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Cover: The kiln of the second century B.C., discovered in 1975. photo: O'Connor
METAPONTO

Metaponto, located on the southern coast of Italy in the arch of the boot, is a city of unusual historical importance. It was among the first and most successful colonies in the world's first organized colonial movement. About 650 B.C., settlers from Achaia in Mainland Greece chose a very fertile spot in the wild new land they called Italy, and later, with justifiable pride, Megale Hellas (or wide Greece).

The city rose on a lowlying coastal site between two river valleys. The Bradanus to the east became, in later times, the boundary with the Spartan colony of Tams. The lyric poet, Bacchylides, in a hymn to an athletic victor from Metaponto about 475 B.C., lets us know that the Casuentus (today, the Basento) to the west was the site of a sanctuary of the goddess Artemis, with an altar and a sacred grove. This will be important to remember, as it concerns one of this year's most important discoveries.

The native peoples whom the first colonists encountered quickly gave up the coastland to the newcomers and retired to villages in the hills behind. The city prospered, and within a hundred years was one of the wealthiest in the Greek world. Its rich alluvial plains produced grain and a very favorable balance of trade for the Metapontines.

The economic and cultural highpoint of the city was the 6th and early 5th centuries B.C. Afterwards barbarians from the interior periodically overran Metaponto. There was a brief revival at the end of the 4th century B.C., then the city apparently began falling into ruin. The Roman presence in the 2nd century B.C. was marked by a fort (castrum) and again the city appears to have come to life, but on a much more modest scale.

Western Greeks made enduring contributions to the development of western civilization. Among these were the application of abstract thought to the problems of living better. One result was rational town planning. Metaponto was one of the first cities in the western world to have a grid plan, with adequate provision for water and waste disposal.

Topographical study, employing the most advanced techniques (aerial photography, and the protonmagnetometer), followed by extensive excavation has revealed the life of this colonial city dramatically and with an exceptional wealth of detail. This has been the work since 1964, of the Superintendence for Antiquities of the Basilicata Region. (The results are not yet available in English translation. Fundamental is D. Adamesteau, La Basilicata Antica, 1974).

Figure 1. Votive figurine, a seated goddess, reassembled from several fragments, sixth century B.C. Found on the pavement of the archaic structure on the north bank of the canal (photo: Carter). Height 15 cms.
EXCAVATION IN THE TERRITORY

The excavation of the city is a remarkable achievement, adding greatly to the picture of the urban life of the Greek colonist, but it is the territory around the city, the land which formed the basis of the economy, the home for the farmers, their villages, sanctuaries, cemeteries, which offers the archaeologist an almost unparalleled opportunity to make a contribution to our knowledge of the past.

This important aspect of ancient life—the life of the farmer and country dweller with its implication for the social and economic history of the ancient city—has only recently become the concern of the archaeologist. For many reasons interest is great, but the evidence is scarce. Cities fall into ruin and are abandoned, but fields provide for the survivors of advanced civilizations. They continue in use and the plow destroys the evidence of the ancient farms.

The dramatic discovery at Metaponto was that it alone of the territories of the West retains the traces of ancient land divisions laid out in the sixth century B.C. shortly after the colony’s foundation. There are in addition, farmhouses and sanctuaries to an extent found in only one other Greek site, the town of Chersonesos in the Crimea (where Russian scholars have made major contributions to the study of the territory). The reason is to be found in the desolation of the area after the fourth century B.C. Until its malaria problem was solved some forty years ago, the environs of Metaponto were virtually undeveloped. Only in recent years have builders used the ancient stones, and deep plowing begun to destroy the numerous remains of ancient farmhouses and the regular divisions of the territory.

Aerial photography has been instrumental in revealing the elaborate organization of the ancient farmland of Metaponto. It is a technique, however, which can only give the outlines. The picture of the development of the territory around the city will only be known in detail through examination of selected sites.

This important work is the object of an international collaboration thanks to the foresightedness and generosity of the Italian archaeological authorities, and in particular of the Superintendent of Antiquities for the Basilicata Region, Professor Dinnu Adamasteanu. He is the pioneer (first at Gela in Sicily) in the study, using aerial photography, of Greek colonies, their territory and their influence on the native peoples of the hinterland. For permission to excavate, and for his constant support and encouragement, we are greatly indebted to Professor Adamasteanu. The Inspectress, Dottoressa Elena Lattanzi has been closely involved with our work, as has Antonio Indice, the assistant to the Superintendent. Both have given unsparingly of their time and contributed much to the success of our two campaigns. Bruno Chiartano and his assistant Bruno Baccaro have been helpful in many ways. We have benefited much by contact with our Italian colleagues excavating nearby, especially with Francesco D’Andria, Antonio Di Siena, Liliana Giardino, and from the visits of scholars and friends to the site.

The excavation site, a rise of ground overlooking the valley of the Basento, towards the coast, is known locally by the name Pizzica. The land belongs to the experimental farm of the Ente Sviluppo di Bari, whose newly founded school of agriculture sits on the opposite hill. We are grateful for their hospitality, for the interest of the directors, and the harmonious working relationship with the farmers.

Our work at Pizzica began with a brief season in the summer of 1974, reported in Excavation in the Territory of Metaponto (Austin, 1974). From our trial trenches it became clear that the site had been the scene of human activity at various times from the neolithic period to the present. Ceramics, obsidian and bone tools have documented the late third millennium B.C. The sixth and fourth century B.C., and late Roman Republican period occupations will be discussed in detail in this report. The kiln discovered in 1975, though constructed in the second century B.C., was remodeled and reused in the fourth century A.D. An important deposit of medieval pottery was discovered on the north slope of the hill in 1974 and restored in 1975.

In contrast to other sites in the territory of Metaponto, mostly farmhouses which existed over a span of fifty to a maximum of two hundred years, life at Pizzica paralleled the life and fortunes of the city of Metaponto itself, from its earliest phase to its tenuous survival through the Middle Ages.

The brief season in 1975 justified initial assumptions about the value of the site. The 1975 campaign presents a fuller, though not yet complete picture of the site in its various phases.

Figure 2 Work on the hilltop site (photo: O’Connor)
REPORT ON THE 1975 CAMPAIGN

FUNDING

The excavation this year was made financially possible by grants from the University of Texas, and generous gifts of private donors in Texas. It should be added that this is one of a very few American excavations in classical lands this year and in terms of results, one of the most productive.

Support from the private sector, which made it possible to keep a team in the field eight instead of four weeks was the decisive factor. Our debt here is acknowledged individually on the inside cover.

THE TEAM

An important aspect of the excavation is the training it provides for graduate students at The University of Texas, not only in classical archaeology but also in related disciplines such as art history, architecture, anthropology and geology. A course, CC 682 Field Archaeology, carries three credit hours. Enrolled in 1975 and acting as trench supervisors were Dallas Henderson, Bethel Kulow, Dan Emanuele, graduate students in Classics, and Nancy Jircik, a PhD candidate in Art History. Also participating, from Rice University, were architecture students Bob Brandt and Catherine Mitchell, and history student Bill Neidinger, trench supervisor.

Undergraduate students made valuable contributions in 1975. Toby O’Connor from Loyola University, served as expedition photographer and earned three credit hours for CC 323 with his work. For shorter periods, UT undergraduates Tom and Ginger Hale and Susan Plume volunteered their help and Joanna Mattingly drew pottery profiles. Participating at the senior level for various periods were Professor Ruth Gais MacGregor of Syracuse University (trench supervisor and in charge of the publication of tombs), Professors Philip Oliver-Smith (cataloguer) and Walter Widrig (trench supervisor) of Rice University.

Our work crew was led by Giuseppe Di Taranto, former, whose expertise and intuition, as before, was vital to the success of the campaign. It was composed of Alfredo Gallitello and Alfredo Grieco, Giuseppe Santorsola, Vincenzo Basile, Nunzio Di Pietro, Raffaele D’Ascanio, Donato Donadio, Santino Plati, and a thoroughly professional and dedicated crew it was.

We are indebted for the preparation of the site plan and sections to Annaluce Marino, the very able draftsman of the Soprintendenza, to Larry Scavone, architecture student at The University of Texas, for his drafting services here at Austin, and to Margaret Harman for the photographic prints.

DISCOVERIES AND SCIENTIFIC RESULTS, 1975

Work began on Tuesday, the third of June at 7:00 A.M. and came to an end for the year at 4:00 P.M. on Friday, July 25. In the interval a great many cubic meters of earth were moved with the care required of scientific excavation. Some idea of the scale of the site can be obtained from the plans (figs. 3, 13). Each square on the grid measures ten meters (about 32.5 feet) on a side. The average depth of the trenches on the hilltop site (fig. 3) is 0.75 m, and those on the canal site were 1.5 m. A large room in the Antiquarium was half filled with finds, mostly pottery, approximately 2,500 photographs were made, four field notebooks filled, dozens of plans and sections drawn. From this prodigious effort, what of scientific and historic value has emerged?

In the course of the 1975 campaign all the areas of interest discovered in 1974 were explored, but greater priority was placed on the hilltop site with its evident Roman occupation and extensive walls, and on the canal area where there were indications that a Greek sanctuary might be found.

Our efforts were concentrated on exploring these areas as completely as possible, and discovering the relation between them. In retrospect, the results of these efforts have helped to focus light on a major historical problem—the Romanization of Southern Italy, which took in the third, second and first centuries B.C. Historians are still not clear as to what extent (contemporary historical writing is biased and scanty) the Romans may have destroyed the civilization of the Greek cities to the south, to what extent they incorporated, preserved and learned from what they found.

The University of Texas excavation has helped to shed light on the transition from the Greek world to the Roman, as it was experienced by the inhabitants of the country—the farmer, the peasant.

Specifically, the results of the 1975 campaign provide evidence for (1) the nature of the occupation in both the Greek and Roman periods, and (2) for the question of the continuity in the third and second centuries B.C.—the period when the Romans were establishing their supremacy in the South.

THE HILLTOP SITE

The hilltop site (fig. 4) was occupied by at least three separate structures. The structure whose plan (fig. 3) has been colored tan is the most extensive and best-preserved of these. As far as it has been discovered, it is horseshoe-shaped, consisting of three wings of unequal length, with an apparent addition to the east. These flank a courtyard which was closed on the north, but probably open on the south. Because erosion has removed most of the soil covering bedrock, much of the plan, especially at the highest point to the north, has been lost. There the plow has reached
Figure 3  Plan of the hilltop site (Marino-Scavone)
bedrock, and elsewhere it has usually carried away all but the lower courses of the foundation.

One feature of this plan, however, has been remarkably well-preserved. This is the kiln found at the south end of the west wing (cover; fig. 5). The kiln is unique for this part of Italy, and it is one of the largest and most beautifully preserved ancient kilns ever found. The *furnus*, a circular construction entirely of tiles, stands to its original height, though the numerous arches which supported the perforated floor of the structure above, as well as the arch which led from the *praefurnium* (where the kiln was fired) have collapsed, leaving only traces.

The design of the kiln, which was probably used for tiles and heavy, coarse pottery—54 different types of tiles were found in the fill—is closely paralleled by modern kilns in Southern Italy, Sicily and Greece. In Mediterranean lands, until fairly recently, (as transportation has become more economical), tiles used to be manufactured very near where they were to be used, and many kilns could be found in the countryside.

What purpose did the tan building, taken as a whole, serve? The plan of the structure is most closely paralleled by the Hellenistic farmhouses excavated in the Chora of Chersonnesos in the Crimea, though none of those has a kiln, and abundant evidence indicates that much of their space was used for storage, which is not the case at Pizzica.

There are similarities also to the less completely excavated fourth century farmhouse at Cappa D’Amore in the Chora of Metaponto, which does have a kiln.

Only the most general comparisons can be made with the Roman villa architecture—the olive farms at Gebel in Tripolitania (North Africa), for example, but the design of the Roman legionary tile factories on the *limites* (frontier fortifications) have much in common.

The prominence of the kiln suggests that the function of the structure was primarily industrial. In all probability it was a tile factory. Covered spaces would have been required for the preparation of the product for firing, and for storage afterwards. The apparent lack of interior division can be explained by assuming interior supports, which would have
Figure 5  The kiln (photo: O'Connor)

Figure 6  East-west section through the hilltop site (Marina)

EW SECTION AB  

scale  1:25
been appropriate to a warehouse but not perhaps to a house. The modern tile-making establishments of Southern Italy are suggestive of what may have been the original arrangements and character of the structure.

**Date—Stratigraphy of The Hilltop Site**

Consider now the date of the tile factory. Is it Greek or Roman? A trench was dug across the center of the site in an east-west direction so as to intersect the rectangular structure colored brown on the plan. At this point 1.5 meters of earth covered virgin soil and a partial stratigraphy for the site could be derived.

From this it is clear that the rectangular structure was erected after the factory had fallen into ruin. The brown walls pass over the tan; the floor of the rectangular building rests on the fallen tiles from the roof of the factory. (The occupation levels of the rectangular structure have been destroyed by the plow, and no significant material was found in the level between its floor and the roof of the factory. It is impossible to say when the rectangular structure was erected or for what purpose, but it may have been not long after its predecessor was destroyed or collapsed.)

Every trace of a floor for the factory has disappeared. In the section, level two (fig. 6)—a single homogenous level—should be associated with the occupation of the building. On the basis of the prevalent local grey-glazed pottery, it can be dated to the late Republican period. The ceramic material is comparable to that from the Roman castrum of Metaponto. The thickness of the level suggests a protracted if uneventful occupation. Though there is considerable uncertainty about the construction date, its destruction is better documented by a complete unguentarium (globular ointment bottle) found immediately under the fallen roof tiles, which can be dated securely to the late first century B.C. or early first century A.D. The tile factory is clearly Roman.

Level three in some places is separated from level two by a layer of roof tiles; in others the distinction is not at all sharp. Among the fine wares of this level are a number of Red-Figure sherds. The rest of the material, with a few exceptions is consistent with a late fifth to fourth century B.C. date. In the very lowest level was found a fragmentary figure—the familiar type of the woman holding a child, also of fifth or fourth century date. This material is pure Greek.

At this point it would be natural to ask, with what structure can the very clear and widespread evidence of a fifth-fourth century B.C. Greek occupation of the hilltop be associated? No indication of such a structure has appeared in the deep east-west trench.

At one point, however, the walls of the factory make use of a row of five large blocks of carefully squared limestone masonry, measuring 65 centimeters across, as a foundation course. The discovery of these monumental blocks throws a new light on the problem. They are a great deal larger than the stones normally used in house construction, and they are in stark contrast to the poverty of the factory’s foundation elsewhere.

It would seem very likely that these stones which have been indicated with hatching on the plan (fig. 3) belonged to a monumental structure, and have the same alignment that they had when they were set, in the fifth or fourth century B.C. These conclusions are based on the construction techniques employed and soundings in depth beside the
blocks. It seems clear that they have never been moved, and therefore the builders of the factory allowed them to determine the direction of their wall. They also employed other stones from this structure to reinforce the south wall of the west wing below the kiln. Pieces of column drum and architrave, perhaps from the same monumental building, were reused elsewhere in the structure.

What purpose might this monumental building have served? Isolated in the countryside as it is, there is little choice but to identify it as part of a rural sanctuary.

On the eastern side of the factory a possible addition, mentioned above, consisting of one or more rooms had almost entirely disappeared except for several blocks, and the traces in the earth left by the monumental blocks which formed its walls. These had been reused a second time. When the blocks were removed, probably in ancient times, the cavity filled with earth of a darker color. The plan these “robber trenches” defined was traced with painstaking care, resulting in the addition of the ghost of a structure to the plan (fig. 3, right center, walls indicated in outline).

SOUNDINGS 6-8—A LONG ANCIENT CUT, POTTERY DEPOSIT, CLAY PIT

A further discovery on the hillside a few meters to the southeast of the factory sheds additional light on its function and date.

A narrow trench, approximately twenty-five meters long revealed the existence of an ancient cut into the hillside, which was nearly the same length (see back cover).

Figure 7 Grey-glazed urn, a local variant of the widely distributed Campana A pottery. Second century B.C. (Mitchell). Height 13 cms.

Figure 8 Fragments of terra sigillata (moulded Roman ware) with lyre player in relief, graffito, potter’s stamp in planta pedis of L. RASINIUS PISANUS, and mask in relief. Early first century A.D., from the deposit of Sounding 6 (Mattingly). Actual size.

Figure 9 The canal site, preparation of the site plan after the close of the season (photo: Carter)
Why had it been made? There was no indication of a structure in it. It was thought at first to be a canal connecting the Basento with the moat around the city wall of Metaponto, or a cut for a road, but these for different reasons were not satisfactory explanations for this impressive bit of ancient earth-moving.

Its eastern end contained a deposit of ash and enormous quantities of pottery, both the local grey-glazed ware similar to that found in the tile factory (fig. 7) and the central Italic terra sigillata ware of the early Empire mixed together. It now seems clear that the deposit at the eastern end, at least, was made at one time (though towards the west various strata can be determined), and that time would have been the late first century B.C. or early first century A.D. Among the terra sigillata potters whose stamps have been identified are C. Rasinus, L. Titius Thyroso, M. Servilus, Faustus and L. Rasinus Pisanius (fig. 8).

Below this deposit was discovered an ancient excavation in a deposit of pure, fine clay. This clay and the larger one almost certainly were made for the purpose of extracting the raw materials for the nearby kiln. Another necessary ingredient—water, was also nearby. The well of San Nicola lies just below the kiln and taps an underground vein of water, which surfaces as a spring nearby. Further, a branch of the Basento, as Professor Adamcian has shown on the aerial photographs, flowed just below the hill. A second cut below the kiln and opposite the well has indicated the spot where the clay and the earth were worked together.

The deposit of ash and pottery clearly coincides with the latest use of the kiln, and perhaps with the destruction of the factory. (The kiln was later modified in form, and it should be noted that it was used again, perhaps in connection with the rectangular building.)

Plans for the next year of excavation would include a careful study of the material from this very important deposit of pottery, including a radio carbon analysis of the ash. This will give additional information about the tile factory's destruction date, but that is not all. The conclusions about the chronology of grey-glazed ware which are derived from its study will have far-reaching impact for the archaeology of the Roman period, as the grey-glazed ware, which has never been convincingly dated, is found in excavations all over Southern Italy.

CANAL SITE:

The importance of the canal area was discovered in 1974 by our foreman Giuseppe di Taranto. Elements of a votive deposit and blocks of monumental masonry were uncovered along its banks. It appeared that the modern canal had sliced through part of an ancient sanctuary.

A high priority was naturally given in 1975 to the exploration of this area. Extensive excavation of both sides of the canal—the work extended over the first three weeks of June—produced little. On the south side of the canal were discovered unimpressive walls of the fourth century B.C. and at a lower level, some fine black-glazed pottery of the sixth century B.C. Work was abandoned here temporarily, while all efforts concentrated on discovering the plan of the building on the hill.

Local legend has it that whoever wishes to discover the "treasure of San Nicola" must eat an abundant meal on the well of San Nicola. This well, as noted above, is very convenient to the excavation and the canal area. The traditional meal with the workmen, anticipated the close of the season by a few days, and it was decided that, despite the intense heat and lack of shade there, the antipasto at least should be eaten on the well. The next day on an impulse, the director sent a team of the best workers back into the canal area, and almost immediately, it seemed (to use the words of our foreman) "San Nicola began to speak." Generous private benefaction made it possible to extend the regular season by two weeks.

Figure 10. Miniature oinochoe, from the fourth century B.C. levels of the north bank of the canal (photo: Carter). Height 6.5 cms.
Canal Area – Fourth Century B.C.
Greek Occupation

On the north side of the canal, under more than a meter of alluvial soil appeared extensive remains of a fallen roof and walls (fig. 9). Pottery, including many large nearly complete plates, was abundant. (figs. 10, 11). The walls (only the foundation course remains) are composed almost entirely of tiles. On top of these would have risen mud brick walls, protected from the weather by the tile roof. This type of construction, which would have been found also in the hilltop tile factory was the one favored by builders in the territory of Metaponto in both the Greek and Roman periods.

Had our trench cut through a fourth century B.C. farmhouse? Nothing appeared to contradict that interpretation but the presence of two enormous blocks of conglomerate lying together as if forming a corner, near the canal. These are colored tan in the drawing. Blocks of this type are not used in farmhouse construction, but they are found at the nearby sanctuary of San Biagio.

Excavation in depth revealed an earlier building also of the fourth century B.C. (and it perhaps is to this that the conglomerate blocks belong.)

Related tombs on the hilltop.

The fourth century B.C. occupation by the canal may be associated with a number of burials on the hilltop. A beautifully preserved tomb with terra-cotta cover excavated in 1974 on the north slope of the hill contained a Red-Figure lekythos, cup, and bronze ring with carnelian scarab, grave goods which indicated a date in the second half of the fourth century B.C. This may belong with the earlier fourth century phase of the building on the canal.

Figure 11. Lekythos of the end of the fourth century B.C., beginning of the third century B.C. from the latest structure on the north bank of the canal (photo: Carter). Height 13.6 cm.

Figure 12. Archaic skyphoi of local production (Mattingly). Heights 13, 14 cm.
Figure 13  Plan of the canal area, the east sector only (Marino-Scavone)

Figure 14  Terra-cotta head of a satyr, sixth century B.C. (photo: Carter).
Height 3.5 cms.
The later Greek burials on the hilltop are poor and without grave goods. In two of these the method of burial was unusual. The body was placed in a wooden coffin and burned in the ground. The charred wood from these has been analyzed very successfully at the Radio Carbon Laboratory of The University of Texas' Bicentennial Research Center. A new process utilizing larger samples over a longer period has made it possible to determine the date of a sample with an error of only sixty years. The dates derived for these tombs are 370 B.C. and 240 B.C. Their proximity suggests that they are nearly contemporaneous, and taking into account the error, they should both be assigned to the last years of the fourth century B.C. or the first years of the third. Perhaps the odd method of burial explains the cause of death. The bodies could have been burned to prevent contagion, as well as inhumed according to Greek custom.

The burials do not help to determine the nature of the occupation by the canal. Farmers might and often did bury in private cemeteries near their houses, and it is not uncommon to find tombs near a sanctuary.

Sixth Century B.C. Building
The trench in the canal area was deepened. Beneath an almost sterile layer of alluvial clay about 40 cm thick appeared a pavement and walls of field stones. These are indicated by brown dots in the plan (fig. 13). The pavement so far as it has been uncovered, extends about 25 meters in the north-south direction and ten in the east-west (the width of the trench). An enormous quantity of pottery of the second half of the sixth century was found scattered over the pavement. In the four days spent excavating the archaic level, more pottery was removed, washed and catalogued, than in the previous seven weeks of the excavation. Many of the vases were, though broken by the pressure of the clay, nearly complete. Some were restored. Among the pottery were fine skyphoi of Metapontine production (fig. 12) imitating the wares of mainland Greece. The pavement also yielded a quantity of small votive vases, similar to those found in 1974 in the canal bank, and of terra-cotta figurines. Pictured here are a satyr's head (fig. 14) and a fragmentary seated goddess (fig. 1). This important material awaits study and restoration.

Clearly our original hypothesis made in 1974, of an archaic sanctuary in connection with the spring is still a valid working hypothesis.

It is possible that all the structures in the canal area, those of the fourth and that of the sixth century B.C., may be revealed as farmhouses. However, the monumental structure on the hill is certainly not a farmhouse.

If we can prove that the abundant religious votive material from the canal derives from a sanctuary, then the monumental building on the hill can legitimately be considered part of it. (An analogous situation occurs at the sanctuary of San Biagio.) This is work for the next year.

Figure 15  Archaic gorgon's head antefix, found on the hilltop, belonging to a building of the sixth century B.C. (photo: Carter). Height 13 cms.
SUMMARY

Seen in perspective, the scientific results of the 1975 campaign at Pizzica contribute much to the understanding of the transition from the Greek to the Roman world, as it was experienced in the territory of Metaponto. It was accompanied by a change in the type of structure from domestic, or religious, as we have yet to prove, to utilitarian. (A similar transition, where in fact a Roman tile factory was erected over an archaic Greek sanctuary, was experienced at Bitalemi in the territory of Gela.) It takes place in the second century B.C. at the earliest—a century, at least (and probably more), after the site had ceased to be used by Greek farmers or worshippers. The proprietors occupied the same site, and employed the ruins for their own constructions, but they abandoned with characteristic pragmatism the lower site, subject as it was to periodic flooding.

These are the major scientific results. A further season of excavation will, hopefully, clarify the nature of the archaic and classical structures by the canal, and provide further evidence for the use and the date of the structures on the hill.

Besides its contribution to our knowledge of a little-known area of ancient life, the excavation has proved to be a valuable training ground. The range of materials, structure, problems of excavation and interpretation make Pizzica an ideal site for introducing graduate and undergraduate students to field techniques. It provides them with a valuable opportunity to begin their careers with practical experience in an alive and rapidly developing area of archaeological interest and research.

Plans for 1976

Excavation at Pizzica in 1976 will have a number of specific goals. A major effort will be directed to uncovering completely the archaic structure in the canal. The area of the pottery deposit and clay pit should be thoroughly excavated.

Trial trenches on the hilltop will help to establish more precise dates for the structures there, and clarify some details of their plans.

High priority will be given to the preparation the publication of the site in the prestigious Notizie degli Scavi, the officially designated journal for the first scientific publication. Professor Adamesteanu has requested the manuscript for November 1976.

We have been asked also to restore a number of finds from the site for eventual display in the new museum, which is under construction at Metaponto.

It has been suggested that the site itself be preserved and transformed into an archaeological park. Plans have already been made to cover the kiln with a protective roof.

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