

# A Selection Of Greek Historical Inscriptions To The End Of The Fifth Century B.C.

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how much more desirable is it that this should be done by Mycenaean scholars whose subject, as even the most dedicated decipherer must agree, is in a much more primitive and uncertain state?  
W. C. BRICE

*Die Kontroverse um Linear B.* By WERNER EKSCHEMITT. 8½ × 5½. Pp. 160 + 8 pls. + 16 figs. Munich: H. Beck, 1969. 22.5 DM.

The first part of this book consists of a concise and uncontroversial description of the earlier Cretan writing systems and of the Cypriote scripts, which is naturally more up-to-date than the corresponding section of *Documents* and will be widely appreciated. There follows an exposition of the present 'orthodox' view of Linear B and its decipherment, interrupted by various doubts and questions, all of which is scrupulously fair and accurate. Next comes a long section setting out the interpretations of selected texts and pointing to specific objections on grounds of method and sense, notably with regard to the famous 'tripod' tablet, PY Ta 641. These objections are so numerous and strong that the author rejects the argument that the decipherment is acceptable by virtue of its results alone. He therefore goes on to examine the process through which it was reached. Here on one important point he will certainly be challenged by the orthodox, for he maintains that the decipherment was based essentially on an application to Linear B of the general principles and particular sound-values of the Cypriote Syllabary—a procedure which he considers inadmissible on historical grounds. His other main contention is that the original statistical and structural 'grid' was severely tortured when sound-values were introduced; and this will be hard to disprove. There follow a few more specimen interpretations, against which criticism of heavier power is ranged, and a conclusion in which the author's own opinions are more explicit. In tone the book is not proselytizing, but it is polemical; and the author justifies his temerity in writing it by claiming, quite rightly, that he is by no means alone in his scepticism, and that if the decipherment, partial as it is, still contains many inconsistencies and improbabilities it is not his fault, and no harm can be done by pointing them out. There are copious references, an index to the tablets quoted, and eight plates. The whole book is meticulously produced and edited.  
W. C. BRICE

*A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.C.* By RUSSELL MEIGGS and DAVID LEWIS. 8½ × 5½. Pp. xix + 308. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1969. £3. 10s. (£3.50).

Of the books written to meet the needs of the Oxford Greats School the selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions down to the end of the fifth century has proved particularly valuable. Its appreciation by a wider audience has led to frequent re-editing; Hicks and Hill yielded place to Tod (1933; second edition 1947), and now Tod has been supplanted by Meiggs and Lewis (ML; its status as a standard work having been quickly recognized by incomprehensible abbreviation).

In its general layout, main aims, and, for the most part, in the choice of inscriptions, this book follows Tod closely. Occasionally, as the authors freely acknowledge, Tod's commentaries reappear virtually verbatim. But as a whole the differences in detail make this a genuinely new work. There are twenty-three inscriptions which are not in Tod; many texts have been transformed by new discoveries or further work; and, in the great majority of cases, the bibliographies and commentaries are entirely new. The preparation of such a work is a daunting task. The period is long and attracts a great deal of scholarly attention; many of the inscriptions, if not most, raise complicated questions of interpretation; and there are continual problems of presentation. Yet I am sure that it will be generally acknowledged that the editors have succeeded handsomely. On every page the books attest their mastery of the learned literature and their expertise in both

covering the period from B.C. through the end of the Peloponnesian War A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century B.C. This revised paperback edition of Meiggs and Lewis's standard selection (first A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century B.C. A selection of Greek historical inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.C., Volume 1. Front Cover. Russell Meiggs, David Malcolm Lewis. Clarendon P., A selection of Greek historical inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.C., Volume 1. Front Cover. Russell Meiggs, David Malcolm Lewis. Clarendon P., Jun J. A. O. Larsen, "A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century B.C. Russell Meiggs, David Lewis," *Classical Philology* 65, no. dotnutur.com: A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century B.C. (Clarendon Paperbacks) (Vol 1) (): Russell Meiggs, ., Greek, Modern (), English, Book edition: A selection of Greek historical inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.C. / edited by Russell Meiggs and. A selection of Greek historical inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.C.; edited by Russell Meiggs and David Lewis. Main Author: Meiggs, Russell. Related. A Selection of Greek historical inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.C.. Responsibility: edited by Russell Meiggs and David Lewis. Edition: Reprinted A selection of Greek historical inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B. C., revised edition, edited by RUSSELL MEIGGS and DAVID LEWIS. A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the fifth Century B C by Meiggs, Russell / Lewis, David (ed.). and a great selection of similar Used, New. M. N. Tod: A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the end of the fifth century B.c. Second Edition. Pp. xx+ Oxford: Clarendon Press, Cloth, 15s. ML. A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century BC R. Meiggs, D. M. Lewis eds. (revised ed. ), Oxford University Press. A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions: To the End of the Fifth Century B.C. dotnutur.com & dotnutur.com v. 1 by Russell Meiggs, , available at. A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the End of the Fifth Century BC by Russell Meiggs, , available at Book Depository with free.

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