1982

KOMMOS EXCAVATIONS

NOTEBOOK No. 48
Steven Blake Shubert

AUGUST 9-28, 1982
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Trench 48A is located on the Central Hillside, directly south of trenches 41A and 41A1 and east of trench 45A (see plan on p 6).

The purpose of digging this trench is to give a clearer picture of the Middle Minoan structures bordered by the Rampa del Marea on the west and the Room of the Pithos on the east. These habitation areas or groups of rooms were delineated in the 1981 season:

- CH spaces 47, 48, and 49 in Trench 41A
- CH spaces 45 and 46 in Trench 41A1
- CH space 44 in Trench 45A

It is at present uncertain how these various areas relate to each other, although it is considered likely that they all form part of a large domestic structure. If these three areas are to be grouped together as parts of the same building, then they were most likely connected by a passageway from SW to NE, just south of Trench 41A. Evidence for this passageway exists in the fact that wall 74 of Trench 41A and wall 10 of Trench 45A have the same alignment, and may be parts of the same wall.

Also a blocked doorway south of wall 072 (and possibly south of wall 75) in Trench 41A suggests a passageway. Excavation of Trench 48A will hopefully provide a well-defined southern terminus (possibly even a road) corresponding with the Rampa del Marea on the west. For the excavated Middle Minoan Town on the Central Hillside, it will either confirm or disprove the theory of a passageway linking Trenches 48A and 41A and ultimately allow a more informed and reasoned architectural and functional analysis of the area.

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In the Neopetra report for the 1981 season for...
To Chart: Joseph Shaew and S. Shulved lay out Trench 48A according to the instructions sent by the excavation archive, Giovanni Bianco (see p. 8). At the suggestion of John Wright, this trench was later extended one meter to the east (see page 15).

4 August 1982

J.W. Shaw takes pre-exavation photograph of Trench 48A; roll 1

Excavation begins today at 6:30 against a flurry of activity. After taking surface levels (see p. 8) we begin to dig in the western half of the trench.

Pool no. 1 (level 1 = surface)
under: sand cleared away in previous years from depth of: N 10.98 & 11.14
S 10.62 to 10.82
Type of soil: hard packed sandy brown soil with stone rubble

4 August 1982

4 VIII 82 pre-exavation photo of trench 48A, view from east

4 VIII 82 pre-exavation photo of trench 48A
Pottery: Latest Hellenistic 1050gr, scrappy rubbish
3 urns, piece of Samian ware jar
latest: LMIII A2 w/ classical/Hellenistic impressions

Other: shell, bone, stone tools
inventoried:

Pail 1 corresponds with pails 1-2 of Trench 71A1. There is not much pottery from this pail and what there is is mostly rough cooking ware etc. There are, however, a lot of snail shells from this pail.

After taking levels (see p. 16) we make another pass.

Pail No. 2 (level 1 = surface)
Under pail No. 1
From depth of: N 10.8 to 10.98
S 10.54 to 10.62
Type of soil: sandy brown soil with smaller stone rubble.

Pottery: 13850gr, scrappy
latest: LMIII A1 and III A2
some MM

Other: shells (snail), bone
inventoried: C6031 loomweight

Pail 2 corresponds with pail 9 of Trench 41A1 and pail 10 of Trench 41A1.
We finish up pail 2 this morning and take levels (see p.16). In the NE corner of the trench we find not only a significant increase in the amount of pottery found, but also a number of stones.

In the SE corner of the trench we find the tops of a number of stones which seem to lie in alignment with wall 10 of Trench 45A.

For our next pass we dig in the southern portion of the trench only following the projected line of wall 10 as the dividing line. This will be pail 3.

Level 2 = stone rubble.

Pail No.3 (Level 2)

Under pail No.3:
- 30.50 to 10.82
- From depth: 5
- Stone: sandy brown soil with many stones

Pottery: LNIII, LIII, LMI, LIII

Other: stone pebbles, water-worn pebbles, shell, seed pods? wood

Inventoried:

While Mike continues to clean the southern portion of the trench down to the stone rubble, I start Austin’s on the northern portion of the trench with a new pail.
K82/1:33 View from east of rubble tumble in Trench 48A after Pail 3.

Paul 4 (Level 2)
Under Pail No. 2
From depth of 10.45 to 10.98
Typical soil: brown soil - a bit darker and not as hard packed as before.

Pottery: (2 buckets) 7.703 kg.
Mostly LM1, with some LM2 and LM3.

Other: Bone, shell

Inventoried:

Pail 4 corresponds with pails 11+13 of Trench 47A.

At the initial suggestions from Wright, Trench 48A was extended one meter to the east of the boundaries set out by Juliana Dimace. The reason for this is to catch the southern extension of wall 73 of Trench 47A, the easternmost wall of the trench.
We continue to define the stone rubble in the southern section of the trench with level 3. In the northern section of the trench we change levels as we move to the east in the area with much pottery and bones in level 2 (see p. 10). This area begins ca. 2.5m east of the first level of the trench (see p. 12).

**Level 5 (Level 2)**
- Under level 2
- From depth of 10.36 to 10.82
- Typcal soil: brown soil, darker and not as hard packed as in the southern portion of the trench.

**Pottery:** (2 buckets) 1,850 gr.
- Mostly Middle Minoan, but with some LMII decorated sherds.

**Other:** Bone, shell, clay lump (sealing?) pumice, coarse.
- Inverted.

We finish cleaning down to the rubble rubble in the southern portion of the trench and clean it for a photograph and then take levels. While we continue with levels 4 and 5 in the northern half of the trench, we now begin to remove the rubble in the southern part of the trench.

**Level 6 (Level 2)**
- Under level 3
- From depth of 10.39 to 10.65
- Type of soil: large stone rubble with sandy brown 2011.
Pottery: Mostly MMIII, perhaps with some LM I. Jars with E-pails.

3,850 gr.

Other: bronze fragment, shell, stone

Invented: 8238 small awl

As we clear down it soon becomes evident that there is not a wall running in alignment from wall 10 of Trench 45 to wall 74 of Trench 41A. Wall 10 (Tr. 45A) extends only about 1.5 m eastward into Trench 48A and then stops. It looks like there may be another E-W wall to the south of this, but it is a little too early to tell for sure yet.

In the northern portion of the trench we come upon the top of wall 80 of Trench 41A. Wall 75 of Trench 41A (see sketch plan on p. 18) continues south about 1 meter and then appears to stop. Built against wall 75, just to the west a new wall appears which is designated as wall 83. Following the named sequence established in Trenches 288+41A+41A1. This wall extends ca. 2.1 m south into Trench 48A, following the same alignment as wall 75. Wall 83 is ca. 55-60 cm wide and is constructed of well laid, roughly shaped stone blocks with earth packing (see photo opposite).
K82/2:21 STONE RUBBLE IN TO. 98A
From East, After Pails 4, 5 & 6

We finish pails 4, 5 and 6 cleaning up the trench for a picture of the stone rubble. After the photograph is taken and levels measured, we proceed to take up the stone rubble once again treating the entire trench as a single unit.

Pail 7 (level 2)  
Under pails 4, 5 and 6  
Nom depth: 10.13 to 10.69  

Typical soil: Large stone rubble packed in grey, green clay-like soil  

Pottery: 4,000g, mixed LM-EM  
Middle Minoan III: white and dark  
1 dark and light base Fragment  
Some LM stirrup jar fragments  

Other: Stone tools (green fragments)  
1 shell  
Inventoried:

In cleaning out the rubble we are able to clearly define walls 10 and 83. We also came upon some fallen slabs to the east of wall 10 and to the north and south of wall 10, find some flat stone slabs c. 13 cm thick. It feels like we might be coming down on a floor, but the floor in 75A is about a meter below our present levels. The slabs do not seem to be sitting on anything so on the director’s advice we remove them.

In the southern portion of the trench we do indeed have another wall (see p. 19 in first diagram of this). It is designated as wall 84 (plan on p. 22) and has the same orientation, NWW, as wall 10 and extends east into...