

ANNUAL REPORT: Italy - Alcamo 2018 FIELD SCHOOL

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Students conducting remote sensing at Calatubo, an Archaic to Medieval site near Alcamo, Italy

The Italy-Alcamo project conducted surficial archaeological survey at Monte Bonifato and Calatubo, two landforms situated in the Territory of Alcamo, Sicily. Students used hand-held GPS units to establish grid vertices, conducted pedestrian survey in a variety of conditions, recovered artifacts from survey grids, recorded survey data in field notebooks and digitally on tablets, processed artifacts by washing and labelling them, assisted in entering data into the project's Geographic Information System (GIS), operated a ground penetrating radar device during geophysical prospection of the sites, and contributed to the preliminary analysis of artifacts. A total of 5809 fragments of pottery, stone, metal, and glass artifacts dating from the Neolithic to Late Medieval periods were recovered during the 2018 season. The preliminary results of this season's efforts have been presented at the Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists and will also be presented by students at the Blue Ridge Archaeology Guild's October meeting. A report of investigation detailing the methods, results, and interpretation of the 2018 field season is currently being composed for submission to the Soprintendenza di Archeologia di Trapani. Additionally, the results and interpretation of the field program will be presented in forthcoming issues of Sicilia Archeologia and another leading, peer-reviewed archaeology journal.