ATHENS AND ATTICA (PREHISTORIC TO ROMAN)
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The publication in 2010 of an *Archaiologikon Deltion* volume serving up four years of archaeological reports for Athens and Attica (2001–2004) has provided much to digest both in terms of quantity of data and in the happy coincidence that these years contain some of the largest scale excavations in recent decades, ahead of the building of the New Acropolis Museum, a large series of works for new Metro stations in the city, the extension of the Attiki Odos and works related to several of the 2004 Olympic facilities.

Asty and Piraeus

Several newspapers in 2010 enthusiastically announced the removal of sections of scaffolding from the Acropolis skyline. The restoration of the *Temple of Athena Nike* was completed, the structure now back on its bastion being a full metre taller than previously. At the *Propylaia*, restoration of the ceiling of the east portico was completed by the addition of members of the entablature and the two last ceiling beams, enabling the visitor to see parts of the elaborate coffered ceiling from below. Restoration of the *Parthenon*’s north side was finished, and the project now moves to the west side of the monument and the removal of metope blocks still *in situ*.

The *New Acropolis Museum* celebrated its second birthday in June 2011, while work continued to consolidate and open up for display the excavations underneath the building, allowing visitors to look down from viewing platforms and through glass floors into this area rich in ancient habitation. The 2001–2004 seasons of excavations at this site are reported in *ADelt* (see earlier reports in *AR* 52 [2005–2006] 8; *AR* 56 [2009–2010] 4–6). In the southwest section of the plot (the area of the demolished properties on Hatzichristou Street), discoveries included the western continuation of Road I and its junction with Road II, at which lies a new multi-phase building (House Θ) founded towards the end of the fifth century BC, which contains a well-preserved *andron* with a mosaic floor of marble and pebbles in separated panels (*Figs. 38, 39*). The house remained in use over a long period and underwent many repairs and alterations. In the Hellenistic period, a workshop established in the courtyard was probably a fullery or washer. In the second century AD the house was extended towards the east. Its rooms were arranged around an interior courtyard with a floor of marble gravel. The final destruction came at the end of the third century AD.

In the south and southeast sections of the plot, fragmentary remains were removed for the construction of the basements of the museum, including the surfaces of the ancient Road III, in use from the end of the fourth century BC until the end of the third century AD, while a section of the ancient Road I is dated to the end of the fifth century BC. Removal of the remains of the Roman House A enabled exploration of the preceding marble-worker’s shop from the first century BC to the first century AD. This was primarily an outdoor establishment with a few sheltered areas to the south. Among the layers of chips and marble dust was a considerable number of fragments of half-worked sculptures and pottery (*Fig. 40*), as well as a large number of lead sheets, probably from tools. Further south was a pit for casting bronze statues, with the remains of a clay mould used for successive castings *in situ* (*Fig. 41*). Further excavation of the bedrock in this area revealed 20 ancient wells and nine cisterns of various periods.

The continuing excavations of the *Athenian Agora* are illuminating much-neglected periods of the city’s history. John Camp reports on the 2010 season. In *Section BΘ*, exploration continued of the Byzantine, Frankish and Ottoman levels which covered the Classical remains after their abandonment in the sixth century AD. At the west, numerous animal bones were recovered, many...
from large animals. The pit, which also contained quantities of lime, seems to date from the 15th–16th century AD and was outside the town limits at that time. The occasion of this large deposit is not clear, though the rarity of butchery marks make it unlikely that it represents the simple disposal of animals slaughtered for food. Lower in this same area, a scatter of about three dozen 13th-century Frankish bronze coins date soon after the Frankish capture of Athens in 1207.

To the east lay more walls of the Byzantine settlement which developed in this area in the 10th–11th century.

The general sequence of later remains in this area is now clear: this is the edge of the city, and, depending on its fortunes, Athens expanded or contracted across the area of the excavations. In the seventh to ninth century AD, the area was largely abandoned, with the town clustered around the base of the Acropolis, east of the Stoa of Attalos and within the limits of the post-Herulian wall. When life in the Byzantine world improved in the 10th–12th century, the town expanded out this far and the area was densely inhabited, as indicated by the walls of numerous rooms, the many pithoi and other provisions for storage suggesting a fully urban settlement, and the construction of small churches nearby. With the arrival of the Franks in the 13th century, the area was abandoned once again and used as a dumping ground, hence the large deposits of very fragmentary glazed pottery of the 13th and 14th centuries. The use of the area as a dump continued with the arrival of the Ottomans in the mid 15th century, with the addition of the large deposit of animal bones. Pig bones suggest that the Greek residents of Athens contributed to the debris. From early drawings, it seems that the town expanded out to this area again in the 17th or 18th century, and the dumping ground was pushed further to the northwest.
When Edward Dodwell drew the town in 1805, the area is shown covered with houses and the dump (two large mounds labelled stakthiki, i.e. ash heaps) is shown outside the city wall built in 1778, in the area of the present Kerameikos.

In the Classical Agora, perhaps the most important investigations conducted by the American excavators in recent years have been in the area of the Stoa Poikile. The west end of the building was identified in 1981 (AR 28 [1981–1982] 7–10) and the first glimpse of a stretch of its back wall was revealed in 2007 (AR 56 [2009–2010] 3–4; 55 [2008–2009] 3–5). In Section BH (Fig. 42) clearance of the late fill overlying the east end of the Stoa continued in 2010, much of which was deposited when the back wall was robbed out. Soft dark earth removed in the line of the wall produced pottery as late as the 10th century AD. A cross-section of the foundations was exposed (Fig. 43).

The orthostates rest on a broad euthynteria 0.92m wide and 0.255m thick, which in turn rests on a foundation of squared blocks set side by side longitudinally, creating a course ca. 1.17m wide x 0.38m high. The bottom course of foundations was formed of blocks 1.2m (ca. 4 ancient feet) long, set as headers. No dowel holes have been recognized. The blocks are all of soft limestone. An intact lamp decorated with a cross indicates the use of the building at least into the fifth century AD. Also recovered were fragments of the terracotta aqueduct which runs along the back wall of the Stoa, believed to be that built by Kimon to bring water out to the grove of the Academy (Plutarch Life of Kimon 13). Two Byzantine wells inside the building were left largely undug for the present.

Section BZ (Figs. 44, 45) lies north of the west end of the Stoa Poikile and just east of a north-south road leading out of the Agora square. Throughout antiquity (fifth century BC to fifth century AD), this street was lined along its eastern side by a series of shops. Excavation was conducted in the northern parts of the Classical commercial building to clarify its plan and complex building history. Levels which preceded the building’s construction late in the fifth century BC were encountered. Below the floor in Room 6 were several dozen ostraka, most cast against Xanthippos, son of Arriphron (father of Perikles), who was exiled in 484/483 BC, though Lysimachos and Habron are also represented.

In the north scarp of the goat-horn pit in Section BY, a large sculpted fragment of marble, measuring up to 0.75m on a side, began to be uncovered (Fig. 46). The block requires further study, but it clearly depicts a pile of military equipment and served as the base for a trophy or a statue. So far, four or five shields (one with a relief club device), part of a cuirass and the handle of a sword are identified. Several parallels are known from Delos, including shields decorated with clubs, associated with the Macedonian dynasty established after the death of Alexander the Great. This block, too, should probably date to the Hellenistic period (323–146 BC). The weaponry presumably indicates a military victory, but it remains to be seen which dynasty or general occupied the base. Anathyrosis at the back, if original, suggests that the block may be part of a larger monument, perhaps therefore a trophy rather than a statue. Its large size and excellent preservation suggest that it had not travelled far and it may well originally have been set up immediately in front of the Stoa Poikile (a favoured place for the display of military success).
Within the proteichisma and inside the boundaries of the excavation were parts of the fourth-century road which ran around the city above the walls, connecting the various suburbs. In its surface were wheel ruts 1.44m apart. Below the Roman fill were five road layers dating to the fourth century BC. The road was destroyed and essentially removed by two struts of the proteichisma which probably belong to the period of repair. The proteichisma was converted during the reign of Valerian into a wall ca. 3m wide, defined to the north by the same proteichisma and to the south by a wall of conglomerate blocks. The space between the walls was filled with stones, tiles, large marble architectural members, as well as fragments of an epistle, part of a third-century BC inscribed funerary table and a fifth-century casualty list with 80 names of the tribe Erechtheis (Fig. 48). A small part of the Valerian wall was revealed, continuing to the east.

At Lebesi Street just west of the intersection with Iosiph ton Rogon (near to Theocharaki, Th 58 and 59), a 1.5m-long stretch of the eastern arm of the fourth-century BC fortification was revealed (Fig. 49). Built of rectangular cut conglomerate blocks, the wall was preserved to a height of three courses and oriented northeast-southwest.

At Adrianou 92 (Theocharaki, PH 18) a section of the north side of the post-Herulian walls was revealed, built in the final quarter of the third century AD. The wall is preserved to one course on its north face and four on its east, is oriented east-west and is built of massive limestone blocks with connecting mortar.

During the pedestrianization of Aiolou Street part of the west continuation of the ancient Athenian fortifications was revealed which had been investigated in 1973–1974 on the National Bank property at the junction of Aiolou and Sophokleos (Theocharaki, Th 27). All the elements of the fortification were present: the wall, its inner circuit road, the proteichisma, the ditch with its retaining walls and the outer circuit road. The wall was damaged by later building: only one course is preserved of three limestone rectangular blocks oriented east-west and founded in the schist bedrock. The inner circuit road was found parallel to and just north of the wall. Preserved to a length of 3.4m and a width of 8.6m, three road surfaces were found damaged by several pits and a well, with two Roman terracotta pipes and a robbed tomb in the top surface. The proteichisma, 3.38m long and preserved to five courses of conglomerate blocks founded in schist, lay 3.1m north of...
the wall. The ditch and its retaining wall lay 9.91–10.12m north of the proteichisma. Inside the ditch was a Late Roman cistern. The outer circuit road north of the ditch, and oriented east-west, was preserved to a length of 3.18m and a width of 2.37m. It was bounded to the south by a ditch, while the north retaining wall or bank was not found.

Part of a tower of the north arm of the Long Walls was discovered in properties at 131–133 and 137 Peiraios Street, together with remains of the road running along the outside of the wall. Seven courses are preserved to a height of 3m, the uppermost being a later Roman alteration when the monument was used as a foundation. North of the tower were remains of the road linking the city with the Piraeus.

In the plot at 137 a cemetery was excavated dating from the end of the fifth century BC with its main period of use in the fourth. One remarkable discovery was made of five katadesmoi in a grave pyre: four rolled lead sheets pierced with an iron nail and one folded.

At 105 Eleftherias Street remains of a tower from the first building phase of the south arm of the Long Walls were discovered. Only the foundation of the tower was preserved and one course of the stereobate. A further section of the south arm of the Long Walls (greatest length 23.1m, height 1.77–2.8m, width 4.8m) was excavated at 272–274 Thessalonikis Street, partially built into bedrock. Six courses were preserved and part of the stereobate as well as part of the mud-brick above.

In 2010 the Zea Harbour Project under B. Lovén and M. Møller Nielsen investigated the fortifications of the ancient harbour of Mounichia (Figs. 50, 51). The Northern Fortified Mole (M-FM1) has been mostly overbuilt and/or destroyed by modern harbour works, but a substantial section of the south mound of the Long Walls (greatest length 12.7m, height 1.77–2.8m, width 4.8m) was excavated at 49. Athens, Lebesi Street: part of the fourth-century fortification wall of the city. © Ministry of Culture and Tourism: 3rd EPCA.

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Survey dives on the northern side of Mounichia located the remains of a side wall and four colonnades of the Group 1 Shipsheds (M-G1), structures tentatively identified as the remains of at least six shipsheds belonging to M-G1. Large areas of worked bedrock, several architectural elements and an unidentified built structure (M-G1/U:1) were also found. The superstructures of these shipsheds extend at least 35m from the modern shoreline and to a depth of more than 2m. This area will be crucial for understanding sea-level change since antiquity, and thus the harbour-front topography of the ancient Piraeus.

Investigations in Zea harbour focused on the shipsheds and other ancient structures in Area 2. Extensive surface cleaning was conducted in the presumed area of the colonnade dividing Shipsheds 34 and 35, and two well-preserved, rock-cut colonnade foundations were found. The surface of a large built structure, believed to be the foundations of Shipsheds 30 and 31, was cleaned.

Excavations conducted by the Archaeological Service and reported in ADelt revealed several further remains of shipsheds. At 22 Aktis Koumoundourou Street, parts of four shipsheds at the harbour of Mounichia were investigated: three were complete along their width while one was almost destroyed to the west of the property. The structure consists of a continuous wall oriented east-west, parallel with the sea, and four parallel series of cubic bases (or their sub-structures) above which stood the colonnades which held up the wooden pitched roofs. Between these, a sloping stone krepidoma was built of stone slabs: this should extend a few metres into the sea for slipping the keel into the water.

The maximum preserved length of the shipsheds within the boundaries of the plot was 21.8m; the width between the column bases is around 5.3m. From a section of a column found nearby (diameter 0.54m), the inter-columnar spacing was around 5.45m. The shipsheds date to the fourth century BC and remained in use until the Roman period when they were probably destroyed by Sulla.

At Moutsopoulou Street (Zea harbour) the continuation of the shipsheds discovered by Dragatsi in 1885–1886 was revealed. One shipshed was investigated alongside a small part of another which formed its pair. From two preserved column bases the width can be estimated at 5.1m.
A section of the Piraeus fortifications was excavated at 2–4 Vasileos Pavlou Street in an area between the Zea harbour and Mounichia where early topographers had traced the circuit. The wall (length 14.5m and width 3.25m) follows the edge of the rock of Kastella Hill and was made of stone blocks on the outer faces filled with smaller stones.

Investigation of the area to the southeast revealed a cluster of 13 bases of dedicatory stelai, sculptures and fragments of votives, including part of an inscribed dedication to Asklepios, replicas of affected body parts (mainly from young boys and girls), a headless statue of a young girl of the fourth century BC holding a goose, and fragments of a votive relief.

**Metro excavations**

The large number and depth of the trenches sunk for the various stations, tunnels and ventilation shafts necessary for the extension to the Metro lines in Athens has illuminated many periods of city life. At 2–4 Areos Street, excavations for the Monastiraki station, begun in 1997, uncovered an Early Christian complex of four rooms and storage silos. A potter’s kiln and a pit coated with clay and showing signs of burning indicate the existence of a workshop in the complex. The kiln fill dates the abandonment of the workshop to the sixth century AD. Built into the wall of the complex, in secondary use, was the base of a Classical sculpture with the signature of Praxiteles: Ἴρεαν Δήμητρος καὶ[ι] Κόρην μετὰ Χαίρετου Φιλόφρονος Κηρσίεως Ι οί άδελφοι Ἀριστόδημος, Φιλόφρων Ι Φιλόφρονος Κηρσίεις Ι Πραξιτέλης ἐποίησε.

Building remains of the Early to Late Byzantine periods were found throughout the western part of the excavation. Several silos and pithoi suggest storage areas, one of which contained stacked cakes of raw clay, indicative perhaps of a pottery workshop, thus supporting the view that industrial activity in this area continued throughout the Late Byzantine period. A significant number of (mostly Roman) channels and wells served to supply and drain water, as well as meeting the needs of the workshops throughout Antiquity. During removal of these remains, six Late Mycenaean tombs were discovered, two of which yielded LHIIIB grave goods.

From September 1999 to October 2002 excavations at a depth of 20–30m for the tunnel linking Syntagma and Asomaton Squares revealed 120 wells, many filled with antiquities, mostly dating to the Roman, Late Roman and Byzantine periods. The opening of so many wells in this area indicates the exploitation of groundwater from the Eridanos river. In Syntagma Square, a branch of the Peisistratid aqueduct was found cut deep into the rock, consisting of 21 sections of terracotta pipe with cleaning holes, linked with lead and decorated with black bands (Fig. 53). To the east, another branch of the same aqueduct (consisting of three pipe sections) joined it in a T-junction. Between 1997 and 2005 excavations were undertaken for the stations and ventilation shafts of the west extension of Line 3. For the ‘Theseio’ shaft, an area of 70m² was investigated between the south side of Ermou Street and the archaeological site of the Kerameikos. At a depth of 6.8m lay house and workshop remains. In the area of the Spyrou Patsi shaft (near the road of the same name and just south of the Sacred Way), was part of one of the many roadside cemeteries along the Sacred Way. The 23 tombs excavated comprised five sarcophagi, seven tile graves, three larnakes, a pyre and seven pit graves, the only finds being a few bones, pieces of strigil and a bronze mirror. An important find was an unlooted larnax containing two pyxides, two alabastroid lekythoi and a black-glazed skyphos, all of the end of the fifth century BC. Other finds from the cemetery date to the end of the fifth and the fourth centuries BC.

In the area of the Geoponikis shaft to the west, a 9.3m-long stretch of the ancient Sacred Way ran east-west, parallel to and a short distance south of the modern road. Its north retaining wall (in various phases) was preserved together with at least eight corresponding road layers of the Classical to Late Roman periods. Submycenaean to Archaic pottery was found in a section below the foundation of the lowest retaining wall. The discovery of the road led to the resiting of the shaft further to the north.

Fills in the area from the Prophitis Daniel shaft until the bridge over the modern Kephisos are very substantial, as observed in previous excavations, this being the wider area of the Kephisos river found in various places east of its present bed. Excavation here revealed part of the ancient Sacred Way and an offering deposit (Fig. 54). At a depth of 2.9m was a wall (12.3m long and 0.5–0.6m wide) oriented east-west, with three building phases. A 10m-
The long stretch of the Sacred Way was found, running west-east. No building remains were found to the north of the retaining wall. The river bed was encountered here at a depth of 5.5m, and at 5.76–6.02m two successive road layers contained Geometric sherds. It is believed that this is the Sacred Way of the Geometric period, which was destroyed by flooding and moved further south.

At the west side of the trench the road was disturbed by a deposit ca. 3m in diameter, containing roof tiles, two heads of Archaic figurines and many Eleusinian kernoi. The kernoi are specifically related to the worship of Demeter, and this may therefore be a sanctuary deposit (noting that Pausanias [1.37.2] mentions a sanctuary of Demeter and Kore, Athena and Poseidon in this area). Finds date from the Archaic to Late Roman periods.

At Eliaionas Station (1200m²) remains of workshops and part of a cemetery were revealed. Sporadic finds of furnace materials (clay, bronze and lead) and the presence of hearths and fire pits suggest the use of the area as a workshop in the Hellenistic period.

In the area of the station entrance, part of a Hellenistic cemetery was found with 14 tombs, mostly cist graves, two of which were built of marble funerary stelae in secondary use, while the remainder were simple pits without goods.

At the eastern ventilation shaft of the station, at a depth of 6.5m, were three stanchions of the bridge over the ancient Kephisos, composed of three series of rectangular marly limestone blocks preserved to a height of four courses.

Excavation of the west ventilation shaft a few metres further west, revealed a possible peribolos (walls of river stones and limestone slabs in secondary use). Parts of large pithoi were found, a circular tile construction in Area 1 and some pit pyres, perhaps from a workshop. North of this, the Sacred Way ran east-west for 15m (with a maximum width of 4.5m).

At the Knosou shaft, a short distance from the west shaft, deposits of the Kephisos river were found, plus part of the prehistoric Sacred Way which was abandoned in the Geometric period and moved further south.

**Cemeteries**

During excavation of a 331m² property at Diamantopoulou 10, an important part of the Classical core of the Kynosarges cemetery was revealed, comprising 159 tombs near to the large Roman building known as the Hadrianic Gymnasium. Apart from a few Early Helladic sherds, the oldest burial is a Geometric enchrytrismos in an amphora (T21). Many tombs date around the middle of the sixth century, but the use of the cemetery peaked in the fifth and fourth centuries BC (Fig. 55). The burial customs and the types of graves are identical with those of other, better known Athenian cemeteries: deep pits dug into schist, limestone sarcophagi, covered tile graves, pyres (some free, others in pits), small clay larnakes with lids for child burials, enchrytrismoi, etc. In the Hellenistic and Roman periods the number of graves declines, while the latest tombs date around the first to second century AD.

An intact horos of the fifth century BC (1.05m high) inscribed Ἐκάτον Ἀρμείον indicates the presence in the area of a sanctuary.

One tomb, ‘the tomb with the offering trench’, was an elongated narrow trench containing a dense accumulation of pottery showing signs of burning. It was disturbed in the second century BC by the simple burial T31 almost at its centre. Red-figure pottery includes: two type 1 lebetes gamikoi and two other smaller type 2 examples; two large hydriae; a pyxis with depictions of the nine Muses, each named (Fig. 56), and a smaller pyxis with a funerary scene. Among many fragments of white lekythoi was one with a standing female figure by a funerary stele. Black-glaze pottery included a large kylix; a Corinthian type A skyphos; two lekythoid aryballoi; four black-glazed phialae and two lekanes with lids.

Small finds include two small identical bone studs, two bone rings and a black-glazed pyramidal loomweight.
The mound adjacent to the offering pit was made of river stones and material probably from a tomb or tombs. On the surface was a small marble lion (preserved height 0.47, length 0.48m), as well as a pair of standing naked lead figures (0.12m high) inscribed on the chest of the male Σημάδης καταθέται, and of the female Μυννώ καταθέται.

The many finds from the cemetery include tens of lekythoi of the workshop of the Megaira Painter; nine lead katadesmoi folded and pierced with nails; five or six Early Classical standing female figurines; the bronze panelling of a box; and gold leaf, probably from a funerary wreath.

Within the primarily Late Roman cemetery of Kynosarges, which spread east of the city, excavations at Paraskevopoulou Street revealed 47 Late Hellenistic to Early Christian tombs comprising two Hellenistic rock-cut graves, nine Late Roman built cist graves, an enchytrismos, two Late Roman tile graves (without goods), 20 vaulted tombs with brick arches and plaster inside, and four grave complexes containing 13 urns.

The built cists develop to the west part of the plot and are densely laid out. Most are of unworked stones and brick with mortar, but tombs 27 and 13 were built of stone slabs. They are variously oriented either west-east or north-south: most contained single burials but there were instances of multiple burials.

The grave complexes were large rectangular structures, separated inside into individual rectangular parallel graves covered with stone or marble slabs (some in secondary use). Many graves held multiple burials (tomb 35 looks like an ossuary) and must have been used probably by the same family for many years. The dead were laid supine with head always to the west. Goods included pottery (unguentaria and oinochoae) unpainted or decorated with stripes, lamps, jewellery (bronze buckles and a cross) and bronze coins, but the majority of burials were without goods. One fifth-century AD lamp was inscribed ΣΩΤΗΡΙΑΣ.

Seventeen further tombs of the Late Roman cemetery in the area of Kynosarges were investigated at 16 Vourvachi Street. The graves were oriented east-west following Christian custom; all date to the fourth to early sixth century AD. Only two contained grave goods, notably tomb 8, a vaulted cist tomb with an oinochoe, glass beads and remains of gold around the head of the deceased. Tomb 10 contained a stele inscribed ΚΟΙΜΗΤΗΡΙΟΝ ΘΕΟΔΡΟΥ.

At Diamantopoulou 1, substantial foundations were discovered of a further section of the associated large Roman building (restored dimensions 80 x 60m) investigated by the British School at Athens in 1886–1887 and in 1970 by Travlos, and thought to be the Hadrianic Gymnasium of Kynosarges (Figs. 57, 58).

In 2002–2003 excavation to the northwest of the archaeological site of the Kerameikos at 85–87 Peiraios Street uncovered the continuation of the road from the Dipylon to the Academy, dating from the Classical period to the sixth century AD. During the Late Roman to Early Byzantine period it was 2.5–3m wide, but its width in earlier periods could not be determined in the excavated area. A roadside cemetery of the sixth to seventh century AD is related to the Justinianic or post-Justinianic phase of the Kerameikos. Its establishment in the sixth century is connected with the Justinianic phase during which a new fortification was built on the remains of the Themistoklean wall. The cemetery thus belongs to the last period in the history of the Kerameikos.

Excavation revealed a total of 20 vaulted tombs in clusters of three to four, with their narrow sides at the road. Goods were simple: small undecorated prochoes and a few metal finds (two spoons and a buckle). The tombs contained graves of men, women and children together. The absence of Christian symbols, the indication that the dead were placed in sacks sewn with iron needles then found in situ by the skull and the buckle type suggest that the graves may be related to the first foray of the Slavs into Athens around AD 580.
Road network
Two important volumes edited by M. Korres have appeared in recent years: Αττικής Οδοί: Αρχαίοι Δρόμοι της Αττικής (Athens 2009); and Οι Πρώτοι Χάρτες της Πόλεως των Αθηνών (Athens 2010), both produced in conjunction with the Attiki Odos.

Among the mass of new evidence for the road network of the city should be noted: at the Junction of Serron 2, Konstantinoupolos and Platonos a section of an ancient road (11.5m long, 4.75m wide) oriented northeast-southwest and roadside cemetery built in the fourth century BC with strong retaining walls and rebuilt at the end of the second century. It must be associated with the ancient road of the Demosion Sema (to which it runs perpendicular) which leads from the Dipylon to the Academy and has been found at various points in this area (including at a location just west of this plot, below the surface of Serron Street). The road found at Serron 2 is probably a secondary route linking the road to the Academy to the east with that to the Hippios Kolonos. If the same road continues to the west, it probably links the main artery to the road from the Sacred Gate to the Academy, and then to the Sacred Way, thus joining the three main routes of the southwest section of ancient Athens.

Two sections of ancient roads, a Late Archaic to Late Hellenistic cemetery and workshop remains of the fourth century BC were revealed at the Junction of Ag. Asomaton, Psaromiligkou and K. Samuel Streets in 1999–2003, 300m north of the archaeological site of the Kerameikos (Fig. 59). To the west of the plot, towards Ag. Asomaton Street, road 1 (20.5m long, 2.7–3.4m wide) led north-south. It is dated stratigraphically from the Early Classical to the Roman period.

At the southeast part of the excavation, a 21.6m-long stretch of a main arterial route from the Eriai Gate to Hippios Kolonos led northwest-southeast. A cemetery to the east of the road contained a peribolos of limestone blocks and a burial platform to its north of red limestone blocks to a height of five courses. To the east of these were 33 tombs, mostly pyres but also one marble cist grave, three pit graves, two covered, one with built sides, and a mound, dating from the early fifth century to the middle of the second century BC. The oldest phase of the cemetery is linked with a burial mound (2.22m high, 5.4m wide, with nine courses of mud-brick surrounding the tomb) which continues east below K. Samuel Street. This was disturbed around 450 BC by two pyres (T30, T33) in the northwest part of the mound. T29 was built of mud-brick and contained lekythoi of the Beldam type. To the east of the road were 14 Hellenistic graves (300–150BC).

In the southeast of the excavation area was the north external wall of a Classical structure, much of which had previously been discovered below Psaromiligkou Street. The masonry is the irregular polygonal characteristic of the fourth century BC.

Southwest of road 2, were two Late Roman walls, into one of which a marble head of Caracalla was built. An industrial area lay between the two roads, with many pits cut into the bedrock. One rock-cut well contained Panathenaic amphora sherds of the end of the fourth century BC. The foundations of a second-century AD grave platform were revealed in the north of the trench.

A road was revealed outside the north arm of the Long Walls at the Junction of Peiraios and Kastanitis Streets (Kamina). This appears to be the road mentioned by ancient sources as the main arterial road linking the city of Athens with the Piraeus. A section of the road outside the north arm of the Long Walls was found at the Junction of 83 Peiraios and Kastanitis Streets, which had been found in the property of the National Bank on the opposite corner.

Attiki Odos
Excavations for the southern extension of the Attiki Odos brought to light many areas of archaeological interest around Koropi. We note in particular the finding of pieces of Early Helladic litharge, some of the earliest evidence in Greece for silver smelting. By the ruins of the Church of Ag. Andreas, next to the east side of the bridge of the Markopoulos junction, an Early Helladic wall ran north-south. At the plot of the Lidl property and Chatzi Street study continued of the south of an EII building, and 25m south of this were parts of an EII building with a south wall built in herringbone style. A large number of important finds were made, including EHI and ECycI pottery, a terracotta head of a bull in brown Urfinis and remains of metal-working which included some bowl-shaped litharge with a series of small indentations on the bottom. Similar litharge was found during excavations at Keratea, Velatouri Hill, where excavation in the prehistoric settlement was undertaken to assess the transition from Early Helladic to Middle Helladic, and in particular to ascertain the existence and character of the controversial (for Attica) EHIII period (2300–2000 BC). A trench in the south side of the summit produced Middle Helladic pottery with only a thin layer with Early Helladic sherds above stereo. Pottery included matt-painted and Minyan wares.

59. Athens, junction of Ag. Asomaton, Psaromiligkou, and K. Samuel Streets: excavated area around two roads, a cemetery and workshop. © Ministry of Culture and Tourism: 3rd EPCA.
At Porto Raphiti, Skyrou Street, a Mycenaean chamber tomb was found with its dromos destroyed but clearly oriented southwest-northeast. Bones were recovered near the entrance and a small pit to the west, covered with three slabs, contained the bones of an infant. The dead were accompanied by 14 pots.

Three and a half metres to the west of the first tomb was another chamber tomb with the dromos oriented southwest-northeast and 3.8m long. The entrance was closed by a wall of rough stones. The deceased was accompanied by 11 pots and an animal figurine. At the end of the fifth century, tile graves were dug above the chamber and dromos, containing aryballoid lekythoi.

The finds from the Mycenaean tombs date to LHIIIC, the period of the cemetery of Perati. The Classical graves belong to a previously known cemetery with scattered graves to the southeast along Athinon Avenue.

During the widening of Varis-Koropiou Avenue at Lambríka excavation continued in the Early Helladic settlement. On the south side of the avenue the northern continuation of the ditches from the Vardaláchaki plot was found, and to the north of the Apostolidi plot a small EHI house. Slightly to the west, another large artificial ditch was used to collect rain water.

On the north side of the avenue was part of a metal-working facility for silver and lead: dating to EHI, this is the oldest discovered in the Aegean. It consists of a series of pits and two series of small cavities, filled with hundreds of pieces of bowl-shaped litharge with 10 small indentations on the bottom (Fig. 60).

Olympic works

Merenda

Perhaps the most wide ranging excavations to take place as part of the preparations for the Olympic Games were the works for the **New Olympic Hippodrome** completed in 2003 at Merenda (for the Classical deme of Myrrinous; see E.P Vivliodetis, *O δήμος του Μυρρινούστος: η οργάνωσή και η ιστορία του* [Athens 2007]; Fig. 61). Reports have been selected and merged by site and arranged approximately by period.

**Site 12.** To the west of the Hippodrome complex were the remains of a small Early Neolithic settlement (ca. 6000 BC) over an area of ca. 2500m². Small timber-framed huts were found, some with stone foundations, thatched and with mud-plaster. At the southwest side were remains of a peribolos of woven wood fencing. Four schematic figurines of seated figures were collected.

The area around the settlement contained pits probably for water collection, as well as a pit dwelling which from the matt-painted and incised pottery dates to the Late Neolithic period (mid fifth millennium BC).

**Site 13.** At the top of a small hill in the northern part of the complex was a small settlement of the end of the Neolithic to EHIII, comprising five clusters of dug-out chambers (Figs. 62, 63). Those that had not collapsed continued in use into EHIII. Important metallurgic finds included bronze slag, litharge and a lead clamp (the oldest lead object from eastern Attica).

At **Site 4,** in an area where a Mycenaean chamber tomb had previously been found, were remains of a building, four bull figurines and Middle Helladic sherds. Just to the west of the Mycenaean remains was a small circular EHII building, perhaps a workshop for stone tools.

**Site 28.** On the slope of the hill to the northeast of the plain of Merenda was a Mycenaean cemetery with five small chamber tombs with long dromoi and chambers ca. 2.5m in diameter, dating to the LHIIC period.

**Site 26.** At the southern boundary of the complex, 120m east of the Geometric cemetery along a farm road running east-northeast, was another Geometric to Classical cemetery. Outside the fenced area were five Geometric tombs, pit or cist graves containing 72 offerings of which 67 were pots. Immediately to the north of the Geometric tombs were Archaic cremations, and north again a large funerary peribolos and an exedra. As indicated by an inscribed marble funerary lekythos, the peribolos belongs to a previously unknown family of Myrrinous, that of Eukles and Ischyrios (Fig. 64).

**Site 5.** The eastern cemetery consisted of eight cist graves cut into the rock and four cremations. Within one of the cuttings were two bronze urns. Pottery dated from the second half of the fifth century to the beginning of the fourth.

**Site 11.** Approximately 200m northeast of the cemetery in which the Pharíklea kore was found in 1972 was a large cemetery of the eighth to the fourth century BC. Sixty two tombs were found, mostly pyres and *enchytrismoi* with much Geometric and Archaic pottery, and an offering table with representations of fantastic animals (Fig. 65).

**Site 8.** To a small Classical building with a stoa was added a large Hellenistic hall to the east and a stoa on the south side, and in the Roman period a workshop area. From the form of the building and the finds (a lead weight of ⅛ of a stater and a bronze public voting ballot) this seems to be a small public building.
In a large cemetery immediately northeast of that in which the statue of Phrasikleia was found, lay a building complex and a farm complex. One Late Neolithic and one Early Bronze Age house were uncovered to the west of them.

**Site 9.** Immediately to the west of Site 5 was a small sanctuary with a rectangular peribolos (33 x 26m) of limestone blocks. A schist slab was inscribed with the name NANNION. At the same depth as the peribolos was a three-roomed building above a layer with Early Geometric to Geometric pottery.
To the right of the entrance, by the east wall of the peribolos, was a small bath with two built tubs. To the north were the remains of two rooms, one of which (to the south) contained many pots and a small bothros. The remaining area outside the peribolos was a tree-lined garden with a small rock-cut cistern, with many amphora and kantharos sherds, perhaps a small shrine to Aphrodite.

Site 15. Some 250m from the Sanctuary of Aphrodite, a small road ran from the southeast ancient road to the north to a large elliptical peribolos of large stones. By the entrance was a circular pit with Middle Helladic pottery, prochoes and parts of two polishers, while in a large pit in the middle of the peribolos was a small Late Geometric cup. Sherds from this area are mostly Geometric and Late Classical in date, with some Mycenaean. These findings suggest that the peribolos is a temenos, perhaps linked to a dedicatory inscription to Apollo found in Merenda.

Site 16. Towards the middle of the Olympic complex, the stereobate of a large building (20 x 10m) of limestone blocks probably belonged to a temple. The only surviving architectural member was a marble sima. Archaic lamps and pottery and few Late Roman lamps were recovered.

Site 23. From the west side of the north road and 70m south of the periboloi of the north cemetery begins a small road leading to a small sanctuary with a rectangular peribolos and monumental door. At the northeast corner of the peribolos are the remains of a small building with two small bases, and rooms at the west and the south sides. A few loomweights were found with the bases.

Outside the west side of the peribolos was a well, from which was recovered a high base with a dedicatory inscription: ΞΕΝΟΦΩΝ ΙΕΡΕΥΣ ΑΝΕΘΗΚΕ ΠΑΙΣ ΦΙΛΟΣΕΝΟ ΜΝΗΜΕΩΝ ΑΥΤΟΥ ΚΑΜΕ ΦΡΑΤΡΙΩ ΑΙ. The sanctuary is therefore probably dedicated to Zeus Phratrios.

Site 24. A small square building with a floor of clay tiles was investigated. Nine steps are preserved in the east side. In the interior were many marble architectural members: two arched epistyles, parts of an unfluted column and pilasters, two capitals with palmettes and Corinthian capitals, which date to the first to second century AD. Also a marble winch beam of a well inscribed: ΤΗΝ ΚΡΗΝΗΝ ΠΟΙ(Η)ΣΑΣ [---] ΚΑΙ ΤΟ ΠΕΡΙΣΤΟΜΙΟΝ [---]. This seems to be of the second century AD and probably belonged to a well supplying water for the nearby sanctuary.

Site 30. A large ancient road found at the east side of the complex linked the demes of the south Mesogeia (Kephale, Potamioi, Thorikos) to those in the north (Philiades, Halai Araphinides, Araphina).

Marathon Excavations for the Olympic Rowing Facility at Marathon between 2001–2004 revealed the following.

The deepest levels are in a layer of red earth where the bottom of the marsh was in its initial dry phase. Remains of activity here included wooden structures and pits which pre-date the third millennium.

To the Early Helladic period date two pits and two houses (B1 and B2) along the east side of the trench, and another (Στ1) at the west side (Fig. 66).

At several points around the marsh were small stone soroi and animal bones with remains of burning – probably small outdoor hearths of various periods.

Three buildings were founded in a layer of peat which in this period was dry and stable enough to accommodate fixed installations. Large quantities of Geometric pottery were found at three points inside the peat, with Early Helladic in the lower levels. At the end of the Early Helladic period the area was flooded, but it must have dried again to support Geometric habitation, although no building remains were found.
The foundation of the two-roomed House B2 was preserved to two to three courses. Close by was a pit with EHII sherds in the bottom. North of house B2 was a large pit containing Early Helladic and Middle Helladic sherds above a layer with much Early Helladic (mostly EHII) pottery and some EHIII sherds in a cavity at the bottom.

The rectangular House B1 just south of B2, produced Early Helladic and Geometric sherds from the fill. Ceramics collected, including saucers and plates, large phialae or lekanes and some sauceboat fragments, date the use of the house to EHIII.

Other finds include stone tools, shells and a large number of cores, blades and chips of obsidian, as well as a greenstone pendant in the shape of a foot.

House 2τ was a rectangular, two-roomed Early Helladic dwelling along the west side of the lake. The upper courses of the walls were of mud-brick, in one wall in a herringbone pattern. Geometric to Late Classical sherds were recovered around the area.

Along the length of the road to Kato Souli, to the north of the marsh, was a cemetery of the Archaic period to the third century BC. Sixty one tombs were found along an ancient road which ran southwest-northeast parallel to the modern road. The majority was immediately below the surface.

Two hundred metres south of the first cemetery were a further 26 tombs, mostly enchytrismoi and cremations of the Late Geometric period to the fifth century. The majority were enchytrismoi in amphorae, pithoi, lekanes and hydriae (Figs. 67, 68).

Two hundred and forty metres south of the north edge of the lake lay the bases of two kilns, probably used for the firing of tiles and perhaps pithoi. Fill around them contained pottery of various periods from the Geometric to the Byzantine.

Near Kato Souli Street, 80m from the cemetery and the ancient road, part of a large Classical farm complex was excavated. Sixteen rooms were revealed, and to the north side the strong foundations of a square tower-like structure, which appears to belong to an earlier phase. Terracotta plates from olive presses were found, plus stone grinders, loomweights, lead weights, lead clamps, bronze arrowheads, iron and bronze nails, 90 coins (56 in a hoard) and two inscribed limestone slabs.

Pottery consisted of household wares, most undecorated, and many black-glazed sherds, also pithoi, amphorae, kantharoi, olpes, skyphoi, phialae and plates.

The complex was in use from the first half of the fourth until the beginning of the third century BC.
Rural sanctuaries
During works on Stavros-Eleusis Avenue at Hippioi Street in Charavgi (Acharnes), part of an ancient arterial road was revealed (165m long and 2.6–3.1m wide) running northwest-southeast (Fig. 69). The retaining walls were in place along almost the whole length, with at least three construction phases. Eight successive road surfaces were excavated, dating from the Classical to the Late Roman period, plus one of the early 20th century (Fig. 70). The continuation of the road was located further on, with three roadside buildings. A curved section of the eastern retaining wall abutted the northern wall of a single-roomed structure. The southern wall of this structure may be the pronaoi of a small roadside shrine enclosed by a peribolos, whose west wall was part of the east retaining wall of the road, while part of the south was found a short distance to the south of the sanctuary. The entrance to the sekos was at the east. The sanctuary dates to the Hellenistic period: inside it were six miniature cups, part of the neck of a lekythos with relief decoration of erotes and a clay disk with the face of a female figure. Beneath the south wall of the peribolos was a deposit containing nine kernoi, part of a plastic lekythos with the feet of a female figure (Fig. 71) and many fragments of domestic pottery, as well as Late Classical amphorae and cups and many miniature cups. This may be a sanctuary of Demeter.

East of Thivaidos Street, Kato Kiphisia were two small roadside shrines and other sacred areas within a peribolos, part of a Classical road and two Roman installations (a ceramic workshop and a private house). The main sanctuary to the south consisted of a small square room with an entrance to the east and walls of conglomerate blocks. In front of it were parts of three dedicatory inscriptions. One, dating to the fourth century BC, was an honorific deme decree for an unknown individual who had planted trees in the Sanctuary of Dionysos. Part of an epistyle of the funerary monument of Dionysios ([-] ΥΣΙΟΥ) was found east of the ancient road. Part of a life-size marble male figure found inside the naïskos perhaps belonged to the cult statue of Dionysos. Within the sanctuary was a piece of a marble arm of a female statue smaller than life size, terracotta figurines of enthroned females, part of a head of a cat, a dog, two bird figurines and a series of clay votive ears and horns of bulls, as well as ritual vessels, all dating from the mid fifth until the mid fourth century BC.
Very near the sanctuary to the north is a small area with an entrance at the east between pilasters. Figurines were recovered of birds and seated goddesses, a marble figurine of a woman, and an arm and torso of a marble female statuette, suggesting that this is a naiskos to Aphrodite. This sanctuary probably belonged to the deme of Upper Pergase.

**Farmsteads**

East of the Sanctuary of Dionysos, mentioned above, on Thivaidos Street, near to Seneca Street, a Late Roman farmhouse was revealed with a central rectangular courtyard and six rooms arranged on three sides. A large stoa opened off the south side: a short distance from the courtyard was the wall of an external peribolos. Room 1 on the eastern side contained a large pithos, parts of other storage vessels, a large number of bronze coins and many terracotta loomweights. Near the south peribolos was part of a marble mortgage horos of the fourth century BC (περαμένου ἐπὶ λύσει). The beneficiary was Andromenes of the deme Paionidai and the price was 4,000 drachmai (XXXX).

A rare instance of a residence preserved in Acharnes came to light in excavations around 1km north of the sanctuaries on Thivaidos Street to the west of
Monimatiou Street: a small farmhouse dating to the Early to Late Classical period with at least two (fifth- and fourth-century) phases. In the first phase the building was elliptical and contained lamps and animal bones. On top of this structure was a later room and a large courtyard to the west with a peribolos.

A large and rich Roman farmhouse was excavated at Ortansias and Paschalias Streets, with a central open courtyard, developed in successive building phases from the Early to Late Roman periods. The estate had its own pottery workshop with a kiln, storage areas, a honey production installation, and baths with hypocausts and warm and cold rooms.

The complex was destroyed in the fourth century AD and the area used as a Late Roman to Early Christian cemetery with burials in pots and pit graves. One grave contained a marble inscription: παραβι ηρωδι.

Finds from the house include domestic pottery, lamps, a marble weight, part of a terracotta relief plaque with the head of the god Hermes, Roman and Byzantine bronze coins, and an inscription on a headless Herm stele of the first to second century AD. This inscription is from the ancient deme of Pergasidai and mentions one of its citizens and some hydraulic works (συνδέων ὀφελομένων δὲ τῆς περιοχῆς). Another inscription among the building material of the house was a horos of the fourth century.

Within the peribolos wall to the northwest of the house was the tomb of a victorious pentathlete with pieces of a column krater of the beginning of the fifth century BC.

At 126 Dimokratias Avenue (Gerovouno, Acharnes) excavations for a side road of the Attiki Odos uncovered a Late Roman farmhouse with two wings immediately west of Dimokratias Avenue. Inside the eastern part of the house was an area with hearths and large storage pots. Near the north part of the west wall were two enchytrismoi inside an amphora. One room had a flight of stairs to an upper level.

At least two chronological phases could be observed from the construction of the walls: in the first phase the walls are built with irregular stones of small and medium size and lime mortar, while in the second phase they are wider and built with larger stones and less mortar (mainly on the insides). Both phases date to the Late Roman period (third to fifth century AD). The enchytrismoi are from the sixth century AD. Within and around the complex, 40 bronze coins were collected, plus many fragments of glass vessels, a column base, lamps, pithoi and two bread stamps with a cross design.

Megara

The detailed reports and plans of excavations conducted at Megara by the 3rd EPCA between 2001–2004 have done much to further our understanding of the topography of this ancient city (Fig. 72). Several sections of the city walls have been excavated: At 1 Thermopylon Street a stretch of the walls (15m long, 5.35m wide) running northwest-southeast was preserved at the euthynteria and the lowest course. The north and south faces were built of sandstone blocks, and the fill was of small stones and earth. The mudbrick which covered the eastern part of the walls was found in situ on the upper surface. Pottery dated to the end of the fourth century BC. At 21 Evpalinou a 15.9m-long section of the proteichisma was preserved to seven courses, built of blocks of grey limestone in the isodomic system. At the eastern side of the property and in contact with the outer north face of the proteichisma, a stairway of nine steps was preserved. The fill of the wall produced domestic pottery (amphorae, lekanes), while utilitarian closed vessels (an amphora, a black-glazed drinking vessel and black-glazed skyphos sherds) collected from the foundation ditch of the wall dated the construction to the second half of the fourth century BC. A further section of the proteichisma was revealed 78.5m away from this plot at 47 Evpalinou Street, oriented east-west and of greyish limestone isodomic masonry five courses high. At the north face of the west section of the wall was a flight of five steps. The fills contained Late Classical domestic pottery. A parallel wall in the same stone, 11.3m north of the proteichisma and preserved to three courses, appears to be a side wall probably of the same date.

North of the ancient city walls excavation on an unnamed road at Tachi north of Alepochoriou Street revealed 28 graves of a cemetery. All the burials were in sarcophagi of shelly limestone, the dead supine with hands parallel to the bodies and heads to the north. The graves were of three periods.

1. First half of the fifth century BC: grave 4, a child burial, contained a peplophoros figurine, the head of a female figure and parts of an egg; grave 6 contained the burial of two adults with a Corinthian kotyle, kylikes, a black-figure lekythos and a lekythos of the Cock Group; 20 contained an adult burial with a lekythos; 21 contained 21 pots including a black-figure lekythos with Amazons and Athena fighting the Giants, a lekythos with Dionysos and Ariadne and another of the Cock Group, Corinthian black-figure kotyles and a pyxis (Fig. 73).
(2) End of the third to the beginning of the second century BC: nine graves including grave 2, an adult burial with spindle-shaped unguentaria and pottery at the head, hands and pelvis, a small oinochoe and two unguentaria at the left foot and at the chest 17 gold olive leaves; grave 11, of two adults, with textile remains, 30 clay spindle-shaped unguentaria, a lead katadesmos, an iron strigil, a pitcher and a stamnos; grave 15, of a child, with 68 intact unguentaria and 22 gold olive leaves, of which 11 were at the chest and the remainder later collected with the bones.


Nine Archaic tombs were discovered in the northern part of the city at 12 Thiseos Street. Three (1, 5, 8) were cist graves with monolithic cover slabs, five (2, 3, 4, 6, 9) were sarcophagi and one (7) a pit grave: they were oriented either north-south (1, 4, 5, 6) or east-west (3, 7, 8, 9).

The tombs contained one to four burials, the deceased supine, arms bent at the elbows. The dead in those tombs oriented west-east had their heads to the east, while in those oriented north-south the heads were to the south (except in grave 1 where it was to the north). Sarcophagi 2, 3 and 6 contained child burials and the remainder adults, but sarcophagus 9 contained one adult and one child.

Graves 1, 4 and 6 had no goods, but other graves contained pottery (aryballoi, undecorated oinochoae, kotyliskoi and one-handled kyathoi), terracotta items (pyramid loomweights) and bronze objects (rings and pins) (Fig. 74).

Tomb 1, a cist grave of grey limestone with a monolithic cover, contained an adult with no goods, but the west long side of the tomb bore the inscription ΦΙΛΟΝΟΣ in letters 0.11–0.14m high, dating to the sixth century BC.