

# IMSW - 46<sup>th</sup> International Mediterranean Survey Workshop

**Department of History and Archaeology  
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens**

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## Abstracts in alphabetical order of first author

**John Bintliff<sup>1</sup>, Anthony Snodgrass<sup>2</sup>, Phil Howard<sup>1</sup> and Christel Mueller<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Edinburgh University. <sup>2</sup> Cambridge University. <sup>3</sup> University of Paris-Nanterre

### **The Sanctuary of the Muses in context: the contribution of landscape archaeology**

The Sanctuary of the Muses in Boeotia, Greece, grew to be one of the major festival and pilgrimage centres in the classical world. This contribution presents a new interpretation of its major monuments, while contextualizing the Sanctuary into its natural environment within the Valley of the Muses. Comparison of the settlement history of the Valley which has been revealed through archaeological survey, reveals an unexpected divergence between the flourishing of the Sanctuary and that of its surrounding settled landscape.

**Nikolas Dimakis<sup>1</sup> and Gerasimos Trasanis<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

### **Towards a Mountain Archaeology: The Philippaioi project (PHILI.P)**

PHILI.P is an ambitious fully integrated multidisciplinary research programme aiming to produce an ever adaptive and flexible pioneering model of archaeological research in mountainous Greece. By researching the rather extensive and promising Hellenistic fortified site of Kastri at Philippaioi in Grevena, PHILI.P will seek answers about a terra incognita that falls out of the frame of the well-researched and known urban sites of the mainstream ancient Greek World. PHILI.P's groundbreaking tool will be the economic and research optimization by providing meaningful results in a short period of time and at a low expense. The experienced team of PHILI.P, which has already worked in Grevena, will not be limited in excavational methods; it will also locate, map, and digitally visualize the architectural remains, above and below the ground, identify their different construction phases and, finally, record all the material evidence. This will be the result of a solid and well pre-organized extensive collaboration by bringing together mutually complementary disciplines, all dictated by the inhospitable forested and hilly character of the site: subdisciplines of Archaeology (Classical-, Landscape-, Mountain-, Bio-, Zoo-, archaeology), Anthropology, History, Geology (Geophysics), Social Sciences (Cultural Heritage), modern non-invasive technology (LiDAR, GIS, Photogrammetry, Drone Photos) and archival research. The aforementioned methodology will allow the preservation and a

diachronic interpretation of all kinds of finds within the context of numerous aspects of landscape archaeology. This local archaeological wealth will constitute a means for the enhancement of its interrelation-connection with the local communities and for a sustainable economic development in a prefecture that records the highest population reduction in Greece.

[Damjan Donev<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> Institute of National History, Skopje, North Macedonia

### **Ceramic surveys and test-probing at a multiperiod settlement in the Vardar Valley**

The intensive ceramic survey at the site of “Vidin Grad” resulted in the collection of over 10.000 shards from an area of six to seven ha. The study of this material proved far less revealing than expected. The bulk of the finds were fragments of tile and plain or coarse pottery, local products which do not show any perceptible changes over multiple time-periods. Thus, despite the large corpus of finds and the high resolution of the survey, it was impossible to track the topographic development of this settlement over time. In response to this impasse, it was decided to open a series of stratigraphic trenches in different sectors of the site. We were hoping to discover larger and well-preserved pieces, from relatively undisturbed deposits, which would have clarified the composition of the surface collections. These expectations were only partly fulfilled, but the test-probing campaign did open an important insight into the processes that create the surface record and regulate its composition. The goal of this paper is to present this campaign and discuss the wider relevance of its main results.

[Nena Galanidou<sup>1</sup>](#), [Peny Tsakanikou<sup>1</sup>](#), [Georgia Beka<sup>1</sup>](#), [George Iliopoulos<sup>2</sup>](#), [Simon Kübler<sup>3</sup>](#), [Areti Zoulia<sup>1</sup>](#), [Joanne Taktikos<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, University of Crete. <sup>2</sup> Department of Geology, University of Patras. <sup>3</sup> Geology Faculty, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

### **The early Palaeolithic settlement of Lesbos: the off-site evidence**

The Rodafnidia open-air site on Lesbos Island, NE Aegean, has yielded the largest known Acheulean assemblage in the Balkans and west Anatolia, securely dated to the second half of the Middle Pleistocene. This mega-site has fuelled discussions about the early colonisation of Europe via northeast Mediterranean and the role of the Aegean in the transmission of the Acheulean technological tradition, originating in Africa, to the heart of Eurasia. In this discussion the extended terrestrial Aegean hypothesis becomes extremely relevant, as Lesbos was part of the exposed landmasses during the glacial low-stands of the Pleistocene, when western Asia was connected to the Greek mainland and Europe. Excavated material from fluvio-lacustrine sequences at Rodafnidia, coupled with extensive surface survey conducted between 2012 and 2023 over the wider area of the Kalloni Basin and along the fluvial riverbeds and the shorelines of south Lesbos suggest repeated visits by hunter-gatherer groups during the Middle Pleistocene. Here we propose a holistic field strategy that integrates on-site and off-site archaeological evidence to come to grips with the early Palaeolithic settlement of Lesbos. We examine the spatial distribution of surface finds and their contexts along with the ecological properties of the palaeolandscape (edaphics) where they are found.

Myrsini Gkouma<sup>1</sup>, Panagiotis Karkanas<sup>1</sup>, Yiannis Papadatos<sup>2</sup>, Tom Brogan<sup>3</sup> and Chrysa Sofianou<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science, American School of Classical Studies. <sup>2</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. <sup>3</sup> Institute for Aegean Prehistory, Study Center for East Crete. <sup>4</sup> Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Lasithi

### **In search of a lost city: a geoarchaeological study on the Minoan habitation of Ierapetra**

While Ierapetra is the larger and most fertile plain of Eastern Crete, there is no evidence of intensive and continuous habitation during antiquity or indications of a big Minoan city, unlike the case of many other plains on the island. This interdisciplinary study aims to test the hypothesis that the plain of Ierapetra did host a Minoan Neopalatial city and that the lack of evidence is justified by the presence of pronounced post depositional geomorphological processes. The hypothesis is based on indirect but strong evidence from excavations and surface surveys at the broader region that are conducted within the frame of the same study. To fully test this idea, we use a multi-scalar geoarchaeological approach, which includes the geomorphological assessment of the study area followed by underground testing, core drilling and trench digging. Small scale primary laboratory analysis of sediments and micromorphological analysis are also conducted. Preliminary results reveal the presence of extended oxidized waterlogged sediments, which cover the eastern part of the plain and bury a layer of Minoan sherds and stones at a consistent depth of 3m at two locations. The archaeological finds lie yet again on reduced waterlogged sediments. All the above indicate that during the Minoan period the plain was already covered by an extensive wetland. Moreover, there are promising indications that a Minoan city could be found at its periphery or at the shore, in periods of low water levels. The city was afterwards covered by thick deposits of a wetland, which gradually shallowed, but still covered partially the plain at least until the mid-20th century.

Dionysios Kalantzis-Papadopoulos<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Leiden University

### **The Hinterland of Medieval Chalcis Survey Project: some preliminary results of the extensive field survey**

Initiated during the Summer of 2021 and organized by the University of Leiden and the Ephorate of Antiquities of Euboea, the five-year HMC interdisciplinary research program is envisaged to develop for the first time an understanding of the topography and the socioeconomic changes occurring in the hinterland of the city of Chalkida (Negroponte) during the Medieval, Ottoman and Early Modern periods. To achieve its goals, the program is further divided into a number of different subprojects applying a palette of research methods in order to obtain more accurate scientific outcomes. Aim of this paper is to present and discuss the preliminary results of the extensive survey subproject up to the 2023 field season. The task of the latter team is to explore the wider landscape around Chalkida and make initial recordings of sites of potential archaeological interest. Its findings concern a substantial number of sites of rather diverse character and chronology, including fortifications, religious structures, abandoned settlements, rural installations and segments of the past road network. Although fragments of an obscure past, these remains may yet yield invaluable information about their cultural, religious, economic and natural landscapes.

## Alexandra Katevaini<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

### **Walking the fields with KoBoToolBox at hand**

As technology continues to become more central in archaeological research, the integration of mobile devices in fieldwork has become increasingly prevalent for data recording. KoBoToolBox, an open source software, allows the user to create unique forms for online and offline data collection. Applications like this can change the data collection process in the field as they accommodate the recording of different data such as media, textual and spatial data types. The software allows the user to create forms easily and operates on Android Hardware. As the hardware prices drop and with the use of open source, this tool can be applied inexpensively in multiple projects and change how survey data is collected.

In the West Archaeological Samos Project we have used this software for three seasons now and have got a lot of experience with the software and its use, benefits and drawbacks. In this presentation we would like to present the structure of the forms to accommodate for survey field recording as well as the incorporation of the data in the GIS environment for mapping.

## Markos Katsianis<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, University of Patras

### **Curating and reassessing geospatial site survey data**

The presentation showcases the site survey of 1999 conducted at Paliambela Kolindros, Greece, employing several fieldwork methods, such as surface material collection, geophysical survey and coring. Collected data was later combined into a 3D GIS dataset that was employed for site evaluation prior to excavation. In the framework of the ARIADNEplus project, data stewardship and reuse issues have been considered as part of preparing the survey data for deposition. Data preservation processes included data cleaning and migration, as well as testing the CIDOC CRMsurv extension for semantic alignment. The survey data were further examined against subsequent excavation information and their role in initial site interpretation was reappraised. Currently, the final report of the site survey is prepared as a supplement to the deposited dataset, documenting the intricate processes involved in creating, making sense, utilising and curating geospatial site survey datasets.

## Eurudice Kefalidou<sup>1</sup>, Merkourios Georgiadis<sup>2</sup>, Arnau Garcia-Molsosa<sup>2</sup>, Alfredo Mayoral<sup>2,3</sup>, Hector Orengo<sup>2</sup> and Constantina Kallintzi<sup>4</sup>

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Catalan Institute of Classical Archaeology (ICAC-CERCA). <sup>3</sup> Université Clermont Auvergne,

CNRS, GEOLAB. <sup>4</sup> Hellenic Ministry of Culture

### **The Archaeological Project of Abdera and Xanthi (APAX): 2015 - today**

Abstract - Abdera, in the modern Prefecture of Xanthi, Thrace was an Ionian colony founded in the mid-7th century BC. The APAX Project covered an area of c. 10 km<sup>2</sup> divided in four sections: (a) the Greek coastal city and (b) its environs, as well as (c) the Thracian hinterland, i.e. the low hills to the north and (d) an area higher on the Rhodope mountain range. Thus, we aimed on sampling from

different environmental and cultural zones which offered a large amount of new information on sites, settlement dynamics, landscape evolution, land-uses, etc.

In this meeting we will update our colleagues on the (so-far) results of our: (a) intensive pedestrian sample collection (processed in the field using mobile applications and cloud-based GIS software), (b) digitized historical aerial photographs as an aid for reconstructing the changes in settings, (c) high resolution orthomosaics and topographic models obtained with drone flights and photogrammetrical reconstructions, and (d) automatic detection of pottery sherds in agricultural plots, for which Abdera provides the first ever successful proof of concept; also, on the results of e) geoarchaeological boreholes drilling in the lowlands around the colony and in the now silted harbour area, and finally f) excavation of geoarchaeological trial trenches and geophysical research (Electrical and Seismic Tomography and Georadar) in the same area.

[Will M. Kennedy<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> German Archaeological Institute at Athens

### **The Petra Hinterland Social Landscapes Project. Preliminary Results of a First Architectural Survey Season**

In Nabataean Petra (modern-day Jordan) different social groups were organized within spatially defined social 'districts', which clearly highlights a Nabataean social structure that was deeply rooted in family, clan or tribal traditions. This can be traced back to the nomadic origins of the Nabataeans. While such socio-political aspects of Nabataean culture have already been extensively explored in urban Petra, similar investigations in Petra's hinterland are only beginning to gain scholarly attention. Based on an archaeological dataset derived from numerous survey projects, a more comprehensive landscape archaeological study has recently identified important archaeological sites in the Petraean hinterland as possible archaeological markers of distinct social landscapes. These include specific cultic sites, funerary monuments as well as possible rural mansions. Arguably, such sites highlight the complex social structure of Petra's hinterland, which can be characterized as an intricate patchwork of various social groups as is assumed for urban Petra. As the identification and analysis of these sites has been based almost entirely on preliminary extensive survey results, the Petra Hinterland Social Landscapes Project (PHSLP) seeks to correct the record by providing detailed archaeological data of selected hinterland sites through more in-depth field archaeological work. Overall, the PHSLP aims at revising our understanding of the socio-political makeup of Petra's hinterland. A first site was therefore investigated by means of an architectural survey during a first project season in 2022. This paper aims at presenting these preliminary results, showcasing the importance of considering multi-scalar approaches in archaeological survey work.

[Rebecca Klug<sup>1</sup> and Johannes Bergemann<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> Göttingen University

### **Vito Soldano (Agrigento) and the Sicilian vici landscape in imperial and late antique times – ONLINE?**

Many old cities of Sicily disappear through the Hellenistic period. A system of new settlement types and coastal places are taking over their previous functions. The settlement of Vito Soldano (Agrigento

province) has seen little research so far. On-site survey and geophysical research as well as studies of the historical road system during the last two years provided a new approach.

Alex Knodell<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Carleton College

### **Archaeological Lidar in Greece: A Summary of Recent Work**

This paper provides a short summary of recent archaeological applications of lidar remote sensing in Greece. It reviews the (relatively few) examples of published research on this topic, and summarizes a variety of ongoing work that was presented at a conference organized at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens in March 2024. While the present paper will not provide summaries of individual papers from the conference (these will be published by the authors in a special issue of *Journal of Greek Archaeology*), it aims to highlight some broad trends, themes of interest, and concerns for archaeologists interested in archaeological lidar and other, related forms of remote sensing.

Martijn van Leusen<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Groningen Institute of Archaeology

### **Site Revisits: what can we learn from them?**

The database of the field surveys of the Groningen Institute of Archaeology in the Raganello Basin in south Italy, conducted between 2000 and 2013, holds information about many resurveys – mostly of sites or survey units containing sites. Whilst in (again) most cases the reason for these revisits was to obtain a more precise site date or boundary, a comparison of the different and cumulative observations and collections obtained over the years from the same piece of land might well teach us something about (a) the effect of visibility factors during surveying, and (b) the character of the site itself. In this paper I will explore these aspects using some examples of sites revisited multiple times.

Evan Levine<sup>1</sup>, Rebecca Levitan<sup>2</sup>, Eirini Legaki<sup>3</sup> and Demetrios Athanasoulis<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Copenhagen. <sup>2</sup> King's College London. <sup>3</sup> Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Cyclades

### **The Naxos Quarry Project: Interdisciplinary Survey of an Island Economy**

The Cycladic island of Naxos is home to several sources of a large-grained, white marble that has been quarried to create monumental works of art and architecture, most notably during the Greek Archaic Period (ca. 700-480 BCE). Well known for the presence of three colossal unfinished sculptures, the quarries at Melanes and Apollonas have never been systematically documented, due in large part to their rugged topography, dense vegetation, and remote locations. Adopting a broad, interdisciplinary methodology for archaeological survey, the Naxos Quarry Project is undertaking the first diachronic intensive study of these quarries, aiming to integrate these landscapes into broader discussions of Cycladic island economies and the lived realities of marble extraction in the ancient Aegean. This presentation will explore the interdisciplinary methods that form the foundation of the Naxos Quarry Project: aerial lidar survey, geochemical and petrographic sampling, ecological modeling, database

design, pedestrian archaeological survey, and landscape study. Together, these tools are fundamentally reshaping our means of collecting and analyzing archaeological data in Cycladic contexts, offering a new workflow for the systematic documentation of quarries and their place within a broader network of economic, social, and religious landscapes.

## Yiannis Papadatos<sup>1</sup> and Chrysa Sofianou<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. <sup>2</sup> Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Lasithi

### **Archaeological “autopsies” in Greece: some thoughts on the basis of the results of two surface surveys in the area of Siteia, East Crete**

In Greece, in contrast to rescue and systematic excavations, where basically the same methodology and practice is followed, there is a huge methodological distance between the intensive systematic surface surveys carried out by Greek and foreign universities and the prospectings, the so-called autopsies, carried out by the Archaeological Service. The latter, due to shortages of personnel and infrastructure, are inevitably short and cover only a small part of the area under examination. This situation was not a serious problem until recently. However, in recent years, the pressing needs for land development, the increase in applications for private investment, and especially the fast track logic by which the Greek state demands that such applications should be dealt with, have created suffocating pressures on the Archaeological Service to carry out rapid autopsies of vast areas of land. This presentation examines the case of two such surveys carried out on the occasion of two private development plans using fast track procedures in two large areas in the area of Siteia, East Crete. Because the investments envisaged the complete alteration of the landscape, and because there was evidence of antiquities in the area, it was considered that a simple “autopsy” would not be the appropriate method, as there was a risk that valuable archaeological information that may have been preserved on the ground surface would be lost forever. For this purpose, the Ephorate of Antiquities of Lasithi, with the help and support of the Department of History and Archaeology of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, conducted a rather experimental survey that combines the scientific advantages of a systematic surface survey with the time and cost of an autopsy.

The scientific results have shown that such surveys are not only feasible, but they also constitute the ideal procedure, since they provide the maximum amount of information in the shortest possible time and at the lowest possible cost. For this reason, they could henceforth be a prerequisite for any investment covering a large geographical area and involving extensive alterations to the landscape, such as large photovoltaic and wind farms, hotels or industrial units, and golf courses.

## Antoni Puig Palerm<sup>1</sup>, Letty ten Harkel<sup>2</sup> and Ritchie Kolvers<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Open University of Catalonia. <sup>2</sup> Leiden University

### **Prospecting the area at Son Sard: understanding Roman rural landscapes on Mallorca**

Despite remarkable efforts in recent years, the Roman rural landscape of Mallorca remains understudied. Attempting to shed light onto one of the lacunae for this period, the Villa Son Sard project studies the relationship between humans and landscape in Roman and late Roman Mallorca in the area around the Son Sard site. A case will be made to see the Son Sard site as a pars pro toto for



the developments on the island. Remains of a bath house were excavated in 2012, compared to other findings, and identified as the remains of a villa. This would make it the third known villa on the island, and the second to undergo excavation. Testing this hypothesis and identifying the extent of the villa have been the project's first steps. As it stands now, the *pars urbana* seems to be west of the Torrent de Xiclatí while the *pars rustica* is placed to its east. Excavations at the bathhouse revealed a sequence extending into the Byzantine period. The project aims to get a clearer understanding of the post-Roman (re)use of the site. During the 2023 season no structural remains of the villa were encountered. However, the artefactual evidence and a surprise discovery provide important information about the Roman and Post-Roman landscape.

**Robin Rönnlund<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Historical Studies, University of Gothenburg

### **The Greek–Swedish survey of the multi-phase city at Thessalian Vlochos**

Since 2016, the Ephorate of Antiquities of Karditsa and the Swedish Institute at Athens have conducted an extensive multi-method survey at the site of a considerable urban settlement at the village of Vlochos in Western Thessaly. The site had previously not been systematically examined, and its ancient name remains unknown. The survey work provided ample evidence for activity spanning from the Late Archaic until the Early Byzantine period, employing a combination of architectural recording, drone-based topographical survey and geophysical prospection to produce a detailed plan of the remains at the site. The remains at Vlochos include a Late Archaic hillfort, an extensive Classical–Hellenistic city, a Late Roman town and an Early Byzantine fortified settlement; all seemingly representing discrete and separate phases of habitation. Overall, the project shows the great prospects in non-invasive approaches to larger urban sites in Greece, as well as the wealth of archaeology in the region of Karditsa.

**Vangelis Samaras<sup>1</sup> and Zozi Papadopoulou<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. <sup>2</sup> Ephorate of Antiquities of Cyclades

### **Surveying an uninhabited island: Methodological questions, challenges, and perspectives in the intensive field survey of Rheneia (Cyclades, Greece)**

Rheneia is a relatively small (about 1,400 ha) and uninhabited island, not far from the even smaller (about 350 ha) but much more famous Delos, with which it is closely bound throughout the centuries. Despite this, Rheneia had not been systematically studied until the start of the Rheneia Archaeological Project (RAP) in 2019. RAP is co-directed by Dimitris Athanasoulis, Zozi Papadopoulou and Maria Sigala (Ephorate of Antiquities of the Cyclades), and the team is comprised of an international group of researchers and students at the French School at Athens, several Greek Universities, and the University of Naples. In this paper we focus on the intensive surface survey, an important part of the project, that is carried out from 2021 and aims to cover the entire island. We first present the island, its history and the research conducted before RAP. We then introduce the goals and preliminary results of the surface survey, and discuss how the survey methodology was adapted to overcome the difficulties, mainly concerning access and accommodation, of working on an uninhabited island. However, it is these very



difficulties, combined with the special history of the island, that make Rheneia an excellent subject for surface survey, as its lack of habitation has allowed for the very good state of preservation of numerous archaeological sites.

### [Julia Sarabia-Bautista<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> INAPH, University of Alicante

#### **Long-term rural landscapes in the late Roman and early medieval period: the example of Balazote villa (Albacete, Spain) - ONLINE**

A recent archaeological investigation carried out in the Don Juan River Valley (Balazote, Albacete) has allowed to recognize the evidences of different rural landscapes that show the existence of a long-term settlement and agrarian exploitation already begun at the end of the Bronze Age and early Iron Age. In this contribution we will present the proposal of settlement characterization between Late Roman and Early medieval times; especially in the context of the roman villa of Balazote; a high-imperial rural complex with a late monumentalization phase (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD), partially excavated in the 1970s, and where a geo-referenced surface survey with total coverage and a geophysical survey was recently carried out in those areas of the site with the highest density of surface archaeological records. The results of these works have allowed us to recognize a long sequence of occupation and exploitation of this fertile landscape, because the splendour phase of the villa in late Roman times is followed by an occupation into the late 4<sup>th</sup> century, in which the complex loses the aristocratic character of the preceding centuries. Thanks to the non-invasive archaeological survey, we have been able to begin to define a new rural pattern in the surroundings of the old villa that begins during the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD and was implemented progressively, as evidenced by the appearance near the site of what seems to be a community necropolis that implies the existence of a nearby stable peasant settlement that buried their dead for several generations. We found some burials from the Visigoth period, with radiocarbon dating between 660-770 cal AD. Even into the Islamic period this necropolis was still in use, as recently forty graves have appeared following the Muslim ritual. Radiocarbon dating obtained from one of the individuals indicates a chronology ranging from 776 to 981 cal AD, which indicates a resilient funeral area since the Visigoth period, where we detect also the first Muslim generations from the village cited by the Arab sources as Balāt al-Şūf; installed in the border area of the Cora de Tudmir.

### [Kostas Sbonias<sup>1</sup> and Georgia Kordatzaki<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> Department of History, Ionian University – Corfu

#### **The Vrysinas mountain archaeological survey in Crete: Interpreting the Late Minoan IIIC refuge settlement landscape**

The intensive archaeological field survey conducted on Mount Vrysinas in Crete, starting from the investigation of the surroundings of the Minoan Peak Sanctuary and adopting a diachronic perspective in the study of the landscape, contributed to the understanding of the mountainous landscape in the region across different periods. This presentation focuses on the remains of the Late Minoan IIIC-PG habitation, as recorded by the surface survey. The employed methodology combined geomorphological work, intensive surface survey, and the application of petrographic analysis of

pottery as a chronological indicator for studying distinct chronological periods. The surface survey provided the opportunity to understand the size and spatial organization of the LM IIIC-PG settlement by examining anthropogenic features and the surface finds, contextualized within the wider area and the economic and social structures of the end of the Late Bronze Age in Crete.

[Günther Schörner<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> University of Vienna

### **Fieldwalking and beyond: How to learn more about the hinterland of Regina Turdulorum (pr. Badajoz, Spain)**

Our research in and around Regina Turdulorum (project MiReg) will be used to show how the integration of different methods can produce important results that can expand and complement the data obtained through classical survey methods like fieldwalking and pottery reading, helping to answer important questions about land use in the environs of the city. The focus will be on archaeobotanical and mineralogical analyses, but also other research options will be addressed.

[Devrim Sönmez<sup>1</sup>](#), [Jonas Breuers<sup>2</sup>](#), [Ergül Kodaş<sup>3</sup>](#) and [Thore Hübert<sup>4</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> Koç University, İstanbul. <sup>2</sup> Independent Researcher. <sup>3</sup> Mardin Artuklu University. <sup>4</sup> University of Cologne

### **Survey work around Göbekli Tepe, Southeast Turkey - 2023**

Presented here is an overview of the preliminary findings from the field survey carried out in the vicinity of the Göbekli Tepe archaeological site in 2023, building on the work done in 2022. The survey is now completed, with the analysis of lithic artifacts aligning with the preliminary observations reported the previous year. These findings confirm the presence of human activities in the area dating back to the Lower Paleolithic period, alongside evidence pointing to the Pre-Pottery Neolithic (PPN) period at Göbekli Tepe. Furthermore, preliminary analyses of new data acquired through drone surveys have suggested the presence of hitherto unidentified prehistoric features. This evidence not only highlights the prehistoric significance of the site but also expands our understanding of the trajectories of early human activities and the Neolithisation process in this region.

[Katja Sporn<sup>1</sup>](#), [Petros Kounouklas<sup>2</sup>](#) and [Will M. Kennedy<sup>1</sup>](#)

<sup>1</sup> German Archaeological Institute at Athens. <sup>2</sup> Ephorate of Antiquities of Fthiotida and Evrytania

### **The Kephissos Valley Project. Current Results and Future Perspectives**

Since 2018, the joint Greek-German Kephissos Valley Project (German Archaeological Institute at Athens and the Ephorate of Antiquities of Fthiotida and Evrytania) explores regional settlement development research (including associated sanctuaries, necropoleis and general urban infrastructure) in the Phokian Kephissos Valley. The 145 km<sup>2</sup> large study area forms a representative 'cross-section' through the valley, encompassing the dominant mountain ranges of the Kallidromo and the Parnassos, and includes major sites such as Elateia, which became the most important city of ancient Phokis next

to Delphi. Opting at providing a better regional understanding of the natural and cultural landscape development of the Kephissos Valley, the interdisciplinary project has combined a variety of methodologies including remote sensing approaches (airborne lidar analyses, multispectral satellite imagery), intensive pedestrian architectural surveys of major sites, building archaeological research, geophysical prospections as well as selective excavations to clarify chronological issues. The combination of the various methodologies has greatly contributed to regional settlement history research and gained significant insights at important sites in the study area, revealing detailed information on settlement plans within their more immediate environment through time and presenting high-resolution information on site-specific aspects. This paper aims at presenting the most important results achieved thus far and to offer a brief outlook on future perspectives of the Kephissos Valley Project.

Konstantinos P. Trimmis<sup>1</sup> and Lita Tzortzopoulou-Gregory<sup>2</sup>

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### **Landscape biographies and insular surveys: The case of Australian Paliochora Kythera Archaeological Survey (APKAS)**

Islands are ever changing places that include dynamic archaeological landscapes. Insularity per se is the main factor that sets the tone for these changes, alongside an island's geography, cultural history, and biodiversity. These changes over time have shaped an island's Anthropocene and can be narrated as a set of landscape biographies. Using data from the Australian Paliochora Kythera Archaeological Survey (APKAS), mainly from the second phase of the project (2016-2021), we discuss the theoretical and methodological framework applied on Kythera -that may also be applicable to other Mediterranean insular environments-to record, analyse, and narrate the diachronic evolution of the island's landscapes. This framework recognises insular landscapes as assemblages of people, nature, and material culture in constant motion and interaction. Remote sensing, intensive and extensive site-specific survey, ethnographic and archival research are the core components of the APKAS study. By recording the assemblages of northern Kythera, APKAS has reconstructed biographies of both the island's societies and cultural environments. Ultimately, the paper focuses on narration as a useful medium for presenting landscape biographies that may benefit vulnerable insular environments such as Mediterranean islands, which are currently facing significant changes due to overexploitation and climate change.