

M0005010: The Greek Theatre at Pergamum, Turkey

Publication/Creation

4 November 1936

Persistent URL

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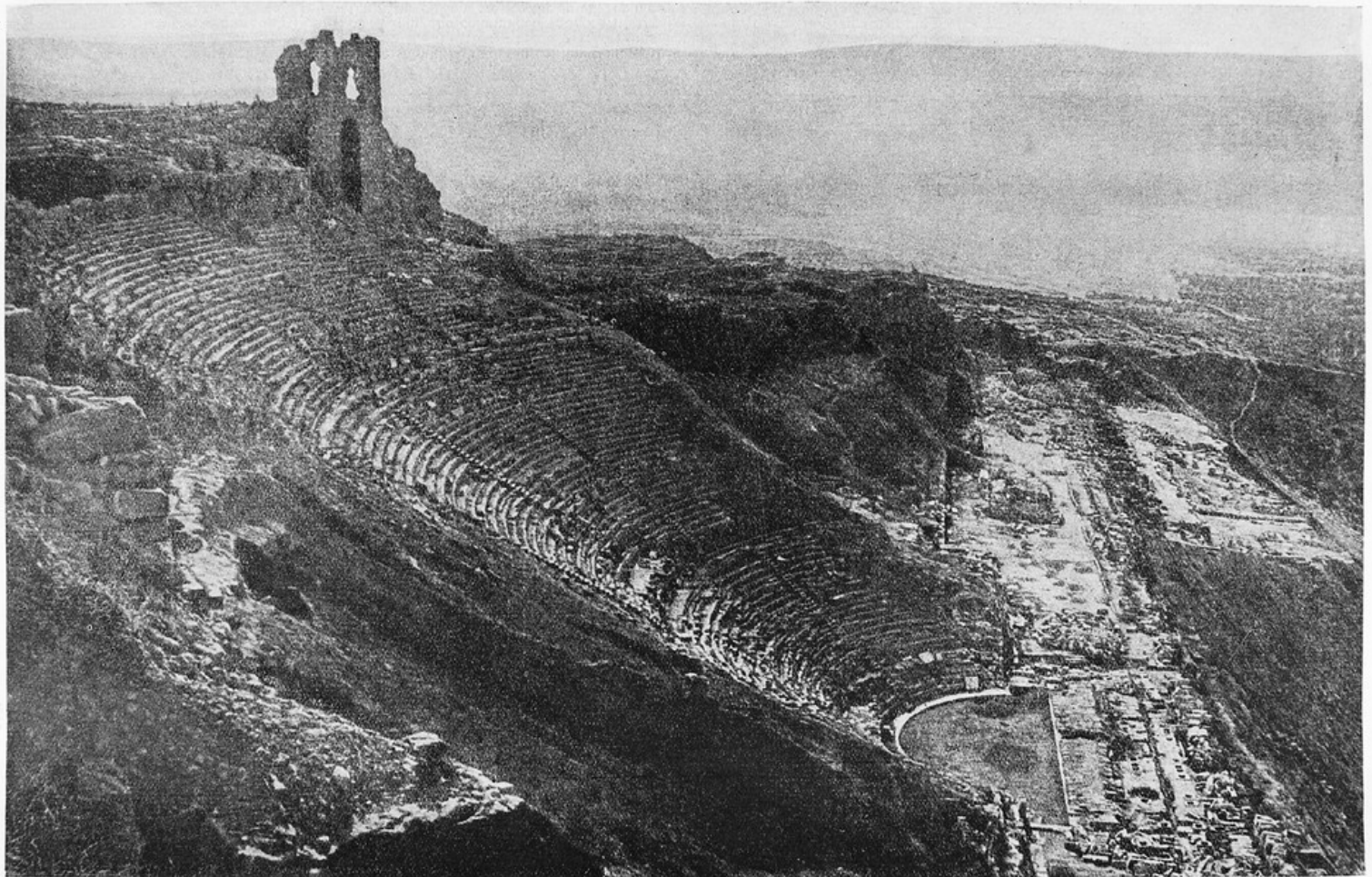
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GREEK THEATRE AT PERGAMUM WHERE ART FLOURISHED UNDER A LIBERAL KING

Owing to its steepness and its great height the Greek theatre at Pergamum is one of the most imposing to be seen anywhere. During the second century B.C. Pergamum was among the most renowned homes of art and literature in the Graeco-Roman world, and even rivalled Alexandria. Its library shared an equal repute with that of Alexandria, and its scribes have the credit of inventing parchment: Romans indeed thought that the sculpture and the architecture to be found within its walls was the most wonderful in the whole world. This illustration of the theatre shows admirably the way in which Greek architects took advantage of the natural contours of the hillside in building this type of structure; hence no two theatres are ever alike.

After "Altertümer von Pergamon IV."