was dead was of no real importance so far as the city was concerned. These two, he believes, would have been the earliest modes of adoption, followed in time by testamentary adoption.

The bibliography is full and current. Documentation and footnotes, which in small print occupy more than half of many pages, are ample. The indexes are of sources cited, of laws and topics, and of persons. In that of laws and topics I miss e.g. *δικαστήριον*, the final arbiter of disputed cases of adoption, and *γηροτροφία*, a principal reason, some have felt, to undertake an adoption *inter vivos*.

Amherst College ALAN L. BOEGEHOLD

THE TOPOGRAPHY OF SPARTA

E. KOURINOU: *Σπάρτη: συμβολὴ στὴ μνημειακὴ τοπογραφία της* (*διδακτορικὴ διατριβή*) (*Ἡ μεγάλη βιβλιοθήκη*). Pp. xv + 296, pls. Athens: Horos, 2000. Paper, €60. ISBN: 960-85691-1-7.

Combining analysis of ancient sources with first-hand knowledge of rescue excavations carried out by the Greek Archaeological Service since the 1960s, Eleni Kourinou here revises many earlier points of Spartan topography and adds important new elements. After a valuable review of earlier work, a note on the physical environment, and a historical overview, the core of the book covers the city's defences and the organization of its space. Each subsection quotes the relevant ancient sources and reviews relevant travellers' reports and archaeological data. An *index locorum* is provided, together with topographical indexes (there is no general index), and the volume closes with a twelve-page summary in English.

Although Sparta acquired defences in the late fourth century, they were probably perishable since Justin's testimony is as yet unsupported by physical remains. Further temporary structures were probably erected in the first half of the third century. Since a permanent wall existed by 218, Livy's reference to the *tyranni* who fortified the city points to Kleomenes III as its builder. The first regulation of the city's water supply and drainage probably took place at the same time. Nabis strengthened the wall with a moat and palisade, and extended the circuit to the south. Philopoimen destroyed or breached the wall in 188, but it was rebuilt a few years later. Stamped tiles commemorate a major renovation programme in the first century B.C. Written and circumstantial evidence points to six city gates, though no archaeological evidence has yet come to light (K. convincingly modifies previous interpretations). In the third or fourth century A.D. the adjacent hills of Palaiokastro and the classical acropolis to its west were fortified separately.

The thorny problem of Sparta's bridges receives helpful clarification. Xenophon's bridge over the Eurotas was on the same spot as the one built by Eurykles in Augustan times, later repaired by Julius Paulinus, and replaced in the eleventh century by Nikodemos's bridge. Two bridges were built over the Magoulitsa ravine on the south-west side of the city: one reported by Leake, the other, further west, inferred from the existence of a south-west gate. A northern bridge must have crossed the Mousga ravine, but may have been a wooden structure.

As to Sparta's four villages (discounting the outlier Amyklai), the locations of Pitane (in the west and north-west of the city, including the acropolis) and Limnai (in the east) are known precisely, those of Mesoa (in the south and south-west) and Kynosoura (in the south-east, along the west bank of the Magoulitsa) less so. Burials,

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though scarce because of Roman disturbance, allow the boundaries of each *kômê* to be traced and suggest that the four settlements expanded to fill the space between them only after the city walls were built. Each *kômê* continued to bury its dead at its margins even after the city was walled; early Hellenistic (but not earlier) Sparta was thus untypical in allowing burial *intra muros*. Only in late Hellenistic times was burial relegated to large cemeteries outside the city wall.

The ancient agora on Palaiokastro was bounded on the south-west by the recently excavated Roman stoa and on the west by the Choros, which K. identifies as the circular building south of the acropolis (others have interpreted it variously, e.g. as the Skias). The Persian stoa (which K. keeps distinct from the Roman stoa) may have formed the north-west side of the agora. The agora's position between the two most important *kômai* reflects, in K.'s view, the eighth-century B.C. reorganization of the *polis*.

The line of Pausanias's Aphetaïs road can now be reconstructed, from its starting point south of the acropolis via the sanctuary of Poseidon Tainarios (see below) to the Magoulitsa bridge. Its alignment, on K.'s plan, deviates significantly from that of the north–south streets of the modern town. K. is able to trace Pausanias's other roads with greater or lesser certainty. A regular street plan does not pre-date the first century B.C., but may partly reflect earlier arterial roads.

An early fourth-century votive throne inscribed to Alea, found at the north-east edge of the modern town though not *in situ*, gives the location of the sanctuary of Athena Alea, and by association Xenophon's bridge and the north-east gate. Inscribed figurines reveal that in the first century B.C. the cult of Artemis Kyparissia was brought from the main sanctuary of the Lakedaimonian league, the Hyperteleaton in south-eastern Laconia, and placed within an existing sanctuary of Artemis. Research in the Sparta land registry has shown that the late Hellenistic inscriptions of the Tainarioi were found north of the modern *plateía*. Thucydides' references to the 'curse of Tainaron' (1.128.1) and the death of Pausanias the regent (1.133–4) relate not to Cape Tainaron but to the urban sanctuary of Poseidon Tainarios, pushing its existence (archaeologically unconfirmed) back into the fifth century. K. also establishes locations for the Phoibaion and for the sanctuaries of Dionysos Kolonatas and Artemis Issoria.

This painstaking exercise is a masterly integration of historical, archaeological, and topographical analysis, and deserves a wide readership. It represents the most important contribution to the topography of Sparta since the British campaigns of the early twentieth century, and embodies real progress in our understanding of this still under-explored *polis*.

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TWO CYCLADIC ISLANDS

L. G. MENDONI, A. I. MAZARAKIS AINIAN (edd.): *Kea–Kythnos: History and Archaeology. Proceedings of an International Symposium, Kea–Kythnos, 22–25 June 1994*. (*Μελετήματα*, 27.) Pp. 766, ills. Athens: Research Centre for Greek and Roman Antiquity, National Hellenic Research Foundation/Paris: de Boccard, 1998. Paper, €116. ISBN: 960-7905-01-6.

This handsome volume in the *Meletimata* series contains fifty papers from the

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