

## Team H Report

### Field Season:

17 May – 12 June, 2013

### Filed by:

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### Last edited on 3/20/2018 by:

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### Team Members and Roles

Name	#	Affiliation	Status/Occupation	Team Role
Sylvia Deskaj Galaty	5	Michigan State University	PhD candidate, Anthropology	Team leader 05/18-05/25
Dora Lambert	30	Millsaps College MSU, <i>As of 2017: The Coastal Restoration Branch (NWRC)</i>	Undergraduate, SOAN MA in GIS, <i>GIS Specialist</i>	Field walker 05/18- 05/25; Team leader 05/27-06/12
Erica Pitcairn Lockwell	42	Boston University <i>As of 2017: Cengage Learning</i>	MA, Archaeology <i>Product Assistant</i>	Field walker
Brunilda Sinani	29	University of Tirana	MA student, Archaeology	Field walker
Elvira Hoxha	45	University of Tirana <i>As of 2017: Colombo Center Albania</i>	MA student, Archaeology	Field walker
Megan Rebman	43	Millsaps College <i>As of 2017: Chesterfield County Public School</i>	BA, Classics <i>Latin Teacher</i>	Field walker
Taulant Rama	44	University of Tirana <i>As of 2017: Spiecapag</i>	MA student, Archaeology <i>Archaeologists</i>	Field walker
Enkelejda Koleci	48	University of Tirana	MA student, Archaeology	Visiting field walker
Alba Selita	28	University of Tirana	MA student, Archaeology	Visiting field walker
Anisa Ani	33	University of Tirana	MA student, Archaeology	Visiting field walker
George Bey IV	31	Millsaps College	Undergraduate, SOAN <i>BA in SOAN</i>	Visiting field walker

### Methodological Notes:

All tracts were surveyed using standard Mediterranean survey methods. For each tract, surveyors walked at 15-meter intervals and counted all tile/brick, ceramics, and small finds. The last category –

small finds – included, but was not limited to, lithics, iron tools, mill stones, beads, and glass. Field walkers were instructed to collect all small finds as well as a sample of the different ceramic fabrics counted that were larger than a thumb nail. Additionally, any diagnostic sherds, or those with notable markings, indentations, glaze, color, or shape, were also collected.

All land, including fields, hills, and terraces in the survey zone described below, was surveyed unless the landowner objected or the vegetation was so dense as to render survey impractical

### **Team Objectives:**

The team had 3 main objectives:

- To identify potential sites from all periods for site collection and/or test pits within the survey zone
  - o To count material from all periods – Bronze Age, Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman, Medieval, Post-Medieval, Modern, etc. – within the survey zone
  - o To collect small finds, diagnostic sherds, and a sample of the different ceramic fabrics from all periods within the survey zone
- To survey the Prehistoric site of Zagorë (**S-015**).
- To locate, map, and document all extant tumuli within the survey zone, as well as those previously destroyed
  - o To revisit all mapped tumuli in order to assess their current state of preservation and suitability for future excavation
  - o To input all collected data from this exercise in the Tumuli database.

### **Survey Zone:**

Team H surveyed different areas within the former Shkrel municipality (today, Malësi e Madhe): (1) the Prehistoric site of Zagorë (**S-015**)<sup>1</sup> and the modern-day settlements of (2) Zagorë, (3) Lohe, and (4) Kokaj as well as the (5) fields south/southwest of Lohe, bounded to the south by Reçit Road (Rruga Reçit), to the east by the road to Mucovile, and to the west by the road for Theth (Rruga për Thethe). Their entire zone was bounded to the north by Zagorë settlement, to the south by Reçit Road, to the west by the road for Theth, and to the far east by mountains bordering Kokaj settlement. (*See the 2017 Map for Shkrel area*)

In addition to the Prehistoric site of Zagorë (**S-015**), the basilica of Zagorë and the tumuli of Shkrel are located within this zone.

The area surveyed by Team H is flat and hilly relief surrounded by mountains and largely composed of fields. Some of the fields were planted with cash crops such as tobacco, olive trees, maize, and beans. Those located within villages were often fenced by their owners. Many of the fields were fallowed and planted with alfalfa or filled with grass or hay. The tracts in the Prehistoric site of Zagorë were covered

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<sup>1</sup> S-015 was site collected in the 2014 field season.

with macchia (maquis – French), a shrub typical to the Mediterranean region<sup>2</sup>. Taking both the terrain and vegetation into account, the tracts in this survey zone had an average visibility of **26.3%**.

### **Tracts, Sites, and Mounds:**

Team H surveyed a total of **321** tracts, covering a total of **4.58** square kilometers. The size of each tract varied depending on the natural characteristics and features of the landscape. Their average tract size was **1.42** hectares, with their largest tract recorded at 9.76 hectares and the smallest at 0.03.

Team H surveyed the prehistoric site of Zagorë (**S-015**) – Tracts **H-039** to **H-048**. The bulk of the ceramics recovered (a total of **162** according to museum counts<sup>3</sup>) were discovered on the hilltop and eastern half of the site, especially concentrated in tracts **H-040**, **044**, and **045**.<sup>4</sup> The finds were largely associated with the Early Bronze Age (**69** ceramics or **42.6%** of the total) and Classical (**53** ceramics or **32.7%** of the total) periods, followed by the Bronze Age (**14** ceramics or **8.6%** of the total) and Post-Medieval (**16** ceramics or **9.9%** of the total) periods. The Hellenistic, Roman, and Early Modern periods composed roughly **5%** of the ceramics recovered from the site.<sup>5</sup> Finally, **2** ceramics were labeled as “**Unkn.**”

Kokaj area contained material from the Prehistoric period onward, demonstrating its continued usage until the modern period.

Team H identified, and documented, **50 prehistoric tumuli** within the survey zone, many of which were visible in Google Earth. These tumuli were located especially in the fields southwest of Lohe. Tumuli in Team H’s zone may have been undercounted as many tumuli have been destroyed in construction or by landowners or looters. One informant from Lohe indicated the contrary, stating that the tumuli in the Lohe plains had not been touched.

All of the **50** tumuli were mapped, photographed, and described in detail by the end of the 2013 field season. Most had been damaged by building or looting activities and/or had been removed by farmers to open up their fields or mined and sold by owners as soil. According to a local shepherd from Dedaj, supposedly **2** of the tumuli had been previously excavated. Of the remaining **48** tumuli, **37.5%** were labeled with a poor to very poor state of preservation (**n=18**); **35.4%** with a fair state of preservation (**n=17**); and **27.1%** with a good state of preservation (**n=13**).

Team H recommended **1** tumuli for excavation due to its close proximity to the new Koplik Prison (Burgu I Koplikut): **T-098**.

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<sup>2</sup> Macchia are noted in the CU databases as bushes or Maki.

<sup>3</sup> The **162** ceramics identified at **S-015** represents **42.5%** of the total ceramics counted within Team H’s survey zone.

<sup>4</sup> **18** ceramics were recovered from **H-044**, **81** from **H-044**, and **42** from **H-045**.

<sup>5</sup> **5** ceramics were association with the Hellenistic period, **1** with the Roman period, and **2** with the Early Modern period.

### Summary of Findings:<sup>6</sup>

Regarding museum counts, Team H collected a total of **52** fine-textured; **135** coarse-textured<sup>7</sup>; and **191** medium-textured ceramics, of which **28** were tile. The texture of **2** ceramics was labeled as “**Plain.**”

Team H also collected **8** lithics; and **25** other small finds, falling under the categories of “**metal,**” “**stone,**” “**glass,**” “**mineral,**” and “**ceramic.**”

#### *Ceramics:*

Team H collected **381** ceramics from almost all periods. **30.4%** were associated with the Prehistoric to Bronze Age periods, **36.7%** with Classical to Roman periods, **2.9%** with Medieval to Late Medieval periods, and **28.1%** with Post-Medieval to Modern periods. Finally, **7** ceramics, or **1.8%** of the total ceramics collected, were labeled as “**Unkn.**” Notably, sherds from the Early Roman, Early Medieval, and Late Bronze Age periods were absent.

The team’s Early Bronze Age (**69** ceramics), Bronze Age (**23** ceramics), and Classical (**76** ceramics) finds were largely concentrated in **S-015**, Zagorë. All of the Early Bronze Age finds were concentrated in **S-015** as were **69.7%** (or **53** of the **76** ceramics) of the Classical period ceramics. Additionally, of the **23** Bronze Age ceramics collected, more than half (**14** ceramics) were located in **S-015**. As Zagorë is a known site, the density of Early Bronze Age and Bronze Age period artifacts was expected. However, unlike other hilltop sites surveyed by PASH like **S-011** (Gajtan) or **S-001** (Kratul i Madh) which had large concentrations of Hellenistic material, **S-015** contained a high density of Classical period ceramics, similar to **S-002** (Kullaj).

The Prehistoric (**24** ceramics) and Hellenistic (**56** ceramics) periods had strong representation within the collected ceramic sample. A number of these finds were associated with Tumuli. Hellenistic ceramics were recovered from **T-126, 127, 130, 131, and 138** and Prehistoric ones from **T-126, 127, 140, and 141**. Additionally, **5** Hellenistic ceramics were associated with **S-015**. Of note, the many of the remaining Bronze Age artifacts were also associated with **T-126, 127, and 140**. Also, of note, some Prehistoric and Hellenistic finds were associated with Kokaj area.

The team’s Post Medieval (**44** ceramics), Early Modern (**53** ceramics), and Modern (**10** ceramics) periods were largely concentrated in the valley fields. The team’s Post-Medieval finds were largely concentrated in the fields of Kokaj and in **S-015**, whereas the Early Modern finds were generally concentrated in Kokaj area as well as the fields along the road to Mucovile.

The Roman (**8** ceramics), Early Medieval (**1** ceramic), Medieval (**9** ceramics), and Late Medieval (**1** ceramic) periods were poorly represented in the ceramic finds. Notably, only **1** Roman period ceramic

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<sup>6</sup> The number of collected material (such as ceramics or small finds) listed in this report corresponds with the number of entries in the ceramic and small finds databases. While entries are typically associated with **1** artifact, some entries are associated with 2 or more artifacts. For example, small ceramic pieces associated with the same period and/or located in the same tract might be labeled in the pottery database under **1** entry.

Additionally, all periods listed in the report represent the “start period” and do not reflect the “end period.”

<sup>7</sup> Note regarding the pottery database: Only 134/135 ceramics show up when you search for “coarse” texture and Team H’s ceramic finds.

was associated with **S-015**. The remainder of the team's Roman period finds were mainly associated with the Kokaj area.

*Small Finds:*

Team H collected a total of **33** small finds, of which **51.5%** were not associated with any period (**n=17**); **3%** with the Roman period (**n=1**); and **45.5%** with the Modern period (**n=15**).

Regarding lithics, of the **8** identified, **2** were not given a type and left blank. The remainder were typed as flake, chip, retouched blade, etc. None of the material was dated.

Regarding dated material from other categories of small finds, the Roman period object was a "**ceramic**" spindlewhorl found in tract **H-293**. All of the Modern material was metal or glass and found throughout the survey zone. Also, of note, the team discovered **1** carved stone in tract **H-303**.

*Tumuli:*

The map of tumuli provided some identifiable location patterns. From an aerial view, tumuli within Team H's survey zone appeared to be clustered in a triangular pattern.