



GPR prospecting in the Ancient City of Hierapolis in Phrygia (Turkey)

Raffaele Persico

CNR, IBAM, Lecce, Italy (r.persico@ibam.cnr.it, +39083242225)

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Giovanni Leucci, Nicola Masini, Raffaele Persico, Giuseppe Scardozzi

Institute for Archaeological and Monumental Heritage IBAM-CNR

www.ibam.cnr.it

In this contribution the main results of a GPR measurement campaign in the ancient city of Hierapolis in Phrygia (south-western Turkey), will be shown. This is a work in progress, performed in cooperation between the Institute for Archaeological and Monumental Heritage, IBAM-CNR (Laboratory of in Situ Investigations for the Built Environment and the Cultural Heritage, Laboratory of Ancient Topography, Archaeology and Remote Sensing), and the Italian Archaeological Mission of Hierapolis. The areas to be probed have been identified by the archaeologists in different areas of the city, whereas the data have been gathered and processed by the geophysics. The data are interpreted in collaboration.

Hierapolis is a large city, that “used to live” from the Hellenistic Age (3rd century B.C.) to the Middle Byzantine and Seljuk Ages (about 13th-14th centuries A.D.). Many phases of the construction and evolution of the city have been already quite reliably reconstructed. However, a lot of meaningful remains are still buried under colluvial and limestone deposits and wait to be discovered and studied.

Moreover, the calcareous nature of the soil and (in some parts) the meaningful roughness of the air-soil interface makes sometime difficult the probing. In spite of this, the achieved results show the presence of some meaningful anomalies, that are very probably ascribable to structures of archaeological interest. They contribute to the reconstruction of the ancient layout of the city.