As anticipated the digging in this area is straightforward; sand, very hard but pure.

With the aid of this pass we reach the surface level of Trench 29A2 and the next pass or the next pass can begin on the west side of the next trench:

Trench 34A2 - Preparing drawings for Trench 34A2 GB passed around behind the north end of Wall 2 and has determined with some certainty that rather than corner here toward the west it meets end of Wall 3. This corrects the description given above, on p. 107.
Trench 34A3

We continued to trace the surface noticed on Friday but its appearance is more elusive than we had anticipated. The pebbles are very sparse and the sherds which rest upon it are few. The fill above is so hard as to make the distinction of the surface difficult. What we have of it, however, does seem to correspond with the surface reached at the cyclopæan level around altar C.

Cleaning around the exterior of the temple entrance exposes a line of stones which possibly represent the top of an earlier bench-like. The face of this line of stones is very rough, however, and until more of it is exposed any interpretation must remain tentative.

Trench 34A2

Meanwhile, careful cleaning in Trench 34A2, around the column base, revealed a large horizontal slab beneath a skin of pebbles. Some excavating shows that the column base which was thought to rest upon the pebble floor in fact rests upon what appears from the one exposed wall to be another circular base of a projected diameter of about 70 cm. This base is part of a larger block which forms what may be a plinth, or stylobate.

This discovery justifies the opening of another sounding through the pebble floor to determine more about the context of these blocks, their relationship to the bedrock which must be at hand, and to help us decide on the course of future investigations.

The upper column base is no longer obviously in reuse. Its connection with these lower blocks, which must certainly be in their original situation, makes it possible that the base is part of the original design. It will be worthwhile, however, to remove the base both to determine its relationship to the lower structures more clearly, as well as to trace their plan back into the north-west corner a little farther.

This project and the sounding around the blocks will have to wait until the beginning of a new day.
Trench 34A3

Pail 68 was carried over toward the altars but we are still several centimeters above the crepidoma of Altar C'. With this level being our goal we begin another pass through the trench.

Pail 69 Level 1
Under pail 68
From depth of:

Type of soil: Sandy earth
Pottery: mixed with Late Bronze II (12th BC).

Other: Carbon, Bone, Shell

Inventoried: C0365 large barrel pithos.

Trench 34A2

Near the door of the temple a pair of upright slabs form a sort of rectangular enclosure some 1.50m x 1.50m. No sign of funning is apparent on its interior and its purpose remains uncertain. Further clearing may suggest an interpretation.

The stones beneath the northern exterior bench have, with clearing, become substantial blocks; more than 20 cm in height and still going down.

Near the centre of the trench the invered base of a pithos forced us to dig a bit of a hole through the surface reached to facilitate removal. The pit left behind was backfilled and digging continued at the upper level.

Trench 34A2

A small sounding was opened joining the south sounding already dug with the north-west corner.
This will give us a more complete view of the layers beneath the pebble floor, as well as providing us with a context for the lower column base, found yesterday, and an impression of the bedrock contours in this area.

Some stratigraphy could be noted during the removal of the pebbles and some burning was found along the north, associated with the lowest, thin layer of pebbles.

These pebbles are separated from a layer of smooth clay (or perhaps bedrock) picking outtub by a thin layer of water-worn slate.

The clay packing is peeled away from what seems to be leveled bedrock. At last it is opened for sherdS from this clay.

As we follow the smooth surface of bedrock toward the north-west corner we encounter an increasing amount of stone which seems to extend to quite a depth. Some of this stone is removed in order to get a sense for how the column...
base may have been set as well as to try and determine whether we are in fact dealing with bedrock or some artificial packing which uses the local clay-like bedrock.

A large, waterworn boulder protruding from the west scarp at a low level has a few sherds associated with it so at this level at least we are still dealing with packing.

The space is now too cramped for digging to proceed comfortably. Tomorrow the upper column bowl will be shifted to allow digging to the north of the lower pass. Once this has been carried out we will be in a better position to calculate our next move.
Trench 34AB

Pail 69 was continued across the trench bringing the level throughout down to the top of the crepidoma of altar 'C'. For the purposes of aesthetic a small sounding west of altar 'C' the altar was backfilled to the surrounding court level. With this done the south half of the trench could be started. The position between Trench 34A and 35A is at a higher level than the rest so digging begins here.

Pail 72 Level 1
Under pail: 69
From depth of:
Type of soil: packed sand
Pottery: 1st BC - 1st AD

Other: Carbon, Bronze nails, Iron, Glass, Bone, Photographed bone.
Inventoried: C278 corner pantile, Mi. 73 glass, Mi. 86

Meanwhile sand was cleared from around the small enclosure found yesterday immediately to the south of the temple entrance. The two slabs which form the south and east of a rectangular space already described were found to rest upon a similar rectangular enclosure at a lower level. The interior of this lower space is smaller (1.40m x 3.55m) than the one above. Its south side is formed by a block of uncertain dimension with a herringbone pattern of tool marks on its surfaces. The north and east sides are vertical slabs. The fill above and around these enclosures was fine sand but the interior of the lower one is filled with brown earth which will be excavated separately and sieved.

Pail 73 Level 2
Under pail: 69
From depth of:
Type of soil: dark sand and some burnt clay
Pottery: 4 sherds, Pot MINOR, not attributable

Other: Burned Bone, Carbon
Inventoried:
Since the lower course extends below the level of the court as excavated it will be treated as a separate level.

Meanwhile, work continued south of the temple:

Trench 34A2:

The column bases were photographed as they stand, one above the other, and then the upper one was removed to permit cleaning behind.

Level 10

Pail 74 Level 10
Under pail 62

From deposit of:

- Type of soil: packed brown clay
- Pottery: 10 sherds; nothing later than MM III

Other:

- Inventoried:

A layer of some earth with a few pebbles rested on the surface of the lower base once the upper one had been removed. This suggests that subsequently the two bases should not be treated as contemporary.

With as much of the lower base uncovered as possible we can see that its upper surface was in fact circular, but part of its east side has been broken off. The angle at which the base rises from the slab is sharp at the south, but very gradual on the north. The edge of the slab from which the base is carved cannot be reached on the north or west because it runs under slabs which have been set around it. These slabs are most significant in the north-west corner where two set one above the other on top of the base slab serve as foundations for the large blocks of Wall 3. This connection raises the possibility that these slabs belong to the end of an early wall over which Wall 3 was set.

The rest of the surrounding slabs give the appearance of braces, or reinforcement, perhaps to prevent shifting of the second...
The end of the day's search for a submerged wreck of a sunken ship was eventful. The wreck, listed as a mystery, was confirmed to be the remains of a ship that had disappeared in the area. The ship's remains were located near the coast, approximately 5 miles from the mainland. The ship's wooden hull was intact, although the deck had disintegrated over time.

A team of divers was sent to the site to recover any artifacts or information that could be salvaged. The divers, equipped with scuba gear and cameras, descended into the depths to explore the ship's interior. They found several intact rooms and a well-preserved cargo area filled with various goods from the past.

During the descent, the divers encountered a large school of fish, adding to the already challenging environment. The ship's structure was largely intact, with the exception of the deck and some minor damage to the sides possibly due to weathering.

The divers spent several hours at the site, collecting samples and documenting their findings. They also took photos to capture the details of the ship and its surroundings. The information gathered will be used to create a comprehensive report on the wreck and its historical significance.

The day's search was a success, and the team was able to gather valuable information about the ship and its potential significance in the history of the area.

To summarize, the search for the sunken ship was a significant event. The team's efforts were rewarded with the discovery of a valuable artifact that could shed light on the history of the area and its inhabitants.

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Trench 34A3

Scraping of the small enclosure south of the Temple entrance produced a considerable amount of burnt bone. The fill from this space was dark brown sand, that is to say, not much ash was present. Moreover the stones which formed the enclosure were not visibly burned. Thus it is reasonable to assume that the bone from had been burned elsewhere, perhaps on the altars or perhaps in connection with ritual meals inside the temple, and were subsequently placed here.

Cleaning the enclosure also gave us a better opportunity to consider its construction. The slab on the east is not only the no longest but also the most deeply set. This slab and the wall of the temple must have formed the two sides of the original enclosure. A number of small stone chippings had been set at the bottom of the enclosure, and, in what may be taken as the first phase of the enclosure, a build-up of clay fill accumulated, in several stratified layers, some lighter, some darker. The south limit of the enclosure at this time may have been a small block with a herringbone pattern of toolmarks on its surface, but this is not definite. The north limit of the enclosure seems to have been robbed out.

Apparantly the interior was cleaned out, and the enclosure made smaller at some point since a second sequence of lateral lines in an interior wall of dark sand. One of these lateral lines, on the east, rests on the earlier clay buildup and thus preserves the sequence for us. It is unfortunate that too few sherds were found on the interior to untangle this sequence further. (see photo p.144)

The pile of bone was isolated as found yesterday located towards the center of the court was isolated on a small mound of earth, dust cleaned, and photographed, and removed. During removal it was noted that many of the bones still exhibited the pattern of connected joints. Such an array of bone would be impossible unless the limbs still retained their flesh about when they were deposited. It will be worthwhile to keep this detail in mind when trying to interpret the placement of these bones in such a prominent spot within.
the sanctuary court.

As we work toward the temple with pit 74, we begin to encounter some complete pots and pieces of faience and glass. This from the same vicinity as the major dump deposit excavated previously as parts of Tr. 29A2 (in 1979) and 34A (this year).

The digging is proceeding at a fair clip and prospects are good that the trench will be finished tomorrow.

34A3 - Slab enclosure south of temple entrance.
from west.
Trench 34A3

Pit 72 brought the south half of the trench down to within 1Om of the crenelation of the wall of Alter C. As we reach the southern exterior edge of the temple we find no earlier phase to correspond to the northern bank, on the contrary, this bank sits merely on sand.

We do not expect to encounter any kind of clear, definite court surface in this area, any more than elsewhere, but for landscaping purposes it will be desirable to make another shallow pass to level the trench.

Pit 75
Level 1
Under pit 72
From depth 1:
Type of soil: packed sand
Pottery: 5th-4th (latest 4th RC)
Vessels:
Others: 1 0.5 cm Bone, Carbon, Iron

Inventoried: 1 CO60; 1 pot rim; 1 158 wrist frag.
Mi 867

As part of this pit it is decided to remove the rubble pile, left on the east side of Trench 34A when digging there was completed.

No obstacles interrupt our progress and the surface is brought to a common level rather quickly. Small ceramic projects fill the rest of the day.

Some stones against the south end of the northern exterior bank sit on earth and are not intrinsically connected with the bench wall. They are removed and the area is cleared to court level.

Some low mounds left between the alters are cut to gradual slopes.

With these things done there remains only cleaning to make the entire court presentable for photographs.