

Contents

List of Illustrations	xiii
Abbreviations	xix
Transliteration of Greek Names	xxi
Acknowledgements	xxiii
Preface	1
Part I: The Archaeological Landscape of Koumasa	
1 Overview of the Site and the Challenging Aspects of Research	11
1.1 Localisation of the Site	11
1.1.1 Topography and Expanse of Cultural Activity	13
1.2 Previous Archaeological Research in Koumasa	24
1.2.1 First Excavations Under Xanthoudides	24
1.2.2 Accessibility of the First Excavation Data	26
1.2.3 Studies in the Area After Xanthoudides	28
1.2.4 The Site in View of Modern Excavations	29
1.2.5 Evaluation	31
2 Summary of the “Political” Systems and Correlation with the Finds from the Area of Koumasa	33
2.1 Prepalatial Period	34
2.1.1 FN–EM I	35
2.1.2 EM II–MM I	36
2.2 Protopalatial	41
2.3 Neopalatial	45
2.3.1 Koumasa in LM I	48
	vii

Contents

2.4	Postpalatial	49
2.5	Post-Minoan Periods	50
2.5.1	Hellenistic and Roman Periods	51
2.5.2	Byzantine Period	61
2.5.3	Post-Byzantine Period	63
2.6	Diachrony Within the Cultural Landscape Approach	64
3	Cultural Regionality. Older Views and New Tendencies	67
3.1	Previous Partitions of Messara and the Rather Problematic History of Research	69
3.2	Modern Perspectives and the Duality of Mountain and Valley	74
3.3	Neighbouring Minoan Locations	79
3.4	Archaeometrics	87
3.4.1	Geological History of the Sea Level	87
3.4.2	Historical Evolution of Forestation and Timber Types	89
3.4.3	Periods of Climate Change	92

Part II: GIS Analysis. The Insight of Modern GIS Analysis of a DEM

Introduction	99
4 Modelling Movement Patterns. History of Research	103
4.1 History	104
4.2 Methodology of Modelling Movement	106
4.3 Costs	108
4.4 Slope Issues	110
4.5 Functions	113
5 Insight of GIS for the Mobility Networks around Koumasa to Messara	119
5.1 Setting up the DEM Modell in GIS	120
5.2 Least-Cost Paths Between Defined Locations	123
5.3 Network Connectivity	141
5.3.1 Accumulation Cost Surface	141
5.3.2 Flow Accumulation	145
5.3.3 Focal Mobility Network	149
5.4 Viewsheds	154
5.5 Watershed	158
5.6 Conclusion	164

**Part III: Topography and Representation in the Microscale
of Koumasa and Korakies Hill**

Introduction 169

**6 Microscale of Koumasa. Settlement Movability
and Visibility Analysis with a Local DEM** 171

6.1 Viewshed 172

6.2 Least-Cost Paths 178

7 Insights of the Archaeological Research of the ‘Sanctuary’ 185

7.1 Layout of the ‘Sanctuary’ 185

7.2 Main Areas 190

7.2.1 NE Entrance Area 190

7.2.2 Room 1 192

7.2.3 Room 2 193

7.2.4 Open area – Terrace 194

7.2.5 Corridor (Room 6) 196

7.2.6 1909 Photographs and their Reconstruction 197

7.2.7 Rooms 3, 5 200

7.2.8 Rooms 7–10 201

7.2.9 Room 4 202

7.3 Representative Finds 206

7.3.1 Plaster 206

7.3.2 Pottery 206

7.3.3 Obsidian 207

7.3.4 Pebbles and Finds Brought from the Sea 209

8 Analysis of the Architecture and Microscale 211

8.1 Theoretical Approaches to the Interaction of the *Locus*
with Architecture 211

8.1.1 Staging Exclusivity 215

8.1.2 Space Syntax 216

8.2 Terrace at Koumasa and Liminality: Interfacing with the Outside 219

8.3 Interfacing with the Inside 222

8.3.1 Thoughts on the Two Column Bases of Koumasa 224

8.3.2 The Koumasa Column Base as an Example of the Elaborate 227

8.3.3 The Eastern Front Towards the Plateau 230

8.4 Conclusion 231

Part IV: From the Mesoscale to the Macroscale of Koumasa

Introduction 235

9 The Adjacent Valley and Mountain as Part of the Mesoscale of Koumasa 237

9.1 Redefining the Asterousia 237

9.2 Koumasa’s Neighbourhood 240

9.2.1 The Adjacent Valley 241

9.2.2 The Mountainous Region 246

9.3 Locations of Tholoi: A Topographical Approach 250

9.3.1 The Problem of the Tholoi Distribution and Location 250

9.3.2 A Non Settlement-Centric Approach 253

9.3.3 Insights from Watershed Analysis 254

9.4 Discussion 261

10 The Regional Role of Koumasa: The Macroscale 263

10.1 Characteristics of a Settlement with Regional Role:
Approaching the Macroscale 263

10.2 A Theoretical Model for State Formation 267

10.3 Discussion 272

Part V: Experiencing the Mountain as a Cultural Landscape

11 The Mountainous Mesocosm of Koumasa of Central Asterousia: The Nodes of a Mountain Cultural Landscape 279

11.1 Walking 279

11.1.1 Walking to Trypiti 286

11.1.2 Walking to Salamias 292

11.1.3 Walking to Ayios Ioannis 296

11.1.4 Walking to Kophinas 297

11.2 The Southern Asterousia Coastline and Harbours 299

11.3 Harbour Areas Connected to Koumasa 300

11.3.1 Trypiti 301

11.3.2 Salamias 304

11.3.3 Ayios Ioannis 309

11.3.4 Discussion 313

11.4 The Central Asterousia Ecosystem and the Role of Kophinas
as a Cultural Anchor 316

12 Mountain Terrain and Sanctity 321

12.1 Man and Nature 322

12.2 Choice of the Peak Religiosity 323

12.3 A Perspective of Evolutionary Psychology 326

Conclusion 331

Bibliography 339

Primary sources 375