

THEODOROS D. DALAKOGLY



ANAVYSSOS

HISTORIC AND TOYRISTIC
GUIDE
1995

*IN ENGLISH EDITED
BY
ANASTASIA IOANNIDIS*

ANAVYSSOS 1995

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The book:

"Anavyssos Historic and Touristic Guide 1995"

Typed in greeks by the author on:

COMPUTER TURBO X 486 DX 50.

Also by the author:

- word processing and pagination in MS WORD 6.0.
- maps and drawings in COREL DRAW 4
- printing in HEWLETT PACKARD Deskjet 550C
- reproducing in XEROX 1012 copier

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Anavyssos 1995

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PROLOG

This Historic and Touristic Guide which you are holding in your hands is a selection of information out of the great research, *"ANAVYSSOS, the place, the people, the life"*, that Mr.Theodore D. Dalakoglou is doing the last years. The results of this research have started to be published with the first book "The names of the places of Anavyssos" and soon the next books, History, Archaeology, Geography, Environment etc., are going to follow.

But a very actively involved fellow citizen, Anastasia Ioannidis, has organised, within the frame of educational exchanges, visits of teachers and students from Italy and Alaska, in our area. The visitors will be given the chance to attend a program of learning about our area.

So it was decided that Mr Theodore Dalakoglou would make a selection of information which our visitors would be interested in, from the material that he had gathered about our area and this would be translated into English, Italian, French and German.

That's how this small edition was made and printed in a few copies for the need of the touring of our Italian and American visitors.

Due to limited time, please forgive any mistakes that might have been done and the limited reference to very important historic and archaeological etc. events in this edition.

We think that this edition in four foreign languages (English, Italian, French, German) will really help the visitors of our place realise its importance.

1. MAP OF GREECE

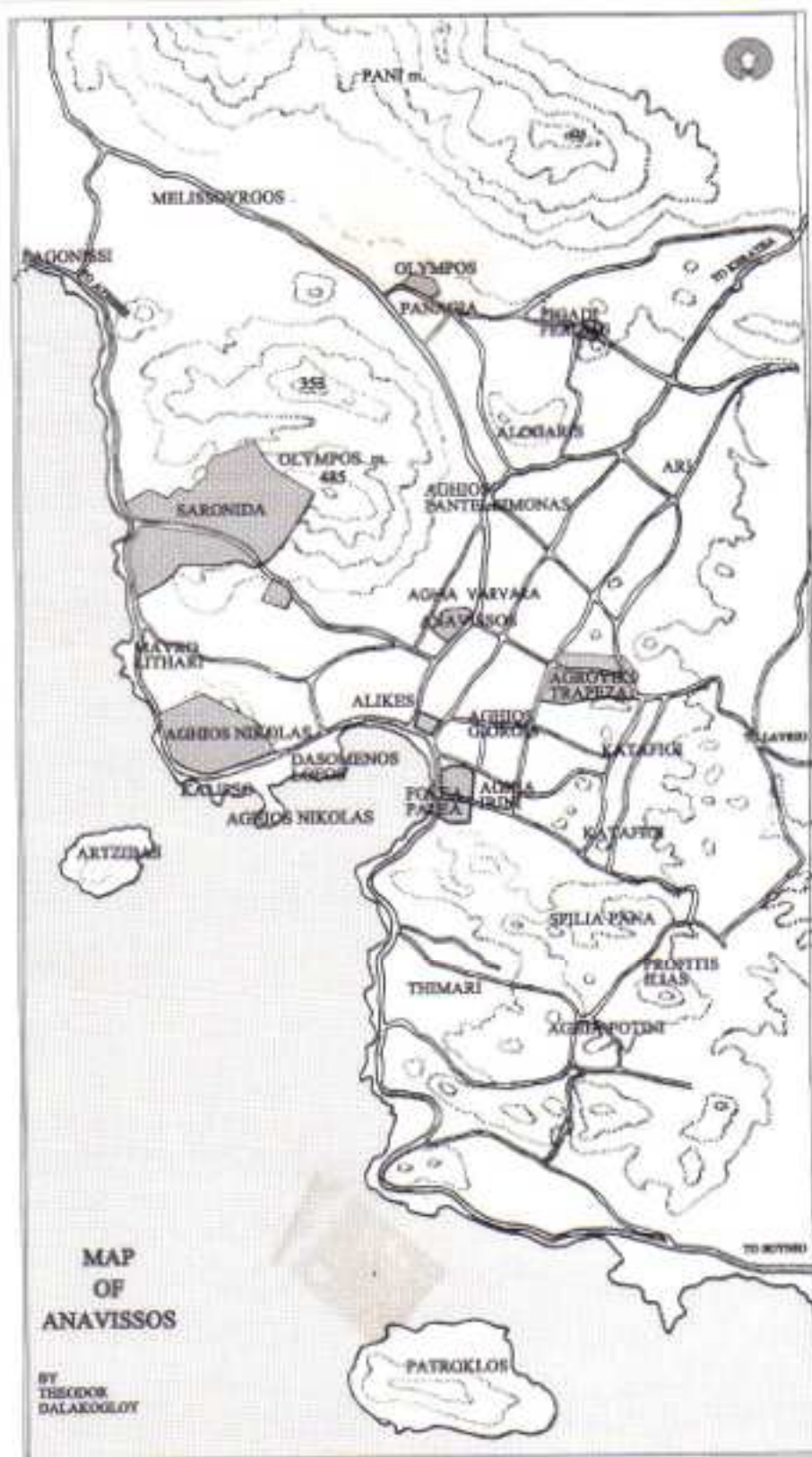
AND RAIL COMMUNICATION NETWORK
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 OG-UND EISENBAHNNETZ
 TE FERROVARIA E AEREA



2. MAP OF ATTICA



3. MAP OF ANAVYSSOS



INTRODUCTION

The district of Anavyssos, about which we're planning to talk in this book, is located in the north-western part of Attica county and includes the MUNICIPALITY of **Anavyssos, Palaia Phokaia, Saronida** as well as parts of the Borough's of **Keratea and Kalivia**.

The historical significance of the area is greatly affected by its location between the silver mines of Lavrio and the fertile valley of Messogaia.

Now, we should point out some things about the name: - Anavyssos.

So, this name is a geographical term which determines the area from Charaka up to Lagonisi and from Pani up to the coast. This has existed since the ancient times when the exact same area used to be called Anaflistos, slightly changed nowadays to Anavyssos.

After the refugees had arrived in 1924 at the contemporary Anavyssos, things got a bit complicated since the name of a village was given also to the region.

There are numerous of the same examples such as the island of Rhodes and the city of Rhodes etc. The name of the Municipality, though, did not exclude the name of the whole region.

So, Anavyssos covers - apart from the Municipality of Anavyssos-, the whole area from Charaka up to Lagonisi as well as from Pani up to the coast. Of course, these areas are not authoritatively submitted to the Municipality of Anavyssos.

The whole area - which had been deserted before the refugees arrived in 1924 - had been occasionally inhabited by nomads -Vlachii -a Greek tribe from Pindos.

They would own huts and attend the winter in Vlachika, Feriza, Katafiyi and Thimari.

Moreover, the small village Olympos which belonged to the fend of Markellos was dwelled by few local people from Attica.

In addition, few craftsmen and salt-marsh workers used to live near the Anavyssos salt-marsh.

In 1924, at about 1000 refugees from Minus Asia came and settled down, so two new residential areas were created: the ones of Anavyssos and Phokaia.

Firstly, Anavyssos was inhabited by refugees from Constatinopole (Aretsou) and later on more people from Lappadokie (Enechil, Misti, Tsarikli, Aravisso,etc) as well as from Smyrni (Vourla) arrived.

In Phokaia lived refugees from Nea Phokaia in Smyrna.

Since then until the sixties, the population of the area had remained the same. The rate of immigration was very low, so not new people came to live here.

Since 1960, the rate of immigration towards Anavyssos has greatly increased.

The rapid touristic development of the area occurred due to the construction of the coastal Leophoros (Avenue) Souniou.

In 1960 many people from the villages of Thessaly (Tsabaslar etc), of Macedonia (Obbar etc) and of Epirus came to live in this area.

Later, in 1980, a great number of Athenians left the city to settle here.

So, nowadays, the population of Anavyssos has significantly increased compared to the early post-war years.

For example, the population of Saronida has increased at roughly ten times in the last decade.

Furthermore, most inhabitants have settled permanently in the tourists areas of Anavyssos and Phokaia.

However, we shall begin our journey in time in order to get acquainted with the most beautiful place in Attica which is called Anavyssos. Firstly, let's say some things about the history of this area.

The way we're going to learn about history is the following one.

First, we shall state some general things about the Hellenic history.

Then, we shall discuss about the geological creation of the Hellenic peninsula, the evolution of the animals and the plants, the climate changes, the appearance of the first man.

When we reach the time when the first man in Attica appeared, we shall talk about the history of Attica with just brief references to the history of the rest of Hellas.

After we have reached the period when we can gather many details about the history of Anavyssos, we shall focus just on this area - again with brief references to the rest of Hellas.

THE HISTORY OF HELLAS AND ATTICA

At this point, we shall make a chronological outline including the main dates of geological alterations as well as the appearance of animals and human beings in the Hellenic peninsula so as to follow the steps of history. Of course, the dates are not accurate, but assumed by the existing archaeological findings.

BEFORE

30 million years - The creation of the peninsula of Aegaeis.

13 million years - The fauna of Pikermi.

5 million years - Submergence, beginning of the creation of the Aegean Sea.

700 thousand years - Scalp Palaeolithic man at Petralona in Chalkidiki.

400 thousand years - Sea level 200 m. lower than the contemporary one.

200 thousand years - Plistocenic fauna of Megalopolis.

100 thousand years - Palaeolithic tools of Thessaly.

10 thousand years - Contemporary geological form of Greece.

A hundred million years before, the area where Hellas is located, used to be covered by sea.

35 million years ago, great ascending forces on the surface of the earth started rising gradually forming the mountain ranges of Pindos and later on Western Hellas as well as the Ionian islands.

This way, the Aegaeis peninsula was created which included the contemporary Hellas as well as the Western Minor Asia.

In the meantime, even though there had been many geological alteration changes, the mountains and the valleys flooded with life.

In a ravine in Pikermi, Attica, there has been a great discovery for palaeontology. Thousands fossil animal bones were piled at gradual layers. Dating the oldest founding showed that there were 13 million years old. So we were able to have an idea about the fauna of this era when the man had not existed on earth. We first saw corpse's remains in the cavern

of Petralona in Chalkidiki. There was found a human being's scalp among fossil animal bones which dated back to 700 thousand years.

In addition, there were signs of fire as well as bone tools. This valuable discovery was held by the anthropologist Aris Poulianos.

These findings are precious, since they are the oldest remnants of the mankind ever found in Europe.

Meanwhile, after million years, the submergence in the area of the contemporary Aegean sea started taking place. The sea started filling any gap until the Aegean Sea was created.

Hellas, within 400 Th. years, obtained its contemporary shape. However, the Saronikos, Evoikos, Corinthians and Thermaikos Gulfs were still land. The sea-level was 200 . lower then the current level.

In Thessaly, we noticed mankind's activities 100 th years before. There. Among fossil animal bones, stone-tools made by human beings were found. The discovery took place at the banks of the Poneios river close to Larissa.

At this point, the mankind gets a leading role in earth.

Let's name the chronological periods after making an outline so that we can easily follow the journey throughout the periods :

600.000-100.000	Ancient Palaeolithic era.
100.000-33.000	Medium Palaeolithic era.
33.000-8.000	Late Palaeolithic era.
8.000-7.000	Mesolithic era.
7.000-6.000	Pro-ceramic era.
6.000-5.000	Ancient Neolithic era.
5.000-4.000	Medium Neolithic era.
4.000-2.800	Late Neolithic era.
2.800-2.000	Early Chalkocracy (The Era of Copper).
2.000-1580	Medium Chalkocracy.
1580-1100	Late Chalkocracy.
1100-800	Geometric Era.
800-500	Archaic Era.
500-323	Classic years.
323-146	Hellenistic years.
146-330	Roman Occupation.
330-1453	Byzantine.
1453-1821	Ottoman Occupation.
1821-.....	New Hellenic state.

By and large, up to 40.000 years, the man is found completely in primitive condition using bone tools, sharp timbers or stones giving them a sharp shape after beating them. He hunts, sets traps for animals and lives in caves. He is called the Neaderdal, who disappears around 40.000 years.

Since then, we have found remains in Attica, especially in our region, in Kitsos's cave, Lavrion. Unfortunately, no other attentive researches have taken place, so we don't have any other details about Neaderdal in our region.

Obviously, there should be more life traces of this era somewhere else in Attica as well, which are still awaiting the experts to reveal them

Next, Homo Sapiens appears who developed rapidly. He constructs more efficient tools, and challenges himself with the first attempts in sculpture.

In Frachthi cavern of Ermioni for the first time in Hellas, the first Homo Sapiens Skeleton was found, which dates back to 7590 years.

Passing to the Pre-ceramic and Neolithic eras, Man started constructing houses and residential areas. The tools are more complex, sharp points of obsidian-firestone, attached to wood. Sculpture becomes more accurate and complex. Ceramic works begin.

In Attica, especially around the Acropolis, Glyfada and Nea Makri have been traced many residential areas of the Ancient Neolithic period. The most important residential area found is the one in Seskla, Thessaly, which is one of the oldest ones in Europe.

In Attica, another one of this era has been found in Poussi, Kaloyeri, between Porto Rafti and Vravrona. The residential area in Diminia, Thessaly belongs to the Late Neolithic era, which is more organised, and signs of more advanced cultural level than the one in Seskla have been traced.

In Attica, many others of the same period have been found in Mavro Lithari, Lykouriza, Christ Koropi, Raphina, Makronissi, etc.

At that point, Athens obtains the leading role in history. Since Attica presents homogeneity as regards the land, the people, the origins, we shall first talk generally about the history of Attica. Then, we shall discuss in detail about the history of Anavyssos based on the archaeological founding as well as on the experts' suppositions and suggestions.

Certainly, whatever concerns Attica, concerns Anavyssos as well, although there are founding to assure us. For example, the fact that no remnants of the Mycenaean era have been traced, doesn't mean that life is not exist here back then. Either, they haven't been found yet, or they have been ruined by activities later.

As we have already mentioned above, the first inhabitants of Attica appeared in Kitsos' cave in Lavrion 40.000 years ago. The date, though hasn't been confirmed yet because no profound research has taken place.

Nevertheless, we are sure that during the Ancient Neolithic period (6.000-5.000), there was a residential area in Nea Makri with great efficiency and original skills in ceramic sculpture. That time until 2.000. Attica was dwelled by Pelasgii, who were one of the Pre-Hellenic tribes.

However, during the late Neolithic period 4.000-2.800 the coasts of Attica get crammed by the residential areas such as Makronissos Kitsos' cave, Mavro Lithari in Anavyssos, Lykouriza, Aghios Kosmas Glyfada, Acropolis, Nea Makri, Raphina, Porto Rafti, Koropi etc.

Of course, it can be explained why the Neolithic people preferred the coast. Firstly, this way, they had access to the ports of Cyclades, Peloponese and Evia, thus to the opposite side. The Commerce as well as the salt-marshes played great role in people's activities. Secondly, since the coastal areas were sandy and proschosigeni, they were very easily cultivated using the primitive equipment of that era. Thirdly, the climate was milder and this factor was essential to the people of that period since their equipment was limited. Even nowadays whenever in Keratea the snow reaches 0,5 m, in Anavyssos there are hardly any snow flakes.

In addition, it is not certain that all the residential areas at that time have been excavated, as the sea level has risen 5-6m since then, so it's likely that many coastal residential areas flooded and disappeared.

We are around 2.800 years now, that is the "Chalkocracy" era when the great Hellenic civilization of The Mycenaean and The Minoan civilization flourished. The Hellenic civilization is flourishing and growing rapidly. The first part of the Hellenic acme has already begun.

However, let's examine each part at the time. In 2.800-2.000-Early Chalkocracy- three different civilizations are growing simultaneously, yet they are not completely independent.

There are the Protoelladic in Peloponese as well as mainland of Greece, the Protocycladic in the Cyclades, and the Pro-anaktoric in Crete.

This era is characterised by the gradual alteration from the stone to metal, especially copper. The commercial routes were open, so brave and risky sailors used to trade goods and exchange ideas throughout the Mediterranean. Therefore, the Hellenic civilization which flourished were the ones by the sea.

According to up-to-date researches, 35 residential areas were developing in Attica during the early Chalkocracy.

In our region, there are some very significant residential areas. At "Aghios Nikolas" there are relics of Protohelladic residential areas. On the hill, one can notice the fortresses as well as a huge covered water basin.

Rust has also been seen, similar to the one in Lavrio, which shows that metals used to be processed there during the Protohelladic era. Unfortunately, no profound research has taken place since.

Furthermore, at Pirgaki, under the tower and on the slopes of the hill, were found relics of an important residential area of the same period.

On the island, Artzida, there are also signs of a residential area of the same period, which remains in excellent condition.

As regards the rest of Attica, there is one residential area in Aghios Kosmas founded by Cyclades merchants who processed and traded opsidanos there (Opsidanos is a very hard, volcanic stone found near Milos. It was useful to the people of Neolithic era so as to make axes, knives and other tools as well).

At Velatari in Keratea was found a residential area approximately of a quarter of an acre. There are others at Routzeri, Keratea, Lavrio-close to the electricity factory- Sounion, Aghio Dimitri etc.

We carry on to the Medium Chalkocracy (2000-1580). Generally, this is the time of recession.

Especially in Attica, the residential areas decreased and from the 35 areas only 6 ones were left.

Unfortunately, we have not been able yet to explain this "slump".

However, judging from researches carried out in the areas about the reason of destruction show that it happened due to the descent of Achei. Naturally, such a violent attack caused lots of fuss and hardships.

On the other hand, it was the time when the Hellenic population obtained many Hellenic characteristics and became homogenous since Achei were an Hellenic tribe indeed.

In 1580-1100 it is the late Chalkocracy when the Mycenaean and the Minoan civilizations shone.

There are grand, awe-inspiring palaces built in Crete, Knossos, Faistos, Malia, Zakros.

In Peloponnesos, we find the golden Mycenae, the Cyclopean Tiryns and the rich Pylos.

In Cyclades, Santorini revealed a well-preserved and rich residential area of this era, in Akrotiri.

In Attica, we observe a new acme/prime, 23 residential areas of this period have been discovered, the one in Thoriko, Vravrona, Spata, Louisa, Koropi, Agio Kosma, where traces of a fishermen's neighbourhood were discovered.

The archaeologist, Olga Kakavoyianes, states that such neighbourhoods have been found, but not analysed in Anavyssos.

At the end of the period, according to scientists the legend of Theseus takes place, who saved Attica from the hardships, united all the small independent towns into a state of which capital city was Athens. This is confirmed by the fact that Athens was the only city from Attica sending ships for the Trojan war. The union of all the cities in Attica was easy because all the tribes were of the same origin and all the people were Ionic.

Yet, from the north the descent of new Hellenic tribes had already started. They had heavy, iron armour, they were dreadful fighters and were called the Dorian. They don't hesitate to destroy everything in order to prevail. The civilised "Chalkophrakti Mycenaeans" surrender under the great pressure of the "iron warriors".

The traces of burnt palaces confirm that this period brought along many violent disorders.

Now we pass to the Dark Ages. The Hellenic Middle Ages have already begun. The great civilization of the Mycenaean years has been destroyed. 4-5 centuries will pass until a new civilization flourishes and leads to the grand, Classic years.

During the Classic years, the Hellenic consciousness stabilises, the Hellenic alphabet is used everywhere and the gods of Olympus (dodecatheon) are worshipped.

The old Archaic tribes forced by the invaders start emigrating to the Mediterranean.

This was the period when the famous Hellenic colonies were created in Minus Asia, Southern Italy, France, Spain and Euxinous Pontos.

The Ionics settled in the central part of Minus Asia (Smyrne, Fokaia, etc). The Aiolians settled in the northern part (Lesvos, Tenedos, etc.).

We are the descendants of the Greeks in Minus Asia, who returned as refugees after Minus Asian holocaust in 1992 and settled in Anavyssos. We had lived there for 3.000 years and had developed the marvellous Minus Asian civilization. Many barbarian nations had conquered Minus Asia, yet they were finally "conquered" by the Hellenic spirit. Only the Turks managed to turn us away, so the Greeks of Minus Asia were lost for ever and so the Minus Asian civilization was abolished.

In Attica, which was never conquered by the Dorians, there was a great decrease in the residential areas due to both the wars and the emigrants who deserted Attica. There are only remains of a single area, Thorikos.

As the centuries though go by, new evolution is taking place, so we pass to the prime-time of the Geometric era.

Three big and prosperous residential areas have been discovered in Attica during the Geometric period, at Thorikos, Merenta and Anavyssos.

Yet, we haven't been able to know the exact location of the one in Anavyssos. However, two cemeteries of these years have been found. This first one was found at Aghios Giorgis in 1911 by Milchhofen, which was rather a poor one. The second one, which was very rich, was found in 1967 in Aghios Panteleimonas at Nikolaos' estate. Consequently, this shows that there used to exist two prosperous residential areas during the Geometric period.

Around 776, after the first Olympic games, the Historic years start. We no longer rely only on suppositions but on writer, historic evidences as well.

But before talking further about the historic years, let's add some information about the pre-historic years taken by the legends.

We should first mention the legend about how the Saronikos gulf got its name. Saron was the ancient king of Trizyna, before the king Trizynos. Once as the king was hunting the Artemis' sacred deer, he fell

into the sea and drowned. Since then the gulf has had the name Saronikos.

The king Trizyn, whose name was also given to the city, in Peloponese, had two sons called Anaflystos and Sfittos. After his death, his brother Pitheas succeeded to the throne, though, not his sons. Pitheas' daughter was Aithra who got married to Aegeas and gave birth to Theseas.

Therefore, our hero Anaflystos, after whom our area is named, was Theseas' mother's cousin, that is Theseas' uncle. Since Anaflystos didn't have a kingdom, left Attica to go across where he created his own city called Anaflystos.

His brother Sfittos did the same thing by founding the Sfittos city which is called nowadays either Markopoulo or Stavros.

The Ionans in Attica were the descendants of Ion. He had divided Attica in 4 tribes which were the "oplitas" (warriors), the "ergadeis" (workers), the "yaleontes" (farmers) and the "aegokoureis" (stock-breeders). Attica was divided in many independent small states, so the conflicts were very common.

When Theseas came, he saved Attica from all the hardships (Theseas' deeds). He threw off the yoke of Crete (Minotaure) and united all the small cities under Athens leadership.

After Theseas 12 kings succeeded to the throne, the last one was Kodros. The legend about Kodros is very famous. Kodros obeying to the oracle, he let himself be murdered by a Dorian soldier so that Athens would be saved. Even though Athens was saved, the kingdom started declining and all the authorities passed to the nobility, the aristocrats of Areopagus (the Supreme Court).

Later, though many political and social disturbances burst out when the class of merchants and craftsmen obtain financial power and ask for their share in the government. The 8th century passed with many disorders and civil wars.

In 621, Drakon gives the first code of laws in Europe. He turns the customs and traditions into laws. They are, though, very strict and don't get accepted.

In 596, Solon makes laws trying to compromise the fighting classes. He abolishes the debts (Seissachthia), legislates the proportional taxation, defines a monetary system, and establishes the institution of sponsors. As regards the politics, he founds the Parliament, consisted of 400 elected deputies. He also organises Eliaea (the court) of 5.000 elected judges. The most important thing he established was the "Agora" (community church), where anyone who was entitled to political rights and was over 20 years old could take part. Nevertheless his legislation was not completely favourable, since he had reduced everybody's rights in order to re-distribute them fairly. Three parties had already begun arguing about the authorities - the Pediaki (rich land-owners), the Paralii (merchants and sailors) and the Diakrii (workers and small-landowners).

Peisistratos, who was the leader of Diakrii, prevails and establishes tyranny. Even though he governed abolishing all the democratic institutions and laws, this period has been considered to be very positive for Attica. There is great economic development, the state obtains power and many public works are being carried out.

Our district benefited a lot from this development of this period as it is confirmed by many big and rich cemeteries discovered by nearby. The Geometric cemeteries in Aghios Giorgis and Aghios Panteleimonas, the two marvellous Kouri statues- Aristodikos and Krissos- the Goddess of Berlin, the Kouros of New York and Kouros of Munich, are masterpieces which depict the prosperity and the cultural development of this district.

Yet, the descendants of Peisistratos governed very oppressively and after the revolution they were expelled.

In 508 Klisthenis from the Alkmaeonida is elected and asked to make new laws (It is possible that Klisthenis comes from our district, Anaflystos). So, Klisthenis introduced one of the most famous world-wide democratic systems of governing. It's worth while giving some information about it, because the grandeur of Athens stems from this system. He divided Attica in 3 zones called Asti-Paralia-Messogeia. He divided the population in 10 tribes and each tribe in 10 demes. Each deme had a mayor and boundaries. Each tribe would send 50 elected deputies to the Parliament of 500. Every month one tribe would govern and everyday for 24 hours would govern each member. Therefore, every governor would stay just for one day and would not be entitled for a second time.

In order that, Democracy was protected by any possible powerful politicians, he established the exile (exostrakismos). They would vote and the person who got many votes-even if he hadn't committed anything wrong-would be exiled on the charge of opposing Democracy.

The contemporary area of Anavyssos used to include, during the ancient years, Tritys of Anaflystos, according to Klisthenis' administrative division in 6th century B.C.

Back then, Tritys included:

the deme of Anaflystos, Klisthenis' home town

the deme of Aegilia

the deme of Amfitropi

the deme of Vissa.

The deme of Frearii, which was Themistoklis' home town, used to exist here without belonging authoritatively to Tritys of Anaflystos.

By now the Golden Age has sunrisen. The victories against the Persians in Marathon and Salamina confirm and establish the power and the superiority of the Athenian Democracy. Parthenonas is built. It is the prime time of the human brain which has reached its highest levels of perception and efficiency and the raw materials are transformed into masterpieces. Innumerable tombs, cemeteries, temples abundant in artistic treasures have been discovered in our area. They had been located on the outskirts of the residential areas of Agrotiki Trapeza, at the villages of

Fokaia, Katafygi, Profites Elias, Thimari, Charaka, Aghios Giorgis, Vonta, Aghios Panteleimonas, Ari, Tzartzavila, Valma, Feriza, Olympus, Thermi, at Melissourgou's, etc.

Later, the Peloponnesian war starts. Decadence is taking place so the Athenian Democracy gradually declines. The Macedonian descent towards South Greece and they unite all Greeks under their sovereignty.

Attica will never regain its cultural or military superiority; even if Attica will remain the centre of the Hellenic culture for many years.

For many years later on, people from all over Greece will still be coming to Athens willing to participate in the Hellenic educational matters.

Later, the Romans will conquer Greece. Yet, they will be conquered spiritually and culturally by this land. The Hellenic philosophy and art are undoubtedly superior to the Roman civilization. Many Roman emperors and officials enrich Greece (or present Greece with) masterpieces. Important Roman art pieces were created in Anavyssos.

The Adrianeon Aqueduct in Olympus is a complicated and significant work concerning the water-supply of this area, which hasn't, though, been studied yet by archaeologists.

The Roman thermals, farms and cemeteries show this area was cramped during the Roman period.

After Christianity had prevailed and the ancient Hellenic religion had vanished, the Hellenic civilization started declining. The heroic emperor Ioulianos struggles hard to bring back the ancient Hellenic spirit to no avail.

The fanatic Christians are ruthless with the ancient Hellenic spirit, which will vanish in the Dark Ages.

After many centuries, Europe will bow before the ancient Hellenic wisdom and will create its own Renaissance.

However, the ancient Hellenic spirit in its cradle, Attica, is disappearing. Either small or big churches are erected about ancient temples.

There are many ruined churches in this area. The big Paleo-Christian Basilika in Olympus, whose size and construction show that this area was still prosperous during the early Byzantine period. The ancient reputation about the riches of this district attract all kinds of conquerors as well as hordes of robbers and pirates.

Ouni, Vissigoths, Ostrogoths, Normands and Slaves invade Greece ruining and pillaging it.

The settlements in Attica become smaller and move to the hinterland. Katafygi, Mesochori, Ari, are some of the areas whose name and location reveal the inhabitants' worries about their safety. The towers on the peaks of the hills in Katafygi, Aghia Varvara, Prophet Elia etc, are used as observation places or vanguards.

Although, this district is constantly declining. Around 1.200 AC., it is occupied by the Franks, who establish in Attica the Dukedom of Athens.

The Ottomans, in 1453, led by Mohammed himself, took Athens and Attica from the Frank governor of Atzayioli(or Atzalioti). Yet, Attica is not still in peace.

We shall report briefly some significant events concerning the history of Attica until the revolution in 1821.

1466. The Venetians take temporarily Athens from the Ottomans.

1522. Pestilence in Athens and Attica.

1647. Venetian's victory over the Ottomans in Porto Rafti, Attica.

1687. Cartridge from Morozini's shorgun hits the Acropolis which had been used as powder-magazine by the Ottomans. A big part of the Parthenon-which had been intact until then- is damaged. Finally, Morozini takes over Athens.

1688. Morozini leaves Athens letting the Ottomans take over Athens. He also takes with him two ancient marble lions: Elgin's Prodromos.

1770. At "Orlofika", the pirate Mitromaras, seizes Salamina and invades Attica.

1789. Plague in Athens and Attica.

1800. The English Lord Thomas Elgin starts ripping off all the sculptures of the Parthenon and takes them to England(The famous Elgin Marbles).

1809. Lord Byron comes to Athens for the first time and tours in Attica.

25th March 1821. The Hellenic Revolution against the Turks has already begun in Peloponese.

1st April 1821. The brave men: Meletis Vassiliou from Chassia, Anagnostis Kiourkatiotis from Acharnai, Yiannis Davaris from Liopessi as well as Demos Antoniou, bring the Revolution in Attica.

25th April 1821. The supporters of Meletis Vassiliou take over Athens. The Turks surrender and stay at Acropolis.

28th April 1821. After an official ceremony, the Hellenic banners are raised at the Turkish commandeer in Athens. Nevertheless, the Turks are still staying at Acropolis which is well-fortified. This sort of "war" about the governors of Attica lasted for more than 10 years. During these years, Attica was deserted, since all the inhabitants had left for the islands. They returned in 1830 after the Protocol of London had been signed. Finally, the Turks left Attica on 31st March, 1833. According to the Protocol, they could sell their estates before they left. Thus, another important problem for Attica came up; the lack of state estates.

The Turks sold -actually or fictitiously- every gravel of mountain peak of Attica, insisting that they were their fiefs. Of course, no "smart" Greek man of foreign missed this chance.

So, nowadays there are many "owners" who claim every mountain peak of Attica to be theirs, with the excuse that the land used to be a Turk's farm.

1830. Spyridon Markelos and his son Antonios buy, after signing a private document, the fief of Olympus- Katathiki- Finikia from the Turks Santic-Aga of Veizes and Serifaga Marberis who was Santic-Aga's brother-in-law.

By the large, the boundaries of the fief coincide with the boundaries of the district of Anavyssos, specifically from Lagonisi to Thimari-Prophet Elia-Ari-Olympus and Finikia.

1835. The Borough of Lavrion is founded including all the contemporary Boroughs and Municipalities of Lavrion, Keratea, Kalyvia, Anavyssos, Fokaia, Saronida, which used to be a small and with few inhabitants.

1890. The Borough of Lavrion is divided in two: The Borough of Sounion, consisted of the contemporary Borough of Lavrion, and the Borough of Thorikion, consisted of all the other ones.

1912. The Borough of Thorikion is divided in the Municipalities of Keratea and Kalyvia. The Municipality of Keratea included the settlements below:

Keratea, Ari, Anavyssos, Avlaki, Vilia, Vromopoussi, Dardeza, Demoliaki, Daskaleio, Dipseliza, Sinteriki, Kato Daskalio, Merkati, Legraina, Spiliszeza, Toyani, Phophola, Metichi Anavyssos and Plaka.

The Municipality of Kalyvia included the settlements of Kalyvia and Olympus.

1919. The Hellenic Army disembarks in Smyrne. After 20 centuries, the coastal sites of Minus Asia are under Hellenic authorities again.

1922. The Holocaust in Minus Asia. The Hellenic army is defeated and surrenders. The Turkish army slaughter the people and destroy everything. Their target is to abolish any Hellenic element in Minus Asia which had been the home of many Greeks for ages.

The inhabitants of the coastal areas leave their homes in despair, some don't manage to survive and many dead compatriots are left behind. The people of Fokaia and Vourla sail to Mytilini first and then to Piraeus.

August 1924. The Greek people of Cappadocie leave their homes- after the two countries had agreed on the exchange of the population- and sail to Piraeus.

November 1924. The refugees from Aretsou, near Constantinople in Minus Asia, disembark in Lavrio according to the same agreement of exchange. Later, they settle temporarily in tents in Anavyssos thanks to their compatriot Christos Cambanides, who had catered for them. On the same day, the refugees from Fokaia settle at the coast of Anavyssos, as well.

1925. The Ministry of Agriculture expropriates part of the fief belonging to Markelos' descendants to give to the refugees of Anavyssos

and Palaia Fokaia. The whole procedure was very brief and deviated bureaucracy since the situation was urgent. Then, the estates are distributed to the refugees of Anavyssos and Fokaia.

Each family of Anavyssos got 15 acres land and a house 50 m².

The families from Fokaia got 10 acres land and a house 50 m².

Moreover, the shepherds from Fokaia were totally given 25 acres and the shepherds from Anavyssos were also given an estate in the settlement Vlachika.

1927. The settlements of Anavyssos is parted from the Municipality of Keratea to join the Municipality of Kalyvia.

1929. Anavyssos from the Municipality of Kalyvia becomes an independent municipality.

1947. The Municipality of Palaia Fokaia is established.

1979. (26-1-1979) Pefka Giourda which belonged to the Municipality of Anavyssos becomes independent by the name Saronida.

SIGHTS OF ANAVYSSOS

Anavyssos is one of the most beautiful areas in Greece. It combines the classic lands of Attica with the beauty of the Aegean Sea. The Attican light is cast upon the hills and the valleys and as you wander around the dense in Katafigio, you feel you would listen to Panas playing the flute.

The ancient pathways are still engraved on the slopes of the hills and lead you to places whose beauty has remained intact throughout the centuries. You feel as if you would run into the ancient slaves carrying silver as they come out from the mines in Ari.

The edges at Panas's cave are still expecting our offerings.

Prophet Elias, on the highest peak, seems to be chatting with Apollon as they are gazing together from afar at Peloponnese, Evia and the Cyclades.

Aghios Nikolas is having ouzo and octopus with Poseidon sitting on the ancient rocks of the cape.

Now, you visitor, my friend, let your heart open and let's wander around the pathways where Kleisthenis had walked, sit together on the rock where Themistoklis had rested, or make libation at Krissos's pedestal.

Let's discover all the mysteries of this place where the Gods and the heroes were born and where the human brain reached its highest creativity.

Aghia Varvara.

It is a hill situated 200 m to the north of Anavyssos. It is named after the church on the top of the hill which is 54 m high. There used to be another church there but it had been demolished when the refugees found it. At the southern part of the hill, there is the base of an ancient observation tower. There are also two underground churches, yet we don't know when they were constructed and by whom.

Aghia Irene.

It's a hill situated 100 m to the east of Fokaia, named after the church on top of the hill which is also the central church of the village. At the western part of the hill, there is the cemetery of Fokaia and at the southern side, there is an ancient cemetery.

Aghia Foteini

It's a plateau 4 km to the east of the coast in Thimari. There is also a church dedicated to Aghia Foteini. There are also many archaeological sites scattered, specifically parts of an ancient temple which may be buried under a church since parts of an ancient column has been found in the church yard. There must have been many settlements here when the pirates and the robbers pillaged Attica, because it was a safe and fertile place.

Aghios Georgios

It's a place between Fokaia and Anavyssos. It's a flat area with a small and old church, dedicated to St. George, in the centre. A settlement of the ancient borough of Anaflystos is likely to have been situated here. In 1991, a cemetery of the Geometric years was found. In addition, some buildings, a cemetery and a small church of the early Christian years have recently been excavated.

San George

It's a small island 27 km to the south of Anavyssos. It's long and narrow with dimension 4,5x2 km. During the Nazi's occupation it was used as a base. Near this island, the Germans sank a ship with Italians who they were captured before.

Aghios Nikolas

It's a cape with a settlement situated at the 50th km at the road Athens-Sounion. At the cape is the old church of Agio Nikola. To the north and west of the church, there used to be a pre-historic settlement whose remain can be seen from the hill. This area is very good for a fort and since on the slopes on the hill there are traces of walls we can assume that here used to be situated the fort of Anaflystos, reported by Xenophon. To the west of the church there is a big, closed water tank dating back to the ancient years.

Aghios Panteleheimonas

It is 1,5 km to the north of Anavyssos, the Aghios Panteleheimonas church lies at the cross-roads of Kalyvia-Anavyssos road and Keratea-Anavyssos road. It must have been built in the 17th century judging from its construction as we don't have any written proof about the year of construction.

At the place where, nowadays, there are Boukis's estates, there used to be the estate of the monastery of Kessariani as well as the monastery's settlement around the church.

Aghios Panteleheimonas is considered to be a possible location for the central settlement of the ancient Anaflystos; certainly, it's one of the areas forming ancient Anaflystos. We assume that by the fact that few meters away some very important archaeological ruins have been excavated. Right to the south-east of Aghios Panteleheimonas was found a rich cemetery of the Geometric years in Nikolao's estate. Many gold items and beautiful vessels, found here in 1965 and 1969 - adorn now the show-cases in the Archaeological Museum of Athens and Vravrona.

The excavation of a whole intact cemetery of this period which is unique in Attica, has become a precious gift for the researchers of our history.

The cemetery was found in a farm surrounded by cypress trees, lying 100m to the south of Aghios Panteleheimonas.

Bank of Agriculture (ATE)

It's a settlement belonging to the Municipality of Palaia Fokaia. It is located between the areas Antonaki and Logotheti. The areas are named

after the association of the Bank of Agriculture employees some of whom owned this area.

This area is full of archaeological sites and cemeteries of the classical years, excavated by the Archaeological Service.

Furthermore, there are some superficial founding of a big Medieval settlement to the east of Mesochori. In addition, to the south of the hill there are traces of an ancient temple. It is believed that the statue of the Goddess of Berlin may have been stolen here by smugglers.

Alogaries (Valmas)

It's a hill situated 500 m to the north-east of Aghios Panteleimonas which is full of pine trees and 105 m high. At the eastern slopes of the hill towards Tzartzavilla are many ancient ruins, possibly of some mineworkers' neighbourhood as it is shown by poor, superficial shells. At the western slope, though, have been found "Aristodikos" marvellous statues "Berlin Kori" and New York Kouros. That's a sign that this area had been dwelled by either rich land-owners or mine-owners.

Alykes

It's a place of Anavyssos' old salt-pans at the 52nd km of Athens-Sounion road. It's a very old salt-pan which used to function as a natural salt-pan during the Ottoman occupation, therefore without any artificial interference in the production of salt, so the dwellers would just gather the salt they'd find there. Nowadays the salt-pan is covered with soil and is a flat area.

Anavyssos

This is the name of the whole region including the village. The village was built by the refugees who arrived here in 1922 from Minus Asia. First, the refugees from Aretsou settled here in 1924; therefore, in the beginning, the village was called Aretsou. In older maps of 1600-1700, this area is reported by the name Anaflystis. Anavyssos is definitely not a compound word of ano (upwards) and Vissa (Vissa was the ancient borough located to the north of Legrena) as some people insist but it's coming out of the word Anaflystos.

The name Anaflystos derives from the ancient verb Anaflío = seethe, like the boiling water.

Anaflystos was a famous, ancient deme. As Xenofon had reported, it provided with a harbour and a fortes. Part of the harbour had until recently existed where the contemporary part of Fokaia lies.

Venezis in his novel "Galini" (Tranquillity), which is about the refugees' life in Anavyssos, writes about the legend of a sunken city inspired by the ruins at the bottom of the sea.

The fortes in Anaflystos, reported by Xenofon, might be on the hill of Aghios Nikolas where there are still walls which haven't been studied yet.

Another version about the location of the fortes might be that it is buried among other archaeological ruins in Anavyssos Gulf.

The big ancient quarry to the north of the salt-pan urges us to believe that great constructions should have taken place around here. (It's the precipice next to the road to Saronida).

Ari

It's an area of the Borough of Keratea situated to the north-east of Anavyssos and to the east of the Anavyssos-Keratea road. There are 4 ancient mine wells. The area is full of archaeological sites, laundries, cisterns, graves and tombs.

In this area have been erected a group of buildings which was either a Turkish powder-store or a monastery.

Nowadays, the enclosing walls and parts of the buildings are preserved and fitted to a modern villa.

The name Ari possibly derives from the misinterpretation of the name of the Ancient deme of Frearii which is believed to be located in this area.

It is also believed that the name may be of Turkish origin ari = bee. This belief is also supported by the fact that there is a hill to the north of this area called Melissi Iatrou (Melissia = swarms of bees)

Artzindas

It's a rocky inland of 200 acres situated near the coast at the 49th km of the Athens-Sounion road. The eastern side is precipitous, yet the western side is sandy. The island's ancient name is Elaioussa.

There is a pre-historic settlement which is undamaged mainly because the island has never been inhabited since then.

Thimari

It's a big valley at the 60th km of the Athens-Sounion road. It belongs to the Municipality of Palaia Fokaia. It also includes two big ravines. It has lately been developed as a summer resort because it has nice small beaches.

Kalypso

It's a small beautiful cape at the 49th km of the Athens-Sounion road. there is a hotel and a restaurant as well as nice small beaches.

Katafigi

It's both a valley and a hill, 3 km to the west of Anavyssos and Fokaia. It's an area with many archaeological sites. It was called Katafigi because it might have been a shelter for the dwellers during hostile invasions (Katafygion = shelter). The ruins of a small fortes on top of the hill confirm this version.

At the slopes of the small hill where the fortes is situated there are many traces of a prehistoric settlement.

Dassomenos Lofos

It's the western part of the Anavyssos Gulf with the cape and the hill with the pine-trees. On the hill, there are many ancient ruins. One can walk through the pathways and adore the ancient observation towers around ruins.

At the bottom of the sea round the cape, there are many ancient ship wrecks which according to a legend were Persian ships which had escaped from the sea-battle in Salamina, but a storm sent by Goddess Athena (Minerva) sank them.

Mavro Lithari

It's the area along the coastal road from Saronida up to Aghios Nikolas. It was named after the big black cliff in the sea in front of the hotel "Eden".

Melissourgios

It's a place 5 km to the north of Anavyssos along the road to Kalyvia. It was named after George Melissourgios who was the brother-in-law of the original feudal barons Markelli who had lived there and exploited the area. The house he had built looked like a tower and is still well-preserved. 200m to the north was discovered the great Kouros "Krissos". The whole area is full of ancient cemeteries, settlements, thermals and Paleo-Christian churches.

Olympus - the mountain

It is the mountain behind Anavyssos and Saronida. It has two peaks separated by a deep ravine where the new dump-place of Anavyssos is located.

The highest peak which is 486m high, is called Olympus and is between Anavyssos and Saronida. The second peak to the north, is above Aghios Panteleheimonas it is 357m high and is called Skordi.

The place is either named after the God's mountain or it is a misinterpretation of the name of the ancient deme Aegilia. One would enjoy wandering around the mountain because it is not abrupt and the overlooking view from the peak is breathtaking. One can follow the pathway from the southern ravine which starts from the restaurant "La Fontana".

The lazy ones should go by car up to the highest points of Saronida's roads and then continue on foot.

At the flat part of the peak, there is an old mine as well as half-demolished buildings.

Olympus - the valley

It is the valley to the south of the mountain Pani from Feriza to Traouria. This area has many ancient ruins, for it has always been inhabited since the pre-historic years.

The Ancient demes of Thores, Aegilia and perhaps Fraiarii must have been here.

There is also the famous "Adrianion" Aqueduct as well as the wells and the conduits of the aqueduct.

At the same area, few metres to the south-west of the wells is the Basilica of Olympus which is a big Paleo-Christian church with mosaics and marble in relief.

Olympus - the village

It is the name of a small settlement at the valley Olympus. The village must have been built above the ancient Thores. The famous sculptor Memos Makris had a house here. This village was in the fief which was sold along with the fief to the Markelli's by the Turks.

PanAghia Messoporitissa

It's an area situated 200m to the south-east of the village Olympus where there is a church dedicated to PanAghia (Mary), which was built in the 10th century. The murals though which are still preserved were painted at the end of 18th century; even though, there might have been older ones underneath.

Pani or Panion

It's the mountain to the north of Anavyssos to the south of Keratea and to the east of Kalyvia. It's the highest mountain with the highest peak "keratovouni", which is above Keratea and 639m high, there are many routes up to the mountain.

The first pathway starts from Kalyvia and ends up to the mountain peak Pani after a very enjoyable journey. Another way is to go by car from the northern side and drive up to the monastery of Zoodochou Pigi where the scenery is breathtaking.

Or, one can drive through Keratea towards the airforce base and walk up to the cave of Pani. This cave had also been visited by Lord Byron when he visited Athens.

Patroklos (Gaidouronisi)

It's an island near the 65th km of the Athens-Sounion road. It was named after Patroklos the admiral in the fleet of the king of Egypt Ptolemeos who was Lagos Ptolemeos son. He had been sent by Ptolemeos to help the Athenian's allies who were suffering from the raids of the Macedonian Antigonos. He had had his military camp on this island traces of which still remain. Nowadays, on the island there is a small tavern where one can go to have a meal and swim.

Pigadi (well) of Ferizas.

It's an area with a well in Feriza to the north of the settlement. The well is ancient with a neighbourhood around because the foundations of a big building have been dug out.

Prophet Elias

It's a hill 356m high 4-5km to the east of the village of Palaia Fokaia. At the peak is the small church of Prophet Elias. The view is panoramic from the top and there are many ancient ruins around.

Saronida

It is a summer resort which has greatly developed the last years. Thousands of holidays makers visit the small taverns or the night-clubs every weekend.

The small, beautiful gulfs of the bay attract many swimmers or romantic people who come to admire the sunset.

Pana's Cave

It's a small cave used as the temple of God Pana. It was mentioned by Stravon as the Panion was situated around Anaflystos.

From an non-thorough research, done by the archaeological department in 1994 many small statues were found.

It used to be a great temple during the Classic years.

Davelli's Cave

It's a cave to the north of the hill Soufleri above Chorafa. The roof had been demolished so there is a hole at its place, therefore it's also called "Hollow cave".

Obviously this had been the refuge for the famous brigand Davellis. It's very close to Pana's cave.

One can visit both caves by following the pathway through the ravine to the south of Katafigi.

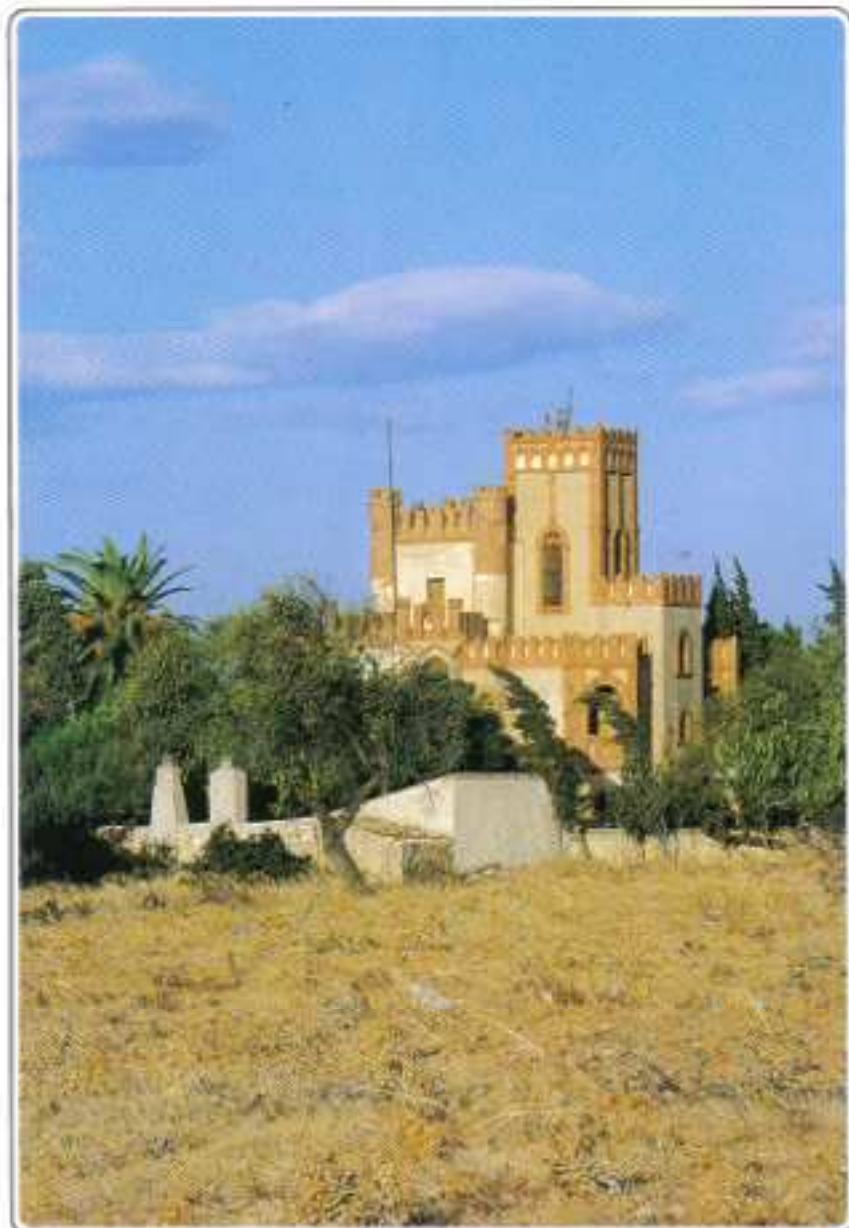
Palaia Fokaia

It's a seaside village which is the centre of the Municipality of Palaia Fokaia. It is at the 54th of Athens-Sounion road. It's a village with many refugees and was built in 1929 after the holocaust in Minus Asia. The refugees had come from Nea Fokaia in Minus Asia.

It is built at the place where the Port of ancient Anaflystos was. There is a small harbour and the evening promenades are enjoyable.

Although, it's even better during the sunset sitting at some taverns by the sea having ouzo and sea-food.

4. The castle of Melissourgos.



5. Aghios Panteleheimonas and Geometric cemetery.
6. Mavro Lithari



7. Aghios Nikolas.

8. Aghios Nikolas and a copy of ancient ship.



9. Davelli's Cave and Pana's Cave.
10. A small castle in Katafigi.



ARCHAEOLOGIKAL FOUNDING

In Anavyssos have been excavated many significant founding of all the Hellenic historical periods. Nevertheless, the founding of the Geometric Archaic era are unique. The Kouri and Kores found in this area are masterpieces of the Archaic sculpture - especially in Anavyssos the following Kouri and Kores.

Kouros Krissos

Found by smugglers few metres to the north of Melissourgios' tower (The pedestal is still buried in the yard of the house). The statue had been cut in 3 pieces so that it could be smuggled. Now, it is in an excellent condition exhibited by the Archaeological Museum in Athens.

Kouros Aristodikos

It was found in the spring of 1944 in the farm of doctor Liapi situated 150m to the north of Aghios Panteleheimonas.

The doctor gave it to the National Archaeological Museum.

There is a story about the way the statue arrived in Athens without the German realising it, otherwise they would have taken it.

The German guard who checked the carriage with the statue used a stick to see if there was anything hidden under the hay. Fortunately, the first time the stick missed the head of the statue and the second time it missed the legs.

We shall refer to an extract from "The history of the Hellenic Nation" in order to show how valuable the statues Aristodikos and Krissos, found in Anavyssos, are:

"..... the first is Krissos (around 525 BC) and the second Aristodikos it is by a generation younger than Krissos (500 BC) Both of them are not smiling and they are not "adropedes" (teenage boys) but men.

Krissos presents an original physical completion and substance, the flesh is richer than any other sculptures of Attica, the face is created in a wide and solid way with a very strict construction and arrangement of the mass.

However it can't be compared with Aristodikos which reflects the highest level of Archaic sculpture.

It's a boundary mark for this kind of art as well as for this century which is ending to welcome the art of a new era.

The whole statue is like a tight string ready to sling. It combines in one piece the three stages of movement with great intensity yet with a touch of freedom and comfort.

The Archaic expression of Kouros is a grandiose achievement which Art can't go beyond...."

Kouros of New York

It is kept in the Metropolitan Museum of New York. It was found in Anavyssos by smugglers and sold abroad.

The Goddess of Berlin

This Kori of the Archaic year is a well preserved masterpiece, exhibited by the "Pergamon" Museum in the former Eastern Berlin. Old people's stories say that the statue had been found by smugglers wrapped in leaves of lead and buried in "Valma" hill near Zoumboulakis' farm. That explains why the colours of the statue are so vivid.

Kouros of Munich

It is a well preserved statue kept in the Sculpture Gallery in Munich.

It has been found by smugglers "... not far" from where the Kouros of Anavyssos, Krissos, had been lying, report the museum's guide.

Kori of the sea

It's a half-finished statue found at the bottom of the Gulf of Anavyssos while they were working on deepening the bottom of the sea. it has the same posture with the Goddess of Berlin. the statue might have preceded the Goddess of Berlin. Now, it is stored and not yet studied.

Geometric Cemetery of Aghios Panteleheimonas

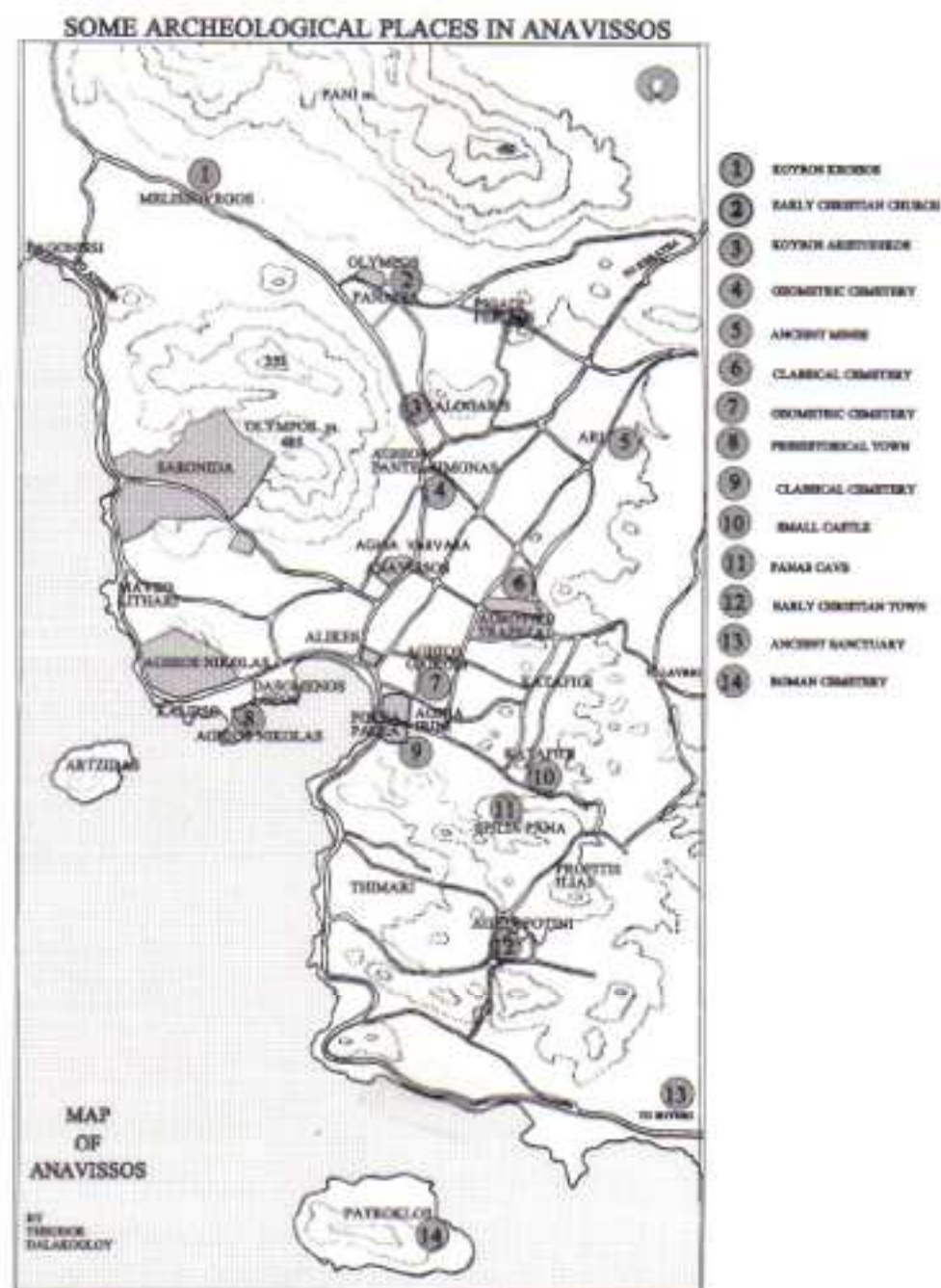
The gold jewellery found in the graves of the Geometric Cemetery in Aghios Panteleheimonas are considered to be the most important ones of this period, ever found.

Unfortunately, they have neither been published, nor given description, not taken pictures.

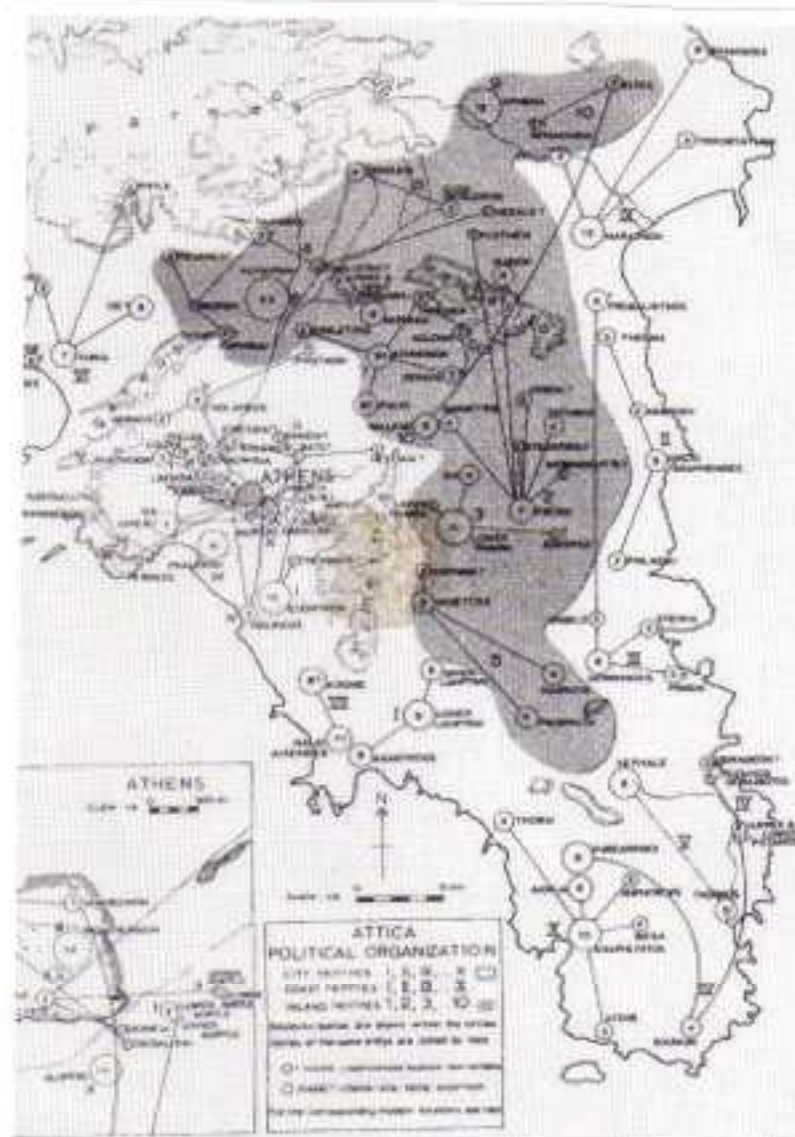
The Geometric vessels found in the same cemetery can be compared in quantity and quality with the ones found in Keramikos, Athens.

One can see and adore a small part of the vessels as well as of other founding at the Archaeological Museum of Vravrona.

11. Map of Archeological places in Anavyssos.



12. Ancien demes of attica.



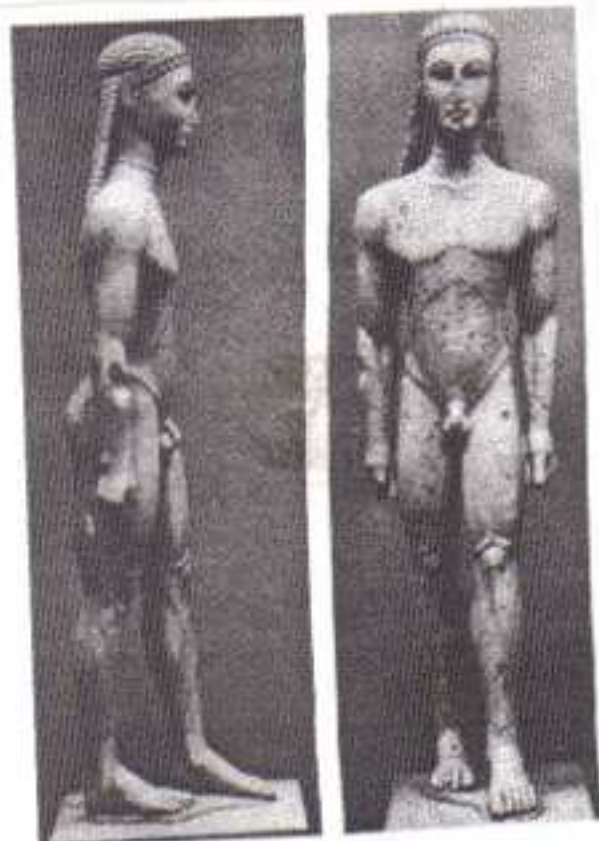
13. Kouros Krissos.



14. Kouros Aristodikos.



15. Kouros of New York.



16. The Goddess of Berlin.



17. Kouros of Munich



18. Attica lykithos from Anavyssos.



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