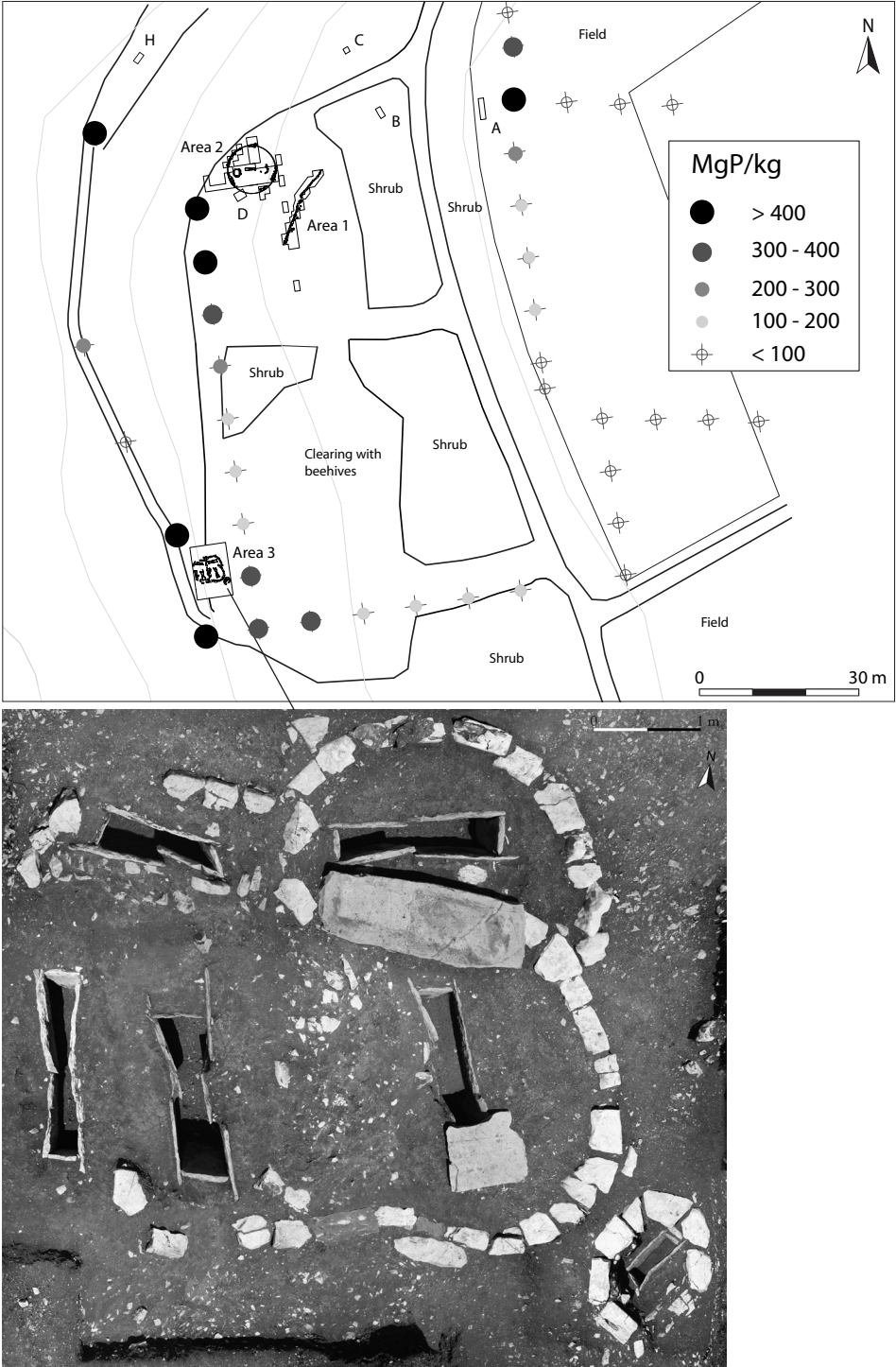
PS 12

Date and function: EBA to LBA settlement with cemetery. Also some Neo and EIA (or possibly even A to C) finds.

References: *AR 54* (2007-2008), 62; *AR 55* (2008-2009), 55; J. Forsén forthcoming; Forsén and Forsén forthcoming.

Location: On the lowermost eastern slope of the Liminari hill, in a sheltered small nook, mostly on the upper side of a small dirt road, but spilling over somewhat into the fields to the east of the dirt road. Towards the east a flat plain extending until the Kokytos opens up. Alt. 104-116.

Description: The site was found in 2004 in connection with the intensive survey. Trial trenches were excavated here in 2007-2010, soil samples were collected in 2008 and a magnetometer survey conducted in 2009. One of the trial trenches (Trench A) was located in the field to the east of the dirt road, all the others in the overgrown sheltered nook (Fig. 3). The trial trenches revealed a thick EBA cultural layer in Area 2 and Trench D and similar finds in Trench A. In between these trenches a terrace wall, following the contour lines was detected and traced for ca. 9 m. The terrace wall could be dated to the beginning of the LBA by a C-14 dating of a piece of bone found inside the



Figs. 3-4. Distribution of phosphorus anomalies and locations of trial trenches in PS 12 and orthographic photograph of the cemetery in Area 3.

wall itself. A single test trench, Trench H, was dug higher up on the slope, ca. 25 m to the northwest from Area 2, producing the remains of a massive rock tumble mixed with some pottery of historical date. On top of the EBA cultural layer in Area 2 a grave tumulus with a diameter of ca. 9 m and with a central cist grave dating to the very end of MBA or the beginning of LBA (1780-1610 cal. BC) was found. In the EBA layer below the tumulus itself and close to the centre of the tumulus a cremation grave was found. A medium-coarse wide-mouthed jar, probably of MBA date, and a bone needle were found just above or in connection with the heavily burnt area. Two C-14 samples taken from charcoal found in connection with the cremation grave date it to the MBA (1955-1755 and 1980-1865 cal. BC), which makes it to date the oldest known grave in Thesprotia. The cremation was found in situ in a shallow pit dug into the EBA settlement layer. At a later stage (approximately 100 years later) the tumulus was erected on top of the cremation grave.

Some 75 metres to the south of the tumulus another cemetery was found in Area 3 (Fig. 4). Here six cist graves were excavated, every one surrounded by a small circle of stone with a diameter of 3-4 m. These circles are all attached to each another, except for a smaller single stone circle (diameter ca. 1.5 m) with a small cist grave for a child that was somewhat detached from the others. None of the graves contained any grave goods, but one of the graves in Area 3 could with the help of the C-14 method be dated to the very beginning of the LBA (1690-1490 cal. BC).

Geo-archaeological data: A whole series of soil samples were taken in order to define the borders of the site. Four clear concentrations of phosphorus anomalies were noted (Fig. 3), the first one close to Trench D and Area 2 (highest value 883 mgP/kg), the second one close to Area 3 (highest value 482 mgP/kg), the third one close to Trench A in the field to the east of the dirt road (highest value 703 mgP/kg) and the fourth one close to Trench H on the terrace above the main site (highest value 960 mgP/kg). Along the upper edge of the field to the east of the dirt road the phosphorus values are in general anomalous, but after some 30 m the values peter out, indicating that the site does not extend further towards the east. The total size of the site is probably ca. 140x100 m.



Fig. 6. EBA spindle whorls.

fabrics occur. The white-crusted filling remained only in a few Corded ware sherds. A special category of finds consists of spoons (Fig. 5), of which a total of 11 have been recorded. In general, the overall resemblance with the EBA pottery from the Thessalian site Pevkakia is striking, as well as the lack of southern imports. The Corded ware puts the site into a larger northerly network.

Remains of daub as well as a possible fireplace and several spindle whorls (Fig. 6), either biconical or made of pierced sherds, were also found in the EBA cultural layer. Two bobbins



Fig. 5. EBA spoon with flared ends and two rows of nail impressions along length of handle.

Finds: The EBA fine to medium ware pottery of Area 2 is mostly dark, either black or brown and either plain or burnished on the interior. Rims are either square-cut or slightly flaring, no out-turned rims are found. A red-slipped ware, burnished on the exterior and with incised lip, also occurs, which brings to mind similar pottery from other EBA sites in central and southern Greece. The cooking ware usually has a scored surface or carries a 'crust'. A common surface decoration consists of finger nail impressions. Finally, an impressive amount of Corded ware was collected, usually black, but also reddish-yellow and brown



Fig. 7. Bone needle (EBA layer).

likewise indicate wool production as well as some bone needles (Fig. 7). Several sickle elements on blades with silica gloss indicate agricultural activities, and the large amount of animal bones give a picture of the animal husbandry.

MBA and LBA pottery was found mainly in Area 1 and 3, but also to some extent above the EBA cultural layer in Area 2. There is orange and orange-red ware with out-turned or flaring rims, large horizontal handles, sometimes formed as horns, which are paralleled at Ephra and considered to be of MBA date, as well as LBA wishbone handles. Large flat-rimmed cooking pots with sloppily made taenia bands probably also belong to the MBA to LBA, or even EIA repertoire. Furthermore, wheelmade pottery of historical date was found e.g. in Trench H, on the terrace above the main site. Here mostly body sherds of fine, very pale brown fabric, but also a flat base and a strap-handle, as well as some tile fragments were found.

Less than a handful of positively Neolithic sherds have been identified at PS 12, all in Area 2, e.g. a body sherd of so-called LN Crusted ware and one polychrome Dimini body sherd with dark red, grey and yellow paint on the exterior and likewise of LN date.

PS 5-6. Agia Paraskevi of Kyra Panagia

Date and function: LA to ER village with graves and a sanctuary.

References: *ArchDelt* 52B (1997), 626; *ArchDelt* 53B (1998), 538-540; *TE* I, 89-96; Svana 2004, 209-213; Lambrou 2006, 263, fig. 2d; Riginos and Lazari 2007, 90-92, 95-96; *HGAtlas* 2008, 81 and 85, figs. 120-121, 129-131.

Location: Just below the lowermost southeastern slope of the Liminari hill, next to Agia Paraskevi of Kyra Panagia. Alt. 99-100.

Description: Remains of houses, graves and a small temple were excavated here in 1997-1999 (Fig. 8). The temple, which is located ca. 200 m southeast of Agia Paraskevi, is 6.5x4.5 m large. A small altar (1.25x0.82 m) was found 2 m in front of the eastern short side of the temple. Part of a house (House I) with four rooms (11.5x8.5 m large) was excavated on the southeastern lower slope of the Liminari hill, between Agia Paraskevi and the temple. Part of a second house (House II) with six rooms was found next to House I. Further to the west-southwest of Agia Paraskevi parts of two additional houses were excavated, House IV located at a distance of ca. 200 m and House III ca. 650 m from the chapel. House IV had at least four rooms, one with a pithos sunk into the floor. Only the foundations of the houses that were built of local limestone blocks mixed with soil were preserved. Isolated pit graves and graves covered by tiles were also found between Houses III and IV.

During the intensive field survey the surroundings of Agia Paraskevi were badly overgrown and only a couple of fields could be walked. Two of the fields produced a thick scatter of C to EHI finds and were dealt with as PS 5 and PS 6 (Fig. 8). Two clear concentrations of finds were visible in PS 5 – the first one (square 7) characterised by a large amount of roof tiles, the other one (square 9) by a large amount of fine pottery. Square 7 probably indicates the location of a house, square 9 perhaps of a grave. The total size of the village PS 5-6 can be calculated to be at least ca. 350x150 m (even 700x150 m if House III is considered part of the same site).

Geo-archaeological data: Soil samples were taken in a line running through the field PS 5. One of the samples is clearly anomalous, having a phosphorus value of 339 mgP/kg.

Finds: During the excavation of the temple, large amounts of terracotta figurines and miniature vessels (skyphoi and kotylai), but also fragments of terra sigillata (first century AD) and other pottery, as well as coins and different metal finds (e.g. a gold earring, an iron dagger and an iron finger ring) were recorded. The earliest terracotta figurines date to the late sixth or early fifth century BC while the latest ones date to the first century BC. Two of the coins are of silver (Corinth, fourth or third century BC, and Macedonia, Alexander the Great); the rest are of bronze.

No finds from the houses have been published, but according to Svana 2004, 211, they contained apart from pithoi sunk into the floor also fragments of amphorae, jugs, cooking vessels,

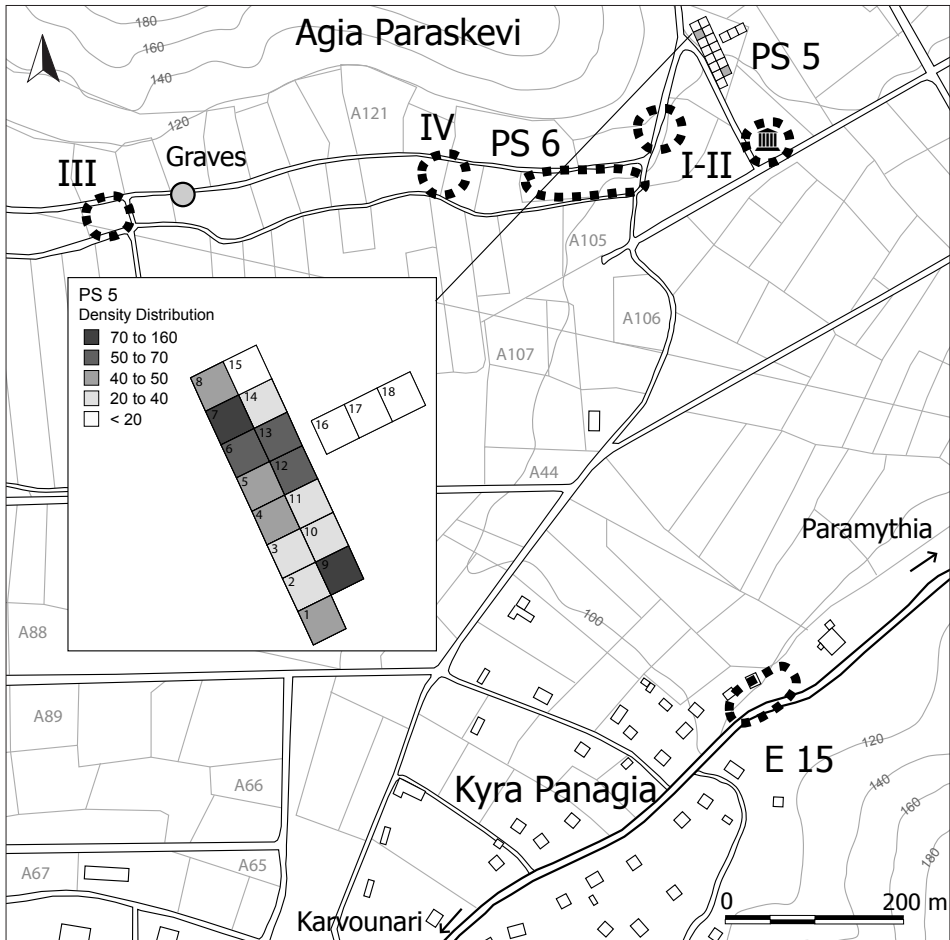


Fig. 8. The location of E 15 and the village and small rural sanctuary at Agia Paraskevi of Kyra Panagia.

lamps, plates and bowls, some of them black-glazed. Among the survey finds PS 5 produced black glazed fine ware, e.g. rims, bases and handles of bowls, drinking cups and jugs, seemingly LC to EHI in date. There is also plain ware such as a hydria with grooved face of the same date. PS 6 produced a medium ware lekane rim, but also fine ware ring bases and rims of bowls, plates and/or drinking cups, mostly LC to EH in date. Only one rim is black glazed. Apart from these finds PS 5 also produced a handful of prehistoric (LBA?) handles and body sherds.

E 15. Kyra Panagia

Date and function: EHI village (?), probably connected in some way to PS 5-6.

References: ArchDelt 47B (1992), 361; ArchDelt 65B (2010), in press.

Location: Next to and below the Paramythia to Parga main road near the northeastern edge of the modern village of Kyra Panagia, ca. 100 m before the church of the village and only 500 m to the south of the small temple of PS 5-6. Alt. 102-103.

Description: According to the report in ArchDelt 47B roof tiles and coarse ware pottery was found in 1992 along the western side of the main road. In connection with the widening of the road in 2010 remains of three different buildings were found. None of the houses could be excavated in their entirety as they all continued below the surface of the main road.



Fig. 9. The large building at E 15 from the southwest.

Closest to Kyra Panagia a large building with well built walls, at least 11x4.5 m in dimension, were exposed (Fig. 9). The walls are constructed in isodomic masonry, consisting of four rows of carefully carved rectangular limestones. Across the interior of the building scattered fragments of roof tiles were found in several layers, suggesting the existence of a tile roof. In the centre of the excavated part a rectangular clay construction and traces of burning suggest the existence of a fireplace. The function of the building is unclear, but because of its size it could be some kind of public (?) building.

Some 30 m to the northeast from the large building the remains of two residential houses were found. The northern complex consists of at least four rooms, in one of which a bathroom with tile floor and a ceramic bathtub was revealed. Only two rooms of the second building were uncovered, one of which probably was a storeroom as the lower parts of several pithoi were found in it.

Finds: The large building contained only a small amount of black glazed and unpainted pottery, some loom-weights, an iron arrowhead, iron nails, pieces of slag and a single H1 coin. In the residential houses some black glazed pottery, mainly from skyphoi, kantharoi and small bowls, parts of pithoi and ordinary household pottery, three conical loom-weights, iron spear- and arrowheads, an iron knife and a glass bead were found. Furthermore nine bronze coins, minted by the League of the Epirotes and Ambracia were recorded, all dating to the period between 238/234 and 168 BC. A single coin minted by Alexander the Great of Macedonia suggests that habitation in the area could have started earlier, in the LC period.

E 16

Date and function: LBA grave.

References: ArchDelt 65B (2010), in press.

Location: Just on the eastern side of the Paramythia to Parga main road between the modern villages of Xirolophos and Kyra Panagia, ca. 600 m from the northeastern edge of Kyra Panagia. Alt. 102.

Description: Two simple pit graves and a partly destroyed cist grave, which is built with large limestone plaques and orientated northeast to southwest and surrounded by a line of stones forming a rectangle, which was only partly preserved (Fig. 10). This grave type is similar to those found in PS 12, Area 3 and dated to the beginning of the LBA.

Finds: A bronze spiral bracelet and a few handmade pottery sherds were found inside the cist, while large quantities of handmade pottery (similar to the pottery at PS 12, Area 3) and chipped stone of flint were found around the cist.



Fig. 10. The cist grave of E 16. The surrounding line of stones is partly preserved to the left.

PS 4. Sternari

Date and function: MPal to UPal multifunctional site including flint “quarry”. Also some Mes, Neo and BA finds.

Location: In several fields bordering the southeastern slopes of the hillock of Agios Georgios mainly to the northwest of a small asphalt road dissecting the site. The site is located ca. 600 m to the northeast of PS 12. Alt. 108-116.

Description: A circa 3 ha area is covered by a thick carpet of flint nodules, naturally broken flint nodules, but also stone artefacts produced by man. The flint occurs naturally in large amounts on the overgrown slopes of the hill and the site has clearly been used as a raw material source. The fact that also finalized tools were found indicates on the other hand a multidimensional use of the site.

Finds: Some 500 pieces of chipped stone were collected during several visits to the site. They include cores, debitage from the initial stages of stone knapping (primary flakes), plain flakes and tools. The artefacts are mainly unpatinated or lightly patinated, but there are also some heavily patinated examples. The use of the site begins in the MPal period (2 Levallois cores, some Levallois and Pseudolevallois points), continues through the UPal period (some bladelet cores, a few endscrapers and some burins) into post-Palaeolithic times. Some microliths and a few geometric tools shaped through truncation may indicate Mes activity, whereas a few blades and the abundance of punctiform butts among the flakes seems to point towards the Neo period and the BA (SL).

PS 2

Date and function: EMod kiln site.

References: TE 1, 6.

Location: On the valley bottom to the northwest of the modern village of Xirolophos, ca. 250 m to the northwest of PS 8. Alt. 100.

Description: Small concentration (ca. 25x20 m) of burnt clay and lumps of slag. The finds are very similar to those made in PS 8. In principle PS 2 and PS 8 may very well belong to the same concentration of activity, as the fields between them had very low visibility. The find density of the centre of PS 2 was calculated in one square metre, giving as a result 1500 finds/100 m².

Geo-archaeological data: Two soil samples were taken from the site, the higher one having a phosphorus content of 80 mgP/kg.

Finds: The finds consist mainly of burnt pieces of clay (some parts of a kiln?) as well as three sherds possibly of EMod date.

PS 8. Keramareion

Date and function: EMod tile and/or pottery manufacture.

References: TE 1, 6-7, 16-17.

Location: On the valley bottom to the northwest of the modern village of Xirolophos, ca. 600 m to the west of the Kokytos at a place that still remains wet and muddy during rain periods. Alt. 98-99.

Description: In an area covering at least 220x150 m a thick scatter of burnt clay and lumps of slag was detected. The area was sampled according to a grid system, thus revealing the location of six kilns. Three of the kilns had very high find densities (between 1460 and 2020 finds/100 m²), whereas the three others had lower find densities (between 400 and 920 finds/100 m²).

Geo-archaeological data: A total of 34 soil samples were taken at a distance of five metre from each other. 15 samples have a value over 100 mgP/kg, with the highest value being 134 mgP/kg. No strong phosphorus anomaly is thus visible at the site.

Finds: The burnt clay and lumps of slag can be identified as vitrified linings and wasters typically created at kilns producing tiles and pottery. Only a handful of sherds were collected, most of them probably EMod in date. Three thermoluminescence samples confirm the date of the kilns to the eighteenth century.

PS 1

Date and function: Mes (?) temporary camp site and possible quarry.

Location: On the valley bottom ca. 200 m to the southwest of Xirolophos, separated from the lowermost hill slopes by a 2 m deep ditch. Alt. 99.

Description: In a cultivated field (tract A2) a small concentration (ca. 0.1 ha) of natural flint, but

also chipped stone. Flint occurs naturally on the higher slopes above Xirolophos and it is possible that this site continues on the other side of the ditch, although this never could be ascertained due to extremely thick vegetation. The setting of the site thus bears a certain resemblance to PS 4, on the opposite side of the flat valley bottom, ca. 1.3 km to the north-northwest.

Finds: 47 pieces of chipped stone, including four cores, 11 blades, 15 retouched tools (e.g. composite tools, scrapers), 15 flakes and one microlith, were collected. They show a clear affinity to the finds from PS 3 and are most likely of Mes date (OP).



Fig. 11. One of the limestone blocks from PS 13.

PS 13

Date and function: EHI monumental grave?

References: *ArchDelt* 44B (1989), 316.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, ca. 600 m to the northeast of the Kokytos and 100 m to the east of the modern Paramythia to Parga main road. Alt. 114-116.

Description: 17 large rectangular (Fig. 11) blocks and a plaque were found along the northwestern edge of a corn field (tract A 75). These blocks were probably found and dumped here while building the new irrigation system in the late 1980s, and they must originate from a monumental structure somewhere nearby (according to *ArchDelt* 44 B from a wall that was destroyed by the workers). A magnetometer survey conducted in the

surrounding fields revealed an anomaly at the northwestern corner of the field, which could be formed by a rectangular structure some 13-14x13-14 m large. Unfortunately this structure is cut in the middle by the border between A 75 and the field to the northwest of it, thus causing disturbances that make the interpretation of this anomaly uncertain.

Finds: The width of the blocks varies between 90 and 100 cm, the length between 90 and 110 cm and the height between 25 and 35 cm. The plaque is 66x88 cm large and 7 cm thick. The blocks are made of local grey limestone (mixed with some flint nodules), i.e. of the same material as the blocks used for the Early Hellenistic heroon at Marmara (E 11). The large size of the blocks suggests that they originate from a monumental structure such as a monumental grave: most of them can be interpreted as orthostate or perhaps even stylobate blocks, and the plaque could very well have been used as a covering plaque of a grave. However, it should be noted that the dimensions of the blocks used for the heroon in Marmara differ slightly from those at PS 13: the blocks at PS 13 are in general somewhat wider and their heights smaller. At Marmara only one block with the same dimensions as at PS 13 could be found.

PS 14

Date and function: LR farmstead/small village.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, to the northeast of the modern village of Xirolophos, ca. 50 m to the northwest of the ravine originating at Elea and uniting with the Kokytos at Xirolophos. On the opposite side of the ravine, at a distance of only 220 m, there is another site of the same date, PS 10 (Fig. 12). Alt. 118-120.

Description: The site stretches over three fields. The first of these fields was gridded and surveyed as PS 14 in 2004. Most of the surrounding fields were overgrown at that time, but at a later revisit to the site two further adjacent fields were ploughed and walked as tracts A 123 and A 124, revealing that the site continues towards the northwest. In the gridded field a clear, ca. 30x20 m large find concentration was noted, with the highest find densities reaching over 1000 finds/100 m² (1120 finds/100 m² being the highest one noted, calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of the square). This is most likely the place of one large building (Fig. 12). While walking tracts A 123 and A 124 another clear find concentration was noted in the centre of A 124, probably marking the location of

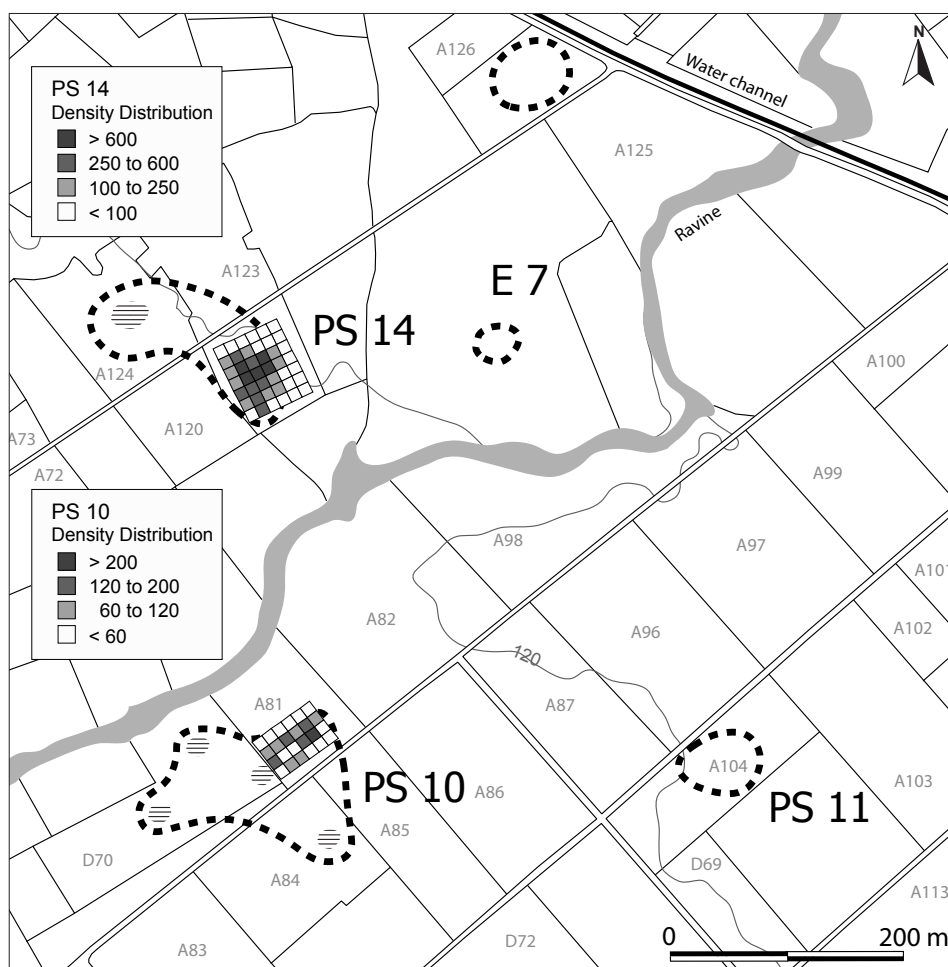


Fig. 12. The location of the LR sites PS 10, PS 14 and E 7. Marked are also PS 11, an EHI (?) farmstead, and another probably LR site known to the Greek Archaeological Service but never studied.

another building (Fig. 12). Due to time restrictions this concentration could not be gridded. There are also some finds in the southwest corner of A 123. In total the site covers an area of ca. 180x120 m and consists of at least two buildings, but perhaps even further ones, the exact location of which we did not manage to localise.

Geo-archaeological data: Five soil samples were taken from the site. The phosphorus content of one of the samples is slightly anomalous (118 mgP/kg, pH 7.68).

Finds: The finds collected in the gridded part of the site consist of roof tile fragments, pottery and three pieces of glass of LR date. The tracts produced similar finds. The pottery from the gridded area includes two pieces of LR C dishes, one with ruletting on the floor dating to the second half of the fifth century, the other one dating to the late fifth to early sixth century AD. There are also four pieces of LR 2 amphorae dating to the fifth or sixth century AD, one LR 1 amphora rim with handle attachment of the late fifth century AD, as well as several fifth to sixth century cooking pots and a possible clibanus handle (PR).

E 7. Aerodromio

Date and function: LR (proton metachristianikon aionon) farmstead with graves.

References: ArchDelt 60B (2005), in press; HGAtlas 2008, 97, fig. 159.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 50 m to the northwest of the ravine originating at Elea and uniting with the Kokytos at Xirolophos and just 150 m to the east of PS 14. Less than 200 m to the north of E 7 there is yet another possible site of the same date that has been protected by the Greek Archaeological Service but not excavated (Fig. 12). Both these sites may in fact belong to one and the same larger Late Roman village. Alt. 122-123.

Description: The farmstead is 13.4x9.2 m large and consists of four rooms. Only the foundations of the walls (0.7 m wide) that were constructed of field stones and mud are preserved. A total of five graves covered with tiles, but with no grave goods, were found. Two of the graves were located just outside the farmstead and had a south to north orientation; the three others somewhat further away had a northwest to southeast orientation.

Finds: Iron nails, a bronze coin, fragments of glass vessels and coarse pottery, partly with combed decoration.

PS 10

Date and function: LR village.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, to the northeast of the modern village of Xirolophos, ca. 50 m to the southeast of the ravine originating at Elea and uniting with the Kokytos at Xirolophos. Alt. 112-116. On the other side of this ravine, only 220 m to the north there is another site of the same date, PS 14 (Fig. 12).

Description: The site stretches over three fields or tracts: A 81, A 84 and D 70. The first time we surveyed the site in 2004, D 70 was totally overgrown, whereas A 81 and A 84 were covered by corn with low visibility. Tract A 81 was at that time gridded, producing one clear concentration that was considered a house (highest calculated find density 280 finds/100 m², calculated on the basis of the finds collected in a 5 m² circle). While revisiting the site in 2007, A 84 and D 70 had a fairly good visibility and were rewalked, although not gridded due to time restrictions. Four concentrations of finds were still noticed (Fig. 12): one in the middle of A 84 and three in D 70, one of these on the border to A 81, perhaps spilling over somewhat into that tract. The total size of the village, which seems to have consisted of at least five houses, was estimated as ca. 180x160 m. The find concentrations have a diameter of ca. 10-15 m and are located at a distance of ca. 40-50 m from each other. Judging by the spread of finds, the buildings are probably badly preserved.

Geo-archaeological data: Five soil samples were taken from the site, of which three have a symptomatic phosphorus content (83-87 mgP/kg).

Finds: The finds collected in 2004 and 2007 consist mainly of cooking pots and amphora fragments, as well as one pithos fragment and several roof tile fragments. The cooking pots date to the late fifth or sixth century AD, whereas the amphorae include a LR 1 amphora handle (ca. 450-500 AD), a Cilician LR 1 amphora handle (late fifth century AD), a LR 2 amphora handle (fifth to sixth century AD) as well as two pieces of LR 3 amphorae (fifth to sixth century AD) (PR).

PS 11

Date and function: EHI (?) farmstead.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, some 250 m to the east of PS 10 and 220 m to the southeast of the ravine originating at Elea and uniting with the Kokytos at Xirolophos (Fig. 12). Alt. 120-121.

Description: Small scatter of roof tiles and a few sherds and lithics in a cornfield. Rather poor visibility; no clear borders of the site could be determined. The find density calculated in a 5 m² circle roughly in the centre of the site amounted to 540 finds/100 m², which in combination with the slightly anomalous phosphorus content indicate that this is a site, most likely a farmstead.

Geo-archaeological data: A soil sample taken at the site had the phosphorus content 81 mgP/kg.

Finds: Some tile fragments, a plain ring base, a downturned rim of a plain jug of H1 date, a vertical strap handle with a central ridge and four body sherds.

E 21. Daphnoula

Date and function: Hl grave.

References: ArchDelt 49B (1994), 424.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 400 m to the southwest of the modern village of Daphnoula and exactly between two ravines flowing from the Paramythia mountain range down to the Kokytos. Alt. 138.

Description and finds: Cist grave (2.0x1.2 m) oriented northeast to southwest containing two burials. In the grave two spear heads and four unguentaria were found that date the burials to the late third century and to the second century BC respectively.

PS 9. Louri

Date and function: EMod farmstead?

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, just to the east of the modern village of Xirolophos and the Kokytos (only 150 m away). Alt. 98.

Description: Scatter of tile and pottery fragments in a corn field. The site was gridded in 10x10 m squares, from which all finds were vacuumed. Two clear concentrations of finds (210 finds/100 m² and 104 finds/100 m², calculated on the basis of all finds collected from the square), ca. 15x10 m in size were noted, located at a distance of ca. 15 m from each other. These concentrations were interpreted as the location of two adjacent buildings.

Geo-archaeological data: Five soil samples were taken from the site. All contained symptomatic levels of phosphorus content, the highest one being 82 mgP/kg.

Finds: Apart from roof tile fragments and a handful of iron pieces, several pieces of white china, some with brown strokes or grey lines on exterior, a handful of sherds with mustard glaze, one with green and purple added, one yellow glazed sherd as well as part of a large plate (diam. 0.26) with yellow glaze and dark green lines around the inside perimeter were collected. All date to the eighteenth or nineteenth century.

PS 47

Date and function: EMod or Mod farmstead (?).

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, ca. 500 m to the east of the modern village of Xirolophos and ca. 350 m to the northeast of the roughly contemporaneous PS 9. Alt. 104-106.

Description and geo-archaeological data: Small (15x15 m) concentration of tiles and coarse kitchen pottery in the southwest corner of tract D 64. One soil sample was taken at the site. The phosphorus value was 282 mgP/kg which indicates a clear anomaly.

Finds: Only a grab sample was taken from the site, which seems to be EMod to Mod in date, although there is no glazed pottery.

E 1

Date and function: LC or EHI grave.

References: ArchDelt 33 B (1978), 223-224; Choremis 1980, 3-20; HGAtlas 2008, 85, figs. 127-128.

Location: At the eastern edge of the valley bottom, just below the modern settlement Kamini and to the north of a small ravine originating at Kamini. Alt. 160-162.

Description: Two cist graves over which an earth tumulus with a diameter of 9.5 m and a height of 0.8 m had been built. Inside the tumulus there was also unearthed a place with traces of burning, some animal bones and potsherds (place of grave pyre or place of libations?). Cist grave A contained a funerary kalpis with burnt bones and pieces of a wreath as well as rich weaponry gifts. Cist grave B contained an inhumation without any grave goods.

Finds: Cist grave A contained, apart from the funerary kalpis, also two iron helmets (one covered with a silver coat), an iron cuirass, an iron sword with its sheath and an iron key. The finds can be dated to ca. 350-325 BC. As the tomb did not seem to belong to a cemetery, Choremi suggested that the tomb belonged to an officer (tomb A), who died in a battle and who was buried together with

his associate slave (tomb B). Since then another grave of roughly the same date has been found nearby (E 2).

E 2. Koutsounikia

Date and function: EHI grave.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 349; Riginos 1999, 174-175.

Location: At the eastern edge of the valley bottom, ca. 300 m to the northwest of the modern settlement Kamini and 300 m to the north-northeast of the well-known EHI grave E 1. Alt. 172.

Description: A small grave theke oriented east to west. The sides and cover of the theke are made of Laconian roof tiles. Inside the theke an ash urn was standing supported by small stones.

Finds: The theke contained, apart from the ash urn, also a fragmentary oinochoe and an intact lamp. The lamp seems on the basis of the published photograph to date between 340 and 250 BC (Fig. 13). Thereby the theke would be roughly contemporaneous or slightly later than E 1.



Fig. 13. EHI lamp (ΘΕ 02680) found in the grave E 2 (Koutsounikia).

PS 45

Date and function: UPal (?) temporary camp site.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, ca. 350 m to the northeast of the Kokytos and 100 m to the northwest of the ravine originating on the slopes of the Paramythia mountain range close to the village of Prodromi. The location does not differ very much from that of PS 43, i.e., although not being situated at a very high altitude it commands a very good view over the surrounding ravine and the Kokytos towards the south and west. Alt. 99-102.

Description and finds: Large and thin scatter of flint, extending ca. 350 m in southwest to northeast direction and 150 m in northwest to southeast direction, covering several fields (tracts D 33-D 35, D 38-D 42 and D 61). No find density was calculated. The collected artefacts consist mostly of large flakes of flint, but also of some 10 blades and a core.

PS 43

Date and function: MPal and Mes/ENeo temporary camp site.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, ca. 80 m to the southeast of the ravine originating at the Paramythia mountain range close to Prodromi from where it flows towards the southwest joining the Kokytos at the western edge of the valley. The site is located at a low ridge, orientated along the south side of the ravine in the southwest to northeast direction. The setting of PS 43 commands not only the lower lying ravine towards the northwest but also the gently falling landscape towards the south. Alt. 106-108.

Description: Scatter of lithics covering three fields walked as tracts D 22, D 28 and D 80. The whole site covers an area of ca. 100 x 100 m from which finds were collected as grab samples during several revisits. No find density was calculated.

Finds: The site yielded 618 flint artefacts, but no pottery. The lithic industry consists of two different components, an early and a late one, attributed to the Pleistocene and Holocene respectively. The early component, which dates to the MPal, consists of a total of 108 artefacts, including 2 cores and 18 tools (3 endscrapers, 2 piercers, 2 denticulates, 5 Levallois points, 1 Pseudolevallois point and 5 flakes with parallel or sub-parallel continuous or discontinuous retouch).

The late component is a flake dominated industry consisting of 508 artefacts (33 cores, 187 tools and 288 unretouched blanks). Among the tools becs, burins, notches, denticulates, endscrapers, splintered pieces, as well as a large number of flakes with either linear retouch or with irregular/occasional or very short (nibbling) retouch are encountered. Asymmetric transverse points

produced by low-angle bifacial removals and geometric microliths on flakes complete the toolkit. This later lithic component could have been manufactured and used either by Mes hunter-gatherers or by EN agriculturalists with no pottery (NG).

E 8. Plot of Aik. Tsiota and K. Natsi

Date and function: HI/LR graves.

References: ArchDelt 55B (2000), 661.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, just to the northwest of PS 43 and ca. 70 m to the south of the ravine originating at the Paramythia mountain range close to Prodromi just before the landscape falls off towards the ravine (Fig. 14).

Description: Two plundered cist graves of the size 2.10x1.00 m orientated northeast to southwest. Large limestone plaques had been used to build the cists, of which the cover blocks were missing.

Finds: Outside the cists a heap of pebble stones was found, mixed with human bones, some pottery including parts of skyphoi and a lamp, as well as 15 bronze coins. On the basis of the pottery the graves were used for the first time in the HI period while the coins indicate that they were re-used in the early Christian (i.e. the LR period).

PS 33

Date and function: R/LR grave (?).

Location: On the flat valley bottom, to the west of the main road between modern Glyki and Paramythia and in between two ravines originating at the modern villages of Prodromi and Kamini respectively. The site is located ca. 500 m to the west of the LR village PS 27 and only 200 m to the west of PS 16 and 170 m to the northwest of PS 32 (Fig. 14). Alt. 108.

Description: The site consists of a small (ca. 5x5 m), concentration of roof tiles. The find density calculated in a 5 m² large circle was 560 finds/100 m². The site could perhaps be a single grave connected to PS 32.

Finds: Mostly broken roof tiles, but also a vertical strap-handle and a flask rim of fine table ware. These are R, or possibly LR in date.

PS 32

Date and function: MR to LR small village. Also some HI and ER finds.

Location: On the flat valley bottom, to the west of the main road between modern Glyki and Paramythia and ca. 460 m to the west-southwest of the LR village PS 27. A ravine leading water from Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range to the Kokytos passes by ca. 170 m to the east of the site. PS 32 is surrounded by a cluster of LR sites; PS 16 is located only 170 m towards the northeast, PS 33 170 m towards the northwest, E 22 only 120 m towards the south, PS 38 200 m towards the south-southeast and PS 39 170 m towards the southeast (Fig. 14). Alt. 106-108.

Description: This site is ca. 180x120 m large stretching over at least two fields, but most probably extending into a third field that could not be surveyed due to bad visibility. Three concentrations of finds were noted, probably indicating the locations of three houses. There may very well be yet a fourth house in the field that could not be surveyed (a local farmer told us that this field was full of stones and tiles as well). The find density of the clearest concentration, house II, is 440 finds/100 m², calculated on the basis of a 5 m² circle, the find density of the two other houses being only 160 finds/100 m², but still standing out quite clearly (Fig. 18). Houses I and II stand out, besides through higher find density, also by a large amount of stones of fist- to head-size. The distance between the houses may be ca. 20-30 m.

Geo-archaeological data: No soil samples were taken from this site.

Finds: Among the cooking pots two have grooved rims typical for the third century AD, whereas one dates to the fourth to fifth century and another three to the LR period. There is also the base of an African red slipped C dish (fourth century), the handle of a LR 1 amphora (fifth century) as well as a LR lid and part of a pithos. Apart from these finds there are two handles that rather seem to date to the HI or ER period. No clear spatial distinction in the distribution of finds could be noted (PR).

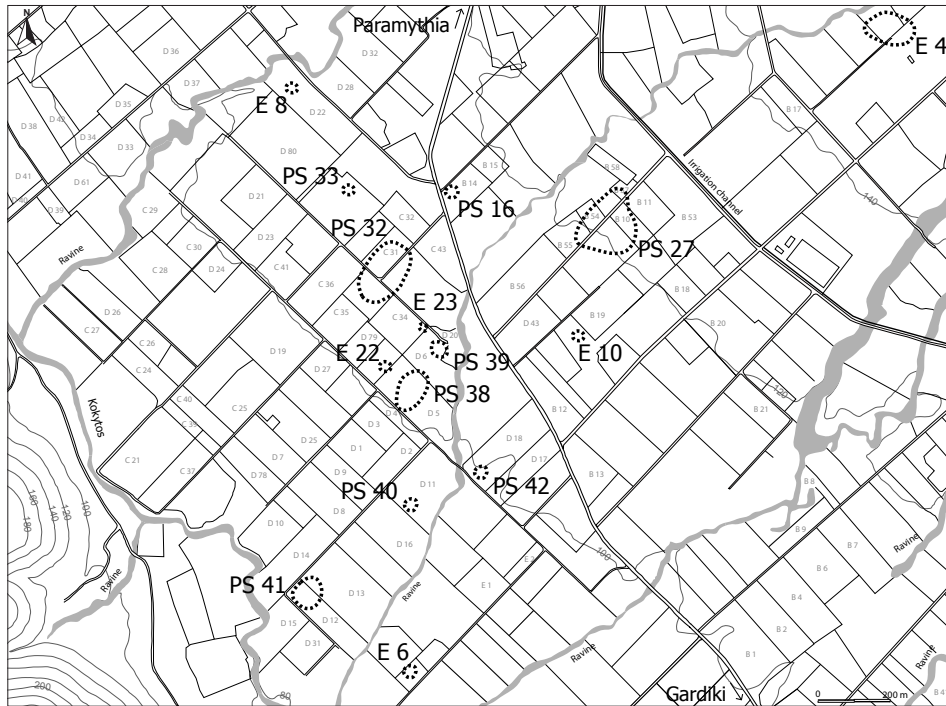


Fig. 14. The location of LR sites in the neighbourhood of the LR village and basilica PS 27 (Paliokklisi of Zervochori). Marked is also the Med (?) church E 10.

PS 16. Balakia

Date and function: MR to LR farmstead with graves.

References: ArchDelt 60B (2005), in press; HGAtlas 2008, 97, fig. 160.

Location: On the flat valley bottom, next to the main road between modern Glyki and Paramythia and ca. 300 m to the west of the LR village PS 27 (Fig. 14). A ravine leading water from Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range to the Kokytos runs between the two sites. Alt. 115-116.

Description: The site was surveyed by the Thesprotia Expedition in the spring of 2005 using a 10x10 m grid and the density was calculated on the basis of a 5 m² circle in the centre of each square. A very high concentration of finds was noted in one of the squares (4060 finds/100 m²) with a slight spread into the neighbouring three squares (160-280 finds/100 m²), thus indicating a small site, probably a farmstead. The site was excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service the same year in the summer, revealing two graves and what may be the remains of a house. No foundations of walls were found, but an 8.5x7.5 m large area covered with stones and remains of mortar, mixed with tiles, pottery, metal finds and signs of burning, indicates the location of the house. The two graves were located to the east of the farmstead. The first grave was a 2.08x1.0 m large cist grave with the grave walls built of stones and mortar and the floor of flat stones and roof tiles. Bones most likely belonging to more than one individual were found dispersed next to the grave, indicating that it had been plundered. The other grave, 0.58x0.21 m large, belongs to a small child and was covered by roof tiles. Both graves have an east to west orientation.

Geo-archaeological data: Five soil samples were taken in a south to north orientated line with a distance of 20 m between the samples. Only the first sample, which was taken from the very find concentration has an anomalous phosphorus content (136 mgP/kg; pH 7.85), thus indicating that we are dealing with only a small site or a farmstead.

Finds: In the survey a large amount of tiles and sherds, 2 pieces of glass and 2 pieces of burnt bone were recorded. The majority of the pottery and all glass and bones were found in the square with the

highest find density that marks the spot of the farmstead, and include e.g. several LR cooking pot rims, a possible clibanus lid and some amphora fragments (LR 1 body sherd – fifth to sixth century AD; LR 2 handle attachment – late fifth to sixth century AD). (PR).

Most of the pottery found in the excavation belongs to cooking pots and pithoi. There were also some fragments of glass vessels, 15 bronze coins dating to the fourth through sixth centuries AD, fragments of a bronze balance, iron nails and a grinding stone. The child burial contained one bronze coin.

PS 27 (E 5). Paliokklisi of Zervochori
Date and function: LR village (PS 27) with a basilica (E 5).

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 349; *ArchDelt* 58B (2003), in press; Drosou 2006, 281-282; *TE* I, 7-10, 18-20; *TE* II, 309.

Location: On the valley bottom, about halfway between the Paramythia mountain range and the series of hills demarcating the valley in the west. A small ravine passes by just to the northwest of the site, bringing water from Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range down to the Kokytos further towards the west (Fig. 14). Alt. 116-124.

Description: A three-aisled basilica of the size 20x14.3 m (Fig. 15) was excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service in 2003 and recorded by us as E 5. The foundations of the walls are 0.55 m wide and constructed of field stones and mortar. The floor of the narthex is covered by stone plaques and in the apses of the central nave remains of wall paintings were collected. On the northwest side of the narthex there are six rooms and on the southwest side another two rooms connected to the narthex. These rooms have a floor consisting of beaten soil and gravel. The baptisterion was located in one of the rooms on the northwest side, in the centre of which there is a 1.70x1.30 m large basin that could be entered with the help of two steps. Outside the baptisterion remains of a terracotta water pipe line were recorded.

Intensive field survey conducted around the basilica revealed a thin scatter of LR pottery (PS 27) extending ca. 140 m to the southwest (B 54, B 55 and PS 27A), 50 m to the northeast (B 57), 20 m to the northwest and 140 m to the southeast (PS 27B or B 10). One of the fields, B 10, was gridded and sampled in 10x10 m squares. The find density was calculated in a 5 m² large circle in the centre of each square, producing 320 finds/100 m² as the highest density. A magnetometer survey revealed the location of up to six houses to the southeast and northeast of the basilica, some of them currently being destroyed by intensive modern agriculture, whereas the largest one to the south of the basilica still seems to be well preserved. There may be further houses to the southwest of the basilica but this area was not intensively searched by magnetometer nor were any phosphorus anomalies spotted in that direction. Thus, the basilica seems to have been surrounded by a small village, at most ca. 1.5-2.0 ha large, containing around 10 houses.

A pit grave found at Paliokklisi in 1992 most probably also belongs to the LR village. No bones were preserved in the grave, which contained only some sherds of coarse ware, an arrowhead and an iron nail.

Geo-archaeological data: A large number of soil samples were taken in the vicinity of the basilica. The phosphorus values of the samples taken close to the basilica are anomalous and indicate human

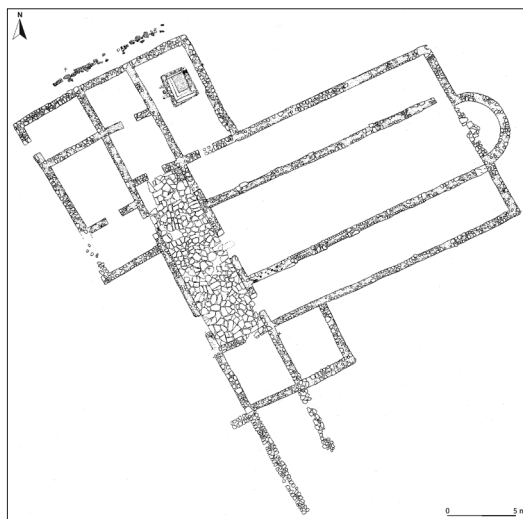


Fig. 15. Ground plan of the LR basilica at PS 27 (Paliokklisi of Zervochori).

influence. Samples taken along a line running towards the southwest from the basilica indicate only low values. Clearly anomalous phosphorus values (the highest one 334 mgP/kg) were on the other hand recorded along a line running towards the southeast of the basilica, on the other side of the small dirt road that intersects the site and in the same area as the largest house detected by magnetometer.

Finds: The excavations of the Greek Archaeological Service uncovered a total of 309 LR bronze coins, fragments of glass window panes and glass vessels, terracotta lamps (Fig. 16), fragments of marble colonettes and revetments as well as an intact stone fountain.



Fig. 16. Two lamps (ΘΕ 07359 and ΘΕ 07361), fifth to sixth century AD, found in connection with the LR basilica at PS 27.

While surveying the surroundings of the basilica, another five bronze coins were spotted in the rooms to the northwest of the narthex. The gridded field produced a sixth century cooking pot, a LR 3 amphora sherd, a small LR C dish, form 3 base (late fifth to sixth century), a clibanus flange and handle (fifth to sixth century), a LR body sherd with wavy lines, part of a pithos as well as some fragments of glass vessels. The tracts to the southwest of the basilica produced the following finds. From B 54 a cooking pot with pointed rim (late fifth to sixth century) was found, whereas B 55 produced a Tunisian amphora toe from Nabeul (late K25 type, fifth century) and a

small cooking pot with collared rim (sixth century). Even further to the southwest PS 27A produced two cooking pots of the fifth century (one of Nikopolis type) (PR).

E 4. Touri

Date and function: LR farmstead with graves.

References: *ArchDelt* 58B (2003), in press; *ArchDelt* 59B (2004), in press; Drosou 2006, 281.

Location: At the eastern edge of the valley bottom, next to a small ravine originating on the west slopes of the Paramythia range close to the village of Kamini. The farmstead is located ca. 800 m to the northeast of the LR village at PS 27 (Fig. 14). Alt. 152-156.

Description: Part of the farmstead was excavated, revealing two rooms with an inner size of 5x3 m each. Only the foundations of the walls that were constructed of field stones and mud are preserved. In one of the rooms a pithos was sunk into the floor and three graves were found in the centre of the other room, covered by the collapsed roof. One of the graves was for a child (a pithos burial), whereas the two others were for adults (a cist burial and a pit burial). 80 m to the east of the house a fourth grave of an adult (cist burial) was detected, obviously connected to the house itself.

Finds: The three burials inside the house were accompanied by coins as well as by broken terracotta and glass vessels, while the grave outside the house only contained five bronze coins. In the house itself pieces of pithoi and cooking vessels, iron nails, one silver coin and nine bronze coins were collected.

E 22

Date and function: R farmstead.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 361, Mavromandili A.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 100 m to the east of PS 44 and less than 100 m to the northwest of PS 38 (Fig. 14). Alt. 102-103.

Description and finds: During the construction of a new irrigation system a concentration of pottery was noted on the northeast side of the new southeast to northwest oriented dirt road in a field that due to vegetation never was surveyed intensively. A later revisit to the place revealed a scatter

of roof tiles and coarse pottery, probably R, or even more precisely LR in date. No sample was collected.

E 23. Chalilia

Date and function: LR (?) grave.

References: *ArchDelt* 56B (2001), in press; *ArchDelt* 58B (2003), in press.

Location: Ca. 1000 m to the east of the building with the channel excavated on the plot of Dem. Demou at Gephyrakia. This means that the grave was found roughly between the LR site PS 32 on the one hand, and PS 38 and PS 39 on the other hand. This is probably the same grave that is described in *ArchDelt* 56B as located in the plot of Nikolaos Antoniou, the location of which was said by local informants to be ca. 50 m to the northwest of PS 39 (Fig. 14), i.e., the grave is possibly connected to that site. Alt. 105.

Description and finds: A robbed cist grave (1.00x2.10 m) orientated east to west, next to which a few fragmentary bones and some nondescript pottery was found. The sides of the grave were built of well-worked plaques of white limestone.

PS 38

Date and function: LR small village. Also some HI and ER finds.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 100 m to the west of the ravine originating close to Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range and flowing into the Kokytos further towards the southwest. Another small farmstead of the same date, PS 39, possibly being part of the same small village, is located only some 70-80 m further towards the northeast. The LR village PS 27 is located ca. 600 m towards the northeast (Fig. 14). Alt. 102.

Description: The site, which is ca. 110x40 m large, was gridded in 10x10 and some 20x20 m squares with the find density calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of each square, thus revealing one very clear (no. IV, 840 finds/100 m²) and three further find concentrations with lower find densities (nos. I-III). These find concentrations most likely represent the locations of four buildings (Fig. 17). The distance between buildings I and II can be estimated as ca. 10-20 m, between II and III as ca. 34-40 m, and between III and IV as ca. 10-20 m.

Geo-archaeological data: Six soil samples were taken from the site, samples 2-4 connected to house II and sample 6 to house IV. The results of the samples were the following: sample 1 - 64 mgP/kg; sample 2 - 113 mgP/kg; sample 3 - 52 mgP/kg; sample 4 - 104 mgP/kg; sample 5 - 36 mgP/kg; sample 6 - 112 mgP/kg. Clear signs of a cultural layer with pottery and tiles were noted while taking samples 3 and 6. Samples 2, 4 and 6 are anomalous, indicating human activity.

Finds: The finds from the site are extremely badly preserved, but include at least a late fifth century cooking pot and an amphora handle of unclear date. The rest of the finds are undiagnostic, although mainly of LR date, except for one or two pieces of HI or ER date (PR).

PS 39

Date and function: LR farmstead.

Location: The small village, PS 38, to which PS 39 in fact may belong, is located only some 70-80 m towards the southwest (Fig. 14). Further see PS 38. Alt. 103-105.

Description: PS 39 was found because part of an old olive grove had been cut down and the stumps ploughed away, thereby revealing a clear concentration of round field stones mixed with fragments of mortar, tile and pottery (Fig. 17). It thus seems to be pretty well preserved. The site was gridded in 10x10 and some 20x20 m squares with the find density calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of each square, revealing one very clear find concentration (820 finds/100 m²), although most of the diagnostic finds came from the adjoining square, which had the second highest find density (140 finds/100 m²).

Geo-archaeological data: Five soil samples were taken from the site, samples 1-2 being connected to the square with the highest find concentration, sample 5 again with the square with the second highest find concentration. The results of the samples were the following: sample 1 - 92 mgP/kg;

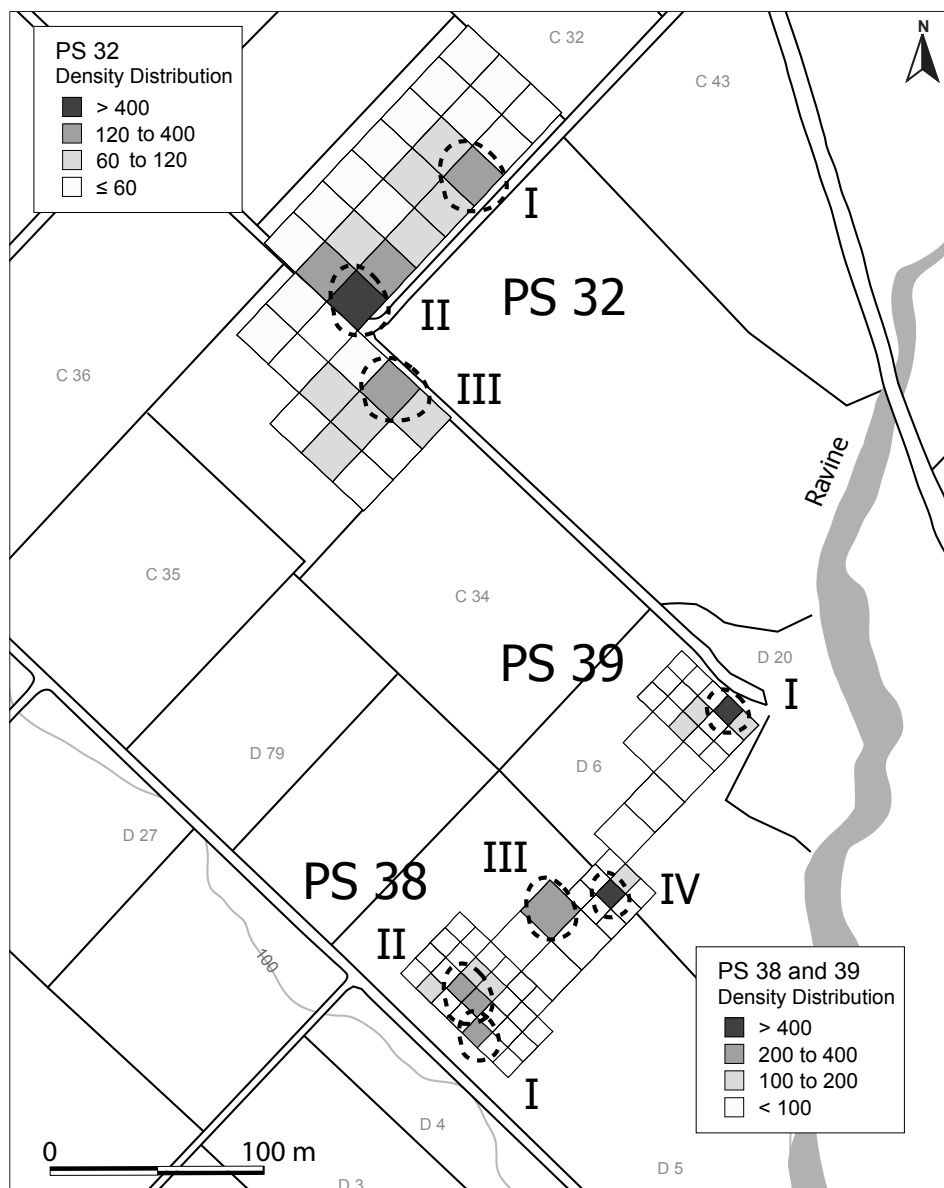


Fig. 17. Find density distribution at the LR sites PS 32, PS 38 and PS 39, revealing the location of eight houses.

sample 2 – 311 mgP/kg; sample 3 – 244 mgP/kg; sample 4 – 282 mgP/kg; sample 5 – 242 mgP/kg. Samples 2-5 are clearly anomalous, indicating human activity.

Finds: One piece of glass and the following pottery were found. Four LR cooking pot rims, one datable to the fifth century and another one to the sixth century AD. Furthermore a pithos fragment, an African amphora toe (fifth to early sixth century AD), a local amphora handle as well as two LR lids (PR).

E 10

Date and function: Med (?) church.

Location: In the middle of the valley bottom, ca. 300 m to the south of the Late Roman basilica PS 27 (Fig. 14), ca. 150 m to the east of the main road between Paramythia and Glyki and ca. 300 m to the southeast of a ravine originating from the Paramythia mountain range close to Kamini. Alt. 112.

Description: The church is known to the locals who have marked the location of it, nowadays an overgrown patch of land, by a cross. However, today no remains of the church itself can be seen. Some ten metres to the northeast of the church there is a field (tract B 19) with some finds, apparently originating from the church itself.

Finds: Along the southwestern edge of B 19 (next to the church) a concentration of roof tiles and 19 fragments of cast window panes were collected.

PS 35. Gephyrakia

Date and function: LC to EHI village. Also some LHI and R finds.

References: ArchDelt 55B (2000), 660-661; ArchDelt 56B (2001), in press; ArchDelt 57B (2002), in press; Riginos and Lazari 2007, 92, 94-95.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, next to the confluence of the Kokytos and a ravine originating on the slopes of the Paramythia mountain range close to the village of Prodrumi. The distance from the Kokytos is ca. 70 m and from the ravine ca. 30 m (Figs. 18 and 21). To the southeast the contours fall gently, giving the impression that the site is located on a small ridge. Alt. 94-97.

Description: In the survey the location of four possible houses was identified with the help of a 20x20 m grid, where the find density was calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of each square. These spots (squares PS 35/2 and 35/3; PS 35/12 and 35/46; PS 35/23 and 35/27; as well as PS 35/34) stand out on the basis of a much larger find density, the finds mainly consisting of tiles and pottery. The distance between the houses is 20-30 m. The Greek Archaeological Service has conducted excavations just to the southwest and northeast of the gridded area, revealing remains of further houses (Fig. 18). The full size of the site is ca. 200x150 m.

To the southwest of the gridded area, in the plot of Dem. Demou, a rectangular (5.00x2.90 m) building with walls built of small limestone blocks and a filling of mud and field stones was excavated. There are two floors, the older one partly made up of beaten soil and pottery sherds, partly of limestone plaques. The younger floor is made of hydraulic plaster (kourasani), into which a terracotta bath tub, restored in antiquity by lead clamps, was placed in the southwest corner of the room. A water channel, 17 m long, 0.45 m wide and 0.25-0.30 m deep, leads to the room from the north and skirts it on its northern and eastern side (Fig. 18, below). Water has at some stage been conducted from the ravine to the north of the house, to be used in the house and thereafter led back into the Kokytos.

Just to the east of the building and the channel the remains of a collapsed roof (8.5x4.5 m) was exposed. Below the roof the remains of a floor as well as part of a wall (Fig. 18, below) and fragments of pithoi and cooking vessels were found. To the east of this second house a dark layer ca. 1 m thick, 90 m² large and with clear signs of fire was detected. In the dark layer, large amounts of fine pottery and badly preserved parts of walls and stone heaps were recorded, perhaps the remains of other buildings. None of the features to the east of the building with the channel could stratigraphically be connected to it. The excavation did not uncover any cultural remains to the north and west of the building with the channel.

Some 80 m to the northeast of the building with the channel, at a place called Agioi, an oblong (ca. 13x1.1-1.3 m) heap of stones was excavated, inside which some pottery, roof tiles and small finds were found. It could perhaps constitute the remains of a house destroyed by later agricultural activities. This spot excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service is identical to the house foundation found in the survey in the squares PS 35/23 and 35/27 (Fig. 18).

Just outside and to the northeast of the gridded area, at a place called Aulakia (Fig. 18), a thick layer of a collapsed roof, covering ca. 15 m², was found in connection with trial excavations. No architectural remains were revealed, but worked limestone plaques had been collected by the farmer to the corner of the field.

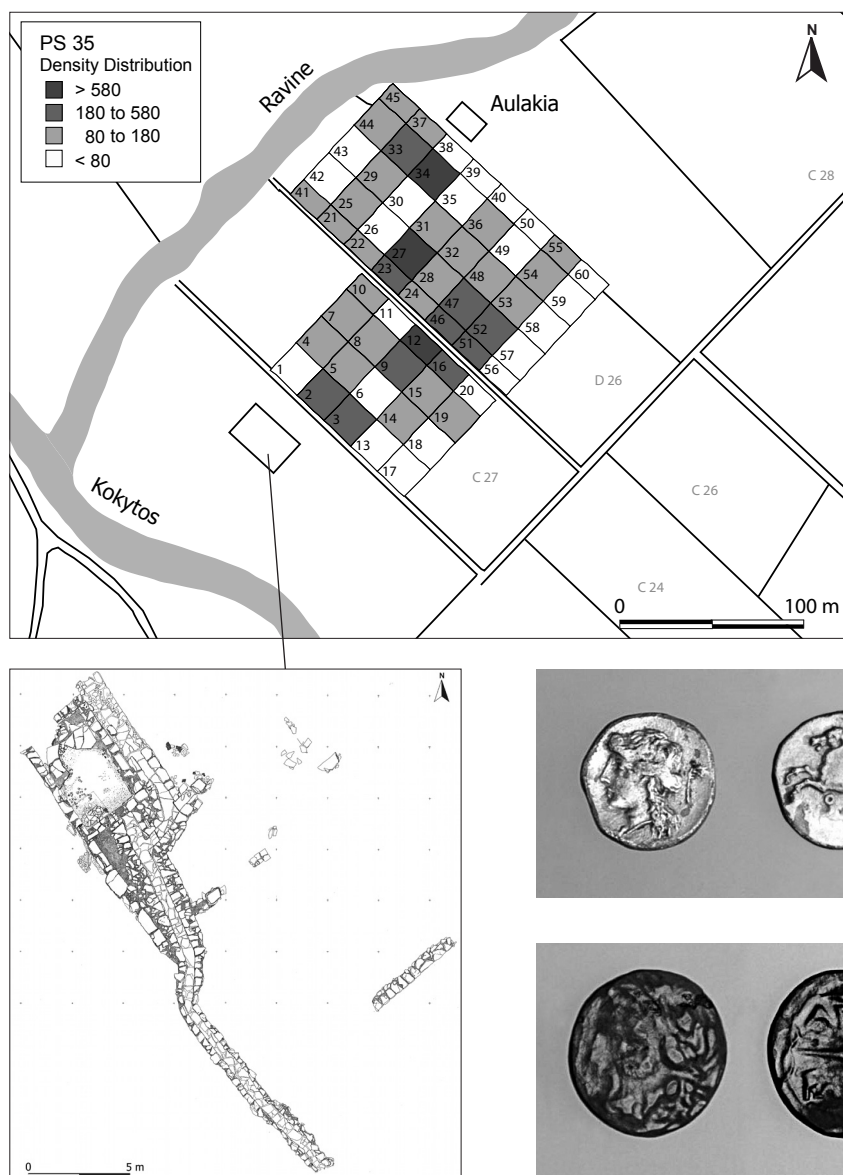


Fig. 18. Find density distribution in PS 35 (Gephyrakia). The square in the left lower corner indicates the location of the plot of Dem. Demou, whereas the square to the northeast of the gridded area indicates the location of Aulakia. Below ground plan for the building with the water channel, a Corinthian silver drachm (NO 2332) from the second half of the fourth century and a bronze coin struck by the Epirotic league (NO 2331) between 148 and the second half of the first century BC.

Finds: Large amounts of iron slag (sideromases) and iron nails were found in the excavation of the building with the channel, partly inside the channel itself. In the excavation of this house as well as to the east of it, large amounts of pyramidal and conical loom-weights are also reported, as well as some black-glazed pottery, plain ware, a fragmentary bronze fibula, two fragmentary terracotta figurines, one of which dates to the second century BC, a fourth-century Corinthian silver drachm, and three Hellenistic bronze coins, one of which is from the Akarnanian Confederacy and dates

between 300 and 167 BC, whereas another one belongs to the series struck by the Epirotic League after 167 BC (Fig. 18, below).

The excavation at the location Agioi, finally, produced abraded pottery (e.g. of pithoi), a metal nail and an un-diagnostic bronze coin. Under the collapsed roof at Aulakia a large amount of pottery was found, including skyphoi and unguentaria, as well as two conical loom-weights, a bronze fibula, a bronze coin, pieces of iron slag and metal nails.

In the survey a total of 22 black glazed and one red glazed fine ware sherds were collected. Nine of the glazed sherds belong to miniatures, the rest to small bowls, cups and skyphoi. Apart from the black glazed sherds the pottery is equally divided between plain fine ware and medium-coarse ware. Among the plain fine ware two hydriae and several jugs were identified. Most medium-coarse pottery represents cooking pots, large jars or lekanai. The majority of the pottery, including the black glazed sherds, dates to the LC through EHI period. Black glazed pottery was found in connection with all of the four houses. Eight of the miniatures were found in a very small area in connection with the house at Agioi (square PS 35/27), whereas the ninth fragment of this type was collected in square PS 35/33 (next to the probable house in PS 35/34). One piece of a basalt grinding stone was found in square PS 35/15, probably connected to the house in squares PS 35/12 and 35/46. A large amount of iron slag was found in several of the squares, seemingly evenly spread all over the site. The only R pottery was collected next to the location of Agioi, in squares PS 35/27, 35/26 and 35/28.

E 24. Varka or Dourou

Date and function: Possible site of unclear date.

References: *ArchDelt* 57B (2002), in press.

Location: Ca. 200 m to the east of Aulakia and 330 m to the northeast of Agioi (Fig. 21). Alt. 98.

Description and finds: An area of 20x15 m was checked through trial trenches. A few pieces of roof tiles, some sherds and one piece of iron slag were recorded. Is this a site at all?

PS 36. Mavromandilia

Date and function: EIA to HI village.

References: *ArchDelt* 60B (2005), in press; Tzortzatou and Fatsiou 2006; *AR* 53 (2006-2007), 47; Riginos and Lazari 2007, 84-86; *HGAtlas* 2008, 54, figs. 61-63; *TE* I, 39-43, 56-87.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, only 200 m to the east of the Kokytos, on both sides of a dried out small creek leading down to it. There are several springs in the neighbourhood, some of which today are dried out. One spring was probably located in the bottom of the small creek next to the site (Fig. 22). Alt. 88-89.

Description: A ca. 0.5 m thick cultural layer was found at a depth of ca. 1.5 m below surface while digging a ditch in 2005 to the north and northwest of the small creek. The find layer, which stretched for about 50 m along the ditch, contained – apart from large amounts of pottery – also fragments of animal bones, remains of fire and concentrations of small and medium-sized field stones, the largest and most clear concentration continuing along 10 m of the ditch. In the eastern part of the find layer, roof tiles and a human cranium were found, perhaps originating from a destroyed burial covered by tiles.

During the intensive field survey, a 10x10 m large concentration of EIA pottery was noted on the eastern side of the small creek at a distance of ca. 50-60 m from where the Greek Archaeological Service had excavated. A trial excavation at this place revealed a clear cultural layer at a depth of only 20-30 cm below surface, where three oblong dark areas (features I-III), possibly the remains of huts, and two smaller pits (pit 1-2) filled with dark soil mixed with ash and charcoal, possibly cooking pits or some kind of bothroi, were detected. Finally, a ditch filled with fragmentary pottery sherds was found below feature I. Most of the pottery in feature I dates to the eighth century BC. Radiocarbon dates show that pit 1 is roughly contemporaneous with feature I, whereas pit 2 and the ditch both are older, dating to the eleventh to tenth centuries BC. In features II-III we found, apart from some EIA, also C and possibly HI pottery.

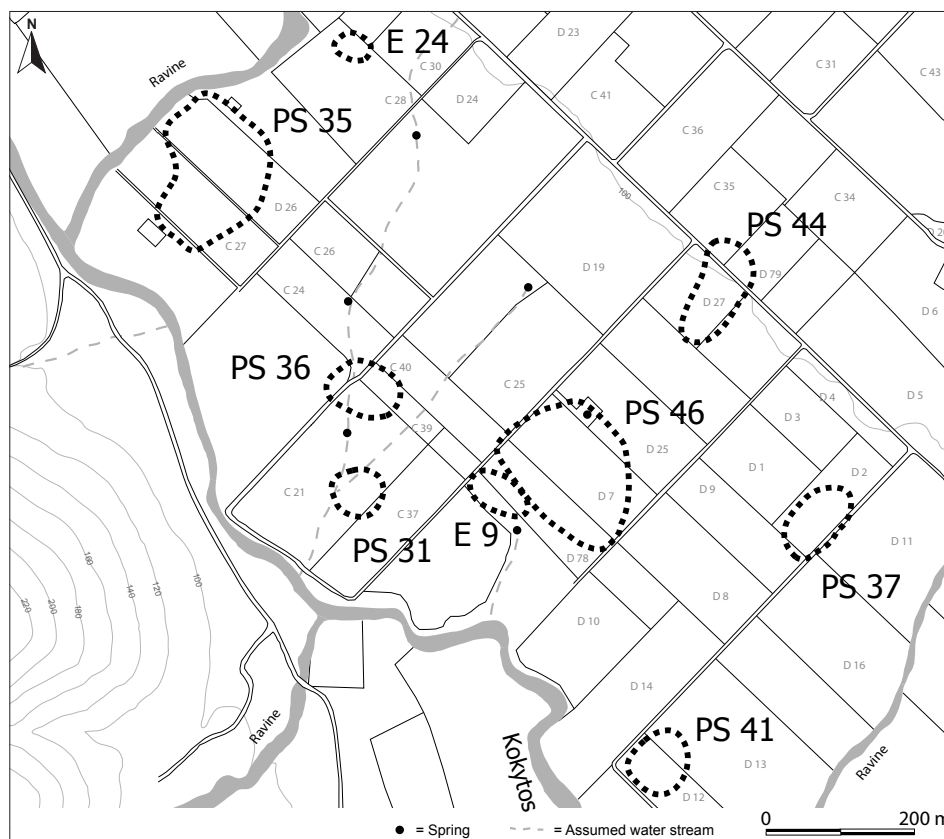


Fig. 21. Sites with finds dating from the EIA through the ER period in the neighbourhood of Mavromandilia.

Coring with a hand auger shows that the find concentration excavated by the Thesprotia Expedition is larger than visible on the surface, the other parts being covered by more sterile soil. Phosphorus samples taken with the auger, in conjunction with the fact that the main find horizon is contemporaneous with that of the spot excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service, indicate that we are dealing with one and the same site covering a total size of ca. 100x60 m.

Geo-archaeological data: A whole series of soil samples were taken in the vicinity of PS 36. For the results, see *TE I*, 73-87.

Finds: There is some pottery dating to the LBA, A, C and HI period, but the bulk of the pottery belongs to the EIA and more specifically to the eighth century BC. Thapsos ware sherds were found both in the ditch and in the find concentration in the field. Among the finds from the ditch, where the Greek Archaeological Service excavated, one should emphasise three bull-head figurines (a similar one also from the concentration in the field) and a bird figurine. No remains of post holes were found, but numerous pieces of mud-bricks and daub indicate the existence of some construction connected with features I-III. Only very few fragments of roof tiles were found in connection with the possible tile covered grave and in features II-III (including one piece of a Corinthian cover tile). Finally, coarse ware storage vessels with rope decoration and one terracotta spindle whorl are reported from the ditch.

PS 31

Date and function: C farmstead/pottery kiln? Also some EIA, A and HI finds.

References: *TE I*, 73-83.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, only 100 m to the east of the Kokytos, on the east side of a now dried out small creek leading down to it. There are several springs in the neighbourhood, some of which today are dried out. One spring was probably located in the bottom of the small creek just to the north of PS 31 (Fig. 21). Alt. 86-88.

Description: Concentration of badly rolled tile fragments and pottery, spread out over an area ca. 30x30 m. The concentration was gridded in 10x10 m squares and the find density was calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of each square. The highest find concentration noted was 680 finds/100 m².

Geo-archaeological data: Four soil samples were taken, two of which produced very high anomalous phosphorus content (870 and 906 mgP/kg).

Finds: A few sherds seem to date to the EIA, e.g. an orange-red sherd decorated with a large horn. The majority of the pottery is however later in date, most likely C, although some may be A or H1 as well. A substantial proportion of the pottery consists of fine ware, some with black glaze. Both ring bases and flat bases occur among the fine ware. Coarse and medium coarse ware occurs only occasionally. Pottery wastes and a couple of slag pieces also occur, thus possibly indicating the existence of a pottery kiln at this spot close to the Kokytos and next to the small creek leading down to it, in an area with good clay sources.

E 9. Mavromandilia

Date and function: LHI (?) to ER farmstead.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 361, Mavromandili B.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, ca. 200 m to the northeast of the Kokytos and just before the landscape drops steeply towards the river. There are several springs in the neighbourhood, the closest one at a distance of only 150 m from E 9 (Fig. 21). Alt. 90-91.

Description: A large house with its foundation constructed of worked limestone blocks was found, but

not excavated, in connection with the construction of a new irrigation system and new field roads in 1992. The plot was bought by the Greek Archaeological Service and could not be surveyed due to heavy vegetation. The neighbouring ploughed fields were surveyed in 2007, the fields to the northeast (D 78) and southwest (C 31) revealing finds belonging to E 9. In D 78 two spots with darker, burnt soil and more finds were noted, one of them adjacent to the overgrown plot with the house, the other one some 20 m towards the northeast in the ploughed field (these were later surveyed as grids of PS 46 - PS 46/48 as well as PS 46/50 and PS 46/53) (Fig. 23).

Later on in 2007 a magnetometer survey was conducted in field D 78 and on the plot bought by the Greek Archaeological Service. The survey was disturbed by thick vegetation at the core of the site. Still some faint remains of walls and pits filled with magnetic material could be seen, including the two spots with darker, burnt soil visible in the ploughed field.

Finally in 2008 the Greek Archaeological Service conducted an excavation in the overgrown field revealing part of a house some 30x9.5 m large, with at least four rooms (Fig. 22). One of the rooms can be identified as the kitchen on the basis of an oval fireplace and the existence of a large amount of sherds of cooking pots. In a second room, to the south of the first, a rectangular cistern 2x1.5 m large and 0.70 m deep was excavated. The interior of the cistern was lined with hydraulic mortar, while in its bottom there was a ceramic basin. On the basis of the magnetometer map it seems clear that the construction continues towards the northeast outside the excavated area.

Finds: The survey produced a handful of terra sigillata sherds in D 78 and C 31, most probably of



Fig. 22. The foundations of the LHI (?) to ER farmstead E 9.

Italian manufacture from the first century AD. D 78 also produced a bronze coin and part of a lamp. Square PS 46/50 (being part of E 9) produced part of a Dragendorff 24 or 25 cup (first century AD), whereas an ER flagon rim as well as a HI or ER ring base was found in square PS 46/51 (also being part of E 9) (PR). The excavation finds include sherds from cooking vessels and vases of everyday use, as well as terra sigillata sherds and parts of bulbous unguentaria and nine bronze and one silver coin dating between the first century BC and the first century AD.

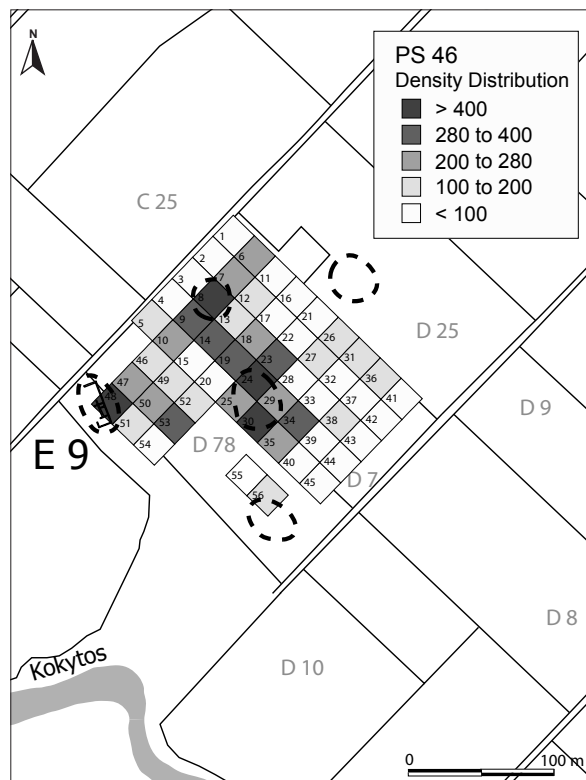


Fig. 23. Find density distribution of the sites PS 46 and E 9 with the location of five houses.

PS 46

Date and function: LC to HI village. Also some BA and LBA to EIA finds.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, ca. 250 m to the northeast of the Kokytos and just to the northeast of E 9. There are several springs in the neighbourhood, the closest one just to the east of the site (Fig. 22). Alt. 91-94.

Description: Large irregular spread of pottery and tiles adjacent to E 9 (which could be part of PS 46), covering three different tracts; D 7, D 25 and D 78 and a total area of ca. 140x150 m (not including E 9, otherwise ca. 200x150 m). D 7 and part of D 78 were later gridded in 20x20 m squares. Four clear concentrations of finds with a diameter of 20 m and a distance between each other of ca. 30-40 m were noted and interpreted as four buildings. Three of the houses were located in the gridded area; in PS 46/8, PS 46/24 and PS 46/30 (at the border of the squares) and in PS 46/56 (mostly outside the

square). The find density as calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of the squares was in PS 46/8 480 finds/100 m², whereas in PS 46/24 and PS 46/30 it was 420-440 finds/m². The find density calculated in the centre of the house partly inside PS 46/56 was as high as 1840 finds/100 m². No find density was calculated for the find concentration in D 25 (Fig. 23).

The character of PS 46 is rather similar to that of PS 35, although the amount of finds between the buildings is larger here than in PS 35, also including some pottery of BA or LBA-EIA date. A magnetometer survey conducted in D 78 failed to reveal clear remains of the house, probably due to the foundations being destroyed by later agricultural activities.

Geo-archaeological data: A total of six soil samples were taken from the site. Two of them had an anomalous phosphorus content, the highest value being 829 mgP/kg.

Finds: A total of 22 black glazed sherds were collected. Five of these possibly belong to miniature vessels, the remainder representing drinking cups (e.g. skyphoi and kantharoi), small bowls and juglets. 75% of the remaining pottery is fine ware and 25% is medium-coarse and coarse ware. Among the plain fine ware, further drinking cups (skyphoi and kantharoi) were identified. The medium-coarse and coarse pottery represents lekanai, amphorai, hydriae, storage vessels and

pithoi. The majority of the pottery, including the black glazed sherds, dates to the LC through EHI period. Black glazed pottery was found in connection with all of the three houses in the gridded area and miniatures in connection with two of the houses, although spread out somewhat outside the very centre of the houses. Furthermore, the tract finds from D 7 include a conical loom-weight, whereas part of a basalt grinding stone was noted in the find concentration of D 78 when this field was surveyed by a magnetometer. A large amount of iron slag was found spread over most of the gridded area.

Finally, there are six prehistoric sherds, including one flaring rim of coarse ware with a taenia band (BA) and two wishbone handles (LBA or EIA in date). Some chipped stone of flint, including at least two small blades.

PS 44. Mavromandilia

Date and function: LC to EHI farmstead with graves.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 361, Mavromandili A.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 650 m to the northeast of the Kokytos. In the area between PS 44 and the river there are several springs, the nearest ones at a distance of ca. 200 m from PS 44 next to PS 46 (Fig. 21). Alt. 100-101.

Description: During the construction of a new irrigation system, limestone plaques, probably originating from graves, and pottery were found at the crossing of a new southeast to northwest oriented dirt road and the old field road, on the northeast side of the new field road. During the survey a scatter of roof tiles and pottery was found at the same crossing, on the southwest side of the new field road in tract D 27, but partly continuing to the northeast side of the road. Due to the vegetation the field could not be gridded, although it clearly would have been worth a closer examination.

Finds: The pottery collected from the surface (D 27) includes several sherds of black glazed table ware: a low ring-foot of a skyphos, the rim of a small bowl, part of a lamp, the neck of a small flask and a high everted ring foot (of a hydria?). Among the medium-coarse ware there are two fragments of HI cooking pots and part of a mortar, as well as a fragmentary conical loom-weight. The finds are mostly LC to EHI in date.

PS 37

Date and function: LC to EHI farmstead/pottery kiln.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 200 m to the east from PS 46 and 200 m to the southeast from PS 44. A ravine leading water from Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range to the Kokytos further in the west passes by ca. 150 m to the southeast. The closest spring is located at PS 46 (Fig. 21). Alt. 96-97.

Description: The site was detected while walking tract D 2, but due to agricultural activities it could never be gridded and no find density was calculated. The site was clearly visible in the ploughed field as a concentration of tiles, pottery and even some limestone blocks. Some of the blocks were later collected by the farmer along the southeast edge of the field, the biggest one measuring ca. 65x50x25 cm.

Two years later the site was surveyed with a magnetometer, revealing a pottery kiln with a diameter of ca. 3 m and an opening towards the southwest. To the southwest of the pottery kiln there is either one building, measuring some 26x18 m, or two buildings, one measuring ca. 18x18 m and the other one ca. 12x6 m. To the west of these building structures, two deep cisterns, one round (diam. ca. 8 m) and the other one rectangular (ca. 10x5 m), can be seen on the magnetometer map (Fig. 24). The complex would then consist of a pottery kiln, one or two buildings used as living quarters and a workshop and two cisterns for water and clay needed for the pottery workshop (TS). *Geo-archaeological data:* A total of five soil samples were taken from the site. The highest phosphorus value accounted for was 148 mgP/kg.

Finds: The pottery collected in tract D 2 includes a ring foot of a drinking cup, made of a pink fabric, probably LC or EHI in date.

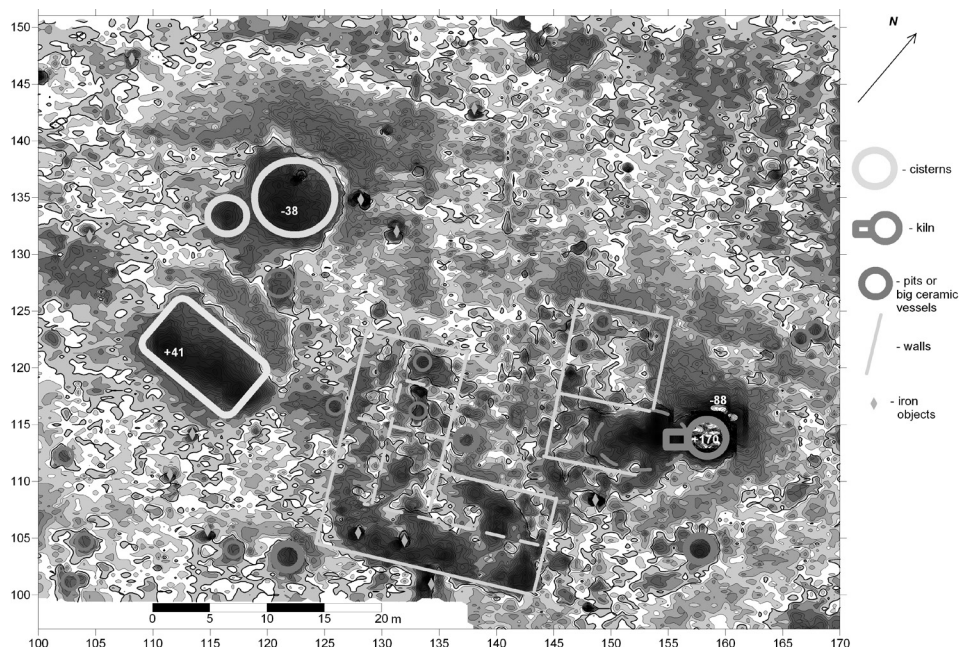


Fig. 24. Magnetometer map of PS 37, showing the location of two buildings, two cisterns (left) and a pottery kiln (right).

PS 40

Date and function: R (?) farmstead.

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 80 m to the southeast from PS 37. A ravine leading water from Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range to the Kokytos passes by ca. 70 m to the southeast (Fig. 14). Alt. 97.

Description: Small (ca. 15x15 m) concentration of stones and tiles at a slightly higher point of the field D 11. Only a grab sample was taken because of poor visibility.

Geo-archaeological data: Five soil samples were taken in a line crossing the site from the northwest towards the southeast. The highest anomalies (165 and 271 mgP/kg) were noted next to the visible find concentration.

Finds: The pottery collected includes two possibly Roman strap handles and two body sherds.

PS 41. Mavromandilia

Date and function: MR to LR farmstead with graves. Also some HI and ER finds.

References: ArchDelt 47B (1992), 349; Riginos 1999, 173, fig. 14.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, ca. 150 m to the northeast of the Kokytos and 200 m to the west of a small ravine originating on the west slopes of the Paramythia range close to the village of Kamini (Figs. 14 and 19). Alt. 89-90.

Description: While digging a ditch for the new irrigation system in the early 1990s dry stone walls, an area covered by roof tiles fragments as well as two cist graves were exposed. The same spot was surveyed in 2007 revealing a large scatter of tiles, pottery and lithics, spread over an area some 80x60 m large. The area was gridded in 20x20 m squares, revealing a clear concentration of finds in one square (660 finds/100 m² as calculated on the basis of a 5 m² circle in the centre of the square). Most of the finds are very worn, indicating that the site probably has been largely destroyed by deep ploughing whereby the finds have been spread over a larger area. The main horizon of the site dates to the MR period although there also is a handful of HI and LR finds.



Fig. 25. MR-LR cooking pot (ΘΕ 02900) and unguentarium (ΘΕ 02901) from a grave at PS 41.

Geo-archaeological data: A total of ten soil samples were taken from the site, six of them having an anomalous phosphorus content. The highest value accounted for was 348 mgP/kg.

Finds: The first grave contained a MR or possibly LR cooking pot, part of another pot and half an unguentarium (Fig. 25) as well as a glass unguentarium (PR). The other grave contained a similar cooking pot as well as parts of another vessel.

The survey finds consist mainly of fragments of cooking pots and a pithos, but only a few table ware sherds, a fragmentary pyramidal loom-weight and one piece of glass. There are four grooved rims of cooking pots dating to the early or mid-third century as well as another three pieces dating to the third century – one to the late second to mid third century, and two to the late fifth to sixth century AD. There is also an ER to MR flagon rim as well as a fragment of an eastern sigillata B dish (first to second century AD). Finally there are two HI handles and a HI ring base (PR).

PS 42

Date and function: LR farmstead (?).

Location: On the very valley bottom, ca. 50 m to the east of the ravine originating close to Kamini at the Paramythia mountain range and flowing into the Kokytos further towards the southwest. On the opposite side of the same ravine, all at a distance of some 200 m there are three further farmsteads of the same date, i.e., PS 38, PS 39 and PS 40. The LR village PS 27 is located ca. 700 m towards the northeast (Fig. 14). Alt. 99-100.

Description and finds: Small concentration of tiles, some 15x15 m large, but no clear pottery. One of the tiles is decorated by finger strokes, possibly indicating a LR date. The density calculated in a 5 m² circle in the centre of the site corresponds to 720 finds/m² (only tile fragments though).

E 25. Asphaka of Zervochori

Date and function: Farmstead of unclear date.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 360.

Location: At the eastern edge of the valley bottom, ca. 600 m to the west of the settlement Asphaka and roughly between two small ravines originating from the Paramythia mountain range, one next to Zervochori and the other one next to Asphaka. Alt. ca. 146-148.

Description and finds: While digging a ditch for the irrigation system a layer of roof tiles was noted at a depth of ca. 0.3 m below surface. The finds are most likely part of a farmstead.

E 26. Karamantlia

Date and function: LC to EHI farmstead.

References: *ArchDelt* 59B (2004), in press.

Location: Between the settlement of Asphaka and the village of Zervochori, on the eastern edge of the valley bottom close to the foothills of the Paramythia mountain range and only ca. 50 m to the south of one of the branches of the ravine originating at Zervochori. Alt. 178-179.

Description: A 50x15 m large area was studied with the help of trial trenches. At a depth of 0.2 m below surface a 0.2 m thick layer consisting of a collapsed roof, mixed with pottery and bones was found. Although no architectural remains were detected this site clearly belongs to a small building, probably a farmstead.

Finds: Among the pottery, pithos sherds and black glazed sherds are especially emphasised by the excavator, who also mentions having found some loom-weights and artefacts of iron and bronze as well as three bronze coins.



Fig. 26. MN-LN arrowhead from PS 28.

PS 28

Date and function: Neo to BA settlement.

Location: To the north of the settlement of Asphaka, on the eastern edge of the valley bottom close to the foothills of the Paramythia mountain range and roughly in between the ravines originating at Asphaka and Zervochori respectively (Fig. 27). Alt. 160-162.

Description: Freshly ploughed field that was walked as tract B 60. When we returned to grid the lower part of the field with a clear scatter of lithics, the owner had already planted the clover and only a grab sample could therefore finally be collected.

Finds: The lithic assemblage of PS 28 consists of only 12 artefacts, including two cores, blades, flakes and one MN-LN arrowhead (Fig. 26). There are also three “pseudo” Grey Minyan (MBA?) sherds, including one out-turned rim and one strap-handle.

E 14. Ganadia

Date and function: EMod (?) water cistern.

References: ArchDelt 59B (2004), in press.

Location: On the lower slopes of the Paramythia mountain range, ca. 500 m to the southeast of the small community Asphaka, next to a ravine with plenty of running water taken from springs higher up on the mountain slope. Alt. 180.

Description and finds: The site is located on the dirt road leading to Agios Donatos of Zervochori from the northwest and was found when the road was improved. The excavation revealed a rectangular cistern, the inner dimensions of which were 5x3.4 m. The walls are ca. 0.7 m wide and built of unworked stone blocks, bricks and mortar. On the inner side the cistern is covered by hydraulic plaster, having a water pipe line for drainage in its centre. Only some coarse pottery was found during the excavation.

PS 21

Date and function: BA (?) settlement.

Location: On the very valley bottom, in between two ravines originating at the slopes of the Paramythia mountain range, at Asphaka and PS 17 respectively. PS 31 is located ca. 650 m to the southwest of PS 18 and 850 m to the southwest of PS 17 (Fig. 27). Alt. 120-121.

Description and finds: Corn field walked as tract B 37 produced a promising scatter of flints, including two arrowheads. The centre of the field was therefore gridded in twelve 10x10 m squares, from which all finds were vacuumed. The number of finds is still very low, measured like this at most 15 finds/100 m². The finds include 3 cores, 6 blades, an endscraper as well as a fragment of a possible spindle whorl and 5 sherds, one of which is a red-slipped body sherd of BA date.

PS 18

Date and function: BA settlement. Also some EIA and LC to EHI finds.

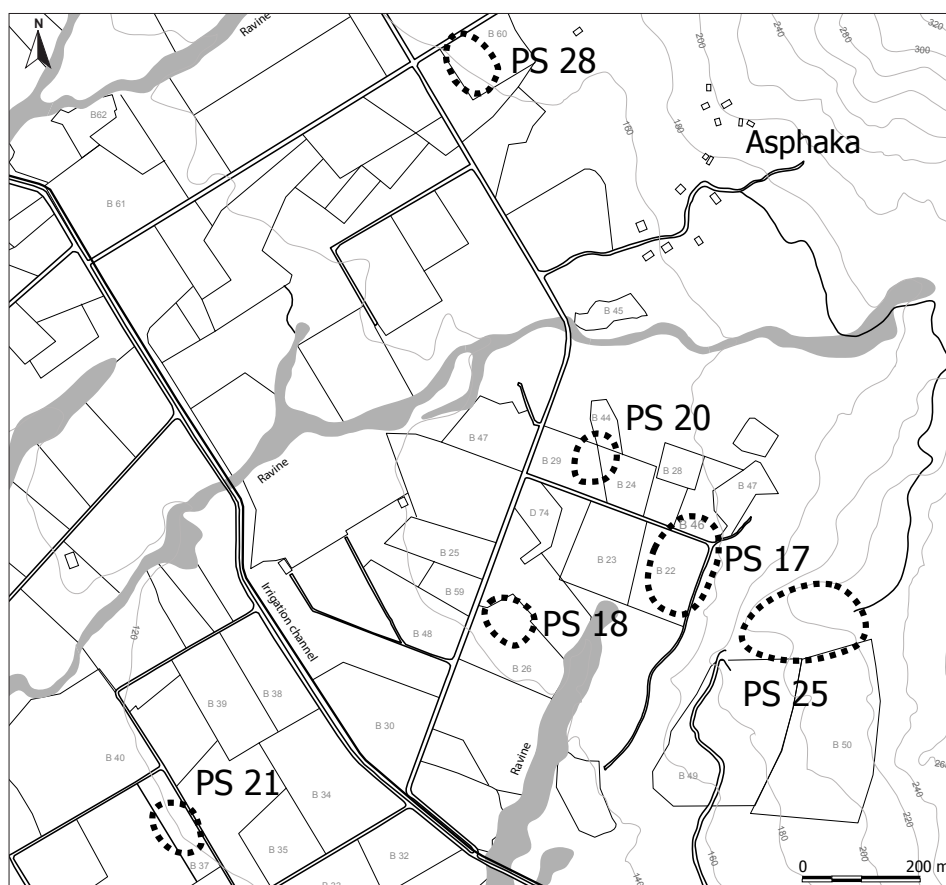


Fig. 27. Prehistoric sites in the neighbourhood of Agios Donatos of Zervochori (PS 25).

Location: To the south of the settlement of Asphaka, on the eastern edge of the valley bottom, close to the first foothills of the Paramythia mountain range. PS 17 is located ca. 200 m to the east-northeast and PS 20 ca. 250 m to the north-northeast. The ravine originating at PS 17 is located ca. 150 m to the southeast (Fig. 27). Alt. 142-143.

Description: Newly ploughed field with some wild grass next to an olive grove. First only a grab sample was taken. Later on the field was divided into seven 10x10 m large squares from which all pottery and chipped stone was sampled. The number of finds was rather low, measured like this between 12 and 41 finds/100 m².

Finds: The scant and badly rolled pottery from this site includes e.g. a possible BA body sherd, some possibly EIA sherds and a LC to EHI ring base.

The lithic assemblage from PS 18 consists of 72 artefacts. Most of them are flakes, followed by retouched tools like points, notches, perçoirs and burins. There are also a few blades (some of them sickle elements with silica gloss) and cores. The most diagnostic pieces are a chisel-ended arrowhead with a bifacial retouch and another leaf form point, which could be dated to the EBA to MBA (OP).

PS 20

Date and function: FN to MBA settlement. Also some EIA and LC to EHI finds.

Location: FN to MBA settlement. Also some EIA and LC to EHI finds.



Fig. 28. FN/EBA to MBA/LBA arrow-heads from PS 20.

Location: To the south of the settlement of Asphaka, on the eastern edge of the valley bottom, close to the first foothills of the Paramythia mountain range. PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori) is located ca. 350 m and PS 17 ca. 100 m towards the southeast (Fig. 27). Alt. 150-152.

Description: Partly overgrown field, sporadic grass being ca. 30-40 cm high, visibility ca. 20-40%. The field was walked as a tract B 29 in April 2005, when a concentration of flints was noted in the centre of the field, next to which an arrowhead was collected. The find concentration was later in May the same year divided into 42 10x10 m squares, from which all finds were vacuumed. The number of finds measured like this was rather low. The highest density recorded in a square thus amounted to 64 finds/100 m², whereas another five squares had a density above 40 finds/100 m², four above 30 finds/100 m² and finally nine above 20 finds/100 m².

Finds: The scant and badly rolled pottery from this site includes a handful of prehistoric sherds, including one body sherd with painted lines on the exterior (Matt-painted

MBA) and one horizontal rim handle, a few EIA sherds, as well as a fine ware ring-base and a hydria/jug handle of LC to EHI date.

The lithic assemblage of the site consists of over 300 artefacts representing all stages of flint knapping (cores, knapping residue, flakes, blades, retouched tools, mostly flint, but also some white quartz). There are few blades, but more flakes and tools (perçoirs, notches, burins, points). Generally speaking the artefacts are made in a small scale (< 4 cm). The most diagnostic pieces are points, represented by chisel-ended arrowheads, dated to the EBA-MBA, a hollow-based arrowhead with close parallels in the MBA to LBA and a tanged point dating to the FN-EBA (Fig. 28). There are also some points of more simple techniques which may belong to the FN period or the BA, and a possible sickle element (OP).

PS 17

Date and function: BA to EIA settlement. Also some LC to EHI finds.

References: *TE I*, 55-58.

Location: On the eastern edge of the valley bottom, close to the first foothills of the Paramythia mountain range, less than 100 m to the west of PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori). A modern ravine originates at the very site (Fig. 27) and flows from here towards the southwest before joining the Kokytos at the western edge of the valley. There may have existed a spring, which now has dried out, at the very beginning of the ravine. Alt. 150-154.

Description: Spread out concentration of badly rolled pottery and lithics in a large field just below the lowermost slope of the Agios Donatos hill, only separated from the hill by a dirt road. The field was gridded into 20x20 m squares, from which the find density was calculated in a 5 m² circle at the centre of every square. The highest find concentrations, 580 finds/100 m² and 440 finds/100 m² were noted in two different areas, the first one ca. 40x20 m, the second one ca. 40x40 m large. However, it should be noted that the find concentrations do not stand out from the rest of the site, which in total covers an area of perhaps ca. 80x160 m, with finds extending into the next field towards the northeast.

Finds: The earliest pottery consists of a medium-coarse body sherd of possible EBA date. However, the amount of pottery increases through the MBA (n=7), the LBA (n=10) and the EIA (n=27). The wares represented are the "Minyan" (MBA, cf. *TE I*, 55, fig. 3, nos. 5-7), the "pink-grey ware" (LBA) and the "orange-red ware" (EIA, cf. *TE I*, 55, fig. 3, nos. 1-4). Some of the "pink-grey ware" with flaring rims have added taenia bands on the exterior. Among the EIA pottery there exist some

sherds with plastic decorations such as added clay knobs and pointed horns. There are also less than a handful of sherds of LC to EHI date (one black glazed).

The lithic assemblage from PS 17 consists of 60 artefacts. The blades and cores are few, whereas there are more flakes (some of them sickle elements) and tools (perçoirs, notches, burins, a fragmentary point). All artefacts are made in a small scale (< 4 cm) and most probably date to the BA (OP).

PS 19

Date and function: R (?) farmstead.

Location: On the western lower foothills of the Paramythia mountain range, ca. 140 m to the north of PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori) and less than 100 m to the northeast of PS 17. Alt. 166-168.

Description: A clear concentration of tiles and pottery in an olive grove. The site is gridded in 10x10 m squares and the density measured in 5 m² circles in the centre of each square. Most finds come from one of the squares (density 640 finds/100 m²), while the rest of the squares have much fewer finds (300 finds/100 m², 180 finds/100 m² being the following highest densities). The site thus most likely represents a small farmstead.

Finds: A total of six sherds (one of which is an amphora handle) and a piece of glass were collected, the majority originating from the very centre of the site. The finds are probably R in date.

PS 25. Agios Donatos of Zervochori

Date and function: EHI fortress; later an LHI to ER villa was built inside the walls. Also some prehistoric pottery, possibly an EIA horse and rider figurine, and some MR and LR pottery.

References: Hammond 1967, 71; Dakaris 1972, 138-139; *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 360; Forsén and Tikkala 2006; *AR* 53 (2006-2007), 47-48; *AR* 54 (2007-2008), 62; Riginos and Lazari 2007, 88-89; *HGAtlas* 2008, 74, fig. 102; *AR* 55 (2008-2009), 55-56; *TE* I, 13-14; 119-165; *TE* II, 203-215, 247-313.

Location: On a low outcrop of the western foothills of the Paramythia mountain range, ca. 1.8 km south of the village of Zervochori. The outcrop is connected to the mountain range by a saddle at its eastern end. Just to the south of the outcrop there is a small spring, which however today dries out in the summer. Another spring has previously been located at PS 17, ca. 200 m to the west of and below Agios Donatos (Fig. 27). Today there is still water all year round in the ravine which originates ca. 500 m to the north of Agios Donatos close to the modern settlement Asphaka. Alt. 198-239.

Description: On the outcrop there is a small seventeenth-century chapel of Agios Donatos as well as clearly visible remains of EHI fortification walls (including one tower and two gates) along the southern and eastern perimeter of the outcrop. No fortifications were needed on the northern side of the outcrop due to the very steep slope. On the overgrown lower slopes to the west of the outcrop of Agios Donatos, ca. 300 m from the fortress, a cist grave cut into natural bedrock was found in the early 1990s. The grave, which was 2.2x0.9 m large and 0.8 m deep, had been plundered at an earlier stage and contained no finds. Probably the cemetery of Agios Donatos was located here at the lower slope, in a similar way to that found in Elea. Ca. 80 m to the north of the grave, in a stone heap at PS 17, part of a half column with cannellures was found and interpreted as having belong to a grave monument (*ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 360). Theoretically the half column could also originate from the construction on top of Agios Donatos, parts of which were re-used in the chapel and which could be interpreted as possible remains of a EHI barrel-vaulted tomb (*TE* I, 133-143).

Most of the outcrop of Agios Donatos was cleared from vegetation and surveyed in 2005, whereafter trial trenches were opened in eight different spots in 2006-2009. During the surface survey the whole outcrop as well as a large part of the gentle southern slopes of the outcrop was divided into 80 squares (40 with a size of 10x10 m and 40 with a size of 20x20 m) in which all finds were vacuumed. The highest find density recorded in this way was 266 finds/100 m². A find density above 100 finds/100 m² was recorded in a total of 15 squares, most of which were located either on the middle terrace just above and to the east of the chapel, or to the south and below the chapel (Fig.

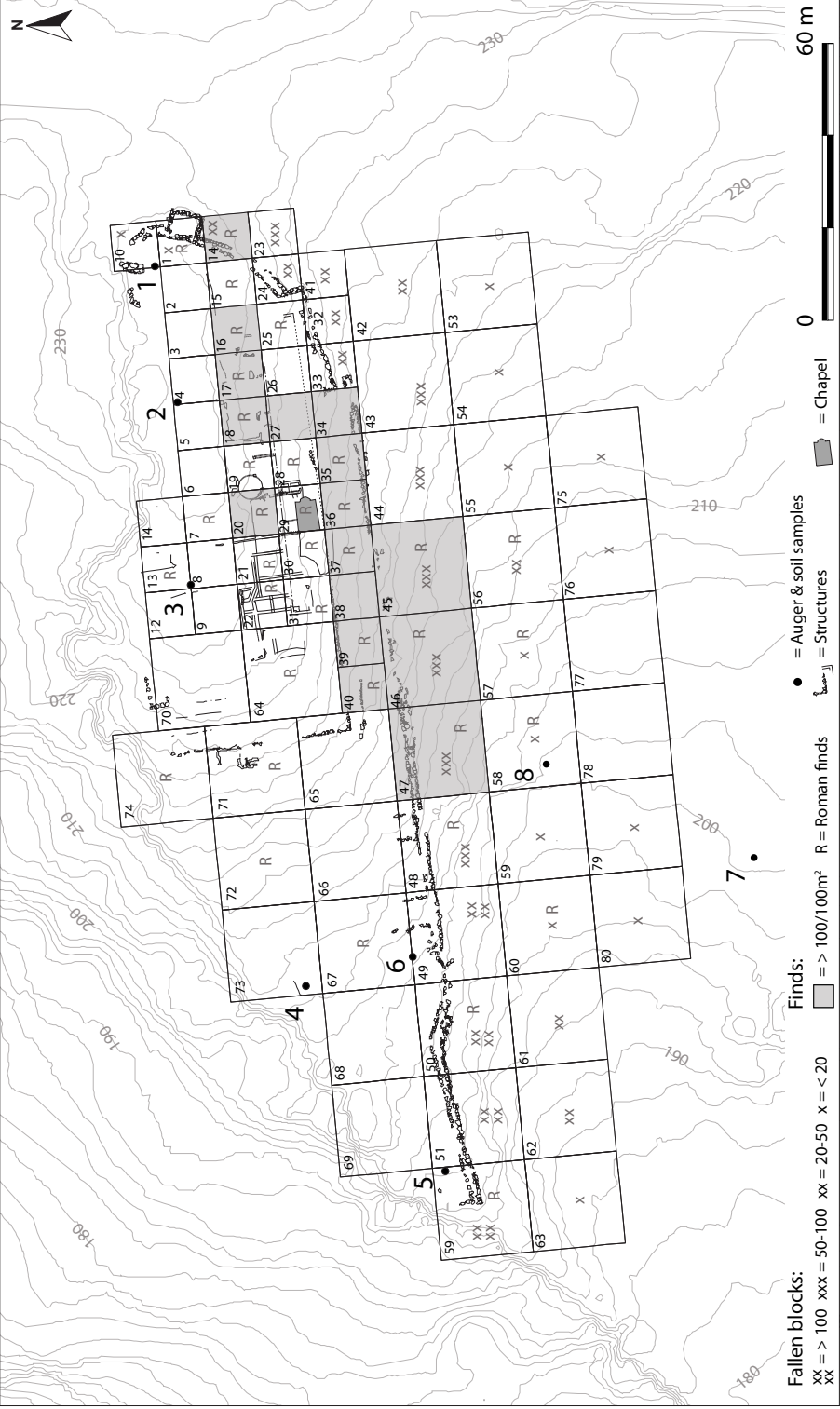


Fig. 29. The results of the intensive surface survey of Agios Donatos (PS 25).

29). The high find density (consisting of pottery, tiles and other small finds) that was recorded in the slope below the chapel has clearly been created by the collapse of the HI curtain wall, of which close to nothing remains in the stretch just below the chapel. When the wall collapsed, blocks rolled downhill and can be located more than 60 m to the south of the original position of the wall (Fig. 29). The collapse also brought along a strong erosion of soil and smaller finds downhill, and the remains of houses that Dakaris describes to the south of the outcrop are in reality remains that have eroded down from above. The real cultural layers in the small dell south of the outcrop are covered by these thick layers of eroded material.

The surface survey also revealed a large north to south orientated terrace wall built of head-sized or larger stones dividing the acropolis in an upper part and a lower part (Fig. 29). In square 25/65 this terrace wall turns 90 degrees and continues towards the east at least until the chapel and probably even beyond it (although not visible there any more). Above this west to east orientated terrace wall there are at least two west-east orientated terraces, followed by a flat area highest up on the hill in squares 25/8, 25/9, 25/11 and 25/12. Remains of house foundations, partly cut into the rock and partly consisting of the socle of the houses, were documented on these two terraces and the flat area. Parts of the house foundations are built of large stones in a manner which resembles that of the large terrace wall (being HI in date), but pieces of *R opus incertum* walls were also documented in several of the squares. *R* small finds were likewise recorded in several of the squares on the two terraces and the flat area, but had also eroded downhill after the collapse of the HI curtain wall. During the excavations the *opus incertum* walls were cleaned and traced further, revealing that all the *opus incertum* walls belong to one and the same construction, a *R* villa with a size of at least 90x40 m (Fig. 30).

Three of the trial trenches were opened in connection with the fortifications, one at the southeastern gate (Trench B), one in the tower (Trench A) and a third one at the straight-angle corner (Trench E) between the southeastern gate and the tower (Fig. 30). Trench A in the tower was the deepest (2.6 m) and largest one and produced most finds, mostly of ER date and finally a *cocciopesto* floor at a depth of 1.6-1.7 m below surface, thus proving that the tower had been re-used during ER times by the inhabitants of the villa.

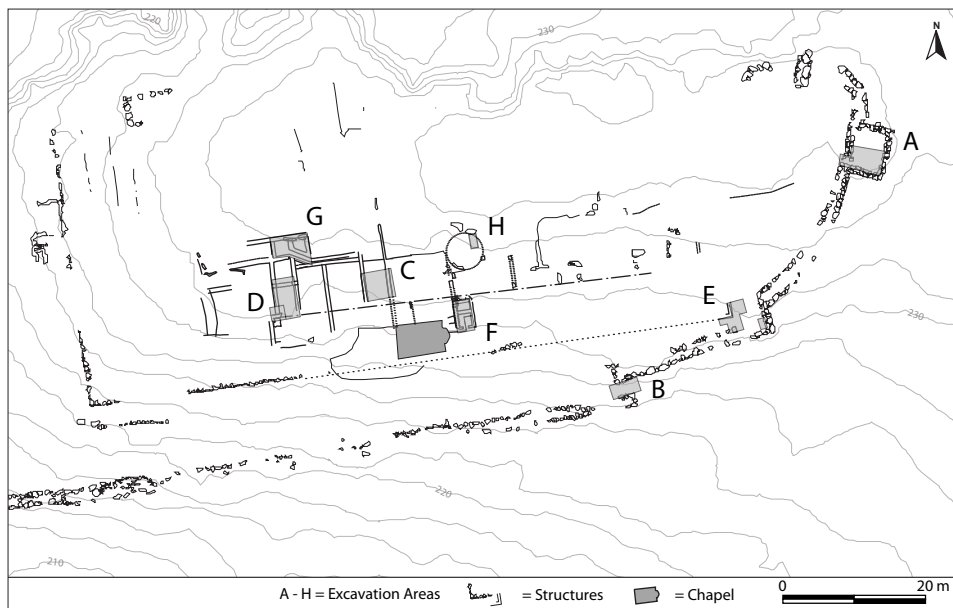


Fig. 30. The location of the trial trenches in comparison to the EHI fortification walls, the remains of the ER villa and other house foundations.

Another five trenches were opened in connection with the R villa (Trenches C, D, F, G and H) (Fig. 30). In Trench C the remains of the villa turned out to be disturbed by a late Med cemetery, apparently belonging to the chapel. One of the graves was excavated and could be dated to 1310-1435 cal. AD. Trench D revealed a ca. 2.4x5 m large bedroom with remains of wall paintings. Trench F again revealed a ca. 1.8x1.8 m large room with the character of a cellar, which could be entered from the south. Trench G in its turn covered two small rooms to the north of Trench D. One of these rooms had its floor and lower parts of the walls covered with hydraulic mortar and had apparently been used for collecting rain water, which had been led downhill from the room through a channel (width 0.6 m), probably towards a cistern. The purpose of Trench H (only 2x1 m) was to clarify the function of what seems to be a round room with a diameter of ca. 5 m. The exact function of the room could not be determined, but the floor and lower walls are covered with hydraulic mortar, thus perhaps indicating that the room was part of the bath of the villa.

Water was also brought in the R period to the site through a terracotta water pipe line, parts of which were found during the excavation in R strata. Coincidentally parts of exactly the same water pipe line were found next to a spring at a ca. 100 m higher altitude, ca 800 m to the southeast of Agios Donatos, thus indicating the source from where water was brought (Fig. 36).

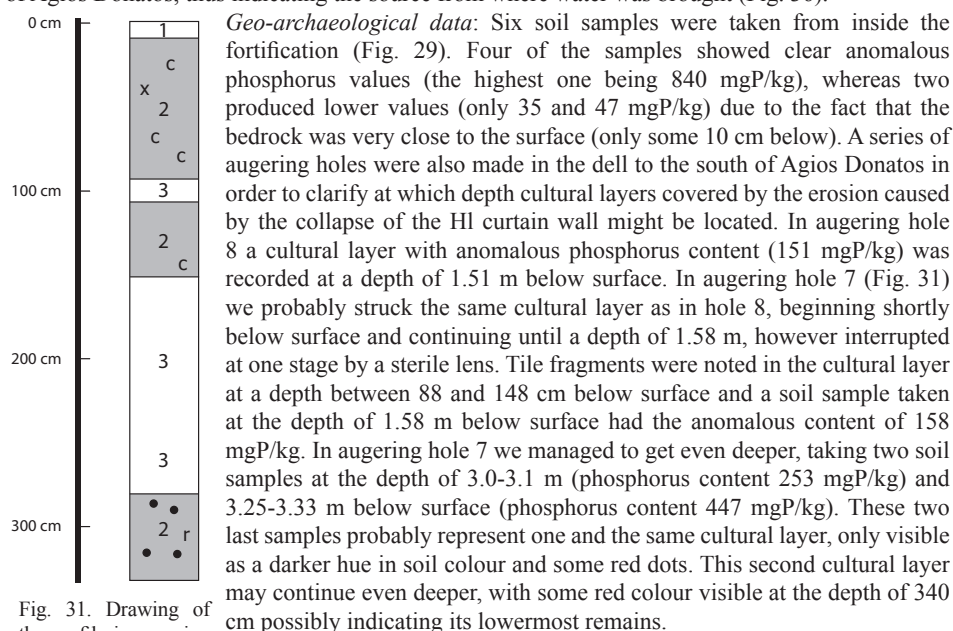


Fig. 31. Drawing of the profile in augering hole 7.

Geo-archaeological data: Six soil samples were taken from inside the fortification (Fig. 29). Four of the samples showed clear anomalous phosphorus values (the highest one being 840 mgP/kg), whereas two produced lower values (only 35 and 47 mgP/kg) due to the fact that the bedrock was very close to the surface (only some 10 cm below). A series of augering holes were also made in the dell to the south of Agios Donatos in order to clarify at which depth cultural layers covered by the erosion caused by the collapse of the H1 curtain wall might be located. In augering hole 8 a cultural layer with anomalous phosphorus content (151 mgP/kg) was recorded at a depth of 1.51 m below surface. In augering hole 7 (Fig. 31) we probably struck the same cultural layer as in hole 8, beginning shortly below surface and continuing until a depth of 1.58 m, however interrupted at one stage by a sterile lens. Tile fragments were noted in the cultural layer at a depth between 88 and 148 cm below surface and a soil sample taken at the depth of 1.58 m below surface had the anomalous content of 158 mgP/kg. In augering hole 7 we managed to get even deeper, taking two soil samples at the depth of 3.0-3.1 m (phosphorus content 253 mgP/kg) and 3.25-3.33 m below surface (phosphorus content 447 mgP/kg). These two last samples probably represent one and the same cultural layer, only visible as a darker hue in soil colour and some red dots. This second cultural layer may continue even deeper, with some red colour visible at the depth of 340 cm possibly indicating its lowermost remains.

Finds: In Trench A in the tower, the uppermost two loci (Loc. 1-2) contain mainly finds from the second and third centuries AD, e.g. cooking pots, but

also some Eastern terra sigillata B, as well as a coin from the late second century AD. In Loc. 1 there is also a handful of fifth and sixth century AD cooking pots. Loc. 3 is partly mixed, but below it there seem to follow more or less clear first century AD layers all the way down to the *cocciopesto* floor, or until Loc. 16 (including this locus). Typical for these layers are a large number of Italian terra sigillata (cf. *TE* I, 155-165 and *TE* II, 269-281), but also some Apulian grey ware sherds, ER fibulae (Fig. 32) and other bronze and bone objects. There are also two coins that clearly date already to the mid-first century BC (Cleopatra and R denarius from 56 BC) (cf. *TE* II, 313, nos. 21-22). Below the *cocciopesto* floor there follow loci 17-18 that seem to date to the late third to the second century BC (PR). Here also a coin dating between 148 and the mid-first century BC was found (cf. *TE* II, 312, no. 17).

From the bedroom in Trench D several thousand fragments of the wall paintings have been recovered. They were made by skilled craftsmen and with high-class material, thus suggesting that the owner was a wealthy man who could afford the best. The decoration consisted of panels

painted in purple, yellow, blue and green as well as illusory marble with cinnabar bands dividing the panels from each other. There are also stucco fragments such as egg-and-dart, Lesbian cymatium and column shafts. The paintings most probably represent the Second Pompeian style and find good parallels e.g. in Casa di Cerere at Pompeii, which is dated to 50-40 BC. The imaginary panel borders with painted berries and leafs that also belong to the repertoire are similar e.g. to those at the House of Augustus on the Palatine, where the wall paintings are dated to around 30 BC (AF).

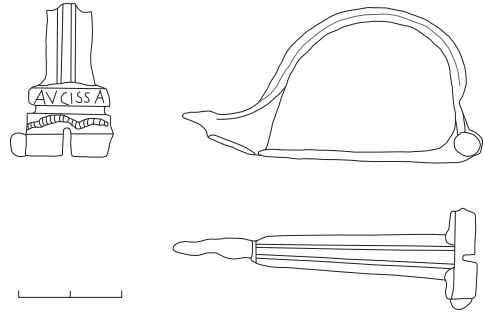


Fig. 32. ER Aucissa fibula. Scale 1:2.

The small room in Trench F contained a closed deposit of LHI pottery, loom-weights and other small finds, all dating to the late second or early first century BC (cf. *TE* II, 247-267). The room in Trench G that originally had been built in order to collect rain water had apparently been re-used later as large amounts of animal bones mixed with fragments of cooking pots of the second to third centuries were found. Near the beginning of the channel leading from the room, seven bronze coins were found. Six of the coins could be identified, originating from Apollonia,



Fig. 34. Head of EIA (?) male figurine, found in Trench B.

Ambracia and Corcyra and all dating to between the third and first century BC. Finally, a series of palmette antefixes (Fig. 33) found in several of the trenches also belong to the R villa.

Apart from these finds, a handful of chipped stone and prehistoric sherds indicate that Agios Donatos was the setting for some kind of Neo-EBA activity. However, the earliest well-dated find consists of a unique terracotta head of a male figurine (Fig. 34), which finds its best parallels among EIA or EA figurines. The body of a quadruped, probably a horse, was found close to the head, which might indicate that we are dealing with a horse and rider, although made of different clays in different fabrics.



Fig. 33. Palmette antefix of the ER villa.

PS 26

Date and function: EMod or Mod Vlach seasonal settlement.

Location: Next to a rock outcrop on the lower slopes of the Paramythia mountain range, ca. 200 m to the south of PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori).

Description: Overgrown terraces with two heaps of stones on a gentle slope towards southwest and the valley bottom. Due to low visibility and the vegetation the borders of the site were difficult to establish. Only a grab sample was taken. A local shepherd told us that there existed a seasonal Vlach settlement somewhere here before the Second World War.

Finds: Five glazed sherds with patches of glaze ranging in colour from black with dark red, over olive green, mustard to light yellow or off white. These include one reddish-yellow fine ware ring base with black spots in the red glaze.

PS 34. Kioteza

Date and function: EHI fortress resettled in the LR period.

References: Dakaris 1972, 138; *AR* 53 (2006-2007), 47; *AR* 55 (2008-2009), 56; *TE* II, 216-223.

Location: Built on a prominent limestone peak on the lower western slope of the Paramythia range, just to the north of the modern village of Agora and ca. 970 m south-southeast of Agios Donatos of Zervochori (Fig. 36). Alt. 350-362.

Description: Some 970 m south-southeast of Agios Donatos a neighbouring fortress, Kioteza, is built on a prominent limestone peak on the same foothills of the Paramythia range as Agios Donatos. The fortified area covers ca. 0.4 ha and has a circumference of 250-300 m. Fortification walls exist only on the northeastern side, whereas very steep cliffs protect all other sides. The walls can be traced for ca. 60 m along the northeastern side. A square tower and a gateway are still discernible although the state of preservation of the walls in general is very bad. The walls probably date to the first quarter of the third century BC.

Finds: Only a handful of very rolled tiles and sherds were found on the surface and in the two small trenches. The only diagnostic ones are a fifth century cooking pot rim and a fourth or early fifth century body sherd of an African red slipped dish, Hayes shape 59 or 67, thus indicating a reuse of the fortress during the LR period (PR).

PS 24. Koutsiates

Date and function: EMod fortified village.

References: *HGAtlas* 2008, 74, fig. 105 (wrongly stated to be the EHI fortress of Agora). The site seems to be marked on Aravantinos map from 1895 (*TE* I, 249, Fig. 1) as the location of Logkates (present village of Agora).

Location: High up on the Paramythia mountain range with a splendid view towards the west. At Velia to the east of the site there is one of the few pathways that lead over the mountains to the east. Alt. 594.

Description: The village is built on top of an easily defendable outcrop that can be reached from the east through a gate. The outcrop is divided into two parts, of which the western one is located at a lower level. The defence has been strengthened by a round tower towards the northwest. Some house foundations also remain. The find density was calculated at six 2x2 m squares, producing a density between 25 and 500 finds/100 m² in the upper part and one between 125 and 400 finds/100 m² in the lower part of the site.

Geo-archaeological data: One soil sample was taken from the site, producing the phosphorus value of 92 mgP/kg.

Finds: The pottery includes one body sherd with dark green glaze on the exterior and light green glaze on the interior (of a bowl/plate). The rest of the pottery is unidentifiable medium-coarse ware. Also some roof tiles and a piece of slag.

E 6. Kontra or Leuka

Date and function: MR to LR farmstead and graves.

References: *ArchDelt* 56B (2001), in press; *ArchDelt* 57B (2002), in press; Lambrou 2006, 267, fig. 3; Drosou 2006, 281; Riginos and Lazari 2007, 96.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, between two ravines originating on the slopes of the Paramythia mountain range, ca. 500 m to the northeast of the Kokytos (Fig. 14). Alt. 86-88.

Description: Part of the farmstead measuring ca. 9x15 m and consisting of six rooms was excavated. The walls were built of medium-sized blocks and mortar; the floor consists of beaten soil and gravel. The rooms were covered by the collapsed roof, below which some pottery and metal finds were recovered. To the east of the building, two rubbish pits filled with pottery and other finds were investigated. A large tomb built of stones with mortar, which contained at least five skeletons, was found to the east of the building. Four simple cist tombs were excavated inside and around the rooms, probably from after the destruction of the building. These burials contained no grave goods. The finds belong to three different phases: a) remains from the second and third centuries that were

found in the large tomb built of stones and mortar as well as in the rubbish pits, b) the main building phase of the farmstead that dates to the fourth and fifth centuries, c) the probably Christian cist graves that were constructed on top of the ruins of the farmstead.

Finds: The excavation of the farmstead produced a great quantity of cooking and storage vessels, some pottery with relief decoration, loom-weights, lamps, glass vessels, part of a grinding stone, as well as iron nails, slag (*sidiromazes*), 49 bronze coins (several of which are attributable to Constantine I) and a silver coin of Iulia Domna (the last one from the rubbish pit). The large grave again contained a copper necklace with glass beads, a glass vessel, bronze and iron objects, an ear scoop, pins and needles of bone, five bronze coins, a cooking pot and three lamps (Fig. 35).



Fig. 35. Two lamps (ΘΕ 07360 and ΘΕ 07361) from the large grave at E 6 (Kontra or Leuka), dating to the first half of the second century (above) and the late second to early third century AD (below).

E 28. Adelfhia

Date and function: Farmstead (?) and graves of unclear date.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 361.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, ca. 500 m to the west-northwest of the Marmara heroon (E 11). Alt. ca. 80.

Description and finds: A concentration of roof tiles, pottery and parts of thin limestone plaques probably belonging to cist graves. The finds could be part of a farmstead with some graves, which is a rather common feature documented at many sites in the valley (cf. e.g. E 12 or E 27 nearby).

E 27

Date and function: Farmstead (?) and grave of unclear date.

References: *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 360-361.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, between the Kokytos and the Marmara heroon (E 11), at a distance of ca. 150 m from the river and ca. 300 m to the northwest of E 12. Alt. 79-80.

Description and finds: Cist grave built of thin limestone plaques, together with which a bronze fibula was found. To the south of the cist grave, roof tiles and pottery together with bones were spotted at a length of 50 m along the newly dug ditch. In the short report this is suggested to represent the remains of a larger grave field with burials covered by tiles. However, the finds could as well be part of a farmstead in combination with a grave, which is a rather common feature documented at many sites in the valley (cf. e.g. E 12 close by).

E 11. Marmara

Date and function: EHI grave heroon.

References: Dakaris 1972, 139, no. 402; *ArchDelt* 47B (1992), 349-354; Riginos 1999, 173-174; *HGAtlas* 2008, 81-82, figs. 122-124; Pietilä-Castrén 2008, 42-47; Tsinas 2008; *TE* I, 13.

Location: On the valley bottom, ca. 2 km southwest of Agios Donatos (PS 25) and ca. 1 km to the northeast of the Kokytos. Alt. 89-90.

Description: Rectangular (15.36x15.47 m) grave heroon with, built of large worked limestone blocks. The façade of the heroon is turned towards Agios Donatos in the northeast. Inside the hypaethral enclosure a large (3x2.1 m) cist grave was found. It contained remains of two burials, the better preserved skeleton belonging to a woman between 35 and 50 in age. Although the grave had been robbed before being excavated, some of the grave goods had been left.

Finds: The grave goods left by the robbers inside the grave consist of fragments of a gold wreath,

two lamps, three small black-glazed pyxides, two miniature vessels inside a plain unpainted jar as well as fragments of additional pyxides. Outside the grave but inside the enclosure, the excavator found pottery sherds, five fragments of two terracotta figurines, as well as some bronze and iron nails and a bronze lock belonging to a wooden coffin. Outside the enclosure an Ambracian coin dating between 238 and 168 BC was found.

Riginos originally suggested a date in the second half of the third century for the burial, but according to Pietilä-Castrén's analysis it dates to the first decades of the third century. It would thus be roughly contemporaneous with the fortification of Agios Donatos (PS 25).

PS 49

Date and function: LC or EHI farmstead.

Location: On the valley bottom ca 1750 m to the south-southwest of PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori) and only some 100 m to the east of the main Paramythia to Glyki road, on the highest point of a ridge in between two ravines originating at Agios Donatos and close to the village of Agora respectively. PS 29 is located ca. 300 m further towards the northeast (Fig. 36). Alt. 85-86.

Description: Ca. 15x15 m large clear concentration of tiles and pottery in the east corner of the field D 75. Due to time restrictions the corner could not be gridded, and at later revisits the field was cultivated and could therefore not be studied more in detail.

Geo-archaeological data: Two soil samples were taken at the site. The highest phosphorus value accounted for was 145 mgP/kg.

Finds: Only a grab sample collected, consisting of a ring base and a flat base, a cooking pot rim, several handles (including a round handle of a skyphos?) and a couple of body sherds, all probably of LC or EHI date, although none with preserved black glaze.

PS 30 and PS 48

Date and function: C to EHI small village.

Location: On the valley bottom ca. 900 m to the southwest of PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori), on the highest point of a ridge in between two ravines originating at Agios Donatos and close to the village of Agora respectively (Fig. 36). Alt. 112-114.

Description: This site, which consists of two PS's, is located in two fields. PS 30 (located in tract C 2) was treated as a PS already in 2006, revealing an elusive ca. 40x40 m large concentration of tiles and pottery. The adjoining field, originally walked as tract C 1, producing a large amount of finds, including a pyramidal loom-weight, was revisited in 2007 with a slightly better visibility. Then two new concentrations of finds, each ca. 20x20 m large were detected (PS 48A and 48B). The distance between the three concentrations PS 30 and PS 48A and 48B is ca. 90-100 m. The concentrations probably indicate the locations of three buildings of roughly the same date, perhaps belonging to a small village, the total size of which would be ca. 100x100 m. A magnetometer survey was conducted on PS 30, indicating possible remains of a badly destroyed farmstead. Concentrations PS 48A and 48B also seem to be badly destroyed by modern agricultural activities.

Geo-archaeological data: A total of five soil samples were taken at PS 48. The highest phosphorus value accounted for was 111 mgP/kg.

Finds: The pottery found at PS 30 as well as at PS 48A and PS 48B is badly rolled and difficult to date more precisely. However, PS 48B produced a black glazed ring base and PS 30 two black glazed body sherds. Additionally a pyramidal loom-weight was found next to PS 48B in tract C 1 and a conical loom-weight in tract C 2, associated with PS 30.

PS 29

Date and function: LC to EHI small village with pottery kiln. Also one LA sherd.

References: AR 54 (2007-2008), 62; TE II, 312, no. 14; ArchDelt 62B (2007), in press.

Location: On the valley bottom ca. 1250 m to the south-southwest of PS 25 (Agios Donatos of Zervochori), close to the highest point of a ridge in between two ravines originating at Agios Donatos and close to the village of Agora respectively. PS 48A and PS 49 are located at a distance

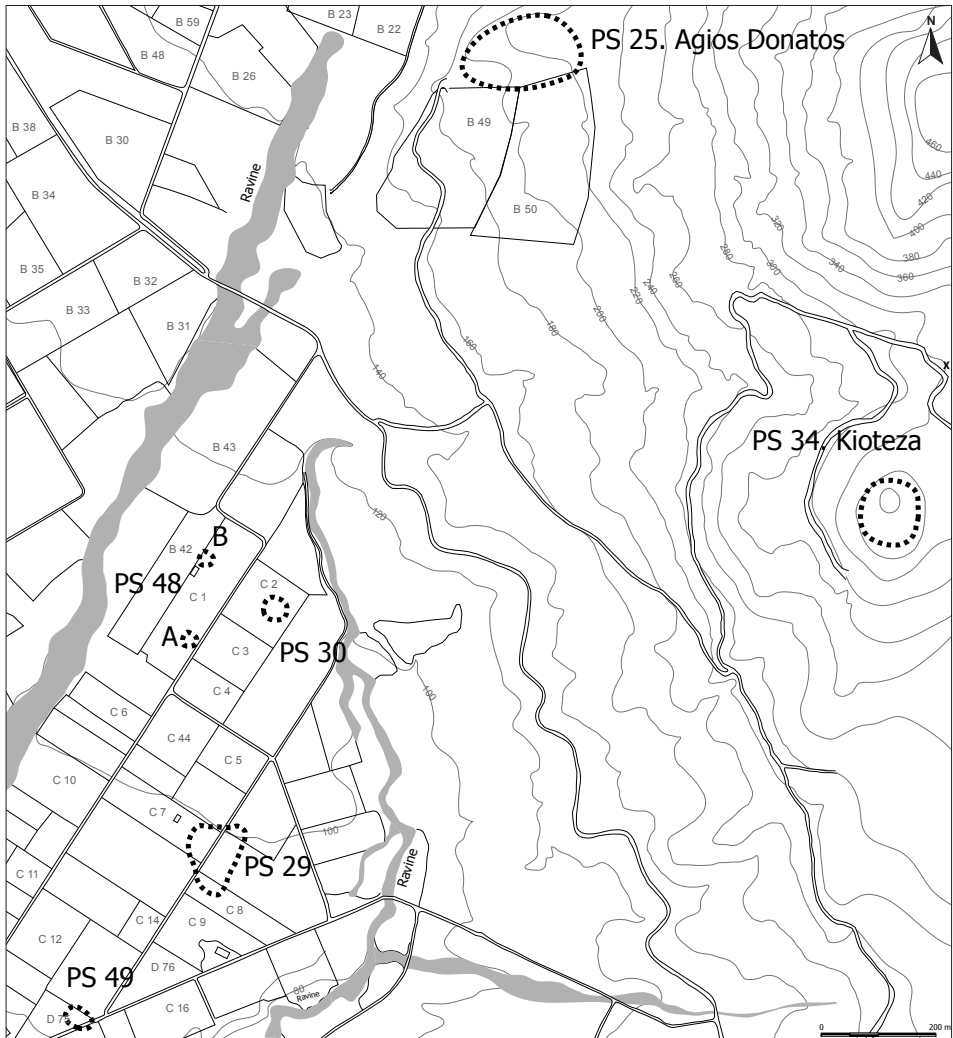


Fig. 36. CI-EHL settlements to the southwest of Agios Donatos (PS 25) and Kioteza (PS 34). X indicates remains of a Roman (?) water pipe line in connection to a spring.

of only ca. 300 m from PS 29, PS 48A towards the north and PS 49 towards the southwest (Fig. 36). Alt. 98-99.

Description: A clear concentration of tiles and pottery was noted during the survey in 2006 along the southeast edge of the field C 7 (Fig. 37). This part of the field was gridded in 10x10 m squares. Find density calculated in 5 m² circles at the centre of all squares narrowed down the location of a building to two squares (with a find density of 840 finds/100 m²). A magnetometer survey confirmed the existence of a badly preserved, ca. 20x12 m large farmstead, in these squares. Stone foundations of another building were noted at a distance of ca. 40 m towards the east in a badly overgrown olive grove. Further tiles were noted in the northeast part of field C 8 (Fig. 37), apparently indicating that the site continued in this direction with another building as well. However, field C 8 was never gridded. The size of the whole site, which thus consists of three or more buildings, is at least 120x80 m.

The building in field C 7 was partly excavated by us in 2007. The finds were located just below the plough zone and the actual find layer was only some 10 cm thick. No stone walls could be

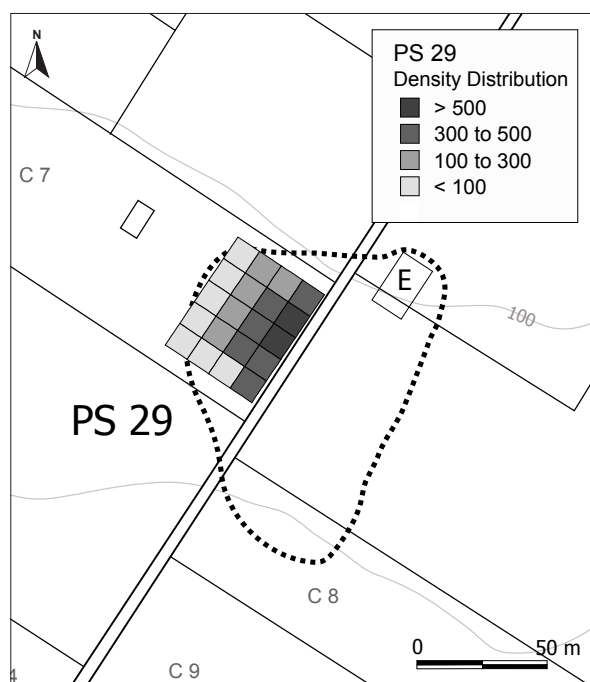


Fig. 37. Find density distribution of PS 29, indicating the location of the building excavated by the Thesprotia Expedition as well as of the building excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service (E).

found, but we located an extensive layer consisting of roof tiles and some remains of mudbrick walls. Trial trenches were furthermore opened in the olive grove, revealing better preserved remains of another house with a collapsed terracotta roof and a 0.5 m wide stone wall that was traced for 3 m. This building was later excavated in its entirety by the Greek Archaeological Service, revealing a 18x14 m large house (Fig. 38), with at least six rooms and walls made of comparatively large limestone blocks and mudbricks. In its northeast part the house was built upon a pottery kiln, 4.50x2.80 m large and 0.50 m high, partially preserved up to the eschara in its northwest corner and otherwise only up to the firing chamber. Around the building and mainly in its west part, 14 probably Christian graves in simple pits were excavated, none of them containing grave goods.

Geo-archaeological data: A total

of eight soil samples were taken from the site. The highest phosphorus level accounted for was 80 mgP/kg.

Finds: The badly preserved pottery from the gridded area in C 7 included one black glazed rim and a possible lekane rim. The excavation revealed mainly storage jars such as pithoi, jugs and amphorae, but also a handful of late skyphoi and other drinking cups. Two handles of bronze vessels and a coin dating to between 360 and 330/325 BC were also found. Most of the finds date to the fourth or early third century BC, but there are some earlier anomalies such as the unique find of a Laconian pithos rim, the lip of which is decorated with a bud chain, dating to 550-525 BC (Fig. 39). The find layer below the collapsed roof in the olive grove was only ca. 10 cm thick and consisted of some pottery, including e.g. black glazed sherds and a large piece of a perirrhanterion. In general the few finds in this trench date to the fourth or early third century BC and indicate the existence of at least one other house close to the first one



Fig. 38. The building uncovered by the Greek Archaeological Service which was built upon a pottery kiln.

found by us. In the excavation of the house by the Greek Archaeological Service roof tiles, some pithos fragments and a small amount of pottery of everyday use, such as amphorae and cooking pots sherds, loom-weights, iron nails and slag were found. From the interior of the pottery kiln came a part of a black glazed oil lamp and black glazed sherds from skyphoi, kantharoi and small bowls, all preliminary dated to the LC or EHL periods.

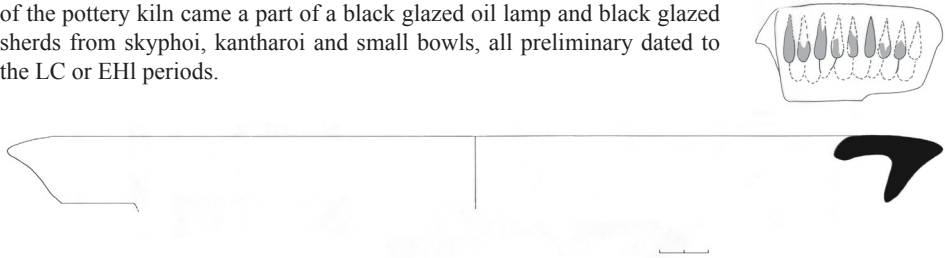


Fig. 39. Laconian pithos rim, decorated with a bud chain, dating to 550-525 BC.

E 12. Darda

Date and function: MR to LR farmstead with a grave.

References: ArchDelt 56B (2001), in press; TE II, 313-314, 317-329.

Location: At the western edge of the valley bottom, some 150 m from the confluence of the Kokytos and a ravine originating on the slopes of the Paramythia mountain range close to the village of Asphaka. Alt. 77-79.

Description: Part of the farmstead was excavated, revealing the outlines of five rooms and the beginning of a sixth one. The size of the five rooms is altogether 16x10 m, with the larger room located in the middle and flanked by two rooms on the western and eastern side (see TE II, 317-319). North of the house a large stone cairn and one pit grave orientated in a southwest to northeast direction were detected.

Finds: The excavation of the house produced mainly sherds of cooking pots and storage vessels, some fragments of glass vessels, some iron nails, an iron key, two bronze fibulae and 17 bronze coins. The only find inside the grave with its well preserved skeleton was an iron fibula (for the finds, see TE II, 313-314, 319-328).

E 13. Sternari or Delvitsi

Date and function: MR to LR farmstead with graves, possibly reusing the foundations of an EHL farmstead. Also an EIA kanthariskos.

References: ArchDelt 47B (1992), 348-349, 361; ArchDelt 53B (1998), 545; ArchDelt 60B (2005), in press.

Location: On the lowermost eastern slopes of the hills that demarcate the Kokytos valley towards the west, ca. 150 m southwest of the river. Alt. 90-91.

Description: Large rectangular (ca. 50x40 m) building with an open (?) central yard (30x7 m), the southern end of which is destroyed by ploughing. The walls, ca. 0.60 m wide, are built of large or medium-sized limestone blocks, many in secondary use. Around the open yard there is a series of rooms, two of which are large and of oblong shape (30x3.5 and 23.5x10.0 m), whereas the rest are smaller. The floor in the rooms consists of beaten soil and gravel, except for some of the smaller rooms where it is covered by plaques. Inside the building two cist graves and two graves covered by tiles were found. Another plundered cist grave was excavated in 1992 and two pit graves in 1998, all probably connected to the villa. A scatter of tiles and coarse pottery was reportedly found in another field closer to the Kokytos.



Fig. 40. EIA kanthariskos (ΘΕ03110).

Finds: There were no finds made in association with the graves. Inside the building part of a grinding stone, small stone sling stones (boloi), a lead nail, an iron arrowhead, a bronze fibula of the fifth century AD, bronze medical instruments, iron nails, conical loom-weights, coarse pottery as well as parts of three small glazed vessels, 38 bronze coins of R date and one bronze coin of LHI date. Most of the coins date to the late third or fourth century AD (Aurelian, Diocletian, Maximianus and Constantine I). But some of the other finds, such as a cyma kantharos, date already to the third century BC, or even earlier such as the small EIA kanthariskos (Fig. 40), and thus indicate that the site has been settled for a long time and has a problematic stratigraphy.

Bibliography

- Choremis 1980 = A. Choremis, 'Μετάλλινος όπλισμός από τόν τάφο στο Προδρόμι της Θεσπρωτίας', *AAA* XIII (1980), 3-20.
- Dakaris 1972 = S. Dakaris, *Θεσπρωτία* (Ancient Greek Cities 15), Athens 1972.
- Dakaris *et al.* 1964 = S.I. Dakaris, E.S. Higgs and R.W. Hey, 'Climate, Environment and Industries of Stone Age Greece: Part I', *PPS* 30 (1964), 199-244.
- Drosou 2006 = D. Drosou, 'Η κατοίκηση στο Θεσπρωτικό χώρο κατά τους Βυζαντινούς χρόνους', *EpChron* 40 (2006), 277-304.
- Evangelidou 1930 = D. Evangelidou, 'Ανασκαφαί Δωδώνης και Παραμυθιάς', *Prakt* 1930, 52-68.
- J. Forsén forthcoming = J. Forsén, 'Spoons to Fill the Cups', in W. Gauss, M. Lindblom, P.A. Smith and J. Wright (eds.), *Our Cups are Full: Pottery and Aegean Bronze Age Society*, forthcoming.
- Forsén and Forsén forthcoming = B. Forsén and J. Forsén, 'Surface Contra Subsurface Assemblages. Two Archaeological Case Studies from Thesprotia, Greece', in S.J. Kluiving and E. Guttman-Bond (eds.), *Proceedings of LAC2010*, forthcoming.
- Forsén and Tikkala 2006 = B. Forsén and E. Tikkala, 'Pyhimys kukkulalla. Pyhän Donatoksen kukkulan salaisuutta selvittämässä Thesprotiassa', in V.-P. Herva and J. Ikäheimo (eds.), *Klassinen tapaus. Dos. Eero Jarva 60 vuotta*, Oulu 2006, 91-105.
- HGAtlas 2008 = *Historical and Geographical Atlas of the Greek-Albanian Border*, Athens 2008.
- Hammond 1967 = N.G.L. Hammond, *Epirus. The Geography, the Ancient Remains, the History and the Topography of Epirus and Adjacent Areas*, Oxford 1967.
- Higgs *et al.* = E.S. Higgs, C. Vita-Finzi, D.R. Harris and A.E. Fagg, 'The Climate, Environment and Industries of Stone Age Greece: Part III', *PPS* 33 (1967), 1-29.
- Higgs and Vita Finzi 1966 = E.S. Higgs and C. Vita-Finzi, 'The Climate, Environment and Industries of Stone Age Greece: Part II', *PPS* 32 (1966), 1-29.
- Howland 1958 = R.H. Howland, *The Athenian Agora IV. Greek Lamps and their Survivals*, Princeton, N.J. 1958.
- Lambrou 2006 = V. Lambrou, 'Οικιστική οργάνωση του Θεσπρωτικού χώρου κατά τη Ρωμαϊοκρατία', *EpChron* 40 (2006), 257-275.
- Papaconstantinou and Vassilopoulou 1997 = V. Papaconstantinou and D. Vassilopoulou, 'The Middle Palaeolithic Industries of Epirus', in G.N. Bailey (ed.), *Klithi: Palaeolithic Settlement and Quaternary Landscapes in Northwest Greece II. Klithi in its Local and Regional Setting*, Cambridge 1997, 459-480.
- Papagianni 2000 = D. Papagianni, *Middle Palaeolithic Occupation and Technology in Northwestern Greece: The Evidence from Open-Air Sites* (BAR-IS 882), Oxford 2000.
- Pietilä-Castrén 2008 = L. Pietilä-Castrén, 'A Methodological Note on "Rectangular Heroa"', in L. Pietilä-Castrén and V. Vahtikari (eds.), *Grapta Poikila II. Saints and Heroes* (Papers and Monographs of the Finnish Institute at Athens XIV), Helsinki 2008, 33-51.
- Riginos 1999 = G. Riginos, 'Ausgrabungen in antiker Eleatis und ihrer Umgebung', in P. Cabanes (ed.), *L'Illyrie méridionale et l'Épire dans l'Antiquité* III, Paris 1999, 171-180.

- Riginos and Lazari 2007 = G. Riginos and K. Lazari, *Ελέα Θεσπρωτίας. Αρχαιολογικός οδικός του χώρου και της ευρύτερης περιοχής*, Athens 2007.
- Rotroff 1997 = S. Rotroff, *The Athenian Agora XXIX. Hellenistic Pottery: Athenian and Imported Wheelmade Tableware and Related Material*, Princeton, N.J. 1997.
- Sotiriou 1929 = G.A. Sotiriou, 'Αι παλαιοχριστιανικά βασιλικά της Ελλάδος', *ArchEph* 1929, 161-248.
- Svana 2004 = I. Svana, 'Une agglomération rurale de l'époque hellénistique dans la plaine de Paramythia en Thesprotie', in P. Cabanes and J.-L. Lamboley (eds.), *L'Illyrie méridionale et l'Épire dans l'Antiquité IV*, Paris 2004, 209-213.
- TE I = B. Forsén (ed.), *Thesprotia Expedition I. Towards a Regional History* (PMFIA XV), Helsinki 2009.
- Tsinas 2008 = I. Tsinas, 'Analysis of the Skeletal Remains of the Monument of Marmara, Zervochori', in L. Pietilä-Castrén and V. Vahtikari (eds.), *Grapta Poikila II. Saints and Heroes* (PMFIA XIV), Helsinki 2008, 53-54.
- Tzortzatos and Fatsiou 2006 = A. Tzortzatos and G. Fatsiou, 'Νέα στοιχεία για τη Θεσπρωτία των Γεωμετρικών και Αρχαϊκών χρόνων', *EpChron* 40 (2006), 61-90.

PAPERS AND MONOGRAPHS OF THE FINNISH INSTITUTE AT ATHENS

- I Paavo Castrén (ed.), POST-HERULIAN ATHENS. ASPECTS OF LIFE AND CULTURE IN ATHENS, A.D. 267-529. Helsinki 1994. ISBN 951-95295-2-7. xi + 192 pp. + 34 figs. (Out of Print)
- II Björn Forsén and Greg Stanton (eds.), THE PNYX IN THE HISTORY OF ATHENS. PROCEEDINGS OF AN INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM ORGANISED BY THE FINNISH INSTITUTE AT ATHENS, 7-9 OCTOBER 1994. Helsinki 1996. ISBN 951-95295-3-5. vi + 142 pp. + 2 pls. + 68 figs.
- III Petra Pakkanen, INTERPRETING EARLY HELLENISTIC RELIGION. A STUDY BASED ON THE MYSTERY CULT OF DEMETER AND THE CULT OF ISIS. Helsinki 1996. ISBN 951-95295-4-3. 170 pp. + app.
- IV Björn Forsén, GRIECHISCHE GLIEDERWEIHUNGEN. EINE UNTERSUCHUNG ZU IHRER TYPOLOGIE UND IHRER RELIGIONS- UND SOZIALGESCHICHTLICHEN BEDEUTUNG. Helsinki 1996. ISBN 951-95295-5-1. ii + 225 S. + 115 Abb.
- V Arja Karivieri, THE ATHENIAN LAMP INDUSTRY IN LATE ANTIQUITY. Helsinki 1996. ISBN 951-95295-6-X. ii + 328 pp. + 39 figs. + 56 pls.
- VI Jaakko Frösén (ed.), EARLY HELLENISTIC ATHENS. SYMPTOMS OF A CHANGE. Helsinki 1997. ISBN 951-95295-7-8. iv + 226 pp. + 16 pls.
- VII Olli Salomies (ed.), THE GREEK EAST IN THE ROMAN CONTEXT. PROCEEDINGS OF A COLLOQUIUM ORGANIZED BY THE FINNISH INSTITUTE AT ATHENS, MAY 21 AND 22, 1999. Helsinki 2001. ISBN 951-98806-0-7. iii + 217 pp. + 9 pls. + 3 maps.
- VIII Leena Pietilä-Castrén and Marjaana Vesterinen (eds.), GRAPTA POIKILA I. Helsinki 2003. ISBN 951-98806-1-5. 133 pp.
- IX Maria Gourdouba, Leena Pietilä-Castrén and Esko Tikkala (eds.), THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN IN THE LATE ANTIQUE AND EARLY BYZANTINE PERIODS. Helsinki 2004. ISBN 951-98806-3-1. 98 pp.
- X Petra Pakkanen, AUGUST MYHRBERG AND NORTH-EUROPEAN PHILHELLENISM. BUILDING A MYTH OF A HERO. Helsinki 2006. ISBN 951-98806-5-8. 260 pp.
- XI Leena Pietilä-Castrén, THE GRAECO-ROMAN TERRACOTTA FIGURINES OF FINLAND AND THEIR COLLECTORS. Helsinki 2007. ISBN 978-951-98806-6-2. 100 pp.
- XII Maria Niku, THE OFFICIAL STATUS OF THE FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN ATHENS, 322–120 B.C. Helsinki 2007. ISBN 978-951-98806-7-9. ii + 181 pp. + app.
- XIII Björn Forsén and Giovanni Salmeri (eds.), THE PROVINCE STRIKES BACK. IMPERIAL DYNAMICS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. Helsinki 2008. ISBN 978-951-98806-8-6. 215 pp.
- XIV Leena Pietilä-Castrén and Vesa Vahtikari (eds.), GRAPTA POIKILA II. SAINTS AND HEROES. Helsinki 2008. ISBN 978-951-98806-9-3. 133 pp.
- XV Björn Forsén (ed.), THESPROTIA EXPEDITION I. TOWARDS A REGIONAL HISTORY. Helsinki 2009. ISBN 978-952-67211-0-1. ii + 276 pp.
- XVI Björn Forsén and Esko Tikkala (eds.), THESPROTIA EXPEDITION II. ENVIRONMENT AND SETTLEMENT PATTERNS. Helsinki 2011. ISBN 978-952-67211-2-5. iii + 392 pp.

Distribution:

Bookstore Tiedekirja, Kirkkokatu 14, FI-00170 Helsinki, Finland (fax: + 358-9-635 017, e-mail: tiedekirja@tsv.fi)
Hestia Bookstore, Solonos 60, GR-10672 Athens, Greece (fax: +30-210-360 6759, e-mail: sales@estiabookstore.gr)

