



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



Postgraduate Cypriot
Archaeology (PoCA) 2023
20th Meeting

1–3 December 2023
Athens, Greece

Book of Abstracts



Postgraduate Cypriot Archaeology (PoCA) 2023 20th Meeting, Athens

Organizer

Chara Theotokatou, PhD student

Institutional Support

Professor **Giorgos Vavouranakis**

Dr. **Ioannis Voskos**

Professor Emerita **Eleni Mantzourani**

Steering Committee

Giorgos Papantoniou, Coordinator (Trinity
College Dublin)

Stephan Schmid (Humboldt University)

Athanasios K. Vionis (University of Cyprus)

Jennifer Webb (La Trobe University/
University of Cyprus)

Haralambos Paraskeva (University of Cyprus)

Chara Theotokatou (National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens/ Harvard University,
Center for Hellenic Studies)



<https://conferences.uoa.gr/e/poca2023>

poca2023@arch.uoa.gr

Keynote Lecture



Inside Out. Spaces and notions of social inclusion and exclusion in Bronze Age Cyprus.

Assoc. Prof. Luca Bombardieri
Università di Siena, DFCLAM

Segregated functional spaces with limited or controlled access gradually emerge in Cyprus during the Bronze Age. Evidence for Early Bronze Age sacred open-air spaces with selected access transforms into a marked spatial segregation of residential, funerary, and industrial built spaces during the Middle Bronze Age and evolves into a complex functionally differentiated urban environment in the Late Bronze Age.

Recent archaeological evidence also suggests that Bronze Age settlement/cemetery configurations in Cyprus were more diverse than often assumed. Extramural cemeteries were the norm during the Early and Middle Bronze Age periods and intramural necropolises were the standard throughout the Late Bronze Age period, however, considerable diversity in the relative topography of settlements and cemeteries is also evident. It appears that cemeteries were not whole community landscapes and that decisions about burial location were governed by notions of exclusion as well as inclusion. Burial within the settlement may have been intended to keep the deceased close to the living members of their communities or—conversely—far from the dead members of their ancestral communities.

Under this perspective, Middle Bronze Age Erimi is a key case-study to enhance the analysis of the transformative built and social environment which emerges during this period and to contribute to the definition of the socio-cultural dynamics of the formative period of Late Bronze Age urbanism and increasing social complexity in Cyprus. Evidence of functional allocation of spaces is documented at Erimi by the co-existence of a productive workshop complex with a small shrine and a residential quarter. An extra-mural cemetery is segregated from the inhabited area by a massive circuit wall, which is the earliest evidence for a settlement wall in Cyprus.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 1. “Keeping an eye on the horizon”: Landscape and human interaction

Chair: Professor Giorgos Vavouranakis

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

The diachronic synthesis of the landscape in the northeastern foothills of Troodos mountains: the Agia Varvara, Lythrodontas, Mathiatis, Sia areas from Prehistory until Late Antiquity

Dr. Thea Christoforou, Independent Researcher

The modern-day communities of Agia Varvara, Lythrodontas, Mathiatis and Sia, are surrounded by principal archaeological sites like ancient Idalion, Marki-Alonia, Alambra-Mouttes, Agios Sozomenos etc. It is also well-known that the area has a rich history of both ancient and modern mining activity, due to its abundant sulphidic and cupriferous mineral resources. This paper presents the key results of a doctoral thesis, with the main objective to clarify and determine the character of the area in the *longue durée*, and to incorporate its landscape in the historical and archaeological background of ancient Cyprus, specifically in the chrono-cultural horizons of the 2nd and 1st millennium B.C., when the island experienced the development of socio-political complexity. The research is based on the interdisciplinary study of the available archaeological data from the area (published and unpublished material) and the visualisation of the results on thematic maps, using the Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The synthesis of the archaeological data helps to highlight the significance of the area, in a micro and macro scale, for Cypriot Archaeology.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 1. “Keeping an eye on the horizon”: Landscape and human interaction

Chair: Professor Giorgos Vavouranakis

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Labourscapes of Bronze Age Cyprus

Ana Gonzalez San Martin, Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World, Brown University

Labour in prehistory has been a contentious field of debate across archaeology since the beginning of the discipline, with Mediterranean prehistory occupying a pivotal role in these discussions. Different paradigms have sought to explain how prehistoric societies organized themselves, and top-down approaches abound in tracing deterministic relationships between environmental and social commodification on the so-called “path to social complexity.”

Cypriot Bronze Age has not been an exception within this broader framework. The intensifying mining and agricultural production trends of this period have been read as specific indicators of top-down, hierarchical labour and, thus, social organization systems. Archaeological indicators of labour tend to be assessed through site-specific production instances, like workshops or industrial complexes. My dissertation aims to expand traditional frameworks for labor organization in the late prehistory of Cyprus by examining landscapes of labor organization. Through the notion of “labourscapes,” I will explore local and settlement-specific tasksapes by collating physical indicators of labor organization documented by site excavations and regional surveys.

The environmental variable of a culturally shaped landscape in the Bronze Age Cypriot hinterland for these labour practices is an excellent fit for considering notions of temporality and social connectivity through assessments of seasonality and mobility for labour-related purposes. This idea of a socially and environmentally engaged angle for studying labor organisation, highlighting the recurring seasonal nature of work associated with mining, forestry, and agriculture, underscores labour’s lived, cultural and social dimensions, rather than centring the extractive and commodified aspects of industrial production and emphasizes the role of labour organisation as a mechanism for social reproduction.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 1. “Keeping an eye on the horizon”: Landscape and human interaction

Chair: Professor Giorgos Vavouranakis

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

What if it is over?

How water availability coevolved with the life and abandonment of Middle Bronze Age Erimi *Laonin tou Porakou*

Giulia Albertazzi and Andrea Villani, University of Cyprus and University of Balearic Islands

In semi-arid areas, human beings respond to the seasonal availability of fresh water through a multiplicity of solutions. Among these, are the location (or relocation) of settlements at favourable sites and the construction of water facilities, dependently on the subsistence needs and productive purposes of a community. A combination of variability and circumscription of natural and cultural features makes insular contexts a particularly suitable case-study for the investigation of “the Archaeology of water”, and Cyprus does not seem an exception. Our first knowledge of the prehistory of the island, indeed, is partially due to the first application of assessments concerning the association between settlement patterns and perennial fresh water sources. In addition, some of the most ancient wells known in the Mediterranean basin have been recovered on the island, suggesting a long process of water optimisation developed by its inhabitants.

During the Middle Bronze Age, some settlements were intentionally and gradually abandoned after a period of slow contraction. Even though economic and social changes can be accounted among the main responsible for this phenomenon, the role of environmental balance should not be overlooked.

This paper aims to analyse the variety of ways in which fresh water could have influenced the foundation, development, and abandonment of the MC site of Erimi-*Laonin tou Porakou*, in terms of location, subsistence, and productive strategies. The analysed data will be then included in their wider cultural and environmental context, to highlight how different variables coevolved during processes of settlement pattern redefinition.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 1. “Keeping an eye on the horizon”: Landscape and human interaction

Chair: Professor Giorgos Vavouranakis

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

A dried up well and what happens after? A depositional record associated with a non-functional? water sources within the Agora of Nea Paphos, Cyprus

Michał Michalik, Jagiellonian University

Excavations of the Jagiellonian University expedition on the Agora in Nea Paphos revealed continuous habitation from the end of the 4th c. BCE to the mid. 2nd c. BCE while significant architectural changes allowed recognition of eight subsequent phases of the area's functioning. Wells unearthed at the Agora evidence the use of groundwater as a primary source of potable water throughout all periods of edifice usage. Nonetheless, the chronological analysis revealed that the operation of particular examples is associated with relatively short periods. This phenomenon is prompting the question: Why such essential features of the plaza were so rarely abandoned? This paper explores possible answers to the question by examining groundwater threats in Cyprus. Moreover, through comparative stratigraphical analysis of excavated examples, the author would like to approach differences and similarities in backfilling of investigated sample and propose an interpretation link with transitional events recorded on the Agora.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΛΕΙΨΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 1. “Keeping an eye on the horizon”: Landscape and human interaction

Chair: Professor Giorgos Vavouranakis

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Exploring Human-Woodland Interactions in 1st millennium Cyprus: Insights from Wood Charcoal Analysis in PASYDY and Tserkezoi-Gardens

Panagiotis Koullouros, Prof. Marco Madella, Dr. Despina Pilides, Yiannis Violaris and Assoc. Prof. Evi Margaritis, The Cyprus Institute and The Department of Antiquities, Cyprus

Archaeobotanical studies in the eastern Mediterranean focusing on the 1st millennium BCE, particularly in Greece and Cyprus, have predominantly focused on agricultural practices and the resilience of past civilisations. Studies focusing on the wood charcoal remains (anthracology), from the 1st millennium BCE, have been limited, not only for sites across Cyprus but also throughout the wider region of the eastern Mediterranean.

This paper seeks to address this gap by studying wood charcoal remains from two sites in Cyprus dating back to the 1st millennium BCE. Through the anthracological examination of the sites of PASYDY (Nicosia) and Tserkezoi-Gardens (Limassol), the study aims to presenting new insights into the vegetation history and woodland composition variations of the region. The analysis of wood charcoal assemblages from the aforementioned sites offers the possibility to shed light on the historical vegetation patterns of Cyprus. Additionally, it provides the opportunity to investigate the multifaceted interaction between humans and their environment during this period.

This study contributes to the broader field of archaeobotany in Cyprus, deepening our understanding of the complex relationship between humans and their environment during the 1st millennium BCE. By examining wood charcoal and to some extent seed remains from these two sites, this research brings forth new insights into resource management practices, the complexities of ancient societies, and the deep-rooted connection between humans and the natural world.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 2. Architecture, Craftsmanship and the manufacturing of social identities

Chair: Dr. Ioannis Voskos

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Down to Hearth: Spotighting intra- and inter-house social relations in Late Cypriot contexts

Chara Theotokatou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and Harvard University, Center for Hellenic Studies

The study of architecture is a keystone in any attempt of understanding past societies. The exploitation of natural resources for building materials, the management of space and the elaborateness of buildings, along with the evidence for daily activities, betray aspects of social organization. One, usually internal, feature of prehistoric buildings is the hearth. However, in comparison to other architectural characteristics, such as working areas or storage facilities, hearths are relatively overlooked by research. At the Early Cypriot site of Marki-*Alonia* the placement of hearths in the innermost part of the compounds during a particular phase of the site, was seen as an indication of subsistence autonomy. On the other hand, clay hobs from the same site are most likely related to new cooking practices and thus an entirely novel habitus, which may be betraying the coming of immigrant population groups on Cyprus. Similarly, hearths of the Late Cypriot period were considered as an Aegean trait and evidence for the presence of a Mycenaean cultural if not population element in the island. In contrast to the aforementioned approaches, this paper focuses on the importance of hearths for the function and organization of Late Cypriot societies themselves. It investigates the presence or absence of hearths and fireplaces in the domestic contexts of the period and views them as components of assemblages that either challenged or consolidated social structures and facilitated diverse intra- and inter-house social relations.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 2. Architecture, Craftsmanship and the manufacturing of social identities

Chair: Dr. Ioannis Voskos

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Potters and pithoi: Storage facilities at the Palace of Amathus

Lucile Chabrier, Université Rennes 2 and University of Laval

The paper offers a preliminary summary of one aspect of my doctoral research into storage facilities at Cypriot palaces, particularly that of Amathus, during the Archaic and Classical periods. It focuses on the role of craftsmen specializing in the production of pithoi, large vessels mainly used for long-term storage, to meet the administrative needs of the Amathus royal house. Particular attention is paid to palace warehouses in their Classical phase – beginning around 500 BCE and ending with the demise of Amathus kingdom at the outset of the Hellenistic period – when storage capacity reached its height. Based on the diverse fabrics and techniques of ceramic manufacture garnered from scrutiny of pithoi sherds, and drawing on research carried out on Late Bronze Age Cypriot pithoi and ethnoarchaeological studies of 20th-century pithos makers, I propose some provisional conclusions regarding the status of potters and the number of workshops involved in pithoi production at Amathus.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΛΕΙΨΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 2. Architecture, Craftsmanship and the manufacturing of social identities

Chair: Dr. Ioannis Voskos

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

A new discovery of a temple building in Cyprus? Preliminary observations, analyses and reconstructions of architectural decorations found at the Latsithkia site, the Limassol District

Anna Urszula Kordas, Szymon Popławski and Dr. Aleksandra Brzozowska-Jawornicka, University of Warsaw and Wrocław University of Science and Technology

In 1997 and 2000, at a hill known as Latsithkia, located near Episkopi, on the north side of the old Roman road to Kourion, and at the same time at the back of the Apollo Hylates temple, works were carried out under the auspices of the Archaeological Museum of Kourion in Episkopi. In a result of the works forty-eight stone architectural elements were gathered from the surface of the site, inventoried, and deposited in the Museum. This paper will present preliminary observations and analyses of the architectural decoration, within which it was observed a coherent set of the elements: columns (the Attic bases, plain column drums, the Corinthian type blocked-out capitals), an architrave block, cornices with plain modillions, different kinds of moldings, a round pedestal, and very interesting pediment of a smaller size crowning a column with a similar Corinthian blocked-out capital - most probably crowning a niche. Photogrammetric documentation of the elements and preliminary reconstructions based on it indicate that the collection of architectural elements could be prepared for one building endeavor. Although the architectural decoration from the Latsithkia hill, is quite similar to that of the Temple of Apollo Hylates in Kourion, and of the Temple of Aphrodite in Amathus, it is of visible smaller proportions and of different architectural details. Preliminary observations of the elements from this site could suggest that they were elaborated for a small-size temple or an altar. Nevertheless, as no excavations have ever been carried out on the Latsithkia site and no foundations of the building have been observed on the surface, we cannot yet answer the question of whether this place was the quarry where the stone was exploited and processed, or it was also the place where this building stood.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 2. Architecture, Craftsmanship and the manufacturing of social identities

Chair: Dr. Ioannis Voskos

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Ktisis at Kourion and personifications of 'Foundation' in the late antique Eastern Mediterranean

Prolet Decheva, University College Dublin

Among the many innovative personifications of abstract ideas identifiable via Greek name labels from the late antique Eastern Mediterranean, Ktisis ('Foundation/Creation') survives in the largest number of depictions. While other personifications are known only from few examples, there are at least sixteen images of Ktisis, all from floor mosaics dated predominantly between the fourth and the sixth centuries. While the most comprehensive article on the topic published in Italian by Isabella Baldini in 2019 mentions twelve of these, to my knowledge, no existing publications have discussed all of them. In addition, one of the best known examples, the personification in the Eustolios Complex in Kourion (Cyprus) stands out among them: it is one of the few depictions of Ktisis from a well-preserved archaeological context still in situ and one of the few that can be securely linked to a Christian patron, Eustolios, commemorated in another inscription in the same building. The dedicatory inscription not only names the patron but uses such language that it links the personification to its placement within the building, in a prominent location in the baths, and emphasizes its importance demonstrating Eustolios' pride in his foundation. While some researchers interpret Ktisis as personification of the divine creation of the world, allusions of which can be observed in some images, the surviving example from Kourion provides an unambiguous key for the understanding of this personification as expression of an elite and wealthy patron's pride in their foundation of a public building for the benefit of the community.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 3. Synthesizing ancient Cypriot life(styles)

Chair: Dr. Katerina Papayianni and Dr. Ioanna Moutafi

Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the ASCSA

What do Chalcolithic plant remains have to say?

Dr. Kyriaki Tsirtsis, Georgia Kasapidou and Assoc. Prof. Evi Margaritis, The Cyprus Institute

The middle and Late Chalcolithic site of Palloures in Chlorakas (Cyprus) is being excavated since 2016 by the University of Leiden. A vital part of the research agenda of the project is the understanding of the agricultural practices, the exploitation of specific species, the use of wild flora as well as the understanding of culinary practices and dietary habits of the inhabitants of the site. The archaeobotanical work at Palloures focuses on firstly an extensive sampling program and the combination of the study of macro and micro remains. It is the aim of this paper reveal the potential of such combined studies, unique in Cyprus, and how, on a macroscale, they can assist at the interpretation of the research questions of the project and, on a microscale to better understand the function and significance of specific context and structures that have come to light.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 3. Synthesizing ancient Cypriot life(styles)

Chair: Dr. Katerina Papayianni and Dr. Ioanna Moutafi

Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the ASCSA

Ritual or Souvlaki? Human-pig relations in the Chalcolithic

Marina Schutti, University of Graz

Ever since pigs were transported to Cyprus in the Neolithic, humans and pigs started to develop a variety of relationships on the island. The interaction could have been limited to hunting, humans having the control over the animal's space, human and pigs having a special bond or even pigs having a symbolic meaning to the humans. By consulting and examining the archaeological evidence that is provided for the Chalcolithic, most significantly the animal remains, the relations between humans and pigs will be determined. Some case studies of the Chalcolithic will be picked out and presented in order to give an overview of the interactions between humans and pigs during this time period.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 3. Synthesizing ancient Cypriot life(styles)

Chair: Dr. Katerina Papayianni and Dr. Ioanna Moutafi

Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the ASCSA

Never travel solo. Donkeys in Prehistoric Bronze Age Cyprus and their role in the island's inter- and intra-regional networks

Rafael Laoutari and Dr. Giulia Muti, University of Cambridge and Independent Researcher

Overshadowed by the economic and ideological importance of cattle and the higher frequency of ovicaprids in the animal record of Prehistoric Bronze Age, donkeys have had little chance to tell us their story. Nonetheless, until recent times, this species populated the Mediterranean landscape, playing a key role not only in the agricultural economy but first and foremost in terrestrial networks. This paper aims to shed some light on the role of the domestic donkey (*Equus asinus*) in Cypriot Prehistoric Bronze Age communities (c. 2400–1750 BCE) and its presence in the terrestrial networks that kept people, things and ideas moving around in the island. Our first goal is to characterise donkeys in Prehistoric Bronze Age by scrutinising the (scarce) faunal remains and the figurative repertoire of terracotta free-standing figurines and vessel protomes. Then, we intend to delve into their use as pack animals, specifically investigating the case study of networks for the circulation of metal. To achieve our purpose, a multi-disciplinary perspective is adopted, combining archaeological and landscape data with iconography and archaeozoological evidence. In addition, proxy data are sourced from zoology, ethnography and textile studies to consider the travel speed, resistance, types and weight of the loads and possible different ways in which the donkeys were equipped with covers, packsaddles, containers and bags.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 3. Synthesizing ancient Cypriot life(styles)

Chair: Dr. Katerina Papayianni and Dr. Ioanna Moutafi

Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the ASCSA

The bioarchaeology of Hellenistic-Roman Nea Paphos: new insights into urbanism and health

Grigoria Ioannou, The Cyprus Institute

Nea Paphos, Cyprus, held a key role during the Hellenistic (312-58 BC) and Roman (58 BC-395 AD) periods. The city was founded in the late 4th century BC and soon was transformed into one major urban city. Under the Ptolemies, Nea Paphos became the administrative center of the island and in the 2nd century BC was proclaimed the capital of Cyprus, retaining its title until its destruction in 365 AD. This paper presents key results of a doctoral bioarchaeological research on health, living conditions and urbanism at Nea Paphos during the Hellenistic and Roman periods. Data was acquired from macroscopic analyses of human remains (MNI=372) of adult/juvenile and male/female individuals. The human remains derived from two populations of Nea Paphos. Health and living conditions of the people of Nea Paphos are explored through the analysis of specific health indicators (cribra orbitalia, porotic hyperostosis and linear enamel hypoplasia) and dental disease (caries, periodontal disease, periapical cavities, antemortem tooth loss) and skeletal pathologies. The results are contextualized with archaeological information in order to shed light into the life and health of the people of Nea Paphos.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 3. Synthesizing ancient Cypriot life(styles)

Chair: Dr. Katerina Papayianni and Dr. Ioanna Moutafi

Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory for Archaeological Science of the ASCSA

Deciphering archaeogenetics in Cyprus: state of the art and perspectives

Francesco Fontani, University of Bologna

The striking technological advances in the study of ancient DNA has led, in recent times, to a remarkable increase in the production of genomes from archaeological specimens all around the world. The potential of archaeogenetics relies in its ability of providing high resolution data that are beneficial for historical, linguistic, ecological and archaeological discourse. Most of all, ancient DNA analysis has become a common approach for investigating past migrations, population demography and structures, pandemics, and social practices such as kinship, marriage and caregiving. However, some limitations are traditionally affecting ancient DNA data, and a substantial bias in the geography of available paleogenomic data can be seen as the result of problematic preservation of ancient DNA at certain latitude. In the broader Mediterranean region, Cyprus is to date the only major island where little paleogenomic data has been produced so far. As a consequence, major paleogenomic studies published in recent years lack of information from the third larger island in the Mediterranean basin. Here, we present an overview of the past and ongoing projects that have used ancient Cypriot DNA as a source of information for investigating past migratory events, human and faunal demography, population structure and social behaviors. By providing a glimpse on available archeogenomic data, we aim at deciphering the paleogenetic potential of the island and supplying new research perspectives for the Cypriot archaeology.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 4. Production processes and consumption practices in rewind

Chair: Professor Emerita Nota Kourou

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Cooking and consumption in Middle Bronze Age Cyprus: preliminary results from the organic residue analysis of cooking pots from Erimi - Laonin tou Porakou

Katerina Carlotta Koukzelas, Università degli Studi di Torino

Cooking pots usually elicits less attention than polished and decorated wares, but the former most definitely hides an invisible treasure at its core. The porous microstructure of cooking pots allows the absorption of lipids, which are embedded in the processed and cooked food, into the walls of these vessels. The application of innovative bioarchaeological methods, notably Organic Residue Analysis, can reveal the nature of these preserved molecules thus supporting the identification of the different ingredients used during cooking.

In light of the fact that the Middle Bronze Age is being reconsidered as more complex than previously thought, namely as a stepping stone for gradual emergence of a urban society during Late Bronze Age Cyprus, investigating culinary and consumption practices may shed light on the social and economic transformations emerging during this period. In particular, analysis conducted on the cooking pot assemblage of Middle Bronze Age Erimi-Laonin tou Porakou, can generate new data about the consumption practices of this island society. The paper presents the preliminary outcomes of these ongoing analyses and stresses how an interdisciplinary approach can allow us not only to reconstruct the dietary practices of a Bronze Age community, but also to glimpse over the structure of society and households during Middle Bronze Age Cyprus.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 4. Production processes and consumption practices in rewind

Chair: Professor Emerita Nota Kourou

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Iron Age Textiles in Amathous

Lise Lévêque, Université Rennes 2

Amathous is well studied, but the textile production hasn't been investigated yet. Textile archeology and ancient textile history have long been uninvestigated, partly because textiles are rarely preserved in archeological contexts. In Amathous, only a little piece of fabric covering the cap of a small bottle has been found. Textile production has been studied in other ancient Cypriot cities, Marion and Kition, for example, and cover mostly the Neolithic and the Bronze Age periods (J. Smith, C. Sauvage, G. Muti), but little is known about Iron Age textile on the island. In Amathous, several artifacts (loom weights, spindles and whorls, a possible leather or dyeing factory, fragmented murex shells) found respectively in the palace, necropolis, acropolis, and lower town, point toward textile activities : yarn spinning, weaving and purple dye production, dating from the Archaic to the Hellenistic periods. Most frequent textile tools discovered in Amathous are clay loom weights and whorls. A Greek letter stamped on a loom weight allows us to date the tools of the palace from the IVth Century B.C. The study of the zoological remains (Y. Lignereux and H. Obermaier) from the palace, offers some insight on the sheep flock use (meat, milk and wool) and butchery techniques : missing hooves on the site suggests that animal skins with the hooves still attached were transported out of the palace area, probably for tanning. Statuettes and figurines help us determine patterns of draped and tailored garments, shapes and functions of the textiles worn by the elite.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 4. Production processes and consumption practices in rewind

Chair: Professor Emerita Nota Kourou

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

I do wish I hadn't drunk quite so much! A summary of the measurement results of the capacity of table vessels found within various Hellenistic deposits in the Agora of Nea Paphos

Kamila Niziołek, Jagiellonian University

No matter whether for transport, storage, cooking, or serving food – ceramic vessels primarily functioned as containers. Capacity is, therefore, fundamental for defining the specific function of particular shapes. It is also the simplest measure that allows us to imagine the actual size of a vessel. Unfortunately, calculating vessels' capacities is possible only in the case when the complete profile is available.

The proposed paper aims to present a summary of the measurements of the capacity of vessels for serving food and drinks found in the Agora of Nea Paphos during the Jagiellonian University in Kraków (Poland) Paphos Agora Project excavations. All vessels analysed originate from Hellenistic deposits: two wells and one deposit found within a room of the Eastern Portico. The character of these deposits, in which a relatively large number of vessels were preserved completely, or vessels' profiles were possible to reconstruct, allowed to examine ca. 200 examples. Capacities were measured using the CReA-Patrimoine online tool, which required pottery drawings on a scale of 1:1.

This study is one of the steps in investigating Hellenistic eating habits practised in the Eastern Mediterranean. The data on capacity was used for interpretation of the vessel function, especially issues such as the possible consistency of served meals and portion size. Such an approach was never used with regard to Hellenistic table ware pottery from the Paphos region or other Hellenistic cities in Cyprus.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 4. Production processes and consumption practices in rewind

Chair: Professor Emerita Nota Kourou

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Drink like Romans: Production and consumption of thin-walled pottery in Nea Paphos

Dr. Małgorzata Kajzer and Dr. Edyta Marzec, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences

The paper aims to present different groups of the so-called thin-walled pottery found in Nea Paphos. This category first appeared in Italy during the 2nd c. BCE. Soon after, it became widespread in the Western and Eastern Mediterranean and influenced many local manufacturers. Nea Paphos was among the target markets for Italian thin-walled products from the beginning of the 1st c. BCE. In the Augustan times, the production of thin-walled pottery also began in Nea Paphos. Simultaneously, such vessels were imported to the city from other Eastern Mediterranean production centres. A high typological standardisation of shapes observed throughout the Mediterranean basin creates difficulties in defining the origin of particular vessel groups. To study their provenance and technology, 34 samples from Nea Paphos were analysed with thin-section petrography and elemental analysis (WD-XRF). The results of the integrated archaeological and laboratory investigations revealed the presence of ten groups of different origins. They will be presented and discussed from the broader perspective of the thin-walled pottery phenomenon that influenced drinking habits at the beginning of the Roman period.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΠΛΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 5. Cypriot pottery under the microscope

Chair: Dr. Marialucia Amadio

Ghent University

Sherds that Talk: A Compositional and Technological Study of Late Chalcolithic Pottery from Cyprus

Maria Hadjigavriel and Dr. Maria Dikomitou-Eliadou, Leiden University and The Cyprus Institute

Late Chalcolithic (ca. 2900/2700-2400 BC) in Cyprus is a dynamic period of transformations in society and material culture that pave the way for the ensuing introduction of the island to the Bronze Age. During this period, Cyprus breaks away from earlier isolation, with numerous indirect indications for interaction with the surrounding regions. These sociocultural changes are primarily evident in pottery; ceramic studies had mainly involved so far, the morphological characterisation of contemporary wares. Prevailing arguments favoured the standardisation of shapes, and the introduction of new technological features, including higher firing temperatures and harder fabrics than those recorded for earlier periods. This paper will present the first results of an intra- and inter-site compositional and technological assessment of ceramic fabrics selected from four contemporary Late Chalcolithic sites in south-western and central Cyprus, i.e., Chlorakas-Palloures, Kissonerga-Mosphilia, Ambelikou-Agios Georghios, and Politiko-Kokkinorotsos. Red and Black Stroke-Burnished, Red Monochrome, and Spalled Wares, as well as Red (and Black) Lustrous and some Coarse ware samples have been analysed using ceramic thin section petrography and handheld energy-dispersive X-ray fluorescence spectrometry for their mineralogical, chemical and technological characterisation. The analytical data were integrated with available contextual information and a prior detailed macroscopic study of all the selected samples. This project aimed at an investigation into pottery technologies, and their degree of technological variability at a local, regional and inter-regional level, the organisation of pottery production and distribution, as well as the possible identification of inter-site interactive schemata during the Late Chalcolithic period.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 5. Cypriot pottery under the microscope

Chair: Dr. Marialucia Amadio

Ghent University

Examining the ceramic landscape of Erimi-Laonin tou Porakou: an analytical approach to pottery production and circulation

Dr. Sergios Menelaou, Assoc. Prof. Luca Bombardieri, Dr. Marialucia Amadio and Dr. Giulia Muti, Fitch Laboratory British School at Athens, University of Siena, Ghent University and Independent Researcher

Pottery is a sensitive marker of technological and socio-economic transformations and its detailed analysis holds a key position in investigating, in a more tangible manner, developments in social structures, craft practices, external influence and mobility, and human-environment interactions, but also in measuring diachronic changes and spatial variability. Until recently, stylistic and typological sequences were constructed almost entirely on the basis of tomb finds from cemeteries excavated in northern Cyprus. However, this fragmented picture has changed in the last few decades through the investigation of settlement sites in other areas of the island. The multi-functional site of Erimi-Laonin tou Porakou in southwest Cyprus forms an excellent case-study that combines funerary, workshop and residential contexts. It provides a unique opportunity to examine how the pottery production systems and circulation inter-relate at a regional and inter-regional level.

This paper will discuss the results of a combined macroscopic and petrographic analysis of pottery, which will enable important insights into diachronic developments from the late Early Cypriot to the end of the Middle Cypriot period. Preliminary results from the raw material sampling in the vicinity of the site will also be discussed. Beyond the examination of ceramic manufacture strategies and local technological traditions, this paper will shed light into the importation and mobility of pottery at Erimi from other regions in Cyprus.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΛΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 5. Cypriot pottery under the microscope

Chair: Dr. Marialucia Amadio

Ghent University

It's all Plain to me? Characterising Fabrics of Late Cypriot I-IIB Plain White Pottery from Enkomi

Chase Alan Mohan Minos, The Cyprus Institute

The beginning of the Late Cypriot period (c. 1600 BCE) saw the introduction of a new technology to Cyprus, the potter's wheel. Shortly after, the wheel and wheel-making techniques spread and were applied to a range of shapes and wares, including the newly popular ware of Plain White. This paper explores the impact of the potter's wheel on the selection and preparation of raw materials through the production of Plain White pottery, including both hand and wheel-made variants, at the site of Enkomi. Although Enkomi has a long history of research, and is one of the most well documented Late Bronze Age sites on the island, to date there has not been an exhaustive study on the local production of Plain White pottery from the site. Therefore, this paper will present preliminary results of interdisciplinary research into the technological characterisation of Plain White pottery at Enkomi. Through a combination of macroscopic analysis, thin-section ceramic petrography, and chemical analyses, it investigates the changes and developments in clay recipes across the Late Cypriot I-IIB period, considering the effects (or not) of the introduction of the potter's wheel.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΛΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 5. Cypriot pottery under the microscope

Chair: Dr. Marialucia Amadio

Ghent University

Preliminary results of the petrographic and chemical analyses on the Hellenistic samples from Yeronisos Island, Cyprus

Paola Pizzo and Dr. Jan Valek, Charles University and Czech Academy of Science

This presentation aims at highlighting the main result of the petrographic and chemical analyses carried out on the samples collected from the Hellenistic strata and structures of Yeronisos island. A multidisciplinary approach involving a combination of chemical and physical analyses, as well as petrography, have been adopted in order to characterise the plasters and mortars of the site. The primary question behind this research was whether Yeronisos' samples would be in line with the products of the local industry, or whether this site was more influenced by the Ptolemaic presence. In order to answer to this question, the Yeronisos set of samples has been compared with a coeval set collected from the Hellenistic Theatre in Nea Paphos.

During this conference, I will present the results of X-Ray diffraction, thermal analysis, physical and mechanical testing, petrographic observation and SEM analysis.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 6. Beyond Materiality: Unfolding the meaning of objects

Chair: Professor Emerita Eleni Mantzourani

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Identifying regional styles in flask production in the Early and Middle Cypriot Bronze Age

Dr. Cathy Carigiet, La Trobe University

Often overlooked in favour of more elaborate and ubiquitous vessels, flasks are small, portable, highly decorated containers with varying morphological characteristics. They were manufactured in various fabrics for approximately 500 years, from the beginning of the Early Bronze Age to the Middle Cypriot period and have been recovered at sites across the island. Predominantly found in tombs, their position in relation to the body suggests that they played an important role in funerary rituals. While many flasks lack secure context, a study of provenanced vessels suggests that regional production of flasks can be identified by recurring morphologic traits and fabrics and, more distinctly, by the style and application of motifs. Some motifs were standard—beyond this, a degree of stylistic variation is visible through time and space, suggesting localised trends, multiple workshops and the varied skills of the manufacturers. On the other hand, some flasks show a remarkable consistency in form, size and decoration and appear to represent the production of workshops or regions. In such cases, it is possible to suggest that certain motifs or combinations of motifs conveyed specific information to Bronze Age consumers, perhaps including the identity of the potter or workshop or/and the contents and origin of the flasks. This offers insights into the nature and scale of flask production, the regional and cross-regional distribution of these vessels, and their contents. Further elemental studies of fabrics and residue analyses have significant potential to confirm and expand our knowledge of this relatively minor cohort amongst the broader ceramic assemblage.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 6. Beyond Materiality: Unfolding the meaning of objects

Chair: Professor Emerita Eleni Mantzourani

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

-“Unveiling the unseen”-: Broadening perspectives on Middle Cypriot daggers through use-wear analysis

Paolo Tripodi, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Metal daggers have attracted the interest of both specialists and the general public, raising numerous questions concerning their significance. Were they designed for everyday utility, duelling and personal defence, ritual function, or a combination of these purposes? This study aims to present preliminary results from my PhD research on Middle Cypriot daggers from funerary contexts, adopting the innovative approach of use-wear analysis, or more generally traceology. Complementing typochronological studies and archaeometallurgical analysis, when available, this non-destructive technique offers valuable insights into the biographies of these objects. In fact, the meticulous examination of the daggers under the stereomicroscope has already allowed me to detect micro-details and traces related to different types of and stages in the use of Cypriot daggers. Imperceptible to the naked eye, these microscopic yet significant pieces of information may change our understanding of this class of materials.

In the first part of my talk, I will highlight the advantages of this method for the study of Prehistoric daggers. I will then present first results of my study with regard to the identification of use-wear as well as the further insights with regard to function and meaning of the objects.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 6. Beyond Materiality: Unfolding the meaning of objects

Chair: Professor Emerita Eleni Mantzourani

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Finger-rings of Enkomi: an exploration of sensory and cognitive engagement of personal adornments in the Late Cypriot Period

David Snook, University of Wales Trinity Saint David Lampeter

This paper explores the liminality and intersectionality between the material world of the elite in Late Cypriot period, the bodily experience and expression of their culture, society, cosmology, and identity in the context of the LBA globalised system. Cyprus during the LCI-II-III underwent a period of material, cultural and economic transformation, particularly of the elites, deriving their wealth, primarily, from the production of copper, agriculture, and trade internally and with extensive links to the surrounding societies throughout the Mediterranean and the Levant. The engagement with long-distance trade/exchange of exotic good and commodities such as Finger-rings is best evidenced at the Tombs of Enkomi. A large proportion of these goods represents a snapshot of the material and cultural lifecycle of the elites who lived and engaged in this transformative and complex period. The material focus of this paper will touch on the funerary assemblages from Enkomi. Examples of finger rings in the assemblages (i.e., 1897,0401.279.+; 1898,0224.1; 1897,0401,741; 1897,0401.617) in the British Museum. Enkomi, was a planned city with a vibrant cultural and economic life. The perceptible desire for precious metals such as gold and silver, in the form of personal adornment are considered through Turner's (1980) theory of the symbolic communication through the body which acts as a physical canvass and a medium between the mental and physical world through haptic and cognitive engagement. It considers whether this symbolic communication was the cultural and cosmological glue, where power structures were contested, and perpetuated and a link formulated that enabled the network of individuals within the cultural unit, to act as an agent of change. These ideas are referred to as the Second Skin and Human-Material Entanglement theory.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 6. Beyond Materiality: Unfolding the meaning of objects

Chair: Professor Emerita Eleni Mantzourani

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Loomweights as votive offerings? A view from the sacred precinct of Kition

Elena Loizou, Trinity College Dublin

Loomweights are an indispensable part of the material culture. They are essentially found on tombs, households and workshops, but they are also very common finds in cult assemblages. Kition has produced some of the most astonishing evidence for textile production. Objects, such as loomweights, which prima facie do not appear to have any cultic or ritual importance, they acquire one by their contexts and/or their presence inside or near temples. This paper aims to understand the function, symbolism and identity of loomweights in ritual contexts by examining the spatial distribution of the objects. I focus particularly on the temples from the Late Bronze Age (LBA) Kition, where I examine the concentration of loomweights in relation to architecture and their contexts. I also explore the relation between the textile workshop of Kition and the temples, while I attempt to understand if textile industry and religion during the LBA were closely linked in any way. To understand these objects, however, it is important first to examine their role in other ritual contexts, such as burials. Based on the available contemporary and subsequent evidence from Cyprus and the surrounding regions the paper identifies if loomweights had any cultic significance and eventually if they were suitable for use as votive offerings.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 6. Beyond Materiality: Unfolding the meaning of objects

Chair: Professor Emerita Eleni Mantzourani

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Ring Dance Figurines on Iron Age Cyprus: Preliminary Results of the DANc-Project

Marina Weiss, Freie Universität Berlin

This paper provides an insight into the preliminary results of my current PhD project titled “Dance on Ancient Cyprus (DANc).” The overall aim of this PhD project is to carry out a study of the archaeological evidence of dance on the island of Cyprus, by analyzing and evaluating the limestone and terracotta votive figurines portraying ring dances found on Cyprus from the Cypro-Geometric into the Hellenistic periods. In doing so, the project encompasses the integration of all hitherto known ring dance figurines from Cyprus in order to allow for a first overarching analysis of the figurines in terms of their iconography and function. In the process, further relevant data, such as their provenance and dating, is registered and evaluated. By performing this study, the project endeavors to discuss the topic of ritual performances on Iron Age Cyprus, specifically in the form of dance and musical performances. To this end, the interpretation of the figurines as votives and mirrors of real-life activities in Cypriot sanctuaries will be discussed. Especially questions regarding the participation of specific groups of society in these ring dances and their connection to naturalistic and aniconic places of worship will be central to this discussion. On a macro-scale, the project will underline the importance of dance as a carrier and storer of religious and cultural knowledge in ancient and modern societies alike, with a particular focus on the long-lasting popularity of ring dances in the cultures of the Eastern Mediterranean.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 7. Circulation of people, goods and ideas within and beyond Cyprus

Chair: Dr. Giorgos Bourogiannis

Harvard University, Center for Hellenic Studies

Cross-Regional connections: Levantine amphorae and their circulation in the Eastern Mediterranean during the Middle and Late Bronze Age

Dr. Cydrisse Cateloy, University of Cyprus

During the 2nd millennium BCE, Levantine amphorae played a major part in the exchange of goods throughout the Eastern Mediterranean. As one of the earliest amphorae in circulation, these Maritime Transport Containers, originating in the Levant, were used to transport various kind of commodities, including oils, tree resin, honey, wine, and possibly cereals or dried fruits. Their emergence, development and spread are closely linked to the progress of seafaring and the interconnectedness of the diverse populations settled around the Mediterranean Sea. Thus, shortly after their initial appearance, during the early stages of the Middle Bronze Age (around 1950 BCE), Levantine amphorae – also known as “Canaanite jars” – were exported to Egypt, notably in the settlement of Tell el-Dab’a. Afterwards, at the transitional period between Middle and Late Bronze Age, Levantine merchants started to venture even further west, expanding their reach to the island of Cyprus and the Aegean world.

Amphorae offer valuable information, serving as chronological indicators and pinpointing regional production centers. They also shed light on the dynamics of exchanges that took place across the Mediterranean over the ages. For these reasons, Levantine amphorae, along with other Maritime Transport Containers imported to Cyprus, have been chosen to be the focus of an extensive ongoing research programme. As part of the ERC ‘ComPAS’ project, a capacity study is being carried out to further explore the fluctuations of maritime trade and the economic wealth of ancient Mediterranean societies. Focusing on these aspects provides valuable insights into the interconnected past of the region.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 7. Circulation of people, goods and ideas within and beyond Cyprus

Chair: Dr. Giorgos Bourogiannis

Harvard University, Center for Hellenic Studies

Becoming a ruler of the Other. Few Notes on the Phoenician Royals Attested in Some Cypriot Kingdoms

Miglena Dimova, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”

The subject of the present paper are the registered cases of Phoenicians who became rulers in some of the Cypriot kingdoms during the end of the Cypro-Archaic and Cypro-Classical period. The analysis is based on written sources and legends on coins inscribed with Phoenician alphabet and Cypro-syllabic script which attest Phoenician royals in the states. Most of the cases have already been discussed. They were interpreted as instances of a Persian installation of “medophilic” kings on the thrones of some of the Cypriot kingdoms after the Ionian revolt. The topic was re-examined and some of the previous conclusions were declared as a matter of mere speculations or guesses. In the present paper the cases are interpreted in relation to the inclusion in the culture of the Other, which does not discount some of other interpretations and does not have pretensions for comprehensiveness. The study deals with the possible purpose and meaning of using the script and the language of the Other as well. The iconography of the coins struck by the Phoenician kings and their “preferred” symbols are discussed too. The case of Kition, a city inhabited exclusively by people related to the Phoenician culture, is not under consideration in the study.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΛΕΥΣΙΣ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 7. Circulation of people, goods and ideas within and beyond Cyprus

Chair: Dr. Giorgos Bourogiannis

Harvard University, Center for Hellenic Studies

Social Network Analysis and Cyprus commercial connections from the Archaic to the Hellenistic Period: Pilot Study

Dermot Grant, Trinity College Dublin

Cyprus played an active role in export markets for metals throughout the Mediterranean to the end of the Late Bronze Age, with a lack of secure evidence of later exports of this kind thereafter. However, we can materially grasp an active trade of other commodities with the Levant and Asia Minor extending to the Aegean later. This pilot study uses primary evidence and modern scholarship to identify commercial connections that, when applied to Social Network Analysis, will inform on the directionality of Cypriot trade, network structures and cohesiveness, and the centrality of the island in wider Mediterranean networks.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΛΕΥΣΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 7. Circulation of people, goods and ideas within and beyond Cyprus

Chair: Dr. Giorgos Bourogiannis

Harvard University, Center for Hellenic Studies

The Greek Alphabetic Inscriptions of Paphos: Linguistic Remarks on the Paphian koine and Onomasticon during the Hellenistic and Roman Periods (Late 4th c. BC – 4th c. AD)

Panagiotis Theodoulou, University of Salamanca and University of Cyprus

The alphabetic inscriptions from Paphos were subject to a thorough linguistic analysis, with a view to describing the evolution of the local variant of the Greek koine in the southwestern region and capital of Cyprus during the Hellenistic-Roman periods, by analysing all grammatical errors and deviant spellings that usually reflect linguistic changes. The description of the local koine was also meant to lead to further conclusions on its interference with other language varieties such as the local Greek dialect of the first millennium BC, which, although eventually disappeared from the epigraphic record, it must have continued to be used in oral speech. Paphos was the only region of Cyprus where the Cypriot syllabary, inextricably linked to the local Greek dialect, remained to some extent in use up until the 2nd/1st c. BC alongside the Greek alphabet. Indeed, the koine texts from Paphos present significant linguistic developments, especially sound changes from the Hellenistic period. A second aim of this work was the study of the local Greek personal names of the same period. The primary analysis of their morphology and the semantics of their constitutive element(s) might add to the history of the language of the city since the personal names often display systemic and persistent phonological and morphological features of the local dialect. Also, by comparing the onomastics of the Hellenistic-Roman periods with those of the earlier periods, linguistic or customary (e.g. naming) continuities and discontinuities were traced. Considering the partial or total homonymy between ancestors and descendants, onomastic continuity in Paphian families continued to be significant as in the preceding periods.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΕΣΤΟΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 8. From the Past to the Future: History of research and public archaeology

Chair: Dr. Dimitris Kloukinas

Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Numismatic Museum

Alfred Westholm and the excavations of the SCE at Vouni (1928-1930)

Patty Jablonsky, Humbolt University of Berlin

The excavations of the Swedish Cyprus Expedition (SCE) between 1927 and 1931 are among the most important archaeological campaigns in Cyprus, involving excavations and investigations at 25 different locations. Through their excavations, the SCE contributed to raising awareness of the ancient Cypriot sites and their history in society and archaeological research. The SCE was divided into two field departments, led by Erik Sjöqvist and Alfred Westholm. Einar Gjerstad, the director of the SCE, as well as architect and photographer John Lindros, moved between the various excavation sites.

Alfred Westholm directed the excavations at Vouni from 1928 to 1930. His excavation diaries and numerous preserved letters to his parents vividly illustrate what daily life was like during the excavations and the challenges his team faced at Vouni. The excavation diaries, unpublished original plans, and drawings from the archives of the Medelhavsmuseet provide a vivid picture of the progress of the excavations at Vouni and the handling of the finds and features. Furthermore, the letters and excavation diaries offer a very personal insight into the emotions and life of Alfred Westholm, revealing a young archaeologist who grows through the problems and challenges of the Vouni excavations while gaining confidence in his archaeological work and approach.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΠΙΛΕΥΣΗ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ



Session 8. From the Past to the Future: History of research and public archaeology

Chair: Dr. Dimitris Kloukinas

Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Numismatic Museum

Archaeology in your hands: preliminary results from the wellbeing activities in the Xeros Valley

Dr. Francesco Ripanti, Trinity College Dublin

Research on archaeology and wellbeing has shown consistent and promising results in recent years. Archaeological activities can break down barriers to public participation and have a positive impact on people's lives, producing outcomes such as socialisation, happiness and self-esteem. However, further evaluation is needed to understand how archaeology can help vulnerable groups and how their involvement can impact on community wellbeing.

This paper reports on wellbeing activities delivered in the Xeros River Valley (Larnaca district) as part of the 'Linking community archaeology and wellbeing in the Mediterranean' (LOGGIA) project. Funded by the European Union as Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship, LOGGIA focuses on engaging people with disabilities in the historic landscape and assessing the extent to which community archaeology practices can contribute to community wellbeing in the Mediterranean.

The activities involve archaeologists, local community members, people with Huntington's disease and family members and are organised in collaboration with the Unlocking the Sacred Landscapes of Cyprus project, the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics and the Cyprus Alliance for Rare Disorders. The paper will present and discuss the preliminary results of the impact on the community and social wellbeing of the participants, as measured through mixed methods analysis.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens
— EST. 1837 —



ΕΡΓΑΣΤΗΡΙΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ
ΚΑΙ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΧΝΗΣ

