DIRECTOR'S
NOTEBOOK

SUMMER, 1981
The following brief description concerns the second study season at Kommos when activity at the site was at a minimum and storeroom activity focused on publication, especially aspects of Volumes I and IV, Volumes II and III being well underway.

This year (aside from all of the ongoing work in Toronto which includes all aspects of the publication) began in Pitsidia with the arrival of an advance group on June 12th, consisting of Debi Harlan, keyholder from the American School of Classical Studies and our chief cataloguer, storeroom chief for the past few years; along with Elizabeth Duceworth, newly M.A. at the University of Toronto; and Helena Whittmore, doctoral candidate at the University of Toronto, also in the Department of Classics. A preliminary cleanup and work was followed on June 15th by the arrival of Harriet Bitter, whose delay in writing on the stone tools during the summer of 1986 had made the major work to be done in 1987 perhaps the most crucial job to be done now since Vol. I’s text relies on having all the disparate material available at one time. HBW’s chief project is the ground stone tools, but there is the chipped stone, metal tools and metalworking, pumice, and others. At the point that this is written, she has: 1) assigned numbers to and cleaned, with HBW help, the collected stone tools in the past few excess than seasons; 2) separated our inventory into types and, with the help of our photographers, almost completed publication photography for the stone, bronze, and pumice.
On the following arrivals are occurred:

Tuesday, June 16th. Linda Amasa, profiler for Peter Callaghan (1st millennium pottery) arrived to complete PC's publication pottery for Volume IV. She comes from Toronto, where in the past she worked, and will shortly enter the graduate program at Trent U in Peterborough.

Saturday, June 21st. After attending and participating in the French School's Table Rondos on Bronze Age Domestic Architecture, I and MCS (who cancelled a trip to Ken to look at the frescoes) came to Crete. MCS will complete her work on the Minoan and Greek sculpture and the Minoan plaster jars. I did a bit of cleaning on the site in order to look more into the Minoan hearths, but subject for the Table Rondo! (This was not Kommos connected (i.e. E-I II "Corrida Houses"). My own project, now nearing completion, is to complete the first draft of "Phoenixes in South-central Crete," or the interpretation of a tripod altar shrine in Temple B given as a lecture in Jan Adams in December 1986. This, hopefully in ASA, will elucidate some fragments to turn more completely to the editing of our Kommos volumes I-III and, that done, to the new show in the composition of IV—hopefully, PC. will have progressed well in their share of that volume by that time. I will have perhaps three weeks now to spend on ordering sanctuary material for that exhibit.

Sunday, June 28th. Jan O'Connell, artist, from Cornwall and with us for a number of years. His priority—common now—is Vol. III, then Volume IV. Common muse has begun in a few days hence.
Tuesday, July 7 - Eric Csapo, from trenchmaster and assisted the Iron Age graffiti, etc., arrives in a week after excavation at Mytilene, with a combined Greek and Canadian (UBC, U of T, and others) group.

Monday, July 13th - Cap Seele and David Reese arrive. Cap will catch up with the conservation that we postponed put off until this summer, concerned chiefly with the material in volume III. Dr. will, I hope, be in a position to complete his study of the shell and faunal remains in Volumes I and IV.

Wednesday, July 15th - Barbara Hammann, helper for Cap Seele, arrives from London where she studies conservation.

Volume I: Survey, House, Minor small finds and Industries, Fauna & Flora. As far as the fieldwork, Pit Sidia storeroom work is concerned, faunal combination is still required. All finds should have been photographed, studied by the end of this year. A great many architectural drawings, especially Getha, remain to be done.


Volume III: LM pottery. All Cretan work done, but text remains unwritten and illus. are still to be set up.

Volume IV: Sanctuary. Much to be done.
July 1984

These last few days ago, after some weeks of working very hard to bring the photographic record of the sites of stone and bronze up to date. Taylor Dobney, our photographer, has done some quality work in keeping pace with her and moderating her often violent, changeable moods. She has received priority in photography and drawing, also the use of an assistant (Helen Whittaker). She has promised her husband, L.V. Watson, that she will have her text ready by late fall and that is what I hope for since it will provide a basic part of our consideration of the houses and the economic activity of the inhabitants.

MCS has completed his study of the Kommos hearths for publication in the Table Ronde volume of the French School in Archaeology; and has now turned to studying in detail the terracotta figurines from Temples A/B, and having done that she has now spread those from C onto four three tables. Of course, this belongs to Volume IV. In a week or so she will turn to complete her study of the plaster, begun last summer. By the end of the study season and his commitments will have been handled as far as study is concerned, and I have no doubt that her texts will be models; I regret only that the material from our rural sites is not richer.

PC is now in his final, second season of studying the Greek pottery from the South. During the 1986 season he located and
interrelated the layers, floors, and dumps inside and outside the temples, ordering them in terms of A1, A1/2, B1/2, B2, B3, and the sequences of C from 4th century through Roman. Geo's join (he can remember shapes and types) are most valuable. During that season he began with the pottery from Building Q of the 4th century with its massive imported East Greek amphorae that must have to do with the case of the temple as well, perhaps, as the archaic town that was on the slope of the nearby hill as well as inland towns, perhaps even Phaistos. One he help Q for a while, at least, to rebox at our collection of Phoenician pottery, our 300 pieces by now, prompted by my own work.

A.B has now completed the first draft of the A.D. which mentioned here earlier. This was one of the most difficult for its disparities. My note relating to the various aspects (Syrac-Palestinian, Cypro-Archaic, Persian) were at least 8" thick and in order to avoid browning the entire book with me. I wrote the Phoenician section which took up 4' of the space before leaving for Greece while at the Island house where I would often write early in the morning and afters un before and afters un, and the section of a time. This comparative section fill midway in the text. Now, therefore, I write the first section, then such the Phoenician comparison, then write the ending. Shortly I will send it to Toronto for editing on a disc for final editing. It and the E.H. I text can perhaps be said off about the same time, once classes have begun -- (end September ?).
DR will reach the climax of things during the next few weeks as he makes the final combinations for the bone and shell. All these thousands of items will be kept as data in the various contexts, whether Minoan or Iron Age. He is further along than many of us. volume-wise or he will be in a position close to complete readings in the Southern part of the site, for Volume IV, but also the loan, Minoan, for Volume V. (though there is little in these great civic buildings). Perhaps the Minoan results will simply reinforce the picture we already have of the Minoans diet and animal husbandry and relations with the nearby sea. Perhaps there will be surprises.

On the other hand, the massive layers, floors, altars of the Greek sanctuary are to provide fine new and important information about Greek religious activity in Crete and elsewhere.
24 July 1987

Two days ago arrived the "radar team" from Boston University, with Fritz Hemans and Rick Elia, both involved in experimenting with scanning. Beyond the cost of room and board in them (and F's wife and two children) the total cost for us should be about $2000 Canadian. The equipment that they brought (via Isthmia, where it was first used) is among the most complex. It has all gone down to the site now, where it is being used at night by our night guard appointed for this specific purpose and during the week 1 of their stay. Apparently, I know their visit is the first of this type in Greece.

I do not know how successful their work at Isthmia was, and cannot know what may appear after a week of probing, especially of the south and southeastern, unexcavated areas that either we have not excavated or we hope to buy in the future. Often they have been adjusting their equipment and experimenting, with trying to determine depths. Some anomolies apparently indicate walls within the still fenced area under the trees, but the readings are not yet clear enough to allow them to agree independently in their assessments.

Although we applied quite early for the appropriate permit etc., we do not really have it. After a positive decision in February, the Inspector then in June decided that the "reef" required special clearance for 1) air control, 2) army and air force clearance because of the nearby bases, and 3) subsequent reporting on our part.
This came, however, in June in Toronto, just before we left and hardly time to clear all matters before the people (already in Greece) would come down from Isthmia to Crete. Jim Miller initially suggested that we simply go ahead and do it, which is exactly what we are doing. It seems that the “radar” was used in the request for the permit, that the administration in Athens overreacted to our original request. As seen on the site, the equipment is perfectly innocent. I must learn more about both the radar and the “EM” used to determine the depth of the bedrock.
29 July 1987

Sandy Season progresses. I do not know to what extent we will complete study and, especially, recording, in Volume IV (The Sanctuary). Probably we will need a short season. In the same in 1989, when major portions of the text will have certainly been completed. This will also be the time when preparation for a major series of campaigns in 1990-1992 will be consolidated, if we decide that this is really the way that we can go. The grant and permit situation will help decide this and I suspect that the negotiations may be intense.

For Vol. I we are well along, but we are (for various reasons) behind in the drawing of the stone tools, and the possible loss of one of our artists who was seen to stay on late - his father just suffered a stroke that has left part of his face affected. He may feel it necessary to leave. I had hope that everything was complete, but can see we will have some problems.

I'm on the site, when showing around my old friend Betty Gebhard and her family, that there are certain real matters of wetting up of the Southern part of the site must be done to all, that must be completed - I should go down early in the morning to make a complete list that George should carry out. Today, aside from the site guard that I have hired to keep watch over all our equipment, I paid the women for the past month and go on there.
cleaning and consolidating of the site, a major project that has been a long-term commitment to the site and officialdom and has now been completed.  Yearly renewal will, of course, be necessary.

MCS is putting together the basics for Trench 68A, excavated during the study season in 1986.
3 August 1984

Study Season:

I completed a first careful examination
of the naisi in the sanctuary, and after
cataloguing some more recommendations
for drawing and photography.

M.C.S has completed her painstaking
study of all the plaster, especially
those from the southern part of the site,
a project that she and Belene
Whittaker have been involved in.
In at least 2 full months, including
and during our first Study Season in
1986. She has now turned to reading
over the Kommos guide that I
have written for Eleni Banos who
has done the translation arrived
today and this will be our last
chance to make any basic changes
in the text. Apparently it will
be one of a number in the new
series about specifically Cretan
sites that will begin emerging in

I will turn now to inventorying and
describing certain unpublished archi-
tectural fragments from the Sanctuary —
this will last until we leave from
Crete in only a few weeks.

Philip Boitancourt and family
arrive tomorrow. He will
complete his study of the pottery.
from the southern Minoan buildings this year. He came from Greece where excavation has been going on for two years. His host, Eleon Banou is trying to complete her dissertation on the LM IIIA pottery from Crete, but is meeting with difficulties from others at various sites who will not allow her to work with their pottery. Her Kommos pottery that she has the right to work with does not comprise sufficient dissertation theme by itself.

Our technical staff - photographers, profiles, conservators, will all leave this coming weekend. Volume I material will be complete however the situation is on the site and the apothecary, they have been a pleasure. Also departing in two days are the survey people who are accompanied by two children and Fritz Krenau's wife.

The survey has had no major mechanical problems that could not be met. The two in the staff have worked very hard, indeed, and long hours to see that something of substance emerges. The main logistical problem and one without solution at the moment, so that the radar cannot distinguish between wall and fill in the Minoan levels so that the walls are less cream in a milk solution. It is recognizable. On the other hand, apparently walls in the sand layers can be demineralized. Specifically, they report that —
There is a small building in the sand below the trees in the south-eastern corner of the site, that there is a webbing of small walls part of the southeast, and that there is a very large building oriented east-west on the south (- - - ), apparently right next to the property which I hope to acquire. Apparently the space between has little within the sand itself. This could be very good if the Minoan buildings are preserved. Then (unless AAA is Minoan) there is a natural step-up at the southern part of the site to the Greek an appropriate Southern boundary to the site itself.
9 August 1987

A crisis has passed, although how safely I cannot tell. Peter Calaghan, nervous and disturbed even before the season began, has had a nervous breakdown. He was suicidal to the extent that he planned to drown himself on a Saturday night (after elaborate preparations, he nevertheless decided not to), then simply left for Athens to escape, where he stayed with a friend. He returned on the Tuesday night ferryboat from Athens, and not far from the port leaped overboard only to survive miraculously and he floated from the sea, then he carded on until he arrived in Warracook where he was questioned and released. In the water he lost all his money and identification but had enough coins to return to Pitsidia where he simply walked into the store room on Wednesday morning.

I will not describe here the problems that led to PC's almost successful attempt — they are completely unconnected with his Pitsidia archaeological work and concern aspects of loyalty, love, and view of oneself. On the gradual process, with real help and advice from certain staff members (especially MCS, Taylor, Hobson, Cap Scace) that the brought him to the realization that he should seek professional help and advice. This was done only after much discussion and, then, telephoning to Athens where we made arrangement through the British School at Athens and the acquaintance with whom he had stayed earlier in Athens. He left, along with his helper Richard Allibon, in a taxi...
bound for Thermi (in made plain reservation for them) and the Athens. Our fond hope is that case of a professional psychiatric case over a period of months will resolve at least aspects of the problem.

As I explained to PC, his work is crucial to our Vol III and the pottery report must be prepared before the other sections can be written, i.e. those by Lefk and MCS. Thus far two study seasons have been devoted chiefly to photography and drawing of the Greek pottery. This summer he had been writing (dictating) the actual text, on the basis of notes from '86 (I think), and had arrived at the section describing the formative period of Temple B, before he stopped.

How much this will delay work on the pottery is unknown. The immediate effect is that a month of writing has been lost. Also, the three catalogues brought this year to bring us up to date will have less crucial work to do than originally planned. Instead of inventorying Greek pottery they will continue work on our backlog of Mycenaean sherds, especially those accumulated years ago by LW. (I do not believe my policy, that all objects must be described until there is nothing left to do, this policy will apply should we be able to continue with the seven year project that I presently envision.)

Fortunately, photography and profiling are well along so that nothing will be done (no harm I planned for same).
during 1988, P.C., knowing may want to come to Pittsia this fall (he is on leave) and in next summer. His ability to do this will determine what will happen, and can only hope that he does turn to professional help rather than rely, as he has done in the past, on sympathetic listeners.

Details of the 7-year plan mentioned above will be described here at another time. During the past week, as this second in the field study section ends, I have been on the one hand settling our various obligations, especially the bills, and on the other preparing a comprehensive plan for an extension of Kommun work in the future.
13 August 1984

The NCSA lawyer arrives via ferry boat in order to deal with the Kommos land purchase which has been so delayed and in some ways troubling since a possible lawsuit was suggested by the owner, R. Daskalakis, who had not been compensated even though he had excavated at least 2/3 of the property and fenced it in. The sticking point was, since it was a sale (as opposed to an expropriation), the ephor in Nicos was needed to say that there was no problem as far as public domain was concerned. This was achieved but only after we lowered the actual price agreed upon from 5 to 3 million drachmas since the ephor thought that the price was much too high. The result was that we paid our $1,000 plus in travel taxes and that with the declared 1,500 dr. price per m², we may end up paying a great deal less for the 5 stremmata than we had originally suspected — i.e., perhaps 70 rather than 120,000. This could work out enormously to our advantage; we already have the sum, virtually, via Malcolm Wiener's organization.

*H. Bikakis*

With certain unexpected expenses, such as the tax mentioned above and the unusually high rental of the Plateia house that we have used for the past decade, Mr. Nicos account has been emptied and all my TD checks have been cashed. I will
therefore have to pay certain rents ($4,500 worth) with cheques that I hope will be accepted. My cheques will have to be post-dated to allow for transfer of funds from another account after we reach Toronto.

The chance lowering of the stated land price could be a real bonanza, although I should plan for a larger price: $100,000 Canadian?
The activity during the next years, as far as the excavation is concerned, will focus on the publication of what we have done and will be doing. The latter is being taken care of now, with Volumes I-III already well along. My hope is that all three will be with the publisher, and of high standard, by the fall of 1988—much of the summer of '88 will be spent trying to get 1 into shape. It will be a massive undertaking that we will understand only after it is complete. Hopefully, the two authors with texts still outstanding (Shay, Blitzer) will have texts ready by Christmas, allowing months for the making of texts on computer discs, editing, collation and arrangement of illustrations. It is perhaps just as well that one does this only once (or at the most, twice) in a lifetime! 1988 will probably be the only year when we do not visit our sites.

My present plan for 1989 is to complete my part as well as edit Volume IV, The Greek Sanctuary. The only serious main impediment is Petru Catharacha's health (see 9 August entry). Much of this would be done during a final study season here in Pitsidia, but the season (if funded) would have to be of the type that allowed me to work without a great deal of interruption. The best way to achieve this would be to have as few people as possible involved—Mrs. P.C., DH*—and perhaps an artist to complete object drawings. That could also be a time when the Minoan pottery from the southern area could be completed by E. Banov under the guidance of P.B.

* DH could be in charge of much of the financing/accounts.
If all went well we could begin excavation in 1990, excavate massively for three years within the newly acquired property, then publish Vol. V (The Minorca Ashlar Buildings) not long afterward. The Greek material discovered then could probably be dealt with in an article or two in *Archaeologia*.

On this basis in time, 1993 would be an appropriate time to turn over the guardianship of the site to the Greeks, also a time to finish the building of the road down to the site so that it would be visitable. It would also be a good time to bring up to date the *Kommos* site guide that will have been available by then for some 4 years.

The plan is a workable one: MCS and I should still be able to handle the logistics and excavation discipline, as well as enjoy the work. I will no longer be department chairman so will be free from the administrative duties. Then, hopefully, the land will be available -- perhaps Daskalakis the owner would again allow us to begin cleaning, as he could. I believe, also, that an excavation permit either through the ASCSA, through which we would successfully by 10 years; or possibly (if this is too much competition) through the Canadian Institute which has been in search of solid projects for some time. My belief also is that we can raise through Ottawa the money, in much of the money as in the past, 

although I would continue to seek out other major funds from any sources, I plan, indeed, to go to Ottawa as soon as we return from Chile in order to ask their advice about the funding. A perfect arrangement would be a grant covering the two study and preparatory years (1988, 1989) as well as the first two (or three) years of excavation, this might make more sense than applying for a transitional grant (that could might be turned down now) to cover the interim.
KOMMOS WEEKEND

Discussion about the Kommos Sanctuary

25 July 1987

Times: 9:00 to 12:30

Themes: Comparison of Purpose and Activities in the Sanctuary during Temple B and C periods.

Speakers:

9:00   Joe Shaw: "Form and Sequence"
9:40   Pete Callaghan: "Dining"
10:20  KOLATSIO
10:30  Maria Shaw: "Sculpture"
11:10  Debi Harlans: "Metal and Metalworking"
11:50  David Reese: "Meals and Sacrifice"

Each Speaker will have approximately 15 minutes to speak (with object display) followed by discussion.

12:30   Lunch in the Apotheke Courtyard

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Followed that evening by

Dinner in Zares

Preliminary Schedule
Kommos Excavations
Spring/Summer Schedule 1987
as of May 29, 1987

Reese

Friday, June 12th  Debi Harlan (keyholder) and Assist.Cat.
Elisabeth Duckworth, and Helena
Whittaker arrive Pitsidia

Monday, June 15th  HBW arrives

Tues., June 16th  Linda Zernaski (profiler) arrives

Friday, June 19th  JWS, MCS to Greece

Tues.-Thurs.
June 23-25  BA Architectural Table Ronde at
French School

Sat., June 27th  JWS to Crete; also Joe Clarke;
PC and helper Richard Allibone
arrive next day;

Mon., June 29th  MCS to Kea from Athens. Site cleanup begins,
to be followed by completion of wall and
scarp consolidation on hillside and hilltop
during July. Photographer Taylor Dabney
arrives.

Sat., July 4th  MCS arrives Pitsidia; Eric Csapo next day
for 10 days.

Mon., July 13th  Cap Sease and helper Barbara Hemann arrive
Pitsidia; Common mess begins (12?) ; HBW
leaves 15th

Sun., July 19th  GB arrives

Mon., July 20th  Radar survey with BU begins with Fritz
Hemans and wife, Helen + child (? children).

Sat.-Sun., July 25th-26th  Iron Age Kommation at Zaros/Spili?

Tues., Aug. 4th  FB, Eleni Banou arrive

Mon., Aug. 10th  Radar survey ended (crew leaves).
Photographer leaves, also GB, Cap Sease,
profiler. End sositio this week.

Mon., Aug. 24th  MCS, JWS leave for Toronto

Sat., Aug. 29th  All have left aside from closers-up; among
whom may be PC and helper