

THE LATE MINOAN IIIA:2 SETTLEMENT

STRATIGRAPHY AND CATALOGUES

BUILDING 2

ROOM B1 (*Figs. 60, 86, Pl. 85a-b*)

Building 2 is a construction of the LM IIIA:2 date. The building could be approached from the Courtyard through an entrance with two large slab stones around 534/708.5. Room A has not been dug into the LM IIIA:2 deposits, while in the eastern part of Room B1 two floor levels of the LM IIIA:2 period were identified: 19-Floor 9/9a below which 19-Floor 41 was found. Furthermore, a pit or *vothros* was noted and a small pit which may have been a foundation pit to 19-Wall 5. In the western part of the room a pit and a fill had been dug into the LM IIIA:2 levels in the LM IIIB:1 period (cf. above pp. 131-133).

Floor deposit?

Three small cleanings of 19-Floor 9/9a which stretches from 532 eastwards revealed a few sherds of LM IIIA and LM I. 0.460 kg of pottery was collected: 11% decorated, 86% kept and 0% inventoried. No shapes to be counted.

POTTERY

82-P 0812, *Pl. 204a:3*

Cup, rim frg. Clay: red. Everted rim. Int. RB. Ext. RB and zigzag. Rim Ø est. 0.14. Th. 0.003. LM IIIA:2.

19-Floor 9/9a (*Figs. 60, 86, Pl. 85a, b*)

19-Floor 9/9a (*Fig. 86*) was the only one of some extension in this room and in the eastern part two slab stones were noted. It is described as medium hard, sandy and with very few sherds. In the area below the LM IIIB:1 19-Floor 10 was a patch with very hard, red soil with pieces of pumice stones. The floor was c. 0.03 thick and excavated at levels from 10.01 to 9.98. The pottery in the floor is dated to LM IIIA with few earlier pieces. 0.293 kg of pottery was collected: 10% decorated, 81% kept and 14.3% inventoried. No shapes to be counted.

POTTERY

84-P 1917, *Pl. 204a:5*

Cup, rim frg. Clay: reddish-brown with thin light brown core. Everted rim. Int. monochrome. Ext. RB, two wavy bands and a row of spirals. Rim Ø est. 0.14. Th. 0.003. LM IIIA:2.

84-P 1924, *Pl. 204a:2*

Juglet, body frg. Clay: LW. Ext. foliate band and a body band. Th. 0.003. LM IIIA:1/2.

84-P 1925 (+84-P 1700), *Pl. 204a:1*

Closed vessel, body frgs. Clay: LW. Ext. broad and thin body bands. Th. 0.003-5. LM IIIA:1/2.

Outside join

84-P 1925 to 84-P 1700, IIIB:1, Building 2, Room B1, 19-Floor 10, p. 133.

SMALL FINDS

84-MISC 077, *Pl. 260b:2* [722]

Pumice stone, three frgs. One side is cupped, other straighter. Largest piece Ø 0.025, smallest piece 0.010.

84-MISC 078, *Pl. 260b:1* [723]

Rock crystal, four frgs. Of a rectangular to an elongated shape. Largest piece L. 0.021.

SHELLS

1 *Murex* – L 0.046, fresh. 3 *Glycymeris* – three water-worn, one holed at umbo. 2 *Cerastoderma* – right W 0.027, H 0.025; left, W c. 0.025, H 0.0235.

19-Floor 41 (*Figs. 60, 86*)

A fragment of an even earlier floor was found in the eastern part, north of the entrance from the Courtyard. It was a 0.01 thick layer excavated at levels 9.98 to 9.97 and it consisted of a very hard, red soil with patches of ash below. The three sherds found were probably LM. 0.007 kg of pottery was collected: 29% decorated, 100% kept and 33% inventoried. No shapes to be counted.

POTTERY

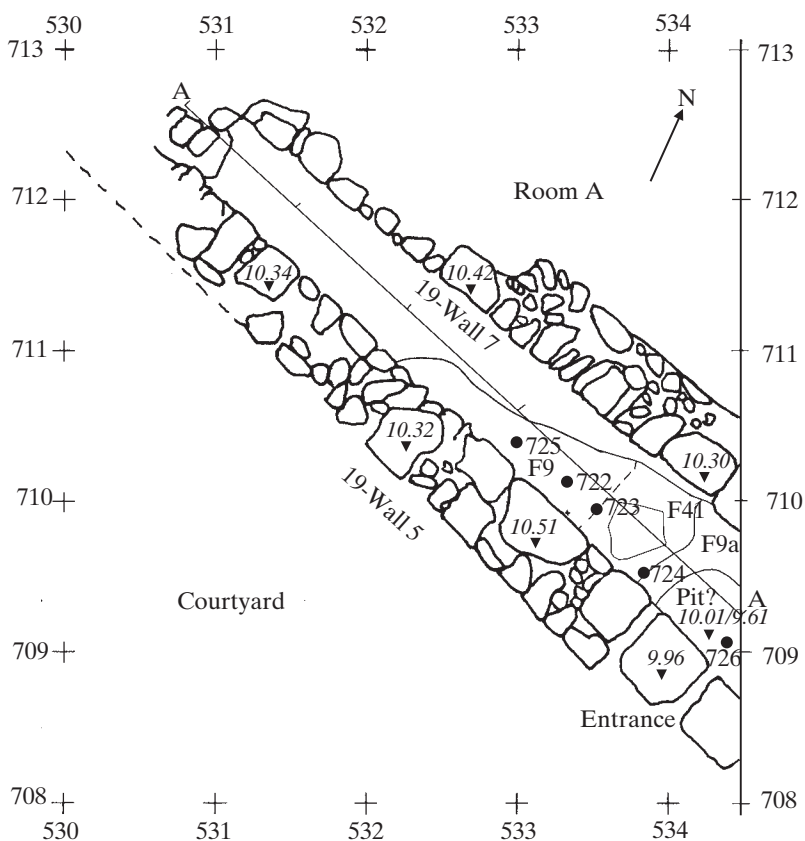
84-P 1980, *Pl. 204a:6*

Closed vessel, body frg. Clay: brown. Ext. a broad body band. Th. 0.009-10. LM IIIA:1/2.

Floor-packing

In the area below 19-Floor 9/9a and 41 a 0.05 thick layer was found (excavated from 9.98 to 9.93) of medium hard red soil with bits of charcoal which may have been a bedding for the original first floors. This layer contained LM III, IIIA and a few earlier sherds. 0.345 kg of pottery was collected: 7% decorated, 75% kept and 8.0% inventoried. No shapes to be counted.

Fig. 86. LM IIIA:2 Building 2, plan and distribution of finds.



POTTERY

84-P 1579, *Pl. 204a:7*

Jug, beak-spouted, handle frg. Clay: light red. Part of a strap, broad, vertical handle. Ext. one cross bar. Handle 0.011 × 0.030. LM IIIA:1/2.

84-P 1580, *Pl. 204a:4*

Open vessel?, base frg. Clay: red. Plain ware. Flat base, rounded to the body. Base Ø est. 0.014-15. Th. 0.008-12. LM IIIA:1/2.

SMALL FINDS

84-MISC 079, *Pl. 260c:1* (see below, Shells) [724]

84-MISC 082a, *Pl. 260c:2* [725]

Painted plaster, one frg. Medium hard, slightly gritted burnt plaster. Fairly smooth surface with traces of reddish-brown paint. Mpd 0.021. Th. 0.007. LM I/IIIA:2.

84-MISC 082b, *Pl. 260c:2* [725]

Unpainted plaster, one frg. Soft plaster with a rather smooth surface. Mpd 0.029. Th. 0.009. LM I/IIIA:2.

SHELLS

1 *Patella* – L 0.0185 (84-MISC 079a). 2 *Murex* – body frg.; columella/distal frg.; columella and distal body, burnt, in red matrix (84-MISC 079b).

1 *Pinna* – small frg. (84-MISC 079c).

Foundation pit to 19-wall 5?

In connection with the excavation of 19-Floor 41, a narrow, shallow area 0.01-2 thick was found up against 19-Wall 5. At the time of excavation it was interpreted as a possible foundation pit to 19-Wall 5. Few sherds of possible LM IIIA date were collected. 0.065 kg of pottery was collected: 8% decorated, 100% kept and 20.0% inventoried. No shapes to be counted.

POTTERY

84-P 1415, *Pl. 204a:9*

Closed vessel, body frg. Clay: light greyish-brown. Ext. three body bands. Th. 0.004-6. LM IIIA:1/2.

Pit or *vothros* (Figs. 60, 86, *Pl. 85b*)

Below 19-Floor 41 just inside the entrance to the room a small pit or *vothros* was found. It was 0.45 wide and could be followed up to the threshold. The top of a slab partly covering the pit was found at level 10.01 while the bottom which contained some fallen stones and which had a greenish-brown, soft soil, was found at level 9.61. The few sherds found in it appeared to be LM IIIA with few earlier pieces. 0.380 kg of pottery was collected: 4% decorated, 84% kept and 3.7% inventoried. Shapes counted: 1 conical cup.

POTTERY

84-P 1375, *Pls. 130, 204a:8*

Cup/rhyton, rim frg. Clay: cream. Straight rim rounded on top. Int. and ext. monochrome. Rim Ø est. 0.14. Th. 0.004. LM IIIA:1.

SMALL FINDS

84-S 032, *Pl. 260c:3* [726]

Limestone gravel. Of an irregular shape. Seems to have been attached to something. L 0.018.

The walls (*Fig. 86, Pls. 85b, 86d*)

Thanks to the 2005 excavation we are now relatively certain that a crucial part of the LM I House III was partly reused with only small alterations made during the LM II and LM IIIA:1 periods. Since Building 2 is overlying the reused LM I house it is now certain that this was a new construction of the LM IIIA:2 period. As mentioned above, Room B1 had two floor levels in LM IIIA:2 while we did not excavate into those levels in Room A. The walls exposed from Building 2 are 19-Wall 5 and 19-Wall 7 (both still standing on the site).

19-Wall 7 (*Fig. 86, Pl. 85b*) could be followed to a length of at least 4.3. It had a width of 0.55-60, the top was found at 10.42 while the bottom went down to 9.75/9.85, and it was preserved in two to three courses and has at the lower central part facing Room B1 many smaller stones. The northeastern 2.1 metre part of the wall is destroyed – perhaps in connection with the construction of the LM III C 19-Wall 8. As preserved it is not a typical sandwich wall but is constructed mainly with larger stones facing Room B1 and smaller stones applied to the side facing Room A. The mortar is light brown-reddish with several sherds and pebbles.

19-Wall 5 (*Figs. 61, 86, Pl. 85b*) could be followed to a length of 5.3 with a door at the southeastern part. The threshold consisted of two 0.40-45 wide slabs stones and had a total length of 1.08. The width of the wall is 0.55-60. The top of the wall is found at level 10.51/10.02. It was set at a slightly odd angle on top of the northeastern outer wall of the LM I

House I and it is difficult to decide where the one wall stops and the other starts. It seems, however, most likely that the 19-Wall 5 is preserved in 1 1/2 courses at a height of 0.30-0.50. It was constructed somewhat like 19-Wall 7 although the sandwich elements are recognizable. The stones in the wall are mainly limestone, roughly dressed or rubble stones. The mortar is light dull brown-reddish and relatively pure. One piece of obsidian came from a cleaning of the wall (no pottery):

OBSIDIAN

84-OB 131, **Chip of core's reduction** [739]

The door was originally constructed at a width of *c.* 1 metre and the threshold consisted of two almost rectangular slab stones *c.* 0.45 × 0.50 at level 9.96/9.99 (*Fig. 86*) which corresponds to the level of 19-Floor 41 but which was at a slightly lower level than the corresponding floor of the Courtyard. As new floors were laid both in the Courtyard and in Room B1 – probably at the beginning of the LM IIIB:1 period – a new threshold consisting of more narrow and triangular shaped stones was constructed at a higher level 10.17 (see e.g. *Fig. 59* and *Pl. 86d*). In connection with the investigation of the door we noted no arrangements for pivot holes nor bases for wooden doorposts, which, however, might have been set directly upon the big slabs of the original construction. It thus remains uncertain whether we had a real door or only an opening.