



INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

"Corinthia and the Northeast Peloponnesus:
Topography and History from Prehistoric Times until the End of Antiquity"

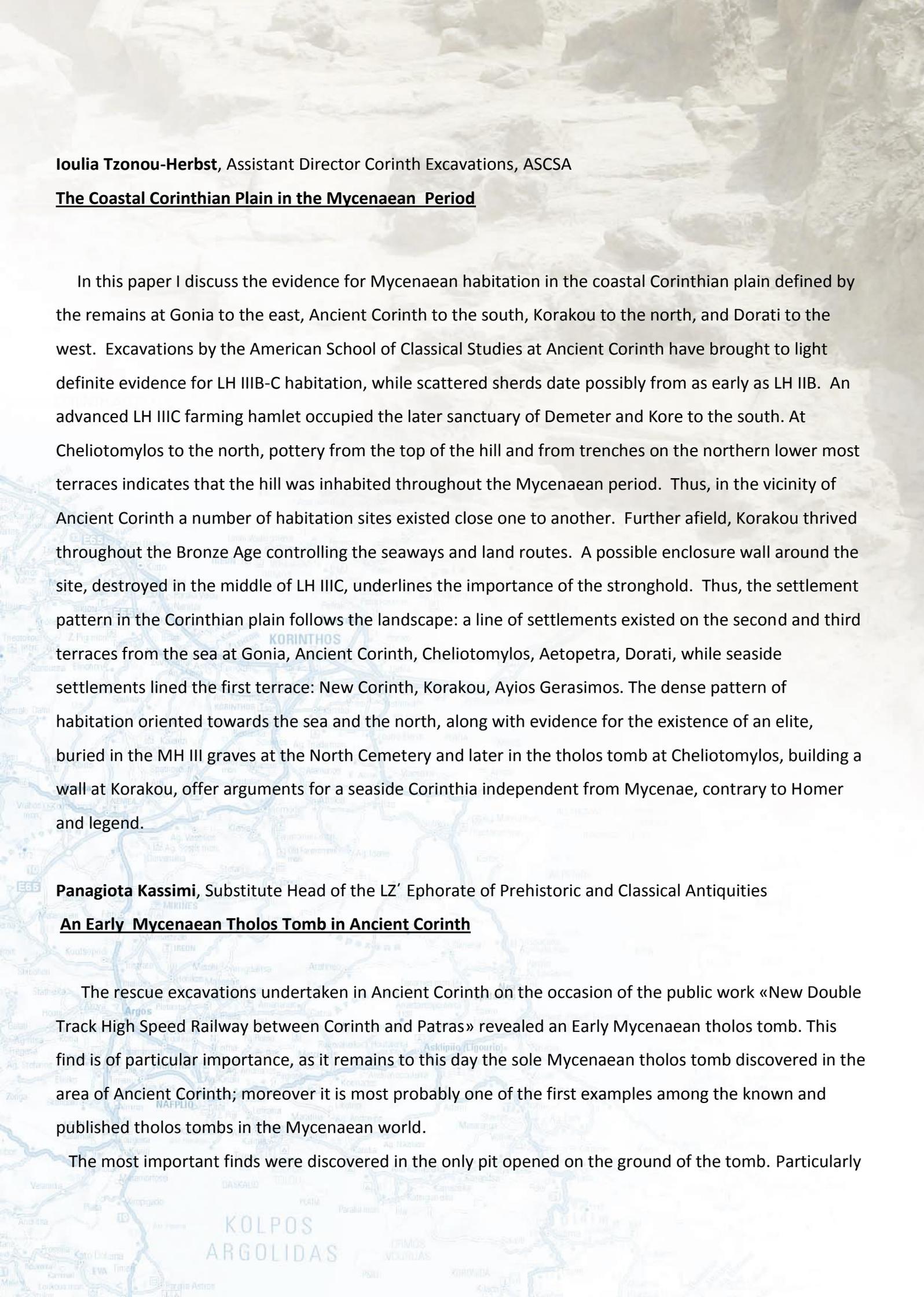
ABSTRACTS

Stavros Oikonomidis, Archaeologist, President of I.T.C.C.

Transport, Passages and Communication in Neolithic Corinthia

Corinthia is a region of exceptionally favored geographic location in the Peloponnesus. At the north and northeast of the Peloponnesus, close to the narrow strip of land of the Isthmus and at a very close distance from Central Greece, between two seas and with immediate access to the Ionian Sea, Corinthia became early on a passage, a hub and a predominant domain. Its southeast, south and southwest boundaries, although appearing to be closed by steep mountains, did not hinder land communication with the rest of the Peloponnesus. Various mountainous passageways can be traced between gorges, plateaus and mountaintops. The physical presence of old torrents as well as the suitable configuration of geomorphology helped the mapping of roads, paths and passageways which allowed today's swift transport of goods to and from the Central Peloponnesus. Today, these forgotten and moss-grown passages bear witness to age-old means of communication, thanks to which Corinthia received numerous influences and of course influenced its neighboring areas in many ways. Therefore, mountainous passageways, sea routes and road axes on flat ground formed communication channels with the Aegean, Asia Minor, Crete, Southern Peloponnesus, Central Greece, the Ionian Islands and consequently the Adriatic and the West.

The mountainous passageways and sea hubs centered around the Northeast Peloponnesus seem to have been beaten tracks ever since the Neolithic Period. Studying the region's Neolithic settlements enables us to draw some valuable conclusions regarding evidence on the transport and communication of Neolithic Corinthia. The present study aims at a succinct mapping of these routes.



Ioulia Tzonou-Herbst, Assistant Director Corinth Excavations, ASCSA

The Coastal Corinthian Plain in the Mycenaean Period

In this paper I discuss the evidence for Mycenaean habitation in the coastal Corinthian plain defined by the remains at Gonia to the east, Ancient Corinth to the south, Korakou to the north, and Dorati to the west. Excavations by the American School of Classical Studies at Ancient Corinth have brought to light definite evidence for LH IIIB-C habitation, while scattered sherds date possibly from as early as LH IIB. An advanced LH IIIC farming hamlet occupied the later sanctuary of Demeter and Kore to the south. At Cheliotomylos to the north, pottery from the top of the hill and from trenches on the northern lower most terraces indicates that the hill was inhabited throughout the Mycenaean period. Thus, in the vicinity of Ancient Corinth a number of habitation sites existed close one to another. Further afield, Korakou thrived throughout the Bronze Age controlling the seaways and land routes. A possible enclosure wall around the site, destroyed in the middle of LH IIIC, underlines the importance of the stronghold. Thus, the settlement pattern in the Corinthian plain follows the landscape: a line of settlements existed on the second and third terraces from the sea at Gonia, Ancient Corinth, Cheliotomylos, Aetopetra, Dorati, while seaside settlements lined the first terrace: New Corinth, Korakou, Ayios Gerasimos. The dense pattern of habitation oriented towards the sea and the north, along with evidence for the existence of an elite, buried in the MH III graves at the North Cemetery and later in the tholos tomb at Cheliotomylos, building a wall at Korakou, offer arguments for a seaside Corinthia independent from Mycenae, contrary to Homer and legend.

Panagiota Kassimi, Substitute Head of the LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

An Early Mycenaean Tholos Tomb in Ancient Corinth

The rescue excavations undertaken in Ancient Corinth on the occasion of the public work «New Double Track High Speed Railway between Corinth and Patras» revealed an Early Mycenaean tholos tomb. This find is of particular importance, as it remains to this day the sole Mycenaean tholos tomb discovered in the area of Ancient Corinth; moreover it is most probably one of the first examples among the known and published tholos tombs in the Mycenaean world.

The most important finds were discovered in the only pit opened on the ground of the tomb. Particularly

important cases are the early prochs, parallel to a similar find from Grave Circle B of Mycenae, as well as the two intact pithoi-amphorae of superb art, which allude directly to strong Minoan influences and date to the Late Helladic II period.

The existence of such an early tholos tomb in Corinthia, with its architectural singularities and its special finds, redefines the role and place of Corinthia and especially of Ancient Corinth in the early Mycenaean period and bridges the hiatus between the Middle Helladic period and the late Mycenaean period in the region of Ancient Corinth.

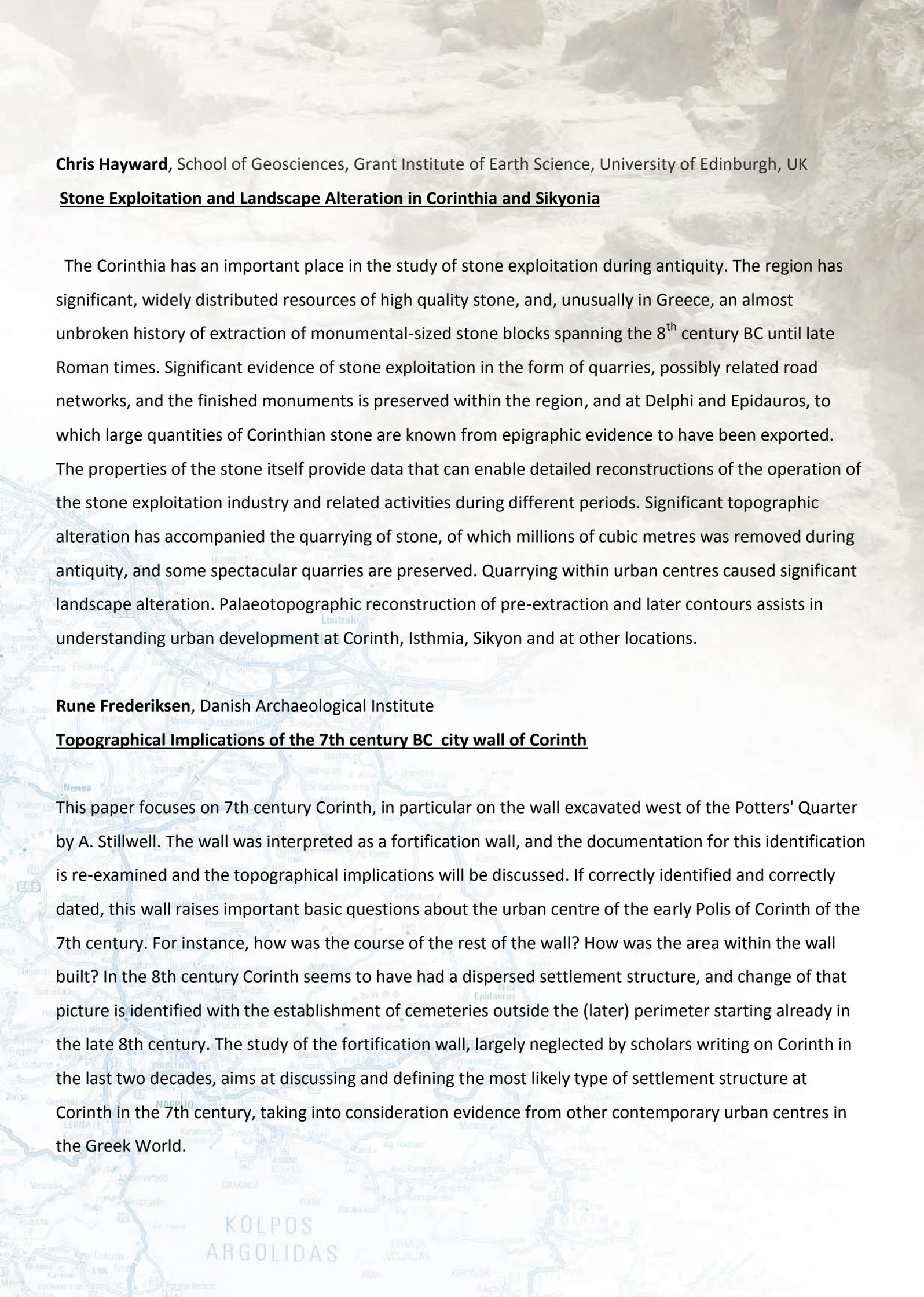
The question remains on whether this tomb constitutes an isolated example or not, as well as whether there existed a settlement connected to this tomb.

Jeannette Marchand, Assistant Professor, Wright State, Dayton, Ohio, USA

Ioulia Tzonou-Herbst, Assistant Director Corinth Excavations, ASCSA

Results of the Dorati Survey, a Surface and Geophysical Survey at a Bronze Age Site in the Corinthia.

We present results from an intensive surface survey which took place under the auspices of the ASCSA with a permit from the LZ EPCA at Dorati in the Corinthia in 2004. The aims of the research were to define the size of the site and the phases of its occupation based on the artifacts and architecture preserved on the surface. Over 56,000 artifacts dating to the Bronze Age were processed in the field; approximately 10% of this material was collected. The pottery ranges in date from the Neolithic period through all phases of the Bronze Age, with the LH IIIB and IIIC most heavily represented, while few sherds of later periods were found. Possible imports from Achaia and the Cyclades and at least 10 vases with Aeginetan potters' marks were identified. Small finds include LH III figurines, steatite and ceramic whorls, abundant murex shells, imported andesite grinding stones, chert cores and flakes, and the rim of a lead vessel. The artifacts indicate that key aspects of Mycenaean economy were practiced on the site. In addition to walls documented on the surface, a geophysical survey using resistivity and magnetometry conducted by Michael Boyd revealed at least one large complex. Given the dearth of large Mycenaean settlements explored in the Corinthia to date, Dorati is significant for the articulation of settlement and trade patterns in the wider region, and may provide insights into the relationship between the Corinthia and the Argolid in the Mycenaean period.



Chris Hayward, School of Geosciences, Grant Institute of Earth Science, University of Edinburgh, UK

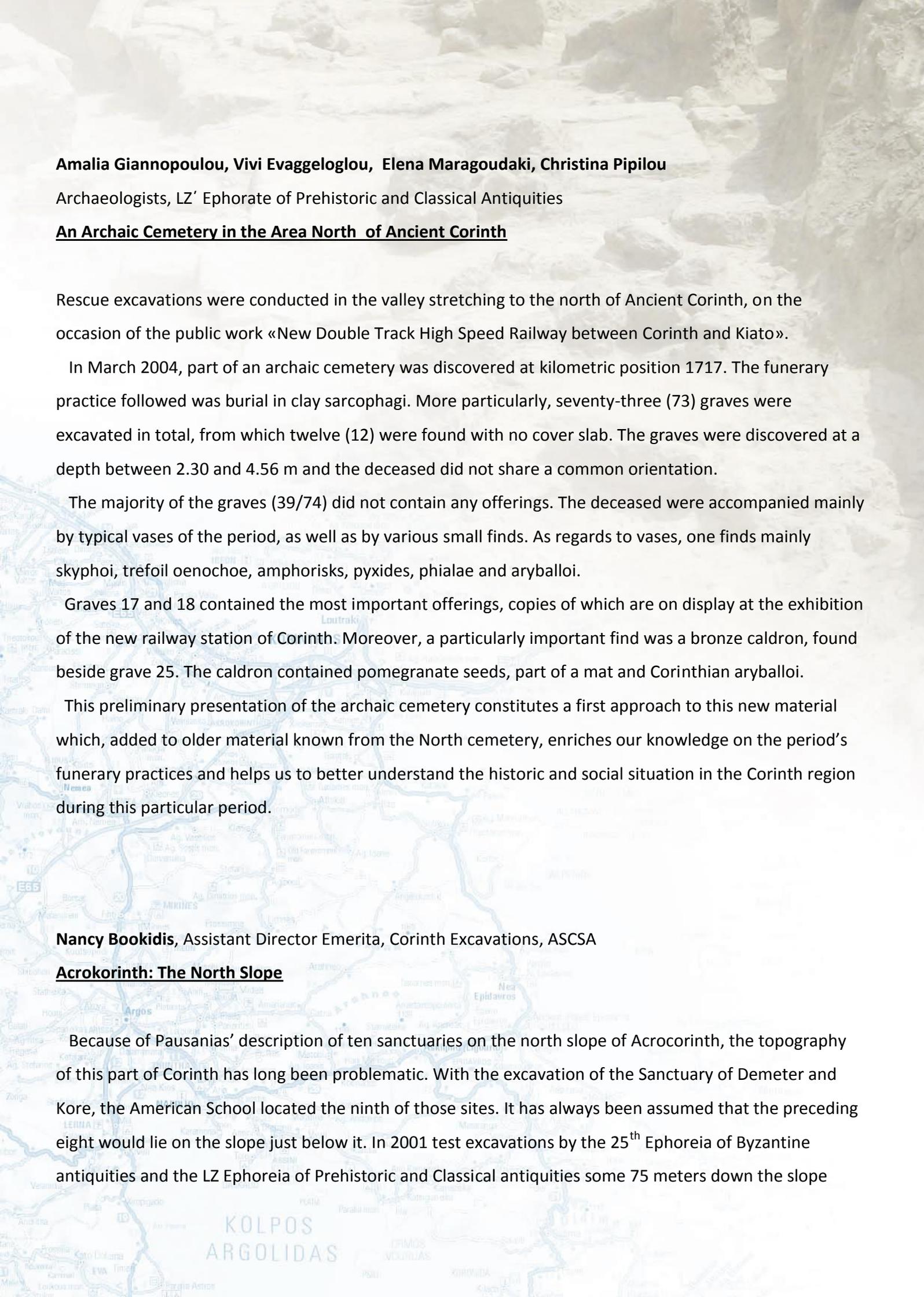
Stone Exploitation and Landscape Alteration in Corinthia and Sikyonia

The Corinthia has an important place in the study of stone exploitation during antiquity. The region has significant, widely distributed resources of high quality stone, and, unusually in Greece, an almost unbroken history of extraction of monumental-sized stone blocks spanning the 8th century BC until late Roman times. Significant evidence of stone exploitation in the form of quarries, possibly related road networks, and the finished monuments is preserved within the region, and at Delphi and Epidauros, to which large quantities of Corinthian stone are known from epigraphic evidence to have been exported. The properties of the stone itself provide data that can enable detailed reconstructions of the operation of the stone exploitation industry and related activities during different periods. Significant topographic alteration has accompanied the quarrying of stone, of which millions of cubic metres was removed during antiquity, and some spectacular quarries are preserved. Quarrying within urban centres caused significant landscape alteration. Palaeotopographic reconstruction of pre-extraction and later contours assists in understanding urban development at Corinth, Isthmia, Sikyon and at other locations.

Rune Frederiksen, Danish Archaeological Institute

Topographical Implications of the 7th century BC city wall of Corinth

This paper focuses on 7th century Corinth, in particular on the wall excavated west of the Potters' Quarter by A. Stillwell. The wall was interpreted as a fortification wall, and the documentation for this identification is re-examined and the topographical implications will be discussed. If correctly identified and correctly dated, this wall raises important basic questions about the urban centre of the early Polis of Corinth of the 7th century. For instance, how was the course of the rest of the wall? How was the area within the wall built? In the 8th century Corinth seems to have had a dispersed settlement structure, and change of that picture is identified with the establishment of cemeteries outside the (later) perimeter starting already in the late 8th century. The study of the fortification wall, largely neglected by scholars writing on Corinth in the last two decades, aims at discussing and defining the most likely type of settlement structure at Corinth in the 7th century, taking into consideration evidence from other contemporary urban centres in the Greek World.



Amalia Giannopoulou, Vivi Evaggeloglou, Elena Maragoudaki, Christina Pipilou

Archaeologists, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

An Archaic Cemetery in the Area North of Ancient Corinth

Rescue excavations were conducted in the valley stretching to the north of Ancient Corinth, on the occasion of the public work «New Double Track High Speed Railway between Corinth and Kiato».

In March 2004, part of an archaic cemetery was discovered at kilometeric position 1717. The funerary practice followed was burial in clay sarcophagi. More particularly, seventy-three (73) graves were excavated in total, from which twelve (12) were found with no cover slab. The graves were discovered at a depth between 2.30 and 4.56 m and the deceased did not share a common orientation.

The majority of the graves (39/74) did not contain any offerings. The deceased were accompanied mainly by typical vases of the period, as well as by various small finds. As regards to vases, one finds mainly skyphoi, trefoil oenochoe, amphorisks, pyxides, phialae and aryballoi.

Graves 17 and 18 contained the most important offerings, copies of which are on display at the exhibition of the new railway station of Corinth. Moreover, a particularly important find was a bronze caldron, found beside grave 25. The caldron contained pomegranate seeds, part of a mat and Corinthian aryballoi.

This preliminary presentation of the archaic cemetery constitutes a first approach to this new material which, added to older material known from the North cemetery, enriches our knowledge on the period's funerary practices and helps us to better understand the historic and social situation in the Corinth region during this particular period.

Nancy Bookidis, Assistant Director Emerita, Corinth Excavations, ASCSA

Acrocorinth: The North Slope

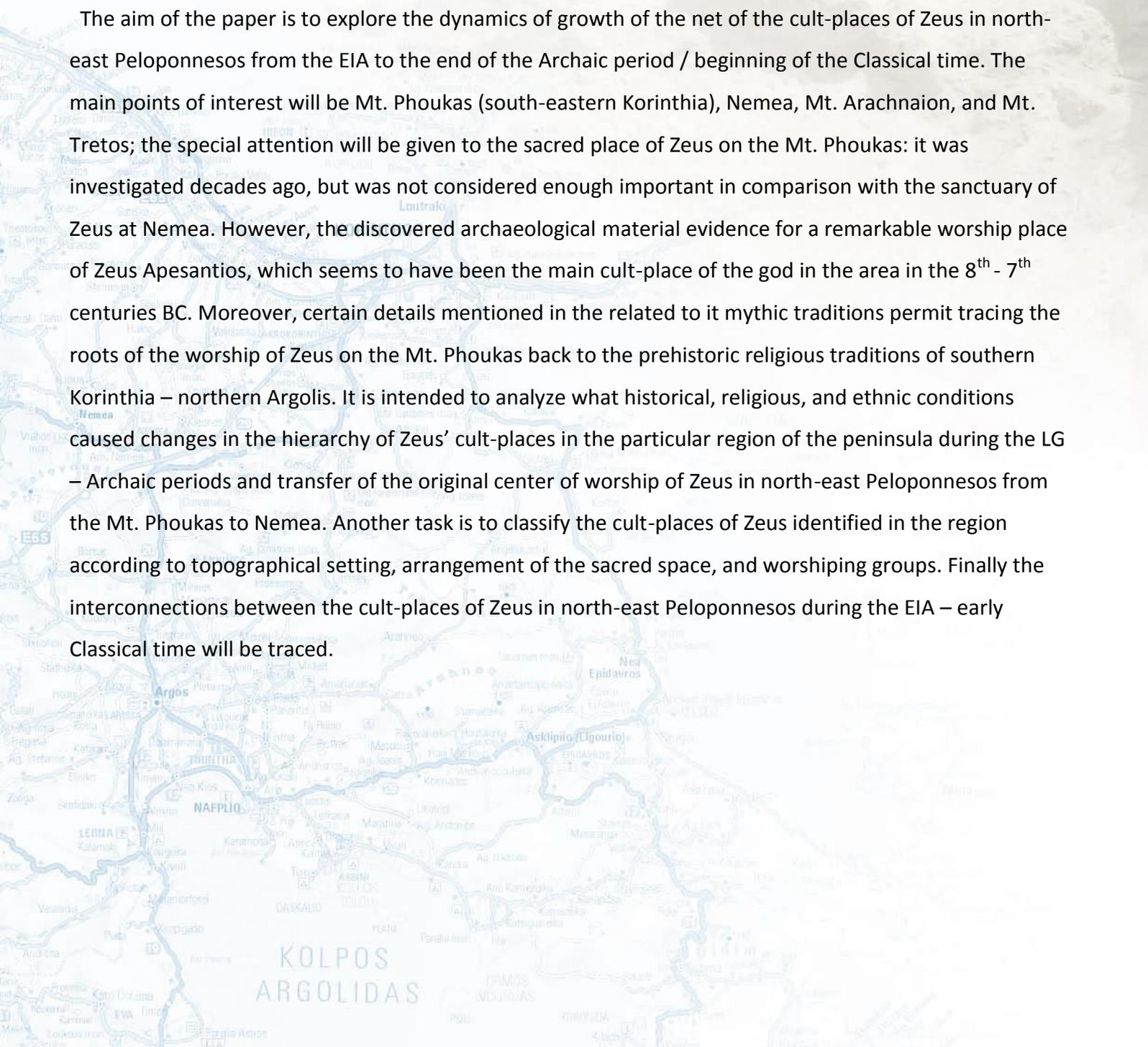
Because of Pausanias' description of ten sanctuaries on the north slope of Acrocorinth, the topography of this part of Corinth has long been problematic. With the excavation of the Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore, the American School located the ninth of those sites. It has always been assumed that the preceding eight would lie on the slope just below it. In 2001 test excavations by the 25th Ephoreia of Byzantine antiquities and the LZ Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical antiquities some 75 meters down the slope

uncovered four dining rooms, which are like those found in the Demeter Sanctuary. These, together with remains of walls further south, exposed by torrential rains in 2000, now suggest that the central north slope of Acrocorinth was covered with dining halls. While these discoveries further obscure the locations of Pausanias' sanctuaries, this plethora of festival dining halls, unparalleled elsewhere, is one more indication of Corinth's wealth and individuality among the cities of Ancient Greece.

Olga Zolotnikova, Contract Professor, Open University of Cyprus

The Cult Places of Zeus in the North- East Peloponnesos in the Early Iron Age-Late Archaic Period

The aim of the paper is to explore the dynamics of growth of the net of the cult-places of Zeus in north-east Peloponnesos from the EIA to the end of the Archaic period / beginning of the Classical time. The main points of interest will be Mt. Phoukas (south-eastern Korinthia), Nemea, Mt. Arachnaion, and Mt. Tretos; the special attention will be given to the sacred place of Zeus on the Mt. Phoukas: it was investigated decades ago, but was not considered enough important in comparison with the sanctuary of Zeus at Nemea. However, the discovered archaeological material evidence for a remarkable worship place of Zeus Apesantios, which seems to have been the main cult-place of the god in the area in the 8th - 7th centuries BC. Moreover, certain details mentioned in the related to it mythic traditions permit tracing the roots of the worship of Zeus on the Mt. Phoukas back to the prehistoric religious traditions of southern Korinthia – northern Argolis. It is intended to analyze what historical, religious, and ethnic conditions caused changes in the hierarchy of Zeus' cult-places in the particular region of the peninsula during the LG – Archaic periods and transfer of the original center of worship of Zeus in north-east Peloponnesos from the Mt. Phoukas to Nemea. Another task is to classify the cult-places of Zeus identified in the region according to topographical setting, arrangement of the sacred space, and worshiping groups. Finally the interconnections between the cult-places of Zeus in north-east Peloponnesos during the EIA – early Classical time will be traced.



Panagiota Kassimi, Substitute Head, **Vasilis Tasinos**, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

The Ancient Cemetery at Anapnoa

In the summer of 2004, an ancient cemetery was revealed in the plot owned by Andreas Papathanasopoulos, at the Anapnoa site in Ancient Corinth. Of the ten graves found, nine were dated between the late 4th and the beginning of the 3rd century B.C., that is at the beginning of the Hellenistic period.

Graves 1, 2 and 3 were exceptionally placed within a tripartite Funerary Monument, made of isodomic blocks.

Grave 1 yielded exceptionally rich finds, as it contained a multitude of figurines. Some of them had been placed directly on the grave's covering slab. The best preserved figurines are of exceptional art, worthy of the reputation of Corinthian sculptors. They represent females in various positions, while preserving traces of color and gilding and they are dated in the 4th c. B.C. (350-325 B.C.). Important works were also found inside the grave, such as alabaster pyxides, bronze pins, a needle, a silver coin, sea shells, a small clay hydria, etc. The finds as well as the bones demonstrate that the skeleton in the grave belonged to a young woman.

The other two graves (2, 3) of the Funerary Monument did not yield equally rich finds.

The rest of the graves were dated at the end of the 4th c. B.C. and belonged to common folk of the middle and lower class.

An ancient water supply system can be traced at a small distance, in the same direction. That system brought water from the Chatzimoustafa fountain or another fountain at the SW to the foot of Acrocorinthos and served the needs of a settlement of the classical period; it was abandoned at the end of the 4th century and replaced at the beginning of the 3rd c. B.C. by a large chamber cistern. All the evidence converges to the existence of an important settlement in Western Corinth even from the Geometric period with sanctuaries and altars; this settlement was ravaged for an unknown cause (perhaps violently), during the upheaval caused during the time of the Heirs of Alexander the Great.

The Cemetery is characterized as *parodio*, meaning it was formed alongside the road leading from the center of the town towards the Gate of Phlious.



Ronald Stroud, Professor of Classics Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Xenophon and the Topography of the Corinthia

After his return from Cyrus' great eastern expedition and his banishment from his native Athens, the historian Xenophon spent the remainder of his life in the Peloponnese. In the 390s he accompanied the Spartan king Agesilaos in several of his campaigns in the Corinthia and he put this autopsy of the terrain and the battlefields of the Corinthian War to good use in his narrative history, *Hellenika*, a continuation of Thucydides from 411 to 362 B.C. Eventually his Spartan sympathies were recognized by the Lakedaimonians who awarded him a country estate at Skillous near Olympia. Here he hunted, raised his two sons, rode his horses and wrote many of his surviving 14 books.

The biographic tradition about Xenophon is not without its problems, but it is clear that after the Spartan defeat at the Battle of Leuktra in 371 B.C., he lost his estate at Skillous and moved to Corinth. Here the historian of the affairs of the Greeks was perfectly placed to follow the momentous events that began the decline of Sparta. He was living under the shadow of Acrocorinth when the huge armies of Philip of Macedon crossed the Isthmos on their way to invade Lakonia and found the two great new cities of Messene and Megalopolis. That Xenophon wrote as an eye-witness of many of these events clearly emerges from a study of the topography of the Corinthia in the *Hellenika*. For instance, his knowledge of the roads and the fortifications in the Corinthia is remarkably full and accurate. This paper demonstrates how his close familiarity with the topography of the area where he spent the final decades of his life vividly informs his historical narrative.

Alaster H. Jackson, PhD, University of Cambridge

About Battle of Mummius (146 BCE)

Perhaps one day with luck, with land survey and with excavations we shall learn exactly where the battle between the Achaeans and Mummius in 146 B.C. took place the unknown Leukopetra somewhere on the Isthmus. Meanwhile to promote such efforts, I now propose a tentative preliminary hypothesis based on the few historical sources about the battle and on my own topographical excursions, namely that the

battle took place somewhere east of Ancient Corinth, perhaps near Hexamilia. But I emphasise that the available evidence allows room for other initial hypotheses on this subject.

David Gilman Romano, Adjunct Professor of Classical Studies, Department of Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Roman Colonies in the Corinthian Landscape

The successive Caesarean and Flavian colonies at Corinth each were built on the site of the Greek city that was defeated by Lucius Mummius in 146 B.C. Each colony had urban and rural elements; Both were situated on the Isthmus, utilized aspects of the rural landscape and both contained parts of the Greek city. How did the two colonies compare in terms of size and extent and what do we know about how the forum developed between the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD? What was the nature and extents of the Roman agricultural land planning, centuriation, that was undertaken by both colonies?

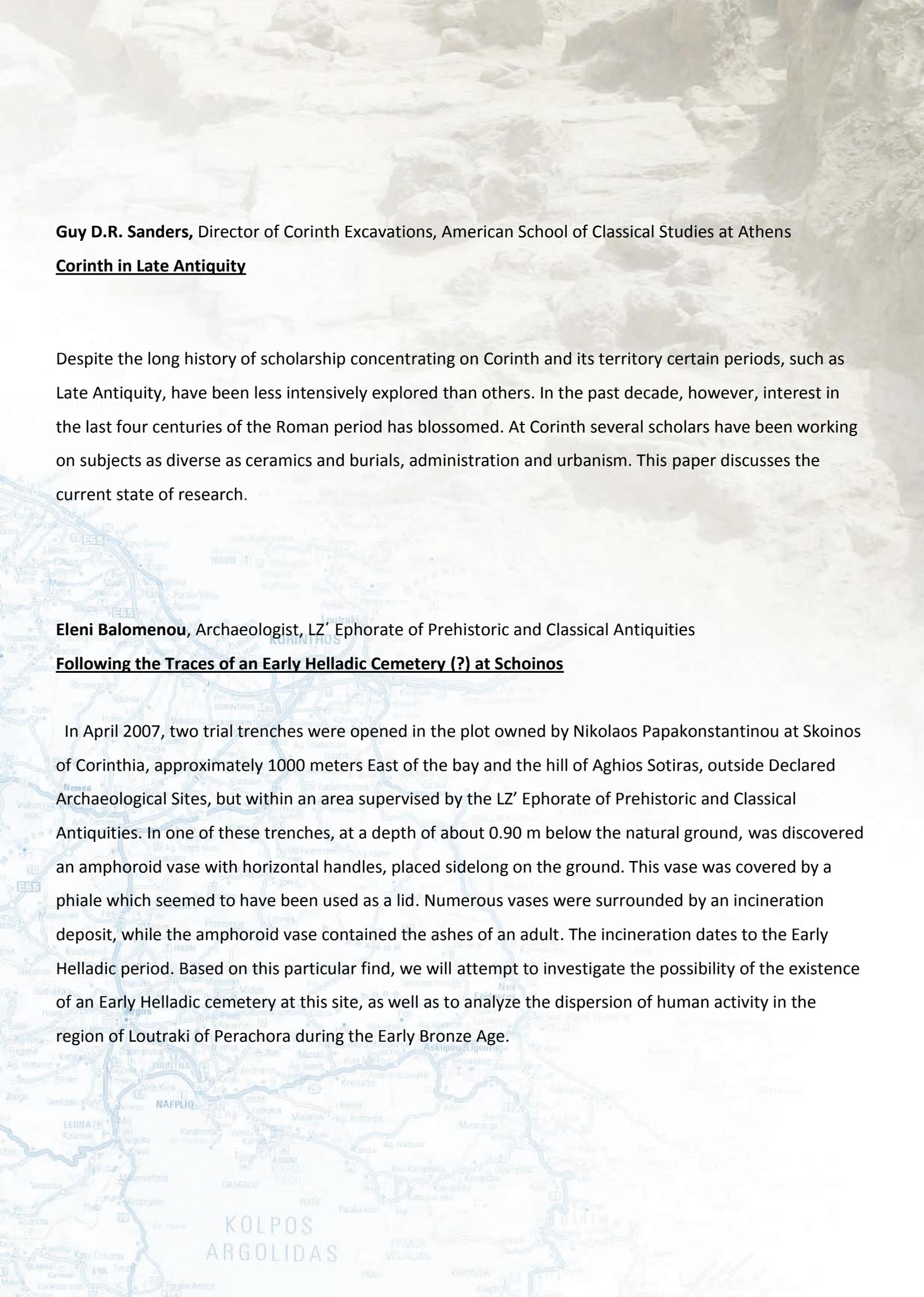
Panagiota Meleti, Archaeologist, 25th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities,

Early Christian Cemetery at Ancient Corinth

On the occasion of issuing the building permit for the property of I. Kriebardis, a rescue excavation was conducted at a distance of about 70 m. to the southeast of the Stika Basilica at Aghia Anna in Ancient Corinth, bringing to light part of an Early Christian cemetery. From the group of 40 cist graves which were revealed, most were plundered and the skeletal remains were agitated. The skeletons in the intact burial trenches were placed with care and some were accompanied by grave offerings, burial vessels in standard, popular shapes, known for their use in the burial ritual.

The results of the research offered important evidence for the funerary customs and practices of the early Christian period.

The existence and connection of the early Christian cemetery with the adjacent monument, as well as the typology of tombs at the transitional point from the Late Roman period to the Early Byzantine period are particularly interesting.



Guy D.R. Sanders, Director of Corinth Excavations, American School of Classical Studies at Athens

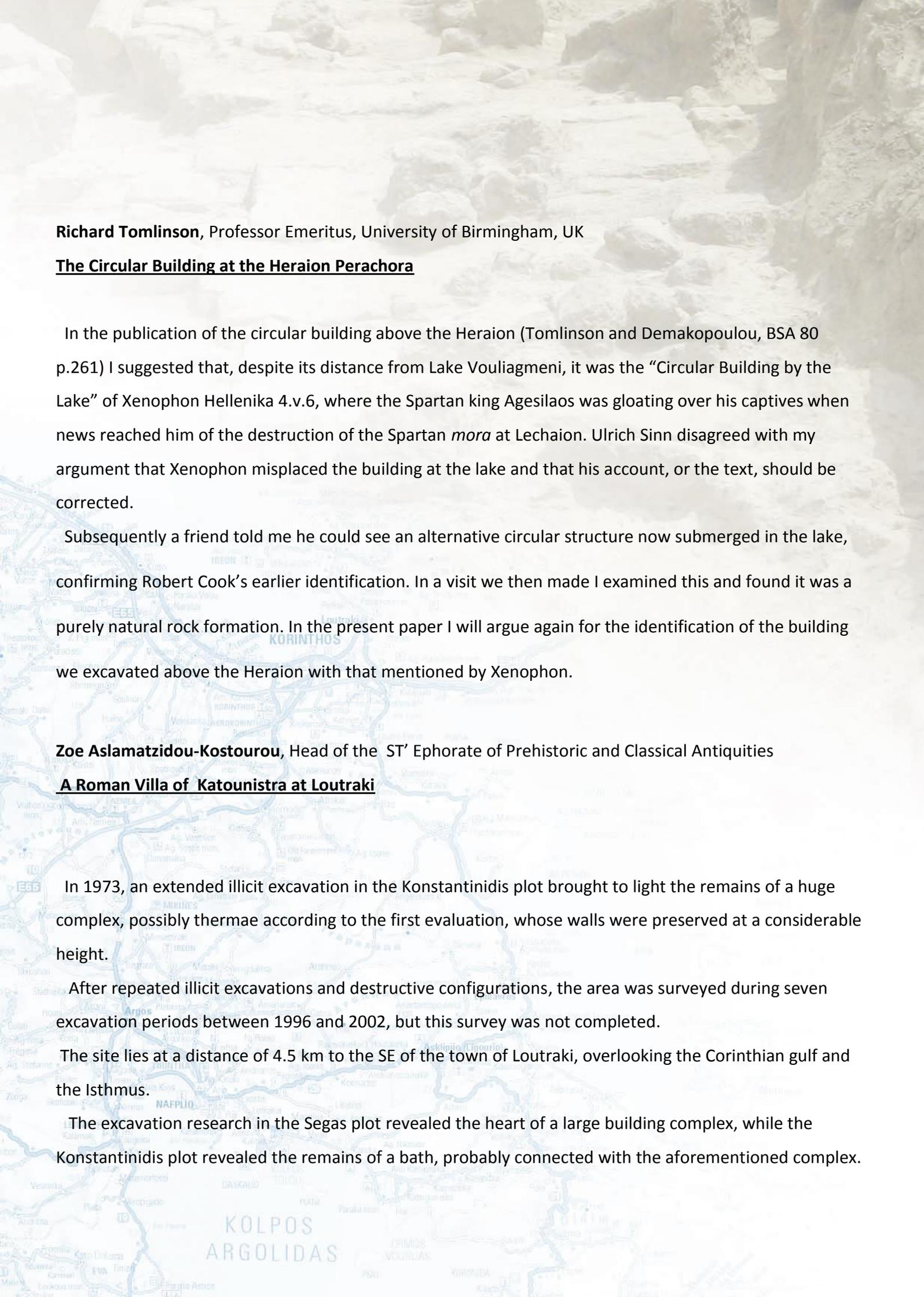
Corinth in Late Antiquity

Despite the long history of scholarship concentrating on Corinth and its territory certain periods, such as Late Antiquity, have been less intensively explored than others. In the past decade, however, interest in the last four centuries of the Roman period has blossomed. At Corinth several scholars have been working on subjects as diverse as ceramics and burials, administration and urbanism. This paper discusses the current state of research.

Eleni Balomenou, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Following the Traces of an Early Helladic Cemetery (?) at Schoinos

In April 2007, two trial trenches were opened in the plot owned by Nikolaos Papakonstantinou at Skoinos of Corinthia, approximately 1000 meters East of the bay and the hill of Aghios Sotiras, outside Declared Archaeological Sites, but within an area supervised by the LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities. In one of these trenches, at a depth of about 0.90 m below the natural ground, was discovered an amphoroid vase with horizontal handles, placed sidelong on the ground. This vase was covered by a phiale which seemed to have been used as a lid. Numerous vases were surrounded by an incineration deposit, while the amphoroid vase contained the ashes of an adult. The incineration dates to the Early Helladic period. Based on this particular find, we will attempt to investigate the possibility of the existence of an Early Helladic cemetery at this site, as well as to analyze the dispersion of human activity in the region of Loutraki of Perachora during the Early Bronze Age.



Richard Tomlinson, Professor Emeritus, University of Birmingham, UK

The Circular Building at the Heraion Perachora

In the publication of the circular building above the Heraion (Tomlinson and Demakopoulou, BSA 80 p.261) I suggested that, despite its distance from Lake Vouliagmeni, it was the “Circular Building by the Lake” of Xenophon Hellenika 4.v.6, where the Spartan king Agesilaos was gloating over his captives when news reached him of the destruction of the Spartan *mora* at Lechaion. Ulrich Sinn disagreed with my argument that Xenophon misplaced the building at the lake and that his account, or the text, should be corrected.

Subsequently a friend told me he could see an alternative circular structure now submerged in the lake, confirming Robert Cook’s earlier identification. In a visit we then made I examined this and found it was a purely natural rock formation. In the present paper I will argue again for the identification of the building we excavated above the Heraion with that mentioned by Xenophon.

Zoe Aslamatzidou-Kostourou, Head of the ST’ Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

A Roman Villa of Katounistra at Loutraki

In 1973, an extended illicit excavation in the Konstantinidis plot brought to light the remains of a huge complex, possibly thermae according to the first evaluation, whose walls were preserved at a considerable height.

After repeated illicit excavations and destructive configurations, the area was surveyed during seven excavation periods between 1996 and 2002, but this survey was not completed.

The site lies at a distance of 4.5 km to the SE of the town of Loutraki, overlooking the Corinthian gulf and the Isthmus.

The excavation research in the Segas plot revealed the heart of a large building complex, while the Konstantinidis plot revealed the remains of a bath, probably connected with the aforementioned complex.

The complex is organized symmetrically on each side of a large rectangular space, with an arch at its north side. Two large halls stand out among the rooms, displaying marble foundations to their north and south side, with 3 m.-high column bases of green marble, two of which have fallen *in situ*.

On the west side, a narrow corridor revealed an entrance, as well as a room with niches at its four corners, connected to another room still preserving a mosaic floor with a geometric decoration and a series of dolphins on the perimetric decorative band.

A furnace was discovered at the south side, where lateral walls create with two more walls longitudinal spaces for the introduction of fuel. The walls preserve the foundation of six clay arcs creating the furnaces' vaulted ceiling.

The building's walls have incorporated material coming from another large building of the time, while during its long use it has undergone many transformations: doors were closed, new walls were built, and graves were opened in its interior.

Part of a bath was investigated at a distance of approximately 17 meters to the east of the central core. Two halls with an arc were revealed on the west side, as well as hypocausts, a floor with clay plaques and remains of marble wall facades.

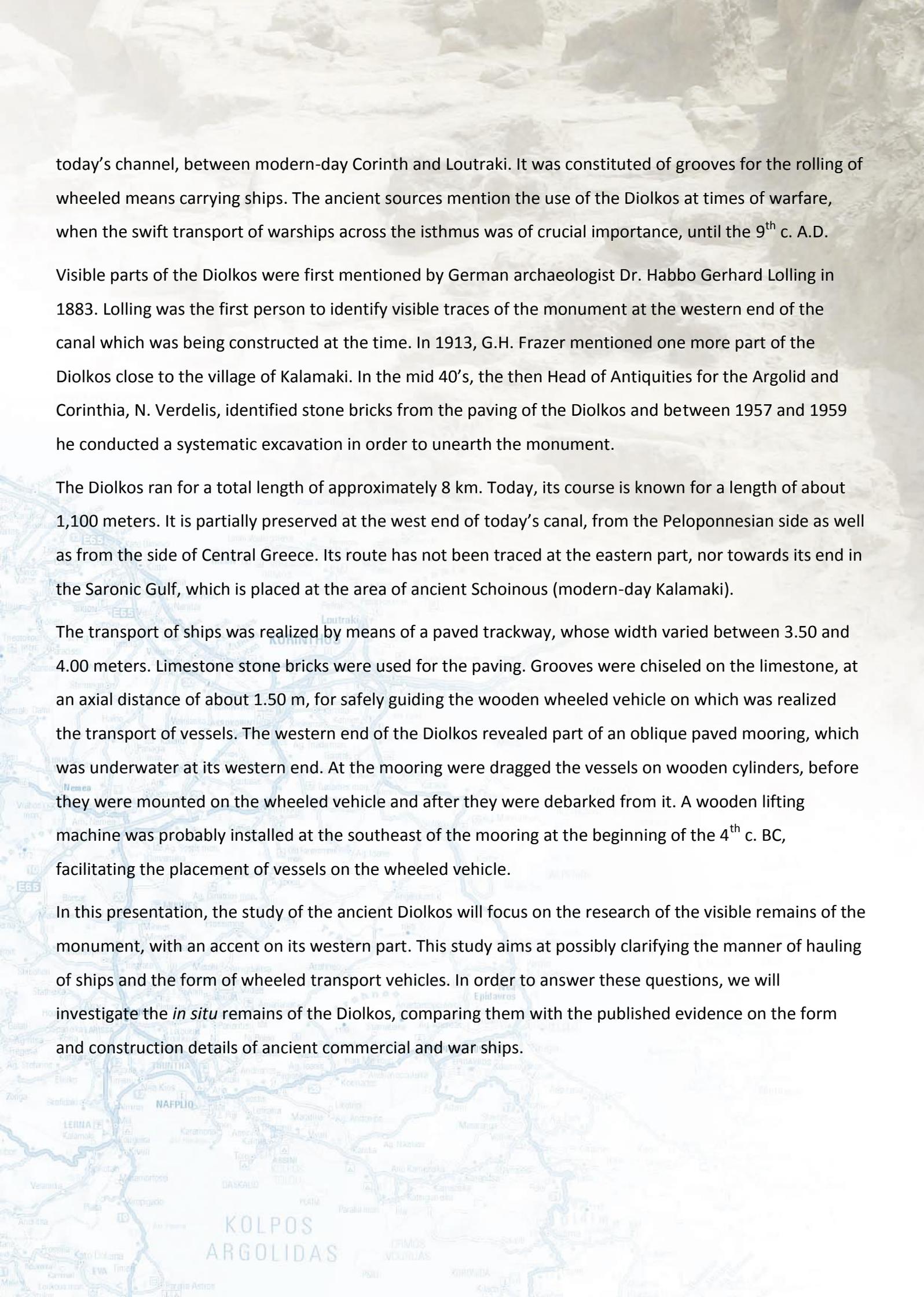
Two sculptures were discovered near the bath: a child and dolphin, copied after a Hellenistic work, which decorated a fountain in the complex, and the upper part of a statuette of a young girl whose face had been destroyed.

The dimensions of the complex, the existence of mosaic floors and of a second floor, the multitude of the marble facades, the marble architectural members and the sculptures found manifest that this was a luxurious villa, whose first construction phase dates at the 2nd century A.D. and its use ranges until the 6th century A.D., as a marble parapet and other movable finds clearly demonstrate.

Despoina Koutsoumba and Yannis Nakas, Archaeologists, Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities

The Diolkos: A Significant Technical Achievement of Antiquity

The time-consuming and dangerous circumnavigation of the coast of the Peloponnese constituted a major problem for ancient navigators. The first systematic effort for the transport of warships and merchandise from the Saronic Gulf towards the Corinthian Gulf and vice-versa is represented by the ancient Diolkos. The Diolkos was a paved trackway constructed in the 6th c. B.C., probably at the time of Periander, according to the inscribed letters revealed on many stones and belonging to the older local alphabet of the early 6th c. B.C. The Diolkos extended from the beach of Schinous until the western end of



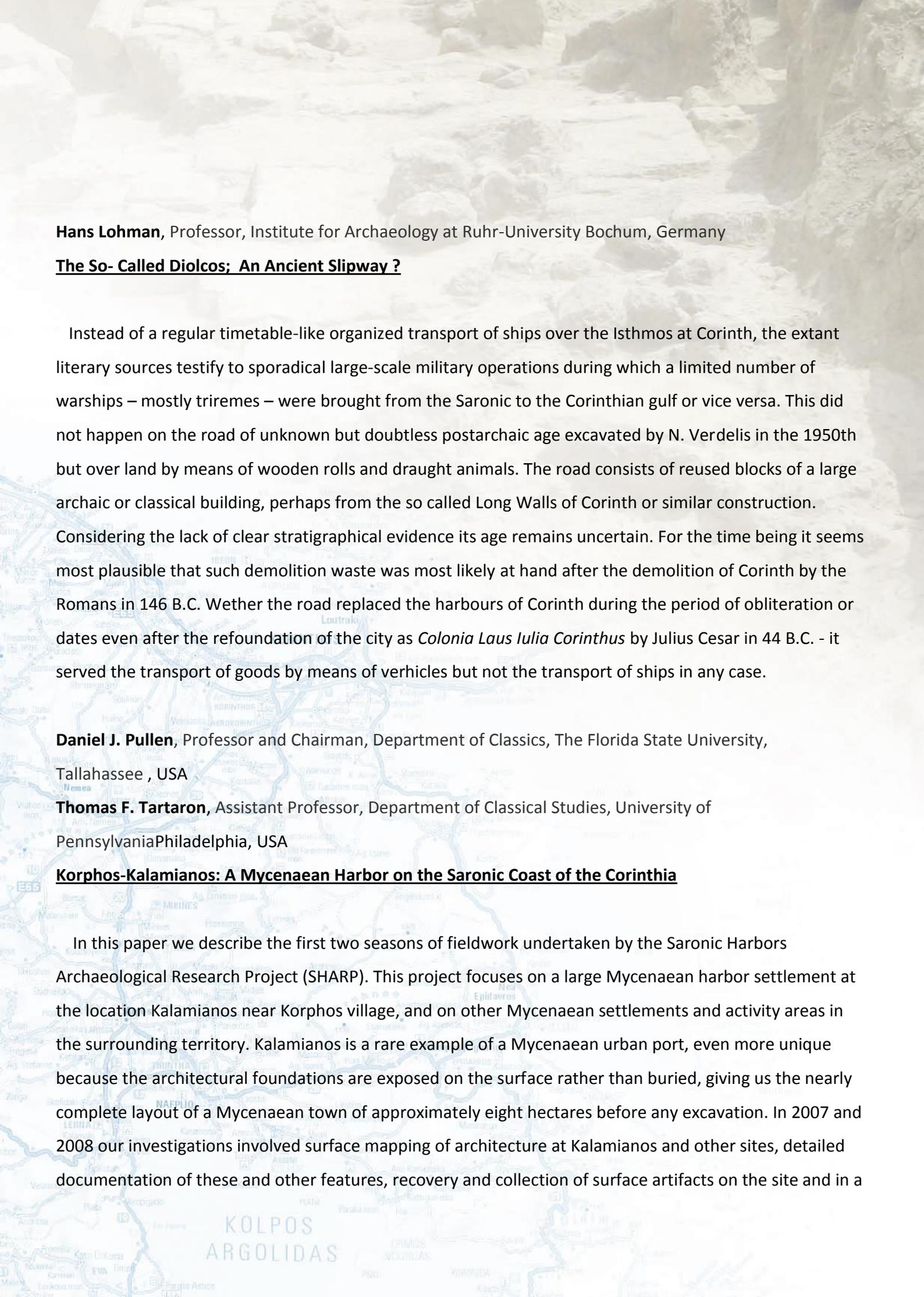
today's channel, between modern-day Corinth and Loutraki. It was constituted of grooves for the rolling of wheeled means carrying ships. The ancient sources mention the use of the Diolkos at times of warfare, when the swift transport of warships across the isthmus was of crucial importance, until the 9th c. A.D.

Visible parts of the Diolkos were first mentioned by German archaeologist Dr. Habbo Gerhard Lolling in 1883. Lolling was the first person to identify visible traces of the monument at the western end of the canal which was being constructed at the time. In 1913, G.H. Frazer mentioned one more part of the Diolkos close to the village of Kalamaki. In the mid 40's, the then Head of Antiquities for the Argolid and Corinthia, N. Verdalis, identified stone bricks from the paving of the Diolkos and between 1957 and 1959 he conducted a systematic excavation in order to unearth the monument.

The Diolkos ran for a total length of approximately 8 km. Today, its course is known for a length of about 1,100 meters. It is partially preserved at the west end of today's canal, from the Peloponnesian side as well as from the side of Central Greece. Its route has not been traced at the eastern part, nor towards its end in the Saronic Gulf, which is placed at the area of ancient Schoinous (modern-day Kalamaki).

The transport of ships was realized by means of a paved trackway, whose width varied between 3.50 and 4.00 meters. Limestone stone bricks were used for the paving. Grooves were chiseled on the limestone, at an axial distance of about 1.50 m, for safely guiding the wooden wheeled vehicle on which was realized the transport of vessels. The western end of the Diolkos revealed part of an oblique paved mooring, which was underwater at its western end. At the mooring were dragged the vessels on wooden cylinders, before they were mounted on the wheeled vehicle and after they were debarked from it. A wooden lifting machine was probably installed at the southeast of the mooring at the beginning of the 4th c. BC, facilitating the placement of vessels on the wheeled vehicle.

In this presentation, the study of the ancient Diolkos will focus on the research of the visible remains of the monument, with an accent on its western part. This study aims at possibly clarifying the manner of hauling of ships and the form of wheeled transport vehicles. In order to answer these questions, we will investigate the *in situ* remains of the Diolkos, comparing them with the published evidence on the form and construction details of ancient commercial and war ships.



Hans Lohman, Professor, Institute for Archaeology at Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany

The So- Called Diolcos; An Ancient Slipway ?

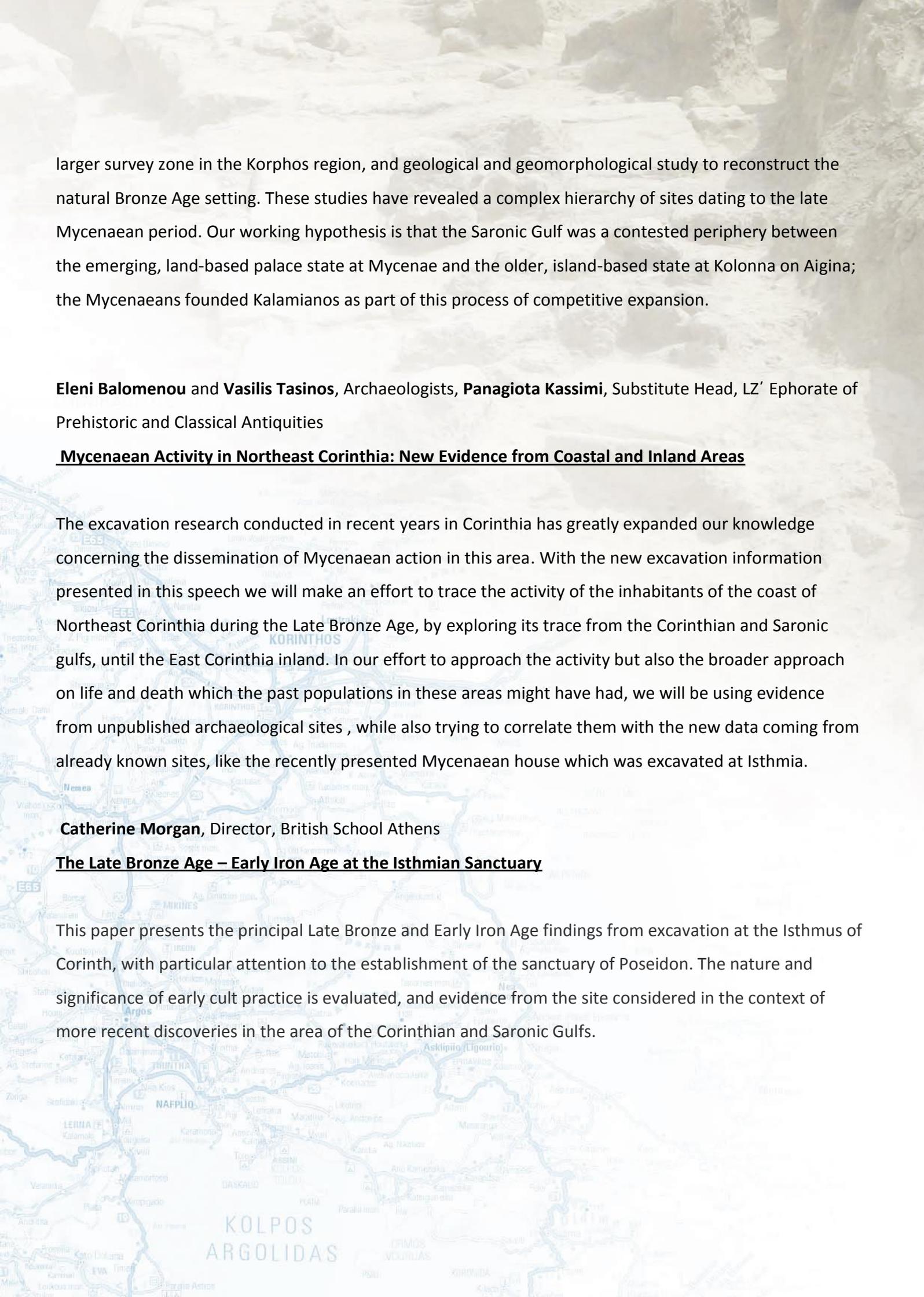
Instead of a regular timetable-like organized transport of ships over the Isthmos at Corinth, the extant literary sources testify to sporadic large-scale military operations during which a limited number of warships – mostly triremes – were brought from the Saronic to the Corinthian gulf or vice versa. This did not happen on the road of unknown but doubtless postarchaic age excavated by N. Verdelis in the 1950th but over land by means of wooden rolls and draught animals. The road consists of reused blocks of a large archaic or classical building, perhaps from the so called Long Walls of Corinth or similar construction. Considering the lack of clear stratigraphical evidence its age remains uncertain. For the time being it seems most plausible that such demolition waste was most likely at hand after the demolition of Corinth by the Romans in 146 B.C. Whether the road replaced the harbours of Corinth during the period of obliteration or dates even after the refoundation of the city as *Colonia Laus Iulia Corinthus* by Julius Cesar in 44 B.C. - it served the transport of goods by means of vehicles but not the transport of ships in any case.

Daniel J. Pullen, Professor and Chairman, Department of Classics, The Florida State University, Tallahassee , USA

Thomas F. Tartaron, Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, USA

Korphos-Kalamianos: A Mycenaean Harbor on the Saronic Coast of the Corinthia

In this paper we describe the first two seasons of fieldwork undertaken by the Saronic Harbors Archaeological Research Project (SHARP). This project focuses on a large Mycenaean harbor settlement at the location Kalamianos near Korphos village, and on other Mycenaean settlements and activity areas in the surrounding territory. Kalamianos is a rare example of a Mycenaean urban port, even more unique because the architectural foundations are exposed on the surface rather than buried, giving us the nearly complete layout of a Mycenaean town of approximately eight hectares before any excavation. In 2007 and 2008 our investigations involved surface mapping of architecture at Kalamianos and other sites, detailed documentation of these and other features, recovery and collection of surface artifacts on the site and in a



larger survey zone in the Korphos region, and geological and geomorphological study to reconstruct the natural Bronze Age setting. These studies have revealed a complex hierarchy of sites dating to the late Mycenaean period. Our working hypothesis is that the Saronic Gulf was a contested periphery between the emerging, land-based palace state at Mycenae and the older, island-based state at Kolonna on Aigina; the Mycenaeans founded Kalamianos as part of this process of competitive expansion.

Eleni Balomenou and **Vasilis Tasinos**, Archaeologists, **Panagiota Kassimi**, Substitute Head, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Mycenaean Activity in Northeast Corinthia: New Evidence from Coastal and Inland Areas

The excavation research conducted in recent years in Corinthia has greatly expanded our knowledge concerning the dissemination of Mycenaean action in this area. With the new excavation information presented in this speech we will make an effort to trace the activity of the inhabitants of the coast of Northeast Corinthia during the Late Bronze Age, by exploring its trace from the Corinthian and Saronic gulfs, until the East Corinthia inland. In our effort to approach the activity but also the broader approach on life and death which the past populations in these areas might have had, we will be using evidence from unpublished archaeological sites, while also trying to correlate them with the new data coming from already known sites, like the recently presented Mycenaean house which was excavated at Isthmia.

Catherine Morgan, Director, British School Athens

The Late Bronze Age – Early Iron Age at the Isthmian Sanctuary

This paper presents the principal Late Bronze and Early Iron Age findings from excavation at the Isthmus of Corinth, with particular attention to the establishment of the sanctuary of Poseidon. The nature and significance of early cult practice is evaluated, and evidence from the site considered in the context of more recent discoveries in the area of the Corinthian and Saronic Gulfs.



Vasilis Tasinos, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Ancient Cromna

Almost half a century has passed since J. Wiseman identified the extensive settlement signs found immediately to the west of the sanctuary of Isthmia, in the area of the ancient quarries of Examilia, with the ancient settlement of Cromna, mentioned by Byzantine scholars.

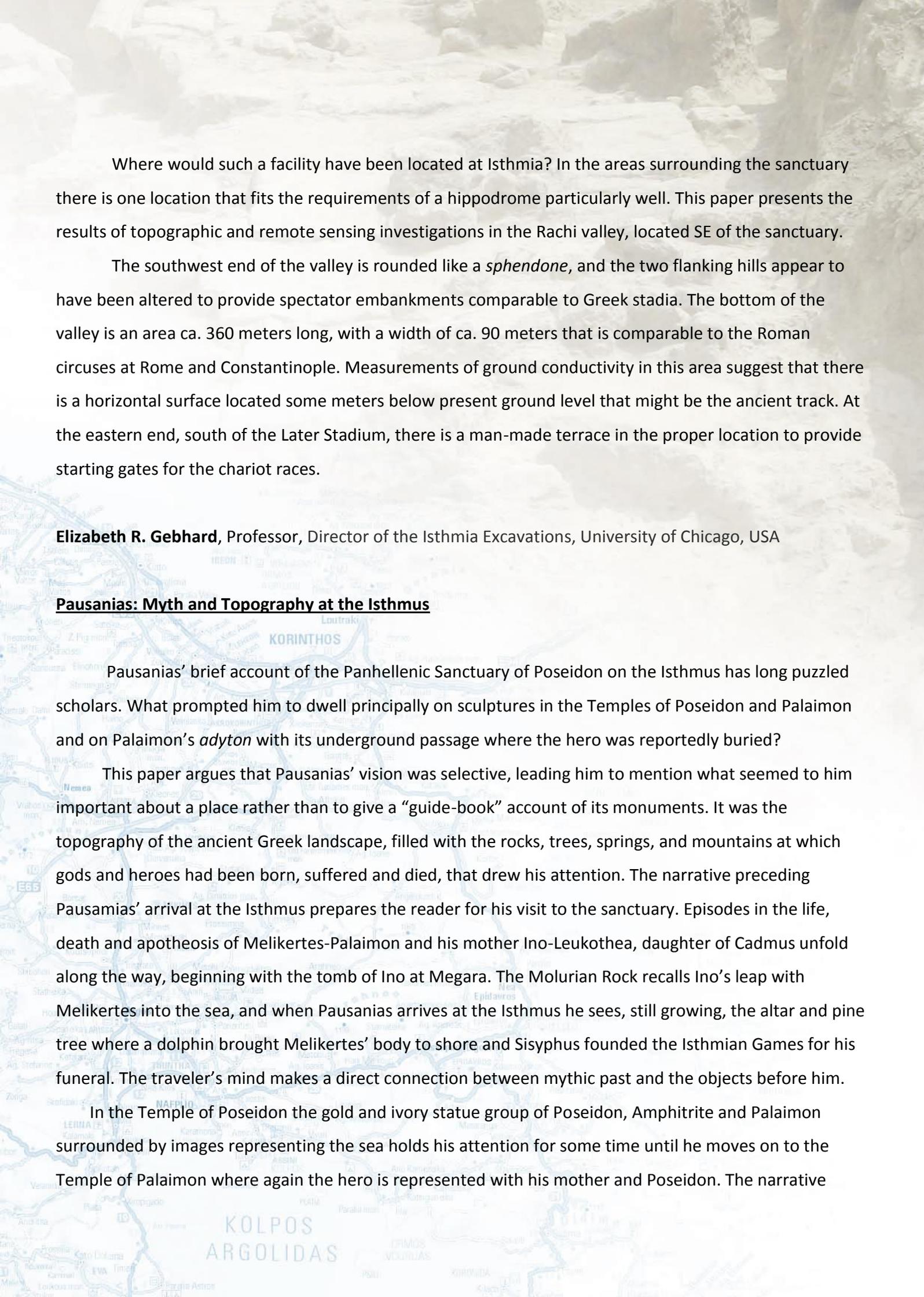
Since then, scientific research, not only of the Eastern Corinthia Archaeological Survey but also of the local Ephorate of Antiquities has added new evidence to our knowledge on the development of this settlement from the Prehistoric to the early Byzantine period. This presentation aims at giving as complete an image as possible of this new evidence which sheds light on matters regarding to when and where was traced the first nucleus of settlement, which has been its development in different periods and which were the economic factors on which this development was based. Moreover, where can be located its traces and what these traces are in each period (sanctuaries, houses, cemeteries, roads, fortifications, etc.), which is the inhabitants' relation with the great neighbouring sanctuary of Poseidon at Isthmia and which its particular importance was in general for the Corinth city-state.

Finally, we will be mentioning the activity of the LZ' E.P.C.A. aiming to protect the antiquities of this settlement from irregular building and industrial development which have been thriving during recent years in the prefecture of Corinthia.

Frederick Hemans, Associate Professor of Art History in the School of Art and Design at Wichita State University, USA

In Search of the Hippodrome at Isthmia

It was particularly appropriate that the program of competitions at Isthmia included equestrian events to honor Poseidon, the god of horses. In the early years of the festival the horseback and chariot races might have been held wherever open ground could be provided near the sanctuary. In time, however, the popularity of the games would have required a substantial area for spectators that would have numbered in the tens of thousands.



Where would such a facility have been located at Isthmia? In the areas surrounding the sanctuary there is one location that fits the requirements of a hippodrome particularly well. This paper presents the results of topographic and remote sensing investigations in the Rachi valley, located SE of the sanctuary.

The southwest end of the valley is rounded like a *sphendone*, and the two flanking hills appear to have been altered to provide spectator embankments comparable to Greek stadia. The bottom of the valley is an area ca. 360 meters long, with a width of ca. 90 meters that is comparable to the Roman circuses at Rome and Constantinople. Measurements of ground conductivity in this area suggest that there is a horizontal surface located some meters below present ground level that might be the ancient track. At the eastern end, south of the Later Stadium, there is a man-made terrace in the proper location to provide starting gates for the chariot races.

Elizabeth R. Gebhard, Professor, Director of the Isthmia Excavations, University of Chicago, USA

Pausanias: Myth and Topography at the Isthmus

Pausanias' brief account of the Panhellenic Sanctuary of Poseidon on the Isthmus has long puzzled scholars. What prompted him to dwell principally on sculptures in the Temples of Poseidon and Palaimon and on Palaimon's *adyton* with its underground passage where the hero was reportedly buried?

This paper argues that Pausanias' vision was selective, leading him to mention what seemed to him important about a place rather than to give a "guide-book" account of its monuments. It was the topography of the ancient Greek landscape, filled with the rocks, trees, springs, and mountains at which gods and heroes had been born, suffered and died, that drew his attention. The narrative preceding Pausanias' arrival at the Isthmus prepares the reader for his visit to the sanctuary. Episodes in the life, death and apotheosis of Melikertes-Palaimon and his mother Ino-Leukothea, daughter of Cadmus unfold along the way, beginning with the tomb of Ino at Megara. The Molurian Rock recalls Ino's leap with Melikertes into the sea, and when Pausanias arrives at the Isthmus he sees, still growing, the altar and pine tree where a dolphin brought Melikertes' body to shore and Sisyphus founded the Isthmian Games for his funeral. The traveler's mind makes a direct connection between mythic past and the objects before him.

In the Temple of Poseidon the gold and ivory statue group of Poseidon, Amphitrite and Palaimon surrounded by images representing the sea holds his attention for some time until he moves on to the Temple of Palaimon where again the hero is represented with his mother and Poseidon. The narrative

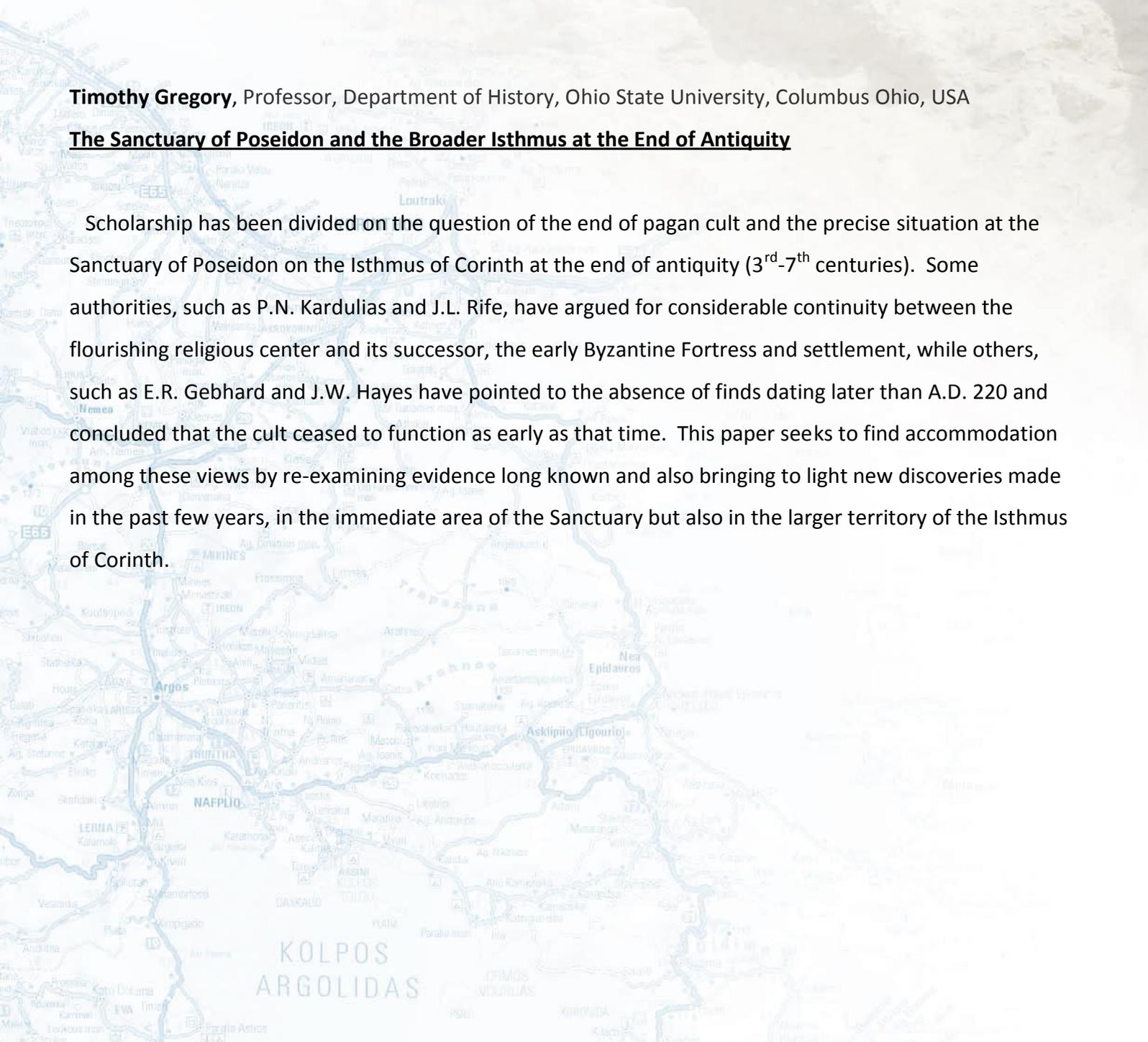
reaches its climax with Palaimon's *adyton*, which is reportedly his tomb and is approached by an underground passage. Pausanias apparently knew of mysteries celebrated there but mentions them only with reference to the unbreakable oaths that were taken by Corinthians and foreigners alike.

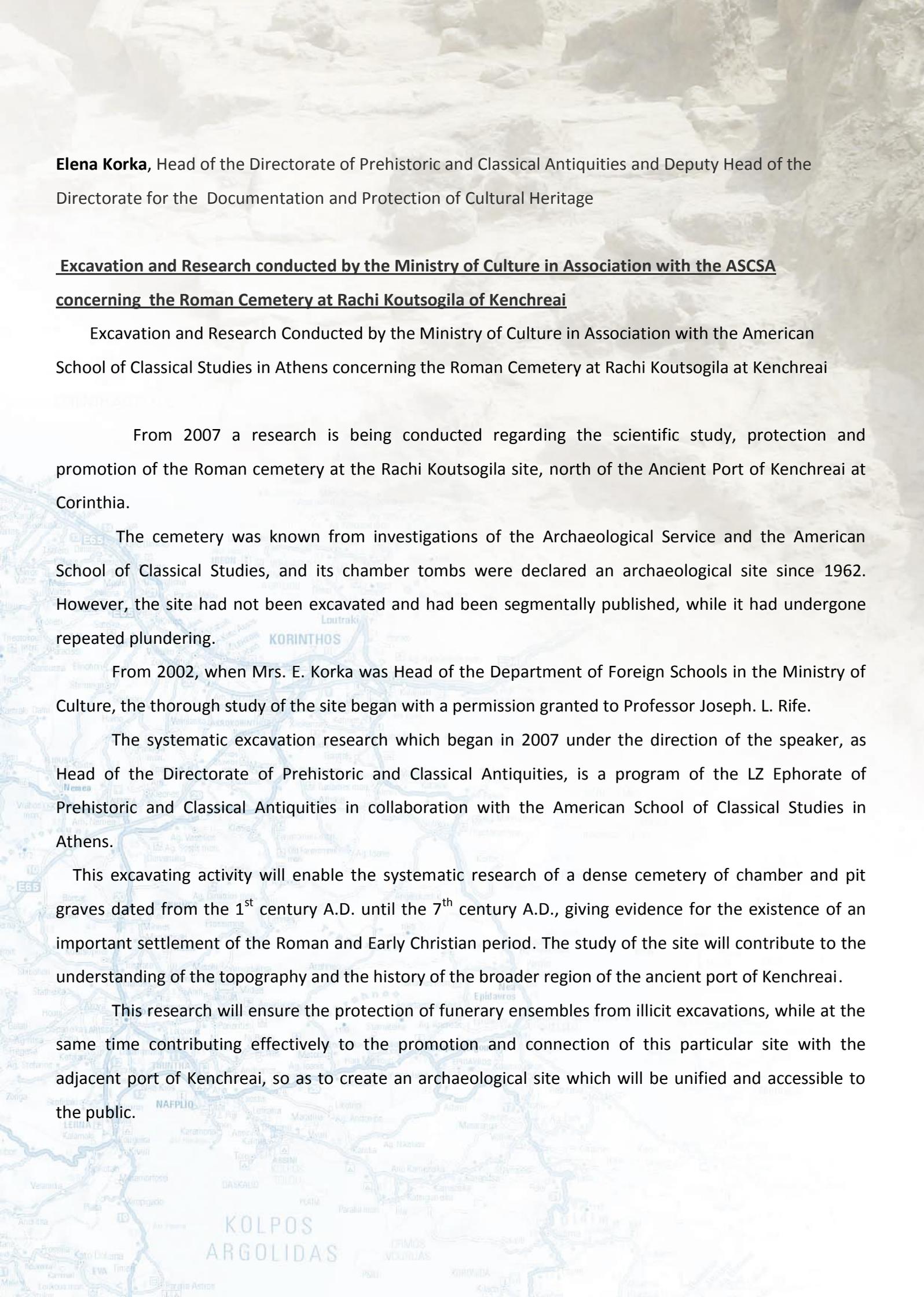
Recent studies of Isthmian monuments suggest that Pausanias visited the sanctuary before its final renovation in the second half of the second century. He would have seen the Temple of Poseidon tightly enclosed by a high temenos wall of the Flavian period, and the Temple of Palaimon from the time of Hadrian. The *adyton* with its underground passage lay in a separate precinct to the southwest. In keeping with his usual silence on matters relating to mystery cult Pausanias makes no mention of the nocturnal rites that archaeology tells us included offerings of lamps and a holocaustic sacrifice of a bull.

Timothy Gregory, Professor, Department of History, Ohio State University, Columbus Ohio, USA

The Sanctuary of Poseidon and the Broader Isthmus at the End of Antiquity

Scholarship has been divided on the question of the end of pagan cult and the precise situation at the Sanctuary of Poseidon on the Isthmus of Corinth at the end of antiquity (3rd-7th centuries). Some authorities, such as P.N. Kardulias and J.L. Rife, have argued for considerable continuity between the flourishing religious center and its successor, the early Byzantine Fortress and settlement, while others, such as E.R. Gebhard and J.W. Hayes have pointed to the absence of finds dating later than A.D. 220 and concluded that the cult ceased to function as early as that time. This paper seeks to find accommodation among these views by re-examining evidence long known and also bringing to light new discoveries made in the past few years, in the immediate area of the Sanctuary but also in the larger territory of the Isthmus of Corinth.





Elena Korka, Head of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities and Deputy Head of the Directorate for the Documentation and Protection of Cultural Heritage

Excavation and Research conducted by the Ministry of Culture in Association with the ASCSA concerning the Roman Cemetery at Rachi Koutsogila of Kenchreai

Excavation and Research Conducted by the Ministry of Culture in Association with the American School of Classical Studies in Athens concerning the Roman Cemetery at Rachi Koutsogila at Kenchreai

From 2007 a research is being conducted regarding the scientific study, protection and promotion of the Roman cemetery at the Rachi Koutsogila site, north of the Ancient Port of Kenchreai at Corinthia.

The cemetery was known from investigations of the Archaeological Service and the American School of Classical Studies, and its chamber tombs were declared an archaeological site since 1962. However, the site had not been excavated and had been segmentally published, while it had undergone repeated plundering.

From 2002, when Mrs. E. Korka was Head of the Department of Foreign Schools in the Ministry of Culture, the thorough study of the site began with a permission granted to Professor Joseph. L. Rife.

The systematic excavation research which began in 2007 under the direction of the speaker, as Head of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, is a program of the LZ Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in collaboration with the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

This excavating activity will enable the systematic research of a dense cemetery of chamber and pit graves dated from the 1st century A.D. until the 7th century A.D., giving evidence for the existence of an important settlement of the Roman and Early Christian period. The study of the site will contribute to the understanding of the topography and the history of the broader region of the ancient port of Kenchreai.

This research will ensure the protection of funerary ensembles from illicit excavations, while at the same time contributing effectively to the promotion and connection of this particular site with the adjacent port of Kenchreai, so as to create an archaeological site which will be unified and accessible to the public.

This presentation will develop the history of the organization of scientific research in the Rachi Koutsogila site, as well as the benefits from the multifaceted collaboration, aiming at the study, protection and promotion of an interesting archaeological site of Corinthia.

Joseph L. Rife, Associate Professor of Classics and Anthropology, Vanderbilt University, USA

Kenchreai during the Roman Era

Textual and archaeological evidence reveals that Kenchreai, the eastern port of Corinth, was one of most important ports in southern Greece during the Roman Empire. Several ancient authors refer to the religious and cultural diversity of the community. Excavations by American and Greek archaeologists both around the harbor and to the north, on the Koutsongila Ridge, have revealed that the settlement was prosperous and busy. This paper will summarize the historical and topographical development of Kenchreai during the Roman Empire (1st-7th centuries A.D.), with special attention to the beginning of the Roman port during the reign of Augustus, local religious cult, burial practices, private and public art, and the end of the ancient port in the Early Byzantine period.

Dimitris Chatziangelou, Archaeologist, Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

The Cave of Klenia

The cave of Klenia or Pan's Cave has been a hub at the boundary between the Argolid and Corinthia for more than five thousand years. With its large numbers of pottery, exceeding ten thousand sherds and ranging from the Late Neolithic period to the Late Turkish Occupation, this cave has been a place of dwelling, worship, a refuge, a stable, as well as a point of strategic importance, overlooking the mountain crossings and the movement to and from the center of the Peloponnese. It oversees a great part of the neighboring mountains, as well as the network of valleys and plateaus and this is why it has been at the center of the diachronic interest to control the area.

Placed at the edge of Tenea and very close to Corinth and Mycenae, it holds a very important position to be studied by archaeologists and historians, given that the current research shows that the cave never ceased having a multi-dimensional function throughout its long history.

The cave's dimensions, its successive halls and its spacious entrance have made it functional as a habitation but also as a place of worship. The interventions made in its interior, with cutoffs, sawings and

smoothings on its stalagmite and stalactite formations bear witness to this multi-dimensional use through the ages.

The immediate contiguity of the central entrance with one of the most frequented mountainous road axes in the Peloponnese, that of Corinth – Kleonai – Mycenae – Argos, makes the cave's location a known reference point to the passageways enabling the communication and exchange of products between the Peloponnesian inland, Central Greece and the Aegean, at a time when the traffic of obsidian constituted the cause for broader trading in the Helladic world.

The majority of the ancient pottery found in the cave displays influences not only by the local Late Neolithic pottery, but also by the pottery of Macedonia and Thessaly; this detail makes of this cave a Peloponnesian site of major importance. This research, as well as its continuation in the immediate future aims at promoting the true dimensions of the cave of Klenia and at answering many questions regarding the archaeology and topography of the region.

Elena Korka, Head of the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities and Deputy Head of the Directorate for the Documentation and Protection of Cultural Heritage

A Painted Sarcophagus from Faneromeni Chiliomodiou in the Corinthia

The subject of this presentation is the grave discovered by the speaker in July of 1984, during works for the opening of an irrigation channel at the Faneromeni site at Chiliomodi in Corinthia. The grave, belonging to the sarcophagus type, has been transferred into the Museum of Ancient Corinth, where it is being kept.

The sarcophagus is rectangular and made of limestone; it was placed into the ground in a North-South orientation and was covered with a slab traced at a depth of -0.50m from the surface of the country road.

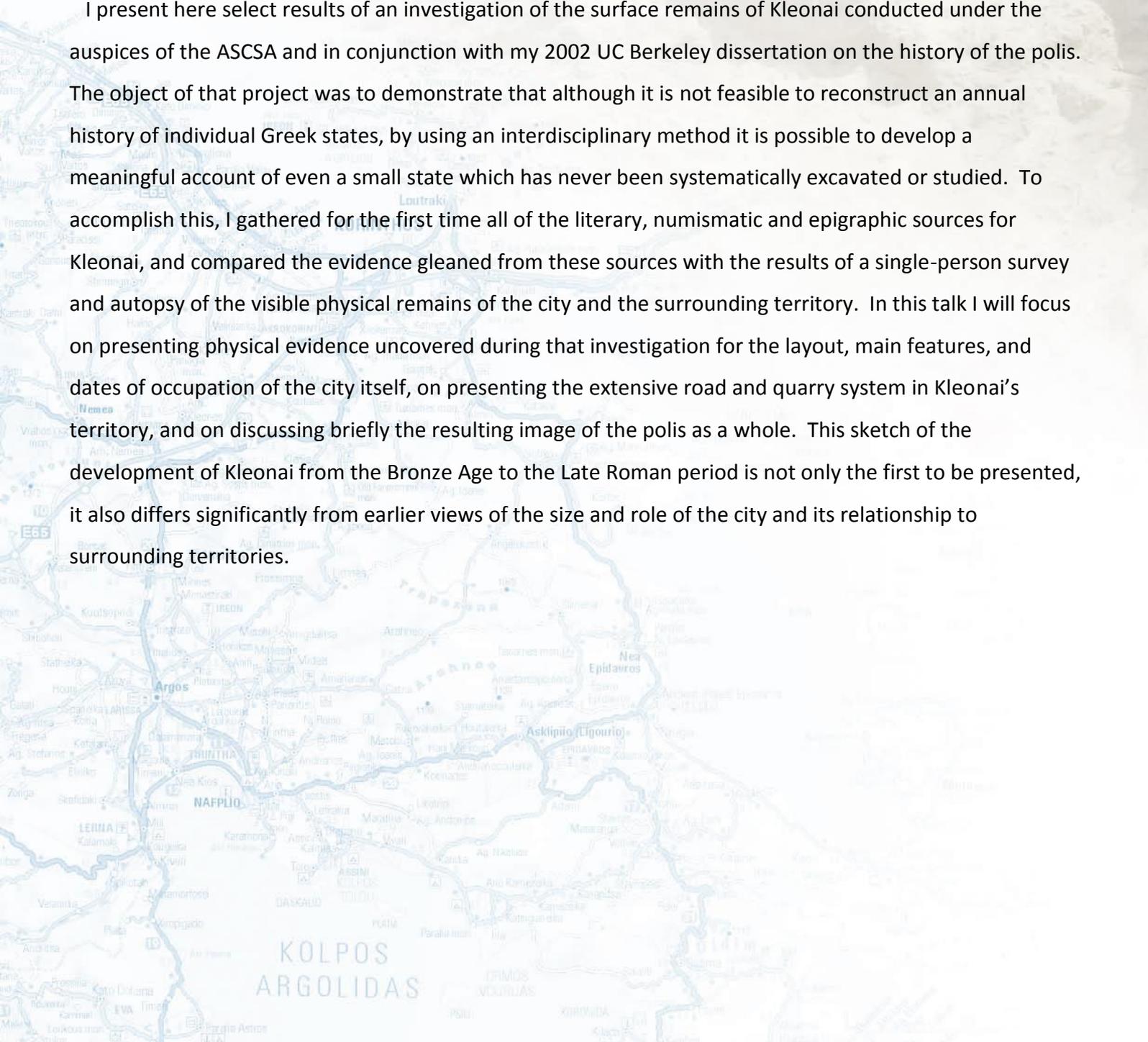
The interior of the sarcophagus, which was found almost intact, has a painted coating of the fresco technique. Inside the sarcophagus was placed the body of a young woman, whose lying skeleton had the right arm bent and the skull tilted to the west and demonstrated a very good state of preservation. The deceased was accompanied by clay vessels and bronze and wooden objects. The painted decoration in red and blue is of particular interest. The silence of the grave preserved in an exceptionally good state the composition of two heraldic lions turning their heads backwards, while the front left leg of one lion unites

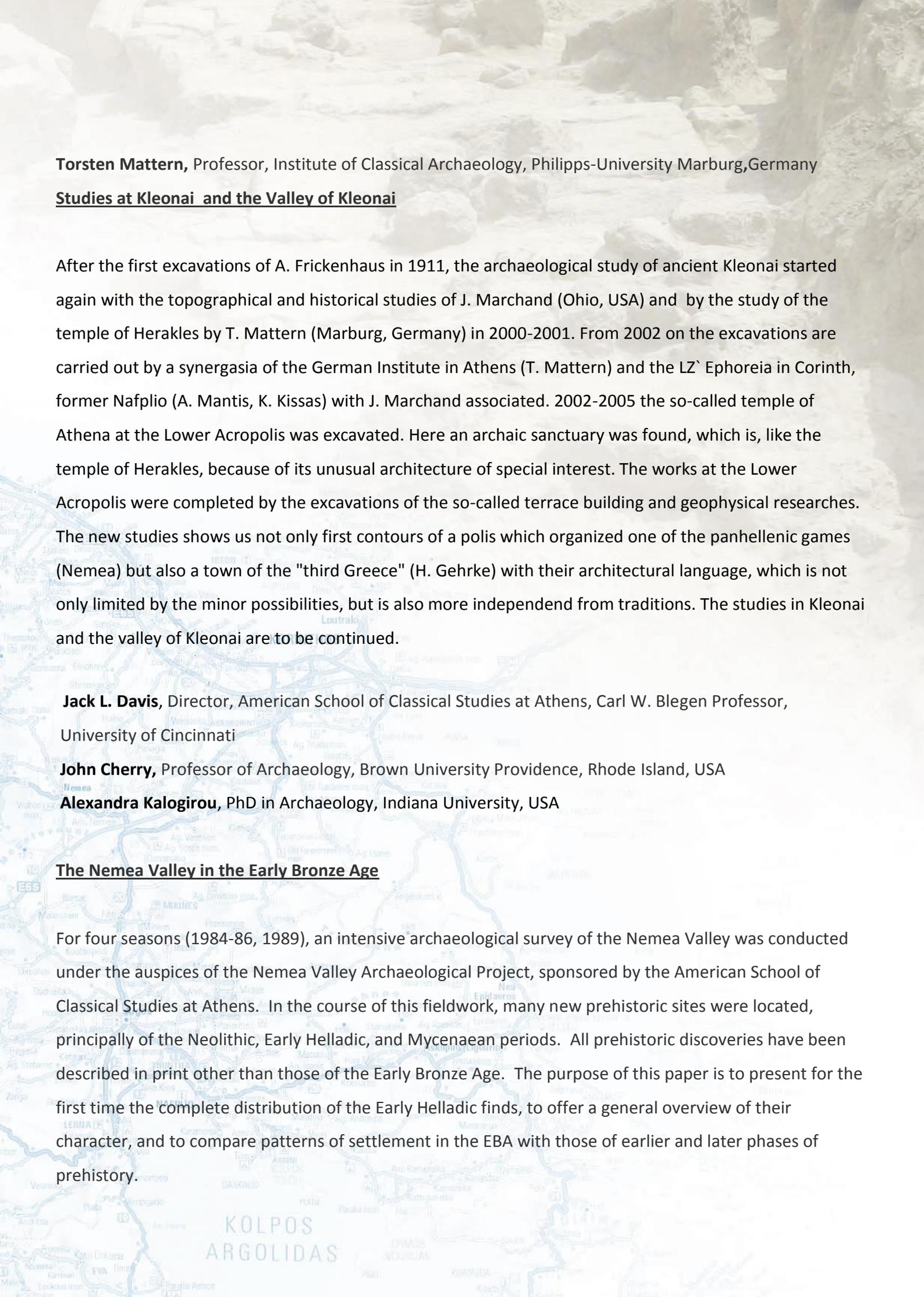
with the right leg of the other, on top of an anthemion. This presentation constitutes the first publication (archaeological and photographic documentation, dating, etc.) of the sarcophagus from Faneromeni at Chiliomodi, a rare find, which can trace elements on fields lacking sufficient documentation, such as Great Painting in Corinthia.

Jeannette Marchand, Assistant Professor, Wright State, Dayton, Ohio, USA

Investigations in the Territory of Kleonai in the Northeastern Peloponnesus

I present here select results of an investigation of the surface remains of Kleonai conducted under the auspices of the ASCSA and in conjunction with my 2002 UC Berkeley dissertation on the history of the polis. The object of that project was to demonstrate that although it is not feasible to reconstruct an annual history of individual Greek states, by using an interdisciplinary method it is possible to develop a meaningful account of even a small state which has never been systematically excavated or studied. To accomplish this, I gathered for the first time all of the literary, numismatic and epigraphic sources for Kleonai, and compared the evidence gleaned from these sources with the results of a single-person survey and autopsy of the visible physical remains of the city and the surrounding territory. In this talk I will focus on presenting physical evidence uncovered during that investigation for the layout, main features, and dates of occupation of the city itself, on presenting the extensive road and quarry system in Kleonai's territory, and on discussing briefly the resulting image of the polis as a whole. This sketch of the development of Kleonai from the Bronze Age to the Late Roman period is not only the first to be presented, it also differs significantly from earlier views of the size and role of the city and its relationship to surrounding territories.





Torsten Mattern, Professor, Institute of Classical Archaeology, Philipps-University Marburg, Germany

Studies at Kleonai and the Valley of Kleonai

After the first excavations of A. Frickenhaus in 1911, the archaeological study of ancient Kleonai started again with the topographical and historical studies of J. Marchand (Ohio, USA) and by the study of the temple of Herakles by T. Mattern (Marburg, Germany) in 2000-2001. From 2002 on the excavations are carried out by a synergasia of the German Institute in Athens (T. Mattern) and the LZ` Ephoreia in Corinth, former Nafplio (A. Mantis, K. Kissas) with J. Marchand associated. 2002-2005 the so-called temple of Athena at the Lower Acropolis was excavated. Here an archaic sanctuary was found, which is, like the temple of Herakles, because of its unusual architecture of special interest. The works at the Lower Acropolis were completed by the excavations of the so-called terrace building and geophysical researches. The new studies shows us not only first contours of a polis which organized one of the panhellenic games (Nemea) but also a town of the "third Greece" (H. Gehrke) with their architectural language, which is not only limited by the minor possibilities, but is also more independent from traditions. The studies in Kleonai and the valley of Kleonai are to be continued.

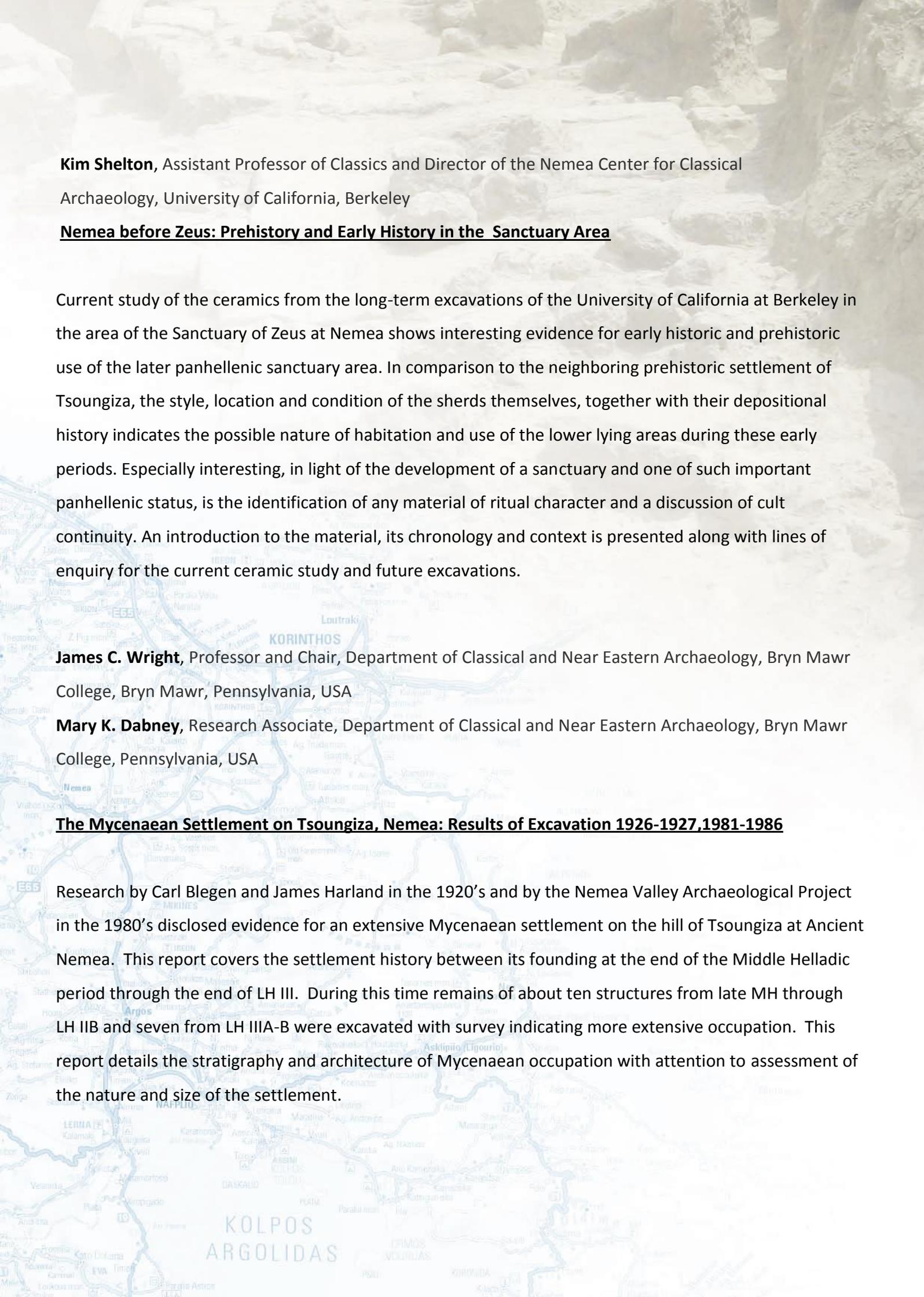
Jack L. Davis, Director, American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Carl W. Blegen Professor, University of Cincinnati

John Cherry, Professor of Archaeology, Brown University Providence, Rhode Island, USA

Alexandra Kalogirou, PhD in Archaeology, Indiana University, USA

The Nemea Valley in the Early Bronze Age

For four seasons (1984-86, 1989), an intensive archaeological survey of the Nemea Valley was conducted under the auspices of the Nemea Valley Archaeological Project, sponsored by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. In the course of this fieldwork, many new prehistoric sites were located, principally of the Neolithic, Early Helladic, and Mycenaean periods. All prehistoric discoveries have been described in print other than those of the Early Bronze Age. The purpose of this paper is to present for the first time the complete distribution of the Early Helladic finds, to offer a general overview of their character, and to compare patterns of settlement in the EBA with those of earlier and later phases of prehistory.



Kim Shelton, Assistant Professor of Classics and Director of the Nemea Center for Classical Archaeology, University of California, Berkeley

Nemea before Zeus: Prehistory and Early History in the Sanctuary Area

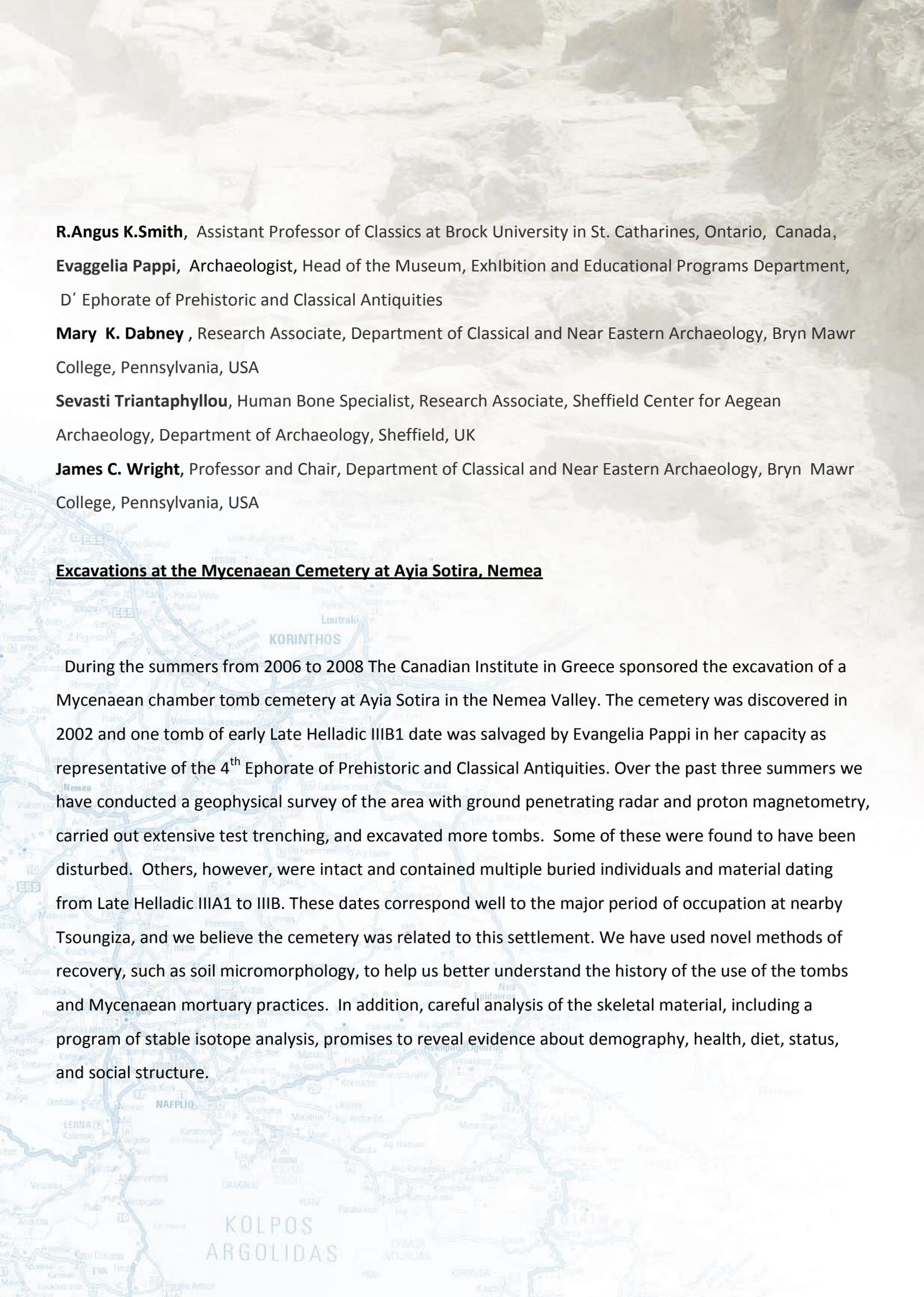
Current study of the ceramics from the long-term excavations of the University of California at Berkeley in the area of the Sanctuary of Zeus at Nemea shows interesting evidence for early historic and prehistoric use of the later panhellenic sanctuary area. In comparison to the neighboring prehistoric settlement of Tsoungiza, the style, location and condition of the sherds themselves, together with their depositional history indicates the possible nature of habitation and use of the lower lying areas during these early periods. Especially interesting, in light of the development of a sanctuary and one of such important panhellenic status, is the identification of any material of ritual character and a discussion of cult continuity. An introduction to the material, its chronology and context is presented along with lines of enquiry for the current ceramic study and future excavations.

James C. Wright, Professor and Chair, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, USA

Mary K. Dabney, Research Associate, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, USA

The Mycenaean Settlement on Tsoungiza, Nemea: Results of Excavation 1926-1927, 1981-1986

Research by Carl Blegen and James Harland in the 1920's and by the Nemea Valley Archaeological Project in the 1980's disclosed evidence for an extensive Mycenaean settlement on the hill of Tsoungiza at Ancient Nemea. This report covers the settlement history between its founding at the end of the Middle Helladic period through the end of LH III. During this time remains of about ten structures from late MH through LH IIB and seven from LH IIIA-B were excavated with survey indicating more extensive occupation. This report details the stratigraphy and architecture of Mycenaean occupation with attention to assessment of the nature and size of the settlement.



R.Angus K.Smith, Assistant Professor of Classics at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada,
Evaggelia Pappi, Archaeologist, Head of the Museum, Exhibition and Educational Programs Department,
D' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

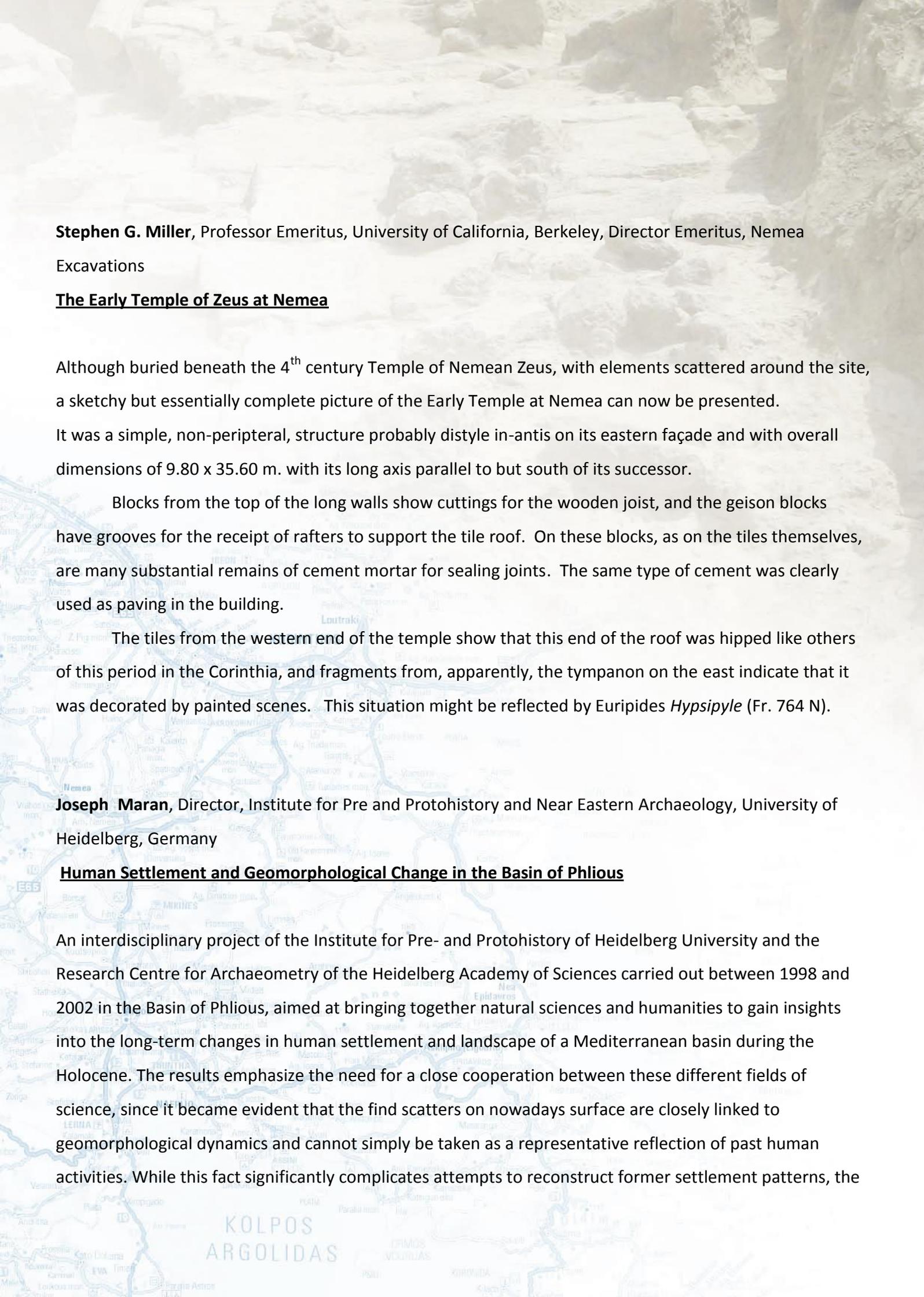
Mary K. Dabney, Research Associate, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, USA

Sevasti Triantaphyllou, Human Bone Specialist, Research Associate, Sheffield Center for Aegean Archaeology, Department of Archaeology, Sheffield, UK

James C. Wright, Professor and Chair, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, USA

Excavations at the Mycenaean Cemetery at Ayia Sotira, Nemea

During the summers from 2006 to 2008 The Canadian Institute in Greece sponsored the excavation of a Mycenaean chamber tomb cemetery at Ayia Sotira in the Nemea Valley. The cemetery was discovered in 2002 and one tomb of early Late Helladic IIIB1 date was salvaged by Evangelia Pappi in her capacity as representative of the 4th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities. Over the past three summers we have conducted a geophysical survey of the area with ground penetrating radar and proton magnetometry, carried out extensive test trenching, and excavated more tombs. Some of these were found to have been disturbed. Others, however, were intact and contained multiple buried individuals and material dating from Late Helladic IIIA1 to IIIB. These dates correspond well to the major period of occupation at nearby Tsoungiza, and we believe the cemetery was related to this settlement. We have used novel methods of recovery, such as soil micromorphology, to help us better understand the history of the use of the tombs and Mycenaean mortuary practices. In addition, careful analysis of the skeletal material, including a program of stable isotope analysis, promises to reveal evidence about demography, health, diet, status, and social structure.



Stephen G. Miller, Professor Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley, Director Emeritus, Nemea Excavations

The Early Temple of Zeus at Nemea

Although buried beneath the 4th century Temple of Nemean Zeus, with elements scattered around the site, a sketchy but essentially complete picture of the Early Temple at Nemea can now be presented.

It was a simple, non-peripteral, structure probably distyle in-antis on its eastern façade and with overall dimensions of 9.80 x 35.60 m. with its long axis parallel to but south of its successor.

Blocks from the top of the long walls show cuttings for the wooden joist, and the geison blocks have grooves for the receipt of rafters to support the tile roof. On these blocks, as on the tiles themselves, are many substantial remains of cement mortar for sealing joints. The same type of cement was clearly used as paving in the building.

The tiles from the western end of the temple show that this end of the roof was hipped like others of this period in the Corinthia, and fragments from, apparently, the tympanon on the east indicate that it was decorated by painted scenes. This situation might be reflected by Euripides *Hypsipyle* (Fr. 764 N).

Joseph Maran, Director, Institute for Pre and Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Human Settlement and Geomorphological Change in the Basin of Phlious

An interdisciplinary project of the Institute for Pre- and Protohistory of Heidelberg University and the Research Centre for Archaeometry of the Heidelberg Academy of Sciences carried out between 1998 and 2002 in the Basin of Phlious, aimed at bringing together natural sciences and humanities to gain insights into the long-term changes in human settlement and landscape of a Mediterranean basin during the Holocene. The results emphasize the need for a close cooperation between these different fields of science, since it became evident that the find scatters on nowadays surface are closely linked to geomorphological dynamics and cannot simply be taken as a representative reflection of past human activities. While this fact significantly complicates attempts to reconstruct former settlement patterns, the

intensive archaeological survey focusing on the western and central part of the Basin of Phlious nevertheless provided important clues for the settlement history of the region, like the discovery of the acropolis linked to the Mycenaean chamber tombs of Aidonia or of an unknown Archaic sanctuary.. In addition, the extensive application of new methods of sediment dating opened up the opportunity of quantitatively assessing the human impact on nature. Already during the Neolithic an anthropogenic influence on the environment can be detected, something which was not expected based on the archaeological evidence.

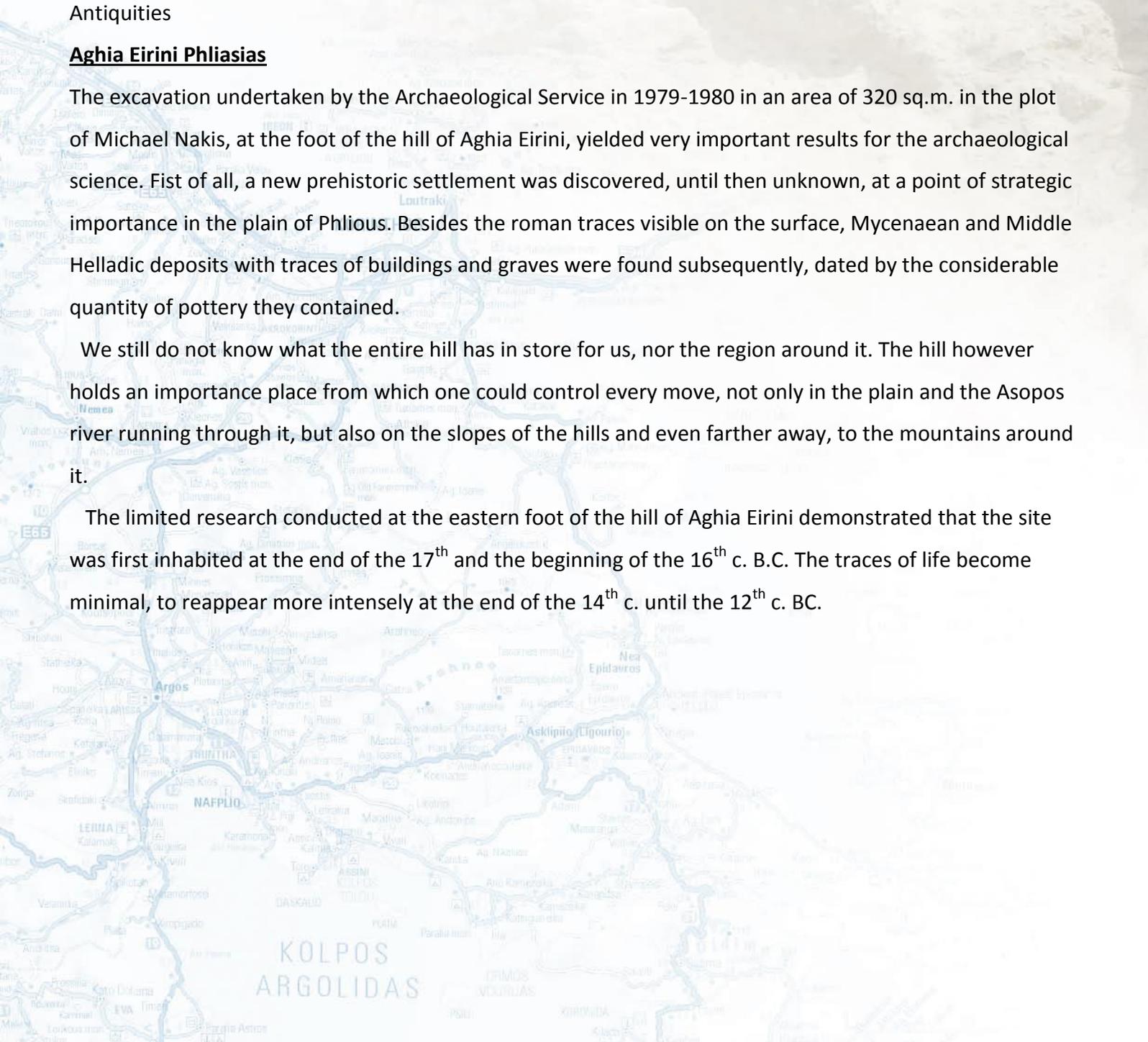
Konstantina Kaza-Papageorgiou, Substitute Head of the KST' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

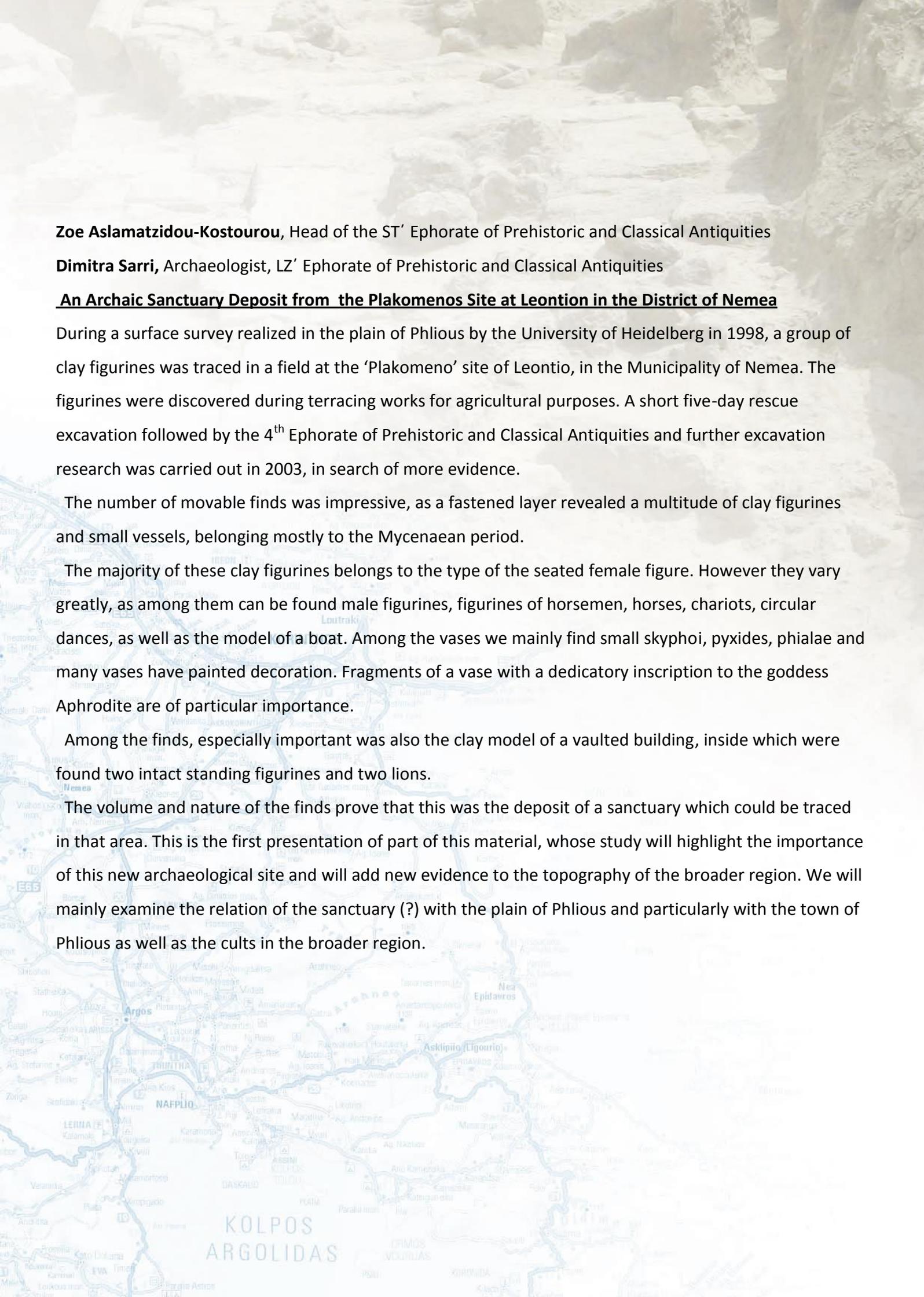
Aghia Eirini Phliasias

The excavation undertaken by the Archaeological Service in 1979-1980 in an area of 320 sq.m. in the plot of Michael Nakis, at the foot of the hill of Aghia Eirini, yielded very important results for the archaeological science. First of all, a new prehistoric settlement was discovered, until then unknown, at a point of strategic importance in the plain of Phlious. Besides the Roman traces visible on the surface, Mycenaean and Middle Helladic deposits with traces of buildings and graves were found subsequently, dated by the considerable quantity of pottery they contained.

We still do not know what the entire hill has in store for us, nor the region around it. The hill however holds an importance place from which one could control every move, not only in the plain and the Asopos river running through it, but also on the slopes of the hills and even farther away, to the mountains around it.

The limited research conducted at the eastern foot of the hill of Aghia Eirini demonstrated that the site was first inhabited at the end of the 17th and the beginning of the 16th c. B.C. The traces of life become minimal, to reappear more intensely at the end of the 14th c. until the 12th c. BC.





Zoe Aslamatzidou-Kostourou, Head of the ST' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Dimitra Sarri, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

An Archaic Sanctuary Deposit from the Plakomenos Site at Leontion in the District of Nemea

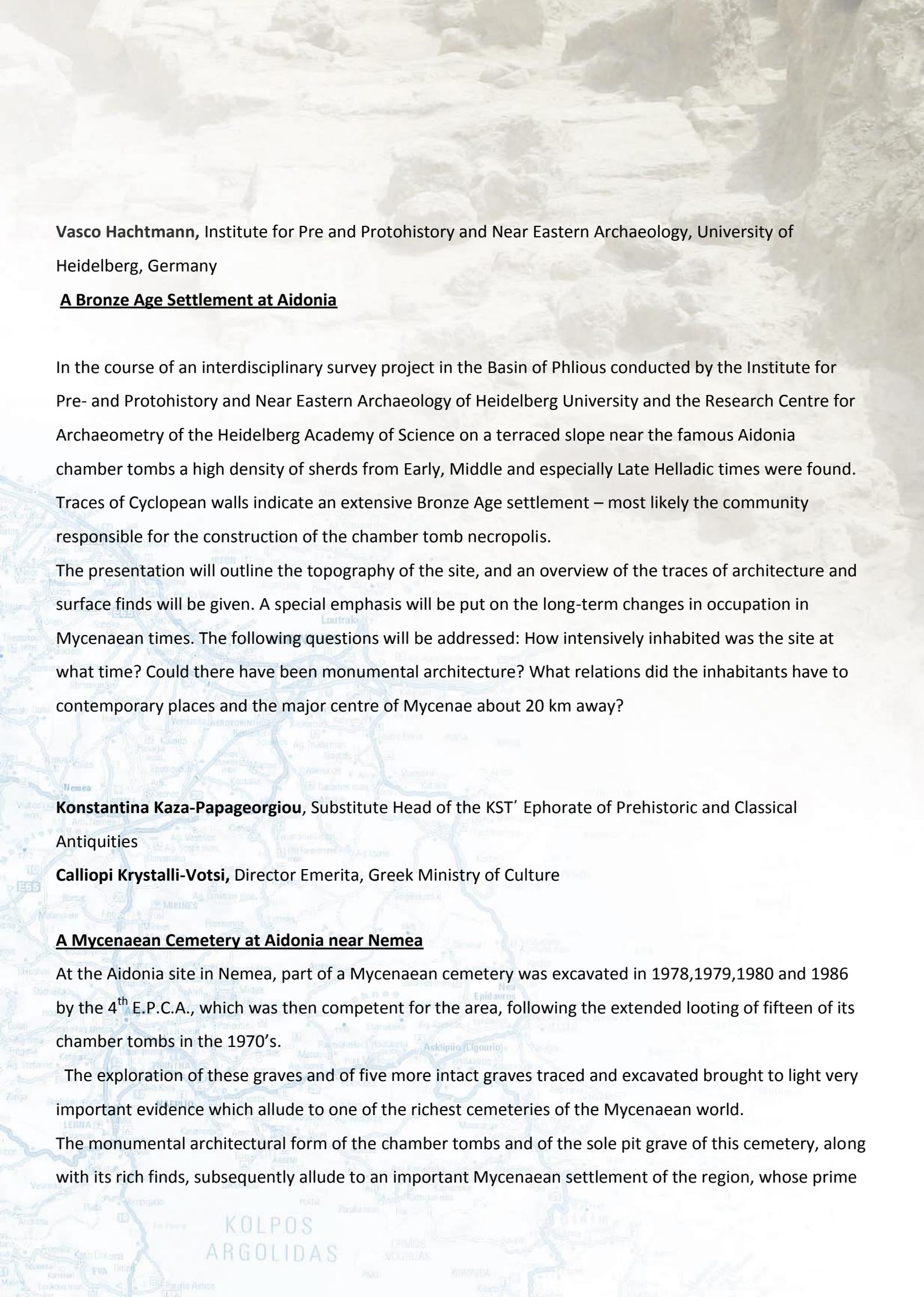
During a surface survey realized in the plain of Phlious by the University of Heidelberg in 1998, a group of clay figurines was traced in a field at the 'Plakomeno' site of Leontio, in the Municipality of Nemea. The figurines were discovered during terracing works for agricultural purposes. A short five-day rescue excavation followed by the 4th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities and further excavation research was carried out in 2003, in search of more evidence.

The number of movable finds was impressive, as a fastened layer revealed a multitude of clay figurines and small vessels, belonging mostly to the Mycenaean period.

The majority of these clay figurines belongs to the type of the seated female figure. However they vary greatly, as among them can be found male figurines, figurines of horsemen, horses, chariots, circular dances, as well as the model of a boat. Among the vases we mainly find small skyphoi, pyxides, phialae and many vases have painted decoration. Fragments of a vase with a dedicatory inscription to the goddess Aphrodite are of particular importance.

Among the finds, especially important was also the clay model of a vaulted building, inside which were found two intact standing figurines and two lions.

The volume and nature of the finds prove that this was the deposit of a sanctuary which could be traced in that area. This is the first presentation of part of this material, whose study will highlight the importance of this new archaeological site and will add new evidence to the topography of the broader region. We will mainly examine the relation of the sanctuary (?) with the plain of Phlious and particularly with the town of Phlious as well as the cults in the broader region.



Vasco Hachtmann, Institute for Pre and Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Heidelberg, Germany

A Bronze Age Settlement at Aidonia

In the course of an interdisciplinary survey project in the Basin of Phlious conducted by the Institute for Pre- and Protohistory and Near Eastern Archaeology of Heidelberg University and the Research Centre for Archaeometry of the Heidelberg Academy of Science on a terraced slope near the famous Aidonia chamber tombs a high density of sherds from Early, Middle and especially Late Helladic times were found. Traces of Cyclopean walls indicate an extensive Bronze Age settlement – most likely the community responsible for the construction of the chamber tomb necropolis.

The presentation will outline the topography of the site, and an overview of the traces of architecture and surface finds will be given. A special emphasis will be put on the long-term changes in occupation in Mycenaean times. The following questions will be addressed: How intensively inhabited was the site at what time? Could there have been monumental architecture? What relations did the inhabitants have to contemporary places and the major centre of Mycenae about 20 km away?

Konstantina Kaza-Papageorgiou, Substitute Head of the KST' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Calliopi Krystalli-Votsi, Director Emerita, Greek Ministry of Culture

A Mycenaean Cemetery at Aidonia near Nemea

At the Aidonia site in Nemea, part of a Mycenaean cemetery was excavated in 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1986 by the 4th E.P.C.A., which was then competent for the area, following the extended looting of fifteen of its chamber tombs in the 1970's.

The exploration of these graves and of five more intact graves traced and excavated brought to light very important evidence which allude to one of the richest cemeteries of the Mycenaean world.

The monumental architectural form of the chamber tombs and of the sole pit grave of this cemetery, along with its rich finds, subsequently allude to an important Mycenaean settlement of the region, whose prime

ranged between the 15th and the 12th c. B.C.

Among the intact graves of the cemetery, an exceptional place was reserved for the rectangular pit grave, whose excavation offered many surprises and new information for the research on burial customs of the Mycenaean period.

One of the most fortunate events of this excavation was the discovery of a small pit at a corner of one of the pillaged chamber tombs, which revealed the 'Treasure of the Excavation'.

The Treasure of Aidonia and other valuable finds from the graves of the cemetery of Aidonia were determinative for the struggle of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture to repatriate the Treasure of Aidonia.

Hector Williams, Professor of Classics and Classical Archaeology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Excavations at Ancient Stymphalos

From 1982-1984 the Canadian Archaeological Institute carried out a topographical and geophysical survey of the site of ancient Stymphalos in collaboration with the Archaeological Society of Athens. Our work revealed a grid planned city laid out within a circuit of fortification walls and gates on the north shore of Lake Stymphalos. The electrical resistivity survey, the largest ever done in Greece till then, was particularly effective in locating buried walls and streets. In 1994 the Institute began its own excavations at the site and uncovered fifteen different areas of the city over the next ten summers. Of particular interest was a number of late classical/Hellenistic/early Roman houses and streets just east of the acropolis, a theatre with scene building, a palaestra, a sanctuary to Athena with small temple and altar, a fountain house and nearby heroon, the city walls and gates, and a number of early Byzantine cemeteries; we also found on the surface a dozen inscribed funerary stelai of the Hellenistic period. Finds ranged from a Middle Palaeolithic scraper to Early Helladic lithics to a scattering of late Mycenaean pottery. Most material, however, came from the late classical to early Roman periods and includes one of the largest collections of jewelry ever found in Greece, dedications at the sanctuary of Athena. Of importance too is the large collection of ca. 200 bronze and iron projectile points, some probably from sieges in the late 4th and mid 2nd centuries BC, and over 500 coins. Survey in the area around the city also revealed traces of a number of substantial buildings including a Doric temple of the classical period with a marble roof.

Christos Pitteros, Substitute Head, D' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

A Cult Cave at Lafka of the Stymphalia Area

A Cult Cave at Lafka of the Stymphalia Area

In the year 1994, after a written notification addressed by an inhabitant of the Stymphalia area to the then competent D' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities and the conducting of an autopsy, an unknown cult cave was signaled on the Messiano mountain (ancient Oligyrtos), at the Tria Goupata site. More particularly, it is a common large calcareous geological dolomite immersion, with a length of approximately 50 m and a width of 30 m.

The cave has an E-W orientation with a large cavernous formation at its deepest east side, with a height of approximately 20 m and a smooth access from the west; its larger part is exposed to the weather conditions.

Sources: AD 49 (1994) B1, 161, 52 (1997), B1, 153-154

The autopsy revealed that the eastern deepest part of the dolomite had suffered in the past from a large-scale illicit excavation, extending in an area of 15x3 m and at a depth of 2-2,5 m.

The archaeological embankment reaches a depth of 1-1,507 m. The excavated and agitated black earth revealed various kinds of offerings: Corinthian pottery sherds from the archaic period, small skyphoi, small lekythoi, aryballoi, sherds from black-glazed kylikes. Moreover, we collected pieces from handmade figurines belonging to the common type of the seated female, but also plank-like figurines of the 6th-5th century B.C., as well as female figurines created in moulds, small baskets, horse figurines, a clay and a bronze small shield with a 9 cm. diameter bearing inscriptions, fine bronze bands decorated with rosettes, a bronze rosette, a bronze ring with the engraved representation of a warrior, earrings, a bronze fibula, iron nails, a blue bead.

Also, we collected animal bones, namely of goats and sheep, wild boars, as well as horns of deer and goats, the remains of cult meals.

The nature of the finds as well as their place of discovery clearly manifests that this was a cave dedicated to the cult of chthonic female divinities.

Klaus Tausend, Associate Professor, Institute of Ancient History, Graz University, Austria

A Mountain-Village in the Pheneatike

South of the valley of Pheneos, near the modern boundary of Corinthia and Arcadia at an altitude of 1000 (!) meters there is a junction of ancient roads leading to Pheneos, Orchomenos, and Kaphyai. These roads were described by Pausanias in every detail; traces can still be seen today. About 300 meters to the west of this road junction there is small plain (700 by 300 m) at the south slope of Mt. Gremos. During a survey a considerable amount of sherds, including many roof tiles, was found.

Most of the ceramic fragments can be dated to the Archaic period; however, on the western edge of the plain there is a concentration of Mycenaean sherds as well as many pieces of obsidian, more of which were detected on Ilias Hill (alt. 1200m) at the southern edge of the plain. Obviously there was a small Archaic mountain settlement with a natural fortified acropolis, as well as a Mycenaean watch post or mountain sanctuary.

Konstantinos Kissas, Head of the LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities,

The Plain of Pheneos: Recent Research Results of the Archaeological Service

Through the course of four excavation periods (1958,1959,1961 and 1964) the unforgettable E.Deilaki brought to light at the NW heights of the Pheneos plain a sanctuary of Asklepios with important marble acroliths fragments coming from the cult group representing Asklepios and Hygeia. The sanctuary can be found on the SE slope of the hill of the Acropolis of ancient Pheneos, where traces of a polygonal wall were also found. During the research conducted by E. Deilaki, a fountain edifice was traced and partially excavated at approximately 100m. to the South of the Askleipeion.

About a decade later, the then head of the 4th E.P.K.A., Ms M. Papageorgiou, proceeded with cleaning and support works of the sanctuary walls, but also with an excavation research south of the room-temple of Asklepios. These works revealed three marble fragments belonging to the cult group.

The newly formed LZ E.P.C.A. proceeded in 2008 to cleaning works of the Asklepeion and the fountain and to the unearthing of the traces of the polygonal wall of the Acropolis of ancient Pheneos. At the same time, we traced the retaining wall extending to a North-South direction, in parallel to the sanctuary and at

a distance of 8.5 km to its West. The thought that this wall does not only delimitate the sanctuary to the West, but is also the eastern boundary of the dromos towards the Acropolis of Ancient Pheneos led the Service to realize an excavation trench to the west of the retaining wall.

Moreover, E. Deilaki had discovered in 1964 a threshold in an adjacent plot to the north and at a distance of approximately only 5m. to the north wall of the sanctuary. This discovery led to the thought that there might exist a dromos directed E-W, suggested by the location of the threshold. A limited excavation research at this place will confirm the *in situ* discovery of the threshold and the existence of a dromos.

At the Katevasies site, at the southern edge of the plain of Pheneos, the Austrian Archaeological Institute had traced earlier a circular tower-observatory with a conical base. In 2008, the tower's remains were freed by vegetation and the trial trench opened in the external periphery of the conical base unearthed fragments of laconic and Corinthian tiles, as well as sherds dated at the last quarter of the 4th c. B.C., thus confirming the tower's dating by our Austrian colleagues. The final dating concerning the tower's construction will given by the pottery sherds revealed following the trial trench which will be conducted between the circular and conic base of the tower. At the same time, we will also answer the question of whether the tower underwent one or more construction phases. Our Service also intends to partially restore the tower, by making use of the dispersed stones around the Monument.

Dora Katsonopoulou, Director of the Helike Project

The journey of Pausanias from Helike in Achaea to Aristonantes in Corinthia: New archaeological data

Around 172/173 A.D., the traveler Pausanias arrived at Achaia coming from Elis and following the *leoforos*, that is, the central coastal road uniting Achaia with Corinthia, he arrived at the region of Elike, the most important ancient Achaean city. After making some short swerves south of the *leoforos*, he arrived at Aristonantes close to Xylokastro, the harbor of the archaic city of Peline. Pausanias had followed the *leoforos* along its coast from Sikyon to Aristonantes many years before (155 A.D.) upon his return from Titane to Sikyon.

Recently, the research of our group in the Area of Ancient Elike brought to light a great part of this *leoforos*. The 9 excavation trenches yielded parts of a 5 m. large coastal central road axe of the roman period, with a straight course and a NW-SE orientation. A complementary geophysical survey with electric tomography resulted in tracing the course of the *leoforos* at a total length of approximately 2 kilometers. The discovery of architectural remains of the Early Helladic, Classical and Hellenistic period in horizons

deeper than the roman road was particularly important for the study and reconstitution of the palaeotopography and palaeogeography of the area, as where the remains of a late Byzantine house more superficial horizons.

The discovery of Pausania's *leoforos* in the Area of Ancient Elike confirms the description of the traveler during his route from Elike to Aristonautes (east course) and vice-versa from the Sikyon harbor to Aristonautes (west course), thus proving us with the possibility to trace the road's continuation in the part between Sikyon (modern-day Kiato) and the coastal Aigeia (modern-day Maura Litharia) in western Corinthia. The possibility of this tracing will significantly enrich our knowledge on Corinthia's ancient topography and will enable us to highlight this great technical work running through a great part of northeastern Peloponnese.

Paraskevi Micha, Archaeologist, Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities

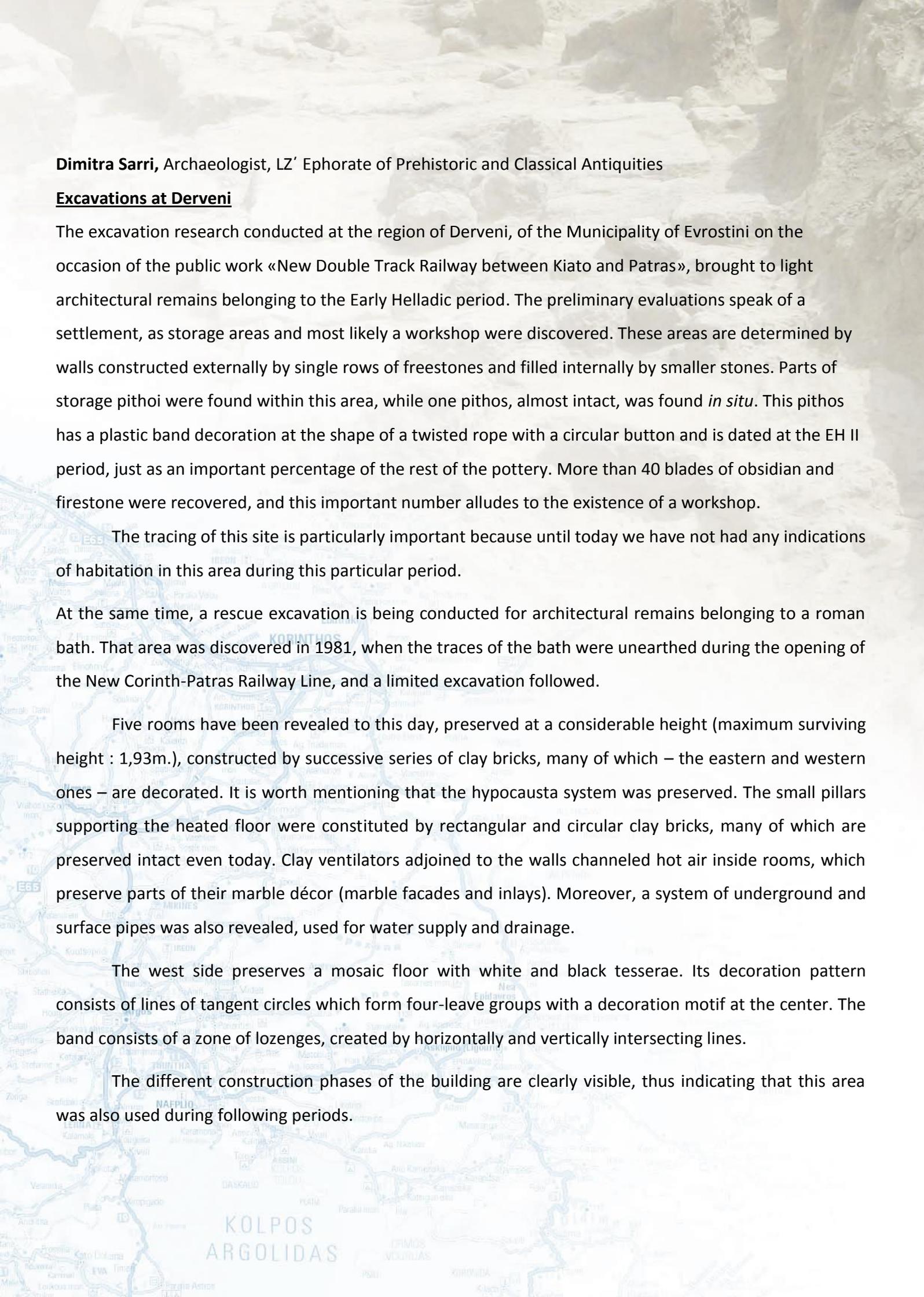
New Data concerning the Harbor of Ancient Aigira at Mavra Litharia in the Evrostini Municipality

This presentation aims at a preliminary presentation of the first results of rescue excavations realized during these past years from the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities at the Maura Litharia site of the Municipality of Eurostini, a site identified the heaven of ancient Aigeira.

This research, as well as the first effort for a systematic mapping of the area, have demonstrated that the topography of the traces of the port is considerably different from the one suggested at times in the relevant bibliography, on the basis of whichever traces were visible at the time.

The revelation of part of a wall close to the sea, which seems to delimitate the northeastern side of a basin delimited to the west by a rocky promontory, changes drastically the data concerning the form and manner of construction of the port, as was suggested until now.

This presentation does not attempt to reconstruct the ancient port's topography, as both research and results are still in their beginnings. The new data is presented with the further aim of recording this late antiquity site, which has undergone irreparable damage from this area's building activity.



Dimitra Sarri, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Excavations at Derveni

The excavation research conducted at the region of Derveni, of the Municipality of Evrostini on the occasion of the public work «New Double Track Railway between Kiato and Patras», brought to light architectural remains belonging to the Early Helladic period. The preliminary evaluations speak of a settlement, as storage areas and most likely a workshop were discovered. These areas are determined by walls constructed externally by single rows of freestones and filled internally by smaller stones. Parts of storage pithoi were found within this area, while one pithos, almost intact, was found *in situ*. This pithos has a plastic band decoration at the shape of a twisted rope with a circular button and is dated at the EH II period, just as an important percentage of the rest of the pottery. More than 40 blades of obsidian and firestone were recovered, and this important number alludes to the existence of a workshop.

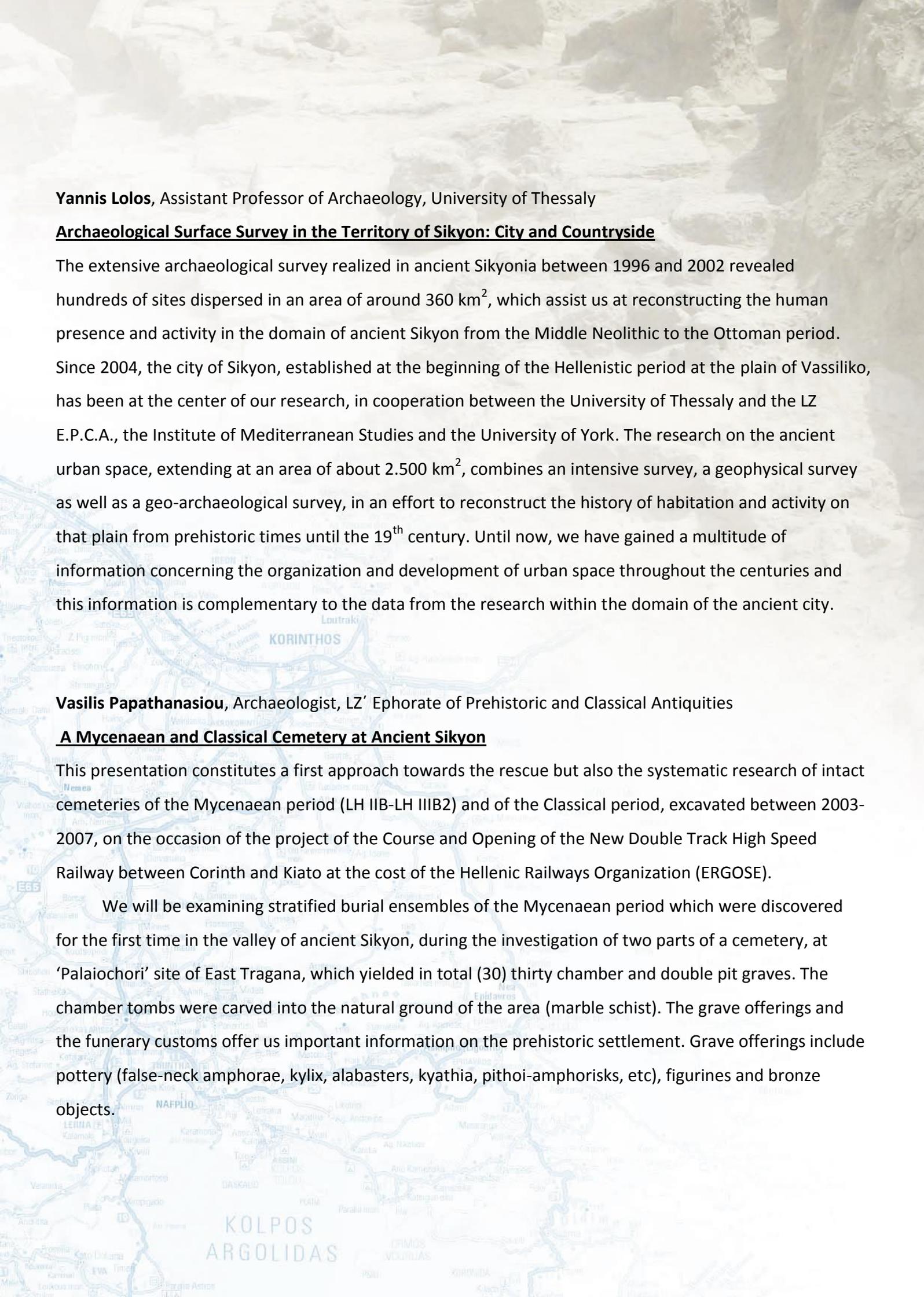
The tracing of this site is particularly important because until today we have not had any indications of habitation in this area during this particular period.

At the same time, a rescue excavation is being conducted for architectural remains belonging to a roman bath. That area was discovered in 1981, when the traces of the bath were unearthed during the opening of the New Corinth-Patras Railway Line, and a limited excavation followed.

Five rooms have been revealed to this day, preserved at a considerable height (maximum surviving height : 1,93m.), constructed by successive series of clay bricks, many of which – the eastern and western ones – are decorated. It is worth mentioning that the hypocausta system was preserved. The small pillars supporting the heated floor were constituted by rectangular and circular clay bricks, many of which are preserved intact even today. Clay ventilators adjoined to the walls channeled hot air inside rooms, which preserve parts of their marble décor (marble facades and inlays). Moreover, a system of underground and surface pipes was also revealed, used for water supply and drainage.

The west side preserves a mosaic floor with white and black tesserae. Its decoration pattern consists of lines of tangent circles which form four-leave groups with a decoration motif at the center. The band consists of a zone of lozenges, created by horizontally and vertically intersecting lines.

The different construction phases of the building are clearly visible, thus indicating that this area was also used during following periods.



Yannis Lolos, Assistant Professor of Archaeology, University of Thessaly

Archaeological Surface Survey in the Territory of Sikyon: City and Countryside

The extensive archaeological survey realized in ancient Sikyonia between 1996 and 2002 revealed hundreds of sites dispersed in an area of around 360 km², which assist us at reconstructing the human presence and activity in the domain of ancient Sikyon from the Middle Neolithic to the Ottoman period. Since 2004, the city of Sikyon, established at the beginning of the Hellenistic period at the plain of Vassiliko, has been at the center of our research, in cooperation between the University of Thessaly and the LZ E.P.C.A., the Institute of Mediterranean Studies and the University of York. The research on the ancient urban space, extending at an area of about 2.500 km², combines an intensive survey, a geophysical survey as well as a geo-archaeological survey, in an effort to reconstruct the history of habitation and activity on that plain from prehistoric times until the 19th century. Until now, we have gained a multitude of information concerning the organization and development of urban space throughout the centuries and this information is complementary to the data from the research within the domain of the ancient city.

Vasilis Papathanasiou, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

A Mycenaean and Classical Cemetery at Ancient Sikyon

This presentation constitutes a first approach towards the rescue but also the systematic research of intact cemeteries of the Mycenaean period (LH IIB-LH IIIB2) and of the Classical period, excavated between 2003-2007, on the occasion of the project of the Course and Opening of the New Double Track High Speed Railway between Corinth and Kiato at the cost of the Hellenic Railways Organization (ERGOSE).

We will be examining stratified burial ensembles of the Mycenaean period which were discovered for the first time in the valley of ancient Sikyon, during the investigation of two parts of a cemetery, at 'Palaiochori' site of East Tragana, which yielded in total (30) thirty chamber and double pit graves. The chamber tombs were carved into the natural ground of the area (marble schist). The grave offerings and the funerary customs offer us important information on the prehistoric settlement. Grave offerings include pottery (false-neck amphorae, kylix, alabasters, kyathia, pithoi-amphorisks, etc), figurines and bronze objects.

The presence of evidence of ancestral cult, which had taken place during the late geometric period and continued until the early Hellenistic period in most of the funerary chambers should be stressed in particular.

As regards the cemetery of the classical period, our knowledge on the burial practices of that time and the beliefs on the afterlife are enriched by the revelation of 42 simple pit graves, with or without a covering slab stone, dated at the 5th and 4th c. B.C. The cemetery was defined at its SW by a retaining wall.

The pit-tombs were opened inside the natural rock (marble schist). Oriented to the NE-NW and E-W, they contained skeletal remains, intact or fragmentary, from adult burials of women and teenagers buried at an intensely crouched position but also lying down. The deceased were accompanied by one or more grave offerings, placed not only within the pits, but also on top of it. Among them we find clay vessels, figurines and bronze objects.

Calliopi Krystalli-Votsi, Director Emerita, Greek Ministry of Culture

Foteini Balla, Archaeologist, University of Athens

Ancient Sikyon: Revealing Part of the Hellenistic Cemetery

During the opening of the Corinth-Patras National Road in 1986, part of a cemetery was revealed at the 'Chtiri' site of in Ancient Sikyon, under the supervision of the 4th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities of Argolid and Corinthia. The archaeological research centred around a funerary monument, with traces of a *dromos* at its façade, while 35 tombs and traces of incineration were traced and dated mainly to the Hellenistic period.

The main type of burial is the grave covered with tiles. The deceased would lie usually to an extended position and would be accompanied by an important number of grave offerings, mainly vases and more rarely figurines and metal or bone objects. The funerary monument, built with local sikyonian limestone according to the pseudo-isodomic system, is formed by three spaces of the same width and «houses» a total of 6 of the excavated tombs.

The typology of the tombs, the grave offerings and the elements that survived from the burial customs of the cemetery seem to be consistent with corresponding elements coming from contemporary burial groups in the northern Peloponnesus (for instance, Ancient Corinth, Achaia). The further



combination study of the information coming from the excavated parts of the cemeteries of Ancient Sikyon can contribute to the reconstitution of the ceremony of placing the dead into the ground.

Erik Østby, Professor of Classical Archaeology, Bergen University, Norway

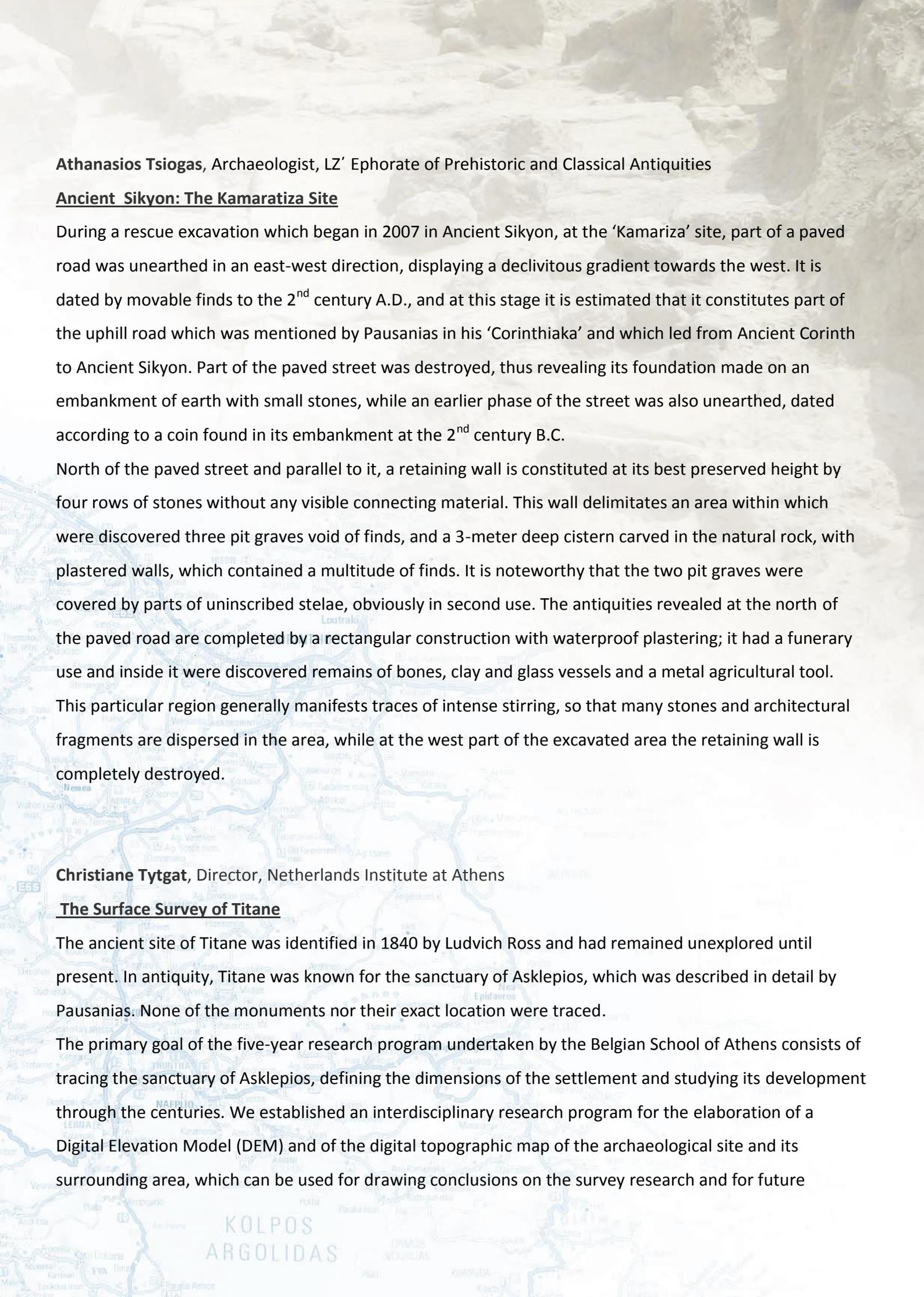
The Temples of Apollo at Sikyon: Identification and Reconstruction

As part of a program for research and conservation of the monuments from ancient Sikyon, directed by Dr Kalliopi Krystalli-Votsi on behalf of the Archaeological Society at Athens in the 1980's, an architectural study of the temple foundation at the agora of the ancient city was undertaken in the years from 1985 to 1989 with the collaboration of Dr Erik Ostby from the Norwegian Institute in Rome. The complex foundations preserve remains of two successive temples of Doric style, one from about 300 BC and one of the early 6th century, and some traces probably of a still earlier precursor.

The Hellenistic temple was peripteral, but deliberately archaizing with a peristasis of 6 x 18 columns and a long naos divided in three deep rooms. It was probably constructed in connection with the urbanistic reorganization of Demetrios Poliorketes after 303 BC. A square construction at its northern flank was probably a monumental altar.

The Archaic temple was probably tetrastyle prostyle, stone built to the top, and had no peristasis. In the cella two parallel colonnades supported the roof construction. Certain foundations and block complexes which find no good explanation neither in the Archaic nor in the Hellenistic context seem to indicate a still earlier phase, probably of the late 7th century.

A monumental, circular basis with cavities at the rim, probably for the legs of a monumental tripod, had the same position inside both temples. This confirms the identification with the temple of Apollo mentioned by Pausanias at the agora of Sikyon (2.7.8-9), and suggests some connection with the early temple of Apollo at Delphi.



Athanasios Tsiogas, Archaeologist, LZ' Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities

Ancient Sikyon: The Kamaratiza Site

During a rescue excavation which began in 2007 in Ancient Sikyon, at the 'Kamariza' site, part of a paved road was unearthed in an east-west direction, displaying a declivitous gradient towards the west. It is dated by movable finds to the 2nd century A.D., and at this stage it is estimated that it constitutes part of the uphill road which was mentioned by Pausanias in his 'Corinthiaka' and which led from Ancient Corinth to Ancient Sikyon. Part of the paved street was destroyed, thus revealing its foundation made on an embankment of earth with small stones, while an earlier phase of the street was also unearthed, dated according to a coin found in its embankment at the 2nd century B.C.

North of the paved street and parallel to it, a retaining wall is constituted at its best preserved height by four rows of stones without any visible connecting material. This wall delimitates an area within which were discovered three pit graves void of finds, and a 3-meter deep cistern carved in the natural rock, with plastered walls, which contained a multitude of finds. It is noteworthy that the two pit graves were covered by parts of uninscribed stelae, obviously in second use. The antiquities revealed at the north of the paved road are completed by a rectangular construction with waterproof plastering; it had a funerary use and inside it were discovered remains of bones, clay and glass vessels and a metal agricultural tool. This particular region generally manifests traces of intense stirring, so that many stones and architectural fragments are dispersed in the area, while at the west part of the excavated area the retaining wall is completely destroyed.

Christiane Tytgat, Director, Netherlands Institute at Athens

The Surface Survey of Titane

The ancient site of Titane was identified in 1840 by Ludvich Ross and had remained unexplored until present. In antiquity, Titane was known for the sanctuary of Asklepios, which was described in detail by Pausanias. None of the monuments nor their exact location were traced.

The primary goal of the five-year research program undertaken by the Belgian School of Athens consists of tracing the sanctuary of Asklepios, defining the dimensions of the settlement and studying its development through the centuries. We established an interdisciplinary research program for the elaboration of a Digital Elevation Model (DEM) and of the digital topographic map of the archaeological site and its surrounding area, which can be used for drawing conclusions on the survey research and for future

excavations. Orthophotographies, a digital model as well as a tridimensional digital reconstitution of the acropolis wall and the city were also processed. Moreover, a *visibility study* of the area was achieved, as well as a study on land use in the Titane area. This interdisciplinary research program, in combination with archaeological research, is aiming for a longterm contribution in order to define the historic, political and religious role played by Titane.

Dimitris Athanassoulis, Head of the 25th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities, **Nancy Delle, Eleni Manollessou**, Archaeologists , 25th Ephorate of Byzantine Antiquities

The Corinthia after the End of Antiquity

(no abstract available)

Eleni Korka, Substitute Head of the Directorate for the Documentation and Protection of Cultural Goods, **Illicit trafficking in Corinthia and the protection of antiquities**

(no abstract available)

