

1969

Review of *Gela: The Ancient Greeks in Sicily*, by Pietro Griffo and Leonard von Matt

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He supports his chronology by pointing out that recent excavations at Milazzo, Lipari, Ancona and San Giovenale show that the Tolfa culture must be dated in terms of what Säflund proposed in 1938, namely that it is not earlier than the beginning of the Iron Age in other parts of Italy. With this chronological basis, the four periods of Iron Age development found in Latium are equated with those of Rome, which have recently been discussed in great detail in this same series by Gjerstad.

After the examination of local variations of the Iron Age of Latium and correlation with the development at Rome, detailed evaluations are given of cultural connections with the Tolfa, Fossa, Lucanian, Umbrian, Villanovan and Etruscan cultures. Although relationships with the cultures of Central Europe and the Middle Danubian Basin are not discussed nor, really, the problem of relationships with the Etruscans, aside from scattered notes, it is just for these problems of relationships that this book is so important.

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GELA: THE ANCIENT GREEKS IN SICILY, by *Pietro Griffo* and *Leonard von Matt*. Pp. 224, figs. 156, at least half in color. New York Graphic Society, Greenwich, Conn., 1968. \$17.50.

This book could easily escape the archaeologists' attention because of its lavish appearance and obvious popular appeal. It is however a spirited account of Sicilian history, from prehistoric to modern times, narrated from Gela's point of view, and an up-to-date summary of archaeological research in the area. The extensive bibliography alone (four pages) would be worth the price of the book, but extra bonuses are found in the many illustrations of artifacts (with an index of present location), the numerous maps and especially the aerial view of Gela with corresponding archaeological plan (fig. 127) and legend (p. 211). The photographs are usually excellent and some views of the countryside truly striking; some illustrations appear here for the first time.

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HERAKLEASTUDIEN, by *Bernhard Neutsch* in collaboration with *Dinu Adamesteanu*, *Nevio Degrassi*, *Felice Gino Lo Porto*, *Franco Sartori* (Archäologische Forschungen in Lukanien II, Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts, Römische Abteilung, Elfte Ergänzungsheft). Pp. 253, figs. 60, pls. 80, map 1. F. H. Kerle, Heidelberg, 1967.

The archaeological discovery of Magna Graecia continues with growing intensity, in line with the economic transformation taking place in South Italy.

This phenomenon is only partly rooted in recognition of the historical significance of the area, another reason is that often new building on the sites of ancient settlements calls for emergency excavations.

The explorations conducted by the Archaeological Institute of the University of Heidelberg indicate the constantly growing interest with which specialists in classical studies, in Italy and abroad, have turned toward Magna Graecia.

The book under review is the second volume of a series edited by Bernhard Neutsch which, in continuation of the research work in Palinuro, reports recent investigations on the ancient cultures of Lucania. The first volume, which appeared three years ago, *Untersuchungen zu früheisenzeitlichen Gräbern aus dem Vallo di Diano*, by Klaus Kilian, contained early Iron Age finds, whereas the new volume is centered around the classical centuries of Greek culture. Most probably the reaction to the first volume in Italy (cf. M. Pallottino, *ArchCl* 17 [1965] 321-322) was one of the reasons why this book reveals a closer collaboration between German and Italian archaeologists than did its predecessor.

The five studies differ greatly in subject as well as nature. The title of the book also indicates that the editor had no intention of amalgamating the papers into a coherent and detailed monograph on Herakleia, a project which would have been impossible anyhow in the current state of research. Excavations have continued after the volume was finished, and the very important vol. III:1 of the *Forma Italiae, Siris-Heraclea*, by L. Quilici, was published in 1967. The results already achieved in 1965 contributed to the solving of some of the problems raised in the book, but these results could be included only in the form of short supplementary references.

The first study, by F. Sartori, Professor at the University of Padua (*Eraclea di Lucania, Profilo storico*, 16-95) gives a historical survey of Herakleia, based mainly on literary sources, which more or less serves as an introduction to the book. As far as Herakleia itself is concerned, these sources are extremely scarce and laconic. Sartori was nevertheless able to supplement and fill the gaps in tradition by inference from the history of nearby Greek centers, primarily Tarentum and Thurii. The study thus affords a good picture of the knowledge on which research for the discovery of Herakleia had to be based, but its significance is far greater than this: by re-editing, translating and historically interpreting the almost 300 lines contained on the two Herakleian bronze tablets discovered in 1732, S. contributes materially to the picture of the social and economic organization and the political and religious life of the city in the period ending around 300.

When excavations were begun the site of Herakleia was localized with the aid of air photography, as being near the present Policoro (Q. Schmiedt and R. Chevallier, *Caulonia e Metaponto* [Florence 1959] figs. 26-29, and *RA* [1960] I, 27-28). A short comment by D. Adamesteanu (*L'acropoli di Eraclea* 96-99) goes