

Department of Archaeology Experimental Archaeology Practice Area

The Experimental Archaeology Practice Area of the Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Letters, Ege University, has been inaugurated. The area features scaled-down reconstructions of five workshops/installations related to ancient-period technologies. Among these are two presses used for processing olives “one of the most important agricultural products of the Mediterranean” and producing olive oil: the first is a screw press, and the second is a lever-and-weight press. Also on display are a mola olearia, used for crushing olives, and a grinding stone/hand mill employed for processing cereals. Another installation in the area is a vertical loom, which was used for textile production in antiquity. All of the installations are fully functional, and it is possible to conduct experimental trials to observe their operation. Information regarding the characteristics and use of each workshop is accessible via QR codes placed on informational panels throughout the area.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Dean’s Office of the Faculty of Letters, which allocated and prepared the area for our department, and to our Faculty Secretary. We are also grateful to Prof. Dr. Hüseyin Cevizoğlu, Head of the Department of Archaeology, for his support in the realization of this exhibition. Special thanks are due to our doctoral student Atabey Vardar, who constructed all of the installations displayed in the area and generously donated them to the department; to Prof. Dr. Serdar Aybek, who provided the olive baskets used in the two presses; to Dr. Burak Arslan and Res. Asst. Şahin Menteşe, who produced the sample weaving on the loom; and to Dr. Ayşe Çelebi and our graduate student Yağmur Bozkurt, who prepared the QR codes and explanatory panels.

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Vertical Loom



Screw Press System Used in Olive Oil Production



Lever-and-Weight Press System Used in Olive Oil Production



Mola Olearia System Used in Olive Oil Production

