

## Reports Highlight Third-Century Corinthia and Classical Crete

*For almost 120 years, the School has given American graduate students a firsthand introduction to the sites and monuments of Greece. Each student comes with a special research interest and many stay on for a second year, or more, to further their work. Two of the School's Advanced Fellows describe their progress.*

### Ancient Border Dispute Investigated

In 243 B.C. the Achaian *strategos* Aratos of Sikyon captured Acrocorinth from its Macedonian garrison and joined the city of Corinth to the Achaian League. Not long after this event, Epidauros and the other cities of the southern Argolid also became League members. At some point between 242 and 237 B.C., Corinth and Epidauros submitted a dispute over their boundary to the Achaian League court for arbitration. To settle the dispute, the court appointed 151 judges from Megara, who decided in favor of the Epidaurians. The Corinthians appealed this decision, and 31 judges were sent back to the region to carry out a new investigation. These judges decided upon a boundary that was demarcated by nineteen place-names, mostly peaks and ridges, all of which are preserved on a stele (*IG IV<sup>2</sup>.1.71*) that was set up in the Epidaurian Asklepieion. The line of this boundary has never been located precisely, although its approximate location has long been known.

My research over the past year has focused on the Corinthian-Epidaurian boundary delineated by the Megarian arbitrators. I have walked extensively over the disputed territory, primarily in the region between the modern villages of Sophiko and Korphos, with the hope of gaining a better understanding of why this land was disputed and what the line of the boundary was. I have located a number of unrecorded sites that shed valuable light on the topography both of the boundary and of the



*The Class of 1899 and a few of today's students.*



southeastern Corinthia. This area was not only more populated than has been thought previously but also much wealthier in its natural resources. Thus, it is not surprising that the two states contested this countryside.

This study has implications beyond the topography of the boundary. One of the toponyms on the inscription is also mentioned in the text of Thucydides (*History* VIII.10–11). During his account of a naval battle between the Peloponnesian and Athenian fleets, Thucydides reports that the Peloponnesians were forced ashore at Spiraion, the last harbor of the Corinthia before the Epidauria. There, the Peloponnesians were joined by a number of Corinthian reinforcements. One of the forts I discovered this past year is located high above a ravine overlooking Korphos harbor,

and it should be identified with the Spiraion of Thucydides and the inscription. The masonry of the fort as well as the roof tiles and sherds on the site all support a date between the late fifth century and the Hellenistic period, adding weight to the conclusion that it played a role in both the encounter described by Thucydides and the Corinthian defense network along the Epidaurian border.

Other inscriptions I have been studying this past year record contemporary arbitration disputes between members of the Achaian League from the southern Argolid and the Ptolemaic colony of Arsinoe on the Methana peninsula. During this academic year I am continuing my fieldwork on the Corinthian-Epidaurian boundary and conducting additional topographical research on the other border disputes in the southern Argolid.

*Michael D. Dixon  
Edward Capps Fellow  
1997–98*

### Classical Crete Revisited: A New View

The sixth and fifth centuries on Crete are a poorly understood period in the island's history. They receive only passing notice in ancient literary sources, and the few surviving testimonia are generally anecdotal and later in date than the events they describe. Consequently, an historical framework for understanding classical Crete must depend almost entirely upon the archaeological evidence. Archaeologists face difficulties of their own, including the paucity of evidence and the mysterious absence of virtually any securely dated finds, whether tombs, sanctuaries, or settlements. This gap in the

*continued on page 18*



## With Thanks to ALB...

When Alan L. Boegehold retired in May as Chairman of the Managing Committee, James R. McCredie, former Director of the School and former Chairman of the Managing Committee, gave voice to the feelings of the entire School family when he moved that "the Managing Committee express to Alan Lindley Boegehold its admiration and thanks for his leadership, wise guidance, and tireless administration—and for all that he has helped and done, and especially for the easy grace, even humor, and good sense which he exercised for the benefit of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens over the past eight years." In response to Mr. McCredie and to the standing ovation that followed, Mr. Boegehold replied "that my chairship has been interesting and I think I have made more friends than I have lost."

The role of Chairman requires a good sense of balance, not to mention humor. At times Mr. Boegehold was a leader and an advisor, at other times a facilitator, and he also found time to continue his own work. Among his accomplishments during office was the publication of his *Agora* volume (*Agora XXVIII, The Lawcourts of Athens: Sites, Buildings, Equipment, Procedures, and Testimonia* [Princeton 1996]), which

was marked by a symposium bringing together international scholars.

Working hand in hand with the Trustees, Managing Committee, and members of the School in Athens and the U.S., Mr. Boegehold served the School during a period of tremendous activity. During his Chairmanship, the School hosted international conferences on topics ranging from sculpture to architectural terracottas to the highly successful "Democracy 2500" in Washington, D.C. Excavations, surveys, and *synergasia* continued unabated, with changes that included the election by the Managing Committee of new excavation directors and the Corinth Excavations' celebration of its 100th anniversary in June 1996. The Blegen Library undertook renovations, proceeded with an ambitious program of computerization, and added thousands of volumes to its holdings. The Malcolm H. Wiener Laboratory, dedicated on June 2, 1992, provided the School with an important avenue for studying physical anthropology, faunal analysis, and archaeological geology. The Gennadius Library, too, saw the pace of change accelerate in these years, appointing a new Director in 1995, beginning renovations, and embarking on fund-raising and



Photo: Marie Maury

Alan Boegehold at School party in June 1998.

preservation initiatives.

Mr. Boegehold would be the first to protest that he was not responsible for these changes and to give the lion's share of credit to his colleagues, yet he managed to be an effective participant in all these activities. He was tireless in fulfilling his duties, taking part in meetings as an advisor or chair, and perhaps most importantly, lending a wise and sympathetic ear to the dozens of voices that make up the School.

## New Greek Ambassador to D.C.

Greece's new Ambassador to the United States, Alexander Philon, arrived in July to take up his post in Washington, D.C. Ambassador Philon, one of Greece's highest-ranking foreign service officers, was Ambassador to Turkey and India before returning to the Foreign Ministry in Athens, where he served as Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs until his current posting. His wife, Helen Philon, a scholar of Islamic art, has published and lectured widely in her areas of expertise.

Because of their long-standing interest in the School and the Gennadius Library, Ambassador and Mrs. Philon have initiated a series of events honoring both institutions. In November, they sponsored a lecture at the Smithsonian presented by Agora Director John McK. Camp II, followed by a dinner in his and the School's honor at the Greek Embassy. On February 8, they hosted a dinner and concert to benefit the Gennadius Library. Later in the spring, Ambassador and Mrs. Philon will sponsor



Photo: Bill Petros

H.E. The Ambassador of Greece Alexander Philon with his wife, Helen Philon.

a lecture and dinner in honor of Charles K. Williams, II, Director *Emeritus* of the Corinth Excavations and School Trustee. They are also hosting a dinner for the Trustees of the School and the Gennadeion in Washington, D.C., in May.

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# Roman Baths and English Buttons in Corinth

Guy D. R. Sanders, appointed Director of the Corinth Excavations in July 1997, reports on recent work at the School's oldest excavation.

Excavation by Robert Scranton around the old Panayia church fifty years ago revealed rich Classical and Roman phases. Further work by the Greek Archaeological Service to the south brought to light the remains of a large Roman house and, nearby, part of a small Late Roman bath. After acquiring the property south of the Panayia church, incorporating both Roman structures, the American School resumed excavation in 1995, continuing it in 1998.

There are indications that the Roman house spread across the breadth of two city blocks. Although its walls were almost entirely robbed out, its floors are spectacular. A central polychrome marble pool is set within a mosaic floor that has eight panels of geometric designs. To the north is a room with an intricate mosaic floor in seven colors and with panels of Solomon's knots, swastikas, and peltae. Northeast of the mosaic court is a large room, at least six by nine meters, with a fine marble floor and an octagonal fountain, which appears to have been centrally placed. The floor is made of large plaques of red-veined marble separated by strips of blue-veined marble with squares of rosso antico at the interstices. Although the plumbing of the fountain was later robbed out, surviving traces make clear that a fountainhead, perhaps a sculptured figure designed to be seen in three-quarter view, directed water into the center of the pool.

Substantial fragments of three highly decorated marble Ionic capitals with elabo-



*Roman mosaic court with central pool.*

rate bead-and-reel decoration defining the scroll of their volutes give some idea of the quality of the building. The capitals date to the second half of the first century A.D. and were presumably reused in the house. A fire that brought the tiled roof crashing to the floors destroyed the building. Exposed to the elements, the plastered pisé walls eroded. Stella Bouzaki, Katerina Athenaitou, and Takis Notis painstakingly excavated and conserved the fragments of paneled frescoes in the debris. Lively half life-sized winged Victories decorate two large fragments, and another depicts a smaller figure of a maenad tapping a tambourine with a long wand.

The building and its decoration are tentatively dated to the second century, while cooking pots and amphoras date its destruction to the third. The excavated robbing trenches of the house walls show that it was built over a meter-deep stratum of sterile red soil. When first encountered, this layer was viewed with considerable dismay. Mercifully, one of the deeper robbing trenches revealed a white marl floor beneath the fill. In this floor was a black-glazed sherd dating to the Hellenistic period, confirming that there are pre-Roman strata in the area, which may account for much of the early material found in later levels. These pieces include a marble horse protome plausibly from a Dioskouroi relief, three marble fragments of different hero reliefs, black-glazed pottery, an LH III skyphos stem, and an Attic Early Protogeometric high-footed skyphos rim.

The Late Roman bath complex consists of four small rooms. The frigidarium contained two apsidal baptisteria, while the cruciform caldarium had two warm baptisteria. The bath was furnished inside with colored marble floors and wall revetment, and its exterior was stuccoed and painted red. Pottery and coins date the bath's construction to the mid-sixth century. The bath ceased operating towards the end of the sixth century, when it was converted for habitation.

To the south, contemporary with the bath but not related to it, is a long cement and rubble building oriented east-west. It has at least five rooms, including three semibasement rooms. The walls are neatly pointed with cement decorated with lines and dots; in one corner, the plasterer has troweled three large fish. These have several close parallels at Corinth, most notably on the walls of the Lechaum Basilica.

The area between long building and the bath was largely unused after the third century. Art Rohn and Takis Notis carefully excavated the three graves here. Their east-west alignment and the arrangement of the bodies suggest Christian burial practices. Ethne Barnes's forthcoming report on the bones graphically describes the quality of life at the time. One occupant was a two-year-old infant who probably died of meningitis; another was a ten-year-old anemic boy who from an early age had performed tasks that required the forceful, repetitive lifting of heavy objects. Both of these

*continued on page 9*

## AN OMISSION . . .

The Summer 1998 *Newsletter* noted on page 2 several School colleagues who received awards from the Archaeological Institute of America at the 1997 annual meeting (Carol C. Mattusch, Jeffrey S. Soles, and Scott Pike). But inadvertently overlooked was Curtis N. Runnels (ASCSA 1977-78, Excavation and Survey Committee 1998-2002), recipient of the AIA's second annual Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award. Calling him "that story-teller in the classroom," the AIA cited "his innovative 'hands-on' style of teaching, and his unforgettable flint-knapping demonstrations," as well as "his infectious, engaging presentations that immediately involve the audience."



# Report from the Solow Summer Fellows

The Solow Art and Architecture Foundation recently initiated a new summer fellowship for postdoctoral scholars working towards publication of material from the Athenian Agora or Ancient Corinth. The first recipients of the Solow Summer Senior Research Fellowships—Susan I. Rotroff (Washington University), Carol L. Lawton (Lawrence University), and John D. Mac Isaac (Mary Washington College)—describe the progress they made on their projects.

## Agora: Hellenistic Coarse Wares

From June 7 until August 9, I worked on the Hellenistic coarse wares from the Agora excavations, researching at the Athenian Agora or in the Blegen Library. This is part of a very large project, which will eventually lead to the third book in a series of volumes I am publishing on the Hellenistic pottery of the excavation.

I had already written catalogue descriptions of the 834 objects that will be included in the publication, and this summer I reexamined each object, checking for accuracy in the description, noting corrections that needed to be made to illustrations, and bringing uniformity to the fabric descriptions, which have been written over a number of years. The catalogue is now in publishable form.

This review resulted in some additions to the catalogue in categories that I felt to be underrepresented, as well as some reorganization of the typology. I was also able to identify more fabrics and establish links between a number of fabric groups.

It was fortunate that Dr. John Hayes, who is preparing the Roman coarse ware for publication, was also in Athens, and we were able to discuss the problem of just where to draw the line between "Hellenistic" and "Roman." Several objects formerly in his care moved to mine, and some objects from my catalogue moved to his, resulting, we hope, in a more logical presentation of the material.

Ann Hooton, a professional drafts-person, drew approximately 60 pieces of pottery. These were objects (some of them newly inventoried in 1997) that had never been drawn or whose existing drawings were very inaccurate. I also did a number of new drawings myself.

As I reviewed all existing drawings, I checked them against the objects and made some corrections and additions. I was able to complete this checking process and make pencil notes on the drawings and on xeroxes of the drawings, which I am adding in ink to the drawings themselves.

In the Blegen Library I continued to search for published parallels for material at the Agora. Comparatively little Hellenistic coarse ware has been published. Once one has checked the dozen or so standard

works, one has to search through the periodical literature, tracking down references to excavations reports all over the Mediterranean. The Blegen Library, with its rich collection of site reports and periodicals, is perfect for this activity. Although I must do more work before writing the final text, the character of the Agora material, in contrast to that produced elsewhere, is beginning to emerge more clearly. I have also been able to trace the roots of some shapes in metalware and to identify more of the imported material.

My first two volumes on Hellenistic pottery contain chapters briefly describing the closed deposits in which the pottery was found and outlining the evidence for their date. Much of the material in the new book was found in those same deposits, but some comes from deposits that I have not worked with before. To establish the chronology of a deposit, one must research the deposit in the Agora archives, reading the excavator's account of the deposit as it was unearthed and reviewing the lists of material found in the deposit. Especially important is the datable material, such as coins and stamped amphora handles. I was able to do a good deal of this archival work on the new deposits this summer.

The summer was a productive one and has brought me very perceptibly nearer to publication. It is my hope that I will have a finished manuscript two years from now.

Susan I. Rotroff  
1998 Solow Fellow



## Agora: Votive Reliefs

Last summer I continued cataloguing votive reliefs from the Agora, focusing on several discrete groups that I identified in the inventory last summer: reliefs dedicated to Pan and the Nymphs, anatomical reliefs dedicated to various healing deities, and fragments of reliefs that depicted only the worshippers, the deities almost certainly having been hacked away by Christians in late antiquity. In all, I catalogued 65 reliefs and reexamined numerous reliefs I had previously studied to see whether more could be learned from them after they had been cleaned by the conservation staff.

As I resumed research on the reliefs I

had studied last year, I paid particular attention to the ones dedicated to the healing deities Asklepios and Hygieia. I have discovered a large cluster of reliefs dedicated to them in the area of the Eleusinion, just south of the Agora square proper, which convinces me that they were worshiped in the Eleusinion, in addition to their main cult place on the other side of the Acropolis. I spent some time in late June assembling corroborating literary evidence for this heretofore unknown shrine, and I presented my findings in a paper entitled "Votive Reliefs and Popular Religion in the Athenian Agora: The Case of Asklepios and Hygieia," delivered at the fifteenth International Congress of Classical Archaeology in Amsterdam in July. The paper will be published in the proceedings of the Congress early next year, and I am currently writing a more extensive article exploring other aspects, particularly the political implications, of this discovery.

The trip to Amsterdam presented me with an opportunity to confer with several German scholars who are beginning a database at the University of Saarlandes in Saarbrücken that will focus on Attic votive reliefs. The database will eventually be available on a CD or on the Internet.

While working on the anatomical votive reliefs, I reviewed a book on the same subject by a member of the Finnish Archaeological Institute. The review will be published in the *American Journal of Archaeology*.

I was able to see some concrete results in the broader goal of my research on this project, which is to see what the contexts of the reliefs can tell us about worship in the Agora.

Carol L. Lawton  
1998 Solow Fellow



## Corinth: Coins from Early Theater Excavations

My initial task was the full reading and attribution of the Ottoman Turkish coins from the 1925/26, 1928, and 1929 excavation seasons of the Theater. In my first article publishing the results of the 1925/26 season, these coins were listed simply under the rubric "Ottoman." The standards for completeness for publication now require

*continued on page 13*



# Nicholas Mavris, the Dodecanese, and Tarpon Springs

*The papers of Nicholas G. Mavris (1899–1978) were donated to the Gennadius Library by his son in 1987. Maria Voltera, Assistant Archivist of the Gennadius Library, who reports on one aspect of the papers, began the processing of this large collection in 1996.*

Although Nicholas G. Mavris was born in Egypt, his descendants were from the island of Kasos in the Dodecanese. After studying medicine in Athens and Paris, he pursued his interests in law and literature. His Dodecanesian origin, as well as his affection for these islands, caused Mavris to devote himself wholeheartedly to the solution of the Dodecanesian issue, and he was honored twice by the Greek Academy for his literary work on the history of the Dodecanese.

The Dodecanese were under Italian occupation from 1912, and despite the various treaties (signed in Sevres and in Lausanne) mandating their liberation, their political status remained unclear until World War II. It was just before World War II that Mavris moved to the U.S., where he founded the National Dodecanesian Council (NDC) while teaching modern Greek literature in U.S. universities. Through the NDC, Mavris pushed the Dodecanese issue with the Allies to protect Greece's interests. Such eminent Americans as George Chase, President of Harvard University, Sarah Wambaugh, a specialist on referenda and a professor at the Academy of International Law in the Hague, and the archaeologist Theodore Leslie Shear, Sr., of Princeton University supported Mavris in his work. When the issue was settled in 1948, he was elected the first Governor of the liberated Dodecanese and was reelected in 1952.

As President of the NDC, Mavris collected a variety of documents on

Greek communities in the U.S., which form an important source of information on Greek immigration to the U.S. in the twentieth century. Among the most important communities of Dodecanesian immigrants was Tarpon Springs, Florida, a coastal town on the Gulf of Mexico, which attracted Greek immigrants beginning in 1896. The first of these immigrants, John Kokoris, soon realized that the sea off Tarpon Springs was full of sponges, which, until that point, had been harvested using fishhooks. Kokoris changed that method to diving, and by 1907, the Dodecanesians of Tarpon Springs had developed into a prosperous community, taking the lead in the international sponge trade.

Although many of the Dodecanesians in Tarpon Springs became U.S. citizens, they made a concerted effort to remember the customs of their homeland and to support it in difficult times, such as the years during and just after World War II. Among

the Gennadeion documents is a letter, dated March 1944, from U.S. Senator Charles O. Andrews, who wrote: "I will always be glad to be of service in all efforts to free the people of the Dodecanese Islands so they can join their mother country. I will do this on behalf of the fine Greek people of Tarpon Springs and other cities in Florida who have always been loyal American citizens and have sent their sons into this world war to fight for democracy and the freedom of man, with the same enthusiasm and devotion as other devout American citizens."



*Sponge Divers at Tarpon Springs, from the Nicholas G. Mavris Papers.*

## From the Archives

In the Gennadeion, Archivist Natalia Vogeikoff-Brogan reports that the processing of the newly acquired papers of poet George Seferis has been completed (see *Newsletter*, Spring 1997). Supported by a grant from the A.G. Leventis Foundation, Seferis scholars Katerina Kostiou and Theano Michaelidou, under the supervision of Katerina Krikou-Davis, integrated the new papers into the existing collection and are nearing completion of a revised catalogue.



*Ion Dragoumis  
(1878–1920)*

As part of the Archives and with a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, the papers of Ion Dragoumis will be processed by historian and archivist Alexis Malliaris.

Member of a well-known family, Ion Dragoumis served as a diplomat and member of the Greek Parliament before he was assassinated in 1920. His papers, together with the rest of the Dragoumis Family Papers, were donated to the Gennadius Library by his brother Philippos in 1960, with the stipulation that Ion's archive remain closed until 1999. Ms. Malliaris intends to have the papers organized and a finding aid in place by 2000, when the archive will open to the public.

Some seventy blueprints dating back to the construction of the Gennadius Library in 1923–25 have been collected in a database documenting the building's history. Building plans for the Blegen Library are currently under study by James A. Herbst, a graduate student of architecture at the University of Cincinnati, whose database is nearing completion.



## Gennadeion News

Because of the renovations to the Gennadius Library, the usual full schedule of events has been curtailed. There are, however, four events planned outside the Library. The long-awaited conference, "The Protection of the Past," organized with the School of Philosophy of the University of Athens, was held at the University on February 12 and 13. The "Clean Monday" celebration on February 22 took place in the Library garden.

Angeliki Laiou, Professor of Byzantine History at Harvard University and Member of the Academy of Athens of the University of Athens, will deliver the Seventeenth Annual Walton Lecture in the University's main building on March 16. The topic will be "Byzantium and the Crusades." The M. Alison Franz Fellow for 1998–99, Konstantine Kourelis, will give a lecture entitled "Medieval Settlements in the Northwestern Peloponnese" in Loring Hall on May 25.

An international conference entitled "From the Enlightenment to the Revolutions: Rigas and His World" was organized in Delphi at the European Cultural Foundation, June 25–28, 1998, as part of the celebrations dedicated to Rigas Velesinlis-Feraios, a major figure in the years leading up to the Greek Revolution of 1821. Among the members of the organizing committee was Haris Kalligas, the Director of the Gennadius Library. The thirty-seven participants came from Greece, France, Austria, Italy, and Eastern Europe. Various related events were organized during the conference, such as exhibitions, concerts, and the revival of Metastasio's play "Olympia" in the Greek translation by Rigas.

On September 29, Ms. Kalligas spoke on "The History and the Activities of the Gennadius Library" to inaugurate a new series of lectures organized by the Cultural Foundation of the Bank of Cyprus in Nicosia. The series will make Greek libraries, museums, and other cultural institutions better known to the public.

Anna Nadali, a graduate of the School of English Literature in the University of Athens and secretary at the Gennadius Library, has taken a year's leave of absence to work on an M.S. in Library Science from University College London. She is being replaced temporarily by Elina Tsalicoglou, a graduate in Classics from the University of Cambridge and in Modern Greek Studies from King's College, London.

## Blegen Steps Up Conservation Efforts

*Recently hired as Assistant Librarian for conservation and electronic resources in the Blegen Library, Phyllis Graham summarizes here her goals.*

The "fan" in the photograph represents only a few of the detached spines (cloth and leather, old and not so old) collected during an initial assessment of the Blegen holdings—victims of age, everyday use, careless handling, or air pollution. At this point in its illustrious life, the Library has acquired not only a warm patina but also books in various stages of external and internal disrepair. The challenge is to preserve the patina while arresting preventable deterioration and giving the best treatment to damaged items.

There is immediate benefit in issuing general notices about preservation initiatives, reminding readers how to treat books, calling attention to some essential out-of-print titles that may not be around forever, and enlisting cooperation in what is a bread-and-butter issue for the wide community of scholars who rely on the Library throughout their careers.

One step we are taking in the first phase of this project is the removal of blunt-edged metal bookends from the stacks, which we are replacing with the handsome polished marble blocks that were formerly used—and, happily, retained in mothballs. Damage from the metal variety is apparent in nicked, abraded covers and pages torn or



Photo: Marie Maury

*Phyllis Graham holds up a "fan" of detached spines found among the stacks of the Blegen Library.*

crumpled by inadvertent encounters (leaving aside here the question of human error). We have a sufficient quantity of marble to start in the Davis Wing and evaluate the benefits before continuing throughout the Library.

Apart from promoting more careful use of the Library and seeing to better physical conditions in the stacks, we have acquired the necessary materials from archival suppliers in Greece and abroad to begin regular in-house repair of the damaged items not requiring the attention of the bookbinder or conservator. This saves us the expense—and saves the books the avoidable trauma—of full rebinding in every case. Basic repairs



Photo: Dimitris Kalapodas

*Interior of the Gennadius Library just before start of renovations.*



# Full Schedule for the *Philoï*

*Ioanna Phoca, President of the Philoi (Friends) of the Gennadius Library, reports on recent activities.*

In anticipation of the renovation and construction work in the Gennadeion, as of April 1 the *Philoï* (Friends) of the Gennadius Library have temporarily moved their offices to that of Secretary General, Lydia Trihas, in the Athens suburb of Psyhico. Rather than dampening our enthusiasm, our ability to keep the *Philoï* active during the temporary closing of our home office has instead motivated us to organize a variety of activities with various cultural institutions in Athens.



In May, a large group of *Philoï* visited the Panos Aravantinos Museum in Piraeus under the guidance of Fofo Mavrikiou, who had introduced the work of the painter and theater set and costume designer during her lecture last March at the Gennadeion. Aravantinos, who was prominent at the beginning of the century in the theaters and opera houses of Germany and Austria, was the first to design a three-dimensional set. Albert Einstein once wrote, "I often visited the Berlin Opera not to hear the music of

## Blegen

*continued from previous page*

to spines, covers, leaves, and large foldouts are now routinely performed as part of regular surveillance of the stacks. Rebinding is done as needed, with selections based on short-term demand (especially School trips), probable long-term use, and degree of damage to individual items. To the extent possible in an open-stack research collection, the preferred solution is one that preserves old publishers' bindings, flyleaf dedications, bookplates, and anything else contributing to the volume's artifactual value.

Inevitably, the effects of pollution and irreversible chemistry are increasing the number of brittle books that must be boxed and in some cases withdrawn to the controlled climate of the Rare Book Room. Stabilizing temperature and relative humidity at prescribed levels throughout the Library is an ongoing activity. The addition of an air-filtration system to the existing HVAC system is essential to extend the life of the collections.



Photo: *Philoï* of the Gennadius Library

*George Dontas, President of the Archaeological Society of Athens, discusses the program on the Kalash with one of the presenters, Lakshan Bibi.*

Richard Strauss but to see the sets by Aravantinos." The *Philoï* were then given an unforgettable tour of the Piraeus Archaeological Museum by its Director, Peter Steinhauer.



On October 14, in the Great Hall of the Old Parliament building, which currently houses the National Historical Museum of Athens, the *Philoï* organized an honorary lecture in memory of Ion Dragoumis, diplomat, writer, and activist alongside Pavlos Melas, leader of the successful Macedonian Liberation in the first two decades of the century. Dragoumis's assassination in 1920 provoked strong reactions from the political world then and historians today. The speaker was diplomat Theodoros Sotiropoulos, whose presentation, "Evaluation of Ion Dragoumis: Comfortable Stereotypes and Nagging Questions," resulted from his study of the Dragoumis Papers in the Gennadeion Archives.



Under the summerlike sunshine of October 16, the Director of the Thebes Archaeological Museum, Vassilis Aravantinos, guided the *Philoï* through the museum's collection. Mr. Aravantinos has extensively studied the museum's Mycenaean Linear B tablets, which is the third largest extant collection in Greece. The group also toured the Mycenaean gravesite at Orchomenos and was advised by archaeologist Elena Kountouris of the problems surrounding the public presentation of major archaeological sites in Boeotia.



The *Philoï* sponsored a program on the Kalash tribe of the Indocaucasus, where Alexander the Great once marched and from whose armies the Kalash claim descent. Held on November 26 at the Athens Archaeological Society, the program began with Ioanna Phoca, President of the *Philoï*, welcoming the guest of honor, Pakistan's Ambassador to Greece, Rasheed Ahmed, who delivered a few remarks. Lakshan Bibi, a member of the Kalash, spoke of her homeland and its people. The historian and writer Stantis Apostolidis followed with a historical view, and director Nikos Sofianos showed segments from his movie "Does Alexander Live?" Kalash music was the focus of Markos Dragoumis, Director of Greece's Folk Music Archives, and of Yannis Manolidakis, an ethnomusicologist and folklore specialist. Adonis Kyrou, a member of the Board of the *Philoï*, was the coordinator.



The *Philoï* have just published *The Ionian Bibliography, 1508–1900*, important for the study of the civilization of the Ionian Islands. Thomas Papadopoulos, the former Director of the Benaki Library of the Greek Parliament, wrote this 640-page work, the first of three volumes. The *Philoï* are grateful to the Ministry of Culture for funding the project and to Linos G. Benakis, a member of the Board of the *Philoï*, who was instrumental in seeing this project to completion.





# Mycenaean Tombs Among New Agora Discoveries

*Director of the Agora Excavations, John McK. Camp II, walks us through the '98 excavation season.*

A team of some forty students representing twenty-five universities and colleges carried out excavations in the Athenian Agora from June 6 to July 31. This preliminary summary is the result of their hard work and goodwill, along with that of the four supervisors: Kevin Daly, Lee Ann Riccardi, David Scahill, and Geoffrey Schmalz and their assistants, Mark Alonge, Karen Donohue, Laura Gawlinski, and Anne McCabe. Digging was confined to the area of recent excavation, outside the northwest corner of the Agora square, in Sections BE and BZ.

Most of this season's efforts went into the upper levels at the extreme northwest, where the removal last summer of a modern building opened some 280 square meters for new exploration. Excavation focused on the upper, late strata, which were preserved to a satisfactorily high level under the modern building, whose basement was confined to the northernmost quarter of the trench. Just south of the basement, excavators explored stratified Ottoman, Venetian, Frankish, and Byzantine levels.

The principal feature uncovered was the north-south road that runs through the area, preserved here to a level almost a meter higher than encountered anywhere else thus far. Late walls defined the uppermost surfaces. Made of large reused blocks, these walls indicate that the street is some 2.60 meters wide as it passes through the area. An open stone-built drain running down the middle of the street characterizes the highest road surface. The sides of the drain were built of reused blocks, several of marble, all showing signs of wear from considerable foot traffic. Only the uppermost levels were uncovered this season, but in future seasons we clearly will be in a position to explore some two thousand years of stratified road deposits, dating from ca. A.D. 1500 to 500 B.C. At either end of the trench were revealed the tops of the walls and the mouths of large storage jars (pithoi) of the Middle Byzantine settlement, dating to the tenth and eleventh centuries.

This new area allows us to link the recently excavated material lying to the east and south with a small building plot lying immediately to the west. This plot was excavated by Eugene Vanderpool and John Travlos in 1958, before a modern five-story building was constructed over the site. It contained the northern continuation of the street, along with medieval house walls and



*Finds from the 1998 season include (clockwise from left): a unique ostrakon of the Athenian general Nikias; an enthroned goddess figure seen front and side, and a bronze dagger, both from Mycenaean chamber tombs, which are by far the earliest yet known in the area north of the Eridanos River.*

*Photos: C. Mauzy*



the curving walls of a large Late Roman bath, all of which will probably appear in the new area as well.

Exploration continued in the area of the Classical commercial building behind the Painted Stoa. In the street outside the southernmost shop we cleared the contemporary road levels of the late fifth century B.C., recovering in one layer an ostrakon of the Athenian general Nikias, son of Nikeratos, who was a candidate for ostracism in 417 B.C. He escaped exile by agreeing with his main adversary, Alcibiades, to have their supporters unite to vote against the hapless Hyperbolos, who was duly exiled. This result was such an obvious perversion of the system that the Athenians abandoned the procedure of ostracism and never used it again. Ostraka from this final ostracism are extremely rare, and this is only the second known example carrying the name of Nikias to be found in the Agora excavations. Behind the Classical building we encountered another deposit of pottery dating to the years just after the Persian destruction of the city, the third such group found in the area.

Within the building itself, during exploration of levels deep under the floor of Room 2, a large cutting in sterile fill soon proved to be a Mycenaean chamber tomb. The scattered and shattered bones along the north side represent the remains of at least two individuals. They were accompanied by at least nine pots, most with painted decoration, found more or less where they

had been smashed when the roof collapsed. Prominent among the pots were a ewer decorated with linked clusters of spirals, a jug with cutaway neck decorated with curving stripes, two squat alabastra, and a cup. Also recovered were a bronze spearpoint with a heavy central ridge and a bronze dagger with gilded rivets. The date of the tomb seems to be LH IIIA (fourteenth century B.C.), the same date as the vast majority of chamber tombs known from Athens and somewhat earlier than the floruit of so many of the Argolid sites in LH IIIB. This is the first substantial Mycenaean deposit to be excavated in the Agora in over thirty years.

A second chamber tomb came to light some ten meters to the north. It contained scattered bones and fragments of Mycenaean painted pottery, along with an intact small bowl with a high-swung handle, an enthroned goddess figurine, and bronze objects, including two daggers and a knife blade. The water sieve produced numerous small beads in various materials: shell, faience, and carnelian. Among them, and apparently mounted as jewelry, was a small carnelian scarab. The Late Bronze Age in the Agora has produced limited imports, and the scarab needs study to determine if it is in fact Egyptian or a local imitation. These moderately rich new tombs are by far the earliest graves yet known in the area north of the Eridanos River, thus placing the first burials in the cemetery some 300 years earlier than previously thought.



## Corinth

continued from page 3

graves contained seventh-century lekythoi. The third grave belonged to a thirty-year-old male who also lifted heavy weights during his lifetime. His lower right leg had been severely broken and the bones dislocated; although the break healed well, it left his leg deformed and about 20 cms. shorter than the other.

Demolition of the bath and long building left a deep layer of gravel over the area between them. Several handmade cooking vessels from the layer resemble Middle Byzantine forms more closely than they do Late Roman ones. A rare Abbasid coin of the second half of the eighth century found in debris of the frigidarium suggests that the demolition took place ca. 800. In the uppermost layers were the poorly preserved walls of houses represented on early-nineteenth-century plans of the village. On the whole, the material culture was extremely poor.

We also found a pit in which debris may have resulted from the Greek War of Independence, judging from its contents, which included three fragments of exploded cannonballs and two military buttons with English identification marks. It also contained thirteen well-preserved clay pipes, large numbers of late Slip Painted bowls, and several pieces of northern European china and Italian *tache noir* imports, which can be dated with some accuracy to about 1800. The latest of the eighty-odd coins in the pit date to the year 1809 in the reign of Mahmut II.



Corinth's excavation recording system, which has developed for thirty years into a sophisticated and highly efficient format, continues to evolve. After the small-scale excavations in which Joe Rife (in 1996) and Moira Cleffi (in 1997) assisted me, we opened up the Panayia area extensively in 1998. The goal was to adopt the best aspects of the Locus System, employed elsewhere in the Eastern Mediterranean, and open-area, single-context systems used in the U.S. and Northern Europe. In this, Nancy Bookidis and I were assisted by the energetic enthusiasm of area supervisors Ioulia Tzonou-Herbst, Stephanie Larson, Brice Erickson, Benjamin Millis, and Rebecca Sweetman. James Herbst made architectural plans throughout, and many individuals, notably Betsy Robinson, assisted setting the changes in motion during the training session.

At right: Three fish that a plasterer troweled into the wall of the cement and rubble of a Late Roman building. Inset: Fragmentary fresco showing a meanad tapping a tambourine with a long wand.



Alan Wace (left) and Carl Blegen (right) as depicted by Piet de Jong.



Illustrations used with permission of the Knossos Trust.

## Piet de Jong in New Publication

Born in Leeds in 1887, Piet de Jong was a Yorkshireman of Dutch extraction who became architect and draftsman to Sir Arthur Evans, the excavator of the Palace of Minos at Knossos. While working for Evans in Crete, he also offered his services to other scholars, including members of the American School at Athens and Corinth. During these years, spanning the 1920s and 1930s, de Jong made over forty caricatures depicting friends and colleagues from the archaeological community in Greece. In her recent book, *Faces of Archaeology in Greece: Caricatures by Piet de Jong* (Leopard's Head Press: Oxford 1998), Rachel Hood, wife of Sinclair Hood, former Director of the British School at Athens, brings together these remarkable caricatures.

Each caricature, published in full color,

sets a head against a background appropriate to its subject and is accompanied, for comparison, by a photograph of the sitter on the facing page. Ms. Hood has also provided a brief biography of each person as well as a detailed history of Piet and his wife Effie. The allusions and anecdotes shown in the backgrounds of the pictures are elucidated, in many cases using the artist's own words.

The people portrayed, mostly English and American, include Sir Arthur Evans himself, E. J. Forsdyke (Director of the British Museum), Dilys Powell (film critic), Austen Harrison (designer of Nuffield College, Oxford and the Rockefeller Museum in Jerusalem), and—from the School—Virginia Grace, Dorothy Burr Thompson, and Carl Blegen.



Photos: Ivo Ioannidou and Lenio Bartzioti





Photo: Caroline Rusten

School Members enjoy the final dinner of the Northern trip: Nea Moudania, November 5.



Photo: Marie Maury

The Directors of both 1998 Summer Sessions compare experiences at the farewell party on August 4. Left to right: Susan B. Sutton, Robert Sutton, Ann Steiner, and Sarah Peirce.



Photo, left: At the September 15 garden party for new Members: Elizabeth Langridge-Noti (Corinth Excavations) and Merle Langdon, the newly elected Mellon Professor.



Photos: Marie Maury

Photo, right: Regular Member Phoebe Acheson and Associate Member Assaf Yasur-Landau.

On November 24 the School's 1998-99 Lecture Series began with **Antigoni Zournatzi** (National Hellenic Research Foundation), who spoke on "Inscribed Silver Vessels of the Odrysian Kings: Gifts, Tribute, and the Diffusion of the Forms of 'Achaemenid' Metalware in Thrace." **Alexander Mazarakis Ainian** (Ionio University) delivered a talk on December 8 entitled "Metallurgy, Power, and Cult Practice in Early Iron Age Greece." January 12 brought **J. A. S. Evans** (University of British Columbia), who presented "The Legacy of Edward Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*: Gibbon's Influence on the Conceptions of Late Antiquity and the Proto-Byzantine Empire," and on January 19 **Charalambos Kritzas** (Epigraphical Museum) spoke on "A New Inscription from the Asklepieion of Lebena (Crete) and the Dancing Floors of Greek Sanctuaries." "The Hellenization of Cyprus and Crete at the End of the Late Bronze Age" was the subject of the lecture by **Vassos Karageorghis** (Foundation Anastasios Leventis, Cyprus) on February 9. **Joseph Maran** (University of Heidelberg) discussed "Mycenae with Wessex: On the Nature of the Amber Trade in the Shaft Grave Period" on February 23. The Seventh Annual Wiener Laboratory Lecture will be delivered on March 9 by **Ernst Pernicka** (Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg). On April 2 will be the open meeting on the work of the School in 1998 and a lecture by **Mary C. Sturgeon** (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill).



At the December Managing Committee meeting in Washington, D.C., **John Kroll**, Chairman of the Committee on Personnel, announced the following new representatives: **Robert Bauslaugh** (Brevard College, a new Cooperating Institution); **Glen Bowersock** and **Heinrich von Staden** (Institute for Advanced Study), replacing Christian Habicht, who has become an *emeritus*, will each serve as a Managing Committee representative in alternate years; **Kerry Cristensen** (Williams College), replacing Meredith Hoppin, who is stepping aside; **Greta Ham** (Bucknell University, a new Cooperating Institution); **Adele Scafuro** (Brown University), replacing William Wyatt, who has become an *emeritus*; **Nancy Sultan** (Illinois Wesleyan University, a new Cooperating Institution); **Timothy Winters** (Austin Peay State University, a new Cooperating Institution).





Last July, Danae Voltera, the baby girl of Gennadeion Assistant Archivist Maria Voltera, was baptized in Hagia Marina, a picturesque church near the Theseion. Godparents Maria Vastardi and Anna Nadali (at left), secretaries in the Gennadeion, were in attendance. According to all, it was a lovely ceremony, and Danae behaved like a real lady!



Photo: Marie Mauzy

Sakis Marinos, the School's cook in Loring Hall, prepares a feast on his new charcoal grill for the garden party to mark the end of Summer Session II, August 4.



Photos: Marie Mauzy

Photo, left: George L. Huxley (former Director of the Gennadeion) and Doreen C. Spitzer (President Emerita, ASCSA Trustees) catch up on old times at the party in the School's garden for the Trustees' meeting, June 8. Photo, right: ASCSA Trustees Edward E. Cohen and William T. Loomis, also at the June party.



Photo: Marie Mauzy

Sotiris Niteros, Jeannette Marchand, and Guy Sanders, Director of the Corinth Excavations, at the September 15 garden party welcoming new members.



Photo: James D. Muhly

At a reception at the Director's residence on June 4, William ("Chip") Ammerman, Executive Director of the Fulbright Program in Greece, cuts the cake to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Fulbright Foundation in Greece.



# School Active in the Field and at Home

*The Director of the School, James D. Muhly, reports on fieldwork sponsored by the School in summer '98, as well as developments back home on Odhos Souidias 54.*

## In the Field ...

Apart from the official School excavations at Corinth and the Athenian Agora, which are discussed elsewhere in this *Newsletter*, the only School-sponsored excavation in summer 1998 took place at Nemea under the direction of Stephen G. Miller (University of California at Berkeley). This was the second year of Nemea's five-year program of excavations. Mellon Professor Ronald S. Stroud and I were able to visit the excavation at season's end, perfect timing as it turned out. Mr. Stroud was able to study a recently excavated jumping weight of a type known from Olympia and dated to ca. 500 B.C. It retained part of an inscription (one could hardly present Ron, as editor of the *Supplementum Epigraphicum Graecum* [SEG], with an uninscribed object!) restorable as "he dedicated me to Zeus at Nemea because he was victorious." This wonderful find is sure to be prominently featured during the Second Modern Nemean Games, to be held in A.D. 2000.

Much of Mr. Miller's excavation effort during the past two summers has been devoted to reconstructing the history of the Nemea River. The earliest course of the river apparently dates to ca. 1200 B.C. Then it seems to have dried up subsequently and to have remained dry for an extended period. Mr. Miller now presents as a possible

hypothesis, to be tested in future seasons, that there was no Nemea River in Classical times. This would explain why, during Early Christian times, the river seems to cut through the foundations of the Early Stadium. Classical and Hellenistic Nemea could thus have existed as a poorly drained bowl-shaped basin in the mountain valley, marshy or swampy during the winter but dry enough during the summer to permit the holding of the Nemean Games, which brought prosperity to an agriculturally impoverished region.

In addition to the Nemea excavations, there were numerous American scholars and students involved with study seasons at sites throughout Greece. Among these were Samothrace, directed by James R. McCredie (Institute of Fine Arts at New York University); Grevena, directed by Nancy Wilkie (Carleton College); Halai, directed by John Coleman (Cornell University); Eliki, directed by Steven Soter (Smithsonian Institution) and Dora Katsonopoulou; two at Isthmia, the one directed by Elizabeth Gebhard (University of Chicago) and the other by Timothy Gregory (Ohio State University); the Minnesota Morea Project, directed by Frederick Cooper (University of Minnesota) and Joseph Alchermes (Connecticut College); the Pylos Regional Archaeological Project, directed by Jack Davis (University of Cincin-

nati); Kavousi, involving both Kastro and Vronta, directed by Geraldine Gesell (University of Tennessee); Chrysokamino, directed by Philip Betancourt (Temple University); Vrokastro, directed by Barbara Hayden (University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology); Mochlos, directed by Jeffrey Soles (University of North Carolina at Greensboro) and Costis Davaras (Ephoreia of Eastern Crete); and Kommos, directed by Joseph and Maria Shaw (University of Toronto).

A number of the study seasons, above all those in Crete, were made possible through the Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP). In addition to funding the less glamorous work that begins after the digging is done, INSTAP has begun a program of support for publication teams as well as specialized technicians such as photographers and draftspeople, who will provide assistance to projects in getting their finds into print.

With so much activity on such a variety of sites, it is not possible here even to outline the work carried out on all of them. A few examples will have to suffice. At Isthmia, Elizabeth Gebhard and David Reese finished a detailed study of the animal bones found in sacrificial debris near the Long Altar of Poseidon (some 17 kg.) and from the pits dedicated to Melikertes-Palaemon (over 55 kg.). These sacrificial deposits could then be compared with the bones from the pit that served as a water reservoir for the Archaic sanctuary, the latter apparently representing the remains of dining, a subject receiving much scholarly attention at the present time.

In the southern Peloponnese, the Pylos Regional Project has taken on the study of a remarkable Ottoman cadastral register covering the territory of Navarin (Ottoman Anavarin) and dated to A.D. 1716. This study, being carried out in conjunction with Professor Fariba Zarinebaf (University of Illinois at Chicago), should tell us a great deal about what is still a very poorly studied period in the history of the Morea.

In eastern Crete, some of the material from the Late Minoan IIC shrine at Vronta (Kavousi), including two of the goddesses with upraised arms, a snake tube, two plaques and a kalathos, has now gone on display in a special case in the Ierapetra Museum. This constitutes the first public display of these remarkable finds, being prepared for publication by Geraldine Gesell.

## At Home ...

As anyone who returns to Greece after an absence of even a few years soon discovers, life in Athens is not what it used to



*Members of the School on a trip to Crete, with James D. Muhly (in back, wearing the white hat), the Director, at Mycenaean Grave Enclosure, Phourni Cemetery, Archanes, October 15.*





Photo: Stephen G. Miller

Stone jumping weight (halter) with dedicatory inscription, ca. 500 B.C. Nemea Excavations, University of California at Berkeley.

be, nor is life at the American School, where there are changes afoot, large and small. To strengthen the academic program, the School has increased the stipend of the Whitehead Professors and increased the stipend for School fellowships. The cost of School trips has been reduced by subsidizing the bus and the driver, a move that should encourage more Student Associate and Regular Members to take better advantage of the programs offered to those holding fellowships. The School must continue to explore ways in which to make its academic program more attractive to every serious student of ancient Greek archaeology, history, or philology in America, through fellowships and other means.

The physical plant is also undergoing major improvements. The upper floor of the Director's residence has just received a complete transformation, under the guidance of the same architect who renovated the elegant Neoclassical building belonging to the Swedish Institute. Concurrently, Loring Hall dormitory rooms have been freshened up with new bed linen, new blankets, and new rugs, the tables in the *saloni* and reading room have been resurfaced, and the upholsterer has been hard at work on all the chairs and sofas. To encourage more Members to eat in Loring Hall, there is a revised menu in the dining room and revised schedule for Sakis Marinos, the cook. Lunch now consists of sandwiches, salad, and fruit in the summer, with soup to be added during the winter, and Sakis works from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. in order to prepare the evening meal just before it is served, at 8:00 p.m.

Thanks to the School's Computer Liaison, Tarek Elemam, and in consultation with James J. O'Donnell, Vice Provost for Information Systems and Computing at the University of Pennsylvania, the computer facilities for all parts of the School have been upgraded. Consequently, all Members working in Athens will now be able to have access to the Internet and to have their own e-mail address.

## Publications News

In fall/winter 1998 two new volumes appeared, *The Athenian Grain-Tax Law of 374/3 B.C.* (*Hesperia* Supplement XIX), by Ronald S. Stroud, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Classical Archaeology at the School, and *The City Eleusinion* (Agora XXXI), by Margaret M. Miles (ASCSA SS1974, 1976–77, former ASCSA Alumnae/i Association President). The *Agora* volume was published with the assistance of a grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, which will be used to underwrite several volumes in the *Agora* series. Work continues in the Publications Office on seven School excavation monographs.

The Publications Office will unveil a dramatic new design in the March 1999 issue of the School's journal *Hesperia*. Changes will include a gold-tone cover, photographs run in with the text, and a new typeface. Efforts continue to increase individual subscriptions, including extending discounts to students and to dues-paying alumnae/i of the School.

Kerri Cox, Editor in Chief



The Publications Office is endeavoring to get School publications into the hands of scholars in Asia, Africa, and especially eastern Europe, where many university libraries and academic institutions have become

impoverished since the dissolution of the Eastern Bloc. We are now proposing to donate many of the titles in the *Agora*, *Corinth*, *Isthmia*, *Keos*, and *Lerna* series to worthy archaeological institutions, asking only that they assume the cost of shipment. The need is clearly pressing, and the return is gratifying. University of Cincinnati Professor of Classics Jack Davis and Classics graduate student Shari Stocker already brokered an arrangement with the Publications staff for the books to be purchased at discount by the University of Cincinnati, and they were donated to the Institute of Archaeology in Tirana. Charles Watkinson of Oxbow Books related the reaction: "I was working in Albania with Jack Davis...in June and was present when a large parcel of ASCSA books arrived at the Apollonia dig house of the Institute. The archaeologist in charge of the local region actually burst into tears of gratitude when *Corinth* and *Agora* arrived."

The Publications Office has not had extensive dealings with archaeological institutions in these parts of the world, and would appreciate assistance in identifying potential recipients of ASCSA books. Please send nominations, including the name and title of a contact at each institution, to the Publications Office so that we can aid our fellow scholars and archaeologists around the globe.

Patricia Tanner, Marketing Manager

## Solow Fellows

*continued from page 4*

complete attribution by rule and mint of this class of coins, and so my identification of them will appear in the Addenda and Corrigenda section of the publication on the 1928 coins, with full attribution of the 1928 and 1929 coins

To complete the review of the 1929 coin cards, I double-checked my first readings of the 4,100+ coins, inserted data that I had gathered on problematic coins since my last visit to Corinth, integrated a dozen coins that Corinth Conservator Stella Bouzaki cleaned for me, and selected the coins to be photographed for the publication, photocopying the coin cards as well.

This trip gave me the opportunity to study the miscellaneous coins associated with the Shear excavations of the Theater: 37 coins from the Stillwell excavations of 1930, 1948, and 1953; 14 found unlabeled in the Shear storeroom after the completion of the excavation of the Theater; and 214 located in the Blegen collection, found in the construction of Blegen House (adjacent

to the Theater district on the west and south) or acquired from locals in the immediate vicinity.

Corinth Numismatist Orestes Zervos and I also began comparing our research to refine the nature of the minor bronze coinage of the reign of Manuel Comnenus (A.D. 1141–1180). Mr. Zervos based his findings on the considerable Corinth material and consultations with the staff of the Numismatic Museum in Athens, while I used the Theater coins and material from Nemea and the Athenian Agora. We made considerable progress, though we are not yet in complete agreement. He suggested that I publish a thesis of mine, that early views of the finds at Corinth of Manuel's coins had unduly, if not completely incorrectly, influenced the understanding of this coinage during the last several decades of numismatic research. I agreed and immediately began gathering material.

It seemed that our discussions had hardly begun when I had to return to the United States.

John D. Mac Isaac  
1998 Solow Fellow



# Conservation Interns Restore the Past in the Athenian Agora

*Candice Griggs and Marc Walton, who served as interns at the Agora Excavations in a program sponsored by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, describe their experience.*

Surprising to some, but a commonplace among conservators, things fall apart. Even hard and durable ceramics can have their problems after excavation: Salt crystallization in the fabric pores may dislodge surfaces applied with slip; old repairs made with shellac will brown and crack with age; coins and other metals corrode at an accelerated rate upon excavation; marbles become soiled and pitted in the urban environment. Between stabilizing objects after they are excavated and readying them for examination by the archaeologists, conservators at the Athenian Agora have no problem filling their days.

We both wanted to be a part of the dynamic setting of the conservation lab at the Agora excavations, and we were accepted as interns for the 1998 excavation season by Head Conservator Alice Paterakis. Training in our respective graduate programs (Queen's University and the Institute of Fine Arts) versed us in the theory of mending, cleaning, and stabilizing artifacts, but nothing prepared us for the volume and variety of materials found at the Agora. Although we were taken aback at first, Ms. Paterakis and Assistant Conservator Karen Stamm served as our patient guides throughout. It was also the first time that we were consulted by archaeologists in our expertise: material identification and the appropriate handling of objects.

The Agora is a rare setting, since it combines an active archaeological site, a study collection, and a museum. This expands the variety of problems that we confront daily and prepares us for what we will be dealing with in our careers. Tending to the ubiquitous pottery, whether freshly excavated or from storage, made up a good portion of our day. We strengthened vessels, weak after sitting in storage for up to sixty years, with the injection of adhesives into the cracks opening between sherds and reworked thoroughly a red-figured krater of some importance. The plaster of the 1930s reconstruction was removed from the fragments, the sherds desalinated, and the entire vessel rebuilt, with the plaster body shape corrected and the inpainting in line with historical accuracy and with modern conservation ethics. The newly excavated ceramics, including the exciting finds from a Mycenaean burial, went through similar rigorous treatment. Through all this we followed a major tenant of conservation: For structural support use adhesives, consoli-



Photo: Alice Paterakis

*Interns Marc Walton and Candace Griggs conserving an Agora find.*

dants, and fills that are reversible. As we have learned from Ms. Paterakis, interventions with objects must be adaptable to suit the tastes of the times and changes in the future.

Handling the prevalent small metal finds, with coins chief among them, allowed us the experience of removing the corrosion layers that hid the detail created during casting and striking. Dealing with these small metal finds was a mini-excavation in itself, and we used binocular magnification, sharp scalpels, and glass bristle brushes to sweep away the unwanted dirt and corrosion. We treated bronze objects by impregnating them with the chemical corrosion-inhibitor benzotriazole and then coating them with a protective lacquer. Marble inscriptions were made more readable with an ultrasonic device, borrowed from dentistry, which safely cleared away hard incrustations. Marble busts and statuary, with otherwise intractable pollution stains, were cleaned with water mists and poultices of fine clay and water. Glass objects, too, with corrosion layers so fragile they might fall apart with the slightest movement, needed cleaning, consolidation, and mending. The minor cleaning of the occasional bone object was among the simplest treatments of the summer.

We also aided Ms. Paterakis with two research projects. The first was a program of soil sampling, examining the stratigraphic layers of the site to relate salinity, acidity, and depth to the conditions of metal

and ceramic finds. We measured the conductivity and pH of the samples taken by the trench supervisors, using a protocol developed at the American Excavations in Troy, Kaman Kalehöyük, and Gordion in Turkey. Data gained from this study may help the field conservator predict the need for desalination and corrosion inhibition.

In the second project we experimented with materials used to fill lacunae in pottery. Plaster, which has been the filler of choice, contains soluble salts that may contribute to later damage and can be difficult to remove without jeopardizing the object. We worked with new materials that are being examined as replacements: epoxy putties, adhesives bulked into a pastelike consistency with glass microballoons, and plaster strengthened with polymer resins, among others.

The instructive and amiable interaction between the conservators and archaeologists, artifact specialists, draftspeople, and anthropologists at the Agora was a unique and gratifying experience. We were able to recognize some obscured details on a partially cleaned coin only with the help of the archaeologist and to identify the bones found in a pot only with the help of the physical anthropologist. We hope that the objects are recognizable and readable to them because of our input and energies. We thank the excavators and scholars, and especially our supervisors, for this collegiality, as this was the most rewarding aspect of our Agora experience.



# Thucydides the Prehistorian

While at the School as the 1997–98 Whitehead Visiting Professor, Jeffrey S. Rusten (Chair, Department of Classics, Cornell University) worked on Thucydides. He shares some of his reflections on the reliability of the ancient historian's information about the Bronze Age.

John Moles (Department of Classics, University of Durham) and I have begun to assemble a commentary on Thucydides, *History*, Book I. My year as Whitehead Professor, with the riches of Blegen Library at my disposal as well as the expertise of the School's members, was an ideal time to ponder the section that the scholia (on Thuc. I.12) have taught us to call the *Archaeology*, especially that part dealing with the Aegean world through the Trojan war (I.2–11). In Knossos and Mycenae, Minos and Agamemnon, Thucydides provided pioneering archaeologists with the basic cities and figures of Aegean Bronze Age mythology.

Nevertheless, Thucydides' days as required reading for students of Greek prehistory are over. In fact, these opening chapters have recently taken rather a beating from archaeologists and historians alike. (Even philologists seem content to admire his deductive method, while hurrying past the deductions themselves in silence.) Thucydides' interpretation of the material evidence available to him seems eccentric. In I.10 he reminds us not to underestimate the power of Mycenae simply because it is small—a true statement about its area but not about the walls that Thucydides usually considers a sign of military might. In I.8 he offers as proof of pirates' identity the fact that old graves uncovered during the purification of Delos were Carian; but when some of these remains were found in 1898, the "Carian" weapons were nowhere to be seen, and pottery suggested that the original graves had been Greek. "Thucydides or an informant," asserted R. M. Cook in an influential article published in the *Annual of the British School at Athens*, volume 50 (1955), "did not recognize geometric pottery as being . . . Greek."

Cook concluded that Thucydides was simply a poor interpreter of archaeological evidence. But some of the harshest criticism concerns his use of myth, which he seems far too prone to use to teach the lessons of contemporary history. In particular, his concept of a Minoan "thalassocracy" (I.4) may be an anachronism, which was the central question of *The Minoan Thalassocracy: Myth and Reality*, edited by R. Hägg and N. Marinatos (1983).

Finally, it is with a literary source, that is, Homer, that the *Archaeology* appears to commit its worst blunders. Thucydides observes (I.3.3) that Homer doesn't use the word "barbarian," yet he does, at least in our

text (*Iliad* II.530 and 867). Further, Thucydides says (I.11) that the Greeks must have been victorious initially at Troy, because they built a wall for their camp, whereas Homer says they built it in the tenth year, because they were losing (*Iliad* VII.433–440). In addition, he assumes (I.11.1) that the Greek army lacked provisions, because it had to engage in farming in the Thracian Chersonnese—something Homer mentions nowhere. Finally, he concludes (I.10.3–4) that the Greek army at Troy was not large, because one can estimate it from the catalogue of ships, yet the calculation he leaves uncompleted turns out to be 102,000 men!

Many of these problems may never be explained; but before deciding that Thucydides shows a "gross misunderstanding and ignorance of the past," in the words of M. I. Finley in his book *The Use and Abuse of History* (1975), it might be best to consider whether they are not as likely to be traced to our own ignorance as to his. Thus, when he mentions the mysterious first-year Achaean wall, Thucydides is clearly *not* quoting Homer, since the *Iliad* does not treat the first year of the war; the literary sources that narrated the initial Greek attack on Troy are now lost but were well known in the fifth century (the *Cypria*, tragedies on the death of Protesilaos and Achilles' slaying of the Trojan Kyknos), and even Homer (*Iliad* XIV.30–38) seems to allude to a wall built after the initial landing.

In asserting the widespread naval power of Minos, Thucydides is merely reflecting the universal belief of his contemporaries. A continuous narrative is lacking, but from preserved allusions we can see that any literate Athenian had heard that Minos had besieged and captured Megara, then sailed to Keos and left a garrison; while in the Cyclades, he was interrupted on Paros by the news of a son's death in Athens, he sailed to besiege that city, and, on its surrender, exacted the famous human tribute for the Minotaur; he was finally undone by the treachery of his daughter Ariadne and his engineer Daedalus; he pursued the latter to Kamikos in Sicily. There Minos was killed, and his fleet dispersed. Left behind were his tomb in Sicily, "discovered" by Theron of Acragas in the early fifth century, and the eight settlements called "Minoa," stretching from Sicily to Palestine. Thus what seem to us speculation in the *Archae-*

*ology* may have been common belief in Thucydides' own day.

Archaeologists today can make at least some use of his observations, although only in a much modified form. Minoan influence (but not military control) is demonstrable in at least the western Cyclades in the Middle Minoan (MM) period, as shown by Jack L. Davis in his contribution to *Papers in Cycladic Prehistory* (1979); and naval warfare and piracy, while not in evidence for MM Crete, are now dramatically visible in Phanouria Dakoronia's latest reconstruction of a LH IIIC krater from the cemetery at Kynos in east Locris, to be published in a forthcoming article and also discussed by Shelley Wachsmann in his *Seagoing Ships and Seamanship in the Bronze Age Levant* (1998).

Thus Thucydides' weakness as a prehistorian may be not so much poor judgment as a lack of his customary originality and independence. Perhaps we should be grateful that, as he proceeded to narrate the war that is his chief subject, Thucydides turned to events of his own day, using evidence he could evaluate independently, for himself, for the very first time.

## Handel Performance Benefits Gennadeion

The Dryden Ensemble performed George Frideric Handel's cantata "Apollo e Dafne" at the Greek Embassy in Washington, D.C., on February 8 to benefit the Gennadius Library.

The cantata, composed early in Handel's career, opens with a resounding "The earth is liberated! Greece is vindicated! Apollo has won!" as the god returns from Delphi and his victory over Python. It closes with his lament over the transfiguration of Daphne. Under the artistic direction of oboist Jane McKinley, The Dryden Ensemble specializes in performing music of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries on period instruments. After the concert, guests were invited to a dinner hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. Alexander Philon, patrons of the event.

Proceeds from the event are earmarked to match the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant for renovating and modernizing the Library.



# Codirecting Summer Session I: Double the Fun

Let it never be said that the American School is set in its ways! It authorized and supported a first in the history of the School, codirectorship of the Summer Session, proving our venerable institution amply capable of successful innovation. The experience of Summer Session I was one of unparalleled delight and enrichment for the two of us. We ended the session invigorated, reconnected with Greek archaeology, and, much to our surprise, not exhausted.

Our group of nineteen—eleven men and eight women—was composed of seven undergraduates, four newly minted B.A.'s, six graduate students, and two college professors. This bald list does not begin to reflect the depth and diversity, both academic and personal, of the group. Yet, our vegetarians and hortophobes, teetotalers and tipplers, extroverts and introverts were graciously tolerant of one another and of us. It was not only a love for the Classical past but also our shared experiences that wove us together as a group. Some of these experiences were staged, such as group meals; others were spontaneous: our walk down Ermou to our first session at the Agora, aggressively and efficiently "herded" by an impromptu coalition of local sheepdogs (who just knew we were a flock of something or other); Midea at 116 degrees; genuine maenads at the Castalian Spring; going aboard the trireme *Olympias*; teachers and future teachers obediently reciting Greek lessons from our driver via the bus microphone.

We were delighted to witness how the program influenced careers, including ours,



*Members of Summer Session I enjoyed a postprandial sit-in at Karytaina.*

at all stages. Topics of senior honors theses, reworking of books-in-progress, expansion of expertise from philology to archaeology, and new career directions are all products of this Summer Session experience.

Another striking influence came in the form of our exposure to the wide variety of ethical issues facing our discipline: proper types of site conservation and site accessibility to tourists and scholars, the necessity of prompt publication of excavated mate-

rial, and the question of "ownership" of archaeological sites.

We had studied and traveled in Greece as Regular Members in 1977–78 and 1978–79 respectively, and so we were some twenty years distant from that School experience. Therefore, the roster of speakers that has come to be the essence of the Summer Session curriculum was our mainstay and our salvation. Each year this group is mentioned, praised, and thanked. We were still unprepared for the goodwill, dedication, sacrifice, and expertise our speakers revealed. While we agree that rigor and a "boot-camp" tenor do distinguish the ASCSA Summer Session from other programs, we nominate our speaker roster for the program's blue-ribbon status. We also took countless practical instruction from another group that surely deserves the highest honors: former Summer Session Directors and their logs. Our Members quickly recognized the crucial role of the logs in the future of the program, to such an extent that a common refrain became "Put that in the log!!!!!"

Reflecting on this experience and its long gestation brings a combination of relief and regret that it is now past. Above all, we are intensely grateful to the School for making it possible and to our group who made it great.

*Sarah Peirce (ASCSA 1977–78)  
Summer Session I Codirector*

*Ann Steiner  
(ASCSA SS1974, ASCSA 1978–79)  
Summer Session I Codirector*

## Archaeologist and Anthropologist Team up for Summer Session II

Last spring, as we anticipated leading Summer Session II, we hoped our session would be special and a little different. As a classical archaeologist and cultural anthropologist who have worked together in Greece for over two decades, we were intrigued by the prospect of developing an integrated program that would provide insight into both the Greek past and its living present.

We also knew it would be hot, exhausting, and intensely stimulating to lead a group of bright, enthusiastic students and teachers to over a hundred sites and museums in six short weeks. Such hopes and expectations were more than fulfilled. Even

so, we hardly anticipated the series of medical crises arising from a meningitis scare that made us all wonder if we had mistakenly been scheduled into a traveling episode of "General Hospital" instead of Summer Session II. Fortunately, we all came through with no lasting harm and with virtually the entire academic program intact, despite creative detours en route.

The group was marvelously diverse in background, age, and interests, a healthy mix of six undergraduate and ten graduate students, three high school teachers, and even a full professor from our sister institution in Bloomington. Most were trained in the classics, with a striking emphasis on

Latin and Roman studies, but we were also grateful to draw on the expertise of a double major in geology and classics, a Byzantinist, and a teacher of English and social studies.

Our Members plunged into the cool palaeolithic bowels of the earth at Petralona Cave, where Susan provided instantaneous translation of our guide's description of Europe's oldest human remains. They stoutly endured a ferry schedule that put us on Santorini at 2:30 a.m. and took us off at 7 p.m. the same day. Despite the resulting lack of sleep, the chance to see the restoration of Bronze Age frescoes in the work-

*continued on page 17*



# Mellon Fellow Focuses on Ancient Terracottas

*Hanna Syzmanska, Museum of Archaeology, Krakow, Poland, came to the School as an Associate Member for the second term of 1997–98 on a Research Fellowship from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's program for Eastern European scholars. She reports on the considerable progress she made in her study of Hellenistic and Roman terracottas.*

During my stay at the American School, I nearly completed my work supplementing the first volume of the publication of Hellenistic and Roman terracottas from the site of Tell Atrib in the Nile Delta and preparing the second volume.

Of particular importance were my visits to the storerooms of the Athenian Agora and to Corinth, where I had the opportunity to examine excavation materials that, like the Athribis terracottas, come from datable archaeological contexts. Thus, I was able to confirm certain hypotheses regarding the morphological characteristics (clay color and firing methods) of terracottas that serve to distinguish Hellenistic artifacts from Roman.

My consultations with Dr. Jutta Stroszeck, the Director of the Kerameikos Excavations, enabled me to resolve numerous questions concerning the production of figurines. Specifically, the coroplastic workshop discovered in the Agora is not accompanied by any kiln, whereas in the Kerameikos, outside the city walls, there are several, from both the Hellenistic and Roman periods. This placement of kilns was presumably dictated by safety considerations: protection against the possibility of a fire breaking out in a densely built-up city square.

A different situation existed in the workshop district in Athribis, where a complex of kilns has been discovered, two of which were used to fire pottery, along with various artifacts, strong evidence for the existence of a ceramic-coroplastic workshop on this site. In similar constructions in the Kerameikos, both terracottas and clay vessels were fired, at least in the Roman period. The same system must have functioned already in the Ptolemaic period in Athribis, where unfired vessels as well as terracottas have been found near the kilns.

I was also able to clarify to a significant extent the problem of the origin of the terracotta models, which in all likelihood were brought by Macedonian settlers to Ptolemaic Egypt from Athens via Macedonia. The thesis advanced by Dorothy Burr Thompson, that Athens was the main source of iconographic inspiration for

Hellenistic coroplastics (*AJA* 70 [1966] 51–63), has thus found confirmation. To be sure, I was unable to visit the storerooms in Pella in Macedonia, but thanks to the rich literature in the Blegen Library, I was able to alter my provisional thesis that the district we have been excavating was founded by soldiers from the army garrison left behind by Alexander the Great. The iconographic characteristics of the terracottas obtained in the course of our excavations point rather to a first wave of Macedonian

settlers and not to a military garrison.

Thanks to the extensive holdings of the School's Library and the opportunity to use it around the clock, I prepared material for two articles. These will deal with unique figurines discovered in Athribis, such as a small head of Athene in a Phrygian helmet and an Eros in the armor worn by Macedonian soldiers.

A detailed review of the publications from the Athenian Agora and other exca-

*continued on page 19*

## Summer Session II

*continued from previous page*

room at Akrotiri, the exhilarating and windy prospect from the site of classical Thera, and finally sailing out through the caldera made this brief stop a high point of the trip.

We also reveled in the bouncy ride up to Vronta from Kavousi in the back of three pickup trucks, a bracing taste of the true fieldwork experience. The same afternoon, hearty Members swam back to the Cretan shore from Minoan Mochlos and marveled as the setting sun lit up the tall cliffs of east Crete and the sparkling sea below.

Urban Athens provided its share of pleasures as well, despite a record heat wave, its effects gratefully mitigated by the new fans the Alumnae/i Association had just donated to Loring Hall. Strictly archaeological opportunities included the chance to walk inside the Parthenon, to visit the workrooms of the Propylaia restoration project, and to witness firsthand the excavation of Mycenaean graves in the Agora.

Visits to Kalavryta, cradle of the Greek revolution and site of a massacre in World War II, and the nearby monasteries at Agia Lavra and Mega Spelaia provided unique insight into patriotic and spiritual dimensions of living Greece. Finally, the spectacular recent discoveries in Macedonia at Vergina, Dion, Lefkadia, and Pella and their dramatic presentation in local museums and Thessaloniki drove home the undeniable importance of Macedonia in linking classical Greece to imperial Rome and the crucial interrelation of archaeology and modern politics.

Our session was indeed special, its lessons long will endure, preserved on film and in notebooks, engraved in our hearts.

*Robert F. Sutton, Jr.  
Summer Session II Codirector*

*Susan Buck Sutton  
Summer Session II Codirector*



*Photo: Kris Kubasiak*

*On Crete, the Members especially relished the ride in pickup trucks from Kavousi to visit Vronta with Leslie Preston Day.*



## Dignitaries Visit Gennadius Library



Photo: Marie Mauzy



Photo: Marie Mauzy

*Photo, left: H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, an avowed fan of Edward Lear, found time in his whirlwind trip to Greece in November to view the Gennadeion's collection of Lear watercolors. From left to right: Haris Kalligas, Director of the Gennadius Library; Sir Michael Llewellyn Smith, the British Ambassador to Greece; H.R.H. The Prince of Wales; Sophie Papageorgiou, Librarian of the Gennadius Library; and Fani-Marie Tsigakou, Guest Curator of the Gennadeion's recent exhibition of Lear watercolors, at the Goulandris Museum in Athens. Photo, right: The President of Greece, Constantine Stephanopoulos, examines a book during his visit to the Gennadeion in December, arranged by Sophie Papageorgiou, Librarian of the Gennadius Library, and Demos Archivist Alikis Asvestas. From left to right: Sophie Papageorgiou; Apostolos Doxiadis, Trustee of the Gennadius Library; and President Stephanopoulos.*

### Student Reports

*continued from page 1*

material culture is all the more surprising, given that the Cretan cities, by any measure of *polis* development, were on a par with, or even ahead of, the cities on the Greek mainland during the late eighth and seventh centuries—the period, according to Homer's boast, of a hundred Cretan *poleis*.

By the fourth century, when Crete resurfaces in the historical record, philosophers and political theorists have transformed it into a model of social and political stagnation. This attitude, coupled with the "gaps" observed in the archaeological record, have fueled modern notions of the sixth and fifth centuries as a time of massive decline, explainable by natural disasters, internal warfare, or widespread abandonment.

Until now there has been no effort made to establish a definitive chronology for the development of ceramic forms at any classical site on the island. Rarely do we encounter such major gaps in a local pottery sequence elsewhere in the ancient Mediterranean world, let alone find an entire region bereft of datable pottery. More than any other factor, these perceived gaps in the ceramic sequence foster the negative picture of classical Crete.

My dissertation aims to provide a chronological framework for understanding internal developments on Crete from ca. 600 to 400 B.C. While I draw on a wide range of evidence, including epigraphic, numismatic, and literary, I concentrate on the one category of abundant evidence capable of precise dating: the pottery.

At Knossos, deposits exist in sufficient number to formulate a full local sequence of black-glazed pottery spanning the end of the sixth century through the fifth. The fifth century is emerging as a critical turning point in the life of Knossos, a time when new sanctuaries were established, old ones were revitalized, and the post-Minoan city took shape. I am incorporating additional illuminating material from nearly all the other major post-Minoan sites of Central Crete, including Phaistos, Gortyn, and Kommos, as well as comparative material from selected sites in the eastern and western portions of the island.

Crete is now appearing to have had varying degrees of contact with the mainland and the wider Greek world at different points in its history. The loss of trade connections can be measured by breaks in the imported pottery sequences and other changes in the material culture. A surprising conclusion is that a number of cities and

sanctuaries were for a time openly receptive to mainland trends, only to fall abruptly out of contact at identifiable points in the fifth century. It appears demonstrable, for example, that the aftermath of the First Peloponnesian War and the ascendancy of Athens in the Aegean had profound repercussions on Crete and its foreign relations. As it did during the Persian Wars, Crete stayed out of the fray in the conflicts between Athens and Sparta but remained a potential ally on the Peloponnesian side and a possible threat to Athens.

The full explanation for Crete's changing fortunes may prove to be more complex. One of my primary aims is to offer a chronological structure, at the local level, that will enable us to appreciate the individual city-states as separate entities, each possessing its own local history. They did not necessarily act in concert, and they may have felt the effects of major historical events in different ways. Another objective is to determine the exact nature of the "decline" on Crete: if it happened at all, how uniform it was across the island, how suddenly it occurred, and how long it lasted.

*Brice Erickson  
Burt Hodge Hill Fellow  
1998–99*



## Foz Côa Is Hale and Hearty

Our far-flung correspondent, Jeanette Nolen (ASCSA SS1965), has been working on Roman glass and pottery in Alcabideche, Portugal, for the last twenty years. As an alumna who enjoys this *Newsletter*, she sends the following good news about the preservation of palaeolithic petroglyphs on the site of the Côa Valley Archaeological Park, which she recently visited in an unofficial capacity.

The park, a candidate for UNESCO World Heritage status, now protects not only the actual rock formations with their engraved and painted figures from both prehistoric and historic periods but also the surrounding countryside in which the art was first conceived. A strong educational effort has made the local inhabitants aware of the economic possibilities as well as artistic significance of the large open-air site.

Visitors are taken in all-terrain vehicles on dirt tracks to established centers where they are given illustrated folders and talks by trained bilingual docents or archaeologists. A museum is to be constructed on the foundations of a dam that the authorities have wisely decided not to complete.

To visit the site, a reservation is in order. You may contact them by e-mail at [pavc@mail.telepac.pt](mailto:pavc@mail.telepac.pt); through the Internet at <http://fozcoa.min-cultura.pt>; by fax at +351.79.765.257; or by telephone at +351.79.764.317. The authoritative volume on the site is J. Zilhão, ed., *Arte Rupestre e Pré-História do Vale de Côa: Trabalhos de 1995-1996*.

Doreen Canaday Spitzer

### Mellon Fellow

*continued from page 17*

ations has confirmed the correctness of our research methods in establishing the chronology of the archaeological layers, based primarily on the stamped amphora handles, precisely dated by Virginia Grace, and also on coins and pottery.

The on-site lectures that I was able to attend in the Agora, the Kerameikos, and elsewhere, thanks to the kind permission of Ronald S. Stroud, the School's Mellon Professor, were most instructive.

My stay in Athens was enormously helpful in solving even more problems in my work than I have been able to mention in this brief report, not only because of such full access to the marvelous Library but also thanks to the friendliness of all the School's employees, for which I would like to express here my heartfelt gratitude.

## Campaign to Match Challenge Grant Nears Completion

The drive to match the National Endowment for the Humanities' Challenge Grant for renovating and modernizing the Gennadius Library is nearing its \$2.5 million goal, over a year ahead of schedule.

The final push began in September, at a dinner hosted by U.S. Ambassador to Greece, Nicholas Burns, and his wife, Elizabeth Baylies-Burns, at the Embassy Residence in Athens. Ambassador Burns, who has been a staunch supporter of the School and the Gennadeion since he came to Athens, welcomed to his house some fifty guests including Gennadeion Trustees Apostolos Doxiadis and Elias Stassinopoulos and President of the Library, Catherine Vanderpool. Noting the importance of the Library to Greece and to the United States alike, the Ambassador set the tone for the evening, which resulted in pledges of \$70,000 to the campaign. A benefit at the Greek Embassy in Washington in February is expected to net almost as much.

Major gifts in the past six months have included \$200,000 from the A.G. Leventis Foundation, \$50,000 from the Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation (part of a \$100,000 pledge), \$50,000 from the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation, and \$50,000 from the Samourkas Foundation (also part of a \$100,000 pledge). In addition, a gift of \$600,000 from the Chairman of the Library's Board, Lloyd E. Cotsen, has helped bring the campaign within \$100,000 of the \$2.5 million needed to complete the four-to-one match for the NEH's \$625,000 grant. The goal now is to put the campaign over the top a year ahead of the July, '00 deadline.

Including the NEH grant, the amount raised for the Library will total \$3.125 million. Just over half of the grant and matching funds, or \$1.7 million, will go to the building project, while \$1.1 million is earmarked for endowment and \$223,000 for preservation and access.

## In Memoriam

### Constance Holden Curry Burnham

Constance Holden Curry (Mount Holyoke '31, Columbia '33, a student of William Bell Dinsmoor) was a Member of the School from 1933 to 1937, as one of the "regulars," with Louise Capps Scranton, working in the early excavations of the Agora. On occasion, Louise remembers, the two of them cooked for bachelors Dick Howland and Rodney Young in their little house on Odhos Souidias.

Later Connie lived with her husband, a doctor (as was her father) in Peekskill, NY, where she was a Director of the bank, Treasurer of the Episcopal church, and active participant in civic affairs—a public housing home for the aged honors her name. She remained a cheerfully contributing friend of the School until her death in 1996. Her generosity lives on in the handsome legacy of \$125,000, which has just come to the ASCSA.

Doreen Canaday Spitzer



Constance Holden Curry with fellow student Richard H. Howland, now Trustee Emeritus of the School.



Anatolia College in Thessaloniki has established the **Michael S. Dukakis** Chair in Public Policy and Service to honor Governor Dukakis, former governor of Massachusetts and 1968 Presidential candidate. Governor Dukakis, who has also served since 1995 on the Gennadius Library Board of Trustees, was cited by the College for his integrity and character, lifelong commitment to public policy and service, and exemplary abilities as a teacher. A gala celebration, held in Boston on October 30, marked the establishment of the Chair.



Photo: Marie Maury

Malcolm Wiener, ASCSA Trustee, at the School party celebrating his honorary degree.

In October, ASCSA Trustee **Malcolm H. Wiener**, who is also President of the Board of Trustees at the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, was honored at a conference in Nicosia, Cyprus, which focused on a type of Cypriot pottery popular in the Mediterranean beginning ca. 1600 B.C. and known

as White Slip Ware. The conference will result in a *Festschrift*. In addition, the Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen and the University of Athens presented Mr. Wiener with honorary doctorates in recognition of his scholarly achievements, including his contributions to the understanding of Bronze Age chronology.



**John McK. Camp II**, Director of the Agora Excavations, delivered a talk entitled "Exploration in the Heartland of Democracy: The Archaeology of Ancient Athens and the Athenian Agora" at the S. Dillon Ripley International Center of the Smithsonian Institution in December. Organized by the ASCSA and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, the event was under the patronage of the **Ambassador of Greece and Mrs. Alexander Philon**, who honored Mr. Camp and the School at an Embassy dinner following the lecture.



The Samothrace Excavations, under the direction of **James R. McCredie**, former Director of the School and former Chair of the Managing Committee, recently published new English and Greek editions of Karl Lehmann's *Samothrace: A Guide to the Excavations and the Museum*, 6th ed., Thessaloniki 1998. Mr. McCredie supplied a new preface, **Ioannis Akamatis** (University of Thessaloniki) translated the Greek edition, and **Demetri Matsas**, *Epimeletis* in charge of Samothrace, contributed a section on excavations of the Archaeological Service at other sites on the island.

### **To All Members: New Regulations for School Storage, Parking, Car Permits**

The main *apotheke* in Loring Hall, home to a generation and more of suitcases and boxes left behind by former Members, will be emptied at the end of 1999. Anything not claimed by that time will be junked, in preparation for converting the space into an exercise room. Also scheduled for cleaning is the basement of the new extension to the Blegen Library. Although the future use of this space remains undecided, the end is near for the old computer equipment, tables, chairs, beds, mattresses, and miscellaneous household items that now fill the area. To resolve the problem of the congested parking lot, from now on the School will provide parking only for cars that are in active use on a more or less daily basis. Cars used only during the summer will have to be stored elsewhere after the summer of 1999. The days of "tax-free" cars in Greece are now only a memory, yet the School continues to maintain a list of cars for which it assumes some degree of responsibility. This will end as of September 1999, by which time individual Members must take on the responsibility of his/her car registration and insurance. The School will continue to assist Members who plan on being in Greece for more than three months in obtaining residency permits.



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