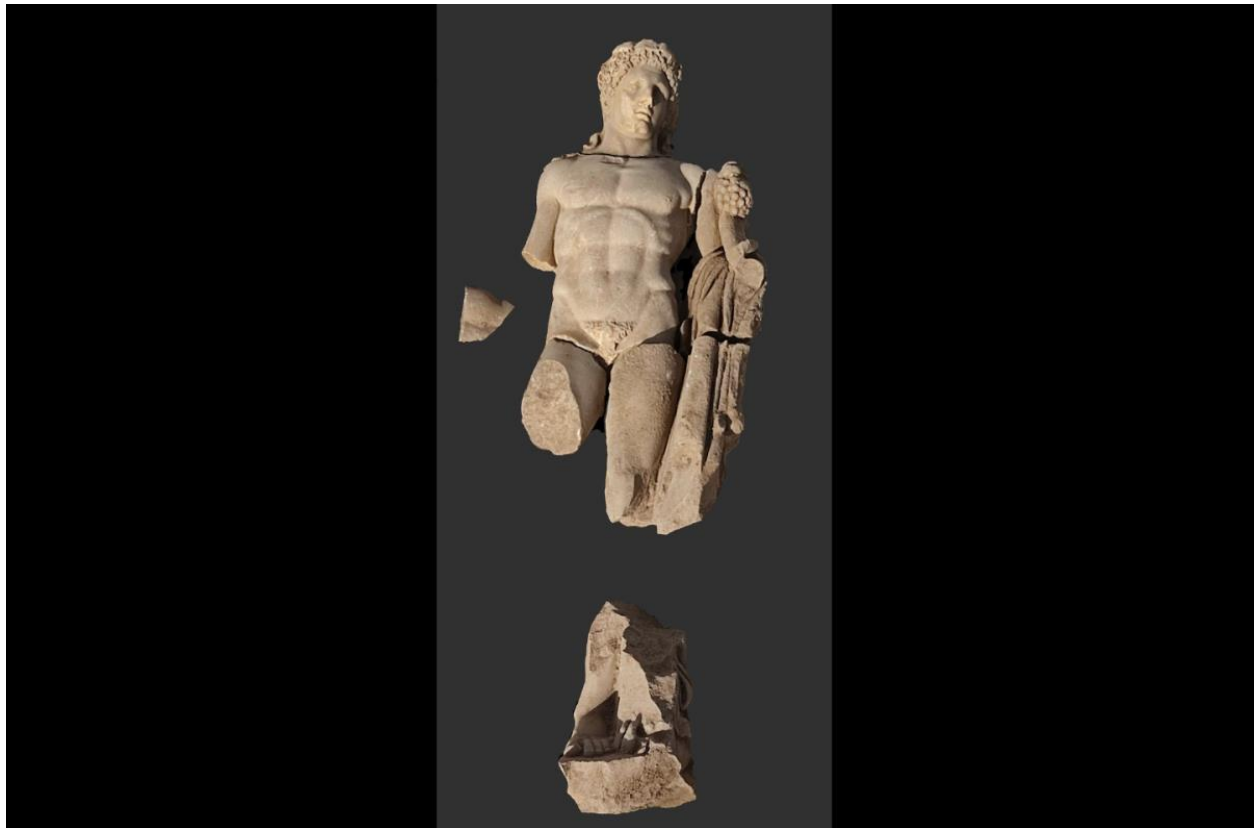


Remnants of Nearly 2,000-Year-Old Hercules Statue Unearthed in Greek Excavation



The recently unearthed statue of Hercules. COURTESY GREEK MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND SPORTS

Remnants of a statue depicting [Hercules](#) that derives from ancient Roman times was unearthed during an excavation of an archeological site in Greece, according to a [report](#) by *Greek City Times*.

The larger-than-life statue of a young Hercules, dated to the 2nd century C.E., was uncovered at a site formerly known to be the ancient city of Philippi, located the country's northern region by researchers at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AuTH). The team was led by Natalia Poulos, a professor at AuTH, in

collaboration with her colleagues there Anastasios Tantsis and Emeritus Professor Aristotle Menzos; 24 students (18 undergraduates, 3 postgraduates and 3 PhD candidates) also took part.

Scholars working on the excavation believe the artifact was once used to adorn a building dated to the late Byzantine period in the 8th or 9th century C.E.

Researchers believe the original figure while still in intact was designed holding various objects: a wreath, a lion skin, and a club, the latter of which was found at the site. All of these are traditional signifiers associated with the Greco-Roman hero.

In a statement from the Greek Ministry of Culture and Sports, which oversees projects related to cultural heritage, said that the excavation will continue into next year.

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