



IRISH INSTITUTE OF HELLENIC STUDIES AT ATHENS

Institiúid Éireannach san Aitíen don Léann Heilléanach
Ιρλανδικό Ινστιτούτο Ελληνικών Σπουδών στην Αθήνα

Zoom Lecture

“Context and Content: Rethinking the Poros Wall Hoard from Late Bronze Age Mycenae.”

Dr. Stephanie Aulsebrook, University of Warsaw



The phenomenon of hoarding metal artefacts in Bronze and Iron Age Europe has attracted much scholarly interest, generating fierce debates about their secular or ritual nature in particular. The Poros Wall Hoard, excavated at Mycenae in 1952, is one of five such groups of metalwork known from Late Bronze Age contexts at this site. Until a restudy of this hoard

commenced in 2018, interpretations of its underlying meaning had centred on its contents; these had prompted its assignment to the category of “founder’s hoards”, that is to say a group of objects buried by a smith for safekeeping. The first stage of this restudy, focused on the context of the hoard, revealed mistakes in its publication had obscured important stratigraphic evidence that pointed to its deliberate inclusion within a landscape of ritual activity. In this presentation I will share the preliminary results of the ongoing second phase of this restudy, returning to the objects themselves. Detailed macroscopic analysis, aided by optical microscopy, uncovered information concerning the choice of objects and their treatment that, amongst other conclusions, also indicates the influence of ritual considerations on the actions associated with the deposition of this hoard.

To attend the lecture, register via EventBrite: <https://shorturl.at/jmsR0>

Email for any further information: irishinstitute@gmail.com

The lecture is co-hosted by University College Dublin, Department of Archaeology

Thursday, 23rd November 2023

Lecture begins at 19.30 (Greek time) 17.30 (Ireland time)

Navarhou Notara 51a
106 83 Athens
Greece

Tel/Fax: +30-210-8848074
Email: irishinstitute@gmail.com
www.iihsa.ie