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978-1-108-06308-1 - The Palace of Minos: A Comparative Account of the Successive Stages of the Early Cretan Civilization as Illustrated by the Discoveries at Knossos: Volume 5: Index

Compiled by Joan Evans and Arthur Evans

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The discovery of material remains from the recent or the ancient past has always been a source of fascination, but the development of archaeology as an academic discipline which interpreted such finds is relatively recent. It was the work of Winckelmann at Pompeii in the 1760s which first revealed the potential of systematic excavation to scholars and the wider public. Pioneering figures of the nineteenth century such as Schliemann, Layard and Petrie transformed archaeology from a search for ancient artifacts, by means as crude as using gunpowder to break into a tomb, to a science which drew from a wide range of disciplines - ancient languages and literature, geology, chemistry, social history - to increase our understanding of human life and society in the remote past.

The Palace of Minos

Inspired by Schliemann's discoveries at Mycenae and Troy, Sir Arthur John Evans (1851–1941), keeper of Oxford's Ashmolean Museum from 1884 to 1908, trustee of the British Museum and fellow of the Royal Society, used his inherited wealth to purchase land in Crete at Knossos. From 1900 he commenced excavations there in co-operation with the British School at Athens. Work continued for eight full seasons, uncovering a Bronze Age palace and bringing to light further architectural and artefactual remains of Minoan civilisation, including numerous texts in Linear A and Linear B. Evans' speculative reconstruction of the site in reinforced concrete remains controversial, and some of his interpretations are disputed, but his pioneering work is painstakingly detailed in this highly illustrated multi-volume work, published between 1921 and 1935. The index to this monumental achievement, published in 1936, was the result of a painstaking collaboration with his half-sister, Dame Joan Evans (1893–1977).

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of the Early Cretan Civilization
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VOLUME 5:

INDEX

COMPILED BY JOAN EVANS

ARTHUR EVANS



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INDEX TO THE PALACE OF MINOS

BY

JOAN EVANS, D.LITT.

HON. FELLOW OF ST. HUGH'S COLLEGE

WITH SPECIAL SECTIONS CLASSIFIED
IN DETAIL AND CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED

BY

SIR ARTHUR EVANS

D.LITT., F.R.S., F.B.A.

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PREFACE

By SIR ARTHUR EVANS

IT has been fairly claimed for it that *The Palace of Minos*, in addition to its local aspects regarding the excavations at Knossos, is in a certain degree an Encyclopaedia of the whole range of Minoan culture so far brought within our knowledge.

But such an extensive publication itself entailed a lapse of time during which—as the result of active researches in many directions—new facts were continually accumulating. One inevitable consequence of such conditions has been that full information regarding various subjects has to be sought through successive volumes, making reference to collective results a difficult matter. It is clear therefore that for the present work a general Index was a real condition of completeness. On the other hand, when account is taken of this vastness and complexity of the material—much of it here for the first time set forth, extending through four large volumes, two with separate parts, and amounting to over 3,000 pages—the arduousness of the work required for indexing the whole can be well understood.

This hard task was nevertheless undertaken by my sister, Dr. Joan Evans, the whole being carried out by her with competent method to an advanced stage. But, though the numerous questions that thus arose were constantly referred to myself, it became more and more evident that the ordered presentment of certain subjects, such as could only be supplied by long years of research and of personal experience on the spot, must fall on my own shoulders more directly than I had at first contemplated.

It was clear indeed that certain important subjects involving elaborate analysis and classification, with the approximate chronological succession, must be dealt with by myself in considerable detail. Moreover, in taking over thus a series of headings it was necessary to a great extent to set aside the received canons of index-making, where the alphabetic order is fatal to connected statement.

Among the subjects (marked 'A.E.') thus treated, as being of special importance as bases of archaeological study, are 'frescoes' and 'painted reliefs', the Minoan 'Genii' and Religion, 'Knossos', the 'pottery', 'seal-stones and signet-rings'—both these latter covering a space of some two thousand years—and to these must be added the Minoan 'Script' in its successive stages. In each case a kind of *catalogue raisonné* has been prepared of the illustrative examples scattered through the whole work.

'Religion' required a detailed analysis of the exceptionally interesting stage presented by that of the Minoan World, and in which the primitive baetylic cult of trees and natural stones as well as of artificial pillars is combined with artistic representations of the divinities themselves. Supplementary to this, under the heading 'Genii', references are given to the collective evidences of the rise (initially under Egyptian suggestion) of a peculiar class of Minoan daemons acting as beneficent divine agents.

As the logical and often minutely descriptive arrangement here adopted under important headings is accompanied in each case with full references to the pages of

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the volumes concerned the functions of a true Index will be adequately fulfilled, while as regards find-spots the alphabetic order has been preserved. At the same time a skeleton classification of these subjects is provided for the use of those specially interested.

From the point of view of students, indeed many of whom may certainly not be able to afford the whole, necessarily expensive work, this Index Volume may be useful in a separate form as a private key for reference to copies of it in public libraries and institutions.