

EXCAVATIONS AND RESTORATIONS AT ANEMURIUM (ESKİ ANAMUR) 1969

Elisabeth ALFÖLDI - Gerhard HUBER -
Altan AK.AT- Peter TAYLOR

For reasons beyond our control, the 1969 season was a short one, but we think it was a fruitful one all the same.

Our staff consisted of Professor Elisabeth Alföldi-Rosenbaum, University of Toronto, as director, Dr. Gerhard Huber and Dipl. ing. Dietburga Huber -Regler (Vienna) as architects, Mr. Peter Taylor, University of New Brunswick, Canada, as field assistant, and Mr. Altan Akat, Archaeologist, Department of Antiquities, Ankara, as official representative of the Turkish Government.

We worked on the site from August 6 to August 29, and it is probably because of this time limit, that in the 1969 season, teamwork was particularly good: we all owe one another a great deal. Dr. Gerhard Huber and Mr. Altan Akat have contributed individual articles on their part of the work, and in this general report there will be, therefore, only brief allusions to these articles.

Our work was made possible by the renewal of the excavation permit on the part of the Eski Eserler ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğü at Ankara and especially the Director, Bay Hikmet Gürçay; and by a generous grant from Canada Council: it is not only the funds, we are grateful for, but also the exceptional understanding for our problems that was shown to us. We also wish to thank Professor G. S. Vickers, chairman of the Department of Fine Art at the University of Toronto, who helped in many ways; and, last, but not least, the local authorities at Anamur.

Our first and foremost concern was the preservation of the baths building il 7 A (see for these numbers E. Rosenbaum, G. Huber, S. Onurkan, *A Survey of Coastal Cities of Western Cilicia*, Türk Tarih Kurumu, Ankara, 1967). This is the best preserved building of the city, it even has most of its ancient roof. Clearing and excavation within and without the building deprived the structure of some of its "natural" support, and consolidation work was imperative. Dr. G. Huber, who has worked on this and other buildings in the city of Anemurium for nearly seven years, carried out the most urgent restoration work this season (see his report, pp.).

Another well-preserved building of the city is the Odeon (il 9 D). Here, Professor Leonard Smith (University of New Brunswick, Canada), who directed the excavations at Anemurium in 1967 and 1968, had done some important clearance work, especially in the orchestra and in the "tunnels" that serve as substructures for the seats of the cavea. Well-preserved mosaics were found especially in the tunnel, and some new knowledge about the structure of the building was gained (see his report in *T. A. D. XVII-2*). However, in this building, too, it appeared that excavation and clearing work had endangered the stability of the still standing structure, and thus restoration work had to be carried out. Mr. Altan Akat carried out the most urgent work (see his report, pp.).

Apart from these two main projects, we devoted most of our short time to

the cataloguing and evaluating of previous finds. Outstanding amongst these are mosaics and terracotta lamps.

in 1967, Professor Smith excavated an important mosaic floor N.-E. of the odeon, close to the modern road (see T. A. D. XVII-2). The mosaics were consolidated at the time by Diana Reeves (Institute of Archaeology, University of London), and covered over, but there were no facilities then to draw plans, take professional photographs, make technical notes. All this was done during this season by E. Alföldi, D. Huber-Regler, and P. Taylor. The pavement is an extremely interesting one, it is the first one to be found at Anemurium with figure-representations (a full figure of victory (fig. 1) and two busts of Mercury, each accompanied by a Greek inscription: **KERDON**). But there are many problems of dating and of purpose, and thus we find that these mosaics warrant a special publication.

A small portion of another mosaic pavement was excavated by Professor Smith in 1967 east of building **111 2 B**. This mosaic has only geometric designs. But there is the intriguing problem, whether it is, architecturally, in some way connected to the building 111 2B, which is apparently one of the many baths of Anemurium. Under the supervision of Mr. P. Taylor a sondage westwards (that is towards building 111 2 B) was carried out. The result was that the mosaic continues; moreover, P. Taylor may have found a clue to the date of this pavement: a coin of Constantius II came to light in a layer above the floor, but not in a general fill deposit. Further investigation will have to show whether this coin can be used for dating the mosaic, and the building it belongs to.

Anemurium, so rich in well-preserved buildings, wall paintings (in the necropolis), and mosaics, was very poor in small finds so far (not to speak of sculpture). But at the end of the 1968 season, Professor Smith found a hoard of nearly

700 unused terracotta lamps in the hypocaust level of Building il 7 A, in a flue connecting two rooms there. The find was made in the last days of the season, so that no detailed inventory could be produced. The latter was done by E. Alföldi and P. Taylor; photographs were taken by E. Alföldi. (Fig. 2, 3) About 25 moulds could be distinguished, some of them only variants of others. It is clear that all the lamps were made at the same time in the same factory; and that factory cannot have been at Anemurium, since there is no clay in the vicinity. For the time being, we can only say that these lamps date from the 6th or 7th century A. D., that some designs are paralleled on lamps found in Syria and Cyprus, and that there is one design (of which we have 24 well preserved specimens) not known elsewhere (Fig. 3) The final publication of this hoard will be undertaken, it is hoped, by Professor Smith and Mr. Taylor. The lamps are housed for the time being in the Museum at Alanya.

In 1968, Professor Smith carried out some work along the sea wall, first on a stretch which had been exposed by a tidal wave during the previous winter. Amongst the finds was a long limestone block with a very badly cut inscription. We have not yet been able to decipher it for publication, but we could ascertain that it is a verse inscription consisting of two distichs, referring to a restoration of the sea wall under the auspices of Matronianus, a *comes* and *vir clarissimus* who must be identical with the Matronianus known as *comes Isauriae* in 382 (Cod. Theod. IX, 27, 3, Pauly-Wissowa XIV, 2, 2309, No. 2).

Anemurium has not produced many inscriptions so far, in fact, the 19th-century epigraphers travelling in this area came to the conclusion that it was an anepigraphic site: we have found a few inscriptions during our survey work, and some turned up during excavation. None of these was of any general importance: the Matronianus stone is the first exception, and it is important beyond the boundaries of our site.

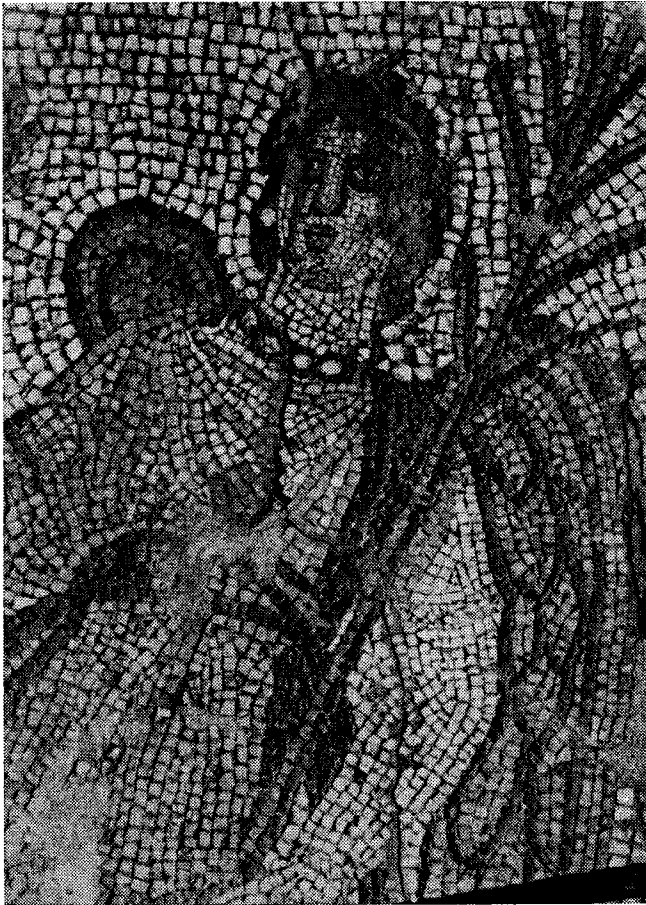


Fig. 1

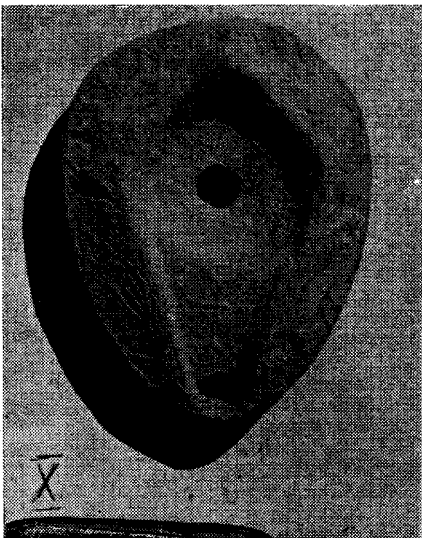


Fig. 2

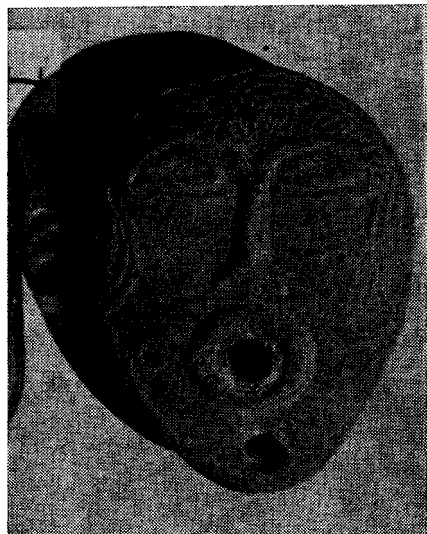


Fig. 3

