

GORDION REPORT, 1958

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Excavation at Gordion during the summer of 1958 (1) was concerned with structures and levels dating from just after the Kimmerian destruction of Gordion in the early 7th century B.C. down to the time of the abandonment of the city, which may have taken place in the early 2nd century B. C. The areas in which excavation was undertaken were (Figure 1): (1) the Küçük Hüyük, for further investigation of the course and history of the great mud-brick fortification wall there; and (2) the City Mound where levels subsequent to the Kimmerian destruction were excavated in preparation for further investigation of pre-Kimmerian levels in 1959.

THE KÜÇÜK HÜYÜK

Excavations here during a number of seasons, all conducted by Professor Machteld J. Mellink, have shown that the basic structure responsible for this high mound and the tongues of rising ground extending from it to north and west is a massive fortification wall of mud-brick. It is preserved almost to its full height within the Hüyük itself. On lower ground it is preserved to a considerable height also, due to the fact, as established this season, that the ground level has risen as much as four or five meters since antiquity in its vicinity in the alluvial plain of the Sangarios River.

(1) The season extended from June 13 to September 21. The staff consisted of the undersigned as acting field director; J. S. Last of Episkopi, Cyprus, architect; Miss Ann K. Knudsen, in charge of records and conservation; excavators: Professor Machteld J. Mellink of Bryn Mawr College, on the Küçük Hüyük; Mr. & Mrs. Wallace E. McLeod of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, and the acting field director on the City Mound. Miss Saadet Onat represented the Turkish Government as commissioner; to her we are especially grateful for great help and assistance.

Previous excavation had traced the course of the wall from the Hüyük toward the southwest. In this year's work it was traced for an additional distance of about 250 meters to the north of the Hüyük.

In the new stretch of the wall Miss Mellink located a gateway of unusual and complicated design which is nearly opposite the Phrygian gate of the City Mound. Three periods of construction of the fortification wall are now distinguished. It seems possible that the wall was originally erected as an emergency defense shortly after the Kimmerian destruction of Gordion in the early 7th century by the surviving Phrygians. The purpose would seem to have been to enclose a crescent-shaped area adjoining the east side of the destroyed City Mound where the Phrygian king and his government might resume their functions. In a second period of construction, probably also of the 7th century, a wall of green mud-brick, about 7 meters thick, was added to the first. The third period of building, dating prior to the middle of the 6th century, included repairs and revisions of the wall of the second period. The fortification system went out of use about 540 B. C., for houses built within its circuit were destroyed at that time by fire and collapse.

THE CITY MOUND

After the Kimmerian destruction of Gordion, at a date not yet closely determined, reconstruction of a new city was undertaken above that which had been destroyed. The old city was covered with a heavy filling of clay several meters thick over most of the area. In it the builders, probably Phrygians working in the architectural traditions of the earlier city, set the foundations for the buildings of the new city. This city existed during the early years of the Persian occupation of

Gordion after the middle of the 6th century, and is therefore called the Persian Level, whether or not its construction in whole or in part was sponsored by the Persian overlords.

Figure 2 shows the extent of the Persian Level cleared by the end of the 1958 season in the area within the City Gate of that level. The excavations of 1958 were concentrated on an irregular strip 70 meters long running from just west of Building 1 on the plan through Building M and taking in the rectangular area between Buildings M and H on one side and the NCT Building on the other.

In this rectangular area patches of paving were found suggesting that there was a large open paved court here giving access to the three large buildings mentioned. From beneath the level of the paving came a gold rosette once attached to a garment (Figure 3).

As a result of this season's work Building M is now seen to be of a form already familiar in other public buildings at Gordion, resembling a Greek temple with pronaos and cella. A date for its construction about the middle of the 6th century is provided by fragments of an Attic black-figured amphora of about 560 - 550 B. C. found in its earth floor. In a number of pits dug during the lifetime of the building into and below its floor were found a large number of complete pottery vessels. One such hoard, as it was found, and the pots from it as restored appear in Figures 4 and 5. The largest vessel, a heavy pithos of red fabric, bears a graffito in Phrygian: BENAIONOS and four compass-drawn circles, the latter probably being an indication of the jar's capacity.

Parallel to the back wall of Building M a short additional section of the Enclosure wall was uncovered, pillaged far below the top of its foundations. From the earth thrown in as refill after pillaging came a gold ring (Figure 6) with terminal lion's heads, probably of the middle of the 6th century.

The structures of the Persian Level

were apparently put out of use by violence about 500 B. C. or soon thereafter. The five succeeding levels indicate a progressive impoverishment of the city. In the later phases private dwellings and industrial establishments supplanted the large public buildings of the Persian Level.

Of the late structures one complex, of the advanced Hellenistic period, the Potters' Establishment, located in the topmost level of the city above the paved area already mentioned, was of special interest. Its plan is shown in Figure 7. In its courtyard, 3, were found two fragmentary, successive kilns, the first structural evidence so far found for the manufacture of pottery at Gordion. In the earlier, larger kiln, A on the plan, were found unfired fragments of pottery including unguentaria, small bowls and other open vessels. In a smaller kiln, B, (Figures 7 and 8) were found more fragments of unfired unguentaria and also two unfired moulds. One mould (Figure 9) was intended for a bowl or finial decorated with long petals in relief. Two fired fragments of similar bowls or finials were found in the establishment (Figure 9, left and right). The other mould was to produce a female mask or protome of half life-size, with one hand raised to her head (Figure 10).

The Potters' Establishment was destroyed by fire perhaps shortly before the final abandonment of Gordion. In the debris near Kiln B was a nest of fired unguentaria (Figure 11), probably among the latest products of the kiln. In the courtyard and in one of the adjoining rooms were found two black-burnished pots, one, a jug, decorated in incision and red paint in a probably Phrygian Hellenistic style. When the Roman general Manlius arrived at Gordion in 189 B. C. he found it deserted by reason of the flight of its inhabitants. If this is the moment when Gordion was finally abandoned these objects found on the floors of the Potters' Establishment were ones abandoned by the last citizens of Gordion in their flight.

REPORT ON THE FIRST CAMPAIGN AT SARDIS, 1958

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The project known as "Archaeological Exploration of Sardis" began in the summer of 1958. The mission stayed at Sardis from June 10 to September 9. The actual excavation campaign took place from June 20 through August 30, with a labor force varying from 35 to ca. 100 workmen. Notable results were accomplished in the exploration of some major buildings of the Roman city and in the discovery of a complex of the Lydian period.

The Archaeological Exploration of Sardis is a joint undertaking of the Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University and Cornell University under the auspices of the American Schools of Oriental Research. The general purpose of this project is the exploration of Sardis from its beginnings as a human community in Pre-historic times through all subsequent periods of the urban development of the capital of Lydia. Financial means for the 1958 campaign were provided by Cornell University, the Fogg Museum of Harvard University, and the Bollingen Foundation of New York through a grant made to the American Schools of Oriental Research. Additional means were received from a group of interested persons known as the Supporters of Sardis. We are greatly indebted to President John D. Barrett of the Bollingen Foundation, President Deane Malott of Cornell University, to the President and Trustees of the American Schools of Oriental Research, and to Professor John P. Coolidge, Director of the Fogg Museum, for their helpful interest in the project.

We owe a profound debt of gratitude

to the Ministry of National Education of the Turkish Republic and to its Department of Antiquities and Museums, whose generous cooperation enabled us to initiate the project. Bay Kâmil Su, Director General of Museums and Antiquities, has been unfailing in giving us the benefit of his help and encouragement. The Department was represented during the 1958 campaign at Sardis by Bay Kemal Ziya Polatkan, Director of the Manisa Museum, Commissioner, whose energy and experience were unstintingly placed at our disposal, and by Dr. Baki Ögün of the University of Ankara, as Assistant Commissioner, who also served as a member of the excavation staff and was always ready to help. The construction of an excavation house and museum was undertaken jointly by the Department of Antiquities and the Sardis Expedition. This structure has been now (1959) completed. It will become the property of the Department of Antiquities and serve as a museum after the work of the expedition to Sardis has ended.

It is a pleasure to record here the interest shown in the Sardis project by His Excellency, the Vali of Manisa, by the Director of Education of the Vilayet of Manisa, Bay Ferit Çamoğlu, by the Kaymakam of Kaza Salihli, and by other representatives of the Turkish authorities. Their willingness to assist us enabled us to secure temporary quarters in the Primary School of Sart Mustafa and helped solve many other problems attendant upon housing of our staff and the start of our operation.

We should also like to thank the

Honorable Fletcher Warren, Ambassador of the United States to Turkey, Mr. John Goodyear, Counselor of the Embassy of the United States, Mr. Donald Blakeman Eddy, American Consul in Izmir, and various members of the American community in Izmir for their help and advice.

The campaign of 1958 was directed by Professor George M. A. Hanfmann, Harvard University, as Field Director, and Dean A. Henry Detweiler, Cornell University, President of the American Schools of Oriental Research, as Field Advisor. Other regular members of the staff were: Professor Thomas H. Canfield, Cornell, and Professor Marion Dean Ross, University of Oregon, architects; Mr. Donald P. Hansen, Harvard, archaeologist; Mr. John Washeba, Harvard, conservator; Dean Sherman E. Johnson, The Church Divinity School of the Pacific, epigrapher and archaeologist; Mrs. Catherine S. Detweiler, numismatist; Mrs. Ilse Hanfmann, recorder. Mr. Güven Bakir was employed as draftsman.

The only previous major effort to excavate Sardis had been made by an American expedition organized by Howard Crosby Butler of Princeton University. This expedition worked from 1910 - 1914 and again, briefly, under T. L. Shear, likewise, of Princeton, in 1922. It accomplished the tremendous task of freeing the large marble temple of Artemis, which is located in the side valley of the Pactolus (Fig. 1). Butler and his colleagues also made a survey of the area of Sardis (but not of the Royal Cemetery of Bin Tepe), opened over a thousand graves, chiefly in the Pactolus valley, and did some work at the Royal Cemetery of Bin Tepe, about four miles north of Sardis (1).

The earlier expedition did not attempt the excavation of any of the ruins still

(1) Cf. H. C. Butler, *Sardis I:1, The Excavations 1910 - 1914* (Leyden, 1922). T. L. Shear, *American Journal of Archaeology* 26 (1922) 308 - 409, and 31 (1927) 19 - 25.

visible above ground at Sardis nor had it succeeded in ascertaining the location of the city of the Lydian period (2).

In our initial campaign we had decided to begin the recording of some of the major architectural complexes and to initiate by soundings the quest for the Lydian strata.

In the side valley of the Pactolus, we undertook three soundings in the vicinity of the temple of Artemis (Fig. 1, 'S', 'L', and 'KG'). The first trench ('S'), marked 'Excavation' on the plan Fig. 2, was ca. 15 meters long and 10 meters wide. It was started from Butler's "Hellenistic-Lydian" level of the precinct to the south of the Artemis temple and just south of the area previously sounded by Butler (of. *Sardis* 1, 42 f., for the "Hellenistic-Lydian" level 2, and pp. 134 f., 145, for Butler's excavation south of the temple; also plan III). Below the mixed surface level (I) we came upon a river bed with two major strata (II, 2.36 - 3.79 m.; III, 3.79 - 4.47 m.). Our levels were measured from Butler's datum line on the south pteroma of the Artemis temple. Underneath strata II and III was hardpan devoid of human artifacts (IV, 4.47 - 6.62 m.). Sherds found in the river bed ranged from the Geometric period through the sixth century B. C. A Lydian graffito (Fig. 3) and a terracotta die (dice, Fig. 4) were most notable finds.

The second trench (Fig. 1, 'L'), on the terrace above and to the south of the first, was expanded into an excavation of a Roman structure (Fig. 2, Building 'L'; plan by A. H. Detweiler) of which three rooms had been partially cleared by Butler (cf. *Sardis* 1, plan III, lower left corner, on the 100 contour line). This building 'L'

(2) A sounding made in 1914 in a torrent bed northeast of the Temple of Artemis is said to have encountered Lydian walls as well as Lydian pottery, but it was interrupted by the outbreak of World War I and was never reported in detail. Cf. G.M.A. Hanfmann, *Studies D. M. Robinson* 1 (1951) 170 ff.

had at least seven rooms arranged in two parallel rows. Its maximum preserved dimensions are ca. 30 meters (west - east) by 18 meters (north - south). Soundings in depth along the north wall and within the rooms 'A' and 'B' revealed below the Roman floors a level of ashes and sherds (at a depth of 1.70 m in 'B') which seems to begin in the fifth century B. C. Underneath, there was again a torrent bed (at ca. 2.80 - 4.60 m.) and hardpan. Thus the occupation of the southern part of the precinct of Artemis does not appear to have begun before the fifth century B. C. The results of our soundings throw doubt upon Butler's assumption that an archaic temple of the time of Croesus existed once in the area of the large Hellenistic temple.

The Roman building 'L' remained in use until the 11th century A. D. Traces of burials at its disrupted southern end may belong to the Byzantine cemetery previously encountered by Butler. Cf. *Sardis* 1, pp. 134, 145. A secondary Byzantine occupation of some of the rooms during the twelfth and thirteenth century A. D. is attested by coins.

Our third sounding 'KG' on a flat-topped hill northeast of the Artemis precinct ("Kagirlik Tepe", marked 'KG' in Fig. 1) was a stepped trench, ca. 13 by 3.5 meters. A dozen of Roman graves were found, some built of bricks, others roughly put together of tiles (Fig. 5, plan and section by A. H. Detweiler; Fig. 6, photograph of graves 'G' and 'H'). The soil underneath cemetery was barren of any man-made remains. Grave goods were very scarce but a broken glass bottle (3) and the fragment of a Roman lamp found in grave 'H' seem to indicate a date in the second or third century A. D.

Simultaneously, we began the excavation of two large structures in the Hermus Plain. Building 'B' (cf. Fig. 1) is located

(3) It resembles the type discussed by O. Vessberg, "Roman Glass in Cyprus," *Opuscula Archaeologica* 7 (1952) 131 f., pl. 7: 11-12.

some 200 meters east of the modern bridge across the Pactolus. This structure which is more than 120 meters long consists of two apsidal halls and a central unit, all aligned on a north-south axis (Fig. 7, preliminary plan by T. H. Canfield). Its construction features piers of masonry linked by strong walls of brick and rubble laid in horizontal courses (Figs. 8, 9). Its southern facade and about two thirds of the semicircular platform which follows the course of the south apse were excavated as well as the southern part of the long east wall. A well-made floor, originally covered with marble slabs, was reached in a pit at the northern end of the excavation within the building.

In the center of the semicircular platform of the south apse there came to light an inscribed base for a statue of the Roman Emperor Lucius Verus (161-169 A. D.), (Figs. 10, 11, 12). The dedicant, Claudius Antonius Lepidus, "from the beginning took care of the administration of the gymnasium", according to the translation suggested by Louis Robert. The inscription discloses that he was Chief Priest of Asia, *archiereus Asiae*; he dedicated a statue of Faustina the Younger, *Sardis* 7, 1932, No. 59.

Adjacent to the southern facade of "B" was a row of shops, three of which (SW 1, 2, 3) were excavated (Plan Fig. 13, photo Fig. 14). They yielded considerable amounts of coal, animal bones and shells, glass (Figs. 15, 16, 39, 40), and some three hundred bronze coins. The latest coins date from the rule of Heraklios (610 - 641 A. D.)

In the easternmost area of the Roman city we explored the eastern part of a large complex of limestone masonry 'CG' (Fig. 1; cf. *Sardis* 1, Ill. 18 and p. 30). H. C. Butler had conjectured that it might be the city gate for the Royal Road. This structure consists of an oblong ca. 30 by 9 meters, with a large "Main Arch" (Fig. 17) and semicircular and rectangular recesses which open on the east and west

facades and are roofed by barrel vaults and half-domes of masonry. A hemicycle adjoins the northern end of the oblong (Fig. 18). At a depth of 9 meters below the top of the structure, the appearance under the base of the "Main Arch" of the keystones and voussoirs of another arch showed that a lower story exists below that exposed (Fig. 19). 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.

Our last trench was begun on August 2, slightly east of Building "B" and just south of the Turgutlu-Salih highway ('HB' in Fig. 1). It was eventually expanded to ca. 12 by 15 m. The original intention was to probe in depth, but almost immediately under the surface we came upon the walls of a residential complex of Roman and Early Christian times. The ten "units" uncovered during three and a half weeks digging in 1958 are certainly only one part of a structure of substantial size. Units 1, 2, 5, 7 and 8 are on a lower level; Units 3, 4, 6, and 10 are on a higher level (cf. Figs. 20, plan, and 21, section by T. H. Canfield). The photograph, Fig. 22, taken from Building "B" shows in the foreground the base of Lucius Verus under the central window of the south apse of "B", then the highway and just beyond it the excavation of this "House of Bronzes".

The building was constructed largely of fairly regular flat river stones laid in cement and of bricks. It had undergone various changes and repairs. It perished in a conflagration, which, on the evidence of the few coins found, may have occurred in the second half of the fourth century A. D.

Unit 1 was a vaulted room with steps leading down its east side. These are attested by stepping stones projecting from the wall (Fig. 23, left foreground; Fig. 24). The walls were covered with thick grey plaster. A large storage jar stood in the southeast corner, a huge terracotta plate

lay just north of it, while a terracotta bowl was in the southwest corner. The discovery of bronze vessels and utensils in this room has induced us to name the entire structure the "House of Bronzes". One of the bronzes, a wine flagon with angular shoulder is seen lying against the south wall in Fig. 24. Others (Figs. 42, 43) were found lying near the north wall. Unit, 2, likewise vaulted, was on a somewhat higher level; it may, at one time, have served as a cistern. In this room, the plaster had been reddened and made friable by the violence of fire. In Unit 3, there is preserved a staircase with three steps built of bricks. Unit 5, at approximately the same floor level as Unit 2, had a marble floor with a patterned center piece of *opus sectile*. The two other "basement" units, 7 and 8, communicated through a door. Unit 8 was carefully paved with large tiles. Unit 7 revealed various features suggestive of industrial activity. Thus a tank was found along the east side of the excavated area; two marble containers, one standing against the wall between Unit 7 and Unit 8 and another lying in the northern part of Unit 7 (both shown in plan, Fig. 20) contained sulphur. In addition to fragments of several pithoi, the excavation of this room produced a large bronze basin or brazier (Fig. 44). In the southeast corner of the area excavated, there stood a marble statue of Bacchus (Fig. 45 a, b); behind it lay several stone basins or mortars and a stone pestle in the shape of a human leg. Little is known as yet about the units on the upper level, as Units 4 and 10 were considerably disrupted and Unit 6 is not as yet completely excavated. Unit 6 is paved with large tiles. A marble block was lying in the center of the floor. Several water pipes or drains run through Units 4 and 10. The walls of the "House of Bronzes" continue northward past Unit 9. The northern part of Unit 7 has revealed part of a vault, yet to be excavated.

As is obvious from the contents of

the lower rooms, the "House of Bronzes" was abandoned in haste; the residents never returned to retrieve their belongings, which we found covered by heavy fall of rubble and bricks.

During the last ten days of the work in this sector, we decided to go down in depth in the area north of Unit 1, designated as Unit 9 on the plan Fig. 20. After two days, numerous closely packed fragments and indeed large parts of Lydian vases began to appear (Fig. 25). An earth floor covered with ashes was discernible at a depth only some 0.70 m. below the Roman and Early Christian floor of Unit 1 (Fig. 26, cf. the section Fig. 21). Eventually, two short stretches of a wall - base of large river stones which ran north - south were uncovered (Fig. 25, foreground). In the southwest corner we found parts of a circular structure of river stones, which seemed to arch as if to make a dome. Its upper part had been either disrupted by or incorporated into the foundation wall of the "House of Bronzes" (photograph Fig. 27; the Roman or Early Christian wall is seen in the upper right of the photograph and along the west side of Unit 9, on the plan Fig. 20). A channel framed by stones led into the circular structure. The plan and appearance of the circular structure are suggestive of a potter's kiln or an oven. The lower part of the structure was filled with a heavy deposit of black ashes.

The homogeneous character of the pottery and its considerable quantity induce us to believe we have come upon either the sales-shop or the workshop of a Lydian potter. The date is given by a fragment of imported Greek "Wild Goat A" ware (Fig. 37). Apparently the workshop flourished in the late seventh century B. C. and was then suddenly abandoned and covered up. Except for the east wall of Unit 9, the Roman building activity for the "House of Bronzes" did not reach deeply enough to disturb the Lydian deposit.

During the last three days, we made a small sounding in depth in the northeast corner of Unit 9, going down to almost 2 m. below the Lydian floor ("pit" in plan Fig. 20 and section Fig. 21). In the upper part of the "pit", Geometric sherds even earlier than those of the Lydian Shop were accompanied by a monochrome black and grey ware. The lowest half-meter of this pit has yielded so far only river sand.

The finding of an ascertainable Lydian level only a little over 2 meters below modern surface may have an important bearing on the problem of locating the Lydian city. Butler believed that the city of the Lydian Kings was situated in the Pactolus valley. The discovery of the "Lydian Shop" suggests that the city of the Lydians is to be looked for in the area along the northern foot of the Acropolis, within the boundaries of the Hellenistic and Roman city. We propose to explore this possibility during our next campaigns.

The objects found during the 1958 campaign include an extensive sequence of Lydian pottery. An early phase (Fig. 27 a) shows links to Greek Proto-geometric and Geometric as well as resemblances to Cypriote, Cilician, and Southwest Anatolian Iron Age. It was represented by sherds found under the floor of the "Lydian Shop" (and occasional pieces from the Artemis precinct) (4), while the pottery from the floor level of the "Lydian Shop" exemplifies the mixture of Geometric and Orientalizing elements current in Lydia around 600 B. C. (Figs. 28-36). The Rhodian "Wildgoat" sherd was found above the floor (Fig. 37). The later development is mirrored in the material from the Artemis precinct (Fig. 38) which may carry down into Hellenistic times (material found under 'L'). The abundant though poorly preserved finds of glass in

(4) The material to some degree confirms the classification proposed in *D. M. Robinson Studies* 1 but considerably enriches the picture of Early Lydian pottery in many respects.

the shops south of building 'B' include both table ware (Figs. 39, 40) and window glass (Fig. 41), 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* 11, 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* (Fig. 42); two censers, one round (Fig. 43), 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 (Fig. 44); and two bronze flagons with angular shoulders. A stone statue (of Bacchus, Fig. 45 a, b) was likewise found in the "House of Bronzes." From Building 'B' comes a marble pilaster capital of the second century A. D. which includes the representation of an archaic Anatolian image (Fig. 46). 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 slightly over life size was also found in "B" (Fig. 47). Parts of a broken statue of a youth leaning against a pillar came to light under the floor of the Byzantine shops south of 'B', and also the base of a two-figure group (Fig. 48).

Among the chance finds made outside of the excavation but brought to the expedition is a fine funerary stele depicting a seated woman named Matis 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 certain representation of Cybele, the great goddess of Sardis, so far to be found at Sardis. It seems to be a work of the fourth century B. C. (Figs. 49 a, b). The goddess holds a lion in her lap while another is seated at her feet.

In addition to the Lydian graffito (Fig. 3, four letters, RLAM, according to the reading of Professor J. Puhvel; incised on poor black-glaze fragment), two vases from the "Lydian Shop" have "potter's marks"; one of these (Fig. 34) shows the graffito *il?* on the foot of a Black-on-Red stemmed cup from the "Lydian Shop." Eight Greek and one Latin inscription (mostly small fragments) were found in the excavation. Sherman E. Johnson also reports five new Greek inscriptions which he located outside the excavation; one of these mentions a dedication to King Eumenes (the second?) of Pergamon in the sanctuary of Sabazios. Dean Johnson 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.