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SKYLLIS

Zeitschrift für maritime und limnische Archäologie und Kulturgeschichte

20. Jahrgang 2020



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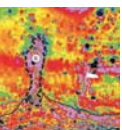


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tation is broadly distributed in the
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to the former shore and fewer
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Two concentrations can be seen,
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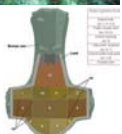
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Titelmotiv

Logo:
30 Jahre DEGUWA
20 Jahrgänge *Skyllis*

Vorwort

Die DEGUWA feierte am 11. Januar 2021 den dreißigsten Jahrestag ihrer Gründung. Kurz zuvor begingen die DEGUWA-Tagungen „In Poseidons Reich“ mit der IPR XXV in Frankfurt 2020 ihr fünfundsamzigstes Jubiläum. Und schließlich liegt mit diesem Band der zwanzigste Jahrgang der Zeitschrift SKYLLIS vor.

SKYLLIS 1 erschien bereits 1998; eine Diskrepanz ergab sich aufgrund von drei Doppel-Jahrgängen 2003–2008. Christoph Börker und Peter

Winterstein würdigen die bisherige Geschichte der DEGUWA in ihrem Beitrag für diesen Band.

Wie bereits im Vorwort zu SKYLLIS 19 angekündigt, erscheint unsere Zeitschrift nunmehr nicht mehr in zwei Teilheften, sondern einem einheitlichen Band pro Jahr. Eine weitere Neuerung wird ab dem kommenden Band zum Tragen kommen: Der DEGUWA-Vorstand hat sich darauf geeinigt, die Beiträge künftig einer fachlichen und formalen Begutachtung in einem beidseitig anonymen Peer-Review-Verfahren zu unterziehen. Damit soll die Attraktivität des

SKYLLIS vor allem für jüngere Wissenschaftler, die ‚peer-reviewed‘ Publikationen in ihrer Publikationsliste benötigen, gesteigert werden.



Die Teilnehmer der IPR XXV vor dem Archäologischen Museum in Frankfurt
(Foto: Mathias Orgeldinger)

Den Kern des vorliegenden Bands bilden elf Beiträge, die auf Vorträge auf der Tagung „In Poseidons Reich XXV. Ökonomie und Logistik auf Binnengewässern im Römischen Reich“ zurückgehen. Diese fand vom 12.–17. Februar 2020 im Archäologischen Museum Frankfurt statt. Dank der Gastfreundschaft des Direktors Wolfgang David und seiner Mitarbeiter konnten wir dort eine ebenso konzentrierte wie unbeschwertere Tagung abhalten. Die schöne Erinnerung daran half über viele schwierige Monate der bis heute andauernden Pandemie hinweg.

Zwei weitere Beiträge von Alexey Khotylev und Sergey Olkhovskiy sowie von Harun Özdaş, Nilhan Kızıldağ und Winfried Held gehen noch auf die IPR XXIV in Bodrum

2019 zurück. Hinzu kommen zwei weitere Beiträge: Vladimir Chepelev beschäftigt sich mit einer Jacht, die der preußische König Friedrich Wilhelm I. dem russischen Zar Peter dem Großen geschenkt hatte. Matthias Link stellt eine neue These für die Funktionsweise bronzezeitlicher Steinanker vor und löst damit überzeugend das

diese in der bisher angenommenen Funktionsweise als Gewichtsanker für große Schiffe wie das Uluburun-Schiff eine viel zu geringe Haltekraft haben.

Alexandra Villing und Susanne Ebbinghaus gedenken in einem Nachruf der verstorbenen Karin Hornig, die über viele Jahre auf den DEGUWA-Tagungen präsent war und in SKYLLIS etliche Beiträge veröffentlicht hat. Zwei Rezensionen im *Bücherbrett* runden den Band ab.

im Mai 2021
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Survey of the Coasts of the Karian Chersonesos

The Coastal Necropolis of Thyssanous

Harun Özdaş – Nilhan Kızıldağ – Winfried Held

Abstract – The “Coastal Survey of the Karian Chersonesos” is a new Turkish-German interdisciplinary project using the methods of underwater and land archaeology, and marine geology. The survey area covering the shores of the modern Bozburun peninsula in Southwest Turkey is very promising due to its density of well-preserved ancient ruins and sites, which are increasingly threatened by modern construction and tourism activities. As a case study, the results of the survey of the coastal necropolis of Thyssanous in the bay of Söğüt are presented. The tomb monuments of the Hellenistic to Roman Imperial periods are partly submerged due to a relative sea-level rise since antiquity. They were deliberately positioned at the shore and oriented towards the sea so that they were well in sight from ships sailing to or leaving from the harbour of Thyssanous.

Inhalt – Der „Survey der Küsten der Karischen Chersones“ ist ein neues türkisch-deutsches und interdisziplinäres Projekt, das die Methoden der Unterwasser- und Landarchäologie mit der Meeresgeologie verbindet. Das Surveygebiet, das die Küsten der heutigen Bozburun-Halbinsel im Südwesten der Türkei umfasst, ist besonders vielversprechend aufgrund ihrer zahlreichen und gut erhaltenen antiken Ruinen und Fundstellen, die jedoch zunehmend von modernen Bau- und Tourismusaktivitäten bedroht sind. Als Fallstudie werden hier die Ergebnisse des Surveys der Küstennekropole von Thyssanous in der Bucht von Söğüt vorgestellt. Die Grabmonumente der hellenistischen Epoche und der römischen Kaiserzeit sind aufgrund eines relativen Anstiegs des Meeresspiegels seit der Antike teilweise im Meer versunken. Sie sind mit Bedacht an der Küste angelegt und auf das Meer ausgerichtet worden, so dass sie von den Schiffen, die in den Hafen von Thyssanous segelten oder aus ihm ausliefen, gut zu sehen waren.

The Project

The “Coastal Survey of the Karian Chersonesos” is a new Turkish-German project, which brings together the expertise of land and underwater archaeology with marine geology. It joins the experience of many years of research on and around the Karian Chersonesos, the present Bozburun Peninsula near modern Marmaris (Southwestern Turkey): under water in the “Turkish Underwater Archaeological Survey of the Turkish Coast” under the direction of Harun Özdaş, and on land in the Surveys “Loryma” and “Bybassos and Kastabos” under the direction of Winfried Held¹ (fig. 1). Nilhan Kızıldağ as a marine geologist especially contributes to the questions of paleo-sea-level changes, which are crucial for the understanding of partly or completely submerged archaeological sites which once have been on dry land.

The new project focusses on the transitional zone between both research areas: the coasts of the Karian Chersonesos².

The format is promising for the Chersonesos because of its outstanding density of ancient shipwrecks, of findings along the coast, and of well-preserved ruins on land. The results of the previous surveys on land and under water constitute a firm background for the interpretation of the coastal findings.

First settlers are attested on the Chersonesos in the Chalcolithic period³. For the following Bronze Age, during the land surveys, no evidence has been found except two miniature stone axes in Loryma which possibly belong to the Bronze Age⁴. This seemingly contradicts the Chersonesian place names which go back to the Bronze Age and indicate a continuity not

yet visible in the archaeological record. Rostislav Oreshko recently identified the Chersonesos with the Hu(wa)rsanassa mentioned in Hit-

* We are grateful to the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism for the survey permit, to the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey, Directorate of Strategy and Budget for financial support of the project, the representatives of the Ministry İhsan Tercan and Emre Savaş for their support, to the captain Mustafa Cengiz and crew of *STS Bodrum*, and the participants of the survey Çağatay Erciyes, Nils Schnorr, İrfan Yıldız, Samet Harmandar, and Göksu Tatoğlu, for their contributions during field work.

¹ Held – Wilkening-Aumann 2015; Held 2019, 5–10 and project bibliography p. 427–428.

² Sea and lake shores were in the focus of the IPR XXIV in Bodrum 2019 where this paper has been presented.

³ Gerber 2019.

⁴ Gerber 2019, 21. They resemble finds from Çamçalık, see note 6.



Fig. 1: Map of the Karian Chersonesos, with an approximate indication of the Loryma and Bybassos Surveys

tite sources⁵. This archaeological gap has been filled by Bronze Age finds of the underwater survey at Hisarönü Bay and Loryma, and most remarkably by the discovery of the Minoanising settlement at Çamçalık during the new coastal survey⁶.

In the first millennium BC, the Chersonesos certainly has been inhabited by Karians. In the Geometric period, they seem not to have been sedentary but rather nomadic shepherds who erected simple refuge forts ('Karische Fluchtburgen') upon hills and mountains which were only used in case of emergency⁷. Around the late 8th or early 7th century BC, they became sedentary and settled down in about 15 small but well-fortified settlements. They formed the league (*koinón*) of the Cher-

sonesians, with the sanctuary of Kastabos as assembly place. The Chersonesians thus had a decentral political organization and settlement pattern which considerably differs from the model of the Greek polis with one central city (*asty*) and a rural area (*chora*) around it, as in neighbouring Knidos or Rhodos. This non-central pattern is typical for Karia.

In 305 BC, Demetrios Poliorketes, one of the Diadochi fighting for the heritage of Alexander's Macedonian Empire, attacked Rhodos, starting from Loryma on the Chersonesos. After the siege of Rhodos which lasted for a whole year, Demetrios left Rhodos without success but leaving behind a devastated island. The Rhodians subsequently took possession of the mainland opposite of their island

in order to secure it and to exploit it economically: the 'Rhodian Peraia' which initially comprised the Chersonesos, its neighbouring region to the north 'Apeiros', and Physkos (modern Marmaris). In the first century BC, most of the peninsula was abandoned and resettled only in the 4th century AD, so that we have mainly Archaic to Hellenistic and Byzantine period contexts.

The focus of the new project is the economical archaeology of the peninsula. Shipwrecks are testimonies of ancient trade, and on land, there is plenty of evidence for ancient production. A large part of the latter refers to the production of wine and of the amphorae for the transport of the wine during the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC when the peninsula was part of the Rhodian Peraia⁸. To this context belongs also the large Hellenistic export harbour at Bybassos⁹ which was found during the Bybassos survey.

Along the shores, we expect or already found evidence for larger harbours, quays for small ships for local and regional trade, and installations for the production of marine goods like fish or possibly purple. They create a micro-network of regional sea transport and connect the Chersonesian economy through large harbours like Bybassos with the Mediterranean world.

This paper presents the preliminary results on one exemplary site studied during the two short survey seasons conducted so far.

⁵ Oreshko 2019 esp. 171–175.

⁶ Özdaş – Kızıldağ 2016; Özdaş – Kızıldağ 2017; a report on Çamçalık by Özdaş, Kızıldağ and Held is in preparation.

⁷ Held 2019, 81–92.

⁸ Held – Şenol 2010. The Chersonesian wine production and agriculture is the topic of the PhD dissertation of Sophia Şener (Marburg) which will be submitted in near future.

⁹ Held 2014b.

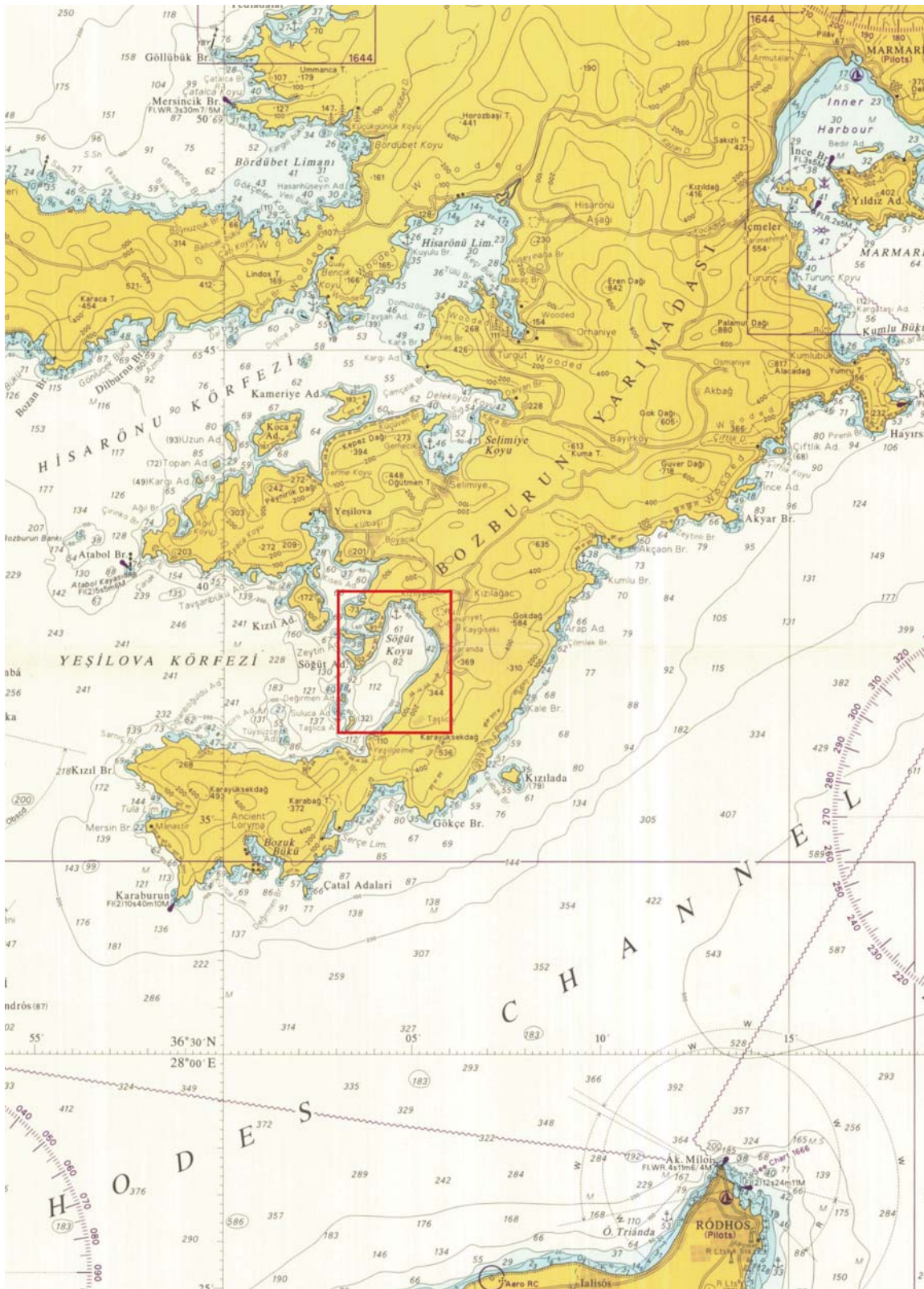


Fig. 2: British Admiralty Nautical Chart (detail) of the southern Chersonesos, with the bay of Sögüt marked

Placing the tombs of Thyssanos: a coastal necropolis

Markers of the Chersonesian identity during the Classical and Hellenistic periods are the tombs, most conspicuously the stepped bases for the – almost completely lost – tomb

monuments which only appear on the Karian Chersonesos. These bases were erected either directly on the ground or, frequently in groups, at the top of tomb terraces serving as family graves. Most of the bases are rectangular and two-stepped, but there are also bases with up to

five steps and even triangular bases. The tomb monuments originally supported by these bases can be identified as altars, stelai, sculptures, or even small shrines by occasional finds of corresponding fragments, and by characteristic beddings on the bases¹⁰.

Topographically, the cemeteries of many Chersonesian settlements follow the usual pattern of ancient cities and are situated along the main way leading into it, as e.g. at the settlement on Asartepe or at Tymnos, but also in neighbouring Knidos¹¹. Yet there are a number of different solutions. At Bybassos, the tombs are not forming a cemetery area close to the settlement, instead, they were placed along the ancient path connecting Bybassos with the central sanctuary and assembly place of the Chersonesians, Kastabos. In Loryma, in the very south of the Chersonesos, the necropolis was placed above the ancient path between the settlement and the Apollon sanctuary. This area is not attached to the settlement but separated from it by a small coastal plain where a naval base with shipsheds was erected in the Hellenistic period¹². It obviously has been chosen because here all tombs were visible from the settlement. The limits of the intervisibility clearly define the area of the necropolis. A secondary reason may have been that this slope was well in view of the ships entering the bay of Loryma¹³.

A further variation of the placing of tombs, we found during the new project of the coastal survey in the area of Söğüt-Ortaca (fig. 2). Ships enter the bay of Saranda from the Southwest and sail north to the harbour of Söğüt-Ortaca which most probably was also the ancient harbour of Thyssanous, a Chersonesian settlement located on the mountain at the eastern shore of the bay (fig. 3). Along the shore south of modern Ortaca, between two promontories, we found quite a lot of ancient tombs of the Hellenistic and Roman Imperial Periods, forming a coastal necropolis. The tombs are divided into Areas b to h, in the direction from South to North (figs. 4. 5).

In Area b, blocks of a Hellenistic terrace and tomb bases, including a stepped base for a stele, are scattered along the shoreline in shallow water (figs. 6. 7). Although no blocks are *in situ* any more, due to



Fig. 3: Bay of Söğüt and the ancient settlement Thyssanous. Red: the settlement of Thyssanous. – Blue: approach of ships to Thyssanous (Ortaca) harbour. – Orange: angle of visibility from the settlement on the shoreline



Fig. 4: Thyssanous, necropolis, Areas b to h

the topography, they cannot have fallen down from the slope, so that the terrace must have been located on the slightly submerged platform where the blocks are now. Since the Hellenistic sea level was about 2.3 m below the present sea level¹⁴, the terrace was right at the shore, and oriented towards the sea.

subject of the PhD dissertation of Camilla Lundgren, to be submitted soon.

¹¹ Berns 2013.

¹² Held 2014b, 367–369 (with further references).

¹³ Lundgren 2016.

¹⁴ A geoarchaeological study carried out in a neighbouring site, Hıdırlık, indicates that the relative sea level has risen by at least 2.3 m since the Hellenistic period, which results from eustasy, glacio-hydroisostasy, and vertical tectonic movements; see Kızıldağ et al. 2012.

¹⁰ Held 2014a; Lundgren in: Held 2019, 345–378. The Chersonesian tombs are the



Fig. 5: Thyssanous, necropolis from south, with STS Bodrum. In the background (to the right of STS Bodrum) the Pyramid Tomb



Area c is a large quay-like structure in the shallow water which originally also must have been above sea level. In the structure, two large Hellenistic tomb bases are reused, so the structure itself must be post-Hellenistic, i.e. Roman Imperial or Byzantine. One of the bases is two-stepped and turned upside down, while the other shows three narrow steps and the beddings for a small shrine on top (figs. 8. 9).

Above this structure are two Roman tomb buildings, and a rock-cut tomb chamber. The northern tomb building is completely covered with dense thorny bushes and inaccessible. The southern tomb building consists of two narrow vaults for burials below a large room which was covered with a barrel vault (fig. 10), comparable e.g. to the 2nd–3rd centuries AD tombs at the Myndos gate of Halikarnassos¹⁵.

Area f consists of a Roman Tomb with a pyramid-shaped roof, and a Hellenistic tomb terrace next to it (figs. 11. 12). The terrace is erected from large, regular blocks with corner gauges (*Ecklehren*). Fallen blocks show that it originally had at least one more layer of blocks. The high quality of the terrace is typical for Hellenistic cemeteries of the Chersonesos¹⁶, and a stepped base for a tomb stele found nearby may have been placed on top of it. Again, the terrace is oriented towards the sea.

The Pyramid Tomb which is called “Türbe” by the local population is, as it seems deliberately, placed next to this terrace. While from land only half of the structure is visible, it creates an eye-catching landmark for incoming ships. The Pyramid Tomb was erected by rubble-and-mortar walls which have been covered with plaster producing a smooth surface. An entrance, originally covered by an arch whose stones have been looted, leads into

Fig. 6:
Thyssanous, necropolis Area b



Fig. 7:
Thyssanous, necropolis Area b: stepped
base with bedding for grave stele

a barrel-vaulted tomb chamber with plastered walls and ceiling (figs. 13, 14). The almost square building is covered by a pyramidal roof. Although it seems suggestive that this shape was chosen according to the model of the Egyptian pyramids, a small, but important detail clearly points to a different archetype: while the peak of the pyramid is lost, the highest preserved stone does not follow the pyramid shape but has a vertical outline (fig. 15). This proves that the original shape was not a pointed pyramid, instead, there was a kind of base on top of it which reminds the Maussoleion at Halikarnassos. The Maussoleion's roof had the shape of a stepped pyramid, crowned by a colossal quadriga¹⁷, and with lions on the lower steps of the roof. In Karia, this concept has close parallels in the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC: The Pyramid Tomb of Hydas / Turgut in the northern Chersonesos where the pyramidal roof according to the inscription was crowned by the statue of Diagoras who was buried in it, along with lions whose traces are visible at the corners of the



Fig. 8: Thyssanous, necropolis Area c: quay-like structure, in the foreground large two-stepped base, turned upside down



Fig. 9: Thyssanous, necropolis Area c: three-stepped base with bedding for a naiskos

¹⁵ Poulsen 2016.

¹⁶ cf. e.g. Grab 3 at Loryma, Held 2009, 133–134 fig. 12.

¹⁷ Jeppesen 2002; Hoepfner 2013, 80 fig. 39; 98–103.



Fig. 10: Thyssanous, necropolis Area c: quay-like structure at shoreline (left) and Roman tomb building (right)

Thyssanous was a landmark, and it was attached to a terrace – which was smaller than the Maussoleion terrace in Halikarnassos but proves that the place next to the Hellenistic terrace has been chosen on purpose. According to its construction technique, the Pyramid Tomb of Thyssanous was erected in the Roman Imperial Period. Although precise dating is not possible, the small-scale imitation of the Maussoleion, one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world, would very well fit the *zeitgeist* of the 2nd century AD.

An elder inhabitant of Söğüt told us that the villagers in former times used the *Türbe* for ceremonies:

roof¹⁸; the Lion Tomb of Knidos where the tomb chamber was covered by a pyramidal roof and crowned by a lion sculpture¹⁹; the Skylla tomb of Bargylia with a sculpture of Skylla upon a stepped pyramid roof²⁰, and the triangular Kalamaç Tomb where a block in

the shape of a triangular pyramid rested on top of the stepped roof²¹.

Accordingly, we can expect that the Pyramid Tomb of Thyssanous originally has been crowned by some kind of sculpture. Like the Maussoleion, the Pyramid Tomb of

¹⁸ Benter 2009, 488–489 fig. 10; Blümel 1991, 92–93 Nr. 331; Bresson 1991, 85–86 Nr. 56. The statue and lions are lost but described in the inscription.

¹⁹ Fedak 1990, 76–79; Waywell 1998; Jenkins 2008.

²⁰ Berns 2003, 185 fig. 26.

²¹ Held 2014a, fig. 19–26.

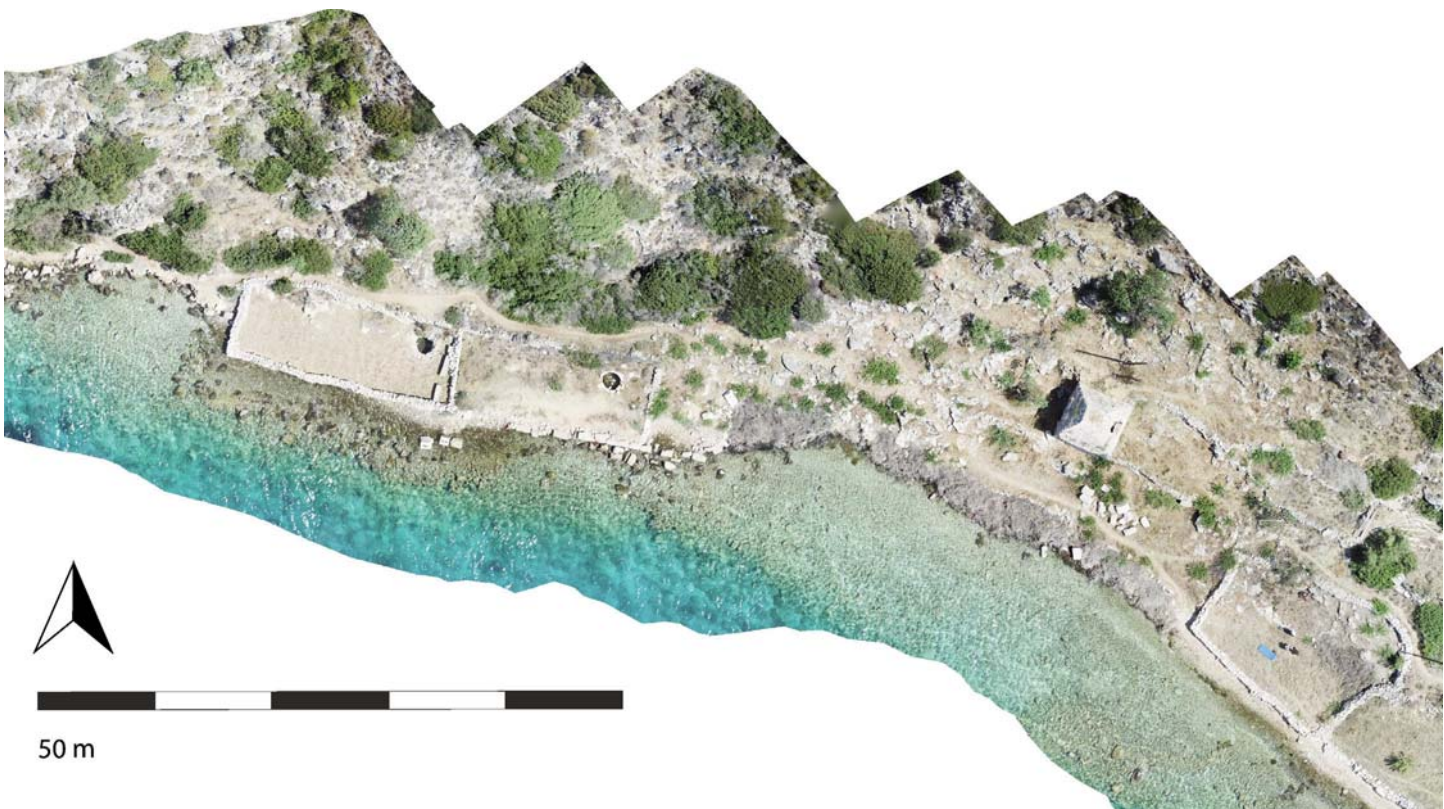


Fig. 11: Thyssanous, necropolis Areas f and g: Photogrammetry from drone photos, with the Pyramid Tomb (right) and the Byzantine church including a Hellenistic tomb terrace (left)



Fig. 12: Thyssanous, necropolis Area f: Pyramid Tomb and Hellenistic tomb terrace. The scattered blocks below belong to the tomb terrace



Fig. 13: Thyssanous, necropolis Area f: Pyramid Tomb from West with entrance



Fig. 14: Thyssanous, necropolis Area f: Pyramid Tomb, vaulted chamber



Fig. 15: Thyssanous, necropolis Area f: Pyramid Tomb from North. At the top right the highest and vertical block.

people, it was important to have an afterlife in the memory of the living. Therefore, it was crucial that the tombs with their sculptures were seen, and the inscriptions were read. The placing of the tombs always follows that aim, and this certainly also applies to Thyssanous. But here, not the people walking to the settlement were in the focus, but rather those who were approaching the place from the sea, or departing by ship. At the same time the tombs were visible from the settlement which explains the promontories as limits of the necropolis: behind them, this intervisibility ends. So we have

they were cooking *keşkek* and praying there for rain, and continued to pray until the rain came. The white lime paint on the walls and ceiling of the tomb chamber obviously derives from these times.

Area g is the ruin of an early Byzantine church, which incorporates another Hellenistic tomb terrace, reusing it as part of the foundation. It is now located right at the shore, with its foot standing in the sea (figs. 11. 16). Like the terraces in Areas a and b, it must have been 1–2 m above the sea level in antiquity. Again, the tomb terrace was clearly oriented towards the sea, not the land. Two large stepped bases were reused in the church building, one of them bearing the inscription ΓΛΑΥΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΔΥΚΟΥ, “Glaukos son of Epidykos”²² (fig. 17).

In Area h, rather close to the northern promontory of the coastal necropolis, we find the last ancient tomb which again was a Hellenistic tomb terrace placed right at the shore (fig. 18). The modern path passing behind the terrace traverses a rock-cut tomb that belonged to the precinct of the terrace. Since the rocky slope provides no alternative space for the path, this terrace again was not oriented towards passers-by on foot but towards the sea.

How can we explain this strange setting of a necropolis along the shore, with all tombs oriented towards the sea? For the ancient



Fig. 16: Thyssanous, necropolis Area g: Hellenistic tomb terrace reused as foundation for Byzantine church



Fig. 17: Thyssanous, necropolis Area g: stepped base from the tomb terrace with inscription

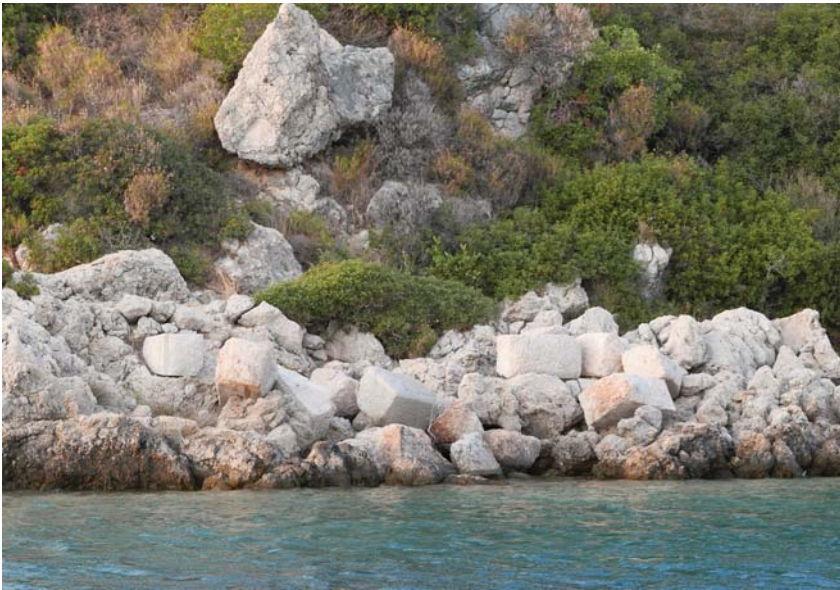


Fig. 18: *Thyssanous, necropolis Area h: Hellenistic tomb terrace*

here an extraordinary pattern for the placing of a necropolis, following the same aims as in other places, but directed completely towards the sea. The typical ancient tomb street was the sea route leading in and out of the bay. Although single monumental tombs occasionally appear in a comparable position like the Agios Milianos tomb at the harbour entrance on Rhodian Lindos²³ or the Değirmenburnu Tomb of Loryma²⁴, parallels to a whole necropolis along the naval route to a town are rare and include e.g. the tombs along the canal leading from the sea to the Roman harbour of Ephesos²⁵.

Apart from that, the Roman tombs are attesting a settlement activity in this well-protected natural harbour in the Roman Imperial era which is confirmed by the presence of inscriptions of the 1st to 3rd centuries AD²⁶. This is a striking exception for the Chersonesos, which otherwise had been abandoned in this period.

²² This inscription is recorded neither in Blümel 1991 nor in Bresson 1991.

²³ Dyggve 1960, 487–489. 506–507 pl. 13.

²⁴ Held 2014a, Fig. 12–18.

²⁵ Steskal 2014, 337

²⁶ Blümel 1991, 47–61; Bresson 1991, 115–134.

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Fig. 1: Matthias Nöth

Fig. 2: British Admiralty Nautical Chart 1055: Rhodes Channel and Gökova Körfezi 1:150 000 (1993) (detail)

Figs. 3, 4: Winfried Held based on Google Earth

Figs. 5–10, 12–18: Winfried Held

Fig. 11: photos Çağatay Erciyas, photogrammetry Nils Schnorr

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