

**HALIKARNASSOS
2022**

**REPORT OF THE TURKISH-DANISH INVESTIGATIONS AT ANCIENT
HALIKARNASSOS (BODRUM) IN 2022**

A. Preparation for publication of mosaics that have been excavated by Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology

During recent years, a number of buildings with mosaic floors have been excavated in the modern cityscape of Bodrum. These have been excavated by the archaeologists at the Bodrum Museum, and the publication will be prepared together with them. Two areas were studied more in detail:

1. Before the construction of a new house, Bodrum Museum conducted excavations in a private property in Eskiçeşme in 2019 (directed by Gürşans Uzala, Fig. 1, no. 4). The building comprises the remains of 21 spaces, but it continues further in all directions (Fig. 2). To the south, it extends below a modern road, and to the east, west, and north it continues below modern property. Today a new house has been constructed on the northern part, and only three rooms and a paved yard can be seen today. A shelter has been raised above these rooms and they will soon be accessible for visitors. Two of the rooms contain mosaic floors, one is depicting a Nilotic landscape, the other a Dionysiac motif. Preserved pavements with Nilotic landscapes in the East mainly dates to the 5th and 6th centuries, and a 5th century date is probably to be applied to the mosaic floors in Eskiçeşme.

2. Other excavations have been carried out in 2018 when the American hospital was enlarged, and these excavations were directed by Ece Benli Bağcı and Seda Deniz Kesici. The site is situated in Türküyusu area south-east of the Mars-terrace (Fig. 1, no. 5). The excavated structure measures about 40 m east-west, but it continues further in all directions. The rooms towards the east may have faced an ancient road. To the south, the building was cut by the first construction of the hospital in 1995. Most of the excavated structure is now covered or filled in, but the majority of the rooms with mosaic floors is exposed below a thick glass pavement, and these mosaics are seen by hundreds of people every day coming to the hospital. Several building phases can be observed, but there are clearly two main phases. The earlier rooms (Phase 1) belong to a large house that was later transformed into a basilica (Phase 2).

B. Studies of finds in the Excavation House at the Maussolleion Open Air Museum site, originating from excavations in relation to the Ericsson-Türkcell city wall Project in 1998-2000 as well as from the Maussolleion Excavations 1966-1977

Under the direction of Jakob Munk Højte, all pieces of pottery from the city wall excavations that had been selected for publication were drawn. The finds from these excavations are therefore ready to be inked and published in the planned publication of the city wall of Halikarnassos.

C. Supplementary documentation of ancient inscriptions for the publication of the Corpus of Inscriptions from Halikarnassos

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The aim of the epigraphic study season in Bodrum this year was to check and collect supplementary information on some ancient inscriptions for the completion of the corpus of the inscriptions from Halikarnassos. The corpus includes all known inscriptions from the ancient city and is being prepared in cooperation with Bodrum Museum.

Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology

Due to the Corona pandemic the Danish team was not able to visit Bodrum in 2020 and 2021. During this period the restoration of the Castle was successfully finished and although many inscriptions had been moved to new places we managed to locate all and complete our studies. With the kind collaboration of museum director Hüseyin Toprak and our colleagues at Bodrum Museum we consulted the inventory-books to check matters of doubt, and to supplement with the data of the new findings for including them in the corpus of inscriptions from Halikarnassos. In 2022 we also succeeded in studying more thoroughly some inscriptions uncovered during the restoration of the Castle as well as a few others which have come to the fore more recently.

With the kind permission of Professor Adnan Diler, we also had access to the inscriptions found during the recent excavations of the city-wall in order to have them documented and included in our general corpus of Halicarnassian inscriptions.

The Maussolleion Area

During the restoration of the castle some inscriptions formerly placed in the Castle have been transferred to the area of the Maussolleion Open air museum and could be studied there. In addition, one new, interesting inscription had apparently been secured from Eskiçesme mahallesi (I. Halik. *550), (Fig. 3). This is an honorific inscription on a statue base for an athlete named Athenippos son of Anaxandros, and based on the form of the letters it can be dated to the 2nd century BC. Only one parallel to this is known from Halikarnassos (I. Halik. *91, no longer extant).

The late-antique buildings at the American Hospital

With the kind assistance of our colleagues from Bodrum Museum and the staff of the hospital we succeeded in making a more complete documentation of the inscriptions reused in the later buildings.

The theatre

One of the sites studied with special care is the ancient theatre, in which the inscriptions on the seats are much weathered and difficult to read. An article on the theatre inscriptions is under preparation as a prolegomenon to the corpus of inscriptions. It will be published in the proceedings of a workshop on “The Greco-Roman Theatre as Inscribed Space” arranged by Hamburg University and held on-line in December 2021.

*New inscription (I.Halik. *545. Fig. 4)*

Embedded high up in the wall of corner house in Bardakçi Sokak we noticed a hitherto not registered inscription, a fragment of a funerary stele for Python son of Philippos, of probably 2nd century BC, possibly a little later.

The city wall

In the newly excavated city wall, we documented a fragment of a base in fine white marble which at some point was reused as building material and is still there. Only part of two lines is preserved but we suggest that the inscription was an epigram. (I.Halik *549. Fig. 5)

The corpus of Halikarnassos inscriptions is expected to be finalized in 2025. In the present, late stage of our work on the corpus, we are not only devoted to the study of the actual inscriptions, but also the contexts. We are now concurrently striving to obtain a more precise picture of the findspots of the more than 500 ancient inscriptions known from Bodrum and to extract what evidence this

information may have for our understanding of the topography, the institutions, and the social life in the ancient city of Halikarnassos.

D. Continuation of the Study of the Hellenistic altars of marble and other stone objects in Bodrum Museum

These studies had to be postponed to a later season due to lack of time.

E. Various works of maintenance of the excavation depot in the Maussolleion Open Air Museum

Various ceramic finds from earlier excavations were transferred to high quality plastic boxes for long term storage by the conservators of the Halikarnassos project.

F. Continuation of measurements of ancient remains together with Bodrum Museum

Under the direction of Niels Bargfeldt and with the cooperation of the archaeologists of Bodrum Museum supplementary measurements were carried out at various places in Bodrum. The measurements were made with a total station and GPS. Measurements were made in relation to recently excavated buildings with floor mosaics in the city of Bodrum to determine the precise outline and the exact position of the remains. In agreement with Bodrum Museum and Professor Adnan Diler from Muğla University, the greater part of the recently excavated western section of the city wall was measured (Fig. 6). And finally, the so-called *diateichisma* in the north-eastern extension of the city wall was measured after permission of the owner of the site and in collaboration with archaeologists from Bodrum Museum (Fig. 7).

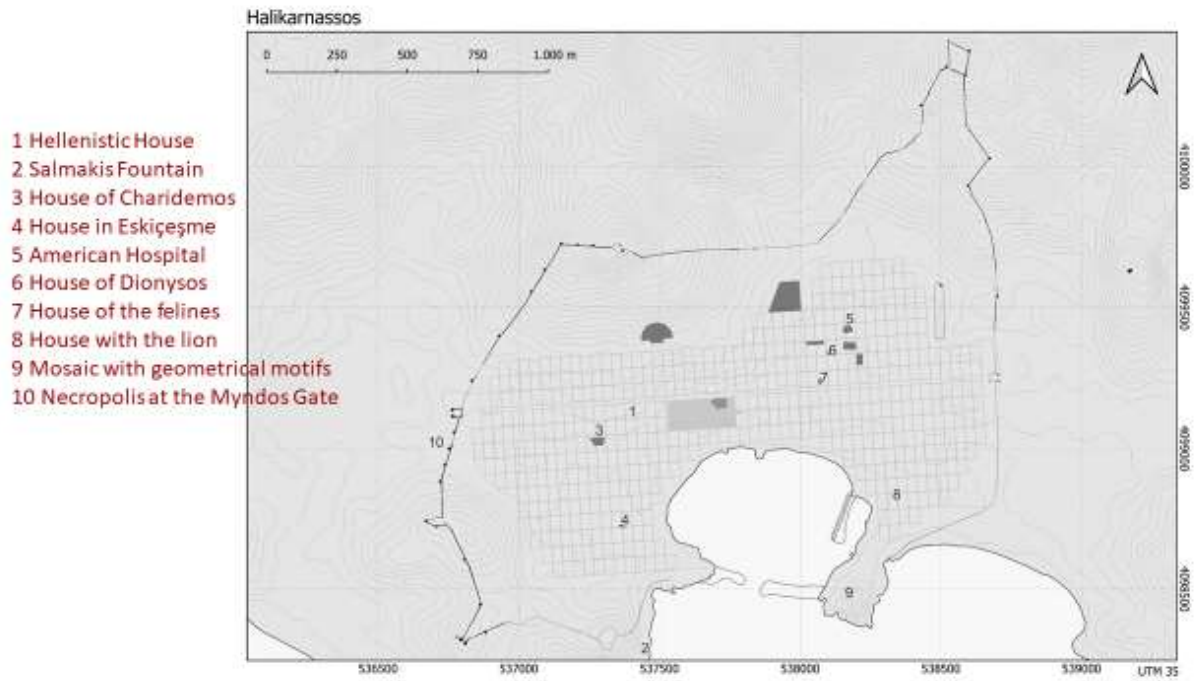


Fig. 1. Plan of Halikarnassos (N. Bargfeldt).



Fig. 2. Building with floor mosaics excavated by Bodrum Museum in Eskiçeşme in 2019 (Bodrum Museum and N. Bargfeldt).



Fig. 3. Inscription from Eskiçesme mahallesi in the Maussolleion Open Air Museum (P. Pedersen).



Fig. 4. Inscription in a wall of a house in Bardakçi Sokak (P. Pedersen).



Fig. 5. Fragment of a base in fine white marble reused as building stone in the city wall (P. Pedersen).



Fig. 6. Measuring of the recently excavated part of the city wall (P. Pedersen).



Fig. 7. Measuring of the *diateichisma* in the north-eastern extension of the city wall (P. Pedersen).