

Azoria 2005
Trench Report for E500
DWM
18 July 2005

Excavation dates: 16 June 05 – 17 June 05

Trench Workmen: Tassos, Christos

Trench Assistants: Ben Bragg, Robin Grieg

Datum Point: N/A (0.00)

Location: Rectangular trench located on the western plateau of the north acropolis on a flat terrace extending about seven meters west of the top of the hill. It is bounded on the west by a modern terrace wall and to the east by an ancient wall, immediately east of which is the large bedrock outcropping that forms the top of the acropolis. The trench is approximately two meters wide and runs about five meters west from the ancient wall to the modern terrace wall.

Purpose of excavation: To investigate the area adjacent to the ancient wall.

Stratigraphy: The trench was excavated in two loci. The first locus, E501, consisted of topsoil both to the east and west of the ancient wall, E503. Very little pottery was recovered in this locus, which dated from the Early Iron through the Hellenistic period. This removal of topsoil revealed a wall of two courses, dressed on both sides, that was lying directly on bedrock. The bedrock dived down however, and did not extend the full way to the modern terrace wall. Instead, a gray clay layer appeared in the western portion of the trench. The second locus, E502, was the excavation of this gray clay. This layer did not extend more than 10 cm deep, however, and was underlain by loose soil and rocks. Little pottery was recovered, dating from the Archaic through modern times.

Conclusions: The ancient wall is only preserved in its bottom two courses. Nothing else archaeologically significant remains from this trench, which is likely the victim of slopewash and erosion.

Locus List:

E501: Topsoil

E502: Slopewash

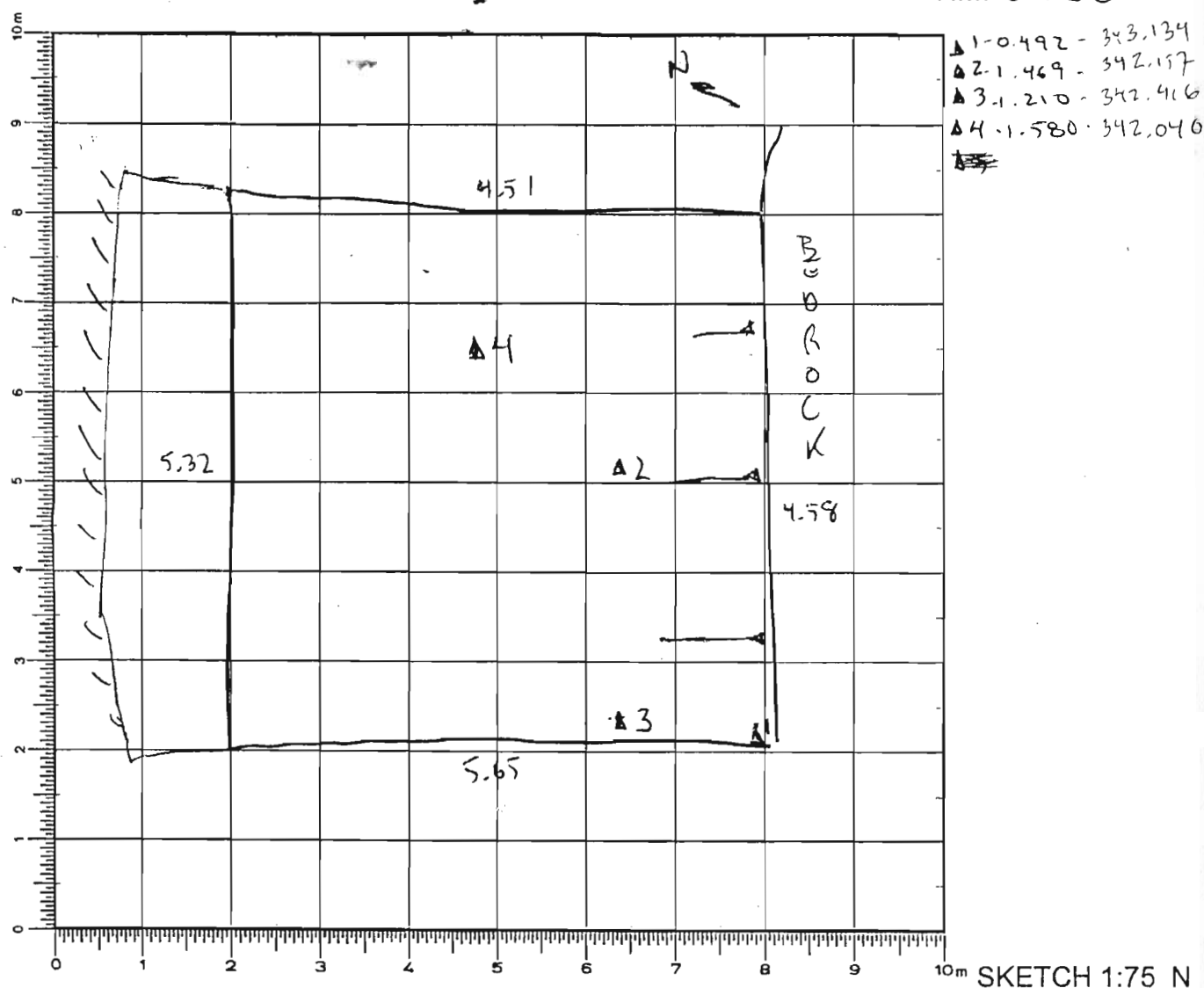
Architectural Features:

E503: N-S wall in the west

Year 05 Trench/Locus ~~E 501~~ 501 Excavator Dum**Elevations**

Benchmark used:

Reading on

Benchmark: 343H.I.: 0.626DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain **why** you changed locus numbers):Today's date: 16 Jun 05 Locus above: N/ALocus parameters: Roughly 5.5 x 4.5 m trench

Verbal description: Trench located on west side of north acropolis on flat terrace extending about 7m west of top of hill. The terrace slopes down from the bedrock for about 2m and then levels out for about another 4-5m.

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary):

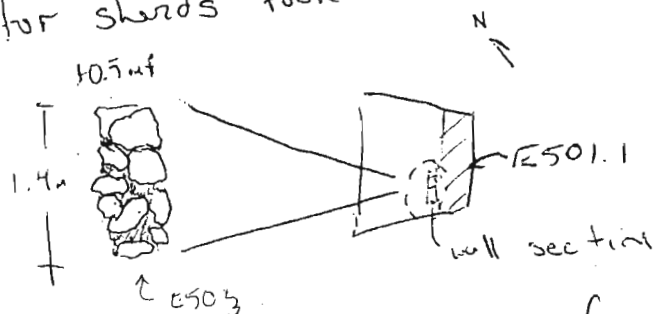
Topsoil

Year '05 Trench/Locus E501 Excavator DWM

DESCRIPTION of PROGRESS of EXCAVATION [date each entry and identify associated pottery find(s)]:

16 JUN 05: Clearing of vegetation on side of hill to prepare for excavation. The site was completely covered but 4 stones of an apparent archaic wall are visible on the surface. The terrace slopes dramatically into the bedrock scarp of the acropolis above. There are only about 4 m of flat ground the previously was likely used for vine cultivation. After clearing of vegetation some passes are taken on the eastern edge of trench near rock scarp to remove any soil overhanging the archaic wall. ~~At this point~~

~~but no further passes to east of wall.~~ E501.1 - pit for sherds found between wall and bedrock scarp.



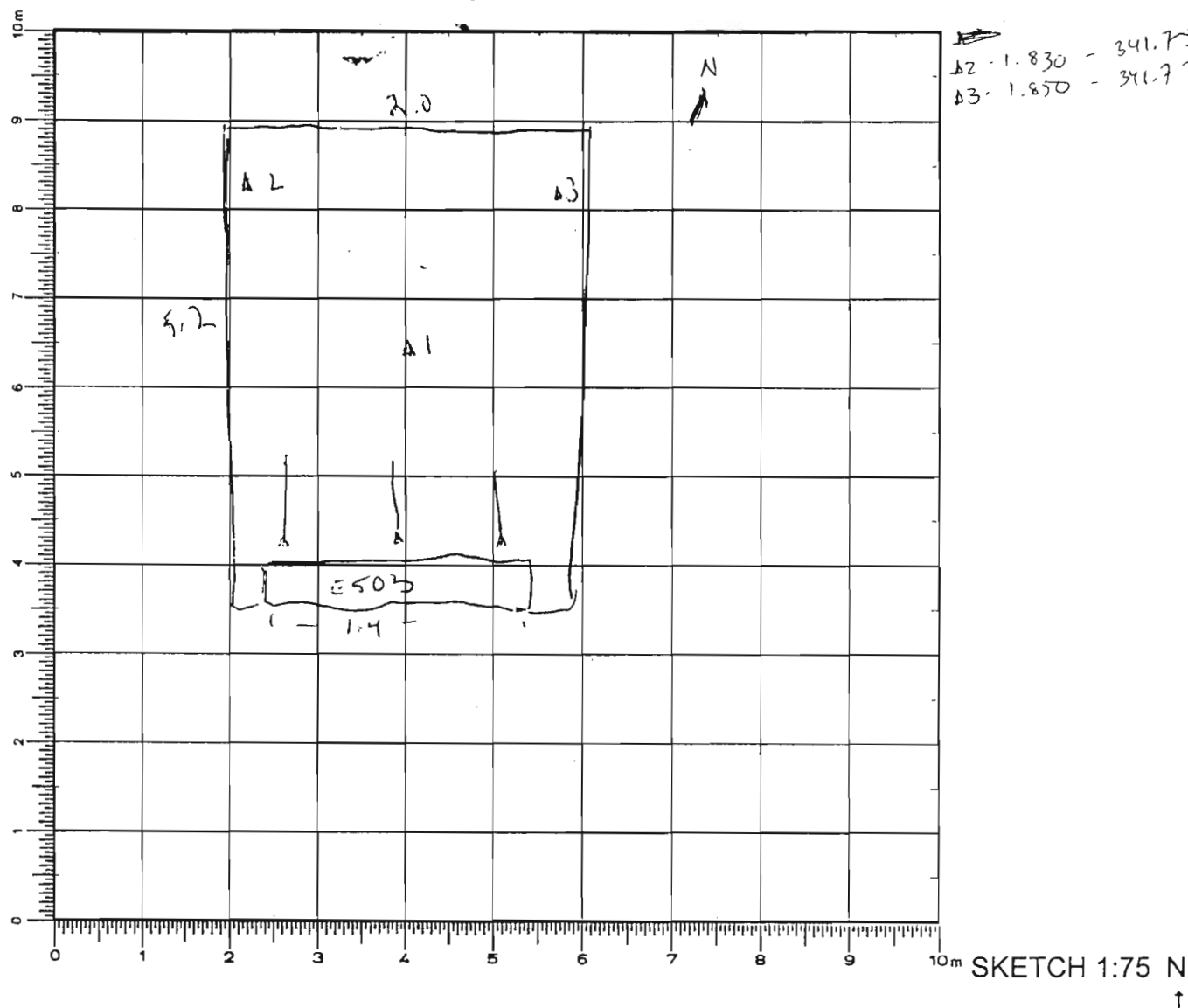
Wall has two courses of stones and is double-faced. It is bounded by bedrock on both sides and the bottom course lies directly over bedrock. These must be the bottom courses of the wall. Wall locus is E503.

17 JUN 05: Begin deep pass on northwestern edge of terrace - exploratory trench approximately 1.5 x 2.0 m. Ground is soft and there are few sherds - likely still in terrace fill.

Year 09 Trench/Locus E502 Excavator DWM**Elevations**

Benchmark used:

Reading on

Benchmark: 343H.I.: 0.580DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain **why** you changed locus numbers):Today's date: 17 Jun 09 Locus above: E501Locus parameters: Approximately 5 x 2 m trench

Verbal description: Trench located on westside of north acropolis
 on flat terrace extending about 7 m west of top of hill
 the terrace slopes down from bedrock for about 2m and then
 levels out for another 4-5 m.

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary):

Possible floor surface

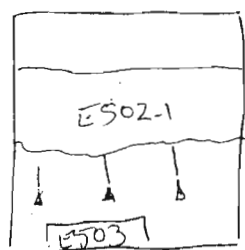
[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Year 105 Trench/Locus E502 Excavator DWA

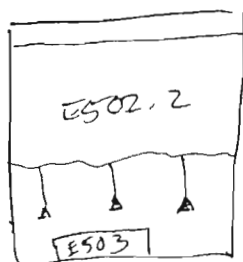
DESCRIPTION of PROGRESS of EXCAVATION [date each entry and identify associated pottery pile(s)]:

17 Jun 05:

Thin clay layer appears under surface of E501 toward the edge of cliff. This is identified as some kind of surface in the west of the trench, which might have been leveled to join the bedrock surface located under the wall in the east of the trench. E502.1 is the surface detected immediately under E501:



There is some pottery found in E502.1 but not very much, less than what is found in E501.2. There is no bone or evidence of carbon. Once this clay layer is removed, another pass is begun: E502.2



The soil in this pass displays none of the characteristics of a floor or ceiling surface. It is a collection of loose soil and rocks - no significant finds. Excavation ceases at this trench.

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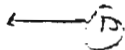


(10)

(11)



E503



105

