

4. – 6. Oktober 2021

Stefan Ritter:

Das Meninx-Projekt: eine sehr freundschaftliche Kooperation

Le projet Meninx : une coopération très amicale

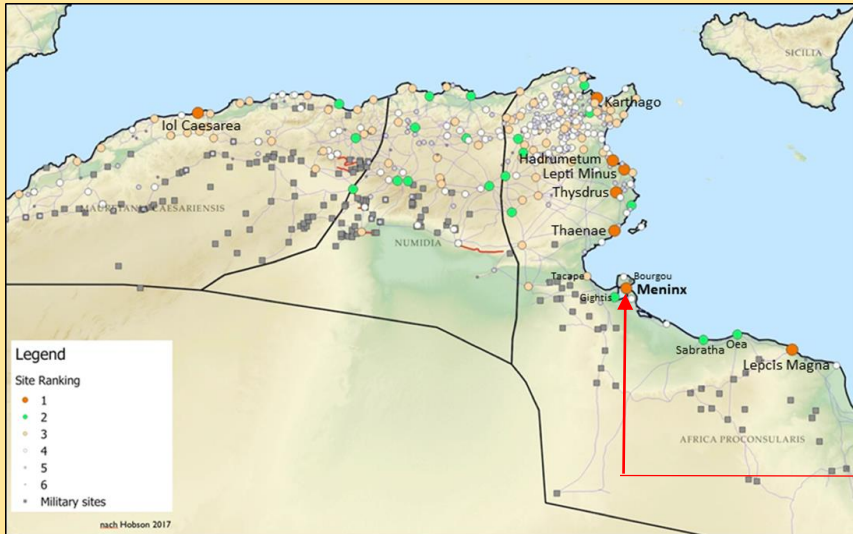
- Leitung / direction : Stefan Ritter (LMU) & Sami Ben Tahar (INP) -



MENINX
PARC ARCHÉOLOGIQUE

DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Finanzierung /
financement



Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Deutschland

Klassische Archäologie / Archéologie
classique

Bestehende Partnerschaften /
Partenariats existants : INP

LMU

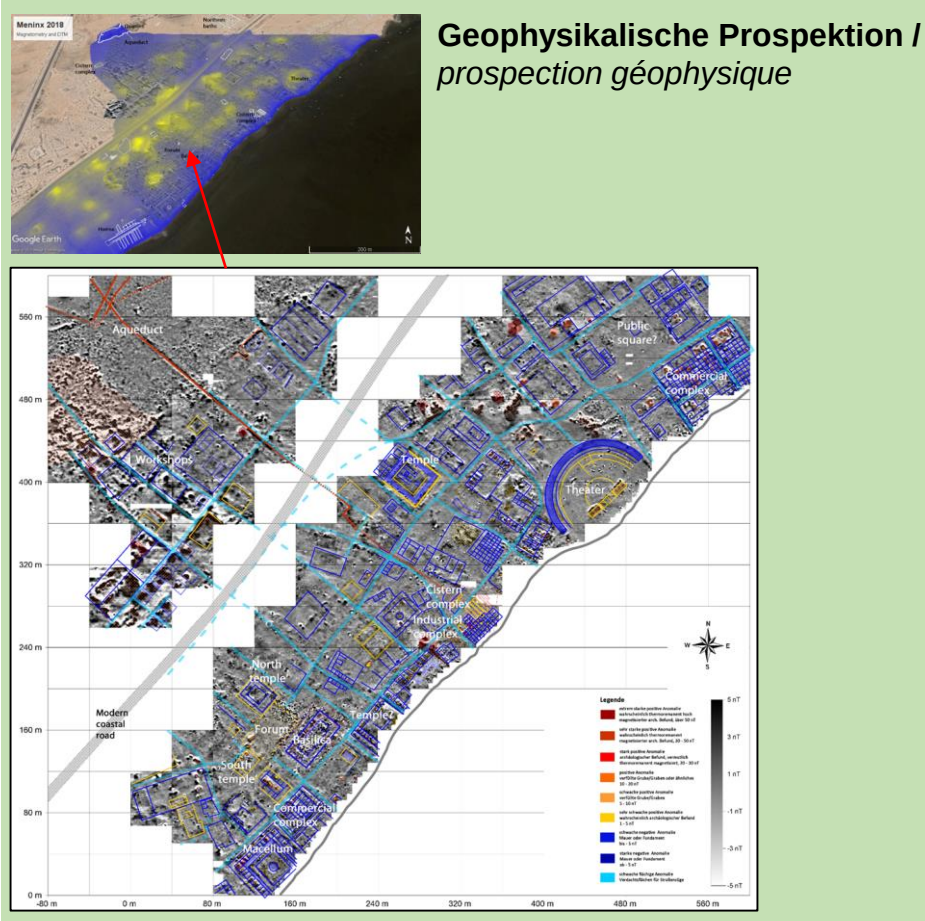
LUDWIG-
MAXIMILIANS-
UNIVERSITÄT
MÜNCHEN

Kontakt Daten

Prof. Dr. Stefan Ritter
Lehrstuhl am Institut für Klassische Archäologie
der LMU
Tel.: +49-(0)89-287'55'740
E-Mail: stefan.ritter@lmu.de
Website: <https://www.klass-archaeologie.uni-muenchen.de/personen/professoren/ritter/index.html>

Projekt: “Archäologische Untersuchungen zur Stadtgeschichte von Meninx” (2015–2019)

Projet : « Recherches archéologiques sur l'histoire urbaine de Meninx »



Unterwasserarchäologie / archéologie sous-marine



Die zügige Publikation der Forschungsergebnisse La publication rapide des résultats de la recherche

Landscape archaeology and urbanism at Meninx: results of geophysical prospection on Jerba (2015)

Stefan Ritter, Sami Ben Tahar, Jörg W. E. Fassbinder
& Lena Lambers

This paper presents the results of the geophysical prospection conducted at the site of Meninx (Jerba) in 2015. This was the first step in a Tunisian-German project (a cooperation between the Institut National du Patrimoine, Tunis, and the Institut für Klassische Archäologie der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), the aim of which is to shed light on the urban history of the most important city on the island of Jerba in antiquity.

Meninx, situated on the SE shore of the island (fig. 1), was the largest city on Jerba during the Roman Empire and eponymous for the island's name in antiquity.¹ The outstanding importance of this report derived from the fact that it was one of the main production centres of purple dye in the Mediterranean.² With the earliest secure evidence dating to at least the Hellenistic period, Meninx saw a magnificent expansion in the 2nd and 3rd c. A.D. It was inhabited until the 7th c. when the city was finally abandoned.³



Fig. 1. Meninx in its African context (P. Schödl).

¹ For a list of the ancient sources on Jerba and the city of Meninx, see A. Drine, E. Fentress and R. Holod (eds.), *An island through time: Jerba Studies 1. The Punic and Roman periods* (IRA Suppl. 7), 2009, 37-43 with Table 2.1 (with earlier cited as *Jerba Studies 1*; cf. A. Agus and R. Zucca, "Meninx-Garbā nīnī: fonti letterarie ed epigrafiche," *L'Africa romana* 14, (2002) 1919-54.

² Plin., *Nat.* 9, 127.

³ For the current state of research on the urban history of Meninx see *Jerba Studies* 1, 75-76 (for the

© *Journal of Roman Archaeology* 31 (2018)

Journal of Roman Archaeology 31, 2018,
pp. 357–372.

<https://epub.ub.uni-muenchen.de/59056/1/59056.pdf>

Vorberichte / rapports préliminaires

NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE URBAN HISTORY OF MENINX (JERBA)

Preliminary report on the Tunisian-German investigations
in 2017 and 2018

Stefan Ritter, Sami Ben Tahar*

Mémoires : Meninx, Jerba, fouilles, géophysique, archéologie romano-byzantine, punique, romaine, Antiquité tardive.

Résumé : Les recherches archéologiques menées sur le site antique de Meninx (Jerba) en 2017 et 2018 nous ont permis de mieux comprendre l'organisation urbaine de cette importante ville antique. Cette publication des principales phases qui la composent se situe à l'heure où, en 2017, l'Institut National du Patrimoine de Tunisie et l'Institut für Klassische Archäologie der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München ont signé un accord de coopération pour mener à bien ces investigations.

Keywords: Meninx, Jerba, excavation, geophysical, underwater archaeology, Punic, Roman, Late Antique.

Abstract: The archaeological investigations at the site of ancient Meninx (Jerba) in 2017 and 2018 revealed further details of the urban layout of the important region. The work also provided new insights into all periods of the city's history, from the 6th c. B.C. to the late 7th c. A.D. It also assessed the question of when the former facilities of Meninx were situated.

الكلمات المفتاحية : مينينكس، جربة، حفرات، جيوفيزيكا، أبحاث أثرية رومانية، بونيقية، رومانية، أنتيكويتة متأخرة.
الخلاصة : لقد مكنت الحفريات الأثرية التي أجريتها في مينينكس (جربة) في 2017 و 2018 من مزيد فهم التنظيم الحضري لهذه المدينة الهامة في التاريخ. العمل أيضا قدّم رؤى جديدة على جميع فترات تاريخ المدينة، من القرن السادس قبل الميلاد إلى القرن السابع الميلادي. كما تم تقييم مسألة متى كانت المرافق السابقة لمينينكس موجودة.

This paper presents an overview of the results of the investigations conducted at the site of Meninx (Jerba) in 2017 and 2018. These activities were part of a Tunisian-German project (a cooperation between the Institut National du Patrimoine, Tunis, and the Institut für Klassische Archäologie der Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), the aim of which is to shed light on the urban history of the most important city on the island of Jerba in antiquity (fig. 1).

Meninx, situated on the SE shore of the island (fig. 2), was the capital of Jerba during the Roman Empire and eponymous for the island's name in antiquity.¹ The outstanding importance of this report derived from the fact that it was one of the main production centres of purple dye in the Mediterranean (Plin., *nat.* 9, 127). Until recently, the layout of the city was only partially known from a few isolated buildings. Systematic archaeological research began only

very late, with a Tunisian-American survey project conducted on the island under the direction of Ali Drine and Elisabeth Petersen from 1996 to 2000, the results of which, relating to the Punic and Roman period, were published in a monograph which is the indispensable basis for anyone studying Meninx.²

Based on the important results of these investigations, we started our project at Meninx in 2015 with a large-scale geophysical prospection which gave us a first insight into the internal urban organisation. Within 10 days we surveyed the full strip between the present coastline and the modern coastal road, which encloses the nucleus of the Roman city, from the SW periphery of the forum to the theatre in the northeast. The magnetometry revealed that the central area of the city is crossed by long main roads which run roughly parallel to the coastline, and between them several irregular crossroads and numerous buildings of different size and shape became visible.³

* Institut für Klassische Archäologie der LMU, Katharina von Sivers-Straße 10, 80333 München (muenchen.ritter@kfa.lmu-muenchen.de).
** Institut National du Patrimoine, Boudjoudj Mousaoui, 4180 - Jendouba, Tunisie (ben.tahar@inpn.tn).

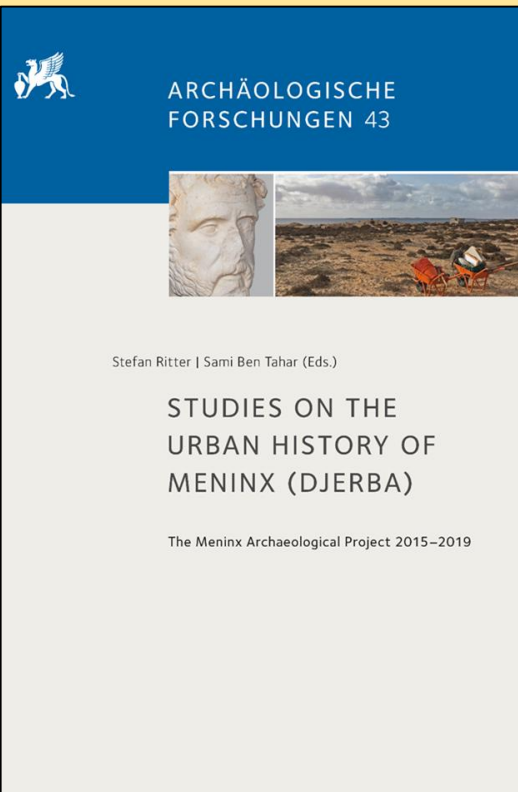
1. For a short overview of the topography and the research history of Meninx see Ritter et al. 2018, p. 355-360 (with further references).

2. *Le Meninx* 2009.

3. For the results of the magnetometry survey in 2015 see Ritter et al. 2018.

Antiquités Africaines 56, 2020, pp. 101–128.
<https://journals.openedition.org/antafra/2177>

Endpublikation / publication finale



Im Druck / sous presse (Anfang / début 2022)

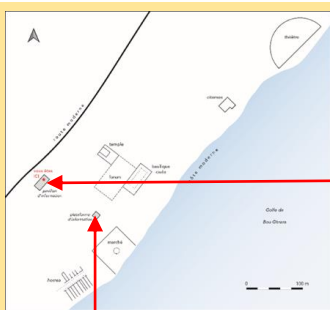


+ Datenbank / base de données : iDAI.field2

Weitere Informationen informations complémentaires :

- Website: „Das Meninx-Projekt“
- Facebook: „The Meninx Archaeological Project – MAP“

Der Archäologische Park. Le Parc archéologique (2018)



« Pavillon d'information »

International Experts	Local Experts
Prof. Dr. Stefan Ritter (LMU) Project Director, D	Dr. habil. Sami Ben Tahar (INP) Project Director, TN
Dr. Nicolas Lamare (Paris) Project Manager (Coordination, Public relations)	Bechir Mazigh (ANEP, Tunis) Architect (General concept)
Dr. Karin Mansel (München) Education Supervisor (Summer schools, Tour guide training)	Anouar Ben Maiz (Houmt Souk) Executive architect (Building construction)
Robert C. Arndt lic. phil. (Buochs, CH) Excavation Supervisor (Emergency excavation)	Raoudha Hamdani (Houmt Souk) Technical coordinator, TN (Administration)
Dr. Paul Scheding (LMU) Junior Director	
Bartlin Schöpfli (LMU) Junior Assistant (Team support, Book keeping, etc.)	

Mis en œuvre par

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Summer Schools 2018

Leitung / direction :
Karin Mansel (LMU/GIZ) & Sami Ben Tahar (INP)

« Journées d'étude sur la céramique de Meninx »
Houmt Souk, 14–16 mars 2018

« De la fouille à l'exposition »
Houmt Souk, 25–30 juin 2018

« Tourisme culturel – guides touristiques.
4000 années d'histoire culturelle à Djerba »
Houmt Souk, 12–14 novembre 2018



« Plateforme d'information »



Einweihung, 8. April 2019 /
inauguration, le 8 avril 2019



Das Wichtigste: gemeinsame Ziele und eine offene Kommunikation
Le plus important : des objectifs communs et une communication ouverte

Meninx 2018

