

urban centre and its hinterland. Field survey covered 1.19km<sup>2</sup> in 2017 and revealed an area of dense occupation to the east of the South Hill; a limited area southeast of the South Hill yielded high concentrations of material (comprising Late Roman and Byzantine as well as the usual Classical pottery). The northern edge of the study area shows more limited and less dense evidence. Magnetometry survey west of the northern part of the North Hill, where field walking in 2016 had yielded ceramic debris and a human tooth, located a group of small, strong anomalies. These appear to represent graves, possibly a continuation of David Moore Robinson's 'Riverside Cemetery' (Robinson 1942: 1–104), suggesting that this area lay beyond the boundary of the ancient city. Magnetic and electromagnetic surveys outside the fenced archaeological site, to the east of the South Hill, suggest that settlement here was much less dense than on the two hills, and does not appear to follow the kind of grid envisaged by Robinson.

In 2017 the *Koutroulou Magoula Archaeology and Archaeological Ethnography Project*, co-directed by Nina Kyparissi-Apostolika (Director Emerita, EPS), Yannis Hamilakis (Brown) and Eleni Asouti (Liverpool), not only continued excavation on the top of the tell site (**ID6510**), but also extended investigations to the slope and surrounding ditches revealed by earlier geophysical survey (**Fig. 23**). Trench Ξ15, on the eastern slope, revealed rich and extensive activity, including complete ceramic vessels (rare on the site), a concentration of quern stones and a possible hearth. Excavation in Trench X16 confirmed the existence of a ditch, although its exact depth and width are still to be determined. There was also evidence of maintenance of the ditch in the form of a recut. Trench Ψ21, however, opened to investigate a large rectangular geophysical signature in the southeastern corner of the tell, revealed no signs of a structure.

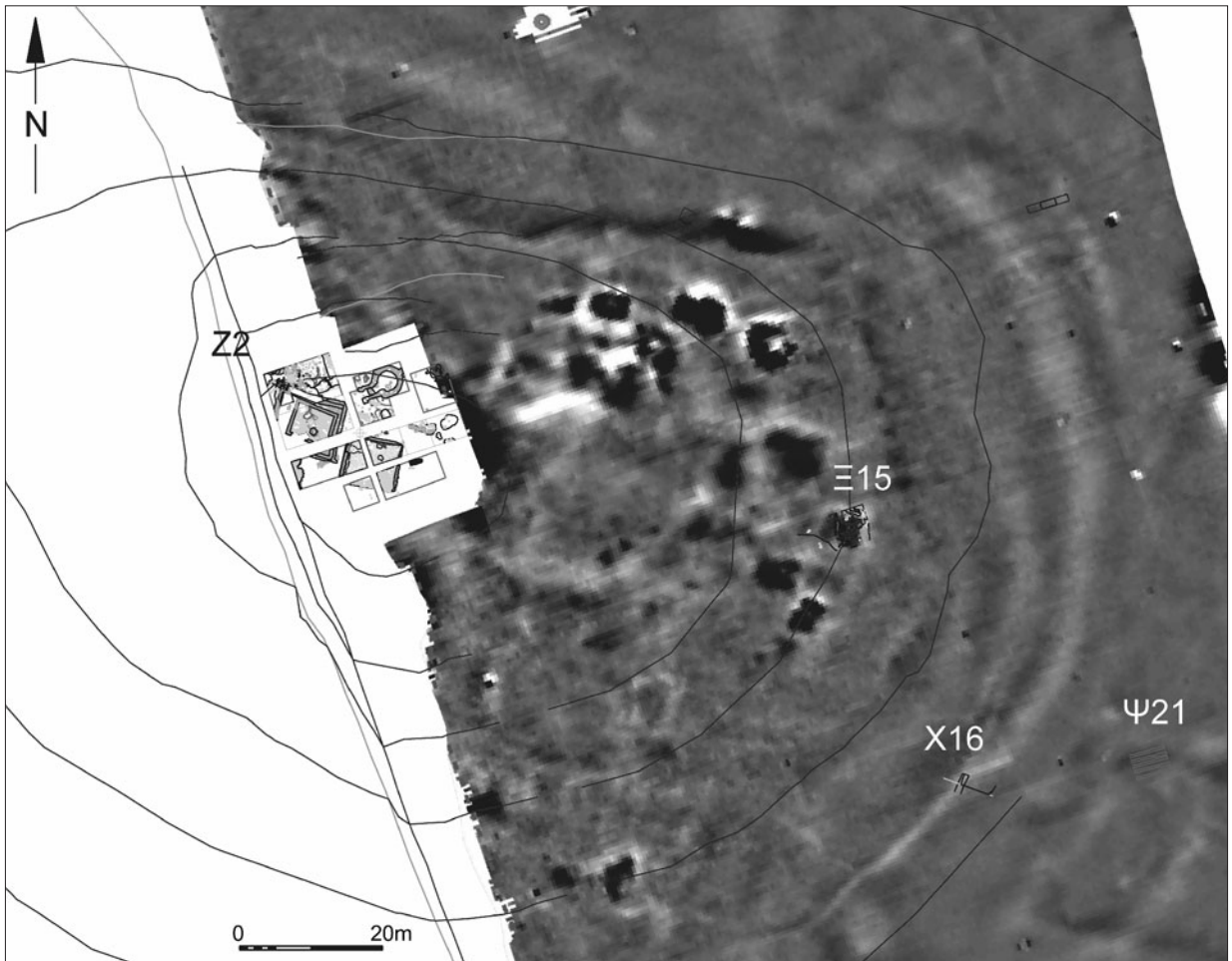
A third season of geophysical investigation was completed at **Knossos** by the *Geophysics Survey of Roman Knossos Project (ID6511)*, directed by Daniel Stewart (Leicester) and Jennifer Baird (Birkbeck), with the overall goal of providing a spatial framework into which excavated material from Roman Knossos can be situated. The major aim in 2017 was to deploy ground-penetrating radar (GPR) in areas which had already revealed promising results, in order to assess its value as a technique at Knossos, and to complete systematic GPS mapping of known standing remains (**Fig. 24**).

The team experimented in a variety of different environments: paved and unpaved car parks and roads, olive groves and building interiors. Although GPR has great potential, it is more time-consuming than other techniques. The team therefore covered a much smaller area than in previous seasons, but produced some promising preliminary results. Subsurface features, some at differing depths, were detected in those areas marked with numbers on the map (**Fig. 24**). Although processing remains to be completed, the results revealed by GPR at more shallow depths (1–1.5m) should correspond with the uppermost levels of the Roman city (and the results of magnetometry already carried out). Remains revealed below 1.5m in depth may well be pre-Roman, suggesting that – with a considerable degree of caution – GPR may allow access to elements of the pre-Roman city.

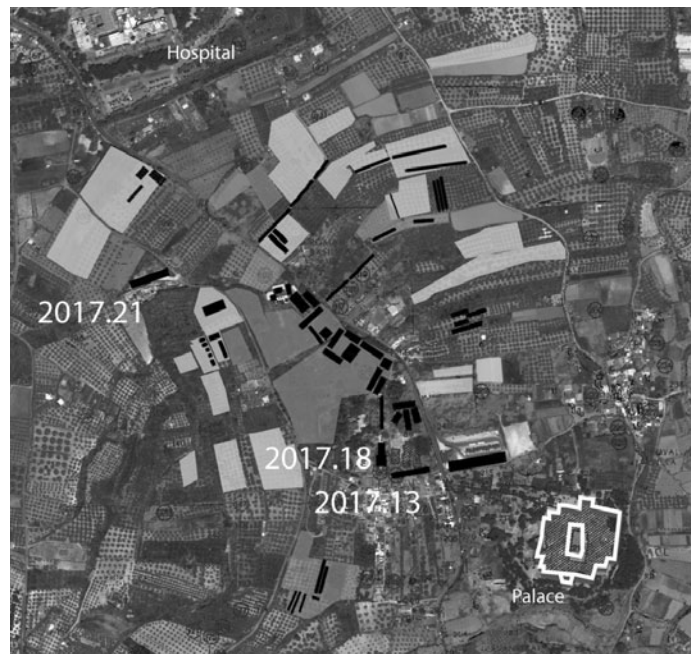
Remaining at Knossos, Knossos Curator Kostis Christakis has, in his first 18 months in post, transformed the facilities at our **Knossos Research Centre** through a programme of repair and refurbishment of the Taverna and its gardens, assisted by Zacharias Pechynakis. Our *Curation Project* to document digitally the extensive collections in the Stratigraphical Museum also continues with two new personnel, Danae Lange (Heidelberg) and Eleni Makrygiorgou (Sheffield).

Kostis has also raised the BSA's profile positively in the region by initiating the Knossos Research Centre Summer Lecture Series. Maria Vlazaki (General Secretary of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports) inaugurated the series, speaking on a recently excavated ritual sacrifice in the Late Minoan IIIB (13th-century BC) centre of Kydonia, modern Chania. The second lecture, on settlement patterns in Crete in the seventh and ninth centuries AD, was given by Vasso Sythiakaki (Director of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Heraklion) and archaeologist Maria Mari (Ephorate of Antiquities of Heraklion). Kostis also organized an evening of music, poetry and drama dedicated to Nikos Kazantzakis' connections with Knossos in collaboration with the Knossos Cultural Association.

The research environment fostered by the BSA offers an ideal opportunity for students to develop their skills and knowledge through dialogue across disciplines, across time and across academic generations. Each year the BSA offers opportunities to around 80 students and professionals to participate in a range of courses



23. Koutroulou Magoula Archaeological and Archaeological Ethnography Project 2017: plan of mound showing trenches excavated. © BSA/Koutroulou Magoula Project.



24. Roman Knossos: plan showing areas surveyed using GPR (solid black). © BSA/Geophysics Survey of Roman Knossos Project.