EXCAVATIONS AT GOURNIA, CRETE.[a]

By HARRIET A. BOYD.[b]

INTRODUCTION.

> There is a land called Crete in the midst of the wine-dark sea, a fair land and a rich, begirt with water, and therein are many men innumerable, and ninety cities.—Odyssey, XIX, 172, Butcher and Lang's Translation.

The high expectations which scholars held of the good that would come to archeology through systematic excavations in Crete have not been disappointed. It is still too early to estimate the full value of the excavations which have been made by the British at Knossos,[c] Psychro,[d] Praesos,[e] Zakro,[f] and Palaiokastro,[g] by the Italians at Phaestos[h] and Aghia Triadha,[h] and by the American Exploration Society at Gournia. Enough has been unearthed, however, in the last four years to revolutionize our ideas of the state of culture attained by the Cretans of the "golden age" during the third and second millenniums B. C., and to lay surer foundations for the study of European civilization than ever before existed. Further work will no doubt bring many fresh surprises and will throw new light on the origins of Mediterranean culture.

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[a] Report of the American Exploration Society's Excavations at Gournia, Crete, 1901–1903.

[b] An abstract from transactions of the department of archeology, University of Pennsylvania, Vol. I, pts. 1 and 2, 1904, printed by permission of the American Exploration Society.

[c] See articles by Mr. Evans on the Palace Site in British School Annual, 1899–1900, 1900–1901, 1901–2, 1902–3, and an article by Mr. Duncan Mackenzie on the Pottery of Knossos in Journal of Hellenic Studies, 1903.

[d] See article by Mr. Hogarth in British School Annual, 1899–1900.

[e] See article by Mr. Bosanquet in British School Annual, 1901–2.

[f] See article by Mr. Hogarth on Excavations in British School Annual, 1900–1901, and article by Mr. Hogarth on Zakro Vases in Journal of Hellenic Studies, 1902.

[g] See article by Mr. Bosanquet in British School Annual, 1901–2.

[h] See article by Mr. Halbherr and Mr. Pernier in Monumenti Antichi della Reale Accademia dei Lincei, Vols. XII, XIII, and XIV.

The great palaces at Knossos and Phaestos complete each other architecturally, the former giving an elevation of three or even four stories, the latter furnishing a ground plan "simple and grandiose," as it has been called by Mr. Evans. In both we see the houses of rich princes who loved luxury, who patronized the arts of builder, sculptor, and painter, and used the talents of the scribe as well. The smaller finds at Knossos and Aghia Triadha by their variety and number give us a fuller knowledge of this prehistoric civilization than we have of many a later stage of culture, but of this, as of most subjects which deserve any investigation, the more we know the more we want to know. Palaces and tombs are not sufficient; we want also the homes of the people, for without an insight into the life of "the many" we can not rightly judge the civilization of any period. By a singular chance a well-preserved town, dating from the earlier period of the Great Palace at Knossos (about 1800–1500 B. C.) and containing a large quantity of tools, pottery, and other articles of daily use, has been brought to light by the excavations of Americans ("people of the great democracy," as Cretans call us) at Gournia, on the north shore of the isthmus that connects the east end of the island with the rest of Crete. It is not rash to suppose that this is one of the ninety cities mentioned by Homer in the famous passage of the Odyssey quoted above.

THE ISTHMUS.

Strabo, in Book X, Ch. IV, 3, of his Geography, describes the long, narrow island of Crete, with its northern coast line indented by deep gulfs, which at two points reduce the island to less than half its average width. At the Isthmus of Hierapetra, which is the eastern of these two points and the narrowest portion of the island, the northern and southern shores lie but 60 stadia (12 kilometers, about 8 miles) apart. Here nature has made the communication between sea and sea not only short, but easy, by leaving a narrow strip of lowland between the mountain ranges of Dikte in Sitia and Dikte in Lasithi (the legendary cradle of Zeus), a break in the long chain that forms the backbone of Crete. East of the isthmus an almost vertical rock wall of mountains hides from view the summit of Aphendi Kavousi, which dominates Sitia (1,472 meters, or about 4,829 feet), while across the valley to the west the land rises in more gradual ascent to mountain level, and from many foothills Aphendi Khristos[a] (2,155 meters, or about 7,070 feet), the loftiest peak of Lasithi, can be seen.

At the northeast corner of the isthmus, shut in by mountains on the east and coast hills on the west, lies the plain of Kavousi. In

[a] Aphendi Khristos is sometimes written Effendi Christos.

seasons of abundant rain like 1903 it gives good yields of olives, carobs, grapes, and grain; but in dry years like 1901 it is parched and fruitless. More fertile, because better watered, is the lovely valley of Kalo Khorio, which occupies the northwest corner of the isthmus, descending to the Gulf of Mirabello. Between Kavousi and Kalo Khorio[a] the coast, though utterly barren, is wonderfully beautiful. At Pachyammos there is a good beach; elsewhere steep cliffs, alternating with coves, form a coast line as picturesque as any in southern Europe, and within these coves rest waters as clear and rich in color as those of Capri. The main highway of Crete, connecting Sitia, Herakleion (Candia), Rethymo, and Canea, follows this coast and near Pachyammos meets the road that crosses the isthmus from Hierapetra. Since the earliest times this isthmus road must have been in constant use, for no other route across the island is so short, so level, so direct. Halfway between the two seas stands Episkopi, and side roads lead east to Monasteraki, Kato Khorio, and Apano Khorio, at the foot of the Thriphte Range, and west to Vasiliki and Kentri, situated on low hills. From Episkopi south the lowland widens, and, being watered by mountain streams, is richly productive of lemons, oranges, figs, and mulberries, as well as of the commoner fruits and grains. This cheerful fertility continues until the neighborhood of Hierapetra is reached, a region as barren as the northern shore and far less interesting.

From time immemorial the isthmus has been inhabited, and yet it is an interesting fact that with the exception of Hierapetra, where the modern city is built above ruins of Hellenic and Roman cities of the same name, the sites occupied at different periods are distinct[b] one from another. Men of the bronze age chose low hills not far from the sea; their successors, a ruder people of the iron age, had strongholds on almost inaccessible mountain heights; Greeks and Romans established trading stations on the shore; Venetians and Turks built watch towers and block houses at commanding points for the purpose of holding the unfortunate Cretans in subjection; modern Cretans still prefer the security of the hills, but a seaward movement has already begun as a result of the peace and order that since the liberation of Crete in 1898 have prevailed throughout the island. * * *

My first year's work on the isthmus of Hierapetra as Fellow of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens has been described in an article entitled "Excavations at Kavousi, Crete, 1900," published in the American Journal of Archeology, second series, Volume V, 1901, pages 125–157. Opportunity for a second campaign was given

[a] *Καλὸ(ν) Χωρίο(ν)*. beautiful village, is aptly named.

[b] Azoria Hill may be an unimportant exception to this rule.

me in 1901, when the American Exploration Society, of Philadelphia, offered to support further researches in Crete. Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, secretary of the society, actively forwarded the enterprise, and Mr. Calvin Wells, of Pittsburg, and Mr. Charles H. Cramp, of Philadelphia, generously contributed the necessary funds. My colleague in 1901 was Miss B. E. Wheeler, of Concord and Providence, one of my classmates at Smith College. Miss Wheeler and I landed in Crete April 7. Much progress had been made at Knossos and Phaestos, and such success in the Mycenæan and pre-Mycenæan field, or, to use more up-to-date nomenclature, the "Minoan" field, increased our longing to find something belonging to this golden age of Cretan history.

We made a round trip through Chersonnesos (a Greco-Roman city), Neapolis (the town from which one visits a difficult iron-age site at Anarlachos and the Hellenic Deyros), Olunta (ancient city Olus, near which lie remains probably prehistoric), Gonlos (site of the ancient city Lato and of an important prehistoric settlement), Kavousi, Episkopi, Mesoleri (ancient Oleros), Kalamavka (reserved by British as a prehistoric site), Mallais (Homeric Malla), Psychro, and back to Herakleion. On this trip we saw nothing more promising than our clue at St. Anthony's and the Cyclopean wall at Avgo, and as Miss Wheeler was willing to try a second year's luck on the isthmus of Hierapetra, we informed the Government of our wish to renew work in that region. The St. Anthony clue was too slight to be mentioned save between ourselves, and when we returned to Kavousi presumably to find geometric or at best sub-Mycenæan things, our quest excited pity rather than envy among the archeologists at Herakleion.

We went directly to Avgo to learn the nature of the megalithic structure near the Chapel of the Virgin. Avgo Valley is so overshadowed by the surrounding mountains that the sun does not reach it until late, and the mornings and evenings are very cool. Consequently the peasants live here only in summer and content themselves with one-room stone huts without windows.

For two weeks our party living in these huts suffered some hardships, especially during thirty-six hours of incessant rain that caused serious floods in eastern Crete, wrecked a hut near us, loosened our own walls, and poured into the hut we used for a kitchen. The results of our excavations at Avgo were meager.[a] On holidays and on days when the ground was too wet for digging we rode up and down Kavousi plain and the neighboring coast hill seeking for the bronze-age settlement, which I was convinced lay in

[a] See Transactions Department of Archeology, University of Pensylvania, 1904, pp. 18–20.

these lowlands somewhere near the sea. It was discouraging work, for my eyes soon came to see walls and the tops of beehive tombs in every chance grouping of stones, and we went to many a "rise of ground which at a distance looked a perfect Mycenean hill, but proved to be all rock. From an archaeological, as well as an agricultural, point of view the curse of the Kavousi region is the shallowness of soil; even at Gournia we often have occasion to bemoan it. At last the rumor of our search reached the ear of George Perakis, peasant antiquarian of Vasiliki, a village 3 miles west of Kavousi, and he sent word by the schoolmaster that he could guide us to a hill three-quarters of a mile west of Pachyammos, close to the sea, where there were broken bits of pottery and old walls. Moreover, he sent an excellent seal stone picked up near the hill, and although seal stones are not good evidence, being easily carried from place to place, his story was too interesting to pass unheeded. Accordingly, on May 19, Miss Wheeler and I rode to the spot, found one or two sherds with curvilinear patterns, like those from St. Antonys; saw stone in lines, which might prove to be parts of walls (never more than one course visible), and determined to put our force of 30 men at work there the following day. Three days later we had dug 19 trial pits and had opened houses, were following paved roads, and were in possession of enough vases and sherds, with cuttlefish, plant, and spiral designs, as well as bronze tools, seal impressions, stone vases, etc., to make it certain that we had a bronze-age settlement of some importance. Accordingly, I sent the following cablegram to the American Exploration Society, which was received in Philadelphia four days after the first visit paid by me, or, as far as I can learn, by any archeologist to the site of Gournia: "Discovered Gournia—Mycenean site, street, houses, pottery, bronzes, stone jars." We immediately petitioned the Cretan Government for special permission to excavate this new site for the American Exploration Society of Philadelphia, and our request was promptly granted.

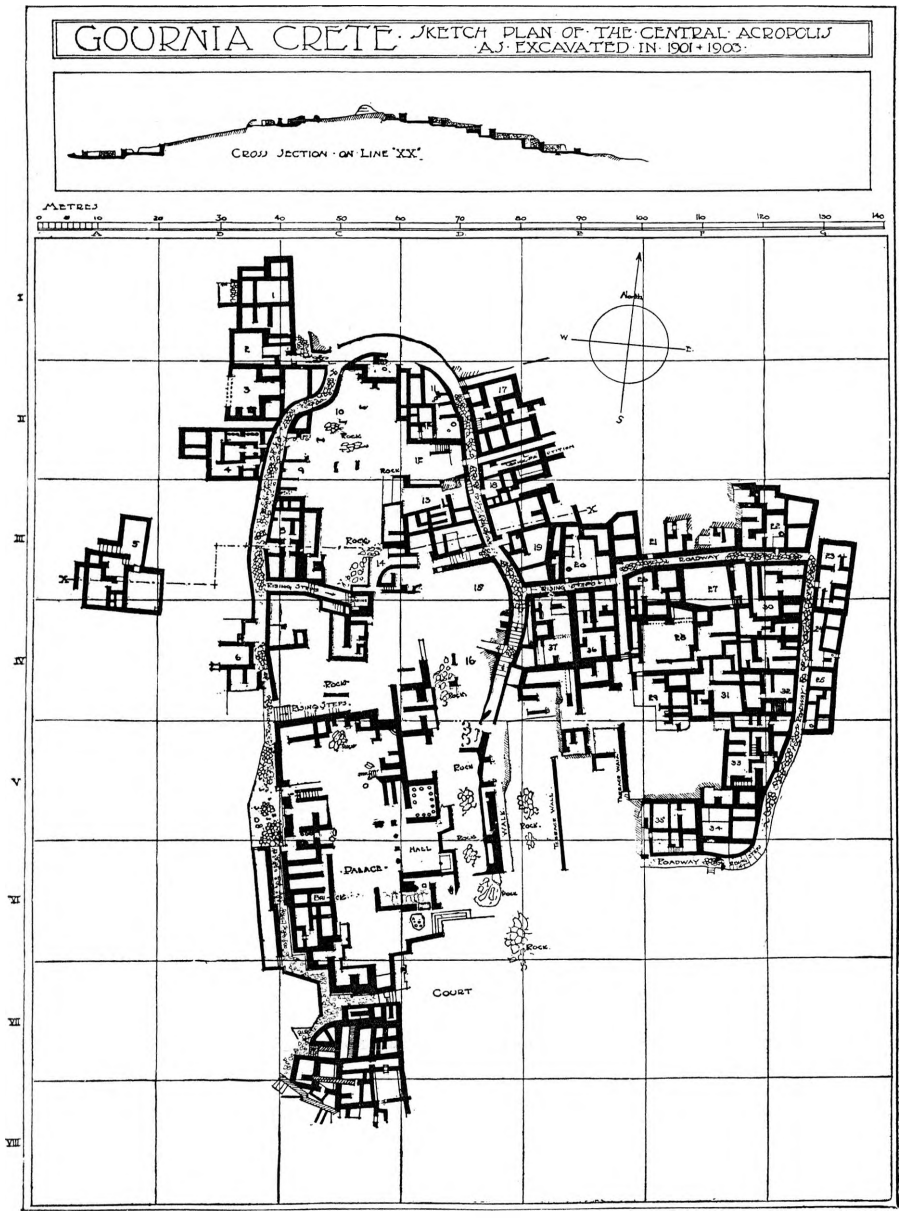
FIG. 1.—Bronze spear head. First "find" at Gournia, May 20, 1901.

Gournia is a name given by the peasants of the district to a basin opening north on the Gulf of Mirabello and inclosed on the other three sides by foothills which rise west of the narrow strip of isthmus. For one-half its length from south to north this basin is divided into two narrow valleys, of which the western forms a broad torrent bed,

dry in summer. The southern end of the ridge was used in Greco-Roman times, for here in the chapel of Aghia Pelaghia is a stone bearing the inscription "Klythos made (it)," and close at hand graves have been discovered containing Roman vases. This end of the ridge being for the most part an irregular mass of limestone, is suitable, perhaps, for burial, but not for habitation. Farther north the ridge becomes less rugged; platforms of earth are upheld by rock ledges; there is a slight dip, and we stand on the acropolis of the ancient city, every foot of its summit and slopes covered with roads and dwellings. But the rock reappears at the northern point of the ridge, beyond which the valleys meet and extend in one plain to the sea. The eastern valley and a small part of the plain can be cultivated, but hills and shore bear no crops except stones and low carob trees. The rugged character of the ridge and the dense growth of carobs which covered it made it possible for the acropolis to escape the notice of passing archeologists, although many had traveled along the important highway from Herakleion to Sitia, which actually crosses the lower part of our site and lies within one-eighth of a mile of the acropolis itself. The higher hills south and southwest of Gournia are composed of pudding stone, which easily breaks off in shallow caves, while the lower hills are of limestone, like the ridge.

Our town, which until we know its ancient name must be called by the modern designation Gournia, covered not only the middle of the ridge, where it rises 200 feet above sea level, one-quarter of a mile back from the gulf, but extended across the eastern valley up the hills to the east and northeast, so that the acropolis was the center of a settlement of considerable size. To-day the nearest harbor is at Pachyammos, a small coast-guard station three-quarters of a mile east of Gournia. This place seems destined to grow to an important port. An excellent road, built by French soldiers during the recent international occupation of Crete, connects it with Hierapetra, on the south coast, only 8 miles distant, and this land connection between the two seas across the narrowest portion of the island is preferred to rounding Sitia, where storms are frequent and severe. The line of the north shore has changed, and it may be that in early times the harbor lay in an arm of the sea directly north of Gournia. At all events, the sea has here encroached on buildings which are proved by construction and by contents to be of the same period as those on the ridge. From this group of buildings a road probably led up to the low acropolis, and on reaching the middle eminence must have met a road which we have found continues on both the east and west sides of the hill, rising by steps where the slope is steep, and conducting the traveler at length to the small palace of the local governor.

At the beginning of excavations only a few stones showed above the surface and many houses were entirely hidden, being discovered in



SKETCH PLAN OF THE CENTRAL ACROPOLIS, GOURNIA, CRETE.

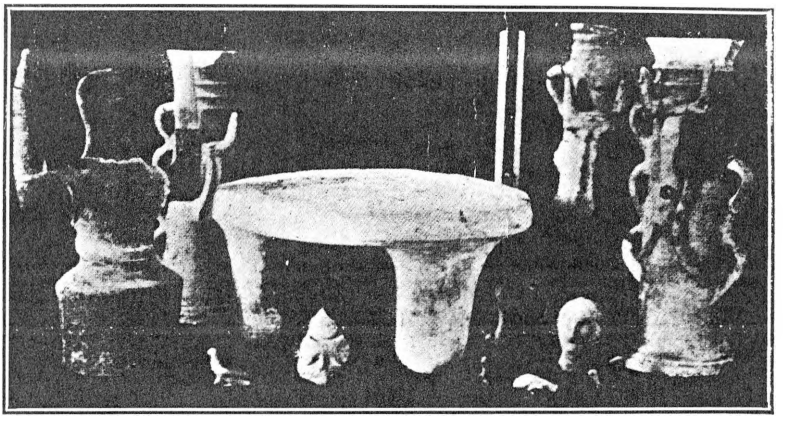


FIG. 1.—OBJECTS DISCOVERED IN MYCENÆAN SHRINE.

FIG. 2.—OCTOPUS VASE.

OBJECTS EXCAVATED AT GOURNIA.

the course of digging by workmen who, following the roads, came upon their thresholds. The upper parts of the houses had fallen long ago, covering the hill with their ruins. On the top of the hill, where denudation is constant, there was but a scant covering of earth over the native rock; here some of the best objects of bronze and terra cotta were found within 50 centimeters of the surface, and, indeed, at certain spots, which we now know to have been within dwellings, the native rock lay bare. On the sides of the hill where earth accumulates we were often obliged to dig 4 or 5 meters before reaching virgin soil, live rock, beaten floor, or stone paving, as the case might be.

Excavations have been carried on at Gournia through two campaigns, May 20 to July 2, 1901, and March 30 to June 6, 1903, with a force of 100 to 110 workmen and about a dozen girls who wash potsherds. Unfortunately, Miss Wheeler could not leave America in 1903 to give her efficient aid toward the accomplishment of the work which we had started and planned together; but I was ably assisted in the second season by Mr. Richard B. Seager, who took special charge of the pottery as well as helping in the field. Miss Moffat, of Northampton, Mass., left a Paris studio to accompany the second year's expedition, and has made for the American Exploration Society a series of excellent colored drawings of some of the better vases and scores of drawings to scale of the commoner pottery, saving thereby many shapes which, through the inferiority of the common clay, would have been lost. I consider these drawings and others executed for us by the Danish artist, M. Bagge, among the most important contributions which have been made to archeology by our expedition.

The brief survey of results to be given here is strictly provisional, and will, I hope, be superseded by a more careful study of the work when the excavations at Gournia shall have been completed.

THE TOWN AND ITS BUILDINGS.

The sketch plan reproduced in the accompanying illustration, begun in 1901 by Mr. Fyfe, of Glasgow, architect for Mr. Evans at Knossos, and finished by me in 1903, with the help of Mr. Harold Hastings, gives a better idea of the town than words can. As the squares measure 20 meters on a side, the entire area cleared may be roughly computed as 2 acres, the top of the acropolis as about 1 acre, and the palace as one-third of an acre. Thirty-six houses and parts of several others are uncovered.

The roads of Gournia have an average width of about 1.60 meters and are paved with stones which seem to have been chosen from near the sea, and which, worn first by the sea and then by the passing of many feet, present a fairly smooth surface. They are laid with care, not actually fitting, but leaving no such ruts and holes as are

seen in Cretan roads to-day. Where the roads ascend we find flights of steps as in modern Naples; the longest flight is in the road that climbs the east slope.

Gournia houses are superior to any homes of bronze age people found on the Greek mainland. Their lower courses are of rubble, but often considerable care is taken in the choice of stones, and they are roughly aligned. The size of stones varies greatly—certain walls on the east slope of the hills being sufficiently massive to have suggested on first discovery fortification walls, but as further digging disclosed massive and weak walls side by side, we came to the conclusion, in which all who have visited the site agree, that the heavier construction belongs simply to the better-built houses and that the place is unfortified. The width of the house walls varies from 50 to 90 centimeters, 60 centimeters being the average. That the upper walls of many of the houses are of brick is abundantly proved. These bricks average 40 by 30 by 10 centimeters, and seem to be fire baked. Before May, 1901, only sun-baked bricks, or those accidentally burned by conflagration had been found in bronze age settlements in the Ægean; but almost simultaneously at Zakro at the extreme east end of the island, where Mr. Hogarth was conducting successful excavations, at Avgo, and at Gournia fire-baked bricks came to light in May, 1901, and they have since been found at Palaiokastro. The clay is coarse and unevenly baked, but the bricks retain their shape well. Bricks were used not only in upper walls, but also in partitions—always on a stone base. In a house on the east slope we found partition walls made of mud, which, after drying in the sun, was overlaid with plaster, a careless construction not uncommon in modern Greek villages. The marvel is that such flimsy work should have remained sufficiently intact for thirty-five hundred years to be immediately recognized and preserved by the workmen who dug it out.

Plaster is employed extensively on the door jambs and on the walls, both outer and inner, overlaying stone and brick. It is of several varieties, a coarse white kind and a gray pebbly sort being commonest. In some instances a coarse plaster covers the wall and a second finer layer covers this, the color of the finer layer being usually a very light bluish gray, although we have a few precious bits of brighter stucco of a shade somewhat deeper than the Pompeian red. In one of the western storerooms of the palace we found two small curiously molded pieces of stucco, one shaped as a thunderbolt and the other as a swallow; these have one flat surface, as if they might have formed ornaments in relief on the wall.

Doorways are carefully made with stone sills and bases for the jambs, which were in rare instances of stone covered with plaster, sometimes of wood, often of brick clay plastered over. A shapeless

mass of bronze, evidently reduced by heat, lay in a doorway of the palace, and may have formed a part of the trimmings of the door. As a rule the house walls are not sufficiently high for windows to have been preserved, but three openings in walls on the east slope were certainly intended to admit light and air. Floors were made of beaten earth, "terrazza" (a cement of pebbles covered with a layer of plaster), stone slabs, or paving stones like those in the roads. As for roofs, the evidence seems all in favor of the flat terrace forms common to-day in the East. Pieces of plaster still bearing impressions of reeds show what the ceiling must have been. In a ground-floor room of the palace a large tree trunk was found fallen and burned, completely charred through, but retaining its original shape; this supported either the flooring of the upper story or the roof. The central hall of the palace was choked with such timbers.

In plan the houses are simple, conforming to the lay of the land rather than to a fixed form. When similarity of plan can be detected, as in certain houses on the east slope, the arrangement is modern rather than classical and is in agreement with the mosaic pictures of Minoan houses found in the palace of Knossos in 1902. As in the mosaic, so at Gournia we see the houses built flush with the streets and usually provided with a good stone threshold; crossing this we enter a paved antechamber with doors leading to the ground-floor rooms and steps mounting to the second story; cellar steps may descend directly from the antechamber or from an inner room. Certain cellar rooms are finished in plaster and provided with doors; others were entered, if at all, by ladders from above and can have served only for storerooms; still others were mere substructures. Several houses on the east slope have open courts which seem to have been generally omitted in the private dwellings on the top of the hill for lack of space. We know that there were second stories, because five stone staircases are well preserved and the former existence of wooden steps at many other points is clearly indicated. Moreover, many objects, and these usually the best, were found in the earth at varying heights above the floor level, and except where there was proof that these had stood on a wooden shelf, since rotted away or burned, they must have fallen from an upper story.

No satisfactory explanation has yet been given for a stone object which is very often found just within the street door. It looks like a large mortar, and either stands upon the paved floor or is sunk beneath it to the rim. It would make an awkward basin, for there is no way of removing water except by dipping; on the other hand, its position, invariably close to the outer door, makes us think that it must have served some other purpose than the one of pounding and grinding which its form suggests, or at least that some special significance was attached to its use. No pestle has yet been found with

it, although smaller pestles and mortars are among our commonest finds.

Special mention should be made of the palace. On the west side are four storerooms communicating with a flight of steps, and three long, narrow magazines opening on a common corridor that correspond, though on a much smaller scale, to those at Knossos and Phaestos. The rooms south of these magazines were reached by a staircase, of which the steps are destroyed, but a transverse supporting wall still remains. West of the storerooms the road widens into a small plateia, of which we have not yet determined the western boundary. South of this is a space, having a cement pavement, which seems to be part of the palace, possibly a loggia, in which case the west road continuing south must have formed a covered way within the palace. From the southern end of this covered way a paved passage leads east, while the road continues southwest. The eastern passage ends in three steps ascending east and a return series of two steps which communicated with the building south of the passageway. Beyond the three steps is a large open court, which seems to answer to the west court of Knossos, and may have served as a market place for the town. This court was paved with cement; its eastern and southern limits are not yet reached. As we turn north from the steps we see on the left running north for a distance of 5.60 meters a stylobate, on which stood two square pillars, measuring 85 centimeters on a side at the base, with shafts about 20 centimeters less in dimensions. Of the southern pillar nothing remains, but its position can be distinctly traced on the stylobate; of the northern pillar we still have the base and lower part of the shaft. The profile of the base is carefully cut.

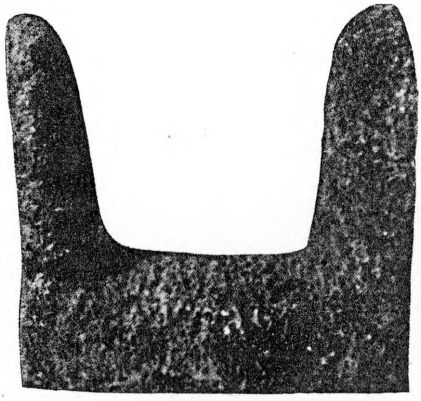


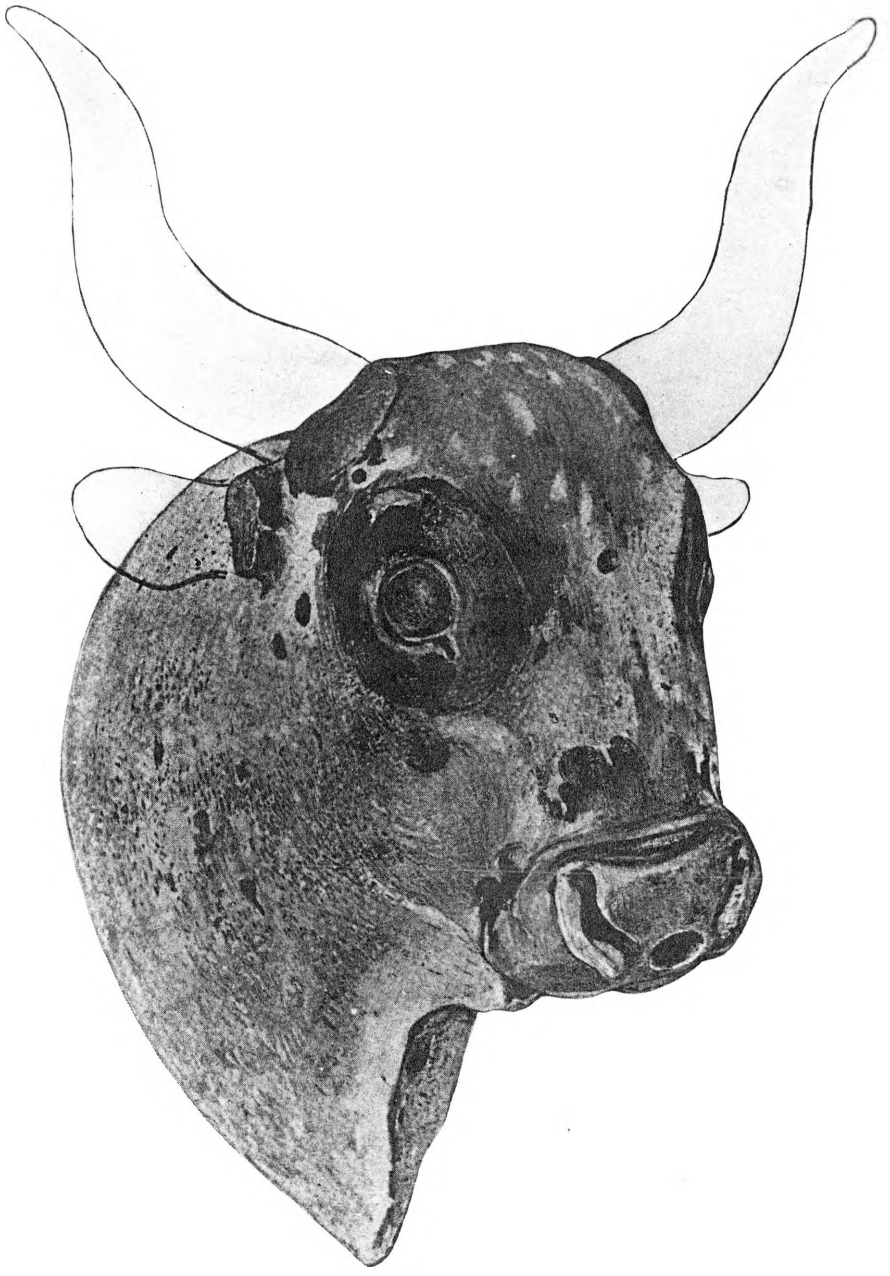
FIG. 2.—Sacred horns (coarse terra cotta).

Beginning March 30, 1903, at this portico, from which we had removed our last loads of earth in 1901, we dug northward into the center and, as it proved, the most interesting part of the palace. In the northwest corner of the court we came upon two low flights of steps at right angles to each other, which reproduce the arrangement at Knossos and Phaestos. Within their angle a pair of sacred horns, fashioned in coarse terra cotta, measuring 0.38 centimeter across and 0.38 centimeter in height, lay as if fallen from above. The flight of

steps leading west gives access to the interior of the palace. Without trying for the present to explain a huge single block of stone near the top of the steps that may have been the floor of a bath, we may turn northward, cross a threshold 1 meter wide and 2 meters long, and following a corridor that runs first west and then north, enter an inner court paved with cement (" terrazza ") and open to the sky. The west side of this inner court was formed by a line of storerooms mentioned above, which lie on a somewhat lower level; north of the court are more storerooms, a corridor leading to the west entrance of the palace, a well-preserved bath, and a small staircase to the second story. On a step of this staircase stood a three-legged stone basin, too heavy to be saved by the owners or easily looted by an enemy.

The east side of the inner court opens through a portico composed of two square pillars alternating with two round on a square hall, which was certainly covered, as it was choked with fallen timbers, masses of plaster, and stone slabs that in Minoan houses, as in many Italian houses to-day, made the flooring of the second story. In the southeast corner of the hall is a rectangular recess with a stone bench around three sides and a round base for a column that must have supported an architrave across the open side. Here we may suppose the prince sat to receive his friends and to dispense justice. It is a semipublic part of the palace, corresponding to the throne room at Knossos. No doubt the private rooms were on the second story. To them a narrow flight of stairs led from the northeast corner of the hall. The walls of this hall are carefully built of well-squared blocks of soft limestone, like those used in the more important parts of the outer walls of the building. At first we were astonished to find immediately adjoining this important hall on the north one square and two oblong storerooms, the square room containing 12 huge pithoi, one of which is still perfect; but reflection shows that this arrangement is a good one, for if the hall was semipublic and was an eating hall for retainers it would be convenient to have " cellar " and pantry at hand.

A part of the hill was cut away to give a level floor for the hall and the adjoining rooms, and on the east the ground lies 6 or 8 feet higher. Here on the top of the hill no soil could accumulate to protect the ancient structure, and a careful scouring down to live rock simply proved that there had been nothing lower than the second-floor level between the hall and some narrow rooms of " magazine type " on the extreme eastern limit of the palace, where the land again descends, and that of the second story not even a vestige remains. To the south of the palace, as here described, lies a building of many rooms, which may form a southern wing (possibly the women's quarters) or may be the beginning of a block of houses. It



BULL'S HEAD.

Length of head 12 cm., width across forehead about 0.07 cm. Hollow with a flat back, as if to fit against a wall, 14 cm. long by 9½ cm. wide. The gray clay is medium fine, and even seems to have been covered in greater part with a shining white slip, as if to imitate silver, touched up with black and in certain places with a red pigment. Well modeled. A hole, depth 0.8 cm., in the end of the nose; second hole, depth 2 cm., in top of head. Horns and eyes broken.

Of tombs we have as yet found no trace at Gournia, although vigorous search has been made for them, but we have signs of intramural burial on the north spur of the acropolis, where within an inclosure resembling a house we uncovered the bottoms of three casellas (average length 1 meter), together with many human bones, three bronze knives, and a thin tip piece of beaten gold, without pattern, as large as the end of a thumb. Fragments of two other casellas were unearthed about 7 meters north of this point. But on this north spur of the acropolis the soil is never more than 30 centimeters deep, and this readily explains why of the casellas only the bottoms and 5 or 6 centimeters of the sides were preserved, why the bones were scattered, and why no more objects were found with them. Within the north room of house 6 on the west road, 1 meter below the surface, we came upon a better preserved casella decorated with a link pattern of debased type, and close to it a grotesque mourning female figure in coarse terra cotta similar to figures found in Cypriot tombs. I believe that these objects were deposited in this house at a period distinctly later than that of the settlement itself, and it may be that the casellas on the north spur are also late, although too little remains to establish a proof.

FEBRUARY, 1904.