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/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Room 4 communicated with room 5; a threshold mosaic has a circle within a lozenge within a parallelogram. The floor mosaic in room 5 has geometric decoration: the frame is a row of parallelograms decorated with a double anthemion and the main area a grid of four-pointed lozenge stars.

Only a few parts of the floor mosaic of the southeast room of the house (room 3) survive, all with geometric decoration. Large zones which may belong to the main area contain eight-point stars which delimit upright and perpendicular rectangles, a grid of lozenges forming four-point stars and a band with a repeated fusiform motif. Part of the framing band has a row of isosceles triangles (a common motif in Sparta). North of room 3, a room (6) has a terracotta tiled floor which continues east beyond the trench.

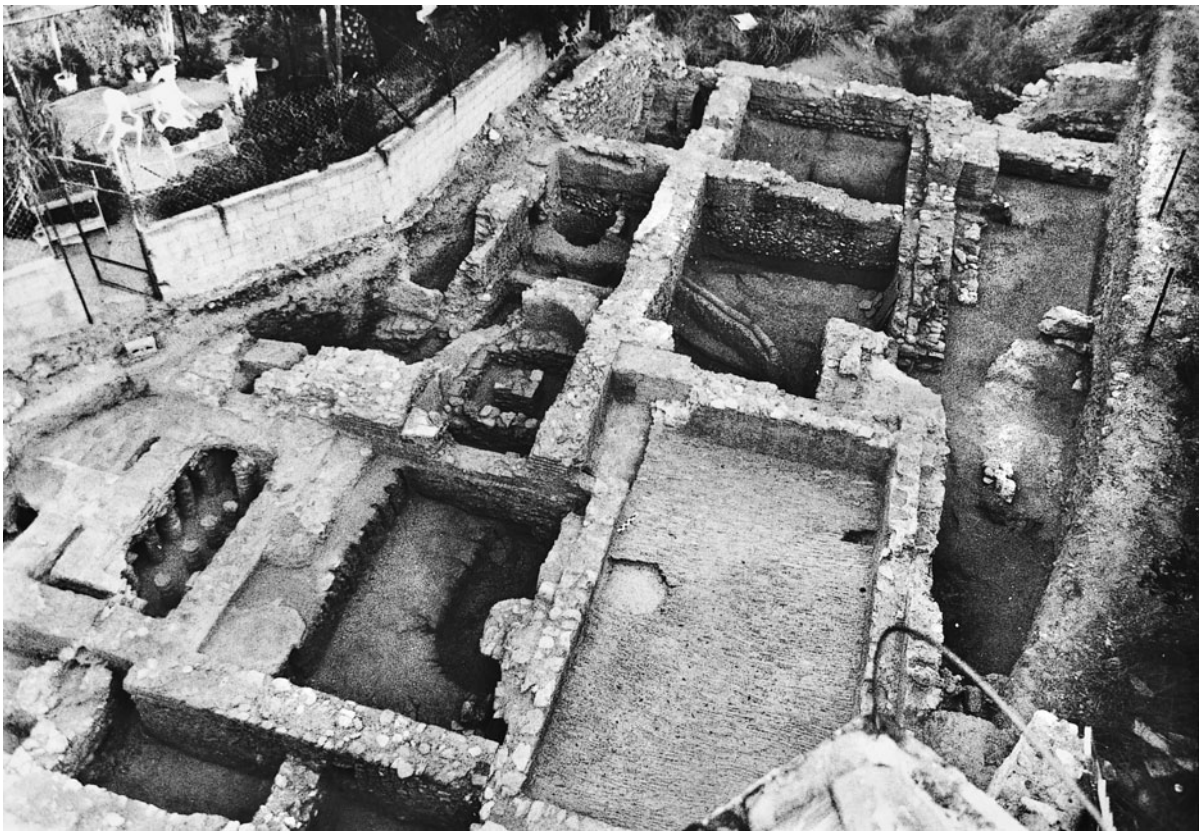
In addition to Roman pottery, one Hellenistic coin of Sikyon and two Imperial Roman coins (third- to fourth-century) were collected.

Further traces of this residence have been located in neighbouring plots (E. Zavvou: *ADelt* 55 [2000] *Ch*, 213–14, 227). On the **property of S. and Z. Politi on Platanista Street (O.T. 141)**, directly opposite the Panagaki plot and next to the Moiragia-Doulia property, was a northeast-southwest stone wall founded on a layer of cement, pithos sherds and stone which probably stabilized the ground since the local water table is high. At the southern end of it was an *enchytrismos* in a fragmentary pointed amphora. An apsidal wall belongs to a later building phase.

In front of the **Moiragia-Doulia property**, a trench dug by the water company of Sparta revealed part of a floor mosaic with geometric decoration, bordered to the south by a wall. Two bands are evident, the exterior with lozenge decoration and the interior with wave-spirals and four-point stars below.

98 Thermopylon Street (O.T. 122, G. and I. Katsichti property). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 214–16) the completion of the second phase of excavation of this plot (see previously *ADelt* 54 [1999] *Chr*, 164) (**Fig. 44**). During the first phase (reported in *ADelt* 52 [1997] *Chr*, 187–89), Byzantine architecture was uncovered, founded directly onto a Roman building and bath.

Continued excavation defined the different building phases and use of materials. The Byzantine buildings were founded directly onto earlier Roman structures and materials from the latter re-used, sometimes unmodified. The bath and other structures in the northern part of the plot are connected with discoveries made on the neighbouring property of N. Photopoulos to the east, and form part of a large Roman residence (*cf. ADelt* 51 [1996] *Chr*, 116–18; *ADelt* 53 [1998] *Chr*, 152–53). The owner, evidently a member of the Spartan élite, was a successful athlete to judge from inscriptions inside the crowns depicted on one of the floor mosaics in the bath, which identify the victors and the contests concerned. It remains hazardous to assign this residence to any Spartan athlete known from other sources.



44. Sparta, 98 Thermopylon Street: overview of excavation.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press

In the west of the bath was the *caldarium* with its hypocaust. The suspended floor was constructed of three layers of terracotta tile bonded with cement and with cement on top to secure a marble surface. It was supported on 24 unevenly spaced pillars: after an initial construction phase using square pillars round the edges of the floor, structural correction was required and round pillars were inserted towards the middle. These round pillars were carelessly built using drums of different dimensions (one contained part of a marble kioniskos). One of them partially blocked the airway bringing hot air to the *caldarium* to the west. The *caldarium* basement had a pebble floor.

The walls of the bath were heated via a facing of *tegulae mammatae*, of which parts are preserved on the west wall of the *caldarium*, and through a gap between the suspended floor of the *caldarium* and its walls. Sections of *tegulae mammatae* were found in secondary use in various places within the Byzantine walls.

West of the *caldarium* was a second room with a hypocaust. A narrow opening allowed communication between them, and the two basement areas were linked by two air conduits. Room 2 had a floor mosaic, and beneath this an earlier cement floor on which were strong traces of burning.

The *praefurnium*, north of the *caldarium*, contained a large quantity of burnt matter. A channel brought hot air to the basement of the *caldarium.* In the initial phase, this channel was covered by a brick arch, meaning that the suspended floor must then have been at a higher level and that the floor uncovered does not belong to the first phase of the building.

A pool belonging to the *frigidarium* had a thick water-proof cement lining and was originally faced, probably with marble slabs. A low wall fenced it on the south and bathers descended into it by two steps. When the bath was abandoned in Early Christian or Byzantine times, a low stone and brick wall built around the pool closed off the outflow channel. While it is difficult to interpret this later phase of activity, it clearly involved fire since there is burnt matter within the pool and traces of burning on its walls (although the *caldarium* cannot have moved into this area since no air conduits have been found).

Beneath the herringbone-tiled floor in room 4 was a cement floor laid over a course of rounded pebbles and cement. This sloped down to the south. A further floor of the same construction lay beneath it. Beneath this lay the drainage channel from the *frigidarium*, as well as a lead water-pipe. In the centre of this area was a rectangular bathtub, which should also be connected to the *frigidarium.*

Successive phases of construction are evident in room 5. A Roman floor mosaic with geometric decoration lay to the south of the south wall. Inside the room, a second cement floor lay beneath the substrate of the upper floor level and, beneath that, a brick wall with a cement coating and traces of marble cladding on the south face. Finally, in this underlying level a stone and cement wall was partially destroyed by the construction of a tomb (containing one burial in supine position, head to the west, and a small gold leaf).

Saketta Street. E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 216–18) the discovery of antiquities at several points along this street in the course of public works.

At Saketta 5 (Georgakoulia property), a wall bordered an area of stone paving. Parts of other walls were found at Saketta 7 and 9 respectively.

At Saketta 13 (N.K. Koulougeorgiou property), an apsidal stone wall had on the south face a round stone structure (0.39m in diameter) with thickly applied cement, used as a support for a vessel. East of the wall were two cist tombs oriented north-northwest-south-southeast, both containing single burials in supine position, head to the west, without goods but with the remains of earlier burials. Tomb 1 had wall and cover slabs in secondary use and a tiled floor: the cover slabs of the earlier burial displaced within the tomb were set inside the cist along its long sides. Tomb 2 was built of unworked stone and tile. Further walls were found at 15–17 Saketta Street.

Alcman Street (O.T. 124, G. Polychronakou property). A. Bakourou and E. Katsara (5th EBA) report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 266, 268) the completion of excavation by the 5th EBA of a dense complex of buildings of the Late Byzantine, Early Christian, Late Roman and Hellenistic periods on a plot south of the acropolis walls (see previously *ADelt* 52 [1997] *Chr*, 178; *ADelt* 53 [1998] *Chr*, 217–221; *ADelt* 54 [1999] *Chr*, 220).

Trials were opened in the road revealed in areas I' and K': beneath the upper surface was a cement-lined water channel and there were three further road surfaces beneath. A full account of the site will be presented after study of the excavated material.

140–44 Vrasidou Street (O.T. 30, A. Koumoundourou and I. Krikela property, formerly Tsirigoti property). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 218–222) the discovery of Hellenistic to Late Roman building remains and groups of Roman and Late Roman tombs which represent a continuation of the cemetery excavated in the area of the public market and neighbouring Kleombrotou Street (*cf. ADelt* 24 [1969] *Chr*, 135–37; *ADelt* 28 [1973] *Chr*, 168–70; *ADelt* 44–46 [1989–1991] *Mel*, 335–60).

In the south, tomb group I (tombs 1–3 and 5) consists of brick and cement cists with cover slabs; tombs 1 and 3 were subsequently divided into two compartments. The northernmost tomb (1), with a tiled floor, contained a child inhumation with a Roman deep plate and large iron nails. Tomb 2 (also with a tiled floor) shared a common wall with tomb 1. It contained a single inhumation with the head on a tile 'rest', plus bones from a second burial; a very few sherds were collected from the fill. Tomb 3, with cover tiles, contained a child burial without goods. Tomb 5, which shared a common wall with tomb 2, was empty (and probably looted). The construction of tomb group I required the partial levelling of an earlier northeast-southwest retaining wall. Around this wall a large pit cut into stereo contained a quantity of Hellenistic and Roman pottery, namely miniature vessels, a black-glazed ring-based kernos (**Fig. 45**), a thilastron, Hellenistic calyx cups and red-figure sherds, plus part of a bronze pin and figurine fragments. East of tomb 1 was an intact Laconian Late Roman amphora. Further walls found in the area include two probably Early Christian structures north of tomb group I.

Tomb 4 is a pit grave (oriented northwest-southeast) cut into stereo south of wall 3, with marble cover slabs in secondary use. It contained the supine inhumation of a youth, head to east, a first-century BC glass unguentarium and iron nails by the head and feet probably from the bier.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press



45. Sparta, 140–44 Vrasidou Street: black-glazed kernos (Sparta Museum 15118).

Tomb group II (graves 6–10) lies north of wall 3. Most of the graves were brick-built cists, oriented north-south. Tomb 6 contained an inhumation with a tile headrest (plus the remains of an earlier burial), a lamp and a glass unguentarium both dating to the second century AD, and part of a bronze surgical instrument with decorative silver inlay (**Fig. 46**). Tomb 7, covered with tiles, was robbed, leaving only scattered bones and fragments of gold leaves. Between tombs 6 and 7 was a North African-type lamp depicting a saint on the discus. Tomb 8 contained fragments of bone and iron nails. Tombs 9 (a stone-lined cist) and 10 were both badly damaged.

To the north was an area of burning which included a coin of Valentinian II (AD 375–392). East of tomb group II, a well (1.2m in diameter, over 6.2m deep), cut into bedrock, contained a large quantity of Hellenistic pottery.

Further to the north was part of a Roman bath destroyed by fire: among the debris were fragments of hypocaust column and *tegulae mammatae.* A stone water channel ran beyond the north side of the building, while to the west and north were further architectural remains (walls, some to the north with marble revetment, and sections of tiled floor).

Two further funerary monuments in the north of the plot had been looted. Tomb group III, to the east, contained cist tombs 11 and 12, oriented east-west. Tomb 11 contained a Roman plate. Tombs 13 and 14, in tomb group IV, both oriented east-west, were looted.

Seven further coins were found in the course of the excavation, including one of Eurykles (31–7 BC) and a Byzantine issue with a very worn depiction of an emperor on the obverse and on the reverse the legend XX CO[N]. Further finds include fragments of bronze and bone pins, part of a bronze stirrer, a glass bead and a piece of obsidian.

Staufert Street (O.T. 98, N. Konstantaki property). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 222) the discovery of an ancient road running southeast-northwest, bounded by walls on either side. Successive Hellenistic and Roman cobbled road surfaces (0.6m wide) are preserved. North of the north boundary wall lay an open area with a cistern and a round well. The well, constructed of two terracotta cylinders (1.4m high x 1.1m in diameter) with access steps, contained Classical and Hellenistic pottery. In the south and west of the plot was a section of a large stone-built sewer. Excavation continues.

Letous Street (west side of O.T. 102). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 222–23) the discovery of a probable west continuation of the retaining wall for a road previously discovered on the neighbouring property of A. Stavropoulou-Bouchali to the east (on which see *ADelt* 54 [1999] *Chr*, 166). To the north lay the corner of a building founded over a round structure (2m in diameter) of unknown function (perhaps a well), as well as Roman wall foundations which incorporated the lower part of a draped female statue, recut on its right side to serve as building material (Sparta Museum 15132). Finally, a limestone wall was found in front of the Vosinaki property on Letous 1.

145 Archidamou Street (O.T. 113, P. Theophilakou property). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 223) the discovery of Hellenistic constructions and evidence for a potter's workshop on the west side of the Xenia hill.

Three Hellenistic walls were uncovered, one of which incorporated an Egyptian boat quern of probable Classical date. The existence of a Late Hellenistic workshop in the area is indicated by almost intact pots among the walls, many of which were warped or misfired. Finds comprise two plates, a black-glazed wheelmade lamp, two black-glazed prochoiskoi, two black-figure oinochoae plus one with badly compressed walls, part of a probably lagynos, a red-slipped bowl, a kantharos, and part of a mould for imbricate moulded bowls. Small finds include a bronze coin of the reign of Eurykles, part of a tile stamped ΔΑΜΟΣΙ[ΟΣ]/ Α[Θ]Α[ΝΑΣ] and a first-century BC pyramidal loomweight stamped Α and Ρ(?).

Alcman and Lysander Street (O.T. 127, E. Philippopoulou property). A. Bakourou and E. Katsara report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 265–66) further investigation of a Byzantine olive press in an area where a basilica and Middle Byzantine bath have previously been found. The proximity of the press to these buildings reflects its public character and place in local town planning. The conglomerate press-stone was located, plus two further stones which form part of the press.

The extension of excavation to the north revealed the northern walls of the complex (in places under destruction deposits), water channels and tile floors. The *trapetum* itself was founded in a layer of unworked



46. Sparta, 140–44 Vrasidou Street: bronze surgical implement (Sparta Museum 15115).

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press

stones, clay and cement: to the east and west was a stone platform, to the south a wall and the area to the north was landscaped perhaps also with a platform. A roughly-worked and rounded stone (3.2m in circumference), with a central socket (0.12m in diameter) and a rectangular cutting on the underside, must belong to the press used to extract olive oil from the pulp left after the whole olive had passed through the *trapetum.* A second similar stone was found nearby, as was the monolithic olive-crushing basin.

Triakosion Street (O.T. 127, P. and S. Androutsou property). A. Bakourou and E. Katsara (5th EBA) report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 268) the discovery of the eastwards continuation of a known Middle Byzantine basilica, with groups of tombs. The plot lies directly between the properties of E. Rigou and E. Dipla, where a Byzantine church and bath, respectively, have been discovered. Work will continue.

Lysander Street (O.T. 126, V. Leopoulou property). A. Bakourou and E. Katsara report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 268) the excavation of a further part of the Late Roman bath found on land belonging to the same owners as O.T. 127, which itself underlies a Byzantine bath (*cf. ADelt* 20 [1965] *Chr*, 173–74; *ADelt* 21 [1966] *Chr*, 155–159).

Sparta-Mystra Road (O.T. Γ444, P. and E. Kirkiri property). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 223) the discovery of the corner of a building. Excavation was continued by the 5th EBA.

Unofficial ring-road (O.T. 131, A. and Z. Vergadou property). A. Themos (then 5th EPCA, now Epigraphical Museum) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 223–24) on excavation *ca.* 300m northwest of the Roman theatre. A northeast-southwest wall of field-stones and architectural spolia formed part of a building (noting the presence of intersecting walls and marble threshold blocks), however, the plan cannot be reconstructed from the small area excavated. Two channels in the south of the plot follow the orientation of the walls. The remains of a later construction also follow the same orientation.

Pitanis Street (O.T. 6, M. Dagré property). A. Themos reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 224–25) the discovery of part of a Roman bath with walls in *opus testacaeum.*

The hypocausts of the three heated rooms, Α, Β and Γ, of stone and plaster, were tiled with *tegulae bipedales.* The pillars of the hypocaust (mostly round but occasionally square especially in the corners) were preserved sporadically across the three rooms. In the southern part of room Α was a plunge bath with a dedicated *praefurnium* to the west (with a connecting air conduit). A small adjunct room outside the bath building, and to the south of the *praefurnium* of room Α, was perhaps a wood store.

An air conduit linked the basement of the room Α with room Β (which also contained support columns for the suspended floor). The basements of rooms Β and Γ were also linked by two air conduits (room Γ continues under the modern street). A terracotta water-pipe and a small sink-pit lay south of room Γ. A sewer line below the south side of the plunge bath probably belongs to an earlier building.

12 Artemis Orthia Street (O.T. 102, A. Stavropoulou-Bouchali property). A. Themos reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 225) on ongoing excavation (see previously *ADelt* 54 [1999] *Chr*, 166).

Clearance of the architectural remains previously reported, including an ancient road in the centre of the plot, was completed. A large volume of pottery was collected, along with iron nails, bronze items such as a hook, ring and pins, and an Archaic pin. Bronze coins include: two Laconian coins of the reign of Hadrian (Gruppe XXXVII); a worn Roman Imperial coin (with a Nile on the reverse); and a Lakedaimonian issue of 35–31 BC (Gruppe XXII, 3) with the legend ΦΕΙΔΙΑΣ on the obverse; two more dating 43–31 BC (Gruppe XVI and XVII, 76 respectively); another of 48–35 BC (Gruppe XV); and one of 7–2 BC (Gruppe XXXI); then two coins of Sikyon, one bronze and one silver; two Laconian coins of 31–7 BC (Gruppe XXVI); two worn coins likely dating 48–40 BC (Gruppe XIV); two Laconian coins of the reign of Commodus (Gruppe XLVI); and one probably of the reign of Claudius (Gruppe XXXVI).

Oraias Elenis Street (Ch. Giatra property). A. Themos reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 225–27) the excavation of a fourth- to fifth-century AD building, part of which may have been a workshop. This is a continuation of the complex found in 1993 on the neighbouring Katsou plot to the south.

In its first phase, the building consisted of two rooms with separate entrances, with walls of unworked stone, tile and mud (plaster was rarely used). Another building of this phase can be traced beneath later walls. To a later general phase of rebuilding belongs a well in the south of the plot which cuts through earlier structures. After the abandonment of the complex, two tombs were dug in room III – a Late Roman to Early Christian tile grave and a cist (including marble in secondary usage) containing two burials, the latter with an Early Christian lekythos.

Late Roman to Early Christian pottery collected includes ARS plates and North African lamps, one-handled cups, an almost intact amphora, an inscribed Roman lamp and part of a pointed amphora. Small finds include iron nails, parts of bone pins and a needle, a glass bead, two bronze stirrers, fragments of glass vessels, part of a miniature bronze bell, a bronze figurine of Hermes and four fragments of stone inscriptions (of which M13856 is a part of Diocletian's *Edict on Maximum Prices*). One hundred and twenty three bronze coins were collected, most of them fourth-century AD.

Electricity company works. A. Themos notes (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 227) several locations in Sparta where the opening of trenches for electricity cabling has revealed fragments of walls and drainage channels among other architectural remains.

The most significant remains – an atrium with a marble-clad impluvium and an early fourth-century AD floor mosaic – lie beneath IX Merarchi Street on the west side of O.T. 150. The atrium was surrounded by a water channel; in its centre, a lead water-pipe connects with the impluvium. The floor mosaic, framed with a garland, has panels preserved on the north, east and west sides, although the south is largely destroyed. The north side has three parts: on the east, two erotes fish from a boat

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press

with a net; in the centre, Poseidon is seated on a hippocamp; on the west, two erotes fish from a boat with rods. In the centre zone on the west side, Aphrodite is seated in a conch borne on the shoulders of two Tritons: two erotes are depicted above the heads of the Tritons and below Aphrodite. In the central zone on the south side is one of the first depictions of Hypnos' revelation to Dionysos of Ariadne sleeping on the shore of Naxos at the moment when she is abandoned by Theseus. The figures of Ariadne, Hypnos, Dionysos and Theseus are named.

Magoula

I. and S. Prekezé property. A. Themos reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 227–28) the discovery of a round structure with two parallel stone walls (estimated diameter 31.4m and 23m) cut by a channel. A second channel runs parallel to the west face of the interior wall. This appears to be an open, unroofed space, of uncertain function. The corner of a later structure overlies the outer wall in the southwest of the plot.

Kallikratidou Street. A. Themos reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 228) the discovery of ancient walls and sections of floor at several points along this street, as well as a cist tomb. Notably, on the property of P. Papagiannakos was part of a building with at least four rooms. Finds include a marble portrait head of a bearded man.

Sparta-Kastorio road. E. Zavvou and A. Themos report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 228–29) on antiquities discovered during the construction of the section of this new road from Sparta to Karavas.

Architectural remains and stone cist tombs were found 940m to 1.1km along the road, 160m from the west side in the former Karkoula property. Tomb 1 (oriented northwest-southeast), with stone cover slabs, contained one burial, head to the east, and a black-glazed lakaina. Tomb 2, oriented east-west, was badly damaged. Tomb 3 contained a few degraded bones. Excavation continues.

The location helps to define the northern extent of the ancient city and the ancient road from Sparta to Megalopolis on the right bank of the Evrotas. The tombs probably belong to the north cemetery of Sparta.

Mystras, Baloukorrachi, Church of Agios Andreas. A. Bakourou and E. Pantou report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 245) on a study conducted in 1999 for the restoration of this single-aisled church, noting evidence for at least three building phases. To the first, Late Byzantine (14th century), phase belong the apse of the sanctuary and part of the side walls; to the second (Ottoman), the remainder of the walls; and to recent times the extension of the narthex and the roof pre-conservation.

Amyklai, village (V. Politis property). E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 229) on rescue excavation which revealed extensive debris from the collapse of ancient architecture, including marble column fragments and a crown-block with acanthus leaves surrounding an egg.

Unglazed Roman sherds, plus some earlier black-glaze sherds, were collected, along with sherds of storage pithoi and a large quantity of tile. Small finds include a bronze coin, part of a bronze stirrer and a fragment of stamped red-slipped tile.

Amyklai, Sanctuary of Apollo. E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 230) the seizure of 16 architectural members from the property of K. Chroni at Kalogonia, Sparta. These include one piece with relief carving of lotus flowers intertwined with lotus buds, which probably belongs to the sculpted decoration of the Temple of Apollo.

Press attention (*Ethnos*, *Eleftherotypia* and *Apogevmatini* [24/06/10]) has been drawn to the decision of the Central Archaeological Council to permit the removal from the walls of the 12th-century Church of Profitis Ilias and the 13th-century Church of Ag. Theodoroi of seven architectural members from the Amyklaion throne and the altar of Apollo. Further spolia are noted in the churches of Ag. Nikolaos and Ag. Kyriaki. The seven members will be replaced with replicas, with no threat to the stability of the church buildings.

Gytheion, Agia Triada Street (O.T. 15, S. Diakoumakou property). A. Themos reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 229) the discovery of part of a large Roman building complex with a north entrance. Two rooms were partially excavated: beneath a destruction level, the north had marble paving around the edge and a floor in *opus sectile* in the centre. Only part of the south room was explored since the structure continues beneath the neighbouring plot. East of this room was an area with a floor mosaic.

In the western part of the excavation area was part of a north-south road crossed by two terracotta water-pipes: slight remains of the west retaining wall were recovered. This road lies above the building complex, confirming the impression gained from excavation elsewhere in the town that the Roman city was built on terraces on the slopes of the modern Palaiopolis.

Lakonis cave. E. Panagopoulou, P. Karkanas, E. Kotzabopoulou, G. Tsartsidou, K. Charvati and M. Dinou (then EPS, now EPSNE) report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1199–202). A small underground hollow was identified and explored, excavation in the main area continued and study of geology, environment and cave formation processes pursued. In area 1, a succession of hearths was excavated and the carbonized material sampled. Both the technology of the stone tools and C^{14} dates verify occupation at the end of the Middle Palaeolithic. A similar sequence of burnt areas was explored in trench 2, where the upper levels have Palaeolithic tools and those beneath Middle Palaeolithic. More than 1,000 stone tools were recovered from the two trenches: full discussion of their technology, and of C^{14} data, is presented. Early bovine and deer species are well presented in the faunal record, and plant remains indicate wooded surroundings. Survey in the wider eastern Mani area (reported below) has produced, in addition to new Palaeolithic sites, evidence for a likely source of the principal stone used for tools 15km from the site.

East Mani survey. A. Darlas (then EPS, now EPSNE) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1204) on the second season of survey focused north of the Bay of Oitylos, between Chotasias and Trachilas. On the west coast in particular, numerous surface finds (mostly of stone tools of Palaeolithic, but also later, date) were made especially in caves and hollows (15 new sites are noted). Investigation

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press

of the Vathy Langadi tis Trachilas produced no prehistoric material, although medieval and modern were present. Thirteenth- to 14th-century wall-paintings are reported in the rock-shelter of Ag. Marina.

Ancient Pyrrichos. As part of a programme of the 5th EPCA to extend and revise the legal protection given to the archaeological sites of Mani, a full account of the city of Pyrrichos and its territory is presented, including a map, analytical catalogue of archaeological remains known from this area and extensive bibliography (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 230–38).

B' Kouveleiki cave, Alepochori. Ch. Kontaxi (then EPS, now EPSNE) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1202) continuing excavation in 1999 and 2000. The only new anthropogenic features reported are Neolithic pits dug into the lower cave fill. Pottery consists of roughly-smoothed (and uncoated) domestic plainware, mainly storage vessels of different sizes, but also wide-mouthed vessels and open shapes such as bowls. Pithoi with rope decoration date to Late Neolithic I and II. Almost all of the stone tools are of Melian obsidian (blades, scrapers, arrowheads, etc.), with a very few simple flint items: worked stone axes, rubbers and millstones are also present (noting the use of serpentine). C^{14} dates indicate a range of 4,458–3,710 BC. The results of micromorphological and DNA analyses are awaited.

Agios Vasileios. A. Vasilogamvrou (Director, 5th EPCA) reports (*Eleftherotypia*, *Ethnos*, *Ta Nea* [28/04/09]) the discovery of further remains of Mycenaean settlement in the course of rescue excavation. In addition to pottery and figurines, fresco fragments and fragments of three Linear B tablets indicate the existence of a higher-order centre in the vicinity.

Tablet 1 preserves the word e-pi-zo-ta, referring to daggers or short swords, on one side in a large quantity (500–999) and, on the other, in a smaller (100). Tablet 2 has the name ti-jo-ko (Antichos). Tablet 3 preserves the following words on each line: -to-jo (line 1); wi-ti-mi-ja (Isthmia) (line 2); TELA-PA (ideogram for textile) followed by three (line 3); lines 4–5 are illegible; PTE-WE (woven fabric, as a dedication) (last line). V. Aravantinos, personal communication (noting his contribution to *To Vima* [24/05/09]).

Monemvasia

Publication: H.A. Kalligas, *Monemvasia. A Byzantine City State* (London 2010).

Church of Agia Anna or Our Lady of Malta. A. Bakourou and E. Pantou report (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 245–46) on remedial work focused on the east side of the church, where a large part of the sanctuary apse had collapsed. Following the removal of debris, part of the destroyed niche of the sanctuary was revealed, built in worked limestone blocks with white plaster on the interior. The remains were cleaned and stabilized.

Pavlopetri. E. Spondylis (EMA) and J. Henderson (BSA/Nottingham) report on the first season of underwater survey of the submerged prehistoric town off the Pounta shore, opposite Elaphonisos.

The site was first identified in 1904, rediscovered in 1967, and in 1968 surveyed by a team from the University of Cambridge using a fixed-grid system and hand tapes. The resulting plan, covering an area of 300m x 100m, included at least 15 separate building complexes, courtyards, streets, two chamber tombs and 37 cist graves. The underwater site continues south onto Pavlopetri island, on which were visible remains of walls and other archaeological material. On the Pounta shore, a cemetery of at least 60 rock-cut graves was provisionally dated to the Early Helladic. A little Early to Late Bronze Age surface pottery was recovered from the seabed in 1968, but the submerged buildings were dated by analogy mainly to the Mycenaean period. Ceramic evidence for later use of the site comprises Hellenistic cooking pots, black-glazed wares, Roman ribbed ware and late sixth- to seventh-century AD sherds.

In 2009 a new survey recorded the surviving architectural remains and recovered a range of surface finds from across the site. Two survey methods were employed: points were taken using a shore-based robotic total station; and trial survey was carried out using a Kongsberg-Mesotech MS 1000 sector scan sonar. In testing the sonar equipment, a wide range of scan radii were used from fixed positions, ranging from 150m scans of building complexes to very high resolution 5m scans. The MS 1000 sector scan sonar provides instantaneous high-resolution sea floor scans which consist of 3D point cloud data comparable to that produced by terrestrial laser scanners. The data produced will be manipulated in 3D environments to produce isometric images of the submerged building complexes.

In addition to recording the 30,000m^2 of buildings first identified in 1968, over 9,000m^2 of new buildings were discovered to the north (**Fig. 47**). At least 25 co-joined square and rectilinear rooms (built of rough square limestone blocks as elsewhere on the site) began some 10m from the existing shore line. A 40m long street was lined with rectilinear buildings with stone foundations. One square building (3m x 3m) contains the remains of a central pillar-like structure. Two new cist graves were discovered alongside what appears to be a pithos burial in a corner of one of the newly discovered rooms. A large trapezoidal building, *ca.* 34m long and 12–17m wide, contains at least three separate rooms and is comparable in layout to Early Bronze Age buildings. Its size and prominent position within the settlement imply that it was of some importance. The extent of the town is now estimated at *ca.* 4ha.

The pottery collected in 2009, while unstratified, covers the entire extent of the site as now known and provides a clearer picture of occupation history. Occupation began in the Final Neolithic. Ongoing study of the artefacts sampled, i.e. 442 ceramic items, an iron nail and an obsidian chip, provides the following chronological breakdown: 3% Final Neolithic, 40% Early Bronze Age, 15% Middle Bronze Age, 25% Late Bronze Age, 3% Classical/Hellenistic, 0.5% Roman/Byzantine. Of the pottery, 13.5% is badly worn and provisionally characterized as Bronze Age.

Early Helladic pithoi and storage jars bear a variety of rope-impressed and finger-impressed decoration. In addition to storage vessels (some with mat-impressed bases), standard Early Bronze Age shapes such as cups, sauceboats, conical saucers, askoi, portable hearths and dishes are represented, some showing close links with the Cyclades, western Crete and the northeastern Aegean. In contrast to the limited picture of Middle Helladic occupation from the 1968 survey, a quantity of Middle

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press



47. Pavlopetri: site plan following the 2009 survey.

Helladic pottery was lifted in 2009, both local wares and a few imports possibly from Kythera, noting storage vessels with Middle Minoan decoration. Late Bronze Age sherds span the Middle Helladic/Late Helladic transition until the collapse of the Mycenaean palaces. Shapes represented include drinking vessels (mainly kylikes and cups), storage vessels (amphorae and alabastra) and vessels for serving liquids (squat jugs, skyphoi and kraters). Several sherds show strong Late Minoan influence; a clay strainer is provisionally dated to LMIB.

The site was probably abandoned in post-palatial times. Limited Classical to Hellenistic reoccupation is indicated by fourth- and third-century skyphos and other sherds. Late antique pottery recovered in 1968 and 2009 may also indicate limited reoccupation and local involvement in trade in limestone and iron from the nearby ores at Ag. Elissaios and the exploitation of murex beds for the production of purple dye.

Elaphonisos, M. Liarou-Psarommati property. E. Zavvou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 229) the discovery of Early Helladic and Mycenaean sherds during trial excavation in the area of Lefki, at Kato Nisi.

Neapolis (ancient Boiai), 124 Akti Boion Street (G. I. and K. Kontraphouri property). A. Themos (then 5th EPCA, now Epigraphical Museum) reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 230) the discovery of walls and Late Roman pottery (amphorae, terra sigillata, and incised and combed ware) during excavation connected with the insertion of new supports into a house basement. The plot lies south of the central square of Neapolis, immediately bordering the site of a Late Roman bath previously partially excavated (see *ADelt* 25 [1970] *Chr*, 172; *ADelt* 26 [1971] *Chr*, 120–22; *ADelt* 28 [1973] *Chr*, 173–75, and noting the fragment of Diocletian's *Edict on Maximum Prices* previously found here: *AE* [1992], 165–77). The present remains must be part of this complex.

MESSENIA
(38th EPCA: 26th EBA)

Messene. P. Themelis (ASA) reports on a further season of excavation in the theatre, the north stoa in the agora and the monopteros (*Ergon* [2009], 42–48).

In the theatre, the east retaining wall of the koilon was completely exposed to its lowest course. This is also the north wall of the *skenotheke* of which the east wall and the stylobate of the south side are preserved (**Fig. 48**). Three parallel channels in the floor of the *skenotheke* allowed the movement of wheeled wooden scenery into the orchestra from the end of the third century BC to the first century AD (**Fig. 49**). Behind the north wall of the *skenotheke* lay the sloping floor which led to the middle *diazoma* of the koilon. In the 10th to 11th century AD, the east retaining wall was levelled, and workshops and lime kilns built within the foundations of the koilon. Among the building material used is the base of a marble statue of a boxer victorious in the Pythian games and in the *Basileia* at Levadeia.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608410000128 Published online by Cambridge University Press