

## OBITUARIES

PROFESSOR R. MARTIN HARRISON, d. 9 September 1992

During the summer of 1954 a tall and rather Byronic-looking young man turned up at the British School at Athens excavation at Emporio on Chios. He was Martin Harrison, filling in time between Sherborne and Oxford by painting landscapes of the island. A year later he joined Michael Gough's team at Alahan; his particular task there was to clear and record the mosaic floor of Al Oda, the rock-cut monastery church in the cliffs below the main site, a pleasant enough job until the thick layer of dry goat-dung covering the floor caught fire and had to be shovelled out, still pouring out acrid smoke, over the precipice.

In 1959, after reading Greats at Lincoln College, he was Scholar of the Institute and married Elizabeth Browne. Their honeymoon was spent, energetically and very economically, with a tent and a donkey on a tour of Lycia to visit early churches and monasteries, which included the important and previously unrecorded Karabel. After a winter in Italy, they were back in Lycia in 1960, going on from there to Cyrenaica, where Martin took over for a year Richard Goodchild's job as Controller of Antiquities. Next came a year in America, lecturing at Bryn Mawr, and a two-year studentship at his own college.

In 1964 he took up his first long-term post as Lecturer at Newcastle University and subsequently as Professor, heading a new and independent Department of Archaeology offering a full honours degree course.

A number of his students there have gone on to build reputations for themselves in the Roman and Byzantine field.

1964 was also the first year of the excavation, at Saraçhane in the centre of Istanbul, of the church of St Polyeuctus, which he directed, jointly with Nezih Fıratlı, on behalf of Dumbarton Oaks and of the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. This church, one of the largest in the city, was built in the 520s by Anicia Juliana, a lady of imperial descent and immense wealth, and was decorated with marble sculpture of unusual elaboration and distinctive style. Six campaigns of meticulous excavation and recording were followed by years of work on the final report (1986), which, together with a more popular and personal account *A Temple for Byzantium* (1989), will form the main basis of his reputation in the future.

His early interest in Lycia continued, with the excavation of churches at Xanthos and a growing preoccupation with the abandonment of late Roman cities and their replacement by smaller rural settlements.

In 1985 he succeeded Sheppard Frere as Professor of the Archaeology of the Roman Empire at Oxford, only to suffer a stroke a few months later. With characteristic courage and optimism and with the support of his family and former students, he took great trouble to overcome the difficulties resulting from this, and insisted on continuing his field-work with a survey in 1987 of the site of Amorium, which as one of the main strong-points of the inner line of Byzantine defence against the Arabs, was certain to have been continuously occupied at any rate until the ninth century. Five campaigns of excavation have yielded a mass of useful data, and he had completed the fifth, apparently in good health, only a fortnight before his death. It is much to be hoped that the excavation will be continued by others.

With much work still to finish and publish, he was glad to be relieved of his teaching and administrative responsibilities in 1991, while remaining a Research Professor and Fellow of All Souls.

Although for many years he was not a very frequent visitor to the Institute in Ankara—most of his work took him to western Turkey—and at one moment he

declined the office of Honorary Secretary, he remained a member of the Council with only minimal breaks from 1967 to 1992 and kept up a keen interest in its progress.

His wife Elizabeth continued to be very much involved in fieldwork and in entertaining a vast number of friends and colleagues of many nationalities. Their children, a son and three daughters, grew up accustomed to being packed into a small car each summer and driven across Europe to some Turkish destination; indeed two of them worked full-time at Amorium this summer.

Martin's death at the early age of 57 will be mourned by his colleagues and former students and by all who admired his energy and confidence, his courage in the face of difficulties, his loyalty to his old friends and readiness to make new ones, his enjoyment of life and archaeology and his willingness to share that enjoyment with others.

M.H.B

MARY GOUGH, d. 18 January 1992

A full and varied life led Mary Gough, or Mary Ormsby as she then was, from being one of the very first British women to qualify as a naval architect, through driving ambulances and directing the routes of convoys in the North Atlantic during the Second World War, to a further career working in Turkey with her husband, whom she married in 1946, the Institute's former Director Michael Gough. Those of us who are old enough vividly remember those years, 1961–68, when visitors to the Institute were greeted by the welcoming presence of the Goughs.

It was in the spring of 1949 that Michael and Mary set off for Turkey, the first of many journeys to a country which was to become the main interest of Mary's life. She always claimed a secondary role, as a draughtsman rather than as an archaeologist: perhaps the most significant of her published drawings is *A Classical Map of Asia Minor*, by William Calder and George Bean, produced by the Institute in 1958. But she established herself as a writer with the publication, in 1954, of *The Plain and Rough Places*, a book describing the Goughs' work in Cilicia. For over twenty years they carried on research together, culminating in the excavations at Alahan, an important Early Byzantine pilgrimage site in the Isaurian Taurus. This was a major field project of the Institute throughout Michael Gough's directorship. After her husband's untimely death in 1973, Mary organised the study of the finds from Alahan and edited the final report *Alahan, an Early Christian Monastery in Southern Turkey* (1985). This is the main published study of a monument which serves as a vital link in understanding the complicated processes of transition from Roman to Byzantine architecture.

In recent years Mary returned to live in her native Devonshire, but continued to play a valuable role on Council and on selection committees. We shall greatly miss her practical advice.

S.J.H., O.R.G.