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978-0-521-89782-2 - The Archaeology of Cyprus: From Earliest Prehistory through the Bronze Age

A. Bernard Knapp

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THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF CYPRUS

Situated amidst the archaeologies of the Near East, Europe and Africa, the archaeology and culture of Cyprus are central to an understanding of the ancient Mediterranean world. This book treats the archaeology of Cyprus from the first-known human presence during the Late Epipalaeolithic (ca. 11,000 BC) through the end of the Bronze Age (ca. 1000 BC). A. Bernard Knapp examines the archaeological and documentary records of prehistoric Cyprus within their regional context, paying special attention to the Levant and the Aegean. The appendix (compiled by Sturt W. Manning) analyses all published radiocarbon dates from the island, providing for the first time a comprehensive chronological framework for all of Cypriot prehistory. Focusing on key themes such as (1) identity, insularity and connectivity, and (2) society, community and polity throughout, this book provides a remarkably up-to-date and integrated synthesis of human activity on the Mediterranean's third-largest island.

A. Bernard Knapp is Emeritus Professor of Mediterranean Archaeology in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Glasgow and Honorary Research Fellow at the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute. He co-edits the *Journal of Mediterranean Archaeology* with John F. Cherry and Peter van Dommelen and is the general editor of the series *Monographs in Mediterranean Archaeology*. He is the author and editor of several books including, most recently, *Material Connections in the Ancient Mediterranean: Mobility, Materiality, and Mediterranean Identities* (co-edited with Peter van Dommelen) and *Prehistoric and Protohistoric Cyprus: Identity, Insularity, and Connectivity* (author).

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For Stella, συνέχια και παντού

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

<i>List of Illustrations and Tables</i>	page xii
<i>Preface and Acknowledgements</i>	xvii
1 Introduction	1
Environment, Landscape and Climate.....	3
Fauna and Flora	9
2 Chronology, Current Research and Interpretative Context	20
Background.....	20
The Chronological Framework.....	25
The Archaeology of Cyprus in Context	28
Politics, Archaeology and Heritage	30
An Interpretative Framework.....	33
Insularity, Identity and Landscapes.....	34
Social Landscapes.....	37
Identity, Community and Polity	40
3 Early Prehistoric Cyprus 1: Palaeolithic–Early Aceramic Neolithic	43
The Contested Palaeolithic	43
Late Epipalaeolithic: The Earliest Visitors	48
Seafaring and Exploitation	49
The Coastal Sites	52
Akrotiri <i>Aetokremnos</i> , 52 • Nissi Beach and the Akamas Peninsula, 59	
The Inland Sites.....	63
Coastal Adaptations, Climate and Seafaring	69
Early Aceramic Neolithic: First Settlers.....	74
Migration and Permanent Settlement.....	76
Adaptations, Agriculture and Social Change	82
Ayia Varvara <i>Asprokremmos</i> : Beyond the PPNA ‘Hiatus’, 82 • Paraklishia <i>Shillourokambos</i> , 88 • Kissonerga <i>Mylothkia</i> , 96	

The Wider Early Aceramic Neolithic Landscape.....	102
Kalavassos <i>Tenta</i> , 103 • Kritou Marottou <i>Ais</i>	
<i>Giorkis</i> , 108 • Akanthou <i>Arkosyko</i> , 112	
Overview: Early Aceramic Neolithic	115
4 Early Prehistoric Cyprus 2: Late Aceramic Neolithic	
and Ceramic Neolithic	120
Late Aceramic Neolithic–Khirokitia Culture (ca. 7000/6800–	
5500/5300 Cal BC)	120
Transition to the Late Aceramic Neolithic	120
Settlements and Subsistence	122
The Material Culture of the Late Aceramic Neolithic	129
Mortuary Practices: Villages of the Dead?	137
Overview: The Late Aceramic Neolithic.....	147
Gender/Social Organisation, 149 • Insularity	
and Identity, 150 • The End of the Late	
Aceramic Neolithic, 154	
The Ceramic Neolithic.....	158
Transition to the Ceramic Neolithic.....	158
Spatial Organisation, Settlement and Subsistence	162
The Material Culture of the Ceramic Neolithic	181
Social Continuity and Social Change	187
The End of the Ceramic Neolithic	192
5 Later Prehistoric Cyprus: Chalcolithic–Late Chalcolithic	195
Early–Middle Chalcolithic	195
Transition to the Early Chalcolithic.....	195
Spatial Organisation and Settlements: Early Chalcolithic	197
The (Early–Middle) Chalcolithic	
House(hold), 204	
Spatial Organisation and Settlements: Middle Chalcolithic.....	206
Subsistence Strategies, 215	
Mortuary Practices.....	217
Other Material and Social Practices.....	227
Ritual and Feasting, 232 • Gender and the	
Individual Body, 237	
Incipient Complexity, Ideology and Identity in the	
Early–Middle Chalcolithic	243
Late Chalcolithic	245
Settlement, Society and Materiality	247
Mortuary Practices.....	258
Transition to the Bronze Age	260
6 Prehistoric Bronze Age Cyprus	263
Migration or Indigenous Development?.....	264
Hybridisation and Everyday Practices in the Prehistoric	
Bronze Age	268

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978-0-521-89782-2 - The Archaeology of Cyprus: From Earliest Prehistory through the Bronze Age

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents

xi

Spatial Organisation, Settlement and Subsistence	277
Marki <i>Alonia</i>	281
Sotira <i>Kaminoudhia</i>	284
Alambra <i>Mouttes</i>	289
Politiko <i>Troullia</i>	293
Overview	297
Metallurgical and Agricultural Production	298
Metallurgical Production	298
Agricultural Production	303
External Contacts and Influences	307
Mortuary Practices	311
Other Material and Social Practices	322
Representations	333
Overview: Prehistoric Bronze Age	344
7 Protohistoric Bronze Age Cyprus	348
Spatial Organisation and Settlement	349
Monumentality	359
Material and Social Practices	381
Mortuary Practices	381
Representations of Gender	389
Production, Trade and the ‘Exotic’	397
Agricultural Production/Consumption	398
Pottery Production/Consumption	400
Metallurgical Production/Consumption	406
Materiality, Connectivity and Exchange	416
Prestige Goods and the Organisation of Exchange, 427	
Sociopolitical Organisation	432
The Material View: Heterarchy or Hierarchy?	432
The Documentary View: Hierarchy or Households?	438
The End of the Bronze Age: Complexity and Collapse	447
Migration, Hybridisation and the Aegean ‘Colonisation’ of Cyprus	451
Hybridisation Practices, 454 • Mobility, Migrations and Aegeans on Cyprus, 466	
Overview: Protohistoric Bronze Age	470
8 Conclusions: Insularity, Connectivity and Identity on Prehistoric and Protohistoric Cyprus	477
Final Thoughts on Insularity, Connectivity and Social Identity	483
<i>Appendix: A New Radiocarbon Chronology for Prehistoric and Protohistoric Cyprus, ca. 11,000–1050 Cal BC</i>	<i>485</i>
Sturt W. Manning	
<i>References</i>	<i>535</i>
<i>Index</i>	<i>611</i>

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND TABLES

ILLUSTRATIONS

1	View southeast from Hala Sultan Tekke <i>Vyzakia</i> to the Larnaca Salt Lake	page 3
2	Cyprus satellite image	4
3	771 boxes of antiquities excavated by the Swedish Cyprus Expedition, on docks at Famagusta awaiting shipment to Stockholm, March 1931	21
4	The mosque of Hala Sultan Tekke (Umm Haram), near Larnaca, Cyprus	33
5	Modern spoil heap of <i>Kokkinopezoula</i> near Mitsero, Cyprus	39
6	View of Mesolithic cave site, Ammoudi 3, south coast of Crete	47
7	Map of Late Epipalaeolithic–Early Aceramic Neolithic sites mentioned in text	49
8	View of Akrotiri <i>Aetokremnos</i> on the south coast of Cyprus	53
9	Akrotiri <i>Aetokremnos</i> : intact archaeological deposits showing four major strata	53
10	Akrotiri Peninsula plan showing the shoreline at the present time, at 6000 BP and at 12,000 BP	56
11	View southeast over Nissi Beach, with several large tsunami blocks	62
12	Vretsia <i>Roudias</i> site location in the upper levels of the Xeros Potamos valley, Cyprus	63
13	Chipped stone industries identified by EENC Project	65
14	Ayia Vavara <i>Asprokremmos</i> , one of two decorated (incised) ‘shaft straighteners’	67
15	Map of eastern Mediterranean, with Anatolian and Levantine Neolithic sites mentioned in text	75
16	Atlit-Yam: Final PPNB (=PPNC) underwater site, showing distribution of installations and features	79
17a	Parreklisia <i>Shillourokambos</i> (Early Phase A): postholes, stake holes and enclosure trench	89

List of Illustrations and Tables

xiii

17b	Parreklisia <i>Shillourokambos</i> (Early Phase A): curved enclosure trenches, with postholes and pits	89
18	Parreklisia <i>Shillourokambos</i> Early Phase A (EAN 1), human–feline carved head	93
19	Parreklisia <i>Shillourokambos</i> Middle–Recent Phase (EAN 2–3), plan of cat and human burials	94
20	Kissonerga <i>Mylothkia</i> , Wells 116 (EAN 1) and 133 (EAN 3)	97
21	Kissonerga <i>Mylothkia</i> groundstone macehead from Well 133 (EAN 3)	99
22	Kalavassos <i>Tenta</i> , view of the Neolithic site in the Vasilikos Valley	103
23	Kalavassos <i>Tenta</i> , Structure 14 (EAN 3)	105
24	Kalavassos <i>Tenta</i> , Structure 11 (EAN 3)	107
25	Kalavassos <i>Tenta</i> , pier from Structure 11 at <i>Tenta</i> with wall painting	107
26	Kritou Marottou <i>Ais Giorkis</i> , fragmentary limestone figurine	109
27	Kritou Marottou <i>Ais Giorkis</i> Feature 17, a large oval stone structure	110
28	Khirokitia <i>Vouni</i> , reconstruction of nuclear-family compound	123
29	Khirokitia <i>Vouni</i> , overview of site along the slope of the hill	124
30	Khirokitia <i>Vouni</i> , plan showing two encircling walls	125
31	LAN shallow stone bowl	129
32	LAN human figure from Khirokitia	130
33	Khirokitia toolkit – (1) chipped stone; (2) bone tools	133
34	Khirokitia <i>Vouni</i> (a) engraved stone pebbles; (b) conical stones	135
35	Khirokitia ‘Tholos’ IA	142
36	Ceramic Neolithic Combed Ware (left) and Red-on-White (right) pottery	161
37	Map with Ceramic Neolithic and Chalcolithic sites mentioned in text	163
38	Sotira <i>Teppes</i> Ceramic Neolithic site	166
39	Ayios Epiktitos <i>Vrysi</i> Ceramic Neolithic site	168
40	Klepini <i>Troulli</i> promontory and site sketch plan	170
41	Kandou <i>Kouphovounos</i> aerial photograph	172
42	Kandou <i>Kouphovounos</i> picrolite figurine	174
43	Paralimni <i>Nissia</i> Ceramic Neolithic site plan	175
44	Paralimni <i>Nissia</i> , representation of a human head	176
45	Kalavassos <i>Kokkinoya</i> Ceramic Neolithic site	177
46	CN material culture: stone, bone and pottery	182
47	Sotira <i>Teppes</i> phallic limestone figurine	183
48	Sotira <i>Arkolies</i> limestone seated figure	183
49	Ceramic Neolithic groundstone tools	187
50	Kalavassos <i>Ayious</i> pit and tunnel complex	200
51	Maa <i>Palaeokastro</i> Early Chalcolithic Unit 69	203
52	Chalcolithic house layout	205
53	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> plan, Period 3B	210
54	Lemba <i>Lakkous</i> Building 1, Period 2, Middle Chalcolithic	212

55	Lemba <i>Lakkous</i> – Middle Chalcolithic limestone female figurine	212
56	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> Burial 563	219
57	Souskiou <i>Laona</i> and <i>Vathyrakakas</i> topographic plan	222
58	Souskiou <i>Vathyrakakas</i> Cemetery 1 green picrolite figurine	224
59	<i>Mosphilia</i> Red-on-White pottery	228
60	Souskiou <i>Laona</i> copper spiral ornament, from Tomb 158	229
61	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> Red-on-White bowl/building model	234
62	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> ‘birthing figurine’ (KM 1451)	235
63	Yialia picrolite cruciform figurine	239
64	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> ‘Pithos House’, reconstruction	249
65	Politiko <i>Kokkinorotsos</i> site	251
66a, 66b	Politiko <i>Kokkinorotsos</i> groundstone tools and vessels	253
67	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> conical stones (18–25) and grooved stones (26–31)	257
68	Kissonerga <i>Mosphilia</i> , reconstruction of mortuary enclosure 375	259
69	Map of PreBA sites mentioned in text	278
70	Marki <i>Alonia</i> architectural sequence over 500 years	281
71	Marki <i>Alonia</i> hob, P2000	283
72	Sotira <i>Kamminoudhia</i> site plan	286
73	Sotira <i>Kaminoudhia</i> , plan of Area A	287
74	Alambra <i>Mouttes</i> , plan of Area A	290
75	Politiko <i>Troullia</i> cadastral map, showing areas Troullia West and Troullia East	293
76	Politiko <i>Troullia</i> East, plan of Areas A–G	294
77	Politiko <i>Troullia</i> East, architecture in Areas A–G	294
78	Marki <i>Alonia</i> , chalk casting moulds	299
79	Vounous chamber tombs; top Tomb 11, bottom Tomb 3	312
80	Cemetery locations along northern coastal plain: <i>Vounous</i> , <i>Vrysi tou Barba</i> , Karmi <i>Lapatsa</i> and <i>Palealona</i>	314
81	Karmi <i>Palealona</i> Tomb 6, relief figure and pilasters	317
82	Dhenia <i>Kafkalla</i> tomb complex	319
83	Red Polished wares, types and shapes	323
84	Spindle whorls: typological divisions	325
85	Marki <i>Alonia</i> groundstone tools	329
86	Marki <i>Alonia</i> , black serpentine macehead	330
87	Marki <i>Alonia</i> , rectilinear gaming stones	331
88	<i>Vounous</i> Red Polished model	333
89	Pyrgos Red Polished jug with female figure	334
90	‘Pierides Bowl’ (from Marki?). Red Polished bowl	335
91	Plank figurine; provenance uncertain	337
92	Plain Ware terracotta figurine depicted with breasts and a penis	341
93	Map of ProBA sites discussed in text	350
94	Social model of ProBA Cyprus	354
95	ProBA site size approximations	355
96	Kalopsidha Site C, plan of Gjerstad’s ‘House’	361

List of Illustrations and Tables

xv

97	Enkomi 'fortress' plan, showing devolution from ProBA 1 to ProBA 2	362
98	Kalavassos <i>Ayios Dhimitrios</i> Building X plan	363
99	Kalavassos <i>Ayios Dhimitrios</i> Building X central court (Room 157)	364
100	Maroni <i>Vournes</i> plan, showing the Ashlar, West and Basin Buildings	365
101	Maroni <i>Tsaroukkas</i> Tomb 13 (ProBA 2) and overbuilt structures	366
102	Alassa <i>Paleotaverna</i> Buildings II and III	367
103	Alassa <i>Paleotaverna</i> Building II, northern, outer wall	367
104	Alassa <i>Pano Mandilares</i> seal impression (on <i>Pithos</i> sherd)	368
105	Enkomi site plan showing architectural and archaeometallurgical features	369
106	Enkomi Ashlar Building isometric plan (LC IIIA)	370
107	Enkomi, locus of the 'Horned God' in sanctuary	371
108	Enkomi, 'Ingot god' figurine (Quartier 5E)	371
109	Kouklia <i>Palaepaphos</i> , 'Sanctuary' I (ProBA 3)	373
110	Kition <i>Kathari</i> Area II plan and main architectural features	374
111	Hala Sultan Tekke <i>Vyzakia</i> site view	375
112	Myrtou <i>Pigadhes</i> 'sanctuary' complex	377
113	Phlamoudhi <i>Melissa</i> site view, looking north	378
114	Phlamoudhi <i>Vounari</i> , reconstruction of platform and associated structure	379
115	Enkomi, multiple tomb types of the ProBA	383
116	Kalavassos <i>Ayios Dhimitrios</i> Tomb 11 gold jewellery	385
117	Kalavassos <i>Ayios Dhimitrios</i> Tomb 13, krater with woman looking from building	388
118	Enkomi British Tomb 58, relief-carved ivory gaming box	388
119	Female figurine, Type Aii, holding an infant	391
120	Female figurine Type B, with painted pubic triangle	392
121	Bronze statuette of female figurine standing on an oxhide ingot	394
122	'Goddess with upraised arms', from Limassol <i>Komissariato</i>	395
123	Kourion (?), four-sided bronze stand with harp player	396
124	White Slip (A), Base-ring (B) and White Painted (C) pottery styles	403
125	Politiko <i>Phorades</i> tuyères	410
126	Politiko <i>Phorades</i> slag heap	410
127	Politiko <i>Phorades</i> calibrated calendar ages of radiocarbon dates	412
128	Politiko <i>Phorades</i> slag cake, base fragment	413
129	'Lustrous' Base-ring I krater from Alalakh, restored	419
130	Kalavassos <i>Ayios Dhimitrios</i> Tomb 12: silver kilted male figure	429
131	Kition <i>Chrysopolitissa</i> faience rhyton	430
132	Kouklia <i>Evreti</i> Tomb VIII: gold finger ring with cloisonne bezel	431
133	Kouklia Tomb KA T1: strainer jug	456
134	Kouklia <i>Evreti</i> Tomb 8, ivory mirror handle	458

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-89782-2 - The Archaeology of Cyprus: From Earliest Prehistory through the Bronze Age

A. Bernard Knapp

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xvi

List of Illustrations and Tables

135	Enkomi Tomb 17, ivory mirror handle	458
136	Enkomi haematite cylinder seal	461
137	Enkomi (Ingot God ‘sanctuary’) bicephalous animal–human hybrid	465
138	Palaipaphos <i>Skales</i> Tomb 49: bronze <i>obelos</i>	466

TABLES

1	Recent (post-1980) excavation sites on Cyprus and main publications	24
2	Chronological schema: Prehistoric and Protohistoric Cyprus	27
3	Periods, dates, sites and socio-economic practices: Late Epipalaeolithic–Late Aceramic Neolithic	83

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Over the past 30 years, the archaeology of Cyprus has developed and changed in such a way that its earlier practitioners would barely recognise it. In that time, archaeologists working on Cyprus have produced an extraordinary amount of new information stemming both from fieldwork (excavations, survey projects) and from new research on various classes of material culture. Beyond two earlier studies (Bolger 2003; Steel 2004a) published nearly a decade ago, however, none of this new work and information has been integrated into a comprehensive, theoretically informed presentation of Cyprus's prehistoric and proto-historic past. Most archaeologists working throughout Europe, the Near East and the Mediterranean, and especially those who work on Cyprus, have recognised the need for an up-to-date synthesis of all the materials, new and old, that form the basis for a prehistory of the island. Sturt W. Manning's Appendix provides a real bonus: the analysis of more than 300 available radiocarbon dates offers a comprehensive chronological framework for all of Cypriot prehistory, from the Late Epipalaeolithic to the end of the Late Bronze Age.

I began work on this monograph whilst still a full-time member of the academic staff in the Department of Archaeology, University of Glasgow. I wish to thank my colleagues and departmental staff at Glasgow for their support and the consideration (and relief from teaching) I was given as Research Professor (2006–2009). The bulk of the research and final writing of this book took place since I retired (September 2009) and was released from normal teaching and administrative demands. Much of this work was conducted in the library of the Cyprus American Archaeological Research Institute (CAARI) in Nicosia, and I am particularly grateful to Tom Davis (former director of CAARI), Evi Karyda (CAARI librarian) and Vathoulla Moustoukki (CAARI's administrator), all of whom facilitated my work in every way possible. CAARI's extensive library holdings (and online database) ensured that little time was wasted tracking down even the most obscure references I needed.

At Cambridge, I wish to thank Beatrice Rehl, the Sponsoring Editor, for all her support and help from beginning to end of this project. Sincere thanks

also to Luane Hutchinson, by far the best copy editor I have ever worked with. I am also grateful to Norm Yoffee, the CWA series editor, for inciting me to take on this project, and for encouraging me throughout.

The complexity and breadth of the materials and topics covered herein presented real challenges to me, especially those chapters on the earlier prehistory of Cyprus (Late Epipalaeolithic–Chalcolithic). I am therefore indebted to all the individuals listed below, in alphabetical order, for their comments on earlier drafts of various sections, and/or for copies of unpublished or forthcoming papers, including PhD theses. I relied constantly on the comments provided by all of these scholars, but the opinions expressed and the interpretations presented here remain my own, and my own responsibility.

- Albert Ammerman (Colgate University): Late Epipalaeolithic
 Sophia Antoniadou (Athens): PhD thesis (University of Edinburgh, 2004)
 Seth Button (University of Michigan): Late Aceramic Neolithic
 Jo Clarke (University of East Anglia): Ceramic Neolithic
 Paul Croft (Lemba Archaeological Project, Cyprus): Bioarchaeology (faunal, floral)
 Nikos Efstratiou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki): Vretsia *Roudias* site (Late Epipalaeolithic)
 Steven Falconer (Arizona State University, Tempe): Politiko *Troullia* (PreBA)
 Nathan Harper (University of Nevada, Las Vegas): Late Aceramic Neolithic, Bronze Age mortuary data
 Paula Louise Jones (University of Wales, Cardiff): Early and Late Aceramic Neolithic
 Sturt W. Manning (Cornell University): Chronology and dating; Early Aceramic Neolithic; Appendix on ¹⁴C dates
 Joseph Maran (Heidelberg University): Late Cypriot material in Tiryns
 Carole McCartney (University of Cyprus): Cypro-PPNA; Early Aceramic Neolithic–Chalcolithic chipped stone
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Frontmatter

[More information](#)*Preface and Acknowledgements*

xix

Stuart Swiny (State University of New York, Albany): Prehistoric Bronze Age Sotira *Kaminoudhia*

Jennifer Webb (La Trobe University, Melbourne): Late Chalcolithic, Prehistoric Bronze Age period overall

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Stuart Swiny (State University of New York, Albany): Sotira *Kaminoudhia*

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