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Extensive Team Final Report, 2000

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Prior to the season, two goals for the Extensive Team were defined in the field manual. One was to perform a less intensive, but no less systematic form of survey in areas that were inaccessible to the DU teams or that were determined to be a lower priority for data collecting. Subordinate to this goal was the checking of areas highlighted by the "predictive model" or designated as problematic or high-probability areas. The method for collecting data was to be identical (identical forms, attention the GU boundaries, even, where possible, the same basic spacing principles) to that of the intensive survey teams, just covering a much narrower area. The Extensive Team would represent "thin probes" into unknown territory. The data collected by the Extensive Team would be comparable to that collected through intensive survey.

During the week prior to the season, these goals and methods underwent some refinement as the goals for the season emerged more clearly. Three better-defined objectives emerged. One, to do areas deemed too difficult for large DU teams to survey – particularly the area around the village of Kyras Vrysi, the slopes of Oneion south of the first DU s surveyed in 1999, and the eastern pass through Mt. Oneion. Two, the extensive team would set up geomorphic units for the DU teams north of the port of Kenchreai and assist J. Rife in his efforts to understand the historical topography of the area. Finally, there was some discussion of locating, describing, and identifying features in the trans-Oneion area for survey during the 2001 season. There was no well-defined set of priorities to these objectives, except that the defining of GU s at Kenchreai should be accomplished prior to intensive survey in the area either late in the 2000 season or in 2001.

By the end of the season several well-defined goals were established. The priority of these goals, while rarely communicated explicitly, was effectively conveyed through the allocation of resources necessary for their accomplishment. Since resource allocation for the Extensive Team's various projects varied during the tenure of any specific project throughout the season, it is most useful to establish the priorities associated with the Extensive Team's projects through a cumulative, retrospective evaluation of resources allocated. This is to say, that projects awarded greater resources throughout the season were of a higher priority than those which received less. Establishing this criteria will allow the Extensive Team leader to evaluate the success of the Team in terms of the Senior Staff's procedural expectations of its performance rather than the essentially random or highly variable criteria such as finds or total area surveyed. The six goals determined during the season are listed as follows and ranked according to the allocation of resources (in terms of man-power, consultation, and materiel): One, exploration and documentation of the eastern pass through Mt. Oneion; two, the defining of Geomorphologic Units north and west of the Roman harbor at Kenchreai; three, the scouting of potential survey areas for the 2001 season; four, the evaluation of some of the areas defined by the probabilistic or predictive model; five, the identification, description, and basic analysis of the ecclesiastical topography of the Korinthia; six, the identification, definition, and initial analysis of proposed-LOCAs.

The top priority delegated to the Extensive Team was the walking, mapping, and study of the Eastern most pass through Mt. Oneion. This pass ascended to a low saddle in the mountain to the east of Xylokeriza, proceeded south through the drainage, and emerged to the northwest of the village of Galataki, and west of Loutro Elenis and Almyri. This project occupied several senior staff members, two team leaders, a GI, and 5-7 volunteers, spanned 8 days, and required numerous vehicles and a wide range of equipment (laser range finders, GPS units, compasses, et c.) typically allocated to DU teams. Initial investigation and mapping occupied the Extensive Team Assistant and the GI for three days. A larger team, consisting at times of the Extensive Team Lead (TEG), his assistant (WRC), the GI (SBK), the Field Director (TT), the Director of Modern Survey (LD), the LOCA team leader (RS) and his team, ascended the mountain at various times over 5 days.

The initial rationale for the investigation of this area was to explore the possibility of a pass linking the multi-period settlement at Rachi Boska to points south. This inland route would have provided Rachi Boska and other areas with a means of avoiding the coast and the areas controlled by Korinth along the river. J. Noller and R. Rothaus advocated this project noting that the pass had slopes sufficiently gentle for foot and animal traffic.

Mount Oneion is part of an east-west running line of mountains and is characterized by actively incising, deeply cut drainages that empty north onto a flat, low-lying agricultural area and south into an undulating expanse of hills and agricultural fields. The steep north face is actively eroding, with evidence of both sheet flow and the formation and migration of first order gullies, while the south face is more variable in grade and landform, breaking off into a series of deep drainages. The limestone bedrock forms shear faces and tower features, as well as natural dissolution caves and arches. Soil forming processes have been disturbed only by erosion in this area, resulting in high variability in soil type and thickness. Slope faces have very thin, nutrient depleted carbonate soils, while flatter areas, even at elevation, are stable enough to develop thicker, richer soils from material brought down from above. One such area is the flat region near the peak of the saddle that receives materials from both the east and west slopes, but forms a stable divide between the north and south basins. With the exception of these few stable areas and the fortified surfaces of the larger rock outcroppings, the artifact density would be expected to be very low due to the dynamic nature of the slopes and the effects of erosion, slope failure, and mass wasting.

The Extensive Team Assistant walked a thin probe through the Geomorphic Units in the pass as a series of EDUs. This ensured the documentation of the low pottery density in these areas. These EDUs proceeded up the slope from the east past the remains of an Ottoman/Venetian fortification wall and into the shallow drainage which defines the pass. We then proceeded southward along the western side of this drainage, crossing back to the eastern side at a saddle point on the south of the main Oneion ridgeline. From there we walked southeast toward Galataki. To the northeast of the slope down to Galataki stands the remains of a large Classical/Hellenistic fortification which meanders along the ridge of Oneion overlooking both the pass and commanding the ridge to the east. On the western end of the peak Classical/Hellenistic walls fortified a rock outcrop overlooking the pass. Here a single DU was surveyed (5001). The LOCA Team surveyed and defined the artifact scatter on the eastern ridge of Oneion in and around the CL/H fortifications there (see LOCA Team Report, LOCA 10001/10002).

The Extensive Team Assistant (WRC) and the Team's GI (SBK), often assisted by other members of the Senior Staff, mapped the extent of walls on the rise to the east of the pass. These

walls are quite considerable and it should be considered a major fortification of the ancient Korinthia. The fortifications included an enclosed citadel atop the western crest of the eastern high saddle, and numerous other walls designed to protect its north flank. It seems likely to have controlled the Isthmia and Hexamillia basins, the ancient Roman harbor at Kenchreai, the coast near Loutro Elenis, and long stretches of the coast of the Korinthian and Saronic Gulf. It also fell within the view shed of Acrokorinth to the west. Parts of this fortification were noted by R. Stroud in, "An Ancient Fort on Mt. Oneion," *Hesperia* xl (1971), 127-145. Further investigation of the literature is desirable.

The second priority based on resource allocation was the preparing of Geomorphic Units in the vicinity of Kencheai. This project required consultation with J. Rife in his efforts to define a mortuary landscape of the Korinthia and a DU team. The resources allocated included a several visits by the Extensive Team Leader (TEG) and the Field Director (TT), and the use of a vehicle and various surveying equipment (Laser rangefinders, GPS units, et c.). The area investigated around Kenchreai consisted of the most recent coastal terraces north of the Roman harbor and south of the area around the Cummer tomb. This transect was then extended inland (NW) across a portion of the Kenchreai quarries which run east to west. It continued northwest through an extended cultivated riser and tread which contains the modern dirt road leading into the modern village of Kenchreai, and ended at the face of a quarried marine terrace. This transect included the likely ancient foundation on the southern tip of a ridge at the northwestern limit of the area mapped by the Extensive Team.

The rationale for investigation this area was twofold. One, we sought to investigate the area around the Cummer tomb and the coastal tombs for evidence of a Roman period road. Stanton argued that there was a road immediately along the coast linking the Roman harbor to the areas in the northern central Isthmus. The transects we designated for investigation included the area in which Stanton thought the road to run and other inland areas where evidence for this north-south corridor might be evident. We also sought to acquire information concerning the extent of the settlement at Kenchreai. The evidence of Roman funerary monuments and a likely early Christian basilica suggested that the area around the Cummer tomb might have marked a formal boundary area for the town during these periods. The Extensive Team mapped the inland transect with an eye toward providing both coastal and inland perspectives on the limitations of settlement.

The area most proximate to the sea consists of a gently sloping wave-cut modern terrace, with paleo-fluvial channels and potential harbor fill areas present. The carbonate soil is developing from a limestone parent material, which houses an extensive and easily distinguishable conglomerate layer a few meters below the surface; it is beneath this layer that the tombs are found. The quarries across the highway cut into the upper portion of the same limestone layer. Above the quarries the topography shifts to a gently sloping depositional riser that leads to a stable, agricultural tread, terminated by the face of the next marine terrace. The lower quarries and riser are somewhat unstable, with temporally transient gullies carrying materials to the east.

The mapping of GUs for the DU teams was a moderately successful undertaking. The GU teams were able to start surveying the area around Kenchreai more quickly than if they had no GU s defined. At times, however, when the DU had difficulty understanding the divisions into GU s, the absence of the GI who made the divisions proved problematic. Furthermore, the lack of consultation from Senior staff concerning the goals and objectives of the survey in the

Kenchreai area created the possibility for a somewhat arbitrary definition of the area for intensive survey (or at least risked a process of defining a survey area which is inconsistent with the methods used to define surveyed areas elsewhere in the project). The final report by the DU Team can better evaluate to success of this facet of the Extensive Teams responsibilities.

The investigation of the area on the road from Ryto to Athikia, in the region known as Leskouki, occupied some of the projects resources. Over five days various senior staff attended to the region around several known, but undocumented and undeclared, Mycenean tombs. The Extensive Team had access to their consultation, vehicles, and equipment necessary to explore and map the area in the vicinity of these tombs. The area in the immediate vicinity of the tombs was mapped as GU s and is prepared for survey in the 2001 season.

The initial motivations for investigating this area were tied to efforts to understand the link between the northern areas of the survey (the Examilia and Isthmia basins) and the areas to the south. The Extensive Team noted the tombs while attempting to identify passes leading from the area around Galataki and Loutro Elenis to Ryto or Athikia more in the west. The topographical relationships between the various settlements in this region remains to be securely established.

The GUs laid out in the area surrounding the tomb reflect the heavy influence of the bulldozer on the Grecian landscape, and include a series of cut and fill fields, the escarpment exposing the tombs, and anthropogenic walls and checkdams further North. The fields in this area are somewhat fertile and have good soil cover, despite their high elevation and human influence. The agricultural area is bounded on the north by a permanent, deeply cut river channel that flows eastward to form the northern boundary of the rock outcrop identified as a possibly fortified area. A series of smaller, ephemeral drainages alternately erode and deposit materials in the southern and eastern agricultural areas, which have also been altered by cut and fill operations. Although movement of the soil due to human influence has been extensive in this area, it seems to involve only local areas and not the influx of material from foreign locations.

A thorough report on the prospects of surveying the vicinity of Ryto and the Mycenean tombs is in T. Tartaron's, "Brief Prospectus on Archaeological Work in the Vicinity of Ryto for 2001." To summarize briefly this report, an Extensive Team investigation of the area established this region as one of potentially dense habitation over a considerable period of time. Prehistoric, Classical, Hellenistic, and Roman sherds were found throughout the area, on hilltops, ridge peaks, and in the relatively fertile valleys. This suggests that it might be fruitful to investigate this area in the future. Additional information from the Ephoria on their excavation and investigations of the Prehistoric cemetery might also provide insights into how this region could be studied by the survey.

The investigation of the Leskouki area could prove fruitful for the 2001. Due to the nature of the permit under which we conducted the 2000 season, no systematic (intensive or otherwise) survey of the area could take place. As a result the Extensive Team collected only topographical, geological, and impressionistic archaeological data. The assistance of numerous Senior Staff members ensured, however, that the Extensive Team investigate areas in accordance with the methods and goals of the survey in general, rather than on their own intuition as might have occurred in the Kenchreai area.

The fourth priority for the extensive team was the investigation of Pleistocene Marine Terraces in some accordance with the Predictive model. For a variety of less than apparent

reasons, the predictive model was never made available to the Extensive Team Assistant. This delayed and frustrated the Extensive Team's efforts to include this project in the season's agenda despite its mention in the original description of the Extensive Team's goals. In the final week of the season the Extensive Team began an effort to identify and investigate several PMTs in the survey area. Using four topographic maps (63577, 63578, 63671, & 63672), nine potential terrace surfaces were identified. A day of field work trimmed this number down to five distinct terraces, with stops and numbers correlating to the geologic field notebook. These areas include (1)the exposure behind the military base near the village of Kenchreai that faces northeast, (2)the exposure housing the Hadrianic Aqueduct north of Athinisios that faces east, (3)the cliff face at the much-debated box canyon near village of Kenchreai that extends to the tower area included in the Kenchreai transect facing south, (4) the terrace underlying Mary's Ridge and Ag Dimitrios that faces northeast, and (5) the ridge at Rachi Bosca which faces northeast. The area around Kromna was also identified as a possible area of interest but not necessarily a terrace, although this was much debated. Several of the PMTs had already been investigated thoroughly by the DU teams, including Kromna and Rachi Boska, and these received a lower priority. The resources for this project were understandably limited due to relatively ill-defined nature of our objectives.

On two occasions, however, the Extensive Team did perform some archaeological investigation of these terraces. The Extensive Team Assistant conducted an informal on the PMT overlooking the Solomos River at the western boundary of the survey area. There is good evidence for settlement on these ridges and pottery from at least the Classical and Roman periods, as well as pieces of marble revetment.

On the second occasion, the Field Director (TT) went into the field with the Extensive Team Assistant and GI. We mapped several EDU, but only one GU, and conducted a semi-formal survey of the ridge known as Rachi Tsigkou. This ridge runs roughly east to west to the south of Kyras Vrysi and has on its eastern end the well known Rachi settlement and portions of a Mycenean wall excavated by O. Broneer.

Considering the limited resources allocated to this project and the rather ambiguous goals, the exploration of the PMTs was not unsuccessful. The fact that DU teams did survey many of the PMTs should provide some basis for the archaeological analysis of the landform. It seems unlikely that the work of the Extensive Team in this area will contribute greatly to our understanding of settlement patterns, except in terms of providing informal checks on more rigorously established theories.

Efforts to study the churches of the Eastern Korinthia were mostly unsuccessful this season, although some groundwork was established for a more comprehensive and systematic campaign next season. The area of the Eastern Korinthia has numerous churches representing almost every period of Christianity in Greece (from the Early Christian period to the present). The model for this kind of study is the work done by T. Koukoulis for the Methana survey (A Rough and Rocky Place, 1997). He identified, dated, and analyzed the known churches within the survey area there and these efforts were included in the final publication. EKAS could in the final two seasons produce a similar study of the churches in the Eastern Korinthia, which include important examples of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine architecture and wall painting (see Orlandos article). It was the hope of the Extensive Team that a preliminary study of ecclesiastical landscape during this season could also provide a basis for the selection of areas to survey in 2001 and complement work done on the mortuary landscape and in modern survey.

Regrettably, lack of expertise, resources, and preparation limited the work on these important buildings to the most cursory levels. Additional work on these building by a qualified individual could contribute to the identification of areas for more intensive study and the final publication.

The final goal of the Extensive Team was to provide a vehicle for flexible exploration of the survey region. This entailed both sufficient resources and freedom to explore potential areas of geological or archaeological interest. While the allocation of resources for this kind of procedurally ambiguous survey were understandably rare, the occasions when Senior Staff did provide support proved somewhat fruitful. Some of the results of this method of survey have already been alluded to – in particular the Mycenean Tombs at Ryto. Two other locations of cultural activity, however, should be included in the final evaluation of this method's contribution to the survey.

In the face of a PMT to the north of the area known as Ag. Athanasios, the Extensive Team Assistant and GI explored a large opening into the ancient water system under Examilia, known locally as the Hadrianic Aqueduct (LOCA 10001). Around this area were the remains of several buildings including a house, a cistern, and a building identified by a local farmer as a wine press. Several reused ancient blocks were also visible in this area. The water channel itself continues to contain water, sometimes to almost a meter in depth, and can be easily entered. A preliminary investigation has noted at least three access shafts in the area around the opening, in the top of the PMT ridge. A more careful examination of the water system here and elsewhere in the survey area could provide important data.

The second area noted during flexible survey mode was the site of Ag. Paraskevi (LOCA 10000). The site of this church was noted on the 1:50000 maps as a ruined church. The site exists to the north of the southern road from Xylokeriza near the Summer Water fun Center and the sharp north turn where the southern road from Xylokeriza rejoins the main Xilokeritsa-Kenchreai road. The site now has no standing architectural remains, but a large multi-period scatter (CL, R, LR, Byz., Ott., EM, Mod.) of pottery is preserved there. Local residence report that parts of the church remained in their grandparents' memory and report that it might have been built by transhumants (see the Modern Survey Report). A closer examination of the area suggests that the scatter of rocks and ceramic might best be identified with a settlement in the area. This settlement, perhaps abandoned by the Early Modern Period, could have provided the building material for the church of Ag. Paraskevi. The area has been designated a LOCA and would repay closer study.

A difficultly encountered during this process was that the LOCA Nomination Forms were designed for us by DU team leaders and served best to describe sites which have been surveyed intensively. The Extensive Team did not have the time or the resources (or in some cases the permission) to survey intensive the areas they nominated as LOCA. It is the hope that this will not bias their consideration in the selection process.

Conclusions: A Negativists Notebook

Any evaluation of the Extensive Teams role in the 2000 EKAS season is problematic. The successes achieved, such as the discovery of the fortress on Oneion or tombs at Ryto, cannot be clearly attributed to the adherence to specific method or procedure. Thus, in future seasons it will be difficult to assure similar success. It seems to the Extensive Team Assistant that changes in either the method or the personnel would be necessary to improve the chances of success in a pro-active way.

If the goal of the Extensive Team is to expand the survey area through the walking of EDUs, then a definite procedure should be established for EDU survey and the forms necessary should be produced. Furthermore, there needs to be consistent access to an individual capable of reading pottery or a procedure for getting EDU pottery to those capable of analyzing it. This season the EDU data varied greatly in quality and was extremely limited in quantity. This is largely owing to the fact that support during the season for walking EDUs did not match the early season emphasis on it.

If the goal of the Extensive Team was to do reasonably complex regional analysis, then several types of support could have facilitated this goal. Perhaps the most important of these would be the continued development of the gazetteer. This would allow the Extensive Team Leader or Assistant to quickly understand the known archaeological features of the landscape. If the gazetteer can not be available, then it would be prudent to assign an individual with good working knowledge of the Korinthian topography to work closely in the field with the Extensive Team. This season the primary field members of the Extensive Team did not have sufficient knowledge of the Korinthia to ensure that they use their time effectively. The risk of "discovering" and committing field time to the exploration of known sites was too high. For example, the full field season passed before the Extensive Team Assistant could declare with confidence that the site upon Oneion was not previously published. In future seasons, the Extensive Team Assistant should know much more about the archaeological and natural topography of the Korinthia – even if all this means is a careful knowledge of the basic topographic works (Wiseman, Morgan, Kodrossis, Salmon, et c.). It would also benefit EKAS if the Extensive Team Assistant had some knowledge of human geography or other disciplines (anthropology, archaeology) which would help them link data produced by the survey and excavation to a broader regional context. Individuals with knowledge of these matter abound in EKAS, of course, but it was often difficult to bring their knowledge and experience to bear on day to day field work by the Extensive Team.

Despite these apparent stumbling blocks, the Extensive Team was successful based on the retrospective criteria established in this report. The Extensive Team Assistant and GI were in the field regularly and accomplished the tasks requested of them by the Senior Staff. The data and information produced represents the highest quality and largest quantity possible based on the resources allocated.