

THE ANNUAL
OF THE
BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

No. 86

1991

THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS
31-34 GORDON SQUARE, LONDON WC1H 0PY

Published by the Managing Committee



When more than thirty years ago a friend suggested to me that if I was planning to visit Greece in the Long Vac, I might seek out an archaeologist by the name of Lord William Taylour at a Catholic Hall of Residence in Cambridge, I confess to having had some undergraduate hesitation about approaching so elevated a person. Little did I then imagine that I should be about to make a friend for life, even less that thirty years later my daughter would be making a similar journey with him and finding, just as I and so many others had done, new horizons opening in the company of this delightful and remarkable man.

On paper, Billy Taylour had a career of almost fictional improbability, especially when set against the pattern of the time. He was born in 1904, the younger son of the head of a great Anglo-Irish family and of one of the most legendary ladies of the Edwardian stage. Though he had developed a deep interest in archaeology while still at Harrow, and was enthused by the great discoveries in Egypt after the First World War, instead of going to university he was directed much against his will to a Wall Street banking house, a post made tolerable for him only by the opportunities it gave him for indulging his love of music at the New York Opera. Returning later to London, he then ran the financial side of an interior decorating business (a much more adventurous occupation for one of his background than it would be today), until war service led him to the Mediterranean and in due course to the rank of Captain in the Derbyshire Yeomanry. After the War, he was at last in a financial position to pursue the great interest of his life. In 1946 he came up to this College as a freshman at the age of forty-two, to read Archaeology under distinguished figures such as Professors Grahame Clarke and the late Glyn Daniel, both of whom have remarked that they were somewhat daunted (needlessly of course) at the prospect of teaching a pupil older than themselves. During the last half of his life he was to become one of the most respected archaeologists of his generation, joining that select company of those who have made major discoveries at Agamemnon's city of Mycenae.

In his apprentice years he worked with such renowned figures as Kathleen Kenyon in Tripolitania, Alan Wace at Mycenae and Carl Blegen at Pylos, where he helped to uncover the best-preserved of all the Mycenaean palaces. After Wace's death he took over direction of the work of the British team at Mycenae on the lower slopes within the citadel. But his own seasons at Mycenae in the 50's and 60's were much more than the completion of another's work, for in addition to the structural features that emerged, he not only found the first fragmentary Linear B clay tablets to come from the citadel of Mycenae itself and frescoes of remarkable quality and interest, but also a room full of extraordinary figurines and pottery snakes that have been a topic of lively debate ever since, and have opened up new ideas about religion and cult in the Mycenaean age.

In recent years most branches of research, in the humanities no less than in the sciences, have become increasingly specialised and academic, and perhaps inevitably in consequence their leading exponents more competitive. Billy Taylour, as a scholar of independent means and without concern for a formal career, belonged to a different tradition. If he did not feel the same urgency to publish as his professional colleagues, his disinterested approach was undoubtedly a critical factor in obtaining permits to continue excavation at a time when tourism was rapidly developing and the Greek authorities were

increasingly concerned to retain direct control of their most important archaeological sites. His love of Greece, his grasp of its language, his ability to get on with people, his humour, his courtesy, his modesty, these were some of the qualities that gained him welcome from his Greek hosts at every level.

Billy was happiest when directly engaged in the business of excavation and, in the judgement of everyone, he was exceptionally good at it. His excavations, and the whole expeditions to Greece of which they were part, were meticulously planned and conducted with a precision which surely owed something to his military experience. He was a person of great self-discipline and led his team of helpers and workmen by example. He always had time to guide and encourage his younger colleagues and was generous in sharing credit. He himself had amazing physical stamina, working long hours each day, bare-headed under the blazing sun, and generally preferring to use a break in the middle of the day for a brief siesta than for taking lunch. I wonder whether any excavator has ever made better use of the time and resources at his disposal.

Although Billy Taylour's archaeological reputation was more that of the practical excavator than the critical pre-historian, he nonetheless produced some notable publications. His Ph.D thesis on Mycenaean pottery from Italy, published in 1958, immediately became a standard work of reference. A few years later he was persuaded by Glyn Daniel, persuaded one has to say somewhat reluctantly, to write a general book about the Mycenaeans, a well-balanced and thoroughly sane account of a subject which has not always enjoyed such reliable treatment. This was the work by which he became most widely known, particularly after the second edition included his own famous discoveries from the cult area at Mycenae. It is good to know that, through the Mediterranean Archaeological Trust that he set up and funded to support his work in Greece, the more detailed record of his excavations on which he embarked in his final years, under the title 'Well Built Mycenae', will be taken forward by his colleagues and further parts should appear in the next few years. Perhaps it was because Billy had less enthusiasm for writing than for digging, that the formal honours did not come his way. He never sought such things, but as an amateur in a highly professional field he did welcome reassurance that his work was appreciated, and it is sad that in those days neither his college nor his university felt moved to recognise his very unusual achievements.

It is impossible to think of Billy for more than a moment without recalling his tremendous love of life and his sense of humour. No-one who travelled out to Greece or back with him is ever likely to forget the experience. When at the wheel of his Land Rover, he would drive like a maniac, never apparently daunted by the prospect of a head-on collision, although somehow he never had one. On one occasion, when travelling at great speed and stopped by the Greek police, he quickly reminded his passengers that none of them understood a word of Greek, and after a period of evident incomprehension, asked everyone to produce their passports. The traffic policeman wisely gave up. Another time he had a marvellous row with a Yugoslav hotelier in Ochrid who charged him double the tariff quoted the night before, and made it worse by saying that there was a surcharge for non-Communists. But it was equally typical of Billy, as one of his companions has related, that one evening in Italy when they found a drunken peasant who had fallen from his scooter and injured himself, Billy bundled both peasant and scooter in the back of the Land Rover on the knees of his passengers and took him to his home many miles away in a remote village. Billy's journeys were rarely without such unexpected incidents, and the itinerary itself was always most carefully arranged so as to include maximum opportuni-

ties for sightseeing. Ancient sites, Byzantine monasteries, Renaissance palaces, Baroque churches, and of course visits to Bayreuth for Wagner if possible, all these came within the amazing range of Billy's knowledge and interest, in which he would invite us to share.

Not far beneath the surface there was a profound and serious side. Many of Billy's younger travellers have commented on the way he exercised a formative influence on their lives. One of his friends, from an Oriental country where such things are perhaps more sharply perceived, has remarked on the internal force he possessed. Without any excess of piety, he was a holy man and a person of deep integrity. In the words of the Chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission, who knew him at St Edmund House, he was 'a very good Catholic in a balanced kind of way . . . he would attend Mass in the Chapel not every day, but every *other* day. Somehow this sums him up for me. There was nothing of the fanatic in that quizzical makeup'. As Treasurer of the University Catholic Association for many years he helped Mgr. Alfred Gilbey to turn Fisher House into a place where the Catholic chaplaincy in Cambridge flourished and where non-Catholics also found a welcome. For his long and self-effacing service to the Catholic church, he was in due course made a Knight Commander of the Order of St Gregory the Great. He had a traditionalist view of his church, and of public affairs. He had high principles and old-fashioned standards. No-one could have been more suited to have presided, as he did for more than thirty years, over the Strafford Club, dedicated in the words of its toast 'to the Immortal memory of Thomas Wentworth, 1st Earl of Strafford', whom he saw as a victim of his sense of public duty. And I might add that no-one but Billy could have managed to look so distinguished on these occasions in a brown velvet dinner jacket.

We all have our special personal memories of Billy. Mine is of arriving at St Aubyns before a Strafford dinner perhaps, coming into a drawing room still with a hint of the interior decorator of the 1930's, Billy stretched out in his armchair, a new book on the Aegean Bronze Age on his lap, a plate of cucumber sandwiches beside him, and Rheingold pouring out of the hi-fi by the window. Behind him, and with its own little watering can, was an exotic plastic plant of which he was immensely proud, and a cocktail shaker containing Martini of unimaginable ferocity, and all the while watching him across the room the smiling beauty of Sir William Orpen's portrait of the mother he loved so much. One of his colleagues at Mycenae recalls how when news of her death came through, he left immediately for home without changing. Each year thereafter, on the anniversary, he had a Mass said for her soul in the tiny chapel of the Panagia on the ridge above the Treasury of Atreus, and then brought down to distribute the ceremonial cake of grain, honey and spices that might have come straight from the pages of Homer.

As with the Warriors of the Iliad, and the Nibelungs of Wagner, there was something of an epic quality about Billy himself. He made his last working trip to Greece in 1988 at the age of 84. In the last year or so, for the first time, he began to feel weary and to make his final plans. He spoke contentedly of how he had visited Headfort, the great house of his childhood no longer in the family, but there was still a place on a small island where he would be laid to rest beside his parents and his brother. There are not many who have looked towards death with such serenity. At a great age, and after so full a life, the sudden news last December still came as a blow, for I think we had all come to regard him as indestructible. But so in truth he is, and today we rejoice that he lives on in the hearts of his family and his countless friends. And when the time came, true to form, he had left immediately for home, without changing.

IAN STEWART

© *The Managing Committee, British School of Archaeology at Athens 1991*

*Produced by Alan Sutton Publishing,
Stroud, Glos.
Printed in Great Britain*

BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

31-34 GORDON SQUARE

LONDON, WC1H 0PY

ANNUAL OF THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS: The following are in print, available from the above address (postage extra):-

Volume 53/54 (1958/9)	£45.00	Volume 73 (1979)	£45.00
Volume 60 (1965)	£45.00	Volume 74 (1979)	£45.00
Volume 61 (1966)	£45.00	Volume 75 (1980)	£45.00
Volume 61 (1966)	£45.00	Volume 75 (1980)	£45.00
Volume 63 (1968)	£45.00	Volume 77 (1982)	£45.00
Volume 64 (1969)	£45.00	Volume 78 (1983)	£45.00
Volume 65 (1970)	£45.00	Volume 79 (1974)	£45.00
Volume 66 (1971)	£45.00	Volume 80 (1985)	£45.00
Volume 67 (1972)	£45.00	Volume 81 (1986)	£45.00
Volume 68 (1973)	£45.00	Volume 82 (1987)	£45.00
Volume 69 (1974)	£45.00	Volume 83 (1988)	£45.00
Volume 70 (1975)	£45.00	Volume 84 (1989)	£45.00
Volume 71 (1976)	£45.00	Volume 85 (1990)	£45.00
Volume 72 (1977)	£45.00	Index To Volume 33-48	£1.50
		Index To Volumes 49-68	£7.50

Volumes 1-40 of the *ANNUAL* and *Index to Volumes 1-32* have been reprinted, available from: Kraus Reprints, Millwood, New York 10546, USA.

SUPPLEMENTARY VOLUMES as follows available from Thames & Hudson Ltd., 44 Clockhouse Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 7RA.

No. 3	The Technique of Greek Sculpture (Adam, 1966)	£20.00
No. 4	Tocra 1963-5: The Archaic Deposits I (Boardman and Hayes, 1966)	£25.00
No. 5	Saliagos: Neolithic Settlement (Evans and Renfrew, 1968)	£25.00
No. 6	Chios: Greek Emporio (Boardman, 1967)	£25.00
No. 7	Myrto: Early Bronze Age Settlement (Warren, 1972)	£25.00
No. 8	Knossos: The Sanctuary of Demeter (Coldstream, 1973)	£16.00
No. 10	Tocra: The Archaic Deposits II, and Later Deposits (Boardman and Hayes, 1974)	£25.00
No. 11	Lefkandi I: The Iron Age (Popham, Sackett and Themelis) - Plates (1979)	£27.00
	Text (1980)	£46.00
No. 12	Excavations at Mycenae 1939-1955 (ed French, 1980)	£27.00
No. 13	The Bronze Age Palace at Knossos: Plan and Sections (Hodd and Taylor, 1981)	£14.00
No. 14	An Archaeological Survey of the Knossos Area (Hood and Smyth, 1981)	£19.00
No. 15	Prehistoric Emporio and Ayio Gala I (Hood, 1981)	£70.00
No. 16	Prehistoric Emporio and Ayio Gala II (Hood, 1982)	£62.50
No. 17	The Minoan Unexplored Mansion at Knossos (Popham) Plates (1984)	£45.00
	Text (1985)	£35.00
No. 18	The Archaeology of Cult: The Shrine at Phylakopi (Renfrew, 1985)	£35.00
No. 19	The British School at Athens: The First Hundred Years (Waterhouse, 1986)	£18.00
No. 20	Byzantine Emporio: Excavations in Chios 1952-55 (Ballance, Boardman, Corbett and Hood, 1989)	£28.00

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORTS: Back issues are available from the British School at Athens, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY, price £5.00 per copy, plus postage.

THE BRITISH SCHOOL AT ATHENS

PATON HRH THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, KG, KT, GBE

Director

Dr E.B. FRENCH, MA, PhD, FSA, Joint Editor of the *Annual*

Managing Committee 1989-90

Professor J.N. COLDSTREAM, MA, FBA, FSA, *Chairman & Trustee*
Professor R.M. COOK, MA, FBA, *Trustee*
Professor Sir JOHN BOARDMAN, MA, FBA, FSA, *Trustee*
HBM AMBASSADOR AT ATHENS, *Vice-President*
Sir CLIFFORD NORTON, KCMG, CVO, MA, *Vice-President*
A.H.S. MEGAW, Esq., CBE, MA, FSA, *Vice-President*
Dr M.F.B. FITCH, CBE, DLitt, MA, Hon. FBA, FSA, *Vice-President*
Sir PEREGRINE RHODES, KCMG, *Vice-President*
Dr J.J. COULTON, MA, PhD, Appointed by the University of Oxford
Dr J.F. CHERRY, MA, PhD, Appointed by the University of Cambridge
Dr A.W. JOHNSTON, MA, DPhil, Appointed by the University of London
Dr R.L.N. BARBER, MA, PhD, Appointed by the University of Edinburgh
Revd Professor W. MEANY, MA, PhD, DD, Appointed by the National University of Ireland
Dr D.G.J. SHIPLEY, MA, DPhil, Appointed by the University of Leicester
Professor J.J. WILKES, BA, PhD, FBA, FSA, Appointed by the British Academy
B.F. COOK, Esq., MA, FSA, Appointed by the British Museum
Professor R.A. TOMLINSON, MA, FSA, Joint Editor of the *Annual*
M.S.F. HOOD, Esq., MA, FBA, FSA
R.R. CLOGG, Esq., MA
Dr K.A. WARDLE, MA, PhD, FSA
Dr L. RODLEY, MA, PhD
Dr O.T.P.K. DICKINSON, MA, DPhil, FSA
Professor A.A.M. BRYER, MA, DPhil, FSA
Dr A.J.S. SPAWFORTH, BA, PhD
Dr A.J.N.W. PRAG, MA, DPhil, FSA

Representatives of the Students

Miss G.E. INCE, BA, MLitt
R.W.V. CATLING, Esq., MA

Secretary: Mrs S.E. WAYWELL, BA, PhD, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY
Treasurer: C.J. DAVIES, Esq., The Hollies, Town Street, Upwell, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9AD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	H.W. CATLING. A Late Cypriot Import in Rhodes	1
2.	JOHN F. CHERRY and JACK L. DAVIS. The Ptolemaic Base at Koresos on Keos	9
3.	ERIC CLINE. Monkey Business in the Bronze Age Aegean: The Amenhotep II Faience Figurines at Mycenae and Tiryns (<i>Plates 1–2</i>)	29
4.	W.D.E. COULSON. The ‘Protogeometric’ from Polis Reconsidered	43
5.	J.H. CROUWEL. Another Mycenaean Horse-leader? (<i>Plate 3</i>)	65
6.	N.G.L. HAMMOND. The Royal Tombs at Vergina: evolution and identities	69
7.	B.S.J. ISSERLIN. The Canal of Xerxes: facts and problems (<i>Plate 4</i>)	83
8.	DIMITRA KOKKINIDOU and KATERINA TRANTALIDOU. Neolithic and Bronze Age Settlement in Western Macedonia	93
9.	OLGA KRZYSZKOWSKA. The Enkomi Warrior Head Reconsidered (<i>Plate 5</i>)	107
10.	J.A. MACGILLIVRAY, L.H. SACKETT et. al. Excavations at Palaikastro, 1990 (<i>Plates 6–16</i>)	121
11.	NICOLETTA MOMIGLIANO. MMIA Pottery from Evans’ Excavations at Knossos: a Reassessment (<i>Plates 17–57</i>)	149
12.	J.H. MUSGRAVE and M. POPHAM. The Late Helladic IIIc Intramural Burials at Lefkandi, Euboea (<i>Plates 58–61</i>)	273
13.	SARA PATON. A Roman Corinthian Building at Knossos (<i>Plates 62–74</i>)	297
14.	P.M. WARREN. A New Minoan Deposit from Knossos, c.1600 B.C., and its Wider Relations (<i>Plates 75–80</i>)	319
15.	JAMES WHITLEY. Social Diversity in Dark Age Crete	341