

Mochlos IIA

Period IV. The Mycenaean Settlement and Cemetery

The Sites



“Killed” vases from Tomb 15: **IIB.609** (P 1137) and **IIB.850** (P 1141). Watercolor by D. Faulmann.

PREHISTORY MONOGRAPHS 23

Mochlos IIA

Period IV. The Mycenaean Settlement and Cemetery The Sites

by

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with

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Published by
INSTAP Academic Press
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
2008

Design and Production

INSTAP Academic Press

Printing

CRWGraphics, Pennsauken, New Jersey

Binding

Hoster Bindery, Inc., Ivyland, Pennsylvania

FPO

FSC

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Soles, Jeffrey S., 1942-

Mochlos IIA : period IV, the Mycenaean settlement and cemetery : the sites / by Jeffrey S. Soles ; with contributions by Thomas M. Brogan ...
[et al.].

p. cm. — (Prehistory monographs ; 23)

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-931534-23-9 (hardcover : alk. paper)

1. Mochlos Plain (Greece)—Antiquities. 2. Excavations (Archaeology)—Greece—Mochlos Plain. 3. Minoans—Greece—Mochlos Plain. I.
Brogan, Thomas M. II. Title.

DF221.C8S659 2008

939'.18—dc22

2008009920

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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Printed in the United States of America

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Preface

This book presents the results of excavations carried out at two Late Minoan III sites, one on the south slope of the island of Mochlos in eastern Crete and the other on the west side of a low hill that is located south of the modern town of Mochlos overlooking the Limenaria Bay to the west (Fig. 1). The excavations at these sites occurred over several years and were directed by several different archaeologists. They began in 1986 when Nikos Papadakis carried out rescue excavations for the Greek Archaeological Service on the Limenaria hill where nine tombs were exposed by a bulldozer when the site was being prepared for the planting of olive trees. In summer campaigns carried out in 1989–1994, a Greek-American team under the direction of Jeffrey S. Soles and Costis Davaras continued excavations in the area and uncovered most of the LM III remains that are published in this book, including an additional 20 tombs from Limenaria and parts of eleven houses on the island. In 1998, Papadakis excavated another tomb on the Limenaria hill for the Greek Archaeological Service. In 2004 and 2005, Soles and Davaras uncovered two additional houses in the settlement on the island, and in 2004 Chrysa Sophianou excavated an additional tomb at Limenaria for the Greek Archaeological Service.

This is the second volume in the Mochlos Publication Series, which presents the results of the Greek-American excavations in the area. The excavations uncovered remains from later historical periods as well as from four different periods of the Bronze Age ranging from Early Minoan I to LM III—the Prepalatial period, the Old Palace period, the Neopalatial period, and the Mycenaean period. The volumes are designed to present these remains chronologically by period and thematically by subject. The first volume in the series, *Mochlos I*, which appeared in 2003 and 2004, presented the LM IB remains found on the coast, including an artisans' quarter and a small farmhouse, as well as a small LM III cemetery that was established in the midst of the ruined Artisans' Quarter. Future volumes will publish the remains of the houses and other buildings from different blocks of the Neopalatial town on the island, while others will publish the remains from earlier and later periods of occupation.

The current volume, *Mochlos II*, presents all the remains from Period IV, the Mycenaean period. Like its predecessor, this volume is divided into three parts. Part A reports on the stratigraphy and architecture of the two sites, the settlement on the island and the cemetery on the opposite coast, together with a brief discussion of their finds. Part B describes the pottery from the two sites, and Part C relates information about the burial population from the cemetery and provides a more thorough description of the small finds from both locations.

Part A contains three chapters and an appendix. The first chapter describes the LM III settlement and provides a room by room description of each house with a summary of its stratigraphy, the finds in each room, and the way the house and each room may have been used. The description is followed by a complete list of artifacts and ecofacts found in the room, which are then discussed further in Parts B and C of the volume. Chapter 2 reports on the cemetery by providing a description of each tomb and its contents, both the burials and the grave goods. Each tomb is followed by a list of the artifacts found in it, including a list of the surviving skeletal remains. The editors of the volume decided to include the remains of both the cemetery and the settlement together in one volume in order to correlate the findings from both sites. In particular, it is our belief that the cemetery remains mirror the settlement remains, and Chapter 3 concludes with a general discussion of how the two sites reflect each other. It is not often that a settlement and its cemetery are both preserved in Crete, and we were extremely lucky to be able to excavate both. We have tried to capitalize further on this fact in Appendix A where we reconstruct a ritual ceremony that was once performed in the cemetery in the hope of learning more about the interaction between the living and the dead.

Jeffrey S. Soles
Costis Davaras

Acknowledgments

Most of the material published in this volume was excavated by the Greek-American team directed by Jeffrey S. Soles and Costis Davaras in collaboration with, and under the auspices of, the Greek Archaeological Service and the American School of Classical Studies at Athens with the support of the 24th Ephoreia of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities. Davaras was Supervisor of the Ephoreia during much of the time that the excavation took place, from 1990–1994, but both directors would also like to thank the successive supervisors of the Ephoreia, Nikos Papadakis (1995–2002) and Stavroula Apostolakou (2002–present) for their support and encouragement. We are especially indebted to Nikos Papadakis for allowing us to continue the excavations in the Limenaria cemetery that he had begun and for insisting that we publish the material from his excavation with the material from our excavation. As he pointed out, “It all belongs to the same LM III community.” Papadakis’ untimely death in 2002 was a great loss. He was committed to the excavation and publication of the cemetery material, however, and before his death he provided us with valuable information that we were able to use in writing the descriptions of Tombs 1–9 that appear here. We are grateful to the current supervisor of the Ephoreia, Stavroula Apostolakou, and to Chrysa Sophianou, Epimeletes in the Ephoreia, for continuing to support the excavation and publication of LM III Mochlos. We are also grateful to the individuals who served as directors of the division of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities for the Greek Ministry of Culture during the years of excavation, including Yannis Tzedakis, Yos Zervoudaki, Katerina Romiopoulou, and Aikaterini Kiparissi-Apostolika, and to the directors of the American School of Classical Studies during these years, including the late William D.E. Coulson, Stephen V. Tracy, and the current director of the School, Jack L. Davis.

Excavation in the cemetery was conducted in five seasons. In the first year, 1986, when the tombs were discovered by bulldozer, Tombs 1–9 were excavated under the direction of Nikos Papadakis. At this time, Kostis Nikakis, the chief conservator of the 24th Ephoreia, provided invaluable assistance. In 1993, when excavations resumed under the direction of Soles and Davaras, Cameron Walker, a graduate student in Anthropology at the University of California in Riverside, served as the physical anthropologist in charge of the actual excavation of skeletal material, and Andrew Smith, an undergraduate Classics major from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, served as trench master. In 1994, Lisa M. Little, a Wiener Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, served as the physical anthropologist, and Bridget Crowell, a graduate student in Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania, and Meredith Kato, a graduate student in Archaeology

from Bryn Mawr, acted as trench masters. In 1998, Maria Relaki, then an assistant archaeologist at the Ephoreia, served as a site supervisor, and in 2004 Chrysa Sophianou and Evi Saliagos, also an assistant archaeologist at the Ephoreia, served as site supervisors. During all these years, Manolis Mazarakis served as the foreman and chief digger of the Limenaria excavation and provided a thread of continuity. Nine tombs were uncovered in 1986 under the supervision of Nikos Papadakis, 20 were excavated in 1993 and 1994 under the supervision of Soles and Davaras, one was dug in 1998 under the supervision of Papadakis and Chryssa Bourbou, and the last one in 2004 was excavated under the supervision of Chrysa Sophianou and Evi Saliagos.

Excavation of the LM III settlement was conducted in six seasons. A number of Greek and American students served as trench masters and kept the notebooks for the excavations during these years. In the first campaign from 1989–1994, 11 LM III houses were uncovered. Alex Inglis, a graduate student in Classics at Harvard University, as well as Aleydis Van de Moortel and Tom Brogan, graduate students in Archaeology at Bryn Mawr, were responsible for supervising the excavation of House A. John Marshall, also a graduate student at Bryn Mawr, supervised the excavation of House B, and M. Natalia Vogeikoff, another graduate student at Bryn Mawr, supervised the excavation of House H. Dimitra Katapoti, an undergraduate major in Archaeology at the University of Athens, and Alex Inglis supervised the excavation of House I. Tom Brogan and Jesse Hastings, an undergraduate in Classics from UNC Greensboro, supervised the excavation of Houses E and Z. Kevin Baldwin, a graduate student in Classics at the University of Minnesota, was responsible for Houses K and Θ. Bridget Crowell was responsible for House Λ, and Anne Foster, also a graduate student in Archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania, excavated House Δ.

In the second campaign from 2004–2005, two additional LM III houses were uncovered. Marina Milic, an undergraduate major in Archaeology at the University of Belgrade, and Lauren Souther, an undergraduate major in Archaeology at UNC Greensboro, supervised the excavation of House Γ. Tom Brogan, now Assistant Director of the excavation, and Joshua Kimbrough, an undergraduate Classics major at UNC Greensboro, excavated House N. The contributors to this volume thank all these students who kept meticulous notebooks and worked hard to make the excavation a success.

The fieldwork of the Greek-American team was supported by several agencies, including the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, the National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Grant Program, the Loeb Classical Library of Harvard University, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, the Solow Art and Architecture Foundation, the William A. Stern Foundation, as well as numerous private donors, including Marion, Philippe, and Henri Lambert, Michael D. Ratner, and Karen Morely Westcott. The author of this volume is 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 seasons that followed the excavation.

The publication of the LM III remains at Mochlos is a collaborative affair. Jeffrey Soles has organized the publication and written the bulk of the text for this volume, including the overall interpretation of the excavation that appears in the conclusions in Chapter 3. Tom Brogan contributed the description of House A in Chapter 1, and Sevi Triantaphyllou provided the skeletal inventories in the lists of finds that follow the description of each tomb in Chapter 2. Tina McGeorge analyzed the skeletal

remains from Tomb 3 and also checked our descriptions of individual skeletal remains. Nikos Papadakis supplied his field notes toward the description of Tomb 30 and Tombs 1–9, which were also published (Papadakis 1986), as well as the photographs of these tombs that appear here. Costis Davaras discovered Tomb 10—inaugurating the Greek-American excavation of the cemetery—and contributed his observations to its description, while Chrysa Sophianou is responsible for the description of Tomb 31. While Triantaphyllou served as the chief physical anthropologist after the excavation took place, Cameron Walker and Lisa Little were able to examine many of the skeletons while they were being excavated and, thus, were able to share their observations on the disposition of the skeletal remains. Jerolyn Morrison, a Fulbright Fellow at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, and Douglas Park, a graduate student in Anthropology and Archaeology at Yale University, carried out the archaeological experiment published in Appendix A. We are especially grateful to Nikos Makrinakis and his family for graciously opening their ceramic and weaving studio in Myrsini and allowing us to produce the experimental vessels. Thanks also go to Jennifer Moody, Professor at Baylor University, and Kellee Barnard, Assistant Professor of Classics at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, for reviewing various aspects of the experiment, as well as to Sarah Smith, an undergraduate archaeology major at UNC Greensboro, for her assistance in the logistics of the project.

The lists of floral and faunal material that follow the description of individual rooms in Chapter 1 are the work of David S. Reese, who is responsible for the animal and shell remains, Joanna Bending, who provided information on the botanical remains, Maria Ntinou, who analyzed the wood charcoal, and Dimitra Mylona, who is responsible for the fish and animal remains from the 2004–2005 seasons. Each of these contributors will publish a further report in *Mochlos* IIC. The lists of small finds are the work of many catalogers who have served on the project, but especially Ann Nicgorski, Mary Ellen Soles, and Kate Mahoney. The lithics identifications were produced by Tristan Carter, who contributes a further study in *Mochlos* IIC. The pumice counts were performed by Kelly Caldwell and Sarah Smith, undergraduate archaeology majors at UNC Greensboro. The pottery dates and the identification of imported pottery that are cited throughout the book are the work of Eleni Banou and R. Angus K. Smith, who are primary authors of *Mochlos* IIB, the volume that publishes the LM III pottery from the excavation.

Many other individuals have made important contributions. Julie Hanson set up the water flotation system for the retrieval of ecofactual material, but many undergraduate students from the University of Crete and UNC Greensboro supervised it over the years, including Maria Droungaki, Helène Crump, Chrysa Bourbou, and Kelly Caldwell. Jeffrey Patton, Duane Therriault, and Andrew Todd are responsible for the topographic map of the Mochlos peninsula. Patton and Therriault also laid out the grid and individual trenches for the excavation on the island. Doug Faulmann and Damon Cassiano produced most of the architectural drawings, while Faulmann, who has served as the chief architect and artist of the project since 1990, is also responsible for the reconstructed views of everyday life in LM III Mochlos and for most of the drawings of small finds in situ. Christopher Romanos drew most of the reconstructions of LM III houses. Many people served as site photographer over the years, especially Chris Drozdowski, Michael Traister, Anne Marie Pelczynski, Alex Maness, and Robert V. Grill. Grill is also responsible for scanning most of the drawings in this volume. Lauren Souther assembled the concordances at the end of the book.

We would also like to thank the editors of the INSTAP Academic Press and the anonymous reviewers of this book for their careful reading of the manuscript before its publication. They made many suggestions for improvement that we have tried to address.

In the end, everything that we have discovered about LM III Mochlos is due to the support and hard work of the local population in Mochlos and the neighboring villages of Sphaka, Tourloti, Myrsini, Mesa and Exo Mouliana, and Kavousi. Each one of these villages contributed workers who did the actual digging or helped to wash pottery. They are an enthusiastic and hospitable group of people, and it has been a privilege to get to know them and work with them for so many years.

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Abbreviations

AC	almost complete	L	lumbar vertebra/left
A/P	Anterior/Posterior	l.	length
App	Appendix	LH	Late Helladic
Au	gold object	LM	Late Minoan
B	bone object	LN	Late Neolithic
C	ceramic object/complete/cervical vertebra/canine	M	minerals and rocks/molar/male
CA	copper/copper alloy	m	meter
ca.	circa	M ¹	permanent maxillary molar
C/E	cemento-enamel	M ₃	permanent mandibular molar
cf.	compares with (bears a good mor- phological resemblance in the case of botanical remains)	m ¹	deciduous maxillary molar
Circumf.	circumferential	m ₃	deciduous mandibular molar
cm	centimeters	max.	maximum
CS	chipped stone	MC	metacarpal
d.	diameter	mm	millimeters
dims.	dimensions	MM	Middle Minoan
dP ⁴	deciduous maxillary premolar	MNI	minimum number of individuals
EO	Early Orientalizing	MT	metatarsal
ext	exterior/external	NAM	National Archaeological Museum
F	fragmentary/female/fused/faience or glass paste	NB	north balk
Fe	iron	No.	number
g	grams	P	pottery/premolar
GS	ground stone	Pb	lead
h.	height	PL	plaster
HM	Herakleion Museum	pres.	preserved
HNM	Hagios Nikolaos Museum	present	present but not quantifiable
I	incisor	R	right
indet.	indeterminable	S	stone
JF	just fused	Sh	shell
		SM	Siteia Museum
		sp.	species level identification
		Sup/Inf.	superior/inferior

T	thoracic vertebra	w.	width
t.	thickness	WB	west balk
UF	unfused	yrs	years
vol.	volume		