Koumos Area H
Trench 1717

1977

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EXCAVATION OF 17A  12 - 27
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PLAN IN BACK POCKET
Friday, 29 July 1977

Trench 17A is opened today. It is laid out as a 5m x 6m trench, but we begin with the west 1/2 only. The trench is immediately east of Trench 2A. See plan, p 120 for exact location.

Before excavation the area was covered by a small amount of loose sand (ca. 5cm). Most of the surface sand had been removed this spring by the bulldozer (Notebook 8).
The ground slopes from N to S. There is a small almirik tree near the southwest corner of the trench.

We are excavating here to find the eastern limit of the main building of Trench 2A to the west. Last year (Notebook 2) we noted that Tr. 2A wall 8 and 9 extend into the scarp on the east.

Since most of the surface sand (level 1) had been removed by the bulldozer, we begin with level 2. This level is of compacted sand and small rubble. There are few sherds. This is:

Pail 1/2
under...

from depth of
type of soil: sandy-yellow/brown
pottery LMIA-B
other: stone ves/quantifer
untargeted.
Monday 1 August 1977

We continue with the stones and sandy earth of level 2.

The eastward continuation of wall 9 is found. We change pails south of this wall, as we are approaching the level of the small rubble packing noted last year (NB #2 p — ). A kylix and other large sherds are noted on the top of the small rubble packing. This is:

Paul 2 L. 2
under pail 1 L. 1
from depth of soil, hard, sandy + stones
pottery: p. 14
other: pumice
inventory: p. 14

North of wall — we have removed all of Level 2. We change pails to begin Level 3. The earth is brown and there are not nearly as many stones as there were in Level 2.

This is at the level of the top of the north wall of the vestibule (TR 2 wall — ). The new pail is
Paul 3 L. 3
under pail 1
from depth of 12.80
Pail brown
pottery small unit. Sherd LM IIIA?
other unrecorded.

Pottery note
Paul 2 L. 2, Consistant LM IIIA: 2
units. Many plain cups, kylikes, bowls
with only a few decorated sherds. Possibly some mendable pieces.

Catalogued
C 798 small kylix
C 799 bowl
C 800 conical cup
C 801 goblet
C 802 cup
C 803 conical cup
After a 10 cm pass W. of the wall the change pants:
Paul 4 L 3
under 3 L 3
from depth of R 80 - 1270
and: brown
pottery LM - small, scrappy unit
other still
inscrutable.
2 August

After a ca 10 cm pass we change finds in the area north of the wall.

Paul 5 L.3
under 4 L.3
from depth of: ca 12.60
soil brown
pottery: LMIII A-B
other: shell
inventoried.

After another 15 cm pass we change finds again arbitrarily - large slates, possibly belonging to walls are beginning to appear in the N and SE parts of the area:

Paul 6 L.3
under 5 L.3
from depth of: 12.45
soil
pottery: LMII - IIIB
other: shell, bronze
inventoried.

At the depth of ca 12.35 we change finds again:

Paul 7 L.3
under 6 L.3
from depth of: 12.35
soil brown
pottery: LMIII A-B
other
inventoried.
Pottery note — The octopus lectorate frag. was found to join with other large frags. found last year in Room A1 (it lies on the Carthage Catalogue number 058). This means that these 2 rooms are possibly related in their use and fill history.

Tools

Three or four stone hand tools were found on the floor of the room. Their presence may indicate that at least one function of the room was some industry (grinding grain etc.). See Stone Tool Notebook for details.

3 August 1973

We begin today with a new shaft at the depth of 1.20. This should bring us close to the floor level — judged from the floor of the neighboring vestibule.

Paul 9 L3

under 8 L3

from depth of 1.20

soil brown, soft

pottery: latest LM III B

other stones: p. 20

unventilated: C 203 gabletop

C 203

Sieved

There are very few sherds on the earth surface level with the tops of the slabs. The earth around the slabs in the east part of the trench is very soft. Therefore we will dig through the surface in the east half of the area. The new shaft to

Paul 9 L3

under 8 L3

from depth of 1.20

soil brown, soft

pottery: latest LM III B

other stones: p. 20

unventilated: C 203 gabletop

C 203

C 203
After beginning Trench 9 in the east part of the trench we come onto some large sherds lying flat on a harder earth surface. There are also some stone tools. This must mark the floor level. Therefore we extend Trench 9 to cover the entire area, not just the east 1/3 as noted above.

The soil around the slabs in the NE corner is soft - we lift the slabs to see what's under it. Sherds are in:

- Trench 10 L3
  - Under 9 L3
  - From depth 12.15
  - Soil brown, soft
  - Pottery 1809 = LM IIIB (catalogued sherd)
  - Other
  - Inert, fired 2815 cup/bowl

We also have a look under the slabs in the SW corner. Sherds are in:

- Trench 11 L3
  - Under 9 L3
  - From depth 12.15
  - Soil brown
  - Pottery MM/LM - unit too small
  - Unrecorded.
August 1977

Architectural description

Wall 8 is preserved for only about 3 Courses (Height ca 40 cm). Its width is ca 60 cm wide. The south face is of nicely squared stones. The N face is of roughly placed rubble of various sizes.

Wall 9 is (at the N. end) ca 70 cm in height (7 courses). It is ca 55 cm wide. It is buttled against Wall 8. At the north end the second course is a cut-jamb base. (T-shaped). The base is probably not in pitch. It is 21 cm above the floor of the vestibule. Also there does not seem to be any cut threshold as one would expect with a cut-jamb base.

Wall 30 comes out of the E. scarp for about 70 cm. Then there is a 20 cm indentation. The wall continues for ca 80 cm. At the west end there is a built pot stand with one large (Anytera?) inside. West of the pot stand is a stack of stones preserved to 5 Courses. Inside the pot stand is some red earth. Wall 30 is preserved for 5 courses (ca 50 cm). The east part is built of Coursed slabs. The indented part of the wall is built of smaller slabs. The N face of the wall is in the scarp to the N.
Wall 31 is preserved to 4 Courses (35 cm). Most of the wall is in the eastern scarp. It should corner with Wall 30, but we won't know until the east 1/2 of 17A is dug next year.

There are 3 large slabs set against the side of Wall 31, on the floor.

There is one large slab in the south-west corner of the room and a smaller one set on top of it.

Sherds and tools are concentrated in the central part of the trench against the south wall.

Photographs are taken of the floor deposit and it is removed (Page 9),

* 1978, Wall 31 corners with wall 8T from the E. limit of the I.M. house in TR 224.
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

BONE
CARBON
CLAY LUMPS
FLOORS
PULIC
SHELLS
STONE TOOLS
WALLS

Wall 8
Wall 9
Wall 10
Wall 30
Wall 31
Street Width at S: 1.05

Total L to (Approx) 17 ft L (Corner Share)