



INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH
NATIONAL HELLENIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE

**MAPPING SETTLEMENT DESERTION IN
SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE FROM ANTIQUITY
TO THE MODERN ERA**

22-23.4.2021

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_casFPYCyTpGkxpoN2YOvqw

Program



Thursday 22 April 2021

16:00 • Welcome and opening remarks:
Maria Christina Chatziioannou

Session I Spatial, historical and archaeological dimensions of settlement desertion: Diachronic Approaches I

Chair: **Sophia Zoumbaki**

16:10 • **Charikleia Papageorgiadou**
"Tragic" history and coin evidence. The fate of Corinth and Delos.

16:30 • **Anca Dan**
Mapping settlement desertion on the Western coast of the Black Sea: the end of Antiquity.

16:50 • **Christina Tsigonaki**
Mind the gap: reconsidering the abandonment of the cities and important settlements of Crete (8th century - early 9th century).

17:10 • **Lucia Nixon**
Settlement Desertion and Management of Resource Packages in Venetian-Turkish Sphakia, SW Crete.

17:30 • **Eleni Gadolou**
Spatial patterns of settlements during and after the Greek Revolution: Modelling historical data through georeference.

17:50 • **Discussion**

18:20 • **Break**

Session II
The role of the environment:
A diachronic variable of settlement desertion

Chair: Michael Festas

18:30 • Anna Michailidou

Investigating settlement desertion on the island of Thera: Environmental factors and Human behaviour.

18:50 • Sophia Zoumbaki

The desertions of Olympia: The role of climatic and natural phenomena.

19:10 • Vasiliki Kouskouna

Abandoned settlements in Greece due to earthquakes and cascading phenomena.

19:30 • Discussion

20:00 • Rebecca M. Seifried

Short presentation and discussion: Volume *Deserted Villages: Perspectives from the Eastern Mediterranean*, Rebecca M. Seifried and Deborah E. Brown Stewart, eds. Grand Forks: Digital Press at the University of North Dakota, 2021

Friday 23 April 2021

Session I
**Spatial, historical and archaeological dimensions of
settlement desertion: Diachronic Approaches II**

Chair: Anastasia Yangaki

16:00 • Vyron Antoniadis

Decline and Revival in the "Deles Islands": A Diachronic Study in the Cyclades.

16:20 • Mihailo Popović and Bernhard Koschicek

Roads of Conquest, Roads of Destruction: Settlement Desertion as Mirrored in the Byzantino-Serbian Antagonism in Byzantine Macedonia (13th/14th Centuries).

16:40 • Elias Kolovos

Settlement desertion and resettlement in Halkidiki during the transition from Byzantine to Ottoman rule.

17:00 • Laszlo Ferenczi - Martin Janovsky

Settlement desertion along the northern (Hungarian) frontiers of the Ottoman Empire in the 15th-16th centuries.

**17:20 • Anna Athanasouli, Michael Festas,
Dimitris Dimitropoulos**

Revisiting Deserted Villages in the Greek Peninsula; Mapping the Deserted Settlements in the Peloponnese 18th-20th century.

17:40 • Discussion

18:10 • Break

Session II
Landscape's Archaeology contributions
to the research of settlement desertion

Chair: Vyron Antoniadis

18:20 • Athanasios K. Vionis

Historical Archaeology and approaches to settlement 'abandonment' in Greece and Cyprus.

18:40 • Anastasia Dakouri-Hild with E. Andrikou, S. Davis, A. Agapiou, P. Bes, X. Charalambidou, M. Chidioglou, T. Kinnaird, K. Sarri & A. Yangaki

The cultural life of an Attic landscape: visualizing patterns of habitation at Aphidna, Greece, using multimodal landscape analysis.

19:00 • Effie F. Athanassopoulos

Landscape Archaeology and Settlement Desertion: A Multidisciplinary Approach.

19:20 • John Bintliff

Settlement desertion in Greece: a long-term perspective. The evidence from the Boeotia Project.

19:40 • Discussion

Organizing - Scientific committee:

Maria Christina Chatziioannou

Vyron Antoniadis

Dimitris Dimitropoulos

Charikleia Papageorgiadou

Anastasia Yangaki

Sophia Zoumbaki

Scientific Organising Secretariat:

Michael Festas

Eastern European Summer Time (UTC +3) zone

Institute of Historical Research - NHRF, 48 Vassileos Constantinou Ave.,
GR 116 35 Athens • Tel. +30 210.72.73.619 • Email: iie@eie.gr

List of Participants & Contact Information

Antoniadis Vyron, Associate Researcher, Section of Greek and Roman Antiquity (SGRA), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), vant@eie.gr

Athanasouli Anna, Research Collaborator, Section of Neohellenic Research (SNR), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), athanasouli@eie.gr

Athanassopoulos F. Effie, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Classics, University of Nebraska Lincoln, efa@unl.edu

Bintliff John, Professor emeritus of Classical and Mediterranean Archaeology, University of Leiden, j.l.bintliff@hum.leidenuniv.nl

Chatziioannou Maria Christina, Research Director, Section of Neohellenic Research (SNR), Director of the Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), marstina@eie.gr

Dakouri-Hild Anastasia, Associate Professor, Aegean and Near Eastern Archaeology, University of Virginia, Department of Art, ad9huva@gmail.com

Dan Anca, Researcher, French National Centre for Scientific Research, anca.dan01@gmail.com

Dimitropoulos Dimitris, Research Director, Section of Neohellenic Research (SNR), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), dimdim@eie.gr

Ferenczi Laszlo, PhD Postdoctoral researcher, Department of Archaeology, Charles University, Prague, ferenczi_laszlo@alumni.ceu.edu

Festas Michael, Research Collaborator, Section of Neohellenic Research (SNR), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), mfestas@eie.gr

Gadolou Eleni, Postdoctoral researcher, Dr. Geography, Surveyor Engineer, Section of Neohellenic Research (SNR), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), elenigadolou@gmail.com

Janovsky Martin, Mgr, Department of Archaeology, Charles University, Prague, Martin.Janovsky@ff.cuni.cz

Kolovos Elias, Associate Professor in Ottoman History, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Crete, ekolovos1@gmail.com

Koschicek Bernhard, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Medieval Research, Division of Byzantine Research, Bernhard.Koschicek@oeaw.ac.at

Kouskouna Vasiliki, Associate Professor, Department of Geology and Geoenvironment, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, vkouskouna@geol.uoa.gr

Michailidou Anna, Research Director Emerita, Section of Greek and Roman Antiquity (SGRA), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), amihail@eie.gr

Nixon Lucia, Wolfson College, Oxford, lucia.nixon@classics.ox.ac.uk

Papageorgiadou Charikleia, Research Director, Section of Greek and Roman Antiquity (SGRA), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), hpapag@eie.gr

Popović Mihailo, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Medieval Research, Division of Byzantine Research, Mihailo.Popovic@oeaw.ac.at

Seifried M. Rebecca, Geospatial Information Librarian, University of Massachusetts Amherst, rseifried@umass.edu

Tsigonaki Christina, Assistant Professor in Byzantine Archaeology, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Crete, tsigonaki@uoc.gr

Vionis K. Athanasios, Director, Archaeological Research Unit, Associate Professor in Byzantine Archaeology and Art, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Cyprus, vionis@ucy.ac.cy

Yangaki Anastasia, Senior Researcher, Section of Byzantine Research (SBR), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), yangaki@eie.gr

Zoumbaki Sophia, Research Director, Section of Greek and Roman Antiquity (SGRA), Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation (IHR/NHRF), szoumpa@eie.gr

Cover photo: Abandoned settlement at Kyparissos (ancient Kainipolis), Mani.



INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH
NATIONAL HELLENIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE

**MAPPING SETTLEMENT DESERTION IN
SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE FROM ANTIQUITY
TO THE MODERN ERA**

22-23.4.2021

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_casFPYCyTpGkxpoN2YOvqw

Abstracts



Thursday 22 April 2021

Session I

**Spatial, historical and archaeological dimensions of
settlement desertion: Diachronic Approaches I**

«Tragic» history and coin evidence.

The fate of Corinth and Delos

Charikleia Papageorgiadou

Numismatic evidence and coin hoards, in particular, provide solid or even unique evidence for specific historical events. Two cases are presented here, Delos and Corinth, for both of which ancient sources testify disaster, annihilation and abandonment. However, numismatic finds show that life continued in their ruins, although in an extremely different way and scale.

The end of Delos has to be rather related to the changing of the sea trade circumstances than to the recurring attacks and sacks, although they accelerated this inevitable course. On the other hand, archaeological evidence does not confirm the lamentations on Corinth's destruction which seems to be less radical than narrated by contemporaneous writers. In this case, coin finds delineate the reactions of Corinthians facing the impending danger, as well as their fate after the destruction.

The fate of both cities provided the field for literary exaggerations in the ethical context of sic transit gloria mundi conception than a rational historical approach.

**Mapping settlement desertion on the Western coast
of the Black Sea: the end of Antiquity**

Anca Dan

Despite Justinian's efforts to reinforce the defence of the Danubian limes by fortifying number of Black Sea and Danubian sites, the successive attacks of the Avars, Slaves and Bulgarians put an end to the Greco-Roman presence on the territory of Dobrodgea (SE of today's Romania and NE of Bulgaria) in the first decades of the 7th century. Taking over from Procopius' inventory of fortifications (On Buildings), this presentation lists the archaeological traces attesting the latest contacts of the Greek sites on the Western Black Sea coast with the Byzantine Empire, during Heraclius' reign. Going through the rich bibliography

which deals with the chronological break in the Byzantine presence at the mouths of the Danube (7th-11th centuries), the paper discusses the objective proofs of the break (discontinuity in toponymy and archaeological culture) and their treatment in the historiography of the Romanian and Bulgarian ethnogenesis.

**Mind the gap: reconsidering the abandonment
of the cities and important settlements of Crete
(8th century - early 9th century)**

Christina Tsigonaki

The paper examines the abandonment of cities and important settlements in Crete during the 8th-beginning of the 9th centuries. In the literature on the subject the primary focus has been on the "collapse" or "transformation" of urban culture, a phenomenon that affects all the provinces of the empire at whatever exact point in time it took place. Climate change, natural disasters, changing geopolitical correlations, social and economic collapse and war are among the various reasons that could be cited as responsible. The argument here will focus on three cases, set in very different geographical surroundings and of different administrative statuses: a) Eleutherna, a semi-mountainous city and the seat of a diocese in Central Crete, b) Elounda, one of the largest ports on the north coast in eastern Crete and the neighboring kastro of Oxa, and c) Sougia an important coastal settlement on the southwest coast of Crete. The possible causes for the desolation of these once prosperous cities and settlements within the Cretan and wider Mediterranean contexts will be discussed.

**Settlement Desertion and Management of Resource
Packages in Venetian-Turkish Sphakia, SW Crete**

Lucia Nixon

There can be many reasons for settlement desertion. In this paper I consider desertions in Sphakia, SW Crete, using three examples from the Venetian-Turkish (VT) period, so that we can compare archaeological, environmental, and ethnographic information with contemporary texts. I analyse this information using the concept of resource packages, developed in order to investigate landscape management in Sphakia (Nixon 2006). A resource package (RP) is a combination of perceived resources in a specific area, which people use in a specific way at a specific time.

People in Sphakia tended to live in more or less sedentary agro-pastoral communities. Each settlement had a minimum local RP including arable, pasturage, water procurement, and connectivities (in/visibility, inter/visibility of specific locations; networks inside/outside Sphakia, by land and sea). People also used other RPs, often some distance from settlements, and sometimes at a significantly different altitude, as in the case of the pastures (Madhares) in the White Mountains.

This paper looks chiefly at three deserted settlements, two rather small (2-9 houses each), and one larger (16 houses). These settlements lie in three different areas of Sphakia: the Frangokastello area in E Sphakia; the Ag Ioannis area in central Sphakia; and the Trypiti Gorge in W Sphakia. Two are known from texts while the third, near Ag. Ioannis village, is not, as far as we know. The presence of at least some evidence for the Prehistoric and Graeco-Roman periods at all three settlements suggests that they each had a useful RP which people could exploit.

I shall explore some possible reasons for their respective desertions, using evidence from the Sphakia Survey, an archaeological project, co-directed by Nixon and Moody, which investigates human activity in this rugged area, from people's arrival (later 4th millennium BC) to the end of Ottoman rule (1898).

Spatial patterns of settlements during and after the Greek Revolution: Modelling historical data through georeference

Eleni Gadolou

Historical information encompasses all three aspects of space, time and theme allowing thus, its georeference and model within a Geographical Information System. Despite the fact that geo-historical data may be characterized by ambiguity or a low level of spatial accuracy, the spatial classification, geo-visualization and analysis of them allow for patterns to be revealed otherwise difficult to extract. Historical maps, more specifically, acting complementary to other historical material, are the most important source of historical spatial information, sometimes unique and not available in other sources since they depict, apart from the actual location of entities, also their spatial relations. In this framework, this study aims to identify the spatial patterns and correlations of the settlements during and after the Greek Revolution, as these are derived from the historical maps of that period, implementing spatial statistics as well as different visualization criteria in order to explore and interpret data.

Session II
The role of the environment:
A diachronic variable of settlement desertion.

Investigating Bronze Age settlement desertion on the island of Thera: Environmental factors and Human behaviour

Anna Michailidou

The excavations by Sp. Marinatos at the site of Akrotiri on the south coast of the island of Thera (1967-1974), have brought to light a town destroyed by a big eruption in the late Bronze Age period, during the peak of the Minoan culture. But it was another eruption in Thera, 100 years before Marinatos's investigation, in 1866/67, that attracted the geologists to come to this island; this is how a combined research by scientists and archaeologists started and is still going on in our days with very fruitful results.

During the so-called "Minoan" eruption of the Bronze Age, the layers of pumice and volcanic tephra which covered the settlements on the pre-eruption soil of prehistoric Thera, preserved the last moment of their function. Scientific and archaeological investigation proved that there was no later interference of nature or human hand. Thus, when this thick material envelop was simply removed by the excavators, the real picture of a deserted settlement was revealed to their eyes.

Therefore, in the case study to be presented to this international conference, we have the following advantages: a) ample evidence of the main cause of destruction; b) secure evidence of a short time desertion by all population; c) an interesting scientific debate on the date of the desertion; d) aspects of the influence of environmental factors on human behavior; e) suggestions on methodology combining tools from a variety of sciences, not only archaeology or history and f) the real picture of a settlement at the peak of its economic development which vanished from a world of more or less global interaction.

The desertions of Olympia:
The role of climatic and natural phenomena

Sophia Zoumbaki

By the time the systematic German excavation began in 1875, Olympia was an uninhabited place. The remains of the famous ancient sanctuary were buried under tons of sediments and even the ancient toponym Olympia had been forgotten. The excavation data made clear that the site had experienced consecutive

phases of flourish, decline and desertion. In Late Antiquity, the ancient cult was abandoned, the Olympic Games were suspended and the sanctuary declined. A Christian settlement was later established on the spot and abandoned in two phases. Finally a Slavic settlement followed and disappeared, leaving few hints behind. The unearthed archaeological treasures and the increasing number of tourists led to a gradual revival of the place and a new phase of flourish.

The responsibility of modern society for the preservation and sustainability of Olympia as a valuable part of cultural heritage imposes the study, maintenance and safekeeping of archaeological finds. However, precautionary protective measures against physical disasters are also crucial since the surrounding ecosystem is fragile and vulnerable, as the horrible fire of 2007 has made clear. Archaeological, geological, paleobotanological and paleoclimatic research has shown that Olympia experienced various natural dangers, such as earthquakes, floods, thunderbolts.

The paper attempts to trace the causes of decline and desertion in each phase of Olympia's history, assessing the role of historical evolutions as well as of the vulnerable natural environment and the physical dangers. Whereas the decline of the ancient sanctuary seems not to have been caused by a natural disaster, the abandonment of the Christian and Slavic settlements was the result of natural phenomena, as the archaeological investigation has shown. We also discuss the factors which encouraged Olympia's resilience and its capacity to recover or adapt to natural challenges and the factors that led to its decline and desertion.

Abandoned settlements in Greece due to earthquakes and cascading phenomena

Vasiliki Kouskouna

Catastrophic earthquakes and their cascading phenomena have been responsible in the ancient world for the abandonment of towns and settlements. Although it remains difficult to assess the real extent of earthquake damage in older times, unless there are exceptions to the general rule in the form of well-documented cases, Eliki, completely lost due to the 373 BC earthquake, is considered as the Greek "Pompei case". Failure of relative sources is observed in later periods, up to the 19th century, which is characterized by extended earthquake disasters (e.g. 1881 Chios, 1886 Philiatra, 1894 Atalanti earthquakes). Examples of such abandonment continue today,, mainly for economic reasons. The cost of repair of old adobe houses is higher than building a new village from scratch, at a nearby more geologically stable and economically favorable location. Natural phenomena following violent earthquakes, such as landslides, urban fires, liquefaction, etc. are also responsible for desertion, coupled with societal changes and land development.

Friday 23 April 2021

Session I

**Spatial, historical and archaeological dimensions of
settlement desertion: Diachronic Approaches II**

**Decline and Revival in the «Deles Islands»:
A Diachronic Study in the Cyclades**

Vyron Antoniadis

The people of Mykonos with the name "Deles" refer to the islands of Delos and Rheneia. Delos in the Archaic and Classical periods was a major religious and political centre and, after 168 BC, became one of the largest trading centres of the eastern Mediterranean. The Delian sanctuary of Apollo had estates both at Rheneia and Mykonos. Archaeologists support that in late Antiquity, Delos and Rheneia were largely abandoned. In the Medieval and especially in the Modern period, the people of Mykonos used the other two islands for agricultural, pastoral and mining activities. From the early 20th century and onwards, Delos became an important archaeological site and a famous tourist destination. The Mykonians have participated actively both in excavations as workers and as entrepreneurs in the tourist business.

The author uses various case studies from antiquity and the Modern era to support that these islands have functioned throughout the ages as a single entity. It is suggested that islanders never utterly deserted Rheneia and Delos but shifted from one adjacent island to another. With this study, the author addresses the concepts of abandonment and revival in the Cyclades from antiquity to the contemporary era.

**Roads of Conquest, Roads of Destruction: Settlement
Desertion as Mirrored in the Byzantino-Serbian
Antagonism in Byzantine Macedonia (13th/14th Centuries)**

Mihailo Popović and Bernhard Koschicek

Our paper is based on results from the FWF project "Byzantino-Serbian Border Zones in Transition: Migration and Elite Change in pre-Ottoman Macedonia (1282-1355)" (P 30384-G28). The Balkans witnessed a time of war and change of power between the Byzantine Empire and the Serbian Kingdom in the 13th

and 14th centuries. The Serbian expansion took place from the important city of Skopje in the North in the direction of the town of Prilep in the South in various stages from 1282 until 1334.

For our paper, two source-based terms in medieval Serbian charters are essential. Firstly, these charters attest to so-called *exaleimmata* (abandoned landed property). Secondly, we come across the term *selište*. It indicates either a settlement site, which was foreseen to be resettled, or a destroyed village. We can tell the difference in many cases, because the sources highlight very often explicitly that a settlement site was deserted (in Serbian *pusto*). Our hypothesis is that these deserted villages could mark a path of destruction, on which King Stefan Dušan marched to the South against the Byzantine Empire.

Settlement desertion and resettlement in Halkidiki during the transition from Byzantine to Ottoman rule

Elias Kolovos

The paper is based on an extensive study of the toponyms of Halkidiki, Northern Greece, from the Byzantine and Ottoman registers, which has located a critical number of settlement desertions during the transition from Byzantine to Ottoman rule, before, and after. Revisiting the methodology of the seminal paper by Hélène Antoniadis - Bibicou, “Villages désertés en Grèce XIe-XIXe siècles” (1965), I will examine in this case-study the multiple demographic, social, economic, and environmental reasons behind these desertions, taking also into account the various resettlements in the area under Ottoman rule and their different characteristics as well.

Settlement desertion along the northern (Hungarian) frontiers of the Ottoman Empire in the 15th-16th centuries

Laszlo Ferenczi and Martin Janovsky

Settlement research in Hungary has long ago pointed to large scale settlement desertion during the late medieval and early modern periods in Hungary. Historians have identified its different chronological phases (waves), linking them to both environmental and economic factors, and archaeological research also provided illustrative evidence in connection to changes in settlement structures and land use, clarifying differences between land desertion and settlement desertion.

Our essay will briefly outline the historiographical context, and present a quantitative spatial statistical assessment of large-scale settlement desertion in late medieval and early modern Hungary. The focus will be on the Great Hungarian Plain, the central region of the Carpathian Basin, which was dissected by the Habsburg – Ottoman border and became a frontier zone, affected by frequent military activities during the 16th and 17th centuries. In spite of the devastations, economic activities in the area continued, as for example long distance cattle trade started to play a crucial role in supplying western markets with meat based on cattle breeding areas situated in the Great Hungarian Plain. The economic boom had diverging effects on settlement desertion. Topographical studies focusing on centres of trade underline that major market towns were in fact interested in keeping their neighbourhood deserted in order to gain grazing lands. On the other hand, one may also hypothesize that the vicinity of markets could have affected desertion also in the opposite way, as the closeness of market centres also helped to keep the population of neighbouring settlements steady, providing a relatively safe environment, and accessibility to market resources.

Relying on a digital database of medieval settlements (Engel 2001), we apply topological and distance based models to describe settlement desertion in connection to both internal migration and external factors.

**Revisiting Deserted Villages in the Greek Peninsula;
Mapping the Deserted Settlements in the
Peloponnese 18th-20th century**

Anna Athanasouli, Michael Festas, Dimitris Dimitropoulos

Raised in the 1960s by European historians, the question on post-medieval and modern settlement desertion in the Mediterranean has not received much attention in modern Greek historiography, apart from a few very recent mostly archaeological surveys. The case of the Peloponnese, in southwestern Greece, is a starting point to re-examine from a long-term perspective the question of deserted settlements in the Greek peninsula within its historiographical, conceptual, methodological and spatial framework.

By juxtaposing the Venetian Census of the Peloponnese (1700), the population enumerations carried out at the end of the Greek Revolution (1821-1830), official state censuses of the 19th-20th centuries, as well as other historical sources, historical and digital maps, toponymy, and field survey the paper aims at mapping the deserted settlements in the Peloponnese from the the beginning

of the 18th century until the Greek Revolution and from the end of the Greek War of Independence until the 20th century.

The paper refocuses on the written sources, as they provide more insight to desertion causes compared to the study of the villages' material remains, without overlooking however the existing studies and the need for an interdisciplinary approach of the subject. With the aid of digital mapping and GIS technologies this paper seeks to formulate hypotheses on desertion causes by investigating the spatial and demographic characteristics of those settlements.

Session II

Landscape's Archaeology contributions to the research of settlement desertion.

Historical Archaeology and approaches to settlement 'abandonment' in Greece and Cyprus

Athanasios K. Vionis

By employing a range of approaches, from historical/textual and archaeological, anthropological and ethnographic, to spatial analysis and digital humanities, the aim of this paper is to categorise and discuss the forces of rural settlement/village desertion in the pre-modern era (8th-20th c. AD) by drawing examples from past and ongoing archaeological projects in Greece and Cyprus, namely the Cyclades Research Project (CyReP) and the Settled and Sacred Landscapes of Cyprus field survey (SeSaLaC). Although there are certain causes of village desertion recorded in the Euro-Mediterranean region, such as natural disasters and climatic fluctuations, feudalism and capitalism, pandemics and conquests, political and national decisions, it is also vital to examine rural populations as active agents in the life and abandonment of their community territories in times of transition and crisis. Thus, living memory, oral history and cognitive psychology are also discussed, bringing in an unconventional dimension to Historical Archaeology, abandonment and resilience.

**The cultural life of an Attic landscape:
visualizing patterns of habitation at Aphidna,
Greece, using multimodal landscape analysis**

*Anastasia Dakouri-Hild with E. Andrikou, S. Davis, A. Agapiou, P. Bes,
X. Charalambidou, M. Chidioglou, T. Kinnaird, K. Sarri & A. Yangaki*

The paper presents the 2019 season results of the Kotroni Archaeological Survey Project (KASP) in the Aphidnian landscape near Kapandriti, Athens, describes a variety of methodological procedures and techniques used to evaluate this multitemporal cultural landscape, and queries the possible meaning of preliminary patterns of habitation observed in the field.

**Landscape Archaeology and Settlement Desertion: A
Multidisciplinary Approach**

Effie F. Athanassopoulos

This paper will examine effective research strategies for the study of past settlement systems. Regional landscape archaeology projects have documented cycles of settlement growth and desertion in Greece and the broader Aegean region. Since the early surveys of the 1950s (e.g., Minnesota Messenia Expedition), landscape archaeology has introduced the diachronic approach, which has opened new paths for the study of settlements of all periods, from prehistory to the present.

Landscape archaeology grew out of processual studies, such as settlement archaeology and human ecology, which emphasize the physical features, land use, and ecological limitations of environments. This framework has offered the tools to investigate the material record of all social groups, including the historically invisible, the rural population, that earlier elite-centered archaeological research had neglected. Large-scale, intensive regional landscape archaeology projects have been undertaken in several areas of Greece, including the Peloponnesos, (e.g., Southern Argolid, Nemea, Laconia, Berbati Limnes, Methana, Pylos, Asea, Eastern Corinthia) central Greece (Boeotia), Crete (Sphakia, Vrokastro), some of the islands (e.g., Cyclades, Melos, Keos, Kythera) and Cyprus. Most of these projects have published their results, which have provided a wealth of information for the diachronic study of settlement.

Contemporary landscape archaeology projects are technically sophisticated and interdisciplinary, drawing from perspectives in archaeology, history, art history, architecture, and related disciplines. They incorporate remote sensing and GPS technology to locate and describe settlements and artifact scatters, and GIS to map and analyze site and artifact distributions. Furthermore, they are informed by historical approaches, including Historic Landscape Characterization (HLC), the mapping of the entire landscape with reference to its historic development. This paper will provide an overview of current landscape approaches and identify their strengths and weaknesses for the diachronic study of settlement, its development and desertion. It will present case studies from southern Greece, focusing on the work of the Nemea Valley Archaeological Project.

**Settlement desertion in Greece: a long-term perspective.
The evidence from the Boeotia Project**

John Bintliff

Historians have long been intrigued by the phenomenon of deserted villages. In 1965 Antoniadis-Bibicou published an influential article on this topic for Greece, based essentially on written sources. The archaeological study of abandoned settlements was however pioneered in England, by Maurice Beresford and publicised in a book of 1954. Since then Landscape Archaeology has advanced throughout Europe, using additional resources such as remote sensing from the air and geophysical prospection, as well as mapping the impact of deserted communities on their surrounding landscape through the analysis of fossil field systems and offsite ceramic scatters. This presentation will illustrate a detailed sequence of settlement abandonment and relocation since the Early Iron Age up to the Early Modern era in Central Greece, using the evidence from the long-lived Boeotia Project.