



AIA *News from the* NEW YORK SOCIETY

TRANSITIONS

Lucius Aelius, ancient Roman legionnaire, had faced many transitions—posted from the comfort of family and friends in Rome to Londinium in the barbarian north; A possible return to Antonine Rome with the reappearance of plague. But before a return to Rome his legion was sent to reinforce troops fighting along the Rhine border. The fighting now having subsided he was finally to return to Rome. But there he faced new challenges, new transitions: How to reflect on all the fighting he had experienced and how to move smoothly from military to private life. As indicated in previous Newsletters, Lucius Aelius is a fictional person but such challenges and transitions are common to many. Can archaeology and the classics help?

Plague—archaeology provides historical perspective to our recent Covid experiences: similarity and major differences. Military combat—yes, as you can see in this Newsletter in the article “Eternal Soldier.” Reading Homer with returning US military veterans is helping veterans reflect on their combat experiences as not unique and to aid their reintegration to civilian life. Reading Homer and the Classics leads to a two-way dialogue: The soldiers see their combat experiences through time and the scholars gain new insights into these ancient stories. Life’s challenges, life’s transitions!

The challenges and transitions of a fictional Roman legionnaire or the real challenges of a returning military veteran are in no way comparable to changes at the AIA national or the AIA-New York Society, but these changes to the AIA are still important.

AIA National

This year AIA national will host its 127th year of lectures but with significant changes. Instead of sponsoring two or three lectures for each of the AIA’s over 100 local societies, the new program has three relevant parts.

1. **AIA Archaeology Hour:**
Monthly (September–April) evening virtual presentations about the latest archaeological work. Please see the AIA website for more information (<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyhour/>).
2. **Archaeology Abridged:**
Short daytime virtual talks with lots of built in Q&A. Please see the AIA website for more information (<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyabridged/>).
3. **National Lectures at AIA Local Societies:**
The national office, using endowment funds and its own resources, will help to arrange and partially to finance one lecture for each local society, instead of two or three lectures as in the past. Your society, the AIA-New York Society, is in a much more favorable position as you will see below.

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AIA-New York Society

Your Society also has some important transitions.

A. Our Lecture Program:

Again this year we will sponsor one presentation per month starting in September. In addition to the one lecture arranged by the national office, as mentioned above, the New York Society is fortunate to have three endowed lectures: The Brush lecture on a New World topic, and the Haupt and English lectures on any topic. Further, thanks to your membership and the support of the Friends of the New York Society we have sufficient resources to support all our lectures and our NYS Scholars and Fieldwork Programs. Please see inside for the fall lecture listing. You will receive an email to register for these free webinars and/or you can check our website, www.aia-nysociety.org.

B. Annual Meeting and Amendment to By-Laws:

This year's Annual Meeting will take place via Zoom on October 13 starting at 6:00 pm just prior to the lecture. You will receive an email with information and how to register for both events. Please mark your calendar to attend. The Annual Meeting agenda will have four parts:

1. A short review of the NYS activities this past year.
2. A review of the NYS' fiscal year 2021/2022 financials.
3. Amending our By-Laws
A request to approve an amendment to our By-Laws adding a new official position, Past President, for a non-renewable one year term. An outgoing President would move automatically to this new position. Permitting an outgoing President to continue on the Board as Past President will smooth the transition to his successor. This new position also mirrors the one at AIA national.

4. Elections

President: Antonis Kotsonas

Our existing By-laws mandate a term limit for the President: two terms of three years each (six years total). My term as President ends this October at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Kotsonas, currently a General Trustee, has agreed to step up to the Presidency. Dr. Kotsonas is Associate Professor of Mediterranean History and Archaeology and Director of Graduate Studies at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh, an M.Phil. from the University of Cambridge, and a B.A. from the University of Crete. His research focuses on the material culture and socio-economic history of Greece and the Mediterranean in the Early Iron Age and the Archaic period. He has conducted fieldwork all over Greece and is currently Director of a project on Crete.

Treasurer: Pam Crabtree

For the past year the position was vacant after John Yarmick, who served faithfully for many years, stepped down. Mr. Yarmick has continued to handle the treasury responsibilities pending a new person. Dr. Crabtree was elected by the Board at its last meeting and now will seek affirmation by election at this year's Annual Meeting. Dr. Crabtree is Professor/Director of Undergraduate Studies at New York University. She has a Ph.D. 1982, M.A. 1975, from the University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. 1972, from Barnard. She is a zooarchaeologist reconstructing past animal husbandry patterns, hunting practices, and diets with special interest in the origins of urbanism in early medieval Europe (8th-10th centuries CE), as well as the transition to farming in the ancient Near East.

Finally I would like to express my thanks for the honor of serving as President of your Society and for the support of my colleagues on the New York Society Board.

-*Jeffrey Lamia*

President, AIA New York Society



AIA NEW YORK SOCIETY FALL 2022 LECTURE SERIES

Ballcourts at Nixtun-Ch'ich', Guatemala

Dr. Timothy Pugh

Professor of Anthropology, Queens College/CUNY Graduate Center;
Director of the Itza Archaeology Project, Guatemala

Formal ballcourts were one of the most enduring architectural complexes of Mesoamerica—they appear prior to 1000 BCE and were described by the 16th century Spaniards. In fact, a version of the game is still played in Mexico today. Ballcourts also played a key role in Maya creation myths. This presentation describes work in the three ballcourts at Nixtun-Ch'ich' in Petén, Guatemala, especially Ballcourt 1, which was the largest ballcourt in Mesoamerica until the construction of the Great Ballcourt of Chichén Itzá in the Classic period. The ballcourt primarily dates to the Late Preclassic period (300 BCE to CE 200), but new data suggest that it may have been used much earlier.

(AIA National Ellen Sparry Brush Lecture)



September 22 at 6:00 pm

Webinar *(details and link forthcoming)*

Dr. Pugh's lecture will be preceded by a presentation from AIA-NY Society Research Scholarship recipient Rebecca Tauscher.

Life and Death in the Roman Suburb

Dr. Allison L. Emmerson

Professor, Department of Classical Studies, Tulane University

Defined by borders both physical and conceptual, the Roman city stood apart as a concentration of life and activity that was legally, economically, and ritually divided from its rural surroundings. Death was a key area of control, and tombs were relegated outside city walls from the Republican period through Late Antiquity. Given this separation, an unexpected phenomenon marked the Augustan and early Imperial periods: Roman cities developed suburbs, built-up areas beyond their boundaries, where the living and the dead came together in densely urban environments. *Life and Death in the Roman Suburb* examines these districts, drawing on the archaeological remains of cities across Italy to understand the character of Roman suburbs and to illuminate the factors that led to their rise and decline, focusing especially on the tombs of the dead.



October 13 at 6:00 pm

Webinar (*details and link forthcoming*)

Dr. Emmerson's lecture will be preceded by a presentation from ALA-NY Society Research Scholarship recipient Illyamani Castro.

Digging the Iliad: The Mycenaean Capital at Iklaina

Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos

Professor of Greek History and Archaeology; The Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Endowed Professor in Greek Studies, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Missouri, St. Louis

For thousands of years Homer's *Iliad* has remained the classic tale of love, honor, and war. Exciting archaeological discoveries in the past 150 years have unearthed the great palaces of the Homeric heroes and revived the fascinating society of the Mycenaeans. In antiquity itself, and in our memory of antiquity, the great palaces at Mycenae, Tiryns, Pylos, and Troy stand at the crossroads between myths and historical reality.

The world of the Mycenaeans still holds, however, many surprises. Recent excavations at the site of Iklaina have brought to light one of the capitals of the Mycenaean state of Pylos. Massive Cyclopean structures, monumental buildings decorated with beautiful wall paintings, advanced urban infrastructure, and the earliest known records of state bureaucracy challenge current knowledge about the origins and operation of Mycenaean states and allow us a glimpse into previously unknown aspects of the Homeric epics. In this illustrated lecture Professor Cosmopoulos will present the exciting archaeological discoveries at Iklaina and discuss their significance for the historical foundation of Homer's epics.



November 9 at 6:00 pm

Webinar (*details and link forthcoming*)

The Early Roman Empire in the West: New Excavations at the Roman Camps Near Numantia (Renieblas, Spain, 2nd–1st c. BCE)

Dr. Alicia Jiménez

Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, Duke University

The Roman camps near Numantia (Renieblas, Spain), are one of the earliest and best-preserved in the Mediterranean. The camps were involved in the first phase of Roman expansion, the conquest of the province of Hispania (modern Spain and Portugal) and the siege of the native settlement at Numantia, which resulted in Rome's annexation of much of the Iberian Peninsula in 133 BCE. At the beginning of the 20th c., German ancient historian Adolf Schulten, excavated the remains of at least five overlapping Roman camps, loosely dated to the 2nd and 1st c. BCE. The plan of Camp III (49 hectares), drawn more than 100 years ago by topographers from the German army under Schulten's supervision, became key for our current understanding of the basic structure of the Roman Republican army. It is usually assumed that the archaeological remains clearly correspond to the description of the arrangement of a manipular army by Polybius (book 6, 2nd c. BCE) and how different ranks of soldiers were housed inside a typical Roman camp.

Yet despite the spectacular results of Schulten's excavations at the site between 1908 and 1927 many basic and important questions about Renieblas (including the chronology of each of the camps) remain unanswered. His interpretation of the camps is problematic and the analysis of the archaeological finds (stored in the RGZM, Mainz, Germany) is contested, due to the lack of archaeological context. Our team set up in 2015 a new excavation project at Renieblas with the goal of providing archaeological information about this important site. In this paper I will discuss the most important results of the first three fieldwork seasons (2015–2017), in which we have documented a series of artifacts in archaeological context (ceramic, fragments of arms and armor, coins), studied faunal remains and dated organic samples (charcoal and bones) using C-14. In 2018 and 2019 we combined different techniques (LiDAR, photogrammetry, terrestrial scanners, archaeological surveys, historical maps and aerial pictures), to create a new plan of Camp III in order to shed new light on the vexed problem of the structure and internal layout of the Roman camps in the 2nd c. BCE.



November 9 at 6:00 pm

Webinar (*details and link forthcoming*)



NECROPOLI DEL VALLONE DI SAN LORENZO, ITALY

Field Report by the Cohort II AIA-NYS Archaeological Research Scholarship Recipient

During the summer of 2022, I had the opportunity to conduct fieldwork in Montecchio, Umbria, Italy. I participated in the ongoing excavations at the Necropoli del Vallone di San Lorenzo. The project is a collaboration between the Università degli Studi di Perugia, Kent State University, the municipality of Montecchio and the Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle Arti e Paesaggio dell'Umbria. The site

is under the direction of Prof. Gian Luca Grassigli (Università degli Studi di Perugia) and Prof. Sarah Harvey (Kent State University). This Umbro-Etruscan necropolis from the late seventh/early sixth century BCE to the fourth BCE was first excavated in 1855 by Domenico Golini. Work continued in the mid-twentieth century and later by the archaeological superintendency. The most recent excava-

tions were completed in the summer of 2017 and 2019 before halting due to the global pandemic. Around 50 chamber tombs have been discovered to date, and a remarkable tomb, named R2, built from travertine blocks was found in 2019. This season, our team continued excavating in the vicinity of R2, revealing four new tombs and a potential Roman road and working in the lab to catalog the material finds from the previous 2019 season.

My involvement on the site spread across three of the four tombs in active excavation: R3, R5, and R6. All the American students were allowed to work on each tomb and learn about various excavation methods from the more advanced Italian students and staff. Each grave presented a unique burial. R3 was a chamber tomb that had collapsed and had been robbed at some point in the past. R4 was a burial of human remains of what appeared to be a mother and child (the only tomb I did not excavate). R5 was a horse burial, where I helped recover one of the rear hooves, which will be sent for genetic testing to learn the horse's color. R6 was the final tomb, discovered on our second to last day of excavation; a "cassone" type tomb, a type that had never been excavated before at this necropolis. This tomb had also been robbed. The robbers had relocated the body next to the tomb, and we found only fragmentary items inside. Throughout the month, I learned about identifying and recording stratigraphy layers in the soil, handling human and animal remains, applying a Total Station device on-site, and producing 3D models using Agisoft Metashape Pro. In the afternoons, we worked in the local museum cataloging and archiving material culture from the previous season and learning how to create drawings of ceramics from potsherds using compasses and geometry that would then be imported into AutoCAD. Overall, the time I spent at the excavation at San Lorenzo provided a well-rounded introduction to archaeological fieldwork, and I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of the project.

- *Rebecca Tauscher*

AIA-NYS Archaeological Research Scholarship
Recipient, 2022 (Cohort II)



Rebecca Tauscher excavating the dromos of R3.

AMPAS AND REPARIN, PERU

Field Report by the Cohort III AIA-NYS Archaeological Research Scholarship Recipient

This past summer, I worked on two archaeological projects near Huari, Peru. The first project, under Ibarra Bebel of Tulane University, was in the mountains of Ampas, at a height of 4,350m/14,000ft, full of chullpas (tombs), cuy bones, human bones, and intact ceramics like vases, bowls, and cups. The second project, under Jason Nesbitt of Tulane University, was nearby la laguna de Reparín, containing newly discovered architectural structures like walls and decorations, pottery sherds, and charcoal, but no evidence of bones. The people of Huari, Ampas, and Reparín were very friendly and interested in our projects after learning we were archaeologists, and quite a few locals were actively involved in the work, including a local women-run organization working together to protect and preserve the nature, tradition, and culture of Reparín.

Over the 3-4 weeks in Peru, we learned about the local history of Huari, Ampas, and Reparín, as well as the ceramics, bones, geology, and animals we would come across. With ceramics, we worked on labeling and drawing the sherds and intact pieces, predicting the vessels' complete forms from the sherds, and inventorying. We learned about the post-excavation process through one of the graduate students, who would have to submit a few pieces to the local Ministry of Culture in Huari, as well as the Ministry of Culture in Lima. With bones, we cleaned and identified the various human and cuy bones, including an infant human, and catalogued them in the inventory. In the field, we learned about different excavation techniques, GIS and LiDAR scanning, as well as how to prevent looters from finding and digging out remaining pieces when we were finished for the day.

My time in Peru exposed me to other Peruvian archaeologists in the area, and depending on what I

finalize for my Master's thesis with University of Florida, I plan on returning next summer. Thank you, AIA-NYS, for funding this amazing opportunity.

- *Illyamani Castro*

AIA-NYS Archaeological Research Scholarship Recipient, 2022 (Cohort III)



Excavation unit at Reparín.

Feature: *Eternal Soldier*

One of the most important developments within the AIA during the last 20 years has been an acceleration in outreach programs designed to engage audiences that have generally not participated in the AIA's activities. These programs, in turn, have led to the creation of increasingly broader outreach efforts in organizations that share the AIA's goals but do not form part of the Institute, and a new program in Philadelphia entitled "Eternal Soldier" is a case in point.

The origins, in a sense, go back to 2003, after the Iraq National Museum in Baghdad was looted. Brian Rose was in his first year as First Vice President of the AIA, and secured permission from the U.S. Central Command to launch a program on cultural heritage protection that was held primarily on U.S. military bases from which soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

When the program ended in 2014, Rose attempted to incorporate cultural heritage protection training into the curriculum of ROTC programs in the Philadelphia area, which ultimately developed into a series of lectures rather than formal training. More successful was a joint Penn Museum-Veterans Affairs program created by Kimberly (Max) Brown of the Crescenz VA Medical Center in Philadelphia, who was a Penn Ph.D. in archaeology, Sheila Murnaghan, Professor in Penn's Classical Studies department, and Brian Rose, also in Classical Studies.

The program they created, *Eternal Soldier* consists of archaeologists, classicists, historians, clinicians, and veterans working together to present ancient and ancient-inspired material on war, warriors, combat, and society in ways that especially address modern Veterans. Less than 0.05% of the US population now serves in the Armed Forces, so collective comprehension of Veteran experience remains limited. The goal is to help Veterans see that their military service, experiences in armed conflict, and post-deployment reintegration are not substantially different from those experienced by ancient war-

riors. Veterans have often been stationed for prolonged periods in important historical landscapes, and as combatants, are also actors on a historical stage. As the temporal distance between ancient and modern is collapsed, the Veterans acquire a new appreciation for past civilizations and their own place in history, while simultaneously providing the archaeologists and classicists with new perspectives on complex interstitial meanings and connections between ancient and modern conflicts.

Eternal Soldier offers a hybrid blend of in-person and virtual programs anchored by its internet platform. Special tours of the Penn Museum allow Veterans to make personal associations between their own experiences and objects in the Museum's collection. The Veterans Read Homer book groups, which meet each spring and fall, focus on the Homeric epics, the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, as springboards for considering a wide range of issues, from the isolation, loss, betrayal, and companionship experienced during deployment to the ongoing challenges of returning to civilian life. Readings in Homer have been followed by explorations of classical Greek tragedy and complemented by modern works of art and literature, such as Cy Twombly's "Fifty Days at Ilium" in the Philadelphia Museum of Art. These book groups are not academic classes, but freewheeling discussions, which start from the Veteran's own experiences and the ways they see them reflected in these ancient texts.

Though currently dominated by perspectives from the Ancient Mediterranean, *Eternal Soldier* encompasses material from a host of periods and cultures, such as that of the Americas and the Vikings. A flexible platform, *Eternal Soldier* anticipates a broad growth in content and further service to our nation's Veterans.

- Kimberly Brown, Sheila Murnaghan, and Brian Rose

FRIENDS OF THE NEW YORK SOCIETY

The Friends of the New York Society is a group of professionals and lay archaeological enthusiasts who support all the New York Society's work and programming. Among other aspects, the support of the Friends is critical for the NY Society's scholarships to university students in NY City for their participation in an archaeological expedition. For

their crucial support, the Friends benefit from special private programs at which they can mix with professionals and those of similar interests.

We thank the following Friends who generously provided support for the Society in the past fiscal year:

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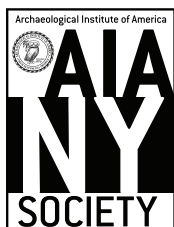
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*In addition to the above, the Society from time to time receives contributions from
members and friends to support our activities or underwrite specific programs.*

*To inquire about joining the Friends please email
Heidi James-Fisher (hjames@studiolxiv.com).*



Jeffrey Lamia, President
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