pottery were found on the edge of a scattered ancient settlement. In conjunction with known older Geometric pottery, this confirms early settlement. Near the Ag. Vasileios railway crossing, a concentration of coarseware and roof tile where a Hellenistic mosaic was previously reported indicates extensive building. A further site with large-scale Hellenistic(?) architecture lies west of Ag. Vasileios: column fragments and clear concentrations of pottery were recorded. The site is probably an extramural sanctuary.

New finds immediately outside the ancient city include a grave built of spolia, the gravestone of [Ar]istokrito[s] and two joining fragments from the coffers of a (funerary?) aedicule (**Fig. 25**). Parts of the city wall were documented in the east and north, in the latter case with foundations of a tower. Pottery and roof tile concentrations indicate late antique and Early Byzantine farms.



25. Kleonai: coffered ceiling of a grave aedicule re-used in a grave immediately outside the city wall.

ARGOLID
(4th EPCA: 5th EBA)

Publication: D. Danielidou (ed.), *Δώρον: τιμητικός τόμος στον Καθηγητή Σπύρο Ιακωβίδη* (Athens 2009) contains a range of articles of general relevance to sites in this region.

Lyrkeia (ancient Orneai). A. Banaka-Dimaki (Director, 4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 193) on assessment of an agricultural holding following a request to build in an area of known archaeological interest beside the Sterna-Lyrkeia road, close to the acropolis of Orneai.

Two caves were found on the hill of Daouli or Polemistres. The entrance to the larger was closed with an Ottoman wall within which were two rows of crenels; much of the interior was occupied with three rows of unworked stones and brick. The second cave, slightly higher up, contained a well. These remains, plus the local toponym Braibi, attest to the passage through this area of Ibraim during his Peloponnesian campaign in 1825. On the hill of Ag. Nikolaos (Tsolor), where the road runs parallel to the Inachos river, one of the pillars of the Hadrianic acqueduct was cleaned. A few metres west of the hill at Pleta, a large mortarium was found in the olive grove of A. Nassi.

Mycenae. S. Iakovides (ASA) reports (*Ergon* [2009], 29–32) on continued excavation in the lower city and on a geophysical survey of the area.

Hellenistic structures were oriented towards the Hellenistic theatre. A thick layer of reddish-brown soil separated the Hellenistic and Archaic remains from the Mycenaean and Geometric beneath. At the northwest edge of the excavation area, an originally round, thick-walled structure was transformed into an apsidal building by the addition of side walls. Inside were stones, unfired bricks and tiles, plus Hellenistic sherds which date the use of the structure as a cistern or well. To the west was a round stone hearth, preserving material from its use-phases including ash, charcoal, animal bone, burnt olive pits, Mycenaean figurines, sherds and a small clay disc. Middle Helladic, Geometric and Archaic sherds were also found.

Building remains south of the well included a main wall (12m long), to the west of which were Mycenaean sherds, figurine fragments, a half-finished sealstone, stone tools and two iron arrowheads. Ninth-century tombs immediately to the east postdate the wall. Another wall runs north-south through the centre of the excavation area and is preserved to a height of 1.8m at the north end. A Mycenaean date is confirmed by artefacts found beneath it.

Excavation in the south of the area continued to expose a long, narrow building (10m long x 1.8m wide), oriented east-west and partitioned into two rooms of unequal size. Fragments of ivory objects and animal bone were found in the west room, and in the east (which is divided into two smaller areas) were stone tools, stone sling-shot, an animal figurine, pithos and cooking vessel sherds, and animal bone. Pottery was mostly Mycenaean with some Corinthian.

To the north of the long building, continuation of the 2008 excavation revealed three or four rooms. In the east room were figurines, a bead, animal bones and pottery of several periods. In the northernmost room were two child burials in small pits under the floor. One, with a slab cover, contained a one to two year-old and four beads, and the other the skeletons of two infants without goods.

Small finds included Mycenaean figurine fragments, obsidian and flint, fragments of stone vessels, coins, lead sheet, iron nails, arrowheads and hooks, ivory objects, terracotta loomweights, pieces of plaster and wall-painting, pigments, animal bone, shell, much pottery and tile, cereal grains, and grape and olive pits.

Geophysical prospection over a large area of the east bank of the Chavos located the walls of a large building complex for future investigation.

Argos
Publication: E. Protonotariou-Deilaki, *Οι τύμβοι του Άργους* (Athens 2009).

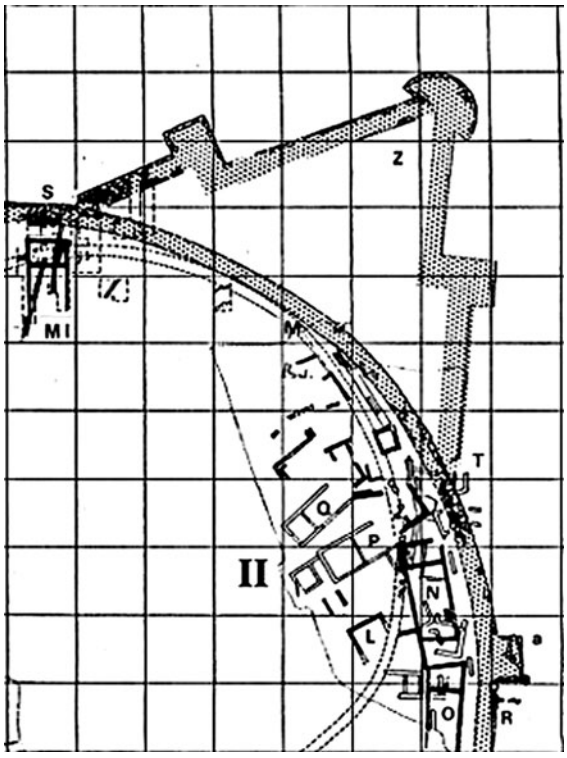
Aspis. G. Touchais (EfA/Paris 1) and A. Philippa-Touchais (EfA) report on continuing consolidation of structures in the Middle Helladic settlement, which has improved the legibility and protection of remains in the eastern sector. Continued study of pottery and faunal remains focused on three assemblages: the burial of an adolescent recovered among the fragments of a pithos; the *enchytrismos* of a newborn baby in a jar covered by a Minyan bowl; and a deposit of burnt, broken and compacted pottery in a cavity in the rock.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

S. Fachard (ESAG) reports on the first season of work to locate the remains of the post-prehistoric fortification, its curtain walls, towers and bastions. Apart from the Middle Helladic fortification wall, two further phases of construction can be restored, the second of which corresponds with a reconstruction at the end of the fourth or early third century BC, which is recognizable by the high-quality polygonal masonry used (**Fig. 26**). Many forms of repair can be observed: curtain walls were rebuilt, towers added, and a long triangular bastion projecting from the circuit wall added in the northeast (**Fig. 27**).



26. Argos, Aspis: polygonal face of wall.



27. Argos, Aspis: triangular bastion.

Basileos Georgiou and Nikitara Streets (D. Roubeka property). A. Banaka-Dimaki reports *(ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 163) on rescue excavation in the southern part of this plot, east of Ag. Petros square in the centre of Argos.

A Hellenistic house (oriented northwest-southeast) had at least two rooms and two probable storage areas. The walls were of unworked stones bound with clay and the floors of red-brown clay spread over a layer of river pebbles. West of the house, a section of ancient road constructed of cobbles and tile was disturbed by Byzantine intrusions. The south edge of the exterior house wall curves to accommodate the eastwards turn of the road. The house was founded in riverine fill containing Geometric pottery and a few Archaic Argive figurine fragments. A similar history of activity is indicated by previous excavations in the wider area, on the Bertzeletou (*BCH* 77 [1953], 211), Flessa (*ADelt* 16 [1960] *Chr*, 93), Alexopoulou and Katsarou (*ADelt* 17 [1961–1962] *Chr*, 55–56) and Paraskevopoulou properties, and for the OTE building (*ADelt* 21 [1966] *Chr*, 126–27). Thus finds from the property of A. Bertzeletou, *ca.* 110–20m north of the Roubeka property, include architectural remains of the end of the fourth to the first half of the third century (*cf. BCH* 78 [1954], 410–26, esp. 423).

Parodos Gounari 116 (E. Sklere property). A. Banaka-Dimaki reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 163–65) the discovery of Hellenistic and Roman building remains closely similar to those previously found on the neighbouring property of D. Sklere (*ADelt* 50 [1995] *Chr*, 94–96).

Immediately beneath surface levels were pottery and architectural remains from a Roman house. Below this, Hellenistic figurine moulds were used alongside unworked stones, tile and clay in the construction of a small wall. Mould fragments were also found in the east of the plot, below a Roman room. Kilns and evidence for coroplastic workshops have previously been discovered nearby (e.g. on the property of E. and D. Antonopoulos and S. Gkofa: *ADelt* 49 [1994] *Chr*, 141).

In the northeastern part of the excavation area, the fill of a pit (1.6m in diameter) contained evidence of burning, stones, tile, domestic pottery of the second to the first half of the first century BC and pieces of a destroyed clay floor. The pit was probably an abortive kiln construction later used as a dump: a smaller construction (0.7m in diameter) slightly to the south was similarly re-used. Fragmentary clay plaques, lumps of clay and stone, and pieces of a lekanis confirm the identification of a workshop in this area. Part of a storage pithos containing carbonized seeds (probably grain) was also found. Close to the eastern boundary of the plot was a deposit of brown earth with fat, charcoal and other traces of burning, and, *inter alia*, fragments of Argive figurines and moulds, spools, glass paste, burnt clay and pieces of bronze. More general evidence for the use of the area in the Hellenistic period includes some 40 loomweights, mostly of the conical types XIV and XII (250–146 BC) with two examples of type VII (fourth century BC), plus 20 spools, many decorated with an incised circle or stamped rosette.

A Geometric pithos burial, closed with a small stone plaque, was found in the northeastern part of the plot: the only grave offering was a pin. Scattered Geometric sherds were found in deeper levels.

Paliopyrga, Kanaris Street (E. Kourou property). A. Banaka-Dimaki reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 165–66) on rescue excavation in an area of the south of the city where tombs have previously been found close to the surface (see *ADelt* 47 [1992] *Chr*, 86–87, nn.5–6).

Protogeometric, Geometric, Late Classical to Hellenistic and Early Roman remains were recovered from surface levels. To the west, three cist tombs with tile covers were discovered; beneath them was a limestone funerary peribolos, oriented east-west and founded almost

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

directly upon Geometric tombs. The two Late Classical to Early Hellenistic tombs within this peribolos contained fragmentary figurines, two lamps and sea shell. In the south, two walls defined an orthogonal area extending beyond the excavation plot.

Twenty nine cist tombs were investigated. The limestone cist 1 is dated to the Hellenistic to Early Roman period, while the other tombs were mostly Protogeometric and Geometric: Submycenaean tomb 11 (**Fig. 28**) is an exception, although tombs of this period have previously been found to the north (on the property of N. Kourou: *ADelt* 18 [1963] *Chr*, 62). Tombs 7, 14–16, and then 11 and 20 were arranged in rows, sometimes sharing a common wall: the remainder were loosely arranged. All contained adult burials, apart from 16 and 20 which held infants. Flooring consisted of gravel or small stones; the west part of tomb 22 was paved. The predominantly east-west orientation reflects the landscaping of the approach to the cemetery, which also influenced the arrangement of the peribolos and of the limestone cist tomb 1.

A well (1m in diameter) in the eastern part of the excavation area contained a little undiagnostic pottery and part of a pithos rim.

Portable finds include fragments of Archaic Argive figurines, a very few Corinthian sherds, a small quantity of blister ware, pieces of third-century black-glazed lamps, spools and a few loomweights.

Regional General Hospital. A. Papadimitriou (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 (2000) *Chr*, 166–68) on rescue excavation prior to the construction of an extension south of the 1960s hospital building.

A dense concentration of 24 tombs, oriented southwest-northeast, was found in the southern and eastern parts of the excavation area. These were either built of limestone orthostates and covered with similar slabs or tiles, or were simple pits, with or without covers, and used for more than one interment. Their use extended from the Late Archaic/Early Classical to the Late Hellenistic period. Three limestone tombs belong to the same group, as well as four pyres located north of this nucleus in the central part of the plot.

North and west of this tomb group, in the centre of the excavation area, 32 Late Middle Helladic tombs were loosely arranged over an area of *ca.* 280m^2. These conform to known types of the period, i.e. cists of roughly-cut limestone blocks with similar covers, pithoi and other vessels, and pits with or without a clay lining. Tombs normally contained single inhumations with grave goods. West of the Middle Helladic tombs, a row of seven Geometric cist tombs was aligned north-northeast-south-southwest; each contained a single burial and rich goods. Beneath them was a surface of river pebbles (*ca.* 160m^2).

Three stone cairns occupied a confined area north of the Middle Helladic tombs and partially covered the Geometric tombs. Some 80–90% of the pottery collected from these cairns dates to the Late Middle Helladic, with a small quantity contemporary with the use of the cist tombs. It is therefore likely that the cairns re-used material after the demolition of a Late Middle Helladic structure, a *terminus post quem* for which is provided by the Geometric use of the area. They probably formed part of a tumulus covering the Middle Helladic graves which was removed in the Late Archaic to Early Classical period when the area was landscaped for cemetery use.



28. Argos, Paliopyrga, Kanaris Street: tomb 11.

In the west and south of the plot were the successive Late Middle Helladic and Early Mycenaean surfaces of a cobbled road. This road (at least 5m wide) was a main artery which formed the boundary between the extensive Mycenaean settlement on the Aspis slopes and the cemetery to the east. It had fallen into disuse by the Geometric period (one of the tombs noted above cuts into it). A row of six limestone blocks in two courses follows the line of the road and forms an angle with the tombs of the historical period: it likely marked the entrance to the cemetery in historical times.

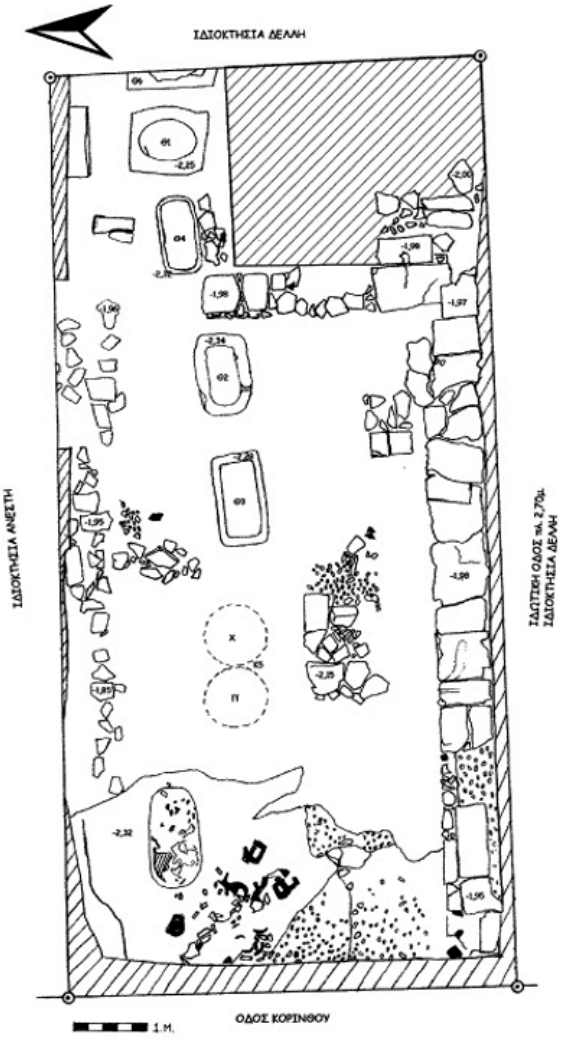
A pit in the northern part of the excavation area contained spolia from the superstructure of the later tombs. No further ancient remains were found. It therefore seems that the area was used exclusively for burials in three distinct periods: Late Middle Helladic, Geometric and Early Classical to Late Hellenistic. The arterial road was also a boundary in later times. The area east of it was used for burials, but not as a unitary, organized cemetery. While planned cemeteries were common at other large urban centres, the only example at Argos is located at the modern National Gymasium, on the ancient road running southwest towards Tegea. The hospital site, which borders the ancient road north to Mycenae and Corinth, was used for the burial of small groups over time, perhaps by one *genos* or extended family. Previous excavations in the area confirm this view: a comparable group of prehistoric and later tombs was found during excavation for the foundations of the 1960s hospital building some 60m away. During the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman periods, groups of tombs within periboloi, found north and south of this building on the Roussopoulos and Pitsas plots, indicate a shift towards the eastern road from the city.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

48 Korinthou Street (E. Smyrnaiou property). A. Papadimitriou (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 168–72) the results of excavation in preparation for the construction of a basement (**Fig. 29**).

Three walls of roughly-worked limestone blocks were discovered *ca.* 1.8–1.85m below the modern road surface. Concentrations of blocks were also found at various points to the north and south of these walls. In the western part of the plot was a hearth oriented east-west. Immediately to the southeast, clay moulds were found in a level containing much ash and burnt clay.

Along the central axis of the plot were stone containers, roughly worked on the outside but exceptionally well finished on the interior and upper surface, covered with large limestone slabs. Container 1 (oriented north-south) was empty. A further container exactly to the east of this was not investigated because it lay on the boundary with the neighbouring property. Container 2, the third from the east, contained at least 60 bronze and two lead inscribed tablets (**Fig. 30**). Container 3, fourth from the east, was empty. Container 4, second from the east, contained one foot-shaped inscribed tablet. West of the containers and at a lower level, a further slab of the same dimensions and orientation covered two vessels (**Figs. 31, 32**): a ceramic bell krater contained *ca.* 55 bronze tablets placed around the vessel wall (as were those in container 2) and a hammered bronze lebes contained three bronze vessels (a trefoil-mouthed oinochoe and two phialae) below which lay very poorly-preserved bronze tablets. A part of this collection had been removed in such a way as to cause damage to the remainder.



29. Argos, 48 Korinthou Street: excavation plan, upper levels.

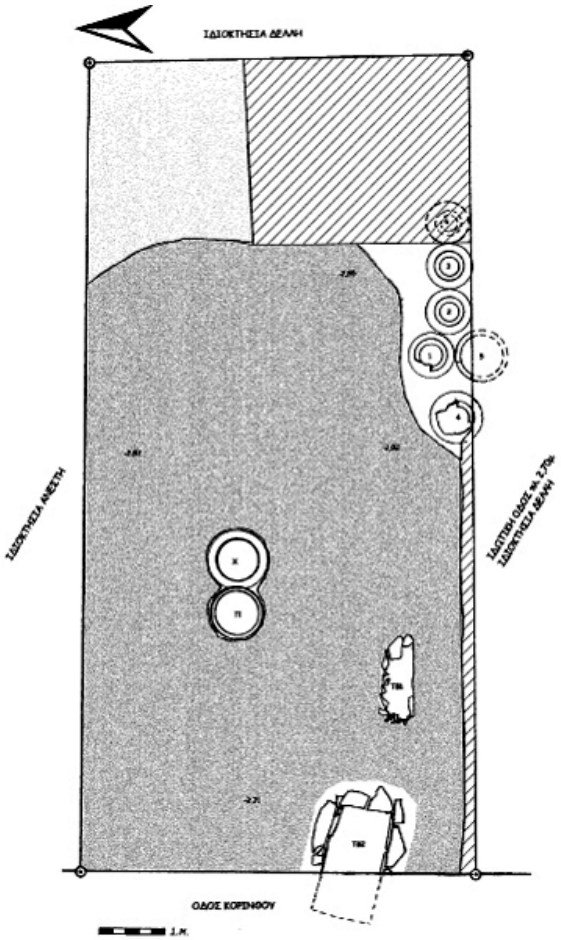


30. Argos, 48 Korinthou Street: stone container 2 with inscribed tablets.

In the eastern part of the plot, five pottery vessels were set upright. Four were covered with terracotta roof tiles and the fifth with a thin limestone slab: all were empty. The vessels are all wheelmade and of the highest quality: four are closed shapes and the fifth a bell krater. North of these vessels and at a slightly deeper level was a well-made floor of small cobbles extending over the entire area investigated (its edges were not located). This floor surrounded the pots on the southern edge of the plot as well as the vessels under cover slab 5, and was slightly damaged by container 2. At the eastern edge of the plot, by container 2, the pavement fabric slowly shifts towards gravel. Below the pebble floor in the south and west were two Geometric tombs, one a built cist and the other a pit with a limestone cover slab. Both were oriented east-west and richly equipped with Middle Geometric pottery, iron pins and bronze rings.

In sum, the stratigraphical sequence indicates an initial occupation in Middle Helladic. In the Middle Geometric period the area was a cemetery, and perhaps an aristocratic one: a well-made floor surrounded at least two rich tombs. Some while later, two vessels containing bronze tablets were sunk into the Geometric layer and covered with a slab. At the same time, a further six vessels at least were inserted slightly to the east. At some time after its deposition, the cover slab was lifted and part of the vessel contents forcibly removed, damaging the remainder. Later, a flood deposited *ca.* 1m of fill over the area. Thereafter, the five built containers were constructed and a hearth built immediately west of the cover slab. The terracotta moulds south of the hearth indicate its function: they closely resemble in form the bronze plaques, and both hearth and moulds must be contemporary with the containers, stone mounds, etc. The flood, dated to the fourth century, likely destroyed the Geometric settlement around the tombs. The area then fell into disuse.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



31. Argos, 48 Korinthou Street: excavation plan, upper levels.



32. Argos, 48 Korinthou Street: ceramic and bronze vessels containing inscribed tablets.

Papanikolaou Street (G. Rebelou property). K. Barakari-Gleni (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr,* 172–74) the completion in 1999–2000 of the excavation of a shrine area begun in 1998 (*ADelt* 53 [1998] *Chr*, 125–28).

East of the central open area, a votive deposit outside and along the west side of area A contained some 30 Archaic offerings – figurines, spools, a terracotta bead and pottery (kraters, skyphoi and votive miniatures). To the south, a small pit covered with stones contained animal bones and strong traces of burning. In the southern part of the central open area, an altar (0.4–0.42m in diameter) cut into a clay platform contained burnt organic material, figurines and miniature vessels.

In area B, west of the central open area, a round pit contained sherds of large Late Geometric and Argive monochrome vessels, animal bones and evidence of burning. Two votive deposits contained figurines and traces of burning. At the west of the plot were two tile-covered graves which probably held child burials, as well as further walls. Levels corresponding to those in the central area and area B produced Attic black-glazed and Corinthian sherds (including one semi-restorable amphora of late fifth- to early fourth-century type), loomweights, spools and a bronze arrowhead.

Southeast of area A, in the middle of the eastern side of the excavation area, a Geometric tomb lay beneath a tumulus with a double peribolos wall of river stones and a pebble floor. The tomb (oriented east-west) contained Geometric pottery, traces of burning and bone. Sherds of a figured LGII krater were collected from the east side of the tumulus. A post-Byzantine wall, built of stones from the tumulus, abuts it on the east side. Northeast of the tumulus, a semicircular structure of worked limestone blocks (0.95m in diameter, 0.45m deep) again incorporates stones probably from the tumulus in its lowest course: figurine fragments and burnt material were found between the blocks. In a deeper level were sherds of sixth- and fifth-century pithoi and lekanes, bones and traces of burning.

North of the tumulus was a votive deposit of the Hellenistic period. In the northeastern section were two *enchytrismoi* of infants, one in an Archaic vessel and the other in a Geometric krater. Southwest of these burials, roughly worked stones covered a pit (1m in diameter, at least 2.9m deep) containing burnt material and bone towards the bottom.

The altar in the middle of the open area was completely excavated. This was cut in a clay platform set into a layer with Geometric sherds; the fill inside it contained Archaic sherds and strong traces of burning.

Finds from the excavation as a whole indicate that the area was used for cult from the eighth century onwards, reaching a peak in the sixth century. The deity worshipped is unknown. The Geometric tumulus is the second of this period discovered in Argos, the first being in the stadium area in the southwest, outside the walls.

Papanikoli Street (O.T. Γ213, K. Beleri property). A. Bakourou and G. Tsekes (5th EBA) report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 261) on discoveries in an area with important Late Roman to Early Christian remains (e.g. an Early Christian basilica on the Phlorou plot on Arkadia-Messenia Streets and a Late Roman villa on the Kechagia plot on Theatre Lane).

An Early Christian house or small workshop lies in the east of the plot and extends beyond it. To the west was a small kiln and part of a round basin. Walls of a bath in the west of the plot were built of alternating brick and stone with plaster; marble revetment was preserved in one case. The entrance to the hypocaust is at the northeast. Three further walls of brick on a stone foundation likely mark the passageway surrounding the *caldarium.*

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Argos, north cemetery. A. Bakourou and G. Tsekes report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 261–62) on excavation on two adjoining properties on Diomedes Lane.

O.T. 14Γ, A. Denezi and E. Tedzeri property. A further 15 graves were added to the 35 previously excavated (see *ADelt* 54 [1999] *Chr*, 223). Of this total of 50, only the pithos burial 50 (set deep in the early pebble layer, oriented east-west and with a stone cover slab) is Geometric in date. This contains one contracted inhumation without grave goods. The remaining tombs were all tile graves of extremely similar construction. Grave goods were few or non-existent: the only exception, tomb 14 (the burial of a young girl), contained a pair of earrings. Infant and child burials account for *ca.* 20% of the total. The fill between graves to 2.5m deep consists of soft red-brown soil with Geometric, Hellenistic and Roman sherds, and from 2.5–3.4m deep of river pebbles. A few Geometric and Hellenistic sherds in some tombs were probably therefore intrusive. The existence of two layers of tombs and the large area covered underline the longevity of the cemetery.

Immediately to the south lies the **property of G. Dedousi, E. Kirsanof, G. Karakitsou and I. Kotronaki (O.T. 14Γ)**. Here, 64 tombs were opened, of which two Geometric pithos burials (35 and 37) lie in the pebble layer. Twenty three graves contained child burials: of these, tomb 6 contained a pair of bronze earrings, tomb 42 a gold hoop earring, an iron dagger and a probable bronze pin, and tomb 28 a coarseware cup. Double child burials occurred in tombs 3, 31, 61 and 64.

All of the Byzantine tombs were near-identical tile graves; the only minor variation occurred in tomb 26, which had four-sided terracotta plaques instead of tiles. The first layer of Byzantine tombs likely destroyed pre-Christian tombs beneath, noting Geometric to Hellenistic sherds in the fill of the Geometric graves: the earring in tomb 42 suggests that offerings from older tombs were re-used.

In the western part of the plot was a trapezoidal underground structure which may be an Early Christian baptistery, later levelled and used as part of the cemetery. Tomb 46 lay inside it, and tombs 47 and 48 above the demolished south wall. The exterior face was of unworked field-stones, while the interior was well finished with white hydraulic cement. In the centre was a four-sided basin with quatrefoils at each corner.

Kallergi Street (O.T. 159, A. Roussou property). A. Bakourou and G. Tsekes report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 262–63) on rescue excavation begun in 1999.

An Early Christian house was found in the north of the plot. In the northeast were further probable house walls and, inside, small pieces of red plaster: in the west of this room was a terracotta tiled floor and beneath it a cobbled floor which extended across the greater part of the neighbouring trenches. A well of terracotta cylinders, probably built in the Roman period, was used at least into Early Christian times.

Further south was a destruction level with a cannon ball in a layer of ash. A building of large well-worked limestone blocks lay deep below this. A cobbled road running east-west (8m long, maximum preserved width 6.5m) had a succession of surfaces over a long period of use: a water channel ran along the middle of this road and a smaller spur channel connected the house to it.

E. Roussou Street (M. Rapti and G. Apostolou property). E. Sarri (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 174–78) on excavation just south of the Capodistrian barracks. Successive Hellenistic and Roman phases of a cobbled road with a system of water channels were revealed in the northwest of the plot. Below, a third road was bounded by two walls and a limestone Π-shaped peribolos of the second half of the second century BC. A fourth, deeper, road on the same orientation abuts a construction to the south which was destroyed by the retaining walls of the overlying road.

Two groups of Christian and Hellenistic tombs lie beneath the level of the Π-shaped peribolos. The first group, towards the centre of the plot, consists of two cists (I and III) and a sarcophagus (II) oriented east-west and with cover slabs: all are family tombs.

Tomb 1 contained two burials oriented east-west, with imported pottery dated *ca.* 490–470 BC. Attic vessels comprise a black-glazed pinch-base cup-skyphos with a chariot scene, a floral palmette lekythos by the Megaira Painter, a black-figure chimney lekythos depicting Athena and a chariot, a band cup with riders, a shallow skyphos with satyrs, a floral band cup, a lekythos of the Class of Athens 581 I and three black-glazed Type C cups. Corinthian imports are a globular pyxis and lid, a skyphos and a thilastron.

Tomb III contained two burials as above. Offerings comprise a black-glazed skyphos with stamp decoration (second quarter of the fourth century), a squat lekythos with impressed floral decoration, five figurines (mostly Argive peplophoroi), a Corinthian pyxis lid and a black-glazed cup-skyphos with stamped decoration (first quarter of the fourth century), three Argive pyxides, a squat lekythos and three bolsals.

Tomb II, a sarcophagus (with the raised head-rest characteristic of local tombs of the first half of the third century) contained a female interment, plus the displaced remains of two earlier burials. Offerings in the last burial were a bronze mirror and lid, and three Argive alabastra (plus a fourth from an earlier burial) deliberately broken and placed in different parts of the sarcophagus. Between the bones of the earlier burials was an unguentarium of the first half of the third century. Two Argive handmade figurines on the floor of the sarcophagus should also be associated with these burials.

Between tombs I and III was a disturbed female burial of the second half of the fifth century, close to which lay the disc of a bronze mirror, five Attic vessels (a Type B Glaux skyphos, a floral palmette lekythos, a black-glazed kylix of the Acropolis Group, a Cracow Class cup-skyphos and a Corinthian-type skyphos) and three Corinthian (two globular white-style pyxides with lids, and a skyphos).

Tomb II disturbed two burials set partially under the peribolos. One, to the west, contained a bronze strigil, two handmade Argive figurines (a dove and a horse and rider) and a miniature kotyle. Pottery from the same layer includes two intact lids, a small Argive skyphos, part of a Vrysoula Workshop globular pyxis of the third quarter of the fifth century, black-glazed pottery of the same period (two Attic skyphoi of Corinthian type, an Attic one-handler, a kylix and Rheneia cup, and an Argive kylix) and seven Attic Vicups. The second tomb lay to the northeast, within a layer containing Middle Corinthian to LCorI pottery, including an amphora, a white-style globular pyxis and part of a kylix.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

West of this group, tile grave IV contained a skeleton oriented north-south, beneath which were iron nails; Late Geometric to Archaic sherds and an Archaic Argive kantharos lay above the cover tiles. Pit grave IX, covered with two rough limestone slabs, contained a skeleton oriented north-south.

The second tomb group, in the eastern part of the plot, contained four limestone cists oriented north-south. Their long sides were monolithic. Only the northern part of tomb V and the southern part of tomb VII were preserved: both had been robbed (V contained a little bone and many Hellenistic sherds). Tombs VI and VIII mostly fell within the neighbouring plot.

The earliest remains discovered are the cist graves XI and XII (oriented east-west) and pithos burial X (oriented north-south). Tomb X contained a single burial without goods. Tomb XI contained a few bones plus fragments of four Geometric kyathoi. Tomb XII was damaged by the digger, but by its side were a Late Geometric krater of the Fence Workshop (**Fig. 33**) and a contemporary kantharos. Many Late Geometric sherds were collected in the course of cleaning this side of the tomb, including fragments of two kraters, an amphora and an oinochoe.



33. Argos, E. Roussou Street: LGII krater of the Fence Workshop.

P. Marinou Street (Th. Apostolopoulou property). O. Psychoyiou (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 178–81) the excavation of a Hellenistic to Roman weaver's workshop on the northeast side of Ag. Petros Square, outside the ancient city walls (**Fig. 34**). This plot lies immediately north of the property of Ch. and G. Bousi where part of a late fourth/early third-century BC to first-century AD street was previously discovered (*ADelt* 47 [1992] *Chr*, 85–86).

The complex had at least three Hellenistic to Early Roman phases: a pebble pavement of an exterior courtyard was largely excavated and the neighbouring spaces partially explored. The earliest, fourth-century BC, building was founded in riverine deposits containing much Geometric and Archaic pottery. Remains comprise an early phase of the paved court and, on its north side, a semi-open space beside a gravel floor. To the northeast, the pavement connects with a semi-basement room reached by steps in the north wall. This room contained much household pottery, millstones and stone tools, slag and charcoal, shellfish, fragments of terracotta figurines, coins and a variety of metal objects. In the western part of the plot was an *enchytrismos* of an infant in a Hellenistic skyphos.

During the second phase, the pebble paving again borders semi-basement rooms to the norht and west. Two kilns on the northwest side of the excavation area also date to this phase. During the third phase (second century BC), the pebble pavement was relaid: in places it suffered later damage and parts of the surface were replaced with worked slabs. One group of six such slabs set in water-proof cement likely relates to an ancient well or cistern: a terracotta water channel runs from the east end of these slabs to join another conduit continuing east beyond the excavation area. To the north is a long, partially-roofed space (area 2) with many tile fragments on its clay floor: a stone wall or barrier divides it from the paved court. A probable door in its north wall leads into another room further north with a clay floor and a semicircular hearth. A further building of the third phase of construction continues into the neighbouring plots on the south and west (only the southeast portion of the north room is preserved, with a schist-paved floor). The corner of a building traced in the northwest corner of the excavation may belong to its extension, but in general the area is too disturbed to assess the relationship between the semi-roofed area and subsequent constructions, although spolia indicate continuous use of the area.

Portable finds include some 190 loomweights of different shapes and sizes, found mainly in the semi-roofed area, as well as spools, bronze coins, a variety of metal objects, sherds of relief bowls and terracotta figurines.

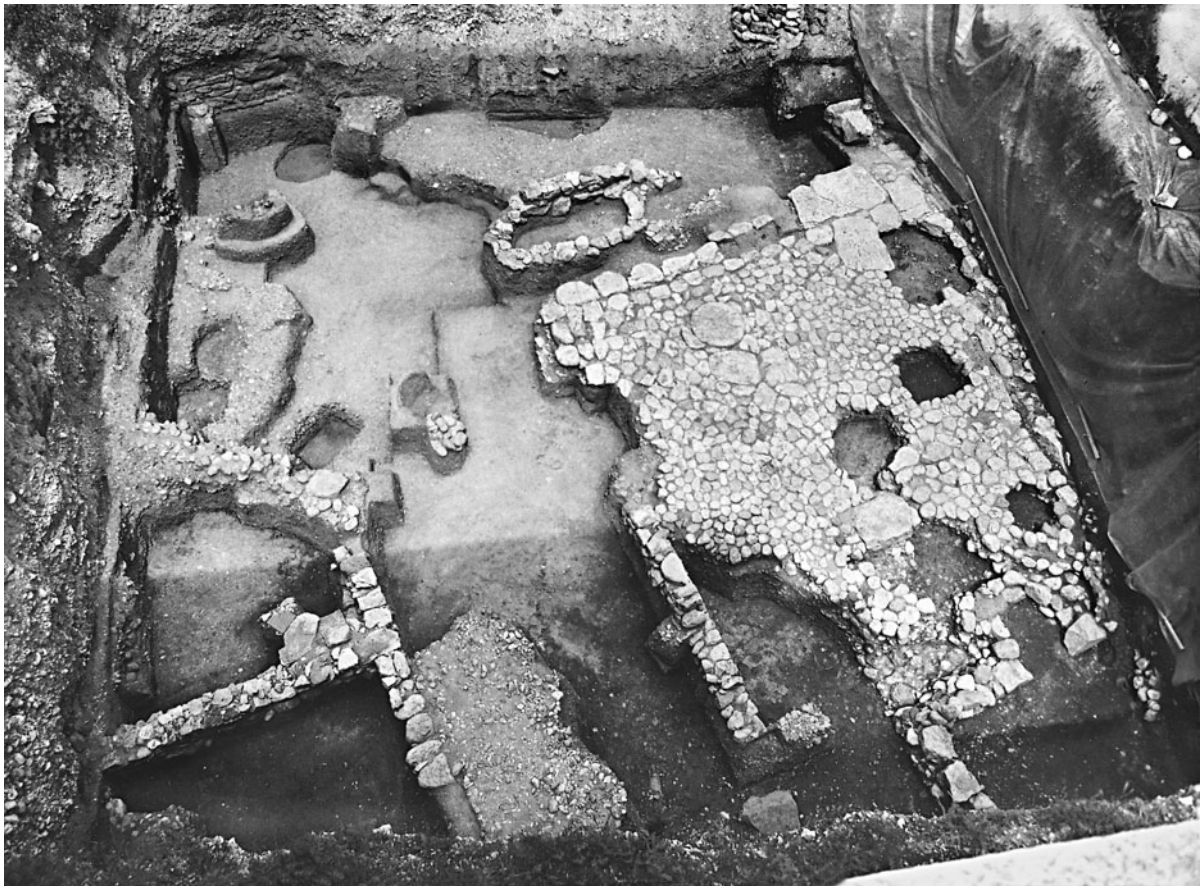
Herakleous Street (E. Nanopoulou property). E. Pappi (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 181–82) the discovery of a planned Late Middle Helladic cemetery in the northwest of Argos.

Eleven tombs were investigated, arranged in two rows cut directly into riverine deposits. These are simple pits or pits with clay lining, generally defined with cobblestones. Each contained a single burial in contracted position, in seven instances without grave goods and in four with the usual offerings of cut-away necked prochoes, one-handled kyathoi and kantharoid skyphoi. Tomb 11, in the north of the plot – a cist of limestone orthostates covered by limestone slabs – contained a burial in extended position, with a bronze knife by the sternum, a second by the right shoulder and a bronze pin at the left shoulder. A bronze tongue-bladed knife lay among bones from a previous burial.

In the southwest, a Hellenistic building with walls of roughly-worked stones was preserved to *ca.* 0.5–0.7m high. Hellenistic activity was largely responsible for disturbance to the Middle Helladic tombs.

Belinou-Zografou Street (M. Grammatikou property). E. Pappi reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 182) on rescue excavation in a plot in the centre of Argos, northwest of Stratonon Square. An Archaic level contained pottery, a few miniature vessels (mostly phialae), and human and animal figurines. No building remains were found, probably due to the small area excavated. On the north-eastern boundary of the plot, a built cist grave, probably of Geometric date and oriented north-south, contained a single inhumation with the cranium to the north. The deceased had a bronze pin on each shoulder and wore a bronze ring.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



34. Argos, P. Marinou Street: general view of the excavation.

Makariou Street (K. Ioannides property). E. Pappi reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 182) the discovery of part of a Hellenistic cobbled road running northeast-southwest, with a probable ancient boundary stone above it (a stone base with a socket survives). A Hellenistic wall running north-south is not associated with the road. Two probably Geometric cist tombs at the northern edge of the plot (oriented north-south and east-west) were not investigated.

Aigaiou Pelagous Street, Kapodistriou Lane (O.T. 24, G. Ksakousti and G. Ksabla property). Ch. Piteros (Director, 4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 182–83) on further excavation of this plot, immediately northeast of the Cultural Centre of Argos.

Previous rescue excavation had revealed an ancient road-bed along the north side (*ADelt* 46 [1991] *Chr*, 102). Excavation in 2000, again in the north, uncovered black earth, ash and kiln debris, plus Byzantine fill. Beneath this was an ancient road with three construction phases and, in the lowest levels, silt deposits. The bronze balance rod of a pair of Early Byzantine scales was found in a Late Roman well.

Kalmouchou Street (O.T. 19, A. and I. Boulmeti property). Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 183–84) on the continuation of excavation in the south-eastern part of the plot begun in 1998–1999 (*cf. ADelt* 54 [1999] *Chr*, 137–39).

Foundations of small Hellenistic buildings and a well (0.8m in diameter) were found with sherds of Hellenistic black-glazed and household wares, amphorae, moulded bowls, Laconian roof tiles, figurine fragments, a lamp and bronze coins, plus a few Classical and Archaic sherds.

In deeper levels, Geometric and Late Geometric burial pithoi were set into riverine sediments. Pithos 6 was disturbed and lacked goods. Pithos 7 contained the burials of a child and an infant with a bronze ring and a reported 11 small Geometric vases. In the southeastern corner of the plot was a cist for the burial or reburial of three disturbed adult skeletons and three *enchytrismoi* in Geometric amphorae: Geometric skyphos sherds were found between the skeletons and the amphorae. Below this, the small burial pithos 11 contained a (probably reburied) adult cranium, with a Geometric skyphos and cup outside. A further cist grave (13) contained the burial of a youth in contracted position without goods.

To the north, a large burial pithos (14) with a limestone cover slab was set on its side, oriented north-south. Outside was a large Late Geometric krater and, inside, the burial of an adult in supine position without goods, with the displaced remains of earlier (Late Geometric) burials of an adult and a youth set to one side. Associated with these earlier burials were two fragmentary large kraters and a range of mostly small vessels – a tripod-amphoriskos with elaborate figure decoration, a small prochous, a pomegranate vase, two

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

handmade amphoriskoi, two small handmade open vessels, five bronze rings, three bronze pins and two small links, and an iron T-form pin. A Late Geometric seal (**Fig. 35**) in a reddish-grey stone, depicting a reclining bovine, is probably from the same workshop as an example from Vollgraf's excavation on the Larisa; the base depicts two standing female mourners framed by streamers to left and right. Remains of the funerary feast (animal bones and Late Geometric sherds) were found outside the pithos.

Midea. The Greek-Swedish excavation on the Mycenaean acropolis of Midea continued in 2009 under the direction of K. Demakopoulou (Director Emerita, National Museum) with the collaboration of A.-L. Schallin (Director, Swedish Institute at Athens) and N. Divari-Valakou (then 3rd EPCA, now Director, 3rd EPCA, Director of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, Ministry of Culture and Tourism). The Greek team excavated on the lower west terrace of the acropolis and the Swedish team in the area of the east gate.

The Greek team completed investigation of the syrinx through the west section of the fortification wall, discovered in 2007. The area in front of the entrance to the sally port in the inner face of the citadel wall was further cleared, with the removal of a destruction deposit next to the north jamb containing rubble, large stones and boulders fallen from the fortification wall. The removal of this deposit revealed bedrock in much of the area sloping down to the syrinx. This is cut vertically at the east and south sides, forming a rectangular shaft in front of the opening of the sally port. Piles of stones probably come from ruined steps leading to the entrance. The remains of a stone pavement belong to a north-south path approaching the sally port.

The interior of the sally port was investigated for 4.52m, and fill *ca.* 0.9–1m deep removed (**Fig. 36**). The syrinx is a passageway running east-west obliquely through the fortification wall, which at this point is 5.7m thick. The side walls are built of boulders founded on a layer of hard soil, small stones and pebbles. This layer is 0.55m deep by the entrance and gradually diminishes to 0.15–0.1m in the middle of the syrinx. The side walls curve slightly inward towards the top, while the roof is mostly covered with horizontal stone slabs. The floor, of levelled bedrock, slopes continuously with shallow steps at several points. The sally port is 1.4m high and 0.6m wide near the entrance, gradually reducing to 0.8m high and 0.45m wide as the passage runs deeper. Near the deepest point reached before the excavation was halted for safety reasons, the roof is lowered following the inclination of the floor, while the passage is so narrow as to be impassible. This is an effect of the devastating earthquake that hit Midea at the end of the 13th century BC, as evident in the distorted and tilted side walls and the fallen stones from the walls and the roof. In order to find the exit, some 1.2m outside the fortification wall, excavation continued in the three adjacent trenches opened in 2007 against the outer face of the wall.

A large part of the outer face of the wall was exposed for a length of 10m and to a height of 3m. Examination of the exposed wall surface revealed that the construction of this section differed from that of most of the citadel wall and of the inner face of this part of the wall. Instead of boulders and large stones, medium-sized stones were used, with some boulders only in the lower part. Most of the outer face of the wall, plus part of the syrinx including the exit, collapsed or was severely damaged in the earthquake (noting many boulders and large stones in this area apparently from the collapsed section of the wall), and the wall



35. Argos, Kalmouchou Street: Late Geometric sealstone.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



36. Midea: interior of the sally port through the west section of the fortification wall.

face was rebuilt in LHIIICE and the sally port blocked. This work coincides with the construction of room I against the inner face of the wall, near the entrance to the sally port. At the same time the megaron complex on the lower terraces, which was also destroyed by earthquake, was largely repaired. A substantial programme of repair and rebuilding was therefore initiated on the lower terraces of the acropolis following the destruction.

The fill of the part of the sally port excavated this season was a dark, rather loose soil containing large and small stones, rubble and pebbles. A considerable quantity of mostly LHIIIB2 sherds was recovered. More abundant, and also fragmentary, pottery of the same date comes from the destruction deposit excavated near and in front of the entrance to the sally port. It is noteworthy that LHIIICE and M as well as Early Mycenaean and Middle Helladic sherds were found both in the fill of the sally port and in the destruction deposit, and that there were many joins between sherds from these two areas.

The commonest shape among the LHIIIB2 decorated pottery is the deep bowl (of all types, with Group A predominating). Stemmed bowls (some monochrome) are abundant (**Fig. 37**); many stems of this shape were found, some trimmed and probably used as lids. Kraters and mugs also occur. A fine semi-globular bowl, partly restored from many sherds, is banded in and out with a fringe of joining semicircles on the exterior rim. Also abundant are closed shapes, such as jugs, amphorae and hydriae, stirrup and collar-necked jars and alabastra. Plainware examples include conical and carinated kylikes, deep bowls, mugs, dippers, shallow angular bowls, basins and jugs. Numerous stirrup jar sherds are decorated mostly with stylized octopus tentacles. One of two non-joining sherds of another stirrup jar of this type preserves a trace of a Linear B sign. The coarseware recovered includes many sherds of pithoi and other storage vessels. There are also cooking vessels, including some in a fabric containing silver or gold mica, plus sherds of handmade burnished-ware jars.

A few stray LHIIIC sherds were found inside the sally port and in the destruction deposit. To LHIIICE belong sherds of kraters coated inside, and a fragment of an amphoriskos or collar-necked jar decorated with hooked stems. A large part of a shallow angular bowl with linear decoration dates to LHIIICM. Early Mycenaean sherds in both deposits include a number of LHIIA–B, mostly from Vapheio cups. The plentiful Middle Helladic sherds found in both deposits are of grey and black Minyan and matt-painted ware.

Other finds from both deposits are fragmentary terra-cotta human and animal figurines and a part of a throne model, the rim of a lead vessel, a fragmentary bronze pin, fragments of stone tools, blades and flakes of obsidian and flint, pieces of fluorite, mother-of-pearl and ochre, many fragments of painted plaster, as well as animal bones, seashells and carbonized figs.

Approximately 20–25m outside the northern section of the citadel wall was a massive Cyclopean terrace wall of boulders. Its north face, preserved to a height of 0.8–1.1m, was cleared for a length of 30m. This strong retaining wall supported a road leading to the main (east) gate of the acropolis. It is comparable with the retaining walls of Mycenaean highways in the Mycenae and Berbati areas, and with those of the Tiryns-Epidauros highway. This newly-found road connected Midea with areas to the northwest of the acropolis and probably with the highway from Mycenae to Tiryns. Its construction likely coincided with that of the acropolis fortifications.

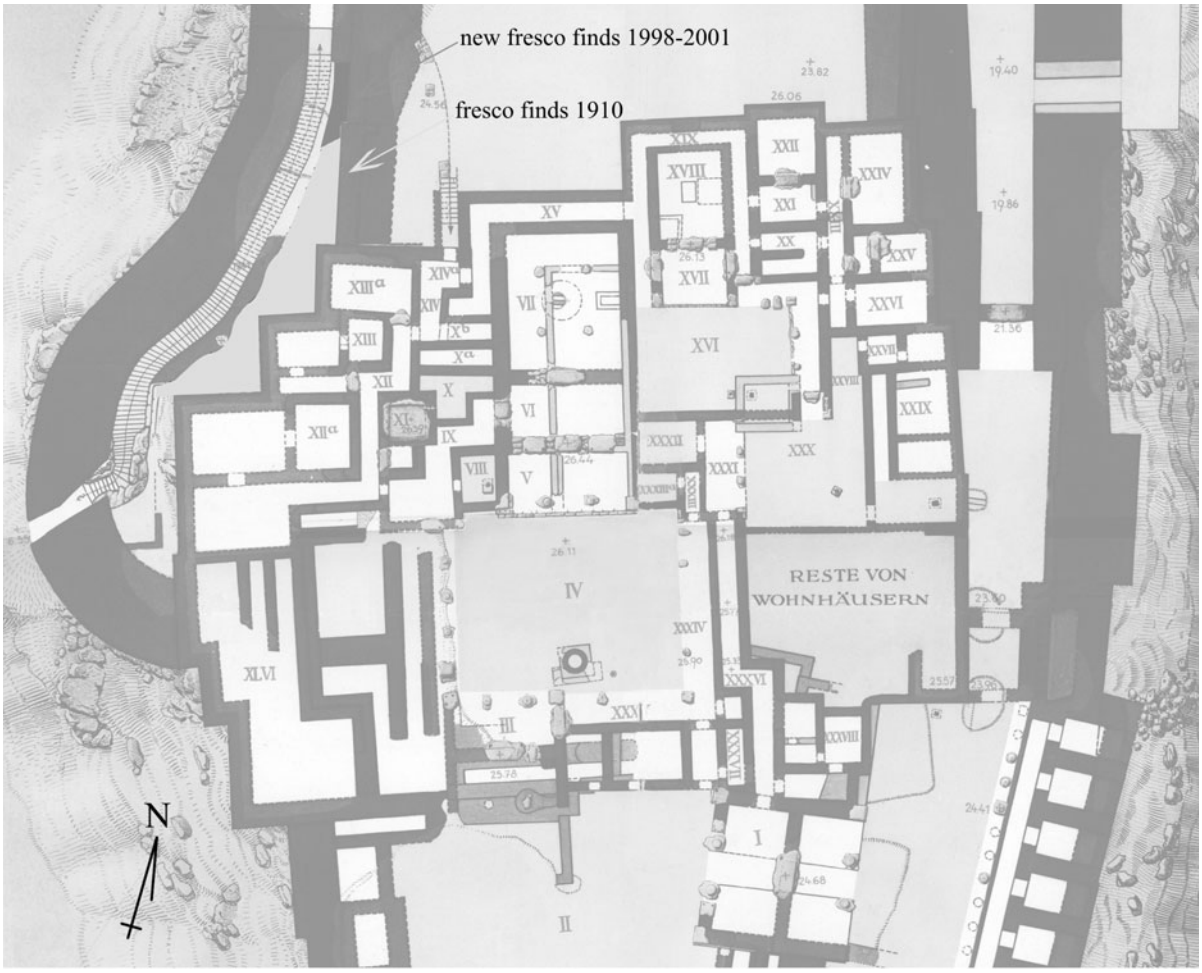
Tiryns. J. Maran (DAI/Heidelberg) reports the completion in 2009 of the documentation and restoration of the *ca.* 1,000 fresco fragments and fragment groups found by the Archaeological Service near the West Stairs in 1999–2001 (**Fig. 38**).

These finds belong to the same complex as the frescos found in 1910 (e.g. the large procession of women, hunting frieze, deer frieze). Study continues, but preliminary results may be noted. In certain cases, analysis of the



37. Midea: LHIIIB2 stemmed bowl.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



38. Tiryns: find-spots of wall-paintings in the area of the West Stairs.

find conditions and contexts on the Tiryns acropolis permits paintings found in secondary debris to be allocated to particular ranges of rooms within the palace, and thus to their original architectural, functional and iconographical context. The large procession of women, of which new fragments could be identified, is such a case. Besides common motifs such as processions (now also identified in small format: **Fig. 39**), the new finds expand the known repertoire at Tiryns with the addition of rare motifs such as the image of a female figure apparently holding a smaller figure, which may be connected with a small group of possible figurine depictions on wall-paintings from Mycenae and Tiryns. There are also images of marine creatures apparently drinking from or holding vessels; one of these occurred among the older finds and two among the new.

The chronological significance of the new finds is already evident, as they were found in contexts clearly associated with LHIIIB2 ceramics. Thus the majority of the Tiryns paintings are connected with the final architectural phase of the palace, and not, as widely assumed, with some earlier phase. The possibility of cross-comparison on the basis of stylistic development is of importance for the relative chronology of Mycenaean wall-painting.

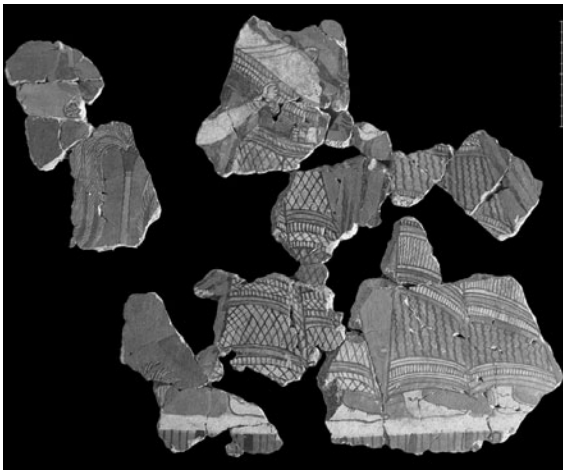
Nauplion

Venetian defences of Nauplion. Ch. Piteros (4th EPCA) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 184–85) the discovery of two sections of the *mina* (underground defensive passage) along the east face of the *fossa* of the Venetian walls of Nauplion in the area of Kolokotronis Park (O.T. 100α). This vaulted passage, built of stone with lime plaster, was probably dug as a siege defence during the second period of Venetian rule (1689–1715). Part of it was previously discovered to the south, at the southeast corner of the city lawcourt building at the junction of 25th Martiou and Polyzoidou Streets.

The first section was discovered during the opening of a drainage channel along the north side of Vasileios Konstantinou Street at the junction with Polyzoidou Street, 11.35–15m from the southwest corner of the park. This lies 60m east of the early Venetian city wall (on Vasileios Konstantinou Street), between Nikitara Square (and the lawcourts) and Kapodistrias Square. The *mina* here runs southwest-northeast; the interior west wall is 1.1m wide, the exterior east wall 0.9m wide and the intervening space 1.2m wide.

The second section was revealed during trenching for electricity cables along the south side of Sidiras Merarchias Street (which defines the north side of the park). Lying

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



39. Tiryns: small-format depiction of female participants in a procession, accompanied by a bird sitting on a palmtree.

31.7m east of the northwest corner of the park and the junction of Polyzoidou and Sidiras Merarchias Streets, a curved structure (oriented north-south) is probably an extension of the line of the *mina.* A strong wall oriented east-west is likely part of the north Venetian quay outside the east city walls and moat. This wall was traced for 59m west-east towards the northeast edge of the park, and probably continues further north. Its full height and width were not revealed (the latter is estimated at 1.5–2m).

Charilaou Trikoupi Street (O.T. 380β, G. and E. Sagioti property). Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 185) discoveries made during the excavation of a basement, north of the road.

A probably Venetian stone conduit lined with lime plaster (internally 0.6m high, 0.23m wide, wall depth 0.25–0.3m, oriented northeast-southwest*)* likely brought drinking water from the Glykeia spring immediately southwest of the hill of Profitis Ilias to the eastern side of Nauplion harbour. Parts of the Venetian conduit (oriented north-south) have previously been located to the east on properties along the west side of Profitis Ilias Street.

In the central part of the plot were sherds of household pottery and roof tile but no building remains. A destruction layer included Late Roman (fourth- to fifth-century AD) sherds.

See *AGOnline* for antiquities discovered during the renovation of the **Old Parliament Building**.

Dalamanara, Agios Panteleimon (ancient Temenion), (D. Diamantakou property). Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 189–91) on rescue excavation north of the Nauplion-Nea Kios road by the coast at Dalamanaras, 85m southwest of the Church of Ag. Panteleimon and immediately east of a plot investigated in 1994 (*cf. ADelt* 49 [1994] *Chr*, 150–51).

A Late Roman to Early Byzantine bath complex (**Fig. 40**), oriented northwest-southeast, extended across almost the entire plot. Part of the main bath was discovered in the west. In the south lay the hypocaust (with terracotta tiles and round support pillars), the *caldarium* and two small cisterns. Immediately to the north, the *tepidarium* was divided into two rooms (A2, A3) with walls of stone, brick and lime plaster as used for furnace construction. Vertical airways were built into the walls of A2; the floor is in *opus reticulatum.* The west space, A3, was later used for a kiln. A terracotta water channel covered with unworked limestone slabs ran along the east side of these rooms.

The larger eastern part of the building contained rooms of varying sizes, with tiled floors laid over a substratum of small stones. The floors in what were probably adjunct areas were of beaten earth with local sea pebbles. One such room (B5), a storage area for household and cooking equipment, contained many typical fourth- to fifth-century AD household vessels. Outside the east side of the building was an underground channel.

The various rooms and the hypocaust contained roof tiles, bronze coins, glass fragments, Late Roman lamps (third- to fourth-century AD) as well as Early Christian examples of North African type (fourth- to fifth-century AD). In the west part of the building, a hoard of 268 assaria and minimi of the fourth century AD (of the house of Constantine the Great and probably Constantine II) was found in the area of the hypocaust. Cleaning of a small sample revealed the emperor's head on the obverse and, on the reverse, different devices: a fallen rider in a scene of supplication which also includes a further figure with a spear, trees to left and right; a male figure dragging a smaller figure; and the emperor standing with a spear. A small clay prochous was found in the same area, as well as a fourth- to fifth-century AD lamp. In the southern part of the hypocaust (A1) a stone anchor, weighing *ca.* 20kg, was built into a wall.

This complex extends beyond the excavation area to the west and south. Its southeast-northwest orientation differs from the east-west alignment of the large building of the same period discovered on the property formerly belonging to V. Tasopoulos on the north side of the road. A road running northeast-southwest on the west side of the bath evidently separated the two buildings, and formed the approach from the northeast and the Church of Ag. Panteleimon.

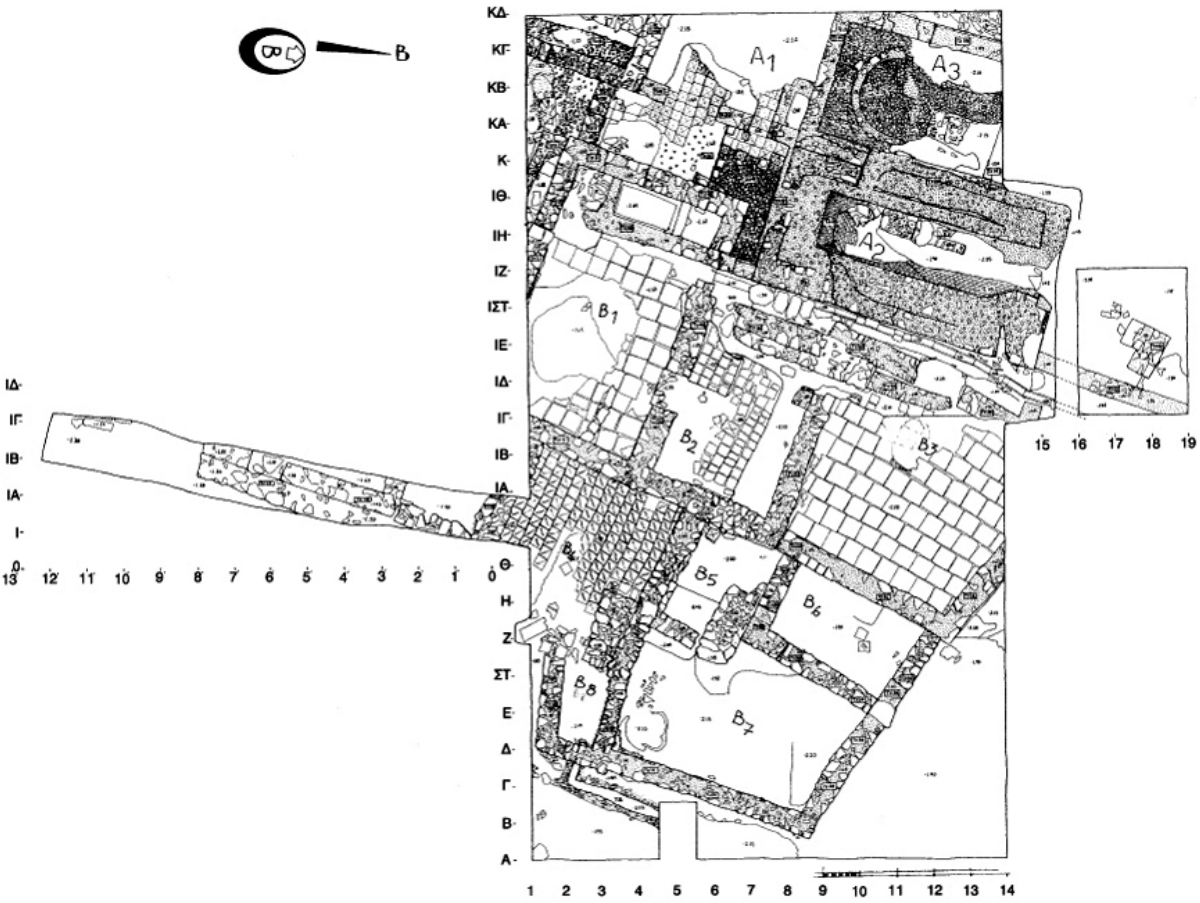
These buildings form part of ancient Temenion, the harbour of Argos: blocks from the breakwater are visible in the sea to the south. The bath was destroyed in the fifth or more probably the sixth century AD.

Lerna. M.H. Weincke (ASCSA) reports on continuing work on a conservation plan for the House of the Tiles and a programme to improve the Lerna display in Argos Museum. Analysis of the stone eaves of the House of the Tiles shows them to be made of a shale or siltstone (chlorite and illite) quarried locally.

Kiveri, Hill of Profitis Ilias. Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 197–98) the discovery of spolia from an ancient temple within a later building on the top of this hill, 2.28km west of the village of Kiveri.

Andritsa. O. Psychoyiou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 194–96) on assessments in seven locations west and northwest of Andritsa, in an area between Mounts Tzouma and Karvya extending to Parthenio in the southeast and up to the south bank of the Potamia river or Xombrio. This area is of interest in relation to the course of the ancient cart road linking Argos with Tegea via Hysiai, the so-called 'Trocho'. Prehistoric to Hellenistic and Byzantine remains were found as follows.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



40. Dalamanara, Agios Panteleimon (ancient Temenion): plan of the excavation on the Diamantakou property.

Elliniko. On the north slopes of Mount Karvya, *ca.* 100m from the border between the Argolid and Arcadia, are remains of a square stone structure (with walls *ca.* 10m long) and scattered fragments of Corinthian roof tile.

Koukouras. Approximately 500m north-northeast, beneath Elliniko on the same slope, a round stone tower or guard post (*ca.* 6.5m in diameter) is preserved as up to three courses of roughly-worked stones. Visibility from this site extends as far as Profitis Ilias, Kiveri to the east and Achladokampo to the west.

Palaiochori. On the top of a steep hill (338masl) in the northwest foothills of Mount Karvya are the remains of a round tower of small unworked stones. On the more even southeastern side of the hill are scattered sherds, and pithos and tile fragments. Wheel ruts in the rock and retaining walls indicate a cart road on the west side of the hill, leading from the northern foothills to the summit.

Goulas/Kastro. A fortified ancient acropolis (with scattered worked blocks, linear stone foundations, Final Neolithic to Hellenistic sherds, obsidian, etc.) occupies a plateau on top of this hill (323masl). In the middle of the east side, where the approach road ends, the pseudoisodomic wall forms a corner. A larger section of the fortification on the south side of the plateau includes a round tower with two rooms to the east and west. The tower is built in polygonal style of limestone blocks roughly worked on the exterior face and is flanked to the west by a long narrow room with a gate in the southeast corner. The walls of this room are polygonal and pseudoisodomic. South of the tower is a probable courtyard with a cistern and an olive press. A polygonal wall defines the west side of the court.

Agios Demetrios lies north-northwest of Goulas, close to Andritsa station and the Tripolis-Argos railway line. Over this entire plain are numerous traces of ancient settlement (prehistoric to Hellenistic and Byzantine sherds, tile and pithos fragments, and stone tools). Worked stone blocks were built into the peribolos of the Church of Ag. Demetrios, beside a large mortarium from an olive press.

In the almost flat area extending north of the railway line to the south bank of the Potamia or Xombrio river, surface remains are concentrated in the following two locations.

At **Tou Triadou** extensive (mainly Byzantine) remains include sherds of domestic pottery, pithoi and roof tiles, stone grinders and a mortarium from an olive press. Other finds are part of a probable stone cistern with a waterproof cement lining and a wall, 15m long and 1m high as preserved.

At **Sta Lichadia**, *ca.* 250–300m east of Tou Triadou, two parallel walls of small stones, tile and lime cement were preserved, and traces of limestone foundations appear in several places. In the same field, deep ploughing in 1950 revealed part of a Doric frieze in Doliana marble (a triglyph and part of an undecorated metope roughly

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

worked on the back). The type corresponds to the frieze of the triglyph altar at the Shrine of Artemis Knakeatidos at Tegea (late sixth- to early fifth-century BC).

In addition to these sites, remains of the ancient road ('Strata') linking Elaiochori with the valley of the Potamia/Xombrio and Myloi are reported. A further section of the Strata borders the west bank of a small stream east of Mount Karvya and stops at the Potamia/Xombrio river at the bridge over the Myloi-Andritsa road.

Ancient Epidauros, Β and Γ archaeological zones. Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 185–89) the discovery of antiquities in several locations within the protected Β and Γ zones around ancient Epidauros.

In the Γ zone (Gialasi, N. Pitidis Street, 900m south of the modern village) Roman roof tiles of Laconian type, a deposit of sherds of small domestic amphorae, Roman lekanes and kraters, and the stone foundations of a Roman house were found on the property of the Tsoli brothers, close to the Kalogeriko house (the ground floor of which dates to the Middle Byzantine period). A further 220m west, scattered Roman roof tiles were found on the property of T. Beka.

In the Β zone, 7m south of the junction between the public road to Gialasi and the lane leading to Gliati, what is probably the bed of the ancient road to Epidauros runs northwest-southeast. Trenching alongside the modern road from the village of ancient Epidauros and the ancient theatre to Gliati revealed Byzantine roof tiles and part of a wall with lime plaster at a location 14.2–33.5m north along the road.

Ancient Epidauros village

Ippokratous Street. Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 186–87) the discovery in the course of pipe-trenching of further tombs in the area of the west cemetery of ancient Epidauros.

Three Roman cist tombs (first-century BC to first-century AD), oriented east-west and in direct contact with each other, were found 122m before the northern end of Ippokratous Street. Tomb 1, of limestone blocks and cover-tiles, contained a single adult skeleton (probably female), four unguentaria, a fragmentary lagynos, part of a shell and a lamp. Iron nails and fragments of wood probably belong to the bier. Tomb 2 was disturbed; it contained an adult burial and a glass vessel. Tomb 3 contained an adult burial, a lagynos, six unguentaria, a pottery vessel and an iron arrowhead.

A further 194m south of the road, on the north side of the Mycenaean cemetery of Epidauros, the pipe-trench cut the dromos of a Mycenaean chamber tomb previously found (along with a group of six others) by V. Stais (*ADelt* [1888], 155–58; see also *ADelt* 29 [1974] *Mel*, 70–87) and partially destroyed in the construction of the road. A few LHIIIB kylix sherds were collected from the dromos. Previous cleaning of the chamber in 1989 had produced sherds, two vessels, faience beads and a few human bones.

Some 5.4–11.9m before the junction of Hippokratous and Asklepiou Streets, on the south side of the road, was part of a Late Roman to Early Byzantine workshop destroyed by fire. Finds include an oval basin lined with lime plaster for workshop use, a large kados, terracotta floor tiles, a light floor of lime plaster and Laconian-style roof tiles.

At the junction of Ippokratous and Asklepiou Streets, on the north side, sherds of LHIIIB–C hole-mouthed jars and kylikes were collected beside the property of A. Eleftherakou, where two Mycenaean tholos tombs were previously found.

I. Metaxa Street. Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 187–89) on discoveries from the northern part of the street, between the junctions with Perikleous and Asklepiou Streets.

A row of tombs was found *ca.* 1–1.5m apart. Cist tomb 4, pit-cist tomb 6 and pit graves 9 and 11–16 contained single adult skeletons but no grave goods. Graves 5, 17 and 19 were disturbed. In pit grave 10, a small Hellenistic silver coin served as the *danake.* The majority of tombs without goods are likely Middle and Late Hellenistic. A few Protogeometric and Geometric sherds were also found further north and immediately east of I. Metaxa Street.

The following tombs contained offerings and/or multiple burials.

Cist tomb 7 contained three adult skeletons plus a tear-bottle, Hellenistic sherds, amphorae and small iron nails probably from shoes.

Cinerary urns 8α and 8β were each set upright in a round pit. 8α (**Fig. 41**), an Attic Submycenaean to Protogeometric shoulder-handled amphora with a bronze phiale in the mouth and a schist cover slab, contained a bronze ring. 8β, a LHIIICL amphora or hydria, contained a bronze fibula. Ash scattered between the two vessels and above 8β likely came from the pyre area.

Tomb 18 (oriented northwest-southeast), cut directly into bedrock, is disturbed. Outside was a Hellenistic silver coin of Sikyon and a small domestic vessel. Inside were two adult skeletons, a small black-glazed prochous, a fourth-century BC bronze mirror with a relief Eros on the cover (**Fig. 42**) and a bronze needle.



41. Ancient Epidauros village, I. Metaxa Street: Attic Submycenaean-Protogeometric shoulder-handled amphora, cinerary urn 8α.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press



42. Ancient Epidauros village, I. Metaxa Street: relief Eros from a fourth-century mirror cover.

Cist tomb 20 contained two adult skeletons, a Roman lamp, the small disc of a bronze mirror, a bronze needle and iron nails from the bier.

Pit grave 21, contained one adult (apparently female) skeleton, five Hellenistic unguentaria, a small round pyxis holding white lead and a terracotta boar figurine.

Cist tomb 22 contained one adult (probably female) skeleton, a fragmentary glass vessel, a glass unguentarium, two second century AD lamps and an iron needle.

Further evidence was identified for the production of purple dye which supplements that previously recorded in this area. Just north of the junction with Perikleous Street were fragments of tile, domestic pottery, Middle and Late Hellenistic amphorae, and large quantities of murex shell. Murex shell was was also found north of tomb 17. In the same place, a wall ran northwest-southeast on the same orientation as the tombs. North of the street were sherds mostly of Hellenistic to Roman pointed amphorae.

Ancient Epidauros, road to the sanctuary. Ch. Piteros reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 192–93) on the cleaning of that part of the ancient road from the city of Epidauros to the Asklepieion which lies north of the sanctuary, from 2.5km after Klimaki until the site of Ag. Andreas or Galaneika.

The surviving middle part of the road is *ca.* 2m wide. The road remained in use into modern times, and runs along the side of a steep gorge, on the south side of the flood stream. The western part, near Klimaki, is partially buried under construction debris from the modern road between Corinth and Epidauros which runs parallel to it (a route down to the ancient road has been created at the 55km marker). Ancient wheel ruts were preserved in several places, and a roughly-worked stone square pillar is probably a road-marker. The discovery at Klimaki in 1949 of an inscription – ΑΔΕ ΟΔΟΣ ΕΙΣ ΙΑ/ΡΟΝ ΚΛΕΙΝΟΥ ΘΕ/ΟΥ Ω ΠΑΡΙΟΝΤΕΣ – indicates that this was the route taken by pilgrims to Epidauros.

Franchthi Cave. K.D. Vitelli (ASCSA) reports on continuing study and analytical programmes.

Study of the Franchthi ornaments was devoted to Neolithic assemblages, in particular from trenches FAN, FAS and L5. Eight phases and sub-phases are recognized, in general agreement with the lithic and ceramic phasing. Early and Middle Neolithic show strong continuity, whereas sharp breaks occur at the beginning of the Late and Final Neolithic.

Microscopic study and photography of the manufacturing and wear traces on the FAS and FAN material revealed variety among the apparently homogenous series of Late Neolithic beads. This obtains also for the 'small fired steatite' beads which may actually have been glazed. Study of cockle-shell bead blanks (*Cerastoderma glaucum*) was coupled with experiments to reconstruct manufacturing procedures and thus document different choices of blanks and different production steps for the Early and Late Neolithic cockle-shell beads.

Study of the faunal sequence in trench H1-B was completed in 2009. Trench H1-B constitutes the longest Palaeolithic sequence at Franchthi Cave – at least 20,000 years of human occupation spanning numerous cultural and environmental changes. Basic trends in Upper Palaeolithic to Mesolithic foraging are identified as follows, based on these data. A terrestrial focus in diet defines the lower half of the sequence. The diet shifts fairly abruptly to a mixed marine-terrestrial focus above unit 172. Units 153–70 point to exceptional 'instability' in economic and other faunal patterns, some of which must relate to dramatic climate shifts leading into the Holocene. The shifts indicate major reorganization of human economic systems. Exploitation patterns restabilize as a new regimen above unit 150. As foragers started to turn to aquatic resources in earnest, they began by gathering pond turtles and marine shellfish. Marine fishing was also practised early on, but fishing became more important and diversified with time. The sequence in which aquatic resource types were integrated into the meat diet follows closely an optimality prediction, beginning with easily collected small animals, moving to greater use of fish and ultimately to fishing for tuna, large fish that are difficult to catch and land. The foraging regimens of units 172–58 were especially diversified, and this may indicate the first of several increases in occupation intensity at Franchthi Cave. Small game exploitation is somewhat less diversified above unit 154, but a variety of species continued to be exploited – in particular fish and carnivores. By unit 128, fish had become very important and more diverse, culminating in a heavy emphasis on tuna fishing.

It is not yet clear whether the rising intensity of occupation at Franchthi reflects changes in local human population densities. However, the heaviest use of marine shellfish began around the same time, as did the heavy exploitation of land snails and labour-intensive collection and processing of small-grain grasses and legumes. Increased pressure on local resources is expected to encourage humans to exploit lower-ranked species such as these. Speculatively, we may have evidence from the H1-B faunal sequence at Franchthi Cave of feed-back relations between rising populations and expansion into new habitats and technological innovations that span the Late Palaeolithic to the Mesolithic.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press

ARCADIA
(39th EPCA: 5th EBA)

Pallantion. M. Petropoulos (Director, 39th EPCA) reports (*Ethnos*, *Eleftherotypia* [09/09/09]) rescue excavation in the lower town of Pallantion in connection with the project to re-establish Lake Taka. Houses and part of the fortification of the lower city were discovered, plus a building of possible public function with a row of column bases.

Ancient Manthyrea. M. Petropoulos reports (*Ethnos*, *Eleutherotypia* [09/09/09]) the discovery, in the course of excavation connected with the project to re-establish Lake Taka, of Mycenaean and Classical walls in a location near Tegea which accords with Pausanias' placing of ancient Manthyrea.

Tegea, Palaia Episkopi. A.-V. Karapanagiotou (39th EPCA), D. Athanasoulis (25th EBA) and K. Ødegård (Norwegian Institute at Athens) report on the first season of collaborative excavation in 2009 (Ministry of Culture and Tourism press release [01/12/09]).

West of the ancient theatre and the Byzantine church of Episkopi, the paving of the ancient agora was revealed in a succession of tile-packed surfaces of the Byzantine period, the latest dating to the 12th century AD. Slag from a Byzantine metalworker's shop was also found. To the north were the remains of Byzantine buildings, one of which was evidently linked to agricultural activity since the thick cement floor of one room fits its use as a wine-press.

Mount Lykaion, Sanctuary of Zeus. M. Petropoulos (Director, 39th EPCA), M. Voyatzis (ASCSA/Arizona) and D.G. Romano (ASCSA/Pennsylvania) report on excavation and study in 2009.

Stratigraphical evidence places the first use of the altar in the prehistoric period. Late Neolithic, Early, Middle and Late Helladic pottery was discovered, with Mycenaean especially well represented (noting numerous kylikes and other small finds). Strata above this include Submycenaean and Protogeometric material, and Geometric to Hellenistic sherds in an apparently continuous sequence. There were large quantities of Final Neolithic, Early and Middle Helladic sherds in nearly all layers of the altar. Dedications recovered include miniature bronze tripods, silver coins, metal objects and miniatures of various kinds. Quantities of animal bone continue to be found, but as yet no human bone.



43. Mount Lykaion, Sanctuary of Zeus: the stoa in the lower sanctuary.

In the lower sanctuary, excavation was continued immediately north of the seats or steps: part of a terracotta water channel may relate to the use of these seats in the fourth century BC. Outside the northeast corner of the xenon was a long, sunken open-air corridor with carefully cut walls. More of the 67m long stoa was cleared (**Fig. 43**) and three trenches were opened in the hippodrome.

Geological, topographical and architectural surveys continued alongside excavation, following directions outlined in 2008. Architectural study of the bath to the northeast of the hippodrome began.

The project website is http://lykaionexcavation.org.

LACONIA
(5th EPCA: 5th EBA)

Sparta
Platanista Street (O.T. 6, I. Panagaki property). E. Zavvou (then 5th EPCA, now Epigraphical Museum) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 211–13) the discovery of a Roman residence during rescue excavation in 2000. Construction was in brick (with a plaster coating) on a stone foundation. Five of the six rooms uncovered had third-century AD mosaic floors with geometric motifs and central figure scenes.

The probable *triclinium* (area 2) lay in the north and west of the plot: a double doorway communicated with an atrium to the south, although the orientation of the central emblema of the floor mosaic indicates that the main entrance was on the north. This exceptionally well-preserved mosaic has a rectangular border with geometric designs: on the east and west intersecting circles form four-leafed designs; on the south is a series of lozenges; the north is divided into three smaller areas (the east contains shields, the centre eight-point stars and the west is lost). The far side of the floor, bordered by a band of perspective meander swastikas with interspersed squares, contains a composition of lozenges within squares. In the central area (bordered by monochrome bands and a garland) is Dionysos in a chariot drawn by two panthers, with a Maenad to the left and an actor to the right. In the lower part of the scene is a basket with a snake coiled around it, and a cradle.

The *triclinium* communicates with room 4 via a doorway with a marble threshold and a mosaic by the opening. Within room 4, beneath a destruction layer containing roofing material, was a floor mosaic. Two frames of geometric motifs border the further part, which is decorated with octagons in contact with parallelograms (an unusual motif in the Greek world); in the central area is a rectangular maze.

Room 1, in the northeast corner of the plot, also has a well-preserved floor mosaic. The external border, a series of shields, is so far unique among Spartan mosaics. The second border contains meander swastikas with interspersed parallelograms. The further part has a composition of intersecting circles forming four-leafed designs. In the central area (bordered by a stylized floral band) is a gladiator wearing a short-sleeved chiton and brandishing a spear against a wild beast rearing up on its hind legs. The orientation of the scene indicates that the main entrance was at the north.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000104 Published online by Cambridge University Press