

Plan 90: R-S-T,13-14-15 - Overview

This area contained no material from Stratum 5.

Stratum 4 is represented by several rock-cut installations. Four of these are cut by walls of later buildings.

Remains of probably five 3-Room houses can be reconstructed, which in their original phase belong to Stratum 3C. It is likely that they all continued in use through the end of 3A, as shown by multiple rebuildings. One, and possibly two, of the buildings contained installations, one connected with the baking industry, the other indeterminate. The intramural space may have contained animal enclosures, storage facilities or other flimsy structures. There is some evidence for the 3C casemate-like wall, but in some areas where it was expected but was not found it may have been robbed out. A drain which seems to have been constructed in 3C was probably extended in 3B to reach and flow through the offset-inset wall.

There is no real evidence for new Stratum 2 construction. Either some or all of the dwellings continued in use in that period, as did the offset-inset wall, or more likely, the area was not in use then.

Nothing clearly belonging to Stratum 1 was uncovered, except possibly for a wall which continues in Plan 89.

Evaluation -

This area was excavated in several stages. The N part (R13-14-15) was cleared near the end of the 1929 season. The rooms numbered in the 290s were cleared in the early part of the 1932 season, with the rest of

the area completed in the middle of that season. The area of R-S-T15 was not excavated, which means that the front parts of none of the buildings were recovered. Connecting the E part of Plan 90 with the W part of Plan 91 would usefully link the two areas and provide a check on the stratigraphy in the area. The plan of the 1929 area looks a bit less precise; the stones are drawn more rounded, as if they are often only meant to be representational of what was found.

The N part of this plan, like all the areas cleared in 1929, was divided into two levels, which appear on different plans. It is the upper level (Level I) which appears on the published Survey Map. The lower level (Level II) only appears in figure 41 of the 1947 report. There are no photographs of the lower level of this plan.

The S, 1932, area seems to have been mapped more precisely. There are many photographs of this area; however they tend to focus on the vicinity of tower Building 73.01 in Plan 73 and Plan 90, and on the pillared Building 90.03 in S13-14. Some sections appear only in distant views, and some key areas of architectural overlapping do not appear at all. There are a good number of elevations across the area, both on top of the walls and on the floors. There are even a few bottom levels for walls.

Building 90.01: Rm 245a, Rm 245b, Rm 246, Ci 282? -

By combining material from the upper and lower level plans for the N part of Plan 90 it is possible to outline tentatively the remains of a 3-Room house. The E part of this building was not excavated.

Rm 245 represents two long rooms. The Level II plans shows a single stone wall partitioning Rm 245 into N (Rm 245a) and S (Rm 245b)

halves. Another fragment of a single-stone wall was found at the E limit of the excavated area of Rm 245a. A short piece of what may be a single-stone wall was found on the S edge of Rm 245b, and two stones of a wall fragment were S of the wall between Rm 245a and Rm 245b. The rest of the walls are double-stone construction. This suggests several building phases. P 482 bears this out. It shows the W wall of Rm 245; it is clear that this wall has at least two phases, as the top wall is slightly offset to the W. Since the upper wall seems to jut out to the E beyond the lower wall this shows that the lower wall is not originally a foundation course for the upper wall, It is being reused as a foundation.

Rm 246 is the back room. Its upper E and W walls are double-stone construction, while its N wall (restored from the Level II plan) and S wall are single-stone. The Level II plan shows that the W wall is built on a wall ca. 1.5 m wide. This is perhaps the outer wall of the casemate-like wall which originally defended the 3C town. It should be noted that the probable continuation of the wall to the N, on the line between Q14 and R14, is directly connected to tower Building 73.01 (see P 482 and P 483). The upper part of the W wall of Rm 246 itself shows two phases of rebuilding. The N, slightly thinner section, is offset about 30 cm to the W of the S half. In the S half of this room is Ci 282. Evidently no artifacts were saved from this installation. Since no wall of Rm 246 cuts the mouth of Ci 282, it cannot be ruled out that this installation continued in use, at least for a time, with Building 90.01.

Dating of Building 90.01 -

The use of single-stone construction and the structure's general orientation to the presumed ringroad suggest an initial date in Stratum

3C. The double-stone walls and multiple phases evident in some walls suggest modifications in Strata 3B and/or 3A. There are no obvious later walls cutting it, therefore it cannot be ruled out that the building may have continued in use into Stratum 2, though this seems less likely.

Function of Building 90.01 -

There is no evidence in its fragmentary remains to suggest other than a domestic role.

Other Features Excavated in 1929: Rm 250a, Rm 251, Rm 252 -

There are several enigmatic features on the plan. Rm 250a in its upper level ca. 1.1 m wide. However, the Level II plan shows that it narrows to half a meter, and even less. Rm 250a continues NW into Plan 73. But there is a problem. The upper level of Rm 250a carries on in Q13, adjacent to tower Building 73.01 on the S as Rm 250b. The lower level of Rm 250a has quite a different continuation; it extends into Q13 as a drain channel. This is absolutely clear when the Level II Plan 73 is joined with the Level II Plan 90 for eleven of the drain's cap stones were found in situ. In Q13 the drain was sealed beneath what appears to be a 1.4 m wide wall. No where in the 1947 report is this drain mentioned (though it does appear in figure 41). Yet it seems clear from the plan that this channel reaches the 3B offset-inset wall, and surely channeled water out through that wall.

Unfortunately no photographs of the drain exist, and its plan is not extremely precise. This makes its constructional history difficult to unravel. Originally it may have belonged to the 3C town, emptying just outside the casemate-like wall adjacent to the SE corner of tower Building 73.01. Later it was extended to the W, up to the 3B town wall.

Alternatively the entire drain may be a 3B feature which was installed in one piece. Since the plan seems to show the drain running under part of the casemate-like wall, and under a 1.4 m wide wall S of tower Building 73.01 which may also be an addition to the 3C defenses, and that the drain walls become thicker W of the line of the 3C casemate-like wall, it is best to consider the drain a multi-phase construction.

Rm 251 is primarily a space W of Rm 246 which does not belong to any obvious architectural feature. It is bounded on the W by a single-stone wall, and there is no boundary to the S. To the N, in Q13 of Plan 73, it is bounded by the 1.4 m wide wall which forms the S limit of Rm 250b and by a thin scrappy wall. This area lies outside the W limits of the casemate-like wall, and within that of the offset-inset wall. The W wall does not appear in any of the photographs of the area, so it is not possible to say if this is a late feature floating on the debris dumped between the two wall systems, or is some early, 3C, feature outside the limits of the town wall. It cannot be determined if it is founded on bedrock like similar walls in Plan 141, Plan 158 and Plan 159 to the SE. Adding to this uncertainty is the small cluster of wall fragments in the SE corner of R13. There are no photographs of these walls, and the plan is not clear enough to show if any of these walls are built over, cut or reach each other. Finally, the fact that Rm 251's W wall seems to end against the 1.4 m wide wall in Q13, which itself is almost as thick as the walls of tower Building 73.01 and of uncertain use, further obscures the issue. Perhaps the area of Rm 251 should be seen as a fenced animal enclosure, or crude storage space.

The same uncertainty surrounds Rm 252 to the W of Rm 251. Here too the space so numbered continues into Q13 of Plan 73, and is bounded by the 1.4 m wide wall. And again there is no S wall. On the W is a small wall fragment, but it is unclear whether this piece has any connection

with the 1.4 m wide wall, or belongs to some undiscovered feature.

Building 90.02: Rm 247, Rm 290 -

Very little of this structure survives, most of it lies in the border area between the sections excavated in 1929 and 1932, and so may never have been excavated. That some structure existed S of Building 90.01 is shown by the wall stubs which continue the E and W walls of Rm 246. There are also walls continuing N from Building 90.03, but these are at such an alignment and of such different construction that they cannot have connected with the walls continuing from Rm 246. These walls in the space marked Rm 290 should be taken as evidence of multiple phase in this area.

Rm 247 and Rm 290 should be taken as opposite ends of the back chamber of what likely was a 3-Room building. The unexcavated area to the SE is where the building's long rooms would have stood.

Dating of Building 90.02 -

Because of its very fragmentary nature there are no solid clues on which to base a dating. It seems to have shared walls with buildings to N and S which were likely founded in Stratum 3C, and to be oriented to follow the line of the presumed ringroad. This may indicate a foundation in 3C. The evidence of double-stone walls which overlap single-stone walls between Rm 290 and Rm 291 suggest likely use through Stratum 3A. Use into Stratum 2 is possible, but less likely.

Function of Building 90.02 -

To the N was probably a domestic structure, to the S was an

industrial complex, which seems to have encroached on the area of Building 90.02. Since nothing of the front of the building was cleared the function of this structure cannot even be guessed at.

Building 90.03: Rm 291, Rm 292, Rm 341a, Rm 341b -

In some ways this is one of the site's most well-documented buildings. Six photographs show some aspects of this structure. The plan has an unusually large number of elevations. Yet there are puzzling gaps in the record. No photographs were taken of Rm 291 or Rm 292. McClellan's reconstruction is essentially that given below.⁶⁹⁷

Rm 341b is the S long room. It is difficult to decide if either this space, or Rm 341a to the N were roofed since they are both relatively wide. The wall between the two rooms contains five monolithic stone pillars, each about a meter above floor level, connected by short stretches of double-stone masonry. No lintels for the pillars were found. The E end of the building was not excavated, but it probably did not extend much more than an additional meter to the E. The S wall is slightly out of alignment with what seems to be the original N wall of the building (discussed below), as well as with the S wall of the back chamber of this structure (Rm 292). Further, the present line of the S wall makes Rm 361 to the S a narrow, trapezoidal chamber. Finally, Rm 341b apparently had two different back walls. The one farthest to the W fits with the alignment of the original N wall of the building, and also with the S wall of the back room. The E wall fits with Rm 341b's S wall and with the later N wall of the building. Given all this data, it seems that at some point Building 90.03 was enlarged to the S at its neighbor's expense.

⁶⁹⁷"Planning," fig. 13.

Rm 341a is the N long room. Its wall with Rm 341b was described above. Rm 341a also went through changes over time. What appears to be its original N wall is a single-stone construction in roughly the middle of the room. This wall continues to the W where it also forms the original N wall for Rm 291 as well. At its E end this wall turns a corner to the S and almost reaches the pillar wall. That the pillar wall continues beyond the end of the single-stone walls indicates either that the latest form of this structure was longer than the original, or else the narrow N-S single-stone wall is an internal partition wall or step. Like Rm 341b, Rm 341a also has two back walls: the earlier to the W, the later on the E.

At the point where the early N wall crosses the E back wall there is on the plan what seems to be a half meter wide doorway. This also appears in **P 916**. The later double-stone N wall is ca. 1.2 m to the N of the original single-stone N wall. It is not clear if the original N wall continued in any kind of use after the later wall was erected. **P 842** shows this wall preserved at about the level of a few surviving paving stones across the S part of the room, next to the pillars. Possibly this single-stone wall served to partition the latest form of Rm 341a into different functional units

The plan shows that the original area of Rm 341a contained an oven (ca. 90 cm wide, 93 cm deep), a stone basin (ca. 70 cm wide, 52 cm deep), a very thick-walled stone basin (ca. 90 cm wide, walls 35 cm thick, 41 cm deep), and a third stone basin (ca. 60 cm wide, 25 cm deep) is just outside the NE corner of this space. The 1947 report states that this room contained an olive press, but this is a mistaken interpretation of the plan.⁶⁹⁸ **P 842** clearly shows that the installation

⁶⁹⁸I, 256-257. McClellan, "Planning," 68 and fig. 14 also makes this mistake.

in the SW corner of this room is an oven. P 810 shows what may be a shallow rectangular basin adjacent to the pillar wall. It is unfortunate that there is no single photograph which shows the entire area of this room. The photograph indicates that the top of the thick-walled basin is at approximately floor level, but the walls of the oven are preserved above floor level. It is difficult to decide if these installations were in use throughout the life of the building, or only in its last phase.

Rm 291 and Rm 292 make up the back room and show evidence of several rebuilds and modifications. Probably the earliest W back wall is the 1.1 m wide wall just W of the middle of the room. This may be part of the town's original casemate-like fortification, though it is a little thin for that unless this is an upper, narrower part of the wall. The wide wall which separates Rm 291 from Rm 292 is founded on a small, probably single-stone wall, which is just visible in Rm 292. This short wall is in turn connected to the W-most front wall of Rm 291 and Rm 292. The earliest N and S walls to this room do not survive. The single-stone N wall of Rm 291 seems to be built over the thick N-S wall. The same is true of the S wall of Rm 292. This is the 3C phase.

The second phase of construction consists of the W-most back wall, the E-most front wall, the single-stone N wall and possibly the wall below the S double-stone wall of Rm 292 (this may be single-stone work, but the upper wall obscures its construction). Since this phase extends beyond the line of the early casemate-like wall it could be 3A, but since there is another phase above it, it seems best to assign it to late in 3B or possibly early 3A.

The third phase includes the double-stone N wall of Rm 291, possibly the thick wall between Rm 291 and Rm 292, and probably the S double-stone wall of Rm 292. This would belong to 3A.

Since the character of the lower S wall of Rm 292 is not clear it could be either a single-stone wall similar to the N wall of Rm 291 and so belong to the second phase, or a double-stone wall belonging to the third phase. If the latter possibility is assumed, then the upper-most S wall of Rm 292 belongs to a fourth phase. Considering the lack of evidence for the lower phase of this S wall, it seems best to limit this area to the three phases outlined above. It is most unfortunate that there are no photographs of this area.

Dating of Building 90.03 -

The multiple building phases, at least three and as many as four, all following the same basic orientation indicate a long period of use. The possible presence of the casemate-like wall, the orientation to the presumed ringroad, and single-stone construction suggest a 3C foundation. The multiple phases indicate use throughout the stratum, into 3A. There are no clearly late walls cutting it, so the building may have continued in use into Stratum 2, but this seems less likely.

Function of Building 90.03 -

At least in its last phase the structure had an industrial purpose. The presence of the oven and three basins, one with especially thick walls (for crushing or grinding?) indicate that this building was used for food preparation. Perhaps it was a bakery.

Building 90.04: Rm 358, Rm 361a, Rm 361b, Ci 302? -

There are five photographs which show this building, and several are especially useful. However, there are no good photographs of the back room. There are many elevations. The E end of the building was not

excavated, but probably did not extend much beyond its excavated E limit. McClellan's reconstruction is the same as what follows.⁶⁹⁹

Rm 361b is the N long room. Its S wall contains five pillars which survive to a height of at least three rough stone drums each. The pillars are connected by short sections of masonry. It cuts the mouth of Ci 300a, but not that of Ci 300b. Its E wall is narrow single-stone work, and there was likely another E wall a meter or two beyond which would mark the final limit of the building. Its N wall is basically a double-stone construction. It is not well-aligned with the other walls of this structure, and makes Rm 361b into a narrow trapezoidal shape, which is especially constricted at its E end. It is likely that this wall represents a post 3C construction enlargement of Building 90.03 to the N at the expense of Building 90.04's Rm 361b in 3B or 3A. The W wall is thick double-stone work and is a late rebuilding probably along the line of the room's original back room. Note that it is bonded into the wall between Rm 358 and Rm 292 which belongs to the latest phase in the area. P 915 seems to show a cobble stone floor in this room, though P 871 makes the stones look more like a collapse or tumble.

Rm 361a is the S long room; since it is the wider of the two it may be an open courtyard. Its N wall with Rm 361b was described above. Its S wall is single-stone work. Its E limit was not excavated. Its back W wall is a continuation of that of Rm 361b which belongs to the latest phase in the area, 3A. The plan and P 854 seem to indicate a doorway in the SW corner of this room, providing access to Rm 358.

Rm 361a contained a circular stone basin which is drawn like those found in Rm 341a to the N. The 1947 report seems to indicate that Rm

⁶⁹⁹"Planning," fig. 13.

361a contained an olive press, but the only installation recorded on the plan is a stone basin.⁷⁰⁰ It is not clear how this idea came about. No other moveable or built-up installations were found. Ci 302 is in the middle of the floor of Rm 361a. The 1947 report states that this is probably a bottle-shaped cistern.⁷⁰¹ It is difficult to date the cutting of this feature since it is not cut by any later walls. It may be earlier than the building, and have continued in use with it, or have been dug during the life of the structure. Ci 300b's mouth is adjacent to the middle pillar of the N wall, but is not cut by it. Unfortunately no artifacts were recorded from it (the excavators did not even assign it a number). Si 299 is cut by the S wall of this building. In the E part of the room was some other rock-cut installation which went down to a depth of 772.56, ca. 3.3 m below the bedrock surface. This may have been a cistern whose roof collapsed.

Rm 358's S wall is single-stone work and a direct continuation of the S wall of Rm 361a, while all the other walls are thick double-stone construction. Excavation was carried to a depth of 774.85 and no trace of the early casemate-like wall was found. Perhaps it was robbed out by those who constructed Rm 358's later walls. As mentioned above, there appears to be a door linking Rm 361a and Rm 358. In the discussion of Rm 292 above it was noted that the N wall of Rm 358 belong to the latest phase in the area. It is bonded into the E wall, and is of similar construction to, but not bonded into the W wall. Possibly these thick walls replaced original single-stone walls.

Dating of Building 90.04 -

⁷⁰⁰I, 256-257.

⁷⁰¹I, 129 n. 1.

The single-stone S wall shared with Building 90.05 to the S and the orientation to the presumed ringroad suggest a foundation in Stratum 3C. If the N wall of Rm 361b continues below the N wall of Rm 358 there are two subsequent building phases. In any case there is at least one later phase; it probably continued through 3A. There are no later walls cutting the building, so it may have continued into Stratum 2, though probably not beyond. Si 300a, cut by Building 90.04 contained material dated by the excavators to 950-800, which would tend to confirm a 3C foundation.

Function of Building 90.04 -

The stone basin suggests some industrial use, such basins are usually found in association with food processing, either olive pressing or perhaps baking. McClellan suggests that this building was a "workshop," though he does not define what activities took place there.⁷⁰² Unfortunately no other installations were found which might better define the building's purpose. If it did not have an industrial role, it was probably a dwelling.

Building 90.05: Rm 357, Rm 359, Rm 360 -

This building shows up obliquely in only one photograph (P 913), and yields no useful information. The plan, on the other hand is clear with a good number of elevations. McClellan's reconstruction is similar to what follows, though it is difficult to be sure.⁷⁰³

Rm 359 is the S long room. Its E end was not excavated and it is

⁷⁰²"Planning," 68 and fig. 14.

⁷⁰³"Planning," fig. 13.

difficult to gauge how far it extended in that direction. Its back W wall is single-stone construction. The wall which separates it from Rm 360 to the N is drawn as having a single stone pillar at its W end. It would be unusual for a room to contain a single pillar, it may be that any other pillars have not survived or were replaced by a solid wall. Rm 359's S wall is double-stone work and fits better with the construction technique of Building 107.01 and is probably a rebuild from Stratum 3A. The S wall cuts Si 298b and the N wall cuts Si 298a.

Rm 360 is the N long room; since it is by far the wider of the two it may have been an open courtyard. Its S wall with Rm 359 was described above. All of its excavated walls are single-stone work, though its E wall was not uncovered. Its N wall cuts Si 299 which at some point was a least partially lined or enclosed by cobble-size stones.

Rm 357 is the back room. There is no trace on the plan of a doorway into either of the two long rooms. Save for its W wall, all the walls are single-stone work. Excavation was carried to a depth of 774.82 without encountering the early casemate-like wall. Perhaps the excavated back wall of Rm 357 is founded on the stump of that wall. Note that the presumed outer wall of the casemate-like wall which was identified in Rm 291 and Rm 292, if extended to the SW, would run under the back wall of Rm 357. The published Survey Map shows a hatched line connecting the W wall of Rm 358 with the W wall of Rm 356, indicating that the excavators believed that this wall continued W of the uncovered W wall of Rm 357. Perhaps this section of the wall was robbed out, or excavation did not reach low enough to uncover it, or both.

Dating of Building 90.05 -

The single-stone construction, the orientation to the presumed

course of the ringroad, the fact that two of the single-stone walls cut rock-hewn installations suggest a foundation in 3C. The excavators dated the material from the installations to the 10th and early 9th centuries B.C., which tends to support the 3C date. The double-stone walls indicate a least one subsequent phase of rebuilding in 3B or 3A. Probably the structure was in use throughout Stratum 3. Since there are no obvious later walls cutting it, it may also have continued into Stratum 2, but probably not beyond that.

Function of Building 90.05 -

There is nothing to indicate other than a domestic role for this structure.

Other Features: Rm 293, Rm 296, Rm 356, Rm 362 -

Rm 293 is simply an open, unwallled space to the W of Building 90.03. The purpose of the wall on its E side is uncertain since it is a fragment. Like the walls around Rm 251 and Rm 252 this area is composed of debris poured between the casemate-like wall and the offset-inset wall, indicating that this space was probably used only from 3B onward.

Rm 296 is a space formed by the intersection of two walls. Most of its W wall, and the W continuation of its S wall, are on Plan 89. Plan 90 and P 913 and P 914 show what look like two phases to the S wall. Its top preserved course seems to be set back about 10 cm from its lower S face. From the available evidence it cannot be determined if this is a rebuilding, or the juncture between sub- and super-structure within a single phase wall. Rm 295 and Rm 296 are further discussed on Plan 89 above.

Rm 356 and Rm 362 are discussed below as part of Building 107.01.