

STUDIA TROICA
Monographien 5

2014

STUDIA TROICA

Monographien 5

Herausgeber

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EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



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Troia 1987–2012: Grabungen und Forschungen I

Forschungsgeschichte, Methoden
und Landschaft

Teil 1



VERLAG
DR. RUDOLF HABELT GMBH
BONN

**Undertaken with the assistance of the
Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP) – Philadelphia, USA**

**The research and compilation of the manuscript for this final publication were made
possible through a generous grant from The Shelby White – Leon Levy Program for
Archaeological Publications**

Gefördert mit Mitteln der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)

und der

Daimler AG

Teil 1: 536 Seiten mit 42 Farb- und 194 Schwarzweißabbildungen

Teil 2: 552 Seiten mit 30 Farb- und 229 Schwarzweißabbildungen

Herausgeber:
Ernst Pernicka
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Hanswulf Bloedhorn
Donald F. Easton
Dietrich und Erdmute Koppenhöfer

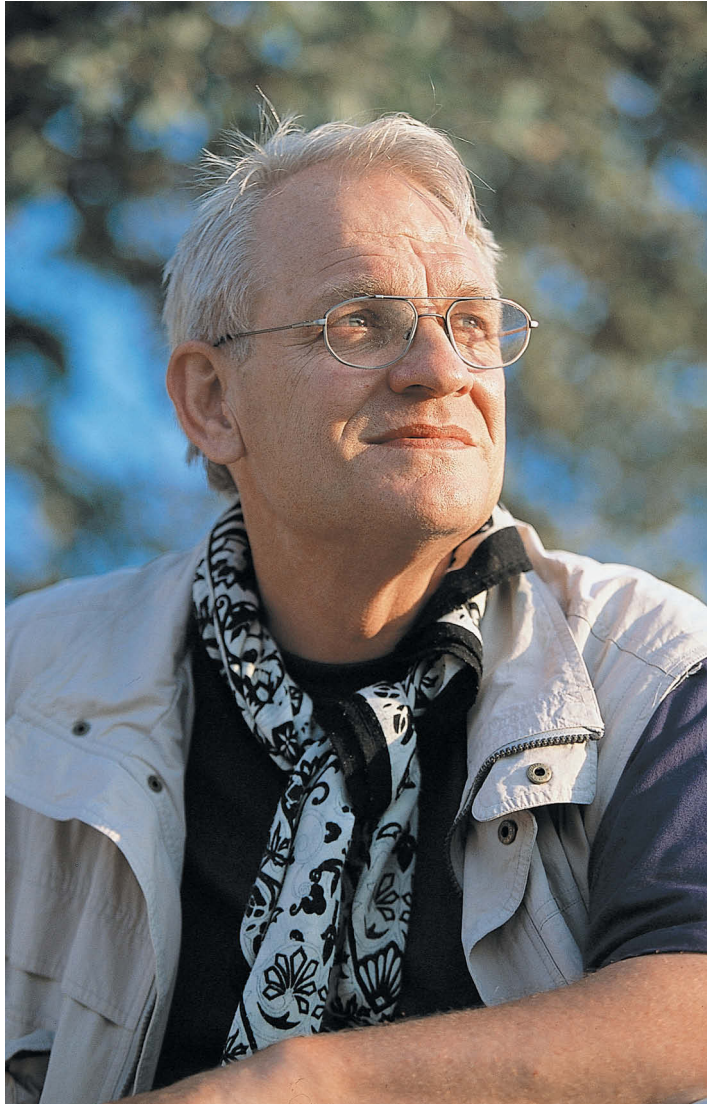
Wissenschaftliche Redaktion:
Stephan W. E. Blum
Peter Jablonka
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Layout, Satz:
Frank Schweizer, Göppingen
Druck:
Bechtel Druck GmbH & Co. KG, Ebersbach/Fils

Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der
Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind
im Internet über <<http://dnb.d-nb.de>> abrufbar.

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ISBN: 978-3-7749-3902-8

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In memoriam
Manfred O. Korfmann

26. April 1942 bis
11. August 2005

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Ernst Pernicka

Preface

In summer 1983 I was involved in an archaeometallurgical survey of the Troad together with Günther A. Wagner, Önder Öztunalı, Thomas Seeliger, Clemens Eibner and Istvan Baranyi. We wanted to test the hypothesis that was put forward by Colin Renfrew and Keith Branigan and was rather popular in those days that the origin of tin bronze may be sought in the northeast Aegean, because finds consisting of this alloy appeared there in large numbers in the Early Bronze Age. We aimed to investigate as many mineralisations as possible and to compare them by geochemical means with metal finds from Troia and other Early Bronze Age sites in the region (Fig. 1). Our base was in Altınoluk at the Gulf of Edremit but we spared one weekend for a visit of Troia and Beşiktepe, where Manfred Korfmann was excavating what he interpreted as »harbour of Troia«. He welcomed us in the humble base camp at Yeniköy (Fig. 2) and we were quite impressed by his clear interpretation of the site and the excavation results. He was also very interested in our research and the whole excavation team visited us in Altınoluk to see some of the ancient mining and smelting sites that we had recorded.

These mutual visits marked the beginning of a long and fruitful collaboration that grew into friendship. From then on we received samples from the excavations of Manfred Korfmann for



Fig. 1
Aerial view of Troia
from southeastern
direction (Hakan Öge).



Fig. 2
Examination of archaeological finds at the research facilities at Yeniköy in 1983.

scientific analyses and when his team moved to Troia to resume the excavations there Manfred invited me to oversee the analytical program of finds consisting of inorganic materials. The other branch of scientific work on organic and biogenic materials was directed by Hans-Peter Uerpmann. Manfred was very supportive of this multidisciplinary approach and represented the scientific parts as wings of the symbolic idol comprising the humanities (Fig. 3).

Our collaboration continued when I moved from the Max-Planck-Institute for Nuclear Physics in Heidelberg to the TU Bergakademie Freiberg in Saxony and I remember with great thankfulness that he agreed without hesitation to attend and complement my inaugural lecture there together with Hans Günter Jansen and Manfred Klinkott turning it into a mini-symposium on the research at Troia. When the chance opened for me to return to a university of the federal state of Baden-Württemberg combined with a foundation-based laboratory in Mannheim (the Curt-Engelhorn-Zentrum Archäometrie) Manfred was again the most helpful and reliable partner so that I could resume the newly created chair for archaeometry and archaeometallurgy at the University of Tübingen in October 2004. We both were hoping to continue our collaboration as close as never before and, of course, Troia was always in the center of and motivation for my research in other regions like central Asia and Iran as well as in southeastern Europe. But never would I have thought of following Manfred as the director of the Troia project. The more it was a shock for all of us that Manfred Korfmann died unexpectedly and certainly too early in summer 2005. The 2005 campaign was directed by Peter Jablonka who would certainly have been able to continue this work but for administrative reasons both in Turkey and in Tübingen the director of the Troia project had to be in the position of a professor at a university. The rector of the University of Tübingen, Eberhard Schaich, wanted the Institute of Prehistoric Archaeology to continue the project and since my two colleagues as directors of the institute (Manfred K. H. Eggert and Barbara

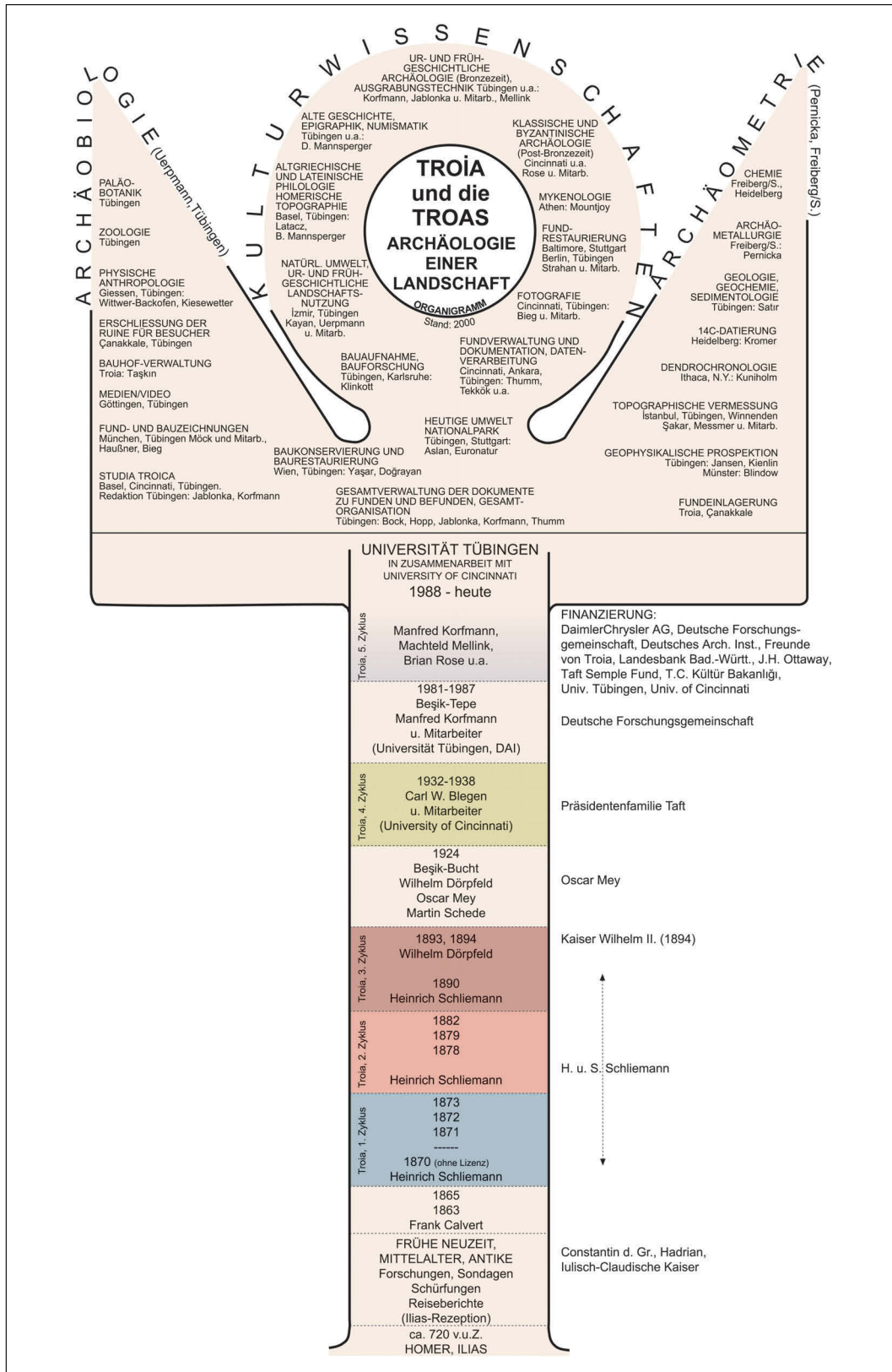


Fig. 3 The concept of an archaeological project, including cultural and scientific research as well as technical assistance.

Scholkmann) were soon to retire and had other research interests it was me who resumed this responsibility. Of course this would not have been successful, if I did not have the support of the whole team, in particular Rüstem Aslan and Peter Jablonka, and the supporters of the »Friends of Troy«, in particular Hans Günter Jansen, which I gratefully acknowledge. His contributions to the project are numerous but his role as chairman of the board of the Troia-Stiftung in Tübingen and his efforts to build up the Korfmann library in Çanakkale were really outstanding.

Having been trained as a chemist this was not self-evident although I had already worked with archaeologists and on archaeological material for more than thirty years. However, it was consensus among the project members that this endeavour that had lasted since 1988 cannot be simply dropped. Therefore, it was decided that the major goal of the continuation of the project should be the publication of the excavation results under the direction of Manfred Korfmann in an attempt to complete his life's work for him. Accordingly, this first volume of the summary publication is dedicated to Manfred Korfmann and we hope that we have managed to carry on and complete his work in his sense.

It may appear presumptuous to produce such a summary after so many publications have appeared on the new excavation series at Troia, e. g. the *Studia Troica* series, the exhibition catalogue of 2001, the more popular overview of 2006, and several dissertations. However, the excavation reports in *Studia Troica* were always meant as preliminary reports and it was consensus in the team that we should try to provide a synthesis of the work in a coherent publication.

From the beginning of the new excavations at Troia the concept was to have two teams working side by side but with close interactions. The German team led by Manfred Korfmann concentrated on the Bronze Age and the American team led by Ch. Brian Rose on the Classical to Medieval periods. Originally the dividing line was easy to define, because then it was a common belief that after the end of the Bronze Age at Troia there was a hiatus in the sequence of the settlements. In addition it seemed that the ceramic inventory of the Bronze Age was dominated by gray wares while the later periods were characterized by red and buff wares. In the course of the project it became clear that this strict division was not possible and that there was a gradual transition from the Bronze to the Iron Age when there may have been a hiatus in the architecture but certainly not in the ceramic spectrum. Thus, also the division between the two teams merged into a joint endeavour and the new discoveries of this period are certainly one of the major achievements of the project. Accordingly, there are three volumes each planned for the Bronze Age and the Classical periods.

The first volume of the Bronze Age results summarizes the history of (more recent) research and the formation of the new excavation team. Then the applied techniques are explained in some detail and the concept for the preservation and presentation of this World Cultural heritage site. Chapter two begins with a detailed description of the site and the intensive survey that was performed in the area of the Lower City of Troia and is followed by descriptions of the archaeological and scientific methods used. The third chapter is devoted to cultural and natural environment of Troia and the reconstruction of its cultural history until the end of the Bronze Age.

The second volume on the Bronze Age periods will present the results of the investigations based on stratigraphy, pottery and small finds from periods Troia I to Troia V that is the Early and the earlier Middle Bronze Age. It is in this period that Troia has always been and still is a cru-

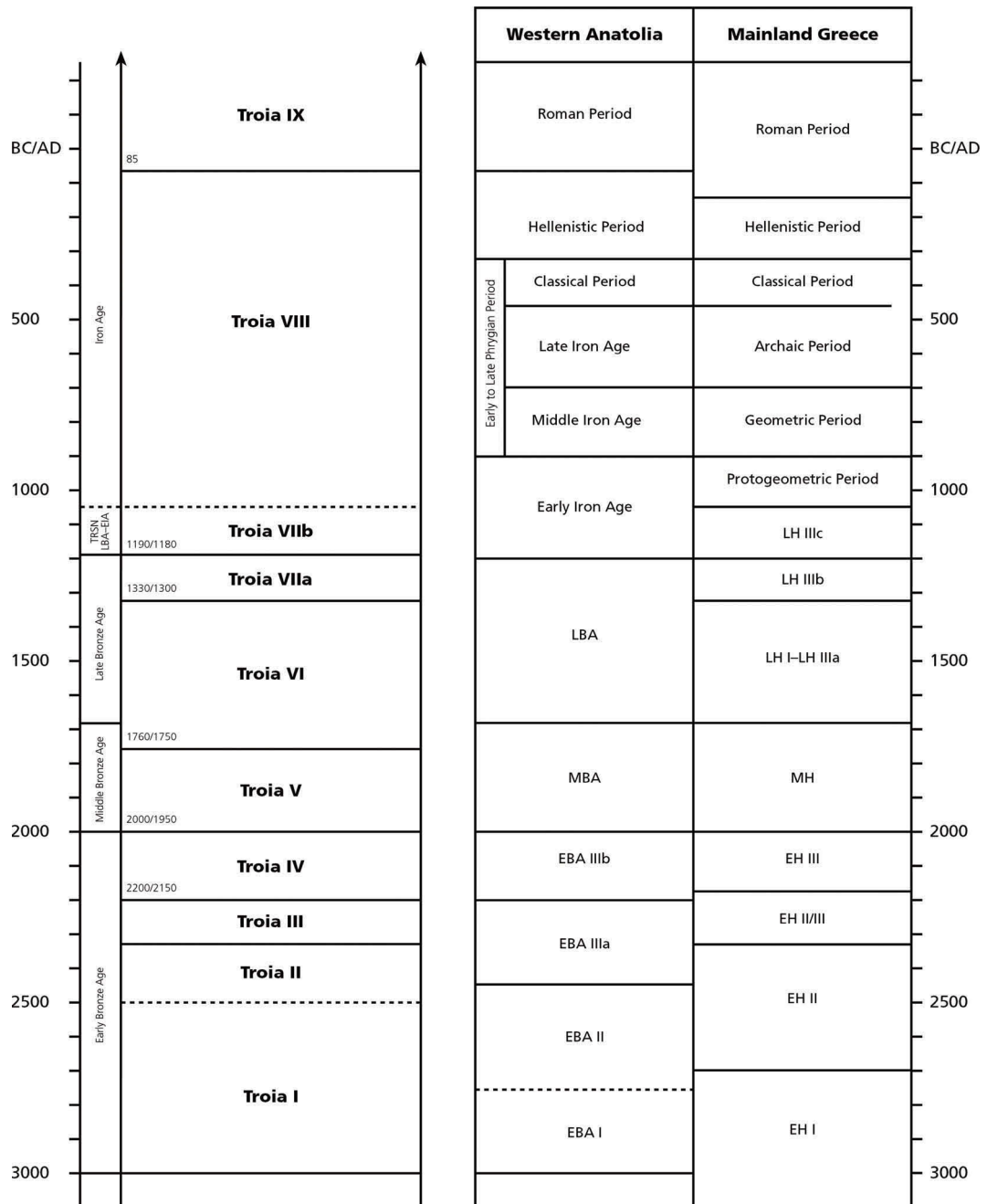


Fig. 4
Chronological
sequence of Troia
(status as of May 2014).

cial site for the chronology of the Aegean and the southern Balkans. During the excavations it became clear that there was a difference in the numbering of the major settlement units between Dörpfeld and Carl Blegen, which we will try to resolve. The third volume will be devoted to the Late Bronze Age periods Troia VI and VII and it will be shown that Troia continued to exist into the Early Iron Age or at least was not forgotten. For the chronological orientation throughout the text our present nomenclature of the succession of settlement periods of Troia is summarized in

Fig. 4 together with comparative chronological system in western Anatolia and mainland Greece on an absolute timescale.

The editorial work was mainly accomplished by Hanswulf Bloedhorn, Stephan W. E. Blum, Donald F. Easton, Peter Jablonka, Dietrich and Erdmute Koppenhöfer, Mariana Thater, and Diane Thumm-Doğrayan and was concentrated on a coherent presentation of the results and their interpretation. In such a large project it is unavoidable that other opinions concerning dating, spelling, interpretation, etc. persist. However, these are responsibility of the authors.

It is worthwhile to add that all results presented in this summary publication are based on data and observations in Troia and the surrounding region that were in accordance with the annual applications and permissions for research at the Directory of Antiquities in Ankara.

Finally, all this research would not have been possible without the administrative and financial support of numerous institutions and individuals listed below, which we gratefully acknowledge:

- Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı, Ankara
- all government representatives during the excavation campaigns
- Anadolu Medeniyetleri Müzesi, Ankara
- Arkeoloji Müzesi, İstanbul
- Arkeoloji Müzesi, Çanakkale
- Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart Üniversitesi, Mustafa Sevim
- Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Çanakkale Valiliği
- Turkish General Consulate, Stuttgart
- Deutsche Botschaft, Ankara
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Bonn
- Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Berlin
- Eberhard Karls-Universität Tübingen
- Land Baden-Württemberg
- Ministerium für Wissenschaft, Forschung und Kunst Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart
- Vereinigung der Freunde der Universität Tübingen e.V., Universitätsbund, Tübingen
- Tübinger Förderkreis zur Erforschung der Troas »Freunde von Troia«
- Daimler AG, Stuttgart, Edzard Reuter, Dr. Uli Kostenbader
- Mercedes-Benz Türk A.Ş., İstanbul
- Landesbank Baden-Württemberg, Stuttgart
- Hewlett Packard, Böblingen
- IBM Deutschland, Stuttgart
- Leica Geosystems, Heerbrugg
- Hans Günter Jansen, Böblingen
- Verlag Philipp von Zabern, Darmstadt
- Çanakkale-Tübingen Troia Vakfı, Muharrem Satır
- Kalebodur Seramik, İstanbul, Dr. Süleyman Bodur, Dr. İbrahim Bodur
- Siemens Sanayi ve Ticaret A.Ş., İstanbul, Peter Baudrexl, Dr. Zafer İncecik

- University of Cincinnati
- Taft Semple Fund, Cincinnati OH
- Institute für Aegean Prehistory, New York, Malcom Wiener
- Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Cincinnati, Getzel Cohen, also »Friends of Troy«
- James H. Ottaway, Jr., New York NY
- The Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications, Cambridge MA

Special thanks are due to the numerous »Friends of Troia« who have emphatically and continuously supported our work over many years. Since it is not possible to list all individual names here, I would like to refer to the detailed acknowledgments in the 19 volumes of *Studia Troica*, in which all supporters are mentioned by name. Furthermore, I would like to thank all staff members at the Institute of Prehistoric Archaeology at the University of Tübingen and during the excavations as well as all volunteers and our numerous workers from the surrounding villages of Troia. Without their engagement and enthusiasm it would not have been possible to complete a project of this size.

Tübingen, May 2014

