

Professor Paul Sutton – The Lechaion Harbor and Settlement Land Project: New Perspectives on Maritime Life In Ancient Greece



Lechaion Harbor has long been known as a major hub of ancient commerce for the Mediterranean and the primary harbor for Corinth from at least the late 6th century BCE until the mid to late 5th century CE. In spite of its location having always been known, it has remained largely untouched and unexcavated. The site provides a rare opportunity to investigate an undisturbed harbor in use for over 1400 years.

In 2018 the Lechaion Harbor Settlement and Land Project completed the first three years of land excavation and exploration and has produced findings that document a large harbor settlement with habitation dating back to at least the 8th century BCE and perhaps to the Mycenaean period and earlier, extensive early Roman remains dating to the 2nd half of the 1st century BCE, fortification walls along the shoreline, what appears to have been the lighthouse depicted on Roman coins, and intriguing anomalies in the inner harbor that may represent sunken ships. These findings indicate the importance of the site and the fact that many years of excavation remain.



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Prof. Sutton is currently leading the excavation of the land features of Lechaion Harbor of Ancient Corinth, Greece. This work is being conducted under a cooperative agreement between the American School of Classical Studies Athens and the Corinthian Ephorate of Antiquities.

Wednesday, January 23, 3 PM Nierenberg Hall 101 (SIO)