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Author

Artzy, Michal.

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Michal Artzy

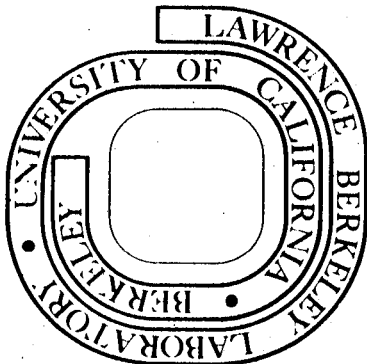
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C. F. A. Schaeffer (edit) Alasia (I) Mission Archéologique d'Alasia, Vol. IV., Paris, 1971, 573p., 37 plates

Michal Artzy

LBL, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720

Some years ago, Professor Claude Schaeffer, the noted French archeologist whose work extended to Ras Shamra in Syria, as well as Enkomi, on the eastern coast of Cyprus, decided that his site, Enkomi, was the site of the ancient city of Alásiya. In 1952, the first volume of Enkomi-Alasia was published; by 1971, which is when Alasia I was written, Professor Schaeffer apparently decided that there was no longer a question as to the identity of the site of Enkomi.

In between those two volumes, more excavations were carried out on the site and more volumes were published about the individual finds. But nowhere was there a convincing work as to the identification of Enkomi with the ancient city of Alásiya. Lately, chemical studies on El Amarna letters from Alásiya done by the reviewer show that the chances are rather small that Alásiya is located in the area of Enkomi. Professor Schaeffer would not only have to show in great detail why he equates Enkomi with Alásiya, but also whether Alásiya can be equated with a single city site, on Cyprus or elsewhere.

The volume has 20 articles on Cypriote topics, most of which deal with the excavations of Enkomi or finds from Enkomi. The articles appear in English, French, German and

Italian. The plates are well executed and there are some plans in a pocket at the end of the book. Most of the articles deal with the late Bronze period, at which time Enkomi was at its apex. Many of the articles are dedicated to Professor Schaeffer, although he is the editor of the volume and takes the right for editorial comments.

Space does not allow a separate treatment for each of the articles in this volume, we would like to mention some of the reports, such as those by J. C. Courtois, M. J. Aitkin, J. Lagarce, W. Johnstone as well as C. Schaeffer's which deal with the excavations of Enkomi under the directorship of Professor Schaeffer (to be distinguished from P. Dakaios excavations at the same site). We would have preferred to see a more methodical treatment and a report of these excavations. Lacking such a publication, we should be happy that this volume did appear despite its form and unfortunate title.

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LAWRENCE BERKELEY LABORATORY
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720