



## **Amorium: A Thematic Capital at the time of Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus and its Archaeological Remains**

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It is impossible in a paper of only 20-30 minutes' duration to provide more than just a brief introduction to the site of Amorium, where excavations have now been conducted for over twenty years. Although it is a multi-period site, with occupation stretching from the Early Bronze Age to the Ottoman period, it was Amorium's importance to mediaeval history as a major Byzantine city that first attracted the interest of archaeologists. The site is not seriously affected by modern settlement and, indeed, excavations have shown that the Byzantine strata are extremely well preserved. The site has therefore proved a rich source of material, shedding new light on Byzantine society, material culture, economy, and the dynamics of 'decline and transformation' during the Middle Ages. In this presentation emphasis will be given to the middle Byzantine (10<sup>th</sup>- and 11<sup>th</sup>-century) buildings and finds in an attempt to give an impression of what Amorium was like at the time of Constantine VII.