

JEBEL KHALID 1991

✓ ϕ (1992) ✓

MAJID
CATE



Cocino 39, 45

Stamped handles: P. 3/4, 9, 38
Pavos

91 coin missing p. 28 = 91. 169
p. 57 = 91. 311

A4 NOTE BOOK

No. 595

Book 1

P. J. CONNOR

1991 September 9-



9 312828 005954

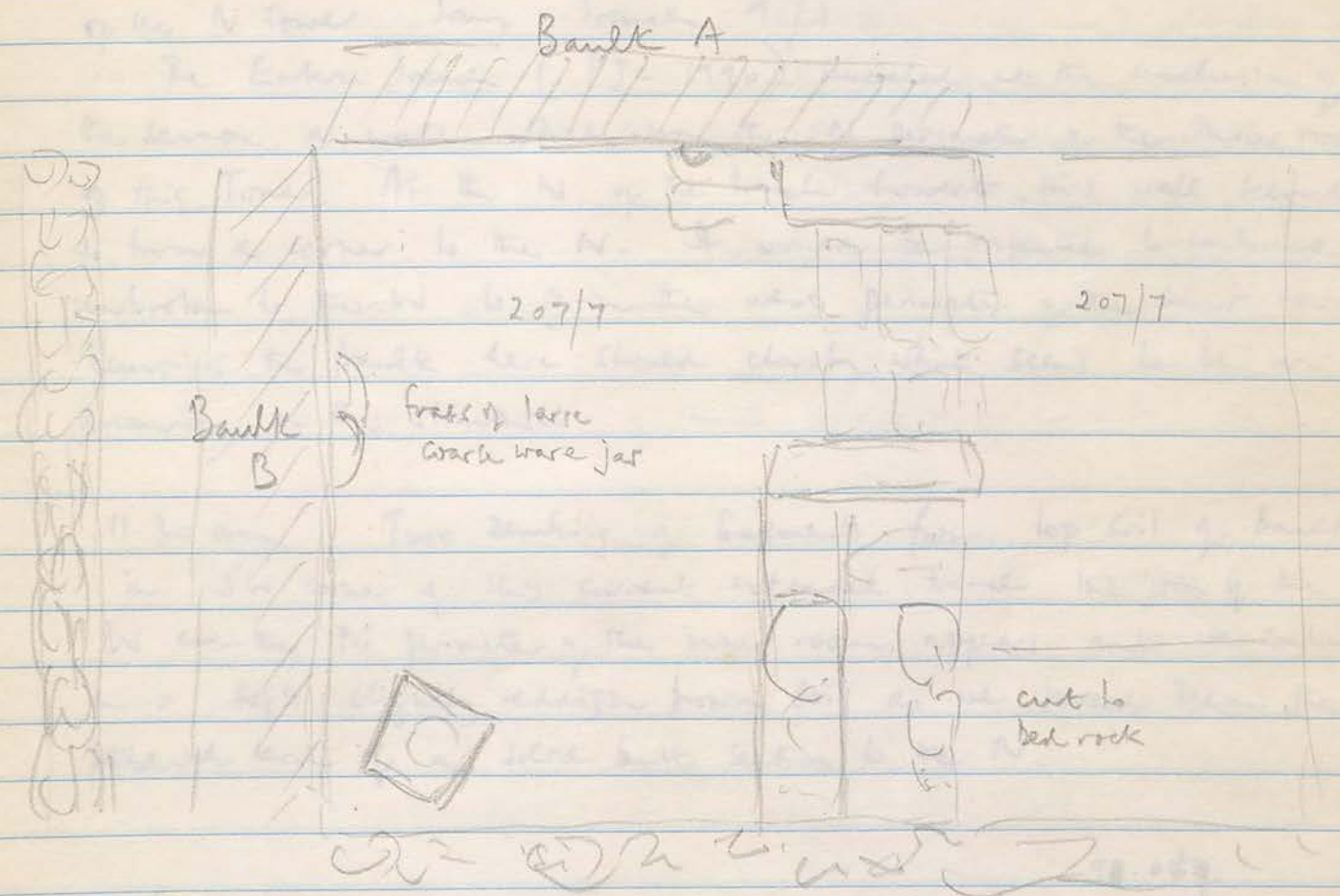
Monday 9th September

After much hurly burly (in) hiring workers, work begins in
Do with general cleaning towards the west of the insula.

Radi also begins cleaning in his house area
at 9.30 am. Radi commences to remove the bank immediately
to the North of the cistern discovered last year. This work will also
involve removing a bank running NS to the west of the doorway
that lies to the N. of the cistern. I calculate this is between
208/8 and 179/9. This should clear the remainder of the courtyard
in Radi's

Monday September 10 9

After cleaning proceed to remove baulk at N of room with steps at E, that is between 207/7 and 207/8 to its N. That is Baulk A



From the clearing up the road between the two buildings a small deeply furrowed track, a straight line, was visible.

In view of the N of the house, and the baulk of rubble covered with the same material, it is clear that the area is a continuation of the same material.

1948 N 11/1 (1) and (2)

Monday September 18 9

Weather: slight breeze, cool becoming hot

Main Gate North Tower

Workers Ali, Yazi, Amour, Khalid, Mahmoud, Mudhar.

Work begins on baulk between the two trenches at the NW of the N Tower. Day Trench 9/1

The Eastern trench (PJC 1990) revealed at the conclusion of the season, a wall which was the N perimeter of the inner room of this Tower. At the W of the trench however, this wall seemed to turn a corner to the N. It would be expected to continue unbroken to the W to join the west perimeter of the inner room. Removing the baulk here should clarify what seems to be an anomaly in the structure.

11:30 am. Two Zambly fragments from top soil of baulk in SW corner of this current extended trench the join of the W and the N perimeter of the inner room appears. and we continue in a soft slightly reddish brown soil as we proceed below the preserved level of a solid built section to the N

91.05g
From the clearing of the 1990 excavation level with bottom of second properly preserved course, a stamped amphora handle.

The area at the N of the trench, within the baulk is much corroded as with all the limestone blocks in this area: makes definition of outline of T along its N flank very difficult

MG N 91/1 ① and ②

9.9.91

MGN Tower

bank

top soil

91/1

medium wt c/w body sherds

3 tile frags.

1 stamped amphora handle

inventory

1 other amphora handle

3 base frag c/w bowl

3 rim frags including bowl

1 base frag by rg under palette + rosette

inv.

Several frags looking more incl.:

2 rings of different kinds.

9.9.91
MGN

9 September.

MGN 91/

Stamped amphora handle

From inside trench, level with base of second preserved block.

Work on top soil of bank between 2 trenches at NW corner of tower. Small amount of cleaning at S of my final trench of 1990 from which come fragments of a large pot and a stamped amphora handle 90.007

(4)

9.9.91

MGN 91/1 (2)

medium wt coarse ware body shards. 1 frag incise line
inc. 1 tile frag.

- 1 base frag. bg open bowl. palmette + roulette
- 3 rim frags echinus bowl.
- 1 nozzle frag. lamp
- 1 rim frag
- 1 toe frag c/w amphora.
- 1 rim frag bowl outturned rim.
- 1 straight handle frag.
- 1 handle frag. 1 frag cooking ware.
- 1 rim frag notched rim bowl
- 1 rim frag large open bowl

9.9.91

MGN 91/1 (1) (bulk) top soil

- medium wt c/w body shards
- 3 base frags
- 8 rim frags echinus bowls
- 1 amphora toe
- 1 rim frag unguentarium
- 1 rounded base frag
- 1 flat bottomed base frag.
- 2 rim frags open vessels

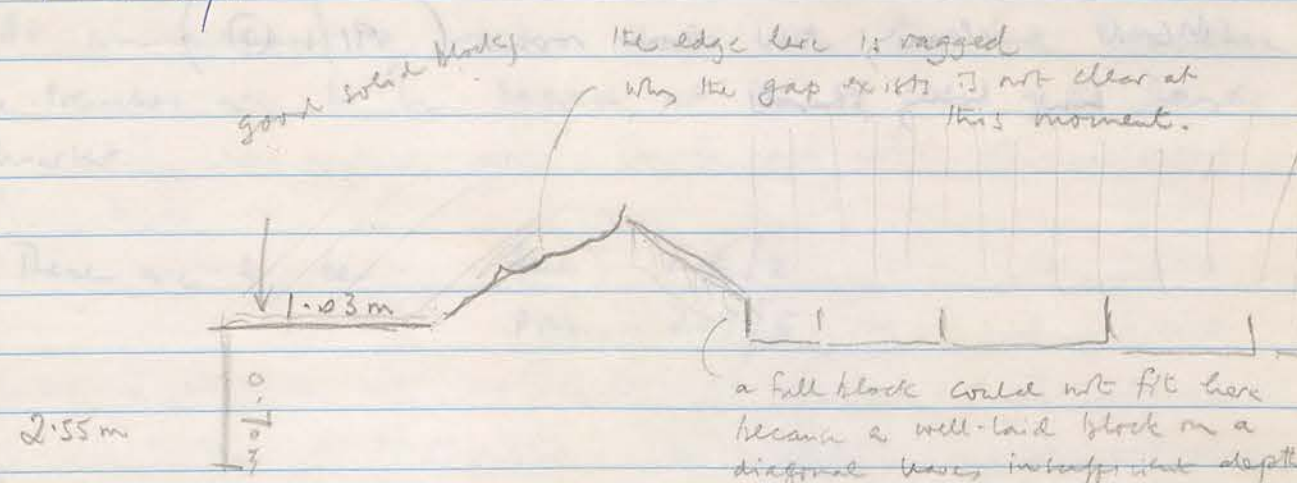
9.9.91 MGN clearing NW inner room

1/2 doz frags

1 rim frag horkerium

Monday 9 September 1991

MGN 91/1



84 + 122 + 133 + 206 = 339

Near junction of S and W perimeter of inner room the width of the Tower wall at the W is measured at 3.31 m

At this point near the SW corner of the tower there is clearly a narrow space jutting out on the foundation course of the tower. This must signify that the tower at this point was decorated with the known narrow facing slabs set back from register to register.

From the preserved part of the drain to the end of the block to the north, the drain is 17.0m long before it turns to the W.
= 1.65 + 1.70 = 3.35m long.
Total length of drain is 3.35m

10.9.91

MGN cleaning NW inner room (9/1 ②)
a few body sherds

10.9.91

207/7 - 207/8 bank ①

a few body frags

me. 1 bone frag.

1 c/w amphora toe

1 ~~rotated~~ rim frag.

Tuesday 10 September 1991

At commencement of work, decide with AW and PM where the trenches are to be pegged at the W side of the Domestic Quarter.

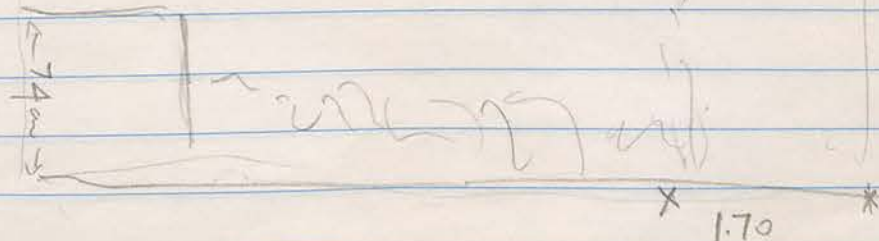
These are to be
AW 206/2
PM 207/5

7.45 am

After cleaning of E area of stoa. Dom's team moves to 363/2 which was begun in 1990. Work at first is to N of the EW cross wall which lies close to E of the trench. This narrow area, had been excavated only to the tumble. The N side of the wall has not been defined; therefore this will be the prime task. We begin removing tumble from the N side of the trench.

This area is 363/2 N ②

8.30 am. ⓪ of Heather's new pegged trench at E of stoa from N+E
+ general view of stoa Roll 1 Film 5-9



10.9.91

MGN 91/1 (2)

medium wt c/w body sherds many orange-red fabric.

3 base frags c/w bowls (2)

1 base frag gray ware bowl

2 rim frags echinus bowl

1 rim frag notched rim semi coarse bowl

1 rim frag

4 handle frags c/w amphora

1 rim and handle frag coarse ware jar

1 "vertical" handle frag of similar impressed at "bottom"

10.9.91

MGN 91/1 (2)

medium wt large frags c/w jars/amphorae or (e)

2 handle frags c/w amphorae

shoulder and rim frags coarse ware jar

1 rim frag bowl notch on inside

1 rim frag rolled rim (outward) splashed red paint

9

Tuesday 10 September 1991

Weather fine clear slight breeze becoming hot

Workers, Ali, Amour, Mahmoud, Mudhey, Yazid, Khalid.

Main Gate

Trench 91/1

Work continues in removing baulk

By 8.30 am it becomes clear that there is a narrow passage at this point leading outwards from the inner room. The leading block on the W side is also cut at an angle. Work continues clearing to the N.

By 8.30 am already a great deal of large baulk of flint & rubble full.

There is the ragged edge as described on the sketch of yesterday was baulk within the doorway

10.45 am. Roll 1, 10-14

from E of blocked doorway in Stoa 391/3 + 392/9 baulk showing doorway of two fluted columns blocked by large limestone block and smaller field stones. The field stones were loosely placed next to the fluted column at the N and were not stable. Since they threatened to fall, ϕ taken before small blocks removed. Work continues on W side to clear the rear of this doorway

7

Tuesday 10 September
Stoa 363/2

11 am at the W end of 363/2 N where work began earlier today there appears to be a wall running N-S and to the W of it another wall running EW from it. The space is too constricted to investigate further; therefore whilst work continues at the E of 363/2 N where the soil is light and a reddish brown in colour. Some works here. The large EW wall dividing 363/2 N from the larger 363/2 S is slowly taking definition.

Work (Ipsen) moves to 363/2 S starting from the EW wall and working South. Perhaps call this (4) since a significant depth was excavated in 1990.

10.9.91

363/2 (4)

Sweat bags of pan tile(s)

1 bag for c/w bowl

1 bag cooking ware

1 bag rg

1 other bag.

in the main bag

20.70

8

10.9.91

MGN N 91/1 (2)

medium lot of c/w body frags.

1 worn frag of tile

3 frags vertical handle c/w amphora

1 frag handle w/o stamp

1 rim frag c/w cooking ware

1 rim frag flaring rim bowl red drip paint

1 rim frag



10.9.91

DQ 207/7 W

cleaning at floor level

Tuesday 10.9.91

MGN 91/1 (2)

medium lot c/w amphora including many frags w. new breaks of an amphora of hard-fired orange fabric with grey core; frags. include 2 handle bases; other frags. of vertical handles.

1 tile frag.

5 base frags c/w bowls/jars (one r. paint inside; other drip red paint)

1 semi-c handle c/w jar, lined with pitch?

3 rim frags thickish echinus bowl (2 joined) purple-red paint

1 handle frag greenish fabric

1 frag cooking ware

* 1 stamped amphora handle small section only of stamp remains
Inventory 99.053

10 September 1991

Main Gate North

MGN 91/1

11.30 am. Work has progressed well within the passage from inner room to outside of IV Tower. The soil is soft within: a light reddish brown.

What had seemed to be trouble in the mouth of the passage on the inside is set deep and vertical therefore it could be a closing off block. There is another at what should very likely be the other end of the passage.

The blocks there have been covered with soil able in a good state of preservation. So although the upper blocks are heavily 'corroded', the passage can be opened without difficulty.

It describes a dog-leg.



Rate of shard recovery has slowed considerably after 9.30: in the lower depths.

Can't see down to do measuring at the moment.

a number of well-preserved bones come from immediately above stone floor of passage

at least two small bags

11.45 a wedding party in 21 cars begins to move to village to S after waiting at turn of Jebel to N for $\frac{3}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ hr

11.50 we reach the stone floor of the passage though still much soil to be removed.

(9)

September

Wednesday 11 April 1991

Weather clear, cool at first, strongish wind from W

Workers: Ali, Khalid, Amour, Yazi, Mudeh, Mahmoud (6)

Main Gate N 9/1

Work begins immediately on brushing and cleaning the blocks of the passage way in preparation for photo.

Within the tower the usual 'bench' has come to light in the corner; there seems no need to proceed further here at least because the space is restricted. Experience from 1990 shows that below the 'bench' is limestone powder used to raise the floor level from the foundations on bed-rock.

It is clear however that there is a break in this 'bench' at the doorway and that the large stone blocking the passage at the S is tumble.

I plan to remove this stone after the cleaning and photography.

During the brushing down, work continues N of the passage in an area that is E of the earlier trench that attempted to reveal the NW corner of the N tower.

There has been some rotting here perhaps because the ground level has been disturbed and the fill is a fine powdery substance. Several chunks of broken limestone are removed and some larger pieces rolled down to the W of the trench. I hope not to have to clean this part of the trench again since I am after the join of the circuit wall to the tower.

7.30 am. Φ of passage with blocked stone. The wind is very blustering now therefore cleaning cannot be done perfectly since the wind blows the dust back again.

BW Roll 1, 1-7

Colour Roll 1, 18

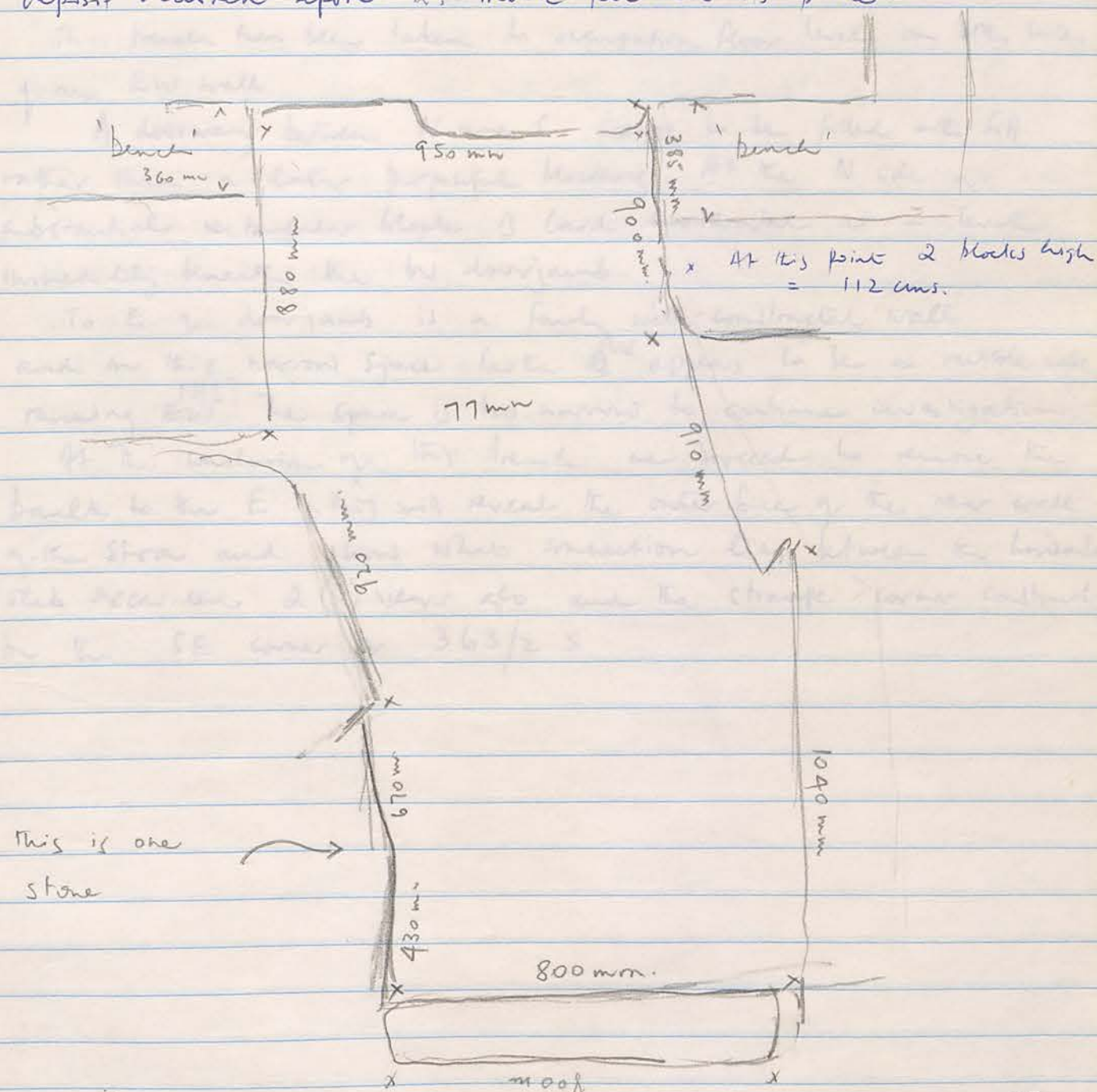
(10)

11 September 1991

MGN 91/1

After photography work continues in the passageway clearing soil and limestone chips round the blocking stone in order to release it and remove it. We can then clear further and see whether there are steps and so on.

The blocking stone rests, on a slight angle, with leading edge 14 cms only above the passage floor. Very little accumulation of deposit occurred before this block fell into its place.



11.9.91

MGN 91/1 (3)

door pass c/w brick (hard)

11 September 1991

MGN 91/1

A feature of the passage is a diagonal [?]drill [?]on most of the large blocks

11.40 am Φ 363/2 N and 363/2 S

Rollie $\rightarrow$ 22

The trench has been taken to occupation floor level on both sides of an EW wall

A doorway between N and S seems to be filled with fill rather than a later purposeful blocking. At the N side a substantial rectangular block is laid horizontal at a level immediately beneath the W doorjamb

To E of doorjamb is a fairly well-constructed wall and in this narrow space further ^{N/S?} appears to be a rubble wall running EW. The space is too narrow to continue investigation.

At the conclusion of this trench we proceed to remove the bank to the E. This will reveal the outer face of the rear wall of the store and show what connection lies between the horizontal slab excavated 2(?) years ago and the strange "corner" construction in the SE corner of 363/2 S

11 September 1991

MGN 91/2

After conclusion of work on Passage: not properly swept down because of the high velocity wind.

I decide now to locate wall of N tower on inside of circuit wall. In the presumed area there has been illicit digging or prying out of rocks; therefore after locating what appears to be the wall outline we scrape away at the disturbed surface and locate the tower wall and the join with the circuit wall (inside face).

The soil to the N of the tower-wall line is fine and dark-grey in colour, once we get down to the preserved level of the wall; above that the deposit is whitish in colour and full of limestone chips.

I call this area MGN 91/2.

My intention is merely to recover the outline of the wall and to locate the NE corner of the N tower.

Workers: Dima, Abd, Amouna, Fadwa, Naima, Hassan (6)

Work continues on fault $\frac{E}{4}$ of 363/2 today in the section N of the EW wall of 363/2 down at floor level.

12.9.91

MGN 91/2 (2)

5/6 bare bags c/w bowls/jars

body bags cooking ware or w. drip paint etc.

3 body bags cooking ware

1 rim bag with handle

1 small bag bag green glaze

1 worn bag of iron

1 small piece worn brown glass

1 tile bag in main bag

1 worn handle root

3 rim bags c/w jars

2 rim bags cooking ware

2 rim bags plates out-turned rim red paint

1 rim bag jar red paint

1 rim bag small mortarium semi-coarse red paint

1 rim bag green fabric playing bowl rolled rim

11 rim bags assorted eel-shaped bowls

3 rim bags plain notched-rim bowls.

Thursday 12 September 1991

Weather: very strong wind at 6 am and continuing

Workers: Ali, Mahmood, Khalid, Amr, Yasi, Mudhar

Work continues on clearing the N face of the N Tower along the robber pit. I continue here simply because of the wind: the deposit can be dumped to the E, down wind. I would prefer to be working around the join between the ^{outer face of the} circuit wall at the N and the N Tower.

The NE corner of the N Tower can now be fixed by producing the line of wall now, being cleared and the E wall from the point of the entrance.

I am undecided whether to lay out a trench in order to pinpoint this corner or not, since the corner can be ascertained.

7.30 am. a small circular semi-precious stone from the E end of the robber trench. Work has moved to this point because of the dust and wind.

10.40 am.

Φ of 207/5 after clearing of tumble from S and E (1) also close up of what could be a rectangular grinder lying with the tumble

Φ R1C 24-27

11.30 am. Φ Roll 1C of tumble of 206/2 (AW) nos 28-30 ?

11.45 am. from the black soil just below the ^{first} preserved blocks of the N face (inner) of the N Tower (MGN 91/2) a complete lamp was this area used as a rubbish tip. The soil is fine + black. Call this (2) since soil + blocks have been removed

(15)

14.9.91

MGN 91/3 (1)

Smallish lot of very worn c/w frags some thick in pitthos frags?

Worn diagnostics of pitthos

1 double handle

1 rim frag (stone?) marble mortarium

1 rim base frag.

One Dag

14.9.91

MGN 91/2 (2)

10 body frags c/w

1 rim frag rg echinus bowl

1 rim frag notched rim rg bowl

frags of tanoor

1 rim frag semi-circular notched-rim bowl

1 rim frag large bowl flaring rim

1 rim frag deep bowl / mortarium?

Saturday 14 September 1991

Weather: Still and clear, looks to become hot

Workers: Khalid, Ali, Yazi, Amouna, Mahmoud, Mudhary.

Main Gate:

Work began, whilst I was in D2 sorting out, on the E part of the N Tower: a few shards and a little bone recovered.

Because there is no wind, I moved the troops W to the area outside the passage in order to clarify if possible the join of the ^{outer face} circuit wall to the Tower. Alignments that I can reasonably make with a few in situ wall blocks to the N suggest that the wall hits the tower at the edge of the passage.

I am excavating now in a rather pit which is effectively the baulk between Jack's trench at the NW corner and my final trench of 1990. I now call this baulk 91/3

The deposit is in the main fine powdered limestone with chips and larger chunks of limestone mixed

7.30 am - a block appears that could be in this line

No pottery by this stage.

Saturday 14 September 1991

DQ.

Radi did not return last night. His workers were employed last Thursday shifting rocks and removing a dump pile too close to the block doorway of House 2.

This morning I start them again on the bank where Radi was working previously.

The bank is between 178/1 and 179/7. The intention is also to remove the bank between 179/8 and 179/7. On inspection there are at least 3 strata in this area: the upper stratum is full of tumble, the second stratum is a light reddish-brown colour, the 3rd is a tough gray and contains numerous fine pebbles.

The workers are instructed to remove the upper stratum.

In addition, Peter Magee is ill today and not on site: Geoff Edwards helps Annette.

In Magee's trench (207/5) a clear section in the centre can be readily continued. Here the tumble has been removed and the upper surface is brown soil. Work can continue here to give a depth for inspecting whether walls exist, particularly as regards what could be a rectangular structure (of field stones) at the Centre N of the trench.

15.9.91

MGN 91/3 ①

medium c/w body sherds

6 ring base frags c/w etc bowls/jars

1 string-cut

1 small amphora toe

1 neck + lip of inguentarium

assorted body frags drip red paint or rg etc

1 frag vertical handle c/w amphora

2 frags handles one w red paint

1 body frag w ribbing

1 base frag red + black paint large ring foot

1 body frag w handle root deep incised linear dec //el line

1 body frag handle root

4 body cooking ware

1 rg on frag ridges on interior

1 rim frag straight rim bowl

3 rim frags eching bowls

1 rim frag c/w mortarium

8 assorted rim frags c/w jars/jugs/bowls/plates

1 rim frag out-turned rim bowl/plate

2 frags here. Some diagnostics in main bag

Sunday 15 September 1991

Weather: fine, a slight cool breeze at first

Workers: Mudhey, Ali, Khalid, Mahmoud, Yari, Amour (6)

Main Gate

~~MGN~~ MGN 91/3

Our work has now revealed another block at a lower level than the topmost where abuts the join of the circuit wall at its ^{its} outer face.

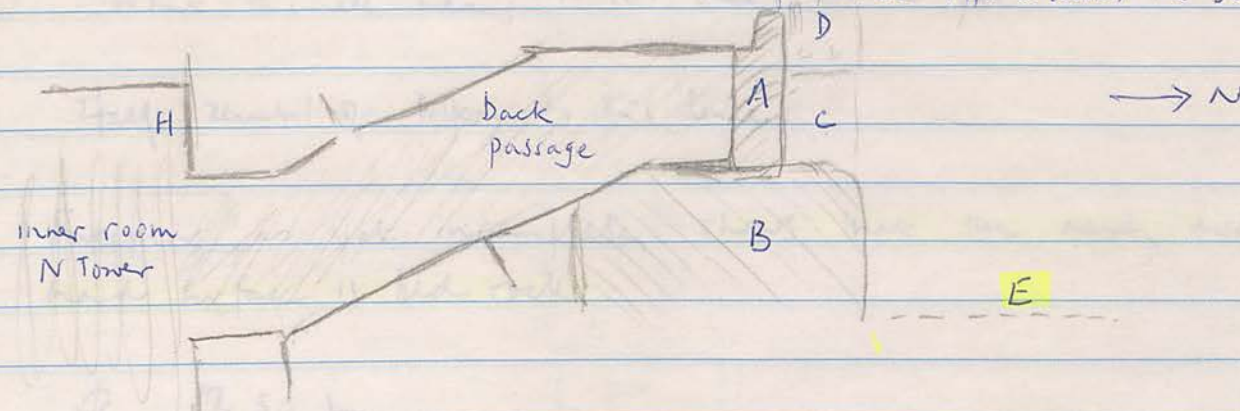
This means to me that we need to continue here.

Is it possible that these blocks also formed the base for further blocks above them for that would be to wall in the passage through the tower wall. Further, in the present state of excavation, there seem to be small rubble blocks built into this structure. Note that in this area the stones are very decayed.

A: Stone blocking passage. H: 54cm W: 25cm

B: decayed stone at edge of passage; to W of passage PH: 2 blocks

to E of passage PH: 2 blocks like 3 or 4 below



C + D blocks outside passage. C is at same height/level as passage floor

E presumed line of outer face of circuit wall as it joins Tower.

F definite inner face of circuit wall, joining tower at right angle.

G definite line of N tower.

Blocking stone A is not removable; it passes beneath block B.

(18)

15 September 1991

MGN

Because of appearance of blocks C + D described above work must continue in 91/3 further W perhaps even to the corner of the Tower

There is a fine light brown soil below ^{the level} where I have stopped but we are moving still in the whitish fine powdered limestone as we go W

The stratum then is 91/3 ①

12 noon

Traces of further blocks N of C and D (91/3) had necessitated removing rather more of the turface and powdered limestone towards the north.

In addition further blocks have appeared to W of C and D heading towards the Tower corner

By now a good deal of the deposit has been removed and the stones (or rocks perhaps) are becoming clear though not yet swept clean

What this all means is not clear to me yet

Half zenith of Polaris to this time.

Sweeping, as yet incomplete, shows that the newly discovered hard for face is bed rock

Φ 12.50 pm.

MGN 91/2 (2)

6 ring base frags

2 string drawn boxes. 1 gives full profile of bowl

2 mm frays noticed on bowls (paint

3 new bags broiled nine bowls/jars

↑ handle rod

3. Floss of strap handle incised vertical lines at edge drip point.

4 frags body cooling wave

6 rim flays / echinus bowls

1. the frog is fine bowl

1 base pair 19 state

1. long long wide fabric rug

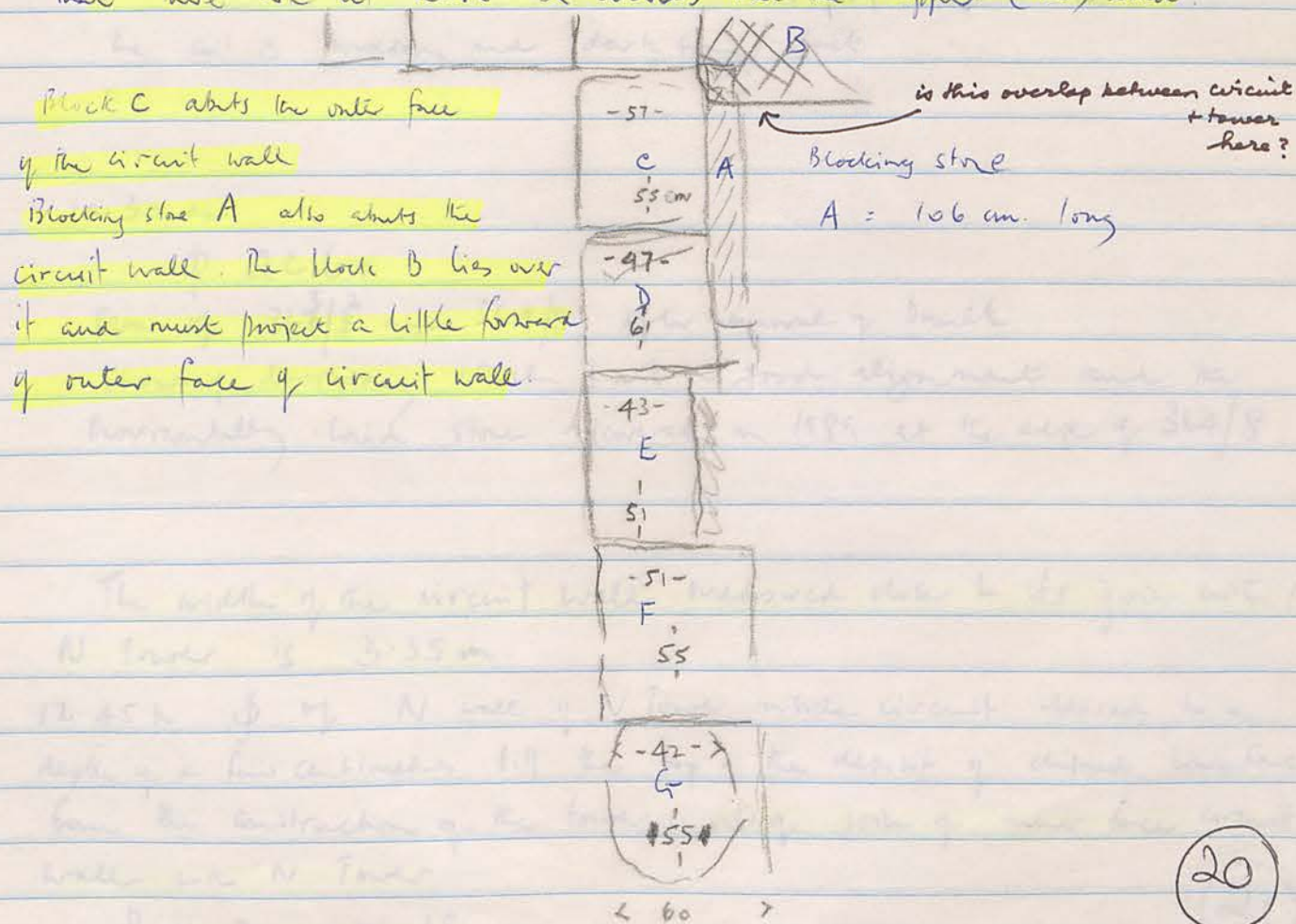
Workers: Khalid, Mahmoud, Yari, Amouna, Ali, Mudher

Main Gate

Because of the breeze, it is not possible to make final cleaning at the passage (sally port) and the hydrocote outside the wall.

Where the curtain wall joins the tower, the wall is solid built. Within the trench and the barrel there is no indication how far N the solid built extended. At the outer face the blocks are quite decayed but they appear to be square blocks with no cushion. This is true also of the foundation blocks of the tower laid against the foundation trench cut into the bedrock.

The blocks foundation blocks in the foundation trench are laid tightly against the cut in the bedrock but it is possible to see there there are at least 2 courses at the upper (E) end.



JK 16.9.91

MGN 91/2 (2)

medium wt c/w body sherds

1 rim frag cooking ware

1 handle and body fr.

1 base frag rj bowl

5 rim frags echinus bowls

4 rim base frags inc 1 gray fabric.

1 rim of unguentarium

3 rim fragments flaring bowls (one gray ware)

1 handle + rim frag large bowl

1 handle frag.

1 rim frag (?) painted designs dull red

body frag

1 rim frag profiled

Tuesday

16 September 1961

The circuit wall is solid built for some distance N of the Main Gate. There is a large forward projecting square block? Tower about 120 m N and the wall could be solid built as far as that

Tr. 91/2 (2)

Work continues at this point today uncovering the edge of the Tower wall proceeding E from the join of circuit and tower

Note that the inner face of the circuit wall has quite a well formed cushion set off at the top of the block by a straight/vertical edge.

The blocks that form the N face of the tower inside the wall resemble
of squarish ashlar blocks of the S face of the S Tower inside the wall.
decorative feature inside gate.

The soil is powdery and dark gray/black.

10.30 am

Φ 2C6+

floor of 364^{3/8} and 364/8 after removal of bank

showing doorway, which is not in good alignment and the horizontally laid stone discovered in 1989 at the edge of 364/8

The width of the circuit wall measured close to its join with the N tower is 3.35 m.

12.45 p Φ of N wall of N Tower inside circuit. cleared to a depth of a few centimetres till the top of the deposit of chipped limestone from the construction of the tower. Φ of join of inner face circuit wall with N Tower

Roll 2 → 18

(21)

17 September 1991

Workers already instructed to remove all rocks that have accumulated in the trench at the NW corner of the N Tower. Once this is cleared we can follow further west the foundation trench and the outer boundary of the tower wall.

and small basalt grinder on 4 legs Tr 22 4 5 14.9.91
~~350~~ x ~~255~~ L 13.5 cm W 11.5 cm H 7.0 cm

Now step rise in ground water level is constant
different from length for individual canal
from P to Q (in water course system) is 6.95

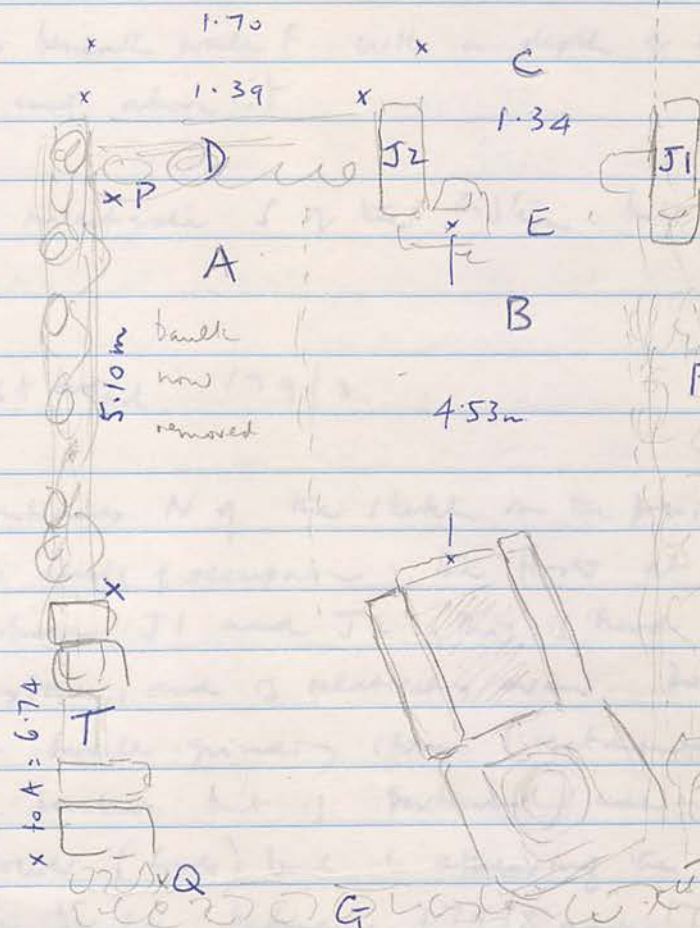
Wednesday 18 September 1991

DQ

3.10

from floor level
at A+B it is
c 0.70m to the
level of the threshold between
J1 + J2

T = 1.05m wide



A removed to produce an uneven hard packed floor
which slopes down to the level of the threshold block T
The Grand Central Dividing Wall originally had a break with this
doorway, which was later blocked. It appears to be the most elegant
of the inner doorways with its worked jambs and the stone
threshold with sunk 'squares' for the hinges. We have cut lower
than the threshold to investigate the wall immediately to S of
the cistern. The gate at T is not, I suggest, a later addition.
The wall D abut the GCDW which was therefore built first
J1 is taller than J2 which rests on another block to create the
right upper height. There are 2-3 courses of wall stones below
the threshold which 'must' have been approached by 'wooden'
steps from the S.

The steep rise in ground level necessitates construction of
different floor heights for individual rooms
Point P to Point Q (inner width of room with cistern) is 6.95

(23)

Da

18 September 1991

Wall G lies beneath wall F with a depth of soil deposit of c. 0.40 m above it

Showered now investigate S of the Cistern but no further time today

Rach has started 179/2

Work also continues N of the sketch on the previous page exposing two levels of occupation: the first at a level of the threshold between J1 and J2. This is hard packed soil with crushed limestone, and is relatively even. The higher, later level has a small grinary stone (rectangular) lying on it is also hard packed but is particularly uneven

On this lower (first) level is appearing the corner of a wall. It lies on the baulk between 179/8 and 179/7; the corner belongs to the later wall F which runs just to E of the cistern and is just S of the tanoor of Room 3, though on the other side of the wall. It appears to project a little on Room 3 and has perhaps some relation to the tanoor there

Wednesday 18 September 1991

Main Gate

Weather: a very strong cool wind blows from the NW making work here almost impossible

Workers: Khalid, Amour, Yari, Ali, Ahmed, Mubtaz.

Work has continued initially on the W corner of the N Tower where yesterday a great deal of stone was cleared. The very corner is clearly much decayed but we proceed with cleaning as best we can: the damp dust/powder blows back on us. This is a gale force wind.

I have to keep the workers here to tidy up various areas. So I think I'll open up a trench at the NE corner of the N Tower to get a good view of the E face and the turn to W along the Tower's N face.

10 am. Good progress being made despite the conditions at the NW corner. 2 well-laid blocks have appeared, though 5 of them no more are apparent; perhaps the extant blocks lie deeper. There is still a great deal of crushed limestone and several tumbled stones. We work on removing these, slightly within the boundary of Jack's trench at this point because of large blocks of tumble protruding from the baulk which must remain.

10.30 am. ϕ on Acropolis of Volute capital in B+W r below B+W 2 $\rightarrow$ 11; 2C $\rightarrow$ 3a also room in which it stands + blocked doorway and detailed of wall gouged for plaster (on E) doorway + plaster on wall = W.

11.30 am ϕ of str 392/3 S walls cleared to floor: wall includes column drum built in NE corner of this section of the trench

ϕ = 3C 1-7 B+W 2 12-13
 ϕ tumble cleared in 363/1 3C 8-10

18 September 1991

no pottery or bone from Main Gate, since we are clearing only decayed limestone blocks

12.15 →

Φ in colour and B+W of Radi's removed panels
= remainder of 3C and 2B up to c 27.

WJ is baulk removed between 179/8 and 179/7 to the S
and the thick baulk between 178/1 and 179/7

Φ include long shots from S including cistern
the small wall NS in original Room 3 turns to E and seems
designed to protect the fanoor (this appears even further than the
fence is continued further W by the perimeter wall of the house
The doorway in 179/7 is the original entry into the courtyard
the doorway to the E of the NS wall of later occupation is an
entrance from the diminished House 2 Room 3 into the courtyard.

More sketch and discussion later.

19.9.91

MGN 91/4 ①

dozen or so coarse ware body sherds 1 base frag.

1 ring base fragment

1 rounded base depressed ring.

2 rim frags body jars

1 pie crust rim frag.

2 rim frags semi-coarse body (not joining)

1 small frag. with pierced holes.

1 base frag unguentarium (hard-fired red core)

1 rim frag flaring bowl.

1 circular body sherd frag.

1 b.g. frag

1 frag white slip 'concentric squares' in red

Thursday 19 September 1991

Main Gate

Weather: gale force wind from W, sun, hazy.

Workers: Yazi, Anoma, Mohamed, Ali, Mukhtay, Khalid (6)

6 am. measure out new trench with Barry Rowley, to retrieve NE corner of N Tower + examine character of building along the east and perhaps also N face of N Tower.

We take our E boundary from two trenches to S: the Tr with the A and the Tr of 198 which uncovered

The Trench with the entrance to N Tower is 23m-28m (SW)

The Trench with ref of N Tower is 13m-18m in tape i.e. a width of 5m

The new trench 91/4 is to measure 4 x 4m at the 30m mark to the 34m mark leaving a bank of 2m at the S.

7.10 am. Begin new trench 91/4

8.45 am new trench 207/6 Roll 4C 1-3 from S of cleaned tumble

8.50 am 206/2 tumble at S 4C 4-

Saturday 21 September 1991

Weather: clear, cool, no breeze at first but developing slightly
Workers: Khalid, Ali, Yazi, Amour, Mathley, Mohamed (6)

Main Gate

Since there is no wind, we commence cleaning operations at the W of the Gate starting from the highest point and working downwards. Cleaning also begins in the Sally port.

With the architect I take several measurements over the larger dimensions of the Towers.

We discuss whether there is a "ledge" in the S Tower. At the E corner of the inner room as excavated last year, large blocks have fallen in during the winter making it impossible at the moment to check. At the W a little clearing shows that the hard packed reddish-brown, almost clay, floor extends into the corner. My trowel point does not reach (the) hard stone below. If opportunity allows I should perhaps investigate this corner to check whether or not there is a ledge.

8.30 am.

Φ of 363/1 (Dome) a scatter or layer of small stones cleared beneath the tumble Φ Roll 4C 8-11 from N and W

At N a wall which appears to be at a right angle from the others. A wall appears to be NS in continuation of Pat S. Work begins again on the small stones more or less in the centre of the trench.

9.30 am. Φ of Sally port (colour + B+W)

Roll 4C → 18. B+W → 29

only the sally port is clean so far. I try out the light at this time. Further photos will be taken before the end of the day when the whole area is cleaned. Going well so far

* 9.30 am. Serrated bronze coin. Surface on N wall of entry into inner room of N Tower

90.169
* which inv. no. 3rd

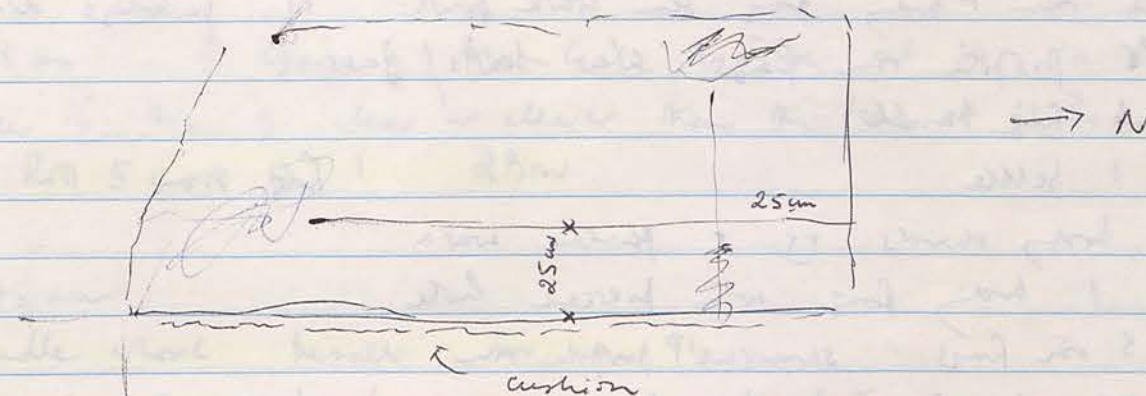
(28)

21 September 1991

91/3 The stretch of the N face of the N Tower within the circuit has 14 blocks from join of circuit wall to the point where there is another course on top of the line; this block will be at the W edge of the trench 91/4.

Each of the 14 blocks has one or more grip holds for lifting mechanisms.

The first block of the inner face of the circuit wall has guide lines marked on it



12:30 pm Φ 19-end Roll 4c
and BTW 1

After final cleaning of NW corner of N Tower, Φ from as many angles as possible to define the structure. Difficult angles: problem to photograph.

No pitting from cleaning

22.9.91

MGN 91/4 (2)

medium to coarse ware body sherds

1 amphora toe

2 handle frags c/w jars

1 tile frag.

2 base frags rg plate

1 frag rim base c/w jars

1 base frag. firm plate

1 base frag rg open bowl

7 rim frags flaring bowls

2 rim + body frags semi coarse bowl of yesterday's diggings

75 profile rim frags c/w bowls/jars

1 frag handle

1 pebble

1 frag iron

body sherds rg + painted ware

1 body frag with pierced hole.

3 rim frags straight profile rim

2 rim frags echiurus bowls rg + bg

2 joining rg closed vessel

1 rim frag echiurus bowl

Sunday 22 September 1991

Weather clear but a cold wind from the NW

Workers: Khalid, Anwar, Yazi, Muteh, Ali, Mohamed (6)

Main Gate:

We return today to 91/4 at the NE corner of the N Tower, beginning by removing a scatter of worn blocks tumbled across the trench.

The soil here is very dry and powdery with a tinge of white limestone dust at the S, E of the wall line.

I call this stratum (2)

7.15 am ϕ again of Main Gate N Tower at W in shadow to see if this is clear or clearer than the sun at 12.30 pm.

Rm 5c $\rightarrow$ 13 2Bm

9.45 am

spindle wheel basalt inv. no. 91.

close to E wall of tower at centre of the feature on MGN 91/4 the white limestone powder seems to be giving way to a fine powdery dark gray soil. The spindle wheel was for the top of this stratum. We continue in the white powdery limestone to clear all away N of the corner of the Tower, there is some pitting and bone; the soil is of a brown gray colour.

North Tower.

Around the perimeter is a uniform short space where the exterior courses were laid. There is no sign of bonding in alternate courses, therefore one must assume that here too the decorative facade was a feature of the exterior face of the tower.

The depth of the surface available for the facade is between 55 cm at N and 50 cm at W.

At the W the bottom course, apart from the two blocks at the corner, appears to have been cut into an L shape for the bottom course of the facade to rest on.

22.9.91

MGN 91/4 (3)

medium to coarse ware body frags

1 rim frag of bowl inw

1 tile frag.

2 ring base frags

2 body frags mixed dec.

1 rim frag of echinus bowl.

9 rim frags profile rim c/w bowls & jars

1 base frag. fine plate

22 September 1991

* between these L shaped blocks is a liberal use of (limestone) mortar to bed the stones for the most part vertically with traces of mortar horizontally between courses

11.30 am house spades (?) inw.

from MGN 91/4 just L N of N face of tower just at top of face of a dark gray deposit a depth of c. 16 cm down from the preserved corner stone of the tower.

Currently we are completing above the dark deposit in the SE corner where the deposit is still the white powdery and in the NW corner where the soil is light brown

11.50 am rim frag of glass iridescent

thin frag of mortar of shell (?) shell?

12 noon.

We began at W North of Tower corner = 91/4 (3) and also cleaning out the chips and powdered limestone from within the wall blocks at the SW corner of the trench.

23.9.91

MGN 91/4 (3)

medium wt coarse ware body frags.

13 c/w ring base frags

1 base frag by

1 base frag rg

frags of base

5 profile rim frags

7 rim frags flaring rim bowls

1 lamp frag.

5 rim frags echinus bowls (gray fritty ware, painted dec)

1 handle rim frag c/w jar

2 handle root frags

2 handle frags

1 rim frag dark gray grit echinus bowl

2 rim frags fine rg bowls

1 rim frag echinus bowl rg

2 rim frags rg unguentarium?

15 body frags rg

1 rim frag semi coarse bowl.

1 frag iron

23.9.91

MGN 91/4 (3)

medium wt c/w body shards

5 base rim frags c/w jars

1 rg ring base frag

1 rg round base frag.

1 by rim base frag.

2 rim + handle root frags

1 handle root fragment.

1 amphora toe frag

5 c/w profile rim frags large bowls/jars

1 rim frag flaring rim bowl

1 profile rim frag semi coarse bowl

3 rim frags echinus bowls

3 body frags rg

1 rim frag (echinus) bowl w/lt

1 handle frag looking ware

body frags cooking ware

1 body frag orange/red paint dec on interior

1 legs frag t.c figurine horse rider!

inv.

3 c/w body shards with beaded dec

Monday 23 September 1991

Weather: clear but a cold wind at first.

Workers: Khalid, Mhamed, Ali, Yazi, Amarna, Muthana (6)

DQ

207/6

Began at DQ since PM is sick. Sort out what to do with his trench. Basically, continue in the larger area which I called Locus 3.

Also measure out a new 4x4 m trench with Radi = 179/9
Work begins on removing top soil at 6.50 am.

Main Gate

Work continues in the black soil to N of corner. 91/4 (3)
There is a reasonable amount of pottery and bone. When freshly dug the soil is a dark gray and quite soft and fine. This seems to be a deposit built up from accumulation during the lifetime of the Tower since it contains.

We are now 28 cm down from the top most preserved block at the corner of the tower.

7.30 am a fragment of bronze ^{spatula?} seen the N wall of the trench opposite the tower wall

Work also continues clearing the soil and decayed limestone from within the Tower construction. One or two bits of undisturbed pottery only.

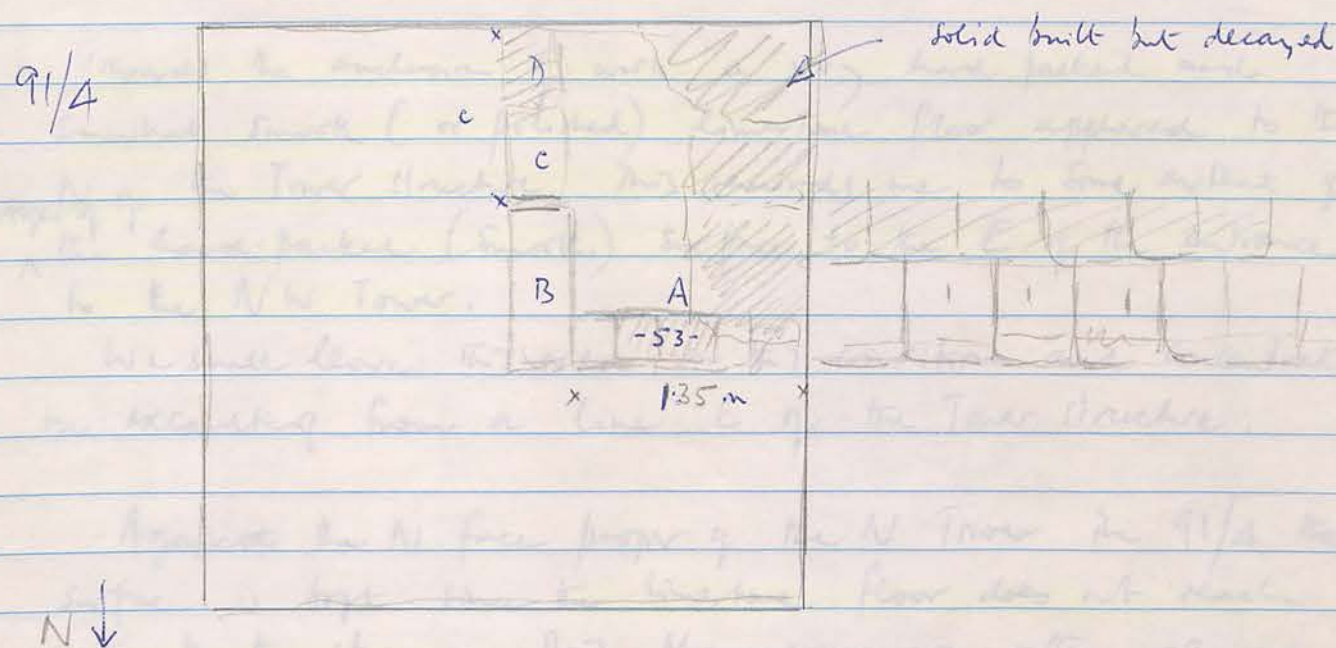
7.40 am. half of a slim disc of bronze close to N wall of trench, opposite the Tower corner.

8.20 am. in making another pass N of Tower starting at W we encounter a white limestone deposit. We concentrate on clearing the block.

(32)

23 September 1991

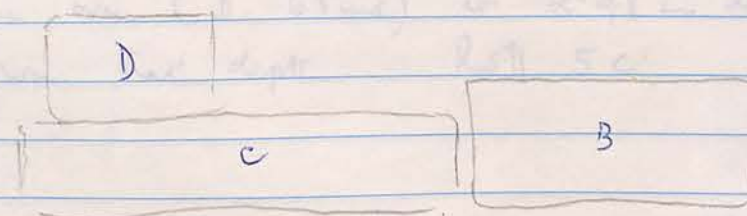
The structure of the NE corner of the North Tower is already beginning to show the 'facadism' we have encountered in other sections of the Tower, since the outer blocks on both sides, E and N, are not very wide.



- A = 53 cm x 23 cm. A is perched on decayed limestone and will no doubt dislodge soon.
- B = 86 cm x 32 cm.
- C = 136 cm (with more length in the bundle)
- D = 47 cm x 32 cm. (D lies above the S part of C)

There is a gap between C + B of 6 cm.

The upper surface of C slopes down towards W



23 September

8:30 am. The wall section is reasonably cleaned, therefore work begins again on removing the deposit E of the Tower, starting at the wall and moving E. The soil is dark gray & fine.

It is approximately at the same depth as the dark soil to the N. Pottery finds can be kept in the same lot.

Towards the conclusion of work a very hard packed and somewhat smooth (or polished) limestone floor appeared to the N of the Tower structure. This reminds me to some extent of the hard-packed (smooth) surface to the E of the entrance to the NW Tower.

We shall leave this area in this condition and concentrate on excavating from a line E of the Tower structure.

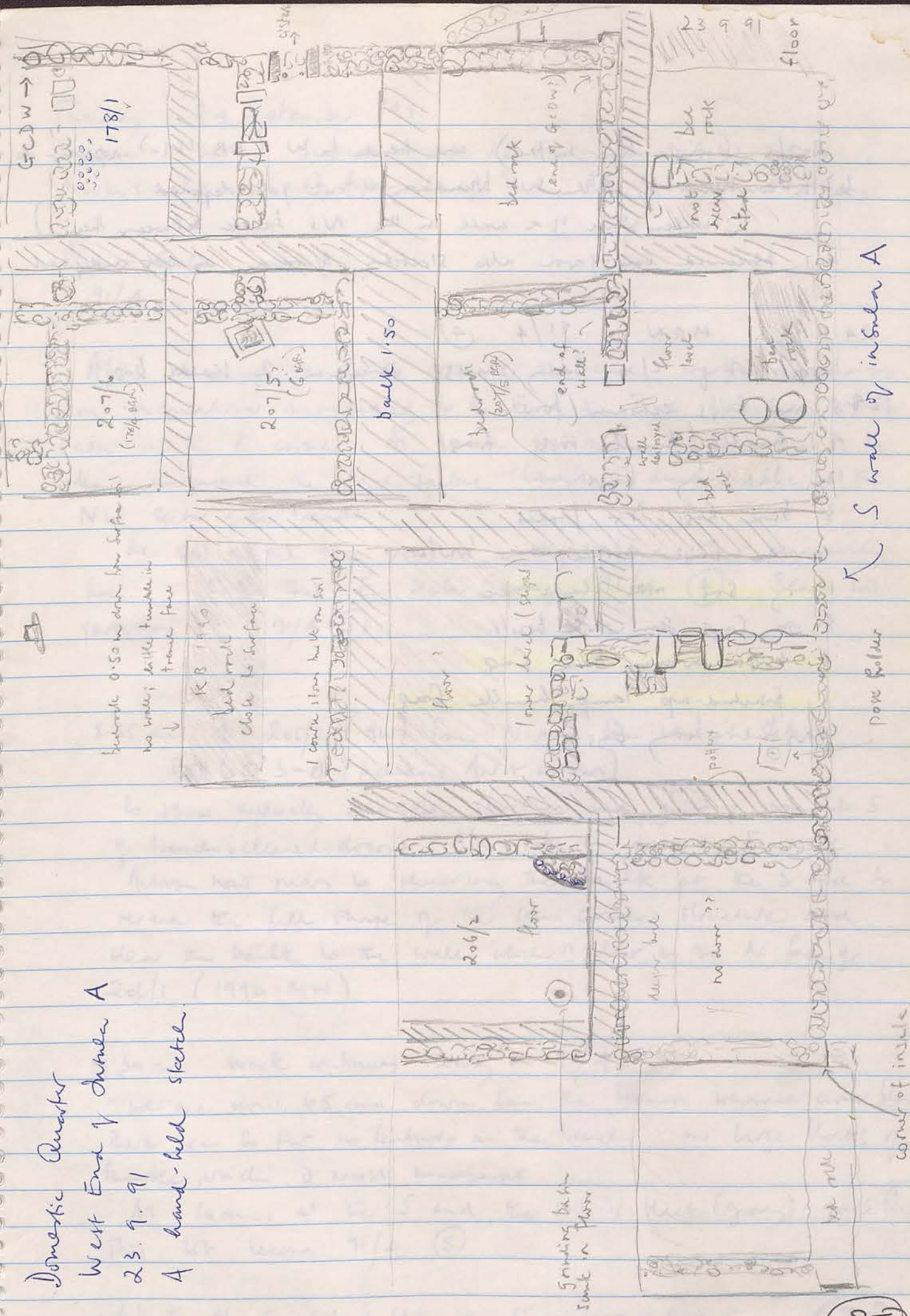
Against the N face proper of the N Tower in 91/4 the surface is soft since the limestone floor does not reach quite to the stones. This phenomenon was noted against walls in the 'Stoa': though there the floor was clayey rather than limestone.

At the close of work, Φ in colour of the progress of excavation, including the hard-packed floor.

Roll 5c $\rightarrow$ 33. 33 $\rightarrow$ end pottery sorting in Compund.

Φ at c 10.0 am. of Stoa 392/3 (45) to attempt to capture the oven (D. 68 cm) at 2.48 m deep. With the wall going down that depth. Roll 5c

Domestic Quagga
West End of Antelope A
23. 9. 91
A hand-held sketch.



207/5 (rough floor surface) and trench to W (KB 1990) appear to be a courtyard of which W boundary is not yet defined.

(unless there is a wall in the NS baulk between them)

This presumed courtyard also stretches Nward, as yet undefined.

24.9.91 MGN 91/4 (4)

large lot of c/w body sherds found on 2 plastic bags
1298 on bags echinus bowls

9 handle/handle root frags

12 base ring frags

3 base frags rg plates

16 on bags purple-on bowls

1 rg bag with plastic dec

8 on bags semicircle bowls

1 unguentarium base frag

1 pinched-up lamp handle frag.

various body frags

Tuesday 24 September 1991

Weather: cool, slight breeze at first from NW

Workers: Khalid (sub) Anouma (sub), Yazi, Ali, Mohamed, Mukkhe

Main Gate

91/4

After clearing round the area of the trench, works recommence on excavation immediately to the E of the Tower structure and also in the E corner. As stated previously, the intention is to leave untouched the hard-packed limestone-dust surface in the NW sector of the trench.

The soil in both these areas is a light-brown colour, reasonably fine. Call this E sector today 91/4 (4). Black soil yesterday is 91/4 (3).

8.35 am ϕ 206/2 (AW) from N and from W with details

201/6C 3-9 (including AW + workers) ^{inset}
to show especially semicircular structure and grinding stone at S of trench, cleared down. Also take in door in E wall.

Action now moves to removing the baulk at the S end to reveal the full shape of the semicircular structure and clear the baulk to the wall which is clear in the N face of 206/1 (1990 MW).

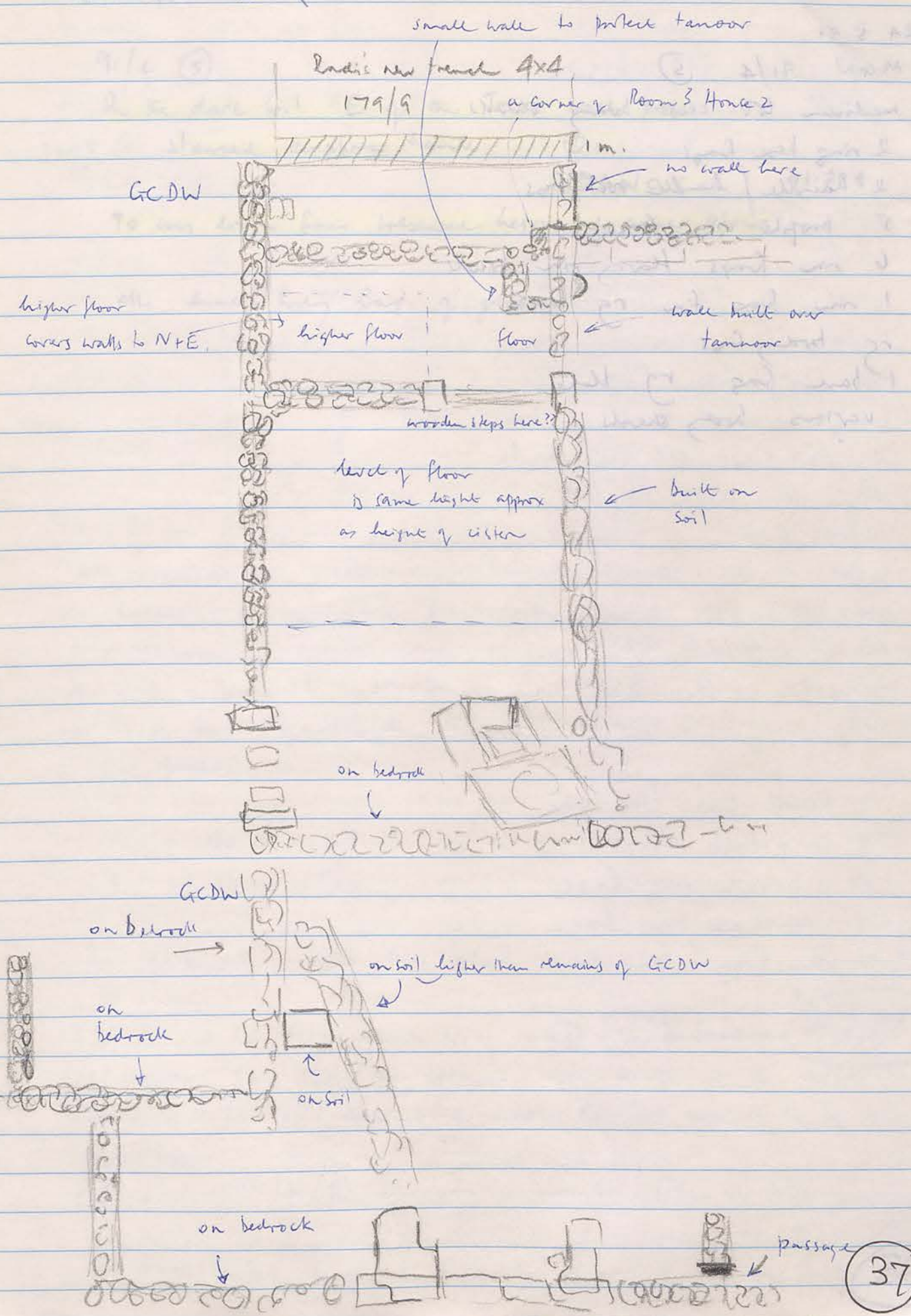
9.30 am Work continues slowly on 91/4

We are now 65 cm down from the topmost preserved corner block. There are so far no features in the trench: no large blocks of rubble which is most unusual.

At 10 am, at the S end, the soil is black (gray) & quite fine. This lot becomes 91/4 (5).

At the N the soil is still the light-brown colour

24.9.91 DQ



24.5.91

MGN 91/4 (5)

medium wt c/w body sherds

2 ring base frags

2 handle / handle root frags

5 profile rim frags

6 rim frags flaring rim bowl

1 rim frag fin rg bowl

rg body frags

1 base frag rg plate

various body sherds.

24 September 1991

91/4 (5)

In the dark soil E of the Tower wall proper

stamped amphora handle (1)

ANONY

91.204

90 cms down from preserved height of corner stone

also small body frags. of glasses

25.9.91

MAN 91/4 (4) Bag 2

Sizeable lot of c/w baggy frags including tile frags
Some frags quite small & worn placed in 2 bags

± 0.5-1P

12 base rim frags incl. gray ware

1 base frag w/ plate

6 handle / handle root frags

1 rim frag cooking ware

11 or profile-rim fragments

baggy frags with paint or incised dec.

4 rim frags echinus bowls

fine semi-coarse rim

baggy frags

frags bone.

25.9.91

MAN 91/4 (4)

large lot of ware ware baggy (shards) inc. tile frags
placed in two bags

1 handle frag c/w jar

8 rim-base frags

13 profile-rim frags

1 amphora toe frag.

7 rim frags semi-coarse bowls

Wednesday 25 September 1991

Weather: cool at first with a slight breeze from NW

Workers: Khalid, Ali, Amouna, Yarsi, Mohamed, Mukhtay (6)

Main Gate

91/4

N Tower
NE corner

hard-packed
limestone floor.

E Sector

We continue as yesterday. Roughly speaking, to the N of the E Sector, as explained previously, is a fine light brown soil with a medium of small chips of stone; to the S of the E Sector the soil is darker (a dark gray). So far there are, amazingly, no large blocks of rubble below the surface soil until the slope of our progress.

N = 91/4 (4)

S = 91/4 (5)

The dark gray soil has also few chips and is fine in texture.

8.30 am 91/4 (5) house lot = 91.234 ± 0 = ? ~~91.234~~ or = ~~91.234~~ ? ~~Ant/ochas I?~~
approx 1m from the preserved upper course at the corner

8.50 am 91/4 (5) against the wall the soil appears to be a light brown

8.55 am 91/4 (4) already a zambri file of after

The hard-packed powdered limestone floor is 6 cm thick

(39)

25.9.91

MGN 91/4 (5)

- 8 ring base fragments
- 3 rim frags flaring rim bowls
- 6 rim frags echinus bowls
- 1 base frag open rg vessel
- 1 handle frag
- 1 amphora toe frag
- 4 rim frags profile rim jars / ~~bowls~~
- 1 rim frag fine rg bowl.
- 1 rim frag notched-rim red-brown glaze
- 1 body frag green glaze
- body frags rg etc.
- 1 rim frag semi-coarse bowl
- 1 rim frag coarse ware bowl.
- 5 rim frags echinus bowls

25 September 1991

At the N approaching the wall line and the sector left with the hard-packed floor the deposit becomes very hard with traces of red in the baulk c. 93 cm down from corner stone.

By 10.40 am there is almost a second zembil full of pottery

The hard deposit mentioned above appears to be quite gritty with small pebbles (from the river) and small fragments of pottery. This deposit is left for the moment and the softer soil to the E is removed.

179/2 (RU 91/1)

11.45 am. ϕ RM 6 c 24-28 from S towards wall at N and the curious structure in the NE corner stretching bet W and S also 23/W 15-16 from S

2 walls appear in the face of the trench: one at the N though this seems to be snapping at its upper part; one at the E which is in line with the E wall of the innelam.

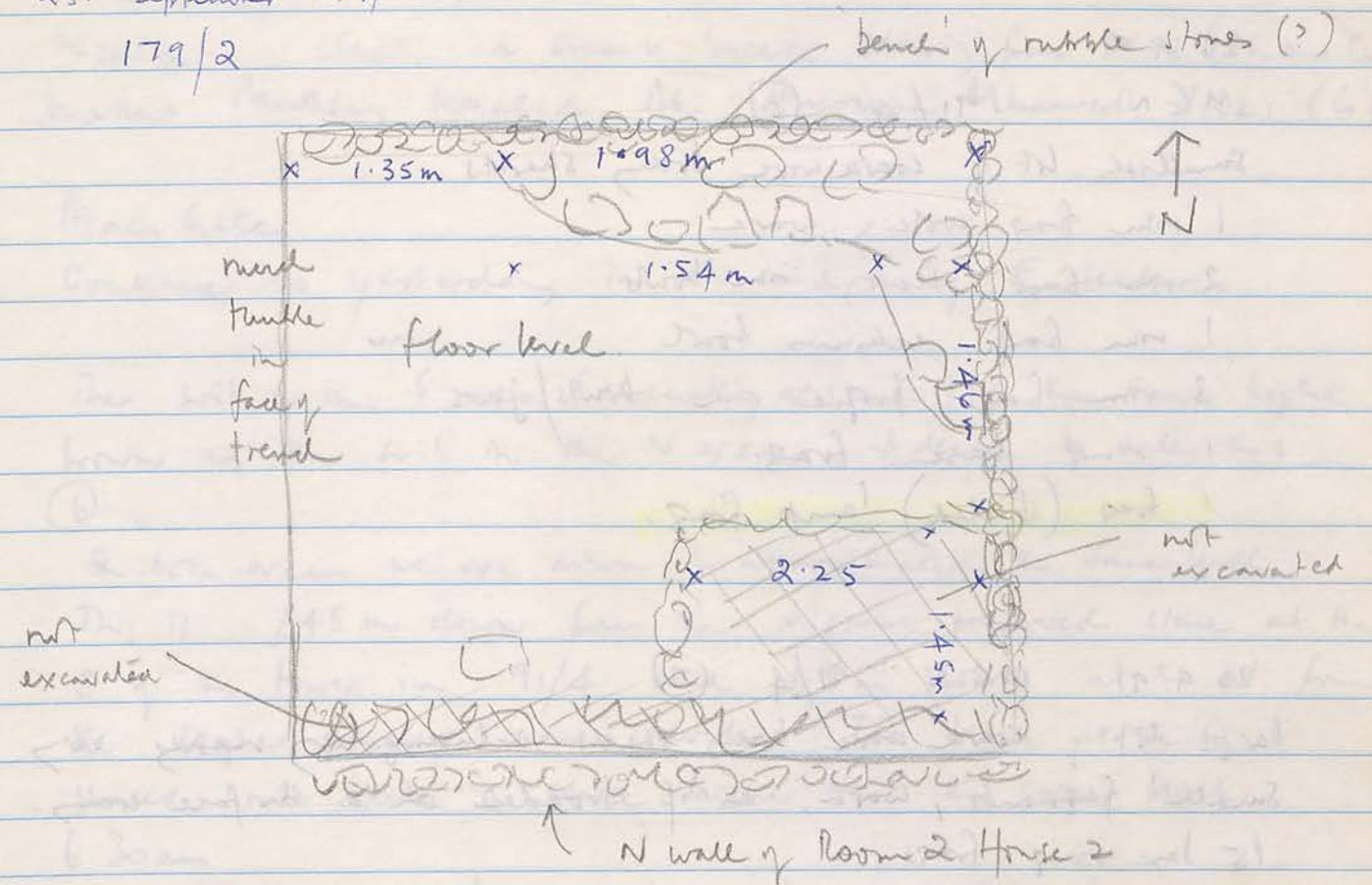
A considerable sector to the S has not been excavated because this would add nothing to our knowledge of the room. At the S is the N wall of Room 2 House 2. At the W is the continuation of the E wall of Room 3 & House 2. The N wall of Room 3 ~~also~~ abuts the E wall.

A small trench has been begun (in 1990?) N of our Room 3. It seems to have an EW wall giving a room width of 1.95 m N of Room 3. The 1.95 m room belongs to a house to the N. On the E wall of the 1.95 room is a door jamb. This would appear to be the entry into the room excavated in 179/2.

As I look at RU's trenches at the N point today they are clearly irregular to the grid. It looks at least 6 m from the E to the baulk of the so-called 179/6. There is no entry to the room of 179/6 from the main street.

25. September 1991

179/2



The stones at the NE sector could be cleaned better.

26.9.91

MGN 91/4 (8)

Smallish lot of coarse ware body sherds

1 rim frag cooking ware

2 rim frags heavy rim bowls

1 rim frag echinus bowl

3 rim frags profile rim bowls/jars

1 ring base frag.

1 frag (striated) lamp frag.

26.9.91 MGN 91/4 (7)

Large lot of coarse ware body sherds including very many very small fragments, worn, as if trodden on a surface way.

15 base ring frags

1 gray ware base frag fish plate

1 red brown glaze base frag fish plate

1 rim frag large coarse ware vessel

rim frags profile rim bowls

1 handle root fragment

1 handle fragment

rim frags echinus bowls

Several diagnostic sherds for inventory + study

2 tile frags

Thursday 26 September 1991

Weather clear, a smart breeze blowing from NW (shmaili)
Workers: Muthay, Khalid, Ali, Amourah, Mhamed, Yazir (6)

Main Gate.

Continue as yesterday in N and S of E sector

The soil of the S area (especially at the E) is the same light brown as the soil in the N area. I decide to call this

(6)

In both areas we are down to approximately the same level

This is 1.45 m down from the highest preserved stone at the S of the tower in 91/4 and 1.11 m down at the N from the highest preserved corner block. The block at the S is placed not quite a course higher than the corner block.

6.30 am.

At the N the Middle trench face at the W (continuing the wall line) is straightened.

At the N we begin in what yesterday I suggested was a gullier deposit, starting from the W (the wall line) and working to the east.

Better call this 91/4 (7)

A feature of yesterday's work in 91/4 (5) (S area) was the number of large frags of ~~animal~~ bone. I think the workers were supposing horse (Zilima). Two large frags found immediately on commencement of work today.

7.10 am. At the N area we come across a hard-packed crushed limestone surface. This is perhaps the deposit

* left by the construction of the tower.

Perhaps (4) and (7) at the North.

The limestone appears to have a very rough, uneven surface.

We clean it. No signs of similar at the S.

(42)

26.9.91

13-21

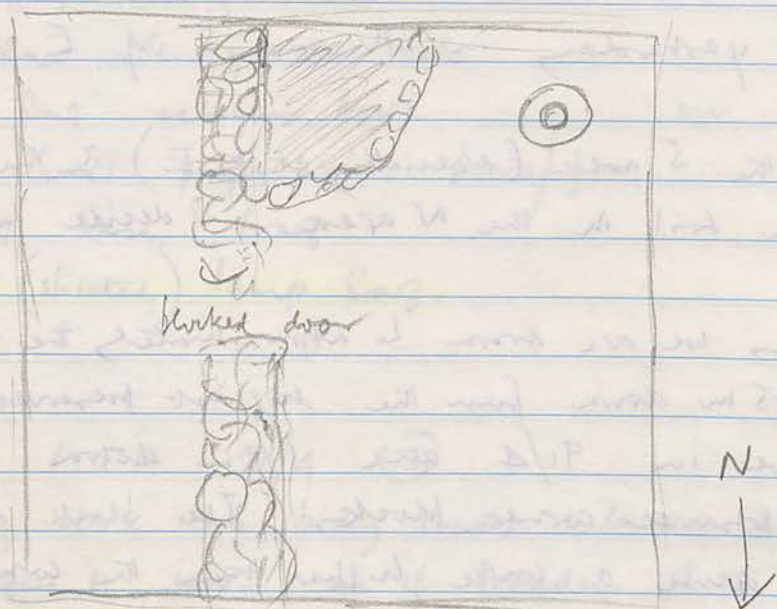
11.30 am

Φ

206/2

Roll 7c → 21

also B+W 2 → 29



26.9.91

M & N 91/4 (6)

medium wt c/w body frags

several diagnostics placed for inventory & study

4 ring-base frags

15 body shards

3 profile rim frags

frags cooking ware

1 handle frag

3 rim frags echins bowl + inv. objects

1 rim frag flooring rim bowl

26 September 1991

7.30 am. from the soil at the N area a small 'amber' bead

7.45 am.

hard packed limestone floor beginning to appear also in SE corner of trench 91/4

The hard packed floor is approx 1 m down from the soil surface soil at this point along the E boundary of the trench

7.50 am. a small fragment of glass from (6) at the S just above the hard-packed floor.

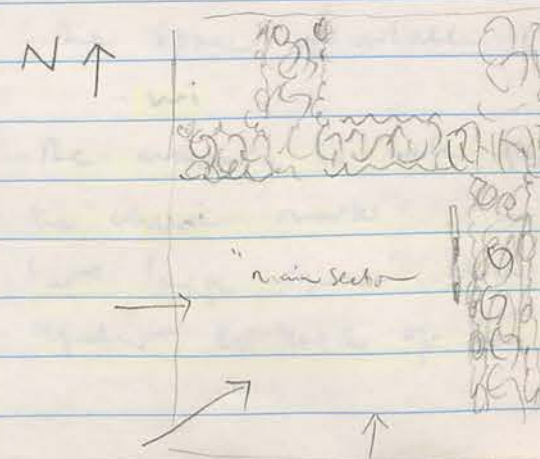
10.10 am. After a visit from 2 Russian engineers/geologists with advice that they have a stereoscopic air photo in their office,

We are now working on bank of the tower wall. The level here is a little higher than that of the hard limestone 'floor' in the rest of the trench. The soil is a light brown colour

The hard-packed limestone floor showed to the level of the floor immediately on completion of the tower structure and the soil above it that which accumulated after the completion.

10.50 Φ of 207/6 Roll 7c → 12

from S and SW showing main sections of trench at SW there are four narrow areas of excavation apart from this



28.9.91

MGN 91/4 (8) Bag 2 of 3

large lot coarse ware body sherds

11 frags c/w vessels with painted dec red or brown

11 rim frags echinus bowls (some inv.)

2 rim frags cooking vessels

2 amphora toe frags

3 handle frags

1 profile rim frag

12 ring-base frags

body frags gray ware

frag of pithos toe

2 frags notched rim bowl (semi-course)

28.9.91

MGN 91/4 (8) Bag 1 of 3

large lot of coarse ware body sherds

frag fragments of cooking ware

several body frags of gray ware

1 frag of amphora toe

body frags with painted decoration of red paint

1 frag. of loomweight

12 base ring frags.

1 rim semi coarse ware bottle inv.

4 rim frags c/w mortarium

rim frag of large jar

9 rim frags echinus bowls

3 rim frags notched rim bowls inv.

1 rim frag flaring rim bowl

1 profile rim inv.

Saturday 28 September 1991

Weather: cool at first with cold stiff breeze from NW

Workers: Yazir, Amour, Khalid Mohamed Muthay, Ali (6)

Main Gable

At the commencement of work today we clear around the E area of the trench of soil escaped between Zentbil and burrow.

Work then continues against the W of the IV Tower at its NE corner. We are now at a depth of 1.45 m from the topmost preserved stone at the NE corner. The soil here is very soft and fine against the wall with a scattering of lime lime chips.

At the S edge of the trench we can remove soil moving from W (at the Tower wall) to E. The soil is hard with a mixture of some limestone, but it is not as hard.

The soil against the wall at this depth is quite damp and contains a good deal of pottery with some interesting diagnostics included in the large number of body sherds.

At the S there is appearing a dark red-brown stratum beneath the thin coating of limestone.

7.10 m. objects so far include a portion of a stone disc (basalt?) and a lump of what appears to be a crystalline stone.

The space available is getting too restricted for 2 workers.

The masonry is well-cut with vertical faces that show the chisel marks: no cushion. At the corner there are two large square blocks; but below this, the courses are regular the length of the wall in the trench.

28.9.91

MGN 91/4 (8) bag 3 of 3

medium lot of coarse ware body frags

2 amphora toe frags

1 pithos rim frag.

1 large tile frag.

1 strip-cut base frag.

1 large ring base frag

1 handle-rot frag

1 handle frag.

1 ring base frag.

2 profile rim frags.

1 rim frag echinus bowl.

1 rim frag attached to bowl new

1 profile rim frag.

28 September 1991

7.50 am ϕ 8C 24-26 of spit in 207/6

showing second floor beneath floor - previously cleared
The spit is 1m x 1m against the NS wall at the E
of the trench.

Immediately after, another floor 5cm down.

Menu Gate 91/4 (8)

8.30 am. against the wall larger chunks of limestone are
emerging. = Univ. 91.239: Antiochus I (281-261) i.e. in construction level?

At the S end also a very corroded bronze coin
from the N section against the wall, a fine bronze pin

8.35 am. already a rubbish full of fragments
change to next.

The soft soil against the wall and the hard-packed
limestone 'floor' some 50 cm away from it replicates the
phenomenon of 1990 in the trenches of MG South at the E.
There we were able to excavate to bedrock close to the
wall proper.

Large fragments of bone still coming from close to the wall at
a depth of one metre further down from where we started work
today

8.55 am. already here is a small bag full of bone

In considering the cause of the soft deposit next to the wall, it
must be remembered that this deposit is full of pithos. The
hard-packed limestone floor lies above a deep stratum of limestone
chips/powder, the judge from results at other points of MG. There
is very little pithos in the limestone deposit. (PS)

28 September 1991

Main Gate. 91/4

10-15 large bone fragments from S area and from N. The rounded tip of a thin bone spatula.

At the corner of the tower a deposit of crushed limestone and limestone chips has begun to appear. It coincides approx. with the top of the fifth course from the top preserved block of the corner.

At the level of this fifth course (the 7th course down at the S of the trench) the blocks are more roughly made than the courses above them.

12:20 pm

At the corner of the tower and for half the distance of the wall in this trench we have cleared down to the bottom of the sixth 6th course from the topmost preserved corner block. Beneath this course we encounter a flat stone surface which seems to jut out from the base of the wall. There are also two large blocks tumbled at this level. One of these can be fully defined, I think.

JK

29.9.91

MGN 91/4 (8)

medium wt coarse ware body sherds

1 base frag c/w base - int. red paint

1 rim frag fine 'notched' rim base

fine/semi coarse body frags w. paint

1 battered frag of horseman figurine

Sunday 29 September 1991

Weather. Still and fine, not cold at first.

Workers. Yari, Amarna, Khalid, Ali, Muthay, Mhamud (6)

Main Gate North

91/4

The limestone deposit with the hard packed surface has narrowed the area for excavation. Yesterday a portion of the wall W of the corner was completed to a set of blocks forming a shelf. Today work continues westwards to complete this trench before final cleaning.

The cleaning is completed by 9 am.

In the filler is a t/c fragment which appears to be a portion of the legs of the horseman/centaur figurine. This comes from the lowest stratum above the foundations and should make it contemporaneous with the structure of the tower.

9.45 am. Roll 9C 1-9

Between end of Roll 2.

In the foundation course, the lowest block at the corner is huge. It has double drafting in the corner and it has two chisel marks on its face as if to divide the one stone into four blocks. This feature is also noted on the large block at the S (2nd course from top).

The two large humbled blocks at the base of the wall: the further north is clear (i.e. E) of the led foundation ledge and it is quite deeper than the foundation ledge. It can't have been a reject from the lower courses (or the masons would have got it out + re-used it) therefore the 'ledge' was visible for quite some time; the further S block (misshapen like the N block) rests on a column of soil + limestone chips 0.22 m high.

N = 60 cms

S = 55 cms

(47)

29.9.91

MGS 91/5 ①

one bag shed!

The deposit is decayed + powdered limestone.

29 September 1991

MGS 91/5

This trench was measured and pegged immediately on commencement of work. It is a southward extension of the 1990 trench at the SW corner of the S tower. The extension measures 2.50 m to the S.

The purpose of this trench is to investigate further the rather substantial wall that abuts the SW corner of the tower. This wall is composed of angular blocks and is therefore different (in appearance) from the broad other walls found during excavations of the Main Gate. These latter were all constructed of rubble field stones.

The eastern boundary of the trench is taken by the preserved blocks parallel to the W face of the tower.

Excavation commences at the E on the surface soil and works down the steep slope to the W.

The surface soil is a very light brown, mixed with a good deal of powdered limestone, and is soft and powdery.

The stratigraphy of the 1990 trench reveals a thin cap of soil and then a considerable depth of white powdered limestone in which are small chips of white limestone. At the Swards projecting wall are signs of a stratum of fine black soil, close to the wall.

The stone block on along which I have aligned the E boundary of 91/5 is the block placed at the juncture of the tower and the circuit wall. Note that it is placed over the smaller blocks which form the facade at the S face of the tower (and then continue along the W face).

8.15 am. ϕ All SC 27-29 from N + NW

of 206/3 (Am) showing cleaned down tumble + 206/2

8.30 am. All SC 30-32 of neck of large jar in situ against wall 207/6 PM (= NW corner of Radii rooming room 178/1. Now a stone, laid, appears beneath jar. ϕ later)

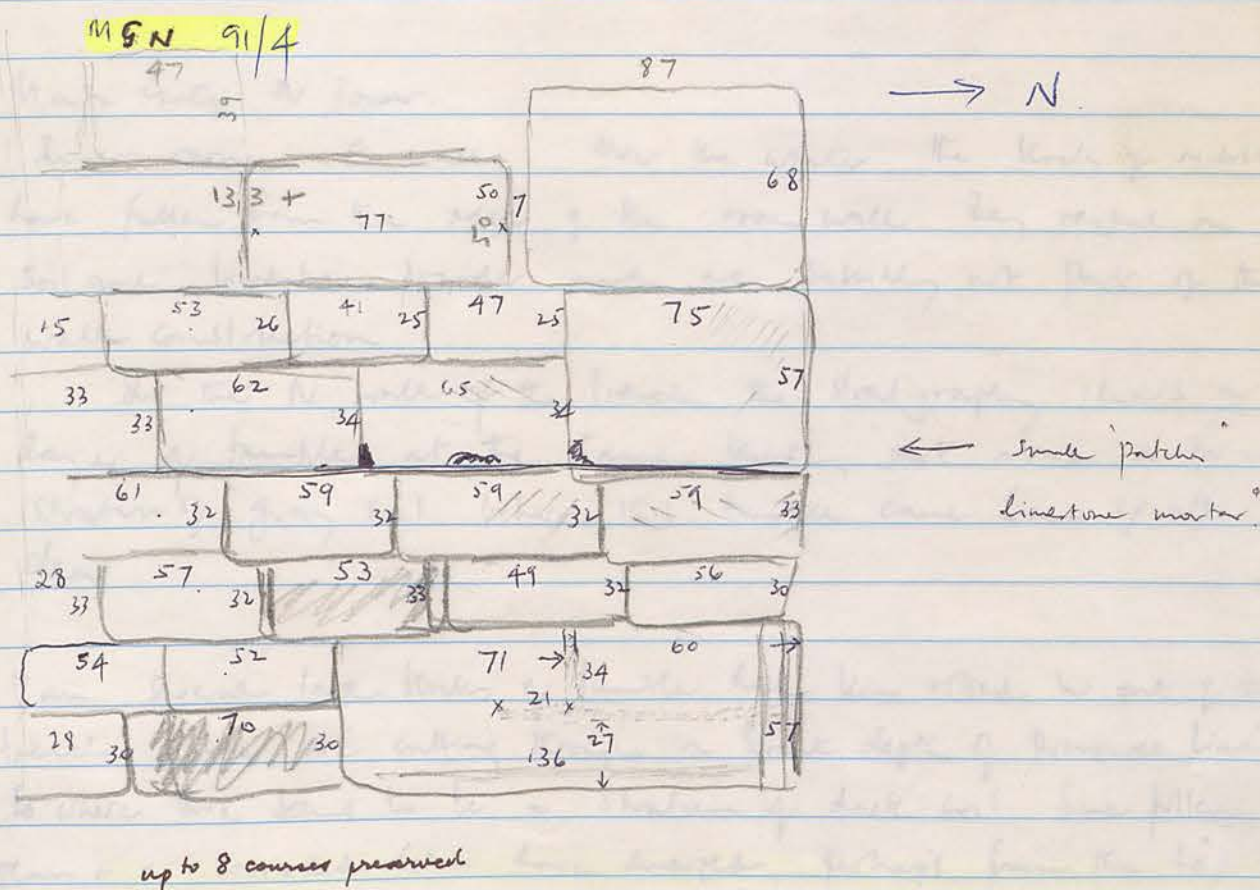
48

29 September 1991

MGS

Yesterday I had cleaned the SW corner of the inner room of the S Tower. Last year excavation ceased in this area because we had come to a hard-packed mud floor. The question however is whether or not there was a ledge or shelf running round the inner room as there is in the North Tower opposite.

10.45 am. I have marked out a 1m x 1m spit in the angle of the corner. Testing with my trowel shows that the smooth river-mud floor lies on top of some small stones of rubble. It is as yet uncertain how deep this rubble goes. A ledge or shelf could still exist beneath this. As soon as possible I shall get some workers to clear this little area. At the moment all are engaged in removing the top soil of 91/5



30.9.91

MGS 91/5 (2)

3 & base frags c/w jars

body frags cooking ware incl. handle frag.

3 river pebble founders

4 rim frags purple rim bowls

2 rim frags flaring rim bowls

1 base frag rg plate

body frags rg + drip painted ware

3 rim frags finger rim (one notched)

2 rim frags echinus bowls

1 body frag incised wavy dec.

Monday 30 September 1991

Weather: increasingly dark after 6 am. cold stiff breeze from NW
Workers: Yazir, Munkhey, Amoune, Khalid, Mohamed, Ali (6)

Main Gate

MGS 91/5 (2) = SW corner S Tower.

Work continues here at the W end in the crumbled powdered limestone.

Below the top soil, a thin layer of brown soil, this deposit is (2)

8.30 am.

a dozen or so sherds. so far

The N/S wall abutting the SW corner of the South Tower.
does not seem at the moment to project further than we could
see in the 1990 trench.

Main Gate N Tower.

Inner room E wall. Over the winter the blocks of rubble
have fallen from the edge of the room wall they rested on
soil and limestone powder. and are possibly not part of the
wall construction.

In the N wall of the trench the stratigraphy shows a
layer of tumble at the same level, just above a thin
stratum of gray soil. Where this tumble came from is not
clear.

1 am. Several large blocks of tumble have been rolled W into the
trench. We are cutting through a great depth of powdered limestone
to where there seems to be a stratum of dark soil. Some pottery,
glass + a corroded coin have emerged, perhaps from the top of
the dark gray stratum. = 91.3p9 missing, Abbasid CS-9

(50)

30 September 1991

12.20 pm a lapin vry-base fragment has just emerged at the S end of the trench.

I observe again that this frag. seems to come from the upper surface of the black soil which lies beneath the crushed/powdered limestone.

Is the powdered limestone the result of 'modern' robbing rather than the deposit created at the time of building?
yes, if the coin is Abbasid (see p.50)

1 October 1991 October 1991

MGN 91/4 back area Central

The Sower Baulk. I dug and found a small area
in the pasture with a small outcrop. The patch had no

At the base of the baulk are clear signs of limestone chips and
chunks, evidently from the construction of the wall. 96 cm up
from the foundation is a strata of dark gray soil with substantial
deposits of charcoal. It is 4 cm deep and stretches for approx.
50 cm from the wall.

It was clearly no longer just between the stone beams
the depression is but had the single stone; there is no hint
at the bottom of the depression.

The weathered (B. looking) now remains and shows the
in comparison with the back of pavement at the 10 cm

27 area should be cleared and photographed

Wednesday 2 October 1991

Main Gate paved area central

to an with architect I dig and scrape a small area in the pavement with a circular contour. This patch had not been previously excavated.

The hole was filled with crushed limestone, some small limestone chunks and one or two small pieces of pottery, such as were found previously at the boundaries, E + W, of the paving.

It was clearly no simple gap between the stone because the depression is cut into one single stone; there is no joint at the bottom of the depression.

The architect (B. Rowley) now measures and draws 1:5 in conjunction with other blocks of pavement at the N end.

This area should be cleaned and photographed

1991

Heather Sloan

new trench

10.9.91

392/3

15.9.91 measure 363/1

24.9.91

392/5

Continue

10.9.91

363/2 → bank 363/2-364/8

364/9 W previously unexcavated; 363/1; steps at 364/2; 363/3 (1.10.91)
392/4 (5.10.91)

DQ

Peter Magee

207/5

15.9.91 measured out 207/6

Annette Welkamp

① 206/2

② 206/3

Radi

begins by removing boulders

(a) between 179/8 and 179/7

(b) between 178/1 and 179/7

Radi next intends to go further N on street

which should be 179/2 (measured 15.9.91)

Radi open 179/9 on 23.9.91

R. measures out 179/6 on 25.9.91 (179/2 is nearly complete)