

## Oenoanda Survey

The Oenoanda survey project was carried out over the course of six seasons between 1974 and 1983. The goal of the survey was to record inscriptions and fragments in and around the north Lycian city of Oenoanda, with a particular emphasis on recovering as much as possible of the philosophical inscription of Diogenes of Oenoanda.

The first season in 1974 began in mid-July but was cut down from eight to three weeks due to the Cyprus crisis. In the short time given, however, they were successful in locating and marking as much of the Diogenes inscription as possible, which they estimated to comprise approximately 25% of the entire thing. They also completed a measurement of the Esplanade, began recording the non-philosophical inscriptions on site, and photographed many of the public buildings.

Between 17 July and 6 September 1975, the team carried out a second season with the intent of continuing the topographical survey of the main site, completing inventories of inscriptions (both of Diogenes and non-philosophical ones), and studying other major buildings. Their goals were met as major structures were surveyed and incorporated into plans, 47 new fragments of the Diogenes inscription were found and inventoried, non-philosophical inscriptions were documented by Alan Hall, and major buildings were studied by Coulton, and dated to the third century AD.

It became clear at this point that, in order to learn more about Oenoanda, excavation was advisable, and between 18 and 25 August 1976 Hall visited the site three times in order to observe the practicalities of conducting an excavation there. One new inscription fragment was also found belonging to the Diogenes inscription.

Between 27 July and 1 September 1977, a team of eight returned to Oenoanda for a fourth season of work. An inventory and study was made of the main buildings. They were successful in completing a detailed survey down the acropolis hill to the early southern wall, studying the development of the site before and after the city walls, discovering ten new fragments of the inscription of Diogenes, as well as some non-philosophical fragments, and further outlining a plan for excavation.

However, no excavation permit was granted by 1981, and so during a brief fifth season other work was carried out: Coulton studied the city's aqueduct, Smith checked, re-photographed, and recorded two new fragments of the Diogenes Inscription, and Hall studied the Mausoleum of Licinnia Flavilla and its inscription. It was determined that further work was limited without the possibility of an excavation.

The sixth season occurred between 17 and 31 August 1983. Hall examined texts found previously and recorded new material, Coulton and Andrew Farrington continued to measure and study and more closely observe buildings of significance, and R.R.R. Smith looked at architectural details. Three new fragments of Diogenes' inscription were found in a nearby village, and five other inscriptions were recorded.

Nothing more was done until 1994, when Stephen Mitchell spent a week accompanied by Martin Smith, Nicholas Milner and Jeremy Rossiter to assess the potential of conducting an excavation there.

In 1997, between 31 October and 9 November, Smith collaborated with İbrahim Malkoç, director of Fethiye Museum, in a small excavation on the esplanade, primarily. Their work produced several substantial new fragments of the philosophical inscription as well as other discoveries.

Work was again suspended until 2007, when the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Istanbul Abteilung, took over responsibility for restarting the survey and excavation, under the directions of Martin Bachmann and Jürgen Hammerstaedt, in collaboration with Martin Smith and Nicholas Milner.