

propriate (if less dramatic) title for the symposium might have been "The Minoans Abroad."

The symposium produced many opinions, but alas, no unanimity on the topic of possible motives for Cretan presence outside the island. This should come as no surprise. Complex problems rarely lend themselves to quick and simple resolutions. A consensus seems to be emerging among scholars on one issue, namely that there is a highly visible presence of native Cretans residing in the Cyclades by LM I. Further use of historical analogy, particularly with regard to the mechanisms and motives of emigration, holds great promise for scholars interested in this sort of pursuit.

This volume will prove stimulating to all students of Aegean archaeology. It is most attractive in its production. It is the third in a series of proceedings of frequent and regular symposia, on timely topics, sponsored by the Swedish Institute in Athens. The editors are to be thanked and congratulated for their efforts.

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LINEAR B: A 1984 SURVEY. PROCEEDINGS OF THE MYCENAEAN COLLOQUIUM OF THE VIIITH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE SOCIETIES OF CLASSICAL STUDIES (DUBLIN, 27 AUGUST–1ST SEPTEMBER 1984), edited by *Anna Morpurgo Davies* and *Yves Duhoux*. (Bibliothèque des Cahiers de l'Institut de Linguistique de Louvain [BCILL] 26.) Pp. 310. Cabay, Louvain 1985.

RECUEIL DES INSCRIPTIONS EN LINÉAIRE A, VOL. 5: ADDENDA, CORRIGENDA, CONCORDANCES, INDEX ET PLANCHES DES SIGNES, edited by *Louis Godart* and *Jean-Pierre Olivier*. (Études Crétoises 21.5.) Pp. lii + 332, microfiches 3. Librairie Orientaliste Paul Geuthner, Paris 1985.

Since 1952 Mycenaean archaeologists have no longer been prehistorians *sensu stricto*. The decipherment of Linear B separated the LH IIIB period—we may still say this much with chronological confidence—from earlier periods of Aegean prehistory during which the recorded word was then, as it remains, largely unintelligible. The Linear B texts have been fundamental to the interpretation of aspects of Mycenaean civilization which lie beyond the grasp of material archaeology: details of palatial and regional administration, economic and military organization, social and political structure, etc. The texts have also comprised an independent and parallel witness for studies of, or based on, material remains: artifactual typology, religious practices and iconography, trade and cultural contacts among the separate regions of the Late Bronze Age Aegean. The scope of Linear

B scholarship has gradually extended beyond the 13th century B.C. The writing system, the linguistic data, the specific archival nature of the texts, and the wide range of theories based on their contents reach forward to Archaic Greece, outward to the Cyclades and Cyprus, and backward through Late to Middle Minoan. Thus we observe a growing awareness among scholars that the division in MM I–II between preliterate and literate constitutes a more significant boundary for scholarly methods and approaches than the divisions marking the end of the Aegean Bronze Age or the beginning of the Greek Archaic period. As the volumes under review well illustrate for Linear A and Linear B, we have reached the point where inscriptional data can and must be considered in conjunction with other material evidence in studying Aegean "history" from the 19th century B.C. onward.

Godart-Olivier, *Recueil des inscriptions en Linéaire A [GORILA] 5* and *Linear B: A 1984 Survey [LB 1984]* are landmarks in the study of Aegean epigraphy and essential resources for Aegean prehistorians who find themselves bewildered or even attracted by the arcana of Linear A studies and the technical analysis of Mycenaean Greek texts. In six clearly written papers with full bibliographies, *LB 1984* examines the present state of knowledge in major areas of Linear B studies. Each author balances survey with personal interpretation and innovative speculation. Each adopts a comparative approach to his or her subject. The contributions of special interest to the archaeologist are: Y. Duhoux, "Mycénien et écriture grecque"; J. T. Killen, "The Linear B Tablets and the Mycenaean Economy"; and J. Chadwick, "What Do We Know About Mycenaean Religion?" which is supplemented by the contributions of R. Hägg and B. C. Dietrich which "concentrate instead on the archaeological evidence" (p. 203).

Duhoux has written here the best short (68 pp.) survey of the development, structure, mechanics, and use of the Linear B script now available. Duhoux proposes a four-stage development of Linear B from Linear A in MM III–LH IIIA which uses as a parallel the archaeologically documented development of Mycenaean art under Minoan influence in the same period. Duhoux's brief arguments for a "single-site" theory for the creation of the script might be qualified by considering as an analogy the development, spread, and ultimate form of the later Greek alphabet. Its relatively widespread uniformity following 403 B.C. certainly would disguise the regional variations of earlier periods, if we only had, as is the case with the securely dated Linear B material, evidence from the final period of development.

Killen stresses the limitations of the texts as sources for Mycenaean economy (no direct information about trade; fuller, but nonetheless shorthand, information about land and industrial production) and the need for caution in interpreting the texts by analogy (the economies of Near Eastern centers provide the best parallels). Valuable appendices distinguish the direct and indirect textual evidence for: 1) trade; 2) taxation; and 3) "industrial" production. The texts indicate that finished textiles, otherwise archaeologically invisible, played a significant role in trade (Knossos Ld series)

and "industrial" production (elaborate region-wide *tarasija* systems based on palatial control and allocation of raw materials at both Knossos and Pylos), and surprisingly even in taxation (Ma series at Pylos according to Killen's reasonable explanation). Two Pylos tablets and one Tiryns tablet provide evidence for the use, and therefore importation, of alum. The only possible direct reference to trade comes from the House of the Shields at Mycenae. A specialized type of cloth is designated as going "to Thebes" (*te-qa-de*), and a personal name shared with a tablet from Thebes (as well as the occurrence of the same designation [*te-qa-de*] on the recently discovered Thebes sealings) confirms that this is the major Mycenaean center in Boeotia. To Killen's alternative explanations of the near total absence of trade-related documents, we might add that the discovery of one in a building ancillary to the main palatial complex raises the distinct possibility that trade documents were kept in such areas where the nitty-gritty of exchange and production took place. Hence their absence from the central tablet archives and deposits.

Chadwick offers a brief appeal "for greater caution in all discussions of this difficult subject" (p. 201), whether one attempts to reconstruct Mycenaean religious beliefs by an "archaeology of mind" or by inferences from later Greek religion. Hägg's sober and interesting treatment of the surprisingly "superficial and shortlived" Minoan elements in mainland cult practices seems to have taken this appeal to heart. One may wish to turn to L. Baumbach, "The Mycenaean Contribution to the Study of Greek Religion in the Bronze Age," *SMEA* 20 (1979) 143-60 for a fuller systematic overview of the views of textual experts on Minoan-Mycenaean religious matters. *LB 1984* concludes with convenient indices of Mycenaean, Cypriot and alphabetic Greek words discussed in the above-mentioned papers and the three other contributions contained in this volume which are of equally high quality and deal with decidedly linguistic topics.

GORILA 5 completes the corpus of Linear A texts (1427 documents containing a mere 7147 signs) begun in 1976, 80 years after Evans examined the first document discovered in linear script Class A (PS Za 2). If the slow progress in this field has frustrated at least two generations of serious scholars, the third and fourth can certainly revel in the meticulously edited resources now at their disposal. The five *GORILA* volumes (1: tablets edited before 1970; 2: nodules, scellés, and roundels edited before 1970; 3: tablets, nodules, and roundels edited in 1975 and 1976; 4: non-archival documents; 5: addenda of documents published between 1976 and 1984) present each inscription objectively in a clear photograph, drawing, normalized transcription, and tabular transcription in normalized characters. Thus one is able to check the accuracy of the transcriptions and the proposed structure of the texts at photographic firsthand.

The *GORILA* typological classification of texts has already assisted scholars in making inferences about Minoan-Mycenaean literacy (Duhoux, *LB 1984*, 21, 37) and administrative practices (Palaima in *The Function of the Minoan*

Palaces [forthcoming]). Further help is now offered by typological and geographical concordances (*GORILA 5*, 126-29). *GORILA 5*, xv-xxvii, explains and presents a new standardized numeration of Linear A signs which conforms to the model of the Linear B Wingspread convention. Each sign is also prefixed A, B, and (eventually) H to indicate the systems of Minoan-Mycenaean writing in which it is attested. Concordances (pp. 114-25) list the correspondences between the *GORILA* numeration and those of earlier editions or indices, especially that of J. Raison and M. Pope, *Index transnuméré du linéaire A [ITLA]*, *BCILL* 11 (Louvain 1977), which is now superseded. It is surprising that neither *GORILA* nor *ITLA* makes the identification (proposed by Ventris and Chadwick, *Documents in Mycenaean Greek*², 35) of Linear A commodity sign L 89 (*GORILA A* 302) with the Linear B sign for olive oil (*130). This seems a gesture of hyperconservatism given the contextual evidence cited in *Docs* and the comparable patterns of ligaturing the sign in both the Linear A and B texts. It is also a bit obstructive since careful identification of the commodity signs has been instrumental already in the use of the Linear A texts as archaeological evidence (e.g., Vandenabeele, *BCH* 98 [1974] 5-21).

Of crucial interest for scholars who may want to continue with studies of administration and economic organization at Minoan sites are the palaeography, chronology, and context of the Linear A documents. *GORILA 5* offers: 1) a table of standard variants of signs (pp. xxviii-liii) more detailed than that in *ITLA*, 17-58; 2) three microfiches with a complete set of variant forms for each sign; 3) what must be considered a tentative identification of scribal hands at selected sites, most significantly at Hagia Triada, Khandia, and Zakro; 4) in the same concordance (pp. 82-113), attribution of dates which are clearly distinguished according to the kind of evidence for each, based on the fuller treatment by F. Vandenabeele in *BCH* 109 (1985) 3-20. Bibliography concerning the exact find context of each inscription, conveniently found in Raison and Pope, *Corpus transnuméré du linéaire A [CTLA]*, *BCILL* 18 (Louvain 1980), is not repeated in *GORILA 5*.

Prospects for the decipherment of the Minoan script are still very slim (see Y. Duhoux, *Études minoennes* 1, *BCILL* 14 [Louvain 1978] and, more recently and concisely, L. Godart in *Aux origines de l'hellénisme. La Crète et la Grèce* [Paris 1984] 121-28). But *GORILA*, *CTLA*, and *ITLA* point us in the direction of a literate prehistory of the Minoan palatial periods and invite Aegean prehistorians to continue in the directions taken by Linear B studies and Mycenaean archaeology (see *Archaeological Review from Cambridge* 3:2 [1984] and *SMEA* 20 [1979] 183-97). It may no longer even be too optimistic to look forward to the publication of *Linear A and Minoan Prehistory: A 2016 Survey*.

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