



The Mavro Spelio Cemetery at Knossos

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THE MAVRO SPELIO CEMETERY AT KNOSSOS.

(PLATES XVII-XXIII.)

ISOLATED tombs are known all round the site of Knossos, where they help to define the extent of the Minoan city, but the only considerable cemetery that had been found before last year was at Zafer Papoura,¹ north of the Palace and between the Kairatos and the road to Herakleion. A solitary grave (the 'Tomb of the Cow,' a M.M. IIIb jar-burial) was accidentally discovered on the far side of the river,² but search for other sepulchral remains in this region had produced nothing, though fragments of substantial buildings shewed that the town extended up the lower slopes of the eastern hills.³

In the summer of 1926, when Sir Arthur Evans' foreman, Manólis Akoumianós, was inspecting with the eye of an agriculturist the waste upper slopes which he had bought, north of the dry gorge that cuts down from the Black Cave to the river, he noticed a hewn face of stone which he recognised as belonging to the *diadromos* of a chamber-tomb. Sir Arthur Evans at once excavated this tomb and five others that were soon discovered near it. I arrived while the last of the series was being dug, and Sir Arthur Evans gave me all his material and invited me to finish the exploration of the cemetery in the following year. I was enabled to make the most of the opportunity by leave of the Trustees of the British Museum to spend the necessary time in Crete, by a grant of money from the Craven Fund in the University of Oxford, and by contributions specially made to the British School (*Knossos Tombs Fund*)

¹ A. J. Evans in *Archaeologia* LIX (1906): *The Prehistoric Tombs of Knossos*, i. (cited here as *P.T.* i.). The Royal Tomb (*ibid.*, *P.T.* ii.), the Tomb of the Double Axes and others at Isopata (*ibid.* LXV (1914)) are more than half-way to the sea and may have belonged to the harbour town.

² Evans, *Palace of Minos*, ii. p. 554, and *B.S.A.* viii. p. 88.

³ For the topography see *P.M.*, *loc. cit.* and maps facing p. 547, and *B.S.A.* vi. Pl. XII.

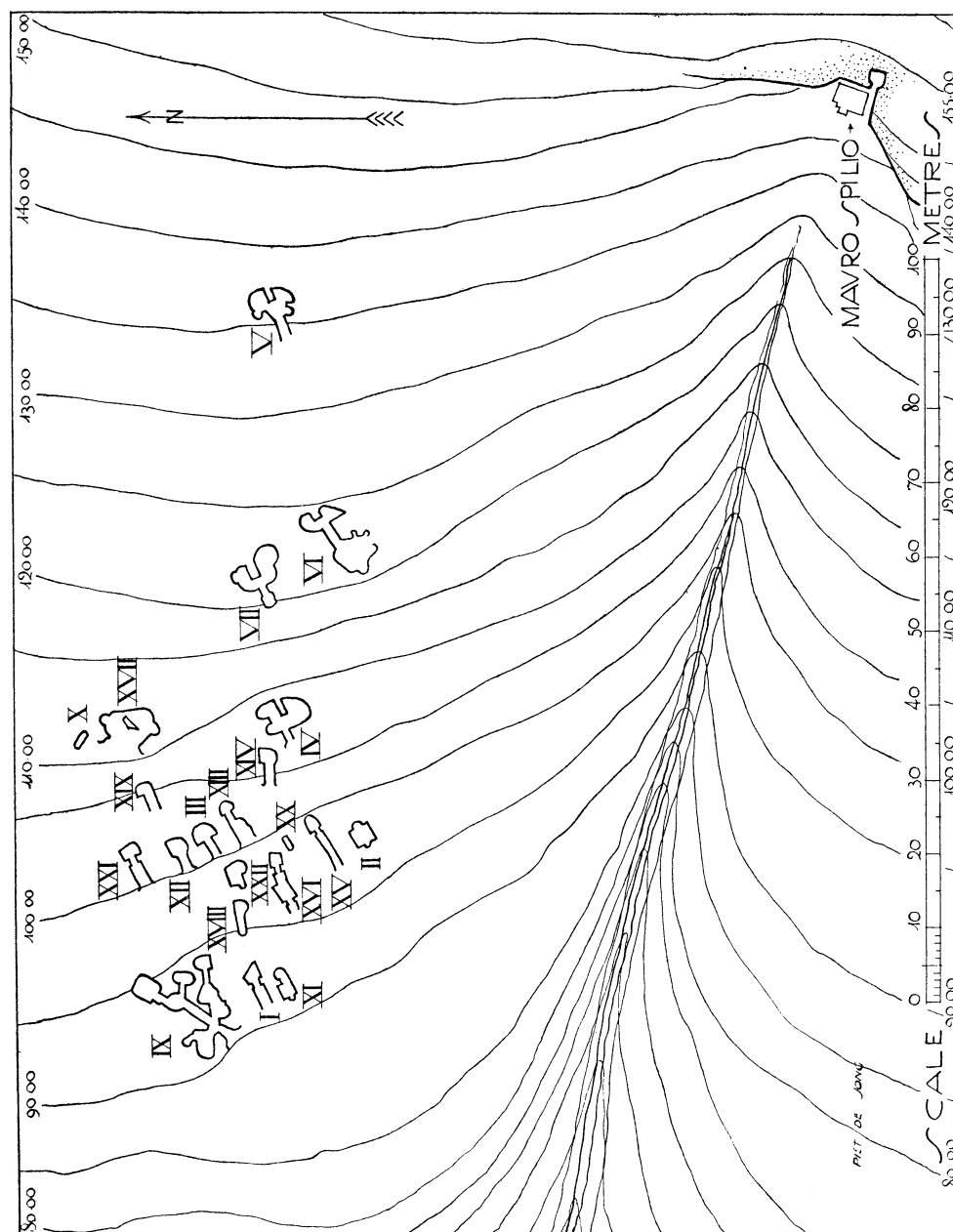


FIG. 1.—PLAN OF THE SITE.

by a few subscribers. The Committee of the School gave me the expert services of their architect and draughtsman, Mr. Piet de Jong, and of their Cretan foreman, and the use of tents and equipment belonging to the Villa Ariadne and recently given to the School, with the Villa and the Palace, by Sir Arthur Evans. I was also helped by the advice and experience of Dr. Duncan Mackenzie, Archaeological Curator at Knossos, and of my colleague Dr. H. R. Hall, who stayed in camp with me for several weeks.



FIG. 2.—THE CEMETERY, LOOKING NORTH-EAST. (TOMBS IX AND I IN FOREGROUND.)

THE CEMETERY.

The cemetery lies on the mountain-side some four hundred feet up (Figs. 1 and 2). The slope is roughly terraced here, and the terraces are more or less regularly connected by ramps, which may be ancient. The tombs of the first year (I–VI) were cut in the terrace-walls, generally on the level of the existing terrace-floors. They were easily found by probing or by following the tracks of badgers who inhabited their empty spaces. In the second season the site was methodically trenched to find the remaining tombs (VII–XXII), first in the angles of terrace-walls and floors, where entrances of well-preserved tombs might be expected, then

higher up the walls, where fronts of several collapsed chambers were found, and finally along the terrace-floors, where two different types of tomb appeared, small chambers approached by long descending *diadromoi*, and shaft-graves. The tombs are crowded towards the bottom of the site, a few are scattered on the upper terraces and one (V) stands by itself nearly as high as the cave. Above this height the limestone is bare and precipitous, cropping out in great circular ridges. Cave and gorge have been formed by a spring, now dry in summer, and the cave has been artificially enlarged, apparently in Minoan times, to make a roofed cistern or spring-house which was probably used in connection with the cemetery (Pl. XVII).

Some of the larger tombs are single (I, II, III), but most are double (VI, VII, XVII) or triple (IV, V), and one (IX) has four chambers approached by corridors from a central hall. The chambers of the multiple tombs are separated by buttresses or deep pilasters, which also served to support their roofs. This plan is not a novelty at Knossos, the Tomb of the Double Axes and another at Isopata are double, and the buttress in the former has a column in relief on its front, emphasising its sacred function. The Spata tomb in Attica has three chambers. The entrance-passages of these Mavro Spelio tombs are short, owing to the steep slope of the hill, and those of I and V are perfectly preserved (Fig. 5); I is cut in the soft limestone (*kouskouras*), V is walled with small rough blocks. These two are now fitted with iron gates, and house the *larnakes* and *pithoi* that were not wanted in the Cretan Museum. The doorways are narrower than the passages, and the chambers have irregular ground-plans with a tendency to curved back-walls. The surviving roofs are roughly vaulted. There are large niches in the walls of V C, IX D corridor, and XVII A, slightly above the floor-levels, but without any indication of their purpose. In the floors of III and IX A are small cavities; the former was empty, the latter contained knuckle-bones of a goat or sheep and pieces of braziers and charcoal. On the right-hand side of XVII B is a deep pit (Fig. 34), which was paved on top with several layers of fragments of large burial-jars and filled with refuse of M.M. IIb date, among which was a piece of iron. This was practically a sealed deposit, and proves in any case that the use of the tomb goes back at least to 1700 B.C. The latest burials here and elsewhere were L.M. IIIb, and series of typical potsherds shew that this tomb and

others like it were in continuous use during the intermediate six hundred years.

The tombs with smaller chambers are always single and are sometimes sunk in the terrace-floors and approached by long descending passages (XII–XVI, XVIII, XIX, XXI, XXII). The long *diadromos* of XVI is cut through the chamber of an earlier tomb which had probably collapsed. These contained no M.M. material and are probably a L.M. type. The later workmen seem to have been shy of hard patches in the rock; they cut round such obstacles or dug irregular shaft-graves beside them (X, XI, XIII). Rectangular shaft-graves large enough to hold a *larnax* were dug separately (XX) or sunk in the entrance-passages of chamber-tombs (XIII, XV). Walls of small rough stones doubtless closed the doorways of all the chamber-tombs, but only two were found in place (XV, XVI, Fig. 30). There are small cavities in the floor on each side of the doorways of XXI and XXII, but again no evidence of their use.

Remains of the large jars (*pitthoi*) that generally served for coffins in M.M. times were found in IX and in the pavement over the pit in XVII B. There were two oval pottery coffins with flat lids in IX D and E, M.M. types which apparently remained in use throughout the L.M. period. The coffins from other tombs are ordinary L.M. chests (*larnakes*) with high gabled lids, like those of Zafer Papoura. The three coffins that stood together in XVII B (Fig. 33) were resting irregularly on a layer of grave-earth some thirty centimetres thick, which had accumulated since the M.M. II. filling of the pit. Two of these contained bones, and other bones were held between the inner *larnax* and the back wall (Fig. 34), having evidently been thrown out when the coffins were cleared for fresh interments. The M.M. *larnakes* in IX also stood on deep grave-earth containing potsherds, beads and other small objects which had been overlooked in the periodical clearances of funeral furniture. Refuse from IX C was heaped against the opposite wall of the central corridor. It is likely that these floor-deposits were repeatedly searched for jewels, and the position of potsherds in them shewed that the stratification has very little chronological value. In several tombs the filling was also composed of silted mud or fallen rock. Chambers B and E of IX were utterly collapsed and had to be dug out from above; A, C and D were filled with fine mud to within a few inches of their roofs. The fronts of

many tombs had fallen away and the earth above the Minoan interments was packed in some instances with Geometric jar-burials of infants (IV, VII, XVII). The L.M. III. *larnax* in XVII A was cut off at about two-thirds of its height to make room for these Geometric *pithoi*. A large limestone slab (Fig. 7), found lying on the floor of IV A, is thought by Sir Arthur Evans to have been perhaps a tombstone.¹ He refers to the incised and painted tombstones found by Tsountas in chamber-tombs at Mycenae,² and to the roughly-shaped idol-stones recently identified by the Swedish Expedition in what seems to have been a cenotaph at Dendra,³ where the other finds consisted of sacrificial relics. The knuckle-bones and charcoal in the central cist of Tomb IX of the Mavro Spelio cemetery suggest a similar sacrificial rite. It is noteworthy that the burial of a dog in this tomb, which can hardly have been accidental, also has its counterpart at Dendra.⁴

THE CAVE.

The Black Cave (*Μαύρο Σπήλαιο*) is the name by which most Cretan caves are known in their own neighbourhoods, and this one at Knossos has no other name. It was originally the mouth of a spring in an angle of the limestone ridges that begin to crop out at this height, and its water has cut the deep gorge, now dry in summer, which forms the southern boundary of the cemetery (Fig. 1). Its present form (Fig. 3) is mainly artificial, and consists of a large and nearly rectangular outer chamber and a small and less regular inner cavern merging into the natural water-channel inside the hill. The inner cavern or cistern has a sunk floor separated from the outer by a stepped sill, across which the overflow was conducted in a narrow gutter. The outer chamber (Pl. XVII) also has a sunk floor, but the sill is carried round the apartment and makes a convenient seat, which was probably its original purpose. The slight gutters behind and across this bench and the arms at ends and angles would serve to keep it dry. The middle of its open side is cut out rectangularly as if to mark the outlet for the water. It seems likely from the returns at each end that there was a built front, perhaps a doorway between columns,

¹ Sir Arthur Evans proposes to discuss these instances, together with the tombstones from the shaft-graves of Mycenae and elsewhere, in a forthcoming paper.

² 'Αρχ. Έφ. 1888, p. 127, 1896, p. 1.

³ A. W. Persson, *Kungagraven i Dendra*, p. 146.

⁴ Persson, *ibid.* p. 131.

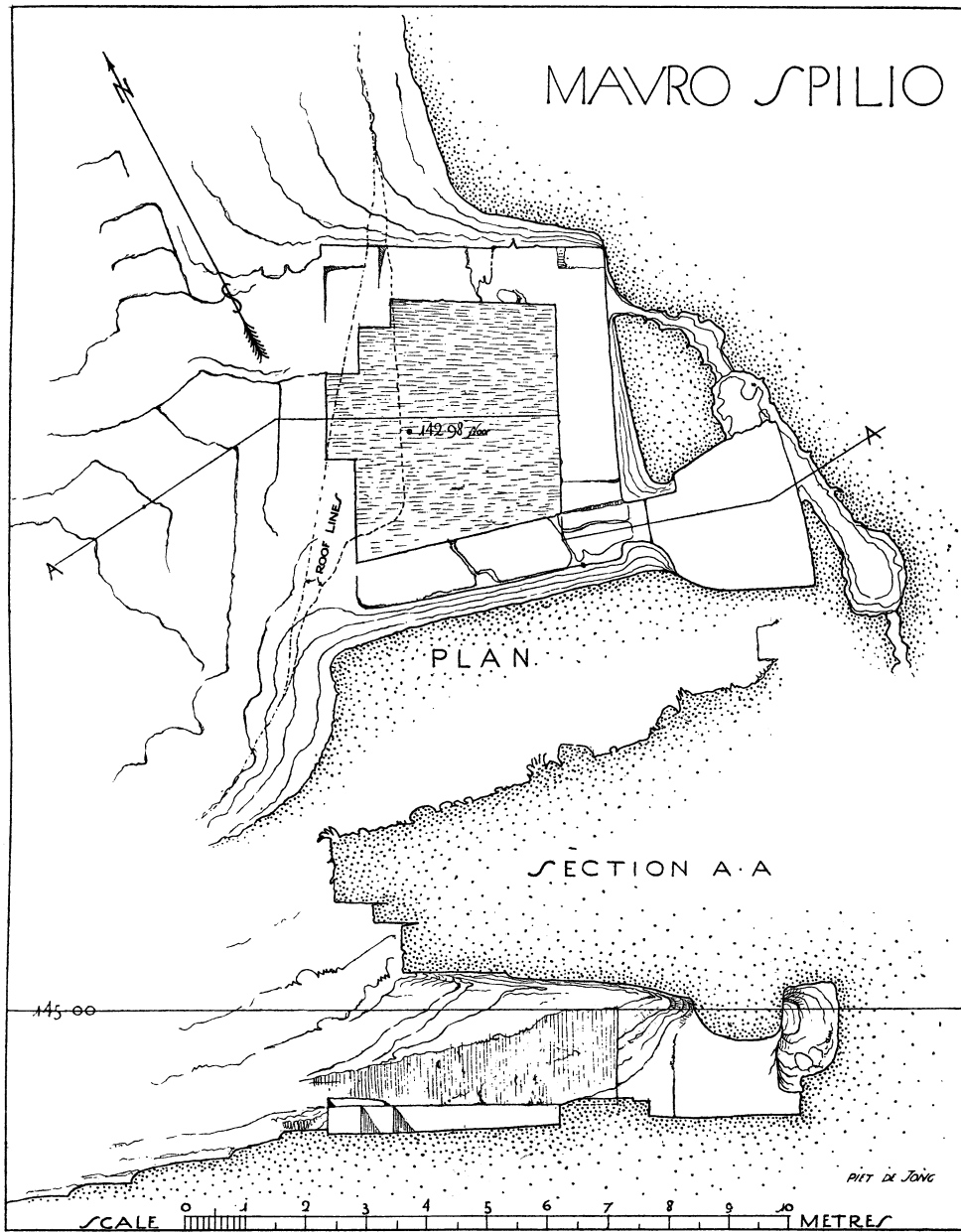


FIG. 3.—THE CAVE.

which carried the flat hewn roof, now fallen away along its edge. Two worked stones found in the filling, and recognised by their oblique cutting as Minoan, must have belonged to a structure here. The rocky slope outside is roughly stepped in two directions, north towards the cemetery and west, downhill, to the gorge.

Both chambers were nearly full of earth, but the finds were few, potsherds were mostly indeterminate, though some were evidently not prehistoric. A single fragment of a small terracotta votive goddess is archaic Greek. The only certain and significant Minoan objects are a decayed gem and part of a M.M. III. double-curved pottery cup, black-glazed and with string-marked base (Fig. 47). There are also the two building-stones, which may be Minoan, of truncated pyramidal form measuring $19 \times 20 [21.5] \times 28$ cm. It is possible that the Minoan material was introduced at a later period, but it is not likely that the cave was so laboriously shaped in Greek or Roman times, since it stands far above the inhabited valley, where water is abundant, and must have been a sanctuary or a spring-house used for funeral rites. The inner cavern was the reservoir, the outer chamber, which would not hold any depth of water on its floor, may have served the same purpose as the sunk lustral areas of Minoan palaces. Such spring-houses, as the votive offerings prove,¹ preserved their sanctity through the break between Minoan and Hellenic cultures, and it is significant that this example shews the same principles of construction as Peirene and other fountains of classical Greece.

TOMBS AND CONTENTS.

I (Fig. 4).²

Single chamber-tomb, sharply cut and perfectly preserved; in a steep slope, with very short *diadromos* (Fig. 5). The top corner of the left-hand wall was visible before excavation, and gave the clue to the cemetery. Floor-deposit 50 cm. deep.

I. 1, Marble bird's-nest bowl, particoloured grey and white, round shoulder, undercut inside (Pl. XX).

¹ In the spring-chamber recently discovered near the south-west entrance of the Palace, *P.M.* ii. p. 134.

² *P.M.* ii. p. 555, Fig. 351.

Pottery.

- I. 2, Brazier, shallow dish with downward-pointing poke-handle, rough red ware (Pl. XXII).
 I. 3, Brazier, deep body with flat rim and level handle, pale brown ware (Pl. XXII).

Also fragments of other braziers, one exceptionally large with bowl 22.5 cm. across.

- I. 4, Fragments (2) of black-washed ware, perhaps M.M. III.
 I. 5, Shallow curved cup with vertical band-handle, red-washed.
 I. 6, Conical cup, light red clay unpainted, and fragments of at least 6 similar cups (Pl. XXIII).

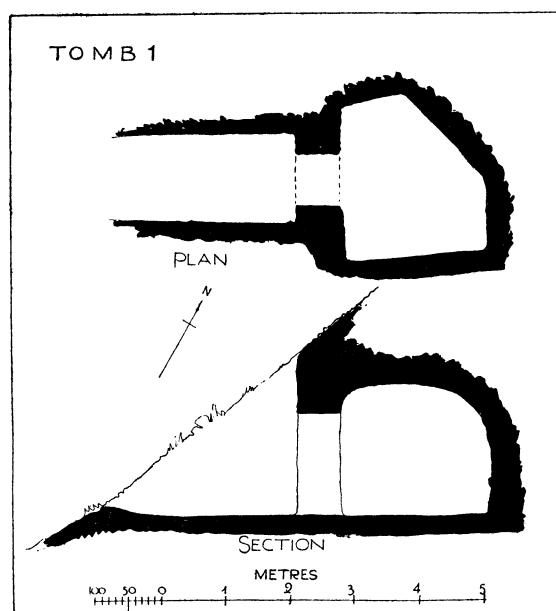


FIG. 4.

II.

Apparently as I, but with collapsed front.

- II. 1, Stone (grey steatite?) bird's-nest bowl with two opposite double-ribbed petals in relief (Pl. XX).

Pottery.

- II. 2, Brazier as I. 3.
 II. 3, Conical cup, rough red ware (Pl. XXIII).

III.¹

As I, but with side and back walls rounded in a continuous curve; the front collapsed. There is a small cavity, 30 cm. deep, nearly in the middle of the floor. The collapse was probably ancient, since the finds were exceptionally numerous.

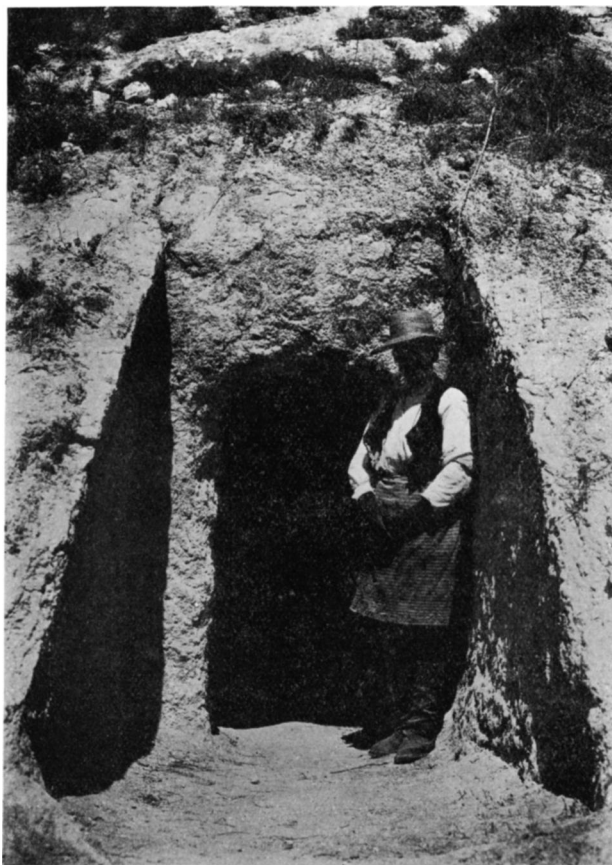


FIG. 5.—TOMB I, ENTRANCE.

III. 1, Gold beads (2), flattened globe and gadrooned barleycorn (Pl. XVIII and Fig. 39).

III. 2, Gold-cased bronze spiral hair-ring of three coils (Pl. XVIII).

III. 3, Silver earring, swelling hoop (Pl. XVIII).

III. 4, Bronze knife, long narrow blade with curved back (Fig. 6).

¹ Plan in *P.M.*, *loc. cit.*

- III. 5, Bronze razors (2), square-cut ends (Fig. 6).
 III. 6, Bronze tweezers as V. 4, but longer and broken. Present length 13 cm.
 III. 7, Bronze mirror-disc, pair of holes at edge (Fig. 6).
 III. 8, Bronze scale-pans (2) fragmentary, square-section scale-arm (?) fragmentary, and scale-handle (?) like a miniature sword-hilt (Fig. 6).
 III. 9, Lead weights (3), two circular and flat, one glandular and grooved underneath (Fig. 6).

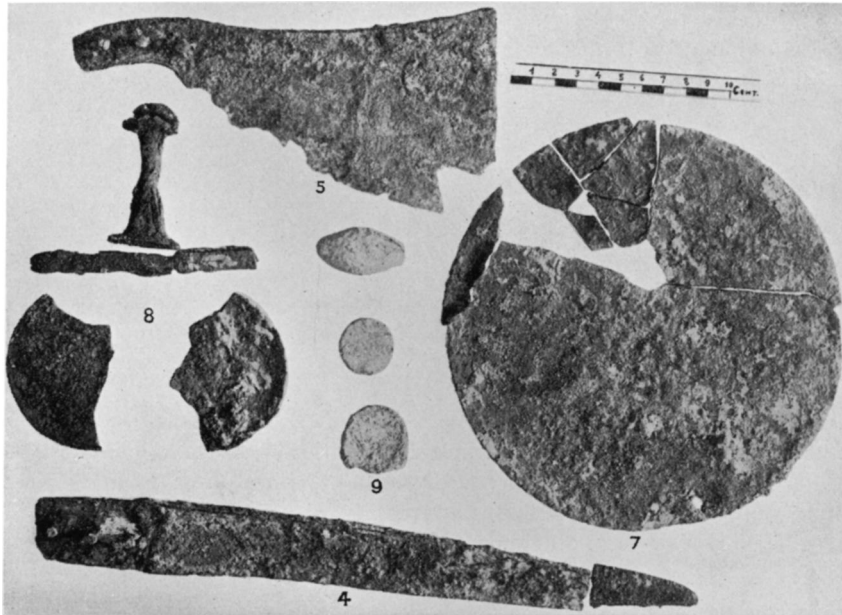


FIG. 6.—BRONZE IMPLEMENTS, SCALES AND LEAD WEIGHTS, TOMB III.

- III. 10, Ivory knife-pommel, boss with square hole in flat surface. Diam. 2 cm.
 III. 11, Faience bead, blue reeded cylindrical.
 III. 12, Carnelian beads (13), short cylindrical (Pl. XVIII, 6).
 III. 13, Carnelian gem, glandular: man and lion (Pl. XIX).
 III. 14, Crystal lenses (2), plano-convex, as VII A. 13. Diam. 1.5 cm.
 III. 15, Lapis-lazuli spacing-bead, flat cruciform with double perforation (Pl. XVIII, 20 and Fig. 39).
 III. 16, Stone (slate or steatite?) whorl-bead, button or pinhead, incised ladder-bars on top (Fig. 40). Diam. 3.3 cm.
 III. 17, Stone (mottled green serpentine?) bird's-nest bowl, flat lip and foot with roll edges, circular hole in shoulder for separate spout (Pl. XX).

- III. 18, Stone (grey and white veined marble) pointed oval libation-vase with pierced base and separate neck, broken but nearly complete (Fig. 42). Ht. 23 cm.
- III. 19, Stone (grey steatite?) bird's-nest bowl, reeded spirally (Pl. XX).
- III. 20, Stone (grey and white marble) bird's-nest bowl, four petal-lugs on shoulder (Pl. XX and Fig. 41).
- III. 21, Stone bird's-nest bowls (2), grey, six double-ribbed petals in relief, as XII. 1.
- III. 22, Stone conical cup, grey, rotted (Pl. XX).
- III. 23, Stone cylindrical cup, grey, two irregular grooves at base, three below notched lip (Pl. XX).
- III. 24, Stone (black marble veined red and white) bird's-nest bowl, raised lip (Pl. XX).
- III. 25, Terracotta idol, woman's body on cylindrical base, features and clothes painted in L.M. pottery technique (Fig. 43). Ht. 8.2 cm.

Pottery.

- III. 26, Brazier, conical dish with pierced globular centre, handle and tripod-legs missing, rough red ware (Pl. XXII). Also fragments of other braziers; among them two pieces with unfixed red, white and blue painting as V. 13.
- III. 27, Cup as I. 5.
- III. 28, Two-handled flask, light brown clay, dark brown glaze; globular body with three concentric rings of curve-hatching on each side around a rosette of barred petals, papyrus-lily flowers below barred handles; poor style. Ht. 26 cm. L.M. III.

IV.

A double or perhaps triple chamber-tomb, as V, but collapsed in front; only the back wall and a central partition-buttress are clearly defined. High in the fallen earth were 14 Geometric jars containing fragments of infants' bones (unburnt) and small black-washed cups and jugs. On the floor of the right-hand chamber were pieces of a L.M. III. *larnax*, and on the right of this, 40 cm. above the floor, a similar *larnax* slightly broken. A stone slab, 3 feet long (Fig. 7), lay on the floor of the left-hand chamber; I supposed that it had fallen from the doorway, but the walling found in position elsewhere was built with small rough stones, and Sir Arthur Evans (who has supplied this recent photograph) thinks that it may have been a tombstone.

- IV. 1, Gold-cased stone bead, cylindrical (Pl. XVIII).
- IV. 2, Bronze beads (4), open cylindrical, fragmentary (Pl. XVIII, 25).
- IV. 3, Faience beads (3), blue cylindrical.
- IV. 4, Glass beads, globular (8), glandular (1).
- IV. 5, Amethyst beads (3), globular (Pl. XVIII, 4).
- IV. 6, Carnelian gem, glandular, rectilinear device (Pl. XIX).
- IV. 7, Carnelian beads, cylindrical (5), globular (1) (Pl. XVIII, 6).
- IV. 8, Crystal pendant, smoky, shell (Pl. XVIII, 15 and Fig. 40).

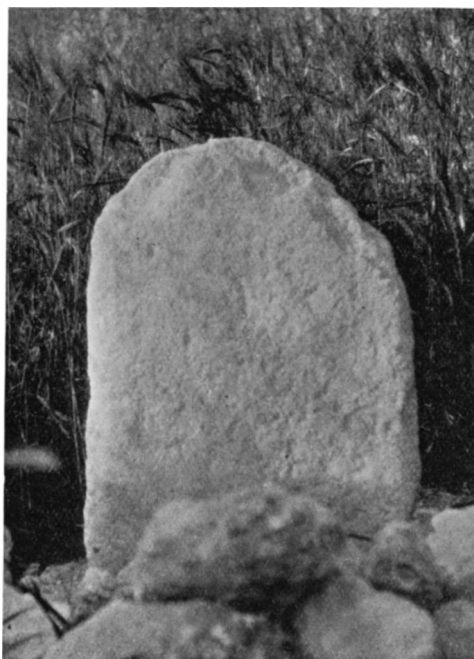


FIG. 7.—LIMESTONE SLAB, TOMB IV A.

- IV. 9, Jasper gem, red, lenticular : stylised cuttlefish (Pl. XIX).
- IV. 10, Lapis-lazuli bead, faceted, tubular, broken.
- IV. 11, Steatite gem, grey, glandular : rectilinear device (Pl. XIX).
- IV. 12, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular : stag with bird (Pl. XIX).
- IV. 13, Steatite beads (3), grey, cylindrical, whorl and lenticular.

Pottery.

- IV. 14, *Larnax*, oblong chest with single sunk panels on sides, nearly complete, and fragments of another.

IV. 15, Shallow curved cup with vertical handle.

IV. 16, Similar cup, but with two horizontal handles.

Also fragments of braziers and of L.M. III. plain and painted pottery, including at least two large jars with octopus-loops on body.

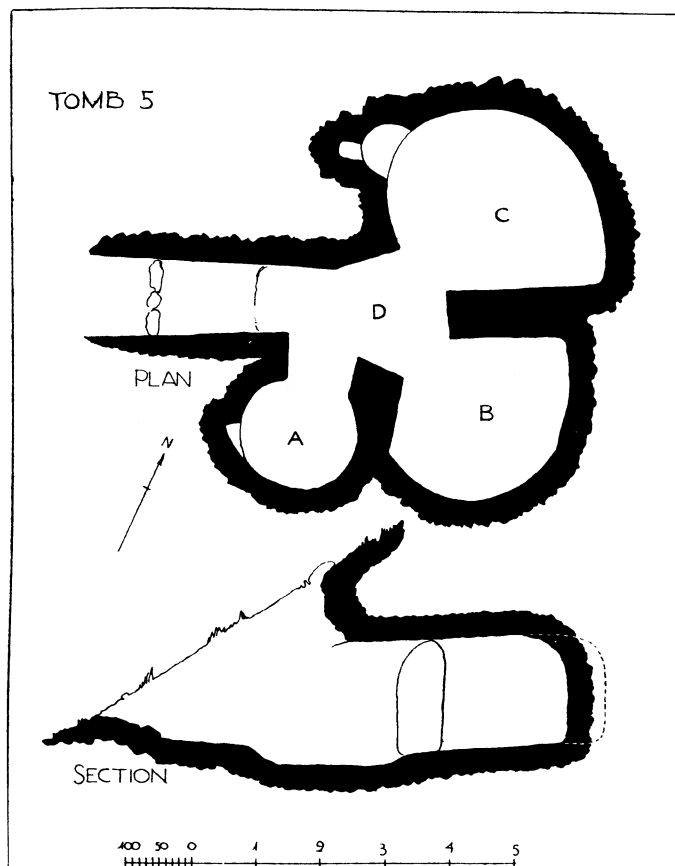


FIG. 8.

V (Fig. 8).

A triple tomb, well preserved. The walls of the short *diadromos* are faced with loose masonry of small stones. The large niche in the wall of C contained a single skull, probably put there by the ancient intruders who disturbed the latest burials. The depth of grave-earth varied with the level of the floor, from 5 cm. in the middle of B to 32 cm. at the entrance of A, and several lumps of rock had fallen from the roof. There

were pieces of *larnakes* in each chamber, and others had been thrown out, for parts of at least eleven lids are included in the fragments, which certainly do not represent the whole remains of that number of chests. The best preserved *larnax* (12) stood in the middle of C and was covered with the broken base of another. It contained two small bronze rings (V. 5), a pottery cup (V. 19) and a false-necked jar (V. 20). Since the other finds were scanty and insignificant, I have not noted in this report the compartment in which each piece was found.

- V. 1, Bronze arrowheads (2), flat and barbed, like those from the Hunter's Grave at Zafer Papoura.¹ L. 3.5 cm.
- V. 2, Bronze knife as III. 4, decayed.
- V. 3, Bronze needle. L. 7.8 cm.
- V. 4, Bronze tweezers, exceptionally well preserved, with lustrous grey patina (Fig. 38). L. 7.2 cm. Also fragments of others, decayed.
- V. 5, Bronze wire rings (2).
- V. 6, Bronze bead, open cylindrical (Pl. XVIII, 25).
- V. 7, Faience fragments, apparently of two bowls, white or yellow ground, designs in green or black: petals, rays, dots and rectilinear patterns, spirals on one lip. Small and decayed (Figs. 9 and 47).
- V. 8, Faience beads (2) yellow, fluted oblate disc (Pl. XVIII, 13), and glandular.
- V. 9, Glass cone, perished.
- V. 10, Flint arrowhead, shape as V. 1. L. 2.8 cm.
- V. 11, Stone whorl-bead (Pl. XVIII, 7).

Pottery.

- V. 12, *Larnax* from C and lid from A. The *larnax* has single sunk panels grooved at top and outlined with red-black paint. At the top of each end is a flat lug pierced vertically for tying on the lid. The lid (which does not belong to this chest) has a high gabled top with projecting ridge-ends, as XI. 1 and XVI. 2, and two vertical loop handles on each long side. Also fragments of other lids (at least 10) and *larnakes*, a few painted with common L.M. III. patterns, spiral coils, alternate curve-hatching, oval petals, and papyrus flowers.²
- V. 13, Brazier, pale brown clay decorated outside with a petal-pattern in unfixed blue and red colours (Fig. 45).
- V. 14, Brazier, deep body with roll-moulding at foot (Pl. XXII).
- V. 15, Base of cup, black-washed, with whorl string-mark, as IX A. 4.
- V. 16, Tall alabastron painted with network of hanging loops (Fig. 10). Ht. 11.2 cm.

¹ *P.T.* i. p. 32.

² For the types of ornament see *P.T.* i. Fig. 102.

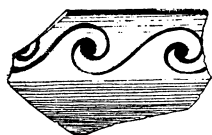


FIG. 9.—LIP AND
BASE OF FAIENCE
BOWLS, TOMB V, 7.



FIG. 10.—L.M. II. JAR,
TOMB V, 16.

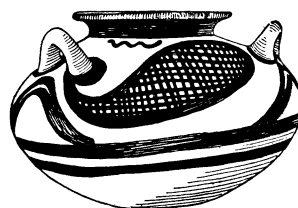


FIG. 11.—L.M. I. BOWL,
TOMB V, 17.

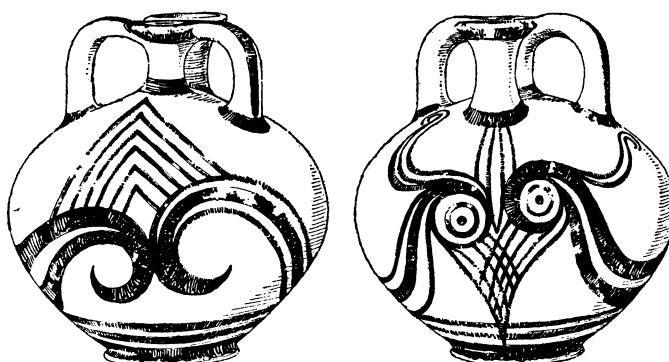


FIG. 12.—L.M. IIIb FALSE-NECKED JAR, TOMB V, 20.

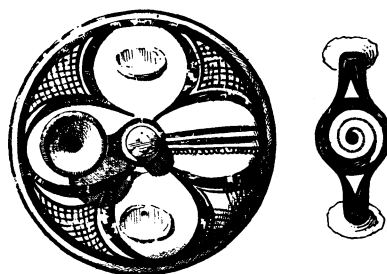


FIG. 13.—L.M. IIIb TOP OF FALSE-NECKED JAR, TOMB V, 21.

- V. 17, Squat alabastron with three handles, painted latticed lobes springing from handle-bases, plain base (Fig. 11). Ht. 11.5 cm.
- V. 18, Shallow curved cup with ring-handle, painted spiral coil inside base.
- V. 19, Wide carinated cup with vertical handle, painted four quadruple loops on upper curve.
- V. 20, False-necked jar, painted octopus on body (Fig. 12). Ht. 10 cm.
- V. 21, False-necked jar, painted latticed triangles and chain in handle-ring (Fig. 13). Ht. 11 cm.
- V. 22, Small two-handled jar.
- V. 23, Unpainted braziers and conical cups and many fragments of painted L.M. III. ware, some with large octopus-loops.

VI (Fig. 14).

An oddly shaped double chamber-tomb below the existing terrace level. In the second season I cleared away the terrace-floor in search of the original entrance-passage and found a sort of forecourt, filled with earth containing numerous M.M. potsherds. These were probably refuse from the tomb, but the earth had evidently fallen from the hillside in a landslip in the middle of M.M. III. which closed the tomb so effectually that it was not used again. None of its contents is later than M.M. IIIa, but the absence of valuable articles and the fragmentary condition of the pottery indicate that the systematic clearance of funeral furniture which is apparent throughout the cemetery was practised at this early date.

- VI. 1, Jasper gem, green, lenticular : stylised cuttlefish (Pl. XIX).
- VI. 2, Stone fragment, black, from lip of bird's-nest bowl.

Pottery.

- VI. 3, Round-mouthed jug, roll-moulding at neck, three flat ribs on body, black-washed and painted red bands on neck-roll and above ribs, white dots on shoulder; lip and most of foot missing (Fig. 49).
- VI. 4, Pinched-mouth jug, painted black bands on brown clay (Fig. 49).
- VI. 5, Tall two-handled jar, rough red ware. Ht. 31 cm. Also many fragments of similar jars, one painted spiral coils in white.
- VI. 6, Conical cup, tall, rough brown ware (Pl. XXIII).
- VI. 7, Cup as last but with flat rim (Pl. XXIII).

Other fragments include poke-handles of braziers, handles, spouts and bases of bridged-spout jars as IX A. 7, pieces of white-dotted black cups as IX A. 5, a black-washed sherd with moulded spiral coil, and the rim of a large basin as XVII P. 39.

VII (Fig. 15).

A double chamber-tomb with collapsed front. In the earth above the grave-deposit in each chamber was a Geometric jar-burial. The

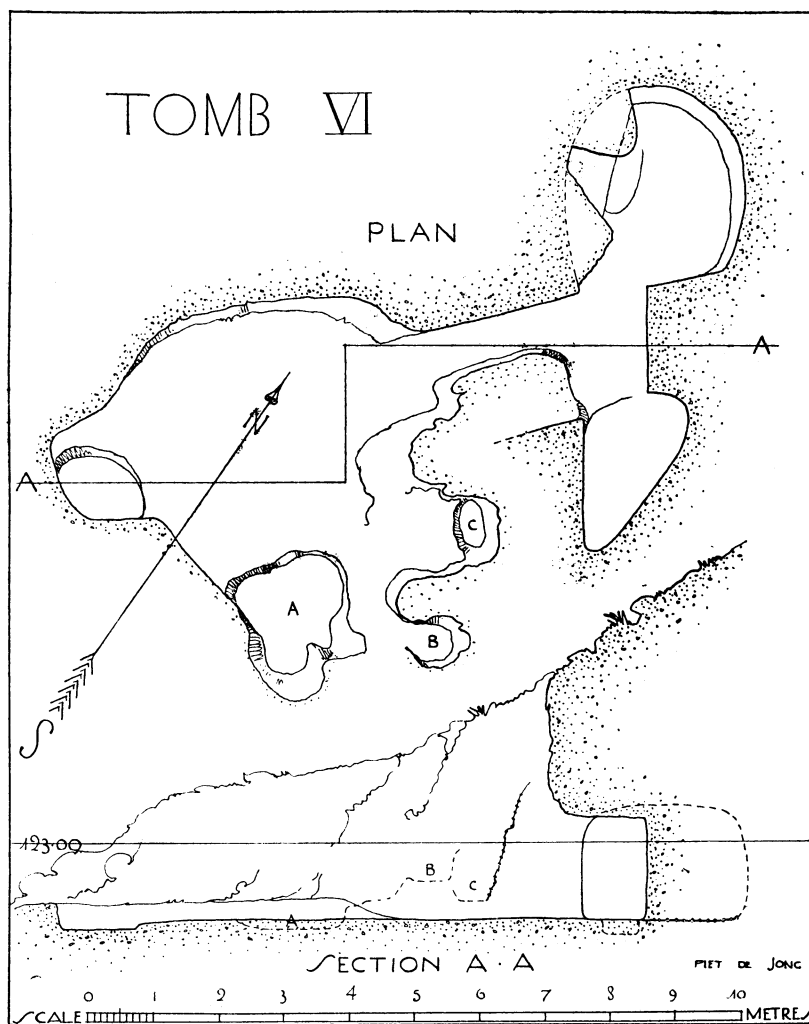


FIG. 14.

grave earth was about 30 cm. deep and was covered with smashed *larnakes*. A view of B cleared to this level is typical of the condition of the latest

Minoan burials (Fig. 16). Nearly all the finds were made in the earth between the *larnakes* and the floor.

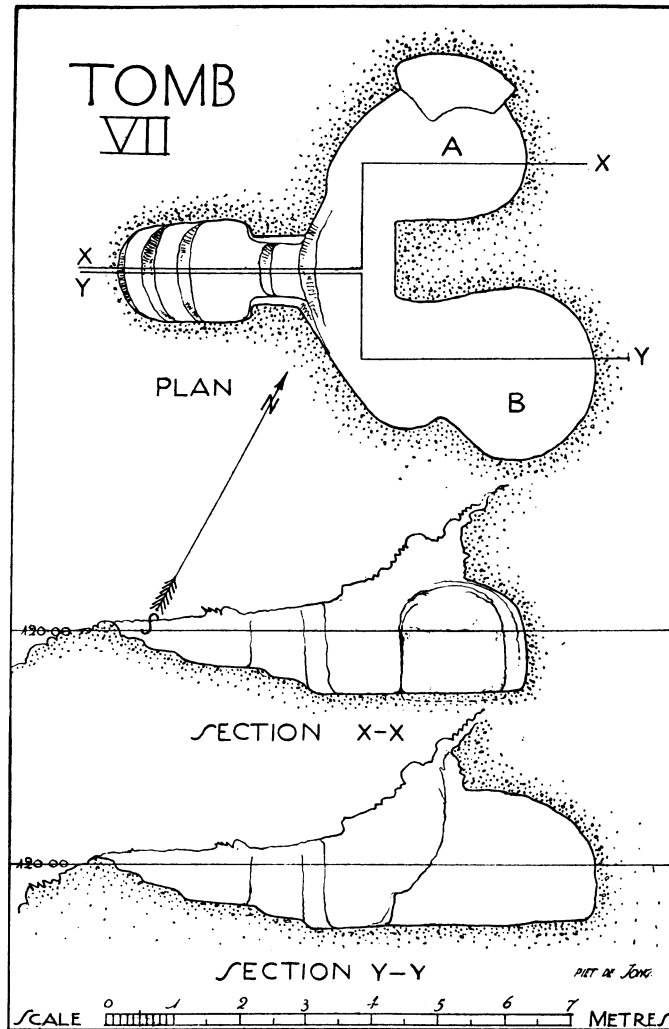


FIG. 15.

A.

VII A. 1, Gold earrings (2, odd), swelling hoops with pendent granulated cones (Pl. XVIII).

VII A. 2, Gold bead, barleycorn as III. 1, split (Pl. XVIII).

- VII A. 3, Bronze beads (4), globular (Pl. XVIII, 25).
- VII A. 4, Bronze finger-ring with oval bezel, corroded.
- VII A. 5, Bronze ring, plain wire.
- VII A. 6, Bronze bead, tubular spiral wire.
- VII A. 7, Bronze pin, hook-head, as IX B. 2, broken. L. 12.7 cm.
- VII A. 8, Bronze tweezers, perished.
- VII A. 9, Bronze knife, oval.
- VII A. 10, Faience beads, thick discs (32), brown and white (Pl. XVIII, 24); blue melon (1).



FIG. 16.—TOMB VII B, AFTER CLEARANCE OF FALLEN EARTH.

- VII A. 11, Glass beads, yellow (3), globular (Pl. XVIII, 28).
- VII A. 12, Carnelian beads (2), oval and globular (Pl. XVIII, 6).
- VII A. 13, Crystal lens as III. 14, but larger (Fig. 40). Diam. 2.1 cm.
- VII A. 14, Marble cylinder-seal, pink, engraved human and animal figures, Hittite (Pl. XIX).
- VII A. 15, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular, engraved lattice both sides (Pl. XIX).
- VII A. 16, Steatite pendant, grey, cockleshell as IV. 8, chipped corner.
- VII A. 17, Steatite pendant, grey, bull's head (Pl. XVIII, 10 and Fig. 40).
- VII A. 18, Steatite pendants (2), grey, triangular (Pl. XVIII, 9, 11, and Fig. 40).
- VII A. 19, Steatite pierced whorl or button, grey.

- VII A. 20, Steatite whorl-beads (2) (Pl. XVIII, 7).
 VII A. 21, Steatite miniature bowl with spout and handle, black (Pl. XX).
 VII A. 22, Stone (grey and white marble) bird's-nest bowl, miniature.

Pottery.

- VII A. 23, Brazier, upward-pointing poke-handle, originally blacked and painted white, petals inside and out (Pl. XXII and Fig. 44). M.M. II. or III.
 VII A. 24, Brazier, deep body with roll-moulding below lip (Pl. XXII).
 VII A. 25, Hollow cylindrical stand with flat pierced top, broken (Fig. 46).
 VII A. 26, Band-handle of cup, black-washed. M.M. III.
 VII A. 27, Curved bowl (2 fragments), painted blunt leaves in black on pale brown clay (Fig. 17).



FIG. 17.—L.M. Ia POTSDERD,
TOMB VII A. 27. ($\frac{1}{2}$ Scale.)



FIG. 18.—L.M. II CUP,
TOMB VII B. 13 (*restored*).

- VII A. 28, Conical jar, miniature, one handle on rim, one lost, painted filled zigzag below lip (Pl. XXIII).
 Also pieces of plain painted L.M. III. pottery and *larnakes*.

B.

- VII B. 1, Gold earring as VII A. 1, but heavier and with ball at end (Pl. XVIII).
 VII B. 2, Gold finger-ring, narrow hoop with ribbed edges, flat oval bezel with five applied ornaments (Pl. XVIII and Fig. 38).
 VII B. 3, Gold beads (3), globular (Pl. XVIII).
 VII B. 4, Carnelian prism-bead, two faces engraved rectilinear designs, one blank (Pls. XVIII 17, XIX and Fig. 39).
 VII B. 5, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular: two men with double shields (Pl. XIX).
 VII B. 6, Steatite gem as last, woman between spear and snake (Pl. XIX).
 VII B. 7, Stone (white-veined grey marble) bird's-nest bowl, deep as IX D. 7.
 VII B. 8, Stone (grey steatite?) bird's-nest bowl as XII. 1.
 VII B. 9, Terracotta idol, body of woman holding male infant vertically, cylindrical base; painted stripes and bars in L.M. pottery technique (Pl. XXI). Ht. 10.5 cm.

VII B. 10, Natural shell, conch, broken.

VII B. 11, Ore, black, 4 small pieces (galena, sulphide of lead, for eye-paint).

Pottery.

VII B. 12, Conical cup with foot, rough red ware (Pl. XXIII).

VII B. 13, Cup with handle, red flowers, fragmentary (Fig. 18). Ht. 5.4 cm.
L.M. II.

VII B. 14, Miniature alabastron, red-washed (Pl. XXIII).

VII B. 15, Miniature alabastron, painted quadruple dotted stripes (Pl. XXIII).

VII B. 16, Round-mouthed jug, knob handle.

VII B. 17, Trefoil-mouthed jug, globular body painted broad cross-bands
(Fig. 16, in *larnax*).

VII B. 18, Flanged disc lid, painted rosette, pierced centre.

Also plain conical cups and plain and painted fragments of
L.M. III. ware.

VIII.

No tomb.

IX (Fig. 19).

A multiple chamber tomb of unique plan and furniture. Its doorway is now a hole in a nearly vertical rock face, like the entrance of a cave, but hewn or built *diadromos* walls may well have perished. The interior comprises a central hall (A) and four chambers (B, C, D, E), of which B and D are approached by passages long enough to be called corridors; E and the corridor of D each have niches in their walls; A has a small cavity in the middle of its floor, which contained some small knuckle-bones, charcoal, and pieces of one or more coarse red pottery braziers. The roofs of B and its corridor and E had fallen, and these compartments had to be dug out from the top. Legs of a L.M. III. *larnax* lay in the filling of B corridor, and part of its body was found just below the surface of the ground above; it must have fallen down the hill from a higher tomb soon after the collapse of this. A, C and D were nearly full of mud. An oval *larnax*, containing a few bone-fragments but no skull, stood obliquely in the middle of D on about 25 cm. of grave-earth, and in the niche of E was a similar *larnax* (Fig. 20), with the two halves of its flat lid inside it, standing on 65 cm. of earth, of which the upper 35 cm. was silted mud, the lower 30 cm. grave-deposit containing the skull and leg-bones of a dog. The silted layer was 50 cm. thick,

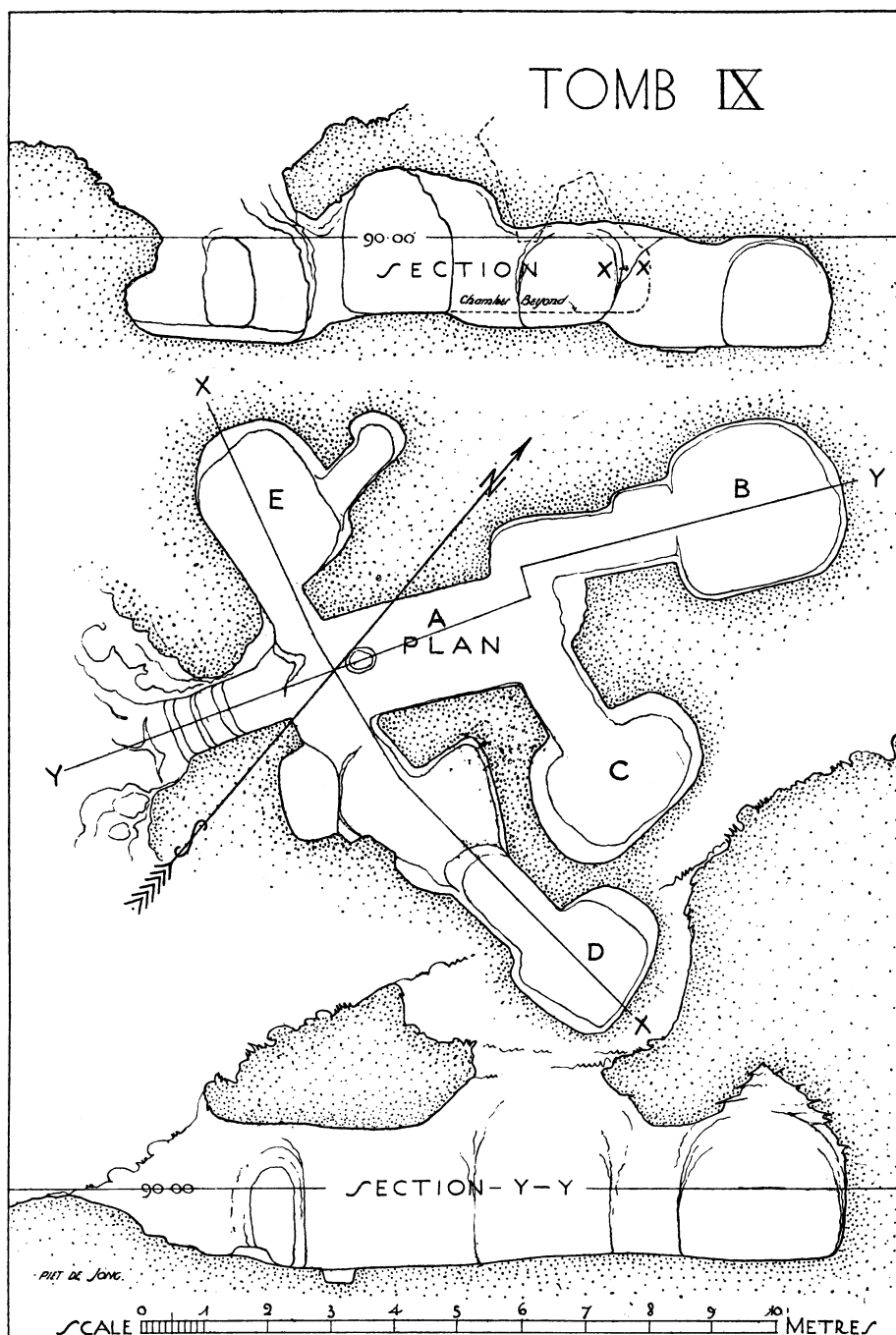


FIG. 19.

so that the larnax was embedded in it and may have been floated to that position by the storm-water that brought the mud. Above the mud was another stratum of grave-earth 20 cm. thick, then fallen roof. This stratification was found all over E, with some variation in the depths of the grave-earth, but no significant differences could be detected in the scanty finds from these two layers, and though it is evident that the lower was deposited before the upper, it is not certain that its composi-

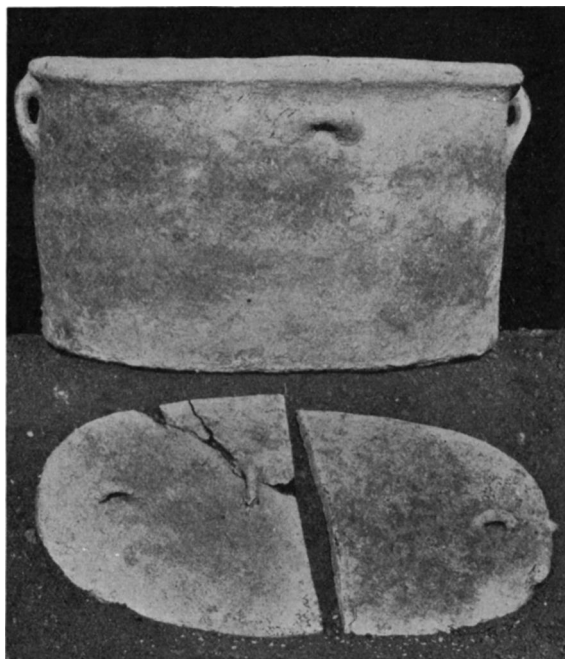


FIG. 20.—M.M. *LARNAX* AND LID, TOMB IX E. 8.

tion was entirely later, since the upper layer may have been shovelled into place from the entrance-passage, where there was no grave-earth on the floor. Falls of roof had often occurred in this chamber, and lumps of rock were found in every stratum. Proof of disturbance of the grave-earth was noted, for instance, in A, where the M.M. III. vase-handle IX A. 7 was found 50 cm. above the floor at the far end of the left-hand wall, and among the sherds below it were two L.M. III. plain conical cups and the foot of a L.M. III. goblet. The deposit was heaped high towards this side of B corridor, having apparently been cleared out of C, which

contained very little burial material. Remains of burial-receptacles, *pithoi* and oval *larnakes* found in the entrance of B, probably represent the original funeral furniture of other chambers. The most valuable find, of gold beads and signet-rings, was made low down (12–20 cm. above the floor) against the north wall of E, near the niche. Five flattish fragments of stone lay on the floor along this wall, as if to make a level bed for a corpse or coffin. The other finds in this large tomb were exceptionally few and poor.

A.

Pottery.

- IX A. 1, Brazier, as XXI. 2. Also fragments of similar braziers, a base and parts of body, with knuckle-bones and charcoal from shallow cist in floor.
- IX A. 2, Hollow cylindrical stem, fragmentary, perhaps part of a brazier or a stand like VII A. 25 (Fig. 46).
- IX A. 3, Curved cup with offset lip, particoloured black, fragmentary (Fig. 47).
- IX A. 4, Base of cup, string-marked and black-washed (Fig. 47).
- IX A. 5, Rims of cups (2 fragments), painted white spots on black wash (Fig. 47).
- IX A. 6, Band-handle of cup, black-washed.
- IX A. 7, Loop-handle of bridged-spout jar, black-washed (Fig. 47).
- IX A. 8, Red-washed fragment painted reed-spray in white (Fig. 47).
- IX A. 9, Rim of cup, fragment, ripple-painted. L.M. I.
- IX A. 10, False-necked jar, painted seaweed-waves on body, fragmentary. L.M. II. Other fragments of this pot were found in E.
- Also conical cups and fragments of other plain and painted L.M. III. ware.

B.

- IX B. 1, Gold foil, pointed oval, folded in four (Pl. XVIII).
- IX B. 2, Silver pin, hook-head, oval section, floral pattern in relief on one face (Fig. 38). L. 15 cm.
- IX B. 3, Faience beads (11), barleycorn, now brown (Pl. XVIII, 26).
- IX B. 4, Ivory pinhead, disc. Diam. 3.2 cm.
- IX B. 5, Amethyst beads (11), globular (Pl. XVIII, 4).
- IX B. 6, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular: cuttlefish (Pl. XIX).
- IX B. 7, Steatite gem, as last, rectilinear star (Pl. XIX).
- IX B. 8, Steatite beads (6), green, flat globular.

Pottery.

- IX B. 9, Fragments of oval *larnax* and flat lid, as IX E. 8.
- IX B. 10, *Pithos*, oval, fragmentary, horizontal handle below thickened rim, painted brown trickle on red clay as XVII P. 37.

IX B. 11, *Pithos*, narrow oval, rough red clay, and fragments of at least one similar.

IX B. 12, Brazier, deep body with socket inside, fragmentary (Fig. 46).

IX B. 13, Conical cup with flat rim, as VI. 7.

IX B. 14, Foot of jar, painted ivy-band in red glaze on yellow surface (Fig. 21).
Ht. 13 cm.

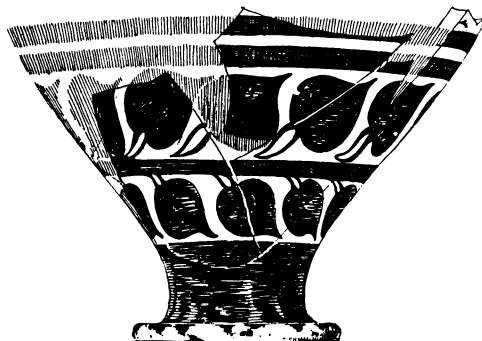


FIG. 21.—BASE OF L.M. I. JAR, TOMB IX B. 14.

C.

Pottery.

IX C. 1, Braziers (2) as XXI. 1.

IX C. 2, Jug, shoulder apparently painted stripes of loops in mottled ground, clawed and rubbed by badgers. L.M. II.

IX C. 3, Miniature bowl, painted net-pattern (Pl. XXIII).

IX C. 4, Miniature jug, trough spout, painted foliate band above spiral wave-pattern (Pl. XXIII).

D.

IX D. 1, Bronze pendant, axe-blade, corroded (Fig. 38). L. 6.3 cm.

IX D. 2, Bronze mirror-disc as III. 7.

IX D. 3, Jasper gem, red, glandular: flying fish (Pl. XIX).

IX D. 4, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular: dot and rectilinear device (Pl. XIX).

IX D. 5, Stone (grey steatite or slate) beads (18), biconical (Pl. XVIII, 21).

IX D. 6, Stone (grey and white marble) bird's-nest bowl, miniature.

IX D. 7, Stone (grey steatite?) bird's-nest bowl (Pl. XX, misprinted 4).

Pottery.

IX D. 8, *Larnax* as IX E. 8, but with vertical handles.

IX D. 9, Braziers (2), deep bodies, one with roll-moulding at foot as V. 14.

IX D. 10, Base of cup like IX A. 3 (Fig. 47).

IX D. 11, Fragments of white-spotted blacked cups as IX A. 5.

- IX D. 12, Cup, painted reed-sprays in dark on light brown, fragmentary (Fig. 22).
Ht. 5·8 cm.
- IX D. 13, Cup with spout and handle, painted net-pattern above, wind-blown
reeds below (Fig. 23). Ht. 9·5 cm.
- IX D. 14, Curved cup with handle, black *bucchero*.
Also plain L.M. III. conical cups and painted sherds.



FIG. 22.—PART OF L.M. I.
CUP, TOMB IX D. 12.

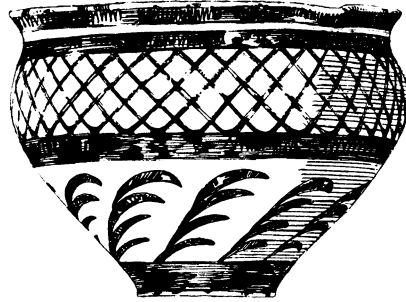


FIG. 23.—L.M. I. CUP, TOMB IX D. 13.

E.

- IX E. 1, Gold signet-ring, narrow solid plano-convex hoop, nearly circular
bossed bezel engraved along a spiral line with 19 characters of the
Minoan Linear Script A. Hoop: inside diam. 13 mm., thickness
1 mm.; bezel: 10 mm. × 8·5 mm. (Pls. XVIII, XIX and Fig. 37).
- IX E. 2, Gold signet-ring, narrow concave hoop, plain pointed oval bezel
(Pl. XVIII and Fig. 38).
- IX E. 3, Gold beads (2 very large, 4 smaller), globular, solid. (Pl. XVIII).
- IX E. 4, Gold bead, blunt oval, hollow, embossed with encircling signet-ring
(Pl. XVIII and Fig. 39).
- IX E. 5, Bronze knife-blade as III. 4, broken.
- IX E. 6, Faience beads (10), small discs, white (Pl. XVIII, 23).
- IX E. 7, Carnelian beads (9), globular (Pl. XVIII, 6).

Pottery.

- IX E. 8, *Larnax* and lid: oval box with vertical sides thickened and bevelled
outwards at lip, a vertical handle at each end, a horizontal handle in
middle of each long side; flat lid made in separate halves, each with
two loop handles set in opposite directions, bevelled edges. Box
pale brown, lid dark brown clay, unpainted (Fig. 20). L. 86 cm.
- IX E. 9, Jug with cutaway neck as XVII P. 32, spout broken.
- IX E. 10, Curved cup with handle, red-washed, fragmentary. M.M. III.
- IX E. 11, Fragments of black-washed ware: a cup-base, two rims and three
other pieces, of which two are white-spotted, as IX A. 5 (Fig. 47).
Also fragments of plain and painted L.M. ware.

X (Fig. 24).

A short cutting like the *diadromos* of a chamber-tomb, but stopping at a projecting rock, beneath which stood a *larnax*. This is one of the few painted examples from the cemetery: the sides have single sunk



FIG. 24.—TOMB X.

panels with incised borders, and one long panel contains wavy stripes with hatched filling, done in red glaze on yellow ground. It was empty.

XI (Fig. 25).

An irregular shaft like X, but larger and with a deep niche in the back wall. It contained two *larnakes*, one with broken lid in the inner niche, the other standing against the left-hand wall. Both were empty except for some scraps of bone.

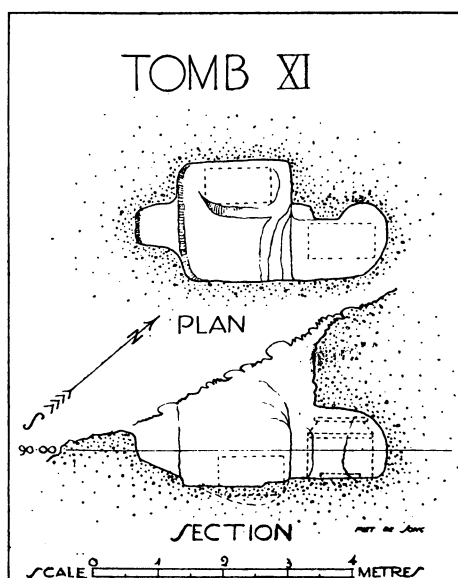


FIG. 25.



FIG. 26.—PAINTED *LARNAX* AND LID, TOMB XI. 1.

- XI. 1, *Larnax* with lid. An oblong chest with remains of painting on one end (wavy stripes) and one long side (stylised argonauts), the other faces decayed. Dark red clay with yellow surface, red-black glaze. The lid has a different fabric, of pale yellow clay with brown-black glaze. It is pyramidal with ridge projecting at ends, painted decoration of wavy stripes and bars filled solid. Broken and perished (Fig. 26).
L. 1.34 m.
- XI. 2, *Larnax*, unpainted, single sunk panels.

XII.

Small single chamber-tomb, as XIII, collapsed.

- XII. 1, Stone (grey steatite?) bird's-nest bowl, six petals in relief (Pl. XX).

Pottery.

- XII. 2, Brazier, as XXI. 1.
XII. 3, Beaked jug, unpainted light brown clay.

XIII (Fig. 27).

Small chamber-tomb with sharp front corners; a mass of hard rock projects from the curved back wall. The roof had collapsed. In the *diadromos* is a shaft-grave containing a *larnax*, which contained nothing but the fragments of its lid. In the chamber was an exceptionally well preserved group of L.M. IIIa pots.

Pottery.

- XIII. 1, *Larnax*, single sunk panels, and lid as XI. 1, but with a vertical loop handle at each end of each long side and a large round hole between each pair. From the shaft-grave.
- XIII. 2, False-necked jar, tall body, painted notched band on shoulder, hatched tongues and triangles in handle-ring, fine red-black glaze on bright brown clay (Fig. 28).
- XIII. 3, False-necked jar, globular body, painted chevron-groups in handle-ring, brown-black glaze on smooth pale yellow clay.
- XIII. 4, Side-spouted jar, painted double wavy line on shoulder, brown glaze on brown clay.
- XIII. 5, Squat alabastron, painted solid waves on body, concentric rings under base, fabric as 2.
- XIII. 6, Cylindrical jar with lid and two knob-handles, painted thin bands.

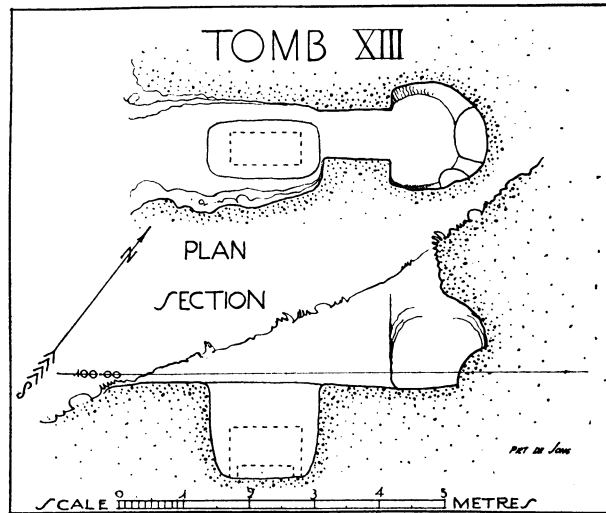


FIG. 27.



FIG. 28.—TOP OF FALSE-NECKED JAR, TOMB XIII. 2. ($\frac{1}{3}$ scale).

XIV.

Small chamber-tomb as XIII but unsymmetrical. It contained nothing but an unpainted potsherd and four decayed oval beads of blue faience.

XV (Fig. 29).

This and the next were the best examples of the small (apparently L.M.) chamber-tombs cut in the comparatively slight slopes of the terrace-

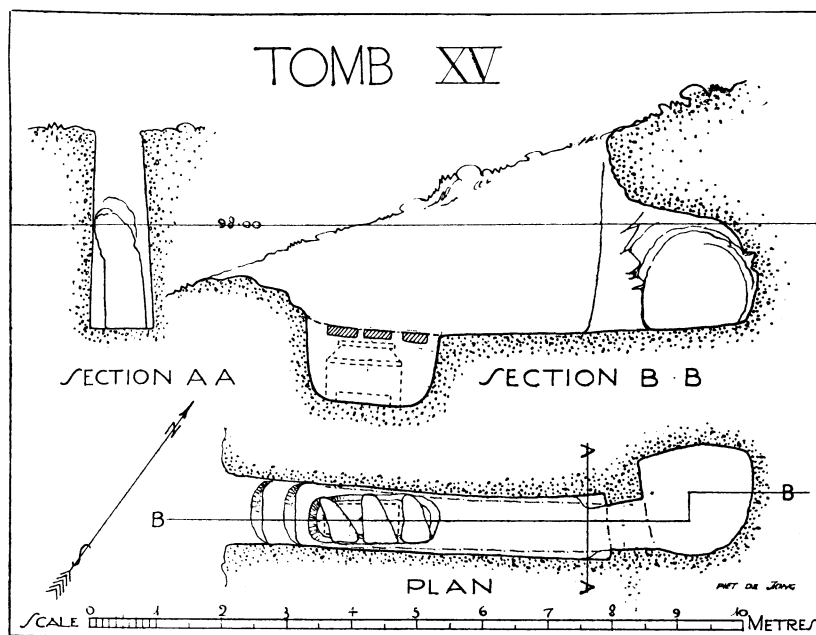


FIG. 29.

floors. They have long *diadromoi* with walls converging towards the top and floors descending steeply (perhaps by steps) at the entrance. Their doorways were walled up with two thicknesses of small rough stones (Fig. 30), but since the tops of both doorways had collapsed with the roofs of the tombs, it was not possible to make certain that the walling was intact. A few scraps of bone were found with remains of funeral furniture in the chamber of XV. Just inside the *diadromos* was a shaft-grave, containing a complete but empty *larnax* with its lid in place, and roofed with three flat stones.

- XV. 1, Bronze mirror-disc as III. 7, and a piece of a pin or wire.
 XV. 2, Remains of a natural bivalve shell, appearing as a layer of decayed mother-of-pearl.
 XV. 3, Steatite whorl-beads (4), one with incised circles as XX. 5, two concave (Pl. XVIII, 8, 12).

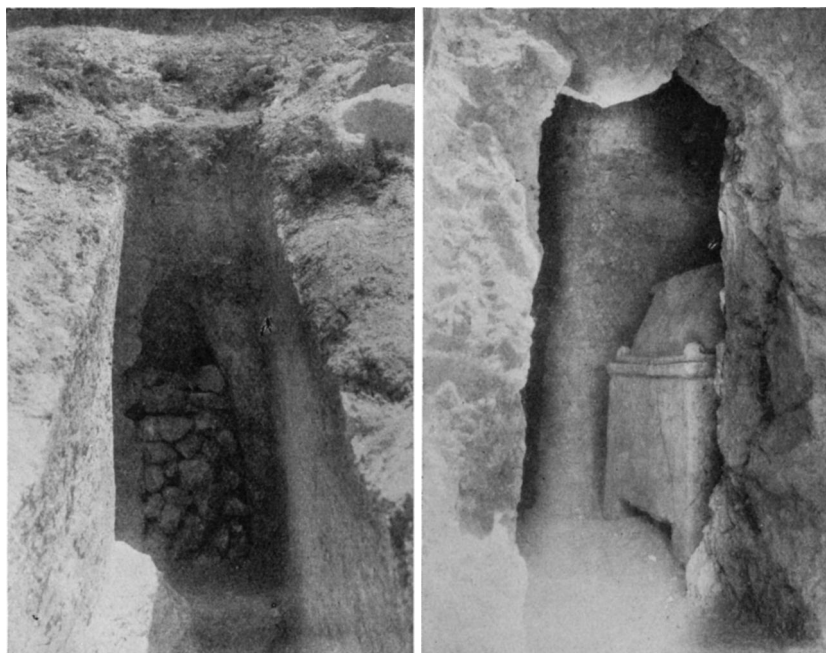


FIG. 30.—DOORWAYS OF TOMBS XV (closed) AND XVI (open).

Pottery.

- XV. 4, *Larnax*, single incised panels, and lid as XI. 1, from the shaft-grave.
 XV. 5, False-necked jar, fragments, painted dot-flowers in handle-ring, and single fragments of *pithos*-rim and goblet-stem.

XVI (Fig. 31).

As last, but the long *diadromos* is cut through the chamber of an earlier tomb which had probably collapsed. In the middle of the floor of this tomb (and of the *diadromos*) is a small cavity in which were pieces of human leg-bones; on its left-hand side (now a large niche in the *diadromos* wall), a stone bowl and part of a plain conical cup; on the

right, a brazier. The doorway was walled up, as XV, and the tomb was full of fallen earth, but beneath this was an apparently intact *larnax* (Fig. 30), which contained nothing but a few scraps of bone. Another plain conical cup was inside the tomb-chamber.

XVI. 1, Stone (brown, black-spotted) bird's-nest bowl, as IX D. 7.

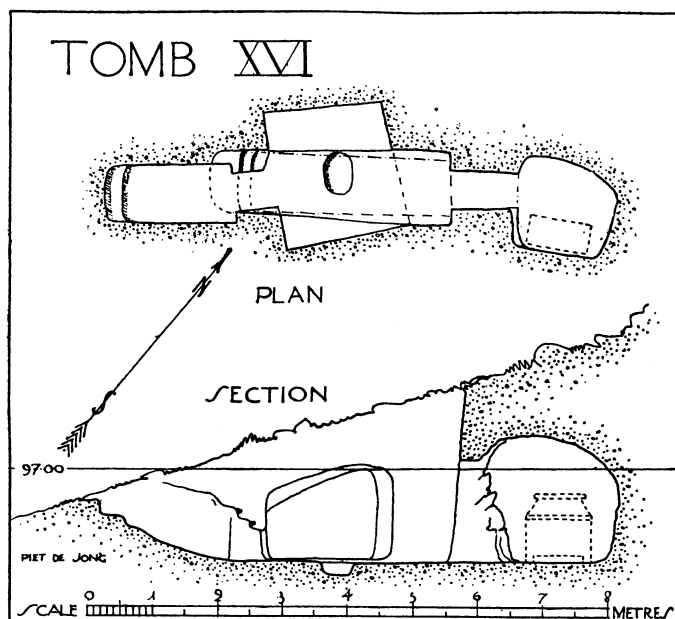


FIG. 31.

Pottery.

XVI. 2, *Larnax* and lid, painted wavy stripes (Fig. 30). Ht. of chest 67 cm.

XVI. 3, Brazier as V. 14, but with bevelled foot.

XVI. 4, Conical cups (2), as II. 3.

XVII (Fig. 32).

Probably a double chamber-tomb like VII, and similarly collapsed in front, but the back-buttress could not be identified, and the chambers are now separated by a central pillar which may be fallen rock. The top filling was an exceedingly hard mass. In the front filling of fallen earth were many sherds of coarse pottery, among them fragments of oval

larnakes like IX E. 8, and handles and bases of M.M. III. pinched-mouth jars. In the left-hand wall of A is a niche 30 cm. above the floor, and on the right-hand side of B is a pit 1 m. deep. There were three L.M. *larnakes* in B, packed one behind another, and one in A, cut off evenly

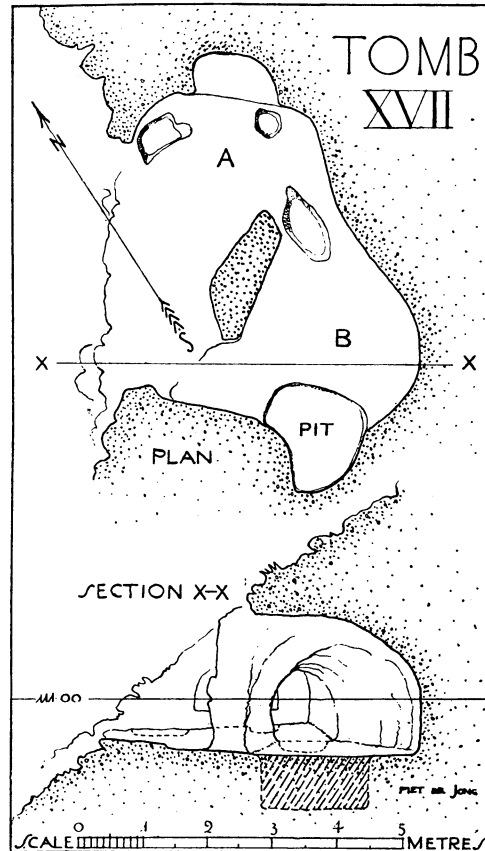


FIG. 32.

half-way up its sides, evidently at the moment when the accumulation of earth had reached this level (Fig. 33). This *larnax* stood on the floor of the tomb and contained a skull, some other bones, and large pieces of its broken sides. Those in B rested on a deposit of grave-earth and mud about 35 cm. deep. The front *larnax* was empty; each of the others contained a skull and bones nearly in their original positions, but not intact. When

the floor of this chamber had been cleared, part of it was seen to be paved with large pieces of *pithoi* (Fig. 48), which had doubtless served for burial-receptacles in the M.M. period. Beneath these was the pit (Fig. 34), filled with grave-refuse, earth mixed with skulls, bones, beads and M.M. II*b* pottery. In the middle of this filling was a small lump of iron.

A.

XVII A. 1, Bronze knife as III. 4.

XVII A. 2, Bronze spiral hair-rings (2).

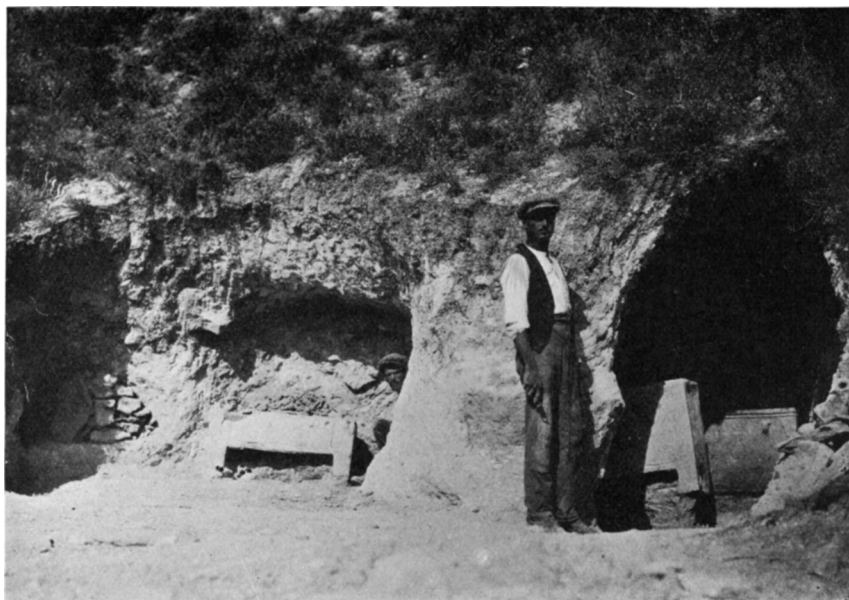


FIG. 33.—TOMB XVII, CLEARED OF FALLEN EARTH.

XVII A. 3, Amethyst bead, globular (Pl. XVIII, 4).

XVII A. 4, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular : deer and tree (Pl. XIX).

XVII A. 5, Steatite half-disc pierced 2 holes (Pl. XVIII, 16).

XVII A. 6, Steatite or slate whorl-beads (2) (Pl. XVIII, 7).

Pottery.

XVII A. 7, *Larnax*, single incised panels, upper half cut off (Fig. 33, left).

XVII A. 8, Round-mouthed jug, black-washed, as XVII P. 29.

XVII A. 9, Cup-base, black-washed, as IX A. 4.

XVII A. 10, Jug, miniature, painted rosette-filled spiral coils (Pl. XXIII).

XVII A. 11, Open bowl, painted hanging spirals with hatched angles.

Also 3 plain conical cups and sherds of other L.M. III. plain and painted ware.

B.

XVII B. 1, Bronze wire ring.

XVII B. 2, Bronze tweezers as V. 4, decayed.

XVII B. 3, Ivory fragment of comb.

XVII B. 4, Carnelian bead, globular.

XVII B. 5, Crystal lid, flanged disc, fragmentary.

XVII B. 6, Jasper gem, red, glandular, broken: goat. M.M. III. The stone is bored obliquely along the line of the goat's body.

XVII B. 7, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular: hatched petals and volutes (Pl. XIX).

XVII B. 8, Steatite gem, grey, glandular: rectilinear device (Pl. XIX).

XVII B. 9, Steatite whorl-beads (2) (Pl. XVIII, 7).

Pottery.

XVII B. 10, *Larnax*, single incised panels (Fig. 33, front). Ht. 71 cm.

XVII B. 11, *Larnax* as last, but with ridge below the projecting lip (Fig. 33, back).

XVII B. 12, *Larnax*, sunk double panels on long sides, single at ends.

XVII B. 13, Jug, miniature, painted wavy line and dots (Pl. XXIII).

XVII B. 14, Side-spouted jar, painted curve-hatched figures on shoulder.

XVII B. 15, Jar as last, painted wavy line on shoulder.

PIT.

XVII P. 1, Bronze spiral hair-ring, bead, and fragments of pins or wire.

XVII P. 2, Iron cube, corroded (Pl. XXIII).

XVII P. 3, Faience seal-pendant, white, obliterated device (Pl. XVIII, 3, and Fig. 39).

XVII P. 4, Faience bead, cylindrical, white ends, brown body with zigzag fluting (Pl. XVIII, 2, and Fig. 39).

XVII P. 5, Faience beads, blue: globular (2), collared and ribbed globular (1), oval (1), cylindrical (1).

XVII P. 6, Faience beads, brown: semi-globular fluted (53) (Pl. XVIII, 5 and Fig. 39), globular (2), double tubular (1), reeded cylindrical (1), pointed oval (1).

XVII P. 7, Faience bead, white, globular.

XVII P. 8, Amethyst beads, globular (3) (Pl. XVIII, 4).

XVII P. 9, Crystal beads, smoky, globular (50) (Pl. XVIII, 1).

- XVII P. 10, Crystal beads, flat globular (2).
 XVII P. 11, Steatite gem, black, lenticular : goat's head (Pl. XIX).
 XVII P. 12, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular : hatched petals and volutes on one side, quadruped or demon on the other (Pl. XIX).
 XVII P. 13, Steatite gem, grey, lenticular : small ringed pits (Pl. XIX).

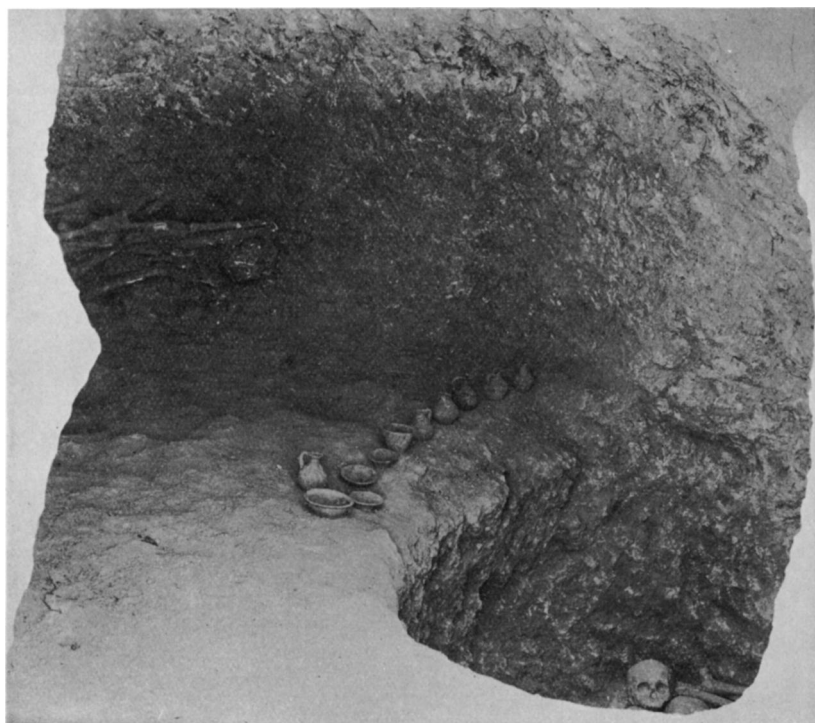


FIG. 34.—PIT IN TOMB XVII.

- XVII P. 14, Steatite seal-pendant, grey, device as last (Pl. XVIII, 19, and Fig. 40).
 XVII P. 15, Steatite jug, grey, handle missing (Pl. XX).

Pottery.

The fabric is generally coarse, light brown clay, dull black or dark red glaze.

- XVII P. 16, Flat plate with heavy roll rim, fragmentary.
 XVII P. 17, Lid, slightly domed, hollow vertical rim.
 XVII P. 18, Dish with flat base and sloping sides. Also fragments of 5 or 6 similar dishes.

- XVII P. 19, Dish with flat base, curved sides and flat rim, spiral wheel-marks inside, half-painted black (Pl. XXIII). Another with string-marked whorl-base.
- XVII P. 20, Dishes (3) as last but rougher, unpainted or completely painted black or red, and fragments of others (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 21, Dish with flat loop handle on rim, fragment.
- XVII P. 22, Curved bowl, fragment of base half-painted each side, as IX D. 10.
- XVII P. 23, Cups (2), very low conical, unpainted or red-washed (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 24, Cup, tall conical with vertical flat loop handle (Pl. XXIII). Also fragments of 2 similar cups, one with horizontal round loop handle, the other perhaps handleless.
- XVII P. 25, Cup, tall conical with thin wheel-marked walls and string-marked base, dipped black-glaze band at lip (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 26, Cup with double-curved body, daubed red-glaze band at lip, splashed inside (Pl. XXIII). Also fragments of similar daubed and splashed cups, conical and curved.
- XVII P. 27, Tripod pot, miniature, with spout and two lugs, red-washed (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 28, Jug, round-mouthed, unpainted, handle missing (Pl. XXIII), and another red-washed.
- XVII P. 29, Jug similar, but finer fabric, with round loop handle, striped white on black (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 30, Jug as last but with string-marked base and splashed white on black, handle missing (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 31, Jug as 29 but unpainted, and fragments of 2 others.
- XVII P. 32, Jug with cutaway neck, trough spout and round loop handle, body black-washed (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 33, Jug with trefoil lip and round loop handle, shoulder scored horizontally, straight string-marks on base, red-washed (Pl. XXIII).
- XVII P. 34, Bridged-spout jar, fragments of top and base, squat shape, thin fabric with sharp bevelled lip, painted white stripes on black (now shewing as black on bare clay), and perhaps clusters of red dots on the broad white stripes (Pl. XXIII).

Large sherds from top of pit.

- XVII P. 35, *Pithos*, fragment with heavy rim and vertical handle, body painted two horizontal bands in black (Fig. 48).
- XVII P. 36, Similar fragment, with slighter rim, body painted one broad stripe (Fig. 48).
- XVII P. 37, Similar fragment, with slight turned-out rim, body painted group of close trickle-stripes (Fig. 48).
- XVII P. 38, *Pithos*, fragment from bottom of side with vertical handle, painted trickle-stripes (Fig. 48).
- Also many similar fragments, painted and unpainted.

XVII P. 39, Basins, fragments (2) with flat rim, one with horizontal handle in space reserved in black paint.

XVIII.

Small collapsed chamber-tomb as XXI, with unsymmetrical chamber. It contained the only set of weapons found in the cemetery. The sword had been deliberately bent to make it useless.

XVIII. 1, Bronze sword, flanged hilt and cross-guard, tang for pommel, blade bent nearly double and broken. L. 47.5 cm. As *P.T. i.*, Fig. 109, 42 *a.*

XVIII. 2, Bronze dagger, flanged blunt shoulder, hilt and horned pommel. L. 27.5 cm. As *loc. cit.*, 95 *e.*

Also several loose rivets from the hilts.

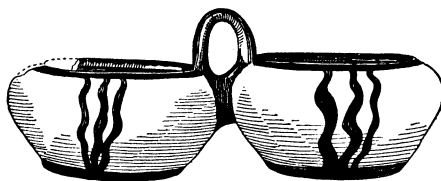


FIG. 35.—L M. III POTTERY, TOMB XIX. 3.

XVIII. 3, Bronze spearhead, tapered from point to socket. L. 20 cm. As *P.T. i.*, Fig. 113, 75 *e.*

XVIII. 4, Bronze knives (2), oval, broken and decayed.

XVIII. 5, Bronze mirror-disc as III. 7.

XVIII. 6, Stone (grey) bird's-nest bowl with lid (white-spotted) (Pl. XX).

Also some fragments of unpainted pottery.

XIX.

As XVIII, but cut in a steeper slope.

XIX. 1, Bronze mirror-disc as III. 7.

XIX. 2, Bronze knives (2), long, as III. 4, one with remains of ivory grip-scales.

Pottery.

XIX. 3, Double bowl with central loop-handle, painted triple wavy stripes (Fig. 35). L. 32 cm.

XX.

Shaft-grave containing a single *larnax* with lid, broken down by six large flat stones, probably the covering-slabs as in XV. A whorl-bead was found inside the *larnax*, the other material with some pieces of bones outside.

XX. 1, Bronze knife, long, as III. 4.

XX. 2, Bronze tweezers as V. 4, fragmentary.

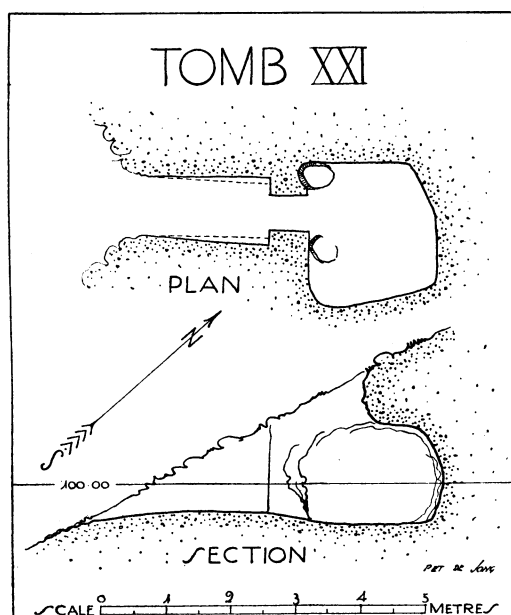


FIG. 36.

XX. 3, Bronze wire or broken pin-shaft.

XX. 4, Natural shells (3), and galena (3 small pieces) as VII B. 11.

XX. 5, Steatite whorl-bead, engraved small ringed pits (Fig. 40). Diam. 2.3 cm.

Pottery.

XX. 6, *Larnax*, single sunk panels, with lid as XI. 1, fragmentary.

XX. 7, Brazier or flat-lipped cup with hollow conical foot, rough red ware (Pl. XXIII).

XXI (Fig. 36).

Small collapsed chamber-tomb with short *diadromos* (in a steep slope). In the chamber-floor on each side of the doorway is a small shallow cavity.

Pottery.

XXI. 1, Braziers (2) with very deep body, one containing charcoal-dust (Pl. XXII).

XXI. 2, Brazier, as I. 2 but deeper.

XXI. 3, Tall beaked jug, painted linear ornament on throat and shoulder.
Also fragments of other L.M. III ware.

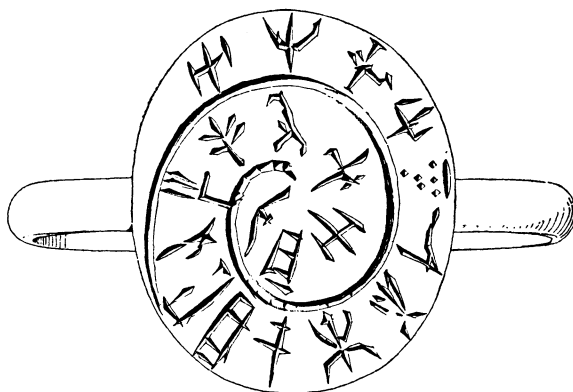


FIG. 37.—INSCRIBED GOLD RING, TOMB IX E, 1. (Scale 5:1.)

XXII.

Apparently as XXI, but with chamber entirely collapsed and *diadromos* fallen away. A *larnax* standing on the floor had its top just below the surface of the hill.

XXII. 1, Crystal bead, lenticular.

XXII. 2, Steatite whorl-beads (2) (Pl. XVIII, 7).

Pottery.

XXII. 3, *Larnax*, single incised panels as XVII B. 10.

NOTES ON THE MATERIAL.

The inscribed gold ring (IX E. 1, Pls. XVIII, XIX and Fig. 37) has already been published by Sir Arthur Evans,¹ who assigns the script (Linear

¹ *The Times*, June 8, 1927; *P.M.* ii. p. 557.

A) to M.M. III., and thinks that its meaning may be talismanic because of the Double Axe sign which begins the first and last groups (the legend being written from the edge towards the centre). The spiral sequence is well known from the Phaistos Disc, which is generally regarded as a foreign document, and the same sort of arrangement, without the guiding line, occurs with Minoan ink-written inscriptions inside two pottery cups of this date.¹ It is also possible, since the ring is not a finger-ring but a signet, that the legend is a personal name or title, like those on

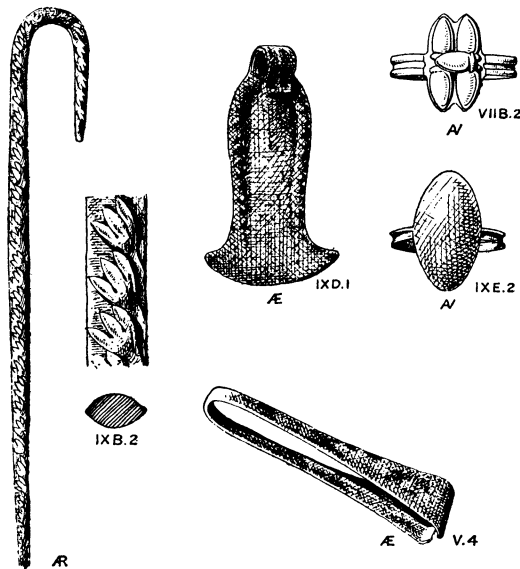


FIG. 38.—HAIRPIN, TWEEZERS, PENDANT, RINGS.

contemporary Egyptian rings and scarabs and on the earliest inscribed Greek rings. The pale gold ring VII B. 2 (Pl. XVIII and Fig. 38) is large enough to fit a small finger and its device is certainly not a seal. The five unrecognised objects clustered on its flat bezel look like little jars² or chrysalids,³ both of which had an amuletic value and were worn as pendants. The embossed gold bead IX E. 4 (Pl. XVIII and Fig. 39) found with the inscribed ring is a new illustration of the genesis of the Minoan signet and finger-rings with long oval bezels set at right angles to their hoops, which Evans has recently explained.⁴ They were originally

¹ *P.M.* i. p. 613.

² Seager, *Mochlos*, Fig. 30 (M.M. III.).

³ Evans in *J.H.S.* XLV. (1925), p. 59.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 47.

bead-seals, engraved circular or oval plates attached to tubular beads for wearing on a string. An actual example in ivory comes from an E.M. tholos at Kumasa. Later developments lengthened the bezel and shortened the tube to a hoop, still too small for the finger and evidently meant for suspension.

The gold earrings (VII A. 1, VII B. 1, Pl. XVIII) are the finest specimens of a not uncommon L.M. type originating in a simple swelling hoop like III. 3, with a cluster of globules attached. The cluster has become here a granulated cone, and the granulation creeps over and under the smooth limbs of the hoop like frontal hair around a bull's horns. This fortuitous likeness is exploited in some examples from Cyprus¹ by the addition of spiral wires to represent the ears. The steatite bull's head pendant (VII A. 17, Pl. XVIII, 10 and Fig. 40) resembles one in amethyst found at Mochlos in an L.M. I. grave.² There is a suggestion of bulls' heads about the two triangular pendants VII A. 18, 19 (Pl. XVIII, 9, 11 and Fig. 40). These have V-perforation.

Beads and pendants³ were comparatively plentiful, and some fortunately occurred in a datable context in the M.M. IIb pit in Tomb XVII (Pl. XVIII, 1-5). The large amethyst globes (4) are a characteristic Egyptian form of the Twelfth Dynasty; eleven came from IX B, and six similar gold beads (Pl. XVIII) were found with the M.M. III. ring in IX E. But most of the beads from the M.M. II. pit are faience, blue, brown and white. Singular forms are the large collared cylinder with zigzag fluting and the half-melons (Pl. XVIII, 2, 5 and Fig. 39). The latter were probably a prototype of the common Mycenaean cone-beads usually called spindle-whorls (Pl. XVIII, 7), which are sometimes hollow-sided and suggest flower-calices (Pl. XVIII, 8, 12). Another unique but undated shape is the lapis-lazuli cruciform spacing-bead III. 15 (Pl. XVIII, 20 and Fig. 39). The circular prism VII B. 4 (Pl. XIX and Fig. 39) is a late development of a common E.M. seal-stone; its engraved designs place it in M.M. III.

Three of the engraved gems (Pl. XIX) are also dated by their position in the M.M. II. deposit, XVII P. 11, 12, 13. The goat's head is a precocious naturalistic work, and the formal volute-design is closely related to a more important example found outside the pit, XVII B. 7, which bears a voluted

¹ *B.M. Cat. Jewellery*, 538.

² *Mochlos*, Pl. X.

³ For the forms generally see H. C. Beck, 'Classification and Nomenclature of Beads and Pendants,' in *Archaeologia*, LXXVII (1928).

canopy borrowed from Egyptian scarabs.¹ Two other stones, XVII A. 4 and IX D. 3, are freely naturalistic and belong to M.M. III.–L.M. I. The former shows an odd convention of perspective, by which the deer's body is broken to display the tree. Later formalism is represented by only four examples, III. 13, IV. 12, VII B. 5 and 6, the last two a pair with remarkable subjects of the latest date, L.M. III*b*. The rest of the gems, that is the greater number, belong to an early stylised class which

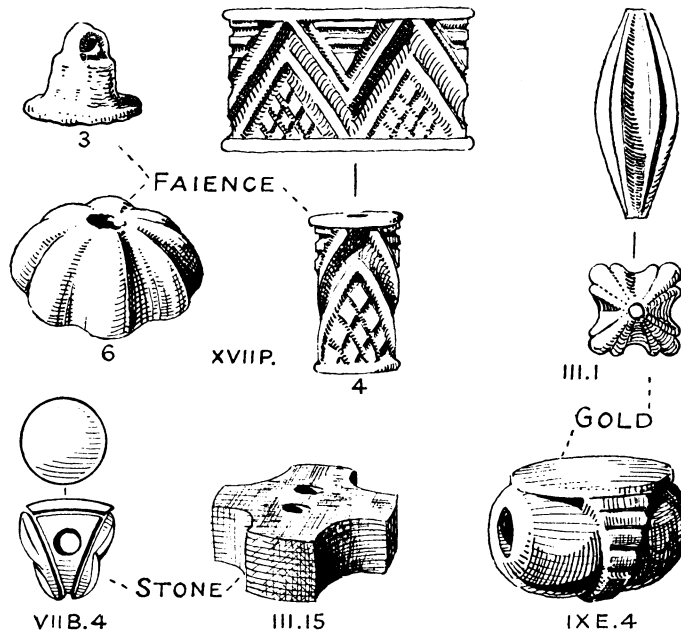


FIG. 39.—BEADS AND PENDANTS.

is dated here by its finest example from the M.M. III*a* tomb, VI. 1. Some like this bear formal cuttle-fish, others have rectilinear devices which were doubtless reminiscent of more intelligible designs. Evans has shewn that some were derived from masks and buildings.² Their M.M. III.–L.M. I. date is confirmed by their occurrence in jar-burials of these periods at Sphoungaras.³ The figures on the marble cylinder VII A. 14 are nearly obliterated, but a man wrestling with an erect animal and a seated bull can be made out, and the seal is said to belong to a

¹ For the significance of this motive see *P.M.* ii. pp. 200, 480, 557.

² *P.M.* i. p. 672.

³ E. H. Hall, *Sphoungaras*, p. 69.

Hittite or North Syrian class not later than 1400 B.C. The design is reproduced nearly twice in this impression.

Three bossed crystal discs (III. 14, VII A. 13, Fig. 40) have been identified as short-focus magnifying lenses by H. C. Beck,¹ who finds from the measurements that the one illustrated here would have a power of ten diameters. Such discs were painted on their flat surfaces and used for inlay,² and their magnifying effects have already been noticed by Evans, particularly in regard to the eye of the steatite bull's head from

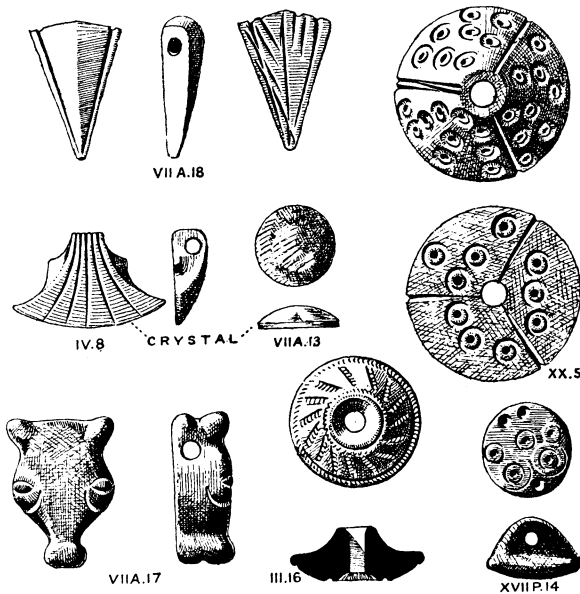


FIG. 40.—STEATITE AND CRYSTAL BEADS, PENDANTS AND LENS.

the Little Palace.³ It is not possible to know whether these examples were made for decorative purposes or for practical use as optical instruments or burning-glasses, but it is certain that all their qualities were appreciated. The pair from Tomb III may have had some connection with the small bronze balance and lead weights from the same tomb (III. 8, 9, Fig. 6), as part of the apparatus of a craftsman. These were evidently not symbolical like the butterfly-scales from the Third Shaft-

¹ *Antiquaries' Journal*, viii (1928), p. 329.

² *P.M.* i. p. 471.

³ *Tomb of the Double Axes, etc.*, p. 82.

grave at Mycenae.¹ Bronze scale-pans and haematite weights were found in Mycenaean graves at Enkomi² and Ialysos.³

Bronze implements and ornaments from the Mavro Spelio tombs were generally commonplace and ill-preserved. An exceptional pair of tweezers is V. 4 (Fig. 38); it has a fine lustrous patina and has kept its original spring, probably by some peculiarity of the alloy, for other bronzes in the same tomb were badly decayed. The axe-blade pendant (IX D. 1, Fig. 38) is unique. A hook-head pin in bronze (VII A. 7) was broken and corroded, but another in silver shews on one side a handsome design of crocus-flowers in high relief, done in fine M.M. III. style (IX B. 2, Fig. 38). The heavy oval section of this pin and its embossed ornament indicate that it was not used for clothes, a rudimentary *fibula*, as Blinkenberg⁴

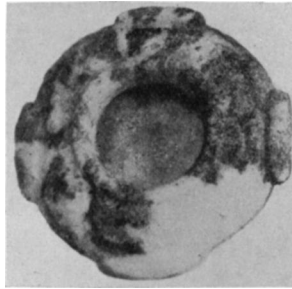


FIG. 41.—TOP OF MARBLE BOWL, TOMB III. 20.

has claimed, but was indeed a hairpin, as Evans described the twisted gold example from the Royal Tomb at Isopata.⁵

Tomb III produced nine of the twenty-four stone vases (Pl. XX) found in the cemetery, and those of the best quality and variety. The commonest form is the plain bird's-nest bowl, an M.M. I. type that persisted without much change through the L.M. period. Seager noted that the high shoulder (IX D. 7) is a mark of late date.⁶ Next in quantity are flower-bowls, normally with six petals (XII. 1), once with two (II. 1). These are L.M. The marble bowl with four shoulder-lugs (III. 20, Pl. XX and Fig. 41) is an earlier type, as is probably the bowl with spiral reeding

¹ For these and other references see Evans in *J.H.S.*, *loc. cit.*

² *B.M. Excav. in Cyprus*, Fig. 32.

³ Furtwängler and Loeschcke, *Myk. Vasen*, Pl. B, 21.

⁴ *Fibules Grecques et Orientales*, p. 40.

⁵ *P.T.* ii. p. 151.

⁶ *Pseira*, p. 36.

(III. 19), but such durable vessels may be much older than their interments. Thus the small steatite jug XVII P. 15 is an E.M. form ¹ and comes from the M.M. II. pit. The finest pieces are the veined grey marble libation-jar with pierced base and separate neck (III. 18, Fig. 42),

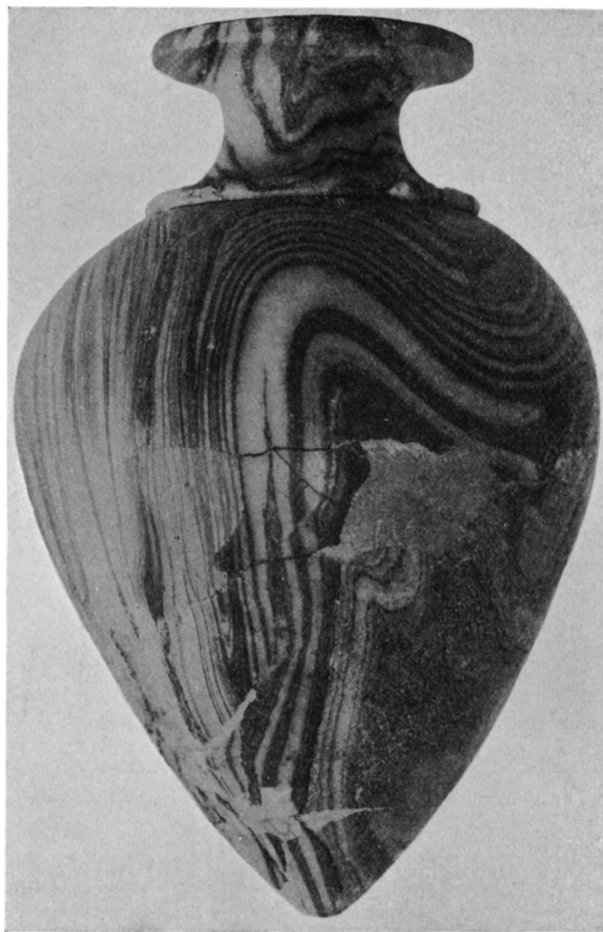


FIG. 42.—MARBLE LIBATION JAR, TOMB III. 18

belonging to L.M. Ia,² and the green serpentine bowl with flat rolled lip and base and a hole for a separate spout (III. 17), which may be earlier.

The terracotta idol VII B. 9 (Pl. XXI) is a novelty, and a valuable religious document if the persons represented are divine, putting back into the Minoan age what Farnell has recently called 'an important

¹ *Mochlos*, Fig. 22, VI. 4.

² *P.M.* ii. p. 556.

phenomenon in the history of religion, a Cretan contribution to the development in the Mediterranean of the worship of a Holy Infant.'¹ The cylindrical base is characteristic of a large class of female figures, another of which comes from this cemetery (III. 25, Fig. 43); it does not seem to represent a woman's skirt, but may well be a survival of a baetylic image. Three similar figures were found on the altar-ledge of



FIG. 43.—TERRACOTTA IDOL, TOMB III. 25.

the Shrine of the Double Axes in the Palace, one with uplifted hands and a dove on her head manifestly representing the goddess.²

The L.M. *larnakes* are generally rough, with plain sunk or incised panels; only three of the complete ones were painted, but one has an unique design (XI. 1, Fig. 26). The M.M. type from Tomb IX (Fig. 20) is also unique at Knossos, and rare in Crete. Oval burial-chests with flat lids were found at Pachyammos, where Seager dated them from E.M. III. to M.M. II.³ The form belongs to Egypt⁴ or Mesopotamia.⁵

¹ *Essays in Aegean Archaeology presented to Sir Arthur Evans*, p. 24.

² *P.M.* ii. p. 340; for the Mavro Spelio Madonna, *ibid.*, p. 557, Suppl. Pl. XXI.

³ Seager, *Pachyammos*, p. 16.

⁴ *P.M.* i. pp. 126, 586.

⁵ *Antiquaries' Journal*, viii (1928), Pl. III (Woolley, *Excavations at Ur*); H. R. Hall, *Civil. Greece in Bronze Age*, p. 191.

The commonest articles of tomb-furniture are the pottery braziers and conical cups. The former may have served the practical purpose of fumigation, but the latter (Pl. XXIII) were specially used elsewhere ¹ to

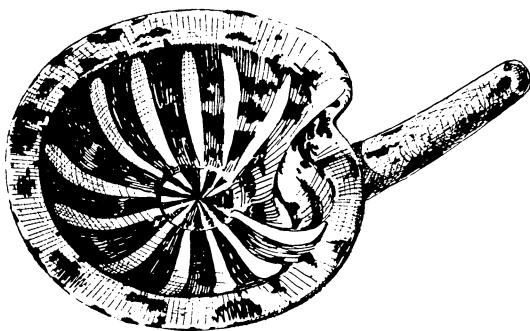


FIG. 44.—M.M. PAINTED POTTERY BRAZIER, Tomb VII A. 23.

hold food-offerings, and this was doubtless their function in the grave. A certain chronological sequence can be established in their shapes; those from the M.M. III. tomb (VI. 6, 7) have tall steep sides and some-

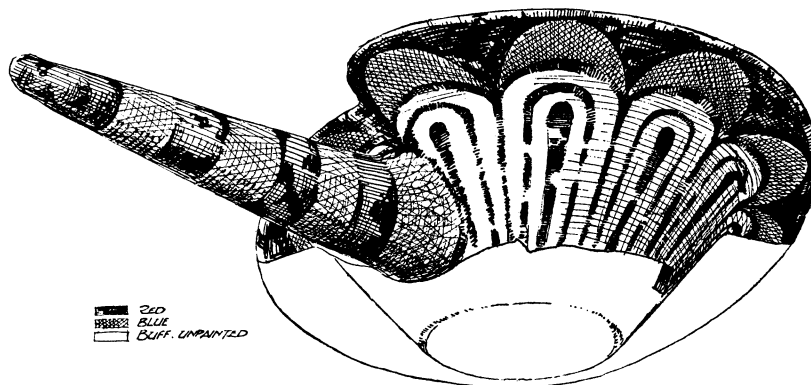


FIG. 45.—POTTERY BRAZIER WITH UNFIXED POLYCHROME DECORATION, Tomb V. 13.
($\frac{1}{2}$ scale.)

times flat rims, while the L.M. examples have lower walls and narrower bases (II. 3, V. 23). The braziers often retain lumps or dust of the charcoal which was left burning in them (XXI. 1), and one from Isopata also contained resin.² I have illustrated a type-series (Pl. XXII), but it is not likely that the variations of form shewn there, in depth of body,

¹ *P.M.* ii. pp. 134, 548.

² *Tomb of the Double Axes, etc.*, p. 13.

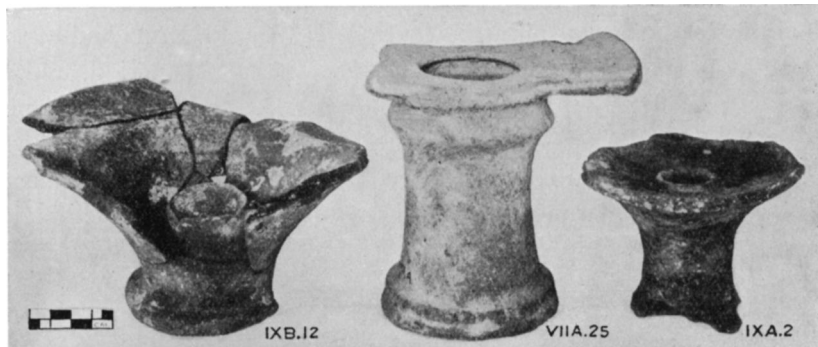


FIG. 46.—POTTERY BRAZIER OR RITUAL VESSELS.

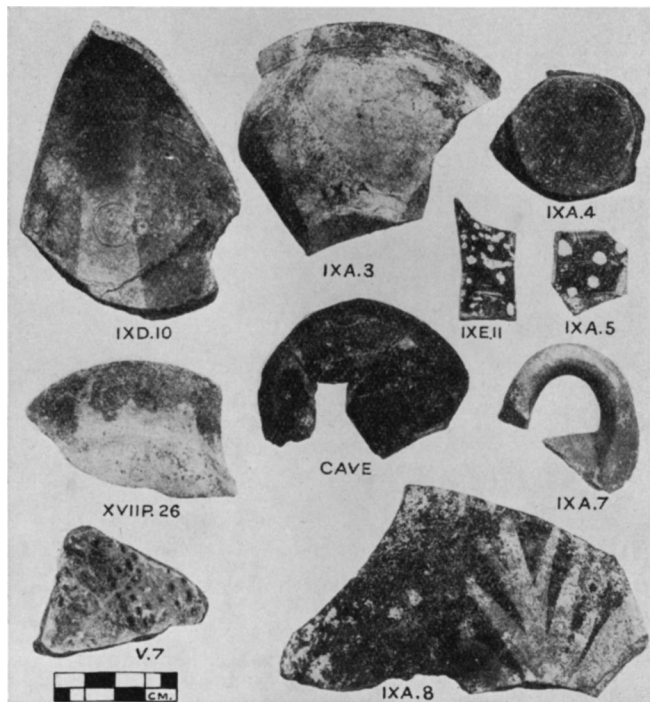


FIG. 47.—FAIENCE FRAGMENT AND M.M. POTSHERDS.

width of rim, direction of handle and moulded ornament, have much chronological value. One piece, however (VII A. 23, Pl. XXII and Fig. 44), bears painted decoration that sets it in the later M.M. period, and also has an odd uptilted handle. Several tombs produced small fragments of braziers that had been brightly painted in unfixed colours, red, white and blue, like some from Hagia Triada illustrated by Evans in connection with his finds of polychrome sepulchral pottery at Isopata.¹ Such fugitive

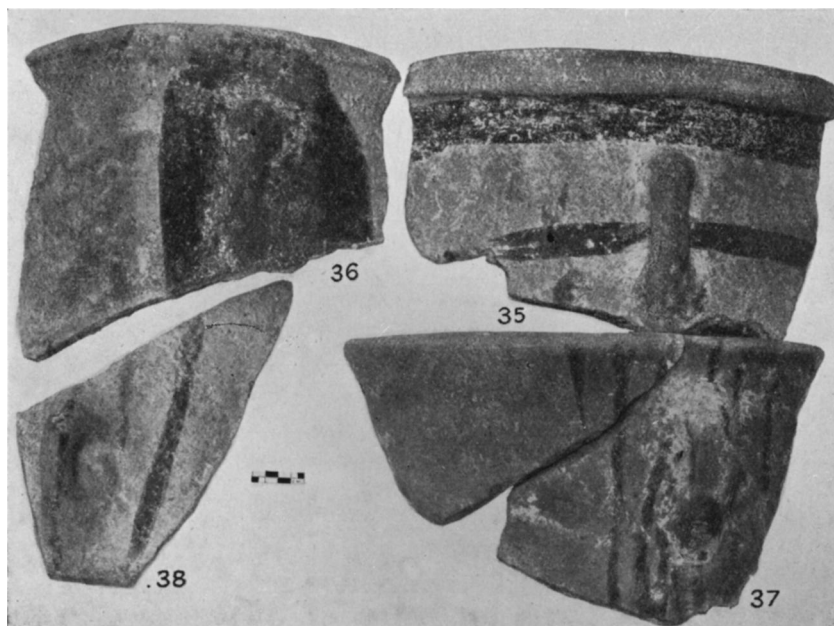


FIG. 48.—FRAGMENTS OF M.M. II BURIAL JARS, TOMB XVII, PIT.

pigments are very poorly preserved, but the design on the largest fragments could be made out as an arcaded petal-pattern (V. 13, Fig. 45). The Hagia Triada examples belong to L.M. I. Another kind of brazier (IX B. 12, Fig. 46) has a central socket and is sometimes described as a candlestick.² Two flat dishes with pierced centres and hollow cylindrical stems (VII A. 25, IX A. 2, Fig. 46) doubtless had some ritual use, perhaps as tables of offerings.

The rest of the pottery is unimportant, except in so far as it helps

¹ *Ibid.*, p. 29.

² *P.M.* i. p. 578.

to establish the early origin of the tombs and their continuous use from M.M. IIb to L.M. IIIb, which is also demonstrated by the seal-stones. The smallest scraps of M.M. ware have been recorded (Fig. 47), and most of the examples of intermediate wares which have been put together are illustrated above. The faience fragments V. 7 (Figs. 9 and 47) may be M.M. III. or L.M. I., for the spiral decoration is in finer style than



FIG. 49.—M.M. IIIa POTTERY, TOMB VI. 3, 4.

that on the bowls of similar fabric from Enkomi. The pottery from the pit in Tomb XVII (Pl. XXIII) is a homogeneous group of precisely the same moment as the deposit in the Loom-weight Basement of the Palace¹ (M.M. IIb), and the large *pithos*-fragments that formed its cover have the profiles and decoration of the same period (Fig. 48). Similar pottery, large and small, was found in Tomb IX, and indeterminate M.M. II. or III. sherds occurred in several tombs. Another homogeneous deposit was in Tomb VI, which was apparently closed by a landslide in the middle

¹ *P.M.* i. p. 248.

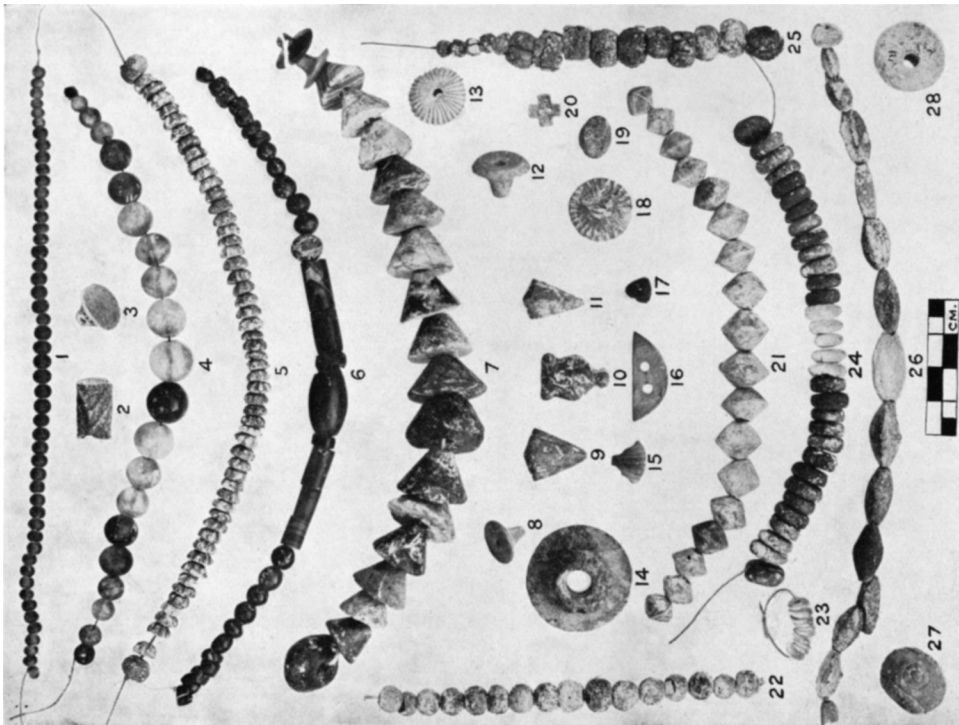
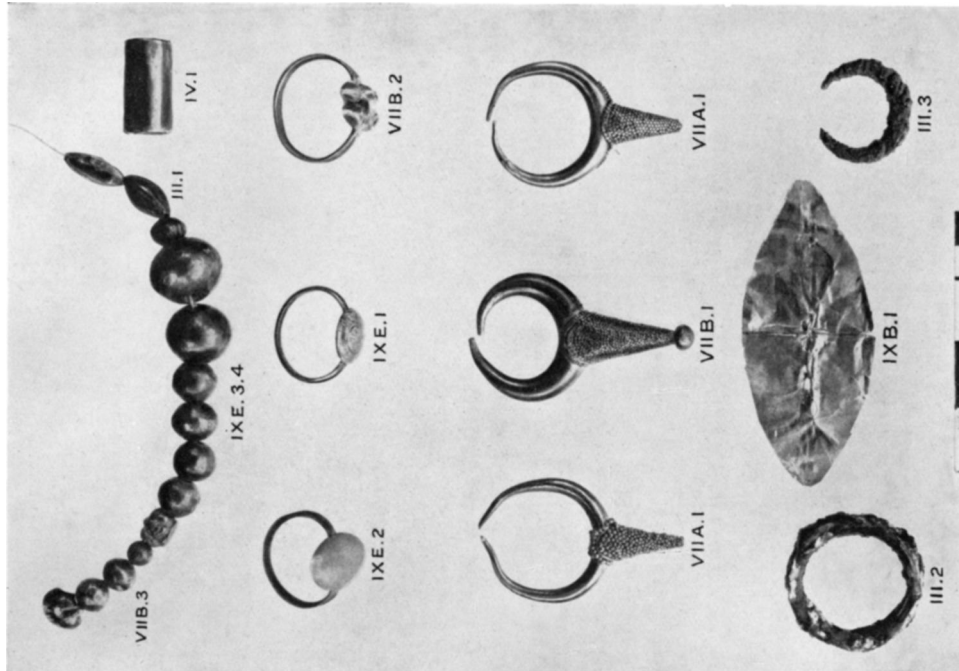
of M.M. III. Its two typical vases illustrated in Fig. 49 belong to M.M. IIIa.¹ The piece of iron from the middle of the M.M. II. pit is and probably was a curiosity. It may have had magnetic powers, but does not imply the practical use of the metal at this date. The earliest Aegean artifacts of iron are finger-rings from L.M. I. beehive-tombs at Vaphio and Kakovatos, some two hundred years later.

E. J. FORSDYKE.

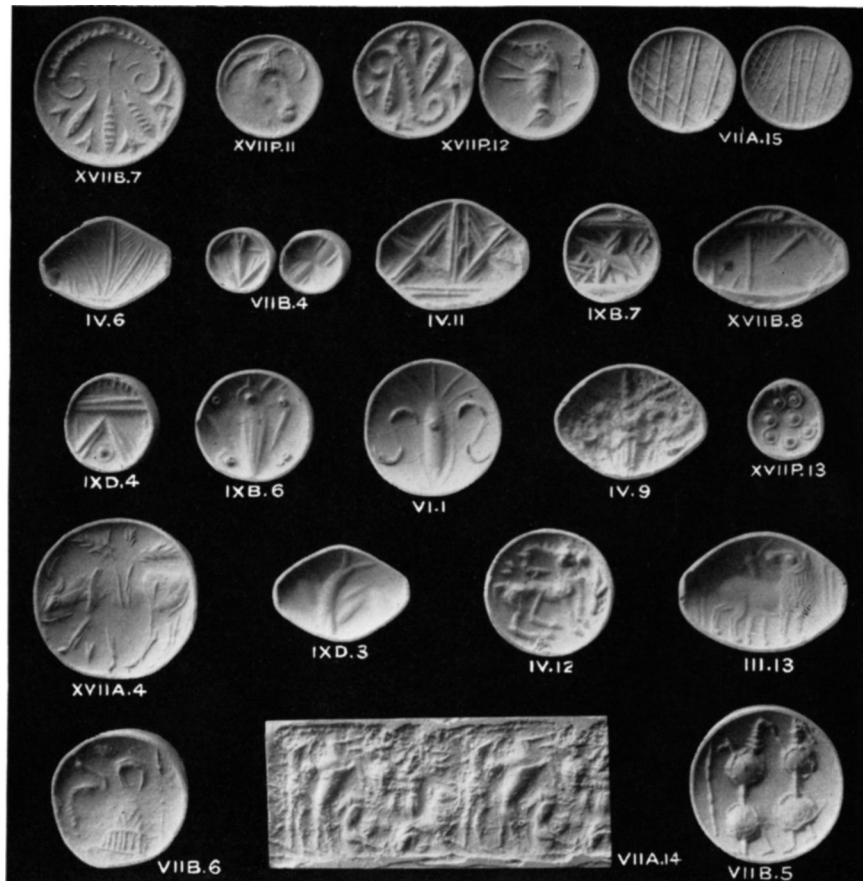
¹ *P.M.* ii. p. 555.



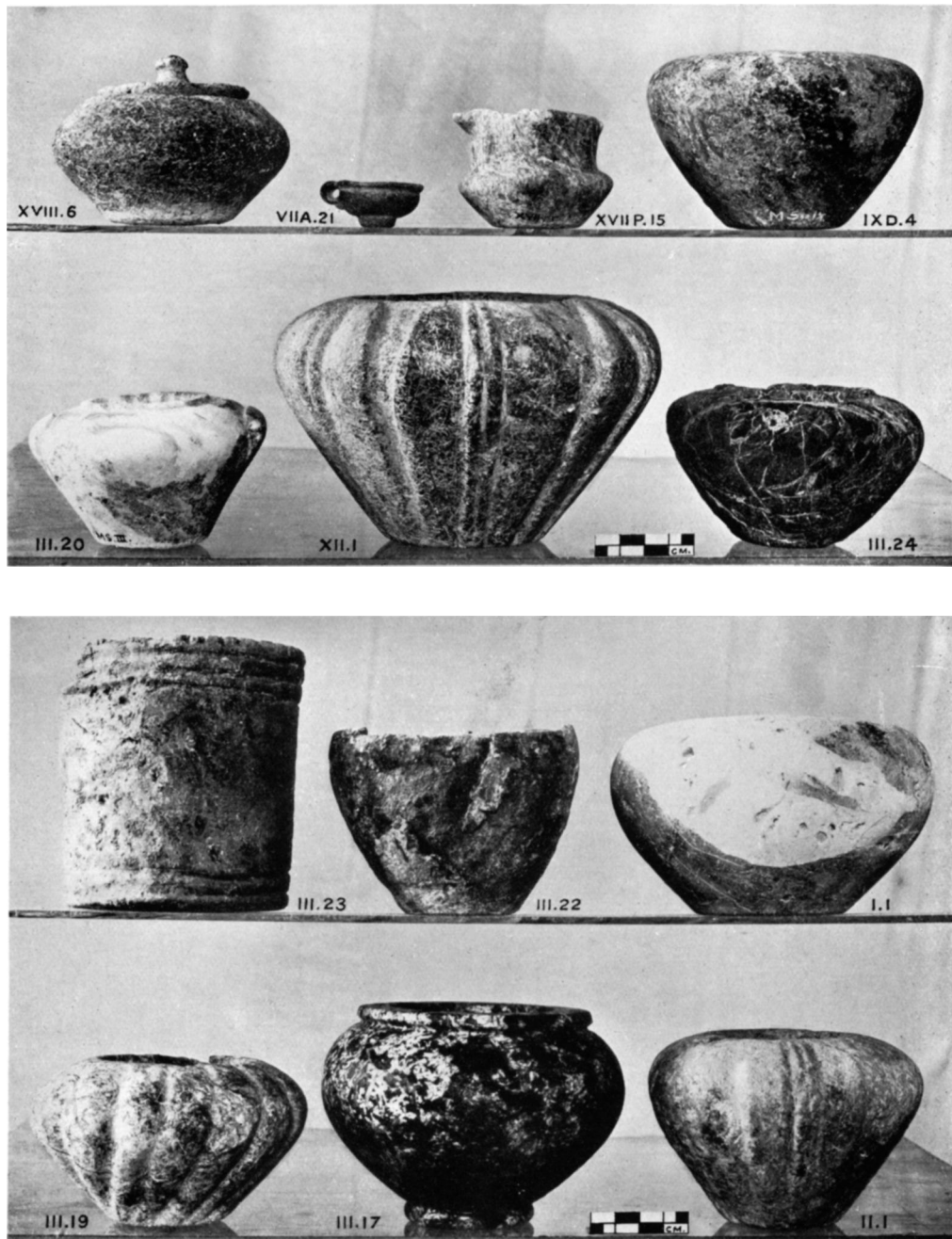
THE BLACK CAVE (*ΜΑΥΡΟ ΣΠΕΛΙΟ*), KNOSSOS.



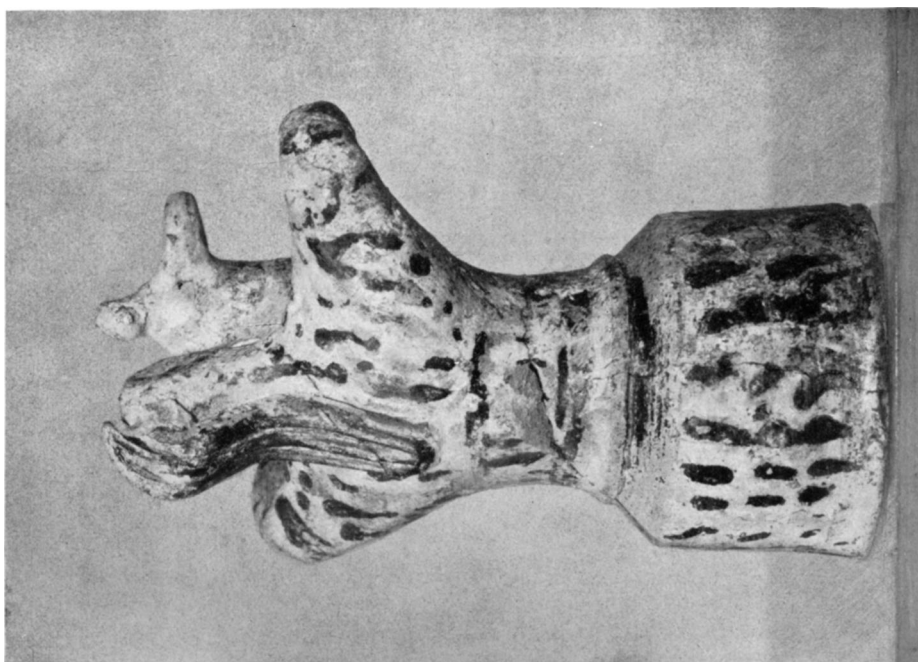
MAVRO SPELIO, KNOSSOS: BEADS AND GOLD JEWELS.



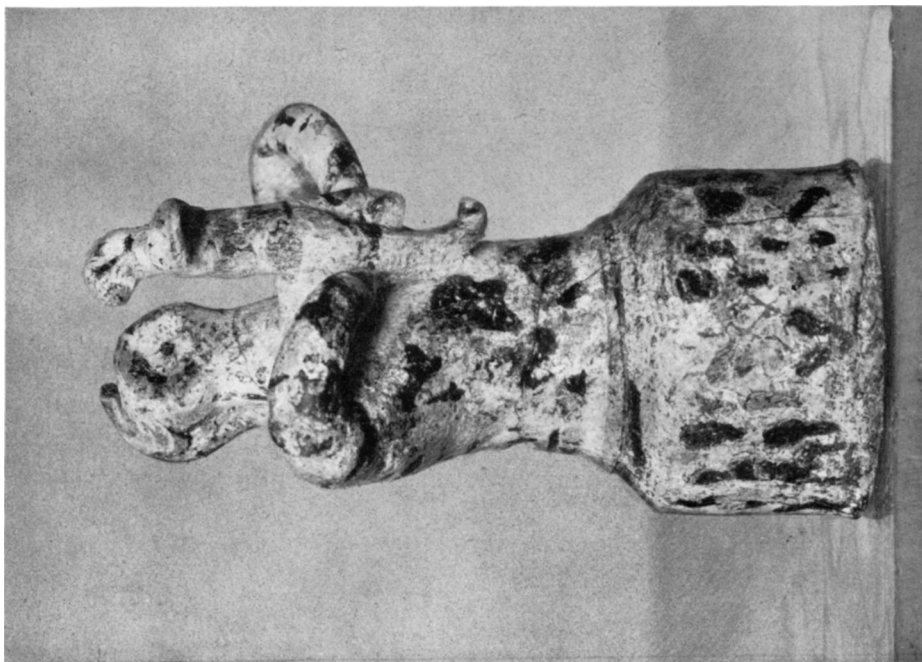
MAVRO SPELIO: GOLD RING (7 : 1) AND IMPRESSIONS OF GEMS (1 : 1).



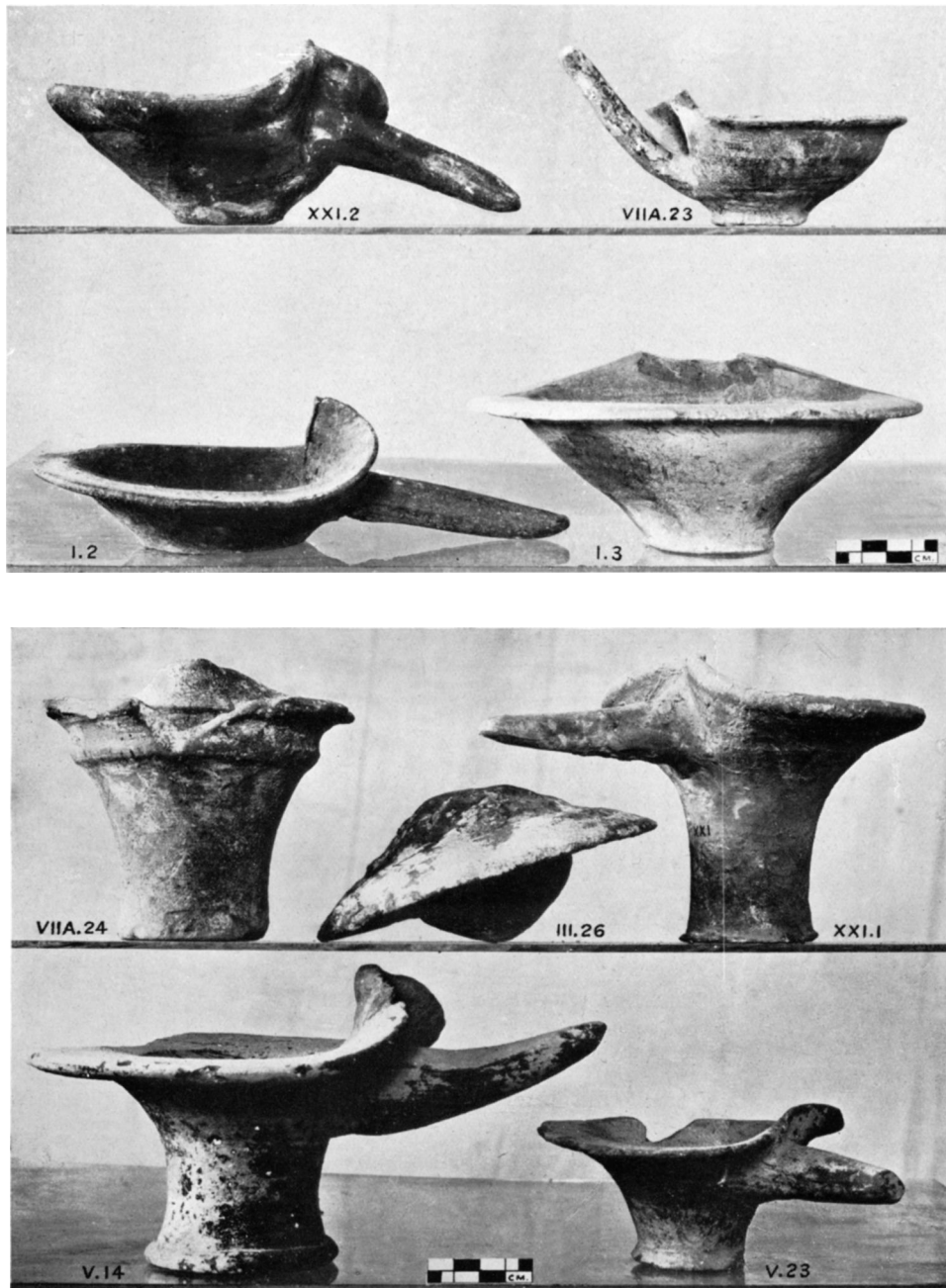
MAVRO SPELIO, KNOSSOS: STONE VASES.



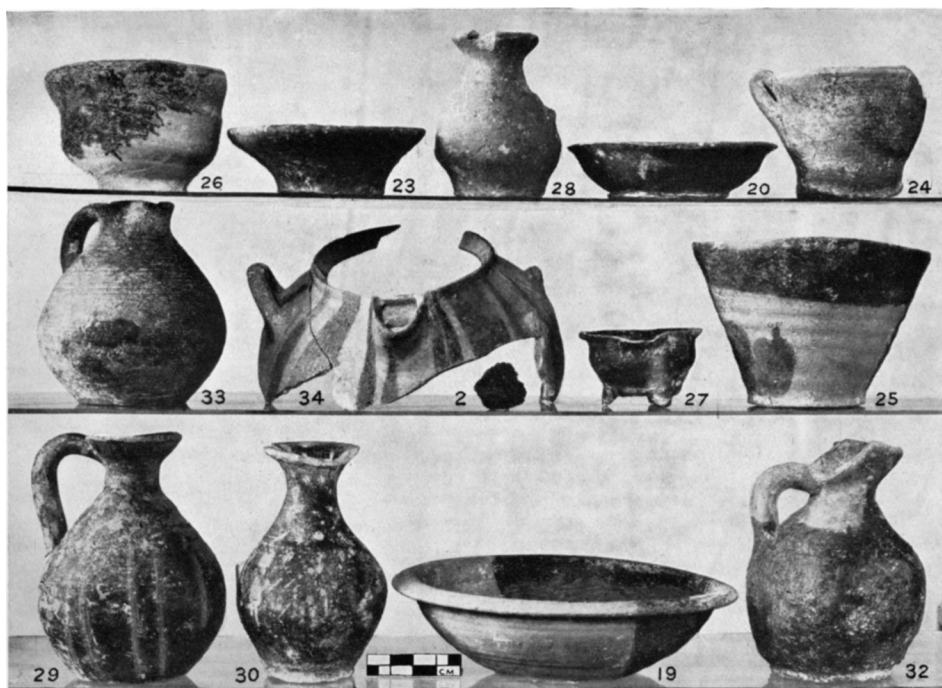
MAVRO SPELIO, KNOSSOS : TERRACOTTA IDOL. (Actual size.)



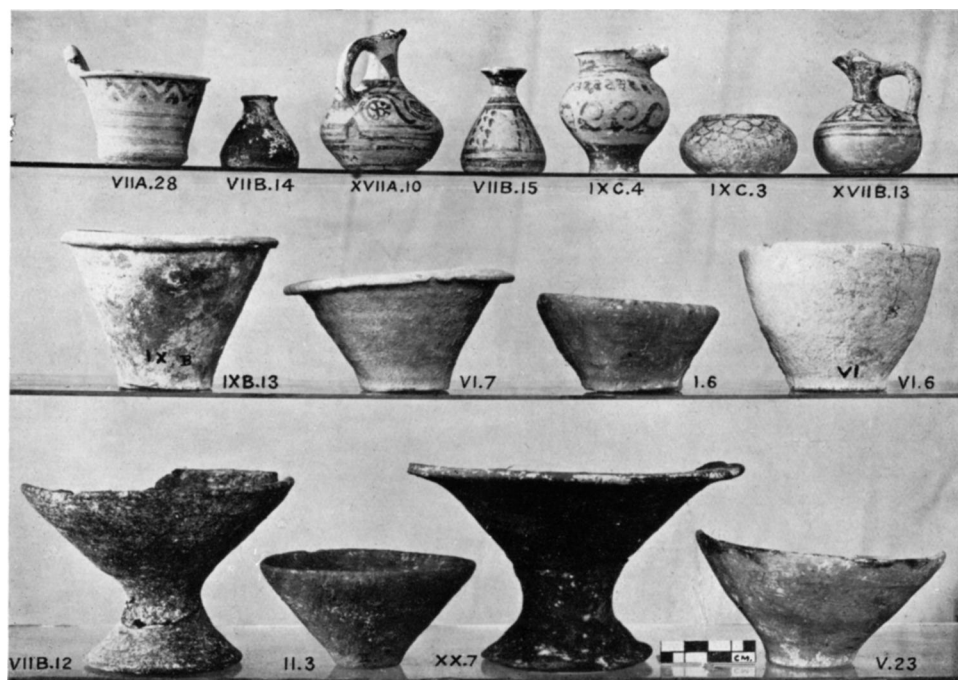
Tomb VII B.



MAVRO SPELIO, KNOSSOS: POTTERY BRAZIERs.



M.M. IIb POTTERY AND IRON FROM PIT IN TOMB XVII.



MAVRO SPELIO, KNossos: M.M. AND L.M. POTTERY.