The salvage excavation of a Basilica at Büyükgökçeli, which lies ca. 1.5-2 km. north of the town of Büyükgökçeli, Isparta started on 09.07.2012 with the permit of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism. When the excavation plan, which consisted of 18 initial pits, was completed the main parts of the building were recognized; however, as the building turned out to be larger than predicted additional pits were dug and of the main sections of the structure narthex, naos, bema, apsis and a room annexed to the narthex were revealed, and during the remaining time we tried to determine the outer contours of their body walls. The Church, which is thought to have undergone at least two construction phases, is located on the bedrock until the bema section. We think that in the first phase it consisted of naves divided by columns and in the second phase piers were added to the line of columns following the original plan.

The materials of the first phase were used in construction of the piers. We also think that the upper structure carried by the piers was made of arches made of limestone and other wooden elements. The narthex and bema sections of the building are furnished with opus sectile while the middle and side naves are covered with opus tessellatum mosaics. The mosaic floor is in good condition except for the south nave and the parts broken during authorized excavations.

The decoration, which is dominated by geometrical patterns, includes some plant and animal motifs. While the inner sides of the walls were decorated with frescos in the first phase, they were covered with white plaster during the second phase. The big number of glass tesselas in
various colours found in the fill indicates that there were *opus musivum* mosaics on the walls or
arches of the building. A limekiln of recent time, which was located in the area between the
south and middle naves, was revealed. This kiln is the main cause of the loss of block stones in
the building. In connection with this, the reason for the scarcity of smaller objects collected
must be the unauthorized excavations during and after the limekiln period. After the
excavation, the mosaic floor was strengthened and it was covered with a landfill of about 30
cm. that is composed of geotextile, silt, fine pumice and coarse pumice layers. The walls of the
structure were isolated with nylon covers, stone and sand so as to prevent them from the effects
of precipitation and vegetation.

**Keywords:** Büyükgökçeli, Kaleburnu, Basilical Church, Late Antique Mosaic.