Resembling C 265 was found against the east-west wall. The dating of the lamp (C 265) will help date the later wall in Room B. Y cann and the older. Yes, we have cleaned most of the tile file north of the stairs in Room A and have moved west removing tile between Room A1 and the southern wall of A. Floor level has not yet been reached.

The soil is hard, Without sand, Total removal of all roof tiles will be finished next week. The present surface slopes down from east to west. At its lowest it is ca 6.15 m. There are still more roof tiles below.

Bone, shell, charcoal

(Pail 29) 1.2

Depth: 5.96 - 5.81

Contents: Homogenous unit with black clay, cream ware and coarse ware. According to Peter Callahan, latest material is a 3rd c B.C. basin base.

Soil type: Hard brown with bone frags. Other: 3rd c B.C. date for addition to altar?

I mentioned: C 362 cup, C 363 cup, C 364 cup, C 365 cup.
Work resumed in Room A, 8E, "B".

The southern "chicken wall" (sketch p. 46) was removed as it proved not to be a wall, and 20 (second of 2) was used for the material. This material, as usual for Room A, was mainly roof tile and amphora fragments. The soil is being dry pit-floored but producing nothing new; the soil is hard and contains pieces of charcoal. The hardness must be partly due to exposure to the sun over the last week. Room A is now being taken down to a uniform level of 6.15 m south of 4F and the northern "chicken burial" (p. 46) which seems to be a later wall built over the layer of fallen roof tiles.

The charcoal in the roof tile layer of Room A should represent burning of roofing material and not debris from a living floor, for it seems unlikely that a living surface would have existed in the roof tile layer. On the other hand, there is no real ash layer associated with the fallen tiles. The burning is evidenced by small discrete chunks of charcoal (peopling have been taken) in the roof tile layer.

The roof tiles have now been sorted into pan tile, roof tile, and unknown fragment lots and stored in the east room B of B, "B".

A new wall of stone is being constructed to retain the sand scoop.
Tr. 10A1, L. 2. Test trench within altar, before completion.

South of Bldg. "C" (hereafter called the "alтар"), Pail 30 (three pails) is being used for material from the scarp; it consists of rock slab fragments, amphora sherds, ovals, other coarse ware sherds, and one lamp (C 318) which is of the same type as C 265 and C 286 found in the scarp.

Today's lamp is also from the lower of the two sand layers visible in the scarp. The lower section is finer than the upper and a clearly marked interface exists between the two (seen chiefly by a line of sea snail shells in the scarp). The interface is ca. 1.55 above the top of the earth level at the SW corner of Trench 10A1. A-level will be taken with the theodolite.

The scarp south of Trench A1 collapsed again; sand is being removed from the trench again and the wall will be rebuilt.

Meanwhile we are excavating the interior of the south half of the "altar." Surface stones were removed from the center of the altar while the outer face courses were kept in situ. Our sounding is bordered by stones 1, 7, 8, 13, 14, 25, 26, 28, 29 and the upright slabs at the southern end (see sketch plan p. 84). T10A1, Pail 31

The fill' beneath the surface stones was removed for about 30 centimeters below the top of stone 6, to a depth of ca 6.42. This fill lacked large, well-laid stones and consisted entirely...
Trench 10A1

Test trench within the Altar, seen from west

Test Trench within Altar seen from south, shows course of stones at 6.26 and "domino" to west

Candy soil, many small bone fragments, small loose stones, and very few sherd. The bone fragments are generally either white or blue-black. Both types have been burned: the white fragments have been calcined (fused carbonated) the black carbonized. The crumbliness nature of the stones, the fill suggest that the top were subject to burning. Interestingly enough, there is no ash or charcoal in the fill. The stones and bone seem to have been subjected to burning elsewhere and dumped into the "Altar." At the level of 6.40 within the "Altar" a deep earth fill containing earth and bone, but no stone was found in the eastern half of the sounding. A "domino" of three slabs of limestone was found at the same level in the western half of the sounding. The "domino" was left in situ while the earth fill in the eastern half of the sounding was removed. This soil as all soil from this sounding is being dry sifted. At a level of ca. 6.36 a course of stones was encountered in the eastern half of the sounding. The western "domino" and the lower eastern course of stone were cleaned and photographed: see pages 86-87. The domino was removed easily. It appears to have been pushed on top of an underlying fill. This fill is soft soil rich...
in bone fragments. Our new reduced sounding measures 31 x 70 cm and is restricted to removing the soft bone rich soil and loose stone. The sounding is bordered on the east by the course 7 stones (mentioned p. 87) whose upper surface lies at 6.26 and on the west by several course or superimposed limestone blocks. The soil and loose stone have been removed to a depth of ca. 6.10 m, where our sounding into the core of the altar has been temporarily stymied by two large blocks tilted as if shoved or fallen from above.
Trench HOA1

Interior of Altar after removal of western "domino"

Upright slab (stone #30, sketch p. 84) on altar before removal. Note fragmentary state, due to burning

Altar seen from west

The test trench in the southern half of the "altar" was cleared and photographed. Following photography, the eastern row of stones (plan 6.16, see p. 84) was removed. This row of three stones was found to rest on more slab-like stones. The soil fill is the same as that already encountered in the trench, loose and soft, slightly sandy with many bone fragments. Pail 31 is still being used for this material, and the soil is being sifted.

The test trench west of the "altar" has been re-opened (p. 79). Pail 29 has been retained. The soil is hard and contains small pieces of charcoal. It breaks into blocks when struck by a pick. The soil is being sifted.

The area between the stairway and the threshold in room A B B "B" was used for storing the tile, from the room, this resulted in the creation of a raised earth layer under the tile, as we dug around them. This artificial "island" is now being removed. Pail 20, 1.3 (second of two) has been extended to contain this material. The "island" will be removed and the rest of room A south of A 1 cleared to the same level of 6.15, below the fallen roof tile.

George (the Foreman) is painting the upright limestone slab (#39, 84) in strategic places so that it may be redressed after
Stone sample taken: K 774, T 1, 1041, L 1
Drawing: some pieces missing. Crumbled and was restored before north of bull on the altar slab.
Approx. shape of buried limestone slab.
Pottery context: Homogenous unit nothing earlier or earlier than Hellenistic.

The soil in the trench below 5, 81 was soft and contained some bone fragments, but not the quantity of Pail 26 or 29.

A layer of limestone fragments and stone pebbles was discovered at 5.69 m. We are still above the bottom of the krepidoma. This layer may represent a floor of possible a work court covered with chips from the blocks used to build the altar. At 1.10 m. around this chip level was left at the north end of the trench. We are digging deeper at the south to find the depth of the krepidoma's foundation.

The soil below the "work court" level contains fewer sherd and bone fragments than the soil above it.

Meanwhile, the stones beneath the row of stones (below 6.36, p. 84) have been removed, as have other large stones from the interior of the altar. In the area of full sounding, the material has been the same: many bone fragments and few sherds in loose soil still. We have reached only blocks of stone which should represent the foundation of the structure. The top of these blocks is at a depth of 5.81 - 5.79.

The bottom of the krepidoma seems to have been reached at a depth of ca. 5.59 - 5.54.

Other: Bone, shell

Paul 32. 1. 3: The opinion (p. 95) that no material is earlier than Hellenistic was revised by Peter Callahan's visit. In his opinion, the unit dates to the 5th (B6 hydra base and concave B6 cup are pre- 425 B.C.) or 4th c. B.C. This suggests that the original construction of the altar took place in the classical period.

Inventoryed: c. 365 low rimmed cup, c. 366 hydra base.
In Room A1 B12 "B" a "chicken burial" against the east wall was removed after being photographed. It seems not to represent any later structure but a wall collapse. Pail 33, 1-2 was used for this material.

After removal of the "chicken burial" a protruding red tile showed that the suggested floor level of A1 at the time of tile collapse was not actually accurate. We are now digging through this level (ca 6.86 m) and will take A1 down to the level of Room A to the west.

Pail 35, L.3 16, L.3

Type of soil: soft, under brick surface, contains mud tile frags Pottery content:
Depth: 4.26 - 6.18 m
Other: Bone, shell, bone, charcoal, clay

The top loader cleaned sand from the "courtyard" south of B13 "B" today and revealed a new wall slightly east of line with the west wall of B13 "B". A small bowl and lamp handle fragment were also uncovered. A trench will be opened here tomorrow. The bowl and lamp handle belong to this trench 10A2 and were placed in Pail 34, L.1

Under: surface 7 see page 101
Soil: sand
Depth: 3
Inverted: lamp (C393) saucer (392)

Pail 33, L.2 2008 tile frags, scrappy B.6

I mentioned Pail 35: c 368 cup, c 369 cylindrical cup, c 370 cylindrical cup, c 374 lamp, B.2 ring B.6 bracelet

N.B. 23 brick, 25 charred
Pail: below where 1st
N.B. Blown glass from scarp above altar's cannot Due to date B.C.

Trench 10A3
Black and white photo Roll 7, frame 35

Pile of stones ("chicken burial") against east wall of Room A1, B.1, "B".
A new trench was opened today abutting BB "B" on the south (sketch plan p. 98). This trench 10 A 2 measures 6.5 m. from east to west and 5.0 m. from north to south. The north east corner of the trench is the south west corner of the doorway into Room B and the southwest corner of the trench extends far enough to catch the wall discovered yesterday (p. 97) by the top loader.

Surface sand is being removed from the entire extent of trench 10 A 2 and the larger stones left in place in the hope that some patterns may reveal themselves. Trench 34 L 1 is being used. The soil is sand which has been subjected to burning. The archaeological material consists mainly of roof tile fragments and amphora sherds. Roof tile fragments are being collected in a grid and labelled according to Trench number.

A fabric of two different types has been found in Trenches 10 A 1 and 10 A 2 so far. The difference in fabric may have chronological significance, and the fabric and context of tile fragments 10 A 2 will be examined closely.

Surface cleaning was completed by the first break and Trench A 2 was photographed. Actual digging has now begun in the eastern half of Trench 10 A 2. Trench 34 has been...
extended to a second pail to include the material.
Pail 34 (second) L, 1 under pail 34, first type of soil: burnt sand
pottery contents: Homeware,
small amphora and roof tile frags.

Our digging in the eastern half of Trench 1OA2 has revealed the top of a possible wall,
parallel to the southern wall of 10B'B' at distances of
150 m and 260 m respectively.

Our surface clearing and the work of the top loaders yesterday have revealed two 
stairs running roughly north south in the western half of 10A2. These will be
left alone for now.
The sand is being cleared from around the sides of 1OA2,
one "waster" fragments like those found in the scarp below the "altars" were found, as was
one amphora fragment, roof tile fragments and two pieces of iron. Pail 36, 1, 1
is being used for the material.
The work started yesterday in Room A1, BB'B' (page
95) is continuing. The room will be leveled with Room A to the west, ca. 6.12 m
above the level under the roof tiles.
As yesterday, Pail 35, L, 3 is mostly used;
Pails 35, L, 3
under Pail ' 16, L, 3
type of soil: clays, earth

Pail 34, L, 1; angled amphora handle, 2nd c B.C. or later. Some amphora may
indicate almost no fine ware, little BG
Lamp (C 393) 1st c B.C.-1st AD
sauce C 392 late.
Other: Bone
Pit 35, 1, 3: high proportion of fine ware. Appears not homogenous. Carinated cup C 367 said to be late 4th, early 3rd c. Cup C 368 said to be late 3rd, early 2nd c. B.C., on account flat profile. Classical lamp frag C 374. Other classical sherds.

Carinated cup C 370 said to be early 2nd c. B.C. Latest material 2nd c. B.C.

Pit 36, 1, 1: Roof tile frag; angled amphora handle. Latest material, probably 1st c. B.C.-AD. 2 washers C 375. Nozzle lamp like 2nd c. B.C. Phaistos type (C 354, C 371). Other: Bowl, one.

Almost sterile & sherd, containing poor tile fragments, pottery contents!

The robbers' pit is now being cleared of sand south west of the doorway into Room A, B, "B". This part of the pit falls within Trench 10A2. Pit 36, 1, 1 (used for cleaning of sand from around perimeter of Trench 10A2) is being teased for the intrusive material as well.
Clearing of the intrusive material in the robber's pit (NW corner) continued. Trench 10 A 2 continued. Pail 36 l was extended to a second pail for this material.

Removal of roof tiles from Room A1 BB "B" continued. The greatest concentration of tiles is in the SW corner of the room. Pail 35 l 3 was retained. The test trench west of the "altar" is being deepened slightly to check the bottom of the pre-podium and also to look for earlier material. A new pail is being used.

Pail 37 under Pail 32
Type of soil: moderately hard, clayey earth
Depth: 5.54 - 5.31 m
Pottery contents: mixed L.M III to 4th c. B.C. (proto corinthian skyplos)

This trench has revealed a possible wall running approx. East to West under the "altar." The top of the stones are at a depth of ca 5.36 m. The blocks are limestone and some gypsum (mortar?) is associated with them. The wall appears to be only one course of stone (ca 33 cm) wide. We have stopped digging at the top of it. The trench here also has revealed that the bottom of the pre-podium rests only upon clayey earth, no special foundation.

Room A1 in BB "B" has
Deposit in Room A1
Pail 38, L.3

1 cup C 355

2 cup C 358

3 cup

4: cup C 404

5: lamp C 359

Overview 14/15

Pail 38, L.3: Much fire ware: classical
B. G. like "krussoy" (C 356) Cups +
1-3 probably 2nd c. B.C. Cup 4
does not occur at krussoy (clase is
different): Carinated cup (C 6)
2nd c. B.C. Lamp resembles Phaestos
Type (C 359) 2nd c. B.C.

see page 108

been cleared of roof tile and leveled
at a depth of ca. 6.18 m. A
small bronze ring (apparently
a child's) was found at this
level. After the finding of the ring,
the last several pedestals from
A1 were sifted, but produced
only shard fragments. A few
roof tiles are still visible in
this level. We shall take A1
down to the level upon which
these rest and should then
be at floor level. A new
pail will be used.
Pail 38, under Pail 35 L.3
Type = soil + soft earth
with few sherds, not sandy.
Pottery contents: latest material (large
and tulip cup) 2nd c. B.C. Date: floor
depth: 6.18 - 6.08

Meanwhile work has continued
from yesterday in the courtyard
south of B: B? Pail 34
has been removed and extended to
four pails. The material is still
largely roof tile fragments
and very few sherds. We have
found what appears to be a bench
set against the south wall of
B. B in addition to the
two possible walls found yesterday.
The soil is a sandy earth.
We are now looking for the count
level which belongs with the
bench. The level of the bottom
of the lowest stone course of the
bench is ca. 10 cm above
the upper threshold to Room A.
We are digging a shallow trench
in front of the bench to find the
court level. A new pail is
Pail 38, L.3 cont'd: tulip cup C 357, said to be probable 2nd c B.C. (by Peter Callahan). Some earlier material. State of preservation of cups: defining floor level, suggested date?

Pail 39, L.3: Largely amphora shards, after cooking ware shards. A 2nd c B.C. or later, angled amphora handle. Field-based cylindrical cup should be 150 B.C. or later.

The digging in room A1 has reached floor level! Though the soil is soft (virtually indistinguishable from that above and below) the deposit has defined the floor. The deposit consists of five small vases, a lamp, and the base of a large jar, all in situ. Four of the small vases are stemmed "egg cups" on circular bases, actually resembling Middle Minyan ware.

Type of soil: loamy w/ some sand
Pottery content:
Other: Bone

Pail 39, L.3, Jr. 10A2


S 59
Regular frag with guttae re-used in wall, Ts. 10 A 2
N.B. - joining frag found 6/3
see p 129 and 132

Trench 10 A 2 courtyard level
(sketched corrected for work of 4/7/77)

B.B. "B"

Room A

Room B

Yesterday floor level was reached in room A1 at ca. 6.08 m. We are now digging down another 5 cm to look for associated material. Pail 38 L. 3 is being retained. George has now finished leveling (so to speak) the part of trench 10 A 2 between the bench and the northern fluey wall. Actually this "level" slopes 10 cm, having a depth of 6.29 on the west and 6.39 on the east. Pail 39 L. 2 was retained from yesterday. The soil is hard and sandy with evidence of burning on the west, but not the east. The lack of burning on the east may be due to its higher surface. True leveling will show the area between the two scraping walls, and the area between the southern wall piece and the southern edge of the trench has also been dug about another 8 cm. We have now revealed the approximate courtyard level which belongs with the bench (see sketch plan). This level slopes from north to south. This slope is not our creation: the section of the bench west of the altar shows a similar slope for the "work court" level (see sketch p. 94).

The material from the southern part of trench 10 A 2 is in Pail 40 L. 2.

The cleaning of the blocks of room A1, B.B. "B" is now
Trench 10A1: completed test trench within Altar, seen from south

Altar seen from west

Tr. 10A, Room A, B.B. "B" Level 3
Fallen tiles in NW corner of room

Tr. 10A, L. 3 Fallen tiles NW corner Room A "chicken wall" in foreground

completed. 15 bronze nails were found. 14 of the "tomp-thumb-back" variety, one a more conventional modern looking type. Sherd, which should match the cups found yesterday were also found. As mentioned, Pail 38 was used:

Pail 38: L. 3
Under Pail: 35
Type of soil: soft, not sandy
Depth: ca 6.18 - 6.03

The area of Room A north of the "chicken wall" and west of Room A1 has been photographed. The fallen tile, and sherd will now be removed and we will seek the actual floor level closer to that of Room A1. We are using Pail 41 L. 3

Pail 41 L. 3
Under Pail:
Type of soil: reddish brown, partially burnt, with some small pieces of charcoal.
Depth: 6.20 - 6.12 (slipping, surface) to ca 5.98

Pottery: see p. 116
Outer: Bone, shell

Meanwhile, we are now extending the clearance of the court level in Trench 10A2 to the western half of the trench as far as the wall discovered by the top brick layer on 28 June. (see sketch plan, p. 110)

Pail 42 L. 34
Under Pail: 34
Type of soil: sandy, with burnt floor
Depth: 6.40 - 6.31

Pottery content: mostly large amphora or storage jar frags, little fine ware. Large frags (c. 396). Angled amphora handle: 2nd B.C. or later.
Trench 10A2, L. 2
Regula fragment re-used in late wall in courtyard south of B.B. "B." See p. 110

A fragment of a regula with four guttae was discovered re-used in the northern "chicken wall" in the courtyard south of BB "B." In 10 A2 L. 2 (see Sketch and plan p. 110). This is a most important find, for it suggests the presence of a temple at Kommos in the Hellenistic or an earlier period. The presence of the altar, and now the discovery of the regula fragment suggest that the courtyard enclosure south of BB "B" may at one time have served as a religious precinct.

A lamp of a new type, with a horizontal loop handle was discovered in Room A west of Room A1 (Part 41, second of three). C 371.

This sector of Room A, west of Room A1 and north of the "chicken wall" has now been cleared at a level ca. 6.13 m. The surface appears to be the top of the same sterile layer discovered in Room A1 below most of the roof tiles and above the actual floor deposit. This sterile layer (?) will be removed tomorrow.
Pail 41, L. 3. Fragment of large amphora, a finely burnished base (?). Lamp (3 71). Fine ware - unpainted cylindrical cups dated by Peter Callahan to late third or early second c. B.C. Two bases, B5, B7, classical date said to be from Knossos by P.C. (c 360, 361). Base of flat based cylindrical cup said to be no earlier than 150 B.C. (c 3 72). Painted cylindrical cup (c 405) (dated by P.C. to late 3rd early 2nd c. B.C.) found at depth of 5.97 - like those in Room A 1 (Pail 38). There were join with Pail 38.

So a mixed pail with classical and Hallstattic material. Latest sherds are 2nd c. B.C., if P.C. is correct latest sherd is after 150 B.C. (C 3 72) but a number of cylindrical cups appear to be early 2nd c. B.C. Coarse was cylindrical cup (c 406).

Pail 43, L. 2. Angled amphora handle (2nd c. B.C. or later). Unit seems homogenous.

Pail 41 was extended to a third pail to include the material from the layer overlying the floor in Room A west of Room A 1. As in Room A 1 this earth layer is soft and almost sterile of shards. There are some small pieces of charcoal. We are removing the pile of rubble over the western edge of the bench in Trench 10 A 2 as far as the robber's pit.

Pail 43, L. 2. Under Pail 43, L. 1, under Pail 34, L. 1, Type 2 soil. Sandy, mostly stone. Jottle contains roof tile fragments, pottery contents: two roof tile fragments, largely amphora sherds, cooking pot rim. Other: large.

We have now found the corner of the bench, 65 cm. from the eastern edge of the upper threshold of Room A 1B, B 7. The corner of the bench was covered by burned stone rubble and roof tile fragments.

Floor level has now been reached in Room A west of Room A 1. A goblet of the same type as those found in room A 1 (previously described as "egg cups") (109) was found just west of the doorway into Room A 1 (see sketch plan ni 18). South of this goblet was excavated a thin stratum of sand (ca. 3 cm. thick) between the floor level (upon which rests the goblet) and the sterile layer of earth underlying most of the roof tiles. This thin sandy stratum suggests a