

Kavousi Excavations Resumed

Under the direction of Professor Leslie Preston Day of Wabash College, William D. E. Coulson, Director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, and Professor Geraldine C. Gesell of the University of Tennessee, a team has begun new excavations on the mountain sites of Vronda and the Kastro at Kavousi, Crete, first explored by Harriet Boyd in 1900. Their joint account follows.

The recent cleaning of Vronda and the Kastro at Kavousi in Crete has shown their potential for furnishing information about this critical but little-understood period between the Minoan and the Dorian eras on Crete.

Carried out with the permission of the Greek Archaeological Service and the cooperation of the Ephoreia of East Crete, the work was supported by the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, Packard Foundation, National Geographic Society, St. Catherine's and Gustavus Adolphus Colleges, and private donors, as well as the sponsoring institutions.

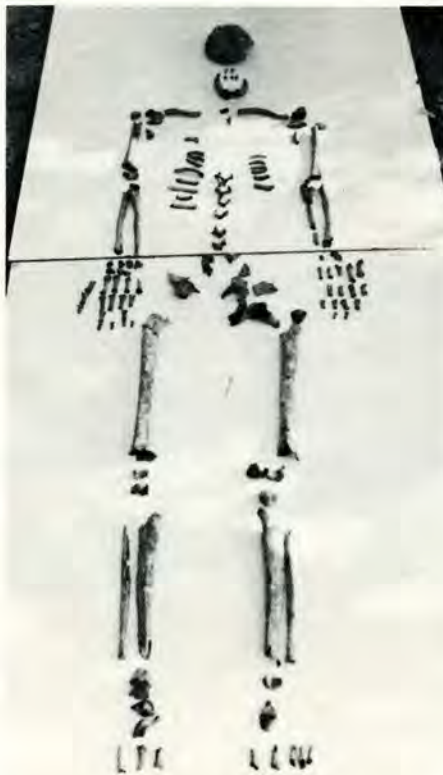
On Vronda the crew concentrated on uncovering more of the buildings cleaned in 1983 and 1984, and in determining the boundaries of the settlement. Progress was made in excavating a large

building below the summit on the south-east, which has several phases of occupation, with whole pots smashed on its latest floors. In the investigation of buildings on the west side of the summit later graves were discovered. In the corner of a room an adult and infant were

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Late Geometric burial at Vronda, Kavousi (Crete): pottery and skeleton from cist grave.



Thompson Wins Gold Medal

While many of our readers will have already read or heard the citation which accompanied the Gold Medal award of the Archaeological Institute of America to Dorothy Burr Thompson, we would like to present some excerpts from her response which reflect the wit and wisdom she has displayed in her lectures and in her writing since she first came to the ASCSA almost 60 years ago.

...What makes a good archaeologist? Patience to bear the drudgery of note-taking day in and day out. Endurance against the hot sun and the cold cellars, not to mention the chilly diving suit. Above all, curiosity is your stimulant. Stop, look, and listen.

Stuff your mind. Modern computers will always know more, but your own head will have to ask the right questions and apply the answers. You must know a lot to do a little. You must go to a lot of museums and take notes, and reread them so that you use what you know. Ask yourselves questions. Watch the techniques in different regions. This will develop a talent for identification of parallels.

Once I was spending an Easter holiday in the Argolid. I hired a boy, properly named Orestes, son of the foreman of the excavation of the beehive tomb at Vaphio. His donkey carried my paraphernalia and me so that I could look at the landscape and not only at the ground beneath my feet. We headed toward the town of Dendrã, ancient Midea, to the east of Mycenae. As we climbed toward the Acropolis, Orestes, a good Greek, always interested in people, pointed out two men digging in a field. Why should I care, who was bent on my reaching Midea? Curiosity. We walked over to

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Look to the Future

Doreen C. Spitzer, President of the Board of Trustees of the ASCSA, spent this spring in Paris. One of her first stops was at the Louvre, which inspired her editorial for this issue.

A collection of remarkable Old Master drawings, assembled by a Parisian amateur, Saint-Morys, between 1778 and 1790, had somehow escaped the Revolution intact; selected items from the collection were exhibited this winter in the Louvre. A number of the careful drawings as well as the quick sketches provide the only surviving record of paintings, monuments and sculptures that no longer exist. A glorious ceiling, painted by Titian in the Doge's palace, was destroyed within ten years of its completion; the artist's drawing is all that remains to preserve the idea, the intention, the thought-in-the-mind that produced the now lost original.

Preservation of an original idea, of

an entire culture even, or a system of trade, or a method of manufacture . . . and preservation of a site, a great monument, or a single small object, may be accomplished through careful, accurate, informed description, through photographs, computerized data, reconstruction, whatever means are appropriate and available. This was the theme of the plenary session of the AIA meetings. The message was clear. Archaeologists are trained, as Dorothy Thompson reminded us, to know the *λόκληρο* so well that they can at once identify and place in context *τα κομμάτια*. They learn to observe, to respond to every anomaly, and to interpret it in the light of their knowledge and experience. Whether it be "an

endangered species" like mosaics, or a section of wall, or the eroded figures of "a faceless emperor and his hollow-eyed soldiers" on a triumphal arch, these, like manuscripts, like artists' sketches, are original sources: unique, vulnerable, and irreplaceable.

Increasingly, efforts are being made to save our original sources from further neglect, erosion and pollution, though in many cases it may already be too little too late. Archaeologists and classicists everywhere, the ASCSA not least among them, have a preservation job to do for the future. Reconstruction, as in the Stoa of Attalos, has, in a sense, preserved the ancient original. The British team of Morrison, classical scholar, and Coates, naval architect, using the scanty extant archaeological and literary original sources, have reproduced, and thus preserved, the trireme which won the battle of Salamis for Athens in 480 B.C.

A major function of the ASCSA is to provide experience and training in the identification and interpretation of original sources in the ancient classical world. The message is clear. Document your records today with all possible precision, clarity, and understanding. You may be providing the only original sources for preservation or reconstruction tomorrow!

Athens Revisited

Helen F. North, Professor of Classics at Swarthmore College, spent the fall of 1987 in Athens as the Whitehead Professor at the ASCSA, over a decade since her last stay at the School, as Visiting Professor, in fall 1975. She contributes here some impressions and thoughts based on her stay.

Like all who have been lucky enough to enjoy this opportunity I am deeply indebted to the School for a cornucopia of good things—access to the Blegen and Gennadius Libraries (twenty-four hours a day in the case of the first), comfortable and convenient quarters, with relief from the time-consuming chores of housekeeping, best of all a total absence of demands on my time, until after Thanksgiving. For once I exercised a modicum of *sophrosyne* in regard to field trips and limited myself to the one I had missed in 1975, Thrace and Macedonia, which rewarded me richly in the itinerary, the weather, and especially the company. The students were a source of endless enlightenment and diversion—generous too in playing Cole Porter tapes on the bus in deference to tastes that were formed long ago on *Anything Goes* and *Kiss Me, Kate*.

I remember with admiration John Camp's leadership on all the sites, as well as the special contributions of Mary Lee Coulson among the Byzantine churches of Thessaloniki and George Huxley in

Thasos and many other places, where he shared his prodigious and exact knowledge of Greek history and literature with a busload of fervent admirers. Fred Winter, my fellow Fellow, enlightened me about fortifications wherever we found them, in addition to hauling me bodily through the brambles and over the walls of Samothrace. Both Joan Winter and Davina Huxley were generous with their superior knowledge of provincial Greece, from birds and flowers through local customs to reliable places to eat. Spectacular memories include wading in the quarries of Thasos at sunset, as an indignant octopus attacked an intrepid student, seeing the interior of the so-called Tomb of Philip at Vergina and hearing Professor Andronikos defend his dating of the vault, and gliding across the calm waters from Samothrace to Alexandroupolis with dolphins in attendance.

Thanksgiving and the beginning of the Christmas holidays were made festive by the Coulsons. Thanksgiving dinner, for close to one hundred members

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AMERICAN SCHOOL OF
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Ancient Recipes Benefit Amphora Project

Rabbit with fresh quince, red mullet in herb and wine sauce, poached figs with honey and wine sauce, grilled semolina bread, barley bread, shrimp in vine leaves, roasted onions with honey and vinegar and wheat pilaf—all these and more were served at the Amphora Dinner and Symposium, organized in November in New York to benefit the Amphora Project.

The recipes for the event were culled from ancient texts by Professor Phyllis Bober of Bryn Mawr College, who also spoke on ancient cuisine. Professor Carolyn Koehler, of the University of Maryland at College Park, who has been Dr. Virginia Grace's assistant for many years, followed with a presentation of the Amphora Project. The evening, which was underwritten by the Association of Greek Wine and Spirits Producing Manufacturers, netted a profit which has been applied to the computerization of the Amphora files and archives.

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For copies of some of the recipes, write to Friends of the ASCSA, 41 East 72nd Street, New York, NY 10021.



Clockwise from top: Sotiris Kitrilakis, owner of the Peloponnese Food Company, who developed the Amphora Benefit menu and prepared the food as well as contributing some of the raw materials imported from Greece, confers with Professor Phyllis Bober of Bryn Mawr College, who drew up the recipes and lectured on ancient cuisine; Angel Stoyanof, of Stoyanof's Restaurant in San Francisco, who served as master chef for the event; Yiannis Boutaris, President of the Association of Greek Wine and Spirits Producing Industry and Managing Director of John Boutaris & Son wine manufacturers; Professor James R. McCredie, Chairman of the ASCSA Managing Committee greets ASCSA Friends.

New Slant on Thera Frescoes

Mary Berg Hollingshead (ASCSA 1969-70) makes some fresh observations on the familiar "Spring Fresco" from Akrotiri.

A back corner of the well-known "Spring Fresco," or "Room of the Lilies" (Room 2 of building Delta) at Akrotiri on Thera has yielded new information about how Thera frescoes were painted. Although Delta 2's lyrical scene of swallows flying over red lilies growing out of a rocky landscape is often reproduced in textbooks and pocket guides, the detail shown above is rarely illustrated. It shows a swallow wheeling up and around in characteristically acrobatic flight. A large red lily is painted over one wing. In a composition which we intuitively assume to be painted from the ground up, we are surprised to find that the lilies were painted after the swallows. More intriguing, why was the lily painted over the swallow? We know that the artist who painted this and the other swallows in Room Delta 2 had a fine eye for the species' elegant profile and agility in flight. While he uses foreshortening successfully in a swallow on the west wall, here he appears to have tried a more difficult pose, without making it visually comprehensible. The large red lily painted across the bird's right wing may represent an attempt to convey pictorial depth, or it may be the artist's frustrated attempt to conceal the unsuccessful swallow. Or, it may be the work of a second painter.

The "second painter" theory finds support in frescoes from building Xeste 3, in which a swallow of comparable style flies above a similar rocky land-



Detail from the "Spring Fresco" from Akrotiri (after Ch. Dumas, Thera. Pompeii of the Ancient Aegean, Fig. 28).

scape on which crocuses, rather than lilies are growing. The birds and the rocks are like those of Delta 2, but the flowers are different. Elsewhere in Xeste 3, details of a young woman plucking a crocus indicate that, as in Delta 2, the flower was painted last.

These observations of technique and sequence suggest to me that a painter specializing in plants completed these frescoes, which had been designed and begun by another artist. Red lilies and crocuses appear often in Thera (and Minoan) painting, perhaps with symbolic significance. Specialized flower painters would seem to confirm the importance of lilies and crocuses for the residents of Akrotiri. Our semi-obliterated swallow from Delta 2 thus provides graphic evidence of Thera priorities, of lilies over swallows.

May Meetings in New York

The Managing Committee of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens is meeting in New York on May 14 at the Institute of Fine Arts, hosted by Professor James R. McCredie, Chairman. One of the main items on the agenda is the election of a new Director for the Genadius Library, who will serve a three-year term beginning in 1989. The meeting will be followed by lunch at Mayer House.

Also at Mayer House, the ASCSA Board of Trustees is holding its bi-annual meeting on May 24, chaired by W. Kelly Simpson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The meeting agenda includes a discussion of the plans and fund-raising strategies for the Blegen extension. The same evening, the Trustees, National Councillors and guests will attend a dinner, followed by a lecture by Professor Mary Berg Hollingshead on wall-paintings at Santorini.

New Trustee for ASCSA

A. Bartlett Giamatti, former President of Yale University and currently the President of the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs, has joined the Board of Trustees of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, it was announced recently in New York by Board President Doreen C. Spitzer.

A scholar of Renaissance literature, Mr. Giamatti has written numerous books, articles, essays and reviews in his field. At the same time, his interest in baseball has led him to publish a number of articles in this area as well, including "Tom Seaver's Farewell," a story which appeared in Harper's Magazine in 1977 and which won the E. P. Dutton Best Magazine Sports Story of the Year.

After graduating from Yale University in 1960, Mr. Giamatti returned in 1966 as a member of the faculty in the Department of English and Comparative Literature, and was appointed Yale's 19th President in 1978. He is a member of the Modern Language Association, the American Philosophical Society, the Dante Society of America, the Council for Financial Aid to Education, the Commission on



Humanities, and the National Commission on Excellence in Education. He is also a Trustee of the Ford Foundation, and of Mt. Holyoke College, where his daughter is a student.

In 1986 Mr. Giamatti left Yale and took on the leadership of the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs. In a recent speech to the Massachusetts Historical Society, he pointed out that for native-born Americans baseball recalls "an earlier, less bitterly knowing country," while for newcomers to American society it provides "a common language in a strange land."

Acrocorinth Focus of Annual Meeting

The Annual Open Meeting of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens took place on March 31 in Athens, with keynote speaker Professor Ronald Stroud presenting the excavations at the Sanctuary of Demeter and Persephone on Acrocorinth.

Currently on sabbatical leave from the Classics Department at the University of California at Berkeley, Professor Stroud headed the excavations from 1961 to 1965, and was succeeded as Director by Dr. Nancy Bookidis, who oversaw the project until its completion in 1975. Professor Stroud and Dr. Bookidis have cooperated on the recent *Corinth Notes* No. 2, in the ASCSA Picture Book series and are readying the volume on topography and architecture. Other forthcoming volumes include Dr. Elizabeth Pemberton's on Greek pottery and Kathleen Slane's on Roman pottery and lamps. Also in preparation is the report on the terracottas, being prepared by Gloria Merker and Jean Turfa.

In his lecture, Professor Stroud surveyed the Sanctuary's history, beginning with a reference to Pausanias, who noted the site briefly in his visit to Corinth in 160 A.D., and described its antiquities as revealed in a decade and a half of excavations. Along with numerous votive offerings to the two goddesses, the sanctuary also produced some fragmentary stone sculpture of the Roman period found mainly in destruction debris dating to the fourth century A.D. The architectural remains include numerous dining rooms, a rock-cut theatral area, and three Roman temples, one of which has a mosaic floor.

The ASCSA also sponsored a series of seven lectures throughout the academic year 1987-1988. Most recently, Dr. Theodora Karayiorga, the Ephor of Athens, spoke on public works and excavations in Athens in the last five years. Other speakers included Dr. Olga Tzachou-Alexandri, the Director of the National Museum, who surveyed eighth century ship representations, Alexander MacGillivray, Co-Director of the Palaiakstra Excavations, who presented his recent work, Claire Palyvou, from the Ephoreia of the Cyclades, who spoke on Akrotiri on Santorini, Helen North, with a lecture on the iconography of eloquence, and Nicholas Coldstream, who delivered a lecture on ninth century tombs at Knossos.



Roman portrait of a young priestess found in a well in The Sanctuary of Demeter and Persephone on Acrocorinth, second cent. A.D.

Conference on Greek Archaeology Features ASCSA Speakers

The ASCSA will be well-represented among the participants at a symposium on Greek archaeology, to be held in New York on October 30, 1988.

Honorary Chairman is Professor Homer A. Thompson, while Managing Committee Chairman Professor James R. McCredie and Professor David G. Romano will be presenting lectures.

The conference is sponsored by Krikos, a professional association of Greek engineers and scientists working in the United States. Co-sponsored by the New York Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, the conference, the fourteenth in a series of annual events, will take place at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. For further information, contact Dr. Thomas V. Papathomas at (201) 377-2362, evening hours.

We regret to report the death, in January, of Thomas A. Pappas, at age 89, who was a member of the Board of Trustees of the School from 1969 to 1981.

Plans Underway for Blegen Extension

Thanks to a generous grant from the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad/Agency for International Development, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens has moved ahead with plans for the Blegen Library extension and associated remodelling of the Main Building, Director's Residence and the Gennadeion.

After considering proposals submitted by four Athenian architectural firms, the School has selected the designs of architect Nikos Zarganis, who recently completed an addition to the library of the British School of Archaeology, the ASCSA's next-door neighbor.

In an early February meeting with Mr. Zarganis, Trustee William Loomis and Managing Committee Chairman James McCredie reviewed the architect's proposals which had originally been submitted to the Trustees in late 1987. Completion of the final proposals is scheduled for late spring 1988.

The plans call for a new wing which will extend the present building west of the present building, adding some 35,000 square feet to the present stack space. The four story structure will also house the expanded School Archives, the proposed photographic laboratory, reading tables and carrels, and computers. For the time being, the basement will remain unfinished until the space is needed. While the main entrance will continue in its present position, the facade of the new extension, which looks out onto Gennadius Street, has been designed to blend in with the appearance of the original Blegen Main Building. The Gennadeion remodelling is on a much smaller scale, involving only the west wing basement, which had been left unfinished when the wing was added in 1972. It will now be completed for stacks and storage of archives.

It is estimated that the proposed extension and remodelling will cover the School's needs for space for the next thirty years, at a total cost of approximately \$1,035,000. The ASHA/AID grant is providing \$450,000 of this amount, leaving \$585,000 to be raised before the building is completed, which is projected for 1990.

In the late 1950's, the ASCSA added the Davis wing to the original library, but the continuing growth of the collection and increased readership has necessitated the current expansion program.

Ancient Rites in Modern Mytilene

In search of the Temple at Klopedi on Mytilene, Gerald P. Schaus, Associate Professor of Classics at Wilfrid Laurier University in Ontario (ASCSA Whitehead Professor, 1987) came upon a modern version of an ancient ritual, the sacrifice of a bull.

The deadly knife plunges to its mark, and the huge bull falls to its belly, then to its side, soaking the earth around it in frothy red. The closely packed crowd reacts with alarm and horror, with fascination and awe, and a few perhaps with sadness. One life ends and others go on.

At least four times a year, this ancient ritual takes place on the island of Mytilene. Of these, the oldest and most colorful ceremony is celebrated by the town of Aghia Paraskevi in honor of Saint Haralambos, patron of the Ploughmen's Guild.

Quite by accident, I and my group of students stopped in Aghia Paraskevi for lunch on our way to the nearby Aeolic-style Temple at Klopedi. As we sat down, we observed a parade of horsemen bearing icons and banners clatter by. In response to our curious questions, we learned that there was to be a bull sacrifice at nearby Tavros that very evening. How could we miss it!

Part of a five-day panegyri, the sacrifice of the bull is the central focus of

many events, which culminate in an all-night "glendi" of music, dancing, and cooking. According to local legend, a farmer named Malomyti from Aghia Paraskevi lost his bull, and in trying to find it he wandered further and further into the hills. Suddenly a monk appeared to him, directing him to the top of a nearby hill, where he found his bull standing quietly by the ruins of a country chapel dedicated to Saint Haralambos.

Realizing that the mysterious monk was actually the saint himself, the poor farmer fell to his knees to give thanks. As he did so, he caught sight of a brigand who appeared from behind the Chapel. Although the farmer thought his last moment had come, the bandit told him that his life had just been saved by the saint, who had fuddled the bandit's aim just as he was about to kill our hero. As he turned to run away, the bandit instructed the farmer to give thanks not only for his bull, but also his life. Thus, the saint was honored thereafter by the sacrifice of a bull.

When we arrived at the Church of Saint Haralambos, we found the official parade of horsemen from Aghia Paraskevi already settled in. New arrivals were being blessed by the priest, and each rider slipped him a bill at the end of the ritual.

At the same time, blessings were extended to lambs and kids, as well as pregnant mares and mares with young foals.

Groups of families were spreading large blankets over terraces made in the rough rocky hillside, fires were already burning high and water was boiling in preparation for the meals. A few carcasses of recently slaughtered sheep and goats hung from nearby trees, while music blared from radios. Nearby lay real musical instruments, ready for the night ahead of dancing and merrymaking. New arrivals carrying heavy loads of provisions and blankets filed past the carts and stands where hawkers were selling every kind of trinket or Greek finger food. Nuts, halva, drinks, and souvlakia in pita bread, the ubiquitous ice cream vendor, an assortment of children's toys, ashtrays, lamps, china, glassware, and bric-a-brac, all were lined in neat rows to attract the celebrants. A few policemen stood by, somehow appearing to be part of the confusion rather than a force for order.

Eastward across the pines to the plains by the coast, the last light of the sun illuminated the straits and the distant Turkish coast. With that view over the timeless landscape, our sense of living in an earlier millenium began to grow strong. We might have been at a rural religious festival in honor of one of the Olympian gods, Dionysos or Artemis, Apollo or Athena.

We were buying souvlakia and something to drink, when a bleating kid drew our attention to a big tree with a cement platform below and a great young bull tied up beside it. There was no question what this beast was for. My mind automatically began counting away its few remaining hours and minutes. It looked blissfully ignorant of its danger, which somewhat relieved my conscience.

Now a crowd was gathering round the tree. Someone held a silver tray and certain people were taking turns putting a 1000-drachma bill on it, held down by a knife. Bidding had begun for the privilege of killing the bull. With each bill the person's name was announced. We thought the sacrifice was drawing near, but the bidding went on and on as night fell around us. Two hours and many bills later, the bidding had suddenly ended. It



At the Festival of Saint Haralambos on Mytilene, a priest blesses a horse and his rider.



A black-figure vase from the sixth century B.C., depicting a bull being led to sacrifice.

was difficult to know who had won, for it seemed that all the bidders were now holding the bull's rope, pulling him onto the cement platform, his nose down to an iron ring set firmly in the middle. There was a click, the bull pulled back and stumbled to the ground. A little blood appeared on its forehead. The crowd pressed close for a better view. I held my one-year old son at the edge of the circle, straining for a glimpse. Suddenly, as if a volcano had erupted, the huge bull fought to gain its feet and a hundred terrified Greeks fought to escape. I was almost toppled over but now my son and I had a clear view of the scene. The men holding the ropes pulled the bull's nose down to the ring again while one fellow flashed a knife down like a Spanish bull fighter and severed the bull's backbone. The creature crumpled. The knife was passed to another man who went awkwardly around to the belly side of the beast. This I suppose was the winning bidder, for he made the sign of the cross with the knife on the bull's throat, then he passed the knife to others.

It was time for us to leave, strangely satisfied that we had experienced so ancient a ritual, yet still incapable of grasping its significance. If good Saint Haralambos was honored by these events, we suspect it was due to the crowds of happy people rather than to the sacrifices of the animals now roasting beneath the pines, or the pungent fragrance rising to heaven through the smoke.

ASCSA Sponsors Lecture Tour

From April 18 to May 11, Professor John Camp presented lectures on the Athenian Agora to audiences in six cities throughout the country.

Co-sponsored with local societies of the Archaeological Institute of America and university classics departments, the lecture series focused on fifty years of American School activity in one of the most significant sites of the ancient world.

Professor Camp's itinerary took him to Cincinnati, Chicago, Minneapolis, Boston, New York, and Washington. In New York, the talk was scheduled for the weekend of May 7-8 as part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Special Membership Lecture series. Co-organized with the New York Society of the AIA, the event drew some 800 people.

A veteran of many years of excavation and research at the Athenian Agora, Professor Camp recently published *The Athenian Agora*, in the Thames and Hudson series on new aspects of antiquity, edited by Colin Renfrew. The book is available at a 25% discount from Friends of the ASCSA, 41 East 72nd Street, New York, NY 10021.



Professor John Camp

Vanderpool Honored

Professor Eugene Vanderpool, who worked and taught at the ASCSA for over half a century until his retirement, was honored at a lecture given by John McKesson Camp, II, Mellon Professor of Classical Studies, on January 19, at the Gennadius Library. Entitled "The Sanctuary of Artemis at Brauron", the lecture drew a large audience, including the Ambassador of the United States to Greece, Mr. Robert Keeley and Mrs. Keeley.

Vasilaras Retires



After thirty years of employment at the ASCSA, Head Gardener Andreas Vasilaras officially retired this year, his retirement marked by a party on December 15 attended by the entire School family in the Main Building. Citing his role in creating and maintaining one of the few oases of green in central Athens, ASCSA Director William Coulson presented Mr. Vasilaras with a silver box decorated with the School seal.



Moments from the Gennadius Library, 1987-1988: The Gennadeion brimmed with activity this past year. (Left) At the opening of the exhibition commemorating the 300 years since the bombardment of the Acropolis in 1687 by troops commanded by Francesco Morosini, were Mrs. K. Bostantzoglou (left), Dr. George L. Huxley, Director of the Library, Mr. O. Kopanitsas and Mrs. Sandra Cambani, all Friends of the Gennadius Library. (Right) Dr. Carol Zerner lectures on "Kythera and the Peloponnese in the Bronze Age" at the Kythera Colloquium co-sponsored by the National Research Foundation and the Gennadius Library, 14 November, 1987.



Christmas in Athens 1987: School Director William Coulson puts the crowning touch on the tree, and Kim Fritz and John McIsaac attempt to untangle the lights.

Running parallel to Ptolemy Street and Antigonous Street, in the seaside town of Coronis Attikis, is E. Vanderpool Street, which honors Eugene Vanderpool of the ASCSA, who excavated there in 1960 with James R. McCredie. The three week dig uncovered a Ptolemaic camp from Chremonides' War, in which Ptolemy II attempted to aid Athens in securing its independence from the Macedonians under Antigonous Gonatas. A similar honor was awarded by the City Council to Ioannis Papadimitriou, who was Superintendent of Antiquities at the time of the excavations.



Scenes from Thanksgiving 1987: Charles K. Williams, Director of the excavations at Corinth, carves a turkey while Helen North and James Higginbotham look on; Carol Lawton and Jere Wickens draw lots for the seating arrangement.

***Hesperia* Seeks Increase in Contributions**

In an effort to increase the number of articles submitted to the quarterly *Hesperia*, the ASCSA Committee on Publications recently clarified the guidelines for contributors.

According to Committee Chairman Stephen V. Tracy, potential contributors can be a member or past member of the School, or a member of the staff of a Cooperating Institution. Subject matter may be archaeological or historical from any period in Greek Studies, prehistoric to Turkish, and include synthetic studies as well as the presentation of excavated material. If none of the above categories apply to the contributor, then the article should be particularly relevant to the work of the School.

Articles are generally considered as soon as they come in. The Committee on Publications meets twice a year, in late March and late October; articles submitted in February and September are thus assured of the most rapid action.

Further information can be obtained from the "Instructions for Authors," published in *Hesperia* 55 (1986) i-vi or from the Editor, Dr. Marian McAllister, c/o The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ 08543-0631.

Crete/U.S. Team Uncovers Minoan Town



Architect John McEnroe, Professor at Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, measures one of the Minoan buildings on Pseira while draftsperson Vicki Mims records his measurements. (Photo by Michael Betancourt)

Pseira, a small late-Minoan town, has been the focus of archaeological excavations by a joint Greek-American team since 1985.

Under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the Pseira expedition is sponsored by Temple University, the Archaeological Institute of Crete, and the Archaeological Society of Crete. Joint Directors are Professor Philip Betancourt of Temple University, who represents Temple on the ASCSA Managing Committee, and Dr. Costis Davaras, Ephor of Antiquities and Director of the Archaeological Institute of Crete.

Located on a small uninhabited island just off the northern coast of Crete, Pseira consisted of at least sixty to eighty houses when it was destroyed in Late Minoan IB, around 1550-1450 BC. In its three years of excavations, the expedition has uncovered the town square of the Minoan settlement and is working now on clearing the facades of the buildings which surround it. The 1987 season concentrated on a large building at the

northeast of the square, where work will continue in the summer of 1988.

Pseira's island location presents unusual logistical problems for the excavating team. The staff must travel to the site every morning by fishing boat, returning to the village of Mochlos each evening. "In rough weather, when the waves break over the bow and spray those on board with salt water, the trip can have a touch of adventure. On calmer days, when the white seagulls or a rare dolphin come near the boat to investigate the interlopers, the scene is more idyllic," according to Professor Betancourt.

The houses of Minoan Pseira, built of stone, were arranged into roughly shaped blocks by lanes and narrow roads. Several of the houses were built step-fashion, using more than one terrace. The sea must have always played a role in the town's life throughout its history. Foreign connections were verified by a number of finds last summer, including scraps of pottery from Knossos, from the Mesara, and from the Cyclades, Cyprus, and the Levant.

ASCSA Sponsors Conference on Terracottas

A conference on Archaic Greek architectural terracottas will be held at the School December 2-4, 1988. Twenty-five to thirty papers will be presented by scholars from America, France, England, Sweden, Germany, Italy and Greece. The results will be published in *Hesperia*. A field trip to the Peloponnese will be held on the final day of the conference.

Papers and attendance are heartily welcomed. For more information, please contact Dr. Nancy A. Winter, ASCSA, 54 Souidias Street, GR-106 76 Athens, Greece.



THOMPSON WINS

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where they were hacking away to remove a big, long block, rather roughly tooled. It did not look modern. The men said that they needed the stone to chop up to line a well. Orestes told them, quite correctly, that it was ancient and they should not touch it. They dug the harder. Orestes and I said to each other quietly that it was probably a lintel block for a beehive tomb. He knew plenty in Mycenae. The diggers rejoiced in our interest. Perhaps it was a sign of treasure. We had showed too much concern. We left, but I kept worrying about the possibility of a tomb. We found the diggers still at it on our return. Again we told them to stop. They waited till we rounded a corner but when we looked back they were at it again. I got frightened. I suggested to Orestes that we go to find the ephor, the agent of the antiquities service. He protested that the donkey was tired. So was I, but too much was at stake. I sent Orestes and the donkey back to Mycenae and set out by myself across the Argive plain six miles to Argos. I found the ephor, of course, having his evening drink at a *cafeneion*. He giggled. Not much hope there. So I took a taxi back to the hotel in Mycenae where I finally found an ally in Orestes' father. A real archaeologist, he set out at three the next morning and read the riot act to the diggers. This stopped them and the tomb was saved. But note the amount of energy that went into the rescue. If I had not persisted and insisted where would the gold and silver treasures of the king, queen and princess of Midea have ended up? They are now in one of the richest cases of the Athens National Museum.

One day the gardener of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens showed me a collection of figurines that he said he had found in his garden in Kephissia, a suburb of Athens. But—I did not believe him. These queer characters with nose-plugs and ear plugs were not Greek. No. They were Central American, a jumble of Mayan, Aztec, and Toltec. One of my more learned friends at the School agreed with my diagnosis, and our ideas were confirmed by looking at the old American periodical, *Art and Archaeology*, the predecessor of the present *Archaeology*, which you should all read if only to keep you generally informed. Others began to murmur that I should consult a psychiatrist. One distressed friend said, "You don't really



Dorothy Burr Thompson at Phlius in June, 1924.

believe that the Aztecs invaded Greece, do you?"

The Director of the School suggested that I consult the head of the Department of Antiquities, Professor Oikonomos.

Here I found unexpected support. "Oh, yes they are American." I felt relieved. "You have seen some examples?" "Oh, yes," he said. "Some time ago we gave a permit to a German Ambassador, von Kardorf, to bring in and later export a collection that he had made when he was Ambassador in Mexico." "Is he still here?" "Oh, yes; he lives in Kephissia." I gasped. Oikonomos offered the services of a Greek archaeologist to pursue the matter further. We called on the Baron, and investigations soon clarified the whole story. Kardorf's two servants, as he grew older, had systematically robbed him. Evidently they had had trouble trying to sell the minor antiquities stored in the cellar. They pulled the wooden boxes out of the Baron's property to the small garden next door and set fire to the boxes to cover themselves, but they did not realize that terracottas are not destructible by fire. So I was exonerated and the Baron got back his figurines.

You too will have adventures. Science is full of strange discoveries now. Men and women are working up new fields dependent on extraordinary techniques—on amphora handles, on deep sea excavations, on papyri, even on air bubbles over fifty million years old preserved in amber. You will have tremendous ideas to open up the past. You will receive gold medals for really amazing discoveries. You are already beginning. Keep at it. I wish I could join you.

Archaic Art to U.S.

In the presence of Greece's Minister of Culture Melina Mercouri, the National Gallery exhibition "The Human Figure in Early Greek Art" debuted January 28.

Guest Curator was Diana Buitron-Oliver, ASCSA 1972/73, who gave a special tour to a combined ASCSA/New York Society of the Archaeological Institute of America group which gathered in Washington at the National Gallery on February 27. Earlier that same week, Professor Beth Cohen of Columbia University presented a lecture at Mayer House based on the material in the exhibition, entitled "Arms and Armor in Early Greek Art," also co-sponsored by the New York AIA and the ASCSA.

Also in connection with the exhibition, the National Gallery's Center for Advanced Study on the Visual Arts has organized a symposium on "New Perspectives in Early Greek Art," scheduled for May 27–28. Divided into four sessions over a two day period, the symposium will focus on several aspects of archaic Greek culture.

Among the participants are Professor James R. McCredie, Chairman of the ASCSA Managing Committee, Professor Alan Boegehold, Vice-Chairman, Professors Mabel Lang, Evelyn B. Harrison, Jeffrey Hurwit, Alan Shapiro, and Diana Buitron-Oliver.

Correction please

History Professor Charles Brand of Bryn Mawr wonders if Professor Babbitt's reference to Hymettus (NL Fall 1987) as "an easy half hour from *Souidias St.*" is perhaps spurious, inasmuch as in Babbitt's year, 1895, the street was called *Speusippos*. Mr. Brand points out that the name was changed, for a part of the street, after World War II to honor the Swedish Red Cross who had looked out for both the British and the American Schools during the war. Babbitt's diary, faithfully copied by his daughter, reports: "one would say the top of Hymettus is an easy half hour from the School." Your editor's copy was not so faithful (although she too lived at the School when it was on *Speusippos Street*), in an attempt to locate the site for latter-day readers. Correction sustained, with thanks.

School Wins Major Grant Support

With almost \$1,000,000 in hand by mid-March, not including a deferred gift of well over \$500,000, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens is on its way to a very successful year in the area of fund-raising.

Among the most significant gifts in hand are \$15,000 from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. Although the grant, for use by the Photographic Archives, was awarded last year, it is payable this year, along with an additional gift of \$10,000 for the Kress Fellowship in the History of Art. Also, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation awarded \$183,000 for the purchase of land for excavation in the Athenian Agora and \$25,000 for demolition work on land previously purchased with Foundation funds. In another important gift, the Demos Foundation awarded \$10,000 to support a bibliographical assistant in the Gennadius Library.

In addition, the Getty Grant Program of The J. Paul Getty Trust has awarded the School a major grant of \$334,000 payable over four years for acquisitions in the Blegen Library and for support of the Photography Archives. The grant funds will be used to increase the Library's holdings and to duplicate and preserve the School's photography archives.

In other areas of fund-raising activity, the number of Friends rose this year to 393. Instituted last year, the Friends program was initiated to broaden the School's base of support by expanding the number of donors to the Annual Fund. A number of Friends and supporters of the School also attended the Amphora Benefit in November, which raised \$8,000 for Dr. Virginia Grace's work in the storerooms of the Athenian Agora.

Alumni Association Elects New Officials

In the December Alumni Association elections, Professor William Murray and Suzanne Peterson Murray were elected for a three year term as Secretary-Treasurer. At the same time, Professor John Cargill of Rutgers University was chosen for a five year term as a Council Member, and Sarah Morris was elected to a three year term as Representative to the Managing Committee.



At the opening of the exhibition, "Ireland and the Hellenic Tradition," on February 9, Dr. George Huxley points out aspects of the collection to the Ambassador of Ireland to Greece, H.E. Eamonn Ryan.

ATHENS REVISITED *Continued from p. 2.*

and friends of the school, the Christmas tree-trimming party with carols (including the marvelous parody of the "Twelve Days of Christmas," which records in every stanza the multiple gifts of John Camp to the students—"five tholos tombs" etc.), and the concert of Christmas music on ancient instruments, followed by a sumptuous buffet—these were highlights in a semester that was brightened in many ways by the energy and imagination of Mary Lee.

In return for all this, I am conscious that my own contribution was merely a token—a Greek seminar and a series of sessions to read the *Aeneid* in the weeks between Thanksgiving and the Christmas break. My seminar on rhetoric and oratory in Plato's dialogues attracted some very rewarding students, whose comments and reactions were helpful to me in my work on Plato's rhetoric, but I regretted that this year relatively few of the regular members were able to read Greek with sufficient facility to take full advantage of the seminar. As a member of the Committee on Admissions and Fellowships I have long been concerned about the declining standard of Greek, as well as the declining number of applicants, especially philologists. I came away from the School this year more

convinced than ever that we must maintain and strengthen the Greek requirement for admission and find ways to increase the number of philologists who apply.

Every student of the Greek world needs to be able to deal with Greek sources at first hand, prehistorians and Bronze Age specialists as well as those whose interests lie in the Classical period and thereafter. By the same token, first-hand acquaintance with Greece itself—sites, topography, artifacts, museums—is essential for the philologist. And no one, whatever the specialty, should consider a year spent at the School a delay in progress towards the Ph.D. and the job-market. It is a year that may well make the difference between becoming a routine transmitter of second-hand impressions and an inspired interpreter of Greek culture, whether literary, historical, or archaeological (as if the three could really be separated).

As I write this report, I am encouraged to find a significant increase in the number of applicants taking the entrance exams for 1988, and what looks like a distinct improvement in the number of philologists. For many reasons, I envy next year's Whitehead Fellows.

KAVOUSI EXCAVATIONS RESUMED

Continued from p. 1.

cremated, possibly a woman who had died in childbirth in the Early Orientalizing Period.

Another grave nearby was of a type not found before at Kavousi: a stone-lined rectangular cist grave dug into the collapsed rubble of one of the rooms. This "double decker" grave had two major phases of use: the lower deposit contained several cremations with numerous weapons and tools of iron; while above this the body of a man was buried. The fine Late Geometric pot found with this individual gives a date for this latest burial in the tomb. A similar cist grave with both cremations and an inhumation was found on the slope to the southwest. It is now clear that the settlement area, after a period of abandonment, was extensively reused for burials in the Late Geometric Period.

Just below the summit to the southwest was found a deposit of broken cult equipment, including fragments of at least two snake tubes and five large terracotta goddesses with upraised hands, similar to those found at Karphi and Gazi. Work next season will concentrate on locating the shrine from which this material came.

In a field further to the southwest the geophysical survey conducted by a team from the University of Patras in 1986 had located a promising anomaly. Excavation showed this to be the lower portion of a pottery kiln. The kiln was oval in plan; its stoking chamber was cut out of the bedrock and lined with fired clay. In the center a column of stone and clay supported the clay vaulting on which the floor rested. A small portion of floor was still preserved, and it was pierced by holes which allowed heat to rise into the firing chamber. Sherds give an LM IIIC (c. 1200 B.C.) date for the structure. Excavation in the area showed that the kiln lay outside the boundaries of the town.

Investigation around the tholos tombs uncovered in 1900 by Boyd revealed another cist grave contemporary with those found in the settlement. Although no new tholos tombs were located, Boyd's dump produced much skeletal material, which will provide information about the people who lived in the Vronta settlement in the twelfth and eleventh centuries B.C.

The final two weeks of excavation, despite temperatures over 100°, were spent high on the peak of the Kastro, to

determine the extent of the settlement there and to test for stratified deposits which could reveal the history of the site. In eleven trenches the team explored both inside and outside the areas dug by Boyd, expanding investigation out to the false peak on the west. In all areas the excavators found stratified Middle to Late Geometric levels. Most interesting was a Late Geometric shrine with unusual *ex votos* found on a lower terrace on the west side of the peak.

The season offered many surprises and much new information. The shrine material places Vronta squarely in the LM III tradition and demonstrates the continuation of Minoan practices which is also observable in the pottery and architecture. The kiln provides evidence of 12th century technology. The graves have furnished evidence for burial practices and about the people of Geometric Kavousi.

Many questions remain to be solved. Of particular interest is the relationship between Vronta and the Kastro. Is the Kastro a later settlement of the Vronta people or a new group? Are the Geometric burials at Vronta from a nearby village yet to be discovered or from the Kastro? Why were these sites chosen for settlements? It is expected that excavation, surface survey of the area, the study



Late Geometric burial at Vronta, Kavousi (Crete): terracotta figurine.

of floral and faunal remains (recovered through dry and water sieving), and the analysis of the geomorphology of the area will provide the answers to some of these questions.

New and noteworthy from the ASCSA Publications Office

Corinth, XII, The Minor Objects by Gladys R. Davidson.
Reprint of 1952 edition. \$50.00

Hellenistic Pottery and Terracottas by Homer A. and Dorothy B. Thompson.
Eleven articles reprinted from *Hesperia* with prefaces
by Susan Rotroff to both sections. \$40.00

Isthmia, IV, Sculpture I. 1952-1967 by Mary C. Sturgeon. \$60.00

Forthcoming:

Attic Grave Reliefs that Represent Women in the Dress of Isis
(*Hesperia* Supplement XXII) by Elizabeth J. Walters. \$40.00

The Athenian Agora, XXIV, Late Antiquity: A.D. 267-700 by Alison Frantz.
\$50.00

Corinth, XVIII, i, The Demeter Sanctuary: The Greek Pottery
by Elizabeth G. Pemberton. \$50.00

Order from ASCSA c/o Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, NJ 08543-0631

Dams Open on 72nd Street

Not one, but two, century-old water mains burst at 72nd and Madison early in the morning of January 11, flooding some of the priciest basements in New York.

Mayer House, which stands just a few feet from the source, absorbed a cellar-full of water, which took eight hours to pump out, while staff and tenants were deprived of heat, phone, and for a while, electricity. The boiler revved up after its fourteen hours under water, but

the elevator machinery was destroyed and had to be rebuilt.

Sludge coated masses of papers and documents which had been stored downstairs, as well as Mayer House furniture, some of which had to be reupholstered and rebuilt. After sojourning a week on Administrative Director Ludmila Schwarzenberg's office floor, the papers finally could be refiled and repacked.



Scene inside and out: The basement of Mayer House, post-flood, and excavation at 72nd and Madison to repair the broken water mains.



George E. Mylonas, 1898-1988

Just as *The Newsletter* was going to press, word arrived of the death of Professor George Emmanuel Mylonas, member of the ASCSA Managing Committee representing Washington University at St. Louis since 1937 and a lifelong friend of the School. He began his career at the ASCSA in 1926 first as bursar, then as an assistant at the Gennadius Library. Later, he served as Annual Professor twice, and also as Director of the Summer Session for two seasons. Professor Mylonas excavated for many years at Mycenae. A fuller obituary will follow in the Fall *Newsletter*.

Travelers Take off for Greece

Some twenty lucky travelers are participating in the American School's first archaeological trip to Greece open to non-professionals in the field.

Between June 25 and July 11, the group will travel through central Greece and the Peloponnese under the guidance of Professor Alan Boegehold and his wife Julie. Among the lecturers who will be speaking to the visitors on-site are Dr. Evi Touloupa, Director of the Acropolis Museum, John Camp, Stephen Miller, John Fischer, Charles Williams, Nancy Bookidis, Betsy Gebhardt, Mary Lee Coulson, George Huxley, Chris Pfaff, Fred Cooper, Tim Wright, and Carol Zerner.

In its efforts to promote the trip, the School has received assistance from the Greek National Tourist Organization as part of its efforts to encourage development of specialized travel to Greece.

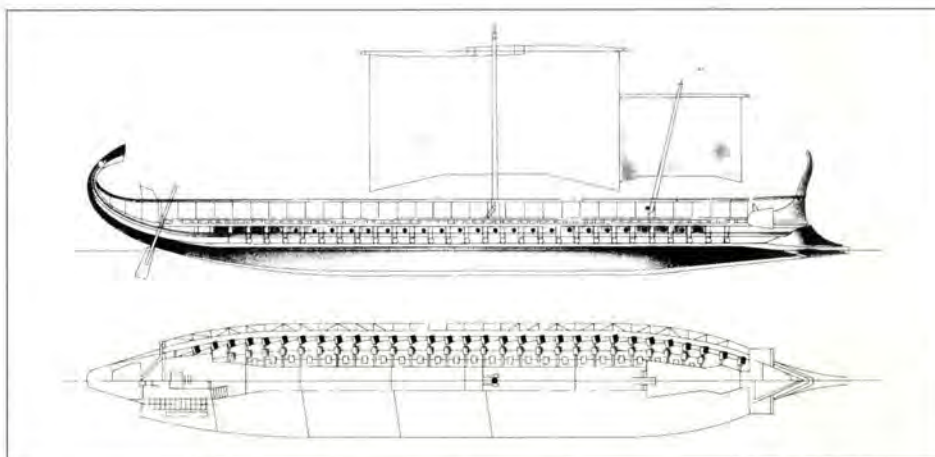
The Newsletter is for you, and about you! School alumni are among the most active and prolific scholars in the study of ancient Greece, and the ASCSA is proud of its accomplishments in training new generations of scholars or facilitating established scholars in their work. Help *The Newsletter* make these accomplishments better known by keeping the Editor informed of your new research, excavations, or publications. Send material to The Editor, ASCSA Newsletter, 41 East 72nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10021.

All Hands on Deck!

It was standing room only as Paul Lipke described the pleasures and the perils of rowing a trireme through the Saronic Gulf in a lecture he presented at Mayer House on March 24.

Built, launched and operated by the British Trireme Trust and the Hellenic Navy, the *Olympias* is a reconstruction of a 170-oared ramming warship of the type used by the Athenian navy in the fifth century BC. The launch and first sea trials took place in the protected waters off Poros in August 1987, assisted by 180 volunteer oarsmen and women, most of whom came to the project with racing shell and scull experience. These modern day thranites, thalamians and zygians, packed into the light wooden hull of the *Olympias*, managed to achieve a top speed of seven knots (more than eight mph) for a short burst.

The British Trireme Trust was founded in 1981 by Professor John S. Morrison of Cambridge University and colleagues equally fascinated by the tri-



Scale drawing of *Olympias*, showing profile and top view, reproduced from *Archaeology Magazine*, March/April 1988.

reme questions, from the vessel's appearance, to its speed, construction and operation. After some modifications suggested by the sea trials of 1987, the *Olympias* will undergo a second set of trials in July–August 1988, which may include a 235 kilometer row from Poros to Nafplion.

The lecture, entitled "The Athenian

Trireme: High Tech Engineering and Athletics in Ancient Greece," was co-sponsored by the ASCSA and *Archaeology Magazine*, which featured an article by Lipke on the Trireme project in its March–April issue. Guests at the lecture were hosted at a reception afterwards sponsored by Carillon Importers Ltd.

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Wesleyan University
Wilfrid Laurier University
Williams College
Yale University

Professor **Speros Vryonis**, ASCSA 1950-51 and member of the Managing Committee, has been named Director of the Onassis Center for Hellenic Studies at New York University. Established by a \$15 million gift from the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation, the Center will promote scholarship reaching across the span of Greek history, from antiquity through Byzantium to the modern era. A portion of the Foundation's gift will support the creation of six faculty appointments in Hellenic Studies, scholarships and fellowships to prepare the next generation of specialists in Hellenic Studies, a cultural outreach program, and the establishment of a library.



In honor of the annual joint meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America and the American Philological Association which took place this year in New York, the ASCSA decided to throw a Christmas Party at Mayer House on December 28 for Friends and alumni.

Held in the parlor, which has been recently restored to its nineteenth century glory, the party drew some 150 alumni and Friends. Highlight of the evening was an impromptu concert by New York staff members, who performed on the 1912 Steinway-Hamburg baby grand piano, part of Mayer House's original furnishings.

Beginning in Spring 1988, the ASCSA turned its attention to tiny scholars as well. As part of its cultural outreach program, the School is providing archaeology 'workshops' to elementary school children in the New York area. In April, third-graders at **St. Bernard's School** in Manhattan, excavating in a cardboard box with a stratified assortment of finds, received an introduction to methods and terminology.



Gifts to the School are not always in cash. A most welcome donation came recently from Professor **Linda Collins Reilly** of the College of William and Mary (ASCSA 1966-67), who contributed a large number of fine linens and embroideries, a definite asset in enhancing the School's ambiance and surroundings.



Professor **Brunilde Ridgway**, of the Department of Near Eastern and Classical Archaeology at Bryn Mawr College, has been appointed Whitehead Professor at the ASCSA for Fall 1988. Also appointed as Whitehead Professors are Professor **Diskin Clay**, of the Department of Classics at The John Hopkins University, for Fall-Spring 1988-89, and Professor **Jennifer Neals**, Chair of the Department of Art at Case Western Reserve University for Spring 1989.

Professor **Mabel Lang**, Chairman of the ASCSA Managing Committee 1975-1980, will present a course at Bryn Mawr's Alumnae College May 22-27, 1988, coordinating lecturers in ancient Greek, literature and archaeology.



Trustee **Marianne MacDonald** once again hosted Dr. George Huxley, Director of the Gennadius Library, when he spoke at the University of California at San Diego in April. Amid her many other activities are lectures on ancient Greek tragedy here and in Europe, and the on-going work in conjunction with the Thesaurus Linguae Graecae (TLG), the largest computerized data bank of ancient Greek text.



The American Committee for Tyre sponsored a symposium entitled "The Heritage of Tyre" in Washington last January. Organized by ASCSA Trustee **Arthur A. Houghton III** in cooperation with the Smithsonian Institution, the symposium brought together scholars and old Tyre hands from a variety of disciplines as well as government representatives. With the exception of two persons, the entire American membership of Professor James Pritchard's Sarepta (Saraphand), Lebanon, excavations was present.



The American School of Classical Studies at Athens

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