

2.5. Area H

2.5.1. Stratigraphy and Architecture

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History and Aims of Excavations

Area H is situated in the southeastern part of the hill. It was excavated in 1994 (area supervisor: KLAUS KOENEN), 1995 (area supervisor: THILO FITZNER), 1996, and 1999 (area supervisor: STEFAN MÜNGER). The following squares were excavated:² BR 23 (1995), BT 22 (1995, 1996), BT 23 (1994, 1995), BU 19 (1999), BU 20 (1999), BU 21 (1999), BU 22 (1994, 1996), BU 23 (1994), CA 19 (1999), CA 20 (1999), CA 21 (1999), CA 22 (1994), CB 20 (1999), CB 22 (1994) and CC 22 (1994).³ The general aims of the excavations in area H were:

- a) to establish the course of the city wall(s), which were observed in other areas,
- b) the excavation of architectural remains inside this city wall and
- c) to date the city walls.⁴



Fig. 2.5.1.1. Slope of area H. The person is standing on L. 3018 outside the Early Bronze Age city wall W3010; the outer face of this wall is visible immediately behind her. The slope uphill are unset stones, which were used as a fill inside the faces of this city wall. The inner face of this older city wall was not found, but is hidden below the remains of the Iron Age I city wall W3003. The crown of this wall is seen on top of the photo. Photo: KLAUS KOENEN

Local stratigraphy and site stratigraphy

In area H, five local strata and two city wall systems were discovered. Topsoil was generally integrated into local stratum H1. There were no noteworthy finds in topsoil. Due to the steep decline of the slope, height differences in this area are considerable. L. 3018 (square CC 22), the lowest excavated spot, is at -62.07, while the highest stone

¹ This excavation report is partly based on seasonal reports written by ST. MÜNGER and V. FRITZ but reworked and enlarged in substantial parts.

² BS 22 and BS 23 were planned to be excavated in 1994, but these squares were not opened. For BU 18 (1999) no locus card exists. Likely, only a license to excavate this area was applied for, but the area was evidently not excavated. Square CB 21 was never excavated. Evidently, some stones belonging to the Iron Age I city wall W3003 were observed on surface and were taken as a proof for the outer face of this wall. Therefore, the continuation of the city wall in this area is proven.

³ Squares BR 23, BS 22, BS 23, and BT 24 will not be discussed in this chapter, since the excavations were not deep enough to reach pre-Iron Age I strata.

⁴ For preliminary reports about area H cf. FRITZ/VIEWEGER 1995; FRITZ/VIEWEGER 1996, 84–85; FRITZ/VIEWEGER 1997, 33; FRITZ/VIEWEGER 1999; FRITZ 1999, 95–98.103–105; FRITZ/MÜNGER 2002, 9–12.

of the Iron Age I city wall was at -53.94 (s. Fig. 2.5.1.1.). The air distance of both places is less than 12 m! In contrast, the area inside the city walls was rather flat and even in this area; it seems that there are no big discrepancies of foundation heights of the relevant walls. The dominant Iron Age I city wall W3003 (CB 20 – BU 23) is about 5.3 m broad. This wall was not removed and covers some older structures below. Another clearly older city wall W3010 was found east and partly below of W3003 but parallel to it. Its width could not be determined (visible remains: 4.5 m) since the inner face is covered by W3003. Based on the final reports written at the end of each season and some additional research the following local stratigraphy of this area can be presented:

Local stratum	Site	Absolute chronology	Wall ⁵	Corresponding loci
H1/ H2	IV– VI	Iron Age I (inclusive topsoil)	W3003 (CB 20 – BU 23), W3004 (BU 22), W3015 (BU 22), W3021 (BU 22), W3028 (BU 23), W3030 (BT 22/23), W3034 (BS 22 – BR 23), W3035 (BT 23), W3049 (BS 23), W3106 (BU 20), W3111 (BU 20), W3120 (CA 20), W3121 (CA 20), W3122 (CA 20), W3124 (CA 21), W3133 (BU 21), W3138 (CA 21), W3166 (BU 20), W3173 (BU 19), W3174 (BU 19), W3187 (CA 19), W3195 (BU 18)	L. 3000 (CA 22/BU 22), L. 3001 (BU 22), L. 3002 (BU 22), L. 3005 (CB 22), L. 3006 (CA 22), L. 3007 (BU 22), L. 3008 (CB 22), L. 3009 (BU 22), L. 3011 (CC 22), L. 3012 (BU 22), L. 3014 (BU 22), L. 3016 (CC 22), L. 3017 (BU 22), L. 3020 (BU 22), L. 3022 (BU 22), L. 3023 (BT 22), L. 3024 (BS 22), L. 3025 (BU 23), L. 3027 (BT 23), L. 3031 (BS 22), L. 3032 (BS 22), L. 3033 (BS 22), L. 3036 (BT 23), L. 3037 (BT 23), L. 3038 (BT 22), L. 3039 (BS 23), L. 3043 (BT 23), L. 3044 (BR 23), L. 3046 (BT 23), L. 3047 (BT 22), L. 3048 (BT 23), L. 3050 (BS 23), L. 3051 (BT 22), L. 3052 (BS 23), L. 3053 (BU 22), L. 3055 (BT 22), L. 3056 (BU 22), L. 3062 (BT 22), L. 3100 (BU 20), L. 3101 (BU 21), L. 3102 (CA 20), L. 3103 (CA 21), L. 3104 (CA 21), L. 3105 (BU 20), L. 3107 (BU 20), L. 3110 (BU 20), L. 3113 (BU 21), L. 3114 (CA 21), L. 3115 (BU 20), L. 3116 (CA 21), L. 3117 (BU 20), L. 3118 (CA 20), L. 3119 (CA 20), L. 3123 (CA 20), L. 3125 (CA 21), L. 3126 (CA 21), L. 3127 (CA 21), L. 3128 (BU 19), L. 3129 (CA 20), L. 3130 (BU 19), L. 3131 (BU 20), L. 3132 (BU 21), L. 3134 (CA 20), L. 3136 (CB 20), L. 3139 (BU 21), L. 3140 (CA 21), L. 3143 (CA 20), L. 3144 (BU 19), L. 3147 (BU 21), L. 3152 (CA 20), L. 3153 (BU 18), L. 3154 (BU 18), L. 3156 (CA 19), L. 3157 (CA 21), L. 3158 (BU 19), L. 3162 (CA 19), L. 3170 (CA 21), L. 3184 (CA 19)
H3	VII	Middle Bronze Age II/ Late Bronze Age	W3135 (BU 20), W3141 (BU 20), W3169 (BU 21), W3200 (CA 19)	L. 3041 (CA/BU 22), L. 3054 (BU 22), L. 3067 (BU 22), L. 3070 (BU 22), L. 3071 (BU 22), L. 3073 (BU 22), L. 3112 (BU 20), L. 3137 (BU 20), L. 3142 (BU 20), L. 3148 (CA 21), L. 3149 (CA 21), L. 3151 (CA 20), L. 3155 (BU 19), L. 3160 (BU 20), L. 3161 (BU 19), L. 3163 (BU 20), L. 3164 (CA 21), L. 3167 (BU 19), L. 3177 (BU 20), L. 3197 (CA 19)
H4	VIII– IX	Middle Bronze Age II/ (Late Bronze Age)	W3042 (BU 22), W3045 (CA/BU 22), W3064 (BU 22), W3068 (BT 22), W3069 (BT 22), W3072 (BU 22), W3082 (BT 22), W3083 (BT 22), W3145 (BU 21), W3150 (CA 21), W3168 (BU 20), W3171 (BU 21), W3180 (BU 20), W3188 (CA 19), W3189 (CA 21), W3190 (BU 19), W3191 (BU 20), W3192 (CA 20), W3193 (CA 21), W3199 (CA 19)	L. 3063 (BU 22), L. 3065 (BT 22), L. 3066 (BT 22), [L. 3074 (BU 22)] ⁶ , L. 3075 (BU 22), L. 3078 (BU 22), L. 3146 (BU 21), L. 3159 (CA 20), L. 3172 (CA 19), [L. 3175 (BU 20)] ⁷ , L. 3176 (CA 20), L. 3178 (CA 20), L. 3179 (BU 20), L. 3181 (CA 21), L. 3182 (CA 19), L. 3183 (CA 19), L. 3185 (BU 19), L. 3186 (BU 19), L. 3196 (BU 21), L. 3198 (BU 20/21)
H5	XI– XII	Early Bronze Age I/II	W3010 (CB/CC 22), W3081 (BU 22)	L. 3018 (CC 22), L. 3019 (CC 22), L. 3076 (BU 22), L. 3077 (BU 22), L. 3079 (BU 22), L. 3080 (BU 22)

Table 2.5.1.1. Stratigraphy in Area H

⁵ Loci 3084 to 3099 were not given.

⁶ This locus is situated below local stratum H4, but belongs likely to an underfilling of the floor.

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As in other areas, the main focus of excavation activities in Area H was Iron Age I period while there was less interest in older periods.⁸ Nevertheless, this area is very informative for older periods in the lower part of the hill. Other excavation areas (fields I and II as well as the excavations of WINN and YAKAR) have demonstrated that there existed an Early Bronze Age (site strata XI and XII) and a Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I (strata VIII and VII) habitation on the lower slope of the *tell*. A similar settlement history was expected in area H. Unfortunately, bedrock was not reached in any of the excavated squares in area H inside the city wall. Only outside the city wall it was reached in L. 3019 at a level of -63.00. In L. 3076 (BU 22) some rock peaks were found at -57.89, but sterile soil or bedrock was not observed in a larger space, although excavation reached level -58.69. Therefore, it was possible to gain very limited information about the earliest settlement in this area, and even the data about the oldest excavated stratum are relatively limited. The settlement history that can be established starts with few remains of local stratum H5 and mainly with stratum H4.

The Iron Age I strata are clearly separated from older strata by a hard whitish chalky layer. Due to the dominant position of the Iron Age I city wall W3003, which was not removed, the discussion of the older strata will be divided into two parts: first, the older city wall east of the Iron Age I city wall, and second, the stratigraphy of the habitation inside the city.

The Older City Wall and the Area East of W3010

About 4.5 m width of the older city wall W3010 is preserved in squares CB/CC 22 but more is expected to be hidden below W3003. The original width cannot be reconstructed due to the fact that the younger city wall was not removed. The bottom of the wall was found at about -63.18 (see L. 3018). L. 3018 is the outer walking floor of the city wall. Such a floor or flat area is needed in order to stabilize this massive wall which imposes enormous pressure. Additionally, a flat area as a work platform is needed for the workers to build the wall.



Fig. 2.5.1.2. In the left part the Iron Age I city wall W3003 with its big basalt boulders is visible. About 1 m in front of W3003 another stone edge is visible, likely also a vertical stone edge running in a right angle to W3003. Below these small walls the space seems to be filled not with stones, but with soil.

What is the upper surviving level of this city wall? The stones inside the outer face are not carefully set but just filled in together with plenty of earth. Therefore, it is hard to determine whether the excavated stones are part of the older city wall W3010 or belong to fallen stones of the Iron Age city wall W3003. Nonetheless, some conclusions are possible, as seen in Fig. 2.5.1.2. There is a small parallel wall about 1 m east of W3003 and likely another small parallel wall perpendicular to W3003. We can only assume that these small supporting walls were built as a working platform for the builders of the Iron Age I city wall W3003. The workers could not carry such heavy basalt boulders as they were used for W3003 on a steep slope. A small platform was necessary for the workers for the construction of the massive wall. At least during the Iron Age I period the surviving crown of the older city wall W3010 was lower than the platform (approximately at -59.31). Even if we do not accept this speculation, the highest stones east of W3003 were found at -58.17. It could not be determined whether the stone construction of this city wall was higher than -58.17.

In L. 3018, nearly exclusively Early Bronze Age sherds were found (additionally two pieces of Iron Age II sherds). A small trench L. 3019 was opened within the area of L. 3018. This trench demonstrated that bedrock was only centimeters below L. 3018 and it also produced a limited number of exclusively Early Bronze Age sherds.

⁸ The Iron Age I strata respectively local strata H1 (site stratum V) and H2 (VI) will be published in a separate volume.

These finds strongly suggest that the older city wall was built in the Early Bronze Age and it may be attributed to either stratum XI or XII. This is in accordance with the results of the other excavation areas, such as area C and G, further uphill where an Early Bronze Age city wall was found. The corresponding stratum is local stratum H5 (see below).

Stratum H3: A Squatter or Meager “Nachbesiedlung” (Fig. 2.5.1.7.)

As will be shown below, the main excavated Bronze Age habitation activity in Area H was in stratum H4. Stratum H3 is a limited squatter habitation or “Nachbesiedlung” after the abandonment of the main settlement in H4. After the destruction of H4, many of the habitants would have stayed at the site and tried to rebuild simple houses, which lasted only for a short period. The walls from this stratum were hardly excavated because they are situated at the edge of excavation area H. A few building remains were only found in squares BU 19–21. The orientation of the few walls attributed to H3 is different from those of stratum H4. Evidently, the surviving settlers did not rebuild destroyed and abandoned houses, but built new ones.

The main excavated remains are the two fragments of W3135 (square BU 20) and W3169 (square BU 21) which form a corner of a house. Wall W3169 uses the still standing wall W3171 from local level H4 as a basis and strengthened it by an additional row of stones (see Fig. 2.5.1.3.). Unfortunately, most of the walls are hidden in the balk. The lower level of these walls is at -56.80/-56.69. W3135 survived for a length of a little bit more than 3 m but it is partly covered by the Iron Age I wall W3111. Therefore, the width of this wall cannot be established. W3169 is excavated for a length of 1.6 m and is about 1 m high. It was set on two larger stones lying in the debris of H4 (see Fig. 2.5.1.3.). *Ṭābūn* L. 3112 was inside the corner which was a shelter for the *ṭābūn*. The floor level inside this courtyard is at -56.55 – some 15 cm higher than the area outside the walls. The top of the *ṭābūn* is preserved at a height of -56.29, its foundation was at -56.61, the inside diameter is 70 cm, and the outside diameter 80 cm. Pottery within the *ṭābūn* was completely mixed (including Iron Age I sherds! – likely intrusions). Therefore, the installation cannot be dated but it must predate Iron Age I (stratum VI) and postdate Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I (stratum H4). It is even possible that the *ṭābūn* was built after the house W3135/W3169 was abandoned; some bedouins or the earliest settlers of the Iron Age I town may have used the wind screen of the destroyed walls.



Fig. 2.5.1.3. W3169 (local stratum H3) and W3171 (local stratum H4). The picture shows that W3171 is deeper founded than W3169. Therefore, W3171 was still standing when local level H3 with W3169 was built. The settlers used the old wall and enlarged it a little bit to the southwest. It is likely that W3171 was thicker than W3169, and therefore there is an offset in the wall.

Wall fragment W3141 was found in the northwestern corner of square BU 20. The contact zone with W3135 is hidden in the balk but the walls are standing on the same height. Unfortunately, this wall fragment is also only excavated for a length of 0.75 m. According to the height, another very small wall fragment likely belonging to this stratum was discovered in the westernmost corner of square CA 19 (W3200). Unfortunately, no stone-by-stone drawing of this wall fragment exists. It may belong to another house built on the slope. If this is true, its orientation was different to the orientation of the other house.

The attribution of other loci to this local stratum affords some more considerations. Several walking horizons, maybe even installations can be expected outside of the few building remains of local stratum H3. The link of any loci with local stratum H3 is only possible by comparing the height of the loci of the different strata. The following overview will present the foundations of the walls which are attributed to the specific strata (H1 is not considered) differentiated by squares.⁹ The surface of a stratum is not completely flat and the position on the sloping hill results

⁹ Squares CC 22, CB 21 and CB 22 are not considered because only city walls are inside this square, CA 22 and CB 20 yielded no data.

in some differences in the height. Therefore, only the heights in the direct neighborhood can be compared. This table will help to offer some more detailed data for a stratigraphy not only for local layer H3, but also for earlier layers.¹⁰

Square	H2	H3	H4
BT 22	-55.12		No level found, lower than -56.81
BU 19	-56.75 to -56.94	-57.11 (floor)	-57.25 to -57.41
BU 20	-56.08 to -56.54	-56.69 to -56.80	-57.72 to -57.78 (floors)
BU 21	-56.33 to -56.49	-56.75	-57.39 (W3045) to -57.45 -57.52 (floor L. 3146) to -57.76 (installation L. 3196)
BU 22	-54.93		-57.36 to -57.56
BU 23	Likely -55.12 to -55.36		No data
CA 19	-57.66		-57.85 to -58.15
CA 20	-56.60 to -56.93		-57.48 to -57.52
CA 21	-56.24 to -57.73 ¹¹		-57.95 to -57.82

Table 2.5.1.2. Heights of the lower levels of walls according to squares and local strata.

The height of a locus should correspond to the walls even if the link between the walking horizon and the lower level was not observed. Floors always join a wall and therefore the corresponding floors or walking horizon should be at least some centimeters higher than the lower wall level.

Several loci describing floors or walking horizons are connected with the remains of these few buildings. L. 3155 is situated west of W3190 in square BU 19 at -57.11. A second floor was found at -57.25 (L. 3167). Some mudbrick material was found on top of a plastered floor, which may be part of the courtyard of this building. In the same square is L. 3161 which was opened to clarify the outer face of W3174 (local stratum H1/H2). The excavation of this locus reached -57.03 – not as deep as L. 3155, and therefore no floor was reached. Mudbrick material was found there, too.



Fig. 2.5.1.4. (upper line, left). Smashed pottery in L. 3137.



Fig. 2.5.1.5. (lower line, left). Test trench in L. 3137.

Fig. 2.5.1.6. (lower line, right) Detail of the test trench in L. 3137 showing the two plasters one above the other.



¹⁰ No walls were found in local layer H5.

¹¹ The basis of city wall W3003 is founded at -57.87, but its construction can be attributed to local stratum H1.

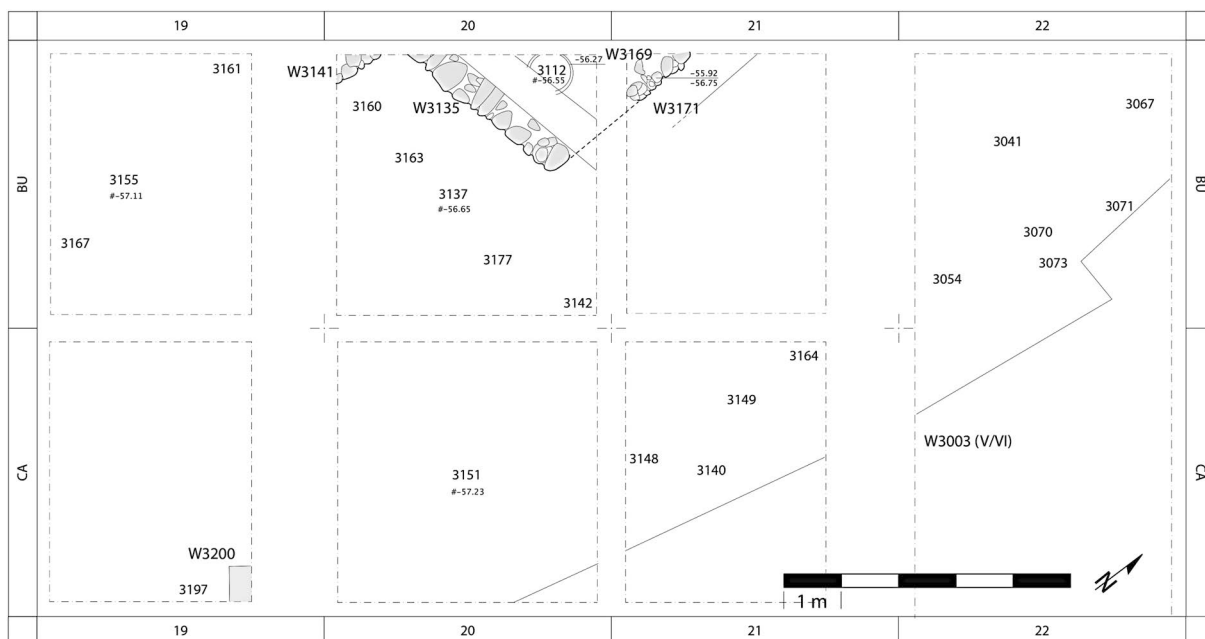


Fig. 2.5.1.7. Plan stratum H3.

Several loci can likely be combined with local stratum H3 in square BU 20: L. 3137, L. 3160, and L. 3163 cover the main part of the square, while L. 3142 is situated in the southeastern corner. L. 3137 is an upper plastered floor level (at -56.59/-56.62) evidently a renovation phase of the plastered floor L. 3160 which is few centimeters below (at -56.65). L. 3163 describes the material between both layers. This second plaster was also found in three small test trenches opened in L. 3137 (see fig. 2.5.1.4. and 2.5.1.5.). The upper plaster is the continuation of plaster L. 3155. L. 3142 was too small for further data. The finds found in L. 3137 will be important for dating local stratum H3. Maybe also in L. 3177 a floor connected with local stratum H3 was found at level -56.85 but only some flat sherds were found here and no plastered area.

No locus of squares BU 21 can be attributed to local stratum H3. A schematic stratigraphy drawing originally prepared for a locus card (L. 3076 of square BU 22) explains the stratigraphy in square BU 22 (see Fig. 2.5.1.8.). It shows the same two floors as in square BU 20 but about 60 cm deeper (-57.25 respectively -57.38). The corresponding loci belonging to local stratum H3 are the two floors L. 3041 and below it L. 3043. L. 3054 of the same square is debris above these floors. No floor was reached and excavations went down only to -56.89. Also in L. 3067, which was excavated down to -56.75, no floor was reached. L. 3063 of the same square demonstrates that this pavement and stone layer was not distributed in the whole square. Here, excavations did not find any floor at approximately -57.25. The excavators continued to dig further down into the layer below. Anyhow, in L. 3070 a floor was found at -57.57 but it was mostly damaged by the foundation trench of the Iron Age wall W3003. In L. 3071 the floor was at -57.47.

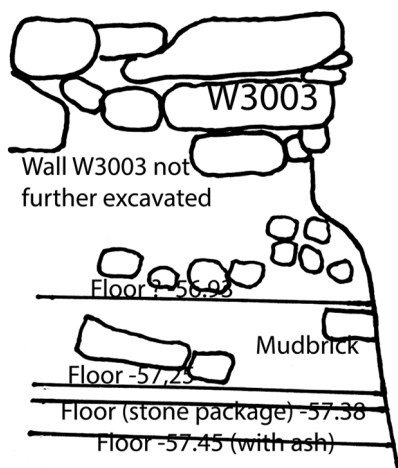


Fig. 2.5.1.8. This schematic drawing of the stratigraphy below the Iron Age city wall W3003. The upper level of this locus was at -57.65, the lower level at -58.69. The possible floor at -56.93 has definitely to be connected with a pre-Bronze Age layer. The two levels at -57.25 and -57.38 are likely both connected with the two layers of stratum H3. There is another layer with ashes at -57.45 which should be associated with local stratum H4.



Fig. 2.5.1.9. Plastered floor of L. 3151 in square CA 20.

L. 3197 situated in the southeastern corner of square CA 19 (lower level -57.58) likely reached local stratum H3 but the small excavation area did reveal any walking horizons. In square CA 20 L. 3151 belongs to stratum H3. Also here the already mentioned plastered floor (L. 3160, L. 3167) had been found. Along the later Iron Age I city wall W3003 the plaster was destroyed by a foundation trench L. 3152 which reached as deep as local stratum H3.

In square CA 21, L. 3164 reached a floor at -57.03. An almost complete vessel (reg. no. 4397/1) was found at this floor. Due to the sloping ground in the square the same floor was found at -57.27 (L. 3148) and at -57.42 (L. 3149). A few pieces of oven material were found here but its layout cannot be reconstructed. Several pits dug from local strata H1/H2 down to this level destroyed the plan; the finds found within the pits naturally belong to local stratum H1/H2 even if their height was next to local stratum H3.

Dating local stratum H3 depends mostly on the daily pottery reading and the few restorable pottery items. During the daily pottery reading few Early Bronze Age and mostly (partly exclusively) Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I pottery was found. The existence of some Iron Age I pottery (L. 3112, L. 3155¹²) may be due to the huge amount of soil attributed to the affecting loci – up to 80 cm of debris! An almost complete carinated bowl (L. 3164, reg. no. 43971/1) has been attributed by J. AL DAIRE to both Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, but its parallels mainly belong to the Middle Bronze Age IIC.¹³ Three cooking pots all found in L. 3137 (reg. nos. 4420/1, 4340/2 and 4340/3) are typical for the Middle Bronze Age, too.¹⁴ Two kraters from the same locus (reg. nos. 4340/1 and 4333/1) cannot be differentiated between Middle Bronze Age II and Late Bronze Age I.¹⁵ Another cooking pot from the same locus (reg. no. 4314/1) is in a Late Bronze Age tradition.¹⁶

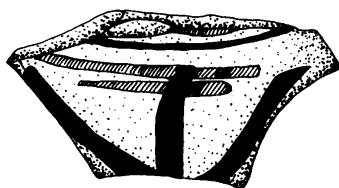


Fig. 2.5.1.10. Painted handle, L. 3137, reg. 4314/2.

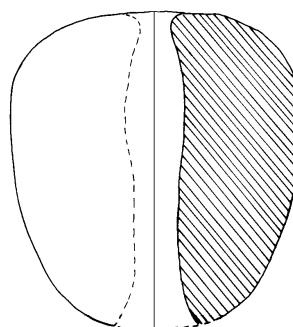


Fig. 2.5.1.11. Mace head fragment, L. 3137, reg. 4314/50.

¹² In L. 3155 the excavators mentioned that a large fragment of a Philistine bowl was found relatively high under the pavement L. 3144 belonging to strata H1/H2.

¹³ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 10:4.

¹⁴ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 11:9–14.18.

¹⁵ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 12:7.9.

¹⁶ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 14:10.

Two more finds have to be discussed in this context. A painted handle (reg. 4314/2; see Fig. 2.5.1.10, size 6.4 x 3.6 cm)¹⁷ is decorated with a vertical line and two diagonal lines crossing at a single point.¹⁸ This decoration is typical for the Late Bronze Age period¹⁹ and may possibly symbolize a palm tree.²⁰ A fragment of a mace head (reg. 4314/50) made of white limestone (see Fig. 2.5.1.11., height: 6.6 cm, reconstructed diameter 6.0 cm) cannot be dated exactly. Nevertheless, these mace-heads are rather typical for the Chalcolithic period and the Early Bronze Age and were not used anymore in the Middle Bronze Age;²¹ maybe the mace head was an heirloom.

The few pottery items found in local stratum H3 allow an attribution to the transition of the Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I period with a preference for the (early) Late Bronze Age I period. The settlers of the squattered habitation still used some pottery forms typical for the Middle Bronze Age but some Late Bronze Age forms also appear (e.g., the Late Bronze Age I cooking pot reg. no. 4314/1). This stratum can be associated with final stratum VII which likely represents only a short transition period after the end of H4 (see below). No proof for a violent destruction has been found in area H. Therefore, the inhabitants of the “Nachbesiedlung” stratum H3 left *Tell el-'Orēme* after several years or few decades.

Local Stratum H4 (Fig. 2.5.1.14.)

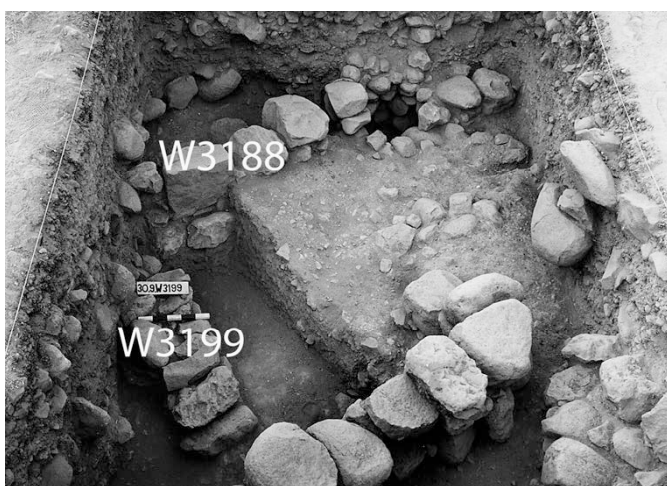


Fig. 2.5.1.12. W3199 (floor L. 3172 is not yet reached). In front of the two walls is W3187 of local strata H1/H2.



Fig. 2.5.1.13. Square BU 20, entrance to the main building in Area H, stratum H4.

¹⁷ Color of clay: 5YR pink 8/4; color of core: 10YR very pale brown 8/3; small grits: many gray, white; big grits: few white; medium-high firing; decoration: almost black star on handle; black and light red concentric circles on shoulder (used colors: 7.5YR very dark gray N3/10R light red 6/8).

¹⁸ Cf. CHOI 2016, 155–156 type Mhd A1 (Class 57–1). Since it is broken types Mhd A2, Bhd B1 or B2 are possible, too.

¹⁹ Cf. for parallels from the nearby site of *Tell el-Qedah*/Hazor BEN-TOR et al. 2017, Fig. 7.8:3 (Late Bronze Age II); 7.17:23 (Late Bronze Age II); Fig. 7.58:21 (Late Bronze Age I/II); 7.66:8 (Late Bronze Age I/II); 7.75:9 (Late Bronze Age I/II); 7.106:15 (Late Bronze Age II); 7.116:9 (Late Bronze Age II); 7.138:14 (Late Bronze Age II). Cf. also the parallels in CHOI 2016, 155–156.

²⁰ CHOI 2016, 155.

²¹ CZARNOWICZ 2014; BONNET 1926, 1–16; WEIPPERT 1977.

Local stratum H4 is represented by a larger building discovered in squares CA 19, BU 20, CA 20, BU 21, CA 21, BT 22, BU 22 and CA 22. The building is destroyed in its southeastern part by the Iron Age I city wall W3003. The main rectangular room is formed by walls W3199 (CA 19) on the southern, W3188/W3168 (CA 19/BU 20) on the western, W3191/W3150 (BU 20/CA 21) on the northern, and W3193 (CA 21) on the eastern side. W3199 is 60 cm wide and preserved 30 cm high (two courses). The basis of the stones is at -58.15. W3188 is ca. 40 cm wide and one course high (50 cm). Due to the slope the basis is a little bit higher (-57.85). The continuation of W3188 is W3168 (4 m long). Only in the northeast it was cut by W3135 (local stratum H3) and W3111 (local stratum H1/H2). No data about the foundation of the wall are available. In the center of the square is a 1 m broad entrance into the room. There is a kind of rounded walled passageway leading to the entrance (W3180 in BU 20). The curved wall is 40 to 60 cm wide and it is preserved in five courses at a height of 120 cm. W3191/W3150 are built in a right angle to W3188. While the outer face of W3191 is in the balk, its continuation W3150 offers some more data. This wall is 70 cm wide and is composed of four to five courses of stones. Excavation did not reach the bottom of the wall but floor L. 3148 joins the wall at -57.95. Finally, W3193 closes the room. Unfortunately, it is mostly covered by the Iron Age I city wall W3003. This wall is two rows (40 cm) wide. The bottom of the stones was not reached; excavations stopped when floor L. 3148 was reached.

The size of the room is surprisingly large: about 9 x 6 m (inner face)! Normally, 6 m cannot be bridged with Palestinian beams (only with precious beams of cedars and cypresses originating in the Lebanon Mountains). W3192 divides the eastern part of the room into two nearly equal portions. This wall is two rows (90 cm) wide and about 1.5 m long. No additional walls or columns to support a roof were found. We suppose that the eastern part with W3192 was covered with a roof, while the larger western part was unroofed and was used as a courtyard.

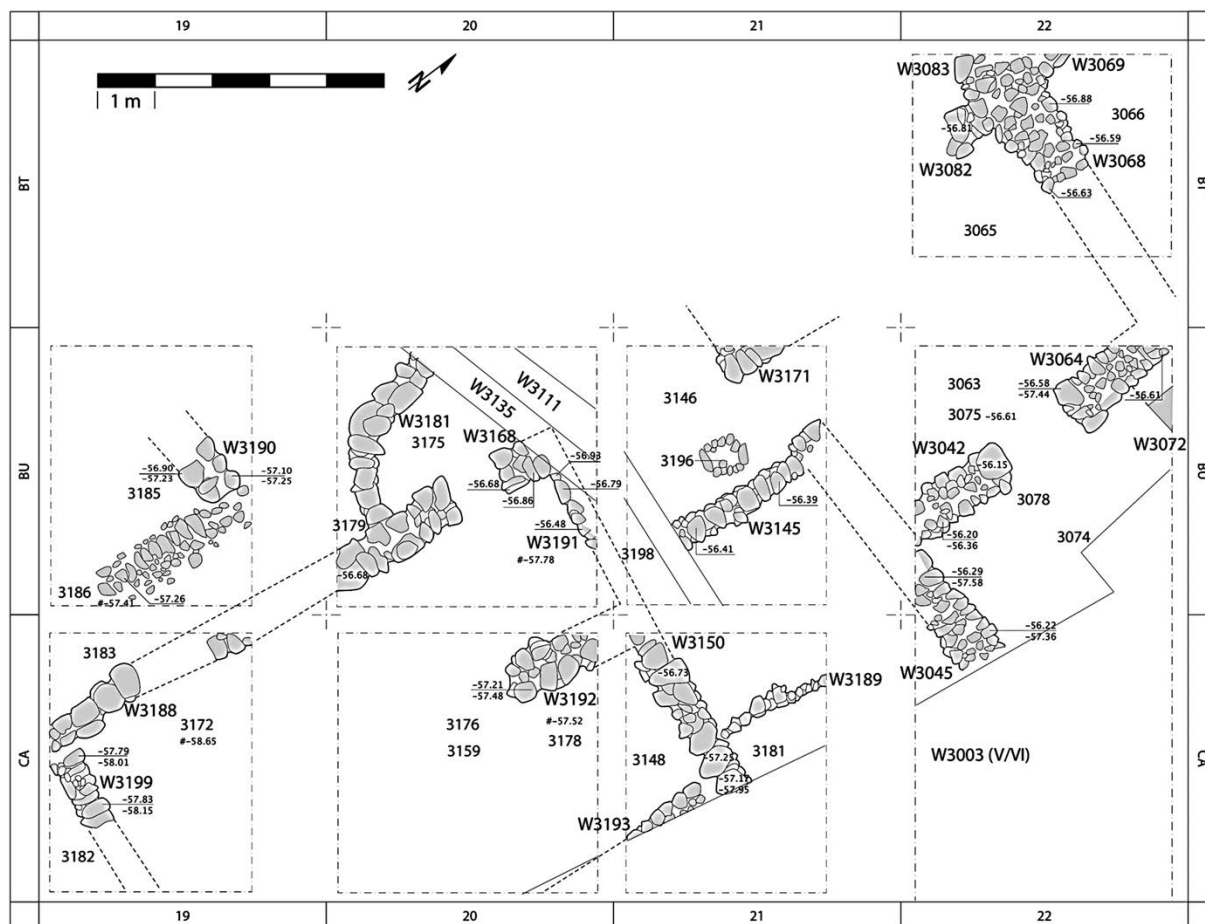


Fig. 2.5.1.14. Local stratum H4.

Several loci can be attributed to the space inside the room. In square CA 19, the basis of W3199 is at -58.15, while the basis of W3188 is at -57.85. The corresponding floor is expected to be a little higher. In L. 3172 a floor was reached at -57.65, adjoining W3188. Some remains of ash were found here that maybe originated from a fireplace. This would confirm the assumption that the western part of the room was unroofed because fireplaces are normally built in open courtyards and not in roofed houses. L. 3183 likely reached the same floor at -57.67 although this is not mentioned on the locus card. Test trench L. 3182 was opened in L. 3172 but no additional floor

was found until excavation ended at -58.23. In square CA 20 a whitish plaster floor was found in L. 3159 at -57.63 – nearly at the same level as in square CA 19. L. 3176 is a test trench below L. 3159 and it demonstrates that there is another habitation level H5 below. Also, L. 3178 was a test trench below L. 3159, but it did not provide any further results. L. 3175 belongs in square BU 20 to the entrance area, while L. 3179 is the area west of the rounded wall W3180, and L. 3198 is situated inside the room. In L. 3198 a floor was discovered at -57.78. This level corresponds with the entrance to the room. The doorstep of the entrance area L. 3175 was at -57.67. The problem of the difference of 11 cm cannot be solved. It is not clear if any floor was reached in L. 3179 outside the rounded wall at -57.58.

Two more rooms are annexed to this main room on the northern side. The first one is formed by the northern wall of the main room, by W3145 (BU 21) in the west and by W3045 (BU 22) in the north. W3145 is 50 cm wide and survived in a height of 90 cm. W3045 is mostly hidden in the balk between BU 21 and 22 but can easily be reconstructed by the two excavated ends of the wall. This wall is nearly 1 m wide. The eastern wall of this room is hidden under the Iron Age I city wall W3003. The room is 4 m broad and more than 4 m large. Nearly parallel to the Iron Age city wall W3003 runs the thin wall W3189 at level -57.87/-57.80. Between the two walls is L. 3181, but only debris was found there without any floor. One may speculate if the small wall is the border of an elongated pit or of a small platform.



Fig. 2.5.1.15. Floor L. 3146 and installation L. 3196, on the left side W3145 and the projecting stub of W3045 with a passageway to the neighboring room.

Another room is annexed to the north with walls W3042 and W3064 (BU 22), both 0.9 m wide, flanking an entrance to the room. The other walls of this room in the east and the north were not excavated. No corresponding floor was observed in this room, but pit L. 3078 (BU 22) probably belongs to this stratum. Its upper level is few centimeters below (-57.72) the lower level of the walls, but the excavators may not have observed the uppermost centimeters of this pit. Unfortunately, this pit and its exact extent was not drawn. A small wall fragment W3072 was found next to the northeastern balk of BU 22. It is not drawn on any plan but according to the level of its base (-57.40) it has to be attributed to this stratum.²² The wall fragment is obviously less than 0.5 x 1 m in size and disappears in the balk. The floor outside this room (L. 3063; the southwestern corner of the square, at -57.45) was partly covered with ash.

Some more walls exist to the northwest (W3171 in BU 21 and the crosswise intersection of W3082/W3068/W3083/W3069 in BU 22). W3171 has likely to be connected with W3082. There was clearly a passageway between W3171 and W3045 but the function of all these walls is not clear because of the limited space of excavation here. L. 3065 and L. 3066 are around this intersection, but excavations were not deep enough to reach a floor.

²² Fig. 2.5.1.14. reproduces the freehand sketch on the locus card.

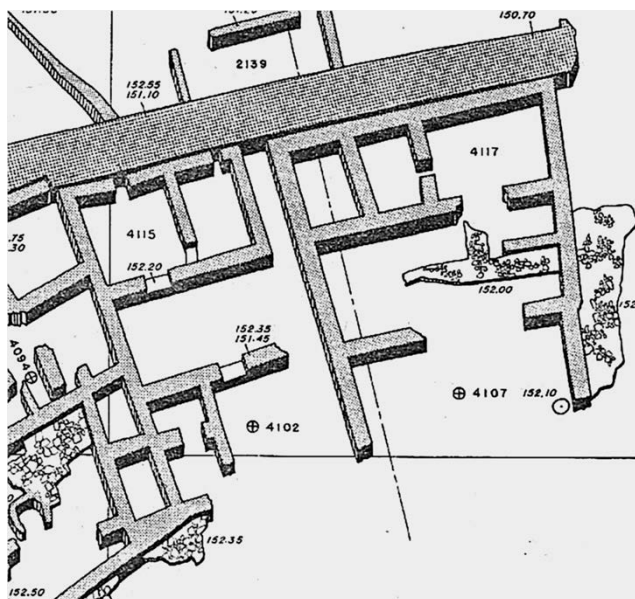


Fig. 2.5.1.16. House complex found in *Tell el-Mutesellim/Megiddo*, Area AA, Stratum XII (Middle Bronze Age II) with a similar construction of the main room as in local stratum H3 (LOUD 1948, Fig. 378, excerpt). Adjoining the city wall is a line of rooms (4117) likely hidden in *Tell el-'Orēme* below the Iron Age I city wall W3003. It follows a courtyard with two likely roofed rooms on the right side.

A plastered floor L. 3146 with an installation L. 3196 (see Fig. 2.5.1.15.) was found between walls W3171 and W3145 in square BU 21. The installation is a square or slightly roundish structure (0.6 x 1.0 m) made of several stones, but its function is not clear. No ashes were found on top of the stones.

Channel L. 3186, built by side stones and partly covered with stones, was found in square BU 19. The width of the unplastered channel is 10–15 cm while the side stones are about 50 cm. The function of this channel is unclear as its starting point is hidden in the balk between BU 19 and 20. It may have been a sewage drain that diverted rainwater away from the base of the building. The rounded wall in square BU 20 may be connected to this as well: it would have drained water into the channel. A similar channel in a habitation area was found in *Tell el-Qedah/Hazor* Area C, stratum 3, room 6103 (Middle Bronze Age II).²³ W3190 is sitting above the channel and belongs to the same stratum. The base of W3190 is at -57.23/-27.25, the highest stones of the channel are -57.38/-57.24. Therefore, there is no gap between the channel and the wall above and they belong together. Due to its limited excavated size the function of this wall could not be determined. There was hard greyish material around the channel (L. 3185, a floor?).

The reconstructed house complex is a typical Middle Bronze Age courtyard house. A nearly exact parallel for the main room exists in *Tell el-Mutesellim/Megiddo* Stratum XII (house 4107, see Fig. 2.5.1.16.)²⁴ and is dated to early Middle Bronze Age II. The building complex at Megiddo is attached to the city wall, while a city wall from this period has not been found at *Tell el-'Orēme*; the survived Early Bronze Age city wall remains (highest spot -58.17) are deeper than the lowest level of local stratum H4).²⁵

Nearly all loci of local stratum H4 contained (little) Early Bronze Age and Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age sherds or only Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age pottery. Only in L. 3172 (CA 19) some Iron Age I pottery was discovered but this may be a later intrusion (animal holes, roots etc.). Only little restored and drawn pottery has been found in local stratum H4: a bowl in L. 3065,²⁶ two kraters in L. 3146 and L. 3175,²⁷ and two jugs both from L. 3146.²⁸ Exact dating is challenging due to the fact that the Middle Bronze Age II production continued partly into the Late Bronze Age I period. Most of the items can be dated in one of these two periods but the bowl (reg. no. 6319/4) found in L. 3065 is typical for the Middle Bronze Age II period. Therefore, H4 should be dated to the Middle Bronze Age II period and may be connected with the site stratum IX or VIII.

There is no evidence for a violent destruction in this part of the site at the end of local stratum H4. Evidently settlers left the site but after a while the new occupation of the squatter settlement of local stratum H3 started.

²³ See YADIN 1960, 78–79. The drainage channel begins here in the neighboring room 6203. Like in our area H, the channel is bridged by a wall situated directly on top of the channel.

²⁴ LOUD 1948, Fig. 378–379. Cf. KEMPINSKI/REICH (Eds.) 1992, 101 Fig. 4.

²⁵ Anyhow, it is possible that the Early Bronze Age city wall W3010 remained higher during the Middle Bronze Age period and was only reduced during the Iron Age I period, when stones were reused by the architects of W3003, but this is pure speculation.

²⁶ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 9:5.

²⁷ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 12:8.10.

²⁸ Cf. this volume chapter 3.1. Fig. 15:4.7.

Local Stratum H5

Remains below local stratum H4 were excavated only in square BU 22.²⁹ The walls of local stratum H4 in this square are founded at $-57.47/-57.36$. L. 3074 (from -57.47 to -57.66) is a soil debris, perhaps an underfilling of the floor above, in which case L. 3074 may be connected with stratum H4. This is also possible for L. 3075 which was excavated down to -57.69 .

Only few remains survived in square BU 22, mostly in the southeastern part of the square. L. 3076 comprises about 1 m of debris down to -58.69 . Collapsed stones were found at -57.80 , which is thus under local stratum H4. W3081 is a small wall fragment in this square, built according to the hand sketch on the locus card in a right angle to W3003. Wall W3081 was 1.2–1.3 m broad, which makes it much thicker than the walls in the later periods. The corresponding floor was not reached during excavation. Unfortunately, this wall was never drawn and cannot be presented in the final drawing.³⁰ L. 3077 was excavated down to -58.76 , and a kind of collapse was found there, too. A similar situation was found at L. 3080, which was excavated down to -58.67 . L. 3079 is a round installation built of four stones at -58.31 . The inner measurements of the installation are 24 x 26 cm. The four stones surrounding it were fixed with (burnt) loamy soil. The installation contained considerable amounts of ash and a cooking pot was found obviously sitting on top of the installation. Therefore, this installation is probably a cooking or fire place. Cooking places were usually situated in courtyards. This may explain the absence of walls attributed to local stratum H5 (besides the collapses of a wall). Bedrock was partly reached in square BU 22 (at -57.89). This limited the area in this locus for clear results.

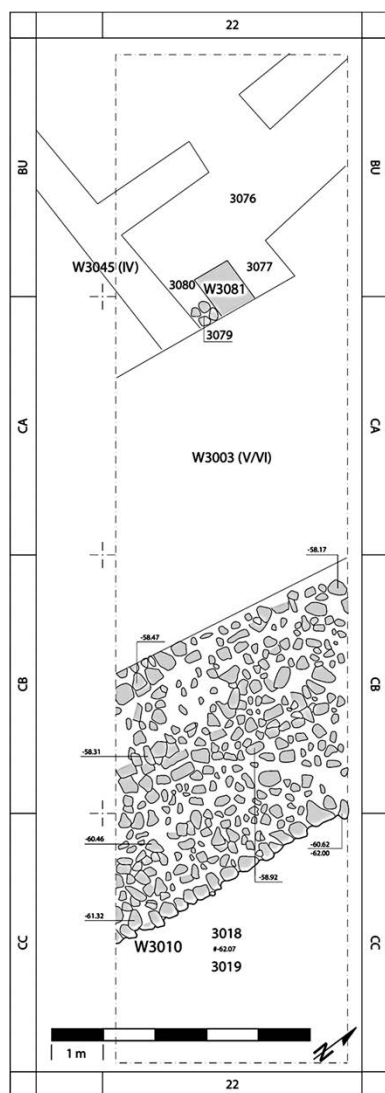


Fig. 2.5.1.17. The remains of local stratum H5 in square BU 22. The width and the length of W3081 and the exact position of L. 3079 are only approximate. No stone-by-stone-drawing of these loci exists.

²⁹ In square CA 20, a test trench L. 3176 below L. 3159 was opened. Some wall remains from a stratum below local level H4 were observed, but the trench was too small for further details.

³⁰ According to the hand sketch of the locus card W3081 is situated between W3045 (local stratum H4) to the southwest and the projection of W3003 in the east. The length of the wall is according to this drawing about 1.2 m.

During daily pottery reading a mixture of Early and Middle/Late Bronze Age pottery was found in L. 3074 and L. 3075.³¹ This may support the assumption that these two loci are an underfilling of local stratum H4 and should be rather connected with the building activities of that layer. All other squares yielded Early Bronze Age material only. Unfortunately, no restorable pottery was found in the limited area of local stratum H5. The stratigraphy is similar to the neighboring areas. The few results of the daily pottery reading and the position directly above bedrock allow a tentative and very cautious attribution of this layer to the Early Bronze Age, contemporary with the construction of the city wall W3010 (see above). Therefore, we tentatively attribute local stratum H5 to final stratum XI and/or XII.

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³¹ L. 3076 is a mixture of several layers and cannot be used for dating local layer H5. For a Middle Bronze Age II carinated bowl cf. in this volume chapter 3.1, Fig. 10:1. In L. 3077 Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery was only found in the upper part of the locus. The lower remains are exclusively Early Bronze Age period.

2.5.2. Locus List

- Locus no.:* W3010 *Square:* CC 22 – CB 22
Local stratum: H5 *Site stratum:* IX or X
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: East of W3003 (city wall Iron Age I) and below it this wall was found, built by medium-sized stones (20–30 cm). The wall is at least 4 m wide but covered in its western part by W3003. W3010 and W3003 are normally divided by an earthen layer and are in contact only at one spot. The outer face of W3010 was observed in square CC 20. This outer face survived between 0.55 (south) and 1.47 m (north) high. At the lower edge of W3010 exists a flat area built of small pebbles (L. 3018).
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -57.80 *Lower level:* -62.07
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 155, 265, 266, 267, 275 n. 25, *Index to the plates:*
277, 1014.
- Locus no.:* 3018 *Square:* CC 22
Local stratum: H5 *Site stratum:* IX or X
Short description/characterization: Floor
Description: L. 3018 is the floor at the bottom of W3010. It consists of many stones (10–20 cm diameter); the soil in between is gray. The horizon goes flat at 1 m width along W3010. Two trenches in L. 3018 showed that there is no other artificial structure below this floor.
Baskets of locus: 6046, 6049, 6054, 6063, 6066, 6069
Upper level: -62.07 *Lower level:* -63.18
Finds of the locus: Bones *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, two pieces Iron Age II
Index to the text: p. 265, 267, 580, 586828. *Index to the plates:* Figs. 3.1.2:1.; 3.1.2:4.; 3.1.5:5.; 4.4.64:668.
- Locus no.:* 3019 *Square:* CC 22
Local stratum: H5 *Site stratum:* IX or X
Short description/characterization: Test trench
Description: L. 3019 is a trench at the northeastern edge of the CC 22 beneath floor L. 3018. It is a layer of hard soil with stones in size of a fist. In the northern corner of the square below the W3010 rock is visible. L. 3019 is a thin soil layer between rock and floor L. 3018.
Baskets of locus: 6051, 6053
Upper level: -62.80 *Lower level:* -63.00
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age (five pieces)
Index to the text: p. 267. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3026 (cancelled)¹ *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: *Site stratum:*
Short description/characterization: Fill?
Description: Light grey soil. Stones are appearing.
Baskets of locus: 6075
Upper level: -56.02 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Middle Bronze Age II
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 278 n. 1. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3029 (cancelled) *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: *Site stratum:*
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: Gray soil becomes brown.
Baskets of locus: 6087, 6088, 6089
Upper level: -56.14 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: Bones *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age II
Index to the text: p. 278 n. 1. *Index to the plates:*

¹ The information in the locus card is very limited. Evidently square BU 22 was divided into two parts: the northwestern 2/3 are covered by L. 3029, the southeastern 1/3 by L. 3026. It seems that these two loci are only fill without any relevant floors or other remarkable features. Therefore, these loci are cancelled. The corresponding loci should be the loci below them.

- Locus no.:* 3040 see L. 3041 *Square:* BU 22
- Locus no.:* 3041 (includes cancelled L. 3040, L. 3058 and L. 3060) *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: Brown soil and clay brick debris above a flat stone paved floor (-57.34/-57.20).
Baskets of locus: 6103, 6104, 6105, 6111, 6112, 6113, 6114, 6115, 6146, 6147, 6148, 6154, 6160, 6172, 6173, 6176, 6177, 6195, 6196, 6129, 6226, 6225, 6255, 6270, 6271
Upper level: -56.24 *Lower level:* -57.25²
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age (in some baskets dominantly), Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age (dominantly in some other baskets), few Iron Age II
Index to the text: p. 270, 557, 590, 598, 782, 836, 840, 879, 911. *Index to the plates:* Figs. 3.1.7:7.; 3.1.7:11.; 3.1.9:15.; 3.1.11:4.; 3.1.11:6; 3.1.11:7.; 3.1.11:11.; 3.1.11:13.; 4.4.41:363.; 4.4.62:658.; 4.4.68:707.; 4.4.70:738.; Tab. 4.10.14.; Fig. 4.10.20.
- Locus no.:* W3042 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Wall built of two courses of stones, joins W3045. L. 3041 joins the wall. According to the drawing, the wall is 0.9 m wide.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: *Lower level:* -56.14
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 274. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3045 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Forms a corner with W3042. According to the drawing, the wall is 0.9 to 1.0 m wide.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 269, 274, 276 n. 30. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3054 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: In a small triangular area formed by W3045 and the balk. The outer face of W3045 was at -56.22, but excavation continued on the limited space further down. Reddish-brown mudbrick.
Baskets of locus: 6210, 6213, 6218, 6227
Upper level: -56.02 *Lower level:* -56.89
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 270. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3058 (cancelled, integrated into L. 3041) *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: *Site stratum:*
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: By reaching of possible fragments of a wall, which could be an extension of W3042, locus was closed and continued in L. 3059 and L. 3060 (now final L. 3041). The removed material consisted of a stone collapse that differs clearly in its texture from the pit that is assumed in L. 3056.
Baskets of locus: 6232
Upper level: -56.12 *Lower level:* -56.34
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: *Index to the plates:*

² Evidently there are some measurement errors within this locus because some measurements are deeper than the lower level mentioned in the locus card.

Locus no.: 3059 (cancelled, integrated into L. 3063) *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Fill
Description: At the beginning relatively hard brown soil mixed by small stones, soon disturbed by a massive stone collapse that could be detected as a pit (loose, thrown-in stones with many spaces between them and a few pottery). When we reached the assumed wall crown of the continuation of W3042 a pit appeared in the northern corner of the square.
Baskets of locus: 6234, 6238, 6245, 6252, 6257
Upper level: -56.36 *Lower level:* -56.75
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: *Index to the plates:*

Locus no.: 3060 (cancelled, see L. 3041)

Locus no.: 3063 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: A collapse of clay bricks, partial with stones or sand, partial with charcoal particles and fragments of slag. A floor patch at -56.88 was observed, belonging perhaps to a walking horizon. No floor level was found on level -57.25, the entrance level between W3042 and W3064. Level -57.45 began with an ashy layer but there is no typical floor ground level visible at the ashy layer.³
Baskets of locus: 6247, 6249, 6251, 6258, 6263, 6268, 6277, 6282, 6286, 6288
Upper level: -56.59 *Lower level:* -57.45
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 270, 274, 776. *Index to the plates:* Fig. 4.4.38:333.; Tab. 4.10.14.

Locus no.: W3064 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: The wall crown is broken off. Most likely the wall was built of 4 rows and measured 90 cm in the width. The wall of W3064 seems to cut the wall of W3072. On the foundation of both walls it is visible that both walls are nearly meeting. A ground floor package joins W3064 (levels: -57.25, -57.33).
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -56.75 (upper crown of the wall: -56.59) *Lower level:* -57.47
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 274. *Index to the plates:*

Locus no.: 3065 *Square:* BT 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: A small trench was opened to see the connections of W3068, W3069, W3082, and W3083, which build a cruciform construction. No floor level was reached.
Baskets of locus: 6262, 6267, 6276, 6318, 6319
Upper level: -56.67 *Lower level:* -57.03
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 274, 275, 590. *Index to the plates:* Fig. 3.1.7:5.

Locus no.: 3066 *Square:* BT 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: Hard grey-brown/light brown stamping clay floor was reached shortly after opening the locus (level -56.84). The floor joins W3068 and W3069. A seeking trench along W3068 showed that the ground floor package is about 3 cm thick. Next to the wall edge the package becomes thicker (ca. 7 cm). Below the package the soil changes first to light brown loose soil material and later to dark brown ground earth interstratified with small stones.
Baskets of locus: 6261, 6266, 6275, 6322
Upper level: -56.67 *Lower level:* -57.05

³ The data presented here in the locus card are a little bit strange. According to the stone-by-stone-drawing is the basis of W3042 at -57.54, while the basis of W3064 is at -57.47. Therefore, the corresponding floor is the ashy layer at -57.45, and there might possibly be a later floor at -56.88.

- Finds of the locus:* *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 274. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3067 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: L. 3067 is the continuation of the filling between the walls of W3064 and W3072. The wedge-shaped locus joins both walls. Hard clay debris material with relatively few pottery.
Baskets of locus: 6265, 6272
Upper level: -56.75 *Lower level:* -56.94
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II
Index to the text: p. 270. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3068 *Square:* BT 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Built in (at least) 2 stone rows and filled with smaller stones. The upper edge of the wall was heavily slipped. The upper stones of the northern edge of the wall had to be removed for identifying the width of the wall. There seems to be an entrance in the eastern direction. The wall joins with W3069, W3082 and W3083.
Baskets of locus: 6323
Upper level: -56.67 (upper edge of wall: -56.59) *Lower level:* Could not be recorded.
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 274. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3069 *Square:* BT 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: W3069 is sticking in the balk; therefore, no information is available about the dimension of W3069. In the seeking trench of L. 3066 two stone courses are visible. The floor joins the wall on level around -56.90. The wall is integrated into W3068.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -56.67 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 274. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3070 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: After removing of the stony floor of L. 3041, another ground floor package (L. 3070) appeared in southern direction (lime mixed with light brown clay). This floor is destroyed by the foundation trench of the Iron Age I city wall W3003. The foundation trench is about ca. 60 cm wide and was filled with small crushed stones and earth.
Baskets of locus: 6281, 6284, 6298, 6299, 6300
Upper level: -57.25 *Lower level:* -57.57
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 270. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3071 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Debris
Description: Ground floor package, partially from lime and partially from light brown clay soil. It was stamped hard and partial interstratified with small stones. Evidently the continuation of L. 3070 although the lower level is some centimeters higher.
Baskets of locus: 6285
Upper level: -57.33 *Lower level:* -57.47
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, mainly Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age
Index to the text: p. 270, 782. *Index to the plates:* Fig. 4.4.41:364.
- Locus no.:* W3072 *Square:* BU 22
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: The width of the wall is not to be determined because it sticks diagonal in the north-western balk. Likely it is cut by W3064.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.58 (opening level is arithmetic mean, because wall is disturbed in direction to west) *Lower level:* -57.40

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 274.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3073

Square: BU 22

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Pavement

Description: Pavement L. 3073 was found below pavement L. 3041 separated only by a thin fill. L. 3073 is disturbed near W3003. The pavement exists only on a limited area. According to the drawing on the locus card it seems to join W3042.

Baskets of locus: 6292, 6294

Upper level: -57.46

Lower level: -57.65

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Mostly Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

Index to the text:

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3074

Square: BU 22

Local stratum: below H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Soil interstratified with small stones (brown to grey). A few small stone collapses (underfilling of the ground floor above?).

Baskets of locus: 6287, 6289, 6293

Upper level: -57.47

Lower level: -57.66

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

Index to the text: p. 276, 277.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3075

Square: BU 22

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Outside of the roomed built by W3042/W3064/W3045. Collapsed mudbrick debris with small to middle-sized stones, partially interstratified with charcoal fragments. Small pit of reddish pebble stones (size not determinable, because sticking to balk, upper edge: -57.55).

Baskets of locus: 6290, 6291, 6295, 6296

Upper level: -57.45

Lower level: -57.69

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

Index to the text: p. 276, 277, 639, 662.

Index to the plates: Fig. 4.3.47.

Locus no.: 3076

Square: BU 22

Local stratum: H5

Site stratum: IX or X

Short description/characterization: Debris

Description: Brown, relatively loose soil mixed with small to middle-sized stones. From level -57.80 a huge multi-layered collapse of tightly packed stones (medium to big stones) that could not be excavated due to technical issues (depth of the square). This collapse could also be a possible stone installation (the collapse is bordered by a relatively straight line of stones) but the working space was too small to make a verified decision. A few centimeter deeper, bedrock pieces were observed starting from -57.89. In southeastern direction bedrock seems to be deeper and was observed. Working area was extremely reduced below from level -57.89; hard burnt clay brick material was found, which became crushed in the southern part and had a high percentage of lime. At -57.65 a collapse of stones was reached, distributed under both L. 3076 and L. 3077.

Baskets of locus: 6297, 6301, 6302, 6305, 6307, 6310, 6317, 6320

Upper level: -57.65/ -57.66

Lower level: -58.69

Finds of the locus: p. 276, 277 n. 31, 557, 592.

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

Index to the text:

Index to the plates: Fig. 3.1.8:1.

Locus no.: 3077

Square: BU 22

Local stratum: H5

Site stratum: IX or X

Short description/characterization: Natural fill

Description: Brown soil that becomes crushy in direction to wall W3003. By achieving W3081 the locus area was bordered by the areas between W3081 and the spur of W3003. From level -57.28, a hard (burnt?) collapse of clay continues to very crushy limy clay brick material. This one is closing tight to W3031 as the section demonstrates. Clay brick material and W3031 belong together. At lower level a collapse was detected below both L. 3077 and L. 3076 (underfilling of ground floor? In this case the ground floor must have been eroded!).

Baskets of locus: 6304, 6308, 6311, 6314, 6321

Upper level: -57.74

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 276, 277 n. 31.

Lower level: -58.76

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, few Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age (only in the upper part of the locus)

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3078

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Pit

Description: Pit filled with loose fist-sized stones. Pit cuts W3031 and runs below W3042. At the southern edge of the pit wall (in the corner built by W3042 and W3045) rests of burnt clay brick material is visible (level -58.15). The pit could not be cleared completely due to security reasons (danger of collapse of W3042).

Baskets of locus: 6306, 6309, 6312

Upper level: -57.72

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 274.

Square: BU 22

Site stratum: VIII

Lower level: -58.31

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age I, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3079

Local stratum: H5

Short description/characterization: Installation

Description: The locus is below L. 3077. Small oval cooking/fire place with a stone installation of four stones similar in size (ca. 20 cm x 25 cm, one row high), situated in north-northwestern direction of wall W3003. The installation is approximately 24 cm x 26 cm wide. In the outer ring the loamy soil was burnt hard. In the center, that contained a plenty of ash, organic material could be found inside burnt pottery (cooking pot).

Baskets of locus: 6303

Upper level: -57.69

Finds of the locus: Few bronze pieces (1 cm x 0.5 cm x 0.5 cm)

Index to the text: p. 276.

Square: BU 22

Site stratum: IX or X

Lower level: -57.77

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3080

Local stratum: H5

Short description/characterization: Pit

Description: This very small working space is situated below L. 3077. After dark brown crushy soil material reddish clay brick collapse appeared (work was quitted due to the limited workspace).

Baskets of locus: 6313

Upper level: -58.05

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 276.

Square: BU 22

Site stratum: IX or X

Lower level: -58.67

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3081

Local stratum: H5

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Below L. 3077. W3081 is built of four rows but this record is not clearly visible because the wall is fragmented. Width: 1.2–1.3 m. The wall is clearly cut by the pit L. 3078. No floor has been reached.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -58.02; upper edge of wall ca. -57.82

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 276 with n. 30.

Square: BU 22

Site stratum: IX or X

Lower level:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3082

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Width of the wall could not be identified due to its fragmented condition; according to the drawing it should be about 1 m in width. The wall is joined with W3068 and W3083. In the southern progress probably robbed. No corresponding floor found.

Baskets of locus:

Square: BT 22

Site stratum: VIII

Upper level: -56.81
Finds of the locus:
Index to the text: p. 274.

Lower level:
Pottery of the locus:
Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3083
Local stratum: H4

Square: BT 22
Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Width of the wall is about 1 m. Wall is joined with W3068 and W3082.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.57

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 274.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3112
Local stratum: H3

Square: BU 20
Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Installation

Description: Brownish to greyish soil, sometimes loose and dusty, with only a few pottery. *Ṭābūn* – indicating a floor level at the height of ~ -56.55 – below the foundation of wall W3111 found (top of *ṭābūn* preserved at a height of -56.29, foundation of *ṭabūn* at -56.61, diameter inside 70 cm, diameter outside 80 cm). Material did not change until the final level.

Baskets of locus: 4241, 4246, 4274, 4295

Upper level: -55.79

Lower level: -56.61

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age, Iron Age I

Index to the text: p. 268, 271.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3135
Local stratum: H3

Square: BU 20
Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall running in east-west direction near northern corner of the square, just below the parallel wall W3111 from Iron Age I. Two courses of stones high (about 50 cm); only one row is visible beneath W3111. Floor L. 3137 is connected to the wall.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.43

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 268, 272.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3137
Local stratum: H3

Square: BU 20
Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: L. 3137 is a horizontal surface made of plaster containing Middle and Late Bronze Age pottery (especially in the western corner; -56.59), ashes (towards W3166 the plaster is slightly higher at -56.62). Three test-trenches of ca. 20 cm have been made in western corner in the edge between W3135 and W3106 and within the middle of the surface. These trenches revealed a second floor level (indicated by Middle/Late Bronze Age non-restorable large vessels and ashes). New locus numbers had been attributed to the plaster floor itself (see L. 3160) and to the second floor level (see L. 3163).

From basket 4333 onward there were made some small trenches in order to recover pottery sticking just a few centimeters below the floor. For this reason the lower level does not correspond to the opening level of L. 3160 beneath. Therefore, baskets 4333ff. should be virtually attributed to L. 3163 (except basket 4429ff. originating from later excavated material below pavement L. 3117).

Baskets of locus: 4300, 4314, 4329, 4333, 4339, 4340, 4341, 4352, 4356, 4360, 4420

Upper level: -56.54

Lower level: -56.98 (cf. remarks above)

Finds of the locus: Painted handle (reg. no. 4314/2), part of a scepter head (4314/50)

Pottery of the locus: Very little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 269, 270, 271, 594, 596, 600, 834.

Index to the plates: Figs. 3.1.9:9.; 3.1.9:14.; 3.1.9:18.; 3.1.10:7.; 3.1.10:9.; 3.1.12:10.; 4.4.67:696.

Locus no.: W3141
Local stratum: H3

Square: BU 20
Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Small fragment of a wall sticking in the western corner of the square. Only two courses (35 cm) are preserved. Its width cannot be determined. The wall fits well with W3135.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.43

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 268.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3142

Square: BU 20

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: New locus opened because of horizontal pottery lying at the bottom of L. 3107. Material is greyish. Working space was too small to continue.

Baskets of locus: 4322, 4435

Upper level: -56.41

Lower level: -56.95

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 270.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3145

Square: BU 21

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: 50 cm wide, well-built wall with medium stones, one or two rows wide (some stones are long enough to cover the whole width of the wall). It runs along north-south, with a (so far) height of a maximum of 90 cm. On its southern end, W3133 passes over it perpendicularly, but 20 cm of fill separate the two structures. Work in L. 3132 did not proceed deep enough to check whether W3145 continued further to the south. On the northern end a heavy concentration of medium round stones covered a kind of door step sticking out 20 cm out of the northern face into L. 3146.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.44

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 274, 275.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3146

Square: BU 21

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Locus of red mudbrick material with few bones above a plastered floor. A heavy concentration of medium round stones at the northern end of W3145, likely fallen stones.

Baskets of locus: 4335, 4347, 4351, 4358, 4364, 4442, 4452, 4454, 4460

Upper level: -56.44

Lower level: -57.52

Finds of the locus: Working stone (reg. no. 4347/50)

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 269, 274, 275, 557, 596, 602, 780.

Index to the plates: Figs. 3.1.10:8.; 3.1.13:4.; 3.1.13:7.; 4.4.40:348.

Locus no.: 3148

Square: CA 21

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Hard greyish material round the pit L. 3127⁴ and south of W3150. On final level plaster floor reached.

Baskets of locus: 4331

Upper level: -57.03

Lower level: -57.27

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Few Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 271, 273.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3149

Square: CA 21

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Reddish hard material with pebbles, finely broken pottery, and small to medium stones. A floor was reached: pebbles and badly damaged greyish plaster. A few pieces of oven material were found by the city wall W3003 under the location of the pit L. 3217, probably remains of a installation preceding the pit.

Baskets of locus: 4424, 4443, 4451

Upper level: -57.03

Lower level: -57.42

Finds of the locus: Few bones

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 271, 969.

Index to the plates: Tab. 4.13.3.

⁴ Pit L. 3127 is a circular structure with a diameter of 0.8 m and a depth of 0.9 m. The upper level of the pit was at -56.36, the lower level at -57.27. Therefore, the pit can be attributed to local strata H1/H2. The pit was dug directly in front of the Iron Age city wall W3003.

- Locus no.:* W3150 *Square:* CA 21
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Wall composed of four to five courses of medium flat stones (the largest and flattest on the last course), 70 cm wide, standing to a maximum of 40 cm over plastered floor L. 3148 (lower edge -57.95). It runs from the western corner of the square under the pit towards the city-wall. Its last stone touches the inner face of the Iron Age I city wall W3003. Obviously W3150 was cut during building activities of W3003.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -57.03 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 273 *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3151 *Square:* CA 20
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris
Description: Poorly preserved plaster-floor made of several layers. Above these floors is greyish material. No pottery was found on the surface.
Baskets of locus: 4338, 4343, 4348, 4350, 4353
Upper level: -57.09 *Lower level:* -57.23
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I
Index to the text: p. 271. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3155 *Square:* BU 19
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris
Description: Yellowish and quite hard mudbrick destruction debris turning into more reddish. Plaster floor reached with the end of this level (without any connection to architecture).
Baskets of locus: 4359, 4363, 4367, 4379, 4386, 4430, 4432
Upper level: -56.66 *Lower level:* -57.11
Finds of the locus: Basalt ring (reg. no. 4363/50), *Pottery of the locus:* Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age I, large fragment of a Philistine bowl (found at -56.91 under pavement of L. 3144; reg. no. 4432/1)
net weight (reg. no. 4379/50), basalt bowl, working stones
Index to the text: p. 269, 270, 271 with n. 12. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3159 *Square:* CA 20
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris
Description: Locus beneath the floor of L. 3151 consisting of brownish material. In the northern corner are large stones which seem to be the remains of a second layer (no clear wall structures could be traced). By the end of work, fragments of a whitish plastered floor (in two layers) in the northern corner was found, mostly identified on the basis of horizontally lying pottery and ashy spots with some coal.
The floor level corresponds with small remains of a floor east of W3192 with a very hard surface and horizontally lying pottery (basket 4438 of L. 3178). The floor could not be traced more to the south and seems to be eroded.
Baskets of locus: 4372, 4376, 4391, 4405, 4431, 4444
Upper level: -57.23 *Lower level:* -57.63
Finds of the locus: p. 274, 276 n. 29. *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I
Index to the text: *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3160 *Square:* BU 20
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Artificial fill
Description: L. 3160 has been opened in order to isolate the material found in the plaster floor discovered while cleaning surface of L. 3137. Ca. 7–12 cm of floor plaster has been taken off.
Baskets of locus: 4371, 4377, 4425
Upper level: -56.65 *Lower level:* -56.79
Finds of the locus: p. 270, 271. *Pottery of the locus:* Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, one small piece Aegean import
Index to the text: *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3161 *Square:* BU19
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Locus opened in order to clarify the outer face of W3174. Wall seems to be heavily robbed out (below floor level of L. 3144) and even more poorly preserved than W3173. Large mudbrick remains on top of W3174 and east of it.

Baskets of locus: 4375, 4409

Upper level: -56.66

Lower level: -57.03

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 269.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3163

Square: BU 20

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: L. 3163 contains the material between the first (L. 3160) and the second floor level of BU 20 (see L. 3137). The floor level of L. 3163 could only be identified by the large pieces of (unfortunately non-restorable) pottery in the trenches in L. 3137, for there were no other traces of a floor in any case (erosion?). It joins W3168 at -56.97.

Baskets of locus: 4383, 4388, 4390, 4427

Upper level: -56.79

Lower level: -56.97

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 270.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3164

Square: CA 21

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Floor level, above red brick debris, small stones, few pottery, and some bones.

Baskets of locus: 4384, 4393, 4397

Upper level: -56.71

Lower level: -57.03

Finds of the locus: Bones

Pottery of the locus: Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/ Late Bronze Age I; one almost complete bowl was found during cleaning the balk (reg. 4397/1)

Index to the text: p. 271, 557, 592.

Index to the plates: Fig. 3.1.8:4.

Locus no.: 3167

Square: BU 19

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Artificial fill

Description: Second plastered floor just beneath the floor of L. 3155. The plaster is about 5–6 cm thick. There are some flat stones incorporated into this plaster floor (a semi-circular installation made of up-standing stones indicates some sort of installation; without any clear purpose). Sometimes the floor is very ashy. Floor seems to join W3190.

Baskets of locus: 4399, 4402, 4418, 4437

Upper level: -57.11

Lower level: -57.25

Finds of the locus: p. 269, 271.

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, mainly Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, little Iron Age I

Index to the text:

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3168

Square: BU 20

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Six courses of two rows of medium large stones, 400 cm long, 75 cm wide, and 120 high, running south-north. It forms a right angle with W3191. A large entrance (85 cm long) cuts W3168 near the right angle.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.79

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 273.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3169

Square: BU 21

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: VII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Six courses of medium stones, average height (so far) 1 m. Only the eastern face is visible on a length of 1.6 m, the rest is hidden in the western corner and the southwestern and northwestern balks. It seems to sit on two bigger stones sticking out 30 cm into L. 3146.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -55.88

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 268, 969.

Index to the plates: Tab. 4.13.3.

- Locus no.:* W3171 *Square:* BU 21
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Five courses of medium stones, 1 m length visible between northwestern balk and the right angle towards W3169. Only the southern face is visible. The rest is in the northwestern balk. Continuation of W3168?
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -56.23 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 268, 274, 275. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3172 *Square:* CA 19
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris
Description: Red-brownish material with sometimes very large tumbled stones all over the square, turning in the course of the work more and more to greyish. Connection to W3188 is reached with the lower level plaster floor. On this floor spots of ashes were encountered.
Baskets of locus: 4421, 4429, 4449, 4463
Upper level: -57.02 *Lower level:* -57.65
Finds of the locus: Stone ring (reg. no. 4449/50), *Pottery of the locus:* Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I, Iron Age I
basalt working stone (reg. no. 4449/51) *Index to the plates:*
Index to the text: p. 272, 273, 275.
- Locus no.:* 3175 *Square:* BU 20
Local stratum: below H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris
Description: Dark brownish mudbrick destruction debris with a large amount of medium stones and much pottery above a floor level with plaster and flat stones lying horizontally. A doorstep indicated by a row of stones at a height of -57.67 within W3168.
Baskets of locus: 4440, 4446, 4447, 4450, 4466
Upper level: -56.97 *Lower level:* -57.72
Finds of the locus: Basalt pestle (reg. no. 4440/50), *Pottery of the locus:* Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I
fragment of a flint knife (reg. 4440/51) *Index to the plates:* Figs. 3.1.10:10.; 4.4.36:305.
Index to the text: p. 274, 275, 557, 596, 772.
- Locus no.:* 3176 *Square:* CA 20
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris?
Description: The locus was opened as a test trench below the western corner of L. 3159 in order to see if the unclear structures visible in L. 3159 (→ W3192) would continue deeper. However, the lowest course of possible (poorly built/preserved) walls were quickly reached. The material is still a mixture of brownish and greyish soil. The locus was closed. Destruction debris?
Baskets of locus: 4438
Upper level: -57.63 *Lower level:* -57.83
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 274, 276 n. 29. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3177 *Square:* BU 20
Local stratum: H3 *Site stratum:* VII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris
Description: Locus situated beneath L. 3160 and to the S-side of W3168. Flat lying sherds at a height of -56.85 indicate and confirm the floor level which already found in L. 3163 (unfortunately non-restorable large pieces of broken pottery).
Baskets of locus: 4431, 4434
Upper level: -56.79 *Lower level:* -56.95
Finds of the locus: Fragment of a flint knife *Pottery of the locus:* Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I
(reg. no. 4434/50) *Index to the plates:*
Index to the text: p. 271.
- Locus no.:* 3178 *Square:* CA 20
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Destruction debris?

Description: The locus is a very small test trench beneath the floor level fragment of L. 3159, against the eastern side of W3192 visible in the northern corner of L. 3159. As the material was similar to that of L. 3176, there was no need to go deeper and the locus was closed. Destruction debris?

Baskets of locus: 4445

Upper level: -57.52

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 274.

Lower level: -57.66

Pottery of the locus: Few Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3179

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Artificial fill

Description: Soil of this locus is filled with small to medium stones (artificial fill?). The aim of work here was to determine whether W3180 forms a curved wall or not. Result: it does.

Baskets of locus: 4453

Upper level: -56.97

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 274.

Square: BU 20

Site stratum: VIII

Lower level: -57.58

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3180

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Curved wall running south to north in the western corner between W3168 and balk beneath W3155. It is abutting to wall W3168. It is difficult to evaluate its dimensions because of erosion. It should have had five courses of 1 or 2 row stones. Its highest point is 120 cm high from the floor level of L. 3175 (against W3168); width between 40 to 60 cm; length 300 cm.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -56.97

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 273, 274.

Square: BU 20

Site stratum: VIII

Lower level:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3181

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: This locus (0.8 m x 1.7 m) is situated between the Iron Age city wall W3003 and W3150 and W3003. It consisted of mudbrick debris, with few stones, few pottery and few bones.

Baskets of locus: 4455, 4459

Upper level: -57.42

Finds of the locus: Bones

Index to the text: p. 274.

Square: CA 21

Site stratum: VIII

Lower level: -58.20

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, most Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3182

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Test trench south of L. 3172. Very hard greyish material full of many small stones and pebbles. No floor level reached.

Baskets of locus: 4456, 4462

Upper level: -57.65

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 273.

Square: CA 19

Site stratum: VIII

Lower level: -58.23

Pottery of the locus: Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3183

Local stratum: H4

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Loose red-brownish material with some stones west of W3188; only a few large sherds.

Baskets of locus: 4457, 4465

Upper level: -57.65

Finds of the locus: Basalt bowl

Index to the text: p. 273, 557, 594.

Square: CA 19

Site stratum: VIII

Lower level: -57.67

Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the plates: Fig. 3.1.9:7.

- Locus no.:* 3185 *Square:* BU 19
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Artificial fill
Description: Very hard greyish material with little pieces of pottery in it; some small stones.
Baskets of locus: 4448, 4461
Upper level: -57.25 *Lower level:* -57.42
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:* Little Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I
Index to the text: p. 275. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* 3186 *Square:* BU 19
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Installation/channel
Description: Below L. 3185. Channel running from the middle of the northeastern balk to the southern corner of BU 19; its continuation to north is possibly found just in the western corner of BU 20 (there its height is at -56.87). The channel consists of side stones and is in some parts (to the south) covered by flat stones. The western side stones from N to S are at a height of -57.28, -57.32, -57.34. Its length is ca. 3 m, its width 50 cm in average (the channel itself has a width of ca. 10–15 cm). There is no plaster inlay in the channel. The channel is set into a greyish, very hard mortar like material which also covered this installation. This material is the one of L. 3185. To each side of the channel there are some flat small to medium stones, apparently the remains of a pavement.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -57.42 *Lower level:* -57.42
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 275. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3188 *Square:* CA 19
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Wall constructed one row wide (ca. 40 cm) and one course high (50 cm) running north to south. Its northern continuation is interrupted by pit L. 3184 (Iron Age I). The wall is the continuation of W3168 in BU 20.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -57.65 *Lower level:* -57.85
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 273. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3189 *Square:* CA 21
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Small wall made of three to four courses of small and medium stones.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -57.42 *Lower level:* -57.87
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 274. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3190 *Square:* BU 19
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Very fragmentary remains of a wall, supposed to be constructed in two rows (70–80 cm). Maximum two courses are preserved (30 cm).
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -57.25 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*
Index to the text: p. 269, 275. *Index to the plates:*
- Locus no.:* W3191 *Square:* BU 20
Local stratum: H4 *Site stratum:* VIII
Short description/characterization: Wall
Description: Four courses of medium stones, 120 (?) cm long visible. The western face is visible. The rest is in the north-eastern balk. Therefore, the width is not completely clear. This wall is connected with W3168 with which it forms a right angle.
Baskets of locus:
Upper level: -56.97 *Lower level:*
Finds of the locus: *Pottery of the locus:*

Index to the text: p. 273.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3192

Square: CA 20

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Very badly preserved wall fragment belonging to floor L. 3159. Two rows wide (90 cm) and two courses high (max. 45 cm) and around 1.5 m long.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -57.23

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 273.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3193

Square: CA 21

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Small structure running alongside and against the city-wall W3003. Only two courses are visible (30 cm high) as work stopped on reaching the plastered floor of L. 3148. It is two rows wide (40 cm; medium sized stones), 1.30 m long between the northeastern balk and W3150. Pit L. 3170 (Iron Age I) is cut into its upper course.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -57.03

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 273.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3196

Square: BU 21

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Installation

Description: Small square structure (0.6 x 1.0 m) cut into the plastered floor of L. 3146. Made of eleven small stones delimiting both length and both medium ones in both widths. Its contents were excavated down to 40 cm. Only small stones mixed with the same dark ashy material that was found along W3145.

Baskets of locus: 4468

Upper level: -57.52

Lower level: -57.77

Finds of the locus: Bones

Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 269, 274, 275.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3197

Square: CA 19

Local stratum: H3

Site stratum: IX or X

Short description/characterization: Fill

Description: Small area in the eastern corner south of W3181 (local stratum H1/H2). Greyish material with a lot of field stones and bones.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level:

Lower level:

Finds of the locus:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 271.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: 3198

Square: BU 20

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Destruction debris

Description: Soft mudbrick material with few stones and few sherds. Several layers of ashes at a height of -57.06 to -57.46 and to -57.40 (southeastern balk from south to north). A partially preserved plaster floor was reached (see end level) with few large pieces of Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I pottery. The floor level corresponds to the entrance of W3168 and the floor level of L. 3175. The plaster adjoining the eastern face of W3168 and of W3191 is partly visible on the lowest parts of the wall and completely in the profile next to southern corner (W3168) and partially to that of eastern corner (W3191).

Baskets of locus: 4441, 4470, 4472, 4473

Upper level: -56.95

Lower level: -57.78

Finds of the locus: Fragment of a flint sickle (reg. no. 4473/50)

Pottery of the locus: Middle Bronze Age II/Late Bronze Age I

Index to the text: p. 294, 557.

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3199

Square: CA 19

Local stratum: H4

Site stratum: VIII

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Wall running west to east preserved at a height of the two courses (30 cm) and one to two rows wide (60 cm). It forms a right angle with W3188.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -57.97

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 272, 273.

Lower level: -58.15

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the plates:

Locus no.: W3200

Local stratum: H3

Short description/characterization: Wall

Description: Stone heap in the westernmost corner of the square, seemingly a wall running southeast to northwest. Only one course is preserved (30 cm); neither its width nor its connections to other architecture can be determined.

Baskets of locus:

Upper level: -57.23

Finds of the locus:

Index to the text: p. 268.

Square: CA 19

Site stratum: VII

Lower level:

Pottery of the locus:

Index to the plates: