

**EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS
IN WESTERN STOA OF AGORA
IN İZMİR**

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**by
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ABSTRACT

EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS IN WESTERN STOA OF AGORA IN İZMİR

Conservation implementations in archeological sites should be applied in order to better perceive the ancient remains. The implementations based on limited information must be avoided if the necessary findings are not revealed. These implementations should be executed in order not to damage the remains, should be reversible and not prevent future conservation action. Although the interventions should be compatible with original qualities with respect to form and material, they should be distinguishable from the original parts.

In this study, the restoration implementations which started in 1932 and continued sporadically until 2005 in the ancient Agora of İzmir are investigated. The former restoration implementations had to be reinterpreted due to new findings during the recent investigations. The aim is to introduce the restoration interventions carried out in the Agora/West Stoa, and to evaluate them regarding present conservation approaches. Architectural findings of the excavation are examined, documentation studies are performed through field surveys, in addition original building components and lateral interventions are analyzed.

In the evaluation, distinguishability of the new application, the compatibility of the materials used and proper techniques, with existing materials, the availability for future applications and reversibility of present interventions in order to allow necessary rectification in future are taken into consideration. Accordingly, the interventions between 1932 and 1944 are evaluated reversible and distinguishable while materials and techniques applied in the interventions are not compatible with the original. The implementations applied between 2002 and 2005, are evaluated distinguishable, compatible with original materials and techniques, available for future studies and reversible.

ÖZET

İZMİR AGORASI BATI STOA MÜDAHALELERİNİN DEĞERLENDİRİLMESİ

Arkeolojik alanlarda yapılacak koruma uygulamaları kalıntıların daha iyi anlaşılmasına yönelik olarak gerçekleştirilmelidir. Yapılacak koruma uygulamaları kazıdan elde edilen bulgulara bağlı olduğundan alanla ilgili tüm veriler ortaya çıkmadan kısıtlı bilgilerle uygulama yapmaktan kaçınılmalıdır. Bu uygulamalar, kalıntılara zarar vermeyecek şekilde planlanmalı ve ileride yeni müdahalelere izin verecek biçimde geri dönüşebilir olmalıdır. Müdahaleler biçim ve malzeme yönünden özgün niteliklere uygun olmalı ancak özgün kısımlardan ayırt edilmelidir.

Bu çalışma kapsamında, İzmir kentinin merkezinde konumlanan antik Agora'da 1932 yılında başlayan ve günümüze kadar aralıklarla devam eden kazı ve koruma çalışmaları incelenmiştir. Agora'da 1930'larda yapıldığı düşünülen restorasyon uygulamalarının 2002 yılında başlayan kazı ve restorasyon çalışmaları kapsamında elde edilen yeni bulgularla yeniden değerlendirilmesi gereği doğmuştur. Bu çalışmanın amacı, Agora / Batı Stoa'da 1930'larda yapılmış olan restorasyonların ve yeni uygulama çalışmalarının tanıtılması ve günümüz koruma yaklaşımları doğrultusunda değerlendirilmesidir. Çalışma kapsamında, kazı buluntuları incelenmiş, rölöve çalışmaları ile özgün yapı bölümleri ve farklı dönem müdahaleleri tespit edilmiştir.

Değerlendirmede, müdahalelerin özgün kısımlardan ayırt edilebilir olması, uygulamaların özgün malzeme ve detaylara uygunluğu, ileride yapılacak uygulamalara uygun ve geri dönüşebilir olması dikkate alınmıştır. Buna göre, çalışma kapsamında, 1932 ve 1944 yıllarında gerçekleşen uygulamalar geri dönüşebilir ve özgün kısımlardan ayırt edilebilir olarak uygulanmış ancak özgün malzeme ve detaylara uyulmadığı ve bu nedenle ileride yapılacak uygulamalara uygun olamadığı anlaşılmıştır. 2002 ve 2005 yılları arasında gerçekleşen uygulamalar ise özgün kısımlardan ayırt edilebilir, özgün malzeme ve detaylara uygun, ileride yapılacak müdahalelere izin verecek biçimde ve geri dönüşebilir biçimde uygulanmıştır.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Archaeological sites reveal the evidence of earlier settlements which had been destroyed in the process of civilization. Whereas most of the archaeological sites were abandoned completely some still remain in the modern settlements forming multi layered cities. The archeological remains in the modern settlements have been annihilated systematically in the duration of the development of the lateral cultures. In these towns having the evidence of an ancient era, preservation and assessment of the archeological heritage contribute to reveal the identity of the modern settlements.

The preservation of the archaeological monuments and findings has been considered since the earliest international activities which was the “Madrid Conference” held in 1904. After that the subject has been developed in many national and international conferences thus comprising the regulations and limitations. Through these conferences, concerning the understanding, maintenance, protection, restoration of the archeological heritage, several types of legislation and procedures have emerged that have a bearing on these operations. Among them, the Venice Charter (1964) first mentioned the concept of the “site”. Moreover, it exposed the fact that measures necessary for the permanent conservation and protection of architectural features must be taken for the ruins. Furthermore, every means must be taken to facilitate the understanding of the monument and to reveal it without ever distorting its meaning¹.

Meanwhile rapid destruction of the ancient history in the cities came to the attention of the Council of Europe in 1989. It was stressed that the evaluation of town and spatial planning, housing development and major public works raised the problem of protecting the archeological heritage². It was due to increasing population, high standards of living and large scale construction projects that seriously threatened the archeological heritage in towns. Subsequently the idea of preservation of the ancient property via functional link between ancient places and present day activities of

¹ The 15th Article of the Venice Charter “(WEB_1 2006)”

² Recommendation No. R (89) 5 Concerning the Protection and Enhancement of the Archaeological Heritage In the Context of Town and Country Planning Operations “(WEB_2 2006)”

performances rose³. The Council of Europe approved charter on the Use of Ancient Places of Performance, which aims to preserve scientific data, while managing them in the perspective of developments and cultural performances in 1997.

İzmir is an example of the mentioned multi layered cities which have been accommodated by many civilizations. Considered to have started from the Hellenistic era, many civilizations lasted continuously at the city. However, each of them destroyed the evidences of the previous culture and only a few remains survive today. The ancient Agora is one of the urban components of the Hellenistic and Roman city, which has survived from the modern constructions possibly due to the existence of a cemetery on them. Today the Agora archeological site is located in the historical district of Namazgah neighborhood which can be defined as abandoned by its original inhabitants in the process of the replacement of the center of the modern city. Surrounded by the modern streets and desolated historical residences, conservation problems of the archeological ruin had to be considered in recent years.

These problems can be grouped in four according to their concerns. To start with the most important problem is the increasing security problem of the site especially in the north lower galleries. The problems causing structural decay of the construction due to weathering deteriorations after excavation may result in destructions. Likewise, conservation of the original building materials should be considered. Another problem is related with the exhibition of the site and findings. That is due to irrelevance about the exhibition of the ruins and informing the visitors.

With the consciousness of these problems in addition to historic tourism and cultural benefits of the region, the local governments have inspired the excavation and restoration work carried out in the Agora. The problem of the study is defined as identification and evaluation of the restoration implementations in the West Stoa of the Agora. Regarding the development of the conservation approaches of the archeological heritage, the conservation studies of the Agora of ancient İzmir has been introduced and evaluated within this context.

The subject, aim, limits and method of the study is expressed in the first part of the study. The second part examines the international recommendations and charters concerning the preservation implementations of the archaeological sites. Present

³ Segesta Declaration (adopted at the end of the colloquy on "The conservation and use of ancient theatres" organised at Segesta, Trapani, Palermo) 17-20 September 1995 "(WEB_3 2006)

situation of the Agora and the structures compromising the ruin are presented next. Afterwards the restoration works carried out in 1930s and 1940s and recent conservation studies and restorations were introduced and evaluated. These implementations were examined regarding the international regulations. In the fifth part, conclusions of the study and several conservation problems which must be measured initially are stated.

1.1. Aim of the Study

The conservation decisions and interpretation of archaeological sites are preceded by a detailed research and precise excavation works. The implementations based on limited information must be avoided if the necessary findings are not revealed during excavations. In this context, the restoration implementations in the ancient Agora, İzmir that had to be reinterpreted due to the recent investigations are the subject of this study. The aim is to analyze, identify and evaluate the restoration interventions during the 1930s and 1940s and introduce and evaluate the restoration implementations between 2002 and 2005. Special emphasis is given to analyze the interventions in the West Stoa since the structure had been exposed to miscellaneous interventions since the ancient era. They are repairs after a destructive earthquake, alterations in planning, structural and functional organizations in the Roman era and restoration implementations in the scope of conservation studies in two different periods of recent time.

1.2. Limits of the Study

This study refers to the determination of the state instead of proposals to the conservation problems of the site. The techniques and data of the excavation were not discussed within this context, whereas, the architectural components have been analyzed in the scope of restitution studies. The restoration work, which had been implemented, has been defined and evaluated regarding the international regulations concerning the restoration implementations in the archaeological heritage. Investigation and implementation works carried out in three independent periods reveal the influences of the developments in the field of preservation of the archeological sites.

The similar examples including the restoration implementations in the Agoras (such as Thessaloniki, Nysa, and Athens) have been searched. However, these examples were not included to the context since appropriate data was not found in order to make a comparative study.

1.3. Method of the Study

Method of the study includes field surveys and literature investigations. The field surveys were carried out in Agora between July 2004 and August 2005. In the scope of this study, site surveys aimed to document and analysis the original building components and lateral interventions. The result of this analysis was published and presented in the “Korumada 50 Yıl Sempozyumu” in the scope of this thesis “(Yaka et al. 2005)”.

Documentation of the current situation of the east wall of the West Stoa was performed in the scope of this thesis. After evaluation of the original structure, reconstruction proposal for the stylobate and the east wall of the West Stoa was executed according to the restitution studies. The reconstruction project of the stylobate and east wall was prepared for the application and presented to the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage.

Present conservation decisions were planned together with the conservation staff of the Agora excavations. In addition, some parts of the reports concerning the restoration implementations were prepared for the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage in addition to the reconstruction project of the stylobate of the West Stoa “(Taşlıalan et al. 2004, Taşlıalan 2005a, Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

Literature investigations included the scanning of some former and daily local newspapers and publications concerning the Agora⁴. However, the publishing of the previous investigations were restricted with the articles concerning the evaluation of the findings except for the implementations of the 1930’s and 1940’s “(Miltner and Selâhattin 1934, Naumann and Kantar 1943, Duyuran 1945, Naumann and Kantar 1950)”. In addition, some publications concerning the history of İzmir including information about the Agora were mostly the repetition of the initial studies “(Gültekin 1951, Toksöz 1960, Akurgal 1995, Gül 1995, Gül 2005)”.

⁴ Yeni Asır (September 1st 1933- August 31st 1934 and January 1st 1955- March 31st 1955)

In addition, international legal aspects and regulations regarding conservation of archeological sites and restoration implementations have been investigated. The chronological development of the preservation approach to archaeological heritage is presented. This study aimed to understand the development process in the field of conservation in archaeological heritage, which would contribute to evaluate the interventions in the Agora. The chronological search of international charters and regulations was carried out through former studies “(Binan 1999, Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_4 2006)”. In the scope of this study, restoration interventions are evaluated in terms of the criteria which involve international regulations. These criteria are the distinguishability of the new application, the compatibility of the materials used and proper techniques, with existing materials, the availability for future applications and reversibility of present interventions in order to allow necessary rectification in future.

CHAPTER 2

LEGAL AND ETHICAL ASPECT OF CONSERVATION IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Conservation of monuments has a long history with various aims and aspects. Scientific methods have been the concept of conservation implementations with the increasing consciousness to the subject since the 19th century. Starting with this process the concept of ethical and legal acts has become the subject of national and international foundations. Initially main trusts were against illicit excavations considering, the safety of information and findings, not to mention, in order to control and protect the excavations from the unqualified persons. Later on, large scale construction projects in the context of town and country planning threatened the archaeological sites. Therefore, in the 1980's legal revisions concerned that development projects should be designed regarding a minimum impact on archaeological heritage.

In this chapter, first the international recommendations and charters concerning the preservation and restoration of archaeological monuments will be examined, then legal acts and regulations in Turkey will be pointed out in the scope of the implementations in archaeological sites. Finally legal provisions and resolutions of local disciplines concerning the Agora and its district will be defined.

2.1. International Charters and Documents Relating to the Conservation of Archaeological Monuments and Sites

Protection of archaeological monuments is becoming more immediate since they are under a greater threat of annihilation. As in every profession, there are some standards and rules to ensure their protection. For hundreds of years national or international discussions and documents have improved the concept of conservation. The foundations of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Council of Europe, International Council of Museums (ICOM), International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) have

contributed numerous conferences and discussions concerning the concept of principles of preservation. The following documents and charters indicate the chronological development of the preservation approach to archaeological heritage. The aim of this study is to understand the development process of the preservation and restoration of archaeological heritage. It is also aimed to present the limitations and criteria of the restoration interventions in the archaeological sites.

One of the oldest guides for the preservation and restoration of ancient sites is called “Recommendations of the Madrid Conference” and specified in the result of “Sixth International Congress of Architects” held in 1904 “(WEB_5 2006)”. This document set down earlier principles concerning architectural conservation. In this document, monuments belonging to a past civilization were defined as ‘dead monuments’. Interventions to these structures were so restricted that only strengthening implementations were allowed in only indispensable situations to prevent their falling into ruin. The interventions should appear with the same historical and technical value of the monument itself.

“Carta del Restauro (Athens Charter)”, the first detailed document containing recommendations on the protection of monuments was the conclusion of the First International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments held in 1931 “(Erder 1975, Binan 1999, WEB_6)”. The charter introduced elaborate information about the conservation of monuments. In the case of archeological sites, necessity of conservation was stressed and when preservation of the findings is impossible, reburying of them was recommended for the first time. It was specified that the historic and artistic work of the past should be respected when restoration appears to be inevitable. Accordingly, thorough analysis of the defects and decays should be undertaken before any conservation work. On the contrary, use of modern techniques and materials (such as reinforced concrete) was approved for the consolidation of ancient monuments. The collaboration between the technical professions and international organizations was recommended for the extensive conservation works. In addition, the conference was convinced that education of young people was the best guarantee for the protection of the monuments.

Nearly 50 years after the initial document on conservation of cultural heritage, the first document peculiar to ancient remains “International Principle Governing the Protection and Excavation of Archaeological Sites” was established as a consequence of the General Conference of UNESCO at New Delhi in 1956 “(Madran and Özgönül

1999, WEB_7 2006)”. The conference focused on the maintenance of the findings in an international uniform system. Certain common principles for archaeological excavations and protection of the sites against constant excavations were considered. With this document, some regulations concerning management of excavations and international collaboration were awarded. Moreover, it was stated that antiquities should be exhibited in the museums of the country where they were found. Regarding interventions, restoration of archeological remains and objects should be exercised under the careful supervision of each member state.

In 1964, increasing awareness of preservation and critical applications necessitated a new thorough study of the Athens Charter “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_1 2006)”. As a consequence of “IInd International Congress of Architects and Technicians of Historic Monuments” principles of the “Venice Charter” were approved. The charter stated that the excavations should be executed according to the provisions of International Principles awarded by UNESCO in 1956.

According to the Venice Charter, the aim of the conservation and restoration of monuments is to preserve it as a document of history and work of art as well. It includes fundamental decrees about the interventions in the archaeological sites. Accordingly, any restoration work should aim to preserve and reveal the aesthetic and historic value of the monument respecting original material and authentic documents. However, consolidation of a monument can be achieved by use of modern techniques when traditional techniques are not adequate. Reconstruction works should be stopped, however, only reassembling of original pieces, anastylosis was allowed when the unification material was identified. The charter gave emphasize on documentation of the restoration and preservation works and encouraged publications.

“European Convention on the Protection of the Archeological Heritage” was signed in 1969 to protect the earliest heritage of Europe which was under threat of destruction “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_8 2006)”. Decisions of this document were related with not only historical, but scientific values and aspects of the archaeological sites. It focused on protection of the sites from illicit excavations to prevent from loosing scientific knowledge. It recommended limiting the sites unexcavated and keeping some reserve zones to be excavated in the future. To keep scientific significance, archaeological excavations should be entrusted to qualified persons, control and conservation of the archaeological objects and preparation of

scientific catalogue should be ensured for rapid and complete dissemination of scientific information.

National and regional conventions had great influence on improving and adopting the previous charters. The Convention of San Salvador called “Protection of the Archeological, Historical and Artistic Heritage of the American Nations” was awarded by the Organization of American States in 1976 “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_9 2006)”. Aim of the convention was to ensure identification, registration and protection of the archaeological heritage of American Nations. Maximum protection at international level was stressed, which means to prevent the illegal international transportation of cultural property and increase international cooperation between American States.

In 1984, Council of Europe raised a considerable point at “Colloquy on Archaeology and Planning” which emphasized the importance of integration of archaeological considerations into the planning process to prevent any destruction “(Madran and Özgönül 1999)”. Regarding effective protection of archaeological sites collaboration of planners was required. Moreover, all planning legislations should be considered to cover protection of the cultural heritage.

“Charter for the Protection and Management of the Archaeological Heritage (ICAHM Charter), 1990” introduced that protection of the sites was inadequate with the limited precautions “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_10 2006)”. This means a qualified protection requires not only professionals involved in the protection of the archaeological heritage but also cooperation of experts in survey, excavation, research, maintenance, conservation, reconstruction, preservation and public access. Some principles considering archaeological heritage management were also stated in this charter.

The ICAHM Charter has brought new approaches in the survey and preservation implementations of archaeological heritage. Considering destructive results of excavation, it should be carried out in restricted areas which are under the threat of development, looting and natural deterioration. Accordingly, investigations should be carried out with non-destructive techniques, if possible total excavations should be avoided. The contribution of the presentation of the archaeological heritage to the public, which raise the public interest to their preservation, was mentioned. However, reconstructions should be done with great caution not to disturb any surviving archaeological evidence. All sources of evidence should be examined before the

reconstruction to reflect the original characteristics of the monument. The reconstruction interventions on archaeological remains should be identifiable.

“European Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe” signed in 1992 stressed European archaeological heritage was seriously threatened with unscientific excavations, major plan schemes and public awareness as well as the natural risks “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_11 2006)”. According to the convention, the need to protect the archaeological heritage should be reflected in town and country planning, moreover public opinion about the importance of the archaeological heritage and its threats should be developed by educational influence.

In 1995, the usage of some archaeological monuments became the subject of “Segesta Declaration” “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_3 2006)”. The contemporary use of some archaeological monuments, which could continue its original function such as ancient theaters, was stated. Accordingly, this process would help linking the ancient heritage and modern life which improve the use of monuments and adaptation with their surroundings and public. Furthermore, artistic performances would be significant income for maintaining excavation, conservation and restorations.

“Declaration of San Antonio (1996)” recommends more attention should be paid to authenticity in archaeological sites due to increasing destructions through excavations and implementations “(Madran and Özgönül 1999, WEB_12 2006)”. It recommends all interventions and excavations in archaeological sites should be accompanied by implementation of conservation and permanent preservation plan. It recommended to ensure the protection of excavations continuously and to keep the authenticity of the rest of the site in order to protect the accurate knowledge for later generations.

“The Burra Charter” adopted by Australian ICOMOS in 1999 keeps the importance in the international level “(WEB_13 2006)”. It set standards and practical advice about management, conservation, maintenance, restoration and reconstruction processes of the cultural property. According to the charter, the aim of the implementations should be to reveal the cultural aspects of the sites. The conservation should respect the existing fabric, if any change is necessary to retain cultural significance, it should be as little as possible and reversible in the contrary situations. Traditional techniques and materials should be used for the conservation, however modern techniques and materials can be used as well if they offer considerable benefits.

“Policy Statement on Restoration, Reconstruction and Speculative Recreation of Archaeological Sites including Ruins” was approved by the English Heritage in 2001

“(WEB_14 2006)”. This statement provides advice and criteria on the implementations in the archaeological sites considering the destructive potential of restoration, reconstruction or replication of historic fabric.

The aim of conservation is to keep the significance of the site and to avoid damage therefore proposals for restoration, reconstruction or recreation should retain the significance of the site. Furthermore the significance of what is affected must be properly understood before alterations and repairs are proposed. Proposals should depend on full understanding of the fabric of a site and should be framed within comprehensive conservation strategy of the site. In addition, proposals for restoration or reconstruction must not damage the original fabric or archaeological context of the site since they should be available for future study. Proposals must be based on the best available evidence and should not be based on speculations. They must be reversible if need for future rectification. The restoration and reconstruction implementations should be distinguishable from the original fabric.

ICOMOS Charter for “Principles for the analysis, conservation and structural restoration of architectural heritage” was accepted in 2003 “(WEB_15 2006)”. Considering conservation, reinforcement and restoration of architectural heritage requires a multi-disciplinary approach, involving a variety of professionals and organizations. This charter presents principles including the basic concepts of conservation, as well as, the guidelines to help better conservation, strengthening and restoration of structures.

Urgent site-structural-solutions can be required to stabilize the structure due to problems during excavation. These implementations should be avoided to affect the concept and form of the complete building. Implementation should be based on observation of the structural damage and material decay, as well as, historical and archaeological research. Further, the analysis of the structure should be taken into account after the intervention. The implementations should be reversible in order to allow (or not to limit) lateral measures with more knowledge. On the other hand, the materials used in restoration should be in compatible characteristics with the originals regarding the long term effects. Finally, all the activities including conservation, analyzing and implementing should be documented.

2.2. Legal Provisions about Conservation of Archaeological Monuments and Sites in Turkey

Anatolia, which has been the land of many early civilizations, has attracted investigators since the 18th century. Because of the unconsciousness to previous cultures and their ruins, many had been destroyed until legislative regulations were enacted.

In Turkey, legal regulation in the field of conservation began in the second half of the 19th century with the Charter of Antiquities (Asarı Atika Düzenlemeleri- Eski Eserler Tüzüğü). First arrangement in 1869 was concerned with archaeological excavations. It was rearranged in 1874 and 1884 since the previous one was inadequate. Afterwards the last “Asarı Atika” was issued in 1906 “(Madran 2005, Akozan 1977)”. The final act identified the monuments and aimed to protect them against illicit excavations and illegal international transportation.

These regulations acted as the only preservation aids in the Republic era until 1973. On the other hand, two main progresses came into force in the scope of preservation of monuments, in this period. First, “The Supreme Council of Immovable Antiquities and Monuments (Gayrimenkul Eski Eserler ve Anıtlar Yüksek Kurulu)” was established in 1951 by act no: 5805. Secondly, Venice Charter was approved 24.09.1967 by the same council with decision number 3674.

The new legislation act no: 1710 in 1973 was called “Act for Antiquities (Eski Eserler Kanunu)” “(Akozan 1977)”. According to the first article of the act, “archaeological site and ruins” were defined as a location which contains the remainder of an ancient settlement or a former civilization, under earth or water, either known or revealed. Third article specified all antiquities and monuments belong to the state.

Later on, act no: 2863, “Act for Conservation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (Kültür ve Tabiat Varlıklarını Koruma Kanunu)” came into force 21.06.1983. Eventually some articles of the act were rearranged on 14.07.2004 with act no: 5226 “(WEB_16 2006)”.

The third article of the act defines cultural property as all movable or immovable antiquities, under earth or water which is a matter of social life in the prehistoric periods and gains authentic worth from the scientific and cultural side.

The sixth article describes the cultural property, among them rock tombs, written, illustrated and embossed rocks, illustrated caves, mounds, tumuluses, ruin

places, acropolis, necropolis, ruins (derelicts), aqueducts, water canals (flumes), cisterns, wells, historical road ruins, milestones, holed stones, standing stones, altars, basilicas, ruins of monuments and walls and mosaics can be counted as archaeological artifacts.

Rights for making investigations, soundings, and excavations with the aim of revealing the movable or immovable cultural properties are given to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı) with the 35th section. The same section stated that permission to do excavations is given to the native or foreign institutions by the decision of Council of Ministry in order that their scientific and economic adequacy has been obeyed by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

The Supreme Council has pointed out implementations at the archaeological sites over some resolutions for the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Heritage (Kültür ve Tabiat Varlıklarını Koruma Yüksek Kurulu). Preservation of cultural properties and constituting spaces for exhibitions in the first and second degree archaeological sites have been specified with the principle decision no: 572 dated 03.03.1998. Afterwards preservation and usage conditions of archaeological sites have been declared with decision no: 658 dated 05.11.1999. Finally decision no: 702 on 15.04.2005, about the urban archaeological sites can be defined as legal supports of preservation and usage conditions in archaeological sites.

Apart from national legal arrangements, the Republic of Turkey signed “European Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage of Europe” in May 2000 “(WEB_17 2006)”.

2.3. Legal Provisions about Agora and its Environment

İzmir, one of the oldest cities in Turkey has welcomed many civilisations which forms the urban identity of the city. To ensure the protection of monuments national and legal councils for the conservation of cultural heritage have forced some regulations in İzmir.

One of these regulations was the “Kemeraltı Urban Site” decided by The Supreme Council for the Conservation of Cultural and Natural Heritage with decision no: 348 on 27.07.1984. According to the resolution, the Agora was included in this urban site

Placed in the Namazgah neighbourhood of the İkiçeşmelik quarter in Konak district, Agora was defined as a first degree archaeological site while its district was inside the third degree with decision no: 3234 on 22.10.1991 by İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Immovable Cultural and Natural Heritage (İzmir 1 Numaralı Kültür ve Tabiat Varlıklarını Koruma Kurulu). Other archaeological remains in İzmir such as the Theater, Stadium, Kadifekale, and Altınyol were evaluated as first degree archaeological sites whereas their surroundings were in third degree via this decision.

Afterwards with decision no: 9728 on 30.01.2002 the Agora and its district were reevaluated. According to the final regulation first degree archaeological site around the Agora was enlarged west until Eşrefpaşa Street moreover the north side was enlarged in order to include a multi-storied parking lot. On the other hand, the east and south neighbouring blocks of the Agora were elevated to second degree (Figure 2. 1).

Finally, a Revision Development Plan for Conservation and Regeneration of Agora and its Surrounding (1/1000 Ölçekli Agora ve Çevresi Koruma Amaçlı Revizyon İmar Planı) with the scale of 1/1000 was prepared by the İzmir Municipality regarding a 1/5000 Development Plan for Preservation of Kemeraltı and its District (1/5000 ölçekli Kemeraltı ve Çevresi Koruma Amaçlı Nazım İmar Planı) “(WEB_18 2006)”. This plan was approved by the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage with act no: 645 on 29.06.2005.

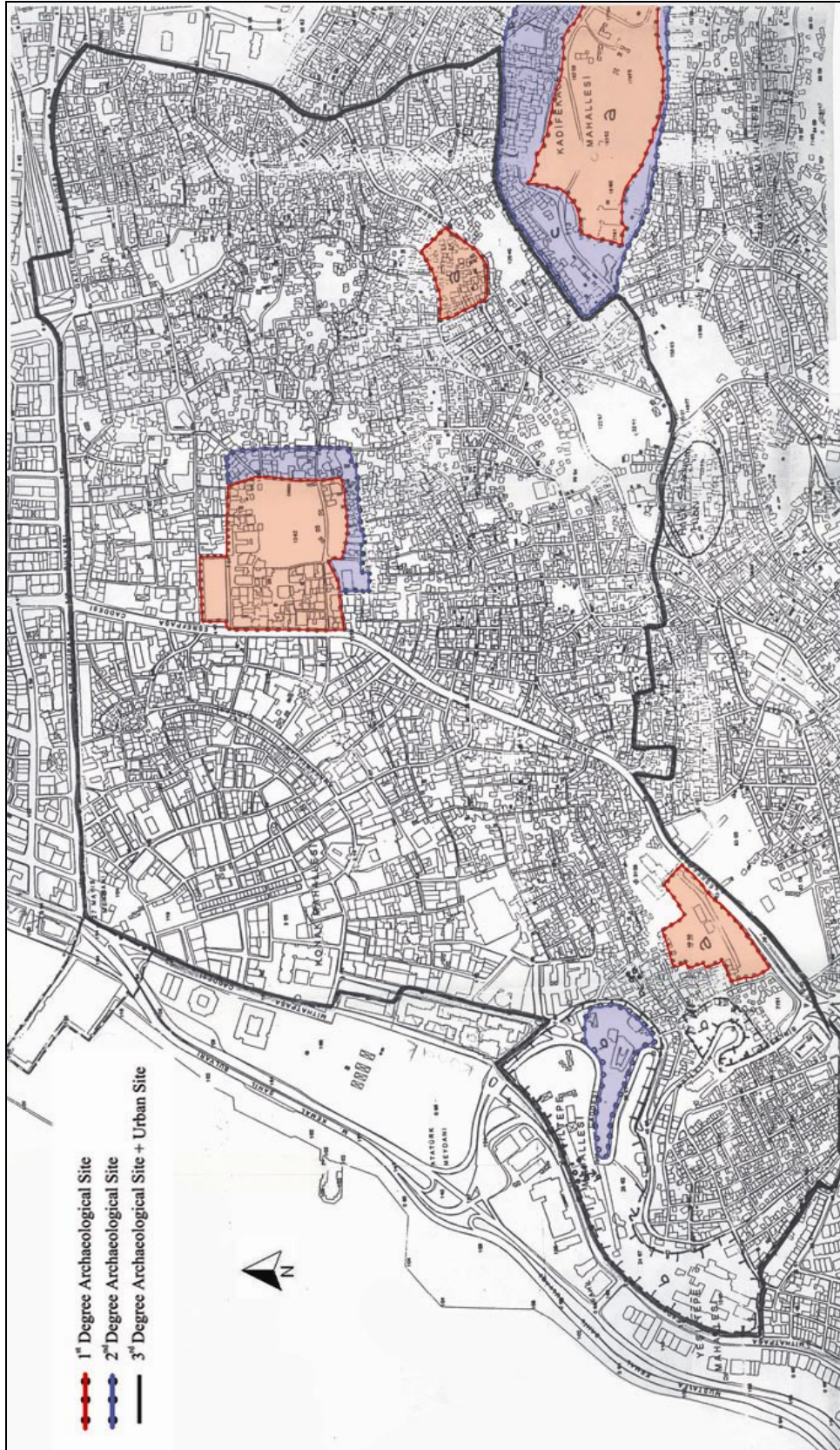


Figure 2. 1. The boundaries of the archaeological sites.
 (Source: Archives of İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Immovable Cultural and Natural Heritage, Attachment of the decision dated 30.01.2002, No: 9728)

2.3.1. Principles and Targets of “Development Plan for Conservation and Regeneration of Agora and its Surrounding”

Development Plan for Conservation and Regeneration of Agora and its Surrounding includes the region of 1st Degree Archeological Site of the Agora, the 2nd Degree Archaeological Site surrounding it and 3rd Degree Archaeological Site“(Batkan 2002)”⁵.

The historical center Kemeraltı, which is located on the ancient harbor filling, the Theater, Kadifekale, and the Stadium, form the backbone of the ancient city. This structure of ancient remains can be associated with the improvement of ancient roads. Considering its location and topography the Agora has a significant potential to activate the ancient sites of the city in addition to their development with their surroundings. For this reason, the Agora is selected as the pioneer of the ancient remains to join into the city as a part.

As mentioned above, the project is designed for preserving the Agora and its surrounding as well as, rehabilitation and linking with the modern city. This study is aimed to integrate the defined area to the urban life via bringing into safety. Within this study, the poor fabric which blocks the perception of the Agora should be eliminated. On the other hand, it is essential to preserve and reuse the buildings which are qualified samples of the civil, official, and religious buildings.

⁵ The article depends on the report of the “Development Plan for Conservation and Regeneration of Agora and Its Surrounding” prepared by the Directorate of Historical Environment and Cultural Property of the İzmir Municipality.

CHAPTER 3

THE AGORA OF SMYRNA

The Agora⁶ is one of the significant remains of the Roman monuments which reach until today in İzmir. While other ruins do not remain today, the Agora survived possibly due to a cemetery placed on it until 1932 “(Miltner and Selâhattin 1934)”. The finding of the ruins was surprising for the investigators because the existence of the old city was completely forgotten at that time. Accordingly, the Roman Agora attracted great attention of the public, media and the investigators. Although the excavation and conservation studies were started in 1932, the site remained a problem which decreases the urban quality of the city.

In this context, a brief summary of the historical development of ancient İzmir (Smyrna) is stated. Then, the Agora and buildings (Basilica, West Stoa and East Stoa) constituting the central area are introduced initially. Finally, the excavation and conservation studies are presented, as well as, the evaluation of these studies.

3.1. Identification of the Agora in İzmir

The Agora is situated in the historical section of İzmir that is in the neighbourhood of Namazgah in Konak district. The Agora and its quarter is known as “Mezarlıkbaşı\ İkiçeşmelik” and surrounded by Basmane on the northeast and “historical Kemeraltı market” on the west. Mezarlıkbaşı quarter is a traditional Ottoman residence settlement which includes one of the urban identities of İzmir.

⁶ Agora is an open urban space for the public in every Greek city full of civic sociopolitical activities as well as commercial functions. It constitutes the political, governmental, social, commercial and occupational heart of the city. Roman forum is similar to an agora in many points. Their function and spatial design were exposed to many changes in time thus a separation took place between the governmental and commercial activities in the Hellenistic era “(Segal 1997)”. From the architectural point of view, an agora is placed on a flat area and surrounded by colonnaded galleries which protect people from sun light and rain, as well as, providing space for their activities. Important buildings such as temples, fountains, altars, shops, basilicas and other public buildings are placed around an agora “(Atasoy 2001)”

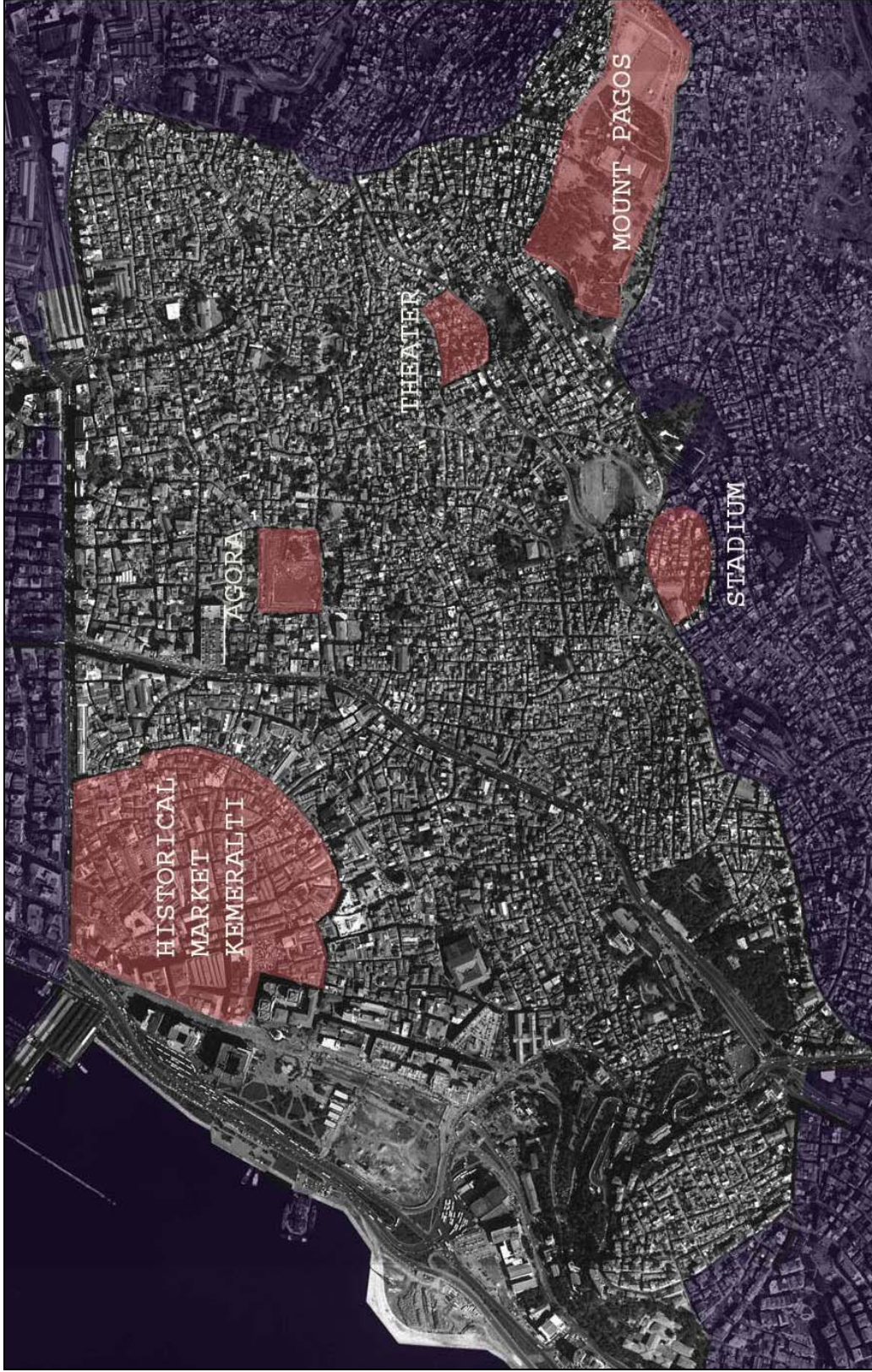


Figure 3.1. Ancient ruins of Izmir.
(Source: Directorate of Historical Environment and Cultural Property of the Izmir Municipality)

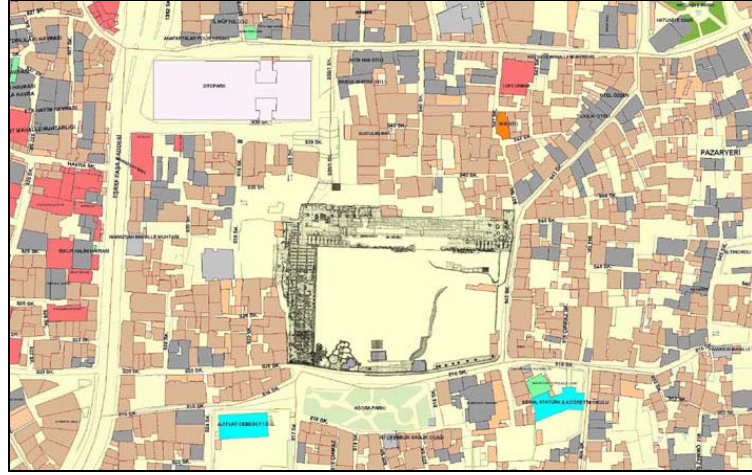


Figure 3.2. Ruins of the Agora placed on the City Guide of İzmir Municipality.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)

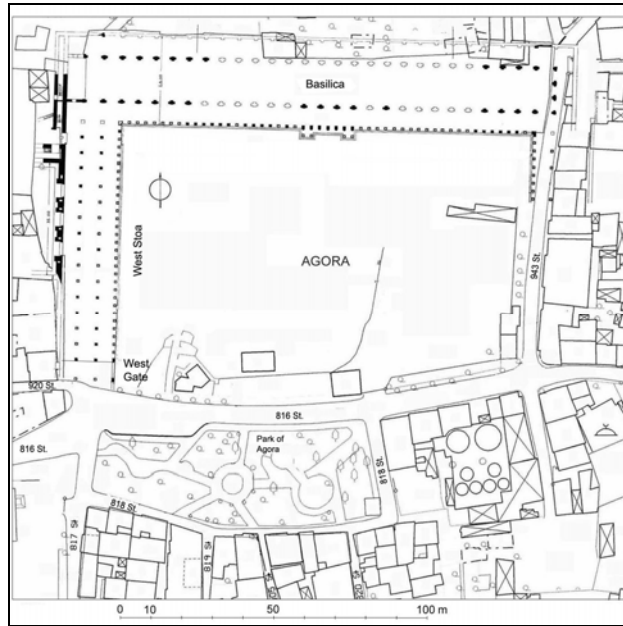


Figure 3.3. Plan of the Agora and its district.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)

The Agora is located on the northwest skirts of “Ancient Pagos Mountain” and ancient theater. It is placed on the east of Eşref Paşa Street behind a block of old houses (Figure 3.1), (Figure 3.2). To arrive at the Agora, 920 Street or 816 Street starting from Eşref Paşa Street must be followed to the east. Intersection of these two streets is the best view point of the ancient public place. Placed on the north of 943 Street, it is restricted with 816 Street on the east whereas the north and west sides are encircled by old, damaged and desolated houses (Figure 3.3).

3.1.1. Historical Investigation of the Agora

The ancient history of İzmir can be investigated under two periods. To start with, the first settlements are rooted to 3000 BC. on a small peninsula like other Hellenistic cities (such as Milet, Foça, Klazomenai, Miletos) “(Akurgal 1987, Canpolat 1953)”. Today the remains which constitute a “höyük” are located at “Tepe Kule”. The city was composed of rectangular residential units, constructed with mud-brick walls on stone foundations “(Akurgal 1987)”. The excavations findings match with the first and second layer of Truva. Accordingly, İzmir was among the most developed cultures in West Anatolia “(Toksöz 1960)”. Captured by Aiolians (1600 BC), rich commerce activities improved the settlement as a harbour city. Then Ions governed the city (1015 BC) until it was destroyed by the Lydians (628 BC). Afterwards, the population scattered around İzmir, constituting small villages “(Cadoux, 2003)”.

The second period started with the re-establishment of the settlement on the northwest skirts of Mountain Pagos. After the conquest by Alexander the Great, Smyrna and neighbouring cities reached a peacetime and their populations grew. Since the peninsula was not large enough for development of such a big city, a new city was built in 334 BC “(Cadoux, 2003, Toksöz 1960, Akurgal 1995)”. The settlement with harbour and acropolis was formed with a Hellenistic City organization “(Calder 1906)”. İzmir was ruled by the Kingdom of Pergamum, until the Roman Empire (133 BC).

The Agora includes archaeological remains of great significance for ancient Smyrna. It was erected during the reestablishment of Smyrna on its current spot in the early Hellenistic era. According to the historian Strabon⁷ Smyrna was the most beautiful Ionian city with many public buildings such as temple, gymnasium, hospital, bath, agora, and stadium (Figure 3.4). A small settlement was on Mt. Pagos, while a significant amount was around the harbour. Roads were perpendicular to each other and well furnished “(Akurgal 1995)”. Today existence of some Roman monuments is known from some ruins. They are the theater and stadium at the base of Pagos, aqueducts in Şirinyer, part of a Golden Road (Altın Yol), Agamemnos Baths in Balçova and the Agora in Namazgah “(Çakmakçı and Erdem 2002, Tulunay 2002)”. Smyrna was destroyed many times due to earthquakes one of the most destructive was in 178

⁷ Strabon (64 BC. - 24 AD.), Greek historian geographer, originally from Amasya, in Asia Minor. He traveled through the main provinces of the Roman Empire, starting his journey in those Mediterranean provinces “(WEB_19 2006)”

AD. Afterwards reconstruction of the city was supported by Marcus Aurelius. Thus, the Agora was among the buildings reconstructed “(Toksöz 1960)”.

Reported by Naumann and Kantar, the Agora in Namazgah neighbourhood is a Roman state agora. Since the Agora is settled far away from the ancient harbor, the explored ruins could not be considered as a trade agora⁸. The Basilica placed in the Agora was used as a law court, city hall and council, which lead to the identification of the function as a state agora. Furthermore state agoras had a religious sense as a place of prayer “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. Discovered in the previous excavations, many inscriptions and sculptures of the gods prove this. In other words, in the Roman period the Agora was the most important public place of the city besides its holiness, many discussions, judgments and determinations concerning the destiny of the city occurred there.

Today the Agora is the best preserved part of Smyrna. While all other remains from the ancient city have been destroyed by modern constructions, the central part of the Agora remained untouched. That is because a Byzantine and Ottoman cemetery was placed on it. Finally, it is important to mention that, although ruins lead to the last period of the Roman era, some building parts belong to the Hellenistic Period as well.

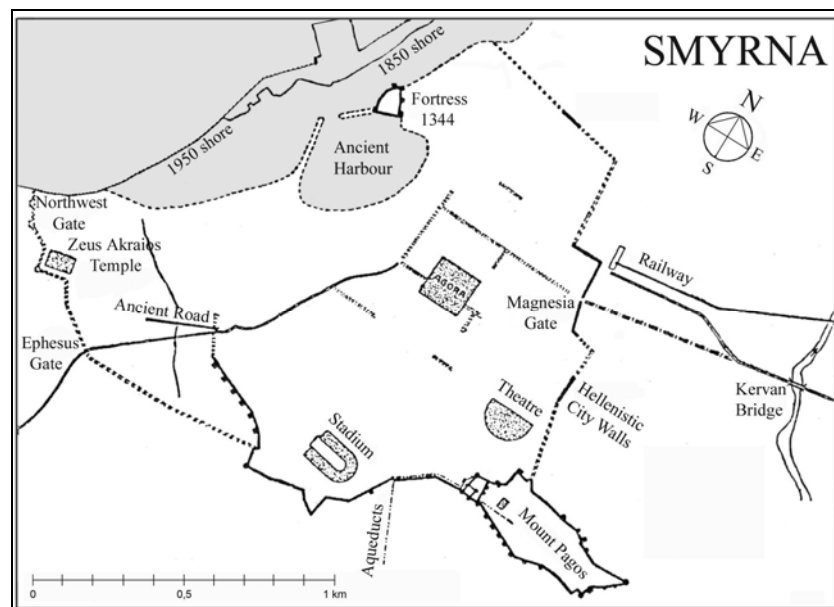


Figure 3.4. Plan of Roman Smyrna.
(Source: Naumann and Kantar 1943)

⁸ According to Vitruvius, agoras should be separated according to function such as commercial and governmental, hence trade agoras should be placed near the harbor “(Vitruvius 1998)”.

3.1.2. Planning Characteristics of the Agora

The Agora is located according to the Hippodamian grid plan of the ancient city “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)” (Figure 3. 5). It was established from the southeast to the northwest on the sloping ground. To ensure flat land for the central area western and northern structures were constructed with one floor below⁹. These substructures face in opposite directions and they have direct connection with the ground, hence they are called lower galleries instead of basement. Measuring 130 m by 78 m, the central area is surrounded by the Basilica on the north and two stoas on the west and east sides. As stated before the south of the area is bounded with 943 Street hence certain measures of the central area remain doubtful (Figure 3. 6).

The central area is estimated to be 130 m x 130 m and was covered with marble tiles. It was surrounded by colonnades on four sides underneath three steps of stylobate to ensure entrance to the buildings. Two floored galleries encircle the open central area. There were temples and altars dedicated to various gods and goddesses in different parts of the area “(Taşlıalan 2005c)”. That is, Aelius Aristeides¹⁰ mentions a Zeus Altar in the Smyrna Agora “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. Situated in the Hippodamian grid plan, straight roads of the city reach the Agora from many points. From west to east, the Agora was disparately divided into two parts.

In its current state the lower ground floor level of the West Stoa and Basilica are the most preserved parts of the Agora (Figure 3.7). Today colonnades with column capitals and arches bearing the ground floor deserve attention. The lower galleries of these two structures remain uncovered on the north and west of the central area. The East structure is preserved unexcavated under a modern street except for the northeast corner.

Reconstructed West Gate stands on the southwest corner of the Agora. The West Gate is considered to be the border of the Agora but without much doubt the south part remains are covered by the Agora Park “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)”.

⁹ In Hellenistic times terraces at rugged terrain were bordered and defined by stoas adapted to the natural contours by building one or two floor below facing the opposite direction “(White 2001)”.

¹⁰ Aelius Aristides was a popular orator who lived during the Roman Empire (AD 117 - 181). Apart from his orations and lectures, he also wrote a very different account called the Sacred Tales. During his stay in İzmir, he met Marcus Aurelius when that emperor visited Asia Minor. Afterwards, he wrote a letter to the king begging for assistance, after Smyrna had been devastated by an earthquake “(WEB_20 2006)”.

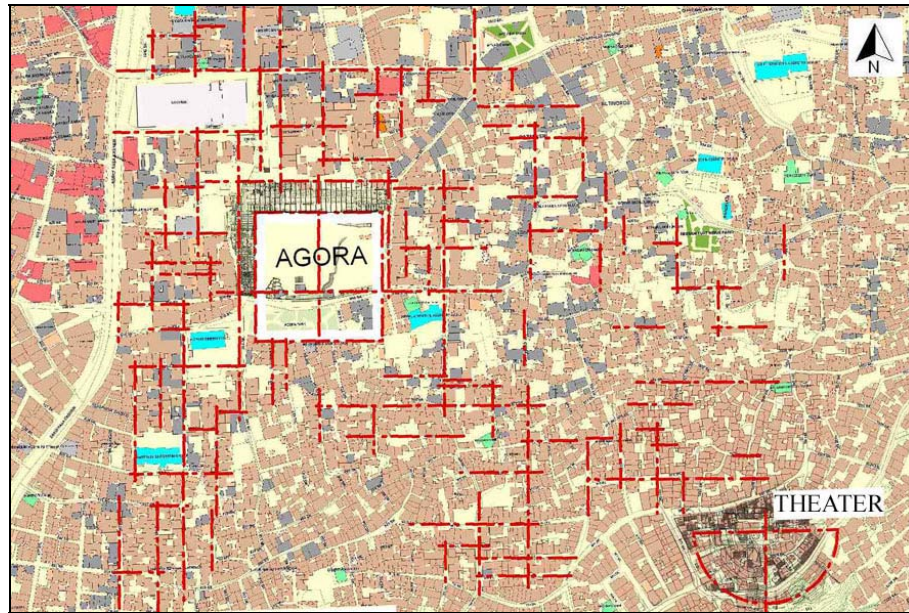


Figure 3. 5. Investigation of hippodamian grid plan of Smyrna.
 (Source: Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)

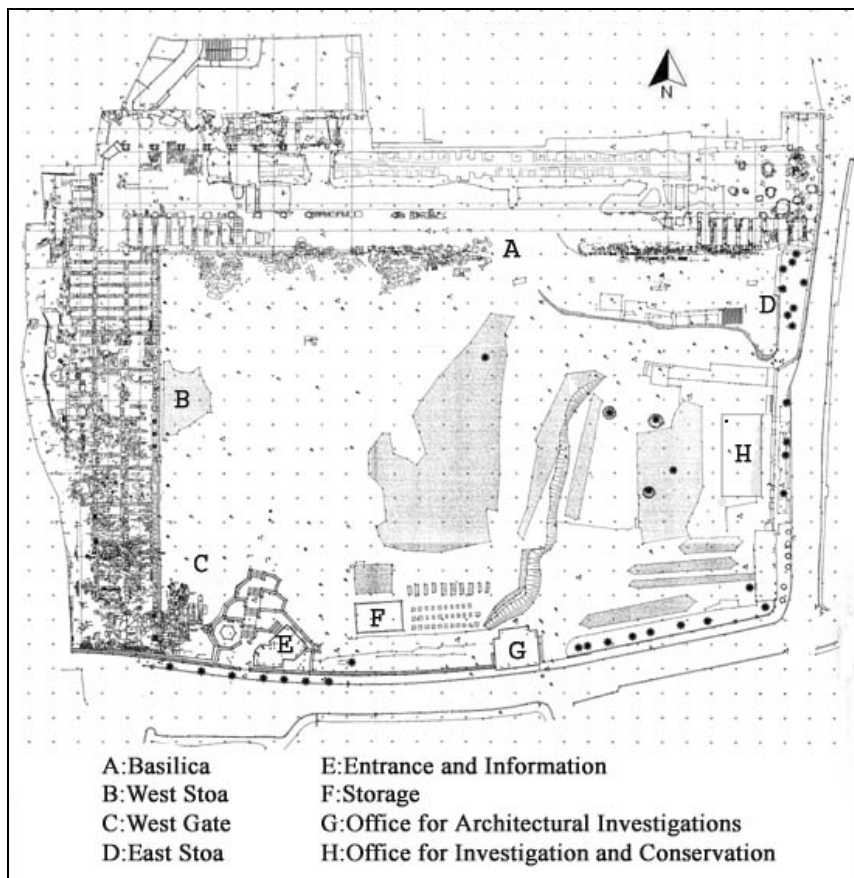


Figure 3. 6. Site Plan of the Agora.
 (Source: Archives of the Agora excavation, 2002)



Figure 3.7. General view of the Agora from north to south.

3.2. Basilica

The Basilica¹¹ is placed on the north side of the central area, extending from east to west (Figure 3.7). It was located at the warmest point of the city, open to the south sun, as stated by Vitruvius “(Vitruvius 1998)”. A Roman road is placed along the north façade and ruined arches on the west corner of the Basilica form a passage to the West Stoa’s lower galleries.

The exact construction date of the Basilica is not known, although many major periods of construction can be observed. It is definite the West Stoa and northern structure were built simultaneously in the Hellenistic era “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. The earliest north structure, which is defined as “stoa” by Laroche, was turned into a basilica in Roman times “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)”. It was probably destroyed by an earthquake in 178 AD. and reconstructed in a short period. Today’s ruins lead to the last period of the building, so previous functions and reconstructions are not known. Basilicas placed in agoras were used as courtyard, parliamentary building, city hall and business establishment in Roman time. An exedra placed on the west side of the Basilica functioned as a courtyard “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)” (Figure 3.8).

¹¹ Basilica is a type of building with a central nave and two aisles on each side formed by two rows of columns. In Roman times basilicas were the site of business transactions and legal proceedings, over time the building type was adapted to churches. It was also used as a court of justice, an assembly hall, or an exchange “(WEB_21 2006)”. When a rectangular roofed hall is used to apply justice, the judge is placed on one short side of the building in addition a sculpture of a god or the emperor is placed in a round niche “(Hasol 2002)”



Figure 3.8. Elevated arch for the exedra placed on the west side of the Basilica.



Figure 3.9. A sample of graffiti.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2003)

As the largest structure in the Agora, the Basilica gains significance not only in the environs of İzmir, but also in the world. With the dimensions of 160 m by 28 m, it is the largest known basilica of a Roman town after the basilica of Trajan in Rome. “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)”. Other factor which gives rise to the Basilica is unique graffiti found on the plasters of the walls. Graffiti in the Basilica reveal considerable information about daily life in Roman times. Since all written sources of

the investigations of the ancient era were religious and governmental writings these graffiti obtain significance “(Taşlıalan 2005c)” (Figure 3.9). In order to protect these plasters from weathering, walls and abutments of the Basilica were covered with a temporary protection roof (Figure 3.7).

3.2.1. Planning Characteristics of the Basilica

Judging by the remains uncovered during excavations there was a Roman basilica (Figure 3.10). It stood with three floors covered by a timber roof which was elevated over the middle aisle “(Miltner and Selâhattin 1934)”. The ground floor was a big hole that consisted of three aisles, the one in the middle measured 12.40 m and was larger than the other aisles which measured 5.75 m. West corner of the middle aisle was elevated 1 m from the ground and limited by walls on the south and north sides. Used as a court, the entrance of the exedra was from the south aisle “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.

The north side of the hole ended with a 160 cm thick wall and was insulated from the outside except for some windows viewing the city and harbour. On the contrary, the colonnaded south façade was open to the central area, emphasized with a monumental gate in the middle “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. Second story was decorated with reliefs between the red colored bres marble columns “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)”.

In its current state, east and west parts of the Basilica, are more intact than the middle part of the structure. Although the upper structure of the lower gallery on the middle was destroyed, the flooring system and even the columns stand on the east and west sides.

The Basilica draws attention with red (bres) columns five of which stand on the east and seven on the west. Some columns remain with ornaments of white marble plasters on the east and west sides (Figure 3.11). They are located according to the axes ranging between 5.15 m to 5.25 m. Ruins of stylobate steps and the monumental entrance also remain in certain parts of the structure. East of the Basilica was could not be evaluated since it was destroyed by former settlements still in function today. Unlike the east, the west part is clearly identified as exedra due to elevated arches in the middle aisle (Figure 3.8). Today the lower ground floor contains the most ruins of the Basilica.

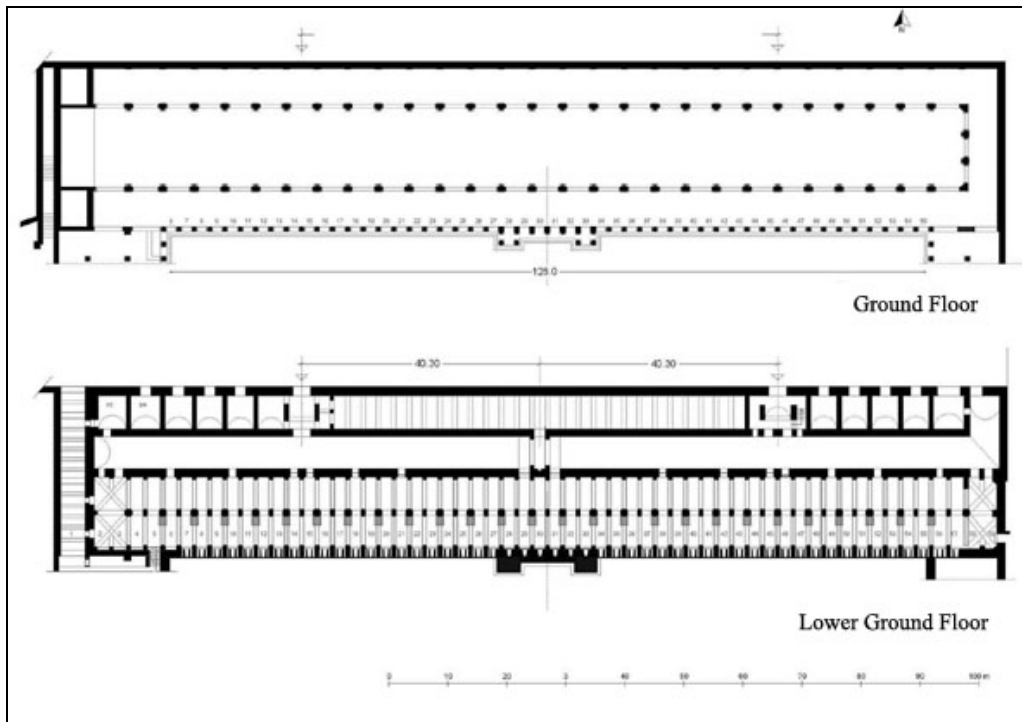


Figure 3.10. Ground Floor Plan and Lower Ground Floor Plan of the Basilica.
(Source: Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)



Figure 3.11. Bres marble columns of Basilica ornamented with white marble on two sides.

Stairs stepping down from the West Stoa provided vertical connection to the lower galleries. Lower ground floor consisted of 3 galleries divided by walls from west to east. With two gates on the north gallery, the lower galleries were opened to a Roman road located along side the Basilica (Figure 3.12).

The lower part of the Basilica has the same dimensions as the ground level and consists of three galleries. First gallery was 160 m long, totaling 11 m wide and consisted of two aisles divided by abutments. This gallery was lightened with the window openings on the south wall through the stylobate. The south wall, buried to the soil, gives a passage to the West Stoa next to stairs climbing to the central area. North side was restricted with a 1.40 m thick wall with 19 passage ways through the next aisle. Middle gallery was a continuous corridor along the structure in a west-east direction and turned north in the last axis to end in a passage to the street. Here ruins of shops belonging to Byzantium period remain along the walls on two sides “(Gençer 1999)” (Figure 3.13). North gallery was divided into many sections which were directed through the Roman road (Figure 3.12). Five shops, which are rectangular spaces that measure 4 m to 5.50 m, were placed on the north and east corners. Between these shops, a long gallery was placed from west to east. The north Gates of the Agora, which opened to the middle gallery, was located on two sides of this gallery. However, the gate on the west placed at east of the shops still stands while the other gate on the east are mostly nonexistent. Distance between these two gates is 80 m, which probably leads to the measure of parallel roads of the grid plan “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)”. Apart from long and mysterious galleries located in a west to east direction, another gallery on the west was placed in a north to south direction.

Actually, there is no certain concept regarding the function of the lower galleries of the Basilica except for some shops on the north façade and an altar placed on the west corner of the Basilica. Naumann and Kantar stated that the lower ground was not constructed for functional uses conversely, it was built in order to smooth the central area and ensure adaptation to the sloping land “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.



Figure 3.12. North façade of the Basilica, and a Roman road in front of it.



Figure 3.13. Byzantine shops placed on the middle gallery of the Basilica.



Figure 3.14. View from the lower west gallery of the Basilica, a fireplace on the north ends the gallery.

Lower galleries contain an entrance with two doors to another gallery located in a north-south direction under the exedra (Figure 3.14). This gallery is distinctive from the other structures of the Agora with its qualified stonework. In addition, it reveals the earliest phase of the structure, as well as, the Basilica and the West Stoa. According to the restitution studies, this gallery was probably built as an inner street which connects the west Gate to the street on the north of the Basilica. In addition, it exposes the earlier phases of the Basilica and the West Stoa as seen in Figure 3.15.

Indeed, the 4m wide gallery was thought to be a holy place due to an addition of late era which is a rubble stone structure plastered and painted with figures like an altar “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. Although the altar does not remain today, old documentations reveal the existence of it (Figure 3.16). Besides the altar, a fountain, which was still in function until a few years ago, was placed on the west wall. North section of the gallery ends with a fireplace dated to Ottoman period.

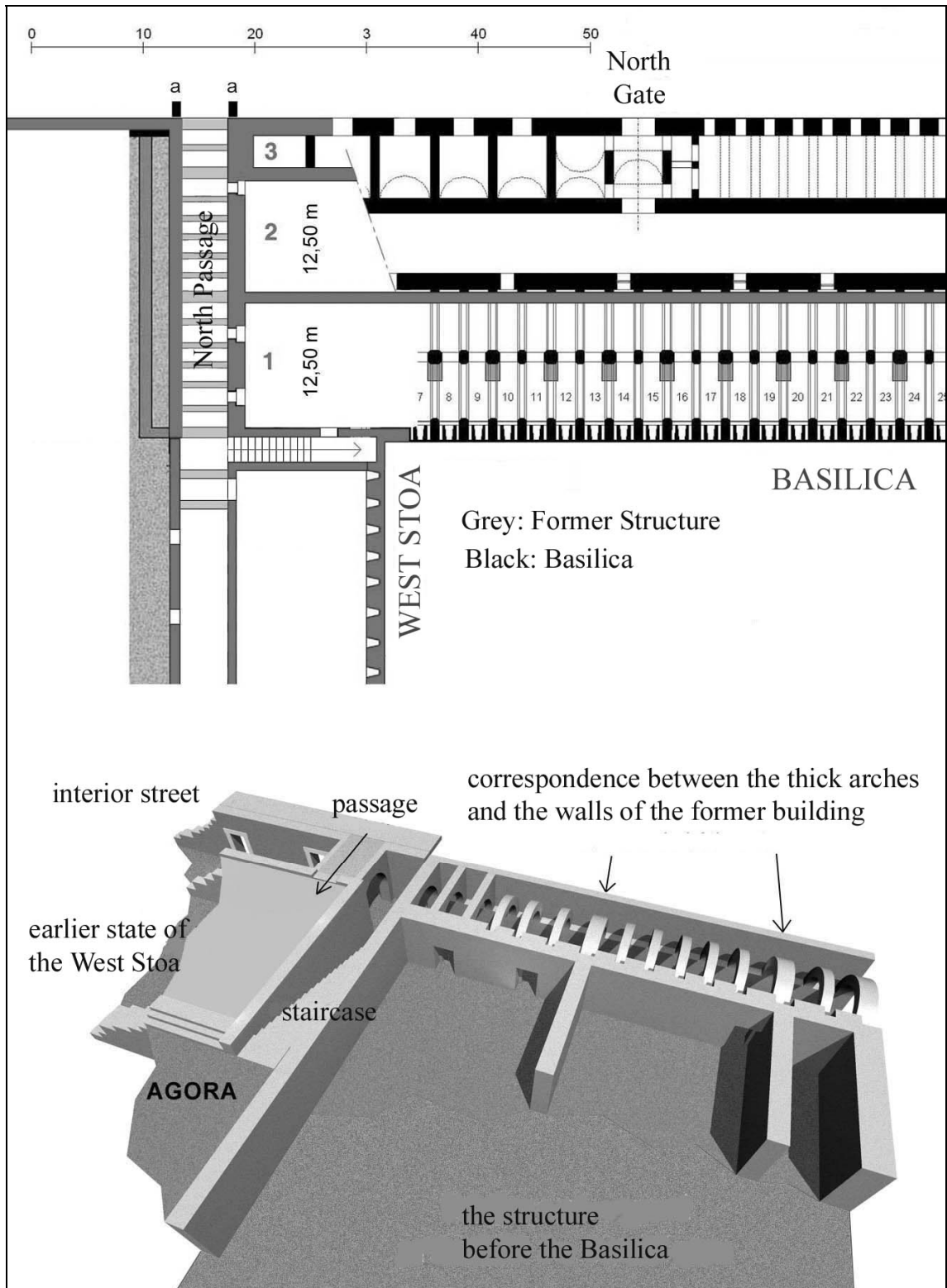


Figure 3.15. The northwest gallery presents the earlier state of the north and south structures.
(Source: Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)

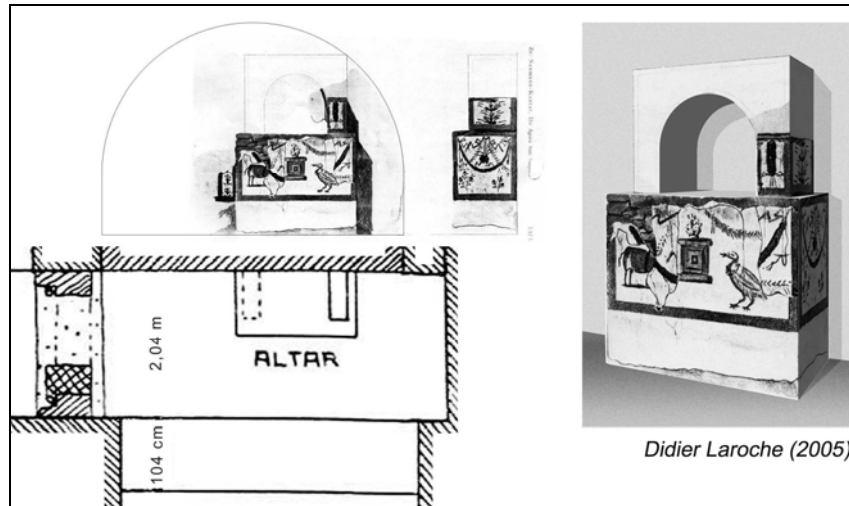


Figure 3.16. Documentation and reconstruction drawings of the altar.
 (Source: Naumann and Kantar 1943, Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)

3.2.2. Construction Technique of the Basilica

Built on a sloping area with three floors, the lower ground floor was partially buried in the soil on the south side. The structure is recognized with two floors from the central area and three floors from the north side. The Basilica was constructed with a masonry system and covered with two layers of plaster at certain areas, hence different construction periods are observed. Masonry walls of the south gallery are supported with arches added to the structure later (Figure 3.17). The south gallery is divided into two aisles by the abutments of sequential arches, which were also subsequently strengthened (Figure 3.18). The openings of these arches are 5 m and they are located with a distance of 2.60 m. Moreover, each abutment is connected with small arches in an east-west direction. At the east and west corners arches are placed 4.50 m away from the masonry wall which requires a special system peculiar to corners. At the corners 2 arches were intersected and the structure was supported with half arches which created crossed arches. Two crossed arches conversely supporting each other were placed at the west and east corners of the south gallery (Figure 3.19). These arches were probably built during the construction of the Basilica.



Figure 3.17. South aisle of the lower ground of the Basilica.



Figure 3.18. Abutments of arches which were strengthened subsequently.



Figure 3.19. Crossed arches placed south west corner of the Basilica.

On the south wall, windows opening to the second step of the stylobate were observed between each arch. There are three windows, the middle is larger than the others (Figure 3. 21), (Figure 3. 20). Short walls were built between abutments in front of each window which leads to the idea that they were for storing water coming from the windows.

The upper structure of the south gallery was covered with different construction systems. Stone flooring system on the arches were observed on the west part of the south gallery (Figure 3.22). On the other hand, the middle gallery was covered with vaults between arches from north to south. The middle gallery was restricted with 140 cm thick walls bearing the vault which continues along the gallery for 160 m. In its current state, the vault is partially collapsed in the middle of the gallery. As stated before, the south gallery was constituted of rectangular shops which were covered with vaults directed south to north. The gallery placed between the North Gates was covered with a vault and supported with arches with a distance of 4m. This part of the upper structure is completely damaged due to modern houses placed on it.



Figure 3. 20. View of the windows from the lower gallery.



Figure 3. 21. Window openings through the steps of stylobate.

Another arched gallery remains in the west. Here the construction system is distinguished from other parts of the Basilica because the stone work of the walls and arches are more deliberate. Walls were built at emplecton with rubble stone filling and cut stone covering¹². Arches remain with the distance of 1.50 m and stone plates which are placed on them as in the Figure 3.22.

¹² Emplecton is a kind of masonry in which the outer faces of the wall are ashlar, the space between being filled with broken stone and mortar (WEB_22 2006).



Figure 3.22. Flooring system bearing on the arches.

The ground floor of the Basilica was surrounded by stone masonry walls on the south, north and east sides. A three aisled hall was divided with bres marble columns with the axis distance of nearly 5.20 m. According to Naumann and Kantar this distance was too long for stone beams so the roof was constructed with timber beams “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. South façade was formed by colonnades with the distance of 2.50 m.

Some parts of the structure were founded with mortars. Especially, the lower ground floor walls and abutments were covered with two layers of plasters. This is significant in many views. Not only reveal Roman techniques but also reflect different levels the construction periods of the building.

First of all plasters on the walls and abutments of the south gallery are unique from the view of ancient era investigations because of the graffiti on them. Here masonry walls were covered by at least two layers of lime plaster and graffiti is observed on each “(Silver 2003a)”. The graffiti was made in two ways, they are, by incision in the plaster and by inking on the surface of plaster¹³ “(Silver 2003b)”. Gladiator performances, sailing boat pictures, love and wishes, competition between Ephesus, Pergamon and Smyrna were among the subjects of the figures “(Taşlıalan 2005c)”. Indeed graffiti reveals many aspects of social life in the Roman era from the public view.

¹³ The ingredients of the black ink was identified by Prof. Richard Wolbers, University of Delaware in June, 2003. The graffiti was made by extensivey iron-gall ink and carbon-based material like charcoal was found in a few areas “(Silver 2003b)”.

Subsequently mortars found and documented in previous excavations are also necessary to mention. The west gallery was thought to be a holy place due to a rubble stone masonry structure plastered and painted like an altar. It was a mass in front of the south wall of the gallery, plastered with gypsum, lime and gravels. Two levels of plasters painted with figures were observed. Lower layer was painted with flowers and leaves, upper level was painted with animal figures around an altar with fire “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.

3.3. West Stoa

Two stoas¹⁴ bound the central area of the Agora on the east and west sides, the one located in the west is called the West Stoa. It is situated between the Basilica and West Gate constituting a colonnaded façade (Figure 3.23). The West Stoa is surrounded by new settlements on the west and south sides. The structure intersects the Basilica perpendicularly on the northwest corner of the Agora. Ruins of a hall covered with mosaics were found on the west side of the building “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. West Stoa ends with the West Gate on the south, however, little is known about the southern part of the structure behind the West Gate.

Although there is no exact written document about the construction date of the building, it is clear that the West Stoa is dated to Hellenistic times. Construction technique of some building parts, such as east wall of the structure, reveal the era of the stoa (Figure 3.24). In its current situation, many construction systems are observed over the structure. These different techniques are because of reconstructions after earthquakes in different eras¹⁵. These reconstructions altered the structure in not only the structural system but also architectural characteristics of the structure (Figure 3.15).

Dated to the Hellenistic era, the West Stoa gains importance by revealing the construction style and architectural planning of its era. Its east wall on the lower gallery shows significant architectural details like mouldings and windows peculiar to the

¹⁴ Stoa is mostly placed around the agora to protect people from sun and rain. It is a longitudinal colonnaded building, one long side is formed by colonnades while the other sides are enclosed with walls. This type of building developed due to the climatic reasons which allowed people to gather round, chat, and walk through. In Hellenistic times stoas were the most important political components and symbols of the agoras “(Ersoy 1998)”. Courtyard and council meetings were arranged and official documents were stored in stoas “(Atasoy 2001)”

¹⁵ Smyrna had many earthquakes, the most documented was in 178 AD.

structure (Figure 3.24). Secondly, the West Gate reveals a crucial historical event with a bust of a woman on its arch (Figure 3.25). This woman is thought to be the wife of Marcus Aurelius, Faustina the young¹⁶. The bust of Faustina probably was sculptured on an arc of the West Gate when the Agora was reconstructed after the earthquake in 178 AD. expressing their gratitude to Marcus Aurelius “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.



Figure 3.23. View of the West Stoa from the north.



Figure 3.24. East wall of the West Stoa dated to Hellenistic era.

¹⁶ Marcus Aurelius was the Emperor of Rome (121-180). When Smyrna was destroyed by an earthquake, he generously assisted the Smyrnaeans in rebuilding their town “(WEB_20 2006)”.



Figure 3.25. Keystone of the West Gate with a bust carved on it.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)

3.3.1. Planning Characteristics of the West Stoa

The West Stoa was a three aisled Roman Stoa with two floors and a lower ground floor. It was planned with a grid plan measuring 75 m x 18.7 m “(Laroche 2003)” (Figure 3.26). The structure is buried in the soil on the east and south sides, and bordered by a wall on the west side conversely the north side was connected to the Basilica. Eventually the structure was faced to the central area of the Agora, hence stairs of stylobate led through the semi- open structure.

Although not much is known about the earlier stoa buildings in the Agora, some building parts belonging to Hellenistic times reveal some knowledge. Evaluation of remains pointed out the West Stoa was constructed with two aisles (Figure 3.15). The Northwestern Gate placed next to the Basilica was the starting point of a Hellenistic street which is located on the lower ground floor from north to east “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)” (Figure 3.27). On the west side of this street, remains of another structure which had many passages was found. In the Roman era, the Hellenistic street was added to two aisles of the structure, therefore the West Stoa was turned into a three aisled Stoa (or possibly a Basilica¹⁷).

¹⁷ An ancient inscription was translated by G. Petzl mentioning about two Basilicas of the Agora “(Petzl 1990)”.

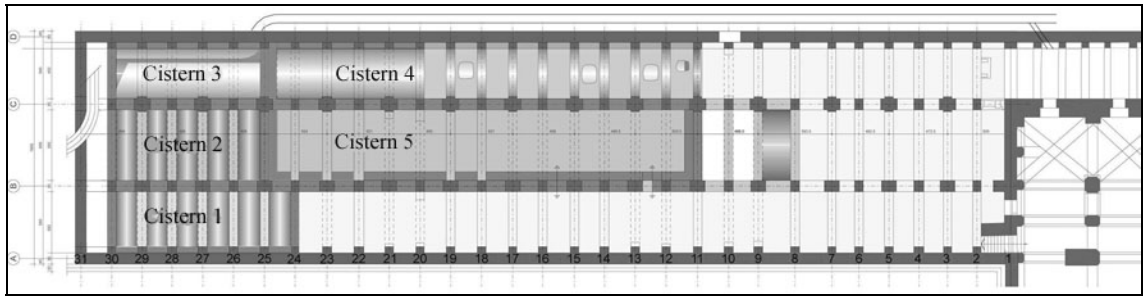


Figure 3.26. Plan of the West Stoa
(Source: Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)



Figure 3.27. North entrance of the Hellenistic street.

It constituted a 75 m long colonnaded façade ornamented with corinth capitals “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. Upper floor was ornamented with godroned capitals and columns which were connected to each other with arches from east to west “(Taşlıalan et al. 2004)”.

Lower ground floor consisted of 3 galleries divided by abutments from a north-south direction. There is no direct connection between the basement and ground floor of the West Stoa. A passage on the north of the east aisle ensured connection with lower galleries of the Basilica and stairs to the ground floor (Figure 3.28). Lower ground galleries of the West Stoa were separated with walls and were turned into cisterns in the Roman era. Placed on the south 5 different spaces constitute 3 cisterns (Figure 3.26).

Due to the existence of cisterns many water channels were inserted in the West Stoa from the south.

In its current state, the West Stoa exists with its basement floor arches according to a grid plan. All remains that of the ground floor are some columns and their bases. Sixteen columns placed on the stylobate constitute the south façade of the building (Figure 3.29). These columns and stylobate are due to previous interventions which had not been documented. In addition, remains of new interventions, such as reconstruction of West gate and stylobate, are also observed in the south.

The lower ground floor located from north to east, consisted of an arched gallery. With the distance differing between 218.5 cm and 297 cm, each arch abutment was connected to the next one by another arch. As stated before the south parts of the structure consist of cisterns bordered with walls (Figure 3.30). Other parts of the galleries were connected to each other. Of the rest, the east aisle is the longest and was connected to the Basilica through a passage to the north. It is restricted with a wall on the east which is another remain from the Hellenistic era. There is a platform founded in the middle of the aisle bearing to the south wall (Figure 3.31). This building part shows the lateral ground levels of the structure. Recent excavations revealed water channels located in the center, as well as, various water pipes on different ground levels of the aisle “(Taşlıalan 2004)”.

On the other hand, most of the middle aisle is occupied by cisterns. This part is connected to aisles on two sides and the north and south sides are bounded by walls. Here, square structures forming two lines and water channels were found insitu on the ground covering (Figure 3.32). Although the covering remains undefined, it is clear that it is related with water. Today a trace of a stair place is still recognizable on the north wall of the middle aisle (Figure 3.32). These stairs are considered Hellenistic or early Roman stairs of the West Stoa. Meanwhile a door opening placed on the northwest connects the space to the Hellenistic gallery placed on the west of Basilica.



Figure 3.28. Passage to the Basilica and stairs up to the central area.

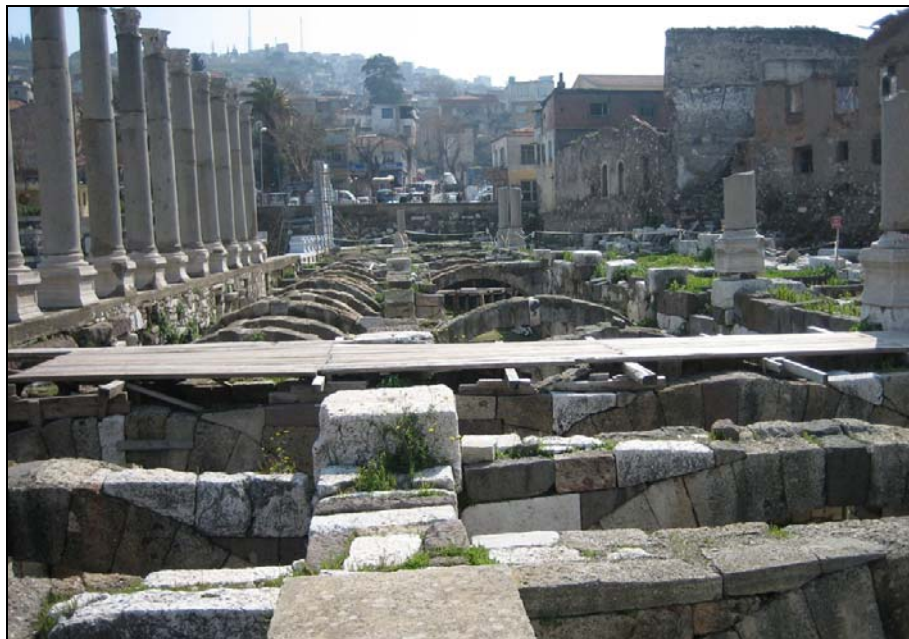


Figure 3.29. West Stoa remains with columns and arches of lower ground floor.



Figure 3.30. Cistern 4 was placed in the west aisle of the West Stoa.



Figure 3.31. East aisle of the West Stoa.



Figure 3.32. Undefined findings on the ground and traces of a stair place on the wall are displayed on the north side of the middle lower gallery.

The west aisle of the lower galleries also has cisterns except for the north part. This part is connected with a middle aisle and restricted with walls on the west and south sides. The south wall is ornamented with motifs of shields while the north wall was destroyed in modern time. That is why the west aisle was unified with the gallery placed on the north of the Basilica. The west side is bordered with a wall which has some door openings dated to Hellenistic times. Behind the west wall a Roman water channel was constructed. Inside the channel, tiles were placed from south to north and Hellenistic doors were used as intervention gates “(Taşlıalan 2004)”.

3.3.2. Construction Technique of the West Stoa

The West Stoa was constructed with a masonry system on the sloping area with a lower ground floor to ensure a terrace to the Agora. It is a three aisled, three floored stoa with a timber roof. Three aisles were formed with two lines of colonnades which consisted of 16 columns while the façade consisted of 31 columns. Each three columns composing two arches with the measure of 5 m on the façade was matched to two columns on the inner lines “(Laroche 2003)”. This difference was because of the timber flooring and roofing system “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.

The structure collapsed many times due to earthquakes and was reconstructed afterwards. Lower ground floor was buried in the soil except for the north side. The south wall continues 75 m from north to south and constitutes the earliest construction of the structure. However, 14 m of south side was hidden behind the walls of cistern 1. Constructed with cut stone in the Hellenistic era, it reveals the earlier construction system. Mouldings on the wall, which were to carry the bearing load of the beams, reveal a timber beamed structure instead of arched in the earlier period (Figure 3.33).

It is clear that the arched system was added to the structure instead of a timber system later on. The traces of arched system still remain today and probably dated to the reconstructions after the destructive earthquake in 178 AD “(Laroche 2003)”¹⁸. Between each arch, windows, which opened to the steps of the stylobate, are located. These windows were probably for lightening and airing the space (Figure 3.33), (Figure 3.34).



Figure 3.33. Hellenistic era south wall, mouldings and windows still remain in some parts.

¹⁸ Other possibility is the arched system probably constructed while the Basilica was constructed in the early Roman era “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)”



Figure 3.34. Window openings of the stylobate.



Figure 3.35. Each arch abutment is connected to the next with a smaller arch.

Lower ground floor consisted of 3 aisled galleries formed with arch abutments. Each arch was connected with the next one through north and south directions (Figure 3.35). Over the arches stone beams were placed to form a ground floor of the structure. On the other hand, the upper structures of the cisterns were built with vaults directed from south to north except in cistern 1 (Figure 3.26). Placed on the southeast and middle aisle, cistern 1 was covered with vaults built between each arch in the east west direction.

3.4. The East Stoa

East Stoa is placed on the east side of the open area. However, the north corner of the structure partially exists today (Figure 3.36). The structure remains under 58 Street which restricted the excavation and investigation studies.

Results of the excavation studies revealed two floors and a two aisled Stoa. Moreover, the findings were similar to the materials of the stylobate. Therefore, it is considered that both east and west stoas were constructed with the same characteristics except for the lower galleries “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. That is, no connection with the East Stoa and lower galleries of the Basilica have been found yet.

Today, the lower steps of the stylobate constitute the ruins of the East Stoa. The wall on the structure separates the site from the modern road (Figure 3.37).



Figure 3.36. North corner of the West Stoa.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 3.37 A view from the north side to the south.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)

3.5. Excavations and Conservation Studies in the Agora

The earliest excavation investigations in the Agora started in November 1867 as Umar stated in the footnotes of the “Destanlar Çağından 19. Yüzyıla İzmir”. The Agora, then, was used as a cemetery, some columns were standing in-situ on the north and east borders (Figure 3.38). Lower parts of the columns buried in the soil were excavated. However, the excavations remained limited since the area was surrounded by buildings and graves “(Oikonomos and Slaars 2001)”. For this reason excavations were not continued and the remains were left unidentified.

After the foundation of the Turkish Republic, the urbanization activities of İzmir started. In the scope of these activities, transportation of the cemeteries in the city and turning them into parks had been stipulated with the act of “Hygiene” “(Göksu 2002)”. While the cemetery in Namazgah neighbourhood had been emptied by these implementations, the marble columns and tablets (epigraphs) lead to the existence of a historical site “(Yeni Asır 1932, Göksu 2002)”.

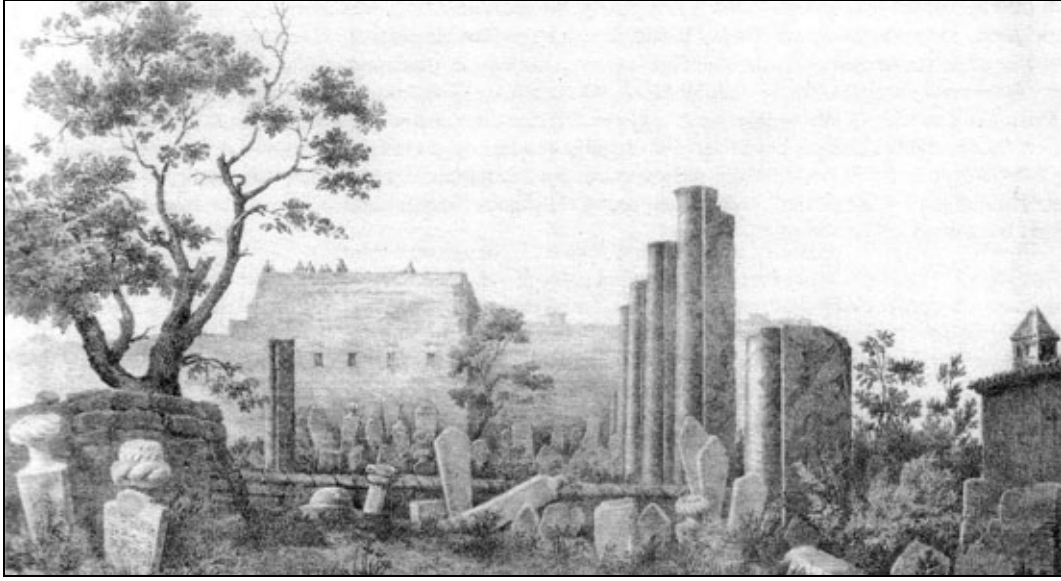


Figure 3.38. A picture of the Agora drawn by Etienne Rey in 1843.
(Source: Chenavard 1849)

Thereupon sounding excavations were started with the leadership of the director of İzmir Museum, Selahattin Bey in April 1932. These investigations were executed with the contribution of many foreign authorities of archaeology. Later on the excavations continued with the leadership of Rüstem Duyuran, the director of Museum of İzmir “(Duyuran 1945)”. However, the expiration date of the investigations is not exactly known.

Afterwards the excavations were started by the İzmir Museum of Archaeology between 1996 and 1999. In this period restoration and contour cleaning (and arrangement) labours were done “(Gül 1998)”. Documentation and determination of the problems of the monuments were done by the Directorate of Survey and Monuments in İzmir (İzmir Rölöve Anıtlar Müdürlüğü) “(Kuleli et al. 2000)”. Determination of the problems of such an important site in the center of the city attracted the concern of local governments. Eventually, excavation and conservation studies were initiated in July 2002 by the İzmir Museum of Archaeology (İzmir Arkeoloji Müzesi). In this period the Agora excavations attracted the attention of foreign investigators, as well as, the local ones.

In this chapter excavations and conservation studies in the Agora will be examined in three periods.

3.5.1. Excavations and Conservation Studies between 1932- 1944

After the transportation of the cemetery in Namazgah, investigations started with the support of “Maarif Vekaleti, İzmir Asariatika Cemiyeti”. Excavations started from the northeast corner of the site in April 1932 “(Miltner and Kantar 1932)”. In this period findings in the Agora were so fascinating that many foreign authorities visited the site, including the archaeologist Franz Miltner and later on German architect Rudolf Naumann contributed to the investigations. These investigation studies including excavation, identification, documentation, restitution and re-erection were executed until 1944. Furthermore studies in this period were published in 1934, 1943, 1944 and 1950 “(Miltner and Selâhattin 1934, Naumann and Kantar 1943, Duyuran 1945, Naumann and Kantar 1950)”. Ruins and findings were explained in detail within these publications, which had many contributions to the lateral investigations. In addition, some guides were published to introduce the history of İzmir and the Agora in the scope of these investigations “(Gültekin 1951)”.

These excavation studies were devoted to reveal and present the ancient remains that survived, while most of the others had been destroyed by former settlements. The excavations started from the northwest corner where 7 columns of the Basilica remained in a line. Then the steps of the Basilica stylobate, and later on the stylobate of the West Gate were found. Eventually the dimensions of the ruins were determined “(Miltner and Selâhattin 1934)”. In this period partial reconstructions were applied in the stylobate as well (Figure 3.39). Not only the scientists but also local and public authorities were interested in the ruins. Hence some local publications reveal the phases of the studies in the Agora (Figure 3.40).



Figure 3.39. A few attempts at restoring the stylobate of the West Stoa.
(Source: İzmir Muhipleri Cemiyeti 1934)

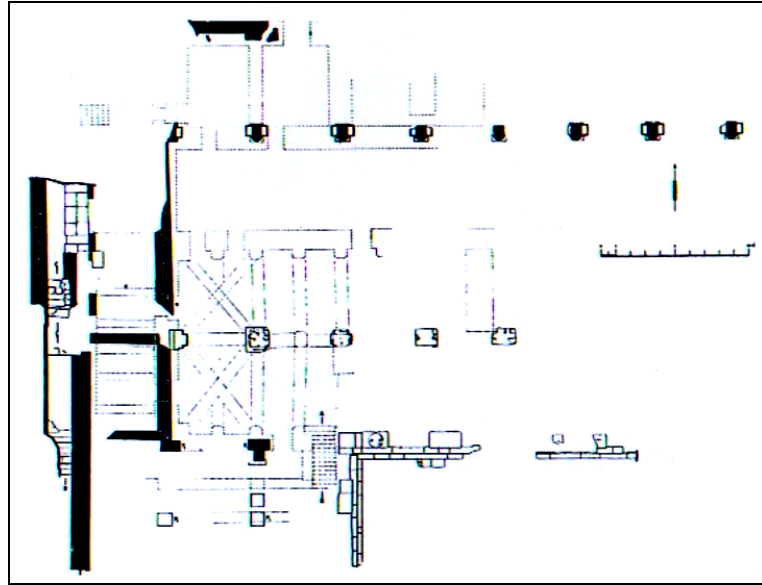


Figure 3.40. The very first drawings of the findings.
(Source: Miltner and Selâhattin 1934)

Stated in the daily media of İzmir, the excavation area was enlarged to the east and went rapidly “(Akşam 1937)”. Later on, Rudolf Naumann, a German architect, attended the investigations. The excavations and investigations that continued between 1940 and 1942 were published in Turkish and German (Naumann and Kantar 1943; Naumann and Kantar 1950)”. In this period the dimensions and the functions of the structures were identified more clearly. The central area remained unexcavated because nothing had been found in the prior soundings “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.

The excavation area in the Basilica was enlarged 30 m on the east and west, which allowed the decision for restitution of the structure (Figure 3.41). Besides the West Stoa was excavated in the ground level through the south so that the top of the basement arches became visible. Here on the south side, a heading of the arch with the bust of a woman was found and considered to be related to the wife of Marcus Aurelius, Faustina the Young. This arch was considered to be the entrance gate of the West Stoa by Naumann and Kantar “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”.

East Stoa was also excavated but it remained under a modern road and many architectural pieces had been taken from the soil during construction of water ways. However, it is proposed that the East Stoa shows a similar appearance with the West Stoa except for being on lower ground “(Naumann and Kantar 1950)”.

In addition, a large hall was found on the west side of the West Stoa, which was called the mosaic hall because of the mosaic ornamented with geometrical figures seen

in Figure 3.42. Stated in the excavation reports the mosaic hall connected the neighbouring buildings to the Agora“(Naumann and Kantar 1950)”.

In this period of the investigation plans and restitution drawings were prepared, moreover reconstruction of the stylobate, columns of the West Stoa and the West Gate were applied in the site.

Finally, excavations were continued under the leadership of new director of the Museum, Rüstem Duyuran“(Duyuran 1945)”.

3.5.1.1. Conservation Studies between 1932- 1944

According to the written documents and publications, conservation of the findings had not been the subject of the studies of the very first excavations in the Agora. In the recent circumstances, the excavations were aimed to reveal the structures of the ancient era and to identify the remains. However, there had been some structures which seriously required protection. For example, no precaution was taken against weathering problems and vandalism, which caused the mosaic hall and altar not to exist today.

On the other hand, a few attempts at restoring and anastylosis as a process of conservation are observed in the site. Although the date of the implementations are not known exactly some photos lead to the period. The restoration implementations such as reconstruction of columns and West Gate probably aimed to make the traces of the ancient Agora noticeable. For this reason the implementations were made to identify the contours of the central area. While the east and south parts of the Agora remained under the modern settlements, the north side was limited with the columns of the Basilica. Therefore implementations accrued on the façade of the West Stoa in order to identify the west side of the central area (Figure 3.43, Figure 3.44).

Some columns of the south façade were placed on the north side. But initially the foundation should be reconstructed before the columns. Thus reconstruction of the stylobate with concrete and rubble filling was started from the northwest corner of the West Stoa as seen in the figure. Afterwards 17 column bases, 13 columns and headings and 2 architraves were placed. Finally, anastylosis of the West Gate was placed on the south side as seen in Figure 3.45. Although there is no visual evidence concerning the former interventions, they are considered to have been done in the same period.

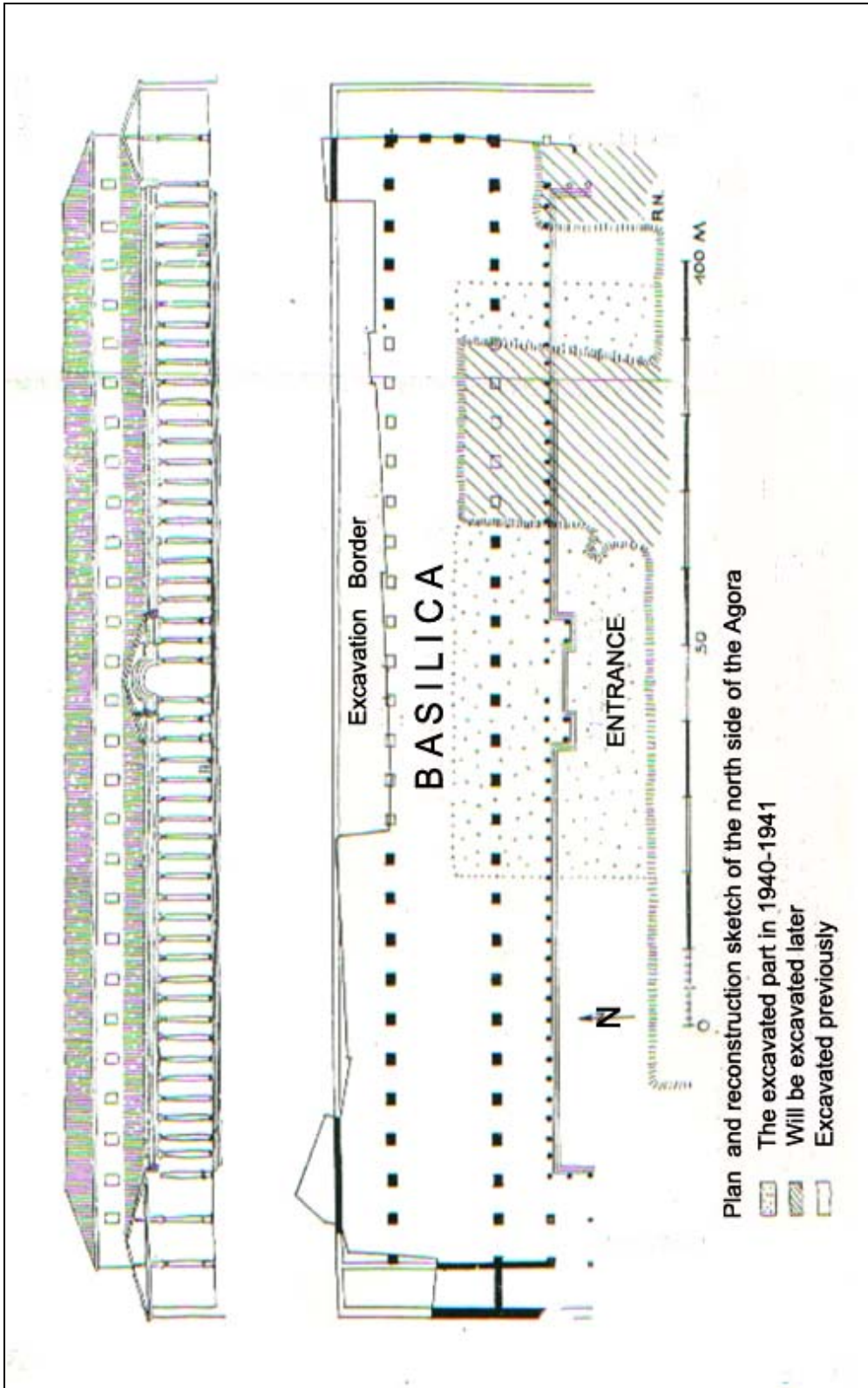


Figure 3.41. A plan scheme of the excavation in the Basilica and the restitution investigation.
 (Source: Naumann and Kantar 1943)

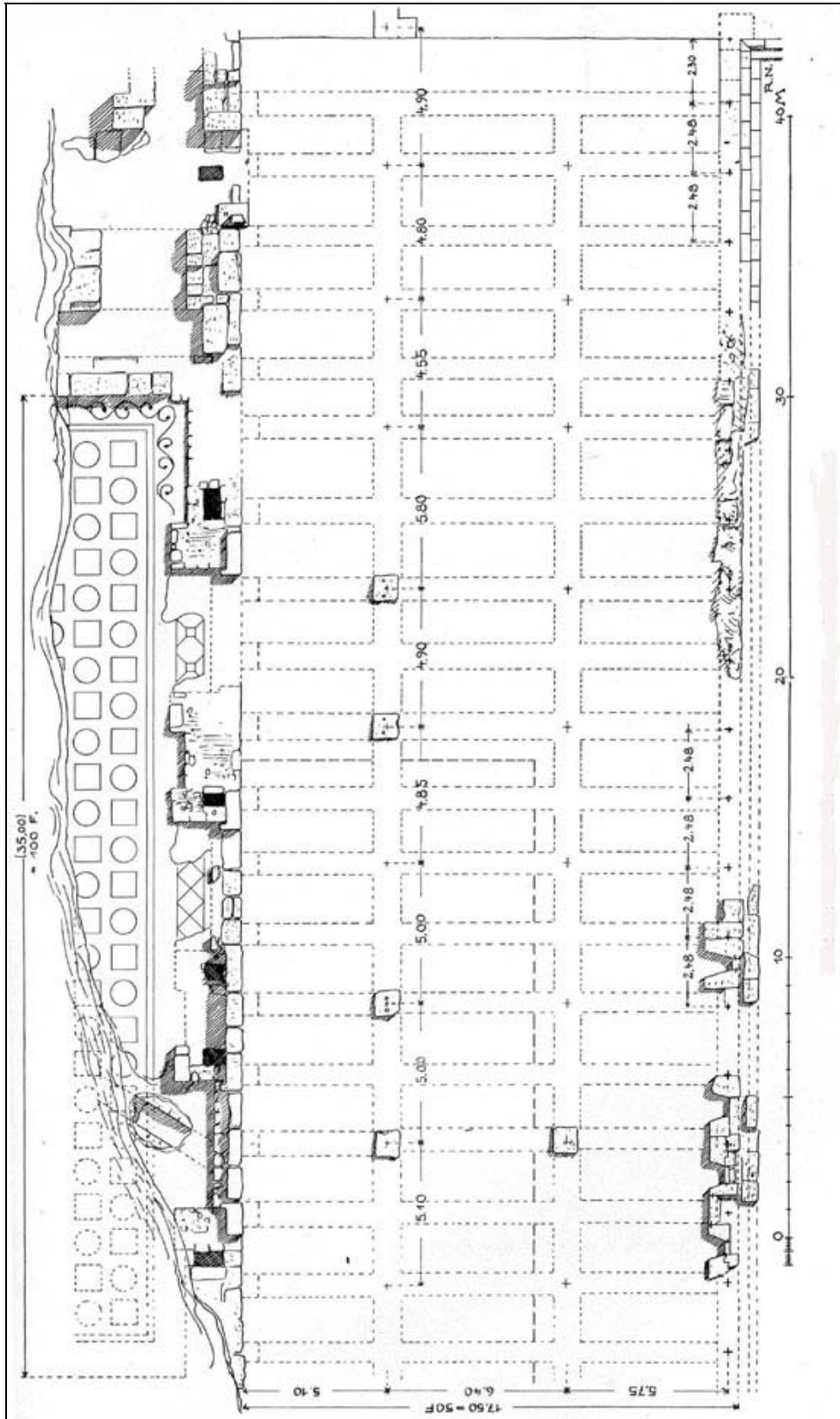


Figure 3.42. Measured drawing of the West Stoa and the Mosaic Hall.
 (Source: Naumann and Kantar 1950)



Figure 3.43. The northwest corner of the central area.
(Source: Miltner and Selahattin 1934)



Figure 3.44. The completion of the missing parts by concrete.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations)



Figure 3.45. A view of the West Stoa east façade.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2002)

3.5.1.2. Evaluation of the Conservation Studies between 1932- 1944

Research studies in this period were so crucial that revealing and preserving the identity of ancient İzmir was the main subject of the conservation studies. Considering a Roman city was destroyed under the modern constructions, conservation plans were to prevent construction on the ancient remains. For this reason, border of the site was redrawn by placing the columns on the West Stoa.

However, it is clear that preservation of the architectural building parts was not the concern of conservation studies. Findings were left exposed in the field and no precautions were taken against weathering and other conservation problems. As a result of this negligence some building parts do not exist today. Here only three of them will be presented.

The mosaic hall found and documented in the 1940s was left uncovered. It was still present in 1969 however, is completely destroyed today, except for some parts which were left unexcavated (Figure 3.46, Figure 3.47, Figure 3.42)

In the second place, an altar found in the northwest basement gallery that was left exposed to weathering does not exist today. Built with rubble stone masonry, plastered and painted with plant and animal figures, the altar collapsed after some years. Many photos taken by visitors of the site reveal the phases of the destruction of the monument (Figure 3.48, Figure 3.49, Figure 3.16).

Thirdly, the plasters found in the lower galleries do not exist today. These plasters became detached from the walls due to weathering problems (Figure 3.50).



Figure 3.46. A photo of the “Mosaic Hall” taken in December 1961.
(Source: WEB_23 2006)



Figure 3.47. The remains of mosaics in 2005.



Figure 3.48. A view of the altar in December 1961.
(Source: WEB_24 2006)

On the other hand, excavation studies were documented and published occasionally. Publishing and sharing the investigation results with researchers and the public contributed the lateral investigations very much. Although, the excavations and evaluation of findings documented in this period, there is no explanation about the conservation concerns and restoration implementations of the site. Therefore, all evaluations about the prior conservation studies depend on the examinations on the site. Here the restoration implementations of the 1940s will be evaluated in three sections.



Figure 3.49 The altar does not exist anymore around 1990.
(Source: WEB_25 2006)



Figure 3.50. The plasters seen on the walls in December 1961 do not exist today.
(Source: WEB_24 2006)

3.5.1.2.1. Analysis and Evaluation of the Reconstruction of Stylobate of the West Stoa

Stylobate of the West Stoa is placed on the east side of the West Stoa and consisted of three steps through the central area of the Agora. The stylobate starts from the Basilica and continues south through the West Gate, bears on the east wall of the lower ground floor of the structure. The east wall stands 4.29 m high and 72 m long bearing to the soil in the lower ground floor. The original Hellenistic construction is observed on the lower parts at various elevations. Some implementations are observed on the upper part of the wall to complete the nonexistent parts (Figure 3.51). Upper part of the Hellenistic wall was reconstructed until the stylobate with various filling materials collected from the site. Moreover, a stylobate was constructed with concrete material. Although the date of the reconstruction is not exactly documented, some old photographs reveal that it was started in 1934 and lasted in many stages.

However, this reconstruction does not present the original state of the structure from the point of material, construction style and details. First, it is necessary to mention that the implementations were applied with different materials and construction system to the original wall. While the original parts were built with natural blocks (similar to marble) reconstruction was applied with rubble infill in different dimensions, moreover some gravestones were also used as filling material.

It is observed that the construction system and details do not match with the original parts. That is, reconstructions started before the excavations were completed in the West Stoa also were applied without much analyses of the structure. In brief, implementations comprise many faults at the details of the windows and mouldings. To start with, mouldings seen in Figure 3.52 were not applied in the reconstructions. As stated under heading 3.3.2. mouldings reflect the earlier construction system of the West Stoa. Considering their importance, they should be placed in the former implementation.

The original windows were opened to the steps of stylobate with narrowing section both in horizontal and vertical line. The windows opened to the riser of the steps with only one space. However, reconstructions were applied as seen in the figure without regards to the original (Figure 3.53).



Figure 3.51. The east wall of the West Stoa completed with rubble and concrete.



Figure 3.52. The most complete part of the wall showing the window and the mouldings.



Figure 3.53. The present situation of the east wall and the windows.

Besides, the reconstruction implementation resembled not the windows of the West Stoa but the Basilica. When windows of the two buildings are examined in the Figure 3.54, the Basilica's windows consist of three parts both inside and outside. However, West Stoa's windows consist of one division inside and two outside.

That is not so strange because when the implementations started, a part of the lower gallery was excavated in the Basilica in contrast to the West Stoa. Next, there was no original piece of stylobate with window openings in the West Stoa, as in the Basilica. On the other hand, that was an incorrect choice because the Basilica was built in different era with different function so the structure of the windows was not the same. Further, the Basilica was located at the lowest point of the terrace, which may cause further drainage problems.

To sum up, the reconstruction of the east wall and stylobate is distinguishable from the original fabric since it is not compatible to the original structure in materials as well as the construction techniques and details. The state of the wall and stylobate is not available for future reconstructions due to static reasons but they are reversible for future implementations.






WEST STOA	BASILICA
	
<p>North west corner of the central area encircled with stylobate of the west Stoa and Basilica</p>	
	
<p>Stylobate of the West Stoa</p>	<p>Stylobate of the Basilica</p>
	
<p>Window of the West Stoa (reconstruction)</p>	<p>Window of the Basilica</p>

Figure 3.54. Analyses of the windows opening to the stylobate. The Basilica windows were imitated for the reconstruction of the windows of the West Stoa.

3.5.1.2.2. Analysis and Evaluation of the Reconstruction of Columns in the West Stoa

Considering the recent situation, previous reconstructions include 17 column bases that were placed on the stylobate, 13 of which had columns and column capitals. Damaged parts of the architectural pieces were repaired with material including cement. Regarding the old photos, columns were placed after the reconstruction of the stylobate on the north corner of the West Stoa (Figure 3.55). Subsequently that reconstruction was rearranged and continued to the south (Figure 3.56).



Figure 3.55. The missing parts were completed with concrete.
(Source: İzmir Muhipleri Cemiyeti 1934)

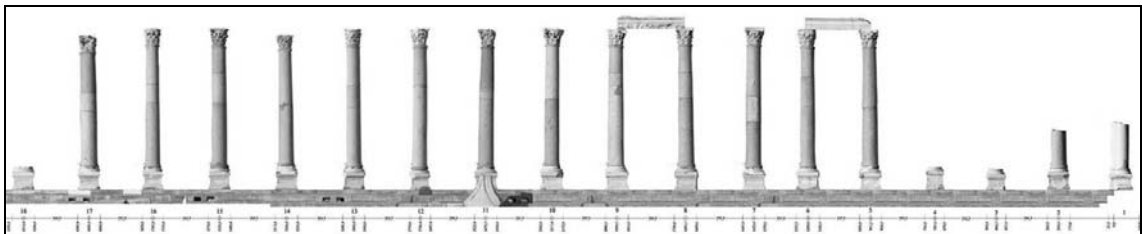


Figure 3.56. The east façade of the West Stoa.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2005)

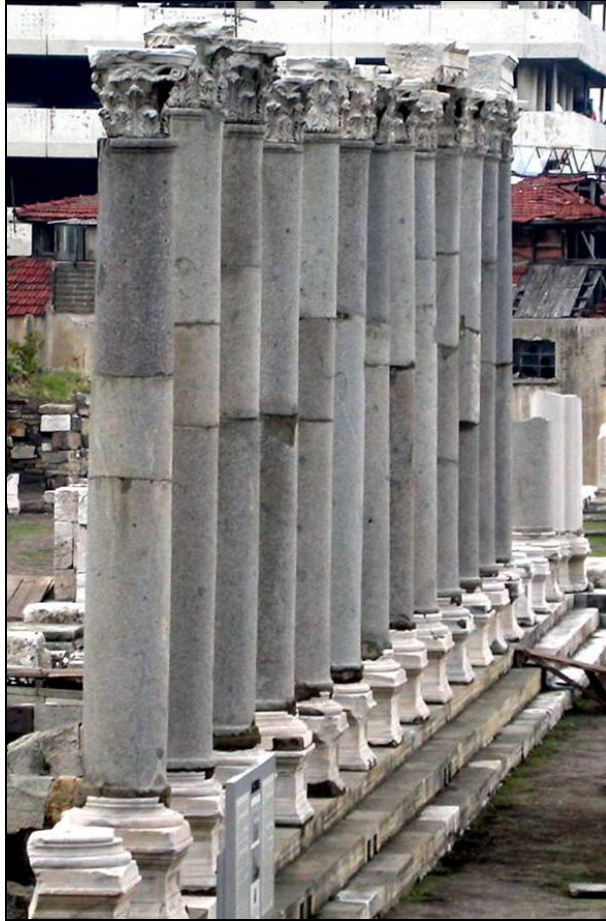


Figure 3.57. The re-erected columns on the façade of the West Stoa.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2005)

Two different kinds of column bases were determined on the stylobate, some of which were smaller than the others. These smaller bases belong to the upper floor of the West Stoa, however they were placed on the ground floor¹⁹.

Columns bear on the column bases were reconstructed with original broken pieces. Five of them were reconstructed with two, 8 of them were reconstructed with three pieces of columns (Figure 3.57). Diameter of the columns should get narrower as they rise gradually. In contrast the unified pieces do not narrow straightly, especially at the joints. That is because the use of discordant diameters of column pieces added to each other.

¹⁹ Vitruvius stated that columns of the upper floor should be $\frac{1}{4}$ times smaller than the ground floors. Regarding these proportions column bases of the upper floor were also smaller than the ground floors.



Figure 3.58. The columns stand with different height.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2005)



Figure 3.59. The distances vary between the columns and the longest ones are with the architraves.

Another observation is that the columns stand on the bases presenting a disordered view with different elevations and distances (Figure 3.56, Figure 3.58). These columns were placed on the bases with the distance varying between 2.18 m and 2.96 m “(Laroche 2003)”. However, columns of such a big public building used to be placed with exact distances in the Roman era. Regarding the 75 m long West Stoa consisted of 30 axes, columns should be placed with the axis distance of 2.50 m. In this implementation, the reason of this unordinary placement is not known, nevertheless, they should be placed regularly to reveal the original structure.

Column capitals are similar in characteristics but different orientations when compared to each other. However, two architraves were placed over the capitals which do not belong to the West Stoa because they are longer than the original column axes (Figure 3.59). In order to place these architraves, columns were lined with longer distance than the others.

In conclusion, the anastylosis of the columns is distinguishable from the original due to concrete used at the joints. The columns should be examined more painstakingly to get the perfect match before the reconstructions. In fact, many column pieces were found later on in the site during the excavations between 2002 and 2005. Although the anastylosis was executed with original column pieces, they do not match each other originally. Furthermore, they stand with different elevations, which mean they are not at original level. Therefore, the implementation does not allow future implementations such as placing architraves and other architectural components on them. On the other hand, the unified pieces can be disassembled if it is necessary in future which means these interventions are reversible.

3.5.1.2.3. Analysis and Evaluation of the Reconstruction of the West Gate

The West Gate is placed next to the West Stoa on the south side of the east façade. It is known as Faustina Gate in some sources because of the bust of a woman was relieved on the keystone of the arch. The date and the implementation of the anastylosis were not documented, so the process of the work is not known today. However, the keystone was found during the 1940s excavations “(Naumann and Kantar 1950)”.

With reference to the restitution investigations, anastylosis of the gate has many mistakes including placement, proportion of the structure and the use of pieces (Figure 3.60). Initially the elevation of the arch was incorrect when compared with the columns. In other words, the gate was as high as the ground floor columns since it was a continuation of the West Stoa.



Figure 3.60. The reconstruction of the West Gate.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2003)

The West Stoa was illustrated as two arches in the reconstruction, which was an accurate decision. Even so, the beginning of the second arch was placed through the north, conversely it should be through the south because the West Stoa is placed on the north but a Roman road is on the south under the 816 Street (Figure 3.61).

Last, it is necessary to mention, the extant original materials were used in the reconstruction. The voussoirs and the keystone do not match each other from the point of the profile and arch lines. That reveals, some pieces used in the anastylosis do not belong to the structure. As illustrated in the figure springers on two sides thought probably belong to the Basilica (restitution studies not completed yet), further half columns reveal the original characteristics of the West Gate (Figure 3.62).

To sum up, reconstruction of the West Gate contributed very much to the presentation identity of the Agora. Reconstructed with original components, it is distinguishable as a new work. On the contrary, the implementation does not reveal the original form of the structure due to use of wrong pieces. There should be more investigations and analyses of the architectural pieces before the reconstruction. As the reconstruction includes mistakes in dimensions, it is not available for further restoration interventions at the south façade of the West Stoa. However, the reconstruction is reversible to be treated for necessary rectifications.

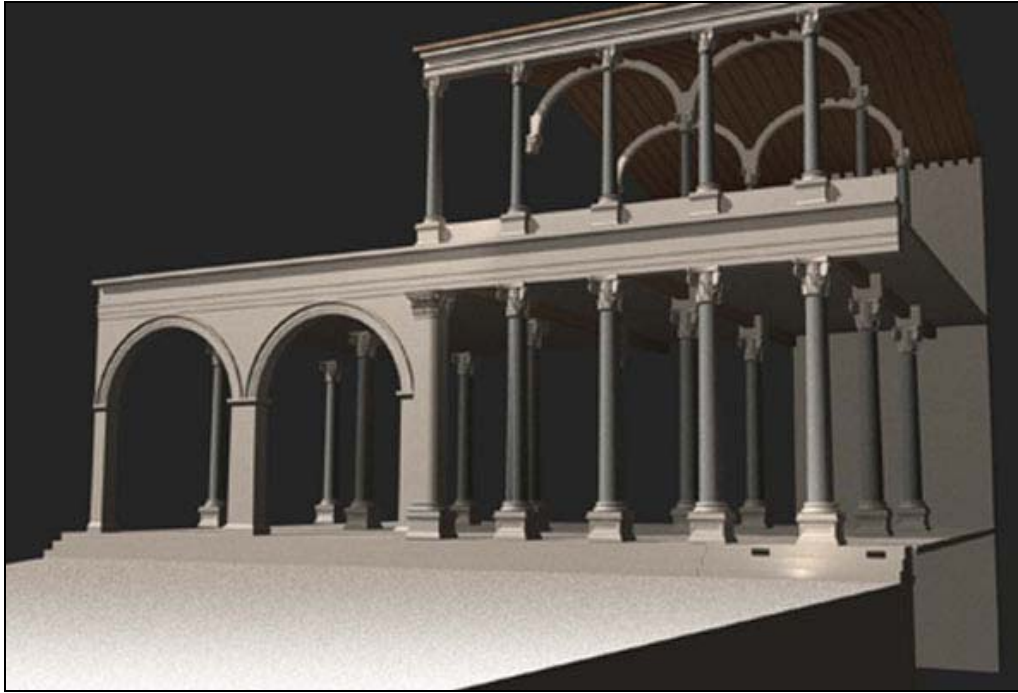


Figure 3.61. The reconstruction of the southern east façade of the West Stoa and the West Gate.
 (Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2005)

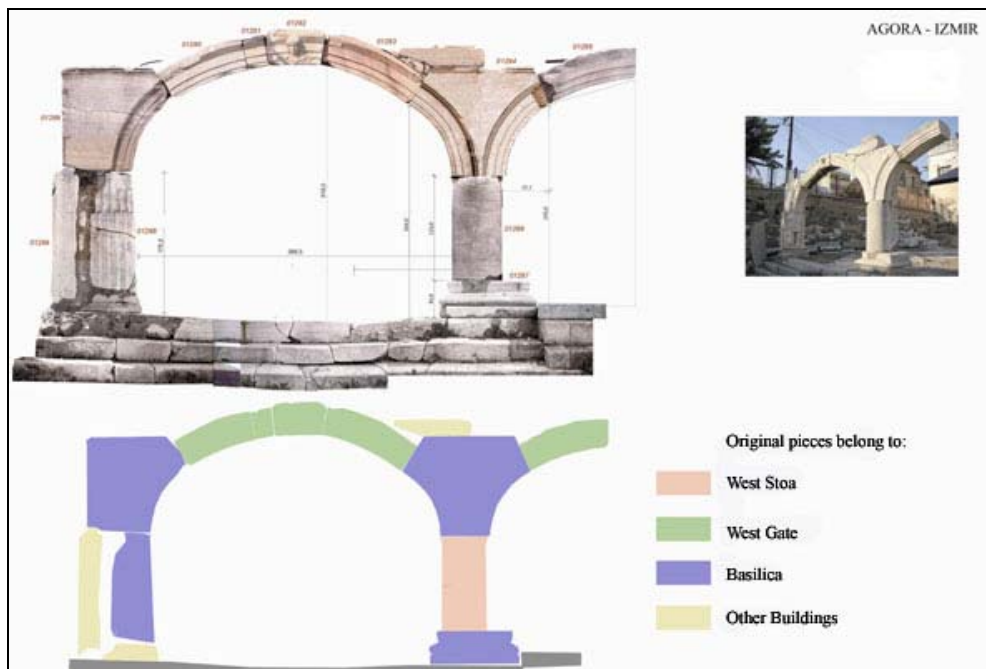


Figure 3.62. The figure illustrates the materials of the reconstruction regarding the original structure.
 (Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2004)

3.5.2. Evaluation of the Excavation Studies between 1996 and 1999 in the Agora

The excavations in the Agora were restarted in 1996 and went on until 1999. The scope of the studies in this period were excavation, restoration, environment cleaning and arrangement. Excavations were done under the leadership of the İzmir Museum of Archaeology director Turan Özkan with the proficient staff (archaeologist and art historian) of the museum. İzmir Municipality sponsored the excavations and Directorate of Survey and Monuments in İzmir did the documentation of findings “(Gül 1998)”.

The studies started with the Basilica lower galleries and the North Gate were discovered in 1996 (Figure 3.63). The central area of the Agora was also excavated in the same year. Later on the excavations in the West and the East Stoas were started but not completed due to raising water level of the ground. During this period, excavations continued in specific times of the year and each excavation period was reported by the staff ordinarily. However, architectural investigation and evaluation of findings was neglected and nothing was published concerning the recent investigations. What is more, the altar placed in the lower gallery was also moved with its rubble in the scope of these cleaning activities, which can be examined from the old pictures. The removal of the structure presents that, the previous studies and investigations in the Agora excavations were not analyzed adequately.

Apart from excavation studies, staff of the Directorate of Survey and Monuments in İzmir documented the existing state of the monuments. Regarding the scale of the site as well as the necessity of documenting elaborately, documentation studies did not include the complete area. Subsequently, documentation of the complete site was done by a professional firm with modern techniques. Photogrammetric Methods were applied under the leadership of Architect Yakup Hazan moreover, measured drawings were approved by the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Immobile Cultural and Natural Heritage with decision numbered 9902 dated 17.05.2002.

In addition to documenting the remains, deterioration problems urgent preservation suggestions were reported to the concerned government agencies “(Kuleli et al. 1999)”. Moreover, samples of the original mortars were sent to the İstanbul

Directorate of Central Laboratory for Restoration and Conservation (Restorasyon ve Konservasyon Merkez Laboratuvarı M¼d¼rl¼g¼) in order to be analyzed and conserved according to original material characteristics.

A press conference was arranged by the mayor of İzmir Municipality on 15 September 1997 in the Agora about the excavation results and the expropriation project of the north and west side of the Agora “(G¼l 1998)”. In addition, a project called ‘Agora ve İzmirli Homeros’ was developed in the scope of this period “(G¼l 1995)”. Accordingly, various cultural events (music, poetry literature and sports activities) were suggested in order to attract attention of the public to the Agora. This intension was a significant approach concerning the conservation of the Agora, however it was not supported sufficiently by the local authorities.



Figure 3.63. The North Gate of the Basilca found in the excavation period 1996 - 1999.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 1997 - 1998)

All in all, the excavation and environmental arrangement studies did not contribute to the conservation of the Agora because the historical investigations and evaluation of the findings were in adequate. Although the local government supported the studies, there was not an exact plan for the conservation of the region and the Agora.

On the other hand, determination of the conservation problems contributed very much to the lateral studies in the Agora. Meanwhile, the lateral excavations started with these preservation concerns in the scale of monument, site and urban are.

3.5.3. Excavations and Conservation Studies Started in 2002 in the Agora

The problems pointed out in the previous excavation period lead to the local governors concern about the preservation of the Agora. Regarding these concerns some research and plans were implemented before the excavations started. The project for conservation and development of the Agora and its environment was prepared by the İzmir Municipality. In addition, current situation of the remains in the Agora was documented and approved by the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage. Afterwards the excavations in the Agora restarted with a ceremony with the attendance of the directors of many local governments on the 1st of August 2002 (Figure 3.64). These concerns of the local governments inspired the studies in the Agora.

The excavation and investigation studies continued under the leadership of the director of the İzmir Museum of Archaeology, Mehmet Taşlıalan until July 2005. The studies at the Agora were executed by three groups of staff consisting of archaeologists who worked on the site investigations, restorators who cleaned and consolidated the found pieces and lastly architects who documented the remains and developed decisions for conservation. The excavations were supported by the İzmir Governorship and Municipality. Besides, researches from the French Institute of Anatolian Studies as well as some native and foreign investigators supported the architectural and archaeological investigations after 2003²⁰. These investigations were reported regularly and published in French, English and Turkish “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005, Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006, Taşlıalan 2006, Yaka et al. 2005)”.

²⁰ C. S. Silver (Columbia University), P. Pomey (Université de Provence), V. Drost (Université Paris), Ş. Yeşil, P. G. Kırmızıoğlu (Cumhuriyet University), A. Sevim (Ankara University), V. Lungu (Institut d’Etudes du Sud-Est Européen), R. Chapoulie (Centre de Recherche en Physique Appliquée a l’Archéologie), M. G. Drahor (Dokuz Eylül University), M. Martinaud (Université Bordeaux)



Figure 3.64. A view from the opening ceremony of the excavation period. The mayor of the İzmir municipality, Mr. Ahmet Piriştina and the director of the İzmir Museum of Archaeology, Mr. Mehmet Taşlıalan are seen in the figure. (Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2002)

In this period, lower galleries of the Basilica and West Stoa were excavated and completely extracted from the soil. The excavations and findings were inventoried and documented during the excavations by the architects and archaeologists. The movable monuments found in the site were cleaned and restored in the restoration laboratories. Further, plasters found in the lower ground floor of the Basilica were cleaned and urgent consolidation techniques were applied. For the investigation of the graffiti on the plaster and consolidation implementations different professionals supported the conservators of the Agora excavation team (Constance S. Silver, Şehrigül Yeşil) “(Silver 2003a, Silver 2003b, Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)” (Figure 3.65). For preserving the plasters and other remains a protection roof for the Basilica was planned. However, the project was not approved by the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage. Then, the plastered walls were protected against weathering deteriorations by temporary shelters (Figure 3.66).



Figure 3.65. The walls of the Basilica cleaned by the conservators, then consolidation studies were implemented. (Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2004)



Figure 3.66. The temporary protecting shelters for the lime plasters and the graffiti on.

During the excavations in the West Stoa, restitution investigations of the monument continued. The İzmir Chamber of Commerce (İzmir Ticaret Odası) have sponsored the excavations and restorations of the West Stoa since December 2003. The restoration studies started in the West Stoa with the contributions of the İzmir Chamber of Commerce and the Governorship in 2005. These implementations will be examined in detail in chapter 4.

To sum up, the conservation studies were planned besides excavation studies in this excavation period. On the contrary, the conservation implementations did not care about the concerns which were declared beforehand. That means sustainability of the preservation had not been ensured but the conservation plans were developed according to the necessity of the new findings.

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF THE INTERVENTIONS (IN 2005) IN THE WEST STOA

The previous excavation studies in 1999 pointed out the major problems of the Agora. With the awareness of these problems, some basic requirements were provided before the excavations started. That is, the present situation of the remains and the problems of the site were documented in addition measured drawings of the complete site were approved by decision numbered 9902 dated 17.05.2002 of İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage. Another preparation concerned the environmental and urban scale of the problem.

The Agora was pointed out as a special project area in the Development Plan for Preservation of Kemeraltı and its surroundings in 1/5000 scale. According to this plan, the Project for Conservation and Development of the Agora with its Environment was prepared by the İzmir Municipality. Within this project the analysis in the scale of the pattern and the structure revealed the differentiation of the space around the Agora. Afterwards a development plan for the preservation of the Agora and its district was prepared.

As stated under heading 2.3.1, the plan aimed to solve the problems of the site in order to ensure the connection to the urban life “(Batkan 2002)”. For this reason it included some advices concerning the Agora such as the continuation of excavations and more concentrated investigations. Moreover the remains and findings should be protected as well as participated to the daily life of İzmir

Thereupon the excavation studies started in 2002 with the inspiration of the recent plans and with the support of the local governments. Excavation studies were comprised of conservation studies as well as restoration studies. The implementations were planned according to the excavation scheme. For example, the conservation studies in the Basilica were developed concerning the weathering deteriorations while restoration interventions were considered for the West Stoa.

Actually, reorganizing the Agora and its surrounding with the modern city was an aim in the scope of these studies. Besides the conservation and the exhibition of the

ruins, the connection of the site with its environment should be ensured. For this reason some implementations were planned in the site. In this chapter, the conservation plans for development of the Agora will be investigated initially; later on the restoration implementation approaches will be examined. Finally, the restoration implementations in the scope of the conservation will be introduced.

4.1. Introduction of the Recent Conservation Studies of the Agora

The Agora situated in the Namazgah neighborhood in the Kemeraltı Urban Site, is restricted with modern settlements most of which are derelict and destroyed. Within the concept of the Development Plan for Conservation and Regeneration of the Agora and Its Surrounding, these buildings were analyzed and the expropriation process was started by the İzmir Municipality. This process is concerned with enlarging the borders of the excavation area, as well as, the perception problem of the Agora. That is the Agora is located behind a block of houses which prevents its visualization from the main street, Eşref Paşa “(Cumhuriyet 2005, WEB_26 2005, WEB_27 2006)”. However, the borders of the archaeological site should be examined initially to preserve the structures not yet investigated. Regarding the decision numbered 9728 dated 30.01.2002 of the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage it is necessary to enlarge the 1st Degree Archaeological Site (Figure 4.1). The east borders of the 1st Degree Archaeological Site are until 943 Street, however, the East Stoa remains under the road and under modern buildings in the 2nd Degree Archaeological Site. Similarly, the south border ends with the Agora Park. That is, the space of the South Stoa (according to the restitution investigations) was left in the 2nd Degree Archaeological Site. Considering there will not be any excavations in adjacent years, the limits of the archaeological sites should be reevaluated soon to ensure the safety of the information concerning complete remains of the Agora.

Starting with the environmental concerns of the site, some implementations were planned in order to ensure the link between the Agora and the city.

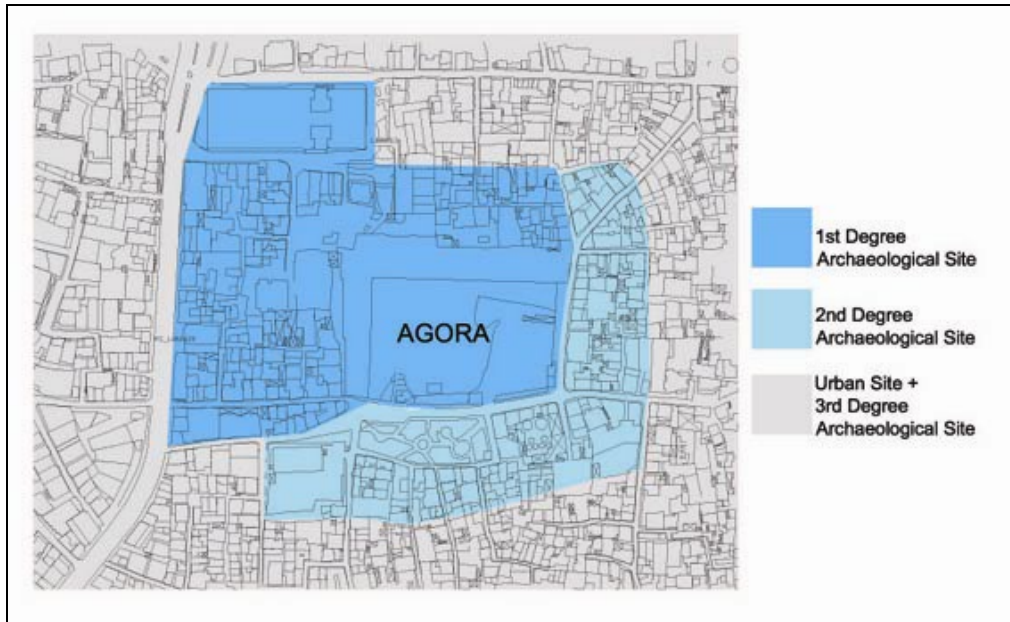


Figure 4.1. Sites of the Agora and its surrounding.
(Source: Municipality of İzmir)

4.1.1. Aim and the Concept of the Studies

Situated in the center of the city, Agoras were the main urban spaces of the Hellenistic city as well as the Roman city (although called “Forum” in the Roman era). Likewise, the Agora of Smyrna was the administrative and the social center of the city “(Naumann and Kantar 1943)”. Most of the archaeological sites remain widespread outside the cities; rarely, the Agora of Smyrna is one of a few examples which remain in the city. Today it is still situated very close to the center, whereas it is completely isolated from its environment. Moreover its environment consists of derelict, but historical buildings. The site is nearly left away from the modern city which increased the urban problem of the site. In addition, it is not in a recognizable part in the city, which leads to unawareness of the citizens to the existence of the site.

The permanent preservation of an historical monument can be ensured with the urban consciousness as well as public consciousness. The accessibility of these monuments has a great effect on promoting the public consciousness has been stated in many international documents, conferences and regulations. The influence of balanced integration of cultural events into the archaeological sites on preservation and management of the sites as well as obvious benefits for tourism and culture was stated

in the Nafplion Conference (2001)²¹. Furthermore, considering the monuments belong to the society (local, national, international) they could produce a crucial influence on the development of a region, city or town.

The archaeological sites in the cities develop different historical levels. The interaction between these levels can be balanced with the integrity of archaeological sources to the modern city and city life directly. The archaeological remains included to the planning process should be regarded as urban sources (not obstacles to the development) with the concern of integrity. When integrity is not concerned, the archaeological sites develop isolated from their surroundings as well as the city. In the mean time, when the preservation activities are interrupted, the remains are left to decay. Consequently, the site turns into a problem urban area which decreases the urban site quality. On the other hand, archaeological sites in the cities are potential areas for creativity since they offer diverse alternatives to the urban design in addition they bring in investments to the cities “(Alpan 2006)”²².

Regarding these aspects, the aim of the conservation studies in the Agora is determined to integrate the archaeological site to the modern city as a historical center of urban life. To ensure it, the Agora should be in connection with its surrounding and the city. Further some activities should be composed to introduce the site to the citizens which will contribute to preserve the identity of the city.

The organization of certain cultural activities such as concerts, exhibitions, causeries in the Agora will contribute to improve the connection with the city and citizens. In this scope, some interventions were planned concerning the connection and introduction of the site. Moreover some historical buildings around the site have been recommended to be restored and reused for the exhibition and information. These plans will be examined in the next three sections.

²¹ Background Document of 1st International Congress on “Sustainability of Archaeological Environments Through Cultural Events” prepared by Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), Athens, 2001 “(WEB_28 2006)”

²² Based on unpublished Masters Thesis of Açalıya Alpan, 2005, METU, “Integration of Urban Archaeological Resources to Everyday Life in the Historic City Centers Tarragona, Verona and Tarsus”

4.1.2. General Intervention Decisions about the Agora and its Close Environment

The Agora in İzmir is one of the infrequent sites remaining in the city center that increases the necessity of the conservation studies. With regard to its location it is consequential to connect the city from the point of integrating it to city life and keeping it alive.

The modern roads around the Agora remain nearly at the same position or parallel with the ancient roads (Figure 4.2). For instance, it is clear that 816 Street is placed on the Roman road which the other half is next to the West Gate. Additionally, some streets placed perpendicular to the Basilica display the existence of the ancient roads through the Basilica. These are 939 Street and 941 Street opposite the west and east gates of the Basilica to the north. Similarly, 931/ 1 Street is approximately opposite the North Gate, which leads to the idea of the existence of a Roman road. It is possible to identify them as intersection spots of modern and ancient streets. To provide the permanence of the ancient evidence, utilizing these streets and original gates would be favorable. The West Gate and North Gate are available for rearrangement as the entrance of the site, which will create the Agora as in the Roman era and have the similar perception of the space.

To begin with, the present entrance on the south and terraces remain on the ancient road and over some ruins. The mass of the terrace reduces the perception of the Agora as a total space and hide the West Gate on the back side and leave it unseen. Considering these problems, the visitors' entrance on the south has been recommended to be moved to 920 Street. Therefore the visitors will enter the Agora by walking on the Roman road and under the West Gate (A) as in the ancient era (Figure 4.2). Moreover, it will be possible to recognize the site from the original perspective. Similar to the entrance (information) building, architectural investigation office and storage for findings should be moved from the central area of the Agora (Figure 3. 6). The excavations progressed to continue through the north and west sides, the east terrace will be kept unexcavated for the future investigation. Therefore, south east corner of the site can be planned for the excavation and architectural investigations center.

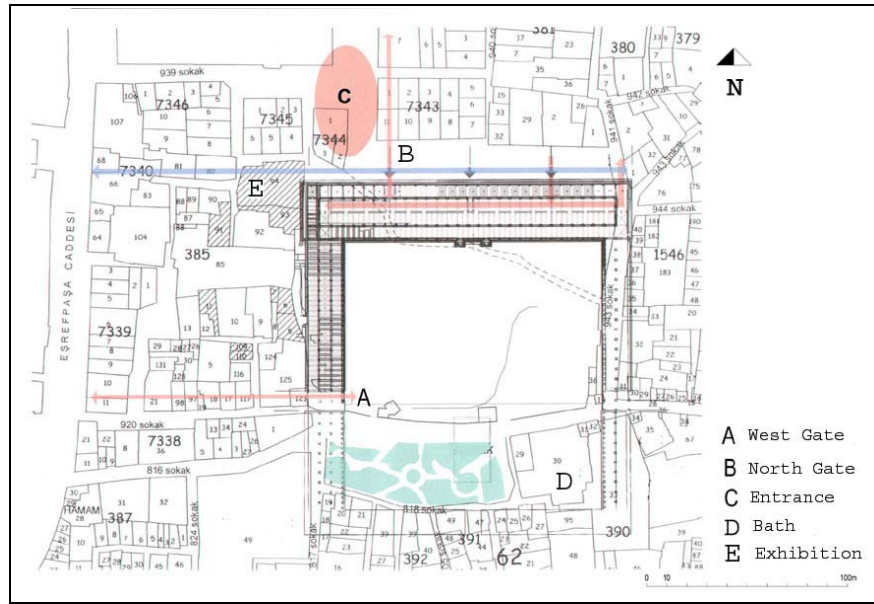


Figure 4.2. The unification studies of the Agora with its surrounding.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)

Second, the North Gate of the Basilica would be another original approach to the site as seen as B in Figure 4.2. In its current situation, the north border of the site is closed to the outside and not allowed entrance. However, the illicit entrance of the drifters could not be prevented especially in the northeastern part which is not safe. Another recommendation is opening all gates of the Basilica placed on the north and increase the pedestrian circulation. Reorganizing the north side of the Basilica (C) with entrances, exhibitions, resting and shopping activities would help to avoid the forbidden entrances and uses.

Afterwards, restoration of some registered buildings around the excavation site was recommended to answer the requirement of lateral spaces for exhibition and storage functions (Figure 4.2). The bath (D) remains in the southeast and the masonry structure on the northwest (E) reflect a certain period of the Agora. Considered to belong to the Ottoman period, the existence of these buildings reveals that the importance of the site had not been restricted with the Hellenistic and Roman periods. For this reason, poor quality buildings around the bath (D) should be removed in order to present the periods of the site. The other building on the northwest (E) has been recommended to be investigated and preserved then used as an exhibition area “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

4.1.3. Intervention Decisions Related with the Introduction and Exhibition of the Agora

Performances and many cultural activities were planned in order to attract the public interest as well as to inform them about the studies concerning the Agora. The 1st International Symposium on Smyrna was organized on July 20-23, 2003. The studies in the scope of the project for Conservation and Regeneration of the Agora were presented, in addition to the introduction of the excavation studies in the Agora “(WEB_29 2003)”. In the scope of the symposium, guided tours were organized in the Agora. Actually many social and official activities concerning the Agora and the Museum of Archaeology in İzmir have been performed on the central area of the Agora since 2003. Counting, official ceremonies of cultural events, celebration of special days, music performances, as well as, a fashion show were among the cultural activities performed in the Agora (Figure 4.3). Not only the central area but also the lower ground galleries were stages for these events. The lower galleries present adequate spaces for the cultural activities as well as the central area (Figure 4. 4).



Figure 4.3. A fashion show executed at the Agora, 2005.
(Source: Collection of Şölen Kipöz)



Figure 4. 4. Music performance at the lower galleries of the Basilica.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)

The Agora requires a special organization for the visitors to circulate in the site and to receive information. For this reason platforms for walking should lead the visitors on the site and introduction panels should be placed at essential points. With this scope visitors coming from 816 Street and 920 Street enter the site from the West Gate and will reach the walking platforms and information panels. Similarly the North Gate will welcome the visitors coming through 939 Street and the information panels lead to the lower galleries of the buildings and laterally to the platforms and the West Gate.

A certain place for group information and rest area is required in the site. It is necessary to feel the atmosphere of the ancient Agora for the visitors. For example, northwest lower gallery of the Basilica is recommended to be used for this aim since the gallery is preferred as a shelter from the sun, wind and rain by the visitors “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

The registered monuments around the investigation area are recommended to be used as exhibition places. For example, the rubble stone and brick masonry building on the northwest side of the site can be restored and used to exhibit the Ottoman and Byzantium remains of the Agora in order to reveal that period of the area. Moreover other registered buildings nearby can be used to display illustrative exhibitions about the Agora.

4.1.4. Intervention Decisions Concerning Conservation and Reconstruction of the Remains

In addition to the environmental arrangements some interventions related with the reconstruction of the remains must be decided. This process is aimed to improve the cultural significance of the Agora in the modern city and increase the visible influence of the ancient identity of the city. The Agora, situated in a significant part of the city, is considered to have a potential to improve its district. For this reason local governors, which support the excavations and investigations, have contributed more to restoration implementations. In other words the restoration implementations have been inspired by the local governments with vehicular and monetary, as well as, technical supports “(WEB_30 2004, WEB_31 2004)”. Such as the İzmir Chamber of Commerce sponsored the excavations and restorations of the West Stoa while the İzmir Governorship donated a telescopic crane for the restorations.

The conservation process, that guides planning decisions, is devoted to understanding and revealing the cultural significance initially. Minimum configuration of implementation, using original material in the restoration and also when necessary, use of additional material with similar properties of the original was adopted in principle.

The intension of the restoration studies is to increase the recognition of the cultural aspects. Considering, the implementations focused to identify the central area and its surrounding in order to define the ancient Agora. In other words, reconstruction of the remains would increase the perception of the ancient remains. However, it is not possible to re-erect the remains since there is not adequate finding for restitution investigations and anastylosis of the structures. Therefore, restoration implementations were determined to remain in a very restricted scale. For this reason partial and local implementations were specified to be applied to attain the total sense of the Roman Agora.

The main parts of the implementations have been planned according to the existing materials found in the recent excavations. Many column pieces, headings and voussoirs lead to the decision of anastylosis. However, the original material for the

reassembling was found inadequate. Regarding the 13th Article of the Venice Charter²³ and the 14th Article of the Burra Charter²⁴ the anastylosis process was decided to be supported with the new materials used for integration and structural requirements. New materials necessary would be identified according to the characteristics of the original material. Regarding Article 4.2 of the Burra Charter²⁵ traditional materials and techniques decided to be used for completing the missing parts. In general bronze clamps, rounded by lead and epoxy as linking material and lime mortar as binder were considered to be used in the applications.

Defining the central area would be possible by crystallizing the corners of the open space which means partial reconstruction of the front façades of the Basilica and the West Stoa. Thus, anastylosis and reconstruction implementations were planned on the east and west parts of the Basilica. The south part of the West Stoa, next to the West Gate was decided to be partially restored in addition to the present on the north. The anastylosis of the façade columns placed on the concerned parts would be appropriate for the restoration implementations. However, the stylobate had to be consolidated and reconstructed before placing the columns. Additionally the old reconstruction of the West Gate should be inspected according to the recent restitution investigations.

4.2. Introduction of the Recent Conservation Approaches of the West Stoa

The excavations of the West Stoa continued until September 2004 with support of the İzmir Chamber of Commerce and the İzmir Municipality. Architectural documentation and restitution investigations were carried out along with the excavations. When restoration decisions come to the point of the investigations of the

²³ Article 13: Additions cannot be allowed except in so far as they do not detract from the interesting parts of the building, its traditional setting, the balance of its composition and its relation with its surroundings “(WEB_1 2006)”

²⁴ Article 14: Conservation processes: Conservation may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a use; retention of associations and meanings; maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, adaptation and interpretation; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these “(WEB_13 2006)”

²⁵ Article 4.2: Knowledge, skills and techniques: Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the conservation of significant fabric. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate “(WEB_13 2006)”

West Stoa they were more adequate than the Basilica. Then, the implementations determined to start with the West Stoa since the excavations and façade investigations had been completed. The plan for the restoration of the West Stoa was executed according to the restitution investigations of the building. First, the West Gate, which was re-erected with many mistakes in the 1940s, was to be disassembled and reconstructed. Next it was decided that the ground floor columns of the southern façade should be placed to acquire the unity of the West Gate and the West Stoa. The consolidation of the substructure at the implementation zone ought to be ensured before placing the columns. For this reason reconstruction of the foundation (east wall of lower ground floor) and stylobate was considered to be done initially. Besides some arches placed on the east lower gallery were to be reconstructed for static reasons. Eventually re-erection of a few columns at the east and west sides of the Basilica would be implemented according to the work scheme of the restoration applications.

In the following sections the restoration implementations planned to be applied will be introduced and evaluated.

4.2.1. Reconstruction of the West Gate

The recent situation of the gate has been analyzed and evaluated under heading 3.5.1.2.3 (Figure 4.5). In summary, the reconstruction of the structure includes mistakes which resulted in the wrong impression of the monument. To illustrate, initially, incorrect pieces which belong to other building parts were used in the reconstruction, secondly, the horizontal and vertical proportions of the arch are not correct, eventually the placement of the second section had been presented in the wrong direction (Figure 3.60), (Figure 3.62). Because of these mistakes, the existing reconstruction needed to be disassembled and a new reconstruction project was decided upon that must be applied.

There was no documentation concerning the reconstruction implementation showing information of the gate and the found position of the pieces. The date and by whom the reconstruction had been done was also unknown. Thus, it was indispensable to study the historical sources at the beginning of the restitution studies. However, nothing had been found about the reconstruction process except for information stated by Naumann and Kantar. They reported about the keystone with a bust of women and also stated that the gate was consisted of two arches “(Naumann and Kantar 1950)”.

Accordingly the keystone of one arch was ornamented with the relief of Marcus Aurelius' bust and the other was with Faustina the Young's. (This information conduced to the restitution studies of the West Gate) The construction of the structure was dated to 2nd century due to the relief "(Naumann and Kantar 1943)".

During the site investigations, stones and architectural pieces stored in the central area were searched and two original arch components (a voussoir and a springer) of the West Gate had been found. Afterwards, inspection of the extant pieces and restitution investigation of the Gate were carried out. Finally a reconstruction project was prepared accordingly (Figure 4.6).

The aim of the reconstruction is to complete the reconstruction implementation of the previous interventions and present it in its earlier state. Further, stated under heading 4.1.2. the West Gate has a considerable contribution to the general intervention decisions concerning the conservation of the Agora. That is after the expropriation of the parcels (number 123 and 125) placed on the west of West Gate the visitors entrance would be moved to enter the site by passing through the West Gate as in the original plan "(Taşlıalan et al. 2004)".



Figure 4.5. Reconstruction of the West Gate.
(Source: The archives of the Agora excavation, 2004)

4.2.1.1. Proposal for Reconstruction of the West Gate

The West Gate restituted with two arches is not possible to reconstruct as in the restitution studies because there are not enough original pieces for reconstructing both arches. Additionally the modern street called 820 is placed on the original spot of the second arch. Therefore studies concerning the West Gate were focused on only half of the original structure.

The stones, which constituted the reconstruction of the West Gate, had been grouped into two types. It is clear that two springers had different ornaments since they belong to another building part. When two more pieces were found, a total of 3 voussoirs, a springer and a keystone originally existed, which supported the process of reconstruction. To reconstruct the oblique of the arch, each piece was inspected carefully. Forms of the arch pieces, ornaments and construction traces remaining on their faces had been examined. It was found that all the pieces were a component of a one centered arch with and 4.76 m interior diameter. The thickness of the voussoirs (42 cm) added to the diameter, the width of the arch was calculated as 5.60 m in total. In this study, the place of the dovetail cuts lead to the position of the voussoir on the arch. Additionally, the upper surface of the keystone was observed as a flat surface contrast to the voussoirs, which means there was an architrave on it “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)”.

The springer numbered 10 revealed very important information, that is, the West Gate had been placed adjacent to the West Stoa beginning column. No more original part, which belong to the lower parts of the gate, had been found. For this reason the remaining part of the restitution was executed through comparative studies with similar examples in Syria and Milas. Accordingly the examples revealed the elevation of the arch raised until the architraves. Palmyra, Syria is an important example since it shows the entablature continued over the gate (Figure 4.7) “(Taşlıalan et al. 2004)”. Similar to the Palmyra, “Baltalı Kapı” in Milas shows the capital placed on the next column (Figure 4.8). The elevation of the West Gate was decided according to the height of the West Stoa architraves which is 6.34 m in total “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2005)”. The height of the abutments was decided regarding the total height, without ornaments since there is not any extant piece.

The West Gate should be connected to the West Stoa due to static reasons as originally. Since the upper part of the West Stoa's first column existed the lower part needed to be elevated accordingly. A capital found in the site was placed on the column although it was thought to belong to the north side of the West Stoa. The basement of the column was placed similar to the extant examples placed on the north side. From another point of view the steps of the stylobate, which were damaged, should be be consolidated initially "(Taşlıalan et al. 2004)".

According to the reconstruction proposal, the extant architectural pieces should be used initially. The lacking parts would be constructed with similar properties of material to the original. Although experimental investigation of the materials was not executed, Marmara marble was found to be the most similar to the original material (by the stone experts). In addition to the 7 original pieces, 9 more pieces are needed in order to reconstruct the arch (Figure 4.6). All pieces should be montaged with bronze clamps and enclosed with lead and epoxy.

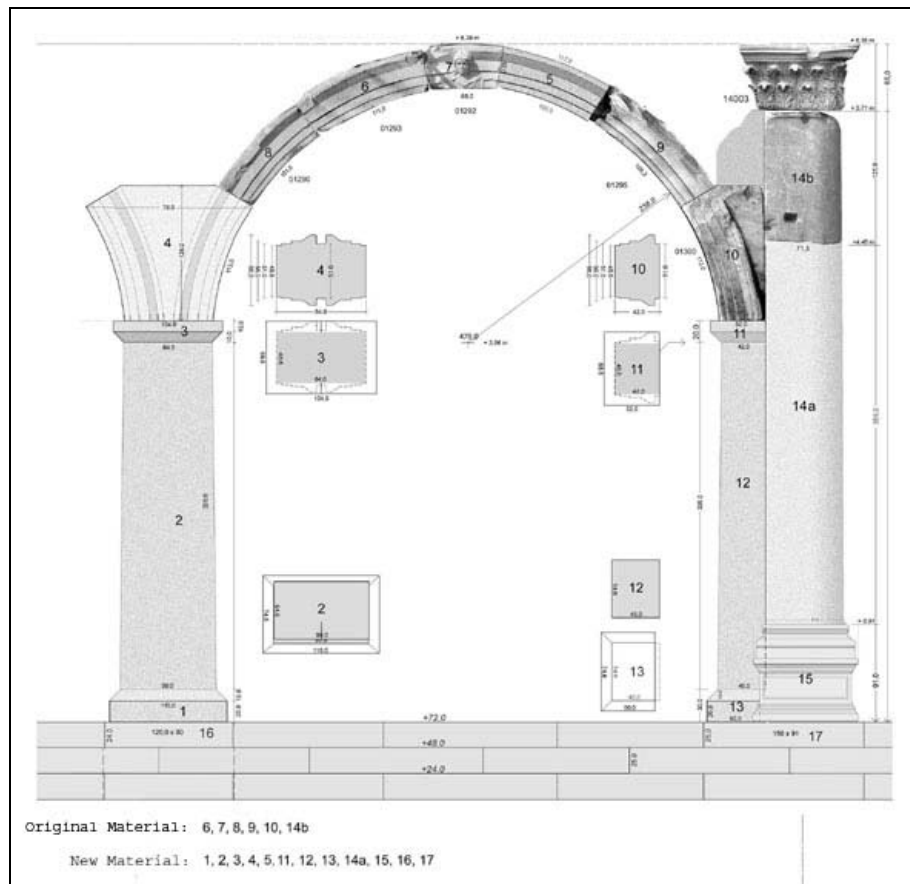


Figure 4.6. Reconstruction project of the West Gate.
 (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 4.7. A similar example to the West Gate from Palmyra Syria.
(Source: WEB_32 2006)



Figure 4.8. Baltalı Gate in Milas is an example which shows similar attributes to the West Gate.
(Source: Kızıl 2002)

4.2.1.2. Reconstruction Implementation of the West Gate

A reconstruction project presented with drawings and reports to the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage and approved by decision numbered 01 dated 05.08.2004. First an atelier was constructed on the southeast side of the Agora site, in order to produce the marble stones (Figure 4.9). Reconstruction work started with constructing a staging for disassembling the prior implementation (Figure 4.10). When the prior reconstruction implementation had been removed, the extant pieces were cleaned by the restorators. Then new pieces were produced in the atelier and all pieces of the arch were pre-practiced. When the production of all the pieces were completed, the reconstruction implementation started.

First the upper step of the stylobate was placed, and then the abutments, column base and the column, which had been newly constructed, was placed. Later on the springers were placed according to the reconstruction project. The one on the right side was an extant one found in storage, conversely the left one was a newly constructed one which is also a springer of the second arch on the south side. All vertical components (connections) were applied with two cylindrical bronze clamps at each connection (Figure 4.11). Afterwards 4 voussoirs, one of which was newly constructed, were placed on two sides. Finally the keystone was placed on the center of the arch. All pieces of the arch were first loaded on the staging, then clamped with two bronze vertical clamps as seen in Figure 4.12 (The original clamp place on the center is not stable anymore).



Figure 4.9. The atelier built for the construction of new pieces which will be used in the reconstruction process. (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 4.10. The disassembling process of the West Gate.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 4.11. Bronze cylindrical clamps applied to the architectural pieces and surrounded with lead.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 4.12. Upper face of the voussoirs; dovetail cuts, original clamp place and applied bronze clamps are seen. (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 4.13. The West Gate after reconstruction implementation, 2005.

4.2.1.3. Evaluation of the Reconstruction of the West Gate

The proposal for reconstruction was prepared regarding the recent restitution studies. The reconstruction implementation of the West Gate remains distinguishable as a new work on its original spot. It is constructed with both original and new materials (Figure 4.14). Although no analysis have been done in order to decide their compatibility, new materials made of Marmara marble is considered similar to the original. Regarding they are natural materials, the implementation can be evaluated as compatible with existing original material in the scope of this study. In addition, form, dimension and construction system of the reconstruction is compatible with the original structure according to the recent restitution studies.

The reconstruction of West Gate is available for the future studies since no original components have been damaged and the structure is stable enough in order to allow for further necessary interventions.



Figure 4.14. The reconstruction implementation of the West Gate.

4.2.2. Reconstruction of the Stylobate of the West Stoa

Stylobate of the West Stoa is placed on the south side and consists of three steps through the central area. The stylobate bears on the east wall of the lower gallery and they both continue 72 m from north to east constituting the south border of the West Stoa. Stated under the heading 3.4, the east wall stands bearing to the soil; with the elevation of 4.29 m but the extant part remains until various levels. There are 30 arch abutments bearing to the wall which constitute axes located with various distances. Between each abutment, windows opening to the stylobate are placed.

Three periods of the structure are observed on the east border of the West Stoa. These are, the primary construction in Hellenistic era, second is the addition of abutments bearing to the wall and the final is the latest implementations dated between 1932 and 1943 (Figure 4.15). Today the recent situation of the structure reveals the previous alterations (Figure 4.16). In the Roman era, 30 arch abutments had been added to the structure with various distances. The stairs climbing to the ground floor were constructed on the north side occupying the wall between the 1st and 3rd axes. A 55 cm thick wall was constructed in front of the wall between the 24th and 30th axes in order to build cistern 1. Additionally partial flooring at -3.25 m, dating to the Roman era was found between the 12th and 14th axes the aim of which is not defined yet

The latest implementations were due to reconstruction of the stylobate. Although reconstructed with concrete material (as stated under heading 3.5.1.2.1) it includes a few extant pieces on the north side as well. To do the reconstruction, destroyed parts of the east wall had been completed with rubble. Infact, the masonry wall reveals the original characteristics of the structure except for the implemented sections. To illustrate, the most preserved part with the elevation of -0.87 m is observed between the 4th and 10th and between the 14th and 15th axes. Afterwards elevated until -1.27 m it comes between the 15th and 24th axes. Subsequently, the surface between the 10th and 13th axes displays the most destroyed part which is until -1.78 m (Figure 4.16).



Figure 4.15. The east side of the West Stoa.

Since the east wall is one of the unique Hellenistic remains in the Agora, it requires careful inspection. First measurement and documentation of the complete wall was done. Then the substructure of the wall and the stylobate was observed by sounding. Finally the lateral stylobate implementation was removed in a restricted part to examine the construction system of the wall.

Built in pseudoisidomum²⁶ technique the wall starts from -4.41 m and rises up to -0.12 m which is the level of the stylobate. However, these codes differ in 10 cm between the north and south of the wall (Figure 4.17). To examine the wall, architectural elements and traces will be evaluated in this section. It is consisted of 12 courses of stones, the first three of which constitute the stylobate. Fourth course of the structure is the most distinguished one since it is placed with a 15 cm console to the wall (Figure 4.18). This console is ornamented with cyma reversa moulding²⁷ along the wall except for the windows, it is cut off at the windows with a profiled corner. As stated under heading 3.3.2, the fourth course was constructed to carry the bearing load of timber beams (Figure 4.19).

²⁶ In Greek or Roman masonry, ashlar of regular cut stone in which the heights of the courses are not uniform “(Dictionary of Architecture and Construction 2000)”

²⁷ A molding of double curvature which is convex at the outer edge and concave at the inner edge “(Dictionary of Architecture and Construction 2000)”

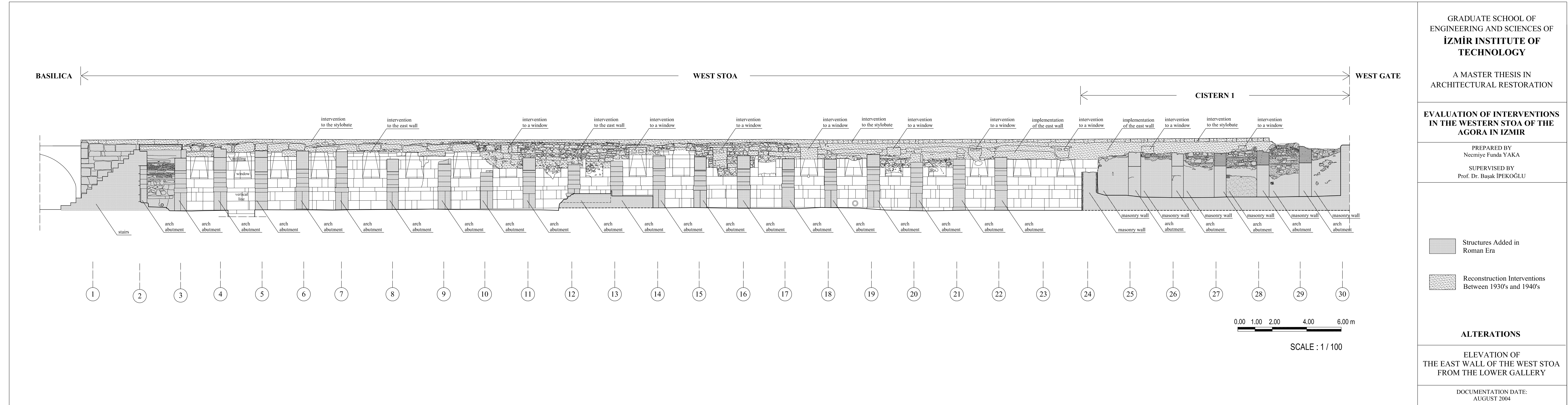


Figure 4.16. Different periods of interventions on the Hellenistic wall.



Figure 4.18. Fourth course of the wall with cyma reversa moulding is displayed in a restricted area.

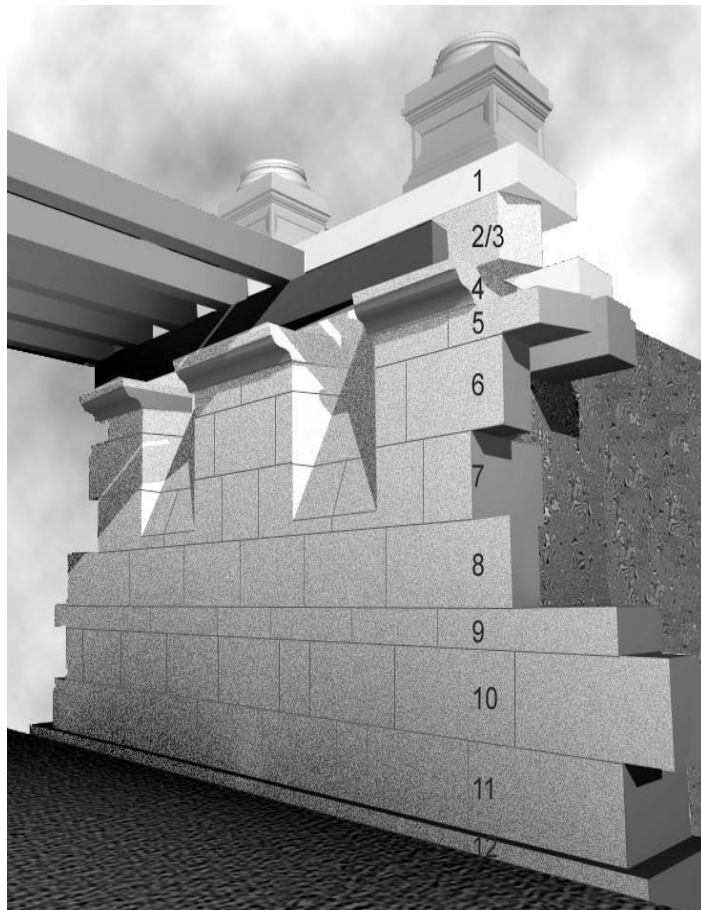


Figure 4.19. The restitution drawing of the stone courses of the east wall.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)

Another architectural element of the wall is the windows placed with various distances around the axis distance of 2.50 m. These windows are located between the 8th and 4th courses constituting a rectangular form on the façade with 1.53 m elevation and 1.01 m width. They get narrower as they get higher through the riser of the stylobate as stated under heading 3.3.2 (Figure 3.32). They were built to get light and air to the lower galleries of the West Stoa. However, there is not a complete example of the structure but the Basilica has similar windows.

Moreover, some vertical traces located between the 9th and 11th courses are displayed on the surface of the wall. These traces constitute 1 m frontal, which is 0.5 cm separated from the main surface (Figure 4.17). These surfaces placed with the axes distance of 2.66 m which varies to 2.76 m. these traces remain along the wall however, their function has not been identified yet.

According to the intervention decisions stated under heading 4.2, some columns need to be re-erected next to the West Gate. Before placing the columns, the wall and the stylobate had to be consolidated in order to bear the load of the following restorations. Accordingly, a reconstruction project was prepared for the south part of the east wall and stylobate. The purpose of this project is to constitute the substructure for re-erecting the columns in addition to reveal the original characteristics of the wall.

4.2.2.1. Proposal for Reconstruction of the Stylobate of the West Stoa

Built in the Hellenistic era, the West Stoa had been intervened many times by the end of the Roman era. As a part of the main structure, the south part of the east wall reveals three periods as well. As stated under 3.3.2. an earlier structural system with timber beams had been turned into a flooring system bearing on the arches in the Hellenistic era. Then the lower galleries of the south part were turned into cisterns and vaults were constructed between each arch. However, the reconstruction project of the wall should be implemented regarding the original characteristics of the wall none of the Roman interventions should be destroyed as they have equal importance from the point of conservation



Figure 4.20. The sounding work between 4th and 5th axes reveals the foundation of the wall.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)

Before starting the reconstruction proposal, the east wall and its architectural elements had been documented and analyzed in detail. Later on sounding excavations were done at different parts of the wall to investigate the foundation of the structure. It was determined that the stylobate and the east wall have separate foundations. The foundation of the stylobate ends at -1.72 m while the east foundation continues to -5.41 m “(Cingöz et al. 2004)”. Finally, a part of the stylobate implementation had been removed with the permission of the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage by decision numbered 1 dated 05.08.2004. The south part of the lateral implementation was removed to reveal the original remains of the wall in order to get exact information about the construction technique of the structure.

When the concrete stylobate between the 22nd and 30th axes was taken away the position of the extant pieces and connection traces gave information about the construction system of the wall. However, a cistern wall starts at the 24th axis and continues to the end, which restricted the investigations. In this situation, the wall had to be observed from the upper surface of the extant pieces not to destroy any remains. The reconstruction proposal was restricted with the implementation area because the following investigations should be done for such studies.

The original pieces were found in various levels between the 6th and 2nd courses increasing from north to south (Figure 4.17). It only exists until the 6th course between the 22nd and 26th axes. Then, the 5th course is observed between the 26th and 28th axes, further three stones belonging to the 4th course are placed between the same axes. In

addition, the foundation of the stylobate remained at -1.31 cm which is approximately the 6th course. The second course is observed between the 28th and 30th axes and also filling stones placed on the back side of the cut stones at the 4th course were found here. These remains found in-situ give information about the construction and joining style of the wall and the windows at each course. Furthermore, some original stones gathered in the previous excavations were found in the storage. These were documented and measured carefully in order to be reused in the following implementations.

After the removal of the concrete stylobate, the section of the windows between the 22nd and the 24th axes were measured in horizontal and vertical sections as well. The slope of the window through the stylobate was found as 25 degrees. The restitution investigations showed that the slope ended in the first raiser of the stylobate (Figure 4.23). In addition, when the West Stoa was compared with the Basilica, the windows should remain in different levels. That is because, there is a half wall in front of each window and also a water channel is located along the lower gallery south wall of the Basilica. These traces probably lead to some precautions against water coming through the windows. Conversely, there is not a water channel related with the windows in the West Stoa. Therefore, the windows should have been placed one step higher than the Basilica's.

The information gathered from the extant construction between the 22nd and 30th axes furthermore the best preserved part of the wall, which is between the 7th and 8th axes, contributed to the reconstruction proposal very much. The analyses of the construction system showed that the wall had been built regularly (Figure 4.24). The reconstruction proposal was prepared after the analyses of regular courses with a comparative study of each course.

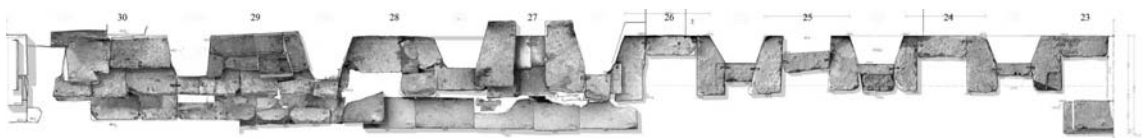


Figure 4.21. Documentation of the east wall between 23rd and 30th axes after the removal of the stylobate. (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)

**EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS
IN THE WESTERN STOA OF THE
AGORA IN IZMİR**

PREPARED BY
Necmiye Funda YAKA

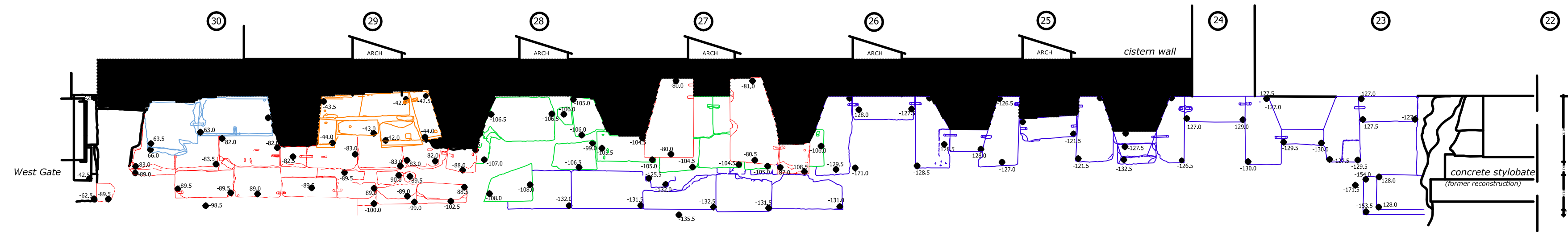
SUPERVISED BY
Prof. Dr. Başak İPEKOĞLU

- 6th COURSE
- 5th COURSE
- 4th COURSE
- 3rd / 2nd COURSE
- 2nd COURSE

MEASURED DRAWINGS

PLAN OF THE
THE EAST WALL OF THE WEST STOA
BETWEEN 22nd and 30th AXES

DOCUMENTATION DATE:
NOVEMBER 2004



0.00 0.50 1.00 2.00 3.00 m

SCALE : 1 / 50

Figure 4.22. Measured drawing of the east wall between 22nd and 30th axes.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)

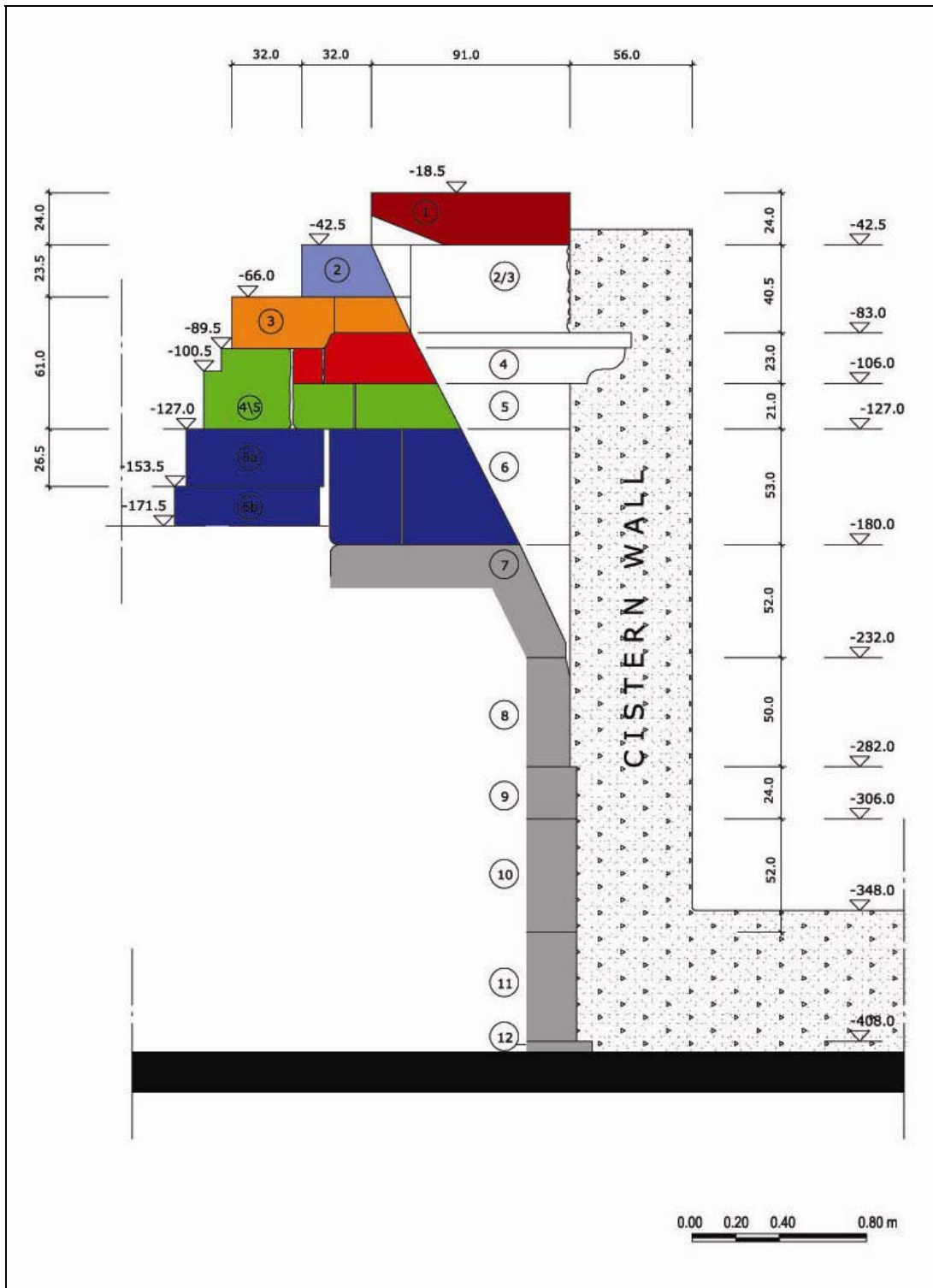


Figure 4.23. The restitution section of the east wall and the stylobate.
 (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2004)



Figure 4.24. The construction style of the wall revealed after the removal of the concrete stylobate implementation.



Figure 4.25. The east wall of the West Stoa, after the removal of the stylobate at 23rd axis.

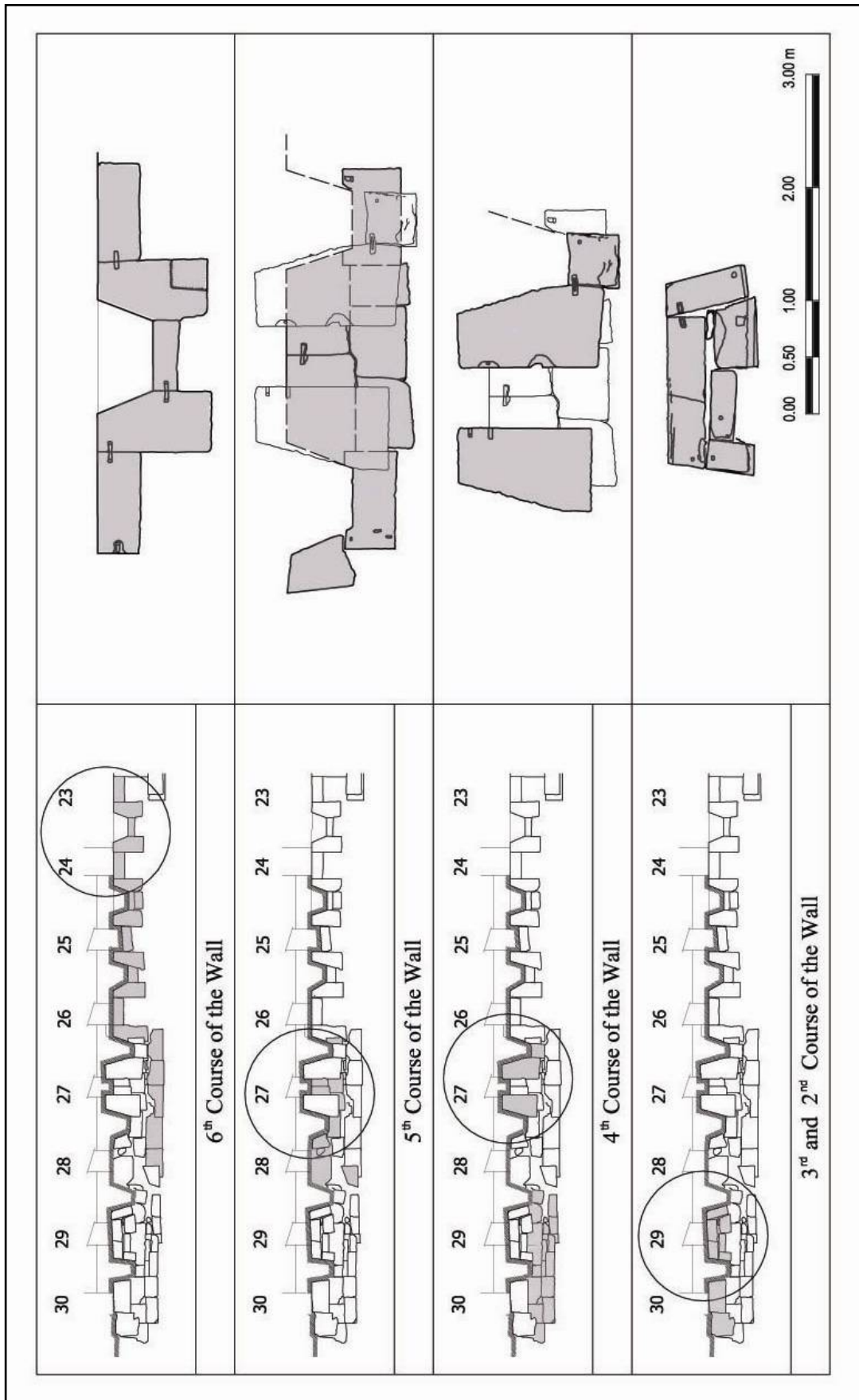


Figure 4. 26. Construction system of the courses.

To start with, the 6th course composed of cut stones placed on the surface of the wall between the 23rd and 26th axes reveal the construction technique of the windows. That the course was constructed with headers and stretchers placed perpendicular to each other. The construction system of the wall was formed by the repetition of connecting windows on its two sides. These windows are formed by two headers and a stretcher 50 cm behind the surface of the wall (Figure 4.26). The headers have been cut until the stretcher has an angle approximately 20 degrees. Further, the stretcher is cut as well to form a narrowing window in a horizontal and vertical plane.

The missing parts behind the front surface of the 6th course had to be filled to support the wall. The filling placed between the 24th and 25th axes lead to the form of filling. Additionally missing stones of the foundation should be placed like the originals remaining between the 26th and 28th axes (Figure 4.28).

Secondly, the 5th course was observed between the 26th and 28th axes, however, not completely open due to the existence of the 4th course. It is possible to understand the forms of the stones constituting the 5th course with careful inspection. To illustrate, four stretchers and a header belonging to two windows are observed here, which assisted to find out the construction system of the course (Figure 4.26).

The reconstruction proposal for the 5th course was prepared according to the analysis of extant stones. At each window, the angle was decided regarding the extant stones of the 6th course. Two original pieces found in the field were properly replaced. Apart from the wall, a course should be placed for the foundation of the stylobate as a continuance to the extant course placed between the 28th and 30th axes (Figure 4.29).

Thirdly, in the 4th course at the 27th axis, there is not a complete window opening, however, all other components are observed. For instance, two headers and a stretcher are clearly observed between the 26th and 28th axes while other remains are partially observed between the 28th and 30th axes due to the existence of the upper courses. Additionally, the filling under the stylobate in the 4th course level existed at the same interval (Figure 4.26). Some new pieces belonging to the 4th course were also found on the site. They were placed in the proper places in the reconstruction proposal. The form and the location of the other pieces were decided according to the characteristics of the extant ones (Figure 4.30).



Figure 4.27. The 27th axis reveals the construction technique of the 5th and 4th courses.

The next one was the 3rd course which was observed in the 29th axis as well as the 2nd course. The extant structure revealed different characteristics in the 29th and 30th axes. The reason for this difference is not clear but the 29th axis was preferred for the reconstruction proposal since it revealed a similar system to the lower courses. However, the 29th axis did not reveal a symmetric construction since the stretcher was placed behind the header on the left window. Although the reason for this incoherence application is not known, structural decay, which was probably caused by the construction system, was clearly observed on the system. The header was cracked in the middle because it was longer than the proper size. For this reason the reconstruction proposal was prepared according to the right side of the 29th axis and with the system similar to the 4th course.

The third and second steps of the stylobate should be placed in this course as seen in the figures (Figure 4.23), (Figure 4.26). The height of the stylobate steps were decided regarding the existing steps on the north side of the West Stoa and the steps of the West Gate. The horizontal measure of existing stylobate steps were varied, but certain measures of 135 cm, 115 cm and 90 cm were the most significant ones. Accordingly, the reconstruction project was planned regarding these measures. On the other hand there should be a regular method to implement the window constructions. The survey studies showed the measure of the windows varied as well as the measures between them. Therefore it was decided to construct windows with a regular measure

and then the distance between them would be adopted. According to the proposal project 135 cm cut stones are appropriate to be placed behind the windows with the center alignment at the third step (Figure 4.31). Then the second step should be placed as the joints located on the center of the windows and cut as shown in the reconstruction project in order to ensure the continuity of the windows to the first step (Figure 4. 32).

Finally, the first step of the stylobate was decided regarding the extant sample on the north side of the West Stoa. Similar to the third step, 135 cm stones should be placed as they center the windows because they should be carved to form the window opening. Every window should end in the opening at the riser of the first step with the dimension of 16 cm to 32cm (Figure 4.33).

The materials for the new constructions were decided regarding the properties of the original materials. Although the original materials were not evaluated experimentally, the new materials decided regarding experiences of local stone craftsmen. The Bursa beige marble was recommended for the construction of the east wall. The reason for selecting this hard material was due to two floors of the West Stoa façade bearing on the stylobate. However, since the recent restorations include raising the ground floor columns, the upper floor columns might be raised in the following years. In case of such a comprehensive implementation including the upper floor, the beige marble was selected as reconstruction material. Another point concerning this decision was similar characteristics to the original material was selected to ensure the equal distribution of the loads bearing on the foundation “(Taşlıalan et al. 2005)”. Different load bearing materials do not respect equal when loaded therefore it should be considered in order to avoid structural problems afterwards

The Marmara Marble which is similar to the original material was recommended for the reconstruction of the stylobate for the same reasons. However, the west side of the stylobate was not constructed with Marmara marble but Bursa beige marble as seen in the original components located at the 29th axis. The west side of the 2\3 course had not been constructed with Marmara marble in the Hellenistic era because they were not seen behind the timber flooring system which bears on the fourth course.

The extant stones held the traces of the original clamp places. Therefore it was decided to be binded with vertical bronze clamps measured 20/2 cm and further the clamps should be surrounded with lead.

**EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS
IN THE WESTERN STOA OF THE
AGORA IN IZMIR**

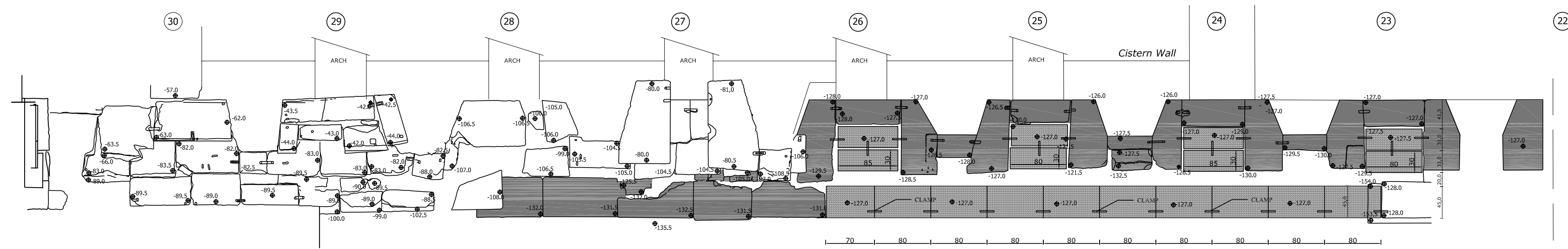
PREPARED BY
Necmiye Funda YAKA

SUPERVISED BY
Prof. Dr. Başak İPEKOĞLU

6th COURSE INSITU
BEIGE MARBLE
to BE APPLIED at 6th COURSE

RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

PLAN OF THE
THE EAST WALL OF THE WEST STOA
BETWEEN 22nd and 30th AXES



0.00 0.50 1.00 2.00 3.00 m




SCALE : 1 / 50

Figure 4.28. Reconstruction project for the 6th course of the east wall between 22nd and 30th axes.

**EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS
IN THE WESTERN STOA OF THE
AGORA IN IZMIR**

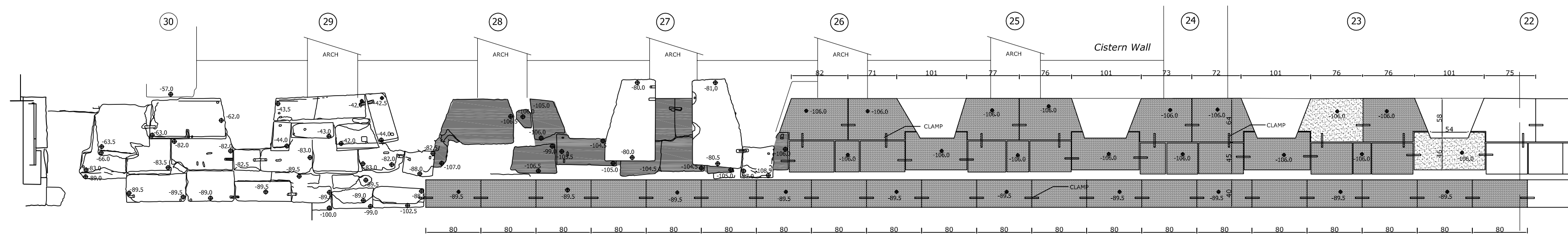
PREPARED BY
Necmiye Funda YAKA

SUPERVISED BY
Prof. Dr. Başak İPEKOĞLU

-  5th COURSE IN SITU
-  ORIGINAL EXISTING PIECES
FOUND to be REUSED at
5th COURSE
-  BEIGE MARBLE
to be APPLIED at 5th COURSE

RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

PLAN OF THE
THE EAST WALL OF THE WEST STOA
BETWEEN 22nd and 30th AXES



0.00 0.50 1.00 2.00 3.00 m

SCALE : 1 / 50

Figure 4.29. Reconstruction project for the 5th course of the east wall between 22nd and 30th axes.

**EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS
IN THE WESTERN STOA OF THE
AGORA IN IZMIR**

PREPARED BY
Necmiye Funda YAKA

SUPERVISED BY
Prof. Dr. Başak İPEKOĞLU

 MARMARA MARBLE
to be APPLIED at 2nd COURSE

RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

PLAN OF THE
THE EAST WALL OF THE WEST STOA
BETWEEN 22nd and 30th AXES

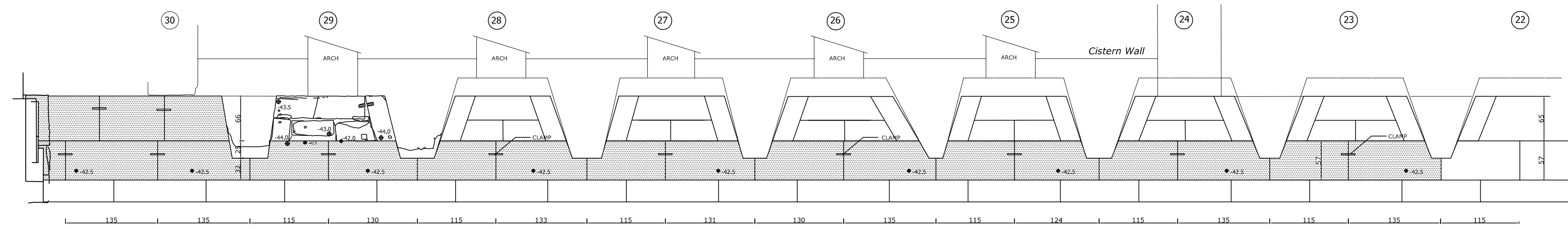


Figure 4.32. Reconstruction project for the 2nd course of the east wall between 22nd and 30th axes.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
ENGINEERING AND SCIENCES OF
**İZMİR INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY**

A MASTER THESIS IN
ARCHITECTURAL RESTORATION

**EVALUATION OF INTERVENTIONS
IN THE WESTERN STOA OF THE
AGORA IN IZMİR**

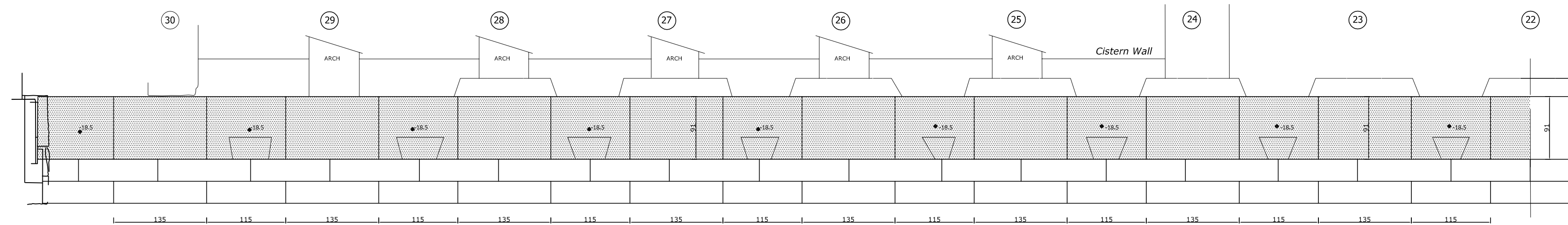
PREPARED BY
Necmiye Funda YAKA

SUPERVISED BY
Prof. Dr. Başak İPEKOĞLU

 MARMARA MARBLE
to be APPLIED at 1st COURSE

RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

PLAN OF THE
THE EAST WALL OF THE WEST STOA
BETWEEN 22nd and 30th AXES



0.00 0.50 1.00 2.00 3.00 m

SCALE : 1 / 50

Figure 4.33. Reconstruction project for the 1st course of the east wall between 22nd and 30th axes.

4.2.2.2. Reconstruction Implementation of the Stylobate of the West Stoa

The reconstruction implementation of the stylobate started in June 2005 with the placement of the stones on the 6th course. Each course was implemented as stated in the reconstruction project except for some problems due to the hardness of the marble (The Marmara marble was too hard to cut, for this reason, the second line had a few different measures than the project). The Bursa beige marble was used in the complete course of the 6th, 5th, 4th and west surface of the 3rd course (Figure 4.34). The other placed on the 3rd course composed the last step of the stylobate and the 2nd and 1st courses were constructed with the Marmara marble as stated in the reconstruction project (Figure 4.35).

The headers and stretchers composing the windows were formed according to the slope and the angle of each window. The extant stones found in the site were placed their proper places and the new constructed ones were placed lateron. After each component of the course had been placed, grout which included water, marble dust, and hydraulic lime (and a little white cement) was poured in the suture of the stones. Finally clamps and lead were applied as stated in the reconstruction project. Then the next course was similarly applied.

As in the original, the foundation of the stylobate was placed separate from the east wall. And stylobate construction started at the 3rd course of the wall with the 3rd and 2nd steps. They were connected to the next with a clamp which is not visible since it remains under the upper step. The 1st step was placed according to the window openings. To make the production easier, windows were applied to a proper length of marble block on the centre. Then they were placed on the windows. Later the block in the middle of two windows was placed accordingly.

		
<p>Reconstruction implementation of the 6th course</p>	<p>Reconstruction implementation of the 5th course</p>	<p>Reconstruction implementation of the 4th course</p>

Figure 4.34. The reconstruction periods of the east wall and the stylobate.



Figure 4.35. Reconstruction implementation of the window between 23rd and 24th axes.

4.2.2.3. Evaluation of the Reconstruction of the Stylobate of the West Stoa

The reconstruction implementation of the east wall and the stylobate were applied according to the proposal project. The intervention follows to the project except the third step of the stylobate. The lengths of some new stones are applied with different sizes with the change of approximately between 5-10 cm. due to difficulties in application. The implementation is executed with original and two kinds of new materials. Due to use of the new materials with similar characteristics to the originals, the implementation is distinguishable from the remains. Although their compatibility with existing material has not been analyzed, the Marmara marble and the Beige marble were used for the new parts as compatible materials. The construction system and the details are applied as shown in the project therefore, the reconstruction implementation is evaluated as compatible with original materials and techniques in the scope of this study.

Although complete reconstruction of the façade is not presently planned, the existing east wall and the stylobate were strengthened considering future interventions. Thus new reconstruction is available for the further loads at the east façade of the West Stoa. In addition, the interventions are reversible if necessary in the future.

4.2.3. Reconstruction of the Arches of the West Stoa

The West Stoa arches lead to the second period of the structure which means they were constructed in the Roman era. The arches placed around the distance of 5 m were for carrying the bearing load of the ground flooring system. Although the date of the construction is not exactly known there are two claims concerning the construction of the arches. One of them was due to the earthquake in 178 AD. The arched flooring system probably constructed when the timber beam system had been destroyed in the earthquake. The second is the structural system was probably turned to arched system during the construction of the Basilica “(Taşlıalan and Drew-Bear 2006)”.

The arches constitute the grid plan of the West Stoa placed one next to the other in each nave. Therefore they supported each other against the lateral thrusts. According to this planning each nave was constituted of 29 arches placed with irregular distances from north to south. These arches connected to each other with smaller arches from north to south as stated under heading 3.3.2. However, many of them are broken today. There are 8 arches on the south nave, 10 arches on the middle nave and 10 arches missing on the west nave (Figure 4. 37). The existing arches do not have many apparent structural problems but some material problems which can result in structural problems soon.



Figure 4.36. The Roman arches of the West Stoa.

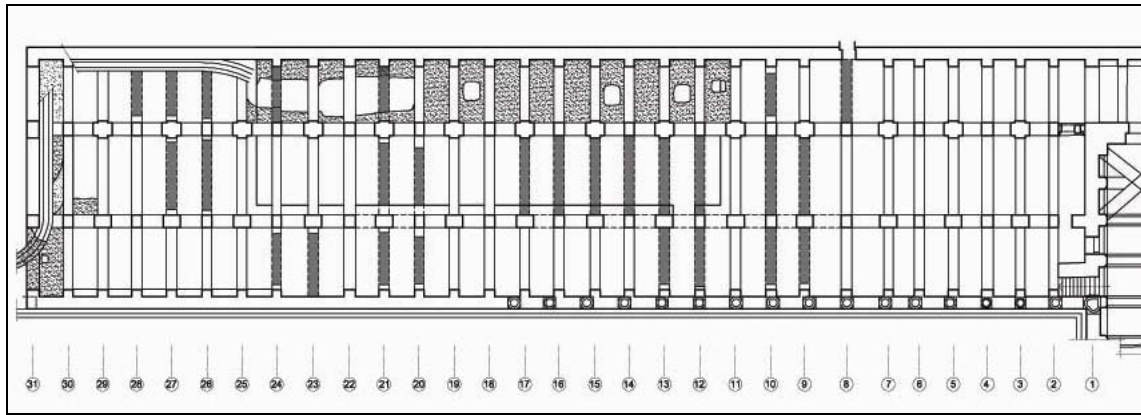


Figure 4. 37. The collapsed arches are shown in grey.

Although not planned among the intervention decisions concerning the Agora, the reconstruction of the ruined arches were decided by the administration of the excavation. These reconstructions were planned to make the anastylosis of the arches which were destroyed (collapsed) during the recent excavations and the arch components had been kept to be re-erected later on.

The reconstruction proposal was prepared through the site investigations. The remains of collapsed arches were documented first. This documentation included their current situation, existing components, section and the elevation drawings. Second the existing collapsed arch components (keystone and voussoirs) were collected and measured. Later onsite investigations for documenting the sound arches were done to specify their characteristics. Then the reconstruction project was prepared accordingly.

The aim of the reconstruction study is to replace the collapsed voussoirs and to consolidate the structure of the West Stoa. Although the aim of this implementation had been stated due to consolidation of the structure, the necessity of it should be discussed from the point of the structural system. As stated under the heading 3.3.2 the arches had been constructed subsequently in order to carry the bearing load of the ground flooring system. Further they do not support any walls but the arch in the next gallery. In the scope of the reconstruction proposal, reconstruction of the arches placed in the east lower gallery would be implemented first. However, the implementation should be done at each arch by axis since they support each other against the lateral thrusts.

4.2.3.1. Proposal for Reconstruction of the Arches of the West Stoa

The investigation of existing arches included the documentation of the 30 sound arches of the West Stoa. Investigations focused on identifying the properties of the arches. The arches varied in the number and the measure of the voussoirs, which showed an ancient repair process. Therefore, a theoretical arch was created according to the restitution investigations formed regarding the common points of the intervened arches. The theoretical arch was formed of three different arches constructed with three centers. In general, the arc in the middle center was composed of 7 stones which are a keystone and 3 voussoirs on the left and right sides of it. The other two arches were composed of 7 voussoirs placed on the springers on the left and right sides. Regarding this information the theoretical drawing of the arches was done. Accordingly Figure 4.38 shows the south elevation and section of the theoretical arc in the east gallery “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

The arches bear on the abutments composed of 16 voussoirs, 2 springers and a keystone. Most of the voussoirs have the same width, however, some are smaller due to repair implementations in ancient times. The east abutments bear on the wall while the west abutments separate the east and middle lower galleries. Since the arched system continues through the west, that springer was formed for two arches. Not all, but some of the arches reveal the use of andesite at the keystones and the springers (Figure 4.39). On the other hand, other components of the arches were made of tufa “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

The reconstruction project was prepared regarding the theoretical drawings. A total of 8 arches of the east nave were planned to be reconstructed in this study. In total 24 extant voussoirs were decided to be used in appropriate places of the reconstruction. The voussoirs were classified according to the sizes to be reused in Figure 4.40. Since the span of the arches varied, the voussoirs would be used in the exact measure but the keystones would be adjusted “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

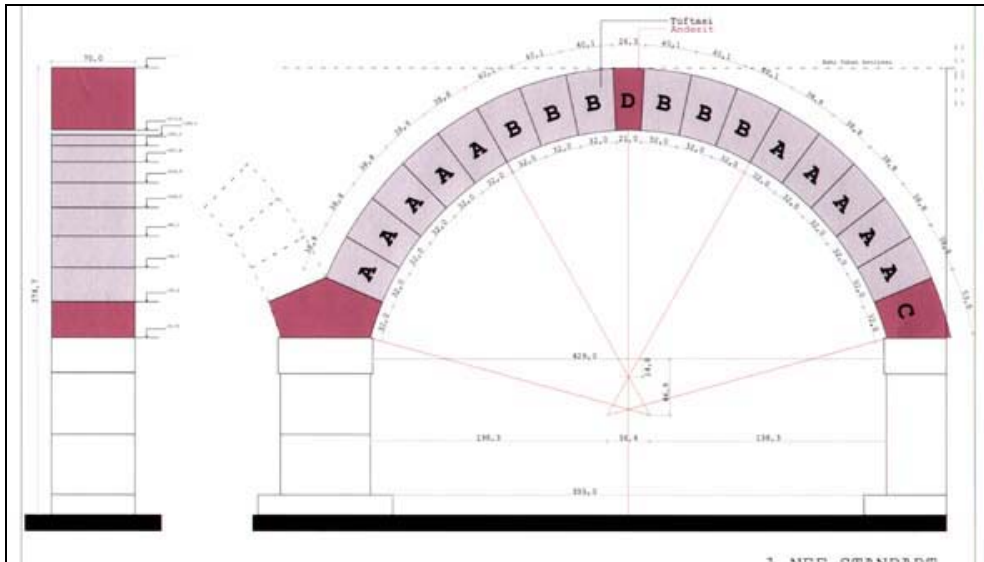


Figure 4.38 The theoretical drawing which shows the state of arches before an ancient repair.
 (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)



Figure 4.39. The west springer of the arches was for loading two arches.

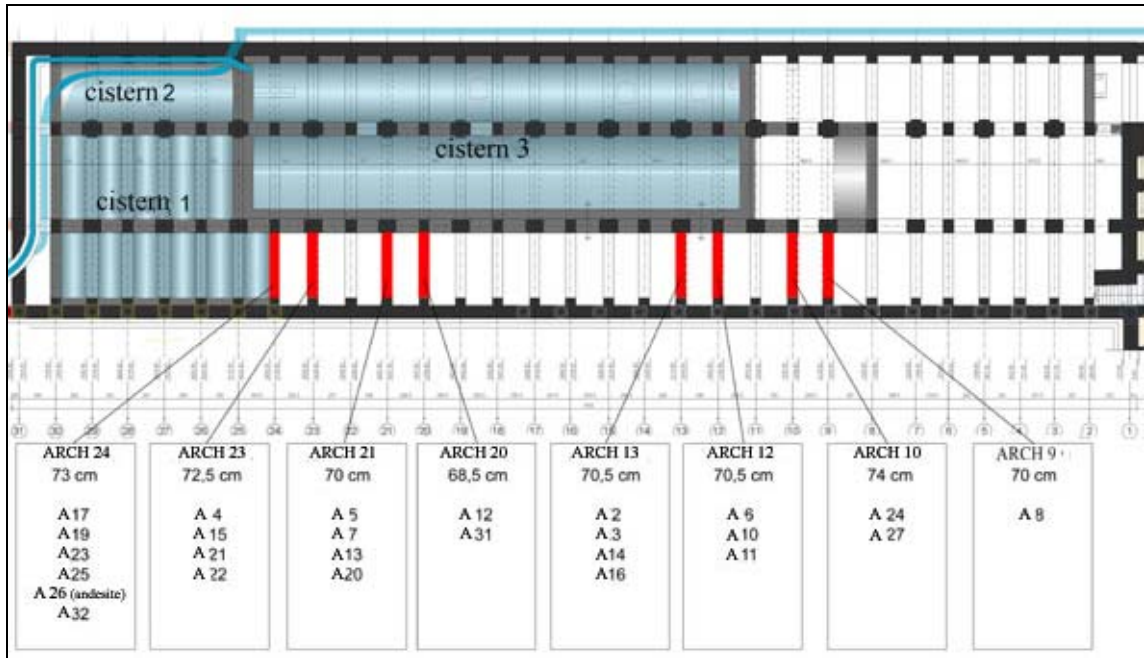


Figure 4.40. The figure shows the implemented arches and the extant voussoirs to be used in the reconstruction. (Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005).

4.2.3.2. Reconstruction Implementation of the Arches of the West Stoa

The reconstruction project of the arches had been presented to the İzmir 1st Numbered Conservation Council of Cultural and Natural Heritage and approved by decision numbered 507, dated 12.05.2005. It is stated that the reconstruction proposal was approved since the implementation was not concerned with exhibition; conversely it was to ensure the structural stability of the West Stoa.

A timber staging with the arch for the reconstruction implementation was built initially (Figure 4.41). Then the voussoirs were placed on the staging. Each voussoir was constructed with similar measures but not identical. The extant voussoirs were used in the reconstruction process initially (Figure 4.42). Finally the keystone was placed on the arch. The voussoirs implemented were in divesting measures in order to have the similar appearance with the extant arches which are dated to Roman era (Figure 4.43). Tufa was used to construct new voussoirs since they reveal similar properties with the Roman arches.



Figure 4.41. The timber staging is placed initially.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)



Figure 4.42. The reconstruction process of the arches.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)



Figure 4.43. The state of the arches after the reconstruction implementation.

4.2.3.3. Evaluation of the Reconstruction of the Arches of the West Stoa

The reconstruction was applied to the arches as proposed in the project. Although the technique of the reconstruction is with the same characteristics of the original, new interventions are distinguished from the existing arches. The new materials used in the reconstruction were selected since they have similar characteristics of natural stone. The analysis of compatibility of the materials have not been done neither during the applications nor in the scope of this thesis, new materials are evaluated as compatible regarding their kind of natural stone.

The new arches are strong enough to allow the future studies on the other hand, the original existing arches are not as stable as the new ones. Therefore, this inequality should be considered for further loads on the arches. The reconstruction of arches are also reversible which allows to be removed in the future for necessary rectification treatments.

4.2.4. Anastylis of the Columns of the West Stoa

The east façade of the West Stoa partially stands on the north side including the anastylosis of 13 columns, capitals and two architraves (Figure 4.44). This state of the structure was due to a prior implementation which was stated under heading 3.5.1.2.2. The anastylosis of the 5 columns were implemented by unification of two pieces and 8 columns were implemented with three pieces of columns. The joint edges of the pieces reveal that concrete material was used during the implementations. Further some ancient reconstruction marks are also displayed at the edges of the column pieces (Figure 4.45). This leads to the idea that, the West Stoa was destroyed in an earthquake and repaired at least once. Further, fractured columns were reused after being reunified with the clamps.

The 13 columns were placed on the column bases and 5 more bases situated without columns. These 18 bases are classified into two according to their sizes. It is clear that 4 bases (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th) placed on the stylobate belong to the first floor of the structure. Original bases were constructed from 91 cm to 91 cm cubes. However, there is only one original piece exists today “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.



Figure 4.44. Recent state of the West Stoa east facade columns.

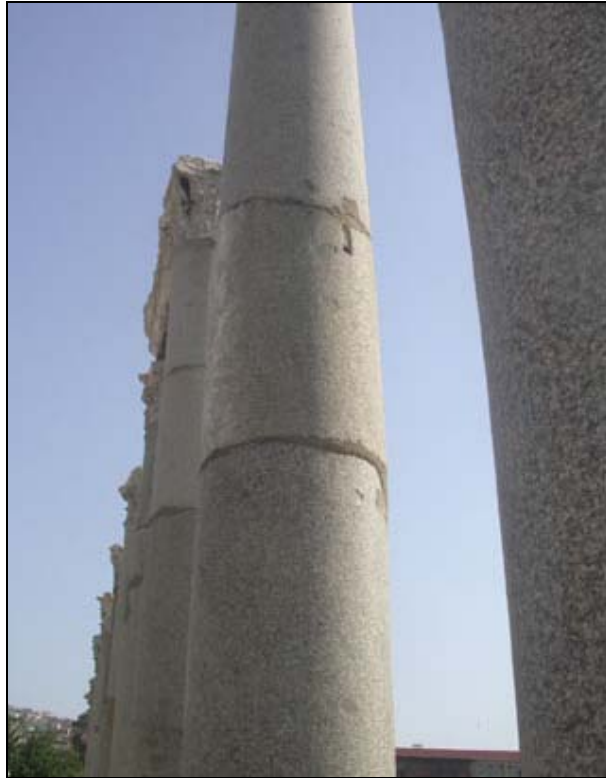


Figure 4.45. The clamp sign leads to an ancient repair.
(Source: Archives of the Agora excavations, 2005)

The recent excavations uncovered many pieces of columns which were documented and stored in the site. The existence of the column pieces inspired the intervention decisions concerning identifying the central area of the Agora stated under heading 4.1.4. In summary, some columns of the West Stoa next to the West Gate were proposed in order to reveal the connection of the two monuments. Further, the anastylosis aimed to display the ancient configuration of the ground floor façade of the West Stoa.

4.2.4.1. Proposal for Anastylosis of the Columns of the West Stoa

The anastylosis of the columns were decided to be implemented between the 23rd and 30th axes. The extant column pieces found in the site would be reraised on the south façade. Therefore, the project for anastylosis of the granite columns was prepared regarding the column pieces founded in the recent excavations. Starting next to the West Gate, re-erection of the columns between 30th and 23rd axes was planned. The columns would be placed with the original axis distance of 2.50 m which was explained

under the heading of 3.5.1.2.2. The aim of this implementation is to place the columns with regular distances and height as in Roman era.

First, the original column dimensions such as diameters and heights were found in the site investigations. The column replaced on the 5th axis revealed a sample to the original columns in Roman era. All extant pieces were measured in order to discover the exact position of the column piece in the column. Then a project was prepared for anastylosis of the columns.

The investigations of the extant pieces except capitals revealed that the West Stoa had collapsed in an earthquake and rebuilt again with the same materials. The extant column pieces reveal different repair techniques had been implemented in Roman era. These were the original pieces unified with two clamps from the outer surface. In addition, outer surface lead channels and clamp traces were found. Some highly damaged pieces were used after being shaved in order to complete each other and clamped afterwards “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”

The prior anastylosis implementation in the 1940s consisted of unification of both two and three column pieces. The extant pieces were shaved and unified with clamps and cement material was used at the joins. Regarding the ancient repairs and the previous anastylosis the columns do not stand on their original locations “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”.

Naumann and Kantar stated that they have found a whole column with the height of 4.23 m and placed it to the first floor. Regarding, the ground floor columns were stated as 4.85 m height as recent investigations reveal the same. The columns stood with narrowing diameters. To illustrate, ground floor columns start with the diameter of 60 cm and end with 50 cm, while first floor columns start with the diameter of 45 cm diameter and end with 37.5 cm. “(Taşlıalan et al. 2004)”. Since Vitruvius stated that upper floors columns should be a quarter smaller than the ground floors, these measures fit exactly “(Vitruvius 1998)”.

Neither whole column nor half was founded in the recent excavations. Since the half columns had been used in the previous implementations, the anastylosis proposal was prepared with the column pieces broken into three. Regarding the restitution investigations a theoretical column was drawn and location of each piece was determined. All pieces were grouped into three according to three as they belong to lower, middle and upper part of the structure. Later on the pieces were classified according to their compatibility. Each column would be constructed with extant pieces

as shown in the project. They will be unified to each other with 3 vertical clamps surrounded by lead “(Taşlıalan 2005b)”. Then they would be placed on the bases with the same method. Nevertheless, no sound basement existed today since all of them had been used in the previous implementations. Therefore, construction of the basements was needed to place the columns on. It was decided a destroyed basement was to be used after consolidation and 7 more would be constructed from the Marmara marble similar to the originals.

Finally the original capitals which were found in adequate quantity would be placed on the columns. Since the capitals remain in different dimensions the height of the columns would be adjusted to get the exact height at the architrave level. Accordingly all column pieces and capitals to be used in the anastylosis were planned in the project. Three vertical clamps and the lead surrounding them would be applied in order to place capitals on the column.

4.2.4.2. Anastylosis Implementation of the Columns of the West Stoa

After the reconstruction of the stylobate, column bases were constructed in the atelier from the Marmara marble. Seven bases were constructed and placed on the first step of the stylobate with 3 clamps and lead applied around the clamps. Later on the implementation of the columns started. First 30th column was unified from the pieces shown in the project, afterwards placed on the newly constructed bases. It was montaged with three clamps as stated in the proposal of project (Figure 4.46). The implementation studies had been stopped when the re-erection of the columns started. As stated under heading 4.2, the aim of this process was to acquire the unity of the West Gate and the West Stoa as in the Roman era. On the contrary, the recent state of the West Stoa presents a discontinuous and artificial structure due to unfinished implementations.

There is no doubt that the implementations would give the impression of the original structure if the extant columns and the capitals were placed on the column bases.



Figure 4.46. Reconstruction implementation of the West Gate and the 30th column of the West Soa.



Figure 4.47. The implementation studies finished after re-erection of the 30th column.



Figure 4.48. The present appearance of the West Stoa, 2006.

4.2.4.3. Evaluation of the Anastylis of the Columns of the West Stoa

The proposal of anastylis of the columns will be evaluated in this study since the interventions have not been completed yet. The new application of the columns will be distinguishable due to the unification technique of the column pieces. Original pieces will be used in the column anastylis while all the bases were built with new material, Marmara marble (Figure 4.48). The bases were built according to the existing original ones with compatible materials.

The proposal for anastylis of the columns is available for the future studies if further interventions are necessitated. That is, the capitals on the columns are at the same height, it is possible to place architrave blocks and other architectural components on them. Furthermore, the proposal is evaluated as reversible.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS

The restoration interventions had been implemented in the West Stoa of the Agora, have been subjected to this study. The restorations executed in 1930's and 1940's were realized before the excavation studies completed and investigations resulted in many wrong implementations besides loss of some data. In the scope of new findings found in the lateral excavations and the recent investigations, the former interventions necessitated reevaluation.

The former interventions in the West Stoa include the reconstruction of the West Gate, reconstruction of the east wall and stylobate and re-erection of some columns. Although they were reasonable when executed, recent investigations revealed that they included wrong implementations which were incompatible with original materials, techniques and form. To illustrate, the anastylosis of the West Gate was re-erected with inaccurate measures and with building components that belonged to other buildings. Such as some of the voussoirs belong to the Basilica while abutment pieces belong to the Basilica and the West Gate. In addition, the east wall and stylobate were reconstructed with rubble and concrete material without regarding the original construction technique, materials and details. Then, the columns were placed with irregular distances and heights on the stylobate.

To sum up, when the restoration interventions of the 1930's and 1940's are evaluated in terms of the criteria regarding present international regulations, they are distinguishable of the new application. On the other hand, new applications are not compatible with existing original materials and techniques, therefore they are not available for future applications. Finally, the interventions are reversible in order to allow for necessary rectification in the future.

Although the previous implementations have a considerable importance as they reveal the former conservation approaches, incorrect anastylosis of the West Gate and south part of the stylobate had to be disassembled since they did not reveal the original state. Removing the previous implementations just as they include mistakes should not be the adequate approach for disassembling them. Actually, frustrating effects to the original material should be considered and damaging any extant material should be

avoided. In addition to the wrong implementations, new evidences including original building components found in the recent excavations made the dissembling essential in the West Stoa.

Similar to the former interventions, restoration studies were carried out before the excavations were completed. Although, urgent interventions for the conservation of the remains should be implemented initially, the recent studies included many restoration interventions concerning the presentation and information of the site. In the scope of the recent studies, reconstruction of the West Gate, east wall, stylobate and some arches of the West Stoa, and anastylosis of a column were executed in 2004 and 2005.

Regarding some criteria of the present international regulations, these interventions are evaluated distinguishable as belonging to the recent time although the materials and techniques used in the application are compatible with the existing original materials. In addition, they are available for future applications to be completed since they are reversible to allow rectification when necessary in the future.

For further studies, other conservation problems, that have to be managed initially in the Agora, can be grouped in four themes. The most important one is the security problem of the site due to illicit entrances and stays of idles in the lower galleries. Not only the visitors and investigators but also the findings are under threat by these people. The existing state showed that isolating the archeological site from its surrounding would increase the problem. Instead, the Agora should be regarded as a public place as it was in the ancient era. Not only the limited social and cultural activities but also the daily use of the local people should be considered in the scope of public use. The measure of this problem is organizing the surrounding of the site especially the north side of the Basilica and the expropriation zone on the west should be planned accordingly. Therefore, new utilizations such as a welcoming center, information, resting place with cafeterias and shopping functions will increase the pedestrian traffic on the north side. In addition, security points and lighting should be achieved to ensure safety during the night as well.

The following studies should focus on evaluation and preservation of the findings, as well as, the curation of related records and literature concerning the Agora instead of new excavation studies. An adequate number of qualified investigators in relevant fields should contribute to evaluate the archeological remains. International cooperation should be ensured in specialized fields. The existence of the South Stoa and

any other monuments placed in the central area should be searched with non destructive techniques such as geophysical and infrared rather than the excavations.

A proper long-term conservation programme should be managed for the protection of the archaeological remains. Including structural and material decays, constructional problems should be documented and analyzed. Exposed to weathering, some of the arches and vaults of the lower galleries need to be consolidated to avoid collapse. Apart from structural deteriorations, some building components such as mosaics, mortars and plasters have been under the threat of degradation since they have been exposed. A comprehensive work should be done for the preservation of the materials. In this scope, deterioration problems of the remains should be documented regularly in order to determine the characteristics of the decay for the preservation of them. Considering the conservation of the plasters against rain and sun light, temporary shelter was constructed, which obstructs the perception of the Basilica. Instead, an appropriate sheltering should be projected for the conservation of the plasters as well as the other building components.

Finally, arrangement of the site for the visitors should be organized. Walking platforms, information centers, exhibition places should be planned to educate the visitors. The investigation studies should be exhibited as well as the findings. The expropriation zone designed for the function will increase the link between the site and the city. Especially the north side should be reorganized as an entrance with cafeterias, shopping places and an information center to reflect the authentic ambience to the visitors.

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APPENDIX A

KÜLTÜR ve TABİAT VARLIKLARINI KORUMA YÜKSEK KURULU İLKE KARARLARI

Toplantı No. ve Tarihi : 45 3.3.1998

Toplantı Yeri

Karar No. ve Tarihi : 572 3.3.1998

ANKARA

I.ve II. DERECEDE ARKEOLOJİK SİT ALANLARINDAKİ ÖREN YERLERİNDE KÜLTÜR VE TABİAT VARLIKLARININ KORUNMASI ve SERGİLENMESİNE YÖNELİK MEKANLARIN OLUŞTURULMASI

I.ve II. derecede arkeolojik sit alanlarındaki ören yerlerinde Kültür ve Tabiat Varlıklarının korunması ve sergilenmesine yönelik mekanların oluşturulması konusunda Anıtlar ve Müzeler Genel Müdürlüğünün 27.10.1997 gün ve 8729 sayılı yazısı ve eki raporların değerlendirilmesi sonucunda;

I.ve II. derece arkeolojik sit alanlarındaki ören yerlerinde açığa çıkarılan taşınır kültür varlıklarının alana yönelik işlevsel ve mekansal bağlarının kurulabilmesine olanak sağlamak üzere mahallinde korunması ve değerlendirilmesine yönelik bilimsel faaliyetler kapsamında; muhafaza, bakım, onarım, restorasyon, teşhir - tanzim ve tanıtımlarına yönelik Kültür Bakanlığınca ihtiyaç duyulan kapalı ve açık sergi mekanları ile ziyaretçilere yönelik açık otopark, WC gibi düzenlemelerin bilimsel araştırma ve kazısı tamamlanmış olup yer altı katmanlarında korunması gerekli kültür varlığı bulunmadığı saptanan antik yerleşmenin surdışı alanlarında ilgili Koruma Kurulunun özel izni ile yapılabileceğine,

Uygulama öncesinde ören yerinin yakın çevresinin işlevsel bütünlüğü içinde etkin bir şekilde korunması ve yaşatılmasına yönelik alan kullanım ve düzenleme kararlarını içeren 1 / 500 ölçekli Çevre Düzenleme Projesi ile ön izin alınmasına, buna bağlı olarak düzenlenecek kapalı ve açık mekanların işlev, yerleşme, yapılaşma, estetik

ve peyzaj düzenleme koşulları ile kapasitelerinin sergiye konu eserler sergi mekanlarının mahal listeleri ile alana yönelik araştırma, kazı, restorasyon ve çevre düzenleme proje raporları çerçevesinde Koruma Kurulunca belirlenmesine, açık alan düzenlemelerinin onaylı 1 / 200, mimari mekanların 1 / 50 ve daha alt ölçekli uygulama projeleri ile uygulanabileceğine,

Kapalı sergi ve depolama mekanı ihtiyaçlarının restorasyonu tamamlanabilecek mevcut mekanlardan da karşılanabileceğine,

Ören yeri bünyesinde kapalı sergi mekanları bütününden bağımsız olarak ticari mekanlara kesinlikle izin verilemeyeceğine, karar verildi.

APPENDIX B

KÜLTÜR ve TABİAT VARLIKLARINI KORUMA YÜKSEK KURULU İLKE KARARLARI

Toplantı No. ve Tarihi : 60 5.11.1999

Toplantı Yeri

Karar No. ve Tarihi : 658 5.11.1999

ANKARA

ARKEOLOJİK SİTLER, KORUMA VE KULLANMA KOŞULLARI

Arkeolojik Sitler, Koruma ve Kullanma Koşullarına ilişkin 14.7.1998 gün ve 594 sayılı ilke kararı, uygulamada çıkan sorunlar, mevzuatla çelişen hususlar ve Danıştay 6. Dairesinin 11.11.1997 gün ve 1996 / 3313 esas, 1997 / 4875 sayılı kararı gözönüne alınarak aşağıdaki şekilde düzenlenmiştir.

Arkeolojik Sit: İnsanlığın varoluşundan günümüze kadar ulaşan eski uygarlıkların yer altında, yer üstünde ve su altındaki ürünlerini, yaşadıkları devirlerin sosyal, ekonomik ve kültürel özelliklerini yansıtan her türlü kültür varlığının yer aldığı yerleşmeler ve alanlardır.

Arkeolojik Sitlerde Koruma ve Kullanma Koşulları: Bu bölümde yapılan derecelendirme arkeolojik sitlerin taşıdıkları önem ve özelliklerinin yanısıra, alanda uygulanacak koruma ve kullanma koşullarını kapsar.

1) I. Derece Arkeolojik Sit: Korumaya yönelik bilimsel çalışmalar dışında aynen korunacak sit alanlarıdır.

Bu alanlarda, kesinlikle hiçbir yapılaşmaya izin verilmemesine, imar planlarında aynen korunacak sit alanı olarak belirlenmesine, bilimsel amaçlı kazıların dışında hiçbir kazı yapılamayacağına, ancak;

a) Resmi ve özel kuruluşlarca zorunlu durumlarda yapılacak alt yapı uygulamaları için müze müdürlüğünün ve varsa kazı başkanının görüşüyle konunun koruma kurulunda değerlendirilmesine,

b) Yeni tarımsal alanların açılmamasına, yalnızca sınırlı mevsimlik tarımsal faaliyetlerin devam edebileceğine, koruma kurullarınca uygun görülmesi halinde seracılığa devam edilebileceğine,

c) Höyük ve tümülüslerde toprağın sürülmesine dayanan tarımsal faaliyetlerin kesinlikle yasaklanmasına, ağaçlandırmaya gidilmemesine, yalnızca mevcut ağaçlardan ürün alınabileceğine,

d) Taş, toprak, kum vb. alınmamasına, kireç, taş, tuğla, mermer, kum, maden vb. ocakların açılmamasına, toprak, curuf, çöp, sanayi atığı ve benzeri malzeme dökülmemesine,

e) Bu alanlar içerisinde yer alan ören yerlerinde gezi yolu düzenlemesi, meydan tanzimi, açık otopark, WC, bilet gişesi, bekçi kulübesi gibi ünitelerin koruma kurulundan izin alınarak yapılabileceğine,

f) Bu alanlar içerisinde bulunan ve günümüzde halen kullanılan umuma açık mezarlıklarda sadece defin işlemlerinin yapılabileceğine,

g) Taşınmaz kültür varlıklarının mahiyetine tesir etmeyecek şekilde ilgili koruma kurulundan izin almak koşuluyla birleştirme (tevhit) ve ayırma (ifraz) yapılabileceğine,

2) II. Derece Arkeolojik Sit: Korunması gereken, ancak koruma ve kullanma koşulları koruma kurulları tarafından belirlenecek, korumaya yönelik bilimsel çalışmalar dışında aynen korunacak sit alanlarıdır. Bu alanlarda, yeni yapılaşmaya izin verilmemesine, ancak;

a) Günümüzde kullanılmakta olan tescilsiz yapıların basit onarımlarının yürürlükteki ilke kararı doğrultusunda yapılabileceğine,

b) I. derece arkeolojik sit koruma ve kullanma koşullarının a,b,c,ç,d,e,f, maddelerinin geçerli olduğuna,

3) III. Derece Arkeolojik Sit: Koruma - kullanma kararları doğrultusunda yeni düzenlemelere izin verilebilecek arkeolojik alanlardır.

Bu alanlarda,

a) Geçiş dönemi yapılanma koşullarının belirlenmesine, Geçiş dönemi yapılanma koşullarının belirlenmesinde;

- Öneri yapı yoğunluğunun, mevcut imar planı ile belirlenmiş yoğunluğu aşmamasına,

- Alana gelecek işlevlerin uyumuna,

- Gerekli alt yapı uygulamalarına,

- Öneri yapı gabarilerine,
- Yapı tekniğine ve malzemesine, Mevcut ve olası arkeolojik varlıkların korunması ve değerlendirilmesini sağlayacak bir biçimde çözümler getirilmesine,

b) Varsa onaylı çevre düzeni ve nazım plan kararları ile yerleşime açılmış kesimlerinde arkeolojik değerlerin korunmasını gözeterek, koruma amaçlı imar planlarının yapılmasına,

c) Bu ilke kararının alınmasından önce Koruma Amaçlı İmar Planı yapılmış yerlerde planın öngördüğü koşulların geçerli olduğuna.

d) Bu alanlarda, belediyesince veya valilikçe inşaat izni verilmeden önce, ilgili müze müdürlüğü uzmanları tarafından sondaj kazısı gerçekleştirilerek, sondaj sonuçlarının bu alanlarla ilgili, varsa kazı başkanının görüşleriyle birlikte müze müdürlüğünce koruma kuruluna iletilip kurul kararı alındıktan sonra uygulamaya geçilebileceğine,

e) III. Derece arkeolojik sit alanı olarak belirlenen arkeolojik sit alanlarında koruma kurullarının, sondaj kazısı yapılacak alanlara ilişkin genel sondaj kararı alabileceğine,

f) Taşınmaz kültür varlıklarının mahiyetine tesir etmeyecek şekilde ilgili koruma kurulundan izin almak koşuluyla birleştirme (tevhit) ve ayırma (ifraz) yapılabileceğine,

g) Bu alanlarda, taş, toprak, kum vb. alınmasına, kireç, taş, tuğla, mermer, kum, maden vb. ocaklarının açılmamasına, toprak, curuf, çöp, sanayi atığı ve benzeri malzemenin dökülmemesine,

h) Ülke enerji üretimine getireceği katkı ve kamu yararı doğrultusunda bu alanlarda koruma kurulunca uygun görülmesi halinde rüzgar enerji santralleri yapılabileceğine,

i) Sit alanlarındaki su ürünleri üretim ve yetiştirme tesislerine ilişkin yürürlükteki ilke kararının geçerli olduğuna,

4) Kentsel Arkeolojik Sitler: Arkeolojik sitlerle, 2863 sayılı Yasanın 6. Maddesinde tanımlanan korunması gerekli taşınmaz kültür varlıklarını içeren ve aynı yasa maddesi gereği korunması gerekli kentsel dokuların birlikte bulunduğunu alanlardır.

a) Bu alanlarda, arkeolojik değerlerin sağlıklı ve kapsamlı envanter çalışmasının yapılmasına, bu çalışma sonucunda hazırlanacak planlar onanmadan, parsel ölçeğinde uygulamaya geçilmemesine,

Planlama çalışmaları sırasında;

- Alana gelecek işlevlerin uyumuna,
- Günümüz koşullarının gerektirdiği altyapı hizmetlerinin proje aşamasından itibaren kültür katmanına zarar vermeyecek ve toprak kullanımını en alt düzeyde tutacak biçimde ele alınmasına,

- Öneri yapı gabarileri ile yapı tekniği ve malzemesinin geleneksel doku ile uyumuna özen gösterilmesine,

b) Bu alanlarda mevcut yıkıntı temeller üzerine, o temellerin ait olduğu eski yapı, korunması gerekli kültür varlığı niteliği taşıyorsa, ayrıca içinde bulunduğu sitin tarihsel kimliğinin yeniden canlandırılmasına önemli bir katkı yaratıyorsa yapıya ait eski bilgi, resim, gravür, fotoğraf, anı belgeleri vb. dokümanlarla restitüe edilebileceği ilgili koruma kurulunca kabul edildikten sonra restitüsyon projesi düzenlenerek ve kurulca onaylanarak, eski yapının yeniden ihya edilebileceğine,

c) Tek yapı ölçeğindeki korunması gerekli kültür varlığı niteliği taşıyan yapı ve yapı kalıntılarının rölöve ve restorasyon projelerinin koruma kurulunca onanması koşulu ile onarılıp kullanılabilmesine, yasa kapsamı dışında kalan taşınmazların ise yürürlükteki ilke kararında belirtilen esaslar kapsamında basit onarımlarının yapılabileceğine,

14.7.1998 gün ve 594 sayılı ilke kararının iptaline karar verildi.

APPENDIX C

KÜLTÜR ve TABİAT VARLIKLARINI KORUMA YÜKSEK KURULU İLKE KARARLARI

Toplantı No. ve Tarihi : 68 15.04.2005

Toplantı Yeri

Karar No. ve Tarihi : 702 15.04.2005

ANKARA

KENTSEL ARKEOLOJİK SİT ALANLARI KORUMA VE KULLANMA KOŞULLARI

3386 ve 5226 sayılı Kanunlarla değişik 2863 sayılı Kanun kapsamına giren arkeolojik sit alanları ile birlikte korunması gerekli kentsel dokuları içeren ve bu özellikleri ile bütünlük arz eden korumaya yönelik özel planlama gerektiren alanlar kentsel arkeolojik sit alanlarıdır.

a) Bu alanlarda, arkeolojik değerlerin bilimsel yöntemlerle açığa çıkarılması, onarılması ve sergilenmesi işlemlerinin esas alınarak sağlıklı ve kapsamlı arkeolojik envanter temeline dayalı öz gerekli bütün ölçeklerdeki planlama çalışmalarının ivedilikle yapılmasına, bu planlar onanmadan, parsel ölçeğinde uygulamaya geçilmemesine.

Planlama çalışmaları sırasında:

- . Alana gelecek işlevlerin uyumuna,
- . Günümüz koşullarının gerektirdiği altyapı hizmetlerinin proje aşamasında kültür katmanına zarar vermeyecek ve toprak kullanımını minimumda tutacak biçimde ele alınmasına,
- . Öneri yapı gabarileri ile yapı tekniği ve malzemesinin geleneksel doku ile uyumuna,
- . Mevcut ve olası arkeolojik varlıkların korunmasını ve değerlendirilmesini sağlayacak çözümler getirilmesine,

b) Bu alanlarda mevcut yıkıntı temeller üzerine, o temellerin ait olduđu eski yapı, korunması gerekli kùltür varlığı niteliđi taşıyorsa, ayrıca içinde bulunduđu sitin tarihsel kimliğinin yeniden canlandırılmasında önemli bir boşluk yaratıyorsa, yapıya ait eski bilgi, resim, gravür, fotoğraf, anı belgeleri vb. dokümanlarla restitüe edilebileceđi ilgili Koruma Bölge Kurulunca kabul edildikten sonra restitüsyon projesi düzenlenerek ve kurulca onaylanarak eski yapının yeniden ihya edilebileceđine,

c) Tek yapı ölçeđindeki korunması gerekli kùltür varlığı niteliđi taşıyan yapı ve yapı kalıntılarının rölöve ve restorasyon projelerinin Koruma Bölge Kurulunca onanması koşulu ile onarılıp kullanılabilceđine, kentsel doku ile bütünlük sađlayan tescili bulunmayan mevcut yapıların da aynı koşullarda hazırlanacak projelere dayalı olarak onarılabilceđine.

Kurulumuzun 5.11.1999 gün ve 658 sayılı ilke kararının 4. maddesinin iptaline karar verildi.