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.

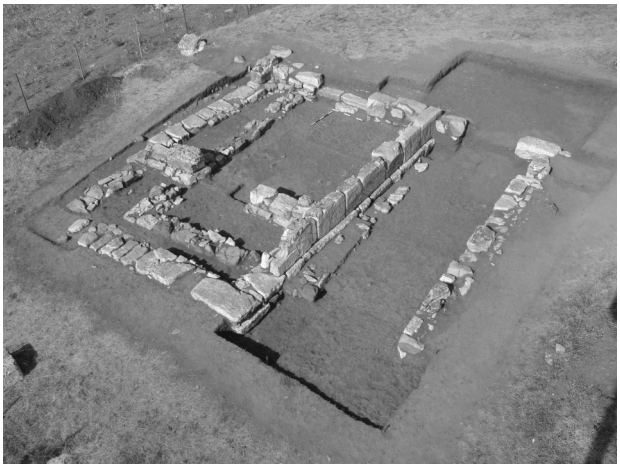
ACHAIA (6th EPCA; 6th EBA)

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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