

ΡΟΝΤΙΚΑ 2006 • ΠΟΝΤΙΚΑ 2006

## **PONTIKA 2006 • ПОНТИКА 2006**

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Morza Czarnego

Materiały międzynarodowej konferencji, Kraków, 18 marca 2006

pod redakcją  
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## **PONTIKA 2006 • ПОНТИКА 2006**

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

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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.<sup>1</sup>

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,<sup>2</sup> was organized as part

<sup>1</sup> E. Papuci-Władyka, M. Kania, *Nadczarnomorska konferencja*, „Alma Mater”, No. 81, 2006, 59-60.

<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup>

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

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<sup>3</sup> 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.

*Ewdoksia Papuci-Władyka*  
Jagiellonian University, Kraków



## ABBREVIATIONS • СПИСОК СОКРАЩЕНИЙ

- „ACIMB” — „Annuarul Comisiunii monumentelor istorice: secția din Basarabia”  
„CNA” — “Cronica numismatică și arheologică”  
IOSPE<sup>2</sup> — 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. „ВДИ”)  
„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. „МИА”)  
“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 древ-  
них культур, Киев



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Kraków 2008



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Toruń, Poland

### **Preliminary results of archaeological underwater survey in the northern part of the Black Sea basing on the example of Olbia**

The paper will summarize the preliminary results of an underwater survey conducted by the Department of Underwater Archaeology of the Toruń University on the ancient site of Olbia. The research on this site was conducted on a limited scale and requires further intense work. The involvement of the Department of Underwater Archaeology in surveys on the northern coast of the Black Sea started with a project at Nikonion. Already in 1962, V.D. Blavatskii carried an underwater investigation on this site and suggested that the submerged part of Nikonion had a big potential for underwater archaeology. Unfortunately, an evaluation conducted more than 30 years later by the Department of Underwater Archaeology of the University of Toruń indicated that the scale of destruction of the site caused by the river and the erosion of the cliff was so significant that further underwater surveys were extremely difficult to continue. Shortly after the work at Nikonion, a kind invitation provided by the Institute of Archaeology of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in Kiev gave an opportunity to carry preliminary underwater surveys in Olbia. The work took place in two seasons in the years 2003 and 2004 (Kola, Szulta 2003; Kola, Gronek 2004).

The ancient city of Olbia was one of the biggest and richest towns on the northern coast of the Black Sea. Parallel to the development of the Upper City of Olbia, a Lower City was built. This part of town was associated with a harbour existing there and generally with other river and water-oriented activities. Furthermore, during different chronological periods, the area of the Lower City had been incorpo-

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNDERWATER SURVEY IN THE NORTHERN PART OF  
THE BLACK SEA BASIN ON THE EXAMPLE OF OLBIA



Fig. 1. A general map of Olbia (after Kryzhitskii, Krapivina 1994, 186).

rated into the defence system of the town (Fig. 1). Probably at the end of the 3rd century B.C. or at the beginning of the 2nd century B.C., a catastrophic landslide destroyed most of the Lower City. The devastated part of Olbia was abandoned for at least a few decades and would never again reach the same scale of occupation. Nonetheless, different types of settlements associated with harbour activities must have functioned there until the final abandonment of Olbia (Kryzhitskii, Krapivina 1994, 186).

Already at an early stage of archaeological research in Olbia it was noticed that a significant part of the Lower City together with the harbour and the eastern defence system had been flooded by the water of the Boh River (Fig. 2). The need for an underwater survey was realised by Prof. S.D. Kryzhitskii, who in the period between 1971 and 1977 directed a project that aimed to provide topographic and stratigraphic information about the submerged area. As a result of that work, some large visible stone remains were planned to be explored. Two stone structures running east-west were interpreted as two phases of the northern wall. The one located further north was suggested to belong to the pre-Getic period. The other located further south to

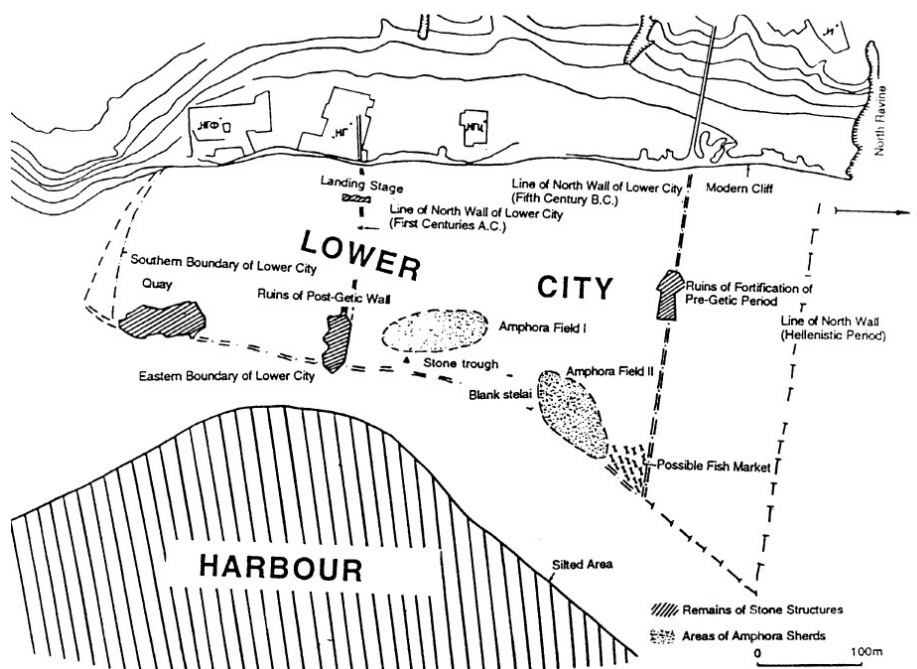


Fig. 2. A map of the submerged part of the Lower City of Olbia (after Kryzhitskii, Krapivina 1994, 194).

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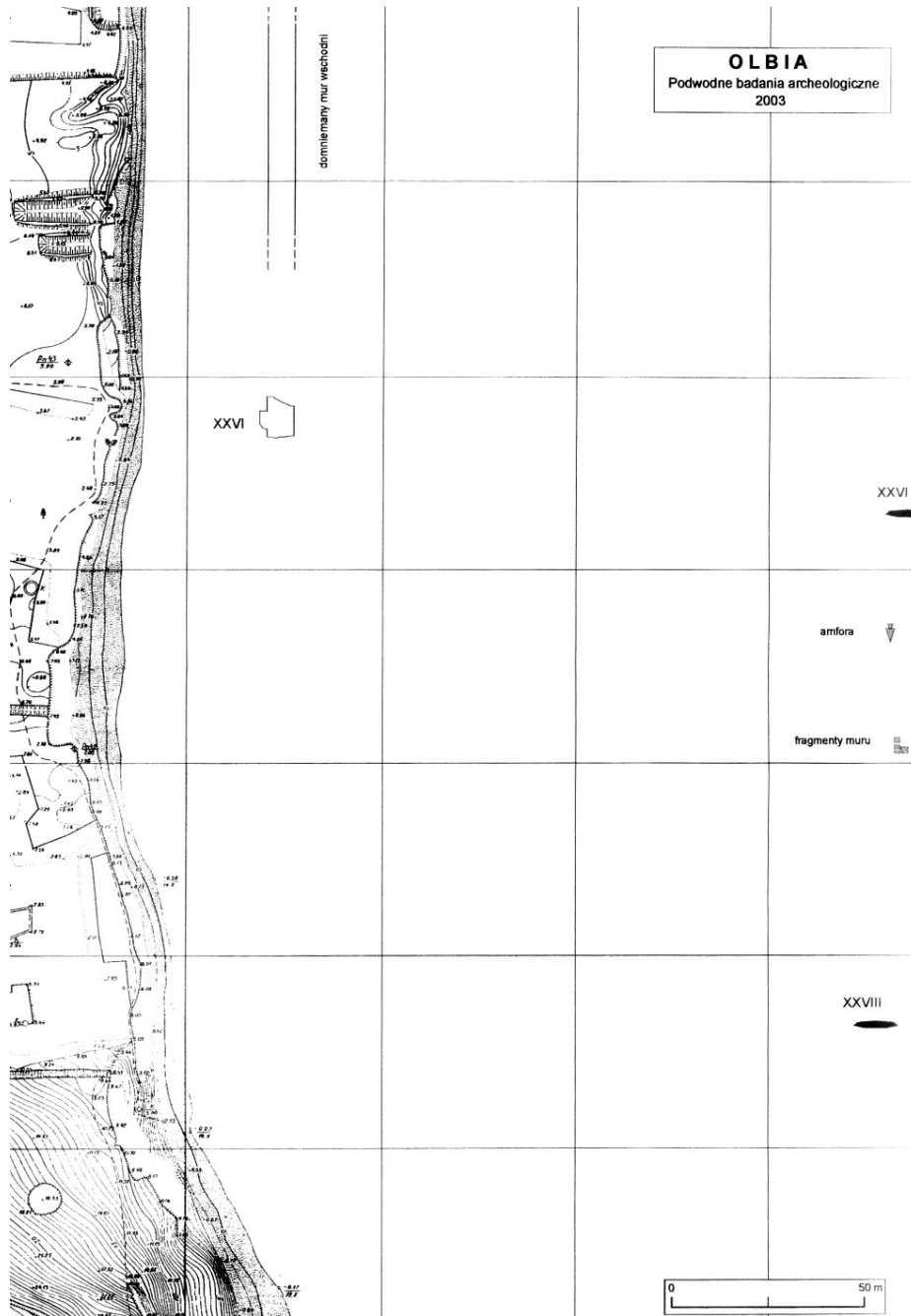


Fig. 3. A map of the stone structure discovered during the underwater survey (after Kola, Szulta 2003).



the post-Getic period (or generally to the first centuries A.D.), when the size of the town shrank significantly. The plans made in 1970's also suggested a localization of the eastern boundary of the Lower City. The place called "the landing stage" was described as remains of a defensive complex of the first centuries B.C.

The important information gained during that early survey was the localization of two fields of amphora sherds. The first field was dominated by pottery dating to the 4th century B.C. (70% of all fragments). In the second field, amphorae and kitchen and table ware were found, broadly dating to the period between the 1st and 4th centuries A.D. The amphora fields were interpreted as remains of the harbour's warehouses or even living quarters (Kryzhitskii, Krapivina 1994, 195).

The underwater archaeological survey in Olbia resumed in 2003 and 2004. Its first main objective was to relocate the stone structures planned during the earlier surveys and to define the location of the eastern wall. At this stage of work, a powerful water gun was used to uncover the stone structures. At the beginning, the area of research concentrated between the remains of the so-called northern wall from the first centuries A.D. and the so-called "quay." The survey was conducted in the section located from 130 to 200 meters from the current shore of the Liman. The only regular structure discovered in this part of the site was a wall 60 cm broad and 75 cm high that ran for a few meters. This structure was found 60 meters south of the so-called northern wall.

The next stage of the survey concentrated in the area located east of Trench XV from the Lower City. A spectacular concentration of stones that formed a 5-7-meter-wide wall was discovered 30 meters away from the current shore. This stone structure runs parallel to the shore and was found at a distance of more than 70 meters. It was made of regular stones of various sizes. In its southern part, the wall may join with structure XXVI described by Kryzhitskii as a "landing stage" (Fig. 3). A majority of archaeological artefacts discovered during the survey were dated to the 4th century B.C. Nonetheless, many other finds from different chronological periods were collected during the underwater research. For example, a well preserved wooden timber from a ship of Ottoman origin should be dated to the Middle Ages.

Based on the example of Olbia, and to some extent Nikonion as well, one can distinguish some peculiar features of underwater archaeology of ancient cities located in the mouths (limans) of major Pontic rivers.

- Shallow water (often no deeper than 2 meters)
- Low visibility (often less than 0.5 meters)

PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNDERWATER SURVEY IN THE NORTHERN PART OF  
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- Significant pollution of the water (which makes work difficult or even impossible)
- Large areas to investigate (that make work difficult to manage)
- Limited number of reference points
- Chronological complexity
- Continuous erosion of submerged and on-land archaeological sites
- Relatively high cost of underwater surveys

The solution to at least some of the problems mentioned above can be found in new advanced technologies recently available to archaeology. A GIS and total station can provide a very powerful tool to map large complex areas in a short time. It can be particularly useful in shallow waters like those in Olbia. Different remote sensing techniques can help in search for regular stone structures covered by sand and rubble. One can only hope that some of these technologies will be used in the field.

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1994 A Quarter-century of Excavations at Olbia Pontica, „Classical View” 38, 181- 205.

**Анджей Пыдын**

Торунь, Польша

**Предварительные результаты археологических подводных исследований в северной части Черного моря на примере Ольвии**

**Резюме**

В статье представлен потенциал и условия археологических подводных исследований, которые проводились в приустьевых лиманах больших рек южной Украины. Подведены итоги предварительных подводных исследований, проведенных в Ольвии в сезонах 2003 и 2004 гг. Главной целью этих исследований, кроме общей археологической ориентировки, было определение направления так называемой «восточной кладки» и локализация порта, который должен находиться в нескольких сотнях метрах от современной прибрежной линии лимана. Результатами работ явилось получение многочисленного археологического материала, в главной степени связанного с функционирующим здесь в античное время городом.

