T. The last major undertaking will be a plan by which the site may be presented to the public.

For further information about the Kommos site, see the general web site: http://www.fineart.utoronto.ca/kommos/index.html. For the archives, embracing many publications and field records, see: https://tspace.library.utoronto.ca/handle/1807/3004. On conservation methods used or planned, see: http://www.kommosconservancy.org/.

Phaistos survey. M. Benzi (SAIA/Pisa) and F. Longo (SAIA/Salerno) report on the continuation of survey in and around the town in 2008–2009, in collaboration with the 23rd EPCA.

A local network was established to enable effective use of GIS referencing and to combine it with other bodies of information such as structures located on the hill of Kastro and the Middle Acropolis, the building at Ag. Georgios at Phalandra, the Hellenistic walls on Christos Effendi, the neighbourhood of Chalara, the section of road north of the Phaestian Tavern, the Hellenistic complex at the southern foot of the hill of the palace and the remains of Minoan and Hellenistic structures near the road to Matala (excavation at Ag. Ioannis). At Marathovigla, Geometric material was discovered in the course of survey.

More intensive survey was conducted at two locations: on the hill southeast of the palace and immediately south of Ag. Ioannis. At the first site, structures still partly visible as well as material provisionally classified as Minoan and Hellenistic attest to the existence of a densely-populated area close to the Matala road and immediately north of the cemetery at Ag. Pavlos. The scant evidence of the intervening periods includes a Cretan Late Geometric aryballos (late eighth- to seventh-century BC) and a Late Archaic black-figure fragment.

In the second area, close the so-called Baths, the remains of a Roman structure in *cocciopesto*, not mentioned in the literature, have been identified, as well as displaced limestone blocks perhaps from the southern section of the fortifications. The pottery collected here is mainly Roman and Byzantine in date.

Pitsidia. D. Hatzi-Vallianou reports on a subsidiary season of excavation in 2000 at a Minoan rural villa, ahead of the creation of a cover for the site (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1102–05, 1108–11). Tests to the east and west showed walls, Middle Minoan sherds and the occasional stone tool or vase fragment. It seems that a First Palace period settlement existed in the area, and that it was levelled and filled for the construction of the new villa. The ceramics display typical Phaistian features. The recovery of good quality Classical and Early Hellenistic pottery to the southeast argues for a community of this date in that region. Surface survey in 1999–2000 has expanded the results obtained from earlier work in 1978: it has shown the region to have been continuously settled from Neolithic times to the present day.

Demos of Viannos

Kato Syme. A. Lembesi (ASA) reports (*Ergon* [2009], 74) on the restoration of a collapsed wall of building U (First Palace period).

Publications: P. Muhly, *The Sanctuary of Hermes and Aphrodite at Syme Viannou* IV. *Animal Images of Clay* (Athens 2008). P. Muhly and J.-P. Olivier, 'Linear A inscriptions from the Syme sanctuary', *AE* 147 [2008], 197–223.

WESTERN CRETE (Nomos of Rethymnon) (25th EPCA: 28th EBA)

Demos of Anogeia

Kouroupetos. Y. Sakellarakis (ASA) reports (*Ergon* [2009], 72–73) on the excavation of a burial cave, the second to be located on the Psiloritis massif. The cave holds a LMIIIA2 warrior burial. Remains of at least three people were recovered, much damaged (as were other finds) by rock falls and the activities of shepherds. The sides and cover of a larnax were recovered, with abundant pottery including stirrup jars, jugs, cups and conical cups, a kylix and a jug; blossom and pithoid-shaped vases also occur. Metal finds are a wire bracelet, a pin and a ring-band; a steatite whorl was also recovered. Under the vases and small finds, a pit contained a bronze knife and spearhead, three bronze vessels and two monochrome clay cups, one footed. These seem to have been placed there in the course of the funerary rites and before the larnax was positioned.

Zominthos. Y. Sakellarakis reports on continuing excavations in 2009 at this upland centre (*Ergon* [2009], 68–72). Three goals were pursued: the investigation of rooms 14 and 15 at the northwest, along with 19 and 28 to their immediate south; that of room 29; and that of the north-eastern part of the Central Building which had been disturbed by looters.

Work in rooms 14 and 15 focused on the consolidation of vulnerable walls, removing fill and tumble to reveal the lower courses in position. Numerous vases of several forms, including conical cups (fallen from above), 12 cups and a juglet, were recovered, as well as querns. In room 19, a pile of large stones and flat slabs at the east came from a collapsed stairway to the upper floor. Finally, in the southeastern part of room 28 was a quantity of pots; 11 cups (mostly conical), an amphora, a bucket and a base sherd with a mat impression. Various ornaments were also found: a bronze heart-shaped pendant which should be associated with two beads of carnelian and agate, finds which belong to the previous period, a pin, and a large piece of rock-crystal. To the west in the same room fallen floor slabs of schist came from the upper storey, along with a few conical cups, a jug and a grinder.

Investigations of the southeast corner of the Central Building, damaged by looters, produced animal bones, carbon and one kalathiskos. In room 29 to the north, part of a more recent wall and a bronze arrowhead were found, and, in a deeper level, a series of paving or wall slabs, two conical cups and parts of six fruitstands. A more recent wall was also found in the western part of room 29.

Demos of Arkadi

Arkadi Monastery. M. Andrianakis reports on continuing restoration work undertaken in 2000 on the central building and outlying structures (*ADelt* 55 [2000]

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B2, 1082–83). The stables, to the west of the monastery, are typically late Venetian in style; the 'cheese-dairy', to the north, is a simple 19th-century AD structure; the raki-distilling room is also early 19th century in date; finally, a footpath and spring area lie to the north.

Chamalevri. M. Andreadaki-Vlazaki (then Director, 25th EPCA, now Director of Antiquities, Ministry of Culture and Tourism) reports on work undertaken at four localities in 2000 (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1031–32).

Between 1998 and 2000, Minoan wall footings were located over a distance of 32m at the northeastern foot of the **Kakavella** hill (Lambiris-Vasileiadis field); another wall lay to the north, seemingly marking off an open space. Beneath a thick layer of debris were the remains of a Middle Minoan workshop: associated finds included 11 clay vases (mostly conical cups), loomweights, obsidian, stone vases and a clay figurine. At **Palaioloutra** on the southern site of the Kakavella hill (Kallergis field) is a MMII to LMIIIB settlement, with further MMI and LMIIIC1 building remains opposite on the eastern flank of the Tsikouriana hill. Close to the latter is **Konostasi** (Skepetzis field), where architectural remains (part of a room and a cobbled road) were confined to the northwestern part of the field. Finds comprise five clay vases (four conical cups and a one-handled cup), obsidian, a loomweight, bronze and clay items. Finally, Hellenistic material (including terracotta loomweights, cups, stone querns, obsidian and a lead clamp) was found on the south of the same hill, at **Dagkouliana** (Deredakis field).

Eleutherna. *Ethnos* (28/08/09), *Ta Nea* (28/08/09), *Eleftherotypia* (28/08/09) and *Apogevmatini* (28/08/09) report on the 25th season of excavation by N. Stambolidis (Crete/Museum of Cycladic Art).

Particular reference is made to three eight-century BC burials from the cemetery at Orthi Petra. A rectangular structure (*ca.* 3–3.5m long) with walls standing to a height of 2.1m – effectively a built chamber tomb complete with door – was constructed in an area previously utilized for Mycenaean tombs (17th- to 10th- century BC). Some late eighth- to early seventh-century pottery was located *ca.* 1m above the floor. On the floor were three female skeletons in close proximity, one 65–70 years of age, the others around 16–17. Organic remains indicate some form of cloth cover, adorned with faience beads and gold foil ornament. Rich grave goods include scarabs of Egyptian Blue, seals of amber and rock-crystal (their motifs often hark back to earlier times: double-axes, deer, horses, starfish and squid), bronze bracelets, brooches, earrings and hair ornaments. The gold jewellery is notable, being decorated with granulation and inset stones (now all lost). Some are pendants, like the Daedalic female heads and the tortoise, and other larger pieces may be pectorals: some depict lions and carry meander motifs.

Over the structure were remains of pyres of later date (similar to others found in the area) and other types of burials, including that of two small hunting dogs. The tally of burials at Eleutherna has now reached some 400.

Publication: P.G. Themelis (ed.), *Ancient Eleutherna: Sector 1*. Vol. 1 (Athens 2009). E. Nodarou, 'Petrographic analysis of Early Iron Age pottery from the necropolis of Orthi Petra in Eleutherna', *Kentro* 12 [2009], 15–16.

Pigi. E. Kapranos (25th EPCA) reports on the excavation of an unplundered Minoan chamber tomb (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 476–89) of typical type (an irregular rectangular chamber with a domed roof and a long dromos). There are several such isolated LMIII tombs in this region.

One person was interred in a larnax at the northern side, along with 21 ceramic vessels and one of stone, concentrated at the southeast and, to a degree, southwest (**Fig. 193**). The larnax is footed and decorated. One long side has two octopuses flanking a central group of two double-axes and horns of consecration set over an 'altar' pattern; the other an arrangement of the latter two symbols. The stone vase is a Blossom Bowl, an heirloom from Neopalatial times. Clay vessels include an amphoroid krater with octopus design with its stand (also with octopuses and spirals), a thilastron, a kalathos, an incense burner, an alabastron, an amphora, two kylikes, three shallow bowls, two conical cups, a spouted cup and three miniatures – a bridge-spouted jug, a stirrup jar and a flask (**Fig. 194**). They date to LMIIIA2, perhaps tending to LMIIIB.



193. Pigi: larnax burial.

Viran Episkopi. N. Pyrrou (28th EBA) reports on excavation and restoration conducted in 2008 at the three-aisled church of Ag. Demetrios (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 543–55).

The irregularities of the plan and the obvious additions attest to more than four structural phases, during most of which the building was used as a bath (from the Middle Byzantine era). Evidence for this original use includes cisterns, holes in the roof and pipes in the walls. The original, rectangular structure (central and south aisles) was elaborated towards the end of its life as a bath, the newer north aisle itself having at least two phases. The floors were of tiles and plaster, and the walls plastered and painted red and yellow.

The transformation into a church may be roughly dated by the gothic doorway (mid 15th century AD), though the lack of ceramic evidence makes dating imprecise. Alterations were undertaken in the Venetian period. Some tombs were located below the floors.

Demos of Geropotamos

Charakas. E. Theocharopoulou reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1059–62) on excavations and repairs to the fortress of Charaki near Kophinas.

The fortification wall (which is double on the western side, but absent on the eastern where the terrain was natural defensive) enclosed a long hall with three rooms;

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194. Pigi: pottery from the larnax burial.

the northern room contains a water cistern, partly dug into the ground, on the eastern side. There are three rectangular, two-storeyed towers, two of which are attached to the long hall at the northwest and southwest, and the last of which is free-standing to the east. At the south is a small church with frescoes. The fortifications began to be put in place in the second Byzantine period and were remodelled during the Venetian period in the *fronte bastionato* manner of the 16th century. The central hall for the garrison was erected at this time. The Ottoman period saw more alterations, the last noted dating to the early 18th century.

Melidoni. I. Gavrilaki (25th EPCA) reports on excavation in the Gerontospilios cave from 1987–2008 (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 657–69).

The cave was used for habitation in the Final Neolithic/Early Minoan era, whilst from the Middle Minoan to the second- to first-century BC cult activities were dominant. The first phase, a yellow soil over the bedrock, is represented by typical occupation debris: stone tools and axes, obsidian and bone tools, as well as a wide range of pottery including storage vessels. Later evidence shows varying foci of activities spread throughout the cave interior. Indications of fires of varying sizes (around which lie conical cups, jugs and jars, and cooking pots) stand alongside heaps of stones and more deliberate arrangements of slabs (like Πs) which are usually Middle Minoan to Late Minoan in date. A large stalagmite to the north attracted numbers of mouldmade female figurines (*ca.* 680–600 BC), and then seated females and lamps of the third to fourth century BC. Roman bone pins also appear here. A very large collection of mixed figurine types of Bronze Age and later date underline the devotional aspect of the cave's use. Other finds typical of Hellenistic and Roman contexts include horns of deer and goat, lamps and astragaloi. The focus of this worship may have altered by the second to first century BC, when inscriptions mention the god Hermes. The latest activity is also situated more towards the cave mouth. From the 15th century AD onwards, large numbers of graffiti and inscriptions record the names and dates of visitors of many nations.

Pera Galinoi. E. Tsivilika (National Museum, Athens) and E. Banou (25th EPCA) report on the second season of excavation on the Minoan peak sanctuary in 2000 (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1032–34). The aim was to excavate completely the rooms begun in 1993.

Slight subsidence in the schist pavement of room 2 was due to the presence of a small space below (room 2a); this had a medial wall and conical cups on a floor that showed traces of burning. Below room 1 was a similar space (room 3), again with a medial wall. The upper fill contained large schist slabs from the ceiling of room 3/floor of room 1. Traces of wood inside the west wall might indicate an access ladder. In lower levels of the fill of the room, alternating red and brown soils may derive from mud-brick. In the southeastern corner, an L-shaped installation of two rows of mud-brick, earth and a plaster coating may perhaps be a couch. Other fittings of mud-brick and phyllite are recorded. It is suggested that this room might be a forerunner of the Lustral Basin; a lamp was found and, on the floor, two conical cups. Room 6 yielded a whitewashed earthen bench on its southern and western walls. On it and the paved floor were conical cups.

Room 8 held a broad staircase (over 2m wide) with nine steps and three landings. Room 8α continues the sloping arrangement of the architecture to the southeast: at

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the east is a paved corridor. By means of a pair of steps it links the stairs of room 8 to the west with yet another stairway to the south. This stairway, with five steps, is defined by walls on its two sides, much damaged by an earthquake. The fill on the stairs produced traces of fire (carbon and ash) and much pottery (cooking wares, tripod pots, conical and one-handled cups, as well as a Kamares-style piece with white banding). Also present are animal bones, agrimi horns, jaws and teeth, seashells and urchin spines. Plaster is mostly left white, but there is evidence of solid red and brown, as well as some polychromy. Lastly, metal finds include bronze tools (points and fish-hooks) and gold foil. Southwest lies room 8β with a similar fill and finds. Room 12 is a double narrow corridor, with walls at times 2m high, with the western side covered in lime plaster; finds include a clay rhyton, conical cups and two stone offering tables. It is noted that various openings in this room had been bricked up and plastered over.

Perama. A. Phraidaki (28th EBA) reports on the excavation between 2004–2006 of a three-aisled basilica at Palaiokklisia (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 532–42) (**Fig. 195**).

Excavation was taken down to the floor levels, with only the narthex (at the west) unexcavated. There are two main constructional phases: the earlier traces are relatively modest and detectable by the use of field-stones and sturdy lime plaster. The later consists of most of what is visible today, often building on the earlier wall-lines: this probably includes the floors. Re-used masonry includes a limestone column and two more of marble. Below the destruction debris (stones, bricks and plaster), the nave floor is paved with rectangular marble slabs, the south aisle with bricks and the north again of marble slabs. Built benches exist in all aisles. The monument is simple, with no mosaics.

A very late cist grave of a child was found set in the north aisle. Nearby was the cruciform baptisterion: shallow, paved in marble, with a drainage pipe at the north and a few steps down to enter the area at the west. Much vessel glass was found mixed with the debris at the east. Most of the pottery from the north aisle dates between the early fifth and early seventh centuries AD. This suggests a parallel with the sixth-century baptisterion in Panormo; certain internal arrangements are reminiscent of those at Fodele of the fifth to sixth century AD.



195. Perama: basilica.

Finds include the bronze container of an oil lamp, iron sheet and nails, glass and two Early Byzantine bronze coins of Eleutherna (of the reign of Constantine IV, AD 668–685). Burial evidence has been detected east of the north aisle. The re-used pillars suggest the existence of Roman and Late Roman structures in the area.

The date of the original construction is unknown. After an early fifth-century AD earthquake there must have been an immediate rebuild as pottery of that date appears throughout. In the mid sixth century the floors were laid in their present form and the baptisterion erected. The final destruction is poorly understood, but is probably due to the strong earthquake in the seventh century. It remains possible that the nave was rebuilt and continued in use, whilst the aisles remained in ruins.

Demos of Kouloukonas

Axos. E. Tegou (25th EPCA) reports on excavations at several spots on the acropolis in 2005–2006 (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 490–97).

On the northern side, at Ag. Ioannis, architectural remains (walls and pebble floors) were visible in fields south of the church. One demarcated a threshing floor, the others cobbled surfaces and destruction debris of tiles. The pottery dates from the Late Minoan period to modern. A pair of late Christian cist graves was excavated. Walls of another five rooms were found on the northern slopes, amidst a wide range of (mostly Byzantine) pottery and a fragment of a Hellenistic inscription. To the southeast lies a Venetian aqueduct into which an honorary inscription of the first century BC to the first century AD had been built. A hoard of nine coins of the city-state of Axos dating to 200–175 BC were found, as well as four later Hellenistic, six Roman, one Byzantine and two Venetian coins.

At Sto Mouri, Venetian architecture was uncovered, as well as three terracotta animal figurines similar to those recovered from the open-air sanctuary of Demeter at Stou Gerakaro to the west. From Madopa, chance finds of an amphora, a perfume bottle and an aryballoid lekythos revealed the presence nearby of an Early Hellenistic cemetery (mid fourth- to early third-century BC).

In 2008, geophysical survey at a number of separate locations succeeded in identifying the exact location of the lost Temple of Aphrodite.

Demos of Kourites

Phourphouras. P. Varthalitou (28th EBA) reports on restoration from 2007 onwards at the Church of the Virgin in a ruined monastic setting (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 556–67). This small church was shown to have two construction phases; architectural alterations in the early 18th century AD included the use of 'accoustic' pots (the vessels themselves being re-used from late in the previous century). The surviving frescoes in the east of the building date to the original construction in the last decades of the 14th century AD: one main hand and at least one assistant can be detected. A painted inscription of five lines (white on black) on the north wall records the name of Nicholas Arkoleo, after whom the settlement was once named. At the west, a simple stone-built tomb yielded a bronze coin, probably a *tornesello* of Michael Steno (Doge 1400–1413).

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Demos of Lappa

Argyroupoli. M. Andrianakis (then 13th EBA, now Director, 13th EBA and 28th EBA) reports on restoration and excavation in 2000 at the single-aisled church of Ag. Kyriaki (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1083). A Roman bath here was converted into a church: the original walls are visible nearby and incorporated into the secondary structure. Two layers of wall-painting are evident, the more recent belonging to the first decades of the 13th century AD. A medieval cemetery was located within the walls of the earlier bath.

Demos of Phoinika

Plakias Mesolithic Survey. T. Strasser (ASCSA/Providence), P. Murray (ASCSA/Boston), E. Panagopoulou (EPSNE), C. Runnels (ASCSA/Boston) and N. Thompson (EPSNE) report on the findings of two seasons of survey. Numerous reports have appeared both in the Greek press (e.g. *Kathimerini* [17/02/10], *Ethnos* [20/01/10], *Eleftheros Typos* [12/01/10]) and in foreign periodicals (e.g *Archaeology* May/June 2010, 9).

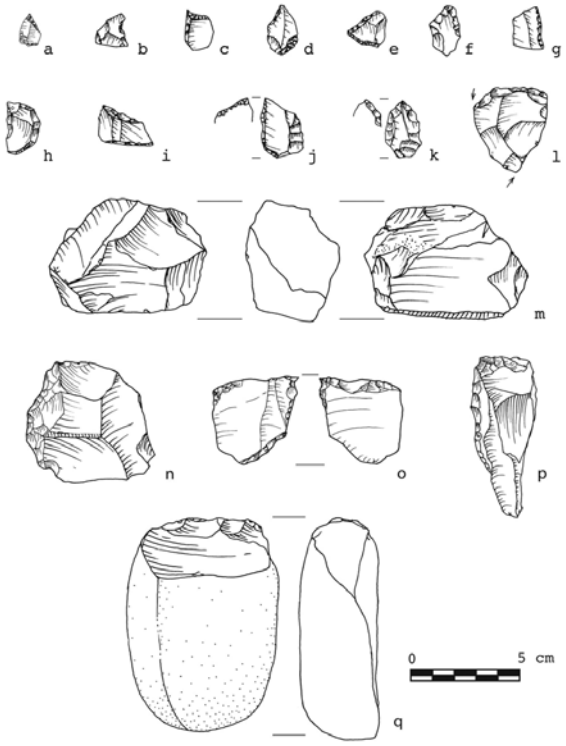
Twenty eight sites associated with caves or rock-shelters have been investigated in the area from Plakias to the Preveli gorge and around Ag. Pavlos. Of 2,139 lithic artefacts, microliths of Mesolithic type come from 20 sites, with Palaeolithic from nine locations. At Preveli 2, 3 and 8, finds from both groups were made, but such overlaps do not usually occur.

The targeted methodology, the site distributions and the basic definitions of the industries have been discussed in *AR* 55 [2008–2009], 98–99. Most scatters yielded 80–100 artefacts, some (e.g. Schinaria 1) number in the thousands. Locally available cobbles of quartzite and chert as well as massive quartz were exploited: all can be knapped. Chert occurs only in the Mesolithic assemblages and in small quantities: it is arguably brought in from elsewhere.

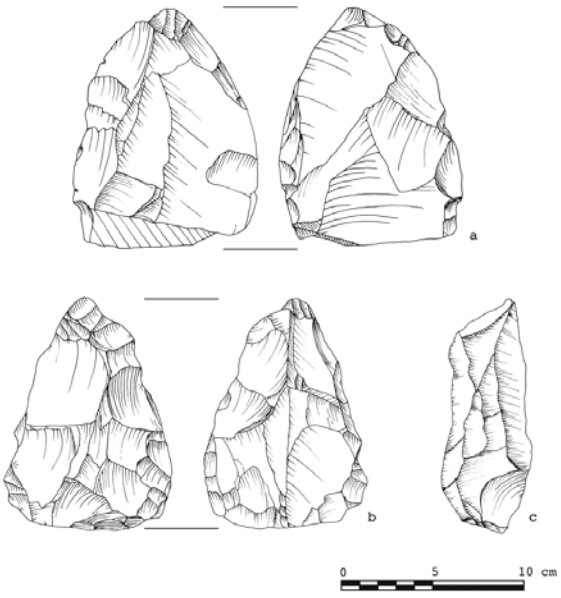
The Mesolithic artefact clusters are found in front of small caves or rock-shelters, and are limited in size and yield. The full range of assemblages (cores, debitage and retouched tools) suggest residence for long enough to acquire the raw materials and reduce them to tools. The largest collection was made at Schinaria 1; 564 artefacts were selected from several thousand pieces visible on the surface (**Fig. 196**). The assemblage consists almost entirely of quartz artefacts, and is rich in cores and retouched tools. The latter include notches and denticulates, pieces with retouch, geometric microliths, spines (piercers and borers of various types), truncations and small end scrapers. The Plakias industry has affinities with both the Lower Mesolithic (Lithique Phase VII) and the Upper Mesolithic (Lithique Phase VIII) at Franchthi Cave, but it would be hazardous to attribute any sites to one or other of these specific phases.

The Palaeolithic material is found downslope from rock-shelters, eroding out of associated conglomerates or trapped beneath them in pockets of sediment amongst limestone outcrops. Terrarossa earths, both *in situ* and more extensive in distribution, or even redeposited, may contain lithic artefacts (e.g. Preveli 3 to a depth of 1m or more). A typical example might be seen in Timeos Stavros 4: here a debris flow appears to be preserved in a field below a limestone fault scarp. In an area of approximately 40m x 90m, a large concentration of stone tools was found mingled with angular pieces of limestone and travertine, suggesting a derivation from the caves and rock-shelters upslope.

The lithic artefacts may belong to more than one Palaeolithic industry, including, in traditional terms, the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic (**Fig. 197**). These indus-



196. Plakias Mesolithic Survey: Mesolithic artefacts from Schinaria 1.



197. Plakias Mesolithic Survey: Palaeolithic artefacts from Preveli 7.

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tries employed a reduction strategy using direct hard percussion to remove large flakes and, rarely, thick blades from minimally-prepared cores that were often worked bifacially. Considerable variability in the morphological tool types suggests opportunism in the selection of flake blanks and edges for retouch. Many blanks have only one edge retouched, often partially and discontinuously, frequently bifacially. Raw material was plentiful and there was much expediency in the use of blanks and a tendency to discard tools after only short periods of use. The Palaeolithic materials resemble the Acheulean *sensu lato*: this may be defined as consisting of large flakes used to configure big tools, with a diversity of morphotypes of small retouched tools and standardized knapping methods, among which the bifacial centripetal technique of core reduction stands out. The Acheulean may have a high frequency of large-sized flakes as blanks for the production of bifaces, the use of side-struck or corner struck flakes, the presence of techniques involving predetermination ('approximate Levallois patterns'), attempts to thin the bifaces in the area of the bulb of percussion and a minimal investment in bifacial retouch. These descriptions would serve for the artefacts from Plakias. Some cores and bifacial scrapers, however, resemble Middle Palaeolithic artefacts and it cannot be ruled out that we are dealing with more than one Palaeolithic industry or facies in Crete.

Demos of Rethymno

Agia Irini. M. Andrianakis reports on work on the three-aisled church (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1085). Where the katholikon now stands, traces of an earlier and smaller church, with wall-painting, have been recovered.

Agia Irini settlement. N. Karamaliki (25th EPCA) reports on excavation in a Hellenistic settlement (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 512–24) of the early third to late second century BC. Sited on a hilltop, it is defined to the north by a fortification wall of isodomic masonry. Beyond probably lay the cemeteries, to judge from scattered pieces of funerary vases, such as lamps.

In the **Koulakis plot** lay a building terraced to follow the slope of the land (higher to the west). Parts of two rooms were excavated, with a further two less well understood: typically the walls are set on bedrock and still stand quite high; better dressed stone serves for jambs and thresholds, the floors are beaten earth and the roofs tiled. Room 1 has a squared stone base (perhaps to support a beam) by the east wall, a stone hearth and a large quern set just west of the doorway. These, plus the tablewares, suggest that food was prepared here. A terracotta model of two standing warriors armed with shield and spear on a support frame shows that other activities were practised in the area, as is also suggested by the presence of a column krater, a lamp and more than five braziers. To the east, room 2 is a storeroom with a covered drain set below the earth floors (of which three can be recognized). At the southwest, a structure built of stone slabs may be a hearth; in the centre of the room is a structure of four slabs with a hole within. To the south and east, eight or more pithoi and four amphorae are set by the walls, and of the 56 loomweights found in the room, 16 were inside a smashed pithos.

The pottery from room 1 (especially the oinochoe and phiale) reveals clear ties to Knossos: other Cretan traditions are strong in such shapes as cylindrical cups. Indeed, the braziers seem to recall the Minoan era. The structure was in use for about a century from the late third to the late second century BC.

On the **Koulakis-Liodakis plot**, two walls (north and south) of a room were found, with hints of the east wall preserved in the rock. At the centre of the room was a hearth, with a stone cylinder to its east. Outside, under a stone pile, a cistern was cut into the bedrock; this was probably covered with hydraulic cement. Associated pottery indicates its use in the second century BC.

Further settlement remains were found on the **Politakis plot**, comprising at least four covered spaces with a large yard to their east. Room A had destruction debris (tiles and stone) over its largely earth floor; stone slabs had been set on this surface at the northwest, with a small stone bench to the south and two further stone slabs, all perhaps to accommodate the storage vessels retrieved. What may be a stone hearth lay inside the entrance; vases, loomweights and burnt wood were recovered at the north. Along with the storage pithoi, the plain domestic wares (basins, jugs, plates and cups) date to the third century BC. A similar picture pertains in rooms D and E to the north. The yard had a rock surface sloping slightly to the east, into which were cut three small, rectangular pits running parallel to the wall and *ca.* 0.5m from it, which may have held wooden uprights for a lean-to shelter.

Finally, on the **Spandagos plot** to the north, three walls of a room were recovered plus a little pottery of the late second century BC.

Rethymnon. M Andrianakis reports on the continuing restoration in 2000 of the Fortetsa that dominates the town (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1077–80). He comments on the broad structural appearance and history of the East Gate Complex, the Rector's Palace, the Councillors' Lodge and the Bastion of Ag. Loukas. Evidence of a Hellenistic settlement below is known.

Vrysinas. G. Kordatzaki (University of Crete) reports on the initial results of macroscopic and microanalysis of the ceramic fabrics found in the Vrysinas Survey (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 464–75).

Material from two chronological phases was selected for comparison and contrast. The first set – from the Middle Minoan Peak Sanctuary – is characterized by a wide range of fabric compositions and is believed to represent local production by the various populations who gathered there. The second – LMIIIC and Early Geometric pottery from the surrounding slopes – has a much more restricted range of fabric recipes; high concentrations of calcium in some are thought to reflect social dynamics within the catchment area. In technical terms, this latter period also marks a distinct change in the preparation of the clays themselves. Quite coarse sand and gravel are now employed as temper within the Ca-richer mixes: their grain size covers a wide range and is not especially evenly distributed. It is suggested that this effect is due to the quarrying of alluvial sediments after strong flooding and similar actions had laid them down. Such events may have caused damage to the lowlands, thus encouraging the movement of peoples to higher altitudes.

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DEMOS OF SYBRITOS

Amari. M. Andrianakis reports on the work done in 2000 at the Church of Zoodochos Pigis (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1080). The original form of the church was a cross-in-a-square; later a single-aisled chapel was added to the northwest. Subsequent collapses and reconstructions created a final amalgam that marries a three-aisled basilica with pillars to a cruciform-based structure. The Gothic doorframe at the south suggests a late 14th-century date for this. The few wall-painting fragments visible in the chapel date to the mid 13th century.

Nephs Amari. M. Andrianakis reports (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1080–82) on work done in 2000 at the single-aisled church of Ag. Anna, where a smaller vaulted church was added at the southern side. The original form of the structure and the nature of the subsequent building phases were revealed: the north wall was rebuilt in the later 13th century AD, while the visible wall-paintings are of the second Byzantine period, with evidence of the flourishing local traditions of the 12th century AD remaining.

Ano Meros. M. Andrianakis reports on restoration work in 2000 at the Monastery of the Saviour Kaloeidenas (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1085). In an exterior space by the katholikon, simple pit graves of the 16th to 17th century AD were discovered.

Veni. E. Tegou reports on excavation on this upland plateau conducted in 2006, south of the Venetian Church of Christ the Saviour (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 525–31). Parts of two rooms were found in separate areas. In the first (Tr 5), a lamp, a pithos, a loomweight and part of a stone vase were retrieved from within the corner angle of two walls. From similar circumstances in the second (Tr 9), destruction debris contained a bronze lamp, three coins (of Eleutherna, Rethymnon and perhaps Sybrita), seven clay vases and 21 loomweights of varied shapes. The coins and the vases (which are mostly domestic wares) indicate a second-century BC date. A total of 96 loomweights was recorded.

Patso. V. Niniou-Kindeli (25th EPCA) reports on continued restoration and excavation at the Sanctuary of Hermes Kranaios conducted in 2000 (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1035–37). The goals were the complete exposure of the ancient temple, the improvement of its surroundings and the protection of the Christian shrine of Ag. Antonios.

The recovery of large and undisturbed (if often mingled) levels of pre-Christian ceremonial deposits produced a large quantity and quality of finds. The earliest material is Middle Minoan. To the north lay a concentration of Hellenistic and Roman material, as already known from earlier excavation. The natural slope is here sufficiently great to cause erosion from the top, where the Hellenistic pyres were placed. Vases, often of small size, were recovered, being mostly cups for liquids in Hellenistic times, then Roman lamps. In the rock-shelter, under debris from the present shrine, were thick layers of a sacrificial nature dating from earlier periods. Minoan deposits, of basically comparable character, were located in the present-day central area.

Thronos. N. Karamaliki (25th EPCA), L. Rocchetti and A-L. D'Agata (CNR) report on the continuing Greek-Italian excavations in 2000 at Thronos Kephala (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1034–35; partly reported in *AR* 47 [2000–2001], 143). Three areas were investigated on the central, northern and southern plateaux. The main aims were to establish the limits of these zones of activity, especially those of the ritual pits in the central plateau and of the Early Iron Age settlement on the northern. Building 3, with its LMIIIC floor with a hearth and Protogeometric and Geometric destruction deposits, produced a stone basin with a low relief swordfish (a motif seen on contemporary pithoi).

WESTERN CRETE (Nomos of Chania)
(25th EPCA: 28th EBA)

DEMOS OF ARMENOI

Armenoi. M. Andrianakis reports on restoration in 2000 at the single-aisled church of Ag. Ioannis Theologos (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1071). Re-use of late Christian architectural elements in marble was revealed, as was the existence of an older church. Simple pit graves were located under the floor.

Stylos (**Nikolakakis field**). M. Andreadaki-Vlazaki (then Director, 25th EPCA, now Director of Antiquities, Ministry of Culture and Tourism) reports on excavation conducted in 2000 in a late antique hilltop community (*ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1028). In the extensive spread of the settlement, a destruction horizon is marked by collapsed roof tiles and plentiful ceramics (often small vessels such as cups).

DEMOS OF CHANIA

Among the activities of the 25th EPCA reported in *ADelt* 55 [2000] *Chr*, 1026–27, we note the display of the Mitsotakis Collection within the extended exhibition area at Chania Museum.

Alikianos. Ch. Bourbou (TDPEAE-Chania) reports on the excavation in 2007–2008 of graves associated with the three-aisled Church of Zoodochos Pigi (*AWiC* 1 [2010], 754–66).

Of the 77 tombs investigated, 21 were inside, mainly in the narthex, with the others lying close to the walls all around the exterior. Fifty were cist graves, roughly rectangular and wider at the head, built of stones or a mix of stone and tiles, with stone covering slabs and earthen floors. Tomb 1 was larger and probably served as an ossuary, to judge from the mixed skeletal remains. Eleven were pit tombs: simple holes with rounded corners, but still at times covered with slabs. Eight were tile tombs: simple covering slabs or with tiles on their sides as a Λ. Most were single burials, but 23 were multiple burials in which earlier interments were displaced. Thirty nine were burials of sub-adults. The deceased was placed directly onto the earth floor (some may have lain on wooden biers to judge from the presence of nails, e.g. 12 in tomb 54), supine, with the upper limbs arranged in various ways. Stones might be used to support the head or the jaw. Grave goods were rare, with just 22 items (of jewellery, clothing and coins) registered, half accompanying adults. Tomb 54

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