

Survey of Ancient Greek Harbours

In October 1963, David Blackman undertook travel around the Eastern Mediterranean Sea to explore ancient Greek harbour sites. Ten sites were visited, with an aim to check each site against existing descriptions, study any other structures not yet noted or poorly described, and to swim or dive as necessary to examine any submerged remains. Though at some sites ancient harbour traces could not be identified, he was successful in resolving conflicting accounts of the harbours at Cyzicus, finding one or two previously unmentioned moles at Erythrae, and conducting rewarding survey work at Clazomenae and Teos.

Blackman's work was continued in June 1964, this time with his wife, visiting sites in Ionia and Caria specifically. At the harbour at Myndus (Gümüşlük) he was able to note some previously unmentioned features and was successful in finding remains of jetties and walls at the bay of Taşbükü, as well as remains of a harbour near Datça Iskelesi on the Cnidian Peninsula. A few other sites were left unvisited due to illness.