

SAMOTHRACE: PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1962-1964

(PLATES 28-39)

IN 1962, after a brief interruption, the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University resumed the full-scale excavations of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods on Samothrace.¹ Work in the last three seasons has been directed toward two areas of the Sanctuary which had not yet been explored in the current excavations: the hill to the west and above the central core of the Sanctuary, where lie the remains of a large stoa, and the eastern border of the Sanctuary including the Propylon built by Ptolemy II (Fig. 1).²

Abbreviations:

- Guide* Karl Lehmann, *Samothrace. A Guide to the Excavations and the Museum*, New York, 1955.
- Guide*² *Idem*, 2d revised ed., Locust Valley, N. Y., 1960.
- S, I* A. Conze, A. Hauser, G. Niemann, *Archäologische Untersuchungen auf Samothrake*, Vienna, 1875.
- S, II* A. Conze, A. Hauser, O. Benndorf, *Neue archäologische Untersuchungen auf Samothrake*, Vienna, 1880.
- Salviat, "Addenda" François Salviat, "Addenda Samothraciens," *B.C.H.*, LXXXVI, 1962, pp. 268-304.
- Samothrace, 1* Naphtali Lewis, *Samothrace, 1, The Ancient Literary Sources*, New York, 1958.
- Samothrace, 2, I* P. M. Fraser, *Samothrace, 2, I, The Inscriptions on Stone*, New York, 1960.
- Samothrace, 2, II* Karl Lehmann, *Samothrace, 2, II, The Inscriptions on Ceramics and Minor Objects*, New York, 1960.
- Samothrace, 4, II* Karl Lehmann and Denys Spittle, *Samothrace, 4, II, The Altar Court*, New York, 1964.

¹ This report continues the series by the late Karl Lehmann, the last of which appeared in *Hesperia*, XXII, 1953, pp. 1-24. For work on Samothrace in the following years see Karl Lehmann, *Archaeology*, VI, 1953, pp. 30-35; VII, 1954, pp. 91-95; and Elsbeth B. Dusenbery, *Archaeology*, XII, 1959, pp. 163-170. For notices of more recent work on the site, including excavation connected with enlargement of the museum and further investigation of the Anaktoron see: *Archaeological Reports*, 1959-60, p. 17; 1961-62, p. 22; 1962-63, p. 28; *B.C.H.*, LXXXIV, 1960, p. 806; LXXXVI, 1962, pp. 844-845; LXXXVII, 1963, pp. 815-822; *Δελτίον*, XVI, 1960, pp. 231-235. For our current work in the South Nekropolis, which the present report will not include, see Mrs. Dusenbery's report in *Archaeology*, XVII, 1964, pp. 185-192.

² The Charles and Rosanna Batchelor Memorial continued to provide generous support for our work. Phyllis Williams Lehmann, Acting Director of the Archaeological Research Fund, Samothrace Excavations, headed the expedition. Andreas Vavritsas represented the Greek Archaeological Service. Excavation, under the supervision of the writer as Field Director, was carried out by a staff that has included Ellen N. Davis, Iris C. Love, Nancy Patterson, Mary Lee Thompson, Carol E. Ward, William Berg III, Samuel R. Peterson, and Philip Oliver-Smith, all students or former

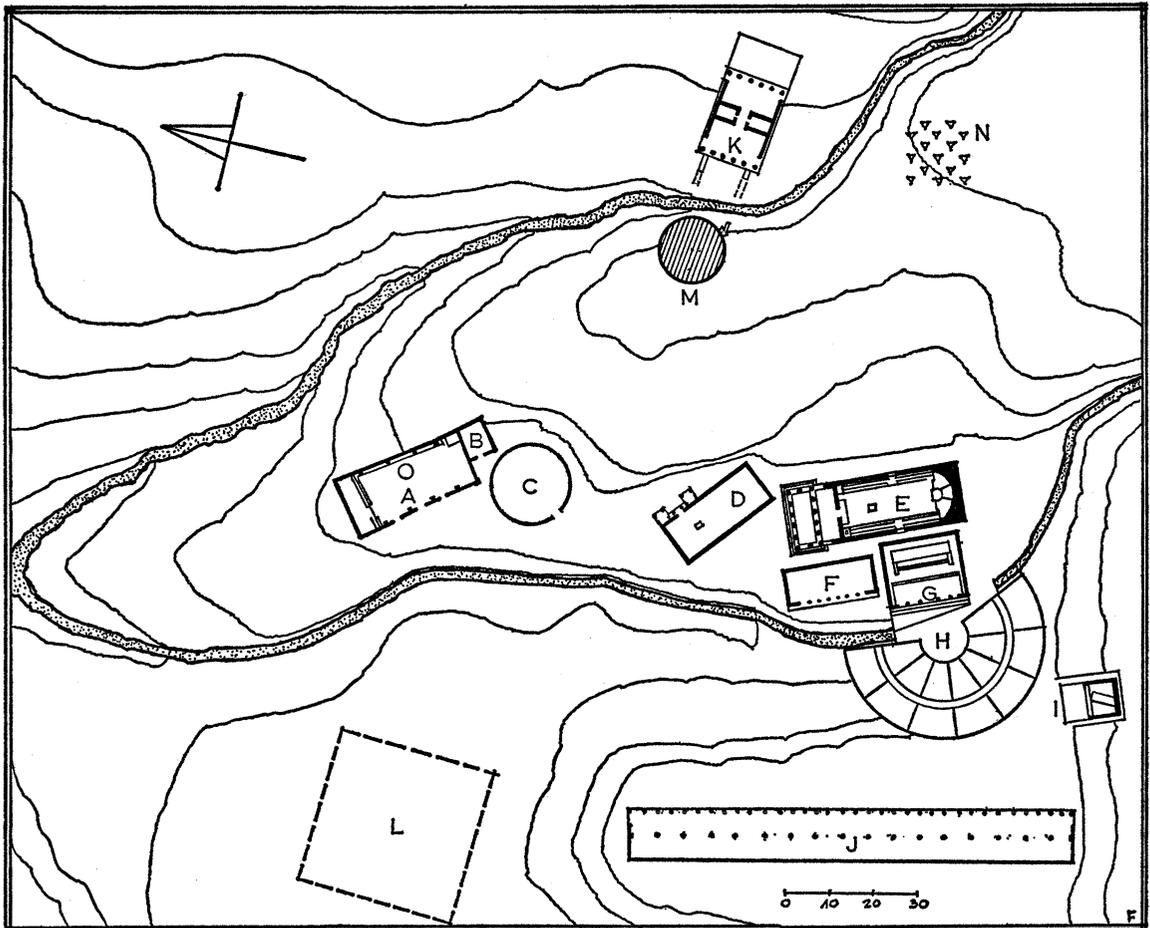


FIG. 1. Diagram of Sanctuary, showing relative location of buildings. A. Anaktoron. B. "Sacristy." C. Rotunda of Arsinoe. D. Temenos. E. Hieron. F. Hall of Votive Gifts. G. Altar Court. H. Theater. I. Nike Fountain. J. Stoa. K. Propylon of Ptolemy II. L. *Ruinenviereck*. M. Round Building. N. South Nekropolis.

THE STOA

Ancient remains on the Western Hill had been noted by the earliest explorers, and the presence of a large Doric building had long been recognized. The earliest

students of the Institute of Fine Arts or the American School of Classical Studies, in addition to the following architects: Stuart M. Shaw, Denys Spittle, Martin R. Jones, Raymond Liston, Nicholas D. Ohly, and Alfred K. Frazer. Joannah Clapton Wilmerding, Fredrica L. Wachsberger, and Susi R. Bloch have drawn profiles of pottery, and Marian Miles McCredie has assisted us in many ways. To all these co-workers, to the American School of Classical Studies and its Director Henry S. Robinson, to the staff of the Excavations in the Athenian Agora, and to visiting scholars who have shared their knowledge and observations, I owe a debt of gratitude. Special thanks are due to Mrs. Lehmann for reading a draft of this report and making many valuable suggestions.

Excavation was carried out between June 25 and August 4, 1962; from June 24 to August 3, 1963; and between June 22 and August 1, 1964.

investigators had attributed these ruins to the "Great Temple" of Samothrace, but excavation carried out by our Austrian predecessors in 1875 showed that this, the principal monument on the hill, was rather an enormous stoa (Fig. 1, J).³

The Austrian investigation of this building was limited to exposure of the top course of most of its foundation and excavation of a single trench laid across the building to ascertain whether interior divisions existed.⁴ By 1962, the foundation had again become almost completely covered with vegetation (Pl. 28, a), and it was necessary to re-expose those parts previously uncovered before undertaking thorough excavation and study of the building (Pl. 28, b).

By the end of the 1964 campaign, the building and its immediate periphery had been freed of fallen blocks.⁵ The interior of the Stoa and the immediate periphery have been excavated to a level slightly lower than the top of the foundation, and deeper soundings have been made in some parts of this area. A north-south trench on the center line of the building in its southern third was cut through virgin soil to bedrock, and, at the northern end of the Stoa, deep trenches have been made which extend from its western foundation, across the building, and eastward to the edge of the hill (Pl. 28, c).

The Stoa's foundations extend *ca.* 104 m. north-south and *ca.* 13.40 m. east-west,⁶ forming a long rectangle, the orientation of which, ten degrees west of north in its long axis,⁷ follows the long and relatively narrow Western Hill of the Sanctuary.

At the southern end of the building only one course of foundation (Pl. 29, a) was laid directly on virgin soil, but at the north as many as seventeen courses, rising to a height of 5.30 m., were required, and an enormous amount of fill was brought in to raise the ground level both inside and outside the building (Pl. 29, b). The configuration of the Western Hill was thus considerably altered during the building of the Stoa. Prior to that time, the hill had been smaller and sloped downward much more sharply to the north, east, and west.

³ For previous investigations see G. Deville and E. Coquart, *Archives des missions scientifiques*, IV, 1867, pp. 259-260, 272-273; *S, I*, pp. 86-87; *S, II*, pp. 5-8, 49-52; and Salviat, "Addenda," pp. 293-304.

⁴ The position of this trench, roughly indicated in *S, II*, pl. L (here Fig. 3), could be located with some accuracy because of disturbance caused by it in the line of euthynteria backers on both the east and west foundations and because of the relative absence of fallen blocks in this area. It lies *ca.* 62 m. to 67 m. south of the north foundation of the Stoa; there is no indication that it was carried deeper than the top course of the foundation.

⁵ 1451 poros blocks have been catalogued and arranged in near-by block-fields for study. A few blocks which lie further from the building remain to be recorded and removed to the block-fields.

⁶ Since the foundation blocks are somewhat roughly dressed on their outer edges, and since there has been some displacement due to earthquake, more accurate measurements are meaningless. The dimensions given in *S, II*, p. 49; *Guide*, p. 71; *Guide*², p. 74; and Salviat, "Addenda," p. 294 should be corrected.

⁷ Uncorrected magnetic reading taken July 25, 1962.

The foundations are completely preserved with the exceptions of a few missing blocks of the top course near the center of the east side and of the northern end, where as many as six courses have been pillaged. The character of the upper courses is uniform. Each course consists of two files of irregular poros blocks which form the two faces of the foundation. The top and bottom surfaces of these blocks are carefully dressed, and their outer faces are roughly worked; the joints between blocks, however, were carelessly made, and the inner edges were left rough, with the result that irregular gaps remained between the opposing blocks of the inner and outer faces of the foundation. These gaps were filled with whatever material was available: mostly small pieces of poros, but occasionally fieldstones and earth.⁸ The euthynteria was dowelled to the foundation, but the blocks of the foundation themselves are in general neither clamped nor dowelled.⁹

Although the upper courses of the foundation are uniformly of poros, the lower portion of the deep foundations in the northern part of the building has an entirely different character. There the upper courses of poros blocks are laid on a lower section of the local green fieldstone, laid in a rough polygonal (or rubble) scheme. In the western foundation, near its north end, thirteen courses of poros overlay the boulder sub-foundation, while on the east, where a somewhat shallower foundation was necessary, only six courses of poros were used; it would appear that, in this part of the building at least, the procedure consisted in laying a sub-foundation of boulders *ca.* 1.50 m. high on which the poros foundation was then built to the required height (Pl. 29, d).¹⁰ The resultant high foundation, necessary because of the low level of the original ground level at the north end of the building, was completely buried by the fill brought in to raise this part of the hill, and its inconsistent technique was, therefore, not visible.

Our excavation of the southern part of the Stoa's interior confirmed the absence

⁸ The Austrian plan, *S, II*, pl. L (here Fig. 3), does not show the irregularities of the foundation, and is, therefore, schematic.

⁹ Two sets of dowel cuttings appear in the outer top row of foundation blocks, one with pour channels leading to the outer edges of the blocks, one without such channels. The backers of the euthynteria course were not dowelled to the foundation. Dowel and clamp cuttings occur on foundation blocks at the northwest corner in the seventh course below the top; these blocks seem, however, to differ from the rest in quality of stone and workmanship, and they may well be re-used here from another structure.

In some places a line can be detected between the flat surface on which the euthynteria was laid and the less regularly worked portion of the foundation which protruded beyond the line of the euthynteria; whether this constituted an actual setting line is not certain.

¹⁰ Tests at various points along the west foundation show that the increase in the depth of the foundation from south to north is general and that the use of a sub-foundation of boulders was confined to the deeper foundations at the north. Additional data: at 70 m. south of the north foundation, there are two courses of poros laid on virgin soil; at 46 m. south, three courses of poros on *ca.* 1 m. of boulder sub-foundation; and at 36 m. south, seven courses of poros on *ca.* 0.50 m. of boulder sub-foundation.

of dividing walls reported by our Austrian predecessors,¹¹ and there is nowhere any evidence that the building was subdivided into rooms. In the northern part of the building, however, remains have been found that prove the existence of an interior colonnade. Seven roughly circular sub-foundations appeared, lying on the central long axis of the building, some 0.25-0.40 m. below the level of the top surface of the outer foundations, and spaced about 6.00 m. apart, center to center (Pls. 29, c; 30, a). They are simply collections of green fieldstone boulders resting on the artificial fill brought in to raise the level of the hill in this northern part of the Stoa (Pl. 30, b). Their position, however, along its central axis, and their spacing, twice the interaxial spacing of the colonnade of the façade,¹² surely imply that they are to be connected with an interior colonnade. These sub-foundations would have supported actual cut-stone foundations for the Ionic columns (see below) of this colonnade; the construction is not unlike that of the exterior foundations, where cut poros rests on rough fieldstone. These sub-foundations supported the seven northernmost columns of the interior colonnade. No trace of sub-foundations appeared for the remaining nine columns to the south; but there, where the level of the virgin soil was high and little fill was brought in by the builders of the Stoa, sub-foundations were not necessary, and the cut-stone foundations of these columns could be laid directly on virgin soil. Like those of the northern columns, the cut-stone foundations of the southern columns have been thoroughly pillaged, and no block remains in place; because these southern columns lacked sub-foundations, there now remains no direct evidence of their location.¹³

Above the foundations, little of the building remains *in situ*. Along the eastern and western sides a few blocks of the euthynteria backers lie on the foundation, but the euthynteria itself and the toichobate-stylobate are preserved only along the south side and the southern end of the west side. The euthynteria and its row of backers are much more carefully dressed than the foundation, having vertical faces and regular joints. The two rows of blocks do not, however, have corresponding joints. The toichobate is normally composed of single blocks the width of the wall. Upon them rested the first course of wall blocks, none of which is now *in situ*, although

¹¹ *S*, II, p. 49.

¹² The interaxial spacing of this colonnade, 3.00 m., is derived from one complete epistyle backer and confirmed by the system of the frieze (see below). The sub-foundations would accommodate a colonnade with an interaxial spacing of 6.00 m., though, because of their very rough construction, it is impossible to derive the interaxial spacing from them alone with centimeter accuracy.

¹³ The absence of any trace of the central colonnade in the southern half of the building led us to the erroneous conclusion, when only that part of it had been excavated, that no interior colonnade had ever existed. *A.J.A.*, LXVII, 1963, p. 214, should be corrected in this respect, as should *Archaeological Reports*, 1962-63, p. 28, and *B.C.H.*, LXXXVII, 1963, p. 817. The existence of such an interior colonnade was suggested in Salviat, "Addenda," pp. 299-300. The suggestion that the Ionic order, which is now seen to belong to an interior colonnade, might have belonged to a second story of the Stoa should be corrected in *Guide*, p. 71 and *Guide*², p. 74.

one block, preserving the projection of an engaged corner pilaster, can be restored to its original position at the southwest corner because of corresponding dowel cuttings.

The Stoa had only one step,¹⁴ and the floor level must have been near the level of the top of the toichobate-stylobate course. The rough dressing of the inner faces of the blocks of this course, as well as the absence of any trace of foundation for paving, makes it certain that the floor was not of stone, but whether the softer material of the floor was plaster or stamped earth has not yet been determined.

No part of the Stoa above the level of the toichobate was found in position, but an enormous number of blocks from the superstructure has been recovered, and among these blocks almost every element of the building is represented. Except for the terracotta sima of the long sides, the tiles, and the woodwork of the roof, the whole building was of poros, the visible parts of which were stuccoed. The fact that most of the Doric column drums, capitals, and entablature blocks were found along the eastern side of the building makes it certain that the Doric exterior colonnade was limited to this side, and that the long eastern side of the Stoa, which overlooked the Sanctuary, was its façade. This outer colonnade had thirty-five columns, with slightly larger columns at each corner.¹⁵

The Doric column drums are of two types. Most drums, those with smaller diameters, are fully fluted and have twenty flutes, but the largest drums have only eleven fully-cut flutes, the remaining nine being left as flat facets. It seems, therefore, that although the front of the entire column was fluted, the lower part of the back of the shaft was left unfluted, possibly to avoid damage.

The entablature consisted of a normal Doric epistyle, frieze, and geison. The epistyle was constructed of two rows of blocks, the outer with taenia, regulae, and guttae, the inner with a simple fascia along its upper edge. One fully preserved block from this inner row retains its complete length of 3.00 m.; this length, together with the spacing of the regulae, triglyphs, and mutules, indicates that the normal interaxial spacing of the façade was 3.00 m., with a resultant three-triglyph system.¹⁶ No backer for the frieze has yet been identified, and there are no clamp cuttings at the back of the frieze blocks for attachment of a backer. There are, however, dowel cuttings in the

¹⁴ The toichobate is partly preserved (see above), and the stylobate must have been at the same level, since a second step would make the stylobate too narrow for the extant lowest drums of the colonnade.

¹⁵ The existence of a Doric bottom drum of slightly greater diameter than normal and with its dowels arranged perpendicular to the normal system implies such a corner column. The restored plan of Salviat, "Addenda," pp. 299-300 and p. 301, fig. 29, should thus be corrected. The restored plans indicated on sketch plans in *Guide*, *Guide*², and *Samothrace*, 4, II, p. 137, fig. 117, are also erroneous.

¹⁶ Salviat, "Addenda," pp. 295-298, showed that the façade had a three-triglyph system rather than the two-triglyph system restored in the Austrian publication, *S, I*, pl. LXVIII. The restored plan indicated on the sketch plans in *Guide* and *Guide*² was based on the Austrian restoration and is also erroneous.

top of the epistyle-backers, and a shorter course, on which roof beams would have rested, should probably be restored there.¹⁷

The geison has a sloping upper surface and preserves, at the rear, two sets of cuttings for the timbers of the roof: a series of longer cuttings in the bottom of the blocks received the cross beams, while shorter cuttings in the top of the blocks housed the rafters. Two groups of geison blocks which can be reassembled show that the beam spacing, *ca.* 3.00 m. center to center, corresponded to the spacing of the colonnades.

Although the epistyle and frieze may have been carried along the short ends of the building, they were apparently not continued along the back. No epistyle or frieze blocks have been found in fallen position to the west of the Stoa; on the other hand, plain wall-blocks of heights corresponding to these courses have been recovered. The rear geison, of which many blocks and fragments have been found, has crown and soffit mouldings similar to those of the front geison but lacks mutules, having rather a plain horizontal soffit.

The ends of the Stoa were formed by walls which terminated in antae behind the corner columns of the façade and in engaged pilasters at the rear corners; the back wall of the building was plain except for the engaged pilaster at each corner.¹⁸ The existence of doorways on the long rear side seems likely, and a possible threshold block has been identified; but their location is problematical.

Drums of Ionic columns and half-columns, fragments of Ionic capitals, and what appears to be a badly damaged Ionic base have been recovered; these members belong to the Stoa's central colonnade, sub-foundations for which have been noted above, and to the half-columns attached to each end wall, in which the colonnade terminated.¹⁹ The absence of any fragment of an Ionic epistyle suggests that this member was of wood, and this material seems more suitable than poros for a span of six meters.

The mouldings of the Stoa are well represented among the many blocks of the superstructure now collected. Considerable variation in both profile and dimensions is present, though irregularity may have been somewhat reduced by the white stucco coating, which, when preserved, is often quite thick. An important fact which now emerges from this evidence is that the geison crown (Fig. 2) is of a different type

¹⁷ Courses above the foundation were generally dowelled to one another, and the blocks of each course were joined by hook clamps. Where there were two files of blocks in a course, the opposing blocks were not clamped together, except in the epistyle. Drums of the Doric colonnade were joined by three dowels arranged in a line parallel to the façade. There seem to be many irregularities in the placement of dowels and clamps, and the details of the system remain to be studied.

¹⁸ The existence of rear pilasters was not recognized in earlier studies. The reconstruction of an anta in Salviat, "Addenda," pp. 298-299, and fig. 28, apparently utilizes blocks which actually belong to a rear pilaster. Several blocks belonging to the anta have now also been recovered.

¹⁹ Three drums of the southern half-column are preserved. They are literally half drums and were not bonded into the southern wall but rather clamped to it at the top of each drum.

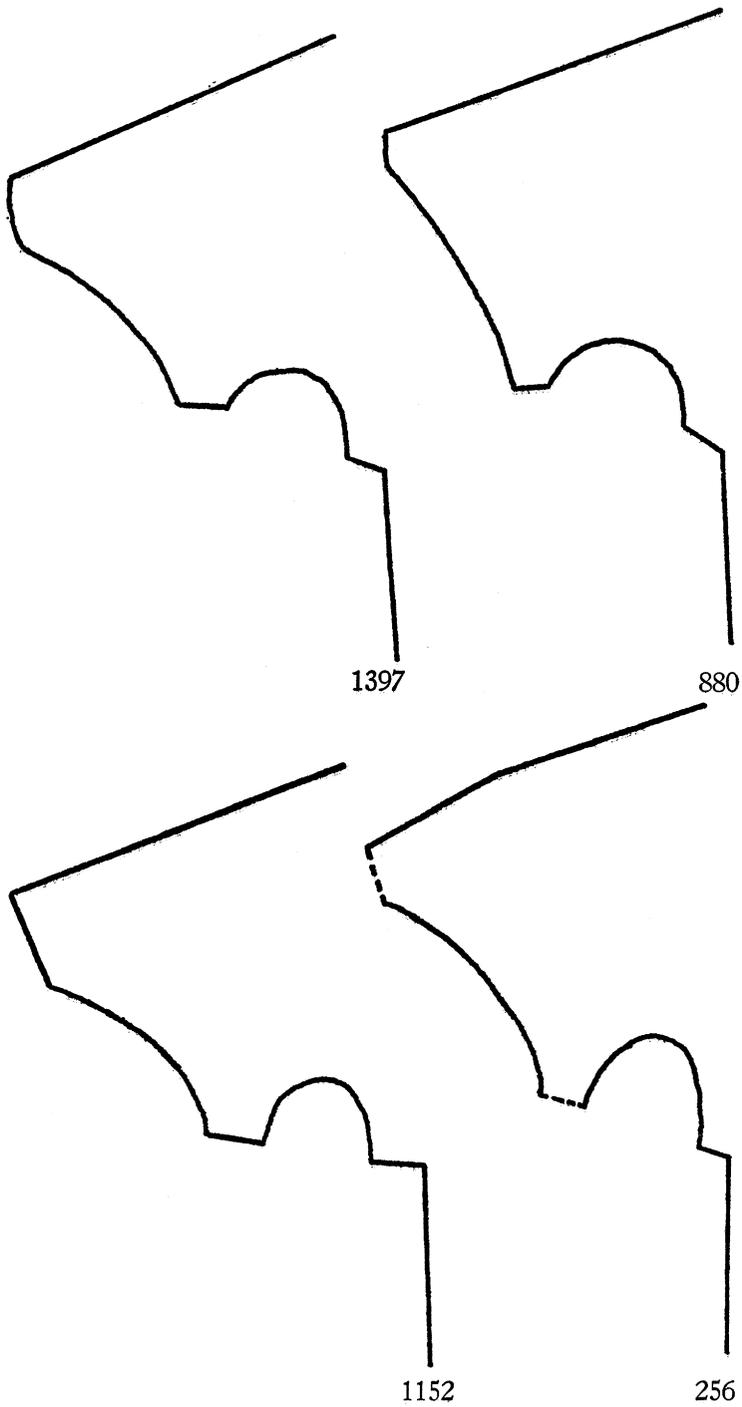


FIG. 2. Geison Crowns from Front (1397, 880) and Back (1152, 256) of Stoa.

from that indicated in previous publications. Many examples show it to be a cyma-reversa hawksbeak with a receding corona, rather than the ovolo hawksbeak shown in the Austrian publication.²⁰ The geison soffit had a cyma reversa with a projecting fillet above and a receding fillet below.

Except for the poros raking sima, which was made in the same block as the raking geison and bore no carved decoration, the entire roof of the Stoa was of terracotta. The sima consisted of a lion's-head spout flanked by rinceaux with only two volutes (Pl. 30, c)²¹ instead of the three characteristic of other Samothracian buildings. Both the lion's head and the rinceaux were cast separately and later applied to the sima-stroter, the face of which was prepared by rough scratching to receive its decoration. Six sima blocks correspond to one intercolumniation; hence a lion's head would have appeared above each triglyph and each metope. Since few pieces of the sima preserve their original length, however, it is impossible to determine whether this relationship was scrupulously maintained. The antefix, attached to an angular Corinthian kalypter, has long been known (Pl. 30, d). It, too, differs from Samothracian precedents in design.²² Two stalks grow from a three-leafed acanthus base, each sprouting a single and a double tendril; upon the single tendril is supported a palmette of nine upward-curving petals; a small flower dangles from the center of the palmette, and two larger flowers fill the side spaces. The antefix had no plinth.

Although the lowest row of stroters and kalypters was Corinthian, the majority of tiles recovered in and around the Stoa consisted of simple Laconian tiles, both stroters and kalypters, and pieces which would serve to form a transition between the angular Corinthian and rounded Laconian systems have been found. It seems, therefore, that above the lowest row of tiles, the common Laconian system was used. No ridge kalypters have been surely identified, nor has any fragment of a ridge antefix appeared.

One of the most interesting features of the Stoa that has emerged from the current excavations is its interior wall decoration. Along the inner side of the west and south foundations,²³ a strip of earth, averaging 1.50 m. in width, was found to contain masses of fragmentary wall stucco in a layer extending from just below the

²⁰ The error (see *S, I*, pl. LXVIII; *S, II*, pls. LVI, LVII) may have occurred because the geison blocks which were drawn had lost this most fragile part of the block; the profile was probably restored after that of the Hieron. Arguments as to the date of the Stoa based on a comparison of the profiles of the geison crowns of these buildings were natural, but are clearly erroneous, since they are based on faulty evidence as well as an incorrect date for the Hieron (e.g. Salviat, "Addenda," p. 304).

²¹ In the example illustrated the lion's jaw and the bottom of the sima are restored in plaster after other fragments.

²² For the Samothracian tradition see *Samothrace*, 4, II, pp. 86-99; for the Stoa antefix, *ibid.*, p. 98, fig. 98.

²³ At the north end of the building the fill has washed out because of the destruction of the upper courses of the foundation, and no observation can be made there.

top of the toichobate to a level about 0.65 m. below it. Three colors have appeared, white, red, and bluish gray, white being the most common and bluish gray the least.²⁴ Many fragments have raised panels, reflecting a system of wall decoration which imitated masonry with drafted margins,²⁵ and other fragments preserve portions of mouldings (Pl. 31, b). The most unusual feature of this wall stucco is the fact that many of the fragments are inscribed (Pl. 31, c). Letters have been found only on red stucco, and there they occur both on the raised panels and on the drafted areas between panels. The care with which the letters were made varies considerably, as do the letter-forms themselves. Some are very precisely and regularly shaped; others were roughly scratched on the wall. Letters varying in size from 0.007 m. to 0.029 m. or more in height are represented, and they clearly belong to a large number of inscriptions.

In spite of our care in excavating and cleaning these fragments, a disappointingly small number of joins has been found among them, and no intelligible text has been reconstructed. In fact, the only surely recognizable word comes from one fragment which preserves the letters ΒΑCΙΑΕ at the top of a raised panel²⁶ (Pl. 31, c, upper left). The word does not offer decisive evidence for the class of inscription to which it belonged, and whether the "king" was a Hellenistic monarch or a Samothracian official is as yet uncertain.²⁷

Still another problem is raised by the provenance of these fragments of stucco. Except for a few stray pieces, they have appeared only in the strip along the foundations (as noted above). Although it is not surprising that wall decoration should be found along those foundations which supported walls, it is remarkable that it occupies such a consistent width and such a great depth, extending far below the ancient floor level. Both these facts can, however, be explained if the stucco was intentionally deposited beneath the floor level during a major repair to the Stoa—for example,

²⁴ The bluish gray stucco is generally badly preserved and lacking a smooth surface. It is likely that it represents another color (presumably black) which has disintegrated, but it is possible that it is only a sub-surface layer.

²⁵ The system of wall decoration has not yet been worked out. It probably resembled that of the Hieron where drafted-margin masonry was imitated in black, red, and white stucco and mouldings were added in white stucco. See P. W. Lehmann and M. R. Jones, *Samothrace*, 3, *The Hieron* (forthcoming).

²⁶ 62.445. P. L. 0.065 m., Th. (of raised panel) 0.027 m., H. of *alpha* 0.015 m. Letters well made; strokes appear red, like the surface of the wall. Traces of a second line of letters visible at lower edge of fragment. Provenance: 77.58 m. south of inner line of north foundation, 0.20 m. east of west foundation, and 0.15 m. below its top surface.

²⁷ The βασιλεύς is well known as the eponymous official on Samothrace (see *Samothrace*, 2, I, nos. 6, 22, 32, and *passim*). The fact that the word occurs at the top of a panel, and thus probably in the first line of the inscription, suggests that it could be restored [ἐπι] βασιλέ[ως τοῦ δέινος], but by no means confirms such a restoration. Lists of theoroi and of initiates are regularly dated by the eponymous βασιλεύς, and this seems, at present, the best suggestion for the class to which the Stoa inscriptions belong.

replastering of its walls and renovation of its floor—which necessitated digging into the floor along the foundations. If this is the case, the fragments represent an early stage in the decoration of the Stoa's walls rather than the final stage. Unfortunately, no distinctive sherds or other datable material, which would help to place such a repair, have yet been recognized among the few objects associated with the stucco.²⁸

The great Stoa, of which some of the more important or newly discovered features have been outlined above, and of which a detailed reconstruction will be possible on the basis of its newly studied remains, became an important part of the Sanctuary when it was built in the late third century or early second century B.C.²⁹ (Pl. 31, a). In spite of the apparent fact that it was not a cult building, and in spite of its indifferent construction when compared with the great marble buildings near by, it must have been one of the most notable structures of the Sanctuary. It is by far the largest of its buildings, more than twice as long as the Hieron, and ranks among the largest stoas of Greece. From its location atop the Western Hill, it loomed conspicuously above the Sanctuary and provided for the complex of older cult buildings a defined architectural setting, as it provided shelter for the increasingly numerous visitors to the Sanctuary in the Hellenistic age.

The Austrian investigations showed that a number of foundations stood before the eastern façade of the Stoa, and that some, at least, supported the marble bases of statues or monuments.³⁰ Our excavation of the whole eastern periphery has re-exposed some of these foundations and added others. They are here described with reference to the Austrian plan (Fig. 3). The group of foundations (C, D, E) near the center of the Stoa remain in much the same condition shown by our predecessors; some confusion crept into their plan at this point, however, and the order and orientation of the bases is incorrectly shown; their present state is illustrated on Plate 32, a.³¹

²⁸ It seems likely that inscriptions in stucco would be more closely related in style to inscriptions on ceramics than to inscriptions on stone. If this is the case, the occurrence of lunar epsilon, sigma, and omega in the Stoa inscriptions need not point to a late date for them, since lunar epsilon occurs as early as the fourth century B.C. and the other two forms may occur in the third century B.C. See *Samothrace*, 2, II, pp. 41-42 and note 10.

²⁹ Preliminary consideration of the building's architectural elements and of the pottery from its fill suggests that it was built between the middle of the third and the middle of the second centuries B.C. A more precise date must await further study of all the material.

³⁰ *S*, II, p. 51, pls. L, LI, LIII, LIX.

³¹ The individual blocks, too, differ from those represented in the drawing. Foundation D, a rectangular platform of poros blocks, extends from 42.50 m. to 45.50 m. south of the inner line of the Stoa's north foundation and from 0.30 m. to 3.52 m. east of its east foundation. Foundation E forms three sides of a rectangle (2.10 m. by 1.70 m.) with its open end abutting the Stoa foundation between 46.15 m. and 48.25 m. south of the same reference line; the edge of the Stoa foundation is here dressed down slightly to make it flush with foundation E. Foundation E is erroneously shown on *S*, II, pl. L (here Fig. 3) as lying north of D oriented with its open side to the north. Foundation C also forms three sides of a rectangle and has its open side to the north as shown on the Austrian plan; it lies between 49.25 m. and 51.70 m. south of the same reference line and extends

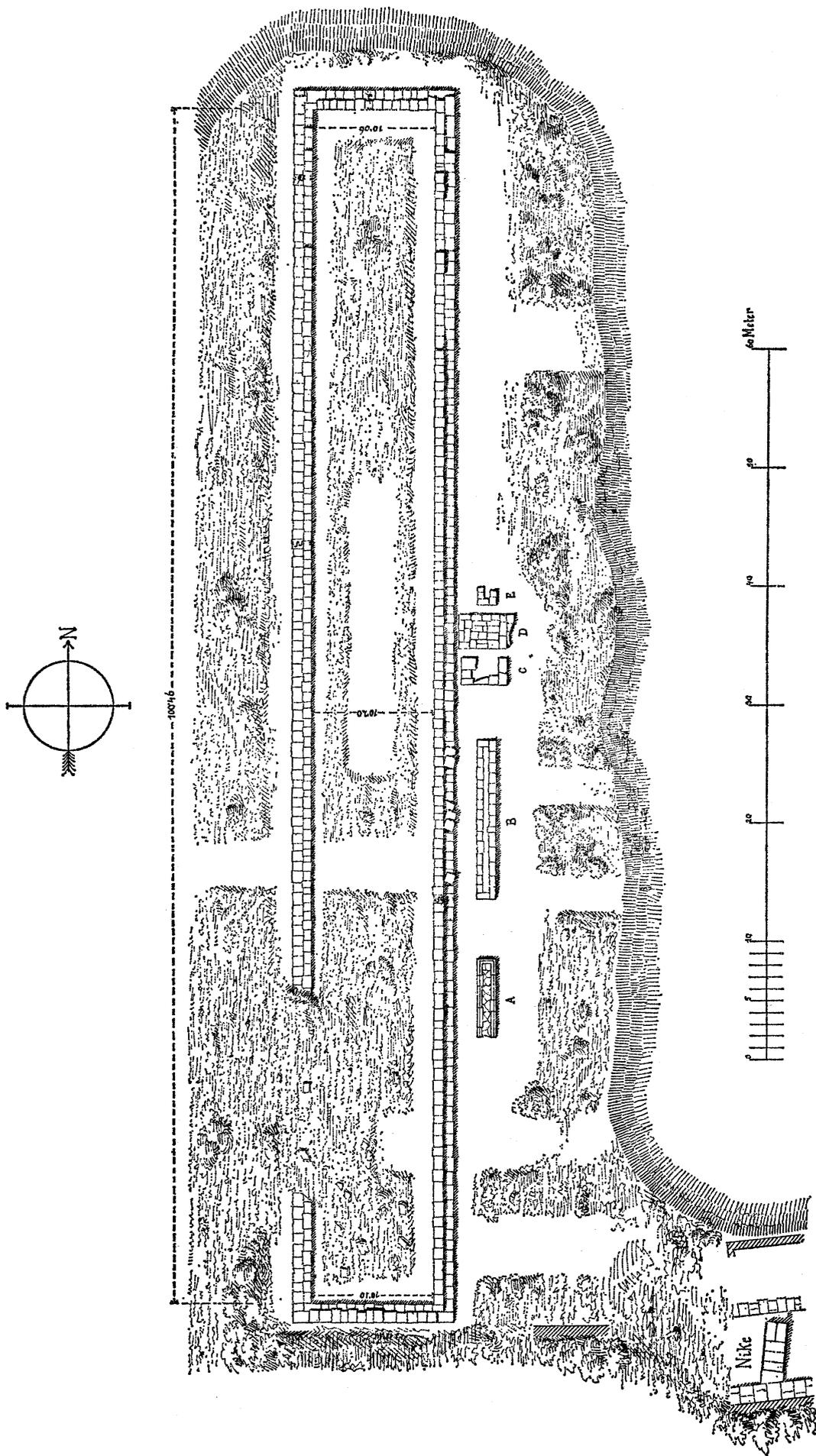


FIG. 3. Plan of Stoa after Austrian Excavations (S, II, pl. L)

No trace of the long foundation B, with the exception of some dislodged fragments of the "granite" of which it was built, has been recovered, and only a few badly damaged and fragmentary blocks now mark the position of foundation A.³² A large foundation (IV) (3.85 m. N-S by 4.85 m. E-W), which escaped the notice of earlier investigators, lies between foundations A and B (Pl. 32, c). Its rail-like poroses foundations form two concentric rectangles; one side of the outer rectangle is formed by the eastern foundation of the Stoa, which is notched to receive the rails of foundation IV. The top of these rails lie some 0.13 m. above the Stoa foundations, and would, therefore, have been at or near the ancient ground level. Foundation IV joined foundation A, and a shallow cutting in its southern side was made to receive the latter foundation. To judge from the Austrian plan, there was likewise little space (hardly more than a meter) between foundations IV and B, and access to the Stoa would have been considerably limited in this area.

Only fragments of the marble superstructures once carried by these foundations have been recovered. The fate of the marble blocks is illustrated by a well-built modern limekiln discovered to the west of the Stoa, which was packed with disintegrated marble (Pl. 32, b). It is possible that the location of this kiln behind the Stoa indicates that marble monuments stood in that area, too, but no foundations are now visible there.³³

Though no other foundations appeared directly in front of the Stoa, another monument (VI) has been discovered between the southern end of the building and the Nike Precinct (Pl. 32, d). The foundation of limestone (6.07 m. by 1.70 m.) lies perpendicular to the axis of the Stoa and *ca.* 4.50 m. from its façade, almost on the line of the south wall of the building. A course of marble stretchers is partly preserved *in situ* on the foundation, surrounding a core of small stones and earth. Blocks, evidently from the superstructure of the monument, were found fallen around it and include a course of stretchers with a base moulding, a course of orthostates, and a series of binders with a crowning moulding. The entire monument is similar to Monument A, but it is not identical in either dimensions or mouldings.

It has already been remarked that the whole configuration of the Western Hill was altered at the time the Stoa was built. Investigations have been made to determine whether any earlier monuments stood on this hill and how the area was utilized before this time, but the results are disappointing. Though the southern part of the Stoa has been excavated to virgin soil, no trace of earlier remains has been found in

from 1.40 m. to 3.72 m. east of the Stoa. The upper surfaces of all three foundations are nearly (± 0.05 m.) at the level of the top surface of the Stoa foundation.

³² They belong to the foundation on which the marble course recorded by the Austrians once stood. The marble blocks with crowning mouldings which they attributed to this monument are preserved. See *S, II*, pl. LIX.

³³ For marble blocks and inscriptions found to the west of the Stoa see below, p. 114.

that area. Either it was previously unoccupied, or, more probably, all trace of earlier activity was destroyed in preliminary clearing for the Stoa. At the northern end of the building, however, where a new ground level was created with a great mass of fill by the Stoa's builders, conditions were more favorable to the preservation of earlier remains. Deep excavation within the building (Pl. 30, b) has revealed portions of several earlier walls or foundations. They are all of rubble, and most of them, lacking rear faces, appear to have been terrace walls. None appears to belong to a monumental structure, and there is, therefore, still no evidence of even a modest predecessor of the Hellenistic Stoa.

The level occupied by the Stoa and the Nike Precinct was divided from the higher ground to the south and southwest by a terrace wall of large boulders, which still stands, in its best preserved section, to a height of *ca.* 3.50 m. (Pl. 33, a). The eastern part of this wall, where it adjoins the Nike Precinct, has long been visible, but its extension to the south and west of the Stoa was only uncovered in 1963-1964. The portion near the Nike precinct runs at a slightly oblique angle to the line of the southern foundation of the Stoa; it is built of large boulders of the local green field-stone. Some three meters east of the Stoa the line of the terrace wall changes and becomes parallel with the Stoa, about 3 m. south of the building's foundation. The wall turns a right angle opposite the southwest corner of the Stoa and continues northward, parallel to the back wall of the building, for about 21 m. The portion of wall which parallels the Stoa is visible only in its upper parts, which belong to a later rebuilding and contain, in addition to the boulders of the more easterly section, a few fragments of poros and other stones. The original line of the wall cannot now be established with certainty, for the lower parts are concealed behind a low retaining wall. This low retaining wall supports a terracotta pipeline running from the direction of the Nike Precinct westward to the corner of the terrace wall, and thence to the north (Pl. 33, b). A silt-trap, in the form of a pithos, was used to turn the corner (Pl. 33, c).³⁴ This water system was repaired at least once, and faults in the pipe were covered with fragments of Stoa roof tiles and cement. At a still later time the partial collapse of the terrace wall caused the water system to be abandoned; it was replaced by an open channel built of inverted Stoa tiles, which, though it follows the general course of its predecessor in front of the terrace wall, no longer adheres strictly to the retaining wall, which had become covered by debris (Pl. 33, b). There were, therefore, at least three phases in the history of these water systems: an original pipeline, which was evidently in use while the Stoa was intact; a repair to the pipeline, which made use of Stoa tiles and thus probably followed some damage to its roof; and an open channel, built when tiles from the Stoa were easily available and when the terrace wall which protected the back of the building had partially collapsed.

³⁴ Curiously, though the pithos was made with flanges to serve this purpose, the one which is preserved was blocked and not used, and the pipes are simply cemented into holes in the wall of the jar. For a similar silt-trap at Pella, cf. Photios Petsas, *Archaeology*, XVII, 1964, p. 84, fig. 17.

In its last two phases, the water system appears to be connected with habitation of the Western Hill after the Stoa had fallen into disuse but before the final destruction of the buildings of the Sanctuary by earthquake in the sixth century after Christ. Other evidence of late activity on the Western Hill appeared at the western side of the Stoa, where a roughly made structure of two rooms was built against its western wall (Pl. 33, d).³⁵ The walls of the northern room are preserved to a height of almost a meter, built of rubble, incorporating terracotta roof-tile fragments, poros fragments, and other spoils, primarily, it appears, from the Stoa; only one course of the walls of the southern room is preserved, made of rubble, tile, and pottery fragments, and this room appears to have been abandoned before its neighbor. Several coins of Licinius were found in and near the building, as well as terracotta lamps of the fourth century after Christ,³⁶ and these finds give at least an approximate date for the building. The construction of the walls, as well as the nature of the finds, connect the building closely with the late Roman reconstruction which was noted in the Sacristy.³⁷

After the destruction of the southern room, its area was covered by a collection of marble and poros blocks, perhaps intended as a rough pavement, but more likely simply assembled to be carried off for use elsewhere. Among the blocks, in addition to parts of several marble monuments, was a stele which records a list of names, presumably of initiates, though the words or phrases which named them as such have not been read.³⁸ A tentative text is here given pending final publication.

62.885. Inscribed stele of Thasian marble. Plate 34. H. 0.92 m., W. 0.46 m., Th. 0.085-0.105 m. The stele is rectangular and does not taper. A rough cutting, rounded at its left end and in section, was made in the right side of the face, and the upper left portion of the stone was dressed down slightly, presumably in connection with a re-use of the block. The back of the stele is roughly picked.

A pediment with corner akroteria was incised at the top of the face.

In pediment: [ἀγ]αθῆ[ι] *kerykeion* τύχη

In field:

[ἀγορανομῶν]τος (?) Αἰλίου Ἐπιμάχου

[-----μη]νὸς Μουνυχιῶνος

³⁵ The building lies *ca.* 68 m. south of the line of the northern foundation of the Stoa. The northern room is *ca.* 4.50 m. by 3.10 m., and the southern *ca.* 3.20 m. by 3.10 m.

³⁶ For the type of lamps see Karl Lehmann-Hartleben, *A.J.A.*, XLIV, 1940, p. 348, fig. 27.

³⁷ For the Sacristy see *ibid.*, pp. 348-349. A marble bench support of Hellenistic style found re-used in the northeast corner of our building is similar to a bench support re-used in the late Roman floor of the Sacristy; cf. *ibid.*, p. 348, fig. 24.

³⁸ The stone is very difficult to read, and the text as printed may well need considerable correction in final publication. It has, however, seemed desirable to publish a preliminary text, rather than to wait until study of the stone is complete. William Berg III has helped with many of the readings. Benjamin D. Meritt has kindly offered suggestions for improving earlier drafts of the text, and J. F. Gilliam kindly commented on the consular date.

- [-----]et · Pudente cos · K Mais
 5 P · Antipa[...]ristis · Procos · Prov · Mac
 [-----]AMIC[-----]I[...]us · Lupercianus
 Septimius Tigrines ·
 P · Theodosus ·
 Marcus · Felix Vic[-----]
 10 Asc[...]us Vennus Vic[-----]
 CE[...]IA[...]OMPEMNUS PIS
vacat ŞERVV[.....] Procos
 [-----]
 [-----]
 15 Mappius
 Dionysius
 Lycoris
 Zelotus
 Phileus
 20 [...]AM[...]SS[---]
 Philo[-^{ca. 5-6}-]eus
 Moschus
 [-----] MVL T
 Menan[de]r
 25 Numenius [-----]THŞ
 Dominis [-----]C[---]THŞ
 Iunius MI · EP
 Cim[-----]
- 29 Mydus
 30 [-----]
 Parthenopae[us]
 Abascantus
 Zoticus
 Felix · Aucustor
 35 Verna
 Onesimus Virin
 Dec
 Eutyches servos Sep
 T[-^{ca. 3}-]eacranis
 40 Pasiphilus
 Asethreptio
 [-----]ereus

The inscription would seem to date in the second or third century after Christ, and the consul Pudens (line 4), if an *ordinarius*, may be L. Arrius Pudens (A.D. 165) or Q. Servilius Pudens (A.D. 166), though the names of their co-consuls, respectively Orfitus and Pollio, are too short to fill the line.

Several small finds from the Stoa excavation deserve preliminary publication.³⁹ The fill which was brought in to raise the level of the Western Hill contained many fragments of vessels of the sort used in the rites of the Sanctuary, and many bore the common incised abbreviations Θ or ΘE.⁴⁰ One bowl (Pl. 35, a)⁴¹, however, is

³⁹ Although the Stoa had no foundation ditches to provide material bearing on the date of the building, the great mass of fill that was brought to the northern part of the hill during the construction of the building has yielded an enormous number of sherds and other objects which are just as securely connected with its date. Further study of this material is necessary before firm conclusions can be drawn.

⁴⁰ For these inscriptions see *Samothrace*, 2, II, pp. 21 ff., 65 ff.; *Samothrace*, 4, II, pp. 239, 241, and *passim*.

⁴¹ 64.308. H. 0.041 m., D. 0.18 m., L. of stamp 0.02 m. Orange-buff clay; unglazed. From Stoa fill.

stamped on the interior floor with the complete word ΘΕΩΝ (Pl. 35, b). This is the first instance of the complete word on such a vessel, and it provides solid evidence in support of Karl Lehmann's view that the common abbreviations stand for *θεῶν* rather than *θεοῖς*.⁴² A second vessel, a black-glazed saltcellar (Pl. 35, c),⁴³ connected with the rites by an incised Θ on its base, recalls an epigram of Kallimachos, telling of the frugal Eudemos who ate only salt for relish and, having thus been saved from debt, dedicated his saltcellar on Samothrace.⁴⁴ Among the finest pieces recovered on the Western Hill are two chance finds. A gilded silver ornament, apparently a brooch, was found immediately south of the Stoa in disturbed earth (Pl. 35, d).⁴⁵ It has the shape of a pelta with a tall central projection. Heads decorate the extremities of the shield: to the left, a helmeted head, r., with what may be letters on the helmet; to the right, a male head, l., with hair rolled about the forehead and ears; at the apex, a full, round (child's ?) head, facing; at the bottom, a comic mask, facing. A small round hole was drilled through the mouth of the comic mask. The edge of the shield is corrugated. Within, on a filigree background, were three attachments, of which two are preserved: left, a winged boy riding a dolphin, r.; center, a high-footed krater with garlanded neck; to the right there is a triangular projection which must have held a third attachment symmetrical with the boy and dolphin. The piece appears to date in the early Roman period.⁴⁶ Also without context is a fine red-figured fragment showing the head and shoulders of a bearded man wearing a petasos and carrying a staff on his left shoulder (Pl. 35, e).⁴⁷

THE PROPYLON OF PTOLEMY II

Our second major area of excavation lies at the opposite side of the Sanctuary (Fig. 1) where the major monument (K) previously noted is the Propylon of Ptolemy II. The foundation of the Propylon was always visible on the eastern edge of the riverbed which forms the eastern boundary of the Sanctuary, and, from its apparently subterranean vaulted passage, it had acquired the name "phylaki" from the local inhabitants. Like the Stoa, the Propylon had been the object of several earlier investigations, the last of which, in 1875, led to the discovery of the identity of the dedicator and the form of the building.⁴⁸ The major features of the Propylon were

⁴² *Samothrace*, 2, II, p. 21.

⁴³ 63.885. H. 0.026 m., D. 0.053 m., D. of compass inscribed theta 0.018 m. From Stoa fill.

⁴⁴ Epigram 47 (*Anthologia Palatina*, VI, 301). Cf. *Samothrace*, 1, p. 104, no. 228.

⁴⁵ 63.1112. H. 0.045 m., W. 0.38 m. Gilding preserved only on background. A rectangular patch of solder, which presumably held a pin, is preserved on the reverse.

⁴⁶ I should like to thank Giovanni Becatti, Dietrich von Bothmer, and Iris Love for their suggestions about this piece.

⁴⁷ 62.583. Max. Dim. 0.10 m., Th. ca. 0.009 m. Glazed on interior. Surface find east of Stoa. While the painter has not yet been identified, Dietrich von Bothmer has kindly pointed out that he is not far from the Aegisthus Painter.

⁴⁸ For earlier investigations see *S, I*, p. 33 and *S, II*, pp. 10-12. Publication by A. Hauser, *S, II*, pp. 35-45, pls. XVII-XLVII.

thus known: a high foundation, through which a vaulted passage runs at an oblique angle; two hexastyle prostyle Ionic porches, one facing toward the city, one toward the Sanctuary, which were separated by a heavy door wall; and a marble forecourt. The detailed reconstruction of the building, however, as well as its relation to the Sanctuary, to the river, and to the ancient city, remained doubtful, since no attempt to excavate completely or to collect all remaining pieces of the superstructure had been made.

In 1963 and 1964 the top of the foundation, as well as its eastern and northern sides, was completely freed; the vaulted passage was cleared to bedrock; and investigations to the east and west of the foundations were made (Pl. 36, a, b).

The foundation, built of limestone, poros, and the gray-brown marine limestone used in the foundations of the Altar Court,⁴⁹ is generally well preserved (Pl. 36, c); in the years since the Austrian excavations, however, much of the northwest corner has collapsed, and here the plan is preserved only in the lowest courses. The outer ring of foundations and the foundations for the door wall are built of solid ashlar masonry, laid on bedrock. In the interior of the rectangle, however, the rail foundations for the marble paving of the porches are supported only by a packing of small stones and earth, of adequate strength, it seems, since where the outer foundations are intact the rails have subsided hardly at all.

The vaulted passage is covered by a barrel vault of eleven courses of voussoirs laid in regular files parallel with the long axis of the passage (Pl. 36, d). As seen at its two mouths, the vault is only one block thick, and the stone and earth packing of the foundation rests directly upon these voussoirs; the supporting walls of the vault, too, are only one block thick. The faces of the blocks within the passage display an apparently random variety of surface treatments. The floor of the passage is formed by virgin soil and natural rock, and falls, between the southern and northern mouths of the passage, *ca.* 0.67 m. Natural boulders within the passage were not trimmed; the floor is thus very uneven. Outside the passage, at each end, there are remains of two rough boulder walls forming channels of the same width as it, though of somewhat differing orientation. In spite of a lack of unequivocal signs of water-wear on the walls of the passage, these channels and the rough floor make it clear that the passage was intended to lead part of the flow or overflow of the neighboring river harmlessly through the building, rather than to serve as a road or path.

On each side of the passage, abutting the north side of the building's foundation, are remains of a low, rubble-packed terrace, which was apparently capped by at least one course of limestone.⁵⁰ The better preserved western terrace is 1.45 m. wide and

⁴⁹ The statement on the use of this stone in *Samothrace*, 4, II, p. 17, should be emended to include its use in the Propylon. It is notable that the stone must have been of special strength, in spite of its now extremely friable state, since it was used where great weight would bear upon it, e.g., under the columns.

⁵⁰ Only one slab of limestone is now *in situ*, but in the nineteenth century there evidently were more; cf. *S*, II, pl. XXI.

extends from the vaulted passage westward beyond the corner of the Propylon's foundation (Pl. 37, a). The purpose of these structures remains uncertain. They may conceivably be connected with monuments or offerings, since fragments of marble basins, of a marble male head, and of one or more Corinthian capitals were found near by; on the other hand, they may simply have served to protect the foundations of the Propylon from seepage of water from the flow through the vaulted passage.

A puzzling problem posed by the Propylon was the means by which it was connected to the Eastern Hill of the Sanctuary across the deep riverbed on whose banks it stands. Two spur walls, bonded into the west foundation and running westward from it towards the river, have long been known and connected with the solution to this problem, but the solutions based on this evidence have been various (Pl. 37, b).⁵¹ Investigation of these spur walls showed that they supported a stone and earth packing, thus forming a high platform at the west end of the building toward the river. This platform can be followed to 4.70 m. west of the Propylon's foundation, and it certainly continued further, but all traces of its continuation, both blocks of the spur walls and cuttings for them in the relatively soft rock on which they were founded, have apparently been swept away by the torrent.

Excavation on the eastern bank of the Eastern Hill of the Sanctuary, immediately across the riverbed from the Propylon, has, however, produced more conclusive evidence. There, opposite the southern spur wall of the Propylon, are the remains of the southeast corner of a similar platform (Fig. 4; Pl. 37, d). A wall of poros, incorporating red porphyry and limestone spoils from an earlier structure, contained a packing of small stones and earth. Most of this platform, too, has pitched into the riverbed; only two courses of the corner are preserved, and its northern extent can no longer be determined. But it seems reasonable to assume that it was similar in width to the platform attached to the Propylon. That these two platforms were distinct, and that a gap existed between them through which the river might flow, is clear, since the corner of the platform on the Eastern Hill is preserved. The evidence thus indicates that a single, solid platform, forming a causeway from the Propylon to the Sanctuary, is impossible; rather there must have been two similar platforms, one extending from the Propylon, the other from the Eastern Hill, with a gap of undetermined length between them. The interval must have been bridged, and since there are no remains of a stone bridge, a wooden bridge, as suggested by Karl Lehmann, provides the most probable solution.⁵²

⁵¹ A. Hauser restored a solid causeway across the riverbed and suggested that the original course of the river led through the vaulted passage; cf. *S, II*, pp. 36-37, fig. 9, p. 44, fig. 20. Karl Lehmann suggested that the spur walls supported a wooden bridge which spanned the riverbed and that the vaulted passage served to lead off the overflow of the river during times of heavy rain; cf. *Guide*, p. 73; *Guide*², p. 77.

⁵² See preceding note. There is no direct evidence for the actual length of the span, but it is

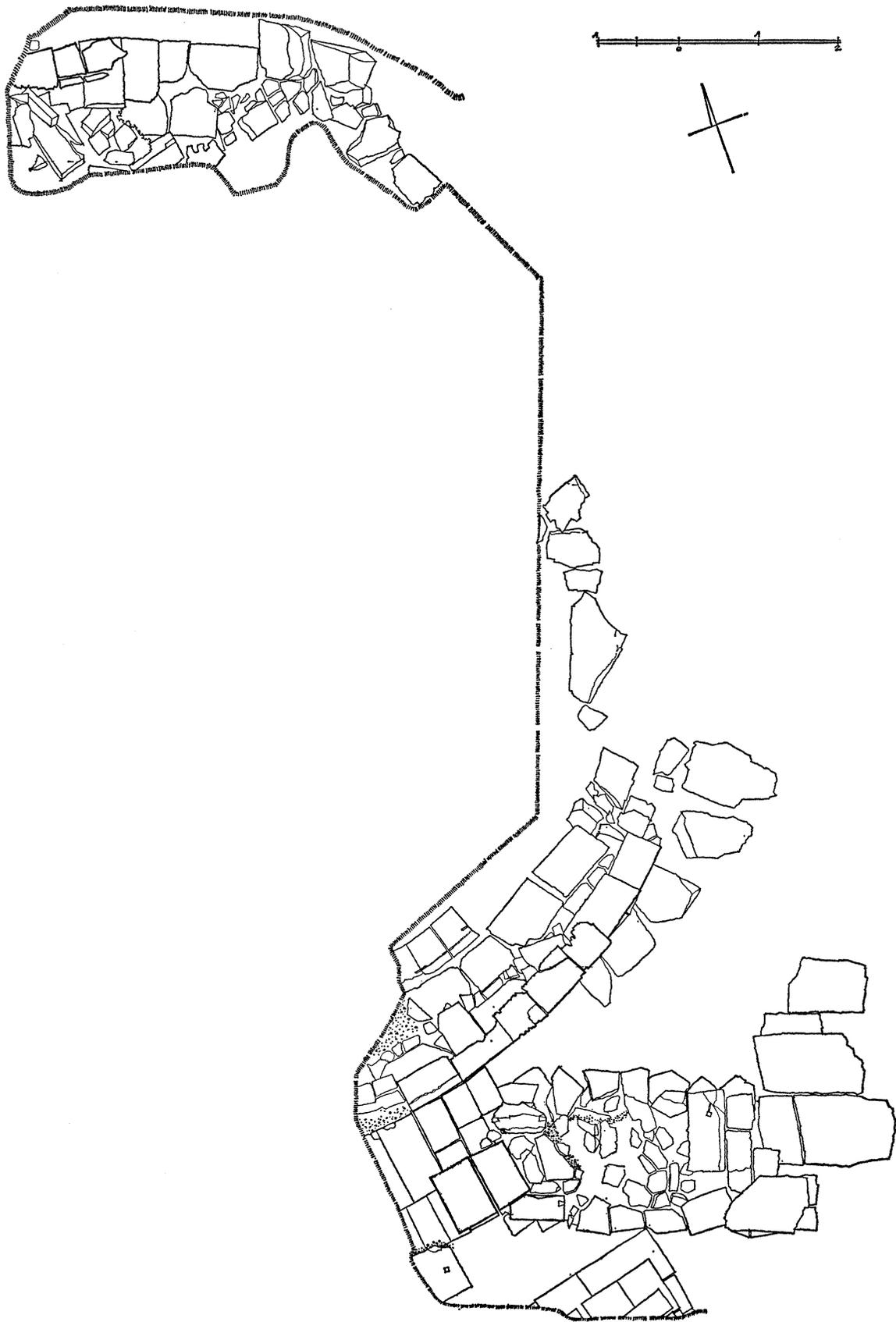


FIG. 4. Plan of Excavated Remains on Eastern Hill of Sanctuary (1964). Drawing by A. K. Frazer.

To the east of the Propylon lay a marble paved forecourt. Though much of its paving was intact in 1875,⁵³ now, with the exception of a few shattered fragments, it is entirely gone, and only its rail foundations remain (Pl. 36, c); the eastern side of its marble border, composed of huge blocks, remains, having apparently been too difficult for removal to a limekiln.

In an effort to find the road which led from the ancient city to the Propylon, an area extending *ca.* 4.00 m. east of this forecourt was cleared (Pl. 37, c). No trace of any road was found, but the area is enclosed by a number of walls or foundations of various dates, and when these are better understood through further excavation, the history of this area should be clearer. Under the assumed level of the road, i.e. beneath the level of the forecourt, there appeared a portion of an elaborate water system. It consists of two lines, one running north-south, parallel with the façade of the Propylon, the other running roughly perpendicular to the first and meeting it in a T-joint (Pl. 38, a) opposite the center of the building. The pipeline is of curious construction; short lengths of terracotta pipe are joined in the usual fashion, with a flange on one section fitting into the next section, but, instead of being sealed with cement, the joints were then covered with a broad, tight-fitting collar of lead (Pl. 38, b).⁵⁴ The direction of flow, from the north and east to the T-joint and thence toward the south, is clear from the direction of the joints and from the relative levels of the pipelines, but the purpose served by the system is still unclear. The elaborate care taken in its construction implies that the pipeline was of considerable importance, but whether the system was intended as a drain, with the lead seals intended to insure that water would not seep into the precariously placed foundations of the Propylon, or is part of a pressure system, carrying fresh water to some part of the Sanctuary, remains unsure. Both to the north and to the south the line is broken, and none of the original termini are now known.

The earth above this area to the east of the forecourt contained many fragments of terracotta statuettes. A considerable number of types are represented; notable among them are boys wearing a beret-like cap (Pl. 38, c⁵⁵), and hydrophoroi

clear from the location of the platform on the Eastern Hill of the Sanctuary that the builders tried to make it as small as possible, and probably a span of not much more than 5 m. would have been sufficient. Karl Lehmann's estimate of 20 m. (*loc. cit.*) was based on the evidence of the Austrian excavations and is surely much too great.

⁵³ See *S, II*, pls. XVII-XVIII.

⁵⁴ The pipes are *ca.* 0.32 m. long and *ca.* 0.15 m. in diameter. The lead collars are *ca.* 0.14 m. long. The collars consist of bands of lead wrapped around the pipe and joined, in alternate collars, above or below the pipe.

⁵⁵ 63.267D. The type of a boy wearing a beret is represented by numerous examples on Samothrace; cf. *Guide*², p. 98 and *B.C.H.*, LXXX, 1956, p. 321, fig. 6, and p. 325. For a recent discussion of the type see D. B. Thompson, *Troy, Supplementary Monograph 3, The Terracotta Figurines of the Hellenistic Period*, Princeton, 1963, pp. 53-55, 84-86, with notes citing differing views of this problematical type.

(Pl. 38, f⁵⁶). These types indicate that the terracottas have a religious connection. It is clear from their context, however, that they are not to be connected with the immediate area in which they were found; rather they must have washed down from the higher ground further to the east. There they may have been associated with a shrine or shrines along the road from the city to the Sanctuary, or, conceivably, with a yet undiscovered nekropolis.

An important part of the re-study of the Propylon of Ptolemy II is the recovery of all remaining fragments of the building's marble superstructure. The 227 blocks so far collected include a majority of the elements of the building. Of particular interest are the inscribed epistyles from the east and west façades, which bore identical inscriptions:

*Βασιλεὺς Πτολεμαῖος Πτολεμαίου καὶ Βερενίκης Σωτήρων Θεοῖς Μεγάλοις*⁵⁷

All the epistyle blocks that were known to the Austrians have been recovered.⁵⁸ These dedicatory inscriptions date the Propylon in the reign of Ptolemy II Philadelphos (285-246 B.C.) and probably, since his parents are styled simply *Σωτήρες*, not *Θεοὶ Σωτήρες*, in the early years of his reign, before 280/79 B.C.⁵⁹

One curious feature of the building is that at least the northern section of the door wall was hollow and may have formed a room. It had been suggested that a block which seemed to have cuttings for steps might belong to a stair within the thick door wall.⁶⁰ It is L-shaped, was found to the north of the building, and must, therefore, have belonged to the northern part of the door wall. In its rear face is a cutting for a timber to span the open space within the two faces of the wall. Although the purpose of this timber is not clear, it nevertheless appears that an open, usable space existed. Fragments of fine red and white stucco, some bearing graffiti, have been found to the west and north of the building, and one fragment lay in the stone packing of the foundation of the northern section of the door wall. If this stucco belonged to the Propylon, the room within the door wall would seem to be the only part of the building from which it can have come, since the other walls were built of finely finished marble to which such stucco would not have been applied.

The now only partly finished excavation of the Propylon of Ptolemy II has thus solved some problems and raised others in the study of a building which, because of its unique form and relatively certain date, occupies a special position in Hellenistic architecture. Other aspects of its detailed reconstruction must be reserved until complete excavation has provided all available evidence.

⁵⁶ 63.403.

⁵⁷ See *Samothrace*, 2, I, pp. 50-51, no. 11, for the inscriptions and earlier bibliography.

⁵⁸ The fifth block of the eastern epistyle, reported lost in *Samothrace*, 2, I, p. 51, was rediscovered north of the foundation in 1963.

⁵⁹ *Samothrace*, 2, I, p. 6, note 19.

⁶⁰ *S*, II, pp. 39-40, pl. XXXIII, fig. III. This block has not yet reappeared.

ROUND BUILDING

On the Eastern Hill of the Sanctuary, directly across the riverbed from the Propylon, there appeared two arcs of the foundations of a hitherto unknown round building (Figs. 1, M; 4).

This building stood on the very edge of the riverbank. A considerable portion of its foundation has vanished, destroyed either by the torrent or by later construction on the site (see below). The two arcs of foundation now exposed (Fig. 4) extend from the gap created by this destruction westward to the limit of our excavations in 1964. Both consist on the exterior of two courses of a poros foundation on which rest fragmentary blocks of marine limestone which presumably formed the euthynteria or first wall course (Pl. 39, a, b). The latter appear to have had drafted margins. The outer diameter of the structure computed from the excavated arcs is *ca.* 14.60 m.⁶¹ The foundation, *ca.* 1.20 m. wide, consisted of an inner and an outer row of poros blocks, the space between them filled with small stones and earth; this foundation rested on flattened boulders which protrude, outside the building at least, beyond the line of poros. Only the lowest poros course of the inner row is preserved in those areas now exposed, and it is possible that no other poros course existed there. Immediately within the foundation is a course of wedge-shaped marble blocks, joined by hook clamps, and forming a marble ring at the same level as the first foundation course which lies behind it (Fig. 4, Pl. 39, b). A similar marble block, found where it had fallen into the riverbed, seems to have appropriate dimensions to have rested jointly on these two rows of blocks, thus forming a second ring of marble stepped back from the lower one and overlapping the inner edge of the foundation. Since the excavation of the interior of the structure, as well as of the remainder of its foundation, must await the next campaign, no more can be said about the structure and original appearance of the building.

A solid base of limestone and red porphyry abuts the outer face of the wall of the round building at the south (Fig. 4, Pl. 39, a, b). Upon an apparently complete lower course, composed of rectangular blocks of various sizes, rest two blocks of a second course. The south and east edges of the base appear to be preserved;⁶² it extends *ca.* 1.60 m. southward from the building; its western edge remains to be excavated and its width is thus unknown. Three marble blocks, two with cuttings for the mounting of bronze statues and a third with dowel cuttings to hold some object, were found inverted and fallen above the base; whether they could originally have rested on it is not yet clear.

⁶¹ It is thus nearly three-quarters the size of the great Rotunda of Arsinoe, of which the outer diameter is *ca.* 20.30 m.

⁶² The south and east sides of the upper blocks are smoothly finished, as if meant to be seen; the north and west sides have anathyrosis.

Further to the south, *ca.* 2.80 m. from the building, part of yet another structure has appeared. Three courses of limestone, unequal in height, form steps, the face of which is curved, apparently in conformity with the round building (Pl. 39, b). Determination of the nature of the structure of which they are a part must also await further excavation.

All three structures, the round building, the base abutting it, and the limestone steps, clearly antedate the platform which supported the western end of the bridge belonging to the Propylon of Ptolemy II. The southern retaining wall of this platform incorporated the base and was adjusted to the steps (Fig. 4); the platform itself, which must have risen more than 4 m. above its present preserved level in order to equal the level of the Propylon, must have covered both the round building and the base which abuts it.

It is therefore sure that the round building, as well as the structures associated with it, could no longer have been upright after the Propylon was built. Whatever functions the building served must, if they were still to be performed, have been transferred to another site. It is an attractive hypothesis that the functions of this closed round building were transferred, when the Propylon was built by Ptolemy, to the great Rotunda built by his sister Arsinoe during her marriage to Lysimachos, and while the latter was King of Macedon (287-281 B.C.).⁶³ If this is the case, and the newly discovered round building is the immediate predecessor of the Rotunda of Arsinoe, it not only may provide valuable information for the function of the buildings and the development of the architectural type, but also will form an important chronological link. For, if the Propylon of Ptolemy II and the Rotunda of Arsinoe prove to belong to the same building program, the dates of that program are narrowly fixed. The Rotunda was built no later than 281 (the death of Lysimachos), and the Propylon no earlier than 285 (when Ptolemy became King). The identical and secure date of both buildings would provide a useful fixed point in the development of Hellenistic architecture.⁶⁴

Marble architectural fragments found on the Eastern Hill of the Sanctuary and its riverbank show that additional hitherto unsuspected structures once stood there. A number of pieces from a large-scale rectangular Doric structure, including several geison fragments and a fragment of an epistyle (Pl. 38, e)⁶⁵ lay over the northern arc of the round building's foundation, and fragments of Corinthian capitals (Pl. 38, d)⁶⁶

⁶³ For the date see *Samothrace*, 2, I, p. 50 with earlier bibliography.

⁶⁴ P. M. Fraser has already argued on other grounds that the Propylon must date from these years; cf. note 59 above.

⁶⁵ 64.955. H. of taenia 0.060 m., H. of regula 0.031 m. Thasian marble.

⁶⁶ The largest fragment, 64.882, is illustrated. D. of kalathos *ca.* 0.64 m. The capital had at its base two rows of acanthus leaves, each having eight leaves. Bases of three of the eight cauliculi are preserved. A fragment of the abacus of a Corinthian capital, 64.900 (H. 0.132-0.135 m.) was found near by and presumably belongs to it.

were found in the debris on the riverbank below. Foundations with which to associate these fragments are not now visible, nor is it even clear whether they belong to one and the same structure or to more than one. Though it is not impossible that a second, inner propylon stood at the western end of the bridge, in the Sanctuary proper, and corresponded to the Propylon of Ptolemy II, speculation of this sort, in this initial stage of our investigation, is unrewarding. The hints provided by all these fragmentary remains, however, demand a thorough exploration of the importance of the Eastern Hill in the life of the Sanctuary.

JAMES R. McCREDIE

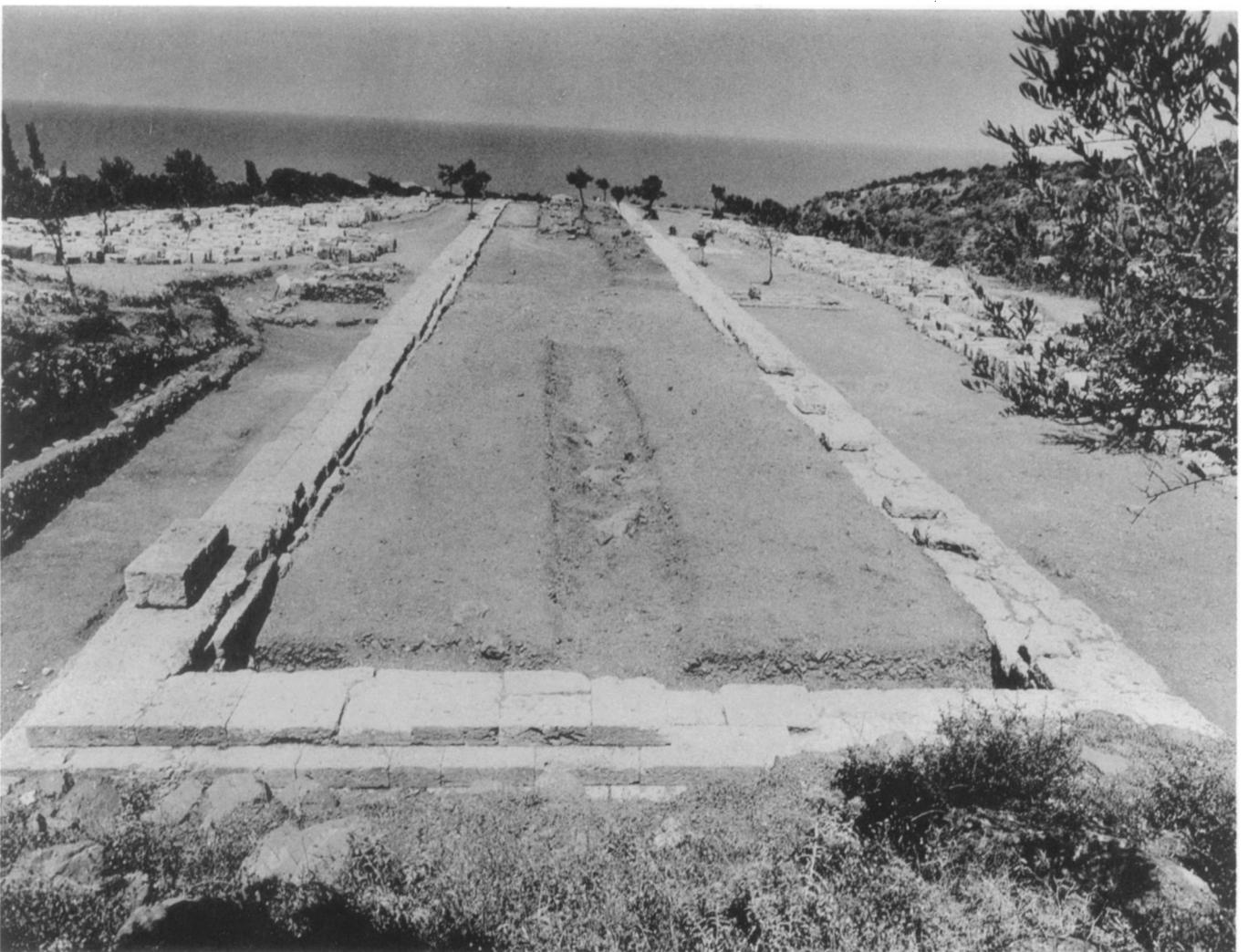
INSTITUTE OF FINE ARTS,
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



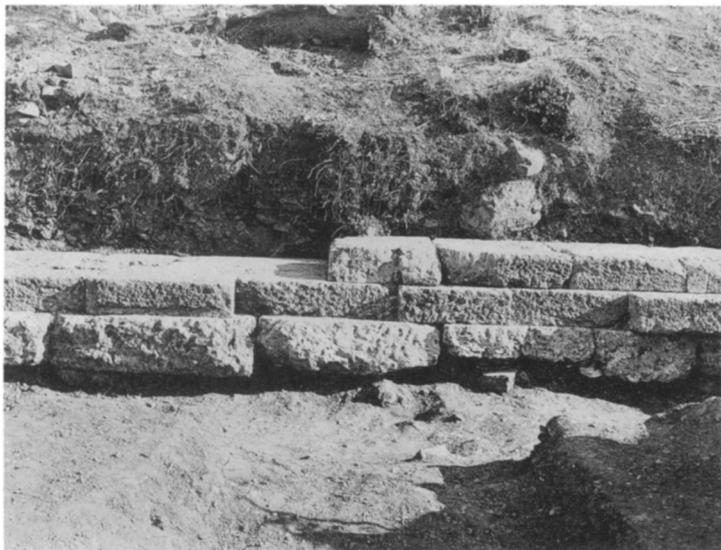
a. Stoa from South before Excavation (1962)



b. Stoa. East Foundation after Re-excitation (1962)



c. Stoa from South (1964)



a. Stoa. Southern Foundation, Euthynteria, and Toichobate, from North



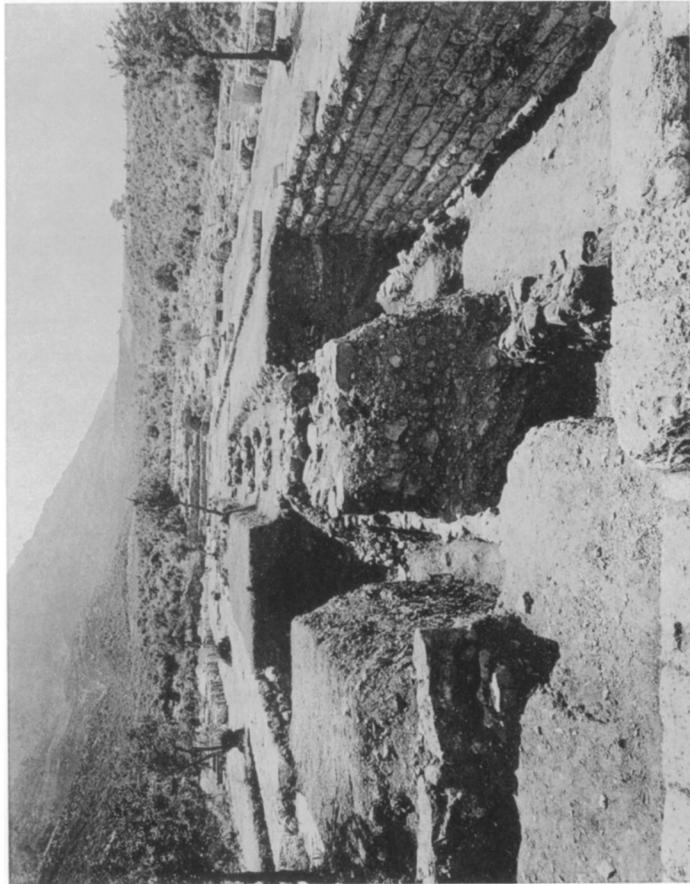
b. Stoa Foundation, Northwest Corner, from South



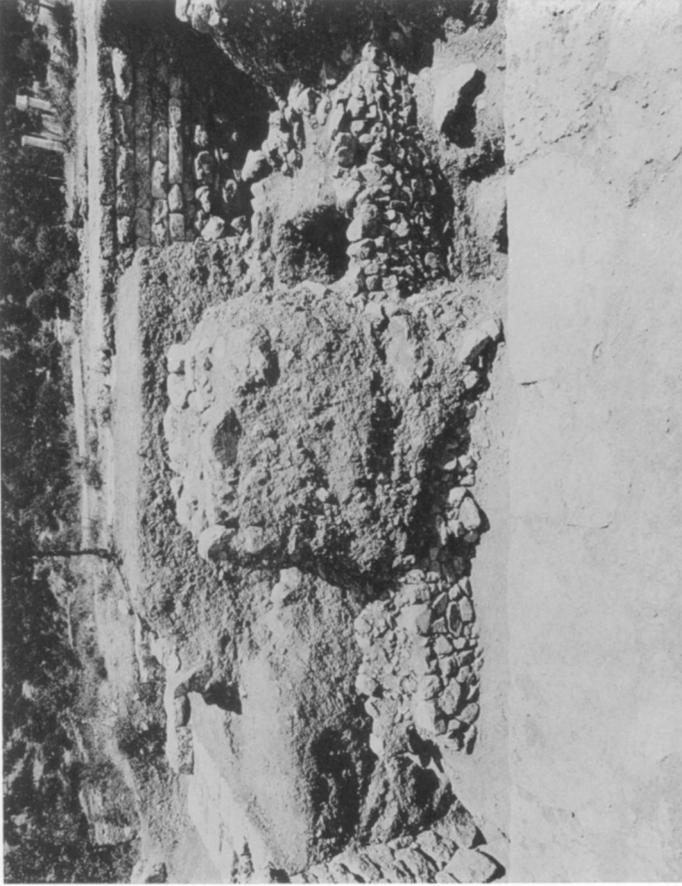
c. Stoa. Sub-foundations for Interior Colonnade, from South



d. Stoa. Northern part of East Foundation, from West



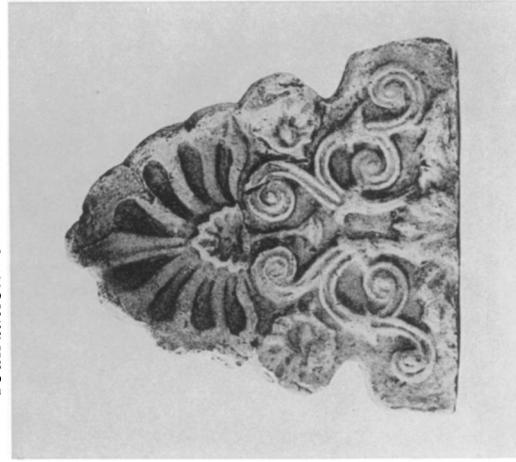
a. North End of Stoa from North



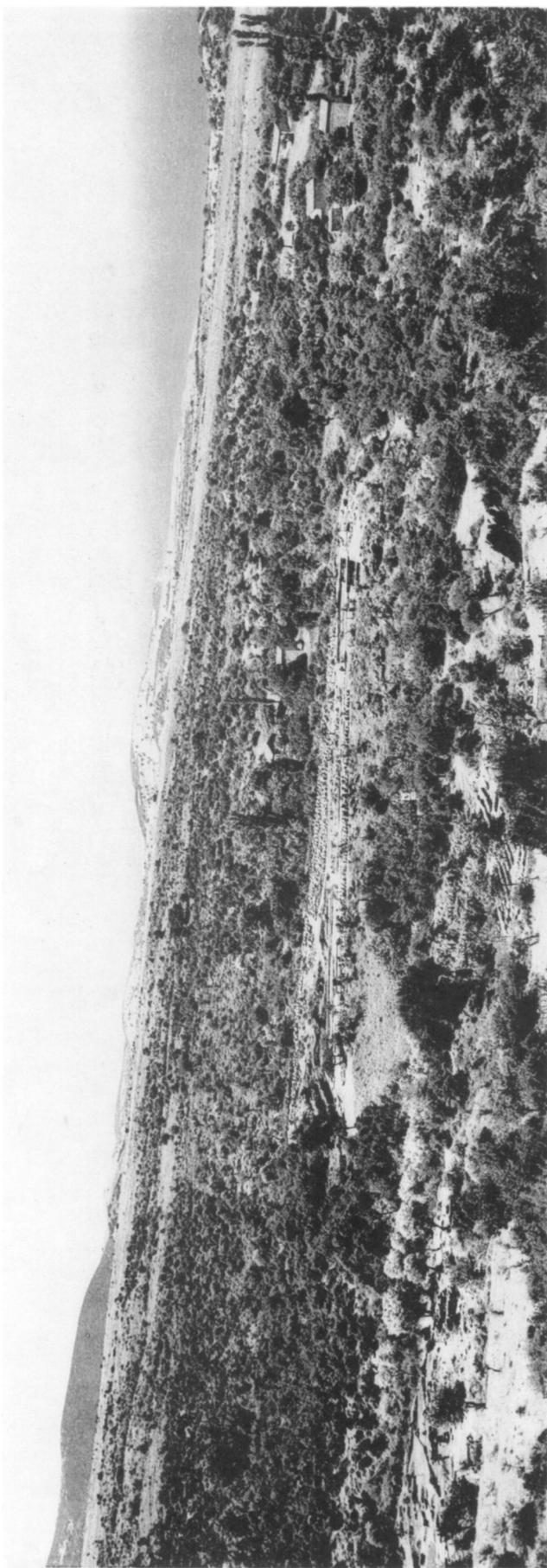
b. North End of Stoa, from West, showing Earlier Walls below Sub-foundation for Interior Column



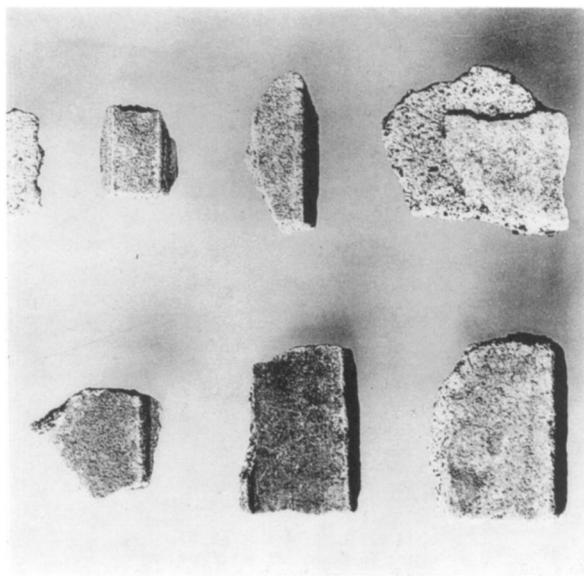
c. Stoa. Restored Sima



d. Stoa. Antefix (63.500)



a. Western Hill of Sanctuary from East



b. Stoa. Fragments of Wall Stucco



c. Stoa. Inscribed Wall Stucco



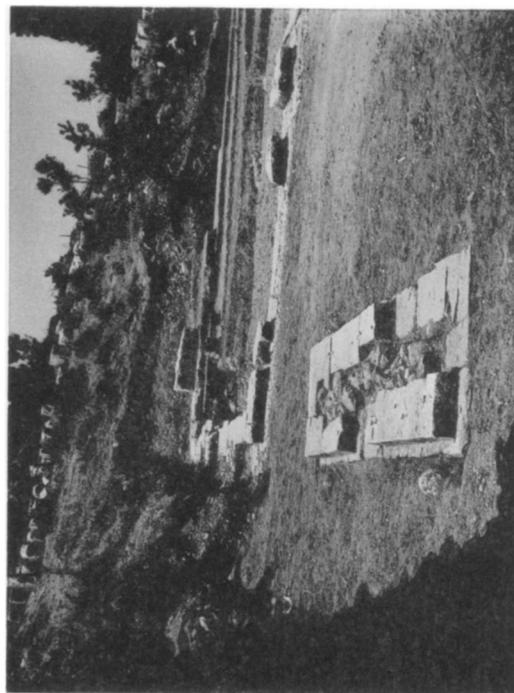
a. Stoa. Foundations C, E, D, from South



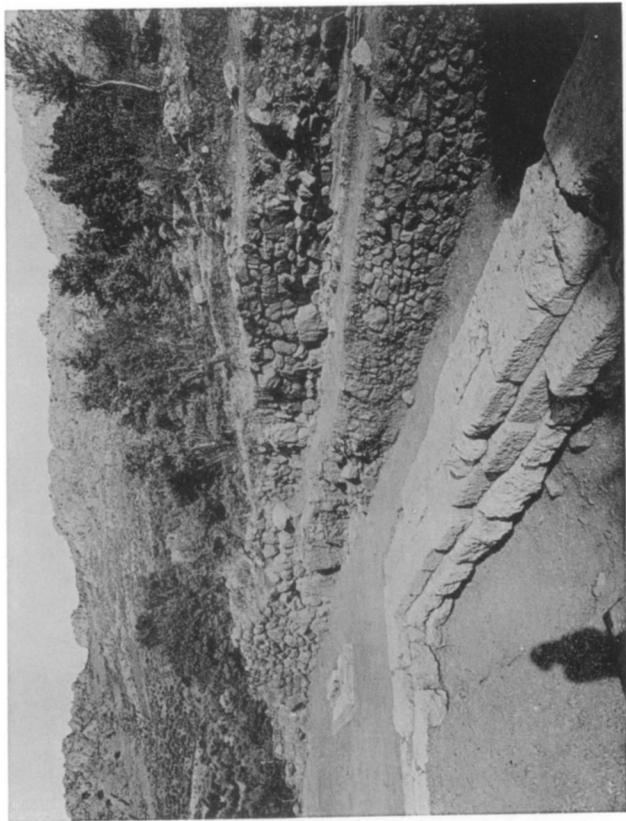
b. Stoa. Kiln, from South



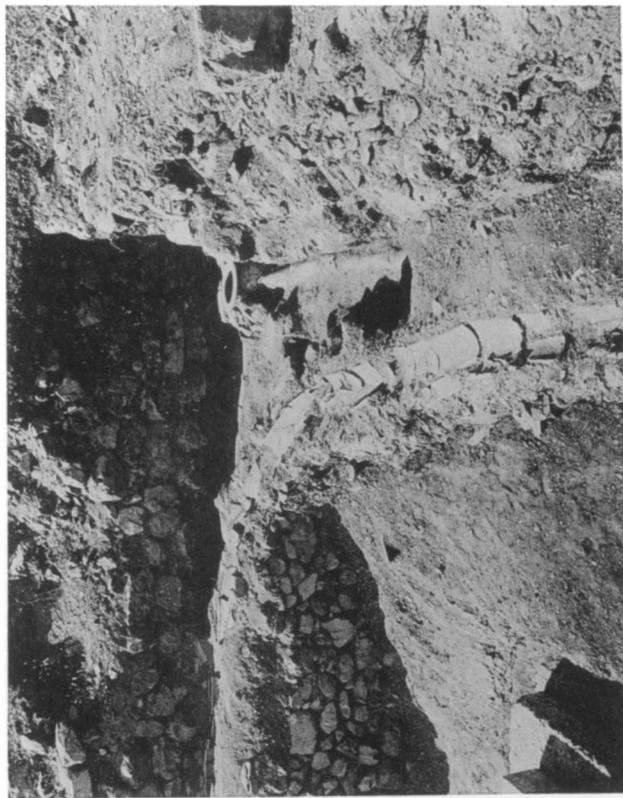
c. Stoa. Foundation IV, from East



d. Stoa. Foundation VI, from East



a. Stoa. Southern Terrace Wall and Retaining Wall, from Northwest



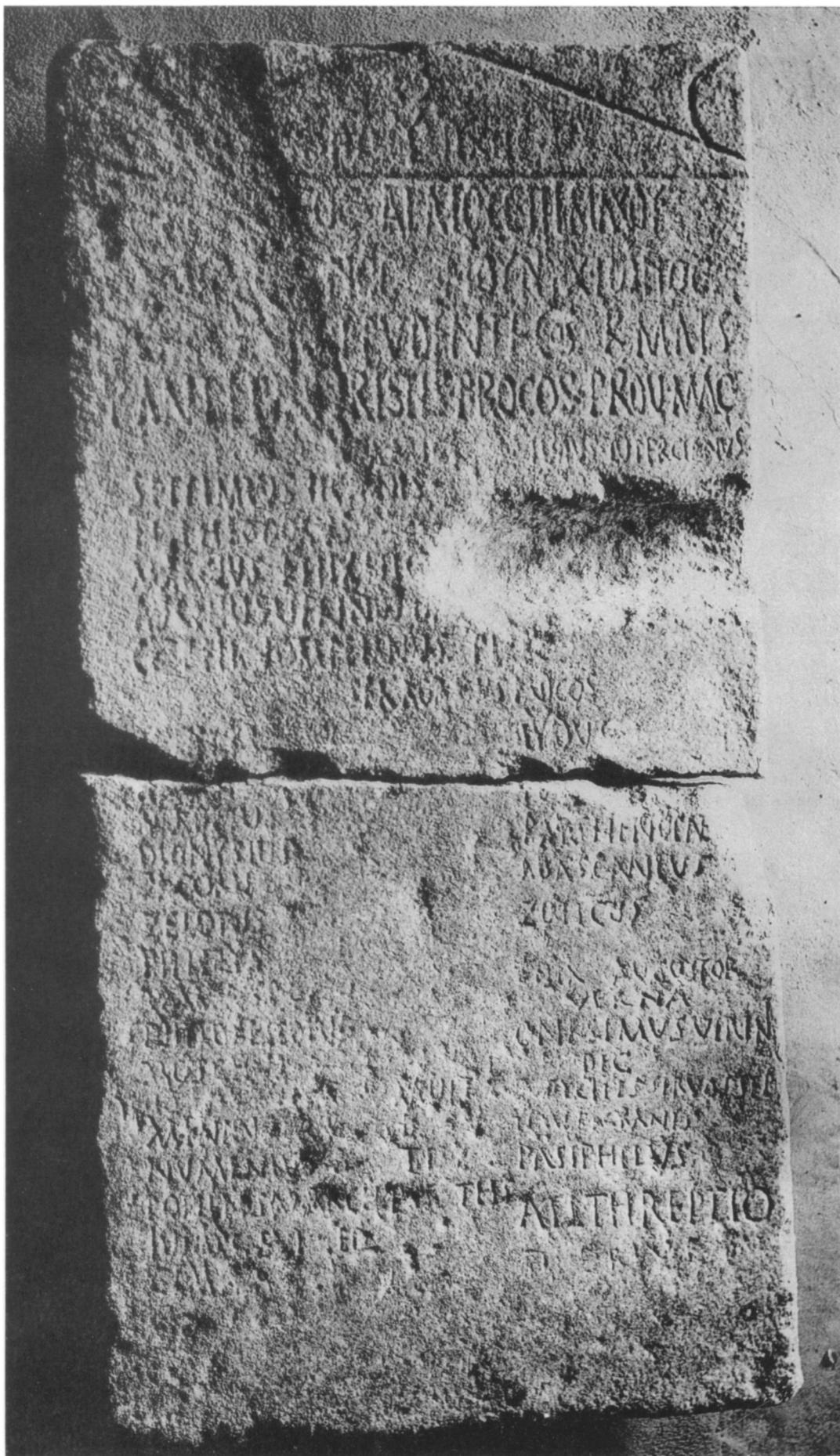
b. Stoa. Water Systems at Southwest Corner, from North



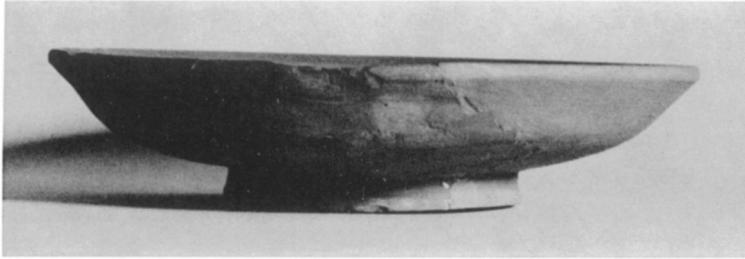
c. Stoa. Silt-trap



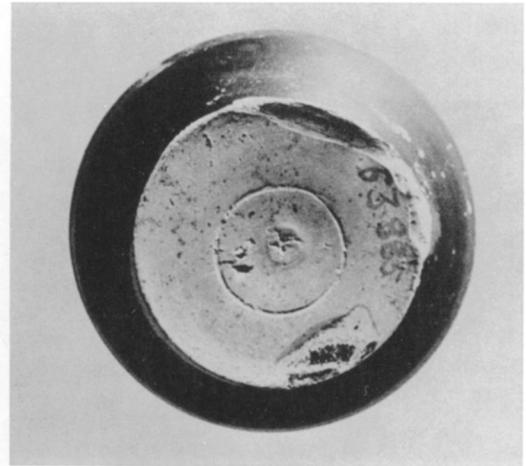
d. Building at West of Stoa, from South



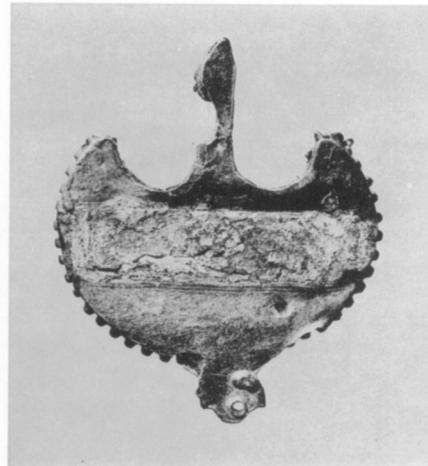
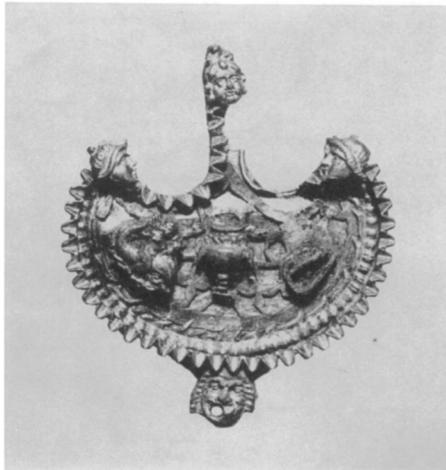
Stoa. Inscribed Stele 62.885



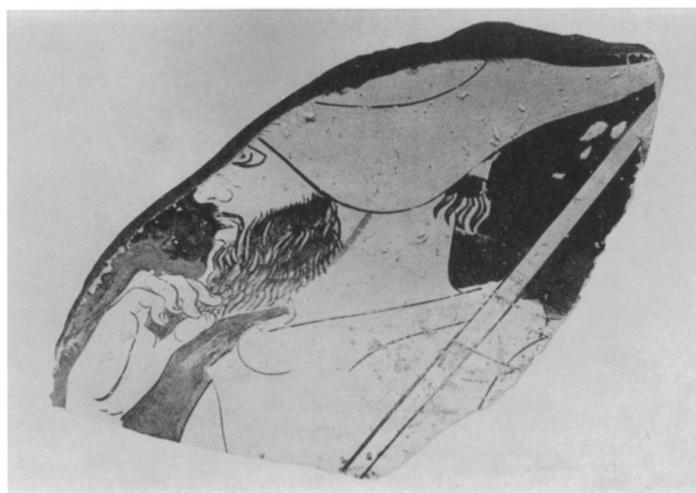
a., b. Stoa. Stamped Bowl 64.308



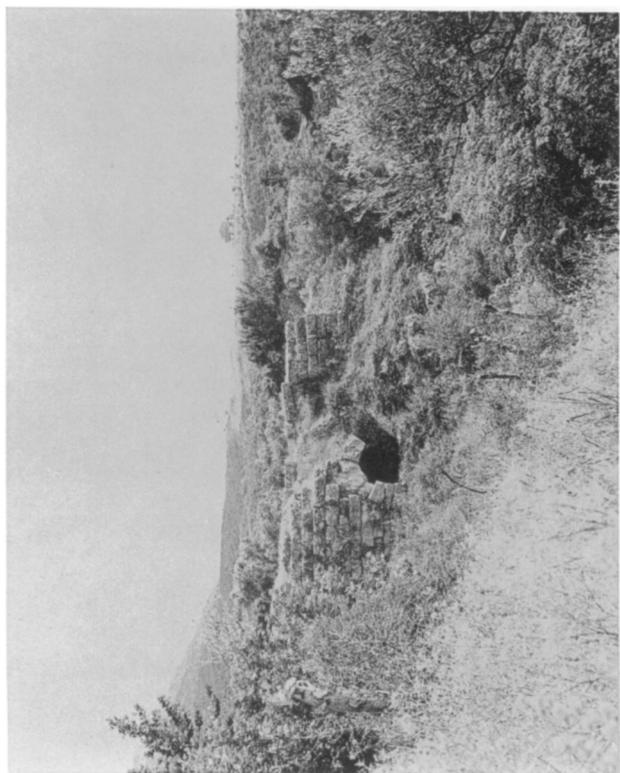
c. Stoa. Saltcellar 63.885



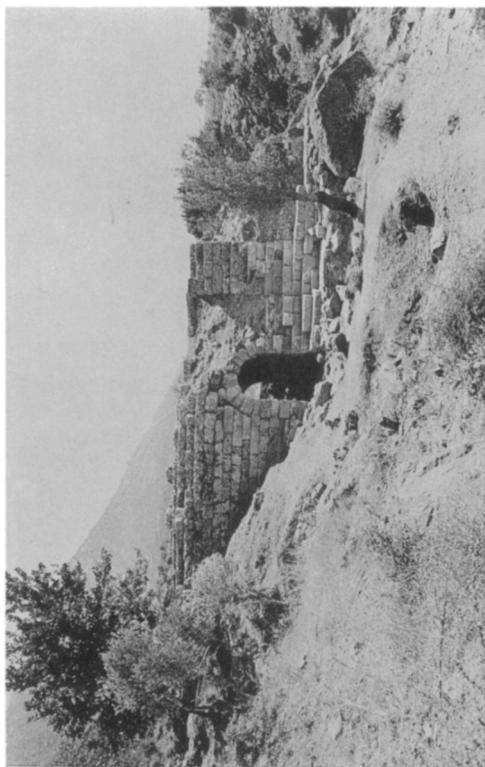
d. Stoa. Gilded Silver Ornament 63.1112



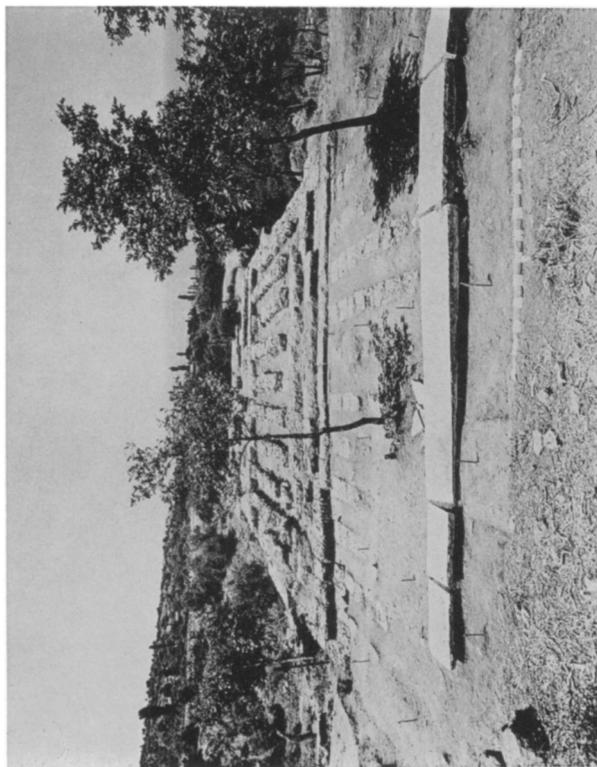
e. Stoa. Red-figured Fragment 62.583



a. Propylon from North, before Excavation (1963)



b. Propylon from North (1964)



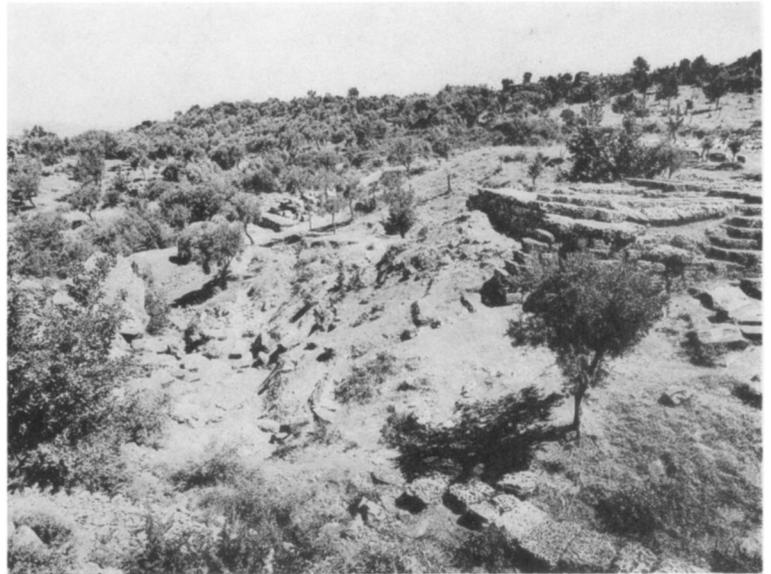
c. Propylon and Forecourt from East



d. Propylon. Vaulted Passage, from North



a. Propylon. Rubble Terrace at North of Foundation, from East



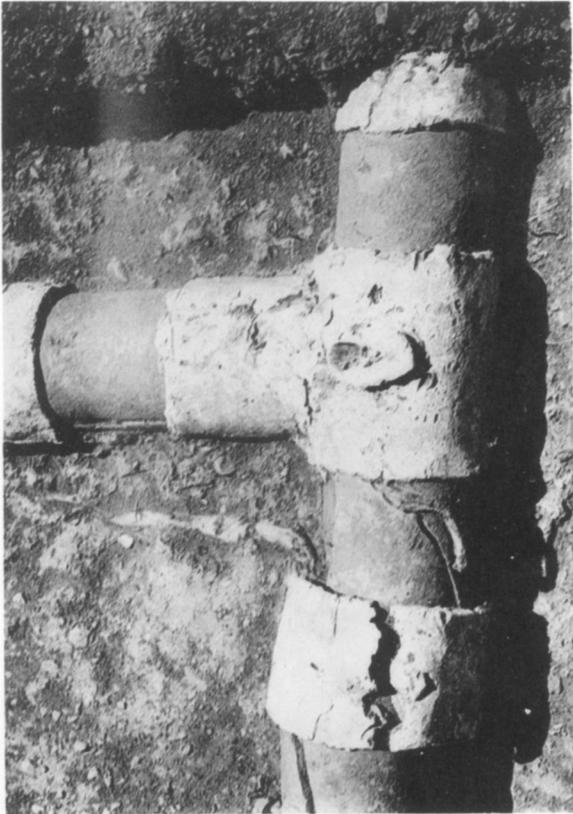
b. Propylon, Spur Wall, and Riverbed, from South



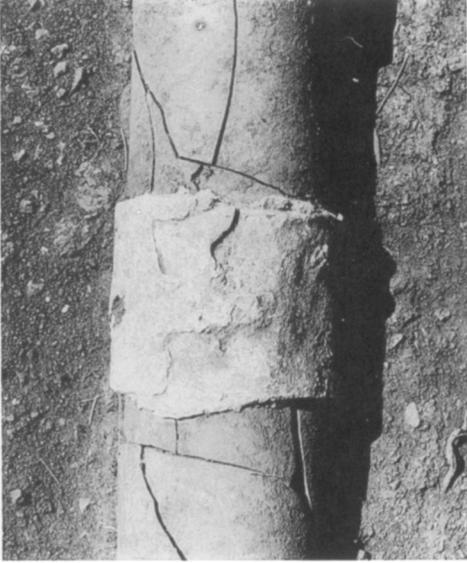
c. Propylon. Area East of Forecourt, from North



d. Platform on Eastern Hill of Sanctuary and Propylon, from West



a. Propylon. T-joint in Pipeline, from West



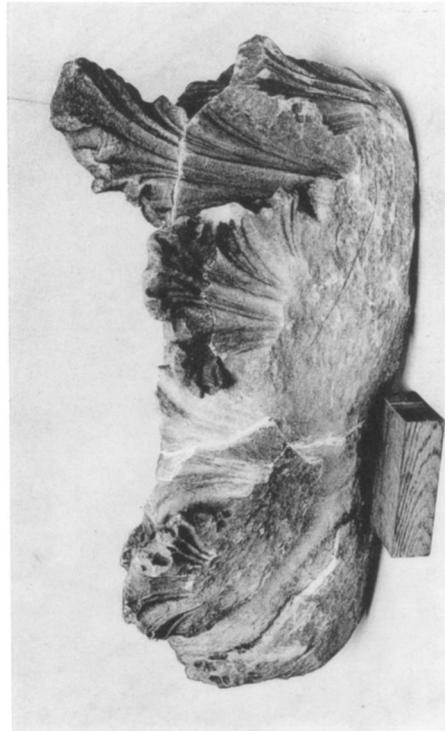
b. Propylon. Lead Collar over Joint in Pipeline



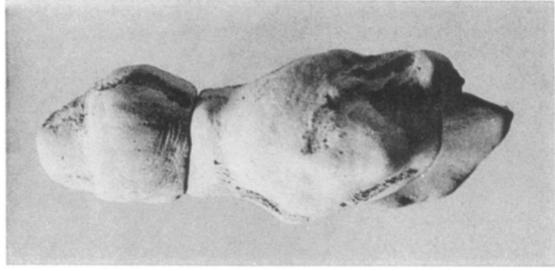
c. Propylon. Terracotta Head (63.267 D)



e. Eastern Hill. Fragmentary Epistyle (64.955)



d. Eastern Hill. Fragmentary Corinthian Capital (64.882)



f. Propylon. Terracotta Head (63.403)



a. Eastern Hill. Round Building, Base, and Platform, from South



b. Eastern Hill. Round Building, Base, Platform, and Stepped Structure, from West