A workman is now placed south of the retaining wall where we had stopped excavating with pail 52. The purpose is to remove a top layer of each and find out if the retaining wall has a N. face and also what is behind it - perhaps a rubble filler platform? We assign here

Pail 6: 55 under pail 52
Brown earth and rubble
From 3.89 to c. 3.80
Sherds: 2,150 pcs. Solid MNIII.

One
Inc.

We start finding the road drain. As we dig the water bubbles up and the drain fills up. It is wide, measuring from the retaining wall.

Unfortunately, further E we lose the side of the drain, for the slabs of the floor road have collapsed and are now slanting down into the drain. We do not know the depth of the drain yet. It is still full of mud.

We scrape the last layer of earth and sand from the road surface. The individual slabs are becoming outlined.

The retaining wall is ca. 2.70 m. for North of the Minoan facade. It is built of small stones, no N. face and is preserved up to 1.20 m. It is ca. 2.51 away from the kerchief, exposed for an E-W length of 1.90 m.
we continue cleaning the road surface preparing it for photography. Also pail 55 is being used IV of the retaining wall. We photograph the drain and the road (see p. 84).

We now start two new projects. One is that we are going to open a 'window' in the south part of the C E scarp, directly North of the Monumental Minoan facade. We have already created a hole here, described as 'tunnel', where we searched for the SW end of the huge orthostate block. We use here:

Pail 4 – 6: 56 - 'tunnel'
From c. 4.80 to
Sherds: 4000 gns. Good P.C. Basically
LPG + PEB, w. a few pieces of earlier date. Phoenix
Other: pumice, bone
 inv. C6085; C6086; C6157
C6184
A small terracotta bull is found at the same level as the other bull a few days ago, also in the 'tunnel'.

The others project is to dig S of the slanting orthostate block (see p. 76) above the fill and try to push the block back into position. We start here with

Pail 5 – 57
From 4.70 to 4.65
Sherds: 250 gns. Scrappy Min. bits.
Other: bone
inv. 55

'Roll 5'
Fr. 20 Fr. 21 (also Fr. 22-23)
Tr. 47A from NE Road from E.
Also colour.
A small block 0.37 x 0.21 m x 0.20 m appears 5-6 of the slanting blocks at its W. end. There are slanting slabs to its south.

A third paill is assigned to straightening the W. scarp to the W. of the altar. This in connection with the re-inforcing of the "tunnel" and the eastern scarp under the W. bench of the temple court.

Paill 4-5 : 58 Scarp clearancy
From Earth + Stone
May send with other paill.

Other

In. Join w., C6120 & paill 39
C6156 (join 42A paills 70-74); C6177, C6186

In the E. section where we excavated W. paill 55 we find that the retaining wall does not have a N. face. Each, some large stones, small stones, extensive pottery continue. We discontinue paill 55 here, as this looks like fill against which the wall was built.

In the area of paill 57, in back of the slanting orthostate, we carry out a small investigation. The question was raised earlier why there are small blocks fallen to the S. rather than the N. of the slanting orthostate, e.g., the stone were originally sitting on it (part of the original superstructure??). I note that the line of small blocks (ones labelled #9 last year; see sketch p. 4) has a break at its center. Could it be for a wooden beam and in that case
Could these small blocks represent the original superstructure of the monumental facade? We remove the earth and find that they are plaster at the bottom and a bit at the sides, on the stones. The opening is ca. 0.09 m wide although it narrows on the w. Perhaps the plaster was placed here to prevent the rotting of the timber. The timber would explain why some of the blocks fell in back of the slabs of orthostate. One was just noted earlier. It is now photographed (see p. 88) and removed. We continue now with Pail 6: 59 under pail 57
From 4.65 m to c. 3.30 (Earl, stone)
Sherds: 160 grs. Scrappy, but a possible PG tripod leg fig.
Other: plaster
1vo.

There is a small triangular slab at the fill, also a small stone standing at the filling between the two faces of the Minoan wall. Some medium sized slabs or wedged in as well. Pail 59 represents the date post quem the wall was built, but unfortunately there are hardly any sherds.

We pursue a new investigation. We shall dig S. of the Minoan wall, W. of the 7th c. altar and E. of the foundations of the E. wall of Temple C. It is a space 1.30 m N-S by 0.80 E-W. This is our chance to catch the S. return of the Minoan wall, or even find something of interest in connection with the early temples. We assign her:
The fill is dark, burnt.

As we expose more of the E side of the large Minoan block, W. of the slanting orthostate it becomes clear that this side is very rough. This finally cancels out our idea we entertained recently that the slanting slab may have been a later blocking of an entrance here.

Today most of the work was devoted to thescrutious preparation. The "tunnel" and straightening of scarp were done in preparation of putting up cement beams. There will be a horizontal and vertical beam N. of the W. end of the Minoan wall. We are contemplating digging the earth under these horizontal beam all the way to the road surface, thus exposing the whole length of the huge Minoan block.

Levels are taken:
The road pavement slopes up to the East from 2.87m (W. end) to 3.09m (E. end). The retaining wall is at 3.94 (W. end) to 3.97 (E. end) In back (N) of the retaining wall we stepped at an average level of 3.80. Two accumulations of stone, one at the NE corner (4.05) and one along the W. scarp (3.85) stick up above this level. The kephalai also slopes up from 3.27 (at W.) to 3.40
we continue excavating in the same area - below the doorway of Temple C. with Pail 60, behind the slanting orthostate with pail 59 and in the "tunnel" now with pail 61, replacing pail 56. "tunnel" - 2 pails:
Pail 4-6:61 under pail 56
Earth & stones
From to
Shards: 8,750 pcs., LPG - PGB, Join in, pails 38, 39, 40, Phoen. Amor. W. rim fragment, Offerer; bones, wheathorns;
Inu: C6115 + C6116: terr. sculptures
F33: faience bowl frag., C6128 jug, C6130: cup
Here we have been finding animal figurines, and clay wheels. We are clearly near a olive dump.

The fill of pail 60 changes. It becomes brown earth. We replace it with:
Pail 6:62 under pail 60
Brownish earth
From 4.64 to 4.19
Shards: 1300 pcs. Scrappy LM with a little MM admixture.
Inu:

Work is discontinued in the latter area after a while. Most of the workmen are involved in the preparation of two steel reinforced cement beams in the "tunnel" area. They collect small pebbles and sand from the beach. Aristotele, our oldest workman and macon (78 yrs old) prepares the space and then the wooden frame with George Belidakis (our foreman's) help. By afternoon the beams have been set...
Aug. 26

We photographed the interior of the Minoan wall, S. of the slanting orthostate. The S. face of the huge slab immediately to the W. is now visible. The thickness of the slab is c. 0.34 m. Like that of the slanting slab, immediately behind it (to the S.) is a package of slabs stacked one on top of the other, as behind the slanting orthostate. It seems that the reason why the orthostate slanted is because it did not have another large block on to hold it down, as did the orthostate to the W.

In the area of pillar 62 we are exposing the interior face of the Minoan wall, made up of small blocks. There is a white plaster in the fill, obviously fallen from the wall. There are also small fallen slabs, like those we found last year in the Minoan room in Trench 42A. The small stones continue and pretty soon it becomes impossible to remove them in such a small space. Among them at the NW corner is the lower part of a coarse post. We photograph this level (bottom of pillar 62) and discontinue excavating here. Three courses of the interior face of the Minoan wall have been exposed here. X see p. 94.

With great effort and using wooden beams and a small jack, four workmen try to push back into place the huge slanting block as it starts shifting back it cracks!
horizontally. We immediately discontinue the attempt, till we are better prepared. One wonders how these huge blocks were put in place where we cannot even push them slightly back.

Excavation stops in this trend. It will be resumed once a slightly wall has been built N. of the W. end of the Minoan wall against the W. slope. Then we shall continue our dig in the so-called 'hurricane'. The Iron Age level there is characterized by rubble debris and earth also extensive pottery and some terracotta vessels. Below the rubble is more pure earth which marks the Minoan levels.

I shift now to the hilltop to carry out some minor investigations. One is to try to obtain a date of construction of a house, labelled at various times as House of the Press (Olive or Wine) and House of the Fallen Slabs. We shall dig in the courtyard (Hespera Rh. 2 H) next to the S. wall of the house and up to the N.W. corner of a squash central hearth. We shall label this Trench 47B. In this location we had left a small unexcavated bulk of a while each fill which we had found accumulated over the courtyard surface at its N. and W. sections. This rises ca. 0.25m above the surface. We start here with 47B Trench 3:1#

White earth
From 19.96 to 19.61
Shards: 690 gms. Very scrappy.
Roll 5, Fr. 27
Fill behind leaning block (pail 57)
See p. 89 above

Roll 5, Fr. 30
W. end of Minuscule
Wall from North
(Also Fr. 29)

Plaster
? "channel" between blocks of wall 8
See p. 88 above

Roll 6
Fr. 1-2
See p. 96

Roll 7, Frame 8

"Tunnel"

Roll 10

For other final photos, see p. 139


Other
Inc.

The area to be excavated will be 2.50m E-W x 2.70 N-S. We reach down to the floor level (19.61m) and change paddle.

Pail 3:2 under pail 1
Whiteish earth to E.
From 19.61/19.69 to 19.56/19.69
Shards: 440 g. Scrappy bits: MM-LM
Others

Hardly any sherds here and we reach another level which looks like a surface.

Our darker point here is P 140 at 20.01. This is on wall 7 (NB #) NW of where we are digging.

Excavation in the court before was carried out under the labels of Trench 5B, 12A5 and 21A.
We continue with pail 2. We are coming down on a definite white surface. It is about 0.08 m below the floor at which we had stopped earlier. The floor dips down toward the SW corner of the sounding.

We now decide more to extend the sounding towards the W. and up to the face of wall 7, the E wall of Room 1. The purpose is to get a construction date for wall 7 as well. This adds another 0.90 m to the E-W dimensions of the sounding. It is now c. 3.40 m E-W. Since we still have pails 1 and 2 at the site, we shall put some from the new section on the equivalent pails.

We reach the bottom of wall 7 shortly. It ends at the level earlier reached in the court at an average of 19.62 m. The new floor we found is below that level and it now becomes clear that we may have mistakenly reached it in past excavations (Trench 5B) thinking the slope of the upper floor was quite steep towards the W. The trouble here is that both surfaces are of hard packer while earth and v. hard to separate. The hearth ends on the lower floor and was apparently first used with it. Pottery under this surface should give us a post quem date for the construction of the hearth. The column box still continues down.

A few things become clear. Since the threshold with pivot hole, leading from the N-S line to our...