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# Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* (Cyprus). Preliminary Report on the 2015-2016 Campaigns

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With contributions by

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## Introduction

A second (March 30-April 24) and third (March 28-April 22) joint excavation campaign between the Universities of Ghent, Louvain and the Mediterranean Archaeological Society of Crete took place at Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* in 2015-2016. As before, we thank Dr. M. Solomidou-Ieronymidou and Dr. D. Pilides at the Department of Antiquities for their kind collaboration as well as Dr. A. Satraki at the Larnaka Museum, Dr. E. Zachariou and the authorities of the Dhekelia base, especially Mr. M. Gregoriou. The financial aid of the Institute for Aegean Prehistory and the ARC 13/18-049 'A World in Crisis?' is greatly acknowledged as are the respective team members of the Universities of Ghent and Louvain-la-Neuve and our local workforce under the direction of Mr. M. Vrachnakis. We also thank Dr. E. Margaritis, M. Faka as well as Dr. S. Hermon of the Cyprus Institute (STARC) for their collaboration. Pottery processing was supervised by Dr. I. Caloi at the Terra Umbra apothiki in Larnaka, while conservation was in the expert hands of C. Hadjivasili. Dr. H. Joris drew many of the new finds, some of which illustrate this report. N. Kress operated the UAS and was responsible for all the plans that accompany this report. He was, together with G. Jans, also responsible for much of the logistics of the expedition. More information on the aims of the project can be found in our first preliminary report[1] which should be consulted prior to the present one for location of the trenches.

Following our first campaign, much attention was given to the continuation of work started in the different parts of the hill (figure 1). In Sector 3, this entailed continuing tests in the central and north-eastern part of the summit to explore whether the plateau had been integrally occupied during the main phase of settlement, Late Cypriot IIC-IIIA, and what the nature of this occupation was. In Sector 4, this implied the continuous exploration both to the north and south of the

[1] Bretschneider *et alii*, 2015.

architectural complexes on either side of the West Gate. Moreover, a new area more than 40 m to the south was also explored. Architectural remains were encountered everywhere. To the south-east of the summit, in Sector 5, where the walls are better preserved, a dozen more spaces were explored. The stratigraphy of the spaces excavated all over the site is straightforward and usually comprises three levels: level 1 – top soil, level 2 – earth and stones from roof and wall collapse, level 3 – complete or broken objects *in situ* on the floor. Sometimes only levels 1 and 2 are present and the bedrock appears without the presence of level 3. Occasionally, the bedrock is so near the surface that it is partly visible or covered by level 1. In such cases the rooms were mostly empty.




Figure 1: General topographical map of the Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* excavations (plan: N. Kress).

**Sector 3 – The Central and Northern Parts of the Hill (Simon Jusseret[2]/ Thérèse Claeys[3,4])**

As in the 2014 campaign, the excavation strategy of the UCLouvain team was to combine random test trenches in the centre of the plateau (Trenches 3.1, 3.4-3.5) and systematic investigations along its edge (Trenches 3.2-3.3) and north slope (Trench 3.6). In this way, we hope to elucidate the nature of the *Kokkinokremos* settlement structure. The 2015-2016 campaigns, therefore, involved the extension of Trenches 3.1-3.3 – already opened in 2014 – and the opening of three new tests (Trenches 3.4-3.6).

**Trench 3.1**

Preliminary explorations undertaken in 2014 in the centre of the *Kokkinokremos* plateau (Trench 3.1) revealed architectural remains (walls A1, A3) defining three spaces (3.1.1-3.1.3). Associated with Space 3.1.1 was a well-preserved floor deposit left partly unexcavated at the close of the 2014 campaign.[5] The 2015 season allowed completing the excavation of this floor assemblage and investigating its broader architectural context (figure 2).

Two successive extensions of the 2014 trench towards the west, the first measuring 2.5 by 5.0 m, the second 1.25 by 2.50 m, were undertaken in 2015. These extensions allowed the delimitation of the extent of the floor deposit in Space 3.1.1, which appeared confined to the centre of a circular bedrock depression (A4, diameter: c. 4 m, depth: 0.15-0.20 m). This particular context undoubtedly explains the good preservation of archaeological remains in this sector of the plateau, the deepest part of the depression being probably beneath the plough's reach[6]. The floor level of Space 3.1.1 mainly consists of bedrock, perhaps artificially flattened. Towards the centre of the area, i.e. close to the deeper part of the bedrock depression accommodating it, the bedrock was apparently covered by a slightly stamped earth floor level. Most objects brought to light in Space 3.1.1 were found below a layer of tumble, with fragments lying on, or slightly above the earth floor level. Excavation of the remaining part of Space 3.1.1's floor assemblage in 2015 allowed the identification of the second half of the local Mycenaean IIIC Early 1 deep bowl FS 285 (PK14 175) previously reported[7] (figure 3). The presence of a

[2] Department of Anthropology, The University of Texas at Austin & Aegis-CEMA-INCAL-UCLouvain.

[3] PhD candidate FRESH, Aegis-CEMA-INCAL-UCLouvain.

[4] Participated in the excavations: Nicolas Kress (2015-2016, archaeologist and topographer), Dr. Sylviane Déderix (2015, archaeologist and GIS specialist), Anne Vera Veen (2015, MA student KU Leuven), Elli Joakim (2015-2016, MA student UCLouvain), Tessa Vanesbroek (2016, MA student UGhent), Bert Melkebeek (2016, MA student UGhent). Our local workforce consisted of Louis Constantinou (2015), Samuel Antoniou (2015), Marios Chiras (2016) and Dimitra Dimitriou (2016).

[5] Jusseret, 2015: 6-7.

[6] The deepest part of the bedrock depression is c. 0.40 m below the surface.

[7] Jusseret, 2015, 7; Caloi, 2015, 32-33, fig. 27.

pouring hole in the base of the vessel suggests its use as a rhyton. Together with the Late Minoan IIIB/C mug rhyton (PK14 166) discovered in the same context in 2014[8], this vessel is one of the few ceramic rhyta thus far discovered at *Kokkinokremos*[9].

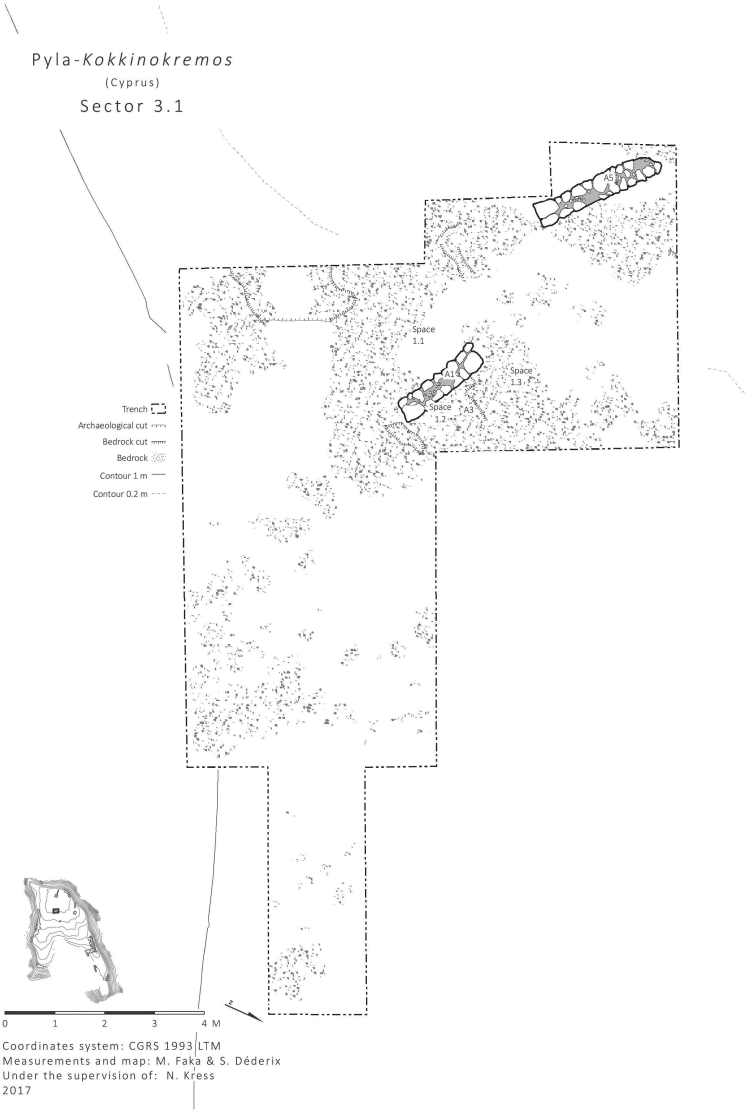


Figure 2: Sector 3, Trench 3.1: 2016 plan (N. Kress).

[8] Jusseret, 2015, 7; Caloi, 2015, 33, fig. 26.

[9] Fragments of an ostrich egg rhyton are mentioned by Kanta (2014a, 65) in Sector 2 (Complex H) and a fragmentary Mycenaean conical rhyton was likewise brought to light in 2015-2016 in Sector 3 (Trench 3.3, Space 3.3.4), for which see below. Another rhyton – made of alabaster – originating from Sector 4, R.12, is discussed by Kanta (this report).

To the north of Space 3.1.1, our 2015 investigations revealed another northwest-southeast-oriented stretch of wall (A5) (cf. figure 2). Although the relationship between wall A5 and other architectural remains previously discovered in Trench 3.1 remains unclear, the fact that walls A1 and A5 were constructed at a slight angle suggests that they may originally have belonged to two different structures.




Figure 3: Sector 3, Trench 3.1: part of the floor deposit excavated in 2015 in Space 3.1.1. The base of the deep bowl and lithic tool (indicated by * and ** respectively) can already be seen in the southern part of the deposit as excavated in 2014[10]. Photo: S. Jusseret.

## Trench 3.2

Trench 3.2 is located 80 m to the northeast of Trench 3.1 (figure 1). Our initial 5 by 5 m trench was opened close to the eastern edge of the *Kokkinokremos* plateau, c. 20 m to the south-east of the fire range's flag pole. A c. 5 m-wide strip of ground was left unexcavated between the northern corner of our initial trench and the edge of the plateau to allow the passage of vehicles since a track existed along the edge of the plateau in November 2014. In 2015, we extended Trench 3.2 towards the northwest, i.e. encroaching on the track, by adding a 5 by 5 m square to our initial trench. Two successive 5 by 5 m westwards extensions were excavated in 2016 to reach the edge of the plateau (figure 4).

[10] Jusseret, 2015, 7, fig. 2, centre-left of the photo, base of the baulk.

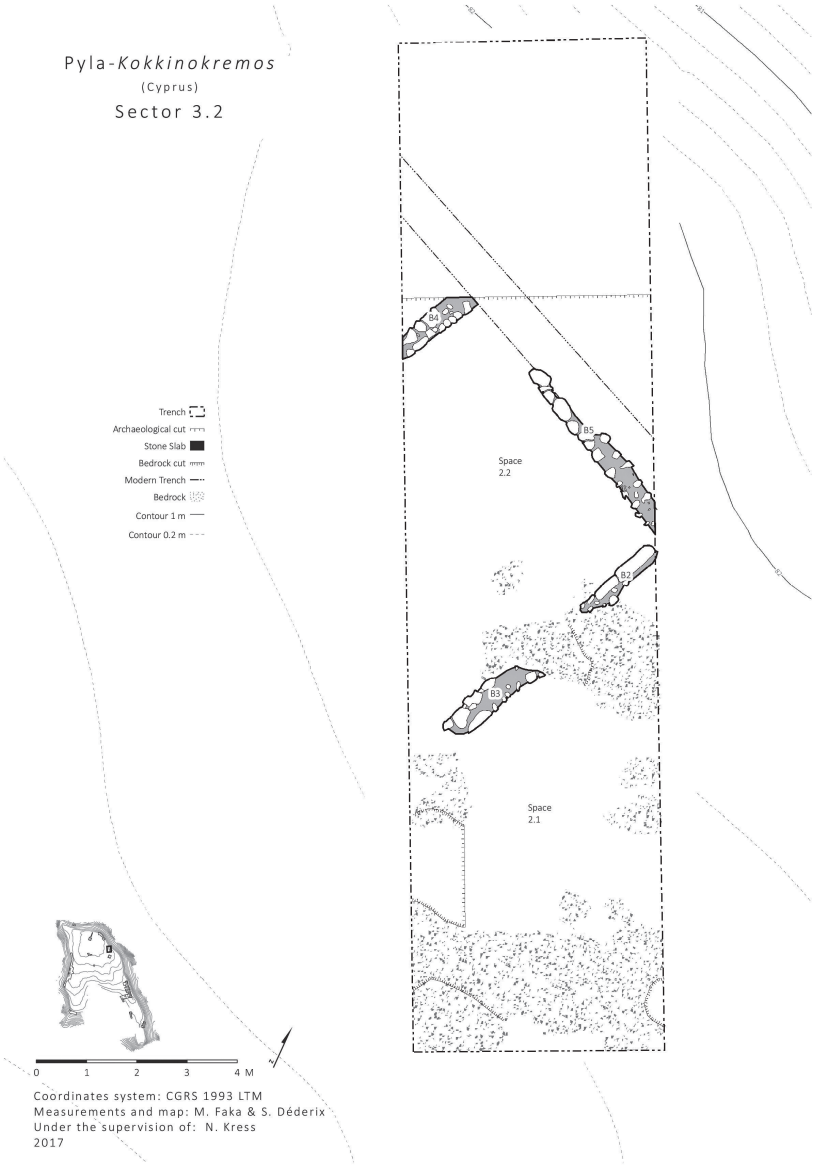


Figure 4: Sector 3, Trench 3.2: 2016 plan (N. Kress).

Trench 3.2 preserved several walls (labelled B2-B5) defining a c. 6 by 6 m square structure aligned with the edge of the plateau and identified as Space 3.2.2. Walls B2 and B3 form the eastern limit of this structure and separate it from Space 3.2.1. These two stretches of wall may have originally formed a single wall but the gap between them is now occupied by a c. 2.5 m-wide bedrock outcrop. Wall B5, which forms the north limit of the room, was found badly damaged by the digging of the trench that served the electric cable for the firing range's flag pole. Only

the north stretch of wall B4, which forms the western boundary of the room, was brought to light in the 2016 campaign. In Space 3.2.1, a floor level strewn with pebbles and eroded sherds had been identified in 2014, together with a potential hearth of assumed Late Bronze Age date.[11] The continuation of this floor level towards the northwest – in the area of walls B2 and B3 – is as yet unclear. At this point, an area with many medium-sized stones which either represent a collapsed structure or more likely some kind of stone-filled pit was encountered but this needs more exploration. Space 3.2.2 preserves a stamped earth floor on which a few sherds – including the base of a pithos and a fragmentary wall bracket – were resting so it represents probably the occupation surface. More excavation is needed.

**Trench 3.3**

Similar to Trenches 3.1 and 3.2, Trench 3.3 was initially excavated as a 5 by 5 m test aimed at evaluating the nature and extent of the Bronze Age occupation in the north-eastern sector of *Kokkinokremos*. It is located along the north-eastern edge of the plateau, approximately 90 m to the north of Trench 3.1 (figure 1). During the 2014 campaign, three spaces (3.3.1-3.3.3) were explored of which Space 3.3.1 was by far the most interesting because of its rich floor deposit (see below), partly excavated in 2014[12]. A first extension (5 by 5 m) of the initial 5 by 5 m trench was installed towards the west in order to trace the western limit of Space 3.3.1. Unfortunately, this operation was largely unsuccessful due to the presence of bedrock at shallow depth. During the 2015-2016 campaigns, new trenches were opened towards the east and, to a lesser extent, the northwest. To the east of our initial test, a first trench of c. 6 (northeast-southwest) by 19 m (northwest-southeast) was made in 2015, to which another trench of 5 (northwest-southeast) by 10 m (northeast-southwest) was subsequently added. In 2016, this last trench was extended 5 m towards the east. To the north and west of the original trench, operations were mainly limited to surface cleaning and topsoil removal due to the shallowness of the sediment cover. In total, however, 12 additional spaces (Spaces 3.3.4-3.3.15) were brought to light in this area during the 2015-2016 campaigns. Unfortunately, architectural remains were often badly preserved and hamper a complete understanding of the settlement's organisation in this part of the hill (figure 5). Nevertheless, the discovery of well-preserved rock-cut pits, cut bedrock ledges and foundation trenches helps to reconstruct the position of missing wall alignments. Although the north walls of Spaces 3.3.4 and 3.3.9 have disappeared, the presence of rock-cut pits (usually interpreted as cisterns) in these spaces similar to those in Sectors 2 and 4 suggest that here too a similar system of casemate rooms existed[13]. Accordingly, if this interpretation is correct, we must conclude that erosion almost entirely destroyed the casemate wall in this sector of the hill, with walls C16 (to the north of Space 3.3.5), C56 (to the north of Space 3.3.2) and C44 (to the north of Space 3.3.3) representing the only surviving parts (see suggested reconstruction on figure 5).

[11] Jusseret, 2015, 7-8.

[12] Jusseret, 2015, 9-10.

[13] See below and Kanta, 2014c, 118.

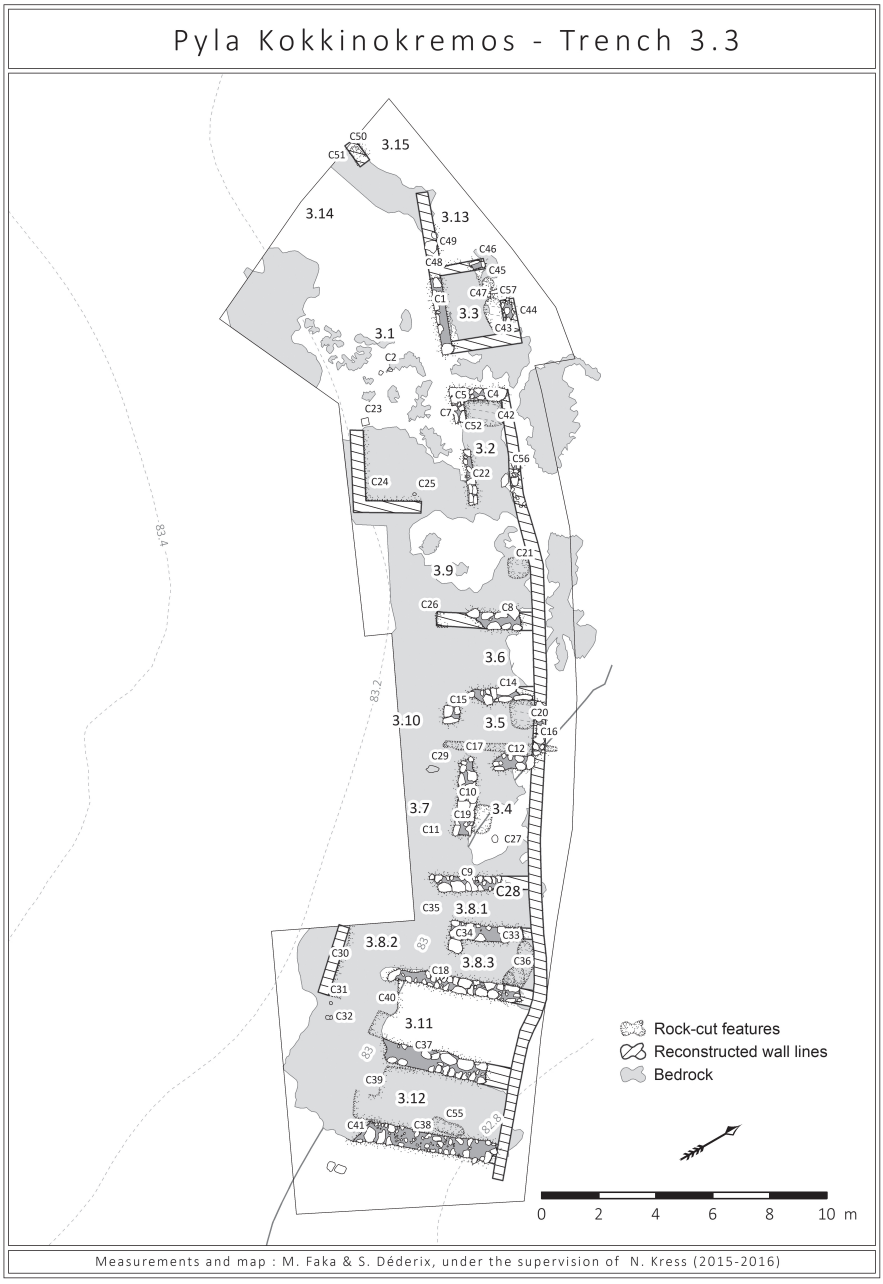


Figure 5: Sector 3, Trench 3.3: plan (2016) including reconstructed wall lines (N. Kress, S. Jusseret).

We briefly describe the finds made. Although spaces are numbered in order of excavation, here the rooms west of Space 3.3.1 are discussed first. Indeed, Space 3.3.1, partly explored in 2014, yielded a rich floor assemblage that mainly includes storage vases, pouring vessels and lithic tools. On the basis of certain architectural features, we tentatively suggested that this space was a courtyard[14] and this view was confirmed by the 2015 excavations which revealed the south-eastern corner of the area. Although the western and south-western boundaries of Space 3.3.1 still remain unclear, its south-eastern corner is marked by an L-shaped ledge (C24) carefully cut out in the hard bedrock (figure 6). As is common at *Kokkinokremos*[15], rubble walls were once constructed on these ledges. Most of the finds come from the central (excavated in 2014) and eastern (excavated in 2015) parts of the courtyard. Objects were generally badly broken and sometimes difficult to distinguish in the field[16]. Apart from pottery[17], there were two loom weights[18] and a score of stone tools, showing a variety of sizes and shapes, some of them well visible on Figure 6. Moreover, we also retrieved ostrich egg fragments, a bronze ring, several fragments of a reddish powdery stone (possibly used as pigment) and a clay wall bracket.




Figure 6: Space 3.3.1: floor deposit and rock-cut ledge C24 marking the south-eastern limit of the space. Photo: S. Jusseret.

[14] Jusseret, 2015, 10.
[15] E.g. Jans *et alii*, 2015; Kanta, 2015.
[16] See Caloi [below] for a preliminary account of Space 3.3.1's floor assemblage.
[17] Discussed further by Caloi, this report.
[18] Already mentioned in Jusseret, 2015, 9.

Bordering Space 3.3.1 to the north, Space 3.3.2 was also partly explored in 2014 and its excavation continued in 2016. The room measures at least 3.7 by 1.30 m and is defined by walls C4, C5, C22 and C56. Poorly preserved, C56 is probably what is left of the casemate wall. Between Spaces 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 there is a stepped (C52) doorway. In the west part of 3.3.2, within the corner formed by walls C4 and C5, is a shallow pit (C42, dimensions: 1.27 m [north-south], 1.10 m [east-west]; depth: 0.16-0.19 m). In view of the depths reached by similar pits elsewhere on the site, often greater than 1.5 m, we may perhaps assume that this was unfinished. Lying on the bottom of pit C42 was the base of a ceramic vessel, a lithic tool, an unidentified lead object and two decorated spindle whorls (figure 7). The rest of the room used the bedrock as floor surface and was partly covered by a few large body sherds including pithos fragments.

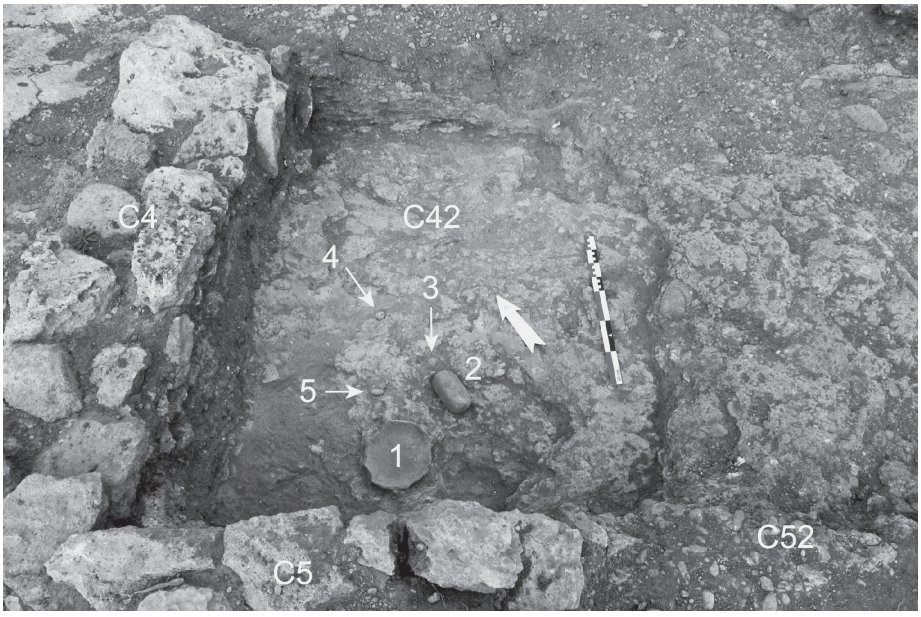


Figure 7: Space 3.3.2: objects found on the bottom of pit C42. 1: base of ceramic vessel; 2: lithic tool; 3-4: decorated spindle whorls; 5: unidentified lead object. Photo: S. Jusseret.

In Space 3.3.3, located immediately to the west of Space 3.3.2, the 2016 excavation was able to identify wall C44 – possibly corresponding to the casemate wall – and wall C46 marking the north and west limits of the room, respectively. To the south, Space 3.3.3 is separated from Space 3.3.1 by wall C1. Although the east wall of Space 3.3.3 seems to have disappeared entirely, the presence of a large angle stone to the east of wall C1 probably indicates its former position (cf. figure 5). The room would then have measured 1.9 (north-south) by 2.3 m (east-west), leaving a 1.2 to 1.5 m-wide gap between Space 3.3.2 and Space 3.3.3. This, we suggest, may imply that an entrance to the settlement was located here (‘gate’). Apart from a pit C43 (as yet unexcavated), Space 3.3.3 did not yield other finds. Another pit (C45, also left unexcavated), immediately to the west of the previous

pit may have also formed part of Space 3.3.3. Nevertheless, the presence of a rock-cut ledge (C47) to the south of pit C45 makes it possible that this ledge once formed some sort of setback in the casemate wall line. Following this interpretation, C45 was hence located outside the casemate wall line. Space 3.3.13 is west of Space 3.3.3 and is identified on the basis of two rock-cut ledges (C48-49) indicating the position of its southern and eastern walls (the latter poorly preserved as wall C46). Spaces 3.3.14-3.3.15, located to the west of 3.3.13, are likewise only identifiable by the presence of an east-west oriented rock-cut ledge (C50) and associated foundation trench (C51). In spite of the poor preservation of archaeological remains in this part of the plateau, two lunular (boat-shaped) bronze earrings were found in the topsoil associated with Spaces 3.14-3.15.

Located east of Space 3.3.1, Space 3.3.9 is also in a bad state and, with the exception of its east wall C8, all original surrounding walls appear to have been destroyed. The original size of Space 3.3.9 is therefore difficult to evaluate; its width (northwest-southeast) may, however, be estimated at c. 3.7 m based on the assumption that wall C22 (south of Space 3.3.2) and rock-cut ledge C24 (to the southeast of Space 3.3.1) mark the position of its western limit. In the north part of Space 3.3.9 is a rock-cut pit (C21) and bearing in mind the common association between rock-cut pits and casemate rooms at *Kokkinokremos*[19], we hypothesise the line of the casemate wall here. With the exception of a few finds made in pit C21, including large sherds found stuck vertically in the pit's upper fill, and the presence of two shallow bedrock depressions located to the south of the space, the room was found empty. Since no traces of architecture were identified to the south of the space, it is nevertheless important to stress that we cannot exclude the possibility that the contents of the two bedrock depressions (including the lead backing of an Astarte plaque, a spindle bottle and several potential stone tools) are unrelated to Space 3.3.9.

To the southeast of this room is Space 3.3.6, which is bordered by wall C14 to the east and wall C8 to the west, but no trace survives of its south and north walls. The minimum north-south length of the space indicated by walls C14 and C8 is 2.4 m but a foundation trench (C26) was found another 2 m towards the south. From the topsoil south of Space 3.3.6 come fragments of a Canaanite-type jar as well as a collection of small lead objects including lead clamps as used in pottery repairs, and an intriguing lead item, shaped like a miniature oxhide ingot. Since no traces of architecture were brought to light to the south of 3.3.6, the association of these finds with this space is speculative. Nonetheless, the discovery of lead clamps may well imply that the magnificent chariot krater brought to light in Sector 2[20] was indeed mended at *Kokkinokremos* itself. Excavation of Space 3.3.6 further produced a cluster of seven terracotta loom weights, all different in shape but several pyramidal, found lying on top of a sediment layer interpreted as collapsed roof material (figure 8). In the southern part of the same space, this layer was found resting immediately on the bedrock, suggesting the use of the bedrock as a floor surface. In the north part of the room, the floor consists of compacted earth on top of which a few sherds and another loom weight

[19] Kanta, 2014c, 118.

[20] Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, 50.

were found. Together with the spindle whorls from Spaces 3.3.2 (see above) and 3.3.12 (see below) and the two loom weights previously discovered in Space 3.3.1[21], the seven loom weights of Space 3.6 represent a considerable concentration of evidence for weaving activities at *Kokkinokremos*, hitherto absent.

This may indicate some degree of functional specialisation within the settlement – a view reinforced by the discovery of metal-working evidence in Spaces 3.3.8.1-3.3.8.2 to the southeast (see below).

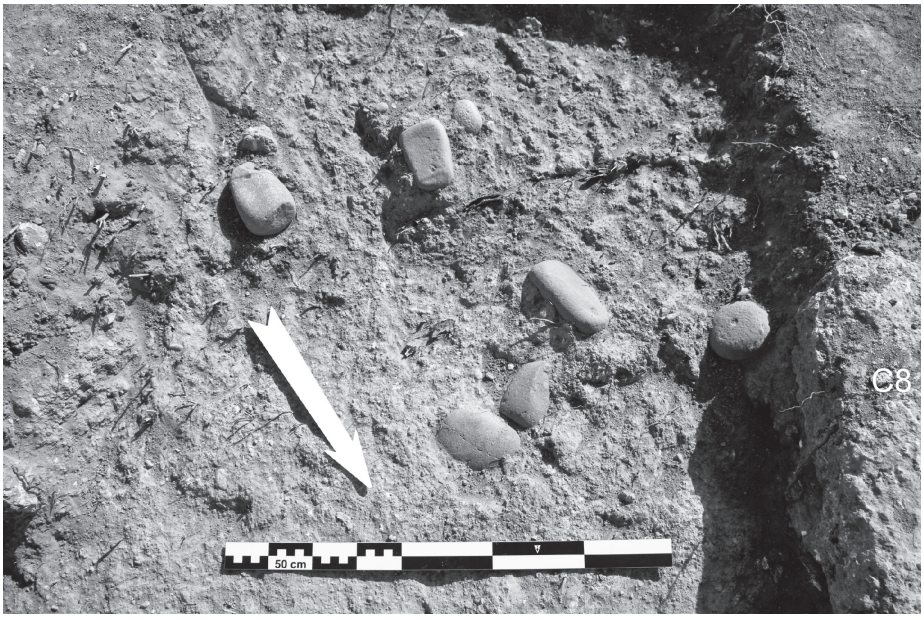


Figure 8: Space 3.3.6: cluster of loom weights. Photo: S. Jusseret.

Southeast of this is Space 3.3.5 with dimensions 2.65 (southwest-northeast) by 1.85 m (northwest-southeast), bordered by wall fragments C12 (east), C15 (south), C14 (west) and C16 (north, possibly corresponding to the casemate wall). Since the surrounding walls are badly preserved, its precise plan is unclear. An entrance may have existed in the southeast angle of the room, giving access to Space 3.3.4. Some connection with Space 3.3.10 to the south is also likely but the state of the architectural remains is too poor to allow speculation. Space 3.3.5 is provided with a rock-cut channel with a semi-circular section (C17). Although the function of this channel is unclear (drain for rainwater? Collector of liquid by-products – oil, dye?), it seems to have ended in a natural (?) bedrock depression close to (casemate?) wall C16. Superficial cleaning of the rocky slope north of C16 (i.e. outside Space 3.3.5) revealed the probable continuation (and ending point) of this channel, suggesting that some sort of pipe carrying water or liquids outside of Space 3.5 must have once existed below wall C16 and that this wall

[21] Jusseret, 2015, 9.

was once constructed over the line of the drain (figure 9). In the north-west corner of this same space is a rock-cut pit[22] (C20, dimensions: 0.73 m (north-south), 0.78-0.97 m (east-west); up to 0.66 m deep) which contained a few sherds of a terra-cotta bath tub. Southwest of this space most of the remains are gone. This area, 3.3.10, has some irregular bedrock outcrops and a single bronze fragment was found close to wall C15. The lead clamps, located at the junction of Spaces 3.3.10 and 3.3.6 have already been mentioned.

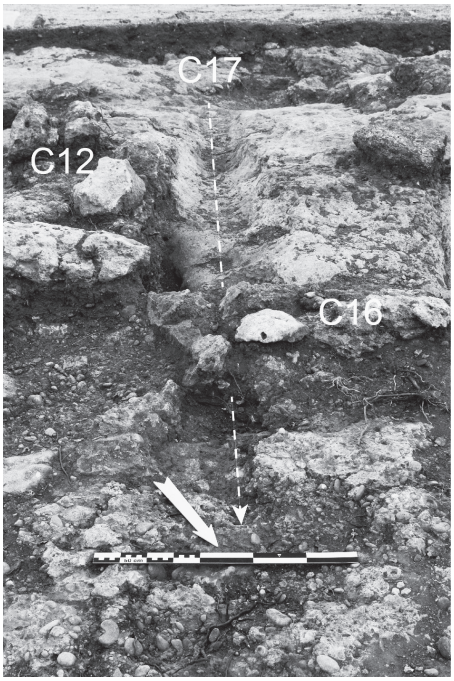


Figure 9: Space 3.3.5: rock-cut channel C17, showing flow direction and passage under (casemate?) wall C16. Photo: S. Jusseret.

The next space to the southeast, Space 3.3.4, was probably a room within the casemate structure. It is bordered by walls C9-10 and C12 and is about 7 m² (3.7 by 1.9 m). It can be accessed from the south by a 1.45 m-wide doorway from Space 3.3.7 (Figure 10). Another possible opening (c. 0.7 m wide) existed to the west. On the stamped earth floor of the room were found a stone bowl, a Canaanite-jar type (found in fragments on fallen stones and thus perhaps initially on the roof?), a fine stone slab ('plaque'), three tuyères, a handle with an incised Cypro-Minoan sign and fragments of a Mycenaean Pictorial conical rhyton featuring two male figures facing each other, perhaps an Argolid import[23]. Interestingly and somewhat surprisingly, most rhyton fragments were discovered below the layer of tumble lying across the doorway connecting Spaces 3.3.4 and 3.3.7. Could this have been a blocking? The space was further provided with a c. 1.80 m deep rock-

[22] Similar features were described as "cisterns" in Sector 2, for instance in Complex A, Room 7 (Dikaios, 1971a, 903; Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, 7).

[23] A similar rhyton with spearmen comes from Ugarit (Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, V.36).

cut shaft (C19), which, on excavation, was found to have been filled in deliberately with large stones. In the compact clayey sediment beneath these stones were found a White Shaved Ware spindle bottle, two more tuyères and the nozzle of a stone pot-bellows[24]. The presence of objects related to metal-working activities in Space 3.4 may point to the existence of one or several metal-working workshops in its immediate vicinity. The discovery of ash deposits on the floor of adjacent Space 3.3.8.1, together with tuyères and crucible/furnace fragments (in Space 3.3.8.2), suggests that a workshop existed here (see below).




Figure 10: Space 3.3.4: excavation in progress. 1: stone slab; 2: stone bowl; 3: tuyère; 4: Canaanite-type jar; 5: base of Mycenaean conical rhyton. Note the stone fill in pit C19. Photo: S. Jusseret.

Space 3.3.7, south of Space 3.3.4, was only partly excavated. It is bordered by walls C10 (north) and C9 (east) but its west and south limits are not clear yet. There may have been a doorway to Spaces 3.3.8.1-2 to the east but this needs further exploration. The floor of 3.3.7 consists of a layer of gravel levelling out bedrock irregularities and the floor deposit comprises a small pithos (its handles decorated with relief horns of consecration), the neck of another large pithos, a tuyère, a fragmentary stone trough and several lithic tools (figure 11). A flattish stone close to the small pithos with horns of consecration may be a pot stand (C29). Towards the centre of the space was a circular stone with a circular cavity (C11).

[24] We thank V. Kassianidou (University of Cyprus) for giving expert advice on the interpretation of this object.

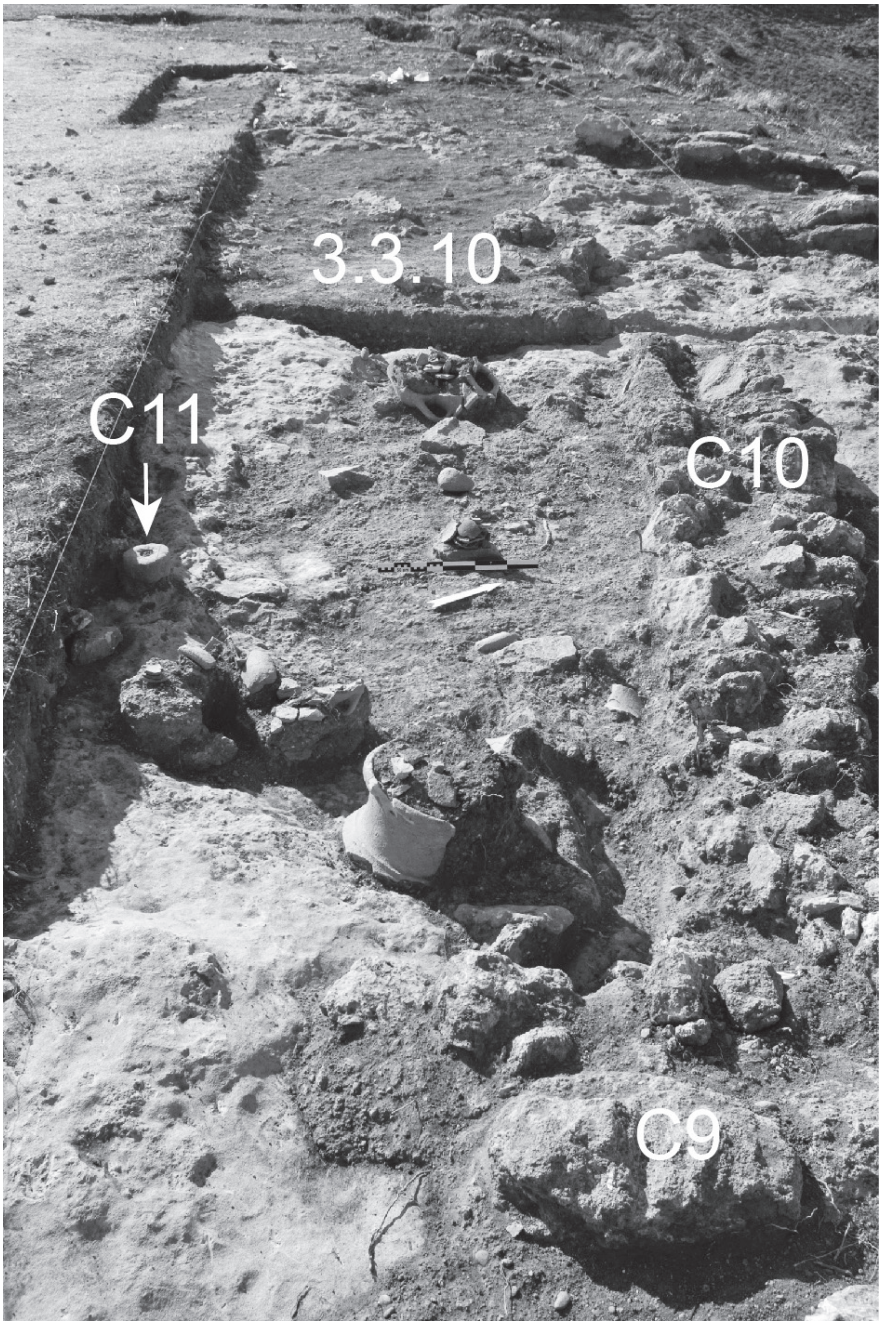


Figure 11: Space 3.3.7: floor deposit. Photo: S. Jusseret.

Identified as a single architectural unit in 2015, Space 3.3.8 was divided into three distinct compartments (1-3) after the discovery of small partition walls C33-34 in the course of the 2016 campaign. Spaces 3.3.8.1 and 3.3.8.3 form two narrow

rooms (3.3.8.1: 1.0 to 1.3 m wide; 3.3.8.3: 1.4 to 1.7 m wide) oriented northeast-southwest, presumably originally bordered to the north by the casemate wall line of which no trace survives. Space 3.3.8.2, located to the south of the two previous ones, was directly connected to both spaces. A 0.8 m-wide doorway gave access to it from Space 3.3.8.3. Space 3.3.8.1 yielded a series of finds related to metal-working activities which were found scattered on the surface of an ashy level. They include slag, possible crucible (and/or furnace?) fragments, tuyère fragments, bronze scraps and a very dense volcanic (?) stone possibly used as a tool (anvil?). The layer of ash, which in places was several cm thick, was found resting directly on the bedrock. A shallow rock-cut channel (C35), c. 10 cm wide and only 2-3 cm deep, could be traced from the southern part of Space 3.3.8.1. to Space 3.3.8.2, where a nest of tuyères and furnace fragments was brought to light (see below). The function of this channel remains unclear. The next space, 3.3.8.2, which measured approximately 2.8 by 3.5 m has as its southern limit a rock-cut ledge (C30). On the bedrock floor were found several L-shaped tuyères, slag and furnace fragments, all near the south end of the shallow rock-cut channel (C35) leading to Space 3.3.8.1 (figure 12). This group of objects may represent the remains of a metal-working furnace.

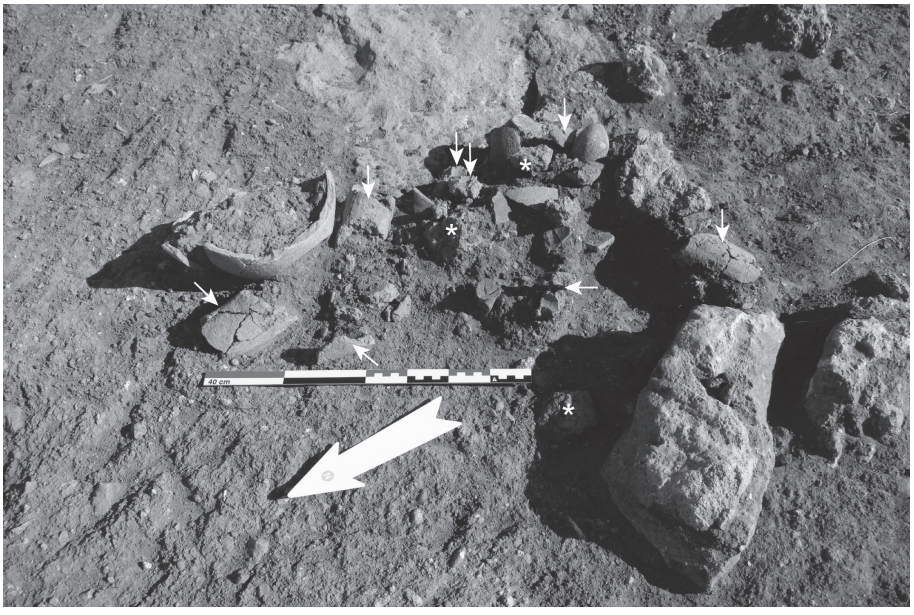


Figure 12: Space 3.3.8.2: cluster of fragments of tuyères (arrows) and furnace (asterisks). Photo: S. Jusseret.

Space 3.3.8.3 was largely empty besides a copper (or bronze) needle and an irregular pit filled with gravelly sediment (C36). The neck of a handleless Canaanite-type jar remained visible at the surface. Much to our surprise, excavation of the gravelly sediment around the base of this jar revealed an intact alabaster flask (PK16 431), lying on its side (figure 13). Evidently, the flask, an Egyptian product, had been carefully hidden behind the Canaanite-type jar. Careful cleaning of the flask at the Larnaka Museum by our conservator, C. Hadjivasili, revealed

traces of black paint forming a garland of lotus flowers (figure 14). Another surprise came when the sediment fill of the flask was extracted and revealed an exceptional collection of objects including a fine cylinder seal of Cypriot manufacture, three beads made of semi-precious stone material (brecciated red jasper, turquoise and/or picrolite?), a bronze knife, a bronze tool with anthropomorphic handle, an unidentified bronze object, three bronze rings, two chunks of glass[25], a spindle whorl decorated with circular motifs, and a possible cylindrical container made of ivory or bone (figure 14). At this stage, we are unsure about the significance of this exceptional find and hope that its detailed analysis (to be presented elsewhere) will help us understand its nature – hoard, foundation deposit? – and value for understanding the abandonment process of the site.

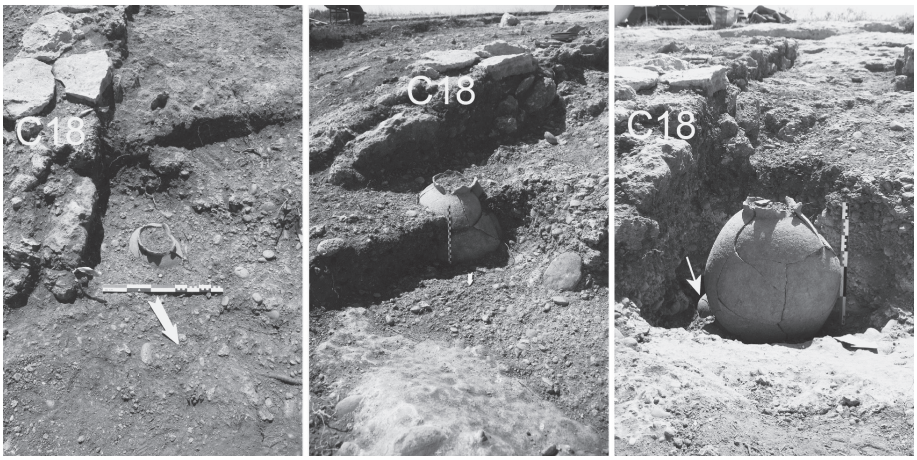


Figure 13: Space 3.3.8.3: Excavation of Canaanite-jar type found buried in pit C36. The arrow indicates the position of the alabaster flask. Photos: S. Jusseret.

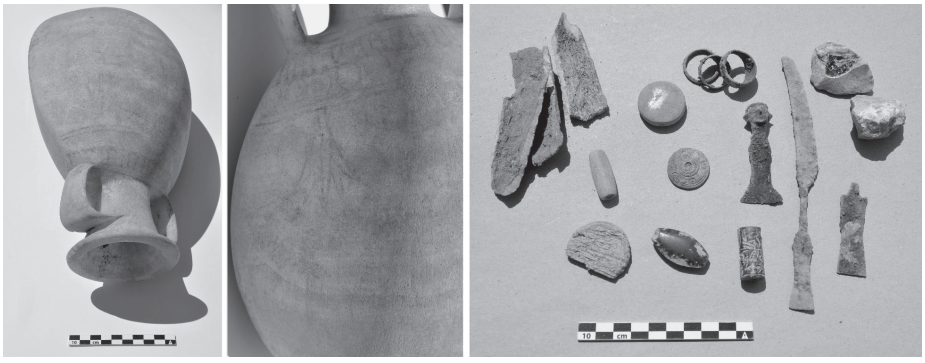

Figure 14: Space 3.3.8.3: Egyptian alabaster flask (PK16 431) and associated objects. Photos: J. Bretschneider.

[25] Thanks to P. Cosyns (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) for advice on this.

Southeast of these rooms is Space 3.3.11, bordered by walls C37 and C18. It has a rock-cut ledge as some kind of stepped access. Its exploration is unfinished. The room southeast of it (3.3.12), bordered by walls C38 (east) and C37 (west), also has a rock-cut ledge access. In it were found pithoi of various sizes, a jug, and two Plain Ware juglets. Many of these objects were found resting on the flat but sloping bedrock surface making up the southern half of the space (figure 15). A 0.40 m-deep pit (C55) excavated in the centre of the room contained large pithos sherds lying vertically against its western edge.




Figure 15: Space 3.3.12: floor deposit, with outline of pit C55. Photo: S. Jusseret.

**Trench 3.4**

Located at the highest point of the *Kokkinokremos* plateau (83.7 m msl) (figure 1), Trench 3.4 was excavated in 2015 as a 5 by 5 m test. Following the discovery of several wall lines (D1-D4), this initial test was extended towards the north and west in 2016, eventually becoming a 10 by 10 m area. A narrow extension (2 by 20 m, here called "North Extension") was eventually added to the north of Trench 3.4 at the end of the 2016 season in an effort to clarify the relationship between architectural structures found in the centre and along the edges of the plateau. It failed, however, to provide any form of architectural evidence. Fragments of ceramic vessels and a bronze boat-shaped earring were discovered close to the edge of the plateau and should in all probability be associated with the settlement's casemate architecture. In total, within the 140 m² of Trench 3.4 explored during the 2016 campaign, 10 spaces (3.4.1 to 3.4.10) were brought to light (figure 16). The excavations yielded substantial architectural remains in the eastern half of trench 3.4, with walls preserving one or two courses while the wall lines in the western half of the trench were often poorly preserved or even missing. This has complicated a proper reading of the plan.

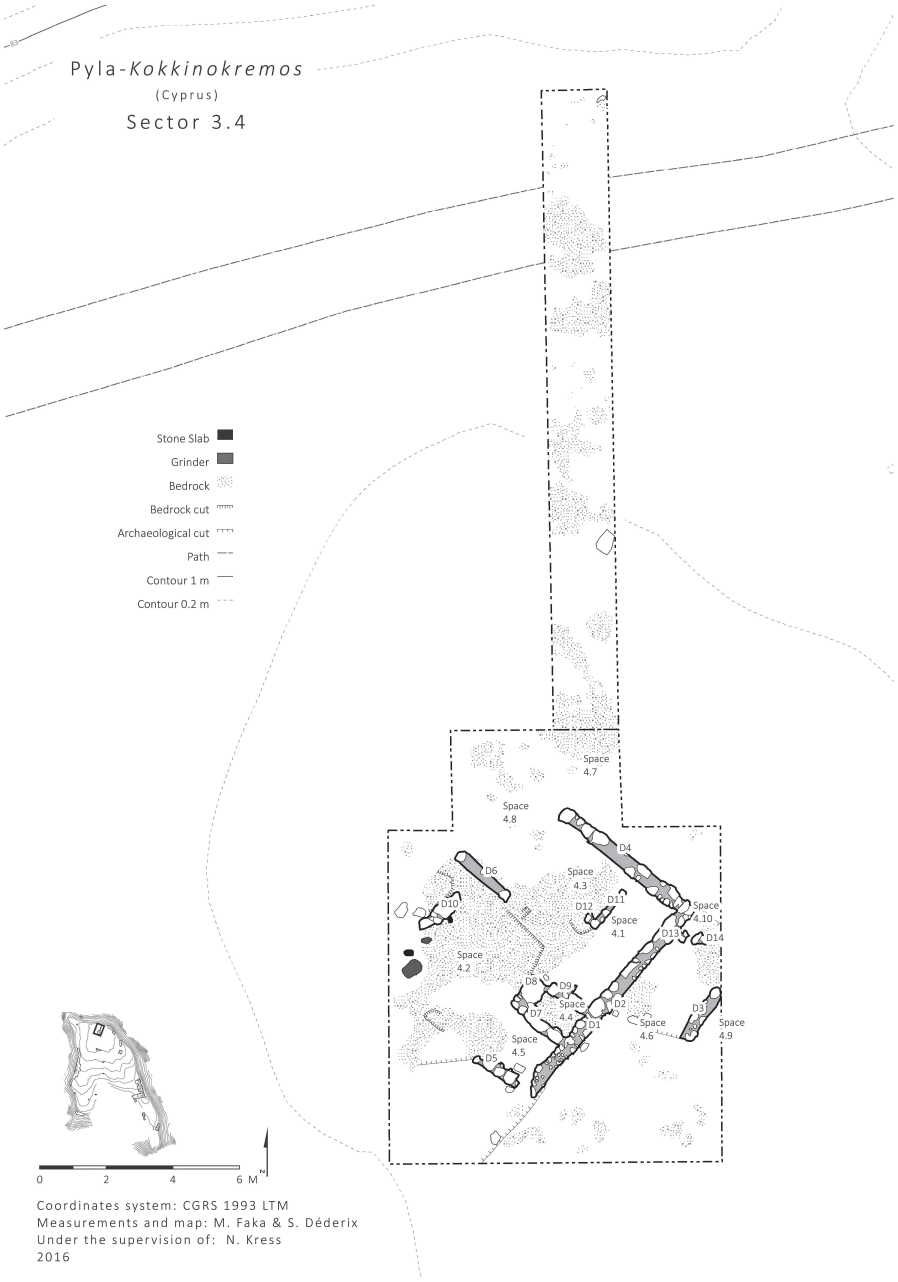


Figure 16: Sector 3, Trench 3.4: 2016 plan (N. Kress).

Space 3.4.1 may have been a corridor; it had a basalt plate in its southwest corner[26] (figure 17) as well as fragments of a two-handled basin and a tray of which fragments were also found in Space 3.4.2 and 3.4.4.

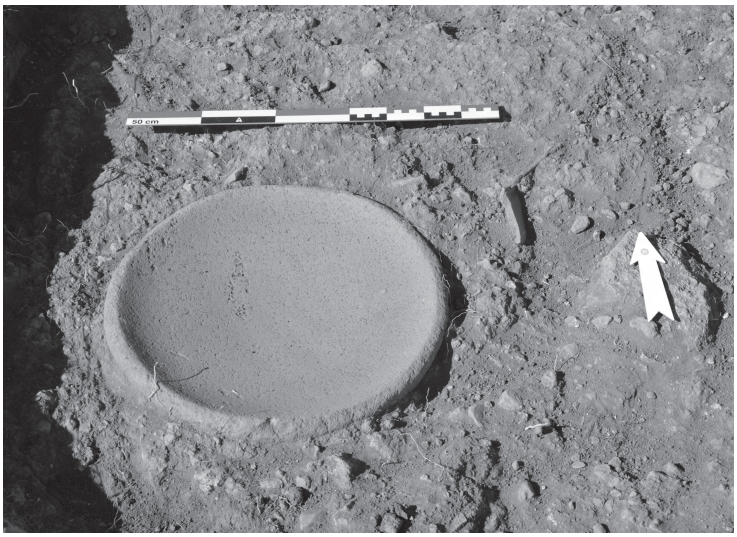

Figure 17: Space 3.4.1.1: stone dish found *in situ*. Photo: T. Claeys.

To the west is Space 3.4.3, which was badly eroded whereas to the southwest is Space 3.4.4, the bedrock floor of which is c. 30 cm lower than the level of the floor in adjacent Space 3.4.1. Here were found fragments of a vase and a sherd of the above-mentioned tray. Space 3.4.5, located immediately to the southwest of Space 3.4.4, has a low bench D52 (figure 18). Space 3.4.5 may have been open towards an assumed inner courtyard in Space 3.4.2 further west. Patches of whitish-grey sediment may point to the existence of a light roof structure in this part of the building. The discovery of a collection of lithic tools here may suggest a use for domestic activities[27]. Space 3.4.2 is bordered, on its north and east sides, by an L-shaped rock-cut ledge (D50) with a rectangular cutting (D51), perhaps originally holding a wooden post supporting a light roof. The area produced a considerable number of fragmentary vases including Canaanite-type jars, pithoi, kraters, jugs, spindle bottles, cooking pots and an almost complete deep bowl decorated with red bands. Some of the larger fragments were associated with stones that may be pot stands.

[26] A parallel can be drawn with a similar, yet smaller, dish made of serpentine (?) from Enkomi (tomb 16), now kept at the British Museum (inventory number: BM 1897.04-01.1560). A basalt tray, again from Enkomi and dated by Dikaios to Mycenaean IIIB (Dikaios, 1971b, 739, inv. 1294 and Dikaios, 1969, pl. 173/23, inv. 1294), provides another parallel. According to Dikaios (1971b, 739), this implement could have been used for grinding. At *Kokkinokremos*, a basalt dish identified as a mortar was also uncovered in complex A (room 2) (Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, 9, pl. XXIX & XLVII, nos. 1952/32).

[27] Parallels may be drawn with the projecting roofs reconstructed for Complexes G (room 30, Kanta, 2014a, 35) and I (room 45, Kanta, 2014a, 86).

There were also several lithic tools and two grinding stones (figure 18). In all, this assemblage suggests specialised and domestic activities traditionally associated with courtyards at *Kokkinokremos*.

Excavation 3.4.6 along wall D1 yielded a fragmentary Pastoral Style amphoroid krater depicting bulls and hybrid animals (figure 19) and a bowl in monochrome ware with wishbone handle, while Space 3.4.9 produced several fragmentary vessels including fragments of an alabaster vase. The exploration of Space 3.4.8 is unfinished.

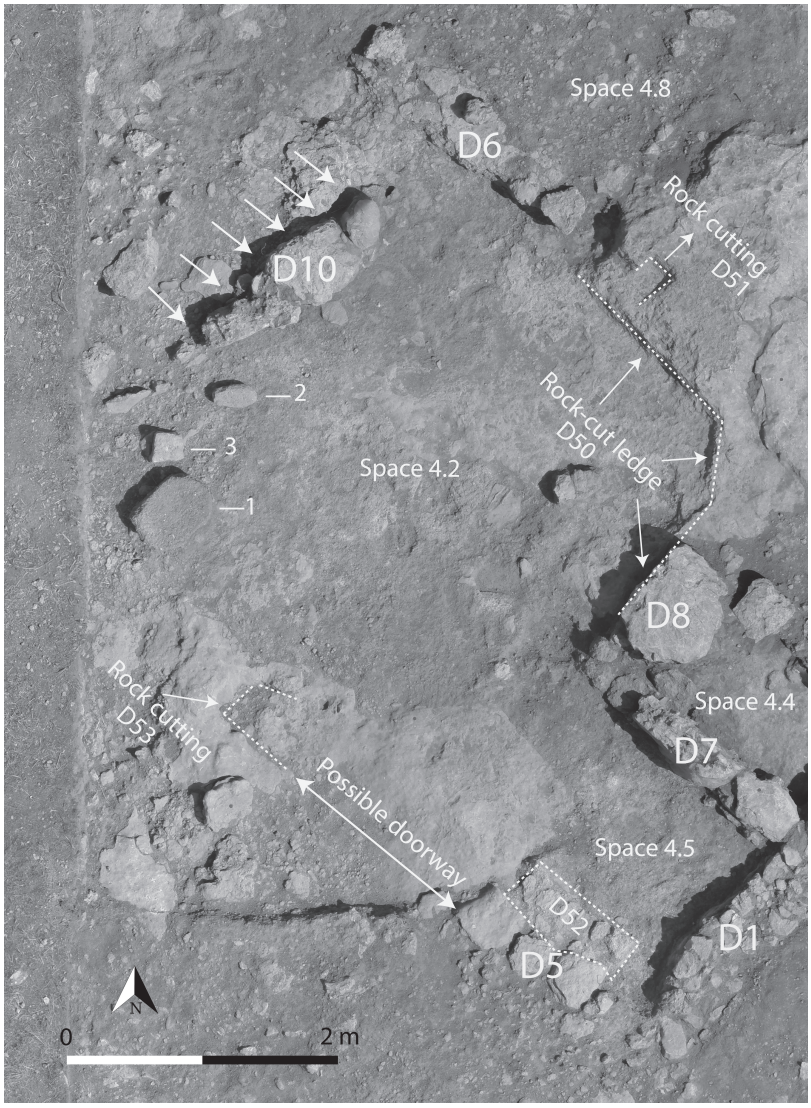


Figure 18: Spaces 3.4.2: probable courtyard (1-2: grinding stones; 3: possible pot stand). Arrows north of D10 indicate the wall's inferred displacement by agricultural activities. Aerial photo: N. Kress.

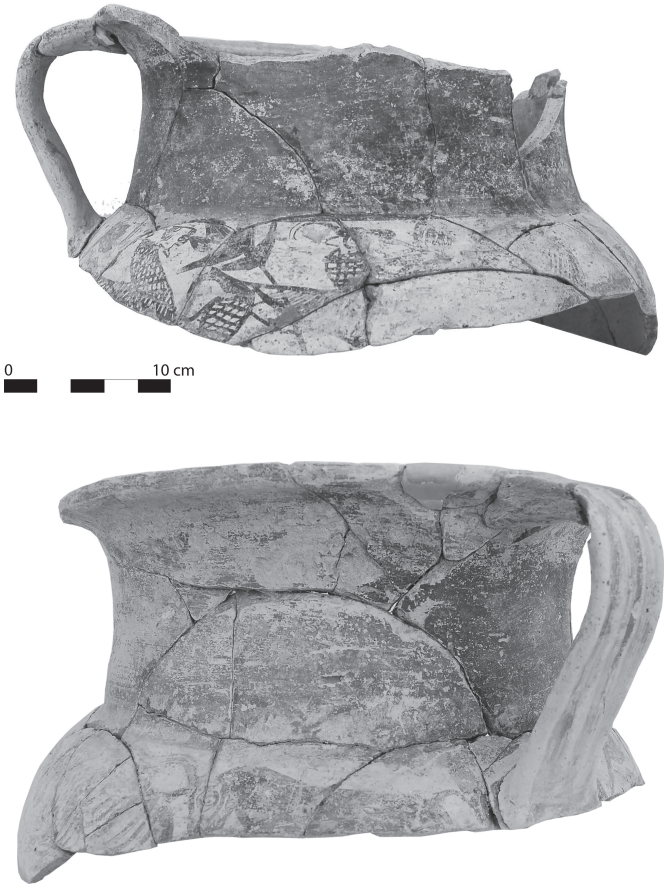


Figure 19: Sector 3, Trench 3.4, Space 3.4.6: part of a Pastoral Style amphoroid krater. Photos: I. Caloi.

Two more areas were explored. Trench 3.5 is a 5 by 5 m test opened in 2015, located c. 50 m to the southeast of Trench 3.1 and c. 80 m to the southwest of Trench 3.2 (figure 1). It failed to reveal substantial archaeological remains apart from a few sherds, two (possible) stone tools and a bronze coin. Finally, Trench 3.6, located against the northern slope of the *Kokkinokremos* plateau (figure 1), was opened in 2016 in an attempt to better understand a wall line (F1) identified during our 2014-2015 topographical surveys. Surface cleaning allowed this potential wall to be traced for a distance of c. 60 m between the 77 m and 79 m contour lines (figure 20) and a test, Trench 3.6, measuring 5 by 10 m, was opened against a better preserved portion of this wall line. Surface cleaning and limited excavation showed that wall F1 had been constructed on low, rocky ledges that are characteristic of the local geology. Made of haphazardly laid field zones with no clear facing, F1 probably acted as some kind of retaining wall for agricultural activities or perhaps for a path. The date of this feature remains presently unclear since little pottery was found associated with it.



Figure 20: Trench 3.6 with wall F1 from the northwest. Photo: S. Jusseret.

**Sector 4 – The West and South-West Part of the Hill (Athanasia Kanta)**

Excavation by the Mediterranean Archaeological Society in Sector 4 concentrated on three different areas (figure 1)[28]. Most attention went to the further exploration of the area north of the gate identified during the 2012 campaign. Here, all in all, almost 30 different spaces were examined till erosion prevented further exploration to the north (figure 21). South of the gate (figure 21), nine different spaces were excavated whereas a new area, 4.2, was opened about 40 m south (figure 50). Here too, 11 spaces were explored. Although the area, especially to the east, has suffered major damage from ploughing, which in many places has reached the bedrock, numerous spaces were found with their contents *in situ*. Best preserved are those rooms which have a pronounced semi-subterranean character, with walls constructed on rock-cut ledges following the *hyposkafon* technique which is common at the site. It seems that the sector close to the gate housed primarily industrial and workshop installations, hence showing some specialisation in the use of the various areas of *Kokkinokremos* as already suggested by results from earlier explorations and Sector 3.

[28] Participated in the excavations of Sector 4: archaeologist Maria Kokosali, foreman Manolis Vrachnakis, technician Manolis Psilakis.

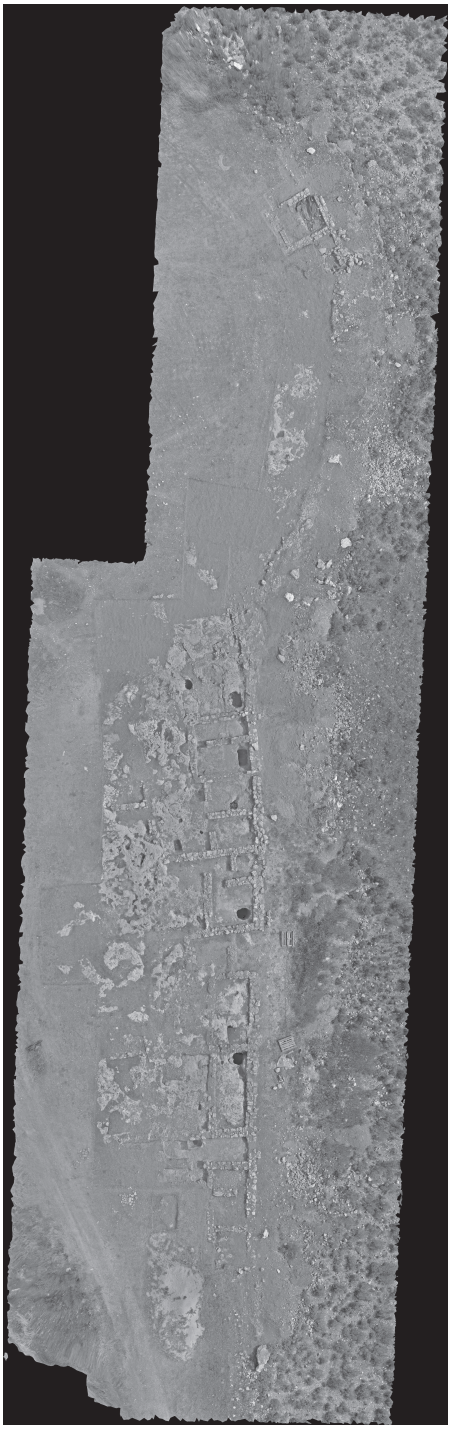

Figure 21: Sectors 4.1 and 4.1.1 during the 2015 campaign (north at bottom).
Aerial photo: N. Kress.

## Sector 4.1 – Area north of the gate (figure 22-24)




Figure 22: Sector 4.1: Some of the spaces north of the gate (north at right). Plan: C. Vassilopoulou.

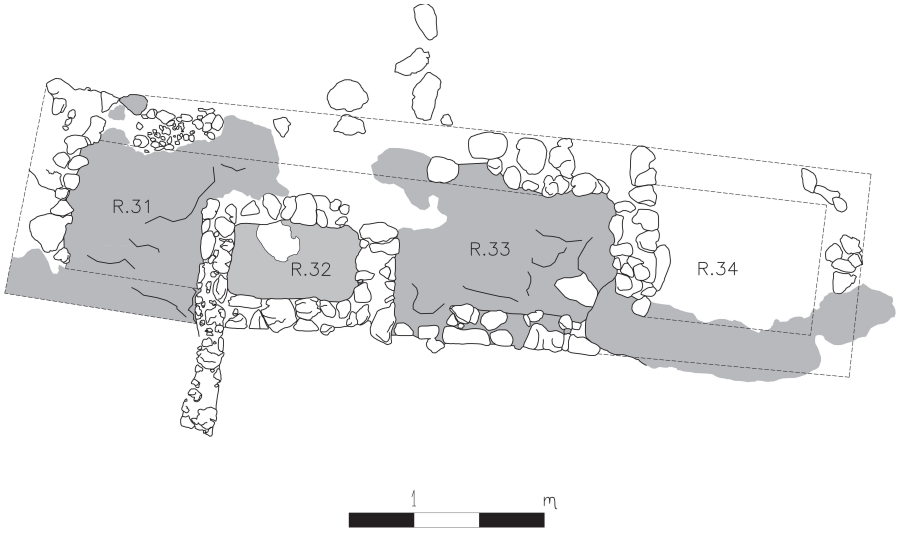


Figure 23: Sector 4.1: Some of the spaces north of the gate (north at right). Plan: C. Vassilopoulou.

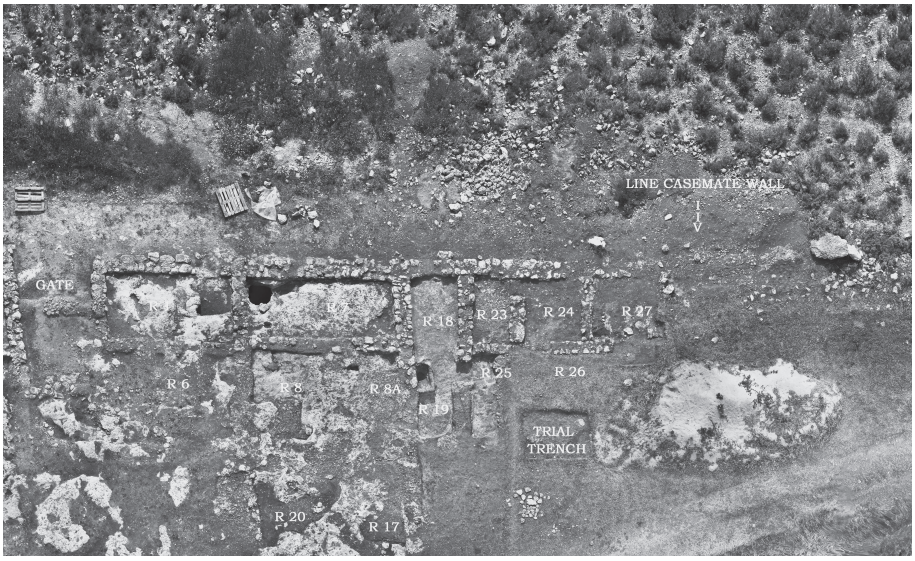


Figure 24: Sector 4.1, Area north of the gate (north at right). Aerial photo: N. Kress.

During previous campaigns, 14 spaces and a trial trench had been explored but work was incomplete in R. 8 (east of R. 7). Excavation showed that it consisted of two separate spaces, R. 8 and R. 8A, the last badly damaged by cultivation. None of the surrounding walls are in very good condition, but the stone ledges on which the walls were erected remain visible. R. 8 yielded a few fragmentary vases and other objects, whereas R. 8A preserved a broken vase upside down and beneath it, a large stone cylinder seal, similar to examples found at Ugarit. It shows the most important gods of the Ugaritic pantheon and will be presented elsewhere. East of here are two more spaces, R. 20 and R. 17, but both were very damaged by cultivation and their general limits are not clearly defined. In contrast, the room to the north of R. 8, R. 18-19, is well preserved because of its subterranean nature. Its west part (against the casemate wall) and its east part are separated by an oblong vat, which sits opposite a door leading north (figures 25-26). The vat's walls are made of clay and part of it is cut into the bedrock. Among the objects retrieved from these spaces are various vases, a sling stone as well as a large, flat, rectangular but broken stone seal belonging to a type well known from Enkomi[29]. The seal is obviously unfinished which suggests that it was made *in situ*. It shows an incised oxhide ingot and a human figure. This seal clearly indicates the close relations between Pyla and Enkomi, also shown by the similarity of the clay Cypro-Minoan tablets discovered at Pyla in 2012[30].

[29] Published in Courtois/Lagarce, 1986, pl. XXII 24-32.
[30] Kanta, 2014b, 110-111.




Figure 25: Sector 4.1. Room 18, level 2 from east. Vases *in situ*. Photo: A. Kanta.




Figure 26: Sector 4.1: Vat between R. 18 and R. 19 from north. Note the Canaanite-type jar. Photo: A. Kanta.

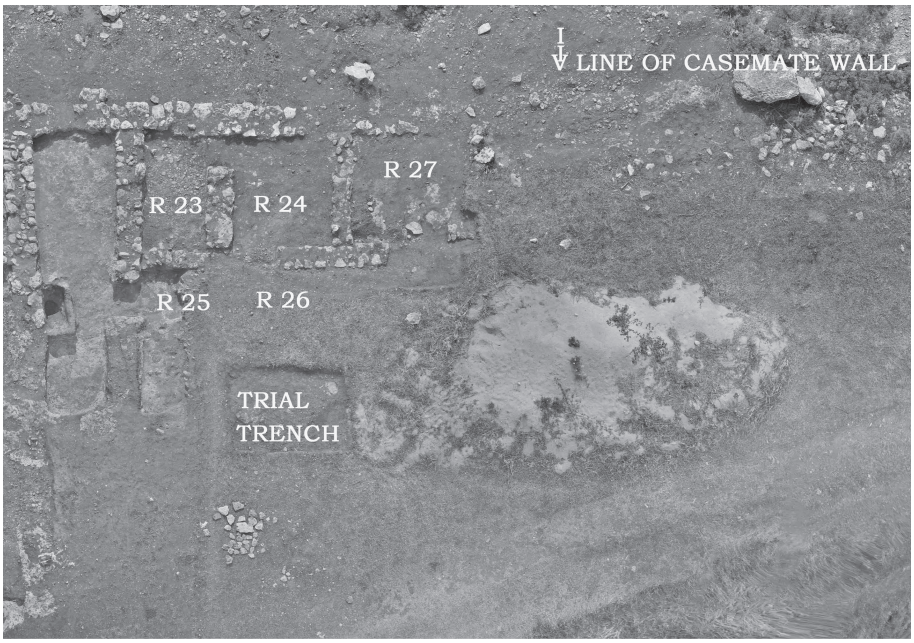


Figure 27: Sector 4.1, R. 23-27 and the line of the casemate wall (north at right). Aerial photo: N. Kress.

North of R. 18-19 are R. 23 and 24, which are communicating casemate rooms (figure 27). The floor of R. 23 consisted of small pebbles and excavation did not proceed below it. The finds of this room included pottery and a single clay loom weight. R. 24 has not yet been fully excavated but it is clear that it communicates with another space to the east (R. 26). Neither this, nor the next one, R. 25, have been completely excavated and only a stone bead was found in this space so far. Up to R. 24, the casemate wall was clearly visible. Beyond it to the north, however, its line disappeared. It seems to have been destroyed by an earlier trench, the soil of which was still lying next to it on a heap. This heap produced quite a few sherds and, beneath it, the line of the casemate wall, although greatly damaged, could be identified. The excavation of a space here, R. 27, has not been completed yet.

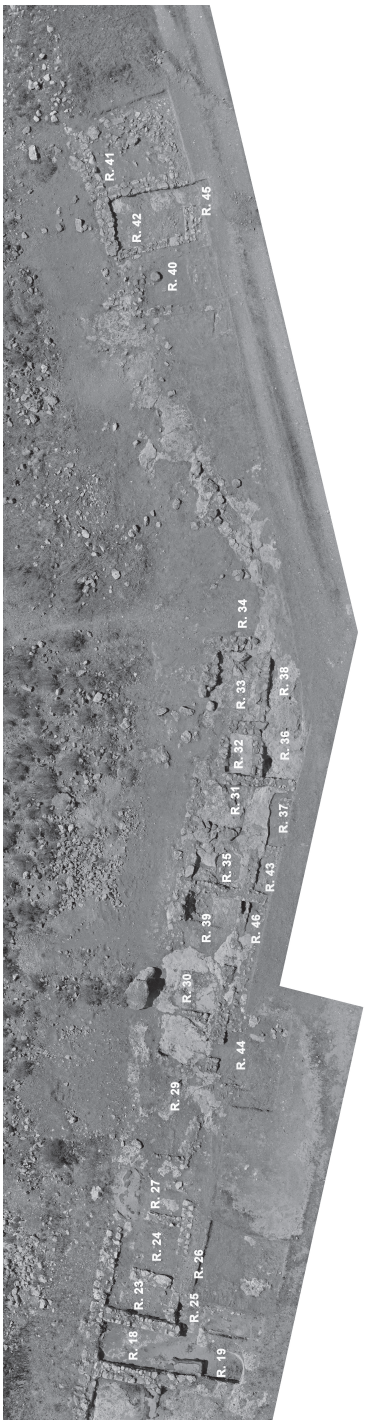


Figure 28: Sector 4.1: spaces north of gate cleared in 2016 (north at bottom).
Aerial photo: N. Kress.

In 2016, excavation proceeded beyond and north of R. 24, 26 and 27 (figure 28). The first room cleared, R. 29, was covered by a soil dump from a previous unknown "excavation" test. The room, however, probably formed part of the casemate structure. The architectural remains were in bad condition and loose fragments of plaster were noted. They probably derived from its plaster floor which was found partly *in situ* (figure 29).




Figure 29: Sector 4.1, R. 29 from south, plaster *in situ* (north at top). Photo: A. Kanta.

Originally polished, with a cement-like appearance, such floors have already been found at *Kokkinokremos* during the 2010-2011 excavations and in Sector 5 (see below). They also exist at Maa-*Palaeokastro* and Enkomi as well as in Mainland Greece. Some of the plastered spaces produced querns and stone vessels, which suggests a domestic industrial function.

R. 29 had two doors (figure 30). An entrance in the northeast corner communicates with R. 44. This entrance and the area to the east (R. 44) were found full of sherds (figure 31), many belonging to a local plain amphoroid krater imitating bronze prototypes (excavation number V. 07) (figure 32). A second entrance is located next to the first one and to the south of it. The east wall of the room is not very well preserved but the presence of an entrance is clear because of the sherds fallen into the opening. The presence of two adjoining entrances in the same space seems rather an Aegean feature, where it occurs in elite architecture. R. 29, however, was found largely empty, apart from two pyramidal clay loom weights (PK16 517 and SF 04) (figure 33), a piece of slag and a fragmentary stone bath tub. Room 44 itself yielded a stone tripod mortar and two stone tools.

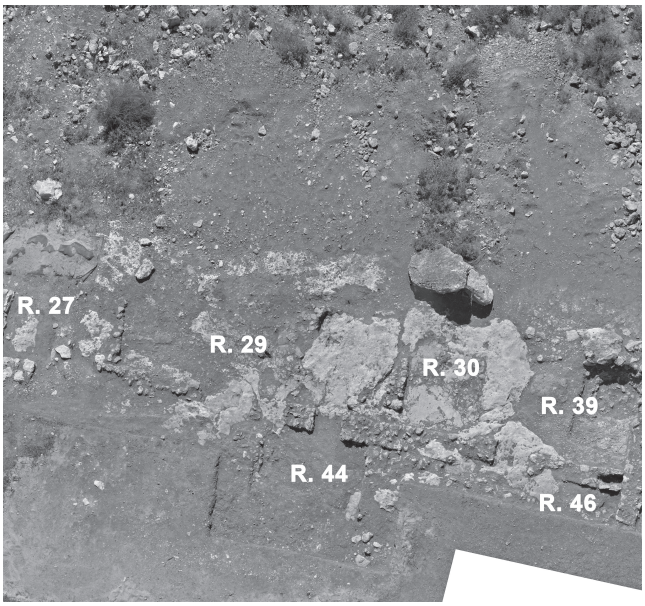


Figure 30: Sector 4.1, R. 27, R. 29, R. 44 and R. 30 (north at right).
Aerial photo: N. Kress.

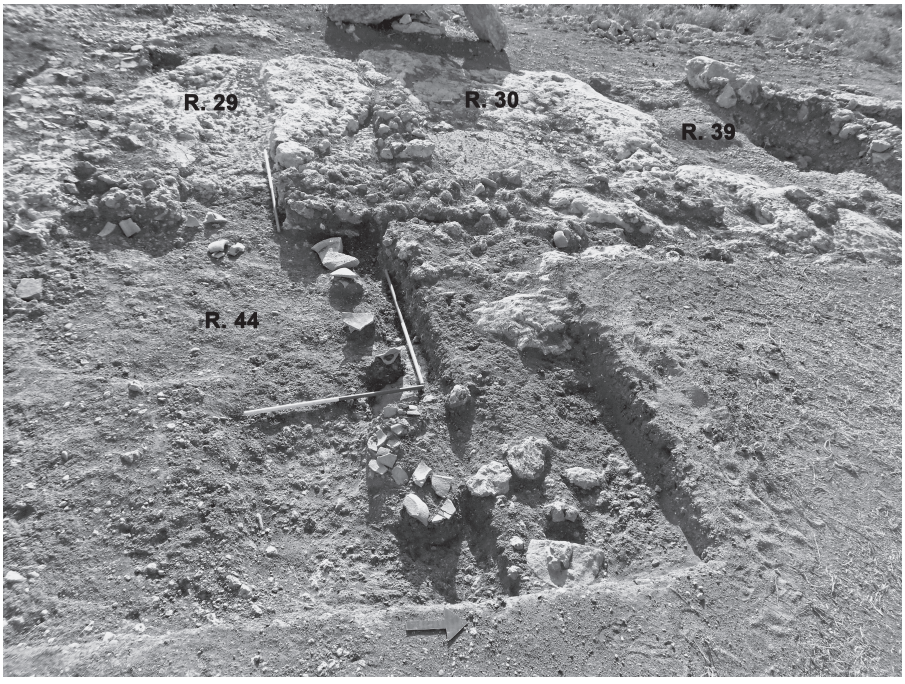


Figure 31: Sector 4.1, R. 44 and R. 29. Sherds of the local amphoroid krater (see below: figure 32) are visible in R. 44 and in the doorway between R. 44 and R. 29. Photo: A. Kanta.



Figure 32: Local amphoroid krater imitating bronze prototypes (excavation number V. 07) from Sector 4.1, R. 29. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.



Figure 33: Sector 4.1, R. 29: clay loom weight (PK 2016 517). Photo: J. Bretschneider.

Excavation along the edge of the plateau uncovered R. 30 which also has a plaster floor similar to that of R. 29, and another room with a comparable floor further to the north, R. 32. Within R. 30 was found a large quern, upside down. The next room to the north, R. 39, has not yet been completely excavated (figure 34). Its party wall with R. 30 has been destroyed but the rock ledge on which it stood has been cleared. Its west (casemate) wall is well preserved in its northern half but the southern half has mostly been destroyed. The partition wall with R. 35 is well preserved and so is the partition wall to R. 46 which includes a well-defined entrance to the room. We have started but not finished the excavation of a pit in the west part of R. 39 near the casemate wall. Lumps of greenish soil in the middle of the room may represent dissolved mud bricks or roofing matter. Two querns were found in the room. The larger was found upside down. East of R. 39, the excavation of R. 46 has started. Close to its west wall a fragmentary alabaster vase was found but exploration will continue in 2017.

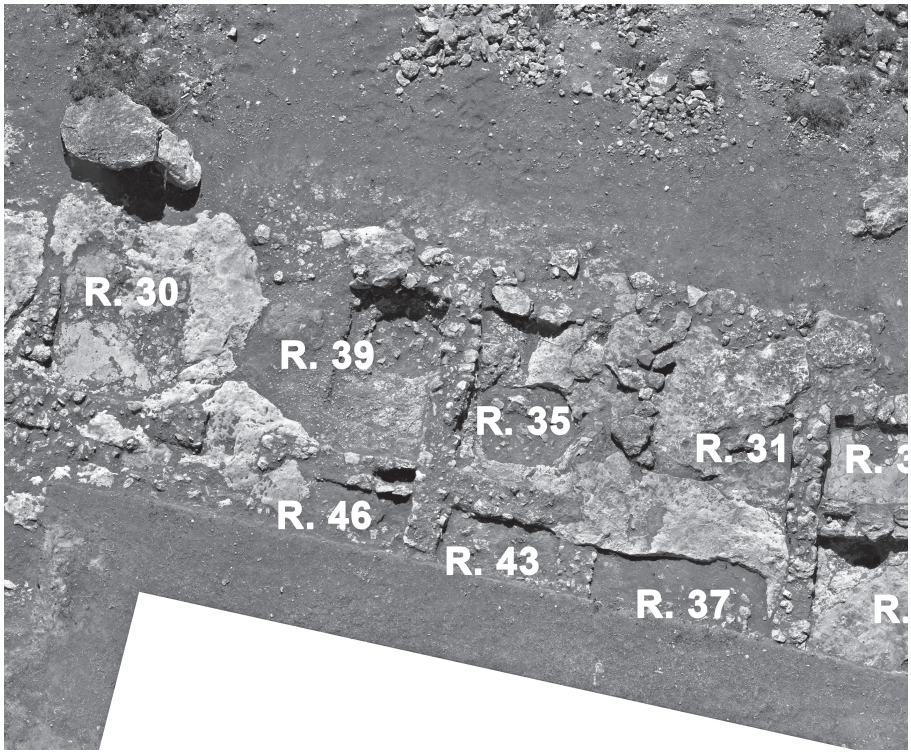


Figure 34: Sector 4.1, R. 39 and surroundings (north at right). Aerial photo: N. Kress.

North of R. 39 is R. 35 (figure 34), a rather narrow space along the casemate wall. The area has not been fully cleared yet but there seems to be a pit in its east part, cut into the bedrock which forms the floor here. A channel cut in the bedrock leads from the room to the exterior of the casemate wall, which here is quite well preserved. Such channels for the draining of liquids and leading from casemate rooms to the exterior have also been discovered in other areas of the site (cf. Space 3.3.5; figure 9 above). The area needs further exploration and thus far only a bronze tool was found in it. Only a strip of the room east, R. 43, has been cleared. North of R. 35 is R. 31 (figure 34). The exterior casemate wall which forms the west side of this space is quite well preserved as are some parts of its partition wall with R. 35 and with R. 32 to the north. Its east wall, however, is gone but the rock ledge on which it was founded is visible. The floor is formed by bedrock and the floor deposit comprised a spout with sieve belonging to a local vase (excavation number V 01) (figure 35) and sherds of a jug or amphora with an inscribed Cypro-Minoan sign. Again, only a small strip of R. 37 to the east has been excavated.

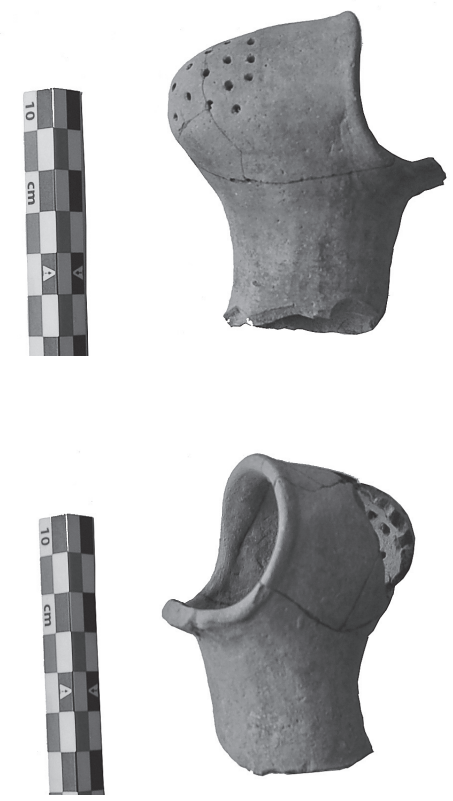


Figure 35: Sector 4.1, R. 31: vase with strained spout (excavation number V 01). Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

The west wall of R. 32, located north of R. 31, is quite well preserved but at the moment it seems that its line sits actually east of the line of the casemate wall. There may be a narrow corridor to the west of this wall, but the area has not been excavated and therefore the line of the casemate wall still needs to be established. Room 32 is a narrow space (1.85 by 1.10 m), cut into the bedrock, with both its walls and floor plastered, like a basin (figure 36). In it were found a Mycenaean vase and sherds. The area east, R. 36, has its partition wall with R. 32 and its partition wall with R. 37 well preserved. Its east wall remains unexplored and to the north only the ledge is preserved. Its bedrock floor was found covered with broken vases, as well as a wall bracket. In its southwest corner, the bedrock has a pit and a number of bronze items were found around the edge of this, while a bronze fragment comes from its earth fill. Among the items recovered are a piece of ore and a bronze sling shot (PK16 487) (figure 37). It should be mentioned that in previous excavation seasons also in areas of uneven bedrock, a lot of very small bronze fragments were found filling various depressions of the bedrock. This fill was intentional in order to level the rooms. The presence of bronze in such fills shows that this metal was plentiful at the site.

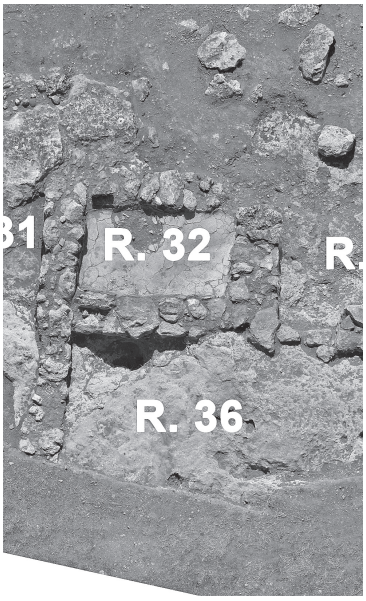


Figure 36: Sector 4.1, R. 32 and 36 (north at right). Aerial Photo: N. Kress.




Figure 37: Sector 4.1, R. 36: bronze sling shot (PK16 487). Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

Excavation more to the north where the next room, R. 33, and the room east of it, R. 38, are located, is unfinished and the line of the casemate has not yet been defined (figure 38). Within R. 33 there were stones from the collapse of the surrounding walls and beneath was found a pithoid vase, while a fragmentary Canaanite jar comes from the northwest corner. The room also contained other objects including a chisel, a discoid loom weight and a spindle whorl, probably steatite, with incised circles (PK16 521 and PK16 525) (figure 39). Room 38, to the east, has only been partly explored but a stamnos came to light in the southwest corner of the room while, in a rock depression to the northwest, was found a fragmentary bronze earring (PK16 486) (figure 40). A probable post hole in the bedrock was identified to the east. The room north, R. 34, is unexcavated.

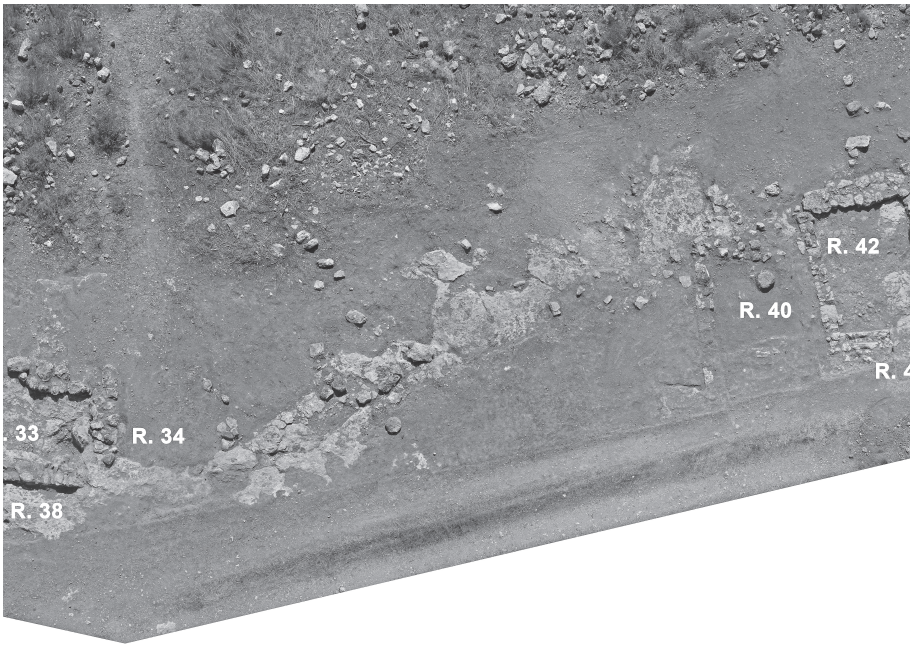


Figure 38: Sector 4.1, R. 33, R. 38, R. 34 and R. 40 (north at right).
Aerial photo: N. Kress.



Figure 39: Sector 4.1, R. 33: bronze chisel and incised spindle whorl (PK16 521 and PK16 525). Photo: C. Hadjivasili.




Figure 40: Sector 4.1, R. 38: bronze earring (PK16 486). Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

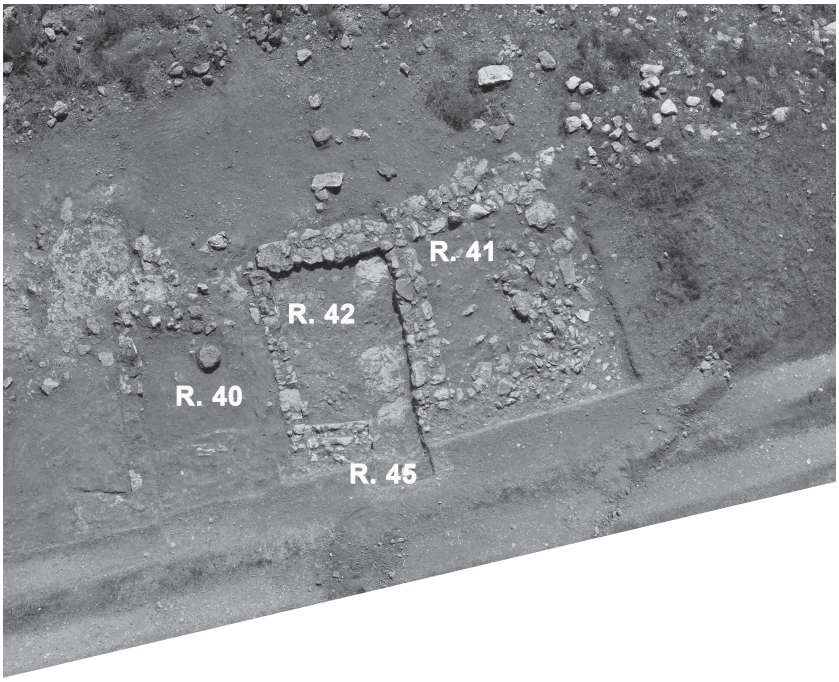


Figure 41: Sector 4.1, R. 40-42, 45 (north at right). Aerial photo: N. Kress.

Between R. 34 and the area explored further to the north are more than 20 m. Here erosion and agricultural works may have removed most ancient remains but further excavation may provide some details. Further north, however, we cleared another series of rooms (R. 40-42, 45) that are faced by a well-preserved stretch of the casemate wall (figures 38 and 41).

The first space explored, R. 40, is only badly defined apart from its partition wall with the room to the north, R. 42, and a bedrock ledge which formed its original south wall. The casemate wall is conjectured since it is well preserved more to the

north. A circular stone base was found more or less in the centre of the room, but as it has earth underneath it is probably not *in situ*. Most work concentrated in the next room north, R. 42. Its walls are well preserved apart from the east wall towards R. 45 where only the bedrock ledge shows (figure 42a-b). An amphora, a pithos and smaller vases were found covering the entire room including the entrance to R. 45 where there was also a stone quern. One of the vases has upward projections instead of handles. Other finds include a stone whorl, a stone tool and a small bronze fragment. The excavation of the next room to the north, R. 41, has only just started but the room seems quite large.



Figure 42a-b: Sector 4.1, R. 42: view from south (top) and from north (bottom). Photo: A. Kanta.

**Sector 4.1 – Area south of the gate (figure 43)**




Figure 43: Sector 4.1, Rooms south of the Gate (north at right). Aerial photo: N. Kress.

South of the gate cleared in 2012, earlier excavations had already concentrated on a series of rooms: R. 2-5 had been excavated in 2012, R. 9-11 in 2014, while R. 12 and 13 which were partly investigated in 2014 were completed in 2015. Moreover, several other rooms forming a line alongside the casemate wall to the south were added (R. 14, 21, 22) but again we lose most evidence to the east (R. 15, 16, 28). R. 12 is a casemate room of which the west, north and south walls are well preserved and enough remains of its south wall to reconstruct its original line. An entrance in the northeast provides access to R. 13 which was mainly excavated in 2014 but its final cleaning produced a spindle bottle. To the east was another room (R. 16) but little is preserved as cultivation has destroyed most of it. The floor of the most western room, R. 12, was found covered with pottery (figure 44). Here too a channel was cut through the south-western casemate wall while a roughly circular pit is located close to the north wall. In it was a large pithoid vase of local clay in the form of an amphoroid krater (PK15 392) (figure 45). The shape suggests that it was made for the storage of wine. Among the pottery collected from the room was another decorated Pastoral krater. The most remarkable find, however, is an alabaster rhyton (PK15 212) made of several parts: the rim and neck

are one piece, the body another and the tall perforated base a third. It should be noted that this rhyton had a lid which fits perfectly but was discovered in R. 22, several metres to the south. The shape of this rhyton is unique. The vertical grooves on the body suggest an imitation of the somniferous poppy capsule.



Figure 44: Sector 4.1, R. 12 from north. Vases *in situ*. Photo: A. Kanta.



Figure 45: Sector 4.1, R. 12, pit 1: locally made amphoroid krater (PK15 392). Photo: A. Kanta.

South of R. 12 is a larger space divided by a partition wall into R. 14A and R. 14B (figure 46) which has two openings for communication. The entire space has been dug out of the bedrock (*hyposkafon*) and has a strong semi-subterranean character. R. 14B has a roughly rectangular pit while R. 14A has a slight depression in its western half and a channel leading through the casemate wall comparable to the one existing in R. 12. The walls of R. 14A-14B are not very well preserved but the ledges on which the walls were standing are clear. Both spaces had vases left *in situ* and a vase was actually trapped in the east door (figure 47). Again, the area east of R. 14A-14B (R. 15) is not well preserved because the bedrock rises and all architecture has been destroyed by cultivation.

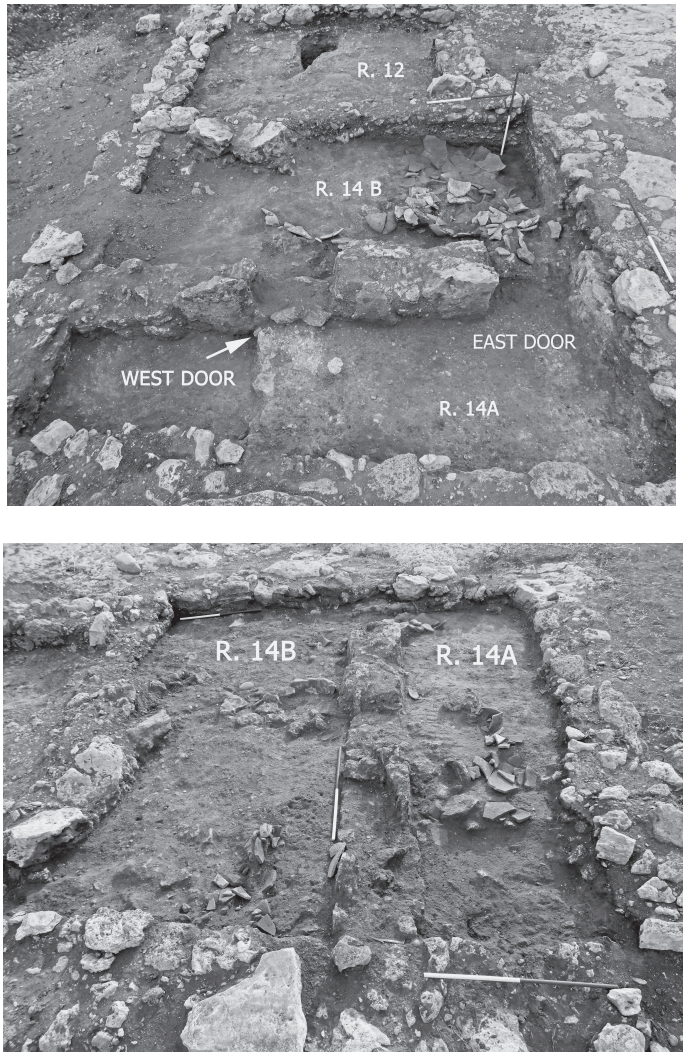


Figure 46a-b: Sector 4.1, R. 14A and 14B, from west (top) and from south (bottom). Vases *in situ*. Photos: A. Kanta.



Figure 47: Sector 4.1, R. 14A and 14B from south. East door with vase trapped in it. Photo: A. Kanta.

The area south of R. 14, R. 22, is less well preserved but the casemate wall continues. In its northwest corner is a rock-cut shaft. Large querns and a Syro-Palestinian tripod mortar (PK15 233) found in this room suggest that food processing or other industrial activities took place here (figure 48a-b). Apart from pottery, the room also yielded a number of other finds including a very well preserved large, flat, rectangular stone seal of the same type as the one from R. 18-19 mentioned above. It was associated with a small quern, a pestle and two Base-Ring juglets. The motif on the seal consists of a double headed eagle with a vase on one side and an animal on the other. R. 28, east of R. 22, is badly preserved but a roughly circular shaft shows the limit of this space and the existence of a party wall with R. 22 to the west. The area needs further investigation. What happens south of R. 22 (R. 21) is not clear for the moment. The casemate wall is badly preserved but may well form a recess here. Here too more excavation is needed but the presence of several vases in this space makes it clear that the settlement continued in all directions.





Figure 48a-b: Sector 4.1, R. 22: Various objects *in situ*, including upside-down Syro-Palestinian tripod mortar (PK15 233). Photos: A. Kanta.

**Sector 4.1.1 (New Casemate Wall Area) Rooms 1 and 2 (figure 49)**

To the south of R. 21, the plateau is greatly denuded and the bedrock surfaces in places. An effort was made to establish the line of the casemate wall by clearing the loose stones that had been pushed to the edge of the plateau by the mechanical cultivator. In this way, we explored the surface over a distance of 43 m till we reached an area with better preservation where the hill curves east. Two rooms were well preserved in this area.

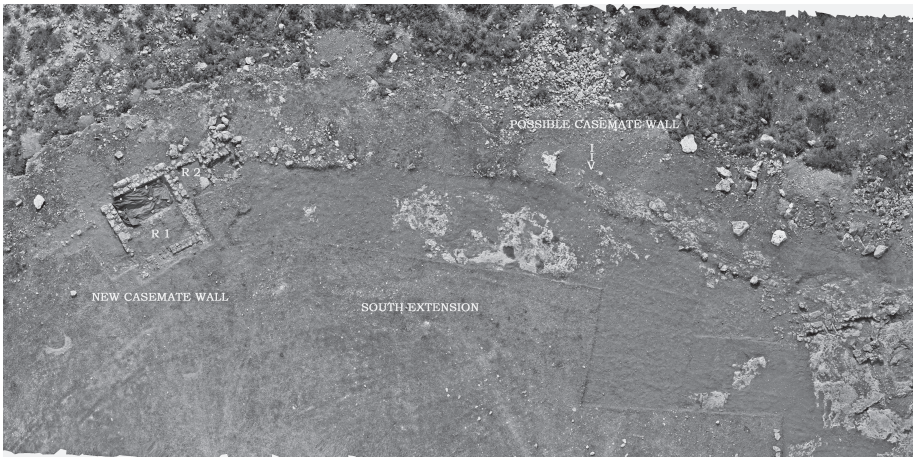


Figure 49: Relation between Sector 4.1.1 (left) and Sector 4.1 (right) with possible line of casemate wall. Aerial photo: N. Kress.

R. 1 was almost completely cleared. Its west wall – the casemate wall – is well preserved and so are its north and east walls. The south wall is less well preserved but it is clearly discernible. Five pithoid vases (excavation numbers V. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6) and one Canaanite jar (excavation number V. 2) were found here. R. 2 is only partly excavated in its western half. The south and west walls are well preserved and the room seems to have a pit or shaft in its northern half. The rest of this area is still unexcavated. During the excavation of R. 1 and 2, a field survey of the area nearby was carried out. It was noticed that in this area were substantial walls and what seems to be a large bastion. The exploration of this area started in 2016.

**Sector 4.2 (figure 50)**

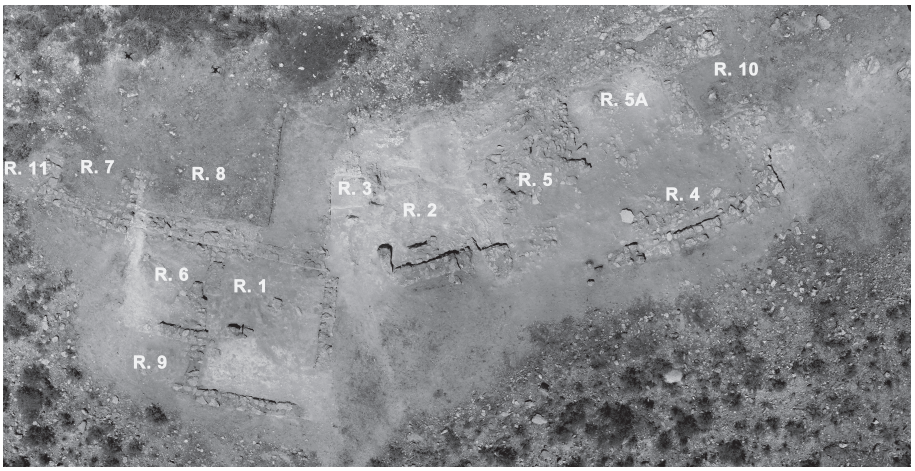


Figure 50: Sector 4.2. General area with rooms investigated (north at top). Aerial photo: N. Kress.

Sector 4.2 was opened in order to investigate the casemate wall which projected well down the slope, forming the usual rooms characteristic of Pyla. Eleven spaces were partly uncovered (R. 1-11). Their excavation brought to light important details about the organization of the site. This is the second area where the casemate wall projects well below the top of the hill. Similar evidence has been uncovered in Sector 5. The spaces investigated contained querns, stone tools and pottery. A storage stirrup jar imported from Crete and an alabaster vase were of particular interest among the finds.

Sector 4.2, R. 1 (figure 51) is situated in the western part of the investigated area. Its large dimensions suggest that it might be a courtyard. The four walls of this space are more or less well preserved. Its excavation will be continued. Pithoid vases, a perforated bronze object and a stone pounder were among the objects recovered.



Figure 51: Sector 4.2, R. 1, from south and west. Vases *in situ*. Photos: A. Kanta.

Somewhat to the northeast of R. 1 lies R. 2. The area needs further investigation since there may be an additional space, R. 3, forming a corridor between R. 2 and R. 1. The south wall of R. 2 has already been cleared and it forms an angle towards the north. The entire southern and western part of this space was covered by large sherds and fallen stones. A very large pithos had fallen from south to north and had trapped and smashed several smaller vases and a quern beneath it (figure 52a-b), as well as an almost complete alabaster vase (PK16 578) (figure 53). An octopus stirrup jar, probably a Cretan import, had fallen from above and its pieces were found strewn over the western side of the room. This western side needs more excavation but it may have a rock-cut shaft in its northern half. The room to the east, R. 10, also needs further excavation but a vase and two stone tools were uncovered very near the surface.





Figure 52a-b: Sector 4.2, R. 2, vases *in situ*. Photos: A. Kanta.



Figure 53: Alabaster vase (PK 16 578). Photo: J. Bretschneider.

To the east of R. 2 are R. 4 and 5 which also need further investigation. The south wall and part of the east wall of R. 4 have been traced already and some vases recovered, including a spindle bottle and a cooking pot. R. 5, to the north of R. 4 and east of R. 2, may in fact consist of two separate spaces (5 and 5A). The latter is partly cut out of the bedrock in the *hyposkafon* technique. On the west side of R. 1, five more spaces were summarily explored (R. 6-9, 11). R. 6 yielded a decorated deep bowl (PK16 606) (figure 54) and a fragmentary bath tub (figure 55). This deep bowl dates to LH IIIC Early, like the deep bowls from the Karageorghis and Demas excavations[31], as studied by the present author[32]. The same is true for an imported Argive deep bowl from the 2010-2011 excavations[33].



Figure 54: Sector 4. 2, R. 6 deep bowl (PK16 606). Photo: J. Bretschneider.

The bath tub had been mended with two plaques of lead in the typical Sardinian way: lead was melted and poured into the break. The metal was flattened on both sides and pared with an instrument to form a plaque on either side of the hole. The use of lead to mend a clay vase means that it was cheaper and more convenient to use this metal, which must have been plentiful, than to acquire a new clay vessel. A similar method of mending was discovered on the site already in 2010 when we came upon a Sardinian transport amphora[34]. Analysis of the clay showed that the pot was of Sardinian origin. Moreover, lead isotope analysis has clearly indicated that the metal used also came from Sardinia. The mended bath tub seems to be a local product, however.

[31] Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, pl. XIX: 1952/22, 1952/23, 91.
[32] Kanta, 2003, 529-531, fig. 11.
[33] Karageorghis/Georgiou, 2014, 141, pl. VI: 60.
[34] Karageorghis, 2011; Gale, 2011.

The fact that lead clamps of the type used on the well-known krater from Pyla[35] were found in Sector 3 (see above), shows that at Pyla there were people who could mend clay vases either the Cretan/Mycenaean way or the Sardinian way. It is interesting that the bath tub of R. 4.2.6, although a Cypriot vessel, is mended in the Sardinian way. This suggests a mixture in the population. If clay analysis verifies the Minoan provenance of the amphoroid krater from Sector 5 (see below), then we will have the paradox that a Minoan vessel is mended the Sardinian and not the Aegean way.

To the northwest and southwest of spaces R. 1 and R. 6, several additional spaces can be made out (R. 7, 8, 9, 11). Although they have not been excavated yet, R. 7-8 and R. 11 share their south wall and there is a north-south party wall between them, the beginning of which has been uncovered. Only shrubs and dry grasses have been removed so far. A pithoid vase was uncovered just outside the west wall of R. 7 and on a line with the continuation of the partition wall between R. 7 and R. 11. It probably belongs to another space as yet unnumbered.



Figure 55: Sector 4.2, R. 6 from northeast. Deep bowl (PK16 606) and fragmentary bath tub as found. Photo: A. Kanta.

[35] Karageorghis/Demas 1984, 50.

## Sector 5 – The Southeast Lobe of the Hill (Greta Jans /Anne-Sophie Van Vyve/ Joachim Bretschneider)

During the 2015 and 2016 campaigns, the UGhent team extended the exploration of Sector 5, located on the southeast lobe of the summit where the plateau is at its narrowest (figure 1)[36]. Guided by architectural remains, the 2014[37] excavation field was extended to the east, south and west which resulted in an excavation of ca. 26 m (north-south) by 16 m (east-west). Six new spaces were uncovered, making a total of 12 spaces, built on three distinct terraces (figure 56a-b).

The main objective in this sector remains to determine whether the assumed casemate wall – found in most other areas of the hill and conceivably enclosing the entire plateau – is also present on this southern outcrop. For the moment, however, the remains of Sector 5 do not comprise a clear north-south external façade suggesting such a casemate structure as in the other sectors and the present north-south limit consists of walls (W001 and W004) that do not adjoin but are at different levels on the slope. Hence, Spaces 5.1, 5.4, 5.9 and 5.10, as well as the onset of a wall southeast of Space 5.11 protrude from this potential north-south line. This may imply that they formed some kind of bastion. The presence, however, of a large pithos further downhill seems to suggest the existence of potential architectural structures to the east of this line but more exploration is needed. The overall planning and outline of the rooms in Sector 5 along the edge of the plateau relate to those found in the other sectors of the excavation[38] as do the corridor-shaped spaces, the plastered floor, the *hyposkafon* technique and the circulation pattern.

[36] Participated in the excavations in Sector 5: Matthias Mallaerts (2015-2016, IT specialist KU Leuven), Wouter Vermeiren (2015, IT specialist), Constantina Alexandrou (2016, archaeologist PhD student Trinity College Dublin), Adeline Hoffelinck (2015-2016, MA student UGhent), Nienke Veraa (2015, MA student KU Leuven), Maarten Praet (2015, MA student UGhent), Ferdinand Hollenhorst (2015, MA student W.W.U.Münster), Glenn De Hooghe (2016, MA student UGhent), Nele Struyf (2016, MA student UGhent) and Anne-Sophie Van den Mooter (2016, MA student UGhent). Our workman in 2015 was Othman Tzihad.

[37] Jans *et alii,* 2015.

[38] Bretschneider *et alii,* 2015; Karageorghis/Kanta, 2014; Karageorghis/Demas, 1984.


Pyla-*Kokkinokremos*
(Cyprus)
Sector 5
Trench
Archaeological cut
Ceramic
Plaster
Stone Slab
Bedrock cut
Pit
Wall Reconstruction
Modern Trench
Bedrock
Contour 1 m
Contour 0.2 m
W021
W060
Space 5.5
W164
W017
W001
Space 5.9
W196
Space 5.1
W153
Space 5.10
W145
W002
Space 5.4
W003
Space 5.2
W024
W004
Space 5.3
W042
W194
Space 5.6
W123
W195
W125
Space 5.7
Space 5.8
W068
W071
Space 5.11
W206
W089
Space 5.12
W139
0 1 2 3 4 M
Coordinates system: CGRS 1993 LTM
Measurements and map: M. Faka & S. Déderix
Under the supervision of: N. Kress
2017

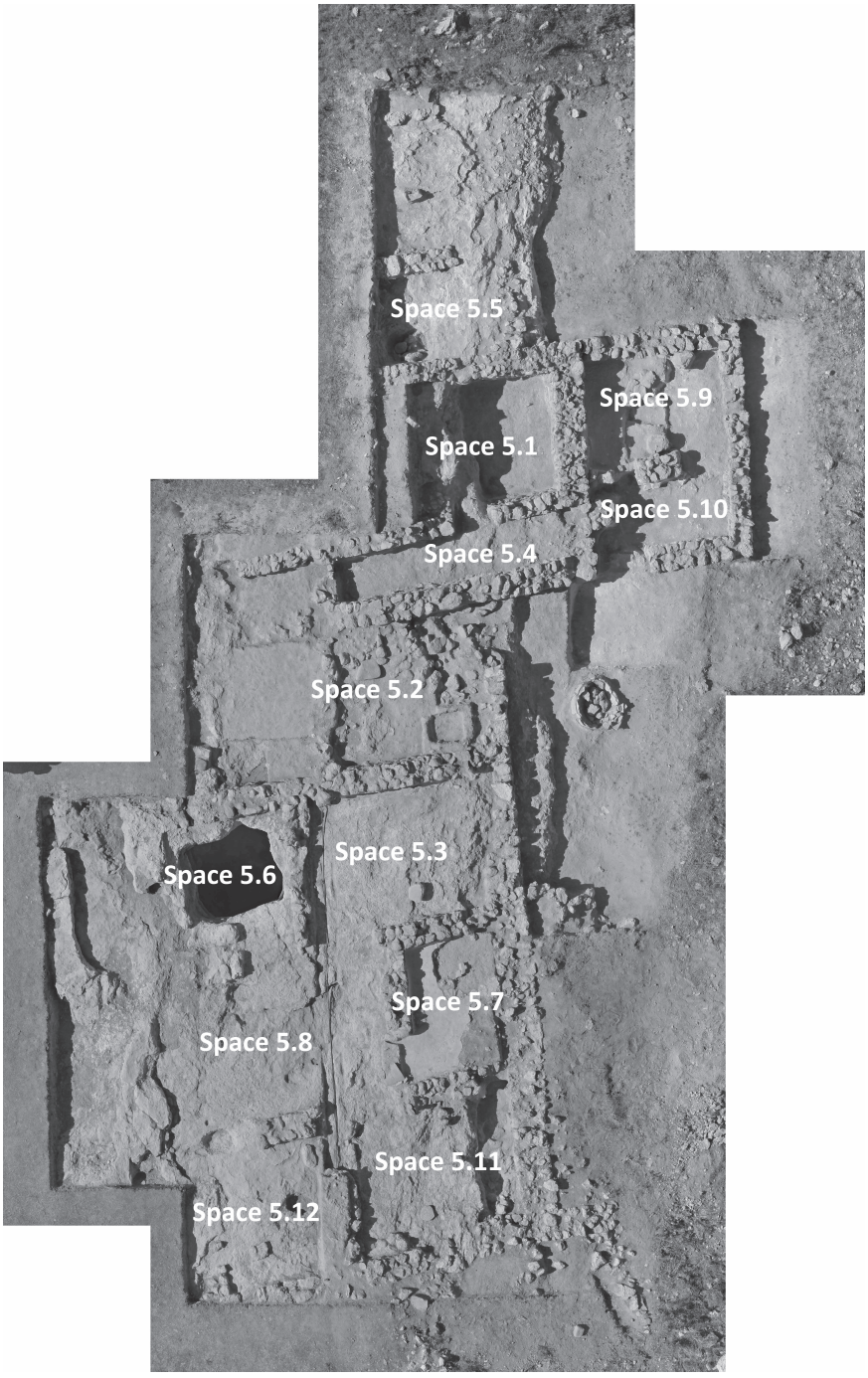


Figure 56a-b: Sector 5. Architectural plan and aerial photo at the end of the 2016 campaign. The location of a modern cable trench is indicated between spaces 5.6 and 5.3 and between spaces 5.12 and 5.11. Plan and photo: N. Kress.

The architecture in Sector 5 is remarkably well preserved, especially against the slope. Remains uncovered by the westward extensions of the 2015-2016 campaigns – towards the summit of the plateau – have a lesser state of preservation because of the shallow soil cover, erosion and agricultural activities. The spaces are numbered according to the order of excavation. As mentioned, a block of several spaces (5.1, 5.4, 5.9 and 5.10) protrudes eastwards, beyond the line of the potential casemate wall.

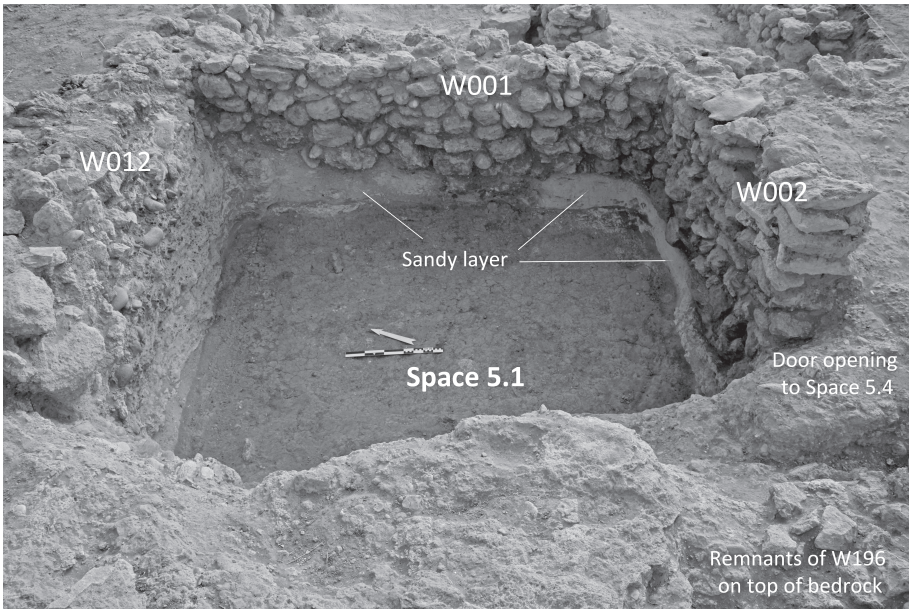


Figure 57: Sector 5, Space 5.1. Photo: G. Jans.

Space 5.1 was partly cleared during the 2014 campaign[39]; its missing western limit and the floor were exposed during the following campaign, resulting in a room measuring 2.50 m north-south by 1.95 m east-west (figure 57). The north wall (W012) seems to have been built directly on top of the bedrock, whereas the western border of the space consists of irregularly cut bedrock, presumably originally topped by a stone wall, remnants of which are visible in the southwest corner. Large amounts of pottery – including a Canaanite-jar type and a mendable pithos – marked a floor level. The floor is made of beaten earth and is much lower than the bases of the east and south wall. This level is also deeper than the adjacent Spaces 5.4 and 5.5. The 0.85 m difference between Spaces 5.1 and 5.4 is overcome by an opening in the south wall and a narrow, stepped ramp cut in the bedrock, contiguous to the western bedrock wall. A whitish sandy layer occurs in the eastern part and northwest corner of the room, and continues beneath the overlying walls (W001, W002 and W012). A similar deposit was recognised in the abutting Spaces 5.9 and 5.10.

[39] Jans *et alii*, 2015, 21-23.

As Space 5.4 was previously discussed in the preliminary report of the 2014 campaign[40], only a synopsis is presented here. This ca. 5.15 m long and 1.00 m wide space has a floor which follows the natural slope of the bedrock creating a ramp. The east end may have given access to Space 5.10 unless wall W001 continues to the south, but was simply badly preserved here. Due to the digging of a trench for a cable operating the fire range's flag (indicated on figure 56a), the western part of Space 5.4 was damaged. However, since the south wall (W003) does not seem to continue west of the modern trench, the western edge of Space 5.4 was most likely located in the proximity of where the modern trench was dug.

Spaces 5.9 and 5.10 so far represent the easternmost spaces explored in Sector 5. Both spaces are merely separated by a very short wall (W154) – perhaps simply a work platform – hence the following description covers both rooms (figures 58-60).

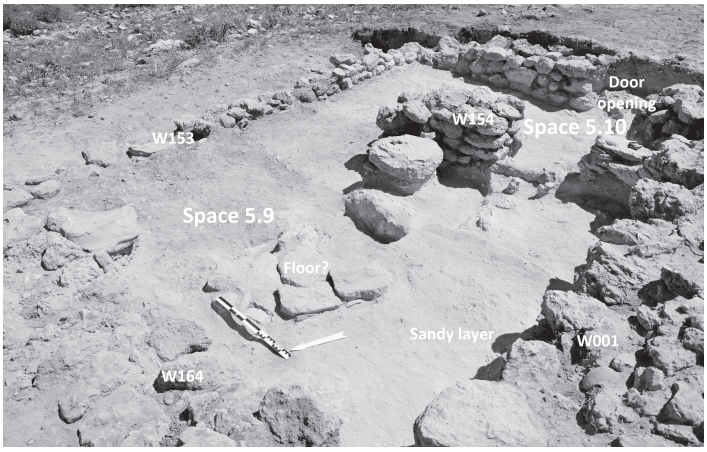


Figure 58: Sector 5: Spaces 5.9 and 5.10. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

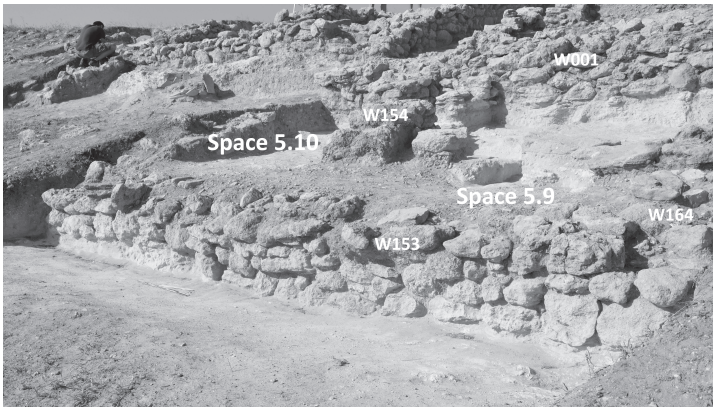


Figure 59: Sector 5: Spaces 5.9 and 5.10, from north-east. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

[40] Jans *et alii*, 2015.

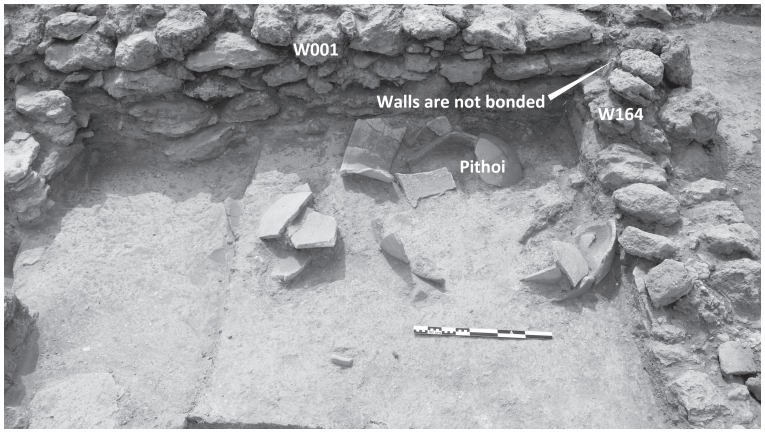


Figure 60: Sector 5: Space 5.9, from west. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

Both spaces have an east-west width of c. 2.75 m, whilst Space 5.9 measures 2.05 m north-south and Space 5.10 is smaller (1.25 m). The sturdy east wall (W153), with a preserved height of c. 0.50 m, is constructed with rather large fieldstones and bonds with the north and south wall. The latter (W145) runs in a line with the south wall (W003) of Space 5.4, but is interrupted by a wide opening giving access to the area east of Space 5.2 where no architectural constructions have thus far been identified[41]. The dividing structure between Space 5.9 and 5.10 – wall or installation – has a length of c. 1 m and does not touch the west or east wall of the rooms, hence creating openings on either side, a practice also attested elsewhere on the site[42]. The base of the north wall as well as the base of the east and south walls are located at least ca. 25 cm lower than the base of the west wall. In addition, a probable floor level within Space 5.9 was traced beneath the base height of the west wall, similar to the situation in Space 5.1. A pocket of whitish sand was found in Space 5.1 running underneath the dividing wall (W001) between Space 5.1 and Space 5.9 and was also observed within Space 5.9 and 5.10 which suggests that the partition wall was constructed right over it. In the eastern half of Spaces 5.9 and 5.10, a layer of pebbles may have been used as a fill to level the sloping sandy layer and as a preparation for a floor level. Four large adjoining, flat stones in the northwest part of Space 5.9 create an even surface that may mark a potential floor level or working platform. On top were the remains of two pithoi (figure 60). Some other installations also exist: a rectangular stone basin, found fallen upside down, presumably once stood on top of a flat stone directly north of the separating wall. A rectangular stone structure within Space 5.10, resting against the wall separating Space 5.4 and Space 5.10, is more challenging to explain. Perhaps it was used as a kind of buttress for the wall or as a walking surface to pass from Space 5.4 into the eastern area.

[41] The north and west wall were already discussed with Space 1 in the 2014 report, see Jans *et alii*, 2015, 21-23.

[42] A similar room outline was recorded in Complex H, Room 39, in Sector 2 during the 2010-2011 campaign, see Kanta, 2014a, 63-64.

Space 5.2 yielded, during the 2014 campaign, a plaster-mudbrick installation and an assemblage of 28 bronze objects[43] (figure 61). We continued the excavation of the floor deposit in the western part of the room as well as in the area close to its east entrance[44]. Two soundings in the western half showed that the floor was apparently installed on top of a levelling layer consisting of pebbles and small fieldstones. The situation in the northeast corner of this space remains enigmatic. There are some indications that a staircase bridged the height difference between the eastern and western parts of the room, but then again it may just imply that different levels were present with separate installations. It is certain that some fire happened in this space, illustrated by various spots of ash found scattered around in the area, but the precise floor level(s) in this part of the room has not yet been identified.




Figure 61: Sector 5: Space 5.2 (from west) – on the right: the spot where the assemblage of 28 bronze objects was unearthed in 2014. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

[43] Jans *et alii*, 2015, 24-27.

[44] As mentioned in Jans *et alii*, 2015, 25, Space 2 might have been an L-shaped room. But it is also possible that the original west wall was demolished when a modern trench for an electricity cable was dug. If so, the area to the west of the trench would have formed a separate space.

Six additional spaces are located south of Space 5.2 and they have a single continuous east wall (W004) which may represent the casemate structure (figures 56, 61-62). Space 5.3, adjacent to the south of Space 5.2, was partly excavated during the 2014 season[45]. The excavation of the south and west wall completed the room, which measures ca. 2.75 m north-south by 3.40 m east-west. An opening in the south wall (W123) leads to Space 5.8. The exact width of this opening is not clear since the firing range's cable trench damaged the south wall's western limit as well as the actual western wall (W042). This wall, however, can be traced clearly up to the door opening in the south wall (figure 62).

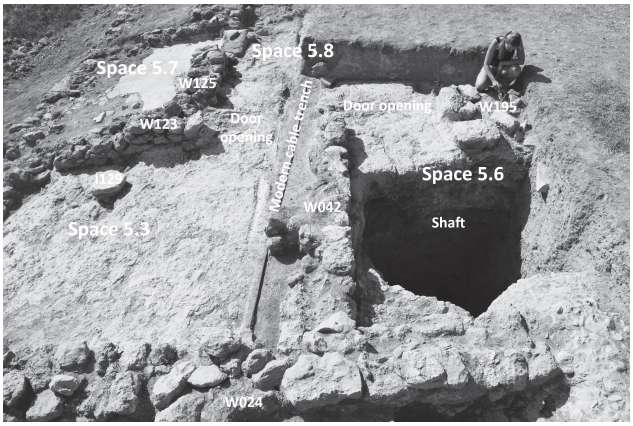


Figure 62: Sector 5: Spaces 5.3 and 5.6, from the north. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

Bedrock was reached all over Space 5.3. Especially in its eastern part, a layer of hard-packed earth containing fragments of chalk, pebbles and small-sized fieldstones covered this bedrock, presumably to level out the sloping surface. At the centre of the southern half of the space sits a circular, flat stone (I129) with a smooth upper side, possibly a pot stand. Apart from a nearly complete local, wheel-made spindle bottle decorated with Mycenaean-inspired motifs (PK14 170)[46] and three nearly-complete pithoi, the floor deposit also yielded, an incomplete hollow female figurine (PK15 421) (figure 63a-b), two small fragmentary alabaster vases[47], as well as a bronze pin and a bronze spiral.

The female terracotta figurine belongs to the so-called Base Ring II Ware family. It is a totally hand-made hollow construction and belongs to the 'flat-headed' type or Type B[48]. Moreover, to this date, it is the only Base Ring II female figurine deriving from a settlement that survives almost in its entirety[49].

[45] Jans *et alii*, 2015, 28.

[46] Caloi, 2015, 33, fig. 28.

[47] Some additional fragments from the alabaster vases and the female figurine were found within Space 5.8, just to the south of the entrance to Space 5.3.

[48] Åström/Åström, 1972, 512-514; Karageorghis, 1993, 3-14; Webb, 1999, 234-235.

[49] In the framework of her PhD on 'Base-Ring Female Figurines in Late Bronze Age Cyprus' at Trinity College Dublin, Constantina Alexandrou examined the Pyla figurine






Figure 63a-b: Sector 5: Base Ring II female figurine (PK15 421) found in Space 5.3. Photo: J. Bretschneider, drawing: H. Joris.

during the 2016 campaign. We sincerely thank her for this information (Alexandrou, 2016; Alexandrou/O'Neill, 2016; also Knox, 2016).

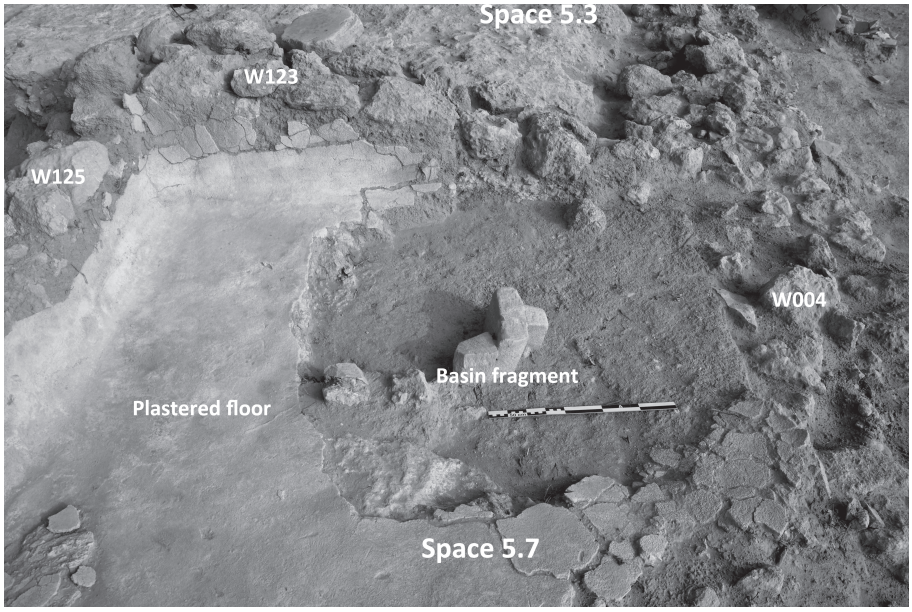


Figure 64: Sector 5: Space 5.7, from south. Photo: G. Jans.

The next space, 5.7, is a rather small room measuring 2.75 m north-south by 1.80 m east-west (figures 64-65). This room or basin stands out as its floor is made of a 1 cm thick plaster layer, running up against all four walls with a smooth curve, similar to examples found elsewhere on the site[50]. The faces of the north (W123) and west (W125) walls still show this meticulously applied coating and in their corner the plaster is preserved up to a height of 40 cm. Only a small fragment of plaster is visible on the south wall (W068). As for the east wall (W004), no plaster is preserved but the wall is very fragmentary. One larger fragment of floor plaster nearby, however, revealed an upward curve, suggesting that this wall too was similarly covered. Moreover, even the sides and the step within the door opening to Space 5.8 are plastered. This opening is provided with an open, plastered channel 6 cm wide and 8.5 cm high, placed slightly higher than the floor of Space 5.7 (visible on figure 65). Consistent with the heights of the floors within Spaces 5.7 and 5.8, the liquid passing through the channel flowed from Space 5.8 into Space 5.7. The continuation of the channel could not be traced further into Space 5.8, but it is clear, because of the plastered floor and the channel, that this small space was used for actions involving liquids.

[50] A similar room with a plaster floor running up the walls can be found in Complex G, Room 3. Also here only two thirds of the floor was preserved (see Kanta, 2014a, 17-19; also this report, R. 4.1.31).

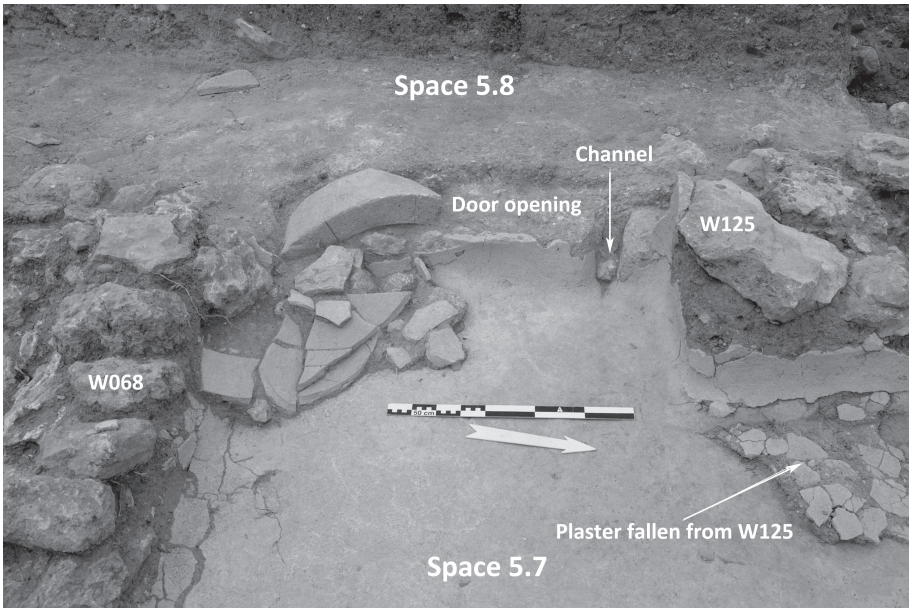


Figure 65: Sector 5: Door opening between Space 5.7 and 5.8. Photo: G. Jans.

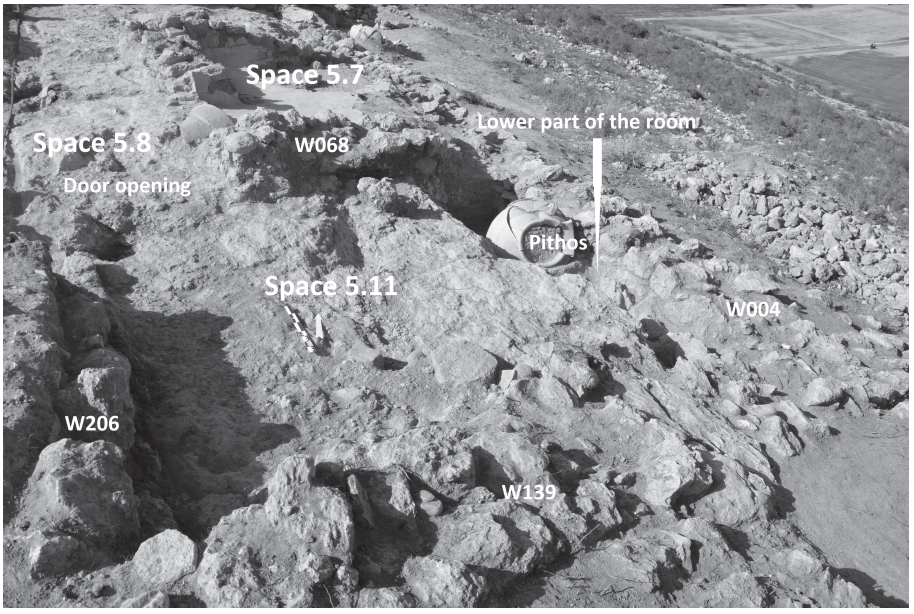


Figure 66: Sector 5: Space 5.11, from south-west. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

The floor of Space 5.7 itself is damaged in its eastern part and only a narrow patch of plaster touches the middle of the east wall. While only few sherds were found on this floor, the door opening, however, yielded a large quantity of ceramics, none making up complete or mendable vases, but several fragments join with pottery found in Space 5.8[51].

The space south of Space 5.7 is Space 5.11. It measures ca. 2.75 m north-south by 3.30 m east-west and is the mirror image of Space 5.3, with a similar size and position of its entrance (figures 56, 66). Although disturbed by the modern cable trench, the south wall (W139) continues to the west where it also forms the limit of Space 5.12. The cable trench has also largely demolished the west wall (W206) but part of the eastern face of this wall is preserved (figure 56). The bedrock ledge on top of which the west wall was built can be traced to the northwest corner of the room where the stones of the actual wall are lacking. An opening interrupts the north wall (W068) and leads to Space 5.8. The room has two different floor levels: in its eastern part – where the bedrock falls – it is ca. 70 cm deeper than in the rest of the room. Within this deeper section a pithos was installed. Upon first inspection the earth inside the pithos contained only some snails. The west and higher part of the room has a bedrock floor in which several semi-complete vessels were found, including a grey fine-walled handmade vessel with at least one handle and a decorated vessel on a high foot as well as fragments of a Canaanite-jar type in red fabric. Additional finds comprise a bronze pin and four stone tools, probably pestles.

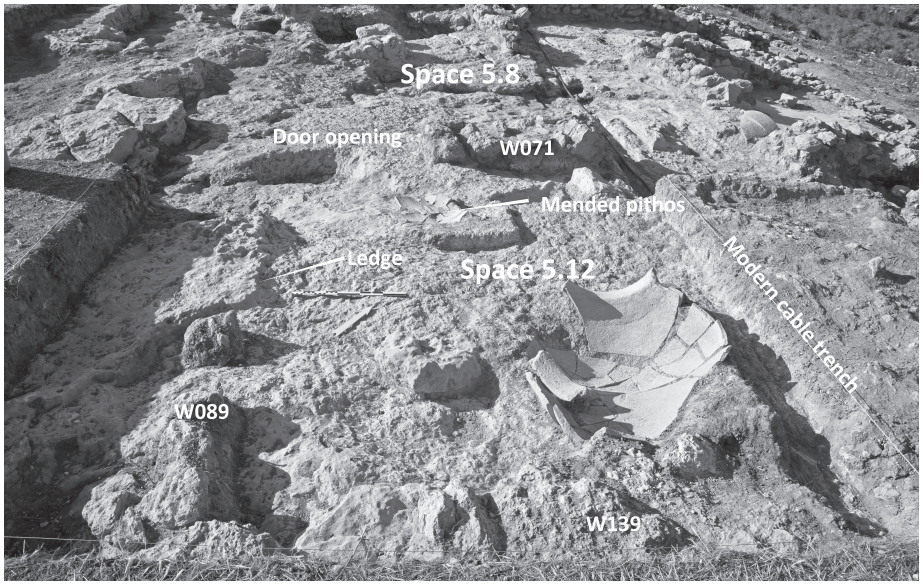


Figure 67: Sector 5: Space 5.12, from south-east. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

[51] See also the section on pottery by Ilaria Caloi.

Space 5.12, west of Space 5.11, measures ca. 2.75 m north-south by 2.30 m east-west. Of the west wall (W089) only some stones in the southwest corner and a bedrock ledge in the same line more to the north are preserved. The north wall (W071) is the prolongation of the dividing wall between Space 5.7 and 5.11 although it is partly damaged by the cable trench. On the north side, alongside the western wall, a door opening gives access to Space 5.8. A shallow, oval depression of 0.70 by 0.50 m and 12 cm deep seems to have been cut out of the bedrock right in front of the entrance; its function is at present unclear. On top of the bedrock floor, roughly in the centre of the room, half of a large pithos – half of the rim and half of the base – was found and possibly the other half was removed through agricultural activity. Sherds of a Minoan[52] decorated amphoroid krater lying on the floor are particularly intriguing (figure 68). Six straps of lead measuring between 5 and 9.5 cm in length and 2-3 cm in width are fixed parallel to each other on the interior as well as the exterior of the sherds, presumably mending the broken ceramic vessel[53]. Other finds within Space 5.12 include two rectangular bronze objects.

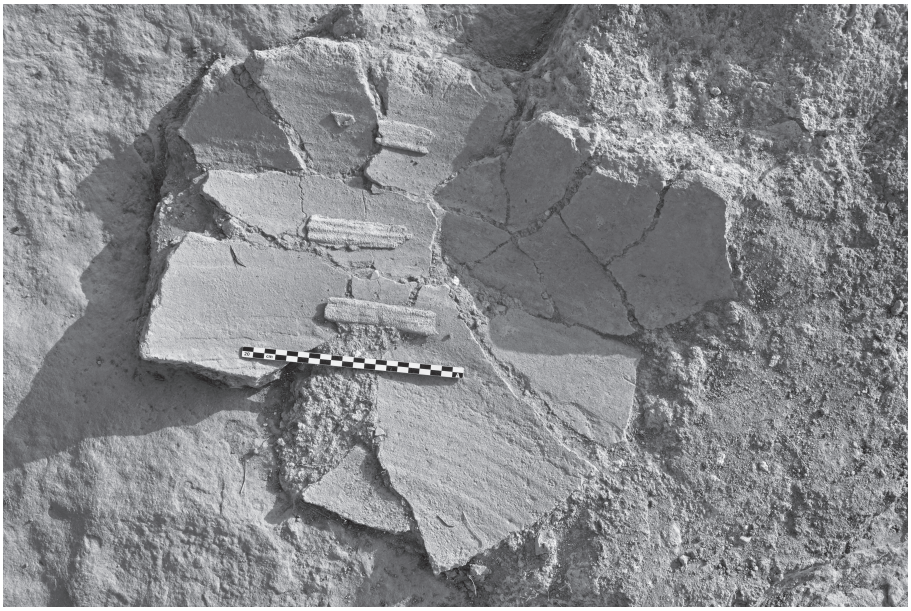

Figure 68: Sector 5: Space 5.11, Sherds of a Minoan decorated amphoroid krater fixed with straps of lead. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

[52] The fabric of the amphoroid krater is coarse with many large and round inclusions. These macroscopic characteristics are similar to those observed on Cretan examples. The fabrics of Cypriot pithoi are usually semi-fine with few and very small inclusions (I. Caloi, pers. com.).

[53] Other examples of lead mending at Pyla include the well-known chariot krater (Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, 50), a Nuragic vase (Karageorghis, 2011, 89-90 and 94, Fig. 2; Gale, 2011, 107-108) and a bath tub found in Sector 4 (Kanta, this report).

The central area of the southern part of Sector 5 is occupied by Space 5.8, through which all surrounding rooms can be accessed. The room is ca. 3.40 by 3.85 m. Its western limit is still unclear, but there is a vague rock-cut ledge in the continuation of the west wall of Space 5.12. At present, it cannot be excluded that Space 5.8 continued further west, where only different levels of bedrock remain. The bedrock floor slopes down slightly towards the east and the north and displays several depressions. Aside from a small pithos,[54] Space 5.8 produced a large, greyish-black stone jar with handles (PK15 215), possibly Egyptian or Levantine (figure 69), a handle with an incised mark as well as a remarkable Mycenaean amphoroid krater in Pictorial Style decorated with birds (PK15 422) (figure 84)[55]. If the small channel within the door opening to Space 5.7 was meant to transport liquids from Space 5.8 into Space 5.7, it is possible that Space 5.8 was a courtyard from where rainwater was directed to Space 5.7 where it was used for specific activities. It is interesting to add that many of the kraters found at Pyla come from courtyards.



Figure 69: Sector 5: Two-handled stone jar PK15 215 from Space 5.8. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

[54] With fragments also discovered in Space 5.7 and Space 5.3.

[55] See discussion by Caloi this report.

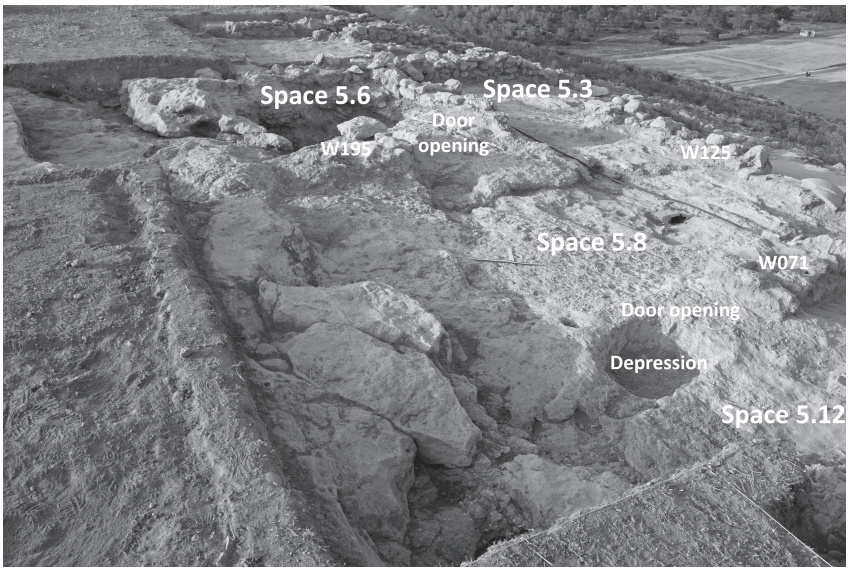


Figure 70: Sector 5: Space 5.8, from south-west. Photo: G. Jans.

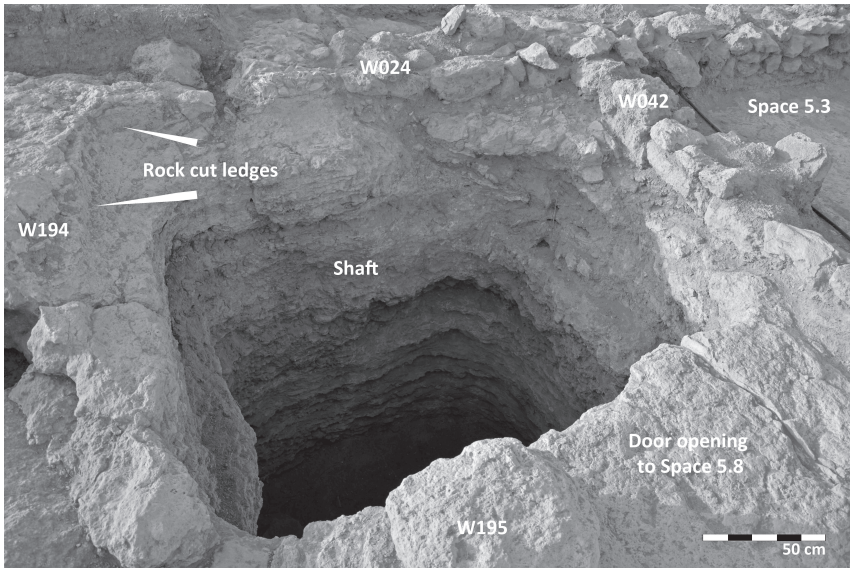


Figure 71: Sector 5: Space 5.6 with rock-cut shaft. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

The area north of Space 5.8, Space 5.6, is rather surprising because of the presence of a shaft-like structure which is 3.50 m deep and measures ca. 1.80 m north-south by 2.10 m east-west. This pit seems to have been especially dug within its proper room which measures 2.15 m north-south by 2.40 m east-west and is accessible from Space 5.8. All walls but the west one have already been discussed. This wall is indicated by the presence of a bedrock-cut ledge. The higher 'wall-shaped' bedrock to the north-west of Space 5.6 was probably integrated in the west and north wall.

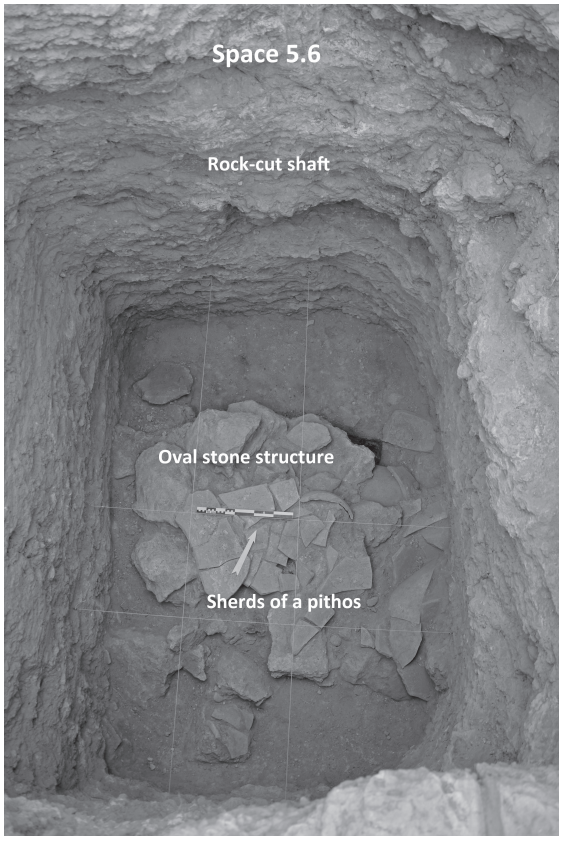


Figure 72: Sector 5: Shaft within Space 5.6. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

The shaft was cut into the bedrock and was filled with homogeneous soil. At a depth of ca. 2.65 m, we came upon an oval stone structure, measuring ca. 1.50 by 1.20 m. It consists of an outer border made of large (40 by 30 cm) fieldstones and a fill of smaller stones. A large number of sherds was found on top of this structure, most probably belonging to a single vessel. The structure itself was constructed on top of a 30 cm-thick ash layer lying at the bottom of the shaft. This ash deposit contained several large fragments of charcoal as well as a complete large jug and an oval terracotta recipient, found upside down. The recipient was full of burnt organic material (figure 73). The precise function of these different features and the rock-cut shaft remain unclear but the analysis of the ash and organic matter may in the future help their interpretation[56].

To the west of Room 5.6 and 5.8, there is a semi-circular bedrock ledge, perhaps some kind of bench, but it is not clear whether it is a natural or man-made feature. Between this ledge and Space 5.6, the bedrock is uneven, showing several small hollows.

[56] The C14 and pollen samples are under investigation by D. Kaniewski (Université Paul Sabatier Toulouse 3).




Figure 73: Sector 5, Space 5.6: Oval recipient, originally upside-down, filled with burnt organic material found at the bottom of the shaft. Photo: J. Bretschneider.

**Preliminary Observations on the Pottery of the 2015 Campaign (Ilaria Caloi)**

During the 2015 study campaign, Constantina Hadjivasili continued the process of conservation of the objects, while Francesca Porta, PhD candidate at *Università La Sapienza*-Rome & Ghent University, began her work on a typological and technological analysis of the pithoi found during the 2014-2015 excavations (see below)[57]. The present report comprises some preliminary observations on pottery assemblages from four different contexts in the three sectors explored: Space 3.3.1, Spaces 4.1.12 and 4.1.22 and Space 5.8. Since there is little agreement on the terminology to define local Cypriot Mycenaean-inspired productions[58], this report uses the one proposed by R. Jung[59], which refers to Furumark (FS) shapes[60]. For example, a locally made deep bowl inspired by a Mycenaean deep bowl classified by Furumark as FS 284/285 will be labelled "local Mycenaean deep bowl FS 284/285". Moreover, since most publications on Cypriot pottery also name these local Mycenaean-inspired productions with labels first used by scholars of the Swedish Cyprus expedition[61] ("White Painted Wheel-made III Ware"), these will be added in parentheses.

[57] I want to thank the staff of the Larnaka Museum for their kind cooperation and G. Kipri for the sherd washing.
[58] On the present debate, see Jung 2010a with bibliography.
[59] Jung, 2010a, 150-153.
[60] Furumark, 1941.
[61] Åström, 1972.

The floor deposit in Space 3.3.1 in Sector 3 (see above figures 5-6) comprised 29 ceramic objects: seven medium/large storage vases, six small containers, seven pouring vessels, five cooking pots, three open vases, including one krater and two shallow bowls, and a single wall bracket[62]. Among the open vases, the least represented shape in this deposit is also the most interesting piece: an almost completely restorable krater in Pastoral Style (PK14 186), which is not illustrated here. It shows a bull eating from a tree on both sides. The subject is the same as that depicted on the three kraters in Pastoral Style from Sector 4 found during the 2014-2015 campaigns (see below figure 80). This krater PK14 186 from Space 3.3.1, however, has a pierced bottom, suggesting it was likely used as a rhyton for some kind of libation. The two above-mentioned but not illustrated shallow bowls (14/03/5014/OB005 and 15/03/5073/OB047) are quite fragmentary since only the ring base and part of the rim with one strap handle is preserved. They can be classified as local Mycenaean strap-handled bowls FS 295. The first one (which can also be called a White Painted Wheel-made III Ware shallow bowl) is produced in a fine buff fabric and decorated with brown horizontal and parallel bands running both inside and outside, following a typical decorative pattern of these shapes. Similar examples come from Sector 4[63], as well as from Enkomi (level IIB)[64]. The second bowl is made in the same fine buff fabric but is plain and has a slightly different profile. The seven pouring vessels include three jugs of medium size and four small jugs produced in different wares (15/03/5073/ OB032, 15/03/5074/OB007, 14/03/5013/OB005, PK15 479, PK14 183, PK14 189, 15/03/5074/OB002). The three middle-sized jugs are in Plain White Ware: two are mendable, but not yet conserved and the third preserves only the neck with the handle. The four small jugs include one Base Ring II juglet (PK15 479), one trefoil-mouthed jug (PK14 183), one plain beaked jug with rounded bottom (PK14 189) and one Plain White Wheel-made ware juglet (15/03/5074/OB002). The Base Ring II juglet PK15 479 (figure 74) is comparable to examples found during the 2010-2012 excavations. The trefoil-mouthed jug PK14 183 is a local Mycenaean jug FS 136 (also classified as White Painted Wheel-made III Ware jug) (figure 75)[65]. Both its angular body and its neck are simply decorated with brown bands, while the motifs on the shoulder are no longer discernible. The beaked jug

[62] The 29 objects from Space 3.3.1 are the following: PK14 179, 14/03/5009/OB004, 14/03/5009/OB006, PK14 184, 15/03/5073/OB024, 15/03/5073/OB038, 15/03/5074/ OB001 (seven medium/large storage vases); PK14 178, PK14 176, 14/03/5014/OB004, 15/03/5073/OB023, 15/03/5038/OB001, 15/03/5073/OB010 (six small containers); 15/03/ 5073/OB032, 15/03/5074/OB007, 14/03/5013/OB005, PK15 479, PK14 183, PK14 189, 15/03/5074/OB002 (seven pouring vessels), 14/03/5013/OB006, 15/03/5073/OB016, 15/03/5073/OB046, 15/03/5073/OB031, 15/03/5073/OB037 (five cooking pots), PK14 186, 14/03/5014/OB005, 15/03/5073/OB047 (three open vases), 15/03/5073/OB015 (wall bracket).

[63] Karageorghis/Kanta, 2014, cat. n. 57, pl. VI.

[64] Jung, 2010a, 151, n. 3.

[65] A Mycenaean trefoil-mouthed jug similar in shape but decorated in Pictorial Style, was found in Tomb IV at Hala Sultan Tekke and dated to LH IIIB: Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, 204, V.82.

with rounded bottom PK14 189 is a peculiar vase that deserves further study. Finally, the Plain White Wheel-made ware juglet, which is half preserved, has a globular body on a base ring and also finds a good parallel in the 2010-2011 excavations[66]. The six small containers are all mendable vases (PK14 178. PK14 176, 14/03/5014/OB004, 15/03/5073/OB023, 15/03/5038/OB001 and 15/03/5073/OB010). They include a stirrup jar, an alabastron, a three-handled jar, a miniature pilgrim flask and two spindle bottles. Both the globular stirrup jar FS 171/173 (PK14 178) (figure 76) and the straight-sided alabastron FS 194 (PK14 176) (figure 77) are probably Mycenaean imports. Further study will help to identify their provenance. The small three-handled jar (14/03/5014/OB004) seems to be a locally made Mycenaean-inspired product, which could be classified as a three-handled variation of an 'amphoriskos' FS 61 (figure 78). The neck, the body and the base are painted with groups of fine red lines flanked by broad bands, which P. Mountjoy defines as "Minoan banding"[67], while the shoulder is decorated with panelled semi-circles. The abovementioned miniature pilgrim flask (15/03/5073/OB023) not illustrated here, is also a local product, which imitates a Mycenaean shape. It has a vertical handle from rim to shoulder and is painted red.



Figure 74: Sector 3, Space 3.3.1: Base Ring II juglet PK15 479. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

[66] Karageorghis/Kanta, 2014, pl. XV, n. 8.
[67] Mountjoy, 1999, 1034.



Figure 75: Sector 3, Space 3.3.1: Locally made Mycenaean-inspired trefoil-mouthed jug PK14 183. Photo: J. Bretschneider.



Figure 76: Sector 3, Space 3.3.1: Mycenaean stirrup jar PK14 178. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.



Figure 77: Sector 3, Space 3.3.1: Mycenaean straight-sided alabastron PK14 176. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.



Figure 78: Sector 3, Space 3.3.1: Locally made Mycenaean-inspired three-handled jar 14/03/5014/OB004 (profile and details of neck and shoulder). Photo: I. Caloi.

The five cooking pots retrieved from Space 3.3.1 are all local, handmade products. The first one is a two-handled jar with thick collared neck (14/03/5013/ OB006). This cooking pot, which has a regular size, finds a good parallel in the example from Sector 4 published by Jung[68]. The second one (15/03/5073/ OB016) is a

[68] Jung, 2011, 82, fig. 6, n. 3.

small one-handled jar with a wide neck. Although still in fragments, it seems similar to the one retrieved from Sector 4[69]. Both have a very limited capacity. The third one (15/03/5073/OB046) is a cooking bowl with one long horizontal handle, similar to the one found in the 2010-2011 excavations[70]. Together with the above-mentioned cooking pots that show profiles already known from previous excavation campaigns on the plateau[71], Space 3.3.1 also includes two examples of a new type: a one-handled cooking pot (15/03/5073/OB031) with globular profile and cylindrical neck and a slightly flattened bottom (figure 79). It is similar to a jug, but produced with the typical local fabric of cooking pots. The finds from Space 3.3.1 seem to confirm that cooking ware from Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* is mainly characterised by small cooking pots with flat bottoms and a limited capacity, which follow local traditions, as recently pointed out by Jung[72].



Figure 79: Sector 3, Space 3.3.1: Local one-handled jug in cooking pot fabric 15/03/5073/OB031. Photo: I. Caloi.

Summing up, Space 3.3.1 provided a very similar number of large-sized storage vessels, small containers, cooking pots and pouring vessels but no drinking vessels and only two fragmentary eating vessels, the above-mentioned shallow bowls. The paucity of vessels specifically utilised for eating and drinking, such as

[69] Jung, 2011, 82, fig. 6, n. 1.
[70] Karageorghis/Kanta, 2014, 242, pl. V, n. 66.
[71] Jung, 2011, 64-65.
[72] Jung, 2011, 70.

cups and/or bowls, suggests that this space may have been used mainly for the preparation and cooking of food. It is interesting to note that the only two probable Mycenaean imports in Space 3.3.1 are small containers (stirrup jar and alabastron, figures 76-77), which were arguably imported for their contents. If Space 3.3.1 was mainly used to prepare and cook food, then these elaborate vessels could have had an important role because of their contents.

Space 4.1.12 in Sector 4 (see above figure 44) also yielded a sizeable ceramic assemblage, comprising a krater in Pastoral Style, five pithoi, two cooking pots and one Base Ring II bowl, together with other fragments of vases. The subject of the krater in Pastoral Style (PK15 390) (figure 80) is the same as that depicted on the two vases found during the 2014 excavation of nearby Spaces 2 and 9 respectively[73], as well as on the above-mentioned krater (PK14 186) from Space 33.1. All these kraters show two sides decorated with a bull eating from a tree. In comparison with the other three examples, this krater is wider, however, and, as a consequence, the bulls depicted on both sides are quite elongated in order to adapt to the much wider zone to be decorated. The vase finds a good parallel in a LC IIC krater from a tomb in the cemetery of Klavdia-*Tremithos*[74].



Figure 80: Sector 4, Space 4.1.12: Krater in Pastoral Style PK15 390. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

Of the five pithoi in Space 4.1.12 (see above figure 45), one in the shape of an amphoroid krater comes from Pit 1 (PK15 392, figure 45). Within this pithos were some stone and bronze objects, a bowl in Base Ring II Ware (PK15 393), as well as a number of fragments of cooking pots of which other sherds were in the floor

[73] They are published in Caloi, 2015, 30-31, figs. 23-24, where one of them was published as coming from Room 7, but actually it came from Room 9.

[74] Kiely, 2011, vase U. 54. The proportions and some stylistic details (e.g. the representation of the sexual organ and the motifs filling the animal body) of the bull displayed on this krater resemble those of the bull depicted on the Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* krater PK15 390 from Space 4.1.12.

deposit of the room itself. The Base Ring II bowl PK15 393 is one-handled with a Y-shaped profile with flattened rim (figure 81). It shows a red to brown slip decorated in white with two horizontal bands below the rim and with crossing pairs of thick bands near the base, while both the rim and the rounded handle are decorated with thick white slashes. This bowl finds a good parallel in an example from Tomb 66 at Enkomi and may be dated to LC II-LC IIIA early[75].

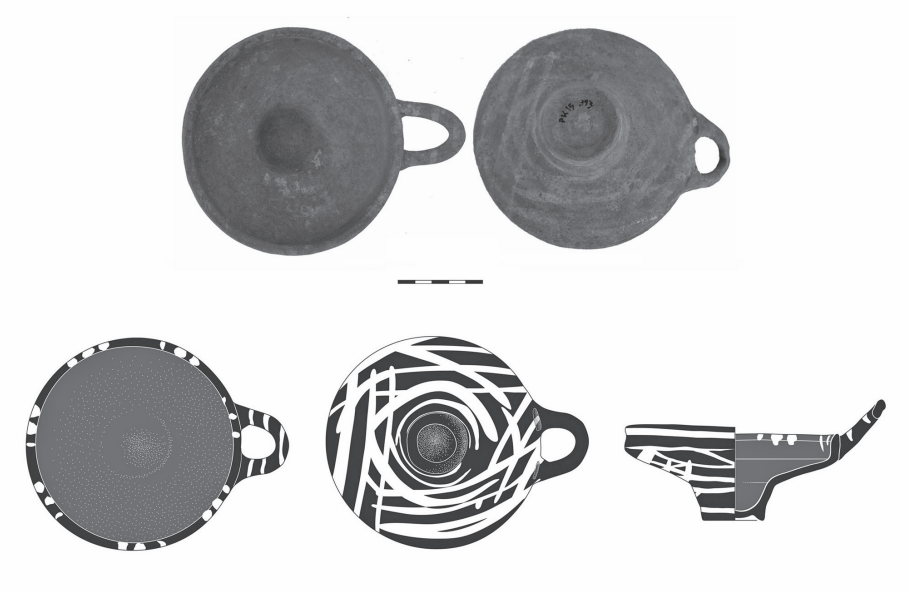

Figure 81: Sector 4, Space 4.1.12: Base Ring II bowl PK15 393. Photo I. Caloi; drawing H. Joris.

Space 4.1.22 in Sector 4 also provided a good assemblage of pottery associated with other important finds, including a stone seal. Two vases in Plain White Ware and White Painted Wheelmade III Ware respectively (PK15 385-386) (figures 82-83) show some morphological characteristics of Base Ring II Ware but are actually not produced in the standard fine brown clay with grey core[76]. The first example (PK15 385) imitates the typical shape of Base Ring II juglets but is produced in a different fabric, which is semi-fine light-coloured clay (figure 82). The second vase (PK15 386), equally made in semi-fine light-coloured clay, is a three-handled jar with long neck terminating in an out-turned rim, and with three horizontal handles on its shoulder (figure 83). The latter is decorated with groups of vertical slashes, while the body is painted with horizontal bands. The neck and the base are solid painted. It appears a "mixed" product in the sense that it imitates

[75] Crewe, 2009, 66.106 (cat. C122); Murray e*t alii*, 1900, 35, fig. 53. In comparison with the specimen from Enkomi, the bowl from Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* is slightly carinated in its upper part, perhaps indicating a LC IIIA, rather than LC IIC, production.

[76] I want to thank Giampaolo Graziadio and Artemis Georgiou for their advice on these two juglets.

the shape and decoration of a Mycenaean three-handled jar, but displays some morphological characteristics of Base Ring II juglets, such as the splaying base and the out-turned rim[77].

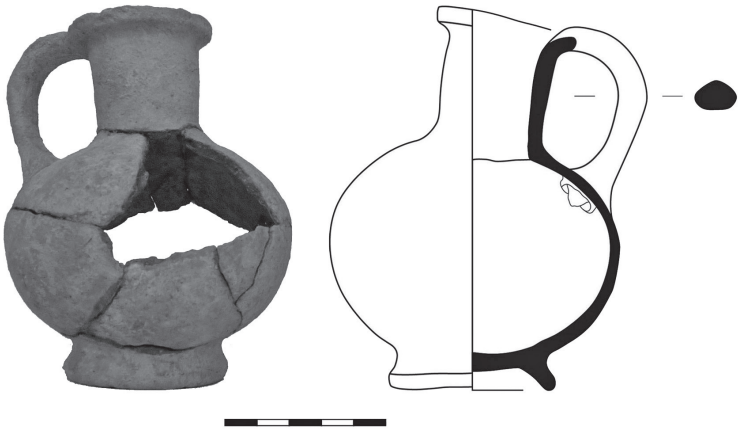

Figure 82: Sector 4, Space 4.1.22: Juglet in Plain White Ware PK15 385 showing characteristics of Base Ring II Ware. Photo: I. Caloi; drawing: H. Joris.



Figure 83: Sector 4, Space 4.1.22: Three-handled jar in White Painted Wheelmade III Ware PK15 386 reproducing characteristics of Mycenaean productions and of Base Ring II Ware. Photo I. Caloi; drawing H. Joris.

[77] On the combination between shapes and decorations from different wares, both local and imported, see Sherratt, 1991 and Åström, 1998; see also Jung, 2010a.

Where Sector 5 is concerned, we present a single vase which is at the same time one of the most remarkable finds of the 2015 excavation campaign, a LH IIIB krater in Pictorial Style from Space 5.8 (PK15 422) (figures 84-86). Although the study of Space 5.8 is unfinished, it may be observed that most of the vases from this space have been reconstructed from or partially reintegrated with fragments coming from the adjacent and communicating Space 5.7 (figure 64). The latter space has not revealed entire or mendable vases but only fragmentary material, which was mainly found in the door opening towards Space 5.8. Since most of the ceramic material includes fragments joining with vases from Space 5.8, it is likely that the two spaces were not only communicating, but also formed part of the same context. A proper iconographic study of the krater will be undertaken when its graphic restitution is complete so here only some preliminary observations are made. The vase is a 45 cm-high amphoroid krater on a ring base with big flat handles. Both sides show two facing birds pecking at or eating from a central motif. The two sides of the krater are similar, but not identical as the central motif – the birds and the fillers – are different on the two sides. On one side (Side A: figure 84a), the two birds are decorated in a different manner. The left one has its body and neck entirely painted with groups of stripes, while the wing ornament consists of groups of stripes interrupted by two concentric circles, one simple and one dotted. This motif[78] appears as an attempt to imitate the spiral motif, which is usually reproduced on the griffin necks in Minoan art. The bird to the right, however, is painted with X-motifs, i.e. in the same way as the two birds on the other side (Side B: figure 84b). There is one flower springing from the left bird, while for the right bird there are two flowers that ornate the interstices between neck and wing, and wing and body. The central motif appears to represent a schematic bud, formed by a truncated stem terminating with a proper, apical bud and two lateral leaves. On this side (Side A: figure 84a), there is a long palm which springs from the schematic bud and ornates the blank space above the right bird's head. Behind each bird there is a tall flower, probably a papyrus. The other side (Side B: figure 84b) which is not as well preserved has both birds painted with X-motifs. The central motif here differs slightly from that on the other side. Below the two leaves there are two opposite and symmetrical lines (sprouts?), which come out from the central part of the stem. No fillers spring from it. Also different is that behind the right bird there is a palm instead of a papyrus flower. Moreover, the fillers of the central zone are also slightly different, as only a single big flower springs from the body of the left bird. Since the right one is only half preserved we don't know whether or not additional motifs were present.

[78] For comparison, see: Demakopoulou *et alii*, 2017, 42-44. We thank Reinhard Jung for this information.




Figure 84a-b: Sector 5, Space 5.8: Krater in Pictorial Style PK15 422. a) Side A; b) Side B. Photos: C. Hadjivasili.

On both sides, schematic fillers can be seen between the central motif and the birds, as well as between the latter and the motifs behind them. Beneath the handles there are two antithetic palms, and some fillers in the form of interlocked U elements (figure 85). Similar fillers can be seen on two fragments of amphoroid kraters from Enkomi, which could belong to the same vase[79]. Also the palms visible on the second fragment from Enkomi are comparable to those depicted on the Pyla krater[80].

[79] Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, V.29 and V.30.
[80] Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, V.30.



Figure 85: Sector 5, Space 5.8: krater in Pictorial Style PK15 422, side view. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

The birds shown on the krater do not resemble the standard representations of birds of the period (i.e. LH IIIB)[81]. On the one hand, their elongated body, long ostrich-like neck and their pointed and lifted wings are much closer to representations of griffins. On the other hand, they lack other features that are typical for griffins, such as the muscular lion's body, snake tail and the eagle beak. Nevertheless, the painter's rendering of these hybrid animals seems intentional.

The krater has five marks, two painted and three incised. On the bottom exterior of the ring base there is a red-painted sign of the Cypro-Minoan syllabary (figure 86a) and another painted mark, like an N, is below the interior rim. The three, all different, incised marks are on the handles and on the rim (figure 86b-c).

[81] See the typical birds on vases in Pictorial Style of LH IIIB in Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, V.61-V.69.

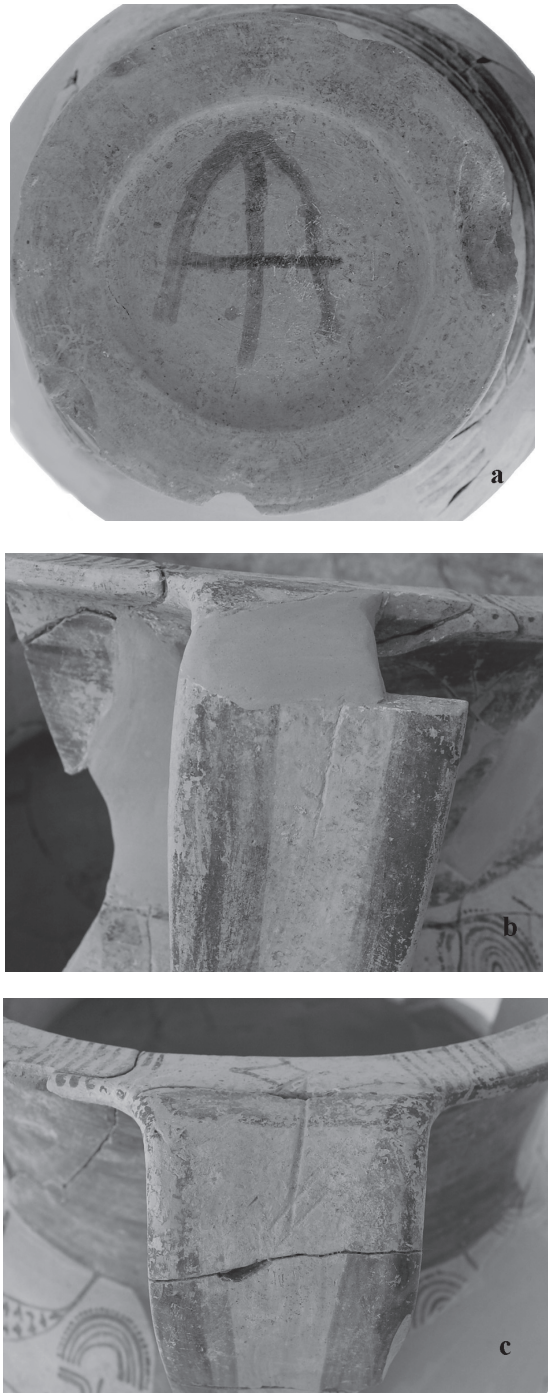


Figure 86a-c: Sector 5, Space 5.5: Krater in Pictorial Style PK15 422. a) Painted mark on the bottom exterior of the ring base. b-c) Incised marks on both handles. Photos: J. Bretschneider.

This krater probably belongs to the Ripe Pictorial Style I, as defined by Vermeule and Karageorghis[82], which corresponds to LH IIIB1, for the follwoing stylistic reasons: 1) the use of different patterns for the body ornament, as attested on one of the four birds (figure 84a)[83]; 2) the use of X-motifs for the body ornament of three out of four birds (figure 84a-b)[84]; 3) the antithetical palms under the handles (figure 85), which however anticipates the tendency to use antithetical spirals during late LH IIIB[85]. The krater may be slightly earlier in date than the fragment of a bell krater in Pictorial Style found in Space 5.5 nearby (figure 87), which seems to belong to the transition to the Ripe Pictorial Style II (LH IIIB1/LH IIIB2). The body ornament of the bull depicted on this fragment has a two-pattern sections decoration: the fore- and back sections are painted with dotted circles, while the belly section is decorated with linear bands and semi-circle ornaments. Again, following Vermeule and Karageorghis, this restriction and linearity of filling in the belly section seems to mark the shift towards the Ripe II period[86]. Further study will help in determining the exact provenance of these vases (probably Mycenae[87]) and the identification of their potential painters.

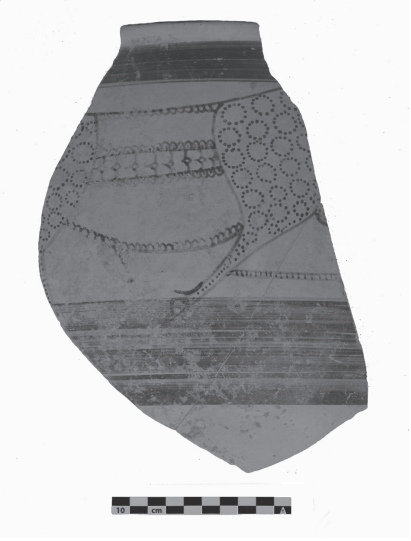

Figure 87: Sector 5, Space 5.5: Fragment of LH IIIB Pictorial Style bell krater (PK14 172). Photo: J. Bretschneider.

[82] Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, 35ff.

[83] See e.g. the vases in Ripe Pictorial Style II in Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, V.41-V.52; see also Güntner, 2006, 54-55.

[84] See, e.g. the vases in Ripe Pictorial Style II in Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, V.46 and V.48.

[85] Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, 37.

[86] This kind of body ornament is reminiscent of Pictorial vase V.52 published in Vermeule/Karageorghis, 1982, 48-49, dated to the transition from Ripe period I to Ripe period II.

[87] We thank Reinhard Jung for this information, see Jung, 2015.

**A Note on the Pithoi (Francesca Porta)**

Some of the most common ceramics encountered on the site are pithoi, something which was already noted where the earlier 2010-2011 excavations are concerned[88]. These, usually made in local Plain White Ware, are preserved in large fragments and are often mendable. All the examples discussed here are of a uniform high quality and have, at least macroscopically, a homogenous fabric, pending petrographic analyses that will clarify the manufacturing process. During the 2014-2015 study campaigns, pithoi were classified into typological and dimensional groups following the classification proposed by Keswani[89] and Pilides[90]. Keswani, for example, identified three main groups and different sub-groups among the pithoi at Kalavasos-*Ayios Dhimitrios.* Group I pithoi, characterised by a short neck and a large mouth, are very common in many Late Bronze Age Cypriot sites, both in monumental and residential complexes. They may have been used for short-term storage, i.e. to stock goods that had to be easily accessible[91]. Most of the pithoi from Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* can be classified as belonging to this group. In particular, a number of examples can be attributed to Keswani's Group IB, which is characterised by an ovoid or globular body, a rounded rim and two vertical handles attached to the shoulder. Some examples show also a typical incised wavy decoration on the shoulder[92]. Apart from these, the 2014-2015 excavation campaigns have also yielded some pithoi belonging to Group II, which are characterised by a long neck, a relatively narrow mouth and a piriform body. Some of these pithoi are decorated with multiple horizontal and wavy relief bands both on the shoulder and the belly. In general, they may have been used to store goods over a longer period of time. If we look at some of the assemblages we may note that, in particular, Space 3.3.1 in Sector 3 has yielded at least three Group I pithoi, while preliminary observations on the material from Trench 3.4 has allowed the identification of pithoi belonging both to Groups I and II that show a relief band decoration. Many pithoi were encountered in Rooms 8, 12, 14A, 14B and 29 of Sector 4 with at least five examples of Group I from Room 4.1.12 (e.g. PK15 658) (figure 88). In Room 4.1.14 A-B in Sector 4.1 and Room 4.2.1 in Sector 4.2, pithoi belonging both to Groups I and Group II were also found together.

[88] Caloi, 2015; Georgiou, 2014.
[89] Keswani, 1989, 2009.
[90] Pilides, 2000.
[91] Keswani, 2009.
[92] This kind of decoration may be compared with fragments from Hala Sultan Tekke (Åström *et alii*, 1977, 119, fig. 127), Enkomi (Dikaios, 1969, pl. 60, n. 20), Analiondas-*Palioklichia* (Webb/Frankel, 1994, 11, fig. 4, n. 3) and Pyla-*Kokkinokremos* itself (Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, pl. XXXIX, n. 88).



Figure 88: Sector 4, Room 4.1.12: Short-necked pithos PK15 658 with vertical handles. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

Space 5.3 in Sector 5 yielded at least three pithoi of Group I of which one presents two post-firing signs incised on the shoulder, while in Space 5.8, along with examples from Group I, with a short neck and ribbed handles (e.g. PK15 426) (figure 89), there are some fragments which belong to at least one large Group II pithos with relief band decoration. Further analyses will allow us to understand specificities in storage behaviour within the different areas of the plateau. In this perspective, some pithos fragments will be analysed by gas-chromatography in order to identify the organic remains left inside the vessels.



Figure 89: Sector 5, Space 5.8: Small, short-necked pithos PK15 426 with a wide mouth. Photo: C. Hadjivasili.

**Conclusions (J. Bretschneider/A. Kanta/J. Driessen)**

The evidence retrieved from the different sectors is now overwhelmingly in favour of seeing an almost identical radial lay-out of a casemate structure around the entire hill of *Kokkinokremos*, possibly with a series of 'bastions' (Sectors 4.2 and 5) at least towards the seaside or the south, where the Late Bronze Age harbour would have been located. The two gates – one to the northeast (Sector 3, Trench 3.3) and one to the west (Sector 4.1) – seem to have been relatively well hidden. The regularity of the architecture and repetition of features (including shafts and channels) underlines the highly planned nature of the settlement at the same time stressing its defensive character. This was augmented by its topographical position, making the site a regional stronghold which could easily have been home to several thousands of people. The dense occupation possibly suggests a wish to remain behind the protection of the casemate structure. At the same time and despite the use of readily available building material and relatively simple masonry, there is considerable investment in the preparation of the terrain which involved frequent and systematic bedrock cutting either to install shafts for various purposes or to allow level building plots and ledges for wall foundation. There is definitely group effort and central authority at work but the nature of this authority for the moment eludes us. This authority may also have been responsible for the functional organisation of the settlement which the present excavations have clearly revealed with good evidence to the west and northeast for metal production and domestic industries related to textiles. What is also evident is the sudden and unannounced abandonment of the settlement: most rooms were left with their pottery in place as well as other objects, including metals, which is usually rather rare in contexts of abandonment. The rich floor deposits present throughout the settlement – including undoubtedly very valuable ceramic vessels and alabaster vases – seem to indicate that the abandonment process was precipitous. Weapons, however, are rare apart from an occasional arrowhead, armour fragment, spear point and sling bullets. Hoards of valuables, on the other hand, are frequent. Their list is gradually augmenting. It includes the "Founder's Hoard" and the "Goldsmith's Hoard"[93] but also the cache of bronze objects from Sector 5 published in the previous report[94]. The intention to return seems unmistakable. But it never happened. The exceptional richness of the moveable finds and their occasional ideological significance stands in some contrast with the settlement's relative lack of architectural elaboration.

The excavations have also added a greater chronological resolution especially thanks to the deep bowl from Sector 4.2.6 (figure 54). As the deep bowl is not common at *Kokkinokremos*, its presence helps us to confirm the abandonment date of the site at the beginning of LH IIIC[95], as was proposed on the basis of an Argive deep bowl found during the 2012 excavations[96]. Finally, the excavations have again confirmed the multi-ethnic character of the material culture of the

[93] Karageorghis/Demas, 1984, 60-65.

[94] Jans *et alii,* 2015, 25.

[95] The absolute dates are a matter of ongoing complex discussions, see Jung, 2010b.

[96] Karageorghis/Kanta, 2014, pl. VI; Jung, 2011, 64, 70; Jung, 2010a.

*Kokkinokremos* settlement with references to Sardinia, Crete, Egypt, Anatolia, the Syro-Palestinian coast, the Argolid, etc.

The question of who founded this settlement at this specific, strategic position between the southern end of the Larnaca bay and the fertile hinterland, close to Late Bronze Age Kition (and Hala Sulta Tekke) and Enkomi and why it was abandoned suddenly and relatively soon afterwards, remain tantalising questions to which the present project will continue to look for answers.

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