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Report Zakynthos Archaeology Project 2016

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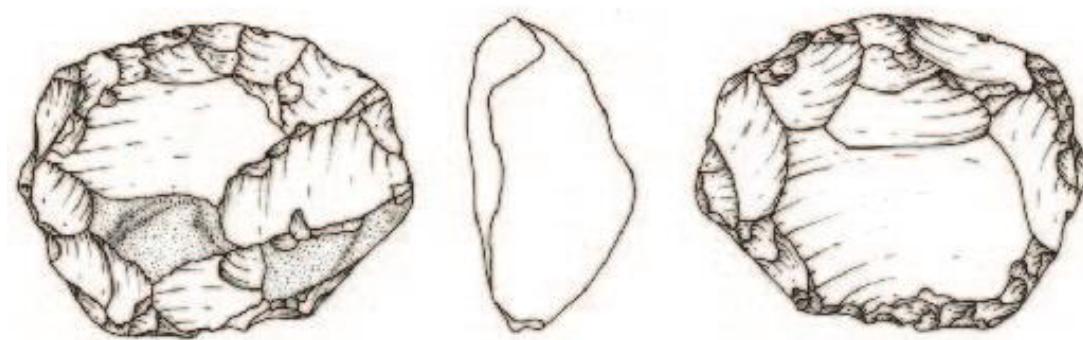
Introduction

During the 2016 campaign, the team of the Zakynthos Archaeology Project progressed towards final publication of the fieldwork carried out from 2005 to 2012.¹ A two-week study campaign was held from 25 April to 7 May. Also, the island was visited from 22-26 October, to take samples for chemical analysis of selected pottery. In addition, in the Netherlands, the data of the project were being sorted and prepared to be made open-access available. Progress was made with respect to the production of distribution maps to be included in the final publication.

Lithics research

During the field work of the Zakynthos Archaeology Project, a great many lithic artefacts and débitage have been collected: about 14% of the total number of finds. The study of these artefacts is coordinated by Dr . Georgia Kourtessi-Philippakis of the Kapodistrian University of Athens. For research areas A and C, the team selected finds and objects for photographing. For research area B, the study of the lithics was continued and finds were selected for drawing and photographing. The team has finished the study of the lithic artefacts and is now preparing the publication

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Lithic tools from research area B. drawings by O. Metaxas

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Ceramics research

With regards to the study of the ceramics, Prof. Dr. Vladimir Stissi continued the study of the Classical and Hellenistic materials from the surface survey. Likewise, Dr. G.J. van Wijngaarden continued the study of the Mycenaean finds from the project. With these studies, all period specialist pottery studies have been concluded and reports could be made for publication.

The technical pottery studies also continued. Ms Nienke Pieters finished the petrographic study of the thin sections of the pottery from the Zakynthos Archaeology Project. The results of her studies, will be part of her PhD dissertation, which will be submitted in 2017.

In October 2016, Hans Mommsen of Bonn University visited the apothiki in Ayia Marina on Zakynthos to take samples for Neutron Activation Analysis. Samples were taken of 20 Mycenaean pottery fragments, a permit for sampling was kindly provided by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture. In addition 9 samples were taken of geological samples, in order to be able to assess the local chemical characteristics of the clays in the three research areas.

Several of the sampled pottery fragments and the geological samples have also been part of Ms Pieters petrographic research, so the two types of research, hopefully, can be correlated. The NAA samples have been transported to Germany. Results of Mommsen's analyses are expected in the spring of 2017.



Hans Mommsen taking samples of Mycenaean pottery for NAA analysis

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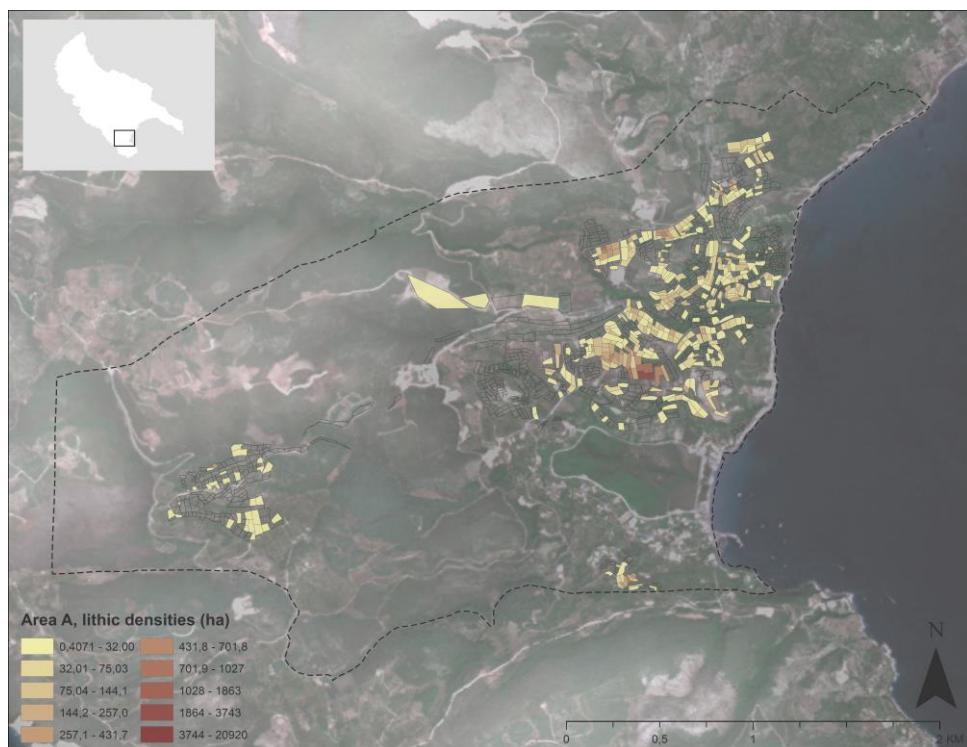
Preparing for publication

Work for final publication of the project continued. During the May campaign, draughts person Ms Loes Opgenhaffen finished the drawing of the ceramics and photographer Anneke Dekker took object photo's for publication.



Drawing and photo of decorated Mycenaean fragment from Lithakia-Kamaroti

In the Netherlands, Mr. Jitte Waagen, with help of a special grant of the Mediterranean Archaeological Trust, worked on distribution maps of the different classes of material in the three areas. Together with the typological study of the finds from different periods, these maps will constitute the basis for comparison between the three research areas with regards to the distribution of archaeological material.



Distribution of lithic artefacts in research area A

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Data Deposition

From 2006-2013, the Zakynthos Archaeology Project has been generously funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). This organisation aims to have all results of academic research funded by them online available by Open Access. With help of a special grant from the Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS) from NWO, Ilona von Stein and Ivan Kisjes re-organised the Zakynthos data structure in order to make it available in the EASY system of DANS. All data, including find photographs and drawings will be available from December 2016 onwards through the link:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.17026/dans-27f-zd2u>

1. The Zakynthos Archaeology Project 2016 is directed by Ch. Mercouri from the Ephorate of Antiquities of Zakynthos and by Dr G.J. van Wijngaarden from the University of Amsterdam (UvA). V. Sarris of the Ephorate helped us in various ways. The study of the lithic finds of the project was carried out by Dr G. Kourtesi-Philippakis of the Kapodistrian University at Athens (KUoA). Dr S. Ligkovanlis conducted research on the Lithic artefacts of research area B. They were assisted by D. Charalambopoulos. O. Metaxas did drawings of lithic artefacts. Professor V. Stissi (UvA) continued his study of the Archaic-Hellenistic pottery from Zakynthos. Nineke Pieters (UvA) continued her study of technological aspects of the Zakynthos pottery in the framework of her PhD Dissertation. Professor Hans Mommsen (Bonn University) took samples for NAA analysis. Loes Opghaffen (UvA) conducted pottery drawings and Anneke Dekker (UvA) photographed artefacts for publication. In the Netherlands, Jitte Waagen (UvA) worked on the GIS maps to be included in the publication. Ilona von Stein and Ivan Kisjes (both UvA) prepared the Zakynthos data for open access availability in the framework of an Ariadne project (NWO). The directors of the Zakynthos Archaeology Project thank all participants for their expertise and their enthusiasm.

The research at Zakynthos is carried out under the authority of the Netherlands Institute at Athens and we thank the staff of the NIA and, in particular, its director Dr W. Van der Put. The project would not have been possible without generous grants by the Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), The University of Amsterdam, the UTOPA foundation, the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP), the Mediterranean Archaeological Trust (UK) and the Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS) from NWO.