73. Final cleaning, and the re-boxing of a few tumbled blocks. 
Next week, Drs. will be moving into the eastern room (No. ) 
and first remove part of a sconce in order to contain the 
room. Then we will excavate the floor down to the LM I 
level, giving us 4 complete rooms of X by the end of the 
season.

74. Final removal of the MM III pottery from the 
State floor room. Photography and drawing completed. 
The main room is progressing slowly.

75. The upper Hellenistic level is cleaned and photo-
graphed so 76 (unit) continues down. The wall turns 
out to have a number of phases which remain to be 
sorted out. The first phase is a flight of at least 
5 steps of which 2 are underwater and only detectable 
with probing by a thin crowbar. The second phase 
consists of the 8 steps presently associated with 
Building P.

76. The later LM III rubble wall will be removed when 
the two clear, that it has no connection with 
the earlier levels.

77. No essential change, but much rubble 
appearing.

78. No bedrock yet.
93A, also. Two (in broad-mouthed cups appear) just below the table of staff in the southern room. I had doubts about removal of the table (which will be replaced after wording) but it so obvious that the project of going down in that triangle is with it.
July 29, 1991

33A. Cleaning and some consolidation still proceed, the latter done partly in order to see if our concerns have been validated.

34A. The final vases, cups, are removed. The floor, perhaps the finest, early Roman date discovered on the site, will be photographed tomorrow. José Sakovics will go on "sabbatical" for a few days in order to catch up with his reports and study, and M.C. will supervise his trench, which is still at a high level.

35A. Slow descent the last 4 cm or so to the Level I floor (we may already be in it) before the final cleaning at the level of the krateion, then down to what will most likely be Level I, in Level I at least.

36A. Rapid cleaning of the Hellenistic/Archaic level south and west of the well. Iannis Fassoulakis, the pickman, keeps things moving and in the past I have paid him a Brazilian price. I rewarded him with last Thursday. 76A will not be worked on again until we are down farther in 76B and can reach across easily with a board plot pole.

37B. The amount of collapse of the main wall of the east facade of P. Here is surprising. It probably goes down to the western edge of the trench where it stops to merge, but at a much lower level, into the e-w wall of P. Much may be learned here about the nature of P's collapse - when and how - and the sequence(s) of use.
I talk with Ephraim Keifer on the telephone, and arrange a rendezvous in Heracleum on Wednesday morning at 8:30. I also talk with Maria, the town secretary, about various matters and the meeting is a good one. When the mayor returns we will talk about our various interests, including the erosion problem which is beginning to come to the fore in terms of action. He wants me, apparently, to join in the protest about the sealing off of the marine that one row just north of George's house by the bulldozer that Astrinakis used. Apparently this were from the surrounding hillsides and inundate the archaeological zone. According to Maria the secretary there is accumulating that Astrinakis does not own the land he claims to own; he is being taxed to pay apparently by Deskalarios and Kyprakis also both claim to own the land. The court's decision, however, may not be final until 5-10 years from now. A, also, wants to build a cementer and is asking permission from the koinotis (same or the basis of a far distant relative's living in Pitsidia (the person is not immediately known by the secretary).
the dump below wall 4 (lowest retaining wall) runs out &
have a good deal of impurities,
specifically Canea-Athens and
cypricot. Typical Late III early.

The 75A/76A/8 area is
shaping up well as the
evacuation begins to take
on another appearance,
not as of holes but one of
structures and lower
levels.
30 July 1971

73A. Cleaning and close-up photography as MCS prepares to move eastward to 73B.

74B. Digging in upper level with MCS in charge (J. Sabourin on "sabbatical") and the first wall begins to appear.

75A. A surface with a few rubble appears just above the level of P’s Keipdoma mound and below the dump of IM pottery that has been largely removed. Here we may be crossing the transition point between original and pre-P.

76A. Cleaning of rubble just south of the well wall, mostly sand. A huge block from P is removed and taken by the front loader to a place near the southern area. Other mcm removed as well.

77A/B. Note of cleaning above rubble continues as a photo is taken prior to the beginning of removal. The mass of soil is indeed impressive and extends an overlap with the Pogeoid and Middle with both colored black and white 35mm cameras. From the layers below the first floor of P to the Hellenistic area lay above P’s eastern well. Shortly before there was a bit of cleaning of slabs at the lowest level reached and, to judge from its alignment, and as noted when the trench was originally set in, we have found the underpinning of the north-south wall of Building T on the east. This is probably what it is, but too early to know for sure. Additionally, a small seal (E 2?) unfinished was found in the same area, one-third this year and the fifth or sixth discovered at K since 1976.
The first loads began 'plane 1' of the protection of the site from the pounding rains. All of our excavated earth from the southern area is either heaped up against the southern scarp or spread outside the excavation along the fence line. This is earth held and should solidify and form a break against the water that accumulates there from the road. This part of the site remains insecure, I think, given the sand to the north will absorb that falls in that area unless there is a major downpour. We still have to work with what is really the main problem, namely the road to the northeast. I am hoping that a cooperative enterprise with the community will solve the situation at least partly. We are ready to help underwrite it. If at least partly, in the area of X will surely fall in again unless the water from the new road put in last year is diverted to the sides.

In the morning I drive back from the site to Pitsidia where I discuss matters with Ruthy, Johnston, and Holmes (I have already discussed them with MCS). On the "opening of the site" to tourists etc., there is general opposition since the ongoing excavation work would be impeded in numerous ways. On the matter of our role in acquiring the southernmost area with the parking lot, the most difficult matter, there seems to be agreement that there are many hazards. Ruthy suggests building a museum there (more convenient than in Pitsidia), and the idea of a "flexible" museum is suggested. I state that I do not see how we can take on the responsibility unless the Greek Government is willing to share the burden in a major way. More or less if Thi will, no doubt, come up tomorrow when I talk to the Epikos.
3A. A more small excavation up this time in the ne corner of the small room. In the corridor north of the large room, an upside down tripod cooking pot and in the fill many bits of colored plastic. The grass subsoil (to tomorrow) while 3A B continues down.

74A. Beginning of wall definition.

75A. Channel at the topmost of the two upper surfaces connected with the exterior of P.

76A. Channel through and sand around rubble and a few large blocks.

77B. As above. Photos taken.

78A. Completed when we reach bedrock. The trench, although dangerous, has performed its function. It has shown habitation during Ak, Ik, and M. (The phase remains, however, to be analyzed) and, from what we can tell, is not heavily built up. I should inquire about the 9 of domestic pottery in particular it is essentially south of the civic area.

HUB spends the day in Thracian, having been asked to visit the ephorate. I had been called specifically by the ephor, Charalambos Katsas, to appear. The reason (and we rehearsed possible reasons and responses above) was to tell me that we should have made an official appearance at the museum and submit, as required by law, a list of staff, (I gave it to him, as requested) and duration and aim of excavation. The ephorate was not in.
formed by us (or Attius) when we would be digging. The only piece of paper they received was one on which the excavations at Couple (William), Halai (Columb) and Kommor were approved. A number of details concerning storage and observing followed, and were just interpreted as applying to all three excavations (both we and Nuqroen interpreted matters that way at first), but upon inquiry one found to apply only to Halai. The upshot is that I will assume that they are not told anything by Attius, as was usual in the past when we were co-excavating, and will send them in the fall a copy of the letter I send to the Director of the ASCSA requesting the permit and giving the dates of excavation. This will enable Kekfas to arrange for an observer, viz. Mrs. Valliason, the one who was the most vociferous in her complaint that we had been digging for weeks without an observer. Ironically, I may mean that the usual leave she takes in June may be cancelled or at least cut short since she will be the one appointed as the observer.

Also discussed: He will visit them after tomorrow (Friday). He adds concerning the quail in the site (see above) that we sent him a letter that will then be accompanied by a letter from the sphenost addressed to the mayor of the village. He recommends that we write a guide to the site to appear in the TAP series—we wrote in a few years ago but nothing has happened so I must inquire.

I asked him about the possibility of a town museum.
From our point of view, he said, it is possible: photos, maps and charts, pithoi and a few representative containers, pots in a well-secured room or rooms. Also, well-guarded rooms for storage of sherds material. But not a true museum which requires at least six guards and staff. I asked him also about a Musara museum. Was the one that the Italians proposed to be built at Phaistos and, ten years ago, nothing happened. It is still being discussed, he said — indeed one for Gortyn and another, with three streams of space, for the Musara and to be located near Phaistos. Two possible sites had been discarded, he said, and they were excavating for another. Two twomships are apparently competing for the museum will bring in both money and jobs. Kommos would have one or two rooms depending on the amount of material that could be displayed. I have heard this before, however, and can only hope that it will actually occur.

43A/B. B on upper 1st. M5 in "sabbatical."

44. B. Wall/stone discussion.

45. A. In photograph, then lay down area to be taken down, leaving part of the separate levels as markers. 45 B, fan to the southeast, is begun around a vertical block that has destroyed the wall of P, deep in the alluvial clay. Part of the wall begins to appear even on the first day. The aim is to expose the top of the wall and to determine if it runs further south beyond the cleared area and under the area with the house where we eat breakfast at 12:00.

46. B. A block is removed with some difficulty from the remains of the wall. We also begin to build up a partially new interior face of the northern wall of the well (M, P) at that point. There will be a good deal of consolidating and building there during the next weeks.

47. Outside P's eastern facade, begun in order to determine the appearance there (1?) and if next year's front loader can be used to clear the line of the facade. 47B. Large blocks fall in and rubble being removed.

An uneventful day, but progress in removing fall and stones.
2 August 1991

74A/B. No essential change. MCS works on remaining poorly preserved plaster that is beige with two parallel brown stripes from Room No. 1, a corridor or stairway. The remaining of the large knife of bronze found a few days ago is recovered. PVA is used to consolidate and remove both.

74B. Wall discusion continues. Once it becomes clear what is superficial on a more will be removed.

75A. Chasing to the base of the Amath Kepino is continued. We contemplate selecting a section that will reveal part of the MMA layer that most likely will be found below. Most likely it would be refilled on a we have learned about it.

75B. The eastern wall of Pls wall is cleared to the "pinnacle". We continue to the south until the hope that Pls. se corner might appear at the se end of Pls. gallery 5.

76 8/1C. Continuing, outlining and supporting the wall south of the wall will be quite tricky and perhaps a bit dangerous.

76 8/3C. No essential change.

Egloos Keitgsee visits in the morning, as arranged at 10:00, just after I have returned from the bank to get drachmae for the payrolls, now at about 50,000 with one coffee, two potpoppers, and then twenty women in 7 bunches. He →
emphasizes that the only solution to the southern area in 
proportion (he does not care to be involved). 
Now the great sand heap along the beach side he 
agrees that it protects the excavation. It has not, 
he notes, spoiled the sea as a protest that he has 
received status. He suggests that we could seek 
the sand if a special dispensation for this were 
made via the appropriate ephoroeia (I tell him 
that we will write him in the fall when we know 
if we will be clearing further land, dependent 
upon what building ? decides to do as it heads 
South). He is quite the excavation and can 
follow things exceptionably well as is clear by 
the questions that he asks. He is concerned with 
preventing the site from the sea air and making 
it visitable in the future: its eastern wall 
particularly impresses him from the point of 
view of the impression it will make upon 
visitors. We leave and will stop by our 
storeroom on the way to Nafplio to see the 
excavations of Vassilakou in the caves.
After the fact, I quite believe that one might imagine that in some of the pieces of pictorial plaster were discovered in F3A in Room 1. There are numerous pieces, mostly small, but one has a fine white lily on a yellowish background. The lily has red anthers (and stamens?).
F34/8. The rescues were small areas of fallen or dumped plaster with coloured decoration. So far the pieces are too small for me to identify what the designs represent although I think we may be beyond geometrical and thus to a good chance as long as the pieces go further down into the fact that we will find something representational.

F78. Deep in antiquities, Part of one small room, partly cleared in '85, will be completed within a day or so.

F78. One tries to break up a block sitting in the upper part of the well. South of the well the large blocks fallen in the fall prevent me from clearing a surface completely: the front lobe should not remain to remove them. We must take care since we are about 0.80m. above P1's top floor to slow up our pace soon to catch any ancillary film levels. A good workman takes a 4' fall and a large stone from the stairway landing falls on his thigh. His heavy build and Luck saved him from a major accident. The stairs down to the well are now cleared of fallen rubble and stone - it can finally be cleared if the remaining earth. Tomorrow the final work will be complete. After excavation the eastern and southern walls must be partially re-built.

F76A. In an attempt to define the surface upon which P was built. H.B. Saveran but excavation must be speeded up in order to reveal the course of P's wall here. This in turn
that will remain in completely excavated this
year since it is a level one and, also, it will be
coming down within the easternmost part of one of the
galleries. The same relative position is being examined
already in F5B and G6B and, after a year's break,
will serve as a check on the results of this
year's work.

77 C. A breach must be cleared carefully, which
means that the process of going down outside of
the eastern facade is halted.

We hope that the freight loader will come tomorrow
in order to remove the blocks scattered in F5B
and G6B. More will be labelled with French and
painted, as well as those from F5A that have been
set up on a scarp. Otherwise, they will become
mixed up. The corner blocks from F6A are
particularly important.
In the process of removal of the gauge in 
Priveda, a few flecks of ochre 
came off. The color on the site was 
more excellent, and is further modulated by exposure to oxygen and the effects of PVA. As MCJ 
says, the best way forward 
will continue to be in watercolour.
6 August 1991

13AB. In Room 1 MCS and workman Nicos Fasoulakis continue the process, both in the small enclosed corridor, of removing the plastic fragments of the fresco found yesterday. The fragments are of fair size, ca. 10 by 10 cm, and are well preserved. All have illies on them (some pieces may have red rosettes) and I saw a (fragment of a border as well. I photograph them as they are cleaned and removed, and GB draws them in case of mishap and for general information. Three separate pieces have been removed so far today and there appear to be more. The technique used is that recommended by C. Scarce in his book on conservation: PVA diluted by Acetone is first put on them, then allowed to dry (there is no running or smudging), then gauze is placed down with more PVA if correct consistency is allowed to dry, and then the fragment is removed. There is no backing paper so that the process proceeds relatively rapidly. All pieces are taken back to Pitsidia (these will go back today).

The scale is LM I (42) and in fine technique, similar to the illies from Thera and Amnissos but painted in rather than set into the plaster, as I recall the technique used at Amnissos. The quality is high.

Jan Derksen and Alexander Farnoux, of the French School digging at Mytikas, visit the site in the morning.

Much of the morning is spent removing, with the help of the workmen, remaining large blocks from P that have accumulated in the trench. They have all been →
drawn and photographed in situ, and their proveniences have been written on them (Latin in red paint).

The technique developed is to tie a rope on them (with a ring to guide the rope) and then to lift them out of the trench. The machine is also raising contractors to elevate the road and is cutting a section in the eastern escarp where we will build an immune wall to prevent erosion.

74B In room of house JS finds a globular aryballos, a small 'toy' tripod jar, and a short bronze blade, apparently a reuleaux. It is sharp on one end and partly blunted as if from hitting on the other.

74A. We try to find the founding level of Building Post just at the NE corner. This is difficult. There is no evidence so far that there was a thoroughfare around P on the east, so no pavement or road metal. Some chips, however, in pots at the kryptoiana level, however, is MM III/IV and I have no easy explanation. J. R. Butler proposes that P was set into a scarp on the east, but I find that hard to believe, partly because it is as easy and not covered rubble.

75A. At the southeast corner walls are carried on the wall emerges. It is clear that P's wall continues south and under the area that we have cleared. The east wall emerges, showing that there is a 5th wall, as we had suspected. I also suspect that the building 7 was built from north to south because of the theory that the e-w walls bore.
The blocks, now removed, feel about 5cm above the top LM3 in floor - since having been removed, he continues down carefully. The steps of the well are cleared now, for the first time, by Janis Fasolaisis. This year is the jewel of the workers.

A/B/C. Slow progress. I doubt that JC will receive a deserved sabatical, although perhaps it can be arranged.

At this high point of the season, and with trips back to Pitsidia (to confer with Alan Jenkins about Peter C's text) and, late afternoon, to Mirso to find Aetoun for MJN, I find things difficult to cope with although not problematic. Since the general development of events is a rich one.

I. Fasolaisis, acting foreman, is good, as good or better than George B. in some ways (e.g. equipment care, actual digging). My chief objection, which causes me to pay the men, is that he is illiterate, and this causes problems that I find difficult to deal with when I am alone with him and the workers.