



HAL
open science

The French-Armenian archaeological mission of the LA3M (Aix-en-Provence) at Yereruyk (Armenia): main results

Patrick Donabédian

► **To cite this version:**

Patrick Donabédian. The French-Armenian archaeological mission of the LA3M (Aix-en-Provence) at Yereruyk (Armenia): main results. Ancient Armenia at the crossroads, B. PERELLO; R. BADALYAN; K. MELIKSETIAN, Nov 2018, Lyon, France. halshs-01921656

HAL Id: halshs-01921656

<https://shs.hal.science/halshs-01921656>

Submitted on 23 Nov 2018

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

Patrick DONABÉDIAN

Aix Marseille Université, CNRS, LA3M, Aix-en-Provence, France

Résumé de communication

**« The French-Armenian archaeological mission
of the LA3M (Aix-en-Provence)
at Yereruyk (Armenia): main results »**

in

Ancient Armenia at the crossroads

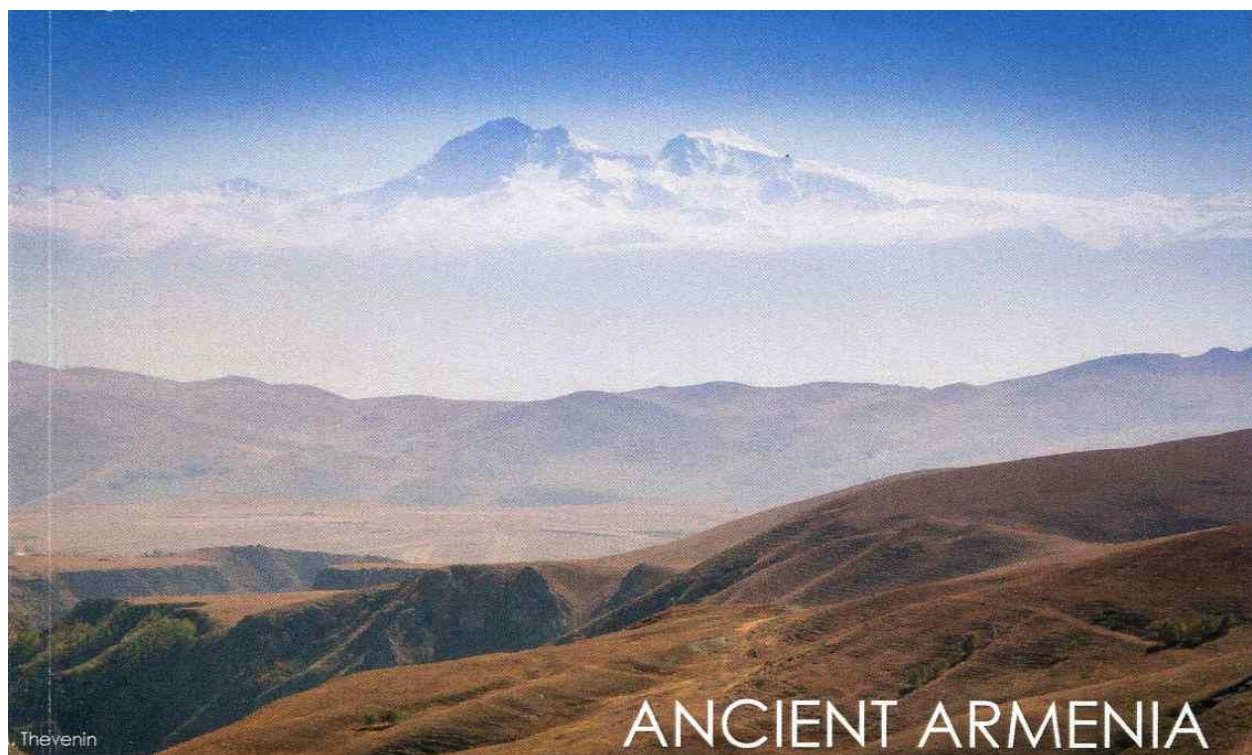
International conference
Organized by B. Perello, R. Badalyan and K. Meliksetian

MILC
35 rue Raulin, 69007 Lyon (France)

6-7 November 2018

Abstracts

p. 50-51



Thevenin

ANCIENT ARMENIA AT THE CROSSROADS

**6-7
Nov.
2018** | MILC
35 Rue Raulin
69007 Lyon
France

In honor of Arkady Karakhanyan



Perello

International conference organized by B. PERELLO | R. BADALYAN | K. MELIKSETIAN

ORGANIZERS

Ruben BADALYAN	Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, Yerevan
Khachatur MELIKSETIAN	Institute of Geological Sciences, Yerevan
Bérengère PERELLO	CNRS, Archéorient, Lyon

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Ara AVAGYAN	Institute of Geological Sciences, Yerevan
Christine CHATAIGNER	CNRS, Archéorient, Lyon
Bruno HELLY	CNRS, HiSoMA, Lyon
Pierre LOMBARD	CNRS, Archéorient, Lyon

ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS

ARCHÉORIENT (UMR 5133) - CNRS/UNIVERSITÉ LUMIÈRE - LYON 2

7 rue Raulin - 69365 LYON cedex 07, France
<http://www.archeorient.mom.fr>

INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOGRAPHY - ARMENIAN NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

15 Charents st., 0025, RA, Yerevan, Armenia
<http://iae.am/en>

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES - ARMENIAN NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

24A M. Baghramyan , Ave. 0019, Yerevan, Armenia
<http://www.geology.am/en/home.html>

The French-Armenian archaeological mission of the LA3M (Aix-en-Provence) at Yereruyk (Armenia): main results

P. DONABEDIAN

LA3M, CNRS UMR7298, Univ. Aix Marseille, Aix-en-Provence, France

Since 2009, the mission has carried out surveys of the early Christian and medieval site of Yereruyk, situated at the northwestern extremity of the Republic of Armenia, on its border with Turkey, a few kilometers from the remains of the medieval capital of Ani.

The site contains, around the ruins of an undated but obviously early Christian basilica with unusual features, the vestiges of several constructions which raise many questions concerning both their function and their dating. The site also poses more general questions concerning the nature of the complex and the reasons for its location in a place which is particularly deprived today, as well as several enigmas that appeared during the investigations. The multidisciplinary team set up by the LA3M of Aix-en-Provence and the Regional Museum of Shirak (the province where the site is located) is striving to provide answers, even if only to a few of these questions.

After the discovery, near the church, of a cemetery and a memorial area, the mission began to explore a field that until then was very marginal, even taboo, in medieval Armenian archeology, that of funerary archeology. The detailed archaeological and anthropological study of more than seventy graves, and 27 dates obtained thanks to radiocarbon analysis of human bones, have provided an initial picture of the long evolution of a Christian cemetery in Armenia, from late Antiquity almost to today. The study of the basilica, meanwhile, led to a revisitation of the field of Armenian-Syriac relations in the early Christian period. A geomorphological analysis of a seasonal stream bordering the site was also carried out in an attempt to better understand the place of this "wadi" in the past life of the complex. This enabled reconsideration of the relations that Yereruyk would have had with the neighboring town of Ani around the year 1000.

