STROFILAS EXCAVATION ON ANDROS

DIRECTOR DR. CHRISTINA A. TELEVANTOU
1. PROJECT NAME: STROFILAS EXCAVATION AND CONSERVATION PROJECT, 2017

2. AFFILIATION: Archaeological Society at Athens

3. DIRECTOR: Dr Christina A. Televantou, Archaeologist, Honorary Deputy Director and Curator of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports

4. LOCATION: ANDROS, GREECE
5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION/SCHEDULE OF WORKS, 2017

STROFILAS, A FORTIFIED NEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT ON ANDROS

The excavations on Strofilas on Andros have unearthed a large fortified settlement of the Final Neolithic period (the “Attica-Kephala” cultural horizon), which radically changed all previous archaeological data for the Neolithic Age in the Aegean.

A number of factors distinguish Strofilas as a unique settlement in the Cyclades and the wider geographical region:

- large area of the settlement, dense layout, large buildings, abundance of high-quality finds.
- communal projects: fortification, “megaron”, sanctuary, open-air space for worship.
- advanced technology (e.g. construction, stonework, metalwork).

Extensive rock art representations in communal areas, with the use of a formulated iconographic vocabulary, i.e. a code of communication, which seems to reflect the worldview of the inhabitants of Strofilas, and the Aegean in general.

Strofilas was a thriving early proto-urban maritime settlement (with more than a hundred representations of ships). Undoubtedly, it has played an important role in a wider network of smaller and/or similar-sized settlements and reveals a new aspect of the Aegean culture during the Final Neolithic.

The Strofilas Team deals with the site's “Excavation Project” (continuation of the excavation, digital documentation of the rock-art engravings, conservation, recording etc. of movable finds) and “Conservation Project” of ruins.
STROFILAS TEAM (WORKING GROUP):

The Strofilas Team deals with the site's “Excavation Project” (continuation of the excavation, digital documentation of the rock-art engravings, conservation, recording etc. of movable finds) and “Conservation Project” of ruins.

Archaeologists:

Dr. Christina A. Televantou, Director of the Excavation

Pelly Fotiadi: Responsible for Pottery Studies

Apostolos Papadimitriou

Fragiskos Yiannisis

Erica Morais Angliker, Archaeologisches Institut, University of Zurich

Conservators of Antiquities:

Yiannis P. Staikopoulos: Conservator of Antiquities-Museologist, Responsible for conservation issues at Strofilas, Head EFAKYK Conservation Department.
Strofilas' fortification wall, central bastion. Rock art representation of a ship (drawing by C. A. Televantou).
STROFILAS EXCAVATION AND CONSERVATION PROJECT, 2017
The excavation at Strofilas, Andros has been carried out systematically under the auspices of the Archaeological Society at Athens since 2009 for a period of six (6) weeks.

WORKS

FIELD

A. EXCAVATION During 2017 (3 July-12 August) the excavation will be continued in two locations of the settlement:

a) in the area to the north of the main defensive wall and up to the limits of the so-called “outwork” (minor defensive wall), which due to the numerous rock-art representations with various subjects seems to have played a significant role in the life of the Neolithic settlement. The aim is to excavate and reveal the entire rocky ground, to allow a better understanding of the complex and unique depictions reflecting the worldview of the Neolithic inhabitants at Strofilas, as well as to restore the area where the wall stands to its original form.

b) in the wider area of Building B, which includes other buildings such as Apsidals 1, 2a, and 2b and the sanctuary, i.e. an area apparently of a public character, in order to study the complex as a whole (stratigraphy, architecture, context, finds etc.) and to define its significance and function.

c) The gradual removal of stone piles dispersed over the plateau, where the Neolithic settlement extends, will also be carried out in order to further reveal its groundplan.

B. CONSERVATION OF ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS
The conservation works of the architectural remains will be carried out during June (1-20/6/2017).
MUSEUM

Various archaeological works will be carried out during July and August (3/7-12/8/2017) (e.g. washing sherds, arranging material, recording, photographing, drawing finds etc.).

Area of open-air worship: rock art representation of ships.

Sanctuary: rock art representation of duck, ring idols, footprints, cavities.
6. **ARCHAEOLOGICAL/CULTURE TIME PERIOD:** Final Neolithic period (the “Attica-Kephala” culture)

7-14. **INFORMATION AND NOTES FOR STUDENTS**

7. **SEASON:**
   A) CONSERVATION OF RUINS 1-20 JUNE
   B) EXCAVATION 3 JULY-12 AUGUST

8. **MINIMUM LENGTH OF STAY:** 3 WEEKS FOR JUNE
4 WEEKS FOR EXCAVATION

9. APPLICATION DEADLINE: END OF DECEMBER

10. PROJECT SIZE: 1-24 PARTICIPANTS

(4) STUDENTS FOR CONSERVATION OF RUINS

(20) STUDENTS FOR EXCAVATION

11. MINIMUM AGE: 20 YEARS OLD

12. EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

a. Experience on excavation or conservation field is desirable but not necessary.

b. During June students of Conservation or/and Archaeology are needed for assistance in conservation works, under the guidance of Mr. Yannis Staikopoulos, Director of Conservation issues at Strofilas (e.g. mixture and application of mortar etc.).

c. During July and August, students of Archaeology are needed for excavation and museum works.

d. Those among the students, who can bring over a laptop to Andros, could more easily exercise at specific operations within the Museum premises (i.e. recording, listing).

e. If there are any students with knowledge of e.g. design and/or photography, they could be employed with related activities in the Museum and the excavation field.
Room description: shared apartment in a hotel in Andros. It includes transport to the site of excavation, breakfast and lunch.

COST:

IMPORTANT NOTE:
- With documents there is an extra charge of 13% VAT
- Rooms must be necessarily booked by May 2017, the latest, to ensure both prices and availability.
- The cost is calculated for people staying in rooms for 4 persons. Staying of fewer people differentiates respective costs.

COST: A) JUNE: 200 euros per week
   B) JULY AUGUST: 280 euros per week
DETAILS

JUNE (1-20/6/2017):

COST: 200 euros per week

The cost per student is estimated at a) 27.5 euros (transfer by taxi), or b) 22.5 euros (transfer by private vehicle).

Accommodation: € 7.5 daily.

Transportation to the site: a) by taxi 10 euros, or b) a private vehicle 5 euros.

Food: option a) restaurant/tavern (1) common meal 10 euros, option b) 6 euros for daily supplies.

Accommodation facilities can be booked in the village of Messaria, nearby both to the excavation and the museum, in apartments of (two) rooms each that offer fully equipped kitchen and common area, which can accommodate four (4) persons each. Daily cost 40 euros.

Nearby to the rooms, there is also a grocery store for supplies.

And a nearby restaurant/tavern with possibility to chose a communal meal. However, it would be much cheaper for students to prepare their own meals in the kitchen of their accommodation.

Transportation to the excavation can be made by taxi (with necessary documents e.g. proof, etc.), but this is the most expensive option, or by another private car, which would reduce costs by about half the price.
COST JULY-AUGUST: 280 euros per week

The cost per person is estimated at 25-38 euros a day.

Excavation: a) 38 euros (taxi) or b) 28 euros (transfer by private vehicle)

Museum: 25 euros

Accommodation: 10 euros

Transfer: For students who will be employed at the site a) by taxi 20 euros or b) a private vehicle 10 euros. For students who will be employed at the museum: bus 5 euros

Food: option a) restaurant/tavern (1) common meal 8 euros, option b) 6 euros for daily supplies.

Accommodation facilities can be booked in the village of Messaria, nearby both to the excavation and the museum, in apartments of (two) rooms each that offer fully equipped kitchen and common area, which can accommodate four (4) persons each. Daily cost 40 euros.

Nearby to the rooms, there is also a grocery store for supplies. And a nearby restaurant/tavern with possibility to chose a communal meal. However, it would be much cheaper for students to prepare their own meals in the kitchen of their accommodation.

Transportation to the excavation can be made by taxi (with necessary documents e.g. proof, etc.), but this is the most expensive option, or by another private car, which would reduce costs by about half the price.
15. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Students can communicate until the end of December 2016 directly with the Director of the Excavation, Dr. Christina A. Televantou by e-mail: chtele@otenet.gr, or Misses Erica Morais Angliker by e-mail: em2316@columbia.edu about the period of time they wish to work.

For any practical aspects concerning their stay, as described above, they can communicate during January 2017 with Mr. Yannis Staikopoulos, Director of Conservation issues at Strofilas by e-mail: istaikopoulos@gmail.com.

a. During July students of Conservation or/and Archaeology are needed for assistance in conservation works, under the guidance of Mr. Yannis Staikopoulos, Director of Conservation issues at Strofilas (e.g mixture and application of mortar etc.). During July and August, students of Archaeology are needed for excavation and museum works.