

EAA 2019

25 years

Beyond paradigms



BERN
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Abstract Book

Beyond paradigms

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In addition to the results from the surveys and the excavations, the presentation addresses the archaeological material and the movable finds, such as harpoons, axes, pottery and loom weights, as well as some similarities and differences in their material, shapes and use. All these findings will allow us connect all regional sites and use them for joint research.

These sites date from the Neolithic to the Iron Age, so one of the aims of this presentation is to understand past human behavior and environmental dynamics in the region.

9 DOES IT REALLY MATTER? ASPECTS OF SPATIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENTS IN AMINDEON BASIN (WESTERN MACEDONIA, GREECE)

Author(s): Giagkoulis, Tryfon (Institute of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bern)

Presentation Format: Oral

The fragmentary view of the prehistoric habitation in Amindeon Basin has changed rapidly the last few years due to the preventive archaeological work of Florina Ephorate of Antiquities (Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports), imposed by the intensified mining activities at Amindeon Lignite Mining Zone. The Rescue Excavations Project was initially focused on the survey and trial trenching of an area of approximately 550 hectares, an endeavor that resulted the discovery of 54 new archaeological sites dating from prehistoric times to late antiquity.

The dominant presence of the basin's four lakes constituted one distinctive natural setting, in which the Neolithic and Bronze Age inhabitants performed their socioeconomic and ideological activities. However, beyond the "strategic" decision of the local communities to operate diachronically in a wetland environment, the specific locations chosen for the establishment of the occupations show recordable diversity in respect to their spatial relationship to water. Consequently, the shift of structures, people, livestock and activities from water- to landscapes and vice versa necessitates some focused reconsideration of the characterizations "lakeshore", "lakeside" or "dry-land" which are frequently used to describe the prehistoric settlements discovered in Amindeon Basin.

In order to approach this issue, some of the results emerged from the rescue excavations of the prehistoric settlements Anarghiri IXa, IXb and XI will be presented. The information regarding their location at the surroundings of Lake Chimaditis, their spatial proximity, dating and diachronic development form the general framework for their first-level integration into the local environmental and sociocultural context. Moreover, the architectural remains and especially the accessing and enclosing works unearthed at the periphery of the settlements offer - due to their size, structural attributes and spatial arrangement - intriguing evidence regarding the spatiotemporal interactions of the local prehistoric communities in the fluid water- and landscapes of Amindeon Basin.

10 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WATERSCAPES AND NURAGIC COMMUNITIES IN PROTOHISTORIC SARDINIA

Author(s): Pisanu, Laura (University of Cagliari) - Hitchcock, Louise (University of Melbourne) - Cicilloni, Riccardo (University of Cagliari)

Presentation Format: Oral

This paper investigates the role of waterscapes as unifying elements in the cultural and economic relationships between the sites of Sinis and Montiferru in Western Sardinia. The Banatou site, whose oldest habitation dates to the Late Bronze age (X-IX B. C.), is near the stream of Riu Maistu Impera which rises in Montiferru and flows into the Cabras lagoon. Sinis' wetlands formation and maintenance depends in part on Montiferru's watershed. We suggest that the Rio Maistu Impera could be the link to understanding the purpose of the Nuragic cultures around the Late Bronze Age village and funerary areas at Banatou and the famous funerary site at Monte Prama characterized by Nuragic statues. This paper will seek to better clarify the nature of the link between these sites through an analysis of the waterscapes and architectural evidence that connect them.

Known for the unique similarity to Monte Prama's statuary, Banatou may have been the site of burials of these heroic figures of the Early Iron Age, based on the coexistence of a sculpted element in the form of a limestone human head found along with a large number of limestone and sandstone slabs. The monumentalization of the funerary space wasn't new for the Montiferru Nuragic communities as seen to the north of Banatou, in the localities of Procus, Funtana Pira and Caratzu. There were discovered Neolithic rock carved tombs, dolmen, allées couvertes and seven giants' tombs built at distances between 100 and 200 metres apart. It will be argued that the proximity and waterscape connectivity of these built features created a monumental funerary landscape, without comparison in the Nuragic period (XVII-XII B. C.). After the Late Bronze Age this funerary area was no longer used and we suggest that its role might have been continued by the site at Banatou.

11 WATER MANAGEMENT AS A MARKER OF LANDSCAPE CHANGES IN MEDIEVAL SOCIETY. METHODOLOGY AND CASE STUDIES

Author(s): Giannini, Nicoletta (Università Roma Tor Vergata)

Presentation Format: Oral

The present paper aims at showing how the analysis of hydraulic infrastructure in relation to the urban or rural society managing it may constitute a relevant marker of landscape transformations, if combined with other archaeological markers. For this purpose three case studies with different dating and settlement patterns will be introduced: the city of Albano (Rome, Italy), one of the most ancient seats of diocese in Italy, which shows a close relationship between preexisting hydraulic infrastructure and the

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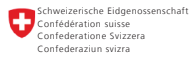
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