Pylos, Palace of Nestor (Ano Englianos) and Pylos Regional Archaeological Project (PRAP). Jack L. Davis (ASCSA/Cincinnatti) reports on the 2006 study season of finds from the survey and from Blegen's excavations at the Palace.

Sharon Stocker and Jack Davis completed study of MH finds from two soundings conducted on the property of Giorgios Petropoulos in 1939. Headway was also made in examining post BA remains found in Blegen's excavations. The Englianos ridge, including the site of the palace, was the locus of activity in several periods after the BA.

Additional study of fragments of wall-paintings from the palace, first identified in 2004 as part of a 'naval scene', has allowed significant parts of three ships to be restored. It has now been determined that this composition was originally located on the wall to the right of the doorway between hall 64 and lobby 66.

Preparation by Joanne Murphy and Lynne Schepartz of a comprehensive published report on human skeletal remains and their contexts continues to progress. The results of recently completed stable isotope analyses of samples of human bone from graves show that males from higher status burials at Pylos consumed greater amounts of meat. Paul Halstead and Valasia Isaakidou's examination of faunal remains is nearing completion. Deborah Ruscillo studied all shell this year; the majority consists of murex that seems to have been crushed for the production of pigment.

ELEIA (7th EPCA; 6th EBA)

Olympia. *Ethnos* (18/12/2006) reports the chance discovery of 4th Ct graves to the E of the stadium. *Ethnos* (26/10/2006) had earlier reported the discovery of a painted ECl terracotta lion's head, probably a spout, which probably formed part of the 5th Ct roofing of the **Bouleuterion**.

Oleni. *Eleftherotypia* (12/03/2007) reports the discovery of a Myc chamber tomb at **Spilia** in the area of **Arvaniti**. The tomb contained three trench graves with skeletons and Myc pottery.

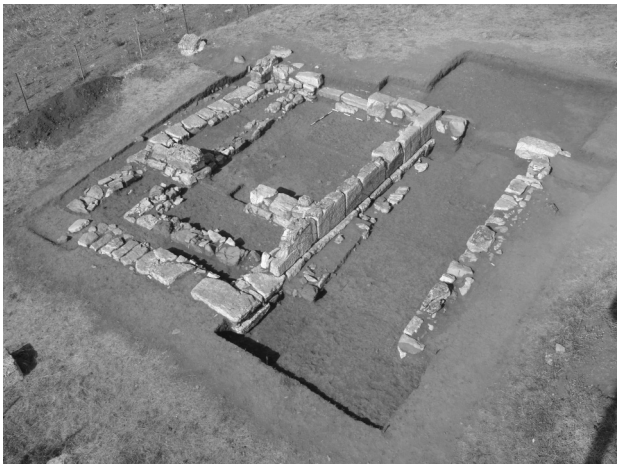
ACHAIA (6th EPCA; 6th EBA)

General. A conference volume on finds in W Greece (including Achaia, Aitolia/Akarnania and the Ionian islands) from the earliest times to the present is published: Καζάκου, Μ. (ed.), Grece, ΣΤ' Εφορεία Προϊστορικών και Κλασικών Αρχαιστήτων: Α' Αρχαιολογική Συνοδός Νότιας και Δυτικής Ελλάδος, Πάτρα 9–12 Ιουνιου 1996, 6η Εφορεία Βυζαντινών Αρχαιοτήτων (Athens, T.A.P.A. 2006).

G. Alexopoulou (6th EPCA in 1999) corrects some interpretations in *AR* 52 [2005–2006], 48–49. At **Tripoptama** a kiln was found and pithoi at **Paliophyties**, but the kiln was not for pithoi, and gives no clear indication of the location of the W cemetery of anc. **Psophis**. **Leochorio** is not to be identified as anc. **Leontion**. The sanctuary of **Koria Athena** is securely located at **Agios Athanasios**, a hill that forms part of the defensive circuit of anc. **Kleitor**.

Lousoi. Veronika Mitsopoulos-Leon (former Director, Austrian Institute) and Georg Ladstätter (Director, Austrian Institute) report on the 2006 season of excavation of this polis of anc. Arkadia. As in previous years, work concentrated on the public centre of the polis, where explorations of terrace I and of the peripteral temple were continued (*AR* 52 [2005–2006], 48–49).

On **terrace I**, W of the peripteral temple, the preserved remains of a LCl oikos building and those of a Hel orthostat structure above it were fully excavated (**Fig. 34**). Of the rectangular **oikos building** (5m by 7m), lacking any internal subdivisions, the lowermost foundation course of local limestone and flysch rubble is preserved. Remarkably, the impact of the later orthostat structure on it is represented by punctual disturbances rather than complete demolition, which suggests an intentional respect for the older building. The deeper deposits in the interior of the oikos contained a handmade (cooking) pot with a vertical handle which can be contextually dated to Cl or earlier. The same context yielded a miniature krater, to be added to the LCl assemblage found in 2005, as well as a 4th Ct Arcadian coin.



34. Lousoi: Hel orthostat structure

The **orthostat structure** (5.7m by 8.1m), now fully exposed, has an E entrance and is subdivided into a square E and a narrow transversal W room. A layer of green clay had been spread to support the floor level; it contained a LHel *balsamarium* and a Hel lamp. Together with two further Hel lamps from disturbed contexts, these should be seen as part of the 2004 assemblage which indicated that the structure served a cultic function.

The close architectural connection between the oikos and the orthostath structure, as well as the fact that the LCl votive assemblage (2005) and the LHel ensemble with *balsamaria* and lamps (2004) both suggest cult activities, strongly indicate continuity. Vessels found here throughout recent years have indicated banqueting, thus perhaps suggesting a hero cult.

Work on the Hel **peripteral temple** with a peristasis of 6 by 15 pillars (15.8m by 42.35m), including a sekos (9.7m by 34.5m) with a pronaos to the E, concentrated in the E (**Fig. 35**). Architectural and stratigraphic evidence of the S peristasis proves that the sekos and the individual foundations of the portico were erected in one unified building phase. The lack of walling between the limestone slabs of the peristasis' supports, the unsettled floor level in the pteron area and the absence of any architectural elements of a superstructure all indicate that the portico, which was probably meant to be of wooden pillars, was never completed.

In the fully exposed E hall of the sekos, a clay slab flooring is preserved in its entirety, except for some secondary modifications. As the E wall of this room displays a different walling technique from the rest of the sekos and contained a broken

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floor slab in its foundation, it must postdate the initial phase of this hall (15m by 18m) with its five pairs of internal supports. It divided the hall in the middle. The E room thus created contained two large limestone slabs aligned with the supports of the pronaos or the E peristasis. The bases of the two S internal supports were removed to lay these slabs.

Thus, the sekos of the intial Hel phase consisted, from E to W, of a pronaos with two supports *in antis*, an elongated E hall with the bases for a cult statue at its W wall, a square three-aisled W hall and, finally, a transversal room. At an undetermined point in time, the E hall of the sekos was shortened by 8m, so as to move the pronaos W. To this end, the original pronaos is dismantled down to its foundations, a new pronaos is created by adding a W wall in the E part of the original E hall, and bases for the supports *in antis* are laid to the E of that wall. The final abandonment of this apparently incomplete structure should be dated to the 1st half of the 1st Ct AD at the latest.

Earlier architectural remains predating the Hel peripteral temple are indicated by an E–W running foundation noted intermittently under the W wall of the later pronaos. They appear to be unconnected with the original Hel temple. A lower-lying floor level of horizontally spread broken roof tiles in the S pteron also appears to belong to an earlier structure. Soundings down to natural level contained, for the first time, purely Ar ceramic assemblages, including larger fragments of a footless bowl. Together with fragments of an Ar Laconian roof found in previous years, the 2006 finds indicate a pre-Hel use of the area and suggest a predecessor to the Hel temple.

Gremoulias-Kalavryta. Georgia Alexopoulou (6th EPCA) and Georg Ladstätter (Director, Austrian Institute) report on the 2005 and 2006 collaborative archaeological investigations on the saddle of Gremoulias, 3.5km SE of Kalavryta. After a preliminary survey in 2003 (*AR* 50 [2003–2004], 35–36) excavations on the site took place in October 2005 and May 2006.

So far, large sections of the substructure of an E–W oriented **peripteral temple** have been uncovered. Its peristasis measures 13.9m by 34.75m at the level of the euthynteria. The foundation is constructed of large limestone slabs; some areas of the bedrock had been prepared by cutting steps for the location of the foundation slaps. Several worked limestone blocks discovered at foundation level in the area of the NW corner had been moved here as spolia when that area was modified at some later point. In some places, the poros blocks of the euthynteria survived above the foundations. In the SE corner area there survives an ensemble of blocks laid as headers and stretchers. Above, the lowest step of the crepidoma in the same ensemble of poros blocks, set 0.12m behind the euthynteria, is preserved. The vertical joints in these two layers of blocks are finished with neat anthyrosis cutting, some are joined by iron clamps set in lead.

The spoil from the topsoil immediately below the mod. surface contained numerous poros fragments from the superstructure of the temple. Broken column drums, architraves, triglyphs, metopes and geisa indicate the Doric order of the colonnade.

Immediately E of the peristasis about half of a poros architrave block has been found in its collapsed position (preserved *l.* 1.53m, *h.* 0.71m, *w.* 0.5m) (**Fig. 36**). The preserved lateral joint edge features anathyrosis and an axially placed clamp hole; on the heavily damaged posterior surface a clamp hole indicates a parallel placed second layer of blocks, thus indicating a total width of *ca* 1m for the architrave. On its outer face, considerable portions of the stucco cover survive. The taenia, the side and middle regulae and the conically cut guttae are nearly undamaged. The measurements and



35. Lousoi: Hel peripteral temple foundations

proportions of these small surfaces suggest that the reconstructed length of the block, and thus the intercolumnation of the E façade, was 2.5m, as deduced from the poros geison examined in 2003. The upper face shows a system of incised lines, which indicate the position of the triglyphs and metopes corresponding with the regulae below.

Mixed with the poros fragments was a multitude of small broken pieces of pan and cover tiles from a Cor marble roof which should be assigned to the temple; a near-complete cover tile (21.1m by 69.6cm) was found underneath the collapsed architrave. Fragments of marble ridge palmettes and of two marble lions' head waterspouts have been recognized as well.

The measurements of the euthynteria and the intercolumnation of the E façade, as deduced from the architrave, suggest a peristasis of 6 by 14 columns. Evidence for the sekos is still lacking. Two symmetrically placed E–W oriented stone settings revealed by soundings inside the building would produce a too narrow sekos than should be expected from the reconstructed column placement on the E façade; thus, they cannot yet be interpreted.

The elongated peristasis, the details of the finish of the Doric architectural elements and especially those of the Cor marble roof suggest the foundation of this peripteral temple in the L6th Ct BC. The re-used limestone blocks in the NW



36. Gremoulias- Kalavryta: fragment of architrave

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section suggest later repairs to the building. Part of a rubble-built E–W foundation 1.5m S of the N peristasis also represents a later modification, as indicated by its building technique and its higher level.

Although the study of this building is only at its very beginning, the architectural evidence already known from the peripteral temple on the Gremoulias saddle indicates the construction of an experienced workshop. It is the first known evidence for canonical doric monumental architecture of LAr date in the NW Arcadian region of the poleis of Kynaitha (?) and Lousoi.

Aigialeia. Angela Pontrandolfo (Italian School/Salerno) and Michalis Petropoulos (6th EPCA) report on the fifth season of collaborative survey work in the area, that is in the valley of the river Krios in the territory of the mod. municipality of **Egira**.

As regards the PH period, the survey has demonstrated that the valley enjoyed consistent periods of occupation in the EH II period, especially on the left slope of the Krios. During this phase, three sites have been identified in the territory of Ambelokipi and four in the area of Vlachos – the existence of both was entirely deduced on the basis of the presence of potsherds.

In the area of Kassaneva (Devinou-Paliomilos) remarkable archaeological sites have been identified thanks to their monumental character. The density of the settlement and the plans of the hypothesized residences can be compared with those of Lerna and Lithares. One such place is on a terraced plateau (220m asl): the settlement of the EH II is documented to an extent of 1.5ha, but is probably much greater, perhaps up to 6ha.

For the periods from EH to the Ar there is a complete absence of documentation. In Hel times, however, traces of occupation on both sides of the valley are remarkable: on the right side, much evidence has been identified in the Oasis area; on the left side of the valley at the foot of mount Evrostina, in the Plakopetra area, remarkable wall structures, as well as areas with a high concentration of pottery, have been identified and may have been connected with agricultural installations. In the zone of Vovloka, on the right side of the valley, the survey has led to the identification of an installation of rural character, used up to LRom times. A Rom site has been identified on the left side of the valley, in the territory of Ambelokipi, in the Agios Ioannis area. The finds, together with the remains of a building of at least three rooms, lead us to hypothesize the existence of a rural installation of large dimensions, from the 1st Ct AD to the high Med period.

Aigeira. Fieldwork in Aigeira (Achaia), directed by Georg Ladstätter (Austrian Institute) continued, as in previous years, on the structures on the Solon terrace at the N of the acropolis (*AR* 52 [2005-2006], 49–50).

Topographically belonging to the pre-Hel city, the structure in question is a **guesthouse** from the M4th Ct BC, which was enlarged elaborately towards the end of the 3rd Ct.

About half of a functionally connected ensemble of rooms in the SE part of the enlarged building, first touched upon in 2005, could be excavated in 2006. This group of rooms consisted of a feeder room giving access to a waterproofed room to the S, and andron to the E, and a room of so far undetermined function to the NE (**Fig. 37**). The fully preserved floors of the feeder room and the andron/banqueting hall, took the form of hard terrazzo poured onto a supporting gravel layer, as well as a similar floor preserved in the S corners of the waterproofed room, these indicate the architectural and functional unity of this group of rooms.

The roughly square feeder room (6.4m by 4.6m) is entered from the W and gives access to the other rooms through three doors. Robbing pits indicate that all three had thresholds and were closable.

The andron (6.4m by 4.6m), diagnostic for the function of this ensemble of rooms, contains a slightly raised pedestal (*h*. 0.03m, *w*. 0.9m) in front of all walls, which indicates the canonic placement of nine klinai. Drainage of this room was achieved by an open drain in the SW corner of the pedestal and a further pipe whose mouth was located in the NE corner. Regarding the building's overall plan, this andron was placed in its external SE corner. A channel for clay piping, cut into the natural terrain immediately outside its E wall, of large conglomerate blocks clearly indicates that this is an external wall. The S wall was excavated only partly, but is built using the same technique, thus also representing an external wall.

The remarkably large NE room (8m by 4.5m) is badly preserved. Its shape can be determined from a few preserved foundation blocks, but the floor had been removed entirely, so that its function cannot be assessed.

Judging from our current level of information, the 4th Ct structure (270m^2), interpreted on the basis of its large andron (eleven klinai) and four bathtubs as a public guesthouse, is enlarged in the L3rd Ct by the addition of further rooms to the S (30m by 13m), of which a functionally connected ensemble in the E is now mostly uncovered. The enlarged Hel building (630m^2) contains two andrones and, it appears, two bathrooms. In analogy to its LCl use, the Hel addition lacks the oikos or hearth room obligatory for a domestic dwelling. Therefore, a public function should also be assumed for the enlarged Hel structure with its two representative andrones as dominant architectural features (**Fig. 38**).

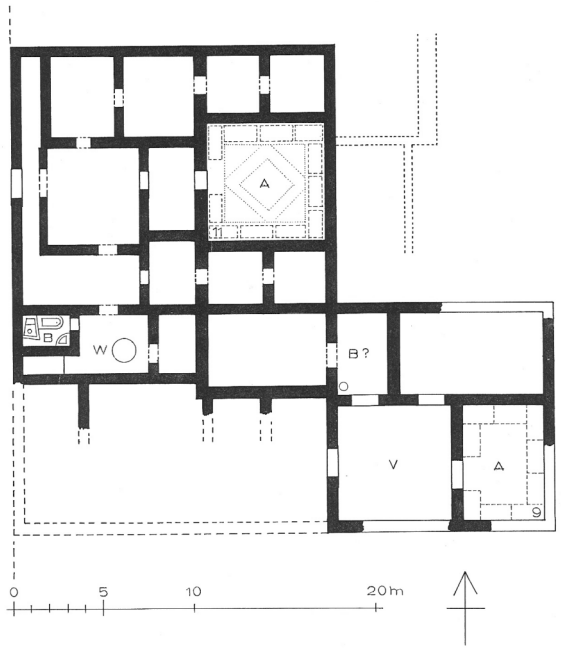
To the W of the feeder room came the first evidence of a later use that took place after the intentional abandonment of the Hel guesthouse. Excavation partially revealed walls of rubble and broken brick, delimiting at least three rooms, with the substructure of a clay floor. The foundations and the floors are clearly at a higher elevation than those of the feeder room to the E; one wall directly abuts its blocked door opening. Future examination should clarify this post-Hel activity.

In 2006, W. Gauß continued his study of Wilhelm Alzinger's 1972–1981 excavations on the SE plateau, below the acropolis. So far, the stratified material indicates periods from LBA to Hel. This topographically important area promises important answers to the question of how PH and EIA Hyperesia developed into historic Aigeira.



37. Aigeira: Hel guesthouse

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

38. Aigeira: Hel guesthouse, provisional reconstruction

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

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

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

Kephallenia (Kephallonia)

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

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

Ithaka

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

AITOLIA/AKARNANIA

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

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

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

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

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

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