

manuscript to the printer in May 1998, it is indeed surprising that H. disregards these new results and that he does not even refer to them as forthcoming. As it stands now, H.'s volume on the Athena sanctuary does not fulfil the desideratum of an up-to-date analysis of the sanctuary.

*Björn Forsén*

*Petra: Ez Zantur II. Ergebnisse der Schweizerisch-Liechtensteinischen Ausgrabungen.* Teil 1: STEPHAN G. SCHMID: *Die Feinkeramik der Nabatäer. Typologie, Chronologie und kulturhistorische Hintergründe.* Pp. i-xviii, 1-200; 437 b & w illustrations on 84 pp., 4 color plates, 11 plans, 2 microfiches in a folder. Teil 2: BERNHARD KOLB: *Die spätantiken Wohnbauten von ez Zantur in Petra und der Wohnhausbau in Palästina vom 4.-6. Jh. n. Chr.* Pp. xix-xxiii, 201-311; 138 b & w illustrations on 77 pp., 18 plans in a folder. Terra Archaeologica IV. Philipp von Zabern, Mainz am Rhein 2000. ISBN 3-8053-2712-9. EUR 92.50.

Petra was the capital city of the Nabataean kingdom, subsequently the principal city of the Roman province of Arabia and later, of the Byzantine province Palaestina Salutaris/Tertia. The political-economic significance of Petra as a major emporium in the international long-distance trade in incense and aromatics during the Hellenistic and Roman periods coupled with the spectacular natural setting of this ancient city has always fascinated scholar and tourist alike. Although urban Petra existed for almost 700 years, i.e., between ca 100 B.C. and A.D. 600, it is only in the past 40 years that the city has received the substantial scholarly interest it fully deserves, exemplified by the sequence of archaeological excavations followed by series of published books and articles.

The present volume is second in the series initiated by *Ez Zantur I* (A. Bignasca et al.; Terra Archaeologica 2; Philipp von Zabern, Mainz 1996) which presented the results of the Swiss-Liechtensteiner excavations at ez Zantur hill in Petra, which began in 1988 under the direction of R. Stucky, and continued in the later 1990s, with B. Kolb in charge. During the past 14 years, the University of Basel team uncovered well-preserved remains of three urban dwelling complexes (Zantur I, III, IV), variously dated to the period between the 1st century B.C. through the early 5th century A.D. These excavations produced a plethora of information concerning the domestic architecture and the material culture related to the Nabataean, Roman, and Byzantine periods at Petra.

The present volume, based on the results of these excavations consists in fact of two separate contributions. The first, by S. G. Schmid, is the most comprehensive presentation of the Nabataean Fine Ware so far, which will largely supersede previous attempts at the classification and dating of that pottery type. The contribution includes a detailed catalog of ceramic finds recovered from discrete strata at ez Zantur. The typology of both Painted and Unpainted Fine Ware includes the relative sequence of form and design matched with datable finds (coins, Eastern Terra Sigillata Ware) from ez Zantur and other Nabataean sites. The result is an impressively detailed chronological framework of the Nabataean Fine Ware, which includes four major phases of development, further subdivided into Phases 1, 2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 4. Phases 1-3c

cover the time-span between the 2nd half of the 2nd century B.C. and ca. A.D. 100, the latter date marked by the destruction of the Nabataean dwelling at ez Zantur. However, the painted ceramic finds associated with the structure rebuilt in the Late Roman period and destroyed by the earthquake of A.D. 363, and recognized as Phase 4 of the same development, strongly indicate that the Nabataean ceramic production did not end with the annexation of the Nabataean state by Rome in A.D. 106. This is definitely one of the most significant results of this valuable analysis.

Part 2 of the volume is a superb presentation by B. Kolb of the Late Roman (Spätantike) dwellings at ez Zantur (EZ I). That domestic complex was built in the early 4th century A.D. from the ruins of the Nabataean house, suffered considerable damage during the earthquake of A.D. 363, and was finally abandoned in the early 5th century. Kolb presents a detailed description of the architecture and layout of the complex, including the analysis of the building techniques and the functioning of the water supply system. However, his ultimate goal goes well beyond the description. Kolb discusses the complex in a synchronic perspective of the political and economic factors and constraints which affected Palaestina Salutaris/Tertia, and Petra in particular. He skillfully utilizes the descriptions of dwellings, as preserved in the slightly later literary sources, such as the Nessana Papyri and the recently discovered Petra Papyri. On the other hand, Kolb examines ez Zantur I complex through the evolutionary perspective of the development of domestic architecture, as documented by archaeological data in Palestine from the Hellenistic through Late Byzantine periods. His overall conclusion, that the Late Roman housing at ez Zantur, Petra, should be considered as fitting well within the long-standing tradition of the cultural and economic dwelling traditions of southern Palestine, is well-founded and fully documented.

The volume is handsomely produced and profusely illustrated with photos, graphs, statistics and tables. Undoubtedly, these milestone contributions to the ceramic and architectural studies will for long remain a standard reference not only for students of Nabataean pottery and domestic structures in Petra but surely for everyone involved in studies on the history and archaeology of the Classical and Byzantine Near East. Schmid and Kolb deserve the highest praise and appreciation for their efforts.

*Zbigniew T. Fiema*

MICHAELA FUCHS: *In hoc etiam genere Graeciae nihil cedamus. Studien zur Romanisierung der späthellenistischen Kunst im 1. Jh. v. Chr.* Philipp von Zabern, Mainz am Rhein 1999. ISBN 3-8053-2519-3. x, 98 pp., 2 figs., 67 pls. EUR 50.11 ca.

Though related to the writing of history (Cic. *leg.* 1, 5, 13), the title of the book aptly characterizes the artistic climate of the Late Republic as well. In her somewhat elaborated version of a Berlin dissertation from 1995/96, Fuchs has set out to study the meaning and role of sculpture in Roman society through a period of considerable revival of both visual and other arts. The way the Romans received and perceived Greek art is discussed along with Late Hellenistic theories on art, and together with the activity of Pasiteles, the *artifex doctus* of the first century B.C. This man, who managed a workshop of sculpture in Rome around the mid-first century B.C., was partly responsible for the