WESTERN MACEDONIA

Nomos of Kastoria
(29th EPCA: 16th EBA)

Argos Orestikon (Diocletianoupolis). Ch. Tsoungaris and G. Tsokas (29th EPCA and Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 923–29) on archaeological and geophysical investigation in the area of Argos Orestikon, aiming to locate the structure at which the inscribed base of an honorific statue of Claudius was erected. The lines of major constructions close to the Byz centre, but on a different alignment from Byz buildings, are noted: these likely belong to the Rom city. Trial trenches in one location 300m S of the previous excavation area revealed part of a Rom structure built of fieldstones and more than 300m *l.* E–W. Its size suggests a significant public building.

Dispilio. G. Stavridopoulos and T. Sianos report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 901–10) on excavation to trace the peribolos wall of the settlement, already known to extend along the N side of the island parallel with the lake shore. Two areas were investigated to trace its course to the W and N. Excavation at the W end of previous trials showed that the wall turned S and continued to the SW tip of the island, though differing in its construction both with the N wall and internally along its length. A further wall, not part of the peribolos, measures ca. 50m *l.* x 2–2.3m *w.* and is oriented N–S. C^{14} dates from burnt debris on the E side of the main wall are awaited. Neo pottery from a trial trench in the middle of the wall line gives a *tpq* for its construction. Trial trenches in the S and SE of the island located traces which may belong to the peribolos and require further investigation. Currently, the securely identified sections of peribolos indicate a *l.* of ca. 201m, increasing to ca. 360m if it continued to form a complete circuit. Among the small finds are a large number of coins dating from the Byz period onwards, with many Ot and mod. Among PH finds are many stone and flint tools, stone weights, loomweights, 2 bronze items and a headless figurine.

Nomos of Florina
(29th EPCA: 16th EBA)

Kleidi. A. Strati and A. Sinakos (16th EBA) report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 931–40) on the rescue excavation of part of a LRom-ECh cemetery (M3rd–M4th Ct AD) in an area threatened by lignite mining. The adjacent settlement, next to the via Egnatia, produced Rom to post-Byz pottery on the surface. Within a single 20m x 20m trench, 15 graves were found – 12 pits and 3 cists. The dead were laid out in N–S orientation, accompanied by many grave goods including trefoil-mouthed oinochoai, bronze jewellery and coins. In addition to Charon's obol, hoards of 20–25 coins were found in certain cases, placed in the area of the head or the chest. Seven pits were also found. 20m S of the excavated area, a trial trench contained further human bones, tiles, sherds of wheelmade vessels, a loomweight and an iron object. Excavation here was abandoned for safety reasons.

Nomos of Kozani and Grevena
(30th EPCA: 17th EBA)

Ilarion dam. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi (Director, 30th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 875–94) on research in the area due to be flooded for this dam. Surface survey revealed a further 7 sites (bringing the total known to 20), at 3 of which trial trenches produced significant results. At **Longas (Elati)** trenches opened in the known LBA–EIA and Hel settlement produced remains of buildings and other finds from all these periods. In addition to PH handmade pottery (mostly from storage vessels), finds include 2 rings (one with a female figure on the bezel), bronze sheet, iron nails, 21 loomweights, part of a clay sealing, 3 pestles, part of a hand-mill and stone tools. Just below the hill, illegal excavation had revealed cist tombs: this area was not investigated further as it is not scheduled to be flooded. No further information was uncovered to confirm the provenance of the 13th–12th Ct BC Myc bronze sword said to come from this site. At **Gefyra (Panagia)** remains of Hel buildings were discovered (a hearth and part of a floor, plus a destruction deposit), as well as handmade Macedonian matt-painted pottery of the LBA. At **Keramario (Paliouria)** sections of a large cemetery on 2 hills were excavated: graves on the E hill are Ar and Cl, while those on the W are Cl–LCl (mostly 4th Ct). 30 burials were excavated on the E hill, all but one of which had been looted: apart from one cremation, all were inhumations in pit graves. They contained weapons (spearheads, arrowheads and knives), jewellery, pottery, clothing accessories and cosmetic items similar to those in the cemeteries of Aiane, noting the presence of 'local' pottery (possibly from Aiane). In addition to 2 bronze bowls, sheet bronze in 10 further tombs indicates the presence of bronze cooking vessels. On the W hill were 33 burials (of which 3 were unlooted) containing 33 pots (mostly local), a bronze jug and kantharos, weapons, jewellery (including 3 electrum beads and 2 silver earrings) and other accessories. Two bronze mouth-pieces probably come from leather aryballoi, similar to finds from Aiane. Each grave was marked by one or more stones. The presence of earlier finds (a figurine, for example, and a skyphos of the L6th Ct) likely indicates destroyed Ar tombs. In addition, surface remains are noted at the following sites: **Ag. Kyriaki (Paliouria)** Neo–EBA settlement (handmade pottery, stone tools); **Sioutsa Rema (Dimitra)** BA handmade pottery and stone tools; **Megas Ai-Giorgis (Dimitra)** (a known Ar–Rom site) BA handmade pottery and stone tools; **Keramario (Paliouria)** BA handmade pottery; **Ag. Konstantinos (Dimitra)** (a known Hel–Rom site) spolia of an earlier church built into the church of Ag. Konstantinos, a Byz cemetery (revealed in illegal excavation) and surface finds of PH, mostly EBA, handmade pottery; **Mikro Karperou** a cist tomb cemetery of uncertain date. Trenches opened at **Gorna Tsapa**, **Parakoustis** and **Plaka** produced only a very little BA handmade pottery plus some wheelmade sherds.

Keramario (Paliouria). *Apogevmatini* (11/03/08) cites the report of G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi of the discovery of a further 39 tombs, bringing the total from this site to 102. Only 3 were undisturbed. Notable among the grave finds were the collection of local vases which provide good evidence for a local workshop, 2 bronze vases containing a bronze kotyle and kylix handle and 4 coins (one of Pharsalos, dating to the 2nd half of the 5th Ct BC, and 3 of Philip II).

Ktio Diporou (Demos Chasion). *Apogevmatini* (11/03/08) cites the report of G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi of the excavation of settlement remains, including a large (Hel?) potter's kiln (5m x 3.5m). Products of the kiln include fragments of a large terracotta animal (perhaps an elephant) bearing 2 riders, which may be a votive. At neighbouring **Panagia Diporou**, 5 pithoi were discovered containing 6th–5th Ct BC child burials. Grave goods include a handmade kantharos, glass beads, bronze rings

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and a bracelet, iron goods, a curved knife, a bronze horse figurine and a terracotta figurine of an obese dwarf. The site neighbours Ktio Diporou and likely formed part of the same functional complex.

Palaikastro. *Ta Nea* (18/04/07) reports the discovery by V. Velitzelos (Athens) of a petrified forest with a striking presence of quartz, dating back at least 2 million years. The extent of this forest remains unknown: a further part located by the Aliakmon river is to be excavated.

Prionia. *Kathimerini* (12/03/08) cites a report by G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi of the discovery of a 6th–5th Ct BC Sanctuary of Artemis in the course of construction work on the Egnatia Odos. Remains of animal offerings include Molossian hounds, ovicaprids, bovines and deer. Scattered votives include animal figurines and jewellery (one ring is inscribed ΚΑΙΡΕ ΚΑΙ ΣΥ). Two women's graves with rich goods indicate a prosperous settlement.

Milia Grevena. *Ta Nea* (05/07/07), *Ethnos* (25/07/07), *Ethnos*, *Apogevmatini*, *To Vima* (22/01/08), *Ta Nea* (28/01/08) and *Archaiologia* 104 (2007), 104, report the discovery by a team from the Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki, under E. Tsoukala of a pair of fossilized mastodon (*Mammut borsoni*) teeth near a sand quarry in this village. At 5.02m *l.*, they are the largest yet found and must have belonged to an animal weighing more than 12 tons and ca. 4m *h*. The discovery was followed by a one-day colloquium discussing the material on 27/01/08. *Kathimerini* (16/10/07) also reports the discovery by the same team of parts of a fossilized horse skeleton in the same area. This is the 3-toed variety ancestral to the mod. horse, but of smaller stature. It dates to ca. 2.5–3 million years BC. Other species discovered in the course of 17 years of excavation in the area include the rhinoceros, tapir, macherodon, bear, deer, gazelle and wild boar.

Kastri (Polyneri/Alatopetras). S. Drougou (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 895–900) on continuing excavation on the acropolis, focusing on the area immediately W of the temple. The W wall of the temple was shown to have had strong foundations, even though much of the superstructure was likely burnt in the mod. lime kiln found just outside it. Inside the wall was a layer with much roof tile. An extensive burnt layer dating to the L4th Ct BC was uncovered just to the W of the W wall, continuing along its length. This contained many bg and plainware sherds, and fragments of metal items, and should be connected with the temple walls of the same date. A small Hel (3rd Ct) building was erected on top of this layer. Its function remains unclear, but the tile layer over it indicates that it was destroyed in the 2nd Ct BC as part of the general destruction on the acropolis. The area between the temple and the Hel building produced a large quantity of animal bone, especially in the burnt layer, along with numerous sherds. The extent of this pyre has not yet been traced. In the NW corner of the temple, which is founded on bedrock, foundations were located which appear to be extensions of the N and W temple walls and which require further investigation. Among portable finds, the large quantity of bg pottery characteristic of the first, 4th Ct, phase consists largely of small kylikes and kantharoi. Some have workshop stamps (ΠΑΡΑΝΙΚΑΣ, for example). Notable among the portable finds is an ink-well type lamp, coins (including one of Alexander) and a fragment of a bronze strip 0.1m x 0.6m, from the L4th Ct burnt layer, bearing part of a punched votive inscription.

] ΟΝΙΚΑΝΙΣΙΘ [
] ΕΙΝΗΣΗΝΙΟΧΟΣΔΕΑΠΙΧΙΩ [
] ΑΝΔΙΑΛΕΙΜΑΡΤΥΡΑΣ [
] ΩΝΤΠΡΓ [

Siatista-Krystallopigi section of the Kozani-Kastoria road. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 861–69) on the results of excavation at 15 locations along the course of this road, which produced mostly LNeo–EBA and Hel pottery. Finds of palaeontological significance include mastodon remains from **Pera Raches (Kaloneri)**. Fuller reports are provided for 2 sites. At **Stavros (Mikrokastro)**, a small excavation (ca. 1,025m^2) within this known Ph and Cl–Hel walled site produced remains of LBA–EIA settlement, with much handmade and wheelmade pottery (and a Rom coin). At **Kryopigadi (Aliakmon)**, LNeo–EBA settlement levels were excavated on 2 hills, noting also remains of Macedonian matt-painted pottery of the LBA. A LNeo–EBA pile-dwelling was discovered beneath an extensive destruction level containing burnt construction material (wattle and daub). Sherds were gathered from an area of ca. 770m^2, together with 20 anchor-shaped figurines, stone and bone implements, loomweights and 4 spindle-whorls. Hel levels near the surface had been severely disturbed by levelling. Three unlooted Rom pit graves were excavated, containing, beside the head and feet, glass vessels, clay pots and 14 bronze coins which date the burials to the 4th Ct AD.

Aiane

E cemetery. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 833–46) continued excavation, bringing the total of graves discovered here to 174. In 2006, 9 rows of pits, dug into bedrock and oriented NE–SW were found to contain 94 burials (91 inhumations and 3 cremations), only 2 of which survive unlooted. The majority date to the 3rd and 2nd Cts BC, with some from the 4th Ct and some from previous campaigns indicating continuing use into the 1st Ct BC. Bodies were laid in wooden coffins or on biers (represented by quantities of iron nails): with no consistent orientation of the head. In 2 cases (graves 106 and 141), quantities of carbonized material in the grave likely result from funerary rites. There is some evidence that pits were reused: part of a cranium and 2 iron offerings in grave 140, for example, represent an earlier displaced burial. Grave goods, set at the feet, consist mainly of pots, with a limited number of metal objects, notably spearheads set at shoulder level and iron and bronze strigils, as well as jewellery and, rarely, coins. The unlooted male burial in grave 108 was accompanied by an iron spearhead and strigil and 4 pots (a cut-away necked prochous and 3 drinking vessels – one with no handles – one bolsal and a one-handled vessel of the L4th–E3rd Ct with ΓΕ incised on the body and Β on the base). Grave 140 (also an unlooted male burial) had an iron spearhead and 4 pots (a prochous, 2 skyphoi, of which one is a local bg imitation of an Attic shape, and a L4th Ct local rf askos). The male burial in the robbed grave 139, dated to the M3rd quarter of the 4th Ct, is, together with grave 111 (which contained only a rf hydria), the earliest in the cemetery. It contained an iron spearhead and strigil and 5 Attic pots (a rf askos-strainer, a bolsal, a one-handler, a bowl and a squat lekythos of the E3rd quarter of the 4th Ct). The base of the one-handler is incised ΑΜΜ, and the lekythos has a Κ at the centre base and 10 letters around the edge, of which Α, Μ, Η, Λ, Κ, and probably Ν are legible. Two bronze mouths of aryballoi (probably with wooden or leather bodies) are noted from graves 115 and 146. Of a total 89 pots discovered, 34 are skyphoid forms, 15 hydriae (mostly unglazed, with one rf), 10 prochoes and 8 oinochoai, with other forms in smaller numbers. The scarcity of the Macedonian

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amphora types noted in previous excavations may be due to tomb robbing. A bronze phiale is the only metal vessel preserved. Three bronze rings have on their oval bezels representations of a seated male figure, a griffin and a bird.

Apogevmatini (11/03/08), *Kathimerini*, *Ta Nea* and *To Vima* (12/03/08) cite G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi's report of continuing excavation in the E cemetery. 243 tombs of the 2nd half of the 4th Ct BC include quantities of cosmetic items (jewellery containers, tweezers, perfume containers and 2 dove figurines, as well as pottery and gold jewellery), along with medical equipment. In a male burial, a shallow rectangular container made of a copper and lead alloy, with a handle and containing a small bowl, has 2 parallels in the Aiane area and one further counterpart in clay. These are conjectured to be for mixing different substances, perhaps for medical prescriptions.

Kleitos. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 856–60) on resumed excavation at a site threatened by lignite mining. A small area in the NE part of the settlement (ca. 1,600m^2) was investigated, revealing occupation in LNeo–LBA (with undisturbed EBA deposits) and Hel–Rom times.

Polymylos (anc. Euia). G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 847–56) on renewed site conservation and excavation following the redesign of a major road junction on the Egnatia Odos. Five of the Hel–Rom kilns plus surrounding buildings were conserved *in situ* and reburied, while the most monumental kiln was removed to the Archaeological Museum of Aiane. A total area of ca. 1,500m^2 was excavated, in 2 locations. At the first, trial trenches revealed tombs and the upper part of a marble funerary stele. Two retaining enclosure walls, 4.3m apart and with a stone fill between them, may in part utilize building material from earlier settlement (part of another marble stele was built into the northernmost wall). A LRom date for the construction is confirmed by domestic pottery, loomweights, iron and bronze shafts, bronze sheet and clasps, along with many fragments of glass and 5 coins. These walls were probably built in an attempt to stabilize ground eroded by water run-off. Further W and down-slope, 2 pit graves, belonging to a known ECh to post-Byz cemetery, contained the burials of very small children with no grave goods. In one case, the child was laid on a tile; the other tomb held 2 concentrations of bone. In the 2nd location, further W, were remains of LNeo–EBA settlement, possibly extending into the first phase of the MBA, with much handmade pottery, along with animal bone and stone tools. Hel housing was revealed in the E part of the excavation area. The largest of the 3 preserved rooms contained a large quantity of pottery and animal bone, plus a hearth and *in situ* pithos which date to a subsequent phase of remodelling. The area to the E was divided into 2 rooms, the N of which produced ca. 30 pots preserved especially in a destruction layer. Storage, food preparation and other daily activities are indicated by storage and cooking vessels, carbonized grain, some 50 loomweights, a stone hand-mill and stone mortars. Ca. 15m E of these rooms was a rubbish pit. Close by was the burial of an adult, with no grave goods. A 19m *l.* section of water main consisting of clay pipes (one stamped ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ) forms part of a supply network fed from springs in the foothills of Mt Vermion. A L3rd–2nd Ct BC date for the use of the complex is indicated by the pottery: after a violent destruction, with extensive evidence of fire, the area was not resettled.

Perdikkas. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 860–61) on a small rescue excavation at the site of Strana, W of mod. Perdikkas, prior to the installation of a pylon within this Neo settlement. Pottery of the E, M and LNeo was discovered, along with animal bones and stone tools. A small stone object of uncertain date, with relief figures (humans, horses and a dog) on all 4 sides, was found on the surface at the Gypedo (stadium) site on the W edge of Perdikkas, along with LBA handmade pottery.

Nomos of Pella
(17th EPCA: 11th EBA)

Arnissa (Ostrovo). S. Zacharidis, F. Karagianni and G. Skiadaresis report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 741–52) systematic documentation of the remains of an Ot bath (hammam) on the NE shore of Lake Vegoritis, close to Arnissa, at a site formerly known as Ostrovo (prominent in M and LByz sources). The bath lies under an abandoned mod. house which severely damaged its structure: nonetheless, a full plan and architectural study is presented. It was likely built at the end of the 15th or E16th Ct AD and continued in use until the rising lake flooded the Ot settlement in the 1st half of the 19th Ct.

Arnissa. *Apogevmatini* (04/05/07), *Kathimerini*, *Avgi*, *Ta Nea*, *To Vima* (10/05/07) and *Archaiologia* 104 (2007), 104, report the discovery by A. Chrysostomou (17th EPCA) of part of an EIA cemetery in rescue excavation S of mod. Arnissa, in the Nautiko Omilo area where graves have previously been reported. Eight slab-lined cist tombs and 2 pithos burials were found, of adults and children. The male graves contained iron lances, knives and daggers, and paired bronze pins (all characteristic of warrior burials). Women received jewellery (bronze and iron bracelets, spirals and a Macedonian type round pendant). All graves contained vases of the 8th and 7th Cts (prochoi, amphoriskoi and an olpe). Outside the tombs, but in contact with them, were small ossuaries containing the remains of earlier burials. These, and the fact that further tombs remain to be excavated, suggest that the burials may all have been grouped within a tumulus. The discovery nearby of 2 fragments of inscribed Rom grave marker indicates the later use of this area.

Loutraki (Aridaia). E. Kabouroglou, D. Bouzas and T. Chatzitheodorou (EPSNE) present a final report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 673–84) on palaeontological and sedimentological research in cave A (see also *AR* 53 [2006–2007], 58). Dating evidence is discussed in detail. The presence of *Ursus Spelaeus* from ca. 14,000 bp is indicated in the bone record. Sporadic human use is indicated from the Neo period (ca. 5,200 BC), with hearths and a very few artefacts, although this was interrupted when an earthquake blocked the entrance. Limited sedimentation and a little pottery indicate later sporadic use.

Edessa. A. Chrysostomou (17th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 713–26) on work undertaken in 2005–2006 to conserve and to present better the archaeological site. This included excavation down to stereo in areas 1 and 2, beside the main street. Five new pits for storage pithoi are added to the previous record in these areas and date to the earlier phases of habitation, as do walls I and III in area 1 and I–III in area 2. In both areas, wall I continues E into the area of the stoa, indicating that the building line in the earlier periods lay near the W edge of the main street. An iron lamp was discovered near the floor of the last phase in area 2. Trial trenches in the stoas and the main street yielded a LRom marble relief of the Dioskouroi from the W stoa, and, from the E stoa, 5 inscribed lead strips.

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Edessa, S bypass. A. Chrysostomou (17th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 727–39) on the discovery of 3 farmsteads on the plain S of the anc. city during rescue excavation preparatory to the construction of the bypass. Farmsteads 1 and 2 lie on the E of the plain and farmstead 3 on the W. At farmstead 1 (2km from anc. Edessa), limited habitation remains include a hearth with sherds of local storage vessels (pithoid shapes and amphoriskoi) and 4 loomweights scattered around it, and, to the S, a storage area with the remains of a large pithos and amphora sherds. The structure was roofed with Laconian tiles with red and black slip. Local and imported pottery includes a wide range of storage vessels, cooking vessels and tablewares, especially one-handled bowls and skyphoi, which date the earliest phase of habitation to EHel. A *tpq* for the last phase is provided by a Macedonian coin of the reigns of Philip V and Perseus. Farmstead 2, 2km N of farmstead 1 and 1.7km from Edessa, is a long, narrow building (rooms I–VI), with an approach road from Edessa entering at the NW and flanked by rooms VII–IX. The structure had a Laconian-tiled roof. Rooms I–VI produced few finds of Hel coins and pottery, along with loomweights with graffiti from rooms I and III (the former room containing a hearth and the latter the setting for a pithos). The majority of finds come from a courtyard S of rooms II–IV: these include a millstone and grinding stone, plus a wide range of storage vessels, cooking vessels and tablewares (notably Megarian bowls) which may have been discarded here, along with a few items of jewellery, glass beads and coins. A few ERom sherds, including a lead-glazed relief skyphos, also come from these rooms. A few 3rd Ct BC bg sherds may come from an isolated pit grave sunk into the natural soil in room VI (a room later used for storage). The latest use of the farmstead is established by a coin of Antoninus in room IX and LRom sherds in room VIII. Farmstead 3, 2.7km SW of anc. Edessa, consists of 2 long, narrow buildings (14.7m x 3.7m and 10.9m x 2.3m) in a poor state of preservation. A Rom date is indicated by the surviving pottery.

Rizospastis (21/04/07), *Eleutheros Typos* (22/04/07) and *Eleutherotypia* (23/04/07) report (with illustration) excavation just N of the farmsteads noted above, where a further ECh farmstead was investigated by the 11th EBA in 2007. Eight single burials were found in rock-cut cist tombs with cover slabs, dating from the ECl–EHel. Female burials contained vases and jewellery, whereas males had weapons (2 spearheads are illustrated), agricultural tools and vases linked to the symposium. The tombs lie close to the anc. road from Edessa to Imathia, which passed through the valley of Platani-Flamouria.

Finally, at Psili Vrisi, *Apogevmatini* (11/03/08) cites a report by A. Prokopidou, G. Skiadaresis and M. Cheimonidou of the discovery of part of a previously unknown monastery of the 1st half of the 13th Ct AD (1239–1252) and a LByz (13th–14th Ct AD) cemetery of at least 40 (mostly male) graves.

Giannitsa. S. Zacharidis, F. Karagianni and G. Skiadaresis report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 741–52) the discovery of an Ot bath (hammam) in rescue excavation at 32 Venizelou street. Part of the apodyterion was preserved on this plot, with the rest of the bath continuing into neighbouring plots. The base of a perirrhanterion was found in the S of the plot, in what was probably the centre of the room, along with 2 water channels. Niches in the E and N wall were likely for bathers' possessions. Stratigraphy and portable finds (including glazed pottery and many clay pipes) indicate that the bath was in use from the 15th–17th Ct AD, when it was destroyed by fire. It is identified as the bath of Achmet Bei mentioned by Evliya Çelebi on his visit to Giannitsa in 1668.

Archontiko, Toumba. A Papanthimou (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) presented the following report to a 2-day conference on archaeological research conducted by Gr universities organized by the Ministry of Culture (06–07/12/2007). While it partly duplicates earlier *AR* reports (43 [1996–1997], 74; 46 [1999–2000], 89–90), it presents a convenient summary of research at the site.

Two principal phases of PH settlement have been identified. The more recent, phase A, is dated by C^{14} to ca. 1516–1414 BC: characteristic pottery has incised geometric motifs picked out in white paste. The older phase B spans the end of the EBA and the start of the MBA. This phase includes 3 settlement horizons (II, III, IV) and can be placed by a series of C^{14} determinations ca. 2140–1780 BC, i.e., with continuous settlement for ca. 260 years.

Horizon II represents the most recent settlement in phase B, and is characterized by posthole constructions which have been badly damaged by later disturbance and water erosion. Nonetheless, it proved possible to recognize the ground plans of 3 buildings and a paved court. Even though these buildings have not been completely investigated, they seem to share the same NW–SE orientation, and to be broadly similar in size. They are a maximum of 6m *l*. and 3–3.5m *w*. Two of these buildings share a common wall. Mud-brick constructions, plain pottery and various portable finds were also located.

Immediately below horizon II lay the remains of an older settlement, horizon III, which was destroyed by fire. Information about the organization of this settlement is more confused, since much of the available architectural information consists of fragments of floor and postholes with no clear idea of arrangement. Only one residential unit has been identified to date, which follows its predecessor and successor in terms of form and orientation. Inside are 2 mud-brick structures set directly on the floor level, which slopes down markedly from E to W.

The next horizon, IV, again has well-preserved posthole constructions: the entire area is covered by a thick (0.3-0.35m) destruction deposit with signs of a fierce fire. This deposit contained much construction material and sealed the floor levels, preserving a large quantity of finds (**Fig. 72**). To date, 7 dwellings have been investigated (ca. 8m x 4m): that investigated to the fullest extent measures 8.8m x 3.5m. In general, these are range houses which are often united by a party wall and share a common NW–SE orientation – something which continues into later building phases.

Among the most interesting architectural discoveries in horizon IV are the clay structures erected in groups within houses and forming part of their internal organization. Some 60 such constructions have been found in horizon IV, of which 83% are preserved in good condition. These served to create hearths (**Fig. 73**), ovens, storage space, low platforms, etc. The variety of types and their distribution reinforce the likelihood of a special function in each case and suggest that they were used to organize space for different tasks connected with food preparation, cooking and storage. Analysis of the temperatures to which these clay structures were exposed, undertaken by NCSR Democritos (Y. Maniatis), will aid understanding of their function. Results obtained to date indicate that these temperatures did not exceed 650°C.

Almost every house contained a shallow pit grave, normally located in the NE part, under the floor and close to clay-built features. The state of preservation of the skeletal material allows only an estimate of age, not of sex. In one case, the burial was that of an infant of 12–18 months and in another, that of a newborn of less than 6–9 months. In some tombs the bones were placed within a vessel, while in others the skeleton was laid out in prone position or on its side: there were no grave goods.

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72. Archontiko, Toumba: horizon IV, dwelling floor with complete pots

Among the pottery, a category of fine, polished, black or dark brown vessels can be distinguished. A typical form is the amphoriskos with very high handles. Also common are one-handled rounded cups, small jugs, large vessels with marked necks and lids, and pithoi with corded decoration. Investigation to date indicates that the majority of vessels are of medium or large size (basins, amphorae, pithoi, etc.).

Evidence for diet and subsistence activities is provided by animal bone, carbonized seeds and molluscs. Meat was largely obtained from ovicaprids, pigs and bovines, while deer hunting also played a significant role. Shellfish and fish were also consumed. Archaeobotanical research (T. Valamoti) demonstrated the variety of grains and pulses used in the preparation of foodstuffs such as gruels and breads. A large quantity of acorns was found, as well as seasonal fruits such as blackberries, figs, grapes and dogwood fruit. Lallemantia oil (a variety imported from the Caucasus) and flax oil was also used.

G. Deliopoulos presents (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 685–702) an account of the pottery from the building with the stone foundation (phase A).

W cemetery: A. and P. Chrysostomou (17th EPCA) report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 703–12) continuing excavation focused on the W slope of hill 69. Ninety-nine further tombs were excavated (35 EIA, 49 Ar and 15 Cl–EHel), plus an Ar dog burial, bringing the total discovered to 787 in an area of 8 stremmata and confirming a peak of wealth in the Ar period. Graves were arranged in family groups with pathways between them. EIA graves, mostly pits with or without cover slabs (plus some cists), contained single inhumations in extended position. 19 had no goods: the remainder mostly had pottery, with other items (iron knives, gold and bronze jewellery, and biconical clay spindle-whorls) being less common. Female burials were distinguished by jewellery and spindle whorls, but no particular items were characteristic of males or children. Among female burials, details are given of 4 adult burials and one child burial, all with 1–2 pots and 1–4 items of jewellery (mostly bronze with a little gold), plus shells and a spindle-whorl in individual cases. Among the 49 Ar graves (last quarter of the 6th Ct–480), of which 9 were robbed to some extent, 20 are male burials, 23 female and 6 not attributable. The dead were interred in extended, prone position, in wooden coffins: women's heads were usually to the E (occasionally to the N or S, but never W), while men's were usually to the W (occasionally to the N or S, but never E). Male graves contained mostly metalware, which allowed the distinction of classes of warrior as follows (noting also the report by A. and P. Chrysostomou of the 2006–2007 excavations in *Eleutherotypia* 06/03/08). (1) Ten burials with iron spears, arrowheads, knives and a few other items of jewellery and pottery vessels (3 adult and 3 juvenile cases are presented in detail). (2) Six burials with an iron sword, 2 spearheads and a knife, plus a large number of other items such as pottery vessels (including Attic and Cor imports), a few terracotta figurines and bronze phialai, miniature iron furniture and jewellery, mainly bronze and iron rings and pins, and gold mouth-plates (3 cases are described in detail). (3) Tombs with all these items in greater quantity, plus a helmet (one also had a gold wreath and several also gold eye pieces). Tomb 546 (last quarter of the 6th Ct), for example, contained a bronze helmet, iron sword, 2 spearheads and a knife, a gold mouth-plate with repousse decoration, a gold ring and 2 iron double pins, 3 iron curved objects, a bronze lebes and phiale, and 4 pottery vessels (2 local, a Cor exaleiptron and an Attic bf kylix). In tomb 587 (M6th Ct), partially robbed in the head area, surviving goods comprised a bronze helmet, iron sword, 2 spearheads and 3 iron knives, a gold mouth-plate with repoussé decoration, a ring, 2 rosettes and 11 mostly triangular sections of gold sheet decoration from a leather corselet and garments, miniature furniture and obeloi in iron, an iron hook, a bronze lebes and 2 phialai, 4 terracotta figurines and 4 vases (one local, 2 Attic and one Cor). Among the women's graves, 6 examples (4 adult and 2 child) are described in detail. All contain large quantities of gold and bronze jewellery and ornaments (mouth-plates, rosettes, as well as necklaces, pins, rings and earrings), vases



73. Archontiko, Toumba: horizon IV, hearth beside house wall

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(local, with a few Cor and Ionian imports) and, in certain cases, also terracotta figurines, iron knives, miniature furniture).

In the context of discussion of Ar grave goods, one should also note the report in *Eleutherotypia* (06/03/08), which focuses on the rich gold jewellery found especially in Ar graves (cf *AR* 50 [2003–2004], 44). As this indicates, by the end of the 2006–2007 excavation season, the overall total of tombs had reached 872 (227 EIA, 409 Ar, 229 Cl–EHel and 7 undated). In addition to gold dress ornaments and diadems, 3 cases of women wearing gold face masks are noted (with illustration). Impressed decoration included in one case, 4-pointed sun/stars over the eyes with omphaloi below and, on the rhomboid mouth cover, a winged animal in the middle, dolphins above and below, and an Ionian wave motif at the corners. The report reiterates the division of male burials into warrior classes, but notes a 4th class of exceptionally rich warriors with a full panoply of offensive and defensive weapons (shield, helmet, one or more swords, spearheads and knives) of whom 5 had gold face masks and silvered bronze shields and 2 others bronze shields. A number of warriors wore a type of Illyrian-Cor helmet decorated with gold bands and engraved decoration which is likely to come from the royal workshop.

Returning to the *AEMTh* report, the 15 Cl–Hel pit tombs comprise 5 male and 8 female burials, plus 2 too disturbed to assign. Until the start of the 4th Ct, the orientation of the body followed Ar practice, but thereafter, women's heads were consistently turned to the W and men's to the E. Grave goods usually comprise one or more coins (of Macedon or the Thessalian cities) and at least one or 2 vases (amphorae, skyphoi, bolsals or lamps) among other items. Three male graves had iron spearheads and 5 others, silver, bronze and iron rings. Three tombs of the first phase of this period are described in detail. Thus, for example, a tomb of a small girl (grave 590, M5th Ct) contained a gold necklace, a pair of silver earrings, 4 silver bow fibulae with iron pins, an Attic type A skyphos and a composite ritual vessel. Two male graves each contained one vase, 2 iron spearheads and 2 items of jewellery (in each case a bronze ring with stamped decoration, showing the first part of Aesop's fable of the fox and the stork and a maenad respectively) – in addition, one had a coin. Four representative examples from the latter part of the period (2 male and 2 female) are discussed, showing a similar range of goods.

Pella. M. Lilibaki-Akamati (Director, 17th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 591–614) on site conservation and rescue excavation prior to the construction of a bypass around the site. The exact positions of the E and W city walls were determined, thus estimating the E–W *w*. of the city at 1,280m along the road near the Sanctuary of Darron and 1,320m S of the agora. Parts of 3 insulae and the roads separating them were investigated in the W sector: these include 2 of the westernmost insulae on the limits of the urban plan (noting that in the one fully preserved case, the *w*. E–W is narrowed from the usual 49m to 29m). A 7m *w*. road separates the outer insulae from the W city wall. At least 3 construction phases are identified: in the final phase of the SW insula, pottery kilns were installed. The walls of the N insula wall were robbed for the construction of tombs and periboloi in the Rom E cemetery, which extends into this area. Twelve Rom tombs (2nd half of the 2nd–1st half of the 3rd Ct AD) were investigated here – 9 tile graves, 2 cists with cover slabs and a pit. These all contained 1–2 pottery vessels, glass vessel fragments and 1–3 bronze coins, and, in 2 cases, gold, silver and bronze jewellery. Further graves from this cemetery, as well as Hel graves (including 6 looted chamber tombs, all beginning ca. 75m from the known limit of the urban area), were excavated in the N part of this area.

In the **S city**, remains of 3 ECh (1st–4th Ct AD) buildings were located in an area ca. 520m *l*. on the city's E–W axis. These demonstrate that the lines of the urban plan continued to be followed even after the widespread abandonment of the settlement following the earthquake of 90 BC. They include a Rom bath preserving the praefurnium, a caldarium complex of 3 rooms with hypocausts and a one-room tepidarium leading into a small pool. An outdoor swimming pool, with a water supply and drainage system and a small exedra, lay to the S and there was a cistern to the W. The bath buildings had mosaic floors and *opus sectile* decoration with coloured mortars: portable finds include clay, glass and marble vessels and many coins. Tests beneath the bath complex revealed many phases of occupation extending back into the Cl period. Cl and Hel remains were levelled, likely in the 2nd half of the 1st or the 1st half of the 2nd Ct AD, for the new buildings, which followed the former urban plan. These were subsequently destroyed by fire, and new buildings, including the bath complex, erected in the 2nd–3rd Ct: these were in turn destroyed in the 1st half of the 4th Ct AD, and the building materials used for the construction of roads in this area. To date, no remains of the Ch period have been located elsewhere and it is likely that activity was confined to the S part of the city, close to the water-front.

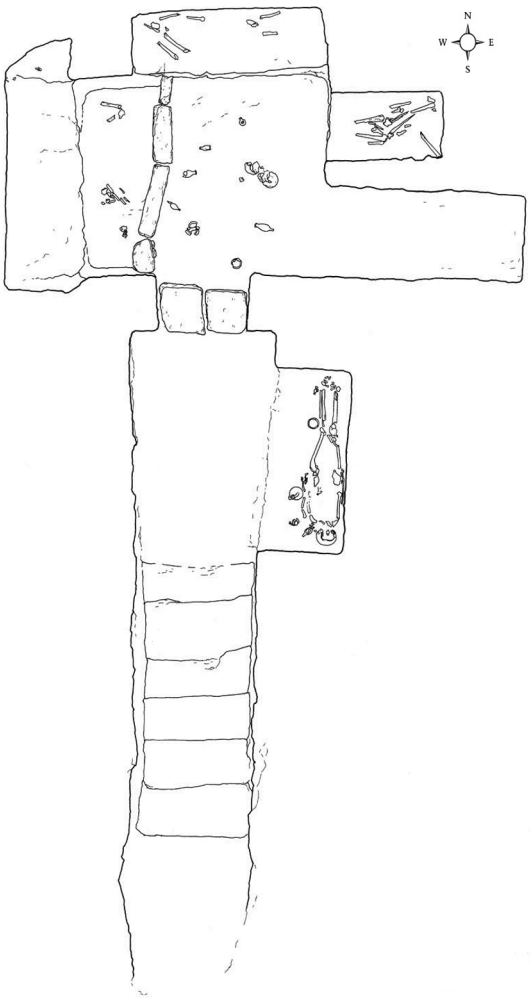
I. Akamatis (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 615–26) on a further season of excavation in the **agora**. Excavation in the S part of the E stoa was undertaken to assist in wall conservation, verify the floor levels and install a drainage system. In the lowest floor level a series of storage pits relates to the initial use of the rooms: one produced pottery and sherds of pseudo-Cypriot amphorae, giving a *tpq* of the L4th Ct BC for the construction and first use of the stoa. Pits in several rooms produced large quantities of figurines and figurine moulds. Lifting of part of the fabric of the road E of the agora, N and S of the central avenue, revealed part of the E wall of the agora, and the foundation trench and part of the wall of the insula to the E. The NE corner of the E stoa was located *in situ*, along with the corner of the neighbouring insula to the E. N of the avenue, previously located insula remains were cleaned and the angle of the next insula to the N revealed. Investigation of the road bordering the S edge of the agora continued. The road fabric included many metal items (keys, lead weights, etc., plus many craft tools) and a wide range of stamped amphora handles, including a large number of the Parmeniskos group. Pottery included much rf and sherds bearing graffiti, and there were also many moulds for figurines and relief altars, as well as elements of a roof, coins and a marble head of Herakles. The stratigraphy of a section of road between insula I/4 and the S stoa was investigated: this was shown to lie over part of a cemetery of the 1st half of the 4th Ct BC, previously located in the area. 23 additional tombs and a pyre were found in the W part of the road (2 *enchytrismoi*, 5 tile-covered graves and 16 rock-cut pits), likely covered by tumuli. Grave goods were generally few: squat lekythoi, bolsals, skyphoi, oinochoai, olpai and thilastra, rf vessels (especially lekythoi and pelikai), figurines, bronze, iron and silver fibulae, and jewellery placed at the relevant part of the body. By the hands of many men were farming tools, weapons and athletic equipment. In the S part of the previously excavated cemetery, within the road, was a well filled in the L3rd or E2nd Ct BC; this likely served the buildings in the area rather than the earlier cemetery. In the area of the road S of the agora, N of insulae I/2 and I/7, lay a metalworking establishment, with tools, moulds, hearths and other related equipment. Finally, 2 stretches of road, through the S stoa and the SW approach to the agora, were investigated.

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Kathimerini (07/03/08) and *Ethnos* (15/03/08) report the discovery by M. Lilibaki-Akamati and I. Akamatis of a **Hel bath** complex of ca. 1,000m^2. This had a large pool (7m x 4m) lined with waterproof cement and a changing room to the S. The first phase of construction dates to ca. 325–300 and the building was remodeled ca. 275–250, with 18 new individual and group baths, a tholos, and pebble and mosaic pavements. Under-floor heating was added in the M2nd Ct BC, with the additional creation of cold and hot baths, and the use of the tholos as a sauna.

Preparatory research towards the public presentation of the archaeological site of Pella is discussed by I. Akamatis (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 627–39). Significant progress in documenting the road network and water system, and locating further insulae is reported. Nine further graves excavated along the main routes had been badly damaged by road construction: many were in slim pithoi and were likely marked with tumuli. The only offerings were a local EBA open vessel and an ECyc marble bowl. A fountain house was discovered by the road from the museum to the storerooms. Subsequently, *Kathimerini* (29/02/08) reported the discovery by I. Akamatis of more than 100 **EBA burials**, ca. 30% of which were *enchytrismoi* in large (1.5–1.6m *h*.) pithoi and the rest pit burials or burials in stone-lined structures. They were accompanied by marble bowls from the Cyclades (sometimes with red pigment), local handmade pottery and metal objects including jewellery, arrowheads and knives. Bodies were placed in contracted positions, women facing to the left and men to the right. Babies, infants and older children were also buried here. The full extent of the cemetery cannot be determined, as it continues beneath the later city: the graves so far investigated are relatively accessible beneath later roads and passageways. A settlement of the same period is assumed to be nearby and probably beneath the later city.

P. Chrysostomou (17th EPCA) reports on Hel and Rom graves discovered in rescue excavation in the **W cemetery** (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 641–57, 659–71). A section of the new bypass road 250m *l*. and 22.5m *w*. produced: part of the Hel W city wall and the road dividing it from the outermost insulae; part of the proteichisma; further W, the SW edge of a LBA settlement (fills, deposits and a well containing pottery, stone tools and animal bone); part of a water channel with clay pipes (post-dating 168 BC) along the line of the new road. Part of an extensive cemetery, with 429 graves (39 Hel and 390 Rom), was traced along the length of the new road, inside and outside the wall and proteichisma, and for some distance further W. This remained in use from the L4th Ct BC to the 1st quarter of the 4th Ct AD. One tile grave contained a horse burial. The 39 Hel burials were scattered in front of the proteichisma growing denser further W. They were intact, although with modest goods, and consist of *enchytrismoi* (3), pits (10), tile graves (19) and rock-cut chamber tombs (7). Illustrative of the *enchytrismoi* is grave 243A (pre-M3rd Ct), a male cremation in a kalpis covered with a plate, outside which were 2 pottery tear-bottles and 3 iron strigils on a ring (2 bear a particular producer's stamp on the handle which appears elsewhere in the cemetery). Ten pit graves, mainly with child cremations, were found in the W part of the excavation. Among those described, grave 8 is a typical example. This contained a large number of astragaloi and terracotta figurines (notably Attis types and Macedonian youths), plus a tear-bottle. Pit grave 20 (a child cremation with a lead weight) had as a cover slab the reused 3rd Ct BC grave stele of Aristokleia, wife of Chairephanis. The 19 tile graves contained both cremations and inhumations, with metal and ceramic offerings. For example, tile grave 106 (cremation of a young girl) contained a silver ring with gold bezel, silver hoop earrings and a bg pyxis (1st half of the 2nd Ct BC). Grave 266 (a female cremation, with iron nails preserved from the bier) had a bronze needle, 2 small iron hooks, a bg skyphos, a loomweight and 2 coins. Immediately W and outside the proteichisma was a rock-cut chamber tomb, with a simple chamber to the W and the stomion blocked with small stones. It contained a male inhumation on a bier, with 5 pottery vessels dating just before the M3rd Ct BC. Chamber tomb 1 is roughly similar; here a lead pyxis and 7 pottery vessels escaped the looters. Chamber tomb 5 is more elaborate: it had a long dromos and an entrance way which was originally blocked. The chamber held one inhumation damaged by the intrusion of a 3rd Ct AD tomb: a cutting in the E wall of the dromos held a cremation with 3 vessels of the M2nd Ct BC. The 4 remaining rock-cut tombs were low, underground chambers (2 with single chambers, 2 with double), all with individual internal arrangements. **Fig. 74** shows the single-chambered tomb 4, with a stepped dromos: an inhumation in a rectangular niche on the E side of the dromos was originally protected by a wall. Pottery, lamps and figurines were scattered through the dromos fill. The chamber had couches on the W and N sides, a low wall demarcating a cist grave and 2 rectangular containers on the E side. Two niches in the S wall held lamps. Between 4 and 6 members of the same family were buried in this tomb, laid on wooden biers



74. Pella: W cemetery, chamber tomb 4

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and with metal objects (bronze chest fittings, a gilded bronze mirror) along with ceramic vessels and figurines of the 2nd Ct BC. The rock-cut chamber tombs and their contents, all 2nd Ct BC, are described in detail. Tomb 6 is the most elaborate structure, preserving in its first chamber painted plaster with architectural decoration and, in its 2nd, an Ionic doorway with painted plaster ornament.

The **Rom cemetery** in the area of the Hel W cemetery served the Rom–ECh settlement in the S part of the earlier city and at Fakos, rather than the Rom colonial settlement 1.5km W. 390 Rom graves (including 7 cists, 31 pits and 346 tile graves) lay within the Hel city and further W beyond the walls. 246 contained goods. Graves were arranged in family groups with no consistent orientation: around one third (128) were child burials, and all infant and most child burials lacked goods, although some contained objects such as figurines, glass and ceramic vessels. There were 222 cremations and 168 inhumations. Most (but not all) cremations were primary. Cremation was the dominant rite from the Augustan era until the end of the 1st Ct AD, the 2 rites then co-existed during the 1st half of the 2nd Ct and finally inhumation dominated during the 2nd half of the 2nd–M3rd Ct. Almost all graves were intact, but only a very few contained valuable goods. A wide variety of ceramic shapes is represented, with oinochoai, amphorae, chytrae, cups, skyphoi, plates, trays, lekanides, tear-bottles and lamps most common. Many are plainwares: Latin and Gr workshop stamps are rare. Relief lamps are relatively common, including Ephesian types. Glass vessels are also common, but metal offerings are rare. Terracotta figurines are mostly found in child graves. Gold funerary coins were very rare; most were bronze, or occasionally silver, denarii. Coin hoards are also rare, excepting certain examples of the 1st half of the 3rd Ct AD when the custom was widespread in Macedonia. A number of tombs are distinguished by the presence of jewellery in gold, silver, bronze, iron, glass, jet and bone. Three prophylactic amulets are of particular interest. Common finds in female burials are iron and bronze fittings from wooden chests, pyxides in bronze and bone, cosmetic palettes and tools, mirrors, needles, bronze bells, bone buttons, and terracotta and bone spindle-whorls. Less common finds are bronze and iron strigils, bronze medical implements, pendants and toys. Bronze handles from biers or couches, and nails from biers on which bodies rested for cremation, are also noted. Only 2 marble grave markers were recovered: one had a seated man at left and a rider at right, the other, in secondary use as a cist tomb cover, depicted a mounted hero hunting a boar to right, toward an altar with a standing male and a tree round which was a snake. There is one unique case of an *in situ* limestone base for a marble funerary altar, the upper part of which (a marble pine-cone) was found nearby. Part of an ERom honorific marble base bears a fragmentary inscription.

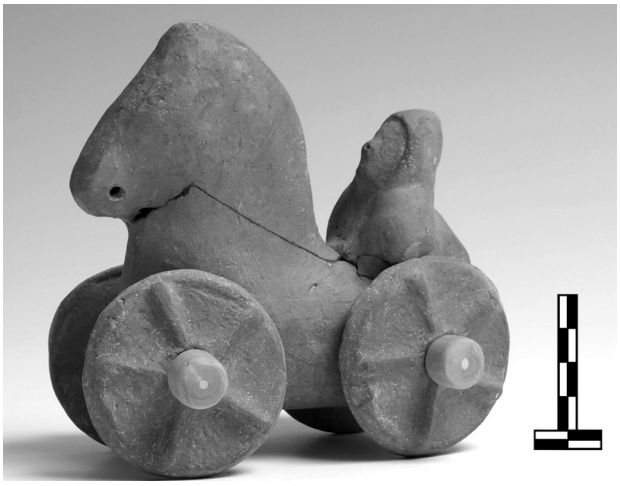
Among the *enchytrismoi*, grave 206A is described: this is an infant cremation in a kalpis, with a bronze coin, a ceramic tear-bottle and 2 figurines. The 7 cist tombs show great variety in construction. Tomb 21, a male inhumation in a large cist lined with marble slabs, may be the grave of a city official. It contained a relief lamp, an iron prochous, a bronze strigil with engraved decoration, a denarius of Caracalla (198 AD), a necklace of 2 silver coins and a gold ring on a chain, and rolled gold sheet inscribed with the owner's name, Pontios Lykos, on all 4 sides. The pit graves showed great variety: 18 were simple pits and 21 had cover slabs or tiles, 26 held inhumations and 5 cremations. Among the 4 typical examples described, grave 22 (dated to the 2nd half of the 2nd Ct AD by 2 coins) held gold earrings, a silver bracelet, a bronze button, a glass vessel, a ceramic chytra and a terracotta horse and rider (**Fig. 75**). One of its cover slabs, reused from a funerary monument, bore an inscription recording that Zosimos built for his fellow slave (*synkellarios*) the monument of Ingenua, slave of Veratius Camerinus.

Tile graves were the most common category: those inside the walls were deep and tightly arranged in family groups. W of the proteichisma many tombs were set inside a wide cutting in the rock. Pit and cist graves were often bordered on 2 or more sides with stones and/or tile and many had periboloi built from rocks and (mainly Hel) spolia. Some tile graves had sections of terracotta pipe set upright to receive libations. Grave goods (mostly terracotta figurines, lamps and vessels placed upside down) were often outside the tomb, indicating feasts and offerings for the dead. 33 examples are discussed in detail. Among these, we note tile grave 18 (a male inhumation) which contained one glass and 5 ceramic vessels, bronze fishhooks, a medical implement, a bronze sealing ring depicting a sphinx and an amulet in a gold setting. The oval semi-precious stone in this amulet was engraved on one face with an Egyptian mystical formula in Gr and a magic symbol in the centre, and on the other face with a coiled lion-headed snake identified by the inscription as Cnouphis (amulets with this image protect against stomach conditions). Goods in grave 47 included a hoard of 17 bronze coins and a gold ring worn by the young male deceased inscribed Εἷς Ζεύς Σέραπις, further evidence of this cult at Pella.

Publication: M. Lilibaki-Akamati, *Κιβωτιόσχημος τάφος με ζωγραφική διακόσμηση από την Πέλλα* (Thessaloniki, Ministry of Culture/17th EPCA, 2007).

Nomos of Imathia
(17th EPCA: 11th EBA)

Trilofos (Kazani). I. Graikos (17th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 795–803) on the discovery of a LNeo settlement in rescue excavation for the construction of the new Veroia-Skydra road, at the site of Kazani. The site lies within an arc of settlement along the foothills of Mt Vermion. The extent of the site and the nature of its internal organization remain unclear (the area is disturbed by mod. quarrying and cultivation). It may be as large as 5 stremmata, but excavation could cover



75. Pella: Rom cemetery, horse and rider figurine from pit grave 22

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only ca. 800m^2. A stone-paved, likely open-air area, a vaulted channel, pits, oval stone structures, hearths and storage jars were located. Pottery finds include many open angular pots with flat bases, notably black-burnished and black-rimmed pots, with few examples of red-topped and other burnished wares. Other finds are few: they include stone tools, 3 clay figurines and a stone bead.

Veroia. I. Graikos (17th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 821–32) on the discovery of 2 clusters of graves dating from the L5th–L4th Ct BC during road-works at the S entrance of the anc. city. The older (L5th–M4th Ct) contains 10 pit graves and the later (M–L4th Ct) 11. All but one had wooden covers and all contained individual burials. The earlier group was oriented N–S and the later E–W. Pottery from the earlier group, notably bg skyphoi and exaleiptra, is closely related to Attic, whereas that from the later is closer to Hel. An individual burial of the M2nd Ct BC reused an earlier pit. The article assembles evidence for the topography of the cemeteries of Veroia (cf. *AR* 28 [1981–1982], 39–40 for previous finds in this area).

Kerdos (21/07/07), *To Vima*, *Eleutherotypia*, *Ta Nea*, *Kathimerini* (12/03/08) and *Apogevmatini* (13/03/08) report the discovery of 4 graves of the 3rd Ct AD during construction work on G. Seferis street. They belong to a larger cemetery of this period located in the 1960s in the extramural W part of the anc. city. Gold and bronze jewellery, weapons, coins, pottery vessels and glass cosmetic vessels were recovered. I. Graikos and the surgeon L. Pavlides are quoted as reporting signs of trauma from trepanation on the cranium of one young woman (ca. 25 years of age): the reason for this complex and skilled surgery remains unclear. The existence of clinical facilities in anc. Veroia has previously been attested in inscriptions.

Promithea Veroias. E. Psarra and S. Lioulias (17th EPCA) report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 805–20) on rescue excavation on the Savvas plot at 4 Aivaliou street. Four rooms from a Rom bath complex likely form part of a private establishment located outside the city boundaries, although the structure is too poorly preserved to be sure of its status. The walls include architectural spolia in secondary use. Along the E side of the plot lie the praefurnium and the hypocaust of the caldarium. To the W are 2 rooms with mosaic pavements depicting geometric patterns, room I (the northernmost) in mixed materials (pebbles, terracotta and other stones) and room II (the southernmost) in terracotta set in waterproof mortar (**Fig. 76**). Room I is likely the apodyterium and room II likely a swimming pool. Ceramic evidence indicates use during the 2nd and 3rd Cts AD, with some architectural adaptation in the course of that period. Notable among finds is a lamp imitating a product of the 3rd Ct Attic workshop of ΕΛΠΙΔΗΦΟΡΟΥ. The complex was destroyed and abandoned in the M3rd Ct. Room II was reused as a store, containing pottery of the 1st half of the 5th Ct AD. A Cl child pit grave of the 3rd quarter of the 5th Ct BC was found between the N wall of the praefurnium and a water channel at the N edge of the plot. This contained a rf squat lekythos, a stone alabastron, a bg aryballoid lekythos with a sigma-patterned band, a Rheneia cup, nails from the child's bier and, at the feet, 2 bronze strigils and a terracotta figurine. At shoulder height were a glass alabastron, a lekythos of the workshop of the Megaira Painter and a glass trefoil-mouthed oinochoe. A silver coin of Alexander I served as Charon's obol. In general, the bath complex is set into the context of the hitherto limited (but growing) body of evidence for Hel and Rom activity NW of Veroia, outside the city boundaries. In addition to published evidence, a new Hel tomb at 43 Ambelokipon street (on the slopes of the hill of Profitis Ilias) is the most distant from the known Hel cemeteries yet discovered (*ADelt* B 59 [2004], forthcoming). At 7 Arygyropoulos street, part of a strong N–S wall of Hel date is reported (*ADelt* B 60 [2005], forthcoming).

Vergina (anc. Aigai). Ch. Saatsoglou-Paliadeli (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 753–57) on progress in a collaborative programme with the 17th EPCA to complete cataloguing, conservation and presentation of architectural and other finds.

Ch. Saatsoglou-Paliadeli and A. Kyriakou (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) report (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 759–66) on continuing excavation at the palace and cemetery. Excavation at the tholos in the **palace** demonstrated that the exedra contains reused architectural members in its foundation and must thus post-date the Rom conquest in the M2nd Ct BC. It cannot, therefore, be connected with the palace, but it represents a continuity of ritual function in this area. The main conclusions of A. Kyriakou's 2005 doctoral thesis on the M4th Ct BC **Stenomakri tomb** (excavated in 1981 and 2003–2005) are presented. The oblong tumulus (43.75m x 24.75m) covered 3 burials – a pit grave in the centre (tomb Α) and 2 cist graves to the N (tomb Γ) and S (tomb Β), each surrounded by its own peribolos. In tomb Β, attention is drawn to at least 10 polychrome hydriae, pierced to allow funerary libations, which are closely similar to polychrome vessels from the Aiane cemetery, as well as rich metal goods including horse trappings, and metal and ivory fittings for a wooden chest. Over tomb Γ a group of 15 hydriae pierced for libations differs in style from that in tomb Β, being more closely influenced by metalwork. Notable among the grave offerings is a Kerch style acorn lekythos attributed to the Attic painter of the Vogell Group, but in non-Attic clay. Other offerings include 3 rf vases, metal weapons and jewellery, iron knobs from leather vessels, 2 wreaths and ivory decoration from a wooden chest and couch, as well as gilded terracotta plaques. In the central tomb Α, a male burial is clearly attested and the tomb includes many weapons (notably a silver-inlaid sword), but there are also slight indications of a female burial. At the E side of the tumulus, a monument bore burial markers, of which survive the marble paw of a lion and a marble volute krater buried in the foundation. The tombs were looted and the monument destroyed by the Gauls in the 3rd Ct BC and the Romans in the 2nd Ct BC. Remains of pyres connected to the cist graves and rich weapons from the central grave indicate the status of the deceased.

S. Drougou (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 767–72) on excavation of the **Macedonian tomb with Ionic façade**. This focused on the dromos, which is shown to be lengthy (14m *l.* x 6–7m *h.*), including a large courtyard (7m *l.* x 6m *w.*) in front of the façade. A large wall of coarse stones protected the dromos from loose soil on the S side. A building dedication at the SE corner of the tomb contains mainly bg plates which date the tomb to the L4th Ct or ca. 300 BC.

A. Kottaridou (17th EPCA) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 723–80) on rescue excavation of building plots on the E side of Vergina, within the Ar cemetery. 90 graves have so far been excavated, spanning the 6th Ct BC: these are densely concentrated, apparently in groups (perhaps family groups) and arranged in rows. Within the city, excavation close to the NW gate revealed a large building complex (covering over 3 stremmata) with multiple phases, but on a different orientation from the palace and the Sanctuaries of Eurykleia and Kybele (confirming that, despite the efforts of Philip II, Aigai never

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76. Promithea Veroias: mosaics from Rom bath complex

entirely conformed to a consistent grid). Finds include LAr pottery and a very few 5th Ct spolia used in a large 4th Ct structure. The building apparently continues W, with a large courtyard and a water channel running beneath. The building was remodelled before the end of the 4th Ct and, with various alterations, continued in use into ECh times when the town was abandoned. This is a longer period of use than the palace and the main sanctuaries, and the extent of construction in the 1st Ct AD is notable. To this later building phase belongs the large peristyle court (ca. 1 stremma in area) which reshaped the entire complex. A rich destruction deposit covers the building. Documentation of the full extent and layout of the complex awaits future seasons.

Beside the W city wall, within the Palaiopanagia gully, lies a well-constructed building with pebble mosaic pavements similar to those in the palace. This was destroyed in the reign of Amyntas III, probably in a flood. It is speculated that the gymnasium of the city is to be found here. Further S, on the

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Palaiochori hill, the discovery of the body of a marble statue of a seated deity surely indicates an extra mural sanctuary. An extensive area of settlement (ca. 70 stremmata) existed W of Vergina, including substantial remains previously reported. Fourth Ct houses and periboloi have been located here, as well as a cemetery of the reigns of Amyntas III and Philip II to the W. The remains of a Hel building lie further W, at Pournari near Rovia, where a settlement and cemetery of the L EIA and an anc. water channel are located. Further N, on the plain close to the Aliakmon at Varka, is a tumulus with EBA settlement remains, an EIA cemetery and a Cl–Hel settlement and cemetery. On the plain NE of the cemetery, is the Rom settlement (with ECh basilica) which replaced Aigai and just beyond the E city gate is another settlement area, with 2 more further E at Keramario. Here trial trenches revealed a house destroyed in the 2nd Ct BC and an Imperial Rom kiln. This evidence combines to support the picture of an urban structure *kata komas*.

Eleutherotypia (07/09/07) reports on a programme of conservation and restoration of the palace. The completion of an architectural and finds database, and the first phase of a photogrammetrical study of the palace, is also reported by Ch. Saatsoglou-Paliadeli (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) (*Apogevmatini*, *Ethnos* [14/03/08], *Ethnos tis Kyriakis* [16/03/08]).

Ethnos (13/03/08) reports the results of analysis (by M. Vavelidis, Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) of the provenance of precious metals used in the royal burials. Gold comes from the Aliakmon area and the Chalkidike, and silver from Lavrion.

A meeting celebrating the 30th anniversary of the discovery of the Royal Tomb by Manolis Andronikos, held in November 2007, is widely reported (*Kathimerini*, *Eleutherotypia*, *To Vima* and *Ta Nea* [09/11/07]), with attention given to a lecture by A. Kottaridou (17th EPCA) on the symbolism of the Europa mosaic in reinforcing Philip II's claims to be a European leader. Research into the symbolic representation of the Odrysian kingdom of Thrace on the frieze from the Tomb of Philip II (I. Seiradakis and D. Ignatidou) is also widely reported as forming part of a group of allusions to Philip's victories which reinforces the identification of the tomb (*Ethnos* [11/03/08 and 14/03/08], *Kathimerini* and *Eleutherotypia* [12/03/08], *Apogevmatini* [13/03/08]).

CENTRAL MACEDONIA

Nomos of Pieria
(27th EPCA: 9th EBA)

Dion. D. Pantermalis (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 567–75) on a further season of excavation and site conservation.

Trial trenches S of the Temple of Asklepios revealed no building remains, just an isolated sarcophagus, the presence of which is hard to explain.

In the sector of the Hydraulis, excavation continued in the NW part of the insula. The stoa and stylobate (revealed in previous years) were traced along the entire W side of the insula, demonstrating that the cardo of the city was a colonnaded street. Immediately E, the presence of a rectangular room precludes a cross-street: this room was likely used for the preparation of lime. Rooms discovered in this area date to the 2nd–3rd Ct AD: a floor at a higher level dates to the 4th Ct AD, coinciding with evidence previously noted in the W part of the insula.

In the agora, the stratigraphical sequence W of rooms 11–13 was examined, revealing 3 Rom phases above Hel walls (reported in full by S. Piniatoglou, in *AEMTh* 20 [2006], 579–80). A potter's kiln in the NW part of the agora (discovered in 2001) was further investigated. This rectangular structure (3.7m x 3.5m) had 4 pairs of columns supporting the chamber; the exterior and chamber floor were finished in clay. Surrounding rooms were transformed into workshop space following the establishment of the kiln and the area probably served as a tile works – finished tiles, metal tools and masses of unbaked clay were found. The kiln was destroyed by fire and abandoned.

The House of Athena (noted from press reports in *AR* 53 [2006–2007], 67), close to the Villa of Dionysos, was further investigated. Four stoas surrounded the courtyard with the impluvium, with 2 rectangular rooms off each: one room on the E side served as the tablinium. The entire complex was built in the same Rom phase, and subsequently abandoned after flooding and not reoccupied. Portable finds include (in addition to pottery) a marble table and 2 malachite sealstones: the house takes it name from a relief depicting Athena with a snake. Cleaning of the central N–S road revealed a paved cross-road running E; this then turns S, at the same elevation as the road in front of the Villa of Dionysos.

The statue of Hera reported in *AR* 53 ([2006–2007], 67) as found built into a ECh wall, is discussed with illustration.

S. Piniatoglou (Aristotelian University, Thessaloniki) reports (*AEMTh* 20 [2006], 577–78) on the completion of excavation in the Sanctuary of Asklepios. E of the temple, 2 rooms of an Imperial Rom stoa were revealed, founded upon a Hel construction. Fragments of marble statuary include a crouching boy characteristic of sanctuaries of Asklepios and related deities. Piniatoglou concludes (580–86) with a summary of evidence for the Hel city.

Eleutherotypia (14/03/08) and *Ta Nea* (17/03/08) report plans for the creation of an archaeological park.

Methone. *Ethnos* (02/05/07) summarizes discoveries made by M. Besios (27th EPCA) at this Eretrian colony, including Ar monumental structures and probably the agora. Earlier occupation (LNeo–BA) is also noted, with decorated Myc fine pottery as well as glass, bronze and terracotta jewellery. Evidence for trading activities centred on the harbour is emphasized. A large basement storage area for wine awaiting shipment has been discovered: there is an exceptionally large collection of amphorae and other ceramic finds. Evidence for manufacturing demonstrates ivory and bone working, and the production of metal jewellery using stone moulds. Upper strata have produced bronze arrowheads linked to the siege laid by Philip II in 354 BC.

Nomos of Thessaloniki
(16th EPCA: 9th EBA)

Thessaloniki

Metro excavations. Since construction of the city's new metro system commenced in June 2006, the only analytical report of the associated rescue excavation to be published is that by Ch. Bakirtzis and N. Pazaras (9th EBA) in *AEMTh* 20 (2006), 431–66. The authors report on rescue excavation conducted in 2006–2007, when 58 trenches and pre-drilling tests were opened, of which 43 produced antiquities. Portable finds are noted as few, and mostly small quantities of post-Byz domestic pottery and Ot tobacco pipes, also ECh transport vessels, a few bronze coins and marble spolia. Disturbance to often shallowly

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