

Para-colonial legacies: German and British imaginaries of ancient Aegean landscapes

Workshop 16th to 17th December 2016
McDonald Institute Seminar Room



DAAD
Cambridge
Research Hub for German Studies
Forschungszentrum für Deutschland-Studien

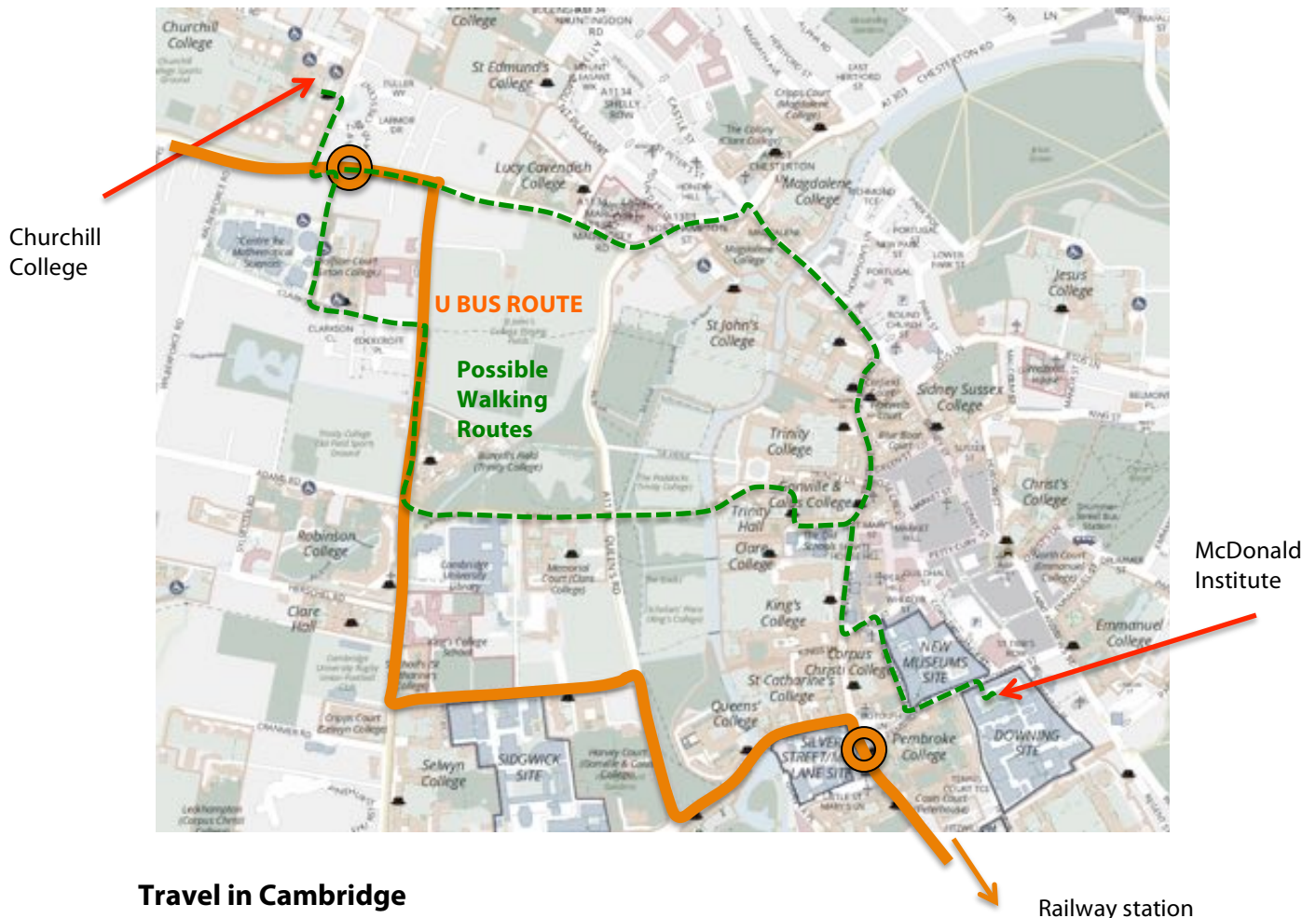
McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research
University of Cambridge

!!! PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME — SUBJECT TO CHANGE !!!

Locations

Accommodation and Dinner: Churchill College (Dinner: meet at Cockcroft Room)
Churchill College, Storey's Way, CB3 0DS
<http://map.cam.ac.uk/Churchill+College#52.213085,0.102303,17>

Workshop lectures and Reception: Seminar Room
McDonald Institute, Courtyard Building, Downing Street, CB2 3ER.
<http://map.cam.ac.uk/McDonald+Institute+for+Archaeological+Research#52.202590,0.121449,18>



Travel in Cambridge

A bus runs between Madingley Rd (i.e. near Churchill College), the centre of town and the railway station, roughly every 15-20 minutes, from Churchill to Pembroke is around 15 minutes in the bus:

Whippet buses, serve 'U'. The timetable can be downloaded from:

TIMES <http://www.go-whippet.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/U-from-3-December-2016.pdf>
MAP <http://www.go-whippet.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Whippet-map-November-2016.pdf>

Walking from Churchill to the Downing Street (where the McDonald Institute is located) takes around 30-40 minutes depending on walking speed.

Bike hire is also available from various firms in the city:

e.g. City Cycle Hire (Lammas Land) <http://www.citycyclehire.com/> or Rutland Cycling (City Centre and Station) <http://www.rutlandcycling.com/pages/cycle-and-climbing-hire.aspx>

Para-colonial legacies: German & British imaginaries of ancient Aegean landscapes

Archaeology emerged during the terminal period of European imperialism and some of its practices were heavily defined by contemporary concerns. The former Ottoman lands of modern Greece and Turkey were never colonised, and yet cultural relationships of the newly emergent states on either side of the Aegean were nonetheless set by international relations of the late 19th/early 20th century, the basis of which have long since expired in the modern political sphere. One effect was the establishment of national traditions of scholarship and institutions governing archaeology that continue to mark present day research practice, including a diverging emphasis on the type of work done on each side of the Aegean.

The cultural impact of German archaeological works at Troy, Tiryns, Mycenae and Miletos were felt well beyond the confines of archaeological and classical scholarship, and continue to inform modern socio-political debates about history and identity especially in Germany and Britain, as well as Greece and Turkey. Works along the west coast of Turkey have been dominated by site-led excavations, which were funded and administered by Germans or inspired German approaches, to the extent that the study of western Turkish archaeology has been almost exclusively defined by German scholarship. In Britain, 'Aegean archaeology' is usually implicitly restricted to study of remains found on the modern Greek mainland and Aegean islands, with a strong emphasis on landscape study and a high regard for survey. At the scale of individuals, the continuing barriers are linguistic and pragmatic, but the effect of these diverging imaginaries of Aegean landscapes is to obscure ancient human dynamics in which western Turkey, mainland Greece and the intervening islands were part of an integral and continuous cultural land and sea-scape.

This two-day workshop will aim to review diverging imaginaries of, and approaches to, the ancient Aegean resulting from para-colonial and subsequent historical legacies and seek ways to create new cross-fertilising approaches and international collaborations.

Acknowledgements

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ABSTRACTS

Christof BERNIS, Ruhr-Universität, Bochum (christof.bernis@rub.de)

Empty spaces, busy crowds: the history of research at Miletus in the light of different concepts of the ancient city

The first excavations at Miletus began in 1899 on behalf of the Royal Museums of Berlin and continued until 1913. In 1955 a new programme was started, then under the umbrella of the German Archaeological Institute and in cooperation with different universities. A number of prominent names of German scholarship such as Theodor Wiegand, Armin von Gerkan, Wolfgang Müller-Wiener and others are closely connected to the history of research at Miletus. Despite strong contributions of international scholars, Miletus may therefore appear, from one hand, as a typical 'German' excavation. On the other hand, over 100 years of research demonstrate a strong diversity of approaches to the place, representing different perceptions of the ancient city. My contribution will evaluate excavation reports as well as analyse historical maps and reconstruction drawings of Miletus to shed light on the competing concepts.

Helmut Brückner, University of Cologne (h.brueckner@uni-koeln.de)

The geoarchaeological approach to reconstruct ancient landscapes – Case studies from the Aegean coasts of Turkey

The Aegean coasts of Turkey host many famous ancient harbour cities. Using a geoarchaeological research design we studied Miletos, Ephesos, Elaia and Ainos and their environs. The most promising way was first to collect information from geophysical research, then carry out corings to verify/falsify the interpretation of these data, and finally excavate selected areas. Special focus was on the spatio-temporal delta progradation of the nearby rivers. Rapid delta advance had often been caused by strong human impact on the vegetation cover. It can be shown that the rise and fall of the coastal cities was connected with the fate of their harbours. We studied their siltation history as well as functionality and carrying capacity. Harbours may serve as geo-bio-archives to reconstruct the vegetation changes and the human impact. However, dredging may spoil the record. As for Miletos and Ephesos, new harbours/anchoring sites were discovered, while for Ainos the search goes on.

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In between: Tavşan Adası, a Bronze Age Harbour Settlement in Western Turkey

As early as the beginning of the twentieth century, the prehistoric settlement of Miletus found its way into the research literature through the work of Theodor Wiegand among others. However, despite of these early references to the prehistoric settlements of the Milesian peninsula, a modern systematic exploration of the prehistoric occupation of the sites of antiquity received the attention of the German scholars relatively late. Besides the excavation beneath the Athena temple at Miletus conducted by Wolf-Dietrich Niemeyer since 1994, fieldwork on the small island with the present-day name Tavşan Adası, which took place between 2006 and 2014 under the direction of François Bertemes within the framework of the Didyma project, has been dedicated to decrease this research gap. On the island, which was probably connected to the mainland up to Late Antiquity, a settlement dating from the Early Bronze Age to the early Late Bronze Age has been discovered. The first part of the contribution offers a general overview of the project as well as selected results of the interdisciplinary investigations. Subsequently, the talk presents an outlook on the ongoing analysis of the Early to Late Bronze Age ceramics of Tavşan Adası in their southwest Anatolian, east Aegean context.

Edhem ELDEM, Department of History, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul

Philipp Anton Dethier: The German antihero of Ottoman archaeology

Philipp Anton Dethier (1803-1881) was director of the Ottoman Imperial Museum for ten years, from 1872 to 1881, and yet he remains one of the least studied figures of Ottoman archaeology. One obvious reason for that is the Turkish historiographic bias against non-Turks and non-Muslims, which explains his absence from a triumphalist narrative almost exclusively dominated by Osman Hamdi Bey. However, he is also a victim of another triumphalist narrative, German this time, where he is dwarfed by such prominent figures as Humann, Conze, Wiegand, Sarre, and other great names of German archaeology. And yet, Dethier played a crucial, if somewhat ambiguous, role in the development of Ottoman archaeology. A closer look at a largely unexplored documentation relating to his term as director of the Imperial Museum will reveal the complexity of this German historian's perception of archaeology and of the notion of heritage in an Ottoman context.

Yannis GALANAKIS, Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge (ig298@cam.ac.uk)
'Our museum has many worthless objects': cultural politics and archaeology in early modern Greece

This paper focuses on the period between 1865 and 1885 – a period defined not only by the emergence of large-scale archaeological projects but also by the prospering of the antiquities trade in early modern Greece. However, these two aspects of 19th-century archaeological practice are hardly ever examined side by side, surprisingly so given the antiquarian beginnings of archaeology. By examining a number of case studies regarding ownership and preservation of antiquities, this paper argues that understanding the factors – political, economic and aesthetic – that shaped the archaeological collections that museums house today requires understanding the workings of the antiquities trade as much as those of the first large-scale archaeological projects. For understanding their workings, we must investigate the attitudes, institutions, laws and cultural politics of the time, which bequeathed Greece with a para-colonial legacy for the practice of archaeology.

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The Urban Survey at Humeitepe in Miletus: Methodology and Preliminary Results

Despite the long history of research at Miletus, the northernmost area of the city (the so-called Humeitepe) has never received systematic investigations. Episodic excavations and geomagnetic prospection undertaken on the hillside within the last 60 years enabled the identification of an urban zone with various functions. The zone includes a dense set of *insulae* as well as *thermae*, a harbour and a sanctuary. With the aim to establish the changing character of the Humeitepe and transformations of its relation to the city centre during the centuries, we decided to conduct a systematic intensive urban survey in the entire area of Humeitepe. The survey undertaken during 2014 and 2015 brought to light a considerable number of diverse finds including pottery and architectural ceramics as well as special finds and production waste. The density and spatial distribution of various materials enable to follow the spatio-temporal development of Humeitepe. The present paper discusses the applied methodology and introduces preliminary results of the project.

Elif KOPARAL, Department of Archaeology, Hitit University (ekoparal@gmail.com)

The past and future of the German legacy in the archaeology of northern Ionia

Although sometimes considered geographically peripheral compared to mainland Greece, Ionia was the epicenter of many events that shaped ancient Greek culture. The region, more specifically the central part of the western Anatolian coast and the islands of Chios and Samos, has been a major focal point for the practice of Classical Archaeology since the 19th century, and yet somehow Ionian archaeology has established itself as an intellectual buffer zone, isolated from both 'Anatolianism' and the rest of 'Greek Archaeology'. With few exceptions German scholarship is central to the practice of Ionian archaeology. This paper will discuss both how the German school has shaped the practice and theory of Ionian archaeology with its pros and cons and how German scholarship is currently being influenced by government policies. Consideration will be given to how these emphases and distortions have also effected the results of a survey undertaken by the author on the Urla-Çeşme peninsula between 2006 and 2016.

Michael LOY, PhD candidate, University of Cambridge (mpal2@cam.ac.uk)

Voyages across the Aegean Sea: A study in Archaic mobility and connectivity

Scenes of ships and sea-faring were common images on the figured pots of Archaic period Greece. This was a world which plugged into regional and international networks, and one which was constantly on the move. However, scholarship of the period has become rooted in a sedentary 'regionalism'. This pertains to some of the familiar 'cultural' labels which we ascribe to archaeological material - Attic, Corinthian, Rhodian - but also on a much larger scale - the Greek mainland, the islands, the Ionian coast. Indeed, the separate geographical focus of different national traditions and schools has further divided the Aegean. This paper introduces some of the main ideas, questions, and methodologies which will frame my doctoral work, and which will address this current state of scholarship. My project focuses on the themes of mobility and connectivity from a pan-Aegean perspective, in an attempt to understand better the range of dynamic interactions around this particular region during the age of colonisation. Specifically, I am exploring the changing role of the islands as nodes within wider seascape networks. By focussing on GIS and computational methods and by adopting this wide-lens approach, I hope to bridge many gaps through my study: the methodological divide between material and computational studies; the regional divide between the Greek and Turkish mainlands; and the academic divide which has arisen from para-colonial legacies both regional, and academic.

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Felix PIRSON, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Istanbul (felix.pirson@dainst.de)

Pergamon's Microregion: Pergamon's Microregion: a Multidisciplinary Approach to relations between City and Countryside

The first extensive architectural and epigraphical surveys were conducted in the Pergamene landscape in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. After a hundred years of work focussed on the city of Pergamon itself, survey activities in the surrounding countryside were resumed in 2006. This more modern work has consisted of four discrete projects, examining settlement structure and landscape change: in the Western Kaikos valley; on the Pergamene harbour city of Elaia; on the Kane peninsula in Hellenistic period; and additionally examining prehistoric remains in the Kaikos plain. This paper will showcase the research design of each of these different projects and to present the diverse methods applied. After a short summary of the main results, perspectives for future survey activities in the area of Pergamon will be discussed.

Hector ORENCO, Div. of Archaeology, University of Cambridge (hao23@cam.ac.uk)

Tradition and innovation in British archaeological survey in the Aegean: designing landscape-specific survey strategies in Thessaly and Crete

British archaeology has had a strong impact in Greece. The pioneering works of Bintliff in Beotia or more recently Broodbank's Survey at Kythera (amongst many others) have had a strong impact in the way British and Greek scholars plan and execute archaeological survey in Greece and beyond. Although the methodological approaches developed by these surveys have had an important role in the shaping of current procedures, the weight of tradition has sometimes distorted the wider landscape picture. In this paper the methodological design, execution and results of two field surveys with strikingly dissimilar geomorphological settings will be described. The first survey, in western Thessaly, was aimed at the location of prehistoric settlements, most notably, Neolithic magoules or mounds. The second case study is the survey around the Minoan town of Palaikastro, eastern Crete, where the focus was on Bronze Age landscape management. These examples aim to show how individually adapted survey design and methodologies should always take into account the geomorphology, sedimentary history and particular character of the study area's archaeological record. Conversely, an overemphasis on the application of intensive archaeological survey techniques, which are characteristic of the most representative British surveys in the Aegean, have often resulted in detailed distributions of ceramic sherd-dispersals but little understanding of past settlement and land-use practices.

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Open survey? The Project Panormos digital pilot

The term 'survey' is applied to a multitude of different methodologies ranging from classic site-spotting from the seat of a jeep-survey, selective transects, down to small-scale 'total vacuum'. The resulting disaster for inter-comparability of the results of different surveys has been widely commented upon, but solutions have proven elusive. Methodologies may be selected on the basis of previous familiarity or particular sets of research questions, but long-term *re-usability* of data is rarely considered head-on. In the light of 150 year history of modern archaeological research in the Aegean, with an ever-growing data mountain the result, thinking more deeply about simultaneous data legacies and legacy data seems ever more urgent. Following in the footsteps of extensive German survey work on the Milesian peninsula, an intensive survey was started in 2015 by Project Panormos. The project inherits many of the pedestrian survey (mostly British and American-inspired) approaches used in mainland Greece and Crete, but also instigated a pilot approach to 'open survey', or 'reproducible fieldwork'. This paper will outline the motivations and practical deployment of this approach as well as consider the directions in which we plan to take it in the future. Building on strengths of both the traditional material expertise, landscape tools and leveraging socio-technical solutions, the aim is to make landscape studies more cumulative than competitive, and tackle some of the legacies surrounding 'ownership' of research created by colonialist and nationalist competition dating back over a century.

TIMETABLE

FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER	
12:20-13:10	Registration and coffee
13:00-13:10	Welcome
13:10-13:40	A. Slawisch & T.C. Wilkinson – Introduction
13:40-14:20	E. Eldem – Philipp Anton Dethier: The German antihero of Ottoman archaeology
14:20-15:00	Y. Galanakis – ‘Our museum has many worthless objects’: cultural politics and archaeology in early modern Greece
15:00-15:40	Coffee/tea
15:40-16:20	E. Koparal – The past and future of the German legacy in the archaeology of Northern Ionia
16:20-17:00	T.C. Wilkinson & N. Strupler – Open survey? The Project Panormos digital pilot
17:00-17:40	tba
17:45	Reception / buffet @ McDonald Institute (Open to all)
SATURDAY 17th DECEMBER	
09:00-09:40	M. Loy – Voyages Across the Aegean Sea: a study in Archaic mobility and connectivity
09:40-10:20	K. Eckert – In between: Tavşan Adası, a Bronze Age Harbour Settlement in Western Turkey
10:20-11:00	Coffee/tea
11:00-11:40	C. Berns – Empty spaces, busy crowds. The history of research at Miletus in the light of different concepts of the ancient city
11:40-12:20	S. Huy & B. Weissova – The Urban Survey on the Humeitepe in Miletus: Methodology and preliminary Results
12:20-13:00	tba
13:00-14:00	Lunch (McDonald Institute)
14:00-14:40	H. Brückner – The geoarchaeological approach to reconstruct ancient Aegean landscapes – Case studies from Western Anatolia
14:40-15:20	U. Mania – Pergamon’s Microregion: a Multidisciplinary Approach to relations between City and Countryside
15:20-16:00	Coffee/tea
16:00-16:40	H. Orenge – Tradition and innovation in British archaeological survey in the Aegean: designing landscape-specific survey strategies in Thessaly and Crete
16:40-17:20	
17:20-18:00	Discussion
19:00	Reception + Workshop dinner @ Churchill College (Invitation only)