
OBITUARY



Anna Sadurska
1921-2004

Professor Anna Sadurska, Classical philologist and archaeologist, passed away this year. She was a great human being, a good and wise person. Her contributions to studies on philology, ancient art, Classical archaeology, epigraphy and history are irrefutable. She also played “mother” to a few generations of students of Mediterranean and Classical archaeology, educating several scholars, now professors, who are making research in scientific institutions around the world.

While still in her first job at the Ancient Art Department of the National Museum in Warsaw (1949-1951), she initiated research and wrote the first scholarly studies on the impact of ancient art and Antiquity on Polish culture. Yet, if she is quoted in archaeological bibliographies, it is not because of these works in particular, or the first university textbook on Roman archaeology that she published in Poland, or even iconographic studies for which she was after all well known in the scholarly community. It is because for many years she was an active field archaeologist. First as a student of Professor Kazimierz Michałowski and then his closest associate at Warsaw University (where she

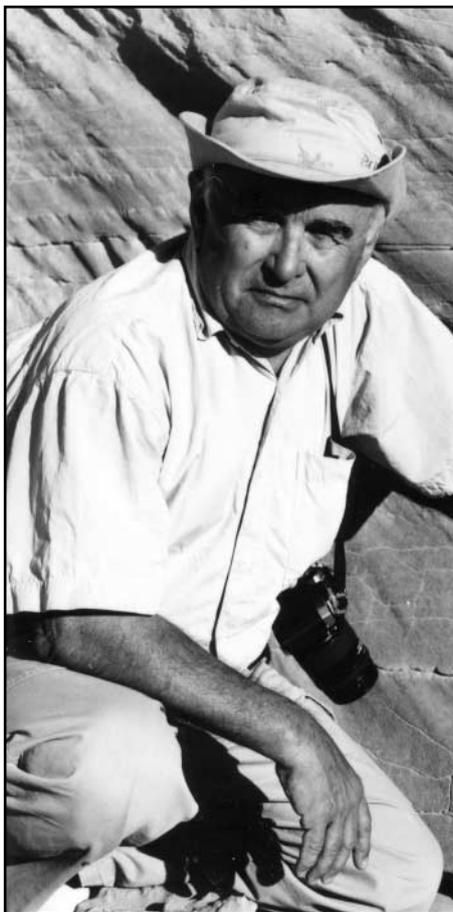
worked since 1951, becoming a Full Professor in 1980), she participated in the first Polish excavations which the Professor managed to organize after World War II in Mirmeki in the Crimea. She then assisted Prof. Michałowski in the excavations at Tell Atrib in Egypt and in Palmyra in Syria, where she even served as deputy director of the expedition. Hers was the famous discovery of the Tomb of Alaine and she also wrote on Palmyrene sculpture, which study received the international “Premio europeo di archeologia” award in Venice in 1994.

She wrote a number of books and nearly two hundred scholarly dissertations, working diligently at the same time to popularize Antiquity. Her books for young people and for a humanistic-inclined readership, as well as her frequent radio and television appearances and numerous newspaper articles, had education as their primary objective. Students crowded her lectures which she gave at the Chair of Mediterranean Archaeology of Warsaw University (which she headed after Michałowski's retirement in 1971) and at the Institute of Art History of Warsaw University, the Academy of Catholic Theology in Warsaw, the University of Łódź and as a visiting professor at many foreign academic institutions. She was well known abroad - member of Deutsches Archaeologisches Institut, member and president of many international bodies and scholarly conferences, member of scientific committees, editor of publications and publishing series, reviewer of hundreds of scholarly dissertations and publications. For years, she sat and later presided on the Committee of Studies on Ancient Culture of the Polish Academy of Sciences and was an active member of the Polish Philological Society.

Professor Anna Sadurska was invited to all the major archaeological congresses and to be a member of various scholarly bodies, by archaeological institutes and universities. Her friends, and frequently guests at the Institute in Warsaw, included practically all the luminaries of Classical archaeology of the second half of the 20th century. At a time when such contacts were at a premium behind the Iron Curtain, she was ever ready to share them, lending up-to-date publications from her private collection and promoting participation of younger scholars in scholarships and scientific exchange programs. Foremost, she was never above sharing her deep knowledge and specific talents with colleagues and students alike. For her students she had that extra measure of understanding, always ready to assist not only in professional matters - dissertations, books, scholarships etc. - but also, if asked, in the more or less mundane problems, personal and financial, of everyday life.

Professor Anna Sadurska is no longer with us. We are discovering the depth of our loss only now that she is gone.

Tomasz Mikocki



Lech Krzyżaniak
1940-2004

Lech Krzyżaniak, a native of the Wielkopolska region of Poland, was born in 1940. By 1962 he had graduated from the Department of Archaeology of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. He joined the staff of the Archaeological Museum in Poznań already in 1960 and climbed the ranks all the way from museum trainee to head of the institution, which he went on to direct for the past 22 years. His long professional experience coupled with talent and unquenchable enthusiasm gave rise to memorable achievements, not the least of which was putting the institution he was head of at the top of archaeological museum ranking lists.

Balancing his involvement in museum affairs was his love of prehistoric archaeology, to which he remained faithful all his life. He started out with field surveys and research devoted to the prehistoric cultures of the Wielkopolska region, but already in 1966, his lifelong interest in the prehistory of Africa came to the fore. Based on a habilitation discourse and many scholarly studies on this subject, he was awarded title of Associate Professor at Warsaw University.

From the beginning of his interest in Africa, Lech Krzyżaniak was closely associated with the Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology of Warsaw University. Warmly welcomed by Professor Kazimierz Michałowski, the founder of the Center, Krzyżaniak with his enthusiasm and undoubted skills soon became an important, respected and well-liked member of the team popularly known among the Polish as the “Archaeological Station in Cairo”. His introduction to African archaeology was through participation in Polish excavations in Alexandria, Old Dongola and Tell Atrib. By the mid-1970s, he had his own dig – the Neolithic site of Kadero in Sudan; the excavations there were continued over the years, the most recent season taking place in December of 2003. His other field of interest was the prehistoric rock art of Africa. He started fieldwork in 1981 in the Tassili Massif in Algeria and went on to work in Dakle Oasis in the Western Desert of Egypt.

Krzyżaniak was frequently invited to cooperate with various foreign expeditions. Suffice it to mention his work on the Predynastic and Early Dynastic burial ground at Minshat Abu Omar in the Eastern Delta, the Meroitic site of Nagaa in Central Sudan, the settlement from the Old Kingdom period at Kom El Hisn in the Western Delta.

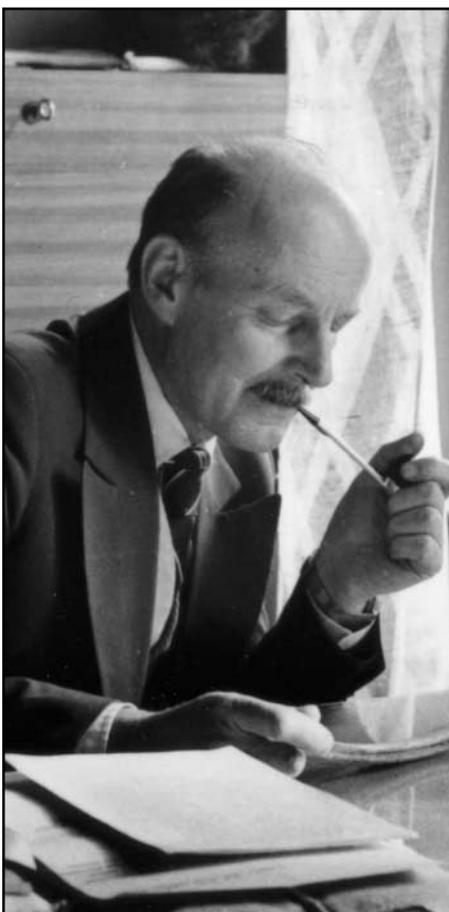
Those participating in the well-known Dymaczewo Conferences dedicated to the prehistory of Northeastern Africa will remember Krzyżaniak not only as president of the Organizing Committee, but foremost as the ‘spiritus movens’ of all seven of the international meetings held so far.

As Director of the Archaeological Museum in Poznań, he put his whole soul in a dedicated popularization effort that resulted in many attractive exhibitions, conferences devoted to prehistory and publications on related topics. It is largely his doing that the general public in Poznań, but not exclusively, has become deeply interested not only in the prehistory of the region, but also in the prehistory and early history of Northeastern Africa, the cradle of the great civilizations of Antiquity in this part of the world.

Numerous publications, lively participation in international scholarly conferences, supervision of master and doctoral theses, lectures in Poland and abroad put Lech Krzyżaniak among the top scholars in the field of African prehistoric archaeology. His involvement in museum work and the organization of scientific research led to his membership in many Polish and international organizations and research associations. He received many distinctions and awards, including the Order of the White and Blue Nile, the highest distinction conferred on foreigners by the Government of Sudan.

Professor Lech Krzyżaniak passed away suddenly. He passed away much too soon. His death is a great loss to archaeology. It has been felt deeply by prehistorians at large, many of whom were his friends and colleagues, as well as by his students. The rift he has left in our memory will not be mended.

Michał Kobusiewicz



M. Dąbski

Waldemar Chmielewski
1929-2004

Prehistorian and geologist Professor Waldemar Chmielewski passed away in July 2004, at the age of 75. He was a prominent explorer of Paleolithic cave and open sites in central and southern Poland and a specialist on the Paleolithic in Africa (Egypt and Sudan) and Asia (India and Iraq). Teacher of many of today's specialists, author of important publications, a man active in the academia with a sense of duty to community life.

Student of Polish prehistorians Konrad Jazdżewski and Jan Dylík, he graduated from the University of Łódź in 1951. Over the next decade, he participated in several important Paleolithic excavations in Poland. In 1959, he started lecturing at Warsaw University and in 1963 took over the Paleolithic Section of what is today the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology of the Polish Academy of Sciences. As head of this section, he was responsible for organizing Paleolithic seminars in Poland (periodically until 1969) and, generally, for creating an inspiring climate for the development of Paleolithic studies at home. In those years, with his studies in England and his visit to

OBITUARY

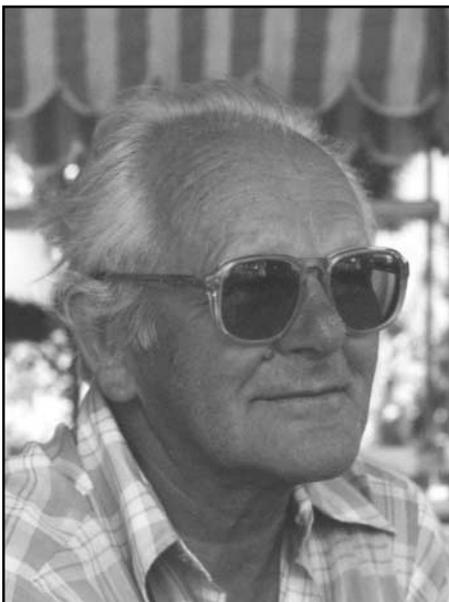
China, the Professor was a leading specialist in his field, combining the best of traditional prehistory (French typological school) with a behavioral and environmental approach.

In 1969 Chmielewski moved to Warsaw University, first as head of the Paleolithic department, then Director of the Institute of Archaeology and long-time Dean of the Faculty of History. He retired in 1999.

In the 1980s, Professor Chmielewski participated in a number of expeditions organized by the Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology of Warsaw University, as well as in international projects in the Sudan. Among these was the Polish-American Combined Prehistoric Expedition and the Blue Nile Survey. He also carried out some geomorphological studies for the archaeological expedition working at Tell Atrib and participated in excavations and surveying work carried out in Iraq.

More importantly for the Polish Center of Archaeology, he presided over the Academic Board of our institution in the years immediately following the death of Professor Kazimierz Michałowski in 1981, using his political and diplomatic talents to steer the institution through the troubled times of the early 1980s in Poland. For this, he will always be gratefully remembered.

Stefan K. Kozłowski



Stefan Miszczak
1926 - 2004

Member of expeditions to Mirmeki in the Crimea (1958) and to Deir el-Bahari in Egypt between 1985 and 2000.

A graduate of the State Plastic Arts Secondary School in Warsaw immediately after the war (1946-1948), he started off working for a Warsaw designing office as an artist-modeler. In late 1956, he took up work for the Ancient Art Conservation Lab at the National Museum in Warsaw where he made up the team working on several big conservation projects: the wall paintings from Faras, under the supervision of Halina Jędrzejewska and Józef Gazy, and the stone objects from the same site, supervised by Zdzisław Bąkowski. He also became an expert at taking casts and making copies of ancient objects. In the last few years before retirement in 1991, he achieved excellent results in the consolidation and restoration of Egyptian anthropoid coffins. This task he continued for several years after retiring, working under the supervision of conservator Jerzy Kozłowski.

Testifying to his work at the museum are many restored objects of ancient art, the most important of which is perhaps the fine terracotta statuette of Cybele discovered at Mirmeki in the 1950s. He actively participated in preparations for many important exhibitions presented in Warsaw as well as outside the capital. As an experienced model-maker, he prepared architectural models of the wine press at Mirmeki, the theater at Alexandria, the cathedral at Faras. Twice he made a model of the temple complex of Queen Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari (scale 1:200): the first was a gift to the Egyptian Antiquities Organization, the second was shown at the 1997 exhibition in Warsaw devoted to the "Mysterious Queen Hatshepsut".

He was a member of the Polish-Egyptian Conservation Mission working in the Temple of Tutmosis III at Deir el-Bahari. Together with architect Rafał Czerner he consolidated and restored in situ stone elements from the ruined temple: pavements, bases, columns, surviving lower parts of walls, steps leading to the great granite portal and the doorjambs of the shattered portal itself. This architecture had suffered from the action of the sun, changes of temperature and humidity. Thanks to Stefan Miszczak's enormous effort, the ruins of the temple have been protected from further degradation. This crowned a life of professional achievement for a quiet and modest man who always placed his conservation work above everything else.

Jadwiga Lipińska