

Team F Report

Field Season:

17 May – 12 June, 2012

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Team Members and Roles

Name	#	Affiliation	Status/Occupation	Team Role
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Lorenc Bejko	4	University of Tirana	Department Chair, Archaeologist	Project Co-Director, Field walker
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Anisa Buzo	33	University of Tirana	MA student, Archaeology	Field walker
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Sarah James	32	Millsaps College <i>As of 2017: Charlotte Museum of History</i>	Undergraduate, SOAN BA in SOAN <i>Education Intern/Docent</i>	Field walker
Dorian Kallanxhi	37	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
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>	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 2 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 systematically expand our knowledge of the hills and fields along Team B's survey zone as well as the areas nearby major sites (**S-003** Vorfë, **S-002** Kullaj, and **S-007** Koder Boks)¹

Survey Zone:

Team F surveyed the hills and fields east of Team B's zone, beginning just southeast of **Sites 003-Vorfë** and **002-Kullaj** and continuing south, southeast of Team D's tracts in the settlement of Vorfë to Koder Boks village, where **Site 007**, Koder Boks, was located. The survey zone also included the hillfort of Koder Boks. (*See the 2017 Map of Dragoç with all survey zones*)

The area surveyed by Team F was primarily hilly terrain but also included fields, some of which were terraced. The hilly terrain was lightly to moderately covered with macchia (maquis – French), a shrub typical to the Mediterranean region. The fields were primarily located between the villages of Vorfë and Boks. Most of the fields were lined with grains and tall grasses, while a few were used for cash crops such as tobacco. Taking both the terrain and vegetation into account, the team's average tract visibility was **66%**.

Tracts, Sites, and Mounds:

Team F surveyed a total of **146** tracts, covering a total of **1.62** square kilometers. The size of each tract varied depending on the natural characteristics and features of the landscape. Their average tract size was 1.12 hectares, with their largest tract recorded at 4.28 hectares and the smallest at 0.07.

Team F noted **4** clusters of Prehistoric ceramics in tracts located south of Team D's survey zone to **S-007** (Koder Boks site). **3** of these clusters were located at the mid-western, southwestern, and eastern borders of the zone. The densest concentration of Prehistoric sherds was located in the center of Team F's survey zone. These finds indicate a lot of activity during the Prehistoric period between Sites **S-003** (Vorfë), **S-002** (Kullaj), and **S-007** (Koder Boks). Notably, all of the team's Archaic, Classical and Hellenistic finds as well as some of their Roman finds were associated with these clusters.

¹ S-003 and S-002 were site collected during the 2010 field season. S-007 was site collected in 2014.

No Tumuli were located in this survey zone. However, the team did identify multiple holes with mounded edges in the hilly terrain. At first, they thought these holes were disturbed mounds. However, after comparison with other disturbed mounds in the Tumuli-Mound database, the team hypothesized that these holes were most likely watering sites for animals (such as livestock). Additionally, the PASH Tumuli-Mound database overwhelmingly demonstrates that mounds are typically located in flatter areas at the base of hills and not in the hills themselves.

Team F identified 3 caves in their survey zone near tracts **F-021**, **F-099**, and **F-100**; however, there was very little evidence to suggest previous use.

Summary of Findings:²

Regarding museum counts, Team F collected a total of **143** fine-textured; **116** coarse-textured; and **167** medium-textured ceramics, of which **14** were tile. The texture of **1** ceramic was “**Unkn.**” Team F also collected **211** lithics falling under the categories of “**lithic**,” “**tool**,” and “**other**,” and **66** other types of small finds, falling under the categories of “**mineral**,” “**stone**,” “**metal**,” “**ceramic**,” and “**bone**.”

Ceramics:

Team F collected **427** ceramics from almost all periods. **107** ceramics, or **24.8%**, were labeled as “**Unkn.**”³ **23.7%** were associated with the Prehistoric to Bronze Age periods; **3.7%** with the Archaic to Hellenistic periods; **4.9%** with the Roman and Late Roman periods; **21.5%** with the Medieval and Late Medieval periods; and **21.1%** with the Post-Medieval to Modern periods. The bulk of Team F’s ceramics were collected south of Team D’s survey zone in Vorfë, beginning with Tract **F-019**.

The team’s Prehistoric (**91** ceramics), Early Bronze Age (**2** ceramics), and Bronze Age (**8** ceramics) finds were largely concentrated in the fields and hills south of Team D’s survey zone to **S-007** (Koder Boks site). Prehistoric period ceramics were located in small densities (1-3 ceramics) throughout the survey zone. Notably, Prehistoric ceramics were clustered in small to high densities within 4 areas of the survey zone (see *Figure 1*):

- (1) Tracts near the mid-western boundary of the zone (**F-036, 038, 140, 127, 128, 142, 144 to 146**); (Associated with the Koder Boks hillfort)
- (2) Tracts at the far southwest boundary of the zone (**F-105, 106, 110 to 112, 114, and 116**);

² 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.”

³ **1** ceramic was not associated with any of the searchable periods, including “**Unkn.**”

(3) Tracts along the eastern boundary of the zone (**F-050, 051, 055 to 057, 062, 066, 072, 082, 083, 085, 087, 088, 090 to 093, 095, 097, 099, 100**); and

(4) tracts in the center of Team F's survey zone (**F-048 and F-052**).⁴

Clusters **1, 2, and 4** contained tracts with the highest concentrations of Prehistoric sherds. In Cluster **1**, **F-145** had **4** Prehistoric sherds. In Cluster **2**, Tract **F-110** also had **4** sherds. Cluster **4** contained **17** prehistoric ceramics – **14** sherds were located in **F-048** and **3** in **F-052**. Interestingly, these Prehistoric finds are located between three known/identified sites collected by PASH: **S-003** (Vorfë), **S-002** (Kullaj), and **S-007** (Koder Boks).

The team's Roman (**17** ceramics) and Late Roman (**4** ceramics) finds were also located in the fields and hills south of Team D's survey zone to **S-007** (Koder Boks site). Some of the Roman ceramic material were associated with 2 of the Prehistoric ceramic clusters, clusters **1** and **4**. The remainder of the Roman and Late Roman material was located directly south of Team D's survey zone in Vorfë in Tracts **F-028, 029, 030, 033, and 021**.

The team's Medieval Byzantine (**73** ceramics) and Late Medieval (**19** ceramics) finds as well as Post-Medieval (**30** ceramics), Early Modern (**52** ceramics), and Modern (**8** ceramics) finds were distributed throughout the survey zone. However, they were mainly concentrated in the fields and hills south of Team D's survey zone in Vorfë.

All other periods – the Archaic (**5** ceramics), Classical (**10** ceramics), and Hellenistic (**1**) – had little representation in the survey zone. Notably, all of the Archaic, Classical, and Hellenistic material was associated with 1 of the Prehistoric ceramic clusters. **1** Archaic ceramic was associated with Cluster **1** in tract **F-145**; the remaining **4** were concentrated in tracts **F-082 and 083** within Cluster **3**. The Classical finds were associated with clusters **1** and **3**; **7** were located in Cluster **1** in tracts **F-141 and 145** and **3** were located in Cluster **3** in tracts **F-083 and 085**. Finally, the Hellenistic ceramic was located in Cluster **1** in tract **F-145**.

Small Finds:

Team F collected a total of **277** small finds from the Middle Paleolithic to Modern periods. **86.6%** of the material (**n=240**) was not identified with a period and labeled "**UNKN**" or "**unknown**" or left unlabeled. **2.5%** was associated with the Middle Paleolithic period (**n=7**); **2.5%** with the Upper Paleolithic period (including Epigravettian and Early Upper Paleolithic) (**n=7**); and **0.4%** with the Mesolithic period (**n=1**); **0.7%** with the Prehistoric to Late Archaic period (**n=2**). The bulk of the team's material was concentrated in the fields and hills south of Vorfë village to **S-007** (Koder Boks site) near the 4 ceramic clusters.

While the Middle Paleolithic, Upper Paleolithic, and Mesolithic periods were represented by lithics, the Prehistoric (**n=1**), Late Archaic (**n=1**), and Modern periods (**n=20**) were strongly represented by metal objects. The Prehistoric object was a "**metal**" rim from tract **F-049** and the Late Archaic object was a

⁴ **Tract F-048** in this cluster was revisited on 5/29/2013. During this visit, **16** additional lithics were collected, **1** of which was dated to the Upper Paleolithic period.

“**metal**” nail from tract **F-096**. Finally, small finds associated with the Modern period included “**metal**” objects such as nails, bullets, and metal fragments, as well as 1 “**stone**” whetstone.

Regarding lithics, of the **211** identified (found under the categories “**lithic**,” “**other**,” and “**tools**” in the small finds database), **20** were typed as “**natural**,” **5** as “**non-cultural**,” **76** as “**unidentifiable**,” and **6** were left blank. The remainder were typed as flake, flake fragments, cores, bladelets, etc.

Of note, the team collected a notable amount of mineral categorized as “**metal**” or “**mineral**,” including magnesium ore and slag. The team also discovered **2** bone fragments, one in tract **F-072** and the other in tract **F-108**. Additionally, the team found a small cluster of daub in tract **F-099** – all associated with **GT 1977**. Finally, the team located **2** grinding stone fragments from tracts **F-009** and **F-132**.

Figure 1: Prehistoric Ceramics Distribution

