

Excavation of an Ancient Marble Column Shipwrecked off the Aegean Coast of Turkey



Between 2005 and 2011 researchers from the Institute of Nautical Archaeology (INA) at Texas A&M University excavated the remains of a marble carrier that sank off the Aegean coast of Turkey at Kizilburun very probably in the first century B.C. The ship was transporting the components of a newly-quarried monumental column. Isotopic, stylistic, and metrological analysis of the column pieces has enabled researchers to identify with some certainty the ancient temple for which the column was intended. In addition, excavation of the Kizilburun column wreck provides a unique snapshot of quarrying processes, long-distance transport by sea, and monumental construction in marble in Late Hellenistic Asia Minor.



Dr. Deborah
Carlson

Associate Professor at Texas
A&M University and President
of the Institute of Nautical
Archaeology