

23. Myrmekion: bronze jug concealing 99 Kyzikean electrum staters

ularly, Pontic influence in the post-Mithridatic period. Also of note are 2 amphora-like incense burners. In the neighbouring rooms 4 and 11, 2 coin hoards were found in 1984 and 1985, and have now been published by Frolova (1998). The first consisted of 70 copper coins, mostly Bosporan but also several from Pontic cities. Coins of Asandros give a *tpq* for the hoard in the 3rd quarter of the 1st Ct BC, which also dates the destruction of the site. The 2nd hoard consisted of 1,140 copper coins predominantly from Pantikapaion.

On the flat summit above General'skoe-Vostočnoe, 2 ritual complexes were excavated. The W one consisted of a small square room (2.5m by 3m) and a larger rectangular room. In the smaller room several terracottas were found together with handmade incense burners along with lamps on tall stems and a small terracotta altar. The complex is dated to the 2nd–E3rd Ct AD, although finds of mouldmade bowls and a bronze arrowhead may indicate earlier use as well. The larger E complex consisted of a row of 5 rectangular shrines with one to 3 rooms, which all have the door opening to the E (**Fig. 24**). Each has a square or round altar in the centre of the largest room and what would appear to have been benches along the walls. No architectural details or roof tiles have been found. A large collection of mouldmade bowls and glass vessels was found, as well as numerous terracottas and incense burners. Most interesting is a votive relief, probably depicting deities of the Eleusinian circle. The sanctuary was constructed around the M3rd Ct BC. After its destruction, possibly by the earthquake of 63 BC, it was reconstructed and continued functioning until the 3rd Ct AD.

Three further sanctuaries at the settlement of Sirenevaja Buchta (1st–3rd Ct AD), at Uščel'e Ved'm (cult debris of the 2nd Ct BC–2nd Ct AD) and at a cave on Mt Sjujurtaš (3rd–2nd Ct BC) have been published (Maslennikov 2007). Furthermore, ash hills (*zol'niki*) in the N Kerch Peninsula and a house sanctuary at General'skoe-Zapadnoe are considered by Maslennikov (2007).

A.A. Maslennikov (2003) has discussed the numerous ramparts running across the Kerch Peninsula, both the ones known for centuries and those more recently identified. Using trial trenches and C^{14} dating, he has been able to date several of the ramparts more precisely. The large wall running from Lake Uzunlar to Kazantip Bay to the N dates to the 3rd Ct BC, with additions made in the 1st or 2nd Ct AD. The so-called Tyritake ramparts actually consist of 3 different sets of defensive structures, only one of which is dated to the Gr period. In addition, there were smaller ramparts enclosing Ak-Burun and the territory of Nymphaion.

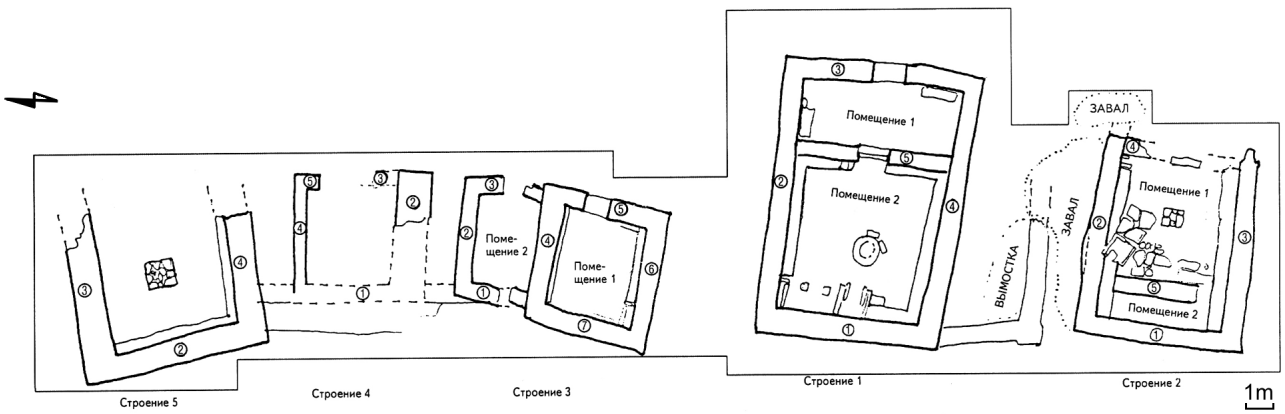
The chora of the Bosporan Kingdom as a whole and the rural settlements have been discussed by A.A. Maslennikov (1998), S.Ju. Saprykin (2004a) and V.N. Zin'ko (2007), while T.N. Smekalova and S.L. Smekalov (2006) have used aerial photographs and old maps to identify roads and anc. land-division systems. The plots of land detectable in many parts of the Kerch Peninsula are invariably square and measure 350m x 350m.

RUSSIA

Northern Maiotis

Taganrog

Taganrog in the Don delta is the earliest Gr colony in the territory of Russia. It was settled in the L7th or E6th Ct BC. Investigations, which concentrated on the S shore of the river, were initiated in 2004 as a collaboration between the All-Russian Community of Surviving Monuments of History and Culture (VOOPIK) in Rostov on Don (A.O. Kozin and P.A. Larenok), the Paedagogical University at the same place (V.P. Kopylov) and the Eurasia Abteilung of the DAI (O. Dally and M. Ullrich) (Dally and Larenok 2002; Kopylov *et al*. 2005; Kopylov and Solov'ev 2005). A series of drillings and exploratory trenches reaching a *d*. of almost 7m has been carried out by the Geophysical Department of the Institut für



24. Northern Kerch Peninsula: plan of the rural sanctuary at General'skoe-Vostočnoe

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Geowissenschaften der Christian Albrechts Universität Kiel (W. Rabbel, H. Stümpel and Ch. Müller) and by the Hydroacoustic Research Group of the Institut für Nachrichtentechnik und Informationselektronik (G. Wendt).

The settlement is partially submerged. EGr pottery is continuously washed from the site to the shore of the Don. To date, more than 20,000 pieces of pottery – of high quality and predominantly EGr – are known. A catalogue of pottery from the site, kept in Taganrog Museum, was published in 1994 (Kopulov and Larenok 1994).

Tanais
Investigations at Tanais took place during the whole period under review, from 1993 until today, the results of which have been summarized in several articles, as well as in a monograph (Arsen'eva *et al*. 2007). For more than 10 years, a Russian-German expedition investigated the S part of the town (Arsen'eva 1999). From 1993, the German archaeological team conducted excavations in sector XIX, where they extended the area to the N, E and S to explore the Hel and Rom agora (Arsen'eva, Fornasier and Ullrich 2002). From 2002–2005, the central square area was investigated. Two towers have been revealed in the central part of W fortification line. A Russian-Polish archaeological group, directed by T. Sholl, continued investigations of the W fortified line (Arsen'eva *et al*. 2006). The monograph *Nekropol' Tanaisa. Raskopki 1981–1995 gg.* summarized the results of the excavations conducted by the Lower Don Expedition of the Russian Academy of Sciences in the E and W necropoleis of Tanais for 15 years (Arsen'eva, Bezuglov and Toločko 2001). Excavations of the flat ground necropolis of Tanais were carried out between 2002 and 2004. They covered a wide chronological period – from the Hel to the Migration period. The last phase of the necropolis was dated to the 2nd half of the 5th–1st half of the 6th Ct AD (Arsen'eva, Bezuglov and Toločko 2005). The first volume of the *Pontus Septentrionalis* was devoted to the amphora dipinti (Böttger and Shelov 1998).

Elizavetovskoe
The fortified settlement, situated in the delta of the River Don 3km NE of the mod. village of Elizavetovskoe, was one of the largest settlements of the N Pontic steppe zone in the EIA, serving as a nodal point in inter-tribal and 'international' trade. From the M4th Ct BC it could be considered as the 'capital' of the Lower Don region and perhaps even of the entire NE Azov area. Excavation of the site and its chora has been carried out since 1954 by the Southern Don Expedition of the Institute of the History of Material Culture (Russian Academy of Sciences, St Petersburg). Four main periods have been established. (1) 3rd–4th quarter of the 6th–5th Ct BC, lasting for about 100 years. During this period the site constituted the winter quarter of one of the nomadic tribes of the Lower Don region. (2) The entire 1st half of the 4th Ct BC. During this time the settlement became the largest trading centre of the NE Pontic region. (3) In the 2nd half of the 4th Ct BC the site became a strongly fortified barbarian site with a separate Gr quarter. (4) The last period was brief, ca. 300–280s/270s BC. During this period an extended Gr settlement was located on the acropolis. The results of the investigations are summarized in the monograph by Marčenko, Žitnikov and Kopylov (2000).

The kurgan necropolis of Elizavetovskoe is one of the most fully investigated among the Scythian cemeteries of the N Pontic steppe. Weapons from the burials of the 5th Ct BC have been published by S.Ju. Jangulov (2008). An article by A.N. Kovalenko (2008) analyses funerary complexes of the 2nd half of the 4th Ct BC.

Nižnegnilovskoe
A fortified settlement situated ca. 16km E of Elizavetovskoe was investigated by a Russian-Swiss expedition (Kopylov, Tomaševič-Buck, Ivanov and Kovalenko 2002). The site's necropolis was excavated in 2002 (Prochorova 2004).

Taman' Peninsula

In 1993 the Taman' Expedition team of the IA RAS published an archaeological map of the Taman' Peninsula based on comprehensive investigations during the period 1931–1985. A detailed chronology of amphorae of the 6th–5th Ct BC was issued (Abramov and Paromov 1993; Paromov 2000) and P.A. Abramov published a compact handbook for the identification of amphora production centres based on analyses of archaeological assemblages from the Athenian Agora and N Black Sea centres (Abramov 1993).

The role of interdisciplinary research in Cl archaeology has increased considerably in recent years. Worthy of mention is the Russian-French Palaeoecological and Palaeogeographic Programme (1997–2000) with the participation of IA RAS, Moscow State University and the University of Paris 4 conducted with GIS technology. Since 2001, this programme has been running under the direction of Ju.V. Gorlov working both on the Taman' Peninsula (Gorlov 2007) and on the E Black Sea littoral (G.P. Garbuzov, G.V. Trebeleva and A.A. Porotov). Considerable attention has been paid to studies of the dynamics of changes in the climate and the Black Sea shoreline, as well as the identification and analysis of traces of the anc. land tenure, etc.

In 1998, in order to attract greater attention to the German-Russian investigations in N Maiotis, the Eurasia Abteilung of the DAI launched the bilingual publication series *Pontus Septentrionalis* in German and Russian. To date 3 volumes have been published.

Patraeus
A.P. Abramov has contined excavations at the town site which may be identified with anc. Patraeus (Paromov 1993; Abramov *et al*. 2005). In 1993, Ja.M. Paramov published an archaeological topographic plan of the site (Paromov 1993a). V.N. Taskaev and A.G. Vasil'ev are conducting annual investigations in the bay near Patraeus. Noteworthy are the remains of an extensive dam embankment and a number of submerged wells and rooms. The results of investigations carried out in 1949, 1961 and 1966 at the rural settlement Kučugury 2, dating to the 6th Ct BC–6th Ct AD, have been published (Bonin 2005).

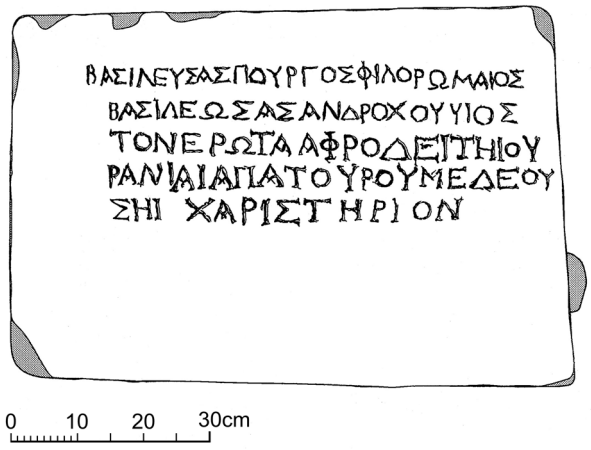
Kepoi
Ja.M. Paromov has published an archaeological plan of the kurgan necropolis of Kepoi (Paromov 2003). Close to Kepoi a 6m *h*. barrow with several burials of the Hel period was excavated in 2002 by A.P. Medvedev and N.I. Sudarev. In 1983, reliefs depicting a battle scene were found N of Kepoi (Savostina 1999; 2001).

Phanagoria
In Phanagoria and its environs archaeological investigations, as well as remote and geophysical surveys, have continued uninterrupted, but in recent years the scale and intensity have increased considerably. Since 1993, the director of the Phanagoria Expedition has been V.D. Kuznecov. In 1993 a detailed topographical plan of Phanagoria with verified records of all the land plots investigated up to and including 1989 was published (Paromov 1993b). The results of the fieldwork of the late 1980s and the first half of the 90s have been published by

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A.A. Zavojkin (1998; 2004a). The main efforts have been concentrated in the *Gorod*, i.e. the city, in the area of the upper terrace. In 1995, the Royal Holloway, University of London (C. Morgan) joined the expedition and a publication project with 3 planned volumes was set up as a supplement to the excavation activities. In 2004, the first volume devoted to the Attic fineware pottery of the site was published (Morgan 2004).

The most remarkable discoveries were made in 1999–2002 and 2004–2007 in the submerged area of the city. Here, the remains of a pier of the LCl period were revealed. Between the stone blocks used in its construction, a number of building fragments with fine architectural details, fragmentary sculptures and, most importantly, dedicatory building and grave inscriptions were found, along with pottery and coins. Special finds worthy of mention are: a marble stele of Hypsikrates; one of the wives of Mithridates VI Eupator; a dedicatory inscription for the cubicularius Julius Menestratos to the king of Bosporos, Sauromates II; a votive statue of Eros erected by King Aspourgos and dedicated to Aphrodite Ourania, the Lady of Apaturos (**Fig. 25**); a building inscription of 220 AD (**Fig. 26**) and a flagstone with a *tamga*, the family emblem of Sauromates II (Kuznecov 2005; 2006; 2007a; 2007b; 2007c).



25. Phanagoria: base of votive statue of Eros erected by King Aspurgos and dedicated to Aphrodite Ourania, Lady of Apaturos



26. Phanagoria: building inscription of AD 220 AD

Excavations have continued at the necropolis of Phanagoria during the period under consideration. Several dozens of burials of the 4th and 3rd Ct BC have been excavated at the W necropolis under the direction of T. Šavyrina. In 2005, excavations in the E necropolis were resumed under the direction of A.P. Medvedev. Here, at least the same number of graves of varying types and dated to the 5th–3rd Ct BC has been investigated. In 2003, a robbed but fairly well-preserved stone vault of the 4th Ct BC, with a stepped roof, was revealed in the S necropolis in the co-called Avenue of Kurgans. Near Phanagoria a lead plaque with a Gr inscription dated to the 3rd–2nd Ct BC was found accidentally (Saprykin and Maslennikov 2007b). It features a list of 7 male personal names, 5 Gr and 2 barbarian.

For a number of years, investigations using geospatial information system (GIS) technologies have been conducted in the vicinity of Phanagoria with the aim of finding traces of the anc. land tenure and land demarcation (Garbuzov 2007). In addition, rescue excavations of kurgans of the 4th Ct BC–2nd Ct AD have been carried out along the route of railway construction, as well as excavation at the Cl settlement of Vinogradnoe 7, headed by I.I. Marčenko.

Hermonassa (Taman')

The site of anc. Hermonassa has been investigated by S.I. Finogenova and E.R. Ustaeva since 1988. During recent years excavations have been conducted in 4 main areas: the *Nagornyj* (mountainous), SE, N and NE areas. Strata dating from the present back to the 2nd quarter of the 6th Ct BC have been uncovered, and the limits of the city itself have been defined. Remains of a number of dwellings and possibly public and household buildings of various periods, as well as several streets, have been unearthed. In addition, a small extramural habitation block of the 4th–3rd Ct BC has been excavated. Due to the very thick cultural layers of up to 13m, it has so far only been possible to dig down to the bedrock in 3 of the areas. An inscribed grave stele was found in 2003 (Agafonov 2006). A cemetery of the EMed period was investigated on a limited scale by V.N. Čcheidze. Ja.M. Paromov (2002) has investigated the dimensions and composition of the kurgan burial ground around the town and published a topographical map.

Gorgippia (Anapa)

The results of the studies of Gorgippia were brought together by E.M. Alekseeva (1997; 2002). During the last decade only small-scale excavations have been conducted, mostly as sporadic rescue investigations carried out by local archaeologists. Only in 2006 has a fairly large-scale excavation of 2,000 m^2 taken place, which revealed part of the necropolis in the form of 7 burials of the 5th–E4th Ct BC in the centre of the town (A.A. Kolesnikov). The necropolis was covered by urban strata of the 2nd quarter of the 4th–1st third of the 3rd Ct BC, and later by strata dating to the 1st–3rd Ct AD, with remains of several dwellings, household buildings, pits and pavements. A burnt stratum dated around 240 AD has been recorded, as well as a rich assemblage of pottery. The new inscriptions found here have been published (Smirnova 2002). The status of Gorgippia within the Bosporos Kingdom has been studied by A.A. Zavojkin (2002).

Other Taman' sites

In 1996–1997 small-scale excavations were continued at the settlement site near **Il'ič**, known for its finds from the Cl period (A.A. Zavojkin). Since 1995, rescue excavations of the **Tuzla** necropolis and underwater surveys near Cape Tuzla and Cape Panagija have been conducted almost without interruption

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under the direction of A.V. Kondrašev (Kondrašev 2005; Tsetskhladze and Kondrashev 2001). Slightly W of Patraeus, at **Beregovoe IV**, excavations of a settlement and a cult complex have been carried out by N.I. Sudarev and A.A. Zavojkin respectively (Zavojkin and Sudarev 2005). It has been established that the settlement area in its earliest phase covered at least 45ha. Remains of mud-brick structures, household pits and a necropolis of the L6th–4th Ct BC have been unearthed. The cult complex, which has also yielded rich and remarkable finds such as terracottas, lamps and votive objects, probably served for the worship of the Eleusinian goddesses (Zavojkin 2004b). Small rescue excavations were conducted by Sudarev's team at the neighbouring site of **Kamennaja Batarejka**.

In 1998 the Azov team of the Taman' Expedition (A.A. Zavojkin and N.I. Sudarev) carried out limited rescue excavations in the area of a cluster of settlements dated to different periods among which were the remains of a settlement of the L6th–1st half of the 4th Ct BC, **Priazovskoe 4**, situated near Cape Kamennyj of the Taman' Peninsula on the high shore of the Sea of Azov. In cooperation with the DAI (U. Schlotzhauer), in 2006 the State Historical Museum (D.V. Žuravlev) initiated excavations of a settlement at **Golubickoe 2** and interdisciplinary surveys were conducted along the coast of the Achtanizovskij Liman, including the Boris-and-Gleb mud volcano.

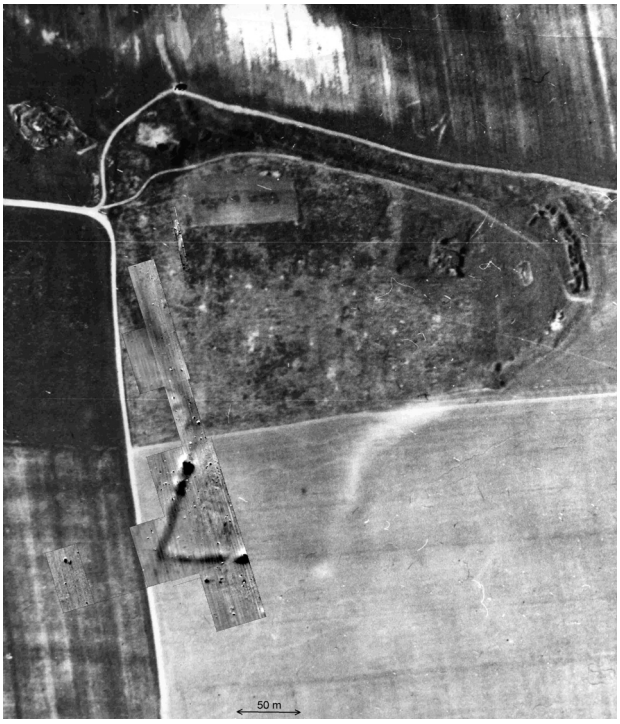
At **Golubickoe** magnetic surveys revealed the now partly excavated defensive ditch and rampart encircling the site to the E which were presumably constructed in the M5th Ct BC. The settlement itself was founded in the 2nd half of the 6th Ct BC, but was destroyed by a strong fire around the M3rd Ct BC. Finds from the fill of the ditch were fairly numerous and diverse, including bone objects, arrowheads, coins and fragmentary pottery with graffiti. After the fire, the settlement was reoccupied and continued until the turn of the 2nd and 1st Cts BC. Small-scale rescue excavations of burials were carried out by N.I. Sudarev in 2006–2008 near the townsite of Golubickoe situated further to the E along the Azov coast of the Taman' Peninsula.

Since 2004, a team of the State Historical Museum headed by G.A. Lomtadze has been conducting excavations of a stratified site NW of the mod. village of Achtanizovskaja (**Achtanizovskaja 4**). A detailed plan of the settlement and its surroundings has been produced. In one of the excavated areas, pottery of the oldest period of the site's occupation (1st half of the 6th Ct BC) was unearthed. Since 2006, the central fortified section of the site has been investigated, with remains of a strong defensive wall of the 2nd–1st Ct BC, dating to the period immediately before the destruction of the settlement. Numerous sites have been investigated, among which are BA kurgan burials near the mod. village of **Volna**. Among other finds unearthed in this area, remains of iron-smelting workshops are noteworthy.

Since 1998, the Bugaz team of the Bosporos Expedition of the Institute of the History of Material Culture, headed by Ju.A. Vinogradov, has practically completed the excavation of the settlement of **Artjuščenko 1**, dated to the LAr and Cl periods (Vinogradov and Lebedeva 2005; 2007). Another team of the same expedition, under the direction of E.Ja. Rogov and later S.V. Kašaev, has excavated the settlement of **Vyšesteblievskaja 11**, revealing remains from the Hel and Med periods, and the necropolis of Artuščenko 2, dated to the L6th–4th Ct BC. At Vyšesteblievskaja 11, a series of Jewish grave stelae is noteworthy. At the necropolis, a number of well-preserved burials with grave goods of the Cl period stands out (Kashaev 2005).

Semibratnee

After a long interruption, excavations were renewed at this site in 2001 (V.A. Gorončarovskij). Remains of a defensive wall of the 5th Ct BC and the area of a temenos with an altar of the 3rd Ct BC were recovered (Goroncharovsky 2005). A team specialized in geophysical investigations and surveys, and directed by O.V. Šarov in 2004 and S.Ju. Vnukov in 2007, joined the investigations. In 2006 and 2007, T.N. Smekalova conducted magnetic surveys of a considerable area in the SW part of the town site. This technique has identified the outlines of the defensive wall with towers, and the orthogonal layout of the residential quarters, as well as separately standing monumental stone buildings (**Fig. 27**) (Smekalova and Gorončarovskij 2006; Smekalova, Gorončarovskij and Djukov 2007). In 1994, a base fragment of a grey-ware cup with the stamp ΑΤΙ in a circle was found on the surface, indicating that it functioned either as a ritual or a votive vessel (Novičichin 2006).



27. Semibratnee: aerial photo and magnetic map of the site

Northern Caucasus

Since 1998 the Gelendžik-Novorossijsk Expedition has been headed by A.A. Malyšev, who conducts annual excavations at the **Raevskoe** settlement, one of the key fortresses on the River Kuban (Malyšev 1995; 2000; Malyshev 2007). From 2000–2007 archaeological investigations of the defences of Raevskoe were conducted. A survey in the valley of the River Bedrička, S of Raevskoe, revealed a system of settlements. In addition, investigations of the **Krasnobatarejnoe** and **Borisenkov Liman** settlements were initiated. Magnetic surveys at Raevskoe and Krasnobatarejnoe by T.N. Smekalova revealed the defensive walls and a tower with traces of a strong fire (Aleksandrovskij *et al*. 1999). In collaboration with A.V. Dmitriev, A.A. Malyšev has conducted surveys and excavations

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of the necorpoleis of various periods in the **Cemesskaja Valley** and surroundings of **Novorossijsk**, including the long-lived site and necropolis of **Myschako** (jointly with A.N. Gej and E.I. Savčenko, 1990–1991, 2000). Myschako is the largest of the Gr-period sites in the area between Anapa and Gelendžik. An expedition of the Novorossijsk Museum (A.V. Šišlov) has conducted rescue excavations of a Cl and Byz flat grave necropolis near the village of **Južnaja Ozerejka**. In 2008, surveys and small-scale rescue excavations were carried out by a team of the East Bosporos Expedition at a number of Gr-period sites in the region of **Gelendžik** (N.I. Sudarev and O.D. Čevelev).

GEORGIA (Fig. 28)

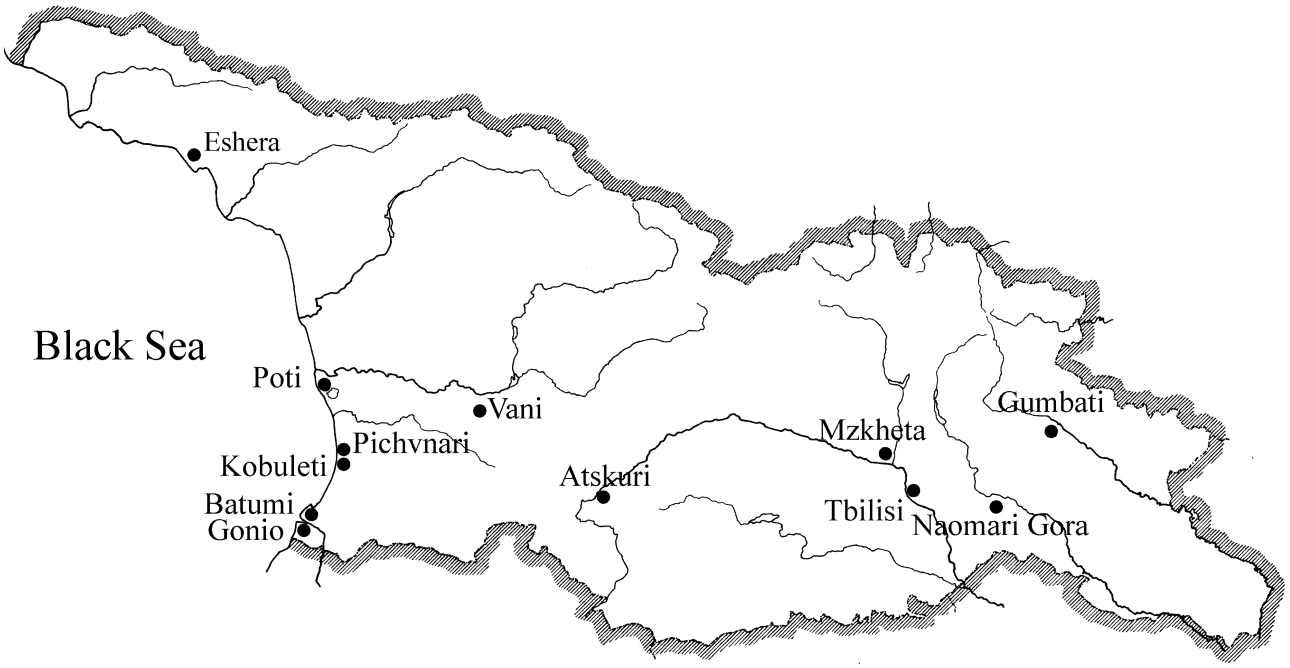
In the first years of the period under discussion, Georgia suffered from civil war and, consequently, shortage of fuel, food and other basic necessities. This affected the archaeological community, so that almost no major excavations or publications could be undertaken.

The main institution conducting archaeological fieldwork is the Otar Lordkipanidze Centre for Archaeological Research of the Georgian Academy of Sciences, which carries out work in several counties. The Georgian National Museum is the head of a network of museums, which take care of the cultural heritage of Georgia. The current director is D. Lordkipanidze, the former excavator at Dmanissi. Teaching of Cl subjects is the responsibility of Tbilisi State University's Department of Classical Studies, with Prof. R. Gordesiani as its Director. See the institute's homepage (www.greekstudies.caucasus.net) for further information.

In general, archaeological fieldwork has followed the lines given in the previous report (Kacharava 1990–1991). Most of the local archaeologists have continued their projects until now. The later 1990s saw several collaborations between Western and Georgian researchers. A notable example is the Pichvnari Project, led by A. Kakhidze (Batumi) in collaboration with M. Vickers (Oxford). The German universities of Halle and Tübingen have conducted excavations at EIA sites in E Georgia (Furtwängler and Knauß 1997; Furtwängler, Knauß and Motzenbäcker 1998 for Ciskaraant Gora and others; Korfmann *et al*. 1999; 2004 for Naomari Gora). From 1998 onwards, new local publications have appeared, mostly written in Georgian, but regularly furnished with short summaries in Western languages. The construction of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline in 2002–2005 made a series of rescue excavations necessary along its route. The pipeline project offered a substantial amount of money to Georgian archaeology. This and the improved economic situation led to a much needed reconstruction of archaeological museums and sites. An important attempt to write a general survey of the Gr and Rom history of Georgia was made by D. Braund in 1994 (Braund 1994).

New periodicals

Since 1999, *Dziebani – Journal of the Centre for Archaeological Studies* has been issued roughly twice a year. This journal, with supplementary volumes, provides the quickest and most complete insight into Georgian archaeological projects and fieldwork. Thus, it has replaced the series *PAI* (*Polevye Archaeologičeskie Issledovanija*) from the 1970s and 1980s, covering all PH, antique and Med periods. The articles are written in Georgian, but due to figures and summaries in international languages, *Dziebani* is a most important working tool. Since 2004, and published completely in English, the *Journal of Georgian Archaeology* is a supplement to *Dziebani*. Since 1999, the Department of Classical Studies of the Tbilisi State University has published the international journal *PHASIS*, accompanied by the journal *LOGOS* since 2003. In 2000, the Batumi Museum, Batumi being Georgia's most important Black Sea port, released its own series of reports, *Batumi Archaeological Museum. The Works.* The articles are written in Georgian, with English or Russian summaries.



28. Georgia

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