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THE EXCAVATION

In 1935, the Epitropos of Ayios Philon wished to restore the Byzantine church and to turn the site into a summer resort. In clearing round the ruined church for stone, part of the patterned marble floor of the Baptistery was uncovered. This discovery was reported to the Department of Antiquities. who initiated investigations.

In three successive seasons, 1935, 1937 and 1938, the Department was able to clear a part of the area round the Byzantine church and to uncover the Early Christian basilica and dependant buildings. Some investigation was also made of the early occupation of the site, of the related cemetery at Tsambres¹ and of the later Town Wall.

On behalf of the Department of Antiquities, the excavations were directed by the writer, and were supported by generous donations from Miss Barbara Cooper and the Ashmolean Museum. The British Academy later made a grant towards the preparation of the publication. To all of these we are most grateful.

For various reasons, the site publication has been much delayed. The plans of the site were prepared by Lt. Cmdr Noël Wheeler and the late Col. J. S. Last. The pottery drawings were prepared by Eve Dray (Mrs. J. R. Stewart) and Elias Markou, who has also drawn the final plans and sections. General assistance on the excavation was given by Dr. Seton Williams, Mrs. Judith Stylianou, Miss Priscilla Dimsdale and Mrs. Margaret Sessions. Dr. E. M. Guest studied the medieval burials in 1935. The foreman was the late Lazaros Nicolaou.

At the time of writing, the site is not under the control of the Department of Antiquities and, like much of the material from the excavations, is not accessible to the writer. Consequently, the present report could not be checked fully and much of it is based on final notes made in 1953, when the material was last studied.

As the excavation of the site (Fig. 3) covers such a wide span of time the report has been subdivided by period; the assemblages of associated finds have been grouped in the appropriate periods in order to show the development of types and fabrics.

The periods can be arranged in four main divisions:

I-III	Classical and Hellenistic.
IV-VI	Hellenistic-Roman.
VII-VIII	Early Christian occupation and the later fortifications.
IX	The Byzantine church and medieval burials (to be published later).

Periods I to V are dealt with in the present Part I; Periods VI to VIII are the

1. See Tsambres, 24 ff.

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subject of Part II, to be published in the next volume of the Report of The Department of Antiquities.

In the very heavy fills, the result of much rebuilding on the site, many of the pottery types appear as survivors in later contexts. As far as possible, these types have only been represented in the period in which they first appeared, but a few, unstratified, have been illustrated in their appropriate group to show the range of shapes from the site.

On the whole, the pottery and finds have fallen clearly into the main chronological divisions which represent the history of the site. Many of the registered sherds are now missing, and it has not been possible to check the original descriptions and drawings made in 1953, but those illustrated are representative of the material excavated. In the catalogue, the numbers in brackets are the inventory numbers marked on the sherds and the letters and numbers following indicate the area and layer in which the object was found. For convenience of reference, the serial numbers run throughout the report. Minor objects have separate numbers in brackets prefixed by the year.

I am much indebted to the late Sir John Beazley who, while on a visit to Cyprus, identified some of the Black-glazed sherds as Attic; to the late Miss Lucy Talcott who dated the Red Figure sherds; to P. D. Whitting for identifying the collection of coins in very poor condition; to the late Prof. T.B.S. Mitford for studying and reporting on the inscriptions, to Dr. John Hayes for advising on the terra sigillata and late Roman wares, and to Miss Virginia Grace for permission to publish her photographs of the amphora stamps and for advice on attributions.

PERIOD I. Founding of the harbour town.

Area F. Plan, Figs 3, 4; Sections 1-2, Fig. 5.

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The earliest structures on the site were from F and consisted of three adjoining areas A, B and C divided by narrow alleys. The walls were built on lengths of well-cut, limestone ashlar blocks laid end-to-end in shallow trenches directly on the rock. These formed the foundation for rubble walls, of which one section in area FB (Pl. XXVI. 2) remained in situ. The average size of the foundation blocks was $1 \times 0.50 \times 0.20$ m. Square blocks were used at the angles and at 0.80 m. intervals uprights, similar to the base blocks, were erected; the spaces between were filled with rubble set in mud and lime mortar. That the next course was composed of another line of horizontal blocks on which further uprights packed with rubble stood, was indicated by a fragment of collapsed wall above Section 2(5) from which the blocks had been robbed, leaving the outline of the construction. The wall now standing is 1.30 m. in height: allowing for a further course of two horizontals and one upright, the original wall would have been approximately 2.60 m. to the eaves.

Area FB enclosed by this wall had a havara concrete floor, (Fig. 5) Sections 1, 2(10) running up to the foundation blocks, except in the southeast angle where a posthole appeared. In the south wall, a doorway framed by ashlar blocks was visible in Section 2.

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The remaining walls of this period were fragmentary and only the foundation blocks were in position. Wall A1 bordered a concrete floor on the south abutting on the threshold block A2; outside on the east there was a step. A door socket 0.05 m. wide was cut in the threshold. On the north of A1 in the alley, two large blocks 0.75 m. wide formed steps. Another posthole appeared in the east angle of A1 and 3.

Area C was bounded by wall C1 which continued into Section 1; a fragment of concrete floor remained to the northwest but the south margin was broken away, perhaps indicating the line of a crosswall.



This type of architecture, derived from timber framed buildings may have its origin on the mainland and is thought to be of Phoenician origin. Examples are known from contemporary buildings at Tell Sukhas and Sarepta (Pritchard, pers. comm.). The type of structure is also found at Ay. Irini¹ and is known from Phoenician buildings at Motya (Whitaker, Motya, fig. 14) and elsewhere. At Al Mina, the stone imposts referred to by Woolley (Al Mina, 146, 148) may belong to such structures.

1. L. Quilici in Studi Cyprioti e rapporti di scavo fasc. 1. Rome, 1971. Figs 3, 23-24 shows Hellenistic foundations of a similar period.



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EXCAVATIONS AT AYIOS PHILON. PART I



The rock on which the buildings were set was covered by a thin layer of natural terra rossa filling the hollows and forming a pre-occupation layer. Few sherds were found in the soil but nos 12, 13, 26, 30, 32 were recovered from beneath the concrete floors, in layer 11. In the areas between the three structures and up to the threshold of A^2 , the red soil 11 was covered by a layer of small stones and havara chips derived from the working of the stone for the buildings. These layers are not so well sealed as 10 and may contain material trodden into them during the occupation.

The material sealed beneath the concrete floors, in addition to a few sherds of Cypro-Archaic II type, also included a fragment of 'Little Master' cup (Pl. XXVI. 3.8), Greek-type bowls known from the neighbouring mainland at Mersin, Ras el Basit, Al Mina, Tell Sukhas and also some large transport amphorae common on the coast.

The finds from this layer suggest a late 5th-4th century date for the construction of the first houses.

THE POTTERY

Few sherds of Cypriote White Painted and Bichrome type were found; only two were stratified in Trench BB(21), the remainder being survivors in later periods. The types represented are similar to those found in the cemetery of Tsambres (Tsambres, 80-2).

Recognizable pieces included a Bichrome handle (121) (Pl. XXVI. 3.1) comparable to one from Amathus, Tomb 9.146 (SCE II, pl. CVIII.2) and another from Tsambres Tomb 18.3 (Tsambres, pl. XXIII.2); part of another with concentric circles from BB (21); the wall of a White Painted V miniature jug (43) (Pl. XXVI.3.2) of the type from Marion Tomb 10.26 (SCE II, pl. CXIV) and Amathus Tomb 11.64 (SCE II, pl. XVIII). Fragments were also found of a Black-on-Red juglet and the lip of a White Painted IV jug. The White Painted handle (111) (Pl. XXVI. 3.3) with bars is close to one from Amathus Tomb 23.67 (SCÉ IÌ, pl. CXV.1).

The pointed miniature amphora base, no. 1 (8) Fig. 7 belongs to the 'Palm leaf' type of White Painted V; the ware is light buff with traces of black paint; it is similar to the miniature amphora from Tsambres Tomb 10.37 and 16.49 (Tsambres, 82, pl. XXIV. 3, 4), and may be attributed to the 5th and 4th centuries B.C.

The deep cups with broad bands on the rim no. 2 (33), Fig. 7 from F and BB (21) in buff ware with black-brown paint appear in White Painted IV at Amathus and in Black-on-Red ware at Marion.

All these types are of standard Cypriote fabric, buff to greenish in colour, rather gritty and sometimes having a thin whitish slip, but the surface is usually plain; the paint is always matt.

The remainder of the pottery appears to be imported, or imitations of imported types.

EXCAVATIONS AT AYIOS PHILON. PART I

'Ionian' type cups are represented by a fine skyphos handle no. 3 (127) F (Pl. XXVI. 3.4) of very thin red ware, fired grey in parts with black glaze paint on handle, and red on lip and inside. This is most probably an import cf. Amathus Tomb 10.15 (SCE II, pl. CXXXIX, 13.14).

4. (9) BB (Fig. 7), a rim and handle. Reddish clay with few grits; reddish-black glaze paint.

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Fig. 7. Period I: Painted pottery.

The rim no. 5 (30) FC, Fig. 7 is much coarser with a red body and buff surface with matt black paint on the handle and rim. It is closer to the bowl found at Aphendrika Tomb 47.5 (Tsambres, fig. 37) where parallels are cited from Cyprus and Atlit in Palestine in the 5th century.

Another group of *imported bowls*, nos 6-8 is of greek type found in Greek settlements on the Cilician and Syrian coasts such as Mersin, Tarsus, Ras el Basit and Sarepta. The types from Tell Sukhas have been fully discussed by Miss Ploug (Sukas II) where they belong to period G2 of the mid-6th to 5th century and are associated with 'Little Master' cups, Black-Figure sherds and 'eye' cups in the 6th century. Though no handles were found for our bowls, they are distinguished by a hard, well silted salmon red clay, evenly fired and well finished. On both the interior and exterior of the bowls there are broad bands of orange-red or brown glaze paint, sometimes bordered by narrow bands.

those of dieties with horned crowns as in a seal from Ayios Iakovos (op. cit., pl. VIII, 13). The incompetent execution of the present seal makes it difficult to decide whether it represents a poor imitation of good 14th century work; or if, as seems more likely, it is a feeble later attempt at such. In any case it should not be later than the 13th century in date, since the subject remains fairly close to its better prototypes. The piece then is a survival in the place where it was found. Its chief interest lies in the curious way in which the volutes of the tree are made to suggest bird's heads, apparently becoming an actual bird at the top of the tree. Here again can be seen the Cypriote fondness for assimilating one thing to another.

BRIGGS BUCHANAN

PERIOD II. Occupation and reconstruction of Period I houses Figs 4, 5 Area F.

In this period there is a thin layer of occupation Sections 1, 2 (8) on the floors, covered by a general raising of the ground between and over some of the walls.

A drain was constructed between B and C, lined and covered with slabs, the ground being raised to cover it (6). The walls of B continued in use, but additional rubble walls 1, 2 enclosed C on the south. At the angle, a semicircular stone platform was attached to the rubble wall of C2; slight burning on some of the stones may indicate that it had been the base of an oven. A substantial new wall, A3 at right angles to A1 was now added with an entrance opposite the threshold of A 2. In the entrance the earth floor was covered by a few slabs of stone, beneath which a pruning hook¹ and the face jug sherd (Pl. XXVII. 2) were buried.

From layers 6, 8, which included both the occupation on Period I floors and the levelling for Period II, came the sherds of Attic Red-Figure and some Attic black-glaze, giving a terminus post quem date in the second quarter of the 4th century for the floors of this period. Four indeterminate bronze coins, probably of Ptolemaic type, may perhaps have been trodden into the floors.

The deep trenches D, E and G, Fig. 6 (8) uncovered walls on the rock showing an extension of the Period I buildings (9) in that area. Some foundations attributable to Periods I or II were also found at the bottom of trenches AA, BB, Fig. 27 (20, 21), CC, Fig. 5 and in the wall trench L, but these limited areas contributed little in the way of material.

THE POTTERY

This group of pottery Figs 10-13 represents the occupation the houses in Area F, a similar occupation in Area G and trench BB; it covers the time until the reconstruction for Period III, probably in the 3rd century.

1. The pruning hook was unfortunately stolen from the site during the excavation before it could be recorded

EXCAVATIONS AT AYIOS PHILON. PART I

The painted wares are still of the imported type with gloss paint, but some are now probably local copies with matt paint of the White Painted VI type. The Black-on-White slip ware of Tsambres and Aphendrika (Tsambres, 83, fig. 38) makes its appearance and an early piece, the wall sherd of a jug no.40 (79) (Pl. XXVI. 4) in buff-cream, well silted ware is covered with a white highly, polished slip; the bands are red to light yellow showing brush marks at the thin edges. It is thought to be an import. Thompson (TCHP, 450) in describing the lagynoi, suggests that the White Slip fabric may have started in Cyprus or Asia Minor as the specimens from Cyprus are specially distinctive; it appears not to be an Athenian fabric.

Painted Wares

41. (60) FC. Fig. 10. Bevelled rim bowl. Hard salmon red clay black-brown glaze paint, very worn. Cf. Clara Rhodos VIII, fig. 38.



Fig. 10. Period II: Painted pottery.

- 42. (57) FB. Fig. 10, Pl. XXVI. 4. Bowl rim. Hard buff ware with grits, poorly made. Brown-black paint on rim and inside.
- 43. (58) FC. Fig. 10, Pl. XXVI. 4 More incurving bowl rim. Hard, salmon red clay. Black and red bands.
- 44. (36) FC. Fig. 10, Pl. XXVI. 4. Beaded bowl rim. Hard well-silted salmon red clay with smooth surface. Bands of red-brown glaze paint.



Very few fragments of this type were found; three spouts came from the fill of FC in Period III; also another rim with deep, wide flat base and wide flanged rim making a sharp angle with the body in buff micaceous ware with white surface.

Similar lamps came from the tomb groups at Tsambres and Aphendrika (Tsambres, 111-12) of the 4th and early 3rd centuries B.C. At Kountoura Trachonia, Idalion, Kition and Soli they are found in tomb groups of the 3rd century (SCE IV. 3, 184, fig. 37).

Greek type

- 3. (37.189) FA (6); another in G. (8). Pl. XXVII. 6.2; Fig. 14.6. Round bodied lamp, part of side and spout missing. Pierced lug at side. Grey ware; black glaze inside. Agora IV, type 25B, pl. 10 profile 304; Corinth IV. 2, type VII. Second half of 4th - first quarter of 3rd century.
- (37,187) G (8), another rim in L (8). Pl. XXVII. 6.3; Fig. 14.3. Round bodied lamp with ring base and longer, narrower spout; groove round filling hole. Light buff body, smooth on outside; brownish glaze inside. Agora IV, type 25A, pl. 10; Corinth IV. 2, type VII, profile 33; Tarsus I, group I-II, fig. 93.
- 5. (37.190) G (8). Fragment of shoulder with groove further in; centre sinking towards filling hole. Grey-buff ware.

For discussion see Period III.

Lantern

(38.336a) FB, Pl. XXVII. 6.1, 5. Part of the side with perforations and ring handle for carrying. Very thick buff ware with white surface. Ht.: 9.5 cm.; perf.: 5 mm. Cf. BM Cat. Vases I, 1511, 1432-3; Samaria III, fig. 67.6 where it is described as a sieve; Salamis IV, pl. XX. 37 from Ay. Servios, Tomb I, Chamber.

Loomweight

(37.204) FC. (6). Pl. XXVII. 4. Circular loomweight with elliptical section: two holes in the straight upper edge. Buff clay with white grits. Four others were found in later levels. The type is well-known from the mid-5th century in Greece (Hesperia XXII, pl. 41; 187) and also at Tarsus (Tarsus I, fig. 267.13).

Terracotta figurines

- 1. (37.209) FB (8). Forepart of a horse in grey ware; head and forelegs missing. Traces of black paint down sides.
- 2. (37.210) FB (6). Part of another in reddish-buff ware; light surface. Face and forelegs missing. Thin, hogged mane between small ears; left missing. Traces of red-brown paint on mane and shoulder.

For discussion see Period III.

3. (37.211) FA (6). Pl. XXVII. 3. 3. Hollow figurine made in two-piece mould. Kneeling temple boy carrying a cock; straight base. Upper part above waist and head of

EXCAVATIONS AT AYIOS PHILON. PART I

cock missing and part of back. Pink clay; greenish-white slip. Ht.: 5.8 cm.: W.: 5 cm. Possibly a Tarsus type; see pl. 255e for example in the Louvre. Al Mina, 164, pl. XI, MNN 116, for example holding an animal in reverse. The type is that of T. Hadzisteliou-Price, type II. 2c (BSA 64 (1969), pl. 22.18), possibly originating in Rhodes and dated in the 5th century.

4. (-) F 1. Pl. XXVII. 2. Fragment of jug neck? with moulded face applied to sherd. Male head with cap and long moustaches. Buff ware. Possibly from a type V jug, though these are nearly always female heads. For this type of face cf. horsemen with moulded faces, Young, 76, section B passim.

Other Small Finds

- (37.141) FC. Bone bead. Fig. 15. 1.
- (37.203) FB. Flat stone pendant with hole in rounded top. Fig. 15.3.
- (38.338) FB. Shell scraper or pendant; pierced through hinge, edge worn down.
- (38.244) FC. Part of handle of bronze situla.
- (37.150) FC. Flat tang of iron knife with three rivets; wood still adhering. L.: 4.8 cm.; W.: 2.3 cm.
- -- (37.124) FB. Three fragments of a lead strainer.
- (38.243) F. Fragment of lead sheet. L.: 14 cm.; W.: 8 cm.



Coins

Eleven coins were recovered from these layers, all of bronze. Most were in so decomposed a state as to be incapable of decipherment or cleaning. Nine were thought to be of Ptolemaic type, but indecipherable. One (37.134) from FC was certainly of early Ptolemaic type, near to Svoronos, p. 228.

PERIOD III. Destruction of Periods I-II houses. Area F Sections 1, 2, Figs 3, 4, 5.

Houses A and B were filled by layer 5, a greyish compact earth to the top of the standing parts. This earth resembled disintegrated mud roofing and plaster from the walls; it contained very little sherd. Layer 4 included the fallen stones from the upper part of wall B. The whole area was levelled off and the same deep fills were found in D, E and G (Sections 5, 6, Fig. 6, layer 7).

Against this layer the Hellenistic wall D of Period IV was built; the exact connection in Section 2 is lost through later robbing. Ten coins of which only three were decipherable came from this fill. One was of Ptolemy VI. 173-1 B.C. and another an autonomous Greek coin of 2nd century from Asia Minor. These, together with the inscription of Timodemos of the period 192-90 B.C. (Appendix Inscription 1) suggest that this rebuilding took place in the 2nd century, perhaps at the behest of the commandant of the city.

The pottery series, in addition to a number of residual pieces belonging to the previous period, represents material in use during the 3rd century and the first half of the second century. Sherds from CC, D, E and G fills (7) are of the same period; but a small quantity was more closely stratified in trench BB (Fig. 27). These are considered separately as BB Period III continues rather later than in area F.

THE POTTERY

A few residual painted bowls remain from the previous period, but the majority of types are now the White Painted jugs and hydriai in Black-on-White Slip ware with matt paint found in the cemeteries of Tsambres and Aphendrika (Tsambres, 83, fig. 38, pl. XXIV. 1), which belong to the 4th century. The forms are those of White Painted VI (SCE IV. 2, figs LVIII-IX).

Painted Wares

Bowls

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- 119. (81) F. Fig. 16, Pl. XXVIII. 1.2. Deep bowl. Red-brown ware; broad band of black paint on rim.
- 120. (128) FC. Fig. 16. 'Ionian' cup rim. Hard greyish ware with red core.
- 121. (59) F. Fig. 16, Pl. XXVIII. 1.1. Bevelled bowl rim. Thick, greyish-buff ware. Very worn black-brown paint.
- (80) FC. Fig. 16, Pl. XXVIII. 1.3. Carinated bowl. Brown-buff ware with smooth 122. light surface. Thin brown paint on rim and inside carination. Cf. Mersin LAAA XXIV. 3-4, pl. LXXX. 3.
- 123. (9) F. Fig. 16. Wide bowl base. Similar ware; black bands inside.
- (93) F. Fig. 16. Bowl base. Reddish-buff ware with light surface. Worn black 124. paint.
- 125. (86) F. Fig. 16. Bowl base. Buff ware, smooth greenish surface. Black bands inside.
- 126. (87) F. Fig. 16. Shallow bowl with horizontal handles. Buff ware; red paint inside and out and on handles.

Jugs

127-30. (99, 103, 110, 197) F. Fig. 16. Four jug or hydria rims. Drab ware with smooth surface. Black and red paint.

- 131. body.
- 132. (88) F. Fig. 16. Jug base. Similar ware. Red matt paint.
- ring.
- and above.
- 135. base ring and on side.
- 136. Bands of red, and dark brown crackled paint.
- 137. (104) FC. Wall sherd in similar ware.
- ware with smooth surface, Letters in matt red paint.



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(89) F. Fig. 16. Jug base. Red ware with buff surface. Bands of black paint on

133. (98) F. Fig. 16. Lagynos base. Buff ware. Band of slightly glazed paint on foot 134. (95) F. Fig. 16. Jug base. Coarse buff ware. Bands of glaze black paint on foot ring (96) F. Fig. 16. Lagynos base. Similar ware. Bands of worn black paint under

(97/132) C. Fig. 16. Pl. XXVIII. 1.4. Reddish ware with white slip on surface.

138. (82) G (7). Pl. XXVIII. 1.5. Neck of jug with grooves on shoulder. Hard cream

Fig. 16. Period III: Painted pottery.

Votive figures

5. (37.111) FB (4). Pl. XXVII. 3.4. Right shoulder of a female figure with hollow back. Made in a piece mould with straight joint down the back of the shoulder and another across the body below the elbow. The figure wears a loose chiton fastened by a row of buttons running down the shoulder and upper arm. Right arm bent at the elbow so that the hand rests on the breast, a ringlet of hair falling between the fingers. Well moulded in buff ware with pink and black grits; smooth white slip. Ht.: 15 cm.; W.: 10 cm.

The type is that of the female figure from Arsos with hand and falling ringlets in similar position. SCE III, 589, pl. CXCI.6 in style VI of the Cypro-Archaic period. Cf. also Tarsus I, fig. 239, 355.

- 6. (38.235) CC. Fig. 25.2. Shoulder of similar limestone figure with plain back. Cf. Vouni 77-8 (SCE II, pl. 55.1, 2).
- 7. (38.275) BB (8). Fig. 25.3. Hollow base of figurine. Pair of feet resting on a lion. Appears to be hand modelled with rather coarse incisions. Light red, grey-cored ware. H.:5 cm.; W.: 6 cm.
- 8. (38.336) G (6). Fig. 25.4. Rough, solid pedestal base supporting two feet of a standing figure. Plain back. Buff ware covered with reddish-brown wash. Ht.: 4.6 cm.; W.: 6.5 cm. Style of Vouni figurines 494 and 547 (SCE III, pl. LXXIX, 1, 2).

These figurines may be classed with those from Tsambres Tomb 16 early builals in the second quarter of the 4th century. Of similar date are the figurines from Marion Tombs 18, 36 and 39 associated with Red Figure vases of the 4th century (SCE II, 232, 278, 284, pls XLII.4; L.2; LII.4).

Bone

(37.163) F. Fig. 15.2. Bone ring.

Coins

- (38.281) F1. Bronze coin of Ptolemy VI Philometor period 173-171 B.C. and two other coins, indecipherable.
- (37.178) FC. Bronze coin. A few letters are visible and parts of the 'type'; the latter, however, suggested patterns as diverse as the Caps of the Dioscuri and the bow of Heracles. No positive identification is possible but the piece is not Cypriote and can be safely classed as an autonomous greek coin of Asia Minor of about the 2nd century.

Nails

Bronze nails (Fig. 26) of various types were recovered from this period, both with square and round shafts and flattened heads. The tacks, Fig. 26. 1, 2, are similar to those found at Tell Sukhas from the sanctuary (Sukas VI, 172-3, 144); also at Salamis (Salamis III, pl. CCLXXXIV) with other nails (ibid, pl. CCXCIII) from Tomb 79.

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Fig. 26. Period III: Bronze nails.

PERIOD IV

Period IV seems to have been a prosperous period, for most of the substantial ashlar walls can be attributed to it; perhaps also the fine stone quays on the two arms of the harbour.

The main buildings (Fig. 3), though only revealed in the narrow trenches AA, BB and CC, appear immediately below the basilica and associated structures, on the highest part of the site.

Area F. Fig. 5.3, 5, Section 2.

The wide wall D in trenches F 1-2 was set in a foundation trench cut through the previous Hellenistic layers 5 and 6. It was faced with small ashlar blocks and the centre filled with rubble and earth. The filling contained sherds of Period III, but in the foundation trench just beneath was the coin of Ptolemy VI, 173-1 B.C.; the associated layers beside the wall contained transitional Sigillata sherds and others of the late 2nd B.C. and early 1st century A.D. Walls A4 and 5 protruding from the section are probably part of the same building.

Thereafter, though the level was raised by layer 6 (Sections 5, 6, Fig. 6) sites D to G seem to have been open ground until the Early Christian buildings were erected. Wall D in F 1-2 (4) was robbed at a later date probably to build the Byzantine Town Wall.

Trench AA.

This trench, dug across the corridor A7 revealed walls immediately above one another. Both were of ashlar, the lowest being founded over some rubble on the rock. On the rock were White Painted and Black-on-Red sherds with Greek types. Beside the foundations were a range of Hellenistic sherds which serve to date the wall to the same period as that in area F.

Trench BB. Fig. 27, Section 4.

This 1 m. wide trench was cut across the passage B2, the portico B3 and the south court B5 to obtain stratified material to date the basilica complex; but it was soon restricted by stumps of walls and the rock was only reached in one place in B3.

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Over the rock was the thin layer of terra rossa (21) through which the foundations of a rubble wall A had been dug; a brown crumbly earth formed the floor (20) running up to it. A further rubble wall C crossed the trench on the east but could not be fully excavated; it probably belonged to the same period as did the ashlar wall B on the west. Layers 18, 19 surround wall B and are of similar soil to (20); they contained a Ptolemaic type coin 38.295, so these walls should be attributed to Period II.

Ashlar walls D and E appear to stand on the above layer and the earlier walls are covered by a grey occupation layer forming the floor for the ashlar walls; layers 16, 17 contained Eastern sigillata which assign them to this period. The occupation on the floor is represented by layer 15 which contained several nearly complete vessels but above this the walls were cut down and



Fig. 27. Trench BB, section 4.

Period III cannot be separated properly from IV in this area: layers 16-19 should equate with area F, Period IV, whereas layer 15 is the occupation on

Trench CC. Fig. 5, Section 3.

Trench CC, in the constricted area within the church apse, showed the same stratification where it was not cut away by the pit above the well, associated with a sandy filling layer 12. A similar parallel wall was uncovered under the north apse. In layer 12 were the rubble foundations of a second wall with ashlar blocks upon them; this wall is probably a continuation of that in AA; here the floor level is denoted by a layer of sand and limestone chips (11) derived from the dressing of the stone. Upon it is a blackish occupation layer (10) alongside the wall. Layers 8-9 represent the destruction level prior to the laying of the basilica floor in Period VI.

Both these walls also appear in a trench between the south piers of the church. Here also a well cut through all layers, but a similar sequence of build-

The lower narrow wall appears to be contemporary with those of Period II in F; and the upper more substantial structure with Period IV in BB.

EXCAVATIONS AT AYIOS PHILON. PART I

The pottery of Period IV spans from the mid-2nd century to the Augustan period. In area F a mixed layer contained many of the previous Black-Glazed types, but is distinguished by the appearance of the transitional Red Gloss wares, and the Hellenistic types are more often red-brown than black. Though some stratification could be observed in trench CC, all the sherds came from disturbed layers and can only be attributed by type.

The Pottery

Trench BB, though restricted, furnished a more clearly stratified group, under the apparent floor, layers 16-19; the deposit in layer 15 is only marginally later.

Areas F, G and trench CC.

Black-Glazed

- 235. (374) F. Fig. 28. Incurving bowl. Reddish ware; brown glaze all over.
- 236. (319) F2. Fig. 28. Fish-plate. Hard, pinkish-grey ware; worn dull glaze.
- 237. (447), Unstratified. Fig. 28. Fish-plate. Reddish ware; red glaze, dribbled on outside.



- 238. (260) G. Fig. 28. Incurving bowl. Greenish-buff ware with few white grits. Poor black glaze inside and over rim. 239. (215) CC. Fig. 28. Cup rim. Reddish ware. Red-brown glaze inside and out. (442) CC. Fig. 28. Pyxis base. Pinkish-grey ware; poor brown glaze. 240. 241. (371) F. Fig. 28. Jug neck. Red-brown ware, mottled black glaze.
- 242. (372) F2. Fig. 28. Crater rim. Soft buff ware; red-brown glaze.

(290) (17). Pl. XXVIII. 2.1. Angular Rhodian handle of amphora. L.: 8 cm. with 282. rectangular stamp 43×13 mm. with MEN (EAAOY). Hard red ware with white surface. Restored on the basis of a stamped handle in the collection of L. Benachi, Alexandria of which the photograph indicates it is from the same die. Publication of this type: IG XIV, 2393, 358; M. P. Nilsson, Timbres amphoriques de Lindos, 455. no. 306, 1 and 2. Rhodian fabricant known in few examples altogether. Probably 2nd century B.C.

Group from layer 15.

- 283-5. (518, 519, 520). Fig. 32. Unguentaria in greenish-white ware; thin dribbled red slip. Cf. Tarsus I, fig. 187.237; variants of Agora V, pl. 2, F 48 which refers to others of Augustan period.
- 286. (521). Fig. 32. Cypriote sigillata lagynos. Fine hard, reddish-buff body. Red glaze outside and over foot. Cf. Samaria III, fig. 82, form 25 indicating that these continued in use till the Augustan period. Variant of Hayes, RDAC 1967, 72 form 12.



Fig. 32. Period IV, trench BB: group from layer 15.

- 287. (459). Fig. 32, Pl. XXVIII. 3.8. Arretine dish rim. Fine pinkish clay; dark brick red glaze.
- 288. (434) Fig. 32. Casserole. Fine, hard metallic ware; mauve-pink outside, red inside. Cf. Agora V, pl. 72, F 76, with parallel in Augustan context.

-- (38, 296) BB. Bronze hook of thin wire for lamp chain. L.: 3.8 cm. — (38.295) BB. Bronze Ptolemaic coin which may be attributed Euergetes II, 134-29, or Ptolemy VI, 173-1. - (38.286) BB. Finger-ring; a twisted loop with overlapping ends. PERIOD V Trench BB. In Trenches AA, BB, CC, the later Roman occupation is not marked by any important structure, but by deep fillings covering the ashlar walls of Period IV. Only in trench BB can a sequence be observed up to the time of the constructions of the Early Christian period.

Period V, identified only in trench BB, (Fig. 27) is represented by layers 6-9, which indicate the destruction of the Period IV walls C, D and E; they themselves have been robbed by the great pit, layer 5. At the east and west ends, walls F, G and H appear to belong to a later structure (probably of Period VI), of which layers 10 and 11 may represent the floor and 12 and 13 a levelling fill. Though these two phases can be divided stratigraphically, the pottery is very similar and though 4th century coins appear in the upper layers, most of the pottery is not later than the 2nd century A.D.; and types which could be assigned to the 3rd or 4th century are absent.

THE POTTERY

Small finds

The fine wares are now all of the red gloss or sigillata type, with the exception of a few black-glazed survivors and some plain and cooking wares.

Black-Glazed

- 289. (-) Fig. 33. Lid bowl. Brown ware; red-brown glaze.
- 290. (331) (7). Fig. 33. Thin bowl rim. Brownish-red glaze.
- 291. (368) (7). Fig. 33. Cup. Fine buff ware; brownish glaze outside, red inside.
- 292. (304) (9). Fig. 33. Dish rim. Brown glaze inside and out. Cf. Samaria III, fig. 51.5. 3rd-2nd century B.C.
- 293. black paint.
- (363) (7). Fig. 33. Dish base. Hard pink ware; brown glaze all over. 294.

Eastern sigillata type

- 295. (528) (5). Fig. 34. Deep bowl. Fine salmon ware; dark crimson glaze.
- 296. and dot on base. Cf. Tarsus I, pl. 137. 293; Samaria III, fig. 82.7: Pieridou, RDAC 1969, Group c, pl. XI. 9-12.

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(235) (3). Fig. 33. Fish-plate rim with drooping flange. Hard brown ware; brown-

(526) (5). Pl. XXVIII. 3.6, Fig. 34. Base of similar bowl. Grooves on wall. Circle

Plain ware

- 305. (1185) (12-13). Fig. 35. Koan amphora neck with double handle. Red-brown ware with large black grits. Cf. Chios, fig. 10 no. 276.
- 306. (301) (9). Fig. 35, Pl. XXVIII. 2.3. Rhodian amphora handle with rectangular stamp. ΕΠΙ ΕΡΕΩΣ ΑΣΤΥΜΗΔΕΥΣ ΑΓΡΙΑΝΙΟΥ. Fine pinkish-red ware with white surface. Published example: E. M. Pridik, *Catalogue of the stamps on handles and necks of Amphoras, and on Bricks, of the Hermitage Collection*. Petrograd, 1917, p. 7 no. 114. Grace in Nessana I, no. 7, Hiller von Gaertringen. Pauly-Wissowa, Supp. V, 1934: Rhodos 837, enumerates two eponyms of the name: no. 100 'Αστιμήδης I. 170-150 B.C.; the name appears in Carthage c. 154 B.C.
- 307. (833) (14). Fig. 35. Crater rim with horizontal handle. Pink-buff ware.
- 308. (-)(10). Fig. 35. Amphora toe. Coarse red ware.

Small finds

- (38.223) BB (14). Fragments of bronze pin.
- (38.288) BB (14). Fragment of bronze pin. L.: 1. 8 cm.
- -- (38.298) BB (9). Fragment of bronze strip. L.: 7 cm.; W.: 1.5 cm.
- (38.280) BB (10). Pt II Fig. 46.20. Glass, knuckle-bone gaming piece. L.: 1.7 cm.

Coins

- -- (38.222) BB (6). Bronze coin of? 4th century type.
- (38.262) BB (6). Bronze coin with common 'Gloria Romanorum' reverse; probably period of Constantine the Great 324-63, 4th century A.D.
- -- (38.269) BB (13). Small bronze AE of Ptolemy X, 107-88 B.C.

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ADDENDUM

As this report appears in two parts, the appropriate division occurs at Period V, after which there seems to be a gap in the archaeological sequence during the third and early fourth centuries. In summary, this section covers the early occupation of the site when Greek foundations were being opened on the neighbouring shores of the mainland. As a harbour it would have been useful during the Persian wars. The town flourished in the Hellenistic period and also in early Roman times; but the lack of occupation in the later Roman period is difficult to explain unless the disturbances and earthquakes at that time caused a withdrawal of the population. But in the area excavated, any archaeological evidence was absent.

N.B. The metal objects will be illustrated in Part II.

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Svoronos	Ta nomismata tou kratous ton P

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EXCAVATIONS AT AYIOS PHILON. PART I

ABBREVIATIONS AND REFERENCES

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