Wednesday, 15 July 1998

We have to supply some missing details: well/blocks/leads, also inventory a block in TT with an oval depresion. We also select a few groups of copper strips from TLP that may help in the generalrite of protection of TLP in lower D: then will be photographed by TD, and printed in the fall.

JR finished his revision of LKH in the Southern Area. We will turn to this when AA is complete, in early August.

LG and TD's work in covering the common roof of areas 3 and 4 with white stucco to reduce heat absorption seems to work. 4 is as if air conditioned!
Friday 17 July 1998

We'd bring enough cut boards from Mines to replace those in the wooden "bridge" at the site that have deteriorated over two years and this are somewhat dangerous. Also oil to protect them at least for a while. He also pays the women for the two final weeks, including a 20% "gift" which they would otherwise have received through the Green Social Insurance Plan.

Budget-wise we are right on target. Enough was brought from Canada to cover rents, subsistence, women, as well as travel (in the last for those who wanted to be reimbursed in drachmas); and there is enough in the TD checking account to cover those who are being reimbursed in $ (or being paid a salary).

JR and I talk tomorrow morning about what information I need from him in order to revise my chapter on the LAI and his architecture.
Saturday 25 July 1998

"Talking Stone"

Hub and NDJH seem to have their act together, as she revises his text and he has completed his penultimate draft of the AA Text with extensive changes and additions. At some point, AA continues to be the massive underpinning for Building T, to the point that it is not difficult to be persuaded that AA underlies the north wing of T as well. The next step would be to align that J (T5) is part of AA well. MCS's 100 senior archaeologists from 1994 can be used to show the men I felt up against the walls that J is built on, if one accepts my hypotheses in that, as elsewhere, J sits on earlier foundations. Also, there is no evidence at A to show that groined masonry was in use during the Neolithic period (there are, however, a few strong blocks). Moreover, as I show in my Wiener Festschrift article, the door and door partition arrangement is peculiarly Neolithic in use.

Having completed the drafts, I turn to Chapter II (T) which will undergo extensive editing and rearranging due to JHS revision of this portion chronology, especially that of the North Stor's use and (the Last in Chapter III) P3. We still have the remainder of the summer, of which there is about a month left.

MCS continues to revise his freewrite.
Chapter IV -- I wonder whether there will be enough time left, when she finishes that, to do extensive work on the catalogue and text of the plasters for IV from the Southern Area. If not, then she will probably be extremely behind JP and myself in the production of IV. Of course, has still to write the supporting text for his sections, but he has now completed the group-by-group description and analysis. I, still, move up the final catalogue for the small finds, especially the stone tools, which I will not be able to complete this summer although the basic lists are ready and the catalogue cards are all made out. I have also almost completed ordering all drawings and photographs from which I can choose the various.

TD and JP keep up their work. TD, doing photographs, can keep up to date. The aim for JP is for him to finish all I work so that she can put to rest the PhD during the 1998-1999 winter. BS continues to mend; we also plan to replace the sink in apartment 41; it does not drain in either the kitchen or the lavatory. This will be the basic improvement to the apartments during 1998. TL has been helping HR with the pottery, but also working on the question of the harbours, Pelaicastro and Kommos in particular.

Paul Thompson and his wife, Jennifer, visit in a few days. He is MCS's Principal at Scarpovoula.
College: they are impressed by the scale and relative precision of the work accomplished and planned.

Tonight most of the team will gather at Knossos for a lecture by Athanasia Kauta on Monastiraki and reception. I hope to see Antonis Vasilakis (about the text of our presentation at the Mino conference) and Peter Dar (whom we must talk to about the Kilm monograph's final stages, as well as other matters).
27 July 1998

Two projects may be carried out tomorrow, one Pitru Day is apparently coming from Krossos, and a technician is apparently coming from the HM. The first project is Rutherford/Davies' project on the short-needled amphoras and Canaanite that will be sampled so that analyses of fabric etc. take place. The second is that with Pitru Day in Pitside, AVDM and I can meet with him to sort out the few remaining matters/questions having to do with the Kolin monograph which will hopefully be ready for submission to Heuze in 1999, late September.
31 July 1998

Miles shopping today. So hot that my eyes were almost blinded by the salt from sweat.

Peta's Day did, indeed, come, and the clippings from the foreign vessels and the Short-necked amphorae were taken accordingly in the presence of a museum technician. There was also time for Linan and myself to discuss the kilns with him. All seems to be on schedule for a September submission.

We await a plumber who will replace the sink in Apartment 4. It is of cement and crushed stone, doesn't drain, and is plugged up most of the time. A new one of steel, placed on another wall (the old one will be discarded) will be the physical improvement of the year. All of our work will be expedited in a small way.

He, having completed his redoing of the pottery group list in Tarand P, has turned seriously to the pottery and stratigraphy of House X, his next (and final) big field-work project in Kommos.

He works on and off on the stone tools from House X. She has been so busy with cataloguing, however, that her time has been limited. I am considering trying to alleviate her burden, but am unsure as to how.
Dear Arvanitakis, UG T. PhD. candidate, is here and struggling to find a workable PhD. topic. For a year and a half, he focused on aspects of the development of the early MM palaces. Then he switched to wanting to work with MM pottery with a view to local styles (although he is innocent of pottery). Arvanitakis and JR thought access to the MM at Phaistos and Knossos, as well as elsewhere, would be difficult so crucial. He proposed "Pottery Techniques During MMII", a period that was represented at Kommos and for which we have abundant material, especially in House X. Kommos, Knossos, and Anemospilia are the three main sites for the period — he could probably have access to 10 Ch. At least in the first year he could look at our material only. Then we are here during the summer.
Mocholes visit. MCS for R&R. We drove the
3½ hours in the early morning, arrived at the
ultra-modern East Coat Center by 11:00,
and Phil B. and Tom Bride took us around.
Home now of four excavations in their
terminal phases (Mocholes, Pseina, Kavousi
[Prando & Castro]) and next year the home
for Vana Westrom Gournia neopomies!
Theoretically in MB levels midway be-
tween Gournia and the shore. Maria and
I will join with old friends Phil and
Mary Bitancourt, perhaps see Geoff.
She before that -- we have already
visited the Mocholes site by boat, when
they are clearing ashfars from the
north-south road. Mike Grodin,
long enough to renew its sea-view
rooms, where I sit on a nice balcony
looking across the Mocholes town.

MCS has now finished his third
version of the Greek figures for
Volume IV. I am about 1/50 weeks
away from completing my revision
of Chapter 1-3 of Volume V, with
the full cooperation of my colleagues
ALM and JR. Next summer the
effect will be, hopefully, with GB
at Pitsidia, to complete the plans
and sections 'in the southern area
while at the same time I put
the final cataloging
of the S. Athos small finds is already
well along.
After over a month of not reporting here, the status of work and projects:

Mrs. Today I completed the long and difficult job of revising Chapter 2 of Volume IV, Building T. This was brought about by VK's revisions of the chronological sequence in T, but also his discovery of an exceptional later pottery in connection with the metallurgical activities in the North Slope. Now all three chapters (1-3) in IV are in fairly good form. Still to be dealt with, and the main project for the coming summer, will be to make up the formal catalogue listings of the small finds for which I am responsible in IV. After a few changes to IV (2), I will send a copy of it to JR.

Mrs. has completed her revision of the figurines charts for IV, and has sent the changes to BI and DC in Toronto. Now in working on the wall plasters from the South Area, Chep. X in Volume IV. She has a massive data base (all wall plasters from the SFA) and is in the process of separating them according to space, chiefly in T but also in the various standing components. These are, as well, the ceiling plasters (from of the bacus etc.) and the plaster table fragments from the South Slope area. She will
Rand A J have both left.
not, in any case, be ready for writing until this coming summer.

H. Has completed the final Group listing (LM) as well as lists of non-Khomian imports. A monumental job which he keeps updating. He also made good headway with the beginning of his study of the ceramics from Thracian House X, which he intends to finish during the coming summer (1949), long days of applied, and substantive analysis.

AVMA. Is completing his study of the MM pottery from sounding into pre- AA levels. A surprising number of Cypriot and other imports. Together with Dena Day and Vasilis Kilioglu we have worked at odd moments on the kiln monograph. Essentially all the texts are ready and on long-term 5.11, a program I know well and easy to deal with, although old and "not advanced." I find in the meantime, that both Philip Buitenhout (Pseira) and Jeffry Solis (Mesohlos) are using exactly the same one, which makes me feel less of a dinosaur than others (e.g. McS) would let me think.

Alan Colston. Has worked up and long with the gods and ends of Greek pottery from the Sanctuary. Also has promised to write an introduction to the pottery chapter for IV, something that I have insisted upon for the sake of clarity—a task, he is not ideally suited for, but he is the only and best choice for the job at the moment.
Brenda Smith, who left, was a good conversator who worked long hours and kept with the mending of pottery. She also conscientiously reclaimed and cleaned out the bronzes stored here in Pitsidia.

Julia Poff, despite the demands of little Willie (much of the slave was taken up by ID), has worked diligently on the profile for the, essentially completing them — further mixing awaits during the winter. Taylor, calm and as usual helpful and understanding, quietly has been catching up on the photography in his professional way.

Leda Castelli, also so intelligent and hard-working, always willing to hear suggestions as well as initiating things on her own, has kept up with all the various taxes that await someone in her not enviable role.

During the past month we have installed a new main in April and a welcome change from the pressed stone one that never drained and always clogged that we have been living with since 1976. Its structure was found to be a cove which scrambled out as the old structure was removed.
2 Sept. Delia Roscillo's report arrived a few days ago, and she makes the point that the majority of the bones from any single area on the site is from the AA fills, which seems to reinforce the earlier thought that, indeed, the fills are from domestic contexts.
24 August 1998

Packing up the apotheke and the season is underway. For the latter the reports are being completed to be filed in Pithia and in Toronto. Highlights - new in function - are ceramic RPs (with AVDM's) distinction of four ceramic periods within LM I and two within LM II. AVDM's identification of so many Cypriot imports in the MM II fills of building AA suggest that in connection with Cypriots were more frequent than had been suspected, and are certainly not paralleled yet by other Cretan contexts. Originally I suggested that the MM I/II fills were from domestic contexts, but now it is not so sure. Ceramic history and history per se are represented here for the first time in Crete, and that is exciting for Cypriots from early MM contexts in Crete is rare (I do not know how rare, but that should become clear shortly). On the other hand, aside from the pottery (perhaps the few phiale?), the other small finds do not seem to be special (stone vases, fragments, loom weights etc., **p. 82**) but then one might not expect royal material; Archaios @ might be a good example of a "trading centre" with little pottery and not much else.

For the apotheke itself, I have begun the process of transferring the sketches and chapter drafts from them to our house for transportation to Toronto, Leda Costaci