Elsewhere too, new building and extensive remodelling of existing exhibitions can be reported, for example at the Archaeological Museums of Ioannina (reopened in November 2008), Kalymnos (April 2009) and Chaironeia (May 2009). The new **Archaeological Museum of Patras**, inaugurated in July 2009, just a month after the Acropolis Museum, is one of the largest archaeological museums in Greece and by far the most adventurous architecturally (the work of the architect Theophanis Bobotis). It houses Myc–LRom material from across Achaia, most notably the rich collection of mosaics from Rom Patras.

The **Archaeological Museum of Messenia** is also a new construction (on the site of the old market of Kalamata destroyed in the 1986 earthquake), enabling a full and representative collection of the rich discoveries from Messenia to be displayed for the first time. Attention has focused on the innovative, geographically-organized layout of exhibitions on the Triphylia, Pylia, Messene and Kalamata regions, which are set alongside thematic displays on subjects such as the 'kingdom' of the palace of Nestor, the Villehardouins and Messenia, and Pylia under Venetian rule (1206–1500).

The renaissance in the permanent exhibitions in the **National Museum, Athens** also continues, with the opening of galleries dedicated to the minor arts and the Vlastos-Serpieri collection in February 2009, and to the collection of Cypriot antiquities in March 2009. 2009 is the 180th anniversary of the establishment of the National Archaeological Museum, and the 120th anniversary of the opening of the present building. As part of the celebrations, the Museum hosted the temporary exhibition *Worshipping Women. Ritual and Reality in Classical Athens*, organized in collaboration with the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation.

ATHENS

by Robert K. Pitt

Central Athens

(1st EPCA: 1st EBA)

City Walls. An important and lavishly illustrated doctoral dissertation on the literary, epigraphic, topographic and archaeological evidence for the fortification walls of the anc. city has been produced by A. Theocharakis, *Ο Αρχαίος Αθηναϊκός Οχυρωματικός Περίβολος* (3 vols, University of Athens 2007).

Acropolis. M. Ioannidou (Director, Acropolis Restoration Service) reports on the work of the Service in 2007 and 2008 (*The Acropolis Restoration News* [July 2008], 2–4). **Parthenon**: structural restoration of the dismantled members of the N colonnade continued, with 8 columns reset in place, and work begun on resetting the entablature at the level of the architrave. At the W end of the N colonnade the dismantling of the metopes was initiated. **Propylaia**: restoration work on the ceilings of the W hall has been completed with the resetting of restored architectural members of the superstructure. Restoration of the E portico has reached the level of the frieze. **Temple of Athena Nike**: resetting of restored blocks of the architrave and column bases continued, alongside structural restoration of the intervening layers.

Eleftherotypia and *To Vima* (15/01/09) report the findings of a conservation and excavation project at the back wall of the **Stoa of Eumenes II** on the S slope of the Acropolis. This N wall appears to have been constructed in the 4th Ct BC as part of an athletics facility, and also supported the peripatos above. Many graffiti were discovered on the faces of the blocks, indicating that the structure was part of the first Panathenaic Stadium of the Athenians.

Anc. Agora. J.M. Camp (ASCSA) reports on the 2008 excavation season.

In **section BH** (plan: *AR* 54 [2007–2008], 6) excavations continued below the MByz walls in, over and behind the Painted Stoa. Both the back wall and the interior colonnade of the stoa were found well preserved at its E end. Largely in limestone, the workmanship of the superstructure is of the highest quality. The back wall has limestone foundations which project 0.24m beyond the inner face of the toichobate. Above, 3 toichobate blocks and part of a 4th remain *in situ*, 1.205m *l.*, 0.935m *w.*, 0.26m *h.* The tops are finished with a claw chisel and there are 2 pry-holes preserved. Resting on the toichobate are 2 blocks of the outer run of orthostates *in situ*, 1.205m *l.*, 0.325m *w.*, 0.915m *h.*, which were originally joined with a double-T clamp, now missing. The tops are finished with a claw chisel; the backs are well dressed with a drove and there is a rebate along the bottom, 0.09m *h.* and 0.01m *d.*; each block also has a lifting boss preserved.

Behind the back wall was found a fragment of a large terracotta pipe associated with the pipeline found *in situ* running behind the building further W, usually associated with the Kimonian aqueduct bringing water out to the Academy. The fragment was found in MByz fill, suggesting that at the E end of the building the aqueduct had been disturbed. Behind the stoa, generally the fill explored was rubble of the MByz and LRom periods, and so remains have not yet been reached that are contemporary with the stoa.

Within the line of the back wall inside the building is a second heavy foundation of soft limestone (**Fig. 1**) running 0.30–0.35m from the inner face of the foundations of the back wall and measuring 1.04m *w.* This same run of limestone was found in a similar situation at the W. Possibilities include support for an inner bench or installation; a pre-Persian version of the Stoa Peisianax, attested in a scholion to Aelius Aristeides (in which case the better-preserved remains above would represent a post-Persian rebuilding); or a remnant of the Ar city wall of Athens, no trace of which has yet been identified.

Within the building were exposed parts of the 2 E interior Ionic columns. The W of the 2 survives only in its foundations, 2 limestone blocks set side-by-side. The E is better preserved, consisting of a square limestone base, ca. 0.88m on a side, supporting a large cylinder of marble 0.18m *h.* and 0.79m *di.* (**Fig. 2**). On top of this is the unfluted limestone shaft of the column itself, 0.59m *di.*, preserved to a *h.* of 0.5m. The closest



1. Athens, agora: Painted Stoa, foundation and orthostats of soft limestone.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608400001046 Published online by Cambridge University Press



2. Athens, agora: Painted Stoa, base of easternmost internal Ionic column.

parallel is the L5th Ct Pompeion at the Kerameikos. A rubble wall running SW from the easternmost column, 0.6m *d.* and preserved to 0.6m *h.*, rests at about the level of the original stoa floor and may represent a later blocking of the interior colonnade.

The **ΒΘ excavation**, in a new section created by the demolition of 2 buildings along Ag. Philippos Street, revealed late fill down to 0.75m below the demolition surface. At the E were reached the tops of rubble walls of the Byz period; to the W, the foundations of the mod. building are more extensive. Several large worked blocks in limestone and marble with anathyrosis and double-T clamps suggest they come from more than one substantial Cl building. The lower part of a marble relief of the Mother of the Gods seated on a throne was found built into a Byz wall. The head of a terracotta horse (**Fig. 3**) matches others found in this area, reminding us that this NW corner of the Agora was a centre for the Athenian cavalry in Cl and Hel times.

In **section Γ**, excavation took place in an area of a cluster of small buildings of the Cl period, immediately S of the Tholos, which were put out of use in the Hel period by the shifting of the course of a road. To the E of these buildings is the shop of Simon the cobbler, to the W the 'Strategeion'. The aim of the excavation was to determine whether these buildings – small, crowded and irregular in their plans – were public or private and, if private, whether they had a commercial function. The discovery of a tile-lined well should confirm the interpretation of the area as an open courtyard. A bg lamp from the well suggests that it went out of use close to the 2nd quarter of the 4th Ct. Elsewhere in the area, various floor levels and pits were dug, mostly dating to the 4th Ct. Two fractional silver coins (**Fig. 4**) were found, plus a large fragment of an amphora with a graffito (**Fig. 5**). In many instances the fill contained numerous sherds of the 8th and 7th Cts BC, perhaps indicative of earlier houses or disturbed burials.



3. Athens, agora: head of a terracotta horse from section ΒΘ.



4. Athens, agora: 2 fractional silver coins from section Γ.



5. Athens, agora: amphora fragment with graffito from section Γ.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608400001046 Published online by Cambridge University Press

Publications: M.B. Walbank, *Fragmentary Decrees from the Athenian Agora* (*Hesperia* Supplement 38) (Princeton, ASCSA 2008); J.W. Hayes, *The Athenian Agora* XXXII. *Roman Pottery: Fine-Ware Imports* (Princeton, ASCSA 2008).

CENTRAL ATHENS
(2nd EPCA: 1st EBA)

Kaisariani. *Rizospastis* (15/04/08) reports the discovery by the 2nd EPCA, during construction of a natural gas line on Ethnikis Antistaseos Street, of a tomb dating to the 4th–3rd Ct, containing a skeleton, well-preserved from the waist down, and a fragment of a copper mirror.

ATTICA
by Robert K. Pitt

WESTERN ATTICA
(3rd EPCA: 1st EBA)

Keratsini, Aigaleo. *Ethnos* (27/02/09) cites a report by F. Mavridis (EPSNE) and L. Kormazopoulou of the discovery of traces of the very earliest inhabitants of Attica, dated by C^{14} to the 11th millennium, in a cave in Keratsini on the SW of Mt Aigaleo in the course of excavations begun in 2006. Evidence has been discovered for hunter-gathers at the cave site from the upper Pal through to the Mes. A 2nd phase of occupation between the MNeo and EBA has produced tools manufactured from radiolarite and various forms of flint. Animals found included hare, deer and a species of now-extinct horse. Plant remains included wild cereals and pulses. Terracotta figurines from the LAr–Hel periods indicate later religious use.

The Sacred Way. A study of the history, topography, epigraphy, numismatics and small finds of the Sanctuary of Aphrodite and Eros on the Sacred Way to Eleusis, as well as comparative studies with other Attic Aphrodite sanctuaries and shrines, has now has been published: V. Machaira, *Τὸ ἱερὸ Ἀφροδίτης καὶ Ἔρωτος στὴν Ἱερὰ Ὁδό* (Athens, ASA 2008).

Eleusis
Publication: K. Clinton, *Eleusis. The Inscriptions on Stone: Documents of the Sanctuary of the Two Goddesses and Public Documents of the Deme. Volume* II*: Commentary* (Athens, ASA 2008).

CENTRAL AND SOUTHWESTERN ATTICA
(26th EPCA: 1st EBA)

Moschato, Piraeus. *To Vima* (18/03/09) reports that excavations carried out on a plot at 7 Pireos Street by M. Raftopoulou (26th EPCA) revealed 2 phases of a structure identified as a shrine. The older phase (5.5m x 8.6m) dates to the LAr period; the later (7.35m x 5.5m) to the 4th Ct BC. Both buildings had gates at the entrance, in front of which was found an altar (1.55m x 1m). In another plot, at 30 Pireos Street, excavations uncovered hydraulic installations of the 5th Ct BC with tanks, a well and clay pipes.

Voula. *To Vima* (25/02/09) reports the discovery by K. Kyliti (26th EPCA) of a large Geo tomb on Kapodistriou Street, during the installation of gas pipelines. The cover slab was broken, but the tomb contained 6 vessels (skyphoi and prochoes) including a skyphos bearing figure-of-8 shields.

Vouliagmeni, Cape Zoster. *To Vima* (03/08/08) reports on excavations conducted by the 26th EPCA in the grounds of the Asteras Hotel. Structures of the 3rd millennium were discovered; finds included phallic figurines, a tiny axe of green stone, multiple stone tools, obsidian blades and abundant ceramics.

Pounda peninsula, Glyfada. K. Kaza-Papageorgiou (*AAA* 39 [2006], 45–60) reports the discovery of an extensive EH cemetery on the side of a low hill a few metres from the last bay of Asteria on the Pounda peninsula. Clusters of small chamber tombs were cut into the hard limestone and a long wall encloses the cemetery on the side facing the sea.

SOUTHERN ATTICA
(2nd EPCA: 1st EBA)

Thorikos. In 2008 a topographical survey of the industrial quarter and the theatre area was undertaken by R. Docter (Belgian School/Ghent) in order to produce a digital base map of all excavated architectural remains of the urban settlement. Documentation of all visible remains brought to light a hitherto unknown cistern in the industrial quarter.

CENTRAL ATTICA

Markopoulo. E. Salavoura reports (*AAA* 39 [2006], 61–82) the excavation of a cluster of 4 small Myc chamber tombs with long dromoi on the SE edge of the plain of Merenda. The tombs contained 10 burials accompanied by much local pottery; of particular interest are a bovine figurine and a bronze razor. The excavator interprets the site as a small family cemetery which began in LHIIIA2 and continued in use until LHIIIB–LHIIIC.

Cholargos. Excavations associated with the construction of the metro (*To Vima* [23/22/08]) have brought to light a stretch of a 5th Ct BC road with drainage pipes 0.4m *di.* A roadside cemetery, also of the 5th Ct, contained the larnax burial of an infant, with grave goods including a bg cup.

NORTHERN AND NORTHWESTERN ATTICA

Halandri. *Eleftherotypia*, *To Vima*, *Apogevmatini* and *Ta Nea* (30/01/09) report the discovery of a section of the road which brought marble from the Penteli quarries into central Athens. The excavation by the 2nd EPCA of a plot at 133 Pentelis Avenue revealed a 19.7m *l.* stretch of the road, 3.3m *w.* with wheel ruts preserved. Small finds included a lead weight and Fr coins.

Nea Erythrea. *To Vima* (04/06/08) reports the excavation by the 2nd EPCA of a 0.2ha plot at the junction of Ethnikis Antistaseos Street and Lemnou Street. A Neo settlement dating to 3,500 BC was discovered alongside an anc. tributary of the Kifissos river. Postholes of huts were found, with successive floors of packed earth and gravel, which included stone tools, obsidian blades and small shallow storage pits containing pots.

Marathon, **Tsepi**. M. Pantelidou-Gofas (ASA) reports (*Ergon* [2008], 13–23) on continued excavation of the EH cemetery. The façade of tomb 53 was carefully constructed of stones from the nearby Scorpios river and is significantly smaller than the other tombs (1.3m x 1.4m, instead of the more usual 1.5m x

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608400001046 Published online by Cambridge University Press