

general preserved and used at the period of the phiale.

In addition to the work in the area of the town itself, a monument some 750 m. north of the harbor on the coast was examined. This had been located in 1963, and from the substantial character of the masonry visible had been thought to be a temple. As partially cleared in 1964, however, it appears to be a large monument, some 10.50 m. square, built of heavy poros blocks and faced with marble. At the bottom is preserved a marble step on which rested a bench. From fragments of marble discovered in the debris it may be inferred that above this rose a podium crowned by a cornice; above the cornice was a fine guilloche moulding, evidently marking the base of a tall rectangular shaft which in turn was crowned by a finely carved cornice of which a magnificent block is preserved (Pl. 136 c). Numerous fragments of an extensive Latin inscription were found in front, though neither its restoration nor its original location have been determined. No external evidence for the date of the structure has been found, and visiting experts have dated the cornice variously to the first and the second century A.D. The monument evidently replaced an earlier structure, built of poros blocks and faced with plaster; the later monument was built around this, the space between being filled with small stones set in mortar. The monument stood in a roughly rectangular flat open area bounded on the south by a long narrow building with a large marble threshold. The purpose of the structure has not been determined.

Apart from the deposit in the apsidal enclosure associated with the sanctuary of Isis, in Area A, there were few individual objects of great intrinsic interest discovered, though the Roman pottery, glass and lamps, when studied, may well prove to be of considerable importance.

In general, considerable progress was made in the objectives of the enterprise, though the difficulties of getting at remains of the pre-Roman period, whether on land or in the sea, grow ever more baffling.

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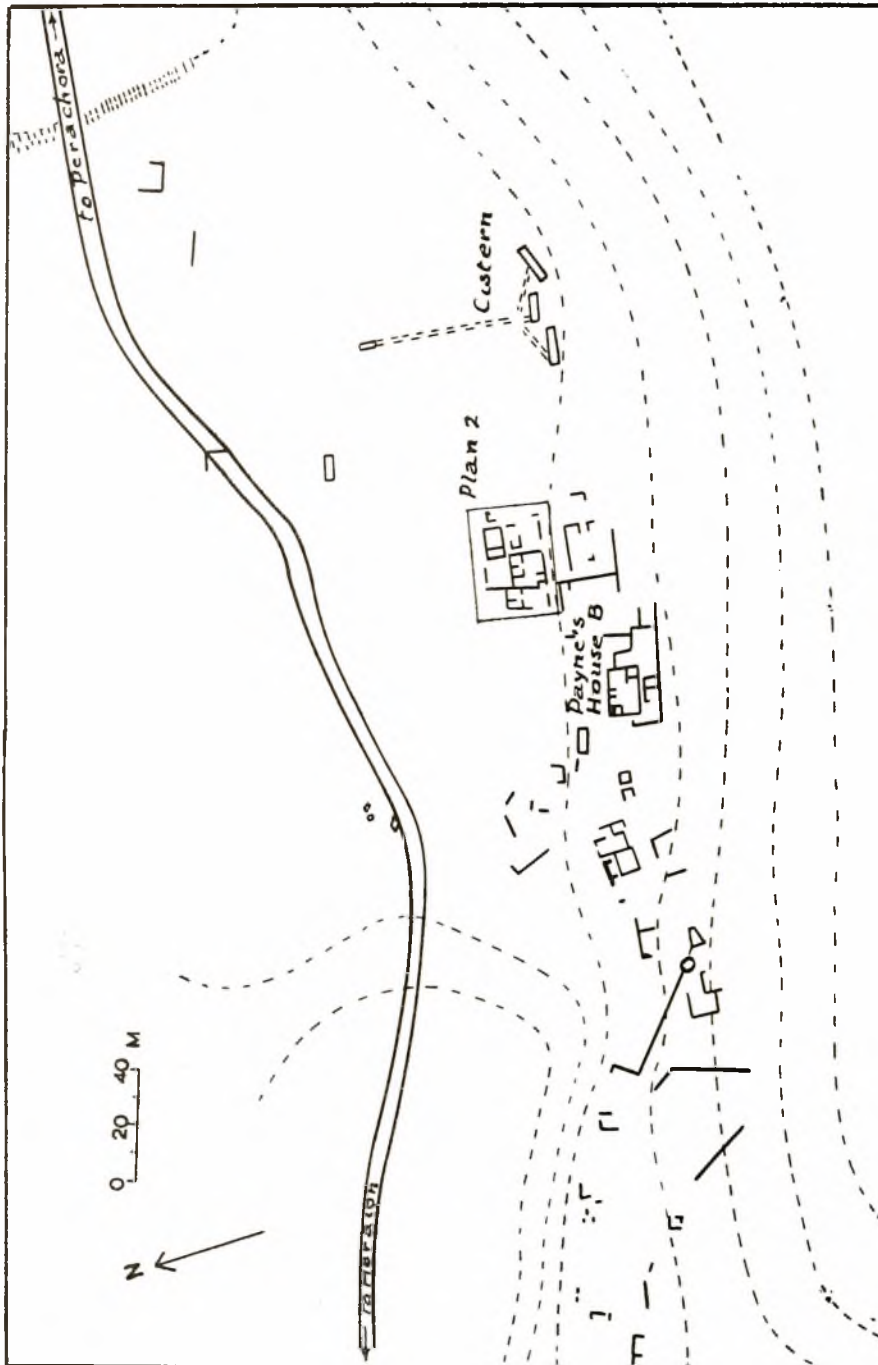
## PERACHORA, THE HERAION

The British School has now in hand the publication of more detailed accounts of those buildings excavated at the Heraion which were only summarily described by Humfry Payne in *Perachora* I. First to appear is Mr. J. J. Coulton's account of the stoa by the harbour (*BSA* 59, ff.). In 1964, in connection with this programme, cleaning and further study were undertaken in two areas: the house remains in the flat ground above the sanctuaries, by the writer, and the «Agora» adjoining the Archaic temple, by Mr. Coulton.

In the area of the houses (Plan 1) the purpose was to clear the visible remains of walls, re-survey them, and to make soundings in selected buildings in an attempt to establish the chronology. Work was based on the published survey of the town (*Perachora* I, pl. 137), which seemed to indicate that walls were numerous and clearly visible, and required only minor clearing to reveal separate structures. In the event this was not found to be the case. In particular, the area round the word «houses» on the Payne plan which promised houses and streets on a regular alignment produced only a few isolated blocks. Much of the surface remains shown on the Payne plan must therefore have been destroyed.

In the area further to the east several sets of foundations were clear (e.g. those around house B). Other walls, partially cleared with some difficulty in the undergrowth and shrubs turned out to be terrace walls. Other foundations on the slopes here were cleared and their plans satisfactorily revealed, but in general the depth of soil above bedrock is meagre in the extreme. One house, fortunately, was overlaid in antiquity by a later house, and a fair depth of soil gave more scope for study. The walls uncovered proved to be the northern half of a westward facing megaron of strictly rectangular plan. A beaten earth floor sealed a quantity of Proto-corinthian pottery, and on it was found a bronze «spit». A total absence of tile fragments (common in the other structures on the site) suggests that this house was thatched. There are obvious connections with the building model from the Heraion. We found no trace of timber columns.

The structure which partly covered this early building seems to have been a courtyard house. Pottery found here is inconclusive for dating;



Plan 1. Perachora. Area of the Houses

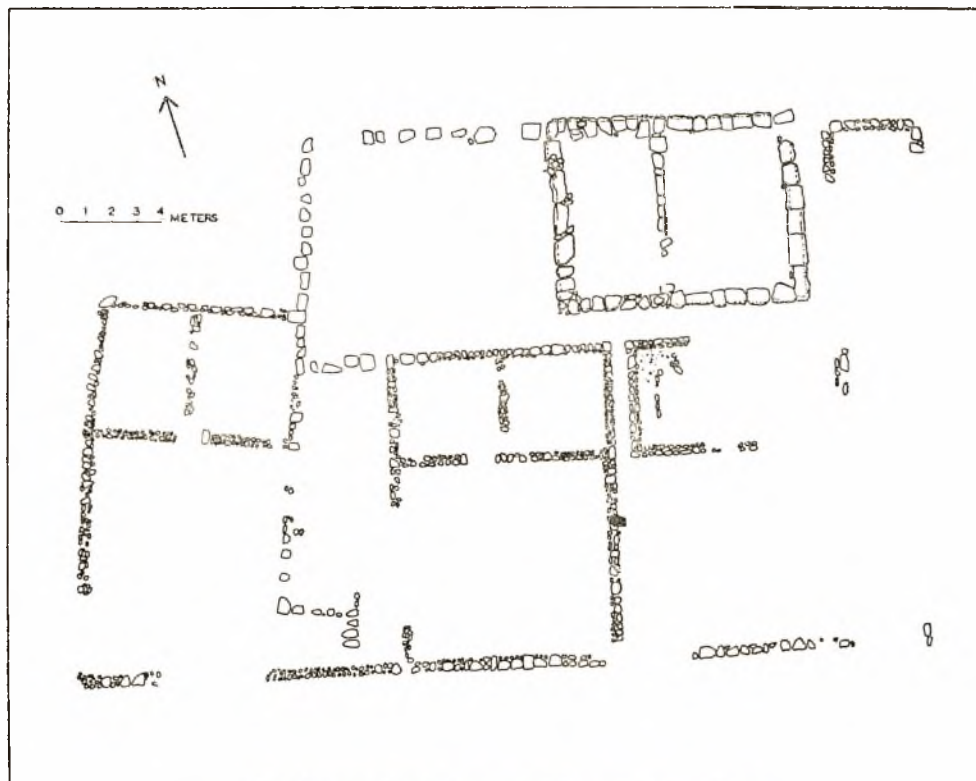
but it is perhaps significant that nothing later than the Archaic period was found. This building is also interesting in having a clearly defined *andron*, with raised platforms for the couches. The walls of these two structures have been left visible.

North-east of Payne's house B, we traced the walls of at least three houses of a simple court-

## NEMEA

During the spring of 1964 the American School of Classical Studies in Athens undertook the re-examination of the Nemean buildings that previously had been partially excavated by the School between 1924 and 1927<sup>1</sup>.

In the earlier excavations the School had dis-



Plan 2. Perachora. House and Temple foundations

yard type — court with two rooms only at the northern end — regularly built and probably dating from the fourth century (Plan 2). More massive foundations, immediately adjacent, proved to be the euthyteria of a small temple with cella and porch (probably in *antis*) facing west. The construction was similar to that of the stoa by the harbour.

Only one of the soundings made by Mr. Coulton in the «Agora» area was productive. It provided a *terminus post quem* in the sixth century for the polygonal walls which enclose it on the seaward side and are its earliest feature.

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covered the long Hellenistic structure that underlies the basilica. It was found to be a rectangle 86 m. by 20 m. with a central longitudinal wall. This year's work revealed that the original building had five separate entrances opening onto a roadway that ran along the south side of the structure. Short wing walls flanking these entrances formed vestibules that protruded into the rooms. In almost all of the rooms of the south side of the building there were found the remains of food, food preparat-

<sup>1</sup>I would like to express thanks to Dr. N. Verdalis, Ephor of the Argolid, and to Dr. H. S. Robinson, the Director of the American School of Classical Studies, whose advice and aid have been invaluable.