

Title: Preliminary Results of the AASK Project: Using Geospatial Analyses to Investigate Prehistoric Settlement Patterns in Kosova

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This poster presents preliminary findings from the Atlas of Archaeological Sites in Kosova (AASK) Project, an initiative aimed at advancing geospatial analysis of archaeological data in Kosova by using innovative methods like remote sensing, drone imaging, and 3D modeling. The project's first major achievement is a comprehensive site database that catalogs over 1,000 archaeological sites in Kosova, classified by periods and site types. This database was compiled by UROP students at the University of Michigan who drew from the Archaeological Maps of Kosova Volumes I-III (2006, 2012, 2017). Kosova is rich in archaeological heritage, with evidence of human occupation from the Neolithic period to the present (Pëzhita et al. 2006; 2012, 2017). Although systematic excavations and analyses of prehistoric sites have been ongoing since the 1950s, comprehensive regional geospatial analysis of these sites in Kosova is still emerging. In this poster, we present the first broad geospatial analysis of prehistoric sites across Kosova, examining the Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Iron Age separately and comparing them to identify changes or continuities over time. Such regional geospatial analyses are essential for uncovering spatial patterns, cultural interactions, and site distribution, which enhances our understanding of past societies and aids in current preservation efforts.