

A ROMAN TOMB AT CORINTHIAN KENCHREAI

(PLATES 37-43)

ONE kilometer northeast of the harbor at Kenchreai stood an elaborate Roman tomb, isolated on a high, blunt ridge which juts into the sea. The site is outside the city walls and not far from the probable line of the road from Isthmia to Kenchreai. On the hillside to the southwest is a cemetery containing over a dozen late Roman chamber tombs, but no other ashlar tomb foundation has been found in the neighborhood.¹

The Kenchreai tomb was built in two stages which are structurally distinct and perhaps separate in time. A rectangular ashlar chamber, measuring inside 1.90 m. by 2.30 m., held the sarcophagus or burial urn (Pls. 37, 39, b). Around this finished chamber was erected a white marble façade over 8.00 m. square, supported by a massive limestone backing (Figs. 7, 8). The marble rested on a pair of Eleusinian limestone steps (Pl. 40, c). There was an elaborate base moulding and a high Ionic cornice (Pls. 38, 40, d, 42, b). Fragments of marble bearing Roman letters (Fig. 6, Pl. 43) were found scattered on the east side of the tomb. These probably had been broken from an inscribed orthostate block which once identified the monument.

Unlike contemporary tombs at Ostia,² this tomb was freestanding and except for minor details was finished equally well on all sides. Since the inscribed fragments were all found on the east side, the inscription was most likely on the east façade, making this the primary face of the tomb. Inland, to the west, the ridge rises slightly; it drops off more rapidly toward the sea, to east and south. The ancient road from Isthmia to Kenchreai most certainly did not skirt the coast. The shorter and more comfortable route lies farther inland, some 200 m. west of the monument. The tomb may have been visible from the road, but its primary orientation was toward the sea, a fact which may give some clue to its ownership.

The tomb was probably built in the 1st century after Christ. It had been taken

¹ It is a pleasure to thank Professor Robert L. Scranton for permission to study this monument and for his encouragement and advice throughout my work. Joseph W. Shaw gave me valuable instruction and criticism in preparing the drawings. I am grateful to Professor Henry S. Robinson for arranging the permit to excavate in 1969 and to Professor Paul A. Clement for his cooperation in organizing the work force. In making this study, I depended continuously on the library and staff at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, in particular Mrs. John A. Philippides, William B. Dinsmoor, Jr., and Charles K. Williams. Finally, I am indebted to Miss Mary Sturgeon, Mrs. Tamarah S. Wheeler and to my wife for their assistance in preparing the manuscript and the illustrations.

² The tomb of Cartilius Poplicola near the Porta Marina at Ostia is very similar. Maria Floriani Squarciapino, *Scavi di Ostia, Le Necropoli*, III, 1, Rome, 1955, pp. 171-181, figs. 70-75.

down by the 5th century, for several blocks from the inner chamber walls were re-used in near-by house walls of about that date. Most of the marble blocks were broken up, and the base of a limekiln was found about 16 m. west of the tomb.³ When first noticed in 1963, the monument was partly covered with earth and overgrown by scrub pine. Over half was excavated during July and August, 1964, by the University of Chicago and Indiana University, under the direction of Professor Robert L. Scranton.⁴ Clearing of the north and west sides was completed by the author in March, 1969.

The earth around the tomb showed no chronological stratigraphy. Two layers were distinguished, a layer of loose black topsoil, 0.20 m. to 0.50 m. deep, and below it a deeper layer of red, clayey earth which surrounded the limestone foundations and filled the setting trenches, as shown in the section on Plate 37.

In the topsoil was found a small quantity of late Roman sherds and marble chips. Marble and limestone blocks were half-buried in the red earth, their ends projecting into topsoil and sometimes visible at the surface. The red earth was bristling with marble chips and chunks of gray limestone. The inscribed fragments came from this layer, as did many fragments of the cornice and the small mouldings.

Sherds were more plentiful in the red earth, but were similar to those found nearer the surface. Most were from gray coarse-ware vessels which could suggest no close date. Many sherds had spiral grooving (Fig. 1, C) as on two late Roman jugs from the Athenian Agora, M 321 and M 371, dated in the 5th and 6th centuries after Christ.⁵ A hollow disk foot made of buff clay (Fig. 1, A) is shaped like the foot of a 4th century water jug from the Agora, M 356.⁶ A rim sherd from a shallow bowl of gray clay (Fig. 1, B) resembles the profile of late Roman kitchen pottery from Tarsus.⁷ One sherd of fine ware was found, a piece from the center of a Roman red ware saucer, stamped with a palm frond (Fig. 1, D).

In the same red earth was found the handle of a mouldmade lamp (Fig. 1, E). The handle is pierced, has double grooves on top and is flattened at the back. The clay is orange with a red glaze over white slip, very like the surface on a series of lamps identified by Miss Perlzweig as 2nd century imports from Ephesos.⁸ However the profile of the handle resembles the 4th century Roman lamps from Corinth, Broneer's type XXVIII.⁹

³ Robert L. Scranton, "Investigations at Corinthian Kenchreai," *Hesperia*, XXXVI, 1967, p. 186.

⁴ Robert L. Scranton, Edwin S. Ramage, "Investigations at Kenchreai," *Hesperia*, XXXIII, 1964, p. 145.

⁵ Henry S. Robinson, *The Athenian Agora*, V, Princeton, 1959, pp. 114, 118.

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 117.

⁷ Hetty Goldman, *Tarsus*, I, Princeton, 1950, p. 206, pl. 209, c.

⁸ Judith Perlzweig, *The Athenian Agora*, VII, Princeton, 1961, p. 6, No. 159, pl. 6.

⁹ Oscar Broneer, *Corinth*, IV, ii, Cambridge, Mass., 1930, pp. 102-114, pl. XXIX, no. 1206.

One badly corroded bronze coin was found in the red earth north of the foundations at a level with the bottom of the lowest step. The obverse faintly shows a head facing left. On the reverse is a woman striding left and dragging a captive or a prize. Below the exergue line are the letters TESA. The coin was probably minted in Thessalonika under Theodosius I, about A.D. 390.¹⁰

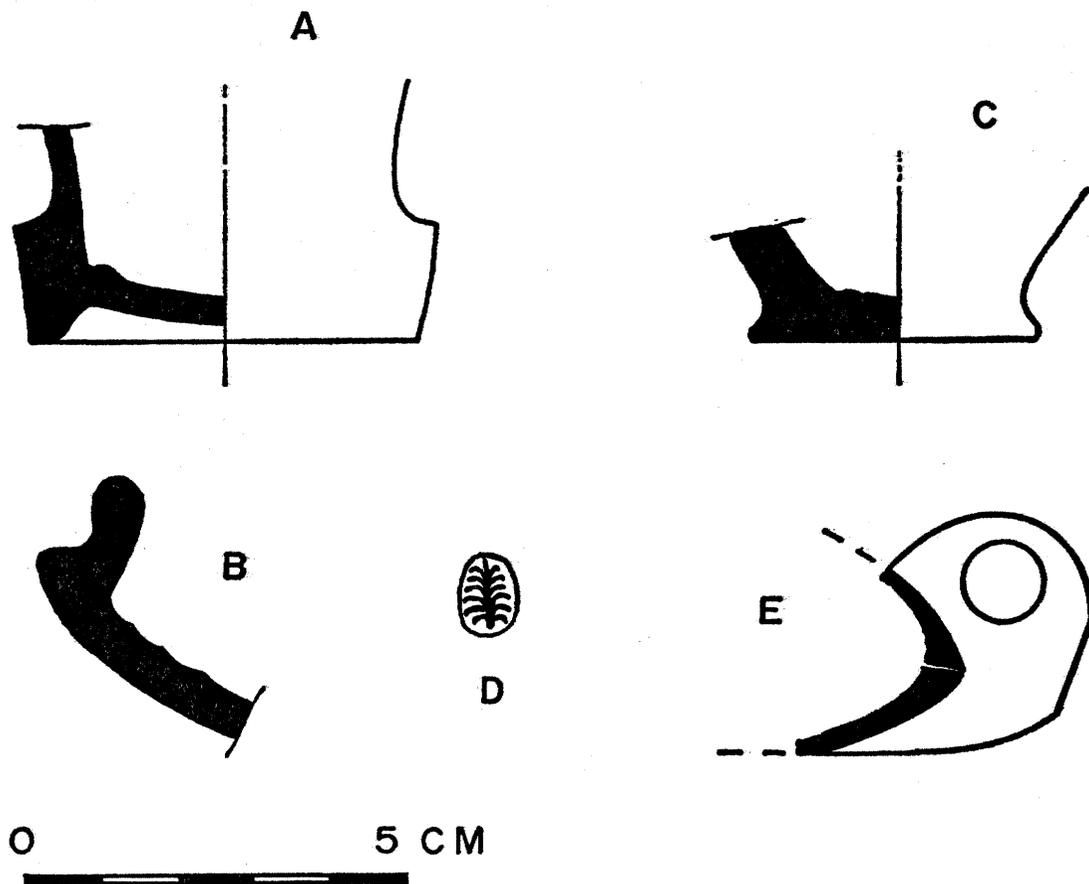


FIG. 1. Sherds from Red Earth Level.

The limestone foundation blocks were set firmly against the walls of the bedding trench at the south, east and north sides. There was a 0.20 m. wide setting trench on the west side. Only a handful of very worn sherds were found in the red earth which filled the trench. None of these has distinctive shape or fabric, but they seem like the worn sherds from the earth above.

No pottery was reported as found in 1964 in the packing between the inner

¹⁰ J. W. E. Pearce, *Roman Imperial Coinage*, IX, London, 1951, p. 188. Mint of Thessalonika, no. 65.

limestone chamber and the inside face of the limestone backing blocks, nor were there any sherds found within the chamber itself. Apparently, all the pottery and small finds belong to the later houses built on the ridge and tend to date the destruction of the tomb rather than its construction.

FOUNDATION

The tomb rests on a broad terrace formed by the quarrying of surface rock at the north and east. The builders used bedrock at the original level for the inner chamber floor. The foundation trenches for the inner chamber walls and the limestone backing were cut into the bedrock below the level of the chamber floor. The tomb would have been further protected from moisture by two rectangular channels cut 0.40 m. into the bedrock terrace about 10 m. west of the foundations. These channels run north to south and diverted surface water flowing from west to east down the gentle slope.

INNER CHAMBER

Two courses of long narrow blocks of the inner chamber remain *in situ* on the north and west sides; the first course and part of the second remain *in situ* on the east and south sides (Pls. 37, 39, b). Pry holes on the top of the second course indicate that there was a third, increasing the interior height to about 1.40 m. On the exterior, the chamber measures about 3.20 m. by 3.80 m. It is not oriented on exactly the same axis as the marble façade.

The limestone blocks of the inner chamber are softer and smoother than the backing blocks between the chamber and the façade. In the corners, one of the joining blocks is notched so that the other block is less apt to slip out of place. The ends of the blocks have no anathyrosis. All blocks are set end to end, each secured to the next by a single swallowtail clamp (Pl. 40, a). The clamp cuttings, about 0.30 m. long, are undamaged and contain no trace of lead. The clamps may have been wooden, as was common in Augustan and early Republican buildings in Italy.¹¹

The floor of the chamber is unworked bedrock and very irregular. There are no cuttings for pillars or floor slabs. Near the southeast corner is an uneven hole, about 0.16 m. in diameter and 0.25 m. deep. It is probably a natural hollow in bedrock and of no structural purpose.

On the interior, the blocks project unevenly, causing a rough surface. There is no trace of plaster or preparation for marble veneer. On the exterior, the blocks are dressed with broad, flat chisel strokes down to the level of the setting trench. The exterior joints were filled with plaster to seal against moisture and perhaps to give a finished appearance to the tomb in a preliminary stage.

¹¹ Marion E. Blake, *Ancient Roman Construction in Italy*, Washington, D. C., 1947, p. 187.

Four courses of blocks from the backing of the marble façade remain *in situ*, and there are blocks sufficient for two or three more courses lying near by. The gray limestone blocks are trimmed to rectangular shape and have no anathyrosis. The inner blocks rest on bedrock. The first course of outer blocks rests on the broad limestone platform which also supports the Eleusinian limestone stepped base. Iron hook clamps about 0.30 m. long were used to join the backing blocks to the Eleusinian limestone steps as well as to secure the mass of backing blocks at joining edges. The clamp cuttings are battered, but three clamps are preserved at the northwest corner. On the outer edge of the mass, the second and third courses of backing blocks have hook clamp cuttings at irregular intervals, where the upper step blocks and the base moulding blocks were attached.

Coarse concrete was used to fill gaps in the mass of blocks, and there are patches of this concrete against the outer face of the pile, occasionally showing the impression of another block. The irregular space between the inner chamber and the interior surface of the mass of limestone backing blocks was filled with a loose mixture of small stones and concrete. This packing was taken out along the west side in 1964 to expose the face of the chamber.

Six gray limestone piers found near by may have been used to cover the chamber, as illustrated in Figure 7. These piers are slimmer than the average limestone backing block, almost twice as long, and seem to be cut from the same local stone (Pl. 40, b). Two piers are 1.90 m. high: **29** and a second pier still buried north of the tomb. Pier blocks **27** and **28** are also complete, measuring 1.70 m. and 1.59 m. in height (Fig. 2). Most of the vertical edges have broad drafting, and occasionally the ends of the piers are drafted as well. The blocks may once have been gate piers or wall pillars. Certainly they were re-used at some time, and the re-use was probably in this tomb. At the ends of three piers (**28**, **29**, **30**) the original corners were cut away at about a 45° angle, and large hook clamps were set in the fresh surface. The shanks of the hook clamp cuttings are the same length as the shanks of the T clamp cuttings on cornice block **24** (Fig. 2) and much larger than the hook clamp cuttings in the limestone backers.

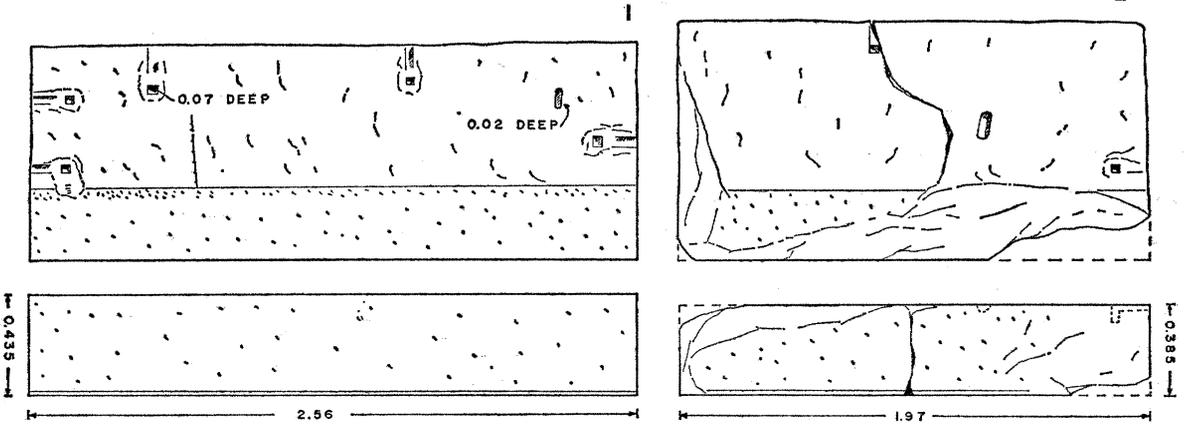
MARBLE FAÇADE

STEPS

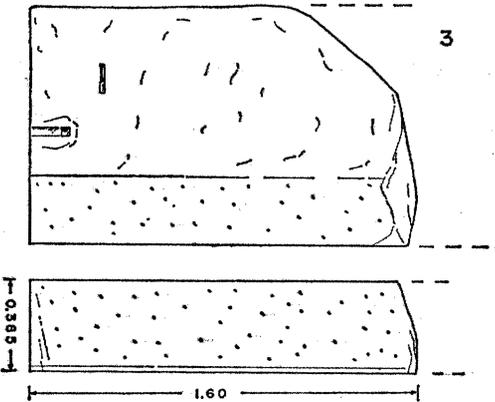
Eight blocks of the Eleusinian limestone base for the façade remain *in situ* at the northwest corner, and there is one near the southeast corner. The lowest step, represented by block **1**, is 0.435 m. high (Fig. 2, Pl. 40, c). Two blocks, **2** and **3** (Fig. 2), are from a second step, 0.385 m. high. Block **2** was found lying askew on top of the undisturbed first step blocks on the north side (Pl. 42, a). The step blocks vary in length and depth and are more often trapezoidal than rectangular. There is anathyrosis on the ends at the front and top edges where outer surfaces join. The

ELEUSINIAN LIMESTONE CREPIS

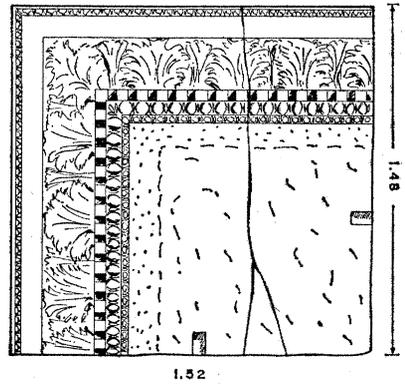
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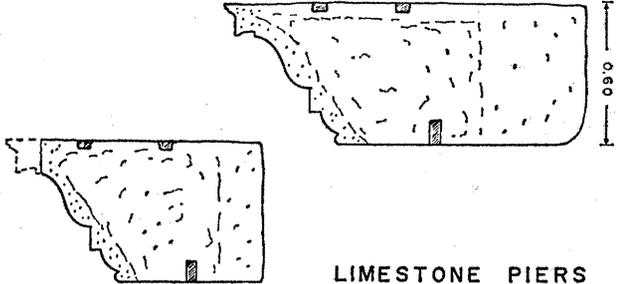
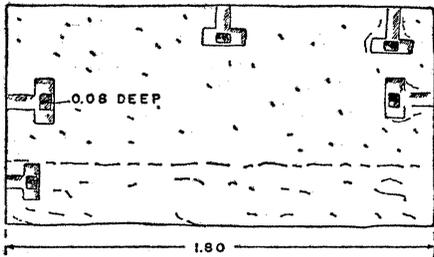
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CORNER CORNICE BLOCK 23



FLANK CORNICE BLOCK 24



LIMESTONE PIERS

MARBLE ORTHOSTATE 4

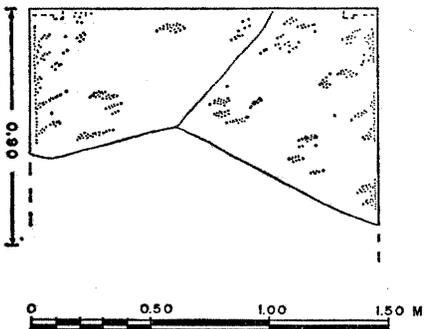


FIG. 2. Blocks from Kenchreai Tomb.

visible joints are tight, but the inner, hidden surfaces are roughly fitted, especially against the irregular limestone backing blocks. The exposed surfaces of the steps have a fine pebble finish, probably worked with a claw chisel. Along the bottom edge is a narrow polished fillet which assisted in the exact setting of the block. On the top of the limestone foundation a setting line was cut for the lowest step. On the top surface of block **1** and on the steps at the northwest corner is a fine setting line, 0.31 m. behind the face of the block. A similar line was scratched on the second step, 0.29 m. behind the face, the width of the tread diminishing with the height of the step.

There is a series of pry holes in the top surfaces of the lower step blocks *in situ*, and the indicated length of the upper blocks corresponds well with the two remaining blocks of the second step (restored plan, Fig. 7). The corner blocks of the lower step were secured by a pair of hook clamps, two of which remain at the northwest corner. On the flanks, single hook clamps were used to join step blocks to one another, as well as between step blocks and the limestone backers. The clamp cuttings spread at the ends, forming a swallowtail. This shape may have been easier to chisel and certainly would have let more lead flow down around the hook of the clamp.¹² There are no dowel holes in any of the step blocks. The rectangular cuttings on the upper surfaces of blocks **2** and **3** are pry holes.

BASE MOULDING

The white marble base moulding consisted of a torus carved with a guilloche, surmounted by a deeply receding cyma recta moulding carved with acanthus leaves (Pls. 38, 40, d). None of the fragments preserves the upper section of the cyma recta; consequently neither the exact profile nor the original height of the block is known. The half-round moulding carved with bead and reel is represented by only a few fragments, none of which join with the cyma recta. Though the marble and the workmanship are similar, the combination is no more than probable.

The guilloche is evenly proportioned, and the carving is crisp and deep. On several fragments the design runs in the opposite direction, probably reversing itself at the corners, as on the base moulding of the Bema at Corinth.¹³ One fragment shows an unfinished guilloche, carved only in outline. There are no traces of dowel holes preserved on the underside of the base moulding; however, only a small surface area remains.

WALL

The white marble façade is represented by six slightly damaged blocks and twice

¹² Mrs. Benjamin D. Meritt made this suggestion and cited the swallowtail hook clamp cuttings in Greek buildings at Delphi, Thasos and Samothrace. Note also, Roland Martin, *Manuel d'architecture Grecque*, Paris, 1965, p. 278, fig. 120.

¹³ Robert L. Scranton, *Corinth*, I, iii, Princeton, 1951, pp. 98-99, fig. 55.

as many intriguing fragments. Some of these were found among the limestone blocks above the tomb, but most were scattered on the ground near by. The blocks are presented in catalogue form with a commentary.

4. Orthostate block.

Fig. 2.

H. 0.90 m., L. 1.45 m., D. 0.35 m.

The orthostate block was found on the north side of the tomb near the northwest corner. The bottom of the block is completely missing. The face is more roughly picked than any other façade block and most closely resembles the surface of the inscribed fragments. There is a

narrow band of anathyrosis at each end along the front edge. On the face of the block there is no drafting, but along both side edges is a polished fillet, 0.015 m. wide. At each end of the block is a single T clamp cutting, 0.14 m. long and set back 0.12 m. from the front edge. At the end of the shank, below the cross of the T, is a deep hook clamp cutting, like that shown on Plate 41, a.

This complex T clamp cutting is repeated in all the marble façade blocks. The clamps are unique, if the cuttings were designed for a single use.¹⁴ Though all the clamp cuttings were damaged by metal thieves, there is no obvious example on any of the marble blocks of a hook clamp cutting made over an existing T clamp cutting, as on the epistyle-frieze blocks of the Façade of the Colossal Figures at Corinth.¹⁵

5. Header block.

Fig. 3.

H. 0.605 m. near the face, L. 0.39 m., D. 1.08 m.

The top edge and both upper corners are broken away. The inner end of the block is 0.04 m. longer than the face. There is anathyrosis at either side (end) but only along the front edges. The face is lightly stippled, except for a polished fillet, 0.01 m. wide, along the drafted bottom edge and down the sides. The smoothly

polished drafting is 0.035 m. wide, 0.005 m. deep, and its edge is cut at an angle. On each side (end) of the top surface, 0.15 m. behind the face, is a T clamp cutting. There are two similar T clamp cuttings near the back. On the underside of the block, 0.15 m. behind the face, there is a dowel hole 0.13 m. deep on each side. A pour channel leads down from the top of the block to the left dowel cutting, showing that this header was one of the last blocks set in the course.

The surface treatment and manner of drafting are uniform on all the marble blocks, and only minor differences will be subsequently noted. All blocks were cut from the same marble, the only variation being the amount of mica in veins through the stone.

6. Header block.

Fig. 3.

H. 0.605 m. near the face, L. 0.39 m., D. 1.07 m.

Both top corners and the upper half of the face are broken away. The block is shaped

just as 5. On the top surface at the right side near the back, in place of a T clamp cutting there is a hook clamp cutting, 0.10 m. long. The point of the hook and the width of the shank have exactly the same dimensions as do

¹⁴ Blake, *op. cit.*, p. 188.

¹⁵ Richard Stillwell, *Corinth*, I, ii, Cambridge, Mass., 1941, pp. 78-79.

their counterparts in the T clamp cuttings. There are dowel holes like those on block 5

on the underside at each edge, 0.26 m. behind the face.

The hook clamp is more appropriate in joining marble to limestone, especially where there is no anathyrosis.¹⁶ The combination hook and T clamp seems unnecessarily strong and would have been more difficult to cast and to fix in place. Scraps of iron were found in both the hook and the T cuttings, so there is no question about the shape of these clamps.

7. Stretcher block.

Fig. 3.

H. 0.24 m., L. 0.30 m., D. 0.52 m.

The bottom right corner is preserved to the original depth. There is anathyrosis on the end of the block at the face and at the inner edge. The underside was trimmed up toward the back. Only the bottom edge of the face is drafted. There is one dowel hole in the bed, set at a slight angle, 0.24 m. behind the front edge.

8. Stretcher block.

Fig. 3.

H. 0.59 m., L. 1.30 m., D. 0.43 m.

The face and top of the block have been broken away almost completely, and one end is gone. On the underside there is neatly cut anathyrosis at the face and the rear edge. The face of the block has drafting along the bottom edge and up the right vertical edge. There are no clamp cuttings preserved. There is a dowel hole in the underside of the block at the right end and a second in the top surface near the center.

9. Stretcher block.

Fig. 3.

H. 0.61 m., L. 0.55 m., D. 0.38 m.

The left end and back of the block are miss-

ing. On the remaining end, there is anathyrosis at the face and the top edge. On the top surface, there is anathyrosis only at the front edge. There is drafting on the face at the bottom edge and along the vertical edge at the right end of the block. At this end are two clamp cuttings. Near the face is a T clamp cutting, as on block 6. The inner clamp cutting, though partly broken away, certainly held a hook clamp. The cutting is 0.17 m. long and made at a slight angle. On the top surface is a dowel hole 0.40 m. from the right end of the block. On the right end at the bottom edge is a second dowel hole, as on 8.

10. Stretcher block.

Fig. 3.

H. 0.20 m., L. 0.37 m., D. 0.50 m.

Only the bottom left corner remains, though the depth of the block is complete. There is anathyrosis on the end at the front edge and on the underside at the front and rear edges. The face of the block is drafted at the base and along the vertical edge at the left end, just the opposite of 9. There is a dowel hole in the end of the block, 0.13 m. behind the face. A pour channel leads down the side to the top of the dowel hole.

If header blocks 5 and 6 are typical, all headers may have been 0.39 m. long and about 1.08 m. deep. There were dowels in the underside at both ends, but there was no vertical drafting. Stretcher blocks would have been over 1.30 m. long and about 0.43-0.52 m. deep. There was a dowel in the upper surface near the center and a dowel in the underside at each end of the block. Either there was drafting at both ends of the stretcher, or some blocks were drafted at one end and some at the opposite end.

¹⁶ Blake, *op. cit.*, p. 187, note 47.

MARBLE FACADE BLOCKS

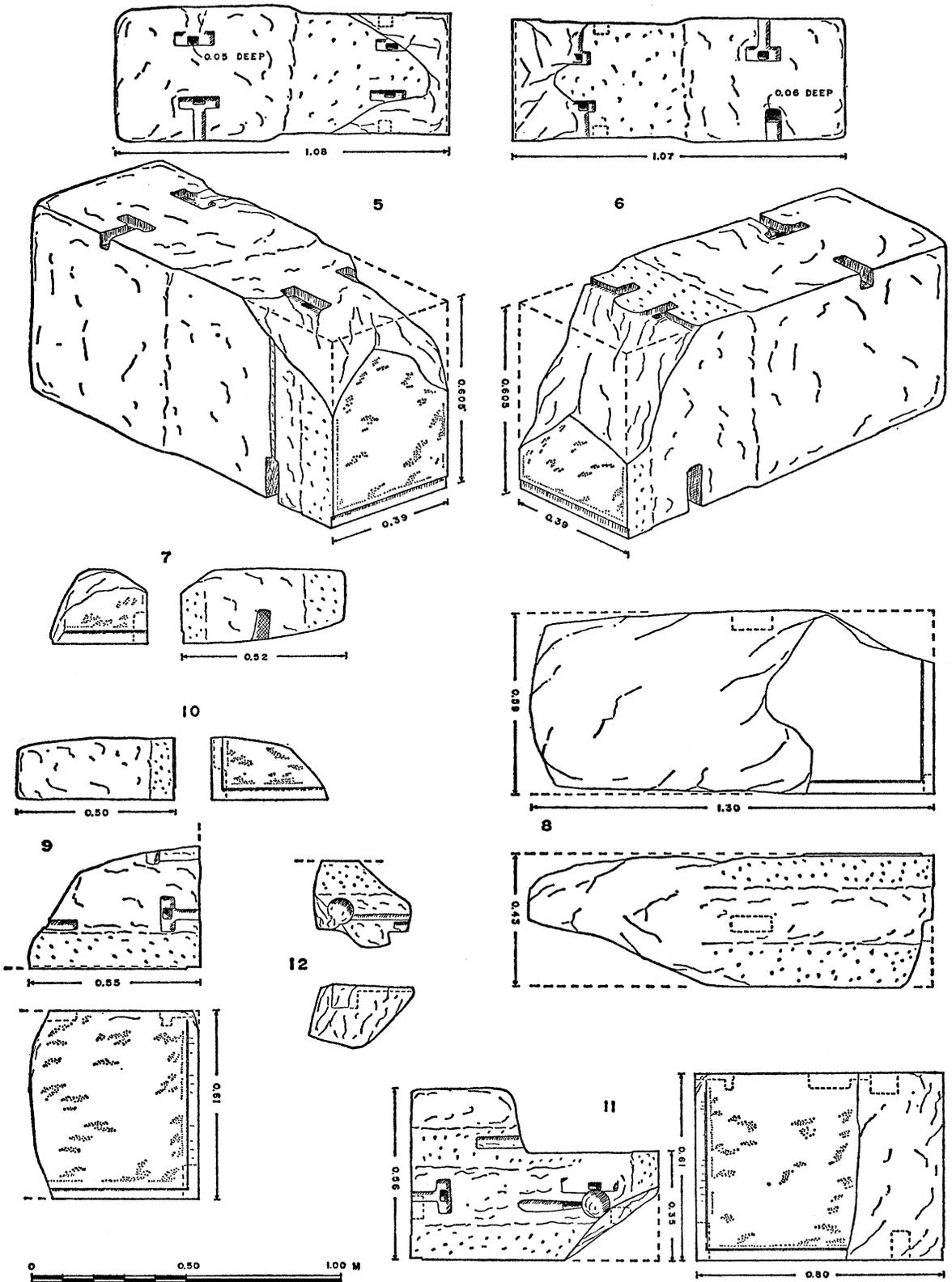


FIG. 3. Blocks from Kenchreai Tomb.

11. Corner block. Fig. 3, Pl. 41, b.

H. 0.61 m., L. 0.80 m. and 0.35 m., D. 0.56 m.

The corner is completely gone, but sections of both faces remain. There is anathyrosis at the front edge of both ends. On the top surface, there is anathyrosis at the longer face and a second broad band near the center of the block. The bottom edges of both faces are drafted, as is the left vertical end of the longer side. There is a T clamp cutting at each end of the block. On the top surface, near the corner, are two dowel holes, one circular and one rectangular. The circular cutting is 0.09 m. in diameter, 0.065 m. deep, and set about 0.18 m. from the two sides. It was leaded through a short pour channel, 0.02 m. deep. At the end of the pour channel is the rectangular dowel, 0.13 m. long and 0.05 m. deep, which secured a stretcher block in the next higher course, as shown in Figure 7. The width of the stretcher is indicated by a deep pry hole cut in the anathyrosis panel, 0.36 m. behind the long face. On the underside of the block is a square dowel hole set slightly closer to the corner than the circular dowel but certainly part of the same system. There is a standard dowel hole at the deeper end of the block, 0.14 m. from the face.

12. Corner block. Fig. 3.

H. 0.21 m., L. 0.35 m., D. 0.28 m.

Only a small fragment of the top surface and the face of the block remains. There is anathyrosis on the top, as on **11**. The dowel holes

are also similar, one circular and one rectangular. The circular dowel hole is 0.08 m. in diameter and 0.07 m. deep. It has a shallow pour channel, 0.18 m. long, which seems to have ended just where the block was broken. Near the broken back edge of the block is a half preserved dowel hole, over 0.06 m. long, 0.04 m. wide and about 0.06 m. deep. It corresponds to the rectangular dowel in **11**, securing the stretcher block in the course above.

13. Corner block. Fig. 4.

H. 0.32 m., L. 0.37 m., D. 0.20 m.

The entire upper half and one end of the block are gone. There is anathyrosis at the face of the block on the underside and at the end. The bottom edge of the face is drafted on both sides, but there is no vertical drafting. If the block was L-shaped, it would have been the reverse of blocks **11** and **12**, with the short face at the opposite side of the corner. There is a standard dowel hole on the underside of the block at the end, 0.12 m. from the face. Near the corner is a narrow cutting, 0.04 m. wide and 0.055 m. deep, but cut through by the broken edge. It is probably part of a square dowel hole, as in the bed of block **11**.

14. Corner block. Fig. 4.

H. 0.35 m., L. 0.27 m., D. 0.13 m.

Only the top corner of the block remains, as though it were the upper half of **11** or **13**. There is anathyrosis on the top surface, but no trace of clamp cuttings or dowel holes.

To judge from these examples, it seems likely that the corner blocks were all L-shaped and set in alternating courses with a long side over a short side. The vertical edge at the end of the block may have been drafted on the long side, not on the short side.

15. Center-drafted block. Fig. 4, Pl. 41, f.

H. 0.605 m., L. 0.45 m., D. 0.43 m.

Both ends of the block are broken away. The back is cut at an angle, so that the block is deeper at the right side. There is anathyrosis

on the top surface at the front edge. The bottom edge of the face is drafted, and there is vertical drafting cut into the face of the block, dividing it into two panels as though marking a joint in the masonry. There is a T clamp cutting on the top at the back edge.

MARBLE FACADE BLOCKS

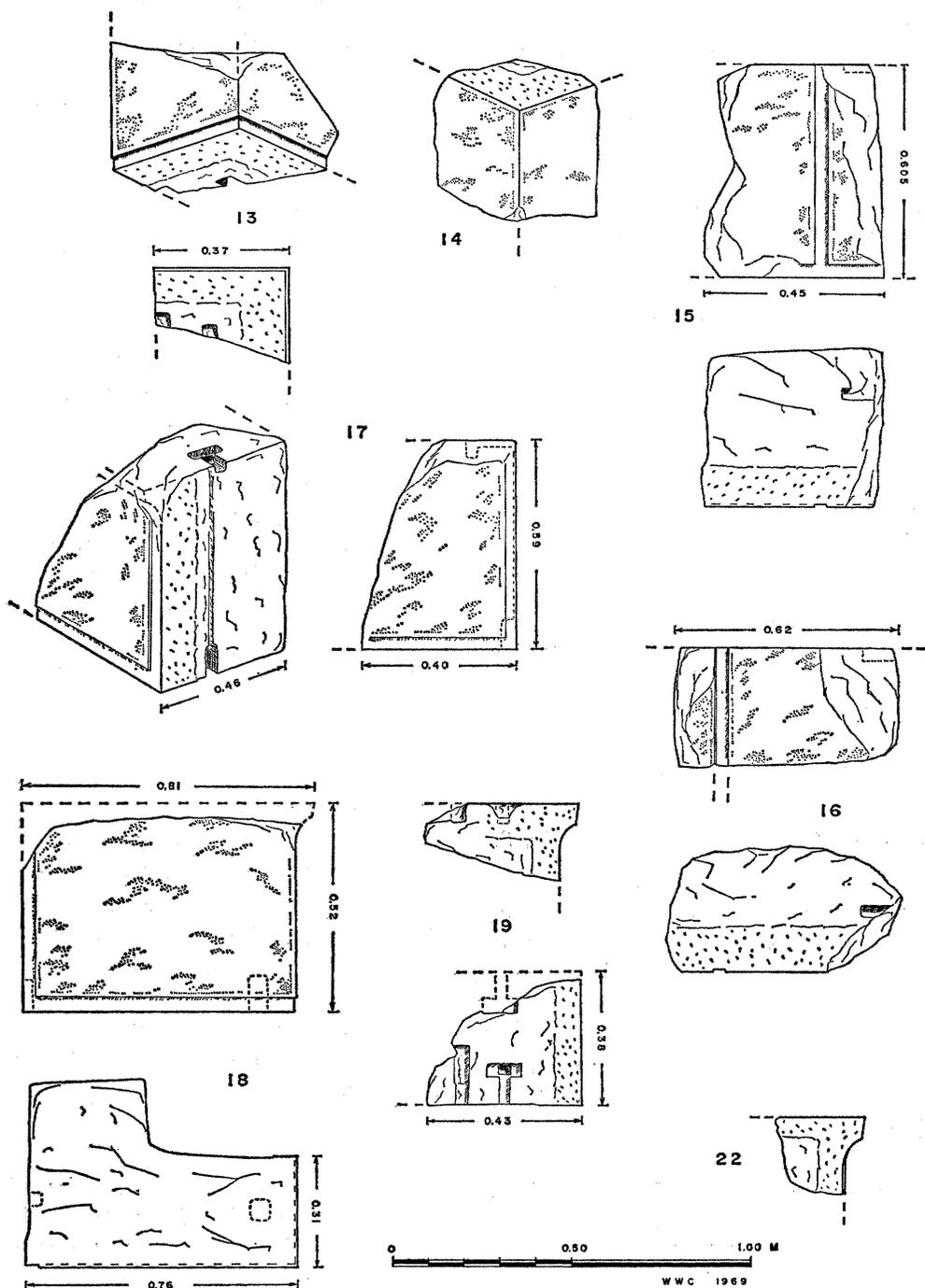


FIG. 4. Blocks from Kenchreai Tomb.

16. Center-drafted block. Fig. 4.

H. 0.32 m., L. 0.62 m., D. 0.33 m.

Only a small part of the face and top of the block remains. There is an isolated drafted

strip cut vertically on the face. On the top surface is a band of anathyrosis at the front edge. Behind the anathyrosis is a rectangular dowel hole, 0.14 m. from the face of the block.

Judging from the shallowness of **15** and the position of the dowel in the top surface of **16**, both center-drafted blocks were stretchers.

The marble blocks with cavetto crown moulding are more numerous. The profile is consistent as shown in Figure 5, **20** and in the elevation of the northeast corner, Plate 38. The stone and surface treatment are identical to previously described façade blocks.

17. Cavetto block. Fig. 4, Pl. 41, a, e.

H. 0.59 m., L. 0.40 m., D. 0.46 m.

The left end of the block and the top edge of the face are broken away, leaving only the beginning of the curve of the cavetto moulding. There is anathyrosis on the end of the block at the front edge. The bottom edge of the face is drafted, as is the vertical edge at the end. The vertical drafting would have continued up into the curve of the moulding, as on **22**. On the top surface is a customary T clamp cutting, set 0.16 m. behind the face. There is a dowel hole on the underside at the end of the block, 0.13 m. behind the face. A pour channel leads down to the dowel from beside the clamp cutting.

broken top surface. Since the restored height of the cavetto block is about 0.59 m. and the corresponding round dowels in corner blocks **11** and **12** are about 0.07 m. deep, this block was probably not doweled to the course above.

19. Cavetto block. Fig. 4.

H. 0.18 m., L. 0.38 m., D. 0.43 m.

The fragment is from the top left corner of a cavetto block and displays the complete profile of the moulding. The taenia is 0.054 m. high and projects 0.055 m. from the face of the block. The visible surfaces have the same pebbled finish as on the façade blocks. On the top surface at the left is a T clamp cutting. At the opposite end is a second T clamp cutting, the shank of which is broken away. Near the broken back edge, on the top surface, is a dowel hole, 0.11 m. long and 0.07 m. deep. This large dowel, 0.32 m. from the face of the block, matches closely the position of dowels on the underside of flank cornice block **24**.

18. Corner cavetto block. Fig. 4.

H. 0.52 m., L. at bottom 0.76 m. and 0.31 m., D. 0.52 m.

The block has the same L-shape as corner block **11** and nearly the same dimensions, both sides being 0.04 m. shorter. The upper surface of the block is completely broken away to below the depth of the clamp cuttings, of which no trace remains. There is anathyrosis at each end at the outer edges. The bottom edges are drafted and there is vertical drafting at the joint edge of the longer face. On the underside of the deeper end is a standard dowel hole with no pour channel. Near the corner is a square dowel hole as on blocks **11** and **12**. There is no trace of a round dowel hole on the

20. Cavetto block. Fig. 5.

H. 0.32 m., L. 0.79 m., D. 0.15 m.

The long fragment is broken at both ends and split away from the block at the back. The surface is dressed with a toothed chisel and finished as on **19**. The top surface is picked level with no indication of anathyrosis; there may have been a band of anathyrosis over 0.15 m. wide. The moulding is noticeably smaller than on blocks **19**, **21** and **22**, though

the profile is the same. The taenia is 0.04 m. high and projects 0.04 m. from the face of the block.

21. Corner cavetto block. Pl. 41, c.

H. 0.20 m., L. 0.18 m.

The fragment shows the joining of two cavetto mouldings at the corner. The top of the block is smooth and level, though very little

The façade was crowned by an Ionic cornice built from massive blocks of white marble. Both the northeast corner block and the adjoining block on the north side are preserved. The carving of the cornice, like that of the base moulding, is quite fine and uniform. A small half-round carved with bead and reel forms the bed moulding. The second lowest moulding is a fairly flat ovolo carved with egg and dart, the separate elements of which do not match the spacing of the dentils above. Projecting beyond the dentils is a large cyma recta moulding, decorated with acanthus leaves, like those on the base moulding. Above the cyma recta projects a plain corona, crowned by a small cyma reversa with a narrow fascia at the upper edge. The cyma reversa is carved with a delicate Lesbian leaf pattern on the east side of the cornice. The same design is only outlined on the north side, suggesting that the east side was the more important of the two.

23. Corner Cornice block. Fig. 2, Pl. 42, b.

H. 0.60 m., L. 1.03 m., W. 0.98 m.

The block was found lying top down on the ground near the northeast corner of the tomb, presumably as it fell when the tomb was broken apart. Although split across the center, the block is complete. The carving is almost unworn. There is anathyrosis on the ends of the block: a narrow band at the outer edge following the curve of the mouldings, and rougher patches along the top, bottom and rear edges. The bottom surface is evenly picked to a level, with smooth bands of anathyrosis at both outer edges. The top of the block has been worked to a level surface only in a narrow strip along the outer edge, above the projecting corona. Toward the center of the block, the rough picked surface rises to a higher level.

Several small pieces of a cyma reversa moulding cut from white marble were found mixed with the blocks and marble chips around the tomb. Two mouldings

remains. There is no trace of clamp cuttings or dowel holes.

22. Cavetto block. Fig. 4.

H. 0.18 m., L. 0.20 m., D. 0.25 m.

The fragment is from one end of a cavetto block with a drafted left edge. The drafting blends into the curve of the moulding below the projecting fascia. No clamp cuttings or dowel holes remain.

24. Flank cornice block. Fig. 2.

H. 0.59 m., L. 1.80 m., D. 0.93 m.

The block was found about 3 m. north of **23**. The projecting corona is broken away, but otherwise the block is complete. The underside is evenly dressed. The top surface is rough near the front edge, as on **23**, but smoother in the area of the clamps. There is a pair of T clamp cuttings at the left edge, joining the corner block. In the opposite end is a single T clamp cutting. At the back of the block are two similar T clamp cuttings, probably used to secure the cornice block to the limestone backing or perhaps to a marble slab roof. All of the T clamp cuttings are much larger than those in the marble façade blocks but have the same design, with a deep hook or tang projecting downward at the end of the shank.

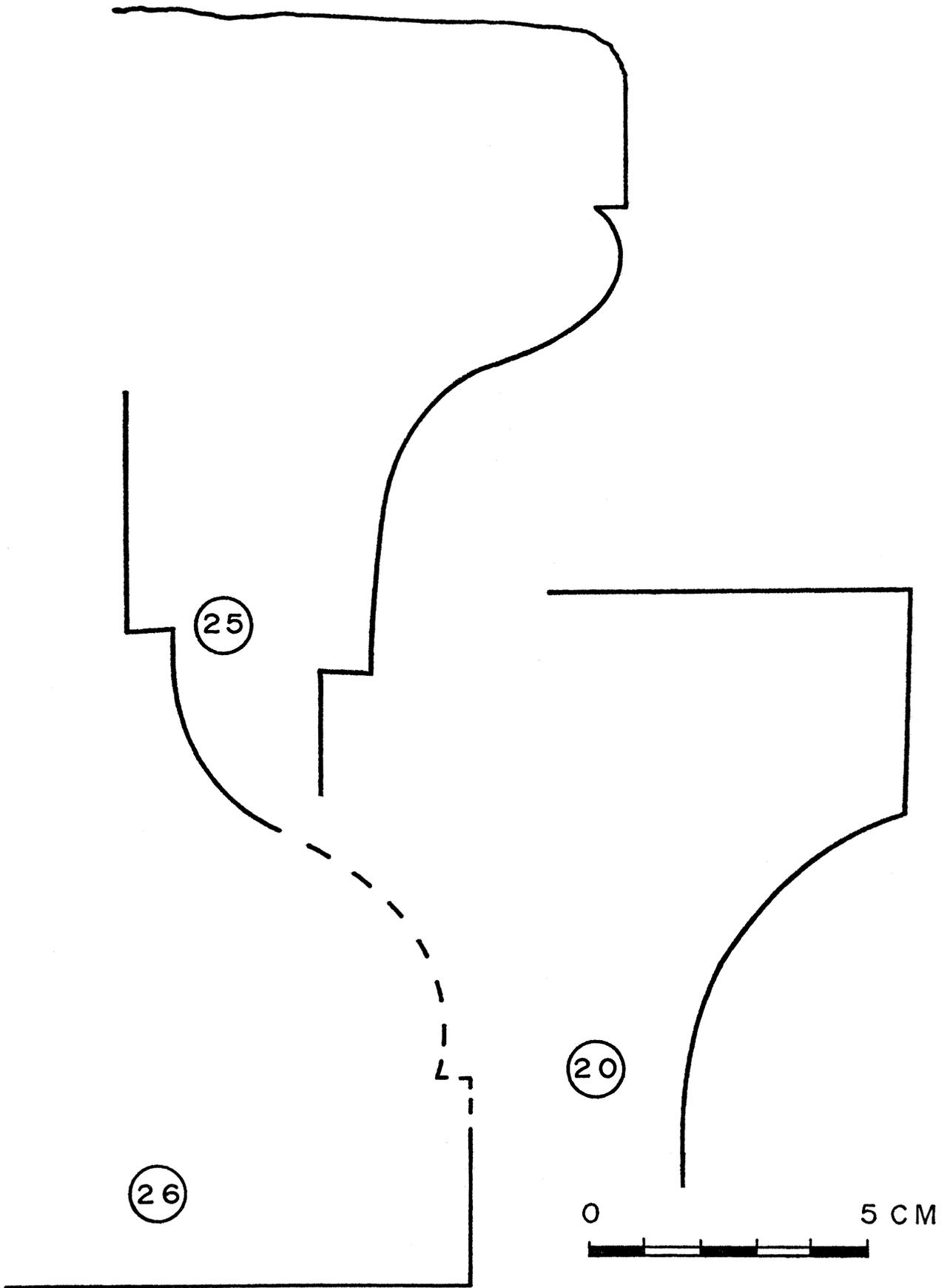


FIG. 5. Profiles of Mouldings from Kenchreai Tomb.

are represented, one of which must be from the top of a block, while the other may have been a base moulding. The marble is much like the stone used in the façade blocks, and the scale of the cyma reversa is proportionate to the other mouldings from the tomb. The finished surfaces are smoother than the cavetto moulding, and the workmanship resembles the carving on the cornice blocks. The cyma reversa, however, is much less weathered, as though it had been used in a protected position.

25. Cyma reversa, carved with Lesbian leaf.
Fig. 5, Pl. 41, d.

H. 0.19 m., L. 0.56 m., D. 0.22 m.

The moulding is broken at both ends, along the bottom, and split away from the block at the back. What must have been the top surface is rough picked and not level. The Lesbian leaf pattern is arranged in alternating pairs of large and smaller leaves. The sets of smaller leaves are both shorter and more narrow than the large leaves which cover the full height of the moulding. The small portion of exterior surface below the moulding has the pebbled

surface and 0.01 m. wide fillet characteristic of the marble façade blocks.

26. Cyma reversa, plain. Fig. 5.

H. 0.15 m., L. 0.20 m., D. 0.12 m.

Most of the moulding is broken away, so that the curve of the cyma reversa must be restored. The fragment shows one smoothly finished end, but is broken at the top and split away at the back. What may be the underside of the block is hammer dressed to a level bed. The small area of exterior face above the moulding is similar to the pebbled surface of 25, including the polished fillet.

TITULUS SEPULCRALIS

Forty-one small fragments of marble inscribed with Roman letters were found mixed with the marble and limestone blocks on the east side of the tomb.¹⁷ The stone is identical to that used on the façade. The original inscribed surface was dressed with a toothed chisel in vertical strokes and curving arcs. The surface is rougher than the surface of standard wall blocks but is exactly the same as the finish on orthostate block 4. The thickest fragment measures 0.24 m. None of the pieces have a finished edge and none of the letters appear to be from the beginning or end of lines.

The inscription was carefully cut, though the letters do vary slightly in height in a single line. Letter grooves are sharp and deep (0.005 m.) and finished to show no sign of individual chisel strokes. There are long serifs on the ends of all verticals and horizontals. I could see no guidelines for lettering.

The shading of letters is pronounced; vertical strokes are broader and deeper than the shorter horizontals.¹⁸ There is one example of a tall T with its horizontal

¹⁷ A complete epigraphical description with further restorations will be presented by Dr. Silvio Skefich, Indiana University, in the final publication of inscriptions from Kenchreai. The readings, observation and restorations offered here are my own.

¹⁸ Joyce S. Gordon, Arthur E. Gordon, *Contributions to the Palaeography of Latin Inscriptions* (University of California Publications in Classical Archaeology, III, 3), 1957, p. 81.

bar extending over the top of the normal size I to the right (Pl. 43, a). The punctuation is of standard form, a down-pointing triangle placed at mid-height in a line.¹⁹ No ligatures were used, as far as can be seen. The fragments show no combinations of large and small letters in a single line. On each fragment, letters in a single line are nearly uniform in height and the interlinear spacing is maintained, as far as one can tell. These observations tend to confirm the restoration of a tall text rather than a short text with irregularities in spacing and letter heights.

Twelve of the larger fragments may be arranged by matching letter heights and interlinear spacing to form a ten-line inscription. So restored (Fig. 6), it would have been 0.86 m. high, fitting neatly on the orthostate course, which was at least 0.90 m. high. From top to bottom, there would have been two lines of small letters (0.052 m. high), followed by two lines of large letters (*ca.* 0.096 m. high), two lines of medium size letters (0.076 and 0.072 m. high) and four lines of small letters (one 0.063 and three *ca.* 0.052 m. high).

Fragment no. 5 shows a line of large letters below a line of small letters, and above an 0.026 m. space the serif of a vertical stroke. The height of the lower line of letters in nos. 2 and 13 matches the small letters in no. 5, and the interlinear space coincides to show there were two lines of small letters above the large letters. Fragment no. 9 indicates there were at least two lines of large letters. No. 1, 4 shows two lines of medium size letters below the tails of these large letters. At the bottom of no. 1, 4 is the top of an O which may belong in the series of small letters restored below. The interlinear spacing of no. 33, 34, no. 41, and no. 27, 30 indicates their relationship to one another and shows they cannot fit with the two lines of small letters on fragments no. 2, 13, and 5. The link between fragment no. 1, 4 and the lowest four lines of small letters is admittedly weak. The tail of an R in the top line of no. 27 matches the medium size R in no. 1, 4. The letters of the second line of no. 27 and the first line of no. 33, 34 must belong together in the only line 0.063 m. high. Unless the orthostate course was much higher than 0.92 m., there is simply no space on the block for an 11th line of letters.²⁰

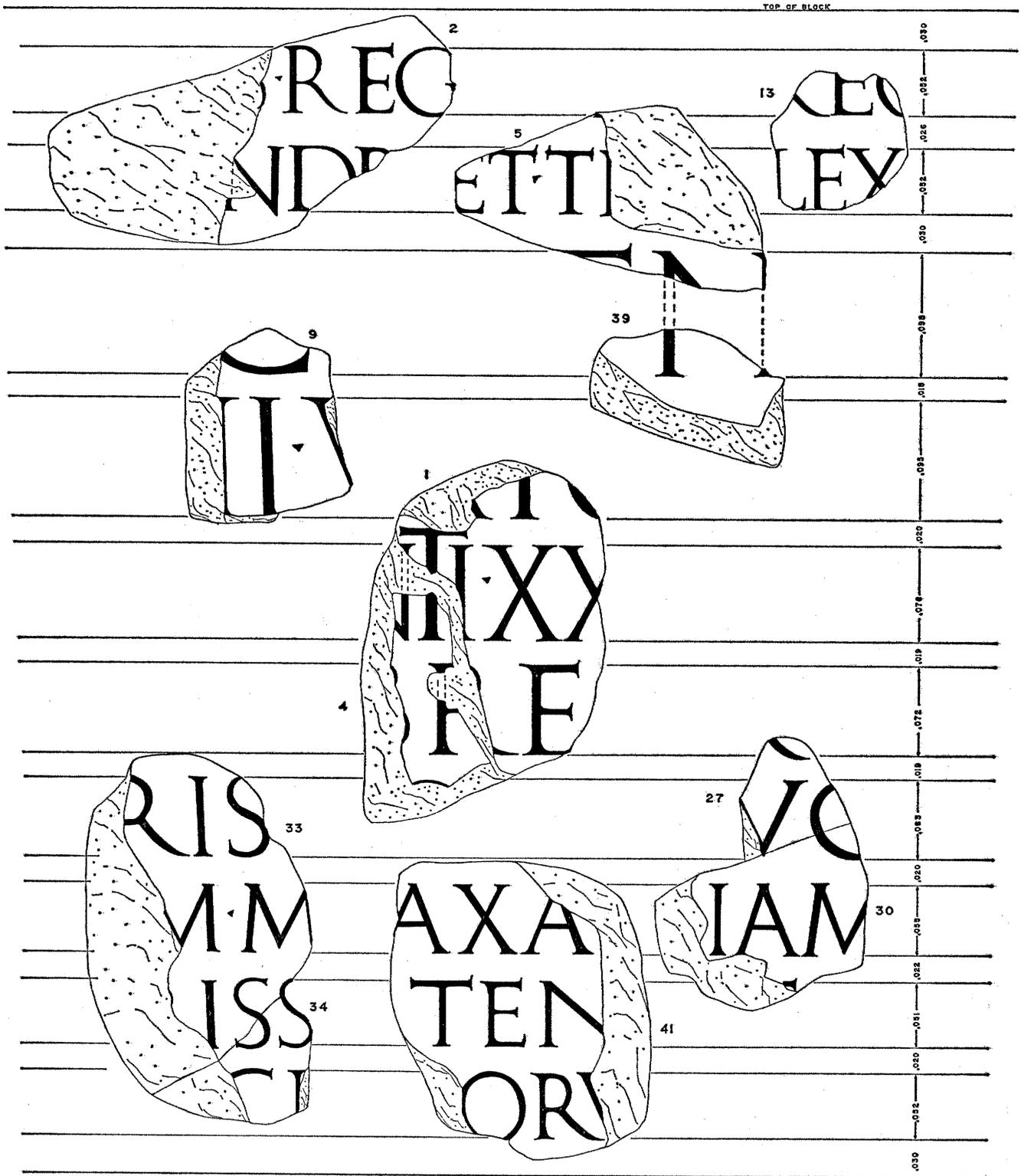
This ten-line restoration reserves a margin of 0.03 m. at the top of the orthostate block below the drafted edge of the succeeding marble wall block and an equally wide margin between the bottom line of the inscription and the bead and reel of the base moulding. The text was probably not broken to overlap the marble wall block above, as the drafting would have made a dark shadow and an unusually wide space between lines. The following catalogue contains only those fragments used in the restoration.²¹

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 183.

²⁰ Arthur E. Gordon, *Album of Dated Latin Inscriptions*, Berkeley, California, 1958, No. 111 shows a similar sequence.

²¹ The joins between fragments 1 and 4, 27 and 30, and 33 and 34 were confirmed by Dr. Skefich.

INSCRIBED FRAGMENTS RESTORED ON ORTHOSTATE BLOCK



ONLY VERTICAL SPACING IS CORRECT

0 .10 .20 M

WVC 1969

FIG. 6. Restoration of Inscribed Fragments on Orthostate.

1, 4. Fig. 6, Pl. 43, a.

H. 0.35 m., W. 0.20 m., Th. 0.20 m.

Letter height, 0.076 m. (second line), 0.072 m. (third line).

Space between lines (top to bottom), 0.02 m., 0.017 m., 0.022 m.

The letters in the top line may be of the largest size, about 0.095 m. high. The tall T in the second line is 0.09 m. high. There is a faint but definite punctuation mark between the I and X in the second line.

XIC
NTI·XX
BRE
O

2. Fig. 6.

H. 0.25 m., W. 0.36 m., Th. 0.10 m.

Letter height, 0.053 m. (top line), 0.052 m. (second line).

Space between lines, 0.026 m.

The inscribed surface is slightly weathered, but the letters are sharp.

[CASTRICIU]S·REG[ULUS]
NDR

5. Fig. 6

H. 0.16 m., W. 0.25 m., Th. 0.06 m.

Letter height, 0.05 m. (upper line).

Space between lines (top to bottom), 0.026 m., 0.03 m.

The restoration is suggested by an inscription from Corinth.²²

[AGONOTH]ET·TI[BEREON
CAESAREON SEBASTEON]
EN

9. Fig. 6.

H. 0.16 m., W. 0.14 m., Th. 0.03 m.

Letter height, ca. 0.09 m. (bottom line).

Space between lines, 0.018 m.

The letters and numerals are all of the large size.

C
II·V[IR]

13. Fig. 6.

H. 0.125 m., W. 0.12 m., Th. 0.025 m.

Letter height, 0.052 m. (lower line).

Space between lines, 0.026 m.

REG
LEX

27, 30. Fig. 6

H. 0.23 m., W. 0.18 m., Th. 0.04 m.

Letter height, 0.06 m. (second line), 0.057 m. (third line).

Space between lines (top to bottom), 0.019 m., 0.020 m., 0.021 m.

R
VO
IAM
E

33, 34. Fig. 6.

H. 0.31 m., W. 0.21 m., Th. 0.06 m.

Letter height, 0.062 m. (top line), 0.053 m. (second line), 0.057 m. (third line).

Space between lines (top to bottom), 0.020 m., 0.022 m., 0.018 m.

The restoration of the last line joins no. 41.

RIS
M·M
.ISS[IMUS]
[DE]CR[ETO COLON]ORV[M]

39. Fig. 6.

H. 0.14 m., W. 0.24 m., Th. 0.05 m.

The bottom of two vertical strokes may be the base of the N on no. 5.

N

41. Fig. 6, Pl. 43, b.

H. 0.265 m., W. 0.164 m., Th. 0.13 m.

Letter height, 0.053 m. (top line), 0.051 m. (second line), 0.052 m. (third line).

²² John Harvey Kent, *Corinth*, VIII, iii, *The Inscriptions 1926-1950*, Princeton, 1966, no. 153, pp. 70-72.

Space between lines (top to bottom), 0.023 m. and 0.021 m.

The surface is slightly weathered and coated with a thin lime deposit.

AXA
TEN
[COLON]ORV[M]

If the inscription can be restored with the name of L. Castricius Regulus, followed by a long *cursus honorum*, this is the tomb of one of the most prosperous and generous Corinthians. He was *duovir quinquennalis* at Corinth during the reign of Tiberius (A.D. 14-37) and the first Corinthian *agonothetes* at Isthmia in the Roman era.²³

RESTORATION OF THE MONUMENT

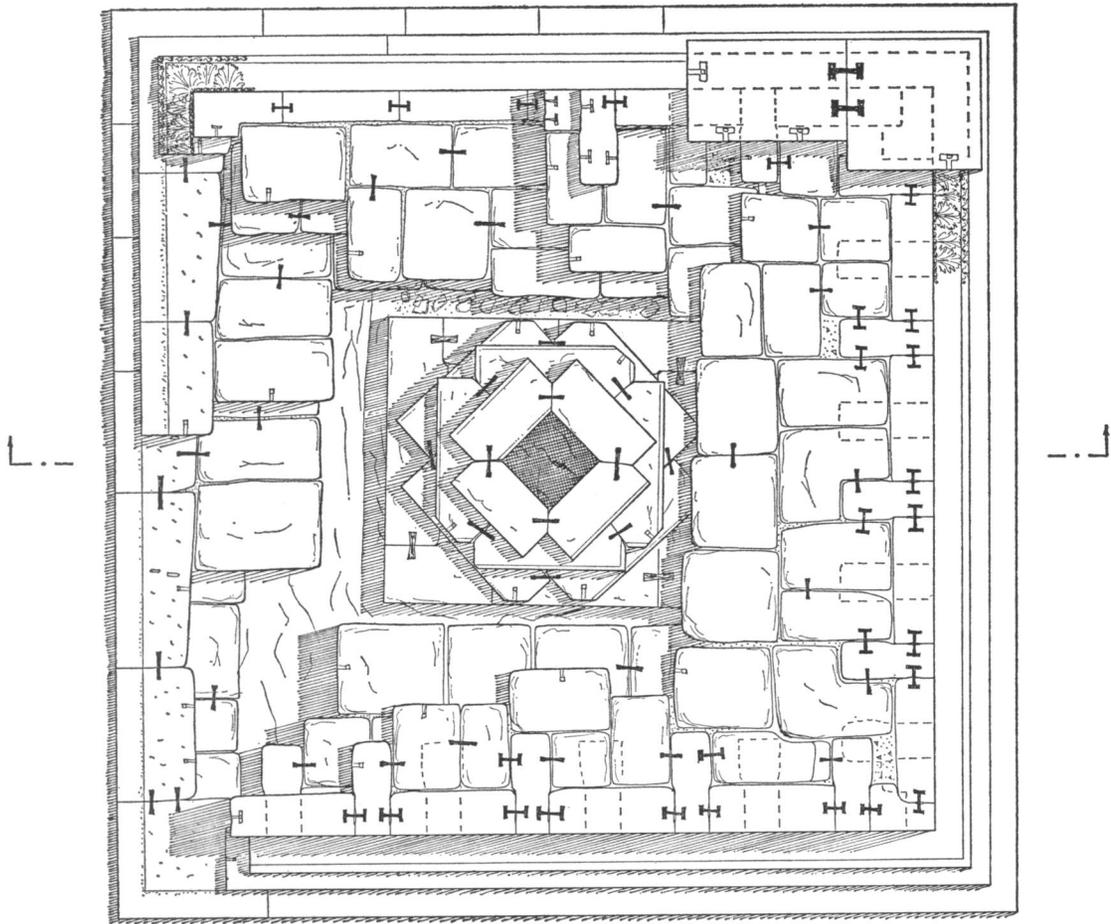
(Figs. 7, 8)

The setting lines cut in the limestone foundation on all four sides and the Eleusinian limestone step blocks *in situ* on three sides clearly show the tomb was 10.20 m. square at its base. The setting line scratched on the top surface of the lower step indicates the second step was set in 0.31 m., reducing the outline to a square 9.58 m. on a side. A third setting line, 0.29 m. behind the face of the second step, must have been used to align the torus base moulding where the blocks met at the bottom of the curve. There is a roughly finished strip just outside the setting line on the second step where the surface under the curve of the torus moulding became inaccessible for polishing after the monument was erected.

Viewed in section on Plate 37, the top surface of the lower step is at the same level as the top of the first course of limestone backing blocks. The Eleusinian limestone steps are secured to the coarse limestone backers by hook clamps. Likewise, the top of the second step and the second course of backers come at the same level. Hook clamp cuttings on the outer edge of these backers must match the clamp cuttings on the inside edges of the second step blocks, as on 2 and 3.

There are no dowel holes in the top surface of the upper step blocks. This suggests that the relatively thin base moulding was not pierced and consequently weakened by dowels but was secured horizontally to the limestone core, as were the two steps. On every side of the monument there are hook clamp cuttings set in channels, 0.10-0.15 m. deep, cut into the top surface of the third course of backing blocks. The level of the hook clamps, about 0.35 m. above the top surface of the second Eleusinian limestone step block, indicates the approximate height of the base moulding. The blocks of the moulding would have been 0.60-0.80 m. deep, providing a sufficiently broad support for the orthostate blocks above.

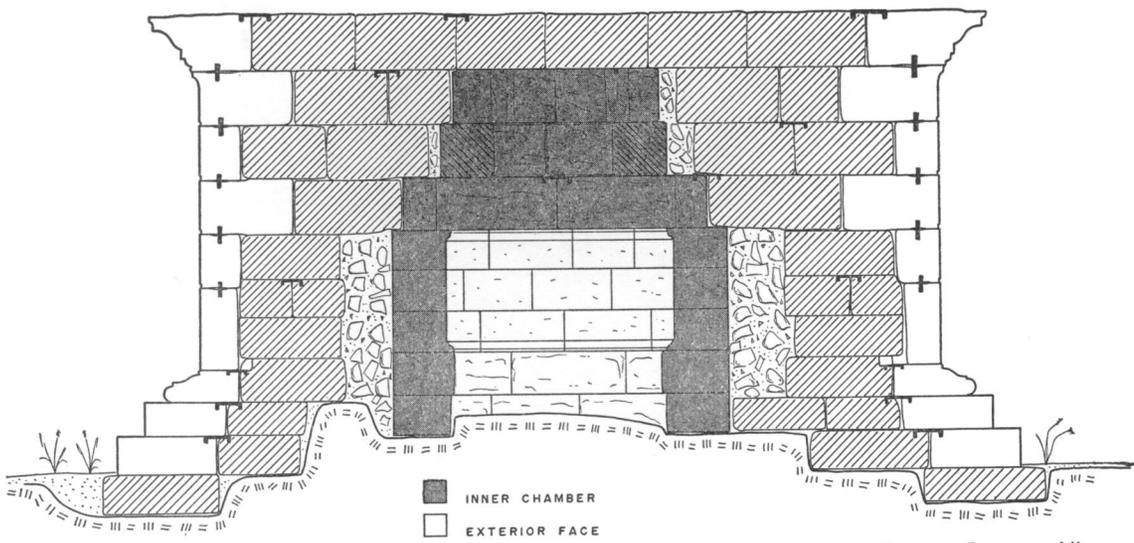
²³ *Ibid.*, p. 72.



RESTORED PLAN



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RESTORED SECTION



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FIG. 7. Restored Plan and Section of Kenchreai Tomb.

The depth of the base moulding and the length of the marble façade depend on the position of the orthostate course. One may take the depth of orthostate block **4**, 0.35 m., as the minimum depth for the course. When the block is set flush against the backers on the north side, the face is 0.29 m. inside the setting line for the base moulding. At the east and south sides, there is more space, allowing for orthostates about 0.50 m. deep. Following the placement of **4**, the façade could have been no less than 8.34 m. long. The orthostate course was at least 0.90 m. high. If restored to 0.92 m., the orthostates would be half again as high as the normal wall course. Furthermore, the top of the orthostates would have been almost level with the fifth course of limestone backers (which must be restored from the blocks lying around the tomb), but there is no indication that they were clamped together.

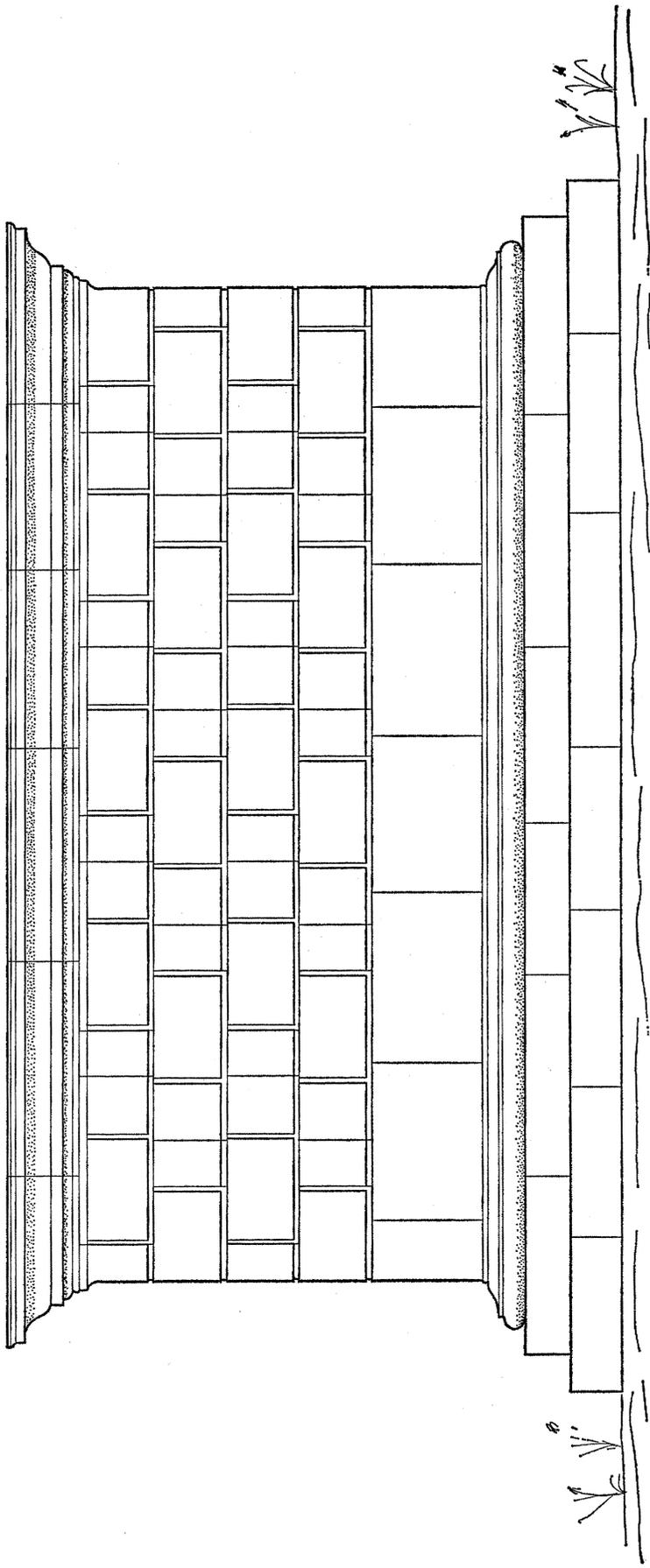
Above the orthostates rose the marble façade, including at least one course of normal wall blocks, the blocks with cavetto crown moulding, and the cornice. Satisfactory proportions are found by restoring four courses below the cornice, but the monument may have been higher. The dimensions of blocks and the pattern of drafting on the façade can be construed by using the remaining blocks, if one begins from these assumptions:

1. Headers alternated with stretchers.
2. Headers and stretchers were cut to a standard length and uniformly drafted.
3. The vertical drafting made a regular pattern.

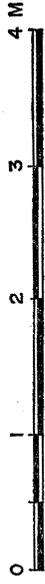
The complete dimensions of two corner blocks are known: **11** and **18**. Both have the same L-shape, with vertical drafting at the end of the long side. One is a standard wall block; the other has a cavetto crown moulding. If these two are accepted as the standard corner blocks, no regular pattern of drafting and no uniformity of block lengths can result from using the blocks separately in successive courses.

The corner blocks are proportioned so that the long side of **11** (0.80 m.) and the short side of **18** (0.31 m.), the long side of **18** (0.76 m.) and the short side of **11** (0.35 m.) both add up to 1.11 m. Every course could have used two corner blocks of each dimension at opposite corners of the tomb, so that on one side an 0.80 m. long face combined with a 0.31 m. short face; around the corner, the 0.76 m. face combined with 0.35 m. face, as on the restored plan in Figure 7. As the corner blocks take up 1.11 m. on any side, a standard size of header and stretcher could be used throughout.

Since the two remaining header blocks are both 0.39 m. long, it seems likely that all headers were this size. Stretchers were over 1.30 m. long, the preserved length of **8** which is broken at one end. Including 1.11 m. for the two corner blocks, a wall 8.35 m. long would take four headers and four 1.42 m. long stretchers. The first header in a course should be set next to the long side of the corner block, coinciding with the center of stretchers above and below, as in the restored west elevation in Figure 8. This accounts for the dowel holes near the middle of stretcher blocks **8** and **16**.



RESTORED WEST ELEVATION



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Fig. 8. Restored West Elevation of Kenchreai Tomb.

Header blocks had no vertical drafted edges, only the standard horizontal drafting at the bottom of the block. Stretchers had vertical drafting at one end and probably near the center. Drafting both ends of the stretcher blocks would create the peculiar appearance of a long block followed by two short blocks and also destroy the effect of having blocks neatly staggered from one course to another. If a stretcher had drafting at one end and center-drafting 0.48 m. from the opposite end, the two panels on a header-stretcher set would be each 0.87 m. long.

The lengths of all the lower step blocks are known on the west side. The step next to the southwest corner block was pried out of place but is lying near by, face down and unbroken. The lengths of the upper step blocks are drawn from the location of pry holes in the top surface of the lower step. One can only guess at the length of blocks in the base moulding. The lengths of orthostate blocks are estimated from the one remaining block, but largely adapted to the jointing of the wall blocks above. The even face of the backer blocks eliminates a header-stretcher system. The corner orthostate blocks may have been L-shaped to give greater strength to this relatively weak course.

At the northwest corner of the restored monument, the lowest wall course begins with a large corner block, its 0.80 m. face on the west side. In the first course, stretchers are drafted at the right end, with center-drafting near the left end. At the southwest corner is a small corner block, its 0.31 m. face to the west. In order to form a balanced pattern of drafting, with the joints falling near the center of the panels below, the blocks of the second course must be arranged in inverse order to those of the first course. Above the 0.80 m. long face is set the 0.31 m. short face of a small corner block. Stretchers are drafted at the left end, with center-drafting near the right end. Corner and stretcher blocks could be used upside down simply by drafting the "top" edge instead of the "bottom" edge. Evidence for this reversal of stretcher blocks is shown by **9** and **10** which are drafted at opposite ends. This procedure was also suggested by corner block **13**.

The sequence of corner blocks is proved correct by the dowels in the top of corner block **11**. The end of the pour channel for the round dowel is 0.31 m. from the short side of the corner block, just the width of the short face of a small corner block. Similarly, the end of the rectangular dowel marks the end of the stretcher block above the long face of corner block **11**. The stretcher was set flush against the end of the small corner block after the round dowel had been leaded in place. The rectangular dowel did not penetrate the end of the small corner block, but only secured the end of the stretcher to the top of the block below. Evidence in support of this is given by both corner blocks, neither of which have dowel cuttings in their short ends.

In this restoration of the façade, the lines of vertical drafting on all four sides come 0.0425 m. to the right or left of the centers of the panels above and below, an

almost imperceptible irregularity. If the large corner blocks were used exclusively in opposite corners, the northwest and southeast for example, with a 0.35 m. short face over an 0.80 m. long face, the lines of vertical drafting would coincide exactly with the centers of the panels. However, this would cause the pattern of drafting to crowd closer to the northeast and southwest corners, where the short blocks were placed. Exact centering and lateral balance could have been achieved by using corner blocks of a single size: 0.78 m. by 0.33 m. The architect must have planned the effect of slightly off-center drafting and the variation in corner blocks.

The header-stretcher construction was structurally necessary to bond the marble façade into the limestone backing. The entire structure was stronger for having been built of large blocks, clamped and doweled as in a full scale building. Perhaps because the tomb stood alone, the architect thought to increase artificially the number of blocks, making the tomb look larger and more monumental. He also may have been influenced by the strong Roman tradition of wall paintings copying isodomic masonry, the antecedents of which Vincent J. Bruno has traced to Greece in the 5th and 4th centuries B.C.²⁴ If so, this testifies to the influence of architectural frescoes so great that the imitation of masonry could establish canons of style which were copied again in stone.

If the tomb façade is restored with a length of 8.35 m., the base moulding must be 0.405 m. deep, including the 0.08 m. projection of the torus beyond the setting line. The resulting cyma recta has a flatter profile than its counterpart in the cornice, as shown on Plate 38; this is a normal relationship in Italian Roman monuments of this general kind.

The inner chamber may have been covered by a false-corbeled dome built from the gray limestone piers (Fig. 7). Four piers 1.90 m. long are laid as squinches across the corners of the rectangular chamber, forming an octagon. The dome is gradually closed by a second and third course of shorter piers set across the joining ends of the blocks below. The ends of the piers are clamped to one another and occasionally to the backing blocks. The irregular spaces between the dome and the backing blocks would be filled with rubble and concrete. Such a dome is very strong and reduces the volume of masonry. Normally a barrel vault would be used to cover such a small tomb chamber,²⁵ but none of the limestone blocks are shaped as voussoir blocks. A lofty corbeled vault would have the double advantage of supporting the roof of the tomb, as restored in Figure 7. This would be an unusual roof construction,

²⁴ "Antecedents of the Pompeian First Style," *A.J.A.*, LXXIII, 1969, pp. 305-317.

²⁵ Hans Möbius, *Ath. Mitt.*, LII, 1927, pp. 189-196, figs. 8-14, for the tomb at Chalandri, Attica, and A. Tschira, "Eine Römische Grabkammer in Kephissia," *Arch. Anz.*, LXIII-LXIV, 1948-1949, pp. 83-97. The Tomb of Straton, beside the road from Athens to Eleusis (now just east of the turn for Aspropyrgos), has a similar inscription, dated A.D. 50-100. *I.G.*, II-III², 6596; Ph. Lebas, *Rev. Arch.*, I, 1844, p. 45; W. M. Leake, *The Topography of Athens and the Demi*, II, London, 1841, p. 147.

but not unparalleled. At Gordion in Phrygia there is a twin-chambered Galatian tomb with two such domed roofs. Near Mylas in Lycian Turkey is a Roman heroon with a corbeled dome.²⁶

There must have been some kind of waterproof roof protecting the tomb chamber and the entire stone construction from rain water. No roof tiles were found nor any blocks cut to form a sloping or pyramidal roof. If the roof was flat and level with the cornice blocks, it may have been sealed with a concrete cap domed slightly toward the center.

The pair of cyma reversa mouldings, **25** and **26**, have been restored as dado (or base) and crown mouldings in the chamber. It was customary to decorate the interior of an elaborate tomb, and both the scale of these mouldings and their unworn condition suggest an interior use. The second course of limestone does project beyond the base of the chamber wall as though it supported a wider course such as a marble base moulding. The interior walls of the chamber may have been built of marble (Fig. 7), but no evidence remains.

There is also no direct evidence for how the floor of the tomb was finished. The inner faces of the limestone wall blocks show no traces of a floor level, such as a line of plaster or discoloration from clay fill. There is no indication that the floor was paved with stone slabs, and no tesserae or pebbles were found to suggest a mosaic floor. The rough bedrock may have been leveled with rubble and gravel. If the lower interior moulding was a base moulding at floor level, the two remaining courses of limestone blocks would have been concealed beneath the deep fill. This would explain the uneven fit and rough surface of these blocks.

There could have been a door in the west façade, set just above the base moulding; the clamp cuttings on the third course of limestone backers indicate the base moulding extended in an unbroken line along the west side. Only on the west side are there no limestone backing blocks above this level, leaving space for a passageway. If the interior floor was nearly level with the top of the second course of limestone in the inner chamber, it would have been slightly higher than the top of the exterior base moulding. There easily could have been a door and passage at this level, but no mouldings, consoles, threshold or marble door jambs or unusual façade blocks were found to suggest a doorway.

If the entire tomb was built by its occupant before his death, either the body was carried in through a doorway or lifted up over the marble façade and lowered into the tomb through a half-finished corbel vault. In order to avoid the latter complicated procedure, and in the absence of any evidence for a door, it is possible to consider that the tomb was built in two stages: first a simple sarcophagus chamber, followed after the burial by an elaborate marble casing. If the man had been a

²⁶ R. S. Young, *A.J.A.*, LX, 1956, pp. 250-252, pl. 81, fig. 3. Eugen Petersen, Felix von Luschan, *Reisen in Lykien, Milyas, und Kibryatis*, Vienna, 1889, p. 152, pl. 49.

generous and popular leader in Corinth, his friends and family may have wished to honor him by elaborating the tomb he had already prepared, or he may have prescribed the expensive addition in his own will.

At Corinth, where one might expect to find similar workmanship, the mouldings of the Temple of Tyche and the Bema most closely resemble those of the Kenchreai tomb. Both Corinthian monuments are dated in the reign of Tiberius (A.D. 14-37).²⁷ The base mouldings are both formed by a torus carved with a guilloche. In both cases, however, above the torus is a cavetto and a cyma reversa moulding cut with a Lesbian leaf,²⁸ the correct Greek counterpart to the Roman cyma recta version at Kenchreai. The Kenchreai stonemason used the base moulding which had developed and become standard in Italy and his Roman training kept him from adopting above his torus the Greek cyma reversa profile still commonly in use in Greece in Roman times. The crown moulding of the Bema podium²⁹ is very like the Kenchreai cornice, again with one fundamental difference. There is no use of the cyma recta on the Bema. The lowest three elements, cavetto, half-round with bead and reel, and ovolo cut with egg and dart, are carved in the same manner as those at Kenchreai. The crown mouldings, cyma reversa with Lesbian leaf and the narrow taenia, are also very close in their proportions and finish. However, the total design of these two cornices is as different as the Greek and Latin inscriptions.

Mrs. Meritt has shown how the Corinthian colonists held onto the Roman Ionic base in spite of the prevalent Greek Ionic form used through most of the country.³⁰ The strong Roman character of the Kenchreai tomb shows how powerful was this feeling for traditional Italian design. Yet it does not seem likely that an official sent out from Rome would be buried in the provincial harbor of Kenchreai. The tomb must belong to one of the prosperous colonists, perhaps to a trader or a shipowner whose taste was shaped by the more familiar Italian forms. The major harbor works at Kenchreai, the great warehouses, date from the first half of the 1st century after Christ. The southwest pier and the warehouses on the pier may have been built in the 2nd century.³¹ The Kenchreai tomb certainly belongs in the period of prosperity at Corinth and Kenchreai, in mid-1st to early 2nd century. If it is indeed the tomb of L. Castricius Regulus, the earlier date is most likely.

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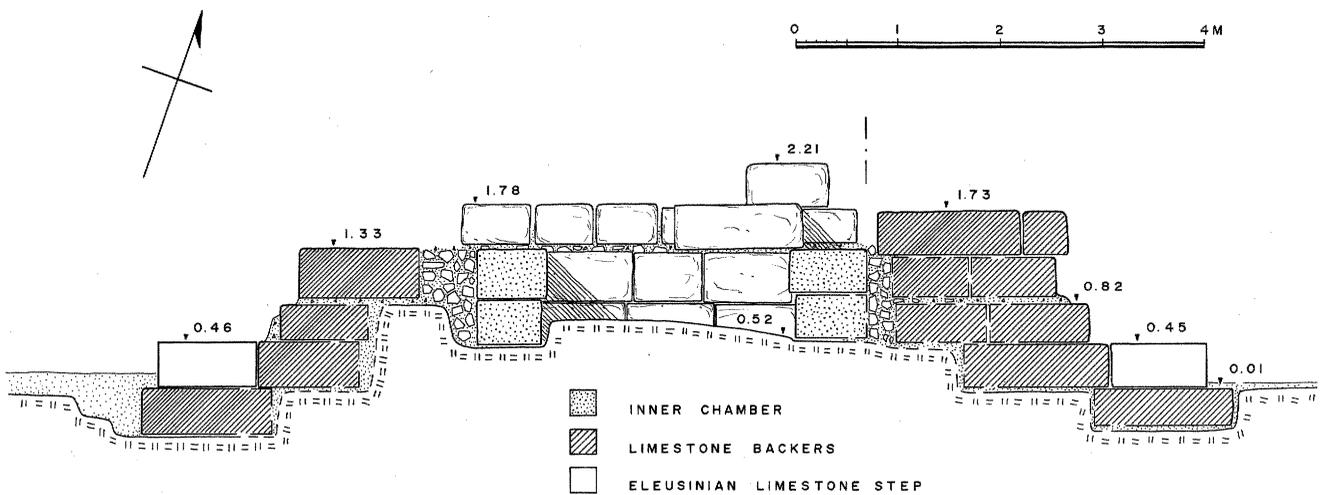
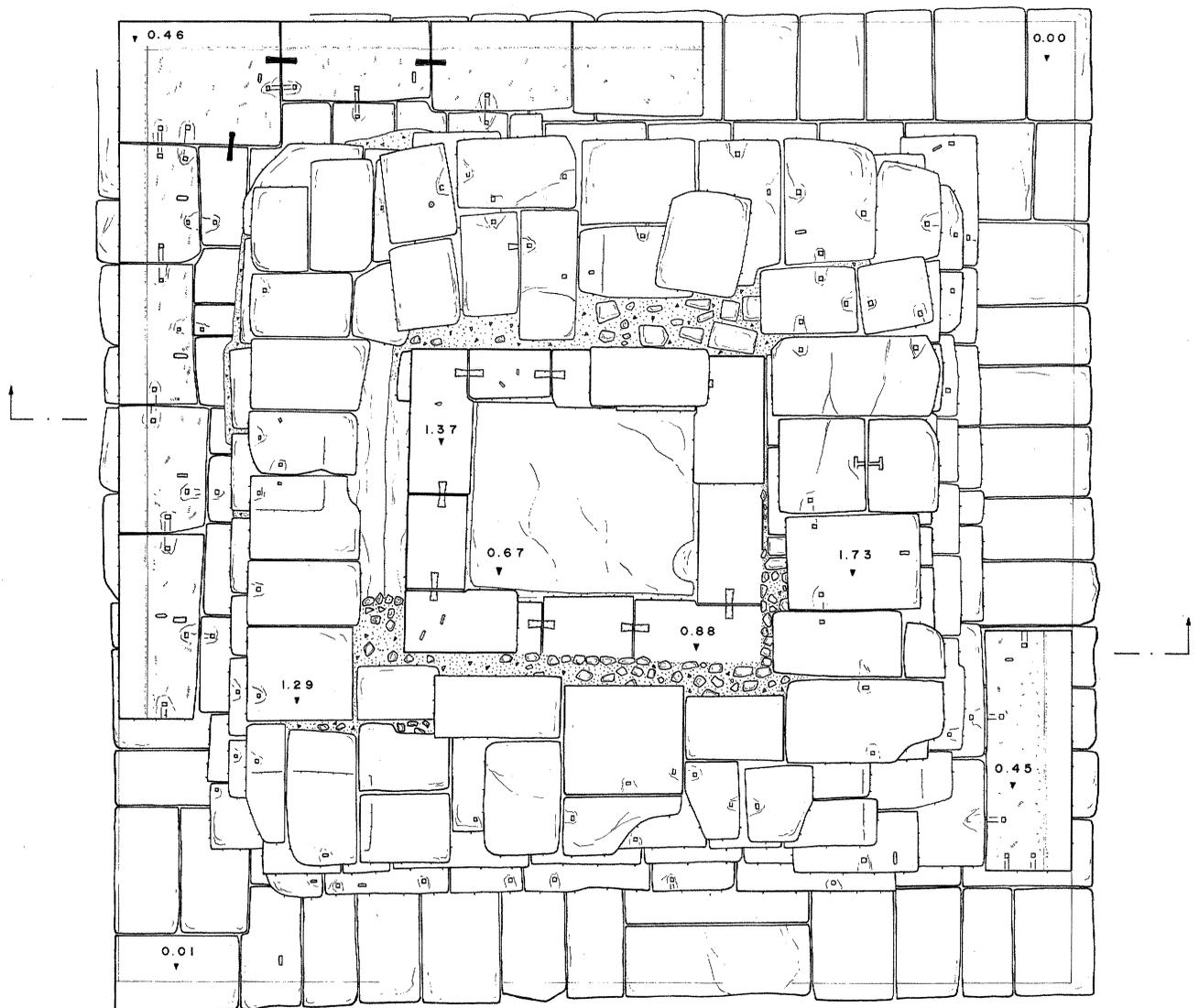
²⁷ Scranton, *Corinth*, I, iii, p. 66.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 59, pl. 23, 3; p. 98, pl. 44, 2.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 100, pl. 44, 1.

³⁰ Lucy T. Shoe, "The Roman Ionic Base in Corinth," *Essays in Memory of Karl Lehmann*, New York, 1964, pp. 300-303. Lucy Shoe Meritt, "The Geographical Distribution of Greek and Roman Ionic Bases," *Hesperia*, XXXVIII, 1969, pp. 186-204.

³¹ R. L. Scranton, *Hesperia*, XXXVI, 1967, pp. 135-136.

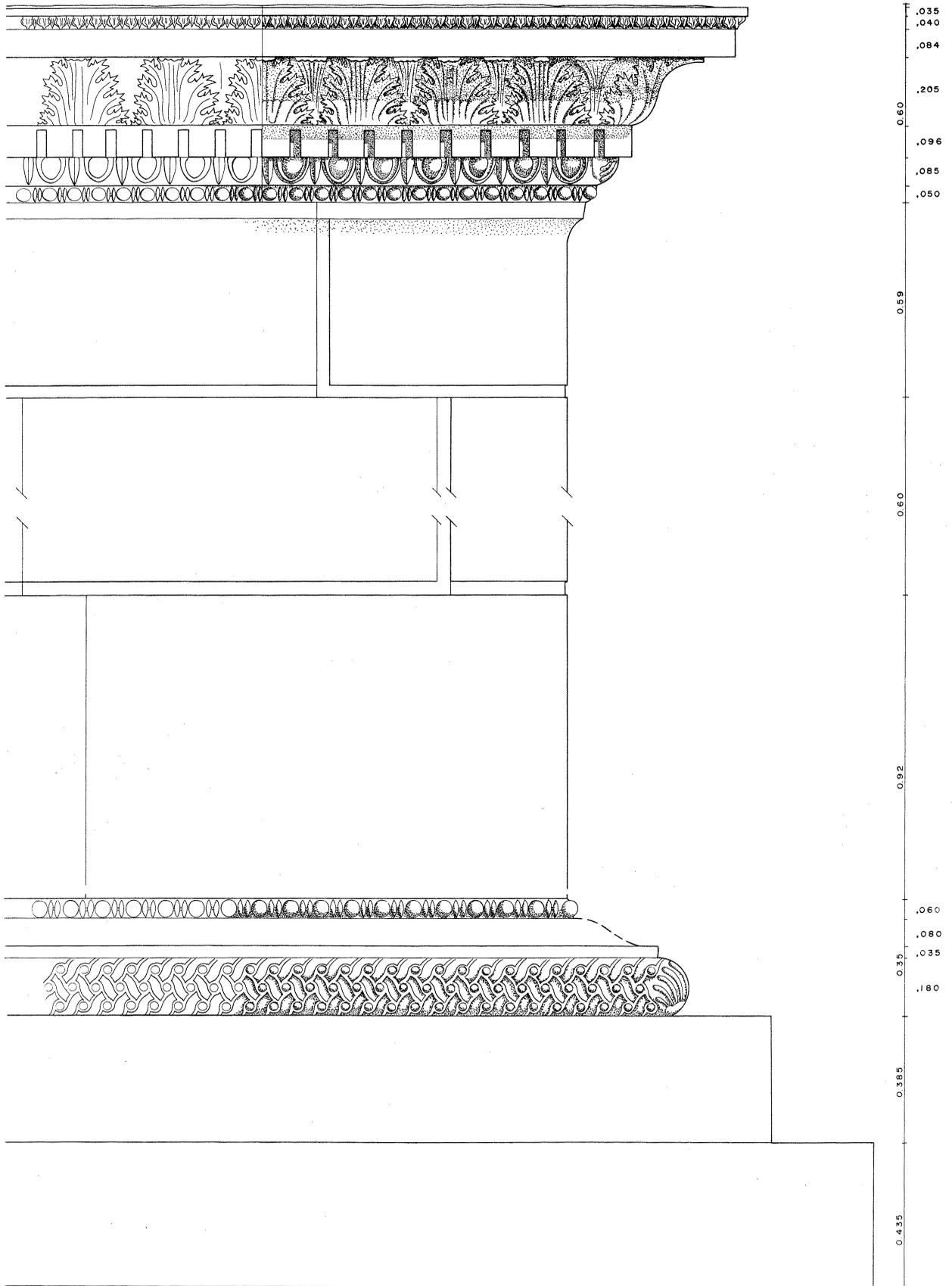


SECTION FACING NORTH

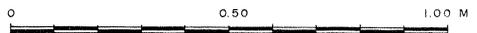
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Actual State Plan and Section facing North

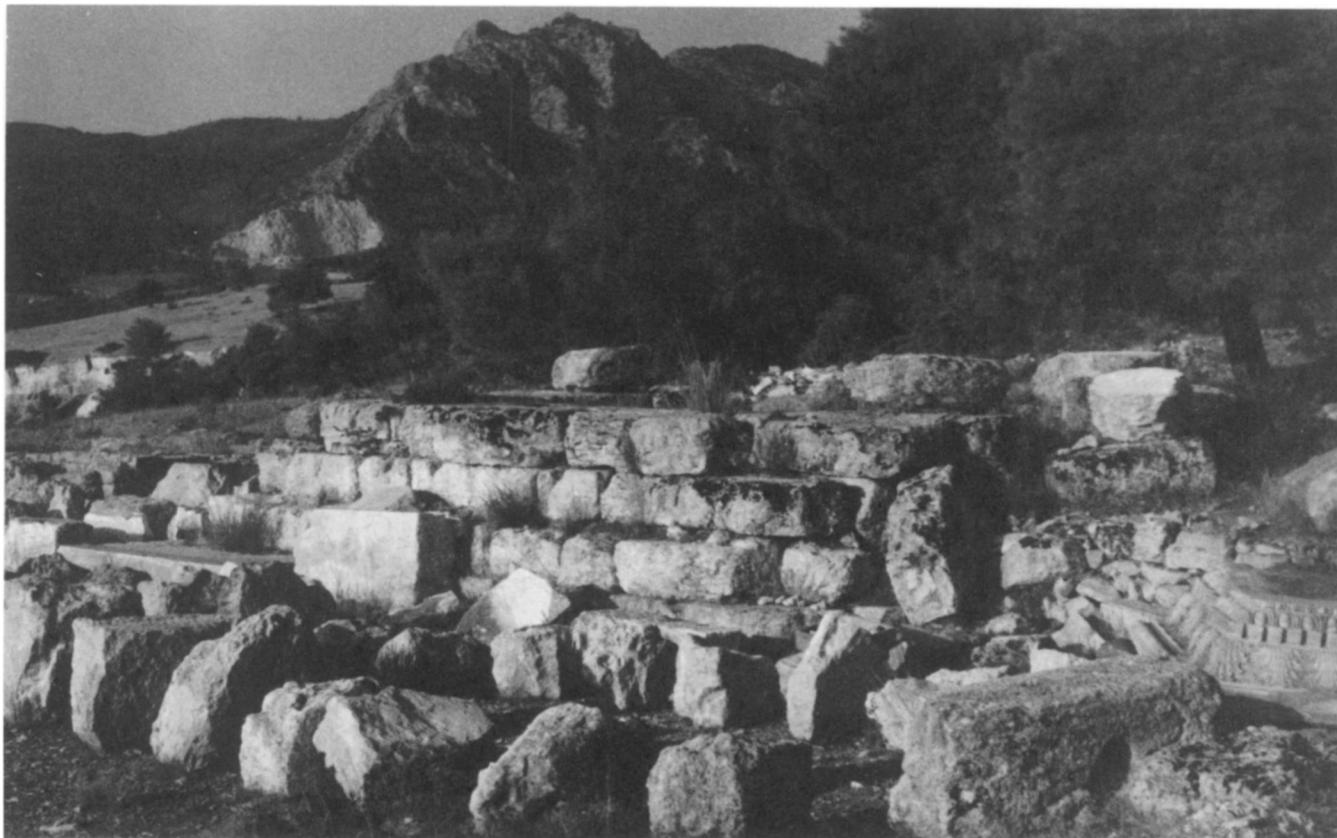
W. WILLSON CUMMER: A ROMAN TOMB AT CORINTHIAN KENCHREAI



RESTORED ELEVATION NORTHEAST CORNER



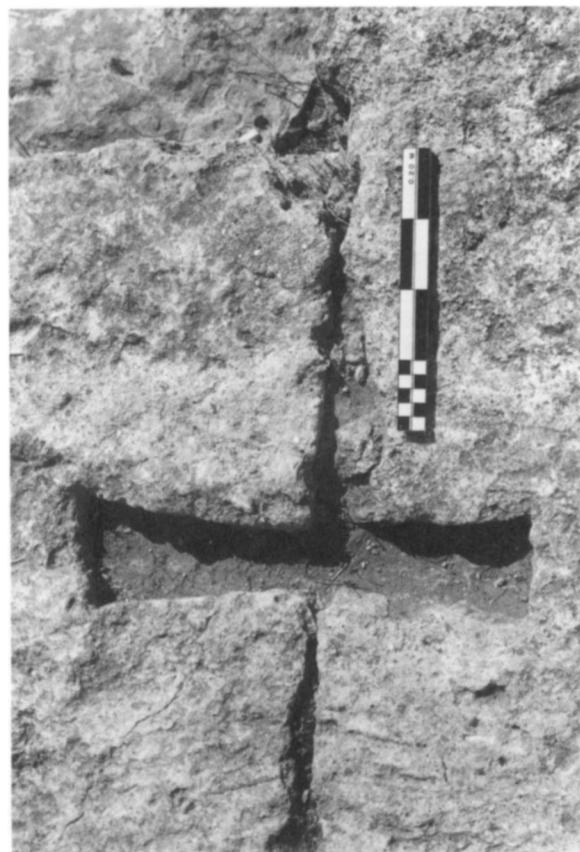
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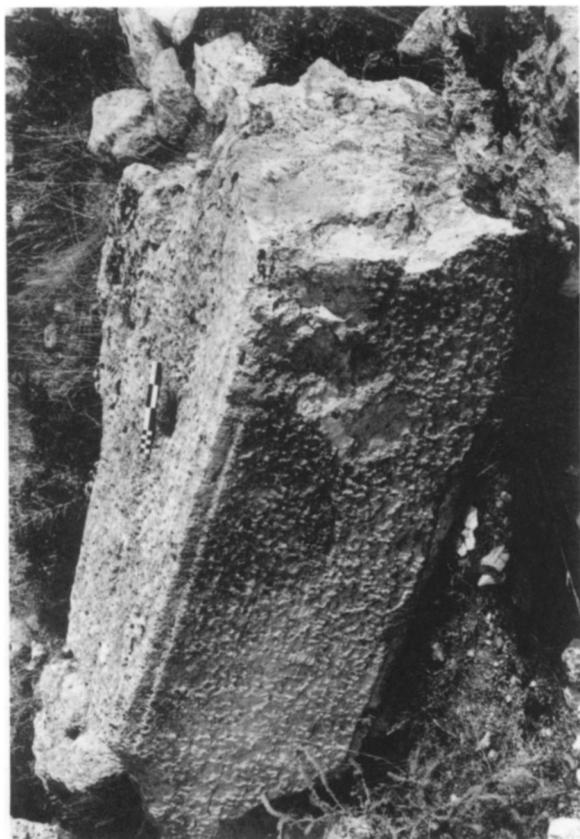
a. Kenchreai Tomb, facing South



b. Inner Chamber, facing Northeast



a. Swallowtail Clamp Cutting, Inner Chamber



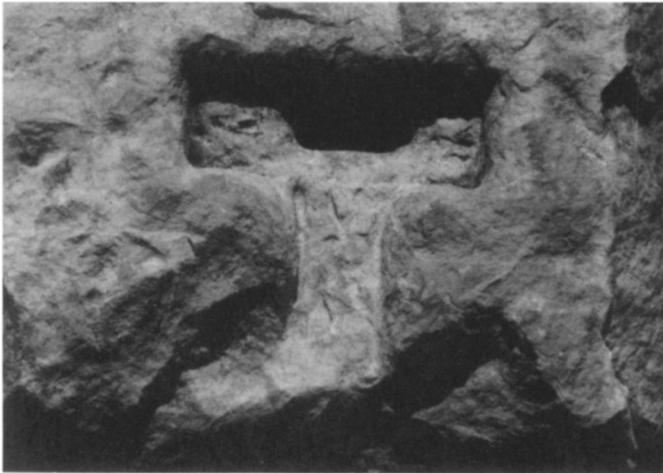
b. Limestone Pier re-used in Tomb



c. Eleusinian Limestone Base Block at Southeast Corner



d. Fragment of Torus Base Moulding



a. T Clamp Cutting on Block 17



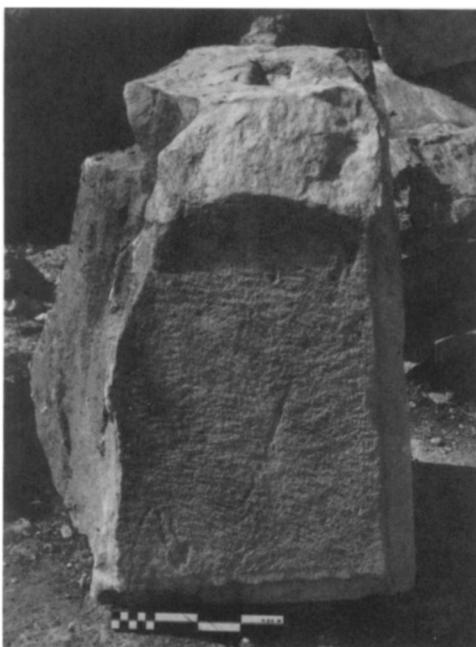
b. Corner Block 11



c. Corner Cavetto Block 21



d. Cyma Reversa carved with Lesbian Leaf (25)



e. Cavetto Block 17



f. Center-drafted Block 15



a. Kenchreai Tomb, facing South



b. Inner Chamber, facing Northeast



a. Inscribed Fragments nos. 1, 4 from Orthostate



b. Inscribed Fragment no. 41 from Orthostate

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