

Chapter 1 : Deep-water Shipwrecks Off Skerki Bank: The Survey

Skerki Bank designates a series of shallow reefs located approximately 60 km north of Tunisia and 80 km west of Sicily. Coauthors McCann and Oleson and 16 contributors have searched the vicinity of Skerki Bank for ancient shipwrecks since

Bryn Mawr Classical Review Journal of Roman Archaeology Suppl. Journal of Roman Archaeology, Reviewed by Justin Leidwanger, University of Pennsylvania jleidwan sas. The development of more refined and readily available remote sensing equipment and Remotely Operated Vehicles ROVs now facilitates survey for shipwrecks at all depths in the Mediterranean. At the forefront of this endeavor has been Robert Ballard, who, with a team from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute and collaborating institutions, initiated in an extensive survey at a depth of approximately m in international waters off northwest Sicily near a reef called Skerki Bank. As a whole, the book presents a useful, well-executed and comprehensive treatment that is unique among such publications of ancient wrecks for its scope and research design. Three introductory chapters provide the background for the project, its organization and area, technology, and exploratory and sampling strategies. A brief overview outlines all phases of the operation and parameters, from remote sensing and visual inspection with ROVs and a submarine on the seafloor to mapping, test excavation, artifact lifting, documentation, and conservation. In the discussion that follows, M-O raise a number of the significant legal and ethical questions surrounding this and other such projects in international waters. Chapter 2, by D. Mindell and other members of the engineering team, picks up with a discrete summary of the techniques utilized in, and often developed specifically for, the site recording efforts at Skerki Bank. One major new improvement allowed the investigators to augment traditional two-dimensional photographic documentation with more precise contours "microbathymetry" of the wreck site - an approach that facilitated better resolution at the individual artifact level and greater understanding of the overall site and its seabed context In Chapter, 3, one of the most original and interesting contributions of the book, O and J. Adams make significant additions to an otherwise generally poorly understood notion of site formation processes of wrecks in deep water. Although the amphoras are sometimes scattered, the authors propose that many of the vessels here and elsewhere may have landed upright on the seabed, with cargo stowed, and perhaps only an anchor and a few other unsecured items fell loose. Still, the scattered but intelligible remains from the Skerki Bank wrecks seem to indicate that the unique information deep waters may yield is not so much a product of any perfect preservation here, wood and other organic remains are no better preserved than in shallow waters as the lack of continuous casual looting that prevails along much of the dive-able Mediterranean coastline. Concluding the chapter is a final discussion of several applied and proposed excavation techniques for robotically removing sediment, which may foreshadow future avenues of archaeological exploration at these depths. Chapters 4 through 10, mostly by M-O, discuss the wrecks in chronological order, including single comprehensive chapters devoted to each of the five ancient wrecks Wrecks D, F, G, B and "Isis" in Chs. Adams on two modern ships of the late 19th or early 20th century Wrecks C and E in Ch. A closer examination of Wreck D in Chapter 4 provides occasion to look at both the regular structure of these core chapters, as well as some of the advantages and limitations of interpreting this type of evidence. This medium-sized merchant vessel is dated by M-O to c. Of course, this 28 m is a tentative best guess, especially since the often disjointed wrecks at Skerki Bank do not seem to present the same tall, oval mound scenario that is more clearly interpretable in the case of a wreck like the Kyrenia ship. In the case of Wreck D, the authors advance the reasonable hypothesis that the north end of the site, marked by two lead anchor stocks with interesting depictions of knuckle-bones , represents the bow 54 , since their convenient placement here is well-attested in the iconographic and archaeological record. Yet this seems hard to reconcile with the notion that the northern artifact heap was the galley noted by the authors and indicated by the presence here of food preparation pottery, a quern, and flat ceramic tiles often used as hearth lining. This part of the ship is usually found at the stern, and in fact is often used by archaeologists to identify this end of the site. Given the number and variety of artifacts raised and identified, the suggested date of c. The diverse origins for the 12 types of

amphoras in the ship need not indicate as many disparate stops, but rather a final stop at a larger harbor with trade connections to these various regions; in this case, the authors favor Cosa. Finally, the extensive artifact analyses provide key insights into the various connections represented especially in those cargo components that are raised and individually catalogued. Likewise, the many petrographic observations help bolster some provenances. The authors clearly came to the project with a well-defined sampling strategy, but important restrictions on which artifacts can be raised often limit the conclusions that can be drawn. For Wreck D, the attribution of six amphoras to the island of Kos or its neighboring region the farthest flung connection in the wreck is difficult to substantiate for certain when, as the authors note, imitations were made in the central and western Mediterranean beginning in the mid-first century B.

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Chapter 2 : Skerki Bank, : Archaeology in Deep Water : Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI)

*Deep-Water Shipwrecks Off Skerki Bank: The Survey (Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series, No. 58) [Anna Marguerite McCann, John Peter Oleson] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

It is now possible to locate wrecks in the deep ocean and to remove artifacts, using easily available technology. The legal and methodological framework of deep-water excavation, however, has not kept up with the technology, and many historically important shipwrecks are being plundered for commercial gain. Robert Ballard and Dr. Anna Marguerite McCann organized a deep-water archaeological survey and excavation project focused on surveying Roman shipwrecks in m of water near Skerki Bank 80 km NW of Sicily. This expedition was designed to show how archaeologists might make use of these new technologies and to bring attention to the international problem of illicit excavation. Ballard and McCann returned with a larger team, more sophisticated equipment, and the U. Navy nuclear research submarine NR While the NR-1 surveyed the area for new wreck sites, remotely operated vehicles ROVs deployed from a mother ship were used to survey, record, and remove a sample of artifacts from several Roman shipwrecks. As one of the project archaeologists, Prof. In the course of the four week project, seven new shipwrecks were located and studied at depths around m: We also documented the debris fields of Roman ships that were dumping cargo to stay afloat or spilling cargo as they sank. The Jason, the most sophisticated ROV remotely-operated vehicle ever used for archaeological work, documented the sites with digital and video photography, then recovered selected artifacts for study. The Roman wrecks show a fascinating mix of cargoes, including quarry-rough blocks of granite, a wide variety of amphoras, whole sets of kitchen ware and fine ware, and bronze vessels. The expedition was widely reported in international print and television media. The final report of the project has been published: Ballard, Robert, and A. Freed, Deep Water Archaeology. Ancient Shipwrecks between Carthage and Rome. Deep-Water Shipwrecks off Skerki Bank: To be published as a Supplement to Journal of Roman Archaeology. Newsletter of the Royal B.

Chapter 3 : THE SKERKI BANK DEEP WATER ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT, ,

The Skerki Bank area has become a laboratory for archaeology in deep water. In and Skerki served as the proof-of-concept site for archaeology in deep water. Between those projects, Ballard and the crew of NR-1 conducted a broad-area search and survey project in

Chapter 4 : John Peter Oleson | Open Library

THE SKERKI BANK DEEP WATER ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT, , Today the discipline of archaeology underwater is undergoing technological changes just as revolutionary as the introduction of the SCUBA apparatus in the s. It is now possible to locate wrecks in th.

Chapter 5 : Skerki Banks - Wikipedia

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Chapter 6 : Bryn Mawr Classical Review

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Chapter 7 : Anna Marguerite McCann - Wikipedia

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Chapter 8 : Publications :: Hanumant Singh Lab

He is also a member of the team of archaeologists that used a nuclear submarine and remotely operated vehicles to survey and excavate deep water Roman shipwrecks at Skerki Bank in the Mediterranean in

Chapter 9 : Deep Sea Archaeology

The Skerki Banks, also known as the Skerki Channel, are an area of relatively shallow open sea, situated in the central Mediterranean in the Strait of Sicily between Sicily and Tunisia.