

EXCAVATION SUMMARY

Section BA : 1970

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EXCAVATION SUMMARY

Section 6A : 1970

This being the first year of excavations in this area, a few preliminary remarks are in order with regard to the general nature of the Section, and the problems resulting from these characteristics. These fall into two categories:

1. The Physical Layout of the Area

Because of the limitations imposed by the Railroad on the South and Hadrian Street on the North, the Section is a long and narrow East-West strip. This necessarily means that the discoveries, especially architectural units, are limited arbitrarily on both North and South, and therefore less than completely known.

2. The Digging Tendencies of the Inhabitants of the Area

This inclination had the result of destroying a significant quantity of earlier material, again leaving us with a picture less than complete. The most serious of these pits and holes were created in the Byzantine and Turkish periods, and some even within this century. The destruction wrought by these was increased due to the fact that, until the Seventeenth Century A.D., the ground level, especially in the eastern part of the section, was never significantly higher than the level of the Hadrianic period (e.g. the Turkish bothros at 0/20-6/4 from the third-quarter of the Seventeenth century A.D. began at a depth of 56.28 meters, the marble pavement of the Hadrianic building is at 56.33). Even in Hellenistic and Roman times, however, a certain amount of excavation had taken place, partly in the form of foundation trenches for the walls of the two

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Roman buildings, partly from a deliberate grading which took place in the third-quarter of the Second Century B.C. The result of this latter landscaping is a stratigraphic gap everywhere in the area from the second half of the Second Century B.C. back to the Fourth Century B.C. (the point in time where the stratigraphy resumes varies from place to place according to the depth of the grading process, but generally falls into the second half of the Fourth Century B.C.). This phenomenon had been observed previously in Section ϵ and almost certainly has to do with a general landscaping in the Northeast corner of the Agora connected with the construction of the Stoa of Attalos.

I. THE ROADS

A. Late Roman (Pot Lot No. 1-5)

Due to later disturbances, the roads of the Late Roman Period in Section B Δ exist in a very fragmentary form. Nonetheless, it was possible to determine that there was an East-West road of the Fourth to Sixth Centuries A.D., at least in the southwestern part of the area, and presumably along the whole of the southern half of the Section. This road will have come from the west entering the city through the Valerian wall at the northern end of the Stoa of Attalos.

B. Roman

Although, as will be seen, there is evidence in Section B Δ for a continuous system of an East-West road and a North-South road from the early Archaic period (and probably earlier) down to the time of Christ, no traces were found of either from the First Century A.D. The large Hadrianic building, to be discussed below,

obviously cut off both these roads, but there exists a gap of more than 100 years beginning with the construction of Roman Building B which clearly cut through a part of the roads. If the North-South road continued in use during the First Century A.D., all evidence for such a use was destroyed by the Hadrianic building which clearly closed off both roads.

The North side of the Hellenistic East-West road was cut into by Roman Building B, and it is quite clear that, after the construction of this stoa, no road was within two meters of its southern facade, for the two layers which built up against the euthynteria of the stoa were rather too soft to have been proper road metal (cf. BA , I, p. 163). The question, which cannot be answered at the present time, is whether the East-West road was completely closed at the time of the construction of Roman Building B, or moved so far South as to fall completely within the lines of the Railroad cut. In either case, by the Hadrianic period the road was certainly closed, and perhaps moved further to the North to align with the entrance of the Library of Hadrian.

C. Hellenistic

Due to the grading process mentioned before, there is no trace of any Hellenistic road earlier than the mid-Second Century B.C., although the existence of such is a logical inference because of the presence of both earlier and later roads in the same area. From the period of the century and a half from the middle of the Second Century B.C. to the end of the First Century B.C., there was found evidence for the gradual build-up of road metal from two different roads

1) The North-South Road (Pot Lot Nos. 8, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23)

Heavily damaged by the construction of the Hadrianic building and the contemporary remodeling of the East wall of Roman Building B (i.e. the "Soft Yellow Poros Wall"), only a small area of the Hellenistic road remained to us. This was sufficient, however, to establish the existence and chronology of the North-South road in this period, although the width and other detailed features of the road had perished.

2) The East-West Road (Pot Lot Nos. 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24-26)

As was the case with the North-South road, the width of the East-West road could not be determined since it had been cut on the North by Roman Building B, and on the South by the Railroad wall. The maximum preserved width was 3,25 meters; the original width presumably significantly greater. Whatever the full width, the southern limits of this Hellenistic road were clearly further south than its Classical predecessor (see below I.D.2). It was also possible to determine that the downward slope of this road to the West was an average of 0.21 meters for every 10.00 meters in length.

The fourth strosis down (strosis δ ; BA V, p. 907) from the latest of the stratigraphic series differed from those both above and below it in that it was heavier and characterized by a red earth which produced many fragments of red and blue-gray plaster. Both the pottery (Pot Lot Nos. 15, 16) and the coins (Nos. 163-166) showed this strosis to be chronologically connected with the Sullan destruction of Athens. It is interesting that the next lower strosis (ϵ ; BA V, p. 907) produced a fragment of a prytany decree

(I 2965 c) which physically joins another long known fragment of the same decree which can be dated to the first quarter of the Second Century B.C. Since this strosis is immediately pre-Sulla (i.e. the first decade of the First Century B.C.), the prytany decree can have stood only ca. 100 years before it was broken up.

D. Later Archaic and Classical

Although the areas of road which we dug from this period are scattered and relatively small, and although there remains a large amount to be excavated, the basic outlines are now clear. One must remember that the bottom limits in time of this road system are always the arbitrary result of the grading process mentioned above which peeled off the layers from the first half of the Second, all of the Third, and the later parts of the Fourth Centuries B.C.

1) The North-South Road (Pot Lot Nos. 31-39, 42)

This road has not yet been completely excavated, but we did remove several layers of Road metal which revealed use on this road from the third quarter of the Fourth Century B.C. back (as far as excavated) to the mid-Fifth Century B.C. It was at about this latter time that several poros architectural blocks were set down as paving stones in this road, apparently as a repair in a large pot-hole. Three of these blocks (A 3852-3854), and probably all of them, based on the equality of material, are recognizable as parts of a building of the third quarter of the Sixth Century B.C. (cf. the profiles of Doric Capital and of anta hawksbeak). The road strosis through which they were set yielded pottery of very near 450 B.C. (Pot Lot No. 42) and two ostraka,

including one of Kimon (P 28360).

The importance of this road is obvious from its long period of use, and from the care taken to fill in holes with the architectural blocks. One might, therefore, bring it into connection with the boundary stone of the "sacred way by which the Pythais proceed to Delphi" (I 5476). This stone, found in a Late Roman context at P/8 about 30 meters south of the southern end of our road (i.e. where it is cut by the railroad) will have stood at the point where the street of Apollo split off from the Panathenaic Way (but cf. Hesperia XII, p. 237).

2) The East-West Road (Pot Lot Nos. 27-30, 40, 41, 43-71).

Although we excavated only one layer from the largest area of the Classical East-West road, the information gained from it, plus that from the various other smaller areas which we dug is sufficient to tell a great deal about the system throughout this period. The southern edge of the road in the third quarter of the Fourth Century B.C. can be fixed and this, taken with the position of the southernmost wall of the private building north of the road (cf. below III.A.2), places the north-south width of the road within the range 4.55-4.75 meters (cf. BΔ V, p. 953 and plan 2). Further digging will be required to determine the stability of the southern line of the road throughout the Sixth and Fifth Centuries B.C., but the northern limits were determined by the wall mentioned above, and outside (i.e. south of) the line of this wall we recovered road metal going right back to early Archaic times (Pot Lot Nos. 67, 68) with the lowest level producing a large quantity of Late Helladic pottery, always, however, with a small admixture of the late Seventh or early

Sixth Century B.C.

E. Earlier Archaic

From this period we can say, at present, only that there was an East-West road which was at least five meters north of its successor, and having a greater width. This road was in use from the earliest of times (note the heavy concentration of Late Helladic pottery in its lowest levels, Pot Lot Nos. 67-71) down to the later years of the second quarter of the Sixth Century BC. At that time the road was shifted further South and its northern limits formalized by the construction of the southern wall of the private building mentioned above (cf. below III.A.1 and 2). The closing of the road in this northern area was marked by the leveling of a large pot-hole with a soft dump fill to create a level platform of the building to be constructed (Pot Lot Nos. 62, 63; P 28365-28367.)

II. THE WATER WORKS

A. Late Roman

The Tail Race of the Mill (Pot Lot Nos. 72, 73)

In the southwest corner of Section BA we came upon a very well-built drain with a tile floor and concrete and rubble walls which were covered by large tiles of an inverted U shape. This drain enters the section from the south (having been cut through by the Railroad) and shortly thereafter makes a very sharp bend to the west, running thence continuously out of the trench. Just west of the bend there is a man-hole constructed by the omission of one U-tile and the carrying up of the side walls of the drain to a greater height. This man-hole was covered by a well-used

circular mill-stone, the central hole of which was covered in turn by a small stone. The pottery of the trench of the drain indicated a construction date in the second half of the Fifth Century A.D.; that from the silt in the drain showed a use which continued well into the Sixth Century A.D.

Both the orientation of the southern leg of the drain, and its construction date, serve to place this drain into a relationship with the Late Roman Aqueduct flowing downhill to the North along the Panathenaic Way (cf. Hesperia V, pp. 70-90; XXIX, p. 349). Having already served to turn two water wheels, the aqueduct reaches a preserved elevation of 57.35 meters just South of the Railroad which cut through it. This height is somewhat less than the full original height since there is preserved in this area only the piers which carried the arches for the water course above. The floor of the drain in Section BA, at the man-hole, has an elevation of 53.10 meters, or a difference from the aqueduct across the tracks of 4.25 meters. Such a variation in height is not far from the 4.296 meter difference between the floor of the mill race and the tail race of the mill which is east of the Library of Pantainos. Thus another in the series of mills turned by the aqueduct is to be restored in the Railroad cut. Such a restoration is further supported both by the mill-stone reused as a man-hole cover, and by the discovery of another millstone, and a fragment of yet another, which were used in a crude repair of the first U-tile north of the Railroad wall.

B. Hellenistic-Roman

1) The Built Drain in the North-South Road

This drain has side walls built of large blocks but in a

relatively careless fashion, and is covered by large single slabs which form an opening about one meter square^{IN SECTION}. It flowed to the North, but apparently came from the east for, just where it is broken through by the Railroad wall, it begins to turn in that direction. The material of the construction of the drain is largely reused (e.g. the inscribed grave stele used as a cover slab: I 7125).

As indicated by the pottery of the first road strosis to gather over these cover slabs (Pot Lot No. 26), the drain was built early in the second half of the Second Century B.C. and should be considered as a part of the landscaping (cf. above p. 1, no. 2) which was occasioned by the erection of the Stoa of Attalos. The built drain in Section BA will have been the continuation of a built drain found beneath the north end of the Stoa of Attalos and next to the north wall of the Square Peristyle Building (cf. Σ A XVIII, pp. 3648-3652). This latter drain represents a reconstruction, at the time of the construction of the Stoa of Attalos, of an earlier terracotta drain flowing in the same westward direction which carried off, among other things, drainage from the Square Peristyle Building. Thus the built drain discovered this year represents the northward turn of the drain beneath the Stoa of Attalos, still following street lines, to carry the drainage down, most likely, to the Eridanos.

2) Tributaries of the Built Drain

Damaged in places at some time in the first quarter of the First Century B.C. (by Sulla?), the Built Drain was repaired shortly thereafter (Pot Lot Nos. 17, 76) at which time there was

added a terracotta tile drain which flowed into the Built Drain from the East (Pot Lot No. 78). At some time during the First Century B.C. another drain was tunneled through the accumulated road metal of the East-West Road to enter the Built Drain from the West. This drain was completely unlined and relied on the density of the road metal to carry off the water.

Both this road metal drain and the Built Drain into which it flowed continued in use until the Second Century A.D. when both were destroyed, to varying degrees, and filled in (Pot Lot Nos. 74, 75, 79) during the construction of the large Hadrianic Building.

Finds catalogued from the Built Drain:

Silt: L 5584, 5588, 5589; P 28289, 28290, 28291,
28381, 28382; G 602; B 1351.

Destruction Fill: P 28284, 28287, 28288, 28292,
28293, 28294; L 5587, 5592, 5598, 5635.

C. Classical

1) Tributaries of the Predecessor of the Hellenistic
Built Drain.

Although no actual remains of any predecessor of the Built Drain were revealed by our excavations, such an earlier drain ought to have existed based on the analogy of the history of the drain beneath the Stoa of Attalos (cf. above II.B.1). This succession of drains is also implied by two smaller drains, flowing from east to west, which were cut off by the construction of the Hellenistic Built Drain.

The first of these was a terracotta channel of a \sqsubset shape which was covered by simple Laconian cover tiles. Laid in the late third or early fourth quarter of the Fifth Century (Pot Lot Nos. 36, 37), this channel probably functioned until the second half of the Fourth Century B.C. when another drain replaced it.

This second tributary, flowing in the same direction as the first, was a built drain with rubble side walls constructed near the middle of the Fourth Century B.C. (Pot Lot Nos. 32, 33; cf. 31). It continued in use until the mid-Second Century B.C. (Pot Lot 80; cf. 23), when the landscaping and grading operations, along with the construction of the Built Drain, put it out of use. It is not impossible that its function was replaced by the terracotta tile drain a little south of it which did flow into the Built Drain (cf. above II.B.2).

2) The Water Pipe at N/13-6/3

Broken off at one end by the Augustan Stoa, and at the other by the Late Roman Green Lime Mortar Wall, only less than one full length of this pipe was preserved (A 3883). This pipe surely carried fresh water toward the northeast and was laid sometime in the second half of the Fifth Century B.C.

III. THE ARCHITECTURE

A. Greek House γ

1. Archaic

As mentioned above (I.E), the later years of the second quarter of the Sixth Century B.C. saw an encroachment on the earlier lines

of the roads in the north-eastern parts of the Agora in the form of a building. As yet only a single wall from the Archaic period (the northwest-southeast wall running from N/10-6/1 to N/15-6/3, green on Plan 1; Pot Lot No. 57; cf. Pot Lot Nos. 56 and 59) has been uncovered which belongs to this building, but there are clear indications further east of a leveling program preparatory to this building's construction (Pot Lot Nos. 62, 63), as well as two floor levels from the second half of the Sixth Century (Pot Lot Nos. 81-84; P 28362, 28363, 28364, 28386; T 3988). From the area of the one wall there is a level of Persian destruction of this building (Pot Lot No. 46), and elsewhere there is heavy fill of pottery running down to 480 B.C. which is to be understood as a leveling fill for a post-Persian rebuilding of the structure (Pot Lot Nos. 85-87; P 28341, 28369, 28370, 28384, 28385; L 5636).

Knowing so little of this building's form, we cannot define its function, but, on the basis of the nature of its successor, it most probably should be seen as a private, rather than public structure.

2. Classical

From the post-Persian reconstruction of Greek House γ enough of the architecture remains to allow a basic reconstruction of a series of small rooms along the northern side of the east-west road in a line west of the north-south road (see Plan 2). These rooms will have been nearly square and have measured between 3.50 and 4.00 meters. So far a total of five of these rooms have been recovered, and although the building continues behind, or north of, these rooms, modern Hadrian Street covers this northern part. The

southern wall of the rooms in the eastern part of the building is no longer extant, having been robbed out by the Late Roman Green Lime Mortar Wall, but its line can be established within a north-south range of ± 0.10 meters due to the discovery of road metal of the early Classical east-west Road just south of the Late Roman Wall at N/18-6/5 (Pot Lot Nos. 47, 49, et al.). This line, parallel to the extant interior east-west wall of Greek House γ , changes at a point about 15 meters west of the northwest corner of the intersection of the two roads. At this point the wall of the Classical structure picks up the line of the Archaic wall mentioned above which was rebuilt after the Persian invasion. Thus the wall, and the east-west road, runs slightly more north of west as it heads toward the center of the north side of the Agora. This bend in the line of the Classical wall was probably a reflection of a similar bend in the Archaic wall, although we lack secure evidence for such an arrangement at that time.

Following the first floor of the Classical Building (Pot Lot Nos. 88, 89; T 3986), very good housekeeping must have taken place for we recovered no new floor levels until the early third quarter of the Fourth Century B.C. At this time (blue on Plan 1), probably occasioned by the build-up of the roads outside the building, the floor was raised (Pot Lot Nos. 90, 91; Coins 217-221, 230, 231; IL 1524; P 28374) and certain innovations took place such as the doubling of the north-south wall between Rooms 1 and 4; and the addition of a plain pebble mosaic pavement in Room 3 (dating based on equality of elevation). At about the same time (Pot Lot Nos. 92, 93; Coins 204-208, 213; B 1353) brick hearths were added to Rooms 4 and 5. These hearths were utilized in the metal working

activities which took place in all these rooms during the last half of the Fourth Century, for all the levels of this period yielded amorphous pieces of bronze and iron, as well as iron slag, ashes and cinders, and one olpe (P 28329) which was found to have its bottom filled with molten iron.

3. Hellenistic

Following upon the layers from the later years of the Fourth Century B.C. comes a gap of nearly two centuries until evidence for activity in the area again is found; this gap is certainly that found elsewhere in the stratigraphy and is due to the landscaping mentioned several times before. From the second half of the Second Century B.C. there is evidence for construction only in the mud-brick wall and in a scraggly north-south wall further east (Pot Lot No. 106; BA V, pp. 893-897 and 889 respectively). It was at this same time that some of the walls of the Classical period were robbed out (e.g. the north-south wall between Rooms 4 and 5, Pot Lot No. 113; P 28371, A 3884; the east-west wall between Rooms 3 and 4, Pot Lot No. 114).

Above this and over the whole area of the house there was found a heavy layer of decomposed mud brick (Pot Lot Nos. 109-112) with some traces of burning. Although the ceramic evidence is not precise, this destruction may be tied to Sulla and followed by a period of abandonment in this area for the remainder of the First Century B.C. This chronology is derived from the absence of any post-Sulla pottery in the layer of decomposed mud brick, and from the presence of construction debris of Roman Building B directly over this decomposed mud brick (cf. below III.B.2).

B. Roman Building B

1. Architecture (Red on Plan 3)

In the same area as Greek House γ (i.e. at the north-west corner of the intersection of the two roads) we recovered the south-east corner of a large building which runs out of Section B Δ , with no indication of stopping, over an exposed length of 29.00 meters to the west, and 9.50 meters to the north. It is preserved only in its foundations except for part of a euthynteria along its southern face. These foundations are constructed of red conglomerate for the most part, although some reused harder material is to be seen here and there, and they are based on or near bedrock. While the east wall is solid, the south wall is constructed of a series of solid piers about 1.80 wide (east-west) and with an axial spacing of 2.65 to 2.80 meters. The spaces between these piers are filled with smaller blocks and stones to a lesser depth than the bedrock-based piers. Although we have not as yet identified any of the superstructure of this building, a columnar facade can be restored along its south side as is reflected in the piers. These pier-based columns will have had an interaxial spacing of about 2.73 meters and will have rested on a three step crepidoma (each step with a tread of about 0.30 meters) which accounts for the thickness of these southern foundations (2.80 to 3.00 meters). Allowing 0.25 to 0.30 meters for the riser height of the steps of the crepidoma, the floor level of Roman Building B will have fallen in the range of 56.15 to 56.30 meters (see below, III.C.1.d). This floor may have been a marble chip mosaic since a Byzantine pit dug through this area produced two fragments of such a floor (A 3827, 3828).

2. Chronology

As mentioned above (I.B), the east-west road of the Hellenistic period was cut into by Roman Building B and thus provides a terminus post quem for the construction. The pottery (Pot Lot No. 9) was not particularly informative, however, and we can say with security only that this last road level was from at least the second half of the First Century B.C. and that it was the third road level to have built up after 86 B.C.

From the many areas of building fill which were thrown in during the construction of Roman Building B, the pottery consistently ran through the First Century B.C., with a few sherds going into the early years of the First Century A.D. Of these the most crucial are:

- 1) Lamp (L 5615). This lamp is intrinsically interesting for it combines two well known features: the garland of olive leaves and berries of Agora IV, Type 54A (cf. No. 770); and the retrograde signature $\Delta\text{HM}/\text{HTPI}/\text{OY}$ (cf. Agora IV, No. 856). Both features are characteristic of lamps of the post-Sulla period going into the very early years of the First Century A.D. Ours should be one of the latest in the series since its closest parallel (Agora IV, no. 770) came from a deposit (N 20:1) which was sealed sometime during the first half of the First Century A.D.
- 2) Stamped Amphora Handle (SS 14716). Of the many amphora handles from the fill of Roman Building B this is the latest and is to be dated in the period from ca. 78 B.C. to ca. 30 B.C.
- 3) Globular Jug (P 28391). This fragment finds a close parallel in shape (Agora V, G 85) and fabric (ibid. G 87)

from two other jugs found in Layer II of Robinson's Group G (Deposit D 4:1). These two jugs were thus dumped into their finding places during the first half of the First Century A.D.

4) Lamp (L 5637). This fragmentary base of a lamp has a signature Γ A which is also to be found on a Type 54A lamp (Agora IV, no. 768). The latter was discovered in a well filled during the Augustan years of the First Century A.D.

The construction date of Roman Building B ought then to be in the later years of the reign of Augustus, and such a date is partially confirmed by the absence in the building fill of Arretine ware (except for one sherd in Pot Lot No. 119) "which was imported into Athens in rather large quantity during the last decade of the First Century B.C." (Agora V, p. 10)

The coins do not help our chronology for those well enough preserved to allow identification are too early. There is one exception which, however, does not have a generally agreed upon date. This is a bronze coin of Athens (No. 254) which is usually supposed to have begun only in Hadrianic times. It has been argued (Hesperia V, pp. 285 ff.) that the series began in Augustan times. Our evidence confirms this contention; unfortunately, the coin cannot be used to support the dating of the construction of Roman Building B.

We have no evidence for the date of the building's destruction, but since its fate was tied to that of the Marble Paved Building (see below, III.C.1) it is most likely another victim of the Herulian sack.

Finds from the Construction of Roman Building B:

P 28323, 28324, 28331-28333, 28337, 28345, 28373, 28391

L 5615, 5616, 5618, 5637

SS 14676, 14697, 14704, 14707-14712, 14714-14716, 14718,
14720, 14721

A 3829-3832

ST 778

C. The Marble Paved Building (the "Basilica")

1. Architecture (cf. BΔ V, pp. 987ff; blue on Plan 3)

In the eastern part of Section BΔ we recovered part of a very large structure which extends out of the area to both the north and the south. The central element in this structure is a marble paved room which was surrounded by a colonnade. The paving consists of slabs of marble 0.82-0.83 x 1.65 meters set on a heavy bedding of rubble and mortar. These are laid in courses with the joints of the short sides falling in the middle of the next slab, and thus creating a regular pattern. This paved area with an east-west dimension of 13.90 (i.e. 17 paving slabs; the exposed north-south dimension is 11.00 meters, but there is no way of knowing how much further north this extends) is surrounded by a heavy ^{FOUNDATION} wall of reused blocks two courses high and nearly two meters thick which rests on a heavy foundation of concrete (rubble and cement). Although this wall has been robbed out in many places, enough remains to show the traces of a series of bases, 1.65 meters square which set on top of the second course of blocks. These bases will have supported columns with an interaxial spacing of about 3.05 meters.

This interior peristyle was enclosed by a solid wall 4.70 meters outside of it. Although the eastern area of the building has yet to be excavated, three blocks from the east wall have been exposed. The south wall of this line was destroyed by the railroad, but there is good reason to suppose that this is identical with a wall shown by Doerpfeld (Die Antike Baudenkmäler, Plate 37), and if so, we may place a door in the center of the wall based on the gap in this area shown on Doerpfeld's drawing). The wall west of the peristyle is actually the east wall of Roman Building B which was remodeled at this time. The eastern part of the Augustan wall was pulled down and replaced by a concrete foundation with heavy reused poros blocks above it. (Not only does the stratigraphy demand this connection between the construction of the marble paved peristyle and the remodeling of the former east end of Roman Building B, but also there were found some of the red conglomerate blocks from the original east wall of Roman Building B in the area between the remodeled wall and the peristyle's west wall, and in the construction fill of the latter).

It was this solid wall forming an aisle around the peristyle which carried the elaborate marble revetment which was found in large quantities in the destruction debris over this wall. This revetment (no pieces as yet catalogued) is of many different types and colors of marble, some of which ^{are} plain, while other pieces are decorated with carved floral designs and moulded edges.

Around the south ^{wall} and southern part of the west walls of this peristyle-enclosing-wall there was thrown a colonnade, most likely to form a facade facing onto the Agora square, 4.50 meters outside

the solid wall. Of this facade we recovered only the northernmost three meters of the western leg where it ties into, at right angles, the facade of the pre-existing Roman Building B. A larger part of this element had, however, been found long ago - the so-called Northeast Stoa. There are several bases for the connection of the structure uncovered this year with that just south of the Railroad:

a) Orientation. The south wall of the "Northeast Stoa" is precisely parallel to the south foundation of the marble paved peristyle, and the northern return at the east end of the "Northeast Stoa" aligns perfectly with the three blocks of the eastern solid wall.

b) Construction Technique. Both buildings have foundations of reused poros blocks with a footing of mortar and rubble concrete (cf. Σ A XII, p. 2240).

c) Elevation. The lowest step course of the "Northeast Stoa" is preserved and has a top elevation of 55.693, and a riser height of 0.267 meters. Adding two more steps of equal height brings us up to 56.227; the floor level inside the "Northeast Stoa" was found to be at 56.25. Although there are certain variations in the elevation of the marble paving, the highest preserved is 56.33 (note also the suggested floor level of Roman Building B, above III.B.1).

d) Decoration. Fragments of the same type of marble revetment mentioned above were found in the destruction debris over the southeast corner of the "Northeast Stoa" (A 1681; note also the emery stones found in the construction fill in the same area, ST 535, ST 536).

e) Doerpfeld's Plan. The plan mentioned above (from Die Antike

Baudenkmal) is of such a scale as to prohibit precise conclusions, but there are shown three walls in the relevant area of the railroad cut which seem to fill in most of the gaps in our plan of the complex (cf. Plan 3).

f) The Sculpted Pedestals. In the destruction debris over the solid wall^{PERISTYLE-ENCLOSING-} there were found, along with the marble revetment, several fragments of relief sculpture (none catalogued as yet) which ought, on the basis of scale, style and workmanship, to be associated with several octagonal bases which are decorated with such figures (S 1858). These were found several years ago in the tower of the "Valerian" wall at the north end of the Stoa of Attalos - a not unsuitable provenience. Exactly what role these bases played in our building (column pedestals?) cannot yet be determined.

2. Chronology

In a negative sense, this too is another basis for the connection of the complex found in Section BA with the "Northeast Stoa" since the building fill of both areas produced no good ceramic evidence for a construction date (Pot Lot Nos. 125, 126), nor are there coins to help us. It is fortunate, then, that the Built Drain was destroyed at the time when the Marble Paved Building was constructed, for this destruction comes with a good ceramic context (see above II.B.2). Even with an abundance of pottery, we cannot provide a completely secure date due to the poor dating of the pottery of this period. That the construction took place in the first half of the Second Century A.D. is clear, and one would place this construction in the later years of the reign of Hadrian since

the pottery shows a closer affinity to Robinson's Group G than to his Group H although a very few pieces from our fill do find parallels in the latter deposit. To place our building's construction slightly earlier than Group H would also make a good topographic relative chronology since Group H is actually the building fill of the circular building which will have been fitted into the corner created by the southeast end of our building and the northwest end of the Stoa of Attalos. It might also be mentioned that a dating fairly early in the Second Century A.D. would fit well with the discovery in the silt and upper fill of the drain of three Alpha-Globule lamps (L 5584, 5587, 5598) all of which exhibit features characteristic of the earlier rather than the later members of this long series of lamps (cf. Agora VII, pp. 15-16). Our building ought, therefore, to belong to the series of large buildings constructed during the reign of Hadrian in Athens (e.g. the "Panhelleneion"; note the similarity of the foundation construction in this building and in ours), and might possibly be one of those buildings catalogued by Pausanias (I.18.9).

D. Late Roman (Plan 4)

1. The Long Walls (the "Green Lime Mortar Walls")

These are two long walls, parallel to one another and about 5.70 meters apart. The southern of these begins abruptly just west of the Mill Tail Race with no indication of anta or return. It continues eastwards for 26.50 meters before disappearing into the railroad wall. The northern wall begins on the same line as its neighbor, but has a return at its west end to the north for 2.70 meters and then turns at 90° again to the east for 3.10 meters.

The northern wall extends to the east from its western return for an exposed length of 49.00 meters where it turns northwards for an exposed length of 4.50 meters. Both this northward return, and the eastward extension of the long wall (if any) lie in unexcavated areas.

No. See
1971 Report
p. 18.

The mode of construction of these walls was to dig a deep trench, either to bedrock, or to some substantial obstacle (e.g. the marble pavement of the Hadrianic building) and to fill this trench to ground level with large pieces of stone (usually marble) broken to a size no larger than that which a man can carry. At ground level larger squared reused blocks were utilized, bound together by a soft lime mortar, frequently green in color. The point where this change of construction occurs allows us to see the ground level as having sloped down to the west at a rate of one meter in every 20 meters of length.

These walls were constructed in the third quarter of the Fifth Century A.D. (Pot Lot Nos. 124, 131, 132) and must have been out of use by the late Seventh Century A.D. since two osteothekai (BA I, pp. 93-5, 119) were discovered built up against and partly over the northern of these walls. One of these osteothekai contained a coin of Constans II (655-657 A.D.; coin no. 37).

The function of these walls is not at all clear but, considering the absence of any cross walls between them and the presence of some scattered areas of road metal in the southwestern part of the Section (above I.A), some of which were between the two walls (BA V, p. 923) one might see them as framing a road which ran into

the northwestern corner of the "Valerian" city wall. As such, the southern of the two walls might belong with the long wall which is built against the late Roman aqueduct (see above II.A) and together these walls would serve to enclose a triangular area of land within some defensive outworks.

2. The Isolated Blocks.

Along the north side of Section BΔ there were found a series of reused blocks set in isolated clusters (the largest to the east) which are in rough alignment with one another and nearly equal in elevation. The pottery recovered from their working levels (Pot Lot Nos. 129, 130) told us only that these blocks were set in place in post-Herulian times. Their function is not clear, nor is their relationship (if any) to the northern of the two long Late Roman Walls.

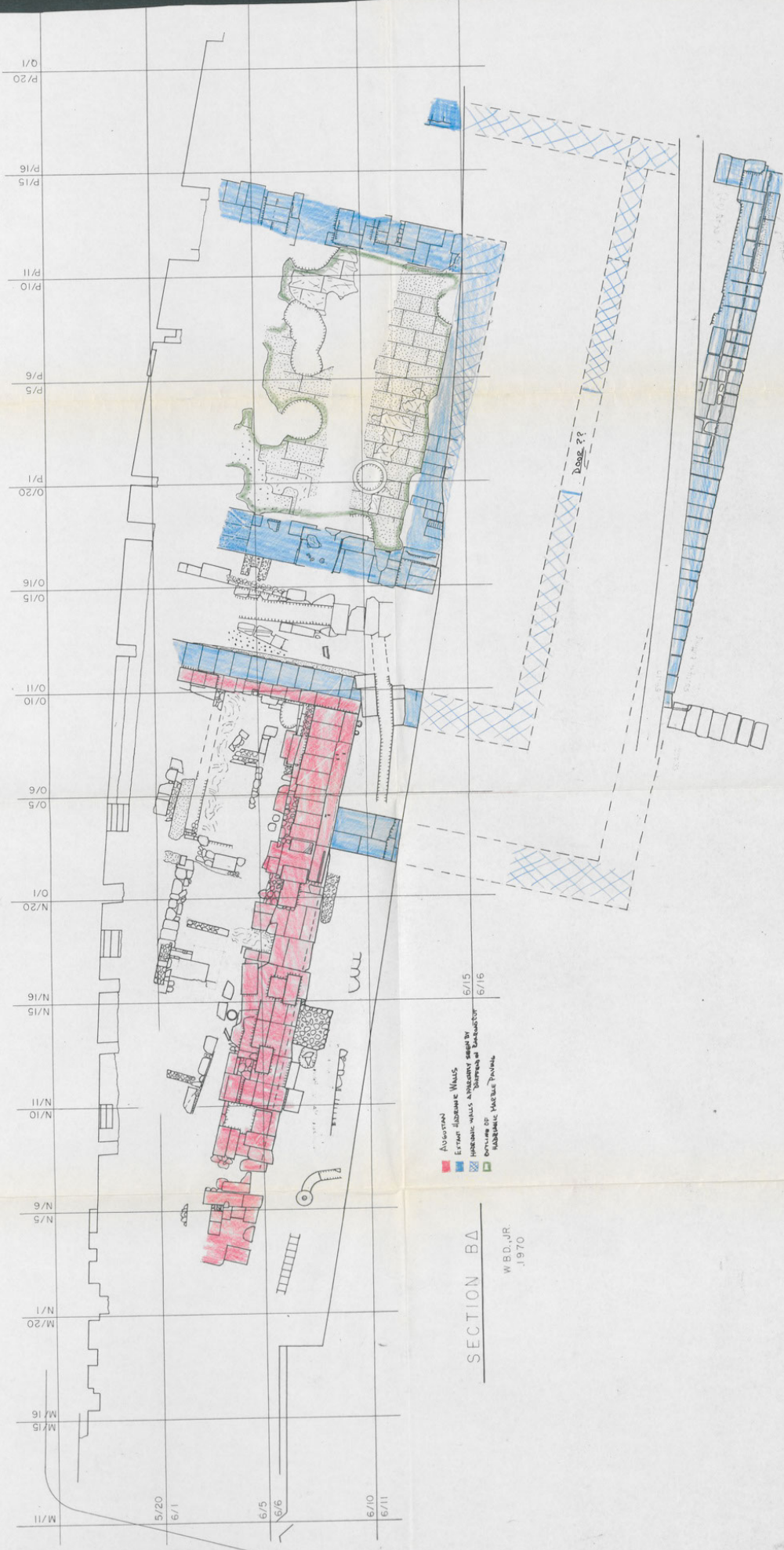
E. Byzantine and Turkish (Plan 4)

Although several walls, pits, and pithoi were discovered from both these periods, the remains were so near the early modern levels (especially toward the east) that there was a resultant lack of floor levels or of complete ground plans of buildings. The undisturbed layers of fill which we uncovered here were always below floors and were part of dump fill used to raise levels up to floors. Nonetheless, we were able to distinguish two different major phases of building activity. The criteria for the relative chronology of these phases were the elevations of bottoms of walls, and the method of construction. The earlier walls were more rubbly, the later rather megalithic and better built.

Although the stratigraphy was of little help in dating these

walls, we learned a great deal from the pottery discovered in the walls themselves when we demolished them. This enabled us to place the first building phase in the Eleventh Century A.D.; the second in the mid-Twelfth Century A.D. The results of this can be seen on Plan 4.

One other interesting phenomenon deserves note. We discovered several large and shapeless holes which had been dug in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries A.D., and which had regularly gone down at least to Archaic levels. The explanation for these holes came with the demolition of the walls of a mud-brick pithos of the Twelfth Century (Deposit N 6:1). The clay of these mud-bricks contained a very heavy concentration of Classical and Archaic pottery. Thus the large holes were mining operations carried out in search of clay for the making of mud bricks.



- Asbestos
- Extra Insulation Walls
- Interior walls - Asbestos ready by 6/15
- Entrance of Asbestos at 6/16
- Asbestos Particle Paths

SECTION BA

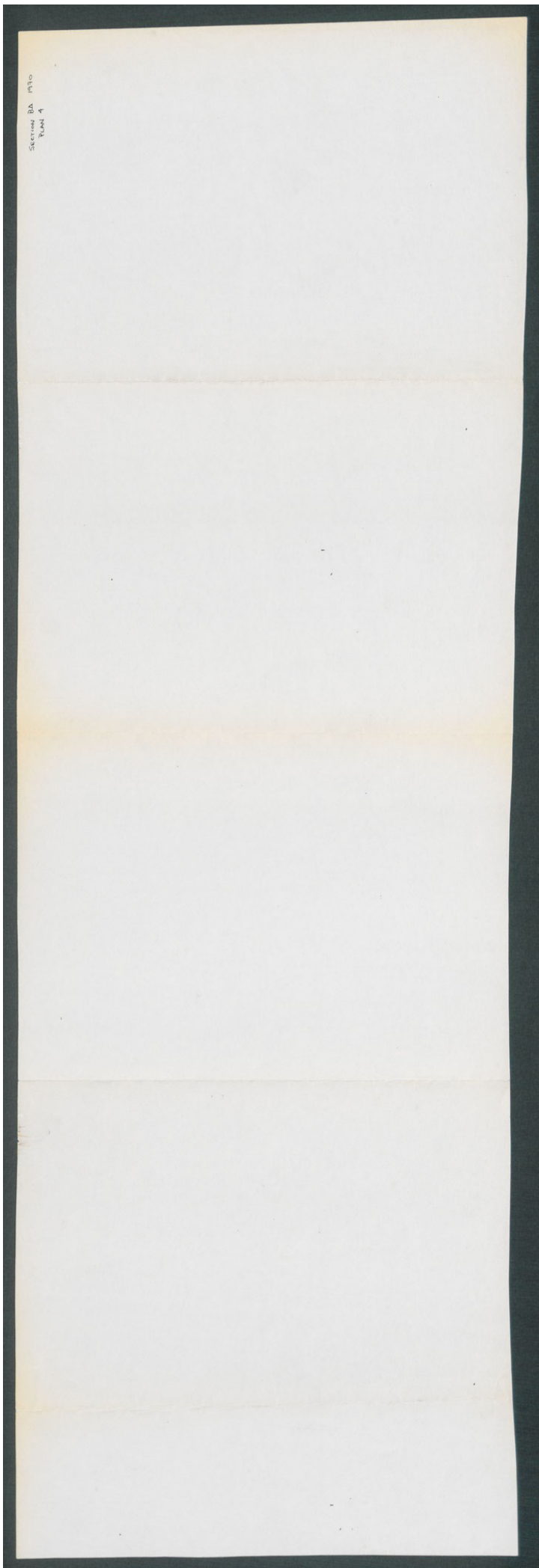
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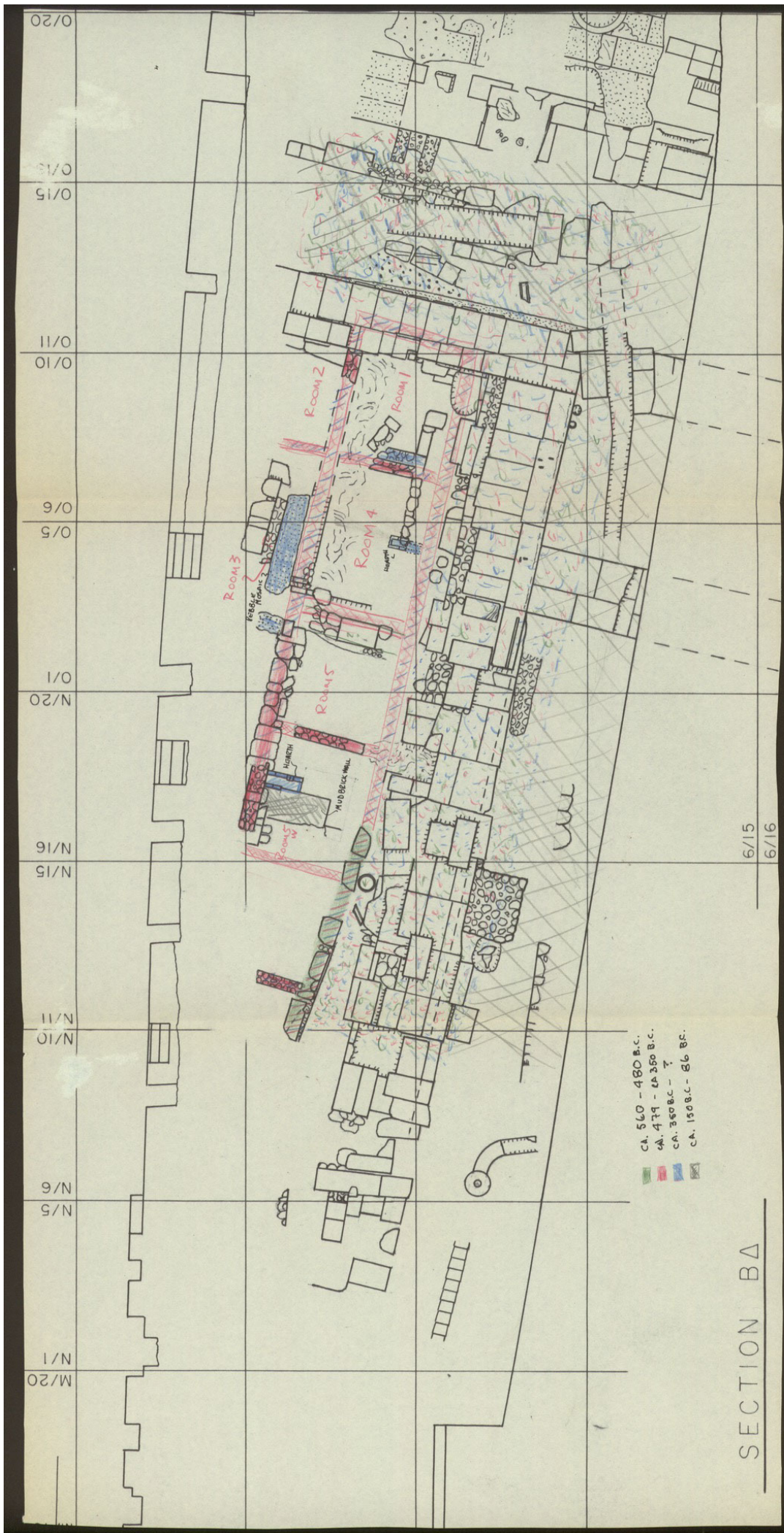


BA 1970
PLAN 5



BA 1970.30.jpg





6/15
6/16

- CA. 560 - 480 B.C.
- CA. 479 - 4350 B.C.
- CA. 350 B.C. - 7
- CA. 1508 C. - 26 B.C.

SECTION BΔ

SECTION BA 1970
PLAN 1