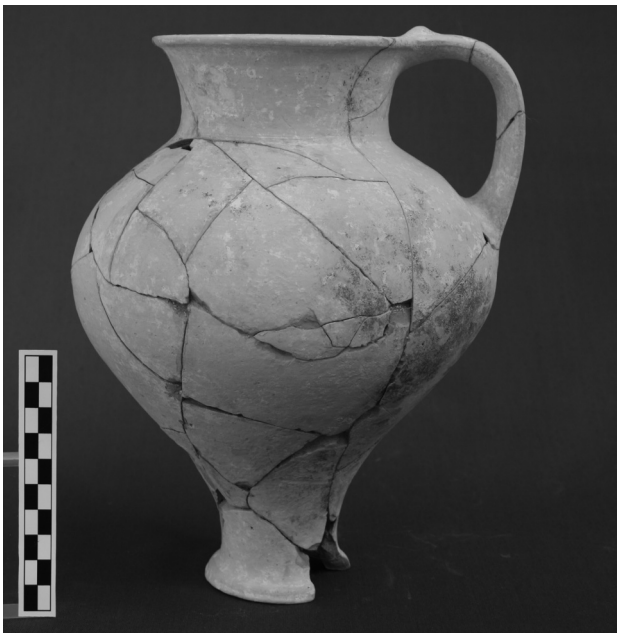


27. Nemea, Agia Sotira: LH IIIA2 jug from the chamber of tomb 5



28. Nemea, Agia Sotira: LH IIIB stirrup jar from the chamber of tomb 5

In 2007, 25ha were surveyed in 767 20m x 20m squares (**Fig. 29**). Artefact density varied significantly. On the upper plateau there were usually 100–150 sherds per square, with higher concentrations (ca. 200–300 and rarely up to 400) only in specific places. This pattern, observed also in previous years, probably signifies scattered, insubstantial installations (confirmed by the scarcity of architectural remains and the small quantities of roof tiles). W of the stadium, higher densities were found, as were traces of the city wall. On the N plateau, the area N of the agora and E of the stadium produced generally higher concentrations, and in certain squares roof tile greatly exceeded sherd. This phenomenon, encountered elsewhere on the plateau, relates to the large number of structures in this area – walls and corners of buildings and city-blocks, retaining walls of streets, cisterns, quarries, etc. On the S plateau also, architectural remains are common in the area investigated, S of the agora, especially ashlar walls oriented N–S, E–W, on the anc. city grid. Associated finds indicate that many of these structures are domestic: industrial activities (stone quarries and an olive-processing installation) were also located. Finally, investigation of the ridge projecting from the SE edge of the plateau produced markedly different results. Instead of the Hel to MRom pottery found elsewhere, ceramics here date back at least to the EH and continue to LH III, with very little Cl–Rom: Byz and post-Byz sherds and tiles represent periods rare in other areas.

Geophysical prospection revealed a number of streets 6–6.5m *w*., oriented N–S and E–W, plus an almost 10m *w*. N–S avenue detected N and S of the agora. The dimensions of the agora are now almost established. The anc. city grid was formed of ca. 69m x 69m squares. Within the resulting insulae, a number of walls and structures, some belonging to courtyard houses, have been located.

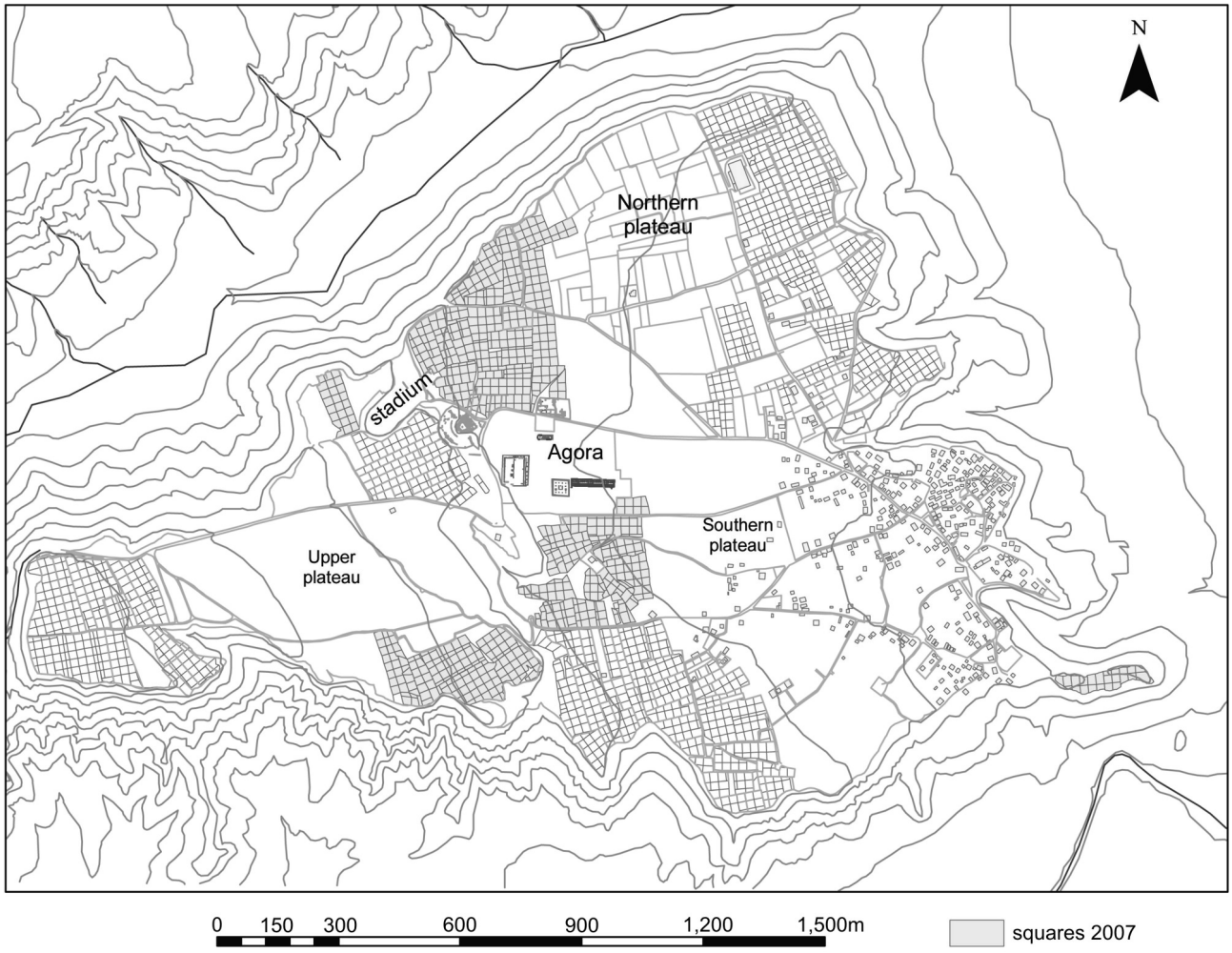
The project website is: http://extras.ha.uth.gr/sikyon.

Kryoneri, Lechova Cave. L. Kormazopoulou, I. Zygouri and V. Papathanasiou (EPSNE) report fully (*Praktika Z' Synedriou* 1, 97–105) on excavations previously noted (*AR* 50 [2003–2004], 19; citing also reports in press in *ADelt B Chr* [2000 and 2002]). The cave lies within the boundaries of anc. Sikyon, closest to anc. Titane. It is a single chamber, ca. 45m *d*.: an ESR date from stalactite samples (NCSR Democritos) of 12,800 years bp provides a control on the artificial widening of the entrance for human use. Destruction of significant archaeological deposits by illegal excavation limits reconstruction of cult practices (a rock altar is tentatively identified). Systematic excavation of undisturbed areas produced a large volume of figurines, terracotta plaques, pottery and some jewellery of the M6th–3rd Ct BC, with a strong focus on the 5th Ct: expanding upon the *ADelt* report noted in *AR* 50 (2003–2004), a full analysis of types is presented. Figurines, predominantly females with some males and animals, include most Cor types of the 2nd half of the 6th–4th Ct, noting the popularity of ring-dances and the presence of silens, satyrs and comic forms. Plaques mostly represent cockerels, sphinxes and gorgons: a pediment with female caryatids is illustrated. The ceramic assemblage (Attic, Cor and local, Sikyonian, plus local Atticizing) spans the M6th–M4th Ct, with emphasis on the 1st half of the 5th Ct, and includes a wide variety of vessel forms (notably miniatures of known types). Most pottery is Cor or local (end MCor–LCor III, also bg and Cor rf): shapes and decoration are described. Notable among metal finds are a series of rings with engraved bezel, and earrings of known type. Iconography and inscriptions indicate worship of the Nymphs (the inscriptions will be published by A. Matthaiou and Y. Lolos in an appendix to Y. Lolos, *Land of Sikyon* [forthcoming]).

ARGOLID
(4th EPCA: 5th EBA)

Profitis Ilias Kiveriou. Ch. Piteros (4th EPCA) reports (*Praktika Z' Synedriou* 2, 503–10) the discovery of spolia from a small temple reused in a ruined later structure on the summit of this hill (338masl), 2.28km W of Kiveri, close to the border with Arcadia. These spolia include large parts of Doric columns, a stylobate, sections of triglyph, metope and geison, and limestone blocks. In addition, there is a fluted marble column support for a perrirhanterion and 2 worked fragments of black Argive marble from a base or, more probably, a Doric triglyph altar. W of the later building, 2 more 4th Ct BC Doric column capitals were found. In the area round the building were

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29. Sikyon Survey Project: overall plan

2 joining and one non-joining fragments of a 4th Ct terracotta sima with floral decoration, plus a few Cor roof tiles. Artefacts collected – a few sherds of small Hel vessels, female figurines, a fragment of a peplophoros figurine of the 4th-3rd Ct, a few later sherds of household vessels and part of a LRom 2-nozzled lamp – indicate that the site was used over a long period. 30m S of the structure with the spolia, the foundations of 2 walls (0.5m *w.*) of a rectangular structure 6m E–W by 3m N–S were visible in the bedrock. This is likely the site of the small Doric temple represented by the spolia. The temple was probably destroyed in the LRom period: the area may have been subsequently used for Ch worship. Anc. sources do not mention this site, and the deity worshipped is unknown (the excavator suggests a female deity on the basis of the figurines and proposes Artemis as most suited to a remote site in borderlands).

Lerna. M.H. Weincke (ASCSA) reports on a further study season.

E.C. Banks, *Lerna* VI. *Architecture and Settlement of Lerna* IV, is in press. Work on the *Neolithic Settlement and Small Objects* continues.

B. Erikson completed study of Geo–EHel Lerna. M. Lindblom undertook volumetric calculations of complete LH I vessel profiles from Lerna and other mainland contexts as part of an investigation of consumption patterns at the beginning of the LBA. Final reports of the chemical and petrographical analyses undertaken in 2006 (H. Mommsen and I. Whitbread) are expected. D. Reese continued to study bone and shell, contributing to E. Banks' *Lerna* IV and Neo volumes. C. Zerner continued study of the stratigraphy, architecture and finds of areas BD, BA/BB and BC, and has begun work on areas B and A.

M.H. Weincke reports plans for drainage work around the House of the Tiles to alleviate the problem of insects burrowing into the anc. mud-brick.

Publication: K.D. Vitelli, *Lerna* V. *The Neolithic Pottery from Lerna* (Princeton, ASCSA, 2007).

Argos, Aspis. G. Touchais (EFA/Paris 1) and A. Philippa-Touchais (EFA) report on the 2007 season of excavation and study.

Cleaning of the E sector of W. Vollgraff's excavations was completed (**Fig. 30**), revealing the spatial organization of this part of the MH settlement. The settlement was organized in 2 successive terraces: the houses of the lower terrace, built along the peribolos, are oriented N–S following the contours of the hill, whereas those of the upper terrace are perpendicular to the

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30. Argos, Aspis: MH settlement

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peribolos, conditioned by the morphology of the rock. The discovery of 3 MH graves *in situ* (**Fig. 31**), all pre-dating the final phase of habitation, proves the presence of intramural burials in this sector.

Study of material from previous excavations continued. The presence of storage vessels, at least in the N sector, strengthens the hypothesis of functional differentiation between a N sector dedicated to domestic and craft activities and a SE sector where a high frequency of drinking vessels indicates more social practices. A preliminary inventory of all non-ceramic finds had been made: the majority of the ca. 1,500 objects are MH in date, but there are also a number of Ar, Cl and Hel items.

Finally, the topographic plan has been augmented. Three 3-D views give an impression of the MH site as seen from the plain. They demonstrate that the concentric organization of the settlement, especially in its final phase, created the impression of fortification, and thus heightened its prestige.



31. Argos, Aspis: MH grave

Argos, Nannopoulos plot. A. Pariente (EFA/Lyon) and Ch. Piteros (4th EPCA) report on the 5th season of excavation.

Clearance of the agora cemetery provided no further possibility of determining its chronology in the absence of funerary offerings and definable limits. The 6 tombs discovered in 2007, like their predecessors, were uniformly oriented with the head to the SW and the feet to the NE. They housed the remains of a young adult buried in a pit protected by a wooden cover, 2 children buried in a shroud, an adult buried in a shroud, and the bones of an adult interred in a coffin but found in secondary disposition due to the burial of a juvenile in the same pit. This practice, already in evidence in this cemetery, probably indicates that graves were not marked on the surface.

A limestone krepis continued to be exposed on the N side of the plot, and the E part of the monumental exedra was completely exposed along with its concrete floor. A single layer of fill covered the NE part of the monument and produced abundant pottery: some 20 lamps dating from the 1st half of the 4th–E6th Ct AD (**Fig. 32**) were associated with pottery of the 2nd quarter of the 3rd–E6th Ct AD. This fill included a fragment of a lion muzzle from a Cl terracotta gutter and an almost complete amphora, probably dating to the L5th or E6th Ct AD.

In the S part of the excavation area, the concrete floor of the exedra slopes gently to the edge of the 'Byz disturbance' previously encountered in the neighbouring plot. The brown earth layer of this 'disturbance' contained much L4th–E5th Ct and 6th Ct AD pottery.

Publication: C. Abadie-Reynal, *La céramique romaine d'Argos: (fin du IIe siècle avant J.-C. – fin du IVe siècle après J.-C.)* (Athens, EFA, 2007).

Argos. *Archaiologia* 104 (2007), 104; *Ethnos, To Vima* and *Eleutherotypia* (10/05/07) all report (with illustration) the discovery by A. Papadimitriou (4th EPCA) of fabric from one or more sheets of cloth in a LGeo–EAr cremation burial, found during rescue excavation at the junction of Korinthos and Hera streets. The bronze cinerary vessel also contained seeds, notably from pomegranates. Conservation measures taken by F. Dimaki (4th EPCA) and A. Moraitou (Directorate of Conservation, Ministry of Culture) are noted.

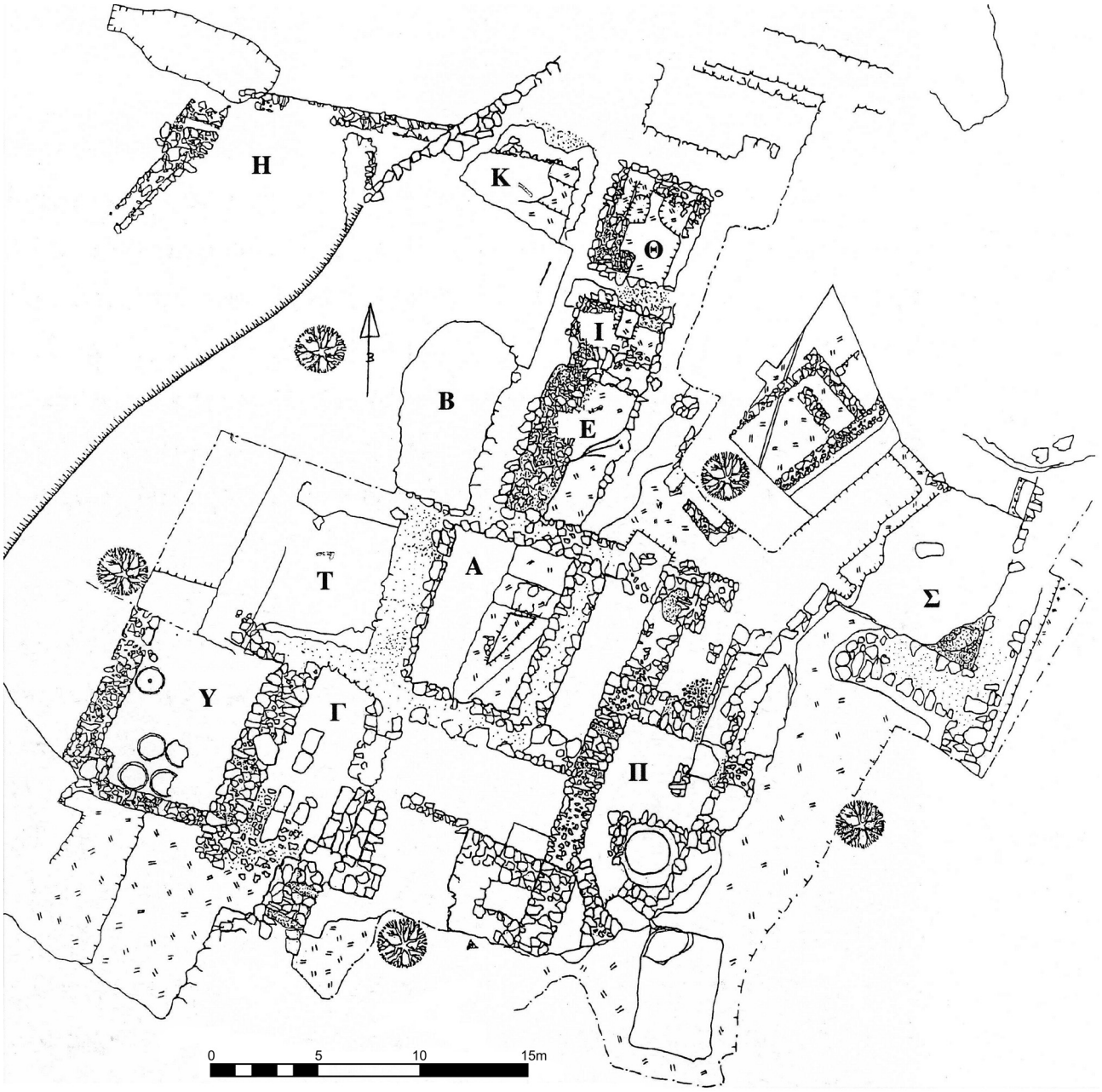
Mycenae. S. Iakovidis (ASA) reports (*Ergon* [2007], 31–41) on a further season of excavation on the acropolis, between the NW settlement and the ΜΛ complex, and in Petsas House. On the acropolis, the open court between the excavated rooms and the N cyclopean wall was cleaned and investigated, as was the sloping pathway along the length of these rooms to the court. The 3.5m x 5m court communicates with the northernmost room (3) via a doorway in its W side, and has 2 successive clay floors over a stone fill. The pathway will be fully investigated in 2008. Finds included sherds, fragments of wall-painting, clay loomweights and spools, olive pits and scattered animal bones.

On the banks of the Chavos in the lower city, the city grid (5m x 5m) was extended, and 5 trials opened where architectural remains of historical periods existed at *d*. of 0.10–0.15m. In the northernmost (trench 22), 2 apsidal structures of fieldstones produced Hel sherds and wasters, indicating pottery production. Further S was a strong external wall, a square hearth and 2 orthogonal bases for columns or wall supports. The pottery was mixed with fragments of figurine and wall-painting, plus iron nails. To the SE, another strong wall with the same orientation was cut by a transverse wall running W which belongs to another less careful construction. These walls are Hel in date. In the neighbouring quadrants 63 and 74, the W wall of a building (previously revealed by geophysical survey) was excavated, and to the S, 2 parallel transverse walls which enclose rooms or perhaps a road. The finds – Myc sherds, a stone pendant, a bronze awl, Ar figurines, Cor pottery and Argive coins – date the building to the E6th Ct. All these buildings were founded in a clean levelling fill above earlier Myc architectural remains, the orientation of which conforms to the known Myc pattern.



32. Argos, Nannopoulos plot: LRom lamp

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33. Mycenae: Petsas House plan

In Petsas House (**Fig. 33**), excavation of the well in room Π reached 12.35m *d*., where the fill contained many stones likely from the mouth of the well, and a corresponding shortage of finds. The LH IIIA2 pottery is mostly plainware and utilitarian. Among the few decorated examples is a bridge-spouted jug. In total, 317 near-complete vessels were collected, plus 350 which could be restored. Other finds include a portable hearth of plaster and a few tiny fragments of tablet with one or 2 characters preserved.

In room Κ, where excavation in 1951 stopped at a LMyc dividing wall, the dense fill was full of stones. Pottery was mixed LH IIIA2 and later. Room Τ which neighbours room Γ was also full of stones and bricks baked hard by the fire, as well as large sections of wall-painting which had fallen upright, probably from the upper floor. In the SW corner, a pithos *in situ* lay in mixed Myc and Hel fill: in the N part there was a stone-paved floor and part of a carbonized wooden beam. The small room Ι of the 1951 excavation was completely cleared. In the area N of room E, light walls founded on bedrock were traced to their full course and shown to have been erected and destroyed during the Hel period. An opening into the neighbouring room was shown to be a fault in construction rather than a doorway. Room Θ, N of Ι, was completely cleared and its flooring revealed.

In 2007 excavation also proceeded in Kato Pezouli, the uninvestigated lower level, W of the rooms. Here site Η was uncovered in 1951, the exact location of which was uncertain and varies on different plans. A fruitless attempt was made to

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locate it amidst mixed fills cut by various Myc and later intrusions. In the S part of this lower level, W of room Γ, an apotheke (Υ) was excavated, packed with fill from the break up of the upper floor, just as in the neighbouring Τ. On the floor were receptacles for large vessels, the lower parts of 4 pithoi and settings for 2 more on slabs. Finds from this year's excavations comprise 98 complete and fragmentary LH IIIA2 vessels, abundant sherds of this period, parts of wall-paintings of different sizes, animal figurines and various Hel objects.

For the BSA, E.B. French reports on the 2007 study season. D. French continued his study of the pre-Myc pottery. Sherds preserved from the 1920, 1939 and 1950 excavations (plus unidentified material likely from older campaigns) were drawn and catalogued: pre-palatial settlement at Mycenae is being evaluated on the basis of this material, with particular attention paid to notable gaps in the ceramic record.

E.B. French completed work on *Well Built Mycenae* 16/17 *The Post-Palatial Levels* (in press). She studied pottery from LH IIIB destruction levels in connection with her work on the deposition of the 'Fill' at Tiryns.

Publications: E.B. French, *Well Built Mycenae* 13: *The Service Areas of the Cult Centre* (Oxford, Oxbow, 2007); O.H. Krzyskowska, *Well Built Mycenae* 14: *The Ivories and Objects of Bone, Antler and Boar's Tusk* (Oxford, Oxbow, 2007).

Site conservation: G. Papathanasopoulos (*Archaiologia* 104 [2007], 80–84) reports on work undertaken from 2005–2007 to conserve and present to visitors the acropolis of Mycenae, with funding from the Ministry of Culture and the Third Community Support Framework.

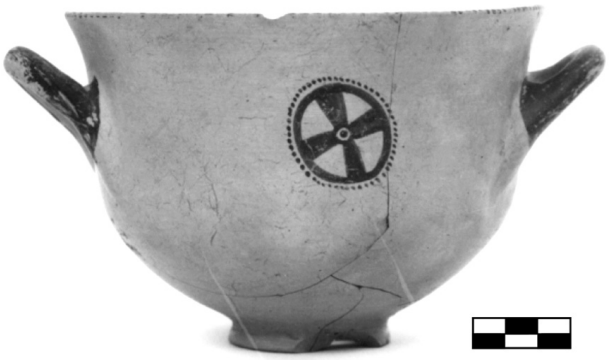
Eleutherotypia (12/04/07) reports a lecture given by M. Vlassopoulou-Karydi (Athens, National Museum) to the Friends of the National Museum, in which she discussed analysis of leaf samples from around bodies in Grave Circle B and their identification as papyrus.

Midea. The Gr-Swedish excavations on the Myc acropolis of Midea continued in 2007 under the direction of K. Demakopoulou (Director Emerita, National Museum) with the collaboration of A.-L. Schallin (Director, Swedish Institute) and N. Divari-Valakou (3rd EPCA). The Gr team excavated in the SW part of the lower acropolis and the Swedish team in the area E of the E Gate.

The Gr team worked in 2 sectors: in the W part of the building complex (previously excavated in the W Gate area) and on the lower W terrace of the acropolis. In both areas excavation continued in trenches opened in 2006.

Investigation of room XIV in the W part of the building complex, abutting the fortification wall in the W Gate area, was concluded. It is a roughly square room (3m x 2.7m) built against the fortification wall. Its other 3 walls are almost ruined, evidently by the earthquake that struck Midea at the end of the 13th Ct BC. The room is founded partly on bedrock and has a sloping floor of beaten earth. The destruction deposit which covered the entire room yielded much fragmentary LH IIIB2 L pottery. A number of vases have been partly restored: a narrow-necked jug with panelled decoration on the shoulder and another wide-necked jug with linear decoration, a rosette deep bowl (**Fig. 34**), a stemmed bowl, a deep bowl of Group B, a medium-coarse askos and a cooking-jar. There are also many fragments of plain vessels such as kylikes, jars and hydriae. Notable among the coarsewares are fragments of a large hydria and a basin, as well as of cooking jars and pithoi. Other finds from room XIV include fragmentary human and animal figurines, stone tools, pieces of mother-of-pearl, sea shells and remains of carbonized fruits. An important find is a lentoid seal of haematite depicting a frontal human face flanked by 2 arms with forearms and hands suspended (**Fig. 35**). The whole scene is surrounded by a snake, almost touched by the figure's left hand, recalling cult scenes with deities and snakes in Cretan-Myc iconography.

On the lower W terrace of the acropolis, trench C was extended 3.5m to the W to clear the entire upper surface and the outer face of a large section of the fortification wall uncovered in 2006. The full *w*. (5m) of this section of the wall was exposed; a 5m *l*. stretch, occupying the whole space of the trench, was uncovered. The 2 faces of the wall are constructed with boulders and the filling is composed of large and small stones. Part of a room was revealed against the inner face of the wall. Next to this (to the S), a large area was investigated to ca. 3.7m *d*. Thick accumulated deposits with piles of large stones and boulders fallen from the wall were removed. Below these, ruins left by a great destruction were uncovered, with the remains of human victims, evidently from the devastating earthquake. Marked traces of burning were also visible. With the removal of the debris, a large part of the inner face of the fortification wall was uncovered. An opening leading to a



34. Midea: LH IIIB2 L rosette bowl



35. Midea: lentoid seal from room XIV

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tunnel through the thickness of the wall was found. Only a small part of the interior of this was partly cleared: it is constructed in the corbelled system. The opening, which has a boulder as a monolithic lintel, is flanked by a wall and a megalithic construction. The vaulted gallery probably led down to an underground cistern or spring – a water supply system similar to that of Mycenae and Tiryns, and of the Myc acropolis of Athens.

The pottery from the destruction layer, as from all other destruction layers at Midea, dates to LH IIIB2 L. It is fragmentary, but includes all typical painted, plain and coarseware shapes of the period. The most common painted ware shapes are Group A deep bowls, stemmed bowls and kraters. A fragmentary krater is decorated with antithetic whorl-shells and added white paint. Closed shapes include stirrup jars, feeding bottles, jugs and amphorae. Plainwares include many fragments of conical and carinated kylikes, as well as a large mug found in front of the gallery opening together with a fragmentary coarse stirrup jar. Many fragments of other coarse or transport stirrup jars were found, including sherds of a stirrup jar with light-on-dark decoration and a Linear B sign. The abundant coarseware comprises many fragments of storage and cooking vessels, and hydriae and 2-handled jars, which were probably used to transport water from the underground cistern. Fragmentary sherds of the much discussed Handmade Burnished Ware were also recovered; large parts of jars with appliqué cordon and horseshoe handles have been restored.

Investigation of the room next to the area with the gallery opening continued. The part of this room uncovered is defined by the fortification wall and a cross wall. Under an accumulated layer of many fallen stones, a beaten earth floor was reached on a higher level than that of the area with the gallery. The room was founded on a stratum above the debris of the great destruction. The floor deposit contained fragmentary LH IIIC E pottery, including rosette bowls, as well as Group A and B deep bowls with antithetic and running spirals, kraters with similar decoration and monochrome interior, and 2 characteristic vases of the period, a deep semi-globular cup with monochrome interior and a medium band around the rim, as well as a stirrup jar with triangular patch on the shoulder and foliate band in the belly zone. On the floor of the room, an intact (0.11m *l.*) bronze violin-bow fibula was found. This pottery and the fibula demonstrate that the room belongs to a building constructed after the destruction, in LH IIIC E. Sherds of this period were also found in the upper layers of the adjoining space S of the room. These finds are of considerable interest and add to our knowledge of the post-Palatial settlement of Midea.

The work of the Swedish team was divided between 3 sites: (1) the baulk between trench 3 and room 9, in the row of basement rooms abutting the citadel wall (**Fig. 36**), where excavation commenced in 2006; (2) trench 9, last examined in 2004; (3) trench 14, partly excavated in 2005. The 2 latter sites were chosen in the hope of mapping the use of the interior side of the citadel wall, and the adjacent rooms, during the Myc period.

In the baulk between trench 3 and room 9, work resumed in the massive destruction layer 4; a light grey and finely grained soil (largely ash) containing charred seeds and figs. Pottery fragments and animal bones were frequent. Parts of Myc female figurines, one pierced faïence bead and 2 separate pieces of a figurative relief plaque of bone were collected. The baulk has now been taken down to floor level and forms part of room 9 excavated by Åström. Perpendicular to the citadel wall and bordering trench 3 is a well-preserved wall; facing the citadel wall is a wall with fewer courses.

In 2004, work in trench 9 had concluded at a point when most of the area was seen to be covered with small- to medium-sized stones. Some may have been part of a paving, but now they have the appearance of rubble. In the neighbouring trench 3, the aim was to determine the relationship between a room earlier excavated next to the citadel wall and the area of trench 9. Due to lack of time and resources, work in trench 9 concentrated on the NE quadrant. Excavation recommenced at layer 4, with the removal of stone rubble. Especially in the NW corner of the investigated area, there was clear evidence of a conflagration. The stones had clearly been scorched and the soil between was dark grey and contained charred seeds and figs as well as charred sherds. The area was excavated down to bedrock and, except for pottery, animal bones, shells and charred seeds, only a chert arrowhead was recovered. No structures were identified.

Work continued in the baulk between trench 3 and trench 9: NE quadrant, at the level (layer 2) where excavation stopped in 2004. This is a dark brown soil containing large pottery fragments, one spindle-whorl and one obsidian arrowhead. Again, stones were numerous, but did not form any structures: bedrock was reached in the larger part of the baulk.

The area of trenches 13, 14 and 15 is not yet fully understood: it slopes down towards Åström's rooms 6 and 7, and erosion has affected it severely. Trenches 14 and 15 yielded a post-disaster paving of small stones and in trench 13 is a platform-shaped structure of later date, but only at the N end of trench 14 has the Myc ground level been excavated. The S end of trench 14 was, therefore, further investigated, in an area of 1m x 1.5m, to find the corresponding level.

Work in the S end of trench 14 had been discontinued in layer 2 in 2005, i.e. in a dark brown loose soil. Only a few cm remained before layer 3 appeared as a hard, light grey soil that mostly consists of fine ashes. Charred seeds were noticed, but few could be collected in one piece. At the top of the layer was the head of a Myc female figurine and an incised pottery fragment, probably of later date; at the bottom of the layer were one flat lump of molten lead and half a spindle-whorl. Layer 4 consists of densely packed small stones between which were found sherds and a conical spindle-whorl. It appears to be paving and is the only level in trench 14, S end, that could be associated with the neighbouring Myc building (rooms 6 and 7). Layer 5, with reddish-brown soil, continues to bedrock with an increasing number of stones and pottery fragments in the lower part.



36. Midea: basement rooms abutting the citadel wall

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Tiryns. J. Maran (DAI/Heidelberg) reports on a further season of excavation and study.

W lower town: for a 2nd year, excavation continued in grid squares L51 and L52, offering a rare opportunity to uncover EMyc (LH I–II), EPalatial (LH IIIA) and EIA remains, elsewhere missing or covered by later structures. Undisturbed pre-LH horizons were not reached, but finds in later levels reveal the history of pre-Myc occupation. The earliest pottery dates to the LNeo, while the next clear horizon is EH II. In addition to large quantities of EH sherds, certain finds unexpected in domestic contexts include at least 3 EH clay sealings and building materials, such as terracotta and slate tiles, used to roof major constructions during the 'Period of the Corridor Houses'. Such finds suggest that significant EH architectural remains linked to administrative practices are to be expected.

The earliest architectural phase is EPalatial (LH IIIA), continuing into the incipient LPalatial period (LH IIIB). Two Myc building phases in L52 exhibit marked differences in construction techniques, orientation and probably also size. Architecture of the earlier phase appeared only at the end of the excavation: accordingly, the layout and size of the emerging building remain unclear. The uppermost part of a carefully built, solid wall was uncovered, which closely resembles in construction and width the walls of the large LH IIIA complex found in 1969–1974 S of the new excavation. A multiple-room building of similar size and construction dating to LH IIIA1 and IIIA2, with its origins possibly reaching back into LH II, is therefore expected. The later Myc phase (LH IIIA2 and possibly LH IIIB1 E) is represented by a partially uncovered building with painted walls (noting plaster fragments with blue, and sometimes one further colour). Finds, such as lumps of unused clay, fragments of unfired or slightly fired vessels and a spiral clay coil used to build up vessels, indicate the use of the building for pottery manufacture – the first such discovery in Tiryns. Domestic wares and coarsewares were produced, but a smaller number of pieces are thin-walled and made of fine clay. The choice of this particular area for a potter's workshop may have been guided by the proximity of the acropolis. The workshop is very close to the acropolis rock and to the upper citadel in particular. When the first megaron was built in the 14th Ct, the workshop was immediately visible to its occupants. Therefore, although only one disputable sealing has so far been discovered, an immediate relationship between palace and potter's workshop is postulated.

A decisive break in settlement in the W lower town occurred early in LH IIIB1: the lack of LH IIIB2 and IIIC occupation, indicated by previous excavation, was confirmed. The potter's workshop and contemporary neighbouring buildings were abandoned without destruction and there are no signs of Myc reoccupation of the area. The abandonment of this part of the lower town may be connected with the creation of a new approach to the citadel from the W in LH IIIB2 with the construction of the W staircase and the associated gate in the W bastion. No construction in the area of the W lower town bordering on this approach was thenceforth tolerated, perhaps for reasons of security or aesthetics (to preserve the view of the palace and fortification on the low acropolis).

Further investigation of an EIA construction of large horizontal slabs and stones discovered in 2006 and thought to be a grave, revealed no grave pit or post-Myc finds. The possibility of a burial at a greater depth cannot be ruled out, but the structure was probably part of a well-built slab pathway built when the foundations of the Myc potter's workshop were used for a new PGeo building. This phase was short: MGeo or LGeo horizons cut into the ruin of the reused Myc building.

Fresco project: A. Papadimitriou (4th EPCA) and U. Thaler continued the restoration and analysis of a large complex of wall-paintings found in Archaeological Service excavations in the area of the W staircase (1999–2001). Wall-paintings in the National Museum from earlier excavation in the same area are also included (in co-operation with L. Papazoglou-Manioudaki), since they form part of the same complex. A systematic search for joins between fragments from the new complex began by focusing on friezes showing imitations of wooden beams and spirals. These probably belong to the famous Tirynthian procession of life-size women, and are thus important for clarifying the relation to the old frescoes published by Rodenwaldt. It was thus possible to assemble large parts of the friezes as well as new compositions of figural fresco painting.

Publications: C. Podzuweit, *Tiryns* 14. *Studien zur spät-mykenischen Keramik* (Wiesbaden, Reichert, 2007); K. Kilian (with T. Mühlenbruch), *Die handgemachte geglättete Keramik mykenischer Zeitstellung* (Wiesbaden, Reichert, 2007).

Epidauros. V. Kyriaki (*Praktika Z' Synedriou* 1, 363–84) reviews restoration work undertaken on the hestiatorion (the so-called gymnasium) of the Asklepieion by the Committee for the Conservation of the Monuments of Epidauros (ESME) from 1984–2006.

S. Makrypodi and E. Mastellos (*Praktika Z' Synedriou* 4, 337–60) also report on the restoration of the stadium of the Asklepieion.

Franchthi Cave. K. D. Vitelli (ASCSA) reports on continuing study and analytical programmes.

Comprehensive analysis of the fauna from trench H1B began with the lowest unit (unit 213) and progressed upward. Full taphonomic analysis was undertaken on every 3rd unit, while a more restricted analysis was recorded for the remaining units. By the end of the 2007 season, full taphonomic analysis was completed for 2,407 specimens from 16 units. Restricted analysis was completed on an additional 1,492 specimens. In order of decreasing frequency, the most common taxa include: hare (*Lepus* sp.); birds (partridge and pigeon [*Columba livia*], in particular); red deer (*Cervus elaphus*); wild ass (*Equus hydrantinus*); tortoise (*Testudo graeca*); wild cattle (*Bos primigenius*) and wild boar (*Sus scrofa*).

Research on shells and ornaments (C. Perlès) continued: the sequences in H1A and FA were completely studied for the Pal and rarer Mes species. For the much more numerous Cyclope shells a sample of ca. 2,100 individual specimens was recorded for the Lower and Upper Mes and a record of all FMes specimens was completed. All the micromolluscs from H1B were identified and counted, and all food shells were resorted to establish the proportions of burnt specimens. Finally, samples were assembled for a major programme of C^{14} redating.

ARCADIA
(39th EPCA: 5th EBA)

Paralio Astros. S.I. Arvaniti (*Praktika Z' Synedriou* 4, 385–410) provides a detailed description of the fort of Paralio Astros, arguing for a Ven (L17th–E18th Ct AD) first building phase, comprising the external enclosure, NW tower and NW gate.

Louka. Y. Pikoulas identifies a section of the anc. cart road from Nestane to Tegea in the area of this village (*Praktika Z' Synedriou* 1, 170–76).

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