

American
School
of Classical
Studies
at Athens

Newsletter

Fall 1981



Greek and American flags fly over the Gennadius Library as guests gather for the centennial celebrations

School's Centennial Celebrated in Greece

Official commemoration of the American School's 100th birthday began on June 17, 1981, in Athens. A symposium on *Greek Towns and Cities* and a full complement of surrounding festivities provided a joyous and memorable occasion for guests from Greece, the United States and other foreign countries.

At the opening convocation in the Gennadius Library, the Director, Henry R. Immerwahr, greeted guests, and James R. McCredie, Chairman of the Managing Committee, presented an illustrated capsule review of "100 Years of the American School." Messages of congratulations from Greece and abroad were delivered by Andreas Andrianopoulos, Minister of Culture; Nicholas Yalouris, Inspector General of Antiquities and Historical Monuments; George E.

Telegram from the President

It is indeed an honor and a pleasure for me to convey to you, on behalf of the American people, best wishes and congratulations as the American School of Classical Studies at Athens celebrates its centennial.

Not only is the School a manifestation of the warm friendship between the people of Greece and the people of the United States, the School has contributed significantly to that friendship through the sharing of the ancient culture of Greece. I am certain the School's next one hundred years will be as successful as the first in enlightening the present by uncovering the past.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Discovery of the Painted Stoa and Other Classical Monuments in the Athenian Agora

Excavations in the Athenian Agora this summer celebrated the American School's centennial year, and the fiftieth anniversary of their own inception, with the discovery of several major monuments of Classical Athens. The new campaign of field work in the Agora, made possible by grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, dramatically began to reveal the Classical levels at the northwest corner of the ancient market square.

On the site formerly occupied by the old flour mill north of Hadrian Street, excavation of the Byzantine levels had begun during the 1980 season, and the early part of this year's campaign was devoted to the exploration of private houses of the 9th through the 12th centuries after Christ. Beneath these remains the excavators came upon one of the most important architectural and topographical discoveries of recent years. This was the west end of a 5th century B.C. stoa, or colonnade, which, if we may judge from its scale, construction, and orientation, must have been one of the principal early classical buildings in the Agora. The stoa lay to the east of a north-south street which entered the Agora at its northwest corner.

The building's open colonnaded front faced south-eastwards onto the Agora. Its hard poros limestone steps and foundations are well preserved and show the best of Classical workmanship. Enough of the building has been cleared and sufficient fragments of its superstructure extracted from Byzantine walls to reconstruct its order with some accuracy. Many fragments of Doric columns were found in the vicinity, and these, together with elements of the triglyph frieze and the mutular cornice, assure its reconstruction as a Doric stoa, with three steps along its facade beneath the columns and four returning along its west end. The end and rear walls were of solid masonry, and the stoa had no rooms behind the colon-

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Centennial Greetings From Inspector General of Antiquities and Historical Monuments

(Following is the text of the greeting presented at the centennial convocation by the Inspector General of Antiquities and Historical Monuments.)

The centennial of the American School of Classical Studies, which we are celebrating today, is an important milestone in the history of the Greek classical tradition.

This tradition, which was transferred to the American continent by European migrants, flourished soon after the establishment and consolidation of the now multinational United States.

Together with the Christian religion, the various national groups which constitute the United States of America brought to the New World the Greek Classical Tradition as a common language of cultural expression.

Following the example of the Greek colonists in Antiquity, the western settlers named the new cities they founded after the cities of their distant spiritual fatherland: ATHENS, SYRACUSE, PHILADELPHIA, ITHACA . . . Concurrently their cities were covered with buildings which recall Greek temples and other public monuments of Ancient Greece. Doric and Ionic columns and pediments are to be seen as far as the most remote corners of the Southern and Northern States of America.

The establishment in 1881 of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens was the natural result of the survival and revival of Greek Antiquity in the New World, a survival and revival which is expressed in all the manifestations of life and art.

But today we are not only celebrating this event; we are also celebrating the 50th anniversary of archaeological activity of the School within Athens itself. The archaeological investigations of the Ancient Civic Center of Athens started in 1931. In the course of the following 50 years the American School carried out its excavations methodically and consistently; its staff studied the precious movable finds in an exemplary way and conserved the monuments and the whole archaeological site, thus turning the Agora into a beautiful park of Athens. Finally, it carried out a full reconstruction of the Stoa of Attalos, which houses now the Agora archaeological collection and is, at the same time, an ornament of Athens.

One is also impressed by the volume and the high quality of work carried out by the American School during the past 100 years elsewhere: on the Acropolis and its surroundings, in Corinth and at Isthmia, at Lerna and at Kea, and also, by the work carried out by individual universities of the United States in Messenia, at Olynthos, at Pylos, in Samothrace, at Prosymna, at Eutresis, at Korakou, at Nemea.

All this work, whether it was excavation



Nicholas Yalouris addressing the centennial convocation in the Gennadius Library. Front row (left to right): James R. McCredie, Chairman of the Managing Committee; Henry R. Immerwahr, Director of the School; Andreas Andrianopoulos, Minister of Culture; Pierre Amandry, Director of the French School at Athens; Machteld Mellink, President of the Archaeological Institute of America; George Mylonas, Secretary General of the Archaeological Society of Athens; Robert McCloskey, Ambassador of the United States; Mrs. Miltiades Evert; Miltiades Evert, Minister of Economics.

or conservation, inventorying or other kinds of recording, reconstruction of monuments or protection of sites, was done in a way worthy of imitation.

In the most important archaeological sites, the School itself or the other American institutions that carried out the investigation built spacious museums for the protection and the aesthetic and didactic presentation of the finds: this is true of the Agora, Ancient Corinth, Samothrace and Nemea, to mention only the most important sites.

Another achievement is the exhaustive publication of the results of all this work.

I remind you of the 18 volumes published on the finds from the excavation of the Ancient Agora of Athens and the 29 volumes published on those from Ancient Corinth. I could add the innumerable articles published in the 49 volumes of the journal of the School *Hesperia* and the *AJA*, also the guides which the Americans published of all the sites they dug and the *Picture Books* in which the various aspects of ancient Greek life and art are presented in an elegant didactic form for the benefit not only of the specialists but also a larger public that takes an amateur interest in Antiquity.

This most complex and most significant work was carried out under the supervision of great teachers and learned researchers trained by the American School. Among those that are no longer with us I would like to mention: Carl Blegen, Rhys Carpenter, William Dinsmoor, Bert Hodge Hill, Theo-

dore Leslie Shear, Franklin Plotinus Johnson, Gorham Phillips Stevens, Lucy Talcott, Charles Waldstein.

All these scholars and their worthy successors, in collaboration with their learned colleagues of the other Foreign Schools and their Greek colleagues, have turned Greece and, more particularly, Athens into a cradle of Classical Studies and a center of cultural radiation all over the world.

Those that continue at present the good work can be very proud of what has been achieved up till now.

Nicholas Yalouris, Inspector General of Antiquities and Historical Monuments

Centennial Poster

The School's centennial poster, designed by Abby Camp and in color, may be purchased for \$5 prepaid from ASCSA, 41 East 72nd St., New York, NY 10021.

Correction

We are sorry not to have known the name and nationality of the person who first alerted the School to the danger threatening the Seager tomb in Herakleion (*Newsletter*, Fall 1979). She is Ms. Mina B. Caselli, an American living in Rome. The tomb was finally installed properly in June, 1981.

Million Dollar Gift for Centennial Fund from Estate of Former President of Trustees

The Ward M. and Mariam C. Canaday Educational and Charitable Trust has made a gift of \$1,000,000 to the Centennial Fund of the American School of Classical Studies. The Trust was established by the former president of the board of trustees, who died at the age of 91 in 1976.

Ward Canaday was a trustee of the School for almost 40 years, its president from 1949 to 1963 and chairman 1962 to 1970. We asked Fred Crawford, his close friend and successor as president and chairman, to comment on Ward's life and on the magnificent gift to the School.

Ward Murphey Canaday

"In every generation, certain men stand out among their fellows because of their qualities of leadership, wisdom, vision, integrity, and wide interests. Such a man was Ward Murphey Canaday. Successful in business, deeply interested in education, cultural affairs, and the welfare of his community and country, Ward was always ready to give effort and time to help make this a better world.

"From his father, Miles Murphey Canaday, Ward inherited a belief that 'every man should have windows to look out of, things absorbing but not pressing.'

"For many years, Ward was associated with the early pioneer automobile company, Willys Overland. When it went under in the depression days, he collected the pieces, reorganized it, breathed life into it, and manufactured hundreds of thousands of Jeeps, so important in winning World War II.

"Several times his country called upon him. As Caribbean Commissioner he was asked to make a study of conditions in the Virgin Islands and to recommend reforms. This opened a new window. The Islands stirred his interest far beyond his commission. He rebuilt an old sugar mill into a beautiful home, introduced a breed of cattle better adapted to the climate, and brought help and hope to the island people. On his seventy-fifth birthday, hundreds turned out to greet him. He became a sort of patriarch of St. Croix.

"His summer home in N. Pomfret, Vermont, opened another window on wide interests. He financed the old Woodstock Inn to assure its future. His interest in farming led to acquiring a farm and herd of cows. He admired the self-reliance of the old Vermonters and treasured their friendship. His sense of humor kept him always hopeful and happy. He loved to tell this anecdote: A neighbor farmer, asked why Vermonters were so reluctant to accept a newcomer, replied 'Cat can have kittens in the oven but that don't make them biscuits.'

"Ward served as trustee or director of



Ward and Mariam Canaday



Ward Canaday and Richard Howland in the Agora

many businesses, educational and cultural institutions. His special interest in higher education led him to make financial contributions to Harvard University, his Alma Mater, and to Bryn Mawr College, from which his wife, Mariam, was graduated. He received many awards and decorations for his devotion and contributions to worthy causes.

"Closest to his heart was the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. First in-



Ward Canaday dancing with Greek laborers

terested in the School while his daughter was a student, with typical Canaday energy and vision Ward soon developed a love of archaeology, joined the Board, became president, and guided the School through many of its most important activities. During his tenure the ancient Stoa of Attalos was reconstructed as the Museum of the Agora. He inspired the School to continue to strive for excellence in scholarship and prudence in financial management.

"Ward found his greatest happiness in the love of many friends. And his friends loved him. At his ninetieth birthday in Toledo, one hundred prominent men from all walks of life assembled to pay respects to a great American. The American School of Classical Studies at Athens will bless his memory for years to come."

Discovery of the Painted Stoa

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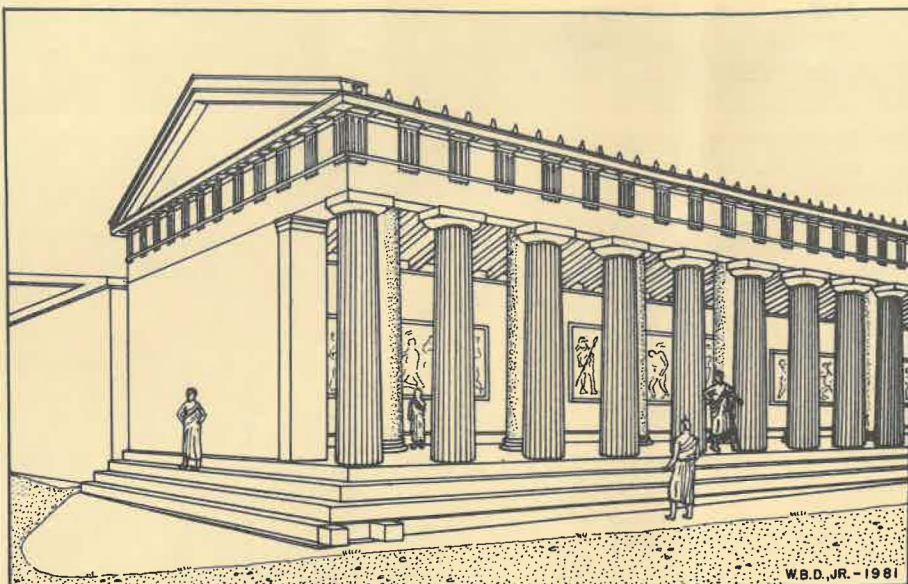
nade. Numerous pieces of unfluted Ionic column shafts are certainly to be assigned to the interior order. The foundation for the westernmost column has come to light, indicating that the interior columns were aligned with alternate columns of the exterior colonnade.

The new stoa is plainly a monument of great size and prominence, and its foundations were unusually heavy and well built. Since the two western corners of the building have been found, its depth from front to back can be measured as 12.37 meters. By analogy with the Stoa of Zeus, which measures 11.40 meters in depth, the length of the new building should approximate 45 meters. The stoa is bounded on the east by a second ancient north-south street under modern St. Philip Street. Since this ancient street is barely 55 meters to the east of our excavations, it will be obvious that the new stoa occupied the entire block between the two ancient streets.

Excavation of the original construction packing within the foundations produced a fair quantity of unusually well-dated pottery. On this evidence there can be no doubt that the stoa was constructed in the decade 470-460 B.C. From that time forward, it continued to occupy the site and was no doubt in use for nearly a millennium, for the relation of an adjacent building of late Roman date to the old Classical stoa shows that the walls and columns of the stoa were still standing in the second half of the 5th century after Christ. Moreover, the destruction and pillaging of its walls did not occur until the 6th century after Christ.

Of the two Classical stoas known to have stood on the north side of the Athenian Agora, only one shows a perfect correspondence between the archaeological and the literary evidence. All of the architectural, topographical, and chronological evidence available points to the identification of the new building as the famous Stoa Poikile or Painted Stoa, mentioned in as many as fifty passages of ancient literature and inscriptions. It was celebrated first for the splendid paintings from which it took its name, but no less as a favorite haunt of philosophers, of which one group, the followers of Zeno, called themselves Stoics because of the building where they gathered.

The date of the Painted Stoa between 470 and 460 B.C. is suggested by many literary references to people associated with its construction. Peisianax, after whom the building was originally named, was a brother of Isodike, the wife of Kimon; and he would have been active in the second quarter of the 5th century. Moreover, Kimon's sister Elpinike was said to have been depicted in one of the paintings in the stoa by Polygnotos. This painter together with Mikon, the two cited most often in reference to the paintings in the stoa, received their first important commissions in the 470s and were



Restored view of the Painted Stoa, by William B. Dinsmoor, Jr.



Excavators clear the poros limestone steps of the west end of the 5th century B.C. Painted Stoa

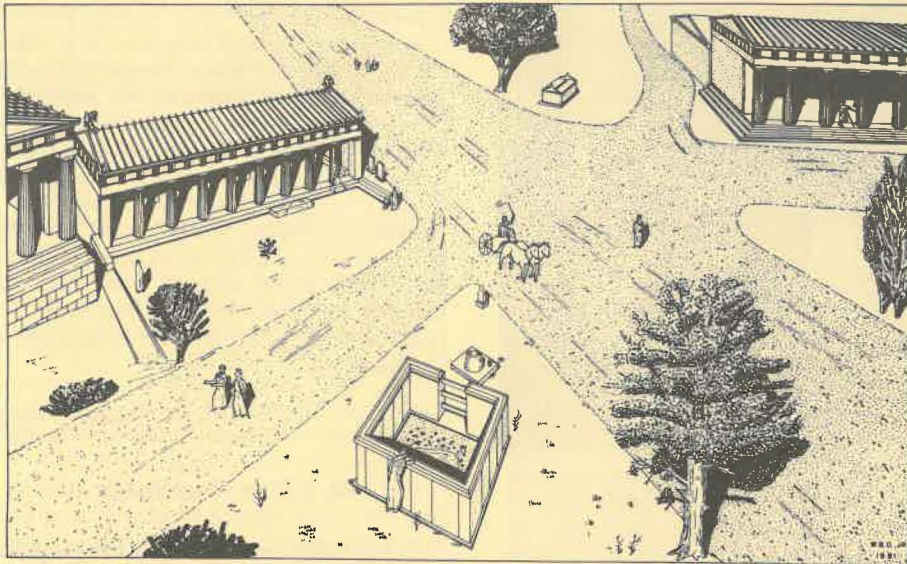
active through the middle of the century. These literary indications coincide perfectly with the archaeological evidence for the date of the newly found building.

On the wall of the stoa, above a bench whose foundations have been found, we can restore the great series of painted panels depicting glorious deeds of the past: the battle of Marathon, the Greeks at Troy, the battle of the Athenians and Amazons, and a battle at Oinoe, where Athenians were shown fighting against Spartans. This juxtaposition of themes had important consequences in the history of Greek art and greatly influenced the sculptural programs of the Parthenon and other temples of the Periclean period. Orators of the 4th century B.C. were fond of pointing to the pictures as

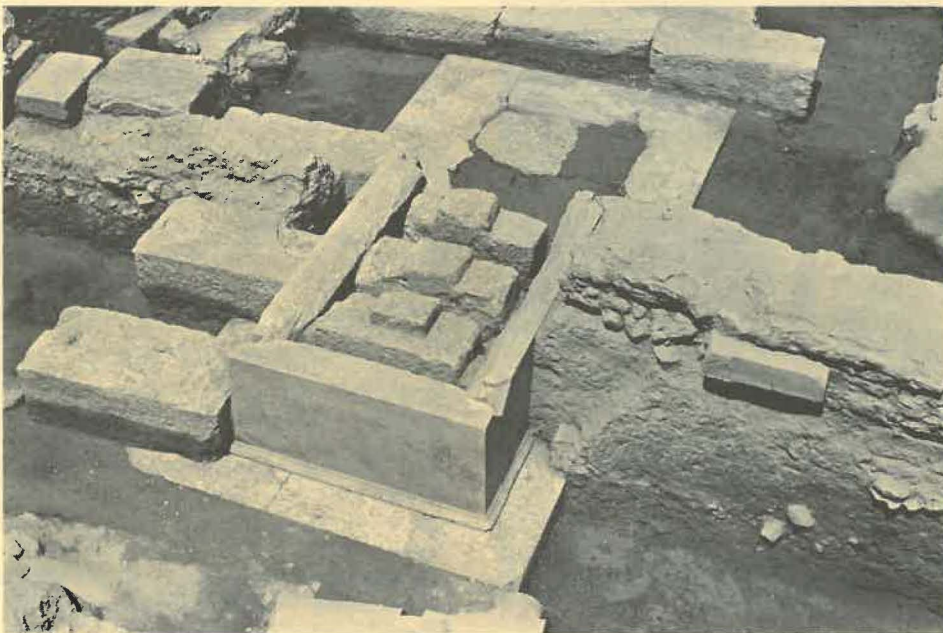


The northwest corner of the Painted Stoa

memorials of Athenian valor; and the Roman traveler Pausanias later described them in detail. Even the Christian Bishop Synesios



Restored view of the northwest corner of the Agora, by William B. Dinsmoor, Jr., showing (from left) Stoa of Zeus, Royal Stoa, Classical shrine, Classical altar, Painted Stoa



A 6th and 5th century B.C. altar found near the Painted Stoa

remarked as late as A.D. 400 that the paintings had only recently been removed from the building.

Because of its large size and prominent position on the north side of the market square, the Painted Stoa was often thronged by large crowds, and not only of philosophers. The building served on occasion as a law court, and public proclamations were made from its steps at the time of the Eleusinian mysteries. The crowds who took shelter in the stoa made it a natural place for conjurers and acrobats to ply their trades. These assorted Athenians over the centuries have left the indelible marks of their passage in the heavily worn steps where they sat and talked or walked within.

Just above the western steps of the stoa, incorporated in an early Byzantine wall, was

found the most interesting movable find of the season. This was a splendid marble head of a herm, just over life-size, and dating to the late archaic period, about 500 B.C. The discovery of this piece, together with several other fragments of herms, also bears out the identification of the stoa; for ancient authors mention specifically that the monuments called herms extended from the Stoa Basileios to the Stoa Poikile.

On the western side of the north-south street, across from the Painted Stoa, there came to light an extraordinarily well-preserved altar, the size and position of which suggested that it must belong to one of the most important sanctuaries of the Agora. The entire base and three of six marble orthostates of the altar were preserved in their original positions. The base of blue



Alice Paterakis, Assistant Conservator, cleans an archaic marble herm head found built into a later wall just above the western steps of the Painted Stoa

Acropolis limestone dated to the end of the 6th century B.C. The altar evidently suffered damage at the hands of the Persian invaders in 480 B.C., for the existing marble orthostates form a refurbished second period dating to the decade 430 to 420 B.C. From the packing inside the orthostates came masses of burnt bone and ash from sacrificial animals offered at the altar. At the conclusion of the current season, the area of the sanctuary about the altar had not been completely cleared, and no votive dedications have yet been found which would suggest a positive identification.

T. Leslie Shear, Jr.
Field Director, Agora Excavations

Centennial Grant of \$500,000 From Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has approved a matching grant of \$500,000 to the American School of Classical Studies. The grant will be for permanent endowment, the income to be used in support of library resources and fellowships, and in part for the publication program. In order to receive the Mellon funds, the School must raise \$1 million in matching endowment funds. The income from these matching endowment funds raised by the School may be used for any of its core activities.

This generous grant is particularly timely in view of the School's \$6 million Centennial Fund campaign. The confidence displayed by the Mellon Foundation will be an incentive to donors to consider a gift to the School. The Mellon Foundation will match new gifts up to \$500,000 on a one-to-two basis.

In recent years the Mellon Foundation has been a major factor in the School's support and in providing motivation for gifts to the School, first in 1975 with a \$500,000 grant for the endowment of a professorship in classical studies, and in 1978 with \$296,000 to match a National Endowment for the Humanities research grant which made possible the new excavations in the Athenian Agora. The important results of these excavations are described above.

Thompson and Vanderpool Honored by School

Two new Supplements of *Hesperia* bring together scholarly tributes from the colleagues and students of Eugene Vanderpool and Homer Thompson on the occasion of their 75th birthdays. The general subjects of the volumes are: Attic Epigraphy, History and Topography for EV; Athenian Architecture, Sculpture and Topography for HAT.

Considerations of space made it impossible to include contributors from outside the School. And it should be noted that no one was allowed to write for both, although many wished to do so. The School's tremendous respect for these two distinguished members is expressed in the volumes in the "decent obscurity of a learned language" but it seemed possible in this announcement to express enthusiasm more fully.

Homer A. Thompson

For more than fifty years Homer A. Thompson has been as familiar a figure in the Agora as Socrates ever was. And like Socrates, Homer is most often seen in the center of an eager group straining to catch his every word. There is, however, at least one difference: where Socrates sometimes seems to have taken delight in tearing down, deflating and depriving his hearers of cherished illusions, HAT works his magic in constructing and bringing to life for his audience a whole ancient world of buildings and activities. With his seductive "You will have in mind," his hearers are drawn into the intricacies of the topographical evidence and the excitement of his re-creations.

Whether it is a sculptural fragment to be identified and assigned its place or an architectural molding to be dated and given context in a particular building, Homer is ready with an answer and just the right parallels. Whether the meaning of individual finds of every sort is in question or the full sweep of Athenian history needs clarification, it is Homer whom students and colleagues alike consult. Whether noted archaeologists or tourists with only a passing interest in "ruins" make up his audience, they are equally caught up in his eager search for truth and are unable to resist his persuasive logic.

Just as Athens was the School of Hellas, so Homer Thompson as interpreter of Athens embodies the true spirit of the American School of Classical Studies.

Eugene Vanderpool

In the year in which the American School of Classical Studies at Athens celebrates its centennial, a school founded so that "young scholars might carry on the study of Greek thought and life to the best advantage," it is fitting to honor Eugene Vanderpool, and to thank him for the gift of a life's work to the



James McCredie presenting honorary volume to Homer Thompson on his 75th birthday. Photo by Alison Frantz



Eugene Vanderpool with Joan Breton Connelly, Centennial Secretary. Photographed by Chip Vincent at the centennial party in the School's garden

School, for with him as guide and teacher no young scholar has ever had better advantage.

Doubtless there are those who still remember Gene's arrival in Athens in 1929 and his years as an Agora Fellow. But what some of us, his students, remember is a Professor of Archaeology, a tall man in a brown fedora, ever in front of us as we roamed his world. With a few words he led us to appreciate the extent of Greek history, the meaning of landscape, the variety of nature, and the unrivalled place of literature. And from these same few words we learned to appreciate the freshness of his mind, the breadth of his understanding, and the rightness of his judgment.

Today, while we are grateful for his

scholarship and the many writings blessed with common sense, it is the man who walked we thank, the leader whose followers became his friends, shared his sun, and in the evening laughed over a glass of wine and a memory of Gibbon. To the names of those who have travelled Greece and have earned a place on the slopes of Parnassus — Pausanias, Cyriacus, Wheeler, Stuart, Fauvel, even Byron — we add that of Eugene Vanderpool, with pride, respect, and affection, together with this wish: Long may he live in health and happiness, with his Delphic view undiminished.

Mabel L. Lang

A Gift of Fine Books

It was a dark February day, but at noon the telephone rang. Would I care to come to look at a private collection of books? Indeed I'd be happy, at any hour she wished. I arrived on the dot, and then the fun began.

It was not a large library, but each volume was a delight to see and feel. The two sisters, whom I had known before, explained that these were the books of their lately deceased brother, the diplomat J. Kindynis. They themselves were now moving to smaller quarters and would be only too glad to donate any or all of them to the Gennadius Library. They realized that the Gennadeion is not a general library, and that we could accept only those that were relevant to our interests, basically the Greek World in all its aspects.

The collector, Kindynis, obviously had a fondness for 18th century French books and bindings — a passion shared also by John Gennadius. The contents showed broad interests and I was happy to see that the Greek classics were well included, both in Greek and in the French translations that were in vogue in the 18th century. These were easily identified and chosen at once, to the delight of the ladies, Mrs. Alivizatos and Miss Kindynis.

As usual when examining new acquisitions, my greatest joy is to stumble on one of the books "lost" to Gennadius in his calamitous auction sale of 1895. Here we found seven! 1) A handsome edition of Montesquieu's *Temple de Gnide*, Paris, 1772, an elegant piece of triviality by the author of *L'Esprit des Lois*. 2) and 3) are editions of Fenelon's famous novel of ancient Greece, *Les Aventures de Télémaque*, Leiden, 1761 and Paris, 1790 (Gennadius had 23 editions of this in his sale!). 4) and 5) are editions of Demoustier, *Lettres à Emile sur la Mythologie*, Paris, 1809 (a real beauty) and another of 1816. 6) is a long-sought desideratum, the First edition of volume 1 of Choiseul-Gouffier's *Voyage pittoresque de la Grèce*, Paris, 1782. We have a fine copy of the second edition, also 1782, but the differences are sufficient to require both versions at hand. 7) The most important of all these

finds is Saint Non's *Voyage pittoresque, ou, Description des Royaumes de Naples et de Sicile*, vol. 4, Paris, 1786. Gennadius had a complete copy of this handsome book, but we are, like Kindynis, content with the section on Sicily, which is more relevant to our concerns.

In the course of his diplomatic career Kindynis spent some time in Russia and acquired there a number of choice books. Thanks to him we now have five important books to enrich our Russian collection. Another welcome aspect of the collection is a group that can best be ascribed as Turkish, whether or not that be their origin. France was alert to Turkey in this period and men of letters delighted to invent new oriental tales.

After choosing the obvious books, it fortunately occurred to me to see what translations by Greeks of foreign works we had, and if we had adequate editions of the original texts. The result for us was spectacular.

In all we have received something over 160 volumes, a remarkable addition of handsome, beautiful books. It is hard to express adequately our thanks for such a generous and useful gift. In our list of gracious and thoughtful donors we are proud to enroll Mrs. Eirene Alivizatos and Miss Eleni Kindynis as Patrons of the Gennadius Library.

Francis R. Walton
Director Emeritus, Gennadius Library

Lehmans and McCredie Honored by Samothrace

On July 26th 1981, the Governor of the province of Evros unveiled a bronze plaque dedicated to the memory of the late Karl Lehmann by the Pan-Samothracian Hearth of Athens and by the Community of Samothrace. At the same time he presented gold medals of the Pan-Samothracian Hearth to Professor Lehmann (posthumously), to Phyllis Williams Lehmann, his widow, successor, and editor of the Samothracian publication program, and to James R. McCredie, Chairman of the School's Managing Committee and present director of the excavations carried out in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods of Samothrace by the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University for the American School since 1938.

The bronze plaque, a relief portrait of Professor Lehmann framed by inscriptions in Greek and English, was made in Northampton, Massachusetts, by Professor Elliot Offner of Smith College and installed by him at the entrance of the Archaeological Museum, which was built at the site under Professor Lehmann's supervision by New York University to house the finds from the excavations. Begun already before the Second World War but delayed by that conflict, the museum was opened in 1955 and expanded in 1962.

In honoring the Lehmans and McCredie,



Phyllis Williams Lehmann and Elliot Offner, its sculptor, admire the plaque dedicated by the Pan-Samothracian Hearth of Athens and the Community of Samothrace to the memory of Karl Lehmann.

the President of the Community called attention not only to the scholarly contributions of the recipients and the light they have thrown on political, religious, and artistic history of Samothrace, but also their role in fostering the interests of the island and its inhabitants, particularly in the difficult years of recovery after the devastating occupation during the Second World War, in such projects as the establishment of a local clinic and the improvement of the local schools, contributions already recognized by the award of Honorary Citizenship in the island to all three.

The festive occasion, followed by a banquet, was attended by governmental, archaeological, military, and church officials of Thrace, and also by Professor and Mrs. Henry Immerwahr, representing the School.

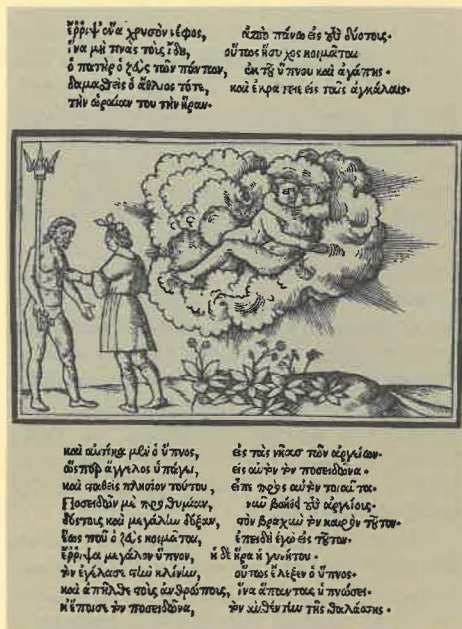
Gennadeion Treasures

The Memorial Fund raised in honor of Eurydice Demetrapoulou, a much beloved librarian here for thirty-two years, has enabled the Gennadius Library to undertake a series of facsimile editions of *Gennadeion Treasures*. The first of these was a unique book, our copy of the *King Rodolinos* being the only one known. This Cretan drama, printed in 1647 (and never reprinted in full) has now become available to scholars of the Cretan Renaissance. The thousand copies printed have all been sold.

Gennadeion Treasures II is a broader and more attractive sequel: *The Iliad of Homer*, translated into demotic Greek and printed at Venice in 1526. The book is extremely rare. We know of three copies in Greece, two in Italy, at least one in France, eight in England, and two in the United States. No doubt there

are others elsewhere or in private collections, but it is not a book readily to be found.

This *Iliad* has several claims to distinction. It is the first translation of the *Iliad* in any modern language. It is the earliest surviving book printed in demotic Greek (its predecessors were two brief poems, printed in 1519 and 1524). Most important of all is the beauty of the book: the title page in red, the delightful 138 woodcut illustrations, the broad margins, and a font designed to aid the reader by using the simplest ligatures and contractions.



One of 138 woodcut illustrations from the Loukanis Iliad. In this Hera seduces Zeus on Mt. Ida so that Poseidon will be free to fight in favor of the Greeks. To ensure that Zeus will have a long sleep, Hera has bribed the god of sleep. When Sleep has done his duty he descends to the battlefield to tell Poseidon that he can now for a while aid the Greeks.

The translator of the *Iliad* is Nikolaos Loukanis of Zante, a young man who in 1514 was one of the first group of Greek boys chosen to be educated — as classical scholars — at the Greek College founded by the Medici pope Leo X at the instance of the renowned Janus Lascaris. The first publication of the College was the *Ancient Scholia on the Iliad*, printed in 1517. Almost certainly, as one of the older boys, Loukanis had some modest part in this massive work of Lascaris. His familiarity with Homer may well have suggested to Loukanis that a simplified version of the *Iliad* in the vulgar tongue would be welcomed by Greeks who were unable to read Homeric Greek.

Loukanis' translation gives a condensed but intelligible account of the *Iliad* and, for the benefit of his readers, he adds the tale of the Trojan Horse and the Fall of Troy.

Francis R. Walton
Director Emeritus, Gennadius Library

Centennial Trip to Macedonia and Thrace

Our day in Samothrace, under the spell of the Great Gods and the philoxenia of the McCredie family, may well be regarded as the climax of the American School's Centennial trip to Macedonia and Thrace. However, this trip had so many high points it would be hard to choose.

For example, Ioannis Akamatis' excavation on the acropolis of Pella, which we visited on the evening of our first day, provided a challenging introduction to Macedonian royal custom. Professor Andronikos' presentation of that splendid tomb at Vergina was a never-to-be-forgotten experience, equalled only by his generosity in opening to us his workrooms as well, where painstaking reassembly and restoration is being done from infinitesimal fragments of ivory, rock crystal, gold, silver, glass, wood, iron, bronze — all laid out exactly as they were found in the tomb. Happily, the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki, graciously opened for us early on the second morning by the Director, Miss Rhomaïopoulou, contains — despite loans to other exhibits — many of the extraordinarily rich furnishings from that tomb. The smaller museums, at Pella, Kavala, Philippi, Komotini, are attractive, well furnished, well kept up and full of delightful surprises.

Ancient history certainly came alive on this trip. Herodotus tells us that Xerxes' army, between the Nestos River east of Kavala and the Axios west of Salonika, was continually harassed by lions that came down from wild Mt. Pangaion and ate up his camels! "And I marvel what was the reason that constrained the lions to touch nothing else . . ." Philippi lies at the foot of the huge craggy range of Pangaion. Here Brutus and Cassius, Caesar's assassins, battled Antony and Octavius in 42 B.C. Their clashing armies raised a great dust, Brutus' camp was taken by Antony, Cassius thought all was lost and fell on his sword not very helpfully, Brutus buried him but didn't tell anyone he was dead. As Jim McCredie put it, "there was lots of bloodshed but much of it self-inflicted!" Appian tells it. Shakespeare tells it even better. You can appreciate ancient battle strategy when you see the terrain. Marcus Aurelius was a benefactor to Philippi and there is a rare gold bust of him in the museum at Komotini. The importance of Amphipolis too, becomes clear when you gaze, with the ancient marble lion, across the river Strymon, where Cleon and Brasidas — Athens and Sparta — fought in 422 B.C.

An island, however, is something very special. Thasos, wooded and green, renowned for its pine-scented honey as well as its ancient athletic hero cult. And, above all, Samothrace. Visitors to Alexandroupolis may have been startled to find, on the morning of June 24, that the ferry left at 7:30 instead of the customary 10 a.m. It carried forty-six for-



On the boat to Samothrace. (Left to right) Front: Frances Jones, Brunilde Ridgway, Stella Miller; Second row: Machteld Mellink, Helen Bacon, Phyllis Lehmann, Joan Connelly, Elizabeth Boggess, Mary Sturgeon, Betsy Cohen; Background: Doreen Spitzer, Paul McKendrick, Charles Morgan, Margaret McVeagh Thorne



Cynthia Canaday and Doreen Canaday Spitzer on the boat to Samothrace



Professor Andronikos at Vergina lecturing to centennial group

fortunate alumnae/i and guests of the School, plus their two luxurious buses, on the three hour voyage to Samothrace. Out of the pearly morning mists over a calm shining sea gradually emerged the mile-high presence of Mt. Fengari, whence Poseidon looked upon the battle of Troy. Under dolphin escort, the ship drove along the coast beneath the Gattilusi Castle to the neat little village of Kalamiotissa. Passengers and buses issued forth and rejoined, to lumber agilely by army-built dusty road, to the site of Palaeopolis.

Here in the cool courtyard of the Museum Professor McCredie reviewed the history of the island — its occupation in the Bronze Age by people from Thrace, its 6th century expansion with its own coinage and colonies, its contribution of three ships to the Athenian fleet, the growing attraction of its cult mysteries, the adornments made by



James R. McCredie lecturing to a centennial group at Samothrace

the Macedonian dynasty, then by Roman patronage — including a visit from St. Paul on his way to Philippi — and from Cyriacus of Ancona in the 15th century — down to the disastrous Bulgarian occupation during World War II.

Inside the Museum are complete reconstructions of architectural sections, splendid

acroteria, the archaistic frieze of dancing maidens from the Temenos (one fragment returned from the Louvre in exchange for the right hand of the Nike, found in 1950!), all well and truly labelled. A nice touch is the occasional reproduction of Cyriacus' drawing of some sculpture he saw there, even though he mistakenly perpetuated blind Tiresias as the prototype for the portrait of Aristotle throughout the ensuing Renaissance!

The site itself, extending over three steep rocky ravines, becomes as intelligible as it is beautiful thanks to sketch plans of the monuments and Jim's explanations, aided by Phyllis Lehmann's years of familiarity with the place. There had to be clever engineers in antiquity, as there have now to be clever archaeologists, to repair the wooden bridges and clear the ravines of rock and debris brought down by the winter snows and torrents. In fact, Ptolemy II channeled one of these torrents right underneath the foundation of his monumental Propylon! Of the theater, nothing remains; the Bulgars took away the seats. But of marble there is still a plenty, marble cutters having been imported along with their material. Five columns of the Hieron stand white against the scrub oak and pine. And though the famous Nike now seems quite at home where she is poised at the top of the grand staircase in the Louvre, it is satisfying in the mind to place her where she originally stood, looking out to sea from her rocky pool.

But enough of blocks and inscriptions, altars and polygonal walls. A splendid repast is in preparation at the "Gatti-McCredie Palati" on a commanding knoll not far away. The fragrance of thyme and oregano fills the air as we approach. Five goats have been sacrificed and they are turning slowly on spits over open coals. Succulent portions of kokoretsi are piled on platters, bowls of choriatico salata are set out, kiliaia of krasi, warm fresh bread, juicy peaches and thirst-quenching watermelon. A feast for the gods!

For some there was siesta, for others a return to the sanctuary, for many a most refreshing swim in the sea at the foot of the hill. We shall long remember the lovely cool breezes, the spectacular views in all directions, the pleasantly American comforts and the uniquely Samothracian ambiance.

We returned from this School Trip sunburned, tired, exhilarated, immensely grateful to those who planned and executed the logistics, arranged the itinerary, the accommodations, the delicious picnics and restaurant lunches, the well-timed rest stops. The company of experts in vase-painting, sculpture, architecture, inscriptions, generous with their knowledge, patiently answering innumerable questions, made this a superb trip. The "kephi" is unanimous and contagious: Let us not wait a hundred years to do another!

Doreen Canaday Spitzer
A.S.C.S.A. Trustee

School's Centennial Celebrated in Greece

Continued from page 1

Mylonas, Secretary General of the Archaeological Society of Athens; Pierre Amandry, Director of the French School, on behalf of all the foreign schools; and Machteld J. Mellink, President of the Archaeological Institute of America. U.S. Ambassador Robert McCloskey presented his own greetings and read a telegram from President Ronald Reagan.

Following the convocation more than 600 guests were entertained in the School's garden. During the succeeding two days scholars associated with the School presented illustrated talks on many aspects of the School's excavations over the past 100 years. These emphasized particularly urban developments and habitation sites, which have been one of the most active interests of American scholars. These papers will be published in *Hesperia*, Volume 50: Number 4, October-December, 1981.

Photographs and articles throughout this issue of the *Newsletter* illustrate the diverse activities which made up the centennial program. These included special guided tours which took guests through the Agora and Corinth excavations, and a field trip to Ikaria, one of the School's earliest excavations. In the Arthur Vining Davis Wing of the Main Building an exhibition displayed the aerial photographs by Professor and Mrs. J. Wilson Myers. Following the four days of celebration in Athens, a number of the visitors participated in specially arranged tours to Macedonia and Thrace and to Crete.

The School received citations and congratulatory messages too numerous to recount. Among those particularly appreciated were a silver medal presented by the Greek Numismatic Society at a party given by Dr. Petros Protonotarios, and a greeting from the School's 125 Cooperating Institutions.

New Gennadeion Guide

An attractive new publication is available. *The Gennadius Library* is a survey of the collections in the Library, written by Director Emeritus, Francis R. Walton, with the assistance of Timothy Gregory, Samuel H. Kress Professor of Hellenic Studies, and Sophie Papageorgiou, Librarian. Publication of the guide was made possible by a grant from the Hellenic Shipyards and by the Friends of the Gennadius Library. Proceeds from its sale will benefit the endowment of the Library.

The guide is 38 pages, and there are 20 beautiful color photographs by Eugene Vanderpool, Jr. It can be purchased in the Gennadius Library for 150 drachmas, or from the publications office, c/o Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N.J. 08540, for \$3.00 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling.

Centerfold Montage

In the centerfold of this *Newsletter* is a selection of photographs made during the centennial celebrations in June 1981.

1. William Kelly Simpson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Mabel Lang, former Chairman of the Managing Committee
2. Centennial visitors observe excavations in the Agora
3. Mme. Pierre Amandry and Mrs. Henry Immerwahr. Photo by Chip Vincent
4. Frederick C. Crawford, Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees, and Mrs. Crawford. Photo by Susan Womer Katzev
5. Harry Bikakis, lawyer for the School, William B. Dinsmoor, Jr., Architect of the Agora Excavations, Mrs. Cotsen and Lloyd Cotsen, Trustee
6. Centennial visitors in the Stoa of Attalos
7. Elizabeth A. Whitehead, President of the Board of Trustees, and Mr. Edwin C. Whitehead. Photo by Chip Vincent
8. Nancy Bookidis, Secretary of the Corinth Excavations, Stephen Miller, Director of the Nemea Excavations, James McCredie, Chairman of the Managing Committee, and Mrs. McCredie
9. Oscar Broneer, Professor Emeritus of Archaeology, and Mary Davis, Executive Vice President of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. Photo by Susan Womer Katzev
10. Henry R. Immerwahr, Director of the School, and Henry S. Robinson, former Director
11. Mrs. Killian, Klaus Killian, Assistant Director of the German Archaeological Institute, and Colin Edmonson, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Classical Studies
12. Machteld Mellink, President of the Archaeological Institute of America
13. Charles Williams, Director of the Corinth Excavations, lecturing to centennial guests. Photo by Susan Womer Katzev
14. Constance Curry Barham, Richard Howland, former Chairman of the Managing Committee, Ambassador Robert McCloskey and Mrs. McCloskey. Photo by C. Megaloconomou





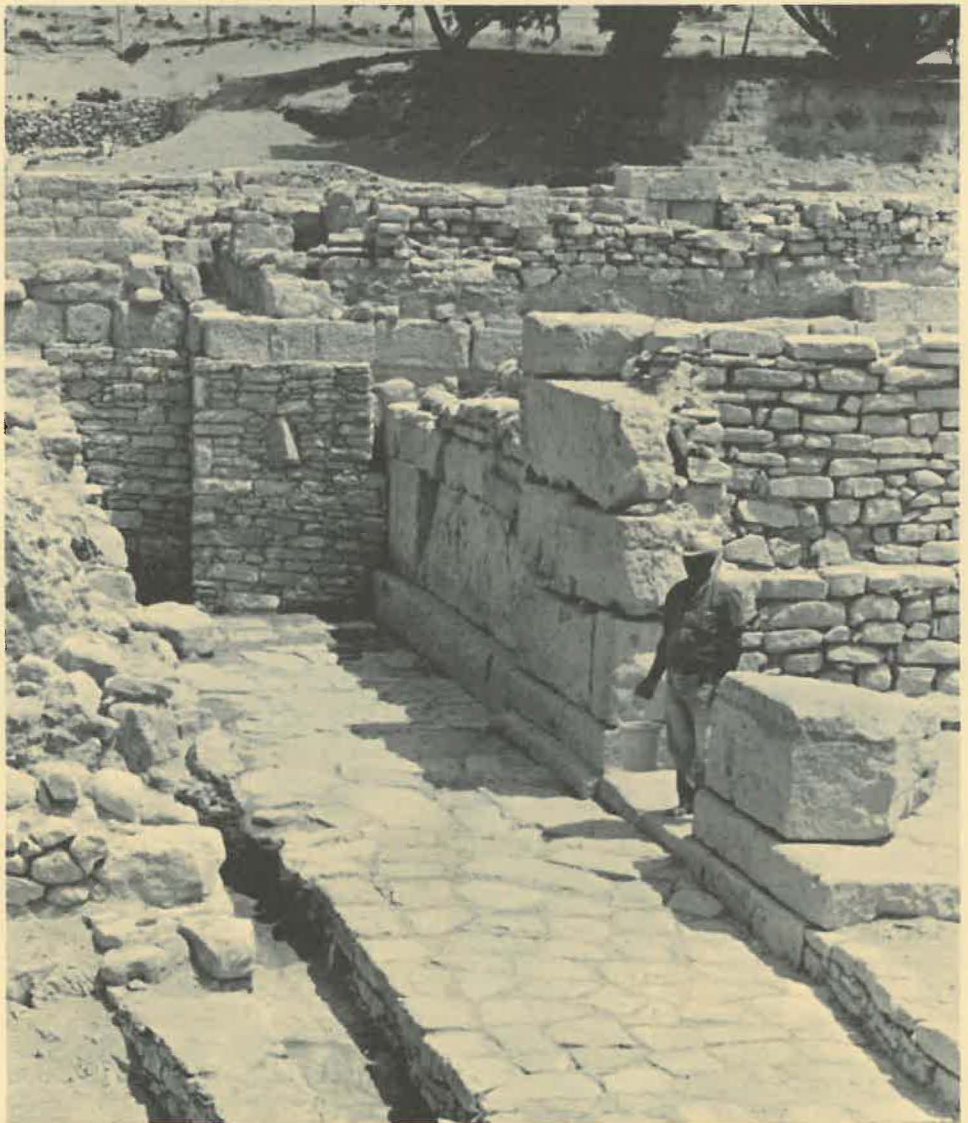
Kommos: Southern Entry Into Central Crete

When we originally began excavation at Kommos, last reported on in the *Newsletter* of Fall 1980, one of our aims was to determine the role of the sea in the life of this seaside town in terms of food supply, town planning, trade and foreign relations. Information has accumulated through painstaking searches for scattered bits and pieces and, sometimes, suddenly, by dramatic and impressive discoveries.

To start with the former we now know that there was extensive fishing. Testimony to that are many neatly barbed bronze hooks and what may be netting needles and line weights, as well as fishbones recovered by a special technique of sieving earth from burnt areas in hearths, on floors, and in dumps. Many shore-dwelling fish are represented, but others (tuna, for instance) must have been caught in deeper waters, probably near the Paximadia Islands. In the past few years we have begun to identify as anchors certain oblong stones, with holes pierced where one end narrows.

To turn now to a dramatic recent discovery: only last week we uncovered a broad Minoan road leading inland from the sea. It is located at the bottom of the hill where the slope meets that of the beach and, to judge from parts of buildings excavated further east, north, and south of the road, its length must be about twenty-five meters or more. The road was buried below three meters of rubble-filled earth and as many of sand. When sand and earth were removed, a beautiful pavement of large slabs was revealed, much broken and worn from extensive use.

This well-travelled road is here some 2.85m. wide, large enough for four people to walk abreast, unusual for the Bronze Age Aegean, when a street only a meter wide sufficed for man and/or beast of burden to pass one another without colliding. The road is worn by feet, without a hint of marks from the wheels of carts and other vehicles, which we know they had, but, as shown here and elsewhere in Crete, probably did not use extensively within the town and palace areas. Built around 1550 B.C., going out of use around 1300 B.C., the road is bordered by a drainage channel so that rainwater could be carried toward the sea. Curiously, though, as we excavated the channel it filled with water even though it hadn't rained in months and lower levels were bone dry. Minoan magic? No, for the drain was set at a slant in order to catch the slow run-off of groundwater which even now seeps down over the clay-covered, impermeable bedrock into which the road was set. When we open up more of the channel we will no doubt have a little stream even during a particularly hot, dry Greek summer when fresh, cool water has more meaning than gold. Perhaps some time in the future we could build a small spring-



The Minoan road bordered by monumental buildings. Part of the pavement in the foreground has been restored. New walls support the temple foundations (background)



Joseph W. Shaw, Director of the Kommos excavations, sits on the krepidoma of the orthostate wall. His feet rest upon the Minoan road. Photo by Philip Betancourt



James Wright, former Secretary of the School, inspects a pithos he found set within a Minoan house at Kommos



Maria Shaw sits upon a partially excavated wall east of the temples. To her right is the Geometric/Archaic altar discovered in 1981.



The Kommos site at the end of the 1981 season, looking north

house for visitors at the end of the channel.

Our road from the sea passes by a retaining wall of finely cut slabs which is interrupted at one point by a stepped path leading onto the hillside, no doubt connecting with the meter-wide "Rampa dal Mare," the cliff-side street west of the Minoan houses excavated by us in previous seasons. South of our new road are the huge buildings. The first of these, a few years ago, was once a massive two-storied building constructed of enormous cut blocks, so large that one



Michael Betancourt poses with burned bone fragments discovered within the Geometric/Archaic altar. Photo by Taylor Dabney

wonders how they could have been slid into place during an age when pulleys weren't available (the inclined ramp was probably used). Because of its location and unusual plan the building may well have been connected with commercial enterprise. During its early history one could walk through a broad doorway into the road (would tax-collectors or inspectors have lain in wait here?). The second and third buildings appeared only in the last week. The former is really a monumental facade along our avenue, with a projecting lower course (loiterers would have sat here) surmounted by really massive, squared blocks set in a unique way, with a low course placed above a very high one as was to be done much later for the side-walls of Classical Greek temples and never (or so we thought until now) used during the Minoan period.

This wall, facing our avenue, plunges eastward, like a train entering a tunnel, deep below the later Greek temples reported to you last year. Our wall emerges in some-

what changed form on the other side of the temples, where it is thicker and perhaps even higher. Its northern face is composed of enormous limestone blocks. One of these is 2.68m. long, the third largest block that I know of from any Minoan building. We are thus faced with a complex of structures palatial in nature (which is not to say, however, that we have found a Minoan palace). Glimpses of other big walls in deep trenches elsewhere, a large column base, as well as corresponding wall orientations all suggest that much awaits us.

What does our new road mean? From its width and surroundings one can conclude fairly that it was a major passageway separating "downtown" from the northern "suburbs," that is the houses on the upper slope and hilltop. That the road began near the sea indicates that it served people using the shore, fishermen and merchants who would pull their ships up on the shoreline or anchor them behind the sheltering offshore reef which provided safe anchorage during a strong wind or sea swell.

Our avenue continues inland. Where does it go? We have so far uncovered only seven meters of it; but there is every indication that it goes much further, alongside the buildings already described. At some point beyond the last building I expect that the road will split into narrower paths, many unpaved, one of which will turn to go north along the shore toward the idyllic Minoan site of Hagia Triada. The main path should lead northeast to the palace and town of Phaistos and, eventually, to the largest of all Minoan towns, Knossos. It is not by coincidence that Knossos is mentioned here, for Sir Arthur Evans discovered the Kommos site in 1924 and identified a road (actually a post-Minoan fortification wall we think) on a hill to the south. Now we have revealed the true Minoan road, a road that represents what Evans so presciently envisioned, namely the southern entry into Central Crete during Minoan times when one came by sea from other Cretan landfalls or harbors, or from countries to the east (Cyprus, Syria, Egypt) or southwest (Libya, for instance). No other major Minoan site lay so close to the Libyan Sea: Kommos remains the only candidate, and its major road can now be seen.

This conclusion, I must admit, is somewhat simplistic, for many important questions still remain to be resolved. The problems vary. Some involve specific buildings. Can we prove, for instance, that the seaside building was rather like a customhouse at a port of entry nowadays? (No, we can't, but analogies are at least helpful.) Will we be able to trace our road all the way to Phaistos in order to prove our theory? (No, we won't. We should, however, expose more of the road east of the temples.) Is the tradition of a Minoan "Rule of the Sea," as passed down to us by Greek historians who lived a thousand years after Minos, actually true? (Only partly so; certainly the scope of maritime activities seems exaggerated.) Still, this year at Kom-

mos we have added a bit to historical reconstructions of Bronze Age Aegean life near and on the sea.

Kommos and the sea, and the avenue just discovered, were the subjects chosen for this newsletter. They have overshadowed other themes, the discovery for instance of numerous entire vases, many of them decorated with polychrome designs, in the Minoan houses on the hillside. Or the large storage jar or pithos, buried to its rim in a floor and covered by a stone slab. Of course we didn't know what lay under the slab at first, so there was great surprise when it was lifted. Then one of us put his head into the great empty terracotta vessel, to sniff the musty air, the damp smell perhaps scented by the dregs of its 3,000 year old contents! I should also mention the bronze chisels and double-axe recovered in the area. Or, as a theme, I could choose the sometimes unexciting but crucial work of our ceramicists, cataloguers, architect, photographer, pot profilers, conservator, our experts on stone tools, bones and shells. Each individual in the team, often brought here from various countries by the Royal Ontario Museum, the University of Toronto, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the SCM Corporation, Leon Pomerance and other donors, could tell intriguing tales about some aspect of the Kommos excavations. Perhaps it will be their turn in the next newsletter, while we are preparing certain areas for final publication.

Joseph W. Shaw
Director, Kommos Excavations

Ten Fellowships Awarded

The Managing Committee awarded ten fellowships for the 1981/82 academic year. Five were awarded to first year regular members. They are: *James Rignall Wheeler Fellow*: Lisa L.A. Cox, Boston University; *Thomas Day Seymour Fellow*: Eric G. Csapo, University of Toronto; *John Williams White Fellow*: Thomas D. Groves, Princeton University; *Heinrich Schliemann Fellow*: Paula J. Perlman, University of California, Berkeley; and *Honorary School Fellow*: Margaret C. Miller, Harvard University.

The following received advanced fellowships: *Eugene Vanderpool Fellow*: Charles M. Edwards, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, for a study of Pan and Nymph reliefs; *Edward Capps Fellow*: Donald Keller, Indiana University, for the completion of a surface survey of certain areas in southern Euboea; *Gorham Philipps Stevens Fellow*: Monica Barran, University of Michigan, for a study of the so-called Valerian Wall in Athens; *Arthur W. Parsons Fellow*: Richard Liebhart, University of North Carolina, for a study of wood construction in the archaic period; and *Honorary School Fellow*: Barbara Fiedler, University of Michigan, for a study of social stratification in the Argolid of the



Archaic pottery from Kommos. Photo by Taylor Dabney



A bull's head rhyton found in a Middle Minoan house at Kommos. Photo by Taylor Dabney



Drawing of the bull's head rhyton by Jackie Phillips

Geometric period.

The *Jacob Hirsch Fellowship* was awarded to C. Edward Ritchie, Jr., University of Colorado, for a comprehensive study of the ancient Athenian boundary stones for public domain. Upon the nomination of the Gennadeion-Dumbarton Oaks Fellowship Committee, the *Gennadeion-Dumbarton Oaks Fellowship* went to Stephen Reinert, Dumbarton Oaks.

Kress Grant Renewed Nesbitt Appointed for 1981/82

The Samuel H. Kress Foundation has renewed its grant for the Professor of Hellenic Studies for a second three-year period, at an increased rate of \$20,000 per year. However, it is understood that this is a terminal grant from the Foundation, and the School will have to seek permanent funding for this experimental professorship from other sources.

The third holder of the Professorship is John Nesbitt, one of the world's experts on Byzantine sigillography, the study of lead seals. For more than a decade Dr. Nesbitt has been associated with Dumbarton Oaks at Washington, D.C., first as Junior Fellow, then as Research Fellow. In the latter capacity he has been assisting in the preparation of a catalogue of the Harvard Collections of

Byzantine Seals. Because of material drawn from those seals, Dr. Nesbitt has most recently been at Cambridge University contributing entries to the third volume of the *Prosopography of the Later Roman Empire*. Before coming to Dumbarton Oaks, Dr. Nesbitt was Lecturer for a number of years at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. He received his Doctorate in 1972 from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Dr. Nesbitt hopes that while in Athens he can establish at the Gennadius Library a seminar on the evolution of the Byzantine Administrative System from the sixth century to the beginning of the twelfth century. Participants will become familiar with many types of source material, texts and inscriptions as well as seals. Such a study will not only rely on the resources of the Gennadius Library but also use research materials in the Benaki Museum and elsewhere.

The Gennadius Committee is indeed pleased that Dr. Nesbitt has accepted the Kress Professorship for the year 1981/82, for he is a scholar of the widest reputation and learning, and he is concerned to encourage the pursuit and teaching of Byzantine Studies within the Gennadius Library.

C.W.J. Eliot

Preserving the Greek Heritage

Situated on the north slope of Mount Pentelikon, only some seven miles from the Athenian suburb of Kiphissia, the site, Ikarion, attracted the attention of early scholars for its mythical and theatrical connections. Ikarion was named after the legendary hero Ikarios, who received the god of wine, Dionysos, upon his first arrival in Attica. In gratitude for his reception, Dionysos gave the knowledge of viniculture to Ikarios, who made wine and gave some to his fellow villagers. Drunk, but thinking they had been poisoned, the villagers murdered Ikarios. His daughter, Erigone, hanged herself in grief, and to atone for these tragedies the Delphic Oracle bade the villagers to institute a festival at Ikarion. It is interesting that the modern name for the area is "Dionysio." The town also had strong connections with the early theater, for it was the home of Thespis, who is said to have invented tragedy, and some legends also make it the home of Susarion, perhaps one of the inventors of comedy.

Although Ikarion's mythical reputation was well known, the site itself was only identified in 1887 by a German scholar. At that time the American School of Classical Studies at Athens was only six years old but eager to dig, and in January of 1888 began to excavate at the site around a ruined Byzantine church, the apse of which was constructed on an ancient semicircular monument. The excavations, interrupted by snowstorms and other vicissitudes, lasted until March 19 and were then resumed in November for a further three months. Parts of at least seven major constructions came to light including a theatral area, a small temple dedicated to Apollo Pythios, and the semicircular monument. Inscriptions clearly identified the site as Ikarion, and finds indicated that part of the very center of the ancient town must have been found.

Unfortunately, the almost one hundred years that elapsed since the excavation of Ikarion have not been kind to the buildings, despite periodic care and cleaning by the Greek Archaeological Service. By 1981 the remains had all but disappeared behind dense undergrowth making it impossible for the casual visitor or even the scholar to see the ancient buildings. Bushes and shrubs had forced their way up between the stones of the ancient walls and many of these, which had been standing in the nineteenth century, were now tumbled or completely missing.

Renewed interest in Ikarion crystallized in 1981, the year of the centennial of the founding of the American School of Classical Studies. As part of the celebration, it was decided to return to this important early School excavation. Thus in May and June Ikarion was once again visited by American archaeologists as it had been in the nineteenth century. The aims this time were to clean the site, to record the remains as they were now preserved, and to restudy them in the light of the accumulated archaeological

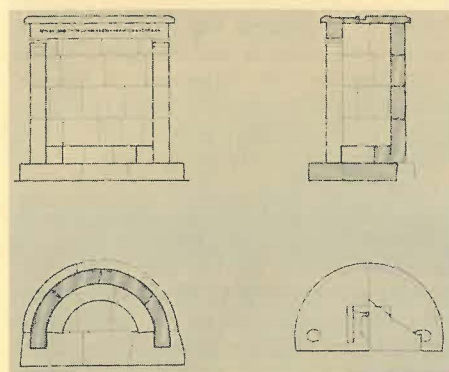
knowledge.

The project was a collaborative one. The American School's team was led by the writer, with Professor Thomas Boyd of the University of Texas at Austin as architect. The Greek Archaeological Service provided the permission for the cleaning and study, and the Ephor of Attica, Dr. Basileios Petrakos, took a special interest in the project. The actual work was done by a team of workmen loaned by the Archaeological Service and much of the detailed cleaning of stones by student volunteers from the American School. The whole project was funded by the Society for the Preservation of the Greek Heritage.

Our work centered on the votive monument and on the complex of walls and buildings which occupy the northern and lower part of the site.



Ikarion in 1888 showing the semicircular choregic monument at the right



The choregic monument, restored drawing by Tom Boyd

The semicircular monument is a choregic monument of unusual design, erected by three individuals to celebrate their victory in a theatrical competition. Careful study of the various blocks by Professor Boyd revealed that almost every block up to and including the roof is extant and that the monument could, in fact, be reerected again where it once stood in the fourth century B.C.

Higher up the slope lie the theatral area and the Temple of Apollo Pythios. Between the two are the remains of a large altar, now mostly destroyed. It is in fact in this area of

the excavations that the greatest damage has occurred to the remains since the first excavation and even in earlier times.

Nevertheless, close study of the remains has allowed a reconstructed plan of the temple with a front room or pronaos, and a small closed-in back room or adyton. This small building, part of which had actually been reburied by earth slides since it was first cleared in 1888, is unusual in having an inscription carved on its threshold block, "The Pythion of the Ikarians," a unique example of labeling. Although primitive in plan, the temple appears in its present form to belong at least to the fourth century B.C., if not later, as do most of the large stone buildings at Ikarion. Inscriptions and other evidence are clear that earlier buildings must have existed, but only by further excavation might they be found.

The 1981 project at Ikarion has managed to bring back from obscurity a portion of an important site in Attica. We hope that its existence and its importance will be recognized and that further steps can be taken to preserve this small portion of the Greek Heritage.

William R. Biers
University of Missouri-Columbia



En route to Ikarion on a flat car ca. 1900, Photo by C.H. Weller, courtesy of his granddaughter, Jeanne Perrin

Publications Available

Hesperia, Supplement XIX (in honor of Eugene Vanderpool); *Studies in Attic Epigraphy, History and Topography* \$15.00

Hesperia, Supplement XX (in honor of Homer Thompson); *Studies in Athenian Architecture, Sculpture and Topography* \$15.00

Hesperia, Supplement XVIII, by Livingston V. Watrous; *Lasithi, A History of Settlement on a Highland Plain in Crete* \$ 15.00

Hesperia, Vol. 50, No. 4 – Centennial Papers \$ 5.75

Add \$1.00 per volume for postage and handling. Complete list of publications available. Order from ASCSA Publications Office, c/o Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ 08540.

After Tea Talks, 1980/81

In December when the fall School trips had ended, the annual series of late afternoon "after tea" talks commenced. Held at 6 o'clock p.m. in Loring Hall, usually on Thursdays, the lectures this year encompassed a wide variety of topics reflecting the diverse interests of the speakers, both students and scholars, who were in Greece to pursue their studies of classical antiquity. Eleven talks were presented during the winter and spring of 1980/81.

John Walsh, *The Dates of the Peace of Kallias and the Congress Decree*; Barbara Bohen, *Aspects of Greek Geometric Ceramic Art*; Dennis Maio, *The Character of Adjudication in Fourth Century B.C. Athens*; Alan Boegehold, *A Newly Discovered Dikastic Echinus*; Henry Immerwahr, *Attic Script on Stone and Vases*; Andrew Oliver, *Greek and Roman Silver*; George Huxley, *Herodotus on Early Spartan History*; Nancy Bookidis, *Excavations in the Sanctuary of Demeter and Kore at Corinth*; Charles Edwards, *Nymphs and Pan in and around the Athenian Agora*; Murray McClellan, *Pre-Roman Glass: Some New Observations*; Evelyn Harrison, *The Nike of the Athena Parthenos*.

Four associate members and one regular member of the School gave accounts of their current research. One of the associate members, Dr. Dennis Maio, a regular member of the School in 1975/76, is now completing his J.D. degree at Yale Law School. Two visiting professors, Dr. Boegehold and Dr. Harrison, kindly took time away from their studies to share with the School community the results of some of their new investigations. Dr. Bookidis, curator of the Corinth excavation collections, travelled to Athens (away from the epicenter of the February 24 earthquake!) to present some thoughts on the problems of ritual dining in the Acrocorinth sanctuary of Demeter and Kore. We were especially fortunate this year to hear from the Director of the School, Dr. Henry Immerwahr, and from two scholars outside the immediate School community, Dr. Huxley, who spoke while on a visit to the neighboring British School, and Dr. Oliver.

The subjects of Greek political and legal history were given good coverage in the series this year. Two stimulating talks dealt with aspects of fifth century B.C. Athenian sculpture. Ancient silver and glass, categories of objects rarely examined, were the topics of two informative lectures.

The after tea talks of 1980/81 enabled the student and scholarly community here in Athens to appreciate and learn from the wide range of research in classical studies currently undertaken in and around the American School as it enters its Centennial year.

Pamela J. Russell



The temple at Bassai photographed in the 1930s by Eugene Vanderpool

Temple of Apollo at Bassai

The temple of Apollo at Bassai has enchanted visitors and captivated interest among scholars over the years since its initial discovery in 1765 and subsequent clearing by the Dilettanti in 1812. It was quite natural that, a little over 50 years ago, two of America's foremost scholars made the arduous trip from Athens to Andritsaina and thence by mule, loaded with cameras and measuring equipment, into the high mountains of Arkadia. William B. Dinsmoor, Sr. was to prepare a study on the architecture of the famous temple, and Rhys Carpenter, one on the sculpture.

Thus began in 1927 a long period of research on Bassai under the auspices of the American School. By the late 1930s Carpenter's commitment to Bassai had waned and Dinsmoor's obligations to other projects resulted in an indefinite postponement of his publication on Bassai, except for an article on the arrangement of the 23 slabs of the sculpted frieze in 1956. Greek archaeologists have taken responsibility for excavations at Bassai. K. Kourioniotes led an expedition between 1903 and 1908 and, more recently, N. Yalouris excavated at Bassai in the years 1959, 1970 and 1975-1979. Even though Bassai is a Greek site, the Archaeological Service, with characteristic generosity, granted me permission in 1969 to commence a comprehensive and detailed study of the temple. Among other things, I was permitted to lift and thoroughly examine every fallen block around the temple. My work at Bassai has been limited to several weeks in the summers, as with most archaeological projects,

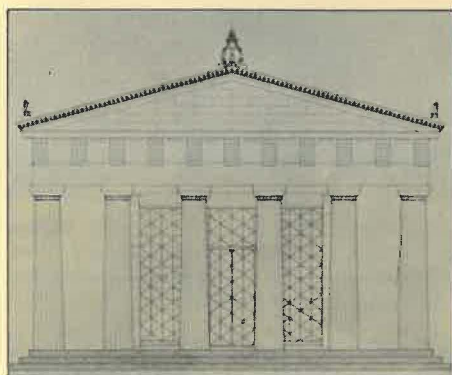
generally. In the first years I completed a topographic survey that covers an area 1 kilometer by 1/2 kilometer and reaches to the top of Mount Kotilion, which lies to the northwest of the temple. State plans and elevations of the standing structure were a part of this phase.

The colonnade has stood almost in its entirety since antiquity; the walls of the cella were re-erected by the Greeks at the turn of this century. Yet, most of the superstructure lies scattered around the temple and these pieces provide a key to many of the problems of the temple. Previous studies on Bassai have relied on a selection of spot drawings made by Haller von Hallerstein or by others during limited periods of time at the site. It became evident to me that the temple at Bassai was too complicated to allow a record of one dimensioned block to represent all other blocks of that classification. For this reason I undertook, between 1970 and 1975, the painstaking task of cataloguing every diagnostic architectural member belonging to the temple; this represents over 3500 blocks. I enlisted the help of my family, Nancy, Laura and Gigi Cooper, but often friends from the American School joined me: Tom Boyd, Steve Miller, Mary Sturgeon and Hector Williams, among others. I commenced the next step in 1976, which was to reassemble the temple on paper, placing each surviving block in its precise, original position. One outcome of this phase has been a realization that approximately 80% of the temple is extant and that many accepted truisms about the

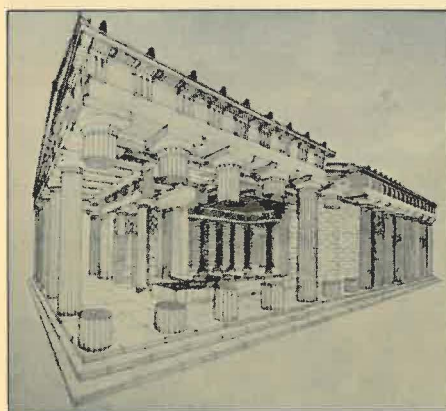
Centennial Trip to Crete



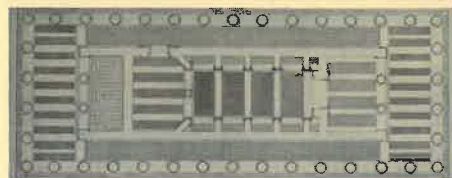
Frederick Cooper prepares to measure the west architrave



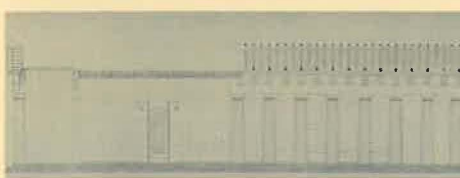
Restored north facade, tracing by Tom Boyd and Pieter Broucke



Cut-away perspective of interior, rendering by Hendrik Hendrickx



Restored plan of coffered ceiling, tracing by Luc de Maesschalck



Restored east elevation, tracing by Tom Boyd

temple at Bassai are simply contradicted by this bulk of physical evidence. For instance, there is but a single free-standing Corinthian column rather than the three frequently restored for the interior. No less important, this approach has enabled reconstructions of unusual parts of the temple which have never been realized before, such as all-stone ceilings, largely of marble, which were set in seven different designs of coffers.

Some of the fine tracings that will comprise a complete series of restored plans, elevations and views have been executed by Tom Boyd. Other drawings, such as a cut-away perspective, have been rendered by Hendrik Hendrickx, a professor at the Ar-

chitecture Institute of Gent, along with his students. This set of approximately 50 plans will make up a folio of large-scale plates which will be accompanied by a volume containing dimensioned drawings of all the catalogued stones and another consisting of a narrative description. The plans are finished and the text is nearly ready for press. This project has taken longer than anticipated; from the beginning I have appreciated the volunteer expertise of friends and family and the invaluable support of the American School.

*Frederick A. Cooper
University of Minnesota*

At 6:30 A.M. on June 21 a sleepy, break-fastless group of twenty centennial celebraters and friends met at the Athens airport for what was to be a "School Trip" to see the American excavations in Crete. The forty-five minute flight (only five minutes late!) proved to be a true preview of the trip — spectacular views of the island of Melos and Mt. Ida on the right side of the plane and bright sun reflecting off the water on the left. The morning ride to Ayios Nikolaos for a late breakfast on the harbor was an improvement in comfort, if lacking in the adventure of the first American excavators in 1900. Harriet Boyd wrote of her trip from Kavousi to Herakleion, "We made the sixty miles from Kavousi in two days — quite fast for mules and wooden saddles." Her description of her first exploratory trip in 1900 was read to set the atmosphere for seeing her excavations later in the day.

After breakfasting on the harbor at Ayios Nikolaos, we entered the area of the Isthmus of Ierapetra where in the years 1900-1912 the American archaeologists, Harriet Boyd (Hawes), Richard Seager, and Edith Hall, excavated. Vrokastro, Priniatikos, Pyrgos, and Nisi, all excavated by Edith Hall in 1910 and 1912, were passed on the way to Gournia, our first stop, the major site excavated by Harriet Boyd in 1901, 1903, 1904. The palace and sanctuary, streets and houses of this small Minoan industrial town came alive under the leadership of Hal Haskell.

A short visit to the Early Minoan settlement at Vasiliki, excavated by Richard Seager in 1903, 1904, 1906, followed. This site on a low hill overlooking the isthmus, best known for its pottery, the curiously mottled Vasiliki ware, has the finest prepalatial architecture including a paved west court and plastered walls.

A leisurely lunch of mezedes — keftedes, dolmadakia — generous amounts of fresh fish and Cretan wine, arranged with great flair as were all our meals by our "cruise director" Pam Haskell, gave respite from the blazing sun and revived all.

The group looked up at Harriet Boyd's first excavation (1900) at Kastro high above Kavousi, admired her stamina for hour long mule rides, and without a protest rode by on the bus. We paused at Platanas for ice cream and a short lecture on the Minoan town of Psira excavated by Richard Seager in 1907.

Back in the bus, we wound around and down the mountains to Mochlos, now a fishing village and resort area on the sea. The sites — Minoan settlement and tombs and Byzantine fort — dug by Seager in 1908 are on a small island a few hundred meters from the shore. The ride to the island in a fishing caique proved to be one of the high points of the trip.

We were on our way to Zakro the next morning past the Minoan town of Palaikastro and the Peak Sanctuary at Petsofa. We pass-

ed the rock shelters of Ayia Fotia excavated by Harriet Boyd and Edith Hall in 1904 and stopped to look at a Roman fish tank near Ferma. A short visit to the Ierapetra Museum was memorable for the Late Minoan sarcophagus with cult scenes and Evelyn Harrison's comments on the sculpture in the garden. As we passed through Episkopi a few minutes later, we saw the find-spot of the sarcophagus and the area of tombs dug by Richard Seager in 1906. A visit was made to the church of Ayios Georgios in Kavousi, mentioned by Harriet Boyd as across the street from her residence in 1900.

The trip to the working excavation at Kommos was the high point for some. Even though it was the first day of excavation, Joe Shaw, the director, gave us a complete tour of the site, and sample objects from past seasons were laid out in the work rooms.

Fourteen remained for the optional fourth day. We tried to do the impossible — see the Herakleion Museum in three hours — but we did see the most famous objects in each room. Evelyn Smithson and Jane Waldbaum commented when appropriate, and we met Dr. Iannis Sakellarakis, the director of the museum, for a tour of the new rooms he is preparing for the exhibition of finds of the last five years.

Next came a tour of Knossos led by Hal Haskell. It was our hottest day, but we had a special treat still to come — a complete tour of Arkhanes by its excavator, Dr. Sakellarakis. We met him on the high hill of Fourni overlooking the town. As we rested from the climb, he gave us an overview of the excavations. It is a most important excavation with impressive tomb architecture on the site and splendid finds to be seen in the Museum.



Iannis Sakellarakis lecturing to centennial group at Fourni. Photo by John Fischer

As we looked over the palatial remains of the Minoan town, the sun sank behind the Peak Sanctuary on Mt. Juktas. We feared that it would be too late to go to Anemospilio to see the Temple, but we were in for a surprise. After circling around the slopes of Mt. Juktas in the shadows, we came into the sunlight at the north end of the mountain, where we could see the sea with the plain of Herakleion stretched before us. Knossos was only one small black dot. As we walked through the Temple the sun again began to set in the west. We felt that we were at a



Geraldine Gesell at Mochlos

sacred spot as we stood by the Hill of the Wind Caves watching our second sunset.

Anticlimax, perhaps, but a jolly time was had by all at our second Cretan feast at Balachouti's in Herakleion. Weary but still high spirited we boarded the midnight plane for Athens.

*Geraldine C. Gesell
University of Tennessee*

The Nemea Excavation House

Food and shelter can be as important to the field archaeologist as pot sherds, especially in a relatively remote and sparsely populated region. The solution of the archaeologist's housing problem at Nemea has been, for a long time, in the same building.

In the Spring of 1924 the American School began excavations at Nemea, under the direction of C.W. Blegen. The staff, accompanied from Corinth by B.H. Hill, the Director of the School, went to Nemea by means of the School Ford, and supplies and equipment followed in the Fiat camion. Arriving on April 15, the immediate task at hand was to find housing in the small village of Heraklion. The obvious place to begin this search was the house nearest the site, about 165 meters southwest of the Temple of Zeus.

This house originally constructed in the 1890s by the village priest shortly after the foundation of the modern town, had been taken over just after the turn of the century by a clan recently arrived in the village with eight sons. In 1924 it was owned by one of those sons, Basileios Papaioannou. Although he would later cause Blegen difficulties with the purchase of property where the ancient

bath house had been discovered, Papaioannou quickly agreed to rent the upper floor of the house to the American staff. His own family would live on the ground floor.

These arrangements must have been a considerable relief for Hill and Blegen, especially since the property was equipped with the modern conveniences of a well about 10 meters west of the house, and an outhouse 10 meters further west. There was, however, no kitchen (the family used the fireplace on the ground floor). Therefore, Hill and Blegen agreed to construct at their own expense and in addition to the rent, a lean-to on the south side of the house for their use as a kitchen. The camion was sent off to Aghios Georgios (Nea Nemea) to fetch lumber, nails, and other supplies, and the new kitchen was a reality within a few days.



April 20, 1924. The camion and the Ford parked in the courtyard of the excavation house. Behind the ladder to the right is the shed roof of the kitchen being constructed.

In 1925 and again in 1926 the staff took advantage of the housing arrangement established the first year. During the final year of excavation, Blegen replaced Hill as the Acting Director of the School, and these new duties plus illness reduced his role at Nemea considerably. Indeed, B.D. Meritt directed the final weeks of the excavation.

Hill's interest in the Temple of Zeus had, however, been aroused. He returned to Nemea repeatedly during the 1930s and again after the war. When at Nemea, Hill always stayed at the Papaioannou house, in the northeast room from which there is a splendid view of the temple. It is little wonder that the village's memory of Hill is much stronger than that of any other American archaeologist. Indeed, "Old Man Hill" has assumed mythical proportions which are rivalled only by Pausanias and Herakles in the village today.

When the most recent phase of excavations began at Nemea on April 16, 1974, our housing problems were not so quickly solved. Nonetheless, we now own the Papaioannou house which, incidentally, lies over antiquities and will have to be demolished at the end of the excavations. In the meantime the house is serving our staff very well, especially since the addition of somewhat more modern bathroom facilities. There is also a thrill in knowing that we live under the same roof as did Hill, Blegen, Broneer, Meritt, and others who have played

important roles in the School and in classical studies. Not so satisfactory is the knowledge that we had to pay, and handsomely, for the kitchen that Hill and Blegen added to the house, at their expense, more than half a century ago.

Stephen G. Miller
Director, Nemea Excavations

The Origins and Evolution of the Ancient Stadium

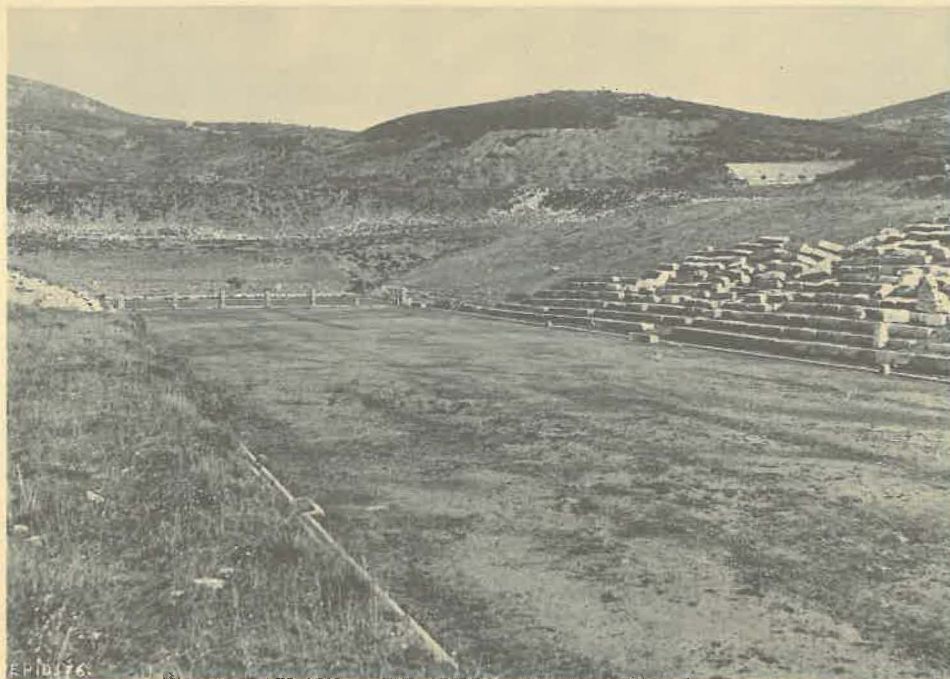
How common the word stadium is today! How much it is a part of our daily life! Hardly a day passes that we don't see a sporting event on television — baseball, football, soccer, track, tennis — from a stadium somewhere, attended by thousands and watched by millions. Modern stadia have grown to tremendous proportions and now commonly include artificial grass, air conditioning in an indoor setting and even computerized scoreboards.

But what is the origin of the stadium? How did it begin in ancient Greece? For as far as we know there was no precedent for the Greek stadium in any earlier civilization.

Although one often thinks of the stadium in antiquity as a secular facility, similar to its modern counterpart, the ancient stadium was originally a religious structure found as part of Greek sanctuaries and used in connection with cult practices. Athletic events commonly held within the stadium were the *stadion* race (one length of the stadium), the *diaulos* (two lengths), the *hippios* (four lengths), the *dolichos* (multiple lengths which varied from site to site), as well as boxing, wrestling, the *pankration* (an event combining wrestling and boxing) and the *pentathlon* which included the *stadion* race, wrestling, the running long jump, the discus and the javelin. These athletic contests were religious in the sense that each athlete, through the discipline of physical training and competition, made an individual offering to the god in whose honor the games were held. The achievement of excellence or *arete* in the form of a victory in one of the contests was the ultimate expression of honor to the god.

It is no coincidence that the earliest stadia have been found in the archaic sanctuaries of Olympia and Isthmia, situated close to the major temple and the principal altar and dating to the mid-sixth century B.C. Very little is left of these stadia. Only the remains survive of the artificial earth embankments which were constructed to provide spectators a place to sit or to stand.

Better preserved are later, fifth century B.C., stadia at Olympia, Isthmia and Halieis which give us a good idea of what a Classical stadium looked like. The *dromos*, or running area, was always 600 feet long or a *stadion* in length. Since the length of the



The stadium at Epidauros in the Sanctuary of Asklepios. The starting line is visible at left center, the theater in right background. The stone seat blocks are probably Hellenistic in date. Photo courtesy of Deutsches Archäologisches Institut

ancient foot varied greatly from place to place, as well as from century to century, stadium lengths varied correspondingly. For example, the stadium at Halieis measures approximately 167 meters in length while the stadium at Olympia measures about 192 meters, or a net difference of 25 meters. The *dromos* was 75 feet wide and was bordered by one and sometimes two artificially constructed spectator embankments along its long sides. The ends of the *dromos* were limited by stone starting lines and the sides by a stone curb or water channel. These early stadia provided seats for only the judges and a few VIPs. The rest of the crowd either sat or more probably stood, on the gradual earth slopes of the embankments. It may be from this use of the low embankments as a place where spectators stood that the stadium took its name — "the standing place." These fifth century B.C. stadia were well within the limits of the sanctuary and were still located near the principal temple and altar of the site.

During the Late Classical and Early Hellenistic period, there was a trend to move stadia out of the sanctuary to a nearby location, probably in order to provide more extensive spectator room. These new stadia often took full advantage of the natural contours of a valley or hollow which provided a setting for spectators on the sloping hillsides. Examples of such "second generation" stadia are known at Olympia, Nemea and Isthmia. The *dromos* remained 600 feet long but was widened to 100 feet. Instead of the rectilinear shape of the earlier *dromos*, the stadium floor was characterized by two slightly convex long

sides. This new element of design was intended to increase the spectators' viewing facility, similar to the purpose and design of the modern conference table. Also a part of these new stadia were vaulted entrances which provided direct access to the stadium floor from the nearby sanctuary. Such vaulted passageways are now known from the stadia of Epidauros, Nemea and Olympia.

In the Roman period seating facilities were more commonly, although not always, provided for spectators. Herodes Atticus built stadia in both Athens and Delphi in the mid-second century A.D. In Athens Herodes provided marble seats for 50,000 spectators — impressive even by modern standards! This Panathenaic stadium may be one of the best known of all ancient stadia since it was rebuilt, according to Herodes' plan, for the first celebration of the modern Olympic Games in 1896. The stadium at Olympia was also renovated in the second century A.D., although seats for the masses were never installed.

The American School of Classical Studies has excavated several important stadia in the Peloponnese at Halieis, Isthmia and Nemea. In addition the excavations at Corinth have recently revealed new evidence concerning the racecourses beneath the area of the Roman forum. The results of these excavations, and others, are providing us with important new information about the origin, design, evolution and use of the ancient stadium.

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University of Pennsylvania

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