

Mochlos IA

Period III. Neopalatial Settlement on the Coast:
The Artisans' Quarter and the Farmhouse
at Chalinomouri.

The Sites

PREHISTORY MONOGRAPHS 7

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Period III. Neopalatial Settlement on the Coast:
The Artisans' Quarter and the Farmhouse
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The Sites

by
Jeffrey S. Soles

contributions by

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R. Angus K. Smith, and Cameron Walker

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Preface

This book presents the results of excavations carried out from 1990 to 1994 at two sites along the Mochlos coastal plain in eastern Crete, the Artisans' Quarter, which is located near the western end of the plain by the modern town of Mochlos, and the farmhouse at Chalinomouri, which is located at the eastern end of the plain (Fig. 1). These excavations were part of a larger series of excavations at Mochlos conducted by a Greek-American team from 1989 to 1994 under the direction of Jeffrey S. Soles and Costis Davaras. The focus of the excavation was the island of Mochlos where Richard Seager excavated in 1908¹ and where the more recent excavations have uncovered remains of four different civilizations spanning the whole of the Bronze Age and several centuries afterward.² They include six main periods of occupation: the Prepalatial, Protopalatial, and Neopalatial periods of Minoan civilization; the LM III, or Mycenaean period; the Hellenistic period of the 1st century B.C.; and the later Byzantine periods. The most numerous remains belong to the Neopalatial period when Mochlos was a prosperous town in the Mirabello region with many large houses and a ceremonial center located in the main settlement area on what is now the island of Mochlos. Toward the end of the Neopalatial period, at the time of the eruption of the volcano on Santorini, there was a major expansion in the population, in the main town on the island and along the coast opposite the island where the two sites published in this volume were founded.

This is the first volume in the Mochlos Publication Series, which will publish the results of the Greek-American excavations; it is not, however, the first in chronological order, because the two sites on the coast date to the close of the Neopalatial period. Subsequent volumes will publish additional remains from this period as well as earlier and later remains and a more detailed account of the topography of the area. The editors of the series decided to begin with these sites because they offer a good introduction to the main period of occupation in the area and also display a much simpler stratigraphy than corresponding buildings in the main settlement area on what is now the island of Mochlos. They are both new foundations at the time of the Santorini eruption—at the end of the LM IA period or the beginning of the LM IB period, depending on your point of view—and remain in constant use until the final destruction of Minoan civilization. There is no break in their stratigraphy until Mochlos is reoccupied in the LM III period. They are excellent illustrations, therefore, of the final stage of Minoan civilization in the Mirabello region, and they document an expansion of population and a range of new activity that occurs in the area at this time.

The current volume, *Mochlos I*, is divided into three parts. Part A publishes the stratigraphy and architecture of the two sites on the coast, Buildings A and B in the Artisans' Quarter and the farmhouse at Chalinomouri. Parts B and C publish the pottery and other finds, respectively. By splitting the volume into three parts, the editors hope the material will be more manageable and accessible for research purposes. Rather than publish each building separately, it seemed more appropriate to publish the two sites as a unit because of the homogeneous character of their pottery deposits and other finds. This approach avoids needless repetition in the discussion of individual finds and permits a more synthetic treatment of the three buildings and their contents.

Part A of the volume is divided into six chapters. Chapters 1, 2, and 4 provide a room by room description of each building, as well as a description of finds from each room and a discussion of the ways in which each room was probably used. The presentation of each room ends with a complete listing of artifacts and ecofacts, which are discussed in more detail in Parts B and C of the volume. Chapters 3 and 5 provide general discussions of the Artisans' Quarter and the farmhouse and their significance in Minoan Crete. Chapter 6 describes the human skeletal remains found in the course of excavation at both sites, the most important of which belong to a modest LM III cemetery, a veritable potter's field, that was established in the ruins of the Artisans' Quarter.

Jeffrey S. Soles

Costis Davaras

July 2002

Preface Notes

1. Seager 1909, 1912.

2. Preliminary reports are published in Davaras and Soles 1992, Soles and Davaras 1992, 1993, 1994, and 1996.

Acknowledgments

The Greek-American excavations at Mochlos, including the excavation of the Artisans' Quarter and the farmhouse at Chalinomouri, were sponsored by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Archaeological Institute of Crete under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Culture and the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Most of the fieldwork was carried out while Costis Davaras was serving as director of the 24th Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Eastern Crete, and the excavation is particularly indebted to the Greek Archaeological Service for its support.

The fieldwork was supported by several agencies and individuals: the Institute for Aegean Prehistory; the National Endowment for the Humanities, an independent federal agency; the General Greene Chapter of the American-Hellenic Progressive Association; the Samuel H. Kress Foundation; Marion and Philippe Lambert; Karen Morely Westcott; and many small donors. The author of the volume is also indebted to these agencies and individuals and to the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Shelby White-Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications for supporting the study sessions that have followed the excavation.

The directors of the excavation would also like to thank a large number of individuals who made the project possible. The excavation permit was issued by the Greek Archaeological Service, and we thank the different individuals who served as directors of the division for Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities for the Greek Ministry of Culture during the years of excavation: Iannis Tzedakis (1990, 1994), Ios Zervoudaki (1990–1992) and Katerina Romiopoulou (1992–1993). We are also grateful to the late William D.E. Coulson, the Director of the American School of Classical Studies during the years of excavation and for many years afterward, to James D. Muhly, Director of the School from 1997 to 2000, and to the late Nikos P. Papadakis, Director of the East Cretan Ephorate during the years subsequent to the actual excavation.

We are also indebted to many trench supervisors who oversaw the digging and kept the notebooks: Thomas Brogan and Stuart Evans, who dug at both the Artisans' Quarter and Chalinomouri; Peter Wahlstrom, Olga Kalentzidou, Angus Smith, Blake Woodruff, John Erler, Evi Sikla, Natalia Vogeikoff, and Chris Witmore, who dug at the Artisans' Quarter; and Andrew Smith who dug at Chalinomouri. We would also like to thank a long list of undergraduates from various Greek and American universities, who provided valuable assistance, and the many local inhabitants of Mochlos and its neighboring villages at Sphaka, Tourloti, Myrsini, Mesa and Exo

Mouliana, who helped to wash pottery or did the actual digging and worked so hard to make the project a success.

The topographical maps of the Artisans' Quarter and Chalinomouri are the work of Jeffrey Patton and Duane Therriault (1990–1991), who were also responsible for laying out the trenches. The architectural plans and most of the drawings in the book are the work of Doug Faulmann, who has worked on the project since 1990. Margaret Reid (1990), Peter Alexander (1991), Bridget O'Rourke (1994), and Damon Cassiano (1999–2000) also contributed to the drawing. Most of the reconstructions were computer generated by Chris Dietrich and redrawn for this volume by Doug Faulmann.

The site photographs are the work of Robert Gerhart (1990), Chris Drozdowski (1990), Michael Traister (1991), Anne Marie Pelczynski (1993), and Alex Maness (1994). The pottery and other small find photographs are largely the work of Kathy May (1997, 1998).

The water flotation system was set up originally by Julie Hansen and was supervised in 1990 by Maureen Smyth. Anaya Sarpaki continued to oversee the operation in 1991 with the aid of Maria Droungaki (1991, 1992), Helène Crump (1993), and Chryssa Bourbou (1994). Joanna Bending joined the team in 2000.

Susan Springer (1990, 1991) and Eleanor Huffman (1992–1994) served as registrars. Mary Ellen Soles (1990–2000), Anne Blasingham (1991), and Ann Nicgorski (1992–2000) served as catalogers. Kellee Barnard served as chief pottery analyst from 1992 to 1998, and Maryanne Schultz joined the pottery team in 1996. A number of conservators participated during the field seasons, including Helen Kingsley (1990), Christine Del Re (1991, 1992), Carola Bohm (1991), Giota Guioni (1991–1994), Irena Calinescu (1993, 1994), Karin Lindahl (1993), and Franca Cole (1993). Stephania Chlouveraki and Michel Roggenbucke continued to conserve material after 1996.

The publication of the Artisans' Quarter and the farmhouse at Chalinomouri is a collaborative venture. Soles has organized the publication, written the first five chapters in this part of the volume, and co-authored Chapter 6 with Cameron Walker, who carried out the human skeletal analyses. Many other scholars have made important contributions. Charles Frederick is largely responsible for the topographic descriptions in Chapters 1 and 4, descriptions which he will enlarge upon in a future volume. The lists of finds that follow the discussion of individual buildings and rooms as well as the burials in Chapter 6, are the work of several individuals. Kellee Barnard and Thomas Brogan are largely responsible for the identification of the Neopalatial pottery (*Mochlos* vol. IB), while Maryanne Schultz provided invaluable assistance in sorting the pottery from Chalinomouri. The discussion of pottery statistics from each room is based on the work of Kellee Barnard. The identification of the LM III pottery in Chapters 4 and 6 is the work of R. Angus K. Smith, who is preparing the publication of the LM III pottery from the main settlement area on the island. The lists of small finds are mostly the work of Ann Nicgorski and Mary Ellen Soles, while the lithics identifications are the work of Tristan Carter. He and Christopher Witmore are responsible for the lists of minerals and rocks. David S. Reese has provided the identification and description of mammal bones and shells; Dimitra Mylona identified and described the fish bones; Anaya Sarpaki and Joanna Bending did the archaeobotany; and Werner Schoch and Maria Ntinou identified the wood charcoals (see *Mochlos* vol. IC). Richard Evershed, Sarah Vaughan, and Stephanie Dudd carried out gas chromatography and

mass spectrometry analyses of conical cup lamps from the Artisans' Quarter. The Beta Analytic and Oxford University Radiocarbon Dating Laboratories conducted the radiocarbon analyses for the project and produced the calibrated dates cited in the text.

Finally, we would like to thank Phil Betancourt and the anonymous reviewers of this book, who took the trouble to read the manuscript before its publication and offered many valuable suggestions. We have tried to respond to all their suggestions, as best we can, and the book is much improved as a result.

Jeffrey S. Soles
Costis Davaras

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this part of the volume:

A	Building A, Artisans' Quarter	HM	Herakleion Museum
B	Building B, Artisans' Quarter	IM	Ierapetra Museum
B	bone object	indet.	indeterminate
C	clay object (not a vessel)	kg	kilogram
CA	copper alloy object	km	kilometer(s)
ca.	circa	Le	left
cf.	compares favorably with	LM	Late Minoan
CF Type 1	Coarse Ware fabric	m	meter
Ch.	Chalinomouri farmstead	M	minerals and rocks retained for study
Chap.	Chapter	M ¹	permanent maxillary molar
cl	centiliter	M ₃	permanent mandibular molar
CS	chipped stone object	m ¹	deciduous maxillary molar
d.	diameter	m ₃	deciduous mandibular molar
dims.	dimensions	max.	maximum
dp ⁴	deciduous maxillary premolar	MM	Middle Minoan
est.	estimated	MNI	minimum number of individuals
F	fused	MPD	maximum preserved dimension
FF	Fine Buff fabric	nn.	notes
FM	Furumark Motif number	P	pottery object (vessel)
FS	Furumark Shape number	P ³	premolar
g	gram	Pb	lead object
GS	ground stone object	pres.	preserved
h.	height	R	right
ha	hectares	RY	Rear Yard
HNM	Hagios Nikolaos Museum	S	stone object

Sh	shell	UF	unfused
s.l.	sensu lato	vol.	volume
SM	Siteia Museum	w.	width
sp.	species	-/-	complete/fragments
th.	thickness		