

Final Report for B3400

TRQ

21 July 2006

The area of the Main Hall, B3400, is bordered on the North by wall B3204, the east by locus B3404, and the west by a modern terrace wall. The southern border is not clear on this west side. The trench ran 230 cm N-S and 137 cm E-W. Excavation continued between 20 June 2006 and 3 July 2006. Benchmark R28 was used.

Seven Loci are associated with this area:

- B3450—Topsoil—Very rocky and full of mixed pottery and bone. One pail came from this locus. Pottery: Late Minoan IIIc, Late Archaic, Hellenistic, and Modern.
- B3451—Dense clay with stone inclusions from B3450. Top levels are approximately 20 cm above floor surface B3404. Two pails came from this locus. Pottery: Late Archaic, Hellenistic.
- B3452—roofing clay sitting directly on the floor surface of the Main Hall. Three pails came from this locus. Pottery: Late Minoan IIIc, Late Geometric (?), Orientalizing, Late Archaic, Early 5th Century.
- B3453—Continuation of B3452, revealing the western extent of wall B3203. One pail came from this locus. Pottery: Late Minoan IIIc, Late Archaic.
- B3454—Topsoil—Very rocky and full of mixed pottery and bone. This is a southern extension of B3450 and should be considered equal to one another. Three pails came from this locus. Pottery: Late Minoan IIIc, Early Iron Age, Late Geometric, Late Archaic, Hellenistic.
- B3455—Southern extension of B3451. Ceiling clay mixed with stones from previous locus. Three pails came from this locus. Pottery: Late Minoan IIIc, Early Iron Age, Late Geometric, Orientalizing, Late Archaic, Early 5th Century, Hellenistic.
- B3456—Southern extension of B3452 and a continuation of B3455. Three pails came from this locus. Pottery: Late Minoan IIIc, Late Geometric, Early Orientalizing, Archaic, Late Archaic, and Hellenistic.

The main purpose of this trench was to discover a return for wall B3204 and thus the western extent of the Main Hall. Just beneath the remains of the modern terrace wall were found several very large stones that may be *in situ* remains of the Archaic wall and were simply used as a foundation for the terrace wall. The evidence for these stones being original is weak, though, and it is most likely that the western wall of the Main Hall had tumbled down the side of the mountain.

The most interesting piece to come out of the trench was a very large pithos base that was sitting directly on the floor surface. The base is 37 cm in diameter and had an elevation of 345.284m. Several stones were found abutting the base, which may have been placed there to add support for such a large vessel.

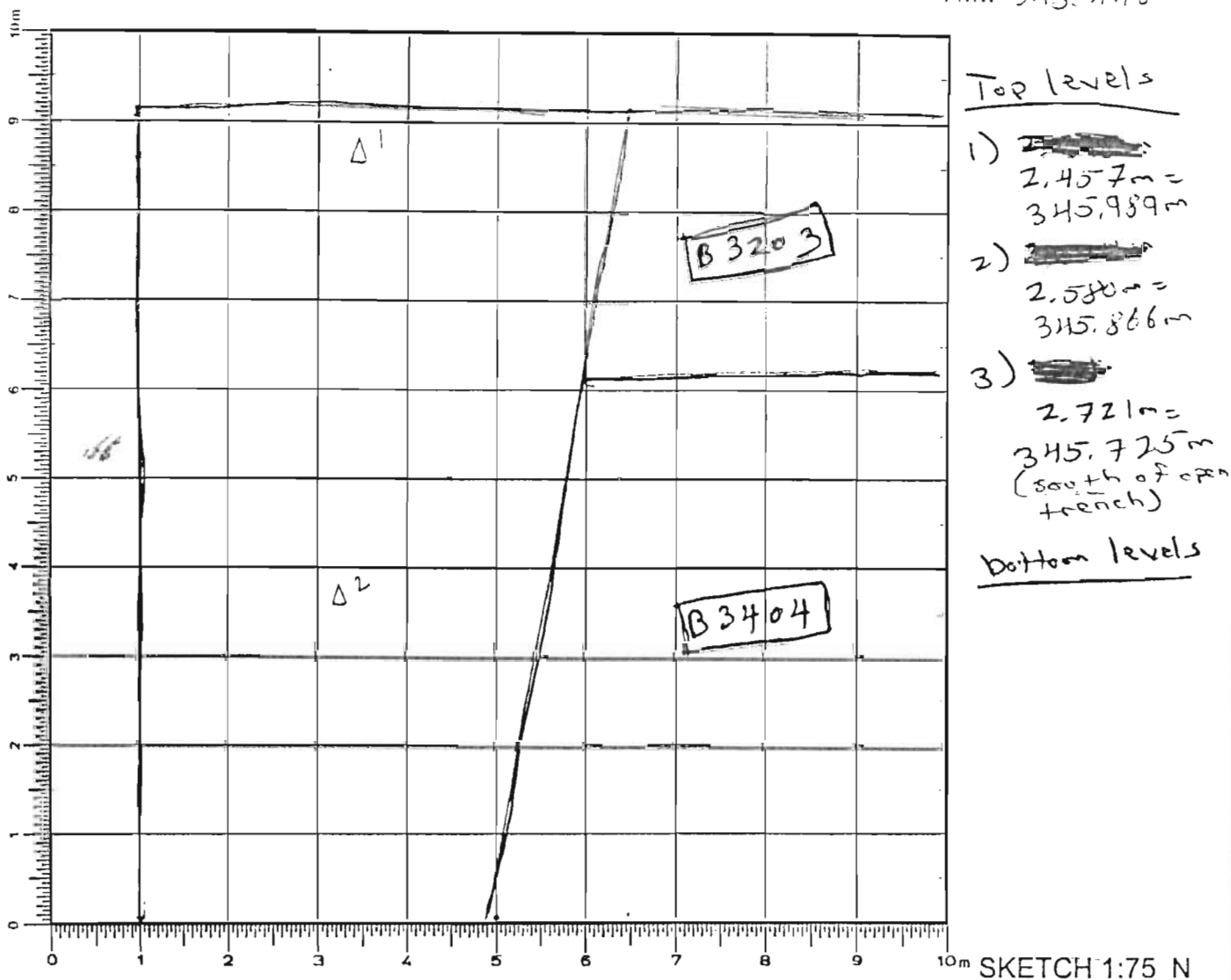
Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3450 Excavator TRQElevations

Benchmark used: R 28

Reading on

Benchmark: 2.074m

H.I.: 348.446m



DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers):

Today's date: 20 June 06 Locus above: top soil

Locus parameters: western baulk of Main Hall in B3400, abutting a modern terrace wall further to the westVerbal description: very rocky with stones ranging ~~from~~ from 5cm to 50cm. Several large pottery fragments and some bone.

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): The purpose of this locus is to clear away top soil layers and the western terrace wall which supported the baulk. The baulk will be lowered to about 10cm above the floor level of the main hall, then we will take the pass down further and attempt to discover the western wall of the Main Hall. This initial pass is purely destructive and

[illegible]

OBJECTS

[illegible]

ADDITONAL COLLECTED MATERIAL

[illegible]

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3450 Excavator TRQ

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

no finds are being saved.

~~we found pottery~~

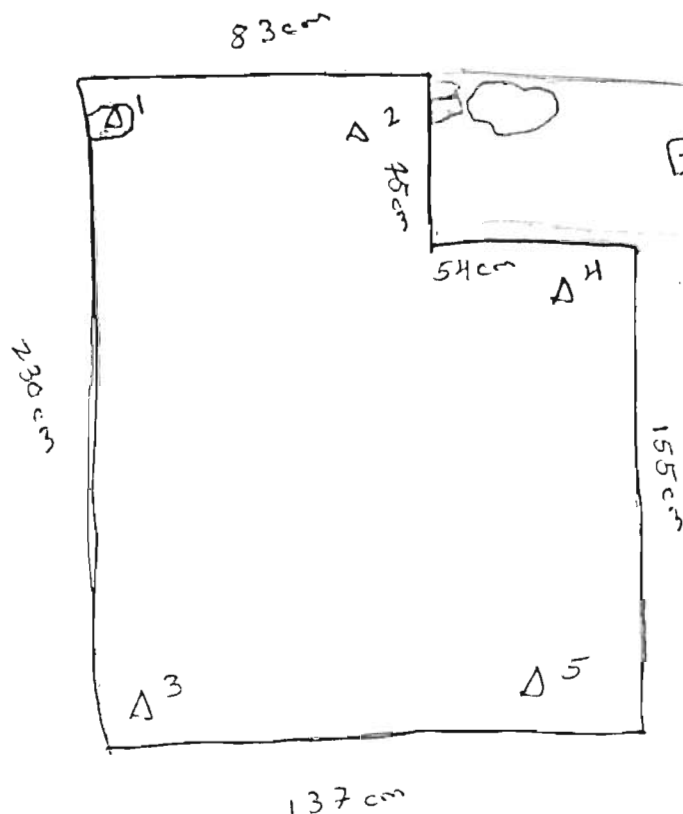
we took the bank down about 50 cm and about 1.0 m west. The bank is now about 20 cm above the surface of the main Hall. About half of this is still from the terrace wall. The smaller rubble is peeling off a layer of clay very easily. From this new pass, which clears off the rubble, we have begun to keep pottery and bone, but we are not screening any of the soil. The soil from this pass will complete our standard soil sample for this locus.

The northern end of the trench has revealed some large stones which may be the other side of the doorway. Its width is roughly equal to the standard width of a door jamb 110 cm. This section will be dug separately after the level of roof collapse is ~~the~~ explored.

After clearing off a few last pebbles, photographs were taken and elevations ~~and~~ for the end of the locus will be taken tomorrow.

21 June 06 BM = R28 HI: 2.219 m = 348.591 m

Bottom elevations



B 3203

- 1) 3.241 m = 345.350 m
- 2) 3.228 m = 345.363 m
- 3) 3.273 m = 345.318 m
- 4) 3.235 m = 345.356 m
- 5) 3.231 m = 345.360 m

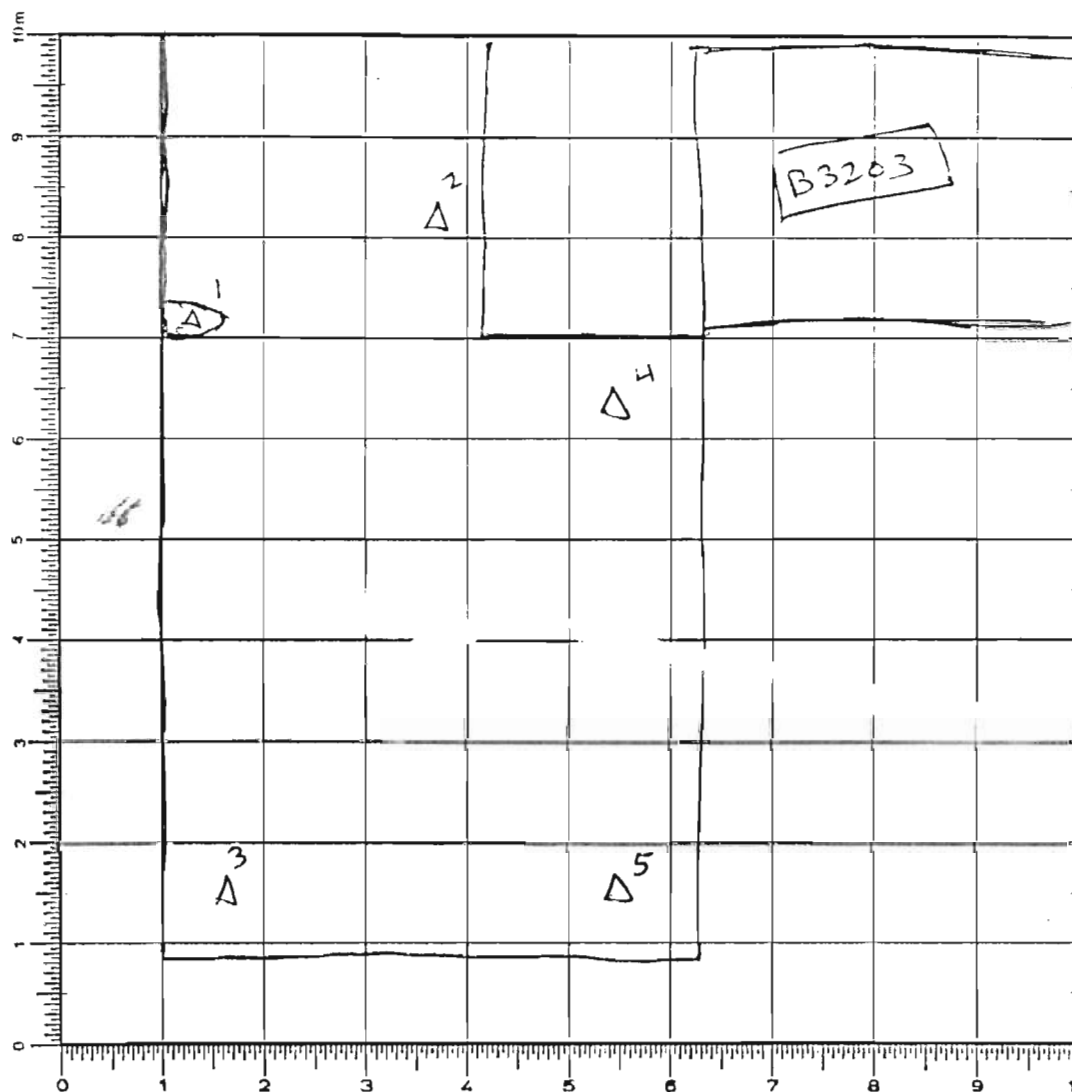
Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3451 Excavator TRQElevations

Benchmark used: R28

Reading on

Benchmark: 2.219m

H.I.: 348.591m

Top levels

- 1) 3.241m = 345.350m
- 2) 3.228m = 345.363m
- 3) 3.273m = 345.318m
- 4) 3.235m = 345.356m
- 5) 3.231m = 345.360m

Bottom levels

- 2) 3.405m = 345.186m
- 3) 3.446m = 345.145m
- 4) 3.359m = 345.232m
- 5) 3.374m = 345.217m

SKETCH 1:75 N

↑

DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers):

Today's date: 21 June 06 Locus above: B3450

Locus parameters: 137 cm E-W, 230 cm N-S. South and west of the Northern wall of the Main Hall.

Verbal description: dense clay with stone inclusions from B3450. Top levels are about 20 cm above floor surface of the Main Hall.

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

This is partially the bottom of the modern terrace wall and partially reef collapse from the Main Hall.

Along the North end of the trench are several larger stones which I am treating as a westward extension of the wall. This small area above the wall is still very rocky, unlike the rest of the trench which

Trench/Locus

~~11~~ B 3451

Excavator

TRQ

[illegible]

OBJECTS

[illegible]

ADDITONAL COLLECTED MATERIAL

[illegible]

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3451 Excavator TRQ

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

now contains only very small pebbles and dark brown dense clay. Bone fragments have been sparse through both passes and pottery is also very light.

Each pass has its own pail, B3451.1 and B3451.2. A 5 liter standard soil sample was taken from B3451.2.

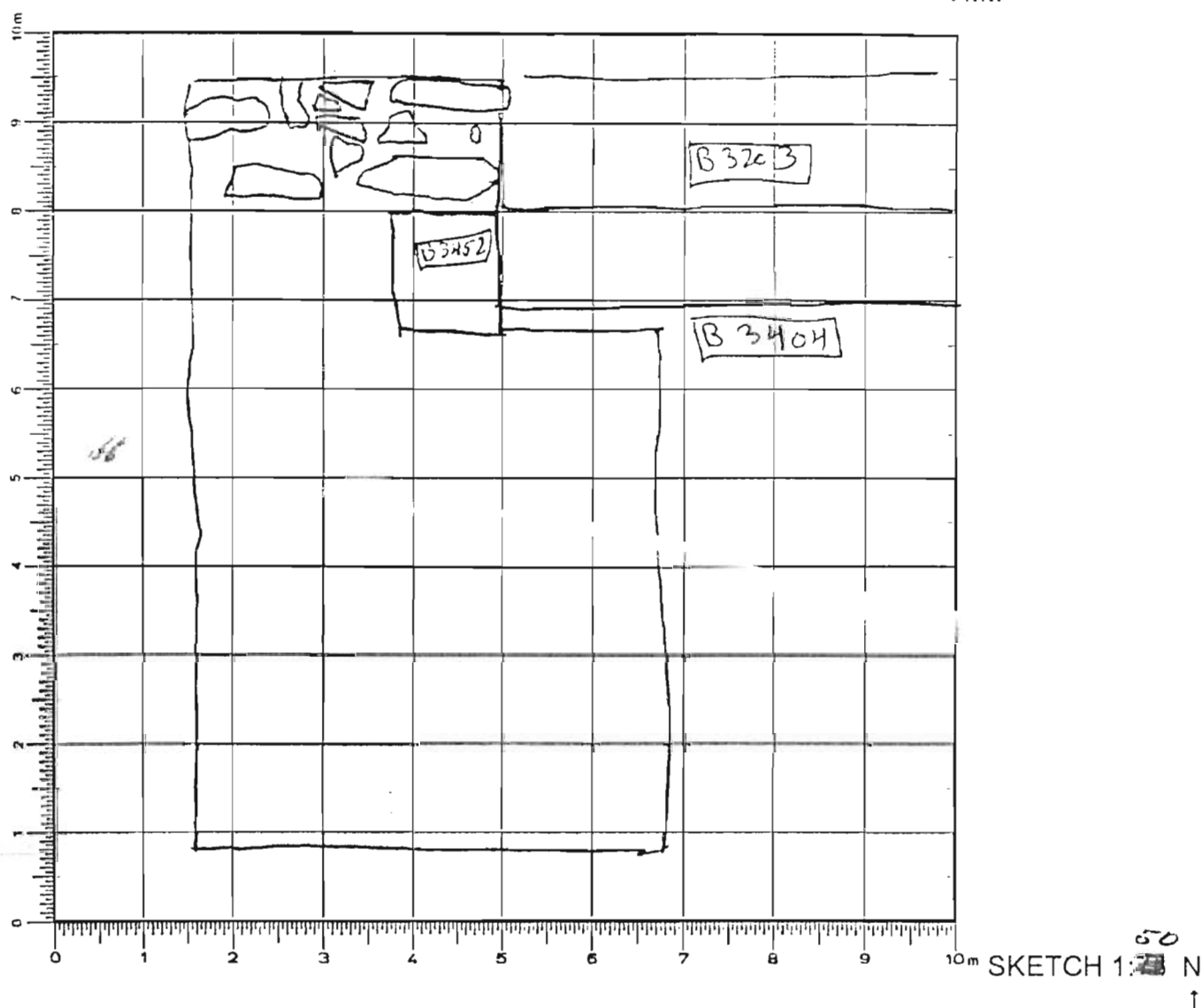
After our second pass, we closed this locus and took bottom elevations.

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3452 Excavator TRAElevationsBenchmark used: R 28

Reading on

Benchmark:

H.I.:

DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain **why** you changed locus numbers):Today's date: 21 June 06 Locus above: B3451Locus parameters: 160cm N-S X 60cm E-W

Verbal description: Dark clay soil resting directly on the floor surface of the main Hall. Pottery pieces are laying flat on the floor with some small stone rubble.

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

22 June 06

beginning with pit B3452.2 we are continuing to shave off the ceiling clay from the floor, our passes are stopping at only

[illegible]

OBJECTS

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL COLLECTED MATERIAL

[illegible]

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3452 Excavator TRQ

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

60 cm from ~~the~~ the Eastern edge of the trench since there is a dip at that point and the floor is probably eroded. In line with the stone that may mark the western side of the doorway are several large stones that may be the return of the wall B3203.

The floor surface is well-preserved in some spots within our small trench. on the floor's surface there were large quantities of fine ware, many with black glaze, and several large fragments of a decomposing pithos. Bone fragments are also plentiful, though not remarkable. The floor does dip as we move west. The pass will probably continue west as we determine the nature of some larger stones to the west.

One object was bagged as B3452.2 obj. #1: a small round piece of iron ore. Two small pebbles were also saved, but not yet as objects.
(update: The pebbles are being ignored!)

23 June 06

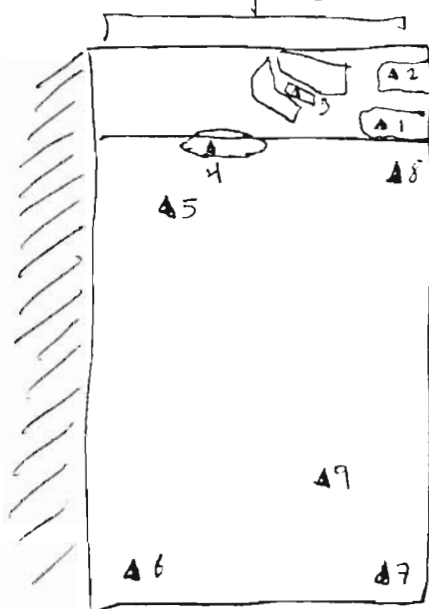
The trench is being expanded 60 cm to the west in order to determine the nature of some stones perpendicular to B3203. The pail number will B3452.3. The floor will likely be eroded underneath.

The pass did not reveal much floor, which seems to have eroded away. Pottery and bone have been scarce. Some of the stones thought to be part of a western wall may be large enough and in situ, but if they are part of a wall, it has been robbed. Peggy will photograph the trench and then we will move south where some of wall may be better preserved.

After some picking around, OCH believes that the stones on the west side of the trench may be part of the original Archaic wall.

Two objects were bagged, one piece of iron about 3 cm long found during sitting, and a stone burnisher.

↑
N



HI: 1.889 m = 348.261 m

- 1) 3.068 m = 345.193 m
- 2) 3.112 m = 345.149 m
- 3) 3.145 m = 345.116 m
- 4) 3.042 m = 345.219 m
- 5) 3.144 m = 345.117 m
- 6) 3.093 m = 345.168 m
- 7) 3.031 m = 345.230 m
- 8) 3.081 m = 345.180 m
- 9) 3.100 m = 345.161 m

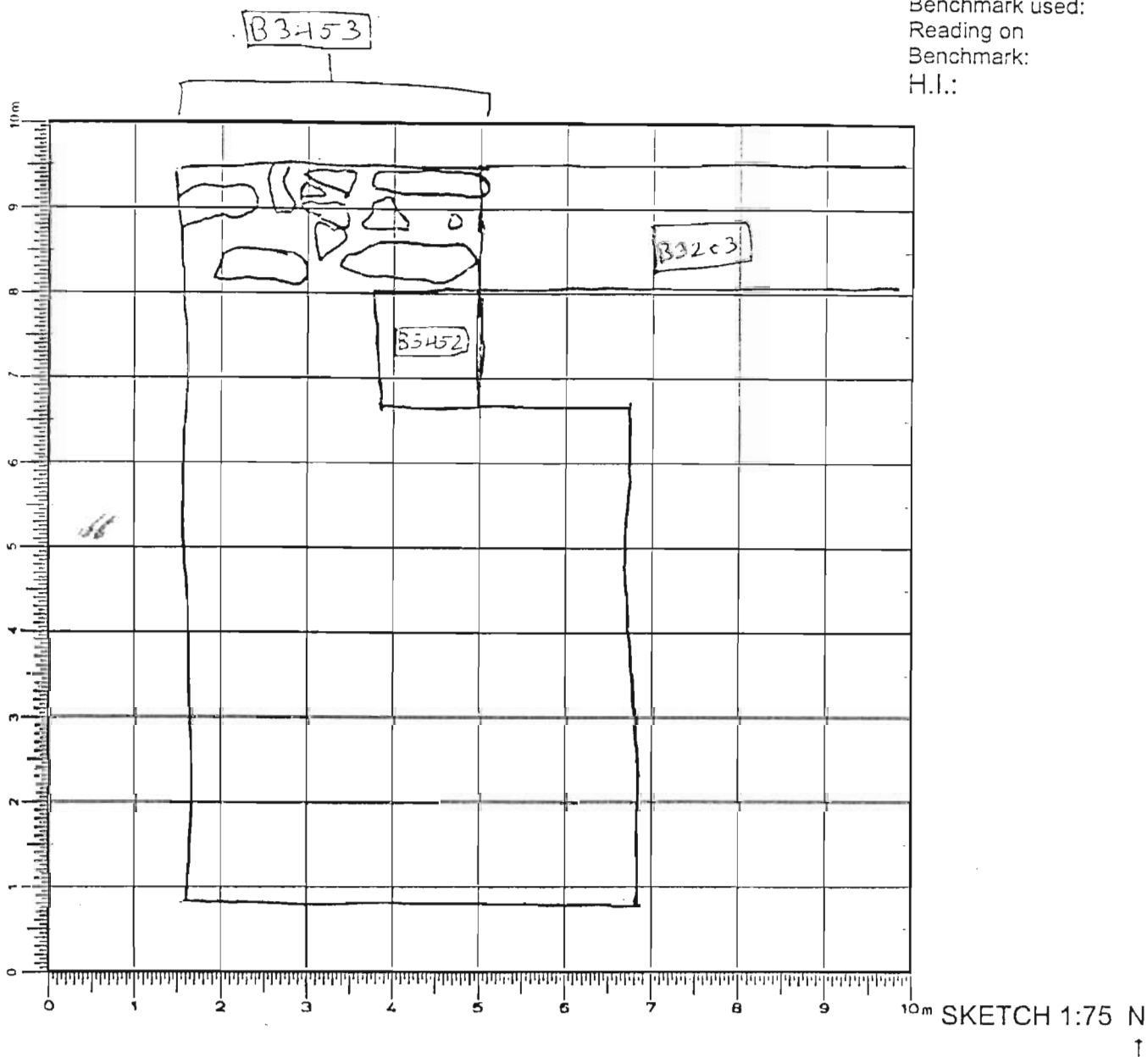
Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3453 Excavator TRQElevations

Benchmark used:

Reading on

Benchmark:

H.I.:



DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers):

Today's date: 22 June 06 Locus above: B3451

Locus parameters: 93 cm N-S X 86 cm E-W. Directly west of B3203

Verbal description: The top layer of the trench still had some debris from the terrace wall, but under that was the same soil that was found in B3452, the dense dark brown roofing clay.

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): This trench will reveal the western extent of the doorway in wall B3203.

The soil was cleared away to reveal multiple paving stones, many of which have shifted and do not lay flat any more. Very little pottery and bone have come out of this locus.

[illegible]

OBJECTS

[illegible]

ADDITONAL COLLECTED MATERIAL

[illegible]

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B345-3 Excavator TRQ.

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

An intensive soil sample was taken from the level just above the stones in the entrance way.

The wall trouble / terrace wall stones which are perpendicular to B3203 may be the western wall of the main Hall. While possible, it would be unusual for such a wide doorway to have the return wall right at its end.

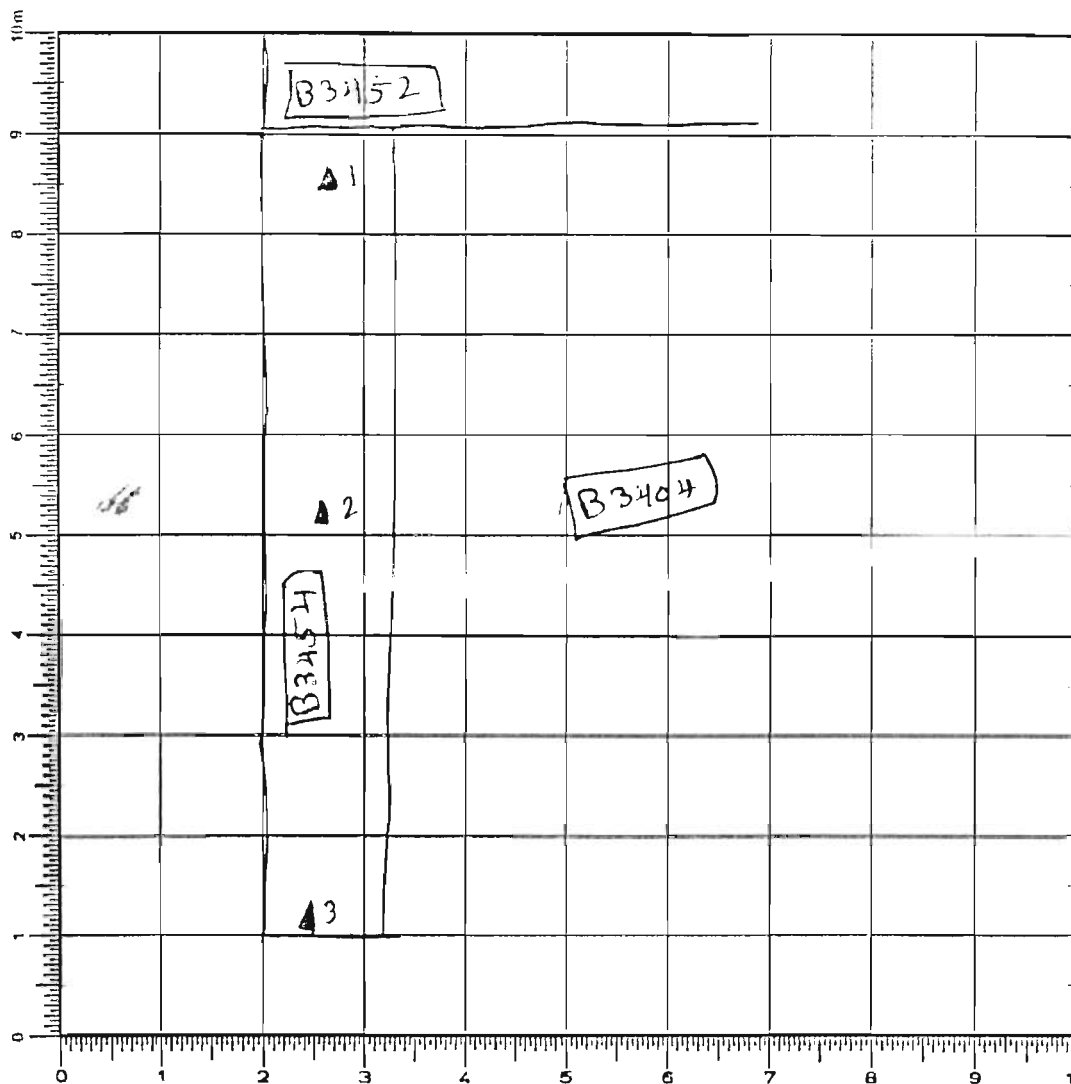
Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3454 Excavator TRQ**Elevations**

Benchmark used: R 28

Reading on

Benchmark: 1.855m

H.I.: 343.227m



top elevations

1) 2.348m =
345.379m2) 2.504m =
345.723m3) 2.715m =
345.512mSKETCH 1: ⁵⁰ N
↑

DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers):

Today's date: 27 June 06 Locus above: top soil

Locus parameters: 405cm NS by 160 cm EW

Verbal description: Top soil with small to medium sized stones and random Pottery fragments

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): This is a southern extension of B3452. The goals are to see if there is any southern extension of the line of stones uncovered in B3452 and simply to reveal a western side of the Main Hall and the walls south of it.

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B 3454 Excavator TRQ

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

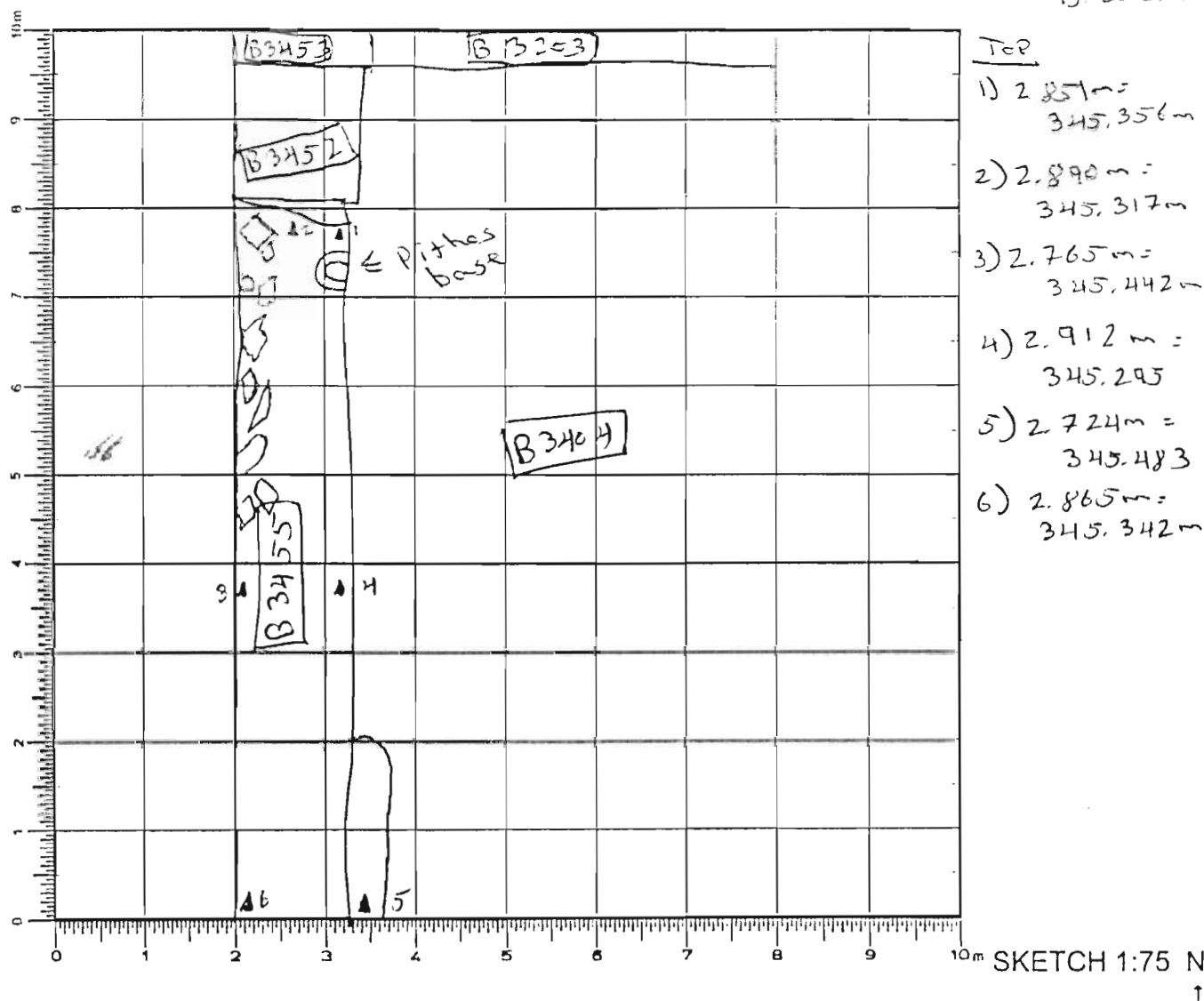
28 June 06 B 3454.2

The initial pass begun yesterday is being finished by moving westward. The number of pottery fragments has increased as we move west, probably because of the proximity to terrace wall.

Pail B 3454.3 represents a shallow pass to remove a majority of the material from B 3454 as we come down on the ceiling clay. One object was uncovered sweeping, a small piece of bronze pierced by a hole, labeled as object #1. Pottery was ~~mostly~~ mostly coarseware. There were almost no bones.

Elevations

Benchmark used: R28
Reading on
Benchmark: 1835 →
H.I.: 348.202 →



Today's date: 28 June 06 Locus above: B3454 (B3452)

Verbal description: ceiling clay mixed with some stones from the previous locus

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): This is basically a scale. 10/2/2011

A pithe's base was found just 20 cm south of the very NE corner of the trench. The base has about a 37 cm diameter and seems to be perfectly flat. It is flat and is resting directly on the floor surface. Around

[illegible]

OBJECTS

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL COLLECTED MATERIAL

[illegible]

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B 3455 Excavator TRQ

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

the base ~~are~~^{has} fragments of the body still attached. The elevation of the base is 345.284m.

29 June 06

The entire day was spent making our pass through the ceiling clay. we stayed in pit B 3455.2. Although a great deal of pottery was recovered, there was nothing obviously significant. 25 zembilia were screened today.

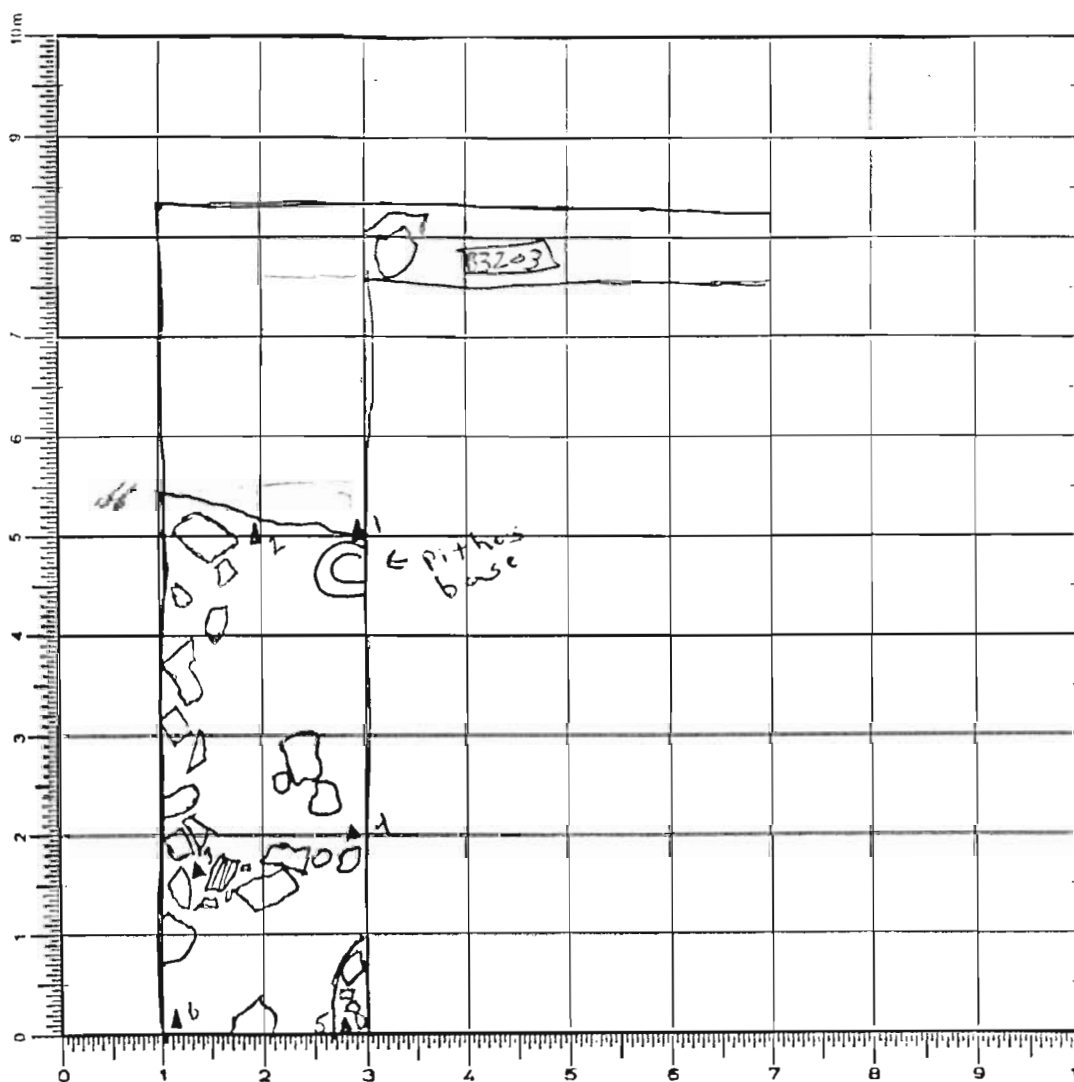
30 June 06

we completed locus B 3455.3 early in the morning. Bottom elevations were taken and locus B 3456 ~~will~~^{will} begin using B 3404 as a guide, a series of westward passes are being made toward the extension of the terrace wall which may contain stones from the original western wall of the main Hall. Locus B 3456 ~~is the~~ will be the same as B 3452.

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3456 Excavator TRQ

Elevations

Benchmark used: R28
 Reading on
 Benchmark: 1.805 m
 H.I.: 343.172 m



for elevations

- 1) 2.909 m =
345.268 m
- 2) 2.983 m =
345.194
- 3) 2.982 m =
345.195 m
- 4) 2.893 m =
345.284 m
- 5) 2.892 m =
345.285 m
- 6) 2.792 m =
345.385 m

50
 SKETCH 1:1 N
 ↑

DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers):

Today's date: 30 June 06 Locus above: B3455Locus parameters: 390 cm N-S / 188 cm (N)

Verbal description: This is the same material (roofing clay) as B3452 and the above locus B3455. This locus was made separate so that we could work around and at the same level as the pithos base which may either be sitting directly on B3404 or may be sunken into it.

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): This is the few centimeters just above the floor level of the Main Hall.

Several intensive soil samples are being taken from the area immediately surrounding the pithos base. The base itself seems to be slightly below

[illegible]

OBJECTS

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL COLLECTED MATERIAL

[illegible]

Year 2006 Trench/Locus B3456.1 Excavator TRQ

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

the floor level. This may have been done intentionally to add support to the pithos, or it may have simply sunk into the floor as it eroded. The actual nature of this base is still in question as no other pithoi were found in the Main Hall. One piece of the rim was found just east of the base, when it came time to remove the base, it will be given a separate pit number.

The fill pass just above B3404 revealed no other significant finds. Several pithos fragments were uncovered in the area surrounding the base. Several fragments of decorated pithos found in B3452 are likely part of this base, but for some reason were not preserved as well in this area.

Before closing this locus, a couple of minor passes will have to be made to bring certain areas down to the same level.

3/July 06

In order to define a small group of stones above the southern baulk, we are taking a pass over the stones to the southern baulk, we may find other stones. Just south of the baulk is a part of this "feature".

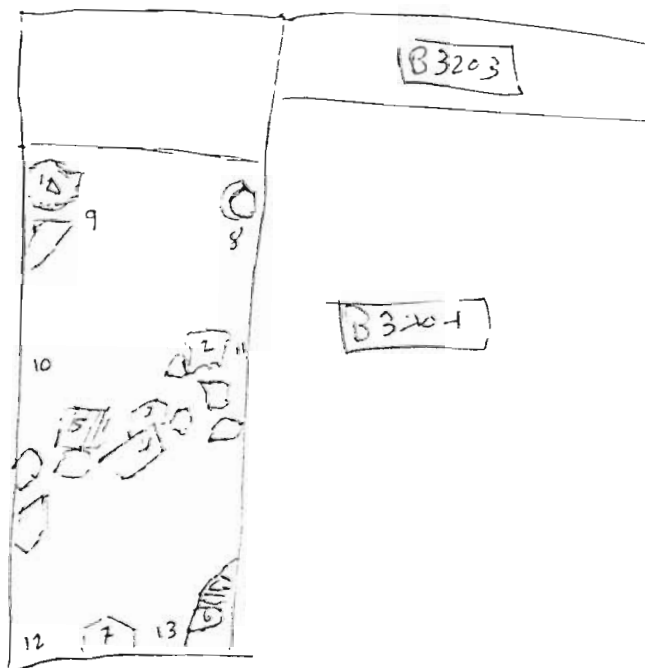
85cm North of the baulk is a line of stones in line with the southern wall of the Main Hall. The western extent of this wall is poorly preserved and is probably only one course.

Miniscule pieces of pumice were appearing in the 7th Zambili sifting, but were too small to justify bagging.

Several large pithos sherds have been found in this final pass of B3456, probably belonging to the pithos base, one half of a decorative double handle is among the pieces found.

Peggy seemed less than optimistic about the row of stones reported above. We will sweep the area for record photographs and close the trench.

HI: 0.069 = 3116.1111m



- 1) 1.184 = 345.257m
- 2) 1.158 = 345.283m
- 3) 1.225 = 345.216m
- 4) 1.181 = 345.260m
- 5) 1.232 = 345.209m
- 6) 1.107 = 345.336m
- 7) 1.223 = 345.218m
- 8) 1.229 = 345.212m
- 9) 1.305 = 345.136m
- 10) 1.267 = 345.174m
- 11) 1.209 = 345.232m
- 12) 1.304 = 345.137m
- 13) 1.255 = 345.186m