Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project

Report of Activities Summer 2023

David Gilman Romano Ph.D., Mary E. Voyatzis Ph.D., and Anna Karapanagiotou Ph.D.

Co-Directors

University of Arizona Ephoreia of Antiquities of Arcadia, Tripolis

Under the auspices of
The American School of Classical Studies at Athens and
The Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports



Introduction and Acknowledgments

The Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project completed a study season in its apotheke in Tripolis between June 29-July 30, 2023 under the oversight of the Co-Directors of the project, Dr. David Gilman Romano and Dr. Mary E. Voyatzis, both of the University of Arizona. The Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project is a *synergasia* working together with the Arcadia Ephoreia of Antiquities under the direction of Dr. Konstantinos Kissas and under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Our *synergates* is Dr. Anna Karapanagiotou, the Director of the National Archaeological Museum in Athens. The Registrar of the project is Lauren Tomanelli of the University of Arizona and we were joined by eight graduate students and one undergraduate student to assist with the study season. We worked with several scholars who are preparing manuscripts to be included in our Mt. Lykaion Studies series to be published by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. The scholars included several pottery specialists, Dr. Gullög Nordquist, Dr. Jeannette Forsen, Dr. Susan Petrakis, Dr. Leslie Hammond, and the architectural and roof tile specialist Dr. Philip Sapirstein.

In many ways the study seasons when we are working in our apotheke in Tripolis are the most important summers of the project, as they give scholars time to think about the discoveries and work towards new interpretations.

Most of us lived in Ano Kardara, which is an approximate 20 minute dive to the north of Tripolis on the slopes of Mt. Menalon. We rent rooms at a greatly discounted rate at The Ostra Suites, which is a ski lodge during the winter months. Breakfasts are included with the rooms and for dinners we alternate between the nearby towns of Levidi and Kapsia.



An evening meal in Kapsia. From left corner, clockwise: Gullög Nordquist, Susan Petrakis, Phil Sapirstein, Stephen Czujko, Stephanie Savage, Sammi Richter, Kya Kerner, Colin Omilanowski, Georgos Papakonstantinou, Dimitris Papakonstantinou, Irene Romano, Tabitha Rodriguez, Hunter Hogue, Lauren Tomanelli, Mary Voyatzis, Jeannette Forsen. Photo: D.G. Romano

2023 Study Season Team

Stephen Czujko, *University of Missouri*Hunter Hogue, *University of Michigan*Colin Omilanowski, *University of Arizona*Samantha Richter, *Harvard University*Tabitha Rodriguez, *University of Arizona*Stephanie Savage, *New York University*

Specialists

Susan Petrakis, Ph.D., *Athens, Greece*Jeannette Forsen Ph.D., *Sweden*Leslie Hammond, Ph.D., *Ocala, Florida*Gullög Nordquist, Ph.D., *University of Uppsala*Philip Sapirstein, Ph.D., *University of Toronto*Souzana Basimakopoulou, *Conservator*

Program Leaders

Dr. David Gilman Romano, *University of Arizona*Dr. Mary E. Voyatzis, *University of Arizona*Dr. Irene Romano, *University of Arizona*Ms. Laryssa Shipley, *University of Arizona*Ms. Lauren Tomanelli, *University of Arizona*Ms. Kya Kerner, *Fifteen Architecture*, *Philadelphia*

Object Cataloguing

Much of our work involved the study and cataloguing of ceramics and small finds especially from the altar of Zeus with particular focus on some of the key archaeological features from the altar. Mary Voyatzis worked on the identification of Late Mycenaean vessels from the area of the altar platform including the dipper illustrated below. She also worked on identifying Mycenaean and Early Iron Age ceramics from several important archaeological features that were excavated at the altar

Susan Petrakis undertook her study of the Neolithic ceramics that have been excavated on the altar 2016-2022; Jeannette Forsen identified the Early Helladic material from the altar and Gullög Nordquist worked on the Middle Helladic ceramics from the altar. Together they identified 124 prehistoric vessels for cataloguing which represent some of the earliest human activity at the site.



Late Bronze Age dipper. Photo: M.E. Voyatzis

Leslie Hammond examined the miniature ceramics found at the altar. These tiny versions of full-size vessels were left at the altar as dedications. She identified 235 minis for cataloguing (examples below).

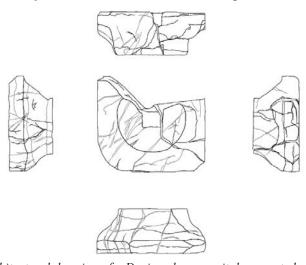


Miniature ceramic vessels. Photo: L. Tomanelli

Study continues outside of the summer session, as well. Before the team's arrival in summer of 2023, ceramic specialist Ann Steiner researched Archaic and Classical period pottery, and Susan Rotroff studied Hellenistic period pottery.

Architecture Team

The architectural team worked on several tasks. They assessed the spatial relationships between areas of sacrifice and the man-made stone foundation on the bedrock of the altar at the center of the southern peak of the mountain. D.G. Romano worked, together with the architectural team led by Kya Kerner and assisted by Tabitha Rodriguez, on the digital all sanctuary plan and also began work on a digital 3D reconstruction of the Ionic Building from the Lower Sanctuary with the assistance of Phil Sapirstein.



Architectural drawing of a Doric column capital excavated at Mt. Lykaion. Photo: T. Rodriguez, Archaeological Mapping Lab

Drawing Trench Profiles

A small team of students— Sammi Richter, Stephanie Savage, Colin Omilanowski, and Laryssa Shipley—focused on the creation of digital stratigraphic plans and sections from the excavated areas of the site, like the one illustrated below. They based their drawings on field notebooks, final reports, and topographical data. These digital stratigraphic plans will be very important in the analysis of succesive periods of use in each of the trenches.



Profile of Trench Z. Photo: Dan Diffendale, Archaeological Mapping Lab

Tile Analysis

Philip Sapirstein worked in the apotheke to continue his study and analysis of the roof tiles from the lower sanctuary. Sapirstein, assisted by Colin Omilanowski and Hunter Hogue, analyzed the architectural tiles from the various buildings of Mt. Lykaion including the identification of an inscribed archaic roof tile from the area of the Sanctuary of Pan. Sapirstein, Hogue, and Omilinowski also worked on reconstructing a terracotta water pipe that may be archaic in date.



Phil Sapirstein and Hunter Hogue preparing to weigh a sima tile. Photo: C. Omilanowski

David Gilman Romano, Kyle Mahoney, and Philip Sapirstein worked on preparing an article that documents a painted inscription on a roof tile that was found in the presumed area of the Sanctuary of Pan. The inscription includes the name of Pan Ly[kaios] and gives us our first substantial evidence of the location of the Sanctuary of Pan.



Phil Sapirstein studying the tiles in the apotheke basement. Photo: D.G. Romano

Neutron Activation Analysis

Stephen Czujko, a Ph.D. student in Greek Archaeology at the University of Missouri, is continuing his sampling on Mycenaean ceramics in order to utilize Neutron Activation Analysis at the University of Missouri. This work may be helpful in determining the origin of the clays utilized in the ceramics found at the site.



Stephen Czujko sampling ceramics for analysis, assisted by Lauren Tomanelli. Photo: C. Omilanowski

National Science Foundation Grant

We also continued to work on aspects of our scientific studies as a part of our current National Science Foundation Grant, "Assessing Paleomobility in the Peloponnese through a prototypical interregional Communal Cult site at Mt. Lykaion, Arcadia, Greece." Part of this NSF project involves analyzing pottery from the altar from the Mycenaean through the Classical periods, using petrography and chemical analyses. We reviewed the preliminary results of these analyses and the fabric groups from the team at the Fitch lab at the BSA in Athens, who are conducting the work. We also reviewed the results of comparative material from Tegea, and await the results of analyses done at Amykles and other sites.

Site Management

In other work at the site of Mt. Lykaion itself, at both the upper and the lower levels of the sanctuary, parts of the deepest trenches were filled in with earth, and wooden supports for exposed stone walls were installed in areas where needed. Also, repairs were made to the fencing around the trenches.

Annette Merle-Smith 1930-2023



Annette Merle-Smith with D. G. Romano in front of the Academy Building in Ano Karyes, a village building, to which she contributed for its construction, during her visit to Ano Karyes in July 2018. Photo: D.G. Romano.

During the Spring, Annette Merle-Smith of Princeton, New Jersey died at age 92. Annette has been the largest single financial supporter of the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project since its inception in 2003 and prior to that she had financially supported the topographical and architectural survey that D. G. Romano undertook at the site in 1996 which then led to the excavation and survey in later years. Annette was an Overseer of the University of Pennsylvania Museum and a member of the Women's Committee. and she was very generous to our project in each and every year of our work. She was especially interested in the excavation of the buildings and monuments at the ancient site as well as the support of students who were working there. She generously funded student work in Greece as well as student work in Philadelphia at the Penn Museum and in the later years in the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona. During the course of multiple visits to Greece and to the site of the Sanctuary of Zeus, Annette became interested in our idea of the creation of a Research Center in the area of our project. Over time, she gave generously for the creation of the Research Center which now is under construction in Andritsaina. In addition, Annette was the major donor for the Parrhasian Heritage Park Presidential Conference in Athens in May 2019 and for its future publication.

Nikolaos Kostopoulos 1923-2023

During the summer we lost one of our Ano Karyes friends and early supporter of the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project, Nikolaos Kostopoulos, who died at age 100. Nikos Kostopoulos was the key village representative who had a strong liason with the Greek Archaeological Service when D.G. Romano initiated his architectural and topographical survey of the Sanctuary of Zeus at Mt. Lykaion in 1996. He remained a steadfast friend for the next 27 years.



Notice of the funeral for Nikos Kostopoulos in the village of Ano Karyes, August 2, 2023. Photo:D.G.



Nikos Kostopoulos at the Profitas Elias luncheon in Ano Karyes July 20, 2003. Photo: D.G. Romano.

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The Karabots Foundation in honor of Constance Chrisomalis Karabots from Anavriti, Sparta (which overlooks Mt. Lykaion) and George Karabots of Malandreni, Argos

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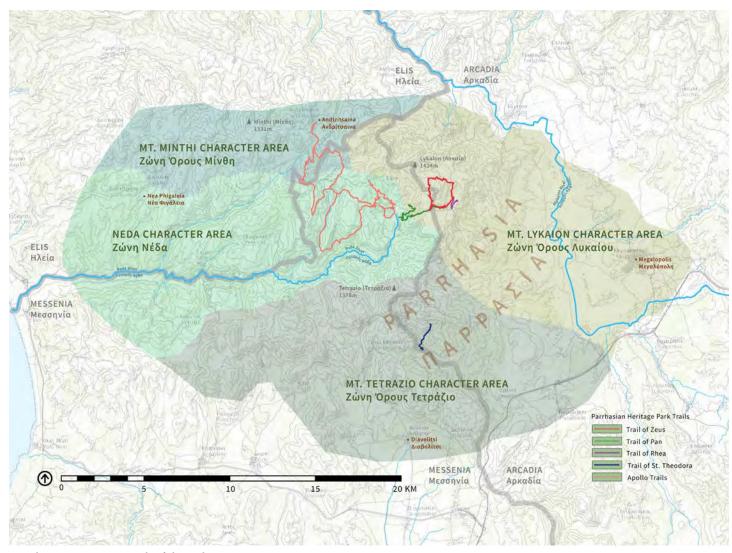
Dr. Mary E. Voyatzis mev@arizona.edu

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Dr. David Gilman Romano dgromano@arizona.edu (520) 621-5343

Contribute to the excavation and the park by making out a check to "The Parrhasian Heritage Foundation" and send it to D.G. Romano, President, Parrhasian Heritage Foundation, 2321 E. Calle Lustre, Tucson. Arizona 85718.

Alternatively, you may visit: http://anthropology.arizona.edu/donate and indicate "Friends of Mt. Lykaion" in the memo field. Or, checks should be made out to the UA Foundation/Anthropology, indicating the "Friends of Mt. Lykaion" in the memo and may be mailed to the University of Arizona School of Anthropology, 1009 E. South Campus Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85721.



Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos.

A new version of the map of the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos has been complete utilizing ArcGIS. This map has been worked on by Mark Davison, David Gilman Romano, and Kya Kerner, with the assistance of Laryssa Shipley and Lauren Tomanelli. The new map features the completed trails along with the four character areas and each of their gateway cities. This map will be utilized in our application for designation to the Ministry of the Environment and it will be found on our new Parrhasian Heritage Park website. The website will include flags on the map to direct visitors to places of interest in the following categories: Services & Tourism, Archaeological Sites, Environmental Sites, Historic Sites, and Cultural Traditions. (https://www.parrhasianheritagepark.org).

Parrhasian Heritage Park Timeline

- Park Alliance Created
- 1 + 2 PHP Field School
- Zeus + Pan Trail opens
- Letter of Support from Minister of Culture + Tourism
- 250 Locals Attend

 Meeting for Park
- Vasta Trail Opens
- PHPS Athens Meeting
- Support from International Society of Arcadia
- Preliminary Support from National
 Commission for UNESCO
- Lykaian Games
- 3rd PHP Field School
- PHPS Meetings in Andritsaina, Messinia, and Megalopolis
- PHPS Meeting in Athens
- Trail of Rhea Opening
- Meeting to Discuss Culinary Event
- 1st Community Outreach Program
- · 4th PHP Field School

- Trail Signage Underway
- Park Loop Trail Opens
- Meeting in Nea Phigaleia
- Ethnographic Research
- 5th + 6th PHP Field School
- Trail Sign Installation
- Kiosk Installation
- Ethnographic Research
- Meeting in Abeliona

- · Lykaian Games
- Profetes Elias Religious Festival
- Trail of Pan Sign Installation
- Ethnographic Research
- Community Outreach Program
- 7th PHP Field School

2013

2015-2016

2017

Parrhasian Heritage Park Planning Efforts 2023

13th Annual Parrhasian Heritage Park Field School

The 13th Annual Parrhasian Heritage Park Field School was held August 2-12 in Abeliona, Messenia under the direction of David Gilman Romano of the University of Arizona. The Field School is sponsored by the Parrhasian Heritage Foundation a US 501 (c) (3) charity and was generously financed by Circle of Zeus member Mr. James H. Ottaway, Jr. A group of 13 Greek and US students and faculty worked together on the installation and maintenance of wayfinding and trail head signs and kiosks for the Trails of Zeus, Pan, and Rhea. Work involved the replacement of some of the signs that were installed almost 10 years ago, some of which have been stolen and others of which have been damaged by weather.

Park Activities

Park Planning work relating to trails was under the direction of Mark Davison who was interested in exploring new trails in the area of the northwest slope of Mt. Lykaion and the Neda River valley. Ethnographic and historical work including archival searches in the Andritsaina Library was under the direction of Nota Pantzou. Ancient and medieval research was under the direction of Kyle Mahoney.

Effort was directed towards streamlining an overall Trail Assessment, Asset Management and GIS Mapping database for the trails, trailhead signs, wayfinding signs, kiosks that have been created and are also in need of maintenance.



Trail of Zeus Trailhead.



Trail of Pan Trailhead.



Trail of Rhea Trailhead.



Trail of Zeus Wayfinding sign.

Parrhasian Heritage Park Timeline

- Trail of Pan Sign Installation
- Megalopolis City Council Presentation
- 8th PHP Field School
- International Conference in Athens, May 31st
- Trail of Zeus Implementation
- Trail of Zeus Sign Installation
- 9th PHP Field School
- Tenth Anniversary of the PHP Field School
- Virtual Lecture Series
- Virtual 10th + 11th PHP Field School
- Meeting with Ministry of the Environment
- 12th PHP Field School
- Lecture to Lykaio + community residents
- Lykaian Games
- 13th PHP Field School
- Andritsaina Voyatzis house historical designation event

2018

2019

2020-2021

2022

-

2023

Field School Excursion to Ancient Eira

On August 10, 2023 we were very fortunate to have an afternoon visit to the ancient city of Eira in Messenia on the southern bank of the Neda River and has a view of the Temple of Apollo Epikourios to the north, and of the Neda Valley to the east and west. Our host was Kostas Karembelas with his wife Anastasia and daughter Neda. We were also joined by the President of the village.



Field School participants in front of Aghios Athanasios in Eira. Photo: D.G. Romano

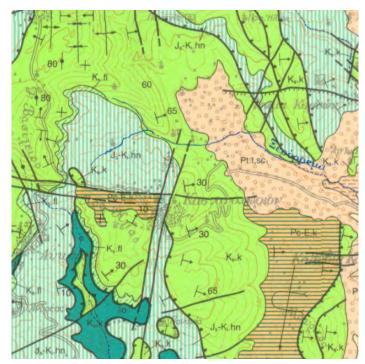
We were driven up the mountain to the acropolis city, where we were given a tour of the city's fortification walls and parts of the city's interior building foundations.



Field School participants in the ancient city of Eira. Photo: D.G. Romano

Ancient Eira is within the area of the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponessos. The city originally spanned two hilltops.

Kostas Karambelas is the President of the local village federation, Ομοσπονδία Συλλόγων Χωριών Ορεινής Μεσσηνίας Έπίκουριος. Απόλλων.



1:50,000 geological map of Megalopolis showing Lykosoura. Photo: IGME 1997

Geological Exploration

Between July 30 – August 2 Dr. Yannis Bassiakos and Dr. Eleni Philippaki, National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos" geologists specializing in metallurgy, were working with Stephen Czujko and D. G. Romano looking for evidence of ophiolite in the area of Mt. Lykaion and the researchers examined a number of sites in the vicinity.



Dr. Yannis Bassiakos, Stephen Czujko, and Dr. Eleni Philippaki on the road near Lykosura. Photo: D.G. Romano

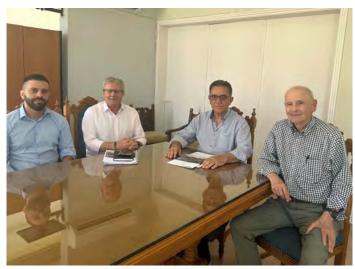
Parrhasian Heritage Park Planning Efforts 2023

Park Designation

Work towards the designation of the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos by the Ministry of the Environment is proceeding under the careful guidance of Dr. Dimitris Papakonstantinou of the National Technical University of Athens as a part of the proposal from the Parrhasian Heritage Foundation to the Ministry of the Environment to create the first large scale national heritage park in Greece. Meetings with several regional mayors were undertaken during the Park Field School as well as progress in several scientific areas.



Meeting with the Mayor of Oichalia, Ms. Giota Georgakopoulos, with Irene Romano, David Gilman Romano, General Secretary of the Municipality Gipatidis Sofianos, Dimitris Papakonstantinou and Georgos Papakonstantinou, July 6, 2023.



Meeting with the Mayor of Zacharo Dr. Kostas Alexandropoulos with Georgos Papakonstantinou, Dimitris Papakonstantinou, and David Gilman Romano.



Meeting with the Mayor of Andritsaina-Crestena, Mr. Sakis Balioukos with Nota Pantzou, David Gilman Romano and Dimitris Papakonstantinou, August 3, 2023.

Mark Davison of Boulder, Colorado, continues his work on the landscape character study of the Park, together with Kya Kerner. The landscape character study which is a form of specific identification of the natural environment will form an important part of the application for national heritage park status.

International Memorandum of Agreement

In early June a meeting in Patras was arranged by Nota Pantzou so that David Gilman Romano could meet the Rector of the University of Patras, Dr. Christos Bouras. At the meeting the International Memorandum of Agreement between the University of Arizona and the University of Patras was ratified specifically with respect to the work of faculty and students from the two universities towards the creation of the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos. Long standing collaborative work between Nota Pantzou and the Parrhasian Heritage Park Field School has been underway since 2011.



Rector Christos Bouras, Nota Pantzou and D.G. Romano with St. Andreas in the background at the University of Patras. Photo: D.G. Romano.

Special Visits

On June 19 we enjoyed the visit of an important Mt. Lykaion donor Paula Fasseas with Dino Sakellar who toured the Sanctuary of Zeus at Mt. Lykaion as well as the site of the new Parrhasian Heritage Foundation Research Center in Andritsaina with D.G. Romano and M.E. Voyatzis.



Visit of Paula Fasseas and Dino Sakellar in Andritsaina, with Julie Tsakaridou, Mary Voyatzis, and Dimitris Apostolopoulos. Photo: D. G. Romano.

We were fortunate to have the visit of another important Circle of Zeus Mt. Lykaion donor on July 19, Mr. John Medveckis from Philadelphia. Together with D. G. Romano and Kya Kerner we toured the site of the Sanctuary of Zeus, the lower sanctuary, and also included a tour of the site of the new Research Center in Andritsaina, where we had lunch.



John Medveckis touring the Sanctuary of Zeus with and Kya Kerner and David Gilman Romano. Photo: D. G Romano

Field School Lecture Series

During the course of the Summer School, afternoon talks were given by Dr. Dimitris Papakonstantinou and Mr. Mark Davison. Dimitris Papakonstantinou brought us up to date on the latest legislative and community efforts towards the formal designation of the Parrhasian Heritage Park. Mark Davison spoke about his earlier work on the Cottonwood Canyon State Park, the second largest park in the state of Oregon.



Dimitris Papakonstantinou lecturing on the legal framework for the creation of the Parrhasian Heritage Park. Photo: D.G. Romano.



Mark Davison lecturing on Cottonwood Canyon State Park, Oregon. Photo: D.G. Romano.

Kya Kerner lectured on the landscape character work for the Parrhasian Heritage Park that she is working on with Mark Davison.

Meilin Lyu, a PhD candidate at the University of Athens in Greece, gave a talk entitled "Climate Change and Anthropological Impacts on Marbles and Marble Archaeological Sites."

Parrhasian Heritage Park Planning Efforts 2023

Websites

During the years 2022-2023 the members of the Archaeological Mapping Lab at the University of Arizona have been working hard on the revision of the Mt. Lykaion Excavation and Survey Project website and the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos website. Due to the generous donation of Cole and Jeannie Davis of Tucson, the new websites have been renovated and are now available for use. The Mt. Lykaion website offers a tour to the virtual visitor of the buildings and monuments and areas of the Sanctuary of Zeus and the Sanctuary of Pan and the Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos offers a virtual tour of the Park under the color coded categories of archaeological sites, services and tourism, environmental sites, historic sites and cultural traditions



https://www.lykaionexcavation.org



https://www.parrhasianheritagepark.org



https://www.parrhasianheritagefoundation.org

Parrhasian Heritage Foundation Research Center

On August 4, 2023 the Parrhasian Heritage Foundation held a public event in Andritsaina, Elis, where we invited community leaders, civic officials, and local society representatives to the site of the new Parrhasian Heritage Foundation Research Center that is currently under construction.

Mary Voyatzis is donating her historic family house in Andritsaina (built 1867) for the purpose of the new Research Center. To celebrate the recent progress on necessary structural repairs to the house, several talks were delivered in both English and Greek at the site of the house by Mary Voyatzis; the architect of the renovation, Julie Tsakiridou; the engineer Dimitris Apostolopoulos and the President of the Parrhasian Heritage Foundation, David Gilman Romano. Also in attendance was the Rector of the University of Patras, Professor Christos Bouras, who spoke briefly.

The event was followed by a reception and dinner for all participants in the town square. The occasion was in honor of the new historical designation for the house from the Ministry of Culture as well as to celebrate the major renovation and conversion work that is underway paid for through a generous donation by Annette Merle-Smith of Princeton, New Jersey.



Mary Voyatzis speaking on the history of her family house in Andritsaina with the house under construction in the background. Photo: D.G. Romano.

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Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos



Dinner in the plateia of Andritsaina following the speeches at the house of Mary Voyatzis. Photo: D.G. Romano.

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For more information on the research, Field School, Park or how to get involved in the project, visit our website at https://www.parrhasianheritagepark.org or write to davidgilmanromano@gmail.com.

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PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Το Παρράσιο Πάρκο Πολιτιστικής Κληρονομιάς

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The Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnesos

