

*Marina Vakhtina, Sergey Solovyev,
Viktor Vakhoneev, Ekaterina Chetverkina*

RESCUE EXCAVATIONS AT THE PARTHENION CITY SITE IN 2020*

Ancient written tradition has preserved information about two Bosporan cities situated in the coastal zone of the northeastern tip of Kerch peninsula to the northeast of the modern city of Kerch (The Republic of Crimea), Parthenion and Porthmion. They are associated with ancient ruins located between the modern villages of Opasnoe and Zhukovka.¹ The distance in a straight line between the two ancient cities is just 1.3 km. Parthenion sits near the northern outskirts of the village of Opasnoe. It occupies part of an elevated plateau with an area of about 3.5 ha that juts out in the form of a small cape to the southeast to a low-lying part of the drying Celimbernyj (Yeni Kale) firth. This site is one of the least-studied Greek cities of the European Bosphorus. To date, almost 400 m² of the area of the site have been unearthed.² The obtained data allow us to assert with confidence that

* The study by M. Yu. Vakhtina and E. V. Chetverkina was conducted within the framework of the implementation of the Federal Research Institute “The oldest heritage of the South Russia: cities, rural settlements, economic transformations according to natural science data” (FMZF-2022-0013); the study by S. L. Solovyev and V. V. Vakhoneev was conducted within the framework of the implementation of the Federal Research Institute “Methodology improvement of rescue archaeological action and the introduction of digital technology in archaeology” (FMZF-2022-0020).

¹ Grinevich 1927 [К. Э. Гриневич, “Археологические разведки в северо-восточной части Керченского полуострова”, in: *Известия Таврического общества истории, археологии и этнографии*], 51; Veselov 1952 [В. В. Веселов, “Древние городища в районе Сипягино (К вопросу о местоположении Парфения и Порфмий)”, in: *Археология и история Боспора*], 227–238; Veselov 2005 [В. В. Веселов, *Сводная ведомость результатов археологических разведок на Керченском и Таманском полуостровах в 1949–1964 гг.*], 15.

² On the exploration of Parthenion, see Kastanayan 1958 [Е. Г. Кастанаян, “Археологическая разведка на городище Парфений в 1949 г.”, in: *Боспорские города*], 254–265; Bessonova–Stolyarenko–Kropotov 2010 [С. С. Бессонова, П. Г. Столяренко, В. В. Кропотов, “Начало исследований на городище Парфений”, in: *СУМВОЛ. Античный мир Северного Причерноморья. Новые*

the city site existed continuously from the second half of the sixth century BC to the first half of the second century AD.³

In 2020, a rescue archaeological expedition of the IHMC RAS conducted rescue archaeological excavations of the ancient city and its necropolis.⁴ These measures were urgently needed because of the construction of a supply water line to the settlements of the eastern tip of the Kerch Peninsula. A route of the water line crossed a protective zone of the city site from the northeast. It cut into a lower part of a steep southeastern slope under a central part of the site.

In 2020, the archaeological excavations were carried out at the Parthenion city site on an area of 520 m² and at its southwestern necropolis on an area of 420 m².

Excavations of the City Site

An explored part of the city site was located on the southeastern slope of the cape, along a railway technological platform, and turned to the West along a road paved with gravel.⁵ Before the beginning of the work, a construction company dug a trench for the water line with the width of 1.5 m and the depth of 1.3 m through almost the entire area. During the field works, the trench was divided into sections with a length of 10 m to ease the fixation of the stratigraphy of cultural layers (Fig. 1). The layers of the Ancient Period were a thick layer of loose lumpy loam of a light brown color and its shades. There were multiple heaps of rocks in the

находки и открытия], 22, 23; Stolyarenko–Kropotov 2012 [П. Г. Столяренко, В. В. Кропотов, “Исследование городища Парфений”, in: *Археологічні дослідження в Україні в 2011 р.*], 120–122; Stolyarenko–Kropotov 2013 [П. Г. Столяренко, В. В. Кропотов, “Работы экспедиции ‘Парфений’”, in: *Археологічні дослідження в Україні в 2012 р.*], 89–91; Stolyarenko 2014 [П. Г. Столяренко, “Исследования на городище Парфений”, in: *Археологічні дослідження в Україні в 2013 р.*], 77–78.

³ In the previous years during the excavations led by N. G. Stolyarenko, the remains of residential houses of the Late Archaic Period, a base of a defensive wall from the first half of the 5th century BC, and the complex of the Late Hellenistic period were unearthed.

⁴ Vakhtina et al. 2021 [М. Ю. Вахтина, С. Л. Соловьев, П. Г. Столяренко, В. В. Вахонеев, Е. В. Четверкина, “Спасательные археологические раскопки на городище и некрополе Парфения в 2020 г.”, *Бюллетень ИИМК РАН: охранная археология*].

⁵ Vakhtina et al. 2021.



Fig. 1. Parthenion. A trench with the remains of Hellenistic Period buildings.

layer. Material from the first centuries AD prevailed in it. Most of the explored layer under it was of similar shades but denser. It contained materials mostly from the Hellenistic Age. Lower there was another denser dark brown loam on top of the bed soil, almost without findings. The bed soil along the entire length of the trench is a white-eye clay. Its upper part has shades from dark grey to grayish-yellow. Besides the described basic layers along the entire length of the trench, lots of different local layers, sublayers, and lenses were fixed.

During the archaeological excavations conducted in this area, remains of urban buildings of the Hellenistic Period were found: different aboveground remains of buildings and soil structures, mainly household pits. The aboveground remains of buildings consisted of: (1) large-scale residential houses of an urban type with stone wall bases, stone pavements of yards, and a drain; (2) a winery, whose construction includes two reservoirs coated with caementum, part of a pressing ground, and a tarapan (the lower part of a grape press). A representative collection of archeological material was found. It includes fragments of amphorae from different Black Sea coastal region and Mediterranean centers of production,

fragments of table and cooking ware, and roofing tile. Meanwhile, among the archaeological materials from the filling of the rooms of the residential houses were also examples of Attic painted dinner and black-glazed ware, relief pottery made in Asia Minor, Pontus, and Bosporus. Of particular note are the findings of bronze coins, fragments of terracotta figurines, lamps, different types of bronze, and lead and stone artifacts. Most of the finds can be dated to the Hellenistic Period. There was also pottery dated to the first centuries AD.

Among the most interesting of the uncovered buildings are the remains of a composite winery, the first one found on this site.⁶ Three standardly positioned adjacent reservoirs measuring 1.60×1.02 m, with a depth of 1.35 m and with three pressing grounds, belong to the winery complex (Fig. 2). One of the stone drains was found in a heap of rocks in the filling of reservoir 3. The walls of the reservoirs are made of big and



Fig. 2. Parthenion. Sector 9. The remains of the winery. View from the west.

⁶ Vakhtina et al. 2021, 128–129, fig. 8, 9.

medium-sized rubble stone. The partition walls between them consist of small, carefully hewn limestone blocks with a width of 0.25 m. The walls of the reservoirs and the beds of the pressing ground are covered with 4 to 5 layers of cement plaster. The filling of the reservoirs consisted of three layers: the upper part was filled with loose, light brown loam; under it there was a layer of loam with a heap of small and medium-sized stones and collapsed plaster; underneath that were sublayers of loam, sea sand, shells and seagrass. The trench of the water line had partially destroyed reservoirs 1 and 2 and the pressing grounds adjacent to them from the east. From the north, the winery was limited by a stone wall 27, unearthed to the length of 5.05 m in length, with a width of 0.70 m. The masonry was single-row, self-faced and two-faced. It is made of stones of different sizes and is oriented to the east and west. Two pressing grounds were adjacent to it. A pit for a weight for the press was found 1.50 m away to the west of the reservoirs. It was square and lined with stone. Its sides were 0.80 m long. A fragment of the weight was found in a soil heap of the supply water line trench. Pavement 9 was adjacent to the pit on the west.

Among the individual finds, noteworthy is a fragment of a bottom and a near-bottom part of a ceramic mold for fabricating relief bowls (Fig. 3. 1, 2) found in sector 3.⁷ The mold was made of gray clay with single inclusions of limestone. A light grey engobe was applied to its outside surface. A preserved part of the mold was about 5.5 cm tall, the diameter of its bottom was 6.8 cm, and the width of its walls ranged from 0.5 cm in the upper part to 0.9 cm in the lower part. On an inside part, a fragment of a floral ornament was preserved. Groups of four narrow leaves alternated with broad ones. One such broad leaf is best preserved in a central part of the fragment. Vertical lines of dots are placed between the leaves. On the inside surface of the bottom is part of an eight-petal rosette and a signature “ΔΗΜΗ[ΤΡΙΟΥ]”. The mold was intended for fabricating relief bowls in a “workshop by Demetrios”. Nowadays its traces in Bosphorus are relatively well-known and studied.⁸ Bowls made in

⁷ Vakhtina et al. 2021, 123–132, fig. 12.

⁸ Blavatsky 1959 [В. Д. Блаватский, “О производстве ‘мегарских’ чаш в Пантикапее”, *Краткие сообщения Института истории материальной культуры*], fig. 62; Shurgaya 1962 [И. Г. Шургая, “О производстве эллинистической рельефной керамики на Боспоре”, in: *Материалы по археологии Северного Причерноморья*], 117; Loseva 1962 [Н. М. Лосева, “Об импорте и местном производстве ‘мегарских’ чаш на Боспоре”, in: *Пантикапей*], fig. 6, 2; Gajdukevich 1958 [В. Ф. Гайдукевич, “Раскопки Мирмекия и Тиритаки в 1946–1952 гг.”, in: *Боспорские города*], 209, рис. 66; Gajdukevich 1959 [В. Ф. Гайдукевич,

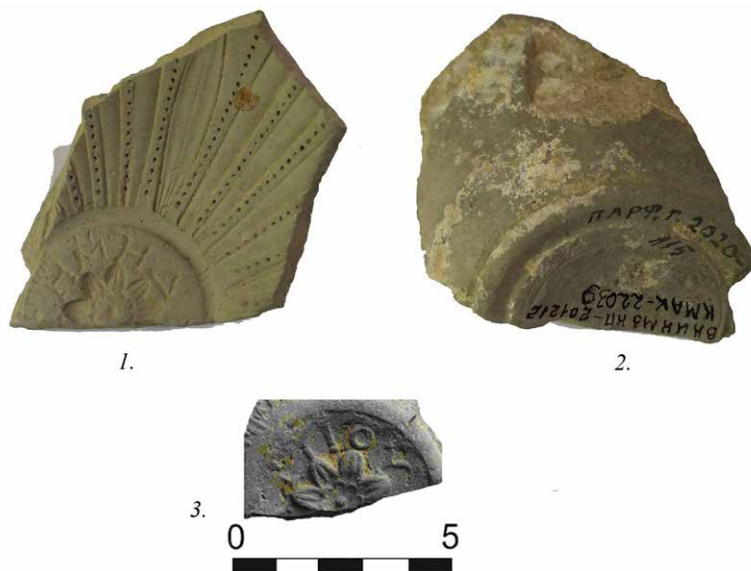


Fig. 3. Parthenion. 1, 2 – the fragment of the mold for fabricating “Megarian” bowls; 3 – the fragment of the bottom of the relief bowl with the signature.

the workshop by Demetrios imitated imported Ephesian vessels that had a similar system of decoration. At that time, relief pottery from Ephesus was widespread in materials from Panticapaeum.⁹ Bowls with floral ornaments from the workshop by Demetrios are dated within the first half of the second century BC¹⁰ or to the end of the second or the beginning of the first century BC.¹¹ One of the departments of this workshop probably existed in Parthenion. During the excavations of the city site, fragments of “Megarian” bowls made in the workshop by Demetrios were also

Мирмекий II. Советские раскопки в 1956 г. (1934–1956)], 79, fig. 85; Gajdukevich–Mikhailovsky 1961 [В. Ф. Гайдукевич, К. Михайловский, “Мирмекий в свете советско-польских исследований”, in: *Исследования по археологии СССР. Сборник в честь профессора М. И. Артамонова*], 131, fig. 3; Butyagin–Kasparov 2019, 111–112, fig. 5.

⁹ Zhuravlev 2011 [Д. В. Журавлев, “Новые находки позднеэллинистической керамики и светильников из Пантикапея”, *Проблемы истории, филологии, культуры*], 223.

¹⁰ Grzegorzółka 2010, 30, see catalogue.

¹¹ Kovalenko 1996, 55–57; Vnukov–Kovalenko 1998 [С. Ю. Внуков, С. А. Коваленко, “‘Мегарские’ чаши с городища Кара-Тобе”, in: *Эллинистическая и римская керамика в Северном Причерноморье*], 71; Zhuravlev 2011, 224.

found. There is a fragment of a bottom with a signature among them (Fig. 3. 3). No doubt the finding of the fragment of the mold expands our understanding both of the work of the workshop by Demetrios and of the economic life of the ancient city.

Among the individual findings we should also note the find of a clay model of a Greek warship.¹²

Excavations of the Necropolis

The necropolis of Parthenion is located about 750–1000 m to the southwest of the city site on top of a ridge dominating the village of Opasnoe.¹³ From here, you have a picturesque view of the northeastern tip of the Kerch peninsula, of the northern part of the Kerch Strait, and of its eastern coast. The area of the necropolis is a narrow strip that extends along almost all of the crest of the elevated range for about 1 km. First finds connected with the Parthenion necropolis – two limestone tombstones – were discovered by V. V. Veselov during construction works at the beginning of the 1950s.¹⁴ Veselov described the western part of the necropolis based on material from his excavations “400 m to the west of the northern outskirts of Opasnoe village, near a small destroyed burial mound close to the territory of a Bronze Age settlement”.¹⁵

After Veselov’s explorations, the Parthenion necropolis did not draw scientific interest for a long time. Earthworks and planning from the end of the 1980s to the beginning of the 1990s on different parts of the ridge impacted much of its territory. During these works in the eastern part of the necropolis, a vault from the second to the first century BC was found.¹⁶ In the first half of the 1990s, the necropolis was actively looted. About 20 grave constructions, including the vaults, were partly or fully breached.

¹² Vakhtina et al. 2021, 131, fig. 14; Vakhoneev–Petrovsky 2024 [В. В. Вахонеев, В. М. Петровский, “Глиняная модель корабля из Парфения”, *Археологические вести*].

¹³ Stolyarenko–Mikhailov 2015 [П. Г. Столяренко, А. М. Михайлов, “К топографии некрополя Парфения”, *Таврические студии*].

¹⁴ Veselov 1959 [В. В. Веселов, “Археологические разведки в восточной части Керченского полуострова”, *Советская археология*], 231; *CIRB* 896 with *CIRB album*.

¹⁵ Veselov 2005, 15; 16.

¹⁶ Shestakov 1991 [С. А. Шестаков, “Отчет о разведках на Керченском полуострове в 1991 году”, *Архив ГБУ РК “Восточно-Крымский историко-культурный музей-заповедник”*], 5–8.

In the area of the southwestern Parthenion necropolis examined in 2020 (Fig. 4), three graves from the Hellenistic Age were explored.¹⁷

Grave 1 (Fig. 5) was in sector 8 under the layer of turf. The boundaries of the burial pit sized 0.65 m were unclear, its grey, loamy soil filling was



Fig. 4. The southwestern Parthenion necropolis.
The area where excavations were carried out. View from the south.



Fig. 5. Grave 1. View from the east.

¹⁷ Vakhtina et al. 2021, 132–137.

hard-packed. The bottom of the pit was at the level of a rock underlying the cultural level. The western wall of the grave was lined with three stone slabs, one of which, an anthropomorphic tombstone, was laid on its edge for a secondary use. It is $0.58 \times 0.23 \times 0.14$ m in size. The grave is oriented along a north-northwest to south-southeast axis. A skeleton was placed with the skull facing north-northwest, on its back, with its hands extended alongside the body. Bones of a left forearm, soles, and part of a shin are missing. Near a lower jaw to the right a bronze Bosphorus coin from the second to first century BC was found (with a triangle emblem). The skeleton belonged to a 20- to 30-year-old woman.¹⁸

Grave 2 was also found in sector 8. It was embedded in the rock for 0.10 m. The oval burial pit with a length of 1.50 m, a width of 0.40 m, and a depth of 0.40 m was oriented along the northwest-southeast axis. It was filled with dark grey loamy soil with small limestones. Two limestone slabs covering the pit near a torso and a head were partially preserved. The buried skeleton lay with its head facing northwest, on its back, with its hands extended alongside the body. A flat stone of irregular shape and sized $0.25 \times 0.20 \times 0.10$ m was placed under the head. Grave goods are lacking.

Grave 3 was in Sector 6. One meter deeper than the modern surface, a spot of the burial pit was traced. It was 3.87×3.0 m in cross section and 0.70 m deep. It was oriented along the northwest-southeast axis. The western, southern, and eastern sides of the burial pit were carved in the rock; the northern side was carved in yellow bed soil loam. The grave was filled with grey-brown loamy soil. At a depth of 1.20 m from the modern-day surface in the southeastern part of the burial pit are ruins of stones sized $0.41 \times 0.31 \times 0.13$ m, $0.38 \times 0.43 \times 0.16$ m, and $0.43 \times 0.40 \times 0.05$ m. Below the traces of the destroyed grave, redeposited human bones (not in an anatomical order) were found on an area of 1.5 m².

In the process of disassembling the filling, 106 glass beads were found. 87 specimens are chopped blue glass beads, 2–5 mm in diameter and 1–3 mm in length. Such beads, cut from thin glass tubes, were common in the northern Black Sea coastal region from the second half of the third century BC.¹⁹ Three beads (type 197 by E. M. Alekseeva) are arrow-shaped, dark blue pendants with a thin strip of blank white glass. Two eye-shaped beads were made of blue and light blue glass. Beads of other types made of polychrome and monochrome glass were also found (Fig. 6).

¹⁸ This anthropological determination was made by D. Yu. Ponomarev.

¹⁹ Alekseeva 1978 [E. M. Алексеева, *Античные бусы Северного Причерноморья*], 62.



Fig. 6. Grave 3. Beads and pendants of different types.

Heavily corroded fragments of bronze products were also found in the filling: four rings of different diameters, the remains of fibulae, a bell, and a round object (a coin?) with a hole. In addition, fragments of at least three terracotta statuettes were found in the western part of the grave (Fig. 7).

The archaeological finds from the cultural layer of the necropolis are mainly the amphorae fragments from the Black Sea coastal region and Mediterranean centers of production. Less common are fragments of kitchenware. There are also silicone flakes, probably from the Bronze Age.

In terms of dating, construction of the grave structures and the nature of the rite, the graves found during the excavations of the Parthenion necropolis have similarities with the grave complexes discovered during the study of the Hellenistic area of the necropolis of neighboring Porthmion.²⁰

²⁰ Vakhtina–Stolyarenko 2013 [М. Ю. Вахтина, П. Г. Столяренко, “Некрополь Порфмия (по материалам раскопок 2004–2012 гг.)”, in: *Культурный слой*]; Vakhtina–Stolyarenko 2014 [М. Ю. Вахтина, П. Г. Столяренко, “Грунтовый некрополь Порфмия. Особенности погребального обряда ‘малого’ боспорского города”, in: *Погребальная культура Боспорского царства. Материалы Круглого стола, посвященного 100-летию со дня рождения М. М. Кубланова*].



Fig. 7. Grave 3. Fragments of terracotta figurines.

The part of the Hellenistic Parthenion urban area unearthed during the rescue archaeological excavations has huge significance for studying the appearance of the ancient city and the economic activities of its inhabitants. In this regard, it was decided to move the water pipeline under construction to the site of the former water pipeline laid in the 1970s to the south of the urban development area of Parthenion, identified during archaeological research in 2020, which was mothballed for further research.

Marina Vakhtina
*Institute for the History of
 Material Culture
 St Petersburg (IHMC RAS)*
 marina-vakhtina@mail.ru

Viktor Vakhoneev
*Institute for the History of
 Material Culture
 St Petersburg (IHMC RAS)*
 vvvkerch@mail.ru

Sergey Solovyev
*Institute for the History of
 Material Culture
 St Petersburg (IHMC RAS)*
 ssl2610@yandex.ru

Ekaterina Chetverkina
*Institute for the History of
 Material Culture
 St Petersburg (IHMC RAS)*
 vilgelmina_@mail.ru

Bibliography

- E. M. Alekseeva, *Antichnye busy Severnogo Prichernomorya* [*Ancient Necklaces of the Northern Black Sea Coastal Region*] (Moscow 1978).
- S. S. Bessonova, P. G. Stolyarenko, V. V. Kropotov, “Nachalo issledovaniy na gorodische Parfenij” [“The Beginning of Investigations at the City Site of Parthenion”], in: *ΣΥΜΒΟΛΑ. Anrichnyj mir Severnogo Prochernomorja. Novejshe nakhodki i otkrytiya* 1 (Moscow–Kyiv 2010) 22–23.
- V. D. Blavatsky, “O proizvodstve megarskikh chash v Pantikapee” [“On the Fabrication of Megarian Bowls in Panticapeum”], *Kratkie soobscheniya Instituta istorii material’noj kultury* 75 (1959) 174–176.
- A. M. Butyagin, A. K. Kasparov, “Essay on the Economy of Myrmekion in Pre-Roman Times”, in: *Settlements and Necropoleis of the Black Sea and Its Hinterland in Antiquity. Select Papers from the Third International Conference “The Black Sea in Antiquity and Tekkeköy: An Ancient Settlement on the Southern Black Sea Coast”, 27–29 October 2017* (Tekkeköy–Samsun 2019) 108–112.
- V. F. Gajdukevich, “Raskopki Tiritaki i Mirmekiya v 1946–1952 gg.” [“Excavations of Tyritake and Mirmekion in 1946–1952”], in: *Bosporskie goroda II, Materialy i issledovaniya po arkheologii SSSR* 85 (Moscow–Leningrad 1958) 61–76.

- V. F. Gajdukevich, *Mirmekij II. Sovetskie raskopki v 1956 g. (1934–1956)* [*Myrmekion II. Soviet Excavations in 1956 (1934–1956)*] (Warsaw 1959).
- V. F. Gajdukevich, K. Mikhailovsky, “Mirmekij v svete sovetko-pol’slikh issledovaniy” [“Mirmekion in the Light of Soviet-Polish Studies”], in: *Issledovaniya po arkheologii SSSR. Sbornik v chest’ professora M. I. Artamonova* (Leningrad 1961) 127–138.
- K. E. Grinevich, “Arkheologicheskie razvedki v severo-vostochnoj chasti Kerchenskogo poluostrova” [“Archaeological Prospectings in the Northwestern Part of the Kerch Peninsula”], in: *Izvestiya Tavricheskogo obschestva istorii, arkheologii i etnografii* 1 (Simferopol 1927) 47–52.
- S. Grzegorzółka, “Megarian” *Bowls from the Collection of the Kerch History and Culture Reserve* (Warsaw–Kerch 2010).
- E. G. Kastanayan, “Arkheologicheskaya razvedka na gorodische Parfenij v 1949 g.” [“Archaeological Prospecting at the City Site of Parthenion in 1949”], in: *Bosporskie goroda, Materialy i issledovaniya po arkheologii SSSR* 85 (Moscow–Leningrad 1958) 254–265.
- S. A. Kovalenko, “Some Notes on the Production of Hellenistic Mould-Made Relief Ware in the Bosporan Kingdom”, in: *Colloquia Pontica I. New Studies in the Black Sea Littoral I* (Leiden–Boston 1996) 54–58.
- N. M. Loseva, “Ob importe i mestnom proizvodstve ‘megarskikh’ chash na Bospore” [“On the Import and Local Fabrication of ‘Megarian’ Bowls in Bosporus”], in: *Pantikapej, Materialy i issledovaniya po arkheologii SSSR* 103 (Moscow 1962) 195–205.
- S. A. Shestakov, “Otchet o razvedkakh na Kerchenskom poluostrove v 1991 godu” [“A Report about the Prospecting on the Kerch Peninsula in 1991”], *Archive of the Eastern-Crimean Historical and Cultural Museum-Preserve*, inv. 5, no. 137.
- I. G. Shurgaya, “O proizvodstve ellinisticheskoy reljefnoj keramiki na Bospore” [“On the Production of Hellenistic Relief Pottery at Bosporus”], in: *Materialy po arkheologii Severnogo Prichernomor’ya* 4 (Odessa 1962) 108–120.
- P. G. Stolyarenko, “Issledovaniya na gorodische Parfenij” [“Research at the City Site Parthenion”], in: *Arkheologichni doslidzhennya v Ukraini v 2013 r.* (Kyiv 2014) 77–78.
- P. G. Stolyarenko, V. V. Kropotov, “Issledovanie gorodisha Parfenij” [“The Surveys at the Parthenion City Site”], in: *Arkheologichni doslidzhennya v Ukraini v 2011 r.* (Kyiv 2012) 120–122.
- P. G. Stolyarenko, V. V. Kropotov, “Raboty ekspeditsii ‘Parfenij’” [“The Works of the Expedition ‘Parthenion’”], in: *Arkheologichni doslidzhennya v Ukraini v 2012 r.* (Kyiv 2013) 89–91.
- P. G. Stolyarenko, A. M. Mikhailov, “K topografii nekropolya Parfeniya” [“On the Topography of the Parthenion Necropolis”], *Tavricheskie studii* 7 (2015) 103–108.
- V. V. Vakhoneev, V. M. Petrovsky, “Glinyanaya model’ korablya iz Parfeniya” [“A Clay Model of a Ship from Parthenion”], *Arkheologicheskie vesti* 44 (2024), forthcoming.

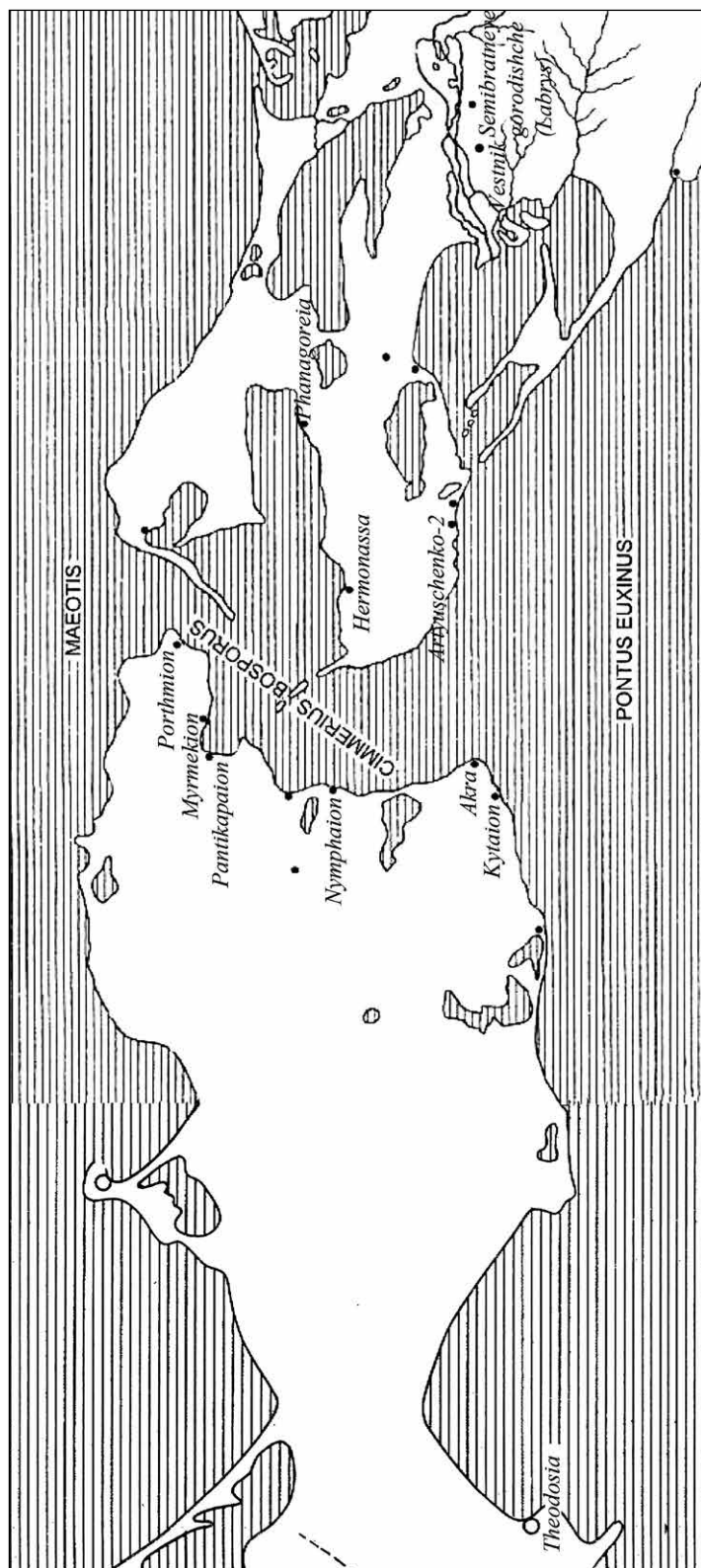
- M. Yu. Vakhtina, S. L. Solovyev, P. G. Stolyarenko, V. V. Vakhoneev, E. V. Chetverkina, “Spasatel’nye arkheologicheskie raskopki na gorodische i nekropole Parfeniya v 2020 g.” [“Archaeological Rescue Excavations on the Site and the Necropolis of Parthenios in 2020”], *Bulleten’ IIMC RAN: okhrannaya arkheologiya* 11 (St Petersburg 2021) 123–138.
- M. Yu. Vakhtina, P. G. Stolyarenko, “Nekropol’ Porfmiya (po materialam raskopok 2004–2012 gg.)” [“Porthmion Necropolis (According the Excavation Materials of 2004–2012)”], in: *Kulturnyj sloj* 2 (Nizhnij Novgorod 2013) 114–145.
- M. Yu. Vakhtina, P. G. Stolyarenko, “Gruntovyy nekropol’ Porfmiya. Osobennosti pogrebal’nogo obryada ‘malogo’ bosporskogo goroda” [“The Ground Necropolis of Porthmion”], in: *Pogrebal’naya kul’tura Bosporskogo tsarstva. Materialy Kruglogo stola, posvyaschennogo 100-letiyu so dnya rozhdeniya M. M. Kublanova* (St Petersburg 2014) 129–135.
- S. Yu. Vnukov, S. A. Kovalenko, “‘Megarskie’ chashi s gorodisha Kara-Tobe” [“Finds of ‘Megarian’ Bowls from the Kara-Tobe Settlement”], in: *Ellinisticheskaya i rimskaya keramika v Severnom Prichernomorje*, Trudy GIM 102 (Moscow 1998) 61–76.
- V. V. Veselov, “Drevnie gorodisha v rayone Sipyagino (k voprosu o mestopolozhenii Parfeniya i Porfmiya)” [“The Ancient City Sites in Sipyagino Area (On the Question of the Parthenion and Porthmion Location)”], in: *Arkheologiya i istoriya Bospora I* (Simferopol 1952) 227–238.
- V. V. Veselov, “Arkheologicheskie razvedki v vostochnoi chasti Kerchenskogo poluostrova” [“Archaeological Prospecting in the Eastern Part of Kerch Peninsula”], *Sovetskaya arkheologiya* 29–30 (1959) 227–244.
- V. V. Veselov, *Svodnaya vedomost’ rezul’tatov arkheologicheskikh razvedok na Kerchenskom i Tamanskom poluostrovakh v 1949–1964 gg.* [A Summary List of the Results of Archaeological Prospecting on Kerch and Taman’ Peninsulas in 1949–1964], *Drevnosti Bospora* suppl. II (Moscow 2005).
- D. V. Zhuravlev, “Novye nakhodki pozdneellinisticheskoy keramiki I svetil’nikov iz Pantikapeya” [“Late Hellenistic Pottery and Lamps from Panticapeum”], *Problemy istorii, filologii, kul’tury* 4 (2011) 221–263.

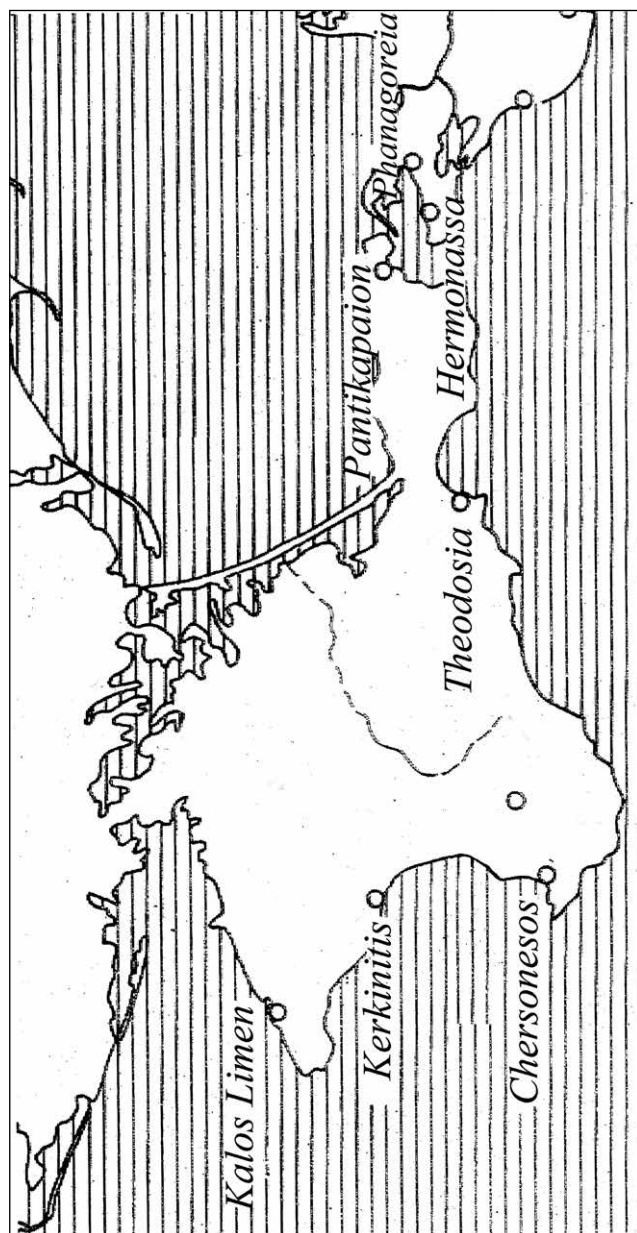
The article is devoted to the results of the archaeological rescue excavations of ancient Parthenion and its necropolis conducted in 2020 by the rescue archaeological expedition of the Institute for the History of Material Culture RAS. The need for urgent implementation of these works was caused by the construction of the supply water line, whose route crossed a protective zone of the site. At the city site, the studies took place on an area of 520 m²; at the necropolis, they were conducted on an area of 420 m². During the excavations, the remains of urban buildings of the Hellenistic Period – various aboveground objects and utility pits – were unearthed. One of the most interesting of the revealed buildings is the winery, the first one known on this site. A representative collection of archaeological material, mostly belonging to the Hellenistic period, was found. Worth noting among the individual finds is a fragment of a mold for fabricating relief bowls with a ΔΗΜΗ[ΤΠΙΟΥ]

stamp. It testifies to the existence of a workshop there. In the examined area of the southwestern Parthenion necropolis, three graves from the Hellenistic Age were found. The first was made in a pit, lined with limestone slabs; the second was situated in a pit, embedded in bed soil rock; the third was found in a simple ground pit. Beads of different types, fragments of terracotta statuettes, and a bronze Bosphoran coin were found among the grave goods. The grave structures and the rite show similarities with the grave complexes of the Bosphoran necropoleis. The materials found during the rescue excavations of Parthenion are of great importance for the reconstruction of the appearance of the ancient city and the economic activities of its inhabitants in the Hellenistic period.

Статья посвящена результатам спасательных археологических раскопок античного городища Парфений и его некрополя, проведенных в 2020 г. античной новостроечной археологической экспедицией Института истории материальной культуры РАН. Необходимость срочного проведения этих работ была вызвана строительством подводящего водовода, трасса которого пересекала охранную зону городища. На городище исследования велись на площади 520 кв. м, а на некрополе – на площади 420 кв. м. В ходе раскопок на городище были открыты остатки городской застройки эллинистического времени: разнообразные наземные объекты и хозяйственные ямы. Одним из интереснейших открытых сооружений являются остатки винодельни, первой известной для этого памятника. Собрана представительная коллекция археологического материала, основная масса которого принадлежит эллинистическому периоду, также встречается керамика первых веков н. э. Среди индивидуальных находок заслуживает внимания фрагмент керамической формы для производства рельефных чаш с клеймом ΔΗΜΗ[ΤΡΙΟΥ], свидетельствующей о существовании здесь собственной мастерской. На исследованном участке юго-западного некрополя Парфения были выявлены три погребения эллинистической эпохи. Одно из них было совершено в яме, обложенной плитами известняка, второе – в яме, заглубленной в материковую скалу, третье – в простой грунтовой яме. В числе погребального инвентаря – бусы разных типов, фрагменты терракотовых статуэток, бронзовая боспорская монета. Погребальные сооружения и обряд демонстрируют сходство с погребальными комплексами боспорских некрополей III–I вв. до н. э. Материалы, обнаруженные в результате спасательных археологических раскопок Парфения, имеют большое значение для реконструкции облика древнего города и хозяйственной деятельности его жителей эллинистического времени.

ARCHAEOLOGICA





CONSPECTUS

ARCHAEOLOGICA

ANNA EREMEEVA

- Investigations of the Site of the Ancient Town of Kalos Limen.
Archaeological Survey of 2019 and Excavations of 2021–2022 8

NATALIA SOLOVYOVA, SERGEY SOLOVYEV, VIKTOR VAKHONEEV,
ANNA POKROVSKAYA, YAN NIZOV

- The Southern Suburb of Tauric Chersonesos 20

MARIA AKHMADEEVA

- Archaeological Research on the Closest Suburban Area of Ancient
Theodosia. Investigations of the Theodosian Archaeological Expedition
of the State Hermitage Museum in 2019–2022 45

VLADIMIR KHRSHANOVSKIY

- Excavations of Kytaiion's Southwestern Suburb in 2019–2022 52

SERGEY SOLOVYEV, VIKTOR VAKHONEEV

- Archaeological Research on the Ancient City Site of Akra
in Eastern Crimea 62

NADEZHDA NOVOSELOVA, OLGA SOKOLOVA

- Archaeological Investigations of the State Hermitage Museum at the Site
of Nymphaion in 2019 and 2021 73

ALEXANDER BUTYAGIN, VLADIMIR KOLOSOV, ANASTASIYA GIBLOVA,
NADEZHDA MILIKHINA

- Excavations at Myrmekion in 2019–2023 81

MARINA VAKHTINA, SERGEY SOLOVYEV, VIKTOR VAKHONEEV, EKATERINA CHETVERKINA	
Rescue Excavations at the Parthenion City Site in 2020	90
SERGEY KASHAEV	
Excavations at the Necropolis of the Artyushchenko-2 Site in 2019–2023	105
DMITRY CHISTOV	
Investigations of Vestnik-1 Site in 2021–2023	119
EPIGRAPHICA	
YURI BELIK, NINA KUCHEREVSKAYA, NATALIA PAVLICHENKO	
Dedication to Pan from the Pantikapaion Suburbs	133
NINA ALMAZOVA, DENIS KEYER, NATALIA PAVLICHENKO, ALEXANDER VERLINSKY	
Metrical Epitaphs from the Southern Suburb of Tauric Chersonesos	149
Keywords	166