

final publications of Aegean excavations are so few, that is indeed something.

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ALASIA. Mission archéologique d'Alasia.

Tome IV. Alasia. Première série. Publiée à l'occasion de la XX^e campagne de fouilles à Enkomi-Alasia (1969) sous la direction de C. F.-A. Schaeffer. Paris: Mission archéologique d'Alasia. 1971. Pp. xii + 578. 37 plates. 4 folding plans. No price stated.

Enkomi, at the eastern end of the Mesaoria, was the first major settlement of the Late Bronze Age to be excavated in Cyprus. Claude Schaeffer discovered in 1934 that the Late Cypriot necropolis investigated by the B.M. (1896) and by the Swedish Cyprus Expedition (1930) was covered by a large town. Since then a French Expedition has excavated on that site, for a time side by side with the Department of Antiquities of Cyprus (1948–55). Notable discoveries at Kition and at other sites in the island have greatly increased our knowledge of the Late Bronze Age of Cyprus during the last two decades. But the art, architecture and history of Enkomi are still of special interest to every student of the Eastern Mediterranean during that formative period. Archaeologists all over the world are waiting eagerly for the publication of the rich finds unearthed during forty years.

Alasia. Première Série (or *Alasia I*, see p. x) is at the same time the fourth volume of a series entitled 'Mission archéologique d'Alasia'. Apart from the bibliographical intricacies of such a title, there seems to be no cogent reason to change the name of the site from Enkomi-Alasia (as in former volumes) defiantly to Alasia. Most scholars seem to agree now that Alasia designated the island of Cyprus, and Professor Schaeffer does not give us any proof for his matter-of-fact statement that Alasia was at the same time the name of the 'Late Bronze Age capital' of the island, situated at Enkomi.

We are told by the editor in the 'Préface' that the volumes of the Alasia series are meant for the publication of the results of the French excavations at Enkomi. Alas, those who expect an account complementary to the late P. Dikaïos' masterly survey of the Cypriot excavations at the same site will have to wait at least for *Alasia II*. The present volume is something in between a 'Festschrift' and a collection of excavation reports. The Festschrift part (pp. 7–150) comprises nine studies by scholars well known in the field of Cypriot archaeology, treating mainly aspects of the Late Bronze Age Art of Cyprus. The reports (pp. 1–6, 151–573) contain useful short articles by M. J. Aitken, P. Ducos, H.-J. Hundt and J. Bouzek on various aspects of fieldwork and finds, and the publication of new Cypro-Minoan texts by E. and O. Masson.

The hard core of the volume is formed of two excavation reports: 'Le sanctuaire du dieu au lingot d'Enkomi-Alasia' by J.-C. Courtois (pp. 151–362) and 'La cachette de fondeur aux épées (1967) et l'atelier voisin' by J. Lagarce (pp. 381–432). Both cover very important find complexes and are

obviously intended to be definitive publications. But the reader is left with some uneasiness. Are we really given 'un inventaire exhaustif' (p. 381), if only 'les fragments les plus caractéristiques' of the pottery are described (p. 401)? Or, is the list of the ceramic finds pp. 167 ff. complete? The stratigraphy is by no means documented adequately. The record consists mainly of 'coupes stratigraphiques' of 1.0–1.5 m length—too short sections, which (as we all know) can be so very deceptive. I do not wish to detract in any way from the merits of these two reports. They contain a wealth of most interesting and valuable information, and every scholar interested in the Late Bronze Age metallurgy or in the Late Mycenaean pottery of Cyprus will profit greatly from their study. But we would like to be told some time by what principles future Enkomi publications will be guided with regard to stratigraphical documentation and find inventories.

The illustrations are sumptuous. Considering however how many interesting objects in the store-rooms of Enkomi have so far never been illustrated, the choice of subjects is somewhat puzzling. There is no doubt about the importance of the 'dieu au lingot'; but are not 21 plates for the object and its discovery slightly excessive? It is certainly good to be reminded how not to dig a wall: but less than five plates (xxviii–xxxi) would serve that purpose.

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BENSON (J. L.) **The necropolis of Kaloriziki.** (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology, xxxvi.) Göteborg: Paul Aströms Förlag. 1973. Pp. 138. 63 Plates. Sw.kr. 150.

From 1933–1954 the Pennsylvania University Museum carried out important work in the town and region of ancient Curium on the south-west coast of Cyprus. The definitive publication of the results was, however, severely hampered by the untimely death of G. McFadden and J. F. Daniel. All students of Cypriot archaeology will be greatly indebted to J. L. Benson who took over the very difficult task of publishing the material recovered from the cemeteries in the plain of the river Kouris. 'Bamboula at Kourion. The Necropolis and the Finds' (1972) gives an account of the necropolis belonging to the LCI–III settlement on the Bamboula hill northeast of the village of Episkopi. *Kaloriziki* is a kind of companion volume, describing 27 tombs from the Kaloriziki necropolis situated southwest of Episkopi, roughly in between the village and the acropolis of Curium. The burials range from LC IIIB to Early Classical, but the bulk of the finds date from the very end of the Late Bronze Age and from the early Geometric period.

Some readers may not be entirely satisfied with the structure of the book. Two short chapters sum up the 'Characteristics of the Necropolis' (topography, tomb types, burial customs and historical conclusions, p. 17–25) and the general problems presented by the 'Proto White-Painted and White-Painted I Pottery' from that site (p. 54–63). The publication of the tombs is divided into two sections.

'Description of the Tombs' (pp. 26–53) gives a concise account of location, size, shape, stratification, burials and chronology, together with a bare find register for each tomb. 'Catalogue of Finds' (pp. 64–128) then describes all finds in systematic order, grouped into 'Cypriote Pottery', 'Foreign Pottery' and 'Miscellaneous Finds'. Organising a publication in this way may present a serious handicap to the archaeologist interested in the contents of each individual tomb. On the other hand, the systematic Catalogue of Finds provides the student of pottery with a valuable corpus of comparative material, especially for the Proto White-Painted and CG I-wares.

In general the finds are well documented by 56 plates of photographs and drawings. There is also a very useful conspectus of shapes and pottery designs (pl. 57–63). Yet the illustrations raise some questions. Not all finds are illustrated. As we all know, there are compelling financial reasons for restricting the number of plates in such a publication. But it seems puzzling that, e.g., T.40, one of the most important tombs, is not documented more fully. Despite their publication elsewhere, the cloisonnée sceptre and the two bronze tripods would have merited a photograph (and more than a passing mention in the text). Then, the illustrations are obviously not all to the same scale—but there is no hint as to which scales are actually used. This is a serious drawback. Finally, the plan of the necropolis (pl. 1) gives not the slightest idea of its location to a reader not already familiar with the site (the same is unfortunately true for the *Bamboula* volume).

The main interest of the Kaloriziki tombs presented here lies in their contribution to a better understanding of the development of Proto White-Painted and Early Geometric pottery in Western Cyprus. It is evident that this material shows close connections not only with sites like Lapithos, but also with contemporary (though mostly still unpublished) tomb groups of Old Paphos. Conclusions about the history of Curium have to be drawn with a certain circumspection, as the present volume covers only part of a larger necropolis of which more tombs were excavated by the British Museum (in 1895) and by P. Dikaios. Yet one important fact is certain. Chronologically Kaloriziki represents a burial ground intermediate between the *Bamboula* necropolis and the later (Classical to Roman) Ayios Ermogenis cemetery, immediately below the bluff of the acropolis. Like the Skalae and Lakkos tou Skarnou cemeteries at Old Paphos, Kaloriziki furnishes clear proof for a continuity of inhabitation from the Late Bronze into the Iron Age at Curium, and for the intrusion of Greek settlers into the traditional Late Cypriot environment. Whether the Rhodian element was as strong amongst these newcomers as Dr Benson seems to believe (pp. 23–4) is still open to discussion. Only a comparative study of the relevant material from Curium, Old Paphos, New Paphos and Maa can provide us with a more detailed framework of Achaean immigration into Western Cyprus.

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SALAMIS 5. **Excavations in the necropolis of Salamis iii.** By V. Karageorghis. 3 vols. Nicosia: Department of Antiquities, Cyprus. 1973–4. Pp. ix + 294, 321 pl. (16 in colour), numerous text figs. 34 folding plans and sections. C£25.00.

This publication makes fully available the two most important of the very remarkable finds made by the author in 1964–6 in the royal tombs in the cemetery at Salamis. It is principally devoted to Tomb 79, which contained the richest tomb so far discovered, enclosing four chariot burials of the late eighth century B.C., and Tomb 77, the cenotaph of Nicocreon, of the third century B.C.

Tomb 79, though robbed, was still the richest tomb ever found in Cyprus. Its existence was already known to Ohnefalsch-Richter and S. Reinach, but it was passed over, as it had already received the attentions of the tomb robbers: but they had missed the treasures in the *dromos*, concerning themselves only with the chamber. There were traces of a pyre where carbonised human bones were found, the ashes having been probably placed in the chamber below. The *dromos* was built of ashlar blocks laid dry in three courses, leading to the *stomion*, in front of the chamber, by four steps. Various remodellings of the subterranean *propylaeum* and chambers took place with reuse in the Roman period, but the original marvellous collection of *Beigaben*, described by the author, remained unknown and intact. Above the tomb a small tumulus of earth had been erected. The theory advanced by Dr David Ussishkin that a monumental building, not a tumulus, stood above the chamber is discussed and rejected by the excavator. It is clear that the Graeco-Oriental Kings of Salamis, themselves an extremely archaic survival from the Mycenaean age, still practised its old form of *tholos* burial.

The *dromos* contained material from two burials: the second, which took place not long after the first, involved the partial clearance and re-use of the *propylaeum* and the driving of a second narrower *dromos* through the older to the *stomion* of the chamber, causing disturbance and rearrangement of much of the material of the older burial.

The sumptuous contents of this tomb were truly amazing. The details are all excellently published in these splendid volumes. Remains of the first burial included the following principal objects.

Two bronze cauldrons with griffins' heads stood against the north wall of the *propylaeum*. There were a pair of iron fire-dogs, and a bundle of twelve iron skewers—material no doubt for feasts beyond the grave. Furniture was represented by the silver chair (*A*) and stool (*B*), chair (*Γ*), decorated with splendid ivory scrollwork, by ivory plaques and inlays from Bed (*A*); chair (*A*), also decorated with ivories, was less well preserved, but its stool (*E*) was almost complete. Two more stools (*Z* & *H*) were represented only by impressions. Bronze vehicles, Cart (*A*), Chariot (*B*)—a quadriga—and hearse (*Γ*) were also found. Of the skill and care with which these objects of first-class importance were salvaged it is impossible to speak too highly. Apart from the additions to our knowledge of chariotry, these finds