



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY MEETINGS

One of the most remarkable developments in the practice of archaeology in the Mediterranean since the 1960s has been the growing importance of regional analysis and field survey. The number of surveys carried out in Greece and the Aegean is impressive: there are currently more than thirty projects working in the field or at the stage of preparing publications, while even more projects are already completed. In addition, systematic surveys have generated intensive debates on theory and methodology, conducted at a variety of conferences and a multitude of publications.

In spite of the impressive tradition of field surveys in Greece, the practice is still surrounded by a number of problems. For example, the significance and meaning of artifact assemblages on the ground are often not clear. The definition of sites in either quantitative or qualitative terms is still unsure. The application of survey techniques in more marginal areas of settlement is not self-evident. In particular, the possibility of comparing the results of different types of surveys is encountering many problems.

The Canadian Archaeological Institute at Athens, The Finnish Institute at Athens and the Netherlands Institute in Athens have taken the initiative of organizing a series of Archaeological Survey Meetings. These meetings aim to provide a forum for Greek and international scholars to discuss the possibilities, limitations, problems and directions of survey in Greece in an open and informed environment. With this aim, speakers will be asked to present their projects with a focus on discussion and the sharing of ideas. The languages of the meetings will be English and Greek, and it is intended that they be held several times a year.

David Rupp (CAIA)

Björn Forsén (FIA)

Gert Jan van Wijngaarden (NIA)