

Report on the Autumn 2023 Field Season of Ca' Foscari University Archaeological Project in Georgia

Elena Rova (Ca' Foscari University of Venice),
Mariam Eloshvili (Ilia State University, Tbilisi)
Francesca Bertoldi (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)
Giovanni Siracusano (Roma)

INTRODUCTION

The autumn 2023 field season of Ca' Foscari University Archaeological Project in Georgia was dedicated to various activities carried out by different members of the project, which took place at different times between September 14th and November 8th.

The main activity was the preliminary field campaign of a future joint project in the Gardabani municipality, to be carried out in collaboration with Ilia University of Tbilisi, for which a cooperation agreement between the two institutions is presently in course of being signed.

The main Italian team arrived in Georgia on September 15th and reached the city of Rustavi, where the expedition house was located, on the same day. It flew back to Italy on October 4th. The team was headed by prof. Elena Rova of Ca' Foscari University (co-director of the project) and included: Francesco Bianchi (PhD candidate at the Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich, Germany), Sebastiano Claut and Mirea Peruzzi, BA (MA students at Ca' Foscari). The Georgian team was composed of: Mariam Eloshvili (PhD candidate at Ilia State University, co-director of the project) and Mikheili Lobjanidze, MA (Ilia State University, topographer).

The team produced a drone assisted contour map, DEM and general plan of the Gardabani kurgan field (site GS001), which will be the object of excavations starting in 2024, as well as detailed plans of 63 individual kurgans of the barrow field. It also visited other potential archaeological sites in the Gardabani municipality, as a preliminary step for a systematic survey of the area to be launched in 2024.

In the course of the season, preliminary visits were also paid to the Rustavi local museum, where in the past occasional finds from the region should have been brought, in order to ascertain the consistence of their collections and inquire about the possible presence of unpublished archaeological materials there. On the evening of September 29th the team took part to the VenetoNight event in Venice by means of a remote Zoom session from the site. At the end of the field season, a visit was paid by Elena Rova to Ilia University in Tbilisi in order to plan future projects and discuss the progress of ongoing geo-archaeological research about the Alazani plain.

At the same time, the Italian team continued working on the study of materials from the previous field seasons (in the framework of the GISKAP project in collaboration with the Georgian National Museum in Tbilisi and, respectively, of the GILAP project in collaboration with the Lagodekhi local Museum). Within the former, Giovanni Siracusano, the expedition's archaeozoologist, spent two weeks (from September 17th to October 1st) at Kareli Museum continuing the analysis of the animal bones from the site of Aradetis Orgora, excavated by the team between 2013 and 2016.

Finally, from October 24th to November 8th, prof. Francesca Bertoldi accompanied by prof. Liane Bitadze of Tbilisi State University from Ca' Foscari University spent a study period in Tbilisi

and Borjomi and continuing the work on the human remains from medieval monasteries in the Borjomi region which had been started during the expedition's summer season.

ACTIVITIES IN THE GARDABANI REGION

General description of the area and previous research

The Gardabani Municipality lies in the Kvemo Kartli region of Southern Georgia. The municipality includes a large, very irregular area of ca 1,212.2 km² which extends from Tbilisi to the border with Azerbaijan in NS direction and is bordered to the west by Marneuli municipality, also belonging to Kvemo Kartli, and to the east by Sagarejo municipality, which belongs to Kakheti region. The administrative centre, Gardabani (Georgian: გარდაბანი), lies close to its southern limit. The southern part of the municipality is approximately divided into a western part, occupied by the Kura plain, and an eastern one, slightly drier and higher in altitude, bordered to the east and south by low reliefs: the so-called "coloured mountains" of Mravaltskaro to the east, which represent the border of Kvemo Kartli with Kakheti and, respectively, to the south, the reliefs marking the border with Azerbaijan. At the southern limit of the region, an artificial lake, Jandara reservoir, lies at the limit between the two parts of the territory and, at the same time, on the present Georgian-Azerbaijani border.



Fig 1. Satellite view of the Gardabani Municipality with location of the Gardabani Kurgan field

Contrary to all the surrounding areas, which are notoriously rich in historical sites of different periods from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages and have been, and still are, intensively investigated, this part of the Gardabani municipality has been rather neglected from an archaeological point of view; as a matter of fact, there is hardly any report about previous archaeological excavations having been carried out in the area. A few years ago the Georgian-Canadian team working at the Neolithic site of Gadakhri Gora in the Marneuli municipality (GRAPE project) launched a survey in the region, the results of which are still partially unpublished (cf. on line lecture by Ira Schwartz, September 28, 2022: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSbGQ8Yka4E>). The survey mostly focused on the western part of the territory of the district, but in the course of its activities some sites were also discovered in its eastern part. In particular, two young Georgian archaeologists, Levan Losaberidze and Mariam Eloshvili, discovered a field of kurgans ca 12 km to the NE of Gardabani as the crow flies, close to the modern village of Lemshveniera.

Our team had paid a preliminary visit to the site in October 2021. On this occasion, it had marked the GPS position of about 30 kurgans. It was decided, at that time, to launch a future joint archaeological project including excavations at the kurgan field (which we decided to name “Gardabani Kurgan field”) and multidisciplinary research on the surrounding territory.

The archaeological site lies at a distance of ca 12 km to the NE of Gardabani as the crow flies, approximately to the north of Jandara reservoir. It is interesting to observe that just beyond the border, ca 15 km to the south, lies the Chalcolithic kurgan field of Boyuk Kesik (Lyonnet et al., AMIT 40, 2008), whereas the Early Iron Age site of Udabno (Korfmann et al. AMIT 35-36, 2005; see also S. Brodbeck-Jucker, *Die Keramik von Udabno und ihre Stellung innerhalb des früheisenzeitlichen Südkaukasus*, Bonn 2017) lies only 15 km to the east.

The Gardabani kurgan field extends over an area of ca 40 hectares, whose approximate centre lies at UTM 516786.00 m E, 4596679 m N, at alt. 426 a.s.l.; its elevation varies from 435 to 420 m. a.s.l. sloping from NE toward SW (**Fig. 2**). The cemetery occupies a small plateau delimited by the rivers Jangirsu (to the N) and Gezaldere (to the S) and bordered to the south by some bare,



Fig. 2. Drone view of the site from south

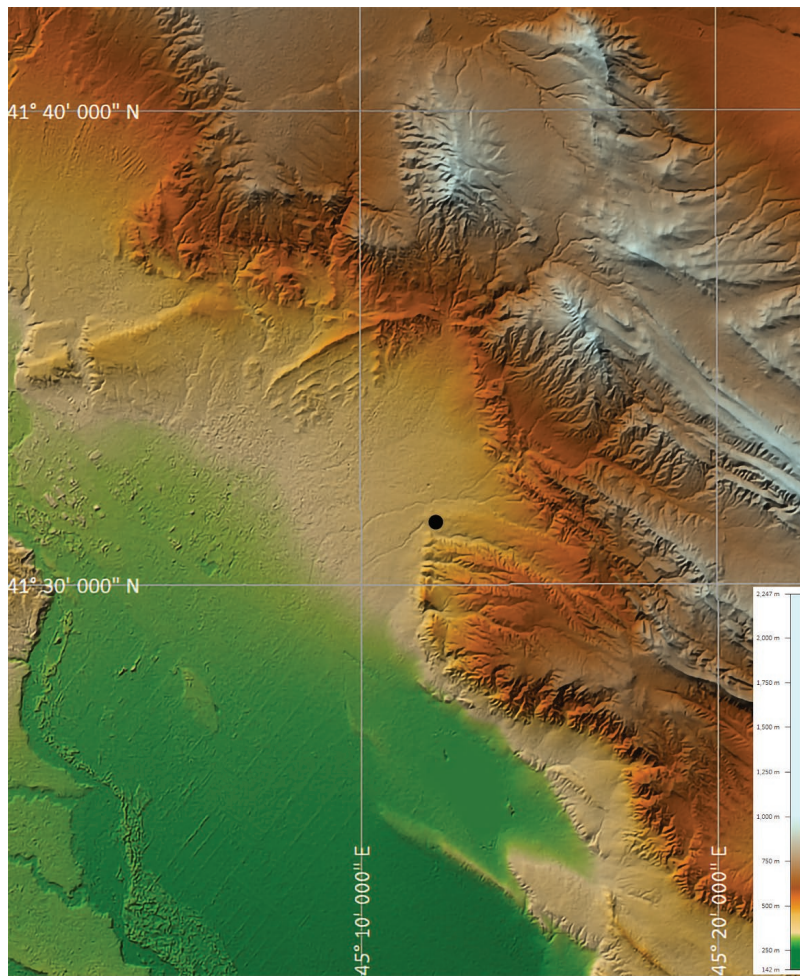


Fig. 3. Map of the area with location of the site (black dot)

undulating hills which continue until the border with Azerbaijan.

The site lies at the edge of a gently sloping pediment formed by the erosion of neogenic deposits (apparently consisting of conglomerates) at the foot of the slopes of the adjacent hills (**Fig. 3**). The granulometry of the sediments varies from clay to conglomerates, progressively increasing in size as long as one moves upwards. The area is crossed by numerous meandering erosion channels, typically filled with coarser pebbles deposits. Conoid deposits are also visible at the mouth of secondary valleys. The climate is very dry; according to local informants, it barely rains, except in exceptional years, when there can be isolated episodes of quite heavy rain, which can cause considerable erosion to the banks of the otherwise almost dry rivers and canals.

The area is semi-desert and completely devoid of trees; spontaneous vegetation consists of low sparse patches of grass. The soil is very sandy and rich in pebbles and grit-gravel deposits. The area is presently uncultivated and mainly used for grazing by small groups of Azeri shepherds. In Soviet times, however, it was more intensively exploited, as shown by the remains of several farms for large-scale intensive cattle-breeding, one of which was located just south of the kurgan field, and another, larger one, ca 2 km to the south. There are also remains of irrigation canals and small water reservoirs, which suggest that agriculture was also practiced in the area in the 20th century, as it is still practiced a few kilometres to the west, as well as to the east, close to the Mravaltskaro mountains.



Fig. 34. Ortophoto of kurgan 52, showing the kurgan (in the center) surrounded by modern military installations

There are also numerous traces of military activities in the neighbourhood; indeed, the area where the kurgan field is located was a military area where field exercises were carried out, and whose access was prohibited in Soviet times to the local inhabitants; therefore it was never subjected to ploughing and cultivation, and remained relatively undisturbed. Traces of sinuous trenches, firing posts, large holes and remains of small cement constructions resulting from these military activities are clearly visible on the ground, and have in some cases damaged individual kurgans (Fig. 4). There is also at least a modern canalisation with ruined cement sides which crosses the whole area in an approximately EW direction. In recent times (ca 15 years ago), the area was rented by the Georgian government as grazing land to a family of Azeri shepherds coming from Kakheti, who still lives in the old Soviet farm.

Aims of the season

The aims of the 2023 season were:

- 1) to create a detailed map of the Gardabani Kurgan field, where we plan to start regular excavations in summer 2024, evaluate the extent, the consistency and the state of preservation of all its archaeological features and set an excavation grid on it in order to better plan our first excavation campaign there.
- 2) to get a preliminary idea of the archaeological potential of the southern part of the Gardabani municipality, for better planning the future multiyear archaeological project to be carried out there in cooperation with Ilia State University of Tbilisi.

Survey of the Gardabani Kurgan Field (site GS001)

During the first week of the season, a photogrammetric plan and digital elevation model (DEM) of the site and its surrounding (for a total surface of 130 ha) were produced by Mikheili Lobjanidze based on drone images taken on 18/10/2023. A 100 x 100 m grid oriented along the cardinal points

was then imposed to it and cemented points were set on the whole area on which the presence of barrows had been observed (Fig. 5).

In the course of 15 working days, the team of archaeologists completed first of all a pedestrian survey of the whole plateau, marking the precise position not only of all the visible barrows (63 in number) (Fig. 6), but also of other features visible on the surface, for instance of such modern disturbances as military trenches, firing posts, ruins of modern buildings etc.

Each identified kurgan was photographed, measured and described; all relevant data (dimensions, composition, state of preservation, photos etc.) were inserted into a dedicated database. The team also took orthogonal drone pictures of each kurgan; detailed plans of the individual barrows (Figs 7, 8) were then derived from the thus obtained photoplan images. This allowed not only to draw up a complete plan of the cemetery to be used in future fieldwork, but also to get an overall view of the characteristic features of the kurgans and of their pattern of distribution within the cemetery.

The majority of the barrows is located in the southwestern part of the plateau, south of the old irrigation canal which crosses it in approximately EW direction. A few of them (Nos 43, 45) are located just on the western edge of the plateau, and have been partially damaged by slope erosion. This suggests that the cemetery area might have originally extended for a few additional meters in western direction. The vast area to the north of the modern canal, up to the course of the Jangirsu river, is presently almost devoid of barrows, except for its SW corner (kurgans Nos 11, 12, 42, 43, 44, 45). It should be observed, however, that this part of the plateau lies at a lower elevation than the southern part, and is also less dry; accordingly, it has been, and it still is, subject to cultivation in modern times. As at least two isolated kurgans (Nos 33 and 34) have been observed in this part of the plateau and it is possible that other ones were originally present and have been completely obliterated by ploughing, stone removal etc.

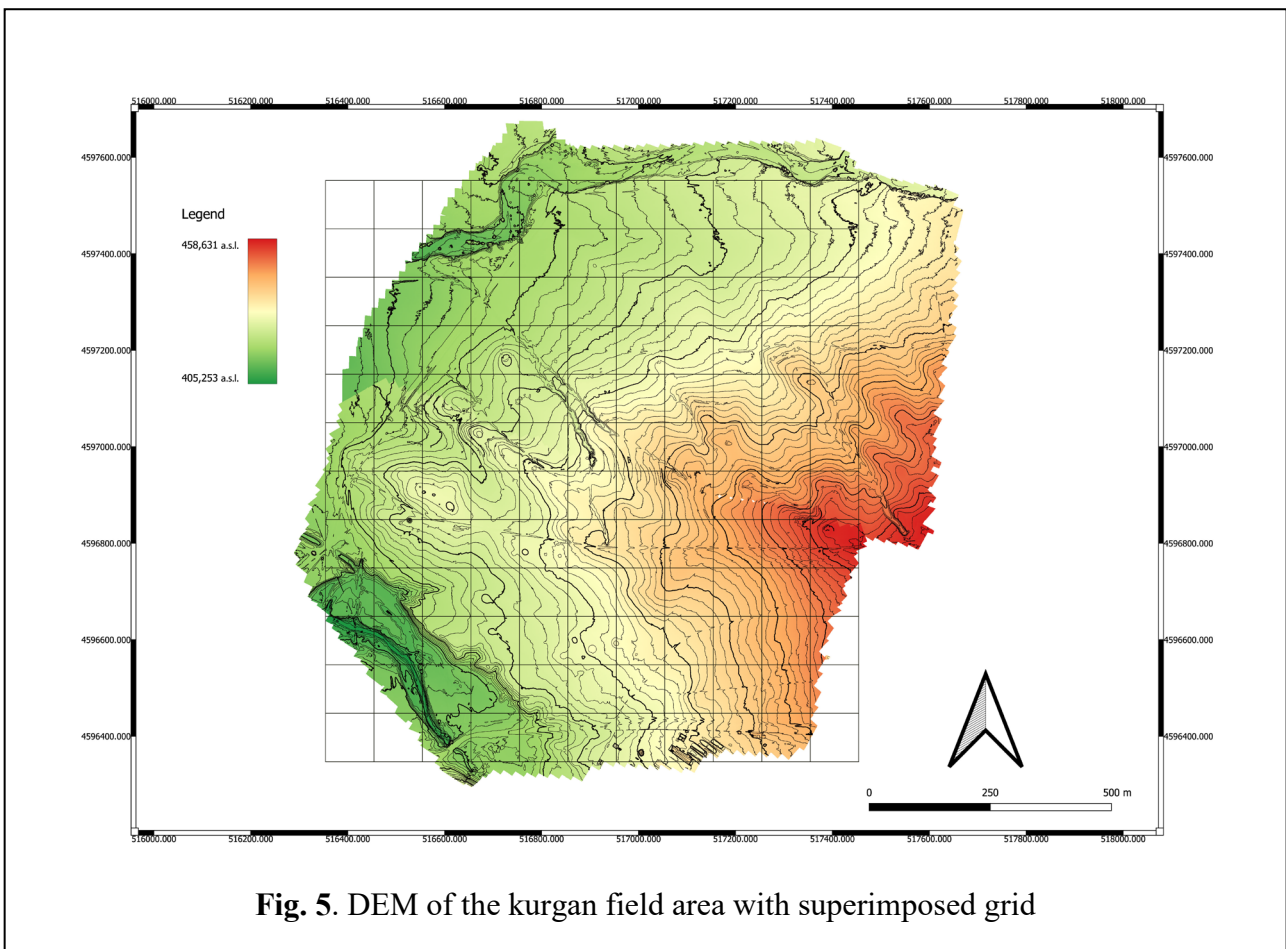


Fig. 5. DEM of the kurgan field area with superimposed grid

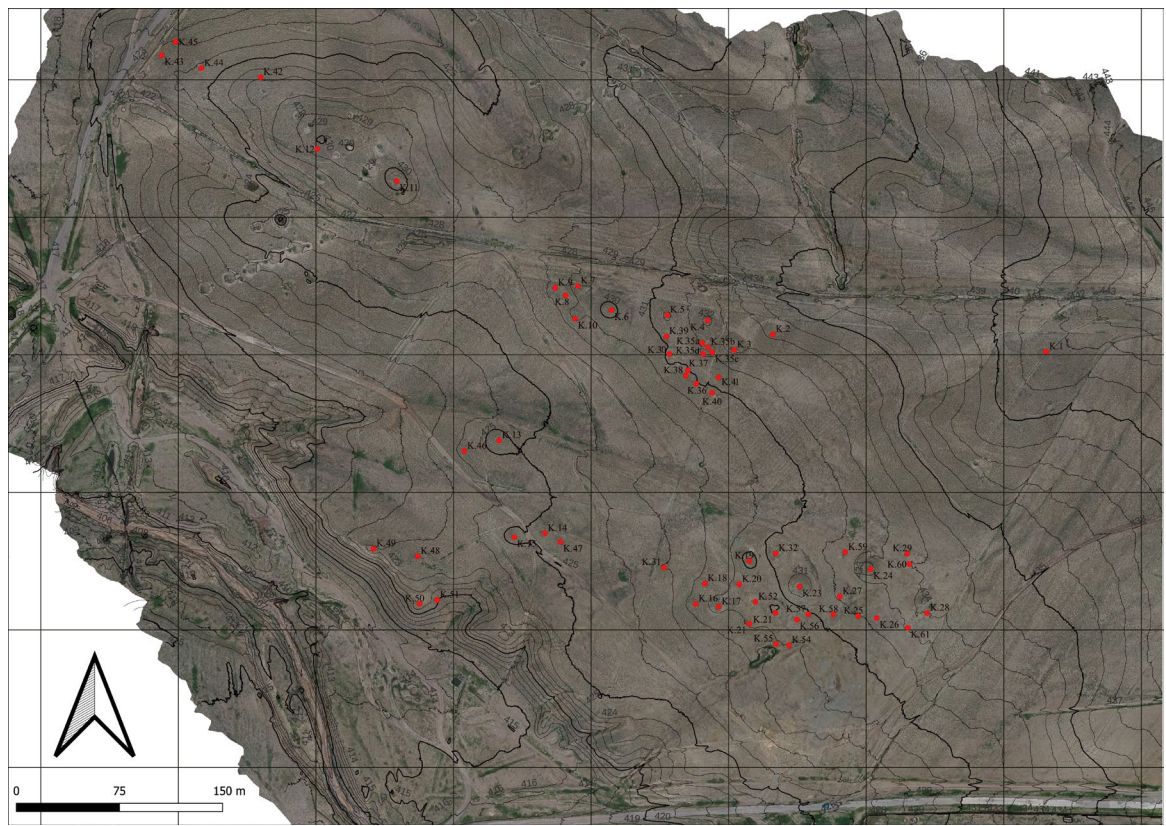
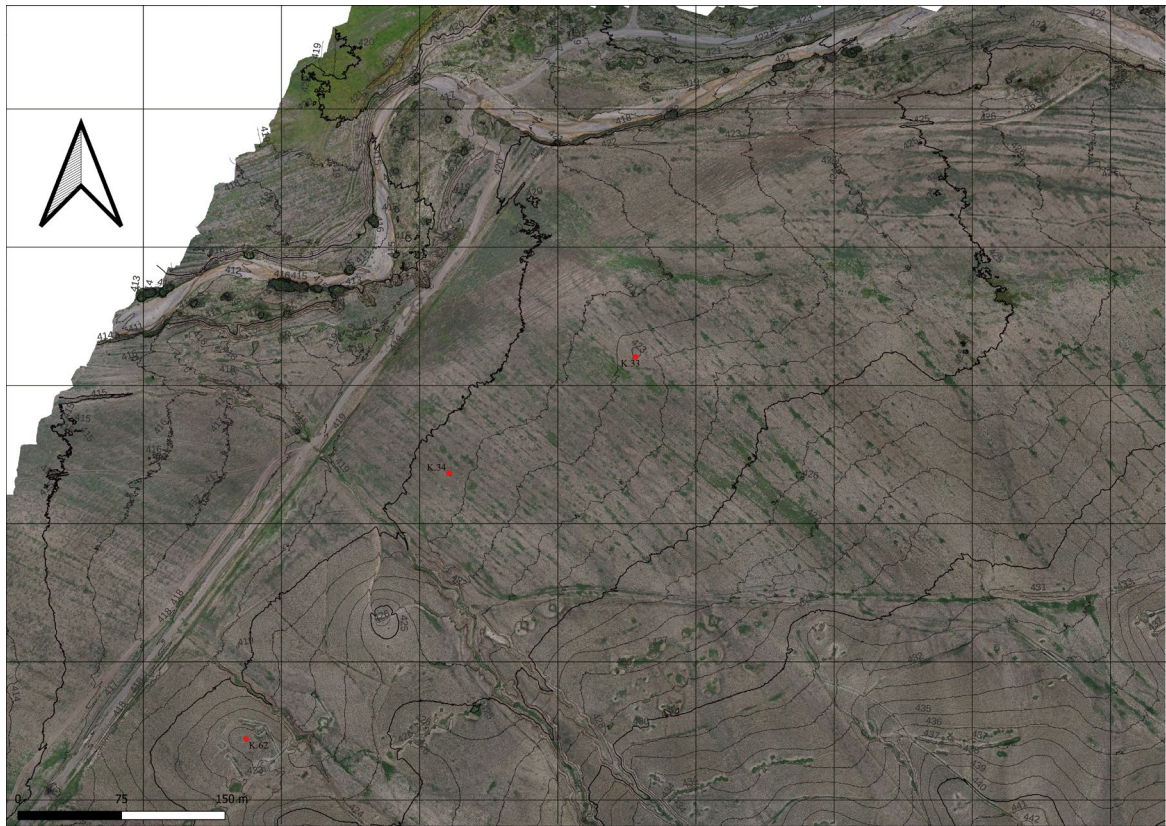


Fig. 6. Drone orophoto and Contour map of the kurgan field, with location of the identified kurgans: above, northern part, below, southern part

The distribution of the barrows in the cemetery area is not homogeneous, as they seem to be grouped into separate clusters. At least four of these can be preliminarily identified. The largest one lies at the SE limit of the area; is composed of 27 barrows located rather close to each other. The second cluster lies ca 100 m to the NW of the first one; it is formed by 18 elements, also rather closely spaced. Kurgans belonging to the remaining two clusters are more widely spaced between each other. The third one is located to the west of the first one, the fourth to the NW of the second one. The distance between individual kurgans belonging to the same cluster (from centre to centre) varies between 5 and 30 m (cf. **Fig. 7**).

The kurgans are generally small – they measure between 5-6 and 30 m in diameter, but most common are diameters between 10 and 15 m – and rather low (less than 3 m in height, usually between 1 and 2) (**Fig. 8**). In general, they appear to be well preserved and bear few evident traces of plundering. Their top is often marked by a slight depression, possibly due to the collapse of an internal chamber. Some of them, however, appear to have been partially or completely flattened: in the latter case, it is also possible that one is dealing not with proper kurgans, but rather with graves covered by a flat circle of stones.

They are mostly rounded; in some cases it is difficult to estimate their precise limits, although these can be approximately identified by the different colour of the vegetation covering them (which is thicker and greener outside of the kurgan, less thick and brownish over part of it). Some seem slightly oval in shape, but this may be the result of later disturbance. To judge from what is visible in the satellite images, some of them might have been surrounded by a larger earthen mound or by a an outer circle of stones (up to 40 m in diameter).

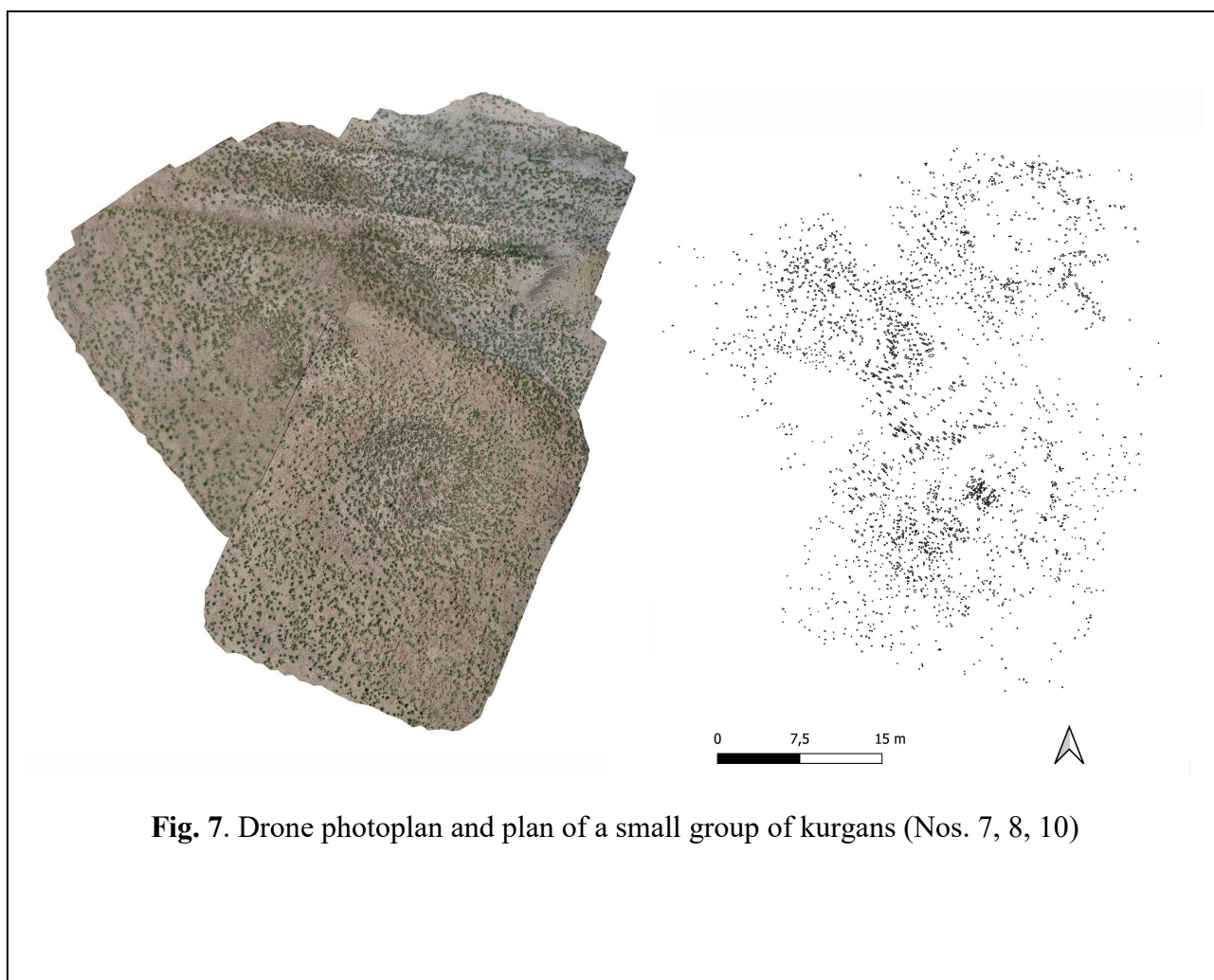


Fig. 7. Drone photoplan and plan of a small group of kurgans (Nos. 7, 8, 10)

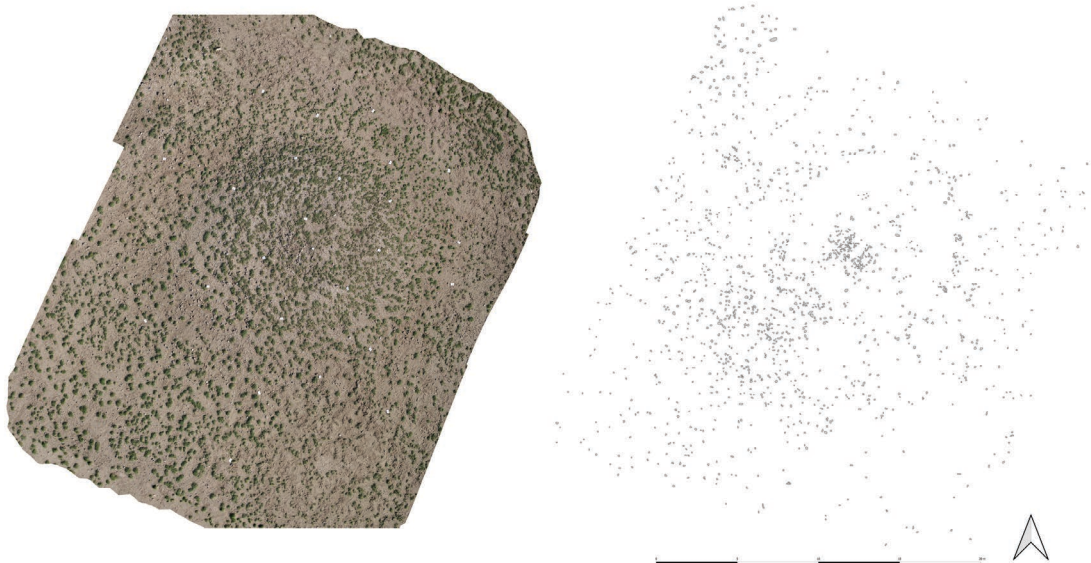


Fig. 8. Kurgan 10: View from S (above), drone photoplan and plan (below)

The burial mounds are covered with medium- and small-size river pebbles (their dimensions vary between 5-6 and 20-25 cm), apparently laid in a rather thin and in most cases not very compact layer. Some pebbles are also found around the base of the kurgans, where they might have been transported by post-depositional agents. Under the pebbles the kurgans mostly seem to consist of a more compact layer of grit. It is possible that some of them were surrounded by an outer ring of pebbles (cromlech?), remains of which seem to be visible on some disturbed ones. Careful recording of the position of individual pebbles highlighted the presence, within the kurgan cover, of small circles of stones located on the mound's slope and possibly marking the position of secondary graves, maybe belonging to members of the family of the main deceased.

Although the frequent presence of a slight central depression suggests the existence of a central burial chamber, there are no clear hints about the shape and type of the latter (whether under- or above-ground, in stone or in wood or in a simple pit, etc.). Also, in spite of careful search, no ancient material was found around and on the kurgans, except for a few small obsidian flakes. If, on the one hand, this suggests that the grave's contents may be still intact, it provides no clear hints about their date.

The vicinity of the site to Boyuk Kesik and the small dimensions of the barrows might suggest a Late Chalcolithic date at least for some of them; alternatively, they might belong to any period between the Late Middle and the Late Bronze/Early Iron Age, where cemeteries composed of small kurgans are especially frequent everywhere in the Southern Caucasus.

The kurgans had apparently been erected directly on the natural soil in an area devoid of any previous or contemporary settlement. To judge from the exposed sequence visible in the cut of the modern canalisation, this consisted of a very thin humus layer (less than 10 cm thick) underlain by a layer of gravel and small pebbles (the same of which the burial mounds appears to be formed), which in its turn overlies a layer of yellowish sandy soil of alluvial origin.

Besides kurgans, we recorded the presence of a few stone features of a different type: e.g. one or two rectilinear alignments, possibly belonging to walls of small buildings or open-air structures. There were also several flat circles of stones, usually of small dimensions (diameter between 3 and 5-6 m). These have been provisionally numbered as "kurgans" but as anticipated they may in fact belong to a different type of funerary monuments.

In order to clarify the general organisation of the burial ground, besides excavating two or three well preserved kurgans, during the forthcoming 2024 season we plan to undertake a geomagnetic survey of a part of it including several kurgans and some of these smaller features. This will complement information gained through the excavation of the individual kurgans, which will first of all allow to ascertain their date and secondly the state of preservation of their contents, thus enabling us to better plan the following seasons of the project.

Visit to other potential sites and locations in the Gardabani Municipality

Although no systematic survey of the southern part of the Gardabani Municipality was undertaken, the team paid visits to several sections of it (e.g. the shores of Jandara Reservoir, the area close to the "coloured mountains", the area close to Lemshveniera village, the hills to the south of the site, etc.) in order first of all to check the different landscape features and mark possible exposed geological sections to be analysed by the expedition's geomorphologist during the 2024 season. Four of these sections were also documented photographically.

We furthermore visited some locations (**Fig. 9**) where the analysis of satellite images had highlighted the presence of possible sites, among which three fields located ca 2.50 km to the NE of the site. These were however under cultivation and covered by thick vegetation, so that visibility was very poor, a fact that hindered any conclusion about the presence of any archaeological remains on them. We also paid a visit to a wide former military area located between 0.5 and 2 km to the east of the site, on whose surface we were, however, not been able to observe any remains except for the modern ones.

A short visit to the hills overlooking the site on the southern side, beyond the course of the Gezaldere river, was more successful: on top of them, at 38T 516789 E 4596007 N, alt. 460 m a.s.l ca, we identified the location of a probable Late Bronze/Early Iron Age settlement (GS002) marked by the presence of stone walls and structures. Collected material included several sherds of typical Late Bronze/Early Iron Age pottery and numerous fragments of obsidian (among which a small arrow-head) (**Fig. 10**).

Finally, another small kurgan field (site GS002, 38T 516001 E, 4593738 N, alt. 388 m. a.s.l.) was identified on the slope east of the road running from Lemshveniera village in northern direction, close to a large abandoned Soviet farm. The site had already been visited by the Canadian



team in 2019, who reported the presence of a kurgan of unknown period overlying a possible Chalcolithic settlement. Our team recorded the presence of at least five small kurgans, but found no evidence of any Chalcolithic occupation.

This very preliminary inspection confirmed the archaeological potential of this until now under-investigated area, but also highlighted the difficulty in identifying archaeological sites based on the mere analysis of satellite images, mainly due to the heavy disturbances caused by Soviet-period military and economic activities.

It also showed, however, how much better results might be obtained through an intensive pedestrian survey approach, which we intend to apply during the next field seasons.



STUDY OF THE FAUNAL REMAINS FROM THE EXCAVATIONS AT ARADETIS ORGORA AT KARELI MUSEUM (GIOVANNI SIRACUSANO)

From September 17th to October 1st 2023 Giovanni Siracusano carried out a two week-long on-site study at the Kareli Museum, dedicated to the continuing analysis of the faunal materials from the site of Aradetis Orgora excavated by the Georgian-Italian expedition between 2013 and 2016, which are currently housed at this Museum.

During this campaign, the animal bone remains collected during the 2014 and 2015 seasons were processed, except for those belonging to the Kura-Araxes period, which had already been analysed in 2022. A total of 4024 bones were identified. 3512 of them had been attributed to the LB/EIA period, 444 to the MBA period, and 27 to the transition period between the MBA and the LB/EIA. 33 samples came from mixed surface layers and 9 were referable to an undetermined period between the KA and the LBA. Leaving aside the few remains of the transitional period and those that cannot be easily placed, indicated as "mixed", some interesting differences can be observed between the assemblages attributed to the MBA and LBA/EIA periods.

During the MBA, caprine farming is mainly practiced, the flocks consisting mostly of sheep (ratio 6:1). Caprines, which make up more than half of the livestock, are followed by domestic cattle, which exceed 37%, while pigs are present but to an extent of less than 10%. Equids are certainly present, even if only sporadically detected in this period's assemblage. It is assumed that their presence was much larger than what was detected, due to the fact that they do not appear, except occasionally, in food remains. There are very few wild animals, represented by a fragment of a cervid antler, a distal tibia fragment of roe deer and a fragment of a huge hoof, presumably belonging to an aurochs. Probably the rather small number of remains was not sufficient to highlight the variety of the game.

The much larger quantity of remains coming from the LBA allows for a more reliable analysis. The first important innovation in animal economy is that husbandry is no longer dominated by flocks, but the most common animals are now cattle. Although the frequency of the latter is essentially the same as in the previous period (around 40%), the increase is significant considering the dramatic decline in caprines (around 35%) and above all the increase in pigs (around 25%).

In this period there was a very strong increase in pigs, which accounted for a quarter of the remains of domestic animals. The incidence of equids, mainly (if not exclusively) represented by horse remains, as well as that of dogs, is still low, as expected, because they are both intended for other functions that do not include the consumption of their meat.

During this period, as in the previous one, hunting seems to have been a secondary, if not occasional, activity. Deer remains, in this area, represent over 2/3 of the game which, however, represents just over 1% of the total remains overall. Of some interest is also the identification of remains of freshwater fish, while the more massive presence of rodents suggests a more intensive activity in the storage of foodstuffs in comparison with the previous period.

AO 2014-15	MBA			LBA		
TAXA		% TOT	% DOM.		% TOT	% DOM.
Horse <i>Equus caballus</i>	1	0,3%	0,3%	9	0,3%	0,3%
Equids	1	0,3%	0,3%	11	0,4%	0,4%
Cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>)	148	37,5%	37,9%	1070	37,3%	38,4%
Sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>)	12		3,1%	64		2,3%
Goat (<i>Capra hircus</i>)	2		0,5%	33		1,2%
S/G unid.	189	47,8%	48,3%	901	31,4%	32,4%
S/G tot	203	51,4%	51,9%	998	34,8%	35,8%
Pig (<i>Sus domesticus</i>)	38	9,6%	9,7%	690	24,1%	24,8%
Dog (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>)	0	0,0%	0,0%	7	0,2%	0,3%
Total domestic	391	99,0%	99,0%	2785	97,1%	98,7%
Aurochs (<i>Bos Primigenius</i>)	1	0,3%	25,0%	1	0,0%	2,6%
Red deer (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>)		0,0%	0,0%	28	1,0%	73,7%
Roe deer <i>Capreolus capreolus</i>)	1	0,3%	25,0%	1	0,0%	2,6%
<i>Cervids</i>	1	0,3%	25,0%	0	0,0%	0,0%
Gazelle (<i>Gazella sp.</i>)	1	0,3%	25,0%	0		0,0%
Wild boar (<i>Sus scrofa</i>)		0,0%	0,0%	4	0,1%	10,5%
Hare (<i>Lepus capensis</i>)		0,0%	0,0%	4	0,1%	10,5%
Total big game	4		1,0%	38		1,3%
TOTAL	395		100,0%	2823		100,0%
Rodents		0,0%		26	0,9%	
Birds		0,0%		4	0,1%	
Turtle		0,0%		2	0,1%	
Fish		0,0%		13	0,5%	
TOTAL Small wild animals	0	0,0%		45	1,6%	
TOTAL IDENTIFIED	395			2868		
Large ungulates	38			331		
medium ungulates	11			312		
Small mammals	0			1		
Total indetermined	49			644		
TOTAL IDENTIFIED	444			3512		

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF THE HUMAN OSTEOLOGICAL REMAINS FROM MEDIEVAL MONASTERIES IN THE BORJOMI REGION

Between the second half of October and the beginning of November Prof. Francesca Bertoldi spent 15 days in Georgia hosted by prof. Lia Bitadze of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University in the framework of an Overseas agreement between Ca' Foscari and this university. Besides carrying out didactical activities for the students of Ivane Javakhishvili University on physical anthropology, taphonomy and funerary archaeology, she continued the study of the human osteological material from Medieval monasteries in the Borjomi gorge of the Samtskhe-Javakheti region she initiated

during the summer season of our expedition. (Berisaqdrebi = Bertasakhtavi = Churches of the Monk, Kvibisi village; the skeletal materials is currently hosted in a nunnery in the city of Borjomi)

She focused on sampling human skeletal materials for DNA analysis (12 samples). In addition she chose a sample of 55 teeth (canines and premolars) belonging to subjects showing evident pathological lesions: traumas, anaemia, scurvy, tumours (out of the total number of more than 600 complete skulls). A new forensic method of radiographic age determination in cooperation with prof. Roberto Cameriere of the University of Molise will be applied on them. These results will be compared to those obtained with traditional anthropological methods of age determination (such as synostosis of cranial sutures and dental wear) and the results will appear in a joint Italian-Georgian publication on the journal *Chronos* of Ivane Javakhishvili University. On few samples the team will also apply the analysis of chemical compounds and microfossils extracted from dental calculus to get new insights in dietary reconstruction together with traditional isotopic analysis. Each analysed skull was photographed and catalogued.

RESULTS AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

In spite of its shortness, the autumn season of the project was quite successful not only as it allowed to progress in the study of the finds from the previous seasons (faunal remains from Aradeti Orgora, geo-archaeological research about the Alazani plain), but above all because it set solid foundations for the activities of the next years of the expedition. In particular, a new formal cooperation agreement with Ilia State University for the archaeological investigation of the Gardabani area in southern Georgia is on the way to be signed. From the scientific point of view, the main result of the season was the final assessment of the extent, consistency and the state of preservation of the Gardabani kurgan field. This turned out to contain at least 63 funerary barrows (nearly twice as many as estimated during a previous visit in 2021), most of which apparently undisturbed, a fact that represents a unique opportunity for a systematic multidisciplinary investigation of the funerary ground. The complete plan of the site and the grid produced in autumn 2023 will allow to start the excavations right from the beginning of the 2024 season. The preliminary visits to other locations in the Gardabani municipality highlighted a very promising situation with a view to a systematic survey of the southern part of this still under-investigated region. Last but not least, the excellent perspectives of prof. Bertoldi's study of the osteological remains from Medieval monasteries in the Borjomi region were also confirmed by the second visit to their present location.

Acknowledgements

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