

Section III

March - June, 1956

The ruins unearthed represent six roughly defined periods: fourth century B.C. - Hellenistic, Augustan, pre-Herulian (from the middle of the 2nd century A.D. to 267 A.D.), post-Herulian (from 267 A.D. to perhaps the middle of the 4th century), Byzantine (11th and 12th centuries A.D.) and Turkish (1778). I shall discuss the results of the excavation by periods and add a note suggesting further excavations in the area.

FOURTH CENTURY B.C.

pp. 2285-94
2321-2 Bronze casting pit. (7/MT).

The pit was cut into the soft bedrock to a depth of 1.43 m. and is 1.70 m. wide at its broadest extremity. The ground plan is that of a slightly lop-sided keyhole. The preserved length of the pit (and it must lack only a very little of being the actual length since the later water passage digging only touched its western extremity) is 4.80 m., of which the dromos takes up 3.10 m. The dromos was 0.60 m. wide and descended into the pit proper in 5 steps, also cut into the bedrock. The whole is well enough preserved to give some idea of how one might have gone about casting a life-size human figure (one mould fragment of the many found shows a mould for the upper surface of 4 life-size fingers) in bronze in the years 350-325 B.C. (pottery dated by G.R. Edwards).

→ ππ 1026
p. 2426

First the pit is dug and cleared. Then a rough core is set up on a grate over a shallow cutting (as in this pit) in the pit floor and the artist moulds his statue, or what parts he will, in wax on

the core. When the wax representation is ready the artist applies over it some refractory material such as fine clay, over which is added a layer of heavier, coarser clay perhaps containing brick dust (mould fragments from the pit bear this out). Then he builds a wall of bricks (many bricks found in pit) all around the statue and as high as the statue. The space between this wall and the/casting pit would be packed with earth except for a place for a pipe of some sort which would permit air pumped in by a bellows from above to reach the shallow cutting in the floor of the pit.

Fuel is then placed in the space between the wall and the statue mould to a height which will insure the whole mould's receiving sufficient heat, and ignited. The resulting fire at once bakes the clay somewhat and melts the wax inside.

Now the artist and his helpers pack the space between the wall and the statue mould with earth. They work quickly because the mould must stay at a certain heat if it is to take the bronze safely. The earth they are packing in helps the mould retain its heat.

As soon as the mould is completely covered, except, of course, for a pour channel, the men construct a simple, low wall which will contain a second fire built around the pour channel and the crucible (fragments of what may have been a crucible were found in the pit) which has been set up over it. The crucible will have a hole in its bottom so that bronze placed in it will be melted by the fire, flow directly into the pour channel and from there into the numerous "risers" or diversifying channels inside the mould (these channels can be seen clearly in the mould fragments) and finally to the actual mould itself.

The cooling takes an hour or two. When the men are ready to dig the mould out they naturally assail the earth immediately around the mould first and work out from there as far as they have to. This blackened earth, full of ashes and partly burnt wood is consequently at the bottom of the pile of earth they have dug out. Thus after they have broken the mould and removed the bronze, they fill the pit up again starting from the top of the dump pile of earth and the blackened earth is replaced last, and the later excavator upon digging the pit finds a 0.30 m. thick layer of blackened, burnt earth right at the top, as we in fact did.

House.

p. 2271

A handsome stretch of wall (1-4/MH-MΘ), built in the "ladder" style runs EW for about 3-1/2 meters, and its bedding can be traced another 3 meters to the east, and on into the scarp at the west. A bit of the same construction appears in the W wall of South House Room 20. These will be the remains of a 4th century private residence, belonging to the same neighborhood as the classical houses in NN reported by Rodney Young. To be connected with the longer stretch of wall are a shallow basin set near the north face of the wall in the earth and collared with a (2/MZ) cement square, and a several-meters-square piece of substantial mosaic, constructed of large pebbles and cement, which rests in place to the north.

p. 2274-6

p. 2267,
2272

p. 2298
2283
2285
2300

The dining room of this house may be represented by another bit of pebble mosaic further north (5-8/ΛΗ-ΛΣΤ). The square depressed center area for service, and the raised outer band for the couches recall similar floors at Olynthus.

A small patch of pebble mosaic E of the dining room will represent a third room in the classical house. This third room is

bounded on two sides by a wall which runs west from 16/ΔZ and turns south at 10/ΔE, clearly containing as well as the mosaic floor a large cistern^(12/ΔH) distinguished by a short (1.75 m.) blind tunnel running SW from its floor, and a shallow (ca. 0.80 m. originally) settling basin just S of the cistern mouth. (= not a basin, 6/ΔH)

The lowest part of the cistern as well as the tunnel had been packed with amphoras. Miss V. Grace has dated the amphoras around 150 B.C., saying that there was little spread in their dates, the cistern then, was not used after 150 B.C., and perhaps one can say that the cistern and indeed the room were in use until shortly before that date.

A well that may have supplied the householders with water until the very end of the 4th century B.C. was located at 3/EA. Its rotten schist walls collapsed some time near then and it was filled up with pottery, ashes and earth, and abandoned. We were forced to stop digging because of the rotten walls. There was still soft earth in the bottom (at ca. 6 m.) but we had stopped getting pottery at 4.70 m.

Road.

At 9/IB and 4/IA-IE there are patches of road metal at the level of the bottom of the foundations of South House Room 12 (see infra). The following facts may be considered in this connection:

1. They are in a line to continue the road styled "Piraeus Street" by R. Young (Hesperia, XX, 1951, p. 149 seq.);
2. An EW Roman drain, the continuation of that discussed by Young (ibid., pp. 153-4), lies under the patch at 9/IB;
3. A house drain pipe of terracotta which would have emptied into a drain on the same line as the Roman drain was squashed by the foundations of the South House Room 12 north wall. This little bit

of drain pipe was set into the road. It, then, is more recent than the road, and at the same time older than the house, the style of whose pebble mosaic floor suggests a Hellenistic or at latest an early Augustan date for its construction.

4. The bits of pottery found in the road metal were 4th century.

5. Running NE-SW at a higher level than the Roman drain, were two substantial sections of a large stone drain, ^(4/ID and 2/IH) Their level, as well as the fact that a 4th century shop wall (see infra) had been built over one section*, suggests that they were contemporary with the 4th century road.

*p. 2380

6. A similar section of stone drain, ^(2/IG) but resting on the road metal under discussion, runs on west toward the Piraeus Gate.

7. Continuing even further south from the line of the EW road (some 8-10 meters) at a deeper level, is a Roman drain, ^(O/KI) which was packed with amphoras from the middle of the third century A.D.

p. 2395-6

To infer then from the directions of contemporary and later drains, we may say that the road in the 4th century B.C. continued on west toward the Piraeus Gate, branching off, however, at 4/IE toward the Pnyx.

Shops.

A stretch of wall runs from 1/KA on south for about 8 meters finally disappearing into the scarp at the western side of the excavation. This wall would have faced on the branch of the road which ran toward the Pnyx. Three roughly parallel walls (2 to 3.5 meters apart) run east from the western face of the street wall, and may have determined the lines of small shops which faced on the street. The floors were of dirt, or of bedrock. (At the Eastern extremity of one shop there are cuttings for a door in the bedrock). Where we

went down to the floor, the pottery was consistently 4th century B.C.
Water System.

We have no perfectly reliable data by which to judge the date of the water system. I include it under this heading only because in Roman times wells tend to replace cisterns.

As far as we have been able to determine the central construction in this system is a rectangular cistern or draw shaft located at 6/MΔ. There were cuttings for steps in its interior walls and at a depth of 3.50 meters from the estimated level of its mouth a water-proofed channel led off SE in the direction of the cistern and settling basin at 7-8/MΘ (see infra sub cap. Further Excavations). Another 0.50 m. further down a water-proofed channel high and wide enough so that a man might comfortably walk in it proceeded N (we followed it only several meters). I suspect that it turned into or was joined by the EW water-proofed passage we found passing by, and indeed tangent to the well at 3/MB at a depth of 2.50 meters. The hydraulics of the system are still obscure.

Augustan Times.

A discussion of the Augustan remains in the excavation this year is essentially a train of inference in part from pottery finds but mostly from evidence of previous occupancy in parts of the house destroyed in the Herulian sack of Athens. Miss Lang, for instance, pointed out in her 1948 summary that the pebble mosaic with the brick chip border in the SW quadrant of the South House courtyard, was Augustan at latest and perhaps out of the end of the Hellenistic period. Similar traces of previous use and building are found:

- 1) A patch of red and black brick chip mosaic, covering irregularly perhaps 6 square meters, and intimately connected with the wellhead

at 4/MH (see infra sub cap. Further Excavations) resembles somewhat the brick chip border in the courtyard. This coupled with the fact that there is a well in the courtyard (its off-center position suggesting that it too perhaps is earlier than the last period of the house), and that the well at 4/MH is at some distance (at its closest 9 meters) from the third century house, suggests that this mosaic served the people who lived here in Augustan times.

2) Beneath the floor of the South House kitchen there are 7 cuttings in the bedrock for storage jars. Several of the holes occur in places where Miss Lang found a firm, good strosis representing the floor last used in the house, i.e. up to 267 A.D. Five similar cuttings, not on the same axis, are located just west of the kitchen wall where there was no occupancy during the years immediately preceding 267. (The east side of the kitchen wall yielded 3rd century Roman pottery, Greek the west side, 4th century/, Hellenistic and early Roman).

3) A garden court was located some 7 meters west of the courtyard of the mid-third century house. Its condition is ruinous enough so that it is hard to tell precisely how it worked. What we can see is a rectangle of plaster flooring into which originally marble paving slabs were set. One or two bits of them remain in place.* This flooring/cut or bounded by three trenches, two of them parallel (3.12 m. apart) and the third perpendicular to the two. The trenches presumably were flower beds. A drain running off from the marble floor suggests that there was no roof over it, and the walls which ran along the inner face of the trenches must have been fairly low. They do not appear to have been thick enough to support a roof. The edge of the flooring west of the one perpendicular trench suggests that there would once have been a bench or fountain there. Data for

* were not the surviving fragments of marble veneer used in levelling the floor slabs proper as they were laid? Some, not all.

the dating of this garden court is supplied chiefly by the pottery deposit in a small rectangular pit south of it^{at 10/1Γ} which produced classical and early Roman pottery. The pit had traces of lime in it and would have been used to prepare the bedding material for the marble flooring slabs. Two similar pits, one just west of this one and the other just around the corner of the garden to the east may have been used for subsequent repairs. We found no reliable pottery in the one, the other was open until at least the second century A.D. (lamp fragment dated by J. Perlzweig).

Another reason for believing that ~~it~~^{the garden court} did not belong to the last period of the house is that about 2 meters west of the drain mentioned above there is clear evidence of a second floor level some 0.20 m. higher than the first. The second level ought to be identified with the mid-third century house.

pp. 2324
1369

4) The pebble mosaic floor of South House Room 12 is very much like the pebble mosaic surrounded by a brick-chip border in the courtyard, except that it was at one time colored lilac. They were probably built at the same time. The floor in this room during its final period was of clay, and so the pebble mosaic was the floor used by the Augustans. The clay between the pebble mosaic floor and the mid-third century floor yielded only 2 or 3 bits of coarse pottery which were in no way helpful.

I have not been able to work out the lines of the area used as living quarters by the Augustans. The areas just touched upon are fairly certain, and it should be possible to establish some connecting rooms and walls between them eventually.

Pre-Herulian (middle of 2nd century A.D. to 267 A.D.)

This period is represented by a large, sprawling house, almost certainly in its final period the result of combining other earlier houses. It was destroyed by the Herulians during their sack of Athens in 267 A.D. as evidence from this and previous excavations has clearly shown. I have drawn a restored plan of the western part of the house as I think it stood just before it was destroyed, and so here I shall discuss only individual rooms and give some reasons for proposed restorations.

pp. 2274-6 Room 20. We never did find a perfectly satisfactory east wall for this room, nor did we find a good floor. The floor level may be inferred only from the plaster on the wall. This room used as a part of its west wall a bit of the "ladder construction" wall mentioned above, and it shows 2 coats of plaster on its wall (as against one in the nearby rooms 24, 23 and 19). It was probably in use for a long time.

p. 2234 Room 21. Enough plaster remained on the walls of this room for one to be able to reconstruct its pattern, a simple yet pleasing affair of a horizontal red band, panels, and vertical vines between panels.

pp. 2244-6 Room 23. The stratification of the fill in this room was exceptionally good. A layer of burned matter and blackened earth, 0.15 m. thick told graphically of the fire that destroyed the building. Above this level was a layer of dark red destruction fill 0.40 m. thick in which a good sampling of mid-third century A.D. Roman pottery was found. A third level, which also produced 3rd century Roman pottery dipped down to the floor 0.40 m. east of the heavily plundered west wall of the room, indicating clearly that the wall had been robbed fairly soon after the fire.

Two bits of wall plaster, upon each of which were painted human faces half life-size, came out of the destruction fill. The painting had been executed with some skill and is reminiscent of the style of painting found on wall plaster in the Gymnasion at Delos. The somewhat austere pattern discernible on plaster of the lower parts of the walls of this room seems uncongenial to these handsome bits. Perhaps they fell from an upstairs room. The threshold block leading into this room mounts to a second step whose upper surface is 0.25 m. above the floor. From here a wooden staircase could have ascended to a second floor. Heavier pieces of carbonized material did lie near the north wall of the room, which is the wall the stair would have touched; but there was not really enough material for us to judge finally.

Room 19. Wall plaster with an interesting geometric design found in the destruction fill of this room again cannot be easily assigned to the sort of pattern which is preserved on the walls. It may be that this plaster too has fallen from an upstairs room (suggestive of a second floor colonnade are a small Ionic capital from the destruction fill of the kitchen, and a small Ionic column base from the destruction fill of room 24).

Garden Court. The garden court may well have remained in use until the destruction of the house. The second floor level mentioned above (sub cap. Augustan Remains, garden court) has sunk into it a small rectangular marble piece which has a hole in its middle about the right size to accommodate a drain pipe leading down from an eaves-trough. The marble bit is partly covered by a very ruinous piece of brick and mortar wall which has passing through it a small section of terracotta drain pipe leading from the hole in the marble. Thus

in the final period of the house there would have been a roof extending out to the point of this wall and the garden would, as before, remain in the open air.

South House Room 12. This is a large (7.04 x 7.28 m.) room whose clay floor gave the first indications of the opulence, or ought one to say industry of the occupants. The floor was easily found by us and by Miss Lang in 1947 who entered the room only to the extent of a meter or so on the east side.

p. 2324
2369

There were clear traces of burning on the floor as well as a number of varied objects. These included: 3 bronze statuette bases, 5 amphoras, several bronze tools designed for rather delicate work, a fine ivory relief of a satyr's head which once adorned a piece of furniture, and impressed into the earth was the fragmentary ivory veneer of a cabinet door. On the earth and the back of the veneer (which was face down) were traces of black, white, carmine and a rich blue color. The colors unfortunately could not be saved.

Happily for the dating of this floor's last use were three separate groups of coins lying on the floor in quite different areas. All were tightly grouped, none earlier than Valerian or later than Gallienus.

~~The~~ similar coins were found on the floor of what I called South House Room 27, and one on the floor of what I called South House Room 14B. These two rooms apparently were not rooms after all, and so Room 14B means a small area just south of South House Room 12's one threshold, and Room 27 means the area at 6-7/KA-KΘ. The floor levels of these areas corresponded nicely to that of South House Room 12 and the stroses were quite clear.

p. 2391

p. 2392

During this last period of the house the west road mentioned above grew narrower, since the NW corner of the house, jogging out slightly, encroached on a meter or so of it. There still remained slightly over 2 meters between the wall of this house and the one across the road, enough for some traffic, but one may presume that the road had lost some of its former importance - or that the ἀστυνόμοι were looking the other way.

Post-Herulian (267 A.D. to mid-4th century A.D.)

When we dug the area bounded by 1-10/AA-KB we encountered enough late Roman pottery at the highest Roman level (just under the Byzantine fill) to suggest some habitation here after the Herulian sack. More scattered remains appeared as we moved north, mostly in the form of ruinous walls constructed of rubble and mortar. One such wall was built on top of and along the north wall of South House Room 12 which is preserved to a height of only 0.30 m. or so. Another bit, apparently part of the same building, lies dead across the E-W road at 13/IA. On the north side of the road several rooms are sketchily suggested by similar walls in an area bounded by 1-13/θ-A. To be identified with this period of construction are also a patch of brick flooring set in earth at 5/IA and a latrine at 3/Z.

BYZANTINE (11th - 12th century)

Plateia (p. 2262)

Late in March we came across an extensive hard-packed strosis which in spots even had the appearance of having been cobbled. This strosis extended from -1 - 9/NA-AZ, and might well have gone on further north originally. Evidence for its northern limit, however, has long since been washed away by water pouring across the watershed there. The level of the strosis was about 0.30 m. above that of the well-head at 4/MH. Pottery above and below was almost exclusively Byz. coarse ware. Houses (sketch by J. Travlos; grid refs. apply to plans on pp. 2400 x-z)

Wall foundations made of rubble stone set in clay outlined partly two contemporary Byzantine houses which in the 11th or 12th century faced each other across an east-west road roughly 3 meters wide. The road is inferred from a fairly good strosis, the lines of the buildings and the fact that it runs in the same direction as, but at a level ca. 2.00 m. above the 4th century road noted supra. There was no proper road metal in the Byzantine road.

The wall foundations went down to varying depths, depending on the consistency of the earth beneath them, but a floor level for the two houses can be established from : 1) The tops of completely preserved pithoi at 1/AT, 2/AT (p. 2357), 5/A (p. 2363) and 12/H (p. 2318); and 2) A firm strosis, which was fairly general in House B, coincided with the tops of the pithoi. The resulting floor level lies ca. 0.90 m. above that of the pebble mosaic floor in South House Room 12.

House A (photographs, pp. 2340-42)

The walls occur in an area bounded by 4-12/KΓ-IΓ. On three sides walls delimit the house, but we found no eastern limit. Three rooms are indicated by the walls we have, one containing the trace of a pithos at 6/IΣΤ (p. 2365).

House B (photographs p. 2350-52)

Walls for this house occur in an area bounded by 0-12/ -A - Θ. We found no satisfactory limit for its north, east or west sides. At least six rooms seem to be indicated by patches of wall here and there. It was this house that yielded the strosis and pithoi noted above, in addition to imperfectly preserved pithoi at 3/Γ and 6/Η, and what may have been a hearth at 5/Ε. The house well, a re-used Roman well (see sub. cap. Further Excavations) was located at 3/Ε. A fragmentary Byzantine white ware plate (P 25666, ΠΠ 1031) may give a terminus post quem for the construction date of the house, since it was found under the floor, and the pottery found above the floor was significantly later. (P 25670, ΠΠ 1035).

TURKISH (p. 2314, also sketched by J. Travlos)

The foundation of large blocks for a gate at 11-13/ΙΔ-ΙΘ has been identified as the Draco or Mandravilē gate in the city wall of 1778. The lowest course of the foundation blocks lay at a level ca. 1.25 m. above that of South House Room 12's pebble mosaic floor, and was set into a thick layer of ash which contained such late pottery fragments as white "china" with blue decoration.

FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS

House E

At a level which suggests contemporaneity with the South House we found just north across the east-west road the walls which extend and delimit the southern extremity of Πe , House D, or as it is called in Section $\Pi \Pi$, House E (see M. Lang's 1948 summary and $\Pi \Pi$, nb. pp. 115, 118, 440-457, 530-555). I have drawn these walls on the restored plan of the western part of the pre-Herulian house. Further cleaning around them will strengthen their connection with the mosaic floor at 23/B.

Hellenistic Habitation

The patch of mosaic flooring and the cistern mouth at 13-14/B- Γ (pp. 1359-1363) give evidence of some Hellenistic building in this area. Within the area enclosed by House E's walls we have removed earth only to a little below the level of the patch of mosaic flooring. Probably more evidence of earlier habitation will be found before the excavator reaches bedrock here.

Cisterns (p. 2282; 2400 v)

p. 2282

p. 2400 (v)

A cistern and settling basin at 8/M Θ and a cistern mouth which showed at the bottom of the garden trench at 8/ \wedge were left unexplored because we ran out of time. These ought to be investigated ~~more~~ further, especially the cistern at 8/ \wedge , because it may tie in with and explain the plastering of the west face of the N-S garden trench at 6/ \wedge and the plastering

which appears directly opposite it some 5 meters east, traces of which can be seen in the eastern extremity of the E-W trench at 9/Λ. This last bit of plastering is curious in that it apparently curves inward or westward at the level of the garden court floor.

Wells

Well 3/ΞA has been touched upon above (sub cap. 4th century house). We were not able to get so much out of several other wells. We had to stop digging the wells at 4/ΞΓ and 4/MH at about 10 meters because we were getting so much water. Both wells were still yielding an occasional Byzantine sherd at that depth.

p. 2400 (o) The well at 3/E, dug by the Romans and re-used by the Byzantines, was never even sampled.

pp. 2367-8 The well at 3/MB at a depth of about 5.70 m. started yielding some very crude potsherds, clearly not made on the wheel (p. 2367). This well may be prehistoric. We ran out of time before we could obtain an adequate sampling.

Grave or Bronze-casting Pit ?

p. 2284 At 7/M we found a cutting in the earth which went down to a smooth bedrock some 0.50 m. down. The cutting looked very much like the first step down into the bronze-casting pit described supra. We had time to determine that this little beginning of a dromos opened out fairly swiftly into a pear-shaped outline, and that the people who built the E-W wall from 5/M to 8/MA had filled some of the pit with stones in

order to secure a solid footing for the wall, but then time ran out. The immediate proximity of this pit to the large bronze-casting pit at 7/M^r makes further investigation here very desirable.

Classical

A heavy wall foundation and some classical and geometric sherds^{*} just west of the South House West Alcove ought to be looked into. It appears that there is a sudden rise in the bedrock level along a line extending roughly from 15/NB-19/I^r, but we have not fixed the bedrock contours very precisely along this line. Thus the foundation wall mentioned above occurs at the level of the South House courtyard, but in an area where it looks as though the Roman house had been built higher because there the bedrock had risen. Since the bedrock has not risen here, it is clear that there must be something else underneath, probably something classical.

A. Boegehold

July 3, 1956

** These may represent a geometric grave. See p. 2623*

The ruins unearthed represent six roughly defined periods: fourth century B.C., Hellenistic, Augustan, pre-Herulian (from the middle of the 2nd century A.D. to 267 A.D.), post-Herulian (from 267 A.D. to perhaps the middle of the 4th century), Byzantine (11th and 12th centuries A.D.) and Turkish (1778). I shall discuss the results of the excavation by periods and add a note suggesting further excavations in the area.

FOURTH CENTURY B.C.

Bronze casting pit. The pit was cut into the soft bedrock to a depth of 1.43 m. and is 1.70 m ^{wide} at its broadest extremity. The ground plan

~~Somewhat larger than the casting pits near the Hephaisteion and is that of a slightly lop-sided keyhole. The preserved length of the pit (and it most on the west slope of the Areopagos, this pit has the ground plan of a slightly lop-sided keyhole and is well enough preserved to give some idea of how one might have gone about casting a life-size human figure in bronze in the years 450-425 B.C.~~ (pottery dated by R. Edwards)

First the pit is dug and cleared. Then a rough core is set up on a grate over a shallow cutting in the pit floor and the artist moulds his statue, or what parts he will, in wax on the core. When the wax representation is ready the artist applies over it some refractory material such as fine clay, over which is added a layer of heavier, coarser clay perhaps containing brick dust. Then he builds a wall of bricks all around the statue and as high as the statue. The space between the wall and the casting pit would be packed with earth except for a place for a pipe of some sort which would permit air pumped in by a bellows from above to reach the shallow cutting in the floor of the pit.

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(fragments of what many have been crucible were found in the pit)

(these channels can be seen clearly in the mould frags.)

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nnp. 2256

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1. They are in a line to continue the road styled "Piraeus Street" by ^{W.} Young (Hesp.XX, 1951, p. 149 reg.);
2. An EW Roman drain, the continuation of that discussed by Young (ibid., pp. 153-4), lies under the patch at 9/IB;
3. A house drain pipe of terra cotta which would have emptied into a drain on the same line as the Roman drain was squashed by the foundations of the South House room 12 north wall. This little bit of drain pipe was set into the road. It, then, is more recent than the road, and at the same time older than the house, the style of whose pebble mosaic floor suggests ~~at a Hellenistic, or at latest an early Augustan date~~ ^{at a Hellenistic, or at latest an early Augustan date} latest a Hellenistic date for its construction.
4. The bits of pottery found in the road metal were 4th century.
5. Running NE-SW at a higher level than the Roman drain, were two substantial sections of a large stone drain. Their level, as well as the fact that a 4th century shop wall (see infra) had been built over one section, suggests that they were contemporary with the 4th century road.
6. A similar section of stone drain, but resting on the road metal under discussion, runs on west toward the Piraeus gate.
7. Continuing even further south from the line of the EW road (some 8-10 meters) at a deeper level, is a Roman drain which was packed with amphoras from the middle of the third century A.D.

To infer then from the directions of contemporary and later drains, we may say that the road ^{in the 4th century B.C.} continued on west toward the Piraeus Gate, but also ^{branching} ~~branched~~ ^{however} off at 4/IE toward the Pnyx.

Shops

A stretch of wall runs from 1/KA on south for about 8 meters finally disappearing into the scarp at the western side of the excavation. This wall would have faced on the branch of the road which ran toward the Pnyx. Three roughly parallel walls (2 to 3.5 meters apart) run east from the western face of the street wall, and may have determined the lines of small shops which faced on the street. The floors were of dirt, or of bedrock. (At the eastern extremity

of one shop there are cuttings for a door in the bedrock.) *Where we went down to the floor, the pottery was consistently 4th C. B.C.*

Water System

We have ^{No} ~~as~~ perfectly reliable data by which to judge the date of the water system. I include it under this heading only because in Roman times wells tend to replace cisterns.

As far as we have been able to determine the central construction in this system is a rectangular cistern or draw shaft located at 6/MΔ. There were cutting for steps in its interior walls and at a depth of 3.50 meters from the estimated level of its mouth a water-proofed channel led off SE in the direction of the cistern and settling basin at 7-8/MΘ (see infra sub cap. Further Excavations). Another 0.50 m. further down a water-proofed channel high and wide enough so that a man might comfortably walk in it proceeded N (we followed it only several meters). I suspect that it turned into or was joined by the EW water-proofed passage we found passing by, and indeed tangent to the well at 3/MB at a depth of 2.50 meters. The hydraulics of the system are still obscure.

Augustan Times

A discussion of the Augustan remains in the excavation this year is essentially a train of inference in part from pottery finds but mostly from evidence of previous occupancy in parts of the house destroyed in the Herulian sack of Athens. Miss Lang, for instance, pointed out in her 1948 summary that the pebble mosaic with the brick chip border in the SW quadrant of the South House courtyard, was Augustan at latest and perhaps out of the end of the Hellenistic period. Similar traces of previous use and building are found:

- 1) A patch of red and black brick chip mosaic, covering irregularly perhaps 6 square meters, and intimately connected with the wellhead at 4/MH (see infra sub. cap. Further Excavations) resembles somewhat the brick chip border in the courtyard. This coupled with the fact that there is a well in the courtyard (its off-center position suggesting that it too perhaps is earlier than the last period of the house), and that the well at 4/MH is at some distance (at its closest 9 meters) from the third century house, suggests that this mosaic served the people who lived here in Augustan times.
- 2) Beneath the floor of the South House kitchen there are 7 cuttings in the bedrock for storage jars. Several of the holes occur in places where Miss Lang found a firm, good strosis representing the floor last used in the house, i.e. up to 267 A.D. Five similar cuttings, not on the same axis, are located just west of the kitchen wall where there was no occupancy during the years immediately preceding 267. (The east side of the kitchen wall yielded 3rd century Roman pottery, the west side, 4th century, Hellenistic and early Roman.)
- 3) A garden court was located some 7 meters west of the courtyard of the mid-third century house. Its condition is ruinous enough so that it is hard to tell precisely how it worked. What we can see is a

rectangle of plaster flooring into which originally marble paving slabs were set, and one or two bits of them remain in place. This flooring cut or bounded by three trenches, two of them parallel and the third perpendicular to the two. The trenches presumably were flower beds. A drain running off from the marble floor suggests that there was no roof over it, and the walls which ran along the inner face of the trenches must have been fairly low. They do not appear to have been thick enough to support a roof. The edge of the flooring west of the one perpendicular trench suggests that there would once have been a bench or fountain there. Data for the dating of this garden court is supplied chiefly by the pottery deposit in a small rectangular pit south of it which produced classical and early Roman pottery. The pit had traces of lime in it and would have been used to prepare the bedding material for the marble flooring slabs. Two similar pits, one just west of this one and the other just around the corner of the garden to the east may have been used for subsequent repairs. We found no reliable pottery in the one, the other was open until at least the second century A.D. (lamp fragment dated by J. Perlzweig).

Another reason for believing that it did not belong to the last period of the house is that about 2 meters west of the drain mentioned above there is clear evidence of a second floor level some 0.20 m. higher than the first. The second level ought to be identified with the mid-third century house.

4) The pebble mosaic floor of South House/^{room}12 is very much like the pebble mosaic surrounded by a brick-chip border in the courtyard, except that it was at one time colored lilac. They were probably built at the same time. The floor in this room during its final period was of clay, and so the pebble mosaic was the floor used by the Augustans. The clay between the pebble mosaic floor and the mid-third century floor yielded only 2 or 3 bits of coarse

pottery which were in no way helpful.

I have not been able to work out the lines of the area used as living quarters by the Augustans. The areas just touched upon are fairly certain, and it should be possible to establish some connecting rooms and walls between them eventually.

Pre-Herulian (middle of 2nd century A.D. to 267 A.D.)

This period is represented by a large, sprawling house, almost certainly in its final period the result of combining other earlier houses. It was destroyed by the Herulians during their sack of Athens in 267 A.D. as evidence from this and previous excavations has clearly shown. I have drawn a restored plan of the western part of the house as I think it stood just before it was destroyed, and so here I shall discuss only individual rooms and give some reasons for proposed restorations.

Room 20. We never did find a perfectly satisfactory east wall for this room, nor did we find a good floor. The floor ^{level} may be inferred only from the plaster on the wall. This room used as a part of its west wall a bit of the "ladder construction" wall mentioned above, and it shows 2 coats of plaster on its wall (as against one in the nearby rooms 24, 23 and 19). It was probably in use for a long time.

Room 21. Enough plaster remained on the walls of this room for ^{one} me to be able to reconstruct its pattern, a simple yet pleasing affair of a horizontal red band, panels, and vertical vines between panels.

Room 23. The stratification of the fill in this room was exceptionally good. A layer of burned matter and blackened earth, 0.15 m. thick told graphically of the fire that destroyed the building. Above this level was a layer of dark red destruction fill 0.40 m. thick in which a good sampling of mid-third century A.D. Roman pottery was found. A third level, which also produced 3rd century Roman pottery dipped down to the floor 0.40 m. east of the heavily plundered west wall of the room, indicating clearly that the wall had been robbed fairly soon after the fire.

Two bits of wall plaster, upon each of which were painted human faces, half life-size, came out of the destruction fill. The

painting had been executed with some skill and is reminiscent of the style of painting found on wall plaster in the Gymnasion at Delos. The somewhat austere pattern discernible on plaster of the lower parts of the walls of this room seems uncongenial to these handsome bits. Perhaps they fell from an upstairs room. The threshold block leading into this room mounts to a second step whose upper surface is 0.25 m. above the floor. From here a wooden staircase could have ascended to a second floor. Heavier pieces of carbonized material did lie near the north wall of the room, which is the wall the stair would have touched; but there was not really enough material for us to judge finally.

Room 19. Wall plaster with an interesting geometric design found in the destruction fill of this room again cannot be easily assigned to the sort of pattern which is preserved on the walls. It may be that this plaster too has fallen from an upstairs room. *(Suggestive of a second floor colonnade ~~are~~ are a small Ionic capital from the destruction fill of the kitchen, and a small Ionic column base from the destruction fill of room 24)*
Garden Court. The garden court may well have remained in use until the destruction of the house. The second floor level mentioned above (sub cap. Augustan Remains, garden court) has sunk into it a small rectangular marble piece which has a hole in its middle about the right size to accommodate a drain pipe leading down from an eavestrough. The marble bit is partly covered by a very ruinous piece of brick and mortar wall which has passing through it a small section of terra cotta drain pipe leading from the hole in the marble. Thus in the final period of the house there would have been a roof extending out to the point of this wall and the garden would, as before, remain in the open air.

South House 12. This is a large (7.04 x 7.28 m.) room whose clay floor gave the first indications of the opulence, or ought one to say ^{industry} mercantilism of the occupants. The floor was easily found by us and

by Miss Lang in 1947 who entered the room only to the extent of a meter or so on the east side.

There were clear traces of burning on the floor as well as a number of varied objects. These included: 3 bronze statuette bases, 5 amphoras, several bronze tools designed for rather delicate work, a fine ivory relief of a satyr's head which once adorned a piece of furniture, and impressed into the earth was the fragmentary ivory veneer of a cabinet door. On the earth and the back of the veneer (which was face down) were traces of black, white, carmine and a rich blue color. The colors unfortunately could not be saved.

Happily for the dating of this floor's last use were three separate groups of coins lying on the floor in quite different areas. All were tightly grouped, none earlier than Valerian or later than Gallienus.

Two similar coins were found on the floor of what I called South House Room 27, and one on the floor of what I called South House Room 14B. These two rooms apparently were not rooms after all, and so Room 14B means a small area just south of South House 12's one threshold, and Room 27 means the area at 6-7/KA-KΘ. The floor levels of these areas corresponded nicely to that of South House 12 and the stroses were quite clear.

During this last period of the house the west road mentioned above grew narrower, since the NW corner of the house, jogging out slightly, encroached on a meter or so of it. There still remained slightly over 2 meters between the wall of this house and the one across the road, enough for some traffic, but one may presume that the road had lost some of its former importance -- or that the ἀετιονόμοι were looking the other way.

Post-Herulian (267 A.D. to mid-4th century A.D.)

When we dug the area bounded by 1-10/AA-KB we encountered enough late Roman pottery at the highest Roman level (just under the Byzantine fill) to suggest some habitation here after the Herulian sack. More scattered remains appeared as we moved north, mostly in the form of ruinous walls constructed of rubble and mortar. One such wall was built on top of and along the north wall of South House Room 12 which is preserved to a height of only 0.30 m. or so. Another bit, apparently part of the same building, lies dead across the E-W road at 13/IA. On the north side of the road several rooms are sketchily suggested, *by similar walls* in an area bounded by 1-13/@-A, ~~by similar walls~~. To be identified with this period of construction are also a patch of brick flooring set in earth at 5/IA and a latrine at 3/Z.