

recent anthropological research.⁸ However, the antiquarian approach of Talloen's study does not allow for sufficient deployment of the methods that have matured in the field of the archaeology of cults, including the integrated study of spaces where the religious practices unfolded. Apart from the rather rudimentary site plan of the lower agora of Sia (p. 211), the volume contains no site plans of Greco-Roman places of worship, and the votive material is not presented in relation to the individual contexts. No palaeo-botanical analyses of the deposits that might identify the plant species used in the ritual activities appear to have been conducted, or indeed archaeo-zoological analyses that might make it possible to reconstruct the selection of animals to be sacrificed. On p. 130, the references to animal sacrifices are based solely on literary and epigraphical documents.

The observations made here are a measure of the interest that Peter Talloen's book generates; given the great care with which the data were gathered and the completeness of the information, his research constitutes an essential repertoire of reference, which raises expectations that the author will seek to further develop his studies in the future. This will surely be of great benefit to the study of religious practices, in Pisidia and the other regions of Anatolia, so rich in as-yet untapped potential for our knowledge of Hellenistic-Roman history.

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Elizabeth R. Gebhard and Timothy E. Gregory (eds). *Bridge of the Untiring Sea: The Corinthian Isthmus from Prehistory to Late Antiquity* (Hesperia Supplement 48). pp. xxi + 386. 2015. Princeton: American School of Classical Studies at Athens. ISBN 978-0-87661-548-5 \$75.

This volume is a collection of papers delivered at a conference celebrating 55 years (1952-2007) of archaeological works at the Corinthian Isthmus.

After an Introduction, which includes Early Iron Age through 5th century AD written sources mentioning Corinth and the Isthmus and a brief geographical and topographical description of the region, the authors summarize the research history, from the first recordings by travelers in the 15th century.

Archaeological research by Leake and Monceaux in the 19th century led to the identification of the Fortress at the Isthmian precinct wall and to the belief that substantial remains were to be ascribed to Homeric Ephyra. In 1932, Romilly Jenkins of the British School in Athens showed that the Fortress and the structures beneath it did not predate the Roman period and that therefore the Temple of Isthmian Poseidon had to lie elsewhere. The latter, the Early Stadium, the shrine to Palaimon, the theater and the West Foundation, were uncovered in the 1960s by Oscar Broneer (University of Chicago). In 1967, Paul Clement excavated the Roman Bath, the Late Antique fortifications, the Area East of

⁸ Of great interest in this context is the collection of studies in Stravrianopoulou 2006.

Temenos and an early Greek cemetery west of the Temple of Poseidon. The editors of this volume, E.R. Gebhard and T.E. Gregory, continued Broneer and Clement's work, by the means of excavations, surveys and material culture studies that shed new light on the history of Corinth from the Mycenaean period through Late Antiquity.

A Mycenaean site was discovered near the Temenos of Poseidon at the Isthmian Sanctuary in 2006. The contribution by E. Balomenou and V. Tassinou (Chapter One) reports excavation activities, studies on architectural remains and ceramic finds. Both building structures and pottery date to the LHIIIB-III A1 with indications though of an earlier phase that requires more detailed study of the pottery. The contribution however does not include a finds catalogue.

Another Mycenaean site was discovered at Kalamias, on the Saronic coast, through survey. After systematic explorations in the framework of the Eastern Korinthia Archaeological Survey (Tartaron *et al.* 2006), the predictive modeling project SHARP was set up as explained in Chapter Two. This project led to identify two stretches of Saronic coastline with substantial Bronze Age coastal settlements. Among them, a small land's end promontory called Akrotirio Trelle, revealed a large Mycenaean harbor town. Architectural mapping, surface survey, environmental and anthropological studies revealed a Saronic coastline containing natural harbors, cultivable lands and small settlements inserted in a network of social and economic interdependence, defined by the author, T. Tartaron, as 'a small world in turn embedded in a larger world', as pottery imports found for instance at Koloura attest.

The structure of the book is chronological and, as a consequence, the topics analyzed in each chapter are not immediately linked to each other. In this sense, the book appears to be a collection of contributions, as it becomes clear that it is a work that takes stock of current research in the Isthmus. It is clear, for instance, that lots of studies on the Temple of Poseidon have been done so far, as several chapters concern this building complex and several aspects related to it are deeply analyzed. Besides architectural remains (Chapter Three by F.P. Hemans), functional and ritual aspects of the sanctuary (Chapter Five by M.K. Risser), votive deposits including coins (Chapter Six by L. Houghtalin), terracotta figurines (Chapter Seven by A. Thomsen), and pottery (Chapters Eight by K.W. Arafat) ranging from the Archaic to the Classical period and related to the temple are described in detail.

In regard to Chapter Three, in which the architectural innovations recorded at the Archaic

Temple of Poseidon re explored, Hemans adds an appendix of experimental archaeology on Proto-Corinthian tiles production. Also the surroundings of the Temple of Poseidon were investigated (Chapter Four by V.R. Anderson-Stojanović), revealing 4th century BC domestic structures and a detailed social structure. This refined chronology underpins Houghtalin's discussion of the Temple Deposit (Chapter Six), considered by the author as an accumulation formed through the repeated dedication of both official and counterfeit coinage, and perhaps only part of an original whole. Arafat discusses a Late Proto-Corinthian *alabastron* from the Reservoir with the proposal of comparisons with the Chigi Painter productions (Chapter Eight). Following the chronology, Chapter Nine by A.H. Jackson describes Hellenistic evidence from the 'West Foundation', providing a detailed iron weaponry catalogue and investigating the cultural relationship between the local population and the Macedonian garrison. Chapters on evidence dating to the Roman period constitute the rest of the volume: sculptures (Chapter Ten by M.C. Sturgeon), inscriptions (Chapter 11 by J. Wiseman and Chapter 16 by W.R. Caraher), architectural remains (Chapter 12 by F.K. Yegül, Chapter 13 by S.J.R. Ellis and E.E. Poehler, Chapter 15 by J.M. Frey), lamps (Chapter 17 by B. Lindros Wohl). Sturgeon reconstructs two statues from the Sanctuary of Palaimon, identifying a donor of the Antonine Palaimonion and a Marcus Aurelius in the context of initiation into the cult of Palaimon. Wiseman analyzed a list of victors at the Isthmian, Sebastean, and Caesarean festivals of AD 57, preserved on a herm perhaps originally set on the plateau of the Gymnasium at Corinth. Caraher analyses the Justinianic Viktorinos inscription from the Fortress. It describes its promoting roman politics and related religious liturgy at Isthmia. Yegül examines the second-century AD sanctuary bath at Isthmia analyzing the occurrence of these complexes on a wider scale. Within the complex architectural morass of the East Field, Ellis and Poehler identify several structural subphases deriving from surveys and modellings undertaken in the framework of the East Isthmia Archaeological Project. Frey conducted architectural analysis on structures belonging to the late Roman Fortress showing that workers followed precise instructions that would have generated the standardization of architectural processes in the Late Roman and Medieval period. Wohl discusses the provenance of the lamps, arguing in favor of a Peloponnesian production for the Broneer Type XXXII earlier thought coming from Sicily.

Thanks to the detailed studies on several classes of artefacts and remains, the reader can hint at cultural

and functional aspects related to specific periods of the history of this region. Mostly in regard of the Archaic and Classical period it is possible to get an idea of the high value of the archaeological remains from this area which contribute to explain its geographical and cultural role through time and within Mediterranean connectivity. However, the latter aspect is more interpretative as it depends on the ability of the reader to contextualize each topic discussed in the book in an (inter-)regional and long term perspective.

In this sense, a wide-ranging project on the Corinthian Isthmus during the Roman and Late Antique period is described in Chapter 14. It includes distribution, features and functions of settlements and land use analysis. Based on earlier studies on the settlement in the eastern Corinthia, Roman settlement on the Corinthian Isthmus was 'nucleated' in towns and villages or 'dispersed'. Instead, the settlement pattern described by D.K. Pettegrew in Chapter 14 revealed that the Roman settlement can be defined as an 'urban periphery' in which the relationship of the territory to the city depends on intensive forms of land use and road networks, as towns and territory mutually benefited each other through networks of exchange.

Chapter 2, dealing with the prehistoric landscape of the Corinthia's Saronic coast, and Chapter 14 are the only chapters on settlement dynamics on a large scale aimed at regional reconstructions of the archaeological landscape. The regional scale projects described in Chapters 2 and 14 are aimed at the overall knowledge of the Isthmus in general, especially patterns of settlement. They therefore aim at providing a territorial framework in which archaeological evidence is inserted according to a landscape archaeological perspective. However, the ancient landscape framework deriving from these two chapters concerns Prehistory and Roman Age, revealing that the reconstruction of the historical sequence for the region is in progress. Indeed, on the basis of analysis on various archaeological remains and finds, the other chapters of the book suggest the presence of a continuous human activity in this region, from Prehistory to the Late Antiquity, although in a patchy distribution.

By contrast, the landscape archaeology approach sketched in Chapters 2 and 14, would constitute an introductive broader framework that could function as a container for the single archaeological aspects dealt with in this book. These two chapters are therefore linked to each other and therefore, despite the chronological structure of the book, should have been placed at its beginning.

The detailed dataset related to cultural and anthropological factors in this book appears to be the tip of the iceberg of archaeological activity in defined time periods and places within a geographical region. In contrast, if considering a long term and regional perspective, tasks and periods would result as complementary to each other, many pieces of a puzzle that create an image of the structure of the diachronic landscape. Of course the cultural and anthropological dataset alone is not enough as the landscape archaeological approach takes into account the physical and cultural territory in combination. Therefore, if the overall aim is the reconstruction of the Corinthian Isthmus from Prehistory to Late Antiquity, next to the analyses of the archaeological remains and artefacts as presented in this book, also results of environmental and methodological studies should have been taken more extensively into consideration.

By building research programs upon landscape archaeology approaches and traditional studies integrated into the former, and, as Tartaron in the second chapter of 'Bridge of the Untiring Sea' mentions, 'an international complexion', it will be possible to make the archaeological data tools for understanding or discarding historical dynamics posed by literary sources and hypothesis. The aim is making effective the new trends in archaeological methodologies, in such a way that our hypothesis are empirically proved. The image of the Corinthian Isthmus as a bridge of the untiring sea is a strong image that clearly explains the central role of the Isthmus in communication and exchanges. Such a geographical area had to have been a 'central hub' within wide economic and cultural networks through time. Are the archaeological data discussed in this book meaningful at a regional, synchronic and diachronic level? It is also true that the 2013 Corinthian volume edited by Konstantinos Kissas and Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier (Kissas, Niemeier, 2013) and the Isthmia Series⁹ abundantly introduce the theme of this book but looking at this specific volume, it results in a combination of traditional and landscape archaeological approaches still unbalanced in respect of an overall comprehension of the past Isthmian landscape.

These opinions should not detract from the value of *Bridge of the Untiring Sea: The Corinthian Isthmus from Prehistory to Late Antiquity*. This review has focused on the broad landscape archaeology approach,

⁹ Isthmia: Result of Excavations conducted under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, I-X, Princeton.

but the book is undoubtedly of interest to anyone working on economic and social history. In fact, this book displays the necessity of interpreting archaeological survey material in conjunction with literary, epigraphic, and other archaeological evidence and, most importantly, highlights the potential of connecting different approaches.

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Urbanisation and globalisation: complex connectivities in the Ancient World

Manuel Fernández-Götz and Dirk Krausse (eds). *Eurasia at the Dawn of History: Urbanisation and Social Change*. pp. xviii+436, b/w illustrations. 2017. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9781107147409 hardback £110.

Tamar Hodos (ed.). *The Routledge Handbook of Archaeology and Globalization*. pp. xxiv + 970, b/w illustrations. Abingdon: Routledge. ISBN 9780415841306 hardback £185 eBook £41.99.

Connectivities are the focus of a lot of current Ancient World research. Either indirectly, as constituting one of many factors involving socio-cultural transformations with a heavy spatial impact, such as urbanisation processes, or directly, being at the very heart of transformative processes detectable in the archaeological record, such as globalisation, connectivity has become a new framework with which to approach the past. The advantage of connectivity as a concept is that it is broad, neutral and that it stimulates cross-cultural comparison. The proliferation of multi-authored

volumes and interdisciplinary collaborative efforts studying broader historical trends, often from a World Historical perspective, further boosts the application of such easily applicable analytical concepts.

The first millennium BC was a period of increasing mobility of people, goods and ideas and formed the backbone for the formation of city-states, empires and colonisation, as well as technological innovation. *Eurasia at the Dawn of History: Urbanisation and Social Change* seeks to explore trends of 'centralisation, cultural interaction and social differentiation that led to the development of the first urban centres and early state formations of ancient Europe' (p.6). The editors have chosen to focus not just on the regions of earliest urbanisation in Europe - Greece and Italy - but include a broad perspective, ranging from the Neolithic in the Ukraine to Medieval Africa, while covering continental Europe, Asia and Meso-America in between.

The volume contains 26 original chapters, organised thematically in eight parts of various length: 1) Between myth and logos, with contributions on cognitive archaeology; 2) The development of social differentiation - focussing on the Neolithic; 3) Approaching social complexity - seen from a Big History and economic history point of view; 4) Urbanism through the ages: concepts, models and definitions - with two heavily theoretical papers with case studies from Mesoamerica and Africa; 5) Ancient civilisations at the turn of the Axis - with different views on Karl Jasper's Axial Age in Egypt, the Near East, China and Europe; 6) Times of connectivity: the Mediterranean on the move - offering comparative views on Mediterranean (Greece, Italy, Spain) and temperate European developments; 7) Early urban cultures from South to North - covering Greek, Greek 'colonial', Etruscan and European urbanisation and 8) Changing symbols, changing minds - with exclusively Celtic/La Tène papers. The editorial choices made in organising the papers are not entirely clear, as all sections contain some, more theoretical and some, more evidence-based papers, and with considerable thematic overlap between the different parts. The volume as a whole nevertheless constitutes a highly original and innovative work, with papers whose strength is to be found in the explicit comparative perspective, and stemming from established scholars within their respective fields.

While not focusing exclusively on the Greek World, several contributions deal directly with Ancient Greece, discussing developments within, or developments resulting from interaction with