

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

THE SPROTIA 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

The Middle to Late Roman Find Assemblage from Darda

Jeannette Forsén, Paul Reynolds and Anna Patteri

Along the Kokytos valley floor a large number of Late Roman settlements as well as two basilicas have been found. Most of the settlements are farmsteads, but some have the character of small villages.¹ Only a handful of these sites have their origin during the Middle Roman period,² which is a period that is usually poorly represented in the valley when compared to the Late Roman period. One of the aims of the Thesprotia Expedition has been to try to shed more light on the historical periods that are less well known in the Kokytos valley, such as the Middle Roman period. Therefore the small farmstead Darda (E 12), one of the few sites known in the valley that have produced a find assemblage stretching from the Middle Roman period into the beginning of the Late Roman period, seemed worth looking at in more detail.

The farmstead and the grave

Darda is located in the southwestern part of the valley, some 150 m only to the northeast of the Kokytos, on a low ridge between two ravines flowing into the river. The site was found and partly excavated in 2000-2001 by the Greek Archaeological Service in connection with the agricultural improvement projects sponsored by the European Union (including building an irrigation system and creating larger fields). This chapter is based on the excavation report in combination with a study of the pottery and small finds from the site.³ A total of 17 coins were found in the excavation, but they are not included in this chapter. Four of them that had been conserved are included in Talvio's chapter in this volume.

The excavated area was gridded into 3x3 m squares covering most of the building and all finds were collected according to this grid system (Fig. 1). The surroundings of the building were also investigated with the help of four 0.60 m wide trial trenches (ΔΤομή 1-4), all sunk parallel with the walls of the farmhouse. ΔΤομή 1-2 were located on the northwestern side, ΔΤομή 3 on the northeastern side and ΔΤομή 4 on the southeastern side

¹ E 18, PS 7, PS 14, PS 10, E 8, PS 33, PS 32, PS 16, PS 27, E 4, E 23, PS 38, PS 39, PS 41, PS 42, E 6 and E 13. See also Forsén *et al.*, this volume.

² To this category belong, apart from Darda, also E 18, PS 32, PS 16, PS 41, E 6 and E 13.

³ Lappa, Svana and Nikolaou 2001; *ArchDelt* 56B (2001), in press. The excavation took part in November to December 2000 (under the direction of Konstantina Lappa), in February to March 2001 (under the direction of Irini Svana) and in November 2001 (under the direction of Eleni Nikolaou). Anna Patteri, who was given the rights to the site for her master thesis, initially studied the pottery and created the illustrations for this paper, while Jeannette Forsén and Paul Reynolds brought the pottery analysis to its conclusion with invaluable help from Björn Forsén, here gratefully acknowledged. The authors owe many thanks likewise to Georgios Riginos, Ourania Palli and Kassiani Lazari from the 32nd Ephorate for Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities for giving us permission to study this assemblage and for facilitating that study. Many thanks are also due to Patricia Francis for correcting our English and to Esko Tikkala for making Fig. 1 on the basis of originals supplied by the Greek Archaeological Service.

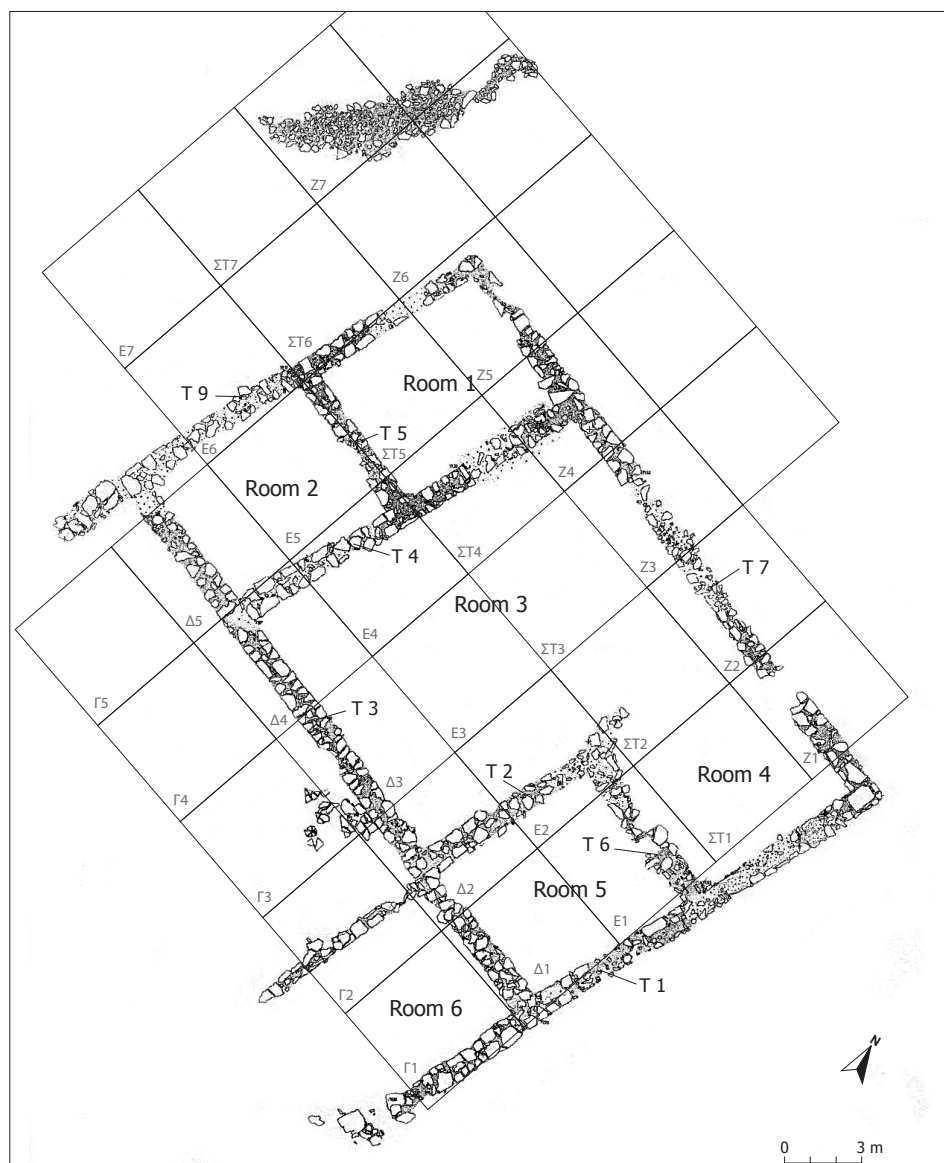


Fig. 1. Ground plan showing the location of the rooms and walls of the farmstead, the cairn and the excavation grid system.

of the building (the exact location of these trial trenches is not marked on the general map of the site, Fig. 1).

Five rooms and the beginning of a sixth belonging to the farmstead were uncovered in the excavation. The size of the five rooms comprises 16.3x10 m, with a large room (inner dimension 9.0x6.7 m) located in the middle (Room 3) and flanked by two rooms on the northwestern and southeastern sides (inner dimensions of the rooms ca. 4.3x3.6-3.8 m; Rooms 1-2 on the northwestern side and Rooms 4-5 on the southeastern side). The building once continued towards the south where at least the outlines of a sixth room

(Room 6), probably of the same size as the four other small ones, could be traced (Fig. 1). The walls of the building are built of roughly worked limestone blocks of medium size mixed with mortar and have a width ranging between 0.5 and 0.6 m.

The inner part of the building was covered by an irregular layer of collapsed roof tiles mixed with some mortar. A similar layer, consisting of fragmentary roof tiles, small stones, mortar and signs of fire was also found outside the building along its northwestern side, extending roughly a meter away from the wall. This debris probably originates from the wall, part of which must have fallen towards the northwest. Inside the building a floor level consisting of beaten soil mixed with gravel was found in all rooms except for Room 4 and the southeastern part of Room 3, where no gravel was found mixed into the floor layer.

The walls of the building as well as the remains of the collapsed roof tiles were found at a depth of only some 15-20 cm below the surface and have therefore partly been disturbed by later agricultural work. The only clear door opening that could be found leads from Room 3 into Room 1 and has a threshold covered with stone slabs. No clear remains of doors to the other rooms were found, but openings in the walls in Room 4 together with the fact that the floor level in this room differed from that of the other rooms may indicate that the entrance to the building was in the southeastern corner through Room 4 and into the large central Room 3, from where one presumably could reach the other smaller rooms.

About 3 m to the north of the building there is a low, southwest to northeast orientated, 4x1 m cairn consisting of small pieces of limestone mixed with fragments of roof tiles. Below the cairn a simple pit grave with an inhumation was found. The head of the deceased was placed towards the northeast resting on a small stone and covered by a slab. A preliminary study of the skeleton indicates that the deceased was an adult man. The grave contained no finds except for a plain rectangular belt buckle that was found next to the pelvis. Single graves have also been found next to other Middle and Late Roman farmsteads that have been excavated in the Kokytos valley.⁴

Pottery and other finds

The pottery and other finds listed in the catalogue are divided into three groups on the basis of find context, i.e., finds from Room 3, from Room 1 and from outside the building. Taken as a whole the pottery found in Room 3 contains mostly reddish yellow or red fabrics, but grey (Nos. 3, 4) ware is also present. The cooking pots and casseroles of the third to fifth centuries, in chert-rich fabrics, can be paralleled with local-regional products found in both Butrint and Nikopolis. Similar finds, notably the typical fifth century triangular rimmed cooking pots that occur equally in Nikopolis and Butrint, occurred in the later levels of the Roman villa of Agios Donatos and on other sites surveyed by the Thesprotia Expedition. The amphorae (Nos. 26 and 27), plain ware jar and base (Nos. 9 and 10) are probably close regional imports. The occasional very pale brown or light brown ware (Nos. 2, 9) may also be regional imports, in this case for a storage jar and a small closed vessel. Room 3 contained six cooking-pots, one storage-jar, three amphorae,

⁴ See Forsén *et al.*, this volume, sites E 7, PS 16, E 4, PS 41, E 6 and E 13.

one cup and one small closed vessel. The earliest in date is the two-handled cup (No. 1) dated to the mid-third century and the latest in date are five fifth-century vessels (Nos. 3-7).

The pottery found in Room 1 differs from that found in Room 3 mainly in that we have here a more diversified assemblage originating from Ephesus (No. 16) and possibly Phocaea (No. 14) in Asia Minor, Tunisia in North Africa (No. 19), as well as Butrint in southern Albania (No. 20). There are in all four amphorae (Nos. 15-17, 19), one cooking-pot (No. 18), one 'collarino beaker' (No. 14) and one lid (No. 20). The cooking-pot (No. 18) finds a good parallel among the cooking-pots published from Dyrrachion in Albania of late Roman date⁵ and this is true also for three other cooking-pots: one from Room 3 (No. 8) and two from outside the farmhouse proper (Nos. 22 and 24). Again, as in Room 3, the pottery seems to date from the third to the fifth centuries AD.

Sherds of at least four different vessels of Tunisian African Red Slip Ware (ARS) were found outside the walls of the farmhouse. One of these, the base of a large dish, is illustrated (No. 21). Other fine ware is represented by a couple of jugs (Nos. 28, 29). Quite a few amphorae were also documented in find contexts outside the walls of the house, although they may originate from inside the house (see further below). There are several Tunisian amphorae, including five fragments of a Tunisian cylindrical amphora (LR or fifth century AD) and one combed Late Roman Amphora 2 sherd from ΔΤομή 3. The latest amphora in the assemblage is a Late Roman 2 amphora dated to the sixth century AD, which was found in square H4 together with a Tunisian amphora handle. At least three examples of the ubiquitous 'Nikopolis cooking-pots' were found outside the house, one is illustrated (No. 23), and two other cooking-pots (Nos. 24, 25) have good parallels among the Albanian Dyrrachion cooking-ware.⁶ Pottery from Ephesus is represented by a LRA 3 body sherd found in ΔΤομή 3, which may be contemporary with the other Late Roman material. The earliest of the amphorae in date is a thin-walled amphora of mid-third to mid-fourth century date found in square Γ6 and such a date can also be suggested for the ARS (No. 21) large open bowl found in ΔΤομή 3.

The find contexts of the sherds found outside the farmhouse, which are not illustrated were: two ARS sherds, including one rim, from ΔΤομή 3, top soil, 5.11.2001. From H4 came: a grey 'Nikopolis variant' cooking pot, fifth century; a cooking pot rim possibly sixth century; a red ware, concave handle, fifth to sixth century AD. From find context Γ6, top soil, 9.11.2001 came one sherd of a large dish, ARS 50A of mid-third to mid-fourth century date. And finally from Z6, top soil, 5.11.2001 came: part of amphora No. 17 in the catalogue, see below (fourth to fifth century AD); and a cooking pot, of very pale brown ware (third century AD).

That the pottery excavated by the Greek Archaeological Service at Darda has been redeposited more than once is clearly shown by the fact that four sherds representing two vessels (Nos. 6 and 19) have widely separate find contexts: one sherd of No. 19 was found in square Z5 and another one in Z6. Again one sherd of No. 6 was found in square E4 and part of the same vessel in Δ4.

⁵ Guiducci and Montana 2007.

⁶ Guiducci and Montana 2007.

Catalogue⁷

Room 3

1. Two-handled cup, flat base, plain vertical strap-handles (Fig. 2). H. 6.7 cm. Fine ware, reddish yellow ware (5YR 6/6), unevenly fired with a reddish brown core (5YR 4/3). Powdery, smeary ware. Plain.

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Cf. Forster 2001, 158, fig. 4.11:a (H.9.4, handle section different).

Date: Mid-third century AD.

2. Small closed vessel, wheel ridged and with a flat base (Fig. 2). Outer diam. of base 5.3 cm. Fine ware, very pale brown (10YR 7/4), interior fired gray (10YR 6/1). Many brown, grey and white grits < 1 mm in size. Plain.

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Cf. Robinson 1959, 65 K69-70 (mid-third century) or K106 (third to fourth century).

Date: Third to fourth century AD.

3. Small cooking pot with triangular rim, 'Nikopolis variant'. A form common in both Nikopolis and Butrint in fifth century contexts (Fig. 2). Outer diam. 12.3 cm. Grey ware (10YR 5/1). Many angular white grits (probably chert) less than 2 mm in size. Plain.

Find context: E4, destruction layer, 23.1.2001.

Date: Fifth century AD.

4. Cooking pot, out-turned rim, with ribbed, vertical strap-handles (Fig. 2). Medium-coarse ware, unevenly fired grey (2.5Y 6/1), with a dark grey core (2.5Y 4/1). Abundant angular white grits less than 1 mm in size.

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, 205, fig. 13.78.

Date: (Late fourth) to fifth century AD.

5. Cooking pot, out-turned rim (Fig. 2). Reddish yellow ware (7.5 YR 6/6), unevenly fired with a dark brown core (7.5YR 3/3).

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Date: (Late fourth) to fifth century AD.

6. Cooking pot with out-turned rim and two vertical ribbed handles (Fig. 2). Outer diam. 17 cm. Reddish yellow fabric (5YR 6/6) unevenly fired with a gray core. Abundant angular white grits less than 2 mm in size. Plain.

Find context: Δ4 and E4, destruction layer, 23.1.2001.

Date: Late fourth to early fifth century AD.

7. Cooking pot, out-turned rim, with ribbed, vertical handle with moulding on one side (Fig. 2). Coarse ware, reddish yellow (5YR 6/6), unevenly fired with a reddish brown core (5YR 5/4). Abundant minute white grits.

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, 205, fig. 13.78.

Date: (Late fourth) to fifth century AD.

⁷ Catalogue entries without comparanda are dated by Paul Reynolds.

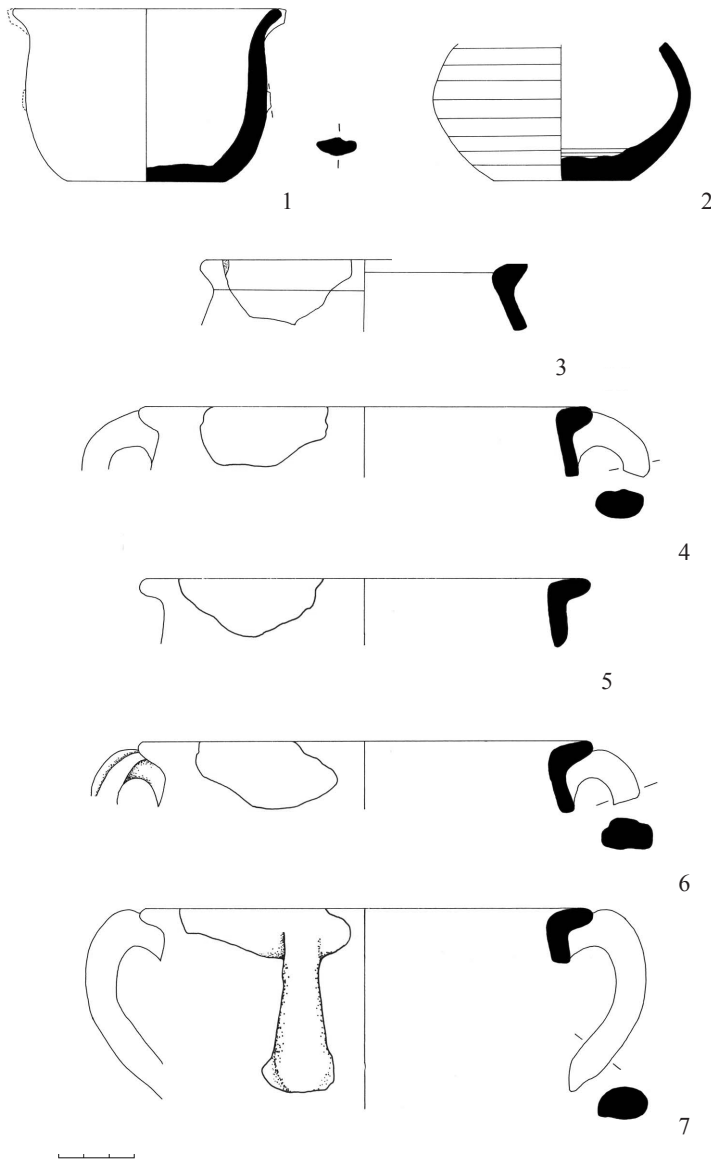


Fig. 2. Fine ware and cooking pots from Room 3 (Nos. 1-7). Scale 1:3.

8. Casserole (Fig. 3). Outer diam. 23.5 cm. Reddish yellow ware (7.5YR 6/6) unevenly fired with a brown core.

Find context: ΣT3-ΣT4, KEP 3, removal of the destruction layer, 21.12.2000.

Cf. Guiducci and Montana 2007, 547, fig. 1:9.

Date: Late third to early fourth century AD.

9. Large storage vessel (Fig. 3). Inner diam. ca. 17 cm. Handmade? Soapy orange-buff ware with occasional 2 mm chert.

Find context: ΣT3-ΣT4, KEP 3, removal of the destruction layer, 21.12.2000.

Date: Sixth century AD?

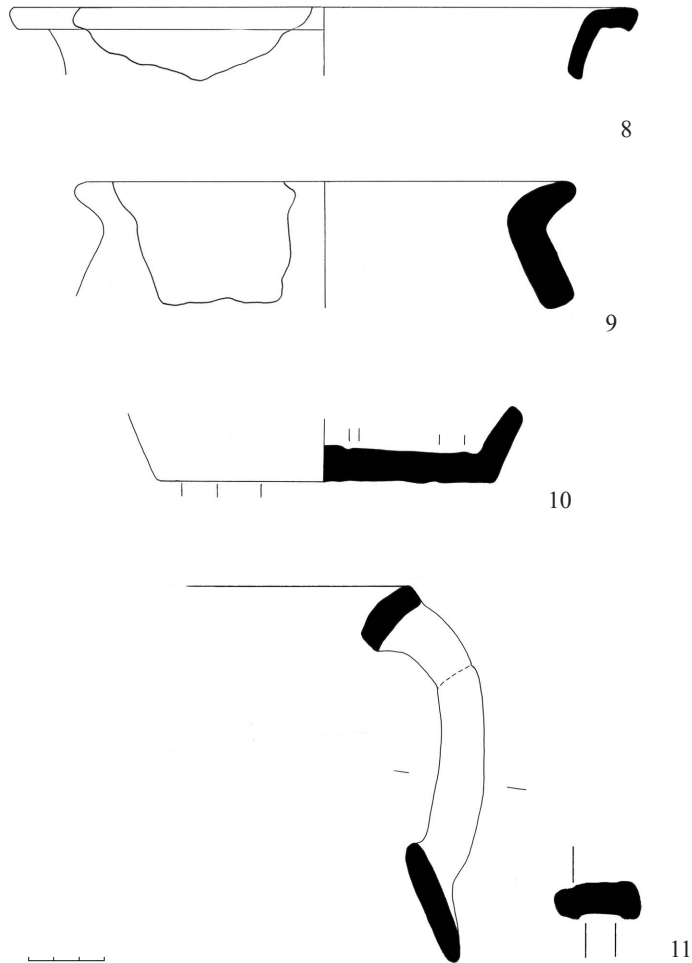


Fig. 3. Casserole and storage vessels from Room 3 (Nos. 8-11). Scale 1:3.

10. Flat base of jar (Fig. 3). Outer diam. 12.6 cm. Plain Ware. Fine ware, reddish yellow (7.5YR 7/6) evenly fired. Powdery, smeary ware.

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Cf. Robinson 1959, 105, M228, pl. 27 (early fourth century), or, 112, M300, pl. 30 (early fifth century).

Date: Fourth to sixth century AD.

11. Amphora rim and handle with slightly grooved mid-section and back of handle folded into two bands (Fig. 3). Fine ware, reddish yellow (5YR 6/8) evenly fired. Some angular white chert less than 2 mm in size. Powdery, smeary fabric.

Find context: ΣΤ3-ΣΤ4, KEP 3, removal of the destruction layer, 21.12.2000.

Date: Fifth or sixth century AD?

12. Cross-bow fibula, bronze (Fig. 4). L. 6.5 cm. W. 4.1 cm. Pin missing. ΘΕ 6281.

Find context: Δ2-Δ3, KEP 2, removal of destruction layer, 20.12.2000.

Cf. Riha 1979, 147-149, type 6.5.5, Taf. 38:2738.

Date: Fourth century AD.

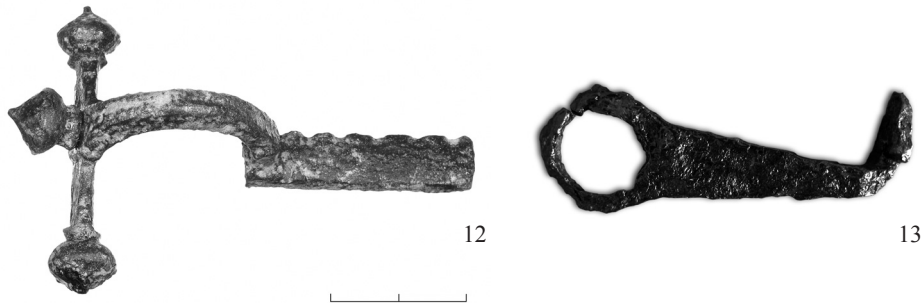


Fig. 4. Cross-bow fibula and iron key from Room 3 (Nos. 12-13).

13. Iron key (Fig. 4). L. 5 cm, Diam. 1.2 cm. Long flat shaft with immovable ring. ΘE 6174.

Find context: ΣT2, next to the wall dividing Room 3 from Room 4, 16.11.2001.

Cf. Davidson 1952, 138, pl. 70, nos. 968-969.

Date: Roman.

Room 1

14. A 'collarino beaker' (Fig. 5). Diam. 8.5 cm. Fine ware. Reddish yellow ware (7.5YR 7/6), evenly fired. Plain. Probably Phocaean.

Find context: Z4, in the corner between walls T4 and T7, just above the destruction layer, 21.2.2001.

Cf. Reynolds forthcoming, Late Roman thin-walled wares, esp. Triconch 3264.5.

Date: Fifth to sixth century AD.

15. Small amphora/jug (Fig. 5). Fine ware, evenly fired reddish yellow (7.5YR 7/6). Some angular, white grits less than 1 mm in size. Powdery, smeary ware. Plain.

Find context: Z4, in the corner between walls T4 and T7, just above the destruction layer, 21.2.2001.

Cf. Reynolds forthcoming (cf. Triconch 3325.101).

Date: Fourth to fifth century AD.

16. Ribbed body sherd of an early (second or third century AD) version of the (Ephesian) LRA 3 amphora type (11 fragments) (Fig. 5). T. 0.4-0.6 cm. Fine ware, evenly fired red (2.5YR 5/6). Abundant silvery mica inclusions. Matt black slip on exterior and dusky red (slip?) on interior (2.5YR 4/3).

Find context: Z4, in the corner between walls T4 and T7, just above the destruction layer, 21.2.2001.

Date: Second to third century AD.

17. Amphora toe (Fig. 5). Fine ware, evenly fired reddish yellow (5YR 7/8). Powdery, smeary ware. Plain.

Find context: Z4, in the corner between walls T4 and T7, just above the destruction layer, 21.2.2001.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, fig. 13.37.

Date: Third to fourth century AD.

18. Cooking pot, with folded band rim and lid-seat (Fig. 5). Diam. 15 cm. Red ware (2.5YR 5/6), evenly fired.

Find context: Z4, in the corner between walls T4 and T7, just above the destruction layer, 21.2.2001.

Cf. Reynolds forthcoming, Late Roman cooking pots, especially Triconch 5302.52 or Dia 172.18; Guiducci and Montana 2007, 547, fig. 1:5.

Date: Late fifth (early sixth century) AD.

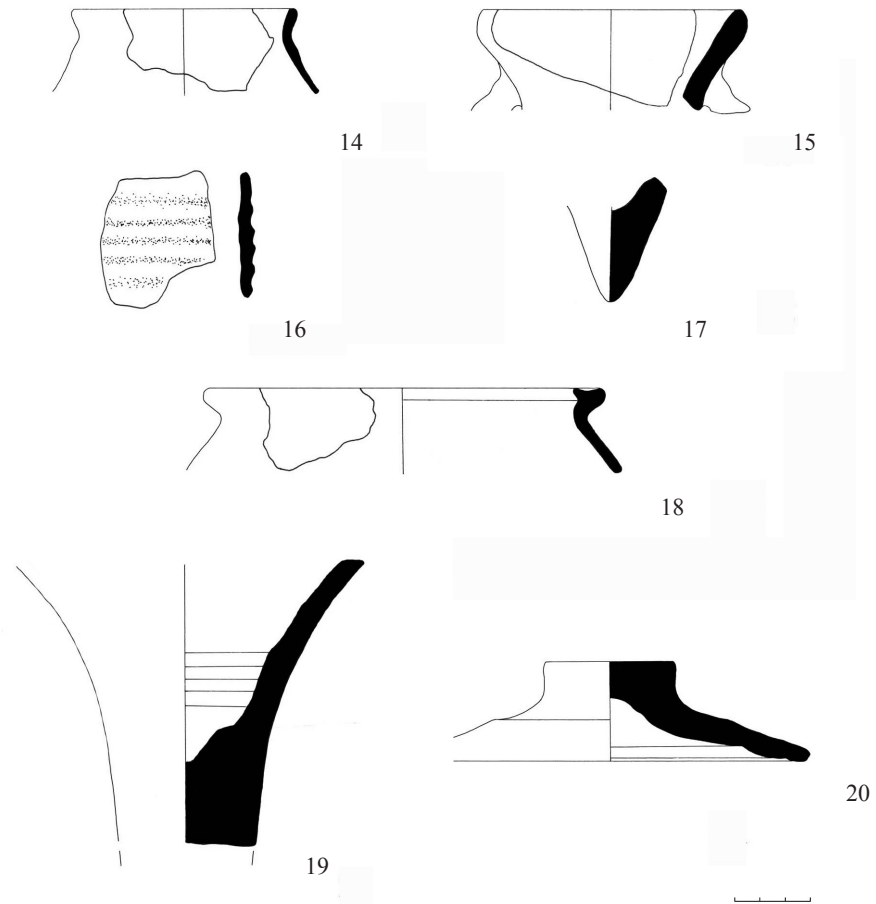


Fig. 5. Pottery from Room 1 (Nos. 14-20). Scale 1:3.

19. Amphora toe (Fig. 5). Red ware (2.5YR 6/8) evenly fired. Some angular white grits less than 7 mm in size. Probably Tunisian.

Find context: Z5, cleaning of destruction layer, 20.2.2001.

Cf. Keay 1984, 184-194, 210, fig. 88:1, Keay 25, variant 1, 394 (last quarter of third to mid-fifth century AD, "little doubt Tunisian").

Date: Fourth to (fifth century) AD.

20. Lid (Fig. 5). Diam. 15 cm. Red ware (2.5YR 6/8) evenly fired. Many angular white grits less than 3 mm in size. String-marks on knob.

Find context: Z5, cleaning of destruction layer, 20.2.2001.

Cf. 'Diaporit plain ware', Butrint.

Date: Fourth to fifth century AD.

Outside the building

21. Large dish with a flat base (Fig. 6). Fine ware, evenly fired, red (2.5YR 5/6). Late ARS 50A.

Find context: ΔΤομή 3, top soil, 5.11.2001.

Cf. Hayes 1972, 68 fig. 12, 72 nos. 46-55, 73 earlier part of the fourth century (Hayes).

Date: Mid-third to ca. 350, or, maybe 300-350 AD.

22. Cooking pot, concave-grooved rim face, small lid seat and vertical wall. Late in the grooved rim series (Fig. 6). Diameter: 15-17 cm. Grey ware (7.5YR 5/1) unevenly fired with a red core (2.5YR 5/6). Many angular white grits less than 3 mm in size. Plain.

Find context: Z6, top soil, 5.11.2001.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, 227 and fig. 13.74/76.

Date: Second half of third or mid- to late third century AD.

23. Cooking pot with triangular rim, convex face, 'Nikopolis variant' (Fig. 6). Outer diam. 18.8 cm. Yellowish red ware (5YR 5/6) evenly fired. Many angular white grits less than 1 mm in size. Possibly matt reddish brown slip on exterior (5YR 5/4).

Find context: Γ6, top soil, 9.11.2001.

Date: Fifth century AD.

24. Large 'grooved rim' cooking pot, concave rim face (Fig. 6). Outer diam. 26.6 cm. Fine ware, evenly fired, reddish yellow (7.5YR 7/6). Powdery, smeary fabric.

Find context: Γ6, top soil, 9.11.2001.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, fig. 13.317; Guiducci and Montana 2007, 547, fig. 2:15.

Date: Third century.

25. Casserole, pinched, concave rim face (Fig. 6). Outer diam. 19 cm. Dark red ware (2.5YR 4/6). Abundant angular white grits less than 1 mm in size. Traces of soot on exterior.

Find context: Γ6, top soil, 9.11.2001.

Date: Third to fourth century AD.

26. Small amphora/jug (Fig. 6). Reddish yellow ware (7.5 YR 7/6) unevenly fired with a red core (2.5YR 6/8). Some angular white grits less than 1 mm in size. MRA 1, hard fired.

Find context: H4.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, fig. 13.64.

Date: Fourth or fifth century AD.

27. Small amphora/jug (Fig. 6). Reddish yellow ware (5YR 6/6) evenly fired.

Find context: Γ6, top soil, 9.11.2001.

Cf. Reynolds 2004, fig. 13.64.

Date: Fourth or fifth century AD.

28. Flagon or jug (for table) (Fig. 6). Outer diam. 13.2 cm. Fine ware, unevenly fired, reddish yellow (7.5YR 7/6), with a reddish yellow core (5YR 6/6). Plain. Two ribbed shoulder fragments.

Find context: ΔΤομή 3, top soil, 5.11.2001.

Cf. Robinson 1959, 105, M225, pl. 27 (early fourth century).

Date: Probably fourth century AD.

29. Jug base (Fig. 6). Outer diam. 3.8 cm. Red ware (2.5YR 5/6) evenly fired. Many angular white grits less than 1 mm in size.

Find context: Γ6, top soil, 9.11.2001.

Cf. Sackett (1992), 252 U49, pl.192 (post 250 AD).

Date: Post 250 AD.

30. Lid with broad knob (Fig. 6). Diam. (knob) 5.3 cm. Red ware (2.5YR 5/6) evenly fired. Many angular white (chert) grits less than 1 mm in size.

Find context: ΔΤομή 3, top soil, 5.11.2001.

Date: Middle to Late Roman.

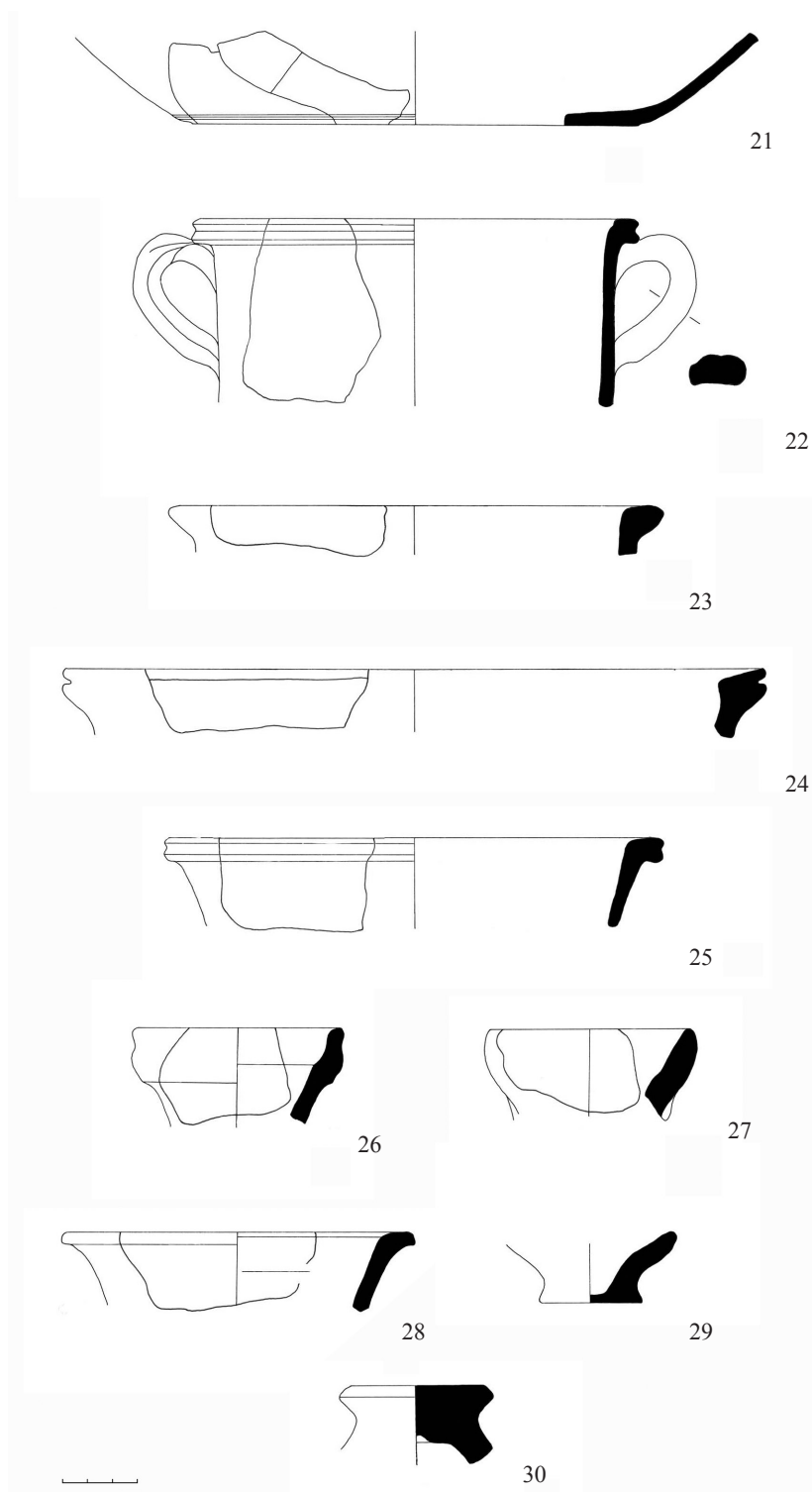


Fig. 6. Pottery from outside the building (Nos. 21-30). Scale 1:3.

Concluding remarks

Some of the finds were found in the top soil outside the building (Nos. 2, 19-21 to the northeast of the building, Nos. 23-27 to the southwest of the building and No. 28 to the north of the building) possibly moved from their original locus through later agricultural activities. More interesting for our purposes are the two find assemblages originating from Room 1 and Room 3.

Room 3 was the richest in finds. A total of 11 of the sherds in the catalogue were found here as well as the cross-bow fibula (No. 12) and nine coins, out of seventeen in total, which were found in the excavation. Among the catalogued sherds from Room 3 there were as many as six cooking pots (Nos. 7, 3-6, 8) and one local-regional amphora (No. 11). This assemblage should be compared with that from Room 1, which yielded only one coin and one cooking pot (No. 18), but four (Nos. 15-17, 19) of the total seven amphorae sherds. However, it should be noted that in addition to the only catalogued amphora in Room 3 (No. 11) fragments of two additional Tunisian amphorae were found (not catalogued), in squares ΣΤ3-ΣΤ4 as well as one large ceramic tessera. Other fragments of amphorae were found in the excavation and recorded in squares Η4, Ζ6, Γ6 and in the trial trench ΔΤομή 3. It should be noted that squares ΣΤ3-ΣΤ4 are located in the part of Room 3 that leads to Room 1, and squares Η4 and Ζ6 are located just outside the building next to Room 1. Thus most of these fragmentary amphorae could feasibly have originated from Room 1 as well.

The concentration of fragments of amphorae in and next to Room 1 compared to the concentration of cooking pots in Room 3 seems to indicate that Room 1 was used as a place for storage, whereas the large central room (Room 3) may have been the place for cooking and social life (which also might explain the presence here of the large number of coins and the cross-bow fibula). Room 4 again, on the basis of the openings in the walls, taken together with the different type of floor and the presence of an iron key among the finds in square ΣΤ2 (No. 13) near the wall between Room 3 and 4, most likely served as a kind of hallway. The function of the remaining rooms is unclear, although one could assume that at least Rooms 2 and 5 may have been bedrooms.

The farmstead seems to have been founded at some time during the third quarter of the third century AD – the earliest finds which can be dated with certainty are a coin minted by Aurelian (270-275) and some sherds dating to the mid-third century or somewhat later (Nos. 1 and 24). Fine wares are relatively rare, represented by a few sherds of early to mid-fourth century African Red Slip Ware (e.g. No. 21) and a late Roman ‘collarino beaker’ (No. 14). Most of the finds date to the fourth and the fifth centuries, with only one sherd that can be unequivocally dated to the late fifth or sixth century (No. 18; the jar no. 9, and amphora No. 11 may also be rather late in date). Thus, a more definite date for the abandonment of the house cannot be given, but it may have been deserted in the early sixth century. This fits well with the general historical picture of the region, which is characterized by increasing insecurity during the second half of the sixth century AD.⁸

⁸ See e.g. Chrysos 1997a, 163-165; Chrysos 1997b, 182; Bowden 2009, 179.

Bibliography

- Albarella *et al.* 1993 = U. Albarella, V. Ceglie, and P. Roberts, 'San Giacomo degli Schiavoni (Molise). An Early Fifth Century A.D. Deposit of Pottery and Animal Bones from Central Adriatic Italy', *PBSR* 61 (1993), 157-230.
- Bonifay and Tréglià 2007 = M. Bonifay and J.C. Tréglià (eds.), *Late Roman Coarse Wares, Cooking Wares and Amphorae in the Mediterranean: Archaeology and Archaeometry* (BAR-IS 1662), Oxford 2007.
- Bowden 2009 = W. Bowden, 'Thesprotia in the Context of Roman and Late Antique Epirus', in B. Forsén (ed.), *Thesprotia Expedition I. Towards a Regional History* (PMFIA XV), Helsinki 2009, 167-184.
- Chrysos 1997a = E. Chrysos, 'Barbarian Invasions', in M.B. Sakellariou (ed.), *Epirus. 4000 Years of Greek History and Civilization*, Athens 1997, 161-165.
- Chrysos 1997b = E. Chrysos, 'Slavic Invasions and Settlements (Sixth to Seventh Centuries)', in M.B. Sakellariou (ed.), *Epirus. 4000 Years of Greek History and Civilization*, Athens 1997, 182-184.
- Davidson 1952 = G.R. Davidson, *Corinth XII. The Minor Objects*, Princeton, NJ 1952.
- Forster 2001 = G. Forster, 'The Roman Period', in N. Coldstream, J. Eiring and G. Forster (eds.), *Knossos Pottery Handbook* (BSA Studies 7), London 2001, 137-167.
- Guiducci and Montana 2007 = G. Guiducci and G. Montana, 'Ceramiche da Fuoco tardoantiche da Dyrrachion (Albania): Un primo approccio morfologico ed archaeometrico', in M. Bonifay and J.C. Tréglià (eds.), *Late Roman Coarse Wares, Cooking Wares and Amphorae in the Mediterranean: Archaeology and Archaeometry* (BAR-IS 1662), Oxford 2007, 541-547.
- Hayes 1972 = J. Hayes, *Late Roman Pottery*, London 1972.
- Keay 1984 = S.J. Keay, *Late Roman Amphorae in Western Mediterranean* (BAR-IS 196), Oxford 1984.
- Reynolds 2004 = P. Reynolds, 'The Roman Pottery from the Triconch Palace', in R. Hodges, W. Bowden and K. Lako (eds.), *Byzantine Butrint. Excavations and Surveys 1994-99*, Oxford 2004, 224-277.
- Reynolds forthcoming = P. Reynolds, *The Pottery of the Roman to Late Antique Periods. Excavations in the Triconch Palace (Butrint)*, forthcoming.
- Riha 1979 = E. Riha, *Die römischen Fibeln aus Augst und Kaiser Augst* (Forschungen in Augst 3), Augst 1979.
- Robinson 1959 = H.S. Robinson, *The Athenian Agora V. Pottery of the Roman Period*, Princeton, N.J., 1959.
- Sackett 1992 = L.H. Sackett, *Knossos from Greek City to Roman Colony. Excavations at the Unexplored Mansion II* (BSA Suppl. 21), London 1992.

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)

