

Editorial Note

Volume 13-14 of *Eulimene* is devoted to the east sector (I) of the ancient Eleutherna, which was dug systematically by prof. Petros Themelis from 1985 until 2003. In three extensive articles, Petros Themelis, Yorgos Brokalakis and Martha W. Baldwin Bowsky, publish sculptures, tools and inscriptions respectively, unearthed during the excavations conducted during the above period and which date from the Hellenistic period (2nd century BC) to the early byzantine era (mid-7th cent. AD).

Many of these artifacts are now exhibited in the newly completed Museum of Ancient Eleutherna, which opened its gates to the public in June 2016.

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Περίληψεις / Summaries / Zusammenfassungen / Sommaires / Riassunti

Petros Themelis, Sculpture from Eleutherma, *EYAIMENH* 13-14 (2012-2013), 9-44.

In this paper all the sculptures that came to light during the excavation of the University of Crete in the eastern sector I of ancient Eleutherna between 1985-2003 are published, listed in chronological order. During the Hellenistic period, Eleutherna flourished and made its appearance on the historical and artistic scene. It flourished even in the years of Roman rule. Among the many self-standing, relief and architectural works of sculpture the following are distinguished due to their quality and iconographic rarity: the "sandal-slapping Aphrodite with Pan", 2nd century. BC; the relief pair "Hermes and Venus", 1st century BC, and the double-faced stele depicting Dionysus and Ariadne, a product of a neo-attic workshop of the 2nd century A.D. which seems to draw from a Praxitelian original.

Γιώργος Μπροκαλάκης, Προτοβυζαντινά γεωργικά εργαλεία: Η μαρτυρία των τεχνέργων από την Ελεούθερνα, *EYAIMENH* 13-14 (2012-2013), 45-131.

Agricultural tools of the Proto-byzantine era. The evidence from ancient Eleutherna. From a house partially excavated in ancient Eleutherna in central Crete comes a small group of agricultural tools, datable with precision in relation to the earthquake of 365 AD. In order to place these artifacts in a wider geographical and chronological context, an attempt was made to collect all the evidence of similar instruments from Greece and Asia Minor, dated between the 4th and the middle of the 7th century. Emphasis is placed on the value of the archaeological artifacts, hitherto not adequately studied, without neglecting the information provided by, but also the

limits of the other types of evidence (written and iconographic sources, ethno-archeology and experimental archeology), in order to reconstruct the function, use and the name of this class of materials. Following this approach, the study highlights the importance of the shape, size and weight of the artifacts, showing that the tools from Eleutherna's closed contexts were intended for the cultivation of gardens. Although the research is based on a limited overall sample of artifacts from the Proto-Byzantine age, it is possible to describe the diffusion of certain types of tools and the apparently small number of specialized tools, and to note the conservatism of the shapes while also highlighting some technological improvements. The study ends with a reflection on the production and circulation of the iron parts of the tools, centring on the network of relationships between blacksmiths and farmers.

Martha W. Baldwin Bowsky, Three New Inscriptions from Late Roman and Early Byzantine Eleutherna, *EYAIMENH* 13-14 (2012-2013), 133-168.

The study presents three new inscriptions from late Roman and early Byzantine Eleutherna, in the light of four other inscriptions already published. None were found in their original location, but they provide important evidence for Eleutherna before and after the earthquake of 365 AD, which caused a major, but not total, catastrophe in the city. The excavations at sector I of Eleutherna have brought to light the largest number of imperial dedications and Latin inscriptions from a single city in the western half of the island. The inscriptions commented on in this article are Latin, and together with one more they constitute the total of six known Latin inscriptions from Eleutherna. Latin inscriptions are relatively rare in Roman Crete, and the most likely explanation for the large number of imperial dedications and Latin inscriptions in Eleutherna or elsewhere in western Crete appears to have been the development of the Roman road network.