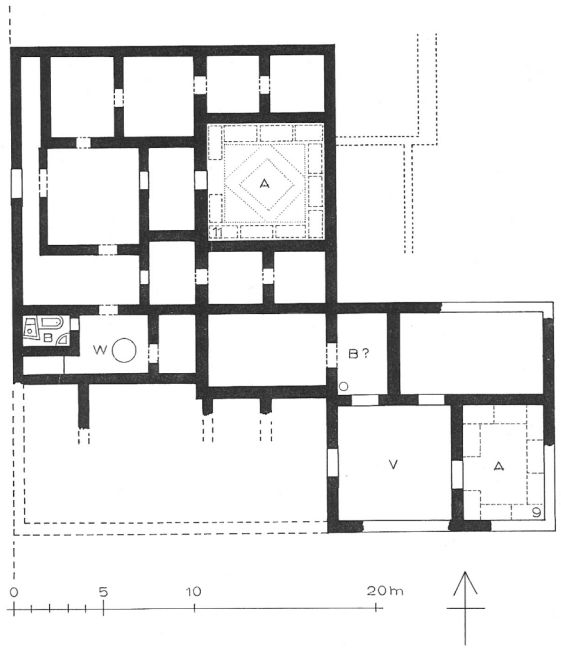


A Andron
B Baderaum
H Hof
V Verteilerraum
H W Heizung, Wasserversorgung

38. Aigeira: Hel guesthouse, provisional reconstruction

Sigrid Deger-Jalkotzy and Eva Alram-Stern (Mykenische Kommission, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna) continued their study of the PH material from the excavations on the acropolis.

Aigeira publications. a new volume has appeared: Aram-Stern, E., S. Deger-Jalkotzy, *Aigeira I: die Mykenische Akropolis, Faszikel 3: Vormykenische Keramik, Kleinfunde, Archäozoologische und Archaobotanische Hinterlassenschaften, Naturwissenschaftliche Datierung, ÖAI, Vienna, Sonderschriften, Bd. 43 (Veröffentlichungen der Mykenischen Kommission, Bd. 24) (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Philosophisch-Historische Klasse, Denkschriften, Bd. 342)* (Wien, Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften 2006).

KEPHALLENIA with ITHAKA (6th EPCA; 6th EBA)

Kephallenia (Kephallonia)

Poros, Drakaina cave. G. Stratouli and E. Chatziotou (EPS) report (*ADelt*, 1007–09) on further work at this cave, inhabited in Neo times and later re-used. Signs of Neo habitation were concentrated in trenches Z5 and E4 (already opened in 1995; see *ADelt B Chron* 50 [1995], 837–38; *AR* 47 [2000–2001], 45). Radiocarbon dates from the lowest levels indicate a date in the 2nd half of the 6th millennium BC for the earliest human habitation. Snail samples were taken for environmental analysis. Finds from these levels include animal bones and archaeobotanical samples. Pottery comprises Neo plain wares in both open and closed shapes, and a very small quantity of painted wares. The chipped stone (flint mainly) includes blades, arrowheads and possible fish-hooks. Other finds include ground stone axes and other tools (**Fig. 39**), some with scratch marks, bone bracelets and finger-rings, possibly made out of spondylus shells (*spondylus gaederopus*), and other stone and bone decorative objects.

Later finds were more abundant in the new trenches opened. These comprised burnt animal bones, other burnt material and pottery of the 6th to 3rd Ct BC, which have been interpreted as signs of cult. There is also a small amount of residual PH, probably BA, pottery mixed in with these levels.

Ithaka

Eleftherotypia (17/11/2006) reports a claim that a stone object discovered in 1996 at the site of **Ayios Athanasios** is inscribed both with an image of a ship and with a sign in Linear B, which together are supposed to provide a link with the *Odyssey*. On a related theme, *Ethnos* (29/04/2006) reports the discovery of an EBA (EH II–III, 2500–2300 BC) wreck off the coast of Ithaca, containing over 40 ceramic vessels, indicating maritime trade well before the supposed date of Odysseus.

AITOLIA/AKARNANIA

(once 6th, now 36th EPCA; once 8th, now 22nd EBA)

Playia survey. Franziska Lang (Darmstadt/DAI Athens) reports on the final last season of the German-Greek survey on the Plaghiá peninsula which took place in August/September 2006, under the direction of Lazaros Kolonas (General Directior of Greek Antiquities) in cooperation with the department of Classical Archaeology, TU Darmstadt (F. Lang), the architectural historian Ernst-Ludwig Schwandner and the Department of Ancient History of Münster University (Peter Funke).

This final season was devoted mainly to those areas that had been inaccessible in previous years for a variety of reasons. This comprises of the E part of the Plaghiá valley towards mount Prophitis Elias, the areas N and E of anc. **Palairos** and some areas in the NW of the peninsula. Furthermore, the processing of the small finds was completed and the study of a variety of sites was continued. As in previous years, we were able to improve our knowledge of the peninsula's settlement history through the discovery of hitherto unknown sites. The earliest such finds were Neo, while the most recent, as previously, were from the 20th Ct.

Although the N slope of **Palairos** is very steep in places, some roads had been built here. They are aptly placed topographically, so that the lake can be reached by passing the steep slopes quite fast and relatively easily. W of the city gate, one reaches the so-called sanctuary of Artemis and then, through the Great *Remma*, which is terraced and rests on supporting walls, the suburban farms and, further up, the temple plateau.

The area to the N of anc. Palairos, extending as far as the lake to the N and mount Tampia to the E, contained, amongst other things, a large anc. **necropolis** of Palairos. Its extent of nearly 2km, from the harbour gate E, was unknown so far. The finds are dated Ar to Hel. Cist graves were cut into the rock and covered with tiles. Occasional graves were entirely constructed of tiles. Extensive looting pits have destroyed many of the graves. Further evidence for the necropolis is provided by numerous fragments of grave stelae, mainly of local limestone, some of which bore inscriptions. On a plateau by the edge of the necropolis, halfway up the N slope, remains of walls and well-preserved buildings were found. The houses were erected in the 19th Ct, some of them on anc. walls.

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