



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Why one should ask and look twice for traces, artefacts and documents. A case study of the unpublished archaeological material of the sanctuary on the east acropolis of Idalion (Dali, Cyprus).

HORACEK S.^{1*}

¹ Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany, Berlin, Germany

*Corresponding author

Abstract

Unpublished excavations are a surprise package. Archaeological sites provide us with the survived three-dimensional archaeological evidence (features/structures as well as artefacts/objects) and the associated documents like informal and formal excavation records, i.e. field notes, inventories, private correspondence, photographs, sketches, site reports and much more. Max Ohnefalsch-Richter died before he could publish the archaeological material of the so-called Aphrodite-Astarte sanctuary of Idalion (Dali, Cyprus), which he unearthed during his campaigns on the East Acropolis. In several cases, he did not even indicate where the artefacts remained after the excavation campaigns of 1894/1895. Subsequently, other scientists (Adolf Furtwängler, Robert Zahn, Oliver Masson) attempted to publish his manuscript, but were unfortunately unsuccessful for several reasons. The first step was therefore to check the manuscript itself for clues as to the whereabouts of the artefacts. As the excavator also had an extensive correspondence with other scholars, the focus was on personal notes, letters and postcards in various archives (Nicosia, Berlin, London, Athens). Old collections of Kypriaka from different museums (Nicosia, Limassol, Dali, Berlin, London) were then studied in person in the storerooms and exhibitions or via published catalogues and compared with the mostly unpublished and partly unlabelled photographs and descriptions of the manuscript.

Keywords

Cyprus, Idalion, East Acropolis, so-called Aphrodite-Astarte sanctuary, Max Ohnefalsch-Richter

Session

3. Heritage and archaeology

Workshop

A16370FM - Cypriot Legacy Materials: Issues, Approaches and Encounters on Old Archaeological Data

Type of paper

