



Summary of Archaeological Work in Turkey in 1955

Rodney Young; Louis Robert; Tahsin #zgüç; Department of Antiquities

Anatolian Studies, Vol. 6, Special Number in Honour and in Memory of Professor John Garstang.
(1956), pp. 17-26.

Stable URL:

<http://links.jstor.org/sici?sici=0066-1546%281956%296%3C17%3ASOAWIT%3E2.0.CO%3B2-S>

Anatolian Studies is currently published by British Institute at Ankara.

Your use of the JSTOR archive indicates your acceptance of JSTOR's Terms and Conditions of Use, available at <http://www.jstor.org/about/terms.html>. JSTOR's Terms and Conditions of Use provides, in part, that unless you have obtained prior permission, you may not download an entire issue of a journal or multiple copies of articles, and you may use content in the JSTOR archive only for your personal, non-commercial use.

Please contact the publisher regarding any further use of this work. Publisher contact information may be obtained at <http://www.jstor.org/journals/biaa.html>.

Each copy of any part of a JSTOR transmission must contain the same copyright notice that appears on the screen or printed page of such transmission.

JSTOR is an independent not-for-profit organization dedicated to and preserving a digital archive of scholarly journals. For more information regarding JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN TURKEY IN 1955

*GORDION*¹

EXCAVATION WAS BEGUN on 25th March and continued until 27th July. Work was concentrated in the area to the west and north-west of the city gate of Persian times, and in a small trench to the south-west first opened in 1952.

As in previous years two main levels of habitation of Hellenistic times were found. In general, evidence gathered in previous years that most of the site had been abandoned around 200 B.C. (perhaps in 189) was confirmed, but this year it was noted that as we progress southward and westward (toward the south-west rim of the mound which was inhabited into Roman Imperial times) surface finds of Roman date, especially of glass, become more frequent. No large buildings of the Hellenistic period have been found. The remains are of private houses, somewhat scattered and of rural type ; farmsteads or the like. Their equipment is suitable to a small agricultural community. The community was not unprosperous ; such finds as a moulded glass bowl of double thickness with designs of gold leaf between the layers, and a gold ring with a representation of Cybele seated in a naiskos on the bezel, suggest a certain amount of wealth.

Beneath the deposits of Hellenistic times lay the Persian city, of which there were two building periods. The later of these, perhaps to be dated around 400 B.C., seems to have been the result of some catastrophe, perhaps an earthquake (there is no probability at this time of a destruction in the course of war ; Agesilaos in 394 did not capture the city). The method of building was the same in both periods, and evidently typical of the local architects, perhaps traditional to them from Phrygian times. Walls were bedded on deep foundations of rubble, with series of parallel wooden beams set at a right-angle to the direction of the wall in the surface of the rubble. The masonry of the walls proper was laid on these wooden beams, whose ends, projecting to considerable distance beyond the wall faces at either side, may have served to spread the weight of the walls. The walls themselves were of heavy blocks of limestone and basalt, roughly squared and laid in two parallel faces filled between by rubble ; the usual thickness nearly two metres. Probably the superstructure was of *kerpiç* laid on these wide stone socles. Structures of such massive construction and on a large scale can only have been public buildings ; unfortunately no deposits were found to give evidence for their purpose or use. Nor was much material available for their dating. The earlier Persian city was a new town evidently planned on a large scale and built with great expenditure of labour. A layer of clay 2.50 to 4 m. thick was laid over the whole site (that is, it occurs at every point where we have tested) giving a new, clean, and higher site for the construction of the new city. The purpose of this may have been twofold : to give a firmer bedding for the heavy buildings planned, and to make more defensible what was probably intended to be an important military post at a strategic point on the route from the coast up to the plateau. The vast amount of clay needed for this operation was probably brought from the flat river plain near by. The pottery from the clay is almost entirely Hittite, with a slight mixture of coarse grey Phrygian ; but this pottery was already in the clay before it was brought from elsewhere and

¹ Condensed from information kindly supplied by Prof. Rodney Young.

deposited on the mound. A few rare sherds suggest the time of deposit in the late 6th century. The relation between rubble foundations and clay often shows that both were put in as parts of the same operation and therefore contemporary, and in general the buildings in their earlier phase are thus to be dated in the latter part of the 6th century.

The main gate to the city of Persian times was excavated in 1951 and has already been described. In 1953 it was discovered that the gate to the Phrygian city lay directly beneath it, and the Phrygian gate was partially cleared. Since it became evident at that time that the Phrygian gate was not only historically more interesting, but also a more monumental and better preserved building than the Persian, it was decided in 1955 to clear it entirely (except the south court) and in the process more information was garnered about the Persian gate and fortification. The Persians, having decided to raise the level of the site, started by filling in the Phrygian gate building with stone and rubble to the height required for their own building; no doubt they also brought down the level of any Phrygian walls standing higher than that level by taking down the topmost courses and using the stones as filling. The circuit of the Persian city wall lay well outside that of the earlier fortification, and the wall had therefore to be bedded on an extensive filling of rubble laid to great depth (9 m. and more) over the levels outside the Phrygian city walls. This rubble bedding was held back by a solid retaining wall of stepped masonry. The pressure against the back of the retaining wall by the rubble was relieved by a convex bank of clay just within its line, the solid mass of clay itself taking much of the thrust of the rubble. The rubble itself was interlaid with large logs of cedar or juniper wood placed at right-angles to the direction of the wall to serve as binders in the loose rubble and counteract any tendency to slide downward. Some of these logs were preserved to a length of 3.50 m. or more, and up to 60 cm. in diameter. They suggest that a profusion of wood was available near by, and their abundance, together with the frequent occurrence of bones of *cervus elaphus*, suggests that in ancient times the hills surrounding the site were still well forested.

As the retaining wall runs without interruption across the line of the opening and there was no trace of a breach or gap, or of a ramp going over it, it became evident that the approach to the Persian gate was not a direct one from the plain, but must have been along a terrace at the top of the retaining wall and in front of the city wall proper, with a right-angle turn into the opening. Although everything has now slid downward at this sloping edge of the mound, traces were found here and there of the floor of this terrace—a thick white floor of crushed stone. No doubt the terrace was itself approached by a ramp or ramps to the north and/or south. The sloping ramp or stairway along the outer face of a wall may be paralleled of course in the Apadana at Persepolis.

Inside the Persian gate lay, as was to be expected, a large open area. But this area was itself surrounded by walls which divided it off from the rest of the city, forming a sort of inner court containing a number of public buildings. The western end of the enclosure walls has not yet been found; but doubtless a gap was left there for traffic from the inner court into the town. Enclosed within these walls were six buildings, three to the south and three to the north of a wide thoroughfare from the city gate through the inner court into the town. To the south of the thoroughfare lay Buildings C and G, and the small painted house; to the north, Buildings D and F, and the small enclosure with the Persian fire altar. The whole was drained by stone channels leading off to south-east and north-east.

The first building on the left (south) side of the inner court (Building C) was excavated in 1953. In plan it consisted of cella and pronaos, with orientation

toward the north-east. The centre of the cella was occupied by a large circular hearth or fireplace, which suggests that it may have housed some cult.

Building G, the second building on the south side of the inner court, lay 5 m. to the south of Building C, parallel to it and with the same orientation. It has not yet been wholly excavated, so its dimensions are not available. The building was almost totally plundered in Hellenistic times, so that only its wall trenches, 2·15 m. wide and filled with rubble, are left. In plan the building seems to have consisted of cella and porch in front; the porch was not enclosed by a wall at the north and may have been open, or with pillars *in antis*. The hard floor of crushed white stone is well preserved in the cella, except where it has been eaten into by later pits, but it seems, like the floor of Building C, to rest directly on the clay filling. Again nothing was found to suggest the purpose of the building; but in the disturbed filling immediately over it were found two of the most interesting objects of the season, and in its foundations two more. The first of these is a fragment of a corselet of iron made of overlapping strips of iron pierced at the ends by tiny holes for sewing on to a backing of leather or cloth. The second was a piece (about half) of an ivory comb carved in relief with a sphinx on one side, a griffin on the other; the comb when complete had two griffins and two sphinxes facing on the two sides, with a tree or vegetable ornament between. Used as fill in the foundations of Building G were found two pieces of architectural sculpture, clearly from the ruins of a near-by earlier (Phrygian) building. The first of these is the head of a lion carved in soft poros; the upper jaw and muzzle are missing. Behind the head the stone is grooved at either side and across the top with shallow squared channels; these probably were occupied with light wooden beams which in turn were set into a wall of kerpiç and served to hold the lion's head in place on the face of the wall. The lion is shown with mouth wide open and lolling tongue; the eyes were inlaid. The hair of the head and the mane is represented by an elaborate series of parallel grooves. In style this lion has no resemblance to Hittite or Assyrian lions; rather it resembles the carving of the ivory comb. Both may well be products of local Phrygian workshops working in their own tradition. The second piece, found near the lion, and also of poros, has a triangular base from which spring two volutes above, the upper surface, between the volutes, being concave. The piece had a quite definite front and back face, the former with grooved spirals on the volute faces, the latter plain. On the under face of the block are three dowel cuttings. This piece was probably an akroterion placed at the peak of a gable; in type it is very similar to the treatment of gable peaks shown in the carved rock façades at Yazilikaya.

The narrow space between Buildings C and G was in part occupied by a small structure at a lower level, approached from the south by a flight of five steps, which led down to a small anteroom or vestibule from which a door opened into the main room at the north. This room, which measured 3·75 by 4·50 m., had a floor of sandy dark blue plaster laid over a pebble bedding. The walls, except at the south, have disappeared completely; but over the floor lay the fragments of the stucco which had covered them on the inside, broken as they had fallen. Many new fragments of the painted stucco were recovered in addition to those found in 1953. In date the painting should probably be placed around 500 B.C., and in style under the influence of East Greek painting. Part of the picture evidently showed a procession of draped figures about 60 cm. in height, but no figure is complete. A number of heads was found of scale appropriate to this procession. These are always shown in profile, with the eye drawn full front in the archaic manner.

To the north of the thoroughfare passing through the inner court the first building, D, lay in front of the north court of the gate building. This was a rectangular

structure perhaps with a porch opening toward the south-west—in any case the side walls extended anta-like beyond the line of the front wall. The building was paved inside with a pebble floor, which is mostly preserved ; but the walls are in no part preserved to more than one course in height. This building was contemporary with the laying of the clay. It is interesting to note that its orientation is not the same as that of the adjacent gate building, nor that of buildings C and G opposite.

Building F lay to the west of Building D, on the north side of the thoroughfare through the inner court, and opposite Buildings C-G. The enclosure wall of the inner court passed just to the west of it, then turned to pass behind it at the north. Most of the east wall of Building F is preserved to a height of one course, and the north-east corner.

The rather haphazard planning of the Persian city is best illustrated by the great masonry drain or channel partly uncovered in 1953 and completely exposed this year. This consisted of an underground channel about 1.50 m. in width, built of good masonry—mostly blocks re-used from the Phrygian gate—and covered by wooden beams laid across. The channel started at the east by the inner face of the Persian dam wall, and ran straight westward. Its east end was closed by masonry, with no apparent outlet. This lack of an outlet together with the depth at which the channel lay—its top only about 1 m. above the bottom of the four-metre deposit of clay—made it seem impossible in 1953 that it could be a drain. Digging this year however has shown that there is an outlet at the east end, deep down below the bottom of the masonry. As this outlet does not reappear to the east and is covered by the undisturbed paving of the Phrygian gate, we must assume that it was a drain of Phrygian times, re-used by the Persians. The Persian channel was cleared as far westward as the line of the north wall of Building C ; at that point it had been walled across (though it evidently continued westward, under Building C) and a smaller drain at a higher level had been laid, running parallel to the Building C foundation and emptying into the channel at the point where it had been walled across. The explanation of this is clearly that, when the channel was laid no Building C had been planned ; when Building C was built it was found undesirable to have an open channel running under its foundations, and so this westward continuation of the drain was walled off and filled for the sake of stability, and a new channel put in at a safe distance from the foundations. When Building C was later enlarged, the new channel and the rest of the original one were filled with stones and covered by the new north wall of the building.

The clearing of the Phrygian city gate and of the area to the west of it down to the Phrygian level was the main objective of the campaign.

The plan of the Phrygian Gate Buildings was sufficiently secure at the end of the 1953 season ; this year's work by clearing the passageway and a small space in front of it entirely of the rubble confirmed the surmises of 1953, and added new information. The passage through the city wall opens toward the east, running obliquely to the line of the fortification. The gateway is a court 8.60 m. in width and 23 m. in depth. The outside approach to this passage was over a sloping ramp of the same width as the opening, held up by a retaining wall of masonry at each side and paved by a continuation of the cobbled paving of the gateway itself. The ramp extended to a distance of 6.15 m. in front of the opening of the gateway. We could clear only a small part of the ramp, enough to get its outline, because it is covered by the Persian rubble to a depth of approximately 9 m. The earlier ground-level was not found ; it must lie below the present level of ground-water.

Certain discrepancies between the two sections of city wall to north and to south of the opening suggest that they were built to a similar pattern, but without

any attempt at exact correspondence. The south side of the opening lies something more than a metre farther out toward the east than does the north, so that the opening of the gateway covers a jog of corresponding depth in the line of the city wall. At two levels both to north and to south of the opening the face of the city wall is stepped forward, leaving narrow horizontal ledges along the outer wall face. The upper part of the walls to the upper of these steps or ledges is built with a sharply sloping or battered face ; from the first to the second ledge the face is approximately vertical for a height of about 3 m. ; below the lower ledges the wall-face is again battered, but to a lesser degree than in the uppermost part. The system of battering and of steps or ledges is the same to north and to south of the opening ; but the levels of the ledges do not correspond—the lower step at the north lies at least a metre higher than does that at the south. The entire face of the walls had been covered with a brownish clay stucco, probably whitewashed.

The whole of the passageway was paved with a cobbled floor of large pebbles which slopes rather steeply upward from east to west. The court was closed at its inner end by a cross-wall of which only a few blocks remain in place ; a large part of it was destroyed when the Persian water channel was put in. The wall, 1·80 m. in thickness, consisted of parallel masonry faces filled between with rubble. The lowest course was partly bedded on wooden beams laid parallel to the direction of the wall and under the outer edges of the foundation blocks. A cross beam running at right angles to the direction of the wall must have supported its end and the reveal of the doorway ; the length of the north part of the cross-wall can thus be approximately calculated, and the south part must have been of about equal length. In consequence the width of the actual doorway can be calculated at approximately 4·50 m. The deep courtyard formed by the gateway, with cross-wall and door at its inner end, form the normal “ trap ” of military architecture in which an enemy trying to force entrance through the doorway could be pelted from above from three sides.

The court to the north of the passageway was fully cleared. The court was divided into wide central nave and narrower side aisles by two internal walls of kerpiç. The beddings for two similar walls running along the faces of the north and south walls would seem to indicate that the court had been divided into two storeys ; these supplementary kerpiç walls laid against the faces of the masonry walls on two sides can have had no function but to support the ends of a floor dividing the court into upper and lower rooms. In its earlier phase the north court was used as a storeroom.

A cut to the north of the Phrygian gate-building exposed a short section of the city wall. It is built of the same yellowish poros as is the gate, and in the same style of masonry, with battered outer face and a stepped ledge—our cut did not go deep enough to expose the second step or ledge.

Just within the Phrygian gate lies a later building which we have called the “ Polychrome House ” because of the many-coloured (re-used) material of which it is built. The east wall of this building would seem to have been the cross-wall of the gate ; its side walls to north and south run westward from the ends of the gate walls, but with a slight change of orientation. These walls, based on a foundation course of white poros resting on wooden bedding beams, are of dark grey basalt, red limestone, and yellowish poros, all re-used material roughly thrown together and covered with a thick coat of clay stucco. The walls were strengthened by thick vertical wooden posts, probably because they were of kerpiç in their upper parts. The Polychrome House must be later than the gate building. Its shoddy construction of re-used material can have no relation to the massive masonry of the gate, and the change of orientation in the line of the walls further suggests that it was a late addition.

To the west of the Polychrome House we reached a large area paved with well fitted stone slabs. The east edge of this paving had been cut through to make place for the west wall of the Polychrome House, which was therefore later. It is probable that the paving belongs to the period of the original construction of the gate, and that it once extended as far as the doorway through its cross-wall. This paving may have been either the floor of a great open area within the gate, or the approach to some large building lying close within. Up to the present we have uncovered a stretch about 20 m. in length from east to west, by 15 m. in width from north to south. At the extreme west edge of our cut we uncovered a step or threshold which belongs with the paving, and which must be the edge of a large Phrygian building lying to the west. This threshold and all the area to the east of it was covered by a thick layer of burned material, chiefly kerpiç baked hard overlying the pavement. Evidently the building to the west was burned. The pottery found in this burned fill was scanty, but in type agrees very well with the pottery found in the burned Phrygian house (see below). As the step or threshold lies directly beneath the foundations of Building G, in which were found the lion's head and the Phrygian akroterion, the obvious assumption is that these architectural sculptures came from the debris of the Phrygian building. The pottery from the burned debris is perhaps to be dated early in the seventh century; the building must therefore be earlier and perhaps contemporary with the gate building. It is quite likely that next season, in digging farther to the west and inside the burned Phrygian building we will find pottery in greater quantity to confirm this dating.

A small test cut some 80 m. to the south-west of the main excavation was made in 1952. The results showed that here the Persian clay layer was somewhat thinner than elsewhere, with a maximum thickness of only 2.50 m. At the bottom lay remains of Phrygian buildings, 6 m. below the surface. The building at the east side of the cut had been destroyed by fire. This year the cut was enlarged toward the east in order to uncover the burned Phrygian house, and to get a sampling of the pottery which it might contain.

Parts of two rooms of the burned Phrygian house were uncovered. The walls are thick, built of stone bedded on beams under their outer edges, and covered with clay stucco. The stone walls were about 1 m. in height and served as socles for kerpiç construction above. The conflagration that destroyed the house burned out the beams on which the wall faces were bedded with the result that the walls have split down the centre, each face leaning outward at an exciting angle. The fire must have been extremely hot as many pieces of pottery were completely vitrified in it, and some of the vases warped completely out of shape. Enormous quantities of pottery were found over the floors of both rooms. The vases were especially thick beside the walls of both rooms, where they had apparently been stacked on the floor against the wall at the time of the fire. Some vases contained a reddish pigment, others carbonised wheat and barley. In the north room two table-like platforms at the west end served to support grindstones for making flour: wide flat nether stones with boat-shaped upper grinders lying on them. Throughout the burned fill over the floor were found numbers of spindle whorls and clay loomweights of the large sort usually found unbaked, but here baked hard by the fire. A heap of these against the south wall of the north room contained more than ninety examples. A few bronze fibulae were also found: two of the flat arched bow type and one of leech type.

The vases, of which more than a hundred examples were found, were mostly of undecorated polished ware. Favourite shapes were the trefoil-mouthed jug with round or sharply carinated body; the mug with rounded lower and high straight

upper body and a single high-swung rolled handle ; the round-bodied handleless jar with wide mouth ; and bowls with plain or concave rim.

Decorated pottery was less common, but a number of examples was found. Most of these are decorated with geometric designs in matt black paint on a buff ground. One large amphora of different type was found in many fragments scattered near the surface of the burned deposit. This is decorated on shoulder and neck with bichrome (red and black) painting on a white slip ; the designs are geometric, including meander-hooks (on the neck), zig-zags, lozenges, and checkerboard. Another decorated vase, a tall sieve-spouted jug with high-swung band handle decorated with rotelles at the top, is painted in the style of several vases from Koerte Tumulus III. Two zones are divided into panels or metopes filled with birds, goats, and a lion. The rest of the surface (except the lower part of the body) is decorated with meander, concentric circles, checkerboard, etc.

This last vase is perhaps the most dateable object from the burned house. It should be about contemporary with similar vases from Tumulus III, and therefore date from around 700 or the beginning of the 7th century. The other vases found in the same room must be contemporary—early 7th century. The burning which destroyed the house may perhaps be attributed to the Cimmerians who devastated this part of Anatolia in the first quarter of the 7th century.

It is to be noted that the burned deposit over the Phrygian house immediately underlay the clay filling attributed to the Persians. There is therefore a lacuna or gap in the occupation of the site from around 684, the time of the Cimmerian destruction, to around 546, the time of the Persian occupation. This same gap was evident also in the area of the Phrygian gate and to the west, where the Persian clay filling immediately overlay fills containing sherds of the early 7th century. There is no trace of habitation levels belonging to the century and a half between the Cimmerian raid and the Persian occupation, either above or beneath the clay ; and this absence suggests that the site lay deserted for five generations. The very fact that the Persians were able to pile clay over the older city to a depth of 4 m. before building their own town suggests that the site lay vacant at the time of their coming ; it would have been difficult to bury a town that was inhabited and a going concern. Yet the evidence of the tumuli seems to show that the neighbourhood was occupied and even prosperous : Tumulus H and Tumulus J probably date from around the middle of the 7th century. One problem that will concern us in the future will be to find where the inhabitants of Gordion lived during the century and a half between the Cimmerians and the Persians.

CLAROS ¹

The sixth season of excavations at Claros lasted from 21st August to 3rd October, 1955, under the direction of Professor Louis Robert, with the assistance of Mme Robert and the architect Pierre Bonnard ; Professor Roland Martin was unable to take part for reasons of health.

The expropriation of two fields of tobacco having at last become fully effective, it was possible to dig the rear of the temple of Apollo. All the surface of the temple is now cleared, with its four corners. The width of the building is 45·49 m. to the third step. The back is largely destroyed and not a single column-drum is left there, though in the front the columns are very well preserved. The Byzantine marble-seekers must have begun their work at that point, as also by the removal of

¹ Information kindly supplied by Prof. Louis Robert.

the walls of the cella and pronaos. An inscription on a step to the west perhaps preserves the memory of the activities of two of them. They were halted for some reason in their preliminary labours at the centre and at the front of the temple. The steps are well preserved round the whole perimeter, to the west as well as in other directions.

New fragments of the colossal statue of Apollo have been discovered, notably the right leg below the knee and the left arm (about 2 m. from near the shoulder to just below the elbow). Another female torso has been found, this time to the left of the god (about 2·30 m. from the shoulder to near the knee). The imperial coins of Colophon make it certain that the two female statues represent Artemis, to the right of the god, and Leto, to his left. The exact correspondence between the discovered fragments of the three cult-statues and the representations on the coinage of the imperial epoch is a contribution of the excavations to Colophonian numismatics ; it is the only one, however, for there were practically no coins among the objects found.

The deep excavation of the subterranean adyton presents great difficulties, on account of the weight of the architectural blocks fallen and jammed under the vaults and the impossibility of obtaining locally adequate instruments for lifting them. In the rear adyton (the narrower) three bays were excavated down to the pavement by working at the bottom with the pump. The vaults, which are very well preserved, are 1·68 m. high beneath the keystones. Many fragments of large statues were found, but none of any special interest up to the present. The right arm of the god, 3·40 m. long, which had fallen on a collapsed vault and could not be removed, stopped work at this point. In the front adyton, which is specially full of blocks, three bays were excavated down to water level. The two vaulted rooms were separated by a solid mass of masonry 2·70 m. thick. The expedition succeeded in digging part of the fifth bay, where the communicating door between the two chambers ought to be. In the front adyton they found there, in the axis of the temple and in the prolongation of the central passage, the vaulted door, about 1·60 m. in height, which pierced the solid mass as a tunnel ; work was discontinued before debouching into the rear adyton for technical reasons connected with the water level. The character of the adyton complex is thus apparent : under the temple an artificial cave was constructed, which illustrates the words of Tacitus : *in specum descendit*. One descended into this dark and doubtless suffocating crypt by steep winding staircases. By the corridor, which was perhaps not more than 1·80 m. in height and was only 70 cms. wide, one proceeded about 30 m. with seven changes of direction of 90° in this labyrinth and passed through the first vaulted chamber, the height of which made it impossible to walk in an upright position, to arrive at the gate of the Holy of Holies ; from there the prophet would follow, still in a bent position, the 2·70 m. long tunnel. It remains to find in the second chamber, doubtless opposite the mouth of the tunnel and at the foot of the mass of masonry supporting the cult-statues against the rear wall of the cella, the installation of the well at which the prophet came to drink.

Outside the temple certain subsidiary work was undertaken in pursuance of the exploration of the sanctuary. In the southern part of the Sacred Way a new section has confirmed that there was nothing further to be found. The excavations opposite the S.E. angle of the temple were extended. Preparations were made for digging a trench for the disengagement of the altar next year. Wide soundings to the west of the temple were begun. Practically no inscriptions were found either in the temple or in the precinct.

On the territory of ancient Colophon a Latin dedication to Mithras was found.

At Teos the confused and deceptive site was studied ; some inscriptions there were copied or revised for the forthcoming Corpus ; one, unpublished, gives the names of Lagid queens. Among the new inscriptions acquired by the Museum at Izmir may be distinguished the epitaph of a gladiator, *primus palus*, with the representation of the *palus* and fifteen crowns of victory.

KÜLTEPE¹

The excavations at Kültepe, conducted by the Turkish Historical Society and the General Directorate of Museums and Antiquities, were resumed from July to September of this year, both in the *Karum* and on the mound itself.

Besides excavating large areas of building-levels Ib and II at the *Karum*, it also proved possible to investigate more thoroughly the underlying levels III and IV. Architecture and small finds now show that level Ib was at least as flourishing a town as the lower level II, which represents the colony's most prosperous period. Unfortunately the buildings of level Ib were close to the surface and had accordingly suffered greater damage. Many of the Ib tombs, situated below the house floors, had been robbed in antiquity, but others yielded rich funerary offerings. Apart from different types of weapons, bronze vessels and gold and silver ornaments, a gold stamp seal, with a goddess engraved on it, typically Hittite in style and shape, and a beautifully carved stone figurine of a boar, are among the best examples of Hittite style, contemporary with the period of Hammurabi.

The more the pottery and metal vessels of level Ib become known, the more the differences between this level and the earlier level II are evident. In our future publications we shall endeavour to study the difference between these two levels in the light of the new evidence and try to evaluate the lapse of time necessary for such changes.

A comparison with Alishar Hüyük shows that the most prosperous period at that site is contemporary with Kültepe level Ib, whereas the earlier level II material is badly represented. In the second level at Kültepe, new house types, archives of Assyrians and native merchants, and some new, hitherto unknown objects were found this year.

It is now definitely established that no tablets are to be discovered in levels III and IV, nor does the large variety of pottery shapes, characteristic of the upper levels II and Ib, occur here. Only certain types of Hittite pottery are found in these levels ; going down, the number of types decreases gradually from level III to IV and in level IV there are only bowls with or without one or two handles and thick jars. The main type of pottery of this level consists of hand-made pottery of Alishar III type. The proportions of hand-made painted pottery and wheel-made Hittite ware are almost equal, though the latter are slightly more numerous. Level III is a transition level between IV and II.

On the mound, some of the small rooms, belonging to the palace of the second Hittite level were excavated. This palace was discovered in 1954 and it is now clear that the Anita dagger belonged to this building.

A new trench in the centre of the mound revealed tablets, lying *in situ* on a floor, belonging again to the second Hittite level. These consist of Royal correspondence and lists of palace officials and are the first tablets to have been found on the mound. They are the most important finds of the Kültepe excavations, and first rate sources for early Anatolian history, language and writing. Judging by the plan

¹ Information kindly supplied by Prof. Tahsin Özgüç.

and dimensions of the building and by the contents of the tablets, found in it, it cannot be anything else than the palace of the king of Kanesh, whose name is mentioned. Like the other palace, this one is burnt also. An important part of the building was destroyed during the erection of a large building with stone walls, belonging to the last Hittite period, and contemporary with the megaron previously excavated.

The Alishar III culture, which can be divided at Kültepe into three successive building levels, was extensively studied and a rich collection of painted pottery was recovered. At Kültepe it is now possible to study the relationship of this culture with both earlier and later civilisations.

Besides imported Syrian bottles, entirely new types of alabaster idols, belonging to the middle and the first part of the earliest Alishar III level, were found. Some of these idols represent almost fully dressed male figures. One specimen bears in relief a human figure and a lion, placed on the disk-like body, which has several heads. There are also several examples of goddesses, dressed or naked, seated on a throne and holding their breasts. The traditional type of steatopygous idol also continue into this period.

The crude houses of the Alishar III culture were built on top of the remains of the last phase of the Alishar Ib culture, which at Kültepe is also represented by red cross *depata*. The pottery of the Alishar Ib period at Kültepe, shows more kinship with that of Alishar than with that of Alaca, Pazarli or the Samsun region.

SITES EXCAVATED IN 1955.¹

Karahüyük-Konya. Prof. Dr. Sedat Alp.

Karatepe. Restoration work by Doç. Dr. Halet Çambel. Excavation by Doç. Dr. Bahadır Alkım.

Xanthos. Profs. Demargne and Metzger (French Archaeological Institute).

Claros. Prof. Louis Robert.

Pergamum. Preparations for excavations in 1956. Prof. Dr. E. Boehringer.

Kâhta-Nimrud Dagh. Miss T. Goell.

Aslantepe-Malatya. Sounding by Dr. W. Forrer.

Ephesus. Excavations by Prof. F. Miltner (Austrian Archaeological Institute).

Restoration by Dr. Rüstem Duyuran and Italian architect F. Fasolo.

Miletus. Prof. C. Weickert (Münster University).

Boğazköy. Prof. K. Bittel.

Karain-Antalya. Doç. Dr. K. Kökten.

Phocaea. Prof. Dr. E. Akurgal.

Daskyleion (Ergili). Prof. Dr. E. Akurgal.

Side. Prof. Dr. A. M. Mansel.

Perge. Prof. Dr. A. M. Mansel.

Kültepe. Prof. Dr. T. Özgüç.

Höyücek. Prof. Dr. Muzzafer Şenyürek and Dr. Hakkı Gültekin.

Gordion. Prof. Rodney Young (University Museum, Univ. of Pennsylvania).

Beycesultan. Mr. Seton Lloyd (British Institute of Archaeology).

¹ Information kindly supplied by the Department of Antiquities, Ankara.