

Exploring Domestic Space in Rough Cilicia

This presentation discusses the architectural phases (Roman to Middle Byzantine) of a multi-story structure uncovered at Antiochia ad Cragum during the 2019 excavation season. This structure, which spanned the Roman, Late Roman and Byzantine periods provides evidence of domestic transition. As this paper will suggest, the inhabitants of Antiochia shifted private domestic spaces to agricultural production. One site that seems to illustrate this has been found located at the base of the Acropolis, west of the Agora. Since this is the first domestic space to be studied at Antiochia, the evidence presented here offers a framework for new research and suggests some initial interpretations. Analysis will center on the Late Roman construction of a wine press. Here were excavated an oversized African imported amphora, hydria, and Cypriot pottery. The wine press appears similar to other wine presses of the period located throughout Turkey and Israel but with some important differences. The wine press at Antiochia is unique for its simple structure; for example, there is no evidence for the existence of a connecting vat. Our findings suggest that local agricultural production increased in the Late Roman period as urbanization developed on the southern Turkish coast.