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Kelbessos: A Military Settlement as Termessos' Peripolion

NEVZAT ÇEVİK*

I dedicate this article to my friend, the late Prof. Dr. Burhan Varkıvanç, whom we lost too soon. His scientific contributions to the Bey Mountains were significant, and I cherished our friendship dearly.

Abstract

Kelbessos is located in the area of Ağırtaş / Ağıltaş, 23 km west of Antalya. It is at the border of Pisidia, Lycia, and Pamphylia. The fortified citadel (phrourion) was established as a military settlement within the chora of Termessos, so was a garrison with the status of peripolion of Termessos. The settlement of Kelbessos has the structure of a mountain fortress in the nature of a "demos" rather than a fortified settlement. There are ruins in the settlement from the Hellenistic Period to the Byzantine Period. It experienced its brightest time during the Roman Period. Military buildings, religious buildings, a small number of residences, graves, cisterns, and workshops were identified in the settlement. The most important building in Kelbessos is a Principia, unseen in other settlements of the region. This military administration building reflects the military, political and urban status of Kelbessos. Ruins that could be an agora and a temple have been identified by us. Epigraphic and archaeological finds show that Artemis Kelbessis was the primary god of the city. Phallos reliefs and cult niches are other data obtained about its religious beliefs. The settlement's necropoleis evidence various grave typologies including sarcophagi, monumental tombs, chamosoria, and rock-cut osteotheks. Kelbessos was an ancient settlement that underwent gradual

Öz

Kelbessos, Antalya'nın 23 km batısında, Ağırtaş / Ağıltaş mevkisindedir. Pisidia - Likya - Pamphylia kavşağındadır. Askeri bir yerleşim olarak kurulan kalenin Termessos egemenlik alanında peripolion statüsüne sahip bir garnizon (phrourion) olduğu anlaşılmıştır. Kelbessos yerleşimi, tahkimatlı bir yerleşimden çok 'demos' niteliğinde bir dağ kalesi yapısallığındadır. Yerleşimde Hellenistik Dönem'den başlayıp Bizans Dönemi'ne kadar kalıntılar bulunmaktadır. En parlak zamanını Roma İmparatorluk Dönemi'nde yaşamıştır. Yerleşimde askeri yapılar, dinsel yapılar, az sayıda konut, mezarlar, sarnıçlar ve ışıklar tespit edilmiştir. Kelbessos'taki en önemli yapı, bölge yerleşimlerinde benzerini bilmediğimiz bir Principia'dır. Bu askeri yönetim yapısı, Kelbessos'un siyasal ve kentsel statüsünü yansıtan en önemli mimari belgedir. Agora ve tapınak olabilecek kalıntılar da tarafımızdan gözlemlenmiştir. Epigrafik ve arkeolojik bulgular Artemis Kelbessis'in kentin asal tanrısı olduğunu göstermektedir. Phallos kabartmaları ve nişler dinsel inançlarla ilgili ele geçen diğer verilerdir. Yerleşimin nekropolislerinde lahitler, anıt-örme mezarlar, *khamosoriolar* ve yuvarlak kaya *ostothekleri* bulunmaktadır. Yavaş bir değişim gösteren Kelbessos Antik Kenti'nin gerçek anlamda bir şehirleşme sürecine girmediğini, tüm tarihi boyunca daha çok ikinci derece askeri bir taşra yerleşimi

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change but did not undergo true urbanization. Rather it remained a secondary military provincial settlement throughout its history. Considering the construction techniques of the fortification walls surrounding the settlement, they were built during the Hellenistic Period, especially in the third-second centuries. The peripolion of Kelbessos was a permanent garrison in the territory of Termessos from the Hellenistic Period onwards. It served both as a part of the city's defense system and as a safe, fortified citadel where the inhabitants of the surrounding countryside could take refuge in times of need.

Keywords: Kelbessos, Termessos, Pisidia, Peripolion, military settlement, garrison

karakteri taşıdığını söyleyebiliriz. Yerleşimi çevreleyen surlar yapım teknikleri bakımından ele alındığında Hellenistik Dönem'de (özellikle üçüncü-ikinci yy.'larda) inşa edildiği ifade edilebilir. Kelbessos *peripolionunun*, Hellenistik Dönem'den itibaren Termessos egemenlik alanında sürekli bir garnizon olduğu ve hem şehir savunmasının bir kolu hem de gerektiğinde çevredeki kırsal birimlerde yaşayan halkın sığınabileceği güvenli bir kale (*phourion*) olarak hizmet verdiği anlaşılmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Kelbessos, Termessos, Pisidia, Peripolion, askeri yerleşim, garnizon

Kelbessos is located 23 km west of Antalya in Alımpınarı on the Saklıkent road at the location of Ağırtaş / Ağıltaş (figs. 1-2). The settlement is situated on the ridge at an altitude of 1100 m, referred to as "Örentepe" (fig. 3). Nearby important neighboring settlements include Trebenna to the southeast and Neapolis to the northeast. All of these settlements are situated at the intersection of Pisidia, Lycia, and Pamphylia (fig. 1). Discovered for the first time in 1913 by R. Paribeni and P. Romanelli,¹ the Italian team interpreted the settlement as the fortress of Termessos based on thirteen inscriptions they found. They made this interpretation by considering the mention of paying a penalty to Zeus Solymeus found on a tomb inscription.² Subsequently, R. Heberdey reexamined these inscriptions and provided comments on the sovereignty of Termessos.³ Between 1996 and 1999, B. İplikçioğlu, V. Çelgin, and G. Çelgin conducted surface surveys in the context of the "Termessos Ancient City and Sovereignty Area Epigraphy-Historical Geography Surface Research Project."⁴ They discovered numerous new important inscriptions and reevaluated the ones previously found.⁵ Through five inscriptions that they found, they conclusively determined that the settlement's name was Kelbessos. The studies of Çelgin and İplikçioğlu have been crucial in increasing information about the ancient historical region, particularly Kelbessos. This has contributed significantly to identifying cities with their names.⁶ The first comprehensive archaeological investigations were carried out in 2003 and 2004 as part of the Bey Dağları Surface Surveys by N. Çevik and his team.⁷ In the Kelbessos survey, the plan of the settlement was first created by the Turkish and French

¹ Paribeni and Romanelli 1914, 188-202.

² Paribeni and Romanelli 1914, 198-99.

³ Heberdey 1929, 6.

⁴ İplikçioğlu et al. 1999.

⁵ İplikçioğlu et al. 1999, 382-83; Çelgin 2003; İplikçioğlu 2007, 234-55.

⁶ For the most comprehensive epigraphic study on Kelbessos, especially on the Artemis cults, see Çelgin 2003.

⁷ During the Bey Mountains Surface Surveys, the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums, Akdeniz University, IFEA, and Nantes University provided significant support. I would like to thank both these institutions and all my team members, especially Süleyman Bulut, İsa Kızgut, Burhan Varkıvaç, Engin Akyürek, Isabella P. Pédarros and T. Michael Patrick Duggan. I also thank especially Banu Özdilek, Olivier Henry, and Pascal Laboutteiller for the drawings in this article and Gül Işın for the photographs. I likewise extend my gratitude to the Antalya Museum (Mustafa Demirel) for its support of the Kelbessos surface surveys during which ceramics were collected that surfaced because of destruction by treasure hunters and were later evaluated at the Museum.

members under the responsibility of Çevik. Detailed surveys, drawings of important structures, and a settlement map were conducted, and their findings were presented to the scientific community through various publications.⁸ The defense system of the settlement, reflecting the characteristics of a fortified mountain fortress and the rural units surrounding it, were also archaeologically examined for the first time in these studies.

The settlement was established as a military outpost within the sovereign area of Termessos and played a significant role as a frontier fortress from the Hellenistic Period. It retained its military character during the Roman Period and was transformed into a larger settlement. The natural topography centered around the Bey Mountains influenced the formation of the administrative boundaries. They also played a crucial role in shaping the southern part of Termessos' sovereign area. This mountainous region acted as a natural cultural boundary between Lycia, Pisidia and Pamphylia and was inhabited during the Hellenistic, Roman, and Byzantine Periods with numerous villages and smaller settlements, thanks to its secure peaks and fertile valleys.⁹ The main sources of livelihood for these small rural settlements, as evidenced by remnants of production units and other archaeological finds, were olive cultivation, grapevine, livestock, and timber.¹⁰ Some of the settlements discovered in the Bey Mountains Surface Surveys have been identified by the help of inscriptions found *in situ*, one of these fortunate ones is Kelbessos. In four of the inscriptions examined in these epigraphic surface surveys, the phrase "Kelbesseon to Peripolion" (Peripolion of the Kelbessians) is inscribed.¹¹ In light of both inscriptions and archaeological evidence, this archaeological site can be identified as Kelbessos, which served as a frontier fortress (phrourion) with peripolion status within the sovereign area of Pisidian Termessos.¹² It is located at the far end of the territory of the polis. Kelbessos is characterized more as a mountain fortress than a fortified city.¹³ The term *peripoleō*, mentioned in the five inscriptions found in the settlement, translates to "surrounded." This indicates its role as a fortified outpost controlling the boundaries. One of the two settlements certain to be a Peripolion connected to Termessos is Kelbessos, while the other is Neapolis in Doyran.¹⁴ Its duty was to control and oversee the chora, regulate rural / agricultural production, and protect the sovereign borders of Termessos. Çelgin states that Kelbessos was a "demos" with the authority to make local decisions.¹⁵ It was a medium-sized military settlement responsible for protecting the rights of Termessos, the largest city state (polis) of Pisidia in the Hellenistic Period. Kelbessos played a crucial role on safeguarding the territory. The political, economic, and religious dominance of the region was in the hands of the main city Termessos, while Kelbessos, beyond its military concerns, was crucial for providing its sustenance.

The settlement spans approximately 150 meters on a north-south axis and 170 meters on an east-west axis and contains remains dating from the Hellenistic period to the Late Roman

⁸ For general information about the settlement, see Çevik 2022, 534-39; see also Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 2005, 2006; Çevik et. al. 1999, 410-22; 2004; Çevik 2008b, 208-9; Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2013; Özdilek 2008.

⁹ For the settlements and other archaeological remains we discovered during the Bey Mountains surveys, see Çevik 2008b, 2022.

¹⁰ Regarding the settlement, see Çevik 2022, 534-39; see also Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 2005, 2006; Çevik et al. 1999, 410-22; 2004; Çevik 2008b, 208-9; Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2013; Özdilek 2008.

¹¹ Çelgin 2003, 126; Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 290-91.

¹² Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004.

¹³ Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 289.

¹⁴ Çevik 2018.

¹⁵ Çelgin 2003, 124.

period (figs. 3-4).¹⁶ Due to the sloping terrain, numerous terraces have been constructed within the settlement. The city walls were easily built by filling the gaps between the natural rocks, thanks to the opportunities provided by the rocky terrain (fig. 5). The main entrance of the fortress is on the northern ramped road, while another entrance is observed in the west. The irregular structure of the walls - with buildings inside, outside, adjacent to, or near the walls - complicates the explanation using conventional concepts (fig. 4). The construction of the defensive wall, which evidences distinct military characteristics for defensive purposes, was for strategic rather than tactical purposes. First built during the Hellenistic Period, the walls underwent modifications and repairs during the Roman Period, therefore maintaining the fortified citadel character through expansion and strengthening.¹⁷ In comparison to the expansion of structures during the Roman Period, the settlement initially covered a much smaller area with its buildings. As evident from its rich necropolis and other structures, the settlement experienced its peak during the Roman period.

The history of the settlement can be traced back to the end of the fourth century BCE based on the craftsmanship and materials used in the city walls (figs. 5-6).¹⁸ Unfortunately, the site has been extensively damaged, almost to the point where not one stone is left unturned. Regrettably, over the past 25 years since our initial survey,¹⁹ this destruction has continued to escalate. Numerous architectural remnants have been identified including military structures, public buildings, some residences, cisterns (fig. 7), and workshops.²⁰ Beyond the settlement walls, other single and groups of structures, such as graves and workshops, are scattered on the northern slope of the hill. The settlement can be described as a garrison-fortress (phrourion) that controlled the passages to the Pamphylia Plain rather than a city with a defense system.²¹ Only the ruin of a small chapel is visible from the Byzantine period, which indicates the presence of a tiny Christian population. The settlement was largely abandoned after the Roman period and shares some similarities with Termessos in its partial abandonment after this era.

The gods worshiped in the city are apparently Artemis and Zeus.²² The mention of the name Artemis in six inscriptions suggests the possible existence of a cult area dedicated to Artemis that was carved into the main rock (fig. 9). The depiction of thunderbolts on the altars (fig. 10), the altar of Artemis, and the remains of the temple indicate the alignment of the gods worshipped in the city with those in the region. However, epigraphic, and archaeological finds indicate that the major deity of the city was Artemis Kelbessis.²³ According to the honorary inscriptions, the god named *Megalou Theou* should be identified as Artemis Kelbessis, according to Çelgin.²⁴ The inscription on a dedication offered to Kelbessos Artemis, as read by Paribeni and Romanelli,²⁵ is crucial in archaeological terms since it asserts that “the goddess Artemis

¹⁶ Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 285.

¹⁷ Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 289-90.

¹⁸ Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 289.

¹⁹ Çevik et al. 1999.

²⁰ For an overview of the olive oil and wine workshops in the region that we discovered within the scope of the Bey Mountains surface survey, see Bulut 2018; Çevik 2008b.

²¹ Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 290.

²² For detailed information about the Artemis cult in the settlement, see Çelgin 2003.

²³ Çelgin 2003, 122-23.

²⁴ Çelgin 2003, 130.

²⁵ Paribeni and Romanelli 1914, 196.

definitely had a cult and temple here."²⁶ This inscription also states that Trokondas dedicated an altar to Artemis.

In addition to these, phallus reliefs and niches are among the other objects related to religious beliefs that have been found. The abundance of phallus and shield reliefs corresponds to its military settlement character. The presence of phalluses on the facade of a military structure, along with reliefs of soldiers, is meaningful since the phallus symbolizes power and fertility.²⁷ Two of the phallus reliefs we discovered are on the northeast wall of the Principia and above the main entrance lintel. The presence of phalluses here symbolizes both military administrative power and a protective purpose. Other depictions of phalluses are engraved on the door jambs of the facade of another structure with a military purpose near the eastern entrance of the city (figs. 12-13). There is also a niche above the phallus on the left. On the lintel of this gate, there is a relief of a shield with soldiers on either side. We also found a winged phallus in Kithanaura, which was again located on the facade of a military structure.²⁸

The most significant and unique structure in Kelbessos is an administrative building for which we have no similar example in the region's settlements (figs. 14-15).²⁹ Described as a Roman Principia in every aspect, this most prestigious building of the city was constructed with large blocks exemplifying meticulous craftsmanship.³⁰ The structure features an elaborate entrance and includes a large courtyard, meeting room, court hall, additional rooms, and finally a cult room. This architectural type of military administrative structure evolved from the commander's tent in a military camp and easily fits within a peripolion framework. Like other outposts, Kelbessos initially had a small military headquarters, which later transformed into a larger garrison settlement. However, the form of governance and its settlement character remained unchanged. The Kelbessos Peripolion, which held a special status connected to Termessos, was always ruled by soldiers. The Principia is the main civic structure reflecting the political and urban status of Kelbessos. Therefore, it represents the city's administrative significance. On the southeast side of the extended ridge upon which the Principia sits, there is a small square resembling an agora. An inscribed pedestal in the square indicates the erection of a statue of Emperor Caracalla.³¹ On the eastern summit of the settlement and the eastern slope of the road leading to the city, remnants suggestive of a temple have been observed. Believed to be planned as in-antis, these structures still exhibit strong, high terrace / podium walls. The openings to the bedrock revealing the hybrid structure are still visible. While it is naturally expected that one belongs to Artemis, there is yet no clear evidence to which deity they were dedicated. Despite not knowing their exact locations, Heberdey suggests the presence of at least two temples. In addition to temples, cult niches are carved into the walls of structures. In one of the niches carved into the bedrock, a socket for a stele has been observed. The small holes on the facade of this niche are likely for hanging an appliqué. Niches carved into the bedrock walls of residences are presumed to be for household cults.³² Two altars, one independent and the

²⁶ Paribeni and Romanelli 1914, 197; Çelgin 2003, 128, fig. 5.

²⁷ For general information about the cult of Phallos, see Dökü 2002.

²⁸ Çevik 2008a.

²⁹ Çevik et al. 2005b, 149.

³⁰ Ginouvès (1998, 32, 33) defines Principia as "a monumental entrance, a courtyard, meeting halls, a court and, above all, a sacred place where military insignias are kept."

³¹ Paribeni and Romanelli 1914, 197-98.

³² Özdilek 2008, 334.

other carved into the bedrock, are found in the settlement in relief form. The relief on an altar depicts Zeus' thunderbolt (fig. 10). Considering the worship of Zeus Solymeus in this region, this find is not surprising. The other altar, carved into the workshop's rock-cut wall and in poor condition, likely pertains to olive oil production based on its location (fig. 11).³³

Two necropolis areas, one in the northeast and the other in the southwest, are predominantly filled with sarcophagi (figs. 1, 4, 16-18). Unfortunately, most of these have been damaged. The main necropolis is organized along the road leading to the city and reflects the typical Roman Period city-cemetery relationship in its layout. The majority of the sarcophagi are of the Pisidian type, featuring shields and spears with a central tabula ansata. Many, including some of high quality, are decorated with elaborate reliefs. In addition to images of the tomb owners, there are rich examples featuring reliefs of Eros, Psyche, and Helios with garlands framing them.³⁴ The frame friezes also depict scenes from daily life related to agriculture, hunting, and craftsmanship (figs. 17-19). Ichnographically, the north necropolis contains the most elaborate sarcophagi. One - with a lion battling a deer on one side and a lion on the other - is almost uniquely filled with a narrative of the richness of rural life. On the front side, there is a tabula ansata over the garland carried by two Eros figures, with depictions of the couple who own the tomb standing on both sides.³⁵ The upper and side borders of the facade panel are decorated with grapevines, while the lower band displays a hunting scene, a dog, possibly a mule, a wild animal hunting, and a blacksmith working at an anvil (fig. 17). While this cemetery is exclusively filled with sarcophagi, the southwest necropolis also includes monumental tombs and chamosoria (fig. 20). On the pediment of the Monumental Tomb, discovered and first published by Paribeni and Romanelli in 1914 along with the inscriptions, there is a Medusa in the center flanked by Nike figures on either side. This conforms to the relief iconography commonly used in the cult of the dead. On the left side of the pediment, there is a relief of Helios with rays on his head; on the right side is a relief of Selene with a crescent moon around her neck (fig. 19). In addition to these, a round, rock-cut osteothek was found (fig. 21).³⁶ The sarcophagi in the Kelbessos necropolis, both in architecture and reliefs, vary in a way not encountered in the nearby peripolion of Neapolis but share a richness similar to the tombs in Trebenna. They are often closely related to the sarcophagi of Termessos. The nature of the necropolis points to the high quality and importance of the military presence dominating the settlement and, consequently, on the settlement itself.

Upon examining the remains of Kelbessos, it appears that the settlement developed slowly and did not undergo significant changes over the centuries. When the density and spread of architectural remnants are assessed, it is evident that the Roman-Period structures outside the defensive circle are quite developed. The remnants indicate that the structures were mostly constructed using a hybrid technique (fig. 8). The rocky terrain on which the settlement sits has been utilized efficiently. However, the Kelbessos settlement did not truly undergo a civilian urbanization process but rather remained primarily a military and secondarily a frontier rural settlement throughout its history. The walls surrounding the settlement on the steep rocky hill to the east were likely constructed in the Hellenistic Period, probably in the third and second centuries. The dimensions, shapes, and internal arrangements of the towers suggest the use of catapult-based mechanisms, making it possible to date them from the late fourth century

³³ Çevik 2000, 40.

³⁴ Özdilek and Çevik 2009.

³⁵ Paribeni and Romanelli 1914, 196-97.

³⁶ This type of tomb, not seen in the region, was discovered by me for the first time in Trebenna; see Çevik 1998.

BCE onwards. Trimmed wall corners and toothed block connections also point to the same period. The absence of large-scale public buildings within the walls indicates that it was a fortified defensive settlement lacking urban features. Instead of structures such as meeting halls or theatres, there is the Principia as a public building. This alone clearly reflects the military administrative nature of the settlement. The abundance of cisterns, the density of tombs, and the predominance of military motifs, coupled with historical and epigraphic evidence confirm its status as an outpost and garrison under Termessos. A considerable number of soldiers settled here during the Hellenistic Period, thus shaping the military character of the settlement. The military presence here can easily be traced back to the Hellenistic Period, possibly starting with the construction of a significant portion of the defense wall that encircles early side of the settlement.

The strategic value of the settlement stems from its geographical location at the intersection of the north-south and east-west main communication / transportation axes and at the border of three cultural regions - Lycia, Pisidia, and Pamphylia (fig. 1). The prevalence of shields, commonly seen on sarcophagi, indicates that Pisidian culture dominates in terms of art and culture. The natural sheltered topographic features, as shown on the settlement plan (fig. 4), also contribute to this value. Located along a steep rocky slope on the edge of a deep gorge, this place is strategically favorable for observation and defense. Its situation provides views both inland and towards the sea, besides being situated next to the Pamphylia plain (figs. 1-2). The Kelbessos peripolion was chosen as a permanent garrison in the Termessos sphere of influence since the Hellenistic Period and served both as a branch of the city's defense and as a secure fortress where the surrounding rural population could take shelter, if necessary.³⁷ Initially functioning as one of the pawns in Termessos' sphere of influence, it played a role in the initial steps of seizing and controlling new territories. This military and rural formation evolved into a secondary settlement during the Roman Period, alongside the diversification of social and demographic structures. Yet it continued its function as an outpost of Termessos.³⁸ Kelbessos provides significant archaeological data that allows the examination of many important aspects related to the rural landscape, settlement patterns, cultivation of land, and, of course, defense arrangements.

Heberdey notes that determining the number of administrative regions within the jurisdiction of Termessos is challenging.³⁹ Termessos had established its dominance over a vast region during the Hellenistic Period. Trebenna, whose settlement size during the Hellenistic period is not known precisely when it was not part of the Lycian League, should have been within its sphere of influence.⁴⁰ In the Roman Period, Termessos continued to maintain extensive dominance and agricultural production, along with Kelbessos, İn Önü, and other small garrisons and fortified farms along the Lycia-Pisidia border. The most formidable peripolion on this defensive chain is Kelbessos, which serves as a security point at the beginning of a deep valley (fig. 2). This garrison settlement should be one of the "upper villages" mentioned in the regions of Termessos. Kelbessos operated independently in some internal affairs but was semi-autonomous under the authority of Termessos in external matters.⁴¹ Kelbessos appears to have

³⁷ Çevik 2022, 534-39.

³⁸ For the defense system, see Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2004, 2005, 2006.

³⁹ Heberdey 1929, 11.

⁴⁰ For discussions on the existence of Trebenna before the Roman period, see Çevik et al. 2005a, 197-204.

⁴¹ İplikçioğlu et al. 1999. And it is known that the city was governed by an *εἰρήναρχος* appointed by Termessos; see Çelgin 1997, 27.

maintained its limited autonomy from the Hellenistic Period into the Roman Imperial Period. As confirmed by Roman inscriptions,⁴² the use of the Hellenistic fortification walls on the southeastern peak of Kelbessos during the Roman period corroborates this situation.⁴³

The intensity and character of life during the Hellenistic and Roman Periods has been confirmed through the ceramic and glass finds discovered on the surface (fig. 22). The ceramics, collected from the waste soil piles from the excavations of illegal treasure hunters and transported to the Antalya Museum, are predominantly pieces of daily use ceramic pots. While some finds are Hellenistic, most date to the Roman period.

Within the territory of Kelbessos, numerous fortified / unfortified farms, towers, and olive oil and wine workshops have been identified, bearing witness to human life of the period, especially agricultural activities. These finds are highly valuable as environmental evidence that demonstrates the real power and wealth of Kelbessos. One of these fortified farms is located on the Yelliamut ridge on the southeast slope of Kelbessos.⁴⁴ From here, the Pamphylia plain and the Gulf of Pamphylia can be panoramically observed. The remains consist of a tower, farmhouses on the northeast side, workshops, and a large storage building on the north side. The path leading to the farm from the northern slope connects to the courtyard through an entrance in the north wall of the structure. It extends to the east side of the complex and from there, it connects to other units. The entrance to the storage building is provided by a path turning west before entering the complex. In other words, the entrance of this unit is separated from the main entrance of the complex. This situation indicates a spatial design parallel to the function of the storage building. At the southern border of the farm is a tower whose size is 7.30 x 6.60 meters. The system of the walls, whose thickness is 0.90 meters, is isodomic. The blocks used in the wall's construction are mostly framed and bossed. The entrance to the tower is on the east wall. The lock slots on the jamb show that it is a very secure door. The square hole in the middle of the lintel indicates that this hole continues inside the wall. Similar to the mechanism at the Belen tower gate,⁴⁵ the door is locked from behind with a thick beam. A single-space structure (12.00 x 7.40 m), 22 meters north of the tower and isolated from other buildings, was built with two entrances. Its 1.40-meter-wide door suggests that the structure was built for storing products. There is also a farmhouse in the rocky terrain between the courtyard and the tower. It consists of a courtyard and three rooms. The nature of the remains around the tower and their location indicate that these structures were built not only to accommodate the farm community but also to safely store other products related to olive oil and live-stock. It also protected the city and its surrounding lands and olive groves from roads leading to the city.

The article has discussed Kelbessos, one of the many settlement sites which continues to be gradually and rapidly destroyed. Our main purpose has been not only to evaluate, present and share the scientific data from the results of our extensive survey, but also to document and preserve information regarding this record-breaking destruction.

⁴² İplikçioğlu et al. 1999, 385.

⁴³ Çevik and Pimouguet-Pédarros 2006, 266, 269.

⁴⁴ For the first introduction of this fortified farm and detailed information, see Çevik 1996, 84, fig. 8; Çevik and Bulut 2007.

⁴⁵ Çevik and Bulut 2007.

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FIG. 1 Kelbessos and its surroundings (Çevik 2022, 17. Map: by S. Aydal).



FIG. 2 Aerial photograph of Kelbessos and its general surroundings (Beydağları Survey Archive).



FIG. 3 Aerial photograph of the settlement summit of Kelbessos (Beydağları Survey Archive).

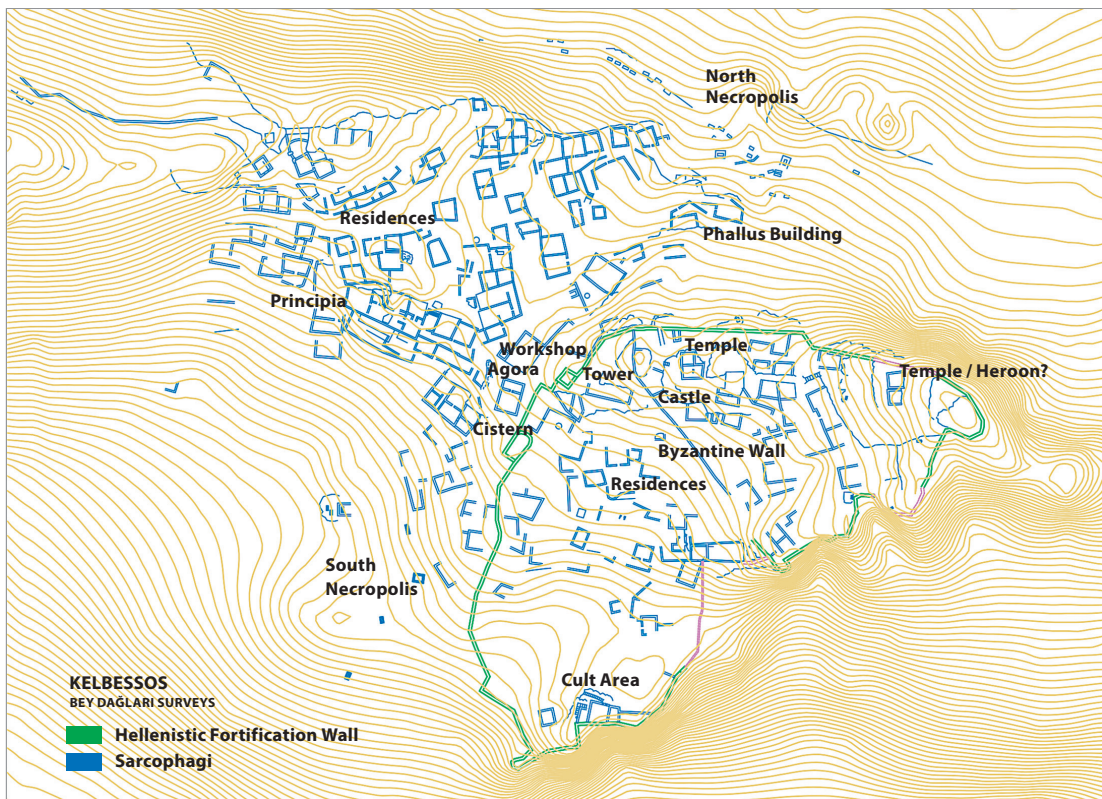


FIG. 4 Kelbessos Settlement Plan (Beydağları Survey Archive, N. Çevik and I. Pimouguet-Pédarros).



FIG. 5 Fortification walls of Kelbessos (Photo: G. Işın).



FIG. 6 Hellenistic Tower (Photo: G. Işın).



FIG. 7
Main Cistern
of Kelbessos
(Foto: G. Işın).



FIG. 8
Kelbessos Hybrid
Structures
(Photo: Beydağları
Survey Archive).



FIG. 9 Cult Area / Sanctuary (Beydağları Survey Archive).



FIG. 10 Zeus' altar with Thunderbolt Relief.



FIG. 11 Workshop and Altar (Photo: G. Işın).



FIG. 12
Building with Phallus
(Photo: G. Işın).



FIG. 13
Building with Phallus
(Drawing: Beydağları
Survey Archive,
B. Özdilek).



FIG. 14 Principia (Photo: Beydağları Survey Archive).

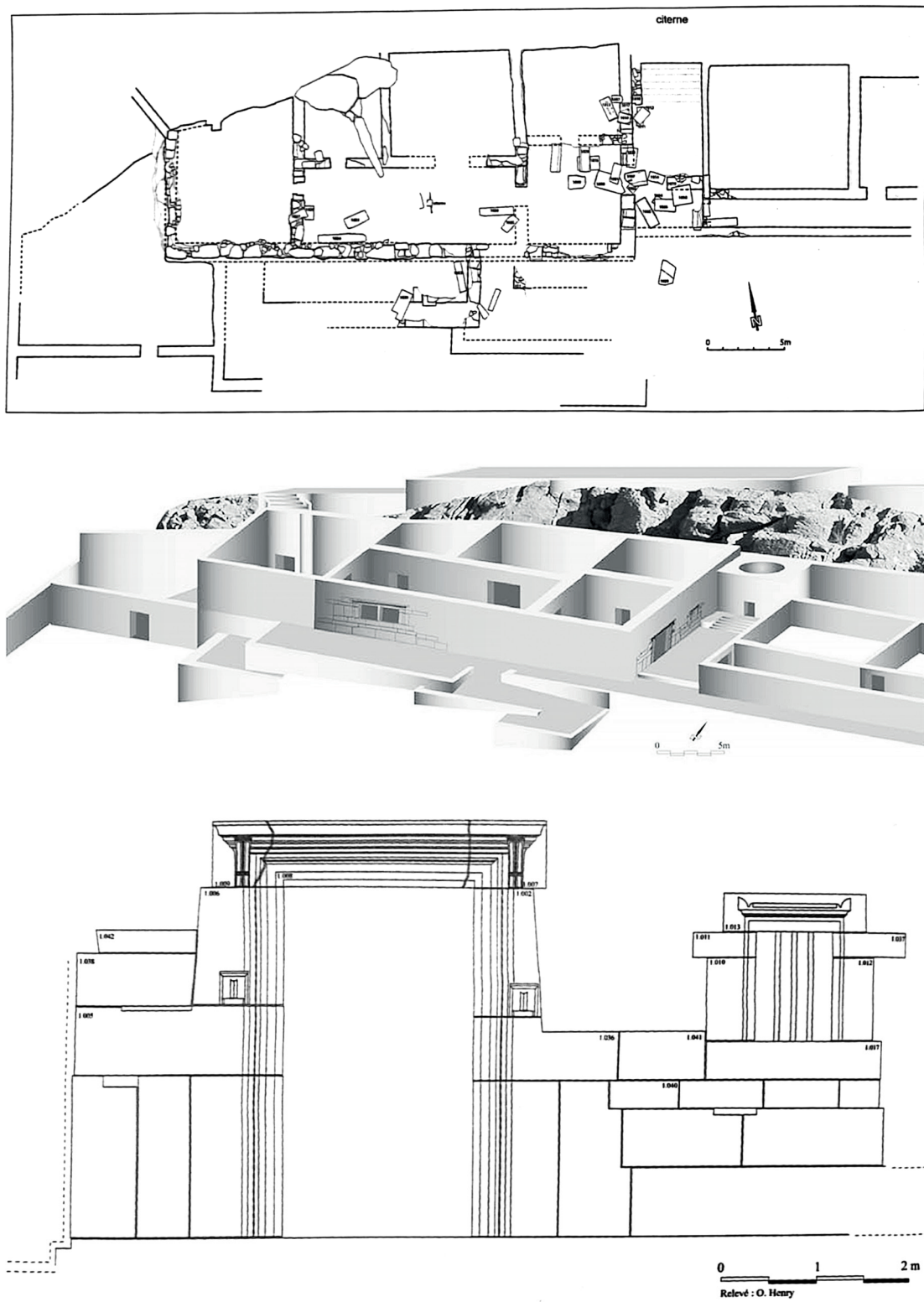


FIG. 15 Plan, 3D Rendering and Facade of Principia (Drawing: Beydağları Survey Archive, O. Henry).



FIG. 16 Northeast Necropolis (Photo: Beydağları Survey Archive).

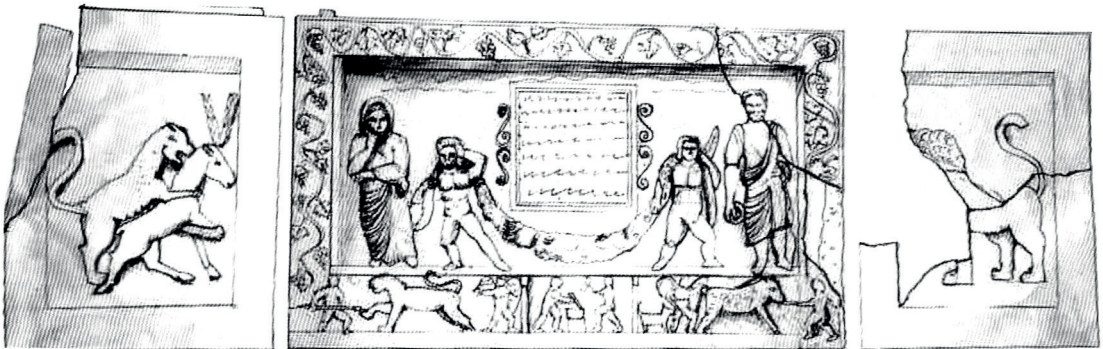


FIG. 17 Northeast Necropolis. Sarcophagus (Drawing: Beydağları Survey Archive, B. Özdilek).

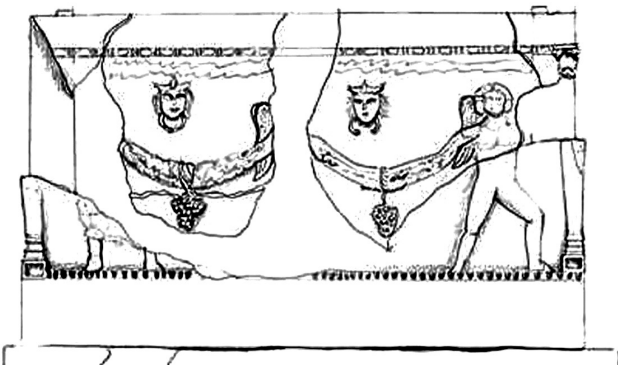


FIG. 18
Northeast Necropolis.
Sarcophagus
(Drawing: Beydağları Survey
Archive, B. Özdilek).



FIG. 19 Northeast Necropolis. Monumental Tomb Facade (Paribeni and Romanelli 1914).



FIG. 20 Khamosorion (Photo: G. Işın).



FIG. 21 Conical Lid of a Round Rock-cut Ostothek.



FIG. 22 Surface Finds Recovered from Illegal Excavations in Beydağları Surface Surveys (Antalya Museum).

