Machine level +6.45m  July 17 91

The possible new wall along the north wall of P2 is further investigated. While its north edge abuts against the LM III wall, its south wall abuts against the W-E T wall. The chronological relationship between it and the latter wall is difficult to figure out. The possible wall does not have an absolutely straight north line. In investigating that line we find to our surprise that the P wall continues deeper down at some points than we thought before. The bottom of the P wall seems to go higher in the west. There are some rough stones not just out from under it near where our bulk is presently.

Pail 60 continues south of the W-E wall of T. We are looking for a floor.

A workman undertakes to clean the area excavated last year in Trench 97E, corresponding to the area of the northern part of our trench. The portion of the W-E wall found there last year is cleared and drifted fill is removed also along the ship between that wall and the north wall of P2.

We clean and then photograph the W-E T wall and the one to its north (see p.90)

We shall now take down a north segment of the bulk which we left unexcavated at the west edge of the north part of Trench 97E.

97E/Pail 3:62  North part of bulk corresponding to area W of W-E T wall
From +3.76 m to +3.48 m
Bram eath
Sherds: 48 sh; 0.885 kg  LM III/13

Other
Pail 62 cont'd

Invent. 52298: chert perçoir/awl

Pail 60 reveals a second course of the W-E T wall. The east wall also continues down. The fill remains the same, we arbitrarily change pail as some new stones begin to appear.

97E/Pail 5:63 under Pail 60
- From +3.12 to +2.98
- Clay-like, slump each sun stone
- Shards: 71 sh; 0.860 kg. PM II A - worn unit - one MMIB sherd

Other: plaster

In v.

In the bulk we reach a burnt surface and change pail
- North heel - north ship
- 97E/Pail 4:64 under Pail 62
- Burnt fill -
  - From +3.48 m to +3.36 m
- Shards: 61 sh; 0.810 kg. LM IIIA - mostly MMII - LMIIA (Building T debris?)

Other: plaster

In v.

After a couple of pares in the bulk, we start finding the possible wall that runs north and alongside the W-E wall of T.

In Pail 63 there are surprises. At the west end we find a small wall ca. 0.46 m.
- It has a NW to westerly orientation - different from that of Buildings T and P. It has been traced for 1.00 m and it continues beyond the south scarp of the pail. It also seems to go under the W-E wall of T. We clean this level and change pail.
shall now dig only east of the new wall

97E / Pail 6:65 under Pail 0 / Pail 63
Borrowed: small stones, some sand
From ca. 2.98 to 2.88 / 2.98 (E/0) (g new
Sherd): 224 sh; 2,220 kg. MMIA - unit wall
not too worn but few joins
Other: bone

The starting level is just below the new wall
(top level of well at +3.06 m). We dig east
of it. The fill becomes quite different now:
sandy earth, small stones. The sherds
(as in the preceding pail) look small and
worn. Some nice barbotine ware turns up.

The fill looks very much like that we have
been finding in association with MM cistern
wells. We shall pursue this fill a bit longer
tomorrow and if it is what is suspected
we shall discontinue the digging. The new
well found has the same orientation and
lines up with a flimsy wall found north
of this gallery, in Gallery 1 in Tr. 803.

There have been three workmen in the trench
today. The remaining workmen are doing
conservation work (building retaining walls)
and general cleaning. The stairwell of
the South Stoa has been revealed again
after having been covered by drifting sand
over the winter.
The machine is set at +6.48m.

Pail 6:65 is terminate (see yesterday’s report).

We turn to the remaining part of the bulk of the north half of the trench.

97E / Pail 3:66 Under Trench 94B
From +3.75m to +3.63m
Brown earth
Sherds: 53 sh; 0.795 kg. LM III A2 B
heavily worn
Other: vessel
Inv.

Another workman will remove the bulk in the south half of the trench. This does not start at a high level. It is just above the level of the triangular area west of the SW hearth/oven of the trench (see p. 64).

97E / Pail 3-A:67 Under Trench 94B
From ca. 3.78m to +3.68m
Brown earth
Sherds: 18 sh; 0.220 kg. LM III A2 B
Other
Inv.

The aim of pail 67 is to remove the bulk and join (visually) Trench 97E with the area directly west excavated in Trench 77A. That excavation was refilled but at a lower level than that reached in 97E west of the hearth. All we can do is to artificially stop at a sloping level which will form the transition between the two trenches.

Two sherds left for the sake of their inclusion in drawings and photographs at the very western
of the north side of the heath are now removed under the label of the pail used for the interior of the heath (97E / 3:39).

Pail 67 is now terminated.

For the bulk in the north area we change pail when the level reached is that of the south half of the trench, when excavation stopped once the heathins were found.

97E / Pail 3:68 under Pail 3:66
From +3.63m to +3.45m
Brown earth
Sherds: 52 sh; LM III B

Other
Inv. C 10470. Linear closed vessel (1 base, 3 b.s.)

The workman earlier digging the southern half is moved to the central court of T for a small investigation. Then, in Trench 97 C we had earlier left unexcavated an accumulation (50 x 50 cm) of plasters. These are layers—thin sheets that slope down from east to west. At the highest point is 16 cm above the pebble court, their lowest is 9 cm. The site on a stratum of earth which represents accumulation of the court floor. They are plain, very thin, badly fragmented and they break as they are taken out. We see no point in removing them with P.U.A. and gauze. Some pieces are blue, most are white. Some & slanted layers are visible. There seems to be no pattern to the distribution of colour. The location of the accumulation is shown in a plan (p. 50). The pail of the associated fill is also the one to serve as a label for what we collected of this accumulation (97C / 3:22).

In Trench 97E we reach a black surface at +3.45m. and change pail.
Trench 97E - levels at
end of excavation
A - F: outlines of Trench
Numbering of walls is that to be used in the excavation report (labels in O)
Areas to the west with similar levels reached were excavated with different trenches (see plan, p. 46, above)

97E/ Pail 4: 69 under Pail 68 (Bulk 7. N. half)
From +3.45 to +3.30
Burnt fill
Sherds: 10 sh; 0.110 kg. LMM A2 - mixed evenly
Others: Inu.

We reach the top of the W-E wall QT and terminate pail 69. The level reached in the bulk is still higher than the level reached in Trench 94B. We are going to take the level down to that level.

97E/ 5: 70 Under Pail 69 (Bulk)
From +3.30 m to +3.15 m
Brown earth
Sherds: 81 sh; 0.460 kg. L MIA (1) (also MM II B + MM III)
Others: Inu:
Inv: C 10442: five mono. jug? MM III
C 10444: five LoD SS cups MM III
C 10546: fine bsj; joined w. pail 60

We also return to the SE cylindrical installation and decide to remove the south half of the fallen clay fragments to investigate remains underneath as they may contain ingredients from the activity that was carried out. We assign here:

97E/ Pail 4: 71
Investigation of SE "hearth"
Sherds: 41 (undiaagnostic) - Sample of clay (about half a pail)
Pail 71 consists mostly of clay pieces. Some have a firm, the others are very incompletely baked and they fall apart. Only a SW 1/4 of the fallen frags is removed & brought to the assemblage. Underneath there was a hard-packed level (not horizontal) with ash on it. The materials will be shown to Peter Day when he comes for a visit in a week or so.
Return to the field after Friday last week was spent in the village headquarters.

First project is the excavation of the one flue/chapel of the kiln left unexcavated in previous seasons. It is the second from such.

97E/ Pail 3:72
From +3.84E/+3.58W to (see p. 1067-108)
Small stones; small slabs etc. (see below)
Shards: 210 st. / 2,420 kg. LMIA (2),
Join w. pail 73 (C10520) Typical kiln pottery
Other / In v. C10055, C10520, C10523-31
Conical cups: C10522: bell cup; C10280-81+
C10059: conical cups; C10534 basin (see cont. p. 102)
A hop pan seems to have been removed at this point. The level slopes down gently from E-W. At the east end, visible are the tops of two conical cups and a fragment with relief decoration of a semicircum vessel. They are embedded in earth, pulverized clay and small stones.

All materials will be noted in the present report. A bucket is assigned to samples of materials (beside pottery) which may be of interest to the expert.

G. Bianco is at the site making a plan of trench 97E and 2 archaeological sections (walls + levels, reached or flows) to serve as a basis to put in the strata later on.

J. W. Shaw takes pictures of Trench 97E (see page 107 + 104).

In the channel we clean the first pass and prepare it for photography. Most of the pottery (mostly conical cups) occur at the
-east end: The rest of the channel is filled with small to medium-sized stones.

G. Bianco makes a drawing of the contents of the channel in situ and photos are taken (see p. 105).

Starting from the west end we remove the small stones. They are all kept to be described as to their range of shape and size and to be photographed as new are found in the channel. Kept also (full retrieval) are other materials which are kept put in a pair (also # 72). These consist mostly of fragments of baked clay from the lining of the channel or from the clay that covered its south side at the top, for the latter is missing (destroyed at the west section). It is more that a few fragments turn up in the midst of small stones. The other common and unusual is what looks like a stone metamorphosed perhaps through heat?? It is blue-grey, soft and contains tiny short "threads" which are white.

A small project is undertaken at the east end of the North Stoa of Building I. Opening from it is Room 19 which had a door and an adjacent window along its west side. The jamb of the door was the north side of a W-E wall ending there as an anta. The anta consisted of a stone pillar or which is a peculiar construction consisting of wooden beams and finely cut blocks of uniform size (60 cm wide, ca. 22 high). The arrangement may reflect the so-called tie-beams of antae seen in Minoan depictions of architecture in frescoes.

A similar construction occurred at the exterior NW corner of Room 19. Here three blocks were preserved when the area was excavated. The topmost block has mysteriously...
TRENCH 97F: Pail 3:72 (after 1st pass) Excavation of channel in Pottery Kiln (seen from west) (see also p. 107)

1:50 sketch of Kiln channel based on 1:20 drawing by G. Bianco

Levels at base of 1st pass

- pieces of clay
- stones
- sherd/pottery

disappeared. The middle one is cracked and has shifted out of position. The project undertaken is to reset the two blocks and to secure them better so they do not fall out. This project gave me a chance to reexamine the construction, which may well correspond to that in the frescoes. A couple of days I made a clay model and will keep thinking about this matter.

Another project is also being planned. We decided to partially restore the grand staircase at the SE corner of House X. Today some workmen were put to cleaning that area of recently accumulated debris so that the location will be ready. House X, because of its location, is subject to soil accumulation brought down in it during winter and spring rains. To protect the deep rooms a short wall has been built on the edge of the high N and E scarp. The aim is to divert water to another direction away from the house.

G. Bianco made a drawing of Trench 97F and the two sections (latter wrong - as it turned out: she will do so tomorrow).
TRENCH 97F

Channel of kiln from west after 2nd pass. Materials seen are a few small vessels, small stones, and soft grey matter.

4-3.92
3.66
2
3.62
3.60
3.50
3.55
3.56

See key for symbol p. 106

1:50 sketch based on a 1:20 drawing by G. Bianco

Levels after 2nd pass of Pail 72

Pail 72 continues to be used for the channel although there are hardly any sherds now. At the east end we find a clay flow much higher than in the other channels. It looks like a re-coating. Embedded in it are the occasional u. small stone and a sherd or so. We dig this second pass from E-W we leave any large sherds in situ to be drawn.

In Gallery 2 G. Bianco returns to finish the architectural sections. She is also going to finish drawing the elevation of the north wall of the gallery, the west section of which was drawn last year in Trench 94B. To help with the latter drawing, I assign a workman to clean the lower courses of that wall. It also becomes clear that the group of stone jutting out of it— at a mid point of our Trench 97E (see photo, p. 104, top) do not go under the base of that wall. Rather they are wedged within the small space that exists between it and the low & messy wall that runs alongside it. The relative state of the messu wall is still difficult to determine. The jutting stones are removed by the workman. In the cleaning of the east wall near the NE corner we note that a quern or trough in stone is incorporated in the masonry—more accurately half of the quern was used after it was broken.

In Trench 97F we lay the stone that came out of the channel in a row which represents the first pass. Stone from the second pass will be laid out in a second row later so that the assemblage can be photographed.