The most significant discoveries were in trench Γ10, where Upper Pal and Mes levels span the last Glacial period and the beginning of the Holocene (12,000–6,700 BC). Finds were mainly flint tools. Of particular interest are the undecorated, plain potsherds and lumps of unburnt clay found in the Mes strata (see Kyparissi-Apostolika, N., 'The Mesolithic in Theopetra cave: new data on a debated period in Greek prehistory' in N. Galanidou and C. Perlès (eds), *The Greek Mesolithic: Problems and Perspectives* [BSA Studies 10, London 2003], 189–98). These seem to antedate the earliest Neo in Greece, and suggest that pottery production of some kind was an indigenous innovation of the Gr Mes, and was not introduced as part of a Neo 'package' from the Near East. These sherds have been sent for thermoluminescence dating.

EPIROS

NOMOS OF THESPROTIA (once 7th, now 32nd EPCA; 8th EBA)

Thesprotia Expedition. B. Forsén (Finnish Institute at Athens) reports on the 2006 season.

The third consecutive field season of the Thesprotia Expedition consisted of intensive field survey, a geological survey, geophysical prospection, topographical mapping, as well as trial excavations at two sites.

So far we have searched intensively close to 3km^2 and documented 35 places of special interest, most of which constitute archaeological sites. The work in 2006 expanded our knowledge of the diachronic settlement history of the valley. The new sites recorded include another EBA to MBA site (PS 28), two LCl to EHel farmsteads (PS 29, PS 35), a LRom farmstead (PS 32) and two find concentrations (PS 31 and PS 36) dating to the EIA through Cl period.

The geological survey of the **Kokytos** river valley continued in the same way as in 2004–2005, i.e., by collecting soil and rock samples. A special emphasis was put on studying the surroundings of PS 36 and PS 31, which are located in an area called **Mavromantilia** on the valley bottom next to the Kokytos river. With the help of a hand auger the extent of the sites was pursued. The results indicate that both our find concentrations, together with a third find place discovered in 2005 and explored by the 32nd Ephorate, all belong to one and the same EIA site, part of which is covered with as much as 1–1.5m of alluvium.

The geophysical prospection, conducted by Tatyana Smekalova, revealed several house foundations next to a ECh basilica, around which we had collected LRom pottery (PS 27) in 2005. It now seems fairly certain that there existed a village next to the basilica. This is an interesting result as it differs from the common settlement pattern during this period, which usually is characterized by isolated farmsteads/villas.

The topographical team this year concentrated on mapping the small (0.5ha) fortress **Kioteza**, which prior to our arrival had been partially cleaned by the 32nd EPCA. The walls, which can be dated to the 4th or 3rd Ct BC, are in a very bad stage of preservation. However, we identified a square tower and possibly also a gate, both on the E side where the fortress is connected by means of a small saddle to the Paramythia mountain range.

In 2006 the Thesprotia Expedition proceeded to the second stage of the project, which includes **trial excavations** in places of special interest. Trial trenches were opened at the fortified hill **Agios Donatos** of Zervochori (PS 25) and one of our EIA find concentrations (PS 36).

In PS 36 we found remains of fire places and/or shallow bothroi (rubbish pits) consisting of dark soil mixed with charcoal, ash, animal bones and large amounts of broken pottery (**Fig. 55**). The features can, on the basis of C14 analyses, be dated to between *ca* 1100 and 700 BC. Part of the pottery, dating to the 9th and 8th Cts BC, was well preserved. We also found daub, or clay lining, which indicates the existence of huts in the near vicinity, built in the wattle and daub technique. A preliminary study of the pottery sequence of the site shows that it continued in use as late as until the 4th Ct BC. Cor roof tiles indicate that there must have existed more durable houses somewhere at the site during the Cl period.

On Agios Donatos of Zervochori we excavated two trial trenches, the first one at a gate identified during the 2005 season and the second one in the only tower belonging to the fortification. The fortification walls can be dated on stylistic grounds to the very end of the 4th Ct or the 1st half of the 3rd Ct BC. However, as the surface finds mainly dated to the 1st and 2nd Cts AD, the aim of our trial trenches was to gain a better understanding of this final phase of usage as well as to find earlier layers belonging to the construction of the fortification itself.

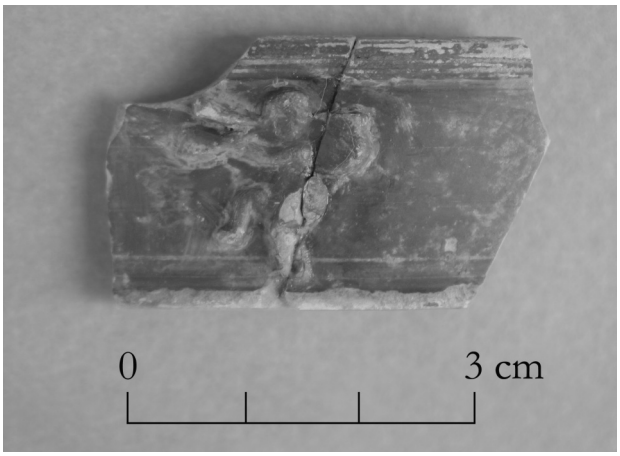
The excavations on Agios Donatos revealed that the ERom re-use of the site had been very extensive. We did not manage to find any earlier stratified layers. Scattered finds dating to the earlier periods, such as a Korkyrean coin dating to the 4th Ct BC and a lamp dating to 325–250 BC, seem to support the date of construction of the fortification to around 300 BC, which is the general period of urbanization in Thesprotia.

However, most of the finds from Agios Donatos date to the ERom period. Apart from bronze objects, large amounts of glass and coarse ware, as well as Italian terra sigillata pottery was found. A total of six *planta pedis* stamps give the names of some of the workshops in Arretium producing the pottery. The workshop of Lucius Avillius is represented by several stamps, but also by characteristic applied decoration motifs, such as a dolphin, a Cupid playing aulos (**Fig. 56**), and Eros and a bow. The stamps and the rich pottery indicate that the settlement had close contacts to central Italy during the 1st half



55. Thesprotia Expedition: EIA kanthariskos

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56. Thesprotia Expedition: terra sigillata fragment

of the 1st Ct AD. Apart from the ERom pottery, a handful of probably LRom sherds were documented, but on the basis of the information available today the site does not seem to have been intensively settled after the E2nd Ct AD.

WESTERN MACEDONIA

Nomos of Florina (once 17th, now 29th EPCA; 11th EBA)

Anc. **Florina**. M. Lilmbaki-Akamati and I. Akamatis (*AEMTH* 19 [2005], 569–77) report on conservation and restoration works conducted in the Hel city, which has been open to the public since June 2006, as reported in *To Vima* (26/06/2006) and *Apogevmatini* (29/06/2006).

Agios Panteleimonas, Anargyroi Amyntaiou and Vegoras Filota. P. Chrysostomou, in *Kathimerini*, *To Vima* (01/03/2007), *Navtemporiki*, *Imerisia*, *Apogevmatini* (05/03/2007) and *Ethnos* (18/03/2007) discusses the PH finds in the region of the four lakes (Vegoritida, Chimaditida, Zazaris and Petron), where excavation research and survey located 51 sites. In **Vegoras** an ENeo site was located. In **Aghios Panteleimonas 1** two trial trenches unearthed part of a post-framed house and another square house. In **Anargyroi** three successive ellipsoid ditches were revealed, as well as the wooden floor of a post-framed house, covering an area of 5m^2. On the floor a mortar, stone tools and a female figurine were found *in situ*, all dated to the LNeo period. In addition, six MNeo burials of adults and infants in a crouched position were found. Portable finds include clay figurines (53 of the MNeo and 25 of the LNeo period, presenting humans and animals), jewellery (noteworthy a gold pendant), tools and pottery, along with a wealth of charred archaeobotanical remains (wheat, lentils, peas, pomegranate pips, raspberry and elderberry).

In **Aghos Panteleimonas-Pateli**, research in twelve tumuli revealed 358 cist graves in circular and radial arrangement, dated to 950–550 BC. Grave goods included metal and clay vessels (460 in number, with matt painted or incised decoration, deriving mainly from local workshops,) jewels and cloth implements (with evidence of their position on the deceased females), iron and bronze weapons and tools.

Agios Vartholomaios. Ch. Ziota (*ADelt*, 640–41) notes the excavation of a LRom-ECh settlement. The scant architectural remains include a clay floor with traces of fire, while the portable finds include everyday pottery, loomweights, iron tools and coins.

Mikri Prespa-Agios Achileios Island. E. Psarra (*ADelt*, 641–44) reports on both the survey which aims to locate remains of the historical periods and the excavation in the Hel settlement, in the W part of the island. In trench I remains of ECh graves were revealed. In trench II deposits with dense traces of fire were found. In the NE corner a concentration of stones and tiles covered three incensories preserving charcoal residues, along with a fish plate and a coarse vessel that was also used as incensory. Furthermore, a hoard of seven bronze coins was discovered, all of the 'Macedonian Commonwealth', dated to the 2nd Ct AD, as well as parts of at least two silver sheets, probably offerings to a deity. One depicts a pair of eyes, the second a temple with a figure. The remains possibly belong to a sanctuary.

Prespes, church of Agios Germanos. K. Theologidou (*ADelt,* 669) reports on the continuation of restoration works.

Platy, church of Agios Nikolaos. K. Theologidou (*ADelt,* 669) reports on the continuation of restoration works.

Pyle, church of Agios Nikolaos. K. Theologidou (*ADelt,* 669–70) reports on the continuation of restoration works.

Nomos of Kozani and Grevena (30th EPCA; 11th/17th EBA)

Aiane. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi (*AEMTH* 19 [2005], 495–509) presents the new thematic exhibition in the **Archaeological Museum**, dedicated to public and private life in anc. times.

In the **E cemetery** fifteen pit graves were investigated, already looted in anc. times. Apart from two cremations, all the other graves contained inhumations on wooden klines, accompanied by clay vessels (skyphidia, lamps, kantharos, kalyx and local hydriae, prochoi and kantharos), bronze vessels, iron strigils, arrowheads, spearheads and knives.

Leivadia. G. Karamitrou-Mendesidi (*ADelt*, 617–19) reports on the excavation of a **LBA double oblong structure** (*l.* 18.50m, *w.* 5–8m). Two stratigraphic layers were distinguished. The first includes two cremations in cists constructed with stone slabs, yielding handmade matt painted pottery and wheelmade Myc pottery (kantharoi, kyathoi, prochoi, four-handled amphorae, Myc skyphoi and alabastra, **Fig. 57**). To the


57. Leivadia: Myc pottery

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