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Processing Team Final Report, 2001

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The 2001 Processing Team was enhanced this year by the addition of more staff. The team totaled 10 people. The PT leaders were Amy Dill, Tim Gregory, and Daniel Pullen. Other team members include Emily Anderson (returning from last year), Juliana di Gustini, Tracy Berkstrom, Bibiane Choi, David Fabricant, and Tom Kieliszewski. In addition, Ella Cox scanned drawings back in Ancient Korinth for us. We had enough team members to field 3 full teams of processors when needed or to allow some members to work at the OSU dig house while others work in the field.

In Field Projects and Activities

The PT processed the finds from Vayia/Lychnari, Vigla, Rachi, West of Stadium, and Kromna/Perdikaria/Rachi Boska areas. All SUIR forms from Amy and Daniel have been entered into the database. There remain, as of 8/5/2001 morning, a number of SUIR forms from Tim to be entered.

We have partly processed experimental DUs 4001-4005. Amy, Tim, and Daniel read the pottery in a dirty state in the field. The pottery from 4004 and 4005 was brought into the EKAS lab for washing and reading in a clean state. As of 8/5/2001 4004 and 4005 were washed and labeled, but not yet read in a clean state by any of the three.

Team members (Amy, Tom, Bibiane, and Daniel) helped map and draw architectural features at various places.

Lab Projects and Activities

The first project undertaken was the inventory of the 2000 finds. This was completed in the first few days of the regular season. All problems with the inventory were resolved. Items said to have been brought back into the lab and not appearing in the 2000 or 2001 inventory were relocated to "left in the field."

Drawing and photography of all items at EKAS lab was started. Photos of all ceramic items from DUS have been taken, but LOCA objects (the vast majority) are still being photographed. Drawings of all objects with decoration, features, or other properties meriting drawing have been made for the 2000 objects. There remain a number of objects brought into the lab in 2001 to be drawn.

To facilitate tracking of the photos and drawings, the databases for photos of all years have been combined into one, as have the databases for drawings of all years. The photo database now has nearly 900 photos entered into it. In 2001 over 350 photos were produced, most in the lab (90+ field, over 260 in lab). The drawings database now includes over 2060 drawings, half of which were produced in 2001: ca. 1020 drawings produced, over half in the lab (ca. 455 in the field, 565 in the lab).

The editing of the combined 1999-2000 finds database has consumed enormous time. Not all of the 2000 SUIR sheets were entered by the end of the 2001 field season, and the remaining ones were entered at OSU and Isthmia over the winter. Comparison of the finds database with the SUIR forms shows that some 80 DUs were not entered, and large numbers of records have missing information. A list of the problems was made and Daniel is checking these entries. A number of edits such as splitting color from fabric, quantity, collection method vs. item number, have been done. This project still remains to be completed.

The ChronoType list has been greatly expanded from last year. Still to be done, however, is to go back through the 1999-2000 SUIR forms and update the ChronoType information in the database with the new ChronoTypes.

Special projects include the documentation of the lithics by Nick Kardulias and Jon Vanderplough. The ChronoType list is being expanded to reflect the descriptions required for the lithics.

Catherine Perlès visited the EKAS lab for one afternoon (7/11). She observed the lithics from Korfos as well as from many of our LOCAS (she had looked at several LOCAs last year too). She noted that the Korfos collection is nearly unique in the Aegean in that it is one of the few places where primary reduction of material to create cores can be seen (other places include Manika, Lithares, and Phylakopi). Unfortunately it is not possible to date the Korfos lithics more specifically than to "Bronze Age," so whether the lithics are EBA or LBA remains to be seen.

Martha Risser visited the EKAS lab for one afternoon (7/12) to observe the items we had described as "Geometric" through "Archaic." For the most part she agreed with our observations, but of course had numerous refinements. The LOCA 9003 ("Pantheon") material was especially interesting for her as it had materials primarily associated with sanctuaries. She also looked at the Experimental DU 4003 and saw many of the same Archaic pieces Amy and Daniel had seen.

Liane Houghtalin worked in the EKAS lab for a day and a half, identifying the 9 ancient EKAS coins found so far. Most are issued in Corinth, 400-146 BC, though one is as late as 10th/11th centuries AD. Liane said the collection of coins is fairly representative of what one would expect to find from an excavation in the area. She provided detailed coin cards for each one (these have been scanned and the information entered into the finds database).

Processing of finds brought into the lab was hampered by the strike of museum guards. We lost an entire week's worth of afternoon processing time at the OSU/Isthmia survey house.

Prospects for 2002 season

There is a considerable amount of processing of materials brought back to the lab in the last week or so remaining to be done (due in part to the museum guards strike). A number of bags not found by the processing team was relocated on 8/4/2001, and this material will be processed in 2002 (DUs 2177, 2187, 2258, 2265, 2266, 2665, 2671-2673). The drawing and photographic documentation of all the materials in the lab will continue in 2002. Materials from 3 units (DUs 1700-1702), not found in 2000 by the processing team and declared lost, had actually been turned into the Isthmia Museum and came to us only this summer; this

material will, too, be processed in 2002. There is probably at least two weeks' worth of activity for a small processing team of 3 or 4 people in 2002.

The editing of the 1999-2000 finds database did not get finished. There are numerous lists of edits necessary, many of which will necessitate access to the notebooks. There are also a number of units from 2000 not yet entered.

The lithics database has not yet been instituted. Jon Vanderplough was able to record a majority of the lithics from LOCAs, but there remain others to process, including those from DUs. The lithics database can be worked out with Nick Kardulias and Jon during the coming year.

A major need is to go back through the 1999 and 2000 records and update the ChronoType identities with the current ChronoType list. Also, we need to take the documentation and descriptions of items from the field and refine the ChronoTypes. This is where the select Appendix: I have included here parts of other documents regarding numbering conventions.

Numbering of documentation and objects in Experimental DUs (4000 series)

For DUs 4001-4005:

Each DU was walked with the usual spacing of 10 m between walkers, each walker focusing on the usual 2 m wide swath. Two collections were made, one using ChronoType, the other using a Total collection [n.b.: the true "total" collection will be the ChronoType plus the Total collections].

The item numbers recorded in the field by the three processors are indicated by two series of numbers: 1+ for the usual ChronoType collection, and 901+ for the Total collection in 2 m wide swath. The subunit consists of the Walker number (1 through 4 or 5, depending on the number of swaths walked).

For purposes of the database, however, the subunit numbers were modified to include a 3-digit code. The first digit is the recorder, 1 = Amy, 2 = Tim, 3 = Daniel. The second digit is the status of the material, 1 = dirty, in-the-field recording, and 2 = clean in-the-lab recording. The third digit is the Walker number. Thus Amy used subunit 11n (where n = walker number) for her records in the Finds database of the objects recorded in the field, Tim used 21n, and Daniel used 31n.

The drawings done in the field likewise use the same 3-digit code for the subunit, as several items were drawn more than once.

The objects from 4003 and 4004 are washed and labeled with the DU, walker number (1, 2, ... 5), and item number. When the objects are read in the lab, each recorder will use 2 as the second digit to indicate the clean status of the material read.

The one drawback with this system is that there is no direct method for matching up the individual dirty in-the-field readings from one recorder to another nor for matching up the in-the-field and in-the-lab readings. But we will be able to make concordances and associate a number of individual items with the help of descriptions and drawings.

PROCESSING: OBJECT NUMBERING

The full Object Reference Number consists of 10 digits: 4 digits for the DU/LOCA number, 3 digits for the subunit number, and 3 digits for the item number (initial zeroes are added when necessary). The Object Reference Number is the link among the various individual databases that constitute the SUIR (Survey Unit Item Registry), such as Finds, Photos, and Drawings.

Objects described in the field are numbered consecutively within each DU or LOCA subunit, based on the collection method. Six collection methods have been recognized, and the item numbering system that reflects the collection method:

<u>Item Numbers</u>	<u>Collection method</u>
1-100	regular DU collection using ChronoType system
101-200	LOCA collection using ChronoType system in 5 m ² circle
201-300	LOCA collection of all materials (total) in 5 m ² circle
301-400	LOCA collection using ChronoType system in 10 x 10 grid square
401-500	LOCA collection of all materials (total) in 10 x 10 grid square
501-700	grab collections (both DU and LOCA)
701-800	LOCA collection using ChronoType system in entire unit or subunit
801-900	LOCA collection of all materials (total) in entire unit or subunit
901-999	total collection of all materials in DU 2 m wide swaths [used in experimental units to compare with regular DU ChronoType collection procedure]

Thus most items found by the DU teams will be numbered 1+ (grab samples do occur on DUs, so some items will be numbered 501+). As the vast majority of DUs do not have subunits associated with them, the Object Reference Number will have 000 for the subunit. For practical purposes, the subunit is often omitted when writing the Object Reference Number on sherds, drawings, etc. Thus one will see 1527-13 or 613-2 that will be expanded to 1527000013 and 0613000002 in the computer's Object Reference Number.

For LOCA objects, their position in the LOCA is critical. The LOCAs are divided into subunits, whether grid squares, collection circles, or other units dictated by the size of the LOCA. Whatever subunit type, these are numbered from 1+. Objects from the subunits are numbered sequentially by collection method from each subunit. Thus one might see 9001-13-109 or 9007-117-502. Occasionally grab samples will be collected from the LOCA without reference to a specific subunit; in this case, the subunit = 0 (or 000). Thus one might see 9002-501 written on a sherd, expanded to 9002000501.

Any extraordinary collection types or anomalies are generally noted in the remarks/comments field in the finds database. This should always be the case when a subunit number is used in a DU.