

## THE CAMPAIGN OF 1932

The second campaign of excavations in the American zone of the ancient Agora of Athens was begun on January 25, 1932, and was continued until June 4. Although this was the extent of the operations on a large scale, the work, in fact, was continuous throughout the year, for during the summer the task of making the excavated areas tidy included the clearance of several wells, and in the Autumn stones of archaeological interest were taken from the walls of modern houses which were demolished in preparation of the terrain for subsequent excavation.

The scientific staff for 1932 was composed of the following members in addition to the Director: Professor Richard Stillwell, supervising architect; Charles Spector, assistant architect, H. A. Thompson, F. O. Waagé, Eugene Vanderpool and Miss Dorothy Burr respectively in charge of the four areas of excavation; Mrs. Howard Simpkin, artist; Mrs. T. L. Shear in charge of the coins; Miss Lucy Talcott, Miss Virginia Grace, Mrs. Dow and Mrs. Parsons, recorders in the cataloguing department; Professor B. D. Meritt in charge of the study of the inscriptions; and Miss Hetty Goldman in charge of the study of the early pottery. Mr. H. Wagner of the German Archaeological Institute has done most satisfactorily the professional photographic work. This staff was supplemented by the appointment to it of the distinguished archaeologist, Professor A. D. Keramopoulos, as representative of the Archaeological Society of Athens. The onerous business management of the organization has continued to be in the competent hands of Mr. A. Adossides, and Sophokles Lekkas, the experienced foreman of many campaigns of excavation, has been head foreman in charge of all labor operations. Throughout the season hearty support, advice and assistance were generously furnished by the Greek Government through Dr. K. Kourouniotes, Director of Antiquities in the Ministry of Education, and by the Greek Archaeological Society through Professor G. P. Oikonomos, its Secretary. Nineteen modern houses were demolished on a surface of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres, and earth to a total of 10,000 tons was removed in carts by a contractor as in the preceding campaign.

The excavations of the present season were conducted in four areas, in two of which work was done during the first campaign in the Summer of 1931. These areas are designated by the Greek letters, A, E, Δ, ΣT, on the plan of the district reproduced in the First Report of the Excavations, *Hesperia*, II, 1933, p. 99, Fig. 2. In the northernmost sector, A, which lies under the Hill of the Theseum, the foundations of the Royal Stoa were uncovered in the first season. The identification of this building has been

confirmed by the current investigations, which were conducted under the supervision of Dr. Thompson, and the presence of another structure has been revealed which opens from the Stoa on the west side. An immense amount of labor was required to cut away the living rock of the cliff in order that the building could be placed in this exact spot, so that it is obvious that its location here was necessitated by its relation



Fig. 1. The Foundations of the Royal Stoa with its Annex on the Right

to the Stoa, to which it must have served as an annex. It may have been used as office space for administrative officers of the city, or it may have provided additional rooms for the storage of official records and archives.

Figure 1 gives a view of the southern part of the Royal Stoa, as seen from the northwest, on the left (A), while on the right are the foundations and floor of the west (Hellenistic) building (B), which are set in a deep cutting of the living rock. This latter hall was entered by a doorway opening from the Royal Stoa. A marble pavement, which is partly preserved, belongs to the Roman period, but the date of the foundations of the original construction is fixed in the early part of the third century B.C. by the

pottery found below and around the stones. This Hellenistic building has been described from the architectural point of view by Professor Stillwell in the First Report, *Hesperia*, II, 1933, pp. 124 to 126.

At the time when the Hellenistic building was erected the use of an elaborate system of waterworks in the vicinity was abandoned. Two well-shafts on its south



Fig. 2. Objects from a Well

side were actually covered by some of the foundation blocks. The objects in these wells, such as lamps, and vases, date from the fourth and the early part of the third century B.C., and nothing of later date occurred in the deposits. In one of the wells, of which the site is marked C in Figure 1, was also found a beautiful bronze head of a woman, which is described in the article on sculpture. This shaft, which has a diameter of 1 m., extends to a depth of 7.10 m. The filling was uniform in character from the top to the bottom, consisting largely of heavy clay and of many large and small stones, interspersed with which were coarse pots and objects, of which a selected group is illustrated in Figure 2. At a depth of 6 m. in the well was lying the skeleton

of an adult man, whose skull has special interest because of the decayed condition of one of the teeth. The skull, which is shown in Figure 3, has a cephalic index of .778. An upper right molar tooth had been removed some eight or ten years before death, but a decayed upper left bicuspid had been left in the mouth and had caused an abscess of the jaw. The man must have suffered great pain, and the poisons developed from the abscess may have been an indirect cause of his death. No trace of dental treatment is visible.

Just west of the well a second shaft, Figure 1, D, leads to an underground passage which opens into a large cistern lying to the south. This cistern has been fully



Fig. 3. Skull with diseased Tooth

described in *Hesperia*, II, 1933, pp. 126–128. The datable objects from it belong to the fourth and to the beginning of the third century B.C. The largest group of vases is made up of small undecorated bowls and cups. Several thousands of these were found, and the position in which they were lying indicates that they had been thrown in through the well-opening in the roof. They were undoubtedly cheap votive offerings dedicated in some neighboring sanctuary, which had been cast out and buried when the shrine became overcrowded with dedications. Other wells and cisterns with underground connecting galleries occur in the neighborhood, and the deposits in all cases show that they were filled up in the third century B.C., but no evidence was produced by the excavations to account for the abandonment at that time of such an elaborate system of waterworks.

A water-channel of later date was found to be well preserved in part of its course, as is shown in the picture of its southwest corner (Fig. 4), which is behind the southwest

corner of the building, formerly excavated, south of the Royal Stoa. The channel itself is made of terracotta sections which are cemented together. The inner width of the water course is 0.15 m. This channel is set on bedrock or hard earth and is covered by a series of pairs of huge curved terracotta tiles, which are placed on end, straddling



Fig. 4. Corner of Water-channel

the channel, with their upper edges touching so as to form a tunnel through which the channel passes. The tiles, which measure more than 1 m. in height and are 0.62 m. in width, are so heavy that hand-holes were cut in their walls for convenience in lifting. In the corner which appears in Figure 4 the channel is properly constructed to provide for the backwash of water when it makes the right-angled turn. Some Hellenistic sherds and a Greek coin of Athens of the second century B.C. were found in the tunnel, but some late pottery and a Roman coin of the fourth century A.D. were also secured from

it, and the fact that the channel is laid in part over the foundations of the Royal Stoa on the west side would indicate that it is of late Roman date.

A group of shanties occupied by refugees was located on the rocks above the Hellenistic building, close to the modern terrace wall bounding the precinct of the Theseum, as may be seen in the photograph reproduced in Figure 1. With much difficulty

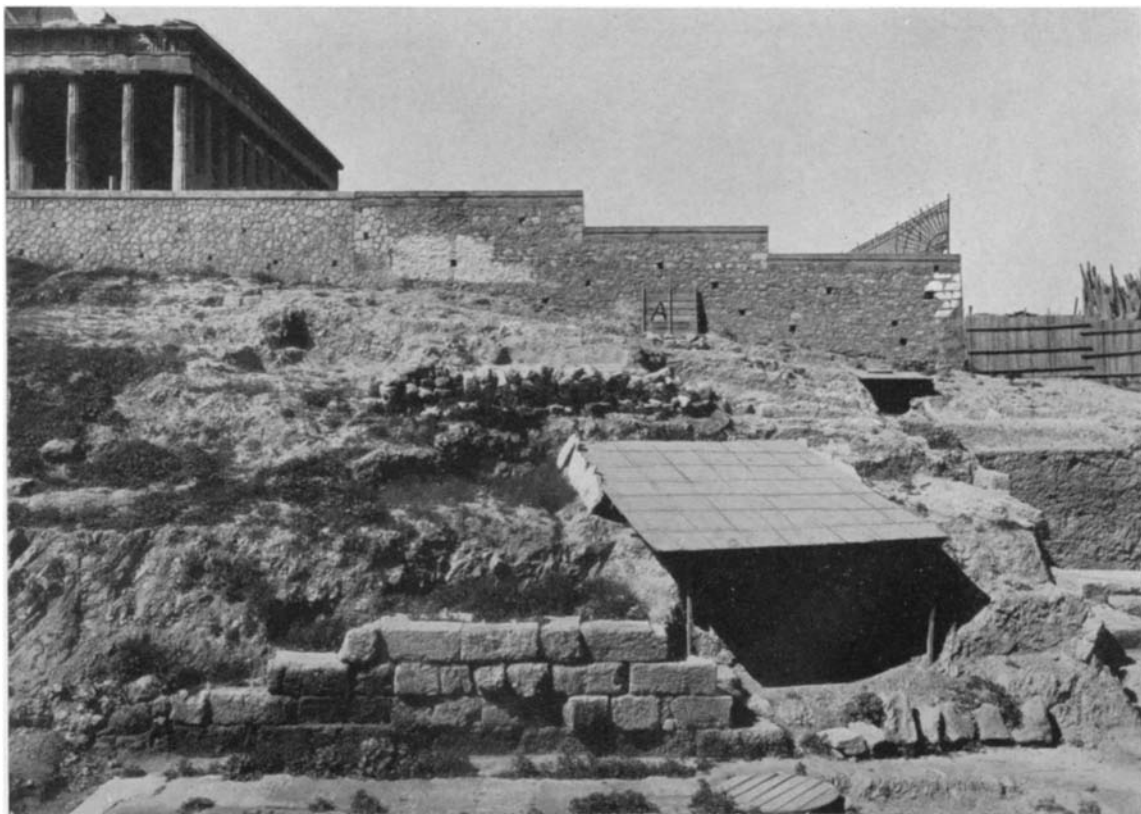


Fig. 5. Site of the Mouth (A) of the Rock-cut Shaft

these refugees were dislodged from their precarious perch. In the subsequent operations of clearing the rock the mouth of a rectangular shaft cut in the rock was uncovered. The position of the shaft, so close to the terrace wall that its mouth is partly covered by it, is indicated in Figure 5 by its wooden cover (A) which is raised against the wall. This shaft was cleared during the Summer of 1932 under the supervision of Mr. Vanderpool. The sides are not exactly vertical but the average dimensions are 2.70 by 1.10 m. It extends down to a depth of 19.60 m. The filling in the well seems to have been gradually accumulated during a period of years from about the middle of the sixth century to 480 B.C. and the stratification of the deposits is fairly well marked. At the bottom

was a black-figured oenochoe of the type and style of the Amasis painter while near the top were found some late black-figured and early red-figured sherds. A definite date is given to the later contents of the deposit by ostraka of Aristekides and Themistokles (483 B.C.) which were lying at a depth of 4.50 m.—6 m.

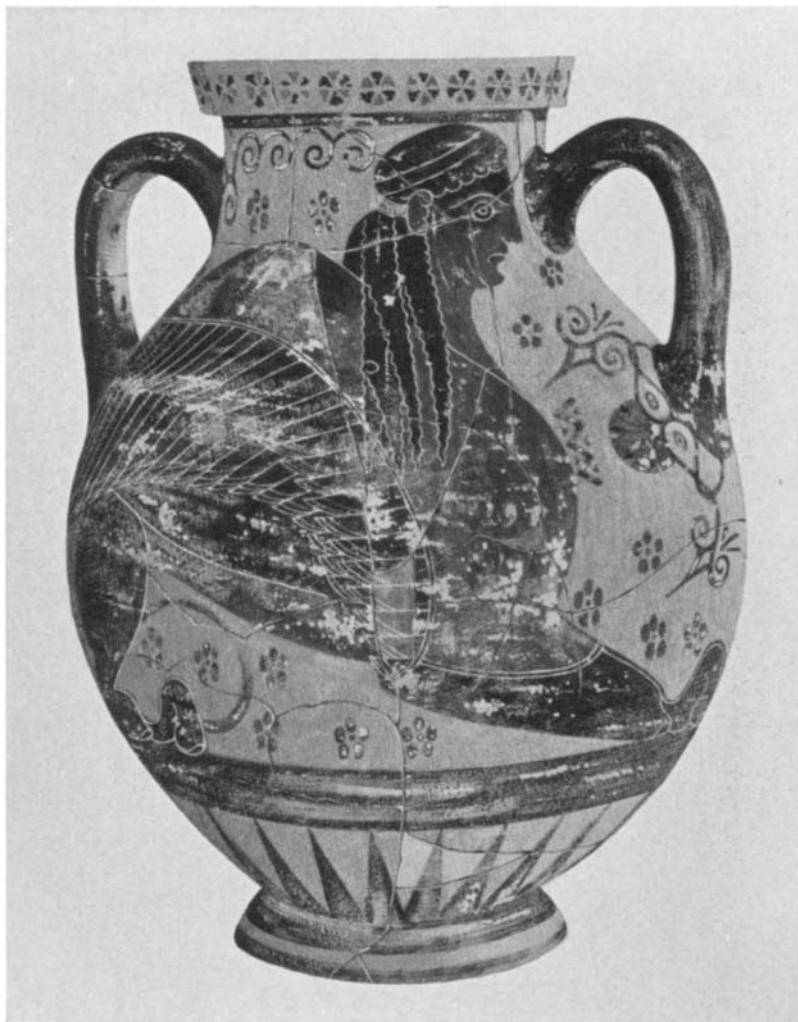


Fig. 6. Early Attic Amphora

The rich and varied collection of objects from this deposit will be fully published by Mr. Vanderpool in a later number of *Hesperia*. Several of them only may be mentioned and illustrated in this report. One of the earliest objects from the shaft is a large amphora which is decorated by a sphinx on either side. This stately vase with a height of 0.457 m. was not found at the lowest level, the pieces being scattered from a depth

of 15.10 to 16.25 m., but its badly weathered surface indicates that it had stood for some time in an exposed position before it was thrown away. Because of the worn condition of the surface the photograph, Fig. 6, was made from a water-color of the vase by Mr. Piet de Jong. Each side of the vase is almost completely filled by a large sphinx of archaic type, and rosettes are scattered in the few remaining blank spaces and are closely placed around the edge of the rim. Palmettes and lotus buds are



Fig. 7. Attic Black-figured Bowl

grouped around the base of the handles. This fine specimen of early Attic ware must date as early as the seventh century B.C.

A vase of early Attic black-figured style has particular interest because of the scene with which it is decorated. Again because the surface of the vase is poorly preserved the illustration, Fig. 7, is taken from a water-color by Mr. de Jong. The decorations on each side are arranged in two panels. In the upper panel on one side is a combat between a bull and a lion. Below this the main panel is decorated with a representation of Herakles, who is standing in a chariot and is driving a team of centaurs. On the



other side of the vase three water-birds appear in the upper panel while the central panel is occupied by a group of five standing figures who are conversing together.

The finest object secured from the shaft is a plastic vase in the form of a kneeling boy (Fig. 8). The arms are upraised and the hands are loosely clasped as if they might



Fig. 8. Plastic Vase

have held the ends of a ribbon which may have passed around the neck of the vase. The exquisite modelling of the figure, the careful rendering of accurate details of the hands and feet, and the superb finish of the surface mark this as a masterpiece of archaic work. It probably dates from the third quarter of the sixth century B.C.

From the end of the sixth century comes a red-figured cylix (Fig. 9). This vase has a very striking appearance because of the contrasting fields of color, the rim and the background of the central medallion being a highly polished black glaze while the

body of the bowl is an equally well polished red. The medallion is decorated with the figure of an athlete represented at the instant before he hurls the discus.

Among the many other discoveries in this shaft not the least important is a series of ostraka of which a group is shown in Figure 10. Here has been secured for the first time a ballot cast in January 487 B.C. against the first man to be ostracized, Hipparchos son of Charmos. The group also includes three of the votes cast against Megakles

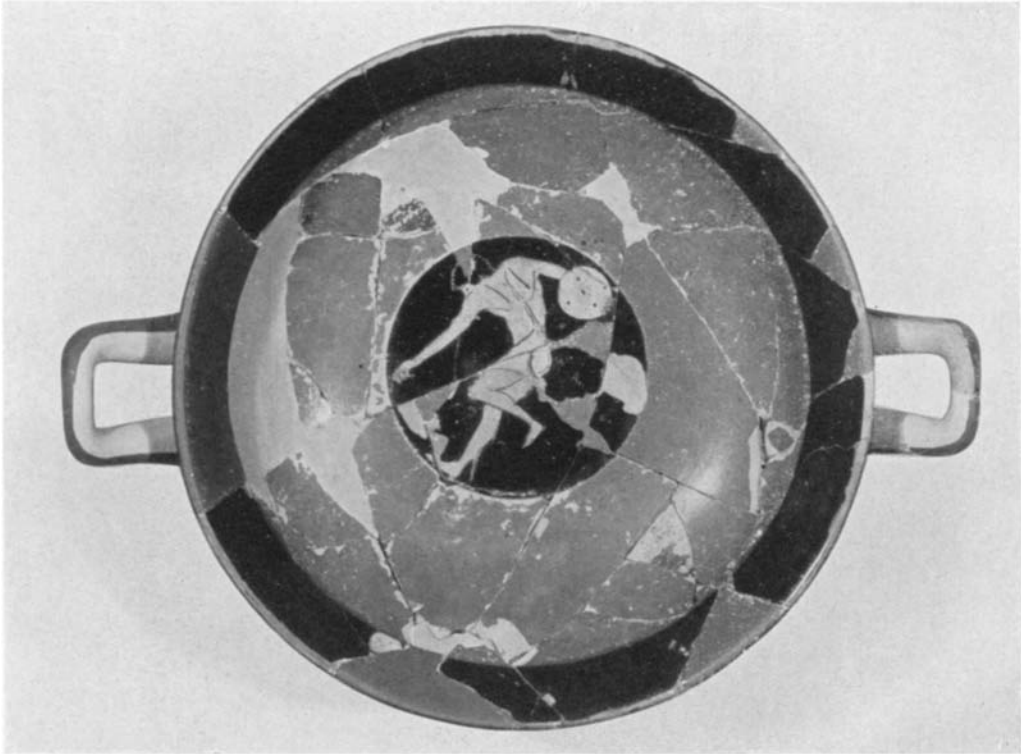


Fig. 9. Attic Red-figured Cylix

in 486, and two bearing the name of Hippokrates. Nothing otherwise is known about the ostracism of Hippokrates but Aristotle (*Ath. Pol.*, XXII, 4) states that the procedure was first employed against Hipparchos and that successively for three years members of the Peisistratos family were ostracized. He does not, however, give the name of the Peisistratid banished in 485. Possibly this was the Hippokrates whose name appears on two of the sherds in Figure 10. Other ostraka, found higher in the shaft, bear the names of Aristeides and of Themistokles. It is probable that the ballot against Themistokles was cast during the voting in 483 when Aristeides received the majority and was banished.

The second sector of the excavations, E, lying southeast of the first and directly east of the Theseum, was excavated under the supervision of Mr. Waagé. This, also, was a completion of the work begun in the previous season. The entire façade of the Stoa of Zeus was uncovered and this building has been described by Mr. Stillwell in

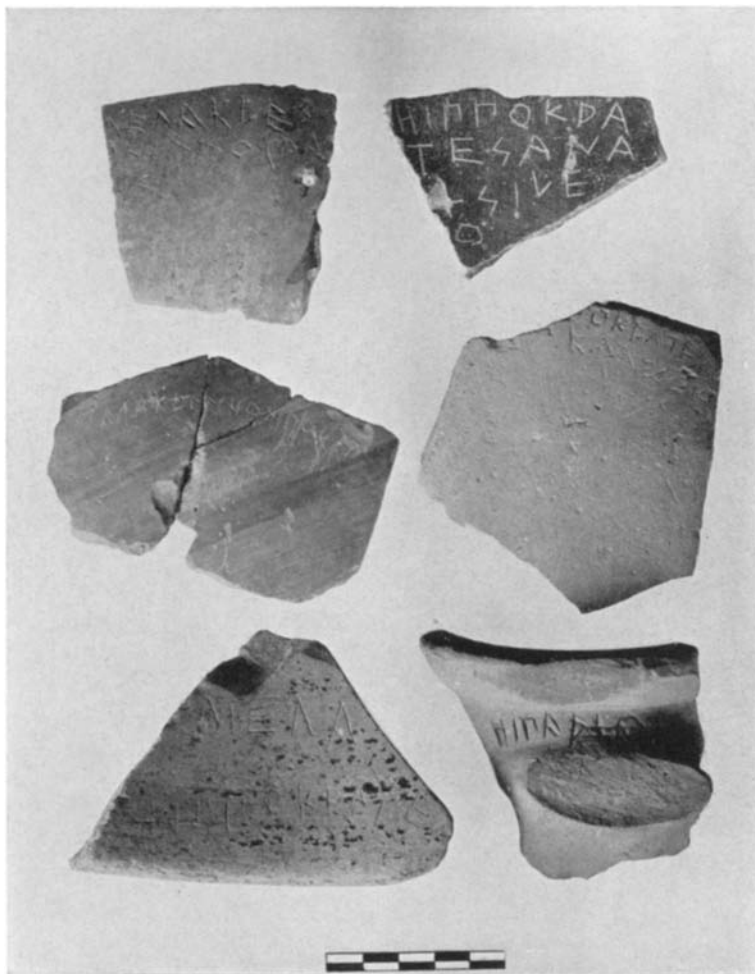


Fig. 10. Ostraka

*Hesperia*, II, 1933, pp. 131–137. The house and earth above the great drain, where the statue of Hadrian had been seen at the close of the campaign of 1931, were removed, the statue was raised from the drain and was set erect on some blocks near-by. The statue was illustrated and described by me in *Hesperia*, II, 1933, pp. 178–183. An interesting result of the clearance of the terrain to the ancient Greek and Roman level is the pleasing appearance of the Theseum as it is now properly seen from below.

Figure 11 gives such a view of the temple, and shows in the centre the north end of the Stoa of Zeus, with the top of the drain and the statue of Hadrian visible in the left corner. With the uncovering of more of the drain several inscribed stelae were found lying across the top where they had been re-used as cover blocks. Two of these stelae are shown in place in Figure 12. Since the inscribed surfaces were placed downwards the

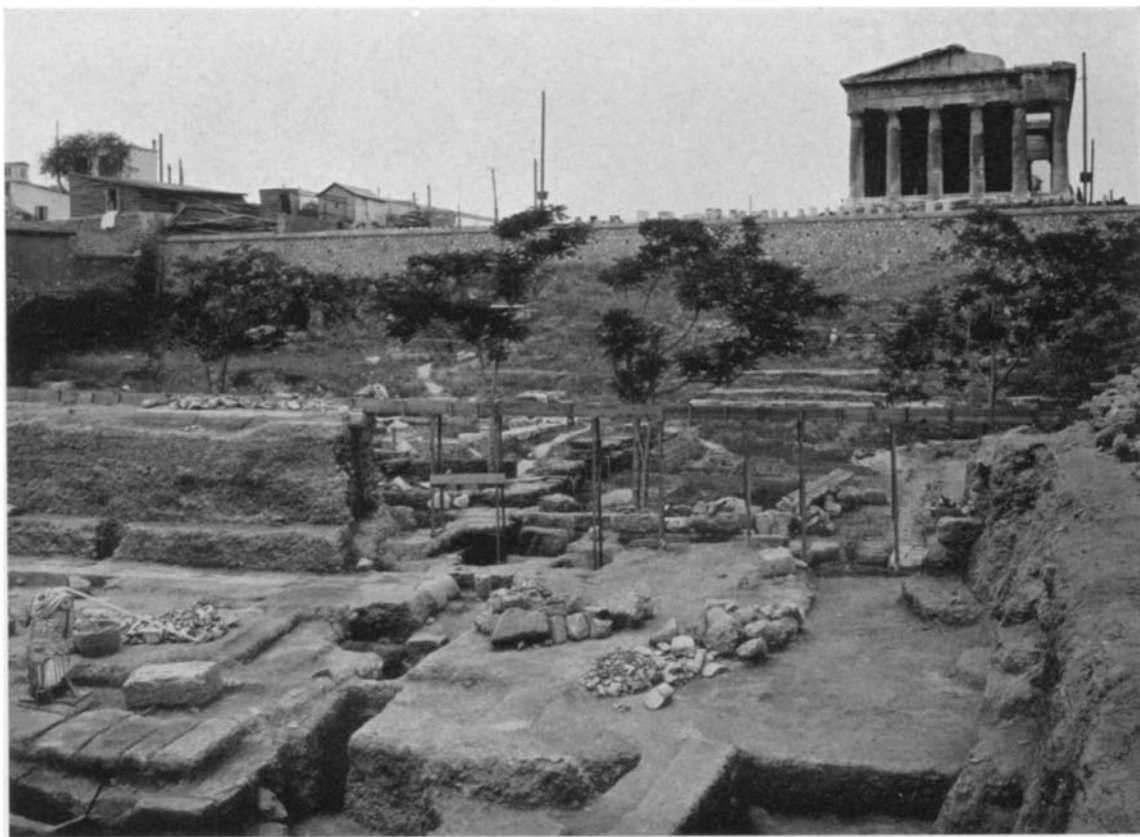


Fig. 11. View over Excavated Area from East

letters have been badly worn by the action of water, but with much painstaking effort the essential contents have been deciphered by Professor Meritt and have proved to be of considerable historical importance. They will be published by him in the first number of *Hesperia* in 1934. The area around the marble altar was extensively cleared and just north of that building there was uncovered a statue of a woman clad in transparent garments, which is published in a later article in this number.

The two southern sectors of the year's excavation, one extending north and south on Eponymon Street, Delta, and the other east and west on Asteroskopeiou Street, Stigma (see the Plan in *Hesperia*, II, 1933, p. 99), furnished the surprise of the season.

It was confidently expected that the ancient street which had appeared in Sector Epsilon would be picked up in one or other of these areas, and that in them some of the public buildings mentioned by Pausanias would be uncovered. But the results have shown that no public buildings were located here, for the slight house foundations existing must have belonged to private houses or to shops, which lay on the outskirts of the Agora and behind the sites of the large public buildings. It is clear that the



Fig. 12. Inscribed Stelae in place over Water-channel

ancient street must turn before it reached the area of these southern sections. The disappointment which was at first caused by the absence of public monuments was subsequently more than compensated by the discovery of Geometric burials with undisturbed contents, and by the finding of a great quantity of vases and of small objects belonging to the Greek and to the Hellenistic periods.

A view of the south end of Eponymon Street is given in Figure 13, which shows, on the right, the houses which were demolished in preparation for the excavation of Sector Delta. The large house in the centre was in good repair and at its valuation of \$ 6,500 is one of the most expensive which has so far been purchased in the archaeological area. A house of this size has the disadvantage from the excavator's point of view of having a deep cellar and usually more than one cesspool. As the deposit of accumulated

earth in this area proved to be shallow, only from 1.50 to 2 metres, the cellars of some of the houses extended down to bedrock. Figure 14 shows the area after excavation. The ground is seen to be pock-marked with shafts of wells and of cesspools which are often lying side by side. In the absence of a main sewer system in this part of the



Fig. 13. South End of Eponymon Street

city the houses have cesspools beneath them, which in some cases have not been cleaned out for many years. It is a disagreeable but necessary task to remove this filth and dig out the shaft to its bottom. A few of the wells have been in use in modern times, but others were filled up with earth and débris at various periods of antiquity. It is in such wells that many important and interesting objects have been found. A characteristic type of well is about one metre in diameter and is lined with superimposed series of three large curved terracotta tiles. One well went down to a depth of

23 m. and from top to bottom was filled with a deposit dating from the fifth to the third century B.C. A well at the south end, in which had been thrown the pieces of the statue of the marble Faun, which will be discussed in a later article, went out of use and was filled up in the latter part of the fourth century A.D., as is proved by the coins, pottery and terracottas in the deposit. The type of late Roman terracottas there found is illustrated by the crude figures of chickens and a dog shown in Figure 15.



Fig. 14. Section Delta after Excavation

The well in this area which yielded the most important objects was of an early date. Two wells, in fact, close together had been cut through the bedrock to a depth of 13 m. but before they had been long in use the wall between them apparently collapsed and they were abandoned. The objects found in them in great quantity all date from the second half of the sixth century B.C. There are many vases of numerous shapes, including some fine black-figured pieces, and early terracotta lamps and some interesting figurines. One of the figurines is selected to illustrate the deposit (Fig. 16). This is the head and bust of a veiled woman of characteristic archaic type. The hair, which is painted red, is arranged in curls on the forehead and hangs down in long strands on either side of the neck. The lips and the pupils of the eyes are red but the outlines of the eyes and

the eyebrows are painted black. A necklace is indicated by two black bands across the throat. A break at the back proves that the head was affixed to some object and it has been plausibly suggested that this was the decorative end of an epinetron or onos.

No remains of foundation walls exist in this area, nor are there any cuttings in the hard-pan whence blocks might have been removed. It is improbable that any large buildings ever stood here. The multiplicity of ancient wells points rather to the presence of a residential area. Furthermore, undisturbed deposits from the Geometric and the early Attic periods exist in many places just above the hard-pan. Any building of



Fig. 15. Terracotta Figures. Roman Period

considerable size would have required deeper foundations than could ever have been constructed here.

Among the early Attic remains from this area two vases, which date from the early part of the sixth century, are especially important. One is a large amphora which is decorated on each side with the head of a horse. The second is a *deinos* of characteristic shape with a rounded bottom which was made to be set on a stand or tripod (Fig. 17). It is covered with decorative scenes arranged in three horizontal bands, of which the upper has a series of palmettes and lotuses with groups of small figures between them. In the central band scenes are portrayed with figures on a larger scale, the main group representing the Calydonian boar hunt.

The story of Atalante and the boar hunt is frequently told in classical literature and is a popular subject in ancient art. It appears on the François vase in Florence and as on that vase the actors here have their names painted beside them in early Attic letters. The great boar, which occupies the centre of the picture, has thrown down and slain a man named Pegaïos. This name is perfectly clear on the vase but it is not otherwise known in the literary and artistic tradition of this legend. In front of the boar is Meleager who is thrusting a spear into the animal's mouth, and behind him



stands Atalante, who is followed by a man, only the first letter of whose name, P, is preserved. This is undoubtedly Peleus who is traditionally represented as playing an aggressive rôle in the combat. The boar is attacked from behind by a dog which has leaped against its haunches. Then comes a man named Geron, another new character in this myth, who is running up with a poised spear, and finally Akastos approaches holding a dog by the leash with the left hand and ready to hurl a stone with the right. The



Fig. 16. Archaic Terracotta Bust

lowest band of the vase is decorated with groups of animals of orientalizing type, a boar between two sirens and a bull between two lions. This important example of Attic black-figured ware is particularly interesting because of the new elements in the mythological scene.

The most southern sector of the excavations, Stigma, which lies at the base of the north slope of the Areopagus, was cleared under the supervision of Miss Burr. Here, as in Delta, the deposit of earth was slight and the cellars of some of the modern houses extended almost down to bedrock. In the absence of heavy foundations public buildings probably did not exist here, but there are considerable remains of a Roman house, with arrangements for its hot bath, in the eastern part of the area. Sections of Greek walls are also preserved and stretches of a street or road of the Greek period. An elaborate system of underground drains and water-channels was uncovered, and many

wells and cisterns were cleared with profitable results. But in the midst of later cuttings for pipes and walls, spared by some mysterious chance, stood urn burials and unrifled graves of the early Geometric period. Topographically, therefore, this area was presumably outside the limits of the Geometric town, and in classical times it seems to have been behind the region occupied by the public monuments of the market place.

One of the most important discoveries in the section was a deposit of early votive terracotta objects which will be fully described in a later article by Miss Burr. The



Fig. 17. Deinos with the Calydonian Boar Hunt

Geometric burials are also of great interest. Two amphoras which were standing near each other give a characteristic picture of the type of interment. The hard-pan was cut in a round hole barely large enough to receive the vase which was placed in it. The body was partially burned near-by and the remnants of the charred bones were deposited in the vase. Its mouth was covered by a bowl and finally stones were packed about the top, and the area was entirely paved with a layer of small stones. It is a surprising phenomenon that these burials should have remained untouched in areas which have been thickly settled throughout the ages. The result is, of course, purely accidental and probably many graves, similar to those found, were destroyed in the course of the construction of modern house foundations.

One of the burial amphoras is illustrated in Figure 18. It has horizontal handles on the sides and is decorated on the shoulder with a series of seven concentric semi-circles,

at the centre of which are figures with the shape of the hour-glass. A triple wave-line is painted in dark brown on a broad buff band about the body, while above and below this are bands of black glossy paint of varying widths. These stylistic motives represent



Fig. 18. Proto-geometric Amphora

the survival of Mycenaean ornamentation, and their presence marks the vase as a product of the transitional period between the Mycenaean and the Geometric. This type of vase is, therefore, called proto-geometric and may be dated about 1000 B.C. The mouth of the amphora was stopped by a small bowl which fitted tightly in its neck. Similar burial practices from Geometric times have been reported at other sites and were commonly in vogue in the Geometric cemetery at Corinth. It is probable that

grain or other dry foodstuffs were deposited in the bowl. The amphora itself contained, in addition to the charred bones, two large brooches and two stick pins, all made of iron, a metal which was still rare in the Geometric age.

Besides the urns cist graves were also used for burials. One of these again illustrates the combined practice of cremation and inhumation. An oblong cutting in the hard-pan was made for the grave, in and about which were many traces of fire, while only pieces of the bones remained. It was presumably covered with a layer of small stones beneath



Fig. 19. Geometric Pyxis

which the vases were placed; and part of its north wall was built of stones necessitated by the slope of the rock. Among the ten vases in the grave were three pyxides or toilet-boxes, one of which is shown in Figure 19. By analogy with the graves at Corinth the presence of the pyxides would mark this as the grave of a woman, and in some of the Corinthian graves the boxes still contained cubes of carbonate of lead which were used as cosmetics by the women.

Besides the archaic terracottas from the votive deposit many other terracotta objects and moulds for figurines were found in this area. One of the finest pieces is the statuette of a seated woman whose ample himation is arranged in folds which are similar to those on the seated female figures from the east pediment of the Parthenon. The figure may represent the Mother of the Gods whose cult-statue in the Metroon was

made by Pheidias. Another terracotta which has affiliations of style with the sculpture of the Parthenon is the plaque shown in Figure 20. This is an ancient trial cast in terracotta made from a mould, and is a complete unit in itself. The mould was intended to be used for a cast in bronze or silver, but before the cast in precious metal was made the mould was tested with the cheaper material. The scene is a combat between two youths. The one on horseback is of slight build and approximates the size of



Fig. 20. Terracotta Plaque

Amazons who are represented in scenes similar to this on fourth century reliefs. The modelling of the bodies, the treatment of the drapery, the symmetry of the pose of the group, the restrained suggestion of violent action, and the type and pose of the horse are characteristics which mark this as a work of the latter part of the fifth or of the early part of the fourth century B.C.

In the series of terracottas secured in the season's campaign one can follow the development of this art from its primitive stage in the eighth century B.C. to the period of its highest and finest expression in the fifth and fourth centuries, and then trace its gradual decline until in the fourth century A.D. it has reverted to as crude and primitive a state as it exhibited 1200 years earlier.

The excavation of the eastern part of Sector Stigma was directed by Dr. Thompson. Some exploratory digging had been done here in 1897 by Dörpfeld, in the course of which he uncovered part of a Roman house (*Ath. Mitt.*, XXII, 1897, p. 478). The house proves to consist of several rooms, one of which is a hypocaust. The furnace for the heating system lies at the back of the building where it was built against the scarp of the cliff on the south. The rooms are in a poor state of preservation but two building



Fig. 21. Attic Black-figured Skyphos

periods can be discerned. The house appears to have been destroyed at the close of the fourth century A.D.

The presence of the house confirms the evidence of the many wells and cisterns in support of the view that this was a residential district, and, again, the objects from the wells have proved to be of great intrinsic interest and of much chronological value. A large pithos yielded a quantity of objects of the Hellenistic period, including lamps, Megarian bowls, other pottery and some terracottas which are approximately uniform in date, and the date itself is verified by the presence of several coins of Athens which are placed in the first half of the third century B.C. A deposit of earlier date was found in a well which extended to a depth of 9.50 m. Practically all the vases, which date from the sixth century B.C. were lying in the lowest metre of the deposit. Several of the pieces are important specimens of early Attic pottery. A black-figured skyphos

with an interesting scene is illustrated in Figure 21. The space on either side of the vase is occupied by a group consisting of a youth riding an hippalektryon between two draped standing women who are facing the rider. The youth is reining in his animal who is prancing with its equine forelegs while the woman in front is gazing with astonishment at the spectacle. Purple color is used on parts of the figures and traces



Fig. 22. Lead Weight

of white are also preserved. Beneath the handles there is a goose on one side and a cock on the other.

The excavations have produced many classes of objects in large numbers. The lamps are becoming so increasingly numerous that it will be presently possible to illustrate graphically the entire development of the lamp-making industry in Athens from the earliest to the latest times. The many bronze and silver coins not only reveal the sequence of Athenian issues but they also throw light on the foreign commercial relations of the city in their many ramifications. The inscribed documents furnish historical and chronological information of inestimable value. Quite appropriately the Agora has also yielded a series of official weights, seven of lead and four of marble. The largest lead weight, which has the head of Athena in the centre and is stamped with the letters

ΔΕΜΟ, weighs 1790 grammes (Fig. 22). Two of the marble pieces weigh the same and the third but slightly less. Another lead unit weighs 440 grammes. Previous investigators have determined the weight of the Solonian mina at from 440 to 400 grammes. The weight just mentioned, therefore, would be one mina and the others would be approximately four minae. Another lead which is stamped with the amphora weighs 320 gr., or about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mina, and still another gives a weight of 225 gr., or about half a mina. Four of the weights were found in a well which contained nothing later than the third century B.C., and they should, consequently, conform to the Solonian standard, but

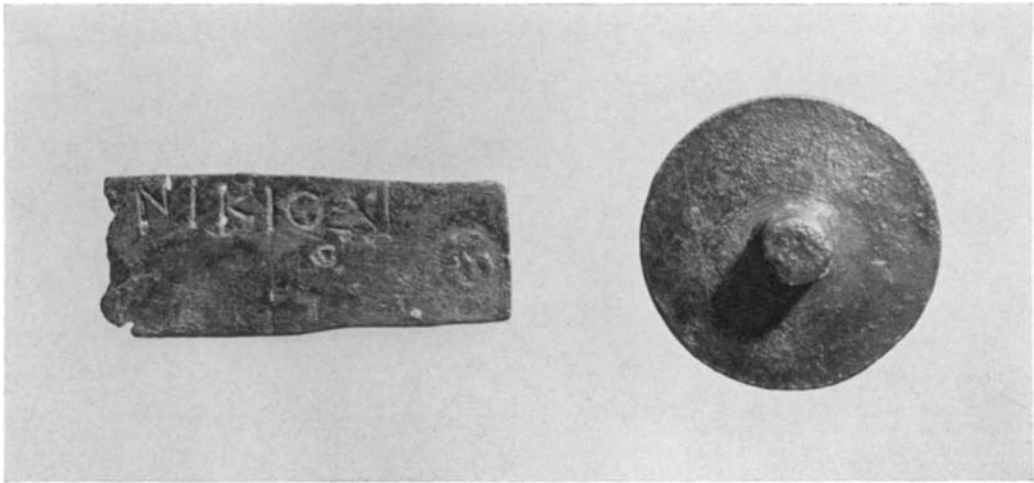


Fig. 23. Dicast's Ticket and Ballot

accuracy of official weights was evidently not considered essential for trading in the markets of Athens.

One small group of objects is of interest as illustrating the judicial system of the Athenians. These are the bronze tickets and ballots used by the dicasts or jurors in the performance of their duties in the law courts. One of the tickets, which belonged to a man named Nikion, is shown on the left of the picture in Figure 23. On the right of the picture is a bronze ballot which the juror used for registering his decision. Since this example has a solid hub it served as a vote for acquittal. These bronzes date from the fourth century B.C. and are contemporaneous with Aristotle's account of the system in his *Constitution of Athens*.

The various objects found in the excavations are being studied by members of the staff and they will be published in preliminary form in successive volumes of *Hesperia*.