

In the latter part of March 1921 shortly after my report for last year was submitted I proceeded to Hagios Vasilios to make preliminary arrangements for the excavations at Zygouries. With the assistance of our foreman, George Alexopoulos of Mycenae, this proved easy, and I was also fortunate in obtaining good living quarters for the expedition in a large unoccupied farm-house belonging to the monastery at Stephani. On this same occasion I had the pleasure of showing the site to Dr. and Mrs. Edward Robinson of New York who offered cordial encouragement and made a substantial contribution toward the expenses of the undertaking. Mr. R. B. Seager had previously donated one hundred pounds for the excavation of Aetopetra near Corinth and this amount he generously permitted us to divert to the campaign at Zygouries.

Returning to Athens, I took part in an open meeting of the School on April 2, giving an account of the excavations at Korakou.

On April 11 I set out again for Hagios Vasilios and from this time till June 4 was occupied with the excavations of the prehistoric site of Zygouries. Dr. J. P. Harland, Fellow of the Institute, was present during the whole campaign and proved of great assistance. Mr. J. D. Young, who shared in the work from May 9 to 22, also rendered valuable service. The numerous foundation walls uncovered were carefully measured and planned by Dr. L. B. Holland, who devoted much time and trouble to this formidable task. In addition to these members of the School, Mr. Wace, Director of the British School, was also present during the campaign and I take particular pleasure in acknowledging gratefully the aid received from him.

The gratifying success of the excavations at Zygouries is already known. A brief summary of the results has been published in the A.J.A., and I have made some progress on an extended report, though considerable further study of the finds is yet necessary before this report can be finished.

I can not refrain from drawing attention to the very modest expense of these excavations in proportion to the number and importance of the finds. The total outlay for digging did not exceed \$650. In return for this we have uncovered a large part of an early Bronze Age settlement which throws much new light on the civilization of the Early Helladic Period. Among the smaller objects found are a bronze dagger, a female figurine of terracotta, and a button-seal of the same material - all unique among the finds from this early period on the Hellenic mainland. The last named object is especially significant, since the signs appearing in the seal-impression supply what is presumably the earliest example of writing in continental Greece. In addition to the foregoing the site yielded a noteworthy collection of Early Helladic pottery. The excavations also brought to light the remains of a potter's shop of the Late Helladic Period. In the two rooms of this establishment cleared were found at least 600 vases of many varied shapes, of which more than 50 are gracefully decorated cylices on a high stem. Though not a few of these vases were preserved intact, the great majority were of course shattered; but most of these can easily be put together again, and the resulting collection of Mycenaean domestic pottery will stand alone of its kind.

I doubt if results more satisfactory than these could anywhere be secured by the expenditure of a like amount of money in any other kind of excavation. And this leads me to point out the

remarkable opportunity still offered for excavating small pre-historic sites in Southern Greece. A goodly number of such are already known and more are being discovered each year. For a moderate expense of from five hundred to one thousand dollars each one of these can be properly and adequately investigated and each one presents the same chance of abundant fresh archaeological material as the site at Zygouries. I should indeed greatly desire to have the American School undertake a methodical exploration of this field throughout the whole Peloponnesus, extending over a period of years. If one such site could be excavated each season and all the Peloponnesian provinces gradually explored the cumulative material should in time go far toward elucidating some of the important problems connected with the dawn of Hellenic civilization.

At the conclusion of the excavations at Zygouries I transported all the finds to Old Corinth, where they were provisionally stored. On June 6 I went to Mycenae and for the greater part of the next month assisted Mr. Wace at his excavations, endeavoring to repay as far as possible the services he had rendered us at Zygouries.

On July 4 I was obliged to leave Mycenae and return to Athens to prepare for my departure for America. I left Greece on July 13 by the steamship Megali Hellas and arrived in New York on the first of August. I spent the rest of the summer at home, during part of the time reading the final proof on the excavations at Korakou.

Through the kindness of Mr. Stais, Director of the National Museum at Athens, I was able to bring back with me to America a box of potsherds illustrating many of the different types of ancient pottery, ranging from neolithic to Roman times. I divided these fragments into equal lots which, with one (for Smith College) that had been selected in Athens by Miss Rambo, were sent to the following institutions:

Harvard
Ohio State
Princeton
Rhode Island School of Design
Smith College
Yale
Wellesley

One lot of these potsherds is still available for distribution.

At the suggestion of the Chairman of the Managing Committee, I delayed my return to Greece a fortnight, sailing finally on the fifteenth of October. During this period I travelled considerably, telling of the work of the School and especially about the excavations at Zygouries.

I reached Athens on the 29th of October and after five days at the School set forth as conductor of the regular Peloponnesian trip with the three new members of the School. In the course of this journey, extending from November 4 to 28, we visited all the important classical sites in eastern and southern Peloponnesus at the chief of which reports, covering their reading were presented by Messrs. Fry, Johnson and Scott. The use of the Ford car given to the School by the American Red Cross Commission to Greece was of especial value in facilitating this trip, as it rendered us independent of the limited railway service and also made it easy to visit certain places which would otherwise have been almost inaccessible.

During this expedition we discovered four new prehistoric sites. One, near the village of Hageorgitika not far from Tripolis in Arcadia, is of especial significance. Judged by the potsherds we collected here the prehistoric settlement represents a culture

akin to that of the Second Period in Thessaly; and this is up to the present time the southernmost point at which such neolithic remains have been found. It seems to me highly desirable that the School should undertake the excavation of the site at Hageorgitika.

Two other sites of interest lie in the Helos plain in southern Laconia, where we gathered up potsherds of the Middle and Late Helladic Periods.

Since my return from the Peloponnesian trip I have divided my time between Athens and Corinth. In Athens during part of December, January and February Mr. Wace and I conducted jointly a series of weekly lectures at the National Museum, giving a survey of the prehistoric age in Greece. These lectures were attended by all the members of the School as well as by the members of the British School, the number varying from eight to fourteen. One of the sessions was held at Corinth, where two days were devoted to a consideration of the material there gathered together.

In December and January I spent some time with a professional photographer in securing photographs of the Erechtheum desired by Dr. Paton, and of certain fragments of the Erechtheum frieze for Professor Fowler.

During the winter I have taken care of the routine work of the Library. With the assistance of Dr. Johnson I have recorded and placed on the shelves the recent acquisitions. The total of these new accessions is 201.

At an open meeting of the School on March 31 I presented an account of the excavations last spring at Zygouries.

During the past three months I have made ten trips to Corinth, staying there from one to four days each time. The object of these trips was to study the finds from Zygouries and particularly to superintend and expedite the work of restoration of the pottery from the same excavations. This proved more difficult and time-consuming than I had anticipated. The very great amount of material now collected in the museum and the annex fills all available space; and new quarters had therefore to be secured for the finds from Zygouries. Since the building had to be formally leased by the Archaeological Department as an annex to the museum, this involved considerable negotiation both at Corinth and in Athens, and several misunderstandings had to be smoothed away before the lease was finally signed. In spite of all I could do, the matter was thus greatly delayed and it was only at the beginning of March that we were able to occupy the new premises and begin work in earnest. The Department has generously allowed me to keep the experienced mender who worked on Miss Walker's material last year, and he is now making rapid progress. The essential part of this work should now be completed in six weeks. I expect then to continue my study of the pottery and in the course of the early summer to finish the full report of the excavations.

I hope, however, in the meantime to undertake some supplementary digging at and in the vicinity of Zygouries. It seems particularly worth while to investigate the area immediately to the south of the potter's shop and to make a general search in the neighborhood for the Early Hellenic cemetery. This latter must exist at no great distance from the site and its discovery would be of capital importance. For this supplementary excavation a gift of one hundred dollars from Mr. C. B. Spitzer of Toledo, Ohio, is now available; but two or three hundred dollars additional are required to carry out the program in a satisfactory way.

Last year Mr. L. M. Prindle, Charles Eliot Norton Fellow of Harvard University, observed some sherds of geometric pottery in a small grassy hollow near the summit of Mount Hymettus. He brought back a few specimens and handed them over to me, inviting me to make whatever use of the discovery seemed advisable. I have now examined the place myself and consider it a very promising spot for excavation in a small way. I plan therefore during the summer to spend a few days digging in the hollow. There may well have been a shrine at this high point on Hymettus and if so, as the potsherds indicate, it must go back to a very early origin. This excavation should occupy less than a week and I am sure the necessary funds can be obtained in Athens.

This work on Mount Hymettus as well as the further exploration of Zygouries must be deferred till summer for the reason that I am leaving tomorrow for Colophon to assist in the joint excavations of the School and the Fogg Museum of Art. I had not expected to take part in this enterprise. The Director of the School had planned to be its representative in the joint undertaking; but as he now finds himself detained in Athens by other obligations I have been asked to take his place until he comes and to assist Miss Goldman in getting the excavations under way.

Athens, Greece,
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