



## Summary of Archaeological Research in Turkey in 1958

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SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN TURKEY  
IN 1958*GORDION*<sup>1</sup>

DURING THE SEVENTH season at Gordion, from 13th June to 21st September, attention was primarily concentrated on the upper levels of the City Mound and on the northern spur of its neighbour, the Küçük Hüyük. The objectives were, on the City Mound, to clear as much as possible of the upper levels in preparation for a large-scale campaign in Phrygian levels in 1959, and, in the area of the small mound, to trace the northward progress of the fortification wall.

During this season no excavation was undertaken in the levels dating prior to the Kimmerian invasion of the early 7th century B.C. Some work of recording and conservation, however, was done on the rapidly vanishing "doodle stones" of the West Phrygian House, and in renewing the protective covering of its great mosaic floor. It has not proved possible for the Turkish Archaeological Service to furnish this year permanent protection in the form of a roofed shed, as had been hoped, but some encouragement has been forthcoming for adequate protection of this great Phrygian monument during 1959. The Archaeological Service has, on the other hand, advanced considerably the project of ultimate conservation of the tomb chamber in the Big Tumulus. The difficult problem of the procedure to be adopted for removal of the remaining cap of rubble over the tomb chamber and the substitution of a protective roof or dome over it has been studied. In the meantime the Turkish Archaeological Service and the Gordion Expedition have collaborated in the erection of very strong supports in the interior of the wooden tomb chamber which should fully ensure its preservation intact until such time as exterior work can be undertaken. The interior faces of the walls have again been coated with linseed oil as a protection against decay through dampness, and drilling holes above have been plugged.

Attention was earlier called to the "lacuna period" on the City Mound at Gordion, that extending from the time of the Kimmerian destruction of the city about 690 B.C. until the time of the Persian occupation of Gordion shortly after the middle of the 6th century. During the present excavations on the City Mound a few more imported sherds of this interim period have been found, in late contexts, which have served, as with similar earlier finds here, to arouse speculation as to where the Phrygian King and his government lived and exercised their official functions during these 150 years.

The season's excavations by Miss Mellink on the Küçük Hüyük add new facets to the interesting possibilities of the "lacuna period", while at the same time making solid contributions to the history of the area just outside the city gates to the east. It was established in 1957 that the basic structure, accounting for the entirely artificial Küçük Hüyük and its spurs to north and south, was a mud brick fortification wall which was apparently laid out to enclose a crescent-shaped area adjoining the eastern side of the City Mound. Intensive investigation during two months, often arduous and under water, have added to that previously exposed some 250 m. of the northern stretch of the wall beyond the central tumulus, a gateway of impressive and intricate design very nearly opposite the Phrygian City Gate, and the knowledge that we have to deal with here not a fortification of a single period but "a stratified and modified set of defence walls kept in repair for several generations

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<sup>1</sup> Condensed from information kindly supplied by the acting field director of the expedition, Mr. G. Roger Edwards.

if not centuries". Three periods of fortification construction are distinguished here. Miss Mellink tentatively dates periods 1 and 2 within the 7th century; floor levels of houses built within the wall against a part of a bastion of Period III, the last habitation of the area, were put out of use by fire and collapse about 540 B.C. Miss Mellink has called attention to the unusual composition of the mud brick of the earliest stretch of wall and has made the attractive suggestion that it may represent "an emergency manufacture of bricks of Kimmerian destruction debris". Much, of course, remains to be investigated here, including an extensive sampling of the structures enclosed between these walls and the City Mound. The succession of massive, defensible and long-defended walls here and their probable dating from immediately post-Kimmerian times down to c. 540 B.C., seem sufficient to put forward the nascent conjecture that the government and king of Phrygia re-established themselves here after the Kimmerians had departed, just outside their ruined capital, and that they and their successors functioned here until the new city above the old was habitable.

Excavation in the upper levels of the City Mound proceeded on a 70-metre front, advancing toward the north-west with the NCT (North Central Trench) Building<sup>1</sup> as the approximate northern boundary. The alignment of trenches was designed to parallel that of previously exposed structures of the pre-Kimmerian Phrygian level.

To the Enclosure Wall of the inner Gate-Court, which sets off Buildings C through G from those beyond, the 1958 season has added a small stretch continuing the line parallel to the back wall of Building H beyond to the north-west behind the back wall of Building M. The new stretch, 4.50 m. wide and 7.00 m. long, is badly pillaged far below the level of the top of the heavy rubble foundations on which the superstructure rested. The filling thrown in after pillaging "varied from quite hard clay with many small fragments of carbonised wood to a softer ashy fill". The considerable amount of pottery from it suggests a date probably not later than the middle of the 5th century B.C. for the destruction of this part of the wall. From the pillaged wall came one of the handsomest finds of the season, a fine gold ring similar in form to a mid-6th century bracelet with terminal lions' heads, found in 1950 in Tumulus A.

Parallel to Building H and of similar plan, with pronaos and cella, lies Building M. Part of its east wall and north-east corner were uncovered in 1957. During the present campaign the east wall was completely exposed and parts of the north and south walls and the cross-wall. In length it is approximately 20.50 m.; 10.80 m. of its width have been exposed so far.

As in other structures of the Persian level, Building M's foundations, of broken-up limestone fragments, extend deep down into the clay introduced to cover the ruined Phrygian city. Pillaging here was largely limited to the blocks of the superstructure. Traces of beams used as levelling courses for the blocks of the walls were found at both ends of the building. Of the walls there were found some blocks still *in situ* in 1958 along the south wall and at the south-east corner, the greatest number of courses preserved being three. Within the building two working floors of stone chips surfacing layers of clay were distinguished below a third, thick layer of reddish-brown clay, which is considered the habitation floor of Building M. Over this floor in many places lay a thick layer of burned reeds, suggesting the nature of both part of the roofing and perhaps of the destruction of Building M. A possible indication of the position of a door was found near the north-east end of the building.

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<sup>1</sup> Shown in the plan, *AJA.* LX, Pl. 84, Fig. 15, diagonally to the right of Building F.

Good evidence, probably for the date of construction of Building M, was found in the brown clay floor filling, the only floor associated with the lifetime of this large structure. Here, fragments of a handsome Attic black-figured amphora, with a continuous zone of winged creatures, were found in several places. A tentative date of 560/50 B.C., which may serve as a *terminus post quem* for the construction of the building, is suggested.

The active lifetime of the building may lie entirely within the half century 550 to 500 B.C. During this time activities whose nature remains puzzling resulted in the burial beneath the floor in various parts of the building of at least four hoards of large pots, primarily open-mouthed. One such hoard, of sixteen, lay near the north-east corner of the cella, including a handsome red pithos with a graffito inscription on its wall in large letters 0.19 m. high in the Phrygian alphabet: BENA(ONO). Other pots so buried are known to be present in, for the moment, inaccessible places; the total so far recovered in these circumstances is forty-one. The purpose of the interment of so many pots, many of open shapes without lids, is yet to be discovered.

Awaiting excavation in 1959 in the scarp beyond the excavated portion of Building M may be seen in elevation a curious mud brick structure, 1.50 m. high by 2.40 m. wide, which appears to be set on or into the floor of Building M; its exact relation to the building, whether contemporary or intrusive, has yet to be established. Its lower part is of two orthostate courses of bricks with a projecting course of bricks regularly laid between; the upper part, of four more regular courses.

The area between the NCT building on the north and buildings H and M on the south was entered directly from the Persian Gate-Court through the Pylon in the enclosure wall of the Gate-Court. That the area so bounded would be an open square providing access to the three big buildings and no doubt to others beyond seems a reasonable assumption. In several instances the finding of patches of paving at a level corresponding very closely to that of the floor of Building M suggests that we do indeed have to do with an Inner Court of some kind.

Various pieces of evidence independently accumulated by the excavators on the City Mound this year together indicate that sometime between, say, 500 and 450 B.C. the Persian level structures in the areas under consideration were put out of use and supplanted by others of a humbler nature. Fire and perhaps violence played a part. Here at least, and in many other places on the mound, no attempt was made to erect comparable replacements for the pretentious civic buildings of the Persian level.

In the fifth and lowest level of those which succeeded the Persian, as distinguished this year, still another bit of evidence toward this suggestion was forthcoming in the small, square, one-roomed structure erected over and overlapping the south wall of Building I. It was constructed of ashlar masonry on its inner face with rubble packing against the outside. Its inner face of good blocks quite likely was pillaged from the walls of Building I, whose position it partly usurped. Sherds from below its floor may date down to the second quarter of the 5th century, providing a date for the construction of this building and a *terminus ante quem* for the abandonment of Persian Building I. The later building, as numerous floors within its walls show, stayed in use through the rest of the 5th century.

A second structure of Level V is that which was placed, at a short remove, across the inner end of the Pylon. Although of relatively humble construction it has certain features which suggest it may have been for some special use. Of its probable several rooms one was clearly outlined this year, of good scale (7.30 m. × 5.90 m. in inner dimensions). The one fully exposed wall had the exceptional breadth of 1.30 m. Its fragmentary north and east walls, and no doubt the south wall also (excavated

and removed in 1957), were single courses of stone placed at floor level with upper walls of mud brick. The inner faces of the walls were coated with thick, handsome yellow mud plaster, giving the building the name of the Yellow House. In its south-west corner was a square area let into the floor, curbed and its surface covered with loose river pebbles of egg size, the unit suggesting a soakage pit or bathing area. In the centre of the west wall projecting light mud brick walls, also plastered, formed a kind of closet against whose outer face was placed a low, rectangular hearth. Behind the closet there was probably an opening in the west wall leading into a room or rooms beyond. Fallen mud plaster for some distance north of the north wall indicate a further section of the building there. From beneath its floor (which in part overlay "Inner Court" paving), along with Phrygian pottery of archaic and 5th century date, came an Attic *kylix* handle fragment of a form current perhaps about 475 B.C.

The four succeeding levels probably fully cover the 4th and 3rd centuries B.C. perhaps representing not more than a generation or so apiece. Rubble wall foundations with mud brick superstructures for buildings exclusively private in nature are the general rule. It is possible that between Levels II and I intervened a cultural interruption, perhaps by a nomadic people who left behind no permanent architecture but only, in the heavy fillings of ash, burning, animal bones and fragments of blackened cooking pots which are frequently met at Gordion, evidence of the prodigious appetites and casual housekeeping manners of those living under primitive conditions. It is tempting to connect these fillings with an hypothetical occupation of Gordion by the Galatians, perhaps during the middle years of the 3rd century B.C.

If this be so, then the latest level here may represent a reoccupation of the site by its previous or related inhabitants. A close date within the 3rd century is not yet possible; two bronze coins from beneath a floor level may provide greater precision when identified.

The most comprehensible building of this level excavated this year lay just south of the Persian level NCT Building. It was a rambling structure which occupied all but about a quarter of an area 20 m. by 30 m. Here were found, near the southern side of the central courtyard, two successive kilns which indicate the nature of the structure and give it the name of the Potters' Establishment. These are of special interest, for although a very active local tradition of the manufacture of ceramic products reaching back to the city's early years could readily be assumed, this is the first structural proof of local manufacture. No doubt earlier factories were located elsewhere than on the City Mound proper.

The kilns lay the earlier beneath, the later to the east of and contemporary with a remnant of wall which may have projected from the missing south boundary wall of the courtyard.

The earlier kiln was the larger. Of it only the lower part, that which was set down into the contemporary floor, was preserved, providing the plan of the mouth for the introduction of fuel and of about two-thirds of the plan of the lower firing chamber. No part of the floor on which the objects to be fired would have been set was found, nor of the assumed dome above. The mouth was lined with thick walls of clay which fired hard. The lower firing chamber seems to have had no specially prepared walls; the earth walls were formed merely by scooping out the existing fill, and show less trace of fire, although distinctly hardened. Set in the wide opening between mouth and chamber were several large mud bricks (40 × 18 × 10 cm.) placed on their short sides and fired hard from kiln firings. Probably they were so placed in the last firing of the kiln to reduce the draught in the ultimate stage of firing.

Near the top of the filling within the kiln chamber, no doubt partly a self filling and partly added, were found numerous unfired pottery fragments which must have been destined for the kiln. One unexpected piece among them was a large unfired doughnut-shaped loomweight, unfired examples of which, apparently commonly used in this state, have frequently been found in the upper levels of the City Mound.

After this kiln went out of use a light wall was erected above it nearly on its long axis. To the wall on its west side was attached a rectangular fire pit set in the floor with walls of mud brick lined with clay plaster burned hard but still friable. On its east side adhered a low platform of irregular outline, *c.* 1.50 m. wide and deep and 0.20 m. high. In and on the floor contemporary with the wall and its appendages, on its east side, was the second of the kilns, much smaller than the first.

It is to be regretted that the upper part of the kiln, the first structure encountered in the 1958 season, was removed before the existence of the firing chamber below floor level and the nature of the oven were realised. A drawing and a photograph of the upper part had been made before removal, however. It is likely that the kiln had ceased to be used as such and had been converted into a kind of cooking oven, since the lower chamber had been filled up and a flat stone lay on the bottom of the upper chamber as if for convenience in setting cooking vessels.

At any rate, the original form seems to have been simple with a firing chamber for small amounts of fuel below, a truncated oval in plan, and with a dome-shaped upper firing chamber partly preserved. It was well made of prepared mud as for mud brick, fired hard. A section of the upper chamber floor was preserved along one side, 0.15 m. thick, 0.30 m. above the floor of the lower chamber. This chamber was filled with ash and carbon, among which were a number of pieces of unfired unguentaria, and, above them, two unfired moulds, one complete, probably for a large conical pottery bowl or finial decorated with long petals in relief, the other a mould for the front half of a female protome of large scale.

In the filling over the floor in which this kiln was set were some patches of burning which included a nest of broken, fully-baked unguentaria fired largely red. These may well be products of our establishment. In Room 1 two fired fragments were found, both of which are parts of bowls or finials closely similar to that which was to be produced from our petalled mould. Perhaps one of them came from the bowl which served as a patris for our mould. On the floor of Room 2 a considerable amount of fragmentary pottery was found. Further study may reveal that these include other products of our kilns and may help to establish the characteristics of the products of this Gordion pottery factory of the Hellenistic period.

Fire was responsible for the abandonment of the Pottery Establishment. Over all of Room 1 lay a heavy layer of burnt debris: reddened, dissolved mud brick, charred wood and the like. Room 6, excavated in 1951 and 1955, was similarly burned. Fire was not so evident elsewhere in the building, but no doubt these contained less combustible material.

It has already been suggested that a break in the continuity of habitation at Gordion occurred in 189 B.C., and that to all intents and purposes the greater part of the site was abandoned at this time. A number of groups of pottery and other objects associated with the last level structures have been garnered during the preceding six Gordion seasons. To these this year that of the Potters' Establishment was added and part of another abandonment period group in a complex located some 15 m. south of the midpoint of the south wall of Room 1. It is hoped that this evidence may be supplemented with grave groups of the period soon; Hellenistic graves with intact contents have so far eluded us. As a foretaste, however, a Hellenistic terracotta sarcophagus was found this year on the Küçük Hüyük in a

grave intrusive on the mud brick fortification wall there. It is very like one found at Kalinkaya (*Belleten* XIII, no. 52, 1949, Pl. LXXXV, Fig. 14) containing a coin of Alexander.

Gordion in Hellenistic times came much under Greek influence. It is not impossible that her inhabitants of those days adopted also the habit of burial along routes near the city and that further tracing of the Hellenistic version of the elusive Royal Road may reveal the Hellenistic cemetery as well. As our Turkish neighbours also say, *bir taşla iki kuş vurmak* : for two birds one stone may serve.

### BOĞAZKÖY<sup>1</sup>

The 1958 campaign lasted from 12th July to 21st October. Excavations were conducted both on Büyükkale and in the northern part of the Lower City.

On *Büyükkale* three distinct areas were investigated : (1) the Phrygian and Hittite fortifications ; (2) the quarter in which in 1957 a Phrygian gateway and beneath it parts of a large Hittite building had been found ; and (3) an area (u-v/11-13) which had hardly been touched by previous excavations and where conditions seemed favourable for checking the whole sequence of building levels on Büyükkale.

*Büyükkale, Area 1.* The latest fortification wall here proved to be of the late Hellenistic or Roman period. It was traced only on the east flank of the hill ; on the west side the remains of the latest Phrygian wall seem to have been utilised.

The Phrygian fortifications were found to belong to two distinct periods, both structures having projecting towers, the later also having a stairway leading up from inside the citadel to the rampart walk. The older was founded immediately upon the ruins of the Hittite wall and apparently not very long after its destruction, though no clear dating evidence was found. The adjoining Phrygian settlement inside the citadel showed at least six building levels, belonging for the most part to the 6th century B.C. The pottery of the oldest Phrygian level included Old Phrygian painted ware and also a ware which is either Hittite or in good Hittite tradition. Among the painted ware was a bowl of archaic appearance with a spout in the rim and a transverse basket handle, which is hitherto without parallel in central Anatolia.

The inner face of the Hittite fortification wall was uncovered, and a street, paved with limestone, was found to run along its foot down to the open square behind the gate. Along its whole length this street had a stone-built drainage-channel, its roofing slabs lying on a level with the street pavement. At a later stage the street was raised by a filling of clay and the drain was replaced by a piped conduit within the clay. Lying on this new clay surface we found the evidence of the destruction of the Hittite citadel, in the shape of huge deposits of burnt mud bricks, together with numerous fragments of burnt wood, which had fallen from the superstructure of the wall. In the burnt layer, but even more in the clay filling of the street, there was Hittite pottery, all of which we collected in the hope that it might serve for dating purposes.

The adjoining part of the citadel was found to be free of buildings in the 14th and 13th centuries ; thus the open area to the North found in a previous campaign was shown to extend as far as the street beside the wall. There were

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<sup>1</sup> Condensed and translated from information kindly provided by Professor Dr. K. Bittel.

indications that the street was marked off from the open space by a low retaining wall.

Beneath this open area of the Imperial period was found a very considerable Old Hittite settlement, in which an exceptionally well built house of the period Büyükkale IVb deserves special mention. On its floor lay a large painted vessel in the form of a bird and part of a polychrome earthenware tripod, both types hitherto unknown in the Old Hittite repertoire.

Among other finds from this area may be mentioned a carved open-work bone plaque showing an erect bull-man with pointed cap.

*Büyükkale, Area 2.* In this sector there came to light immediately below the surface a fortification wall of late Hellenistic or Roman date, which evidently belongs to the wall of the same period already mentioned on the south side of Büyükkale. It possessed a narrow gate, or rather doorway—a simple passage through the wall, without towers, extended on the inner side by short flanking walls. Its foundations consisted almost entirely of re-used Hittite blocks. This doorway is sited almost exactly above the Phrygian gate, which suggests that the old Phrygian ascent was still in use.

The excavation of the Phrygian gate itself, where the group of statuary was found, was completed. The northern side of the gate-chamber contained no exterior niche such as came to light last year on the southern side; however, in the debris of the northern wing of the gate there lay a small flat stele of reddish sandstone. It is roughly in human form, the body rectangular, the head a mere disc without details. Two similar stelae are known from Boğazköy and there is related material from Gordion, but this is the first example from Boğazköy for which the exact provenience is known.

In the debris of this area was found a bone plaque with studs for attachment, possibly from the hilt of a sword or dagger. The carving shows a winged lion in low relief which, with the coiled spirals running along the back of the animal, is remarkably Scythian in style and is quite without parallel.

Of the Hittite building K which lay beneath the Phrygian fortifications and gate, it was not possible to excavate more than a small additional portion without destroying part of the Phrygian structure. However, it was established that the archive room discovered last year belongs to a relatively late period in the history of the building. Many fragments of tablets were found scattered outside the ruins of the building, some of which could actually be joined to fragments from the archive itself.

*Büyükkale, Area 3.* Careful excavation down to bed-rock in this area revealed much building activity in the Hellenistic-Roman period, several Phrygian building levels, and a vacant area adjoining the gate in square t-u/11-13 of the late Hittite period. Below this there were six Old- and Pre-Hittite levels, from all of which came masses of ceramic and other material. The Old Hittite levels IVa, IVb and IVc can now be further subdivided. At the bottom, mainly in pits, was found much material belonging to the IIIrd millennium. Among the abundant Old Hittite pottery were found pieces in an unknown style, probably imports. From a period just preceding that of the above-mentioned vacant area came small pendants of blue paste in the form of a recumbent sphinx in Egyptian style. There were also several pieces of Old Hittite reliefs in granite, showing lively scenes of battle in a style completely different from that of the 14th and 13th centuries, which enrich our knowledge of Old Hittite art in a very welcome manner. In the debris, and therefore not stratified, was found part of a large granite block with the cartouche of a king Tudhaliya, the name written with the mountain-god figure. The writing



and the relief are extraordinarily well executed, better than any other known Hittite monument, the surface being polished like a mirror.

*Lower City.* Small soundings for the purpose of finding out whether there were burials, as at Kültepe, under the floors of the Assyrian level discovered last year, had a negative result. In some houses several successive floors were established.

The southern part of last year's area was extended westwards, and levels 3 and 4 (Old Hittite and Assyrian) were found to be well preserved, each with two building periods. The large wall in level 5 (Pre-Hittite), part of which was found in 1956, was completely cleared and proved to belong to an extensive industrial structure, probably a smelting furnace or kiln.

*Tablets.* In the 1958 campaign 315 fragments of tablets came to light : 175 from Büyükkale Area 3, 62 from Area 1, 27 from Area 2, 9 from Building E on the citadel, 8 from the Lower City, and the rest from the east magazine of Temple I. They include the following : a label reading "The tablets of the oracle-texts of Muwatalli" ; a fragment of a sealed document of Hattusili III relating to the deposition of Urhi-Teshub ; a new piece of the Hittite version of the Epic of Gilgamesh ; three fragments of the Laws ; three fragments of the treatise on horse-training ; three omens ; four Hittite letters ; five Akkadian letters, among them one belonging to the Egyptian correspondence ; five Luvian fragments ; and a large number of rituals in Old Hittite script.

### EPHESUS<sup>1</sup>

The Ephesus expedition has again achieved valuable results from its 1957 season, which lasted nearly four months. The Austrian Archaeological Institute, which was supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and the Academy of Sciences and a large number of official and private benefactors, can be proud of having the largest expedition, with the most modern equipment (thanks to the assistance of Austrian industry), at present operating in Anatolia.

The most important results of this year's excavations, which were conducted in a temperature of 73° C., are as follows : (1) the complete clearance of the *Thermae* of Scholastikia, (2) the clearance of a side-alley leading up to the eastern hill of the city, (3) the commencement of excavation of dwelling houses on the north slope of the southern city-hill, (4) the continuation of the excavation of the main street in an easterly direction for a further 150 m., and in connection with this, the clearance of a wayside fountain of the Augustan period and of a more grandiose one, liberally adorned with sculpture, of the Domitian era, also the discovery of a monument dating from the late Republic and of the monumental staircase leading up to the terrace with the temple of the Emperor Domitian, (5) the discovery of about two dozen marble statues, heads, reliefs and portrait busts, and of a wonderful bronze head, (6) the discovery of about a hundred new inscriptions, among which a chapter of the laws of the city deserves special mention, and (7) various restorations.

Through the work at the *Thermae* of Scholastikia one of the largest and certainly one of the most interesting *Thermae* in Ephesus has been completely cleared. This year not only the halls of the *sudatorium*, which are preserved almost up to the height of the ceiling, but also the technical parts of the building, such as the hypocaust, were exposed, and furthermore, that part of the building in which, after the lengthy process of bathing, the bathers assembled for refreshment and lively conversation. A most unusual feature, architecturally of the utmost importance, is the fact that parts of the structure are preserved up to the height of the upper storey.

The clearance of the side-alley, about 260 m. in length, which runs past the

<sup>1</sup> Translated from information kindly contributed by Professor Dr. Franz Miltner.

Thermae on the eastern side, is of significance, not merely as an addition to the street plan of Ephesus in the shape of a mountain path which overcomes the differences in level by means of stepped ramps, like the alleys at Naples and Genoa, but also on account of the light which it has thrown on the buildings which lie above and to the east of the path. Though in general this was a residential quarter, it was not exclusively so. For in the debris washed down from above there was found, among other things, the finger of a marble statue of practically four times life-size. Such a colossal statue could, to the best of our knowledge, only have stood in a building of official, or at least semi-official, character. Architectural fragments of the finest Hellenistic workmanship were a further indication that valuable and important discoveries may be expected from the area above the street, from the top of which, incidentally, there is a magnificent view over the lower part of the town around the harbour.

While the excavations here encroached on the slope of the eastern city-hill, a start was made with the uncovering of the ruins on the north slope of the southern hill. Immediately behind the columned hall alongside the main street lay vaulted shops, and among them was excavated a tavern, complete with marble slab for the board-game, and containing an elegant columned courtyard. Above the shops were the rooms of the dwelling houses, and many of these have their artistic vaulting, their wall plaster, and even their marble-encrusted fountains, completely preserved. A large quantity of fragments of plaster gives an impression of the complexity and delicacy of the vine pattern with which these rooms were once adorned. The well-preserved head of a bronze statue of a philosopher of the end of the 2nd century A.D., and other fragments of sculpture, enable us to form some idea of the artistic embellishments of even such tenants' quarters as these. A continuation of the excavation in this area promises to yield valuable information about the daily life of the citizens.

The main task of this year's excavations was to follow the main street farther to the east. However, at the point where the street reached the saddle between the two city hills, it proved to have made a bend to the south and to have opened out into a wide square, which seems to have extended considerably more than 100 m. from east to west. To clear this completely was for the present impossible. We had to content ourselves with uncovering the eastern side and the eastern section of the southern side of the area, after which we were able to pick up the line of the street again at the south-east corner and to excavate it, together with the shops on either side of it, over a stretch of about 50 m. to the south.

On the eastern side three buildings are specially noteworthy. At the bend of the street lies a fountain bearing an inscription in which it is designated *hydreion*. The two basins are arranged one above the other like steps and framed in a simple architectural façade with pylon-like projecting wings. Since the architecture is to a large extent preserved, a start could be made with its re-erection.

Behind this *hydreion* stood a square base of rough-hewn blocks bearing a highly ornate monument of the late Republican period. A series of bas-reliefs with figures somewhat larger than life-size form valuable new material for the art historian.

Beside a large building, the purpose of which could not be ascertained, the east front of the square was occupied by a fine Nymphaeum (Fontana), about 30 m. wide and standing to a height of 8 m. The original nucleus of the structure was erected in the Augustan age, but it was enlarged and completed in the time of Domitian. The fountain is faced with heavy marble slabs, beautifully worked and fitted together; the middle of the front is occupied by a semi-circular apse which constituted the basin for the water. Architecturally this 8-m. high mass of masonry is to be understood as the pedestal for the great architectural façade which was

constructed above it and fallen fragments of which are strewn over the square in a confusing mass. Between the columns and pilasters of this façade stood numerous statues, some of which were recovered, though much damaged by fire and water. Among these—about a dozen in all—the most notable are the colossal figure of a recumbent warrior, the head of a colossal statue of Zeus, and the torso of a probably Hellenistic Aphrodite, of excellent workmanship; but the other figures, which evidently formed a battle group, are valuable on account of their stylistic characteristics.

If this Nymphaeum dominated the eastern side of the great square, its southern side was filled by the façade of the terrace bearing the temple of Domitian, adorned as it was with columned halls and rising to a height of nearly three storeys. Only a relatively small section of this façade, about 40 m. wide, with the basement chambers that lie behind, could be excavated. But precisely in this section we came upon the great staircase which, branching into two, was designed for the ascent of the solemn processions as they climbed from the square to the summit of the temple terrace.

In the course of these excavations, which had to dispose of a mass of debris measuring about 35,000 c.m., about a dozen portrait heads and busts, together with numerous small finds, were recovered, in addition to the sculptures already mentioned. To these must be added the many inscriptions, which introduce us to new personalities of Ephesian society and include a chapter of the laws of the city dealing chiefly with the duties of the *prytanis*, or president of the council.

The modern excavator is, however, concerned not only to dig up and uncover new things, but within the limits of possibility and scientific accuracy, to re-erect the excavated objects. In this respect the Ephesus expedition has been at pains in recent years to proceed in an exemplary manner, which has indeed been acknowledged by the Turkish Department of Antiquities.

As mentioned above, a start was made at the *hydreion* with the re-erection of the pillars. But two particular objects specially engaged our energies. One is the Temple of Hadrian discovered last year, the almost completely preserved architecture of which constituted a challenge to an “anastylosis”. By patient, concentrated work we have, in fact, succeeded in re-erecting the façade of this attractive temple and its front wall. Our guiding principle in this was to supplement only those individual pieces which were absolutely necessary for structural reasons, otherwise to be content with putting together the original fragments. Thus the original height of the building has been reconstructed without disturbing the character of the ruin by modern additions.

The other object which will occupy us for many more years is the great Basilica of St. John. Here in the northern *interpillarium* of the main nave the pillars of the lower storey, and above the accurately restored arcades also those of the upper storey, have been re-erected with their capitals. In the corresponding part of the building on the southern side the pillars of the lower storey are already standing, so that gradually the nave is regaining its original appearance and its third dimension. When the whole operation, i.e. the erection of all the pillars in their original position, is completed, it will be possible to lose oneself in admiration of this magnificent architectural creation of the period of Justinian.

#### CLAROS<sup>1</sup>

Excavations were carried out at Claros in 1958 from the 22nd August to the end of September.

The excavation of the temple itself was completed with the final clearance of

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<sup>1</sup> Translated from information kindly supplied by Professor Louis Robert.

the first chamber of the subterranean oracular adyton. An arch of the vault of this room had collapsed ; it was dismantled, the space below was cleared and the arch was re-erected. A vault in the second chamber was re-erected in the same way. The vaulted postern linking the two chambers was cleared down to the ground level for the purpose of the architectural survey ; it had a maximum height of 1.57 m. The definitive survey of the temple and its subterranean parts was completed.

To the north of the temples, roughly on the axis of the altar and the façade of the great temple, we made two long soundings almost to the limit of the fields which had been expropriated ; the results were entirely negative.

The principal undertaking, in the way of clearance, was concerned with the monumental altar and the area adjoining it to the north and south. The altar itself was completely cleared. It measures 18.45 m. in length and about 9 m. in depth down to the first step. M. Martin recognised the traces of two sacrificial tables. There were fragments of modest decoration. Two orthostates served to confirm that it was from the altar that the inscribed plaques found in 1905 in the basilica of Notion had come (one of these is in the Museum at Smyrna and the other is still *in situ* in the undergrowth of the forest which covers the site of this basilica). To the north of the altar we found an absolutely intact sundial bearing the dedication of an agoranome of the late Hellenistic period. To the south we found, beyond the round base of Thyatira and the pillar of Cicero, the first drum of the column of which we had already found three other drums ; it bears the name of a citizen, Menippos, to whom the people had erected this great honorific monument. He is the person in whose honour the long decree engraved on another base, at the south-east corner of the temple, was issued, in the period following the creation of the Roman province of Asia. Farther to the south an exedra was found almost intact ; and an armchair, completely intact, with arms formed of winged serpents, was also recovered.

The region of the altar also yielded a certain number of inscriptions. These are, as usual, mainly lists of delegations which came to consult the oracle in the 2nd century A.D. There are no geographical surprises : a list from Phocaea, one from Parion, two from Heraclea ad Salbacum in Caria, three from Laodicea in Phrygia, one from Acmonia in Phrygia ; the only novelty is Cydonia with two lists, one of which furnishes an interesting detail about sacrifice, but we already know two Cretan towns which were regular clients of Claros, namely Lappa and Hierapytna. These texts were engraved some on the exedra, some on the altar. In fact the steps of the altar had been covered with them, like those of the temple, but the majority, which were easily transportable, have disappeared. In addition we have an inscription honouring a Colophonian who was victor in the games at the Isthmus and at Claros, and the epigram of an Olympian wrestler which dates from the 3rd century B.C.

The workmen continued to bring us inscriptions extracted from houses in the village or from ruined farms of the neighbourhood ; among them a fragment parallel to an inscription of the temple of Athena at Notion, a funerary epigram, a fragment of a decree of the Ionians for the asylum of Colophon mentioning the sacred grove. From some distance to the north of the village, on the road to Old Colophon, came a Hermes with curious sculptures, and mentioning a fine to be paid to the proprietor of the domain. We dug this small rupestrian tomb in two places. The discovery of a Hellenistic epitaph from the necropolis to the west of Notion led us to examine this spot, which is peculiar on account of the undecorated stelae carved in the rocks.

M. Pierre Devambez has devoted much work to the sculpture. He applied himself particularly to the enormous fragments of the colossal cult statues. Aided constantly by coins, he made new classifications and identifications of members. The most complete statue is that of Leto.

The Roberts also worked in the Museums of Istanbul and Izmir on the inscriptions of Cyzicus and the region of Daskyleion, of Iasos and of Teos. They carried out several journeys in May, August and October, in Mysia, to Satala in Lydia, to Teos and to Nicomedia. In Mysia they studied the site of Erdek-Artake and drew up a catalogue, for the Cyzicus Corpus, of the documents collected in the archaeological depot at Erdek. They visited Daskyleion, copying inscriptions at Ergili and at Ziraatli. At Nicomedia they studied various interesting epitaphs, among them that of a mysteriarch, with a new village-name, and one on wood of an Aradian sculptor. A decree of Teos concerns the annexation of the town of Kyrbissos with very detailed regulations about the garrison and the phrourarchy; the decipherment of this badly defaced text was almost completely successful. New gladiatorial reliefs were found at Smyrna, at Erdek and at Nicomedia.

Between April and November the French Institute of Archaeology at Istanbul arranged for the following scholars to visit Istanbul: for three months, M. G. Dumézil (Paris; Caucasian languages and folklore), and Mme I. Mélikoff (Paris; Turkish literature of the 14th century); for one month, M. P. Devambez (Paris; Greek sculpture at Istanbul and Izmir, and verifications at the sanctuary of Sinuri near Mylaşa). It also welcomed for periods varying from two weeks to two months, the following representatives of other institutions: MM. J. Irigoin (Poitiers; Greek codicology), H. Stern (Paris; Byzantine mosaics and sculpture), Melle. E. Haspels and M. Hemmelrijk (Amsterdam; exploration in Phrygia), MM. H. Metzger (Lyon; pottery of Xanthos), C. Mundy (London; Turkish language and literature), D. von Bothmer (New York; Greek pottery), Mme Chaput (Dijon; geology), MM. E. Laroche (Strasbourg; Hittite), Molé (Teheran; Persian literature), and Chevallier (Damascus; the Lebanon in the 18th century).

### *SARDIS*<sup>1</sup>

An American expedition worked at Sardis during the summer of 1958. The excavators claim to have pin-pointed an area of the ancient city of the Lydian period of which the location was hitherto uncertain. The claim is based on the discovery of a potter's shop with many Lydian vases some 300 yards east of the highway bridge across the Pactolus (cf. H. C. Butler, *Sardis* 1, Ill. 18, for the location). This "Lydian Shop" (LS) came to light between and below two walls of a Roman and Early Christian residential complex, the "House of Bronzes" (HB). Ten units of the latter were uncovered and important bronze vessels and implements retrieved from two areas on the basement level.

Excavation was begun of two large structures in the Hermus Plain. Building "B" (Butler, op. cit., Ill. 18, p. 32), which is some 120 m. long, consists of two apsidal halls and a central unit aligned on a north-south axis. Its construction features pillars of masonry linked by strong walls of brick and rubble in horizontal courses. Its southern façade and (internal) south apse were traced, as well as part of the long eastern wall. In the centre of a semi-circular platform, which follows the course of the apse, there came to light an inscribed base for a statue of Lucius Verus (A.D. 161-169). The dedicant, Claudius Antonius Lepidus, "from the beginning

<sup>1</sup> Information kindly contributed by George M. A. Hanfmann, Harvard University, Field Director, and A. Henry Detweiler, Cornell University, Field Adviser.

took care of the administration of the gymnasium". (The inscription discloses that he was Chief Priest of Asia, *archiereus Asias*; he dedicated a statue of Faustina the Younger, *Sardis* 7, 1932, no. 59.) Adjacent to the southern façade of "B" was a row of shops, three of which were excavated. They yielded considerable amounts of coal, animal bones and shells, glass, and some 300 bronze coins. The latest coins date from the rule of Heraklios (A.D. 610-641).

At the easternmost area of the Roman city, the excavators explored the eastern part of a large complex of limestone masonry "CG" (marked by a double wall, *Sardis* 1, Ill. 18 and p. 30, where H. C. Butler conjectured that it might be the city gate for the Royal Road). They exposed an oblong, c. 30 m.  $\times$  9 m., with a large arch and semi-circular and rectangular recesses on east and west façades; these recesses are roofed by barrel vaults and half-domes of masonry. A hemicycle adjoins the northern end of the oblong. (Sounding to a depth of 9 m. showed that a lower storey exists below that exposed. The complex extends to the west and to the north. Considerable evidence of Byzantine repairs came to light, but nothing to indicate the date of the original construction.)

In the side valley of the Pactolus, the expedition undertook three soundings in the vicinity of the temple of Artemis, which had been excavated (between 1910 and 1914) by H. C. Butler. The first trench (c. 15 m.  $\times$  10 m.) was started from the "Hellenistic-Lyidian" level of the precinct to the south of the temple and just outside the area previously sounded by Butler (cf. *Sardis* 1, 42 f., for "Hellenistic-Lyidian" Level II, and 134, 145 for excavation south of the temple, and Pl. III, plan of the precinct.) Below the mixed surface level, it revealed a river bed with two major "strata", and hardpan underneath. Sherds found in the river bed ranged from Geometric through the 6th century. A Lydian graffito and a terracotta die (dice) were the most notable finds. The second trench, on the terrace above and to the south of the first, was expanded into an excavation of a Roman structure of which three rooms had been partly cleared by Butler (cf. *Sardis* 1, Pl. III, lower left corner, on 100 contour line). This building "L" (maximum dimensions preserved, c. 30 m.  $\times$  18 m.) had at least eight rooms arranged in two parallel rows. Soundings in depth revealed a level of ashes and sherds which seems to begin in the 5th century B.C. Underneath, there was again a torrent bed and hardpan. Occupation of the southern part of the precinct does not appear to have begun before the 5th century B.C. (The results throw doubt upon the assumption that an archaic temple of the time of Croesus preceded the large Hellenistic temple. The Roman structure "L" was in use until the 5th century A.D. Traces of burials at its disrupted southern end may belong to the Byzantine cemetery previously encountered by Butler. Cf. *Sardis* 1, p. 134, 145. A secondary occupation during the 12th and 13th centuries A.D. is attested by coins.) The third sounding, "KG", on a flat-topped hill north-east of the Artemis precinct ("Kagirlik Tepe", cf. *Sardis* 1, Pl. I, south of the "villa", on 175 contour line) was a stepped trench (c. 13 m.  $\times$  3.5 m.). A dozen of late Roman graves were found, some built of bricks, others roughly put together of tiles; the soil underneath was barren of any man-made remains.

The finds of the 1958 campaign yielded an extensive sequence of Lydian pottery. An early phase with links to Greek Proto-geometric and Geometric as well as resemblances to Cypriote, Cilician, and South-west Anatolian Iron Age was represented by sherds found under the floor of the "Lydian Shop" (and occasional pieces from the Artemis precinct), while the "Lydian Shop" exemplifies the mixture of Geometric and Orientalising elements current in Lydia around 600 B.C. (the date is indicated by a Rhodian "Wildgoat" sherd). The later development is mirrored in the material from the Artemis precinct which may carry down into Hellenistic

times (material found under "L"). The abundant though poorly preserved finds of glass in the shops south of building "B" include both table-ware and window glass, presumably of Early Byzantine date. Only bronze coins were found, the earliest perhaps of Hellenistic times; the largest number seems to date from the time between Constantine and Heraklios (cf. the remarks by H. W. Bell, *Sardis* II, 1916, vii). The vessels and implements found in the "House of Bronzes" include a remarkable shovel-like implement surmounted by a cross, perhaps a successor to the Roman *vatillum* or *batillum*; two censers, one round, one hexagonal, of shapes well known from Coptic and other finds; two heating vessels (*authepsae*, *caldaria*), one of which has a close parallel found in a Royal grave at Ballana (Nubia); a mighty bronze cauldron or brazier; and two bronze flagons with angular shoulders. A stone statue (of Bacchus) was likewise found in the "House of Bronzes", together with several stone mortars and a pestle shaped like a human leg. From building "B" comes a marble pilaster capital of the 2nd century A.D. which includes the representation of an archaic Anatolian image. The same image appears on Roman coins of Sardis (cf. the discussion by B. V. Head, *BMC Lydia*, 1901, CX). A very fine marble foot, also from "B", might be that of Lucius Verus. A broken statue of a youth leaning against a pillar, so-called "Ganymede", was found under the floor of the Byzantine shops south of "B" and also the base of a two-figure group (Eros and Psyche?). Among the chance finds brought to the expedition is a fine funerary stele depicting a seated woman and a standing girl; an epigram of four lines is inscribed above. It is probably early Hellenistic. A modest relief found east of the precinct of Artemis claims attention as the earliest representation of Cybele, the great goddess of Sardis. It seems to be a work of the 4th century B.C. The piece was found built into a Roman wall. The goddess holds a lion in her lap, while another is seated at her feet. In addition to the Lydian graffito (four letters, OLAM, incised on a poor black-glaze fragment), two vases from the "Lydian Shop" have "potter's marks". Eight Greek and one Latin inscription (mostly fragments) were found in the excavation. Dean S. E. Johnson also reports five new Greek inscriptions which he located outside the excavation (one of these mentions Sabazios). He will include in his (forthcoming) report an account of the present state and location of inscriptions previously known, as well as a list of unpublished inscriptions left by the first Sardis expedition in the ruins of their excavation house.

The expedition is a joint undertaking of the Fogg Art Museum and Cornell University under the auspices of the American Schools of Oriental Research with the support of the Bollingen Foundation of New York. Additional means were also received from a group known as Supporters of Sardis.

### KÜLTEPE<sup>1</sup>

In 1958 Prof. Tahsin Özgüç excavated at Kültepe from June until September. Excavations took place on the mound on a large scale and two levels were excavated. Areas U-ee/43-47 of the large building which had been partially excavated in 1957, consisting of long narrow rooms which must have been depots, and the large stone paved courtyard, were brought to light. North-west of this building, which is contemporary with Karum II, the other warehouses which also were living quarters had mud brick walls painted in two colours. This building is not smaller than the temples of the Imperial Hittite period. According to us this building is an administrative centre rather than a temple. In fact, according to the Kültepe

<sup>1</sup> Translated from information kindly supplied by Professor Tahsin Özgüç.

tablets, there should be such an administrative building on the mound, as well as five temples.

On top two more Early Bronze Age levels were excavated. As we have already pointed out here, the E.B.A. is a local example of the Central Anatolian E.B.A. The monochrome pottery of this period, is typical for the Kayseri plain and beside it are some painted sherds in small quantity. This pottery is different from that of Alaca Hüyük but closer to Alişar. Chalcolithic levels have not yet been reached but it has been possible to study and compare the late, middle and early phases of the E.B.A.

On the *karum* work was resumed in areas s-y/15-20, o-s 24-27 and N-R/22-24. Levels Ia and Ib were found to be one over the other and composed of buildings in good condition. No tablets were found in Ia. In Ib, however, an important tablet bearing a stamp seal impression was discovered. In the Ib houses and tombs it has become very easy to distinguish the pottery of Ib from that of II by the shapes and the technique. A great many imported objects were also discovered which are extremely important for the dating and chronological problems of levels Ia and Ib.

In level II, two archives consisting of 800 tablets, apart from numerous dispersed tablets, were discovered. Until now no plans of the archive building had been found in the *karum*. The "office" and the rooms in which the owner of the archives lived with his family were separated from one another by a corridor. Although the mud brick walls were standing quite high, there were no windows, which shows that the light must have come in through the roof and doors. In a room of one of the houses the owner of the archive had been buried in a large stone sarcophagus and by blocking the opening for the door with stones, this room had been cut off from the rest of the building. This fits in with the information on tablets of the same level that the house is abandoned after the owner's death.

In level II were brought to light new pottery types which had not been found for the last ten years and especially examples unknown in the Old Hittite and Imperial periods. In both levels of the *karum*, apart from imported North Syrian pottery, are examples made in local Kanesh clay. Accordingly, we can find in the Kanesh *karum* the following five types of pottery which change in variety and quantity according to the levels:

(a) Alişar III pottery. (b) Pottery which afterwards bears the name of Hittite. (c) Proper Kültepe pottery, not to be found elsewhere. (d) Pottery imported from North Syria. (e) Local imitations of North Syrian pottery.

This table gives the basic classification of pottery types in the first quarter of the IIInd millennium B.C. However, it changes progressively northwards within the Halys bend and is not quite paralleled at such centres as Alişar, Alacahüyük and Boğazköy.

#### *Investigations at Altıntepe*

In October 1958 we investigated Altıntepe on the road from Erzincan to Erzurum. Until 1958 no scientific investigation had been made of this site which had yielded important Urartian metal objects. It is a natural high hill and judging from the pottery collected on the slopes was first settled in the Urartian period. At the same period, the settlement was surrounded by a fortification. On the Urartian remains are the traces of a stronghold dating from the Middle Ages. This later ruin makes it more difficult to investigate the earlier city. North-east of Altıntepe were built funerary chambers in very fine stone technique. This necropolis consists of large rectangular underground chambers with a niche. The objects now exhibited in the Ankara Museum come from one of these, which had



been destroyed. We have been able to trace three others. Their excavation should give important results for the archaeology of the Urartian period. We do not yet know of chambers of such a type and fine technical standard in the area of Urartian civilisation. It might be possible to find rich funerary gifts *in situ* as they are said to be very numerous. The pottery gathered on the surface is monochrome red slipped ware such as is found on the other Urartian sites. We hope to start excavations at Altintepe during the next season.

### KARAHÖYÜK<sup>1</sup>

At Karahöyük, seven kilometres south of Konya, and one of the largest Middle Bronze settlements of Ancient Anatolia, excavations sponsored by the Turkish Historical Society, Ankara University, and the Department of Antiquities of the Ministry of Education, were conducted since 1953 under the direction of Professor Sedat Alp and they were resumed from May to July of this year.

To date, Levels I–IV, belonging to the Middle Bronze Age or Old Hittite period, and Level V, which represents the transition from the Early to the Middle Bronze Age, have been investigated, and certain hitherto unknown aspects of the ancient Anatolian cultures have been brought to light.

A palace, private houses and streets have been discovered in Level I, and no break in cultural continuity has been observed throughout the Middle Bronze Age levels.

To the south-west of the city, about 100 m. from the present mound and buried under a thick layer of alluvial soil, the largest Central Anatolian city wall yet discovered of the first half of the second millennium B.C. has been brought to light in a very well-preserved state, at about 6.5 m. below the level of the present-day fields. It has been possible to assign this wall to the third building level of the city and thus date it as from the beginning of the second millennium B.C. The same fortification must have lasted throughout the periods of Level II and Level I. The city wall of Karahöyük is very probably older than those of Troy VI and Alishar of the Old Hittite period. The defensive wall of Karahöyük consisted of twin walls and adjoining chambers behind them. The twin walls were strengthened by cross-walls. The city wall was protected by projecting towers placed at intervals. The chambers have been used as dwellings. There is definite proof that the chambers were parts of one and the same fortification. The "Kastenmauer" of Karahöyük with its towers constitutes an important forerunner of the imperial fortifications of Boğazköy and Mersin VII. Considering the fact that the defensive walls of Karahöyük with the chambers behind them belong together, they preserve an archaic feature and have strong links with the defence system of chalcolithic Mersin (Level XVI), with that of the Early Bronze Age Ahlatlıbel and with the Early Helladic fortification of Aigina as well.

In 1958 to the south of the excavated area, at a position where the direction of the city wall is changing, a large building was discovered, which revealed the plan of a city gate. It consisted of an entrance and projecting towers at either side. One of the towers was strengthened by the parallel cross-walls.

Although most of the finds of Karahöyük show the characteristics of a Central Anatolian site, many of them give evidence of cultural relations between East and West, as might be expected from the geographical position of the city. In the different levels of Karahöyük a series of horned hearths have been found *in situ*, very similar to those found at Kusura and Beycesultan, and probably used as offering places or

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<sup>1</sup> Information kindly supplied by Professor Sedat Alp.

shrines. This establishes a close relationship between the three sites. Various face-pots resembling those found in Troy beginning with the second level have been unearthed at Karahöyük. It has been also possible to establish close relationship between the pottery of Karahöyük at its deeper levels and the second millennium ceramic of Bayraklı (Ancient Smyrna).

At Karahöyük an impressive collection of impressions of stamp-seals have been discovered, the largest collection of stamp-seals of the Old Hittite period unearthed so far in one Middle Bronze Age site of Ancient Anatolia, also cylinder seals of very high quality or their impressions. The latter include seals of Old Babylonian, Syro-Hittite, Syro-Cappadocian and Anatolian styles. The impressions of Cappadocian cylinders help to date the first level of Karahöyük to the last phase of the Assyrian commercial colonies in Anatolia. One of the cylinders in Syro-Hittite style, which was found in the same building where impressions of a cylinder in Syro-Cappadocian style were discovered, belongs to the so-called Tyszkiewicz group of seals and helps to date them earlier than the date which was already presumed for them.

Thanks to the figures and decorative elements found on stamp and cylinder seals close relations are coming to light between the region of Konya of the first half of the second millennium B.C. and the cultures of Syria and Mesopotamia on the one hand, and those of Crete, the Aegean Islands, Greece and Balkans on the other. There are also close resemblances between the architecture of private houses as found in Karahöyük and that brought to light by the British excavations at Thermi, in the Island of Lesbos.

One of the most important results emerging from the Karahöyük excavations is that it enables us to push back the age of the Hittite hieroglyphic writing by 200 to 300 years beyond the earliest date, which could be accepted with confidence, i.e. back to about 1750 B.C. Moreover, Karahöyük has also yielded epigraphic material representing an earlier stage of the hieroglyphs, which was hitherto unknown.

### *ISTANBUL AND İZMIT*<sup>1</sup>

(1) A tumulus was opened in the village of Küçük Tersiy Köyü, near Istanbul (Regio Tarsia), by treasure hunters. They discovered some silver and gold-plated objects: a gold diadem, two oval silver goblets and an urn of gold and silver. The latter in its original shape resembles that of Hellenistic jars. Many pottery "unguentaria" and "lagynos" were also uncovered. The metal vessels are closely akin in shape to pottery ones, and are therefore most important for the dating of Hellenistic pottery. They will all be exhibited in the Istanbul Archeological Museum.

(2) Two funerary reliefs of the 5th century A.D. were found in the Byzantine necropolis at Taşkasap, in Istanbul. They are remarkable for their beautiful workmanship.

(3) At Izmit (Nicomedia), the western necropolis was uncovered while building the road to Istanbul, and many sarcophagi, inscriptions and funerary stelae (some dating as early as the 4th century B.C.) were excavated.

### *ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF THE KONYA PLAIN*

Mr. J. Mellaart has contributed the following note:

The survey of the Konya plain, undertaken by myself in 1951 and 1952, and then abandoned for lack of transport, was finally completed through the courtesy of Mr. Alan Hall, who took Mr. David French and myself in his Land Rover. In

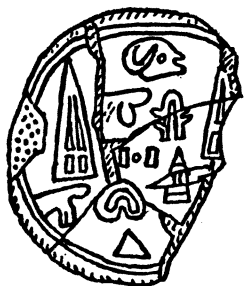
<sup>1</sup> By courtesy of Mr. Nezih Fıratlı, Archaeological Museum, Istanbul.

ten days at the beginning of the month of November the work that would have taken months on foot was completed, and another hundred sites visited. But for some inaccessible or ploughed-out sites, most of which are almost certainly of late, i.e. Roman, date, the survey can be said to have been completed.

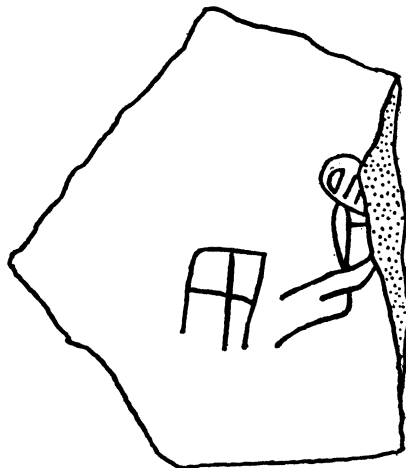
Of a total of about 200 sites, virtually all mounds, about half show occupation of the Roman period and at least sixty-five yielded remains of the Iron Age and Hellenistic periods.

Middle Bronze Age sites numbered about twenty-five, but sites with Late Bronze Age material (so-called "Hittite Empire" period) were scarce. Not more than twenty sites, of which at least six are doubtful, can be assigned to this period, which is of supreme importance for the study of Hittite geography.

Most common of all were the Early Bronze Age sites, many of them of truly



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enormous size (some are nearly 1 km. long, one is even larger) and often provided with citadels. Over eighty of these were found, of which a very large number were destroyed by fire and henceforth abandoned. The enormous destruction noticed, which extends from one end of the plain to the other, a distance of about 200 km., can only be described as a catastrophe of the first magnitude, probably the result of the arrival (or passing through) of a large body of invaders. The possibility that we have here evidence for the Luvians *en route* from south-west Anatolia to Cilicia, is further supported by the date of the destruction, which corresponds to the end of Early Bronze II in Cilicia. Early Bronze III wares were found at only *four* sites in the Konya plain, and in most cases on sites where Middle Bronze Age material was also found. Even if all the Middle Bronze Age sites had Early Bronze III material also, the decline in population, or at least in the number of sites, as a result of this catastrophe remains striking.

The Early Bronze I-II pottery collected on these sites is so bulky that it is hoped that a corpus of pottery of that period in the Konya plain can now be established.

Sixteen mounds with *Late Chalcolithic* burnished and white-painted wares are now known in the Konya plain, but the real surprise was the discovery of fourteen *Early Chalcolithic* sites with painted pottery of a hitherto unknown type, related to but not identical with that of Mersin XXVI (Late Neolithic)—XXIV-XX (Early Chalcolithic). *Bichrome wares* related to Mersin XVI were also found in quantity at Can Hasan Hüyük, near Karaman. One of these Early Chalcolithic sites is about

400 m. in diameter, twice the size of Mersin and obviously a *town*. Even more important is the discovery of one huge *Neolithic town-site* besides the Early Chalcolithic town. This mound is about 500 m. long and over 15 m. high. Fifteen metres above the plain one walks over the ruins of burnt rectangular Neolithic houses. Neolithic pottery, obsidian tools like those found at Mersin and Ilicapinar and in the Pisidian Lake District, where there are now about a dozen Neolithic sites known, litter the slopes of the mound. This mound is nearly three times the size of Jericho and it is very likely that were excavations undertaken here, as one day they should be, some extremely important conclusions might be reached about the earliest settlement on the Anatolian plateau, which now appears to have been as early as in the Cilician plain if not, as we suspect, even earlier. Neolithic material was found at four other sites in the plain.

I should like to take this opportunity of publishing drawings of two inscribed objects referred to previously, viz. (1) bulla found at Ortakaraviran Hüyük South (*AS. IV*, 1954, p. 240, with inadequate reproduction fig. 478), and (2) inscribed potsherd from Çivril Hüyük (*AS. V*, 1955, p. 80). See opposite page.