

In this NIT newsletter you will find several reports on recent activities carried out at and by the Netherlands Institute in Turkey. During the summer there was another excavation campaign. In September the pace picked up again at the institute itself, with several fellows and guests working on their research projects, with student groups coming to study the heritage and museums of the city, and with a move of the offices of the institute to a newly renovated floor.

Recent activities

Excavation campaign Barcın Höyük 2010

During the summer months another season of excavations took place at Barcin Höyük. This NIT research project is directed by Fokke Gerritsen of the NIT and Rana Özbal of Koç University and was presented in several earlier newsletters. The overall aim of the excavation is to study the beginnings of farming life at this Neolithic settlement, which dates to the second half of the seventh millennium BC.

Fokke Gerritsen



Looking up from the deep sounding.

In late June our team of archaeologists and students assembled once again in the small town of Yenişehir to pick up the excavations where we left off last year. More than 20 people altogether, from the Netherlands and Turkey and quite a few countries in

between. And once again we felt very lucky to have a hardworking, cheerful and talented group that was a real pleasure to work with. This summer we went into the field with two specific goals in mind: 1) to investigate the stratigraphy and artifact assemblages of the oldest occupation levels, and 2) to expose architectural remains from some of the later Neolithic levels. These goals required different excavation strategies: 'vertical' versus 'horizontal'.



Looking down onto two of the large trenches.

A section of restricted size, about 4 by 4 meters, was selected to become a deep sounding in which we excavated through a sequence of stratigraphic deposits that, we think, represent two to three centuries of occupation. There was even earlier habitation, but these deposits are the earliest that we have reached so far. The quantity of material found in these deposits is not large but useful specifically to study changes over time. As a result, we have now discovered a very early type of pottery that was made and used by the first inhabitants of Barcin Höyük, and that was gradually replaced by different ceramic traditions as time progressed. We also now know that the tradition of making implements from animal bone spoons, awls, needles, fish hooks etcetera - that we had previously recognized in the later periods already existed in the earlier phases of occupation.

A first analysis of the animal bones from the deposits in the deep sounding – the remains of animals that were slaughtered for food – indicates that the earlier inhabitants ate very few wild animals, fewer rather than more than their descendents a century or two later. This argues against a hypothesis that there was a transitional



Trench supervisor Elisha van den Bos

period during which people combined farming with hunting. If the beginnings of farming life in northwest Anatolia did include such a transitional period, there are no indications for it so far at Barcin Höyük or elsewhere. But, we still need to dig deeper to reach even older levels of occupation. There is about a meter of

archaeological deposits to go in the deep sounding, which

could take us back another century or more in time.

In three other trenches we excavated larger areas, each 9 by 9 meters. Here we gained a different perspective; not of changes through time, but of the spatial organization of the settlement. To know what the houses looked like and how they were placed in relation to each other, a broad horizontal exposure is necessary. This takes time, and will require much more work in future seasons. But the results of the 2010 campaign were quite satisfying. Several rectangular houses were (partially) exposed, with walls made of a combination of wooden posts, wickerwork and loam. They give a first impression of the layout of the settlement, one of individual houses surrounded by open spaces.

One house, of which we have found only one corner and the remainder waits for next season, was very heavily burnt. Between the pieces of burnt loam from the roof and walls we found two lids to cover storage vessels, and a pot completely fragmented and warped by the high heat of the fire. They suggest to us that the inhabitants had no oppor-

tunity to remove their goods before the fire destroyed their house, and that much of the inventory of the house may still be there for us to excavate. The disaster of one prehistoric family may turn into a treasure trove for archaeologists. We hope to find out next year...



Bone awls in many sizes and shapes, and a small cow figurine of baked clay.

Urban space and national memory in Turkey

Seckin Özdamar is a PhD student in history at Maastricht University. She spent a month in Istanbul with a NIT fellowship and tells us here about her research:

Nations make memory for themselves. They use memorial signs such as symbols, texts, images, rites and ceremonies, places and monuments to construct an identity which sustains the emotional appeal of national identity, that is, the sameness over time and space. These memories and identities are neither given nor fixed things, but representations or constructions of reality; and both of them are constantly re-created, reshaped and reinvented within the framework of discourse that marks certain boundaries. Therefore (national) memories and (national) identities can be treated as particular constructs, which can both change over time; which can be lost as well as found. Formulated as such, identities and memories have no existence beyond our politics, our social relations and our histories.



Year 1927, when the street sign of the Grand Rue de Pera was replaced with one reading Istiklal Caddesi (Beyoğlu 1930-Selahattin Giz'in Fotoğraflarıyla 1930'larda Beyoğlu)



Year 1928, the Opening of Taksim Republican Monument. (Taksim: Bir Mevdan'nin Hikavesi. 1986)

My research traces the construction, representation and maintenance of national memory in Turkey through the role that urban space plays. In other words, my research is a critical reading of histories and ideologies that are both selected and ignored in the formation of national memory and their reflections on urban space by means of architecture, urban planning and commemorations. I look at urban "sites of memory" in Ankara and Istanbul: monuments, landmarks, street signs, buildings, districts, museums, celebrations of national holidays. I analyze the production of urban space and national memory by using three metaphors: text, arena and performance.

Text metaphor provides the recognition that memorial sites are written, rewritten, read and erased by the authors and readers within their specific socio-spatial context. Arena metaphor directs attention to the political struggles and debates over what version of the past will be visible to

Galata

Galata

Ermeni Kilisesi Kemeraltı Caddesi Patrikhane Alageyik Domuz Haraççı

Karol Kaptan Kara Ali Kaptan Galata Caddesi Necatibey Caddesi

Linardo Vekilharç Arkadi Serçe Bodamsi Kadem Marie Revani

Papaz Gümüş Halka Antoine Fransız Çıkmazı

Changing street names in a non-Muslim neighborhood, Galata . (İstanbul 1910-2010 Exhibition Catalogue)

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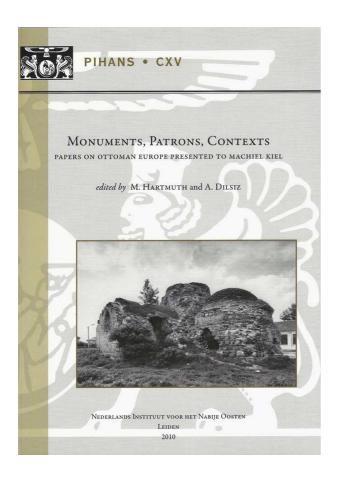
the public. And lastly, performance metaphor allows us to analyze a site of memory as a stage for bodily performances. When the crucial role of Ankara and Istanbul in the politics of remembering/forgetting and in national imaginary is considered, these metaphors provide insights into aspects of memory making processes. My research specifically concerns the early years of the Turkish Republic and the building of the 'national'.

Since the beginning of my research, I have been collecting data and documents from the main libraries and archives in Ankara. To further and deepen my research, primarily for its Istanbul part, I applied for the study grant given by Netherlands Institute in Turkey. This grant gave me the opportunity to work extensively in the libraries and archives of the Chamber of Architects, the Istanbul Research Institute, ITU's Architecture Department and IFEA. Besides books or articles related to my topic, I collected maps, planning reports and photographs from these libraries, enriching my literature review and my research materials.

My stay at NIT also allowed me to experience one more thing: given the location of the institute in close spatial proximity to the places that I study – Galata, Beyoğlu, Taksim – I had the opportunity to be present in these places, wandering the streets and tracing what was erased from, or what had become visible in, Istanbul's mnemo-history.



Year 1943, The opening of the Ataturk Boulevard by the governor and the mayor of Istanbul, Lütfi Kırdar (Güzelleşen Istanbul, 1943).



Festschrift and book presentation for Machiel Kiel

Machiel Kiel, former director of NIT, is widely recognized for his work on the architecture and history of Ottoman Europe. The 'Kiel school' includes scholars, junior and senior, across many countries. They each feel that they follow to some degree in his footsteps in their explorations in southeastern Europe, in particular when applying an approach pioneered by Kiel, combining architectural documentation with archival research on the social, demographic and economic context of Ottoman buildings and infrastructural works.

A symposium organized at the NIT in 2008 in honour of Machiel Kiel has now been published as a PIHANS volume, edited by Max Hartmuth and NIT assistant Ayşe Dilsiz.

On October 20, **Hedda Reindl-Kiel** gave a lecture at NIT on Ottoman practices of gift giving and bribing, and this was followed by the presentation of the first copy of the book to Machiel Kiel. Many of the authors were there to celebrate.

The volume, **Monuments, patrons, contexts. Papers on Ottoman Europe presented to Machiel Kiel**, can be ordered from the NINO website (www.nino-leiden.nl/publications.aspx). It contains eleven papers on different aspects of Ottoman Europe, as well as a bibliography of Machiel Kiel's publications, listing close to 250 entries and covering a period of 40 years. And, Machiel tells us, there is more on the way!

Cultural Mapping of Turkey

In July and August, the NIT hosted **Chantal Hamelinck**, MA student Turkish Studies at Leiden University. She writes here about her work to chart the cultural sector in Turkey, in preparation of the '2012'.

In 2012 Turkey and the Netherlands will celebrate 400 years of diplomatic relations. Especially since the cultural sector in Turkey is growing rapidly, this is a good opportunity to further explore cultural collaborations between the two countries. While most cultural activities take place in Istanbul, Turkey has many more cities which are open to cultural collaboration.

This summer I stayed for two months in one of the guestrooms of the Netherlands Institute in Turkey to help Teike Asselbergs, a Dutch cultural entrepreneur who lives in Istanbul, to write a cultural mapping of Turkey. Teike was instructed by several Dutch funds (Fund for Contemporary Visual Arts, Design and Architecture (Fonds BKVB), Mondriaan Foundation, The Performing Arts Fund (NFPK), Cultural Participation Fund (FCP), and the Architecture Fund (Stimuleringsfund for Architecture) to create this cultural mapping. It had to become clear what the topics and trends in the Turkish cultural sector are, what cultural collaboration there has been in the past, and what the possibilities, wishes and recommendations for future collaboration are.

Hans Theunissen of Leiden University, brought me in contact with Teike Asselbergs to help her with the mapping. He suggested me because I have a Bachelor in English (the mapping had to be written in English) and am currently doing a master in Turkish Studies. Teike had done much of the groundwork before I arrived: she had conducted interviews and instructed people from the Turkish cultural sector to write about their cultural field. But much of the writing and editing remained to be done and it soon became clear that we had to work hard if we wanted to finish the mapping before the deadline. It was good that we were able to spend many long hours in the NIT library and, in the end, managed to finish the project in time.

The cultural mapping itself shows that there are many interesting developments going on in the Turkish cultural field, and that the possibilities for collaboration seem endless. We hope that the mapping may function as a guideline for the funds in deciding on future projects for collaboration. There is a plan to publish the mapping on the website of SICA (Dutch Centre for International Cultural Activities), and we hope that many people from the cultural field will be able to benefit from, as well as contribute to this cultural mapping of Turkey.

NIT stimulates students to study abroad

This autumn the NIT was active to meet and advice Turkish students looking at obtaining a Dutch education, and Dutch students with plans to come to Turkey.

Funda Demir

The Study in Holland Desk in Turkey, which is a part of both NIHA and NIT, organized in close cooperation with Nuffic the Dutch participation to the 18th International Education Fairs of Turkey (IEFT). This fall Leiden University, Tilburg University and the three technical universities, TU Delft, TU Eindhoven and the University of Twente, presented their programs at the fair. All the Dutch booths had many visitors interested in their BA, MA and PhD programmes.

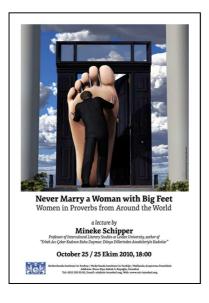
Besides supporting the promotion of Dutch higher education institutions at the IEFT, on October 12 the NIT participated in the study abroad fair at the VU University in Amsterdam. Elisha van den Bos, who was a NIT-fellow in the spring of 2010, represented the institute at the fair. Here she informed students who are thinking about spending a period of study or research in Istanbul about the facilities and support that the NIT can offer.

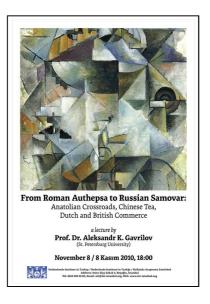
NIT staff moves into their new offices

At the end of September 2010, following a renovation project that lasted several years, the NIT has moved into its new premises on the first floor of the RCAC building. Previously, the library had been located on the second floor, whereas the offices were on the ground floor facing Nuru Ziya Street. Now all NIT functions are on the same, first, floor: the library, three offices, a small reception area, and a multifunctional space to be used for meetings and the institute archive. Once the reconstruction of the Merkez Han building is completed, the main entrance to the institute will be through the historical building facing İstiklal street. Until then, NIT will be accessed as previously, through the entrance at Nuru Ziya Street.

Lectures and symposia







International Workshop: History of Labour Relations, with IISG Amsterdam. June 18-19, 2010

Symposium: Fourth International Conference on Jewish Italian Literature (ICOJIL 4): Jewish migration: voices of the Diaspora. June 23-25, 2010

Lecture: Luxury, Power Strategies and the Question of Corruption. Gifting in the Ottoman Elite (16th-18th Centuries) by **Hedda Reindl-Kiel** (University of Bonn), October 20, 2010

Lecture: Never Marry a Woman with Big Feet. Women in Proverbs from Around the World by **Mineke Schipper**, October 25, 2010

Lecture: From Roman Authepsa to Russian Samovar: Anatolian Crossroads, Chinese Tea, Dutch and British Commerce by Prof. **Dr. Aleksandr K. Gavrilov** (St. Petersburg University), November 8, 2010

Excursions: The NIT hosted two student groups from the University of Amsterdam in October. The first group included the students of Heritage Studies master program and they were in Istanbul for a study trip During which they visited majot sites of the city. The second group was from the Museum Studies master program and came to Turkey as a part of a larger study trip that began in Athens and ended in Istanbul.

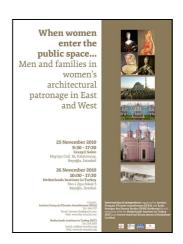
Upcoming activities

International Symposium: When Women Enter the Public Space... Men and Families in Women's Architectural Patronage in East and West, November 25-26, 2010.

Organized by the Institut Français d'Etudes Anatoliennes (IFEA), l'Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (EPHE/Sorbonne) in collaboration with the Netherlands Institute in Turkey (NIT) and Centro Studi sul Rinascimento (Fondazione Carisbo).

Lecture: Correspondence between the Prince and the Pahsa: Diplomatic and personal letters between Halil Pasha and Prince Maurits of Netherlands by **Mehmet Tütüncü,** December 15, 2010, 18:00

For more information please visit www.nit-istanbul.org



Library news

As mentioned in the previous pages of this newsletter, the NIT Library now functions on the first floor of the same building. The working hours remain the same.

Since September, the whole library collection has been included in the electronic catalogue and can be accessed via the NIT website: www.nit-istanbul.org

Selected new arrivals

Archaeology and Ancient Near East

- Hattusa-Bogazköy. Das Hethiterreich im Spannungsfeld des Alten Orients 6. Wilhelm, Gernot (Hg.). Internationales Colloquium der Deutschen Orient-Gesellschaft 22.-24. März 2006, Würzburg.
- Culture and Biology at a Crossroads. The Middle Pleistocene Record of Yarımburgaz Cave (Thrace, Turkey). Howell, F. Clark, G. Arsebük, S. L. Kuhn, M. Özbaşaran, M. C. Stiner. Ege Yayınları, 2010
- Proceedings of the 53e Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale. Vol. 1: Language in the Ancient Near East, Vol. 2: City Administration in the Ancient Near East. Kogan, Leonid et al.(eds.). Eisenbrauns, 2010.
- Knochen pflastern ihren Weg. Festschrift für Margarethe und Hans-Peter Uerpmann. Roland de Beauclair, Susanne C. Münzel und Hannes Napierala (Hg.). Rahden/Westf., 2010
- Altbabylonische Wohnhäuser. Eine Gegenüberstellung philologischer und archäologischer Quellen. Beate Jahn. Rahden/Westf., 2005
- Beyond the Ubaid: Transformation and integration in the late prehistoric societies of the middle east. Carter, Robert A. and Graham Philip (eds.). The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, 2010
- Kültepe Tabletleri V : The Archive of Kuliya, son of Ali-abum (Kt. 92/k 188-263). Veenhof, Klaas R. Türk Tarih Kurumu, 2010.
- Kültepe Tabletleri VI-a: The Archive of the Salim-Assur Family; Volume 1: The First Two Generations. Mogens Trolle Larsen. Türk Tarih Kurumu, 2010.
- Urartu Takıları. Oktay Belli. Türkiye Turing Otomobil Kurumu, 2010.
- Les premieres ceramiques du Moyen- Euphrate. Marie Le Miere, sous la direction de J. Cauvin. Universite Lumiere, 1986.
- Les grattoirs et herminettes de Mureybet : Syrie du 9e au 7e Mill. A.V. J.V. analyse typologique et fonctionnelle. Eric Coqueugniot, sous la direction de J. Cauvin. L'Universite Lyon, 1981.
- Les Techniques de Taille dans L'Industrie Lithique de Mureybet : (9e-8e millenaires- Syrie) ; methode pour une etude du debitage. Sylvie Calley. L'Universite Lyon, 1985.

İstanbul

- İmparatorluk Başkentinden Cumhuriyet'in Modern Kentine. Henri Prost'un İstanbul Planlaması (1936-1951) / From the Imperial Capital to the Republican Modern City. Henri Prost's Planning of Istanbul (1936-1951). Bilsel, Cânâ, Pierre Pinon (eds.). İstanbul Araştırmaları Enstitüsü, 2010
- İstanbul 1910-2010 Kent Yapılı Çevre ve Mimarlık Kültürü Sergisi=City, Built Environment, and Architectural Culture Exhibition. İhsan Bilgin(et al.). İstanbul Bilgi Üniversitesi Yayınları, 2010.
- Orienting Istanbul. Cultural Capital of Europe? Göktürk, Deniz, L. Soysal, I. Türeli (eds.). Routedge, 2010

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