

Pseira VIII

The Archaeological Survey of Pseira Island Part 1

The archaeological excavations at Pseira, Crete, were sponsored by Temple University, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by the Archaeological Institute of Crete, and by the Archaeological Society of Crete.

PREHISTORY MONOGRAPHS 11

Pseira VIII

The Archaeological Survey of Pseira Island Part 1

edited by

Philip P. Betancourt, Costis Davaras,
and Richard Hope Simpson

with contributions from

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Published by

INSTAP Academic Press
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2004

Design and Production

INSTAP Academic Press

Printing

Sun Printing House, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Binding

Hoster Bindery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Pseira VIII : the archaeological survey of Pseira Island, part 1 / edited by Philip P. Betancourt, Costis Davaras, and Richard Hope Simpson ; with contributions from Philip P. Betancourt ... [et al.].

p. cm. — (Prehistory monographs ; 11)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 1-931534-10-1 (alk. paper)

1. Pseira Island (Greece) 2. Mirabello Bay Region (Greece) I. Betancourt, Philip P., 1936- II. Davaras, Kostas. III. Simpson, R. Hope. IV. Series.

DF221.C8P747 2004

939'.18—dc22

2004012081

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INSTAP Academic Press

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Printed in the United States of America

Contents

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE TEXT	vii
LIST OF PLATES	ix
LIST OF TABLES IN THE TEXT	xi
PREFACE	xiii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xv
INTRODUCTION TO THE SURVEY, <i>Philip P. Betancourt and Richard Hope Simpson</i>	1
PART I. THE ISLAND	
1. Introduction, <i>Richard Hope Simpson and Philip P. Betancourt</i>	7
2. Modern Toponyms on Pseira, <i>Richard Hope Simpson and Philip P. Betancourt</i>	9
3. The Bedrock Geology of Pseira, <i>William R. Farrand and Carola H. Stearns</i>	13
4. Soils and Land Use at Pseira, <i>Julie Ann Clark</i>	27
5. On the Historical Ecology of Pseira, <i>Oliver Rackham and Julie Ann Clark</i>	55
PART II. PREVIOUS WORK	
6. Pseira Island after the Byzantine Period and before 1906, <i>Philip P. Betancourt</i>	63
7. The Excavations of Richard Seager on Pseira, <i>Philip P. Betancourt</i>	65
8. Research at Pseira, 1908–1984, <i>Philip P. Betancourt</i>	73
PART III. ETHNOLOGY STUDIES	
9. Introduction, Ethnology Section, <i>Philip P. Betancourt</i>	79
10. Traditional Fishing Practices in the Eastern Gulf of Mirabello Area, <i>Teresa Howard</i> ..	81
11. Coastal Trade: the Eastern Gulf of Mirabello in the Early Twentieth Century, <i>Philip P. Betancourt</i>	91
12. Traditional Lime Production in the Eastern Gulf of Mirabello Region, <i>Philip P. Betancourt</i>	99
13. Marriage and Mobility: Traditions and the Dynamics of the Pottery System in Twentieth Century East Crete, <i>Peter M. Day</i>	105

14. The Relation of the Ethnology Studies to the Archaeology of Pseira,
Philip P. Betancourt143

REFERENCES151

INDEX167

PLATES

List of Illustrations in the Text

Illustration 1. Modern toponyms on Pseira.	11
Illustration 2. Geologic map of eastern Crete.	14
Illustration 3. Bedrock series for eastern Crete.	15
Illustration 4. Detail of stratification in the bedrock east of modern Mochlos.	16
Illustration 5. Geologic map of Pseira.	19
Illustration 6. Locations of soil profile sites on Pseira.	28
Illustration 7. Pollen sites in Greece.	32
Illustration 8. Soil map of Pseira.	38
Illustration 9. Variation of pH with depth.	43
Illustration 10. Variation in the percentage of organic carbon with depth.	43
Illustration 11. Particle size plotted on a soil textural triangle.	44
Illustration 12. Exchangeable Ca, Mg, and K of Profile 1.	45
Illustration 13. Exchangeable Ca, Mg, and K of Profile 5.	46
Illustration 14. Extent of terracing on Pseira.	48
Illustration 15. Map showing the journey of Robert Pashley in eastern Crete in 1834. The traveler's journey is shown in dashed lines. He went to the coast west of Kavousi (i.e., at Mochlos) and then went back inland to Sphaka.	94
Illustration 16. Steps in the manufacture of cement made from lime.	100
Illustration 17. Plan and section of the kiln at Makra Opsi.	101
Illustration 18. Schematic diagram of the role played by the emporium at Sfaka in the production and distribution of high-calcium lime.	103
Illustration 19. Map showing the island of Crete with main ceramic production centers.	107
Illustration 20. Diagram illustrating perceived structural oppositions in sedentary and itinerant potters of Crete.	116
Illustration 21. Map showing East Crete, with kiln locations indicated.	116

Illustration 22. Map showing location of villages and kiln sites around the Bay of Mochlos.	117
Illustration 23. Map showing location of kiln sites worked by Zacharias Kornaros.	122
Illustration 24. Diagram illustrating the movement of personnel and techniques in and out of Kentri.	124
Illustration 25. Map showing the Aegean and major production centers.	133

List of Plates

- Plate 1A. Staff in 1987, at the beginning of the survey project.
- Plate 1B. Staff in 1990, the final year for the survey.
- Plate 2A. Aerial photograph of Pseira Island.
- Plate 2B. The Katsouni Peninsula as seen from the southwest.
- Plate 3A. Image taken by SPOT 1 Earth Observation Satellite on June 21, 1987; Pseira is at the left of the image.
- Plate 3B. The harbor at Pseira, as seen from Katsouni Peninsula, looking southwest.
- Plate 4A. Landscape on Pseira, showing the difference in the degree of vegetation, with phyllitic soil in the foreground and terra rossa over limestone bedrock in the upper left of the photograph. Carola H. Stearns and William R. Farrand are at the right.
- Plate 4B. Katherine May, Lada Onyshkevych, and William B. Hafford surveying on Pseira Island.
- Plate 5A. Bedding in the cliffs adjacent to the town, as seen from the Plateia looking north.
- Plate 5B. Plattenkalk Limestone bedrock on the coast, near the tip of Katsouni Peninsula, showing the white calcite veins in the gray limestone.
- Plate 6. Small outcrop of metacarbonate near the beach at the western side of Megali Ammos. An area of phyllite and Brown Mediterranean Lithosols can be observed at the upper right, where the vegetation is present.
- Plate 7. The Byzantine cistern, looking south, showing repairs to the vault made in modern times (at left of photograph).
- Plate 8A. West side of the settlement before the modern excavation began.
- Plate 8B. The west side of Building AD Center before the modern excavation began, looking southeast.
- Plate 9. The grass-covered Plateia and the area of Building BS/BV before the modern excavations.
- Plate 10A. Small boats owned by local people, drawn up on the small beach at Mochlos.
- Plate 10B. Stacks of *monomena* nets on the dock at Herakleion. The fisherman in the boat is pulling the nets off the stack at the right and allowing them to fall at his feet in the boat in an untangled stack.
- Plate 11A. Removing small fish by shaking them out of the nets at Mochlos, in 1988.

Plate 11B. Fishing boat with a *paragadi* in the bow, Herakleion, 1994.

Plate 12A. Limekiln at Makra Opsi, in 1993.

Plate 12B. Detail of the entrance to the limekiln at Makra Opsi.

Plate 13A. Limekiln at Makra Opsi, in 1993.

Plate 13B. Limekiln at Hagios Nikolaos, in July of 1987 (kiln demolished in winter of 1987–1988).

Plate 14. Lime slaking pit in Herakleion, in August of 1988 (facility closed in the winter of 1988–1989).

List of Tables in the Text

Table 1. Particle size fractions determined by ELZONE	40
Table 2. Chemical analyses of soil samples	41
Table 3. Percentages of sand, silt, and clay	42
Table 4. Cation exchange capacity	42
Table 5. Clay mineralogy	46

Preface

The archaeological survey of Pseira Island was a part of the Pseira Project, an American-Greek collaboration (*synergasia*) directed jointly by Philip P. Betancourt and Costis Davaras. It is published in two parts. Pseira VIII includes several studies that aid in the interpretation of the entire body of research, and Pseira IX includes the results of the intensive walking survey of the island and the interpretation section. In Pseira VIII, those persons who wrote the individual sections are listed as authors. In much of Pseira IX, the research is combined into a more integrated whole, following the suggestion of Cherry, Davis, and Mantzourani (eds., 1991). Richard Hope Simpson contributed the report on the walking survey, and Philip P. Betancourt contributed the pottery studies. The two authors collaborated on the interpretation, both with informal discussions over a period of many years and with more formal exchanges of manuscripts.

Several preliminary reports as well as earlier volumes in the series refer to the survey. Seven volumes have been published (Betancourt and Davaras, eds., 1995; 1998 a; 1998 b; 1999; 2001; 2002; 2003). Preliminary reports on aspects of the survey include a thesis on the soils and land use (Clark 1990) and reports on the Theran pumice (Betancourt et al. 1990), the terraces (Rackham and Moody 1992, 129), the agricultural system (Betancourt and Hope Simpson 1992), the geology (Davaras, Betancourt, and Farrand 1992), the stone quarry (Betancourt 1996; 2001), and computer-assisted mapping (Onyshkevych, Hafford, and May 1996). On the survey in general, the reader may consult Betancourt and Davaras 1990. Portions of the survey that help the interpretation of the Pseira cemetery were included in *Pseira VI* (Betancourt and Davaras, eds., 2002).

Acknowledgments

Many persons and organizations provided help for this project (Pl. 1A, 1B). It was sponsored by Temple University, the Archaeological Institute of Crete, and the Archaeological Society of Crete, under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Culture and the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. The Archaeological Survey was co-directed by Philip P. Betancourt and Richard Hope Simpson. In addition to financial assistance given by the directors' home universities, funding for the work published in this volume was given by: the Institute for Aegean Prehistory; the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency; The Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada; the Society for the Preservation of the Greek Heritage; the Arcadia Foundation; the Mellon Corporation; The University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology; the Long Island Society of the Archaeological Institute of America; the late Leon Pomerance; and other donors.

Thanks are extended to all those who assisted with the project: the Directors for Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities, Ministry of Culture of Greece, Yannis Tzedakis (1985–1990, 1993–2001), Ios Zervoudaki (1990–1992), and Katerina Romiopoulou (1992–1993); the late Nikos P. Papadakis, Epimeletes and Supervisor for the Ephorate of Eastern Crete (1985–1989, 1995–2002); the Directors of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Stephen G. Miller (1985–1987), the late William D. Coulson (1987–1997), and James D. Muhly (1997–2002).

The survey began with preliminary examinations of the island of Pseira in 1984, 1985, and 1986, followed by an intensive walking survey carried out in 1987, 1988, 1989, and 1990 (Pl. 1). Selected sites were excavated during the years while the ground survey was being conducted. Partial study of the objects from the survey took place from 1987 to 1990, and the 1991 season was a study season devoted to the survey material.

Mapping and surveying was by David D. Day in 1987–1988 using a Topcon DM-A2 EDM (Electronic Distance Meter), an electro-optical distance-measuring instrument utilizing an infrared light source. The instrument was generously loaned to the excavation by Don Anderson, of the Anderson Instrument and Supply Company, Canton, Ohio, to whom the project is much indebted. Additional mapping and survey was made in 1995 by Lada Onyshkevych, Katherine May, and William B. Hafford using a Topcon DM-A2 EDM interfaced with a Gateway 2000 laptop computer. Field photographs are by Michael W. Betancourt (1986–1991), Philip P. Betancourt, and Richard Hope Simpson. Profile drawings are by Jacke Phillips

(1986), Teresa Howard (1986–1991), Chrysostomos Theodorou (1989), Sharon Rathke (1989), Senta German (1989), Jenny Hope Simpson (1989, 1991), Krista Gustafson Brown (1990–1991), Marie T. Naples (1990–1991), Jeanne Pond (1990), Eleni Velona (1990), and Philip P. Betancourt. Assistance with editing was provided by Joan Beaudoin, Hilary Brown, and Katherine May.

Thanks are expressed to Ioannis A. Nikoloudakis for permission to draw the limekiln at Makra Opsi, and for substantial information on the history of lime production in the region. The kiln was drawn in 1993 when the following personnel were on the staff, many of whom assisted with the project: Jenny Albani, Eleni Banou, Joan Beaudoin, Mary Betancourt, Kristen Borré, Barbara Botting, Hilary Brown, Cheryl Floyd, Teresa Howard, Katherine May, George Mitrakis, Merav Nesvisky, Natalia Poulou-Papadimitriou, and Fotini Zervaki.

Several staff members participated in the walking survey: Diane Dunn (1989–1990), Tom Fleming (1987, 1989), George Harrison (1990), David Marko (1988), George Mitrakis (1987–1990), Meryn Scott (1988–1990), and Catherine Wolfitt (1988). Other participants in the survey included:

- Jenny Albani, Byzantine studies (1986–1992)
- Mary A. Betancourt, catalog entries for artifacts (1985–1994)
- Julie Ann Clark, soils study (1987)
- Heidi M.C. Dierckx, stone tools study
- William Farrand and Carola Stearns, geomorphology (1987)
- Senta German, cove of Megali Ammos (1990)
- George Harrison, Byzantine agriculture (1990)
- Catherine McEnroe, catalog entries for artifacts (1985–1986)
- Natalia Poulou-Papadimitriou, Byzantine pottery (1986–1992)
- Oliver Rackham, modern flora (1990)
- David Reese, faunal material (1986–1994)
- Laurie Schmitt, assistance with catalog entries for artifacts (1993–1994)
- Vasso Zographaki, trench supervisor

Other acknowledgments are listed in the individual chapters.

This volume has profited from comments on early versions of the manuscript made by Jack L. Davis, Mark Rose, and L. Vance Watrous.