

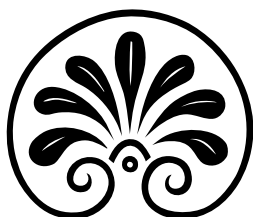
Proceedings  
of the Danish Institute  
at Athens  
VIII



# Proceedings of the Danish Institute at Athens

VOLUME VIII

Edited by *Kristina Winther-Jacobsen, Rune Frederiksen*  
& *Søren Handberg*



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Cover illustration: View from the Saint Elijah Stone Quarry on the southern slopes of Mount Parnassus. Delphi is situated far to the left in the picture 300 metres higher up. In the background is the port of Kirrha situated on the Bay of Corinth (See p. 214).

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# Celebrating 25 years of archaeological research at the Danish Institute at Athens

KRISTINA WINTHER-JACOBSEN,  
RUNE FREDERIKSEN & SØREN HANDBERG<sup>1</sup>

After the Second World War it was no longer possible for foreigners to get permission to do archaeological fieldwork in Greece without the mediation of an official foreign archaeological school based in Greece. Danish archaeologists such as Søren Dietz,<sup>2</sup> Erik Hallager,<sup>3</sup> and Klavs Randsborg managed to work on permits generously provided by the Swedish Institute at Athens. However, in 1992, the combined efforts of representatives of several institutions and Bertel Haarder, then Minister of Education, succeeded in establishing a Danish Institute. On the birthday of the famous Danish writer Hans Christian Andersen, the Danish Institute at Athens opened, on April 2, 1992, with Søren Dietz as its first director.

The privileged situation the institute finds itself in today – located in the Plaka, one of the old central neighbourhoods of Athens on top of the Archaic agora, in two beautifully restored neoclassical buildings associated with a large modern auditorium – is due to generous donations from the Carlsberg Foundation in 1993 and 1995 and the Velux Foundation in 2000.

According to Greek law, the foreign institutes or schools are registered by the Greek Ministry of Culture as archaeological schools, i.e. they are non-profit, archaeological research institutions. The function of the schools are defined in the Greek law *on the protection of antiquities and cultural heritage* from 2002, according to

which schools are obliged to administer all archaeological research conducted in Greece by scholars of their native countries. The schools are privileged to conduct archaeological fieldwork on Greek soil under a number of conditions, including the maintenance of a research library accessible to Greek scholars, and the publications of the results of their work in a scientific journal. The Nordic Library, a collaborative institution shared by the four Nordic institutes which opened in 1995, responds to the first condition, and *Proceedings of the Danish Institute at Athens* and *Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens* to the second (see below).

## 25 years of field projects

Under the privilege of Greek law each international school is allowed three *synergasias*, collaborative projects involving the school and one of the Greek ephorates, and three autonomous projects at any given time. Archaeologically speaking, the Danish Institute at Athens has been very active. Since its inauguration in 1992, DIA has mediated twelve fieldwork permissions for Danish scholars, including the Swedish–Greek–Danish collaboration at Khania. Some projects have taken up previous Danish engagements in Greece, e.g. the excavations of Karl Frederik Kinch on Rhodes between 1902 and 1914,<sup>4</sup> the excavations

<sup>1</sup> With contributions and insights from Thomas Roland, Pernille Foss, Søren Dietz, Bjørn Lovén, Niels Andreasen and Erik Hallager, for which we are very grateful.

<sup>2</sup> See Rathje & Lund 1991, 40-1.

<sup>3</sup> See Rathje & Lund 1991, 41.

<sup>4</sup> Blinkenberg 1931, 1941; Dietz 1984; Dietz & Trolle 1974; Dyggve 1960; Friis Johansen 1957; Kinch 1914; Sørensen & Pentz 1992; see also Rathje & Lund 1991, 39.



Fig. 1. Kefallénia, Circular alter at Palaiocastro (Photo: Thomas Roland).

of Frederik Poulsen, later Einar Dyggve and Konstantinos Romaios at Kalydon between 1926 and 1938,<sup>5</sup> and the work of Knud Friis Johansen on ‘Sikyonean’ pottery.<sup>6</sup>

The Danish archaeological projects are all committed to the education of students through participation in fieldwork and publication preparations. In fact the Kalydon Lower Acropolis Project acted as a seminar excavation for Danish students of classical archaeology in 2013-6, and more recently also Norwegian students. We owe a debt of gratitude to the Central Archaeological Council and the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports for granting us the permits and thereby supporting this important element in the education of Danish archaeologists and to the ephorates (mentioned individually below under the relevant projects) for their collaboration in this important endeavour.

Throughout the history of the Danish Institute at Athens the Carlsberg Foundation has been the main sup-

porter of Danish fieldwork in Greece. We remain ever grateful for this vital support to the work of the Danish Institute at Athens. However, many more foundations have supported the field projects and our gratitude is also owed to the Danish Ministry of Education, the Consul General Gösta Enboms Foundation, the New Carlsberg Foundation, the Danish Council for Independent Research, the Institute of Aegean Prehistory, the Costopoulos Foundation, Queen Margrethe II’s Archaeological Foundation, the Augustinus Foundation, the Danish Research Council, Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation, the Eleni Nakou Foundation, the Velux Foundation, the G.E.C. Gads Foundation, the Sonning Foundation, The American Friends of the Zea Harbour Project, the RPM Nautical Foundation, the Leverhulme Trust, Interspiro AB, the Gunvor & Josef Anér’s Stiftelse, the Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien and the Herbert och Karin Jacobssons Stiftelse.

<sup>5</sup> Poulsen & Rhomaios 1927; Dyggve, Poulsen & Rhomaios 1934; Dyggve & Poulsen 1948; Dyggve 1951. See also Rathje & Lund 1991, 40.

<sup>6</sup> Friis Johansen 1918; 1923.

## Kefallénia

In 1992 the survey began in the western part of Kefallénia, the largest of the Ionian Islands, directed by Klavs Randsborg from the University of Copenhagen and under the aegis of the Swedish Institute at Athens. With the establishment of the Danish Institute the permit was transferred and fieldwork continued in 1993 and 1994 funded by the Danish Ministry of Education.

The projects applied a combination of topographical and extensive and intensive archaeological survey to the investigation of prehistoric and ancient/historical settlement patterns. Much effort was also put into mapping and describing architectural sites, for example a group of smaller Archaic forts and the ancient town of Sami.

The archaeological survey revealed a total of more than five hundred sites dating from the Middle Paleolithic to the early Modern period, with an emphasis, however, on the Classical, Hellenistic and Roman periods. As a novelty in the island's history, it was established by the lithic inventories that occupation was present in the Late Neolithic period. The project has been instrumental in making the archaeology of the island available to an English-speaking audience through the two volumes published in the Danish journal *Acta Archaeologica*.<sup>7</sup> On several occasions, Klavs Randsborg expressed his strong interest in returning to Greek archaeology, but regrettably he passed away in 2016.

## Rhodes

The fieldwork of Karl Frederik Kinch and Christian Blinkenberg on Rhodes is probably the largest Danish investment in the archaeology of Greece to date. Publication of the results took 90 years,<sup>8</sup> but the data continue to generate interest, including two PhD projects in recent years.<sup>9</sup> Two Danish attempts to return to Rhodes took place in 1975 and 1994, both revisiting southern Rhodes where K.F. Kinch worked in 1907-8.<sup>10</sup> In 1994, former Director of the Danish Institute at Athens Søren Dietz directed a survey campaign in the valley around the village



Fig. 2. Rhodes, Kattavia 1994 (Photo: Søren Dietz).

Kattavia in southern Rhodes in collaboration with the National Museum in Copenhagen and the Ephorate of the Dodecanese, represented by Effy Karantzaly, with Mette Korsholm as field director. The survey examined an area of about 5 km<sup>2</sup> and the collected material documented settlements in the valley from the Neolithic Age into the modern period.<sup>11</sup> The project succeeded in locating the centre of the ancient deme, Kattavia, a workshop for 7<sup>th</sup>-century BC relief-decorated amphorae and a large workshop producing transport amphorae. The survey was funded by the Consul General Gösta Enboms Foundation.

7 Randsborg 2002.

8 See n. 3.

9 Cecilie Brøns, University of Copenhagen/National Museum, Copenhagen and Sanne Hoffmann, University of Aarhus/National Museum, Copenhagen. See also Kaninia & Schierup, this volume.

10 Rathje & Lund 1991, 39.

11 The project awaits publication.





Fig. 3. Chalkis, Aghia Triadha 1996 (Photo: Søren Dietz).

Danish commitment to the archaeology of Rhodes continues. In 2016, the Carlsberg Foundation funded the four-year 'Rhodes Centennial Project'. In close collaboration with the Ephorate of Antiquities for the Dodecanese, this project will undertake the study and publication of six rescue excavations in the city and the necropolis of Rhodes. The project is directed by Vincent Gabrielsen, with Stella Skaltsa acting as vice-director, both of the Saxo Institute at the University of Copenhagen.

### Chalkis

Between 1995 and 2001, the Danish Institute at Athens conducted surveys and excavations near the village of Kato Vassiliki, on the northern coast of the Corinthian gulf, in co-operation with the ephorate of Patras. The research was directed by former Director of the Institute, Søren Dietz, and former Ephor of Patras, Keeper of National Antiquities Lazaros Kolonas, with Iannis Moschos and Sanne Houbby-Nielsen as field directors. The project was supported by the Consul General Gösta Enboms Foundation. In 2014, Søren Dietz returned to Chalkis with Tatiana Smekalova and Bruce Bevan in order to carry out geomagnetic investigations to identify more precisely the port and the residential and industrial facilities associated with it.

The efforts were concentrated partly on the locality of Pangali, on the eastern slope of Mount Varassova, and partly on the hill of Aghia Triadha, named after its large Early Byzantine Basilica.<sup>12</sup> In 1995, the two already known Classical fortification walls in Pangali were measured, and an intensive survey revealed that the area between the walls was probably never inhabited. A trial trench excavated in 1996 showed that a Final Neolithic settlement existed in Pangali in the latter half of the 5<sup>th</sup> millennium BC.<sup>13</sup>

In 1996-8, the Byzantine, Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic fortification walls surrounding the hill of Aghia Triadha were cleaned and measured, and foundations of Archaic/Classical and Hellenistic houses, primarily situated outside these walls, were excavated and measured. At the eastern terrace of the hill, layers of an EHI habitation with indications of an additional earlier mid 4<sup>th</sup>-millennium habitation were uncovered in a trial trench.<sup>14</sup> A small excavation was carried out from 1998 onwards on the flat land; the area west of the hill of Aghia Triada revealed both rich pre-historic layers (Middle to Late Bronze Age) at a depth of 3-4 m, thick layers from the Archaic periods and a rich Early Hellenistic tomb. Geological investigations made in 1997-8 in the Bay of Kato Vassiliki and geomagnetic surveys in 2014 indicated that the ancient harbour was situated at the shore of the bay, just west of the hill of Aghia Triadha.

### Kalydon

The Kalydon project has been the flagship of the Danish Institute at Athens since 2001. The project takes up the baton of Frederik Poulsen and Einar Dyggeve, who carried out fieldwork at the site in the 1920s and 30s.<sup>15</sup> Since the inauguration of the Danish Institute at Athens, three projects have taken place at Kalydon: the Kalydon urban project, the Kalydon Theatre project, and the Kalydon Lower Acropolis project. In 2016 Signe Barfoed received permission from the Ministry of Culture and Sports to study and publish the unpublished pottery and terracotta figurines from Poulsen and Rhomaios' excavations in the Sanctuary of Artemis Laphria.

12 See list of MoDIA volumes below: Dietz & Moschos (eds) 2006; Dietz & Kolonas (eds) 2016; Houbby-Nielsen forthcoming.

13 F. Mavridis & L. Sørensen in Dietz & Moschos (eds) 2006.

14 Dietz & Kolonas (eds) 2016.

15 See n. 4.



Fig. 4. Kalydon, East Gate (Photo: Søren Dietz).

### *The Kalydon urban project*

In 2001 the Danish Institute commenced large-scale archaeological fieldwork in ancient Kalydon in Aitolia. Kalydon is located around 8 km as the crow flies from Chalkis, on the west side of Mount Varassova and 12 km from Messolonghi further to the west. The project was directed by the Institute's first director, Søren Dietz, in collaboration with Maria Stavropoulou-Gatsi and Ioannis Moschos from the ephorate in Patras. The project was later transferred to the new administration in Messolonghi with Maria Stavropoulou-Gatsi as ephor. The excavations were sponsored by the Consul General Gösta Enboms Foundation and the New Carlsberg Foundation.

While the old excavations in Kalydon between the two world wars concentrated on the Sanctuary of Artemis Laphria (illuminating the Homeric epics) and a palaestra, the so-called Heroon of Leon, outside the city walls, the 2001 fieldwork focused on the city itself, and on Kalydonian urbanism – the economic and social life of an ancient city state.

From the beginning several types of survey were conducted: geomagnetic surveys – in an attempt to get an

overall view of the town plan – estimating the economic and social divisions of the town; topographical surveys aiming towards a total topographic registration of visible remains on the surface (including the remaining parts of the fortification walls, tombs etc.) and the town in the landscape; geological surveys mapping the geology of the landscape between the town and the sea and estimating the fluctuations of the coastline/coastal morphology and the changing course of the river Evinos; and finally, larger parts of the areas underwent archaeological survey.

Excavations were carried out on strategic topics. An examination of the so-called 'bouleuterion' was initiated in 2001 in order to clarify the function of the installation – if a 'bouleuterion', it would have tremendous consequences for the estimation of the town planning. In the end it was shown to be a theatre of a rather unconventional layout (see below). Based on the results of the geomagnetic surveys, excavation was carried out from the beginning on the Acropolis in order to understand the chronology and function of installations in this important part of the town. Excavations were also carried out in the area near the large West Gate leading



Fig. 5. *Kalydon, Theatre* (Photo: Rune Frederiksen).

to the Artemis Laphria sanctuary. Here a large peristyle building, older than the Heroon, was partly uncovered. The find of a shrine to the Anatolian mother goddess Kybele was rather exceptional; it was well-preserved since the roof collapsed around 50 AD, preserving the context almost in situ. The sloping, terraced area inside the West Gate was called the Lower Town, where industrial activities took place, in contrast to the habitation area in the centre of the town. The commercial agora was placed near the ancient East Gate, leading to the agricultural areas close to the river Evinos and the harbour area near present day Krioneri, at the foot of Mount Varassova. A well-preserved kiln was excavated in a building further up the main street from the peristyle building. The layout of the excavation was based on the results from the geomagnetic surveys.

The results are published in *Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens* (MoDIA) 12 (see below).

### *The Kalydon theatre project*

The theatre at Kalydon was found during rescue excavations in the 1960s, and in 2002 the Danish–Greek project directed by Maria Stavropoulou-Gatzi and Søren Dietz identified the structure as a theatre following partial analytical excavations. Rune Frederiksen – then director of the Danish Institute at Athens – was given four subsequent grants from the Carlsberg Foundation (2011–4)

to carry out a complete excavation, study and publication of the theatre. This project was conducted as a new Danish–Greek collaborative project, under the direction of Frederiksen and the Ephor of Aitolia and Akarnania, Olympia Vikatou. The theatre is a structure of great significance, first because of its idiosyncratic form: almost all of the some 250 ancient Greek theatre ruins known are of semicircular design, whereas this theatre is rectangular, and perfectly designed to be so. In addition to posing important questions relating to ancient architecture, this unusual form questions the role of the circular form as a central physical frame of the ancient Greek drama. The scene-building with proskenion of the Ionic order is well-preserved and its meticulous excavation will answer basic questions on the development of this element of ancient dramatic architecture. Frederiksen, Vikatou and some 15 other Greek and Danish archaeologists, architects and university students are currently amassing vast amounts of excavation data into chapters for a monograph which will present this exciting monument to the international scholarly community.

### *Kalydon Lower Acropolis project*

A new research project which includes fieldwork on the Lower Acropolis of Kalydon was, with the support of the Carlsberg Foundation, initiated in 2013. The project is a collaboration between the Danish Institute and the



**Fig. 6.** View over the excavations on the Lower Acropolis of Kalydon. The Hellenistic house is seen in the foreground, the test trenches at the fortification wall are visible further down the hill. The South Hill, the plateau with the extra-urban sanctuary of Artemis Laphria and the Gulf of Patra are visible in the back ground (Photo: Søren Handberg).

Ephorate of Antiquities of Aitolia-Acarmania and Lefkada, under the direction of Søren Handberg and the ephor Olympia Vikatou. The main aim of the project is to enhance our understanding of the early period of the city's history, of which we have very little knowledge.

During four years of excavations in 2013-6, the project has fully excavated a private house dating to the Hellenistic period and investigated part of an earlier fortification wall that surrounds the acropolis.<sup>16</sup> The investigations showed that the house was most likely destroyed around the middle of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC and that many of the objects in it had been preserved in their original culture-historical context. Test trenches at the fortification wall revealed a 3.6 m-thick double-faced wall, which is likely to date to the Early Classical period. Across most of the excavated area, but especially associated with the fortification wall, pottery dating to the Late Geometric

through to the Classical period was observed. These finds suggest that the acropolis was occupied in the early period of the city's history. The new finds increase the knowledge of the topography of the early city, and show that, in terms of size, it was comparable to other ancient Greek cities. The excavations have also produced a substantial amount of Roman pottery that can be dated from the late 1<sup>st</sup> century BC to the early 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, which reveals that the city was not completely abandoned when the later Roman Emperor Augustus founded the city of Nikopolis in 27 BC, as the ancient literary sources suggest.

### *Piraeus*

From 2002 to 2012 the Zea Harbour Project conducted fieldwork on land and under water in and around two naval harbours in the Piraeus, Mounichia and Zea. Working

<sup>16</sup> For a preliminary report on the project see Vikatou & Handberg, this volume.



**Fig. 7.** An archaeologist excavates the early shipsheds at Mounichia Harbour in the Piraeus on one of the very rare days of good visibility (Photo: V. Tsiairis © ZHP 2012).

under the auspices of the Danish Institute at Athens, the project was directed by Bjørn Lovén in close collaboration with the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities and the Ephorate of West Attica, Piraeus and Islands. The project was mainly funded by the Carlsberg Foundation, but it also received support from the Eleni Nakou Foundation, the Velux Foundation, the G.E.C. Gads Foundation, the Sonning Foundation, the Augustinus Foundation, The American Friends of the Zea Harbour Project, the RPM Nautical Foundation, the Leverhulme Trust and Interspiro AB.

The Zea Harbour Project made a number of significant discoveries within Zea, the largest and most important naval harbour of antiquity, and the smaller naval base of Mounichia. These included the identification of so-called double-shipsheds at Zea and the discovery that two shipsheds in Mounichia date to 520-480 BC, thus showing that Athens stored its warships in shipsheds in the Piraeus before or just after the Persian Wars. The project also defined and mapped coastal fortifications on

the Koumoundourou Hill and in the Piraiki, the harbour fortifications of Zea and Mounichia, thereby producing important knowledge of the fortifications of the Piraeus. The project has been a model of modern, careful and meticulous fieldwork under challenging conditions in the polluted waters of modern Piraeus. The methods included digital and geophysical survey as well as excavation.

The results of the Zea Harbour Project are published in Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens (MoDIA) 15 (see below). The first volume was published in 2012, and two additional volumes are being prepared for publication.

### *Mount Pelion*

The three-year Pelion Cave Project in Thessaly, directed by Niels H. Andreasen, was initiated in 2006 by the Danish Institute at Athens in co-operation with the Ephorate of Palaeoanthropology and Speleology of Northern Greece. While the use of caves goes back to the earliest humans, the original and innovative purpose of the Pelion



Fig. 8. Survey of cave with WWII remains on North Pelion (Photo: Markos Vaxevanopoulos).

Cave Project was to understand the diversity, complexity and development of cave-use on the mountain, mainly from 1881 – the end of the Ottoman period in that region – until today.

Husbandry, local history and folklore related to caves have rarely been documented systematically in this region. The physical traces and knowledge of cave-use are rapidly disappearing, but caves remain a valuable source of information concerning local history and regional economy. The conditions on Mount Pelion in south-east Thessaly provided a unique opportunity to ask key questions of both ethnographic and historical interest, as well as demonstrating nuances in cave-use that would otherwise have remained undetected. The methodology included archaeological survey, systematic collection of objects from the cave floors, local historical research and interviews with local informants.

The 2006-8 survey on Mount Pelion documented 158 caves and rock shelters, and compiled a rich collection of ethnographic material. Drawing on archaeological and topographical data from the caves as well as documentary

records, oral history and folklore, the project has raised interesting issues about cave-use prior to and following the onset of the industrialized period. The rich dataset demonstrates complexities beyond the picture usually perceived by archaeologists and provides a fascinating glimpse of a humanized landscape existing outside the cultural landscape of villages and fields.

The Pelion Cave Project was supported by the Danish Council for Independent Research, the Institute of Aegean Prehistory, the Costopoulos Foundation, Queen Margrethe II's Archaeological Foundation and the Augustinus Foundation. Scientific adaptation of the data for publication in the Institutes monograph series volume 19, expected in 2017 (see below), has been made possible due to a grant from the Danish Research Council, Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation.

### *Khania*

In 2010 the Danish Institute at Athens joined the long-term Greek–Swedish excavations at Kastelli, Khania, in



**Fig. 9.** *The impressive walls of the LM IIIA:2/IIIB:1 Building 2 were very well preserved between the wall foundations of an Early Christian Basilica. Facing east. Excavation photo 2010 (Photo: Erik Hallager).*

Crete. The project was directed by Yannis Tzedakis (former General Director of Antiquities, Ministry of Culture), followed in 2011 by Maria Andreadaki-Vlazaki (General Secretary of the Ministry of Culture and Sports), Ann-Louise Schallin (the Swedish Institute) and Erik Hallager (the Danish Institute). The previous excavations at Minoan Kydonia revealed that Khania has existed for 5000 years, and showed that the site was continuously inhabited with the exception of a 400-year period from the end of the Bronze Age (c. 1150) till the end of the Geometric period (c. 725).

The most important discoveries were those from the end of the Bronze Age, the Late Minoan period (c. 1600-1150 BC), from which – uniquely for Crete – seven subsequent settlements could be documented. In 1990 a

sensational find of Linear B tablets came to light, in Crete otherwise only known from the Palace at Knossos. The tablets are dated from context to the LM IIIB:1 period (c. 1250 BC) and prove that Dionysos was considered a god as early as the Bronze Age. The way the tablets were made is exactly the same as that of the Knossos tablets, the date of which is still uncertain: an observation which may allow for the dating of the Knossos tablets.

The aim of the Greek–Swedish–Danish Excavations was to excavate as far as the modern habitation permitted the building where the Linear B tablets were found. The excavations stopped in 2014, and as discussed in the two reports, they revealed one of the largest and most impressive non-palatial buildings yet discovered in LM III Crete.<sup>17</sup>

The sponsors for the project have been the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, the Carlsberg Foundation, Gunvor & Josef Anérs Stiftelse, Kungl. Vitterhets Historie och Antikvitets Akademien, Herbert och Karin Jacobssons Stiftelse and the Augustinus Foundation.

### *Lechaion*

The Lechaion Harbour Project was initiated in 2014 by the Danish Institute at Athens in co-operation with the University of Copenhagen and the Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities. The project is under the direction of Bjørn Lovén and Dimitris Kourkoumelis, aided by assistant directors Paraskevi Micha and Panagiotis Athanasopoulos. In 2013 it received a grant from Queen Margrethe II's Archaeological Foundation. The Augustinus Foundation and the Carlsberg Foundation have committed to funding the project until 2018.

Lechaion, together with Kenchreai, served as a harbour town of ancient Corinth. Throughout antiquity Corinth took advantage of its position astride the Isthmus to control land routes north and south and sea routes east and west. Lechaion, positioned north of the city on the Gulf of Corinth, offered convenient access to the central and western Mediterranean, and according to ancient sources, Corinth derived a great deal of its wealth from this trade.

The aim of the project is to document the physical remains of Lechaion's harbours in light of Corinth's 25



Fig. 10. Archaeologist excavating wooden caisson in Area 2 (Photo: V. Tsiairis © LHP 2015).

centuries of recorded history. The methods include digital and geophysical survey of the inner and outer harbours as well as the harbour canal, using innovative technologies such as a newly-developed 3D parametric sub-bottom profiler, and excavation.

The project will generate data pertaining to the development of commercial harbours, and, by extension, shed essential light on the nature and development of the ancient world. Its early discoveries are already yielding unique and critical archaeological information on the use of wooden caissons in underwater construction techniques during the Byzantine era.

### *Delphi*

The Danish contributions to the study of the Sanctuary of Apollo at Delphi under the auspices of the French School have long been recognized, especially the work of Erik

Hansen. In 2013 the Danish Institute at Athens received a permit under the direction of Rune Frederiksen for Erik Hansen and Gregers Algreen-Ussing to study the infrastructure for the construction of the 4<sup>th</sup>-century temple of Apollo. The project received support from the Carlsberg Foundation and the Danish Institute at Athens.

The background for the project is the detailed study of the 4<sup>th</sup>-century BC phase of the temple of Apollo by Pierre Amandry and Erik Hansen, published in 2010 in the *Fouilles de Delphes* series.<sup>18</sup> This study revealed that 7500 tons of blocks were transported from the St. Elias quarry, located 6 km to the west and 300 m below the level of the sanctuary of Apollo in a mountain funnel. Some of the heaviest blocks visible in the temple foundation weigh approximately 9 tons. It has been estimated that the transport of the blocks took 1900 trips, and for this purpose an extensive network of roads was constructed. The project has identified the tracks and roads for the transportation

<sup>18</sup> Amandry & Hansen 2010.





**Fig. 11.** View of the plain of Pre-Hellenistic Sikyon towards the Corinthian Gulf (Photo: Silke Müth-Frederiksen).

of building material for the 4<sup>th</sup>-century temple. Their report on the results in this volume of *Proceedings* testifies to a remarkably rectilinear infrastructure through the steep mountain funnels and the extraordinary skills of ancient Greek engineers.<sup>19</sup>

### *Sikyon*

In 1918, Knud Friis Johansen suggested that the widely exported pottery archaeologists have come to consider of Corinthian origin since the American excavations there were actually produced at Sikyon, a famous centre for arts and crafts in ancient times.<sup>20</sup> The Danish Institute at Athens in collaboration with the National Museum of Denmark was granted the permit to investigate the plain of pre-Hellenistic Sikyon for the purpose of identifying the site of the city and analyzing the material remains, the specific settlement structures and urban fabric of ‘Old

Sikyon’. The project is a *synergasia* between The National Museum, Copenhagen, the Ephorate of Antiquities of Corinth and the Danish Institute at Athens and is funded by the Carlsberg Foundation. It was conceived by former director of the Danish Institute Rune Frederiksen, who also co-directed the project’s first season in 2015, the report of which is published in this volume.<sup>21</sup> The Greek co-director is Konstantinos Kissas, the Ephor of Antiquities of Corinth. In 2016, the Danish directorship of the project was taken over by Silke Müth-Frederiksen (National Museum). In two campaigns in April and June/July 2016, geoarchaeological augering, geophysical investigation, intensive survey, aerial photography and remote sensing were applied to great effect. It is now possible to define the limits of the old city in most directions and to characterize some of its quarters and buildings. Furthermore, there are some first indications for the localization of the harbour of Sikyon.

<sup>19</sup> Hansen et al., this volume.

<sup>20</sup> The French version came out in 1923.

<sup>21</sup> Frederiksen et al., this volume.