

architrave of the lower tier has a frieze of akanthos leaves (Pl. 80 b) crowned by a geison with dentils (Pl. 80 a).

The second tier was composed of plinth, columns of the Corinthian order, epistyle-frieze with anthemion-palmette design (Pl. 80 c); the crowning member was an elaborately decorated geison with consoles.

Evidence for occupation later than the original building period is clearly visible in the western part of the excavation. The mosaic-floored portico was covered with a new cement floor, probably in the 4th or 5th century after Christ. A 6th century habitation appears to have grown up after an accumulation of fall over this second floor. This is visible in the walls built over the eastern marble stylobate, in partition walls, a stairway, and in the addition of a column base (now in a re-used position but probably from the original bath structure) on the eastern stylobate of the portico. After a period of abandonment it appears that Byzantine contractors re-used the tops of earlier walls for their new building programmes.

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### GYMNASIUM

The third campaign of excavations in Corinth by the University of Texas, under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens and directed by Dr. J. R. Wiseman, not only gained much new information about the buildings with which we have already been concerned, but also discovered two important new constructions.

One of the new buildings is an apsidal construction which lies some distance to the south of our West Waterworks (Pl. 81 c). The apse, with a maximum width of 4.50 m., opens towards the west and is faced on the east (exterior) with eight well-cut, large marble slabs. A foundation wall of large, re-used blocks continues to the west from the apse on the south side after a shortgap; if the wall belongs with the apse, the building was 15.80 m.

gora, where decoration similar to that of the bath façade is used. The Captives Façade is dated to the mid-second century (p. 87). It should, perhaps, be dated to 195 or later and be considered as having been built to commemorate Septimius Severus' victories over the Parthians.

long. The foundation wall, however, may not be a part of the apse, since a large drain, covered with re-used marble slabs, runs along the north side of the foundation wall and empties through a marble drain slab over a great circular cutting in the bedrock (probably a cistern: as yet undug). Most of this area was covered by a deep (ca. 0.70 m.) deposit of pottery, animal bones, architecture and sculpture fragments of the 6th century after Christ, indicating the time of destruction. In this debris were found several fragments of marble sculpture and a life-size, terracotta mask, probably representing the «leading slave» in a Roman comedy (Pl. 81 b).

This building was probably constructed in the 4th century after Christ, but we have as yet been able to dig the setting trench of the apse only within the limits of a small test trench. In the setting trench, however, and therefore placed at the time of construction, we found a tightly rolled strip of lead, ca. 0.06 m. in height and (when it is unrolled) ca. 0.12 m. long. During later examination the lead strip was partly unrolled and it is possible to see that at least 7 lines of writing in a small, cursive script are on the interior. The work of unrolling the lead and reading it will be carried on during the winter. It is likely that the lead tablet records a curse and could very well carry specific information about the building and even the builders. Whatever the nature of the inscription, the lead tablet is a very welcome addition to the historical documents of Corinth where few inscriptions of any type have been found complete.

The second major discovery involving a new area is a bronze foundry that went out of existence in the 3rd century after Christ. A large area (6.85 m. × 7.40 m.) at the northwest corner of the West Water work was devoted to the construction or at least one life size bronze statue and already over 60 large tins of mould fragments have been removed from the casting pit. In addition there have been numerous pieces of bronze patches, drippings, and even bronze slag. Pumice for the smoothing of the statue after its completion has been found, and a few pieces of terracotta sculpture that may have been parts of the models for the statue. On the last day of excavation a very large part of a mould was found in place

and it descends still deeper into the deposit. A preliminary study of the moulds indicates that there is some hope that we shall be able to mend enough of them to learn something about the form of the statue as well as about the manner of casting bronzes. Part of the sides of the casting pit was lined with large, crude bricks, three of which were found in place, also on the last day of excavation. The bronze foundry may prove eventually to belong with the cisterns and water channels found last year in the West Waterworks. The area had to be recovered to protect the moulds that are still in the earth until we are able to return to the area next summer.

Much of the east end of the south stoa of the gymnasium was excavated and we can now be sure that the stoa did in fact continue at least as far east as we suspected last year (nearly 160 meters). Although much more is preserved at this end of the building than at its west end, it still had been rather thoroughly razed: only one column drum has been found in place on the stylobate, and even the first step is continuous for only ca. 9.00 m. The interior columns continued to near the end of the building and here at least three of them were connected by a partition wall. The foundation of the back wall of the stoa near the east end had been entirely pillaged in antiquity, but slightly further west part of the foundation was found in place and, continuing its line, six Doric capitals complete with abacus were found, four of them upside down and all arranged in a row (Pl. 81 d). There is much stucco still preserved on the capitals and both the stucco and the profile of the echinuses indicate that they should be dated to a period in the early history of the Roman colony of Corinth. They are of a size that would be suitable in fact, for the Doric columns of the façade of the gymnasium and may well have been placed in the pillaging trench of the back wall of the building to which they once belonged so that they might help support a later, less grand construction.

A large covered drain, partly clear and running eastwest, can be entered at the northeast corner of our excavation area, which is at about the corner of the stylobate of the east and south stoas of the gymnasium. By crawling into the drain we were able to de-

termine that it passed underground through a foundation that lies on the line we have restored in our drawings as the back wall of the east stoa of the gymnasium.

In a new area of the Lerna Hollow Cemetery a number of graves were found intact and are contributing much new information about the Early Christian community of Corinth (fifth and sixth centuries after Christ). One complete tombstone and fragments of nine others, besides one inscription on bedrock were found. We were fortunate to discover not only several different types of rock-cut tombs with burials still intact, but also in some instances enough of the stuccoed mounds that covered the tombs, and numerous clay lamps that had been lighted over the grave, so that we could restore (on paper) the physical appearance of this part of the cemetery and even follow the procedure of burial. Professor J. Lawrence Angel, Curator of Physical Anthropology at the Smithsonian Institution, examined several skeletons from our graves and has noted the multiracial nature of the burials. Even North African (negroid) is represented in this Early Christian cemetery. We hope to add a physical anthropologist to our staff next summer so that this important work can be continued.

Work continued, or was opened, in several other areas, the most important of which was in the supply tunnel for the main reservoir of the Fountain of Lerna. Here an elaborate distribution area was discovered, as well as two side channels.

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#### ISTHMA

Full-scale excavations at the Isthmian Sanctuary of Poseidon (Plan 1) were resumed in the spring of 1967. Oscar Broneer, who had begun his excavations there in 1952, was director, and Paul A. Clement co-director. The excavators were Elizabeth Gebhard of the University of Chicago and Carol Lanham, Judy Allen, James Batcheller, Robert McClure, and Ralph Platz, all of the University of California at Los Angeles. The senior architect was John C. Garner, Jr.; the junior architect was Richard Keating, a student at the University of California at Berkeley. The



Corinth : a. Roman Bath. Fallen architectural members to the west of newly discovered caldarium, from northwest, b. Gymnasium. Terracotta mask, c. Gymnasium. Apsidal building, from east, d. Gymnasium. South wall of south stoa with capitals re-used, from east

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