

S. PARNICKI-PUDELKO, «BUDOWNICTWO W STAROŻYTNEJ GRECJI. CZ. 1. ŹRÓDŁA. DOTYCHCZASOWE BADANIA. BUDOWNICTWO GRECKIE W OKRESIE WCZESNOŚREDNIOWIECZNYM». «THE ARCHITECTURE IN ANCIENT GREECE. PART 1. SOURCES. RESEARCH SO FAR CARRIED OUT. GREEK ARCHITECTURE OF THE EARLY ARCHAIC PERIOD». PRACE ZAKŁADU ARCHEOLOGII ANTYCZNEJ INSTYTUTU HISTORII KULTURY MATERIALNEJ POLSKIEJ AKADEMII NAUK. ED. BY PROF. KAZIMIERZ MAJEWSKI AND TADEUSZ ZAWADZKI.

This work is the first part of a dissertation in which the author proposes to give an outline of the history of Greek architecture. The total design is meant to comprise Greek art of building from the beginning of the archaic period (i.e. the 12th century B.C.) till the end of ancient history. Aegean architecture, studied by another author, will here be passed over. This work consists of three principle chapters, the first of which examines historical sources giving some knowledge of Greek building. The sources are divided into classes according to categories, characteristics of which are shortly given.

The second chapter discusses research so far applied to the problem of Greek architecture, beginning with superficial notes and sketches left by explorers of the 15th and 16th century, and ending in regular scientific research made by professionals in the latest years.

The history of Greek architecture in the early archaic period, comprising the centuries from 12 to 8 B.C. will be the subject of chapter three. The author examines various kinds of early archaic buildings, such as habitations, temples, buildings of public use, graves and discusses general problems of settlement, connected directly with architecture. Considering all basic principles of history of material culture, an important part of which is the history of architecture, the author stresses very particularly problems concerning building technics and devotes a special part of his work to their study.

The examination of historical sources speaking of Greek architecture of the early archaic period, has led to a number of general and particular conclusions concerning this subject. The low level of construction in

those times is due to the very mean technical development of forms of building, closely connected, according to the author's opinion, with the primitive conditions of life in those times, seen from all angles: economic, social and politic which served as background to the population of ancient Greece. Many of its features prove that it was simply a continuation of architectural forms observed in Aegean buildings. This applies to general plans, elevation, structure and technical details. However serious perturbations undergone by the Greek community towards the end of the second thousand of years B.C., provide an explanation of the fact that we do not meet in Greece any early archaic buildings that would be able to face the edifices of Mycenaean rulers with regard to structure and equipment. The early archaic architecture in Greece is connected, according to the author's opinion, with ordinary Aegean building, whereas palace architecture of Aegean rulers, coming to an end with their fall, transmitted only very slight traces to Greek building.

The relics of early archaic edifices are too scarce to offer an adequate field for research and do not bring forward elements of Aegean residential architecture, we may, however, find some traces of common likings in the ornaments of walls, porches, doors and roof plains, where the repeated geometrical motives are generally characteristic for Greek art of that period.

We are not able to distinguish many types of buildings in the early archaic period. The author decides to establish three particular types, i.e. 1) oikos type, 2) megaron type, and 3) oval form. In the second group we may find, next to buildings of a completely rectangular form, also buildings with round back apses. All three types originate, no doubt, from Aegean architecture.

Buildings of the megaron type present exceptional forms of the so called prostylos, with supports in the porch standing in front of the antae; these are unknown amid the relics of Aegean architecture. The 8th century B.C. provides several proofs of their use.

All three types of building come foremost in dwellings, most of them are also known in sacral architecture which had many common features with habitation buildings of the same period. Sacral architecture was no doubt dependent of dwelling types, owing to the fact that temples had no tradition of their own concerning their development in the preceding period, although, according to the author, the sacral architecture of Minoan Crete is bound to have played a considerable part in the origins of Greek temples.

Local peculiarities, distinct in Aegean architecture, have also determined some differences in early archaic Greek architecture in various regions of the country. Having, however only a limited knowledge

concerning the architecture of various parts of Greece in that period we do not venture to describe special types of buildings according to Greek provinces, known from the early archaic period. Nevertheless those limited sources allow the establishing of some very general observations in this line. It may thus be certified that in the early archaic period we often meet on the Greek continent megaron forms that used to be observed before in the architecture of the Mycenaean period or even earlier.

At the same time on the isle of Crete where megaron forms were very rare in the Aegean period, the oikos simple rectangular form of building without porch is most frequent. It is there too that roof covering houses were laid completely flat in a manner reminding Minoan architecture, known from the early archaic period as the model house of Khaniale Tekke. We are not sure whether flat roofs were a general custom on the Greek continent in this early archaic period. It is rather to be supposed that they may have proved useful in the south parts of Greece, where rains were very scarce, although historic sources provide traces of slanting roofs only. Earthen roofs, flat or convex, are likely to have been the custom in all Greek provinces, with the exception perhaps of northern regions where rains were abundant.

The introduction of the peristase in the 7th century B.C. was as well as the mentioned prostylos form an important progress. These new forms, more frequently applied in the second half of the 7th century B.C. as well as the necessity of common use architecture, speak of the development and growing social needs of the Greek community, for whom years of success and general welfare have started at the time of the great colonization, towards the end of the early archaic period.

This social progress will soon be reflected in the appearance of some Greek settlements, which, being till now only small or big villages, begin in the second half of the 8th century B.C. to assume a character and aspect of towns, thanks to the development of their industry, trade, business and general change in their outline, especially where buildings are concerned.