Trench C 200

Location and purpose:

Trench C 200 is located on one of the lower terraces on the south side of the Azoria hill. A large rock pile around a carob tree covered much of the area later excavated as C 200. The rest of terrace was cleaned and scanned by Antonia Stamnos using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). It was thought that this area might be included in the habitation area of Azoria because of the presence of ancient terrace walls and a single ancient cross-wall extending south from this terrace. Because of the rock pile it was only possible to examine a 1m strip of the terrace in this area. The GPR produced a number of readings that appeared to be walls or other linear structures depth perpendicular to the terrace wall at about 0.50m. After the GPR survey, the rock pile was removed and trench C 200 was located over several of the suggested underground features. The terrace wall, designated C 202 formed the south wall of the trench. The length of the south side of the trench behind stakes set just behind the wall was 8.25 m. The length of the north side of the trench was 7.90 m. The east side was 3.31 m long and the west side 2.50 m.

No previous archaeological work had been done on this terrace, but a trench in the terrace above had been excavated at the beginning of the 2002 season by Walter McCall. This trench revealed little but bedrock just below the surface. Excavation of C 200 began on 2 July 2002 and continued until 8 July 2002

Personnel:

Brian Ernst, Antonia Stamnos and Eileen Marion-Bellemare served as trench assistants at various times during the excavation of C 200. The workmen were Nikolai Spilirotis, Giannis Pappadakis, "young" Costis_____, and for one day Manolis Maniadakis.

Datum Point:

There is no established datum point accessible from this trench. A point was chosen on a boulder in the terrace wall to the east of the trench, and a secondary point was selected on a low retaining wall immediately to the north of the trench. Fortuitously these two points are at the same elevation, within the limits of accuracy possible using a string and line level. All elevations for this trench were taken using a line level, and at this date no elevation for the datum point has been established.

Excavation Procedure and Interpretation:

Excavation of C200 began with a pass clearing vegetation and the uppermost soil surface on the terrace and extending onto the terrace wall. The soil on the top of the wall itself was initially designated C 201.2, to distinguish the material from the terrace itself. When the stones of the terrace wall could be isolated the wall was given its own locus, C 202. In addition some of the vegetation below the terrace wall was cleared. In doing so it became obvious that there were ancient sections of "Cyclopean" wall on the east and west ends of the terrace wall (C202) included in the trench, but the middle section, approximately 2.50 meters long, was a relatively recent construction. The stones were much smaller and more regular in shape, consisting primarily of local limestone of the "iron stone" variety. There were voids between the stones, and very loose soil behind the wall in this area.

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The stones in the more recent segment of the wall were removed as the excavation of C 201 progressed and the soil was cleared toward the terrace rather than into the trench to minimize the contamination of the terrace deposits with sherds from the modern wall. Throughout the excavation of the trench sherds and other material from the wall was collected separately from the consolidated fill of the terrace, and material from the modern section of C 202 was collected in separate pails from the more ancient sections. In addition to sherds and a small quantity of animal bone, two objects were collected from C202. C 202.4, obj. 1 was a ceramic pyramidal loom weight and C 202.6, obj. 2 was a fragment of lead, apparently the rim of some type of container with a folded rim.

A second pass through the loose brown topsoil of C 201.3 exposed many tree roots and a large quantity of pottery. A third pass in C 201.4 removed the soil transition from topsoil into the consolidated terrace fill. In addition to pottery, animal bone and a single pyramidal loom weight were found in these pails. The dates for the sherds in the topsoil pails range from Early Iron Age to Modern, and include Archaic, Hellenistic Eastern Sigillata A, Late Roman and Venetian-Ottoman.

Beneath the topsoil the next level consisted of a more densely packed, but still fairly soft soil that was a distinctly lighter brownish red than the darker brown topsoil. A number of larger stones began to appear across the trench; this was the level at which the GPR suggested there could be cross-walls perpendicular to the terrace wall. The locus was changed to C 203.1 and an additional pass was begun across the entire trench. Beginning with this locus all soils were screened in the ½" dry screen and standard 5 liter soil samples were collected for water sieving.

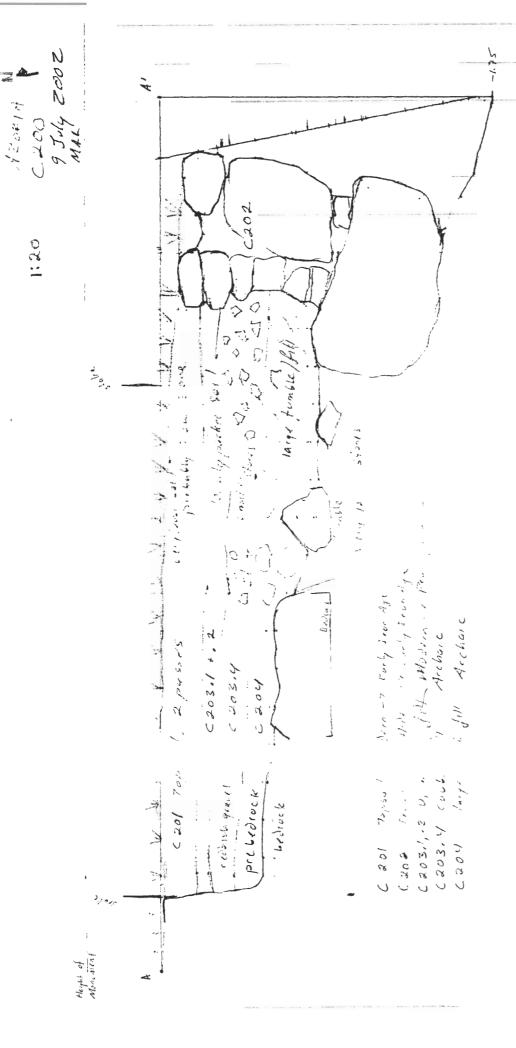
In C 203.1 a number of flat stones (plakas) were found in the center of the trench forming a cluster about 0.70m in diameter. It appeared that these might be some sort of feature, but at the end of the excavation of this locus it was obvious that they were floating on the soil below. Locus C 203.4 represents the removal and cleaning of the area around these stones. Interestingly, only Archaic sherds were found in the immediate area around them. A stone tool in C 203.1 and a drilled shell bead in C 203.3 were also found next to these stones.

In the rest of the trench, large cobble-sized stones made up progressively more of the matrix in this locus. The readings indicated by the GPR at this level appear to have been linear accumulations of wall tumble or terrace packing, not built features. In addition to the pottery a large quantity of material was collected from this locus, including animal bone, sea shells, carbon, pumice and sea pebbles. A single piece of ancient mud wall plaster was recovered from the ¼" screen. Two unusual rocks, one a conglomerate and one volcanic were also found in the deposits. The material is very similar to that found in many of the Archaic house deposits of the site, but no evidence of structures was found. Significantly more potsherds were found in this level than in the topsoil. The sherds from this level showed the same range of dates as the topsoil (Early Iron Age to Modern), with the addition of Protopalatial fragments as well.

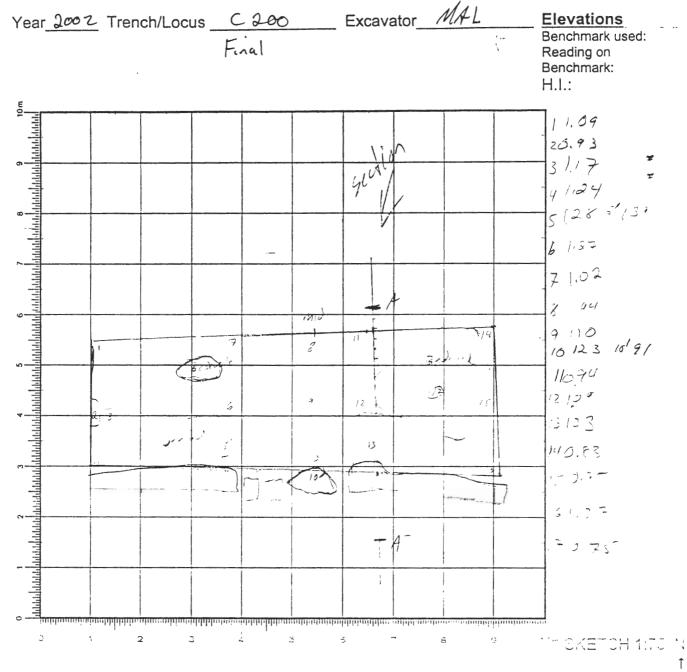
During the excavation of locus C 203 a large area of smoothed bedrock was revealed that takes up much of the northeastern 1/3 of the trench. The surface appears to have been deliberately smoothed and leveled; on the east and north, near the edge of the trench, there are areas of that have not been smoothed and have the normal angular surfaces of the local bedrock. A smaller projection of what also appears to be bedrock

has been uncovered in the western half of the trench as well. At the bottom of locus C 203 the surface clearly differentiated in the north and south halves. The north half of the trench, extending approximately 1.5m from the north edge of the excavated area, consists of bedrock outcroppings and pre-bedrock reddish gravelly soils. This slopes downward toward the east slightly, so that the leveling fill extends further north in this area. The south half of the trench consists of terrace fill. There are large rocks, up to 60 cm in diameter and loose brown-red soil. This fill was excavated as locus C 204.

C 204 the deeper terrace fill was excavated in two pails. C 204.1 is the area behind the eastern section of ancient terrace wall extending to the edge of the large boulders in the wall at about the midpoint of the trench. Excavation in this area continued down to a narrow space between the large bedrock mass to the north and the tops of the large boulders whose faces can be seen in the lowest course of the terrace wall on the exterior (south) side. C 204.2 was collected separately because it includes the material behind the modern section of the terrace wall and the less well defined western boulder segment of the wall which does not appear to have an inner face. While less pottery and bone were found in this locus, there was still a significant quantity. All of the sherds in both pails date to the Archaic, with the addition of a single ledge rim sherd in C 204.2, indicating that the terrace wall was probably built as part of the Archaic occupation of the Azoria hill.



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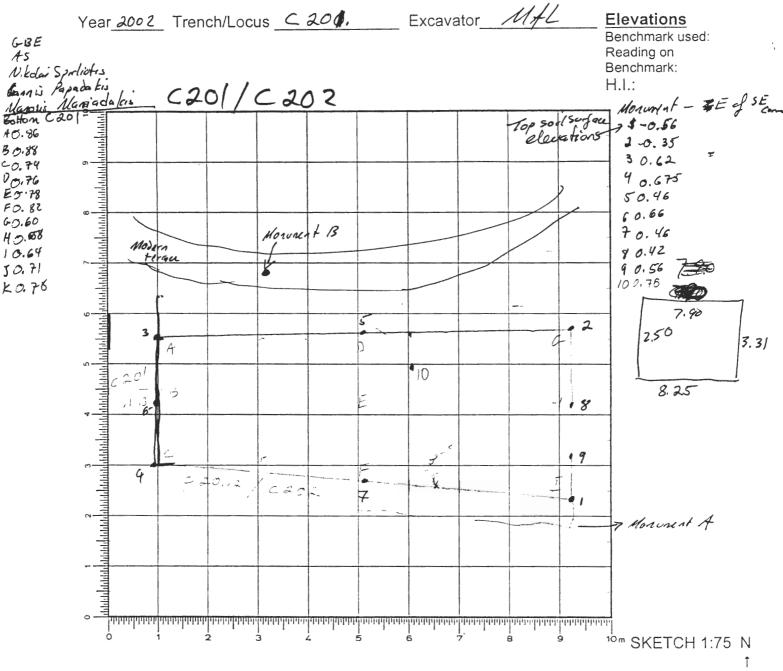


DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers): Today's date: 09100 Locus above:

Locus parameters:

Verbal description:

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



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

Today's date: 02-07-07

Locus above:

Suface

Locus parameters: Rectagilar area on south terrace Lelow Cloo

Verbal description:
Level terrace with ancient wall protouding to the south. Trench located to include possible walls found with GPR Ly As.
Grasses + other small vegetation on surface

Oz-07-02 Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary):

Pail 1 Began olivering with a pass removing horta with scalisteri

Pail-2 Demoned stone from thereach wall to level of 1st pass Collected sherds - Pail 2

Continued poil I top soil removal in second pass with cosmas finished west half brench only.

| | Locus/Pottery | Weight of | Number | Chronology & Comments |
|-------|---------------|----------------|-----------|--|
| | Pail Number | Sherds | of Sherds | |
| 2107 | C201.1 | 1.100 1.050 | F98/626 | Mod. V/O, Archaic, E.Sig. A, Early Iron be |
| 02/07 | C201.2 | 0.010 10.525 | P5/616 | |
| 35/07 | [201.3 | T.060,16 1.460 | F104/653 | Modern, Venet-ottoman Late Roman Archaire |
| 3702 | C 201.4 | 0.960 /2.750 | F80/645 | Modern, Venet-ottoman, Late Roman, Archaice Modern Venetrain-ottoman, Heller istric |
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OBJECTS

| Object Number | Associated Pottery Pail | Identification (material/form) | Location | Elevation | Catalogue Number |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------|
| #/ | C 201.4 | stranic loom whigh | wolfer a toss | -0,=: | |
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| Locus/Pottery Pail Number | Bones | Shell | Carbon | Pumice | Soil Sample | Other (specify) |
|---------------------------|---------|-------|--------|--------|----------------|-----------------|
| C201,1 | V | | | | | |
| C 201, 2 | V | | | | | |
| C 201.3 | <i></i> | | | | | |
| C 201,4 | | | | | | |
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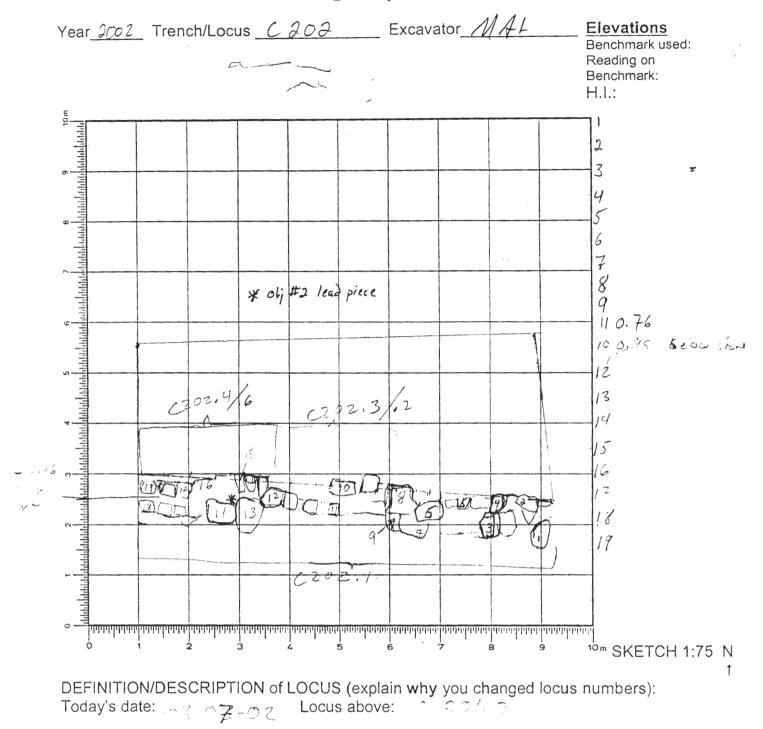
Year 200 z Trench/Locus C 201. Excavator MAL

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

os-07-02 C201. 3 Continue topsoil pass, transis removed large true root from north edge of trench near mid point East 2.70 mm / SE 1.40. Although the needed to be removed my cause some disturbance on lower level / haten-the root runsalong the fransition from the lower topsoil to the underlying levels.

changed parts, less dock topsoul sof stell loose with later shows. Jank greengleze.

At the end of this pass we should be at the transition from topsoul to
the ounderlying clay



Locus parameters: South factor work

Verbal description:

Surface + cleaning of forcace wall. When lb inner foce (morth surface)

appears), the wall was given its own longs.

Though cleaned as 201.2 a superail poil is 16

aniface locas.

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): The inferior face of the wall suggests. It is not just a ferroce, but was as willing walls After claim the author face as vegetation, it approves that there are two sections of Minoan boulder walls on the east and wast and will a more recent section of actual ferrous wall. At the end the day Nikolai finds a second course of stones beneath the inner face on the east end.

04/07 - Nothing but soil below the 2nd course. Cleared part of clearly modern sections with

Year 2002 Trench/Locus C202 Excavator MAL

Chronology & Comments Number Locus/Pottery Weight of Pail Number Sherds of Sherds 13:02 Hellewishi 0.660/2.025 C202.1 843/128 Modern Venetion lottoman Modern, Early Iron age, Vinetin - ottomen (?) 0467 (202.2 Modern V/O Late Roman Eurly Irun Age. 202,3 05/07 Modern, Hellenistic Archaic 0/667 202.4 F-3/C-1 08/07 202.5 F0.050/6150 F-4/6-2 Archaic + ND 202,6 09/07

OBJECTS

| ., | Object Number | Associated Pottery Pail | Identification (material/form) | Location | Elevation | Catalogue Number |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| 05/07 | #1 | 202,4 | loon weight | Wall interior | -0.86 | |
| | #2 | 202.6 | Lead object | wall clounty-interior | F1.16 | |
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| | Locus/Pottery Pail Number | Bones | Shell | Carbon | Pumice | Soil Sample | Other (specify) |
|-------|--|---------|-------|--------|--------|----------------|-----------------|
| 03/07 | C 202. 1 C 202. 2 C 202. 3 C 202. 4 C 202. 5 | <i></i> | | | | | |
| 04/07 | (207.2 | - | | | | | |
| 05/07 | 202.3 | | | | | | |
| 05/07 | C 202.4 | | | | V | | |
| 08/67 | C202.5 | V | | | | | |
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Year 2007 Trench/Locus C201, Excavator MAL

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

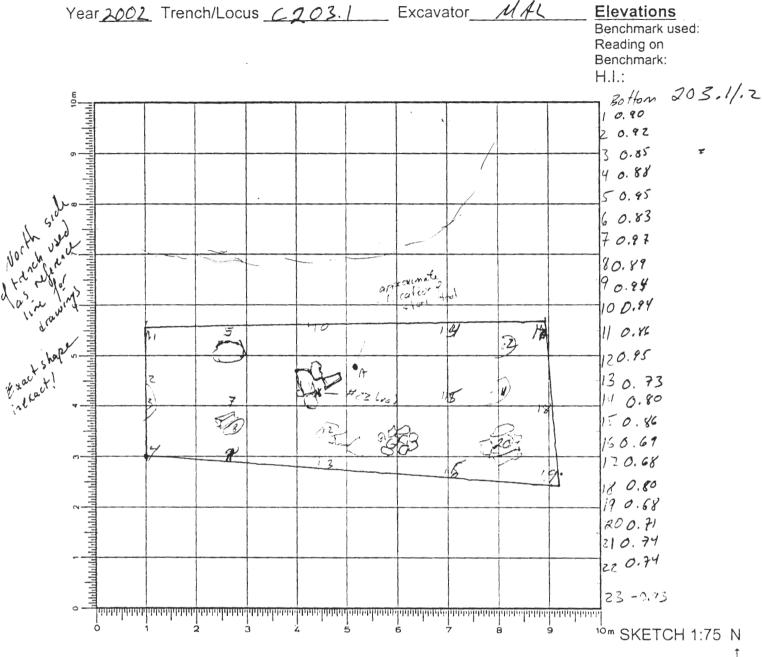
05/07 - continued clearing more modern terrace wally in 202.3 Veryloose soil with many hollows between stones. Modern vegetation dried leaves, almost shells etc.

2024 - Cleaning west half, north (inner)face five !!

Eleared soil and floating stones from inner face of terrace wall as on the west end of the locus. This area is asome the west section of Minoan style boulder wall and was collected as a separate pail to distinguish it from the recent wash in the newer wall. The soil here is much more density predered, dark brown, with many roots.

Clear north law (inner)

Clear north face (inner) ofterrace well Westerd often final excavation of trench. 06; #2 lead object - rin? found against wall face



DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers): Today's date: 09-07-02 Locus above: $\angle 20/$

Locus parameters: Enfine french, beginning at level of 100 ssible cross well stones.
The last pass finished the dark topsoil and large free roots ran along this horizon had surface.

Verbal description: Suppositing a transition to the next layer.

Slightly reddish roose soil, lighter in color and alithe more packed than the topsoil. A number of stones are appropring at the top of this level.

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

The first area of this pass, significantly more shorts are appearing, and two larger stones at west wall of the trench appear. Additional fundle as we move East, Collection of large stones seen on GPR appears to be tumble, not a wall

Year ZOOL Trench/Locus C 20 3 Excavator MAL

| | Locus/Pottery Pail Number | Weight of Sherds | Number of Sherds | Chronology & Comments | |
|-----|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---|---------|
| | (203. | 2.900 4.600 | F-414/105 | Mod., V/O, Eastern Sig. A. Archaic Early Iron, Protopola | 4:-1(?) |
| | C203.2 | 0.375/C 0.600 | F48 / 618 | Nod., V/O, Eastern Sig. A, Archaic Early Iron, Protopola V/O?, Archaic Mostly, Hell (Amphora) E. Iron p. Kho Mod, Archaic, Orientalizing, EO, Otheran / Vine tion | 05 |
| 707 | (203,3 | 0.925/2.425 | F148/C72 | Mod, Archaic, Orientalizing, ED, Otherm /Vine tib- | \ |
| اري | C203, 4 | 0.150/0.950 | F14/43 | Archaic |) |
| - | C203.5 | F 425/9, 425 | | Archaic interesting dotted | |
| | | | | sherd | |
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OBJECTS

| | Object Number | Associated Pottery Pail | Identification (material/form) | Location | Elevation | Catalogue Number |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | #/ | C203.1 | Stone tool? | loose soi/ new | ko5 - | - |
| 05/07 | #2 | C203.3 | shill Sead | near place | -0.93 | |
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| | Locus/Pottery Pail Number | Bones | Shell | Carbon | Pumice | Soil Sample | Other (specify) | |
|--------|---------------------------|--------|---------|---|--------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | <u> </u> | ~ 2Cg(| | | .// | | Plaston 7 Seas | <u> </u> |
| | C203,1 | 7) | | | | 5+0. | 1 145137 320 | H) h |
| | (203.2 | 1./ | <u></u> | , | | | | |
| 05/07 | C20313 | 1/ | V | V | V' | STd | Sea public Estro-ye Rock | _ |
| | | | | | | | 2 strange Rock | |
| 09 501 | C208, 4 | VV | | | | | • | |
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Year 2002 Trench/Locus C203./ Excavator MAL

DESCRIPTION of PROGRESS of EXCAVATION [date each entry and identify associated

04-07-02 C203.1 Although we dod not screen the soil in the case that of the toerch at about the midpoint we began to find plakes, m'a row. Since it was possible this was a living surface we immediately began screening the loose soil behind the plates + all subsequent soil. Limpth and see pettles found in picked soil. No additional Bye. green shords _ until the final clearing in the south east corner. Two green glaze shords in the sieve. Remove upper courses of modern terrace wall between large Loulders. Pottery collected in locus 202 Screening found

sea petitie

04-07-02 C203,2

trecord pass through south half of trench. This half has been persistently higher, In pail I it was dry with a small pick by vilable whole in North half was dry biannis with a large pack. - have the deference Levels. Its a hot day and N clearly was not up to wielding a cosma!
The pottery from pails I and 2 can be considered as coming from the same revel

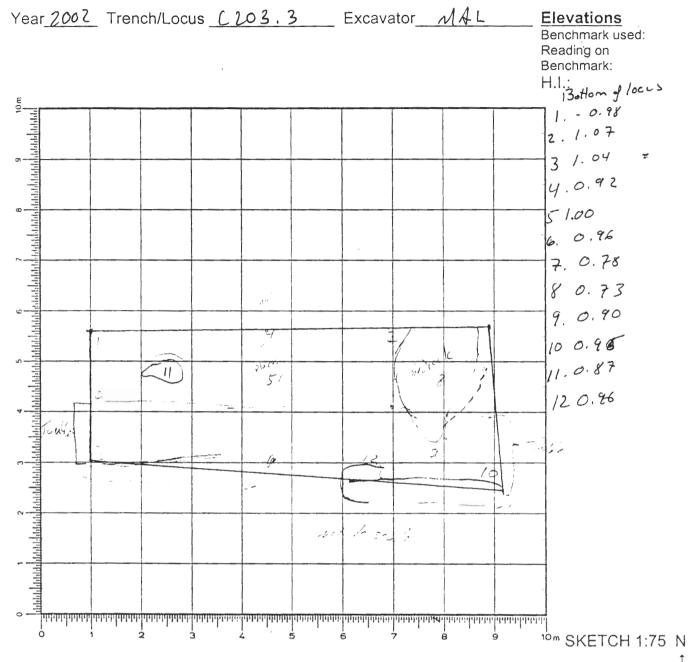
AM - Anotherpass, in the east half of the French. Bedrock began to appear attentioned of the day (04/07/02) in the NE corner.

Today Reddish prehedrock soil + gravel extends westward

shell head found near plakes - french center athe beginning of the pass. * Mapped with C 203.1/. 2 elevations. The location was near where the Store tool was found in pool. C203.1

The group of plakes in the center fithe brench persists. Other shore seems to be scattered tunte only A clear line of tunkle south of the ledrock and pre Gedrock soils appeared in this pass. It seems to be rubble fill behind the terrace well, extendy to the bedrock

08-51102 C203.4 Inthe morning light the plates are clearly floating in the middle of the trench. As the only hope for a feature other than the xerrace wall I protected them a little too long. This pail is the soil removed in cleaning the area where they lay. A few very thick sherds and a sea pelile found



DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION of LOCUS (explain why you changed locus numbers): Today's date: 05 11 02 Locus above: (20/

Locus parameters: continuation of 203

Verbal description: Loose soil, reddish pre-ledrock i NE. Loose Lrown terrace fill i south and NW.

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

203.3 - Exc primary in S. half of french, and cleaned large ladrack outeropin NE

203.5 Complete this level in AW quadrant of french.

| | | / 12011/11/10/001 | |
|------|--------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Year | Trench/Locus | | Excavator |

| Locus/Pottery Pail Number | Weight of Sherds | Number of Sherds | Chronology & Comments |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
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OBJECTS

| Object Number | Associated Pottery Pail | Identification (material/form) | Location | Elevation | Catalogue Number |
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| Locus/Pottery | Bones | Shell | Carbon | Pumice | Soil | Other |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| Pail Number | | | | | Sample | (specify) |
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Year 2002 Trench/Locus C203 Excavator MAC

DESCRIPTION of PROGRESS of EXCAVATION [date each entry and identify associated

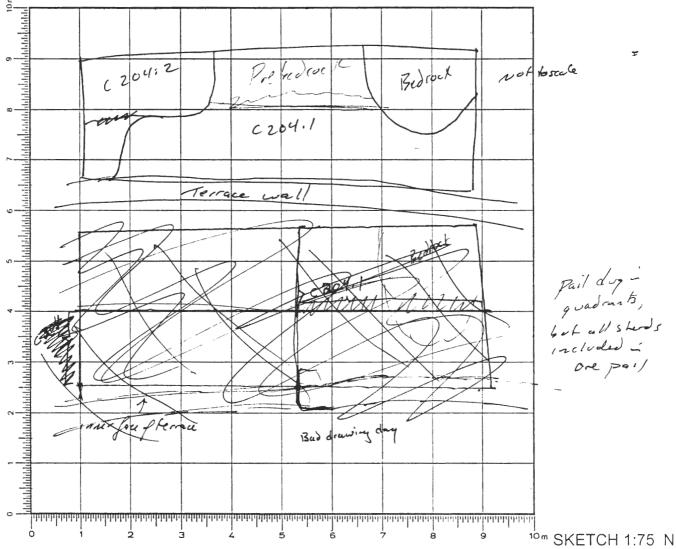
pottery pail(s)]: C203.5

59-Sul-02

Finished this level - the N w quedant. found many

sherds; seashells, including I murek. No prince today:

AZORIA Project .2 Excavator MAL Year 2002 Trench/Locus < 204, Elevations Benchmark used: Reading on Benchmark: H.I.:



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

Today's date: O& J.102

Locus above:

C 203

Locus parameters:

of treath, cletwen Ledrock and terroce wall face

Verbal description:

Loose brown-red soil Letwern rock temble

Large smooth bedrook introdes into the area. North half of the trenel is all bedrock or hard sterile soil - pre bedrock! the small amount of looser Grown soil above the red pre Ledrock is also removed i this pail hour charges from C203 because the densely packed tenth is larger and more regularly placed than the smaller fell actions

Locus Interpretative Comments (What do you think this is? DATE your comments, continue on additional pages if necessary): Excavalle East half of locus leginning at "refurn" of eastern half of ferrace wall Appears to be terrace fill extending area legond the sedrock.

First pass removes layer of timble & reveals another layer of timble The huge bedrock outcrop continues to slope toward the terrace Ceral narrowin the space we can excavate.

| Locus/Pottery Pail Number | Weight of Sherds | Number of Sherds | Chronology & Comments |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| C204.1 | 1. 850 (2.800 | F240 / 87 | Archaic |
| C204, 2 | F 1.450/2.000 | F / 4 34 | Archaic + 1 ledge rim |
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OBJECTS

| Object Number | Associated Pottery Pail | Identification (material/form) | Location | Elevation | Catalogue Number |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------|
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| Locus/Pottery | Bones | Shell | Carbon | Pumice | Soil | Other |
|---------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| Pail Number | | | | | Sample | (specify) |
| C 204.1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 540 | |
| (204. I | 2 | V | | | | seapelble/yelle |
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Year 2002 Trench/Locus 2011/, 2 Excavator MAL

DESCRIPTION of PROGRESS of EXCAVATION [date each entry and identify associated

continue pass to worth through area of moder terrace face sew bones or ceramics, and extend slightly west to midpoint of trench sightly west to midpoint of trench sightly soil '4' took Standard soil Sample mostly from South half of pass

DCH suggests there may have been a house Coult on this terrace and later removed complety and the terrace deep-plowed.

Main excavitable East end fle trench, continue to the west,
remove tenthe first. It Like the east end there appears to
be a second layer of still layer stones below. No evidence of
architecture few sheds or Come

completed this level in the word end of the trench. At the Legisling of the pass there were few rocks wisible in the area covered by tundle to the east however the tendle appeared almost invidedly at the Legisling of the excavation today, indicating the structure of the terrace continues in this area.

No evidence of any built structures except the terrace wall. The terruester Section of the wall is not as thick as the last section but there is some evidence for an in nerface. The stores near the surface that had seemed to be the universal were not supported by a lower course and were removed exclier.

Fewer sherds and bore than higher level