

LACONIA.

II.—EXCAVATIONS AT SPARTA, 1906.

§ 8.—THE STAMPED TILES.

DURING the excavations along the course of the city wall a great number of fragments of tiles with stamped inscriptions were found. The majority, about a hundred in all, including several examples of the same stamp, came from the well by the Heroön (cf. p. 286). Many were found on the line of the wall further south, and many more in the Artemisium: a few by the Altar¹ and in trial-pits north of the carriage road. It is by no means uncommon to find inscribed tiles in Greece; but in this respect the excavations at Sparta have so far easily surpassed all previous finds.² The inscriptions are for the most part easy to read and intelligible, and fall into different classes, which in their turn sub-divide themselves into varieties.

The tiles themselves, like most ancient Greek tiles, seem to have been semicircular in section. They are always covered on one side by a glaze which varies from red to black-brown. The stamp is impressed on the glazed side, as a rule once, but in some cases twice. To judge by the broken letters and lines of graining visible in some examples, the stamp with which the letters were impressed was of wood.³ The object of

¹ Described in § 4 of this Report.

² It is interesting to note that Laconian tiles were specified to be used in repairs to the walls of the Piræus, *J.G.* II. i. 167, 6. 69.

³ Perhaps the τύπος ξύλινος κεραμίδων of the Delian inventory was such a stamp: *B.C.H.* 1882, p. 48, l. 172. Paris (*Élatée*, p. 116) thinks the stamp was cut in the mould: it is not yet certain if this was the case at Sparta.

glazing the tiles sometimes inside and sometimes outside, was to fit them for the method of roofing used, in which the edges of two tiles lying on their backs, are covered by another with its back upwards. A few samples of square *imbrices* and flat tiles have been found, but not enough to enable their use to be determined.

In the following list only the most important inscriptions are given. Those that are doubtful, or too incomplete to be restored with any degree of certainty, are omitted, since future excavations may yield more complete specimens. None of the tile-stamps described in the following pages can be said to date from the Imperial period, with the possible exception of type 20. The rest probably belong to the last two centuries before Christ.

CLASS A.

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| 1. ΤΕΙΧΕΩΝΔΑΜΟΣΙΩΝ
ΕΡΓΩΝΑΔΑΜΑΡΧΙΔΑ ¹ | Moenium publicorum (tegula),
redemptore Damarchida. |
| 2. ΔΑΜΟΣ[ΙΟΣ]
ΤΕΙΧΙΩΝ(ΔΙ) ² | Publica (tegula),
Moenium, Di[- - -] (redemptore). |
| 3. [ΙΕΤ]ΖΟΙΖΟΜΑΔ
[ΥΟΡΔΝ]ΑΣΥΛΑΝΩΞ ³ | Publica (tegula) moenium,
Lysandro (redemptore). |
| 4. ΦΙΛΟΔΑΜ[ΟΥΤΕΙΧΕ]
ΩΝΔΑΜ[ΟΣΙΟΣ] ⁴ | Philodamo (redemptore), moenium
publica (tegula). |
| 5. ΔΑΜΟCΙΟCΤΕΙ
ΧΕΩΝΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ ⁵ | Publica (tegula) moenium,
Antiocho (redemptore). |
| 6. ΔΑΜΟCΙΟCΤΕΙΧΕΩΝ
ΕΡΓΩΝΑΕΥΑΜΕΡΟΥ ⁶ | Publica (tegula) moenium,
redemptore Euamero. |
| 7. ΔΑΜΟCΙΟΙΤΕΙΧ
ΕΩΝCΩΤΗΡΙΔ ⁷ | Publicae (tegulae) moenium,
Soterida (redemptore). |

¹ Ten specimens all from the well, Inv. Nos. 2342, 2343 + 2387, 2354, 2355, 2382, 2388, 2401, 2420, 2425, 2434.

² Five specimens from the well, Inv. Nos. 2340, 2341, 2347, 2353, 2463.

³ Three specimens from the well, all from the same stamp, Inv. Nos. 2338, 2344, 2427.

⁴ One specimen from the well, Inv. No. 2433.

⁵ Two specimens from the same stamp, from the well, Inv. Nos. 2352, 2416 + 2422.

⁶ Thirteen specimens, most from the same stamp, from the well, Inv. Nos. 2337, 2339, 2345, 2346, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2436, 2456.

⁷ Two specimens from same stamp, both from the well, Inv. Nos. 2442, 2458.

8. [ΔΑΜΟCΙΟC]ΤΕΙΧΕΩΝ Publica (tegula) moenium,
[ΕΡΓΩΝΑΜΕΛ]Α(ΝΙ)ΠΠΟΥ¹ redemptore Melanippo.
9. [ΔΑ]ΜΟCΙΟCΤΕΙΧ Publica (tegula) moenium,
[ΕΩΝ]ΔΙΟΝΥCΙΟC² Dionysius (redemptor).

The tiles bearing these inscriptions were without doubt made expressly for the city walls. The formula mentions that the tile was state property, the public work for which the tile was intended, and the name of the contractor. None of the contractors are otherwise known except Euamerus, whose name occurs also on bricks made for the Skanotheke.³ Tiles or bricks stamped as state property have been found at Sparta,⁴ Megalopolis,⁵ Pergamum,⁶ Eretria,⁷ Tanagra,⁸ Tegea,⁹ Athens,¹⁰ Piraeus,¹¹ Elataea,¹² Mantinea,¹³ and the Argive Heraeum.¹⁴ Tiles specially made for the city walls have hitherto only been found at Pergamum.¹⁵

CLASS B.

10. ΔΑΜΟCΙΟCΤΕ Publica (tegula) moenium
ΑΘΑΝΑΣΠΡΑ¹⁶ (ex officina) Athenae, Pra[tolao]
(Stamp complete) (redemptore)
11. ΔΑΜΟCΙΟCΤΕΙΧΕ Publica (tegula) moenium
ΩΝΑΛΕΑΣΑΦΡ[ΟΔΙ] (ex officina) Alcae,
CΙΟΥΕΠΙΑΡΧΙΑΔΑ¹⁷ (redemptore) Aphrodisio,
patronomo Archiada.

¹ Four specimens, all from same stamp, whose wooden character is most marked; three are from the well, the fourth (2470) from a hill by Magoula, where it is possible to conjecture that the wall ran, Inv. Nos. 2384, 2437, 2444, 2470. The beginning of the same is perhaps to be found in two fragments both from the same stamp (one (2385) from the well, the other (2471) from the same

hill at Magoula) which read
ΔΑΜ
ΕΡΓ.

² One specimen, Inv. No. 2398, from the well.

³ Inv. No. 2078. ⁴ *Sparta Mus. Cat.* 712.

⁵ Gardner and others, *Megalopolis*, pp. 140, 4.

⁶ Fränkel, *Inscriften v. P. ii.* Nos. 724, 728.

⁷ Richardson *op. cit.* Waldstein, *Argive Heraeum*, i. p. 218, 4.

⁸ Paris, *Élatée*, p. 112, 10.

⁹ *Athen. Mitt.* 1879, p. 144.

¹⁰ *B.C.H.* 1888, p. 356.

¹¹ *B.C.H.* 1887, p. 209, 4.

¹² Paris, *Élatée*, p. 113.

¹³ Fougères, *Mantinee*, p. 539.

¹⁴ Richardson, *op. cit.* p. 217.

¹⁵ Fränkel, *op. cit.* ii. No. 645, inscribed ΤΕΙΧΩΝ only.

¹⁶ Three specimens, Inv. Nos. 2214, 2370, 2408; the two latter from the same stamp. One (2214) is from the altar, the other two from the well.

¹⁷ Six specimens, all from the same stamp, Inv. Nos. 2293, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2414, 2426. Two, 2293 and 2414, which are stamped twice, are from the wall north of the altar, the others from the well.

This second class of tile-stamps, though including only two varieties, is more important. One (10) mentions in addition to the contractor and the public work for which the tile was destined, the factory where it was made, that of Athena. The abbreviation of ΤΕΙΧΕΩΝ to ΤΕ is unusual: the expansion of ΠΡΑ to ΠΡΑΤΟΛΑΟΥ is merely conjectural; any other name beginning with Πρα would suit. The other (11) whose formula is yet fuller, gives the year, indicated by the name of the eponymous patronomus Archiadas (unfortunately not otherwise known¹), and further specifies the factory by calling it that of Alea²: which seems to mean that tile-works³ were attached to, and formed part of the endowment of, the sanctuary of Athena Alea. This sanctuary stood on the bank of the Eurotas near a bridge, on the road to Therapne.⁴ At the present day there are tile-works near the river bank, in a line between Sparta and Therapne, but there is as yet no reason to assume that the shrine of Athena Alea stood here.

CLASS C.

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| 12. [ΔΑΜΟΣΙ]ΟΣ
ΑΘΑΝΑΣΑΥ ⁵ | Publica (tegula)
Athenae (ex officina), Au [- - -]
(redemptore). |
| 13. [ΔΑ]ΜΟΣΙΟΣ
[ΑΘ]ΑΝΑΣΝΙ ⁶ | Publica (tegula)
Athenae (ex officina), Ni [- - -]
(redemptore). |
| 14. [Δ]ΑΜΟΣΙΟΣ [Σ]
[Α]ΘΑΝΑΣΠΟΛΥΚ[ΛΗ] ⁷ | Publica (tegula)
Athenae (ex officina), Polycles
(redemptor). |
| 15. ΔΑΜΟΣΙΟΣ Σ
ΑΘΑΝΑΣΦΙΛΟΚΛΗ ⁸ | Publica (tegula)
Athenae (ex officina), Philocles
(redemptor). |

¹ See the lists given by Boeckh in the *C.I.G.* i. pp. 606 f., and by Le Bas-Foucart, p. 109. Some of the Elataea tiles are dated in the same way, v. Paris, *Élatée*, pp. 113 *seqq.*

² For the use of Alea to denote Athena Alea compare the 'Ἰν' Ἀλέαι of the Tegea inscription, *B.C.H.* 1889, p. 281; v. also Fougères, *Mantinée*, p. 288.

³ At Priene the State owned tile-works; for tiles inscribed ΠΟΛΕΩΣ and ΔΡΟΜΩΝΟΣ ΠΟΛΕΩΣ were found there; Hüller von Gaertringen, *Inscripfen v.P.*, 359, 9, 10, 26, 27.

⁴ Xenophon, *Hellenica*, vi. 5. 27; Pausanias, iii. 19. 7.

⁵ One specimen, Inv. No. 2371, from the well.

⁶ Two specimens, Inv. Nos. 2281, 2430; the first from trial pits north of the carriage road, the other from the well.

⁷ One specimen, Inv. No. 2454, from the Heroön.

⁸ Six specimens, Inv. Nos. 2377, 2368, 2423, 2424, 2435, 2438, 2446 + 2453, all from the same stamp, and from the well.

22. ΒΑΙΛΕΙΝΑΒΙ ¹

Regi Nabidi.

(circular stamp.)

Tiles of the first three types of this class were found only at the shrine of Artemis Orthia and afford additional evidence for its identification. An exactly similar inscription is that found near Elataea on the ἀσάμυνθοι from the shrine of Athena Cranaea, ΑΘΑΝΑΣ ΙΕΡΟΣ.² The use of the genitive ΒΟΡΘΕΙΑΣ, indicating the destination and not the maker of the tile, has many parallels. At the shrine of Athena Cranaea were found tiles reading ΑΘΑΝΑΣ ΕΝ ΚΡΑΝΑΙΣ³; from the Amyclaeum we have ΑΠΟΛΛΩΝΟΣ ΕΝ ΑΜΥΚΛΑΙΟΙ⁴; from Pergamon there are the stamps ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΩΝ, ΤΕΙΧΩΝ, and ΙΕΡΩΝ⁵; from Sparta itself we have ΤΕΙΧΕΩΝ and ΚΚΑΝΟΘΗΚΑΣ⁶; from Megalopolis ΦΙΛΙΠΠΕΙΟΥ and ΚΚΑΝΟΘΗΚΑΣ⁷; from Mantinea ΠΟΔΑΡΕΟΣ⁸; and from Lycosura Δεσποίνης.⁹ Also from the Argive Heraeum there is the stamp ΣΩΚΛΗΣ ΑΡΧΙΤΕΚΤΩΝ ΔΑΜΟΙΟΙ ΗΡΑΣ.¹⁰ These last two words mean *tegulae publicae Herae*.¹¹

This implies that the Argive Heraeum was a state shrine, and that the state was responsible for repairing it. Similarly, bricks inscribed πλίνθος δαμοσία ἐπὶ Ἀπελλεία were used at the temple of Athena Cranaea.¹² At Sparta, however, it seems that the trustees of the shrine of Artemis Orthia were in charge of the fabric. This was the case at Delos, where the inventories of the hieropoioi mention the purchase and use of tiles, and of woodwork.¹³

Of type 21 only two specimens have been found, one at the Artemisium,

¹ One specimen, from the city wall by Tagari's garden, Inv. No. 2286.

² Paris, *Élatée*, p. 183, cf. the tiles stamped ΙΕΡΑ found at the temple at Abae, *J.H.S.* 1896, p. 298.

³ Paris, *op. cit.* p. 82.

⁴ *Sparta Mus. Cat.* Nos. 636-642, 644: cf. Richardson *op. Waldstein*, *Argive Heraeum*, I. p. 216; van Hook, *Berl. Phil. Woch.* 1904, p. 1470.

⁵ Fränkel, *Inscriptionen v. P.* ii. Nos. 641, 645, 646.

⁶ *Sparta Mus. Cat.* Nos. 276, 535, 712.

⁷ Gardner and others, *Megalopolis*, p. 140, I, 4.

⁸ Fougères, *B.C.H.* 1890, p. 255; Id. *Mantinee*, p. 191.

⁹ Δελτίον, 1889, p. 160.

¹⁰ Richardson, *op. cit.* p. 217.

¹¹ They might also be rendered *Tegulae publicae ex officina Herae* on the analogy of type 11. This would mean that there were tile-works attached to the Argive Heraeum. But this is very unlikely.

¹² Paris, *Élatée*, p. 115; the tiles from the Heroön of Podares at Mantinea are inscribed ΠΟΔΑΡΕΟΣ ΔΑ[ΜΟΣΙΟΣ], v. Fougères, *Mantinee*, p. 191.

¹³ Homolle, *B.C.H.* 1882, pp. 135, 136.

and the other by the city wall just above Tagari's garden. This seems to suggest that a temple of Eileithyia was in the neighbourhood, which is confirmed by Pausanias, who says that there was a shrine of this goddess near that of Artemis Orthia.¹

The solitary example of type 22 stands alone because of its circular shape and its historical interest. The use of the dative is unusual, but there is little doubt that this tile, like one formerly in the Museum, was made by order of the tyrant Nabis. We have an exact parallel in tiles from Oeniadae inscribed ΦΙΛΙΠΠΟΥ, since they are believed to belong to re-fortification carried out by Philip V.² Similar personal inscriptions occur on tiles from Megalopolis³ and Epidaurus,⁴ reading respectively ΦΙΛΟΠΟΙΜΗΝ ΔΙΙ and ΑΝΤΩΝΕΙΝΟΥ, the latter of which refers to Antoninus Pius. The regal inscription has analogies in tiles from Kertch⁵ and Pergamon, reading ΒΑΣΙΛΙΚΗ⁶; and at the latter site there was also found a series of tiles stamped ΑΒ, which may be for 'Αττάλου βασιλέως,⁷ but is usually taken as 'Αττάλου βασιλεύοντος, and as a date. The tile formerly in the Museum, but now lost, read ΒΑΛΕΟΣ ΝΑΒΙΟΣ.⁸ Wolters conjectured that it was made for repairs to the city wall, which Nabis is said by Pausanias⁹ to have undertaken, and this view is confirmed by the fact that our tile was found beside the city wall.

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¹ Pausanias, iii. 17. 1.

² *A.J.A.* 1904, p. 170.

³ *J.H.S.* 1893, p. 336.

⁴ Cavvadias, *Fouilles d'Epidauré*, I., p. 107, 247.

⁵ Macpherson, *Antiquities of Kertch*, pp. 72, 75.

⁶ Fränkel, *Inscriben v. P.* ii. No. 642.

⁷ Fränkel, *op. cit.* Nos. 652 *seqq.*

⁸ Wolters, *Athen. Mitt.* 1898, p. 139: cf. the coin inscription, Wroth, *Num. Chron.* 1897, p. 107. ΒΑΙΛΕΙ is the Doric form for βασιλεῖ, due to the dropping of Σ between two vowels: in earlier inscriptions an aspirate Β would appear between the vowels; v. Collitz-Bechtel, 4421, 4422; Meister, *Dorier u. Achäer.* p. 11.

⁹ Pausanias, vii. 8. 5.