



## ONLINE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# On Byzantine, Western and Post-Byzantine Towers (10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries)

Friday 18 - Sunday 20 November 2022

Organizing Committee: P. Androudis – K. Manousou-Ntella - P. Theocharidis



The Online International Conference devoted to the Towers in Byzantine and Post Byzantine period (10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries), to be held virtually via Zoom from 18 to 20 November 2022, seeks to illuminate aspects of their construction, decoration, function and evolution in time. Our Conference does not aim at exhausting the subject, but will offer an interdisciplinary forum for a selection of talks that touch upon some of the following aspects:

Single (free)- standing towers    Monastic Towers    Towers in maritime forts, harbors and arsenals    Donjons  
Towers in Palaces    Towers with gates    Byzantine Towers in Asia Minor (Anatolia)    Seljuk Towers  
Towers of the Frankish, Venetian, Genoese rulers    Heraldry in Towers    Ottoman and Post-Byzantine Towers  
Towers with canons    War in Byzantine and Ottoman times    Inscriptions on Towers    Towers with buttresses  
Tower Houses of the Byzantine, Frankish, Venetian and early Ottoman Period

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Zoom link: <https://authgr.zoom.us/j/96432922546?pwd=UIREM210UytNSFhGWDRPNU9JUGINQT09>

Time schedule is Athens, GR (UTC/GMT + 2 hours)

## **ABSTRACTS**

### **DAY 1      Friday, 18 November 2022**

#### **1st SESSION – BYZANTINE TOWERS: CASE STUDIES AND RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

##### **Nektarios ZARRAS**

Beautiful castles for Brave Men-Dedicatory Inscriptions on Towers of the Middle and Late Byzantine Period

In the Middle Byzantine period, the increase in the number of encomiastic texts, such as poems and and inscriptional epigrams for castles and towers, is linked with an increase in the number of references to names of mainly high-ranking military officials in inscriptions on defensive projects. Following the emperors' example, generals and senior officers systematically recorded the construction and repair of fortification walls, and sought to promote their personality through inscriptions, some of which are distinguished by their sophistication. The present paper focuses primarily on selected Middle and Late Byzantine epigraphic texts with a particularly notable vocabulary and correct orthography, which were composed by epigrammatists or experienced scribes, whose aim is to enhance the heroic mettle, valour and other values of the officials. At an ideological level, the presentation of the generals' virtues is based on hagiographical texts of soldier-saints, as well as on encomiastic references to members of the military aristocracy who are also associated with the imperial family of the time. Another fundamental issue discussed is the correlation between the qualitative and aesthetic characteristics of the towers and analogous traits of the ideal of men-at-arms and builders of castles. In addition to the inscriptions, the decorative elements on towers also serve the same ideological aim.

##### **Nicholas MELVANI**

Towers and Texts in Medieval Constantinople

The defensive walls of Constantinople were an indispensable part of its identity and physiognomy. The fortification circuit consisting of the Land Walls, the Marmara Sea Walls, and the Golden Horn Walls still preserves a significant corpus of inscriptions placed above gates, on towers, and on the curtain walls. This paper will deal with the use of towers as surfaces for the public display of texts. It will thus trace the transformation of the epigraphic habits from the late antique epigrams of the original Constantinian and Theodosian phases to the inscriptions mentioning the repairs of emperor Theophilus and of the Macedonian emperors. This approach will highlight the synergy of towers and texts and the ways they contributed to the protection of the Byzantine capital.

##### **Dimitris LIAKOS**

Athonite towers- the dedicatory inscriptions and their significance

The existing dedicatory inscriptions of the Athonite towers are few and date back to the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century. They convey their meaning not only by content but in manifold ways, such as language, position, visibility etc. This paper aims to explore aspects of the visual and epigraphic properties of selected post-Byzantine writings on Athonite towers.

**Franziska REINHART**

From watchtower to burgus (to quadriburgium)? The development and unction of Roman watchtowers in the western provinces with a short view to the East

Roman watchtowers of the middle and late imperial period are found in the Raetian and Germanic provinces not only along the Limes, but also in the hinterland. What is their task? When do we speak of a watchtower and when of a burgus? These questions will be addressed with the help of individual examples. The question of the parallels to the name-similar quadriburgium will also be dealt with briefly. For this purpose, the view is also turned to the East.

**Jim CROW**

Towers on the long walls of Thrace and associated fortifications

**Nisa SEMİZ**

Towers in the Marmara Sea Walls through the observations of Dimitriadis Efendi

In Dimitriadis Efendi's Roll of Marmara Sea Walls, dated to 1875, the seaside walls of Constantinople along the southern coast are depicted. In the panorama, which is twenty-eight meters long, only the sea walls were focused; the towers and gates, and even some details of the ramparts were meticulously worked out. In this respect, Dimitriadis Efendi's panorama is a primary source that also contains essential information about the wall sections that have not survived today. In this study, the architectural characteristics of the towers of the Marmara Sea Walls are evaluated, through the portrayal of Dimitriadis Efendi and by comparing them with the surviving sections and the relevant literature.

**Kerim ALTUĞ**

Akçaburgaz: An unknown Late Byzantine Tower from the Western Countryside of Constantinople

Near the eastern shore overlooking Büyükçekmece Lake, a tower rising on a large fertile land called Akçaburgaz Farm draws attention. This two-storey stone structure built of roughly cut ashlar which seems dating to the Late Byzantine period, was probably designed not only for defense but also as a fortified residence. These rural tower houses were domestic dwellings such as residences of a local squire and foremost their defensive features were apparent. Covering an area of approximately 120 m<sup>2</sup>, interior brick construction of the tower represents the alternating layout of typical Late Byzantine brickwork. Dating to the 14th or 15th century, this previously unpublished ten-meter-high free standing tower house, stands out as unique example of a Byzantine landowner's residence that has survived from the western countryside of Byzantine Constantinople.

**Jesko FILDUTH**

Byzantine Towers in Western Asia Minor

The paper will concentrate mainly on the area of the lower Meander Delta and the Latmos region, where several towers have been recorded mostly by archaeological surveys dating to the middle and late Byzantine period. This includes towers as part of larger fortifications, of monastic complexes as well as free standing structures. They will be discussed in terms of their typology, the topographical context and function.

## **Paolo MARANZANA**

Pessinus in central Anatolia; a history of fortifications

This paper discusses the development of fortifications at Pessinus (central Anatolia) during the first millennium CE in light of the archaeological evidence uncovered in the last 2 decades of fieldwork at this site. Pessinus was located in the upper Sakarya river valley, some 150 km south-west of Ankara, and it was well-known for the presence of the main sanctuary of the Goddess Cybele in the Hellenistic and Roman Periods. During the late Roman Period, Pessinus became a provincial capital (Galatia Secunda) and a bishopric, a feature that was retained until the 11th c., when the site was largely abandoned. Due to its particular geography, the settlement could hardly be fortified with a continuous wall, and Pessinunitians chose to erect a series of watchtowers and small fortresses to patrol their territory; two of these structures were excavated in the late 1990s (Sector I) and in the mid-2010s (Sector S), and they will be the focus of this paper. The size and organization of these towers seem to reflect changes in occupation at Pessinus; Sector S, dated to the Early Byzantine Period (4th-7th c. CE), was part of a series of watchtowers that aimed to overlook the surroundings of a large urban center (ca. 100ha), and, thus, was solely a defensive structure. Conversely, Sector I was likely built sometime after the 7th c. CE, after most of the Roman city had been abandoned; this complex is much larger (0.8 ha), with public and domestic spaces, as well as a keep, and it resembles citadels such those at Ankara and Amorium, although on a smaller scale. The compound was likely designed to be more than a simple defense, but also to be an integral part of the social interaction that took place at Pessinus during the Early Middle Ages.

## **2nd SESSION – TOWERS IN THESSALONIKI AND THE ATHONITE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE**

### **Aikaterini KOUSOULA**

The Tower Gate of Heptapyrgion, Thessaloniki

Heptapyrgion is located at the northern part of Thessaloniki, within the citadel. The fortress is not an autonomous complex, independent of the city's fortifications, but was formed by the construction of a strong septum wall of curved shape, which isolated the top of the fortified enclosure of the citadel. This results in a fortified space in the shape of a ripple. The area it covers is estimated at 6.000 m<sup>2</sup>.

The fortress is strengthened by 10 towers, of which the five on the north side (Π1-Π5) organically belong to the fortified precinct of the citadel, while the other five (Π6-Π10) belong to the dividing wall to the south.

The Π8 or Tower Gate, has a Π shape, consisting of two pilasters with a square plan connected in height, which form a vaulted recess where the entrance gate to the fortress opens. From the south side, the masonry of the tower in the lower part and up to about the middle of its height, consists almost exclusively of abundance and variety of marble spolia, such as structures, flywheels of columns, architectural sculptures, etc., laid in order and with a clearly beautifying mood.

From one third of the tower upwards, bricks are included in the masonry, either in a band of five, or as a pure brickwork, or in a brick enclosure, combined with marble spolia. The upper part of the masonry of the tower appears more neglected, with small stones and sporadic plinths, while four rectangular openings-battlements are opened.

This interesting masonry is decorated for two-thirds of the height of the front face,

with ceramic ornaments, such as rosettes one per pilaster and herringbone, eight relief early Christian and mid-Byzantine shields that are integrated in the central part and the western pilaster, not symmetrically placed, and two rectangular frames, of which the lower one bears an Ottoman inscription, mentioning Çavuş Bey as the tower's builder in 1431.

The northern masonry of the tower is archaeologically illegible after its restoration. As part of the restoration works of Eptapyrgion in 1993-1995, excavation research was carried out mainly in the eastern pilaster and the foundation.

From the macroscopic observation of the tower and the data of the archaeological research, we arrive at some first observations regarding the dating and its construction phases, which are placed in the middle and late Byzantine times, with later reconstructions.

### **Ploutarchos THEOCHARIDIS**

The Tower of Tzimiskes in Megisti Lavra, Mt Athos- The Byzantine Phases

The Great Lavra was founded in 963 by St. Athanasios the Athonite with funds given by Nikephoros Phokas. The monastic tradition attributes the great tower on the SW corner of the enceinte to the emperor John Tzimiskes (969 - 976). Indeed, it has been testified that the tower constitutes an addition that enclosed the original corner of the walls. Moreover, archeological material that goes back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century was brought to light during an excavation of 1998, held inside the building by the Department of Antiquities, but never completed since.

A restoration of the tower, together with its heightening, took place early in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, testified by two inscriptions. The byzantine phases of the building are examined in the present communication, together with a reconstruction of its aspect as, at least, during the Late Byzantine Period.

### **Petros KOUFOPOULOS**

The Library Tower of Panagia at Vatopedi Monastery, Mt Athos

The tower of Panagia at the Vatopedi Monastery was built during the early post-Byzantine period in 1526, with later phases of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The historic Library of the monastery, which includes manuscripts and early printed books, has been housed in the upper four levels of the building since 1867.

It replaced a Byzantine tower that pre-existed in the same location and is linked to the Byzantine north and east curtain walls of the fortified enclosure of the monastery.

### **Konstantia DROSOU**

The Metochia Towers of Halkidiki and the Tower of the Athonite Monastery "Hagios Pavlos" in Nea Phokaia

In Nea Phokaia, Halkidiki, a characteristic hill with a height of 30 m rises by the sea. Already in 1407 there was the metochion of the Athonite monastery of Hagios Pavlos. The tower is the only one in Halkidiki that preserves its entire height up to the merlons (16.50m). It is square, measuring 6.6 x 6.6 m. and built in stone masonry. In recent years, consolidation and partial restoration works of the Tower and the church of the share have been carried out. In this context, the wooden floors and the stairs of the Tower were constructed in the places of the old ones. The masonry and the merlons were fixed. The impermeability of the roof and the rampant walk were restored. An external staircase was built, allowing visitors to enter and door and windows were placed in the openings. A wooden parapet was placed in the courtyard

towards the sea, in order to protect the visitors of the area.

### **Anastasia KAPANDRITI, Stylianos GALANIS**

The Byzantine tower of the metochion of the Athonite Zografou Monastery, in Kalamaria of Halkidiki: A palimpsest of construction phases

The metochion of the Athonite Zografou Monastery in Kalamaria of Halkidiki is initially mentioned in a document of 1320 as the metochion of *Ano* or *Epano Volvos*. In the Ottoman, 16<sup>th</sup>-century settlements it is marked as *Tsiftliki Gameri* (*Çiftlik-i Gameri*), including a tower, a church, a vineyard and a garden. In 1930, the arable land (6,800 acres) is expropriated for the settlement of refugees from Antaval-Aktaş, Cappadocia, with the building complex being the core of the homonymous current settlement.

The tower (10 x 9, 30m and 12m surviving height) has three wooden floors and is built of limestone. The initial fortification phase is placed before 1325 and is located on the *kripida*, consisting of large semi-carved stones and the elevated entrance at the southwest end of the facade. Approximately around 1568, the upper levels are built and a lowered entrance is opened in relation to the phase of the house. During the past decade, the Ministry of Culture (Ephorate of Antiquities of Halkidiki and Mount Athos) has been responsible for restoring the tower with state funding.

### **Nikolaos BONOVAS**

Unknown byzantine tower at Nigrita, Serres

The Tower of the District of Syrpa or S(o)urpa in the northern part of the town of Nigrita Serres is known from an oral tradition of modern times that mentions its destruction most probably by an earthquake in July 1912.

The sole evidence of its existence are two photographs found in the photographic archive of Mr. Ioannis Thomas Bakas. The first photo was taken from the town of Nigrita towards the North and illustrates a partial view of the S(o)urpa with the tower, while the second photo depicts an aspect of the tower with people -including the consul of Greece in Serres, Athanasios Stournaras- standing outside its ground floor and low buildings in its surroundings. The tower is maintained to have been located in the Pyrgos Square, an area where an outcropping can be found today, apparently formed from the ruins of the building itself. The Pyrgos Square is located in the old district of Sourpa, in the northern part of the urban complex of modern Nigrita. The name of the Square is visible today on two road signs at the corners of buildings, revealing the living memory of the monument in the consciousness of the local community.

There can be safely determined six levels: a basement, the ground floor and four upper levels. The tower can be dated to the early post-Byzantine times (15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> century) and constituted the core-building of a metochion (monastic dependency) of the Philotheou monastery in Mount Athos.

### **Oleg ULYANOV**

The unique clock tower of the Athonite monk Lazarus Serb in the Moscow Kremlin (1404) and its analogies in Mount Athos

This paper analyzes for the first time collected and analyzed information from historical sources about the first clock tower in Moscow, which was erected in 1404 in the courtyard of Grand Duke Vasily I by the Serbian monk Lazar, who arrived from Athos by a special invitation from government. The unique image of this tower in the miniatures dated back to the XVI century allows for the reconstruction and search for historical analogies among the Athos towers of the early 15<sup>th</sup> century.

### **3rd SESSION – OTHER MONASTIC TOWERS UP TO 16<sup>th</sup> c.**

#### **Marina MYRIANTHEOS-KOUFOPOULOU**

“St. Helen’s” Tower at the Monastery of Sinai, Egypt, in the context of the ascetics’ everyday life during the fourth to the late sixth century in Egypt

The so-called tower of St. Helen was built during the pre-Justinianic era (fourth to mid sixth century) next to the Shrine of the Biblical Burning Bush lying in the valley northwards to the Holy Summit of Mount Sinai. Later on, the tower has been enclosed by the fortress (monastery) which Justinian built on the spot in the 550s. Archaeological research commenced in 1988 by P. Grossmann who identified the in-situ parts of the tower. The author subsequently identified the pre-Justinianic chapel of the Mother of God inside the tower. The tower is currently examined in the context of the keeps found in the Upper Egypt and Coptic Monasteries.

#### **Isidoros PLAKOTARIS**

The Fortified Tower of the Monastic Complex of Nea Moni at the island of Chios

The object of this paper is the fortified tower of the monastery complex at Nea Moni on the island of Chios.

The study deals with the half-ruined today, fortified tower of the monastery as well as the surrounding cells which were annexed in latter periods. As there are few existing historical references, an attempt to date the monument is made along with documenting its form and historical phases. Moreover, an effort is made towards a comparison of its construction character to other fortifications in Chios as well as corresponding monastic towers of Mount Athos

#### **Lilyana YORDANOVA**

Between Heaven and Earth: The Intriguing Representation of Space at the Tower of Hreljo

Parmi les tours construites pendant la période médiévale et au début des temps modernes sur le territoire actuel de la Bulgarie, celle de Hreljo constitue de loin la plus connue et la mieux conservée. Œuvre du grand potentat serbe, Hreljo Dragovol, la bâtisse monastique vit le jour en 1335 selon l’inscription monumentale qui surmonte son entrée. Associant ouvrage de défense et lieu de culte, la tour ne cesse d’attirer l’intérêt des chercheurs tant par son architecture à contreforts que par son programme iconographique, caractérisé par la rareté des sujets. Cette intervention traitera d’un aspect peu étudié jusqu’ici, à savoir la représentation atypique de l’espace au sein des peintures murales et son rapport à l’architecture de la chapelle.

#### **Theodora IOANNIDOU, Evangelos PAPATHANASSIOU**

Towers of the Monastery of St. Dionysius of the Mount Olympus, Macedonia, Greece

These are two towers: the Tower at the "Palaeomonástēron" and the Great Tower (Megas Pyrgos) of the Monastery complex, next to the precinct’s gate.

The "Palaeomonástēron" Tower: The site is definitely part of the grid of the inaugurated

“kathismata” around the Monastery - after 1534, when the saint first took refuge in Mt. Olympus - a grid, which is much of a transfer of the hagiographic topography (with the consecration of the caves, the high rocks and the peaks of the area). In the site "Golgothās" (Cavalry), which we identify with "Palaeomonástēron" itself, the saint builds a cell and a small chapel dedicated to the Holy Cross, according to the tradition saved by Gennadius of Thessaloniki. Here we observe a limestone enclosure, about 3-3.5 feet wide, which crowns the ridge of the rock, initially in a sufficient elevation above it, and the enclosed area being 205 m<sup>2</sup>. Rectangular limestone tower, contemporary to the precinct, with a ground floor and two or three stores above - external dimensions: 4.36 x 4.49 m. - erected at the highest NE corner of the plateau. Based on historical analysis, the time limits for the construction of the tower at the site of Golgotha's cell are limited between 1562 and 1574, and around 1565, most likely.

The Great Tower/Megas Pyrgos: According to the Extended Vita of the Saint - written by the Bishop of Lētē and Rentina Damaskinos Studites: “..soon after saint’s death, the bishop of Kitros Sōfronios spent on the construction of the large tower, in the northeast corner of the precinct, next to the gate of the monastery, the morphology and type of which are similar to those of the tower at "Palaeomonástēron". The identification of the tower of Sōphronius with the Great Tower of the monastery is based on information given by Porphyrij Uspensky, who visited the monastery in 1859 and saw testimonials lost now. Sōphronius incumbency ends sometime before 1560/1561, *terminus ante* for the construction of the large tower, which should be placed between the years 1543-1560, probably in the late 5th or early 6th decade of the 16th century.

### **Sotiris VOYADJIS**

The Freestanding Monastic Tower of Aghia Eleousa, Bartholomio, Elis

It is a small quadrangular in plan tower of situated inside the courtyard of the monastery. Dimensions 6.30 x 6.30m and height (before the collapse) 12m. The tower was built, according to testimonies in 1683, in a single construction phase. It seems that it would be the last refuge in case raiders violated the outer defence wall of the monastery and not a fortified residence, as is customary in the Peloponnese. Its only entrance is on the first floor and access would be gained from a wooden bridge that connected it with the stone staircase opposite the tower. Potentially it could be drawn in case of danger. The door was also protected by machicolations. The tower was roofed by a large hemispherical dome, without ramparts, while the intermediate floors were timber. Arrow slits are opened in appropriate places for the defence. Apart from the stone frames of its openings, it has minimal morphological elements. The tower was destroyed in 1988 with half the dome fallen and severe cracks and was restored to its original form.

## **4th SESSION – BALKAN TRADITIONS: 10th-16th CENTURY**

### **Richard HODGES, Nevila MOLLA**

Middle Byzantine occupation of the Late Roman proteichisma at Butrint, southern Albania

This presentation offers a reinterpretation following new excavations of the western, seaward defenses at Butrint, southern Albania. It describes the construction of the 6<sup>th</sup>-century double walls, the 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> century material culture before desertion in the mid-9<sup>th</sup> century. The two excavated towers were reoccupied in the 10<sup>th</sup> century before the revival of Butrint as a town, c.1000, and remained in use until the late medieval (Venetian) period.



This new study sheds significant light on the nature of defense and urban topography of the late antique and medieval city, and on the adaptation of military towers as houses from the early middle ages.

### **Dolores OŠTRIĆ**

The Castle of Gradac on the island of Krk: Byzantine influence on a Romanesque castle

Gradac Castle on the island of Krk was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century as a small pentagonal medieval fortress, probably as a fortified residence of the Counts of Krk. The structure of the Romanesque Gradac Castle consists of three elements: a palace, a tower and an inner bailey, all enclosed by a chemise wall, forming a compact volume reminiscent of a small donjon with a beak facing the sea and Vinodol. The typological features of the castle are due to the knowledge of the Byzantine fortifications, especially the fortress of Lopar, built in the 4<sup>th</sup> century and still in use during the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Nebojša STANKOVIĆ**

The Tower-Church of Lukavica near Dimitrovgrad (Serbia)

The subject of this paper is an apparently unique, now lost tower in the village of Lukavica, located near the present-day border of Serbia and Bulgaria. It was recorded in both word and image in 1878 and 1883, before it presumably collapsed and was replaced by a church in the 1890s. According to these accounts, it was a late-medieval structure, simply built, square in plan, and entered from the south. It had three storeys above the ground floor, with the top one housing a vaulted chapel, with a three-sided apse protruding on the east side. Additionally, a single-naved church, as wide as the tower, was attached to it on the same side, but on the ground level, which served as the church's narthex. The nave had remnants of wall paintings datable to the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Not previously studied, this intriguing structure, located away from known fortifications, monasteries, and major roads, deserves an examination. This thematic conference offers a good venue for a presentation and assessment of the building's unusual form and potential function(s).

### **Brendan OSSWALD**

Fortifications and fortresses in Epirus (13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries)

Building fortifications was traditionally a prerogative of the Byzantine emperors. When Epirus became independent after 1204, its sovereigns became in charge of it and therefore the study of their politics in matter of fortifications and fortresses sheds an interesting light on their general politics. The paper intends to draw up an inventory of the Epirotic fortresses in the Late Middle Ages and to study them through three main axis. First, their geographical repartition on the territory shows how the military defense of the area was organized on a strategic level, as well as it reflects the relative importance of the cities of Epirus. Second, their chronological periodization allows to establish various phases corresponding to the history of Epirus: a first phase where few works before the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century because the Epirotic state was spending its forces for external expansion and did not fear invasions; then a period of fortifications all over Epirus until the Byzantine annexation of 1340; then, in a context of fragmentation, new works destined to defend small lordships one from another. Third, the paper will examine the historical role of the fortifications and fortresses, that is to say the social impact of the fortification works, the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the fortresses against the invasions and the role they played in the political and administrative organization of the area.

## **Sonia KOUTSIANOU, Theocharis TSAMPOURAS**

### The Towers of the Citadel in Servia: Morphology, Function and Chronology

The Byzantine city of Servia, an “invincible city” according to Kekaumenos, was part of a greater network of walled cities in Macedonia situated at a point of strategic importance, on a natural passage connecting Thessaly and Macedonia. The walled city of Servia was divided in two discernible parts (lower and upper city) by two lines of walls, which, together with its citadel at the highest point of a rocky hill, formed a reliable fortification complex. This paper focuses on the three towers that are still standing in the citadel by casting new light on older excavation data, while presenting new information gained during the restoration works of the towers, a project which is currently in progress. The morphological features of the towers (size, architectural decoration, construction techniques) will be examined in detail in order to provide a better understanding of their function and chronology, but also their connection to other monuments of the city and older parts of its fortification.

## **Anna GIALOURI**

### Single (free) - standing towers at the east coasts of Thessaly

Along the Thessalian coastline, from the mouth of the Pineios River to the Trikeri channel, a considerable number of single (free)- standing defensive towers are located, which, although dating to different periods, are part of a timeless network of maritime communications and trade exchanges. Attempts are made to record them, to highlight their typological, morphological and structural characteristics, to investigate their function and to date them.

## **Alkiviadis GINALIS**

### Towers in marine environment. The interaction of harbor and fortification networks in Byzantium

When studying port cities and other harbour sites, one realises quickly that coastal infrastructures were not independent and separate features acting as isolated phenomena. To the contrary, they acted as gateways for cross-cultural interactions and thus decisive factors for the execution and control of communication and commodification. It was therefore essential to control the fertile coastal zones in order to secure economic and political power over the wider maritime network of the Eastern Mediterranean.

As a result, the erection of fortifications or even single towers is closely connected to marine environment – whether these constitute river valleys or the seacoast. Starting from the extensive building program under the reign of emperor Justinian I and his successors, a close link between coastal activities and fortification networks can be observed. Accordingly, the archaeological data frequently reveals a specific interconnected pattern between towers and harbour sites.

**DAY 2      Saturday, 19 November 2022**

**5th SESSION – TOWERS IN LATIN MAINLAND GREECE AND IN THE  
PELOPONNESE**

**Petros KOUNOUKLAS, Nikolaos KARAGIANNIS**

## Paliopyrgos Avlaki. A medieval watch-tower on the west coast of the Malian Gulf

During a survey on the west coast of the Malian Gulf undertaken in 2017, the remains of a medieval tower were discovered southeast of the modern village of Avlaki in Pthiotida Prefecture. The site, known as *Paliopyrgos*, has received a special mention in various literary sources, though it was recorded for the first time in 2017. Its strategic importance is beyond doubt as it controls the eastern communication networks, either terrestrial or maritime, leading to Lamia, the major center of the Spercheios Valley through time. The structural remains provide new evidence concerning practices of defense and achievement of safe contacts in the above mentioned region, where, until recently, the relevant archaeological record was incomplete.

### **Elli TZAVELLA**

Medieval towers of Boeotia: Observations on their function based on use of road networks

The Medieval towers of Boeotia have been catalogued, described and studied with regard to their morphology by Lock (1996), Kontogiannis (2012) connected an important number among them with historical evidence, especially sources concerning the Catalan occupation during the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

The present study follows a topographic approach and connects the geographical situation of these towers with physical features (e.g. mountain passes, strategic values of certain locations) as well as with the road network of Boeotia. This leads to some preliminary observations regarding (i) the areas which Medieval lords preferred to control and (ii) the use of the regional road network in Medieval Boeotia.

### **Philippos STATHOULOPOULOS**

The architecture of the Boeotian Towers

The individual towers that we find in large numbers in Boeotia region once played a very important role in the control of the area and were points around which the local society developed. This paper deals with the registration and documentation of 24 towers in total, 9 of which were architecturally imprinted in order to extract clustered conclusions about morphology, typology and construction techniques. The archive results were collated with archeological papers regarding those sites, for drawing conclusions about the generative elements, which occurred in historical context and produced those Boeotian monuments

### **Stefania S. SKARTSIS, Niovi BOUZA**

The "Tower of Saint Omer" in Thebes: function and historical phases

The so-called "Tower of Saint Omer" still stands today at the courtyard of the modern Thebes museum. Located at the northern end of the hill of Kadmeia, it is a supposed remnant of the castle built by Nicholas II of Saint Omer, when Thebes was the capital of the duchy of Athens. The restoration works conducted recently by the Greek Archaeological Service made it possible to examine the architectural elements of the monument. In addition, important new evidence came to light during the excavation of its interior, which contributes significantly to our knowledge of the establishment, the periods of use, the role and function of the tower over more than six centuries.

### **Alexandra KOSTARELLI, Andrew BLACKLER**

The medieval towers of Euboea. New data, perspectives and the work of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Euboea

From the late autumn of 1204 until its annexation by Ottoman forces in 1470 (the Latin period) Euboea came under the control of first the Lombard Tercieri and, later, the Venetian Empire. It is thought that the many towers still surviving in its landscape date from this period. Fifty-five were first gazetted by Theodoros Skouras (1975), work which formed the basis for an article by Peter Lock (1996), who posited their agricultural and feudal role. Yet further research by Skouras (2003) and more recently Andrew Blackler (2020) has revealed more than double this number of tower sites. The process of identification of them using cartographic evidence, and satellite telemetry and imagery, and their analysis within a GIS framework, is the focus of this paper.

It also looks at the results of work by the local Ephorate of Antiquities on three recently renovated towers and a new five-year survey of the hinterland of Chalkis, Euboea's capital, during the Medieval and Ottoman periods. We have little firm evidence of who built the towers on the island, their date of construction or their function (Kostarelli, in press). This research will not only throw light on these questions, but also allow us to better understand the evolution of the landscape within which the towers are located.

### **Jenny ALBANI, Antonis TSAKALOS**

Medieval skyscrapers: The Venetian freestanding towers in Euboea (1390-1470)

Euboea, the sixth-largest island in the Mediterranean, endowed with fertile land and ports of key importance, belonged to the sphere of Venetian influence from the first years of its Frankish occupation, in 1205, until 1390, when the island finally passed to the rule of the *Serenissima*. The Venetian period of Euboea, characterized by relative peace and prosperity, ended in 1470 with its conquest by the Turks.

During the Venetian occupation of Euboea, the main problem was the Ottoman menace and piracy practiced by the Turks. Therefore, the Venetian Republic implemented a dynamic fortification program for the island's defense. Archaeological remains of this network of forts, comprising castles and towers, are extant both in its urban landscape and the countryside.

This paper aims at an updated survey of Venetian freestanding towers in Euboea, thirty of which still survive. We will address issues of their location, construction and function(s) within the defense system of medieval Euboea, while attempting comparisons with fortifications in other Venetian-occupied areas of the Eastern Mediterranean.

### **Philippos KANATOURIS, Stavros MAMALOUKOS, Michael MIAOULIS**

Great Hall (Building A) of castle of Fylla, Euboea (History and Architecture)

The monuments of the Frankish period in Greece have been examined by researchers, historians, architects and archaeologists, in the context of attempts to interpret the architecture and art of this important period. The above context includes the examination of the two-storey Great Hall of the medieval feudal castle of Fylla of Euboea, which is found on a remote steep rocky hill, 7 km south of Chalcis, east of the plain of the river Lilas. It is the most interesting and undoubtedly the most impressive building of the castle, whose two walls are part of the castle walls, at the most extreme and naturally fortified point of the hill, at the edge of the remote rock. In general, it is an excellent example of the so-called 'great hall' of a castle of the Frankish period in the wider region of Euboea and Central Greece.

### **Demetris ATHANASOULIS**

Comments on the medieval towers of the Peloponnese (9th-15th c.)

### **Konstantinos DIMITROULIAS**

Architectural documentation of a rectangular defensive Tower in Argos Larissa

castle

The subject of the present survey is the rectangular Tower which is preserved in the middle of the eastern wall of the inner enclosure of Argos Larissa castle which, due to its projected location and size, constitute a characteristic and dominant element of the castle, visible from the modern city. It is characterized by simplicity in construction without morphological requirements, as it served a purely defensive function, while no evidence is found to claim housing accommodation, as observed in other similar structures. Through the study of the Tower, its architectural documentation will be attempted (organization of the interior, building materials, defensive elements etc.), as well as the conception of its construction phases and the modifications it underwent because of the disasters and the better adaptations for the defensive needs of each period. Finally the ultimate objection is to reveal its function within a complex example of military architecture like Argos castle, through the study of corresponding examples, both within the castle and in the nearby region.

### **Klimis ASLANIDIS**

The Late Byzantine tower near Pantanassa, in southeastern Laconia

The tower of Pantanassa, published in 1982 by E. Dori, is a rectangular building of relatively large size (75.90 x 7.65m), preserved in a ruinous state. New measured drawings of the building, combined with observations on construction details, allow for its representation. It was probably a two-storey construction. Each storey was covered with a barrel vault resting on blind arches. The tower served probably as a house of a local land owner or military official. Its architectural features are comparable with the nearby castle of Vatika as well as numerous churches in the area, all built in the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century, during the rule of the Despotate of Mystras

### **Stavros ARVANITOPOULOS**

Towers in Houses and in the Palace of Mystras

Among the more than 300 dwellings that survive in Mystras, there are three, in which towers have been built, either on the house's narrow or on its long side. A similar arrangement appears in two of the buildings of the palace complex. As in two of the houses the erection of the tower precedes the rest of the complex, the paper examines the relationship of the individual tower houses, the fortified residencies and palaces of Mystras, with the towers of the city (in two of which the upper stories were probably also dwellings), as well as with other examples dating to the Palaiologan period.

### **Konstantina DOUVI, Paschalis ANDROUDIS**

The Late Byzantine tower of the monastery of Hodigitria at Mystras

The tower of the monastery of Hodigitria at Mystras, presently in a ruinous state, could be ascribed to the Late Byzantine period, most probably to 14<sup>th</sup> c. The surviving parts permit to reconstruct to its full height this important rectangular defensive structure which originally had a basement covered with a vault and at least three wooden floors and a terrace. The structure, unique in Mystras, was built with stones (there is also sporadic use of bricks in the vertical joints) and has few narrow window openings.

## **6th SESSION – TOWERS AND FORTIFICATIONS IN THE AEGEAN ISLANDS AND CYPRUS**

### **Athanasios KOTSAKIS**

Ducal tower-shaped country residences at late-medieval Naxos

At the dawn of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the island of Naxos was conquered by Venetians as well as other Westerners, remaining under Latin Rule up to the mid of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The medieval “Chora” of Naxos, became the capital of the Duchy of the Aegean or the Archipelagos as it is also known; an independent island hegemony under the local dukes’ governance. Specifically, the dukes of the Crispi dynasty, apart from their permanent manorial residences at the castle of Chora (Castro), were also owners of tower-shaped manors located in Naxos’ countryside. These constituted summer resorts, fortifications and quite probably as economy centers as well. The earliest examples of this category of fortified buildings are the ducal tower located at Kourounochori (14<sup>th</sup> century) as well as the ducal tower at Paratrechos near Chora. Especially in the case of the tower at Kourounochori, some interesting architectural elements pertaining to the western medieval types of fortification, and generally of western architecture can be seen today, as well as the coats of arms of eminent western families. Contrary to the other preserved towers of the island, these two particular towers were built during the period of the latin domination, before the ottoman conquest.

### **Antonis KATSARAKIS**

The tower house at Rogdia, Crete

Fortified mansions at the countryside of Venetian Crete (1211-1645) were key elements in the feudal system of the island's rural economy. They covered multiple functions right to the very end of the period, until the Ottoman conquest of the island in mid seventeenth century. Among them, the tower house at Rogdia still represents a sufficiently enigmatic mansion from the sixteenth century with older building phases, a church and auxiliary buildings. Although only a part of the original edifice survives, the presentation aims at defining some key aspects of its building history, investigating at the same time its relation to the specific site and function within the village. As a fusion of older, medieval perceptions of living with newer typologies, the original building seems to have gone through a "modernization" campaign, which nevertheless remained half-finished.

### **Stavros MAMALOUKOS**

Dark Prison-The Great Tower of the Kastro of Chios

The edifice known as the "Dark Prison" from the tragic events of 1822 that have been associated with it, is found to the south of the main gate of the Kastro of Chios. "Dark Prison" is a rectangular building with internal dimensions of about 8.5 X 10 m and wall thickness of about 2.5 m. It is covered with four groin vaults made of brick, resting on a central pillar on the walls and. Its walls are constructed of volcanic stones from Phocaea, large pieces of marble in second use and, to a small extent, porous stones. A staircase leads from the courtyard of the so called "Palazzo Giustiniani" to the building's flat roof which is found at the level which corresponds with the "terrapieni" of the wall of the Kastro. The presence at this level of remnants of an old door and of a column in corresponding to the pillar of the ground floor leads to the hypothesis that originally the "Dark Prison" had a second floor. The form of the building's masonry and the gothic forms of its arches and groin vaults point out to a possible dating of "Dark Prison" at the 14th century. The position of the building at the corner of the SW land wall and the wall of the port and next to the main gate of the Kastro in combination with information from the Genoese Archives

leads to the hypothesis that "Dark Prison" is a remnant of the "Great Tower that surmounted the gateway, overlooking the harbor".

### **Anna BENETOU**

The Genoese Defensive Tower of Pyrgi, Mastichochoria, in Chios

The Tower of Pyrgi is located in southern Chios. It is a heavy, almost square, free – standing structure, with two floors above ground level, originally used as a defensive and administrative center. It has been constructed around 1400, at the time of the Genoese rule. Today, with eight private houses occupying its volume, the tower belongs to the State Property Office (an expropriation decision, 1971).

As for the original form of the tower, there were twelve cross-vaults on each level, supported by six pillars and swallowtail-formed ramparts on top. The skyline of the tower is directly related to the identity of the settlement, which is clear from the photographs and testimonies of the various flâneurs.

The proposal for the restoration of the tower focuses on two axes: (a) the structural reinforcement of the existing masonry and the removal of certain alterations, while maintaining testimony of the successive phases (b) the creation of an independent lightweight structure that will be placed within the tower envelope and will refer to its original form and (c) the redefinition of the character of the monument (public).

### **Michael LOSSE**

Late medieval and early modern watchtowers, residential towers and tower houses on Rhodes and the Dodecanese Islands

After the conquest of Rhodes (1306-1308/09) and the issue of papal bulls in 1307 and 1309 which confirmed the possession of the island, the Military Order of the Knights of St. John, also known as (Knights) Hospitallers, was in territorial possession of Rhodes, and some other Dodecanese islands till 1522 (2<sup>nd</sup> Ottoman Siege). Ottoman and Mamluk attacks had obliged the Knights to strengthen their defenses. The first known reference to the construction of a watchtower dates back to 1366; It was built on Alimia island. After the number of raids on the Dodecanese had increased sharply around the middle of the 15<sup>th</sup> c. the need for (coastal) watchtowers became notorious. In 1474, the Order's council decreed the construction of a number of towers of very different types to protect at least Rhodes, the main island of the Knight's Monastic State.

Beside the watchtowers there existed a number of more or less fortified tower houses on the island's country side, some used as summer residences, others as hunting lodges by Knights and Italian merchants. Maybe some were used as watchtowers during dangerous times. In some cases it remains vague, whether rural tower houses were built by and owners during the Ottoman rule. A small number of tiny tower houses called "Pyrgakia" were built after the middle ages; perhaps of houses where the local archontic class lived from the late middle ages up to the early 10<sup>th</sup> century.

Monastic towers are only sporadically preserved on the Dodecanese. Fortified garrison towers of the Ottoman period (1522-1912) are apparently not preserved.

### **Katerina MANOUSOU-NTELLA**

The evolution of the towers as part of the transformations of the medieval fortification system of the town of Rhodes

The medieval fortifications of the town of Rhodes were a constantly transforming organization with continuous destructions and reconstructions for at least 800 years, from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. This unique monumental fortification complex, "frozen" in the form it had after the Ottoman conquest. It is therefore an ideal field of research to trace the evolutionary process of adapting the layout of the towers and

the intermediate forts of the junctions, especially during the last two critical centuries of anxious defense of the town by the Johannite knights against the ever-increasing enemy threat. So, we can follow the evolution of the fortification system that included parts of Byzantine fortifications and extensions with the typical arrangement of western-type fortifications in designs brought by the knights from the West. After the first test of the siege of 1444 with the use of firearms by the enemies, the fortification was transformed, under the responsibility of a Byzantine master craftsman, and ended up in a reinforced arrangement that is unique for the fortification technique of the time and resembles the Byzantine fortification system. This unique evolutionary process was followed by the typology of the towers and forts of the fortifications, which is the subject of the presentation.

### **Michael LOSSE**

Types of Towers at castles and fortifications of the Order of St. John in its Aegean Monastic state (1307-1522)

The island and the city of Rhodes was since 1307 the center of the state of the Knights of the Chivalric Order of St. John, established by the Pope, which included most of the Dodecanese islands; it remained so until the conquest by a Turkish army in 1522. The Knights of St. John took over Byzantine castles and fortifications, some of which were still ancient in the core, which they expanded and strengthened in the course of the 15th and 16th centuries.

In some castles, a Tower-Keep was built as the commander's residence (e.a. in Kastellas and Lardos on Rhodes). Flanking defensive towers were added to some castles (Chalki); they are not always clearly distinguished from tower-like "roundels" (Symi: Kastro) or tower-like early bastions (a.e. Leros: Kastro tis Panagias). Striking fortified gate towers have not yet been proven (exceptions can be found at the city fortifications of Rhodes, see the paper by Katerina Manousou-Ntella).

A large number of residential and defensive towers have been preserved at the important castle of St. Peter in Bodrum (today Turkey).

An exception among the castles was the Kastro in Kremasti on Rhodes, which was designed as a tower-like building and has so far been incorrectly reconstructed in literature on the Hospitallers' castles.

### **Cécile KHALIFA**

Rural Towers and Defense of Cyprus under the Lusignan (XIIth-XVth centuries)

It has long been suggested that the Franks of Cyprus organized their territory based on fortified cities (Nicosia-Famagusta), as well as a series of fortresses, allowing them to control the rural territory, the prerogative of the local populations. However, archaeological excavations and the work of Ronnie Ellenblum have made it possible to redraw a new medieval landscape, observing that agrarian resources were not neglected by the Frankish settlement. The purpose of this communication will be to propose a state of research concerning rural towers in Cyprus, and in particular the classification of towers built in Pila, Alaminos and Kiti since their censuses by Camille Enlart. Do they belong to areas or are they towers built for the defense of Cyprus?

### **Mustafa Gürbüz BEYDIZ**

Galleys, Powers and Mediterranean in the 16th Century Coastal Fortifications: forms, function and placement

The Mediterranean is the center of naval power. Because the power in the Mediterranean is rich and dominates trade. This process has started since ancient times. However, thanks to the development of ship technology, the Mediterranean has turned into a battlefield. For



example the 16<sup>th</sup> century known as the age of galleys and that age the Mediterranean was like a bloodbath. The Ottoman, Venetian, Genoese and Spanish trade and warships came face to face in the Mediterranean. Papal navy was established against the Ottoman ships. The battles of Preveza (1538) and Lepanto (1571) are the important naval battles of this period. This research is about naval forces in the Mediterranean in 16<sup>th</sup> century. The study was completed with literature research.

## **7th SESSION – EASTERN AND WESTERN TOWERS**

### **Stéphane PRADINES**

Islamic, Armenian or Byzantine? Fatimid gates and Ayyubid towers in Cairo, 1087-1171 AD

In this paper, I will present the results of the archaeological excavations that I directed in Cairo, Egypt, from 2000 to 2016. I will focus on the Fatimid gates built by Badr al-Jamali, Wazir of the Caliph al-Mustansir. The gates of Zuwayla, al-Nasr and al-Futuh were protected by massive twin towers constructed between 1087 and 1092 AD. The architectural style of these gates is reminiscent of the Armenian military architecture from Northern Syria and Cilicia. The paper will present the physical characteristics of the Fatimid towers and how they relate to Byzantine architecture. More globally, we will discuss the considerable impact of Armenian architecture in the Muslim world between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### **Mustafa Tahir OCAK**

Alanya Red Tower. Unique Defense Structure in Anatolia

The Red Tower (Kızıl Kule) is part of the Alanya Castle, which is a district of Antalya Province on the southern coast of Turkey, in the country's Mediterranean Region. The construction date of the tower was 1226 and the architect was Ebu Ali Reha from Aleppo. This information is given by the inscription in the southwestern part of the façade.

The height of the tower which is octagonal in shape is 33 m and it is 29 m in diameter. Each side is 12.5 m. long. Marble blocs have been seen on the walls of the tower as spolia. The tower has five storeys and 85 stairs leading to its top. Despite the seemingly simple exterior, the tower's interior has a relatively complicated plan. Each floor has a different internal structure, resulting from the military needs.

In this study, the Red Tower has been examined considering the defense architecture of Anatolian Seljuks in terms of the construction technique, plan type, and material diversity. The repairs and detached spolia materials have been shown in this study. Also, the points of the other medieval towers connected with the Red Tower have been examined. In this context, examples of the Ayyubid monuments of Syria, the bastions of Bosra and Aleppo castles, and the other examples from the Mediterranean Region which are the products of a similar construction tradition have been examined for comparison.

### **Paschalis ANDROUDIS, Dimitris KRITIKOU, Petra LUČENIČOVÁ**

Towers in Rum Seljuq Palaces and Pavilions

This paper aims to present an overview of the towers in Rum Seljuq Palaces and Pavilions (12<sup>th</sup> and mainly 13<sup>th</sup> centuries), which are known as Kiosks (Köşkleri).

Seljuq Kiosks are presented primarily according to the recently proposed typology by Ass. Professor Alptekin Yavaş, that is to say with and without sofa. Another categorization could

be made according to their function: “iwan” (eyvan, two-storey structures rising on a bastion or space), “sikârhane” (Av Köşkleri, hunting pavilion), “visâk” (house, residence), “Köşk-ü Bağ” (Vineyard Kiosks). Finally sources of the period, especially Ibn Bibi, mention mobile and fixed pavilions with several names (Gardunha, Köşk-ü Revân, Havda, Mahfe, Mahaffe, Köşk-ü âzin). Some of the latter were not in big scale and are depicted in works of art.

### **Patricia BLESSING, Richard McCLARY**

Reconstructing a Pair of Largely Lost Rum Seljuq Monuments: The Kilij Arslan Kiosk Towers in Konya

The remains of the royal kiosk atop one of the northern towers of the citadel in Konya was one the few medieval Islamic palatial structures from the wider Iranian world to survive into the age of photography.

This paper presents the preliminary findings of a larger project to reimagine the original appearance of the tower, and the newly excavated twin structure to the west, using a combination of methodological and evidentiary approaches.

The research is based on the close study of the earliest recorded drawings and photographs of the building, alongside the extant material remains, both dispersed and decorative, as well as the in-situ structural elements.

The last major study was by Sarre, in 1936, followed by an article by Akök in 1969, and the advances in digital technology, as well as the greater accessibility of both the historic images and the surviving tiles allows for a clearer picture of the kiosk tower in Konya to emerge. The paper will include new details about the exterior decoration, the recent excavated companion tower, and new reconstruction drawings of the building.

### **Erdal ESER, Ivana MIHALJINEC**

Divriği bastion and towers in the light of archaeological excavations

Turbulent years between 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century brought many different rulers to Divriği area and encouraged construction, renewal as well as demolition: from castle, which is the oldest settlement to unique complex of Divriği Great Mosque and Hospital and with many still preserved tombs, mescids and mosques in the area. The town which was capital of Mengüjecks was under intense archaeological excavations in period 2006-2018 and with thousands of artifacts found which will be processed and elaborated in the forthcoming years. In this presentation the historical overview of the castle will be given, with emphasis on the towers arising from the bastion above the city.

### **Joachim GIERLICH**

Figurative Towers in South Eastern Anatolia: The case of Silvan/Mayyafarikin

The aim of this paper is to present one of the most interesting Islamic monuments in Southeastern Anatolia, which until now has been largely forgotten and neglected: the city walls of Mayyafarikin or Silvan, which contain at least two towers from the Middle Ages, decorated with impressive large figurative stone carvings.

After a brief introduction to the history of this important city, which was one of the Artuqid capitals in the Middle Ages, the figurative ensembles are examined, compared and finally interpreted in the light of other figurative stone carvings of similar age in the region.

### **Mathias PIANA**

Mamluk Towers in Levantine Harbours

After the expulsion of the Crusaders by the Mamluks at the end of the thirteenth century,

the abandoned harbour towns on the Levantine coast were destroyed. On the other hand, trading via coastal ports did not cease, as this was vital for the supply of the Mamluk state with commodities from the West. Therefore, some of the more important ports were restored and continued to operate. For their protection a certain amount of military security had to be established. Accordingly, some strongpoints in the hinterland were kept and a string of towers established along the coast, especially at places of a vital commercial interest such as harbours. In the paper the Mamluk efforts to secure these harbours by means of towers will be illustrated.

### **Manuel Esteban BARBA DELGADO**

Cuarto Real de Santo Domingo, a XIII century qubba in Granada, Spain

The construction of towers during the Nasrid period in the city of Granada (XIII c. – XV c.) was usually limited to defensive architecture and the palatine constructions we can find in the city of the Alhambra. However, there are a few examples of non-defensive towers in the city and the Cuarto Real de Santo Domingo stands as the most interesting one. This is one of the most primitive examples of the Granada Nasrid period qubba which is located on a pre-existing wall canvas and culminates as the main pavilion of a garden or “almunia”. In this brief paper, its history and constructive particularities will be analyzed.

### **Theodoros IOSIPHIDIS**

Torre de la Cautiva and Torre de las Infantas- the transformation of the defense towers to opulent mansions

Alhambra, a fortified castle next to Granada, in the North of Spain, became a great fortress during the peak of the Spanish Reconquista in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Such a castle, in which the administration center was located, needed strong fortification, in order the life *intra muros* to be protected. Potent towers, between the walls were constructed, enforcing the strength of the fortress. Although they had a defense role, they were also charged with the habitation one, during peace periods. However, the examples of Torre de la Cautiva and Torre de las Infantas present more luxurious structures and decoration, resembling the ones of the palaces. In this paper will be presented and examined the architecture and the decoration of these two examples in liaison with the patronage framework.

### **Eleni PAPANIKOLAOU**

Towers of the Norman Palace of Palermo

The Norman Palace of Palermo (1071) was built as a fortress and only during the reign of Roger II was transformed into a Royal Palace. In this period the fortification grew up with the construction of three towers (Torre Greca, Torre Pisana, Torre Gioaria), along with the palatine Chapel (Cappella Palatina). Torre Pisana provides the best surviving example of the common architectural type which was used in towers in Palermo in 12<sup>th</sup> century. The external conformation along with the plan and the rooms' layout indicate a strong influence of the Islamic architecture. The tower Qasr al-Manar is a great parallel with many architectural similarities. This architectural type was applied in many buildings in Norman Sicily, such as Cuba and the western towers of the Cathedral in Cefalù.

### **Fabio CODEN**

The abbey tower of San Zeno Maggiore in Verona

The tower of San Zeno in Verona is a significant architectural component of the monastic complex, erected outside the city walls on the tomb of the eighth bishop of Verona. It is a

building erected in the second half of the 12th century, which completed a large and articulated abbey palace, now almost disappeared. This was the place that represented the abbots of San Zeno, but here were also hosted the illustrious personages visiting the sanctuary, as well as the Germanic emperors who descended on the peninsular lands. The symbolic importance of this structure is also emphasized by an interesting cycle of frescoes showing a procession of people honoring an enthroned emperor, perhaps Frederick II of Svevia, or the biblical King Solomon. The position of this building in the large square in front of the abbey church and the presence of a suspended balcony facing the church front declare the political and strategic function of this part of the monastery.

### **DAY 3      Sunday, 20 November 2022**

#### **8th SESSION – DONJONS AND RESIDENTIAL TOWERS IN BYZANTIUM**

##### **Ploutarchos THEOCHARIDIS, Nikolaos BONOVAS**

The Tower of Orestes in the Acropolis in Serres

The monument is today severely mutilated in the coronation zone and its upper part cut off from the walls on either side, which have been forfeited for the most part. The tower is a massive, extremely robust structure, but with lithologized facades facing the inside of the enclosure. This makes it difficult to represent its form, which was characterized by a complexity in the individual volumes. It is generally accepted to date it to the middle of the 14th century based, mainly, on masonry and a ceramic inscription on its western façade. In this announcement, an attempt is made to analyze and assess the tower and its walls, based on their macroscopic observation.

##### **Alessandra RICCI**

Living on the land walls: Late Byzantine residential towers on Constantinople's land walls

The practice of integrating residential spaces with highly fortified contexts particularly in urban contexts and either adjacent to the line of the walls or inserted within them, does not stand as exceptional. This presentation considers two examples in Constantinople's land walls.

The first one is the tower located in the vicinity of the Golden Gate and by the sea of Marmara, known as Mermerkule. The complex has been associated with the late Byzantine period. It comprised three annexed cisterns a rather elegant architectural in sculpture decoration and an elaborate system of spaces. The second example is at the opposite end of the walls by the shores of the Golden Horn. It is generally known as the Anemas Kulesi or Zindan or Donjon. The structure is referred to by Byzantine sources as *phrouron* but also *pyrgos*. The presentation analyzes these tower complexes, their architecture and archaeology and the surrounding physical landscape they contributed crafting.

##### **Jasmina ĆIRIĆ**

Protected by God's Hand: Brickwork Cryptogram at the Despot's Tower in Smederevo (Mali Grad)

The aim of this paper is to emphasize the meaning and importance of the preserved brickwork ornamental patterns of the most important tower within the Smederevo Fortress (Mali Grad). Having in mind that in the upper structure of the tower (so-called Krstata) are

visible the Cross with cryptogram, the inscription “the King of Glory” and the ktetorial inscription of Despot Djuradj Branković, this visual phenomenon will be analyzed as the most important document about the construction of the Fortress in the year 1430. The paper will provide the other Late Byzantine cryptograms as important transmitters of God’s power by word, image, and brick.

### **Paschalis ANDROUDIS**

The Donjon of the Castle of Platamon (Pieria)

The great octagonal tower built on the top of the hill of the Castle of Platamon in Pieria is a structure of particular importance. The tower conserved up to its entire height (23 m) was strengthened with a buttress in its base. Internally it possesses an underground cistern (height: 6, 30 m), and three other storeys with different heights. In the terrace of the tower are formed crenellations, while water pipes inserted within the thickness of the walls conducted water to the cistern. The storeys were accessible with stone staircases adjacent to the walls.

The tower was ascribed to the Frankish, to the Late Byzantine or even to the period of the short dominion of the Castle by the Venetians (1425-1427). We believe that we could not exclude the construction to the tower to the early Ottoman period, possibly in the second half of 15<sup>th</sup> c. The main reason for this attribution is the similarity of its octagonal plan with towers of the same shape, like the tower of Nebojsa in Belgrade and the first phase of the tower of “Bourtzi” at Modon which we ascribed to the late 15<sup>th</sup> c.

## **9th SESSION- GENOESE TOWERS IN THE AEGEAN, TURKEY AND THE CRIMEA**

### **Angeliki STAKIA**

The Tower of Dotia in Chios

Chios is an island with many fortified settlements. One of these forts is Dotia. The village of Dotia is located at the southernmost side of the island. The fort has a trapezoidal shape and covers an area of 5 acres. Although it consists of the typical perimeter wall, as all the fortified villages of Chios, only a three-storey tower exists in the interior without any houses around. The way it is shaped gives the impression that in this place the people wanted to build an additional fortified village, probably as a satellite of the fortified settlement of Pyrgi, but the construction was stopped.

### **Andreas MAZARAKIS**

The Fortifications of Gattilusi

This paper examines the theoretical framework in which the Gattilusi organized their realm. We are presenting three fortifications of the second half of the 14<sup>th</sup>- first half of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, the castle of Mytilini, the castle of Antissa and the three fortifications of Samothraki.

### **Paschalis ANDROUDIS, Sonia GKOUNTA, Eleni FAKA**

The Gattilusi Towers in Chora and Palaiapolis in Samothrace

This paper presents the towers built by the Gattilusi in the castle of Chora and the fortress of Palaiapolis on the island of Samothrace, NE Aegean.

The fortress of Chôra contains two enclosures, of which the internal occupies the oval

plateau of the top of the rock. The big tower of the outer enclosure bears a marble slab with a greek dedicatory inscription accompanied by the arms of Palamedes Gattilusio, the date (1433) and the mention of its Greek builder Konstantinos. This tower measures 10.30 x 7.50 m and survives at a maximum height of 11.30 m. Of the original construction are preserved two levels and the underground cistern. A large part was destroyed during the construction of the later Ottoman Konak. The inner enclosure and the entrance of the castle are protected by a half-ruined rectangular tower (dimensions: 5.60 x 7.25 m, kept up to the height of 12 m). The tower had at least two levels: that of the entrance and the premises with the archers and the summit level (terrace). On the east side, is embedded a Latin dedicatory inscription of 1431, accompanied by the coat of arms of Palamedes Gattilusio and the name of its Greek builder Konstantinos. The inner enclosure undoubtedly played the role of the last refuge of the besieged.

The large rectangular tower of the fortress of Palaiapolis, which is ascribed to 1431-1433, is a veritable donjon. It deserves a special study, due of its pre-eminence in the fortress and the particular care that has been taken in its design and construction. Of external dimensions (11.50 x 9.95 m), the keep rises to 17.75 m above the ground and dominated the rest of the fortress. It has three internal levels (wooden floors are missing), to which is added the terrace which measures 10.95 x 9.50 m. Due to its essential defensive role the tower was hardly accessible and well protected by the enemies. A block of marble embedded in the S.-East corner of the tower bears an inscription mentioning its builder (architect), a certain Stroilos, possibly of Italian origin.

### **Hasan Sercan SAĞLAM**

#### The Gattilusi Towers in the North Aegean Coasts of Turkey: A Comparative Study

The noble Gattilusi family from Genoa obtained Lesbos and Ainos (today Enez) from the Byzantine Empire and founded two dynastic lordships there, which lasted for roughly a century until the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century Ottoman conquests. During the Gattilusi rule, the aforesaid lordships gradually expanded and occupied not only adjacent territories but also nearby islands, which led to significant defensive constructions that a certain part of them remain inside Turkey in the present day. Yet, those Gattilusi fortifications, including numerous towers with different purposes, were not handled altogether from a regional as well as architectural point of view. In this case, through relevant field surveys and architectural comparisons backed by historical, epigraphical and also cartographical primary sources, this paper intends to elaborate the Gattilusi towers along the North Aegean coasts of Turkey, such as in Enez, Ayvalık and Dikili, with a particular focus on territorial significances of the defensive structures in question

### **Hasan Sercan SAĞLAM**

#### New Research on the Defensive Layout of the Galata Tower and the Galata Walls

The Genoese possessed the Galata region of Constantinople during the Late Byzantine Period and founded a thriving colony called Pera there. This colonial rule between 1267-1453, also enabled the Genoese to fortify the region through a series of defensive works that included numerous towers, in which the Galata Tower (*Turris Sancte Crucis*) was undoubtedly the most renowned one amongst others. It can be argued that a superficial consideration would interpret the Galata Tower simply as a watchtower or a symbolic monument, while the walls as a basic line of defense along the perimeter of the colony. However, they actually served as key defensive elements of Pera and were strategically important, though were not scientifically handled in this context yet. Thus, with the help of an interdisciplinary methodology through various primary sources and the literature, this paper aims to elaborate the tactical purpose of the tower and the adjacent wall courses against potential land sieges to the Pera colony

## **Rafał QUIRINI-POPLAWSKI**

"Genoese" Towers on the Black Sea. Form, Function and Decoration

Although topography of the Genoese defensive structures on the Black Sea is quite limited, we know several dozen towers of various forms (preserved or not), which were mainly parts of the defensive walls, mostly in Crimea. Such investments were commemorated with stone slabs bearing coats-of-arms and inscriptions. Despite their primary military function, towers sometimes housed clocks, warehouses or chapels, often with interesting painted decorations. Their characteristic feature was their heterogeneity – elements of Western origin like arcade friezes, machicolation or rib vaults were used next to the so-called Seljuk ornamentation, Armenian khachkars or Byzantine paintings, while their builders were often Greeks. The question remains, therefore, open to what extent can the adjective "Genoese" be correctly used.

## **10th SESSION– GUNPOWDER AND COASTAL FORTIFICATIONS**

### **Georgios MICHALIDIS**

An approach on the use of field, fixed and naval artillery in late medieval and early modern sieges in Europe

This paper aims to highlight the evolution of gunpowder artillery and its use in siege warfare in late medieval and early-modern Europe. The military use of gunpowder in Europe in the 14th century gradually brought radical changes in the conduct of field, siege, and naval warfare. From the second half of the 15th century onwards, gunpowder weapons started to prevail on European battlefields. Notably, the raw power of this new weapon reduced the number of major open-field battles for at least one century. Gradually gunpowder artillery was established as the main siege weapon forcing the siege tactics and the fortifications themselves to adapt to the new style of warfare.

### **Nikolaos LIANOS**

Coastal Fortifications: forms, function and placement

There are hundreds of historic coastal fortifications and related structures of various dates in the Mediterranean, built to protect ports and coastal areas from invasion and attack from the sea.

The period of time in which the need to construct corresponding buildings began is unclear, but it should almost coincide with the beginning of shipping, while the newest constructions date back to the Second World War.

The spatial distribution of the fortifications was mainly located at the mouths of river estuaries, harbor entrances, anchorages and some on the open coast.

The Function of these fortifications was primarily defensive rather than offensive, meaning that their builders and designers had to assume that they would be attacked and produce designs that would be less prone to capture or destruction.

Some structures also had a support role, such as fire safety beacons, signal stations, etc.

### **Vassiliki SYTHIAKAKI**

A rock in the sea. The Venetian maritime fortress of Candia

The harbor of Herakleion was probably fortified along with the rest of the city ever since the Hellenistic period. The enceinte was reconstructed in the late 7<sup>th</sup> or early 8<sup>th</sup> c. A.D. to confront with the Arab threat and was later renovated by the Venetians. At the eastern

edge of the winward NW breakwater there was a beacon-tower, called by Venetians *Castellum Communis*, which is depicted on the drawing of Candia made by Cristoforo Buondelmonti in 1415. The tower was badly damaged by the earthquake of 1508 and in 1523 the decision was taken to be replaced by a fortress designed according to the principles of the bastioned defensive system, as part of the city's new fortification enceinte. The construction begun before 1525 and it was completed by the year 1540. The new fortress was called *Castellum a Mare* (sea fortress) or *Rocca a Mare* (rock in the sea) and its construction was a challenge for the Venetian engineers. Difficulties, problems and alterations in fact never ceased until the beginning of the Ottoman siege. Nevertheless, the fortress, known nowadays under the Ottoman name *Kules*, still stands proudly at the entrance of the Venetian harbor.

### **Stephen SPITERI**

The Hospitaller Coastal Towers of the Maltese Islands, 1605-1798

The Hospitaller Knights of St John took possession of the Maltese islands in 1530 but only began to divert their attention to the protection of the islands' coastline in the course of the early 1600s after they had consolidated the Grand Harbor with the building of the formidable fortress of Valletta. From around 1600 onwards, various Grand Masters began to invest considerable resources in establishing a network of coastal towers and lookout posts that were designed to protect vulnerable anchorages and to provide a constant surveillance of the islands' extensive shoreline. This presentation looks at the various typologies of towers that were constructed and their role in the Order's coastal defense strategy down to the end of the eighteenth century.

## **11th SESSION- TOWERS IN LATE BYZANTINE AND EARLY OTTOMAN**

### **PERIOD (14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> c.)**

### **Nikolas BAKIRTZIS**

The Tower of the Monastery of the Timios Prodromos on Mount Menoikeion near Serres: Architectural History and Use

The present paper will address the history and use of the fortified tower occupying the southwestern corner of the complex of the Timios Prodromos monastery on Mount Menoikeion near the city of Serres. The imposing buttressed tower remains an iconic architectural feature of the monastic complex and preserves evidence of its variable uses through the long history of Prodromos monastery. Besides its obvious protective function, the tower held a prominent place in the sacred spatial hierarchy of the monastic institution, it accommodated a chapel, the cells of monks as well as the community's library, which was unfortunately looted in the 20<sup>th</sup> century

### **Suna ÇAĞAPTAY, Mustafa Çağhan KESKIN**

A Tower in-between: Spatial and Typological reading of the Cihannüma Tower in Edirne

This paper examines the *Cihannüma* Tower in the Edirne Palace, which was also known as *Kasr-ı Padişahi* or *Taht-i Padişahi*. With its massive and yet dilapidated remains, the tower was once believed to have had seven stories and it went through several remodelings throughout its life. Examining the tower, our aim is two-fold: we aim to revisit its typology,



to situate it within chronology of the tower-kiosks that we note in the late Byzantine palaces in Constantinople and Nymphaion, the Seljuk kiosks in Antalya and Konya and the principality-period kiosks from Ayasoluk and Manisa with that of the Tower of Justice (*Adalet Kasrı*) constructed within the Topkapı Palace proper. Within this framework of inquiry, through a nuanced re-reading of the archival, architectural and archaeological evidence, we will present the *Cihannüma* Tower in Edirne as both the residence of the ruler and as an emblem shaped by many local forms and incoming multi-cultural details. Secondly, we aim to discuss the longevity of this form in the vocabulary of the Ottoman palatial idioms discussing the reasons for its reanimations appearing in western Anatolia in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Yannis KIZIS**

#### Tower dwelling on Mount Pelion

The combination of defense and dwelling in the towers of Thessaly during 17th and 18th century mainly served the control of land and its products, especially in the fertile plains, possessed by ottoman landlords, or on the mountainous villages, inhabited by Greek populations in a flourishing economy, due to their manufacture and trade. According to inscriptions preserved on some early fortified houses in Eastern Pelion, tower dwelling of the area can confidently be dated to the late 17th and early 18th century. The layout of the topmost floor displays, in the surviving examples, traits in common with that of the urban dwellings. Indeed it is an early and incomplete attempt at accommodating a more comfortable, bourgeois residence atop the tower trunk, imitating the “belvedere” kiosks of the imperial capital on the littoral of Bosphorus.

Pelion towers are distinguished externally by their solid, stone-built trunk, usually with lime plaster pointing and slit-like loopholes. Windows are very few, small with arched lintels, only on the upper floors. The entrance, generally raised, was protected by a machicoulis and approached by a moveable ladder or bridge. On the top floor there was a marked outward projection beyond the faces of the trunk formed by jetties supported by wooden cantilevers. It is this feature which gives the early fortified houses of Thessaly their distinctive image, with the variety and juxtaposition of open and closed spaces: parts of the jetties were closed by timber-framed walls pierced by a series of windows, other sections were open, useful for cottage industry and life in summer, as well as offering a superb view.

### **Vincent ORY**

#### The role of the big tower in the Ottoman coastal fortifications in 1452 and 1535

Between the advent of Mehmet II and the last years of the reign of Suleiman the Magnificent the imperial navy, which was struggling to develop, appears to have been used primarily as logistical support. Accompanying land expeditions, it proved incapable, except on rare occasions, of confronting a Christian fleet, until Hayreddin Barbarossa was appointed kapudan paşa in 1533. Thanks to his action the Ottoman Empire managed to obtain control of the eastern Mediterranean basin, except for the Gulf of Venice, after the Battle of Preveza in 1538, but only for three decades.

In this context, the Ottoman Empire was apparently required to fortify its coasts in order to guarantee the security of strategic points that its fleet was not able to provide. At the end of the Middle Ages, the sultan's architects and engineers built forts specially designed to watch the coasts and beat the sea and set up the new solutions of modern fortification. The latter were most often characterised by a coastal battery behind which stood a large tower whose presence was not insignificant.

### **Melina PERDIKOPOULOU**

The ceramic brickwork of early Ottoman towers; the Rumeli, Anadolu and Kilitbahir fortresses

Although the Ottomans must have been familiar with the appearance of Byzantine fortifications from the moment of their arrival in Anatolia, it is only after the capture of the major Byzantine city of Bursa in 1326 that the knowledge of fortress-building and decoration techniques, could be said to have become intimate. Mehmed II the Conqueror (1451-1481) built four fortresses ex nihilo in the years leading up to and immediately following the conquest of Constantinople. Two were located in the immediate vicinity of his new capital: Rumeli Hisar (1452), placed opposite an existing Ottoman fortification on the Asian shore and intended to control the narrowest point in the Bosphorus just north of the city and Yedikule (1457-1458), built against the interior side of the Byzantine land walls of the city itself immediately following the conquest. The other two fortresses guarded the entrance to the Dardanelles, thereby controlling the southern access to the Sea of Marmara: Kilid-ul Bahr, on the European shore and Kale-i Sultaniyye (also known as Canakkale) on the Asian bank opposite. Out of the four, Rumeli Hisar and Kilid-ul Bahr have brickwork decorations. This practice seems to be earlier than the time of Mehmet II. In the fortress at Anadolu Hisar, built by Yıldırım Bayazid in the years between 1390-1391, decorative bands are located that once ran along the upper registers of the tower (now obscured by restoration) are typical of late Byzantine work.

This paper aims to present and analyze the brickwork decorations of the for-mentioned fortresses and detect the cultural past of the workshops and possibly trace the influences of the three different worlds (Ottoman, Byzantine and Venetian) that collided and how the result of this collision is reflected on Ottoman military architecture.

### **Paschalis ANDROUDIS, Androniki BATZIKOSTA**

#### The Ottoman "White Tower" in Thessaloniki

The "White Tower" (former "Tower of the Lion") of Thessaloniki is an impressive circular structure built during the Ottoman occupation of the city. With a height of 33.90 m. it has a diameter of 22.70 m and a thickness of masonry that decreases in height. There are seven internal storeys (the lowest is brick-domed), reached by a broad ramping staircase. On each floor there is a central circular hall, which communicates with smaller quadrangular rooms. A central drum rises above the terrace in almost the same manner of the towers in the Ottoman fortresses of Yedikule and Rumeli Hisarı in Constantinople (Istanbul). In the past it was capped by a bipartite conical roof, covered with lead sheets, like these earlier Ottoman towers. The tower has only few openings. A pronounced torus molding (the Venetian cordone) rises about two-thirds up its height. The parapets have continuous, but non-functioning machicolation (ornate corbels of the stone ramparts).

These two features, especially the torus molding belong to the Venetian tradition, but it seems that have already been introduced in the Ottoman fortifications in the time of Mehmed II Fatih and Beyazid II. The decoration of the tower is poor and consists of some external brickwork panels, all with the same diaper pattern. Similar motifs are also seen in brickwork patterns in Fatih's fortress. In the entrance there is a vestibule. The base of the Tower was once additionally defended by an irregular polygonal turreted chemise, high about 5 m and with a thickness of walls of 4-5 m which was demolished in the early 20<sup>th</sup> c. According to the dedicatory inscription which once stood above its entrance, the tower was built by Sultan Suleiman I in 1535/6, which prompted Machiel Kiel to speculate that the tower should perhaps be attributed to the famous architect Sinan, as Evliya Çelebi testifies. M. Kiel, H. Lowry and N. Denwood Holmes suggested the year 1535/6 as a possible date of construction. Other scholars, as C. Bakirtzis and J.-P. Brown, N. Faucherre and J.-M. Spieser, argued that the now lost inscription referred to the year of construction of the eight-sided (not a regular octagon) barbican of the tower and not to itself. They supported that the inscription came from the wall and the tower itself was older, as Evliya tells us that "was located on the lintel of the entrance to the S.", a detail not noticed by Kiel and Lowry.

**Athanasia PSALTI, Anthoula TSAROUCOA, Nikolaos KYRIAKIDIS, Nikolaos PETROCHEILOS, Nicholas FAUCHERRE, Stéphanie ZUGMEYER, David OLIVIER, Vincent ORY, Audric LOULELIS, Louis FADIN**

An Early Ottoman tower at the Castle of Amphissa

In 2020, the Ephorate of Phocis carried out restoration work on a tower of the Kastro of Amphissa whose structure was seriously threatened. However, this tower has the exceptional feature of being preserved until its crowning. Above all, the consolidation work allowed for a detailed study that had never been possible before. The results of this study allow us to propose a new dating for this tower and, through it, for the entire lower court of the castle of Amphissa, thus advancing our knowledge of the monument in a very important way, since we are led to propose a date for this major phase of construction that is a century later than what had been postulated, i.e., from the beginnings of the Ottoman occupation.

**Velika IVKOVSKA**

17<sup>th</sup> Century Interventions on Kavala's Tower and Town Walls

This presentation reveals the interventions on Kavala's citadel, its wall and tower in particular, during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, marking the continuous importance of the stronghold in Ottoman times. The work reveals never before seen original Ottoman archival documents on the reparations of the town walls, tower and fortress marking the importance of the interventions and the involvement of Ottoman imperial architects showing the significance of the town's defense system into the town's urban development.

**Georgia GRAIKOU**

Depictions of towers in mid-byzantine and post-byzantine art. The example of the city of Nafpaktos

During the mid-Byzantine and post-Byzantine period the depictions of towers and entire city fortifications are frequent. We find them in various types of iconography, with the majority of the examples to be found in miniatures paintings and less frequently in mural ecclesiastical painting and icons. The characteristics of the depictions vary and correspond mainly to their illustration intentions. Thus, in some depictions of towers and fortifications the depiction is symbolic and stylized, without realistic elements. However, in other cases, where the purpose of the depictions is to provide information about the towers, the fortifications and the cities to which they belong, the depiction is particularly detailed. A typical example is the depiction of the city of Nafpaktos by N. Matrakçi. In our presentation we attempt to find and record examples of depictions of towers in mid-Byzantine and post-Byzantine art in the city of Nafpaktos. Next, we will examine the iconography of the towers themselves, how they are depicted and their morphology. Where possible, we will compare the depictions of the towers with their surviving examples, identifying possible convergences and deviations. Finally, we will examine the western and Ottoman influences on the depictions of the towers at the era we are examining.

**Dimitris LOUPIS**

Towers in the Mediterranean Sea as depicted in Piri Reis's Book on Navigation (Bahriye), 16<sup>th</sup> c.

The Ottoman mariner and cartographer Piri Reis compiled a work with sailing directions for the Mediterranean Sea in the 1520s. The text is divided into chapters that describe islands, ports and shores of the Mediterranean, which are followed by detailed partial charts of nautical character. Among landmarks that stand out over the land silhouette noteworthy

for both sailing and political-military reasons were towers and tower-like fortification or residential structures that are depicted on Piri Reis's maps. This paper discusses the presence of towers on the nautical charts by one of most eminent mapmakers in the Mediterranean world during the 16<sup>th</sup> century

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Paschalis ANDROUDIS, Dr Archaeologist, MA in Conservation Studies,  
Architect, Assistant Professor of Byzantine Art and Archaeology, School  
of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University, Thessaloniki,  
[pandroudis@hist.auth.gr](mailto:pandroudis@hist.auth.gr)

Katerina MANOUSOU-NTELLA, Dr Architect, Conservator of Ancient Monuments.  
Service for the Protection of Monuments in the Dodecanese, Rhodes,  
Hellenic Ministry of Culture, [kamanousou@gmail.com](mailto:kamanousou@gmail.com)

Ploutarchos THEOCHARIDIS, Architect, MA in Conservation Studies.  
Formerly in the Ephorate for the Antiquities of Halkidiki and Mt Athos,  
Hellenic Ministry of Culture, [plutheo@gmail.com](mailto:plutheo@gmail.com)

## **SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS (Alphabetically)**

**ALBANI, Jenny**, BA in Architecture, PhD in Art History, Hellenic Ministry of  
Culture and Sports - Directorate of Archaeological Museums,  
Exhibitions/and Educational Programs [jennyalbani@gmail.com](mailto:jennyalbani@gmail.com)

**ALTUĞ, Kerim**, Dr. Archaeologist and Architectural Historian,  
[kerimaltug@hotmail.com](mailto:kerimaltug@hotmail.com)

**ARVANITOPOULOS, Stavros**, Dr. Archaeologist, [rvmanos@gmail.com](mailto:rvmanos@gmail.com)

**ASLANIDIS, Klimis**, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, Technical  
University of Crete, [kaslanidis@arch.tuc.gr](mailto:kaslanidis@arch.tuc.gr)

**ATHANASOULIS, Dimitris**, Dr Archaeologist, Ephorate of the Antiquities of  
Cyclades, Greece, [dathanasoulis@gmail.com](mailto:dathanasoulis@gmail.com)

**BAKIRTZIS, Nikolaos**, Associate Professor, The Cyprus Institute, Cyprus,  
[n.bakirtzis@cyi.ac.cy](mailto:n.bakirtzis@cyi.ac.cy)

**BARBA DELGADO, Manuel Esteban**, Architect, MA (Escuela Técnica Superior  
de Arquitectura de Madrid (UPM)) [contacto@manubarba.com](mailto:contacto@manubarba.com)

**BATZIKOSTA, Androniki**, Archaeologist, MA, Aristotle University of  
Thessaloniki, [andronikibatz@hotmail.gr](mailto:andronikibatz@hotmail.gr)

**BENETOU, Anna**, Architect, MSc Protection of Monuments NTUA,  
PhD Candidate ENSA Paris- Belleville, [annabenetou@gmail.com](mailto:annabenetou@gmail.com)

**BEYDIZ, Mustafa Gurbuz**, Associate Professor, University of Çankırı Karatekin,  
Turkey, [beydizg@gmail.com](mailto:beydizg@gmail.com)

**BLACKLER, Andrew**, Landscape Archaeologist, Hellenic Society for Near  
Eastern Studies, [blacklerav@gmail.com](mailto:blacklerav@gmail.com)

**BLESSING, Patricia**, Assistant Professor of Islamic art in the Department of Art  
& Archaeology, Princeton University, [pdblessing@gmail.com](mailto:pdblessing@gmail.com)

**BONOVAS, Nikolaos**, Dr Archaeologist, Ephorate of Antiquities of Serres,  
Greece, [nikosbonovas@gmail.com](mailto:nikosbonovas@gmail.com)

**BOUZA, Niovi**, Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports,  
Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities,  
[niovi.bouza@gmail.com](mailto:niovi.bouza@gmail.com)

**CODEN, Fabio**, Associate Professor, University of Verona, [fabio.coden@univr.it](mailto:fabio.coden@univr.it)

**CROW, Jim**, Emeritus Professor, University of Edinburgh, [jim.crow@ed.ac.uk](mailto:jim.crow@ed.ac.uk)

**ÇAĞAPTAY, Suna**, Associate Professor of architectural history at Bahçeşehir  
University, Istanbul, [scagaptay@gmail.com](mailto:scagaptay@gmail.com)

**ĆIRIĆ, Jasmina**, Assistant Professor, University of Kragujevac, Faculty of  
Philology and Arts, Kragujevac, Serbia, [jciric0905@gmail.com](mailto:jciric0905@gmail.com),  
[jasmina.ciric@filum.kg.ac.rs](mailto:jasmina.ciric@filum.kg.ac.rs)

**DIMITROULIAS, Konstantinos**, Architect Engineer, Msc Protection of  
Monuments NTUA, PhD candidate NTUA, Hellenic Ministry of Culture  
& Sports – Directorate of Studies and Conduction of Technical Works  
in Museums and Cultural Buildings, [kdimitroulias@culture.gr](mailto:kdimitroulias@culture.gr)

**DOUVI, Konstantina**, Architect, Ephorate of the Antiquities of  
Laconia, [efalak@culture.gr](mailto:efalak@culture.gr)

**DROSOU, Konstantia**, Civil Engineer, Conservator of Ancient Monuments,  
PhD Candidate, School of Architecture, Aristotle University of  
Thessaloniki, Ephorate of the Antiquities of Halkidiki and Mt Athos,  
[kdrosou@culture.gr](mailto:kdrosou@culture.gr)

**ESER, Erdal**, Professor, Dr., Cumhuriyet University, Sivas (Turkey),  
[erdaleser@cumhuriyet.edu.tr](mailto:erdaleser@cumhuriyet.edu.tr)

**FADIN, Louis**, Surveying engineer (French School in Athens),  
[lionel.fadin@efa.gr](mailto:lionel.fadin@efa.gr)

**FAKA, Eleni**, Archaeologist, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki  
[fakaelenh@gmail.com](mailto:fakaelenh@gmail.com)

**FAUCHERRE, Nicolas**, Dr., Professor at Aix-Marseille University (LA3M).  
[nicolas.faucherre@univ-amu.fr](mailto:nicolas.faucherre@univ-amu.fr)

**FILDUTH, Jesko**, Dr, Lecturer, Freiburg University, Germany,

[Jesko.Fildhuth@archaeologie.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:Jesko.Fildhuth@archaeologie.uni-freiburg.de)

**GALANIS, Stylianos**, Architect, Conservator of Ancient Monuments, Ephorate of the Antiquities of Halkidiki and Mt Athos, [sgalanis@culture.gr](mailto:sgalanis@culture.gr)

**GIALOURI, Anna**, Dr Archaeologist, Ephorate of Antiquities of Magnesia, Greece, [angialouri@yahoo.com](mailto:angialouri@yahoo.com)

**GIERLICH, Joachim**, Dr., Abu Dhabi, Zayed National Museum,

[contact@das-bild-des-oriens.de](mailto:contact@das-bild-des-oriens.de)

**GINALIS, Alkiviadis**, Dr, Curator for Late Antique and Byzantine Archaeology at the German Archaeological Institute (DAI), Department Istanbul,

[alkiviadis\\_alexandros.ginalis@dainst.de](mailto:alkiviadis_alexandros.ginalis@dainst.de)

**GKOUNTA, Sonia-Anna**, Architect, M.Sc. Denkmalpflege (Heritage

Conservation) TU Berlin, PhD Candidate, School of Architecture,

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, [sgounta@gmail.com](mailto:sgounta@gmail.com)

**GRAIKOU, Georgia**, PhD Candidate in Byzantine Archaeology in Aristotle

University of Thessaloniki, Ephorate of Antiquities of Aitolokarnania

and Lefkada, [ggraikou@gmail.com](mailto:ggraikou@gmail.com)

**HODGES, Richard**, Emeritus President, American University of Rome,

[r.hodges@aur.edu](mailto:r.hodges@aur.edu)

**IOANNIDOU, Theodora**, Archaeologist, MA, PhD Candidate at the Department of History and Archaeology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

[theodora.ioannidou@gmail.com](mailto:theodora.ioannidou@gmail.com)

**IOSIPHIDIS, Theodoros**, Archaeologist, MA Student, Aristotle University of

Thessaloniki, [theoiosi@hist.auth.gr](mailto:theoiosi@hist.auth.gr)

**IVKOVSKA, Velika**, Assistant Professor, Dr., International Balkan University,

Skopje, [velikaivkovska@gmail.com](mailto:velikaivkovska@gmail.com)

**KANATOURIS, Philippos**, Architect, University of Patras,

[kanp1824@gmail.com](mailto:kanp1824@gmail.com)

**KAPANDRITI, Anastasia**, PhD Architect-Restorer, Assistant Professor,

Department of Architectural Engineering, Democritus University of

Thrace, [natasakapandriti@gmail.com](mailto:natasakapandriti@gmail.com)

**KARAGIANNIS, Nikolaos**, Architect, Archaeologist, [nikoskar84@gmail.com](mailto:nikoskar84@gmail.com)

**KATSARAKIS, Antonis**, Dr Architect NTUA, MA in Conservation Studies,

University of York, [katsarak1968@gmail.com](mailto:katsarak1968@gmail.com)

**KESKIN, Mustafa Çağhan**, Associate Professor, Istanbul University, Turkey,

[caghankeskin@istanbul.edu.tr](mailto:caghankeskin@istanbul.edu.tr)

**KHALIFA, Cécile**, Dr., University of Cyprus, [cecile.khalifa@gmail.com](mailto:cecile.khalifa@gmail.com)

**KIZIS, Yannis**, Architect, Emeritus Professor, National Technical University of Athens, [yannis.kizis@gmail.com](mailto:yannis.kizis@gmail.com)

**KONTOGIANNIS, Nikos**, Director of Byzantine Studies, Dumbarton Oaks, [kontogiannisn01@doaks.org](mailto:kontogiannisn01@doaks.org)

**KOSTARELLI, Alexandra**, Dr. Archaeologist, Ephorate of the Antiquities of Euboea, Greece, [akostarelli@gmail.com](mailto:akostarelli@gmail.com)

**KOTSAKIS, Athanasios**, Dr. Archaeologist, [than\\_kots@yahoo.gr](mailto:than_kots@yahoo.gr)

**KOUFOPOULOS, Petros**, Professor, University of Patras, [pkoufop@upatras.gr](mailto:pkoufop@upatras.gr)

**KOUNOUKLAS, Petros**, Dr. Archaeologist, Ephorate of the Antiquities of Phthiotis and Euritania, [pkounouklas@hotmail.com](mailto:pkounouklas@hotmail.com)

**KOUSOULA, Aikaterini**, Dr. Archaeologist, Ephorate of Antiquities of the City of Thessaloniki [katkousoula@yahoo.gr](mailto:katkousoula@yahoo.gr), [akousoula@culture.gr](mailto:akousoula@culture.gr)

**KOUTSIANOU, Sonia**, Archaeologist, Ephorate of Antiquities of Kozani, [soniakoutsianou@gmail.com](mailto:soniakoutsianou@gmail.com)

**KRITIKOU, Dimitris**, Archaeologist, Postgraduate Student, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, [kritikos.dimitris99@gmail.com](mailto:kritikos.dimitris99@gmail.com)

**KYRIAKIDIS, Nikolaos**, Advanced Research Fellow at A. v. Humboldt Stiftung Kommission für alte Geschichte und Epigraphik (AEK) des Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (DAI), Associate Professor – Paris VIII University, Former member of the French Archaeological School in Athens, [kyriakidis.archeo@gmail.com](mailto:kyriakidis.archeo@gmail.com)

**LIAKOS, Dimitris**, Dr. Archaeologist, Ephorate for the Antiquities of Halkidiki, [liakos712003@yahoo.gr](mailto:liakos712003@yahoo.gr)

**LIANOS, Nikolaos**, Prof. Emeritus Democritus University, Thrace, [nilianos@gmail.com](mailto:nilianos@gmail.com)

**LOSSE, Michael**, Dr. phil., MA, Historian/Art Historian/Castle and Fortress researcher, German representative in the Europa Nostra Scientific Council, Member of the Scientific Council of the German Castles Association, [dahauua@gmx.de](mailto:dahauua@gmx.de)

**LOULELIS, Audric**, PhD candidate, Aix-Marseille University (LA3M), [audric.loulelis@gmail.com](mailto:audric.loulelis@gmail.com)

**LOUPIS, Dimitris**, PhD Candidate in History and Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts. [dimitrisloupis@gmail.com](mailto:dimitrisloupis@gmail.com)

**LUČENIČOVÁ, Petra**, Archaeologist, MA Protection, Conservation and

Restoration of Monuments, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

[lucenicovap@azet.sk](mailto:lucenicovap@azet.sk)

**MAMALOUKOS, Stavros**, Architect- Restorer, Associate Professor, University of Patras, Greece, [smamaloukos@geam-mnimeio.gr](mailto:smamaloukos@geam-mnimeio.gr)

**MANOUSOU-NTELLA, Katerina**, Dr Architect, Conservator of Ancient Monuments. Service for the Protection of Monuments in the Dodecanese, Rhodes, Hellenic Ministry of Culture  
([kamanousou@gmail.com](mailto:kamanousou@gmail.com))

**MARANZANA, Paolo**, Assistant Professor, History Department, Boğazici University, [paolo.maranzana@boun.edu.tr](mailto:paolo.maranzana@boun.edu.tr)

**MAZARAKIS, Andreas**, Dr., Architect, Archaeologist,  
[amazarakis22@gmail.com](mailto:amazarakis22@gmail.com)

**McCLARY, Richard Piran**, Chair of the Board of Studies, History of Art Department Senior Lecturer in Islamic Art and Architecture, The University of York, U.K., Research Director, British Institute of Persian Studies, British Academy, [richard.mcclary@york.ac.uk](mailto:richard.mcclary@york.ac.uk)

**MELVANI, Nicholas**, Dr Archaeologist, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz (Research Associate), [nmelvani@gmail.com](mailto:nmelvani@gmail.com)

**MIAOULIS, Michael**, Architect, MA in Renovation and Restoration of Buildings, (Former Technical Institute of Patras), [miaoulis2@outlook.com](mailto:miaoulis2@outlook.com)

**MICHAILIDIS, Georgios**, PhD Candidate in Byzantine History, University of Athens, [giorgmichbyz@gmail.com](mailto:giorgmichbyz@gmail.com)

**MIHALJINEC, Ivana**, Dr.sc. independent researcher,  
[ivana.mihaljinec@gmail.com](mailto:ivana.mihaljinec@gmail.com)

**MOLLA, Nevila**, Researcher, Institute of Archaeology, Academy of Albanian Studies, [nevila.molla@asa.edu.al](mailto:nevila.molla@asa.edu.al)

**MYRIANTHEOS-KOUFOPOULOU, Marina**, Dr (PhD NTUA), Mount Sinai Foundation, Athens, [mmryri@pkmm-architects.gr](mailto:mmryri@pkmm-architects.gr)

**OCAK, Mustafa Tahir**, M. Architect, Research Assistant, Istanbul Technical University, [mustafatahirocak@gmail.com](mailto:mustafatahirocak@gmail.com)

**OLIVIER, David**, Dr., CNRS (LA3M), [david.ollivier@cnrs.fr](mailto:david.ollivier@cnrs.fr)

**ORY, Vincent**, Dr (LA3M), [ory.vincent.prof@hotmail.fr](mailto:ory.vincent.prof@hotmail.fr)

**OSSWALD, Brendan**, Ecole française d'Athènes, Etudes Antiques et Byzantines, Faculty Member, [brendan.osswald@laposte.net](mailto:brendan.osswald@laposte.net)

**OŠTRIĆ, Dolores**, Ph.D in Art History, Conservator Senior Advisor at the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia,



[Dolores.ostric@gmail.com](mailto:Dolores.ostric@gmail.com)

**PAPANIKOLAOU, Eleni**, Archaeologist, MA, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

[elenapapanikolaoy@gmail.com](mailto:elenapapanikolaoy@gmail.com)

**PAPATHANASSIOU, Evangelos**, Archaeologist MA, Ephorate of the Antiquities  
of the Prefecture of Thessaloniki, [platamonpap@gmail.com](mailto:platamonpap@gmail.com)

**PERDIKOPOULOU, Melpomeni**, Dr. Archaeologist, Aristotle University of  
Thessaloniki, [m.perdikopoulou@gmail.com](mailto:m.perdikopoulou@gmail.com)

**PETROCHEILOS, Nikolaos**, Dr., Ephorate of Phokis, [npetrochilos@hotmail.com](mailto:npetrochilos@hotmail.com)

**PIANA, Mathias**, Dr., [mathias.piana@gmx.de](mailto:mathias.piana@gmx.de)

**PLAKOTARIS, Isidoros**, Architect (M.Arch), MSc Restorer of Monuments NTUA  
(Athens), [iplakot@gmail.com](mailto:iplakot@gmail.com)

**PRADINES, Stéphane**, Professor, AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY - Institute for the  
Study of Muslim Civilisations, [stephane.pradines@aku.edu](mailto:stephane.pradines@aku.edu)

**PSALTI, Athanasia**, Archaeologist, Director of the Antiquities of Phocis  
(Greece), [psaltinan@yahoo.gr](mailto:psaltinan@yahoo.gr)

**QUIRINI-POPLAWSKI, Rafał**, Dr hab. Uniwersytet Jagielloński/Jagiellonian  
University–Instytut Historii Sztuki/Department of History of Art,  
Krakow, Poland, [rafal.quirini-poplawski@uj.edu.pl](mailto:rafal.quirini-poplawski@uj.edu.pl)

**REINHART, Franziska**, MA. Archaeologist, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität  
München, Institut für Vor-und frühgeschichtliche Archäologie und  
Provinzialrömische Archäologie, [franziska.reinhart@outlook.com](mailto:franziska.reinhart@outlook.com)

**RICCI, Alessandra**, Associate Professor, Department of Archaeology and  
History of Art, Koç University (Istanbul), [aricci@ku.edu.tr](mailto:aricci@ku.edu.tr)

**SAĞLAM, Hasan Sercan**, Dr., Centre national de la recherche scientifique  
(CNRS) – Centre d'études supérieures de civilisation médiévale  
(CESCM), [saglam.h.sercan@gmail.com](mailto:saglam.h.sercan@gmail.com)

**SEMIZ, Nisa**, Assistant Professor, PhD., AGÜ, Department of Architecture,  
[nisa.semiz@agu.edu.tr](mailto:nisa.semiz@agu.edu.tr)

**SKARTSIS, Stephania**, Dr Archaeologist, Hellenic Ministry of Culture and  
Sports, Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities,  
[sskartsis@yahoo.com](mailto:sskartsis@yahoo.com)

**SPITERI, Stephen**, Dr., Institute for Baroque Studies, University of Malta,  
[stephen.c.spiteri@um.edu.mt](mailto:stephen.c.spiteri@um.edu.mt)

**STAKIA, Angeliki**, Architect, MSc. Protection of Monuments, Polytechnic  
School of Athens, [angstakia@gmail.com](mailto:angstakia@gmail.com)

**STANKOVIĆ, Nebojša**, Assistant Professor, University of Priština in Kosovska

Mitrovica, [nebojsa.stankovic@pr.ac.rs](mailto:nebojsa.stankovic@pr.ac.rs)

**STATHOULOPOULOS, Philippos**, Architect, MA, [filstath@gmail.com](mailto:filstath@gmail.com)

**SYTHIAKAKI, Vassiliki**, Dr. Archaeologist, Director of the Ephorate  
Antiquities of Herakleion, Crete, [vsythiakaki@yahoo.gr](mailto:vsythiakaki@yahoo.gr)

**ŠAĀLAM, Sercan**, Dr, Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS)-  
Centre d'études supérieures de civilisation médiévale (CESCM), France,  
[saglam.h.sercan@gmail.com](mailto:saglam.h.sercan@gmail.com)

**THEOCHARIDIS, Ploutarchos**, Architect, MA in Conservation Studies.

Formerly in the Ephorate for the Antiquities of Halkidiki and Mt Athos,  
Hellenic Ministry of Culture, [plutheo@gmail.com](mailto:plutheo@gmail.com)

**TSAKALOS, Antonis**, BA and PhD in Archaeology - MA in Cultural  
Management. Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports - Byzantine and  
Christian Museum [antonistsakalos@gmail.com](mailto:antonistsakalos@gmail.com)

**TSAMPOURAS, Theocharis**, Dr Archaeologist, Ephorate of Antiquities of  
Kozani, Greece Archaeologist and University of Western Macedonia,  
Greece [theocharis10@hotmail.com](mailto:theocharis10@hotmail.com)

**TSAROUCHA, Anthoula**, Archaeologist, Ephorate of Phokis,  
[anthtsar@gmail.com](mailto:anthtsar@gmail.com)

**TSIVIKIS, Nikos**, Dr., Institute for Mediterranean Studies, FORTH (Rethymno),  
[ntsivikis@ims.forth.gr](mailto:ntsivikis@ims.forth.gr)

**TZAVELLA, Elli**, Dr Archaeologist, Ephorate of Antiquities of Boeotia, Greece,  
[ellitzavella@gmail.com](mailto:ellitzavella@gmail.com)

**ULYANOV, Oleg**, Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor, Academician of the  
Russian Academy of Arts and the Russian Academy of Natural History,  
[professor.ulyanov@gmail.com](mailto:professor.ulyanov@gmail.com)

**VARALIS, Yiannis**, Associate Professor of Byzantine Archaeology, University of  
Thessaly, [iovaralis@uth.gr](mailto:iovaralis@uth.gr)

**VOYADJIS, Sotiris**, Dr Architect, [sotvog@gmail.com](mailto:sotvog@gmail.com)

**YORDANOVA, Lilyana**, PhD, Research Member at the Ecole française  
d'Athènes, [lilyana.yordanova@efa.gr](mailto:lilyana.yordanova@efa.gr)

**ZARRAS, Nektarios**, Dr., [University of the Aegean](http://University of the Aegean), Department of  
Mediterranean Studies, Rhodes, [nectarios.zarras@gmail.com](mailto:nectarios.zarras@gmail.com)

**ZUGMEYER, Stéphanie**, Dr Architect, Aix-Marseille University–CNRS (IRAA),  
[stzug@yahoo.fr](mailto:stzug@yahoo.fr)