PONTIKA 2006 • ПОНТИКА 2006

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DE ANTIQUORUM ARTIBUS ET CIVILISATIONE STUDIA VARIA Pars XI

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Najnowsze badania greckich kolonii północnych wybrzeży Morza Czarnego

Materiały międzynarodowej konferencji, Kraków, 18 marca 2006

pod redakcją
Ewdoksii Papuci-Władyki

Uniwersytet Jagielloński
Kraków 2008

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Recent Research in Northern Black Sea Coast Greek Colonies
Новейшие исследования греческих колоний Северного Причерноморья

Proceedings of the International Conference, Kraków, 18th March, 2006

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PREFACE

March 2006 was an exceptionally good month in Kraków for Polish-Ukrainian cultural and scientific cooperation. On March 17, a photographic exhibition entitled *In Search of Treasures. Polish-Ukrainian Research at Koshary near Odessa* was opened at the National Museum in Kraków. This was followed by an international conference held on the next day at the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University: ПОНТИКА — PONTICA — ПОНТИКА.[1]

Both events were the effect of cooperation between the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University and the Archaeological Museum of the National Academy of Sciences of the Ukraine in Odessa, a cooperation which started several years ago, in 1998. The joint archaeological Koshary Project was launched then and, more importantly, closer ties were established between the two institutions.

Some time ago, Jarosław Bodzek (a member of the Koshary Project, staff member not only of the Institute of Archaeology at the Jagiellonian University but also of the National Museum in Kraków, where he heads the Numismatic Room) and Krystyna Moczulska (then in charge of the Ancient Art Gallery at the Czartoryski Museum in Kraków) came up with the idea to organize an exhibition of antiquities from Odessa in our city. Our joint suggestion to have a photographic presentation of the excavations and an academic conference to go with it was a natural follow-up. The Odessa exhibition,[2] was organized as part

[1] E. Papuci-Władyka, M. Kania, *Nadczarnomorska konferencja*, „Alma Mater", No. 81, 2006, 59-60.

[2] Cf. J. Bodzek, M. Woźniak, *Skarby znad Morza Czarnego*, „Alma Mater", No. 81, 2006, 61-62; *Skarby znad Morza Czarnego. Złoto, rzeźba, ceramika z Muzeum Archeologicznego w Odessie / Treasures from the Black Sea. Gold, Sculpture, Pottery from the Archaeological Museum in Odessa* (Katalog wystawy w Muzeum Narodowym w Krakowie, marzec-czerwiec 2006 / Catalogue of the Exhibition at the National Museum in Kraków, March-June 2006), J. Bodzek (ed.), Kraków 2006.

of the Kraków Museum's ODESSA-KRAKÓW project. It was listed as one of the numerous cultural events designed to promote the Ukraine in Poland as part of the year-long program called "Year of the Ukraine in Poland" in 2005, which ran over from the preceding year into 2006. The official opening ceremony of the Odessa exhibition and the photo presentation took place on March 17 in the Main Building of the Kraków National Museum.[3]

Complementing the two exhibitions in the scientific sphere was a conference concerning the newest research in the Black Sea littoral. It took place on March 18 at the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University in Gołębia Street and it proved to be an excellent forum for exchanging ideas and presenting the results of work by several expeditions excavating in the region from Tyras in the Ukraine in the west to Tanais in Russia and the Georgian Pichvnari in the east. The conference was attended by the late Vladimir P. Vanchugov, Director of the Archaeological Museum in Odessa. It was hosted jointly by Jan Chochorowski, Director of the Jagiellonian University's Institute of Archaeology, and Ewdoksia Papuci-Władyka, head of the Classical Archaeology Department at the Institute and co-director, with Evgeniia F. Redina, of the Koshary Project. Special guest Vassos Karageorghis, Director of the Anastasios G. Leventis Foundation (Nicosia, Cyprus), presented the achievements of the Foundation in the promotion, conservation and organization of exhibitions of monuments of Cypriot and Greek culture throughout the world, the Odessa Museum included.

The PONTIKA conference brought important conclusions which are presented in these proceedings. The conference also demonstrated the role that Kraków can play as a meeting place between the East and West of Europe. Many promising contacts were made at the conference between representatives of various academic institutions and museums. By the same token, the one-day meeting organized by the Department of Classical Archaeology at the Jagiellonian proved to be an important event for researchers focusing on ancient cultures on the Black Sea.

The exhibition and conference would hardly have been the success it was without the contribution of the staff, doctoral candidates and students of the Faculty of History and the Institute of Archaeology of the Jagiellonian University: Wojciech Machowski, Marta Kania, Grzegorz Łaczek, Aleksandra Kowal, Maciej Czech, Katarzyna Mirczak, Sylwia Stelmach and Anna Drzymuchowska, as well

[3] Open until June 4, 2006; cf. Also E. Dziwisz, *Złoto, groby i uczeni*, „KRAKÓW", czerwiec 2006, 74-75.

as Sławomir Chwałek, a graduate of our Institute. Jarosław Bodzek and Mateusz Woźniak of the Archaeological Institute and the National Museum operated as a natural connection between our two institutions.

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ABBREVATIONS • СПИСОК СОКРАЩЕНИЙ

„ACIMB" — „Annuarul Comisiunii monumentelor istorice: secţia din Basarabia"

„CNA" — "Cronica numismatică şi archeologică"

IOSPE² — B. Latyshev, Inscriptiones antiquae orae septentrionalis Ponti Euxini, Ed. 2, Petropolis 1885-1916

„KSIA AN SSSR" — „Kratkie soobshchenia Instituta Arkheologii AN SSSR" (see „КСИА АН УССР")

„MSROA" — „Materiały i Sprawozdania Rzeszowskiego Ośrodka Archeologicznego"

„MIA" — „Materialy i issledovania po arkheologii SSSR" (see „МИА")

„NE" — "Numismatika i Epigrafika" (see "НЭ")

„RGF" — „Römisch —Germanische Forschungen"

„VDI" — „Vestnik Drevnei Istorii" (see „ВДИ")

„АО" — „Археологические Открытия"

„АП УРСР" — „Археологічні пам'ятки УРСР"

„ВДИ" — „Вестник Древней Истории" (см. „VDI")

„ЗООИД" — „Записки Одесского общества истории и древностей"

„КСИА АН УССР" — „Краткие сообщения Института археологии АН УССР" (см. „KSIA AN SSSR")

„МИА" — „Материалы и исследования по археологии СССР" (см. „MIA")

"МАСП" — „Материалы по археологии Северного Причерноморья"

„НЭ" — "Нумизматика и эпиграфика" (см. „NE")

ПГКСВП — Проблемы греческой колонизации Северного и Восточного Причерноморья, Тбилиси

„СА" — „Советская археология"

СЗП-КЗДК — Северо-Западное Причерноморье — контактная зона древних культур, Киев

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Kraków 2008

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Prospects of archaeological underwater research of the Black Sea basin

The Black Sea is an inland sea, part of the Atlantic Ocean, between South-Eastern Europe and Asia. The Kerch Strait links it with the Azov Sea and the Bosphorous Strait (through the Marmara Sea) and the Dardanelles with the Mediterranean. It may not look too impressive on the map compared with the neighbouring Mediterranean Sea, but in objective terms, its area of 420,300 square kilometers is still huge territory. Its depth reaches 2211 meters. In the summer, temperature of the water near surface is an average 22-25 degrees centigrade; however, during winter it is 6 to 11 degrees centigrade, although in the north it could fall to zero. Such rivers as the Danube, Dniester, Dnieper, and Boh drain into the Black Sea.

While reading this geographical data, one may think that the Black Sea is just a warmer, shallower, and smaller brother of the Mediterranean. But it is important that in the ancient times it had quite a different reputation. Greek seamen called it *axenos*, which means inhospitable. Their bad opinion was due to very strong storms in this area. Tribes living on its coast were believed to be very dangerous (Ballard 2001, 55). It should be remembered that in ancient times sailing on this distant sea always involved big risk. A voyage without a compass in bad weather was positively dangerous. In the Roman period, its reputation was much better. The Black Sea was called than *Pontus Euxinus* (Piotrowicz 1993, 2 ff.), which could be translated as a hospitable sea. It was much better known thanks to increasing settlement in the area.

With a long history of maritime activity in this region and big variety of civilizations on its coast, it became a paradise for underwater archaeological research. However,

sometimes there is a convergence problem between data from underwater finds and land excavations. Scientists do not always compare data from one part of the site, excavated by the divers, with information from another explored with traditional techniques. It can lead to false conclusions, because it makes for our data being incomplete. Thanks to extensive activity of archaeologists on the coast of the Black Sea, we know of intensive settlement in this region for about three thousand years.[1] During all that time, the sea was a major factor consolidating the whole area. It is known that rivers in the ancient times were very important commercial routes in Central and Eastern Europe. As a consequence, during the ages the Black Sea served as a bridge between Europe, Central Asia, and the Mediterranean region. Cultural development in this area was so fast because of maritime transport. Data from research of ports and wrecks are very important in enlarging our knowledge of the history of this place, most of the information coming from underwater exploration. In past decades, Ukrainian and Russian scientists began to use underwater techniques. Still, this is just an early stage.[2] At the same time, political changes in Eastern Europe made it possible for scientists from Western countries to start exploring the area. In recent decades we also obtained better techniques and tools that can be used in the underwater archaeology. Development of advances in diving equipment, vehicles, and search tools have made deeper surveys possible.

The condition of underwater archaeology in the Black Sea countries is relatively good. Regional governments and explorers understand that such explorations are crucial to uncovering the past. The Underwater Archaeology Exploration and Training Center of the University of Kiev has conducted regular underwater surveys in the Ukraine since 1991 (White 1994, 98). At an early stage, researchers identified the ancient port of Lampas mentioned in *Periplus Ponti Euxini* by Pseudo-Arrian in the 2nd century A.D.[3]

Another center that works in the Black Sea region is the Maritime Archaeology Institute. In cooperation with the Americans, the Institute was able to establish a Museum of Underwater Archaeology in Bodrum where some highly interesting artefacts are exhibited.[4]

Ancient seafarers did not know that the Black Sea was peculiar. In fact its waters became salty only 7500 years ago. Previously, it was a lake about 1/3 smaller than the sea

[1] http://nautarch.tamu.edu/projects/crimea/crimea.htg, 13.III.2006
[2] As above.
[3] As above.
[4] As above.

nowadays. Its shore was about 150 metres lower than now. Conditions changed when the level of water rose. The waters of the Marmara Sea cut the Bosphorous valley. In the opinion of many scientists, this accident was described in the Bible and by many ancient writers (Pitman, Ryan 1998, 55). Specimens of seabed sediment and mollusk shells also prove it. A direct result of that is the distribution of layers in the waters. The layer between 0 and 90 metres is oxygenated; between 90 and 200 metres, it is mixed, and below 200 meters it is very salty with no oxygen (Ballard 2001, 55-56). There are big temperature differences in the Black Sea that cause movement of water. The oxygen from the surface does not penetrate to the seabed. The layer close to the seabed is built mostly of hydrogen sulphide. The phenomenon was observed in many lakes around the world where lack of oxygen and decay of organic matter results in production of poisonous gases. This process is anomalous for the sea[5], affecting archaeological exploration. First of all, a changing coastline can be a source of information about the placement of ancient settlements. Willard Bascom[6] discovered a second important factor. He proved that the lack of oxygen in water has a great impact on preservation of timber. That is why wrecks and cargoes in Black Sea waters are remarkably well preserved (Ballard 2001, 60).

The theory remained unproved for many years. According to most underwater archaeologists and maritime historians, sea routes in ancient times ran near the coastline. In their opinion, ancient seafarers sailed only within eyeshot of land. They were right in many cases. Evidence to prove this can be found in many ancient sources. It is obvious that navigators had to visit different ports during their trip.

The latest research, including that conducted by Robert Ballard[7], has proved the presence of archaeological remains also in deeper layers, lacking oxygen. In such conditions, remains are better preserved, the best example being wreck D (Turkey) (Ballard 2001, 68).

Another interesting search took place in close to the ancient Greek port of Sinope.[8] At the beginning it was an only settlement on the Black Sea coast, but later colonists began to settle across the sea (Ballard 2001, 64-65).

When the Black Sea project was announced, the area began to attract the attention of underwater archaeologists. In 1988, a group of divers, properly equipped and headed by David Mindell from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, arrived in the area. Hard as they worked, they found no remains of ancient sites.

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[5] http://www.nationalgeographic.com/blacksea, 13.III.2006
[6] As above.
[7] Exploration headed by R. Ballard near Turkish Sinope, Black Sea Project.
[8] http://www.museum.upenn.edu/Sinop/SinopIntro.htm, 13.III.2006

The people involved in former project came back in 2000 on board the *North Horizon* ship. This time, the first ancient remains were found in September. It was a kind of building, lying about 100 metres into the land. The exploration team decided not to explore the site. Instead, they decided to find as much archaeological sites as possible. In fact they were right. Two days later they discovered the wreck of a ship, many ancient amphorae, an iron anchor, and timbers. The wreck was identified as a Byzantine merchant ship from the 4th century A.D. A second wreck was found during the same night. This ship was dated at the Greco-Roman era. Another vessel that was discovered during the same expedition had been built between the 4th and 6th centuries. The last wreck found by the archaeologists was perfectly preserved, with every part of the hull and the mast standing vertically 10 meters high. Experts concluded that it was very old: they dated it at ca. 410-520 A.D. It seems to be the best-preserved wreck ever found. It is greatly possible that information obtained during examination of this wreck will prove of key importance for our knowledge about ancient ships. Based on presented material, we may conclude that the Black Sea played an extremely important role. The Roman Pontus Euxinus seems to be very hospitable for underwater archaeologists.

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Мацей Чех
Краков, Попьша

Перспективы подводных исследований на Черном море

Резюме

В нынешней короткой статье автор размышляет над перспективами подводной археологии региона Черного моря. Сравнивая данные, полученные в результате исследований морского дна, археологических поисков и предположений историков, автор убедительно показывает, насколько ценную информацию могут дать подводные работы в бассейне Черного моря для исследователей древностей. Одновременно автор пытается ответить на вопрос, в какой части Черного моря такие поиски были бы наиболее эффективными, и каким условиям они должны сооьветствовать, чтобы можно было рассчитывать на их успех.