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Felix Pirson

Foreword

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Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Zentrale, Podbielskiallee 69–71, 14195 Berlin, Tel: +49 30 187711-0
Email: info@dainst.de | Web: <https://www.dainst.org>

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Foreword

When the ›Pergamenische Forschungen‹ were inaugurated in 1968, the editor Erich Boehringer formulated the aims and direction of the new series as follows: »In den FORSCHUNGEN wird es jedoch erlaubt sein, auch zu Hypothesen oder gewagten Lösungen vorzustoßen; vor allem wird in ihnen aus erweitertem Umkreis und in größerem Maße Vergleichsmaterial heranzuziehen möglich sein«¹. In order to realise these objectives, the series was based on a flexible concept that includes both thematically defined monographs and collections with contributions on different subjects by various authors. The first volume in the series, published after Boehringer's passing in 1972, offers such a collection of articles which represents the broad approach of the Pergamon Excavation after its resumption in 1957². However, the following 18 volumes were all studies by single authors dedicated to individual genres of archaeological material or – far less frequently – the discussion of special aspects of Pergamene architecture or sculpture. Against this background, the present volume, which again offers a collection of papers by different authors, returns to the origins of the series in several respects, but breaks with other traditions at the same time. Most obvious is the publication in English, which is due to the international character of the research project and the conference »Funerary Archaeology in Anatolia: Recent Discoveries and Current Approaches« in 2018 – organised at that time together with the Sarkophagcorpus of the German Archaeological Institute – from which this volume emerged. We hope that this choice will enhance both the accessibility and the international reception of the book. At the same time it should be emphasised that publication in German will remain an equal option for the ›Pergamenische Forschungen‹.

Similarly unusual – but in line with Boehringer's initial vision of the ›Pergamenische Forschungen‹ – is the publication of papers that present preliminary results of projects that are partly still ongoing. The integration of Pergamon in an »extended scope« (again Boehringer; see above) has already been realised in an exemplary manner in volume 19 on Attalid architecture at Pergamon and beyond by Eric Laufer³. The present collection chooses a smaller scale, the Aeolis, and discusses a cultural phenomenon from a regional perspective. Finally, the focus of the volume on a broad and varied subject such as ›funerary culture‹ rather than on neatly defined special topics is in accordance with the strategic decision of the Pergamon Excavation to contribute with research programmes of limited duration to current discourses within ancient studies and beyond⁴.

As editor of the series ›Pergamenische Forschungen‹, I would like to thank the co-editor of this volume Stéphane Verger for the joint development and direction of the research project and the related conference that constitute the basis of this publication (see our introductory article). Among many colleagues who made this international and interdisciplinary research possible, Ute Kelp and Rossella Pace deserve special mention. The same is true for Ersin Doğer and Yusuf Sezgin, former and current director of the Aigai excavation, who embraced our request for cooperation with enthusiasm and collegial spirit. The necessary permits were granted by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Türkiye. Our apologies go to all the authors of this volume who submitted their contributions in due time and nevertheless had to wait much too long for its publication. The responsibility for this lies with the editors. Further thanks go to the editorial departments of both

1 E. Boehringer in: Schäfer 1968, p. V.

2 Boehringer 1972.

3 Laufer 2021.

4 See most recently the socio-ecological approach of the project »The transformation of the Pergamon Micro-region between the Hellenistic and the Roman Imperial period«: <https://www.dainst.blog/transpergmikro/> (last access 06.06.2023).

DAI Istanbul (Ulrich Mania and Martina Koch) and the Head office of the German Archaeological Institute (Peter Baumeister and Federico Buccellati) for their swift and efficient handling of the production of the book. The editorial work was carried out by Frank Zimmer and Ernst-Andreas Neumann. Giles Shephard and Federico Buccellati did the language corrections of the English manuscripts. The responsibility

for remaining errors and shortcomings lies entirely with the authors. Last but not least I want to extend my thanks to the Agence nationale de la Recherche and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, who made project and conference possible due to their generous financial support.

Istanbul, June 2024

Felix Pirson



Pergamon and the Aeolis: Places mentioned in this volume (DAI-Pergamongrabung – Bernhard Ludwig)