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SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN TURKEY IN 1959

*GORDION*¹

WORK AT GORDION in 1959 included the opening of one more large Phrygian tumulus and further clearing of the burned city of the 8th century.

The tumulus (W), which lies about half a mile to the east of the Royal Tomb opened in 1957, is the second in size in that part of the cemetery, with a height of about 22 m. and a base diameter of about 150 m. The tomb beneath it lay slightly to the south-west of centre. Its position had been marked for purposes of centring during the piling of the mound by a wooden mast set up over the centre of the roof. The hole left in the hard clay of the tumulus by the disintegration of the wooden mast could be traced for a distance of 9 m. The flat roof of the wooden tomb had collapsed under the weight of the stones and clay piled over it, so that the contents of the chamber were crushed and scattered. The fragmentary skeleton of an adult lay at the centre on the floor, the head toward the west. It had been dressed in a linen garment fastened by bronze fibulae and girded by a leather belt decorated with bronze studs set to make patterns. At each end of the tomb stood a row of coarse pottery vessels which had probably contained food and drink for the dead. The more important offerings were at the south-east corner : two bronze bowls with bucket handles fastened to bird-protome attachments, and two small cauldrons each with two bull-head attachments carrying ring handles. These larger bronze vessels had been badly crushed and broken by the collapse of the tomb roof, but smaller vessels of bronze and pottery which had been packed inside the cauldrons were mostly unbroken and in good condition. The three pottery vessels were all sieve-spouted jugs with side handle, one of common polished ware, the other two painted. One of the two painted jugs, which has a very long spout, is covered overall with geometric patterns ; it finds close parallels among the painted vases of Koerte Tumulus III. The other, a tall jug with open round mouth and a small pouring spout at the rim, is decorated with geometric designs in black and red. The nineteen bronze vessels include plain and omphalos bowls, two bowls with relief decoration, two ladles, a round-mouthed stemmed jug with one handle and a sieve-spouted jug with side handle decorated at the top by rotelles. Scattered through the grave were thirty-two bronze fibulae, all of types known from the Royal Tomb and Koerte III. The remains of a wooden screen similar to those found in previous years lay on the floor. This time, however, the decoration was not of wood inlay but of cut-cut openwork embellished by round-headed bronze studs set in patterns on the surface. Close parallels to objects found in the tombs dug in 1956 and 1957 as well as in Koerte Tumulus III place the date for the new tomb again toward the end of the 8th century B.C.

The destruction layers in the burned Phrygian city for the first time yielded many fragments of objects of all sorts—bronzes, pottery vessels, wooden furniture—closely similar to those found in the tombs, thus co-ordinating a chronology which had been tentative, and confirming the attribution of the widespread destruction to the Kimmerian raid which took place at the opening of the 7th century. Fragmentary bronze ladles and omphalos bowls were of exactly the same types as

¹ Report kindly contributed by Professor Rodney Young.

better-preserved examples found in Tumulus P and W, the Royal Tomb and Koerte III. A bird-shaped askos with overall painted checkerboard decoration was a twin of one found in the child's tomb, Tumulus P. The furniture, of wood, was found in fragmentary and completely carbonised condition, but enough remained to show that there had been a screen of open-work like the ones found in Tumulus P and W; fragments of inlay cut in chevrons, triangles and zigzags recalled the inlaid screens of Tumulus P and the Royal Tomb. New was a wooden panel (now charcoal) decorated on one face with carving in low relief showing a procession of long-horned bulls led by a horseman carrying perhaps a flail; the processional zone was bordered above and below by elaborate geometric patterns in relief. Some of the furniture had been ornamented by small square plaques of ivory, inlaid. Three of these plaques, which measure 5 cm. on a side, were recovered almost complete. The relief carving on their faces is Phrygian in style; these plaques were probably carved locally and are the first representatives of a Phrygian school of ivory carving. The three well-preserved plaques show a deer with back-turned head, a mounted warrior, helmeted and carrying shield and spear and a griffin with a fish in its mouth.

The best of these objects together with huge quantities of pottery vessels, many of them painted, were found in a large building just to the west of the two "megara" cleared in 1956 and 1957. The length of the building ("Megaron 3") was about 30·50 m. and its width nearly 18 m.; in plan it consisted of a shallow outer room and an inner room measuring 18·85 by 15·05 m. A round hearth of plaster lay at the centre of the outer room. Two rows of wooden posts (four in each row in the inner room and one in the outer) divided the area into central nave and side aisles and helped to support the roof by lessening the span. In the inner room posts set at intervals against the wall faces on three sides would seem to have served to carry a wooden gallery which extended from the side walls to the central nave at each side of the room and across its inner end—a depth of about 3·50 m. We should thus probably restore a room with galleries around three sides and perhaps a clerestory.

This plan seems to have been a common one at Gordion. On a terrace to the south of Megaron 3 three rooms were cleared of another large building, perhaps a storehouse. The rooms, identical in size (about 13·40 by 11·50 m.) lie in a row along the north side of the building, separated by unbroken party walls. Each opened through a wide doorway into a smaller anteroom at the south; and in each two rows of four posts had divided the area into nave and side aisles, while a single post midway at the inner end again suggested a wooden gallery running around three sides. In two of the rooms round stucco hearths near centre suggested a clerestory and perhaps an opening in the roof above, while in all three huge quantities of pottery stacked and fallen along the walls suggested a collapse of galleries in which things had been stored. This terrace building must have been very extensive; it is known that two more rooms lay to the east of the ones cleared, and at least one more to the west, while at the south the anterooms must have opened to a connecting corridor or perhaps a court.

The size of the inner room of Megaron 3 together with the richness of its furnishings suggests that the building may have been the palace, or part of it. The building on the terrace may have belonged to the same complex—state apartments on a lower level at the north, domestic offices and store-rooms on a terrace to the south. The whole seems to have been surrounded by a temenos or enclosure wall which set it apart from the rest of the town.

*BOĞAZKÖY*¹

The excavations of the German Archaeological Institute and the German Orient Society at Boğazköy-Hattuša were continued from the 22nd July to the 14th October, 1959, with the primary object of concluding the work on Büyükkale.

Post-Hittite occupation on Büyükkale can be divided into two phases, the Hellenistic-Roman, and an earlier which, for lack of a better term, is called "Phrygian". The later levels are much disturbed by erosion and by modern cultivation; but it proved possible to clarify the layout of the fortifications—in Roman times a simple wall with a gate in square v/6, covering the easily assailable slope on the south and part of that on the west, in the Phrygian period a complete wall with towers, two gateways, and four rebuilding phases, enclosing the whole citadel. Inside the citadel eight building levels were distinguished, of which the two latest were shown by coins to belong roughly to the period from Hadrian to Gallienus. Intensive Phrygian occupation began, to judge from the pottery, hardly before the 8th century B.C. Its lower limit is uncertain, but it seems probable that it lasted till the Hellenistic epoch and the invasion of the Galatians (278/7 B.C.).

The plan of the Hittite citadel was completed at three points.

In the extreme north the clearance of Buildings E and F was concluded. Building E, first breached in 1907, when an archive of tablets was found there, can be regarded as a dwelling-house. It had a broad entrance-chamber and a large central hall, surrounded by smaller rooms. Staircases proved that it had two storeys, the entrance being on a level with the upper storey, where the ground rose towards the centre of the citadel. Building F was found to measure 30 by 35 m. and resembled Building D in its method of construction. Its nucleus consisted of five long magazine-like rooms, with an L-shaped corridor running round the north-west and south-west sides, and several smaller rooms adjoining on the south-east and south-west. Nothing similar is known in ancient Anatolian architecture. It is possible, however, that the nucleus of the building may be merely the substructure of a pillared hall (on the analogy of Building D).

In the south-east of the citadel the excavation of Building K was completed. This building, which measured 22.5 by 27.5 m., was constructed on the lip of the precipice; parts of it had fallen away at the time of the destruction of Hattuša, c. 1200 B.C., and its state of preservation was seriously affected by post-Hittite building activity (it lay immediately under the Phrygian gate where the group of statuary was found in 1957). It had a row of six small rooms, apparently opening, through a row of pillars, towards the centre of the citadel, and a similar range of rooms on the north-east side. Inside were two rooms, one of which contained "Archive K", found in 1957. The rest of the building is lost.

The south-west front of Building K interrupts the fortification wall on the southern slope of the citadel. It now appears that the wall originally ran straight across to the terrace wall in square u/4-5. The south-eastern angle, with its bastion, was built together with Building K, continuing the line of its outer wall. Traces were found of a wall leading from the south-east front of Building K towards the south-east bastion. This may have formed a second way of approach to the citadel in Hittite times, a forerunner of the Phrygian approach-way leading to the eastern gate.

To the south-west of the central plateau the outer courtyard was found to have been bounded on its south-eastern and south-western sides by a colonnade

¹ Translated from information kindly contributed by Dr. Thomas Beran.

(continuing the line of the inner wall of Building G), a remarkable example of the deliberate planning of an open space. Approaching the citadel by way of the steep path from the main gate, one would thus step through this colonnade into the outer court, on to which faced Buildings G and H and part of the west front of Building A. In the north-east corner there was a gate-house, presumably with steps, leading to the inner court, on to which opened the main front of the archive-building A and that of the throne-room D.

Deep excavations in the south-western and south-eastern sectors resulted in a considerable refinement and extension of our knowledge of the Old Hittite and pre-Hittite periods on Büyükkale.

In the south-west a large building of Level IVb was excavated, adjoining that excavated in 1952 (*MDOG.* 86, 12-13, plan 2). It consisted mainly of a long, rectangular room, built of ashlar blocks, carefully laid, and drained by a water channel. This cellar-like room has a distinct resemblance to Building C of the Empire period.

Belonging to the level preceding IVb was a building of monumental dimensions with walls 2 m. thick, consisting of remarkably large, undressed stones. Both for this building and for Level IVb the whole terrain had been prepared by levelling and filling, so that within these buildings earlier strata could not be distinguished. South-east of the building with large stones, however, the ground had not been claimed for building, so that here it was possible to observe the earlier levels. In the uppermost were the remains of a house with ashlar foundations and brick walls, the latter covered with a thick mud plaster and finished with a white lime wash. The level under this brick house had come to a violent end by fire, producing a layer of burning probably to be synchronised with that of IVc, previously observed in the vicinity of Building G. Three levels below this, in a level also destroyed by fire, was another monumental building with walls standing up to 2 m. It contained two parallel, rectangular rooms measuring about 8 by 3·5 m., with other smaller rooms on the west and north sides. The foundations were of partly dressed, partly natural stones, the superstructure consisted of a framework of wood filled with a jumble of stones, bricks and mortar poured in between the beams, the whole covered with a thick mud plaster. Only the partition walls between the small rooms consisted partly of pure brickwork. Fragments of the ceiling, with roof-beams and the floor of the upper storey, were recovered. Soundings down to virgin rock revealed that at least here in the south-west of the citadel this building had no predecessor. It was also revealed that after the destruction of the building there was a gap in occupation, during which the debris of burning was washed far and wide over the surrounding country and especially down the precipice.

The building had been thoroughly looted, so that nothing but potsherds could be found in it. The pottery shows that the building had lasted a considerable time. Hand-made pottery of the late E.B. period (derivatives of Alishar I, a few sherds of Alishar III) was found together with hand-made prototypes and a few wheel-made samples of the so-called Hittite ware. Characteristic is a buff wheel-made ware forming wide-flaring bowls and bell-shaped beakers with string-cut bases. Shapes and technique clearly reflect Mesopotamian prototypes, and may well have come from Mesopotamia together with the wheel. A local development of the *depas amphikypellon* is also noteworthy. This mixture of types and techniques points to a date in the Middle Bronze Age, which means that the period of existence of the burnt building corresponds to the whole period of the Assyrian trading colonies. We may therefore assume a connexion between the fire which put an end to this level and the conquest and destruction of Hattuš by Anitta of Kuššara and Neša.

These conclusions tally with the results of excavations in the city, where it was found that there was a gap in occupation following the level dated by tablets to the period of Anitta (Level 4).

Within Building K and between Buildings K and A several pre-Empire levels were likewise investigated. The buildings here were of a more modest character than those in the south-west. Here too the fourth pre-Empire level proved to have perished by fire, and the sixth, which was also destroyed in a conflagration involving the whole area, contained objects of a Middle Bronze Age character similar to those from the deepest level in the south-west. In the north-east room of Building K, directly above the virgin rock and clearly below the burning-layer of the sixth level, was found a pithos which must be regarded as the oldest object yet found on Büyükkale. It is a hand-made vessel with oval cross-section, open mouth and small pedestal base, made of a coarse, yellow-brown clay tempered with sand, burnished on the outside and decorated with an irregular pattern of black, vertical lines. Two small horizontal handles are attached close under a serrated ledge running round the whole vessel. No parallel is known but the peculiarities of the vessel suggest that it should be assigned to the Chalcolithic.

Among small objects besides the large amount of well stratified pottery, several terra-cottas and bronzes may be mentioned, also a marble sword pommel and twenty-one seals or seal-impressions. Two hundred and sixty tablets or fragments of tablets were catalogued, mostly festival rituals, but also some historical fragments, letters and a few medical and divinatory texts.

CLAROS¹

The tenth campaign of excavations at Claros took place in August and September 1959. As in previous campaigns, several soundings were made down to the level of the water, at a certain distance around the temple, this time to the east, in order to make sure that there were no other buildings in the sacred grove. We extended the clearance round the temple of Apollo, in the hope of perhaps finding some more blocks and in order to open up the view. To the south-west we came upon the area where, in the Byzantine period, the columns of the back of the peristyle and the walls of the cella were cut up. To the south-east we uncovered a new Doric capital. To the north-west, behind the little Ionic temple, we found nothing. In connexion with the work of recording by drawing all the column-drums, we turned over the 11-ton architrave block bearing the name of the emperor Hadrian as dedicator; according to the titulature the dedication is not earlier than December 135 and is thus from the end of the reign.

An exceptional drought, without an hour of rain, following another dry year, facilitated work in depth. Thus the honorific bases and the exedra to the south of the temple façade could be cleared down to the bottom without trouble from water. We found there a head of a *kouros* of the 6th century (face badly destroyed, but good hair and ears) and a graceful head of a quite young girl with traces of the fixture of a metal crown (probably late Hellenistic). R. Martin continued and finished the excavation in depth at the bottom of the subterranean adyton in order to find an earlier stage of construction. The filling forming the foundation of the bottom of the cella was provisionally cleared, to half its depth and the whole of its breadth. Before the formation of this foundation, which was laid down at the time when the colossal statues of the Apollinian triad were installed and the

¹ Translated from information kindly supplied by Professor Louis Robert.

two chambers of the adyton were vaulted, the second chamber had the same depth as the first and the two chambers exactly balanced each other. Along the whole length of the back wall there was a parapet, reaching up to the breast, in front of a pool 60 m. wide. Thus the well of this second chamber, just beyond the mouth of the postern (by the entry to which a secretary was seated), can only have been built at the time of the construction of the vaults and the filling-up of the back part of the chamber. It may be observed that, though there may have been a change in the orifice—the point of access to the oracular water—for technical reasons, the actual sheet of water was the same. The ground of these subterranean chambers shows much evidence of the re-employment of blocks from older edifices, built on the same site and destroyed by the construction of the temple at the beginning of the Hellenistic period, i.e. essentially that which we see, despite certain alterations, dating from the 1st century B.C.

The excavations were extended particularly round the great altar of Apollo and of Dionysus, each of these gods having his own offering table. To the south we cleared without result a new section beyond the exedra. To the north we cleared two sections. We considerably widened the passage between the temple and the altar. This area of the altar yielded some very important discoveries. To the north of the great altar, a little in front of it, stood a second very much smaller altar. It is fairly near the little Ionic temple which we had attributed to Artemis Claria, but facing it, and must belong to it. Against its northern side we unearthed a very archaic *korē* (without its head), of natural size; the base of the body is cylindrical, one hand hangs down the body, the other is placed on the breast, the narrow waist is drawn in by a belt. The statue, the altar and consequently the little temple, are identified by the inscription which runs along the left side of the statue: "Timonax, son of Theodoros, consecrated me to Artemis, having been the first priest (τὸ πρῶτον ἱερεύσας)." These finds have a great interest for the religious history of Claros, and the statue practically links up chronologically with the Homeric hymn. Near this altar are six other altars crowded together, made of coarse stone and bearing late inscriptions; two are dedicated to Poseidon Themeliouchos and to the goddess of Miletos, Artemis Pythia.

As for inscriptions, the following must be mentioned: an intact decree of the third century with a very commonplace formula but issued in honour of an official of Ptolemy (probably Euergetes), a fact which proves, contrary to the view usually accepted, that there was a Lagid occupation at Colophon, as at Lebedos, at Ephesus, and also, in our opinion, at Teos; the remains of decrees of asylum; a list of a delegation from Chios to the oracle, of the second century A.D.; and small pieces of similar lists from Chios (with a device), Laodicea on the Lycus, Akmonia, Amasia, Sagalassos, and Philippopolis.

We continued the exploration of the territory of Colophon and that of the territory of Teos. Near Teos, in the village of Hereke, which is full of ancient blocks, we recognized an ancient Charax. There we extracted from beneath the kerb of a well—with a view to having it transported to the Museum at Izmir—a block of dark blue marble, carved with an attractive decoration of the 4th century (battle between a Greek and two Amazons), analogous to that of the stelae of Chios and Boeotia. We carried out other epigraphical work in the museums of Istanbul (excavations of Professor Ekrem Akurgal at Ergili, the ancient Daskyleion) and of Izmir, and on the sites of Sardis (American excavations), Kyme, and Nicomedia.

SARDIS¹

The second campaign at Sardis was led by George M. A. Hanfmann, Field Director, Harvard, and A. Henry Detweiler, Associate Director, Cornell, and supported by these institutions and a grant from the Bollingen Foundation, New York, with the American Schools of Oriental Research acting as sponsor. In the western part of the city, work continued on the large Roman structure "B" and in the Late Roman and Byzantine shopping centre south of "B" (cf. *Archaeology*, 12 : 1 (Spring 1959), 53-61, and *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, 154, April 1959, 5-35). New sectors were opened in the rectangular areas east and west of "B". A large marble colonnade and an imposing gate have begun to emerge east of "B". The dedicatory inscription of the gate mentions a *Sebastos kai Ioulia Sebaste*, probably a Severan Empress. A public latrine, coeval with the Byzantine Shops, was found along the boundary of the western area. Finds from the Byzantine shops continued abundant. One of the shops appears to have been transformed into a baptistery.

Across the modern highway which corresponds to the major east-west artery of ancient Sardis, the Early Christian "House of Bronzes" has developed an intelligible sequence of units; a luxuriously paved marble court yielded new bronzes (polycandelon, censor) and various marble furnishings. Two large marble statues of a togatus and his wife were found laid against the wall of another room. To the west of the "House of Bronzes", Hellenistic chamber tombs and Roman tile graves overlay at least two major Lydian levels, including one complete room. A sounding in depth may have reached a Bronze Age stratum with monochrome sherds.

Digging on the terraces above the "House of Bronzes" has established that the great city wall now visible in many parts of the site was built as a measure of retrenchment in one great effort, apparently during the 5th century A.D. The terraces consisted of debris of Roman houses replete with pottery, terra cottas, ivories and fragments of painted walls.

At the eastern boundary of Sardis, the large masonry structure "CG"—date as yet unknown—proves to have been transformed in Late Roman times into the central unit of a vast complex of brick and rubble, probably a bathing establishment. The furnace and a circular unit have been excavated as well as an interesting staircase resting on arches.

Following up a landslide from the high eastern bank of the Pactolus torrent about half a mile south of the highway, excavators exposed a stratified sequence which includes a large Roman mausoleum, a Hellenistic chamber tomb and three levels of Lydian structures. The latest of these perished in a violent fire, perhaps in the destruction of Sardis by the Ionians in 499 B.C. An expressive Late Roman portrait and fragments of a luxurious marble sarcophagus of the "Asiatic" type (second century A.D.) were found. A spirited horse head and a delicately carved portrait of a girl may belong to the sarcophagus lid. The Hellenistic "Tomb of the Lintel" yielded two major examples of Hellenistic pottery decorated with plastic attachments and reliefs. Not yet determined is the date of large marble slabs with simple profiles and lion legs at the corners.

Numerous finds have enriched the collections of Byzantine, Hellenistic and Roman pottery, of Byzantine and Roman glass and lamps, and of the two major

¹ By courtesy of Professor G. M. A. Hanfmann (Harvard) and Professor A. H. Detweiler (Cornell).

phases of early Lydian pottery. The later phase (c. 700–500 B.C.) is associated with imported Greek wares, Protocorinthian, Corinthian and Eastern Greek (Rhodian and Samian). Among the marble sculptures two large Roman capitals decorated with life-size heads of the laughing satyr and of Athena, respectively, deserve particular mention.

The results of 1959 indicate that at least in the western part of Sardis, the Lydian city covered a larger area than either the Greek city of Hellenistic times or the city of the Early Roman Empire, an interesting hint of the size of Sardis at the time of Croesus and the earlier Lydian kings.

KÜLTEPE¹

The excavations carried out by Professors Tahsin and Nimet Özgüç at Kültepe in the name of the Department of Antiquities and the Turkish Historical Society were continued in 1959.

In the *karum* a large building with storage rooms was excavated in Level Ib. In these intact buildings various vessels of well known shapes were found as well as the best preserved tablets so far found in the *karum*. These tablets, with the contemporary ones from Alishar and Boghazköy, furnish important information about the development of the last period of the Assyrian colonies and in particular about the extension of commerce starting at this period into the northern part of Central Anatolia. Stamp and cylinder-seal impressions on the Ib tablets are quite different from those of Level II. The tablets, unfortunately, are not as numerous as those of Level II. New pottery shapes and very large drinking cups with bulls' heads and seal impressions were discovered in these well preserved buildings. A mould for a statuette depicting the principal female deity with the male god, which originated at Kültepe, also shows the sacred animal, an original variation.

In Level II, a large building of ten rooms, containing the archive of a local Anatolian merchant Pushu-ahsu, was discovered. The storerooms of Pushu-ahsu, who appears to have been a very rich and important personality at Kanesh, were constructed as basement rooms. In the main hall, which occupies the centre of the building, we found a mud-brick grain bin in a corner, a hearth in the middle of the room and wide benches along the walls. Oven, kitchen and pantry formed separate rooms. The house had two storeys. Drinking vessels in the form of bulls, buffaloes, eagles and lions, cups with relief decoration and jugs with strainers were found in the pantry.

Cylinder-seal impressions of local types predominated this year, as the owners of the archives discovered were local Anatolians. It is thus possible to see the development of a local Anatolian style with its own characteristics under Mesopotamian influence. Excavations in the *karum* continue to furnish documents about this commercial centre as well as an ever increasing flow of objects with original characteristics.

On the mound, the excavation of a large building contemporary with Level II of the *karum* revealed new living quarters and in one of the rooms two tablets written in Assyrian. The cylinder-seal impressions of local style on the bullae are of the same style as those found in Level II of the *karum*. This monumental building, which judging by its plan, must be regarded as a temple, shows the presence of such monumental temples at Kültepe at least four centuries earlier than the temples of the Hittite Empire period at Boghazköy.

¹ Translated from a report kindly supplied by Professor Tahsin Özgüç.

The excavation of the deeper prehistoric levels on the mound revealed regular architectural complexes dating from the middle and early phases of the Early Bronze Age, with pottery and marble figurines. It would appear that chalcolithic levels will soon be reached. This year it was found that the stone cist graves in which the dead were buried were lavishly equipped with funerary offerings, both pottery of local origin and objects imported from North Syria. In view of its chronological importance for Central Anatolia, the pottery will soon be published. The Kültepe excavations now show that relations between North Syria and this part of Central Anatolia go back to the Early Bronze Age.

*ALTINTEPE*¹

In 1938 a chance discovery of Urartian objects was made at Altintepe, at the eastern end of the plain of Erzincan. It has now been ascertained that these came from a tomb and that only a small part of them was brought to the Ankara Museum. Since then, Altintepe has been neglected and no scientific exploration took place on the site. In 1956, a second burial was discovered close to the tomb destroyed in 1938, but none of the objects it contained found their way to the Turkish National Museums. While clearing the floor of this tomb, which consists of three chambers, in 1959, we saw that some finds of great importance for Urartian archaeology were still there. Unlike the first tomb, the funerary chambers had not been destroyed. The tomb is rectangular and consists of three rooms communicating with each other, the outside door being in the middle room. The walls were built of masonry in the Urartian style and they carry a vaulted roof.

In September–October 1959, excavations were started on this site for the Department of Antiquities with Professor Tahsin Özgüç in charge and assisted by Professor Nimet Özgüç, Bay Mahmut Akok, Bayan Kutlu Emre and a photographer Selahettin Öztartan.

Altintepe is a hill, partly natural and situated some 20 km. east of Erzincan on the road to Erzerum. As most Urartian sites, the town was built on a site with natural defences, which were supplemented by an enclosure wall which is still visible to-day. The chamber tombs were built into the south-east slope. A large rectangular shaft was cut into the soil, lined with strong walls of large stones, almost like an underground tower. Inside this lined shaft the funerary chambers were built, covered with stone slabs which supported a covering of layers of rough stones and earth.

The tomb we discovered is the third at Altintepe. It consisted of three chambers, and was stone built. The workmanship of the masonry compares with the best Urartian work. In contrast to the other two (rifled) tombs, this one is covered with flat stone slabs. In Room No. 1, which one entered from outside, there were found :

- (a) A very large bronze cauldron containing small metal vessels, iron weapons, small bronze statuettes of horses and carpenter's tools for furniture making.
- (b) Horse trappings and parts of harness and chariots, bits and bells.
- (c) Iron axes, lance and arrow-heads, knives and pickaxes.
- (d) Wood and metal parts of chairs and stools.
- (e) A set of pottery vessels.
- (f) Decorative objects of bone.

¹ Translated from a report kindly supplied by Professor Tahsin Özgüç.

It is important to note among these finds the bronze covering of the wooden legs of chairs in the form of bulls' and lions' legs ; as well as the horse trappings. The chairs and stools can easily be restored from the traces left in the soil.

On a thin bronze plaque measuring over $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, there are found three superimposed registers of reliefs, depicting horsemen holding lances, horsemen armed with bows, running lions, bulls, winged bulls, horses, sphinxes and goats. These motifs are more varied than those depicted on the shield from Toprakkale or those from Karmir-Blur. Another interesting find is an object depicting a god standing on a winged horse within a circle, 8 cm. in diameter. Holes at the corners of these objects show that they were nailed or sewn on to another material.

In Room 2 there stood two sarcophagi, undecorated and trough-shaped. One contained the skeleton of a man, the other that of a woman. Outside the man's sarcophagus there had been deposited an iron shield, arrowheads, a chair and three vessels. It seems that a garment, decorated with gold, silver and precious stones, had also been left there. In the woman's sarcophagus there lay a great many gold rosettes and parts of necklaces, richly granulated. These are the richest discoveries of gold objects made on an Urartian site. Outside the sarcophagus there had been placed a chair, two pots, gold and silver pieces *in situ* and a faience vessel imported from Assyria. In the third room there were found a chair, a couch, pottery jugs and plates and a silver rod, decorated at both ends with a lion's head. Most of the metal casing of the furniture legs was in silver.

In Rooms 2 and 3 there were numerous niches in the walls.

As the result of earthquakes, the stone slabs covering the tomb had cracked and fallen into the chambers, thus crushing many of the funerary gifts. Rain and earth also contributed to the decay of the metal objects. Nevertheless, at least one specimen of each type of funerary gift survived in a good condition.

The finds from Altintepe belong to the best period of Urartu and are contemporary with the finds from Toprakkale. All types of objects, in gold, silver, bronze, iron, pottery, faience and precious stones were deposited in these tombs. Not only have we gained much knowledge of Urartian burial customs, but we have also acquired a rich collection of objects, many of which have no parallels at Toprakkale or Karmir-Blur. The metal objects are now being cleaned and many new decorative motifs are appearing, but no cuneiform or hieroglyphic inscriptions have yet been brought to light.

A second important result of the Altintepe excavations was the discovery of an open-air temple or sanctuary among the tombs. It consists of five stelae nearly 3 m. high set upon a long stone base at one end of a small platform. The stones are very carefully cut, but there are no inscriptions. An altar with a central hole had been placed in front of the centre of the pediment. Undoubtedly this was an area associated with a funerary cult.

The Altintepe excavations will be continued in 1960 and both this cult area and other tombs will be investigated. The Urartian city at Altintepe we hope to investigate after 1961.

FOUR EARLY CHRISTIAN MONASTERIES IN CENTRAL LYCIA

Mr. R. M. Harrison has contributed the following preliminary report on his season's work :

In June 1959 assisted by my wife I began a survey of Early Christian remains in Lycia. The wealth of new material discovered during the subsequent months

was such that it seems advisable to make a brief description of four important monastery churches available immediately, rather than to postpone it until the completion of the survey. The buildings under consideration form a compact group in a small area, being all on the south side of Alaca Dağ in the *muhtarlik* of Muskar. Alaca Dağ lies immediately to the north of the small coastal plain of Demre (ancient Myra).

The four churches have similar plans : each comprises a nave and two aisles approaching a large trefoil sanctuary, which supported a dome. In three cases (Karabel, Deve Kuyusu and Dikmen) the masonry is composed of large limestone blocks accurately jointed and carefully dressed : in the fourth (Alacahisar) the sanctuary is cut from the living rock, and its better preservation has done much to elucidate the architecture of the other three.

1. *Alacahisar*

The rock-cut sanctuary is defined to the north, east and south respectively by three apses surmounted by semi-domes. The fourth side is spanned by an arch leading from the nave, and the crowns of the arch and apses are linked by triangular pendentives, which provide the circular basis for a central dome. The nave is flanked by north and south aisles, the outer walls of which are at the east end cut from the same great outcrop of rock as the sanctuary, but after a few metres give way to fairly rough stone walling. The outer wall of the south side is clear and is continued beyond the western end of the church to enclose an atrium, in the middle of which is a well. There is no narthex, and the jambs of the central and southern doorways of the western end of the church are still standing. A passage at the end of each aisle connects it with the sanctuary. Adjoining the sanctuary on the north, and communicating with it, is a large chapel with an eastern apse also cut from the rock. A curious feature of the church is that it is virtually free-standing, the east end having been carefully cut from the main mass of rock and the apse given a rectangular exterior. The effect is to provide a light-well for the three east windows and to imitate exactly the form of the other three churches. Clear grooves cut into the rock show that the roofing of the aisles was steep-pitched and of timber. The lower rim of the dome is exactly 8.0 m. from present ground-level (perhaps 1.5 m. above the church floor), and the overall length of the church is 25.0 m.

2. *Karabel*

The monastery at Karabel comprises a large church with dependent chapels and chambers, an atrium with a well at the west end of the church and a large complex of unidentified buildings to the west and north. The atrium was entered by a doorway on its south side. Again each of the apses has a rectangular exterior and the masonry rises nearly 2.0 m. above the springing of the semi-domes. The sanctuary was approached by a nave and lateral aisles, and again there is no narthex. The richly carved doorway leading from the atrium to the south aisle is still standing. Flanking the south aisle and entered from it are two chapels, one barrel vaulted, the other roofed with a heavy dome on rudimentary pendentives. North of the main sanctuary, and connected with it by a doorway beneath the double window of the north apse, is a long room with an eastern apse. That this was the baptistery is proved by the discovery in it of a *piscina*, the cruciform plan of which closely resembles that of a *piscina* at Sbaita in the Negeb. The length of the church is 28.5 m., and the outer face of the east apse is standing to a height of nearly 10.0 m. The distinctive character of the masonry and the style and

repertory of fine architectural carving both here and at Alacahisar suggest a 6th century date for the series.

3. *Deve Kuyusu*

Only the sanctuary is standing, of which the east apse is intact to two courses of the surmounting semi-dome. There are traces of the western transverse wall of the church, but the complete plan could not be drawn with certainty. There is an atrium, the central well of which is still in use, and to the north of the atrium and the church are the foundations of several adjoining buildings.

4. *Dikmen*

Again the same plan occurs, although on a slightly reduced scale. The three apses are quite clear in a tangle of undergrowth and are constructed of the usual massive, carefully cut masonry. The most striking feature of the site is the huge lintel *in situ* over the doorway which leads from the south apse into an adjoining chapel.

The survey of Early Christian sites in Lycia will be continued during 1960, and an article, which will include a full account and discussion of these churches, is planned for Volume XI of this journal. Meanwhile it can confidently be stated that the elaborate plan, the heavy masonry and the rich architectural carving are all derived from the countries of the south-east Mediterranean: and indeed this should be expected from Myra's important position on the great trade route which linked Alexandria and Antioch with the West.

My thanks are due to the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara for its Annual Scholarship 1958-59 and the University of Edinburgh for the Tweedie Fellowship 1959. The work described here was carried out during the tenure of these two awards.

THE TROAD AND WESTERN ANATOLIA :

Professor J. M. Cook has kindly contributed the following report :

Supported by a Leverhulme Research Award, I was in Turkey for two and a half months in the summer of 1959. I investigated a number of sites in Caria and Ionia and, in conjunction with Professor G. E. Bean, who was assisted by Istanbul University, undertook investigations in the Troad. These resulted in a satisfactory location for the city of Hamaxitus and the discovery of two hitherto unknown classical sites in the Scamander valley. We found also some forty new inscriptions belonging for the most part to Alexandria Troas.

In August, with a grant from Cambridge University, we carried out a trial excavation of the site of an ancient sanctuary at Pazarlık above Hisarönü in the Rhodian Peraea; this is the site which Admiral Spratt visited in 1860 and recognized on no very firm grounds, as the temple of Latona near Physcus. During our investigations Miss Nezahat Baydur acted as Commissar for the Antiquities Department and was of the utmost help in the organisation of the work and in the study of the architectural remains.

The site lies on a crest of the Eren Dağ at an altitude of *c.* 275 m. above the sea. On the coast below are remains of an ancient deme of the Rhodian Peraea, probably that of the Bybassians. It was hoped that the sanctuary at Pazarlık might be identified as that of Hemithea at Kastabos, but no ancient inscription has come to light except a signature of an Athenian sculptor. The temple stood on a platform whose sides are revetted by high walls of massive polygonal masonry. Its ruins lie in utter confusion. After the dense scrub had been removed, the main task undertaken was

the clearing of debris at a number of points with a view to ascertaining the dimensions and main features of the temple. It appears that the cella had internal measurements of *c.* 9.5×4.25 m., with a floor of lime plaster resting on stone pack and surfaced with tiny pebbles. On the sides and back the stylobate, composed of stone paving slabs, extended for a distance of *c.* 2.6 m. from the cella walls. A whitestone Corinthian capital, which was found at the south edge of the stylobate, may belong to the pteron, but it seems to be of a date later than the original construction of the temple.

The greater part of the temple porch was cleared. It connected with the cella by a doorway *c.* 2.1 m. wide. But on the side facing the porch the threshold is too high for normal use, and it has a projecting carved moulding at its foot ; so it is difficult to believe that this doorway provided a normal means of entry to the cella. Further, a few feet in front of this doorway and centrally placed on its axis, there stood a circular base composed of blocks numbered on top in early Hellenistic lettering. The precise dimensions of the porch have not yet been established, but it seems likely that the overall length of the temple was *c.* 22.5 m. Fragments of mouldings and sculptured relief from the entablature were found among the debris. Remains of several smaller buildings were noted on the temple platform. Excavation on the site was limited to two small trial trenches dug near the edges of the platform ; on the evidence at present available the construction of the temple platform may be dated about the second half of the fourth century B.C.

To the east of the temple a marble statue (previously noted by Spratt) was discovered together with its base. Several other statue bases were found ; unfortunately all except the one already remarked were uninscribed. Under the temple platform on the south, remains of a roadway and several buildings were noted but not investigated ; a small patch of the cavea of the theatre was cleared, and the stone benches were shown to be of very poor construction.