TRENCH 86D: EASTMOST SOUNDING

Pail 43

Pail 45

Pail 46

level, at bottom of pails

noted above

Trench at bottom of Pail 46
and during 47 - Rubble to be
removed with Pail 47A

1:50

TRENCH 86D

Trench at the central area of the sounding
where the plaster floor is fairly well preserved.
Pail 43 continues to be used for the west
area.

86D / Eastmost Sounding

Pail 8: 45 under pail 42 and 83A/54
From (see p. 86) to (see p. 90, hp)
Exc. of plaster floor. Eastmost sounding
Sherd: 13 sh: 0.055 kg. MM III?
Neopalatial -Tiny unit

Other: Sample of three layers of floor plaster

Inu.

In the central part 3 layers of plaster
are preserved: blue, white, blue. This
is in a different sequence from that observed
in the east sounding where the layers
were blue, blue, white. We stop at the
bottom blue layer which is best preserved.
The surface is not flat; it is undulating
and there are occasional mound-like
depression (2-3), quite shallow-therefor
of unlikely purposeful use. The level
of the surface sloped down from N
(3.40 m) to south (3.35 m) and in the
same degree of slope from E to W.
We are collecting a sample of floor
plaster from each layer. Since there
were no sherds so far, we shall remove
the blue surface with the same pail (45).

In the west section fill is becoming
sand. We change pail

86D / Eastmost Sounding

Pail 8: 46 under pail 43
From +3.13 m to +3.04 m.
Sandy fill
Gallery 3, eastmost sounding
Sherd: 259 sh: 2.165 kg. MM II
not badly broken
In pail 45 the blue layer was laid immediately above the layer of pebbles (total thickness varies 3-5 cm). Under the pebbles there is a brown earth level. We stop at this level.

86D / Eastmost Soundings
Pail 47 under pail 45 - Gallery 3
From (see p. 90) to (p. 94)
Eastmost sounding east, small stones
Sherds: 143 sh; 1250 kg; M M II
Small unit - worn sherds
Other: bone

In pail 47 we have been keeping a narrow strip (10 cm) unexcavated along the west edge of pail 45. It will be left unexcavated for 47 as well. Also excluded from these pails is the area above the LM I T wall, where the stones of the construction are still on the floor. We have been robbing these areas. The earth level slopes slightly from N-S and from E-W.

At level + 3.04m we have reached the bottom of the 2nd courses of the M M and T walls and we arbitrarily discontinue pail 46. We shall now concentrate our attention to the area of pail 47 where a show of small stones has appeared following a northwesterly direction.

In the area of pail 47 the show of small stones links with those found in pail 44. A piece of 7 painted plaster starts to appear.
Machine set at level + 6.80m

The small stones sit on earth. They will be removed with Pail 47A

86 D / Eastmost Sounding

Pail 48, 47A under pail 44 and patty 47 scatter of small stones (see p. 90 bottom)

Sedp: 18 sh; 0.140 kg. MM II

Tiny unit - entirely MM II

Mm: plaster of floor from within the E. wall

Ind: red/pink plaster

As we remove the stones, there seems to be a flat level underneath, like a surface. The north wall of T penetrates below the level being excavated with pails 47 and 47A. In 47A we reach all the way to the face of the east wall and find that the plaster of the floor continued behind the vertical face and filled interstices between its blocks. In other words, the plaster floor and wall plaster were part of the original construction. Something of a surface is being found under the removed stones.

photo p. 94

The piece of plaster found yesterday is being exposed. It is unusual. We seem to see the back of it. The backing plaster is paper thin and where worn it shows a terracotta red color (looks like clay) applied on the other side. Nicos is doing the cleaning. The piece will be removed with paraffin and gauze (3.3 cm N-S and 7 cm W-E). The location is 63 cm from the N. wall of T and 1.05m from the orthostate wall. Work becomes very slow in the area of pails 47 and 47A and a workman is shifted back to the west section of the trench.
In the eastmost area all small stones have been removed. The "surface" encountered extends 90 cm - 1.00 m from the orthostate wall. I believe that this was one created at the time of building the orthostate wall and in order to provide a flat and sturdy surface. At this point both Pails 47 and 47A are terminated. Levels are taken and a plan made (see p. 94). A new course of the wall of T has appeared in this area. Part of the plaster floor and vertical face is removed to see its relationship to the orthostate wall. The conclusion is that it in the primary phase. Rough foundation stones appear behind the plaster. They are the foundation of the wall proper above. Beside the foundation stone (4 course) there are some 15 courses, preserved. The lower courses are somewhat better. Perhaps the upper ones were rebuilt during the construction of P. The interior face of the orthostate wall was ripped out at the north end of the gallery to guarantee that the north wall bonded with the older East wall.

In the area of Pail 48 we are reached the base of the T wall. At one point at +3.09 m. The fill remains the same but with a new tan some sort of surface is found next to this wall (at +2.94 m).
The piece of plaster was lifted. It shows a solid red face on the other side. The backing plaster is white, about 3-4 mm thick. The pigment layer is 1 mm. There is no penetration of color. It is Venetian red, not burnished. Photos are taken (see p. 96) of the area excavated with pails 47 and 47A. Excavation will continue later. A martyr will be kept in the NE corner of the plaster, and the surface noted - an area 0.90 x 0.60 m.

In the closest area (pail 48) we are finding fragments of painted ochre plaster of a fine quality, thin but fairly sturdy. A piece is removed with gauze and paraloid. The surface we noted near the wall of T disappears toward the south. Perhaps a strip was stamped down and levelled in preparation of building that wall.

Once again a workman is shifted to the eastmost area.

86 D / Eastmost Sounding
Pail 8 : 49 : under pails 47 and 47A
From (see p. 94) to + 3.09 m
Sandy earth Eastmost sounding
Sherds : 300 sh; 1,690 kg. MM II broken-up, worn sherds.
Others : [Blank]

In u C 9808 : loomweight

A large piece of ochre plaster is found, some 80 cm from the MM wall and some 75 from the South scarp. It is right on the surface where we stop using pail 48. Photos are taken of the plaster, which will be removed with gauze. (photos p. 98).

The "surface found in pail 47A, a strip next to the armstone wall will
be excavated separately

86D / Eastmost Sounding
Pail 8:49 A (under pail 47A) Gall. 3
From +3.30 m / 3.285 to +3.09 m
Compact earth with surface ? burnt clay
Eastmost sounding
Shards: 53 sh; 0.250 kg. MM III? Small
unit of mostly tiny, individual worn shards
0.1 m: Clay patch sample
Inv. C980B: loomweight

The surface just where we stopped with
pail 47A in scratched and a terracotta
red surface (patches) appears. We dug
this strip leaving a martyr at its north
end (see "martyr" on p. 94) using pail
49 A. After one pass the soil throughout
looks the same. We shall keep the
separation, however, just in case there
was some contaminating activity near the
orostate wall (rather unlikely, maybe,
for what we are digging seems like fill
sandy fill goes on and on— almost no
stone, (even small one) and few shards.

We assign a pail to the narrow booklet
we left unexcavated along the west edge of
pail 49 and fulls above since we no longer
excavate to the west of it and to facilitate digging

86D / Eastmost Sounding
Pail 7:50 under pail 41 and 42
Removal of booklet
From +3.36 m / 3.09 m.
Shards: 38 sh; 0.375 kg. MM III
Tiny unit, rather well-sharpe

0.1 m

Inv.

We also shop pails 49 and 49 A.
The machine is set at level + 6.74 m. The backfill has been removed. We are at a roughly + 3.09 m level in the area. We shall excavate it with a new pail. The masonry in the NE corner is + 3.28 m.

**86 D / Eastmost Sounding**

Pail: 8:51 under pail: 49, 49A, 50
From + 3.09 m to + 3.01 m.
Sandy earth with a layer of sand.
Sherds: 161sh; 0.890 kg. MM II
- Worn broken up, small units
- Inc.

After a couple of passes we found grey, fine-looking earth towards the east. So the sandy earth is being replaced by a layer of clay. Under the line of the backfill, excavated with pail 50, some flat stone and small rough stones begin to appear.

As we dig down we find that the stones line up in an N-S orientation and a rough wall is outlined (ca. 55 cm wide). It is pretty level at the top (+ 3.01 m). East of the wall (wall #1) the fill is mostly grey, fine earth. We shall bring the level up to the top of the wall and terminate pail 51. Two new pails will be assigned.

**86 D / Eastmost Sounding**

Pail 9:52, west of wall 1 -
Under pail 148
From (see p. 94) to + 2.80 m
Sandy earth
Sherds: 279 sh; 1.400 kg. MM II (4)
- Large open shops

0 Sh.: bone
Inc. C 9813, C9799: loomweights
Gallery 3 - Eastmost sounding
at base of pails 52 and 53

86D / Eastmost sounding
Pail 9:53, east of wall 1
Under pail 51, Gallery 3, Eastmost sounding
From +3.01 m to +3.85 m
Levis (grey clay)
Sheds: 106 sh; 110 kg. MM III (A?)
Small unit - not too badly broken
Other: bone, plaster
Invo. C 9813: loomweight

Clay goes on and on in the area of pail 53. There is discussion of a possible MM wall under the orthostate wall. Gordon Nixon comes over and suggests we use a pin to check under the bottom course of the orthostate wall. So and behold; the pin hits stone. We dig toward the east and find a wall, either preceding or a foundation for it. Pottery will tell. In the meantime, the MM I north wall is found to have another wall under it. Where we dig west of wall 1. It seems to be built against the very wide N-S MM wall. The E-W wall under consideration could define the north limit of a room, or it could be a kind of a ‘buttress’ wall of the ground level stepped down in successive terraces toward the east in MM times. Such a wall/butress was found, also built against the east face of the MM wall last year in the sounding at the east end of Gallery 3 (Trench 86B).

Fill is quite different on either side of the N-S wall #1 which has a better face on the east and seems to have retained higher fill on the west (again suggesting stepping down towards the East). Fill on the west is sandy earth with many sherds, and almost pure sand grey clay on the east. After many passes, an arbitrary level is established (3.0 m).
The machine is set at level +
We start excavation west of wall 1.

**86D/2 pills** 
Eastmost Sounding
Pail 9:54 under pail 52 [2 pills]

From +2.80m to +2.60m

*Gallery 3 - Eastmost sounding - Sandy earth
Sherd: 476 + 467 sh; 4,230 + 4,305 kg.

**MM II(a?)**

Other: bones

Inv. C9819: base of jar with raised geom. pattern

see p. 106

Sandy earth with bits of plastic (one piece ochre again) and quite a few sherds (small broken up) amid them.

Along with the norm wall of T (which consists of some 2-3 courses) there are altogether 5 courses revealed on the north edge of pail 54. These are 4 courses visible of the MM wall on the west:

The blocks are longish rectangular blocks laid on in neat courses, ranging from 11-13 cm high. There are hardly any interstices. It is a very solid wall.

Its thickness is 2.30 m W-E. About 85 cm from the west face of the wall 4 small stones line up in a N-S line at the south exposed end of this MM wall. That is at 3.45 m from the north wall of P. The line of these stones if extended north coincide with the end of the north wall of T.

It has been hypothesized that a N-S wall existed here during the use of T. This theory is supported by the fact that no plaster floor was found here over the MM wall. The hypothetical cross wall (N-S) would have been about 140 m. That is to its east edge lined up where the N. wall of T appears again at the other side of the thick MM wall.
At about level +2.60 we seem to reach the bottom of wall 1, though this is not certain yet. We replace pail 54 with:

**86D / Eastmost sounding**

Pail 9:55 under pail 54
West of wall 1; gallery 3; eastmost sounding. From +2.60m to +2.55m

Sherd: 360 sh; 2,810 kg; MM III (?)
Other: bone, shell, fossil

Inventory: C762, etc. profile

Surprise! Wall 1 may still be going down. It displays a very oblique west face, some 3 courses. We shall stop digging west of it again and go back to the east compartment. The fill in pail 55 has continued to be sandy.

**86D / Eastmost sounding**

Pail 9:56 under pail 53
East of wall 1; gallery 3. Eastmost sounding
From +2.85 to +2.68/2.60m

Lumps and sandy earth

Sherd: 82 sh; 0,900 kg; MM I & II - small unit - not too badly broken

Other:

Inventory:

The fill is a mixture of grey clay (lepis) and sandy earth. After a pan we get into big lumps of lepis. Digging is very difficult. In consultation with S. W. Shaw we decide to stop excavation and dig only the northern half of the west area (west of wall 1). This allows us to check the 3 walls on west, north and east.
86D

Pail 9:57 under part of pail 55
From +2.55 m to +2.47 m.
Sandy east - Gallery 3
Eastmost sounding
Sherds: 336 sh; 4,045 kg; MM? (A?)
Not too badly broken sherds; t 340 sh; 5,170 kg
Other: +2.55 m; 2,925 kg; joins with
pails 59 and 61A and 61B
Inv.: bones; bones
252:246: carved stone? vessel frag
All wall are crumbling and the fill is packed with sherds. Pail 57 is filled up and taken at the end of the day to the apotheci.

NEW DAY

July 19

The machine is set at level +6.84 m.
We start a new sub-pail for pail 57 as there are many sherd.

We also return to the west sounding where we stopped excavation with pail 35 (see pp. 73-74).

86D West Sounding
Pail 8: 58 under pail 35
West sounding - Gallery 3
From +3.10 m to +2.93 m
Sherds: 15 sh; 0,100 kg; MM? not closely datable
Other -
Inv.

It now looks as if wall 1 has finally bottomed out, at least to judge by a horizontal stone at M 0.98 and which sits on earth. The bottom seems to be at +2.50 m, that is...
West sounding in Gallery 3 - From 5.
At end of excavation (pail 58 bottom)
layers encountered - photo note: fig. 10
see comments on p. 115 and photos on p. 114.

Pail 34
ca. 3.09 m²
Pail 35

Pail 58
ca. 3.26 m²

× lepis = plaster
÷ earl = earl
÷ sand

Pail 60
lepis
ca. 2.37 m
sand

1.85 m
lepis

c. 3.26 m
Pail 58

We seem to be finding a former fill at the west end of the easternmost sounding (pail 59) and sand on the east. We terminate this pail. To our surprise the N. wall goes down!

86D
Pail 9.61 under pail 59
Gallery 3, easternmost sounding
From +2.200 m to +2.185 m

Sherd: 37 sh; 0.490 kg; MM (IIA?)
small unit - MHIB and MMII
Eastmost Sounding in Gallery
From S.E. Bottom of pails 61 + 61A
(see p. 115)

Roll 5, Frs. 19-23: The Eastmost Sounding. (cont'd on p. 116)

West section of sounding at level of
Pail 61A
From E
From SE

Pail 9:61 (cont'd from p. 115)

Inv. C 9869, UP cup: C 9866
C 9867 M/C bowl: C 9868 M/C
UP spinning bowl

Scarp cleaning
Pail 9:61B: 11 sh; 0.130 kg, MTH
Joins w. pails 57, 3rd pail, Pail 61A
Tiny unit

86 D | Eastmost Sounding
Pail 9:61A under pail 59
Gallery 3, Eastmost sounding - to + 2.16m
Sherd s: 159 sh: 3, 260 kg, MTH
Join w. pail 59, 3rd pail, C 9866:
" " " Large sherd
Other.

Inv.

& Sherd w. blue + white plaster; pig's teeth

Inv. See p. 114

Most sherd are in 61A, large
sherd. At level + 2.16 m and in the
NW corner (ca 0.50 cm W-E) is
an accumulation of large vessels (not
complete). There is also a sherd with
blue and white plaster, which we collect
separately.

We take a photo of the accumulation
of large sherds, some of which seem
to penetrate under the west end
of the north wall (see p. 114).
Under the earth at the west end
sound starts. We shall stop
at this level both pails 61 and
61A. The stack of sherd will
be collected in 61A (NW corner).

In the west sounding things happen
very fast. The lepis layer has very
few sherds and then starts a deep
stratum of pure sand (no sherds). The
bottom layer after the sand is grey (grey)
without sherds, and very hard - almost
inpenetrable. We have to stop. A photo
and a section are shown on p. 112

For the layer with the earth to the west
end of the sounding, we assign

For the layer with the earth to the west
end of the sounding, we assign

86 D | Eastmost Sounding
Pail 9:61A under pail 59

Gallery 3, Eastmost sounding - to + 2.16m

Sherd s: 159 sh: 3, 260 kg, MTH

Join w. pail 59, 3rd pail, C 9866

" " " Large sherd

Other.

& Sherd w. blue + white plaster; pig's teeth

Inv. See p. 114

Most sherd are in 61A, large

sherd. At level + 2.16 m and in the

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Under the earth at the west end

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In the west sounding things happen

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bottom layer after the sand is grey (grey)

without sherds, and very hard - almost

inpenetrable. We have to stop. A photo

and a section are shown on p. 112
Roll 5, Frs. 24: West Sounding in Gallery 3

Photos of Eastmost Sounding (cont'd from p. 11A) Roll 5, Frs. 21-23

The machine is set at level +6.715m. We continue digging in the Eastmost Sounding:

86D / Eastmost Sounding
Pail 9: 62 under pails 61 and 61A
Sandy earth - Eastmost Sounding
From +2.16 m to
Shards: 194 sh; 3.335 kg; MN IB
Individual sherds
Other: bone
Inv.

Both the west and the north MM walls continue down. We start reaching the water level (ca. +1.58 m). A rough stone is wedged at the NW corner under the north wall. Other large stones are slanted next to the west MM wall. Excavation stops when all mud and rubble are removed and the trench fills with water. We also reach the bottom of the west wall. It is about 11 courses, the 2 bottom ones quite rough and it is 1.70m tall.

The north MM wall is quite messy. The bottom course is rough and it slopes down steeply toward the E. Near the west wall it bends out at the 9th course of the W. wall that is ca. 0.70 m from that wall's base. With the courses of the LM I wall coming, the 6th wall stands for 1.40m high. It is 9 courses. Under it there is a large rough stone and sand.

Wall 1 stands for 0.30m high (2 courses). The max. width is ca. 60 cm. The min. width is 47 cm. The trench is cleaned and...
The permanent point to be used for setting the level is P 485 at +3.68.

For relative location of trench see plan, p. 120.