

Ἐνδιαφέροντα εἶναι καὶ τὰ οἰκοδομήματα τῆς μεταγενεστέρως συνοικίας, ἥτις κατέστρεψε τὴν ἀρχαϊκὴν νεκρόπολιν. Τὸ δάπεδον χώρου τινὸς ἐνὸς ἐκ τῶν κτηρίων τούτων εὐρέθῃ ἐστρωμένον διὰ μωσαϊκῆς διακοσμῆσεως πλήρως σχεδὸν διατηρουμένης (Π i v. 340a). Τὸν μεσαῖον ρομβοειδῆ χῶρον κοσμεῖ θαλασσία σκηνή ἣτοι Νύμφη φερόμενη ἐπὶ κήτους, ἐνθ' δύο ἰχθύες χαρακτηρίζουν περαιτέρω τὴν θάλασσαν. Κυανοῦν - πράσινον ἱμάτιον καλύπτει τὸν κορμὸν τῆς Νύμφης ἀπὸ τῆς ὀσφύος καὶ κάτω. Τὸ κῆτος εἶναι βίσων ταῦρος. Ὁ ἀνασκάπτων λόγῳ τῆς θαλασσίας προφανῶς φύσεως τοῦ θηρίου, θεωρεῖ ἀμφίβολον ὅτι πρόκειται περὶ μυθολογικῆς σκηνῆς συγκεκριμένης.

Εἰς παρακείμενον δωμάτιον, δι' ἀκοσμήτου μωσαϊκοῦ ἐστρωμένου, διετηρήθησαν ἴχνη τοιχογραφιδῶν, μὲ ὀλοσώμους κατὰ μέτωπον ἱσταμένας καὶ πλουσίως ἐνδεδυμένας μορφάς, σφζομένας κατὰ τὸ κατώτατον μόνον μέρος.

Τοιχογραφίαι καὶ μωσαϊκὰ δύνανται νὰ χρονολογηθοῦν εἰς τὸν 4ον περίπου μ. Χ. αἰ., δὲν ἀνῆκουν δὲ ἀσφαλῶς εἰς χριστιανικὸν οἰκοδόμημα. Ἰσως εἶναι τοῦτο θρησκευτικῆς ὀργανώσεως ἐθνικοῦ χαρακτῆρος ἱδρυμα.

N.M. KONTOLAEDON

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#### EXCAVATIONS IN KEA (1961)

A campaign of excavation was conducted in the island of Kea, between June 7 and August 8, 1961, by an archaeological expedition of the University of Cincinnati, acting under the authority of the Greek Archaeological Service and under the auspices of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Digging began on June 12 and was suspended on July 22, the remaining days being devoted to study of the objects found. The staff comprised J. L. Caskey, Field Director, Mrs. Caskey, Mr. and Mrs. William Kittredge, Lloyd Cotsen, Architect, Mrs. A. Bikaki, Miss E. Milburn, Philip Auerbach, and Eric Carlson. Dimitrios Papaioannou of Corinth was foreman. Four experienced workmen from Corinth and Myloi were employed, in addition to 27 local men and boys. Sotirios Maras of Corinth, on leave from military service, mended pottery for three weeks in July.

We would express cordial thanks to many people who assisted us in the work: especially to the Archaeological Service, the Ephor of the Cyclades, and the Epimelete Mr. Chr.

Doumas, who was on hand during a part of the campaign; to the Michalinos Co. for valuable facilities; to Mr. V. Psyllas, President of the Community of Korissia; and to the American School at Athens. The excavation was financed by the Archaeological Research Fund of the University of Cincinnati, to which contributions were made by private persons, the American Philosophical Society, and the Wenner - Gren Foundation.

Principal attention was given to the site of an ancient settlement on the promontory of Agia Irini in the great natural harbor of Agios Nikolaos, opposite the village of Vourkari (Pl. 337 c). This site had been tested by the digging of exploratory trenches in 1960. Investigation was also continued this year on a small scale at the earlier site on Cape Kephala some two kilometers away on the north coast.

At Agia Irini (see Plan 1) the remains of the settlement were examined in three principal areas, each of some 250 square meters, and the course of the fortification wall was followed in a series of pits and trenches. These excavations confirmed the belief that the site was inhabited at least as early as the Middle Bronze Age; that the settlement reached an important stage of development in the early part of the Late Bronze Age (L.M.I-II, L.H. I-II), when it was in contact with Minoan Crete, the other islands, and the mainland; and that it was rebuilt in the period corresponding with Late Helladic III after suffering destruction by earthquake on one or more occasions. Traces of activity in Classical Greek times and in the late Roman period were also observed.

A row of very large stones, some of which lie under water in the west side of the peninsula, was noted in 1960. Further excavation, supervised by Mr. Kittredge, has cleared a part of this wall, which is now seen to be built in the Cyclopean style, some 2 m. thick. Only the lower courses are now in place; they served as retaining walls and as foundations for the fortifications. This massive construction follows the contour of the hill in a manner suggesting that the bays on either side of the headland were deeper in ancient times than now, leaving only a narrow causeway at the northern end. Big stones found just there may belong to a tower or gate.

In Area A, northeast of the church of Agia Irini, Mrs. Caskey cleared a complex series of rooms, corridors, and streets. Some of the walls are bedded on the natural rock, which rises highest along the central spine of the promontory. Elsewhere they rest on earth, and this difference in the footing accounts for particularly severe damage by earthquake in this area.

Most of the rooms found were in the basements, largely if not entirely below ground level. The floors are ca. 1.50 m. to 3 m. below the present tops of the walls. One room has a rectangular pier, built of small stones, which may have held a column supporting the floor above, but in general the space between walls must have been spanned by wooden beams. Doorways gave access from one room to another. In the eastern part of the area there is a staircase leading down to the basements, and at its head there is a landing from which the stairs returned and ran upward to the storey above. Two rooms, one of which is subdivided by a partition wall, are paved with big flagstones at a level corresponding with the ground floor. Both appear to have been bathrooms, since openings led out from them through the walls to the adjoining streets. It is possible, however, that they were light-wells, open to the sky. Fragments of brightly colored plaster, fallen from the rooms of the upper storeys, were found in the debris in the basements.

The rooms in Area A yielded an important collection of pottery, including plain local wares and pithoi. Late Cycladic decorated wares, (Pl. 337 a) imported Mycenaean wares (Pl. 335 b, 337 b) and a large number of pots that were manufactured in Crete or under very strong Cretan influence (Pl. 335 c). These are to be dated in the later Palace Period, L. M. Ib - L. M. II. Fine stone vases, in the Minoan tradition but locally made, occurred also.

After the earthquake, the buildings were reconstructed. Only a few of the later walls are discernible in the central part of the hill, the upper layers having been lost by erosion. Some pottery and figurines indicate that the site was occupied in Late Helladic III.

In Area C, north of the church, further architectural complexes were discovered in excavation supervised by Miss Milburn. Many

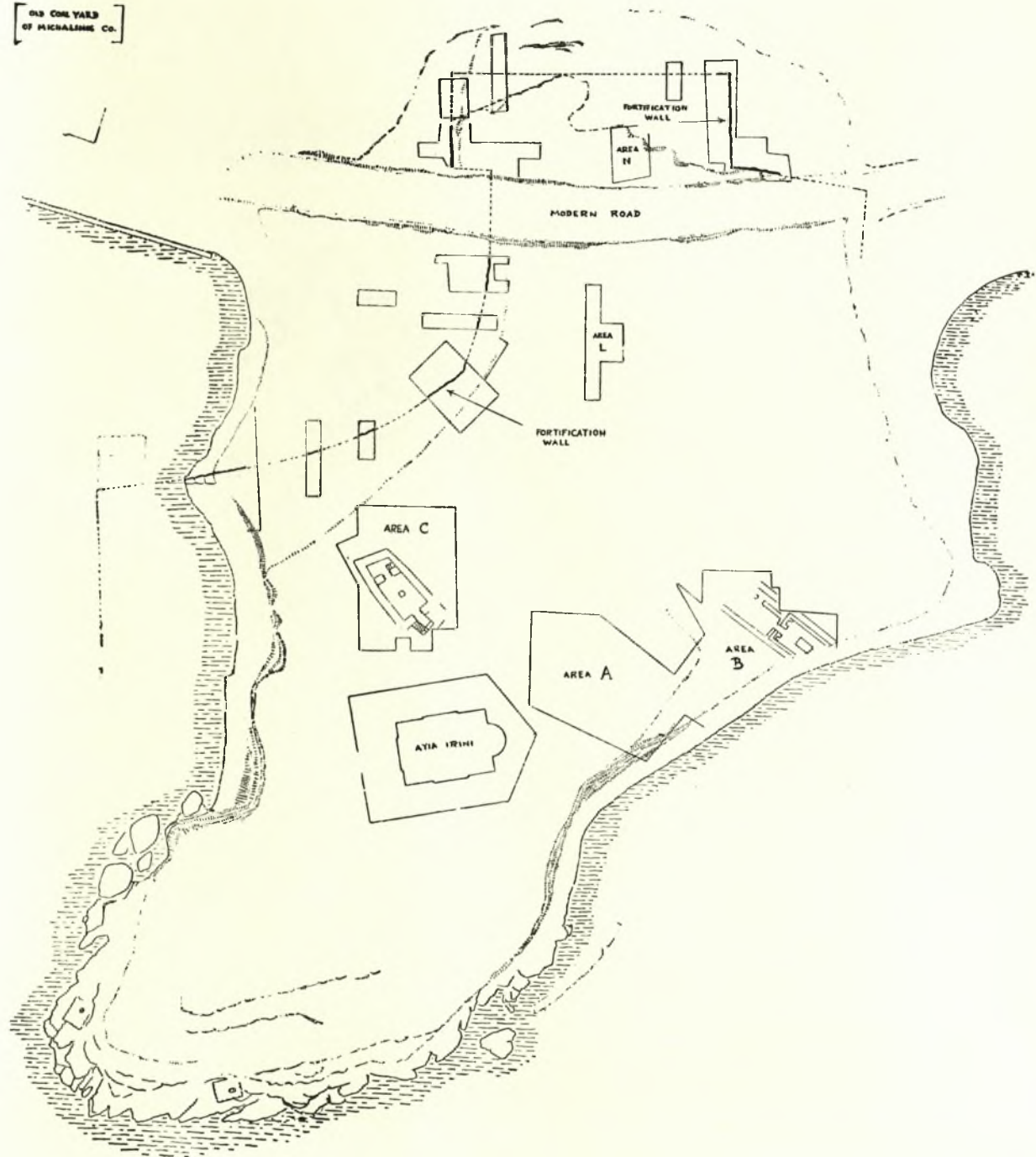
of the rooms and passageways are small, and their purpose is not yet clear. One of the buildings is of considerable size (ca. 6 m. by 13.50 m.). Its walls are carefully built, with many large blocks of stone, especially on the inner face, and they stand firmly in place to a depth of about two meters. Clearly the part preserved is another basement, below ground level. It comprises a large room with a central pier, approached by a returning staircase of eight steps at the southeast and communicating with a smaller room, that contained another staircase, at the northwest. (see Plan 2) At either end of the main room are doorways with stone thresholds and chases for the wooden frames of the doors themselves. The purpose of the building is not apparent as yet. It was inhabited in the time of L.M. II - L.H. II, and the general resemblance to the «Pillar Crypts» of Knossos and other Cretan sites is obvious. At one time in its history the main room was subdivided by a crosswall which incorporated the pier. After the earthquake the space above the debris was reused, as attested by the presence of Mycenaean pottery (L. H. III).

Test-pits excavated north, east, and west of the big building in Area C revealed house walls of the preceding Middle Bronze Age at considerable depths below the general level of the later structures.

Investigations in Area B, on the lower ground east of Area A, were conducted this year under the supervision of Mrs. Bikaki. Buildings of various periods were discovered.

A street leads down from the northwest toward the shore, carrying a covered drain which took the water from two branches. West of the street are basement rooms with walls well preserved to a height of some three meters on the upper side but largely lost by the encroachment of the sea on the lower side. This building also had been destroyed by earthquake, and among the debris were found fragments of pottery assignable to L.M. I - II and L.H. I - II, as well as domestic utensils and a small seal stone with a representation of two lions or griffins. Excavation below the floor showed that this area had been occupied in Middle Helladic times, when gray Minyan and matt-painted Pottery was used along with plain local fabrics,

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Plan 1

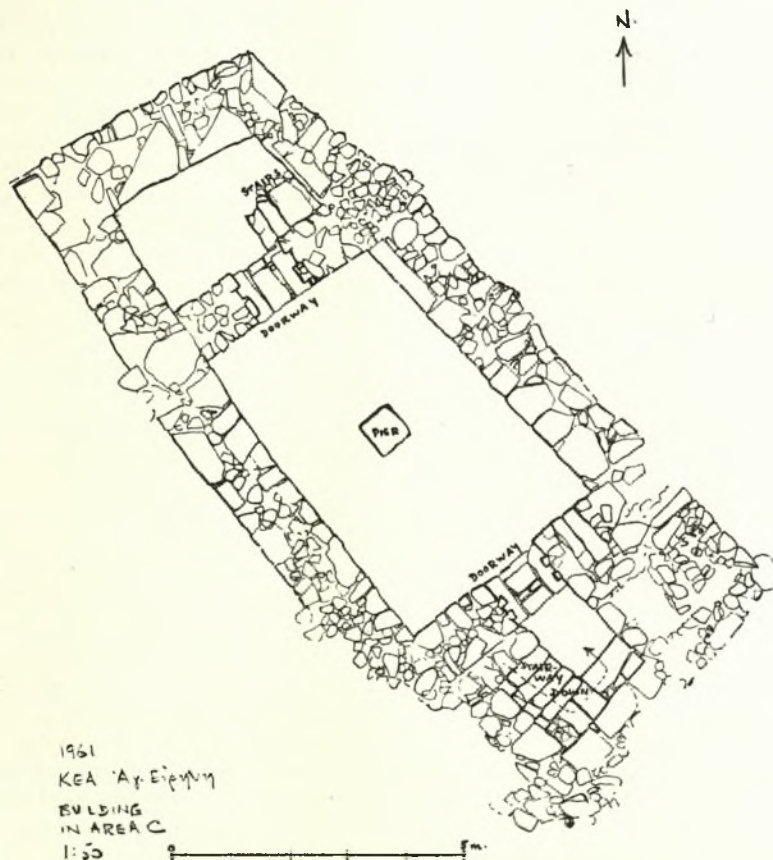


These earlier houses lie chiefly below the present level of the sea.

On the other side of the street, to the northeast, are remains of a building that was devoted to religious use in the Mycenaean period. It was partially excavated this year. Some 17 meters of its length have been expo-

benches along the walls of the southeastern room and a large stone pier or base in its central axis, is marked by the presence of a large krater (Pl. 337 b) of a shape that Furumark assigns to Mycenaean III C 1: e.

Objects found at these levels include a seal stone with representation of a lion or



Plan 2

sed; the width, including the thick walls, appears to be about 6 meters. A partition wall, with a doorway somewhat off center, divides the space into two rooms. This building was used over a considerable time, being altered and reconstructed on several occasions. The earliest is difficult to determine, since the original floor is well below the present water-level, but sherds suggest that it is at least as early as Mycenaean III B. (Pl. 335 b). The succeeding phase, in which there were stone

wolf and a tree; a figure of a dolphin, finely modelled in buff terra cotta; (Pl. 336 e) and fragments of large terra cotta figures, which were certainly associated with the cult of one or more female divinities (Pl. 335a, 336b, 336a).

The figures are made of coarse local clay, worked individually by hand on wooden armatures, and are of different sizes. Fragments found include a head approximately of human size, part of a second head about half

that size, the undraped right breast of a figure perhaps even larger than the first, parts of four arms, and numerous other pieces that cannot yet be assigned. The surfaces, in some cases coated with finer clay but in many only smoothed by the hand of the sculptor, have been damaged by erosion. Nevertheless, the fragments reveal an original and vigorous artistic quality. The larger head has big round eyes, high cheek bones, a short nose and firm chin. The headdress is missing, and the back is too badly worn to show the coiffure. The small head had somewhat slanting oval eyes, a narrow delicately modelled nose, and again a noticeably firm chin. The arms appear to have been held in a raised position.

After the collapse of the building that held the statues, a much smaller room was built over the debris. In it were found a stone «blossom bowl» of Minoan type and more pottery of Mycenaean II C styles.

Above the level of this later room, and just below the present surface of the ground, there were a few small structures of stone and disturbed layers of earth that contained pottery ranging in date from Proto-geometric to late Classical times (Pl. 336 d). Many of the pots were small and were probably given as votive offerings. With them were the head of a diminutive terra cotta figurine, a terra cotta button with an impressed representation of the head of Athena Parthenos, and various bits of bronze, some retaining flakes of gold leaf. It seems probable that the place of the late Mycenaean temple was re-used, or continued to be used, for religious purposes throughout the Classical Greek period.

Excavation in other parts of the site was limited to small areas, enough to establish that the entire hill was occupied by buildings. Signs of bronze-working and of the manufacture of stone vessels were noted in many places. Lead is unusually common throughout the site, and a series of disk-shaped weights was found in Areas A and C. Terra cotta loom weights are abundant. The commonest single item found is a small conical cup without handle, made in rough local clay; these cups occur in such profusion (hundreds on the floor of a small room) that one is at a loss to explain their use and their popularity (Pl. 336 c).

Continuing the exploration begun in 1960, tests were made at various places on Cape Kephala. The work was directed by J. L. Caskey and supervised by P. Auerbach and E. Carlson, with the advice of the Epimelete Mr. Doumas. Trenches on the low ground that joins the headland to the island failed to reveal any signs of habitation. The headland itself is steep and rocky, with little earth. A few walls were uncovered, indicating that there were houses with narrow rooms arranged on terraces along the contours of the hill. At the foot of the hill graves were found in the area where two had been noted in 1960. Ten more were cleared this year. In general they are oval pits with stone walls and are covered by slabs of schist. Rectangular or rounded piers of small stones were built over some of the covers. Some of the graves contained single burials, while others had been used as ossuaries. The bones were in poor condition. One grave held a small bowl, inadequately fired; in another there was a conical marble vessel of good quality (Pl. 335 d). Pottery found in the houses and in the area of the cemetery is coarse, generally undecorated, and crudely made. It appears to be of very early date.

At the end of the season most of the material found was stored in a stone building that was constructed by the expedition this year, and a few of the more important pieces were placed in a locked room in the central building of the Michalinos Co., in accordance with instructions from the Archaeological Service. It is our intention to resume our studies and excavations in the district next year.

JOHN L. CASKEY

Athens, 10 August 1961

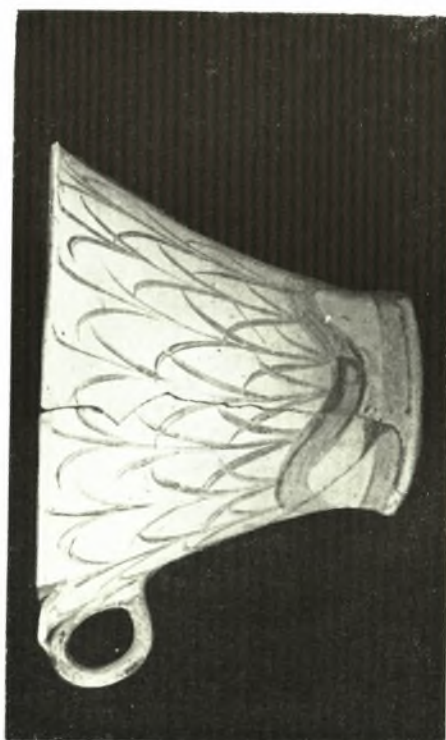
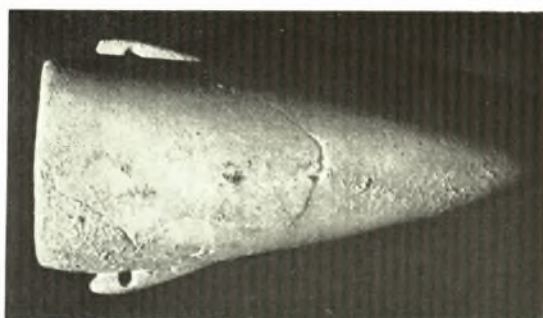
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DELOS

Archégésion

Des fouilles ont eu lieu dans le sanctuaire d'Anios, Archégète du peuple délien, à peu près à mi-chemin entre le Lac et le Gymnase. Elles avaient pour but l'exploration exhaustive de ce monument, dégagé et identifié par F. Robert. Elles ont été conduites par J. Ducat et Cl. Vatin en août et septembre 1961.

La région située au Sud de la cour dallée était la seule à n'avoir pas été explorée



Κεα, Αγία Ιρίνη: α. Head of large terracotta statue from the temple, b. Late Mycenaean from the temple.  
c. L.M. IA cup, d. Kephala. Early cycladic marble vessel from a grave

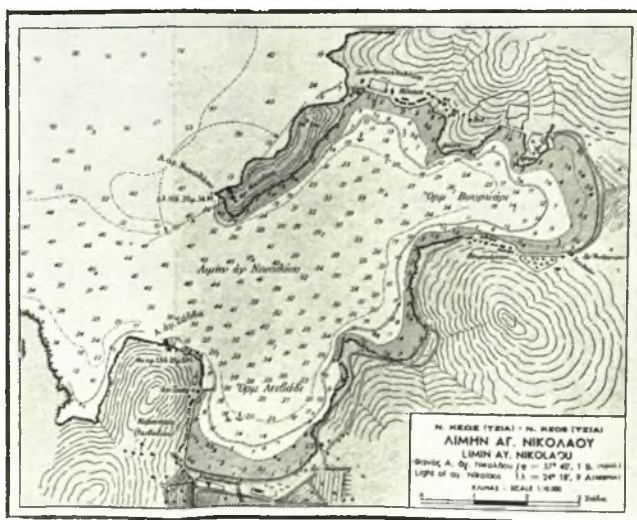
JOHN L. CASKEY





Κεα. Αγία Ιρίνη: α. Right breast of terracotta statue from the temple, β. Head of the smaller terracotta statue from the temple, γ. Conical cups, δ. 6th c. Corinthian skyphoi from the area above the Mycenaean temple ε. Terracotta dolphin from the temple (Late Mycenaean)

JOHN L. CASKEY



Kea. Agia Irini: a. Late Cycladic, b. L.M. IIIc Krater from the temple, c. Kea. Agia Irini