

OENOANDA 1977

The fourth season of survey work at Oenoanda began at the site on 27th July and continued until 1st September.

A team of eight took part. Mr Alan Hall was again Director, and undertook the recording of epigraphical material. Mr Richard Harper acted as a Assistant Director, and devoted ~~most~~^{much} of his time to studying the development of the city ~~sites~~ and to the preparation of detailed proposals and estimates for an excavation. Dr James Coulton continued his study of the architecture of the site, and gave guidance to the surveyors, while Drs Lesley and Roger Ling made an inventory of all the main buildings and detailed studies of several of the most important, in particular, the large baths complex in the northern area. ~~of the site~~ Messrs. David Chapman, Simon Dykes and David Howarth, of the Department of Land Surveying, North-East London Polytechnic, continued the topographical survey. The Turkish Government's representative was again Bay Osman Ozbek of the Karaman Museum.

The aims of the 1977 season were: (1) to carry the topographical survey down to the southern end of the main part of the site, and as far down the slopes as was feasible; for the extent of previous work, see Anatolian Studies Vol. XXVI (1976) p. 191 - 197, "The Oenoanda Survey: 1974 - 1976", Fig. 2. (2) to study the development of the site in antiquity; (3) to extend the inventories of philosophical and non-philosophical inscriptions by adding some texts which were already known and other chance finds; (4) to prepare detailed plans for an excavation.

The following results were obtained:

(1) The detailed building survey was first extended along the slopes of the acropolis hill, and then was carried down to the early Southern Wall, and

beyond it to include parts of the immediately adjacent cemeteries. This work was greatly assisted by the use of a Distomat D.I.10, made available to the expedition by the Department of Land Surveying, N.E.L.P., to whose Head, Dr John Hollway, we are very grateful. The results were added to the existing plans at a scale of 1:500, and have provided a complete plan of the ^{visible} buildings within the city walls. The bearings of a number of other buildings which lie lower down the hill were also ^{would} secured. It ~~will~~ be desirable, and may be possible in the future, to carry the survey to the bottom of the hill on all sides.

(2) The development of the site before and after the building of the city walls was closely studied. Dr Coulton concentrated on buildings in the agora and on the aqueduct and its water line, which was traced to its source at a distance of some 6 km. Mr Harper considered the possibility of there being a complete circuit of ~~Macedonian~~ Hellenistic defences, but this could not be established beyond doubt. The complex of buildings at the northern end of the city, below the acropolis hill, was seen to involve a gymnasium and baths as well as the already well-known theatre. A stadion may also have existed close by. At the southern end of the site the mass of Late Roman buildings offered a less definite picture, but the season's work strengthened our earlier view that the focus of activity moved slowly to that end of the site, before the final descent to the plain below.

(3) Among the epigraphic discoveries of interest were ten further fragments of the Diogenes inscription, three of which had already been recorded in the Nineteenth Century (Frs 11, 43 & 62). The new fragments include a section of the Letter to Antipater, in

excellent condition. Among the non-philosophical discoveries was a dedication in the theatre to a member of a leading family, who holds the titles of "perpetual gymnasiarch and second founder of the city".

(4) Mr Harper's detailed plans for an excavation would be directed to exposing and restoring the major buildings of the site, thus revealing the context in which the Diogenes stoa originally stood, as well as to recovering as much as possible of what still remains undiscovered of the inscription itself. Efforts to find the financial backing for such an excavation are being made.

Alan S. Hall