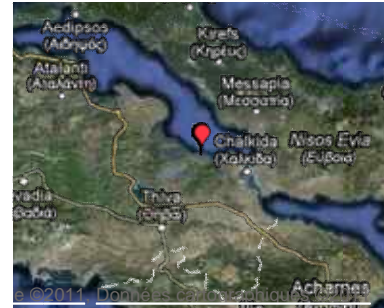


Anthedon

Anthedon was a small ancient city with an agora, stoa and temples, that its citizens were devoted on fishing and shipbuilding (Herakides, *Greece Description*, I.23). Nowadays it can be located near Loukisia village in NE Viotia (Euboean gulf). The area was inhabited from the Mycenaean period (16th -12th century B.C.) until the Early Byzantine period (6th century A.C.) and maybe later.

Parts of the citywalls encircling a small hill are still preserved, extended to the harbour's brakewaters at the beach. Remains of the harbour structures are visible on the sea surface and underwater.

Figures 

Main features

Region	Euboean Gulf
Use	Commercial - Military
Prosperity period (centuries)	
Existence of contemporary port	No
Findings on site	Yes, the two brakewaters and the quay around northern, western and southern side.

General description

Systematic study of Anthidon's harbour was conducted in 1966 by D.J. Blackman, J. Schafer and H. Schlager. The harbour had an almost circular basin (c.120-130m.), protected from north and east by two brakewaters constructed of blocks. Quays, with a total length of 370m., were surrounding the basin from north, south and west. Southern of the south quay an early Christian Basilica has been excavated (Rolfe 1890,96-107), which was possibly founded upon a preexisting ritual building.

Technical features

Construction period (centuries)	4th A.D. - 7th A.D., 7th c. BC. but the harbour could very possibly had been in use from the Hellenic antiquity.
Port configuration	Artificial Harbour, Outer Harbour
Port basin size	15000 m ²
Main wind direction	NE
Port land area	km ²
Port entrance	From east, not in full protected
Change of sea surface elevation	m
Sedimentation	Yes
Outer port structures	Moles
Inner port structures	Wharves
Land facilities	Temples

Construction method	Hydraulic concrete had been used
Neotectonic history	
Shore line displacement	Silting

Function and operations

Anthedon is located at the end of a Mycenaean road originating from Lake Kopaida area that is testified archaeologically at the south coast of Paralimni (Schlager et al. 1968, 23). Strabo (*Geogr.* IX.2.2) mentions the existence of a harbour at Anthedon, providing information from the historian Ephoros who considered that Viotia was superior to the surrounding nations because it had three seas and many good harbours, one of which was Anthedon. Diodorus Siculus (*Hist.* IE.78) also notes that at 364-363 B.C. Thebans voted for the construction of 100 triremes and the building of an equal number of shipsheds. Anthedon could not be uninvolved in such a project, either for building or mooring the triremes. Finally, the research of D.J. Blackman, J. Schafer and H. Schlager concluded that the visible remains of the harbour structures belong exclusively to one building phase, which can be dated from the Ioustinian period or/and later until the end of 7th century A.D. Combining the above information with the archaeological and philological evidence for the inhabitation of the area from the Mycenaean period to 7th century A.D., leads to the conclusion that this location was active as a harbour with or without installations already from the Mycenaean period. The remains of the Byzantine period are probably covering previous port structures on an underlying layer. Hence, the harbour of Anthedon must have been operating as a trading station for the rich mainland, while at the same time being a naval base of the Viotean and a squadron of the Byzantine fleet.

Sources

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Related researches	Archeological
Findings in museums	No
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