

## ΩΣΤΙΚΑΙ ΑΝΑΣΚΑΦΑΙ ΕΙΣ ΗΛΙΔΑ

Μεγάλῃ ἑκτασίῃ τῆς Α. κοιλάδος τοῦ Ἁλειακοῦ Πηνειοῦ πρόκειται νά κατακλυσθῆ ὑπό τῶν ὑδάτων τῶν συγκεντρουμένων ὀπισθεν τοῦ νέου φράγματος παρά τὸ χωρίον Κέντρον Ἁλιδος. Ἡ Ὑπερησία Ἀρχαιοτήτων καὶ Ἀνασθηλώσεως προσεκάλεσε τὰς ξένας Ἀρχαιολογικάς Σχολάς ἐν Ἑλλάδι νά συμβάλουν εἰς τὴν σωστικὴν ἀνασκαφὴν τῆς περιφέρειας. Κατὰ Νοέμβριον 1967 ἀρχαιολόγοι τῶν διαφόρων Σχολῶν ἠρεύνησαν ὀλόκληρον τὴν ἑκτασίαν τῆς δημιουργουμένης λίμνης. Αἱ ἔρευναι ἔγιναν ὑπὸ τὴν αἰγίδα τῆς Ζ' Ἐφορείας Ἀρχαιοτήτων καὶ ὑπὸ τὴν ἐποπτείαν τοῦ Ἐφορευόντος κ. Γ. Παπαθανασοπούλου καὶ τῶν Ἐπιμελητῶν κκ. Π. Θέμελη καὶ Ἀγγ. Χωρέμη. Αἱ ἐκθέσεις τῶν προκαταρκτικῶν ἐρευνῶν τῶν ξένων Σχολῶν δημοσιεύονται κατωτέρω. Τὸ Σχ. 1 δεικνύει τοὺς χώρους ἐρεύνης ἐκάστης Σχολῆς. Σημειωτέον, ὅτι ἡ στάθμη τῆς λίμνης θὰ ἀνέλθῃ ἔως τὰ 100 μ. ὑπὲρ τὴν ἐπιφάνειαν τῆς θαλάσσης, δηλαδὴ μέχρι τῆς ἐντόνου γραμμῆς, ἡ ὁποία διακρίνεται εἰς τὸ Σχ. 1.

## Σημ. τ. Συντάξεως

Ἐπειδὴ τὸ Σχ. 1 ἀναφέρεται εἰς ὄλας τὰς ἐκθέσεις, ἡ ἀρίθμησις τῶν ὑπολοίπων σχεδίων τῶν ἀνασκαφῶν τῶν ξένων Σχολῶν εἶναι συνεχῆς.

## AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES

The area included in the survey conducted by the American School of Classical Studies was bounded on the south by a line from the village of Haghios Elias to an elevation known as Vigla, located to the southeast and across a narrow valley. This valley is drained by the Loukia Stream which empties into the Peneios River below Bali near the dam. The Peneios River limited the area on the north, and the east boundary was a ridge ca. 1.25 km. northeast of Souli. The surface survey and investigation by trial trenches were carried out October 27 to November 6, 1967, and sites discovered are indicated on the map (Plan 1) by a number preceded by the letter A. Thirteen sites have been noted within the area to be flooded by the new lake, almost all of them dating to the Late Roman

(4th to 6th centuries after Christ) or Byzantine period.

Haghios Elias, though not to be covered by water itself, was visited during the course of the survey and two interesting pieces of marble architecture were found alongside the village Church of the Panaghia. The first of these is a well-preserved Corinthian capital with two tiers of acanthus leaves and an additional leaf in each of the four corners (Pl. 130 a). The center of each face of the abacus bulges outwards at the top and is covered with two facing, tangent volutes that spring from the leaves. The carving is somewhat stiff and formal, but competent. The capital is 0.35 m. high and has a diameter of 0.29 m.; the width of the abacus is 0.45 m. The companion piece is a marble post (L. 0.98 m., W. 0.165 m., Th. 0.17 m.) with a small square dowel cutting, 0.04 m. deep, on the bottom; the main vertical face has a carved design of alternating, and interlocking, large and small spirals (Pl. 130 b). The back face and left side are smooth; the right side has anathyrosis.

Both marbles are reputed to have come from an area known as Panaghoula (Site A 11), or, by another account, the capital from Panaghoula and the post from Site A 3. Certainly the post, and probably the capital as well, once adorned an Early Christian church.

Chance finds by villagers at Haghios Elias and surface indications suggest also that there are a number of Late Roman tile graves in the playground south of the schoolhouse.

*Site A 1.* On a saddle between two high points of the ridge that lies immediately south of the church and crossroads east of the village of Bali are traces of what was probably a house of the Late Roman period. The only visible remains were a number of fragments of coarse, red to red-orange Laconian roof-tiles and a few coarse and undecorated orange sherds. The fragments were concentrated on top of the saddle and towards the south. A few roof-tile fragments of the same type were also found below the saddle to the north.

*Site A 2.* The site is a conical elevation on the ridge north of Site A 1 in the field of Christos Elisegopoulos of Bali. The elevation is small, but since it is itself on a ridge it commands a good view of the area. Here were found a number of Laconian roof-tile

fragments and a few coarse sherds, both being of the same types as those found at Site A 1. The owner said he had dug in the area once, probably on the south side, and had found some large stones. There may have been a house here. The ridge is suitable for a watchtower, but there seems to have been

Roman sherds, including spirally grooved ware, and many fragments of Byzantine glazed ware. Most of the Byzantine sherds were covered with a creamy glaze; one plate fragment was decorated with an incised wheel in the center. Numerous coarse Laconian roof-tile fragments were also found. Andreopoulos



Plan 1. Elis. Map indicating the location of ancient remains

no community nearby of size sufficient to call for such a construction.

*Site A 3.* Fields of Nikolaos Andreopoulos and Anastasios Athanasopoulos, near Haghios Elias. In the field of N. Andreopoulos, some ten minutes by foot northeast of the Church of the Panaghia, we found a number of Late

said that many large blocks had been removed from his field when he was a child for the construction of his father's new house in Haghios Elias in 1935. The builders at that time, he recalls, found a piece of marble among the stones with letters on it; the marble was kept by the masons.



The field adjacent on the southwest belongs to A. Athanasopoulos and has a rise near its edge marking what is probably the location of a church. Andreopoulos said he had been told that there was a building there also and said that the marble post now at the church (P.I. 130 b) came from this field. There are a number of bones scattered along the slope and numerous Laconian roof-tiles marking what must be a Late Roman- Early Byzantine cemetery.

( Sites A 4 - 7 are in an area known as Bis-kopios near Souli ).

*Site A 4.* Fields of Theodoros Melitsopoulos of Amalias and the widow Ourania Papadopoulou of Souli. The finds included coarse, red-orange Laconian roof-tile fragments, and Late Roman sherds, mainly coarse and spirally grooved fragments.

*Site A 5.* Beyond a low ridge to the southeast of Site A 4 is a small valley on the east side of which is a low, conical hill where some of the villagers said a church was located ( P.I. 130 c ). We were informed that a number of large stones had been removed from the hill for the construction of a nearby well. Some fragments of small, worked blocks are lying about the summit and a few on the east side are in a row and seem to be in place. No sherds were found.

Below the hill to the south is an ancient well, probably an adjunct to the structure on the hill. The well could not be examined closely since it was filled to the top with water. The modern well mentioned above is next to the ancient one but no trace of ancient blocks was found. The field is the property of the mayor of Kato Loukavitsa.

*Site A 6.* Field of the widow Angelike Pagnapoulou of Souli. On the west slope of the ridge mentioned in locating Site A 5, but to the south and near the boundary of the Melitsopoulos property, are a number of Laconian roof-tile fragments of what seems to be the usual Roman type for this area. We were told that blocks had been removed from this field also for the construction of a well, and we found a large hole from which the blocks may have been taken. About six meters lower on the slope the edges of three small, roughly-cut blocks could be seen; one at least is definitely not in place. The indications are of a house with one or two rows of roughly-

cut sandstone blocks to serve as foundation for mud-brick walls.

There are similar sherds and roof-tile fragments in the next field to the south.

*Site A 7.* Field of L. Nikolaou. In a small fold of the ridge to the southwest of the Melitsopoulos property is the sloping field of L. Nikolaou of Haghios Elias ( now living in the U.S.A. ). In his field we found a number of large fragments of Laconian roof-tiles, Late Roman sherds and, at the edge of the field, some large stones that showed faint evidence of having once been cut for construction.

*Site A 8.* Palaiochori: the area of the old and now unused Church of Haghia Analypsis at Souli. Scattered over a relatively large area near the church we found numerous Laconian roof-tile fragments, spirally grooved ware, combed ware and Byzantine glazed sherds. Of considerable interest was the discovery of several pieces of worked chert, both red and white, and a few pieces of Melian obsidian. The plateau of Palaiochori is ideally situated for a prehistoric settlement, since it affords a good view both up- and down- river; the plateau is high, but nearly flat on top, and there is a good spring below the ridge on the northeast. The north face of at least part of the plateau has fallen away. Not far to the west of the spring is a great circular cutting that had been sunk through the clay and rock to a depth of over 4 m. from the top of the plateau; most of the north side of the cutting had fallen away with the face of the ridge. The diameter is 3.50 m., but the full depth could not be measured since there was an accumulation of earth in the bottom. A villager said that the cutting had once been dug out and that the floor, which was of clay like the sides, was very deep. It is considered locally to be an ancient lime kiln, but its great depth and general construction makes such an identification unlikely despite the fact that the clay sides of the cutting have been baked hard to a depth of 0,15 m. in from the exposed surfaces. It is difficult also to imagine its having served originally either for dry storage or as a cistern, since there is no trace of water-proofing on the sides.

Test trenches were dug in the fields of the widow Yiannitsa Paraskevopoulou, near the northwest edge of the plateau, and of Theodoros Vetsos, near the central, slightly

higher part of the plateau. The results were negative as far as a prehistoric site is concerned. The few finds indicate that the Late Roman and Byzantine village must indeed have been small and insubstantial. The few stone-tools may even have belonged to that late community.

A well-cut block of hard limestone was found in the village of Souli itself, standing free in the yard of N. Layiopoulos who now lives in Amaliada. The dimensions of the block are: L. 0.642 m., W. 0.535 m., Th. 0.420 m. There is no anathyrosis.

*Site A 9.* This site is located northeast of Souli on the north slope of the ridge that lies immediately south and slightly west of the house of the village priest. Roman Laconian roof-tiles, Late Roman and Byzantine sherds and a few Classical sherds were found.

*Site A 10.* On the ridge to the east of the priest's house (see Site A 9) were found a few Late Roman sherds and Laconian roof-tile fragments.

*Site A 11.* Panaghoulia: located on the west slope of the low ridge north of Vigla. The Corinthian capital in Haghios Elias is reputed to have come from this site and we had been told that a marble block which, to judge from its description, was a window or door jamb, was still visible in the field. The latter block was not discovered, nor any other trace of architecture. There are, however, numerous Late Roman and Byzantine sherds here and it may well have been a church site.

*Site A 12.* Vigla: southeast of the village of Haghios Elias on the right bank of the Loukia stream, the first height above the valley. There is a topographical survey marker on the summit. The site is located on the small, lower, northwest plateau. Finds include Late Roman sherds, Byzantine sherds and Roman Laconian roof-tile fragments. The field had been plowed recently and the presence of a number of human bones in the furrows indicates a cemetery.

*Site A 13.* Haghios Athanasios: East of Vigla is a saddle that ascends to the next height (P l. 130 d). The ascending slope is known locally as Haghios Athanasios, though there is no church in the vicinity, nor has there been one in living memory. In the fields of Ioannis Kostouros of Keramidia were found a

great many Late Roman sherds and Roman Laconian roof-tiles. Kostouros showed us where a circular construction, ca. 1 m. in diameter and 1 m. deep, had been ruined in plowing. A fragment of the cement and brick construction was still in the field; it was probably a storage bin.

The site looked very promising and two test trenches were dug. The first, in the area of the storage bin, produced nothing. In the second trench was found a Late Roman tile grave in which a child had been buried. Two of the tiles were complete and made of the same coarse, red-orange clay as the numerous fragments found at nearly all sites in the area. The dimensions of one of the tiles are: L. 0.50 m., W. 0.25/0.22 m., Th. 0.03 m. The skeleton of the child had almost completely disintegrated. The little that was left of the skull and the few other bones were removed to the museum in Olympia along with the finds from the other sites. It is likely that the grave belonged to a cemetery that surrounded an early Church of Haghios Athanasios.

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#### ÖSTERREICHISCHES ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT

Die Arbeiten wurden in der Zeit vom 24. bis 31. Oktober vom Verfasser und Ronald Zwanziger (Universität Graz) durchgeführt. Es wurden bis zu zehn Arbeitern beschäftigt.

Entsprechend dem getroffenen übereinkommen beschränkten sich die Felduntersuchungen auf den Akropolishang von Armatova.

An zwei Stellen, die sich durch ihre günstige Lage anboten<sup>1</sup>, wurde je eine 10 mal 3 Meter messende Sondage angelegt:

Die erste (B 1) liegt auf dem nördlichen Glacis zwischen zwei Bauernhäusern etwa 20 Meter vor dem Abbruchufer des Peneios in Nord-Süd-Richtung. Die Fluroberfläche liegt 22.26 Meter unterhalb der Oberkante des militärischen topographischen Punktes auf der Akropolis.

Die andere Sondage (B 2) wurde auf dem Osthang des Hügels mit Ost-West-Richtung angelegt. Fluroberfläche im Westen - 10,46 Meter.

1. P. Themelis, *Deltion* 20 (1965), S. 209 f.

Die Sondagen wurden nicht eingemessen, da der dazu nötige Flurplan fehlt.

In B 1 ( Taf. 131 a-c ), wo im Süd-Teil bis zu einer Tiefe von 23.95 Meter gegraben wurde, ergab sich folgendes Bild:

Über dem Grundlehm, der bis ca -23.60 Meter ansteht, liegt eine lehmartige Strate, die aus Füllmaterial besteht und bis ca-22.65 Meter reicht. Sie enthält eine große Menge hellenistischer Haushaltsware und eine Münze<sup>2</sup>.

Die genannte Füllstrate weist an der Oberseite geraden Verlauf auf, ist aber an ihrer Unterseite unregelmäßig: sie folgt dabei dem Verlauf des Lehms. Daraus läßt sich schließen, daß die Aufschüttung an dieser Stelle den Zweck der Einebnung und Begradigung des bisher unebenen Terrains verfolgte. Reste von Gebäuden oder auch nur eines Bodenniveaus wurden — abgesehen von der geraden Überflächung der Aufschüttung, die ja nichts anderes bedeutet als die antike Fluroberfläche — nicht entdeckt.

Gänzlich negativ erwies sich B 2 ( Taf. 132 a - c ), das überhaupt keine Artefakte enthielt und nur mehrere Lehmstraten zeigte. Dieser Befund ist umso verwunderlicher als sich die Sondage knapp unterhalb der Plateaugrenze befindet und hier eigentlich Sturzschnitten vorhanden sein mußten, die anzuschneiden das Ziel des Grabens war.

Es wurde an dieser Stelle allerdings nur bis zu einem Meter unter der Grasnarbe gegraben, so daß ein abschließendes Urteil noch nicht möglich ist. Es erscheint jedoch immerhin wahrscheinlich, daß sich unterhalb der erwähnten Lehmschichten eine Kulturschicht befindet. Da Lehm auf einem Hang nicht an Ort und Stelle entstanden sein kann ( außer er wurde hier angeschüttet, was nicht den Gegebenheiten entsprechen dürfte ), bleibt nur die Erklärung, daß er bei der Hinterfüllung der Akropolismauern aufgetragen wurde und nach Abtragen dieser Mauern abgerutscht ist. Der einsetzende Regen hat den Fortgang der Arbeiten leider unterbunden.

Aus der Untersuchung geht hervor, daß auf der Nordseite zu Füßen der Akropolis, also zwischen dieser und dem Flusse Peneios, offensichtlich keine Bauten bestanden haben, sondern sich hier nur ein freies Glacis aus-

dehnte. Daß natürlich trotzdem hier und dort Gebäude errichtet waren, darf nicht ausgeschlossen werden, doch mußten, um dies festzustellen, viel mehr Sondagen angelegt werden als es die zu Gebote stehende Zeit erlaubte. Durch die Regenfälle mußten die Gräben früher als beabsichtigt zugeschüttet werden. Beide Sondage werden bis zur Überflutung des Gebietes in ihrer Lage leicht zu erkennen sein. Außerdem wurden in die Ecken Plöcke versenkt.

STEFAN KARWIESE

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#### BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

The area examined by the British School team in November 1967 lay to the south of a line running from the village of H. Elias on the west to the hill of Vigla on the east ( P l a n 1 )<sup>1</sup>. This area is drained by the brook Loukia coming from the south, which is joined from the south-east by another brook, Kleisoura. Numerous gullies from the surrounding sandstone hills open into the valley formed by these brooks. The valley bottom is flat and about a kilometre wide at the north end, narrowing to the south, and according to local information is often flooded during the winter, sometimes for as long as a month at a time. The territory covered by the team belongs to seven different villages, H. Elias, Kalatha, Keramidia, Daphnotissa, Kato Loukavitsa ( now Avgi ), Ano Loukavitsa ( now Kambos ) and Ephyra. Most of the sites discovered were on gentle slopes at the edge of the flood plain, or on the steeper slopes immediately behind these. As it was often difficult to decide just where the 100 m. contour came, we decided to comb thoroughly all the slopes round the edge of the flood plain, with the result that some of the sites discovered are almost certainly above this contour.

The earliest habitation of the area, so far as we could ascertain, was in MH times, and the first site we discovered, on the top of a steep hill called « Yero Yanni Rachi » ( Γ 1 ) at the southern edge of the village H. Elias, was identified by the presence of Grey Mi-

2. Die Münze konnte noch nicht bestimmt werden. Sie kam mit den Kleinfunden der Ausgrabung in Elis in das Museum von Olympia.

1. I am extremely grateful to Mrs. C. Ridley and Ken Wardle, the other members of the team, both for their invaluable assistance and their very pleasant company.

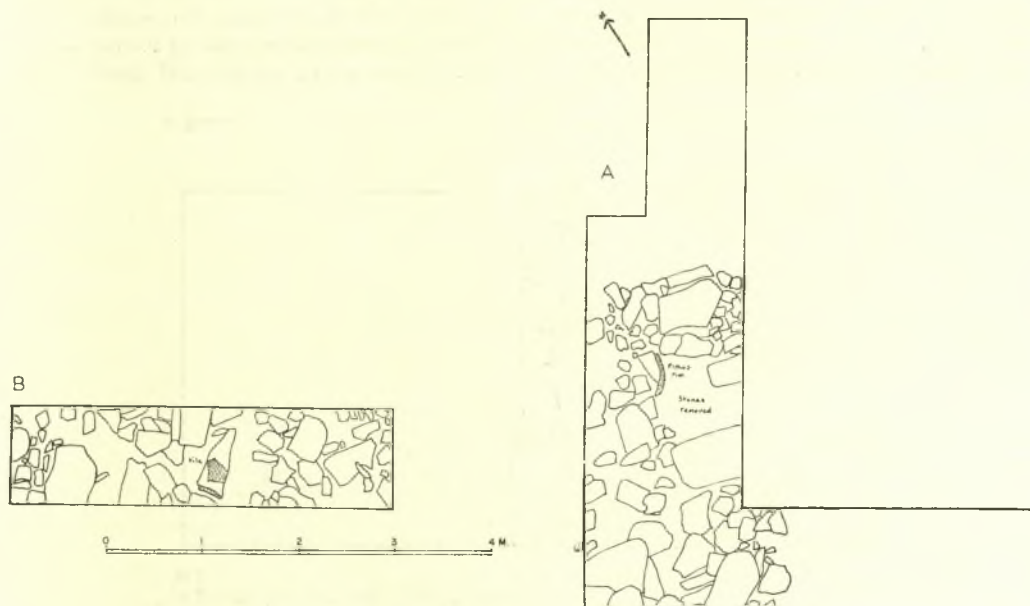


nyan sherds of the typical western type. A small trial trench here revealed a large shattered pithos and a quantity of badly preserved bone, indicating perhaps, a pithos burial<sup>2</sup>; a few stones were found but the area examined was not big enough for us to determine whether they belonged to any structure or not, nor were we in the time available able to reach the bottom of the deposit (Pl. 133 a-b).

At «Tsaleika» (Γ 11) to the south of the

a tumulus burial<sup>3</sup>. On the north-east edge of the Mycenaean scatter is a large artificial mound, the western half of which has been dug away; the local inhabitants assured us that bones had been found in this mound. The sherds collected seem to be late Mycenaean, possibly LH III C.

At a place «Koutsis» (Γ 17), on a slope at the end of a gully immediately to the north-east of Ano Loukavitsa, a very thin scatter of Geometric sherds was found, and at another



Plan 2. Tsaleika Γ 11. Trenches A and B

hamlet Oraia, which is near Kato Loukavitsa, a scatter of Mycenaean sherds was found on the lower slopes of the ridge «Bouka»; they indicate, perhaps, a small settlement. To this settlement may have belonged the numerous tombs that are reported to have been found in the area by the local inhabitants. Trial trenches at one spot revealed a pile of large stones containing pithos fragments and tiles; the full circumference of the pile was not established and it is possible that there are two piles side by side (Plan 2; Pl. 133 c-d, 134 a-c). Further investigation is needed, but we may have an example of

2. Pithos burials were found by Kyparissis at Damiza to the west of Keramidia in 1931 (AA 1932, p. 142, unfortunately no date is given for these burials).

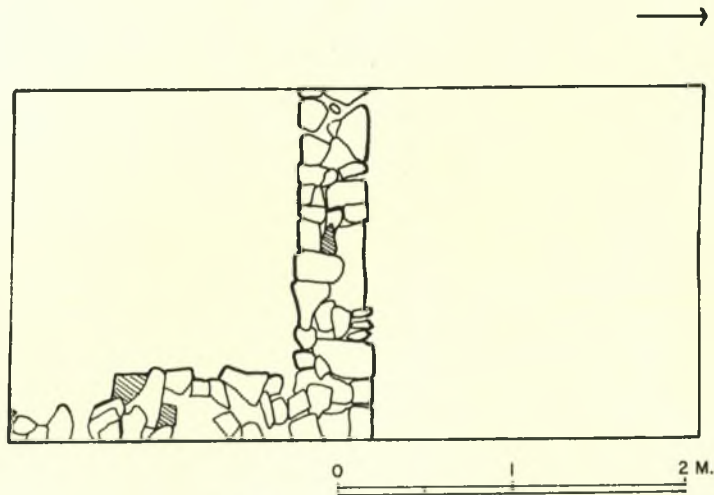
place nearby called «Kioupia», tombs with pots were reported by the villagers.

Three sites of the classical period were identified. At «Miso-langada», in a field below a small ridge, about 200 m. from the road from Keramidia to Kato Loukavitsa (Γ 4 α) a thin scatter of sherds with traces of black glaze were found, and to the south-west of this spot is a hill with cypresses called «Palaioyklisi» (Γ 4 β), where villagers said they had found tombs with pots. Other tombs were reported near a spring «Pigadoulia» (Γ 4 γ) to the south-east of «Palaioyklisi», and at the foot of the ridge «Vidikliatis» (Γ 4 δ), on the

3. For other Mycenaean tumulus burials in the Western Peloponnese see K. Συριόπουλος, Προϊστορία της Πελοποννήσου, p. 542 IV.

opposite side of the gully. On the west slope of the hill «Vitselous», at a place called «Vayenna» which lies to the south of Kato Loukavitsa (Γ 10), another scatter of Black Glaze sherds was found in an olive grove, indicating a small settlement. On the left of the road from Kato Loukavitsa to Velanidi, just after it enters the gully leading up to the latter village, a large scatter of tile and a few Black Glaze sherds were found (Γ 20 α). Further up the gully on a hill called «Klamari» (Γ 20 β), again to the left of the road, fragments of a stone slab near what appeared to be a tomb were noticed, and tombs were reported as having been found on a

suggests that we may have discovered the foundations of a fairly wealthy rustic villa. On another small hill immediately to the south-east (Γ 22 β), a scatter of tile and part of a Hellenistic lamp were found; these perhaps indicate the presence of tombs. To the south of H. Ilias, at the western edge of the valley bottom, there is a hill called «H. Demetrias» (Γ 2), over which a path leads up from the valley bottom to the village of Kalatha. On the top of the hill is an artificial mound on which a large number of tiles could be seen and many stones lay nearby (Pl. 136 a). At the eastern foot of the hill was a fairly wide scatter of tile and sherd. Two



Plan 3. Kostoureika. Γ 22 α

ridge called «Daneika Rachi» (Γ 20 γ), on the opposite side of the gully, as well as at the foot of that ridge, in the vicinity of a disused water mill called «Tou Lagou to Milo».

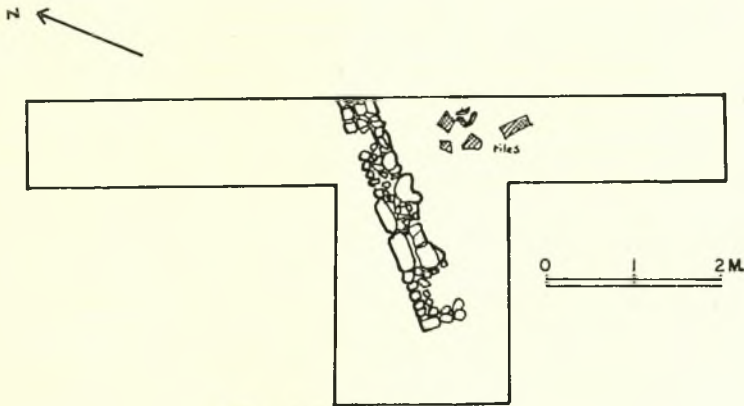
The best represented of all periods in our area is the Hellenistic. On a small hill at «Kostoureika» (Γ 22 α) to the south of the hill «Vigla», fine Hellenistic sherds were found on the surface, including a clay stamp with an incised sigma over a seal impression (Pl. 138 a and b, left). A trial trench exposed two walls of a building at right angles to each other (Plan 3; Pl. 135 a-d). The present owner of the field told us that his grandfather had dug up a golden ram nearby, and indeed the good quality of the walls and the pottery

trial trenches here revealed a wall running in a north-west to south-east direction, and a quantity of Hellenistic sherds and a complete lamp were found (Plan 4; Pl. 136 a-d).

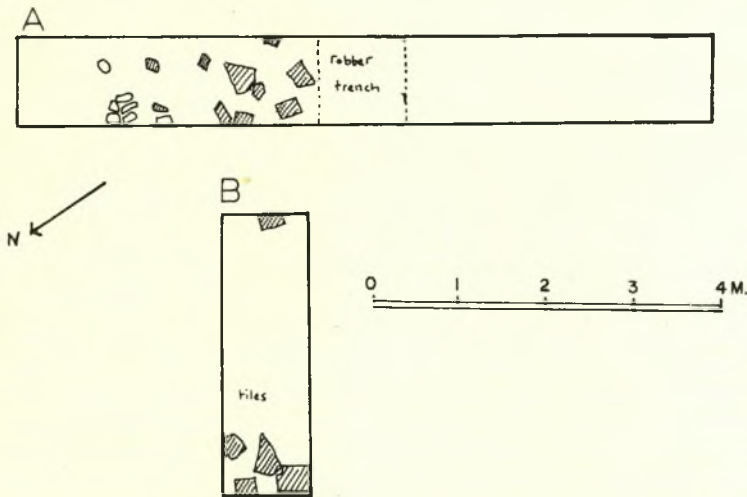
To the east of the small hamlet of H. Spyridon which lies on the road from Keramidia to H. Ilias and belongs to the village of Kalatha, the largest spread of tile and sherd in the whole area was found. It stretched well over 500 m. in an arc over ground gently sloping down to the valley bottom. The western end at a place called «Diaselo» (Γ 3 α), has a spread of good quality Hellenistic sherds. South-east of this, in the area called «Keramidia» (Γ 3 β) and «Kioupia» (Γ 3 γ), fewer sherds were found but vast quantities of tile fragments. Two trial trenches were put down

at «Keramidia» in an area indicated to us by the owner, where he said he had discovered the walls of a long building with many rooms in 1910, when searching for stones to build a house nearby. At that time he had found a ring which he showed us, containing an inset yellowish-brown stone with an intaglio representation of Athena leaning on a spear

the north end of the tile floor was an area of disturbed stone and tile, perhaps once a wall (Plan 5; Pl. 137 a-d). The sherds and a few fragments of glass indicate a late Hellenistic or Early Roman date. The large scatter of tile in the area, the traces of burning found in the trial trenches, and a report of pillars of tile having been observed nearby



Plan 4. H. Demetrias. Γ 2



Plan 5. Keramidia. Γ 3 β

and of high quality workmanship. He also recalled having on several occasions found coins in the area. An Italian doctor is reported to have excavated in this same area in 1941 or 1942. Two trial trenches revealed a robbing trench, to the north of which was a layer of tightly packed tile, forming a kind of floor on which traces of burning were found. At

(possibly part of a hypocaust), suggested to us that we might have found the remains of a tile kiln. It is interesting to note that we discovered the remains of six disused tile kilns of more recent date in the southern part of our area, one of which went out of production only this year under the threat of future inundation (Pl. 138 e), another had ceased



to be used eight years ago and two more in 1935. On enquiry we discovered that there was a very good source of clay in the hamlet of Oraia; this had been exploited by the village of Chavari as well as by the local tile manufacturers. It is also worth noting that nearly all the sites discovered had a large proportion of tile fragments amongst the surface finds, indeed some had very little else. It is not impossible that our area became relatively more important in Hellenistic times as a result of a tile industry based on the local clay beds; there was probably a great demand for tiles in the very wet climate of the western Peloponnese. To the south of Keramidia, on a spur running east from the road, called « Palaia Tragata » ( Γ 3 δ ), there were reports of tombs having been found, and to the south of this, at the eastern end of another spur ( Γ 3 ε ), we discovered two ancient tiles overlapping in the manner of a tomb ( P. l. 137 e ), but no bones could be found underneath. ( At the western end of this spur, near the road, a quantity of semi-fossilized animal bone was discovered in a sandstone deposit ).

On the lower slopes of the chain of hills on which Kato Loukavitsa stands, in the hamlet of Oraia, c. 100 m. from the road, there is a young olive grove in which a small spread of tile and sherd was found, once again of the Hellenistic period ( Γ 13 ). On the other side of the same chain of hills, on a hill called « Profitis Elias » which faces Ano Loukavitsa ( Γ 14 α ), there is a similar scatter. Three trial trenches on the spur on which the chapel once stood failed to produce anything ( P. l. 138 d ), and unfortunately we did not have time to test the spread at the foot of the hill where there was a lot of tile and sherd, including a setter such as was used in firing of tiles ( P. l. 138 b, right ), this providing additional proof of an ancient tile industry in the district. Part of a large stone tool ( P. l. 138 c ) possibly prehistoric, was also found in this spot, and about 200 m. to the south, on a slope ( Γ 14 β ), a local inhabitant told us he had found a tomb sometime before the last war, which contained a lamp, half a bronze bracelet and a broken pot.

Smaller scatters of tile and sherd, possibly of Classical or Hellenistic date, were found at « Vidikliatis » near Keramidia ( Γ 8 ) at

« Vourles » -near Daphniotissa- ( Γ 6 ), at « Psili Rachi » near Ephyra ( Γ 15 ), and at « Metamorphosis Sotiros » ( Γ 18 ), and « Bozara » ( Γ 21 ) near Ano Loukavitsa. Tile scatters with nothing in particular to date them were found on a low spur mid-way between Keramidia and Kato Loukavitsa ( Γ 9 ), at « Miso-langada » ( Γ 7 ) and « Vatan » ( Γ 5 ) near Daphniotissa, at « Yeni Djami » ( Γ 12 ) near Oraia, and « Milo Katarachi » ( Γ 23 ) near the hill Vigla. Several Medieval and later sites were identified belonging to single houses, churches, hamlets and, in one case ( at « Frangoklisi » ( Γ 16 ), between Ano Loukavitsa and Ephyra ), a whole village.

We did not have time to investigate more than six of the sites identified. Of these six only the MH and LH seem to be too high to be threatened by the lake. The MH site ( Γ 1 ) calls for further investigation as the only evidence of its period in the area. When the new road to Ephyra is cut through the middle of the Mycenaean site ( Γ 11 ) its character and exact date should be revealed.

Of the four other sites tested the most promising is the Hellenistic villa at Kostoureika ( Γ 22 ) where, since its walls were found immediately below the surface, its plan and something of its equipment could be recovered at small expense. At the large site ( Γ 3 ), probably the main settlement in the valley from Hellenistic times, the remains are also close to the surface, but in so extensive an area more extensive work would probably be required to locate buildings of importance.

The other sites identified but not excavated include several that will be covered by the lake, either wholly or at least in part, and these should perhaps be tested before it is too late. They include the lower part of the Geometric site at « Koutsi » ( Γ 17 ), the Classical sites at « Miso-langada » ( Γ 4 ), and that to the left of the road to Velanidi ( Γ 20 ), the tile and sherd scatters at « Bozara » ( Γ 21 ) and « Psili Rachi » ( Γ 15 ) the tile scatters at « Miso-langada » ( Γ 7 ) « Vatan » ( Γ 6 ) and « Milo-Katarachi » ( Γ 23 ), the lower part of the Medieval site at « Frangoklisi » ( Γ 16 ), and finally what appears to be an artificial mound at a place called « Palaiochori » ( Γ 19 ) near Ano Loukavitsa.

ROGER HOWELL

*List of sites*

- Γ 1 — Yero Yanni Rachi, H. Elias.  
 Γ 2 — H. Demetrias, Kalatha.  
 Γ 3 α — Diaselo, Kalatha.  
 Γ 3 β — Keramidia, Kalatha.  
 Γ 3 γ — Kioupia, Kalatha.  
 Γ 3 δ — Palaia Tragata, Kalatha.  
 Γ 3 ε — Tomb near Keramidia.  
 Γ 4 α — Miso-langada, Keramidia  
 Γ 4 β — Palaioklisi, Keramidia  
 Γ 4 γ — Pigadoulia, Keramidia.  
 Γ 4 δ — Vidikliatis, Keramidia.  
 Γ 5 — Vatan, Daphnotissa.  
 Γ 6 — Vourles, Daphnotissa.  
 Γ 7 — Miso-langada, Keramidia.  
 Γ 8 — Vidikliatis, Keramidia.  
 Γ 9 — Site to left of road from Keramidia  
 to Kato Loukavitsa, Keramidia.  
 Γ 10 — Vitselous, Vayenna, Kato Loukavi-  
 tsa.  
 Γ 11 — Bouka, Tsaleika, Kato Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 12 — Yeni Djami, Oraia, Kato Loukavi-  
 tsa.  
 Γ 13 — Site in olive grove, Oraia, Kato Lou-  
 kavitsa.  
 Γ 14 α — Profitis Elias, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 14 β — Tomb, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 15 — Psili Rachi, Ephyra.  
 Γ 16 — Frangoklisi, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 17 — Koutsis, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 18 — Metamorphosis Sotiros, Ano Louka-  
 vitsa.  
 Γ 19 — Palaiochori, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 20 α — Site to left of road from Kato Lou-  
 kavitsa to Velanidi, Kato Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 20 β — Klamari, Kato Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 20 γ — Daneika Rachi and Tou Lagou To  
 Milo, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 21 — Bozara, Ano Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 22 α — Kostoureika, Kato Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 22 β — Hill with tombs, Kato Loukavitsa.  
 Γ 23 — Milo Katarachi, Kato Loukavitsa.

R. H.

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## ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE D'ATHÈNES

La zone qu'explora du 6 au 11 novembre 1967 une mission de l'École française composée de Mlle Frida Vandenebeele et de Pierre Ducrey, assistés du contremaître attaché à l'École, Nikos Tricaliotis, d'Argos, s'étend au

Nord du Pénée et est limitée à l'Ouest par le village de Xéniés, au Sud par le cours du Pénée, au Nord et à l'Est par la ligne de progression extrême des eaux<sup>1</sup>.

## Vue d'ensemble de la zone

La majeure partie du secteur considéré comprend des terres plates qui constituent la plaine même du Pénée, incluant la totalité du village de Xéniés et la moitié inférieure du village de Kalyvakia. Les collines qui bordent la plaine présentent des pentes douces au Nord de Xéniés, plus accentuées à mesure que l'on progresse vers l'Est, pour devenir très raides dans le haut de la vallée du Pénée. Une seule éminence, située à mi-distance de Xéniés et de Kalyvakia, marque une transition entre la plaine et le relief nettement dessiné de ses flancs. Le Pénée s'écoule actuellement au pied de la colline d'Armatova, mais il est certain que son cours a subi de nombreuses modifications et qu'il passait, voici quelques siècles, plus au Nord.

Ces constatations devaient conduire à formuler l'hypothèse que le fond de la plaine, recouvert de plusieurs mètres d'alluvions, ne présenterait, en surface, aucune trace d'habitat antique et que seules les parties hautes et peu accidentées pouvaient permettre des découvertes intéressantes. Une colline seulement répondait à ces conditions. Les recherches menées en 1964 par P. Themelis dans la région apportaient une première confirmation de cette hypothèse, puisque l'archéologue grec n'inventoria à Xéniés qu'une stèle et un fragment de colonne, ainsi que des pierres travaillées<sup>2</sup>.

Une reconnaissance de l'ensemble de la zone, des examens attentifs du terrain et l'interrogatoire de près d'une centaine d'habitants ont apporté une seconde confirmation de l'hypothèse émise: deux champs comportaient une quantité anormale de céramique, d'époque médiévale ou moderne cependant. Mais le second de ces champs, qui appartient à Nicolas Skaltsas, semblait pouvoir donner des renseignements plus complets, car il se trouvait sur l'éminence mentionnée ci-dessus. Son propriétaire signala l'existence d'une grande pierre profondément enfouie, la trouvaille de vases, enfin il indiqua que les deux blocs

1. Voir la carte (Pl. a n 1).

2. Cf. AD 20 (1965), p. 219 et Pl. 256 a.

taillés vus par P. Themelis<sup>3</sup>, provenaient d'un autre de ses champs, situé à 50 mètres au Nord de la route, sur les contreforts d'une haute colline.

#### La tombe hellénistique (Δ-1)

L'examen de l'emplacement où avaient été trouvés ces deux blocs révéla que l'on se trouvait en présence d'une tombe à ciste, orientée dans le sens Ouest-Est, dont le dispositif apparut par la fouille. En effet, à 10cm. de la surface du sol (P l. 139 a), l'on remarquait, au Sud, une grande dalle, longue de 1.63 m., et épaisse de 0,14 m., brisée en trois morceaux. Elle portait à sa partie supérieure, vers l'extérieur, un listel de 2cm. de côté. A chacune des extrémités de la pierre, et perpendiculairement à elle, mais séparées par 10cm. de terre, se trouvaient deux autres dalles. La grande dalle sud, déplacée par la pression du sol, s'était en effet inclinée vers le bas, la pente étant forte en cet endroit. La pierre ouest mesurait 0,40 m. sur 0,14 m., la pierre est 0,42 m. sur 0,14 m.

Les travaux ne permirent pas de retrouver sur place la dalle qui, au Nord, devait faire pendant à la dalle sud. Toutefois des éléments de cette pierre furent retrouvés dans la maison du propriétaire, à Xénies. L'un d'eux est un fragment d'angle. Brisé sur deux côtés, il présente sur 0,72 m. et, perpendiculairement sur 0,17 m. un listel de 2 cm. de côté, analogue à celui de la grande dalle sud. Le second, brisé sur trois côtés, porte lui aussi un listel identique sur une longueur de 0,57 m. Le troisième est brisé de toutes parts. Bien qu'incomplets, ces blocs sont suffisamment caractéristiques pour qu'on puisse les considérer sans hésitation comme des vestiges de la paroi nord de la tombe.

A l'intérieur de la tombe, l'on trouva trois dalles de type semblable, ayant sans doute appartenu au couvercle. La première était encore appuyée sur la petite dalle est, et était fortement inclinée d'Est en Ouest. Elle mesurait 0,50 m. de longueur moyenne

sur 0,40 m. de largeur moyenne, et était brisée sur trois côtés. Sur le quatrième, elle portait un listel large de 5cm. sur 2cm.

Les deux autres dalles, alignées d'Est en Ouest, présentaient un listel identique de 5cm. sur 2cm. et étaient brisées sur les autres faces. Grossièrement triangulaires, elles mesuraient 0,33 m. de long sur le côté non brisé, 0,36 m. et 0,29 m. sur les deux autres pour l'une, 0,69 m. de long sur le côté intact, 0,82 m. et 0,25 m. sur les deux autres côtés pour la seconde (P l. 139 b).

La tombe n'avait pas de plaque de fond. Ses dimensions intérieures étaient de 1.46 m. sur 0,41 m.; le sol se trouvait à une profondeur moyenne de 0,55 m. Sous la pierre fortement inclinée d'Est en Ouest se trouvait un vase, reposant sur le col et appuyé contre la paroi orientale de la tombe. Il s'agit d'une cruche à double anse (P l. 139 c) d'un type assez répandu, notamment en Élide, mais aussi en Attique, à Corinthe, à Médéon, à Délos, à l'époque hellénistique surtout, bien qu'il en existe des exemples à l'époque classique<sup>4</sup>. La cruche trouvée à Xénies est déposée au Musée d'Olympie. Le tombeau contenait un squelette mesurant 1.43 m., couché sur le dos, la tête tournée vers la gauche; son état de conservation était médiocre (P l. 139 d). A la hauteur de son omoplate gauche, l'on trouva un peson de forme cylindrique, évasé en son centre, mesurant 6,5 cm. de longueur et 2,4 cm. de diamètre maximum (P l. 140 a)

#### Sondages et stratigraphie

Divers autres travaux de contrôle furent effectués dans le champ de N. Skaltsas, au Sud de la route (Δ-2).

1. On dégageda un grand bloc travaillé, affleurant en surface. A cette fin, on creusa une tranchée de 2.10 m. sur 1.20 m.; l'on descendit à une profondeur de 1.30 m. Les dimensions de la pierre sont: hauteur: 1.20 m.; largeur: 0,63 m.; épaisseur: 0,35 m. En cours de fouille, l'on dégageda une importante quantité de fragments de briques et de tuiles,

3. Pour d'autres exemples de tombes de ce type, assez courant à l'époque classique principalement, voir notamment C. W. Blegen, H. Palmer, R. S. Young, *Corinth*, XIII, *The North Cemetery*, n. 458, p. 284; D. M. Robinson, *Excavations at Olynthus*, XI, pp. 112-113; P. N. Ure, *Black Glaze Pottery from Rhitsona in Boeotia*, Oxford, 1913, tombes nn. 52; 55-60; 30; 33; 66; 67; 68. Cf. aussi *BCH* 80 (1956), p. 303, fig. 7; 85 (1961), pp. 628, fig. 4; 729, fig. 5-6.

4. Dimensions du vase trouvé : hauteur : 20 cm.; diamètre maximum : 19,5 cm.; diamètre de la base : 11 cm. Les apothèques d'Olympie et d'Élis abritent plusieurs vases à anses doubles: les fouilles de Médéon (1963) en avaient donné deux exemplaires. Cf. aussi *Hesperia* III (1934), p. 341, fig. 21; VI (1937), p. 293, fig. 25; C. Roebuck, *Corinth*, XIV, p. 135, pl. 50; E. Kunze - H. Schelf, *IV. Bericht über die Ausgrabungen in Olympia*, p. 30, fig. 20.



d'époque médiévale ou moderne. Diverses couches purent être distinguées dans la coupe, sans qu'il fût possible de les rattacher à une époque déterminée (Pl. 140 b)

2. On fouilla une tombe orientée d'Ouest en Est, située à 3 mètres au Sud de la route, et à 10 cm. seulement au-dessous du sol moderne. Le crâne du mort avait été arraché par la charrue, mais le reste du squelette apparaissait nettement. Il était entouré par un alignement de pierres, qui allait en se rétrécissant vers les pieds. L'absence de toute céramique invite à penser à une tombe d'époque chrétienne (Pl. 140 c).

3. On profita du lit d'un torrent asséché, profond par endroits de 2,70 m., pour effectuer une coupe stratigraphique. L'une des parois du cours d'eau s'y prêtait particulièrement bien, car elle avait été coupée comme par un rasoir. Les résultats obtenus furent les suivants:

- 0 - 1m. :couche d'humus.  
 1m. - 1.63m.:couche jaune-brune ; tessons rouges.  
 1.63m. - 1.83m. :couche de destruction, cendres.  
 1.83m. - 2.10m. :couche brune-jaune ; tessons rouges.  
 2.10m. - ? :couche vierge.

Il ne fut malheureusement possible de tirer aucune conclusion précise relative aux périodes d'occupation de cette région, les tessons découverts, d'époque médiévale ou moderne, étant datés avec trop d'incertitude.

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#### DEUTSCHES ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT

*E. Unteres Ladontal und südliches Peneiosufer zwischen Agraphidochori und Suli* (Plan 1)

Bisher sind aus diesem Gebiet keine Funde bekannt geworden. Die Untersuchung hat gezeigt, daß an mehreren Stellen Siedlungsspuren seit der klassischen Zeit zu erwarten sind (E 1, E 3-5, E 8). Ausserdem lag hier eine nach der Stärke der Schwemmschicht zu urteilende ausgedehnte prähistorische (mittelhelladische?) Siedlung (E 1), ein kleines früharchaisches Heiligtum (oder Grab?, E 2), eine römische Siedlung (E 6), und zwei mittelalterliche Kirchen (vielleicht ebenfalls in Verbindung mit Siedlungen E 2, E 7).

E 1, Aetia Rupakias (Taf. 141 a): Prähistorische (mittelhelladische?) Siedlung. Im Flussabbruch, etwa 2 m unter der Sohle eines Tälchens, findet sich eine etwa 60 cm starke Schwemmschicht mit wechselnden Schichten von Kies, Sand und Lehm, dazwischen zahlreiche mittelhelladische Scherben, gut erhalten und sicher nicht weit hergeschwemmt: Fragmente bemalter Ware, ein Horizontalhenkel mit engem Loch (Taf. 141 b), ein kleines Fragment vielleicht von einem Tonidol (??). Auf der Talsohle darüber wenige antike Scherben, darunter auch klassische.

E 2, Hagios Nikolaos Rupakias (Plan 6-10): Heiligtum (oder Grab) des späten 7. Jhs. In mittelalterlicher Zeit lag hier vielleicht eine Kirche des Hagios Nikolaos.

In engem Umkreis um die Hügelkuppe herum feine Keramik (Taf. 142), offenbar meist von Kannen mit Reifendekor, darunter auch protokorinthische. Ausserdem fanden sich kleine Broken von grobkörnigem Marmor, einer mit Bearbeitungsspuren.

Spätere antike Keramik fehlt völlig bisher. Eine Reihe von grossen Ziegelstücken, von flachgewölbten «lakonischen» Ziegeln stammend, sowie zahlreiche Knochen gehören vielleicht dem Mittelalter an. (Die Bauern erzählen auch von Gräbern, die sich hier mehrmals gefunden hätten).

E 3, «Tis Grias to Mnima» (Taf. 143 a-b) und «Kuvellia»: Klassische und hellenistische Siedlung.

Auf dem Feld «Tis Grias to Mnima» sehr viele Scherben: darunter Fragment eines Skyphosbodens (spätes 6. Jh.?), Stück eines schwarzgefirnissten Kannenhenkels, Randfragment einer spätklassischen oder frühhellenistischen Schüssel. Ausserdem das Fragment eines Tonfigürchens (Brust?), und Obsidiansplitter.

In der Flur «Kuvellia» setzen sich die Oberflächenfunde spärlicher fort. (Der Besitzer soll jedoch öfters «Funde» gemacht haben).

E 4, Klassische Siedlung: Über dem Ostrand des zweiten Tälchens östlich von Suli (der Flurname wurde nicht erfragt) Scherben, darunter einige der klassischen Zeit.

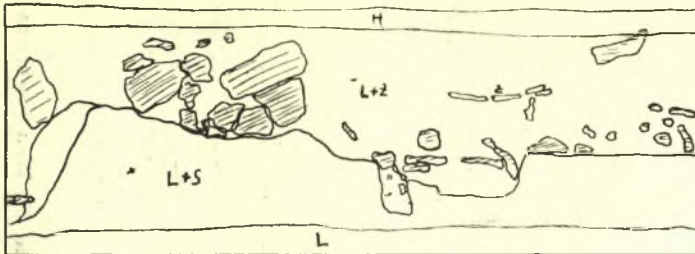
E 5, Klassische und spätere Siedlung: In der Flur «Chronidiassella» gelegen in einem Sattel südöstlich von «Tis Grias to Mnima» fanden sich viele Scherben von klassischer und



hellenistischer Keramik, und das Fragment eines Reibsteins.

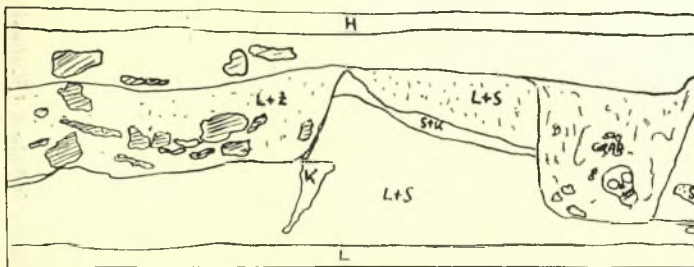
E 6, Römische Siedlung: Nördlich unterhalb der Flur «Hagios Nikolaos», die zu dem Dörfchen Velanidi gehört, finden sich zahlreiche römische Scherben. Im Schnitt eines Wassergrabens ist eine 50 cm starke, offenbar einheitliche Siedlungsschicht mit grober römischer Keramik sichtbar.

SNITT VI: O



\* ARCH SCHERBEN

SNITT VI: W



H ARKERBODEN  
L+Z LEHM MIT ZIEGELBRUCH UND STEINEN  
L+S SANDIGE LEHMERDE  
K KALK  
L GEWACHSENER LEHMBODEN

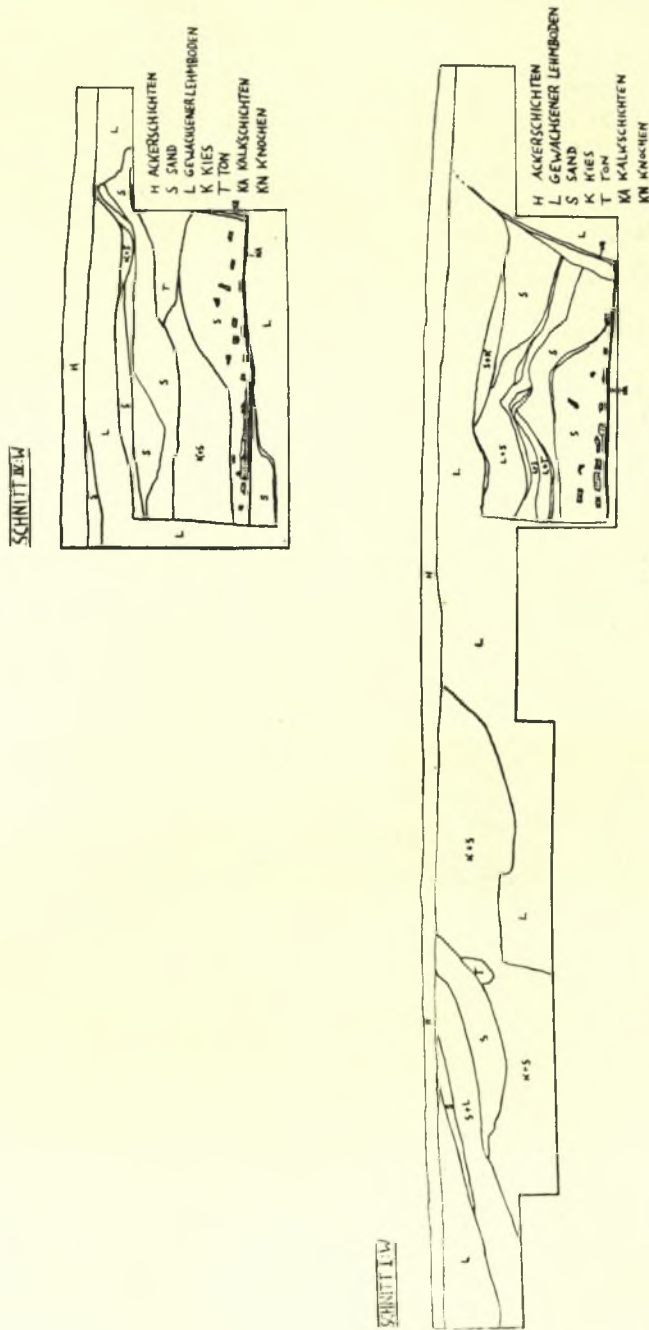
Plan 8. Hagios Nikolaos (Rupakia). Schnitt VI Ost und West (1 cm = ca 75 cm)

Im oberen Ende des Tales, unterhalb von Velanidi, sollen «vor längerer Zeit» mehrere Gräber gefunden worden sein. Auf einem Feld nordöstlich von «Hagios Nikolaos» wurde in jüngster Zeit ein grosser Pithos zerschlagen. Von eventuellen Beigaben fand sich keine Spur. Im weiteren Umkreis kommt auf den Feldern grobe Keramik, wie die oben vermerkte, vor.

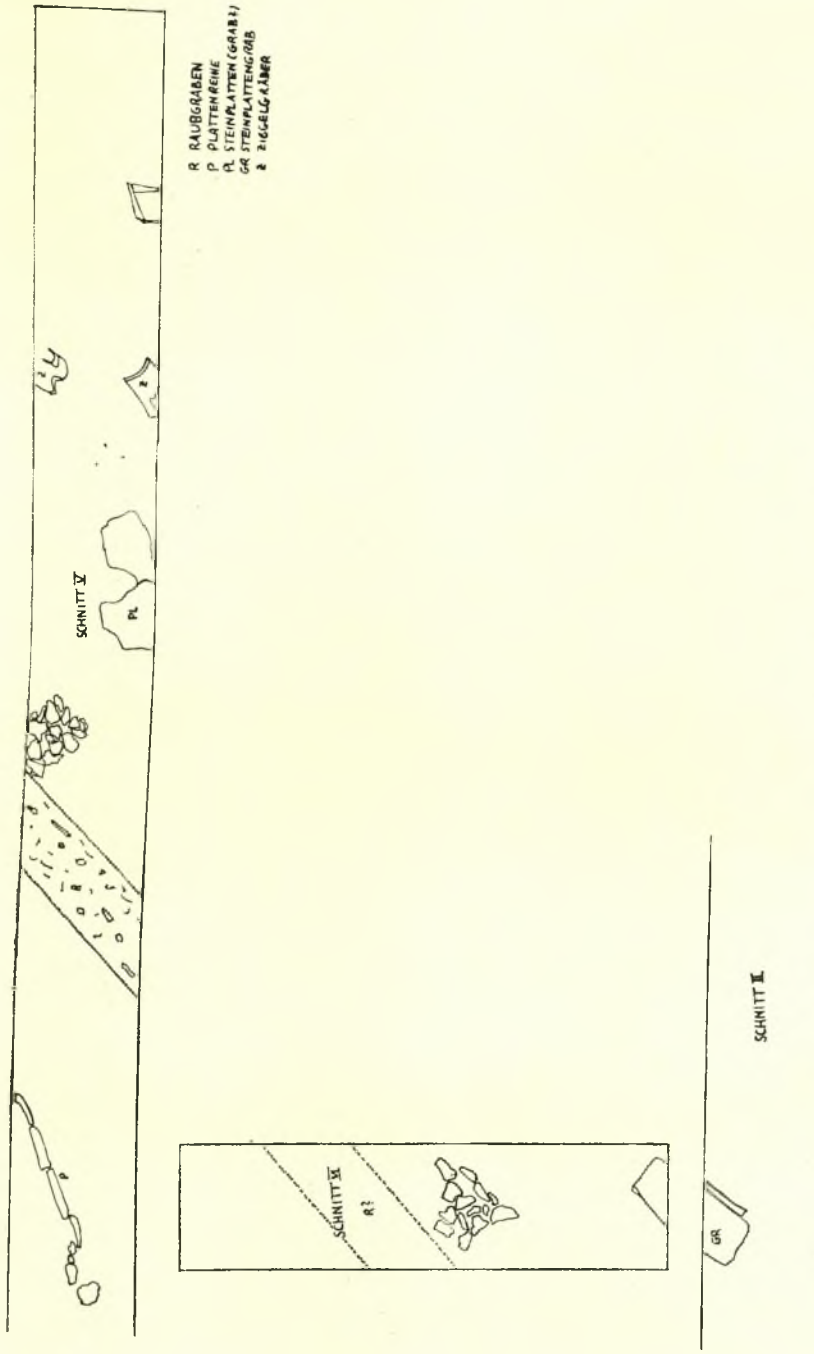
E 7, Mittelalterliche Siedlung: «Hagios Nikolaos», bei Velanidi. Auf einem Hügelrücken südöstlich von E 6 gelegen (wahrscheinlich etwas oberhalb der Überschwemmungsgrenze) deuten Ziegelbrocken, Bruchsteine und grobe Keramik auf eine Kirche späterer Zeit; vielleicht lag eine mittelalterliche Siedlung hier. Ausserdem finden sich spärliche antike Scherben.

E 8, Klassische und spätere Siedlung, samt einem Grab noch unbekannter Zeit, und mehreren, neueren Töpferöfen auf dem Feld oberhalb einer Mühle nordöstlich von «Hagios Nikolaos». Im Umkreis einer jetzt noch ergiebigen Lehmgrube Reste von Töpferöfen und grober Keramik, anscheinend neuerer Zeit. In einer Regenrinne dicht dabei fand sich die untere Hälfte samt dem Fuss einer helle-



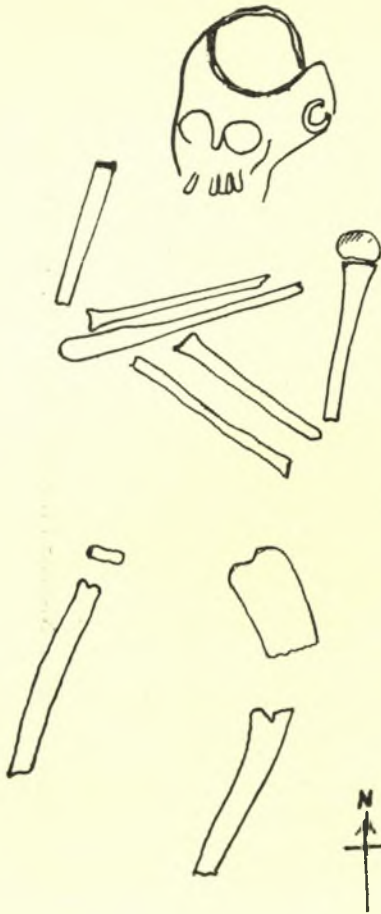


Plan 9. Hagios Nikolaos (Rupakia). Schnitt I and IV West ( 1 cm = ca 75 cm )



Plan 10. Hagios Nikolaos (Rupakia). Schnitt II, V, VI (1 cm = ca 75 cm)

nistischen Fußschale (T a f. 143 d), gut erhalten und sicher nicht weit hergeschwemmt. Vielleicht stammt sie gar aus dem Grab etwas oberhalb? Hier lag ebenfalls zwischen Regenerinnen im Lehm Boden dicht unter der heutigen Oberfläche das Skelett einer jungen Frau mit über der Brust gekreuzten Armen (Plan 11). Sie trug einen einfachen bronzenen Ohrring (von einem zweiten fand sich keine Spur,



Plan 11. Siedlung E 8. Grab nordöstlich von H. Nikolaos bei Velanidi

ebenso nicht von einer Grabfassung, oder von Beigaben). Das Skelett lag in ungestörter Lage, lediglich die Beine sind etwas abgesunken und von den Knien an weggeschwemmt.

Auf dem Feld oberhalb dieser Stelle wiederum zahlreiche klassische und spätere Scherben und Ziegelbrocken.

*Nachtrag zu Themelis, Deltion 20 (1965): Χρονικά, S. 215 f.*

Um Agrapidochori sind die Oberflächenfunde so dicht, daß man eine ausgedehnte Siedlung seit der klassischen Zeit erwarten muß. Bemerkte wurden ausser den bei Themelis a. O. aufgezählten Resten:

a) bei einem Haus östlich der «Armatova» mehrere Sandsteinplatten, wie sie aus Gräbern der Gegend bekannt sind. Eine dieser Platten weist anscheinend Reliefschmuck auf (T a f. 143 c) (die «Inscription» auf der Schmalseite jedoch ist offenbar zufällig entstanden). Im Boden vor dem Haus sind Reste eines Skeletts sichtbar;

b) auf einem Acker südöstlich von der «Armatova» liegt ein großer Muschelkalkblock mit dem Rest eines Klammerloches. Ringsum ist der Boden reich an klassischen und hellenistischen Scherben;

c) in einem neu angelegten Hohlweg östlich von dieser Stelle fanden sich im Schnitt der Ostwand, 30-40 cm unter der heutigen Oberfläche, zahlreiche hellenistische Scherben (T a f. 143 e). Vielleicht ist hier ein Haus angeschnitten?

F. W. HAMDORF

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#### SCUOLA ARCHEOLOGICA ITALIANA

Nell'ambito delle esplorazioni nell'area del bacino del Peneo destinata ad essere sommersa dalle acque di un lago artificiale, la Scuola archeologica italiana ha svolto ricerche, dal 6 all'11 novembre 1967, lungo la sponda destra della vallata, tra la linea della diga di Kentron e il villaggio di Xenìs. Il paesaggio fisico dell'area esaminata è costituito — a livello più basso — dalla piana alluvionale che fiancheggia il fiume. A giudicare dal corso attuale di questo, decentrato a Sud rispetto all'asse longitudinale della vallata e quasi a ridosso della sua sponda sinistra, dove in molti punti — come ad Armatova — agisce con erosioni profonde, si direbbe che la piana che sta sotto Xenìs e Daouti tenga il posto del vecchio letto fluviale. A parte comunque ogni considerazione ipotetica sull'aspetto del paesaggio fisico in quest'area nell'antichità, non si segnala qui nessun indizio superficiale che possa attestare insediamenti antichi. L'insicurezza



della zona doveva consigliare i livelli più alti delle colline. E comunque, anche se essa non era interessata direttamente dal corso fluviale, la consistenza degli strati alluvionali che si sono accumulati dall'antichità ad oggi esclude qui ogni possibilità di ricerca. Ricordiamo per inciso che il villaggio di Xenìes, situato parzialmente in questa piana alluvionale, conserva, reimpiegati nelle case, alcuni elementi antichi. Ma esso è di fondazione recente. Fino agli inizi del secolo scorso il paese sorgeva più ad Ovest, ad una quota notevolmente superiore a quella del villaggio attuale in località Παλιό χωριό (ZI). Qui, su un'area in leggero declivio, particolarmente adatta per un insediamento, la superficie del terreno non presenta resti di muri affioranti, ma grande quantità di frammenti ceramici (soprattutto ceramica invetriata di periodo bizantino e turco). Ad oriente di quest'area, su una collinetta che domina il paesaggio circostante, sono ancora evidenti le trincee di fondazione di un edificio absidato che va certo identificato con la chiesa del villaggio scomparso. La località porta anche il nome di Κοιμησις Θεοτόκου che è il titolo della chiesa del villaggio attuale. Ma la costatazione più importante è che tutto attorno all'area della vecchia chiesa il terreno è abbondantemente cosparso di frammenti ceramici di ogni epoca con una buona frequenza di ceramica ellenistica e classica a vernice bruna. Tra il materiale raccolto in superficie sono anche due schegge di selce grigio chiara (l. cm. 5) lavorate come grattatoi, in tutto simili a quelle raccolte in stazioni paleolitiche della regione di Amaliàs<sup>1</sup>. Il sito merita forse di essere indagato come centro abitato precedente all'attuale Xenìes con una probabile documentazione per vari periodi. E' da qui che proviene, con ogni probabilità, la colonna tortile citata dallo Themelis e conservata nella casa dei proprietari del terreno<sup>2</sup>. Dalla zona proviene anche un capitellino corinzio, paleocristiano<sup>3</sup>. Il sito individuato è comunque fuori della zona che sarà sommersa dalle

acque, sovrastando ad essa per una decina di metri di livello e per più di una cinquantina di metri di distanza sul piano.

A sud della località testé ricordata, sul cocuzzolo piatto di basse colline direttamente sovrastanti la piana alluvionale si hanno invece documenti molto precisi di sepolture (Z 2). Due di esse sono state individuate perché parzialmente sconvolte dall'aratro in recenti lavori agricoli. Di una erano rimaste in situ solo alcune ossa, dell'altra assieme a scarsi resti dello scheletro orientato con le gambe a Nord, era una ciotola in frammenti collocata all'altezza del bacino<sup>4</sup> (T a v. 144 a-b). Con essa si recupera un dato cronologico: è infatti in tutto eguale alle basse tazze in rozza argilla, senza vernice e senza ingubbiatura<sup>5</sup>, databili tra il XIII e il XIV secolo, in periodo franco. La tomba, a giudicare dai grossi frammenti ceramici sparsi attorno ad essa dall'aratro, doveva essere coperta da tegoloni e non doveva essere l'unica nel sito, dal momento che i contadini ricordano qui il frequente ritrovamento di resti scheletrici. Più ad Ovest di questa area, sulla sommità di un altro dosso che si spinge verso la piana alluvionale, alla profondità di una decina di cm dalla superficie si è scavata una semplice sepoltura in fossa con gli scarsi resti delle pietre di campo che dovevano originariamente definirne il contorno. Sono stati trovati in essa i resti di due scheletri: uno superficiale sconvolto e incompleto, l'altro più profondo, intatto, con le gambe ad Est, il braccio destro adagiato lungo il fianco, il sinistro piegato sul petto (T a v. 144 c). Evidentemente il superiore è il più antico, estratto dalla sepoltura per ospitare il successivo, trovato intatto<sup>6</sup>. Purtroppo manca ogni elemento cronologico, non essendosi trovato neppure un frammento ceramico, ma non è escluso che anche questa sepoltura, data la superficialità, la semplicità e l'orientamento, sia di periodo medievale.

4. Ciotola in argilla marrone chiara ricomposta da più frammenti. Diam. base cm 8,5; diam. bocca cm 15,5; alt. cm 5,5. La tomba, situata nel campo di J. Antonakopoulos, era a 15 cm dal piano di campagna su un'area di m. 1,60 x 0,40.

5. Cfr. Th. Stillwell MacKay, Byzantine and frankish pottery, in *Hesperia* XXXVI (1967), p. 300, tv. 69 nn. 136, 137. L'area del Peneo ebbe un notevole sviluppo in periodo franco, con i centri di Glarenza, Santemeri, Portes, Gastouni etc.

6. La tomba, situata nel campo di N. Sophianopoulos, era a 20 cm dal piano di campagna. Lo scheletro intatto misura m. 1,60.

1. Cfr. J. Chavaillon - N. Chavaillon - F. Hours, *Industries paléolithiques de l'Elide*, in *BCH* XCI (1967), p. 151 ss.

2. Arch. *Deltion* 20 (1965), p. 219, nr. 18. Per una datazione cfr. J. L. Benson, *Spirally fluted columns in Greece*, in *Hesperia* XXVIII (1959), p. 253 ss., tv. 46.

3. Alt. cm. 16; marmo bianco a grana fine. È ora conservato in casa di Athanasios Patzouros. Esemplici simili in *Praktiká* 1959, tv. 89.

Non é tuttavia da pensare che le tombe sparse nella campagna, sulle propaggini dei colli, fossero solo di età così tarda. Certamente precedente doveva essere una sepoltura in pithos, trovata durante lavori agricoli qualche anno fa, ad Ovest del sito di Παλιό χωριό. Un contadino raccolse allora tra i grossi cocci del pithos alcuni vasetti di terracotta successivamente scomparsi; sul posto sono alcuni resti del grande vaso, ma nulla che possa suggerire una datazione anche approssimativa. In conclusione esistono indizi sufficienti per affermare che le colline più basse, presso il letto fluviale, fossero destinate a campo di sepoltura, mentre a livello superiore l'area doveva essere più adatta a centri di abitazione.

Procedendo oltre, verso Ovest, fino al villaggio di Daouti, nessun indizio da segnalare. Il villaggio porta da alcuni anni il nome di Παληόχωρα. Il vecchio toponimo padronale é certo del periodo di occupazione turca (Daout = David), mentre il nuovo é stato trasferito da una località ad Ovest dell'attuale villaggio (Z 3). Questa, dal toponimo trasparente quanto quello ricordato sopra in rapporto a Xenies, presenta il superficie notevole abbondanza di frammenti ceramici di ogni epoca, dall'ellenistica in poi, sufficienti per indicare anche qui un sito archeologico. Esso tuttavia é notevolmente superiore al livello massimo previsto del lago artificiale. Anche qui, forse in rapporto al progressivo spostarsi del letto del Peneo verso Sud, con la conseguente conquista di nuove terre nella piana alluvionale, si costata, come a Xenies, lo spostamento del centro abitato a quota inferiore, nell'area destinata precedentemente a sepolture sparse. Una di queste, d'età romana, é stata studiata da Themelis nel 1964<sup>7</sup>, mentre di altre, incontrate occasionalmente in lavori agricoli, danno notizia i contadini.

A Nord delle colline di Daouti e Xenies si addentra una valletta destinata pure ad essere sommersa nei livelli più bassi. In essa scorre un torrente che si é scavato un letto profondo negli strati argillosi alluvionali del fondo valle e che ha dato il nome di Langadiá alla zona. Nel suo tratto inferiore, tra Daouti e Vála (o Palioborsi), già parzialmente invaso dalle acque, nulla di importante da segnalare. Nel tratto più a monte invece, in località Loukissó (proprietà A. Martsaklis di Xenies) alcuni

7. Arch. Deltion 20 (1965), p. 219.

indizi superficiali hanno permesso di individuare un'area di modesto interesse archeologico. Qui, sulle pareti argillose del letto del torrente, affiorano e si presentano come in sezione tre tombe di tipo semplice a pietre di campo messe per ritto sui lati della fossa con una copertura di lastre di pietra e grossi tegoloni (T a v. 144 d). Lo scavo é reso pericoloso, anzi impossibile, dall'incoerenza del materiale facile al crollo in cui le tombe sono inserite. Tuttavia il tipo e l'orientamento di esse (ad Est) giustifica l'ipotesi che si tratti di tombe tarde (d'età bizantina o turca frequenti nella zona e quasi sempre prive del minimo elemento di corredo. Si procede invece, partendo da indizi superficiali, all'esame di un'area ai limiti tra il fondo valle e il piede delle colline (Z4) (Plan 12; T a v. 145 a). Gli elementi portati alla luce in quest'area sono:

1) Una tomba a fossa, su un'area di m 1,80×0,90, coperta da quattro lastre irregolari di pietra. Lo scheletro orientato ad Est, con le braccia stese ai lati del corpo, era mal conservato con una lunghezza di m 1,50 (T a v. 145 b, 146 a). La tomba era intatta ma priva di corredo. Ai lati del teschio si sono trovati tuttavia due orecchini bronzei ad anello (diam. cm 2,6) con una espansione ad occhiello, a cui forse erano applicate appendici in materiale deperibile (T a v. 146 b). I confronti più stretti sono di periodo paleocristiano<sup>8</sup>.

2) Una tomba a cassetta, a breve distanza dalla precedente, di cui presenta lo stesso orientamento (T a v. 147 a). Mancava di lastre di copertura e la prova che fosse stata sconvolta già anticamente é data dal disordine delle ossa solo in parte conservate. La tomba misura 1,80×0,65; le sue pareti sono composte di lastre irregolari, infisse verticalmente nel terreno. Manca ogni elemento cronologico sicuro; solo la vicinanza a l'uguaglianza di livello con la precedente sono a favore di una datazione ad uno stesso periodo.

3) Un lastricato, 10 m a Nord delle due tombe descritte (T a v. 147 b). Su un'area di m 1,57×1,20 sono regolarmente disposte alcune grandi lastre centrali fratturate dal calore e bordate all'esterno da pietre minori con chiare tracce di fuoco. Sopra il lastricato

8. Cfr. Praktiká 1956, p. 113 ss., tv. 41 (da Nea Anchialos); F. H. Marshall, Catalogue of the jewellery in the British Museum, London 1911, n. 2685, tv. LV.

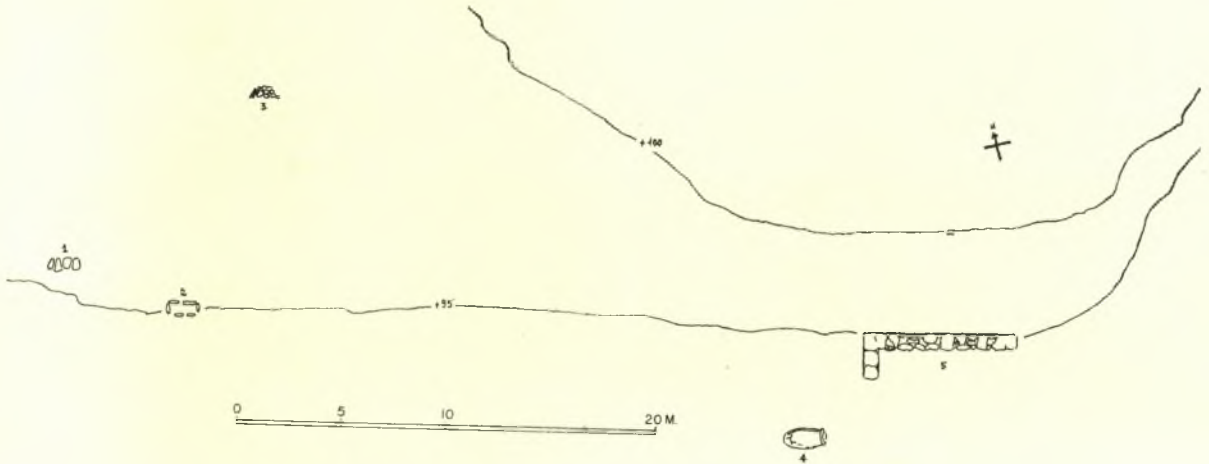
si sovrappongono due strati orizzontali di argilla semicotta, rossiccia conclusi superiormente da una calotta semisferica, pure di argilla semicotta. Nessun frammento ceramico fu raccolto nè dal riempimento superiore nè da sotto le lastre. Problematica resta anche la funzionalità di tale lastricato, il quale completo doveva essere a pianta circolare. In area di necropoli potrebbe rappresentare una pira, ma manca di resti in tal senso caratteristici e si oppone il fatto che le tombe ritrovate sono di inumati. È più probabile quindi che esso rappresenti il resto di un forno, da porre in rapporto cronologico e funzionale con i resti di muri di cui si dirà più avanti<sup>9</sup>.

4) Una sepoltura in pithos, situata 32 m ad Est delle tombe 1 e 2. Il pithos, coricato

pithos, costituiscono prova che esso già anticamente fu saccheggiato. Negli ultimi 10 cm di riempimento, tra scarsissimi residui di ossa, si rinvennero in ordine sparso:

a) un bracciale bronzeo desinente alle estremità con due testine schematizzate di serpente (diam. cm 7,2); b) due occhielli bronzei con pieduccio mobile per inserzione in altro elemento (diam. cm 1,8); c) frammenti sparsi di laminette bronzee<sup>11</sup>; uno spillone bronzeo con testa di ferro, in frammenti. Il tipo di bracciale data la sepoltura: abbondantemente documentato in area macedone, esso ha larga diffusione tra la fine del VI e gli inizi del V sec. a. C.<sup>12</sup> (T a v. 147 b, 148 a-b).

5) Un muro a squadra (T a v. 145 a, 148 c). A breve distanza ma a livello superiore



Plan 12. Xenies loc. Langadia (propr. Angelos Martzaklis)

nel terreno con la bocca ad Est, aveva una altezza complessiva di m 1,50, un diametro massimo di 0,90, base piatta, forma ovoidale ed orlo a listello ribattuto all'esterno (T a v. 147 c-d). I lavori agricoli e l'azione dilavatrice delle acque ne avevamo infranto ed asportato la metà superiore. Nello strato più alto del riempimento si colgono alcuni frammenti ceramici decorati con fasce di linee ondulate incise e intersecantesi, di periodo bizantino<sup>10</sup>. Se tali frammenti non sono scivolati per naturale assestamento del terreno nella cavità del

9. Esempi di *pyrai* in AM XXVIII (1903), p. 251 ss.; Annuario Atene X-XII (1927-29), p. 547; Olynthus XI (1942), p. 151 ss.; Kerameikos V, I (1954), p. 11. Per i forni per cibo, cfr. R. J. Forbes, *Studies in ancient Technology*, VI, Leiden 1958, p. 61 ss.

10. Corinth IX, p. 187, fig. 166.

rispetto al pithos, alcuni massi allineati e affioranti sono l'occasione per lo scavo di due tronconi di muro incontranti ad angolo retto. Il braccio breve misura m 2,10, quello lungo m 7,20, lo spessore circa m 0,55. Le pietre sono tagliate e sovrapposte abbastanza regolarmente sul braccio breve Ovest, irregolarmente e cementate dalla terra su quello Nord. La struttura è conservata per soli 50 cm di altezza e si presenta come il probabile

11. Olympia IV, p. 184; AJA XLIII (1939), p. 413, fig. 4; Olynthus X, tv. LXI, 817-821. Probabilmente i pezzi b e c sono resti di un medesimo oggetto (una *lekane* bronzea con anse mobili ad anello?).

12. Cfr. ÖJh. 27 (1932), p. 17, fig. 23; 28 (1933), p. 186, fig. 104; Olynthus X, p. 68, nn. 202, 205, tvv. XII-XIV P. Amandry, Coll. H. Stathatos, *Les bijoux antiques*, Strasbourg 1953, p. 60 ss., nn. 12 ss., tvv. XXI-XXII.



resto di fondazione di una costruzione rettangolare, franata e scomparsa a Sud e ad Est, nel punto di maggior declivio della collina. Credo si debba escludere che esso rappresenti il resto di un recinto tombale secondo una ipotesi che potrebbe venire suggerita dal genere di ritrovamenti dell'area. Nel riempimento e nel breve lembo di battuto pavimentale che si è conservato si sono raccolti alcuni frammenti di ceramica grezza di età ellenistica-romana e un peso piramidale da telaio, di un tipo comune in età ellenistica<sup>13</sup>. Sotto a tale strato si incontra il terreno vergine della collina. Si pensa quindi più probabile vedere in queste semplici strutture il resto (fondazione e poco più) di una abitazione isolata, in rapporto alla quale è forse da porre l'area lastricata nr. 3.

Poiché la zona non è situata lungo una arteria naturale di traffico (la valletta è a fondo chiuso), è molto probabile che i resti individuati siano inseribili nel quadro di abitazioni sporadiche di tipo agrario che dovettero occupare in diversi periodi quest'area particolarmente ben esposta e nello stesso tempo riparata.

13. *Hesperia*, Suppl. VII (1943), p. 73 ss.

Concludendo, in risposta ai fini contingenti per i quali è stata eseguita la ricognizione, si segnala che, al di fuori di tombe sparse, nell'area destinata ad essere sommersa non si è rinvenuto alcun indizio chiaro che richieda una ulteriore ricerca. Siti archeologici probabili sono distribuiti a mezza collina lontani e al sicuro dal futuro livello massimo del lago artificiale.

Per una maggiore conoscenza topografica della zona si crede utile far presente che la relativa scarsità di documenti antichi lungo la sponda destra del Peneo ha forse una spiegazione di carattere storico. Mentre infatti per la sponda sinistra è probabile il passaggio della strada montana che collegava la città di Elide con Olimpia tramite il centro di Pylos (Paus. VI, 22, 5; Diod. XIV, 17, 9; Plin. NH. IV, 5, 6), per quella destra nulla giustifica il passaggio di una importante linea di traffico che avrebbe potuto favorire e comportare una certa frequenza di nuclei abitati. Il che non esclude tuttavia la possibilità di insediamenti sparsi di tipo agrario (Paus. VI, 26,7) in vari periodi, come viene suggerito dalla datazione delle tombe che vanno dalla fine del periodo arcaico fino al periodo franco.

L. BESCHI

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Σημ. τ. Συντ. Μέχρι της ημέρας έκτυπώσεως του παρόντος τεύχους δὲν εἶχον σταλή τὰ Χρονικά της ΣΤ' Ἀρχαιολογικῆς Περιφερείας Κλασσικῶν Ἀρχαιοτήτων.



Elis: a. Corinthian capital in H. Elias, b. Byzantine post in H. Elias, c. Site A5 from the west,  
d. H. Athanasios and Vigla from the east





Elis. Armatova: a. Graben B 1 und B 2, b. Graben B 1, c. Graben B 1. Schuttneist





Elis. Armatova: a-c. Graben B 2



Elis: a. Site Γ1. MH pithos burial, from south, b. Site Γ1. MH pithos burial at later stage of excavation, from north, c. Site Γ11. Trench A, from north, d. Site Γ11. Trench A, eastern extension, from east





Elis: a. Site Γ11: a. Trench A, from south, b. Trench B, from east, c. Trench B, from west



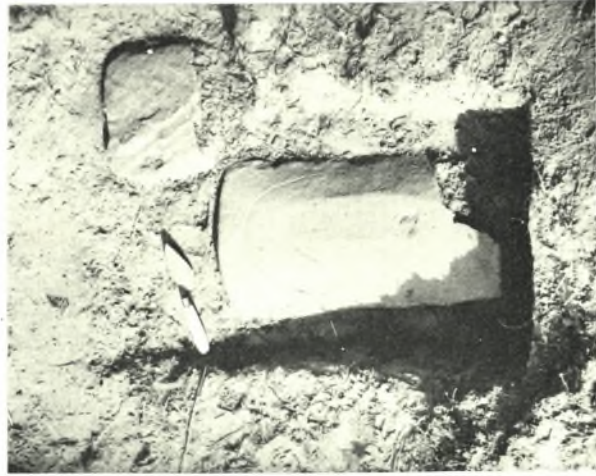


Elis. Site Γ 22α: a. Part of hellenistic building, from north, b. Hellenistic building, from south,  
c. Hellenistic building, north-south wall, from west, d. Hellenistic building, east-west wall,  
from west



Elis. Site Γ 2: a. View of site from east, showing artificial mound on top of hill, b. Trench A, extension - hellenistic wall, from south, c. Trench A, from south, showing hellenistic wall and tiles, d. Hellenistic wall, from east





Elis. Site Γ 3β: a. View of site, from west, b. Trench A, from east, c. Trench A, from south. Tile floor with robbing trench, d. Trench B, from east, showing tile floor, e. Tile burial (?), from east

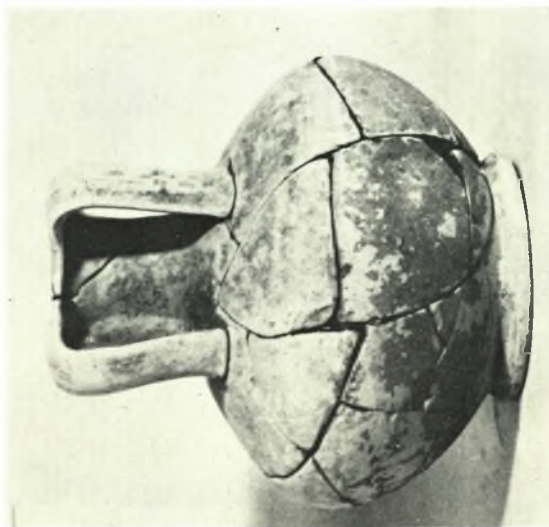




Elis: a. Incised clay stamp from site Γ 22α, b. Incised clay stamp from Site Γ 22α and clay setter from site Γ 14α, c. Stone tool from site Γ 14α, d. View of area examined. Site Γ 18 in centre background, e. Oraia. Disused brick kiln

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS





Elis. Site Δ 1: a. Tombe hellénistique, avant la fouille, b. Tombe hellénistique. Éléments du couvercle; à droite, vase en place, c. Tombe hellénistique. Vase à double anse, d. Tombe hellénistique dégagée





Elis: a. Site Δ 1. Tombe hellénistique: peson, b. Champ de N. Skaltsas: pierre travaillée, c. Champ de N. Skaltsas: tombe chrétienne

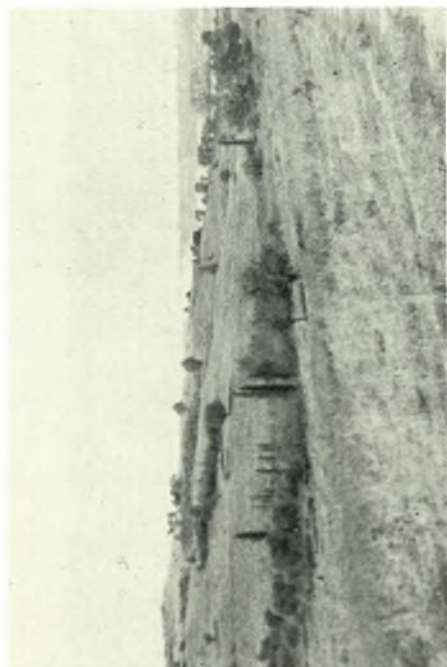




Elis. Siedlung E 1: a. Ablagerungsschichten im Abbruch zum Flussbett des Peneios; in den Kies- und Sandschichten zahlreiche MH Scherben, b. Pithoshenkel aus den in T a f. 142 a gezeichneten Ablagerungsschichten



Elis. Siedlung E 2. Scherben des späteren 7. Jhs.



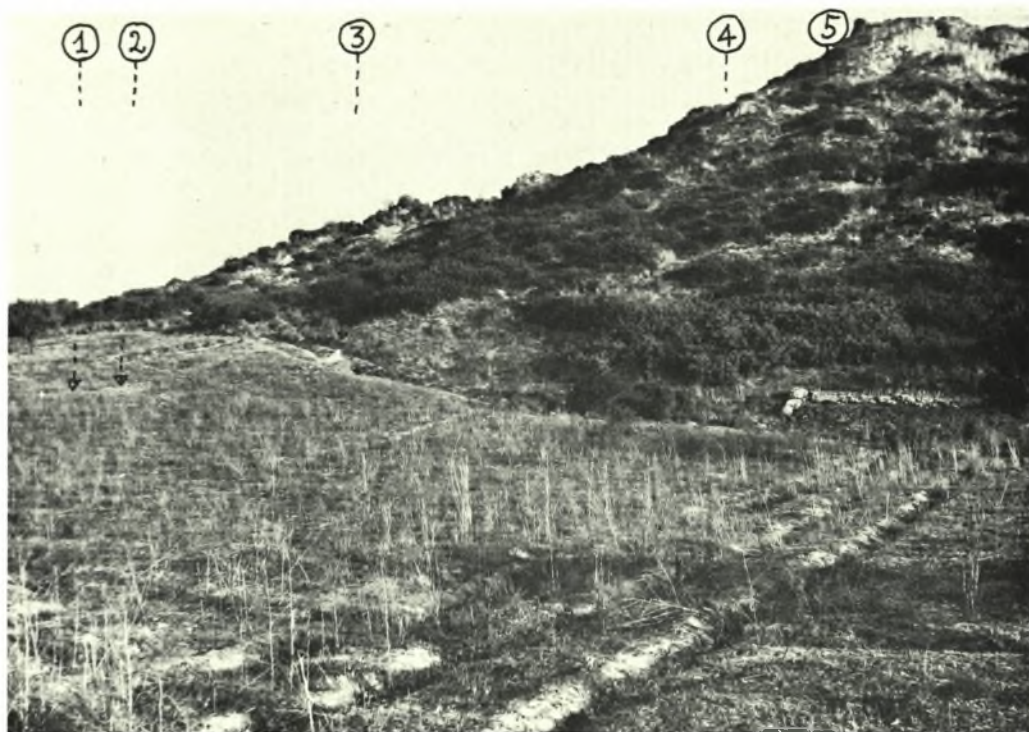
Elis: a. Siedlung E 3. Tis Grias to Mnima, vom östlichen Talabhang, b. Siedlung E 3. Blick von tis Grias to Mnima nach Osten, c. Armatova. Kalksteinplatte, d. Siedlung E8. Oberflächenfunde, e. Keramik aus einem Schnitt im Hohlweg nordöstlich bei Agrapidochori



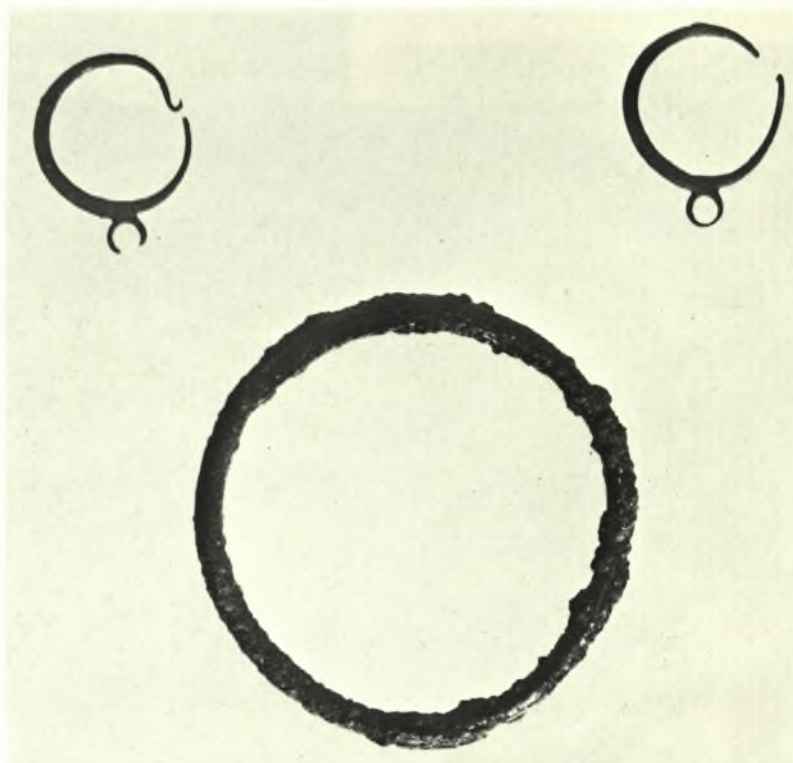
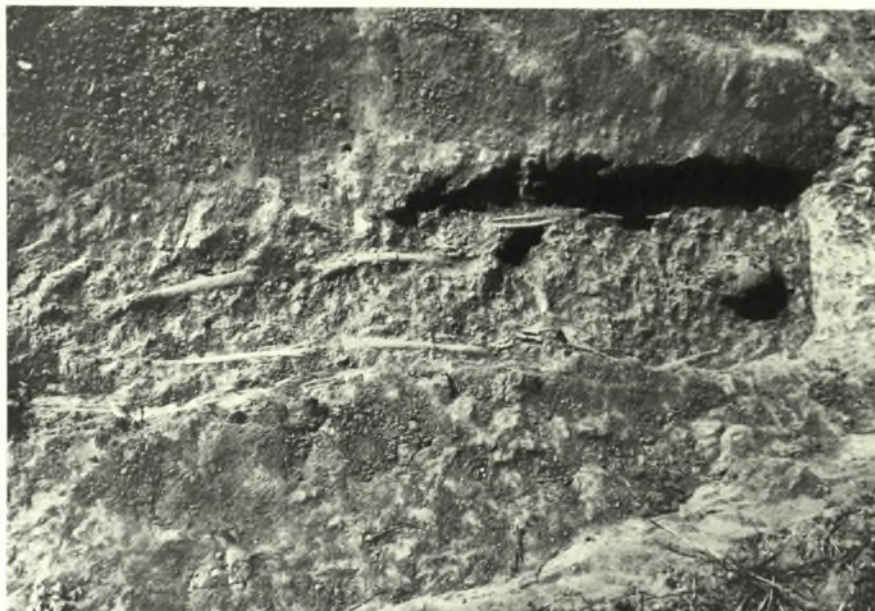


Elis: a. Site Z2: tomba, b. Site Z2: ciotola dalle tomba T a v. 145 a, c. Site Z2: tomba, d. Site Z4: tombe



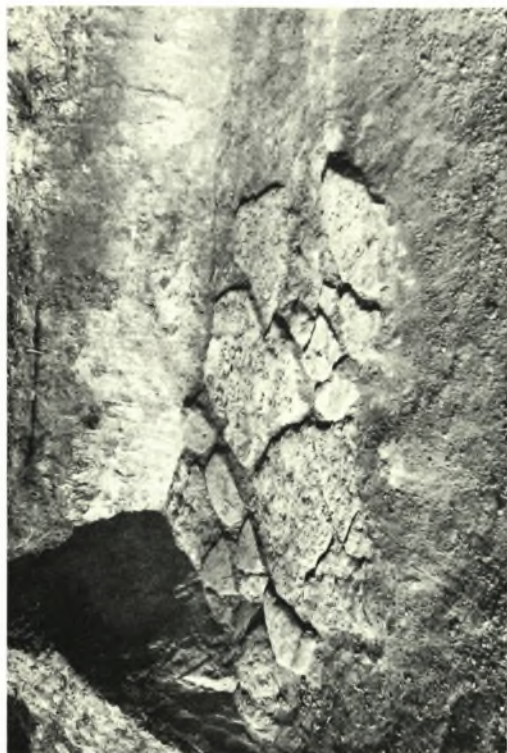


Elis. Site Z4: a. Vista da sud, b. Tomba nr. 1



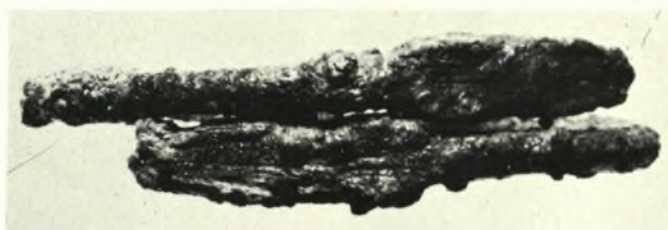
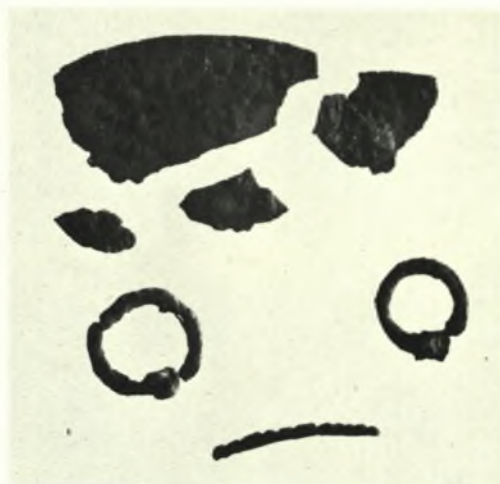
Elis. Site Z 4: a. Tomba nr. 1, b. In alto, orecchini dalla tomba nr. 1; in basso, braccialetto dalla tomba-pithos nr. 4





Elis. Site Z 4: a. Tomba nr. 2, b. Lastricato nr. 3, c - d. Tomba-pithos nr. 4





Elis. Site Z 4: a - b. Dalla tomba-pithos nr. 4, c. Resto d'angolo di una costruzione