Several photos and slides are taken of the altar and surrounding area. Including the wall to the south (Wall 4) (see p. 86).

From yesterday's findings, it looks as if the burnt surface was the first one to be used with the altar and pails 23 + 24 represent respectively he packing and the top of the underlying fill. No new surface was found with pail 24 but investigation of the N. half of the trench will have to be halted once again until we even the level out in the rest of the trench. Thus pail 24 is terminated at an arbitrary level and a new pail (25) assigned to the southern area. One should look into the pail for joining with the vase deposit found here in connection with the series of pail 15.

Pail 25

Inv.: C3869 Bg. cup 8th c.; C3870 Bg. cup 7th c.; C3871 Bg. w. greenish fabric + dull fugitive black wash; frags of C3727 (pail 3:15) + C3705 (pail 3:15); C4030 (join in pail 15).

Other: limpets/shells, charcoal, lump of iron; frags of tin + other vessels

< Inv.: C3776: Protocor. kotyle (see p. 88)
Mi 88: iron; knife; B201: bronze nail; B200: Pipe; 3 frags; C3776: sherd

The fill is brownish earth, lots of small stones, and numerous sherds. A 2nd sub pail is already assigned and then a 3rd one. The shards of what may be one vessel found...
in the SW corner of trench and they are bagged separately. Nearby are found 3 pieces of a bronze pipe. Then in the same area shards of a pot with painted figures (animal paws recognizable) in a Proto-Cor. style. Next was a fragment of an iron knife and a bit of metal ore. We keep the earth from this location for water-dry-sieving. There is also a small frag of a triton shell. Later some more large shells are found.

After one pass we discontinue pail 25 at an arbitrary level and at the moment and shift to the area between walls 4 and the altar, where we have been excavating separately before (w. pail 20). As there seems to be some disturbance, we assign here

Pail 4: 26
Brown/greyish earth + some rubble
Under pail 20
From 5: 25 to 5.04
Shards: 6,150 gns. Scrappy to 7th c. B.C.
Mostly hydria, closed shapes, mostly body sherds.
Other: bones, lump of iron; shed of jug

Invo. C3904: flask

Incidentally wall 4 was found to sit on the surface taken down with pail 25.

Another project is to continue our separate excavation in the area of the possible foundation...
Trench of the foundations of Temple C. There may be later contamination.
The area is neat between the two classical benches and between the foundation blocks of Temple C and the altar. Here it assigned

Pail 4:27 ("Foundation Tr." area)
Brownish earth and possibly some stone chips
Under pail 19
From 5.29 to 5.15
Sheds: 3,050 gms. 8th - 7th c. B.C.
Some scree

Other: limpets

Dlu. C3789, Corinthianising kotyle (+ joins in pail 20)

The fill of pail 26 is very soft with loose rubble and lots of shards.
A small lump of lime is found here. This area seems disturbed.

In the area of pail 27 we noted what look like some stone chips along the foundation blocks but they do not end in a clear line, nor are they enough to make their spread clear.

While the area of pails 26 & 27 are being explored a third workman pursues excavation where we had stopped arbitrarily with pail 25.
This is now replaced by:

3 pails

Pail 28 in level 4 (South half of Tr.)
Brownish earth, limpets
Under pail 25
From 5.175 to 5.125
Sheds: 13,550 gms. 8th - 7th c. B.C.
3 pails consolidated - All scrappy; iron joining
Others: lump of iron; lumps of shell
Inv. Mi 89: iron knife
C 3905 - skyphos frag.

A broken iron knife turns up in the fill there.

The fill of pail 26 is like a pit. It goes down irregularly. Shards of a lovely jug? with concentric circles found there in bag separately.
We seem to have reached some kind of surface, still rather soft, but decide to discontinue the use of pail 26. A peculiar collection of three upright small slabs is found which is quite reminiscent of what we labelled jokingly as “phone booths” found west of Temple B last year (in T. 38A) and at comparable levels.

The base of wall 4, a, now exposed, is at 5.255 at the north side, 5.20 at the E.
July 8

We continue work in the S. half of the trench using pail 28. There is a scatter of small rubble in the southeastern area which we remove. There are still quite a few limpets. Then there seems to be a slight change, a darkening of the soil first noted along the west edge. At this point we replace pail 28 by:

Pail 4:29 [Southern half J
Under pail 28
From 5.125m to 5.12(w)/5.09(E)
Burnt earth
Shards: 6,000 gns. Very scrappy - 90% coarse
large, closed - little Bg. Date - 7th c.B.C.
Other: lumps of iron; 2 pieces of bronze head

In situ C3803: zoomorphic vase "Cat's head"
C3727 Rim frg (most in 3:15 + 3:25)
C3909 - Rim w. TJ - join pail 34
C3910 - Sherd w. Rosette - join w. pail 34

A peculiar: ? sherd is found with a moulded face and a ? headgear of horns (see sketch p.94).

We also explore the west side of the altar where there was indication of a lower, earlier wall. There is soft, darkish soil here and some small stones we remove. More of a line of a lower wall is beginning to be defined.

The sherds collected from there are labelled Pail 4:27, the rest of the pail (returned to the store room yesterday) having been used for a possibly contaminated area for a possible foundation trench for temple C.
So far we have found soft, darkish fill along the west, south and sides, and the SE corner of the altar, always with loose small sized rubble. The north side has not been investigated down to the same level. Perhaps an explanation will emerge.

It is possible that there was a rough foundation trench in which the stone of the altar were set. Any original surface would have been destroyed.

We are tracing a surface with pail 29. It slopes down towards the east. It is characterized by a lightly burnt surface, bits of charcoal and a few sherd's lying flat to the south and southeast of wall 4, although at this period the wall did not yet exist.

We discontinue pail 29 and take the level of the surface. Since the burning does not continue all the way to the east scarp we level at which we stopped there is rather arbitrary.

We now dig once again between wall 4 and the altar, in the possible foundation ditch for the altar. We assign here

(South half of Tr)

Pail 4 : 30 [partially water-sieved]
Under pail 26
Greyish soft earth & rubble

Sherd's 2000 gns. Scrappy - Mostly large closed - B - 7th c. B.C.

Other: limpets, bones

Inv. C3921 (w. joins m 34+41): Skyph...
In the rest of the area pail 29 is replaced by:

- 3 pails
- Pail 4: 31
- South half
- Under pail 29
- Brownish/darkish fill and small strata
- From 5.125/5.09 to 5.05 m.
- Sherd s - Total: 13,500 g. Usual scrappy - much jug, hydria, amphora frag. # see below
- Other: sample of dark soil for water sieving
- Inv: conch shells; bones; shells

Following the soft fill of pail 30 we seem to come to the bottom of the rubble, although the fill is still softish and does not look like a surface. Here we discontinue the use of pail 30 and we collect a new pail for water sieving of grey fill.

There is much dark soil in the fill of pail 31, as well as small stones and numerous sherds. We collect a small sample of dark soil for water sieving.

# Pottery of pail 31 (cont. d)
- Joining sherds of C3904 (Flask 4:26)
- Join w. 4:30
- Link w. 4:26 - juglet
- Relatively little Pg. Includes skyphos w. corrugating decor.
- Down to latest 8th c. B.C. into 7th c.
July 9

We continue excavation with wall 31 trying to clean down to what is either an earlier burnt surface than the one encountered w. wall 29 or part of successive layering. More likely the latter.

Wall 4 now sits on a fill of earth and small stones rising c. 0.16m above the surface reached w. wall 31. It is obviously a superficial wall and unrelated to the altar as far as we can tell. Its orientation is quite different (see sketch p. 50, and plan in MB pocket).

Its max. l. E-W is 1.37m, its max. width (although it does not have a north face) is c. 0.46m. It is preserved for one course except for a 2nd stone at the SE corner. Since it has two straight ends, this is probably the entire length of the wall which may have been a little platform or bench. The S. side is made up of 3 blocks which have only 1-2 straight faces, the north side being irregular. Average size of stones: 0.27 x 0.43. We photograph the wall and take it down. Sheds under it go into:

Pail 3-4: 32 (2 pails) (South half of Trench)
Under removed wall 4
From 5.25/5.20 to 5.02m
Earth + stone
Shards: total 10,100 gns. links w. #30 + #3
Very scrappy – mostly plain + large, coarse shapes 8A - 7A c. 13 C.
Other –

Inv. C 3912: Amphora, neck, burnt after broken.
Pail 31 is discontinued in the southern half and once again we shift to the N. half of the trench, where we had stopped with pail 23. This is now replaced.

Pail 4: 33 [N. half of Trench]
Under pail 23
Brown earth and rubble
From 5.15 m to c. 5.06
Sherds: 2, 000 grs. - Very scrappy; No Bg. or cups; only 2 decors. sherds.
1 hydra rim dates into 7th c. B.C.
Other: bones
Inv.

The area of pail 33 is characterized by an extensive layer of rubble. We dug around the stones at first. Along the W. edge of the trench here is a series of blocks and medium-sized irregular stones which rise above the level of this pail. The highest stone is at 5.305 m, the lowest at 5.23 m at the top.

The so-called “plane booth,” occupied an area 0.14 m E-W x 0.12 N-S. It consists of 3 small rough slabs, of which the east one is the tallest and largest (c. 0.15 m tall). The two other stones, now slightly shifted from their original positions are so placed that the open side is toward the west, or, more accurately, toward the SW. The root of a tree has grown right against the southern of the two slabs and cannot be taken out without causing its collapse. (hence its appearance in photographs).

Now that the southern half of
Roll 4, Fr. 6

Altar (at level of bottom of pail 31) from 5.

Pail 4: 34 S. half
Under pail 31
From 5.055(w)/5.071(E) to 4.976/4.89 E
1st sub pail from W. section: burnt fill; fast fill
Sherds: 12, 750 gr. E. section: brown fill
Multiple units w. # 29, 8-7th c. Mainly
    cowrie shell
Other: Dark soil for sieving; sample of grey
    “nests” from circular accumulation; Charcoal
    sample of grey clay; lumps
C 3909, C 3910, C 3914 - Corinth. Icotype
    joins pail (41); it see below p. 104

In the area of the foundation trench of Temple C (between the two
    late bench and up to the W. face of the altar) we dig separately

Pail 4: 35 “Foundation trench”
Under pail 27
From 5.145 to 4.97 m
Grey Fill, some small stone, small shards
Sherds: 2,500 gr. Fairly scrappy, large
    part of an unglazed cup - figs of Amphora ae
    Other: Lumps; bones

Inv.

7th c. B.C.
It is clear that the south wall of the altar penetrates the surface we have found. In fact the level just outside and just inside S and N of the S. wall is exactly the same. Perhaps the soft dark soil we have been finding around the altar and which we thought might represent a foundation trench may simply be the result of constant dumping of the contents of the altar in the immediate periphery.

Part of the surface (top of pail 34) is characterized by yellowish-grey patches as well as burning—all this only near the W. edge and disappearing towards the E. As we remove the top layer we note a grey circular area of compact material, like terris. Around it the earth is a dark grey. We remove the dark grey and a circular form emerges for the terris, ca. 0.2 m in diam. Mixed with the dark soil are numerous, broken limpets and occasional bones and small stones. We collect a bag of dark soil for water-sieving. As a few pieces of the grey *terris* had come off at the top in the digging before it was recognized as being circular, we keep one as a sample for analysis. Also soil which seems to contain charcoal is taken in bag. As we proceed we see a great quantity of limpets and other small shells, mostly crushed. A half-rembil is kept for dry water-sieving.

Pail 35 is discontinued when we reach the bottom of the sub floor of Terris. E.
we continue w. past 34 and try now to trace a possible new surface. It is very burnt and full of lumps and crushed shells/snails. The root of the tree we removed two seasons ago ran a fair length along this surface. Some olive seeds are found in the fill and the soil containing them once again collected for further study.

The burning peters out towards the east so that it is difficult to know if there was a slope there and of what inclination. There have been indications, however, that there was a slope up towards the N. and a slope down towards the east. Towards the E. there are fewer sherds, practically no lumps and just a few small stones. The pattern points to what we already know: that activity took place in the immediate vicinity of the buildings. The height of the "clay" circular form is max. 0.11 m.

Having reached the surface described above we discontinue the use of pail 34 and we resume investigation in the N. half of the trench. Here we had stopped excavation at a layer of rubble. The greatest accumulations, as visible now, are along the E. scarp, E. of the altar and to the N. of the altar. Along the west scarp is a series of blocks and irregular stones which we have left in situ. Here we shall clean around the rubble, work already started with pail 33 which is now replaced by
Pail 4:36 C.N. Half of Trench
Under pail 33
Brown earth + rubble - top of earth; compct
From 5.06 to 5.03 Am's Lk.
Sheds: 2500 g. Much large, coarse but way
Some Misrep; date uncertain, but I shed 8-7c
Other: bones; pumice

Inv. C3936 Bg cup

It turns out that the soil surrounding
the rubble is quite hard with a
yellowish tinge as if it contains
dirt's. It may be the underpacking
of the dark surface we located at the
level of pail 23.

We remove the clay form (under pail
34) to examine the outer surface for
possible trace of a possible container
in perishable material (? wood ? basket).
To our surprise, the form continues further
down, now at a reduced diam. of ca. 0.15 m. as if of a tapering shape.

The surface at which we stopped
using pail 34 is at the following depth:
4.985 m at N, 4.93 at S. along
W. scarp. The rubble accumulation
to the east of the altar is at 5.115.

It is possible that the rubble was
once covered by an upper layer of
the surface we reached at the bottom
of pail 34, if the ground sloped up
drastically towards the N.

Another workman is now placed in
the S. half to tear the surface down
so we can see if the rubble slopes down toward the south.
Work did not quite start in the S. section on July 10 because of pay day. Essentially then we start here today. We noted earlier that there was a dark surface along the west scarp running up to the altar and extending for about 1.50m but in an irregular manner. Today we shall excavate the brownish earth to its east and see if the brown surface might not slope down towards the E. Later we shall excavate the dark surface separately.

Pail 4:37 [S. Half of Trench]
Under pail 34 [E. section]

- From 4.95/500E to 4.97W/4.94E
- Brown earth, some small stones
- Sherd 5: 2,000 yrs. Scrappy, half frag of L.G.-L.O. B.g. cups — nothing readily 8th or later
- Other: limpets, iron slag

- Inv. Frag. of C3910 (rest in Pails 34+37)
- C4069: spindle whorl

There are many limpets along the E. scarp near the S.E. corner.

As we remove the brown earth we reach patches of burnt surface which now help us trace the “floor” reached with pail 34 to the W. We take levels of the entire surface in the S. half of the trench including some 4 stones marking the beginning of an E-W wall. The surface is c. 4.95 near the W. scarp, 4.94 at the E.

A new pail is assigned for the next level.

Pail 4:38 [S. half of Trench]
Under pails 34 & 37 [E. section]

- Dark soil, full of limpets
From 4.97W/4.94E to 4.85W/4.91E
Sheets: 6,700 yrs. No obvious (see p.117)
marks. By caps + Corrinianising sherds. Late 8th.

Other: U-nets; shells; bones; ?chert. Possibly 7th. c. BCE
charcoal

In v. Fig. of C3921 Crest in 507397; S904: Chert frag.
Sure Minoua - blue w. pale 37

Pail 38 in started near the W. scarp
where the surface is clear and very burnt.
The fill here is dark, packed with U-nets
and a few small stones. The fill here
is dry sieved to collect the shells.

The new wall is labelled H6 (H5
having been given to the W. wall of the
cellar). Wall 6 has been traced south for
ca. 1.05m. south it only has a N. face.
Directly north of its midpoint is a small
flat slab, in front of which, slightly to
NW in the lower part of a post still
penetrating up down.

The following situation has emerged:
Along the W. scarp and under the
dark surface removed in pail 38 we
have a new surface, also burnt
but with a yellowish chalky colour,
consistency. This peters out toward
the E. and towards the N. Then
it stops ca. 1.00 S. of the altar.
In the rest of the trench groups
of sherds have appeared possibly
sitting over a flow not reached yet.
Along the E. scarp we are beginning
to trace the S. extent of the rubble
spill we had found earlier, and
digging with pail 36 in the N.
half of the Trench. The rubble
here is at a lower level proving
a slope down to S.

A workman is digging fill to the
NW of the altar where excavation
had stopped a little higher than elsewhere. 
With this fill we shall finish the use of 
Pail 36. Here we have what may be 
an earlier W. wall of the altar. This 
is straight and solidly built. One rough 
stone clearly sitting on earth to its W. 
in removed. We reach a darkish surface 
and stop excavating. This is the level 
at which the foundations of Temple C 
stop and also apparently where the 
"earlier" W. wall of the altar ends 
(level at 4.96-4.97). Two stones lie, 
the S. one flat, the N. one slanting right next 
to the N. end of the W. wall of the altar and 
they are left there till we know what they 
mean. They are apparently, part of a rough 
line (not a wall) of stones along the W. scarp 
of the N. half of the trench. South of them 
the altar wall is visible and there one 
big block is sitting on a little slab, 
apparently used for levelling, like the little 
slabs placed under the eastern wall. The 
top of the slab is at 5.015 m.

Other levels are taken: the dark surface 
along the E. scarp of S. of the altar 
slope, down from 4.93 (N) to 4.89 (middle) 
to 4.885 m (S). To the E. where more is 
no dark surface we stopped at level 
c. 4.91 m. Here we saw a few small 
pebbles here and there but this could not be 
a floor since the pot next to the wall still 
penetrates into the soil. Pail 38 goes out 
of use at the levels just mentioned. 
The level 10 of the altar and E. of the 
foundation of Temple C, reached w. 36 
must be a corresponding surface.

Levels of the spill of rubble along the E. 
scarp are taken at 3 points. The 
slope up to N. These are at 4.99 (just 5.0) 
the centre of the trench, 5.11 further N and 5.22 at 
the N. scarp.
For Fr. 1(+2) see polaroid below
Fr. 3 Rubble Layer along E. scarp
looking N.

Pail 40 - pottery (see p. 119)
Sherds from a relatively few vessels make up much of the deposit. Several L.G.:
  Bg. cups of local type represented
Deposit post 750 B.C. Late 8th c.
C3942 = pot b  C3943 = Corinthianizing
skyphos local skyphos late 8th C3944: Bg. (rim)
cup into E.O.

Wall 6 - from E
× pail 4:39, pot a

Today's first project is to take down the surface reached with pail 38, starting with the area which is not dark.

Pail 4:39 [S. half of Trench]
Under pail 38 [E. section]
Brown earth, some small shales
From 4.91 m to 4.85/4.82 m
Sherds: 4150 qrs. Date to 8th c. B.C.
Green neck frag. of uncal. piece (as in #37, #38)
Other: bones, shells/limpets; pumice pieces
C3938 = "pot a", content kept, cup 8c.
Inv. C3941; C3939: Corinthian? jug, neck
C3940 jug or amph. frag. L.G.?

We soon discover that Wall 6 finishes at the top of this new level (ie at the bottom of pail 38) and that the pot we found yesterday to its N. sits on an earlier, slightly lower surface.

We take photographs of the wall and of the rubble spill along the E. scarp. Wall + rubble will be eventually removed.

Most of the brown fill is now taken out but except for where the pot N. of Wall 6 ends there is little indication of a real surface. The rubble spill seems to end about 1.50 from the s. scarp unless it dips down dramatically there. A separate pail is now assigned to taking down the dark surface along the W. scarp equivalent to pail 39 [West Section]

Pail 4:40 [S. half of Trench]
Under pail 38
Burnt soil, limpets, yellow streaky patches
From 4.89 m to 4.78(N) / 4.75 m(S)
Sherds = see p. 118
Other: Charcoal
Inv. M190: 3-colour layered material
The grey clay object which we removed on upper part of fired to penetrate within the fill of Pail 40. It has a cylindrical shape.

Wall 6 is preserved and triangulated. It consists of one course 0.08m high, 1.1m E-W and it has only a N. face. It is constructed of small slabs.

We reach the bottom of the S. wall of the altar. It penetrates just below a new surface we are tracing now (the one on which the pot (pot a) sits). As higher up there is burning as we get closer to the W. scarp. On top of the surface s. of the altar and close to the W. scarp, spreading c. 1.00 to E are tiny bits of stone, like stone chips. A second group of sherds (pot b) occur about 1.40m S. of the altar. It will be bagged as Pail 40, pot b. (Pot a will go under Pail 39).

A small piece of clay-like material with 3 layers, successively red, yellowish, pinprick found near the W. scarp above the surface. It could be a consolidating form of the mosaic-like, multicoloured patches we have been finding in the past and in present trenches (Trs. 43 + 44) in relevant levels.

A new project: The fill between the W. wall of the altar and the foundations of Temple C is where we stopped W. at Pail 35, at the base of the foundations. The level is now being taken down with:

Pail 41 (W. of altar)
Under pail 35
Note on 'Grey clay form': see p. 123.

Back at the excavation store room
the newly removed button part of the 'clay form' is placed under the section removed earlier w. pail 34. They do not join properly and the overall shape is a rough cylinder with a roughly rounded button. Max. pr. h. 0.28 m; max. dian. at htp is 0.19. The substance seems to be silt/clay (opinion by H.B. Watson). The 'form' is now dumped and a piece has already been kept for proper analysis.

Roll 5, Fr. 10
Cylindrical clayish form (see comments above) seen from SE.

Roll 5, Frs. 11, 12
Views of the altar at level of ?, earliest surface with which it was used. Seen from SE.

Also w. Mamiya

From 4.94 m to 4.775
Brownish earth
Shreds : 3.650 qms. Scrapy - 11 sherds LR. Bg. cup, most earlier mixed - PG - LG.

Other : bones C3914 (join in pail 34)
Inu. C4050 : Pg ? closed shape; C4051 : Mg.
Skyphos w. chevrons; C4052 : bowl w. plastic handle; F31 : faience bead C3921 (join in 30439)
The level in the S. half of the trench representing the ground on which the altar was first built is cleaned + prepared for photography (p. 122).

The round grey clay object seems to stop just above this surface and has seen to be little clay underneath. It seems to be rounded towards the bottom. It is triangulated, photographed + removed. Diàn. at the top is 0.16/0.17 m (see p. 115).

The next level starts to be taken down with:

Pail 4 : 42 [S. half of Trench 7]
Under pail's 39 (40) (w. section)
Burnt fill w. some small stones
From 4.78 N/4.75 E to 4.67 N/4.70 S.
Shreds : 5,200 qms. Photo, scrapy. A little P. G. but also some Geom.

Other : bones, shells, pumice

Inu. C4053, C4054 : Jugs P. G.; C4055 : skyphos/cup MG; C4056 : Jug P. G.?

We start along the W. scarp.

Some levels are taken of parts of the altar:
The long block forming the E. side slopes down (at the bottom) from 5.12 (N) to 5.075 (S).
The east block of the S. side rests on a small corner slab at the SE corner and reaches here to level 4.84 m. The surface reached directly S. of the altar (pail 40) is at 4.78 m.
Excavation continues w. pail 42. The soil is soft, darkish w. a few sherds. This soil clears easily from what seems to be our next surface. Wall 6 (see pp.118,124) is removed and the 4 indistinct brick sheds found under it are discarded.

Pail 42 becomes full and is now replaced by another pail (43) which will represent equivalent fill to the E.

Pail 4:43 [S. Section of Trench] Under pail 39 E. section
From 4.835 to 4.755m
Brown earth + stones
Sherds: 58 50g. Much Minoan, but also a number of scrappy a - P.G.
Other: bones
Inv. C 4057 E.G. - MG cup Rin Frg.
dating sherd; C 5147; slab

While softer, the fill of pail 42 was almost pure earth, now we encounter small stones just S. of the SE. corner of the altar. This may be a continuation of the rubble spill E. of the altar in the N. half of the trench.

We leave a strip (0.30m wide) unexcavated S. of the altar to prevent its collapse as we go down. We also stop excavation in the area of pail 41 at 4.775m, i.e. at about the same level as pail 40 further S.

Rough stones underlie the W. wall of the altar.

Having traced a surface with pails 42 + 43 we find that the spill of rubble seems to run under this surface. It now occupies the NE. quarter of the S. half of the trench its lowest W. extent (S. of the altar) being at c. 4.695m its lowest S. extent at 4.755m.