

The Multifaceted Evolution of Byzantine Çadır Höyük's Socio-Economic Environment: A Case Study of the Numismatic Evidence

Hypothesis:

That Çadır Höyük operated as an agrarian settlement and *dromos* (military-public post) in the eleventh century CE.

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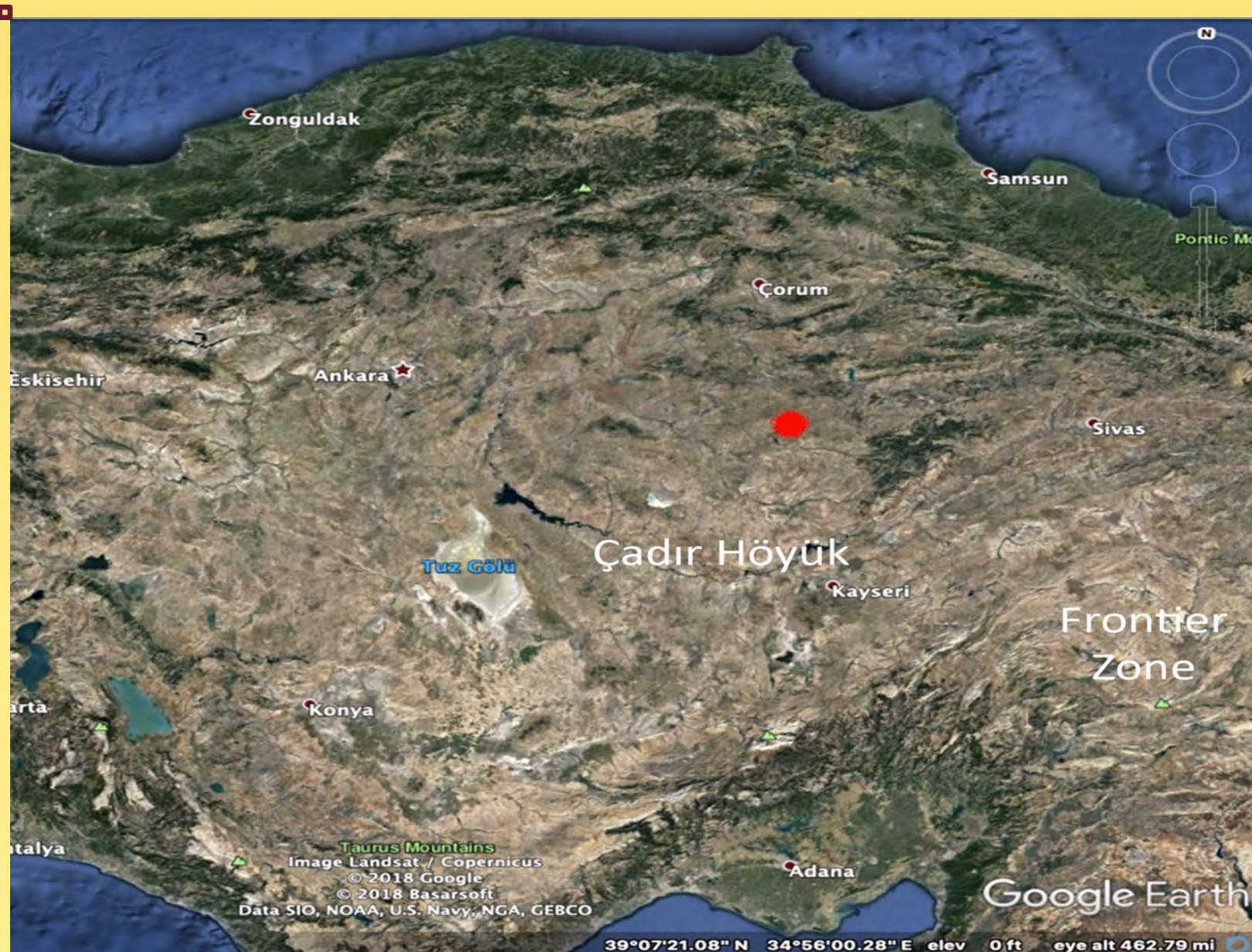
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Objective:

To provide a better understanding of eastern rural settlement and military interactions.

Introduction and Geography

- Located 18km south of Sorgun, Turkey, in north-central Anatolia.
- Byzantine occupation from mid-fourth century CE to late-eleventh century CE.
- Excavations located in two areas:
 1. Fortified Summit.
 2. Lower Terrace (NE of mound)
- By 860 CE, Çadır Höyük was within 160 KM of Byzantine frontier. (Decker, 2007)
- An imperial road ran just north of Çadır Höyük from Ankara to Sivas. (Cassis et al. 2018; Haldon, 2006; Talbert and Bagnall 2000).



Research Questions:

1. What is the relationship between the numismatic evidence and material remains?
2. Why is there a sudden appearance of 11th century coins?
3. What possible change in the function of the settlement do the 11th century coins represent?



Anonymous Follis Class-C
(Michael IV)
FCN: 22107
Trench: SMW1



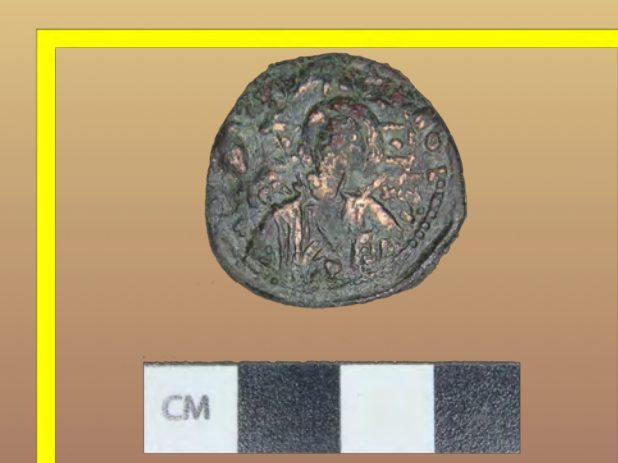
Constantine X Ducas and
Eudocia
FCN: 22118
Trench: SMW1



Unidentified Follis
FCN: 23229
Trench: SMW2



Anonymous Follis Class-D
(Constantine IX)
FCN: 22371
Trench: SMW6



Unidentified Follis
FCN: 19188
Trench: USS2



Anonymous Follis Class-D
(Constantine IX) &
Romanus IV AE Follis
FCN: 6176 SMT 19



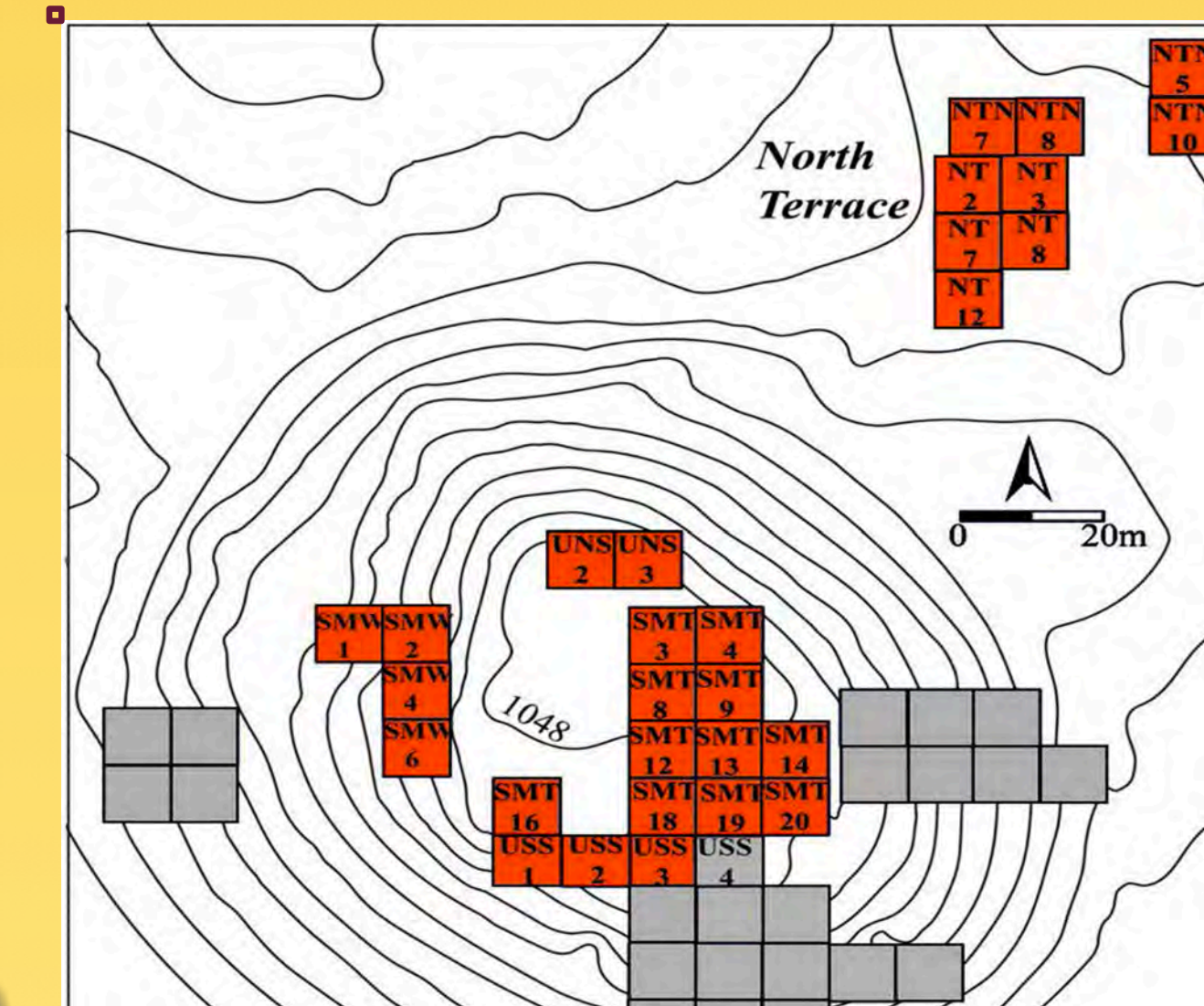
Reliquary Cross
FCN: 18447
Trench: USS2



Seal of Samuel Alusianos
FCN: 6612
Trench: SMT 12

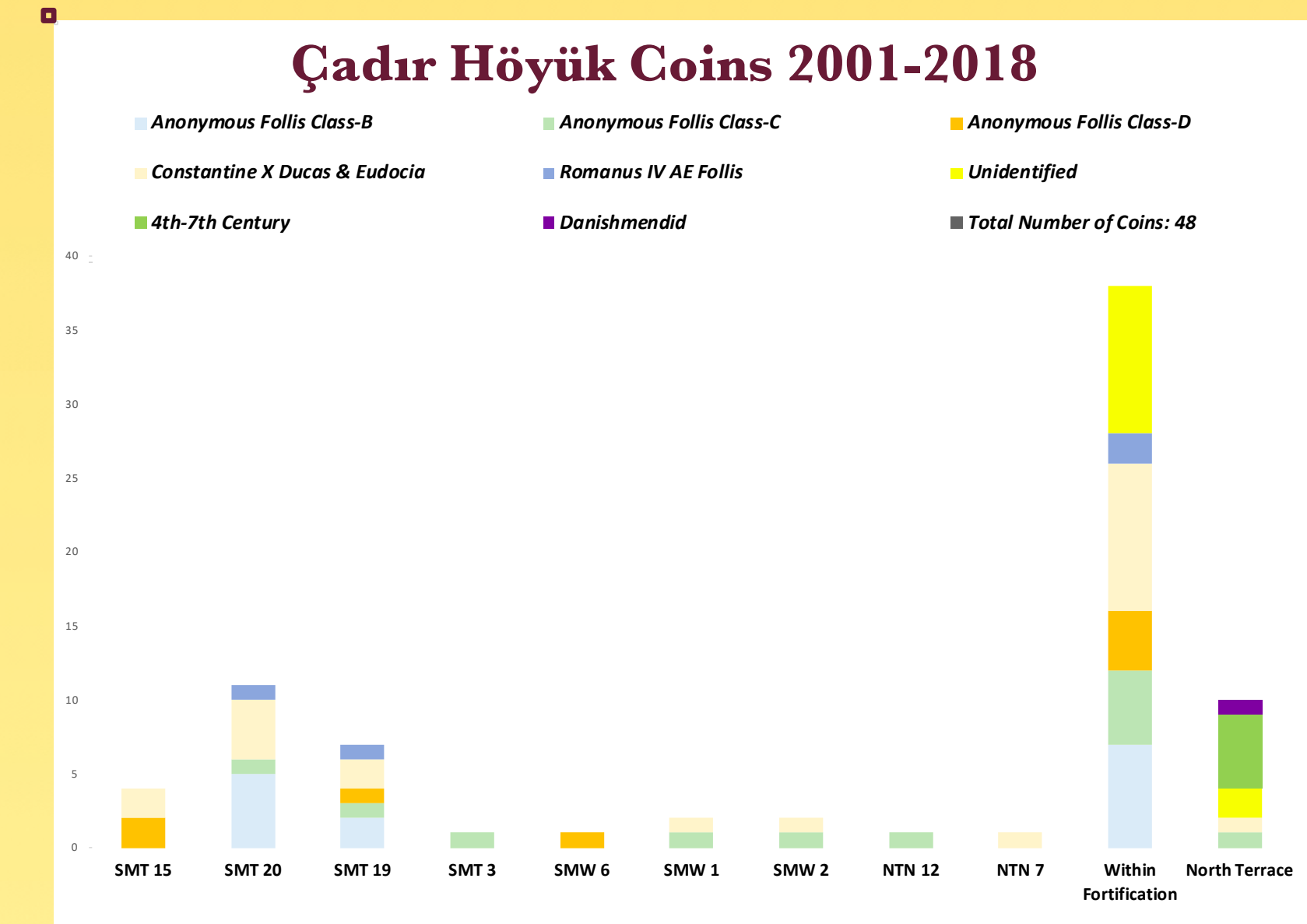


Chainmail
FCN: 17431
Trench: SMW1



Evidence

- Total of 48 coins recovered .
- 38 collected from fortified summit.
- 10 recovered from lower terrace.
- 36 coins identified with 30 securely dated to the eleventh century.
- 3 coins attested to fourth century and 2 coins attested to sixth century.
- Only two coins from the eleventh-century were recovered outside of fortified summit.
- 2 seals recovered within fortified summit along with numerous religious and military artifacts.



Methodology

- Archaeology, Historical texts, and Numismatics.
- Focused on relationship between numismatic evidence and artifacts.
- Surveyed historical texts for imperial narratives.
- Comparative analysis of Çadır Höyük's material evidence to similar settlements on both the eastern and western frontiers.

Conclusion

The surge of eleventh century coins suggest a change in function in reaction to the threats posed by the Seljuk Turks at Çadır Höyük. The evidence also indicates that the coins had circulated together and were brought to Çadır Höyük by either imperial or thematic soldiers and further suggests a more complex economic structure at Çadır Höyük.

Bibliography

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