TRENCH 89C

Scale 1:100

- Intensive burning (hearth?)
- Exposed walls
- Elevations in m ASL

10 August, 1983

Excavation of Trench 89C continues with Pail 89C/5:125. As we excavate, we come down on what appears to be another surface, marked by extensive burning and a very small amount of what appears to be red hematite. There are pebble and plaster inclusions in the fill. At the end of this pass the pail is closed and a new one is opened.

PAIL 89C/5:125

Under Pail 89C/5:124
- Levels: see plan p 182
- Location/Label: E1 FILL
- Grey/brown earth, sand, plaster inclusions
- Pottery: 0.365 kg (27 sherds)
- Date: LATE II (45/83?)
- Range: LATE II - no further precision possible
- Lump building material
- Most sherds burnt

Inventoried Objects:
- Also: bronze, shells, hematite, soil sample for water sieving

Wall 90: This, with the burning there, seems to match with the surface which we are exposing in the center of the trench. There are also pebbles on this surface. A sample of the hematite is collected. 3 tiny pieces of bronze are noticed; they are too small to collect. In the south half of the surface of excavation, just beneath the surface which we have been exposing, we come down on what appears to be a later floor. It is very easy to trace in some places, more difficult in others. We uncover this floor only in the south half with this pail. The north had been left at a higher level as we had previously been exposing another surface. We now return to the north to uncover the floor with a new pail.
10 August, 1993 (continued)

PAI 89C/5 126: Under PAI 89C/5 125
Levels: see plan p. 184; Location Label: IHE; Fill: grey/brown earth with burning and haematite
Pottery: 1,340 kg (131 sherds) latest Date: LM III A 2-1B
Range: MM III >; mostly late
mostly med coars. CP SNA and CP

Inventoried Objects:

Also: shells

When the floor has been uncovered it is discovered to adjoin both walls, indicating the foundation trenches & the walls do not exist at this level. We now begin to excavate in the west, first abroad confining ourselves to excavating with the gallery.

PAI 89C/5 127: Under PAI 89C/4 119A and 89C/4 119B: Levels: see plan p. 184; Location Label: IHE; Fill: grey/brown earth
Pottery: 0.940 kg (62 sherds) latest Date: LM III A 2-1B
Range: LM III >; mostly late
many med coars. CP SNA and CP

Inventoried Objects:

Also: shells

11 August, 1993

Excavation of Trench 89C continues with PAI 89C/5 127. Alongside Wall 9 we discover a small patch of burning and a thin lens of haematite. There is also a heavily pebbled area of the burning. These signs together with the fact that the fill above is flaking off in large pieces strongly suggest a surface. At the end of this pass the fill is closed.
A new fill is opened for the westmost section of the trench, the exterior of Building P.

PAIL 89C/5:128; Under Pail continued from Trench 84.

Levels: see plan p. 186; Location Label: 54;
Fill: sandy grey/brown earth, stones;
Pottery: 0.750 kg (83 sherds); Latest Date: LM III A / II B
Bread mix of classes and types

Inventoried Objects: C8932 - fine mono pth tearup, LM II
C8933 - red-brown med.-coarse burnished import
Also: plaster, shells

This section of the trench is quickly brought down to the same level. In the southwest section a very large number of small and medium-sized stones are uncovered. The Pail is closed at the end of the pass.

We now move back inside P, to uncover the west of the gallery down to the lepis floor. A new fill is opened for this.

PAIL 89C/5:129; Under Pail 89C/5:128.
Levels: see plan p. 186; Location Label: 119;
Fill: grey/brown earth, some sand, pebbles, burning Pottery: 0.715 kg (103 sherds); Latest Date: LM III A
Range: MM II (?); mostly late

Inventoried Objects: C8936 - med. coarse UP closed vase, yellow-slipped, imported.
Also: shells, plaster

Extensive burning and patches of hematite are uncovered above the lepis floor.
12 August, 1993

Excavation of Trench 89C continues with Pail 89C/5:129. When we have cleared down to the elevation of the lepis floor (which is broken on the west) in the interior of the building we open a new pail to remove the bulk from around Trenches 63B and B1.

PAIL 89C/5:130: Bulk removal
Levels: see plan p. 188; Location Label: SW
Fill: sandy light brown/grey earth and sand
Pottery: 0.115 kg (3 sherd s) Latest Date: UMII-III A

Inventarioed Object: —

Also: —

When this is completed we clean the trench and prepare for a photograph.

Roll 8, Falle: Trench 89C, lepis floor, primary floor of Fg, from west; see photographs p. 188.

We now turn our attention to the west section of the trench, the exterior of Fg, and open a pail to excavate the south corner. We confine ourselves to this area because of the large mass of rubble contained in the extreme south.

PAIL 89C/5:131: Under Pail: 89C/5:128
Levels: see plan p. 188; Location Label: SW
Fill: sandy light brown/grey earth, sand, rubble
Pottery: 0.315 kg (57 sherd s) Latest Date: MM III

Inventarioed Object:

Also: plaster, bronze
12 August, 1993 (continued)

When this has been leveled to the level reached in Pail 89C/5:132 (although no surface had been reached) we close the pail and begin excavating the NW.

PAIL 89C/5:132; Under Pail: 89C/4:121
Levels: see plan p. 190; Location label: NW
Fill: compacted sand
Pottery: 0.590 kg (53 sherds) Latest Date: CS
Range: EM III A/B 2
Too small for meaningful comment

Inventoried Objects: C9942 - log cup

Also: shells, bronze, plaster

When this has been completed we acquire another team of workers to help us complete the trench. For this reason we divide the trench along the N/S axis, into two sections, one inside, one outside of Building P. Inside the section is again divided, for the lepis floor is broken; it is more or less intact in the south, but gone in the north. A pail is opened to begin excavating the north.

PAIL 89C/6:133; Under pail: 89C/5:129
Levels: see plan p. 190; Location label: NW
Fill: light brown sandy earth, stones, stone chips, pebbles
Pottery: 2.275 kg (211 sherds) Latest Date: UM II
Range: MM II A 2; mostly late
Broad mix of classes and types

Inventoried Objects:

Also: plaster, shells, bronze

At the same time a pail is opened for the other team to work in the section to the west of P5.
12 August, 1993 (continued)

PAIL 89C/6:134; Under-Pail: 89C/5:131 and 89C/5:132; Levels: see plan p.192; Location Label: 60
Fill: sandy light brown/grey earth, sand, rubble
Pottery: 2.740 kg (204 sherds) Latest Date: MM/IA
possibly IIIA.1B; Range: MM/IA→
No SNA

Inventoried Object: C6823 - yellowslipped closed vase (import) with joins in 139,136,140,141
Also: pumice, plaster

As we dig in 89C/6:133, immediately below the floor of P3 we came upon an east-west wall, c. 90 x 100 cm wide, which appears to belong to Building T. With this pail, however, we did little more than uncover the top preserved course of the wall, which has an elevation of c. +3.12 m ASL. Given that the pibble wall is at c. +2.96 m ASL, we expect to have the wall preserved to two or three courses in height. We now turn our attention to the south and open a new pail.

PAIL 89C/6:135; Under-Pail: 89C/5:129
Levels: see plan p.192; Location Label: 5.51
Fill: lepis, brown earth, pebbles
Pottery: 0.070 kg (4 sherds) Latest Date: LM?
Too small for meaningful comment.

Inventoried Objects:
Also: plaster

13 August, 1993

Excavation of Trench 89C continues with Pails 89C/6:134 and 89C/6:135. We quickly came down on what appears to be a surface of packed earth and pebbles, in Pail 89C/6:135, appearing to be slightly below the broken lepis 6:134.
13 August, 1973 (continued)

We clean down to this surface and open a new pail for this area.

**PAIL 89C/6:136; Under-Pail 89C/6:135**

- **Levels:** See plan p. 194; Location Label: 560; Fill: brown earth, a few pebbles, some few small stones.
- **Pottery:** 0.515 kg (45 sherds); Latest Date: L.M.IIA
- **Range:** L.M.IA → II; no period dominant

- **Inventoried Objects:** C 8936 - yellow-slipped clay jar (import) - joins with 129, 440, 141
- **Also:** plaster, tiny piece of bronze, shells

Although with this pail we uncover no surface, we lower the surface of excavation to the level reached in Pail 89C/6:133. When we have finished this area, we open a new pail for a 1.7 m strip along Wall 9, accounting for any possible foundation trench, but also taking into consideration that there is no noticeable difference in the fill in the interior of Building T's room.

**PAIL 89C/6:137; Under-Pail 89C/6:136**

- **Levels:** See plan p. 194; Location Label: 560; Fill: brown earth and small stone chips
- **Pottery:** 0.310 kg (32 sherds); Latest Date: L.M.IA
- **Range:** In Date?
- **Range:** Broader mix of classes and types

- **Inventoried Objects:**
- **Also:** shells

At the same time we open a pail for the removal of the battle around Trenches 63B and 81.

**PAIL 89C/6:138; Under-Pail 89C/6:137**

- **Levels:** See plan p. 194; Location Label: 560; Fill: sandy light-brown/grey earth and sand
13 August, 1993 (continued)

Pottery: 0.180 kg (16 sherds) Latest Date: LM II A
Too small for meaningful comment

Inventoried Objects:

Also: plaster

At the end of one pass across the surface of excavation in Pail 89C/6:137, no surfaces are needed. We decide to close the pail at this point in case one was missed. A pile of rubble has been uncovered along Wall 9 and at the north end of the pail's surface. A new pail is opened to excavate to this level up to Wall 11.

PAIL 89C/6:139; Under Pail: 89C/6:133
Levels: see plan p.196; Location Label: W; Fill: brown earth and small stone chips
Pottery: 1.925 kg (88 sherds) Latest Date: LM II-III

Inventoried Objects:

Also: —

In Pail 89C/6:139 as we move north, c. 3 m from the edge of the trench, the soil undergoes a noticeable change to sand. We therefore change pails to continue the pass.

PAIL 89C/6:140; Under Pail: 89C/5:132
Levels: see plan p.196; Location Label: NW; Fill: sand with some light-brown earth, occasional rubble
Pottery: 1.235 kg (88 sherds) Latest Date: LM III A 1B

Inventoried Objects: —

Also: —

C8936 yellow-slipped use
13 August, 1993 (continued)

At the end of the pass we open a new pail to remove the bank separating our trench from 90D and 86F.

**PAIL: 89C/6:141**; bank removal; Underfill: 0.2; levels and location: see plan p.198; Fill: sand and sandy brown earth; Pottery: 0.865 kg (12 sherds) Late Period: LMIII A II B; Range: LM II→ L.M. Mosty late; many mid. coarse CPSNA.

Inventoried Objects: C876 - yellow-slipped closed vase joins with 129, 136, 140

Also: —

We now acquire yet another team of workers and so divide the west section of the trench into two subsections with separate pails for each. This also matches the change in soil noted above with Pails 6:144 and 6:146.

**PAIL: 89C/6:142**; Underfill: 89C/6:184; levels: see plan p. 198; Location Label: 156; Fill: light brown/grey sandy earth; Pottery: 0.670 kg (59 sherds) Latest Date: LM IIIA; Range: MM II→ mostly late; Broad mix of classes and types.

Inventoried Objects: —

Also: tooth, shells

With this pail we uncover an earthen surface on the exterior of P3, we clean down to it. It is not pebbled. Meanwhile, another pail has been opened for the NW.
13 August, 1993 (continued)

PAIL: 89C/6: 143; Under Pail: 89C/6: 140
Levels: see plan. Location Label: NW Fill; sand, compacted sand, some brown earth, occasional rubble.
Pottery: 11435 kg (127 sherd) latest Date: 86?
Range: MM III – mostly LM IA
Broad mix of classes and types

Inventoried Objects:

Also: bone

Back inside Gallery S, another pebbled surface has been uncovered with Pail 89C/6: 138. Place at 2.5m. It is located at the NW corner of Wall 11. When the pail is closed the workmen begin excavating south of Wall 11, trying to uncover a floor to go with the wall and to see the surface upon which the rubble is resting.

PAIL: 89C/6: 144; Under Pail: 89C/6: 139
Levels: see plan. Location Label: NW Fill: brown earth, stone chips, pebbles, much broken plaster.
Pottery: 2,540 kg (234 sherd) earliest Date: LM IA
Range: MM III – mostly late
Broad mix of classes and types
C8974 – fine temper w/ripple
Inventoried Objects: C8975 – fine monochrome BD 5 2
C8976 – fine UFCC of MM III type
Also: shells, soft pottery
14 August, 1993

Excavation of Trench 89C continues with Pails 89C/6:145 and 89C/6:146. When the west section of the trench has been excavated down to the level at which a surface was reached in Pail 89C/6:142, another set of pails is opened to continue lowering the surface of excavation until the pebbled court is reached.

PAIL: 89C/6:145; Under Pails: 89C/6:142 and 89C/6:143; Levels: see plan p. 202; Location Label: 89C/6; Fill: brown earth, some sand, plaster. Pottery: 0.735 kg (50 sherds)  
Range: LM IA4, only 1 late sherd.

Inventoried Objects: –

Also: shells

A separate pail is used to remove the remainder of the rubble overtop the pebble court west of Wall 9.

PAIL: 89C/6:146; Under Pail: 89C/6:142; Levels: see plan p. 202; Location Label: 89C/6; Fill: sandy, light brown/grey earth, rubble, plaster. Pottery: 0.765 kg (94 sherds); Latest Date: LM IA4.  
Range: LM II; mostly with III-

Inventoried Objects: –

Also: –

The pebble court is very quickly reached with both pails and is found to slope steeply to the south into the stair area.
14 August, 1993 (continued)

A new pail is opened at this point to remove a small baulk which had been left separating the teams of workers inside and outside the gallery.

**PAIL: 89C/6:147, baulk removal**

Levels and location: see plan p. 204; Fill: sandy light-brown/grey earth.

Pottery: 0.860 kg (105 sherds); latest date: MMII

Pure in date?

Broad mix of classes and dates

Inventoried objects: —

Also: —

Excavation now comes to a close
Roll 9, Frame 11, From N.W.

End of Excavation, Trench 89C

Roll 9, Frames 15, From N.W.