30 June 2000. Friday.

During Ruth's return a few days ago, we are already discussing substantive matters, with less burden. Shortly we will sit down and decide what, beyond cataloguing of his groups, should be included as text headings in his part of Chapter 3 of 5.

For the past week the foreman, Sifis Fasoulis, has been directing four women at the site to the growth from the past winter is dug away. One of the problems has been that last winter a good deal of sand was swept in from the beach area — and at least partly because the aliminia there were dried out and mostly died, something I pin largely on our foreman. I have stressed how important this is, and he suggested that we plant cane as well, and set up a cane break to prevent the infilling; I bought today from Spaced Knives in Moira which will suit the cane. His idea is a good one. More planting and training will follow.

I am readying the storeroom and House (when MCS and I stayed for years, until we decided to build our own house) for the influx, which will begin in a few days (there are only 5 of us here now, but soon we will be a dozen). The storeroom will be whitewashed, the roof of Room 4 (main cataloguing) and 1 (the director's office and drafting, + MCS workplan) will have a heavy layer of stucco placed on it soon (just bought in Moira). For the common mess in Monolia house, the cook & I bought much of the provisions in Moira today. Cooking will begin on Monday.

MCS was quite sick with a flu for a few days — this has almost passed.
On the site, we have brought in earth which has been mounded up along the eastern side of the access road so as to prevent the winter rainwater build-up from pouring down into the excavation area, thus rendering the scoops, creating sand build-up, and undermining the massive retaining wall that we built with so much effort. MCS and I also have done some cleaning down in Space 16, within the North room. We have exposed three of the bins there, partially in order to look at the plasters and cell therein (in MCS's chapter 2 in I), but also to recover the Queen from there that were part of the quinling establishment that the bins represent. Of the five queens, four were recovered and brought back to Pitsidia for recording and study — somehow they were missed: it was the point where HW was wrapping up her study of the tools. Now we can weigh them and get proper measurements.

In Pitsidia LC is consolidating and labelling trench boxes. HW and MK are getting profiling lessons from JP — HW will shortly shift back to cataloguing. He spends most of his time with pottery from House X, although there are ongoing discussions and writing about the Southern Area. I have now a good outline of Chap. 3.2 (J.R.'s) as well as some excellent structural graphic commentary that is too dense and ceramic to fit into my Chap. 1. but is so good that it should be woven into his own presentation. MCS has completed his talk for Athens on religion at K; I will shortly review mine: we have Latin than originally scheduled, with a chance of reservations. Leaving Saturday afternoon from Heraklion with a chance in the morning to see the new exhibit of Cote + Egypt at the HM that Alexandra
Karafet has put together (she is under investigation for being autocratic - her epimêtele are those behind it. I am sure that personal frustration are part of this motivation. MCS and I, good friends of hers, are both saddened and mystified). AVDM is up against making some of her MM deposits from AA and the lots of Lycian words mixed in with them - Vassos' Navageorgiu, after special pleading, will come here on the 19th/20th to help unearth some of the identifications. Jan Arvanitakis comes on his LMLT pottery topic, after spending some time at other sites comparing their and our material. Also has completed a revised copy of the extensive ill. list for 2, Chap. 1 (the door copy was somehow lost) and has begun the main project of the summer, namely the concluding chapter (5) which will go on for most of the remaining summer months.
During the period July 10–12, HUB and MCS were in Athens at the Crete 2000 conference put on by the ASCSA. I talked on “K as the entry way to Southern Crete,” very much in line with my Letheon talk of a few years ago but with clarified detail. For the Bimpsiros based on Rutter’s new cataloguing and also with the AVDM’s advice on the Cypriot sherds in the fillings and storage deposit in Building AA. I originally planned to give only a summary and bibliography, but now will give them the actual text of the tale. MCS talked on “Religion at K.” Both talks received well enough — then, after returning to Crete, we took the entire group (as many as took the tour around Crete), some 90 people around the site on Saturday the 15th. MCS and I split the group into two parts.

20 July 2000

Yesterday Vassos Katsaros came to pronounce on the Cypriot pottery. The results were disappointing, with only about 10% of them from AA finds certified as genuine. It left this morning, a welcomed guest. Much companionship; he is also so well connected that we learned a good deal about what is happening in the larger Mediterranean archaeological world.

This morning, late, Peter Kornholm and Stuart Manning arrived as a late entourage with a van and car. Both deal with chronology, the first as the major in—
Visitors of true radiocarbon dating in the Mediterranean, the second as a C14 expert and archaeologist, especially in Cyprus. Stewart came to collect samples of carbon from Late Neolithic that had been collected previously about four years ago by ..., who had quit the field. Now they are collecting samples of carbon charcoal from the southern area. Peter found some samples big enough to matter for his purpose. Stewart, with his experience in the Tsargrokos survey in Cyprus, has been examining some of Varna's AA strands and has been much more positive about recognition, so we are "recovering" some of the deposits from Varna's pile. The apothecary is humming with activity.
Vassos Karageorghis says before leaving, when we went down to the site, that Kommos is not well enough known and that we should publish a guide, suggesting that we try Elodhuci AGerman, of whom he knows the president well. Yes, we should, and the first guide that I wrote (1988?) lies languishing on the shelf after TAPA decided that since the site was not open, that they would not continue with the project.

- Patra Lomothom announced that while discussing about the results of the excavation of Strageghi, near Asros, the derivations of Palaikastro, that Christos Doumas said that "Shaw was right that there is an eastern harbor at the site," and that "Ashlar 1" is on the height of a peninsula "now proven by the rapid declivity just to the east of that building. I must write him for more information -- it is amazing to me that a resolution to the open question raised in my study of the Theban topography (still though, in press) might be found so visibly.

- I progressed. Today I printed a revised, cleaned up version of Chapter 1 (The architecture). Remaining to do is the addition of references to MCS sculpture (very little) and her many plastic samples (still in progress), also a few rebuttals on my part to theories that both she and Jerry Bintliff have (but on separate topics) have, e.g. the westernmost column (or pair) in the North Stoa on the site of the T 5 staircase (I think, and MCS) that it is part of the original building -- Jerry thinks it is part of a later LM IA/early LM IB rebuilding.
no word from either C. G. Strom or the publisher, which is good since at this point the printing should be well along, with perhaps a month to go.

- The kiln volume - we should be receiving the first proof (layout with text) within a few weeks.

Malcolm Wiener, who has created the new Thompson/Graham Chair in Aegean Prehistory at the University of Toronto, e-mailed a reply to our question about whether we should publicize his name as the donor. He writes that he wants to be anonymous. I also ask him to send part of a study that he made during the approximate size of some Minoan settlements. Something he does right away: his e-mail is routed to him in Athens, he replies to New York/Connecticut by phone, and his secretary not only e-mails the reply but faxes the relevant section of the article to me in Pitsidia: now there is first reaction!

The substantive issue is the relative size of known palaces in relation to their settlements, which I find is roughly 1:25 - 1:35 (metric squared of the one as part of the whole). Vance9 Vatses helps me on this too. As I originally expected, T's size is huge in comparison to the Neopalatial settlement, 1:80 - 1:10. In my study for Chapter 5 of E, I present the information and try to account for the high percentage, suggesting that Tinos is a regional effort connected with the town's position along the seashore and
as a point for international contact through trade. Of course, AA set the precedent first; earlier, during MM II.B., we have had no previous about the size of the MM town — could it have been that much larger? It, however, is larger than AA, so arguing from that point of view would not aid that possible hypothesis. The oversized hypothesis is more likely to be right.

5.1 is complete in a first draft, almost ready to be given to the last critics (MCS, JR, NDM).

5.2, on politics and other imported items, and international connections, may be left solely to JR (with NDM), although I would like to add to and make contributions to its content. This part will be the last written of the three sections.

5.3, on K in the Western Mesara, is "in the works." I have given JR + NDM a copy of the compilation I worked out for the Kommos site last summer, set in tandem with the chart given to us so generously last summer by Enzo La Rosa and Filippo Caveni: on Haghia Triada and Phaistos. Thus, once we have discussed it further beginning on Monday, we will serve as the basis for my discussion which can be prepared during the course of the next three weeks; our Italian colleagues will also be consulted of course. — I hear that Enzo will be coming soon to Cret, after (in him) a very difficult winter.
I, chap. 4 (Miscellany). Made from the
archaeological sites (McE and M. Busnelli,
respectively). I had completed most of the
study, aside from some weights that must
still be entered. I have given L. Costa
enough money for an electronic scale that
she will purchase within two weeks in
Athens.

2 August 2008

Bone has finished on the site, costing us about
the same as last year ($11,000). In preparation for next
year when we will build a 3m high and
30 m long wall against the scope immediately
east of the P/T eastern facade, I order 5
big blocks of slabs which are now dumped
just inside the perimeter fence and handy
for use this year. Unknown by me earlier,
they were brought from fields near H. Ionnis
and surely derive from the city that extended
in this direction around Phaestos! A cursory
inspection of the stones as they were dumped
near the road outside the fence, relieved
me for there are no thresholds, no inscriptions,
no special blocks although a few are well
squared. They look Hellenistic to me.

Saturn rose in the meantime
at our private house (wooden shutters,
shutting where the pavement aborts
the house, all around).

I have completed the first draft of 5.3,
Kommos in the Western Messara. It
seemed rather unsubstantial to me, given the mammoth topic, but AVD is pleased by it, which is encouraging. He said he'd read it - no doubt he will have numerous and good comments on it.

Leaving the writing for a while, for a change, I begin working on the room weights from House X. Leda brings a new weighing scale from Athen, also a new fine HP printer for the upstairs in the apothecary, especially for MCS -- it will save a great deal of effort in tracing the computer up and down the stairs from where we work to where the cataloging staff has their other HP printer.

& on to our house!
Chico Dietrich, who has been here for some time now, has almost finished his work on the Late B period in the Southern Area. It is an almost complete picture, plus, of the architecture and morphology of P and N, done in such a way that one can view the edifice the way it was from any angle — it will surely make a fine addition to Volume IV. He pointed out three views that he will continue to work on during the fall. They will be in color and usable also for exhibitions. Perhaps, if good enough, we could use them in the main report.

Today I began a directory on the computer for House X, which will be a separate monograph, perhaps a supplement, and not in the Museum series. Aegaeum remains a possibility, but this is no editorial control issue with Aegaeum. There is both editorial control and the review process.

The kiln was out. Some plates arrived not long ago, but a front view. My only worry is that the black and white photos are done and vague, but that may only be in this version. Shortly, AVM and I will review it all and return it to Princeton.

Both JRF and AVM have reviewed my 5.3 (K. in the Mesara) and liked it — their comments
will be worked into a new edition that
will also be added to the fall when I have
departures from the various periodicals and
articles that are not available here in
Costa Rica.

On the loomweights for House X, after an
intense period of working with them I have
previously prepared the first drafts of the Taos which
list them all and their particulars -- in
some 60 items, and have an outline for
the nation sheet tent.
It would appear that AOMA is following our arrangement that she provide the catalogue entries that Linda and I have entry. She will probably overproduce, but at least the way is clear.

Dr., essentially no longer working on the site, continues to study House X and its Rooms and their stratigraphy. Perhaps 2/3rd of that will have been completed by the end of this study season; it will be thorough. The house is unusual in its URI-MA2 use and the generally well-preserved state of its remains.

MCS is almost through with the plastering from the north door, where the plastering was the richest and the possibilities of their use are clearest. One hopes that she will progress as far as possible so that she can complete the rough draft of her Ms. during the winter when she will not have her usual teaching load (one graduate course in the spring).

Hed has now arrived at the point in Chap. 1 that, aside from reference to the plastering (that in his Ms. and MCS’s Ms) it is complete. Also, the four plus (close) met on the site on Saturday to reconsider aspects of T5 (old building) that, admittedly, we disagree on, but at least we have had the discussion. I have also completed in first draft form (reviewed by AOMA) Chap. 1.3, “Connections in the Late Bronze Age,” and have given it the two main excavators. →
We will visit them formally on Monday evening at 6:30.
at Phoinikas and Asleia Triada (V. La Roche and Philippon Carinii) table 000 on the vicissitudes
of the three sites during MM and LM for their
comments and suggestions, I will send them
the section of actual text last in the fall
when I have had a chance to read it again.
I have also completed in first draft form
for the ma. on House X, the miscellaneous section
on the loom weights. This was most interesting
to compile, to see the patterns from the actual
evidence as compared to those in the Southern
area and compared with the general pers-
spective developed by Mary Darby in II.2.
I suspect that next summer I will begin
with the strips tools and perhaps some vases
from X - Leda Costanza was to do them but,
Dina has done so little work on them
during the past year and will be moving on
to her dissertation on Athenian seals, that
it will remain undone. My aim here is to
bring the ma. for House X up to
date that when in two years, MC is
handling the stratigraphy, that she will
be able to "plug in" my catalogue num-
bers to her text and not have to sort
again (as I am doing for IV) for these
three years.

As for the remainder of the staff, Jolice
Pfaff works efficiently and fulltime with
her helper, Magda Kheordoc on the last
bit of material from the SA last especially
House X pottery in JR. Photography by
Taylor Darby is less time consuming. Keith
HP and TD will return next year. I only
hope that, as MK is apprenticing, she
will be able to handle at least some aspects
of the job. Alexandra Shaw could possibly
replace him - he has done the job before.
As mentioned above, he will not be returning next year. Halyk Waxman has been working hard and efficiently, but it remains to be seen whether she is the person for such a demanding and multi-faceted job.

We have now received the first copy of the revised version of the report. Our comments will be sent back to the editor, Kerry Cox, shortly. I have also been in touch via e-mail with Cy Strom and Joe Crilly, the latter the representative of the publishers, about IV. The volume will be ready about mid-September, so there is no hope of receiving our review here in Pittsfield. What matters, really, is that it comes out as well as possible - we have come so far now. There will be some necessary changes to the address of those to whom IV is being sent as a result, something I will take care of shortly after we arrive in Toronto less than a month from now.

Partly because of our balance in Drachmae here at the National Bank was low at the beginning of the season, partly because of unexpendable expenses (e.g., the laying of the streets for the wall we will build on the site next year, which cost almost $3,000), we are running over-budget by about $6,000. I will forward the check to our bank account here to cover the various bills that must be paid in Drachmae, then the excavation will re-invoice us in September. There will be just enough left in our various accounts, after paying the various costs of IV, to last through the winter.
That except it will be late 1996-1997 when \( I(2) \) was still being paid for. A hiatus, then, will be in days ahead since our chances for SSMTG are slim (second year of a three-year grant) and good for INSTAP. Our hope that home Hickerson will continue with his generosity, who Dean Amstel.
All the staff have left now, with Leda Castani the last one to leave, yesterday on the ‘bus from Herculaneum to Albano. Most of the bills have been paid, but the final payments to Sixtus the guard and to Marcella for the kitchen remaining: I will go to Venice tomorrow, Monday, to get enough from the bank for these expenditure expenses, but also to cover any personal costs, including bills unrelated to the house, before we leave in six days.

I have been busy and trying to arrange for spraying of the site to kill the weeds that come up every year and which cost at least 3,000. I am now having the sprayer well eliminated much of the cost. Our friend Giuseppi for the animals that might be affected, although the ‘Roundup’ much of any derogatory effect would be eliminated — he may also be thinking of losing that part of his yearly income, which is time enough, but then there will always be some site work to do. He also thinks we must get the permission of the Forestry Service, but that can be avoided — I think, having talked to the guard at Phaistos, if the work is done by the Archaeological Service. The scenario presently planned is for us to hire a machine and the spraying machine from Phaistos in the spring. This must be arranged, however, and perhaps this can be done at the beginning of the coming week.

Mrs. Moody and desperately trying
to complete fieldwork in V, her beloved plastis that she has been working on for years. At this point she has progressed from west to east to the southwestern rooms of V, following the stratigraphy (chiefly that of T2) very carefully and leaving actual parts of plastis collapsed from the walls and ceilings of Building V. Surely this is the first time that such a detailed study has taken place in a monumental human structure; every fragment (not just painted plastis) has been put into a data base and the "full recovery" method that she instituted is being used to full advantage.

But it is so costly as far as her own effort is concerned, I truly hope that in the few days we have left before we leave that she can work through T's east wing (no plastis from P, on top) and the South Stage so that she can work on her text in the fall and winter.

And has essentially completed V, Chapter 1, although references to the use of plastis, the decoration of the North and South Salla in particular, remain to be worked into the text. All the photos are ready. At least 1/3 of the drawings have been completed by GB, presently on vacation with her family in the US west coast. In Chapter 2, above, we are 2/3s of the way through. In Chapter 3, the pottery, LE has completed all field work and about 2/3 of the description of the groups. Remaining are the texts: He promises a first draft by June. NDH, who has been investigating the MNI levels (complete) would not finish the very last minute on the imports (his main summer job) and promises text by spring. - Julia Pratt, who has con-
Plated all 14 drawings will begin putting together the parts during the winter those also due in March. Have our LR in part done by HP ($2,000.00), and that debt will continue to pick up -- I hope that it can be paid in May after we will have received any in coming grant $.

Chapter 4 (miscellaneous) is being completed; MS has added to some descriptions this summer. DR is still completing his own work on the fauna, and get more complete work from JF-NDM. MC has worked hopefully, in the few Minoan figuring this coming summer.

Chapter 5 is well underway. 5:1 (from and now, by MS, is almost complete) MS has also written most of his last in 5:2 (JR+NDM must complete the rest), 5:3 (in the meantime) is well along, mainly by MS although JF and BvDM have given me wonderful backup comments and criticism. Completing this will probably be my main job this fall in Toronto, where the books and article I need on in my office, home, and at Robarts Library.

My bibliography for II will soon go to the bench to which others' bibliographies are added.

LDC has done the monumental job of receiving reports, catalogues,.
more than in any other year (410!), keeping the
apotheosis in shape, and preparing shipment of all
new records (copies of new cards; cards that had
to be brought up to date) to Toronto: as usual,
Maïc and I will take them with us.

She (Leda) will join us in the first two
weeks next year (in return for keeping the
L computer); but since she is very fond of her
work and the people here, but we still must
find a replacement. We also must find
a replacement for Julia. Neither Haley
nor Magda showed that they could handle
the position. They were brought to fill in as
complete a way as either LC or HP have
been doing for years.