

# Sarcophagi in the necropoleis of Andriake, near Myra (Lycia)

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In April 1997, a brief survey was conducted at Andriake, the harbour of Myra (Lycia), with the purpose of cataloguing the visible sarcophagi. Due to the short duration of the survey, the results do not claim to be comprehensive. This report is intended as a preliminary notice.

The foundation-date of Andriake is not known. In the 4th c. B.C., Pseudo-Scylax wrote: 'there is no harbour between Phellos and Limyra', but in the 3rd c. B.C. it is mentioned as a harbour.<sup>1</sup> After the death of Alexander, Lycia came under the control of the Ptolemies. In 197 Antiochus III of Syria captured Lycia, and Livy (37.15.6) reports that he took Phaselis, Limyra, Andriake, Patara, and Xanthos.<sup>2</sup> The only visible Hellenistic remains at Andriake consist of a watchtower.<sup>3</sup> In 42 B.C. Brutus sent Lentulus Spinther to collect revenues from Lycia. As Myra refused to pay, Lentulus had to force his way into the harbour at Andriake by breaking the harbour's chain.<sup>4</sup> In the 1st c. A.D., Germanicus and Agrippina visited Myra and Andriake, and were honoured with statues erected in Andriake.<sup>5</sup> In A.D. 60 St. Paul changed ships at Myra or possibly Andriake.<sup>6</sup> Trajan visited in the early 2nd c. and decided to enlarge the port facilities, which were completed by Hadrian who also visited. Some of the main buildings (e.g., the granary) have been dated to this general period. The site continued to be important in late antiquity as grain shops from Egypt to Constantinople stopped off.<sup>7</sup>

There are three main necropoleis at Andriake (fig. 1). The S and N necropoleis lie on either side of the harbour, while the upper necropolis is on the W side of the site, near the Hellenistic watchtower. Although we have not located any tombs earlier than the Roman period, the site attests to the survival of local burial customs intermingled with others. The sarcophagi of Andriake may be broadly divided into rock-cut and freestanding containers or chests. Most of the sarcophagi are of the Lycian type, which is quite distinctive and generally consists of three parts: a base which was often used as a second grave-chamber (*ὑποσόπιον*) intended for a slave or dependents, the container for the owner of the tomb, and a Lycian lid.<sup>8</sup> In the Roman period, Lycian sarcophagi become smaller and simpler.

## The upper necropolis

In the upper necropolis, the sarcophagi are carved from the natural limestone rock. Some are of the *ὑποσόπιον* (flat tomb) type, sunk into the rock face beneath the open sky. The lids are typical Lycian examples, with low carving, and the chests are higher than the lids. Only one sarcophagus has relief carving: it has bull and lion heads projecting on the long sides of the lid, while on the short end is a male bust, possibly the owner of the tomb. All the other lids have a cube-like projecting part on the long sides. The short sides of the lids are usually separated by a lattice framework imitating wooden construction. But some of the lids are not separa-

- 1 M. Zimmermann, *Untersuchungen zur historischen Landeskunde Zentrallykiens* (Bonn 1992) 220 n.170.
- 2 The mention of Andriake and not Myra may indicate that by the start of the 2nd c. B.C. Andriake had gained some importance.
- 3 The watchtower is quite similar to one at Phaselis: see J. Schafer (ed.), *Phaselis. Beiträge zur Topographie und Geschichte der Stadt und ihrer Hafen* (IstMitt Beiheft 24, 1981) 65 ff.
- 4 App., BC 4.82.
- 5 J. Inan and E. Rosenbaum, *Roman and Early Byzantine portrait sculpture in Asia Minor* (London 1966) 45 no. 6. The other imperial statue-bases are of Augustus (ibid. 44 no. 14), Marcus Vipsanius Agrippa (44 no. 2), Tiberus (45 no. 22), and Drusus Major (45 no. 3). See further IGRRP III, 715-17, 719-21.
- 6 Acts 27.5. See R. Wallace and W. Williams, *The three worlds of Paul of Tarsus* (London 1998) 206.
- 7 Zimmermann (supra n.1) 222.
- 8 There have been various discussions on the origins of this type of lid; some think that wooden Lycian house construction influenced the lids, while others see influence from their seafaring tradition. Cf. K. Kjeldsen and J. Zahle, "Lykische Gräber: Ein vorläufiger Bericht," *AA* 1975, 335.