



THE ATHENS GREEK RELIGION SEMINAR, Tuesday May 25, 2021 at 17h Athens time (via Zoom link).

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ABSTRACT: *DEEP-MAPPING THE ASKLEPIEION OF PERGAMON - A ROAD TRIP*

In this talk we discuss the process of retrieving spatial narratives at sanctuaries in order to see how they influence each other while constructing a sense of place. For this we use the concept of 'deep-mapping'. *Deep-mapping* is where the spatial turn and the narrative turn meet - it has been called the "essential next step" for the humanities (Bodenhamer et al. 2015). We are applying the concept to the Asklepieion of Pergamon, a site with a long history and a material culture that seems to have blossomed in the 2nd c AD. This is when the orator Aelius Aristides spent time at the site, recording at the request of the god his dreams and encounters. Mapping literary narratives is a good way into deep-mapping but is also a challenge. Aelius forms one of the first sub-projects that we are working on, with the help of the geo-services team from the University of Groningen. The 'Dream Travels of Aelius Aristides' will have an online public outreach, but for analytical purposes we are integrating this with other -published- data at the Asklepieion, starting with the inscribed documents. In our talk we will present aims and challenges along the way.

More on this project can be found at <http://deepmappingsanctuaries.org/>
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