

them were broken off. Their faces and head dress were coarsely fashioned. These figurines show no influences of realistic baroque or neoclassical sculpture.



Fig. 7. Broken 18<sup>th</sup>-century terracotta human figurines, presumably toys, discovered in the Baturyn fortress in 2014. Photo by Yu. Sytyi

Presumably, these rare artifacts represent distinctive vernacular toys created by a local Baturyn potter during the Rozumovsky era. Such clay images are absent in the major cities of the Cossack realm—Kyiv and Chernihiv. The only known comparable early modern terracotta anthropomorphic statuette was found in the village of Ulanovo, Hlukhiv region in 2009. Our preliminary analysis suggests that ceramic toys of this design and technique were produced in Baturyn, Hlukhiv, and possibly other towns in Chernihiv and Sumy provinces in the 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> centuries. These toys may indicate a revival of ceramic folk art in Baturyn during its reconstruction by Rozumovsky in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

Archaeological and architectural research of Baturyn in 2014 has provided us with new information about the wooden palatial, ecclesiastical, service, and ordinary residential structures of the hetman capital, as well as its local crafts, and international trade and cultural contacts during Mazepa's and Rozumovsky's reigns. It has also enriched our knowledge of early modern Ukrainian folk ceramic sculpture. The Canada-Ukraine expedition plans to resume excavations in Baturyn in 2015.

Martin Dimnik and Volodymyr Mezentsev

#### 40<sup>th</sup> Byzantine Studies Conference

Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, 6-9 November 2014

Some 70 papers were presented at this year's BSC, which was organised by Dimitris Krallis in Vancouver city centre, at the Segal Building in Granville Street. The building was well adapted for the conference, in which around 120 people participated: it was formerly a bank, which has now been converted for use by various departments of Simon Fraser University. The two rooms used for the simultaneous sessions adjoined a large hall in which the coffee flowed steadily.

There were always at least two sessions occurring simultaneously; topics treated included 'Byzantines and Latins', 'The Self in Byzantine Poetry', 'The visual culture of Byzantium in a Mediterranean context' (a session in honour of our member Erica Cruikshank Dodd) and 'The Emperor and the Church'. The whole programme may be accessed on-line at: <http://www.sfu.ca/~40thbsc/pdfs/PROGRAM.pdf>. There was a good Canadian presence: among those presenting were Dana Iuliana Viezure, George Bevan, Glenn Peers, Patrick Gray and Erica Dodd. The keynote lecture was delivered on the Friday evening by John Haldon (Princeton), entitled 'A shifting 'environment'? Climate, land and politics from late Rome to middle Byzantium'. There was also a brief allocution by Alice-Mary Talbot and Walter Kaegi about the origins of the BSC in order to mark its 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting. Participants were treated to several receptions at various venues; there was likewise the customary business lunch of the BSANA.

On Friday 7 November there was an informal meeting of the Canadian participants present to discuss what our committee might do to promote Byzantine studies in Canada. Present were Glenn Peers, George

Bevan, Patrick Gray, Iuliana Viezure, Cecily Hilsdale, Dimitris Krallis - who organised the meeting and provided lunch - and Mark Vessey of UBC, a scholar of Late Antiquity (and much besides). There were no concrete resolutions passed but the meeting proved very useful. It is mainly as a consequence of this that I have put together a list of courses in our field in this issue. We also discussed the possibility of organising speaker meetings or tours in Canada, rather like what the Classical Association of Canada (CAC) does, as well as other similar bodies. We also decided to try to improve links with our similar organisations in Canada, e.g. the Patristics society or the Syriac studies society. This issue therefore contains some information on these associations, which may well be of interest to our members; we hope that they will reciprocate.



#### Report on activity in 2014

The revised statutes of the AIEB have been posted on the website and can be found at:

<http://www.aiebnet.gr/en/aiebnet/statutes.html>

#### Monuments in Turkey

*Below I reproduce the text of a letter sent to the President, Prime Minister and a number of officials in the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Monuments; ambassadors of and to the US, Canada, Turkey; and to the entire caucus on US-Turkey Relations & Turkish Americans, who include members of the Senate and the House of Representatives (they number 150) by Glenn Peers, having consulted with a number of bodies and officials.*

The Honorable Ömer Çelik  
Minister of Culture and Tourism  
Ministry of Culture and Tourism  
Atatürk Bulvarı no. 29  
Opera 06050  
Ankara, Turkey

Your Excellency,

We, on behalf of the American Council of Learned Societies, the American Schools of Oriental Research, the Byzantine Studies Association of North America, the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists, the Canadian Society of Medievalists, the College Art Association, the International Center of Medieval Art, the Medieval Academy of America, the Society of Architectural Historians, the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies and the Universities Art Association of Canada, are writing to express our concern regarding the future of the historical patrimony that currently lies in your care. In particular, we are troubled that conversion of certain Turkish monuments or museums into mosques may lead to the