TRENCH 95A

4 August, 1934 (continued)

PAIL: 95A/5:198; Under Pail: 95A/3:160 and 3:176. Levels and Location: see plan p. 218; Location Label: S.W.; Fill: brown earth, some small stones, some very small amounts of reddish earth, some pebbles.

Pottery: 53 sherds (0.600 kg) Latest Date: LM IA (z)

Range: MM IIA, MM III, LM IA (z)

almost pure LM IA (z)

not kiln dump proper.

Inscribed Object: material from hole is undatable (5:198 A)

Also: limpets, plaster with surface, charcoal.

With this pail we begin to find a greater amount of plaster in the fill although it all still appears to be from the wall; the spaces between the stones we also find a small, c. 20 cm², circular area with softer fill. When the soft moist fill is removed we are left with a cylindrical hole with a bottom of pebbles at c. +2.65 m asl.

Photography: Roll 7, Fr. 18-19 Tr. 95A; Pail 5:198

Circular hole with pebbles on bottom, from above, see p. 220

Immediately west of this we find a small patch of limpet shells. A new pail is opened for the darker talcier soil to the west.


Levels and Location: see plan p. 218; Location Label: S.W.; Fill: brown earth, some clay, some stones, plaster inclusions.

Pottery:

Inscribed Object:

Also: plaster, painted plaster.
Photography - see p. 217.
Roll 7, Fr. 18-19.
Tr. 95A, Pail 5:198.
circular hole with pebbles.
see p. 219.

Roll 7, Fr. 22.
Tr. 95A, Pail 5:200.
cord stub from South Wall of T.
see p. 221.

Photography - see p. 226.
Roll 7, Fr. 22.
Tr. 95A, Pail 5:200.
cord stub from South Wall of T, 4 courses showing from N.
see photography p. 220.

Inventoried Objects:

Also: bronze, painted plaster, shells, charcoal, plaster,

Photography:
Tr. 95A, Pail 5:200; cord stub from South Wall of T, 4 courses showing from N.
see photography p. 220.

As the stones are removed, their bottom elevations are recorded on the drawing made by C. Bianco.
The stones are seen to have had their faces coated with plaster.

While this is being done, we set a third team to excavating a small strip between the two western columns of Trench 95A, to search for any higher pebble surface to go with the very high pitch excavated by the western base by Pail 3:166B.

Pail: 95A/5:201; Level and Location: see plan p. 218; Order Pail: 95A/3:166 and 3:166B; Location Label: N/L; Fill: brown earth with very small amounts of red earth, small stones, pebbles.

Pottery:

Inventoried Objects:

Also: bronze, amulets.

8 August, 1994 (continued)
Photography — see p. 229
Roll 7, Fr. 29
Tr. 95C, Pool 2, 203
Rubble near Wall 1
see p. 229

Roll 8, Fr. 13-14
Roll 8 Wall 6, from N

Roll 11, Fr. 15-16, Tr. 95A, ledge between kiln and (Wall 1, from NE)

Roll 11, Fr. 17-18, column 52263 and pebbles, from NE

8 August, 1994 (continued)

Such a pebble surface is in fact found sloping up from an elevation of c. +2.95 m A.S.L. to the west column base. It does not, however, appear to enter the store by more than 60 cm.

At the end of the day another pool is opened to remove the small area to the north of the kiln within the store.

Pool: 95A/5: 202; Order Pool: 95A/3: 140;
Level and Location: see plan p. 218; Location Label: NE
Fill: brown/grey earth, stones
Pottery:

Inventoried Objects

Also: plaster

We were visited by a potter from Silti, Bakulis Nekos (ref. 42601), who had many suggestions for the possible operation of the kiln. One was that there may have been a two stage firing process in which the pottery was its first firing over the flue then its second over the fire pit. Another suggestion was that all the pottery was fired over the fire pit and the flue was for creating the draft. A further suggestion was that certain pieces of what appears to have been lime and/or may have been what was applied over the clay lining of the flue to control the bed. None of these suggestions do I find satisfactory.

Roll 11, Fr. 19-20, Wall 2abutting against Wall 1 from S

Wall 3
Excavation continues with Pails 95B/2:175 and 95A/5:202. A new pail is opened to continue excavating in Trench 95C; now that the top of the east column base has been uncovered.

PAIL 95C/2:203; Under-Pail: 95C/2:196; Levels and Location: see plan p. 224; Location Label: E; Fill: brown earth, plaster inclusions, small stones
Pottery: 184 sherds (2.330 kg) Latest Date: LM 1A(2)
Range: MM III, MM IV, MM V, LM 1A(1), LM 1A(2)
mostly MM III - LM 1A
Inventoried Objects:
Also: shells, painted plaster, plaster

As we continue to excavate in Trench 95A, we quickly finish the small area of Pail 5:202. The scarp created by this pail is tangential to the column base, yet shows no evidence of a pebble court at any level. Rather than continue to excavate within the site, we are at this point directed by the Sherds to resume excavating in Trench 95B. For the final 1.5m to the eastern boundary a new pail is opened for there appears to be a decrease in the pieces of plaster floor found and a corresponding increase in rubble.

PAIL 95B/2:204; Under-Pail: 95B/2:171; Levels and Location: see plan p. 226; Location Label: E; Fill: brown earth, with some patches of sandy earth, small stones, plaster inclusions
Pottery: 78 sherds (1.555 kg) Latest Date: LM 1A(1)
Range: MM III, LM 1A(1)
mixed homogeneity
soil debris?
Inventoried Objects: C10253 - UP CC Type B; C10254 - UP CC Type B; C10255 - UP CC type B
Also: shells, plaster
Our observation, however, is quickly proven to be incorrect for there are many more pieces of plaster found, including fragments of what appears to be a plaster tray or "table" which came out of the ground attached to the earth above and so is no longer in situ. At this point we can find no area which does not have some kind of plaster in the fill and since MC Shaw does not want us to dig any area with plaster in the fill, we have no choice but to end our digging in Trench 95B at this point, although we are above what is believed to be the level of the court.

We now return to Trench 95A and excavate a small area from the eastern edge to the pebble surface at c. +3.10 m ASL near the eastern column base.

Pail 95A/3:205; Under Pail 95A/3:165 and 95A/3:136; Levels and Location: see plan p.226; Location Label: NE; Fill: brown earth, some small stones, pottery.

Inventoried Objects: S2287 - stone tool
Also: painted plaster, pumice, plaster

By the end of the day, although we find that the high area of pebbles slopes down to the east and seems to join with the layer which has its surface at an elevation of c. +2.95 m ASL.
Excavation continues with Pails 95A/3:205 and 95C/2:203. In Trench 95C we turn our attention to cleaning some rubble which has appeared c. 2 m from Wall 1. When they are reasonably defined and there is enough light we photograph them.

Photography: Roll 7, Fr. 29; Trench 95C, bottom of Pail 2:203; Rubble near south end of T inside shoe, from E see photograph p. 222.

We now divide the area in half and open a new pail to excavate the southern half.

PAIL 95C/3:206; Under Pail 95C/2:203.
Levels and Location: see plan p. 235; Location label: SE; Fill: brown earth with small amounts of clay, rubble, plaster and charred inclusions.
Pottery: 20% sherds (2.85 kg). Latest Date: LM IA(B).
Range: MM 1B, MM II, MM III, LM IA(B), LM IA(C) mostly MM III - LM IA.

Inventoried Objects:
Also: limpets, pumice, shells, painted plaster, plaster 3 clay lamps.

Digging around the rubble we find that it is sitting on earth, so it is removed. A patch of limpets is found to the north.

In Trench 95A we find that although the top layer of pebbles (c. +3.10 m ASL) appeared to slope down to join the lower (c. +2.97 m ASL), in fact they are separate layers. We isolate the upper layer in preparation for making a sounding through it in an effort to determine its date.

Levels and Location: see plan p. 235; Location label: NE; Fill: brown earth, pebbles.
11 August, 1994 (continued)

Pottery:

Inventoried Objects:

Also: painted plaster, plaster.

When this sounding is completed we find that the lower surface of pebbles goes up to and around the cylindrical column base. The team of workmen is now transferred to Trench 95C to help lowering the 2 metre strip separating the two trenches.

**PAIL: 95C/3 208, Under Pail: 95C/2 203**

Levels and Location: see plan p. 228; Location Label: NE

Fill: brown earth with small amounts of clay, some small stones, plaster and charcoal inclusions

Pottery: 116 sherds (1.695 kg.) Latest Date: LM IB

Range: MM II, MM III, LM IA, LM IB

mixed homogeneity

Inventoried Objects:

Also: shells, plaster.

A new pail is opened for beneath Pail 3 206 once the tops of the stones of Wall 1 have been reached.

**PAIL: 95C/3 209, Under Pail: 95C/3 206**

Levels and Location: see plan p. 228; Location Label: SE

Fill: brown earth with some clay, small stones, plaster inclusions

Pottery: 109 sherds (1.020 kg.) Latest Date: LM IA

Range: MM II, MM III, LM IA

mixed homogeneity

join with Pail 2 14

Inventoried Objects: C10260 - closed vessel in a M/C hard brown Fabric

Also: plaster, charcoal, painted plaster
Excavation continues with Pails 95C/3:208 and 95C/3:209. No pebbled surface is found with these pails even near the column base, which is unexpected since a very high surface was found to the east. New pails are opened to excavate down to just above the floor surface.

**PAIL: 95C/3:210**; Under Pail: 95C/3:208; Levels and Location: see plan p. 232; Location Label: NW; Fill: brown earth with some clay, a few stones, a small amount of plaster and charcoal inclusions; Pottery: 102 sherds (0.935 kg); Latest Date: LM IA Range: MM IA/II, MM III, LM IA mostly MM III

Inventoried Objects:
- plaster, painted plaster

**PAIL: 95C/3:211**; Under Pail: 95C/3:209; Levels and Location: see plan p. 232; Location Label: SE; Fill: brown earth with some clay, a few larger stones, charcoal and many plaster inclusions, occasional pebbles; Pottery: 163 sherds (1.855 kg); Latest Date: LM IA(z); Range: MM IA/II/MM III, MM IA(1), LM IA(z) mostly MM III - LM IA

Inventoried Objects:
- plaster, shells, plaster with surface

A new pail is opened in Trench 95B for M. C. Shaw to begin examining some of the multiple layers of plaster.

**PAIL: 95B/3:212**; Under Pail: 95B/2:175 and 2:204; Levels and Location: see plan p. 234; Location Label: E; Fill: brown earth, plaster
TRENCH 95B

Scale 1:100

Elevations in mASL

PAIL 3:212

Final Elevations:

12 August, 1994 (continued)

Pottery: 11 sherds (0.090 kg) Latest Date: LM IA(2)?

Range: MM II, LM IA(1), LM IA(2)?

Too small for meaningful comment

Inventoried Object:

Also: plaster

With this pail we uncover a layer of pebbles covering the plaster at c. +3.15 m ASL. We remove 5 large layers of plaster, the first which has a blue and white painted surface (face down), the second which may have a bit of blue on its surface (face up), a third (elevation +3.11), fourth (elevation +3.09), and fifth (elevation +3.08) of which it is unclear whether they are painted or which orientation they had. At this point the pail is closed and the remaining plasters are left for future excavation.

In Trench 95C new pails are opened for recording the plaster floor. A strip 1.5 m wide along Wall 1 is excavated separately because of the possibility of a foundation trench.

PAIL 95C/3:213; Under Pail: 95C/3:210; Levels and Location: see plan p. 236; Location Label: W; Fill: brown earth with some clay, some plaster inclusions; Pottery: 42 sherds (0.215 kg) Latest Date: MM IB?; Range: MM IB, other periods? Nephton?; Too small for meaningful comment

Inventoried Objects:

Also: plaster, shells, painted plaster with design

PAIL: 95C/3:214; Under Pail: 95C/3:211; Levels and Location: see plan p. 236; Location Label: SE; Fill: brown earth with some clay, plaster inclusions, some small stones
12 August, 1994 (continued)

Pottery: 62 sherds (0.385 kg), Latest Date: LM IA

Range: MM II, MM III, LM IA?
mostly MM III
join with pail 209

Inventoried Objects:

Also: plaster, shells, 2 clay lumps

Pail: 95C/3:215; Under Pail: 95C/3:211; Levels and Location: see plan p. 236; Location Label: SE; Fill: brown earth with some clay, small stone, plaster inclusions
Pottery: 33 sherds (0.190 kg), Latest Date: LM IA(2)?
Range: MM II, LM IA(2), other?
Too small for meaningful comment

Inventoried Objects:

Also: plaster

With these pails the pebbled surface is uncovered throughout the area of excavation in Trench 95C. In the NE it rises to the rounded surface of the subfloor of the cylindrical column base second from the west. In the S it does not appear to extend to Pail 1, but petered out about 1m from the wall, although no difference in fill is noted nor any sharp line noted.
A final pail is opened in Trench 95A to remove some pottery from near the mouth of the kiln fire pit.

Pail: 95A/5:216; Under Pail: 95A/5:189 and 5:191; Location: see plan p. 238
Pottery:

Inventoried Objects:

Also: plaster

Elevations in m ASL

PAIL 3:213
PAIL 3:214
PAIL 3:215
12 August 1974 (continued)

With the conclusion of excavation in Pits 95C/3:213, 3:214, and 3:215 and 95A/5:216 excavation in all 3 trenches come to an end.

For final photographs see p. 214, 216, 220, 222, 223, 224