I work, as best I can, in completing cataloguing of architectural pieces on the site in preparation for the appendix on same for Chapter 2 of Volume V.
18 July 1997

Much cementing on the site - the scarp east of T/L, where a huge section fell off, is recemented. The entrance to the site on the southeast is also cemented with a thick layer to prevent the erosion that occurred there during the 96/97 rains. Various small holes as well as all trenches are filled with earth, and the grinding enclosures discovered in Trench 62D are covered with earth: should the area ever be covered with a roof they could be cleared.

In the late afternoon I pay the women, two of whom are no longer needed so they also receive their bonus. The six (total) have worked very well together this year, and foreman guard Sifiso Paseculosile has been wonderful with his looking after the details of site care: his emphasis on such care has been far superior to that of the former foreman George Bheledeke.

As part of the process of cataloguing cut blocks on the site, I inspect these lying north of the sanctuary. The staircase and, block there is the one so well recorded in Orr's (29A) and Nixon's (32B) excavations. The other is in situ in the staircase. But I believe there is another one, also, sitting in the stairwell where we placed it -- and I don't recall a third. Is it possible that we have all three for i) the beginning of the stairs, ii) the turn of the stairs, and iii) the top of the stairs? I must check this tomorrow on the site.
19 July 1997

The third staircase block dow, indeed, appear in the section and was duly cataloged as S 2343. It has dimensions similar to the other S 2123 (in situ) and S 2343 (not in situ). The mortice holes are also in the same positions. An uncut side is on the same as 2123 and 2343 -- it would be useful to excavate alongside S 2343 to ascertain if the same cut side on all three. In any case, now we have evidence for the ground floor landing, the landing on the turn of the stairs going up, and the turns of the stairs on the first floor which carried up to the roof.

20 July 1997

Last night we attended the opening of the East Coast Study Centre (MRS. JR, AVDM, KT, DR. & Graeme), financed by Mr. Wim Thomas through the Institute for Ancient Biology. A storm and study centre for gardenia (J.V. Watrous), Nochles (J. Sol), Oseiva (O. Betancourt), Chrysocolamines (O. Betancourt). Attended with some 500 dignitaries including representatives from the various foreign schools working in Catio. 3-4 hours going, but the southern road is the fastest one (3 hours). The northern one (return, at night) at least 1/2 hour longer.
Early down to the site where the workmen are slowly painting the fence to prevent corrosion by the sea moisture. A new swastika is being created in metal to replace the rusted one that is falling apart.

Yesterday I had the workmen uncover the base of the LM III line of bases in P3 which underlies the eastern wall of Building Z, so that it could be recorded. Photographed this morning, then covered up again. It will be added to the P3 plan.

998. An investigation of the southern part, on the west, of the F (T56) staircase prompted by the discovery that we have two more similar bases and the upcoming publication of Building T in Volume V. Also, I am considering a short article about the three bases and the form of the stairs in the Malcolm Wieser Festschrift, due at the end of the year.

We remove some cement from joints to expose the area south of the wall and pier with the two mortises, S 2334. The original slab floor in the area (1) runs up to the block itself, suggesting that S 2334 is in its original position. Another slab, resting on the scours, 'bedrock', lies to the south (2) and may simply be shifted out of place. 6-6-6 is a wall, probably to be connected with the original staircase construction, lying below 7 which is the filling of LM III A2 date of the stair area.

For the addition of the Threshold makes the swastika entrance into N 5 in that late period of use. 3-5 (also 4), a block removed
but to be replaced soon) may possibly repre-
sent a LM IIIB stone stake n. perhaps more
probably, more of the LM III filling of which the
remainder was removed by the Sea.

I must look into the Hittite custom of
setting the first step, whether it was even with (began
at) the face of the base or at its base face. The two
often bases show that it began even with the front
of the base. IB begins here even with the base of
the base.
James Sakiris arrives to begin the long job of preparing aspects of the proposal for the consolidation/development of the site. We visit Kommos and I bring him up to date on developments.

Philip and Mary Betancourt arrive in the early afternoon to deliver color plate proofs to MCS for her study of the Pseira frescoes to be published in one of the Pseira volumes.
Leda Castan's very helpful with the translation and text.
26 July 1957

Final day for the consumers on the site. Consolidation and excavation finished for the year. Cost £2,001,050 (or $10,952 Can) somewhat over budget but a good investment for the stability and upkeep of the site.

Re-examination of pottery pots from the North Side (Area I) and from the MM soundings are providing more examples of Cypriot ware, most that old pots are being opened and the ceramic specialists are growing more attuned to Cypriot ware characteristics.

MCS have now completed their Greek text for the "Vasilakia" Musea conference held in Athens last year. It is longer than it was then, for I added a section on the Greek Period -- the conference dealt only with the Bronze Age. The purpose of the addition was to make the offering more complete, and the good news is that the deities/national council approved of a 100% plan that it pays for 2,000 off prints of the Komogyk chapter for free distribution to the community. Vasilakia approved of the idea, when I saw him at the Herakleion Museum. Presumably the mayor, Michael Kotsis/aron, and Vasilakia can make the arrangement now.

Andreas has, thanks to e-mail, been able to complete his text for the second Musa conference. Only a conference was lacking. The text will be sent on Monday. He had also completed his article for the three conference in early September, which, hopefully, will be read (a simpler version) by Clairs, Danyov.
James Stratis has been here for about a week, and
inspired ideas about the development of the site.
We have had a few discussions both on and away
from it, and he certainly seems to have a work-
able plan: entrance building on the south east,
pathways and resting spots with views leading
up, eventually, to the hilltop. Today was the
first review by an old friend from Mallia,
the architect of the French School, Martin Schmidt.
As approved of the general plan ideas, and we
discussed various ways and means. Martin, and
I did not know this, was almost the sole
space for the coming year of Quatreaux Men at
Mallia. An epimisteria in Argolis actually
made the applications—the French School
was apparently not involved at all! Apparently
TPPA paid 25% of the costs, with the Euro-
pean Union picking up the remainder. The
next step will be the visit on Sunday by
Claude Parry, the former architect at
Acroritios and who was responsible
for the work going on presently at the KNossos
Palace. Being experienced, Greek, and eminently
professional, he might be the one who
would guide the proposal through the bureau.
ocracy in Athens. She would, of course, be offered
a position to see it through. I might be
required to go to Athens for this, perhaps
during the fall?
2 August 1944

This makes progress on leoncavitas to the point that we now have a complete catalogue that is publishable. Arranged chronologically and with provenience noted etc. along with previous publications and weights and dimensions. This will form the basis for my discussion in IV: groups have been isolated and checked for joins (two, which messed up my original list that then had to be redone).
Incremental progress on the site study with a much welcome visit by C. Polyvou who has prepared the recent studies for Mycenae and Knossos. She approves of the Stratic proposals generally so that we are at least in the same "camp." She is unable to help us, however, with the preliminary study that we must do, although she could read, see a first copy and make comments on it. She seems to be willing, however, to be the one who could prepare the detailed study that would follow up the approval by the Archeological Service of the preliminary submission. This would be costly, perhaps as much as $25,000 Can., although I have no firm numbers. I talk to Stratic and mention the difficulty of raising that $ plus the large sum that we will need for the publication of IV, but then we might be able to do that -- would the Getty Museum be interested in that? Bringing in another source might be the appropriate solution.

I learn from her (plus a little scrambling to untangle scheduling) that she will, after all, be able to deliver my talk at the Athens Congress, which is wonderful. I give her both text and slides which I have prepared. The only other person who is familiar enough with the material is the chair of the session, C. Doumas, but my theory conflicts with his (the presently accepted one) and it would indeed appear odd for him to be reading my 'dissent' before an audience. I
argue, in effect, that while his proposal for a western harbor at Ascotivic is useful, that the real harborside was directly south of the excavated site and also to the east, depending on the configuration of the ancient shoreline.

This morning I talked again with the mayor of Pitsidia about two subjects. One was the 'chapter' for the Vaslaisa 'Misc Symposion' that might be used by the Pitsidia community as a separate publication. There may be a striking point in which Pitsidia wants its own publishing site, whereas Vaslaisa would prefer to use his own publisher, the latter making more sense to me and MCS. AV will come, in any case, on Wednesday to pick up our illustrative material, and there may be time for him to talk to the mayor about the subject.

The other subject of discussion was the site development project. It is time to bring the various concerned parties together. I (and Stavros) will talk to him tomorrow at 9:30 to explore possibilities. He believes that the main road (asphalt) should stop at the point where the road is tangent with the excavation (N.E. corner of P), and that all visitors should walk on the rest of the road down to the site and the bathing beach/archaeological site. Also, that the parking should be not in the Astirivaic plot but somewhere near the end of the asphalt. His idea...
is a good one, really, leaving both sit and
branch isolated. Visiting batters would simply
have to walk the same 150 m. to their choice,
not unlike what is being done at Phaistos now
in that matter, at Hafria Triada.

As soon as we have talked with him, the next
logical step is to contact Eleni Alexandra Karatson
who, hopefully, can come down to discuss the
subject which, actually, she initially introduced.
She will also want to discuss the east-west
exhibit (Rethymnon Conference) and (with LCS)
her role in the upcoming conference on the role
of Crete and Egypt (all periods).
damos Stratou, a Belgian volunteer, and I spent the morning on the site, transferring levels from the site up onto the higher ground east of the site. Three set-ups were necessary, all four metres or more, for the process, from 1, 3, 30 or so in the P2 Gallery down to the 14 m on 50 for the road surface. For the first time we have a datum point on that upper level, and damos can now make a proper east-west section showing the dramatic drop and potential main collapse problem we are facing and have been facing for the past three years. This will be alleviated by raising the road another metre or so, but this will also create a small lace to the east of the road when there is a real downpour. The only solution, as proposed by Stratou, is an open culvert carrying water south into the adjoining property (to be expropriated) from where it can be channelled to the sea.

Another area to be worked on (the levels are usually available) is at the northwest, where we are planning to roof the area from the round building (D) west to Building S, and south from a few metres north of Burned Building B to the southern edge of the temple. The scarp area north of Building S is to become a viewing platform. From there one has a magnificent view of the sea and the Papado place. To the south one sees the South Side: the lowest point if the sloping roof should be set so that the view remains possible to the south. This can be set by first estimating the height of the platform on the north, and then shooting south and measuring same on the stadia rod at the point where the southernmost part of the roof will come. Stratou can do that on his own.

I have written parts of the introductory
sections for the eventual proposal that we may have ready by October. Stratis will fill in technical gaps that I have left. The opposite will happen when he begins writing the sections about the site circulation, where I will fill in parts where the separate buildings are being described.

Peter Day arrives with a student from Knossos, so that we can talk about the upcoming Hesperia article of which he is the only author who has not gotten his act together by completing his article on technical aspects of the vase pottery. AVDM and I discuss the matter with him, and he promises by 15 October. We'll see what happens in October. In the meantime the next set of analyses of straight-necked amphorae and eastern materials (Cypriot, Carian) is being withheld until he and Vasilis Kilikoglou produce the above contribution -- Day is by reputation quite turf-minded, and he should be stimulated to complete what we, after all, have already paid for.

A few days ago Ephor Kanetsou came down from Neraclion along with George Kif literature (who drove), Nanno Marinatos and Manfred Bietak. The probable reason for their coming was (I guess) that Nanno wanted to see our new house (1989/1990), which she had heard Clay Paliouris talking about upon her return from Piraeus to Neraclion. The surprise visit allowed us to ask Kanetsou a number of questions (but not enough!) about the site study that will follow our submission in ? October. This will be long and detailed and require expert preparation so that all working drawings must be supplied, theoretically,
Claus Palmyra, surely one of the few most qualified, and willing, would do that. According to Kavanagh, however, the architect's fee would be 10% (or less, on arrangement) of the total cost of the project, which I would estimate as $500,000 to $500,000, so the fee could amount to, maximally, $50 to $50,000.

And how do I begin to find such money, especially when we are in a study season and publication mode and with publication as our primary aim? One possibility is the Getty Foundation. Another is INSTAP. I have no idea if INSTAP, which covers excavation, study, and publication, would fund such work. I can imagine an agreement, however, in which the preservation of the architectural remains played a role similar to that of the storage of the portable artifacts, and where previous sponsorship ($300,000?) by INSTAP of the excavation would be relevant. I will inquire also about funding of this portion by the Greek government: why should we supply funds for honorary achievements such as a quad. hoop, a tourist reception, a parking lot?

About the parking lot, this has been a subject of discussion. With an estimated number of 300 cars (too many?), the natural plan to put it would be for the area south of the excavated area wherew even now there is parking. Discussion with the mayor, however, has been illuminating, for he would place it east of the site and make people walk down either for swimming or antiquities inspection. This would leave the area south of the site free for planting and a reception and sanctuary for cities. A bird's eye view:
South of site:
+ one purchase and land available
  next to the sea for baths, also the site entrance
+ minor archaeological merit (we sounded with
  almost negative results some distance to
  the south of Building T)

East of the site:
+ an extra purchase (the township has, without
  commitment, expressed an interest such
  it could cash for parking)
+ the southern area would be free for land-
  scaping

- a longer walk by as much as 200 meters
  for visitors, whether swimmers in the
  archaeological area. But cf. Phaistos long
  initials,
- possible archaeological area. We do not
  know what is beyond the fence on the
  east. I imagine that the town extends
  there for 100 meters (although I reach
  3A in the northeast corner of the property
  did not produce any architecture).

Beyond that point could be a Minoan
burial ground -- we have not found
one on the site itself and Evans
reported linear fragments in the
area on the east (not specified
further by him on the 1929
plan in the DA).

Stratos placed the 'new' parking lot just east
of the excavation. Since we might
be called in to do the excavation, I
cannot imagine mounting an exca-
vation campaign devoted to the
town outskirts. So I asked him
to move it further east this morning.
A cemetery for the town, we have
spent 20 years excavating could
be very interesting and, with potentially imported goods, add perspective to what we have already found.
Busy days, made busier by the much awaited arrival of Robin Shaw and Hannah McKeen, also the completion of the landscaping at the 1108/105 house by a skilful, imaginative technician who was recommended to us by George Arvoulakis, our local architect in Mino, who is also running for mayor.

Among recent events:

UER completes the Brief Report for 1997, which is then sent to the relevant Greek authorities. He also completes the examination of the Grounds from the Southern Area, also the catalogue (including fabrics) and the first version of the text, which still remains to be typed.

James S. is completing fieldwork and photography for the site development proposal. Hopefully, a final version can be prepared by October 15th and submitted to the authorities within a month. Today he took us around the site for an excellent presentation.

AVDM is completing her study of the AA pottery deposits. Our recent discussion shows clearly that I should (as expected) moderate my Chapter I written during the winter. She has found a number of Cypriot imports among the “carnivorous” pottery from the Eastern Soundings (which makes the new area less unique). Since the imports are pre-AAA, they indicate MM I/IIa connections—ships arriving on the Kommos shores—at a very early period.

JR continues reviewing his Pottery Groups from Buildings T, N, and P. His revisions
wiid clearly require my revising parts of
my Chapters 2 and 3 --- I do not regard
I will have time this coming winter. I think
he has promised not to do any more revising
after this summer! He will be giving a copy of
 raided my above chapters before he leaves at
the beginning of the coming week.

MCS has completed her study of the frescoes
and sculpture for TV, and presently works on
her presentation for the upcoming Thruan Congress
in which she compares the Thoth fleet fresco
with the Hatshepsut boat scene from Deir
El Bahari.

A.J has found a number of new graffiti
from the Greek streets, including one yesterday
of a complete proper name on an importid
fresco. All of these will be added to the Graffiti
section which is being coauthored
with Eric Csapo.

LC completes the many choices of the
chief catalogue. Her pace has been slowed
(and our one of the DBash program was
stopped) by the new computers breaking down
a month ago. So far, with less than a
week to go, it remains unfixed in London.
We may have to leave it there over the winter,
to be picked up in the summer.

I have now paid all summer salaries
for women and cook. Room (but not stor.
room) rentals remain to be dealt with this
coming week.