

RESTORATION AND EXCAVATIONS AT SARDIS - 1973

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The sixteenth campaign of the Harvard-Cornell Expedition to Sardis was directed by C. H. Greenewalt, Jr. and G. M. A. Hanfmann. The program was supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (U.S.A.), by various American foundations and individuals, and by the participant institutions. The Cultural Division of the Prime Ministry made a grant to a Trust Commission (Emanet Komisyonu) for restoration activities. We were greatly helped by our Commissioners Güldem Yügrüm, Archaeological Museums, İstanbul, and Atilla Tulgay, Archaeological Museum, Manisa. G. Yügrüm has also published a guide to the site¹. As in previous years, K. Z. Polatkan, Director of the Manisa Museum gave us effective cooperation. We are again greatly indebted to Mehmet Önder, Assistant Secretary for Cultural Affairs in the Prime Ministry, to Director General of Antiquities and Museums Hikmet Gürcay, and to Associate Director Burhan Tezcan for their unfailing interest. The Turkish Embassy in Washington, through good services of Counselor Ünal Ünsal took sympathetic interest in expediting our permit application under a new procedure.

The long season extended from May through September. It was highlighted

by the visit on September 26 of several hundred participants on the Tenth International Congress of Classical Archaeology. On this occasion we incurred a great debt of gratitude to the Governor of Manisa Tevfik Kitapçgil, to Major General Ismail Ayık, Manisa, and to the Kaymakam and the Mayor of Salihli, through whose kind offices a number of technical experts provided excellent facilities for traffic organization, hospitality, guidance, and finally illumination of the restored areas.

Completion of the major restoration projects at the Gymnasium and the Synagogue (begun respectively in 1964 and 1965) and a successful conservation program for the important goldprocessing workshops and Lydian altar at the sector Pactolus North were the most significant accomplishments of the season. At the Precinct of Artemis, too, clean-up and conservation measures greatly improved the appearance of the ruins. The Sardis Expedition is deeply grateful to Mehmet Cemal Bolgil, Supervising Architect, and Teoman Yalçınkaya, Resident Architect and Engineer for their dedicated and efficacious work.

Restoration and Conservation: Gymnasium Area:

Implementing the landscaping design of 1972 (Fig. 2), the two long platforms south of the Gymnasium (Fig. 3) were given their final shapes and provided with staircases. A large (ca. 60 by 100 m.) parking space west and a small parking

¹ T. C. Başbakanlık Kültür Müsteşarlığı, Eski Eserler ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü Yayınlarından Seri : 1, Say : 26. *Sart Harabeleri Rehberi; Guide to the Excavations at Sardis*. By Güldem Yügrüm. (Ankara, 1973).

space east of the gymnasium area were outlined with concrete blocks. Some 380 architectural marble fragments from the Synagogue were set up along the western side of the west parking space (Fig. 3). Suitable entrances to the restoration area have been provided at both parking spaces.

Palaestra and the Gymnasium:

The General reconstruction of the plan is shown in Fig. 1. Twelve columns (shown black in the plan Fig. 1) have been reerected, principally to mark the corners (Figs. 3, 15). One original Roman and two original Early Byzantine capitals were re-installed. In the center of the east side, a modern entrance has been laid out next to the ancient axial entrance (Fig. 1, E. Gate). In the hall with the swimming pool (Fig. 1, BEW), the pool was excavated except for a passageway in center; broken piers, arches, and half-domes were repaired along the western wall (Fig. 4).

West of the Synagogue the clean-up of Rooms BE-A and Be-B (Fig. 1) was completed. The mosaic in BE-A was fully exposed for the first time. Room BE-E (Fig. 1) was repaired and designated as a rest area for visitors. Its fine marble floor of *opus sectile* was cleared and protected by a wooden cover.

Area West of Gymnasium and Main Avenue:

At the southwest corner of the Gymnasium (Fig. 3, lower left; not shown in plan Fig. 2), units excavated in 1959 and 1966 which continue the line of Byzantine Shops, were put in order and adopted to the new, modern entrance from the western parking space. It is not as yet clear whether there was a West Road running north-south along the west side of the gymnasium complex. It seems reasonably certain, however, that there was a vaulted gate which may have formed the entrance to such a road or into the interior of a complex adjoining

the Gymnasium to the west. The possible appearance of such a gate and its relation to the North Colonnade of the Main Avenue are presented in a tentative reconstruction by Fikret K. Yegül (Fig. 5). The Byzantine latrine attached to the southwest corner of the Gymnasium has been partly restored.

At the short stretch of the Main Avenue excavated by the Expedition (Fig. 1, at legend "Marble Road"), five columns of the North Colonnade (Fig. 6) and one column of the South Colonnade were re-erected. These are the short (3.10 m.) columns of the late fourth century A. D. restoration. One of the columns displays the sign XP, secondarily incised (Fig. 7).

Byzantine Shops:

In collaboration with J. S. Crawford, who is publishing this interesting commercial center, T. Yalçinkaya repaired 29 units (Fig. 1, plan; Fig. 8). Stairs, columns, ovens, and various furnishings were re-conditioned (Fig. 9) and some interesting finds made. Thus two fine bronze brooches inlaid with glass were found in the wall-cupboard of one of the shops (Figs. 10, 11. J. 73., 1-2 : 8221-2. Shop E 8). A bronze stopper was discovered in the basin of another shop (Fig. 12. Shop W 3). Two incised seven-armed Jewish lamp holders (menoras) were observed on the inside wall of one of the shops (Fig. 13, Shop E 7). According to J. S. Crawford's interpretation, during the latest period (before 616 A.D.), Shops E 1-5 and 18 may have belonged to Christian and Shops E 6-14 to Jewish merchants.

Synagogue:

Conservation measures in the main hall (Plans Figs. 1-2) were completed with the installation of copies of two inscribed mosaics, the originals of which had gone to Manisa Museum. Casts of the two double-lions which flanked the "Eagle Table" were also installed (Figs. 14, 15). Considerable work was carried out in the eas-

tern porch of the Synagogue, where mosaics were cleaned and a corner basin with drain pipe freed from later accretions.

In the Main Avenue, just south of the southern door into the Synagogue (Fig. 8, left) there was found a rectangular structure with marble steps, perhaps attached to the North Colonnade. Lying at the southeast corner of the monument, as if fallen from its east side, was a large Lydian marble lion, 1.01 m. high and 1.58 m. Long (Figs. 8, 16). The Romans, who reused the piece in architectural context, cut its spine to a flat surface and inserted large clamps into the back (his right side). Holes and part of leading survive. Datable around the middle of the sixth century (probably 570-560 B. C.), the lion is in general of an Eastern Greek type but shows in details the influence of the sculpture of Corinth, a city with which Sardis maintained close relations under king Alyattes (c. 610-B. C.)

Conservation in Sector Pactolus North:

In the most important Lydian sector yet excavated by the Expedition, at the gold-purifying workshops on the Pactolus (ca. 620-550 B. C.), an area of ca. 1300 sqm. was conserved by means of a new method devised by Edward D. Russell, architect of the Expedition. In this method, Lydian walls of rubble with mud mortar which readily disintegrate from wetness, are protected by concrete caps shaped like very flat roofs. Some 380 meters of such capping were installed. To counteract disintegration at base, earth was banked to slightly above the base of the walls. Tonality harmonizing with colors of the original walls and of the landscape was produced by brushing a pigmented wash of earth-colored liquid over the concrete. The original walls remain visible from the sides. The two sets of small ancient clay furnaces for parting of gold and silver are now protected by roofed concrete shelters (Figs. 17, background, left and right).

The altar of the goddess Kuvava (Cybele) in the center of the precinct was

consolidated and cement copies of the three lions found immured in the altar when it was excavated in 1967 were made and installed by Chief Conservator L. J. Majewski (Fig. 18).

A viewing platform has been built on the scarp in the center of the west side of the excavation. It is seen in the axonometric drawing (Fig. 27; just below drain 17).

Conservation Activities in the Artemis Precinct:

In collaboration with C. H. Greenwalt, Jr. and architect J. L. Miller, engineer T. Yalçinkaya evacuated architectural pieces and fragments left in disorder in the East Cella and in the colonnades of the temple. This resulted in regaining unimpeded views through the colonnades. A notable feat was the moving of a 25-ton block, which had long lain in the South Colonnade but had actually fallen from the two columns of the East Colonnade which are still standing² (Fig. 19). Forty-seven blocks were removed from the East Cella (Fig. 20 shows positions prior to moving). Five were placed on the southern cella wall; the others were evacuated to the northern edge of the precinct. Parts of the two jambs of the eastern entrance have been set up in the East Cella (Fig. 21).

The Lydian and Hellenistic altar LA has profited by partial clearance of, the area west of the temple, where stones removed from the altar during excavation have been arranged in a more compact fashion. Lydian bases surrounding the altar have been cemented in place.

² H. C. Butler, *Sardis* 1 (1922) 71: "near the southeast anta... lay the gigantic block of architrave which some of the earliest travellers had seen in place upon the two standing columns..."; Ill. 65; also p. 92 f., Ill. 93, after the piece was brought down to colonnade level in 1912. Id., *Sardis* 2 : 1 (1925) 8-10, 49, Ill. 44 : C. R. Cockerell in 1812 said that the two columns still supported the architrave which stretched from the center of one column to the center of the other. He already estimated the weight at 25 tons.

A modern house covered with earth during pre-World War I excavations³ was in 1973 transformed into a terraced viewing platform. An interesting archaic architectural fragment, the first such fragment of limestone to be found in the precinct, came from the ruined wall of the modern house (Fig. 22, AT/H 73. 1).

Church M:

This church adjoins the southeast corner of the Artemis Temple. The fine triple window of the outer apse was intact when uncovered in 1912⁴ but had been destroyed since. It was restored (Fig. 23) by L. J. Majewski and T. Yalçinkaya in consultation with S. W. Jacobs, who will publish a new discussion of the early (fifth and sixth century) structure.

Repair of Pyramid Tomb:

This monument⁵ is of key importance for the study of relations between Lydia and Iran under Cyrus (ca. 547-530) B. C.) During the winter of 1972-73, the eastern steps were partly smashed by vandals. As the limestone of the structure is very friable some of the damage is irreparable. As far as possible original stones were rejoined and gaps filled with cement.

Excavations on the Acropolis:

Pursuing an investigation begun in 1972, C. H. Greenewalt, Jr. and architect S. L. Carter discovered just below the top of the southern platform (AcS) on the southern slope three constructions belonging to Lydian or Persian defenses. A powerful wall nearly 3.5 m. thick runs southwest and downhill. It is preserved for a length of about ten meters. Its roughly squared masonry facing stands

up to a height of eight courses (Fig. 24, right). Its core consists of riverstones in mud cement. (Fig. 25). Lydian sherds found in the core do not permit close dating but prove a pre-Hellenistic date. A triangular structure below the wall (Fig. 24, left) and a platform above the wall are difficult to interpret.

At top of the northern slope of the citadel (AcN), a sounding made in a flat area went down four meters but encountered only parts of Byzantine dwellings (Fig. 26).

Sounding at Pactolus North:

A number of pits dug in the service of the conservation program went below the archaic level of the gold-refining workshops. According to A. Ramage, pottery fragments and other evidence indicate that ordinary dwellings had preceded the workshops in the seventh century B. C.

Middle Byzantine Church E and Early Christian Basilica EA:

Investigation of the Byzantine Church E, excavated in 1963 and 1972 was continued by H. Buchwald and G. M. A. Hanfmann. In the southern aisle of Church E (Fig. 27, left, 1) excavation of the marble-floored Pit ("pseudo-crypt" in Buchwald's view) was enlarged. A grave (72.2), now removed, was found here in 1972. It contained a glass of late fourth or early fifth century shape⁶. A second grave was found in 1973 (Grave 73.19). It was cut in half by foundations of Church E but the skeleton was collected and placed into the eastern half of the grave (Fig. 28, bottom), under the marble floor of the "pseudo-crypt" (a floor slab is visible in Fig. 28, left). A coin, tentatively identified by Clive Foss as that of Valentinian II (383-392 A. D.) was found ca.

³ Its location is marked "House" on the Plan III in H. C. Butler, *Sardis* 1 (1922), at the western edge of the precinct.

⁴ H. C. Butler, *Sardis* 1 (1922) 112, Ill. 121.

⁵ *BASOR* 162 (1961) 31; 166 (1962) 28, fig. 24; 199 (1970) 36, figs. 27-28. G. M. A. Hanfmann and J. C. Waldbaum, *Near Eastern Archaeology in the Twentieth Century, Essays in Honor of Nelson Glueck* (1970) 316, pls. 38-39.

⁶ On the basis of photograph, A von Saldern, who is publishing the glass found at Sardis, considered it unlikely that this type could occur much before the fifth century (oral communication, November 1973).

0.40 above the schist lid of the grave, under a tile floor which may belong to the Early Christian basilica EA.

Early Christian Basilica EA:

From late July through September, G. M. A. Hanfmann traced the sizeable basilica which received the designation EA. Although its northern aisle had been excavated for all but 5 meters in 1962-1963, it was not until 1973 that the existence of a large church was perceived and its liniaments were recognized (Fig. 27; 1, 2, 3). The church itself measures ca. 63 by 21 m. Its south aisle, narthex, and atrium were only partly excavated because the road to the Artemis Temple and a village road pass over the southern and the western sides of the church complex. A "North Chapel" (Fig. 27; 3) is attached to the western part of the north side. Another small apsidal structure, tentatively designated "East Chapel" (not shown in Fig. 27) is a late addition, as it stands on the original mosaic of the atrium. Rectangular, apparently asymmetrical units are attached to the apse on the north and south (Fig. 29). A wall continues the line of the outside wall of the north aisle eastward beyond the apse (Fig. 27, bottom; Fig. 28, mid-right). The church complex must have continued eastward. Our discoveries thus indicate the transformation of an entire city quarter into a Christian area.

Found sealed within and under the bedding of the apse floor were coins of Constantine (posthumous, 341-346 A. D.) and Constantius II (346-350 A. D.). The construction of the western part and its additions may have dragged on until around 400 A. D.; coins of Arcadius (395-408 A. D.) came from the wall between the atrium and the North Chapel.

In addition to the original mosaic floors of the fourth century (Fig. 30), a later (sixth century?) *opus sectile* marble floor and wall revetments of marble have survived in some places.

During or after the Persian destruction of Sardis in 616 A. D., the basilica was damaged and poorly repaired. Possibly, only parts of the building remained in use. Coins of Constantine X (1059-1067) and Romanus IV (1067-1071) were found in earth among the graves which were dug into the earth *above* the floors of the atrium and the narthex. Subsequently, the much smaller Church E (Fig. 27; 1; Fig. 29, inner apse) was built into the eastern part of the basilica EA.

Cemetery:

Of the 47 graves observed, 27 were opened. Some belonged to the time of the Early Christian basilica but the great majority belonged to the time of the Middle Byzantine Church E (Fig. 30, lower left; Fig. 31). A grave made immediately south of the stylobate of Church E contained with the bones of a little girl and the nails from the inner wooden casket (Fig. 31), a golden earring and a fine bead of rock crystal cut with fourteen facets (Figs. 32, 33. J. 73.3, J. 73.5); but in general grave goods were scarce. The cemetery appears to have remained in use until around 1400.

Finds of Objects:

A fine archaic anthemion from a Lydian marble stele was brought in from a field near the Pactolus, some 3 km south of the Artemis Temple (Fig. 34. NoEx 73.1). Likewise chance finds were interesting fragments of archaic terracotta friezes (Fig. 35, NoEx 73.6, with head of lion). They are being studied by A. Ramage. A large part of a Late Hellenistic central acroterion of marble was found re-used in Church EA. As L. J. Majewski observed, it matches two later acroteria found in previous campaigns in the area of the Synagogue (Fig. 36). Among fragments of sculpture found in emptying the swimming pool of the Gymnasium, were parts of a fine torso of Dionysos, apparently a Hadrianic copy of a classical type (Fig. 37. S 72. 13 A). The small figure of an agonized Triton

holding a fish may have originally belonged to a fountain. It was found in the North Colonnade of the Main Avenue (Fig. 38. S 73. 3: 8219).

Research:

In additions to preparations for the field guidance of the International Congress⁷, prepublication work was done by J. S. Crawford in Byzantine Shops, A. R. Seager on the Synagogue, F. K. Yegül on the Gymnasium, S. J. Jacobs on Church M., G. F. Swift, Jr., on "Lydian Trench", and A. Ramage on Pactolus North. H. Buchwald and G. M. A. Hanfmann worked on churches E and EA; and Clive

Foss reviewed his manuscript on Byzantine and Turkish Sardis. A symposium on the Synagogue was held with A. R. Seager (architecture), L. J. Majewski and Ph. A. Lins (interior decoration), J. H. Kroll (inscriptions), A. T. Kraabel (theology), J. Wrabetz (pottery), J. A. Scott (lamps), Clive Foss (relation to Byzantine period), and G. M. A. Hanfmann (moderator).

Research on objects saw J. Schaeffer at work on Corinthian, C. H. Greenewalt, Jr. on Lydian, J. Wrabetz on Eastern Sigillate, and J. A. Scott on Byzantine pottery. A. Ramage advanced his volume on Lydian architectural terracottas and G. M. A. Hanfmann that on sculpture.

⁷ I. e. the X International Congress of Classical Archaeology.

⁸ A special pamphlet on Temple of Artemis and Bath-Gymnasium was prepared for the Congress by G. M. A. Hanfmann and F. K. Yegül (obtainable from Sardis Expedition). G. M. A. Hanfmann and C. H. Greenewalt, Jr. presented papers on Sardis and

Lydia at Ankara, L. J. Lajewski, A. Ramage, and G. F. Swift, Jr. at İzmir. In addition to above-named, A. R. Seager, (Synagogue), S. M. Goldstein (Pactolus Gold Refineries), and M. C. Bolgil (restoration of the Gymnasium) presented field conferences for the Congress.

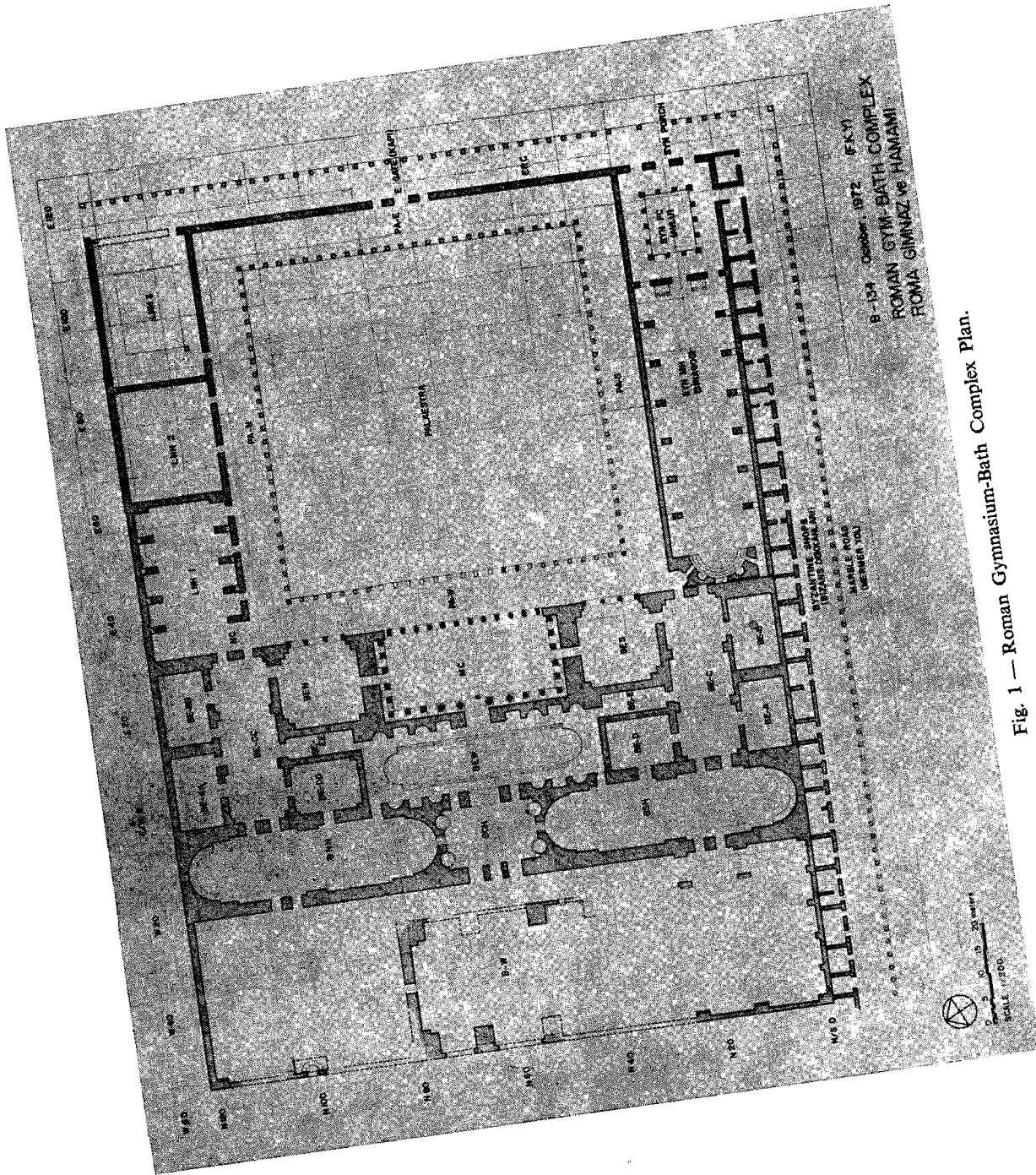


Fig. 1 — Roman Gymnasium-Bath Complex Plan.

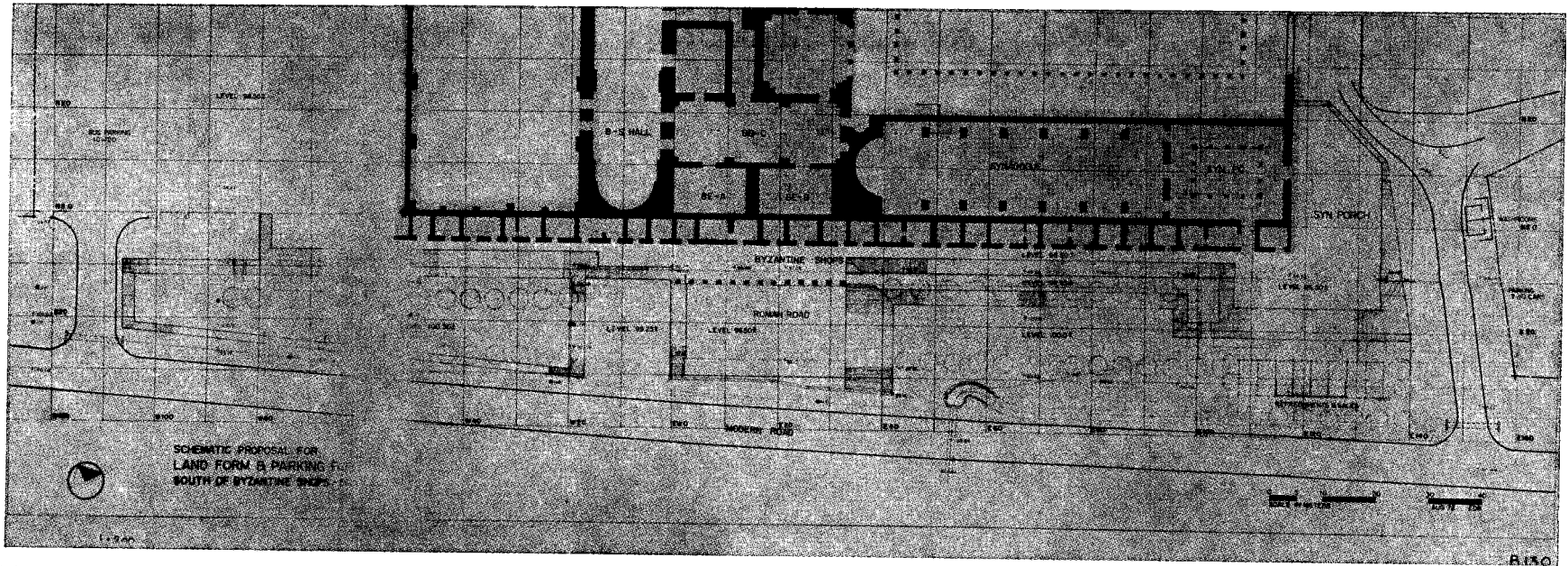


Fig. 2 — Plan of landscaping and parking of area south of the Gymnasium.

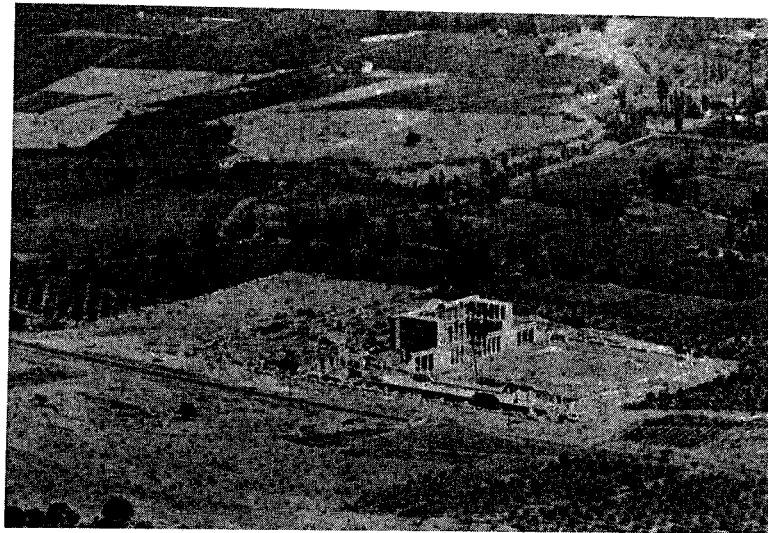


Fig. 3 — View of Restoration Area (1973) with Gymnasium and (nearer highway) Synagogue. West Parking Area is on the left.

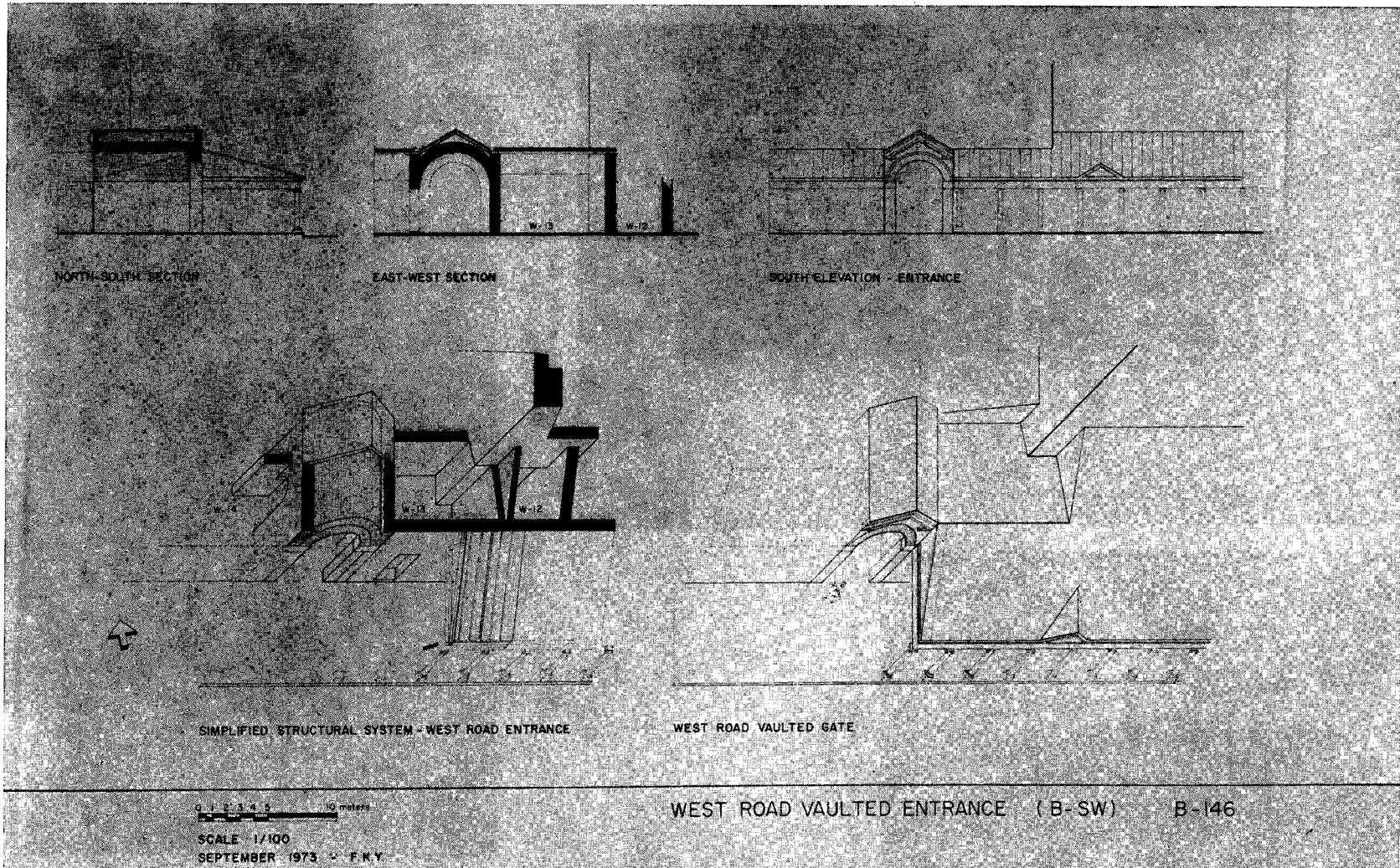


Fig. 5 — Tentative Restoration of West Road vaulted entrance.

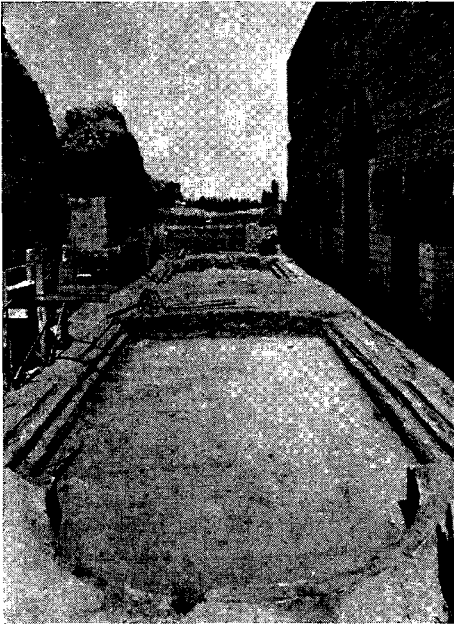


Fig. 4 — Hall with Swimming Pool in the Gymnasium.

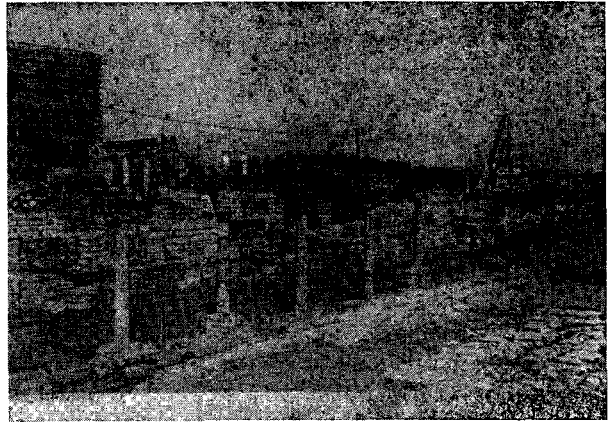


Fig. 6 — Main Avenue with restored columns of North Colonnade.



Fig. 7 — Main Avenue : Part of column of North Colonnade with incised XP.

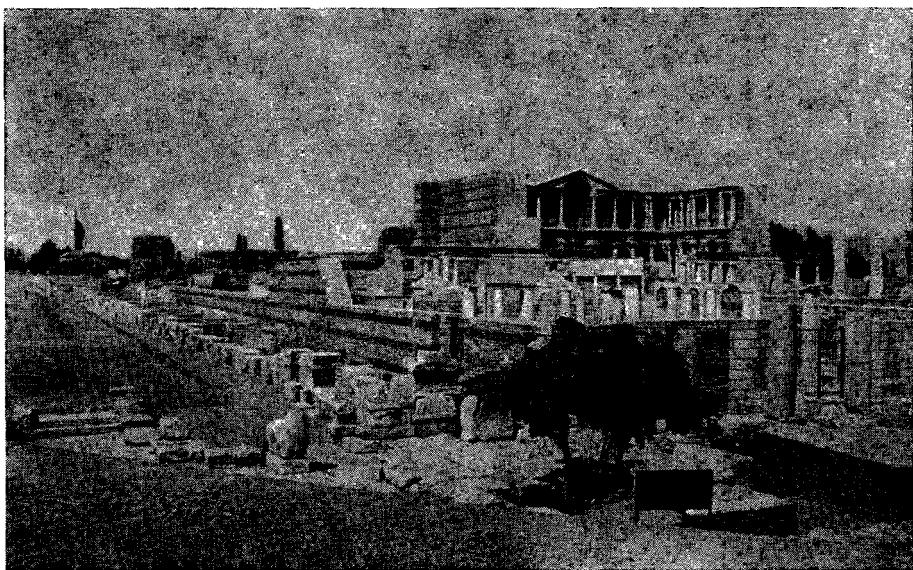


Fig. 8 — Byzantine Shops and newly found stepped monument (left) with Synagogue (middle) and Gymnasium (back) after restoration. The Lydian lion (fore-ground) was found at stepped monument (left). Looking west.

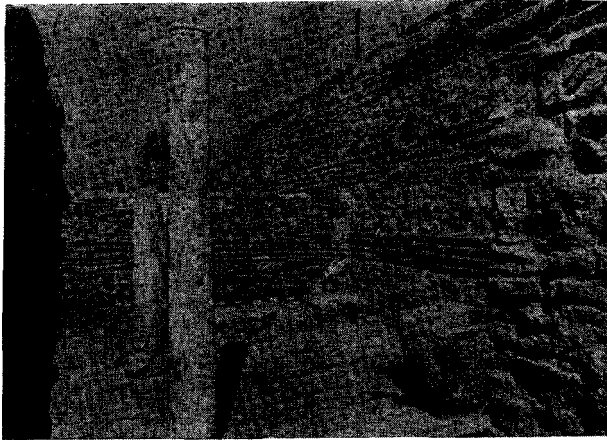


Fig. 9 — Shop E 6 after conservation.
Looking northwest.

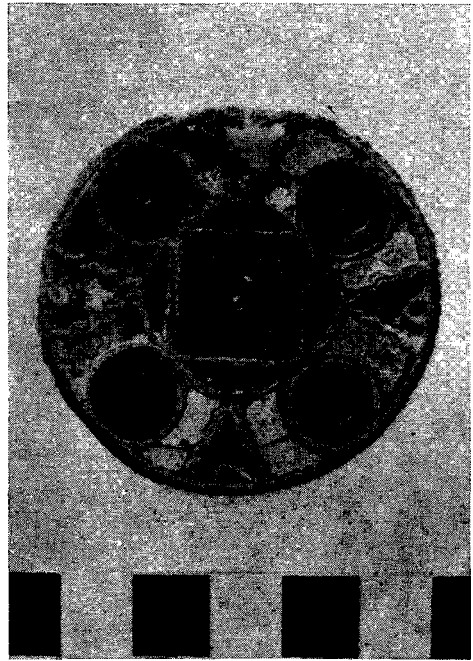


Fig. 10 — Byzantine Bronze Brooch (J 73 :
1 : 8221) inlaid with glass.



Fig. 11 — Byzantine Bronze Brooch
(J 73 . 2 : 8221) inlaid with glass.

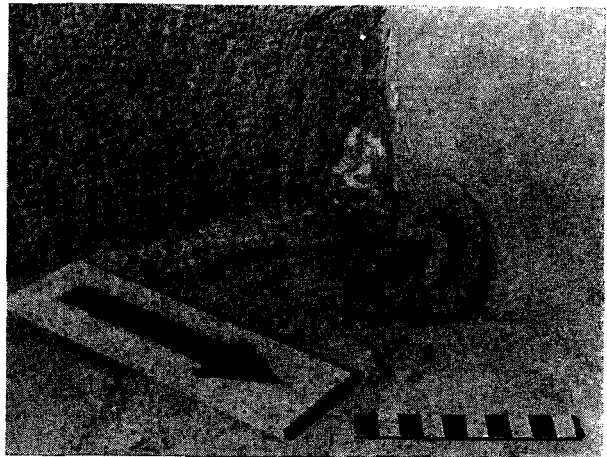


Fig. 12 — Bronze Stopper in Marble Basin
in Shop W 3.

Fig. 13 — Twion cised menoras on south wall
Byzantine Shop E 7.

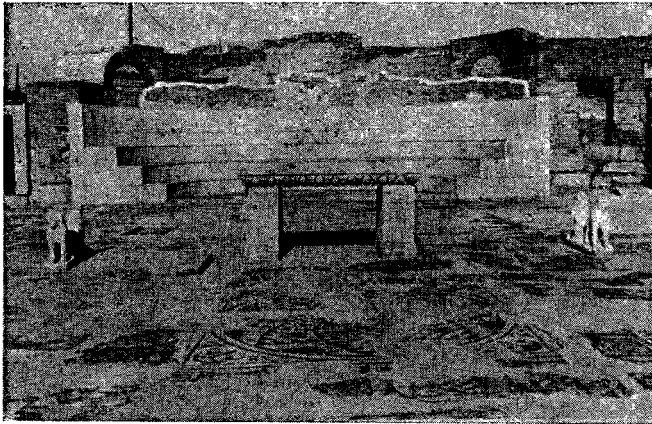
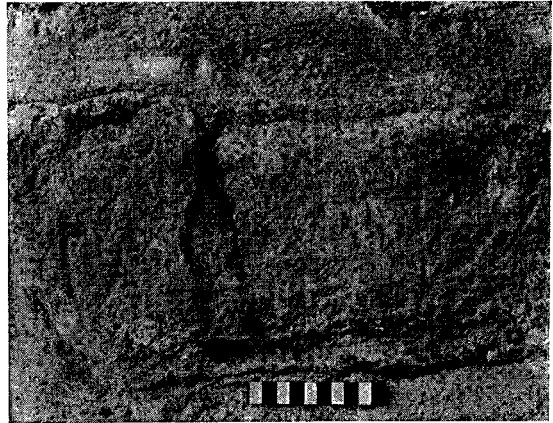


Fig. 14 — Synagogue. Western end
with newly installed pairs of lions
(casts). Looking west.

Fig. 15 — Synagogue Main Hall after
completion of conservation.
Looking east.

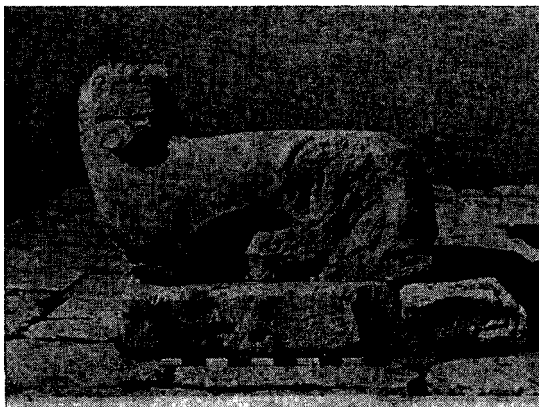
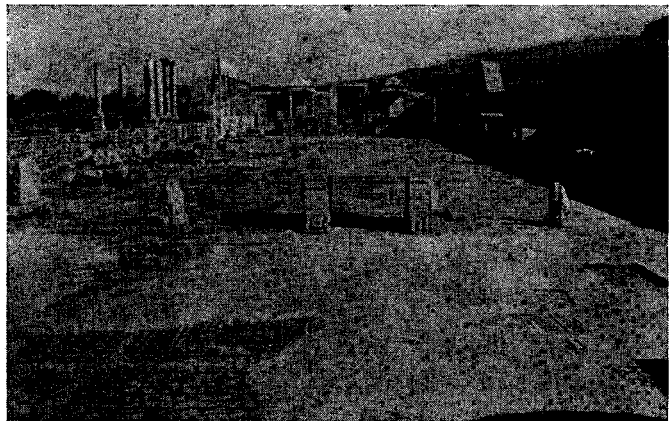


Fig. 16 — Archaic Lydian marble lion (S 73 . 1 :
8215) found in Main Avenue.

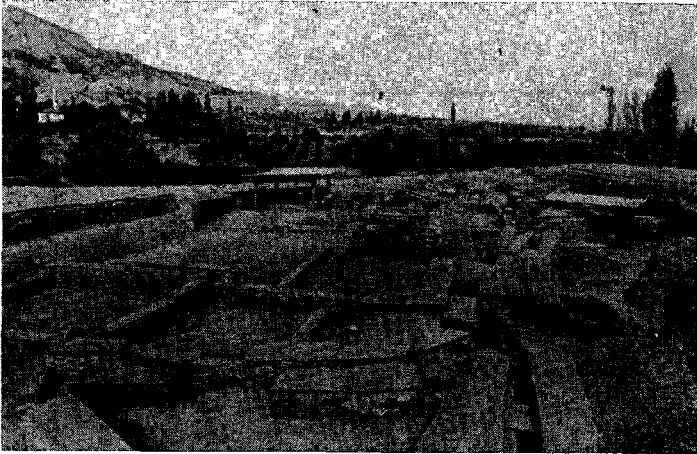


Fig. 17 — Lydian Structures in Sector Pactolus North after conservation. Concrete shelter roofs in right and left background protect small furnaces.

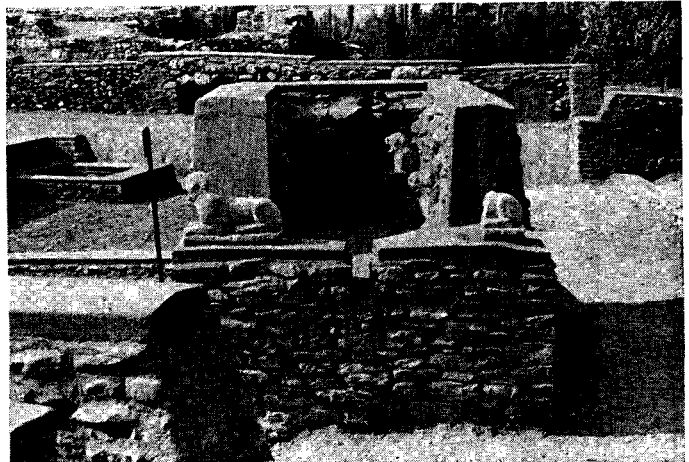
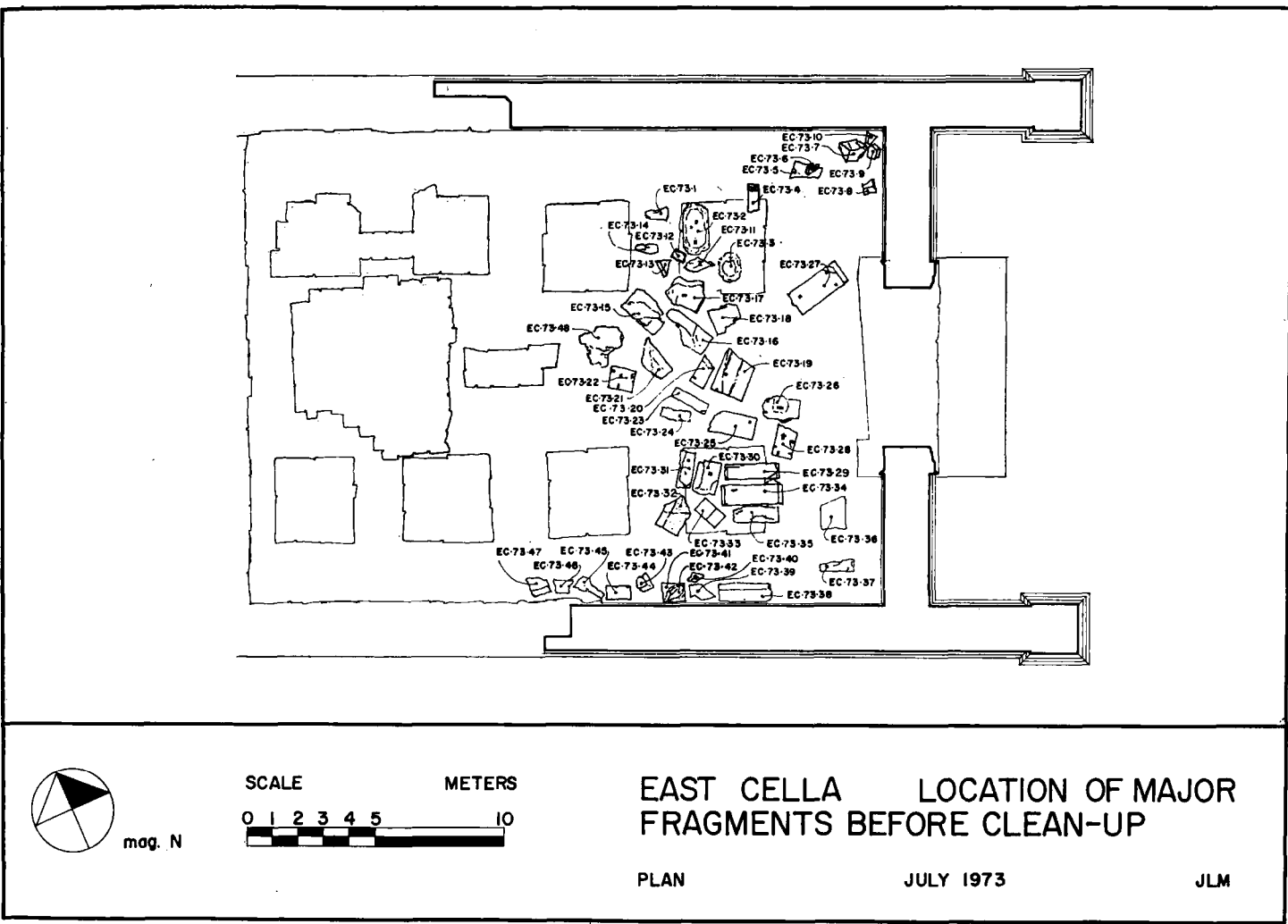


Fig. 18 — Pactolus North : Lydian Altar of Kuvava after conservation. Except for lion on the left, which was found in left rear corner, the casts of lions were installed in original positions.



Fig. 19 — Artemis Temple : A 25-ton architrave block being moved to new position north of Church M.



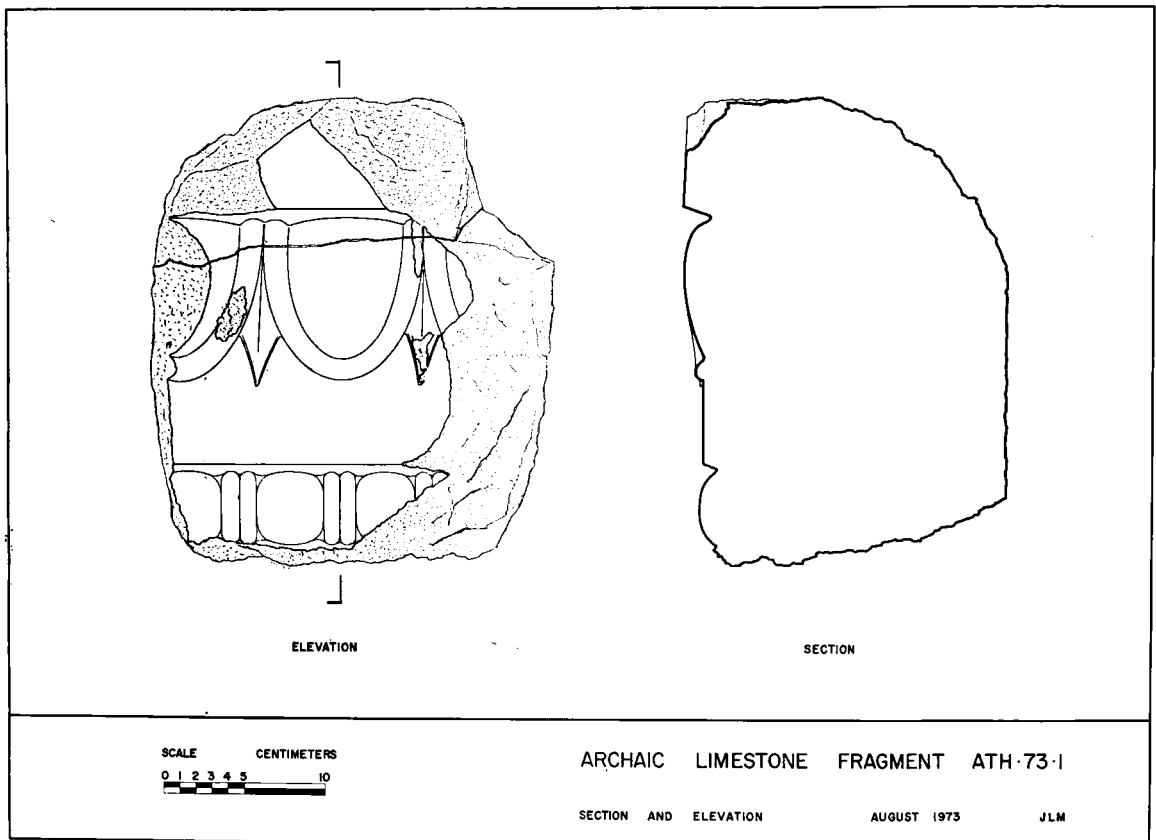
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Fig. 20 — Artemis Temple East Cella. Location of major architectural fragments before removal. Plan.

AT-64



Fig. 21 — Artemis Temple. View of East Cella after clearance with parts of East Door jambs set up in Cella. Looking east.



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AT-66

Fig. 22 — Artemis Precinct. Archaic architectural limestone fragment (AT/H 73.1). Elevation and section.

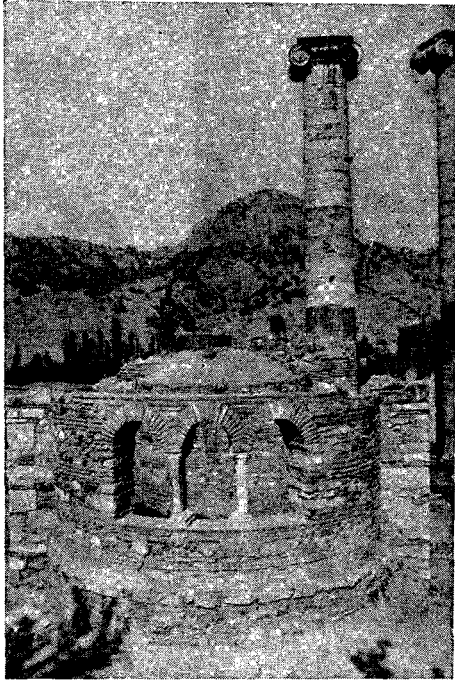


Fig. 23 — Church M with Triple Window restored.



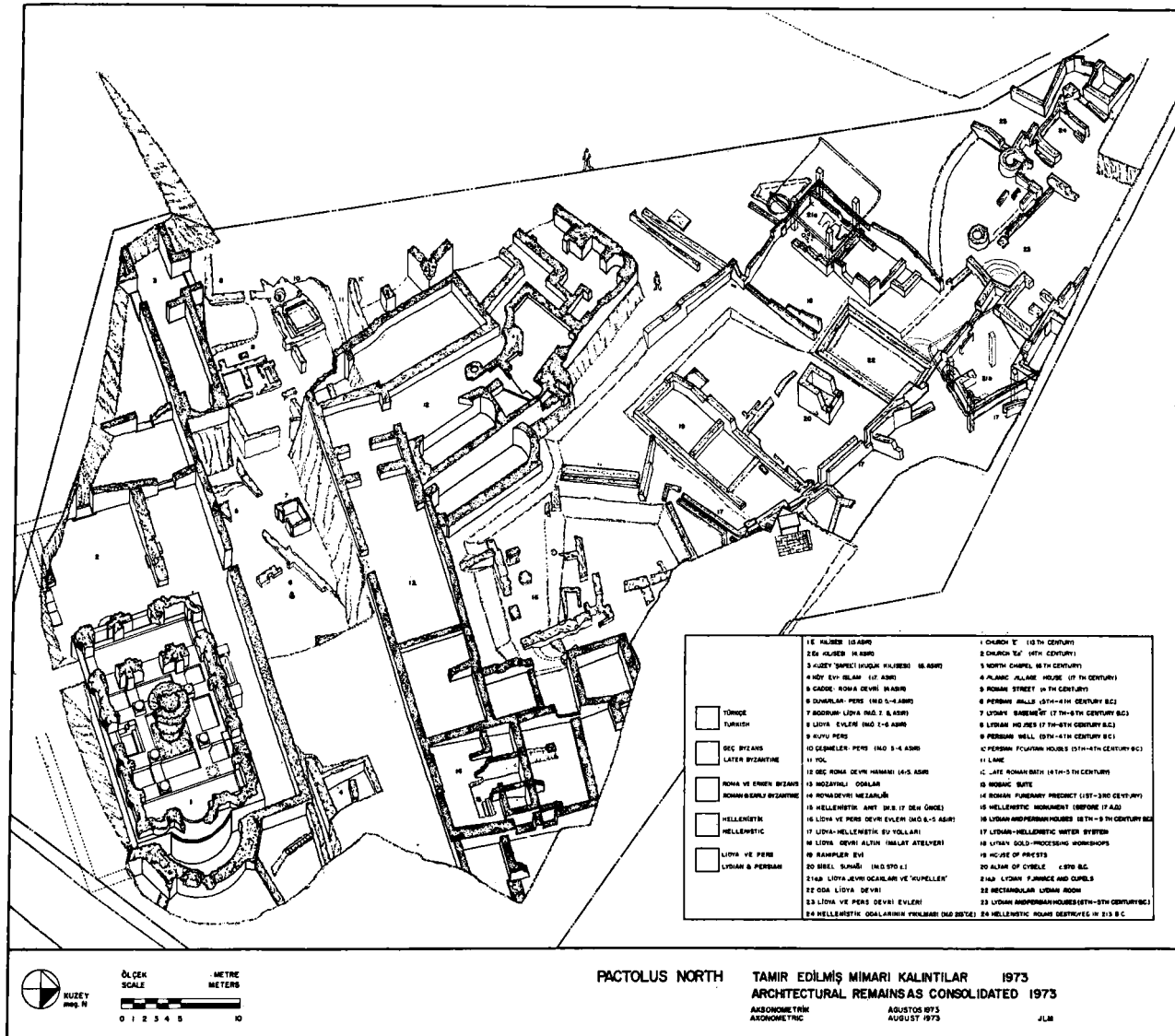
Fig. 24 — Pre-Hellenistic Defense Walls on the south side (AcS) of the Acropolis. At lower left, a triangular construction. Looking west.



Fig. 25 — Pre-Hellenistic Defense Wall on the Acropolis. Section through core and east face. Looking north.



Fig. 26 — Trench with Byzantine Dwellings on the north side (AcN) of the Acropolis. Looking Northeast.



1:100

PN-93

Fig. 27 — Pactolus North. Axonometric View Looking West. On the left, Early Christian Basilica EA (black, 2-3) and Middle Byzantine Church E (1). In center, street (5) and Roman Bath (12-31). Above and on the right, Lydian and Persian units.



Fig. 28 — The "Pit" (Pseudocrypt) in south aisle of Church E with Grave 73.19 in center foreground. Looking north.

Fig. 29 — Churches EA (outer apse) and E (inner apse). On the right, the rectangular unit north of Apse of EA. Looking northwest.



Fig. 30 — Early Christian Basilica EA. Northwest corner of north aisle with original mosaic and later marble wall revetments. On upper left, a Middle Byzantine grave. Looking west.

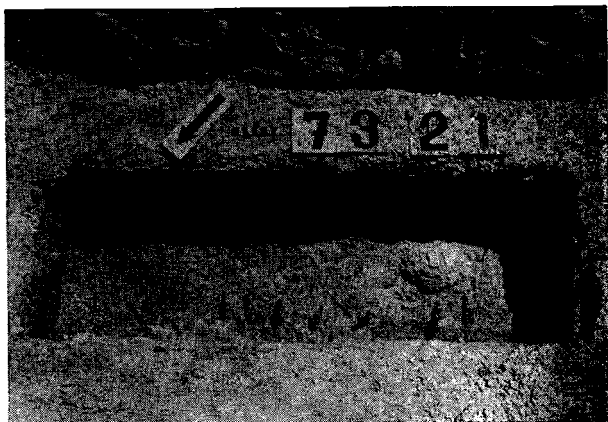


Fig. 31 — Grave 73.21 at south side of Byzantine Church E; after lifting of bones. Nails of casket, a gold ring and rock crystal bead (in center) as found.



Fig. 32 — Golden Earring (J 73.3 : 8275) from Grave 73.21.

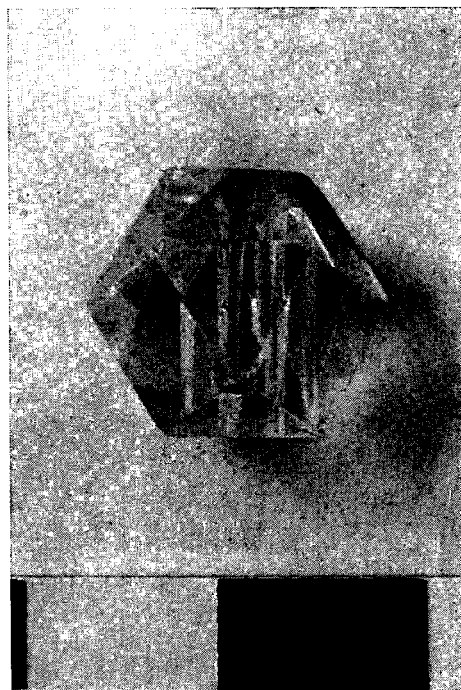


Fig. 33 — Perforated, Facetted Rock Crystal Bead (J 73.5 : 8277) from Grave 73.21.



Fig. 34 — Lydian Marble Anthemion (NoEx 73.1) found south of Sardis.



Fig. 35 — Archaic Lydian Terracotta Relief (NoEx 73.6) with head of lion.

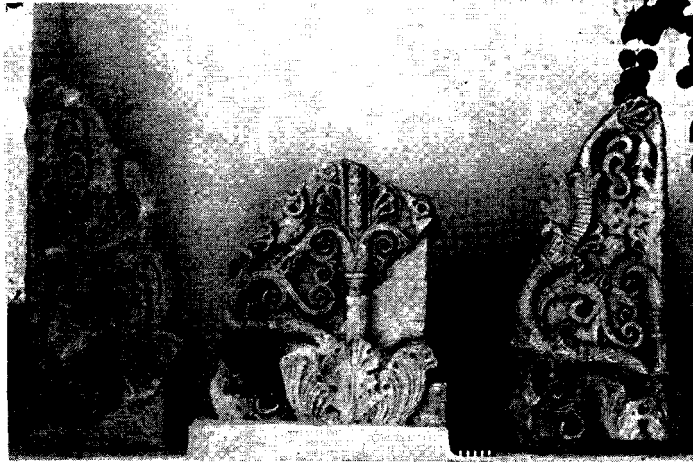


Fig. 36 — Three Late Hellenistic (?) Marble Acroteria.



Fig. 37 — Hadrianic Marble Torso of Dionysos (S 72 : 13 A : 8213) recomposed of several fragments and partly restored.



Fig. 38 — Bearded Triton holding fish. Marble (S 73.3 : 8219).