

EXCAVATION REPORT, ESKİ ANAMUR (ANEMURIUM), 1967

Leonard C. SMITH

Work on the site in 1967 began on July 9 th with a labour force of 11 men and a foreman hired locally, plus supervisory staff consisting of the field director, Professor L. C. Smith of the University of New Brunswick, the Turkish Government representative, Mr Y. Şimsek of Antalya Museum, two Turkish students, Mr S. Kulaklı of Ankara University and Mr S. Mutlu of Middle East Technical University, and one Canadian, Mr P. B. Taylor of the University of New Brunswick and Exeter University, who acted as photographer and small finds recorder. In addition, Miss Diana Reeves of the London Institute of Archaeology joined the expedition for the latter half of July to superintend and advise on matters of conservation requiring attention on the spot. Excavation work ceased on August 11 th with the paying off of the workmen, though the season's operations did not conclude until August 15 th when the last of the photographing and measuring was completed. A debt of gratitude for financial aid to various aspects of the season's work is owed to the following: to the Turkish Government's Department of Antiquities, the Universities of Toronto and New Brunswick, and the Canada Council, as well as other sources, private or commercial; and particular acknowledgement must be made of the help and hospitality given by the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara and by the local authorities of the modern town of Anamur.

During the 1967 season it was possible to achieve the following results:

a) Clearance to foundation level of a complex of rooms and courts in Building

III 5, in continuation of the previous year's operations.

b) Carrying out of three separate excavations within the area of Building III 2 B, one being a continuation of work begun in the previous year.

c) Opening up of two trial squares immediately E. of the seaward wall of the old city; since this operation did not begin until August 8 th, on conclusion of other work, it was only possible to uncover a few details of what seem to be massive quayside installations.

d) Uncovering and consolidation of two mosaic pavements, with geometric or figured panels in excellent condition, at widely separated locations near the S. limits of the built - up area.

e) Miscellaneous conservation work on the mosaics and frescoes already known in the Balneae forming the southernmost building on the site and in the two tombs of the Necropolis area numbered A II 14 and B I 16. Some necessary repair work was also done on the wire fence enclosing the site to the north, and on the wooden gate at the roadway entrance to the site.

a) *Building III 5.*

A complex of five rooms ranged around a paved area was opened up N. and in continuation of the previous season's excavation. The two easternmost rooms were interconnected and excavation down to foundation level at a depth of some 1 3/4 m. showed, by the presence of a heavy layer of burnt material and tunnel connections with the hypocaust system to the south, that they had formed part of the heating arrangements for the original

building. At the lower levels finds consisted mainly of coarse pottery amphora fragments and broken glass ware, while the higher contained building debris, including column bases of rough work, a fragment of a spirally fluted sandstone column, 65 cm. long by 20 cm. diameter, Byzantine coins and fragments of coarse mosaic flooring. The three rooms lying W. of these with their accompanying paved courtyard appear to belong to a later stage of building activity, revealing concrete floors at 1/2 to 3/4 m. depth below surface. The southernmost of the three also showed evidence of still later use in the form of a semi-circular tile drain running diagonally from the SW corner just below the modern surface level.

Finds here, in addition to the drain, included a fine pillar, 95 cm. high by 50 cm. diameter, standing upright in the NW corner, and an ivory plaque, 5 1/2 X 2 cm., carved in low relief with a female figure bearing a garland. To the north lies the rectangular enclosure, much encumbered with scrub and masonry debris, which last year produced the fine stoicheion inscription honouring the gymnasiarch Philokrates son of Ptolemaios; an unbroken cement floor extended over the interior at an average depth of 1/2 m. below the topsoil. N. of this a further room containing a circular feature of crude late stonework was cleared back to a cross-wall running W - E, while to the east of the whole range a paved court, floored with stone slabs, produced along with glass and coarse pottery fragments a fine bronze coin of local manufacture, the obverse showing an imperial head and the lettering IOYAI A ... ACTH and the reverse the legend ANE ... PEIQN. Two distinct phases of use for this building complex seem to be indicated on present showing, the first in Imperial times as a gymnasium, the second in the Byzantine period after extensive rebuilding following a temporary abandonment; significant in this connection is the presence *in situ* of glass mosaic decoration with the legend NECTOPOC

in the conch of the apsidal structure at the SE corner of the main building.

b) *Building III 2 B.*

Here again a start was made by continuing last season's work, which had included a trial excavation inside the apse at the SW angle of the structure. The whole of this apse back to its base line and down to the original flooring at a depth of some 4 m. was excavated, revealing massive tile piers flanking a narrow tunnel 2 m. high piercing the rough stonework of the apse's foundation, as well as smaller piers at irregular intervals around the perimeter. At a later stage of use a crude penannular structure of rubble and undressed stone topped with circular clay tiles had been built enclosing the mouth of the tunnel and its flanking piers. Subsequent removal of this feature showed it to have been built over the carefully laid stone flooring apparent elsewhere in the whole cleared area and a thick layer of burnt material which included fragments of charcoal indicated connection with the heating system. Finds here, apart from meagre quantities of glass and pottery, include a crudely decorated pillar base and some iron objects, the best being a heavy wedge in worn but substantially sound condition.

Still in Building III 2 B, two new excavations were undertaken. In the area known as Hall D, in the NE corner of the building, a square 3 m. X 3 m., subsequently extended into a rectangle 3 m. X 6m., was excavated from the N. wall down the long axis of the room. This revealed a platform or walkway 1.20 m. wide paved with tesserae and faced towards the interior of the room with a squared stone wall carefully stuccoed extending downwards 1.35 m, at which level it met a well constructed tessellated floor of coarse white cubes (averaging 22 tesserae to a 10 cm. square) which appears to extend over the interior of the hall. A further extension, 2 m. wide, from the middle of the long side of the rectangle back to an apsidal niche in the west wall revealed

both the continuation of the tessellated pavement and the presence of the enclosing platform. A curious feature noted was a long narrow slab of fine yellow marble, $1/2 \times 1\ 3/4$ m., let into the pavement and extending out from the perimeter walling along the central N - S axis of the room. The original length of the slab had been 2.34 m., but the final 60 cm. had been broken off and removed, apparently in recent times. A socketed bronze spearhead in fine condition emerged from the filling at this point; other finds consisted of masses of coarse pottery, mainly amphora fragments, in a layer 20 cm. thick some $1/2$ m. below surface level. The dimensions of this hall (18 m. \times 10 m. overall) and the notable absence of large masonry fragments in the fill indicate that originally it had been unroofed, and evidences of an elaborate watersupply system led through the enclosing walls, as well as the interior features described above, lead to the supposition that this hall formed the plunge - bath or cold water pool of the original structure.

The third excavation in Building III 2 B was inside the gateway area forming a re - entrant angle into the NW corner of the complex. Here a square 2 m. \times 2 m., later extended to 2 m. \times $3\ 1/2$ m., was dug transversely across the line of the now vanished N. wall of Hall E. First traces of construction work appeared at a depth of $1\ 1/2$ below the topsoil, in the form of carefully laid stone paving, cut through N. - S. by a stone lined channel, square in section and 60 cm. wide which produced fragments of charcoal, burned pottery, and glass. The free - standing segment of wall, 1.70 m. long, which formed the E. edge of the excavation, was found to have a depth in the soil of a little over 1 m., and clearly belonged to the latest stage of construction in this area. Of intermediate date appeared to be two square tilework pillars, 6 or 7 courses high and 64 cm. wide on the visible faces, on an E. - W. alignment 2.10 m. apart and constructed upon the stone paving.

c) *Seawall Area.*

As mentioned above, only the beginnings of excavation work could be done in this area during the time available, but sufficient remains emerged to justify further work in later seasons. In an open area approximately half way along the line of the extend seaward wall two cuts $1\ 1/2$ m. wide were opened up at an interval from each other of 1.75 m. the southernmost spanning an almost completely filled in archway piercing the wall at this point. At a depth of $1\ 1/2$. some 2 m. E. of the wall footing the N. trench produced massive worked stone fragments, including the pedestal of a column 65 cm. in diameter and what appeared to be a much worn stone bollard. The fill here consisted almost entirely of shingle overlying drifted clean sand, though a single piece of Samian ware (*terra sigillata*) occurred in close association with the column fragment. The S. excavation was less productive, though one columnar fragment emerged at the same depth as the more northerly features. Later investigation may confirm the presence here of large - scale quayside installations, superseded after recession of the shoreline by the still in part visible quay wall of late construction, embodying reused architectural fragments of high quality, which ran some 50 m. further E. and is itself now high and dry at a distance of some 150 m. from the modern shore

d) *Mosaics.*

Two extensive mosaic pavements, the first elaborately figured in panels, the other perhaps forming part of a portico, were uncovered, cleaned, consolidated and finally covered up again as protection from weathering after being measured and photographed. The former, located immediately E. of the modern roadway opposite the ruins of the theatre and measuring overall some 9 m. \times 5 m., revealed 3 figured and 4 geometric panels, multi-coloured and of high artistic quality. The largest panel, 1.75 m. \times 75 cm., shows a winged and draped female figure, near life

size, carrying a palm branch over the left shoulder and offering a garland (?) with the right. Two contiguous figured panels, each 75 cm. × 75 cm., less well preserved, show busts, facing, of indeterminate figures apparently undraped, with helmets of winged type and (in one case) a staff of *caduceus* form (Hermes?). In the upper contiguous corners of the two panels occur, inset in blue tesserae, the legends KEP and ΔWN respectively. Four particularly fine geometric panels, one of them a splendid polychromatic quatrefoil design in an octagonal guilloche surround, closely resembling the so-called 'Tudor Rose' pattern, complete the decorative scheme of what appears to be a suite of rooms located off a massive ceremonial staircase leading up from an area of public buildings to the main entrances of the theatre.

The second major mosaic uncovered, lying about 30 m. E. of Building III 2 B, may have formed part of a portico connected in function with the building; the area uncovered, obviously only a part of a larger scheme, measured 15 1/2 m. × 3 m., with a repeating pattern of multi-coloured lozenges, stars, and rhomboids within a guilloche border. This pavement had suffered considerable damage, but large enough sections remained intact to permit an idea of the original to be gained. Finds in the overlay, which varied in thickness from 1 m. to 10 cm due to an upward slope of the terrain towards the west, showed, besides glass and coarse pottery fragments, a number of coins of late date, including Byzantine, Armenian and a single silver Selcuk specimen, found in the topsoil. A late cross-wall with an associated floor of crude terra-cotta tile cut across the W. extremity of the cleared area in a N.-S. direction, and was allowed to form the boundary at this end of the present season's excavation, though the pavement clearly continues under this feature in the general direction of Building III 2 B, with the SE entrance-way of which it appears to be aligned.

e) *Miscellaneous.*

The presence on the site of Miss Diana Reeves, a trained conservationist from the London Institute of Archaeology, during the latter half of July, made it possible to carry out a thorough appraisal of the condition of surviving mosaics and frescoes, particularly in Tombs A II 14 and B I 16, where some conservation and restoration work has been done in previous seasons by Dr. E. Alföldi-Rosenbaum, to whom a written report by Miss Reeves was forwarded. In addition, considerable work on preserving and consolidating the newly found mosaics, as well as on the fragmentary tessellated pavements remaining in the Balneae at the extreme S. of the ancient city, was carried out by Miss Reeves with the assistance of Mr S. Kulakli and two workmen.

f) *Recommendations for the Future.*

It would be highly desirable to have on the site a building capable of serving as a museum and storehouse for the ever-increasing number of finds, some quite bulky, which the excavation produces; such a structure is already to hand, in the Balneae at the S. end of the site, where a fairly straightforward programme of strengthening and restoration of the existing walls and roof and installation of glazing and doors would produce the desired result. Control and guardianship of the site could also be more efficiently carried on by such an arrangement and the interest of visitors, professional or casual, encouraged*.

Among future projects for excavation or restoration, priority should be given to continuation of work along the line of the ancient sea-front, where a start was made this year (cf. section c) above) and a programme of restoration in the Odeon building, where the roodef galleries and banks of tiered seating are still largely intact.

* Detailed plans and estimates for such a restoration programme on this building (No. II 7 A on the original plan of the site) have been prepared by Dipl. Ing. Gerhard Huber of Vienna and submitted to and approved by the Turkish Ancient Monument Commission, but not yet carried out for lack of the necessary funds.

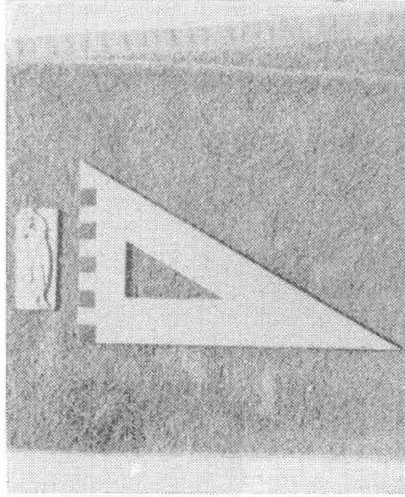


Fig. 1 — Building III 5, plaque with female figure.

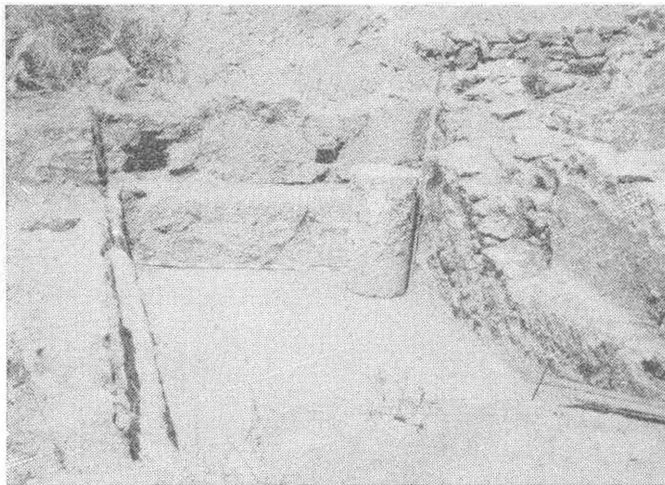


Fig. 2 — Building III 5, S. W. Room.

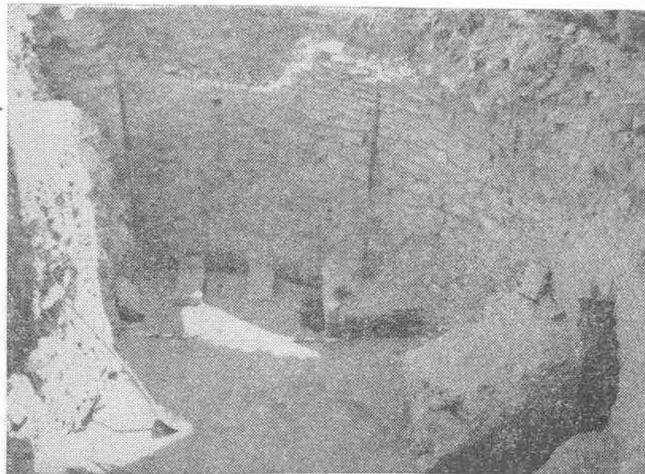


Fig. 3 — Building III 2 B, after cleaning of Apse at S. end of Hall E.

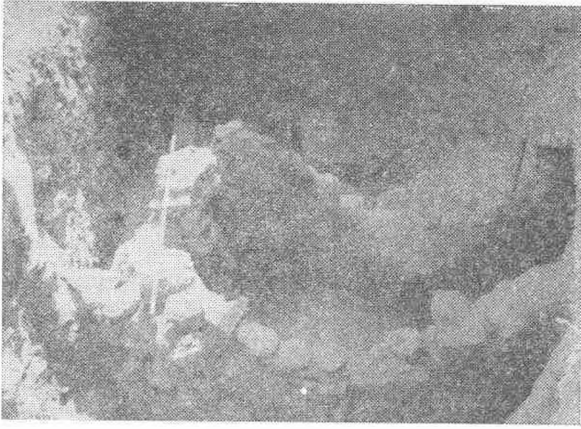


Fig. 4 — Building III 2B, Penannular feature in Hall E.

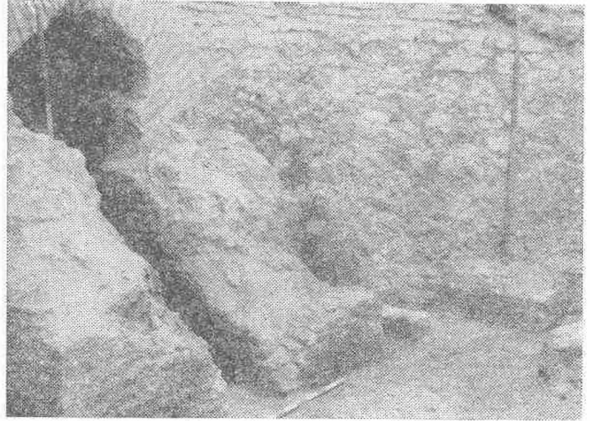


Fig. 5 — Building III 2B, Apse in Hall E.

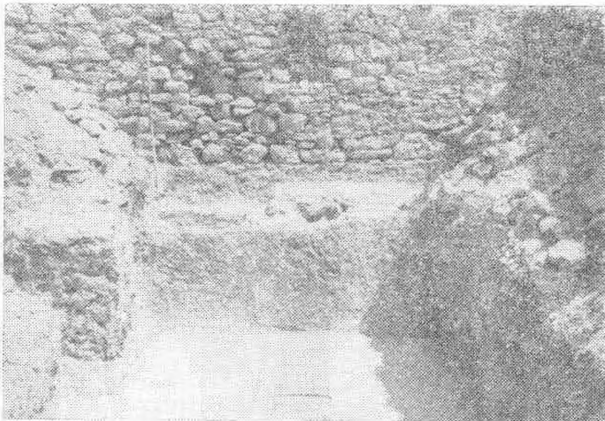
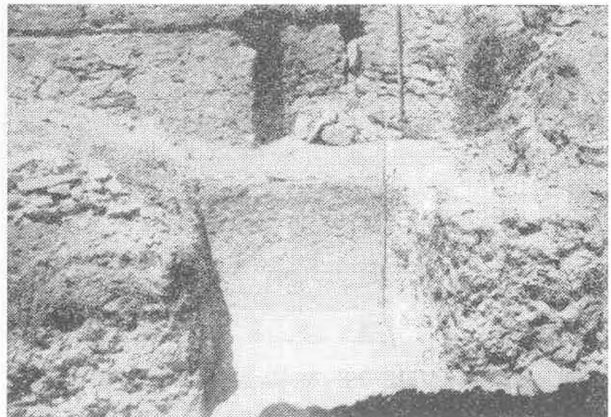


Fig. 6 — Building III 2B, Hall D.



142 Fig. 7 — Building III 2B, Hall D.

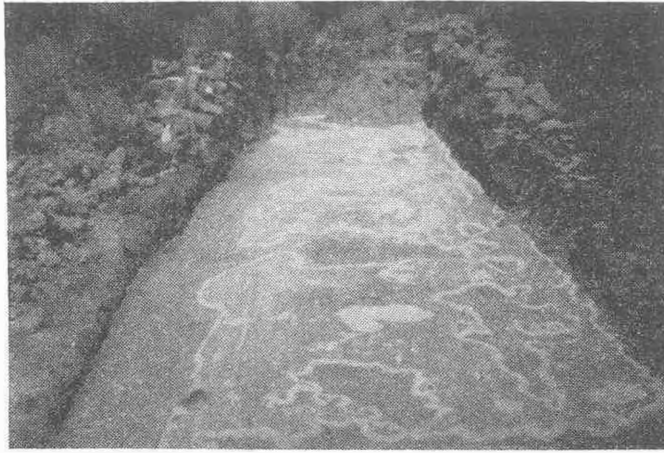


Fig. 8 — Mosaic east of Building III 2B-general view.



Fig. 9 — Mosaic beside modern road, opposite theatre-detail.

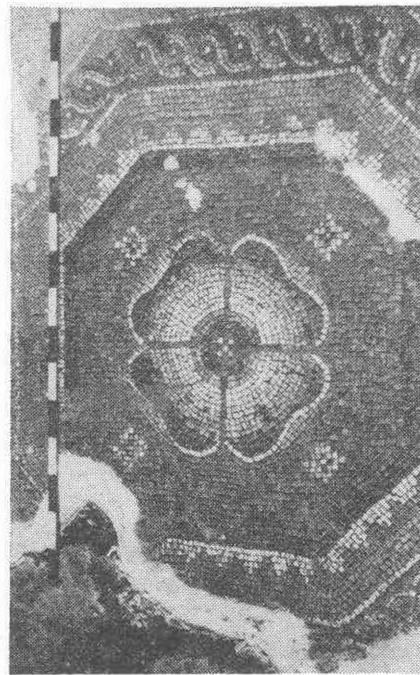


Fig. 10 — Mosaic beside modern road, opposite theatre-detail of "Tudor Rose" design.



Fig. 11 — Mosaic beside modern road, opposite theatre-detail.



Fig. 12 — Mosaic beside modern road, opposite theatre-winged figure.

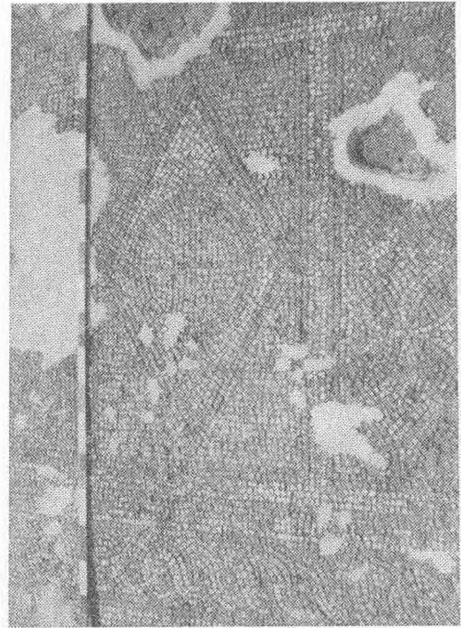


Fig. 13 — Mosaic Pavement east of Bldg III 2B, detail showing lozenge pattern.



Fig. 14 — Mosaic pavement east of Bldg III 2B, detail of guilloche border.

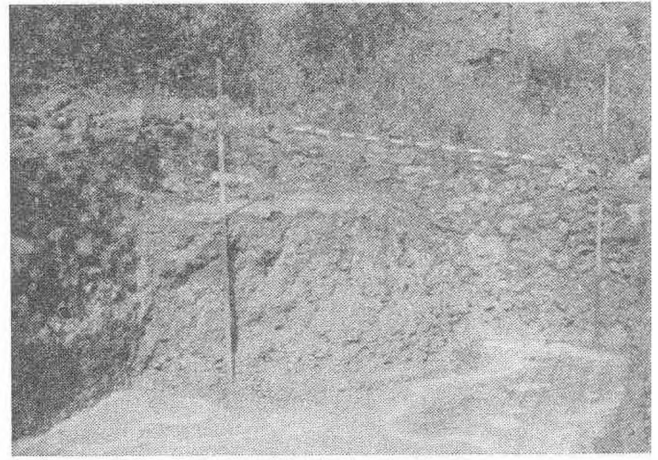
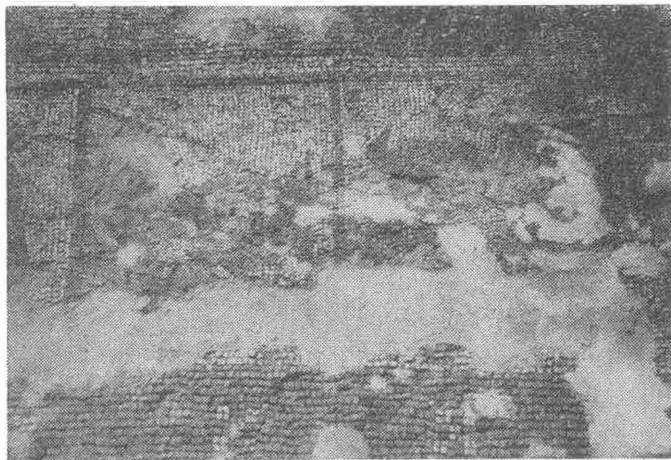


Fig. 15 — Mosaic pavement east of Bldg III 2B, W. end showing later cross-wall.



Res. 16 — Mosaic beside modern road opposite theatre-two panels with greek legends.