

Soline Archeological Dig 2018

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Soline Project

St. Klement island was the home to the Soline archaeological dig site, approximately 1.86 miles from the keystone city of Hvar located off the coast of Croatia within the Adriatic Sea.

The goal of this year's work on St. Klement was to:


- Dig another trench to uncover the previously documented sections of a building
- To discover and document architecture and finds
- To further our knowledge of the site, as well as ancient Roman civilization.

Soline Probe 20 Finds

Probe 20 held many new finds in the Soline Project's discoveries. It ranged from a wide variety of materials and objects:

- Clay pottery: Pots, Plates, Rooftiles, Amphoras, Glaze ware.
- Glass.
- Nails
- Fresco (Painted wall plaster)
- Coins (4th and 5th Century)

Some of the biggest finds were the coins dating back to fourth century, one of which was close to the size of a US half dollar and had retained majority of its texts and depictions. This is by far the best preserved coin ever found at this site.



Layer Number	Thickness	Layer Color	Composition
Layer #1	32.5cm	Dark Reddish Brown 14 Chroma Hue 5YR	Layer one's composition was made up of majority top soil, as well as small rocks and pebbles in the mix.
Layer #2	21.2cm	Dull Reddish Brown 5/3 Chroma Hue 5YR	Bottom of the root system, pebbles are much sparser, beginning of the larger root system (Entering new vegetation layer).
Layer #3	13.4cm	Brown 4/3 Chroma Hue 7.5YR	Larger rocks (no longer a pebble categorization), root system has ended, soils compaction is much less apparent (very loose), a white foil over the layer (much like a fungus or mold).
Layer #4	20cm	Dark Brown 3/4 Chroma Hue 7.5YR	Entering lower levels of the probe, Clay composite, nearing bedrock, much tougher and more compact.
Layer #5	29.7cm	Very Dark Brown 2/3 Chroma Hue 7.5YR	Mostly wet soil (From sea water rise and fall/ Water Table), majority clay, the largest stones in the soil column were found here (As we approach bedrock).

Soil Chart Analysis

The 2018 Soline Project dubbed Probe 20 consisted of a trench reaching an approximate depth of one meter deep. The fresh face of the interior walls of the trench were then categorized by their characteristics and named due to their coloration in accordance with soil charts. The conclusion was that the trench to be divided into five different layers of soil. All soil characteristics were recorded using the northern wall of the trench (Indicated in Fig. by the white arrow).

Future Research

The completion of Soline Probe 20 proved to be a rewarding year with the finds of coins, and the most fresco ever found on site. Since the location of the vast majority of the finds were only in a small section to the western edge, the year to come of probe 21 looks promising.

- The hopes are that of the several hundred pieces of fresco found this year and the years to come, we may be able to piece together more of the fresco recreating the once standing wall.

St. Klement still holds many secrets and finds waiting to be discovered, furthering our knowledge of the once great Roman civilization.

2018

Noah Gregg & Benjamin Linke, research project, "Soline Probe 20 stratigraphy: geology of soil layers"

