NATIONAL MUSEUMS and GENERAL

National Archaeological Museum

Kathimerini, Eleftherotypia and *Ta Nea* (11/05/2006) report on the new exhibits at the museum, where 2,290 objects once kept in the storerooms are now on public display in new cases. Particularly noteworthy are the additions to the Egyptian galleries (400 objects), the glass collections (250 objects), the new terracotta galleries (600 objects, dating from Geo to Rom times), the C collections (160 objects) and the Vlastou collection (640 objects of Geo to Rom date, including fine examples of Cl wg pyxides and gold jewellery).

Epigraphic Museum

Eleftherotypia (01/11/2006) reports on an exhibition of Spartan inscriptions relating to the Peloponnesian war of the 5th Ct BC. One inscription consists of two fragments joined in 2006; the first fragment of which was found in 1730, the second in 1987. The reconstructed inscription has been brought to the Epigraphic Museum from Sparta; it refers to communities and individuals who 'sponsored' (i.e. gave contributions towards) the Spartan war effort. This inscription is to travel to New York, where it will form part of the 'Sparta-Athens' exhibition.

Private Collections

Maria Kazanaki-Lappa (Ephoreia of Private Collections) provides a report (*ADelt B Chron* 54 [1999], 1033–43) of several collections which have been exhibited, published or simply reported. Highlights include: of the 23 anc. objects in the collection of George and Anna McCabe, a 6th Ct BC bf amphora showing the birth of Athena (unattributed), the body of a bronze Rom statue of a horseman and a Cl (5th Ct BC) bronze hydria; of the 123 anc. objects in the collection of Socrates Kalkanis, several marble torsos and one head of Hel or Rom date; a 4th Ct BC funerary stele in the possession of Michael Erginos; a Rom inscribed stele in the possession of Alexandra Mylonas; and another in the possession of Demetrios Sakelion. Paul and Maria-Smaragda Apostolides reported 177 objects bought in Cyprus, dating from BA to Cl times, and Konstantinos Politis exhibited an EBA (EC) vase, among other objects. The principal piece of the eight objects owned by Theodoros Aravanis is a L4th Ct rf krater. Demetrios-Alain Nikolaidis-Nicolas reported 81 objects of Ar to Rom date. Theodoros Samourkas exhibited an Ar helmet of Cor type and six Myc vases of LH IIIA2–IIIC date. Finally, Vasiliki Sophianou owns a MGeo II pyxis. Many Byz objects, principally icons, in these collections are also noted.

Conservation works

A general report has been published: Λαμπρινουδάκης, Β. (ed.) *Το έργο των Επιστημονικών Επιτροπών αναστήλωσης, συντήρησης και ανάδειξης μνημείων* (Athens, Ministry of Culture, Finance Management Fund for Archaeological Projects 2006).

ATHENS (1st EBA)

Central Athens (1st EPCA)

Acropolis. *Ta Nea* (11/04/2006) reports on recent restoration of two Ionic capitals which crown two of the columns of the internal colonnade on the **Propylaia**.

Ta Nea, Eleftherotypia and *To Vima* (02/08/2006) report on the restoration of the 5th Ct **Temple of Athena Nike** by Kallikrates. Once completed in 2008, the structure will include fragments brought from the National Museum, will be higher than previously, the pediment being largely restored on the E face but not the W.

Eleftherotypia and *To Vima* (27/07/2006) report on the decision by KAS (the Central Archaeological Council) to conserve the 'house' *(oikos*) of the *Arrephoroi* (the so-called **Arrephorion**) which lies along the N wall of the Acropolis by burying it under soil. This Ar–Cl structure, excavated by Kavvadias and Kawerau at the end of the 19th Ct, is thought to be where two Athenian maidens (*Arrephoroi)* wove the peplos of Athena.

Theatre of Dionysos and Asklepion. A report on the conservation work is now available: Greece, Committee for the Theatre and Shrine of Dionysos, Asklepieion on the Acropolis South Slope, *Restoration works 2002–2005. Εργασίες αποκατάστασης 2002–2005 / Επιτπόπή Θεάτρου και Ιερού του Διονύσου – Ασκληπιείου, Νοτίου κλιτύος Ακροπόλεως* (Athens, Ministry of Culture, Finance Management Fund for Archaeological Projects 2006, Greek and English editions).

Roman Agora. *To Vima, Eleftherotypia, Kathimerini* and *Ta Nea* (24/10/2006) report on the discovery of a head (0.31m *h*.) in Pentelic marble from a statue of the Emperor Hadrian, on exhibition at the **Vailer** building (see Makrigianni below).

Anc. **Agora**. *To Vima* (25/07/2006) reports on events celebrating 75 years of American excavations in the Agora, and the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the Stoa of Attalos. *Ethnos* (23/05/2006) reports on the techniques used by the ASCSA director, Professor Steve Tracy, to date inscriptions using precise mathematical principles.

Professor John Camp (ASCSA, Agora director) reports on the 2006 season of excavation.

In the course of the past winter, three of the four mod. buildings acquired in recent years were demolished, and the fourth is about ready to come down. Excavation in one of the new plots was begun this season as part of Section BH. Otherwise our efforts were concentrated on two areas excavated last year: NW of the agora and in the old excavations at the SW corner of the square (**Fig. 1**).

In this area S of the Tholos we continued to explore the remains of the building often identified as the Strategeion, or office of the generals. The discovery last year of a hoard of about 400 silver tetradrachms threw more doubt on that identification, already called into question by the discovery years ago of a pyre in the building. Fifty of the 51 known pyres are found in houses or commercial buildings, never in sanctuaries or public buildings, with this one possible exception. In addition, hiding 1,600 drachmas in a public office, while conceivable, seems somewhat unlikely, and the hoard, like the pyre, perhaps points to a commercial function for the building.

Excavations this season concentrated on the E half of the building and were very productive, especially in terms of architecture. The W half, explored last year, was cut into the base of the Kolonos Agoraios hill, leaving virtually no floor fills and only the slightest traces of interior walls. The E half, by contrast, had deep fills to be investigated, and considerable new information about the plan of the building emerged. Three new crosswalls were encountered, along with a stretch of the wall which separates the E rooms from the rest of the building. While the exterior walls are made of large ashlar blocks of poros, the interior walls are of small fieldstones, set in clay, some 0.40–0.45m *w*., resting on shallow foundations

https://doi.org/10.1017/S057060840000003X Published online by Cambridge University Press