

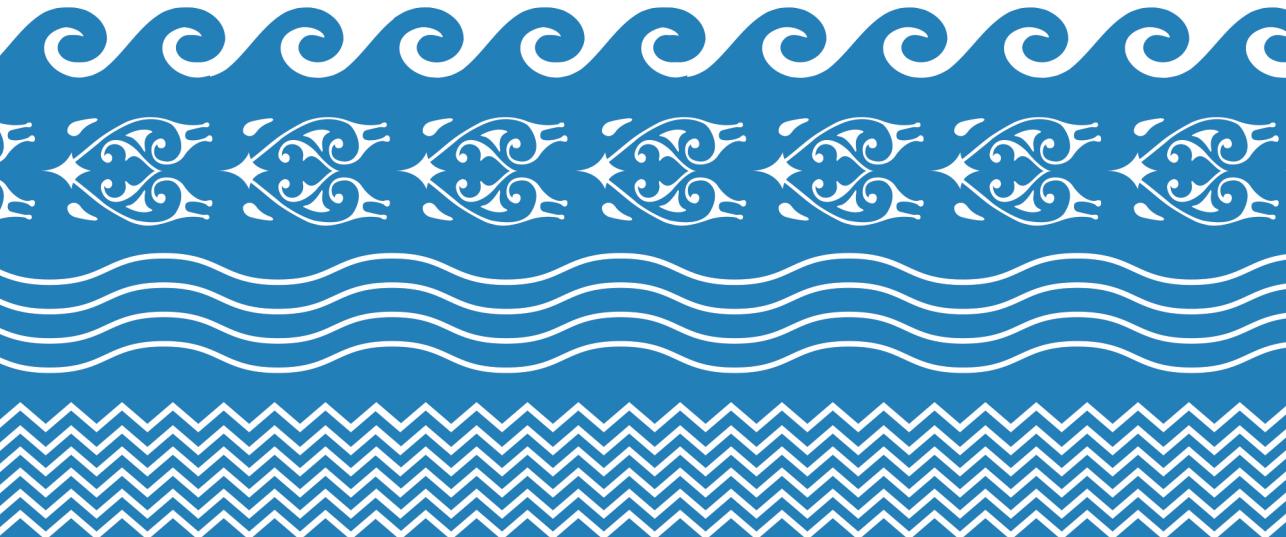
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# ΑΡΧΑΙΟ ΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ

Πρακτικά της 4ης Συνάντησης  
Ρέθυμνο, 24-27 Νοεμβρίου 2016

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## ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

<b>ΠΑΥΛΙΝΑ ΚΑΡΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΗ – ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΤΖΙΓΚΟΥΝΑΚΗ – ΧΡΙΣΤΙΝΑ ΤΣΙΓΩΝΑΚΗ</b> Προλογικό σημείωμα	xix
<b>ΚΑΤΑΛΟΓΟΣ ΣΥΓΓΡΑΦΕΩΝ / LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS</b>	xxi
<b>ΒΡΑΧΥΓΡΑΦΙΕΣ / ABBREVIATIONS</b>	xxix

### Κεντρική Κρήτη – Central Crete

#### Προϊστορική έως και ρωμαϊκή περίοδος – Prehistoric to Roman Era

##### **ΑΥΓΗ Ε. ΤΖΑΚΟΥ**

Αρχαιολογικό Μουσείο Ηρακλείου – Μουσειογραφικές προσεγγίσεις <i>The Heraklion Archaeological Museum – A Museographical approach</i>	3 15
---	---------

##### **ΙΩΑΝΝΑ ΣΕΡΠΕΤΣΙΔΑΚΗ, ΚΑΤΙΑ ΜΑΝΤΕΛΗ & ΧΡΙΣΤΙΝΑ ΠΑΠΑΔΑΚΗ**

Νεολιθική κεραμεική από το οικόπεδο Αγγελιδάκη στον Μέσα Κατσαμπά	17
<i>Neolithic pottery from the Angelidakis plot at Mesa Katsambas, Heraklion</i>	33

##### **ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΗΣ ΑΓΕΛΑΡΑΚΗΣ & ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΑ ΚΑΝΤΑ**

Το νεολιθικό νεκροταφείο Αποσελέμη	35
<i>The Neolithic cemetery of Aposelemis</i>	58

##### **ΙΩΑΝΝΑ ΕΥΣΤΑΘΙΟΥ, ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΑ ΚΑΝΤΑ & ΔΑΝΑΗ Ζ. ΚΟΝΤΟΠΟΔΗ**

Σπήλαια της Περιφερειακής Ενότητας Ηρακλείου	59
<i>Caves of the Heraklion region</i>	70

##### **ΑΝΤΩΝΗΣ ΒΑΣΙΛΑΚΗΣ, TOMAS ALUSIK & ΕΙΡΗΝΗ ΚΡΗΤΙΚΟΠΟΥΛΟΥ**

Πορτί Μεσαράς-Αστερουσίων, Δήμου Γόρτυνας. Προκαταρκτική έκθεση αποτελεσμάτων της επιφανειακής έρευνας το έτος 2015 <i>Porti Mesaras-Asterousion, Municipality of Gortyna. Report of preliminary results of the surface survey of 2015</i>	71 79
--	----------

**ΠΕΤΡΟΣ ΧΑΡΑΜΗΣ**

Επιφανειακή αρχαιολογική έρευνα στο Πορτί Μεσαράς το 2015: τοπογραφική και φωτογραμμετρική αποτύπωση προανακτορικού θολωτού τάφου και περιοχής του	81
<i>Surface documentation at Porti in 2015: topographic surveying and terrestrial photogrammetry of a tholos tomb and its immediate vicinity</i>	90

**LADISLAV SMEJDA, MATOUS SEMERAD, ANDONIS VASILAKIS & TOMAS ALUSIK**

<i>The Porti-Miamou Project 2015: Immovable cultural heritage and soil geochemistry</i>	91
Πρόγραμμα επιφανειακής έρευνας στο Πορτί και τη Μιαμού 2015-2016. Ακίνητες αρχαιότητες και εδαφολογική γεωχημεία	102

**ΣΤΕΛΛΑ ΜΑΝΔΑΛΑΚΗ, ΜΑΡΙΝΑ ΒΕΛΕΓΡΑΚΗ, ΑΝΩΗ ΚΟΥΚΟΥΡΑΚΗ,  
ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΑ ΝΙΚΟΛΟΠΟΥΛΟΥ & ΚΑΛΛΙΑ ΜΕΡΚΟΥΛΙΔΗ**

Γούρνες – Χερσόνησος. Ανασύνθεση ενός αρχαιολογικού τοπίου <i>Gournes – Chersonesos. Reconstruction of an archaeological landscape</i>	103
	119

**ΜΙΜΙΚΑ (ΔΗΜΗΤΡΑ) ΚΡΙΓΚΑ**

Το ιδιότυπο μορφολογικά κτήριο Τομέας Α (“Αποθήκη των Πίθων”) στο Ακρωτήρι Θήρας και τα εισηγμένα από την Κρήτη αγγεία που βρέθηκαν σε αυτό. Μια παλιά ανασκαφή, μια καινούρια μελέτη <i>Building Sector A at the Late Bronze Age settlement of Akrotiri, Thera and its imported Minoan pottery. An old excavation seen through modern eyes</i>	121
	134

**ΔΑΝΑΗ Ζ. ΚΟΝΤΟΠΟΔΗ, ΝΙΚΟΣ ΘΑΝΟΣ, ΧΡΙΣΤΙΝΑ ΠΑΠΑΔΑΚΗ,  
ΚΛΕΑΝΘΗΣ ΣΙΔΗΡΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ & ΚΑΛΛΙΟΠΗ ΓΚΑΛΑΝΑΚΗ**

Στα ίχνη της Απολλωνίας: πυρήνες της αρχαίας νεκρόπολης <i>On the trail of Apollonia: cores of the ancient cemetery</i>	135
	147

**Βυζαντινή έως και νεότερη περίοδος – Byzantine to Modern Era**

**ΓΙΩΡΓΟΣ ΚΑΤΣΑΛΗΣ & ΜΑΡΙΑ ΚΟΚΚΙΝΗ**

Η ανασκαφική έρευνα στον ναό του Αγίου Μηνά Επισκοπής Δήμου Χερσονήσου	149
<i>The excavation finds at the church of Haghios Minas at Episkopi, in the Municipality of Chersonissos</i>	161

**ΓΕΩΡΓΙΑ ΜΟΣΧΟΒΗ & ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗΣ ΣΤΕΦΑΝΗΣ**

Νέα στοιχεία για το Καθολικό της Μονής Παληανής. Η αρχιτεκτονική του ναού και οι εργασίες αποκατάστασης	163
--	-----

ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

- New evidence on the Katholikon of the Monastery of Paliani.  
The architecture and the restoration works of the church 183

**ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ ΣΥΘΙΑΚΑΚΗ**

- Τα βυζαντιά γλυπτά του καθολικού της Μονής Παλιανής και η συμβολή  
τους στην αποσαφήνιση της κατασκευαστικής ιστορίας του μνημείου 185  
The Byzantine sculptures of the catholicon of the Paliani monastery  
and their role in the clarification of the monument's building history 211

**ΖΑΧΑΡΙΑΣ ΑΛΕΤΡΑΣ**

- Προκαταρκτική μελέτη τεσσάρων λουτρών στο κέντρο του Ηρακλείου:  
αρχαιολογικά δεδομένα, πιθανές ερμηνείες 213  
Preliminary study of four baths in the center of Heraklion:  
archaeological data, possible interpretations 224

**ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ ΣΥΘΙΑΚΑΚΗ, ΑΙΚΑΤΕΡΙΝΗ ΓΕΩΡΓΑΛΗ & ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΣ ΠΑΤΕΔΑΚΗΣ**

- Αποκατάσταση-συντήρηση και ανάδειξη βενετικού φρουρίου  
Rocca a Mare (Κούλε) Ηρακλείου 225  
The restoration, conservation and enhancement  
of the Venetian Fortress Rocca a Mare (Kules) in Heraklion 236

**Κεντρική Κρήτη/Κνωσός – Central Crete/Knossos**

**ΜΑΡΙΑ ΡΟΥΣΑΚΗ, ΜΑΡΙΑ ΒΟΛΙΚΟΥ, ΓΕΩΡΓΙΑ ΑΝΑΓΝΩΣΤΑΚΗ,  
ΔΕΣΠΟΙΝΑ-ΕΥΓΕΝΙΑ ΦΥΓΕΤΑΚΗ, ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΑ ΝΙΚΟΛΟΠΟΥΛΟΥ  
& ΕΜΜΑΝΟΥΕΛΑ ΔΑΣΚΑΛΑΚΗ**

- Μια πρώτη ματιά στον μεγάλο μινωικό αποθέτη  
του Αγίου Ιωάννη Κνωσού 241  
A glimpse into the extensive Minoan deposit  
at Agios Ioannis, Knossos 253

**ΕΛΠΙΔΑ ΠΟΛΙΤΑΚΗ, ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΑ ΑΝΔΡΙΑΔΑΚΗ & ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ ΠΕΡΓΑΜΑΛΗ**

- Η συντήρηση του γυψόλιθου στο ανάκτορο  
και τον αρχαιολογικό χώρο της Κνωσού 255  
The conservation of gypsum in the Palace  
and the archaeological area of Knossos 266

**ΕΛΙΣΑΒΕΤ Μ. ΚΑΒΟΥΛΑΚΗ, †ΙΩΑΝΝΗΣ Ε. ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΙΚΑΚΗΣ,  
ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΣ Δ. ΔΗΜΑΔΗΣ, AURELIO CABEZA & LAURA LEON-REINA**

- Τεκμηρίωση της χρήσης των χρωμάτων στην αποτύπωση  
αρχιτεκτονικών στοιχείων του ανακτόρου της Κνωσού  
μέσα από την αναστήλωση-αποκατάστασή του 267

ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

<i>Investigation of the use of colours as architectural features in the Palace of Knossos through the documentation of the restoration materials</i>	280
<b>ΜΑΡΙΑ ΡΟΥΣΑΚΗ, ΙΩΑΝΝΑ ΤΡΙΑΝΤΑΦΥΛΛΙΔΗ &amp; ΓΙΩΡΓΟΣ ΜΠΡΟΚΑΛΑΚΗΣ</b>	
<i>Νέες ανασκαφές στον χώρο του Βενιζέλειου Νοσοκομείου Ηρακλείου, 2014 και 2015</i>	281
<i>New excavations at the Venizeleion Hospital in 2014 and 2015</i>	293
 <b>Κεντρική Κρήτη/Φαιστός – Central Crete/Phaistos</b>	
<b>FILIPPO M. CARINCI &amp; PIETRO MARIA MILITELLO</b>	
<i>The results of the archaeological investigations of the Universities of Venice and Catania at Phaistos in 2014-2016</i>	297
<i>Τα αποτελέσματα των αρχαιολογικών ερευνών των Πανεπιστημίων της Βενετίας και της Κατάνιας στη Φαιστό το 2014-2016</i>	312
 <b>FAUSTO LONGO, ALESSANDRO GRECO, ANDREA BETTO, SIMONA TODARO &amp; LAURA SPAMPINATO</b>	
<i>Phaistos Project. The linear section on the southeast slope of the Christos Effendi hill and the evolution of Phaistos in the Protopalatial period: a contextual reassessment</i>	313
<i>Το Πρόγραμμα «Φαιστός», η στρωματογραφική τομή στη ΝΑ πλαγιά του λόφου του Αφέντη Χριστού και η ανάπτυξη της Φαιστού στην πρωτοανακτορική περίοδο: μια συγκειμενική επανεκτίμηση</i>	328
 <b>ALESSANDRO GRECO, ANDREA BETTO &amp; ALEXIA GIGLIO</b>	
<i>The Forgotten Notebook. From Antonio Minto to the “Phaistos Project”: Archaeological research on Christos Effendi – an INSTAP project</i>	329
<i>Το ξεχασμένο ημερολόγιο. Από τον Antonio Minto στο Πρόγραμμα «Φαιστός»: Αρχαιολογική έρευνα στον λόφο του Αφέντη Χριστού – ένα πρόγραμμα του INSTAP</i>	341
 <b>AMEDEO ROSSI, FRANCESCO PERICCI &amp; MATTEO SORDINI</b>	
<i>Remote sensing and geophysical research as applied in the Phaistos Survey Project</i>	343
<i>Εφαρμογή τηλεπισκοπικών και γεωφυσικών μεθόδων στο πλαίσιο του Προγράμματος «Φαιστός»</i>	355
 <b>ALESSANDRO GRECO &amp; ORAZIO PALIO</b>	
<i>Haghia Photini and the ‘urban’ development of Phaistos: an up-to-date survey. A venture by “Progetto Festos” and INSTAP</i>	357

ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

<i>Η Αγία Φωτεινή και η «αστική» ανάπτυξη της Φαιστού: μια επικαιροποιημένη επιφανειακή έρευνα. Ένα εγχείρημα του Προγράμματος «Φαιστός» και του INSTAP</i>	375
<b>FEDERICA DI BIASE</b>	
<i>New considerations on the architectural structures in the archaeological area of Haghia Photini (Phaistos), in the light of recent studies</i>	377
<i>Επανεξέταση των αρχιτεκτονικών κατασκευών στον αρχαιολογικό χώρο της Αγίας Φωτεινής (Φαιστού) υπό το φως των νέων ερευνών</i>	387
<b>FEDERICA IANNONE</b>	
<i>The so-called Temple of Rhea at Phaistos: new reflections on the structure and excavation documents</i>	389
<i>Ο επονομαζόμενος Ναός της Ρέας στη Φαιστό: νέες σκέψεις για το κτήριο και τα ανασκαφικά έγγραφα</i>	402
<b>FEDERICO CARBONE</b>	
<i>Overstrikes at Phaistos: chronologies and flows</i>	403
<i>Επικεκομμένα νομίσματα στη Φαιστό: χρονολογίες και εισοροές χρημάτων</i>	414
<b>FAUSTO LONGO</b>	
<i>Έρευνες για την οχύρωση της Φαιστού</i>	415
<i>Researches for the fortification of Phaistos</i>	435
 <b>Κεντρική Κρήτη/Γόρτυνα – Central Crete/Gortyn</b>	
<b>NUNZIO ALLEGRO &amp; ROSARIO MARIA ANZALONE</b>	
<i>Ο οικισμός της Πρώιμης Εποχής του Σιδήρου στη θέση Προφήτης Ηλίας της Γόρτυνας. Νέα δεδομένα από τις ανασκαφικές αποστολές των ετών 2013, 2015, 2016</i>	439
<i>The Early Iron Age settlement at Profitis Ilias, Gortyn. New data from the excavation campaigns in 2013, 2015, 2016</i>	450
<b>JACOPO BONETTO, ANNA BERTELLI, EDOARDO BROMBIN, MARTINA COLLA, VALERIA DE SCARPIS DI VIANINO &amp; MARIA CHIARA METELLI</b>	
<i>New perspectives on the evolution of the sanctuary of Apollo Pythios in Gortyn</i>	451
<i>Νέες προοπτικές για την εξέλιξη του ιερού του Απόλλωνος Πυθίου στη Γόρτυνα</i>	466

ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

**PATRIZIO FILERI**

<i>New research at the Sanctuary of the Egyptian Gods in Gortyn</i>	467
<i>Νέα έρευνα στο Ιερό των Αιγυπτίων Θεών της Γόρτυνας</i>	481

**ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΑ ΚΑΝΤΑ, ΔΑΝΑΗ Ζ. ΚΟΝΤΟΠΟΔΗ, ΑΝΔΡΕΑΣ ΛΥΡΙΝΤΖΗΣ,  
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<i>Anaokafikή έρευνα στο Μεγάλο Θέατρο της Γόρτυνας, 2011-2015</i>	483
<i>Excavation at the Great Theater of Gortyn, 2011-2015</i>	495

**MARIA RICCIARDI**

<i>Ο Αρχαιολογικός Χάρτης της Γόρτυνας. Η πολεοδομική ανάπτυξη της πόλης: πρώτες παρατηρήσεις</i>	497
<i>Urban ancient planning: a study based on the Gortyn Archaeological Map. The main results</i>	507

**ROBERTO PERTA**

<i>Η Γόρτυνα μεταξύ 4ου και 6ου αι. μ.Χ.: τα αποτελέσματα των αρχαιολογικών ερευνών του Πανεπιστημίου της Macerata στο Νότιο Κτήριο Gortyn between IV and VI centuries AD: Results of an archaeological research conducted by the University of Macerata at the South Building</i>	509
	529

**Κεντρική Κρήτη/Πρινιάς – Central Crete/Prinias**

**SALVATORE RIZZA**

<i>Spatial and architectural analysis of the Siderospilia necropolis (Prinias). First results</i>	533
<i>Χωρική και αρχιτεκτονική ανάλυση της νεκρόπολης στη Σιδεροσπηλιά του Πρινιά. Πρώτα αποτελέσματα</i>	545

**ANTONELLA PAUTASSO**

<i>The Siderospilia necropolis (Prinias) in the Geometric period. Preliminary remarks on some oversized vessels</i>	547
<i>Η νεκρόπολη της Σιδεροσπηλιάς (Πρινιάς) στη γεωμετρική περίοδο. Προκαταρκτικές παρατηρήσεις σε κάποια ευμεγέθη αγγεία</i>	558

**ROSSELLA GIGLI PATANÈ**

<i>Orientalizing relief pithoi from Prinias. Preliminary remarks on the new evidence from the excavations on the Patela Ανατολιζοντες ανάγλυφοι πίθοι από τον Πρινιά. Προκαταρκτικές παρατηρήσεις βασισμένες στα νέα στοιχεία που προέκυψαν από τις ανασκαφές στην Πατέλα</i>	559
	568

**GIACOMO BIONDI**

<i>Prinias (Patela). Evidence of Protoarchaic cult activities in the Hellenistic fortress area</i>	569
<i>Πρινιάς (Πατέλα). Ενδείξεις πρωτοαρχαϊκών λατρευτικών δραστηριοτήτων στην περιοχή του ελληνιστικού φρουρίου</i>	575

**Κεντροδυτική Κρήτη – Central-Western Crete**

**Προϊστορική έως και ελληνιστική περίοδος  
– Prehistoric to Hellenistic Era**

**ΙΡΙΣ ΤΖΑΧΙΔΗ**

<i>Τα μεγάλα κοινωνικά συμπόσια στο Ιερό Κορυφής του Βρύσινα και τα αρχαιολογικά τους συμφραζόμενα</i>	579
<i>The large communal feasts at the Vrysinas Peak Sanctuary and their archaeological context</i>	594

**ΓΙΑΝΝΗΣ ΤΖΕΛΑΚΙΣ & ΒΙΚΗ ΚΟΛΥΒΑΚΗ**

<i>Αρμένοι: η μινωική πόλη και η Νεκρόπολη</i>	595
<i>Armenoi: the minoan polis and the necropolis</i>	601

**ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΤΖΙΓΚΟΥΝΑΚΗ**

<i>Η μινωική εγκατάσταση στο Καλό Χωράφι Μυλοποτάμου</i>	603
<i>The systematic excavation of the Minoan settlement at "Kalo Chorafi", Mylopotamos</i>	614

**KALLIOPI BAIKA, APOSTOLOS SARRIS, ANASTASIA TZIGOUNAKI,  
NIKOS G. PAPADOPOULOS, GIANLUCA CANTORO, MEROPIS MANATAKI,  
ATHANASIOS PSAROGIANNIS, VINCENT DUMAS, KLEOMENIS  
KALOGEROPOULOS, EIRINI CHRYSOCHERI, NOTA KARAMALIKI,  
KOSTAS GIAPITSOGLOU & JAFAR ANBAR**

<i>Geoarchaeological survey on the rock-cut slipways of Rethymnon (Crete, Greece)</i>	615
<i>Γεωαρχαιολογικές έρευνες στις εγκαταστάσεις λαξευτών νεωσοίκων του Ρεθύμνου (Κρήτη)</i>	632

**Βυζαντινή έως και νεότερη περίοδος – Byzantine to Modern Era**

**ΑΘΗΝΑ ΦΡΑΪΔΑΚΗ**

<i>Σωστική ανασκαφή ανατολικού τμήματος οικοπέδου φερόμενης ιδιοκτησίας Χ. Ευκαρπίδου στον οικισμό Πάνορμο, Η. Ε. Ρεθύμνου: πρώτη παρουσίαση</i>	633
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ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

<i>Rescue excavation on the Christina Eukarpidis property (east part) at ‘Limni’ in Panormo, Rethymnon: a preliminary presentation of finds</i>	644
<b>ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑ ΦΙΟΛΤΑΚΗ</b>	
Πρωτοβυζαντινό εργαστήριο ναλουργίας στην Αργυρούπολη Ρεθύμνου (αρχαία Λάππα)	645
An Early Byzantine glass-workshop in Argyroupolis, Rethymnon (ancient Lappa)	657
<b>ΚΩΣΤΑΣ ΓΙΑΠΙΤΣΟΓΛΟΥ</b>	
Το καθολικό της Μονής Αγίας Μαρίας Μαγδαληνής των Δομινικανών στο Ρέθυμνο	659
The Catholicon of the St. Magdalene Monastery of the Dominican Order in Rethymnon	669
 <b>Κεντροδυτική Κρήτη/Ελεύθερνα – Central-Western Crete/Eleutherna</b>	
<b>ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ ΧΡ. ΣΤΑΜΠΟΛΙΔΗΣ</b>	
Ελεύθερνα, η νεκρόπολη της Ορθής Πέτρας.	673
Προσωρινά συμπεράσματα	673
Eleutherna – necropolis of Orthi Petra: Preliminary results	690
<b>ΧΡΙΣΤΙΝΑ ΤΣΙΓΩΝΑΚΗ</b>	
Οι ανασκαφές του Πανεπιστημίου Κρήτης στην Ακρόπολη της Αρχαίας Ελεύθερνας (Τομέας II, Κεντρικός) κατά την περίοδο 2013 – 2016	691
The excavations of the University of Crete on the acropolis of Ancient Eleutherna (Sector II - Central) in the period 2013 – 2016	709
<b>ΝΟΤΑ ΚΑΡΑΜΑΛΙΚΗ</b>	
Ειδώλια από το νερό στο Νησί, Ελεύθερνα (Τομέας II – Κεντρικός)	711
Clay figurines from Nissi, Eleutherna (Sector II)	726
<b>ΝΙΚΟΛΑ ΣΠΑΝΟΥ</b>	
Αναθήματα πρωτοαρχαϊκής περιόδου από τον ναό της Ακρόπολης της Αρχαίας Ελεύθερνας	727
Protoarchaic votives from the acropolis temple of ancient Eleutherna	740

ΠΕΡΙΕΧΟΜΕΝΑ – CONTENTS

**NADIA COUTSINAS**

<i>Early Byzantine Glass from Eleutherna Pyrgi (Sector II)</i>	741
<i>Πρωτοβυζαντινά γυάλινα ευρήματα από την Ελεύθερνα, Πυργί (Τομέας II)</i>	752

**ΑΜΑΛΙΑ Μ. ΤΡΟΥΛΛΙΝΟΥ**

<i>B' κύκλος εργασιών συντήρησης χάλκινων ευρημάτων από τον Τομέα II της αρχαϊκής Ελεύθερνας (2013-2016)</i>	753
<i>The second stage in the conservation of copper finds from the excavation of Sector II in Ancient Eleutherna</i>	761

**Ανατολική Κρήτη (συμπλήρωμα Α' Τόμου)  
– Eastern Crete (supplement to Volume A)**

**ΑΘΑΝΑΣΙΑ KANTA, SUSAN C. FERRENCE & LILY BONGA**

<i>Σπήλαιο Πελεκητών Ζάκρου 2014, 2015.</i>	
<i>Προκαταρκτική Έκθεση των εργασιών</i>	765
<i>Preliminary Report on the 2014 and 2015</i>	
<i>Excavation Seasons in the Pelekita Cave, Zakros, Crete</i>	776

**Δυτική Κρήτη (συμπλήρωμα Α' Τόμου) –  
Western Crete (supplement to Volume A)**

**ANDREAS VÖTT, VERA WERNER, KALLIOPI BAIKA, PETER FISCHER,  
ANASTASIA TZIGOUNAKI, AGGELIKI TSIGKOU, KLAUS REICHERTER,  
ΙΟΑΝΝΗΣ ΡΑΠΑΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ, KURT EMDE & LEA OBROCKI**

<i>The AD 365 tsunami imprint on the coasts of southwestern Crete – The Sougia case study</i>	779
<i>Το γεωλογικό αποτύπωμα από το τσουνάμι του 365 μ.Χ. στις ακτές της ΝΔ Κρήτης – Η περίπτωση της Σούγιας</i>	787

**ΧΡΥΣΟΥΛΑ ΣΓΟΥΡΑΚΗ**

<i>Το έργο του Τμήματος Συντήρησης της Εφορείας Αρχαιοτήτων Χανίων (2014 – 2015)</i>	789
<i>The work of the Conservation Department of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Chania (2014 – 2015)</i>	799

## **ΒΡΑΧΥΓΡΑΦΙΕΣ – ABBREVIATIONS**

### 1. ΠΕΡΙΟΔΙΚΑ - ΣΕΙΡΕΣ - ΛΕΞΙΚΑ JOURNALS - SERIES - DICTIONARIES

AAA	Αρχαιολογικά Ανάλεκτα εξ Αθηνών
ABME	Αρχείον Βυζαντινών Μνημείων της Ελλάδος
ΑΔ (AD)	Αρχαιολογικόν Δελτίον
ΑΕ	Αρχαιολογική Εφημερίς
ΔΧΑΕ	Δελτίον της Χριστιανικής Αρχαιολογικής Εταιρείας
ΕΕΒΣ	Επετηρίς Εταιρείας Βυζαντινών Σπουδών
Κρητικά Χρονούν	Κρητικά Χρονικά
ΝΧΚ	Νέα Χριστιανική Κρήτη
ΠΑΕ	Πρακτικά της εν Αθήναις Αρχαιολογικής Εταιρείας
AA	Archäologischer Anzeiger
AEA	Aegean Archaeology
AJA	American Journal of Archaeology
AR	Archaeological Reports
ArtBull	The Art Bulletin
ASAtene	Annuario della Scuola Archeologica di Atene e delle Missioni Italiane in Oriente
BCH	Bulletin de Correspondence Hellénique
BdA	Bollettino d'Arte
BICS	Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies of the University of London
BSA	Annual of the British School at Athens
DOP	Dumbarton Oaks Papers
JAS	Journal of Archaeological Science
JdI	Jahrbuch des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts
JFA	Journal of Field Archaeology
JÖB	Jahrbuch der Österreichischen Byzantinistik
LANX	Rivista della Scuola di Specializzazione in Archeologia – Università degli Studi di Milano
Minos	Minos, Revista de filología egea
MonAnt	Monumenti Antichi
NumChron	The Numismatic Chronicle
OpAth	Opuscula Atheniensia
Opuscula	Opuscula: Annual of the Swedish Institutes at Athens and Rome
RA	Revue Archéologique
RendLinc	Atti dell'Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei. Rendiconti

## ΒΡΑΧΥΓΡΑΦΙΕΣ – ABBREVIATIONS

SkrAth	Skrifter utgivna av Svenska Institutet i Athen (Acta Instituti Atheniensis Regni Sueciae)
SEG	Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum
SIMA	Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology
SMAG	Studi e materiali di archeologia greca

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Μ. Ανδριανάκης & Ι. Τζαχίλη (επιμ.), 2010. *Αρχαιολογικό Έργο Κρήτης 1. Πρακτικά της 1ης Συνάντησης. Ρέθυμνο, 28-30 Νοεμβρίου 2008.* Πανεπιστήμιο Κρήτης - Τμήμα Ιστορίας και Αρχαιολογίας & Υπ.Πο.Τ. - 28η Εφορεία Βυζαντινών Αρχαιοτήτων. Ρέθυμνο: Εκδόσεις Φιλοσοφικής Σχολής Πανεπιστημίου Κρήτης.

*AEK, 2 :*

Μ. Ανδριανάκης, Π. Βαρθαλίτου & Ι. Τζαχίλη (επιμ.), 2012. *Αρχαιολογικό Έργο Κρήτης 2. Πρακτικά της 2ης Συνάντησης. Ρέθυμνο, 26-28 Νοεμβρίου 2010.* Πανεπιστήμιο Κρήτης - Τμήμα Ιστορίας και Αρχαιολογίας, Υπ.Πο.Τ. - 28η Εφορεία Βυζαντινών Αρχαιοτήτων & Αρχαιολογικό Ινστιτούτο Κρητολογικών Σπουδών. Ρέθυμνο: Εκδόσεις Φιλοσοφικής Σχολής Πανεπιστημίου Κρήτης.

*AEK, 3, τόμ. Α' & Β' :*

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*Γ' Κρητολογικό = 3rd Cretological Congress :*

*Πεπραγμένα του Γ' Διεθνούς Κρητολογικού Συνεδρίου (Ρέθυμνον, 18-23 Σεπτεμβρίου 1971), Τόμοι Α'-Γ'. Αθήνα: Δήμος Ρεθύμνης & Υπουργείον Πολιτισμού και Επιστημών, 1973-1975 = Proceedings of the 3rd International Cretological Congress (Rethymnon, 18-23 September 1971), Volumes I-III. Athens: Municipality of Rethymnon & Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Science, 1973-1975.*

*Δ' Κρητολογικό = 4th Cretological Congress :*

*Πεπραγμένα του Δ' Διεθνούς Κρητολογικού Συνεδρίου (Ηράκλειο, 29 Αυγούστου - 3 Σεπτεμβρίου 1976). Αθήνα: Πανεπιστήμιον Κρήτης, 1980-*

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Z' Κρητολογικό :

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Θ' Κρητολογικό = 9th Cretological Congress :

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I' Κρητολογικό = 10th Cretological Congress :

Πεπραγμένα του I' Διεθνούς Κρητολογικού Συνεδρίου (Χανιά, 1-8 Οκτωβρίου 2006). Χανιά: Φιλολογικός Σύλλογος «Ο Χρυσόστομος», 2010-2012 = *Proceedings of the 10th International Cretological Congress (Chania, 1-8 October 2006)*. Chania: “Chrysostomos” Literary Society, 2010-2012.

IA' Κρητολογικό = 11th Cretological Congress :

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IB' Κρητολογικό = 12th Cretological Congress :

Πεπραγμένα του IB' Διεθνούς Κρητολογικού Συνεδρίου (Ηράκλειο, 21-25 Σεπτεμβρίου 2016). Ηράκλειο: Εταιρία Κρητικών Ιστορικών Μελετών, 2018-2020 = *Proceedings of the 12th International Cretological Congress (Heracleion, 21-25 September 2016)*. Heraklion: Society of Cretan Historical Studies, 2018-2020 = <<https://12iccs.proceedings.gr>>.

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*Ελεύθερνα: Πόλη – Ακρόπολη – Νεκρόπολη = Eleutherna: Polis, Acropolis, Necropolis* :

N. Χρ. Σταμπολίδης (επιμ.), 2004. *Ελεύθερνα. Πόλη – Ακρόπολη – Νεκρόπολη. Κατάλογος Έκθεσης στο Μουσείο Κυκλαδικής Τέχνης του Ηρούματος N. Π. Γουλανδρή, Μέγαρο Σταθάτου*. Αθήνα: Υπουργείο Πολιτισμού, ΚΕ' Ε.Π.Κ.Α. – Πανεπιστήμιο Κρήτης – Μουσείο Κυκλαδικής Τέχνης = N. Chr. Stampolidis (ed.) [transl. A. Doumas], *Eleutherna: Polis, Acropolis, Necropolis*. Athens: Ministry of Culture – 25th Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities – University of Crete – Museum of Cycladic Art.

**ΚΕΝΤΡΙΚΗ ΚΡΗΤΗ**

**ΦΑΙΣΤΟΣ**

**CENTRAL CRETE**

**PHAISTOS**

# HAGHIA PHOTINI AND THE ‘URBAN’ DEVELOPMENT OF PHAISTOS: AN UP-TO-DATE SURVEY. A VENTURE BY “PROGETTO FESTOS” AND INSTAP<sup>1</sup>

ALESSANDRO GRECO & ORAZIO PALIO

## Introduction

Within the Italian-Greek *synergasia*, entitled “Ricognizioni archeologiche italo-greche nella città e nel territorio di Phaistos” (undertaken by the Ephorate of Heraklion and the Italian Archaeological School at Athens),<sup>2</sup> new efforts were conducted in 2015-2016 on the site of Haghia Photini, at Phaistos, in order to prepare the archaeological area for restoration. The work was conducted by a composite team of the University of Salerno (directed by Fausto Longo) and the University of Rome (directed by Alessandro Greco),<sup>3</sup> with assistance from INSTAP as a project.<sup>4</sup>

The main aim of this paper is to report the first results and deliberations based on the work done on the western part of this site, the so-called “Minoan quarter” (fig. 1).

The site of Haghia Photini is located on the north-eastern slope of the hill of the Palace of Phaistos. The area takes its name from a church dedicated to Haghia Photia, nowadays known as Haghia Photini, which

- 1 Title of the Project “Out of the Palace: an archaeological investigation of the town of Phaistos from the Minoan to the Postpalatial Age. The so-called quarters of Haghia Photini and Chalara”, directed by Alessandro Greco.
- 2 For details, see Greco & Betto 2015; Bredaki, Longo & Benzi 2009; Bredaki, Longo & Benzi 2010; Longo 2015a; Longo 2015b.
- 3 During the missions conducted at Haghia Photini and Chalara in 2015 and 2016, the structure of the project and the teams involved were: Emanuele Greco (director of the Italian Archaeological School at Athens), director of the Project; Maria Bredaki (director of the 23rd Ephorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities), director of the Project; Fausto Longo (University of Salerno), field director; Alessandro Greco (University of Rome ‘La Sapienza’), leader of the INSTAP Project. The University of Salerno team directed by Fausto Longo was composed of: Lorenzo Arbezzano, Gloria Bolzoni, Ida Campanile, Ilaria Cangiano, Federico Carbone, Andrea Cerrone, Federica Di Biase, Angelique Falatakis, Federica Iannone, Lorette Hehn, Maurizio Musio, Alberto Olivieri, Claudia Palmieri, Marta Pollio, Amedeo Rossi, and Ivan Tornese. The INSTAP Project and the University of Rome ‘La Sapienza’ team, directed by Alessandro Greco, was composed of: Andrea Betto (ArcSat), Alexia Giglio (University of Rome ‘La Sapienza’), Natalia Manzano (University of Rome ‘La Sapienza’), Orazio Palio (University of Catania), Mattia Pavan (ArcSat), Francesca Porta (University of Rome ‘La Sapienza’), Emanuela Santaniello (Soprintendenza di Ercolano), Vincenzo Valente (ArcSat). The geomagnetic survey was carried out by Gianluca Catanzariti, Francesco Pericci and Matteo Sordini (ATS Services).
- 4 Other financing: University of Salerno, Dipartimento di Scienze del Patrimonio Culturale; ‘La Sapienza’ University of Rome; Italian Ministry of Culture; ONLUS – Gli amici di Minosse e Radamanto ([www.festos.eu](http://www.festos.eu)); Galdieri Auto.

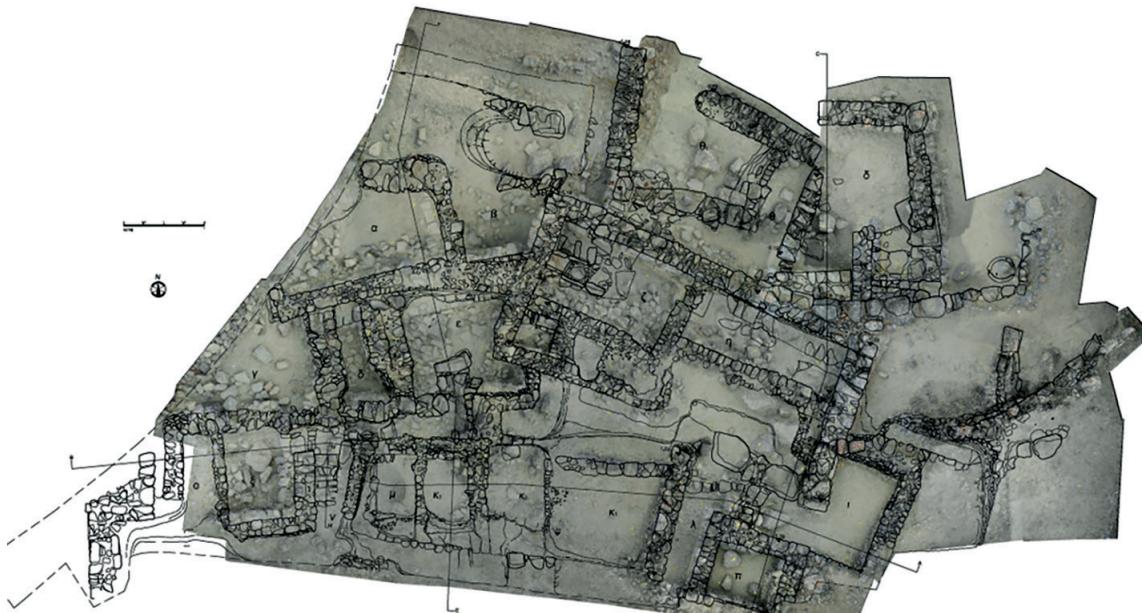


Fig. 1: The area of Haghia Photini

lies ca. 80 meters north of the Palace, at a lower level (by some 20 m). The first archaeological remains in the area were found in 1902 by the Italian archaeologist, Luigi Pernier, near the old church. To the east of the church, Pernier excavated some buildings which he defined “Hellenic”<sup>5</sup> – that is to say neither Minoan nor Mycenaean – while, to the west, he discovered two walls and a column-base connected to a floor of gypsum that, in his opinion, belonged to the last “pre-Mycenaean” phase<sup>6</sup> (fig. 2). Near these buildings, to the west, ran what was defined as a road that

5 For the buildings of this phase see Longo 2020.

6 Pernier 1904, 322: “Al livello più basso si trova un muro, spesso m. 0,80, il quale si avanza da sud-ovest verso nord-est e termina con un pilastro in pietra calcare, costituito da due blocchi sovrapposti. In corrispondenza al pilastro, a ovest, distante da esso m. 1,87 (:) rimane al posto una base di colonna, di forma cilindrica, in pietra calcare come l’anta. Parallelamente alla linea della colonna e del pilastro, a nord, corre poi un altro muro, in gran parte distrutto, e ad est del pilastro stesso si conservano tracce dell’antico pavimento a grandi placche di gesso alabastrino. ... gli oggetti trovati nello scavo ci permettono altresì di riportare tali avanzi all’ultimo periodo premiceneo”. From the images and the pottery found, the building could be dated from MM III to LM I (Orazio Palio, personal communication). While, on our surveys, the “Hellenic” building cited by Pernier to the east of the church has already been identified, the “pre-Mycenaean” one has not.



Fig. 2 : Walls and column-base of the later “Mycenaean” phase (Pernier 1904, 322)

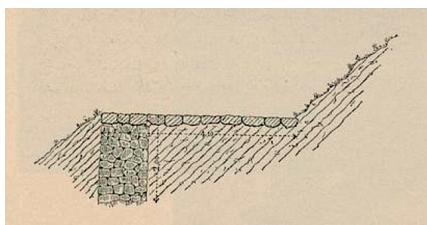


Fig. 3 : The road found by Pernier (Pernier 1904, 322)

connected this area of the hill to the north-eastern part of the palace, 18 m higher, from the west<sup>7</sup> (fig. 3).

The archaeological area of the so-called “Minoan quarter” of Haghia Photini lies a few meters to the north of these remains, down the hill, just behind the first chicane of the road leading to the Palace. It was not discovered by the first Italian archaeologists, but only on the occasion of the construction of the modern road, in the 1950s, when it was excavated by a team directed by Doro Levi, between 1954 and 1958. In 1994, part of the archaeological site, east of the “Minoan quarter” was excavated by Tommasello to explore some Iron Age furnaces (Tommasello 1996, see also La Rosa 1998-2000). Since 1994, no further excavation had been done.

### The 2015 and 2016 campaigns

During the summer of 2015 and 2016, the Phaistos Project teams started the campaign of archaeological clearing and documentation of the site. The work consisted of cleaning, recording and describing all the buildings, structures and sections that are still visible and, finally creating a complete study, photogrammetry and plan of the site, incorporating new aerial photography. These works are presented by a member of the team, Federica Di Biase, in this volume (Di Biase 2020).

The cleaning of the area allowed us to identify a small portion of a Pre-palatial structure, neither indicated nor documented during the 1950s work, in the eastern part of the Protopalatial room  $\beta$ . The study of the stratigraphy of the walls further revealed that, during the Protopalatial

<sup>7</sup> Pernier 1904, 323: “Sulla stessa china settentrionale, un poco ad ovest del gruppo di costruzioni ora descritte, si sono scoperte, per un tratto di m. 2,50, le tracce d’una strada antica, la quale saliva da ovest verso l’angolo nordest del colle. Il tratto conservato si trova a circa m. 18 più in basso rispetto al piano principale del palazzo; al suo limite esterno, cioè sul fianco nord, è sostenuto da una salda muraglia d’opera incerta, larga un metro e alta più di due; è lastricato con placche poligonali di calcare ed ha una leggera pendenza dalla parte del muro di sostegno. In corrispondenza a questo, un altro muro in elevazione doveva servire per sostenere il sovrapposto terrapieno, ma noi non ne abbiamo rinvenuto alcun vestigio, cosicché non è possibile di precisare l’ampiezza originaria della strada, la quale por altro – a giudicare dal lastricato che si conserva – non era meno larga di m. 4,10”.

phase, some minimal changes had been made to the main building, particularly in the area of the rooms  $\alpha\text{-}\beta$  and  $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$ .

In his final publication, Levi (1976, 645) described the north wall of the room  $\varepsilon$ , 1.75 m thick, as being set against the south wall of  $\beta$ , 60 cm thick, allowing Ilaria Caloi (2005, 22) to suppose that the complex of  $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$  could be later than the rooms  $\alpha\text{-}\beta$ .

From our study it emerges, on the contrary, that the wall between  $\beta$  and  $\varepsilon$  is one, and runs from east to west, creating the division between  $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$  (to the south) and  $\alpha\text{-}\beta$  (to the north) (fig. 4). The thickness registered by Levi, principally concerning its easternmost part (between  $\varepsilon$  and  $\beta$ ), is probably due to a misunderstanding of the function of a low ‘wall’ against the northern wall of room  $\varepsilon$ . Interpreted by Levi as the northern wall of the room itself, it is probably better seen as a bench, very similar to that we can observe in the northern part of room  $\delta$ . It could indeed go with the small part of a bench discovered by Levi in the northern wall of room  $\gamma$  (Levi 1976, 634 in his comment to fig. 1028). In his publication, Levi (1955, 161) also describes a low bench, poorly preserved, against the south wall of the same room.

We are able to infer first that these two complexes of rooms were contemporary, contrary to the hypothesis of Caloi (2005, 22), while a plausible change of function can be observed as concerns the inner disposition of rooms  $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$ . During the cleaning operations we could already observe that the rooms  $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$ , limited to the north and south by the longer walls, originally made one long room, with the system of benches on its north wall, as cited above. Only later was this long room divided into three smaller units, as demonstrated by the irregular partition walls that run over part of the northern bench itself, and that abut on the north and south main walls (Di Biase 2016, 131-136).

Thus, we may deduce that the original plan of the building was a single room, ca. 9 m x ca. 2.5 m, with a long northern bench and, at least, a small bench along the western part of the southern wall. With due care, this “hall” perhaps could be compared with the more impressive CVII hall, which lies south of the “Acropoli Mediana” (see now Baldacci 2017). These halls share approximately the same chronology (Caloi 2005, 27-28; Baldacci 2017, 77-82) – MM IB-MM IIA for Hagia Photini and MM IIA-MM IIB for the rooms CVI-CVII; they have the same dimensions ( $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$  is ca. 9 m x ca. 2.5 m while CVII is 8.5 x 1.8m), the same presence of a system of long benches along the walls and, finally, topographically, they are both located in close proximity to the main entrance of the areas of the palace – the CVII hall lies ca. 100 m to the west of the western court, while  $\gamma\text{-}\delta\text{-}\varepsilon$  lies ca. 100 north of the northeast area of the palace, and particularly of room 103 (Palio 2012).

At the same time, as Orazio Palio suggests (Palio 2012), the Protopalatial building displays interesting functional and architectural similar-

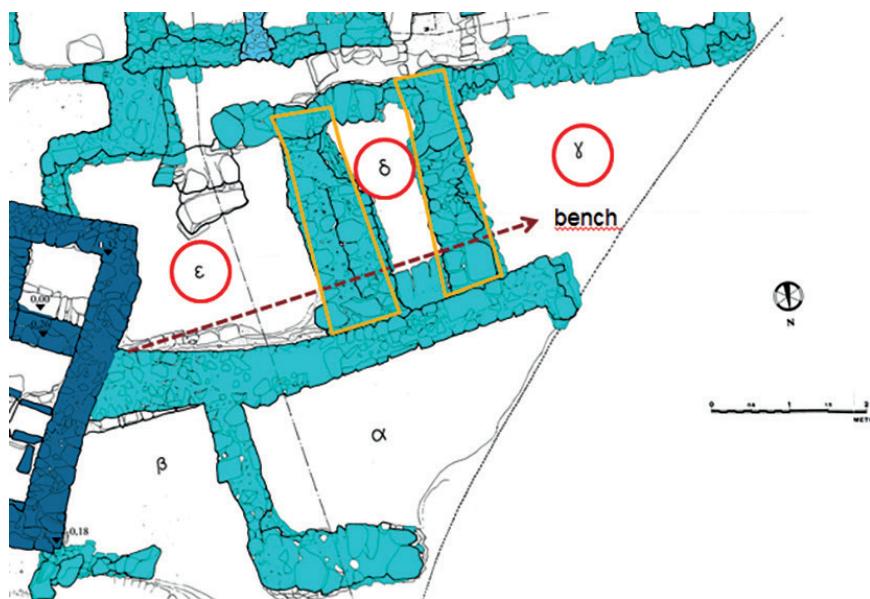
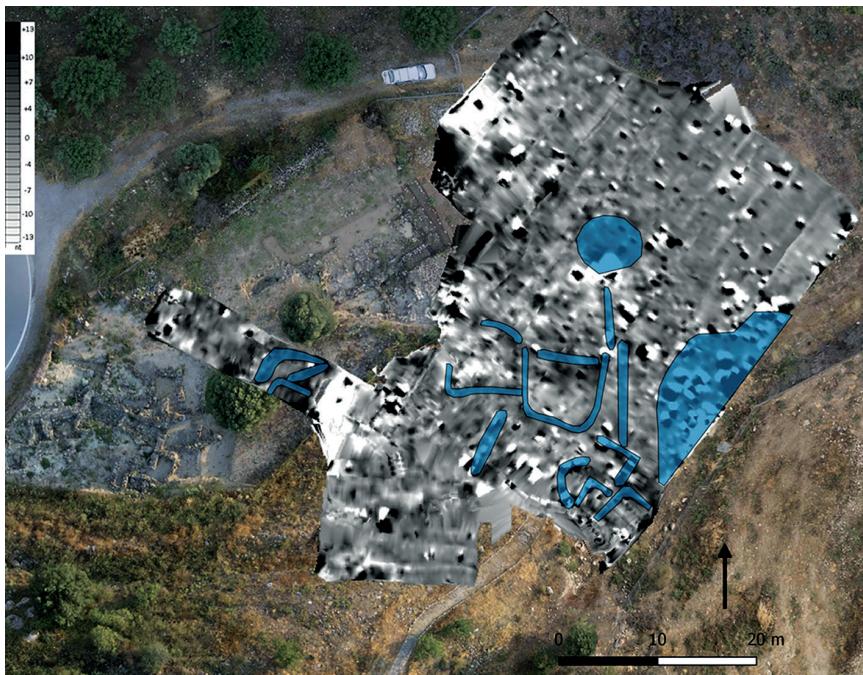


Fig. 4 : The long east-west wall between  $\gamma$ - $\delta$ - $\varepsilon$  and  $\alpha$ - $\beta$ , and the bench, partly covered by the north-south walls

ties with the later building of the Neopalatial phase (LM IB), and particularly with its rooms  $\eta$  and  $\zeta$  (whose south-western corner overlaps the north-eastern corner of room  $\varepsilon$ ), which could testify to a continuity in the use of the area and of its buildings.

If these suggestions can be considered valid, it is interesting to analyze the possible analogies in the position, function and the evolution of these buildings within the general architectonical tradition of Phaistos between Protopalatial ( $\gamma$ - $\delta$ - $\varepsilon$  and CVII) and Neopalatial times ( $\eta$  and  $\zeta$ ).

Another important result, achieved by our work on the field, concerns the extension of the archaeological area. Levi (1955, 160) testifies that the Minoan buildings continued across the road, westwards, and, probably towards east along the hill. As a result of this suggestion, in 2016 we conducted a geomagnetic survey along the eastern part of the site. Although we are still waiting for the final report, from the preliminary images supplied by the Ground Penetrating Radar and the Magnetometer survey, a number of alignments emerges, some of which can be related to masonry. The orientation of the buildings seems to be similar to the Protopalatial, and even more so to the Neopalatial structures dug up in the western part of the site, allowing us to suppose that the "Minoan" quarter may well continue eastward, following the natural slope of the hill (fig. 5).



**Fig. 5 :** Ground Penetrating Radar and the Magnetometer surveys to the west of the "Minoan quarter" (elaboration from ATS s.r.l.)

This point seems to have been confirmed by the trial pit excavated in summer 2017 by a team of the Phaistos Project.<sup>8</sup> The pit revealed a stratigraphy at a shallow depth, albeit partly damaged by the strong erosion of the hill slope, which almost completely obliterated a terrace wall and a room up against it. The structure seems to date from the Geometric period, but overlies layers of earth fill containing significant quantities of Minoan pottery. These are possibly the same strata encountered by the late-1950s excavations further east and under which structures of the Proto- and Neopalatial period emerged.

#### Topographical considerations

Until the 1980s, before the drainage system of the Gria Saita was implemented, the area of Phaistos was characterized on its east side by a wide and unhealthy marshland. The area of Hagia Photini was defined by Spratt as "miserable and befevered" (Spratt 1865, 24). In order to avoid the northernmost part of these marshlands, the main road coming from Moires had to maintain a northern route, approaching

<sup>8</sup> The team comprised Amedeo Rossi, Federica Iannone, Federica Di Biase and Maurizio Musio.

the area of Phaistos from northeast. Close to Haghios Onouphrios, this road finally met the one that connected Vori to Haghios Ioannis. Only then was the visitor able to turn towards the south, to reach the northern slopes of Phaistos (fig. 6).

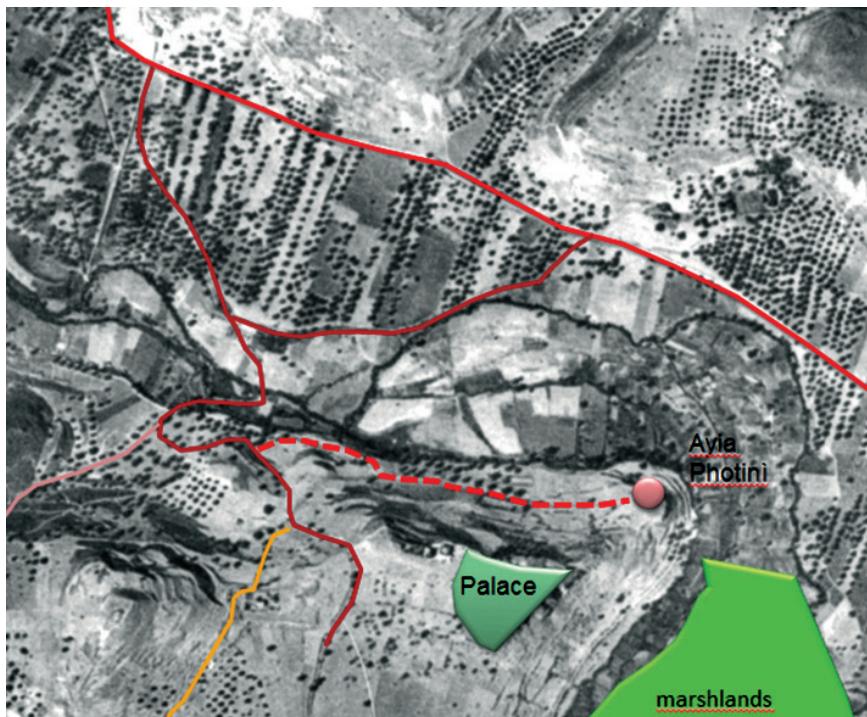


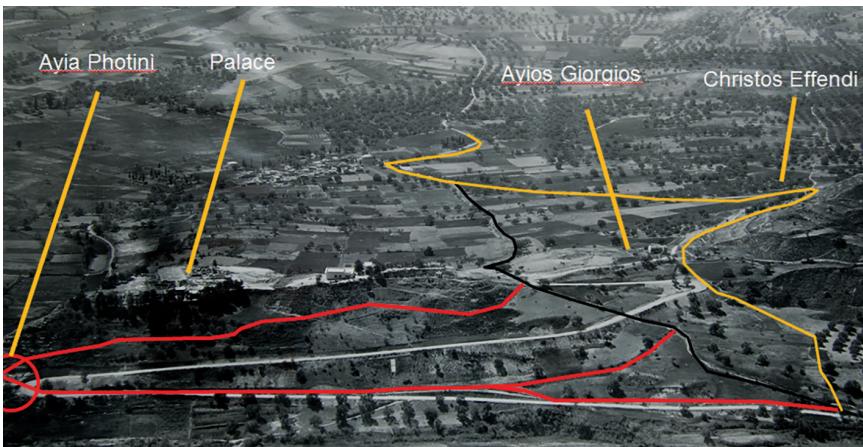
Fig. 6 : The pre-modern road system of Phaistos

The studies conducted by the Phaistos Project, together with the team directed by Michel Ghirardi of the CEREGE of Aix-en-Provence, have demonstrated that during Minoan times, the part of the Mesara plain near the plateau of Phaistos, between the modern villages of Haghios Ioannis and Petrokephali, was a lake.<sup>9</sup> As a consequence, we may suppose that also during Minoan times a similar circuitous route was needed to approach the urban area, which could not be directly accessed from the east. Whatever the exact route from the north was, it is probable that the Minoan traveler approached from north-east, encountering, as in modern times, the Palace and Haghia Photini as the first testimony of the town’s existence.

<sup>9</sup> Ghilardi *et al.* 2015 with other bibliography; the complete edition of the results is forthcoming.

We have no clues to help understand how the ancient roads approached either from the south, towards the flat area that stretches between Christos Effendi and the Acropoli Mediana, or from the south-east, towards Haghia Photini and the Palace. We can only be sure that from Haghia Photini it was possible to reach the area of the Palace directly.

Today there is only a small and difficult track which connects the northeastern part of the Palace with the area of Haghia Photini, along a steep south-north route. But, west of the “pre-Mycenaean” area, Pernier thought he had come across part of the Minoan road that lead to the Palace.<sup>10</sup> Even if Pernier cannot offer any proof that his “road” was ancient, and even though no traces of this road have yet been identified during our surveys, the aerial photos made before and little after the construction of the modern road, allow us to appreciate the pre-modern routes of the area, and the existence of tracks that led to Haghia Photini are still recognizable (**fig. 6**, dashed line; **fig.7**).



**Fig. 7 :** The pre-modern road system of Phaistos

It is interesting to note the archaeological data deriving from the steep slopes of this northern hilly part of the site of Phaistos. Along the pre-modern route, starting from the north, the so-called “tomb of the Old Mill” and the “tomb of the road” were discovered, both with Sub-Mycenaean and/or Protogeometric phases; halfway up the hill, a little

10 Pernier 1904, 324: “è evidente ch'essa riusciva all'angolo nord-est della spianata superiore, ove innanzi al palazzo si stende un vasto piazzale ancora per buona parte lastricato allo stesso modo della strada; né sembra inverosimile che la strada stessa fosse una diramazione d'una delle grandi vie antiche della Messarà, d'una via la quale doveva press'a poco corrispondere alla odierna che, venendo dalla baia messaritica, lascia un poco a sud la stazione preellenica di Haghia Triada e quindi corre fra le acropoli di Phaestos e le colline su cui erano disseminate le sepolture micenee”.

hoard of Hellenistic coins was discovered in 1953, and, lastly, probably part of a Hellenistic cemetery was discovered by our team in 2015 in the section which was cut through the “quarter” during the construction of the new road.

While no systematic survey or study have been conducted in this area, the information that we have collected allows us to suppose that in the post-Palatial ages, and mainly in Hellenistic times, this area was used for funerary purposes, and that, as a consequence, it may be considered as lying outside the town. In a similar manner, the absence of Minoan structures north of Haghia Photini could allow us to suppose that the area was also outside the town during Minoan times (Palio 2001, 267; 2012).

This postulation may confirm the marginal position of Haghia Photini as it appears in the literature (Caloi 2005, 33). But in fact the marginal position of Haghia Photini stems principally from our still incomplete knowledge of the territory. Further, the use of the label of “quarter” tends to imply its isolation from more than its connection with the rest of Protopalatial Phaistos. Following McEnroe (2010, 67) we can say that “to neglect the spaces between the building, ... would be to neglect the fabric that tied the city together: the streets, walkways, courts, and public gathering places. It would also overlook the enormous investment that went into both the construction of these public facilities and their maintenance and programming”.

As a consequence, the explanation of Palio (2012, 104) is preferable, as he stresses the role played by Haghia Photini in LM I, as the interface between the Palace and its external areas: the surveys conducted in recent years support the suggestion, allowing one to conclude that Haghia Photini was both liminal and yet fully integrated into the “urban” system of Protopalatial Phaistos, as its architectonical and topographic relationship with room CVII could demonstrate. Liminal rather than marginal (Caloi 2011, 80) would be a better word to use.

Finally, the plausible “external” element of the area in front of Haghia Photini allows us to conclude that Haghia Photini was probably placed at the gates of the town (Palio 2012). A similar role could also be deduced for two other strategic areas of the site, at Chalara<sup>11</sup> and, in the eastern area, near the southeastern slopes of Christos Effendi.

The importance of Haghia Photini in the framework of the Phaistian urban system, and its particular relation with the Palace, is highlighted by a document that has been sadly disregarded far too long: the Linear A

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<sup>11</sup> A similar role may be supposed also for the rooms  $\kappa$  and  $\lambda$  at Chalara. I thank Orazio Palio for this suggestion. For the general discussion on rooms  $\lambda$  and  $\kappa$ , see Levi 1976, 675–679. During the campaigns of 2016–2017, Chalara has been cleaned and completely studied by the teams of Phaistos Project (University of Salerno and Roma ‘La Sapienza’), with a grant from INSTAP.

tablet, PH 30. Unlike Linear B documents of the Mycenaean age, the presence of Linear A does not testify to an unequivocal deployment of Haghia Photini inside the palatial administration. On the other hand, the existence of a totally independent, private administration cannot be proven either. From Levi, we know that the tablet was found in the Protopalatial room  $\kappa_2$ ,<sup>12</sup> though in the final edition (*GORILA I*, xxx, 316-317) the findspot indicated is the Neopalatial room  $\iota$ . Sorting out the different findspots requires the study of the original fieldnotes of Clelia Laviosa – the archaeologist who excavated the room: the latter findspot is there recorded.<sup>13</sup> If this is correct, PH 30 could be the very earliest written document found in Neopalatial Phaistos.

Alessandro Greco

#### Haghia Photini during the Neopalatial phase

Well after the end of MM III, during the LM IB, a new palace at Phaistos was rebuilt above the ruins of the older one (La Rosa 2002; Palio 2010). The broader settlement was abandoned during LM IA with only a few buildings, of which there are scant architectural remains, still in use in the area immediately southwest of the Palace and in the area west of West Court I. Only when the Palace was rebuilt, were two important buildings built – at Haghia Photini and Chalara, respectively on the northeastern and southeastern slopes of the hill (the latter perhaps a little earlier).

The paucity of evidence, especially architectural, belonging to the LM I phase, has also been confirmed by the initial results of the survey conducted by the Phaistos Project, according to which this seems one of the least represented periods. As a consequence, the role of these structures must be considered very carefully, and we hope that the restarting of research at Haghia Photini and Chalara will give important results.

The study of LM I deposits, excavated in 1954 and 1958 at Haghia Photini, is still ongoing (Levi 1955, 158; 1961-1962, 469-77; Palio 2001; 2012). The house has very simple architecture, similar to Minoan buildings of this age: two central rooms, communicating via a wide door ( $\eta$  and  $\zeta$ ), and several other surrounding rooms, probably service rooms, set around these (McEnroe 1982; 1990) (fig. 8). The material assemblages comprise particularly valuable objects, in striking contrast with the apparent poverty of the preserved architectural structures.

Unlike other parts of the site of Phaistos, the site of Haghia Photini was abandoned after the destruction of the MM II building and during the MM III period. Only the fragments of two large hemispherical cups

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<sup>12</sup> Levi 1961-1962, 472. But, in the final publication, Levi (1976, 651) avoids specifying the findspot, describing the tablet in a general discussion about the finds discovered in levels under the Neopalatial rooms ( $\Lambda$  and  $\zeta$ ?).

<sup>13</sup> I thank Orazio Palio for the information. See also Militello 2002, 73.

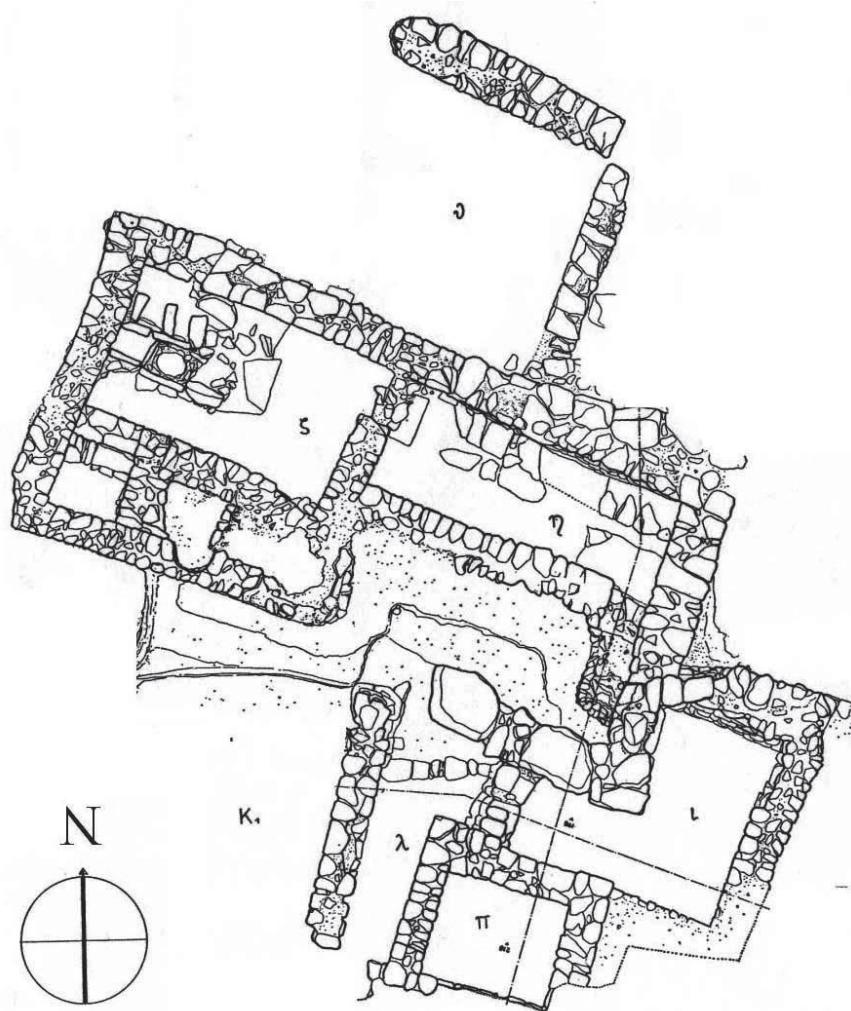


Fig. 8 : Plan of the LM IB Building of Haghia Photini (after Levi 1961-1962)

retrieved in the southern sector (fig. 9), along with other LM IB materials, from a possible open space referred to as  $\kappa_j$ , could be comparable with similar vessels, from a typological point of view, from Hagia Triada, dated to an initial phase of LM I (Puglisi 2001; 2011a; 2013, 76). Luca Girella (2010) believes that such type of cups may be dated to MM III production.

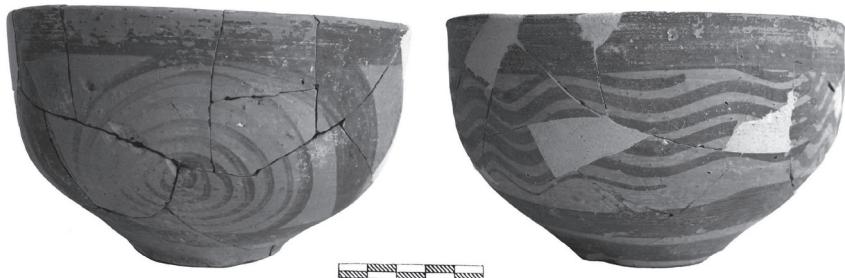


Fig. 9 : MM IIIB-LM IA cups from space  $\kappa$ , (inv. SAIA F2560 and 2561)

From the abundant material recovered in the destruction levels, we can place this at the end of the LM IB period, simultaneous with that of the Second Palace. However, we have no reliable information about the time of construction of the building, except, perhaps, a small group of fragments, coming from the area of the Protopalatial room  $\beta$  (fig. 10). These fragments were stored in a box whose label reads "layer over the



Fig. 10 : Sherds of LM IB cups from the area of the MM room  $\beta$

bench” (in Italian “*strato sulla banchina*”) and the bench of  $\beta$ , as it is known, belongs to the oldest Protopalatial building. The sherds, certainly in a secondary deposition, may have been collected during the excavation of the destruction levels of the older building running below the foundation layer of LM I building. They comprise fragments of cups decorated with LM IA final-LM IB horizontal wavy lines, tangent spiral motifs (Chatzi-Vallianou 2011; Cucuzza 2011; Puglisi 2011b; Rutter 2011), and in the so-called Floral Paneled Style (Rutter 2004). If this small group of fragments was in a stratigraphical position that preceded the construction of the Neopalatial building, it could then indicate when our building was constructed. That would be during the LM IB period, the same broad epoch when the Second Palace was rebuilt and used (Palio 2010).

The LM IB building of Haghia Photini was constructed over three terraces, oriented south to north. On the upper terrace are the rooms  $\iota$  and  $\pi$  and the corridor or the stairway  $\lambda$ , with the open area  $\kappa$ . The rooms  $\iota$  and  $\pi$  were found filled with vases broken up into numerous and often minute fragments. The pottery assemblage was composed of fine ceramics in particular, among which numerous cups (at least one hundred), conical cups (over one hundred), jugs and bridge-spouted jars, a stirrup jar, fragmentary human figurines and a stone lamp (fig. 11). It is possible that the few fragments collected in room  $\lambda$  belonged to the same complex formed by the rooms  $\iota$  and  $\pi$ , or they could have fallen from a room on the upper floor.



Fig. 11 : Stone lamp from room  $\pi$  (inv. SAIA F2454)

The hypothesis of the possible presence of an upper floor would appear borne out not only by two steps of a staircase in the southern sector of  $\eta$  (fig. 12), but also by the discovery in different rooms of sherds belonging to the same vessel (fig. 13). In our opinion, the two small rooms  $\iota$  and  $\pi$  may have had the function of closets, where the vessels utilized in the activities of the building were stored.<sup>14</sup>



Fig. 12 : Steps of the stairway in room  $\eta$

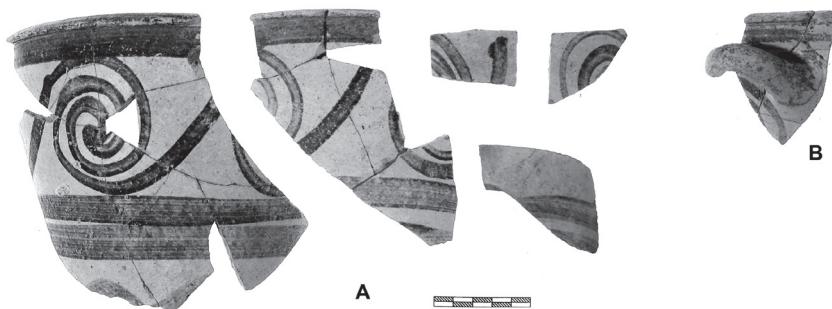


Fig. 13 : Fragments of a bowl from (a) space  $\kappa$ , and (b) from room  $\iota$

On the terrace below were the two rooms  $\eta$  and  $\zeta$ . The first was the largest room of the house, where a large *pithoid*-amphora and several

<sup>14</sup> The presence of small storerooms for pottery and other objects near rooms equipped with a bench is attested in other MM buildings at Phaistos, like the House LXXXI-LXXXV/XCIV-XCV, west of the West Court (Spezziale 2001), and the building CV-CVII, on the south slope of the so-called Acropoli Mediana (Baldacci 2017).

bridge-spouted jars were found, as well as a bird's nest bowl in green serpentine, placed in a niche of a probable bench against the south wall. All the vessels found on the floor are connected with drinking activities, perhaps the main activity in this room. The stone vessel, the bench, and the drinking vessels are characteristic elements of Protopalatial contexts, apparently still in circulation in the LM IB period (Palio 2004).

In the second room, a series of quadrangular boxes formed from vertically-placed slabs was brought to light. Given the presence of ashes and of two tripod cooking pots inside them, this room can be considered as a facility for cooking activities (fig. 14). The impression that this is a kitchen is enhanced by the presence, near the stone boxes, of a stone slab resting on the floor, several stone pestles and grinders and other vessels for the storage, processing and preparation of food.



Fig. 14 : Room  $\zeta$  during the old excavation

On the third terrace, the lowest, there was only one room,  $\theta$ , in which were found several medium-size vases, probably containers for food-stuffs and liquids, and the fragments of some *pithoi*. Many of these vessels are similar to those stored in room 103 of the northeast quarter of the Palace, which also arguably is directly connected with one of the possible access routes to the Palace, for people coming from the north.

From this short description of the building, we obtain further confirmation of the role that Haghia Photini had fulfilled over the centuries as a zone that connected the Palace and the outside world. In LM IB,

the Haghia Photini building was, we may assume, a place where people entering the Palace congregated and in partaking of food and drink, readied themselves to be received into this great religious centre. In this context, the fragment of the Linear A tablet referred to above (and dating to the Second Palace period) would not be out of place.

*Orazio Palio*

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HAGHIA PHOTINI AND THE ‘URBAN’ DEVELOPMENT OF PHAISTOS

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Η ΑΓΙΑ ΦΩΤΕΙΝΗ ΚΑΙ Η «ΑΣΤΙΚΗ» ΑΝΑΠΤΥΞΗ ΤΗΣ ΦΑΙΣΤΟΥ:  
ΜΙΑ ΕΠΙΚΑΙΡΟΠΟΙΗΜΕΝΗ ΕΠΙΦΑΝΕΙΑΚΗ ΕΡΕΥΝΑ. ΕΝΑ ΕΓΧΕΙΡΗΜΑ  
ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΟΣ «ΦΑΙΣΤΟΣ» ΚΑΙ ΤΟΥ INSTAP

ALESSANDRO GRECO & ORAZIO PALIO

Η θέση Αγία Φωτεινή βρίσκεται στη βόρεια πλαγιά του λόφου του ανακτόρου της Φαιστού. Η αρχαιολογική περιοχή αποκαλύφθηκε κατά τη διάνοιξη του οδικού άξονα Μοίρες – Μάταλα το 1954 και ανασκάφηκε από Ιταλούς αρχαιολόγους μεταξύ των ετών 1954-1959. Στο δυτικό τμήμα του χώρου, ένας μικρός οικιστικός πυρήνας ανασκάφηκε και ταυτίστηκε ως «Μινωική Συνοικία» από τον αρχαιολόγο Doro Levi. Η ανασκαφή δημοσιεύτηκε γρήγορα, ωστόσο η τεκμηρίωσή της ήταν πολύ επιφανειακή. Το 2015, στο πλαίσιο της ελληνοϊταλικής συνεργασίας Πρόγραμμα «Φαιστός», έγινε μια νέα προσπάθεια καθαρισμού του χώρου και προετοιμασίας για την αποκατάστασή του.

Με βάση τα νέα στοιχεία που προέκυψαν από τον καθαρισμό και την αποκατάσταση του χώρου (2015-2016), καθώς και με τις πληροφορίες που συλλέχθηκαν από επιφανειακές έρευνες εππά ετών στην περιοχή της Φαιστού, στο πρώτο μέρος της παρούσας ανακοίνωσης, ο Alessandro Greco παρουσιάζει μια επικαιροποιημένη ανάλυση της λεγόμενης «Συνοικίας» της Αγίας Φωτεινής, κατά τις δύο βασικές περιόδους της μινωικής της ανάπτυξης, και σε συνάρτηση με την ευρύτερη αστική περιφέρεια της Φαιστού.

Στο δεύτερο μέρος της ανακοίνωσης, ο Orazio Palio παρουσιάζει τα πρώτα αποτελέσματα της μελέτης των ομάδων της YM IB κεραμικής από τις ανασκαφές του D. Levi. Κατά τη διάρκεια αυτής της περιόδου, η οποία στη Φαιστό αντιπροσωπεύεται από πολύ λίγες αρχιτεκτονικές δομές, το μικρό συγκρότημα δωματίων που έχει κτιστεί επάνω από τα ερείπια της Πρωτοανακτορικής περιόδου παρουσιάζει ιδιαίτερο ενδιαφέρον, ειδικά αν αναλογιστούμε τη θέση του πάνω σε μια από τις βασικές οδούς που οδηγούν προς το ανάκτορο. Οι συγκεντρώσεις κεραμικής, που σχετίζονται με την προετοιμασία και την κατανάλωση τροφής, ίσως σε τελετουργικά συμφραζόμενα, μπορεί να συνδέονται με ψυχαγωγικές δραστηριότητες που λάμβαναν χώρα έξω από την είσοδο του ανακτόρου.

# ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΕΡΓΟ ΚΡΗΤΗΣ 4

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