

Mt. Lykaion Team Hikes Parrhasian Park Trail

Having concluded active excavation in 2010 after five continuous seasons, the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project, a synergasia project between the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, the University of Arizona, and the ΛΘ' Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Tripolis, working under the auspices of the ASCSA, saw one of its goals come to fruition last summer with the opening of the first trail in the Parrhasian Heritage Park.

The trail opening coincided with the end of the Mt. Lykaion team's first study season, conducted under the direction of project co-directors Anna Karapanagiotou (Director of the 39th Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities), Michalis Petropoulos (former Director of the 39th Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities), Mary E. Voyatzis (University of Arizona), and David Gilman Romano (University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology). The project's

synergates is Anastasia Panagiotopoulou, former Director of the Archaeological Institute for Peloponnesian Studies in Tripolis. The Polistikos Syllogos of Ano Karyes and its President, Mr. Christos Koumoundouros, have continued to support all of the project team's efforts in Arcadia, including the first Parrhasian Heritage Park Field School, which was run during the last two weeks of July.

On July 30, following conclusion of the field school, community leaders as well as local political dignitaries took part in the official opening of the first park trail, the Trail of Pan, which extends from the village of Ano Karyes to the village of Neda. Hikers assembled at both villages at 10 a.m. and walked the nearly 6-km trail, meeting near the border between Arcadia and Messenia, where the inauguration ceremony took place and from which the Sanctuary of Pan could be seen. Participants included the Governor of Arcadia, Mr. Evangelos Giannakouras; the Mayor of Megalopolis, Dr.

Takis Bouras; and the Director of the 39th Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Tripolis, Dr. Anna Karapanagiotou, together with local village and civic leaders and 35 residents of villages within the park boundary. The Parrhasian Park planning team, together with the student participants of the field school, were also in attendance.

Following the trail opening, the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project, together with the 39th Ephoreia, were tapped by the newly formed Parrhasian Heritage Park Alliance to lead the Park Planning Committee. The team looks forward to bringing the alliance's plans for the park, envisioned as a network of trails that will link the modern villages with the many ancient cities and sanctuaries found within the area, to fruition.

Further information can be found at <http://parrhasianheritagepark.org> and <http://lykaionexcavation.org>. ❀

Affiliated Excavations

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pose was most likely a water channel, to help divert or control the flow of water of the Nemea River itself, or its floodplain. The channel was in part artificially filled with debris that contained Archaic pottery and other objects.

Excavation of trenches 1, 2, and 3 in area E19 revealed the NE-SW extent of E19 wall ii, its full extant height including its foundation course, and also its corner and the beginning of a cross wall at the south end. The eastern face consists of two or three courses of medium to very large cut limestone blocks set in a quasi-polygonal fashion, all likely reused. The foundations of the wall rest on a level of large stones, revealed at both the northern and southern ends. The southernmost stones of this feature abut (and perhaps partially fill) a cutting into virgin clay soil, similar to the channel described above G19. On the basis of related pottery, the cutting and the stone feature both date to the Archaic period. Since it sits atop this feature, Wall E19 ii must be either contemporary or later in date.

Thirteen phases of the road initially encountered during excavation east of Wall E19 ii during the 1983 season were excavated in trench 1.

We demonstrated this season that within the sanctuary there remain areas

for continuing investigation and indications (architectural and ceramic) of use in the Archaic and pre-Archaic (early historic and prehistoric) periods. The recovery of Mycenaean domestic fineware and kitchenware vessels in association with a possible tool-making context provides evidence of Bronze Age occupation under the later Heroön. The extensive constructions in the Archaic period indicate a major investment in site formation, much more so than had previously been suspected.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE OF UNINVESTIGATED REMAINS OF AGRICULTURE (AROURA)

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Archaeological Reconnaissance of Unexplored Remains of Agriculture (AROURA), co-directed by Michael Lane and Vassileios Aravantinos, successfully completed a second fieldwork campaign between October 3 and November 13, 2011. The principal



AROURA: Co-Director Michael Lane uses a soil auger to explore sediment deposition at the mouth of the Vrystika Katavothra sinkhole.

aim of AROURA is to detect traces of land use, especially extensive cultivation, in the Late Helladic polder (land claimed from water) around the contemporaneous for-

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trass of Glas in the Kopaic Basin, northern Viotia. Senior staff included Timothy Horsley, Geophysicist (Univ. of Michigan, Yale), Allison Cuneo, Assistant Geophysicist (Boston Univ.), and Weston Bittner, GIS Specialist (UMBC). Evi Margaritis of the British School at Athens is analyzing and interpreting recovered archaeobotanical remains at the time of writing.

In 2011, AROURA subjected about 15 hectares in all quarters of the polder to magnetometry, sampling every 0.125 m on traverses 1.0 m wide, in addition to the 36 hectares sampled likewise in 2010. It thereby clarified the extent and details of the reticulate pattern of geophysical anomalies detected in 2010 beside the polder dike, as well as of those that connect this pattern with Glas. It tested the further geological and sedimentological nature and character of these anomalies by augering and describing cores of soil, and by cleaning and profiling sections of modern irrigation ditches. Both methods showed that the magnetically negative element of linear anomalies correspond to a layer or lens of white to grayish sediment, apparently redeposited subsoil, whereas the parallel magnetically positive linear element corresponds to a dark grayish-brown fill, possibly the fill of an adjoining ditch. The whole resembles a layout of cultivated fields.

The soil auger was also employed to explore sediment deposition at the mouth of the Vrystika Katavothra, one of the karstic sinkholes that drained the polder after excavation in the Mycenaean era. Boundary features in soil horizons consisting of sub-round gravel and possibly sesquioxides (iron and aluminum compounds leached out of topsoil) were discovered, both of which are likely indicators of occasional flooding or desiccation of the Kopaic wetlands. Soil cores taken in 2010 were divided into their constituent horizons, and a selection of these horizons underwent flotation and wet-sieving for the collection of macroscopic plant remains and small fragments of organic and inorganic matter (e.g., shell, bone fragments, pottery sherds). Radiocarbon dates are expected from sediment sampled from cores of all types.

Lastly, AROURA carried out intensive collection of finds from the surface of the settlement site of Aghia Marina Pyrgos (AMP), which lies on a steep hill about 1.5 kilometers from Glas. AMP is a multicomponent site, with a cyclopean circuit wall into which a medieval watchtower is



Gournia: Cult deposit of over 700 conical cups and bowls uncovered in southwest corner of Minoan palace.

built. Pottery sherds from the Neolithic through Geometric period have also been reported there. It is presumed that AMP was a settlement that coexisted with Glas and Mycenaean maintenance of the polder and that it fell within the former's administrative purview and participated in the latter's exploitation. Investigation in 2011 revealed the medieval fort to be larger than previously mapped and discovered pottery sherds dated provisionally to the LH IIIB2-C, putting inhabitation of the site in the period of Glas' final destruction and the decades thereafter.

In 2012, AROURA intends to continue magnetometry and testing of geophysical anomalies, and, at least as importantly, to deploy an array of scientific tests to the discoveries, including further flotation and wet-sieving for archaeobotany and molluscan analysis, pollen stratigraphy, and optically stimulated luminescence dating of features discovered. Weston Bittner is furthermore undertaking a statistical reclassification of multispectral satellite data from the project area, in order to discover whether there are spectral correlates with magnetic anomalies and features, which would make it possible to trace their patterns throughout the landscape and to predict their location.



EXCAVATIONS AT GOURNIA

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In 2011, our second season of this three-year excavation project, we focused on investigating the Protopalatial history of Gournia. To this end we concentrated on two areas of the site: in the palace and along the north edge of the LM I town. In the first area we excavated Room 13 in the southwest corner of the LM IB palace, and also in Room 18 under the palace. Room 13 was part of the LM I extension of the palace. Prior to that, the exterior southwest corner of the palace was marked by an upright stone or baetyl. This area, later enclosed by the south and west walls of Room 13, produced a large cult deposit consisting of over 700 conical cups and bowls. These offerings, placed outside the palace next to the baetyl up against the south wall of the palace, were apparently associated with the original construction of the palace in MM IIIA. The upper levels of this deposit contained hundreds of LM IB cups filled with pumice and mixed with ash, a reaction probably to the Thera eruption.

In Room 18 inside the palace, a sounding revealed the existence of a large Protopalatial building under the Neopalatial

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