

Editorial

The Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences, represented by one of its legal predecessors, the Research Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology of the Academy, was from the beginning of Polish excavations in Cyprus in 1965 involved in study, publication of finds and storage as well as processing of documentation of Polish research in Cyprus until 2019. The excavations were initiated by the first Director of the Research Centre at the Academy and the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology of the University of Warsaw in Cairo (a foreign unit of the University), professor Kazimierz Michałowski. After his retirement as Chair of Mediterranean Archaeology at the University in 1971, excavations were headed by professor Wiktor Andrzej Daszewski, who started his career at the Polish Academy Research Centre in 1965 and from 1967 became a Scientific Secretary of the Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology in Cairo. Upon the death of professor Kazimierz Michałowski in 1981, Daszewski took over his two other posts: Director of the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology of the University of Warsaw in Cairo, which he transformed into a regular academic unit of the University, and Deputy Director of the National Museum in Warsaw. His excavation activity concentrated on two sites: Marina el-Alamein in Egypt and Nea Paphos. The first site has been particularly dear to Daszewski, as he played a decisive role in undertaking archaeological research on the site, at first rescue work and documentation in 1986–1987. The following year he obtained a licence for regular research there, which continued until his retirement in 2007 (**Fig. 1**). It was Pafos excavation at *Maloutena*, however, which brought the most spectacular finds and at the same time provided field training for numerous students of archaeology, mostly Polish, but also some German. After Daszewski's retirement, the excavations there were headed by the present writer until 2019, followed by professor Evdoxia Papuci-Władyka.

The present volume of *Études et Travaux* collects papers devoted to Cyprus, and the Hellenistic-Roman period and evidence of social change at that time in particular. Some of the papers published here were first presented in Polish during a conference in Warsaw on March 16th, 2019: 'Cypriot Pottery and Pottery in Cyprus: Facts and Hypotheses' ('Ceramika cypryjska i ceramika na Cyprze: fakty i hipotezy').



1. Professor Wiktor A. Daszewski speaking in Pafos during celebrations of 40 years of Polish excavations (Phot. W. Jerke).

Preparation of this volume has coincided with the untimely departure of professor Daszewski, to whom the Polish archaeology of Cyprus is deeply indebted. We would like to dedicate this volume to his memory.

The Research Centre for Mediterranean Archaeology and the Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences, employed a group of scholars working on Cyprus. Professor Barbara Lichočka, an iconologist and numismatist, has published a number of papers devoted to important sculpture and coin finds from *Maloutena*.¹ Professor Elżbieta Jastrzębowska, employed in 2018 after her retirement from the University of Warsaw, undertook and published research on paintings and mosaics of the House of Aion;² the present writer, whose doctoral thesis was devoted to late Roman Ware 'D',

¹ Lichočka 1978; 1983; 1992; 1999; 2001; 2011; 2012; Lichočka, Meyza 2001: 145; see also: Lichočka 2021 in this volume.

² Jastrzębowska 2018.

prepared some papers on fine wares frequently found in Cyprus.³ The younger staff of the Cypriot section included: dr Dobiesława Bagińska, an amphora student, working both in Nubia and in Paphos;⁴ dr Edyta Marzec, who as an archaeological materials specialist has worked on finds from Polish excavations in Nea Paphos, supported the work of pottery specialists there;⁵ Ms Marta Bajtler, writing a thesis devoted to amphora stoppers and publishing those found at the Paphos, *Maloutena* site in this volume;⁶ Ms Michalina Dzwoniarek-Konieczna, a geologist and archaeologist, who is preparing at the Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, a PhD thesis entitled ‘The characteristics and provenance of the carbonate stone materials from the Nea Paphos archaeological site (Cyprus)’;⁷ Ms Diana Mroczek, working on sculpture finds from Polish excavations in Paphos, *Maloutena*, initially under the guidance of professor Daszewski;⁸ Ms Joanna K. Rądkowska, who has contributed to the understanding of the stratigraphy of the House of Aion;⁹ Mr Marcin Romaniuk, directing a project on water management and use in the residential quarter of *Maloutena*;¹⁰ Ms Monika Więch (currently Miziołek), directing a project on early Roman cooking vessels found at Polish excavations in Paphos, *Maloutena*.¹¹

The volume contains the following groups of contributions:

Studies of Cypriot sites, in Nea Paphos at *Fabrika* hill, decorated tombs in the Paphos area, Kourion, at *Pyla-Vigla*, and the copper ore mining region and a related collection of metal artefacts of the British Museum.

The second group centres around the architecture of Hellenistic and Roman Cyprus with studies of specific architectural decoration, comparison of decorative motif use in Egypt, the impact of Roman bathing habits on Cypriot residences, as well as water management in Paphos.

The third set of contributions concerns particular classes of movable objects and their occurrence in Paphos, the influence of coins from the Villa of Theseus on structure dating, amphorae imported from the Adriatic basin and evidence for trading contacts between Nea Paphos and Seleucia Pieria.

³ Meyza, Daszkiewicz, Raabe 1995; Meyza 1998; 2000; 2002; 2004; 2005; 2007.

⁴ Meyza, Bagińska 2013.

⁵ Her doctoral thesis on the provenance and technology of Colour-coated Ware was defended at Jagiellonian University in 2017. Parts of that work were published in Marzec *et al.* 2018 and 2019 as collaborator of the Fitch Laboratory, British School at Athens. She works also for the French School in Athens on finds from Serapieia, Delos, which she continues while an employee of our Institute.

⁶ Bajtler 2021.

⁷ Dzwoniarek-Konieczna 2020.

⁸ Mroczek forthcoming.

⁹ Daszewski *et al.* 2010.

¹⁰ National Sciences Centre, project Preludium, no. 2018/31/N/HS3/03319, ‘Water in Nea Paphos. The study of the water infrastructure from the residential quarter (Maloutena) of the Hellenistic-Roman capital of Cyprus’, realised between 2019 and 2022. See also: Romaniuk 2021 in this volume.

¹¹ National Sciences Centre, project Preludium, no. 2017/25/N/HS3/02910, ‘Early Roman cooking pots of the residential quarter of Nea Paphos – in the light of typological, archaeometric and functional studies’, realised between 2018 and 2022.

Two contributions unrelated to the Cyprus main theme were added, devoted to ancient portrait busts of Marcus Aurelius and Kushite stamp impressions.

Henryk Meyza

Subject editor of the volume

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Table des matières

| | |
|---|-----|
| Editorial (par Henryk Meyza) | 7 |
| MARTA BAJTLER Adriatic Wine Amphorae in Nea Paphos | 13 |
| CLAIRE BALANDIER, JOLANTA MŁYNARCZYK The Temple and Its Surroundings on <i>Fabrika</i> Hill, Paphos: Preliminary Results of the French-Polish Excavations (2018–2019) | 43 |
| GRAŻYNA BĄKOWSKA-CZERNER, RAFAŁ CZERNER The Shell Motif in the Culture and Architecture of the Ancient Town of Marina el-Alamein in Egypt | 71 |
| ALEKSANDRA BRZOZOWSKA-JAWORNICKA 'Hellenistic' House in Nea Paphos, Cyprus – A First Summary of Its Architecture..... | 93 |
| ALEKSANDRA BRZOZOWSKA-JAWORNICKA, ANNA KUBICKA-SOWIŃSKA In Search of the Module in the Architectural Design of the 'Hellenistic' House in Nea Paphos, Cyprus | 123 |
| ROKSANA HAJDUGA Kushite Stamp Impressions from Selib 2, Sudan | 141 |
| ERSIN HUSSEIN Mapping Metal Rich Roman Cyprus: The Case for Object-Centred Approaches | 167 |
| BARBARA LICHOCKA Villa of Theseus at Nea Paphos (Cyprus). Fourth–Early Fifth Century Numismatic Evidence for Architectural Transformations and Seismic Events | 183 |
| VASILIKI LYSANDROU, DEMETRIOS MICHAELIDES Wall Paintings in Ancient Cyprus: The Hellenistic and Roman Tombs of Paphos and Its Region | 207 |
| ADAM ŁAJTAR A Weight of Seleucia in Pieria in Nea Paphos | 255 |
| DIANA MROCZEK Ancient Portrait Busts of Marcus Aurelius in the National Museum in Poznań | 265 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| BRANDON R. OLSON, R. SCOTT MOORE, THOMAS LANDVATTER, JUSTIN STEPHENS Pyla-Vigla: A Case Study Assessing the Imperial Strategies of the Hellenistic Diadochoi in Cyprus | 287 |
| PATRIZIO PENSABENE, ELEONORA GASPARINI Colonnaded Hall in Kourion: How the <i>Oecus Corinthius</i> Was Interpreted in the Roman Houses of Cyprus | 307 |
| MONIKA REKOWSKA, DEMETRIOS MICHAELIDES, SKEVI CHRISTODOULOU, JAKUB KANISZEWSKI Adopting Roman Habits – The Baths in the House of Orpheus in Nea Paphos as a ‘Troublesome’ Case Study? | 341 |
| MARCIN M. ROMANIUK Terracotta Pipelines at <i>Maloutena</i> : Remarks on the Water System in the Residential District of Ancient Nea Paphos, Cyprus | 363 |
| ABRÉVIATIONS | 407 |