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1992. The goal of PRAP is systematically to document remains of past activity within a 250 km² area of southwestern Messenia (Greece) centered on the Palace of Nestor. One main objective is to reconstruct and interpret prehistoric changes in settlement patterns and land use in the region before the palace emerged, during its operation as a center, and after its decline. A second major objective is to reconstruct patterns of settlement in the historical periods, before, during, and after Spartan domination of Messenia.

Archaeological fieldwork over the six-week season took two forms. First, intensive survey of ca. 12 km² provided detailed information about the surface distribution of artifacts over the entire Englianos ridge, including the immediate area of the Palace of Nestor, and of a sizable area beyond the probable Bronze Age boundary between the Hither and Further Provinces of the Pylian state. Eighteen sites (including several prehistoric and historical cemeteries) were examined; finds of the Middle to Late Bronze Age, Archaic to Hellenistic periods, and of the Roman, Byzantine, and modern eras were collected. In addition, a fourth "Inventory" team initiated a systematic program of restudy at known archaeological sites with a view to defining more clearly their extents and periods of occupation. Among these, Koryfasion: *Beylerbey* (UMME 4), a large prehistoric and historical site near the Osmanaga Tholos, and Romanou were targets of special investigations. At *Beylerbey* finds included a well-preserved Mycenaean lentoid seal with a representation of a goat. A large town at Romanou (more than 1 km² in extent) was occupied in the Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, and Roman periods.

Other archaeological research supported by PRAP included the extraction for palynological analysis of several cores over 4 m long from Osmanaga Lagoon. Geoarchaeological survey revealed that the silt and marl surfaces that cover 80% of the 250 km² area have been subjected to severe erosion. Analysis of aerial photographs and of microtopography provided new evidence in support of Kraft's theory that the river north of the Palace has been artificially diverted; it may, indeed, have led to an inland port basin, now infilled, north of Romanou.

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THE PYLOS REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT:
PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE 1992 SEASON: *Jack L. Davis*, University of Illinois at Chicago, *Susan E. Alcock*, University of Michigan, *John Bennet*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, *Yannos Lolos*, Guides School, Athens, *Cynthia W. Shelmerdine*, University of Texas at Austin, and *Eberhard Zangger*, Cambridge University

The Pylos Regional Archaeological Project (PRAP) completed its first season of surface survey in the summer of