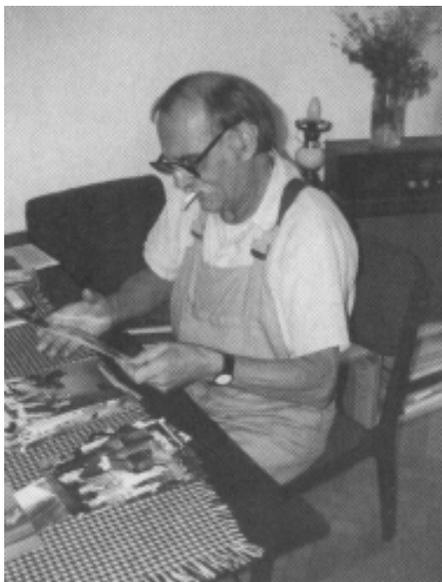


## **Antoni Ostrasz** **(1929-1996)**

Antoni Ostrasz passed away suddenly on October 9, 1996, in Amman. He had spent the last fourteen years of his life at Jerash in Jordan, working for the Department of Antiquities. Despite the long absence, he is fondly remembered by his many friends and colleagues in Poland, most of whom



have not had the opportunity to see him in recent years. Indeed, his personal warmth, his cheerfulness in nearly every circumstance, as well as his professional excellence and integrity made it difficult not to like him, let alone forget.

Antoni graduated from the Warsaw University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture, in 1954. For six years he worked as an assistant there, teaching history of architecture. In 1960 he left for Egypt to join our Centre's excavations at Tell Atrib. Ever since, archaeology was his element, and the Near East his second country.

He served as chief architect on the famous site of Faras from 1961 to 1964, and at the same time and later worked at Dongola, Alexandria, Palmyra and Paphos. I had the privilege to observe him on the job in those years in Palmyra and

Alexandria, and admired his sure hand and his deep understanding of ancient architecture, while enjoying every minute of his company.

Antoni returned to Warsaw in 1967 and took the post of lecturer at Warsaw University's Institute of Developing Countries. He obtained his PhD in 1976, submitting a study on the urban development of ancient Palmyra. Before that, he had already left his mark on the site itself: the Tetracylon, now very conspicuous in the midst of the ruins, has been restored after a design, which he prepared for the Directorate General of Antiquities of Syria.

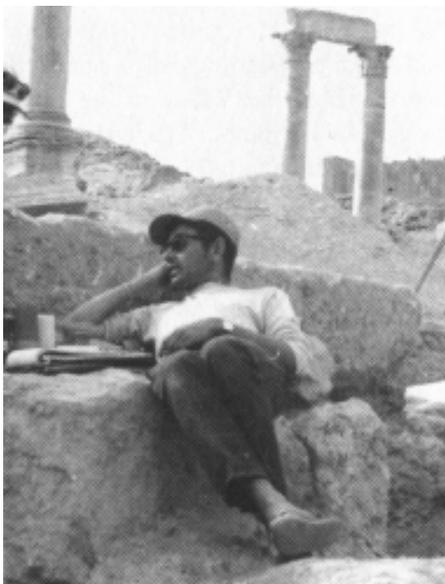
When I was asked to recruit a team to work on the Jerash International Project, I went straight to Antoni and asked him to join us. He agreed immediately and we went there together in 1982. Little did he know that Jerash would become his home for the rest of his life. There he met and married Ina Kehrberg, who had joined the Project with the Australian mission. Their son, Mark, is now 12. With his characteristic enthusiasm and efficiency, Antoni spent the last few years restoring the Jerash hippodrome. It was not given to him to complete this tremendous task, but he left a manuscript of a book on the monument that his wife will prepare for publication.

A good friend is gone.

Michał Gawlikowski

## **Marek Marciniak (1937-1996)**

Marek Marciniak passed away on October 11, 1996. He was one of the most prominent Polish egyptologists and member of many scholarly undertakings organized by the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology. A student of Tadeusz Andrzejewski and Jaroslav Černý, Marciniak was for many years a close associate of Profes-



sor Kazimierz Michałowski, directing on his behalf the Mediterranean Archaeology Department of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was part, practically from the very beginning, of everything that Polish archaeologists in the Mediterranean were involved in after World War II. He participated in excavations in Alexandria and Tell Atrib in Egypt and at Palmyra in Syria. During the international campaign to save the monuments of Nubia, he headed an independent study mission to Dabod, but primarily he helped uncover the famous Faras cathedral with its splendid wall paintings.

A turning point in his scholarly career came with his work in the mission to Deir el-Bahari, which resulted in an important publication of the Hieratic inscriptions from the temple of Tuthmosis III.

In 1981-1984 Marciniak serves as Scientific Secretary of the Polish Centre in Cairo. At the same time he devoted himself to studying, archaeologically and epigraphically, the tomb of Ramesses III in the Valley of the Kings, a project begun but never finished by his mentor, Tadeusz Andrzejewski. He was planning an extensive publication, but the size of the project and his quest for perfection did not allow him to complete the work.

Marek Marciniak will remain in our memory as an excellent scholar, a sensitive man and a charming colleague.

Karol Myśliwiec