area of the **W staircase** was begun. The new finds belong to the same fresco complex as the famous frescoes from 1910, and will add important new information to our knowledge of the fresco programme of the palace of the L13th Ct BC. The project is carried out in the framework of the Research Cluster 'Political Space' of the German Archaeological Institute.

*Eleftherotypia*, *To Vima* and *Ta Nea* (01/03/2007) all comment on the problems of the erosion of the E galleries of the palace of Tiryns. Tumble from the walls has injured visitors, and immediate restoration work is needed.

**Salandi Didymon**. A. Dellaporta (EMA) reports (*ADelt B Chron* 54 [1999], 1028–29) that the known EH site here is to become a registered archaeological site. The EH settlement, which extends for 400m along the beach to a *d.* of 3.5m, comprises several buildings with stone foundations but with curved walls. Recent finds include a quernstone and pounder.

**ARKADIA** (once 5th, now 39th EPCA; 5th EBA)

**Eva Kynourias, Villa of Herodes Atticus**. *Eleftheros Typos* (24/01/2007) and *Kathimerini* (09/03/2007) summarize the results of research at this extensive MRom (2nd Ct AD) villa, located 2km from Kato Doliana which shed light on the life of its owner, Herodes Atticus (103–179 AD). Finds include low reliefs; one of the largest mosaics known in Greece; an inscription giving details of the games organised by Herodes; many portrait busts, including one of Herodes himself in old age and another of the co-emperor, Aelius Verus. The reliefs from the so-called **Heroon of Antinous**, in an 'atticising' style reminiscent of the 5th Ct BC, are particularly noteworthy.

**Tegea**. Knut Ødegård (outgoing Director, Norwegian Institute at Athens) provides the following special report on investigations (principally fieldwalking and geophysical survey) conducted in and around anc. Tegea.

The Norwegian Institute at Athens has since 1990 concentrated an important part of its fieldwork on the **Sanctuary of Athena Alea** and the anc. city of Tegea. The Norwegian Arcadia Survey 1998–2001 had as one of its main aims the investigation of the extension of the anc. city through mapping and collection of surface finds (for a preliminary report see Ødegård, K., 'The topography of ancient Tegea: new discoveries and old problems', *Ancient Arcadia, Papers of the Norwegian Institute at Athens* 8, Athens 2005: 209–21). From 2003 a programme of magnetometric survey in the area of the anc. city has documented important parts of the plan of the city and what follows is a short, preliminary report on this new information.

The area of anc. Tegea is today mainly agricultural land under cultivation. The centre of the city has since the L19th Ct AD been located at Palaia Episkopi, where the remains of the Hel theatre are still visible under the MByz church. The Archaeological Service excavated what they interpreted as the agora to the NW of the theatre under the direction of T. Spyropoulos in the 1980s.

The magnetometer survey, carried out by T. Smekalova of St Petersburg University, concentrated initially on an area to the W of the theatre and the so-called agora excavations. Very clear traces of **rectilinear streets** were immediately documented as positive magnetic anomalies, presumably because of pottery fragments used as paving for the streets. Through subsequent seasons of magnetometric survey in 2004 to 2006, several parallel and perpendicular streets were documented. The street grid seems to be based on a module (or insula) of 75m by 25m, enclosing long, rectangular blocks in a *per strigas* pattern (**Fig. 23**). The extension of this grid seems to coincide closely with the results from the archaeological survey, except in the N, where another grid with a different module has been traced (see below).

Important new information has also been gathered on the location and the layout of the **agora** of Tegea. The agora must have been located in a large, rectangular space stretching W from the theatre. On the N side, the magnetometer images suggest that the street grid stops at a long, narrow building, probably a stoa. The street grid reappears to the S of the agora, with the same module (75m by 25m), albeit on a different rhythm of spacing. A similar stoa of Hel date was found by the Greek Archaeological Service aligned with the N wall of the theatre in the so-called agora excavations. This stoa evidently faced S and had several statue bases placed in front of it. The new **stoa**, documented by the magnetometer survey is, however, 25m further S, which probably means that the E end of the agora was extended to the N when the theatre was constructed in the 2nd Ct BC. Numerous furnaces, presumably for burning lime in the post Cl period, have been documented in this area. With this new and more precise location and layout of the agora, it is also clear that the 5th Ct AD **Basilica of Thyrsos** was constructed in the S part of the agora.

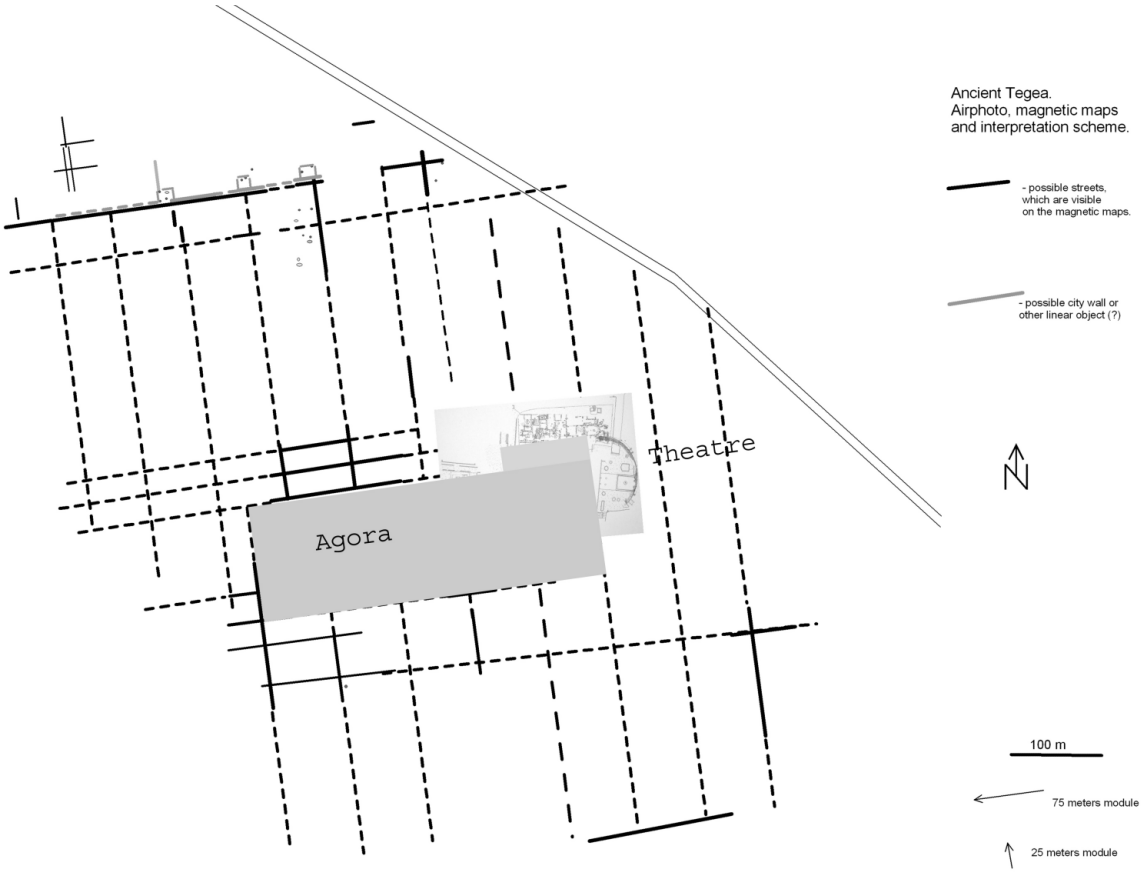
New evidence has also been collected for the **fortifications** of the Tegea, which have for long remained an enigma. A double line of walls has been documented in the N part of the area of the anc. city and the street grid described above clearly stops at this line. There is also evidence for a series of square towers. So far, only one gate can be identified. The city evidently at one stage extended beyond this line, as indicated both by surface finds and streets on a different module identified by the magnetometer survey. The fortifications found by V. Bérard in the E 1890s further N are presumably a later enlargement of the circuit (see V. Bérard, 'Tégée e la Tégéatide I', *BCH* 17: 529–49).

The street grid did not extend as far S as the Sanctuary of Athena Alea. This was also the impression given by the distribution of surface finds from the Norwegian Arcadia Survey and it is by now virtually certain that the Sanctuary was located outside the city.

The new information gathered by the magnetometer survey clearly documents the regular urban plan of Tegea. Without systematic excavations, the date of the plan must rely on surface finds and the characteristics of the grid itself. From the material collected during the Norwegian Arcadia Survey, the earliest conspicuous amounts of material from the area of the anc. city could be dated to the 2nd half of the 6th Ct. This impression has also been confirmed by the excavations conducted, but still unpublished, by the Greek Archaeological Service (I am grateful to Anna Vasiliki Karapanagiotou and to Th. Spyropoulos for this information). Perhaps even more significant were the fragments of architectural members collected in the **agora area** during the survey, including Doric capitals of the L6th Ct. The street grid itself is also of interest, as it shows a *per strigas* system more at home in the Ar than the Cl period.

The **urban plan** of Tegea is of great importance as one of the earliest, regularly planned cities of Greece. This is probably due to the relatively late appearance of urbanized settlements in Arcadia compared to neighbouring regions. The urbanization of Tegea was attributed by anc. authors to synoikism of several smaller and earlier settlements, presumably located on the hills around the plain. The urbanization in the LAr period therefore also involved a drastic change in the settlement pattern and a new exploitation of the fertile plain, which probably necessitated a system of drainage for this flood-prone area that is

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23. Tegea: grid plan of LAr city

perhaps indirectly documented by the Norwegian excavations in the Sanctuary of Athena Alea. A detailed study of the city plan compared to the study of the material from the Norwegian Arcadia Survey will appear as a monograph of the Norwegian Institute at Athens.

**Valley/gorge of Lousios**. A study of the Byz monasteries in the gorge is published: Διαμαντή, Κ.Π. and Ε.Ν. Πάντου, *Τα μοναστήρια στο φαράγγι του Λούσιου ποταμού στην Αρκαδία* (Athens, T.A.P.A. 2006).

**Mt Lykaion, Sanctuary of Zeus**. Anastasia Panagiotopoulou (5th EPCA), Mary E. Voyatzis (ASCSA/Arizona) and David Gilman Romano (ASCSA/Pennsylvania) report on the 2006 season of excavation and survey.

The work was divided into several parts. A topographical and architectural team continued the work of documenting the remains of the 67m *l.* **stoa** at the site. The architects are creating the first stone-for-stone actual-state drawing of the building. A series of steps or seats, *ca* 40m *l.*, exposed to the N of the stoa and at a lower elevation, will also be drawn.

Yanis Pikoulas (Thessaly) began his historical survey of the **sanctuary** and the general region of mount Lykaion. Mark Davison (Oregon) began a cultural landscape study of the region of the Sanctuary of Zeus at mount Lykaion, including considerations for the proposed national cultural park.

Four trial trenches were opened in the area of the anc. **hippodrome** and its immediate surroundings. Working at the S aspect of the anc. facility a trench was opened to look for the S limit of the racecourse floor. A second trench was opened to look for the E limit of the racecourse floor near what may be the SE area of the hippodrome. A third trench was dug in the hippodrome floor, looking for evidence of the floor itself as well as looking for what may have been the dromos floor of the stadium (which is set inside the hippodrome). Bordering the SW side of the area of the hippodrome, on a slightly higher terrace, a fourth trench was dug and anc. levels were discovered.

These four trenches yielded a large amount of anc. pottery sherds, roof tiles and some metalwork, including bronze coins and an iron blade. The finds have all been cleaned, conserved and are currently housed in the nearby Lykosoura Museum. The project website is http://lykaionexcavation.org.

**LAKONIA** (5th EPCA; 5th EBA)

**Kouphovouno**. C. Mee (BSA/Liverpool), W.G. Cavanagh (BSA/Nottingham) and J. Renard (EFA/Clermont Ferrand) report on the 2006 season of excavation at this MNeo to MH tell site.

Excavation in 2006 was focused on three related areas: opening up an extensive sector in area C, concentrating on the MNeo architectural features; exposure of more MNeo architecture in area G; a deep sounding, also in area G, to trace the LNeo to MNeo transition and to complement the deep sounding in area C which had been taken down to the natural soil in the 2005 season.

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