

## Stefilouko

A Neolithic settlement has been identified on the south slope of an oblong rocky height (in the central/eastern part of the valley at Kanakia), which lies at a close distance to a natural spring, known as Stefilouko. The settlement is part of an extended network of Neolithic sites (“villages”) in the area of Kanakia, where the most ancient population density and settlement activity is observed in Salamis. Five (5) Neolithic sites have already been identified in this area, including the major coastal acropolis, where the systematic excavation of the University of Ioannina has been progressing since 2000.

Almost all surface sherds at Stefilouko are dated to the wider horizon of the Later-Final Neolithic period (5th-4th millennium BC). Undoubtedly, it is one of the most important, so far, Neolithic settlements on the island, in a privileged location, and with the obvious participation of its inhabitants (the first inhabitants of Kanakia) in agricultural, livestock and fishing / maritime activities.

Surface selective collections at the site have yielded important finds: sherds of three different ceramic categories (red polished, gray / black polished and undecorated coarse / semi-coarse pottery), stone tools and small objects, including a greenish axe, with a length of 4.5 cm., as well as shells of the widely used *Spondylus Gaederopus* species.



*Kanakia, Stefilouko. The slope with the Neolithic settlement, from the east. © University Excavation of Salamis Archives.*



*Kanakia, Stefilouko. Terrace wall on the slope with the Neolithic settlement, from the south/southwest. © University Excavation of Salamis Archives.*



*Kanakia, Stefilouko. Selection of Neolithic sherds from surface collection. © University Excavation of Salamis Archives.*





*Kanakia, Stefilouko. Neolithic stone tools and sea-shells from surface collection. © University Excavation of Salamis Archives.*