

Side C1 Street Square in the Light of Archaeological and Epigraphic Findings

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Abstract: The route of C Street, the main transport artery of the ancient city of Side, between the Main Gate and the Theatre buildings is called C1. The square, located at the point where C1 Street provides access to the Main Gate and largely covered by modern settlements today, constitutes the subject of this article. In line with the archaeological data, it is understood that C1 Street provided direct access to the Main Gate in the first planning, but later, as a result of the arrangements made in the eastern portico, the area was expanded in an asymmetrical plan type and the Square was formed. In Late Antiquity, however, the square was known by a different name. While it is known that two inscriptions recovered from the vicinity of the square include the expression 'Forum of Arcadius', the location of the forum could not be determined with certainty, although different suggestions have been made by researchers regarding the location of the forum. However, the research conducted at C1 Street Square will add a new aspect to the debate on this issue. It is known that there were areas built or redesigned to honor the Emperor and his subjects in agoras or squares on avenues, especially the Emperor Forums located on the Mese in the capital Constantinople. Considering the location of the epigraphic finds, it is highly probable that the C1 Street Square, located southwest of the Main Gate, was identified as the Forum of Arcadius in Late Antiquity.

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Introduction

Side, located on the southwestern coast of Anatolia, east of the region called Pamphylia in Antiquity, is today located within the borders of Manavgat district of Antalya province. The city, which was intensively inhabited from the 8th century BC to the 7th century AD, was largely abandoned after possible Arab or Sassanid attacks. However, there is evidence that small Christian communities continued to live here between the 12th and 14th centuries AD, based on archaeological data recovered from different locations¹. The earliest identified reconstruction activities in the city date back to the Late Hellenistic Period until the 1st century AD, during which time the streets C1, a, Small "b" and Small "c" were constructed. In the 2nd century AD, in addition to the construction of monumental public and religious buildings, new road networks such as C2 and B Streets were established to provide access to these building units².

C Street, the main road network of the ancient city of Side³, extends approximately 1 km from the

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This article focuses on the C1 Street Square, which was briefly mentioned in the doctoral thesis titled 'Road Network System in Ancient Side City Planning', which was accepted by the Department of Classical Archaeology of the Institute of Postgraduate Sciences of Anadolu University in 2024. In this research, the square area in question has been re-evaluated in a more comprehensive manner. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Prof. Dr. Feriştah Soykal-Alanyalı, Head of the Excavations of the Ancient City of Side, Prof. Dr. Hüseyin Sabri Alanyalı and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Serap Akça for their support during the preparation of the article for publication.

¹ Soykal-Alanyalı 2017, 192-194; Soykal-Alanyalı 2024, 435-438.

² Mansel 1978, 21-29; Öztekin 2024, 281-293.

³ Lanckoroński 2005, 125; Mansel 1948a, 256-260; Mansel 1948b, 495- 496; Mansel 1951a, 12-13; Mansel 1958a, 215-216; Mansel 1961, 524; Mansel 1963, 18-22; İnan 1975, Pl. IV-1; Mansel 1978, suppl. map sheet-City plan.

Main Gate⁴ to the Temples Area⁵ (Fig. 1)⁶. The change in the direction of the street at the point where the theatre was built led to the naming of two sections: C1 and C2. Thus, C1 is the route that continues westward for about 400 meters from the Main Gate⁷, while C2 is the section that bends at a ninety-degree angle near the Theater⁸, heading first northwest and then southwest, continuing straight for about 500 meters until it reaches the Square of the Temple District⁹. The two routes differ not only in their alignment but also in their construction phases¹⁰.



Fig. 1) Main Street of the City - C1 and C2 Routes in Side City Plan (Soykal-Alanyalı 2024, 426-427, fig. 1)

⁴ Beaufort 1817, 141; Lanckoroński 2005, 130; Mansel 1950, 314; 1951a, 50; 1951b, 305; 1956, 69-73; 1958a, 372; 1958b, 223; 1963, 34-40; 1978, 47-54; Gliwitzky 2010, 123-131; Lohner-Urban in: Alanyalı – Erkoç 2022, 191-192.

⁵ Mansel 1963, 77-91; 1978, 121-142. The area in the southeastern part of the city where N1-N2 (Temples of Apollo-Athena) and Temple P (Demeter?) are located is called the “Temple District” in line with the new findings.

⁶ Soykal-Alanyalı 2024, 426-427, fig. 1.

⁷ Mansel 1963, 36-37; 1978, 47-54.

⁸ Beaufort 1817, 142-147; Mansel 1945, 140; 1957, 660; 1958a, 216; 1959, 690, 691; 1960, 711; 1962a, 45-56; 1962b, 622; 1963, 122-142; 1964, 239-243; 1978, 187-213; Lanckoroński 2005, 147-150; Günay 2008, 543; Soykal-Alanyalı *et al.* in: Alanyalı 2010, 94-100; Alanyalı – Şen in: Alanyalı 2011b, 437-439; İzmirligil 2012, 89-102; Öztekin, 2017, 21-31; Sağnak 2017, 189-200; Öztekin 2024, 136-149.

⁹ Lanckoroński 2005, 131; Mansel 1948b, 495; 1958a, 215; 1963, 90; 1978, 142; Side Ul. Tur. Pl. Y. 1968, 175-179, City Plan of Side.

¹⁰ Öztekin 2024, 281-293.

C1 Street, including the square design, has been the subject of extensive research in recent years¹¹. The width of the street between the two stylobates is 9.50 to 11.50 meters, the eastern portico is 3.00 to 4.10 meters, and the western portico is 2.35 to 5.40 meters¹². There are 12 streets (DP1-DP12) and the same number of Insulae (1-12) behind the east portico¹³. There are a total of 7 streets behind the west portico (BP1-7). Behind the western portico, 7 streets (BP1-7) and 7 insulae (13-21) have been identified, though modern settlement limits the study of this section. On the street-facing facades of the insula, there are 47 shops on the east side (D1-D47) and 43 shops on the west side (B1-B43). Additionally, B Street provides access to the Bishop's Palace Complex in a north-south direction via C1 Street south of the Main Gate.

The subject of this study is the design of the square at the beginning of C1 Street, southwest of the Main Gate, and development¹⁴. Although the square is now completely under modern settlement, the archaeological remains that have been identified provide important data on the design of the arrangement. Based on these data, four building phases have been identified in the area.

Phase I (?)

Phase I refers to the earlier use of the area where the square arrangement was created. Since the area underwent significant changes in the later phases and is now under the modern settlement, the data on the early phases can be evaluated within the scope of the plan and the building activities in the surrounding units. The use of the area before the square arrangement aligns with the building activities at the Main Gate and C1 Street. Since stratigraphic excavations were not carried out in both buildings, the archaeological findings of the Main Gate will provide an idea about the early phases of use of the area. Due to its courtyard plan type, it is observed that the initial construction of the Main Gate dates back to the Hellenistic Period¹⁵. However, the fact that the transportation arteries in the city were largely constructed in the 1st century AD suggests that C1 Street may have been rearranged during this period¹⁶. Moreover, the Eastern Gate, another entrance to the city, was also constructed in the 1st century AD¹⁷ during the intensive construction activities

¹¹ Öztekin 2024, 55-204.

¹² The differences in the width of the porticoes are related to the extensive reworking of the street in Late Antiquity. The fact that the street shops were built over part of the porticoes was effective in this process. Also, during this period, the columns of the street were renewed, and the porticoes were covered with a mosaic floor.

¹³ With the construction of the agora at the end of the street, some streets were disconnected from C1 (DP13-17).

¹⁴ Öztekin 2024, 114-127.

¹⁵ For the city gates built in the courtyard plan type during the Hellenistic Period in the cities of Perge and Sillyon, see: Mansel 1963, 38; Bulgurlu 1999, 364-381; Gliwitzky 2010, 126; Özdizbay 2012, 59; Taşkıran 2017; 194-217; Özer – Taşkıran 2018, 151-173.

¹⁶ For “a Street”, one of the main streets built in the city in the 1st century AD, see: Mansel 1978, 29; Öztekin 2024, 204-210, for “Small b Street”, see: Mansel 1978, 30; Öztekin 2024, 211-214, for “Small c Street”, see: Mansel 1978, 30; Öztekin 2024, 215-232 and finally for the street systems, see: Öztekin 2024, 281-283.

¹⁷ Stratigraphic excavations carried out at the Eastern Gate, another gate of the city, revealed that the building was constructed during the Early Imperial Period. Considering that many buildings in the city were built or reorganized during this period, it is likely that the Main Gate was also reorganized in the 1st century AD. (Lohner-Urban – Grebien in: Alanyalı – Erkoç 2020, 489; Lohner-Urban 2020, 251-269).

in the city¹⁸. In this context, it is likely that the section where C1 Street meets the Main Gate and its surroundings were also reorganized in the same period (Fig. 2).

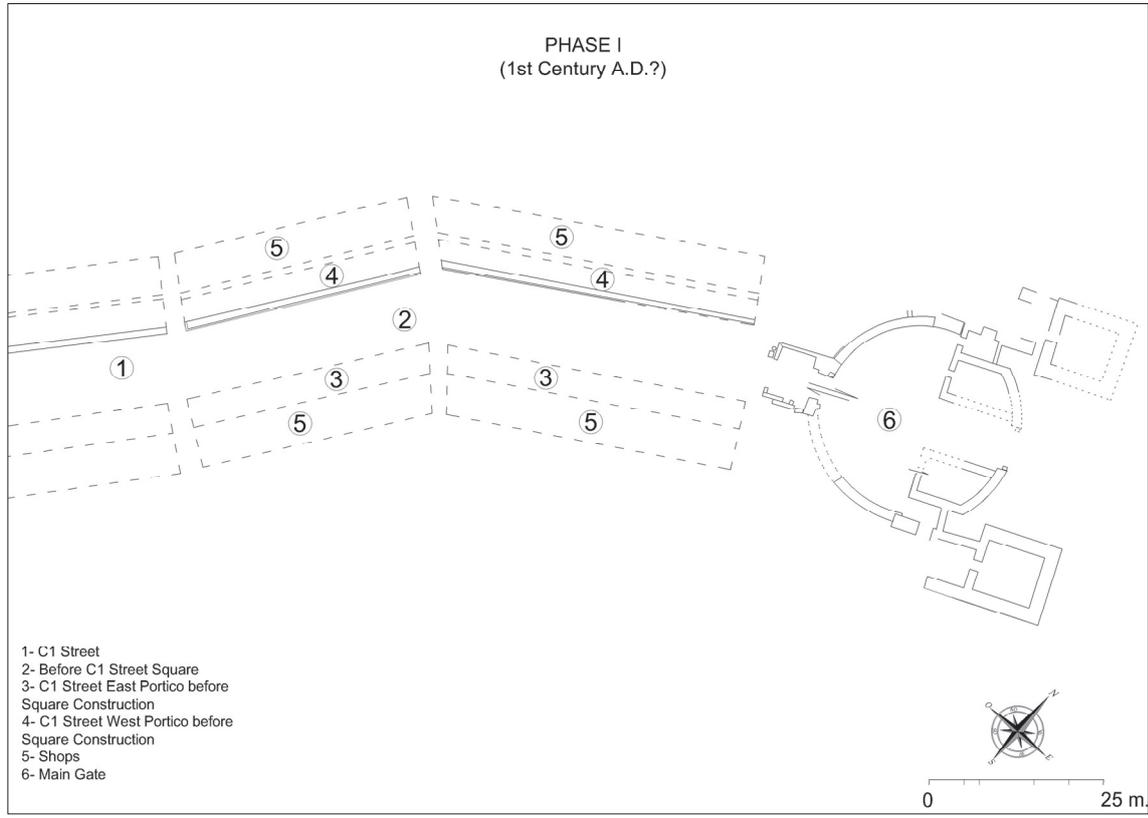


Fig. 2) Relation between C1 Street and Main Gate in the first phase

During this period, before the modifications to the eastern portico, the street southwest of the Main Gate maintained its standard width, and the eastern portico ran parallel to the western portico. Thus, the entrance to the courtyard of the Main Gate in Phase I must have been positioned between the porticoes, right in the center. As a result, it is understood that there was no square arrangement in the southwest of the Main Gate and at the beginning of C1 Street during this process, but instead C1 Street provided direct access to the Main Gate.

Phase II

The second phase of use of the area is related to the monument known to have existed southwest of the Main Gate. The orientation of the monument with C1 Street and the Main Gate bears traces of this phase. In this planning, the monument is positioned in the same direction as the Main Gate and at an equal distance from the porticoes. The function of the monument and the construction activities at the Main Gate provide important data regarding the construction process of the structure (Fig. 3). The monument may be the base of an honorific column, examples of which we know of in the squares and agoras on columned streets, both in Anatolia and in the Eastern Provinces

¹⁸ See for architectural activities in the 1st century AD.: For the Theatre, see: Öztekin 2024, 136-149. For the Dionysos Temple, see: Mansel 1960, 711; 1963, 90-94; 1978, 142-146; İzmirligil 2005, 82-83; 2006, 53-54; Büyükkolancı 2008, 1-24; Alanyalı – Şen in: Alanyalı 2011b, 439-440; Soykal-Alanyalı *et al.* in: Alanyalı 2011a, 100-103; Piesker 2015, 151-183; Soykal-Alanyalı 2016, 419-450. For the Early Inner City Gate, see, Arch (D) and Vespasianus Monument: Öztekin 2024, 157-165, For the Bath-Gymnasium Komplex Bath, see: Soykal-Alanyalı – Öztekin in: Alanyalı – Erkoç 2020, 485; Soykal-Alanyalı – Öztekin in: Alanyalı – Erkoç 2019, 1-2. See also for general 1st century AD building activities in the city: Çakmak 2018, 80-112; Yurtsever 2021, 278-279.

of the Empire¹⁹. While the pedestal has been largely preserved in good condition until today, the probable column body belonging to the structure has not been identified in the area²⁰.

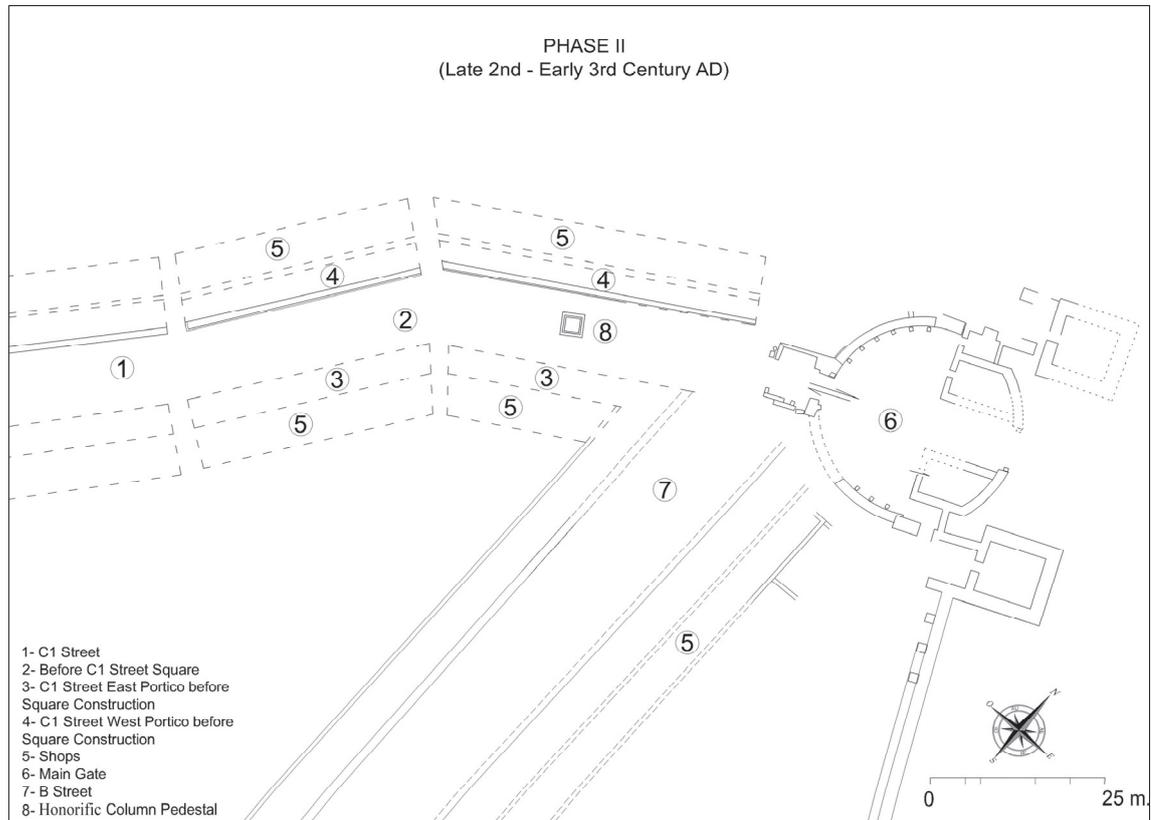


Fig. 3) The general appearance of the area as a result of the development activities carried out in Phase II

While the existence of honorific columns in Rome from the early periods is known from the depictions on coins, it is seen that this tradition became increasingly widespread in various cities of the Empire as of the Early Imperial Period²¹. In the 2nd century AD, the tradition of the monumental column functions as a propaganda tool that we frequently encounter, especially in the

¹⁹ In Plin. *NH* 34.27, it is stated that the placement of statues of honored persons on columns comes from the Greek tradition. The earliest known honorary column is the Naxier Column on the road leading to the Sanctuary of Apollo at Delphi, which dates to the first half of the 6th century BC. For the Naxier Column, see: Wannagat 1995, 12. The column with a stepped pedestal to the east of the Temple of Athena in Paestum, dated to the same period, is also among the early examples of this type. For the Paestum example, see: Wannagat 1995, 15. By the 4th century BC, for the first time on the Greek mainland, columns began to acquire honorary connotations instead of a votive function. Two honoring columns built by Kallikrates for Ptolemy II and his wife Arsinoe II rise in front of the Echo Stoa in the Altis at Olympia. For examples from Olympia, see: Ma 2013, 184. The monuments of Aristaineta and Pleistainos, dated to the second half of the 3rd century BC, and those of Eumenes II and Prusias II, depicted on horseback, dated to the late 2nd century BC, are also examples from the Hellenistic Period in this group. For the examples of the Hellenistic Period, see: Jordan-Ruwe 1995, 22-36.

²⁰ Since the upper part of the pedestal was largely destroyed, it was not possible to determine the possible traces of a column and its dimensions.

²¹ The existence of honorific columns in Rome can be traced back to as early as 439 BCE, as evidenced by a coin dated to the late 2nd century BCE, which depicts the erection of a statue of L. Minucius Augurinus—an official charged with the supervision of the city's grain supply—on a freestanding column by the Roman populace (Plin. *NH* 18.15, 34.21; Richardson 1992, 96). This coin provides the earliest documented example of a statue being placed atop an independent column within the urban context of Rome. From the Augustan period

cities of the eastern provinces of the Empire. As in the Antioch precursor, squares on colonnaded streets were also included in the areas where examples from this period were implemented²². The oval courtyard in Gerasa²³, known to have been built in the 2nd century AD, the square behind the city gate in Aelia Capitolina²⁴, evaluated in the Roman Imperial Period, and finally the examples on the colonnaded street in Oxyrhynchus, Egypt²⁵, are some of the honorary columns built during the Imperial Period at the center of the square arrangements on the streets.

Another reconstruction activity carried out in the area during the Roman Imperial Period is the transformation of the Main Gate into a courtyard of honor with the reworking of the interior design in the late 2nd - early 3rd century AD²⁶. These reconstruction activities must have also affected the units around the Main Gate. This suggests that the possible honorific column was built between the first half of the 2nd century AD, when its examples became widespread in various cities of the Empire, and the late 2nd - early 3rd century AD, when the Main Gate was transformed into a courtyard of honor.

Phase III

The process of creating the Square arrangement with the new development activities realized in the area southwest of the Main Gate and at the beginning of C1 Street is discussed under the name of Phase III. It is observed that the width of C1 Street, which ranges between 9.50-11.50 meters between the porticos, reaches approximately 23 meter southwest of the Main Gate during this phase and therefore a new arrangement was made in the area (Fig. 4)²⁷. This arrangement, which

onward, the use of such monuments became more widespread, with examples observed not only along major thoroughfares and within public architectural spaces in Rome but also across various provincial centers, reflecting both the ideological and commemorative functions of these structures in the broader Roman world. The statue of Octavianus on a coin depicting the "columna rostratae" on a column with the bows of enemy ships erected in the Forum Romanum after the victory over Sextus Pompei at Naulochus in 36 BC can be considered among the earliest examples from this period (Zanker 1990, 41-42, fig.32). It is also known from the depictions on coins that Augustus had four *columna rostratae*, columns with ship's prow, erected in Rome to honor himself and Agrippa for their victory over Egypt (these were probably built around the Temple of Apollo Palatinus on the Palatine Hill, but later moved to the Capitoline by Domitian (Richardson jr. 1992, 97). Another known example from the western provinces in the Early Imperial Period is the Jupiter Column in Mainz, built in 58-67 AD (Bauchhenss – Noelke 1981, 162-163). It is also possible to see examples of the honoring column tradition in Anatolia during the Early Imperial Period. Each corner of the Upper Agora of Sagalassos is formed by four honoring columns erected for the city's dignitaries during the Augustan Period (Vandeput 1997, 193-198; Waelkens 2019, 5-6, fig. 1-2; Talloen – Poblome 2016, 123). It is also suggested that one of a series of monumental columns in the courtyard of the building was named the Perseus Column because of the reliefs on it and that it took its place in the agora in 100 AD (Waelkens 1993, 9-41). A second example is the honoring column bearing the statue of Tiberius in the center of the oval courtyard on the colonnaded street in Antioch, which we learn from Malalas' Chronicle (Ioh. Mal. X. 233). The column was erected to commemorate the return of Tiberius from the campaign against the Parthians as a symbol of victory (Lassus 1972, 112).

²² Ioh.Mal. X. 233.

²³ Fischer 1938, 157; Parapetti 1993, 500; Piccirillo 1993, 336-337; Tabaczek 2002, 170; Burns 2017, 62. The statue on the column is tentatively attributed to Hadrian.

²⁴ Segal 1997, 80, fig. 79; 78-79.

²⁵ Piedrafita 2020, 27-30. The Forum Romanum also has a column honoring Emperor Phocas (Jordan-Ruwe 1995, 112-114).

²⁶ Mansel 1963, 39; Mansel 1978, 49; Vandeput 1997, 140, Pl. 117.2; Yurtsever 2017, 260-261.

²⁷ Mansel 1978, 28.

extends in the southwest direction for 60 meter from the beginning of the C1 Street route, gradually narrows and reaches its standard width at the level of DP-2 Street in the east and BP-2 Street in the west. This width was achieved through breaks in the eastern portico of the street, thus creating space for the Square. The aforementioned break begins in front of Insula 1 and in the portico between B Street and DP-1 Street²⁸. With a width of 3.78 meter and a length of 28.95 meter, the portico is positioned at a 15-degree angle to the previous row of porticos towards the northern end of B Street. The portico is bounded on the northeast by the stylobate blocks in front of the northeast wall of Shop D5. In the southwest, a single stylobate in front of the southwest wall of Shop D11, visible on the surface, indicates that the portico ends at this point²⁹. In this section, there are no traces of a street between the shops in the southeast. However, the row of stylobates cutting the portico vertically in front of Shop D5 suggests that Shop D4 was probably a street in the first arrangement and that a break occurred at this point as in the western portico (Fig. 5)³⁰.

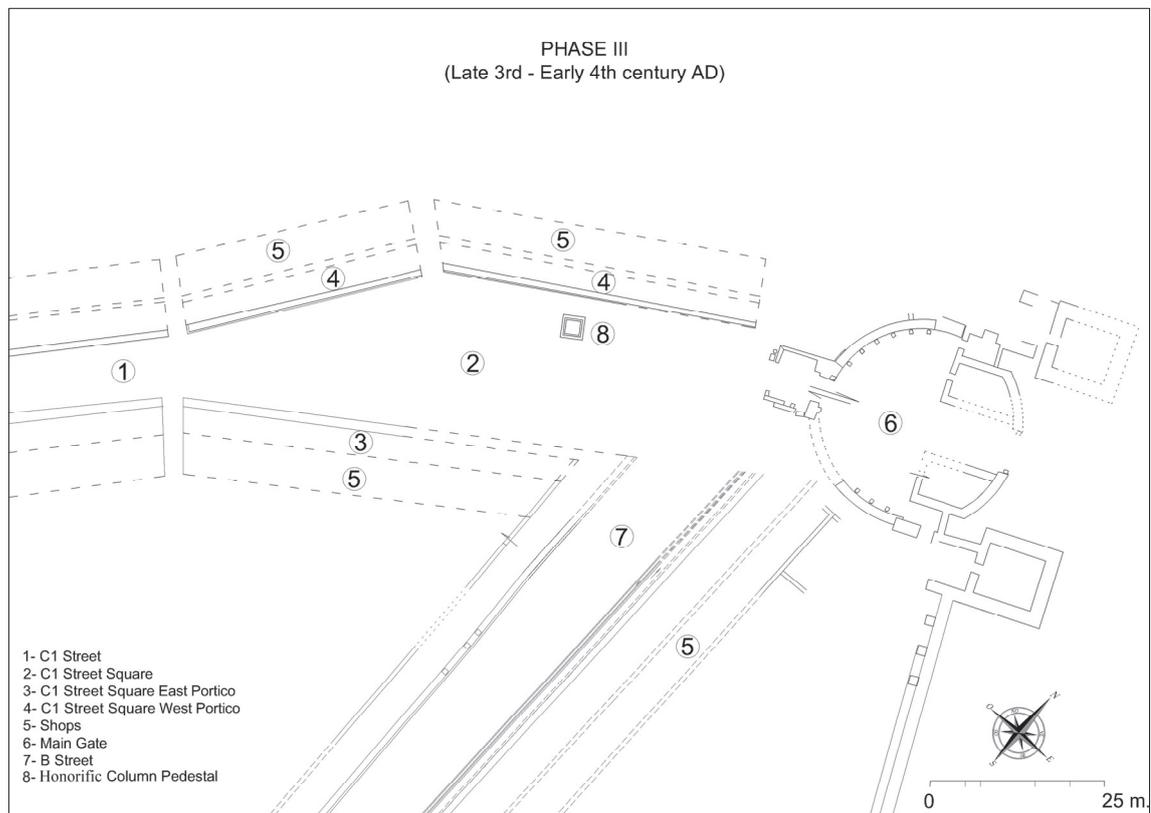


Fig. 4) The situation after the creation of the square in Phase III

The portico row opens to the west portico of B Street at the northeast end. Currently, the west portico sits further back than its eastern counterpart. However, it is thought that both portico rows ended at the same point when the street was first built, before the Square was organized. In such a case, it is understood that the eastern portico of C1 Street in front of Insula 1 intersected with B Street before the Square was created, but this intersection took place within the Square area, taking into account the direction of the street (Fig. 4-5). The reorientation of this section of the eastern portico of C1 Street in the later phases plays a critical role in the design of the Square.

²⁸ Öztekin 2024, 61-63.

²⁹ The dimensions of a whole stylobate block are approximately 0.86 x 1.15 m. and the interaxial distance between the columns is 2.10 m.

³⁰ Öztekin 2024, 62.

With the new design, the possible honorific column, which was previously located in the center of C1 Street, remained in the northwest of the Square with the new arrangements.

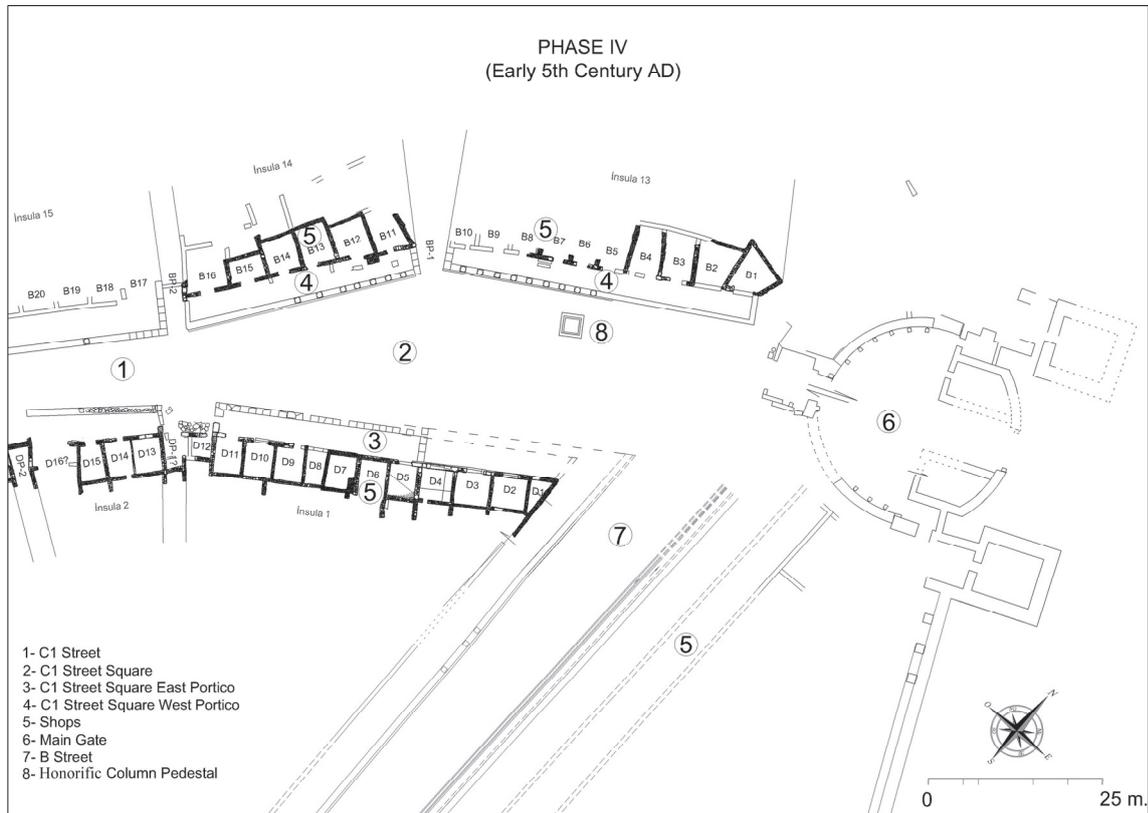


Fig. 5) Phase IV, when the square was named the Forum of Arcadius

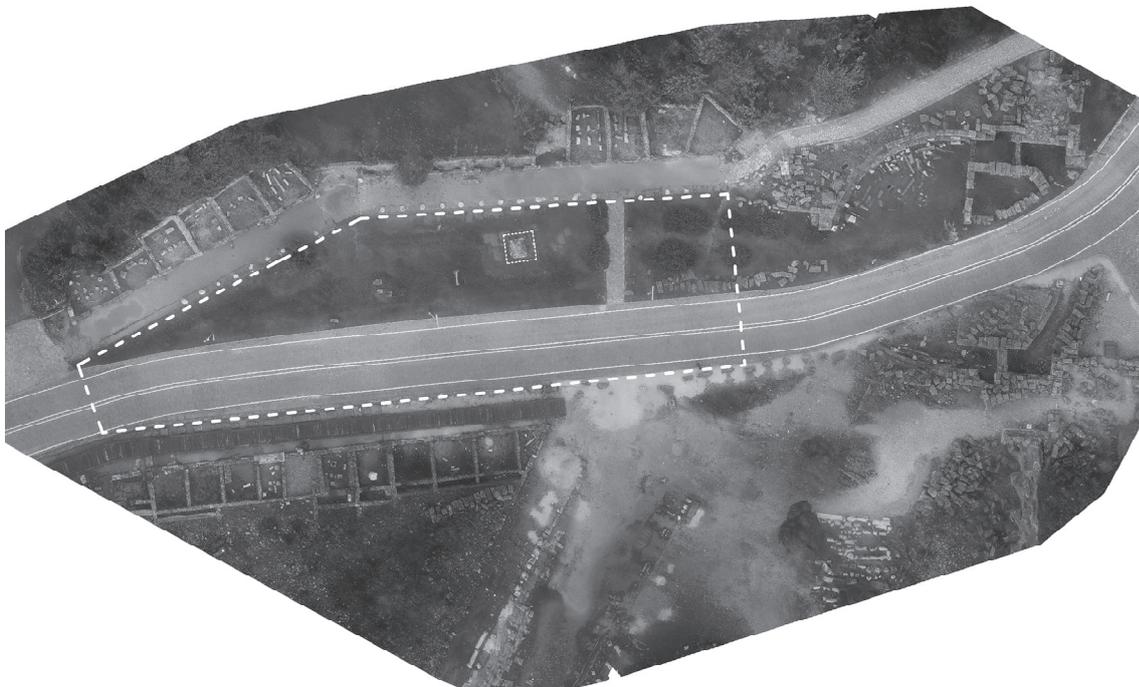


Fig. 6) Orthophoto view of the square (Orthophoto: V. Öztekin, Side Excavation Archive)

Apart from the plan, the eastern and western porticoes of C1 Street Square are architecturally different from the overall C1 Street, but have a consistent arrangement within themselves³¹. This is important in terms of showing that this arrangement was created within the scope of the same construction activity. While the width of the east portico is 3.78 meter, this width is 3.25 meter in the west portico. The dimensions of the stylobate blocks used in both porticoes are around 0.86 x 1.15 meters and present similar values. The interaxial column distances are also in integrity and are in the range of 2.25 to 2.32 meters in both porticoes. The architectural elements preferred in the square design are different from the general design of C1 Street and represent a unity within themselves. The most crowded group among the architectural elements consists of attic-ion column bases with 24 pieces. With a height of 0.21 to 0.25 meter, a plinth width of 0.63 to 0.65 meter and a diameter of 0.47 to 0.50 meter, these column bases are the smallest examples on the street. The height of the column bodies made of white marble with thick gray veins used together with the column bases varies between 3.46 to 3.50 meters on average. Although these bodies are also the smallest examples preferred in C1 Street, it is possible to see similar ones in the eastern portico of B Street³².

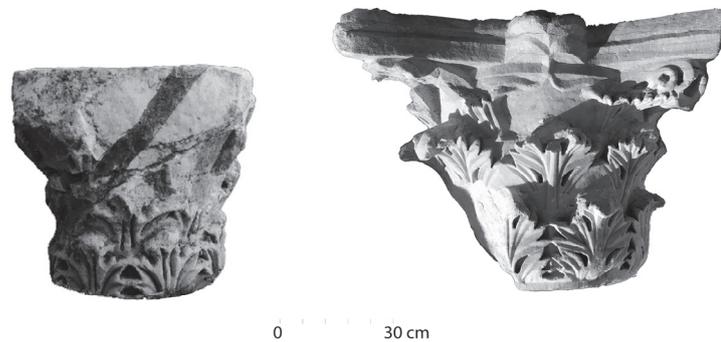


Fig. 7) Left- C1 Street Square Corinthian Capital, Right- B Street East Portico Corinthian Capital

Column capitals, which may be compatible with the column bodies, could not be identified in the Square. During the restoration works carried out on C1 Street in 2001, some architectural elements belonging to the Square were raised and landscaping was carried out in the area³³. During this period, the architectural elements of C1 Street excavated by A. M. Mansel between 1959/60 and the materials recovered from the surrounding area were placed in the shops behind the porticos³⁴. At this point, one of the Corinthian capitals placed in the shop numbered B16 behind the western portico of the Square is in harmony with the column bodies used in the Square in terms of all its dimensions. The cap is similar to the B Street examples in terms of typological and leaf decoration style (Fig. 7)³⁵. The acanthus leaves covering the entire surface of the calathos on the capital are wide and short, with rounded tips. The acanthus in the lower wreath rises above the calathos base ring. The drop-shaped eyes on the leaves are thin and elongated. The teeth of the leaf blades join with the neighboring teeth to form geometric motifs. The caulis, although largely destroyed, is elongated on both sides and carved in pyramidal form, according to the existing traces. The fact that the surface of the calathos between the caulis is left flat and unprocessed and

³¹ Öztekin 2024, 274-275.

³² The column bodies preferred in the eastern portico of B Street show the same characteristics as the examples in C1 Street Square in terms of their dimensions. However, the only difference between the two examples is that the B Street bodies are made of pink veined marble.

³³ Öztekin 2024, 18, fn. 86.

³⁴ Mansel 1961, 524.

³⁵ Öztekin 2024, 245-247.

that there are no helices is one of the most distinctive features of this type. The closest examples of this capitals, which has a widespread use, in terms of leaf processing and stylistic features are found in the Tarsus Cumhuriyet Alanı³⁶, The Late Antique City Gate of Perge³⁷, Patara³⁸, the scene building of the Bostra Theatre³⁹, the palaestra of the Bath-Gymnasium Complex in Salamis-Constantia⁴⁰, the round-plan temple in Ostia⁴¹ and the cities in the Levant Region⁴². These examples are generally dated to the middle or just after the 3rd century AD⁴³.

An inscribed statue base recovered from the square is noteworthy due to its historical affinity with the capital mentioned above. The base bears the name of Emperor Diocletianus (Fig. 8a)⁴⁴. The haphazardly engraved, unequal letter sizes suggest that the base had a secondary use⁴⁵. And this base must have been part of a series of statues of emperors placed on the porticoes of the main street⁴⁶. The reason for such an opinion is based on another inscription found in the city. The inscription, dated to the 3rd century AD and identified as the base of a statue representing the Roman senate, reads ‘to the divine ancestors of the emperor’⁴⁷. It is precisely because of this phrase that Bosch suggests that the area where this series is exhibited is the beginning of C2 Street, the spot where the bases of other statues of emperors were unearthed⁴⁸. The bases, each made of high-quality marble, are of secondary use. Their original inscriptions have been shaved off and new inscriptions have been haphazardly created with incised lines. This is important as it shows that this series is a continuation of a pre-existing tradition. Considering the location of the inscriptions on C2 Street, it is assumed that this tradition probably started during the reign of Emperor Hadrian⁴⁹, when the construction process of the street was carried out and the statue of the emperor was exhibited at this point. Apart from the inscribed statue base of Gordianus III, the other emperors in this series are Diocletianus, Constantius II, Iulianus and Gratianus, who ruled in the late 3rd and 4th centuries AD. However, it is observed that the series of emperor statues were moved to different parts of the city over time and the areas where they were exhibited were changed⁵⁰.

³⁶ Türkmen 2007, 133, Cat. Nr. 43.

³⁷ Gliwitzky 2010, 82-83, Abb. 84.

³⁸ Şahin 2018, Cat. Nr. 56, Pl. 25a.

³⁹ Türkmen 2007, Pl. 69. 1.

⁴⁰ Kiessel 2013, 248, Abb. 3,5.

⁴¹ Pensabene 1973, 96; 339, Cat. Nr. 339, Pl. 34; Freyberger 1990, 127-129; Cat. No. 308, Pl. 46a.

⁴² Fischer 1990, 53-54, Nr. 207-221.

⁴³ Heilmeyer 1970, Pl. 33-4; Kautzsch 1936; 5-69, 71, Taf. 6-82; Taf. 6-98.

⁴⁴ The inscription is on a marble statue pedestal and was found in the area between the Main Gate and B Street (H: 1.47 m.; L: 0.61 m.; D: 0.30 m.; LH: 0.05-6 m.). The inscription is translated by Nollé as “For Diocletianus Aug[ustus]” (Nollé 1993, Nr. 46, 321).

⁴⁵ Bean 1956, 80, Nr. 46; Nollé 1993, 321-322, Nr. 46; 2024, 91.

⁴⁶ For the inscription of Gordianus III, see: Bosch 1951, 60-61, Nr. 8; Nollé 1993, 311-314, Nr. 42. For the inscription of Constantius II, see: Bean 1956, 82-83, Nr. 49; Nollé 1993, 325-326, Nr. 49. For the inscription of Iulianus, see: Bean 1956, 81-82, Nr. 48; Nollé 1993, 327-328, Nr. 50. For the inscription of Gratianus, see: Nollé 1993, 328-329, Nr. 51.

⁴⁷ Bosch 1951, 66-67, Nr. 18; Nollé 1993, 285-290, Nr. 26.

⁴⁸ Bosch 1951, 66-67, Nr. 18.

⁴⁹ Öztekin 2024, 287.

⁵⁰ Except for the inscription on the base of Diocletian, the finds of the mentioned examples were recovered from C2 Street and its surroundings.

The statue of Diocletianus must have taken its place in the new arrangement in the C1 Street Square with the changes made as a result of a secondary use.

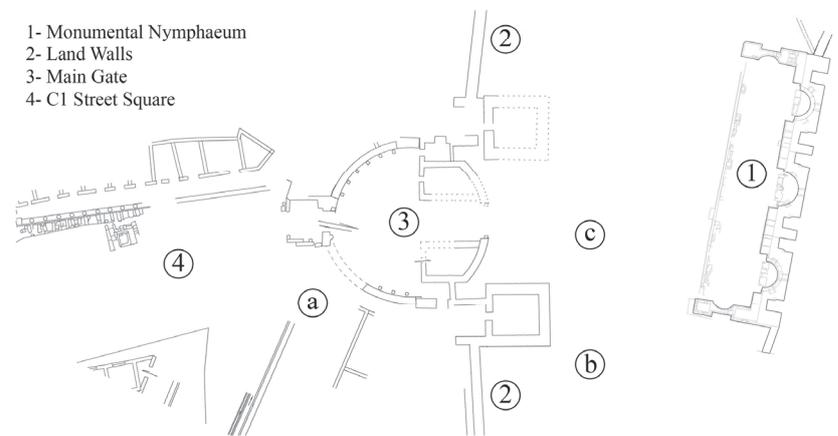
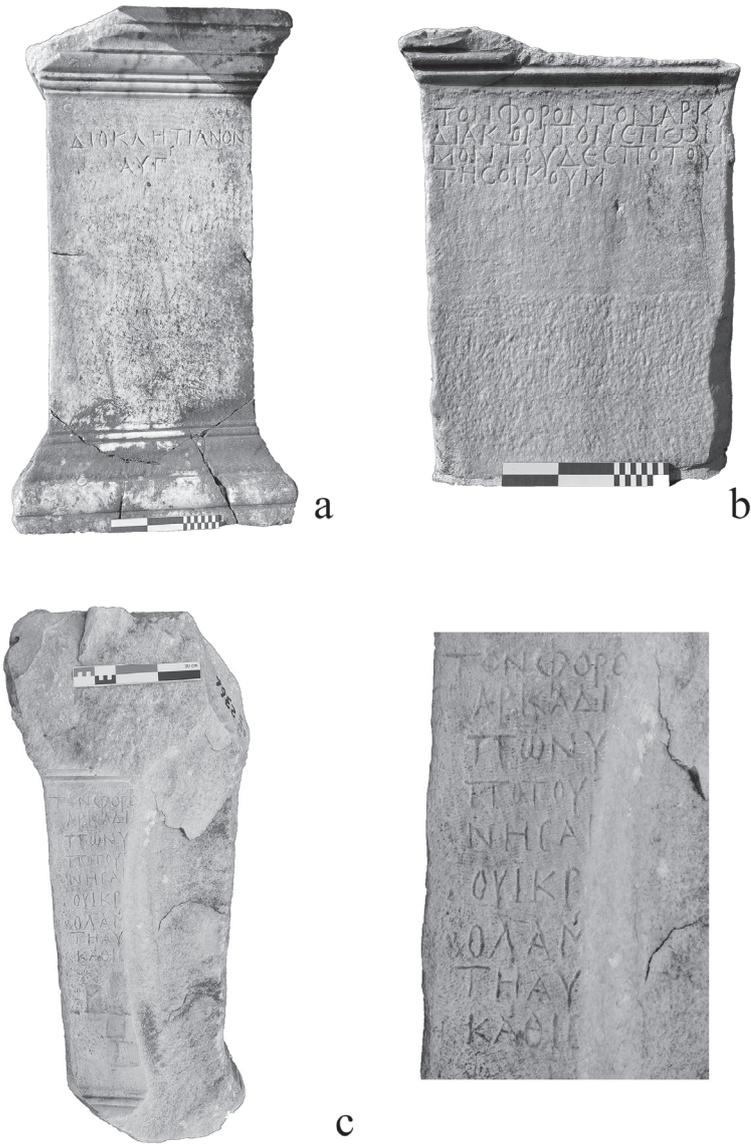


Fig. 8) Inscriptions associated with C1 Street Square: a) Inscription of Diocletian, b) 1st Arcadius Forum Inscription c) 2nd Arcadius Forum Inscription

Diocletian, who came to power after the crisis of the 3rd century AD, made important reforms in the administrative structure. Especially in this period, arrangements were made in the provinces and the number of provinces was increased⁵¹. Researchers suggest that the separation of Pamphylia from Lycia and its status as a separate province took place between the late 3rd century AD and the first half of the 4th century AD⁵². While various dates within this period are suggested, based on information from the Verona List, it is widely accepted that this reorganization took place during Diocletian's reign⁵³. In this context, Diocletian was likely honored with a statue in the C1 Street Square at the city's entrance⁵⁴.

As a result of the transformation of the Side Square during the reign of Diocletian, it can be stated that it has an asymmetrical plan type, thanks to the statue of the emperor and the capital which is thought to belong to the Square. Square arrangements on the avenues were first encountered in cities such as Gerasa, Bosra, Aelia Capitolina and Leptis Magna in the eastern provinces of the Empire and were built in oval, near-oval or elliptical forms in plan⁵⁵. These examples were planned and developed together with the colonnaded streets in the 2nd century AD and all of them were located behind the city gates. Side Square was also positioned behind the city gate as in the examples in the mentioned cities and an elliptical appearance was tried to be given in form. The reflection of square plans on the cities in Anatolia has developed in different forms or asymmetrical plan types as in Side Square. The square arrangements in Ephesos, Laodikeia and Perge in the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD also have different plan types from the examples in the eastern provinces⁵⁶. The main reason for this is that the Anatolian examples were designed after the construction of the colonnaded streets.

Phase IV

A significant change in the plan of the Square created during the Diocletian Period was found in this phase. However, the fact that architrave blocks, one of the superstructure elements of the Square, were not found in the area must be related to the arrangements made during this phase (Fig. 5-6). Besides, architrave blocks were not found on any other street in the city, especially on

⁵¹ Onur 2009, 301.

⁵² Hellenkemper – Hild 2004, 109; Nollé 1993, 134; *I.Perge II*, 7-10, Nr. 287; Bennet 2007, 134; Onur 2009, 302.

⁵³ Hellenkemper – Hild, Şahin and Onur suggest that Pamphylia gained province status by separating from Lycia during the reign of Diocletian (284-305 AD) (Hellenkemper – Hild 2004, 109; *I.Perge II*, 7-10, Nr. 287; Onur 2009, 302.). J. Nollé states that this event took place before 325 AD (Nollé 1993, 134), while J. Bennet states that it took place in the period between 314/15-324 AD (Bennet 2007, 134).

⁵⁴ For inscriptions honoring the emperor for the developments in this period, other than the aforementioned inscribed statue base, see the inscriptions mentioning Diocletian's name recovered from the Great Baths and from the vicinity of Side: Nollé 1993, 319-320, Nr. 45; 2001, 500, Nr. 177-178.

⁵⁵ For the oval-plan squares at Antioch, Bosra, Gerasa and Palmyra, see: Parapetti 1983-1984, 37-84; McDonald 1986, 51-66; Segal 1997, 53, 69-70; Tabaczek 2002, 22; Burns 2017, 233-252. For the near-oval and elliptical squares of Gerasa, Bosra and Leptis Magna behind the city Gates, see: Fischer 1938, 157; Parapetti 1983-1984, 58-62; Seigne 1992, 186-187; Parapetti 1993, 500; Ward-Perkins 1993, fig. 38-39; Tabaczek 2002, 170; Burns 2017, 101-102; 144; 146-147; Mugnai 2021, 52; 88, fig. 1. For the example of the asymmetrically planned Aelia Capitolina behind the City Gate, see: Segal 1997, 78, fig. 79-80; Weksler-Bdolah 2022, 32.

⁵⁶ For the square between the Embolos and the Library of Celsus in Ephesus, see: Thür 1995, 159; Scherrer 1995, 10-11; Quatember 2014, 104, fig. 2. For the square in Laodikeia at the southern end of the Stadium Street, see: Şimşek 2018, 89; 103. For the C2 Gate at Perge and the squares in front of the oval courtyard with Hellenistic round tower and on the north-south colonnaded Street, see: Özdizbay 2008, 71; 144-146.

C1 Street. Such a situation can only be explained by the destruction of a large part of the architrave blocks as a result of a historical event such as an earthquake or a war in the city, and the remaining preserved blocks were utilised as a secondary use in the newly constructed buildings⁵⁷.

Another important change identified in the Square is related to the major reconstruction of the pedestal of the possible honorific column during this period. Following the Diocletian-era arrangement of the Square, the honorific column stands 28 meter southwest of the Main Gate and 3.50 meter southeast of the west portico, resting on a square pedestal set on a platform of smooth-cut sandstone blocks measuring 3.80 x 3.80 meters (Fig. 9-11)⁵⁸. The preserved height of the pedestal is around 1.50 meter and the total height of the monument in its present state is 1.90 meter. It is understood that the two rows of steps preserved on the northwest and southwest facades were removed and destroyed on the other facades of the monument. The first step beneath the pedestal is 0.40 meter high, while the second step is 0.25 meter high, both with a width of approximately 0.30 meter. The 2.50 x 2.50 meters pedestal, which rises over the second row of steps, is built of smooth-cut sandstones, rubble stones and broken bricks and conglomerates. The irregular arrangement of these blocks and the varied dimensions suggest that the pedestal was reworked in Late Antiquity. On the outer surface of the pedestal, traces of preserved plaster were found. For this reason, it is thought that the pedestal was covered with marble slabs.

In addition to the pedestal in the C1 Street Square, there is a second example in the palaestra of the Baths Gymnasium Complex. Alanyalı's excavations in the adjacent stylobate row around the pedestal revealed that the building was constructed in the first half of the 2nd century AD⁵⁹. However, Yurtsever, who has conducted research on the subject, suggests that there was a monument surrounded by columns in the first half of the 2nd century AD and that the pedestal was built on

⁵⁷ It is known that significant changes were made on C1 Street during the period when construction activities were carried out especially on the streets in the 5th-6th centuries AD. It is thought that the architrave blocks on the streets were also dismantled or cancelled during this period and instead a roof system formed with a wooden construction was designed to cover the porticoes. In the 5th-6th centuries AD, it is observed that in addition to religious architecture, public and civil architectural structures were built at various points in the city, and the existing buildings in the city were largely overhauled during this period. While these reconstruction activities were being carried out, it is understood that architectural elements belonging to the existing buildings in the city were used as spolia in the new buildings to be built in order to maintain their functions. It is likely that the architrave blocks on the streets were dismantled in a planned manner during this process and re-functioned in the reconstruction activities in the city, since they have a form suitable for reuse. However, it was not possible to identify the architrave blocks belonging to the streets in the new constructions. This situation can be explained by the possibility that the columns belonging to the streets were toppled for some unknown reason and the blocks were largely destroyed and could not be reused. Prior to this period, when many buildings in the city were repaired, it is assumed that a historical event such as an earthquake or a war had taken place, which affected the entire city. It is known that the city was attacked by the Goths between 266-270 AD and by the Pisidian communities who organised raids to Pamphylia between 367-400 AD. In addition, although it cannot be proved by archaeological and epigraphic findings, it is reported in the list of historical earthquakes published by AFAD that an earthquake of magnitude 7 occurred between Manavgat-Alanya in 407 AD. For the historical events mentioned, see: Amm. Marc. XIV.2.8-10; Wolfram 1990, 53; Nollé 1993, 167 Tlit 35; 2001, 402; Onur 2009, 307; AFAD deprem.gov.tr.

⁵⁸ Öztekin 2024, 125-127.

⁵⁹ Soykal-Alanyalı in: Alanyalı –Soykal-Alanyalı 2018, 445.

the foundations of this monument in a later period⁶⁰. Apart from the ones in Side, the most original examples of the honoring column tradition, which became increasingly widespread in Late Antiquity, are seen in Constantinople⁶¹, while similar pedestals have been found in the North-South Colonnaded Street in Perge⁶², the Central Agora of Laodikeia⁶³ and the Agora of Tripolis⁶⁴. The C1 Street Square example must have been reworked during this period and continued its function.



Fig. 9) Aerial view of the pedestal of the honorific column (Side Excavation Archive)

⁶⁰ Yurtsever 2021, 53-54. A. Yurtsever associates the finds recovered from the foundation level with the euthynteria and stylobate blocks on which the pedestal sits, which he suggests as the first phase of the building. However, as H.S. Alanyalı clearly states, the phase in question is related to the foundation of the building. Moreover, Alanyalı's statement that the building underwent a radical transformation starting from the stylobate level is an acceptable conclusion considering the finds and levels of the finds. Therefore, it is not possible to answer Yurtsever's claim that the stylobate blocks existed from the first phase of the building with certainty based on the available finds.

⁶¹ Jordan-Ruwe 1995, 140-165; Müller-Wiener 2007, 53-54, 248-267; Peschlow 1992, 215-228; Stichel 1999, 467-492; Arslan 2016, 127, fig. 8; 2018, 7-29.

⁶² No date has been proposed for the Perge example (Bauer 1998, 367, Taf. 35, 1-2).

⁶³ The three-stepped podium seen in the Laodikeia example and the marble head recovered during the excavations suggest that it functioned as a Roman monument in the first phase. However, with the additions made during the Early Byzantine Period, it is suggested that a monumental-sized column and its capitals were included in the structure (Şimşek 2013, 181, Fig. 235).

⁶⁴ The pedestal in the Tripolis Agora, which is similar to the Laodikeia example due to its three-stepped podium, is defined as an "honor monument". Although the monument has the characteristics of an honorific column pedestal in terms of its plan, it is dated to the 6th century AD due to the spolia materials used (Duman 2019, 328). It is also known that the honorific column in Oxyrhynchus, Egypt was reworked between 602-610 AD and the inscription on it honors Emperor Phocas. Emperor Phocas was also honored on another honorific column in the Forum Romanum (Piedrafita 2020, 27-30; Jordan-Ruwe 1995, 112-114).



Fig. 10) Orthophoto view of the pedestal of the honorific column (Orthophoto: A. Doğan, Side Excavation Archive)

Finally, it would be appropriate to mention two inscriptions found just outside the Main Gate, which reveal important data on the use of the area in Late Antiquity due to their proximity to the Square and the information they contain (Fig. 8b-c)⁶⁵. The mention of the Forum of Arcadius in the inscriptions has led to discussions about the location of the forum. Mansel states that the forum was located between the stone-paved area between the city walls and the Monumental Nymphaeum, where the inscription was found⁶⁶. Another opinion on the location of the forum is expressed by Foss, who states that the area proposed by Mansel is too small for a forum⁶⁷. Foss also argues that the Agora to the north-east of the Theatre was renamed the Forum of Arcadius during this period and that the inscription was moved to its present location at a later period. As mentioned by Nollé, the units of the Monumental Nymphaeum extend to the area proposed by Mansel for the forum, so it is possible that this area was used for purposes other than the forum⁶⁸. Supporting Mansel's suggestion regarding the location of the Forum of Arcadius, Onur suggests that

⁶⁵ Bosch 1951, 77, Nr. 32; Nollé 2001, 486-488, Nr. 166; Onur 2006, 193-195, Nr. 1. The first inscription mentioning the Forum of Arcadius is on a marble base (statue base?) and was recovered from the area between the Monumental Nymphaeum and the Land Walls (H: 1.20 m.; L: 0.56 m.; D: 0.36 m.; LH: 0.03 m.). The inscription is translated by Nollé as “The Arcadius Forum, which is named after the Lord of the Earth Circle [consecrated the city]” (Nollé 2001, Nr. 166, 486). The second inscription is on a profiled marble base (statue base?) and was recovered from near the Nymphaeum during the cleaning work at the Main Gate (H: 1.65 m.; L: 0.53 m.; D: 0.50 m.; LH: 0.06 -7 m.). The inscription is translated by Onur as “[...] Vicerius, the glorious [governor], dedicated the Arcadian Forum named after the emperor of the inhabited (world) Arcadius, to his [fatherland?]” (Onur 2006, 193, Nr. 1).

⁶⁶ Mansel 1978, 16.

⁶⁷ Foss 1977, 179.

⁶⁸ Nollé 2001, 487, fn. 97.

the forum may have been built in 404 AD to commemorate the victory of Roman forces under Arbazicus against the Isaurians⁶⁹. Finally, Yurtsever has also used the term Arcadius Forum for the area including the Main Gate and the Monumental Nymphaeum, which also includes the C1 Street Square⁷⁰.

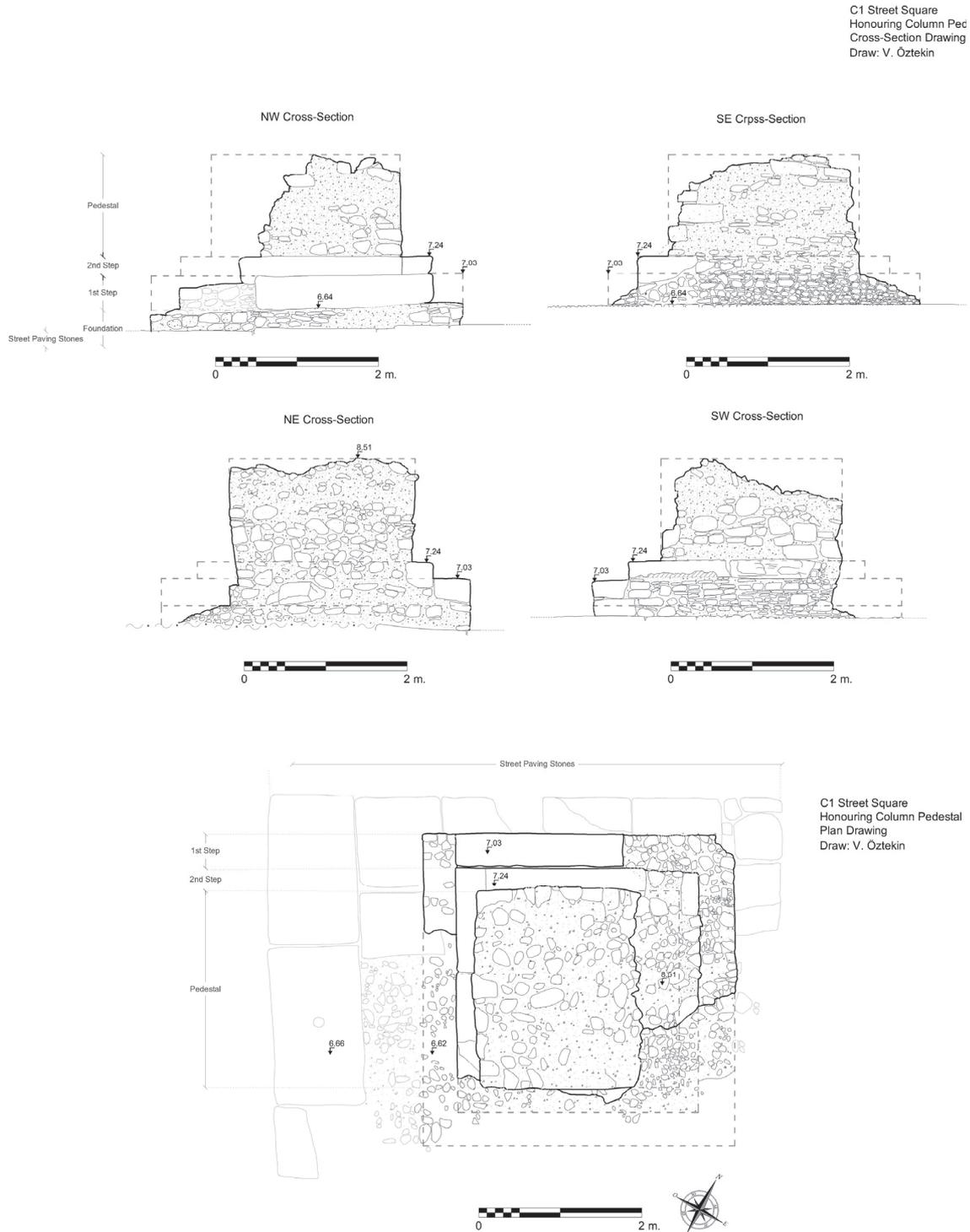


Fig. 11) C1 Street Square, Honoric Column Pedestal cross-section and plan drawings (Drawing: V. Öztekin)

⁶⁹ Onur 2006, 193-195, Nr. 1.

⁷⁰ Yurtsever 2021, 55.

Although it is not possible to determine the exact location of the forum today based on the available data, the use of the forums in Late Antiquity and their relationship with the streets provide insight into this subject. The Forums of Constantine, Theodosius and Arcadius⁷¹ on the main avenue of the city named Mese in Constantinople, although built in different plan types, bear similarities to the Side example in terms of their location within the city and their relationship with the main street⁷². The Column of Marcianus on the northwest branch of the Mese and the Column of Goths on the section extending to the Augusteion were probably built in the centre of a forum or a square⁷³. Similar forum structures, designed as a place of honor within the Constantinople city model, are also found in various cities of the Empire. Examples in the cities of Caričin Grad (Iustiniana Prima) and Dyrrachium, which were designed in an oval form influenced by the Constantine Form, are examples of this situation⁷⁴. However, as in the examples of the Great Colonnaded Street of Apamea and the Arcadius Street of Ephesus, honorific monuments such as tetraklionion, which were built on the road pavements without making any changes to the street, appear as building groups that serve the same purpose as the forums where the emperors or members of the emperor's family carry their statues. It is seen that such honorific areas were created in cities either with the construction of forum structures or by redesigning the squares that already existed in the city. Considering the suggestions regarding the location of the forum in Side, it does not seem possible that the Agora was transformed into a forum during this period due to the location of the inscriptions related to the Forum of Arcadius. In the section between the Monumental Nymphaeum and the Main Gate, which is another suggestion for the location of the forum, there is not enough space for a forum at this point due to the area covered by the pool of the Nymphaeum. In this case, it is highly probable that the existing C1 Street Square arrangement behind the Main Gate was called the Forum of Arcadius in the early 5th century AD, taking the Constantinople Forums on the Main Street as an example. It is thought that the possible honorific column in the C1 Street Square, proposed by us as the Forum of Arcadius, was also reworked during this period and a statue of Emperor Arcadius or a capital was placed on it and it continued to function.

Conclusion

The area behind the Main Gate and at the beginning of C1 Street constitutes the entrance of the city due to its location. The first phase of utilization of the area dates back to the Hellenistic Period, although it is not certain in connection with the construction process of the Main Gate. The impact of the construction activities intensified in the city with the Early Imperial Period on the Main Gate and its surroundings is not understood due to the lack of archaeological or epigraphic data. In Phase II, the area functioned as a connection of C Street with the Main Gate, and between the 2nd century AD and the late 2nd to early 3rd century AD, it was transformed into a representation area with the installation of the possible honorific column. In Phase III, this area was expanded and transformed into a square with the arrangements made in the direction of the eastern portico. This process is thought to have taken place during the reign of Diocletian thanks to the archaeological and epigraphic findings. Square arrangements on the avenues first appeared in the

⁷¹ Jordan-Ruwe 1995, 140-165; Müller-Wiener 2007, 248-267.

⁷² Arslan 2016, 127, fig. 8.

⁷³ Peschlow 1992, 215-228; Jordan-Ruwe 1995, 171; Stichel 1999, 467-492; Müller-Wiener 2007, 53-54; Arslan 2018, 7-29.

⁷⁴ Hoti *et al.* 2008, 367-397; 370, fig. 2; Ivanišević 2016, 115-116, fig. 5.

cities in the eastern provinces of the Empire and developed in oval, near-oval or elliptical forms in plan. In Anatolia, unlike the cities in the eastern provinces, the fact that these public spaces were created with the arrangements made in the later phases after the construction of the avenues caused the squares to be designed far from a standard plan type. For this reason, Side C1 Street Square also had an asymmetrical plan due to the implementations carried out in the Diocletian Period.

The inscriptions recovered from a point close to the square contain important findings regarding the use of this area in Late Antiquity. The inscriptions mentioning the Forum of Arcadius have caused discussions among researchers about the location of the forum in the city. It is clear that the Late Antiquity forum structures, which developed especially in the Constantinople model, were influenced by the square designs that were encountered in many cities, especially in the eastern provinces of the Empire in the 2nd century AD. In addition to their plans and locations within the city, the fact that forums and squares are generally located on the main arteries is important in order to perceive this interaction. For this reason, the C1 Street Square in Side offers suitable features for the Arcadius Forum. Since the area functioned as a square before it was known as a forum in Late Antiquity, this transformation must have been easily achieved. The honorific columns in the squares were also reworked in this period and statues of the emperor, members of the emperor's family or high-ranking officials were placed on them. The honorific column in the C1 Street Square should also have been reworked during this period and decorated with a statue or capitals of Emperor Arcadius, who gave his name to the forum.

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Arkeolojik ve Epigrafik Arařtırmalar Iřığında Side C1 Caddesi Meydanı**Özet**

Side Antik kentinin ana ulaşım arteri olan C Caddesi'nin Ana Kapı ile Tiyatro yapıları arasındaki güzergahı C1 olarak adlandırılmaktadır. C1 Caddesi'nin Ana Kapı ile ulaşım sağladığı noktada bulunan ve günümüzde büyük oranda modern yerleşim altında kalan Meydan düzenlemesi, bu makalenin konusunu oluşturmaktadır. Arkeolojik veriler doğrultusunda ilk planlamada C1 Caddesi'nin doğrudan Ana Kapı'ya ulaşım sağladığı ancak sonrasında doğu portikoda gerçekleştirilen düzenlemeler sonucu asimetrik bir plan tipinde alanın genişletildiği ve Meydan'ın Diocletianus Dönemi'nde gerçekleştirilen imar faaliyetleri sonucunda oluşturulduğu anlaşılmaktadır. Bu süreçte Meydan'ı çevreleyen portikoların da mimari elemanlarla birlikte bütünüyle yeniden düzenlendiği görülür. Geç Antikçağ'da ise, Meydan'ın farklı bir isimle anıldığı saptanmıştır. Meydan yakınlarından ele geçen iki yazıtta "Arcadius Forumu" ifadesinin yer aldığı bilinirken, arařtırmacılar tarafından bu forumun kentin neresinde konumlandırıldığı ise tartışmalara neden olmuştur. Forumun konumuna yönelik öneriler, epigrafik buluntuların ele geçtiği noktaların yanında, önerilen alanlardaki arkeolojik veriler nedeniyle kesinlik kazanamamıştır. Ancak, C1 Caddesi Meydanı'nda yapılan arařtırmalar, bu konuyla ilgili tartışmalara yeni bir boyut kazandıracak niteliktedir. Başta Başkent Konstantinopolis'teki Mese üzerine konumlandırılmış İmparator Forumları olmak üzere, agoralar ya da caddeler üzerindeki meydanlarda İmparator ve tebaasını onurlandırmak adına inşa edilmiş ya da yeniden tasarlanmış alanların varlığı bilinmektedir. Bu doğrultuda epigrafik buluntuların konumu da göz önünde bulundurulduğunda, Ana Kapı'nın güneybatısında halihazırda var olan C1 Caddesi Meydanı'nın Geç Antikçağ'da Arcadius Forumu olarak anılmış olması kuvvetle muhtemeldir.

Anahtar Sözcükler: Pamphylia; Side; şehircilik; şehir planlama; sütunlu caddeler; meydan.