

EXCAVATIONS AT SARDIS IN 1962

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and

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The work of the expedition began with the arrival of Dr. G. F. Swift, Jr. Administrative Officer, early in June and continued well into September, with the major excavation activities concentrated in the period from June 26 to August 28. The project continued as a collaborative enterprise of the Fogg Art Museum of Harvard University and Cornell University, joined for certain aspects by the Corning Museum of Glass and the Department of Geophysics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The American Schools of Oriental Research again sponsored the expedition. In addition to means provided by the participant institutions and the Bollingen Foundation of New York, the expedition benefited by a grant made by the government of the United States through the Department of State to Harvard College.

Under the provisions of the grant, four Turkish student trainees took part in the campaign, and a structure to house them was built. Dr. Enver Bostancı of the University of Ankara was appointed to carry on the study of anthropological skeletal remains.

The Director General of Antiquities and Museums, Rüstem Duyuran, and officers of his Department as well as the Office of the Cultural Attache, United States Embassy, Ankara, were most helpful in making all necessary arrangements¹. Kemal Ziya Polatkan and,

1. The Sardis Expedition wishes to acknowledge their indebtedness to Dr. Necati Dolunay, then Special Advisor to the Department of Antiquities; Professor Afif Erzen, University of Istanbul; E. H. Balch, Cultural Attache; R. C. Talcott....., Cultural Affairs Officer, Istanbul; Kari F. Brauckmann, Director, U. S. Information Service, İzmir.

for part the season, Muharrem Tağtekin served as Commissioners.

Among the highlights of the very successful campaign² was the appearance of the first Bronze Age cremation burial, the discovery of the ancient synagogue of Sardis, and the beginning of work at the Royal cemetery of Bin Tepe. Work was carried on at the following locations (Plan, Fig. 1) "Pactolus North" (PN), "Lydian Trench" and "House of Bronzes" area, "Road Trench" (West and East) and "Synagogue, "Marble Court" in the part of the gymnasium known as "East B", the central platform of the Acropolis ("AcT"), and the tunnels in the north slope of the Acropolis. A sounding for the foundation of the city wall was made north of the gymnasium (Plan, Fig. 1, 9) and preliminary ramping work carried out at the Roman-Byzantine bath "CG." In addition to geophysical experimentation, a chamber tomb (BT 62. 4) was excavated and the marble chamber in the mound of Alyattes was recorded at Bin Tepe.

In the general area of the Early Byzantine "House of Bronzes" (plan Fig. 1: 2; Fig. 2) the facade of a building running east-west was located between S 140-155, W 20-E 10. In connection with the widening of the "Lydi-

The following, appointed by a joint Committee of the Department of Antiquities and the Office of United States Cultural Attache, worked as trainees: Turhan Alper and Güven Bakır, University of Ankara, Asım Erdilek, İzmir College, Mehmet Ergene, Robert College.

2. Previous reports: *BASOR* 154, April 1959, 5-34; 157, February 1960, 8-43; 162, April 1961, 8-49; 166, April 1962, 4-59, and *Türk Arkeoloji Dergisi* 9: 1, 1959, 3-8; 10: 1, 1960, 3-20; *II*, 1961, ; 12, 1962 (forthcoming).

an Trench" (Fig. 2, Lyd. Tr.), The powerful west wall of a Roman complex **first** located in 1960, was extended to the southwest (S 90-II 8; E 20-10). A vaulted underground cistern was located between the northeast end of this wall and the southern part of the "House of Bronzes" (HOB, Fig. 2) proper. Foundation of a wall which continues the alignment of the south wall of the "House of Bronzes" was traced westward (not shown in Fig. 2). Indications are that the area between "House of Bronzes and the newly found building at the foot of the hillock (S 140-15 5) was in Roman and Early Byzantine times an open area. The "Lydian Trench" was considerably enlarged (Fig. 2, S 80-105, E 20-W 35). In its eastern part Dr. G. F. Swift made a deep stepped sounding. At a level of *91. 4 a pithos was found (at S 88 - E 6) lying on its side, which yielded fragments of calcinated human bones but no other objects (Fig. 3). We assign the burial tentatively to the Late Bronze Age³. A clay deposit and remains of mud pieces with imprints of branches suggest the existence of huts immediately above. At a somewhat higher level, *94. 75, S 95 - E 5, a floor yielded numerous fragments of pithoi and an arrangement of stones suggestive of a hearth. At the level of *97. 5 the burned floor which we associate with the Kimmerian invasion was exposed to a considerable extent including a short stretch of a thin mudbrick wall.

In the western part of the trench, the major effort was concerned with the excavation and stratification in Building "C". Dr. Swift suggests that the building is Hellenistic and belongs with a level of broken stones and tiles which served as bedding for an earth floor (ca. *100. - 99. 5). The dating is based on the finds of coins. A silver coin of Alexander the Great was found at S 90 - W 25, *100. 3, a

3. Pithos: P. 62. 463 (4867), Grave 62: 52. Coarse red ware. Slightly everted rim, Two lug handles near rim. Body flares downward to marked angle with rounded base. Height o. 52 m, upper diameter o. 38, greatest diameter (body) o. 44 m. Some of the features re-appear in Hittite jars from Bogaz Kale, K. Bittel, *Boghazköy* 3, *ADOG* 2 (1957) 23, pi. 22, dated 15- 14. century; cf. also M. Mellink, *A Hittite Cemetery at Gordion* (1956) 15, pis. 10 f., and pi. 25 c.

bronze coin of Antiochus III in the bedding. The western room of building "C" had three internal supports on marble bases. Its length is 1 8 m. and its width 8. 5. m. There are indications that the building continued westward.

At least three levels can be discerned underneath building "C". Their exact dating is still to be determined. Objects of the Persian era (500 - 334 B. C) such as a silver siglos and an Attic red-figure sherd have been found. There is still considerable probability in the view that traces of a destruction by fire mark a level which may be associated with the Ionian attack of 499 B. C.

Finally, a sandy floor at *99. 3 - 99. 15 is definitely earlier than the foundations of building "C", as it passes o. 10 m under their bedding. Fragments of a Middle Corinthian skyphos show that this floor was in use during the first half of the sixth century.

More evidence for metal - working has been found in shape of lead - strips, used perhaps for soldering.

An important find is the unfinished bronze plaque with two loops attached to its back. The shape corresponds closely to the plaque with a recumbent boar found on the Acropolis in 1960 (*BASOR* 162. fig. 24) but this time a recumbent ibex was represented (Fig. 4. H. O. 045). The piece was found near the place (S 95, - W 20, * 99. 8) where in 1961 an unfinished ornamental bronze plaque had come to light (*BASOR* 166. fig. 8; S 95 /W 19, * 99. 6).

Finds of "pot-hoards" and sets of four pots (*BASOR* 166, fig. 4) continued to be made (for instance, at S. 106 - E O, * 99. 6); and similar sets have now been found in the sector PN. It seems virtually certain that the Sardians were celebrating a ritual community meal. The small animal, of which the roasted bones are found in the small jar the set, has now been definitely identified as a very young (perhaps new-born) puppy. O. Masson agrees with the writer that such a meal would be most appropriately offered to the Lydian god known from a fragment of Hipponax

as Hermes Kynanchos, whose Lydian name was Kandaules Masson suggests that this may have been a Lydian war god⁴.

Interesting evidence for Hellenistic and Early Roman phase was found along the northern edge of the trench. Here numerous fragments of painted stucco had been dumped west of a large Lime patch suggesting a lime kiln. Surprisingly, under the lime patch there were found seven small (Dm. shaft 0.30 - 0.32 m.), very fine Hellenistic Doric capitals (S 84, W 18 - 19, *99. 5). They are of the kind that may have been intended for the peristyle of a house (Fig. 5).

Abundant finds of pottery and minor objects as well as Hellenistic and later coins were made. Particularly noteworthy is the recurrence of Carian graffiti (IN 62. 34 and 62. 258, from the early level "C", S 90 -95, w 20, *99. 7-2 and 99. 1 - 98.9) such as had also been found in 1961 (cf. *BASOR* 166, fig. 6, *99. 5 -1, S 88, W 19).

In the sector "Pactolus North" (Fig.1, Plan 10), excavations by Professor M. Del Chiaro and Dr. D. P. Hansen have doubled the excavated area, which now reaches the eastern bank of the Pactolus to the modern road to the temple. The upper level included disrupted Turkish (and possibly Late Byzantine) dwellings and workshops. Traces of industrial activity were found also within the small church "E"⁵ and in an apse-like structure attached to the west side of "E".

The very interesting small church "E" is ca. 20 m. long and 11 m. wide. The top of its foundation, carefully fitted from re-used ancient marble blocks, lies at ca. *91. 3 Its podium is strikingly high, ca. 2.00 m. Its many brick domes have collapsed into the church. The plan featured engaged piers along the walls; the base of one shows the relief of a cross. Bases of six free-standing columns indicate the division into bays. The apse is circular but its masonry base is polygonal.

4. Cf. O. Masson *Les fragments du poete Hipponax* (1962) 57, fragm. 3, and 105 f

5. The structure was designated as "E" and briefly mentioned by H. C. Butler, *Sardis* 1, 33, III. 18.

The fascinating structure (Fig. 9) is being studied by A. H. Detweiler and D. Stieglitz.

Tentatively, we consider the church Middle Byzantine. Later, a cemetery was located to the north and west of the church. Most of the graves were poorly constructed of tiles and re-used marble pieces, but one of the burials immediately adjacent to the north side of the church (Grave 62. 1) was made in a re-used Lydian sarcophagus (Fig. 9, center). Another re-used Lydian sarcophagus was found near the center of the church, where it was apparently used as water receptacle (during the time when the church was turned into workshops?).

A low wall (Fig.9) separated the church from the cemetery. This area was previously a street. The street was used during the Roman and Early Byzantine period as a "fereeway" for the many watermains which ran west-east from the Pactolus to the city.

During the Late Roman and Early Byzantine times (ca. 400 - 615 A. D.) this street separated two major building complexes. On the south there was a long area paved with mosaics, into which later church "E" was built. On the north lay the suite of rooms with magnificent mosaics (Figs. 6, lower right, 7, 8) which was part of same complex as the bathing establishment excavated in 1961 (*BASOR* 166, 16, fig. 11). The rooms excavated in 1962 will be referred to as the "Dolphin Room", which is the westernmost, followed by a hall with ornamental mosaic, and the "Eagle Room." The "Dolphin Room" measures ca. 5.5 (north-south) by 3.25 (east-west) meters. The design of the mosaic presupposes a spectator entering from the north. Set in ornamental panels, the polychrome mosaic includes a circular centerpiece with two pairs of dolphins separated by tridents (Fig. 7) Four birds appear in the spandrels, while the paired panels at top and bottom show (top) a bear chasing a stag and (bottom) a hound chasing a hare. The hallway, which measures ca. 5.25 m. north-south by 1.75 m. east-west, features geometric designs of interlocking squares with four-petaled rosettes

(Fig. 8, top). From the hallway, doors opened to north and south, into the "Dolphin Room" and into the imposing "Eagle Room" (Fig. 8 view from north). This room measures ca. 10 m. on its long, east - west axis; the greatest width is ca. 5.25 m. (north - south). In the southern part is a large mosaic set into guilloche frame; intertwining guilloche bands separate the panels. In the circular, central medallion is an eagle with spread wings; pairs of "apsidal" panels arranged crosswise present a leopard chasing an ibex (goat?) and a lion chasing a stag. The intervening spandrel panels feature two dolphins and two peculiar sea-dog monsters. Birds and branches appear in the oblong corner panels. At the northern end, a long panel with three vases out of which grow tendrils of ivy separates the eagle mosaic from the geometric ornamental mosaic laid in the northern part of the room.

A detailed study of evidence is yet to be undertaken, but the tentative dating to the first half of the fifth century would agree with observations made when the mosaic floors of the adjacent rooms B and C were excavated in 1960 (cf. *BASOR* 162, 25 f. and 166, 19, fig. 13). All of the figurative mosaics of the "Dolphin" and the "Eagle Room" were lifted by the expert kindly detached for this duty by the Department of Antiquities.⁶

Although clarified to some extent by additional clearing of units such as tanks, the relation of the mosaic rooms to the bathing establishment needs further study. It is also necessary to determine to what extent Roman structures earlier than the bathing establishment had existed on the site.

For the Hellenistic period the most important feature observed was a long wall running along the south side of the street.

6. Reha Arican, Conservator of the Istanbul Museums, worked with the expedition from August 4 to September 1 finishing the preparation of several mosaics found in 1961 and directing the removal of mosaics found in 1962, as follows: the Dolphin mosaic, entire, in 9 pieces; the Eagle mosaic in 19 pieces; and about half of the decorative geometric panel in the Eagle Room in 4 pieces.

It suggests that the street already existed before it was used by the Romans. Its orientation is exactly east - west.

Excavation of Persian and Lydian levels was carried out in the area of the street (Fig. 6, center and left). Numerous walls but no coherent architectural units were found in the Persian level. Floors of the Persian level lay mostly between *88. and *97.5 m. Stone-built drains occurred, of the sema type as those found between the apsidal Persian buildings excavated in 1960 and 1961 (*BASOR* 162, 26, fig. 14 and 166, 21 f.).

The Lydian level presented somewhat more continuity. It was excavated in an area reaching from S 363 - 386 and W 222 - 248. In the north corner of the trench was a rectangular unit (room?) with a high floor at *87.5. In the central part of the trench there appeared long walls from larger units with floors at *86.7 and *86.5. A rectangular basement room was found at the north edge of the trench ca. S 373-375, W 237-239 with a floor at *86.4 and another at *85.9. This entire complex showed a definite change in orientation from the area adjacent to the southwest (S 374 - 386 W 243 - 251) where several walls ran pretty exactly north - south. A floor with a water channel was found at *86.8 (S 375 W 248). A peculiar construction appeared in the south edge of the trench (S 383 - 386 W 249 - 253). This rubble wall has a series of vertical slots or grooves which might have contained wooden beams or poles (Top of wall *87, bottom *85.7).

Two probes were made for lower levels, one in the center of the trench, the other at the western end (S 371 W 232). An earlier Lydian floor was located at *85.5. The western probe, in an area 8 by 2.75 m., revealed a north - south wall (S 382 - 284 W 245 - 247) running at a right angle to the slotted wall described above. Dr Hansen observes that these, together with traces of a "robbed" wall farther west, may have constituted a unit. Nothing but silt was found below this level to *84.9.

In addition to abundant finds of Lydian and some imported Greek pottery, there were found in the Lydian levels the circular Phoenician fayance seal with a bearded sphinx (Fig. 10), and the fragment of a terracotta tile with a birci. Another fine archaic Lydian terracotta tile with potnia theron found in 1961 (*BASOR* 166, fig. 18) was a surface find. Two Lydian graffiti (IN 62. 259 - P 62. 312, and IN 62. 48 - P 62. 206) were found in the Persian levels (at *88.1 and *88.6 respectively). The former contains the ending *va/is*, reminiscent of the famous bilingual *Nannas bakivalis* (*Sardis* 6: 2, no. 20); the second gives twice the Lydian "8" (f) Sign.⁷

Fragments of a fine Attic black - figure "Little Master" cup were found scattered but probably go with the Persian level (*87. 8 and *87. 25)

South of the Salihli highway, the great marble - paved avenue was explored in "Road Trench West", which extended the excavation of 1961 (cf. *BASOR* 166, 40, figs. 32 - 35).

Another narrow cut was made some 50 meters to the east ("Road Trench East", Fig. 2).

The most remarkable find from "Road Trench West" was a gold solidus of Theodosius II (408 - 450 A. D.) which came to light during protective and clean - up work. "Road Trench East" revealed the same general arrangement of marble pavement and side walks with colonnaded and mosaic floors as had been found in the western trench. Three shops were excavated behind the northern colonnade. They have been designated, for the time being, as "Sabbatios' Shop" (S), "Jacob's Shop" (J), and Shop No. 2 (Figs. 2 and 15). They are located between S O- 4. 5, E 75 - 92. The first two derive their names from incised graffiti found on jars and jar fragments, namely *Iakobos Pr (esl:ryte) rou*, "belonging to Jacob, the Elder" (of the synagogue, according to Professor Louis Robert), and *Sabbatiou*, "belonging to Sabbatios." A third graffito of this type, from "Sabbatios' Shop" names one Theoktistos.

⁷ Three lines but only letters preserved in each; second and third begin - 8A. We owe the preliminary readings to Professor Jaan Puhvel.

These shops are much better preserved than those in front of the gymnasium building "B", of the numerous objects and coins found, a bronze pot, a bronze jug, a balance (scales) and weights from "Jacob's Shop" deserve particular mention. A small carnelian gem was found just outside the threshold of the shop (Fig. 14). It represents a nude girl holding a plant in one hand and bending toward a low structure. There are indications that some industrial activity involving heating was carried on in "Sabbatios' shop" Much pottery and numerous fragments of glass were found.

A sounding in depth made through the floor of Shop No. 2 exposed three beautifully worked marble steps for a length of ca. 4 m. These may be Hellenistic. They are about 3 m. below the floor of the shops (*96. 4, *93. 5) in S 1. 5 - 3. 5, E 86 - 90.

The discovery of the ancient synagogue of Sardis, immediately north of the shops was a major event of the 1962 campaign. The building is not as yet completely excavated. As far as known to this point, the structure consists of an eastern entrance room, 21. 6 m. long (east- west) and 18. 5 m. wide (north-south) and a western unit of the same width, of which so far some 20 meters have been excavated along the south wall, and some 15 meters in the remaining area. (Fig. 15). The eastern room was entered by a central door from the east. Arrangements for a colonnade are preserved in the northern part (N 15 E 105 - 112) but it is as yet not clear whether there was a colonnade flanking the central part or some type of peristyle arrangement. Inscriptions in mosaic are found in the western part where the mosaic floor is better preserved. One of them, that of Aurelius Olympius of the tribe of the Leontii, is shown in Fig 17. It is located in front of the central door which leads into the western room (at ca. N 9 - 10 E 95).

The western room was entered by three doors, the northern of which was subsequently bricked up (N 17 E 94). The doors featured originally fine marble thresholds and jambs, preserved in part in the southern door. Projec-

ting westward into the room were two marble platforms (N. P. and S. P. in Fig. 15). These probably held originally the *menorah* (seven-branched lamp holder) and the *torah* (sacred scriptures). The fine marble relief representing in deep incision the *menorah*, the *lullab* (palm branch), and the *shofar* (ram's horn) (Fig. 19, width 0.65 m., height 0.58 m.) was found just west of the southern platform ("menorah" in Fig. 15). Large piers are placed along the south and north side, close to the walls (S 1 - 2, N 1, in Fig. 15).

This room, too, had a mosaic floor, which however, is much disrupted. Part of a mosaic inscription with the ending *eilasiou* survives (at N 15 E 85, IN 62. 311, in Fig. 15).

Both rooms had rich marble revetments attached to the walls and a considerable number of architectural members had collapsed into the room. Among them is a pilaster capital showing a lion between simplified acanthus plants (Fig. 20; height 0.24 m.); it was found close to the north wall (at N 18 E 82). Numerous Greek inscriptions, which will be published by Professor Louis Robert, indicate that the synagogue was built during the first half of the third century and rebuilt or restored in the late fourth or early fifth century A. D. A few fragments of Hebrew inscriptions have been found. One of them reads "*shalom*" (peace)⁸. Strangely, the first Lydian inscription on stone to be found by our expedition (Fig. 18) was found in the synagogue at N 14 E 90 in the frieze above the floor. It shows parts of two lines. Professor J. Puhvel reads the top line *bor! - du* and points out that the root *bor!* is known from the Lydian - Aramaic bilingual inscription (*Sardis* 6: 2, 5, no. 2: 1), where it means "year".

Considerable progress was made by Professor Stephen W. Jacobs in evacuating the tumble of architectural parts from the entrance court into the central part of the gymnasium (Fig. 2, "Marble Court"). The fine

⁸ Professor B. Mazar kindly read the Hebrew inscriptions for us.

Early Byzantine marble pavement of *opus sectile* was exposed in the southwest corner of the court (Fig. 21). Some new fragments of the Roman Imperial and two fragments of the Byzantine building inscription were found (cf. *BASOR* 162, 42 f. and 166, 48; and *Dergi* 10, 17, fig. 36). Over 300 architectural pieces were measured and marked and important insights gained for Professor Jacobs' study of this imposing unit.

A test excavation was carried on by Dr. D. G. Mitten in the area northwest of the gymnasium, in squares N 140 - 159 W 60 - 75. The surface here is at ca. *95. The area will be known as "West - West B." the west face of the city wall was located but no clearly defined levels were encountered to depth of *94.

The north side of the Acropolis slopes down from its peak then breaks off in bastion-like projections. On the east side of one of these, C. H. Greenewalt and Güven Bakır had in 1960 located underground passages. (Fig. 1, 17 and Fig. 22, view from east). These passages cut into conglomerate wound in zigzag in and out from the eastern face of the cliff but the ends (turns) of three windings had become exposed when the rock which had concealed them fell away. In a month's work Greenewalt and Bakır cleared completely the three upper passages and partly cleared a large room near the top end of the tunnels. Work on a fourth, lower part, which spirals on itself and descends in steps was halted because of difficulties in removing earth. As far as explored, the tunnel normally consists of passages 2.10 m. high and 0.70 - 1.20 m. wide. The upper room near the top measures 8.50 m. east - west (in addition to the tunnel width from which it starts) and is 3.10 m. wide. Its floor and ceiling slope markedly from east to west, the floor descending in three steps. The height is ca. 3.20 m. The uppermost passage of the tunnels stops in front (east of) this room, several meters below the top of the cliff. The objects found in the tunnels ranged from Lydian sherds to modern cartridges and since none of them came to light in safely stratified context they cannot at the

moment yield a safe dating nor can the function of the tunnels be determined from available evidence. That the work entailed a considerable effort is clear from the fact that the part known so far already measures almost 100 m. in length while the difference of altitude between the highest and lowest point known is ca. 50 m.

On the central platform of the Acropolis, W. C. Kohler greatly enlarged the area covered by Early - Middle and late Byzantine dwellings so that the trenches E and C of 1960 (*BASOR* 162, 33 f., cf. Fig. 1, 14 and Fig. 23) were linked and a partial link established with the area excavated in 1961 (*BASOR* 166, 35 ff., figs. 28 and 30). Finds of coins indicate that the earliest level of dwellings lasted from the late sixth (Maurice Tiberius, 582 - 602 AD.) into the tenth (Constantine VII, 913 - 959 AD.) It was violently destroyed and burned. The second major phase lasted from the eleventh into the fifteenth century; that its later part was already Turkish is proved by the find of five silver coins, including those of Ilyas ben Muhammad of the Menteşe oğulları (1402 - 1421) and Junaid ben Ibrahim of the Aydın oğulları (1419 - 1425).

The magnificent terracotta fragment with an archaic Lydian "Pegasus" (Fig. 24, H. o. 16 m., N 21 E 7. 5, in Unit 6 at *402.8) was an isolated find in fill under a late floor.

Testing of the area within the great southern fortress wall confirmed that this wall was constructed directly on the conglomerate of the Acropolis. Pots of earth with Hellenistic and Lydian sherds were encountered but no structures earlier than the Early Byzantine wall itself. A series of rooms was constructed adjacent to the wall, apparently during the eleventh century (skyphate coin).

Testing of electrical resistivity equipment was carried on by Dr. David Greenewalt first in the city in the region east of building "B" and subsequently three mounds in the cemetery of Bin Tepe. These mounds have been numbered BT 62. 1, 62. 2 and 62. 4. Muharrem Tağtekin acted as Commissioner. During the course of this work, local landowners

informed the expedition that the great mound of Alyattes had been entered by local inhabitants and that a chamber tomb was recently opened some 700 m. southwest of the mound of Alyattes. On August 20 - 22, 25, and September 1, S. L. Carter, M. Ergene, and D. Stiglitz mapped the present condition of the tunnels of the Alyattes mound and made precise measured drawings (Fig. 25) of the present condition of the marble chamber.

V. Wickwar took photographs of the interior of the chamber. As compared to the situation in 1853, when Spiegelthal first opened the passages, many of the tunnels have become impassable, others have been partly reduced in size. The most drastic change has been brought about by a collapse of rubble vault and rubble strata, which has completely buried the antechamber seen by Spiegelthal and has filled to more than half the marble chamber ("Rubble Fall" and R. F. in Fig. 25). The precise workmanship in the masonry of the chamber is astonishing, with hair-tight joints; the size of masonry is equally impressive with the ceiling beam over the door reaching a width of 1.93 m., a height of 0.93 m., and an (estimated) length of 3.75 m. Since tunnels and chamber showed evidence of considerable and recent illicit digging, the entrance to the tunnels was closed with a stone wall and earth on September 2.

The mound with the recently opened chamber tomb is located 782.3 m. southwest of the mound of Alyattes. It has been designated as BT 62. 4. The mound itself probably measured originally ca. 35 m. in diameter but had been cut down to less than its original height; recently, tractor ploughing has further reduced its size. It rises only 2 - 5 m. above the surrounding fields (the top is at ca. 127 m. above sea level). J. G. Pedley and Dr. D. P. Hansen excavated the sepulchre, which was found to consist of an unroofed dromos of rough-hewn masonry, closed at its south end with field stones; the dromos is 4.485 m. long, 1.10 m. wide, and ca. 1.68 m. high (Figs. 26, 27). A door led onto the antechamber, which is built of excellent masonry with fine -

picked faces and drafted edges. The length (north - south) is 1. 751 m., the width (east - west) 1. 686 m., and the height 2. 026 m. The stone door which originally closed the entrance into the burial chamber had toppled over and was lying on the floor of the antechamber (Figs. 26 and 27, floor plan and elevations).

The chamber measured 2. 47 m. (north- south) and 2. m (north wall) to 2. 147 m. (south wall) east - west. The masonry was of the same kind as in the antechamber but had been covered with a very fine coat of white lime - stucco. Traces of a funerary bench suggested that it extended the length of the rear wall, was ca. 0. 80 m. wide and ca. 0. 50 m. high. Marble fragments recovered from earth fill may belong to the top of the couch, which seems to have had a shallow depression with an oval end in a higher rectangular frame.

The antechamber was originally covered with two stone slabs, the chamber with three. The northern slab of the antechamber was broken when entry was effected into the structure some considerable time ago. The recent entry into the chamber had been made by prying aside the southernmost roofing slab of the chamber (Fig. 27, plan at chamber roof).

The structure was completely filled earth in the dromos and antechamber and partially in the chamber. It was so barren of finds as to

suggest that it had been carefully emptied perhaps already in ancient times. An iron spearhead and two small fragments of "white - banded" Lydian ware found on the floor of the antechamber were the only finds of reliable context. A few more Lydian sherds were found scattered in the earth. They would permit a date anywhere between 650 and 450

B. C.; however, the resemblance to the masonry technique of the Alyattes mound argues a date not later than the sixth century.

About 1 m. above the floor of the dromos there was found in a puddle of lime the skeleton of a small animal, probably a dog. There were bits of charcoal in the earth around it. There is no evidence to decide whether this deposit was made in antiquity, when the dromos was being filled with earth, or at some later time.

The expedition restored and strengthened the ceilings and then re - buried the structure upon specific request of the land - owner, who stated that otherwise the masonry of the structure would quite certainly be robbed.

Owing to the great number of Greek inscriptions found in the synagogue, the 1962 campaign was exceptionally rich in epigraphic material; over three hundred items were registered, although many of these were, of course, rather small fragments. Some 800 objects and more than 400 coins were catalogued.