

Report  
to  
Robert Berdahl, President  
University of Texas at Austin

The *Chora* of Chersonesos  
on the  
Black Sea  
and  
Metaponto  
in  
Southern Italy

1995 Campaign  
by the  
Institute of Classical Archaeology  
University of Texas at Austin  
and  
Chersonesos Historical and Archaeological Reserve



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Figure 1. Lead token with *boukranion* (longhorn skull), ca. 300 B.C., from the excavation of Room 2, Site 151.

Dear President Berdahl:

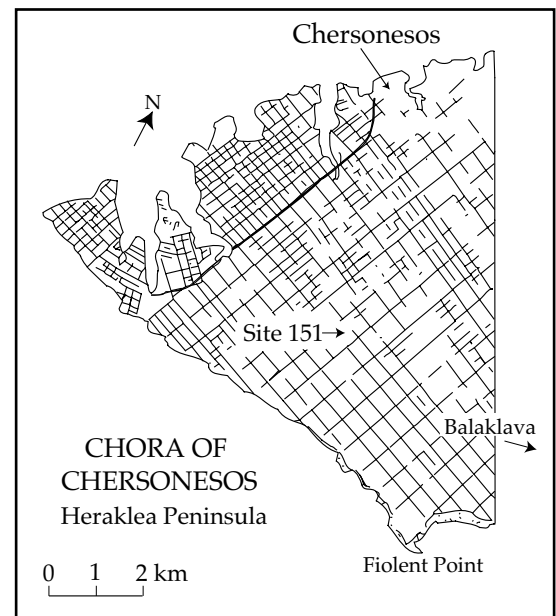
It is an honor and a pleasure to submit to you this report on the 22nd year of the University of Texas Archaeological Projects in Southern Italy (1974 to present) and in the Crimea (1994 to present).

The project in Crimea was made possible by a generous grant from the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX) in Washington (an honor, as IREX rarely funds a second year), by the loyal donors, listed inside the front cover, and by the College of Liberal Arts. The Metaponto study campaign was entirely supported by the donors and by Liberal Arts.

The focus of the projects developed by the Institute of Classical Archaeology has been on the agricultural territory, or *chora*, of Greek colonies. Little was known of this aspect of ancient history before our work in Southern Italy, more than two decades ago, began to reveal the complex patterns of Greek rural life. The *chora* of Metaponto and Croton, the two areas explored by the University's teams, are now the essential references for the study of rural life and Greek colonization in the West.

The most nearly-comparable area in the East was the *chora* of Chersonesos, a Greek colony on the southwest shores of the Crimea at Sevastopol. Despite the long history of distinguished archaeological work by Russian and Ukrainian archaeologists, this best-preserved of all ancient territories was one of the least well known because Sevastopol—the finest port on the Black Sea—is headquarters of the controversial Black Sea Fleet. It was strictly off bounds to foreigners until 1992.

After a series of encounters and negotiations that began in October, 1992—which even at the time had an air of pre-scientist inevitability—the University's team became in 1994 the first foreign team to excavate at a major classical site in the former Soviet Union (as I reported to you a year ago). The project we undertook at Chersonesos was a logical continuation of our work in Southern Italy and we found ourselves collaborating with colleagues whose knowledge of the problems and command of techniques, despite many decades of politically-dictated isolation, were incredibly similar to our own. We concluded last year that it was feasible and desirable to work together. This year's longer and more intense campaign was a complete triumph, not only on scientific but also on human levels.



In this report I hope to give you a full and reasonably detailed summary of the Institute's activities during the summer of 1995. Because of the uniqueness of the experience, the seven weeks at Sevastopol will occupy the limelight. The report cannot be limited to an account of earth moved and discoveries made, however. This was our *raison d'être*, but the University's role, as I see it, is more complex and significant. U.S. Ambassador to the Ukraine William Miller recognized that the joint archaeological excavation at Chersonesos [Sevastopol] is not only good research but also a highly visible and successful example of US-Ukrainian-Russian collaboration in the scientific and cultural sphere, in an area of long-term strategic importance for world peace. My report will touch on three major themes: the work, the collaboration, and the future prospects.

## The Work

### Excavation of Site 151 on the Heraklea Peninsula

The *chora* of Chersonesos, consisting of some 25,000 acres of land on the Heraklea Peninsula, is bounded on the northeast by the colonial city and modern Sevastopol with its harbor, and on the south by the Valley of Balaklava, of Crimean War fame. It was settled by Greeks about 300 B.C., roughly a century after the foundation of the colony itself. It was covered with a grid of roads lined by stone walls, making uniform rectangular plots—numbering around 400—each measuring 60 acres (Fig. 2). The principal crop was grapes, as our work this year confirmed. Many of the plots were occupied by stone structures like that on Site 151 (see Site Plan foldout at back). The excellent preservation of the *chora* is without rival in the ancient world, and —according to UNESCO'S definition—is a “World Treasure” of unique importance (see P. 16).

Chersonesos was renowned in the Hellenistic period (4th to 2nd centuries B.C.) as a major supplier of grain and wine to the rest of the Greek world. The trade with Athens was particularly important. Chersonesos' agricultural empire at one point extended over all of western Crimea, dwarfing even the great agricultural powers of Metaponto and Selinus in Southern Italy and Sicily (with which there were close ties). Through all of this period there existed a symbiotic and

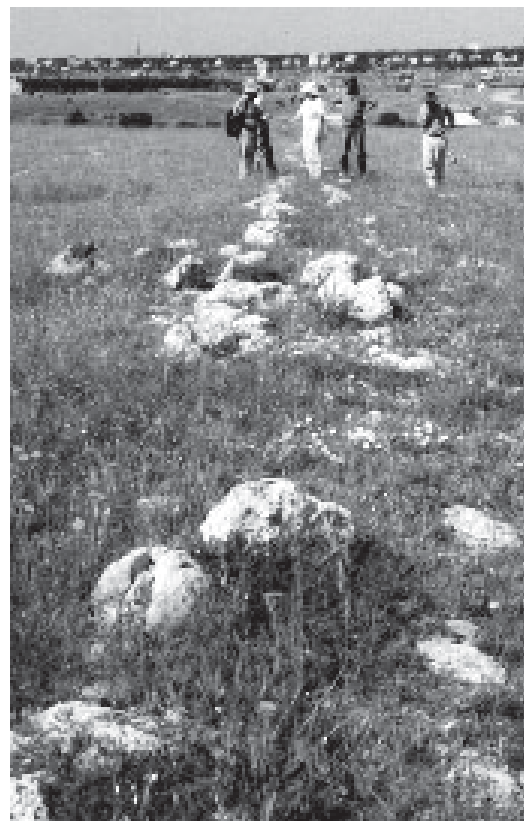


Figure 2. Stone wall along the road bounding Site 151 on the northwest.



potentially dangerous relationship with the surrounding barbarians, the famously cruel Scythians. (The threat of the Scythians in the 3rd century B.C. explains much about the architecture of Site 151.)

Site 151 was chosen for excavation by the joint team because it seemed to be typical, well-preserved, of manageable size for a two or three year project, and because it was in the center of the proposed Archaeological Park of the Ancient Territory (see P. 17).

During the 1994 campaign—which lasted three and a half weeks—the plan of a square building with fortified tower was partially revealed. Our ambitious goal beginning the 1995 campaign was to complete the excavation.

In seven weeks, with a team of ten Texans (up from seven in 1994) and 25 Russians and Ukrainians, the goal was all but achieved. The building proved to be amazingly well-preserved, despite having been fought over first by Greeks and Scythians (3rd and 2nd centuries B.C.), and later in the Crimean War (1854–55) and the Second World War, as numerous artifacts (bronze projectile points, musket balls, uniform buttons [Fig. 3], and grenade casings) testify.

The major factor in the success of the excavation, first and foremost, was the harmonious relationship between the Russian and English speaking teams. The Texas team, very ably led by field director, Dr. Jon Morter, consisted of graduate students from Classics, Anthropology and Slavic Languages—all well-trained and, as it turned out, very cooperative and compatible among themselves and with their counterparts, who were led, as in 1994, by Michail Kalashnikov (Fig. 4). The potential problem of language difference turned out to be a learning opportunity for both teams. Graduate student Paul Wintle compiled the first English-Russian / Russian-English vocabulary of archaeological technical terminology, which was instantly in great demand.

A subordinate but important role in the success of the 1995 campaign was the contributions of technology, both high and low. The three orange, pneumatic-tired wheelbarrows replaced (though not completely) the stretcher-like *nesilke*, dramatically increasing the volume of earth



Figure 3. A button off an English soldier's Crimean War uniform, from the excavation of Site 151.

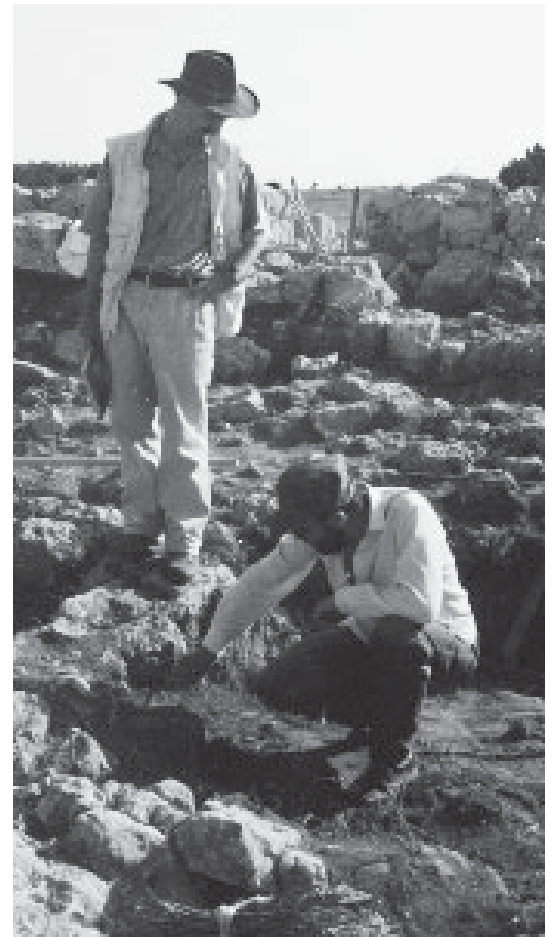


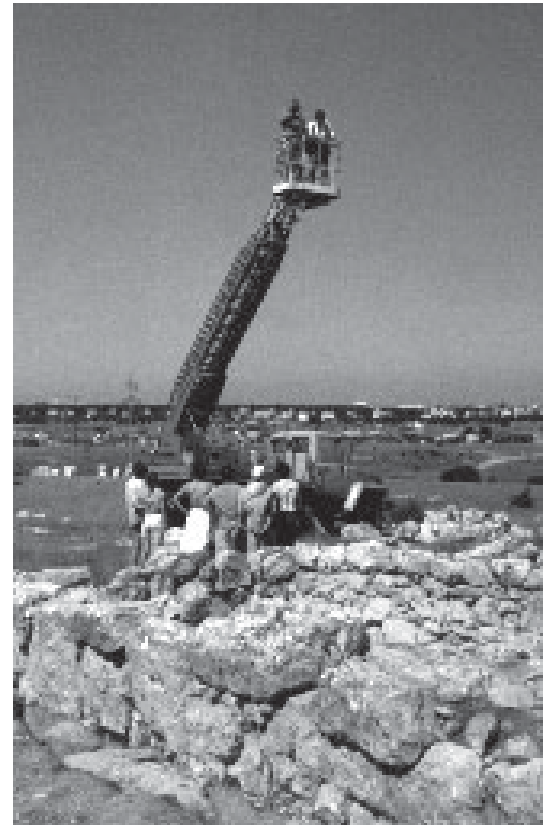
Figure 4. Jon Morter, field director of the Texas team, and Michail Kalashnikov, of the Museum team, discuss strategy at the site in the early days of June.

moved and the tempo of work in general (Fig. 6). The trowel which we introduced last year, replaced—in most cases—the thick bladed knife, and the hand-pick proved to be a valuable new addition to the Black Sea tool kit.

Much of the record-keeping, inventorying, communication and, as it turned out, data transmission, was carried out on the Macintosh Power Books contributed to the joint effort by the University, through the Dean of Liberal Arts. The plan of the site was completed after the UT team had departed and was sent to us via the Internet. The long-term potential of the Macs, especially their great utility for publication—a major area of need in archaeology in the former USSR—has been fully realized by our colleagues. Chris Williams, in addition to his full-time work as photographer, dedicated his evenings to instructing staff members of the Chersonesos Museum in techniques of scanning and desktop publishing.

The final factor in the success of the excavation, as always in archaeology, was luck—the luck that comes with hard work and preparation, but defies logical analysis. The site turned out to be gem! (Figs. 6–8). Not only was it in good condition, but it also contained a number of interesting and very revealing objects (Figs. 1, 9, 12, 13, 14). The dozen coins—more than normally found in such rural sites—were especially helpful in dating the occupation levels of the structure. In the light of these discoveries, it is now possible to trace the development of Site 151 and see reflected in it the history of colony in the early Hellenistic period.

In its earliest phase—the second half of the 4th century B.C.—Site 151 consisted of the Tower (Rooms 1 and 2), constructed in the lower courses of enormous squared stones, and above, of mud brick (see Site Plan). It was enclosed on three sides by the Courtyard which had another, satellite room (Room 5) at its southeast corner (Fig. 15). Another room was soon added across the south side of the Tower (Room 4). This room protected the door to the Tower, and was appropriately furnished only with a small side door (Fig. 8). Communication between the rooms of the Tower, the addition, Room 4, and the outside was through thick, double wooden doors set in carefully-designed stone casements. From the outset, defense was a prime concern.



*Figure 5. On the last day of the excavation, July 21, 1995, the cherry-picker raised Chris Williams over the site for final photographs.*

*Figure 6. Excavation of Site 151 in the early stages, June, 1995. UT wheelbarrows are in the foreground.*



*Figure 7. The fortified farmhouse from the northeast. The two rooms of the Tower are in the left center, Room 3 is in the foreground.*



*Figure 8. The southern part of the courtyard with Room 5 in the right foreground, Room 4 in the right center and Room 6 in the upper center. Part of the delegation from the Museum visits the site for the last-day tour.*





The Tower and Courtyard of Site 151 were probably among the very first structures to be erected in the territory of the colony, which had only recently been wrested from its pre-Greek native inhabitants, the Taurians—"indigenous" barbarians who preceded the nomadic Scythians in this area. This is indicated by the small shrine to Herakles (Fig. 11), the protector of the Heraklea Peninsula and the territory. It was constructed in the outside face of the Tower wall (northeast wall of Room 1). A niche, gabled like a temple, held the Herakles Club (Fig. 12), a stone object resembling a phallus (an identification confirmed by the discovery of the rest of it) in the south corner, and Herakles' goblet in the north (Fig. 13). The space was just large enough for these objects. An image of Herakles, on a scale corresponding to the club, would have been too large by far for the niche. It would have been larger, even, than the image of the satyr found in Room 2 (Fig. 14). We searched in vain for Herakles. A hand of the right size for the club (but of a different clay) was all that remained of his presumed cult image.

As the excavation on the north east side of the Tower progressed, other elements of the Herakles cult appeared: first the tip of the club and the opposite end of the phallus were found close by in the decayed mud brick from the Tower; then, directly below the niche, a squared stone with a burned upper surface (an altar) and nearby a large pithos in a niche in Room 7, the receptacle for votive libations. All the elements, as our joint crew observed, were present for a *shashlik*, or barbecue.

One can only speculate about the sort of meat that was cooked, as faunal remains were scarce. Animals appeared mainly in representations, e.g. the "longhorns" on three lead coins, or theater tokens, from the Tower area. These and other coins (Fig. 9)—most representing a nude female (the goddess Artemis, known in Chersonesos as "Parthenos," the maiden) and a stag sacred to Artemis—provide a secure absolute chronology for the first phase of the Site.

The goblet (Fig. 13), lying on its side, was manufactured a century and a half before the Tower was built. It was Athenian-made, of a type that was found in the Black Sea area as early as 500 B.C. (Chersonesos was probably founded ca. 420 B.C., though there was an earlier Greek

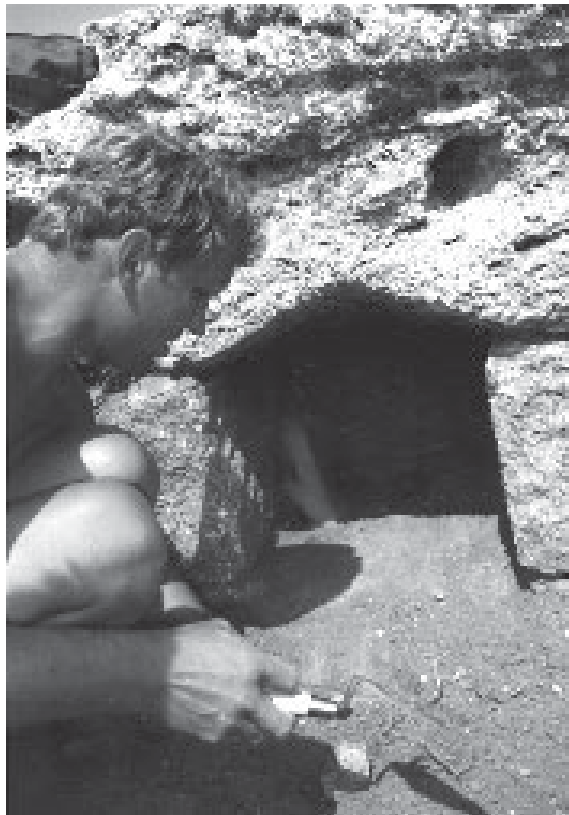


Figure 9. A selection of the coins from the excavation of Site 151, after cleaning. There are bronze coins, lead tokens (or coins) with "longhorns," coins with overstrikes of the mid-3rd century B.C., and the Herakles head and Artemis head (with stag on reverse), ca. 200 B.C.

*Figure 10. The southeast view of the site from the cherry-picker. The niche of the Herakles shrine is visible in the lower wall.*



*Figure 11. The discovery of the Shrine of Herakles. His club and phallus are visible inside the niche.*



*Figure 12. Herakles' knotty club.*



presence on the site.) I believe that the chalice was a religious relic brought by new settlers from the mother city, Heraklea Pontica, on the south coast of the Black Sea. These settlers came in the late 4th century B.C. to reinforce their former colony and lead the way in snatching the territory from the Taurians and settling it.

The next major event in the life of Site 151 occurred in the mid-3rd century B.C. Large wine containers, five pithoi, at some point occupying Room 2 of the Tower (Fig. 11), had been removed and the room deliberately filled with dirt. Something similar occurred in Room 1, with different colored dirt. Here the bins along the inside of the northeast wall (Fig. 18) were altered and the floors raised. The numerous fragments of pottery in Rooms 1 and 2 of the Tower indicate that the site was once again functioning as an agricultural establishment.

Among the earliest and most exciting of all the objects was a very large image of a hairy satyr (Fig. 14), found on the occupation level of this second phase in many fragments and over several weeks. Ambassador and Mrs. Miller observed the excavation of the first fragments during their visit to the Site on June 25 (Fig. 31). Their visit was clearly auspicious! Careful cleaning revealed some of the original color applied to the image. This satyr was blue. The restoration was carried out with great patience by the skilled Museum staff, despite the lack of basic chemicals and supplies for their work. The hirsute image of the satyr, like the fragmentary, slightly more refined ones which have appeared in the Pantanello sanctuary near Metaponto over the years, and the phallus, like the image from the Pantanello tile factory of 20 years ago, link in very tangible ways these two areas of Greek colonization and the U. T. projects. If these discoveries are a presage, we could be in for "the long haul" at Chersonesos.

A possible scenario for the site is that the Tower—a refuge for the farmers who worked the 60 acres of Site 151—was evacuated in the face of a Scythian threat early in the 3rd century B.C. There had been some advance planning for the Scythians, such as erecting a "anti-battering ram" buttress along the southeast wall of the Tower and narrowing the door through it, but these must have been deemed insufficient. (Inscriptions from the city confirm the exist-



Figure 13. The chalice-kantharos. A wine goblet that was discovered on its side in the right corner of Herakles' shrine. It dates to ca. 500 B.C. and was already ancient when the shrine was built.



Figure 14. The satyr, after provisional restoration.





Figure 17. Mike McGuirt prepares the 4th century B.C. floor surface of Room 2 for photography. Note the earth-filled pits for pithoi.



Figure 18. The level of broken pithoi in the second phase of the Tower, Room 2, ca. 250 B.C.



Figure 19. Professor Carter with Museum experts in numismatics in the Cataloger's office.

ence of a Scythian emergency in this period.) The pithos and other valuable property were evacuated. When it became safe again in the later 3rd century, the farmers returned.

In this next major phase, ca. 250 B.C.—dated very well by coins with overstrikes—Room 3 was added to the back (northwest side) of the Tower (Figs. 9, 19). This room is different from the others in having no connecting passage with any other room or with the outside. It was built over a rubbish heap (midden) just outside the Tower and its function may have been purely defensive, as a forewall (*proteichisma*). Room 4 had served this function in the first phase. At this time, too, the entrance to the Courtyard was narrowed and a room added in the southwest corner of the court (Room 6). Finally, the door to the Tower was narrowed once again and a lintel at the level of the filling of Room 2 was added.

The obsession with defense seems to have been well-founded in the experience of the inhabitants of the *chora*. Early in the 2nd century B.C., Wall 5 of the Tower (and maybe the front wall of Room 4), were breached and destroyed, (as we discovered in 1994) and the blocks were scattered over Room 3. This last occupation, dated by coins with Herakles head to about 200 B.C., seems improvised and was probably brief. The mud bricks of the rest of the Tower structure and rooms around the Courtyard began to dissolve, creating the mound (*kurgan*) that presented itself to the excavators on a fine day in June near the end of the 20th century A.D.

### The Study of the Stelai and Architectural Elements from the Tower of Zeno

The City of Chersonesos, like its territory, felt the pressure of the aggressive Scythians. Sometime in the 2nd century B.C. the defenders hastily reinforced one of the main defensive towers of the impressive fortifications, the so-called Tower of Zeno. They made use of the inscribed grave stelae and other funerary monuments of the Eastern Necropolis, just outside the walls (Figs. 21–23). The stelae were useful building material and they were handy. The markers of family plots were uprooted *en masse* and laid in parallel rows inside the tower (Fig. 21). Thus the markers of family members were once again side by side. These stones lay undisturbed until excavations in 1910, and especially in



Figure 15. Room 5 in the south corner of the courtyard being recorded by Natasha, one of the Russian architects.



Figure 16. Restoration laboratory in the Museum. A Museum restorer, Julia, looks on as Chris Williams photographs the satyr.

1960–61 and 1969–70, when the Museum archaeologists began to unearth large numbers of them.

Their importance for the history of Greek art was immediately apparent. The polychromatic decoration—the aspect of Greek art about which we know least—had been miraculously preserved by their burial in the tower. In 1994, I began work on a joint publication of this major treasure of the Chersonesos Museum, together with the discoverer of many of the stones (in 1960–61), Prof. Vitale Daniilenko, of the University of Simferopol (capitol of Crimea). The campaign continued in 1995, in the Museum storerooms (*Fondi*) and in the Archives. Chris Williams completed the photographic documentation and Professor Michael Katz, chair of Slavic Languages at UT, helped locate and translate many of the records of the excavations at the Tower of Zeno.

The work in the storerooms included measuring some 130 stelai and nearly as many architectural fragments. A number of pieces could be joined together to form more complete monuments. Four separate, handsome fragments with carved moldings and pediments, for example, were shown to have belonged originally to the single most impressive stele from Chersonesos. (The computer and scanner lend themselves well to the work of reconstruction through the digital manipulation of photographs.) A complete image of this stele will be featured in subsequent reports.

The inscribed and plain stelae from Chersonesos testify to the high level of artistic culture in this northern outpost of Hellenic civilization during a century and a half between 350 and 200 B.C. They also show, both in their design and in the names on many of them, the influence of Athens. Five distinctive types of stele were identified, one of which—the most elaborate type with pediments—was used almost exclusively for the burials of women.

The rich color preserved on the architectural elements from small funerary structures is one of the fullest records of the actual colors used. Much of Greek architecture and sculpture, exposed to weather, has at best only the outlines of painted decoration. It is possible with the numerous Chersonesos material to reach firm conclusions about which colors were appropriate to which parts of the architecture. A brilliant blue was used for the triglyphs of the



*Figure 20. Rachel Feit cataloging pottery finds in the Texas expedition pottery laboratory.*



Doric order (Fig. 22) and the whole of the frieze was framed above and below with red. On the Ionic cornice (Fig. 23) the background for the egg and the leaf decoration was invariably red, with the details in blue, gold or green.

Fortunately, all of our research on this important material is based on carefully documented excavation, restoration (by the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg) and on perceptive, preliminary studies. (Professor Katz's contribution here, as elsewhere, has been invaluable.) From the beginning, we were constantly impressed by the quality of work of our Ukrainian and Russian colleagues. This is what makes exploration of the "last frontier" of Classical Archaeology not only possible, but urgently necessary. This is a point to which I shall return below, but first a few words about the informal aspects of this educational experience.

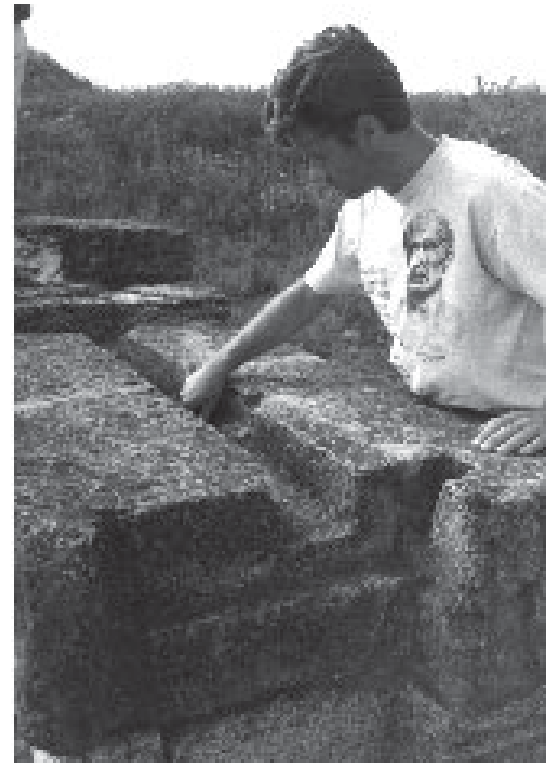
#### **After Work**

Work on the Site began on June 2 and was concluded seven weeks later, on July 21. The work day began at 5:30 a.m., ending on the Site at 2:00 p.m. and in the Museum at 4:00 p.m. Work then continued in the potshed until 6:30 dinner, and, frequently, around the computer until much later.

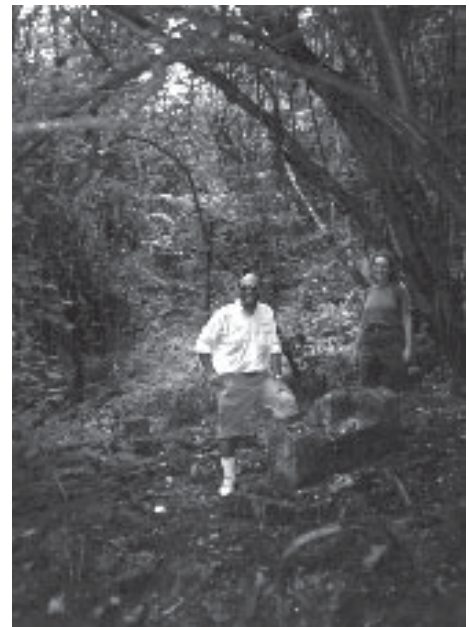
Our evening dinner—the main meal—was prepared by two excellent cooks and featured a variety of dishes with many fresh fruit and vegetables.

Despite the lack of modern conveniences, we were comfortable in three *dachas* and well taken care of by the house-keeping staff. Scarce water supplies were less of a problem this year than last. There was an eagerly-anticipated weekly visit to the sports club for a sauna and shower.

Work days were regularly Monday through Saturday. Sunday offered an opportunity to visit sights of historic interest and natural beauty such as Yalta and Livadia Palace (where 50 years earlier the document that decided the post-war fate of Eastern Europe was signed), the nearby Nikitski Botanical Garden, the Tartar capital of Bakciserai, and other, lesser-known points of interest such as the natural fortress and monastery of Mangup (Fig. 25). Midway through the season we enjoyed a day-long cruise along the coast of the Heraklea Peninsula to Fiolent Point (Fig. 26). The grim press reports of a polluted and dying Black Sea were belied by these inviting, and crystalline waters. Fish, however, were few.



*Figure 24. Andrew Keetley examines the door frame of another Chersonesian fortress, Belaus, on the Tarkankout Peninsula.*



*Figure 25. Prof. Michael Katz and Rachel Feit explore a 16th century Jewish cemetery of the Karaite sect, near the fortified hilltop monastery of Mangup.*

Early in July the Museum Director, Leonid Marchenko and the Vice Director, my co-director for our collaborative project, Galina Nickolaenko, offered the Texas team a two-day field trip to the Western Crimea. We visited a number of archaeological sites and were hosted in the base camp of the Kalos Limen Expedition. The theme of the tour was the vast extent of the agricultural empire of Chersonesos. At Bolshoi Kastel on the western tip of the Crimea (Fig. 28), we crossed miles of wheat-covered fields sloping down to a pristine sea and an isolated Chersonesian fortification, contemporary with our Site 151. At this point, 5 hours by car from Sevastopol, the concept of “empire” was dramatically brought home. (Most Greek territories can be crossed in a small fraction of that time.) The similarity of such features as the doors at Belaus (Fig. 24), another Chersonesian outpost, underlined the close dependence of the “empire” on the center at Chersonesos, and helped the students to better understand how the Chersonesians built.

### **Collaboration**

Up to now you have had a description of what we did and how we did it. But the most important result of all this effort—and the only reason it could be done at all—was the warm relations with our Ukrainian and Russian colleagues. The collaboration worked (Fig. 32). Not only did it work, it was an enormous success on many levels. This is our host’s merit, and, in equal measure, the merit of this and last year’s teams. I think that the University can be justly proud not only of their accomplishments, but also of their conduct as ambassadors.

### **Being “First”**

The initial motive, the inspiration that made the Texas team the first foreign team to excavate on the Black Sea, was a common intellectual interest in Greek colonization and the study of the territory. It is no coincidence that the co-directors, Galina and I, have spent all of our professional lives involved with this work. This is the basic glue to the relationship. The Museum and the Institute collaborate as equals toward common goals.

We are not, however, the only group to have an interest in this area, and it is important that we not lose momentum and our leading role here. The results of the 1994 and 1995 campaigns impressed greatly the Museum staff, Crimean and Ukrainian archaeological authorities and visiting

*Figure 26. A Sunday afternoon sail off Fiolent Point on the western edge of the Heraklea Peninsula. Lunch was served on board.*



*Figure 27. A late feast in the base camp of the Kalos Limen Expedition, just after an evening visit to the site of Panskoe.*



*Figure 28. The Chersonesan outpost of Bolshoi Kastel, a fortified agricultural structure at the western-most tip of Crimea. 4th century B.C.*





scholars from St. Petersburg and Moscow, during the official tour of the Site on July 21. We have a responsibility to maintain high standards for all future foreign collaborations with the Museum.

### A World in Flux

In 1991 the Soviet Union was dissolved and the Communist Party became one of a number of political parties in this vast area. The world changed and, especially for the inhabitants of the former Soviet Union, that change was not always for the best (Fig. 29). Funding for cultural projects, which came entirely from the government before 1991, were cut almost to nothing.

When I participated in a conference on Greek Colonies of the Black Sea in the Chersonesos Museum in October 1992, as the first foreigner ever, it was not a coincidence that discussions with the authorities after my paper focused on the possibility of collaborative projects between the University and the Museum. Without foreign participation, excavation projects could no longer be carried out due to lack of funding. Many projects which had earlier flourished had been suspended. The future of Classical Archaeology, once a prominent area of Russian and Ukrainian cultural life and a source of national pride, was in peril. It still is.

Our contribution to preserving this area of our common cultural heritage has been widely recognized throughout the former USSR. It has put us in an excellent position to support efforts by the Museum to emerge from isolation and reach out, through exhibitions and exchange, to the wider world.

This summer we supported the Museum's campaign to have Chersonesos recognized as a "World Treasure" by UNESCO. Upon our arrival in Kiev in late May, Prof. Katz and I met with the head of museums of the Ministry of Culture and with the head of the Ukrainian Mission to UNESCO in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This was in preparation for a visit by the UNESCO representative for Eastern European Projects to Chersonesos in June. While in Kiev we met with the US. Ambassador William Green Miller, and later, at the end of June, hosted him and Mrs. Miller for a day at Chersonesos and a visit to the site. Ambassador Miller has been very supportive of the Museum and our efforts on its behalf.



Figure 29. At the market. Our driver, Orest Yavtushenko, looks for brushes and shovel handles, while Michael Katz searches for an extension cord.



Figure 30. Urban expansion of Sevastopol into the territory of ancient Chersonesos.

The uniqueness of Chersonesos, as all who are familiar with it recognize, is not just the ancient city and the Museum, but also the *chora*. My colleague Galina Nikolaenko has sought our support in creating an Archaeological Park of the Territory, of which Site 151 would be the centerpiece. This would be the first such park anywhere. I support this initiative enthusiastically, especially after having tried, in vain, for many years to establish such a park in Southern Italy. The park for the territory of Chersonesos is an urgent matter in light of the rapid expansion of the city and of summer houses (*dachas*) over the territory—a trend which will greatly accelerate if and when land is privatized (Fig. 30).

### **The Future of the University's Project in Crimea**

#### **Exchange:**

In early May we hope to have both the Museum Director, Leonid Marchenko, and his Vice Director, my colleague Galina Nickolaenko, in Austin for lectures and meetings with the University administration, faculty and our students. Prof. Katz and his Institute will participate. With the visit to Austin we hope to combine a side trip to Washington and a longer visit to our sites at Metaponto and Crotone and to museums in Southern Italy.

#### **Exhibition:**

The Art Museum of San Antonio has expressed a strong interest in hosting an exhibition of Scythian gold treasures from Kiev and Greek art from Chersonesos. (During their visit to Kiev in May, President and Mrs. Clinton asked to be taken to see the Scythian gold.) The exhibition, tentatively entitled "Scythians and Greeks,"



*Figure 31. Professor Carter guides Ambassador and Mrs. Miller through the Tower at Site 151.*



*Figure 32. Professor Carter, Galina Nikolaenko and Professor Katz during an interview in the ancient city of Chersonesos, just below the Texas excavation houses.*



*Figure 33. Leonid Marchenko, Chersonesos Museum Director, and Professor Carter*



would focus on the artistic and political interaction which we have encountered in the *chora* of Chersonesos at Site 151. The Ukrainian authorities (our good friend Ivan Yavtushenko is the Director of the Scythian Gold Exhibition in Kiev) are fully supportive of and enthusiastic about the idea.

**Excavation:**

The Museum director has offered the University the single most impressive site in the territory for excavation. The towers and walls of a Roman fortress are in evidence, and there are Greek and Pre-Greek, as well as later phases on this hilltop overlooking the Valley of Balaklava, with the Taurian Mountains in the background. This complex, historically important, and scenically magnificent site would require a major effort over a period of 5–10 years (Fig. 33).

In the short term, we have to complete the excavation of Site 151 and the study of its pottery. The excavation is at a point where it would be ideal for a visit by interested UT alumni and friends of the excavation, such as the tour of Metaponto in 1983.

Whether any of these projects is ever realized is entirely dependent on future fund-raising efforts. This year's project, which was made possible by the IREX grant and our loyal donors, was up in the air until May 3, when favorable word came from IREX. Recent moves by Congress endanger traditionally supportive sources like IREX and NEH. (Fortunately, unlike the Chersonesos Museum, not all of our funding has come from a single government source.) I would like to enlist your help in seeing that this valuable initiative, which brings much honor to the University, will continue on a more stable basis in the future. This is one area where the University is historically and indisputably first.

Yours sincerely;

Joseph Coleman Carter  
Centennial Professor in Classical Archaeology  
Director, the Institute of Classical Archaeology

Austin  
September 1, 1995



*Figure 34. The combined Texas-Ukrainian-Russian team on the last day of excavation.*



*Figure 35. The UT team at the excavation house.*



*Figure 36. The view from the UT excavation house.*

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*Figure 21. Grave stele with the name, "Sannion the son of Megakles," one of a large family whose stelai were discovered in the Tower of Zeno. Between the two rosettes (colored yellow, green and blue) is a knotty walking stick which may have indicated the deceased's age.*

*Figure 22. A section of Doric frieze from a small funerary structure. Tower of Zeno.*

*Figure 23. Detail of an Ionic cornice from a funerary structure. Tower of Zeno.*