

# Greek dig unearths Neolithic household gear

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — A 6,000 year-old set of household gear, including crockery and two wood-fired ovens, has been found in the buried ruins of a prehistoric farmhouse in northern Greece, officials said.

A Culture Ministry statement said the discovery "provides invaluable, unique information" on late Neolithic domestic architecture and household organization.

"This is a very rare case where the remains have stayed undisturbed by farming or other external intervention for about 6,000 years," the ministry statement said. "The household goods are in excellent condition."

The rectangular building, which covers some 624 square feet, was discovered during work to lay water pipes earlier this year at the village of Sosandra near

Aridaia, some 360 miles north of Athens.

Archaeologists who excavated the site between March and July found a large number of clay vessels for cooking and eating, stone tools, mills for grinding cereals and two ovens.

The house was separated into three rooms. It had walls made of branches and reeds covered with clay, supported by strong wooden posts. The building was destroyed by fire, which baked the clay, preserving impressions of the wooden building elements, as well as the post holes.

Archaeologists believe the inhabitants managed to escape the fire, taking with them their valued stone blades and axes.

"They left behind the large stone tools which would have been difficult to move away," the ministry statement said.

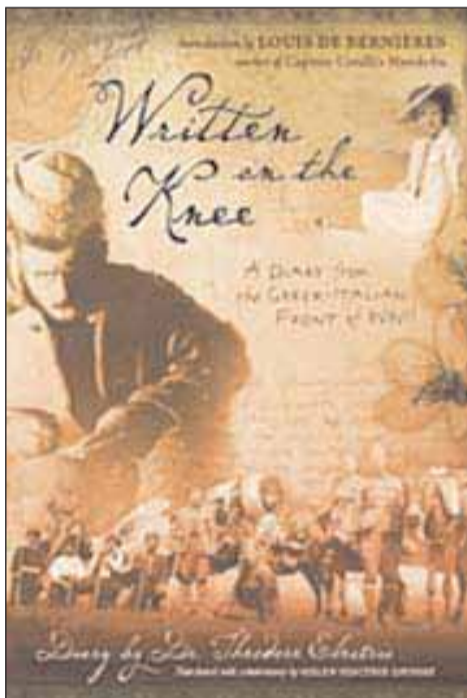


piles of 6,000 year-old housepottery among the ruins of a neolithic home excavated in northern Greece this year.

# Written on the Knee

## A Diary from the Greek-Italian Front of WWII

*During the Greek-Italian conflict of World War II, Dr. Theodore Electris, newly married and idealistic, was called up to the Greek-Italian front in the remote mountains of Albania. Homesick, hungry and desperately missing his young wife, Chrysoula, he kept an intimate journal to preserve his experiences for her.*



*his experiences.*  
— Louis de Bernières, from his introduction

*"I loved Written on the Knee, but of course I love anything Greek. What is special about it for me is*

*that I was seven years old when the war began, and I remember vividly how closely my parents followed events in northern Greece, particularly since my papou and yaya on my mother's side were from Epirus. But this book offers a dimension I never knew. It explains the strategic and political importance of the Greek involvement in World War II through the personal love story contained within a fascinating diary, which brings the struggle and sacrifice of the Greek people to life."*

— Governor Michael Dukakis

Helen Electric Lindsay was born in Thessaloniki, Greece. She graduated from Anatolia College in Thessaloniki and came to the United States on a Fulbright scholarship to study physics. She worked for Dayton Hudson and as an engineering product manager at MTS Systems in the Twin Cities. She is married with two children and lives in Wayzata, Minnesota.

*Diary by Dr. Theodore Electris  
Edited and translated  
by Helen Electric Lindsay  
Introduction by Louis de Bernières*

Translated by his daughter, Helen Electric Lindsay, Electris' entries and letters come together in *Written on the Knee*. Fully illustrated and accompanied by supporting reference material, the collection serves as both an authentic historical document of Greek involvement in WWII and a story of love, separation and family ties threatened and strengthened by war.

Often overlooked in the scope of WWII, Greece's six-month conflict with Mussolini's forces played a pivotal role in the war's outcome. The small country's fierce resistance against the Italians delayed Hitler's move into the Soviet Union, which many historians believe turned the war in favor of the Allies.

From Dr. Electris' first entry to his last, *Written on the Knee* captures the true story of love and war during a crucial time in modern history.

*"In these pages the warm heart of a dead man beats again, his passions are re-lived, his pleasures, hardships, and irritations unfold for us as if they were in the present. Such is the immediacy of the writing that it is not at all hard for us to feel that we know the doctor, and share*

## Greek minority pupils in Albania to be given textbooks in Greek

Tirana. The pupils of Greek origin in Albania will be given textbooks in Greek, the media announced. The initiative belongs to the Education Minister Evripidis Stylianidis and is carried out in cooperation with the Albanian Education Ministry. The textbooks and notebooks will be handed out to the pupils in schools of the Greek minority in Albania. The textbooks have been translated from Albanian into Greek and are targeted for first to eighth graders.

## Asopos is toxic, tests indicate

The Asopos River, from which thousands of residents north of Attica draw their drinking water, is heavily polluted with toxic chemicals, according to recent laboratory tests whose results were made public. The tests, carried out by the Institute of Geology and Mineral Exploration (IGME) in February, indicate high levels of chromium, arsenic and lead. But the central water committee of the Environment and Public Works Ministry, which commissioned the study, yesterday played down the findings.

## Oakleigh Greek Orthodox school egged in muck-up prank

STUDENTS at an Oakleigh school in Melbourne's southeast have been sent home after hundreds of eggs were hurled through the school grounds.

Cleaners with high pressure hoses have been called in to clean debris from windows, doorways and walls across Oakleigh Greek Orthodox School after the suspected muck-up prank overnight.

Principal Steve Charisis said a "massive amount" of eggs had been splattered across the school, and students had been sent home during the cleanup.

"It's devastating for us to see our school in this kind of condition," he told Radio 3AW

today.

"It's the first year that we put a security patrol on, but it didn't work obviously."

He said his initial suspicions were that his students were not responsible, but he was reluctant to point the finger elsewhere.

"The worst thing they (our students) did in our eyes was scrawl all over their uniforms while they were wearing them."

He said local shopkeepers had called the school to commend their end-of-year behaviour. He did not expect the school to "get much change out of a few thousand dollars" from the clean-up bill.

Matthew Schulz- Article from the Herald Sun

