



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

From Fragments to Framework: harmonizing legacy data from 50 years of excavations at Hala Sultan Tekke, Cyprus

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Abstract

Since the start of systematic excavations in the 1970s, the Late Bronze Age urban site complex near Hala Sultan Tekke (Cyprus) has undergone extensive exploration through numerous excavation campaigns. Over the years, this site has accumulated a monumental material archive, encompassing artifacts, architectural data, and other valuable cultural information. However, methodological inconsistencies across campaigns – such as varying measurements for elevation and the use of diverse recording techniques – have introduced notable discrepancies within the dataset. Legacy data, although vast in quantity, has become fragmented and often incomplete due to the challenges in preservation and consistent documentation over time. In response to these challenges, our project aims to unify this heterogeneous legacy dataset within a methodologically consistent framework, leveraging advanced digital tools. By applying contemporary digital techniques, including 3D modeling, GIS integration, and database normalization, we seek to recontextualize and consolidate the legacy data. This digital revitalization enables a more coherent analysis of the site's complex stratigraphy and artifact distributions, enhancing our understanding of the spatial and social dynamics within this Late Bronze Age urban centre. Ultimately, this effort not only preserves but also reinvigorates valuable archaeological information, offering a template for managing and modernizing legacy data in archaeology.

Keywords

Legacy data, Cypriot archaeology, Late Bronze Age, Digital Humanities

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