

KAVOUSI, 1982–1983: THE KASTRO

(PLATES 89–97)

We would like to dedicate this article to Marcos Peronicolis, who died suddenly on March 1, 1985. Marcos was the chief guard of the Greek Archaeological Service in the Gournia-Kavousi area of Crete. His joy of life, enthusiasm for all things ancient, kindness, and help will be remembered always by those who knew him.

THE KAVOUSI PROJECT is an ongoing collaboration of the authors with the purpose of correcting and bringing up to date the information furnished by the excavations of a number of sites in the area of the modern village of Kavousi in East Crete.¹ This second preliminary report on the project covers the work done on the Kastro during the summers of 1982 and 1983.

HISTORY OF THE KASTRO

The Kastro is a peak of the Siteia Mountains about 800 m. above sea level (Pl. 89: a, b), located roughly an hour and a half by foot or animal southeast of the modern village. The walls on the top of this peak were excavated in 1900 by Harriet Boyd, who described them as a “castle”, an Iron Age settlement of thirteen rooms on at least seven levels overlooking the Avgo pass.² In her report she described the rooms individually and the pottery generally. Although she catalogued the small finds, she rarely indicated precise findspots and included pictures of only three objects: a “stone table for game” and two funnels. Boyd dated the “castle” to the Geometric period on the basis of the painted potsherds, citing in particular decoration with concentric circles, fragments of milk bowls, and a fragment of a stirrup jar;³

¹ For a history of the excavations in the Kavousi area and the first preliminary report detailing the work of the Kavousi Project during 1978–1981, see G. C. Gesell, L. P. Day, and W. D. E. Coulson, “Excavations and Survey at Kavousi, 1978–1981,” *Hesperia* 52, 1983, pp. 389–420 (= “Kavousi, 1978–1981”).*

Other works frequently cited are abbreviated as follows:

- Boyd, “Kavousi” = Harriet A. Boyd, “Excavations at Kavousi, Crete, in 1900,” *AJA*, 2nd ser., 5, 1901, pp. 125–157
- Brock, *Fortetsa* = J. K. Brock, *Fortetsa*, Cambridge 1957
- Coldstream = J. N. Coldstream, “Knossos 1951–61: Protogeometric and Geometric Pottery from the Town,” *BSA* 67, 1972, pp. 63–98
- Drerup, *Baukunst* = H. Drerup, *Griechische Baukunst in geometrischer Zeit (Archaeologia Homerica II, K. O)*, Göttingen 1969
- Hayden, “Vrokastro” = B. Hayden, “New Plans of the Early Iron Age Settlement of Vrokastro,” *Hesperia* 52, 1983, pp. 367–387
- Lefkandi I* = M. R. Popham and L. H. Sackett, *Lefkandi, I, The Iron Age*, London 1979–1980
- Nichoria III* = W. A. McDonald, W. D. E. Coulson, and J. Rosser, *Excavations at Nichoria in Southwest Greece, III, Dark Age and Byzantine Occupation*, Minneapolis 1983
- Sinos, *Hausformen* = S. Sinos, *Die vorklassischen Hausformen in der Ägais*, Mainz 1971

*The following errata are noted:

p. 394, col. 2 of table, line 1: *Read* Boyd’s tomb 2 (Not located; VIII)

p. 401, line 3: *Delete* ck red paint

p. 401, line 21: *For* corners *read* courses

² Boyd, “Kavousi,” pp. 137–143.

³ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 143.

Hesperia 54, 4

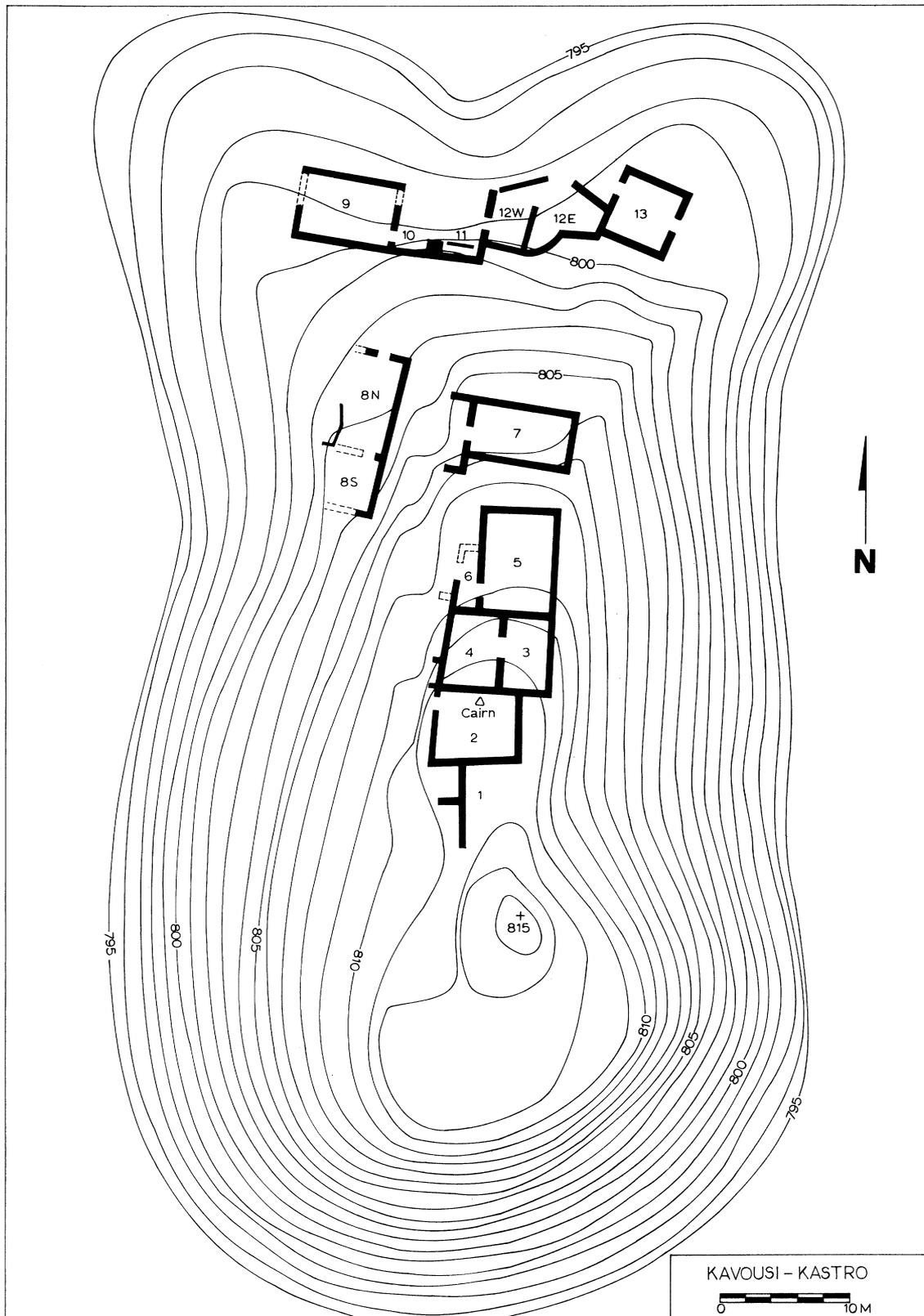


FIG. 1. Kastro: Topographical map

other pottery mentioned was coarse and included a large pithos.⁴ Since Boyd's excavations, the Kastro has been used as an important example of a Geometric settlement.

In the summer of 1982 the authors cleaned the settlement for the balloon photography of J. Wilson Myers.⁵ This cleaning furnished an opportunity to make an actual-state plan of the area excavated in 1900. Equally important was the recovery of sherds which had been either left unexcavated or discarded by Boyd. These supplement greatly the previously published material and provide evidence for the dates of the settlement. The preliminary results of this cleaning and further surveying in the summer of 1983 are presented below.

THE ARCHITECTURE

The thirteen rooms on top of the peak, as well as several others not indicated on Boyd's plan, lie on six terraces of differing elevations (Fig. 1). Although these rooms had been overgrown with vegetation, most of the walls at the time of the cleaning were still as Boyd had found them, ranging in height from one course to a maximum of 1.75 m. (Room 8). In only a few cases (for example, the east wall of Room 8, the north wall of Rooms 10 and 11, and the south wall of Room 13) had the walls collapsed or suffered major damage subsequent to Boyd's excavation.

Although Boyd suspected that not all the rooms belonged to a single mansion, she was unable to separate the rooms into smaller units. Today, however, the arrangement of the rooms and the finds from the site suggest that the Kastro was not a single complex but a small village, similar to the towns at Karphi and near-by Vrokastro. The associated objects, scanty in number and poor in quality, consisted mainly of coarse pottery and pithoi, crude stone tools, and stone and terracotta weights.⁶ None of these objects is in keeping with the level of luxury or standard of living suggested by a single mansion. In addition, it is now clear that these thirteen rooms do not constitute the entire settlement; remains of additional walls and sherds found by the authors indicate that the village extended down the east, south, and west slopes of the peak. As Boyd found, it is difficult to divide the rooms into individual houses, since the rooms have party walls and few distinguishing features. Rooms

⁴ Boyd, "Kavousi," pp. 138, note 2, and 141, note 1.

⁵ In the spring of 1981 Gesell and Myers made a trip to the Kastro to investigate the possibility of photographing the site for the forthcoming *Aerial Atlas of Ancient Crete*. It was apparent that the site had not been cleaned since 1900 and that its cleaning would entail a considerable amount of work. An agreement was worked out with the Ephor of the Greek Archaeological Service, Costis Davaras, that the members of the Kavousi Project would oversee this cleaning and publish the results. We wish to thank Costis Davaras and the Greek Archaeological Service for the permission to do this work. We also wish to thank J. Wilson Myers for his contribution to the project. The Epimeletria, Stavroula Apostolakou, served as representative of the Greek Archaeological Service. Financial assistance came from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, the College of Wooster, and the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. The surveying and the topographical map of the Kastro (Fig. 1) were done by Gerald W. Johnson, Department of Civil and Mineral Engineering, University of Minnesota. The rest of the plans and profiles (Figs. 2–13) were drawn by Coulson and Day. The drawings were inked by Sylvia Ruud and the photographs developed by Duane Bingham. The Kavousi Project operates under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. The authors presented a preliminary version of this article at the General Meetings of the Archaeological Institute of America on December 29, 1982, in Philadelphia under the title, "Kavousi, Crete, 1982—New Evidence for the Date of the Kastro" (for abstract, see *AJA* 87, 1983, p. 231).

⁶ Boyd, "Kavousi," pp. 137–143.

lying on the same terrace and connected by doorways, however, are most likely to belong together. Using the terraces and connecting doorways as a guide, we have identified at least eight houses on the six terraces, each composed of one to four rooms.

In general, all the buildings are of similar construction and have some common elements in plan. The walls of the houses average 0.60 m. in thickness and were constructed of small undressed field stones of limestone held together with thin layers of mud mortar. There are no ashlar blocks in the preserved walls, nor are there any cut door jambs. The slightly raised thresholds are built of flat slabs of the same uncut local limestone. Many of the floors, benches, and lower portions of the walls have been cut out of the bedrock. Most of the rooms are rectangular in plan, surprisingly regular for the terrain compared to those at Karphi and Vrokastro, for terraces were carefully constructed on the Kastro to provide maximum space for the rectangular rooms. The six terraces of the Kastro can be divided into three major areas: the upper settlement (Rooms 1–7), the middle settlement (Room 8), and the lower settlement (Rooms 9–13).

UPPER SETTLEMENT

This area consists of seven rooms (Rooms 1–7) on four terraces connected on the west side by a street (Fig. 2). The eastern edge of the ridge has fallen away, leaving the east boundaries of many rooms uncertain. Boyd hypothesized a street along the east wall of Room 2,⁷ but today, since the wall has disappeared, there is no evidence to support this theory. The western edge of the ridge has also fallen away in many places, but enough of the western terrace wall is still preserved to reconstruct its boundaries. A street, or corridor as Boyd called it, runs along the west side of Rooms 2, 4, 6, and 7.

The Courtyard

At the south end of the upper settlement west of Room 1 is what Boyd identified as a courtyard (Fig. 3; Pl. 89:c). This is a long (13.20 m.) rectangle bounded on the east by the wall of Room 1 and a ledge of bedrock; the west side has fallen away (the wall now standing along the western edge is modern), and only a small portion of ancient wall still remains to mark the southern boundary. Some paving stones of the court are still *in situ*, and the area is probably too large to have been roofed without internal supports; thus the identification as a courtyard seems reasonable. The courtyard is divided into two sections by a staircase which leads into Room 1 (Pl. 89:d). The north court is a small enclosed space, similar to the small courts created out of the street of the upper settlement and described below; it may have served a domestic function, while the larger court to the south had a more public use.

Rooms 1 and 2

The uppermost of the houses is composed of Rooms 1 and 2 (Fig. 3). Room 1 is entered by the staircase from the lower level of the courtyard; although the stairs have partially collapsed, their original position is clear (Pl. 89:d). The stones of the upper two steps, bonded into the west wall of Room 1, indicate that this was the original entrance into the

⁷ Boyd, "Kavousi," pp. 139–140.

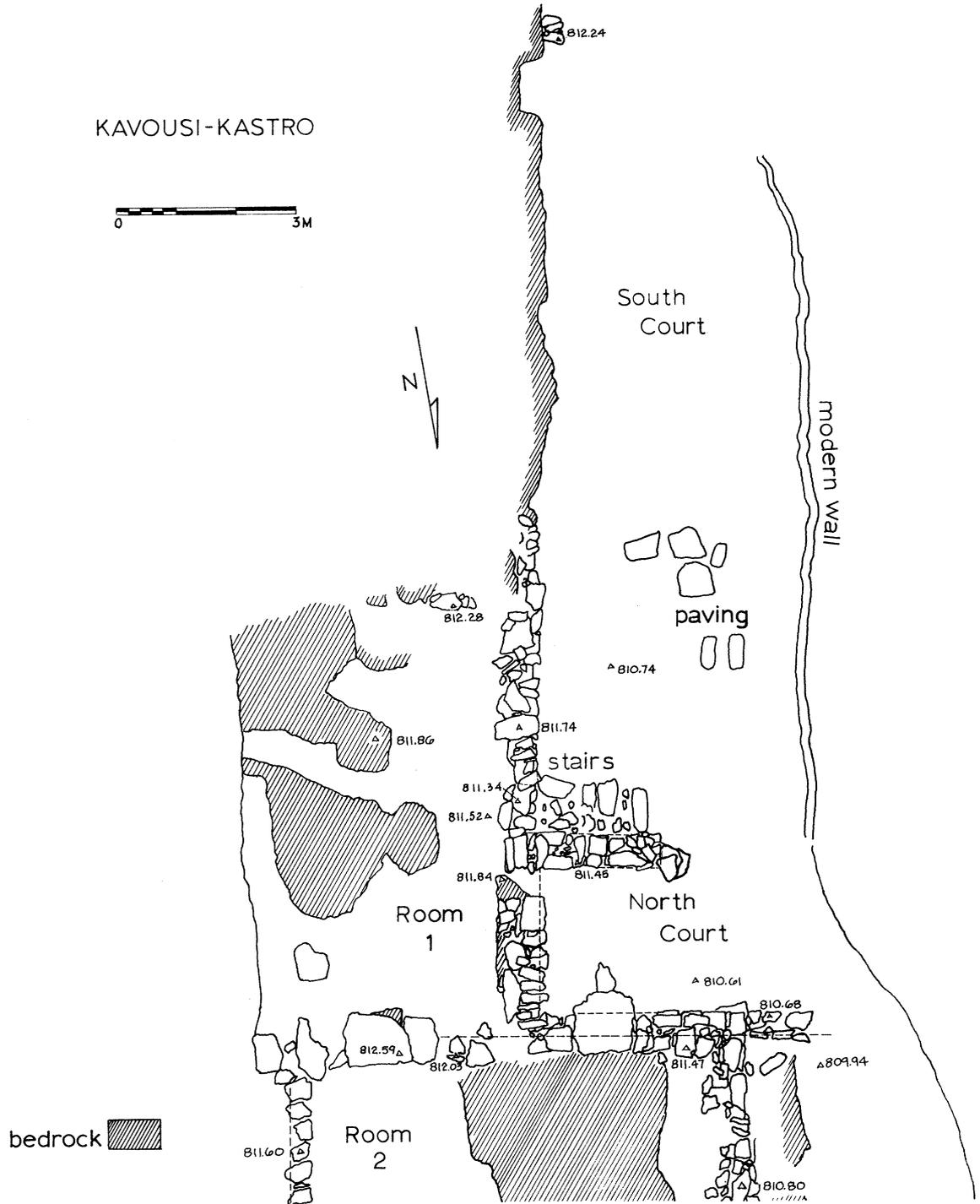


FIG. 3. Plan of courtyard, Rooms 1 and 2

house. Room 1 is badly eroded (Pl. 90:a): only the west wall, a fragment of the south wall, and a line of stones marking the north boundary remain. The east wall has disappeared, except possibly for one stone which lies on the line of the east wall of Room 2. If this stone marks the boundary, then the room was long and narrow (6.80 m. N–S × 2.85 m. E–W); if the room extended to the edge of the terrace, it was more regular (6.80 m. N–S × 4.00 m. E–W). The floor was largely of bedrock. The most interesting find of the 1900 excavations; a stone gaming table (Pl. 94:d), came from this room.⁸

Room 2 (Figs. 3, 4; Pl. 90:a), large and rectangular (5.50 m. N–S × 6.70 m. E–W), is also in a poor state of preservation. Although it adjoins Room 1 on the north, there is no evidence today for a connecting door. The bonding of the west wall of Room 1 and south wall of Room 2, however, and the common floor level suggest that these rooms belong to the same house. Boyd identified a “good” doorway at the north end of the east wall of Room 2.⁹ Today only a single course of stones remains along this wall, and thus it is impossible to identify the doorway with certainty; it may have been further south than indicated on Boyd’s plan. The west wall, which is better preserved, is built on a socle of bedrock. In the northeast corner a rectangular platform of bedrock (2.30 × 1.60 m.) rises several centimeters above the rock floor.¹⁰ West of Room 2 the stub of a wall extends the line of the south wall into the street, creating a small court in which stands a bench or platform cut out of the bedrock.

Rooms 3 and 4

Rooms 3 and 4 (Fig. 4; Pl. 90:b) are situated on a terrace approximately 1 meter below Room 2. They form a unit connected by a doorway, and the N–S walls are built up against the north wall of Room 2. Room 3 (5.00 m. N–S × *ca.* 3.00 m. E–W) is poorly preserved, lacking an east wall entirely. Room 4 is an irregular trapezoid (5.00 m. N–S × 3.40–4.50 m. E–W), the walls of which are preserved only a few courses high. Both rooms have bedrock floors. No doorway into the house is preserved, but the entrance may originally have been on the east. At the north end of Room 4 two short walls project westward into the street, forming a small binlike structure.

Rooms 5 and 6

Rooms 5 and 6 (Fig. 4) form another unit, which lies on a terrace 1.70–2.00 m. below House 3–4. Room 5 is a large rectangle (8.25 m. N–S × 4.60 m. E–W) with well-preserved walls on the south and west sides (Pl. 90:c) and poorly preserved walls on the north and east (Pl. 90:d). A connecting door opens into Room 6 (Pl. 91:a), a small room (4.60 m. N–S × 1.80 m. E–W) which may have been added later, since its north wall is built up against the west wall of Room 5.¹¹ Boyd was uncertain about the plan and function of

⁸ Boyd, “Kavousi,” pp. 141–142, fig. 7.

⁹ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 140.

¹⁰ Boyd (“Kavousi,” p. 138, note 1) gave measurements for this platform which she described as nearly square, 1.50 × 1.40 m.

¹¹ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 138.

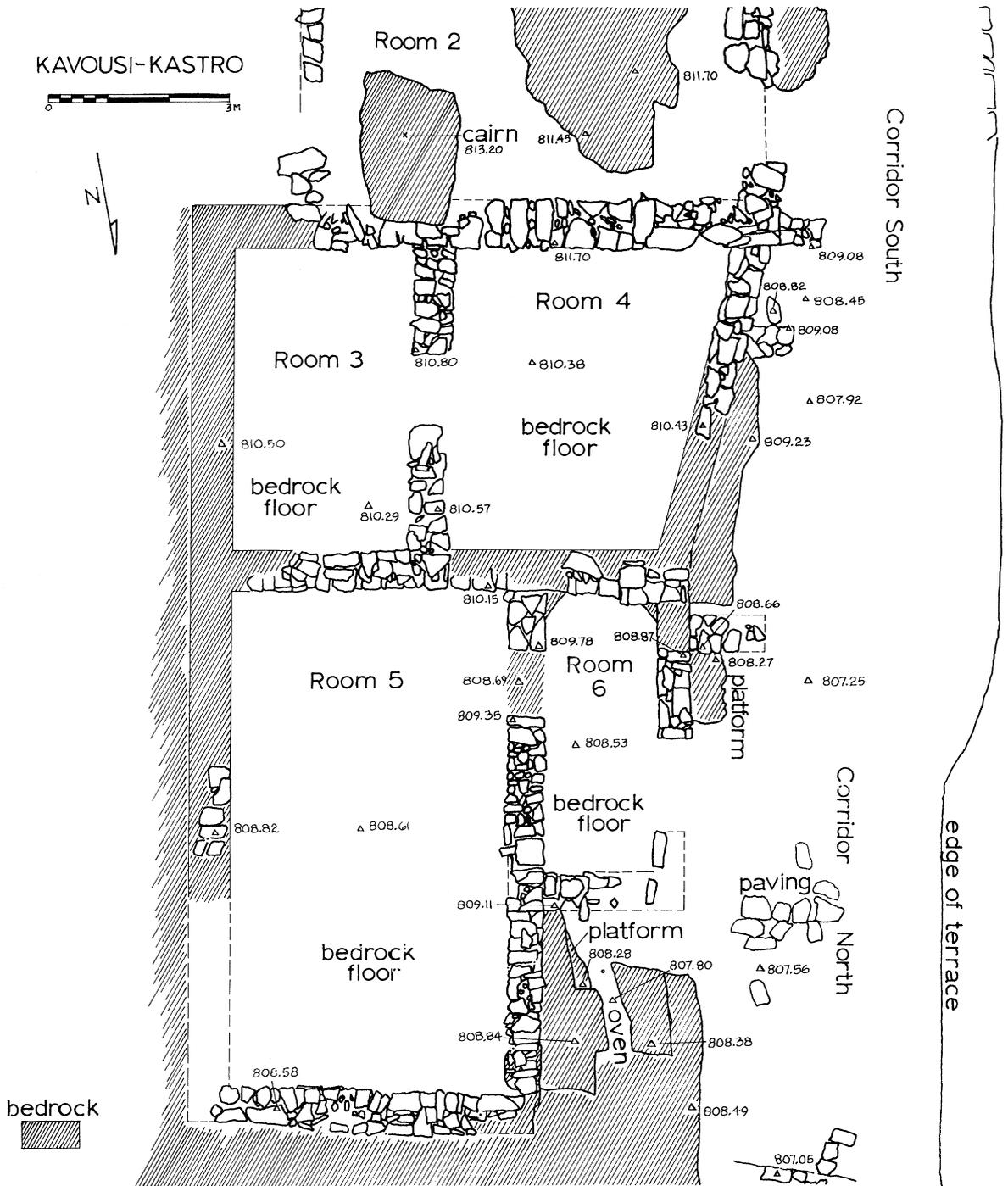


FIG. 4. Plan of Rooms 2-6

Room 6. Although she marked the west boundary of this room as a solid wall on her plan,¹² she added in a footnote¹³ that she removed a later blocking of “wretched construction” revealing the “clean end” of a doorway and a good threshold. She then restored a wooden column on the threshold, turning Room 6 into a portico, approached from the street by steps and the platform of bedrock to the south. The “clean end” of the doorway is still preserved, but there is no evidence for the colonnade.¹⁴

The area west of Room 6 contains a number of unusual features. A single spur wall juts into the street, and south of this is a crude platform cut out of the bedrock (Pl. 91:a). North of Room 6 is another platform of bedrock beside a cleft in the rock (Pl. 91:b). Boyd concluded that the cleft, which was filled with charred earth and fragments of cooking pots, had been used as an oven and that the entire area served as a kitchen.¹⁵ Since no traces of hearths or ovens appeared in any of the rooms, the suggestion seems reasonable.

Room 7

Room 7 (Fig. 5; Pl. 91:c), the largest single room on the site (5.00 m. N–S × 7.80 m. E–W), is located on its own terrace some 2.60 m. below that of Rooms 5 and 6. Since the room has no party walls, it appears to have been a separate building. The walls are well preserved, especially on the south (Pl. 91:d). Boyd found many stone and terracotta weights in this room and suggested that it might have been a weaving establishment.¹⁶ A doorway in the west wall of Room 7 leads into a small court created out of the street by a pair of spur walls. On the north side of this court is a stone bench; the single stone slab remaining on the south side may have been part of a bench or possibly a “bin” or jar stand (Pl. 92:a). Beyer has suggested that the area to the west of Room 7 was a porch with a colonnade of five columns,¹⁷ but since there is no evidence for the columns, we hypothesize a court similar to that outside Room 6.

The Street/Corridor

The street which runs along the western edge of the upper settlement is 3.70–4.70 m. wide and slopes down from south to north, dropping approximately 4.00 m. from its highest point west of Room 2 to its lowest beside Room 7 (Pl. 92:b). The street was originally paved; many of the paving stones are still in place, particularly west of Rooms 6 and 7, and traces of steps can be seen just south of Room 7. It must have been similar to many streets in Cretan villages today. A peculiar feature of the street in the upper settlement is the presence of short walls which project into the street from the walls of the houses. Although these walls have no apparent structural function, several do form part of the enclosure of a bench (Rooms 2,

¹² Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 139, fig. 5.

¹³ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 138, note 1.

¹⁴ I. Beyer (*Die Tempel von Dreros und Prinias A und die Chronologie der kretischen Kunst des 8. und 7. Jhs. v. Chr.*, Freiburg 1976, fig. 8:1) has published his interpretation of this hypothetical portico in his reconstructed drawing of Kavousi and compares the arrangement to the temple at Dreros.

¹⁵ Boyd, *loc. cit.*

¹⁶ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 138.

¹⁷ Beyer, *loc. cit.* (footnote 14 above).

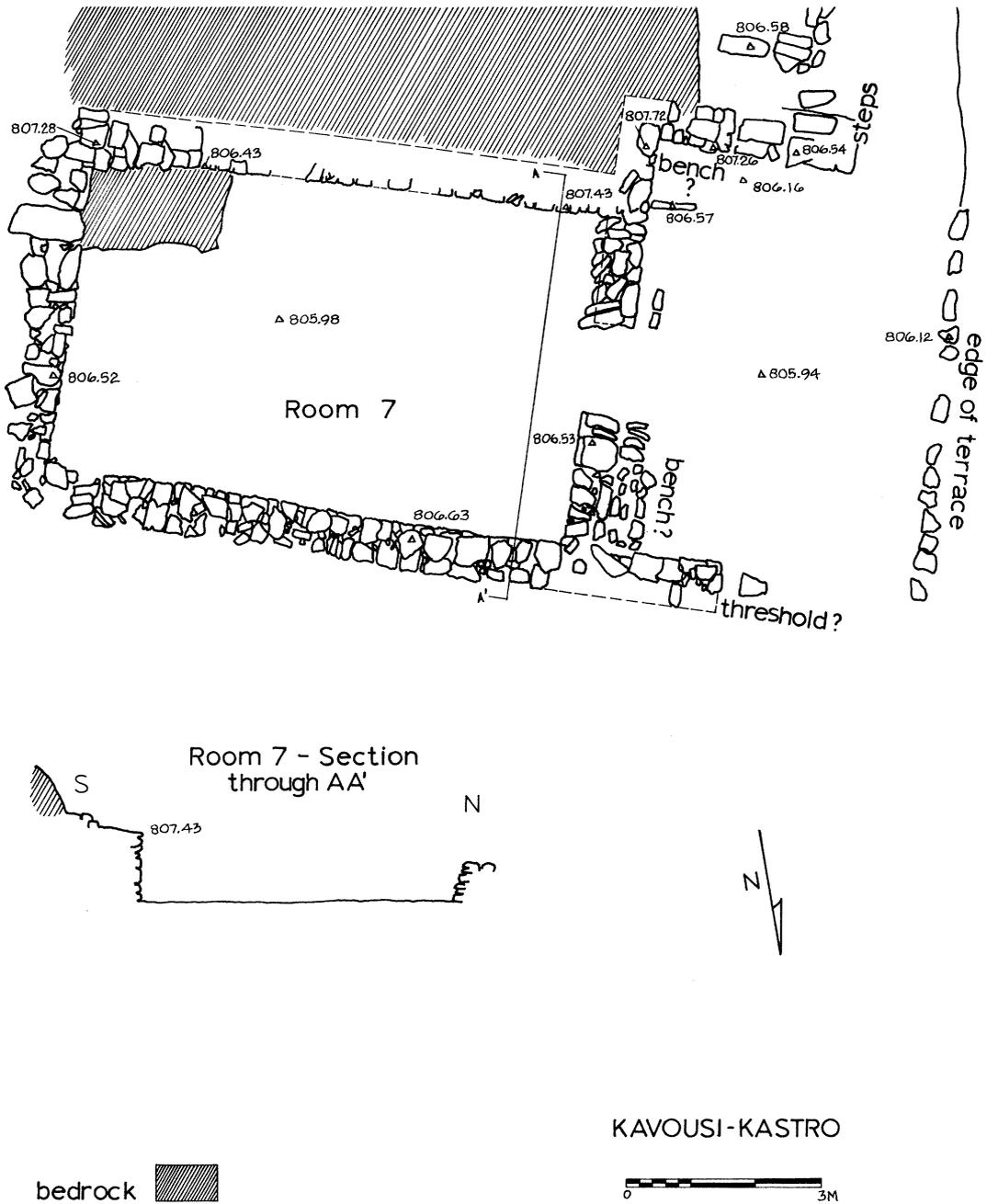


FIG. 5. Plan of Room 7

6, and 7) or bin (Room 4 and possibly Room 7). The small spaces thus created in front of or beside the houses might have functioned as small private courtyards which could be used for storage, housework, or socializing, in much the same way as similar spaces are used in the modern village of Kavousi; these spaces may have been crudely roofed.

MIDDLE SETTLEMENT (*Room 8*)

West of Room 7 and some 3.00 m. below it is another terrace, which today is occupied by a single building, Boyd's Room 8 (Fig. 6). There may, however, originally have been other houses to the south, where the terrace seems to have collapsed. We have called this area the middle settlement. Room 8 (Pl. 92:c) is actually composed of two rooms: 8N (7.50 m. N–S × 5.80 m. E–W) and 8S (4.80 m. N–S × 5.80 m. E–W). Although the separating wall is not indicated on Boyd's plan, a spur of it and the threshold of the connecting doorway (Pl. 92:d) are still preserved, and a few stones to the west suggest that the wall continued. All the east–west walls were built up against the east wall of the room, which served both as a house wall and as a terrace wall for the street above. The entrance into this house was through the doorway in the north wall. Since much of the western edge of the terrace had collapsed, Boyd did not indicate a western boundary for Room 8 on her plan, although she does mention a piece of wall excavated below point "j" on the northwest side of the room.¹⁸ Cleaning of this area in 1983 revealed a stretch of terrace wall running all along the western edge of the terrace of 8N; this makes a corner with a wall which continues the line of the wall separating Rooms 8N and 8S (Pl. 93:a). It seems clear from these remains that there were houses on a lower terrace west of Room 8. As with Room 8S, the house wall on the east served also as a retaining wall for the terrace above.

LOWER SETTLEMENT

Boyd identified five rooms on the lowest terrace, which lies on the north edge of the peak (Fig. 7). To the west of these rooms is a series of crude steps formed by an outcrop of bedrock (Pl. 93:c), which resembles the stepped streets in some Cretan villages today. It seems reasonable that these formed part of a street leading to the middle and upper settlements. A doorway leads from these steps into Room 9.

Rooms 9, 10, and 11

Since Rooms 9, 10, and 11 are all connected by doorways, they probably form a single unit. The walls of Room 9 (Fig. 8), the largest room in this house (5.10 m. N–S × 7.20 m. E–W), are well preserved, especially the south wall, which is built up against bedrock (Pl. 93:b, d). In contrast, the walls of Rooms 10 (*ca.* 5.20 m. N–S × 2.00 m. E–W) and 11 (*ca.* 4.80 m. N–S × 3.10 m. E–W) are poorly preserved (Figs. 8, 9; Pl. 94:a). On her plan Boyd has drawn a separating wall with a doorway connecting Rooms 10 and 11; today there is only a short spur wall with a finished edge, indicating that, if there was a wall at all, the doorway was farther south than Boyd has shown it. Presumably, as Boyd indicates on her plan, the line of the north wall of Room 9 continued on to form the north boundary of

¹⁸ Boyd, "Kavousi," p. 140.

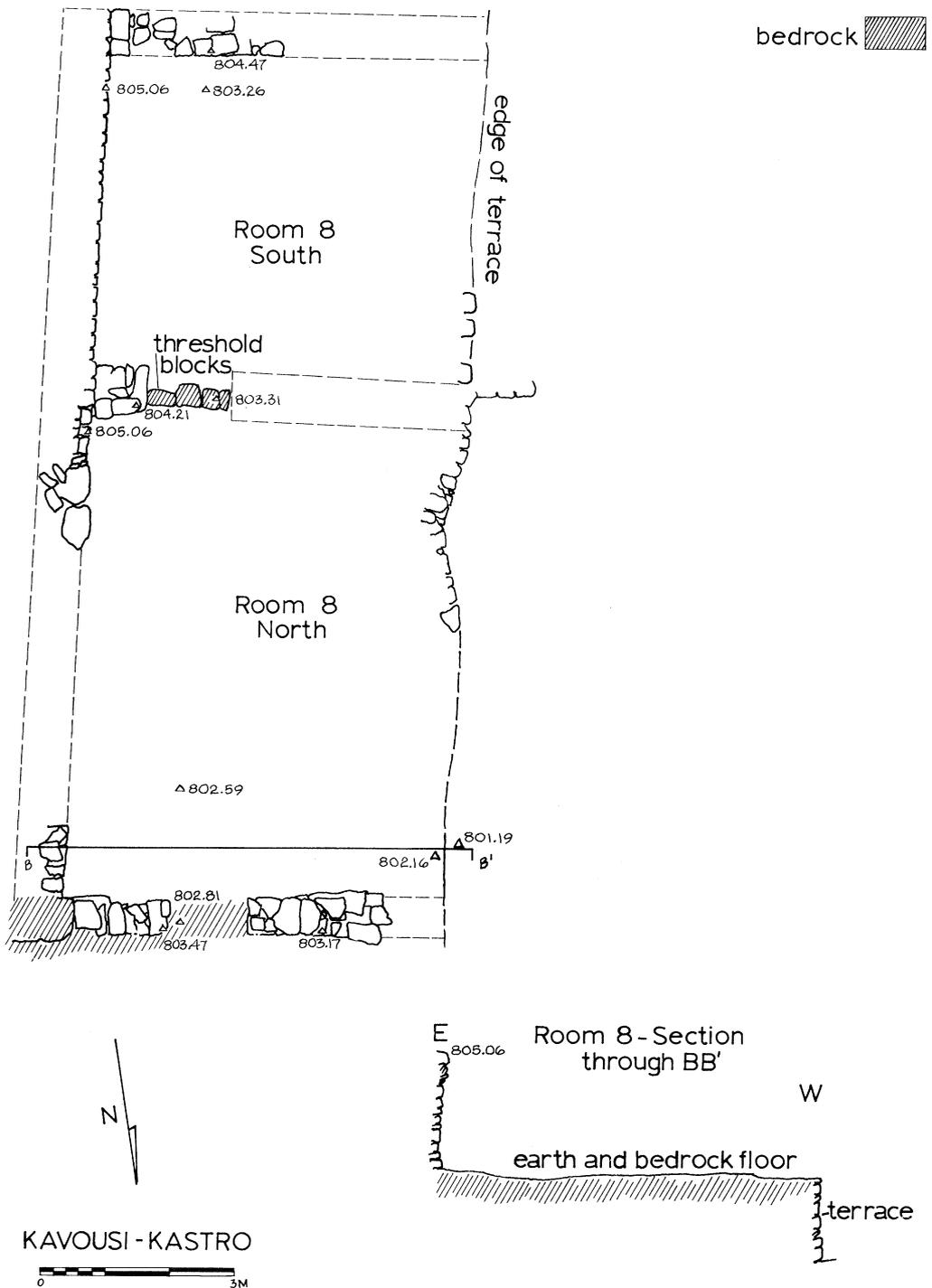


FIG. 6. Plan of Room 8

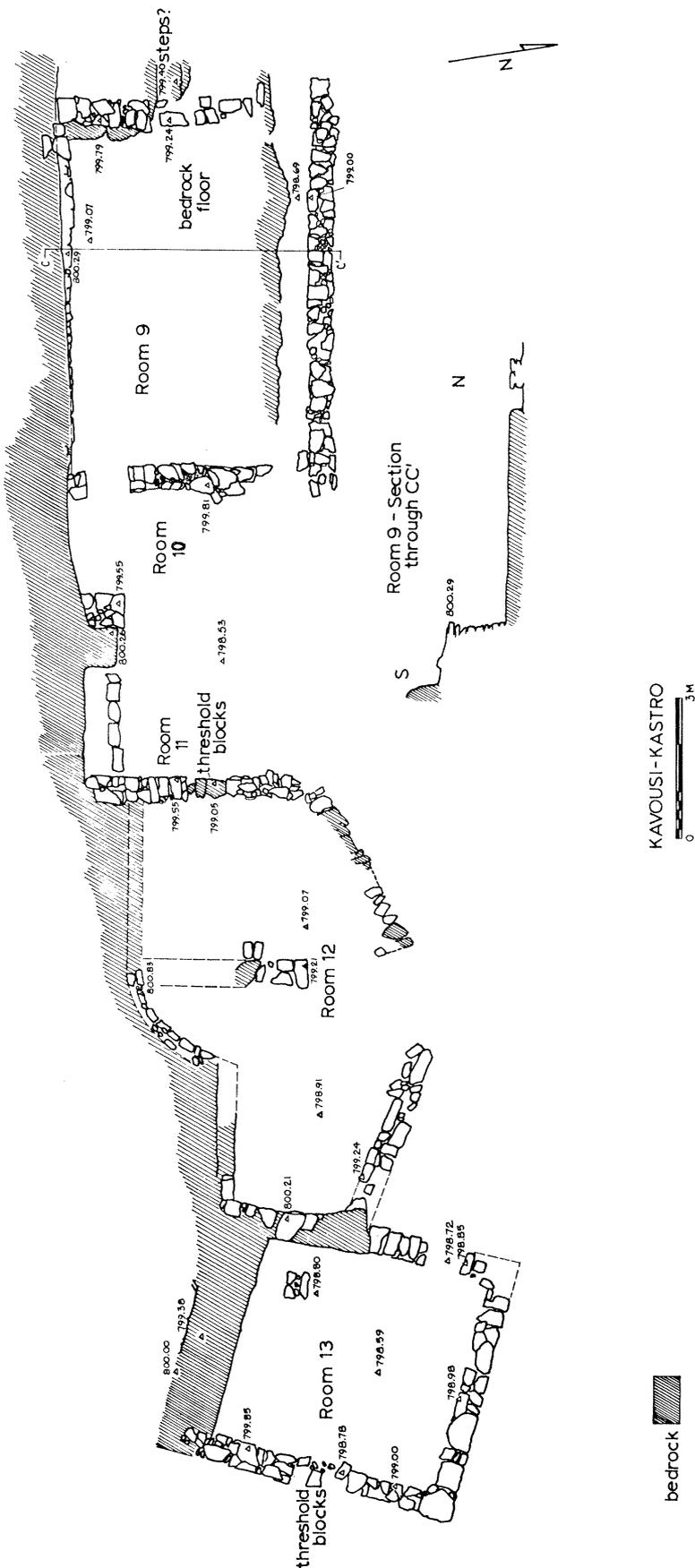


Fig. 7. Kastro: Plan of lower settlement

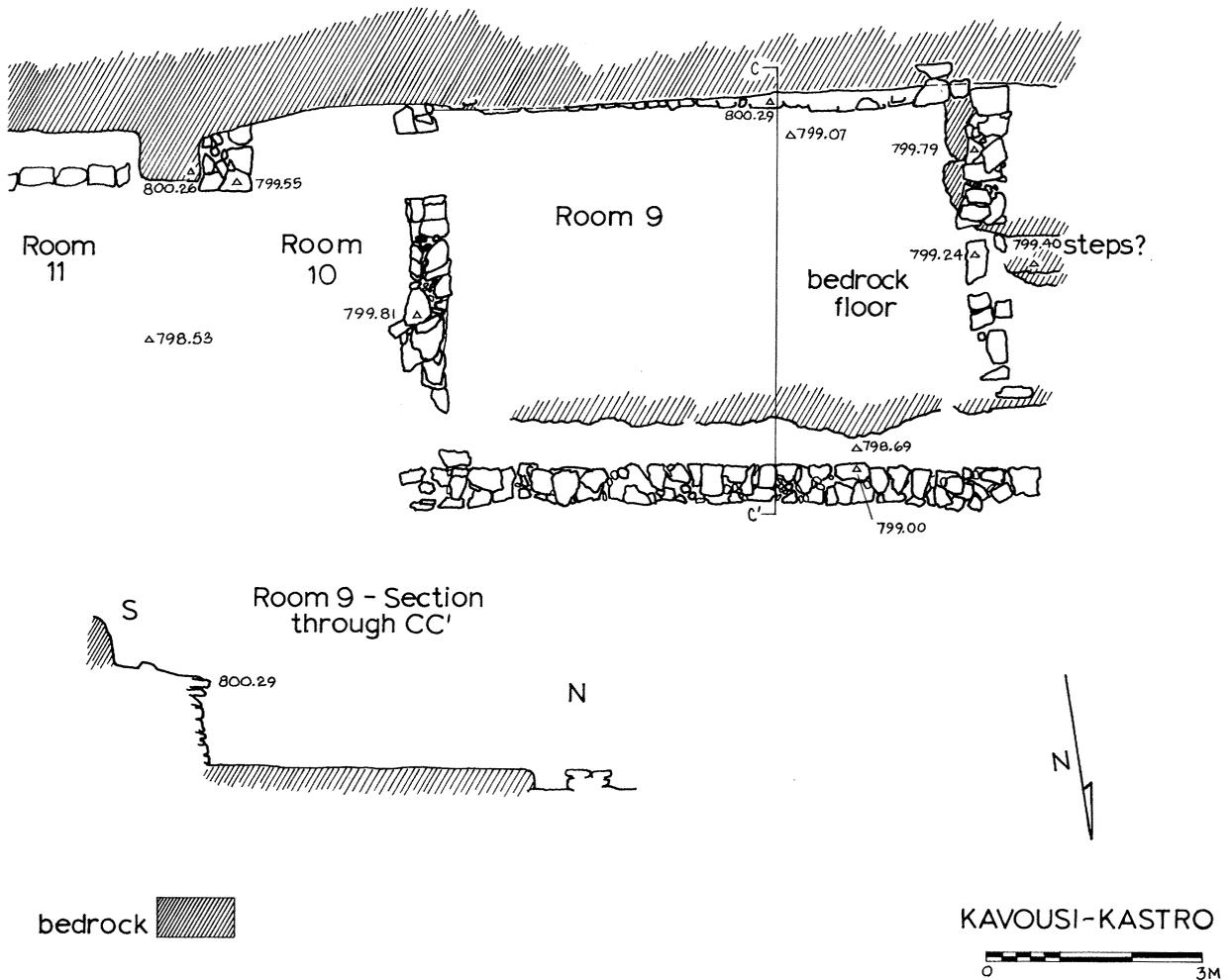


FIG. 8. Plan of Rooms 9-11

Rooms 10 and 11, since a few stones of this wall are still preserved extending into Room 10. The bedrock in Room 11 has been cut out on the south to increase the amount of space available for building the south wall or for a bench, a few stones of which are still preserved. Room 11 once had an oblong platform of stone slabs measuring 0.75×0.60 m., which Boyd removed.¹⁹ Possibly this oblong served as a base for wooden objects or furniture; the room is too small to have needed a roof support. Room 11 produced what Boyd termed the finest pottery from the Kastro.²⁰ The house of Rooms 9-11 has been identified by several scholars as the “megaron” or the home of the leader of the settlement.²¹

¹⁹ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 138, note 1.

²⁰ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 138.

²¹ J. N. Coldstream, *Geometric Greece*, London 1977, p. 278; Sinou, *Hausformen*, p. 112; Drerup, *Baukunst*, p. 41.

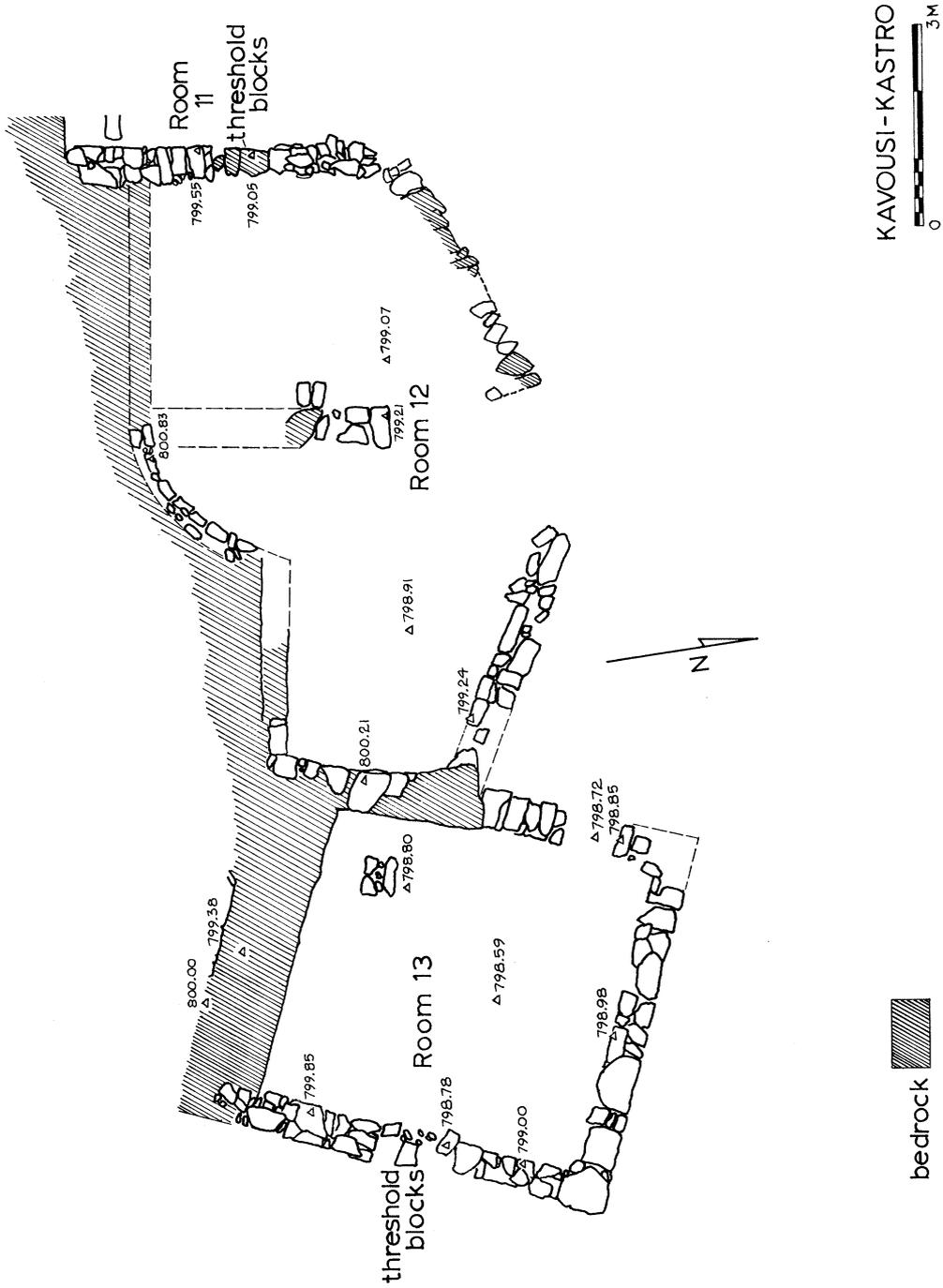


Fig. 9. Plan of Rooms 11-13

Room 12

Boyd's Room 12 (Fig. 9) consists of two separate rooms, both irregular in plan. Room 12W (3.50–5.00 m. N–S × 3.40 m. E–W) is bounded on the north by an oblique wall which Boyd did not indicate on her plan, and its east wall probably extended all the way from the bedrock on the south to its finished edge. Since there is a connecting doorway to Room 11, it is likely that at least the west half of Room 12 belonged to the large house on the west. It is uncertain whether a doorway existed between 12W and 12E. Room 12E (2.40–4.80 m. N–S × 4.80 m. E–W) is also very irregular; the bedrock has been cut back to form a socle for part of the wall on the south, while the rest of the wall is lined with a crude curve of stones. The northern wall of 12E is at an oblique angle. It is not possible to be certain just what purpose these two rooms served. Possibly they were shelters for animals.

Room 13

Room 13 (Fig. 9) is a small rectangle (4.80 m. N–S × 4.60 m. E–W) with doorways on both east and west (Pl. 94:b). As with the other rooms of this terrace, its southern walls are built on a socle of bedrock (Pl. 94:c). The east and west walls of the room are well preserved. In the southwest corner is a rectangle of flat stones measuring 0.55 × 0.50 m., which perhaps is similar to the one found by Boyd in Room 11. This building may have had additional rooms to the east, but excavations were not carried any farther in that direction.

THE POTTERY (Figs. 10–12)

Boyd dated the settlement on the Kastro to the Geometric period on the basis of the pottery which she excavated but did not publish and which is now unfortunately lost. Hence, the recovery of sherds from the cleaning was of great importance in determining with more precision the chronology of inhabitation at the site. Much of the pottery was found lying on or embedded in the surface soil, and the majority of the fragments were from coarse vessels. It is likely that these coarse sherds were left behind by Boyd, who, in accordance with the tastes of her time, may not have felt them worth removal for study. The fine fragments may have surfaced during the last 80 years through erosion or human activity. Since there is no guarantee that the findspots accurately represent the original position of these sherds, it has seemed best to discuss the pottery generally, rather than by room. The legends on Figures 10–12 and Plates 95–97, however, do show where the sherds were actually found. Our discussion includes the coarse wares as well as the fine pottery; since Protogeometric (PG) and Geometric coarse wares are not well known, it has seemed valuable to illustrate the range of their shapes and decorative motifs.

In addition to the surface material, two groups of previously unexcavated pottery were also recovered. One of these groups represents material found in the collapse of the south wall of Room 7, and the other was embedded in hard-packed soil along the north wall of Room 8N. It is certain that these two groups are associated with the rooms in which they were found, and accordingly they are treated separately. Our discussion concludes with a presentation of the surviving material from Boyd's excavations.

ROOM 7, SOUTH WALL: POTTERY

The debris which represents the collapse of the south wall of Room 7 produced an interesting assemblage of fine and coarse wares (Fig. 11). The following shapes are represented in the fine wares: rims from skyphoi (K76–K79, K81–K83, K86, K87), a cup (K88), kraters (K80, K85, K89, K100 [Pl. 96:d]), hydriai (K75, K84),²² and alabastron or squat jar (K90; Pl. 96:c); bases include the ringed (K102, K107, K110) and flat (K105, K106, K111, K112) varieties from cups or other open shapes and larger flat examples (K103, K104, K108, K109) from closed vessels, including one from a pyxis (K99; Pl. 96:c); handles include the small flat variety (K118, K119), probably from cups, with one (K121) containing horizontal stripes along its outer side, and larger elliptical examples (K101 [Pl. 96:d], K117, K120) probably from closed shapes. An unusual fragment (K98a), broken at the top and also slightly at the bottom, is shaped like a funnel and may belong to the type of stand uncovered by Boyd in her excavations at the site in 1900. Two of these (K199, K200; Pl. 97:f–h) still survive and are discussed in more detail later (pp. 351–352 below).

The decorative motifs from the fine wares in Room 7 may be listed as follows:

1. Broad reserved zone flanked by smaller bands: K93, K95, K97, K98 (Fig. 11; Pl. 96:c). On K98 the reserved zone is triangular in shape and flanked by streaky black paint.
2. Concentric semicircles: K91, K92 (Fig. 11). On K91 the semicircles are hand drawn and flanked above with a sharp wavy line.
3. Linked crosshatched diamonds (2 registers): K94 (Fig. 11).
4. Pendent crosshatched triangle: K96 (Fig. 11; Pl. 96:c).
5. Panel of crosshatching in white paint: K99 (Pl. 96:c).

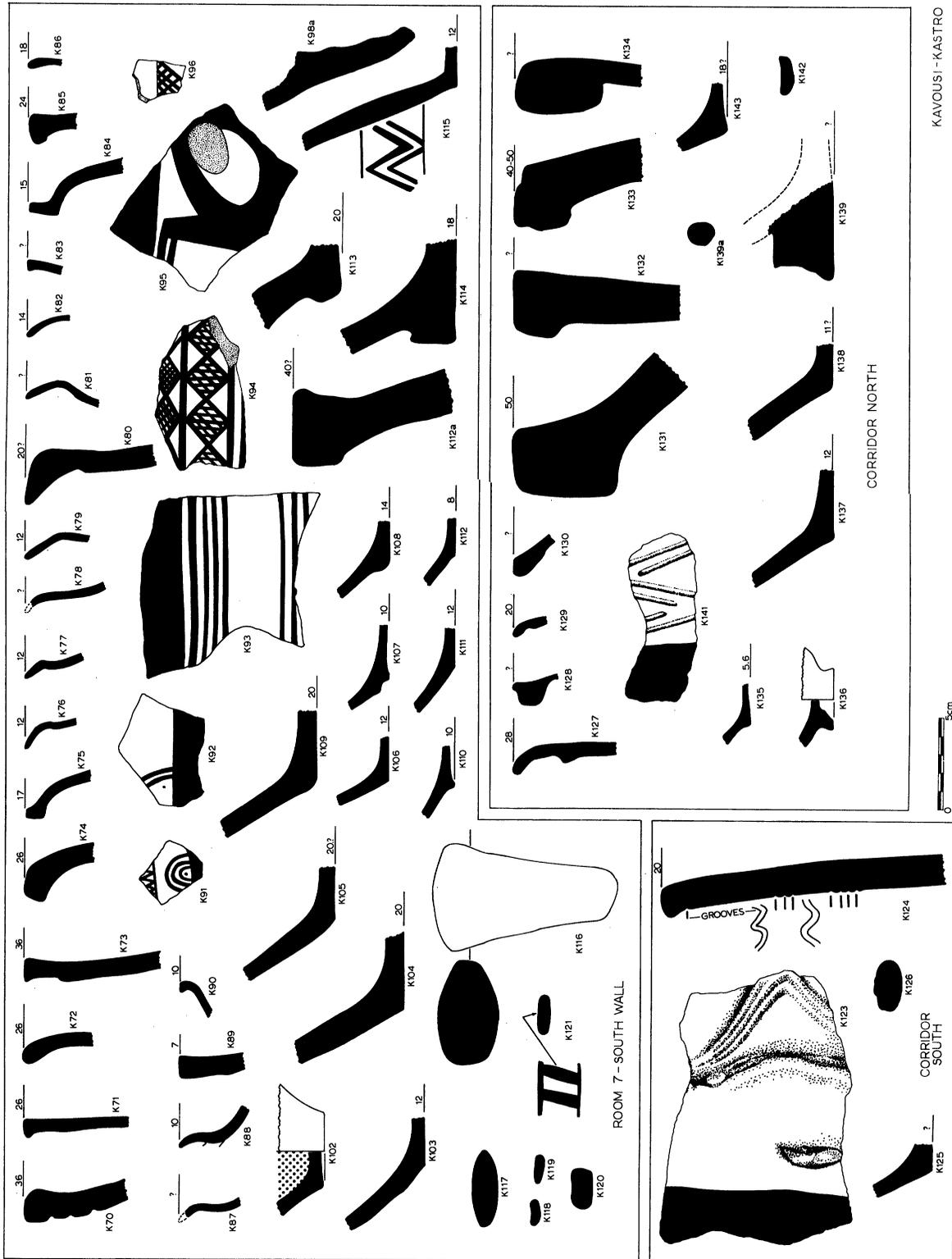
All are good PGB motifs and occur on vessels from the tombs at Vronda and Fortetsa.²³ The use of white paint on K99 (Pl. 96:c) is interesting. The exterior of this base preserves bands of white paint, and the underside has crosshatching also in white. The use of white paint for motifs on a black background is a common decorative device on LG vessels from the Kavousi area. It appears, for example, on an ovoid pithos from Skouriasmenos, where concentric circles are outlined in white, as are the bands and crosses on the strap handles.²⁴ The combination of white paint on K99 with the PG motif of crosshatching may indicate that PG motifs continued to be used well into Geometric times at Kavousi.

A relatively small amount of coarse ware was recovered. It includes a variety of rims (K70–K74, K112a), one of which (K70) preserves three horizontal grooves below the lip. The assemblage also includes pithos bases (K113–K115), a tripod leg (K116), and three decorated body fragments (K122; Pl. 96:e), two with incised chevrons and one with a plain raised ridge. K115 (Fig. 11) has a double zigzag painted in black, now quite faded, near its foot. An incised zigzag of similar form (K3a; Pl. 95:a) also occurs on a coarse fragment from the south court. The same decorative motif thus is found to appear in both incised and painted decoration on coarse vessels, illustrating the interchangeability of the technique used for motifs on coarse ware.

²² Similar hydria rims have been found in the Geometric settlement at Knossos. Coldstream, p. 92, fig. 11 of Late Geometric—Early Orientalizing (LG–EO) date.

²³ For the comparable vessels from Vronda IX and X, see “Kavousi, 1978–1981,” pp. 404–405, 407, fig. 8, nos. V18 and V20. Parallels from Fortetsa and elsewhere in Crete are cited on p. 404, note 39.

²⁴ For the pithos, see “Kavousi, 1978–1981,” pp. 412–413 and pl. 78:d (S24).



KAVOUSI - KASTRO

Fig. 11. Profiles of pottery, K70-K143

ROOM 8N: POTTERY

A much smaller group of sherds was found embedded in hard-packed soil along the north wall of Room 8N (Fig. 12). These include rim fragments from a krater (or possibly amphora, K150), pyxis (K151), basin or tray (K152), and skyphos (K153). There were also assorted bases (K156–K160) and handles (K163–K165). Of great importance is a body fragment (K154; Pl. 97:a) decorated in faded black paint with a double zigzag above and a scale pattern below. The scale pattern is reminiscent of that on an Early Orientalizing (EO) oinochoe from Skouriasmenos²⁵ and may indicate a similar date for our sherd. Interesting coarse wares from 8N include a pithos rim fragment (K167) with a ridge incised with diagonal slashes in imitation of rope decoration and an unusual body fragment (K168; Pl. 97:b) with a row of stamped rosettes.²⁶ Other decorated body fragments (K169; Pl. 97:c) include one with herringbone decoration, a second with a broad band incised with ropelike slashes, deeper than usual for the Kastro, and a third (K170) with a sharply raised, though undecorated, band.

POTTERY FROM THE SURFACE

The remainder of the sherds collected from the various rooms on the Kastro will be discussed in a general way, without reference to the findspots. A few observations, however, can be made concerning the distribution of pottery over the site. The greatest concentration was found in Room 7, and much of it was fine ware. The southern end of the settlement produced very little pottery, no doubt because there has been greater erosion on the summit of the peak. There was less soil here than elsewhere, and the walls were not well preserved. Although Boyd found the greatest amount of fine pottery in the lower settlement, especially in Room 11, our cleaning there yielded only a small amount of ceramic material, and it was generally in a poor state of preservation. Possibly Boyd discarded less because a greater proportion of the pottery was fine. Finally, the appearance, within the same rooms, of vessel fragments with widely dated decorative motifs and shapes suggests that the dwellings on the Kastro continued to be used for a long period of time. Otherwise, there seems to be nothing remarkable in the pattern of sherd distribution.

Many of the rims, bases, and handles serve to identify the shapes from which they were broken; the following fine shapes were found on the Kastro:

1. Skyphos (K1, K22, K24, K35, K36, K129, K146, K146a, K173, K178, K185, K191, K192).

This shape is the most common open vessel. It can be identified by its rim profile or occasionally (K173) by the base. The rims show much variation in the position of their everted lips. K1, however, has a sharply offset lip,²⁷ and K35 and K129 have grooves below the rim in the Laconian manner.²⁸

2. Cup (K22a, K33, K38, K40, K41, K135, K143a, K176, K177, K188).

²⁵ For the Skouriasmenos oinochoe, see "Kavousi, 1978–1981," p. 412 and pl. 78:f (S25).

²⁶ Cf. D. Chatzi-Valianou, "Σμάρι Πεδιάδας," *AAA* 13, 1980 (pp. 20–60), p. 57, fig. 33:γ.

²⁷ Similar skyphos rims belong to the DA II period at Nichoria; cf. *Nichoria* III, p. 132, fig. 3-16.

²⁸ The Laconian characteristic of grooves, or incisions, placed below the rim is discussed in *Nichoria* III, p. 78. See also P. A. Cartledge, *Early Sparta ca. 950–650 B.C.: An Archaeological and Historical Study*, D. Phil. thesis, Oxford 1975, pp. 88–89, and esp. pp. 91–92. Coulson discusses fully the Laconian system of grooving in "The Dark Age Pottery of Sparta," *BSA* 80, 1985, pp. 40–41.

Not as common as the skyphos, the cup is still well represented on the Kastro. It is recognizable not only by its straighter rim but also from the small flat base (K38, K40, K41, K135, K188). The most nearly complete cup profile (K143a) is of a broad shape which goes back to Minoan times but which also finds parallels in Protogeometric and Geometric contexts.²⁹

3. Krater (K11, K16, K17, K127, K144, K145, K172, K179, K193).

Kraters have fairly large, rounded or angular offset rims and frequently a ridge below the lip (K16, K127, K144, K145, K179).³⁰ K11 (Pl. 95:e) is a handle which probably comes from a krater and is decorated with reddish brown horizontal stripes along its top.³¹

Other open fine shapes include tray or basin (K152),³² shallow bowls (K34, K128, K130, K147, K175) with various profiles, including one (K128) with a lug below the rim. Similar shapes occur in coarse fabrics as well (K12, K25). Boyd also mentions that she found “milk bowls of the type described by Myres and Richter in their *Catalogue of the Cyprus Museum*.”³³

Closed shapes were less plentiful and more difficult to identify, but they include the trefoil lip of an oinochoe (K171), jug (K184), hydria or amphora (bases: K23, K39, K42, K43; handles: K45–K48, K189), squat amphora (K186), pyxis (K37, K44, K194), and an unusual hole-mouth jar (K179a). Boyd³⁴ also mentions having found stirrup jars.

The decorative motifs on the fine pottery are also of importance. The most interesting piece of decorated pottery found on the Kastro (K10; Fig. 10, Pl. 95:d) comes from Room 2. It is a body fragment from an amphora or hydria decorated with a horse in a metopal panel, to the right of which is an oblique line possibly forming a triangle with dots inside. The fabric and decoration of K10 is similar to that of an LG–EO hydria from the near-by tomb at Skouriasmenos where the horse is shown drawing a chariot with rider.³⁵

A most intriguing body fragment (K123; Pl. 96:f) is decorated with a band of washy black paint and curved plastic decoration, which may belong to the body of an animal. The

²⁹ *Nichoria* III, p. 151, fig. 3-35 (P633) and p. 174, fig. 3-58 (P1491), which, however, are shallower. See also Geometric cups from the Knossos settlement: Coldstream, p. 96, fig. 15.

³⁰ Such krater rims occur at Karphi, where they are also found on pithoid jars; cf. M. Seiradaki, “Pottery from Karphi,” *BSA* 55, 1960 (pp. 1–37), p. 5, fig. 2. They appear in coarse form in PG contexts at Knossos but not in the Geometric period; cf. Coldstream, p. 75, fig. 5 (E–MPG). Similar rims appear also at Nichoria during the DA II period there; cf. *Nichoria* III, p. 132, fig. 3-16 (P386, 470, 536).

³¹ Handles decorated with stripes, however, occur frequently elsewhere on kantharoi and amphoriskoi. Good examples of amphoriskoi decorated in such fashion form part of the contents of Tomb 23 at Palia Perivolia cemetery at Lefkandi; cf. *Lefkandi* I, pl. 141.

³² Similar vessels, although not exact parallels, can be found in the pottery from Knossos; cf. Coldstream, p. 94, fig. 13.

³³ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 141. She gives no reference, however, to any specific page number or object in the catalogue. The only place such bowls are mentioned is on page 15 in a description of the general characteristics of Bronze Age Cyprus; cf. J. L. Myres and M. Ohnefalsch Richter, *A Catalogue of the Cyprus Museum*, Oxford 1899, p. 15. Here they are referred to as “large open bowls often provided with spouts such as are among the essential features of a dairy.” No evidence for spouted bowls was found in the cleaning of the Kastro, but they do appear in Cyprus in PG contexts; cf. A. Pieridou, ‘Ο πρωτογεωμετρικός ῥυθμὸς ἐν Κύπρῳ, Athens 1973, p. 98 and pl. 7:4–9.

³⁴ Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 141.

³⁵ D. Levi, “Lo stile geometrico cretese,” *ASAtene* 10–12, 1927–29 (pp. 551–623), pp. 605–606, figs. 644a, b; and Boyd, “Kavousi,” pls. III, IV. A full publication of all the Skouriasmenos material is currently being prepared by the authors.

use of plastic decoration, although it does appear throughout Geometric times, occurs more frequently in LG and thus suggests that our example belongs to that period.³⁶

Three fragments from open vessels, found in Room 7, were decorated with crosshatched diamonds (K49) and triangles (K50 and possibly K51). Linked crosshatched diamonds have appeared elsewhere at Kavousi, specifically on vessels from Vronda Tombs IX and X, and represent a common PG decorative motif, as do the crosshatched triangles.³⁷ A distinctive decorated sherd (K18) from Room 4 contains a lustrous black zigzag between painted bands, a common EPG–PGB motif at Fortetsa and elsewhere in Greece,³⁸ as is the fragmentary semicircle on K149. Decorative motifs from closed vessels include a reserved panel with a band of white paint above (K52) and that of a wavy line between black bands (K53; Pl. 95:i). The use of white paint to highlight decorative motifs against a black background is a late device and seems to belong to the Late Geometric period.³⁹

Coarse vessels for the most part imitate the shapes of their finer counterparts. The commonest open shapes include bowls (K12, K25) and a basin or tray (K5) similar to those found at Karphi⁴⁰ but also continuing into the Protogeometric and Geometric periods.⁴¹ A leg of a tripod cooking vessel was also found (K8).⁴² Closed shapes include amphorae (K23, K54), amphora/ hydria (K197), and assorted bases and handles from unidentifiable shapes. The commonest closed shape, however, is the pithos, known from rims (K2, K26, K27, K55, K56, K124, K131–K134), bases (K3, K13, K14, K58–K63, K137–K139), handles (K64, K139a), and decorated body fragments. A number of these are from pithoi or pithoid jars (K55, K56, K58, K59, K124, K137, K138), but the remainder come from large storage vessels.

Of great interest is the broad range of decorative elements represented on the coarse ware. These are summarized below:

A. *Incised motifs*

1. Double zigzag between horizontal bands. K3a (Pl. 95:a), K141 (Fig. 11).

The angularity of the zigzag is reminiscent of the sharp wolf's tooth that appears as a frequent decoration on PG skyphoi⁴³ and may have been derived from it.

2. Wavy lines between horizontal bands. K124 (Pl. 96:g; Fig. 11).

Here the incisions are finely drawn and shallower than usual, and they may represent another LG feature. Incised wavy lines and grooves as such occur frequently on coarse vessels

³⁶ The most common examples are, of course, the representation of horses on pyxis lids, especially on Attic LG vases, and the use of snakes; cf. J. N. Coldstream, *Greek Geometric Pottery*, London 1968, pl. 9.

³⁷ Cf. footnote 23 above.

³⁸ Brock, *Fortetsa*, p. 170, no. 3a. The Fortetsa examples, however, are more vertical and not so slanted as our K18. A close parallel also occurs at Nichoria; cf. *Nichoria* III, p. 130, fig. 3-14 (P161) which is the decorated wall fragment of an amphora. See also, for example, *Lefkandi* I, pl. 176, Tomb 17 (Toumba Cemetery).

³⁹ Cf., e.g. pithos from Skouriasmenos, footnote 24 above.

⁴⁰ Cf. Seiradaki, *op. cit.* (footnote 30 above), p. 10, fig. 6.

⁴¹ Coldstream, figs. 4 and 13.

⁴² To date, tripod legs have rarely been published, yet they may be an indicator of date. For tripod vessels from Karphi, see Seiradaki, *op. cit.* (footnote 30 above), p. 7, fig. 4 and pl. 2. That tripod cooking vessels continued to be used on Crete into the Geometric period can be seen at Knossos; cf. Coldstream, fig. 9.

⁴³ For the zigzag, see E. H. Hall, "Excavations in Eastern Crete, Vrokastro," *University of Pennsylvania, The University Museum Anthropological Publications* III, iii, Philadelphia 1914, p. 146, fig. 86:d; for the wolf's tooth, see *Nichoria* III, pp. 144–145, figs. 3-28, 3-29.

throughout the early Iron Age. Those on K124, probably made with a finely pointed combed instrument, are reminiscent of the shallow incisions that occur on coarse ware from LG contexts at Lefkandi⁴⁴ and suggest a similar time frame for our example.

3. “X”- and “Y”-shaped incisions. K174 (Fig. 12).

4. Diagonal slashes in imitation of a rope.⁴⁵ K7 (Pl. 95:b).

5. Raised wavy band with diagonal slashes. K65 (Pl. 95:j).

This is a motif which is also found on pottery from the settlement at Vronda.⁴⁶ It appears to be a variation of the common horizontal raised band decorated with slashes and may represent a stylized concept of the rope decoration.

6. Chevrons. K15 (Pl. 95:f), K183 (Pl. 97:d left).

On K15, the chevrons appear on a curvilinear raised band, perhaps part of a decorated circle, with four raised bands of incised rope decoration above.

7. Herringbone. K32 (Pl. 95:g left), K66 (Pl. 96:a), K67, K140 (Pl. 96:h left).

On K32 left, the decoration is formed by a double row of chevrons which together form a herringbone,⁴⁷ and on K66 and K67, there are diagonal slashes on three separate bands which together also form a herringbone.⁴⁸

8. Crosshatching. K32 (Pl. 95:g right).

9. Concentric semicircles. K140 (Pl. 96:h middle and right).

Concentric semicircles represent a popular PG decorative motif on fine wares (cf. K91, K92), and their occurrence on coarse vessels simply represents the transference of the motif from one grade of vase to the other.

10. Spirals. K9 (Pl. 95:c), K15a (Pl. 95:h), K68 and K69 (Pl. 96:b), K183 (Pl. 97:d right).

On K9, the spirals are placed on a curvilinear raised band; on K69 they are combined with an incised triangle below; and on K183 (Pl. 97:d right), they are arranged in vertical rows with stick impressions and an incised square, possibly part of a metope in variation of the decorated metopal panel motifs found commonly on PGB fine wares.

B. Painted Motifs

1. Black bands. K4 (Fig. 10).

2. Double zigzag. K115, K148 (Figs. 11, 12).

3. Loops. K190 (Fig. 12).

This fragment is from a rim of a small pithos, missing its lip but with loops in faded red paint and monochrome coating above and below. The fabric and type of paint used are similar to a decorated pithos fragment from Tomb V at Vronda,⁴⁹ which appears to be Geometric (EG–MG) in date and may provide a similar chronological framework for K190.

⁴⁴ *Lefkandi I*, pl. 58, nos. 331–334.

⁴⁵ J. Bouzek (*The Attic Dark Age Incised Ware*, Prague 1974, p. 48) suggests that Dark Age coarse ware was influenced by baskets and primitive vessels made from organic material, bound with cord or strips of cloth. This may well be the explanation for the appearance of rope decoration on coarse vessel fragments from the Kastro.

⁴⁶ In their partial cleaning of the settlement at Vronda in 1983, the authors uncovered two pithoi, smashed but otherwise relatively intact, which preserved raised wavy bands decorated with slashes.

⁴⁷ Pit 2 (Sub-Protogeometric [SPG]) in the Xeropolis Area 2 yielded a coarse fragment with herringbone decoration; cf. *Lefkandi I*, pl. 17, no. 249. LG coarse ware with incised chevrons also comes from Xeropolis (cf. *Lefkandi I*, pl. 58), but the incisions here appear to be shallower than our examples from the Kastro. This continuity of decoration illustrates the difficulties one encounters in dating coarse ware, because similar motifs appear to be used over long periods of time.

⁴⁸ An SPG example from Lefkandi has preserved only two ridges with opposed slashes; the general concept of the design, however, is similar to our K66 and K67; cf. *Lefkandi I*, pl. 17, no. 248.

⁴⁹ “Kavousi, 1978–1981,” p. 405 and pl. 76:f (V10). The running loops on a hydria (no. 342) from Tomb OD at Fortetsa provide a close but not exact parallel for the decorative motif on our K190; cf. Brock, *Fortetsa*, pl. 25, no. 342.

4. Wavy line. K187 (Fig. 12).

This is a body sherd, probably from an amphora, decorated with a broad wavy line with bands above and monochrome coating below. This example represents a good PGB motif and occurs on vessels from Fortetsa.⁵⁰

Some of the above motifs are unusual, such as the “X”- and “Y”-shaped incisions and the raised wavy band with diagonal slashes. Others, such as the double zigzag, wavy lines, crosshatching, concentric semicircles, and running spirals have been adapted from motifs common on the fine wares of the period.

FINDS FROM BOYD’S EXCAVATIONS

The extant pottery from Boyd’s excavations includes the “funnels” pictured in her report,⁵¹ as well as two of three objects which she identified as trumpet-shaped funnels.⁵² The two “funnels” are now seen to be two halves of a single vessel, probably a lekythos (K198: Fig. 13, Pl. 97:e).⁵³ The rim and base are missing, but it is otherwise complete. The dark gray clay is quite flaky and the surfaces are worn, but preserved on the exterior are incised rosettes arranged in vertical rows of four. An EO aryballos from Tomb P at Fortetsa,⁵⁴ which has the same gray bucchero fabric and rosette decoration, suggests a similar EO date for K198. Since the fabric does not resemble any of the local clays, it is probable that this piece was imported from outside Crete.

Of the two surviving stands or funnels,⁵⁵ K199 (Pl. 97:f) is the better preserved, missing about half of the base and one third of the rim. The presence of a single handle on its counterpart, K200, indicates that K199 originally had a similar handle on its missing side. K200 (Pl. 97:g, h) is missing its rim and half of the lower body, but the handle is

KAVOUSHI-KASTRO

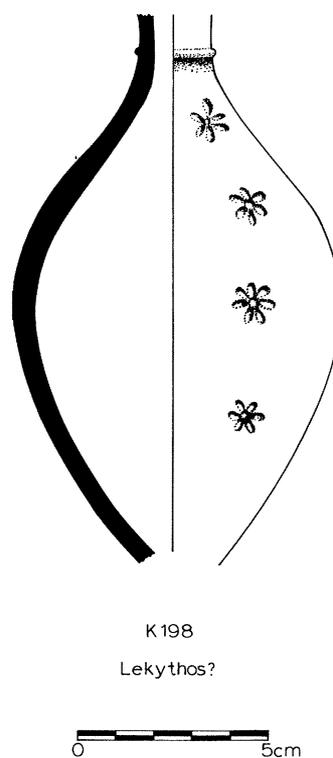


FIG. 13. Lekythos(?) K198

⁵⁰ For example, on a krateriskos from Tomb XI; cf. Brock, *Fortetsa*, pl. 11, no. 164. For a similar decorative motif from Nichoria, see *Nichoria* III, p. 131, fig. 3-15 (P1581).

⁵¹ Boyd, “Kavousi,” pl. II.

⁵² Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 141, note 1.

⁵³ The two funnels illustrated in Boyd, “Kavousi,” pl. II, top row, second and third from left, are actually two halves of a single vessel, which were joined by the authors in 1979 during their study of the material still extant from Boyd’s excavations.

⁵⁴ Brock, *Fortetsa*, pp. 107–108, no. 1247 and pl. 100.

⁵⁵ The third stand or funnel is now missing; see Boyd, “Kavousi,” p. 141, note 1, no. k (c).

intact. Both examples, of coarse but well-fired light red clay, are covered with a white slip and decorated with groups of incised horizontal bands at the base, in the handle zone, and below the rim. Although objects of this shape have not been noted elsewhere on Crete, many later parallels are to be found in Mainland Greece, the Black Sea area, and the Western colonies. Recently, these have been identified as *lasana*, or pot stands, common Greek utilitarian vessels in use from the Archaic to the Hellenistic periods.⁵⁶ The Kavousi examples may now be identified as pot stands and are among the earliest known.

Other finds made by Boyd on the Kastro included a stone kernos or gaming table (Pl. 94:d), a bronze rivet, a whorl and knife sharpener of soapstone, stone weights and tools, a millstone, clay weights and whorls, and an animal figurine.⁵⁷

SUMMARY OF THE ARCHITECTURE

The excavated houses of the settlement of Kavousi are generally simple structures of one or two, occasionally four, rectangular rooms. It is clear that much effort went into terracing the peak so that the house plans might be laid out with rectangular rooms. Although individual plans and details vary, the large rectangular room is a consistent feature. Most of the rooms are large enough to require internal roof supports, but no evidence for these or for the roofing remains today. Three of the rooms (Rooms 2, 11, and 13) contained low platforms built of stone or cut from bedrock, which might have supported wooden piers or columns; those in Rooms 2 and 13, however, were placed too near the walls to have offered any structural support for the roof, and Room 11 is too small to have required a support. Therefore these platforms must have served some other function. Whatever their use, such platforms were common in constructions of the Late Minoan IIIC—Geometric periods on Crete.⁵⁸ There is no evidence for the nature or construction of the roofs, although it is likely that they followed the Cretan style of flat roofs and that some movement between the buildings took place on the roofs.

The orientation of the houses seems to have been dictated by the size and shape of the terraces on which they were built. Entrances are positioned to provide access to a street or court, and there is no single orientation for the doorways into the buildings on the Kastro. Many of the houses (Rooms 1–2, 5–6, 13) have entrances on the long side of the room, while others (Rooms 7, 8, 9–12W) are in the “megaron style”, with doors on the short sides. The position of the doors in Cretan Geometric houses has been seen as an indication of different architectural traditions. The “megaron style” house, generally believed to have appeared in Crete in LM III, may derive from Mycenaean prototypes.⁵⁹ Other house plans may have had an indigenous development derived from the architecture of the Palatial Period.⁶⁰ At

⁵⁶ S. Morris, “Lasana,” *Hesperia* 54, 1985, pp. 393–409.

⁵⁷ Boyd, “Kavousi,” pp. 137–143.

⁵⁸ Hayden, “Vrokastro,” p. 376, note 23.

⁵⁹ J. McEnroe, *Minoan House and Town Arrangement*, diss. University of Toronto 1979, pp. 146–160. Hayden (“Vrokastro,” p. 386) is not so certain of the origins of this house type.

⁶⁰ A distinction has often been made by scholars dealing with early Iron Age architecture on Crete between the Mycenaean “megaron type” house and the local Minoan type with an entrance on the long side. See Drerup, *Baukunst*, p. 83 (who labels the latter type the “breithaus”), Sinos, *Hausformen*, p. 112, and V. R.

Kavousi, however, the terrain and the position of the streets seem to have been the determining factors in placing the entranceways.

An unusual feature of the upper settlement on the Kastro is the presence of small courts partitioned out of the street area. These small areas may have served as kitchens (as with Room 6), storage spaces with bins (Rooms 4, 7), or areas for sitting outside, as suggested by the presence of benches (Rooms 6, 7). Use of the street area in this way has not been mentioned in connection with other Geometric settlements, but a possible parallel exists in street 24 at Vrokastro,⁶¹ and it is common in modern Cretan villages.

At the present time, one house seems to stand out, the “megaron” of Rooms 9-10-11-12W. It is the largest excavated building on the site, consisting of four rooms with doors on the short sides, and it contained much fine pottery. It seems likely, therefore, that this was the house of a prosperous or powerful individual.

Although the pottery shows that the settlement was in use over a long period of time, neither the construction of the walls nor the plans of the houses gives any indication of chronological development. It is even difficult to determine a sequence for the construction of the buildings, since many of the walls are not preserved to a sufficient height to show whether they were bonded together or built up against an already existing structure. In addition, many of the walls incorporate bedrock in their construction, especially in the lower courses, and the bedrock gives no indication of the sequence of building. The plans and orientation offer no clues for dating, since they are remarkably consistent. Such differences as there are in the orientation of the buildings are probably a result of adaptation to existing topographical features, rather than an indication of difference in date.

It is not possible to determine the whole plan of the settlement, since so much of it is still unexcavated. A few observations can be made, however, on the basis of the excavated buildings. The difficulty of the terrain made the construction of terraces a necessity. Houses were then built on the terraces in such a way as to make the most efficient use of the space, rather than to orient the rooms in a particular direction; streets were fitted in where space was available. In the upper settlement a street ran along the west side of the houses and possibly along the east; the presence of streets in the middle and lower settlements is less clear. Currently, there are no traces of a street in the middle settlement, although the position of the door would suggest a street on the north. There is some evidence for a stepped street on the west of Room 9, which may have continued up past the north wall of Room 8 to the upper settlement; this street gave access to Building 9–12W. It is interesting to note that there was a large open court at the top of the town, which certainly was of some importance; with so little available space it is unlikely that this area would have been left open if it had

d'A. Desborough, *The Greek Dark Ages*, London 1972, pp. 118, 120, 129. The idea that the Minoan type of house had the entrance on the long side and the Mycenaean on the short goes back to the publication of the settlement at Karphi. See H. W. and J. D. S. Pendlebury and M. B. Money-Coutts, “Excavations in the Plain of Lasithi, III. Karphi. A City of Refuge of the Early Iron Age in Crete,” *BSA* 38, 1937/38 (pp. 57–145), p. 84. Recent studies of Minoan houses, however, have indicated that while the rectangular house with the entrance on the short side was introduced into Crete in the LM III period, there is no clear Minoan house type. See McEnroe, *op. cit.*, pp. 159–168 and Hayden, “Vrokastro,” pp. 384–387.

⁶¹ Hayden, “Vrokastro,” p. 372, fig. 3.

not served a necessary function. In the lower settlement, Hayden⁶² suggests that an open area north of Building 9–12W, where today there is a small space devoid of building remains, might have been a court, but there is not sufficient evidence for this theory. The arrangement of towns on mountain terraces with buildings sharing party walls and served by stepped, paved streets exists at other Cretan sites of the early Iron Age, in particular at Karphi and near-by Vrokastro. Paved streets are also a feature of the early Iron Age settlements at Phaistos, Arkades, and towns on other Aegean islands.⁶³ Although the town plan of Kavousi is similar to others on Crete, the houses of the settlement are much more regular in plan. The closest parallels for these buildings seem to be the houses along the east side of the settlement at Karphi.⁶⁴

Finally, the rooms on the Kastro seem all to have served a domestic function, and the finds from the settlement confirm this impression. It is possible that one of the houses belonged to a prosperous man or leader (Rooms 9–12W) and that weaving was carried on in another (Room 7); the courtyard at the top may have been a public gathering place.⁶⁵ There are no buildings or areas on the peak itself which seem to serve a religious function. Just across the saddle on the slopes of Plaī Tou Kastrou, however, Boyd did find walls and a hoard of terracotta animals in a deposit of burned earth.⁶⁶ These remains, located in an area which probably was contiguous with the town, may represent a town sanctuary.

CHRONOLOGY AND CONCLUSIONS

Until more coarse ware is studied from stratified contexts elsewhere on Crete, the Kastro coarse material unfortunately cannot be used as a reliable chronological indicator, and we must rely chiefly on the decorative motifs which occur on the finer wares. There is no clear indication of when the settlement on the Kastro was founded. Boyd mentioned finding there a fragment of a stirrup jar, and the near-by tomb at Plaī Tou Kastrou, which was associated with the settlement, yielded vessels of Subminoan—Early Protogeometric date. It is, therefore, likely that the settlement on the Kastro had been founded by the Early Protogeometric period.

Our earliest concrete evidence, however, is Protogeometric in date and consists of sherds with such common decorative motifs as linked crosshatched diamonds and triangles (K49–

⁶² Hayden, "Vrokastro," p. 378, note 27.

⁶³ For example, at Zagora on Andros and also at Emporio on Chios. For Phaistos, see L. Renard, "Notes d'architecture proto-géométrique et géométrique en Crète," *AntCl* 36, 1967 (pp. 566–595), pp. 582–585, pl. 4, fig. 6 and pl. 5, fig. 8; Coldstream, *op.cit.* (footnote 21 above), p. 279, fig. 89. For Arkades, see D. Levi, "Arkades, una città cretese all'alba della civiltà ellenica," *ASAtene* 10–12, 1927–29 (pp. 38–57), p. 49, fig. 30. For Zagora, see A. Cambitoglou, J. J. Coulton, J. Birmingham, and J. R. Green, *Zagora I*, Sydney 1971, p. 17. Streets are also suggested at Emporio; cf. J. Boardman, *Excavations in Chios 1952–1955, Creek Emporio* (BSA, Suppl. VI), 1967, figs. 18 (House A and Lower Megaron), 21 (House E), 24 (House I), and 27 (Houses U, V).

⁶⁴ Pendlebury, Pendlebury, and Money-Coutts, *op. cit.* (footnote 60 above), pl. IX and pp. 70–71. Drerup (*Baukunst*, p. 82) suggests a later date for these houses.

⁶⁵ This was not, however, a proper agora, since there does not seem to be a chieftain's dwelling or public building in the vicinity.

⁶⁶ Boyd, "Kavousi," p. 149 and pl. V.

K51, K94, K96), concentric semicircles (K91, K92), and a panel of crosshatching (K99). The zigzags and wavy lines of K18 and K187 also occur throughout the Protogeometric period, continuing into Protogeometric B.

The evidence for the Early Geometric—Middle Geometric phase from the settlement is not secure, but the Plaï Tou Kastrou tomb has produced many whole vessels of this phase. On the other hand the material for the Late Geometric—Early Orientalizing phase is abundant and includes the horse of K10, the use of white paint on K52 and K99, the fine and shallow grooves on K124, the scale pattern on K154, the gray bucchero and rosettes of K198, and the plastic animal decoration on K123. In summary, then, it appears that the settlement on the Kastro was occupied continuously from Protogeometric to Early Orientalizing times, that is from roughly the late 10th to the early 7th centuries B.C. The amount of material recovered from the various periods within this broad chronological framework allows us to speculate that the settlement was fairly prosperous in the Protogeometric period, went through a decline in the Early and Middle Geometric periods, and had its greatest floruit in the Late Geometric and Early Orientalizing periods. This accords well with the predominantly Late Geometric—Early Orientalizing material from the near-by tombs at Plaï Tou Kastrou and Skouriasmenos.

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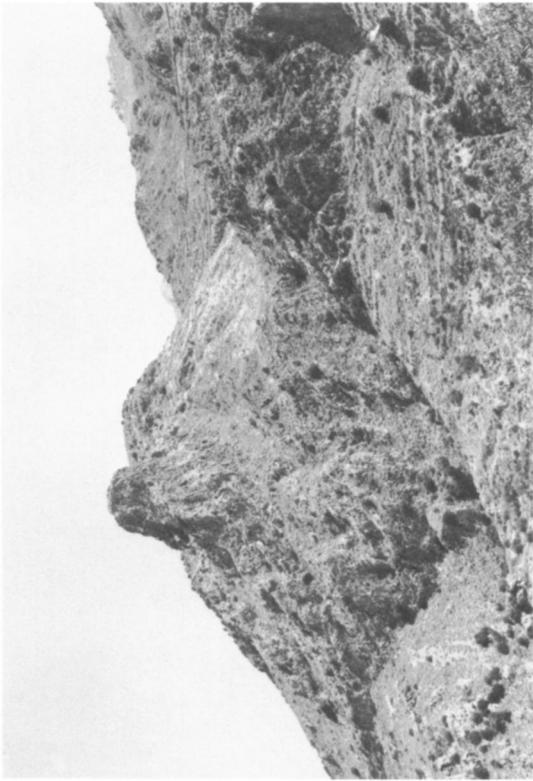
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⁶⁷ All the authors have contributed equally to this article. [To simplify indexing, the order of their names, which is arbitrary, is the same as that for the preceding report in this journal. —Ed.]



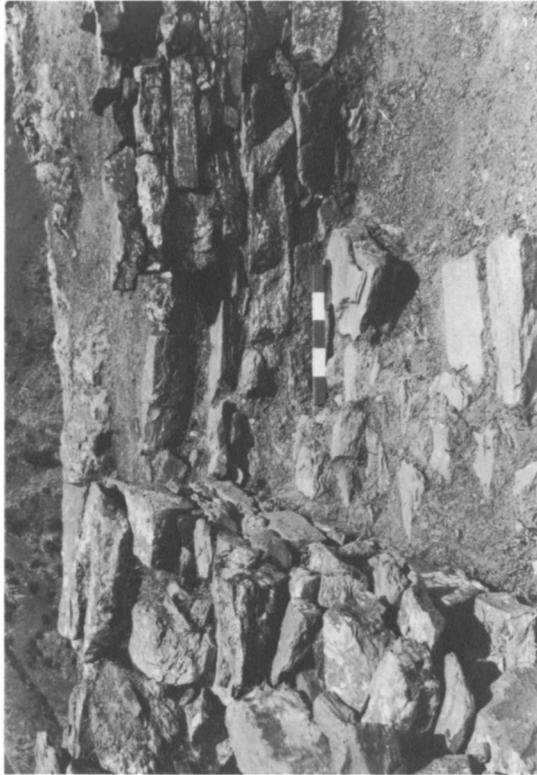
a. The Kastro from the west



b. The Kastro from the southeast



c. The courtyard

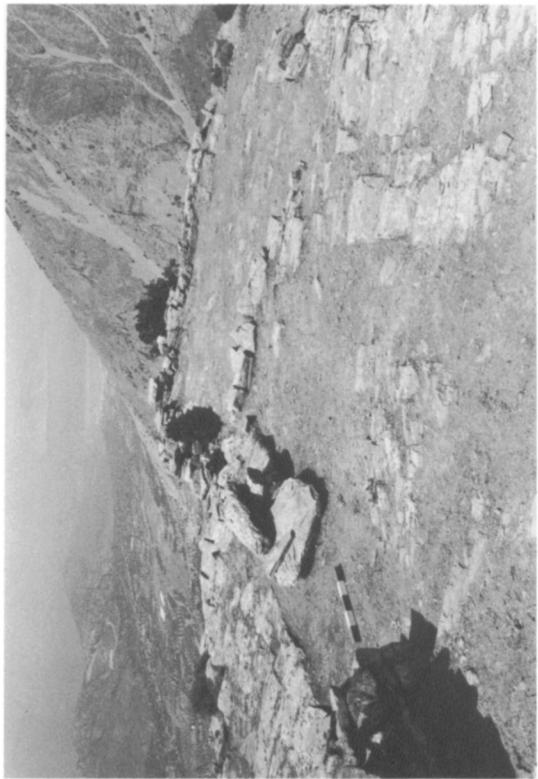


d. Staircase in the courtyard, from the west

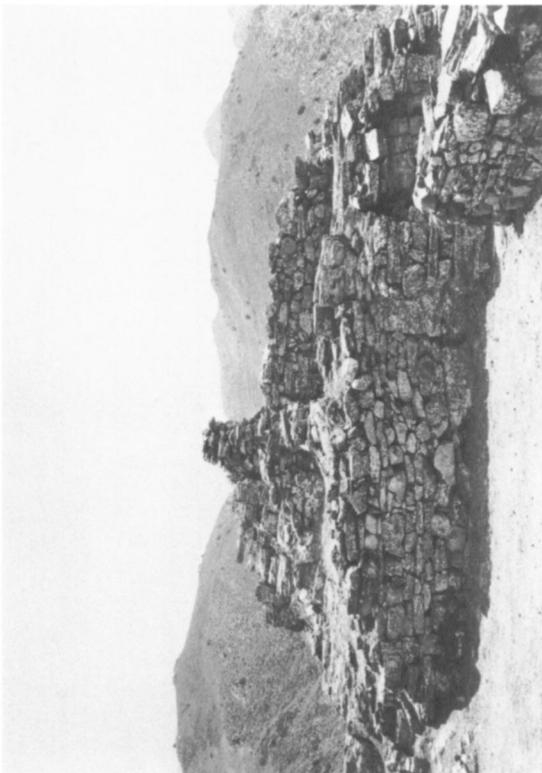
G. C. GESELL, L. P. DAY, AND W. D. E. COULSON: KAVOUSHI, 1982-1983: THE KASTRO



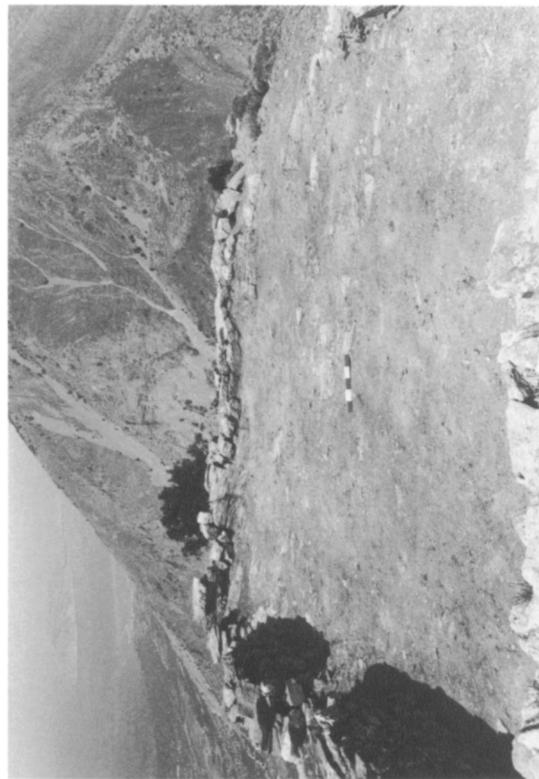
a. Rooms 1 and 2, from the south



b. Rooms 3 and 4, from the southeast



c. Room 5 from the north



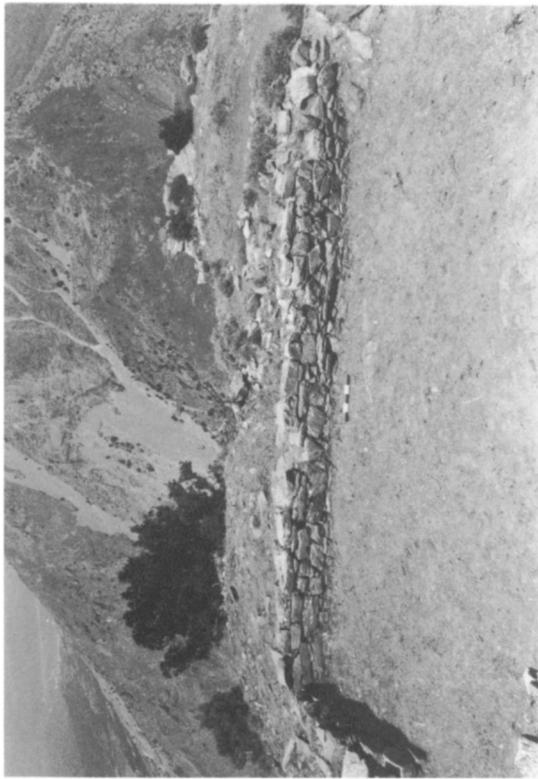
d. Room 5 from the south



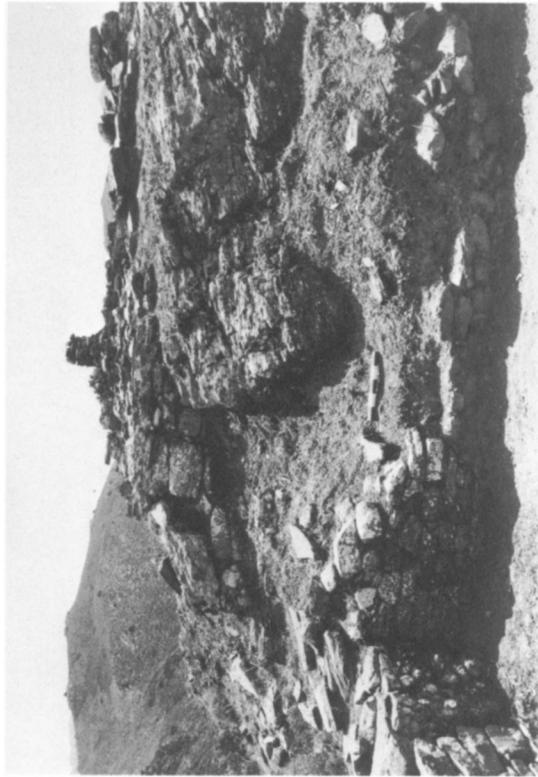
a. Room 6 and platform to the west, from the west



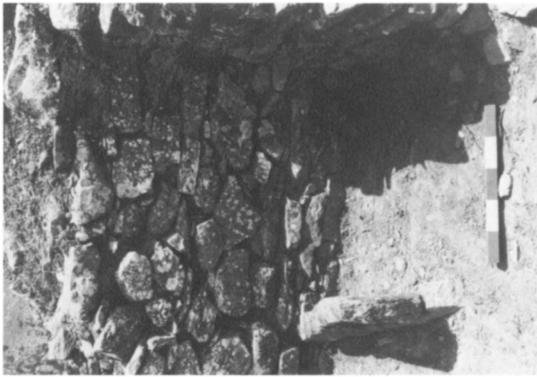
b. "Oven" outside Room 6, from the northeast



c. Room 7 from the south



d. South wall of Room 7, from the north



a. Bin or bench outside Room 7,
from the west



b. Corridor from the north



c. Room 8 from the northwest



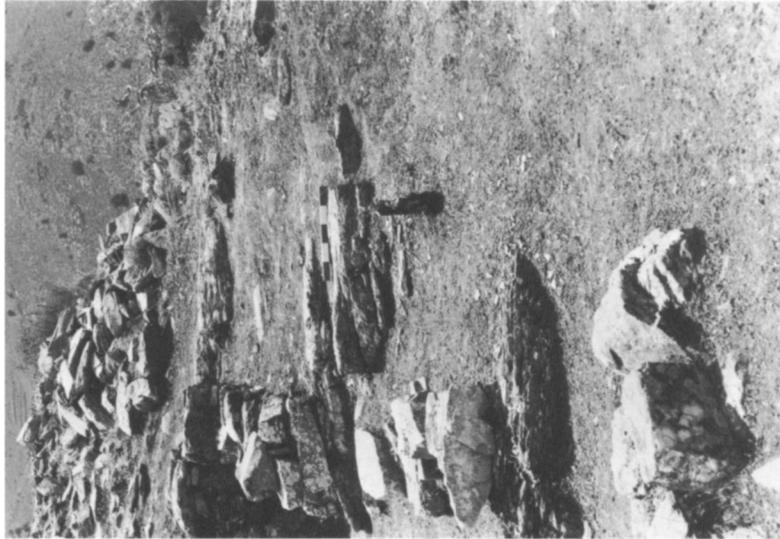
d. Room 8 and doorway, from the north



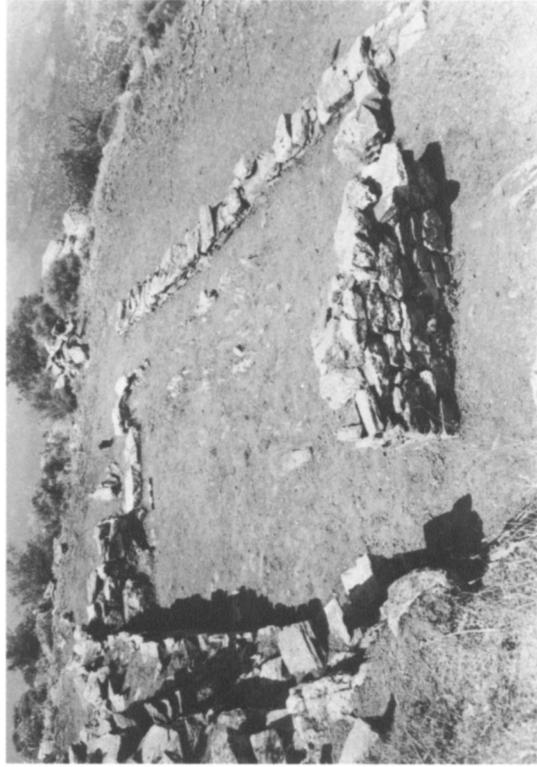
a. Corner west of Room 8,
from the northwest



b. Room 9 from the north

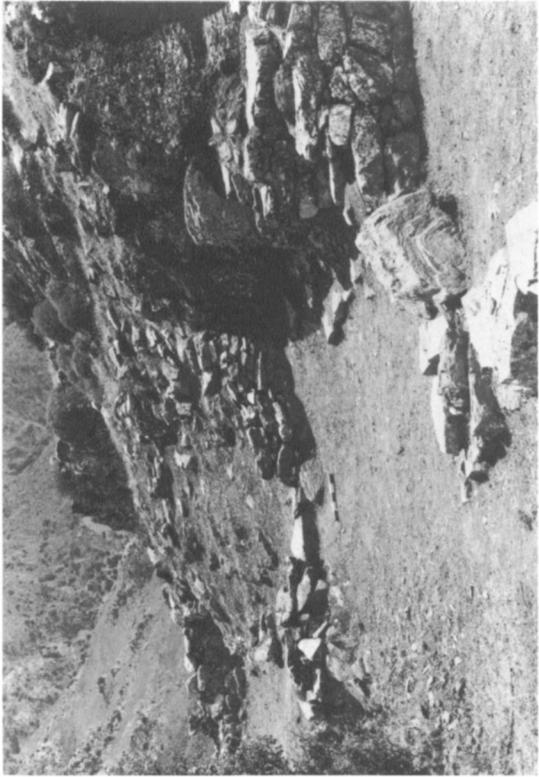


c. Steps west of Room 9,
from the north

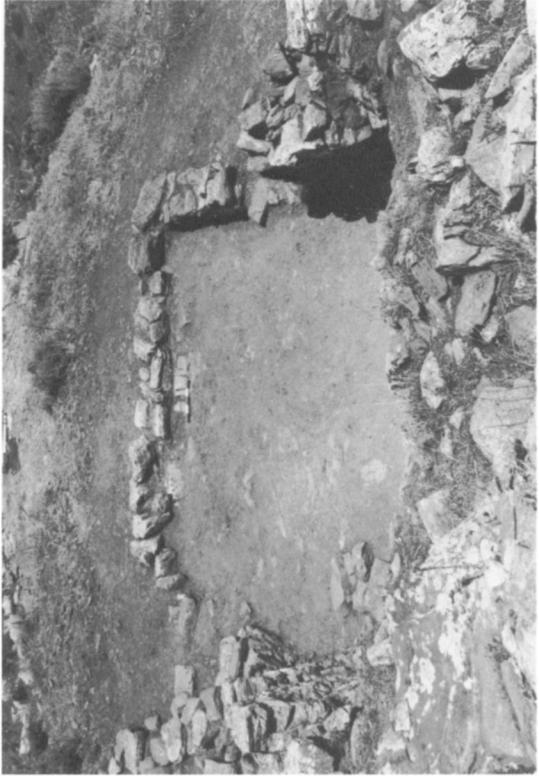


d. Room 9 from the southeast

PLATE 94



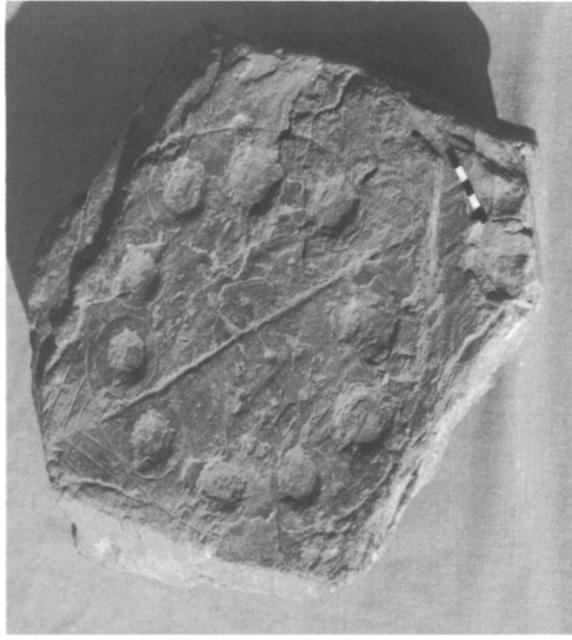
a. Rooms 9, 10, and 11, from the west



b. Room 13 from the south



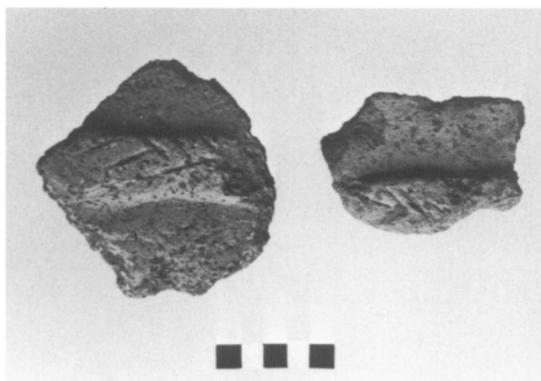
c. Room 13 from the north



d. Stone gaming table from Room 1



a. K3a: Pithos body fragment (South Court)



b. K7: Pithos body fragments (North Court)



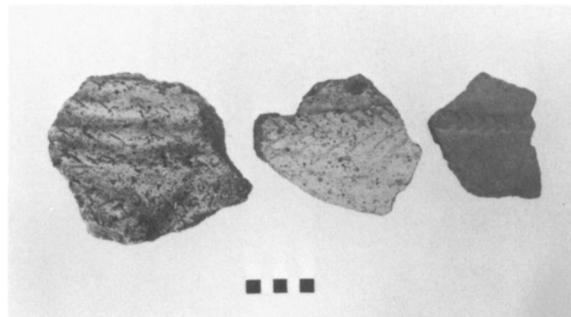
c. K9: Pithos body fragment (Room 1)



d. K10: Decorated body fragment (Room 2)

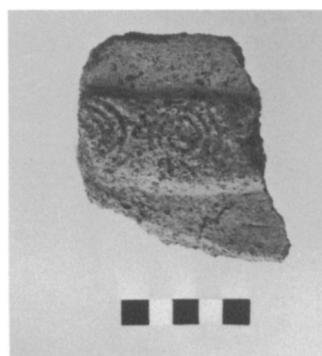
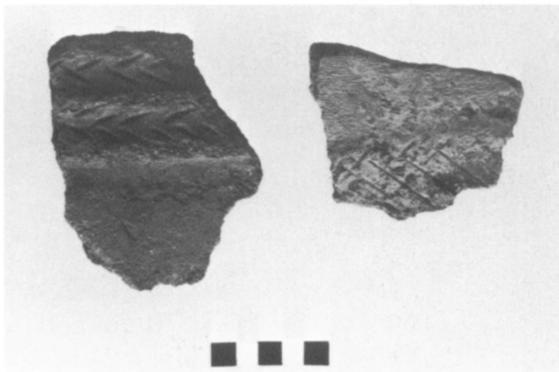


e. K11: Decorated handle fragment (Room 2)



f. K15: Pithos body fragments (Room 2)

g. K32: Pithos body fragments ("Oven")



h. K15a: Pithos body fragment (Room 2)

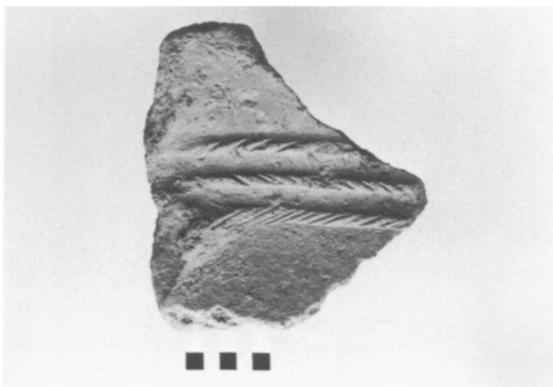


i. K53: Decorated neck fragment (Room 7)

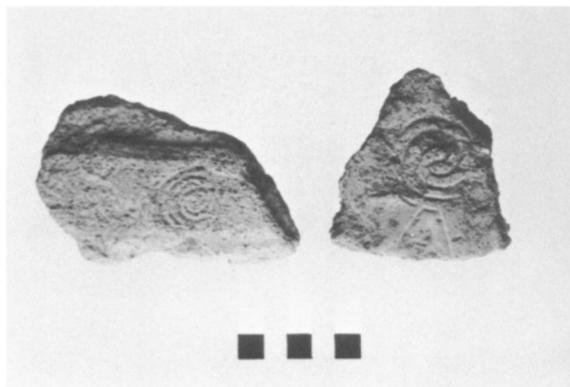


j. K65: Pithos body fragment (Room 7)

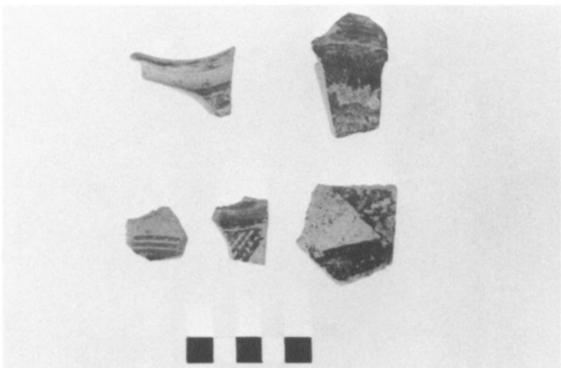
PLATE 96



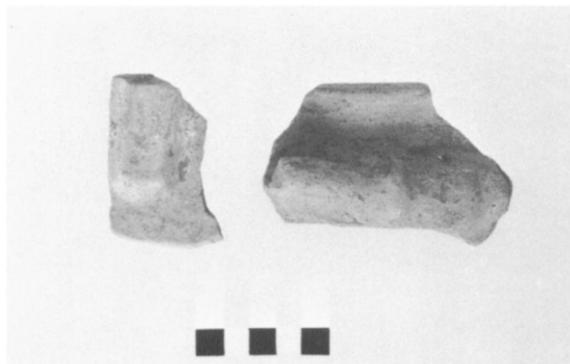
a. K66: Pithos body fragment (Room 7)



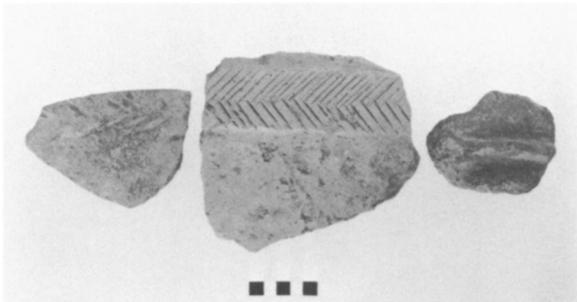
b. K68, K69: Pithos body fragments (Room 7)



c. K90, K96–K99: Decorated fine wares (Room 7, south wall)



d. K101, K100: Handle and rim fragments (Room 7, south wall)



e. K122: Pithos body fragments (Room 7, south wall)



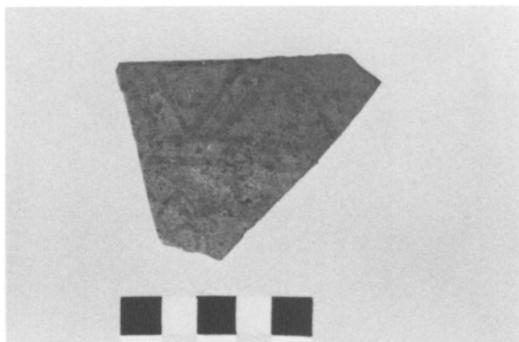
f. K123: Sherd with plastic decoration (Corridor South)



g. K124: Incised coarse rim fragment (Corridor South)



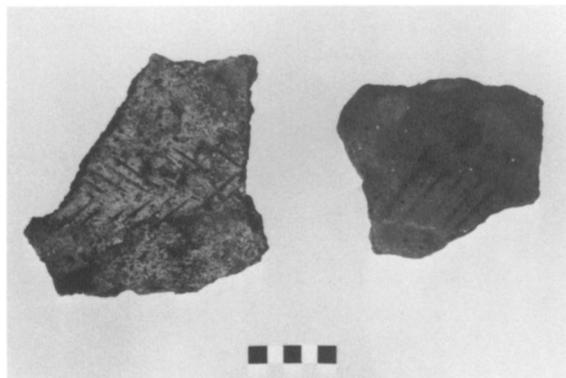
h. K140: Pithos body fragments (Corridor North)



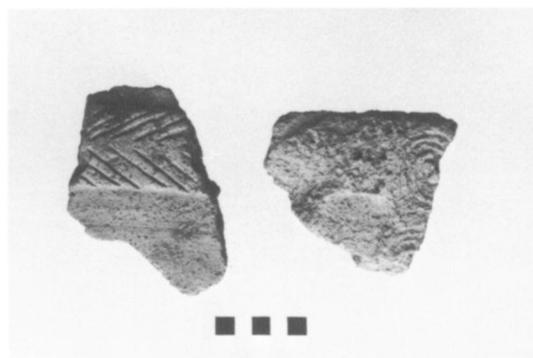
a. K154: Decorated body fragment (Room 8N)



b. K168: Pithos body fragment (Room 8N)



c. K169: Pithos body fragments (Room 8N)



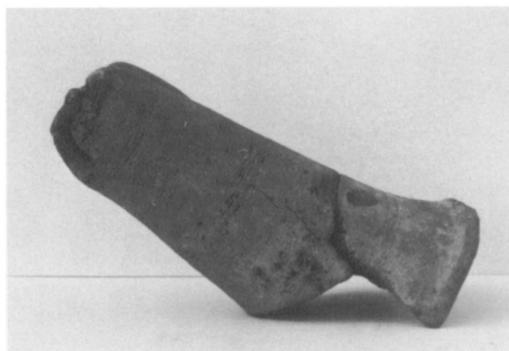
d. K183: Pithos body fragments (Rooms 10, 11)



e. K198: Lekythos(?)



f. K199: Funnel or stand



g. K200: Funnel or stand, side A



h. K200: Side B