

EXCAVATION AND CLEANING ALONG THE
EAST SIDE OF THE GREAT DRAIN

1951

Section E: Byzantine houses,
levels and monument
bases; Mycenaean and
Protogeometric graves

Section Z: Northwest Corner of
Middle Stoa

Section ©: Early Roman Stoa and
Early Roman Temple

R. C. Wood

SECTION E : 1951

Byzantine Houses

E VI
pp. 1157 ff.

There had apparently been four major dwelling units in the northern part of Section E : Houses A, B, C and D. When excavation was begun in 1951, House D existed only on paper save for a few scraps of wall; House C retained the shell of two rooms but had been completely cleared inside; the southern half of House B had been cleared away with House D, and the northern part of House A had vanished in the excavation of the temple of Ares. Thus we had half of House B and half of House A to work with. These were largely dug to Roman levels, but a small martyra here and there remained.

The ground slopes noticeably from southeast to northwest, and has been considerably disturbed by late intrusions, bothroi, pits, wells, etc. The area seems to have been a residential district from earliest Byzantine times until 1931. Traces of earliest Byzantine habitation are scanty but clear, and can be dated by pottery as no later than the 10th century.

The large dwellings whose plans we have were established in the 11th century, and were constantly modified slightly to suit their occupants. The next major building period, however, seems to have come during the 13th century. At this time new superstructures seem to have been given to the

old foundations, and occasional changes in the plan were made, although on the whole the old plan was retained. What poor scraps of floor we found preserved belonged to this period.

Period I : 10th century or before

The earliest Byzantine walls in the area were light rubble walls, not very sturdy. Their lines bear no relation to the Roman walls in the area, and only sometimes can they be connected with the lines of the later Byzantine houses. While the early wall under the South wall of House B, room 1, and that alongside of the South wall of House A, room 1, have very nearly the line of the later walls; still, there is a wide enough difference in the lines of the wall east of the east wall of House B, and the wall in House A, room 4, from those of their successors, to make us feel that the earlier houses had a slightly but markedly different orientation.

Period II : 11th century

This is the period in which the main outlines of all four houses were established. Houses C and D, to judge by the pottery from their few remaining walls, were first built in this period. For Houses A and B we have a little more evidence, but the pottery from the walls is certainly indicative, and the pottery from the early floor levels in the two or three small martyras remaining agreed well with a date in the 11th century for the building of the houses.

E VI p. 1157

E VI p. 1078

E VI p. 1107,
photo p. 1088

E VI pp. 1068
1084,
photo pp. 1066,
1085

H,nb. This fortunately agrees with the date of the major building
 pp.1419
 ff., period of the nearby Byzantine Houses in Sections H and P.
 P,pp.1309,
 ff. From the 11th century on, the history of the houses in E
 parallels that of the houses in H and P. The houses were
 continually in use, and were subject to many minor altera-
 tions. For the first period House A, room 4, provides a
 good example of this. Room 4 and Room 4' were originally
 planned as one. But, very shortly thereafter, Room 4'
 E VI p.1069 ceased to be used. A disaster then befell the north wall
 of Room 4, and it collapsed. It was rebuilt on a slightly
 different line, very possibly with the upper courses of the
 outside walls of Room 4'.

Period III : 13th century

Like the houses in section H and P, those in section
 E were largely rebuilt in the 13th century. This rebuilding
 retained the earlier plan and foundations, and concerned
 itself primarily with the upper structure of the houses.
 The south wall of House B, room 1, provides a clear example
 E VI p.1152 of this. The wall was built in two distinct layers, and
 the pottery from the upper layer belonged to the 13th cen-
 tury, while that from the lower part belonged to the 11th
 century. The separation into two parts occurred just at
 the level of the 13th century floor in our martyra. Some
 alterations of the plan were made in this period, notably
 the enclosing of Room 3 with House A. There are no

E VI p. 1080

indications of earlier walls in Room 3, and presumably it served as a court or yard until the 13th century, when it was included in House A. Room 4 was divided by a light cross wall at this time, and a new door from House B, room 1, gave access to the back alley on the north. The entrance at the west of House B, room 2, was converted into a small paved area court. In House B, room 1, the great rectangular cellar was sunk down through bedrock. It is to this period that the pithoi in House A, room 4, belong.

E VI pp.
1129, 1130,
photos p. 1128H II p. 305,
E VI p. 1151E VI pp. 1067,
1081, 1083 f

The subsequent fate of the houses is best indicated by the threshold of House A, room 1. As the level of the street rose, the threshold was raised, and eventually further raised by the addition of a step on top of the threshold block. The doors still swung on their original pivots in the original threshold.

E VI
p. 1077
phot p. 1076

Levels

When the Byzantine remains were cleared away we had arrived at Roman stroses throughout. The southern half of the section had already been dug to first century A.D. levels. We have now reached the same levels further north, under the Byzantine house-walls; and the area of the road to the west we have left at two levels: first century A.D. at its southern end and third century A.D. at the northern end. This does not mean that we have only one or two stroses over the whole area; on the contrary, at least six exist, all of the general first century A.D. period although the lowest undoubtedly belongs rather to the first century B.C.

The accompanying drawing will show the approximate extent of the major levels, and corresponds as much as possible with Mr. Waage's drawing^{of 1932}. Where we use another color than he used, we have arrived at a lower strosis.

Architectural Fragments and Small Finds

The demolition of Byzantine walls and street levels gave us many architectural fragments from the Temple of Ares (A 1748-1751, 1773, 1779, 1812-1817, 1820). Of particular interest are the wall-blocks with channels for lead (A 1749), the large piece of epikranitis block (A 1812), the step from the west side of the temple (A 1814) and

E, 1932, 3,
pp. 506 ff.,
and drawing
in back
pocket of
volume

the metope fragment (A 1815).

E VI, p. 1060
(phot. as
found)
Pottery cont.
B 414

A 1748-1751 were found heaped in the street in our Layer IV (earliest Byzantine and Latest Roman) and may give some clue as to the date of the dismantling of the temple. These blocks were apparently carried away to be used in house walls, but were for some reason abandoned in the street.

Also from the Byzantine walls came a fragment of a Prytany decree, I 6355; the unfinished head of a herm, S 1487; a fragment of the scales of a Giant from the Odeion, S 1503; an ostrakon of Themistokles, P 21235; and a fragment of a ceiling slab from the Hephaisteion, A 1780.

Finds from elsewhere in Section E included the Poletai record (I 6354), the decree mentioning King Antiochus (I 6367), and a statuette of the Mother of the Gods (S 1504), as well as the objects from Mycenaean burials, noted below.

Monument Bases

Two substantial monument bases beneath the Byzantine debris can be added to the great number of monuments which line the west side of the Great Drain. One very large base, ca. 8.0 m. long, for which only the cuttings and two of the foundation blocks remain, lined up with the Great Marble Altar and the other bases along the Drain; the deep Byzantine disturbance at its north end preserves the line of the monument and indicates that

(in House C,
Room 1)
E, VIII,
p. 1370

Note on inscription I 6367 (E 634), found in cleaning east of south end of Eponymous Heroes.

PH 0.20 m.; PW 0.295 m.; T ca. 0.089 m. LH 0.0065 m.

In form, an honorary decree. The prescript is lacking in several particulars (e.g. no secretary or presiding officer mentioned), and the stone is therefore probably not an official document.

The man honored is APPI - . He was very likely a foreigner since the formula of line 5 is probably [τιμῶμενος ὑπὸ οὐ ἐν πίπτει] τοῦ βασιλέως Ἀντιόχου.

He is being honored for military services and perhaps negotiations (see *ἑπονδογορῆς* , line 11).

The approximate length of the lines rests on the restoration of the formula in the last line, but is supported by line 1 as well.

No mention of an assembly in Piraeus from 347/6 to 208/7. Commencing with this latter date there are 18 the latest being 137/6. The formulae and letter forms are also appropriate for this spread. If the man honored has also been honored by King Antiochos, the possibility of its being Antiochus III is hardly possible. I would therefore, place the inscription in the time of Antiochus Epiphanes (175-163 B.C.).

Text

ΕΠΙ	--- C.8	--- ΑΡΧΟΝΤΟΣ ΕΠΙΤΗΣ	1
Τ	ΝΕΙΑ	ΜΑΙ ΜΑΚΤΗΡ	2
Τ	ΛΗΞΙΑ	ΕΜΠΡΑΞΙΜ	3
	Υ	ΣΕΙ ΜΕΝ ΕΜΕΙ ΔΗ ΑΡΡΙ	4
	Τ	ΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΑΝΤΙΟΧΟΥ	5
Ε	Τ	ΑΤΕΙΑ ΙΣΤΗ ΜΕΓΙΣΤΗ ΝΕΧ	6
Τ	Ε	ΤΑΡΜΕΝΟΣ ΕΠΙ ΤΗΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΤΡΑΤΟ	7
	Ε	ΥΤΑΣΙΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΝ ΤΛΙΔΙ ΗΛΙ	8
	Μ	ΑΤΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΡ	9
	Ο	ΙΣ ΠΑΡΑΓΙΝΟΜΕΝΟΣ ΣΑΘΙ	10
	Α	ΙΣ ΕΡΟΝ ΔΟΦΟΡΙΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΠΙ Τ	11
	Δ	Ε ΚΑΙ ΤΟΙΣ ΚΑΘΙ ΔΙΑΝΕΥΣ	12
	Ι	ΤΟΥ ΤΛΝΑ ΜΟΜΕ ΜΑΡΤΥΡΗΤΑΙ	13
	Μ	ΑΝΤΟΥ ΣΤΟΙΟΥ ΤΟΥ Σ Ο Π Λ Σ	14
	Ο	Δ ΔΞΕΙΝΕΙ ΔΟΙΣ ΕΞ ΟΤΙΚΟ	15
		Ε ΑΓΑ ΘΕΙ ΤΥ ΧΕΙ	16
Δ	Ε	Δ Ο Χ Θ Α Ι Τ Η Ι Β Χ Ο Υ Λ Η Τ Ο Υ Σ Λ Α Χ Ο Ν Τ Α Σ Π Ρ Ο Δ Ρ Ο Υ Σ	17

I have found a form of the word *γίλοδοξεν*
in IG² II-III 884, 927, and 931

σπονδογοροίς is rare and usually in connection
with the Olympic or other games. (M.C. says also sacred
truces; and cf. *Hesperia* VIII, p. 10).

εὐταζία occurs usually in ephobic decrees.

I have found no parallel for lines 6, 7, 9.

Line 13 is frequent in decrees of this sort.

The last letter of line 3 probably begins the
speaker's name.