GREEK COLONISATION OF THE NORTHERN AEGEAN*

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To the memory of my teacher George Bakalakis, the pioneer Researcher of Aegean Thrace

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1 For Euboean colonisation, see the relevant articles in Bats and d’Agostino 1998; Tsetsikladze and De Angelis 1994; Atti Taranto 18 (1978); AION ArchStAnt n.s. 1 (1994) (= B. d’Agostino and D. Ridgway [eds.], AIOIKIA. Scritti in onore di Giorgio Buchner [Naples]); Kopcke and Tokumaru 1992; Contribution 1975; Nouvelle Contribution 1981; Hägg 1983, including an extensive bibliography, with the literature on the excavations on Euboea itself (Lefkandi, Eretria, Cumae, Cyme, Chalcis, etc.) and elsewhere (for example Pithekoussai). See also Crielaard 1996; Ridgway 1992; Bakhuizen 1976; Parker 1997; Miller 1997.

Early Euboean Colonisation of Chalcidice

There can be no doubt that one area of Classical Archaeology which has been enriched with fresh knowledge during the latter half of the last century is that concerned with ancient Greek colonisation. Among other things, the leading rôle of the Euboeans in it has been confirmed, a rôle attested by ancient written sources, but, for various reasons, disputed by certain scholars. One of the main grounds for doubt had been the absence from the areas occupied by the Greeks in the first three centuries of the 1st millennium B.C. of excavational data relating to Euboea. But since the mid-20th century, numerous excavations in many parts of the Mediterranean, as also on Euboea itself, have not only confirmed the Euboeans’ important rôle in the early historical period, but also given us a great deal of direct or indirect additional information about their activities.
Fig. 1. Map illustrating Greek colonisation of the northern Aegean (modern place-names *in italics*).