14 July 1978

19B MCS. The outline of walls is beginning to appear, though not yet with clear definition. About 0.3m to 0.5m down to floor level.

20B JM. No change, save that some large fallay (?) blocks are removed from the new corner. The floor may actually be some distance away.

20B1 JM. No change.

20B2 JM. Some progress in removing the fill.

21A1 LN. No activity since LN is working on getting and reports.

22A1 FB. No change, save that the level is gradually receding. Shortly it will be time for photographs.

The Henry Immelmann's (Sara is really the post historian) have been visiting for two days now. He is the head of the excavation committee of the ABOA. Some pleasant chats but so much is going on that there is not as much time as one would have hoped for. At least the two saw how things were being done both in the field and at Pit 9.

Sara ,
18 July 1978 (also 17).

19 B MS. A large room exposed now seems to have been divided into 1/2 by a north/south wall. A rather late date. There is a small pot-shelter near the south-east corner discovered in 1976 by S. J. To the east MS (4 ALS?) find a surface (floor?) a bit broad, with a few sherds. On the west tiered stairs indicate for sure that we are still some distance from the floor.

20B AM. Continuing down to a relatively deep level, with entire MM pots in W, full indicating that we must be excavating an MM dump. (The quantity of the sherds continues). We may have to continue down to loam. A rich deposit in any case.

20B1 AM Alluvial trench. Completed for now. Yesterday's cleaning revealed that there are at least two stages to the structure, the first being long and rectangular before an addition in front and on the west. Confirmation of the order comes from the higher level of the second stage in relation to the then constantly rising court surface.

20 B2. Main Rd. blk. Gradually the perplexing structure is becoming more completely cleared. No new information, yet, is indicated by its original use. A midden (?) wall appears almost tangent on the north.

21 A I. Completed

21 B IN the second of the 'lining series.' Still in upper earth.

22 A I. B. The small room is gradually being
isolated by excavating around it. The level descends slowly, however, because of the depth of the trench and its width. A wall appears below the floor of the small bldg. My hope is that it is mud and will not introduce air bldgs. to the east.
20 July 1978

19B Mrs. Definition approaches, especially in the western room. There is a northern entry, bordered on the left by a small door, the pantry next to a small pantry, the pantry being introduced by two fashionable jambs based on the E Type.

This is our first complete pair at Kommos, and unusually we found only one, the more usual context such as at H. Triadha. To the south is another, three in one day and the first in situ after almost three years of excavation.

The floor on the west is also almost cleared. Toward in the eastern room there is a slab enclosure, which means that all of our houses must have such features the exact use of which remains rather vague.

20B 114. No change — the trench which was not begun as a probe continues down. The Backstein layers have been reached (MM Ia) but still polychrome (MM II) as well, both in the afternoon a fine Trench, a Trench type of a woman, is discovered. The finest single head of man or beast discovered, painted sensitively with white, red, blue.


20B2 Rd building. No change save that the RB's now completely cleared except for 1/4 of the interior. Stars stand out even more as a most distinctive structure.

29B. No change as we progress down through the upper fill.

22A / 1B. Essentially no change. The wall
running below the small rectangular building in surely MM of the sludge are to be treated. The upper bids itself should be LM III. To judge from the potsherd on the interior. Unfortunately the lower wall appears to be in poor shape, having opened up and leaning dangerously to the east. As we progress downward we will certainly have post-lewis keeping it shored up. Restoration and consolidation work has already begun on some walls on the site.
19B mts. The room on the east turns out to be
essentially empty save for a small hearth on
the north and a blackened floor - no sherds in which
pots as one might have expected from the precedent
set by the rooms on the north. The western room
is being cleared now. Some for the interesting archi-
tecture, the building may tell us only a moderate
amount about how they lived.

20B Jan. The floor limit has been reached, with
a few pots in situ within the MM IX/IX room.
Shedly the round building will be as clean
as we will make it this year. Then LM
will begin the clearing of the northern rooms of
Building A of the west. This should not last
more than a week, but we never knows.
Then should still be time for a sounding.

21B 4N. A building curiously off-angle is
slowly being defined. LM III I suspect:
purpose? Only two walls are visible so far.

22A 1. Progress down; we are only about 0.3m.
above the MM III level defined in the probe
made last year. Cleaning and cleaning con-
tinue. The small rectangular LM III beds,
remains sit, as it were, on a pedestal.
It has been recorded as well as possible,
and remains only because of local senti-
ment and the fact that we have so far not
removed as substantial a structure as
this in the past. I must admit that
it looks impressive as a demonstration
of the layering present at Kommos.

David Peers of Harvard is here to help us
in the analysis of our shells and bones.
19B. MCS. The western room is proving to be an interesting one, with a huge slab (probably the longest discovered so far on the site) set in its SW corner at floor level. Just to the north is a small hearth/oven, with part of a clay dome preserved on the side toward the back. Within the floor fill was much blackened material, and in that while it was being sifted was discovered this morning a lovely seal of crystal, the first discovered in our three years of excavation. A very finely done, although broken partially in antiquity (shown by dirt on the broken edges). Preserved by a drill hole and likely to have been worn around the wrist. We are also clearing a part of the exterior of the building on the west. This will be taken down to the level of the piles of fallen stone from the western wall and simply left that way indefinitely.

23A This will cover the northern room of Ge. building A, a large room with its longest axis on an east-west orientation. South of it lies G, supposed to be a supporting wall for a lower level within the remains of the south. During the past week we cleared out the northermost trench defining the southern wall of the northern room. Pure sand, a bit of glass, and some earth that had fallen in washed in. As expected. But in the past we found that there is a slight jag in the wall, unlike that expected from oblique-

We have also begun removing and fallen stone from the room itself in an attempt to remove fill and discover the ancient floor surface which cannot be too far down. Perhaps there...
intervention was surrounded by a wide bench.

21B NW. The bâtiment oblique is being defined now. It appears to have been used during LM IIB, and have a small rectangular room attached to it on the both sides.

2241. Architecturally this trench is becoming quite complex. We have not pro-

quired enough to define the depth of the various rooms but they are most promising. At "x" we are now working on a complex deposit (dump?) of MM III (post: Kamarae) style, with many "strips" bowls, the most popular decoration being in the post-polyclastic style.

dery Reiter, a specialist in Mycenaean pottery, has been a visitor here for a few days now.

Our second yearly report (for 1978) has arrived here now and looks very handsome.

at the end of the day it was shown that there in a "brick" on the north side of the room. Blocks follow in date, burned sand are from the northern wall. Destruction is burning.

XXX at "Thera is a most curious curvilinear structure, of an entrance on the (? west) Slate floor LM III pottery.
At this time we will open up the final tunnel in the hillside. We have been working on the upper section of the hillside for the past two weeks. The excavation was completed on the upper section of the hillside. The hillside was then prepared for excavation on the lower section.

21.8 m. A. T. B. T. (p. 63) was cleared last week.

22.4. A. T. B. T. (p. 63) was cleared last week. The excavation was completed on the upper section of the hillside.

23. A. T. B. T. (p. 63) was cleared last week. The excavation was completed on the lower section of the hillside.

Geraldine Gesell visits the excavation.

High winds and strong sun time all during the excavation week.

We have not had any significant problems with the excavation. The weather has been quite dry and there have been no major weather-related issues.
24 July 1978

1981 MCS. partly floor removed in main western room in order to reveal already detected slab floor. Quiet handsome. III B potting found on the floor itself.

1982 MCS. No progress save that we are now just above wall level in deep, firm earth.

23 A JM. Southern bench is better preserved than we originally thought, at least on the west. Floor level then is detected through direct evidence finally (a thick layer of burning in the sw corner, in front of the bench). The 'hearth' is becoming more like a square than a rectangle, if it continues the same when the western half is opened up tomorrow. No sign so far of roof supports — thus makes a good suggestion that the presence of a fallen siniu on the interior suggests an interior which is open in the center, an appealing idea which, however, needs confirmation from other evidence. I still think of the long bench as being used for sleeping.

218 LN. Cleaning of sand on the eastern portion before excavation. At this point bedrock drops down precipitously to the north and the ancient layers as seen in the scarp are over 2m deep (from top of the fill).

22 A IB. Now III deposit, more an accumulation heap than a deposit on floor heap, is safely removed. Below is a fine grove bowl almost completely preserved, our finest example so far.

Two new trenches are planned for JM, IB — to be started soon.
28 July 1978

19B1 MCS
19B2 MCS
21B LN

No progress since mainly cleaning operations.

22A1 IB Further cleaning reveals part of MMAII deposit within a restricted area, looks like a dump, although there are numerous whole vessels. Some fine fragments of Kamares polychrome.

22A2 IB Begun to thin the area in order to clean more of the ext. in lower level.

23A IM Most satisfying results, with the hearth emerging rectangular and much larger than expected. The benches continue around the eastern wall, except for a break in the doorway (largely robbed out). The only parallel for a 'bench'd hearth and a hearth in a Hellenistic house at Phaistos, but the presence of a central hearth in a common feature of both temple and domestic architecture at that time; no marble pavement popular in such interior spaces.
31 July 1978

1981 MSC. Completed essentially.

1982 MSC. Surprisingly, a large amount of earth here, probably between Minoan buildings although the reason for the accumulation of earth round about remains unclear to me. We have just come down now on fallen wall material from slabs in the SE (NW) corner, associated probably with the entrance made through the wall of 1981.

21B LN. Progress awaits further clearing of upper trenches since the high winds make excavation extremely difficult.

21B1 LN. Cleaning of western scarp essentially complete, with about two metres of ancient levels resting on bedrock. Not far below upper surface we find walls with their tops rather well preserved. Here as elsewhere we will penetrate only to the last substantial (LA) level only; soundings can await future work in other years.

22A2 IB. A few slabs, perhaps in place, appear in the northern part of the trench, not far south of the LA III outbuilding.

22A1 IB. As above (28 July); a fine stone object, perhaps a weight, is discovered along with many

John Gillard, Geologist, arrived on Saturday and spent most of his time on the site today.
fragments of Kamarae were including a small decorated cup with carination. These run as a layer below the wall which defined the MM III habitations above. NE of him has appeared another W/S wall upon which the MM III wall was set (MM II?)—associated with this are two floors of fine burnt bedrock, the lower one with a number of slabs set in some kind of order. The entire area here in stratigraphic complexity is most interesting indeed, and I should spend some time sketching in the logical development.

23A. Further clearing, w. a very burned area east of the heating. It turns out that the door socket block discovered in the robber's trench last year and thought to belong perhaps simply to reuse in the foundations is that for the large room itself. Thus the opening is assured: the bench end on the south is also well preserved. The entire plan should be available tomorrow.
1 July 1938  Kafjo Muva

19 B2 MCA. Essentially no change. Clearly we are in an area between lava buildings, perhaps a 'square'.

21 B W. Not excavated today.
2181 W. Much rubble removed; well definition beginning.

22 A2 TB. As 1932 (above)
22 A1 TB. Bedrock is reached in two parts of the trench, which means that our work is essentially completed here. In the morning I work on the dating of the walls and their interrelationships. A good series of MM II, MM III, LM I, LM III.

23 A W. Area almost complete. Photography, then removal of some stones; then photography again. Tomorrow morning a group photo will be taken of the entire staff within this new room. To the SE, the robber's trench is partially cleared to make obvious the continuation of the eastern wall of the building southward.

A topographer arrives today to rubber stamp our plan which will be submitted for the expropriation of the 2 stremmata to the south. May this be done quickly and efficiently.
19 B 2.25. After some searching about, finally a 'surface' is found in the court: this is about 0.10m. above the supposed LM I level below. On the north, the upper LM I building's boudoir have now been located: it was pierced; it was filled by opening up part of the wall and installing a rough stairway and doormade. The outside surface (Court Surface #1) was rough and tumble. It covered up roughly the stub of the earlier wall of the LM I (earlier bldg.) #2 below. In the space between was filled with slabs, as an abbreviated pavement. This pavement could have been placed there in LM I in III. The lower court level (LM I, it would seem) has been ascertained on the south, in front of the 'oblique' building. Another day's work should clarify matters: we will not penetrate to the lower building level now.

24 A 455. Begin east of the bldg. being excavated next by MCS, the intention being to attempt to ascertain the eastward extension of the building.

21 B 4N. The floor level is discovered now after a hiatus while 14 B 2 was being worked on. This is now within a 'court' which leads into a room on the SE via an impressive threshold and doorway. In a day or so, this neat little court should be completely cleared—a fine moment of clarity in a complex but fascinating area.

(cont)
Sounding by W/W in Space 3 (Hesperia '78 report) has revealed that the floor is definitely LM III and possibly LM I. Moreover, a bit of judicious searching below the southern wall as shown in Fig. 8 shows that the wall is LM III as well. The original wall of the room is further north, suggesting that there were basic alterations in this part of the building during the LM III (Cheffings) period, post LM I. Why? Is this going to be a pattern? Perhaps further digs should be cleared in the future to reveal same. A part of an offering table, of black stone, is discovered.

21 B1 1st well definition advancing well, with three separate spaces or compartments visible. I will supply more detail tomorrow after sketching.

22 A2 FB. Discontinued temporarily while FB is completing 22 A1.

22 A1 FB. Final cleaning of one area of the lower, LM II level reveals a succession of well preserved pottery which lies in connection with the lowest architectural phase: a pit, a partly preserved pit, and what appears presently to lie under the LM III wall.

23 A LM. Completed with a removal of upper stones overlying hearth. 1/2 of these were removed revealing a very burned intrusion (a hearth) and all of one phase. The stones on top, unburned, are an unexplained afterthought.

20 B LM. Return to, where we finally reach bedrock. No sand on same, and sand is below level of walls (as in Trench II A in 1974). Final photography tomorrow. Today I photographed stones lying scattered on the intrusion, later removed. Absolutely no sign of any tunnel support, though we have tried numerous times to locate same.

Photographs of entire staff, numbering over 40, today in the hearth building at about 7:30 in the morning.
3 August 1978

19B 2. MCS. No change essentially. Shortly, with the
level of extram fill, mainly rubble, raised down a
bit more, the trench will be abandoned: continuation
into earlier levels, albeit H1 1, will simply have
to wait.

24A. MCS. A wall, perhaps two, appears in the upper
fill, rather higher than expected.

21B 1W. No change essentially save that a
platform of clay is found in the SW corner of
the inner court. A cup in found next to
a step leading up to the still uninvaded
southeast. Addition to the building.

21B 1W. Would seem to be clarifying: a great
detail of fallen stone moved, clearing the N/S
lane which may curve east. A day more of
clarifying should be most helpful.

22A 2. IB. No work today.
22A 1. IB. Final clarifying a fairly well preserved
M M pottery, with IB 9 for a few days to
study the trench for the final report. A 1/2
preserved T C. Iemos appear with 3 or 4 cups.
All unmoved.

23A. JM. No work.
20B 2. JM. Bedrock finally found at
the return to T4 A 1 (deep sounding) and
look at the width of the Minoan
break which is, indeed, a pathway
of some importance.

The B & W Vicin has broken down, and
...only known after blanks appear on a few of the contact sheets. I don't believe there have been any real losses, but 3 rolls are affected. My heica will have to substitute.

...Pete Callaghan arrived to look at our Hellenistic pottery from the Greek sanctuary.

...I found a curious shed with a meander labyrinth pattern in light on dark ground on the dice built by the front loader last year, about in the 2/3 line of the mid point of the expropriated property.

...Signed Surveys - copies of EIB's plan showing the new 2 stratigraphic areas to the south, over the remains of the G1c Sanctuary, arrive. We now have a basic element in our proposal to the AGSA and Greek Antiquity Service.

NB
1. Found on 18 August by workmen, another TC bull's leg near surface, on sand, was gate into property from south (i.e. just SE of Bldg. A).
14B2 M/S. Upon final clearing, on E/S wall of fine construction appears on the eastern side of the trench.

24A M/S. N/S walls slowly being defined

21B LN. No change.

21B2 LN. As previous day, with continued clearing of fallen stone.

22A2 IB. No work today.

22A2 IB. No work today.

23A JM. Opened small walls, loose fill, appearing.

23B2 "", but examination of tiles from Block A.

Smith in camera is made by substituting here. The new altar may be as early as the 7th c. BC.

We distributed to the workers and throughout the town copies of a 4-page description (plus drawings) of the excavations and their general significance. This because so many people ask and yet we have had only English publications to show or give to them. Written well by M/C. Through out the kaffesia and to friends, neighbors, VIPs in town. Should help as well to solidify already good relations.
19B2. MCS. Discontinued.

24A. MCS. Two parallel NS walls, with the easternmost one of at least two periods and the western one with a gap (a doorway?) appear in the eastern 1/4 of the trench. Their date and relationships are not clear but within a few days I hope there will be some clear relationship with the major building to the west.

21B LN. The small rectangular structure in the rear court is cleared. A slab floor on the interior with no clear suggestion as to its use.

21B1 LN. A NS wall appears almost in line with the E wall of the big LM I building. This forms a nice dividing line for excavation; there is also a gap in the wall (a doorway?). I can imagine that this area will clean itself up almost completely by the end of the week. Today, also, two rooms in the S. were taken down to latest floor level. Everywhere there are signs of an earlier stage not far below, a stage to be investigated in another year (LM I, and previous MU).

22 A 27. Clearing of fill continued to the south. At the midpoint between trenches, S of the lined pit, the stamnastics is found to be sitting on a slab pavement that is tilted slightly to the north, perhaps draining into the pit. Although the physical connection between the two is not clear yet, this is now a fascinating little group, and I am pleased that we did not remove the nearby