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LOCA Team Final Report

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A) Introduction:

The LOCA team examined 10 LOCAs during the 2000 field season. Two were in the vicinity of Rachi Boska. Four were in the Kromna area. Two were near Gonia. One was on top of Mount Oneion. Our final LOCA was a dilapidated structure on the outskirts of Hexamilia. All EKAS LOCAs are numbered sequentially from 9001 (completed in 1999) onward.

As best as possible, the LOCA team attempted to employ a consistent method during the course of the season. However, each LOCA presented its own set of questions and logistical problems and in each instance we had to adjust our approach accordingly. Our primary procedures were as follows:

1) Prior to entering the field, I examined the LOCA evaluation forms, DU forms, and whatever sketch map the DU TL had made of the area. Aerial photos with the UTM grid and relevant DUs highlighted were printed out by the GIS team. This documentation gave me a sense of where to focus most of the team's efforts.

2) Upon entry into the field, we scouted the location as a team. We determined where the mapped DUs were, and decided where we would make the boundaries of our grid.

3) A grid was laid out on the ground using tape-measures, flags, and a laser rangefinder. Flags were planted in the soil at 10 meter intervals leaving a checkerboard pattern.

4) The number of grid squares that would be sampled was determined based on considerations of perceived overall artifact quantities, artifact densities, and time. We wanted to sample as much of the grid as necessary within a given amount of time without generating superfluous quantities of artifacts that would overburden the processing team. For example, in large, dense LOCAs, we sampled one fourth of our squares. In less dense, lithic LOCAs we sampled all the squares of a much smaller grid.

5) Generally, a 5 square meter circle was marked out in the center of the square and all artifacts within it were gathered. The team members chronotyped those artifacts, placed the artifacts to be processed into bags with interior and exterior labels, and returned the discarded pottery to their respective grid squares. Counts were made of all artifacts counted and all artifacts kept. Grab samples were often taken from areas outside the circles. These were artifacts whose types were not represented in the circles. Grab samples were collected in order to enhance the range of material we recovered without affecting the density quantities generated by the circle collections.

6) Bags of artifacts were left in their grid squares marked by white flags. Under some circumstances, such as difficulty of access or proximity to rotting animal carcasses, bags were collected and left under a nearby tree.

B) The LOCAs

Below is a LOCA by LOCA description of our work for the 2000 season.

I. LOCA 9002 (Rachi Boska)

LOCA 9002 consists of a 200 x 80 meter grid oriented E-W covering areas of high artifact density that lie within DU's 86, 87, 589, 590, 596, 598, and 597. [4195400 N, 672100 E] This LOCA is situated on the gentle slopes to the South of the Rachi Boska plateau.

Procedure:

Examination of density maps of last year's discovery units revealed especially high densities of artifacts in DU 86 and DU 590. DU 87 was considered low density until examination of the DU form revealed that visibility was extremely low. A revisit this year confirmed high densities there as well. These 3 DUs formed the core of our grid.

We chose to lay out a grid over the area covered by the DU's. Its dimensions were 80 meters N-S by 200 meters E-W. The grid was laid down using tape-measures, compass, and Laser Rangefinder. Each grid square was 10 x 10 meters in size. This collection method would enable us to systematically sample the densest part of our LOCA. In effect, the scatter of artifacts in this area extended beyond the area of our grid squares. However, the fields outside our grid were plagued with low visibility, soil disturbances or low artifact counts. Considering our available time and the fact that DU data was available for the entire area, we limited the grid to a space where intensive LOCA style sampling would be the most fruitful.

Each grid square was assigned a number. 1 was at the NW corner of the grid. The sequence proceeded south to grid square 8, then back up to the top where square 9 was in the top row of the second column. This is the method we used in all of our gridded LOCAs although sometimes the sequence proceeded from west to east. We chose to sample one fourth of the entire grid- i.e. 40 grid squares. Again the decision to sample from one fourth of the squares was based on the time allotted for the entire LOCA as well as the consideration that a higher sample would overburden the processing team. The squares that were to be sampled were chosen in a modified systematic fashion. The first square was selected randomly from among squares 1-4. Then every fourth square after that was chosen for artifact collection. Exceptions were made for

squares that lay in roads or had other prohibitive disturbances. In these cases an adjacent square was chosen.

Grid Square Sampling:

We employed 5 different sampling techniques for our grid. Of the 40 sample squares, 10 squares would be 'experimental.' Experimental squares were to be sampled using four different sampling techniques.

- 1) Chronotype collection of a 5 square meter circle within the grid square,
- 2) complete collection of that same circle (achieved by separately bagging what was left after chronotyping)
- 3) Chronotype collection of the rest of the square and
- 4) complete collection of the rest of the square.

With 4 separate bags, we essentially had 4 types of collection:

- 1) Chronotype of the circle
- 2) Complete collection of the circle by combining pottery from bags 1 and 2
- 3) Chronotype collection of the square by combining bags 1 and 3
- 4) Complete collection of the square by combining all 4 bags.

The purpose of this exercise was to determine the optimum sampling strategy for all squares. By comparing samples from circles with samples from entire squares we would see if the small sample provided by a 5 m² circle would be sufficient. By comparing complete collection with chronotype collection we could determine if collecting chronotypes would provide a representative sample of the artifacts in the LOCA. Upon examination of the artifacts in each sample Daniel Pullen reported that only 1 pottery type appeared in Complete Collection of all 10 squares that did not appear in Chronotype collections of the same squares. This figure is reassuring, especially since Chronotyping generally reduced the quantity of material collected by around one third.

The situation for circles was similar. Chronotype collection of circles was often the same as complete collection. Generally, 0-3 sherds were added by complete collection of a circle. In a couple of instances, complete collection added a significant amount of material (>10 sherds). These figures enabled us to justify the most minimal of our sampling options. The data recovered from circles was adequate but took around one fourth of the time of the squares.

It was decided for the remaining 30 grid squares that we would proceed by sampling chronotypes within a 5 square meter circle. Counts were kept of the artifacts discarded after chronotyping. In addition limited "grab" samples would be taken of pottery types that do not show up in the circles. All lithics discovered in the LOCA were collected. Grab sampling has the benefit of enhancing the range of artifacts recovered without affecting the density counts established by strict non-judgmental circle sampling. We were also able to select some pottery from outside our 40 sample squares. In addition, especially "photogenic" artifacts were recovered for enhancement of illustration, photography, and publication. Grab sampling permitted us to recover 'special' artifacts such as an obsidian arrowhead and pieces of carved marble revetment which would not have been collected by chronotype circles alone.

Artifacts:

Possible prehistoric material is represented by 3 artifacts (2 from GS3 and 1 from GS23). Both of these units are in the grape vineyard of DU86. Classical to Hellenistic pottery was identified in numerous grid squares in the western half of the LOCA. A smaller quantity was present toward the east. Roman pottery was also distributed throughout the grid with highest concentrations toward the NW. These patterns are probably best explained by the high visibility and recent plowing of DU 86.

II. LOCA 9004 (Rachi Boska)

LOCA 9004 consists of a 50 x 50 meter grid to the South of the Tomato hot houses on top of Rachi Boska [4195701n 671879e]. It corresponds to a single vineyard- DU 612 from 1999. This DU was found to contain a high concentration of lithics. Twenty-five 10 x 10 meter squares were laid out and sampled completely using the chronotype circle method. Sampling of each square was possible because of the limited size and low total artifact counts within the LOCA. A total of 99 lithics, primarily obsidian blade fragments, and 486 pieces of pottery were collected from the entire LOCA. Less than 200 sherds were discarded after chronotyping, but specific counts were not kept. These figures do not represent exceptionally high pottery densities, but VERY high lithic densities.

Artifacts:

Of the artifacts recovered, 6 sherds were identified with confidence as dating to the EBA with another 5 possible. The Archaic-Hellenistic period was most densely represented with 60 confirmed pieces. 4 more pieces could be more specifically dated to the Archaic, 5 to Archaic-Classical, and 3 to Classical-Hellenistic. Between 4 and 6 sherds are Roman in date. Some modern pottery was found in the SW corner of the grid where a dirt road forks on either side of the field. Pottery counts from the grid squares vary from 8 to 64, but no specific spatial distribution can be discerned.

General Discussion of Rachi Boska LOCAs:

LOCA 9004 was a discrete scatter, but LOCA 9002 was difficult to define. Sharp declines in artifact counts toward the edges, and outside of the grid may be more due to changes in visibility and alterations to the landscape than in actual changes in original artifact deposition patterns. However, the sample provided by our grid may be most informative.

With the completion of LOCAs 9001 (in 1999) and LOCAs 9002 and 9004 (in 2000), EKAS has intensively sampled three important areas of the Rachi Boska settlement. LOCA 9001 contains most of the prehistoric settlement as well as material from the Archaic through Hellenistic (and Roman?) periods. LOCAs 9002 and 9004 also contain artifacts from the prehistoric and historical periods represented on top of the hill (with the possible exception of the Late Bronze Age). These 3 LOCAs may be combined to treat Rachi Boska as a "Special Interest Area" (a concept utilized by SCSP) in which intensive sampling of various parts of a single, large community may lead to statements about the 'micro-region' in which it sits.

Status of Analysis:

Special LOCA forms have been filled out for this area. A copy of the LOCA team's forms is attached to this report. These forms have been entered into the EKAS database. The processing team has examined and recorded all artifacts collected, keeping a selection for archival purposes. Digital photographs have been taken of all grid squares sampled.

This report represents the first phase of analysis. Discussions of pottery identifications and distributions are tentative. Once the LOCA, DU, SUIR databases and the GIS are linked together we may begin to see more clearly the emergent patterns in the surface record of Rachi Boska.

III. LOCA 9003 (Kromna)

Introduction:

Nominated as a LOCA by team 2's TL Dimitri Nakassis and informally referred to as the 'Pantheon' LOCA 9003 is located over DU's 1529, 1530, 1542, 1543, and 1544 [4196650 N, 672320 E]. DU 1530 is a wheat-stubble field and 1529 is an olive grove. The boundary between these 2 fields contains a number of cut stone blocks. Another block, possibly *in situ* (the blocks in the boundary probably are not), rests in DU 1529. The presence of these architectural features, as well as the recovery of a perirhanterion fragment by the DU team indicates that this is a location of some importance.

Procedure:

The extent of the scatter was determined by examination of the DU forms and revisit of the relevant DUs. The grid is of an irregular shape with a maximum extent of 130 x 130 meters. As with earlier LOCAs the decision to limit the grid to this area was based on considerations of visibility, relative density of the scatter and time. The grid does not encompass the entire community represented by this material, but rather its core. 22 of 91 grid squares were sampled using the Chronotype Circle method with grab samples taken from every square. Due to an error in communication, total counts of the circles were not taken, only counts of the chronotyped material. However, team members assured me that in no case did they discard more than 5 sherds.

The grid may be divided into two sections. To the north lies a wheat stubble field (DU 1530) surrounded by olive groves (DUs 1529, 1531). The cut blocks were found primarily along the border of 1529 and 1530. One block, apparently *in situ* is in the SW section of 1529. (LOCA grid square 90). The artifacts recovered from this part of the LOCA are Classical, Hellenistic, and Roman in nature (not confirmed with processing team yet).

Across the dirt road to the South lies a recently planted olive grove (DUs 1542, 1543, and 1544). This grove encompasses the southern section of our grid. As the olive grove has been planted recently, the soil has been churned up and visibility is high. This may be seen in contrast to the packed, poor visibility surface conditions of the northern half of the grid. Changes in density will probably be due more to these factors than actual artifact deposition. One special note: 3 or 4 conical loom weights were found in various parts of our grid.

State of Analysis and Recommendations:

Even after almost a week of intensive LOCA team investigation, the magnitude of this location is not entirely clear. The nature of the artifacts recovered are extraordinary- Loom weights, figurines, architectural blocks, the perirhanterion, and quantities of painted Mycenaean material. It is my recommendation that this area receive more treatment next season including additional DUs to the East.

The LOCA sits on an elevated terrace. To the northwest you can see Gonia and after a walk through the olive groves to the south you can see Rachi Boska. The Aghios Dimitrios ridge lies to the east and I would expect some prehistoric material up there as well. It has become apparent that some sort of line-of-sight modeling may be fruitful for contextualizing the prehistoric communities EKAS has encountered to the north of Oneion.

Kromna – The Quarry Area: LOCAs 9005,9006,9007

IV. LOCA 9005- Kromna-Latomeia

LOCA 9005 is located along the northern side of the dirt road that intersects the Hexamilia-Kyras Vrysi road adjacent to some ancient quarries [4196900 N, 671900 E]. It consists of two grids, one covering DU 1012 and part of DU 1038, the other covering DUs 1014, 1028, and 1029. A vineyard, DU 1013, separates the two grids. Caroline Bruno, one of our geomorphologists informed me that the soil in this field had been scraped. For this reason, it was not included in the LOCA grid.

Grid 1, over DUs 1012 and 1038 had an irregular, L-shape. In DU 1012 it was 20 x 100 meters. Another 5 grid squares were added to the NE section which rested in DU 1038. All 25v of these grid squares were collected. A chronotype circle + grab collection strategy was employed. A total of 280 pieces of pottery, 47 tile, and 6 lithics were collected in the 250 square meter area. This figure was below expectations. We suspect that the DU team stripped the field of many of its artifacts. It was noticed that the pile of artifacts left by the DU processing team had a far greater variety of identifiable material than our LOCA circles. While this fact may be hamper the ultimate analysis of the LOCA, it may be an interesting exercise to compare DU and LOCA data of the same area.

The second grid of LOCA 9005 covered DUs 1014, 1028, and 1029. It was 70 x 120 meters in size. Like grid 1, it rests in an olive grove. Of the 98 accessible grid squares, 35 were sampled. 488 pieces of pottery, 34 tile, and 5 lithics were collected from the circles. 18 more lithics, a few sherds, one marble piece, an andesite groundstone fragment, and a hammerstone were also collected as grabs. The pottery collected resembles that found in the DU pile, but no lithics were discovered during DU walking. LOCA collection, therefore, had added significantly to our range of materials discovered here.

Prehistoric pottery is common in this LOCA within both grids. The EH and LH periods are particularly represented. Historical period material seems more prevalent in the western grid (GS>25) with numerous Archaic-Hellenistic artifacts. Middle Helladic and Geometric material, very rare in our survey area, has also been identified in this LOCA. Variable density patterns

between the different chronological phases of the LOCA may become apparent when this material is linked to the GIS.

The data generated by gridded collection of this LOCA should enhance our understanding of the area even beyond this roughly 300 x 100 meter space. Not far from the NE corner of grid 1 lie a row of tombs dug into the K4 (a single ceramic artifact was grab sampled from these tombs). Also, much of the limestone to the north of this scatter was quarried in antiquity. In and around our grid lie a number of cut stone blocks, a limestone column, and an olive? press cut into the bedrock itself. From our LOCA one could see the Agios Dimitrios ridge to the East and the Rachi Boska settlement to the South. Just across the street to the West, lay some stepped Roman? tombs and LOCA 9006.

V. LOCA 9006- Kromna- Latomeia

On the West side of the Hexamilia- Kyras Vrysi road across from the quarries [419690 N, 671500 E] lies a hill with at least 1 or 2 Roman? tombs cut into limestone. A very dense scatter of artifacts was discovered by Team 1 in the olive grove just above these tombs (DU 1099).

The LOCA team laid out a 60 x 60 meter grid and sampled 16 grid squares. Pottery counts varied from 0 to 34 sherds per 5 square meter circle and tile counts were between 3 and 88 per circle. One lithic was grab sampled from the LOCA as was a piece of marble. These figures correspond well to those generated by the DU team. The range of pottery types was limited. cursory examination revealed some black glazed pottery and some combed ware. Periods identified by the processing team include Archaic-Hellenistic and Roman.

VI. LOCA 9007- Kromna East

Just to the north and east of the Kromna hill, Team 2 TL Dimitri nominated 6 DUs for intensive investigation (DUs 1555,1556,1557,1563,1566,1567). These units represent the highest densities of the DUs in the vicinity. In the step between terraces (DUs 1557 and 1552) some cut stone blocks were noted as well as a pile of very large sherds. These included amphora and pithos fragments (at least 2 pithos toes) and a large EHI rim fragment. This material was sitting on a large, decorated architectural block. Cut stone blocks were spotted in at least 6 of the DUs in the area as well as a few on top of the Kromna hill. One of these on the hill seems to be *in situ*. [As a locational note, the NE corner of GS 93 is 20 meters and 81 degrees from the rectangular stone basin? cut into the hill.]

Because of the steep step, we decided to lay out our grid in two sections. The northern section covers DUs 1566 and 1567. The southern section rests on DUs 1563 and 1562. Luckily we were able to connect the grids at a single point- GS68 which lies in the SE section of DU 1566. All fields are olive groves of varying age.

It became clear after a short time that some density patterns were emerging within the grid. The highest artifact counts were recorded closer to the step between the 2 halves of the grid. To test this we extended the northern grid to the west into DU 1089. The southern part of the grid was also extended into DU1049 after confirming with fieldwalkers from Team 1 that material was spotted in that field despite its poor visibility.

Artifacts:

In addition to apparent decreasing densities to the north of the step another interesting pattern emerged from gridded collection of the artifact scatter. The fields in the southern part of our grid (DUs 1555,1556) yielded a disproportionately high fraction of fineware. In many circles, all the pottery pieces found by team members were small with fine fabrics.

Future research and Recommendations:

I suspect that the entire Kromna area (LOCAs 9005,9006 and 9007) represents a large community. In addition to our grids, Kromna is laden with numerous cultural features. This was an area of intense quarrying activity. Cut stone blocks are plentiful within the quarries as is a sarcophagus and a column. An olive press was noted to the west of LOCA 9007 and N of LOCA 9005. On top of the Kromna hill there is also a rectangular cutting in the rock, possibly a stone basin.

A large fig tree juts out of the hill at Kromna and this may indicate a spring. Our geomorphologists have mapped a number of faults in the area and our DU teams have come across a number of wells.

Two sets of tombs have also been discovered at Kromna. The first set consists of two large stepped chambers dug into hard limestone adjacent to LOCA 9006. These have been documented by Joe Rife this season. Another group of tombs were cut into the K4 to the NE of LOCA 9005. As mentioned, a single sherd was recovered from these tombs as a grab sample.

One of the fascinating features of these LOCAs is the long time-span of occupation. Early Helladic material is present in all areas except LOCA 9006. The same can be said for Mycenaean. In historical periods the occupation of the Kromna area continues with some specialized activity such as quarrying and burial. Human habitation at Kromna is fascinating even in modern times as there are tales of people living in the quarries during the recent past. Today, much of this area is being utilized as a garbage dump- a material sign of further change in the use of this place.

VII. LOCA 9008: Fort Oneion

This season, the extensive team discovered a series of walls on top of Mt. Oneion. These walls were interpreted as a fortification. As the extensive team coordinated the mapping of the fortress, the LOCA team was brought in to sample the artifacts. Because of the rugged terrain and highly variable topography, a standard grid was impossible. So, we devised a new sampling system.

Artifacts, or clusters of artifacts were flagged by some team members while other members would plot these flags in relation to certain fixed points. The first point used was the geodetic marker at the peak of Oneion. From each flag, we took a compass bearing and a laser rangefinder distance measurement to the geodetic marker. Thus we were able to fix each flagged artifact in space. When the marker was not visible from a flag, a new fixed point was used. Most often these fixed points were points surveyed into the fortification wall by the extensive

team. Specifically, we used points 8, 11, and 12 from the fortification wall. A fifth point, point y, is marked by a tree 48 meters to the west of the geodetic marker. Use of these points will also enable us to fix the artifacts in relationship to the walls of the fortification.

A tag with coordinates written on it was placed by each artifact. Tim Gregory then came around to each flag. As he read the pottery by the flag he wrote the pottery SUIR number on the card that we had left. Most artifacts were left in the field, but a few were collected. Around 225 cards have been filled out.

The period represented by the sherds (primarily coarse wares) and tiles seems to be exclusively Classical-Hellenistic. This site is obviously of great importance and its discovery may be one of EKAS's most important contributions this summer.

Gonia Area

VIII. LOCA 9009: Gonia-Yiriza

A second lithic LOCA was examined by the LOCA team near Gonia. It consists of a citrus grove, covering 2 DUs (1703, 1704) just to the East of the little church of Aghios Athanasios. The area was nominated by Dimitri after a fieldwalker picked up 30 lithics in two swaths over the DUs.

A single strip 10 x 150 meters was gridded and collected by means of the chronotype square method, with all lithics being brought in. A high concentration of stone tools was found in squares 4,5, and 6 which yielded 21,23, and 20 pieces respectively. Two grab samples were also collected- one from an area just west of square 4 which added 5 more lithics and one from just west of square 6 adding another 12. A total of 17 lithic artifacts were collected from the remaining 12 squares. Almost all of the finds were made of obsidian.

The recovered pottery represents numerous phases of prehistory from the EHI to the Late Helladic. As always, Archaic – Hellenistic material was identified as well as some Roman. The church nearby was recently renovated as reflected in a tile dump near it. Its original construction should definitely be investigated.

Exploration of this LOCA was hampered by poor visibility in some areas and the presence of 4 or 5 dead puppy carcasses. The animals were found north of square 8, beyond our concentration, but their stench may have limited the amount of time spent looking for artifacts in their vicinity.

The limited space of squares 4,5, and 6 should surely reflect a specialized functional area, as these densities are enormous compared to other areas in our survey universe.

IX. LOCA 9010: Gonia

We set up a grid to the SW of Gonia hill in DU1726. This was an area where Team 2 had discovered high amounts of pottery. We placed a 60 x 70 meter grid onto the field and collected 20 squares with the chronotype circle method. Low counts were reported to the S, farther downhill from the Gonia plateau, but closer to it we recovered numbers often in the 20s and highs of 42 in GS7 and 70 in GS12. Visibility was decent, but the soil was relatively packed. We would expect higher counts if the field had been plowed recently. (This may be a good candidate for resurvey LOCA style next year if surface conditions change.) These figures nevertheless represent extremely high numbers for chronotyped circles. A total of 4 lithics were recovered from LOCA 9010 a stark comparison with LOCA 9009, just a stone's throw away.

GONIA: Interpretations- We know full well that Gonia and Yiriza were occupied during prehistoric times. However, investigations into these locations have been limited to excavations on top of the respective hills. Our DU work in this area combined with intensive LOCA investigation should shed light on the extent of the settlements and the space they utilized. LOCA 9009, with its dense lithic scatter is a good example of this variability in land use.

Work should definitely continue here next year in the form of more DU walking and intensive investigation of various spots. One place to start would be DU 1756 which Dimitri nominated, at least informally, as another LOCA this year.

X: LOCA 1011: Xylokeriza

On the outskirts of Xylokeriza, the LOCA team spent a day creating a plan of an old, abandoned house near the entrance of a small cave and an aqueduct. No artifacts were sampled from this area, but in addition to our drawing we collected some great data by interviewing two men who were passing by on separate occasions.

The first man's name is Giorgos Yanakopoulos. He identified the wine press outside the building- a feature that had puzzled us, the extensive team, and Lita for some time. He also told us that the house had been occupied when he was a child (Giorgos is in his 70's now) and had a front porch with beautiful columns. Evidence for the porch still exists, but the columns were stolen soon after the house was abandoned. He also pointed out where the *aloni* of the house had stood.

Our second visitor informed our team that the house belongs to the Norda family of Xylokeriza. They have a shop near the *plateia* and can be found by asking anybody where they are.

K. Yanakopoulos also mentioned the location of a number of spots with *Archaia*. These include the looted tombs we already found near Yiriza. He said that the aqueduct by the Norda house dates back to Roman times. He also told us that his Grandfather wrote a history of the area, but we are not sure if it was published, or exists in manuscript form.

All of our drawings, measurements and GPS points were turned over to Lita for analysis as part of EKAS's modern component.

C) Overview and Comments:

It is clear that numerous areas in our survey universe merit intensive investigation. LOCA work should have multiple phases. After DU walking, LOCA gridding, as performed by the LOCA team, is an essential next step. However, our LOCAs are not traditional POSI's or sites in that in no case did we really measure out the extent of a scatter. We essentially sampled dense areas of the 'continuous carpet' of artifacts that covers our survey area. The data from our grids are helpful in that information is more precise than that of DUs. At the same time, intensive revisitation is necessary to map in cultural features as well as thorough documentation of the LOCAs into their local landscapes.

With sufficient analysis of a LOCA, we may begin to talk about these areas as micro-regions, exploiting local resources; but also geographically positioned to exploit social resources in the area between Corinth and Isthmia. Such strategic positioning occurred during prehistory as well as during historical periods but for different reasons. Our data can clearly shed enormous light on questions related to these issues.

Logistics of Work:

After a brief period in which we got to know each other the LOCA team was working at a speedy, highly efficient manner. Team members were responsive, diligent and highly competent workers. The combination of these individual efforts enabled our team to complete our collective tasks very effectively.

We encountered some problems in the field which may should correctable for next year's season.

While the LOCA team was assigned certain equipment, we did not have the opportunity to use them all the time. Specifically, our laser rangefinder and GPS unit were with us about half our field days. We were able to work around these losses, but sometimes it meant an extra automobile trip and losses of time.

At the start of the season we were assigned a geomorphologist to work with us part-time. However, she was then reassigned to the extensive team on a permanent basis. I was able to recruit the geomorph from another team for afternoon trips to explain certain areas. But in effect, except for LOCA 9005, all LOCA investigations took place without any consultation with a geomorphologist. Considering the relative importance of LOCAs, as well as the nature of intensive investigation, the absence of a geomorphologist on the LOCA team represents a lapse in our method. A geomorphologist should be present to consult with the LOCA team leader when the parameters of a grid are determined. A geomorphologist is not required during sampling activities. We may consider it beneficial to have extra geomorphological research conducted around LOCAs as they are areas we consider worthy of more intensive investigation. Kromna, with its fault line and major spring would be a good candidate for such work.

In a similar vein, our sampling procedures would have been more consistent if we had had closer communication with a processing team. It would have been beneficial if a processing team were present as LOCA units were being collected. This would have minimized superfluous collection and ensured adequate sampling of low-density areas. The LOCA team works fast enough that it can keep processors busy. This would also be one way in which 'Continuous Consultation Mode' survey could be implemented. As material from a LOCA is being evaluated, the processing Team leader and the LOCA Team leader may decide to sample certain extra squares to confirm or refute some perceived patterns in the scatter. This could only be done if the teams work close together. This year, the LOCA team was, for the most part, excluded from continuous consultation.

Finally, for the 2001 season, we should attempt to determine at least a few of the LOCAs we will be investigating ahead of time. The decision of where to grid LOCA 9002 was effective because we had density charts of the DUs in the vicinity. Without the density charts we would have skipped an important part of our grid because our first impressions were based on the memory of some of last year's fieldwalkers. Preseason planning of LOCA sampling would save a great deal of time and minimize misjudgment in the determination of LOCA boundaries.

DUs and LOCAs:

I have one extra point to raise about our methodology. The decision to continue to run DUs over an area that will receive LOCA attention has had some consequences. In low density LOCAs, the DU teams often stripped fields of the most "diagnostic" artifacts. This was especially true during the beginning of the season when neophyte fieldwalkers erred on the side of repetition and picked up numerous artifacts in their swaths. As a result, the context of some of the most interesting and informative artifacts remains at a lower order of precision. In some instances, a comparison of DU and LOCA data in the same area would reveal a different range of artifact types. Ideally, this should not be the case. This problem will make for interesting comparative analysis during the off-season, but we may try to find a way to deal with it next year. I do not recommend abandoning our current system, as the problems this causes are not worth giving up consistency in our method, but we should try to minimize the number of pieces that fall into this trap.