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Cyzicus

F.W. Hasluck (1878–1920) was an English archaeologist interested in the history of Asia Minor. Based in the British School of Athens for much of his career, he was appointed Assistant Director of the School between 1911 and 1915. After assisting with a survey of the city of Cyzicus and its surrounding area between 1902 and 1906, he published this history of the city as part of the Cambridge Archaeological and Ethnological Series in 1910. By charting the processes affecting the city from ancient to contemporary times, Hasluck provides an overall interpretation of its transformation through time. This together with his consideration of the political, cultural and economic influence of the city, rather than its ancient administrative boundaries, pioneered a holistic approach to archaeological interpretation very similar to modern methods. This book is divided into four parts, focusing on the topography, history, religion and government of the city.

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F. W. Hasluck
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Cyzicus

*Being Some Account of the History and
Antiquities of that City, and of the District
Adjacent to it, with the Towns of Apollonia
Ad Rhyndacum, Miletupolis, Hadrianutherae,
Priapus, Zeleia, etc.*

F. W. HASLUCK



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CYZICUS: HEXAGONAL TOWER

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CYZICUS

BEING SOME ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES
OF THAT CITY, AND OF THE DISTRICT ADJACENT
TO IT, WITH THE TOWNS OF *APOLLONIA AD
RHYNDACUM, MILETUPOLIS, HADRIANUTHERAE,
PRIAPUS, ZELEIA, ETC.*



BY

F. W. HASLUCK

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VIRO ERVDITISSIMO CARISSIMO
GVLIELMO RIDGEWAY
AVCTOR GRATISSIMVS AMANTISSIMVS

EN HEBETI ANGVSTVM SVLCAVI VOMERE CAMPVM:
RITE EST TRIPTOLEMO RARA VOVENDA SEGES.

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PREFACE

THIS book lays little claim to be considered as more than a compilation, checked where possible by original research. It is an attempt to bring together the very various authorities on the district of Asia Minor with which it deals, and to digest the mass of available information into a convenient form. The district, crossed and re-crossed by numerous travellers, is comparatively well known, and consequently affords greater opportunity than most parts of Asia Minor for a treatise which may serve as a more or less permanent basis for future workers. At the same time new discoveries—and the output of inscriptions seems inexhaustible—may at any moment refute (or less probably justify) the conclusions here put forward as hypotheses.

Hitherto no excavation worthy of the name has been undertaken on the site of Cyzicus. Private plundering was rife in Cyriac's time and has continued to our own day. Some attempt at more serious investigation seems to have been made about 1844 by Lord Eastnor, who, according to MacFarlane, "spent a considerable time at Cyzicus and made some excavations, but unfortunately his notes and drawings have been lost or destroyed through the foundering of the vessel in which they were embarked¹."

In more recent times Mr Frank Calvert of the Dardanelles opened tombs on the site², and kindly permits me to print the following notes respecting the modes of burial :

"My archaeological researches at Cyzicus were limited to the excavation of some tombs. The results were a fine blue oenochoe

¹ *Turkey and her Destiny*, i. 452, note. Cf. Ch. White's *Constantinople* (1844) III. 160 (note).

² The bare fact is mentioned in Murray's *Asia Minor*, p. 345. Some of the resultant antiquities are catalogued by K. B. Stark.

and dish, a small moulded aryballos—amethyst colours—(this I believe is in the British Museum) and a number of other glass objects and terra-cotta lamps: a much-worn stele, which I believe to be of the 2nd or 3rd century B.C., and a sepulchral inscription (Christian) shew the necropolis was successively used for several centuries. In another locality I found a built chamber roofed with long pieces of marble with a slab for a door of the same material. The chamber was paved with large tiles. A number of skeletons lay on the floor, but nothing of interest was discovered. The tomb was free of soil. Another form of interment was the adaptation of an enormous earthen pipe, with flat tiles closing the ends as the pipe lay horizontally buried in the ground. In other parts of the city itself I picked up a head of Pallas, the lower half of a statue, a dolphin and other fragments.”

M. Tito Carabella’s excavations in 1876 were confined to the opening of trial trenches on the Acropolis hill, and the result was considered so disappointing that they were soon abandoned. Mr de Rustafjaell’s attempt in 1901—2 was still more abortive, though both these expeditions brought to light important inscriptions.

The site, considered as a whole, is indeed so large and land so costly as to unfit it for private excavation, though certain areas, e.g. the theatre region within the walls and the so-called agora of the temple of Hadrian without, are attractive. It is greatly to be hoped that the work will in the end be systematically undertaken by one of the archaeological schools. Whichever of them it may be, our own can fairly claim to have contributed much pioneer work, being responsible for the only reliable archaeological map of the site, as also to a large extent for the present publication.

From future excavation we may reasonably hope to fill some of the lacunae in the history of Cyzicus; at present records are sadly deficient, especially during the Hellenistic period when Cyzicene prosperity seems to have reached its climax: this, too, in spite of a vast increase in epigraphical material. From the excavator’s point of view it is a hopeful sign that the two tentative excavations are responsible for so large a proportion of the important Cyzicene inscriptions of late years;

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and it is probably to the deeper levels of the site itself that we must look for the most valuable monuments in the future.

My own connection with the site dates from 1902, when I assisted Mr Henderson with the survey, under the auspices of the British School: later it seemed imperative to extend the field of research to the surrounding country, and my yearly journeys (1903—6), though not without epigraphic and numismatic results, were made with the primary object of gaining a general knowledge of the district and a more vivid impression of the sites and existing remains than is to be gained from books.

I feel that some explanation is needed for the ill-defined boundaries of the tract of country of which I have treated. It represents in the main the territory of Cyzicus as laid down by Strabo, to which have been added (1) southward, the plain of Balukiser and the middle Macestus valley, which belong geographically to Northern Mysia, and have an especial strategic importance for the Cyzicene district in the Byzantine period; and (2) westward, Priapus, as possibly a colony of Cyzicus and later the most important harbour of the district, and, for its religious associations, the Homeric city of Adrasteia.

The plan of the essay is as follows: the first part has been devoted to the topography of the whole district, together with the scanty details which have reached us of the individual history of the outlying townships: after the description of the Chersonese and the Islands, and a brief discussion of general physical points on the mainland, the order adopted is that of a circular tour, eastward from the isthmus to Triglia and Apollonia, south to Balukiser, north and west to Karabogha and so east to the Manyas plain: the territory is roughly divided into districts, and smaller sites are grouped around the main centres of population; by this method it is hoped to secure such continuity in the history of these districts as is possible, and to shew the ancient and modern conditions side by side: a separate chapter has been assigned to the discussion of the road system.

The second part treats of the history of Cyzicus, from its mythical foundation down to its last appearance, together with such events affecting the province as can reasonably be associated with it.

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The third section deals with the religion of the city and district, the fourth with Cyzicene government, including a section on the gymnasia and games. To this has been appended a classified list of inscriptions from the district: inscriptions are referred to in the text by their numbers in this list.

It remains to express my gratitude to my many teachers and in particular to those who have assisted me directly in this work. The debt of any later writer on Cyzicus to Marquardt is obvious and felt: no less so are my obligations to Professor Ridgeway's lectures and Professor Ramsay's writings—I would that Cyzicene sculpture had given me more direct cause to express my indebtedness to Professor Waldstein!—while to the constant stimulus and encouragement of Professor R. C. Bosanquet, I may truthfully confess, this book owes its very existence.

To these names I would add those of Messrs Ernest and John Thomson of Constantinople, who have in many ways lightened for me the difficulties of travel, and of their faithful servant, the companion of all my peregrinations, Ali Ibrahim.

I have further gratefully to acknowledge loans of blocks and photographs from the German Archaeological Institute, the British School at Athens, and the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies (see *List of Illustrations*). Figs. 19 and 24 are reproduced by courteous permission of the Directors from photographs in the possession of the Imperial Museum at Constantinople.

The proof-readers have my thanks and sincere sympathy.

F. W. H.

ATHENS, 1910.

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*This map is available as a download from
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