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TILMEN HÖYÜK. REPORT ON THE 2003 AND 2004 EXCAVATIONS IN AREA C

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Area C is located on the acropolis of Tilmen Höyük (a 5-hectares mound rising along the banks of the Kara Su stream in the Islahiye Valley), along its southern part just next to the MBA Royal Palace A (Fig. 1, Pl. I: 1). Resting on the latter's northern boundary wall are in fact the monumental structures of area C (Pl. I: 2), which were first brought to light by U. Bahadır Alkım during the 1960–63 campaigns and was by him denoted as Building C (Alkım 1960; 1962a; 1962b; 1962c: 458–462; 1964a; 1964b: 503–507; 1965; Duru 2003: 63–68; 2013: 88–90; for a summary see Duru 2024); it was then restored by Refik Duru in 2002 (Duru 2003: 79-90, pls. 42-54; 2013: 108) and newly excavated by the Turco-Italian Expedition in 2003 and 2004 (Marchetti 2004: 195; 2005: 130; 2006a: 200–201; 2008: 354).[1] The following paragraph accounts for the stratigraphy, while the architecture is discussed under § 2 [2].

1 The Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition at Tilmen Höyük by the universities of Bologna and Istanbul was directed by Nicolò Marchetti, whom I thank for his support. The project has been financially supported by the University of Bologna and by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (DGDP – 6th Office). Continuing conservation in area C has been supported also by the Sanko Holding. Thanks are due to the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, to the Directorate General of Cultural Heritage and Museums and to Gaziantep Museum. Fieldwork in area C was lead by the Author together with Luisa Guerri in 2003 and with Sinem Üstün in 2004, and with the help of a few but essential Turkish workers. Excavation pictures were taken by Nicolò Marchetti and kite pictures by Massimo Zanfini, who also did the topographical work. Beatrice Speranza drew a preliminary plan of Building C, while the architectural plans published here are by Giampaolo Luglio and have been digitized by Marco Valeri. Pottery was filed by Nicolò Marchetti and small finds by the Author; both have been drawn by Luisa Guerri and Marco Baldacci, inked by Liliana Donda, Kevin Ferrari, Andrea Gaucci and Vittoria Cardini, photographed by Beatrice Speranza and the Author, and conservated, when necessary, by Elisa Spagnoli. To all of them heartfelt thanks are due, as to Edward Lynch for revising the English and to Eleonora Mariani for typesetting the manuscript (Valentina Gallerani prepared the pottery plates). This work is part of the publication project "Tilmen Höyük II – The Excavations in the Upper Town", coordinated by Valentina Orsi and generously funded by The Shelby White and Leon Levy Program for Archaeological Publications.

2 Some early interpretations sketched in the preliminary reports have been slightly modified; more significant changes concern the sounding in L.74 (see § 1.1.3).

1. Stratigraphy and Materials

During the 2003 season, the work focused mainly on the central and southern wings of Building C, where some rooms were re-excavated in the hope of finding pottery that could help date the structure more accurately. Although this main goal was only partially achieved (due to the general scarcity of ceramics), some essential assessments could be made regarding the relation between Royal Palace A and Building C. In 2004, small probes were carried out in the northern wing of the latter as well as outside its western boundary wall, to ascertain how much of its previous layers were preserved and what the area was like before its monumental setting in the MBA. Towards the end of the campaign and after documentation, we began to dump inside those soundings, which by 2005 were completely filled in with the earth dug from Area K-5 (the same holds true for Alkım's Trench D)[3].

A few objects were found out of context: a spouted mortar (Pl. XXVII: 1) and a carnelian bead (Pl. XXVII: 2).

Here follow the results of the excavations in Area C, according to a topographical and chronological criterion regardless of the year in which they took place.

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.04.C.105, round spouted mortar
(Pl. XXVII: 1)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: h. 13.6 cm; l. 34 cm; w. 29 cm
Locus: surface
Preservation: complete

TH.04.C.106, barrel-shaped bead
(Fig. 45:1, Pl. XXVII: 2)
Material: carnelian
Dimensions: l. 0.9 cm; d. 0.5 cm
Locus: surface
Preservation: complete

1.1 *The soundings in the northern wing*

First-hand data on the early phases of Area C were obtained, as already said, by dig operations carried out in the northern wing of Building C; yet, this section opens with the discussion of a probe located outside the building proper – i.e., North of

3 Trench D, also known as the "deep sounding", was located in the large open area facing Palace A and Building E; there, the Turkish Expedition brought to light the earliest evidence of the site, dating back to the Late Chalcolithic period (levels IVd-a), followed by remains belonging to the EBA (levels IIIk-c) and MB I (levels IIIb-a). The structures there uncovered bore no resemblance, either in plan or in technique, to the later palaces ascribed to MB II (levels IIc-a) (Alkım 1964b: 504–506; 1965; 1969: 286–289; Duru 2003: 52–55, 2013: passim; for a summary see Duru 2024).

the paved plaza L.88 – but whose results were interpreted in relation to the features detected inside it, in rooms L.82, L.74 and L.72.[4]

1.1.1 The trench North of L.88

The monumental square in front of Palace A remained, since it was excavated in the 1960s, in a very good state of preservation, so it was not judged worth removing its slabs to investigate the underlying strata; on the contrary, just to the North of drain D.59 the open area was – apparently – not flagged; this impression was confirmed when we came into possession, at the end of the 2005 campaign, of Alkım's pictures: none of them shows, on the eastern excavation wall of Trench D, any hints of the continuation of L.88 (Duru 2024: pl. XLII: 2). It was thus preferred to dig there, from the western limit of Building C to the eroded border of the so-called "deep sounding".

At the very foot of W.80, scanty remains of a wall were found, stretching North-South for 2.40 m (Pl. II: 1); this feature, named W.445, was composed by two rows of flat-topped stones, exposed for only one course (Fig. 2). While direct stratigraphic evidence was lacking, on the score of orientation and elevation W.445 was tentatively related to a couple of walls, which were visible after cleaning the eastern baulk of Trench D: W.173 and W.174 (Pls. II: 2, III: 1).[5] Later W.445 was razed and covered by L.444, a hard, pressed earth surface with embedded sherds, probably a street (Pl. III: 2). In turn, L.444 was sealed under a surface ascending to the North, supposedly a street too, named L.407 (Pl. IV: 1). The latter was not a good context, and accordingly the pottery it yielded was mixed, spanning in date the EBA through the Hellenistic period; the specimens illustrated are all MBA, except for a single Hellenistic bowl (Fig. 27: 9); some features, like the inturned (Fig. 27 : 4) and folded rims (Fig. 27: 2–3) of the shallow bowls, as well as the out-turned rims of the jars (Fig. 27: 5, 7), point to MB II.

The following stages, related to Palace A and Building C, were impossible to determine because they were excavated by the Turkish Expedition (Duru 2024: pl. XXXIX: 1); since then, F.404, a new surface layer, formed over L.407. Small finds

4 The *loci* numbers of Building C were attributed in 2003 in order to denote features on the plan drawn by the Turkish Expedition: so the names L.82, L.74, etc. were given to the rooms independently of the floors, that – if had existed – by the beginning of the excavation were no more preserved.

5 These walls, running respectively East-West and North-South and bound to each other at right angles, were preserved for a height of four courses (the topmost one being 463.94 m a.s.l.). Being outside the borders of our excavation, they were not completely drawn but only sketched. The floor connecting them was lost, yet – on the score of some remarks that were made on the field – we surmise it was approximately at the elevation of 463.00 m.

included a few sherds of limited interpretative value, a pottery object – possibly an Islamic pipe (Pl. XXVII: 3), and two tapered cylinders of fine-grained basalt, probably produced by the drilling of holes in the orthostats (Seeher 2006: 17) (Pl. XXVIII: 1–2, Fig. 45: 2–3).

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.04.A.12, Islamic pipe (?)
(Pl. XXVII: 3)
Material: pottery
Dimensions: h. 4.1+ cm; d. 3.4 cm
Locus: F.404
Bucket: TH.04.A.2/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.A.52, tapered cylindrical object
(Fig. 45: 2, Pl. XXVIII: 1)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: h. 2.9+ cm; d. 2.3 cm
Locus: F.404
Bucket: TH.04.A.2/c
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.A.54, tapered cylindrical object
(Fig. 45: 3, Pl. XXVIII: 2)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: h. 2.8+ cm; d. 2.3 cm
Locus: F.404
Bucket: TH.04.A.2/b
Preservation: fragmentary

1.1.2 The sounding in L.82

In this room, the probe was planned to look for the floor belonging to Building C (if preserved under the wash layer formed since the 1960s), and for previous structures; the former proved to be lost, whereas some earlier evidence was found.

Because of two heavy basalt installations encumbering the ground (Pl. XXV: 1)[6], it was decided not to dig L.82 completely but to spare a narrow strip along W.77, to delimit a trench 5.70 x 3.15 m large and less than 1.50 m deep (Figs. 4–5, 14). There, the earliest stage detected is represented by two loci poorly preserved, named L.447 and L.430 after their floors (Fig. 4). The relation between the two floors is unknown, on the one hand because it was cut away – probably by Alkım – and on the other because it is concealed under a later feature left unexcavated (F.410b-a); thus, it seems more convenient to describe them separately.

The first room, L.447, was a beaten earth floor bordered by three walls (W.418, W.409 and W.413) making right angles (Pl. IV: 2); North to South it measured 2.50

6 Of these two grinding installations, one was found in L.82 by the Turkish archaeologists, as is clearly shown in Duru 2003: pl. 32: 2.

m, while the other dimension is unknown because of the lack of its western limit. The major wall, W.409, was composed of at least five courses of roughly worked small-sized stones, topped by a mudbrick superstructure. Both W.418 and W.413 were preserved only for a stone socle three courses high: the former showed – apparently – only one row of stones carefully laid, although of irregular size, while the latter had two. Stratigraphically speaking, W.418 abutted on W.409, while no direct relation with W.413 was ascertained because of superimposed strata not excavated; yet, its belonging to the room seems unquestionable.

One or more refurbishings of L.447 occurred in time, only attested to by L.412, a patch of pressed, clayish surface with small inclusions connected to W.409 at the elevation of 463.98 m (Pl. V: 1); while dismantling this floor a fragmentary, pierced door-socket was found, showing very clearly the traces due to the rubbing of the pivot inside the hollow (Pl. XXVIII: 3).

The second locus, L.430, was a beaten earth stratum some 10 cm thick, with embedded sherds, ranging from 463.98 to 464.10 m a.s.l.; the gradient and composition argue for its being a lane, more than a room. About 1.10 m large, it was bordered by two parallel walls oriented East-West: W.422[7] and W.448 (Pls. V: 2, VI: 1). The former was constituted by two stone rows of uneven dimensions and setting, preserved for a height of two courses; the upper one was topped by a reused threshold, provided with a square notch for the door-socket. As W.448 ran under W.81 and was concealed by unexcavated layers (for which see later on), not much can be said of its construction technique; nevertheless, its large, squared stones may suggest it was only one row wide. Later, the lane was enlarged: first W.422 was obliterated by F.421, a hard-pressed stratum to be interpreted as the accumulation of debris on the street; subsequently W.448 was also razed and covered by a new surface, L.449, resting directly upon it (Pls. VI: 2, VII: 1; Fig. 14). The latter was similar to L.430 underneath, with scattered sherds mixed to beaten earth.

The two surfaces, L.430 and L.449, and the filling in-between yielded ceramic material, which can be attributed entirely to MB I, also helping to pinpoint the date of the similar structures (walls and streets) outside L.82, which gave no significant pottery. Simple Ware is prevalent and is comparable at Tilmen with the larger and better assemblage from F.522, Area L, which is definitely MB IA in date[8]; general

7 For the reasons already explained, it is impossible to say if W.422 was either the continuation or a repair of W.413, or neither.

8 Area L was located on the north-eastern acropolis, some 60 m from Area C (Duru 2024).

traits are shared, and parallels are found in particular for the bowl with grooved wall (Fig. 28: 1), the jar with short flared neck and beveled rim (Fig. 28: 6) and the vessel with a sharp carination in the lower part of the body (Fig. 28: 3). Early in the period could also be the bowl with curving wall (Fig. 28: 2) and jar no. 8. Sherds no. 4 and 5 are representative of the bottoms found in this context, which are mostly ring bases (though not all of them are profiled); flat bases are also present. Preservation Ware is represented by a single handmade specimen (Fig. 28: 10), and Kitchen Ware by a bowl (Fig. 28: 11) and a ledge-rimmed cooking pot (Fig. 28: 12).

Two ring-like basalt objects were found together with the pottery; they don't bear use-wear traces (as is the case of the door-socket from L.412, which is very similar in shape) and thus are generically considered as weights[9] (Pls. XXVIII: 4–5; Fig. 45: 4).

The next stage marks a more conspicuous change, due to large-scale adjustments which put an end to a tightly-built house quarter on the top of the mound, in favor of more important structures. L.449 was covered by a thick clayish layer with many inclusions, of compacted consistency and reddish color, named F.414 (Pls. VI: 2, VII: 1); few sherds and very torn were mixed within. Apparently, it constituted an intentional leveling meant for and topped by F.410b-a, a surface substantially even, made up of basalt slabs quite spaced away – with cobbles filling the gaps (Fig. 5, Pls. VII: 2, VIII: 1). The rearrangement of the area occurred either in connection with the construction of Palace A or during the following "intermediate" phase[10]: actually, F.410b-a was very close for elevation to the outer sidewalk of the palace (i.e., L.37e), while being considerably lower than the floor level of Building C (as inferred from the door-sill of L.82); moreover such a stone bed would have fitted an open space better than a room.

The pottery evidence from F.414 is ascribed to MB II, except probably for a seemingly earlier jar with outflared neck and collared rim (Fig. 29: 1). Simple Ware is mainly represented by bowls, all manufactured with the same reddish paste quite depurated; three are open forms with flaring walls, similar as for dimensions and only distinguished by the rims, which range from slightly to fully inturned (Fig. 29: 2–4;

9 In a very preliminary contribution on the Ebla ground stone tools, E. Merluzzi (2000: 1067–1068, fig. 11) places similar objects under the miscellaneous category of perforated stones, which collects implements of various functions (loom weights, sinkers, maceheads, etc.); whereas other authors propose a more precise definition, e.g. as digging stick weights (Holland 2006: Figs. 174: 2, 229: 11) or fishnet (?) weights (ibid.: fig. 8). By referring to them simply as weights, we are adopting a terminology generic enough to consent a re-assessment when specific studies are carried out.

10 For a description of this stage, prior to Building C and partly contemporary to Palace A, see § 1.3.2. See also § 1.1.3 and § 1.1.4, where stratigraphic situations similar to the present one are examined.

simple rims are also attested to); one is larger and shows a pronounced rim, ledged outwards (Fig. 29: 5); also a closed bowl with short neck and beveled rim is attested (Fig. 29: 6). A tall-necked jar with a rolled rim (Fig. 29: 7) and a vessel with a high ring base (Fig. 29: 8) complete the class. Kitchen Ware is illustrated by two different cooking pots: one collar-rimmed (Fig. 29: 10) and the other provided with an inner step (Fig. 29: 9). Still from F.414, a miniature mortar of polished, fine-grained stone was found (Pl. XXIX: 1, Fig. 45: 5).

All the stratigraphy (except for a narrow strip along W.81) was affected by a pit of irregular shape (P.446), whose fill, F.406, was a composite one: compacted in surface and more granulous below, it was mixed with stones and large basalt slabs (Pl. VIII: 2). Though not proved, the pit must be due to Alkım sounding below floor level in L.82, and the sparse slabs in F.406 came very likely from his dismantling F.410b-a[11]; some discarded boulders could likewise belong to W.228, dug away by the Turkish Expedition and yet visible in some of their excavation pictures[12]. As a significant effort would have been necessary to break to pieces and remove these stones – and on the contrary not much information was to be expected from this – F.406 was only partially dug.

The ceramic material of F.406 was mixed, as is to be expected from the content of a pit. In Fig. 30, MBA specimens are illustrated, but EBIII/IV indicators were found too. The preservation jars depicted in Fig. 30: 2 and Fig. 30: 3 point to MB II. Moreover, two objects have been found: a rhomboid tablet of polished stone, which is in all similar to palettes but for the lack of battering signs (Pl. XXIX: 2, Fig. 46: 1), and another small basalt cylinder (Pl. XXIX: 3, Fig. 46: 2). Lastly, a basalt sample was collected and analyzed (Bargossi, Gasparotto, Marocchi 2013: 8).

Cleaning the top of W.76 an unbaked clay object, possibly a sling bullet, was retrieved, clearly out of context (Pl. XXIX: 4–5).

11 For Alkım dumping in his own sounding, see e.g. the case of tomb M3 Duru 2024: pls. XXVIII: 1, XXX: 2 (during and after excavation respectively).

12 Duru 2003: pls. 24: 2, 25: 1; Duru 2024: pls. XXXVIII: 2, XXXIII: 2, where the aforesaid wall is standing out against W.81; compare to Duru 2003: pl. 24: 1 and Duru 2024: pl. XXVI: 1 , when it is in course of excavation. From these pictures it turns out too that the present aspect of W.81 and W.77 is due to Duru's restoration in 2002.

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.04.B.68, perforated door-socket
(Pl. XXVIII: 3)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: th. 4.7 cm; d. 13 cm
Locus: L.412
Bucket: TH.04.B.7/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.B.61, weight
(Fig. 45: 4, Pl. XXVIII: 4)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: th. 5.8 cm; max. d. 8.1 cm
Locus: F.421
Bucket: TH.04.B.11/b
Preservation: complete

TH.04.B.62, weight
(Pl. XXVIII: 5)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: th. 6.3 cm; d. 16.7 cm
Locus: F.421
Bucket: TH.04.B.11/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.B.114, miniature mortar
(Pl. XXIX: 1)
Material: stone
Dimensions: h. 2.4 cm; l. 5.5+ cm; w. 6+ cm
Locus: F.414
Bucket: TH.04.B.9/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.B.33, rhomboid palette
(Fig. 46: 1, Pl. XXIX: 2)
Material: stone
Dimensions: l. 7.7 cm; w. 3.3 cm; th. 1.4 cm
Locus: F.406
Bucket: TH.04.B.3/a
Preservation: complete

TH.04.B.34, tapered cylindrical object
(Fig. 46: 2, Pl. XXIX: 3)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: h. 2.5+ cm; d. 2.7 cm
Locus: F.406
Bucket: TH.04.B.3/b
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.B.29, sling bullet
(Pl. XXIX: 4–5)
Material: clay
Dimensions: l. 7.7 cm; w. 4.6 cm; th. 4.2 cm
Locus: W.76
Bucket: -
Preservation: fragmentary

1.1.3 The sounding in L.74

Being this room too large – regarding both time and workers – to be excavated entirely, a sounding was delimited in its western part, measuring on the ground 4.00 x 4.50 m and progressively reduced, so that the lower strata were reached only in the southern half (Figs. 6–9, 15–16). Here too, the aim was to fix the phases before the construction of Building C, and despite a complicated stratigraphy, an attempt was made to relate the results of this probe to those of the others.

The lowermost feature was represented by F.221, a very compacted fill of red color. It was covered by a thin floor, L.431, composed of a coating of white plaster on a subtle red stratum. This floor was preserved in a very fragmentary manner: it was

only visible in two patches along the western border of the sounding (at the elevation of 464.48 m a.s.l.) and in the southern baulk, the remainder being cut away by P.434 (Pl. IX: 1–2). The scanty ceramics from F.221 date back to MB I: indicative are the small, gently carinated bowl with disk base and up-right rim (Fig. 31: 1, Pl. XXX: 1) and the variant with slightly everted rim (Fig. 31: 2), which are attested to in inland Syria and Anatolia from EB IV to the early MBA; still comparable to the former is Fig. 31: 3, in which the carination has been practically smoothed out. On the contrary, the large bowl with curving walls and rounded rim (Fig. 31: 5) is more recent. Together with the pottery, a retouched flint blade was also found (Pl. XXX: 2).

Superimposed on L.431 was a reddish and compacted layer, 20–30 cm thick, named F.222; from this ground (it would be rather improper to call it floor), the pit mentioned above was dug, and a wall was built (Fig. 7). W.419, running North-South, was preserved for only one course and consisted of two rows of medium-sized stones, which means it had an average width of 80 cm. It was exposed only for a length of 2.20 m: its southern end was missing, while a bed of stones left unexcavated covered the northern one (Pl. X: 1–2).

P.434, nearly circular and with a regular profile, was cut into the underneath strata for 70 cm (Pl. IX: 2); it was undoubtedly meant for storing and, for this purpose, was lined with some organic material (perhaps straw or matting), which left a flimsy white trace on its walls and bottom[13]. The same feature was observed above F.222 too, hinting at a joint use of pit and surface (Pl. IX: 1). Two distinct uses of P.434 were documented: when the original pit was abandoned, it was filled up to a few centimeters from its border by F.433, a red compacted layer; this in turn became the bottom of the pit during the second use[14] (Pl. X: 1) and later was filled by a grey and soft stratum, F.428.

While the upper stratum lacked small finds, F.433 yielded MB I Simple Ware. Bowls vary significantly in shape and size – from big carinated (Fig. 32: 2) to small globular (Fig. 32: 3) through straight-walled specimens (Fig. 32: 4, 5) – yet share the same light buff paste with an even firing and not many inclusions. From these, an

13 At Kaman-Kalehöyük (Central Anatolia), where similar installations were excavated by the thousands, along with unlined or plastered pits others existed which had only "a thin white coating", which could either come from an intentional lining or from the decomposition of the stored supply (Fairbairn and Omura 2005: 17–18 and bibliography there quoted).

14 When this level was reached, we believed to have completely emptied P.434; by the time we understood that it was deeper, some sherds from F.433 were probably attributed by mistake to F.221, which was very similar indeed.

incense burner (Fig. 32: 1), handmade and smoothed outside, possibly earlier (EB III/IV?), stands out for paste and manufacture.

Apparently, wall and storage facility went out of use at once: W.419 was razed; at the same time stones blocked the opening of P.434, while F.424, accumulated in so tight a way as to have a wall-like appearance (Fig. 8, Pl. X: 1). Finally, a deposit ranging in color from grey to reddish (F.420b-a) covered everything; upon it, floor L.218 was laid, only preserved in a very small patch of red and white plaster (i.e., identical to L.431), at the elevation of 465.12 m a.s.l.

The rich evidence from F.420b-a, technically and chronologically very homogeneous, points definitely to MB I; rims are invariably up-right or slightly everted, while bottoms are mostly ring bases (Fig. 33: 11–12; a disc base is also attested). Simple Ware is characterized by bright red fabrics, sometimes showing some surface finishing; the bowl is, as usual, the most represented shape, both with curving wall – simply flaring (Fig. 33: 1–3) to slightly carinated (Fig. 33: 4) – and straight (Fig. 33: 5–6). The corrugated goblet (Fig. 33: 8) and the necked jars (Fig. 33: 9–10) too are in the tradition of the previous period, and present some general affinity with the EB III-IV pottery from F.316, Area H[15]. Two cooking pots of a type uncommon in Area C (Fig. 33: 13–14) and a preservation jar (Fig. 33: 15) complete the assemblage. Along with the pottery, by-products of flint chipping were found (Pl. XXX: 3).

Thus far, both the stratigraphy and the ceramic material showed substantial accordance with the early dwelling phase described in L.82; this stage was obliterated by an activity of leveling represented by a horizontal cut, affecting the southern part of the sounding from East to West. After that, the area underwent a change and there stretched street L.416, a hard earthen stratum with embedded sherds (Fig. 9, Pl. XI: 1). This feature was detected adjoining the southern baulk, while in the northern part of the excavation, upon F.420b-a a bed of stones was found – some of them flat-topped and horizontally laid and very even in elevation (Pl. XI: 2); named F.415, they closely resembled F.410b-a in L.82, both for aspect and for the stratigraphical position immediately below Building C level: actually, L.416 and F.415 were cut by a trench stretching from North to South for all the length of the sounding and interpreted as the foundation trench for W.69, i.e., P.340; after the lower course of the wall was set inside, rubble mixed to earth (F.425) was thrown to fill the trench (Pl. XII: 1; Figs. 15–16).

15 Area H was adjacent to Palace A, on the south-eastern fringes of the Acropolis (Duru 2024).

The dismantling of street L.416 produced a relatively large amount of ceramics, which points to a MB IIA date even if some single sherds are earlier. Such are the conical cup with ribbed wall (Fig. 34: 3) and the cooking vessels, illustrated by three different types: the well-known pot with a pronounced ridge below the rim (Fig. 34: 8); and two specimens of a less frequent shape: the one with simple everted rim – here provided with a knob-handle (Fig. 34: 7) – and the other with rilled rim and rope decoration on the shoulder (Fig. 34: 9). For the rest, Simple Ware bowls are by far the most represented type; plain inturned rims predominate in the shallow bowls (Fig. 34: 1), while stepped and otherwise profiled rims are associated to deeper (Fig. 34: 4) and closed shapes (Fig. 34: 5, 6). As was the case with F.410b-a, F.415 did not yield pottery, but a saddle-shaped grinding stone was retrieved (Pl. XXXI: 1).

L.416, F.415 and F.425 were directly covered by F.411, which became the present surface since Alkım removed the superimposed features. F.411, though exposed for the last decades, yielded abundant pottery homogeneously dating from the beginning of MB II. Open bowls range from the well-attested inturned-rim type (Fig. 35: 1–2) to a carinated one with hammer-shaped rim (Fig. 35: 3); a more closed shape is represented by the globular, rib-collared bowl (Fig. 35: 4). Necked jars – or jugs – are also extant in large number, mainly with plain ledged rims (Fig. 35: 5). A single wall fragment with a net pattern decoration (Fig. 35: 6) hints at the Painted Ware of the Syrian tradition (Nigro 2002: *passim* and in particular 107–108). Many fragments of Kitchen Ware were found, all belonging to the pot type – very common in Area C – with a ridge below the rim (Fig. 35: 7). During cleaning operations, a bead of black stone was found not *in situ* (Pl. XXXI: 2, Fig. 46: 4).

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.04.C.87, prismatic blade
(Pl. XXX:2)
Material: flint
Dimensions: l. 10.6+ cm; w. 2.9 cm; th. 1 cm
Locus: F.221
Bucket: TH.04.C.18/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.C.110, saddle-shaped grinding stone
(Pl. XXXI: 1)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: l. 30.1+ cm; w. 37.5+ cm; th. 10.9 cm
Locus: F.415
Bucket: –
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.04.C.116, decortication flakes and waste (Pl. XXX: 3)
Material: flint
Dimensions: –
Locus: F.420
Bucket: TH.04.C.10/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.03.C.14, washer-like bead (Pl. XXXI: 2, Fig. 46: 4)
Material: stone
Dimensions: th. 0.5 cm; d. 1 cm
Locus: L.74
Bucket: –
Preservation: complete

1.1.4 The sounding in L.72

The preliminary remarks already outlined in the previous paragraphs apply for L.72 as well, where a sounding 3.10 x 3.00 m large was delimited in the southern corner of the room, to obtain information about the phases prior to the construction of Building C (Figs. 10–13, 17–18). In this case, the stratigraphy proved to be disturbed, and the understanding of the relations between the single features (within this probe and the others) encountered some difficulties.

The earliest feature here detected was F.441b, a very thick and compacted stratum of reddish color, with abundant pottery. Upon it rested W.429, running East-West and wide 1.10 m at the most (i.e., two irregular rows of medium-sized stones); at the moment of the excavation, it still stood for two/three courses (Fig. 10, Pls. XII: 2, XIII: 1). On the northern face of W.429 a much-damaged floor abutted, named L.439 and composed of worn sherds embedded in a red layer, only a few centimeters thick; this surface was preserved only for two small patches: the one next to W.429 was at 465.04 m, while the other, a little to the North, was 10 cm sunk (Pl. XIII: 2)[16]. On the floors accumulated a new stratum, F.441a, similar to F.441b and like it seemingly coming from decayed mudbricks; F.441a was quite indistinguishable from F.441b, maybe because when it formed L.439 was almost worn away. That is all but unnatural when we think that only the stone foundations of walls had an enduring lifespan, while both the floors and the mudbrick superstructures periodically needed refurbishings and restorations; the same happened, as it has been reported before, to the structures uncovered in the other soundings.

F.441b-a yielded a very abundant amount of pottery, with the majority of sherds (up to 90%) dating to the close of the EBA; few intruding sherds are to be attributed to the MBA[17], among which the straight-walled bowl here shown (Fig. 36: 9). General

16 Faint traces of another floor (L.442), a thin white-washed surface almost eroded away, were found in the north-western part of the sounding.
17 Due to the complicated stratigraphy, affected by many pits, it is possible that some sherds from other strata were erroneously assigned to F.441b-a.

traits – the reddish fabric color, the hand manufacture – associate this assemblage to the contemporary material from F.316, Area H, while for a few specimens a comparison is possible also for the shape: such are the fruit stands (Fig. 36: 2, 8) and the slightly carinated bowls, both with plain and ribbed walls and short everted rims (Fig. 36: 4, 5). Simple Ware jars are mainly of the type with everted (and sometimes ledged) rims stemming from either straight (Fig. 36: 6) or outflared necks (Fig. 36: 7), while kitchen and preservation shapes are scanty.

The pottery from L.439 was very scarce and also of uncertain date: here, only a jar is illustrated, which could as well belong to the end of the EBA or the beginning of the MBA (Fig. 36: 10).

At an indeterminate time, two pits of unknown function were cut, P. 225 and P.227, affecting both F.441a and F.441b. Then, a stratum was laid with embedded stones, F.436b-a (Pl. XIV: 1), whose appearance somewhat recalls that of F.410b-a and F.415; this point – and the analogous position in the stratigraphy – may lead to the hypothesis that all the above-mentioned stone beds were set in place intentionally and at the same time, in order to level the ground in a moment when the mound was undergoing large-scale changes.

On F.436b-a, a surface lay, composed of sherds set into the ground and named L.435 (Fig. 11; Pls. XIV: 2, XV: 1)[18]; similar features have been so far considered as streets, but in this case the possibility can not be ruled out of its being a floor preparation: actually, immediately upon it another surface was found, L.432, made up of a white plaster cover upon a subtle red layer (Fig. 12, Pl. XV: 2). Whatever they were, a dark brown and granulous stratum, F.426, obliterated both of them; scattered inside it were many discarded stones and abundant pottery. They were cut by a large pit, P. 438, filled with soft soil mixed with stones and a few sherds (F.437).

Apart from some residual sherds, the scanty pottery from L.435 points to a date at the transition between MB I and II. The Simple Ware bowl (Fig. 37: 1) is an indicator of MB II, and so is the Kitchen Ware one (Fig. 37: 2); the jar depicted in Fig. 37: 3 could also fit into the period, so an MB IIA dating is proposed.

The rich assemblage from F.426 is also clear, so that it can confidently be attributed to MB IIA despite the many sherds from the earlier period found there. The closed bowl with carinated body (Fig. 38: 8) and the one with an up-right upper wall (Fig.

18 It is not clear whether a relation existed between L.435 and W.429, i.e. if the latter still continued to be in use.

38: 7) are reminiscent of the beginning of the MBA, while the open specimens are MB II hallmarks: they are either straight-sided with inturned rims (Fig. 38: 1–2) or carinated, with the upper walls ending in hammer-shaped rims (Fig. 38: 3–5). Jars are also attested, both necked (Fig. 38: 10) and not – the latter with profiled rim (Fig. 38: 9). Kitchen Ware conforms for table vessels to the two categories already described, of inturned rim bowls (Fig. 39: 1) and carinated bowls (Fig. 39: 2); pots mainly belong in the diffused type with the ridge below the rim (Fig. 39: 3), but a big specimen with triangular rim (Fig. 39: 4) is present too. Many traits in this pottery sample recall those from F.411: first of all, the shapes and fabrics, but also the abundance of sherds and their distribution ratio according to the different classes, and finally the presence of a few painted examples related to the tradition of Northern Syria. The specimen in Fig. 38: 11 is a tubular spout in the shape of an animal head; the handle with herringbone decoration (Fig. 38: 12) hints at the Syrian Cilician Painted Ware. From F.426, a fragmentary bronze nail also came (Pl. XXXI: 3, Fig. 46: 6).

The pottery from F.437 could either date from late MB I or early MB II: here, a large bowl with a curving wall and ring base (Fig. 39: 6), and a jar with a beveled rim stemming from a short neck (Fig. 39: 7) are attested.

Later, the whole sounding was crossed from North to South by P.341, the foundation trench for W.71 (the eastern boundary wall of Building C), which was also cutting W.429. After W.71 itself was put in place, the trench was filled by propping against the wall a sort of stone socle, W.443 (Fig. 13, Pls. XIII: 1, XIV: 1). Further information on this technique was gathered in 2007 from Area K-5, bordering Area C to the East: there, in a small sounding outside the building, a feature analogous to W.443 was found, located East of W.71 and named W.2553[19].

The activities connected to the construction of the LB I residency were the latest we could document, because the following stratigraphy was excavated by Alkım; since then, a new surface layer formed, F.342. From the surface of L.72 came another example of a saddle-shaped grinding slab, which was very fragmentary indeed and not illustrated.

19 Also in this case, the operations related to the construction of Building C affected an earlier wall (W.2334), parallel to W.429 and seemingly dating to MB I. The scanty data coming from that sounding will be dealt with together with other and more extensive evidence from MB I, brought to light in Area K-5 (Duru 2024).

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.04.C.19, round nail shank
(Pl. XXXI: 3, Fig. 46: 6)
Material: bronze
Dimensions: l. 2.1+ cm
Locus: F.426
Bucket: TH.04.C.12/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.03.C.10, saddle-shaped grinding stone

Material: basalt
Dimensions: l. 15+ cm; w. 15+ cm; th. 7.1 cm
Locus: L.72
Bucket: –
Preservation: fragmentary

1.2 *The excavations in the central and southern wings*

The operations that involved the central and southern wings of Building C were not so much an actual excavation than an accurate cleaning of the features already exposed; during such operation a fragmentary basalt grinder was retrieved (Pl. XXXII: 1). In any case, a minimal digging was carried out in L.63, L.39 and L.44 to answer a few questions that the extensive exploration by Alkım had left open; in the rest of the area we limited ourselves to remove the wash layer formed since the 1960s.

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.03.C.12, elongated grinder
(Pl. XXXII: 1)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: l. 12.5+ cm; w. 10 cm; th. 4.3 cm
Locus: L.57
Preservation: fragmentary

1.2.1 The excavation in L.63

In this room, our interest lay mainly in drain D.59, which presented two major interrelated issues: its attribution either to Palace A or to Building C, and the difference of ca. 90 cm in elevation it had to overcome in order to continue its way in L.88; to try to answer these questions, it was excavated anew[20].

The drain proved to slope westwards and to rest, with its southern side-wall, directly on the sidewalk bordering Palace A, i.e., L.37e (Pl. XVI: 2). The deposit inside it, F.172, consisted of mud with many chalky inclusions and tiny pieces of charcoal. The scanty sherds included an inturned-rim bowl (Fig. 40: 1), an incised fragment (Fig. 40: 2) and two pieces of Kitchen Ware: a large bowl with out-grooved

20 We excavated it to the bed only where the cap-stones were lacking; only later, coming in possession of Alkım's photos, did we realize that the ceiling of the drain was not the original one (compare Duru 2024: pl. XXXI: 2 with pl. XVI: 1).

rim (Fig. 40: 3) and the usual pot with a pronounced ridge below the rim (Fig. 40: 4). All of them point to a MB II date.

Later, on L.37e, a brown layer formed, compacted and quite rich in pottery, named F.169; it accumulated either during the use or after the abandonment of the pavement, because above this fill rested, in turn, the walls of Building C. The same stratum – to the North of D.59 – also covered L.214, a very small piece of plastered floor, which could not be associated to either phase.

The evidence from F.169 is MB II in date: the inturned-rim bowls (Fig. 41: 1–2) are characteristic of this period. Also, the closed bowl with profiled rim (Fig. 41: 4) has been documented at Tilmen as belonging to this period, though less frequently. The jar depicted in Fig. 41: 5, on the contrary, is widespread all along the MBA.

On F.172 some large blocks were lying, presumably due to the dismantling of later features by the Turkish archaeologists (Pl. XVI: 1).

1.2.2 The excavation in L.39

This room was re-excavated to verify if D.59, which ended in L.58, was to be found under W.41, in order to ascertain in a definite way its relation to one or the other stage of the area (Pl. XVII: 1).

The earliest feature uncovered was a simple beaten earth surface in phase with L.37d (i.e., with Palace A), named L.206 (Pl. XVII: 2). Both were covered by F.201, a layer of hard, compacted consistency and reddish color, which was most probably due to the debris accumulated over the floors during and after the palace's lifespan; upon it rested W.40, W.41 and W.42, which all belonged to the phase of Building C.

Because of the number of sherds – pretty abundant – and their homogeneity, the evidence from F.201 is very readable and can be placed firmly at the end of MB II. The inturned-rim bowl is an easy hallmark for that period and constitutes the most represented shape (Fig. 42: 1–2); deeper bowls with slightly curving walls are present too (Fig. 42: 3–4). Simple Ware also features a small jar with corrugated neck and everted rim (Fig. 42: 5). Beside the ceramic material, a grinder shaped in a coarse-grained quality of basalt was found in F.201 (Pl. XXXII: 2).

In an undetermined time, the stratigraphy in L.39 was disturbed by a large and deep pit of irregular borders, named P.205 (Pl. XVIII: 1)[21]; its fill F.202, being composed

21 Inside P.205, a slab cut with sharp angles was visible – most probably sunk from L.37d – as well as, in its western side, some stone courses of a structure earlier than the pavement itself (Pl. XVII: 2).

of black and soft soil, was easily distinguishable from the surrounding F.201, and was topped by basalt boulders (Pl. XVIII: 2). A picture taken in the 1960s shows very clearly only the gap in L.37d, but not the boulders (Duru 2024: pl. XXXVI: 1): this could suggest that the latter, coming from the dismantling of some late walls, were dumped there by Alkım himself.

Being the fill of a pit, F.202 did not give much significant pottery: Simple Ware is represented by a large bowl with hammer-shaped rim (Fig. 43: 1) and a necked jar (Fig. 43: 2) from the mid-2nd millennium BC. On the contrary, the hole-mouth jar of Preservation Ware is quite later (Fig. 43: 3).

After the Turkish excavations, a new surface layer 30 cm thick, F.204, formed in L.39; although it was not a sealed context, this fill featured relatively homogeneous pottery, which can be attributed to the MBA. From the end of the period are two bowls, a large one with inturned rim (Fig. 44: 1) and a smaller one, ending in a short up-right rim (Fig. 44: 2). The surface finds also included a few stone artifacts: a grinder (Pl. XXXII: 3), a palette with a battered working face (Pl. XXXIII: 1) and finally a small spherical pestle of basalt found on top of W.42 (Pl. XXXIII: 3).

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.03.C.41, elongated grinder
(Pl. XXXII: 2)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: l. 21+ cm; w. 12 cm; th. 6.5 cm
Locus: F.201
Bucket: TH.03.C.52/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.03.C.35, elongated grinder
(Pl. XXXII: 3)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: l. 6.6+ cm; w. 7.7+ cm; th. 4.7 cm
Locus: F.204
Bucket: TH.03.C.51/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.03.C.28, irregular palette
(Pl. XXXIII: 1)
Material: stone
Dimensions: l. 6.2+ cm; w. 7.9+ cm; th. 1.7 cm
Locus: F.204
Bucket: TH.03.C.51
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.03.C.71, spherical pestle
(Pl. XXXIII: 3)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: d. 2.6 cm
Locus: W.42
Bucket: –
Preservation: complete

1.2.3 The excavation in L.44

A further reduced investigation was carried out in L.44 where, besides clearing the room from the very superficial layer, only a narrow and shallow trench was dug along the edge of pavement L.37c.

The cleaning had already evidenced that a thick and compacted clayish layer, F.213, once covered the pavement and still lay immediately below W.42, W.41 and W.46: such a feature is to be equated with F.169 in L.63 and F.201 in L.39, the deposit formed in the interval between the life of Palace A and the construction of Building C. The trench showed that F.213 had been cut by a circular pit, P.212, which had affected L.37c as well (Pl. XIX: 1–2); being not excavated, it is impossible to pinpoint its date.

The later stratigraphy was excavated by the Turkish archaeologists, who, in all probability, were also responsible for P.344, a trench dug into F.213 and parallel to L.37c; after their activity, a new layer accumulated, which became the present surface (F.345). From it came the rim of a fine-grained basalt bowl (Pl. XXXIII: 2) and a retouched flake (Pl. XXXIII: 4).

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.03.C.9, rim of shallow bowl
(Pl. XXXIII: 2)
Material: basalt
Dimensions: h. 9.4+ cm; th. 2.3 cm
Locus: F.345
Bucket: TH.03.C.50/a
Preservation: fragmentary

TH.03.C.18, retouched flake
(Pl. XXXIII: 4)
Material: flint
Dimensions: l. 2.9+ cm; w. 5.1+ cm; th. 1.8 cm
Locus: F.345
Bucket: TH.03.50/b
Preservation: fragmentary

1.2.4 The cleaning in L.48

This room, the easternmost of the row, was not re-excavated but only cleaned (Pl. XX: 1); no pottery was retrieved in the wash layer that had formed since the 1960s, but a glass ribbon handle was found (Pl. XXXIII: 5).

Catalogue of the small finds:

TH.03.C.32, ribbon handle
(Pl. XXXIII: 5)
Material: green glass
Dimensions: h. 3+ cm; w. 1.1 cm; th. 0.5 cm
Locus: L.48
Bucket: –
Preservation: fragmentary

1.3 *The structural stratigraphy in Area C: a tentative interpretation*

Over time, area C underwent several phases very close to each other, spanning at least four centuries and showing a continuity of occupation, as is naturally expected

on the top of a mound. They are documented unevenly: first-hand excavation data are available only for the earliest stages, dating from MB I, which yielded few and much damaged structural remains; the MB II or "intermediate" phase is only represented by razed walls underlying the main and best-preserved phase of Building C, from the LB I, while some late reuses are attested to by stump walls on the latter. Accordingly, the interpretation of the structural stratigraphy is carried out in the following paragraphs to different degrees of scope and detail, in some cases based solely upon the direct observation of fragmentary evidence.

1.3.1 The MB I house quarter

According to the associated pottery, the earliest structures detected under the northern aisle of Building C belong to an initial phase of the MBA, i.e., before the building of Palace A. They were exposed on a very limited scale and, what's more, were retrieved in a deplorable state of preservation; nonetheless, by comparing alignments, elevations, and ceramics, we will try here to set them into relation, even when not stratigraphically contiguous; the same is attempted with regard to the room excavated by Alkım in Trench D, which he ascribed to the period under discussion: his level IIIb (Alkım 1965: Figs. 13–14; Alkım 1969: 286–287; Duru 2003: 54–55; 2013, pl. 17: 2–3; for a summary see Duru 2024)[22]. The features interested are shown in Fig. 19: they are W.343, W.346, W.347, and W.348 with L.349 in Trench D; W.445, W.173 and W.174 outside Building C; W.418, W.409, W.413, W.422, W.448 and respective floors in L.82; W.419 and floors in L.74; finally, W.429 and floors in L.72[23]. The picture all these structures form is a very incomplete one, allowing only some very general remarks pertinent to their masonry and layout.

Seldom did the width of walls exceed 1 m, the average being 70–80 cm; this measure was obtained from two rows of middle-sized fieldstones (the only stone documented at Tilmen is basalt), topped by a mudbrick superstructure, partially preserved only in W.409. This very feature also shows that the stone base of the wall could stand out from the floor, forming a socle visible up to 1 m (Pl. IV: 2); the same can be inferred by comparing the elevations of W.346 and L.349. On the contrary, nothing is known

22 Alkım's level IIIa, it too dating back to MB I, is a little too high to match our structures (Alkım 1965: fig. 12; Duru 2013, pl. 17: 1).

23 Note that the phasing relies on the most durable structures, i.e. walls foundations, while floors underwent continually refurbishings and that makes impossible a precise correlation between them.

about the depth of the foundations under floor level; in no case does it seem that they were wider than the walls themselves.

Floors were either plastered or made of beaten earth, apparently without preparation[24]; the stone flooring in L.439 is by no means common in an interior, not even in later periods or more relevant buildings, and it must be due to some particular activity that took place in the room. Outer surfaces, like streets and open spaces, were usually made firm by sherds and pebbles set into the ground.

The streets show that – then as today – mound's surface ascended sensibly to the North and to the East[25], but not much effort was made in order to level that slope; a substantial work of terracing was planned only in view of the foundation of Palace A. The activities entailed by the monumental setting of the area during MB II, and those later connected to the construction of Building C, disturbed the earlier strata, so that no intact contexts dating back to MB I have been retrieved; yet, there is no doubt that these small-scale structures belonged to a house quarter developed spontaneously.

1.3.2 The MB II phase

Royal Palace A was in use during MB II and was burnt to the ground at the end of that period, although we cannot estabilish for sure if it was in fact originally built in MB IB already. The discussion of its architecture had been dealt with elsewhere (see Marchetti 2006): however, between the lifespan of Palace A and the construction of Building C, an intermediate phase existed as well, only hinted at by some razed walls preserved in the southern part of the area (Fig. 21)[26]: they are W.50, W.49, W.52, W.54, and W.56 (Pls. XX: 1– 2, XXI: 1); to them we must add a fragmentary flagged floor, L.53, on account of its contiguity to W.52 and W.50 and of its elevation, overly low in comparison to Building C (Pl. XXI: 2); and a drain, D.59, which was bound to W.56 and W.52 (Duru 2024: pls. XXIX: 1, XXX). The building so outlined, whose walls intersecting at right angles show some degree of planning, was inconsistent with the orientation of Palace A and rather resembled that of Building C; yet, it was erected in strict relation to the former and probably when it was still in use, as we can infer from the following architectural and stratigraphic observations.

First of all, W.50 rested immediately upon L.37b and not upon a stratum of debris,

24 An exception could be represented by L.435 (see § 1.1.4).

25 See, e.g., L.407 in Fig. 3 and Pl. IV: 1, L.430 and L.449 in Fig. 14 and Pl. VII: 1, and L.416 in Fig. 16.

26 Fig. 21 is mostly based on the plan drawn by Giampaolo Luglio, with only minor details integrated from the 1960s plans by Ferit Koper: those are W.86, the south-eastern end of D.59, W.247 and the corner between W.52 and W.50.

as one would expect if the palace had been by then abandoned or in ruin (Pls. XX: 2, Duru 2024: pl. XXXV: 1). On the contrary, we suggest that the pavement outside the palace was still being used and fell into disuse together with W.49, because the same accumulation layer covered both of them (Pl. XX: 1, Duru 2024: pl. XXXIV: 1); above that stratum, W.46, W.42 and W.40 of Building C lay (see for details §§ 1.2.2–3.).

Secondly, this "intermediate" building would have lacked a rear wall, unless we surmise that W.17 was still standing and functioned as one: in this regard, it is of some importance to note that W.50 did not cover W.17 but abutted on it. From the static point of view, this does not seem impossible and only implies that the building – or at least this part of the building – was probably devoid of a second floor.

Lastly, drain D.59 was so perfectly embedded in L.37e (Pl. XVI: 2) and in L.88 (Pl. XXII: 1) as to suggest that – when it was being constructed – the pavement and the square pertinent to Palace A were, if not in use, at least still visible: that is to say that the installation was built during the very lifespan of the palace or slightly later[27].

So far, the considerations exposed have only dealt with wall stratigraphy, which is still observable in the southern part of Area C, yet they can be integrated into a more comprehensive picture if we take into account the assumptions made by the Turkish excavators. According to them, an early stage of the area was constituted by the so-called Building B, in phase with Palace A and separated from it by a street. The former would have been composed of two rooms (L.82 and L.84 + L.85 + L.67, not yet transformed into a staircase), later incorporated by Building C; on the base of the plan, its suggested function would be that of a temple (Duru 2003: 62, fig. 10; 2013: 95; for a summary see Duru 2024). As it is impossible for us to either confirm or refute this hypothesis, we limit ourselves to some basic assessments of the extant evidence.

Looking at Fig. 25, it seems that the western boundary wall of Building C formed a continuous front with Palace A, as for construction and elevation: actually, the presence of external orthostats is unique to W.80, W.81, W.86[28] and W.9. Remarkably, the difference between W.80 and W.9 – measured at the base of the orthostats over a distance of some 20 m – is of only 5 cm, while the difference between W.80 and W.81, according to the same criteria, is of no less than 90 cm (Fig. 26). On that score

27 A different opinion is expressed in Duru 2003: 66; for a summary see Duru 2024 .Unfortunately, the scanty ceramic material found inside the drain only dated its use later than MB II (see § 1.2.1).

28 This wall, removed by the Turkish archaeologists, is documented in Duru 2024: pls. XXXI: 1, XXXIII: 1, as well as in Duru 2013: pl. 36; see also Duru 1990: fig. 19, which is particularly telling.

it is reasonable to assume that, prior to the construction of Building C, a continuous front revetted by orthostats already existed: whether it bordered a distinct building (Alkım's Building B) we can not say[29], but it seems ascertained that it had at least a practical use as a retaining wall, settling the difference in level between L.88 and L.37a-e (the MB II outer sidewalk of the palace, cf. Pls. XIX-XX).

Thus, the picture we get is that of a terraced area to the North of the Royal Palace, which shaped the natural slope of the mound into a more regular ground[30]. This work – judging from the orthostats accurately leveled and from the drain fitting both Palace A and the "intermediate" building – was less due to expedient solutions than to a careful project; the same can be inferred looking at the substantial masonry and at the regular layout of the fabric itself, which, on account of its construction and position, no doubt served as an annex to the palace.

However, the reconstruction of its plan is highly speculative, relying as it is on very few firm data. Its boundary walls to the North and the East can be identified with W.56 and W.50, respectively, while to the South and West, no free-standing walls existed, and the fabric was closed by W.17 and W.21 of Palace A. The inner circulation is unknown apart from the entrance, which can be tentatively located to the East thanks to the corner between W.50 and W.52, still perfectly preserved at the moment of Alkım's excavation (Duru 2003: pl. 31: 2). Two narrow rooms were aligned along the northern side of the building, while another couple of rectangular rooms occupied the eastern side. A considerable part of the plan remains blank, but a courtyard in the south-western corner may be hypothesized from the presence of drain D.59. An upper floor, if it existed, was likely confined to the northern strip and was supported by W.56 and W.52 (too large indeed, to be only a partition); in the South, its presence should be excluded, both because of the courtyard and the lack of a rear wall.

1.3.3 The LBA phase

The most important feature of Area C is represented by the LB residency built above the ruins of Palace A and of the "intermediate" phase, i.e., Building B; owing

29 In any case, some observations confirm that under the stratigraphic point of viewif not under the chronological one – the unit formed by W.86, W.81, W.80, W.76, W.78, W.79 and W.69 was earlier than the rest of Building C. Actually W.76 (and consequently W.78, W.79 and W.69) was bound to W.80 and contemporary to it; on the contrary, W.77 and W.75 both abutted on W.76 and thus were later than it (Pl. I: 2).

30 Faint hints of such an arrangement are offered by F.410b-a, F.415 and probably by F.436b-a too, brought to light in the soundings carried out in 2004 in the northern aisle of Building C (see §§ 1.1.2–4).

to its good preservation state and conspicuous layout, the latter is the only structure of the area liable to a proper architectural analysis and consequently is dealt with under § 2.

1.3.4 The Roman and Byzantine phases

Two successive phases developed above the walls of the residency at later times: because of a lack of excavation data and materials, they have been tentatively attributed to the Roman and Byzantine (?) periods based on comparison with the nearby areas.

A settlement of Roman period was uncovered only a few meters to the North-West and the East of Area C, on the central plateau and eastern slope of the acropolis. In Area G, the best and longest stratified sequence was obtained, spanning the EBA through the Byzantine time, while in Area K-5, a Roman quarter was exposed extensively[31]. An outstanding feature of that village – observed both in areas G and K-5 – was the custom of erecting walls directly on top of LB foundations, with only slight changes in orientation despite the many centuries that had elapsed[32]. That expedient technique also characterizes some late structures of Area C, and the masonry and layout are consistent too: so it appears quite safe to regard them as contemporary.

The stage under discussion includes W.217, W.229, W.248, W.249, W.230, W.232, W.233, W.236, W.234 and W.235 (Fig. 23; Pls. XVII: 1, XXI: 1, XXII: 2, XXIII: 1–2, XXIV: 1). In order to integrate that evidence, features removed by the Turkish archaeologists – but documented with either plans or photos – have been carefully examined, and remarks about orientation and wall stratigraphy have made it possible to interpret as belonging in this phase some walls and a bench which do not exist any more: these are W.228 and B.215, visible in Alkım 1962c: plan IV and Duru 2024: pls. XXXIII: 2, XXXVIII: 2, XXXIX); W.231 and the blocking of door L.68 in Duru 2003: pl. 34[33]; W.238 in Duru 2013: pl. 36; and W.187 in Duru 2024: pl. XX. All together (and bearing in mind the evidence from Area K-5), they help in reconstructing a plan of rectangular units – probably of domestic function – adjacent to each other and oriented to the North-West.

A successive occupation, still more elusive, followed the supposed Roman phase,

31 Minor evidence was detected also in areas H, L and N (Duru 2024), not to mention the Roman finds retrieved by the Turkish expedition (Duru 2013: 67, 77 n. 26).

32 This could mean that by then the erosion had almost exposed the pre-Classical levels, carrying on a long-lasting process which in Hellenistic time had already involved the fringes of Palace A (Duru 2024).

33 A different hypothesis is put forth in Duru 2003: 67 (for a summary see Duru 2024), where the blocking of L.68, W.231 and other rearrangements are attributed to level IIa, i.e. still in the MBA.

but no hypothesis whatsoever is possible about its date: we only know that in nearby areas G and K-5 a late frequentation is testified to by scanty sherds, coins and artifacts of the Byzantine period, coming from eroded contexts or even from sporadic findings[34]. This allows us to assume that probably a Byzantine stage existed in Area C too, and thus to attribute to it (in a purely conventional sense) the latest walls resting on the LB residency (Fig. 24): they are W.246, stretching across W.75; and W.210 and W.211 on W.239. Along with the structures still standing today, also in this case we try to include in the picture some features attested to in Alkım's documentation: W.244, W.243 W.242, W.241 and W.47 (Duru 2013: pl. 36, and Duru 2024: pls. XXVII: 2, XXVIII, XXIX: 2, XXXI: 1, XXXII: 1, XXXV, XXXVI: 2); and W.186 (Duru 2024: pl. XX). Even so, it is hardly feasible to draw any conclusions about the character of such a settlement, apart from the very generic observation that it appears to disregard the alignments of the previous structures (only occasionally using them as foundations), and to be more loosely built.

2. Analysis of the Architecture of the Residency

Building C, as we know it, was erected during the first phase of the LBA: a dating to the 16th-15th century was suggested at the moment of the excavations on the base of the finds (Alkım 1969: 285)[35], and the probes carried out in 2003 confirmed a terminus post quem at the end of MB II for its construction (§§ 1.2.2–3). A further, albeit indirect, proof came in 2006–2007 from the nearby area K-5, where a street bordering the residency to the East was unearthed and attributed to the transition between the MBA and the LBA (Marchetti 2010).

2.1 *Considerations on the plan of Building C*

Though resting on the northern front of Palace A (Fig. 22, Pl. I: 1), Building C was not coherent with the previous arrangement of the area, the two structures being different in orientation, both in their main axes (which slightly diverged from each other[36]) and in respect to the access from outside: while the palace faced North and

34 A 14C dating is also available from F. 1371 in Area K-5. Yet, the study of the contexts – mostly pits – is still to be done, as well as of the exact spanning of a period that very broadly has been termed Byzantine, but which needs further consideration (Duru 2024).

35 For a different view, see Duru 2003: 55 and 2013: 68, where the level IIb – to which the 2nd Phase Palace Complex belongs – is attributed to the MB II.

36 Such a change would appear less abrupt if the inference about the "intermediate" building proved to be cor-

opened onto a large square by means of an official entryway, Building C was entered directly from a street through a narrow door located on its eastern façade (Pl. XXI: 2; Duru 2024: pl. XXVI: 1), as a consequence of a thorough change that involved the setting and the circulation of the acropolis;[37] that unimportant entrance also suggests that, despite its still impressive dimensions, Building C held only a private function.

The plan of the building would have been rectangular, but for minor offsets in the northern and western boundary walls; these anomalies, easily explained by pre-existent structures, did not affect the substantial regularity of the architecture, which conformed to a tripartite scheme. The deep inset created by the staircase of Palace A, on the contrary, needs a more accurate consideration: the Turkish archaeologists maintained that Building C embodied the stairway of the older fabric; according to this view, L.23 and L.24 were filled in and over them a new floor was laid (Duru 2003: 66, fig. 11; 2013: 93; for a summary see Duru 2024)[38].

If this hypothesis were correct, the partition between L.63 and the room to its South (Duru's room no. 7) should be identified with W.237: almost dug away in the 1960s, it is still visible in Duru 2024: pls. XXXI, XXXII: 1, XXXIII: 1. While Duru 2024: pl. XXXI: 1 shows that it did not rest directly above pavement L.37e but on a consistent debris layer, Duru 2024: pl. XXXIII: 1 makes it clear that it abutted on W.86, which continued in use from the "intermediate" phase: both observations would agree with the attribution of W.237 to Building C.

To the opposite side, such a room would have been closed by W.239, another wall no longer existing but documented by some photos: in Duru 2024: Pl. XXI a stone alignment is clearly visible resting on W.17, continuing westwards above the orthostats of L.16 in Duru 2024: pl. XX: 2; as it is well known that above the orthostats stood the mudbrick superstructure[39], the wall under discussion could by no means belong to Palace A but very likely to Building C. The latter photo, moreover, shows another feature, i.e., a wall running on W.14 with the very same orientation, which we denoted as W.216: not belonging to Palace A (for the reasons just exposed), and being too substantial to fit the poorer architecture of the late phases, the only

rect. Generally speaking, also in nearby areas G and K-5 the LB structures, though resting directly on top of the MBA walls, usually show a slight rotation of the alignments.

37 It is even probable that during the LBA a citadel as opposed to a lower city didn't exist any more, being by no means sure that the western terrace was still inhabited and being certain, on the contrary, that the outer casemate wall had already fallen in disuse.

38 An inscribed bulla found in 1962 in the staircase of Palace A was attributed to the foundations of a wall of Building C. For a reassessment see Marchesi 2013 and bibliography quoted there.

39 As a matter of fact, in one spot a bit of mudbrick was still preserved in 2003.

possibility left is that it too was linked to Building C, even if this raises some difficulty regarding its interpretation.The circulation of the residency is well known because the walls are all preserved above floor level, except for W.46, whose present aspect is due to Duru's restoration (compare, e.g., Pl. XX: 1 with Duru 2024: pl. XXXIV: 1). The central sector, which hosted the only entrance from the outside, had a distributing function with respect to the two parallel wings: the narrow entry led into vestibule L.245 (Pls. XXI: 2, XXIV: 1), and from there to L.240 (Pls. XXI: 1, XVII: 1), which led directly into the southern aisle of the building, and the northern one through L.63 (Pls. XXIV: 2, XVI: 2). According to a simpler interpretation and in Duru's opinion, L.240 should be considered a courtyard[40], but the possibility of its being a hall can not be ruled out, because pillars reducing the span between W.65 and W.41 (6.75 m) could have existed; besides, forest trees were undoubtedly available at Tilmen[41]. If we consider L.240 as roofed, it could be suggested that the function of providing light and air was fulfilled by L.63.

The southern wing was composed of three approximately square rooms, of decreasing size from East to West[42]; the central one, L.44 (Pl. XIX: 1), communicated with L.240 and led to L.39 (Pl. XVIII: 2); the access to L.48 is unknown (Pl. XX), but analogously to L.39 it can tentatively be located in W.46 (which, as was pointed out, is not preserved in the original). In need of excavation data, it is difficult to recognize the destination of these rooms, besides generically suggesting that their location near the entrance seems unsuitable for private use.

The northern aisle was entered, as already said, by way of L.63: from there two doors opened respectively to an independent corner room (L.82, Pl. XXV: 1) and to corridor L.67 (Pls. XXV: 2, XXVI: 1), which in turn managed the access to stairway L.84 (Pl. XXII: 2) and to a suite composed by L.74 and L.72 (Pls. XXVI: 2, XXIII). The upper story was reached through two flights of steps and likely hosted the living quarters, as is generally supposed; the function of the rooms on the ground floor is unknown, except for L.72, where the presence of a monolithic installation – a

40 Duru 2003: 66 and n. 40; for a summary see Duru 2024. It should be noted, however, that there the main proof in favor of the courtyard was the presence of the drain, while now we believe dates from MB II (cf. § 1.3.2).

41 Wood samples collected in Area E and G during the 2005 campaign were submitted to botanical analyses and proved to be cypress and pine specimens (Macchioni and Lazzeri 2013).

42 We exclude from the discussion Duru's room no. 7, i.e. the former staircase of Palace A, for which all the available data have already been discussed.

shallow basin provided with a long spout across the wall – suggests some domestic or productive activity (*contra* Duru 2003: 67; for a summary see Duru 2024)[43].

The building we have been describing differs substantially from contemporary Syrian palaces, not only for its smaller scale but in the plan as well: nothing here recalls the distinctive array usually connected with royal functions, attested to from Alalakh IV and elsewhere. This peculiar set – consisting of a reception suite and minor rooms attached to the throne room – is known to have its antecedents in MB royal palaces, of which Palace A itself at Tilmen constitutes a typical example (Marchetti 2006b).

On the contrary, better parallels for the layout of Building C are offered by contemporary or slightly later residencies known in Palestine, where a typology of building midway between the patrician house and the palace spread during the LBA (Oren 1992; Nigro 1996). This category has been described as a fabric stemming from the interaction of political factors with domestic architecture, and characterized by outstanding position, discrete dimensions, good workmanship and luxury furniture; one plan type in particular is close to Building C, articulated as it is into three modules, whose central one is occupied by a major space – either roofed or not – with distributing functions (Nigro 1996: 28–37, fig. 6).

2.2 *Some remarks on the building technique*

The construction abundantly used stone (at Tilmen Höyük, the ubiquitous basalt: Bargossi, Gasparotto, Marocchi 2013) both below and above floor level. Walls were set into foundation trenches ca. 80 cm deep and were raised joining accurately without mortar rough-hewn stones; the space left between the two faces of a wall was filled with rubble.

Although internal orthostats are only preserved in the northern wing of the building, they originally flanked all the doors: actually, there can be little doubt that the squared slabs leveling the upper course of the foundations were everywhere meant to support orthostats; the entrance to the building, L.200, was the only one not revetted because the door-jambs themselves were built with dressed blocks. In all probability, the passages were similarly provided with monolithic thresholds resting, like L.61, on the foundations of the walls which continued uninterrupted underneath (Pl. XXI: 1); in the case of L.68 and L.73, they are at a few centimeters below the present surface,

43 To the best of our knowledge, the closest parallel to this basin is an analogous installation from Qatna, very similar albeit a little smaller. It was found on a landing of the stairs of the Palastbrunnen, the water reservoir connected to the MB royal palace (Pfälzner 2007: 53, fig. 27).

as has been demonstrated by the sounding carried out in L.74 (Pl. XII: 1). The floors themselves are lost, but it is quite safe to say that they lay midway between the top of the foundations and the door-sills, so their elevation can be inferred as ranging between 465.45 m and 465.65 m a.s.l. From other sites, it is known that plaster-coated floors, stone socles and mudbrick superstructures.

The biggest and heaviest orthostats were moved and settled in place with the help of wedges and levers, pivoting inside cylindrical holes purposely drilled on the upper side of the slabs – usually at the two ends (Alkım 1962c: fig. 42); this technique, practiced since the MBA also in other Syrian sites, has long been recognized and was diffusely treated in an article by Marco Rossi (2003). In some cases, these holes were meant to bind to the orthostats the wooden posts upon which the mudbrick superstructure rested (Duru 2013: 85): a proof comes from Karkemish, where traces of such posts have been found (Nicolò Marchetti, personal communication). Jurgen Seeher (2006: 17), in turn, has demonstrated by way of experiment how such holes were produced and what kind of waste they left; a few of these objects, namely basalt cylinders, have indeed been found in Building C, albeit out of context (see §§ 1.1.1–2). Several other details lead us to believe that some of the stones were refined in place to their final shape, to fit the position they would occupy in the masonry: examples are offered by the southern orthostat of L.68, which shows the bottom edge profiled to match perfectly a base composed by three blocks (Pl. XII: 1); and by the outer face of W.80, where two slabs have a distinct oblique join, one of them clearly adapted to the other (Pl. II: 1). The opposite case seems also attested to, i.e. of elements reused in a position different from the original one: the two orhostats shown in Pl. XVI: 2 bear parallel to the bottom edge a shallow groove, which hardly could have been produced by use-wear; this could possibly be explained if the two slabs had been originally laid horizontally as a base, and the groove was meant to hold a vertical feature upon them (e.g., a door-jamb or a step or an orthostat).

To conclude, the layout and masonry of Building C reflect an architectural tradition – as well as technical skills – consolidated in the greater Syrian area since the MBA, and best expressed at Tilmen Höyük by Royal Palace A[44]. The difference in accuracy – evident not only with respect to Palace A but also, e.g., to Gate K-3[45]

44 Some of its orthostats must have been the same, robbed from the palace and perhaps also from the "intermediate" building, which judging from the scanty evidence at our disposal might very well have attained an equally high level.

45 Gate K-3, located in the western lower city, was a one-chambered gate adjoining to the casemate fortifications (Duru 2003: 58, pl. 21: 2, fig. 7; Duru 2024; Orsi 2022: 57–133).

– can be attributed to the diminished requirements of the ruling class of that period and not to a loss of building know-how, which, on the contrary, was both available and widespread, together with other elements of the material culture[46]. This fits the picture of a former independent city shrunk to a second-rank center, possibly no more the seat of a king.

46 This is best seen in comparison with the Tilmenite architecture of the Roman period, which is sometimes impressive for the use of boulders but never monumental in plan nor refined in workmanship, and testifies to the low standard of the village at that time.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TEXT, TABLES, FIGURES AND PLATES

Each layer is identified by a capital letter defining its function and a progressive number.
D. = drain; F. = fill; L. = floor; P. = pit; W. = wall.
Each find was registered according to the following system: site code (TH); year (03); area (C); progressive bucket number (1/); number for sherds (1) and letter for objects (a). Only the small finds, at the moment of the filing, received also an absolute number regardless of the bucket (TH.03.C.1).
In the pottery description the following codes have been used:
- Class: SW = Simple Ware; SPW = Simple Painted Ware; PW = Preservation Ware; KW = Kitchen Ware
- Technique: H= Hand; W= Wheel; WH= Wheel-Hand
- Firing: H = high; M = medium; L = low
- Inclusions type: M = mineral; V = vegetal; Y = vegetal and mineral
- Inclusion size: S = small; M = medium; M- = medium-; M+ = medium+; L = large
- Inclusion frequency: L = low; M = medium; M- = medium-; M+ = medium+; H = high
- Fabric color: I/O = inner/outer; C = core.
- Surface treatment: B = burnish; Gl = glazed; S = slip; SB = slip-burnish; SM = smooth
- Decoration: App = applied; Com = combed; Gro = grooved; Inc = incised; Imp = impressed; Pt = painted
- Surface treatment and decoration colors: Gr. = Greenish; R. = Reddish; Bl. = Blackish; Br. = Brownish; W. = Whitish

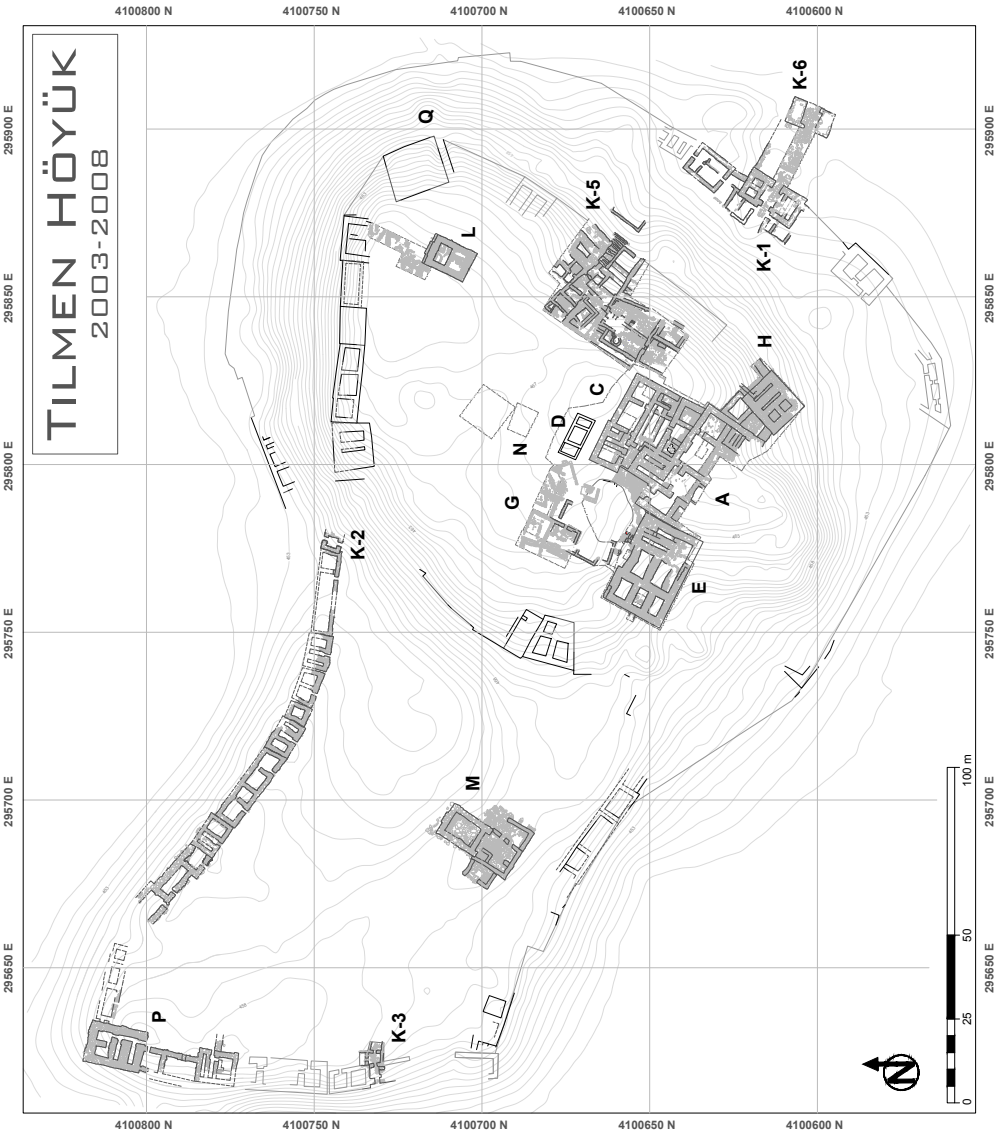


Fig. 1 Composite map of Tilmen Höyük.

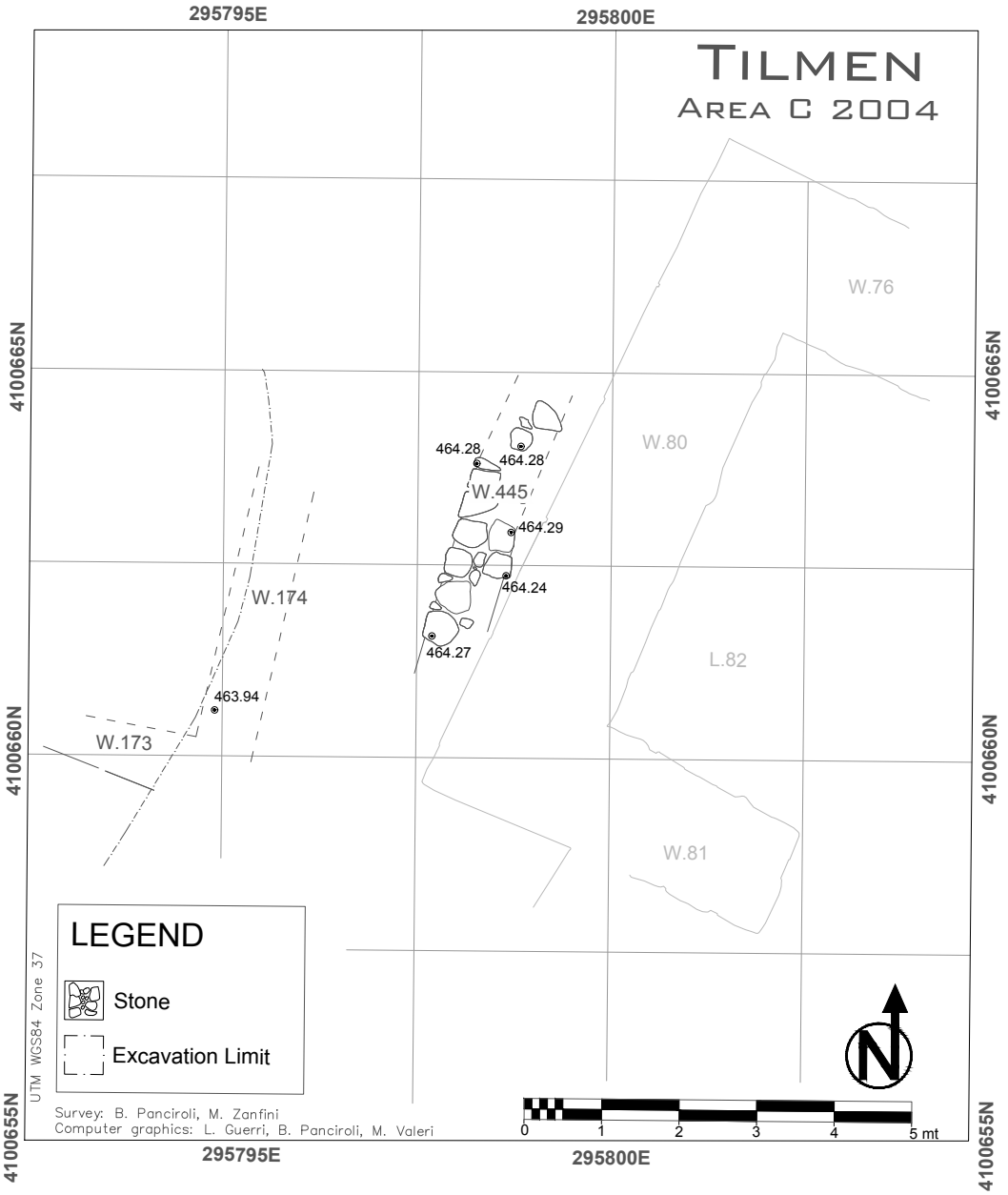


Fig. 2 W.445, Middle Bronze I.

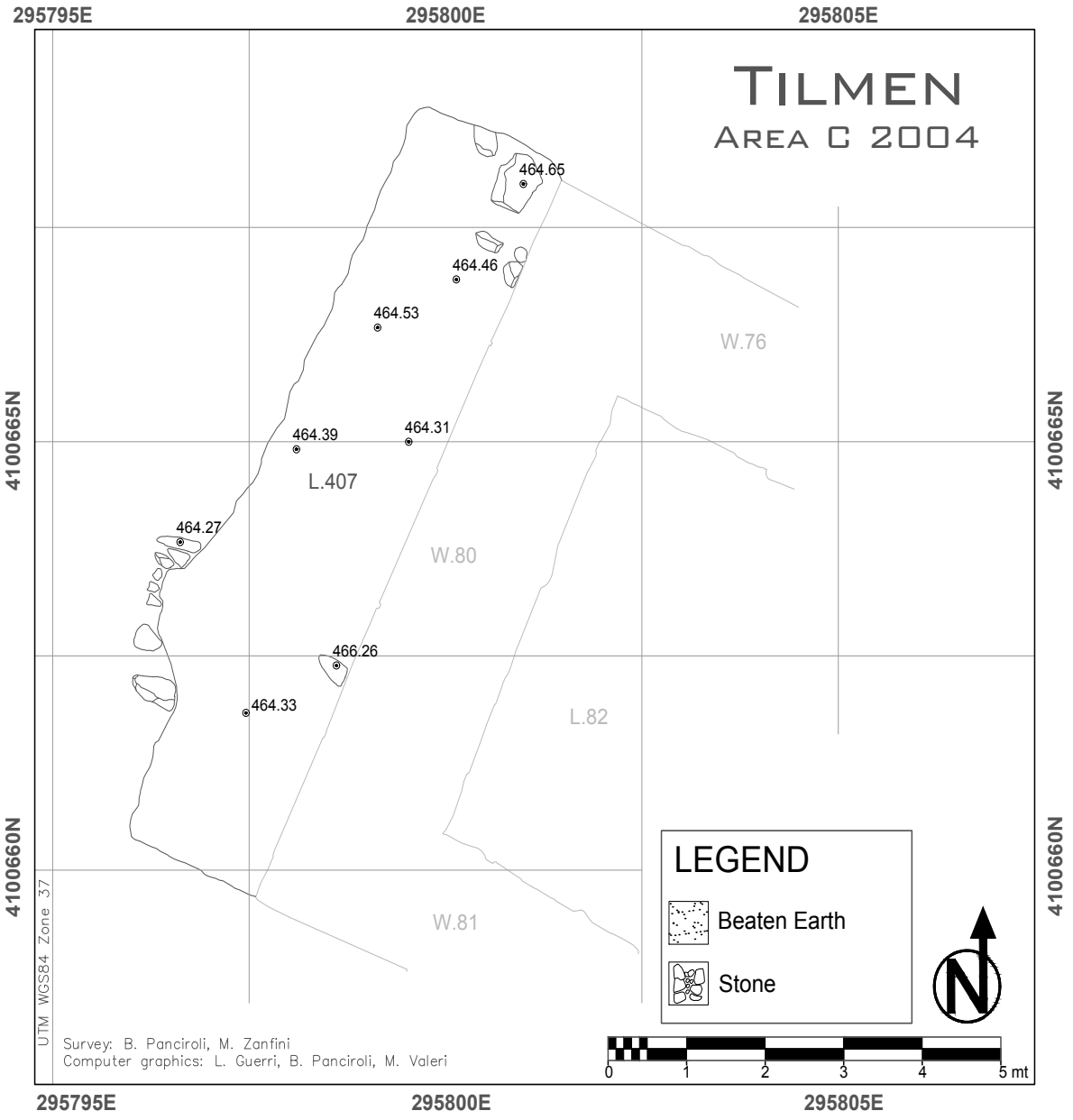


Fig. 3 L.407, a mixed context, spanning from the Middle Bronze II to the Hellenistic period.

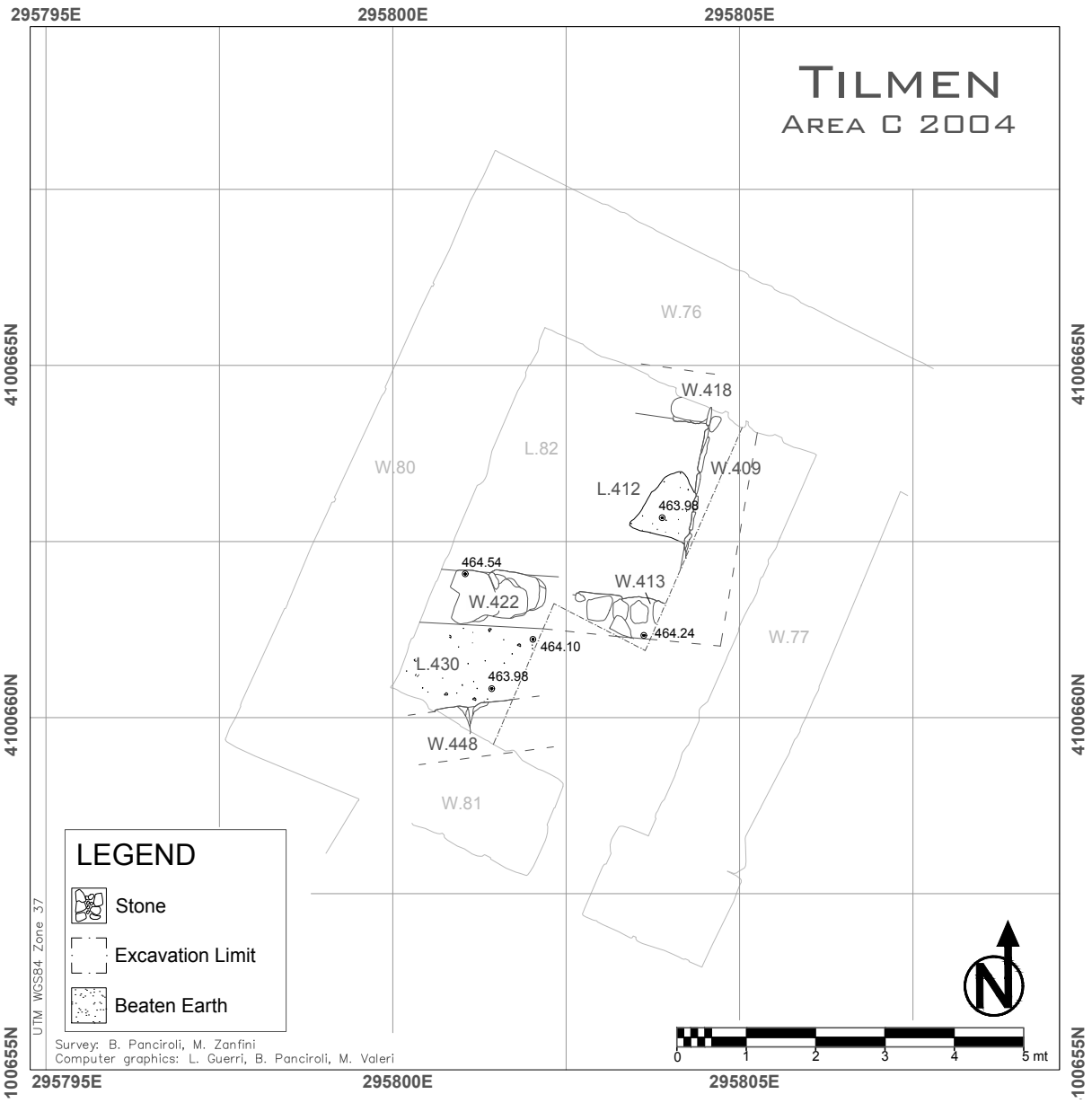


Fig. 4 L.412 and L.430, Middle Bronze I.

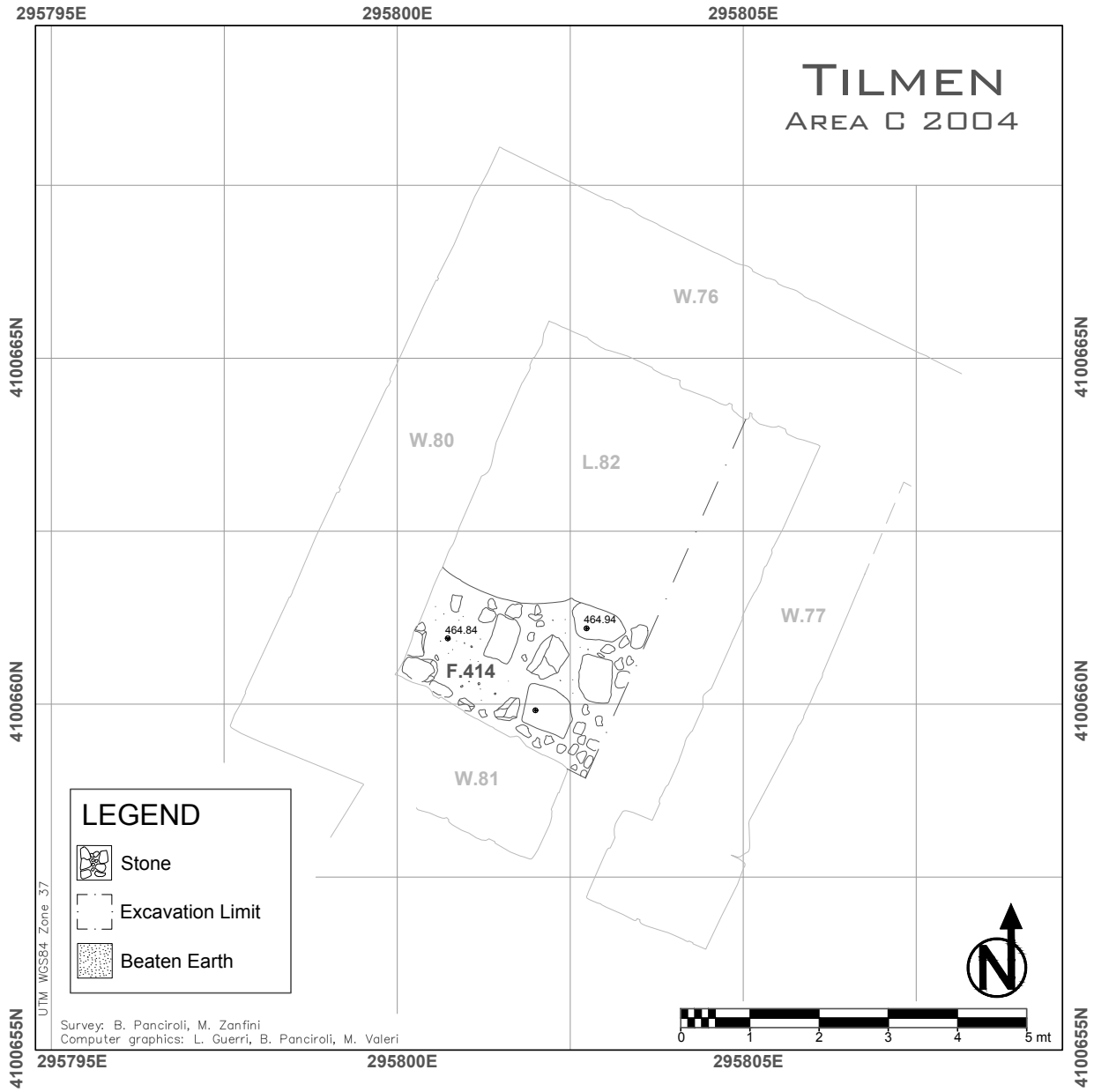


Fig. 5 F.414 and F.410, Middle Bronze II.

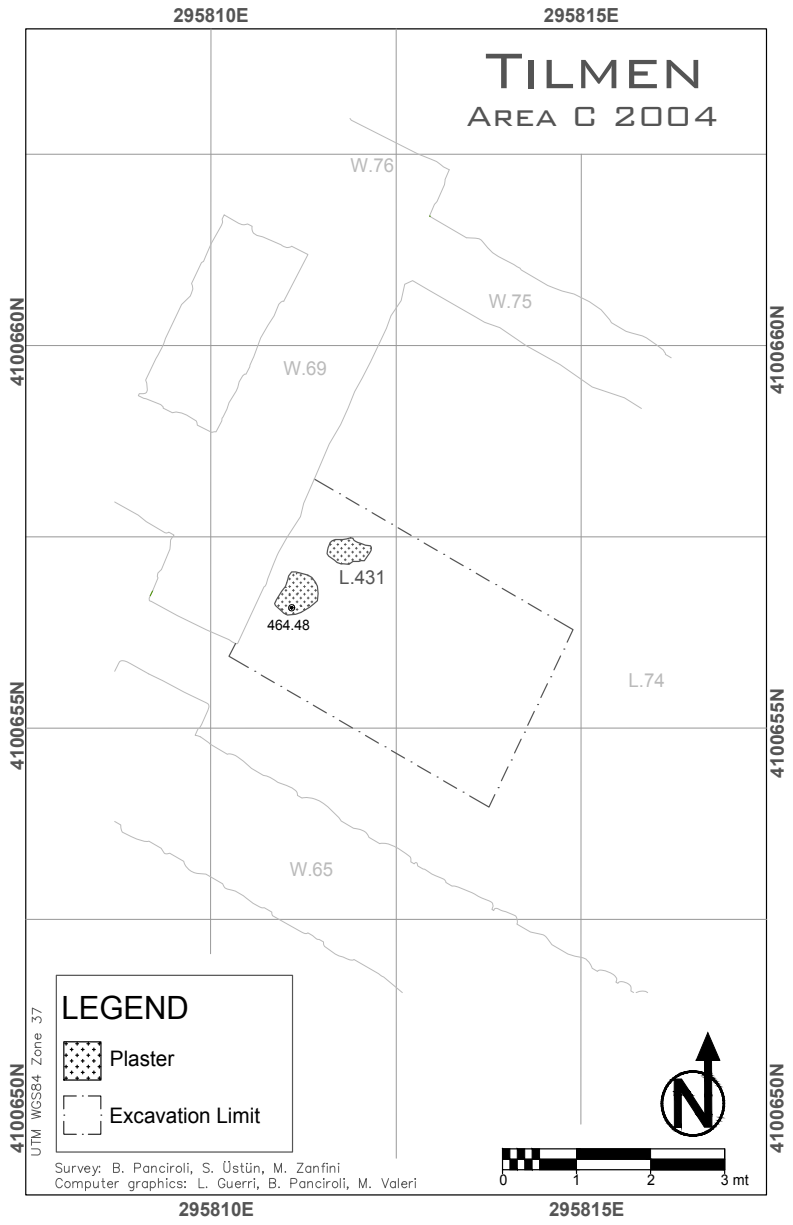


Fig. 6 L.431, Middle Bronze I.

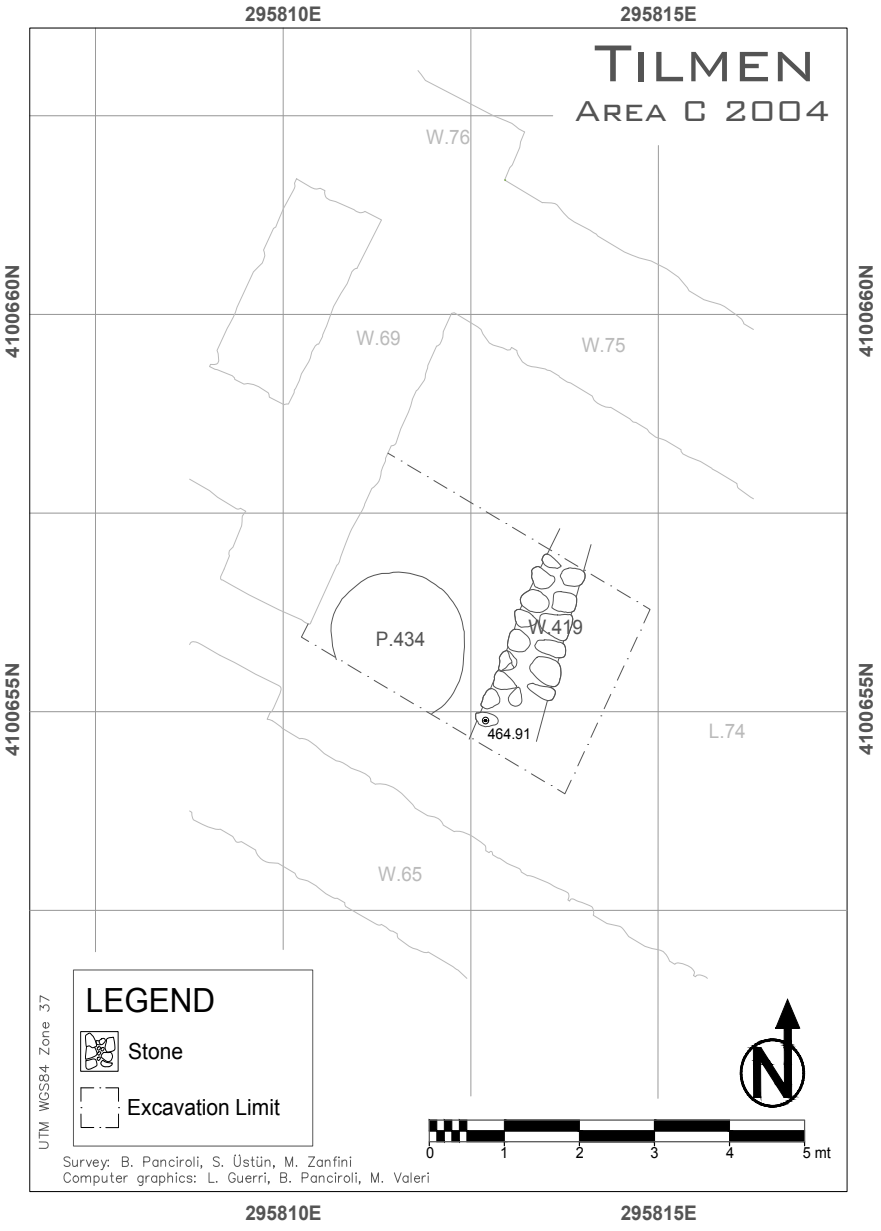


Fig. 7 W.419, Middle Bronze I.

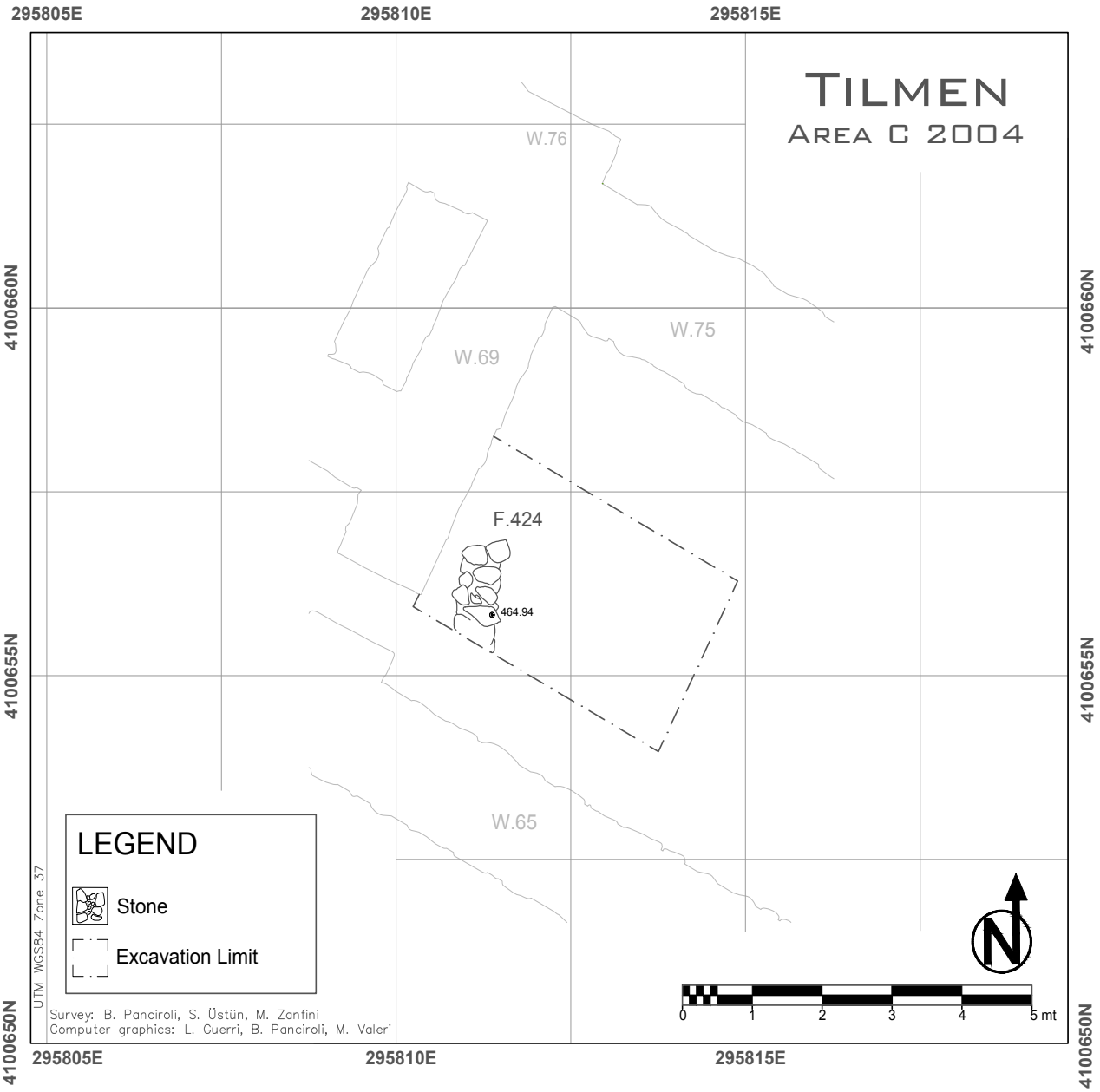


Fig. 8 F.424, Middle Bronze I.

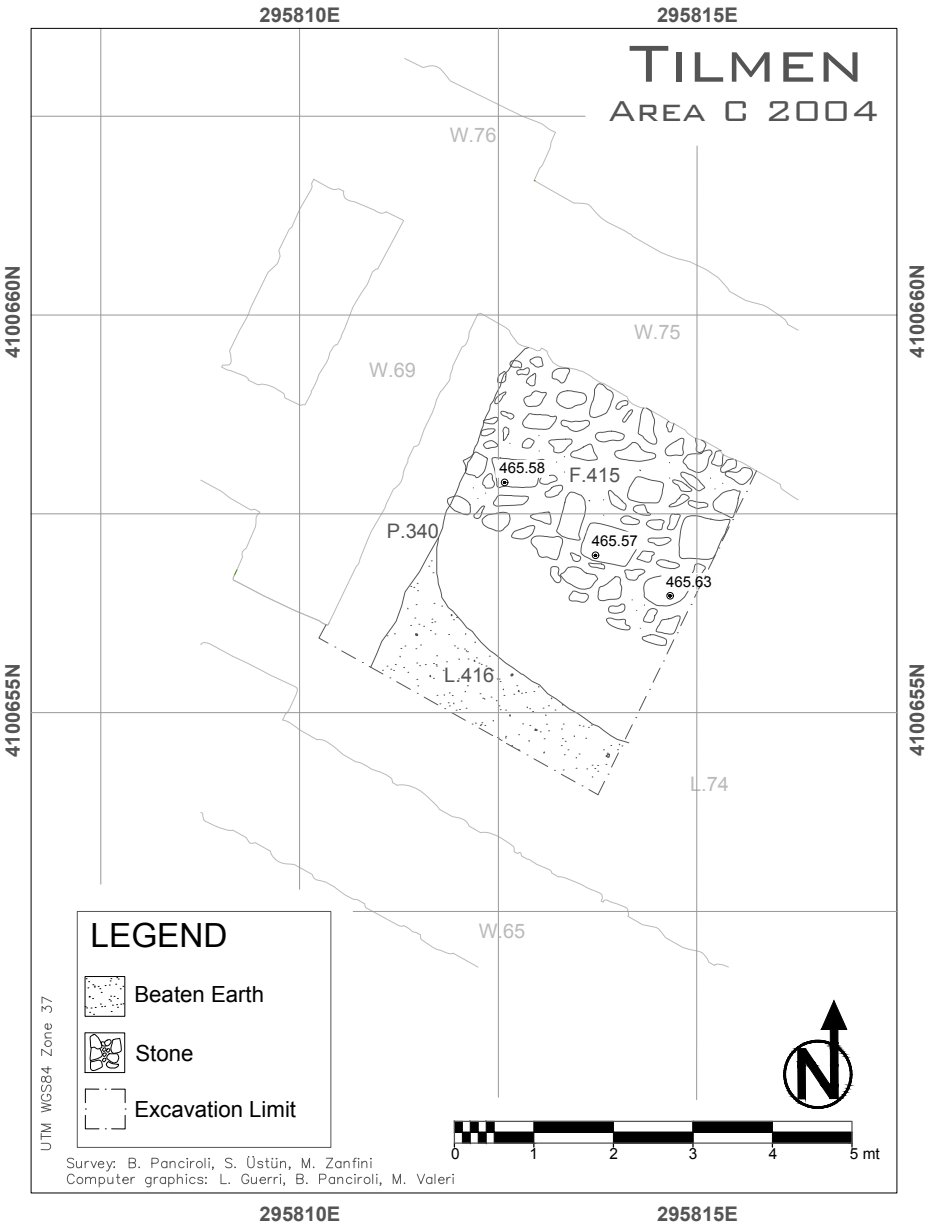


Fig. 9 L.416 and F.415, Middle Bronze I.

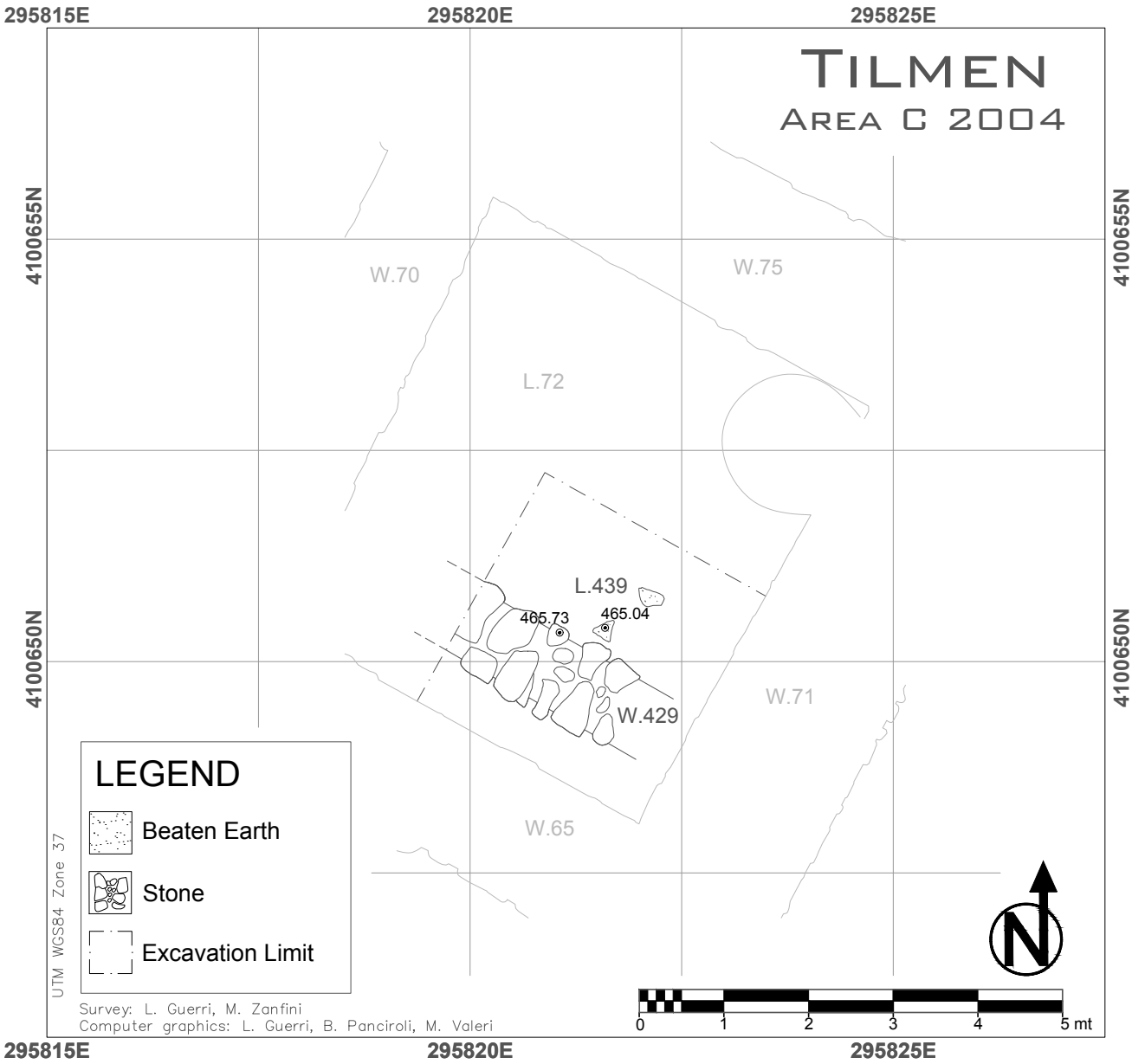


Fig. 10 W.429 and L.439, Middle Bronze I.

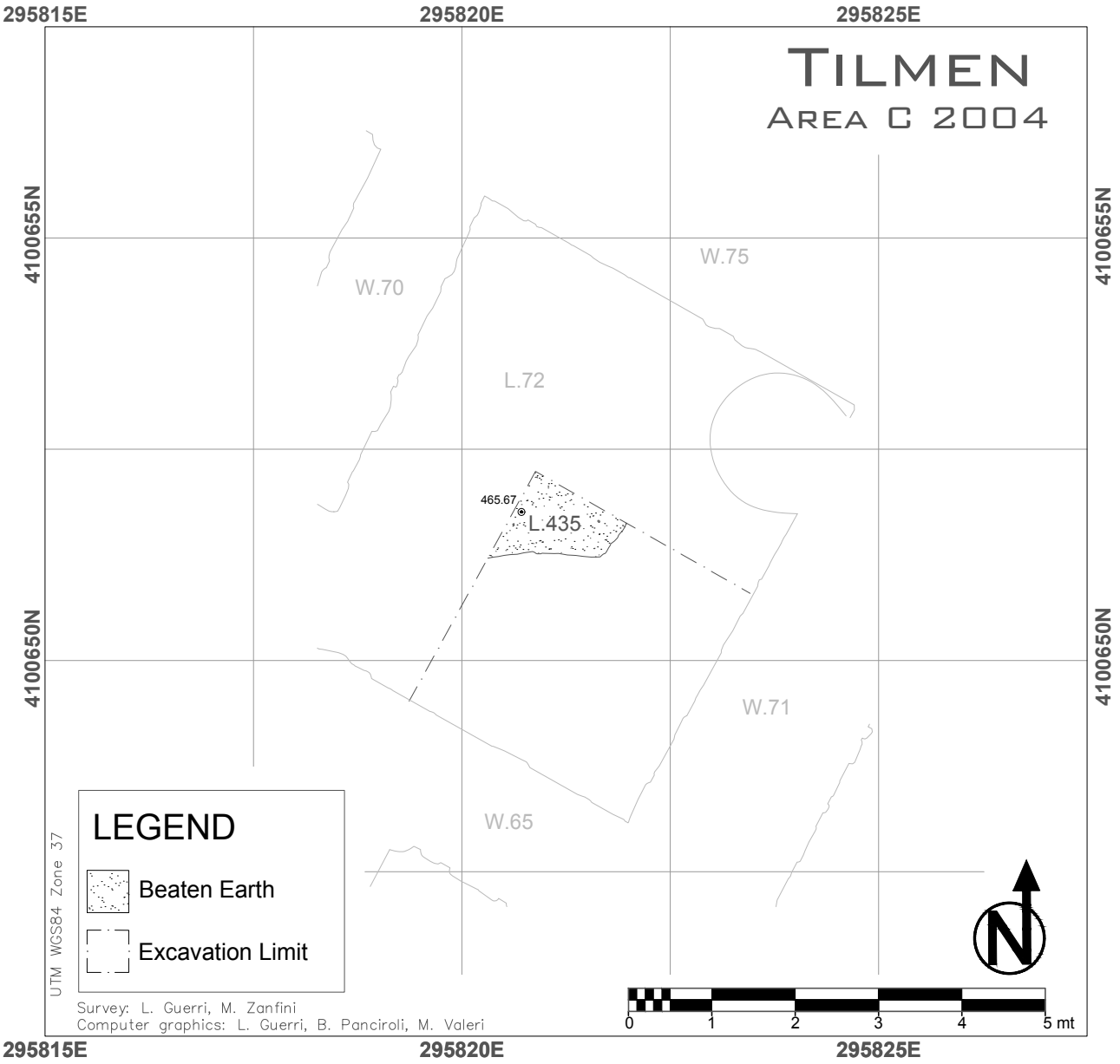


Fig. 11 L.435, Middle Bronze II.

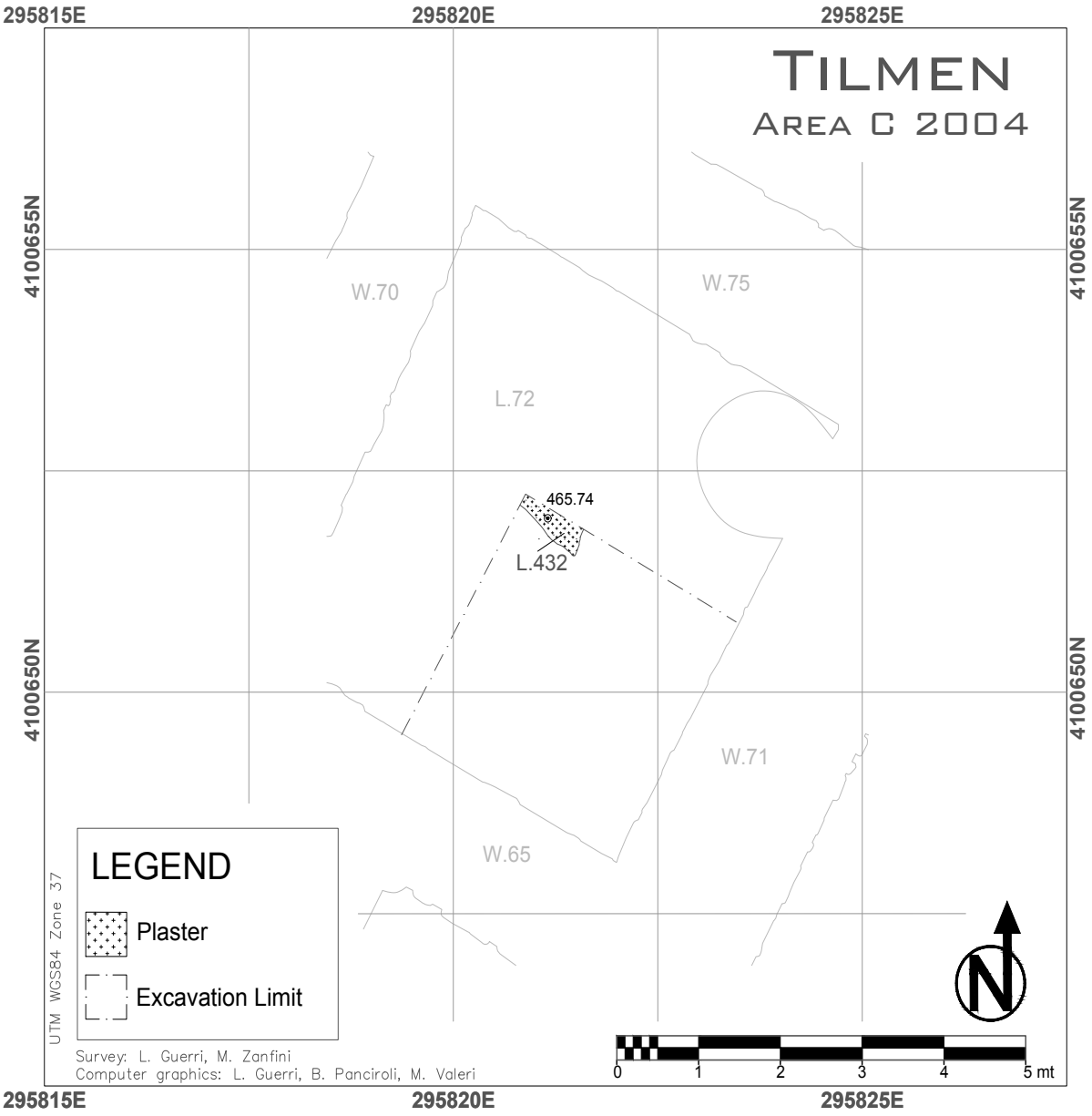


Fig. 12 L.432; Middle Bronze I-II.

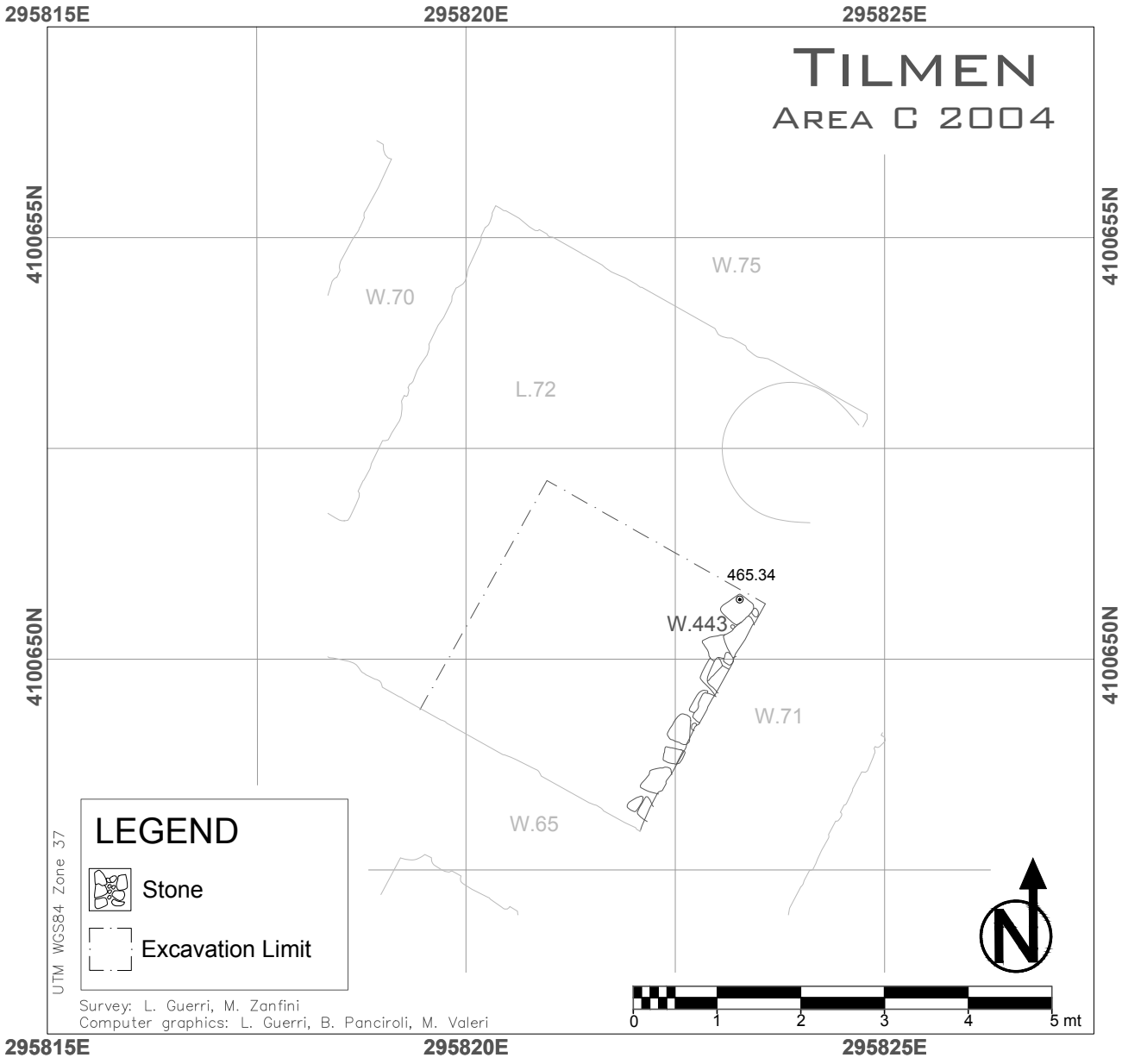


Fig. 13 W.443, Middle Bronze I-II.

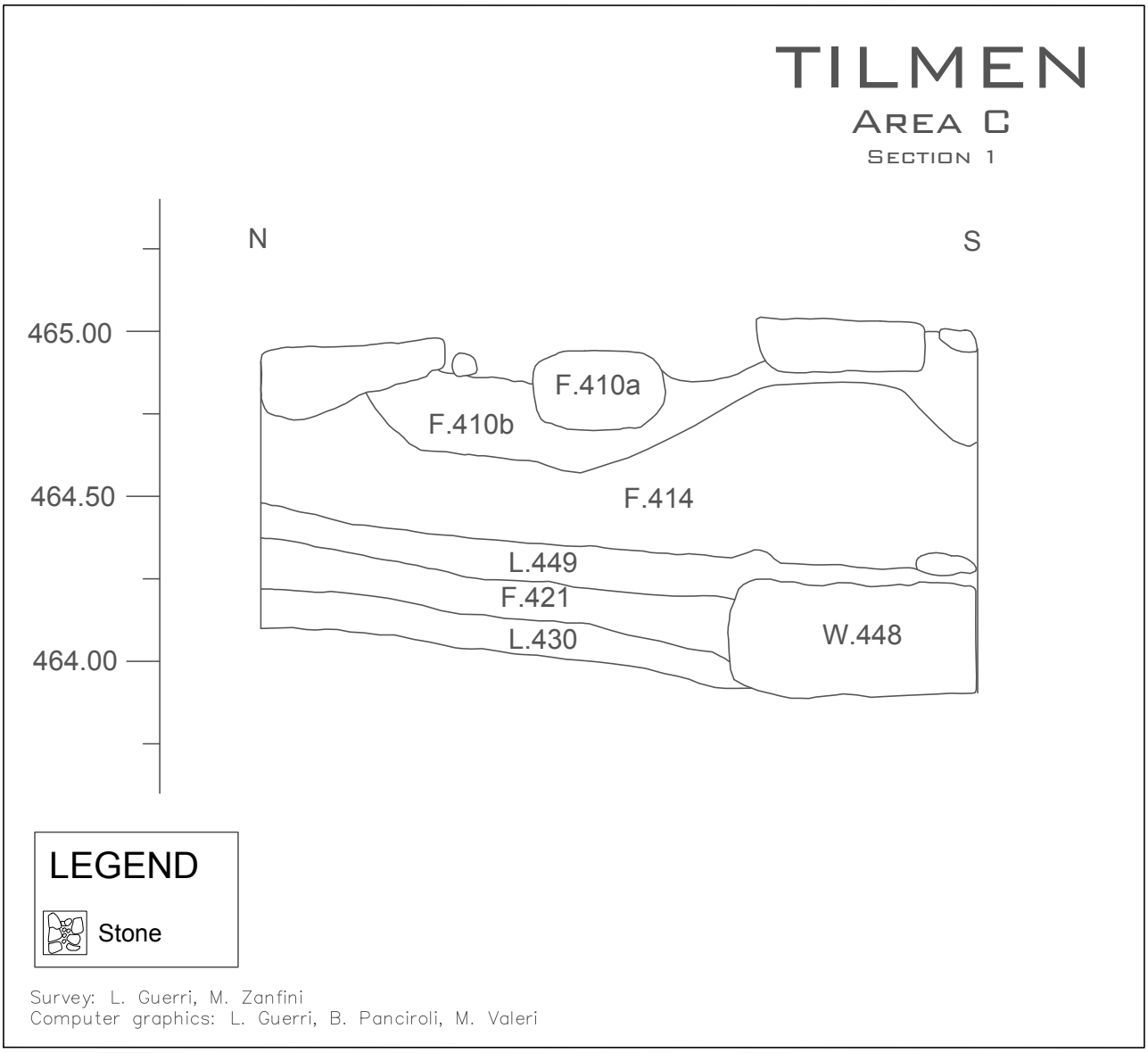


Fig. 14 Detail of the eastern section (Section 1) of Area C.

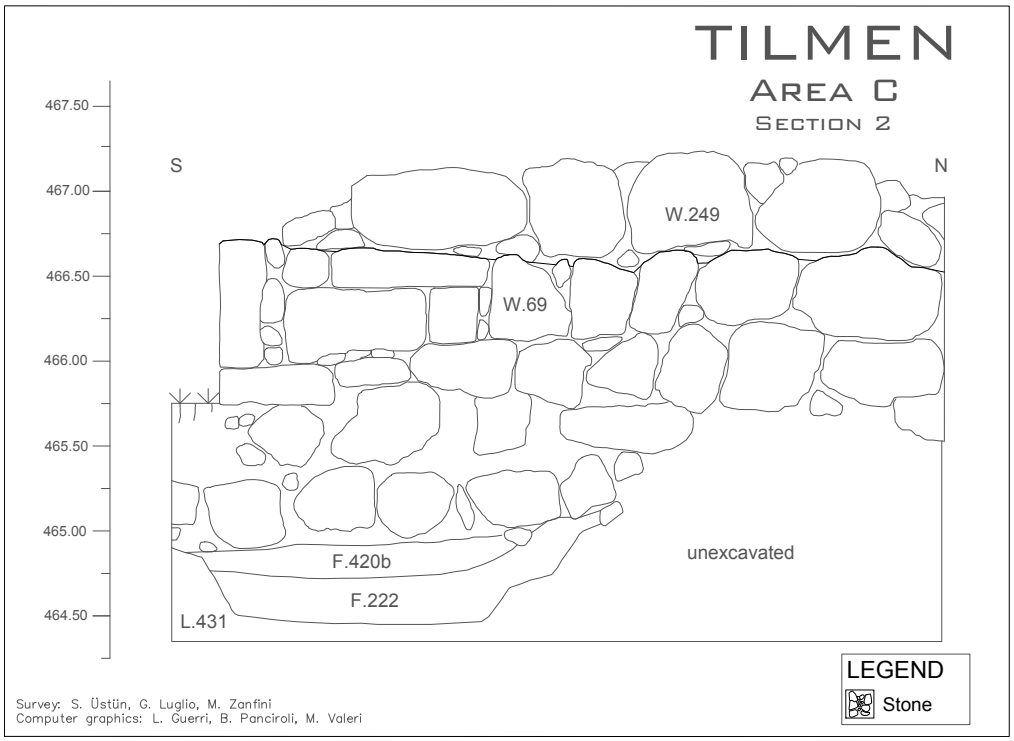


Fig. 15 Detail of the western section (Section 2) of area C.

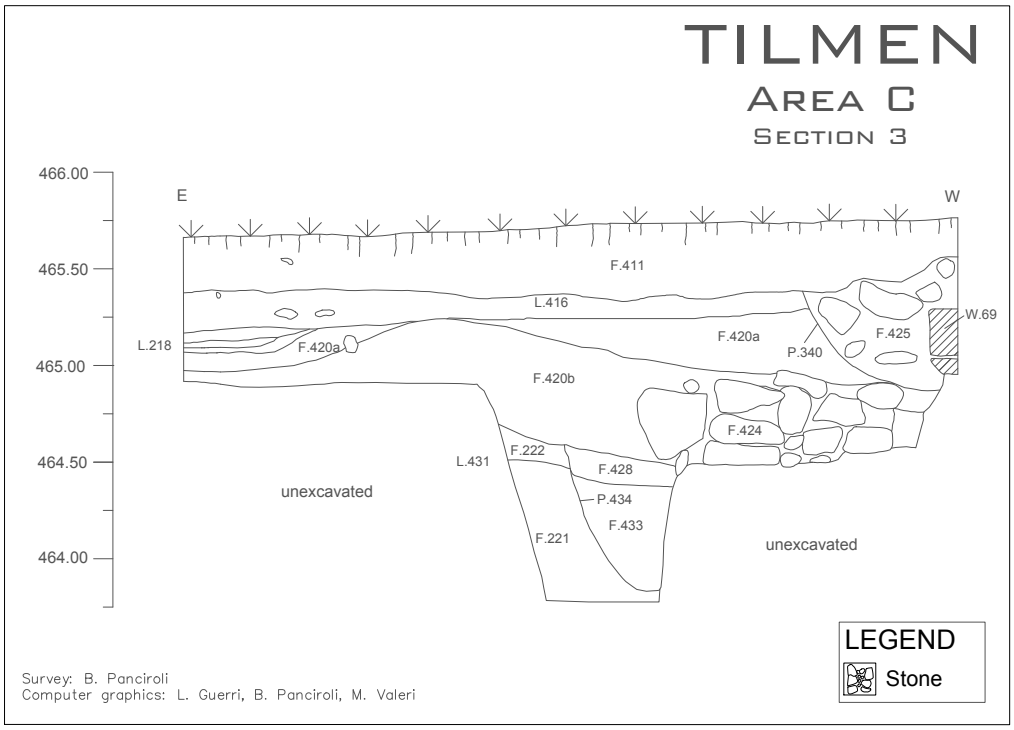


Fig. 16 Detail of the southern section (Section 3) of area C.

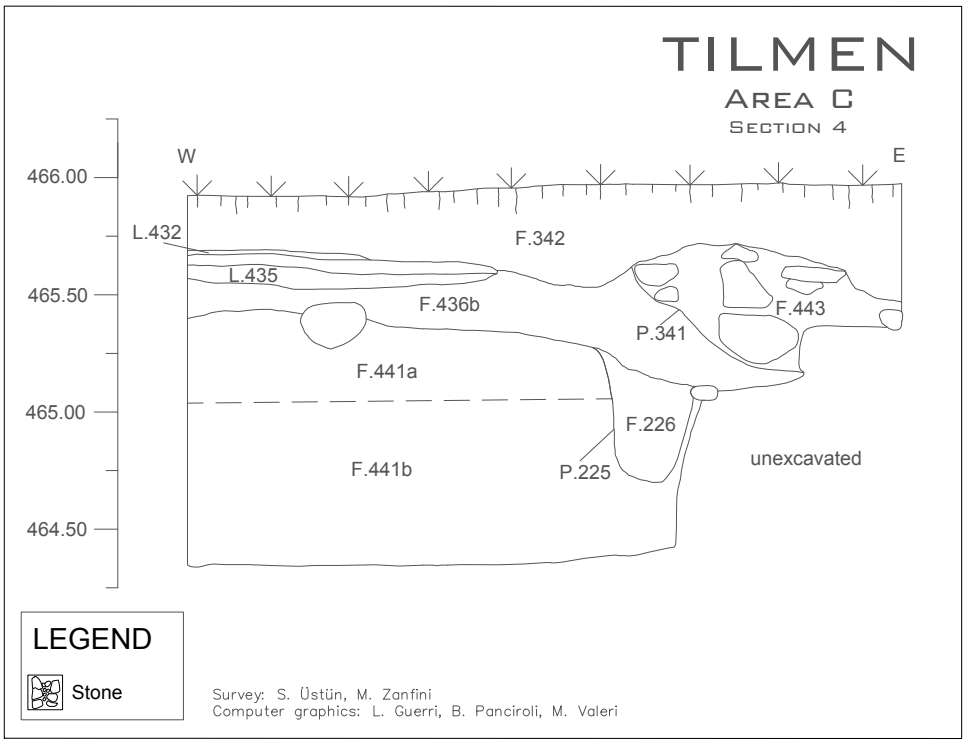


Fig. 17 Detail of the northern section (Section 4) of area C.

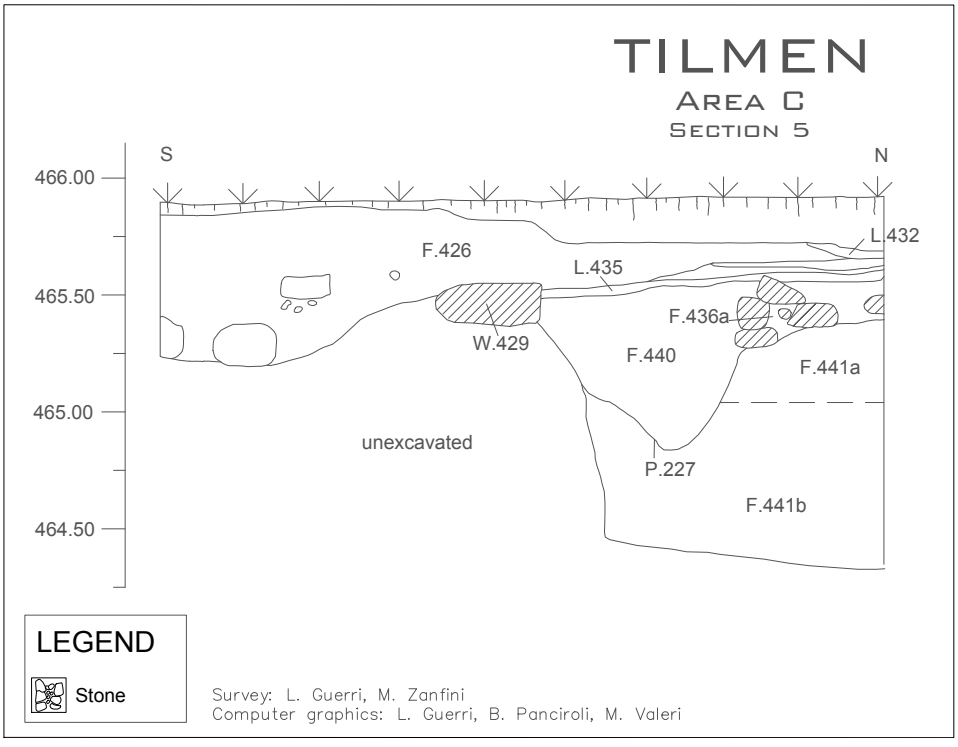


Fig. 18 Detail of the western section (Section 5) of area C.

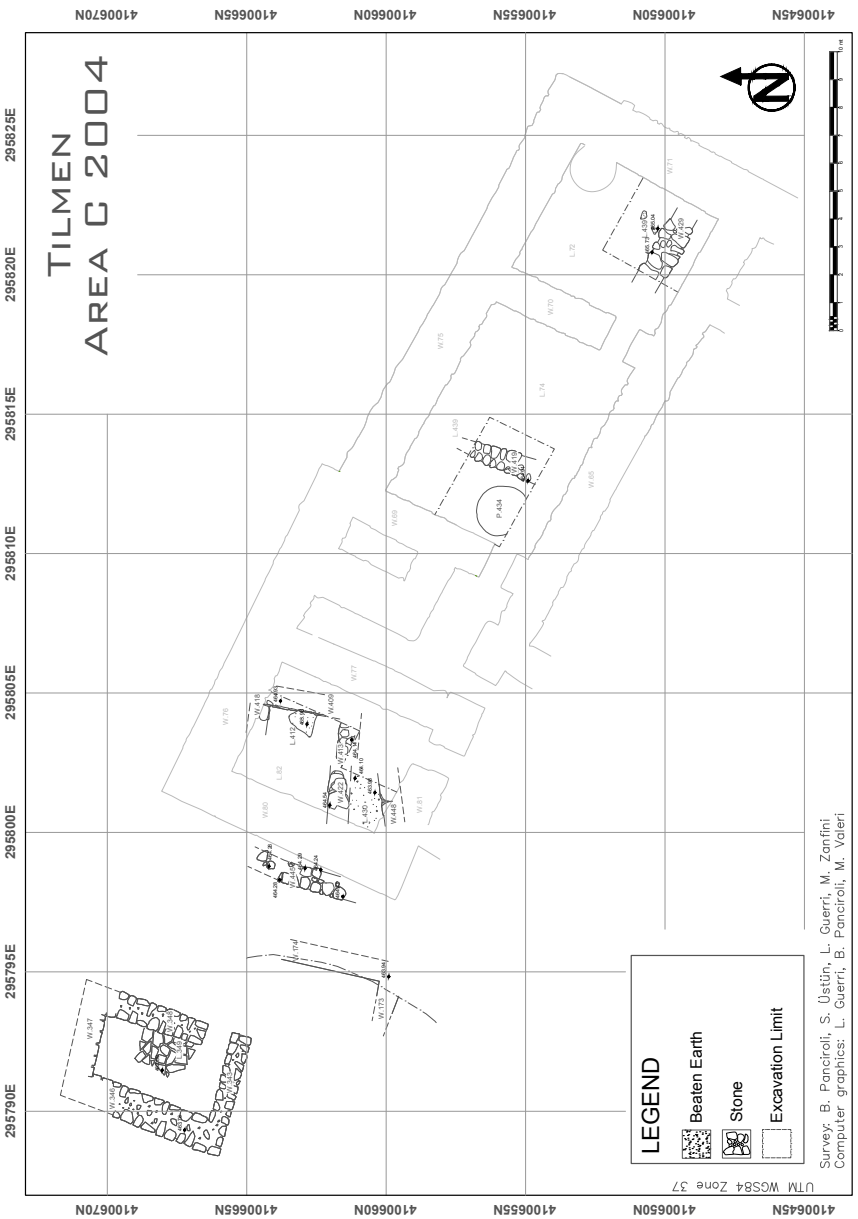


Fig. 19 Plan of the Middle Bronze I phase in area C.

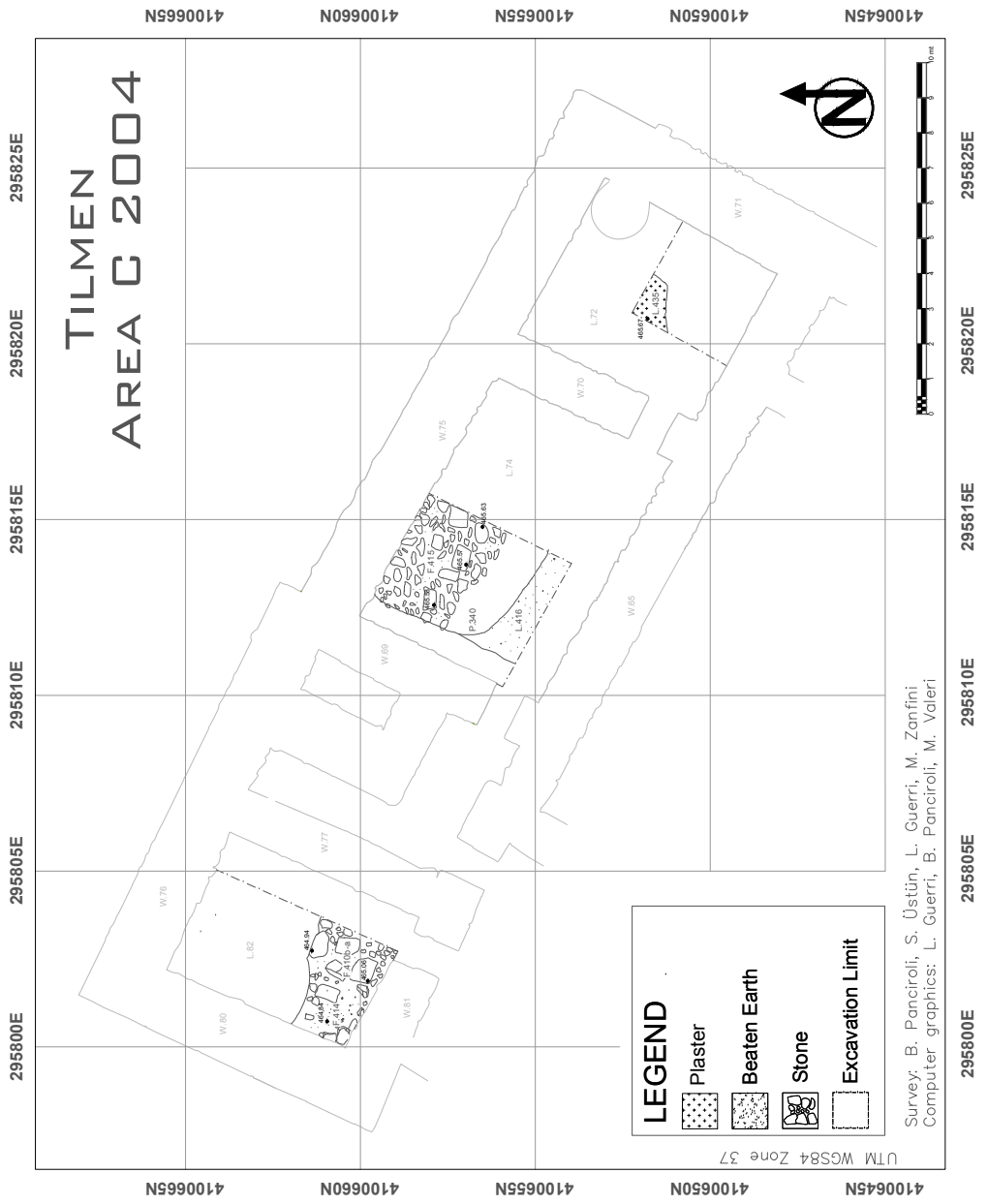


Fig. 20 Plan of the Middle Bronze II phase in area C.

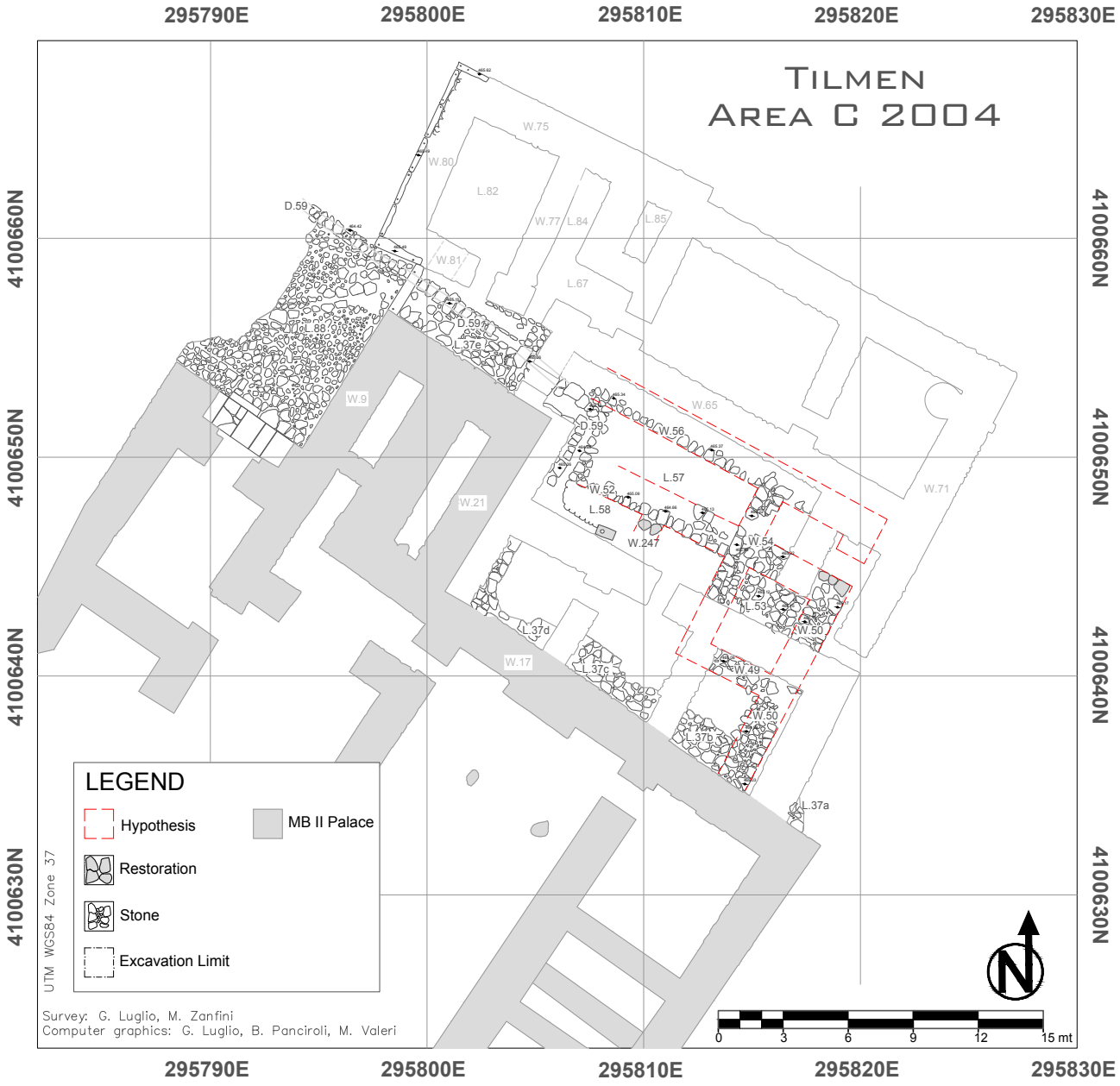


Fig. 21 Plan of the Middle Bronze II phase (in gray Royal Palace A).

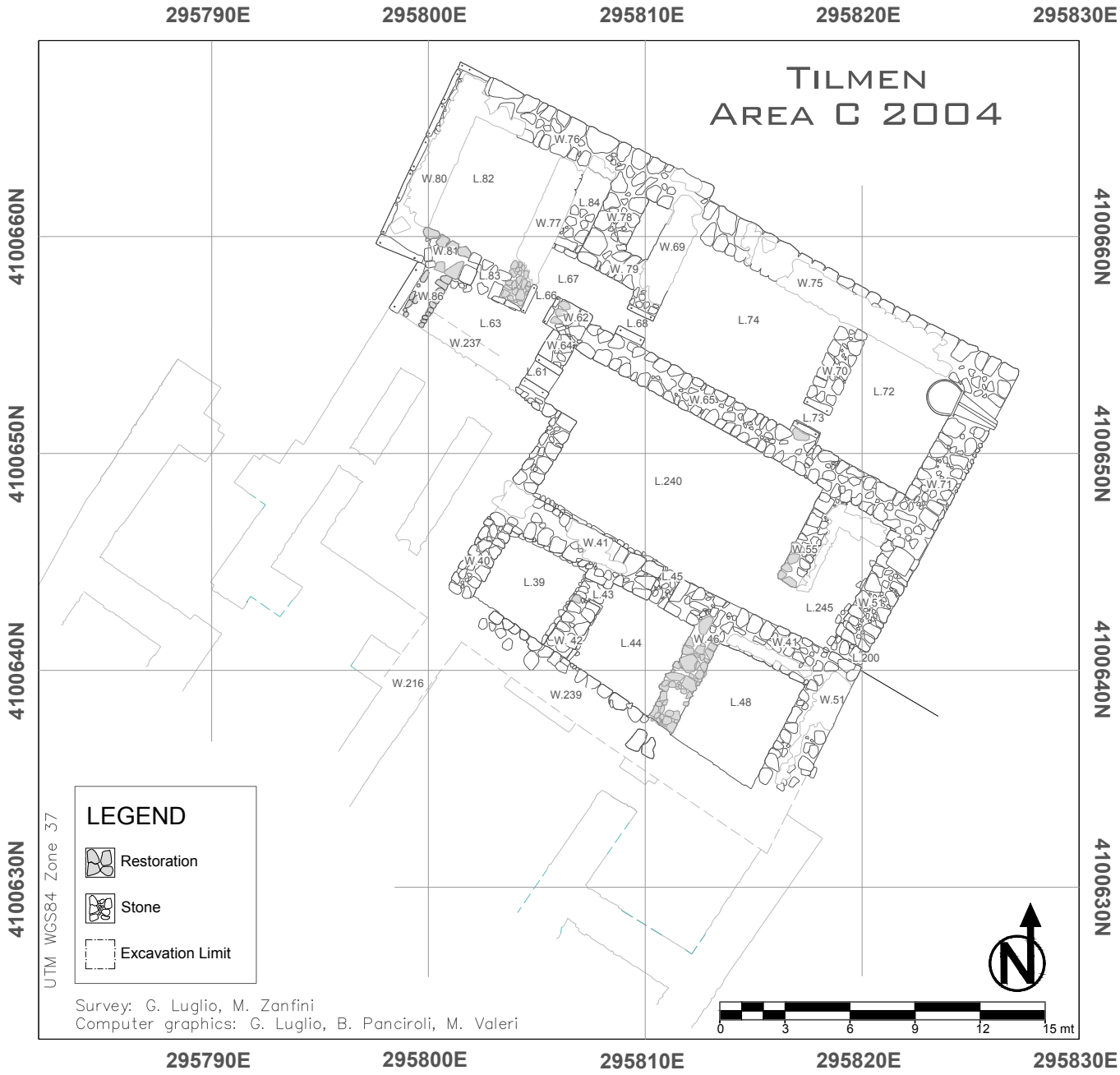


Fig. 22 Plan of the LB I phase.

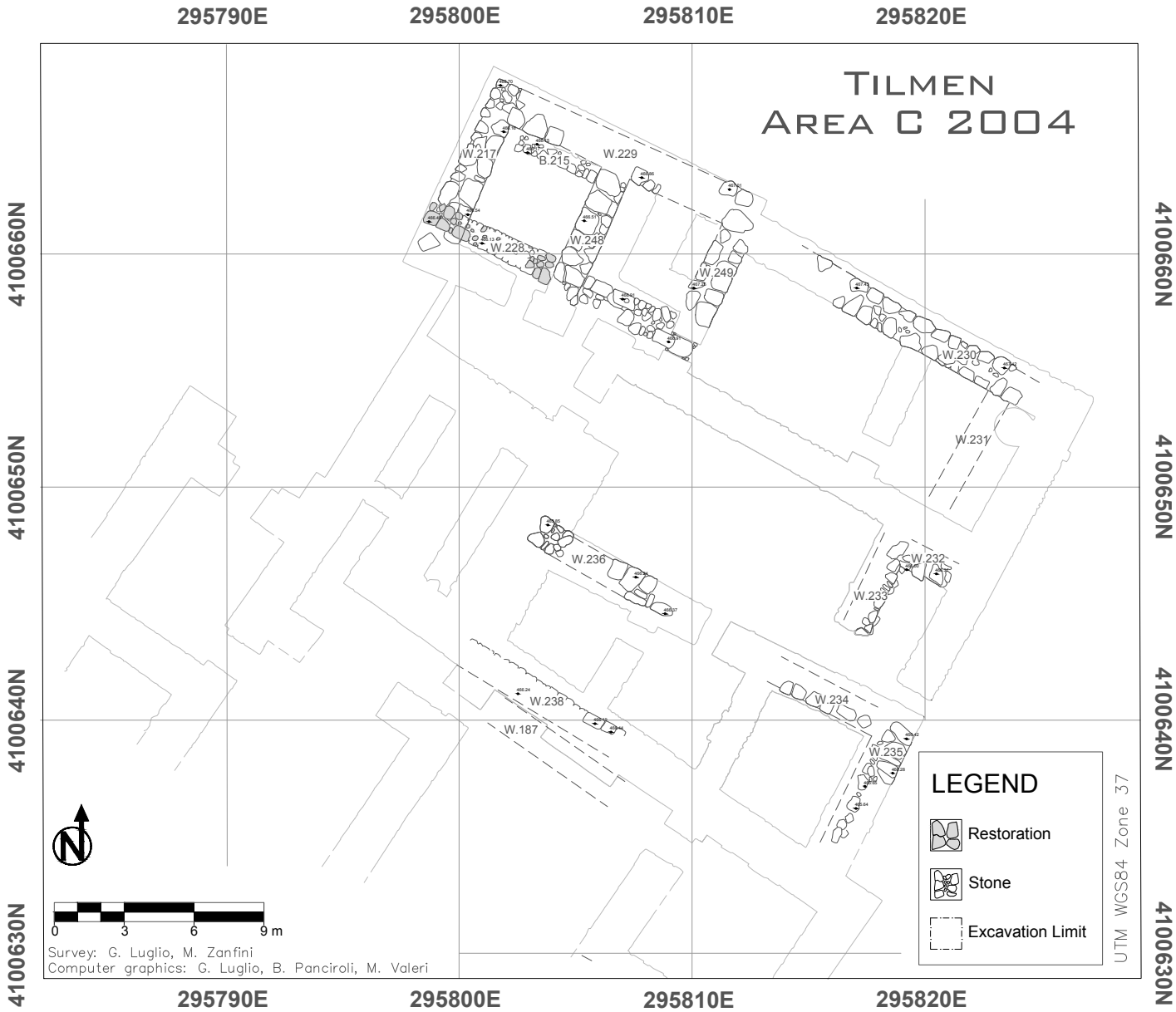


Fig. 23 Plan of the Roman period.

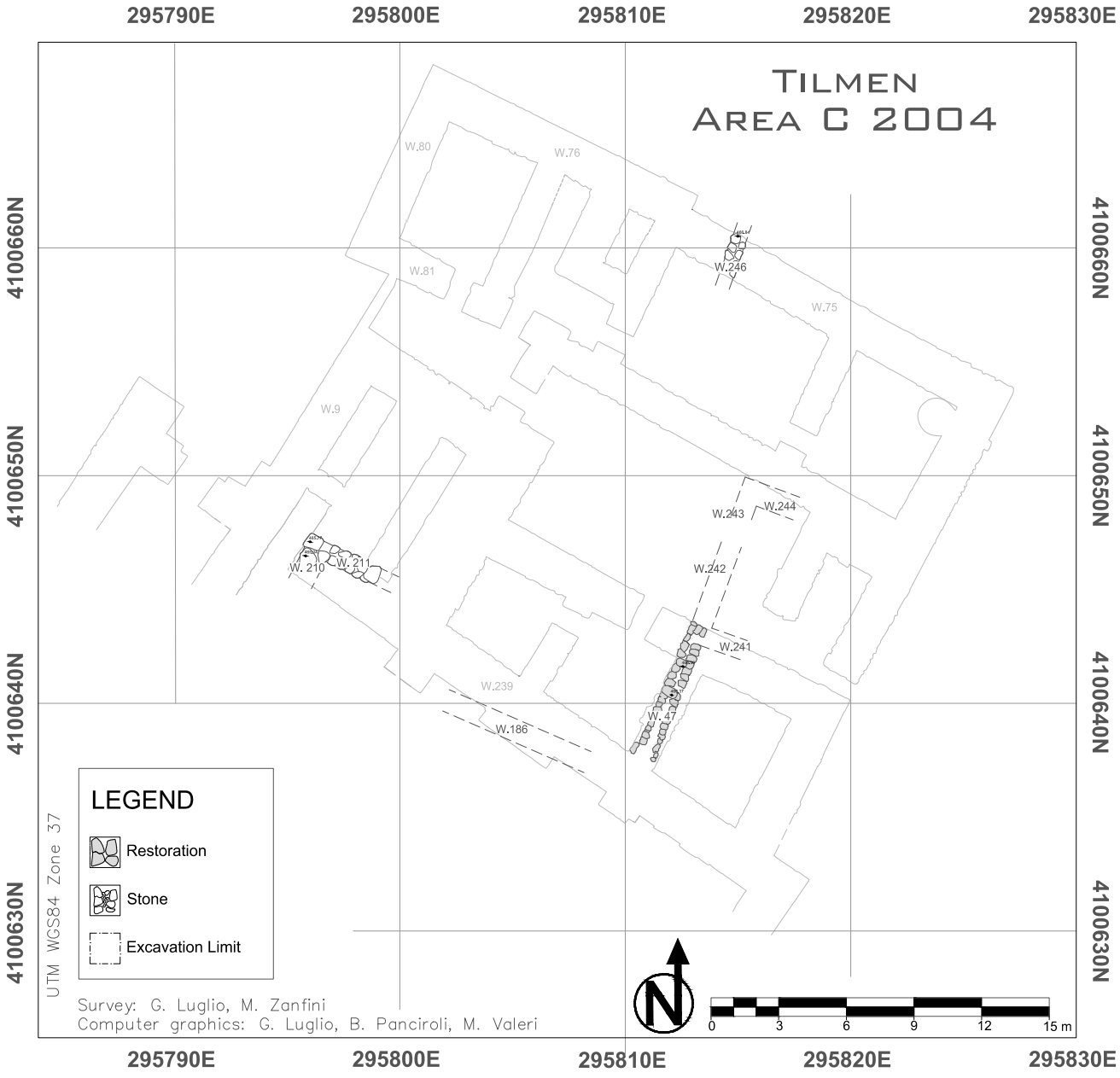
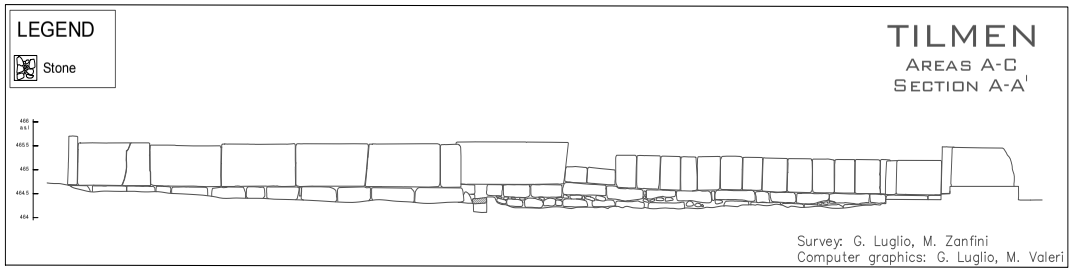


Fig. 24 Plan of the Byzantine period.



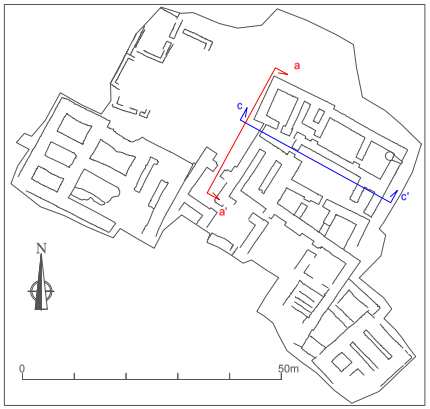


Fig. 25 North-South (a-a') elevation of areas A and C.

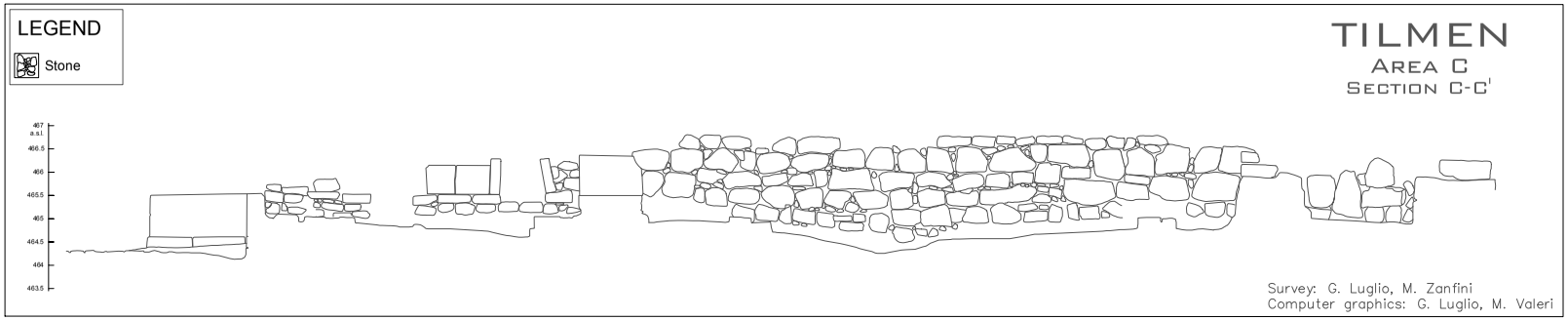


Fig. 26 West-East (c-c') elevation of area C.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.P.5/2	C	L.407	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/4 (C-I/O)	Burnish
2	TH.04.P.5/3	C	L.407	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
3	TH.04.P.5/5	C	L.407	W	M	MSM-	7.5YR 4/2 (C-I/O)	-
4	TH.04.P.5/1	C	L.407	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
5	TH.04.P.5/4	C	L.407	W	M	MMM-	7.5YR 6/3 (C-I/O)	-
6	TH.04.P.5/8	C	L.407	W	M	MSL	7.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-
7	TH.04.P.5/7	C	L.407	W	M	MMM	5YR 6/4 (C-I/O)	-
8	TH.04.P.5/6	C	L.407	W	M	MMM	5YR 4/3 (I/O) 5YR 4/1 (C)	-
9	TH.04.P.5/9	C	L.407	W	M	MSL	10YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	-

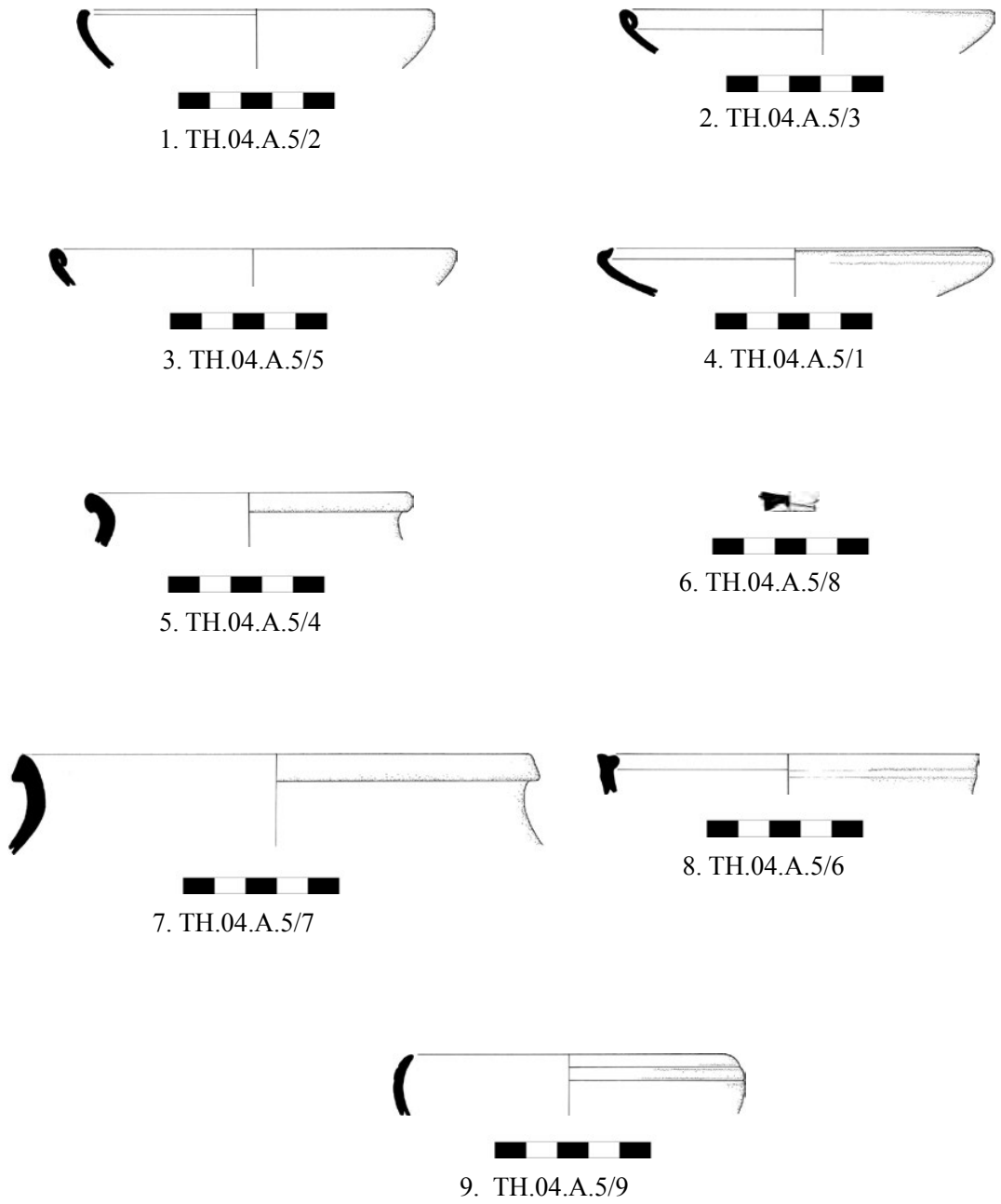


Fig. 27 Pottery assemblage from L.407, spanning from the Middle Bronze II to the Hellenistic period.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.B.11/1	C	F.421	W	M	M	10YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
2	TH.04.B.11/2	C	F.421	W	M	M	10R 5/6 (C-I/O)	Smooth
3	TH.04.B.11/7	C	F.421	W	M	M	7.5YR 6/2 (C-I/O)	-
4	TH.04.B.11/12	C	F.421	W	M	M	5YR 6/6 (I/O) 7.5YR 5/3 (C)	-
5	TH.04.B.11/8	C	F.421	W	M	M	2.5YR 6/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 6/1 (C)	-
6	TH.04.B.11/5	C	F.421	W	M	M	2.5YR 7/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 6/1 (C)	-
7	TH.04.B.11/6	C	F.421	W	M	M	2.5YR 7/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 5/1 (C)	-
8	TH.04.B.11/3	C	F.421	W	M	M	2.5YR 6/8 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/1 (C)	-
9	TH.04.B.11/4	C	F.421	W	M	M	2.5YR 6/8 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/1 (C)	-
10	TH.04.B.11/11	C	F.421	H	M	M	5YR 6/6 (I/O) 5YR 5/1 (C)	-
11	TH.04.B.11/10	C	F.421	W	M	M	7.5YR 4/3 (I/O) 7.5YR 4/1 (C)	-
12	TH.04.B.11/9	C	F.421	W	M	M	2.5YR 4/3 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/1 (C)	-

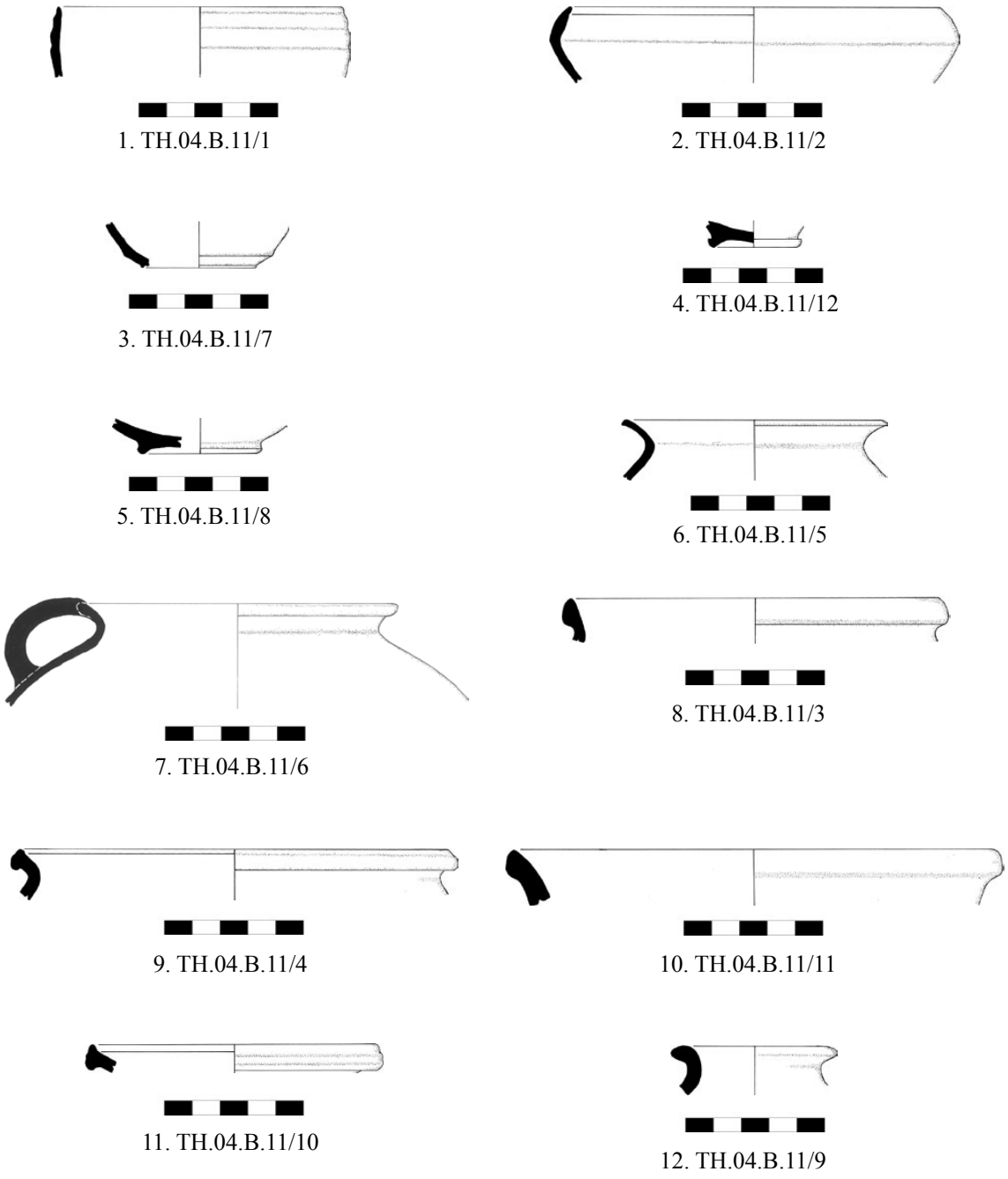


Fig. 28 Pottery assemblage from F.421, Middle Bronze I.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.B.9/7	C	F.414	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 4/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/2 (C)	-
2	TH.04.B.9/1	C	F.414	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/4 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.04.B.9/2	C	F.414	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/6 (I/O) 5YR 6/3 (C)	-
4	TH.04.B.9/3	C	F.414	W	M	MSM-	5YR 6/6 (I/O) 5YR 6/3 (C)	-
5	TH.04.B.9/5	C	F.414	W	M+	MSM-	5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-
6	TH.04.B.9/4	C	F.414	W	M+	MSL	5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-
7	TH.04.B.9/6	C	F.414	W	M+	MSL	7.5YR 6/4 (I) 2.5YR 7/3 (O)	-
8	TH.04.B.9/8	C	F.414	W	M	MSL	2.5YR 4/4 (I/O) 10YR 5/6 (C)	-
9	TH.04.B.9/10	C	F.414	W	M-	MSM-	2.5YR 5/1 (C)	-
10	TH.04.B.9/9	C	F.414	W	M-	MSM-	2.5YR 3/1 (C)	-

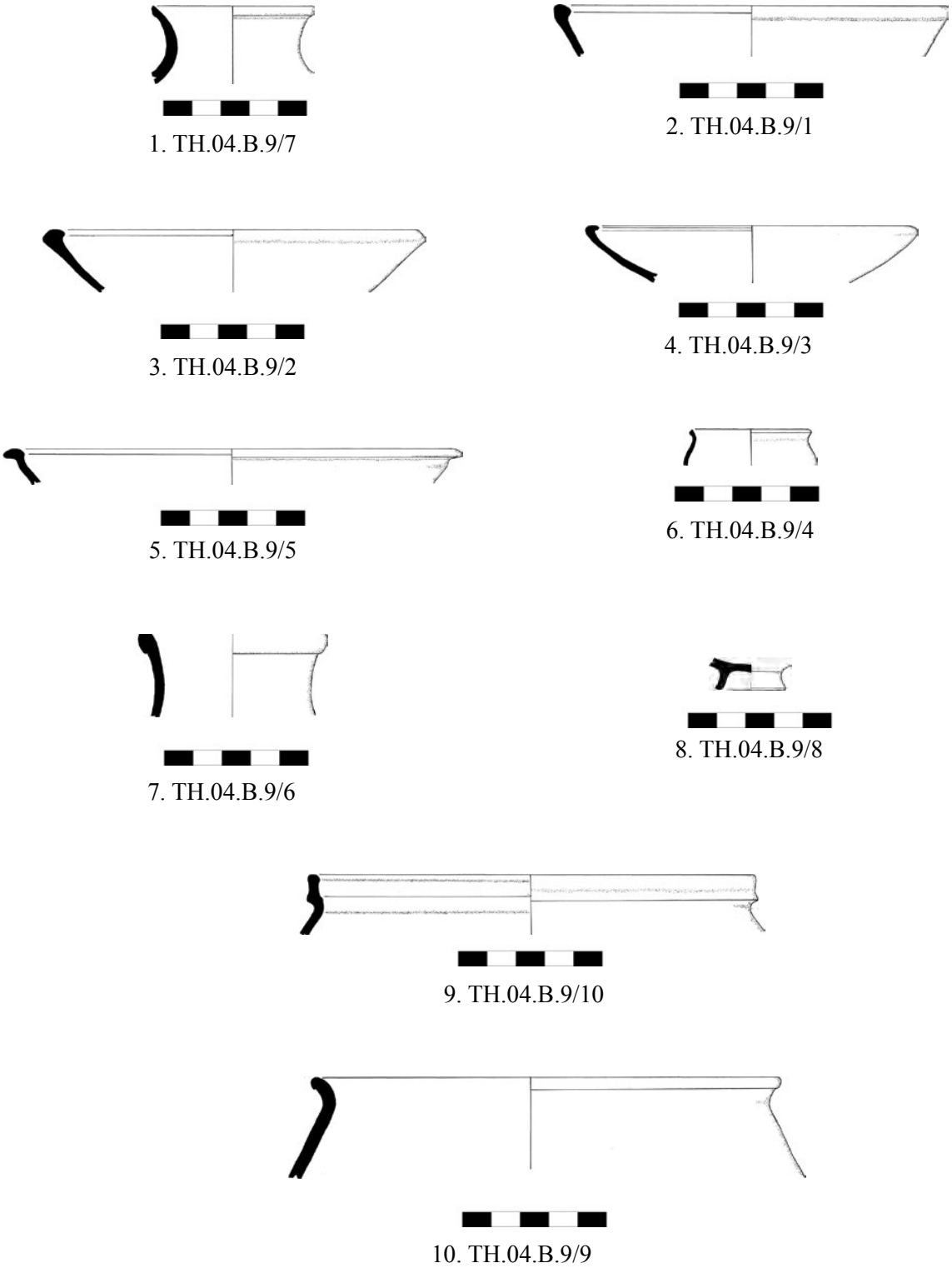


Fig. 29 Pottery assemblage from F.414, Middle Bronze II.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.B.4/1	C	F.406	W	M	MSM-	10R 5/8 (C-I/O)	-
2	TH.04.B.4/2	C	F.406	W	M	MSM	10YR 4/6 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.04.B.4/3	C	F.406	W	M	MMM	5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-



1. TH.04.B.4/1



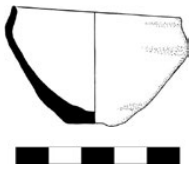
2. TH.04.B.4/2



3. TH.04.B.4/3

Fig. 30 Pottery assemblage from F.406, Middle Bronze II.

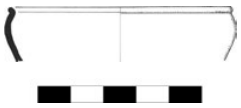
No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.18/1+5	C	F.221	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 7/6 (I) 10YR 7/3 (O)	-
2	TH.04.C.18/2	C	F.221	W	M	MMM-	2.5YR 5/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 5/2 (C)	-
3	TH.04.C.18/4	C	F.221	W	M+	MSL	10YR 8/3 (C)	-
4	TH.04.C.18/3	C	F.221	W	M+	MSL	2.5YR 6/8 (C)	Burnish
5	TH.04.C.18/6	C	F.221	W	M	MMM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C)	-



1. TH.04.C.18/1



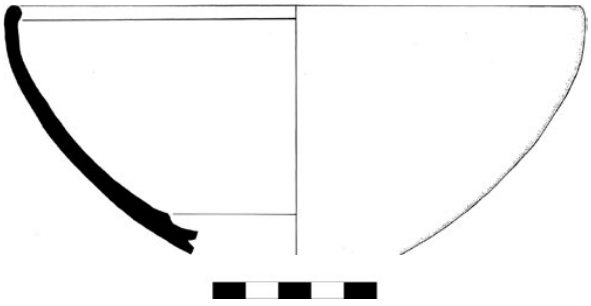
2. TH.04.C.18/2



3. TH.04.C.18/4



4. TH.04.C.18/3



5. TH.04.C.18/6

Fig. 31 Pottery assemblage from F.221, Middle Bronze I.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.13/6	C	F.433	H	M	MMM	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	Smooth
2	TH.04.C.13/1	C	F.433	W	M	MSM-	5YR 6/4 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.04.C.13/2	C	F.433	W	M+	MSL	2.5Y 8/4 (C-I/O)	-
4	TH.04.C.13/3	C	F.433	W	M+	MSL	10YR 8/3 (C-I/O)	-
5	TH.04.C.13/4	C	F.433	W	M	MSM-	10YR 6/3 (C-I/O)	-
6	TH.04.C.13/5	C	F.433	W	M	MSL	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-

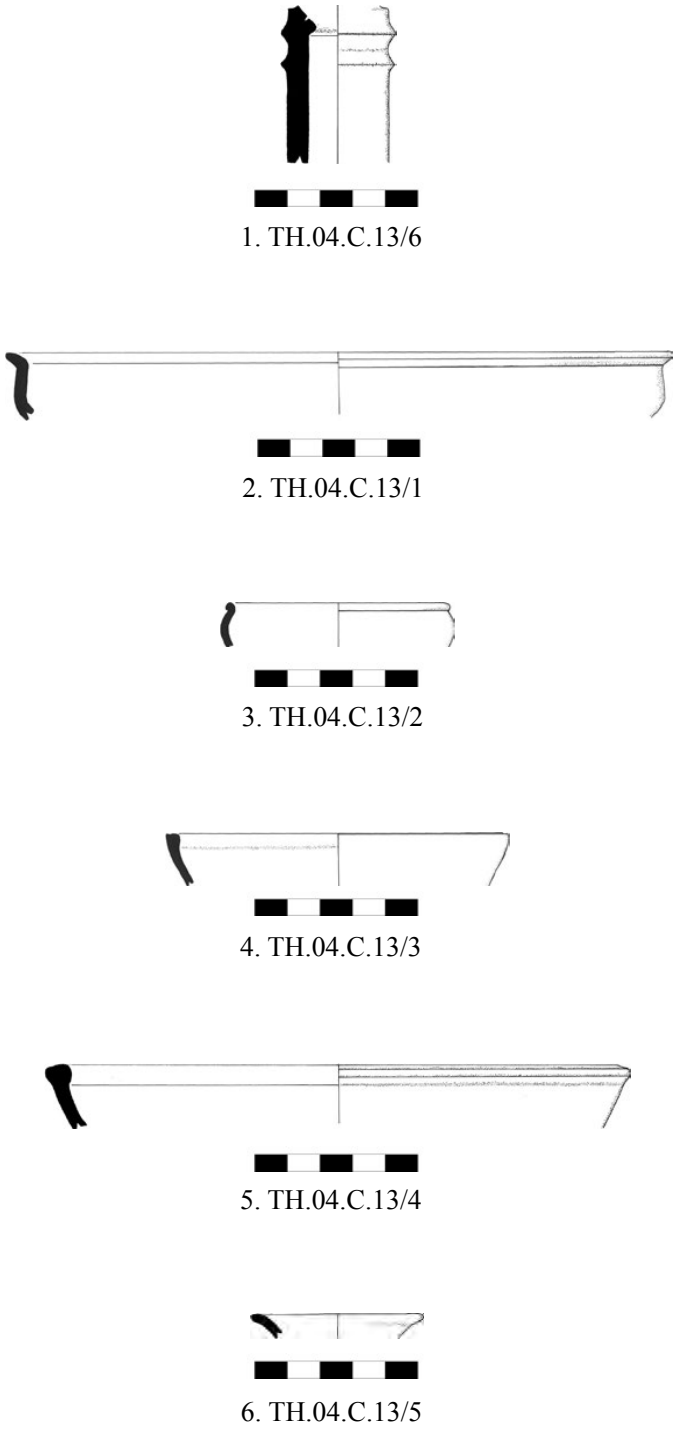


Fig. 32 Pottery assemblage from F.433, Middle Bronze I.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.10/1	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
2	TH.04.C.10/2	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.04.C.10/3	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 4/2 (I/O) 2.5YR 5/6 (C)	Smooth
4	TH.04.C.10/4	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM-	10R 6/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
5	TH.04.C.10/6	C	F.420b-a	W	M+	MSL	2.5YR 7/3 (C-I/O)	-
6	TH.04.C.10/7	C	F.420b-a	W	M+	MSL	10YR 7/3 (C-I/O)	-
7	TH.04.C.10/14	C	F.420b-a	W	M-	MMM	10YR 5/6 (I/O) 10YR 4/2 (C)	Burnish
8	TH.04.C.10/5+ 8	C	F.420b-a	W	M+	MSL	10YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-
9	TH.04.C.10/9	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM	2.5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	-
10	TH.04.C.10/10	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM	2.5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	-
11	TH.04.C.10/12	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSM-	7.5YR 5/1 (C-I/O)	-
12	TH.04.C.10/13	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MSL	2.5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
13	TH.04.C.10/16	C	F.420b-a	W	M-	MMM-	7.5YR 5/4 (I/O) 7.5YR 4/1 (C)	Burnish
14	TH.04.C.10/15	C	F.420b-a	H	M-	MMM	7.5YR 4/4 (C-I/O)	-
15	TH.04.C.10/11	C	F.420b-a	W	M	MMM	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-

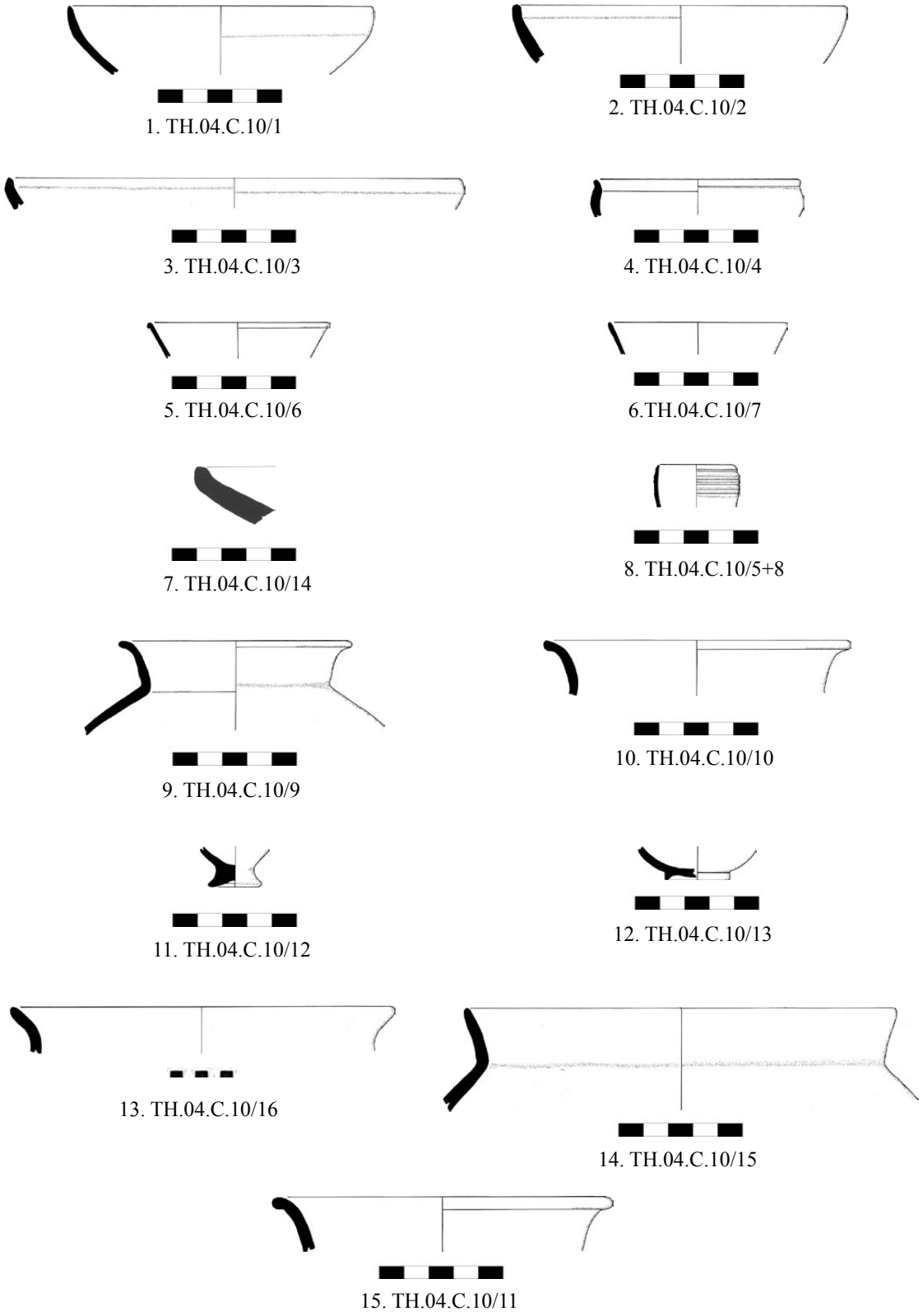


Fig. 33 Pottery assemblage from F.420b-a, Middle Bronze I.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.8/3	C	L.416	W	M+	MSM-	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
2	TH.04.C.8/4	C	L.416	W	M	MSM	2.5YR 4/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
3	TH.04.C.8/1	C	L.416	W	M+	MSL	10YR 7/3 (C-I/O)	-
4	TH.04.C.8/2	C	L.416	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-
5	TH.04.C.8/6	C	L.416	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-
6	TH.04.C.8/5	C	L.416	W	M	MSL	5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-
7	TH.04.C.8/8	C	L.416	W	M-	MMM	5YR 4/2 (I/O) 5YR 4/3 (C)	-
8	TH.04.C.8/9	C	L.416	W	M-	MSM	5YR 4/4 (C-I/O)	-
9	TH.04.C.8/7	C	L.416	W	M-	MSM	5YR 4/3 (I/O) 5YR 3/1 (C)	-

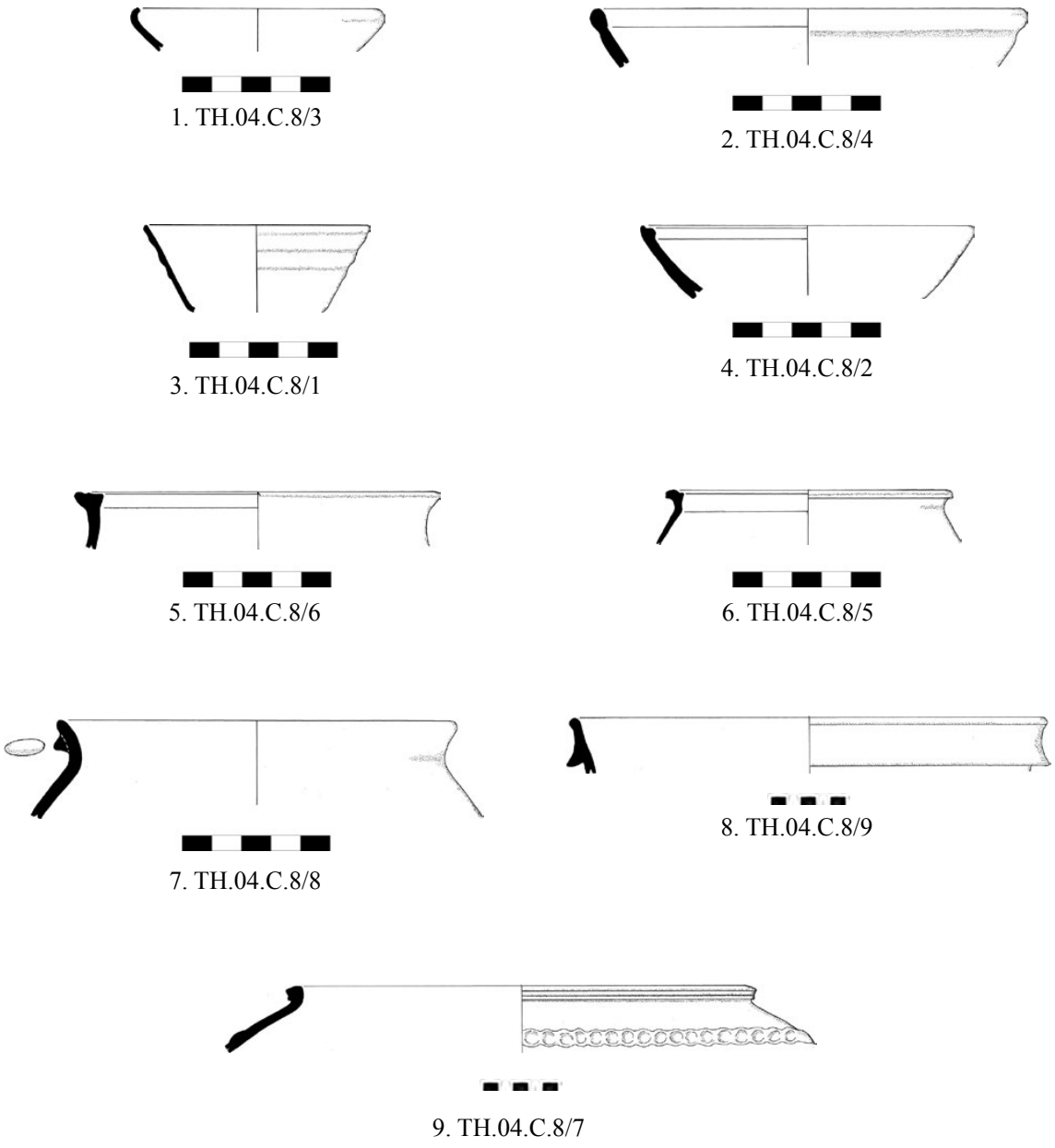


Fig. 34 Pottery assemblage from L.416, Middle Bronze I-II.

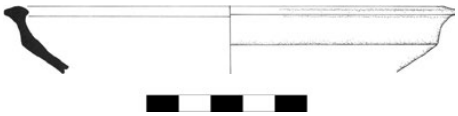
No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.B.6/2	C	F.411	W	M	MMM-	2.5YR 6/4 (C-I/O)	-
2	TH.04.B.6/3	C	F.411	W	M+	MSL	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
3	TH.04.B.6/4	C	F.411	W	M	MSM-	7.5YR 5/3 (I/O) 7.5YR 4/1 (C)	-
4	TH.04.B.6/1	C	F.411	W	M+	MSL	10YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
5	TH.04.B.6/5	C	F.411	W	M	MSL	10YR 6/8 (I/O) 10YR 6/1 (C)	-
6	TH.04.B.6/6	C	F.411	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Painting
7	TH.04.B.6/7	C	F.411	W	M-	MMM-	2.5YR 4/4 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/1 (C)	-



1. TH.04.B.6/2



2. TH.04.B.6/3



3. TH.04.B.6/4



4. TH.04.B.6/1



5. TH.04.B.6/5



6. TH.04.B.6/6



7. TH.04.B.6/7

Fig. 35 Pottery assemblage from F.411, Middle Bronze I-II.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.16/2	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MMM-	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
2	TH.04.C.16/1	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MMM	5YR 5/6 (I/O) 5YR 5/3 (C)	Burnish
3	TH.04.C.16/3	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MMM-	5YR 5/4 (C-I/O)	Smooth
4	TH.04.C.16/4	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
5	TH.04.C.16/5	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MMM-	2.5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
6	TH.04.C.16/7	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/1 (C)	Burnish
7	TH.04.C.16/6	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MMM-	2.5YR 5/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 5/2 (C)	Smooth and Burnish
8	TH.04.C.16/9	C	F.441b-a	H	M	MSM-	5YR 6/4 (I/O) 5YR 5/3 (C)	-
9	TH.04.C.16/8	C	F.441b-a	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
10	TH.04.C.17/1	C	L.439	H	M	MLM	2.5YR 5/6 (I/O) 2.5YR 4/6 (C)	Burnish

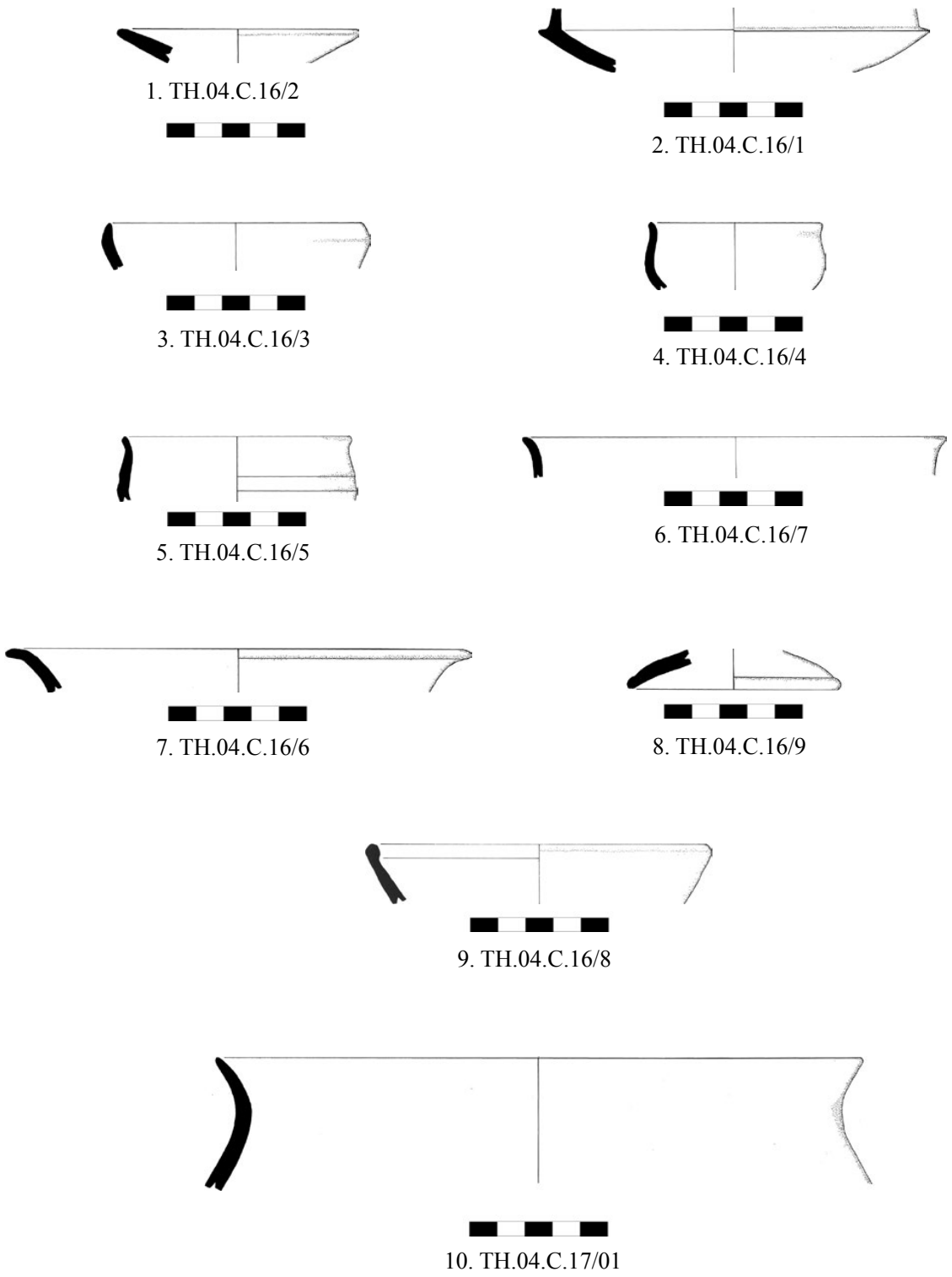


Fig. 36 Pottery assemblage from F.441b-a and L.439, Early Bronze III-IV.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.14/1	C	L.435	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/3 (C-I/O)	-
2	TH.04.C.14/2	C	L.435	W	M-	MMM	5YR 5/4 (I/O) 5YR 4/1 (C)	-
3	TH.04.C.14/3	C	L.435	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 4/6 (C-I/O)	-



1. TH.04.C.14/1



2. TH.04.C.14/2



3. TH.04.C.14/3

Fig. 37 Pottery assemblage from L.435, Middle Bronze I-II.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.12/4	C	F.426	W	M	MMM-	5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
2	TH.04.C.12/5	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
3	TH.04.C.12/3	C	F.426	W	M+	MSL	5YR 5/6 (I/O) 7.5YR 6/3 (C)	Burnish
4	TH.04.C.12/10	C	F.426	W	M+	MSM-	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
5	TH.04.C.12/9	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	-
6	TH.04.C.12/6	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-
7	TH.04.C.12/2	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-
8	TH.04.C.12/1	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-
9	TH.04.C.12/7	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	5YR 4/4 (I/O) 5YR 4/1 (C)	-
10	TH.04.C.12/8	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	-
11	TH.04.C.12/12	C	F.426	H	M	MSM-	5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Painting
12	TH.04.C.12/13	C	F.426	H	M	MSM-	10YR 7/3 (I/O) 5YR 6/6 (C)	Painting

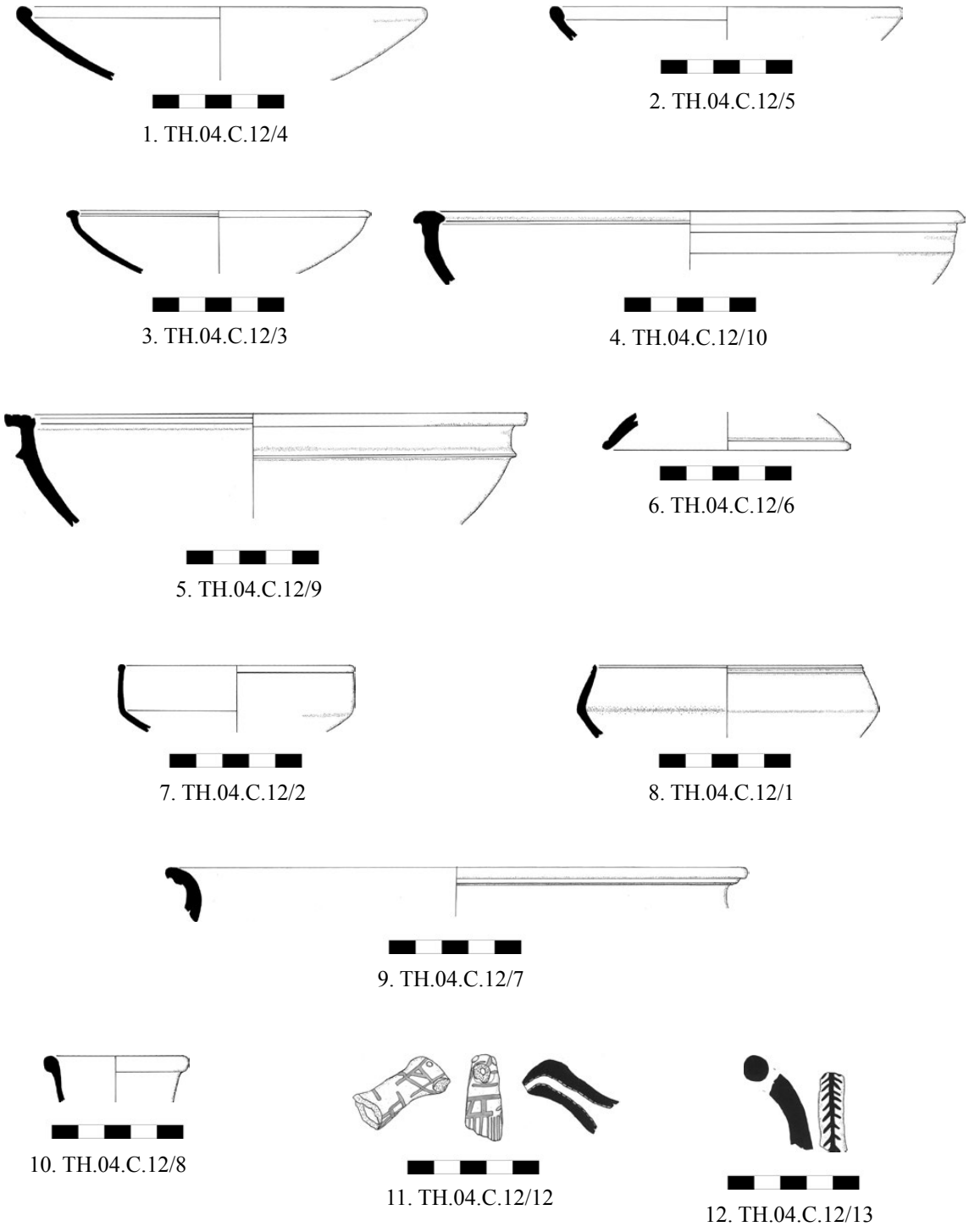
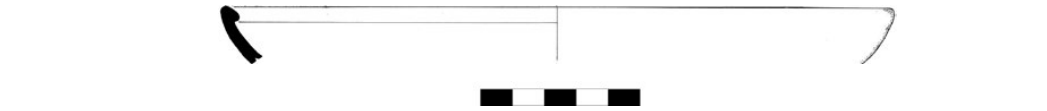
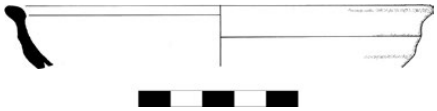


Fig. 38 Pottery assemblage from F.426, Middle Bronze II.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.04.C.12/14	C	F.426	W	M	MSM-	5YR 4/1 (I/O) 5YR 5/4 (C)	-
2	TH.04.C.12/15	C	F.426	W	M	MMM	7.5YR 3/2 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.04.C.12/16	C	F.426	W	M	MSM	5YR 4/3 (C-I/O)	-
4	TH.04.C.12/17	C	F.426	W	M	MSM	5YR 3/1 (C-I/O)	-
5	TH.04.C.12/11	C	F.426	H	M	MMM	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	Slip
6	TH.04.C.15/1	C	F.437	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	Burnish
7	TH.04.C.15/2	C	F.437	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/6 (I/O) 5YR 6/2 (C)	-



1. TH.04.C.12/14



2. TH.04.C.12/15



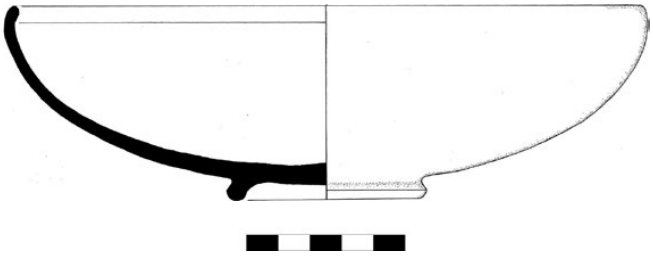
3. TH.04.C.12/16



4. TH.04.C.12/17



5. TH.04.C.12/11



6. TH.04.C.15/1



7. TH.04.C.15/2

Fig. 39 Pottery assemblage from F.426 and F.437, Middle Bronze I-II.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.03.A.11/1	C	F.172	W	M	MSM-	5YR 5/4 (C-I/O)	-
2	TH.03.A.11/3	C	F.172	W	M+	MSL	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Incision
3	TH.03.A.11/2	C	F.172	W	M	MMM	5YR 3/1 (C-I/O)	Burnish
4	TH.03.A.11/4	C	F.172	W	M	MMM-	2.5YR 4/4 (I/O) 2.5YR 3/1 (C)	-



1. TH.03.A.11/1



2. TH.03.A.11/3



3. TH.03.A.11/2



4. TH.03.A.11/4

Fig. 40 Pottery assemblage from F.172, spanning from the Middle Bronze I to the Late Bronze I.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.03.A.9/2	C	F.169	H	M	YSL	10YR 3/2 (C-I/O)	Smooth
2	TH.03.A.9/3	C	F.169	W	M+	YM-M	5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	Burnish
3	TH.03.A.9/1	C	F.169	W	M	MSL	7.5YR 5/4 (C-I/O)	Burnish
4	TH.03.A.9/4	C	F.169	W	M	MMM	2.5YR 4/4 (C-I/O)	-
5	TH.03.A.9/5	C	F.169	W	M	YM-M+	5YR 4/2 (C-I/O)	-



1. TH.03.A.9/2



2. TH.03.A.9/3



3. TH.03.A.9/1



4. TH.03.A.9/4



5. TH.03.A.9/5

Fig. 41 Pottery assemblage from F.169, spanning from the Middle Bronze I to the Late Bronze I.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.03.C.52/3	C	F.201	W	M	MSM-	7.5YR 5/3 (C-I/O)	-
2	TH.03.C.52/4	C	F.201	W	M	MSL	7.5YR 5/3 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.03.C.52/2	C	F.201	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 6/4 (C-I/O)	-
4	TH.03.C.52/5	C	F.201	W	M	MSM-	2.5YR 5/6 (C-I/O)	-
5	TH.03.C.52/1	C	F.201	W	H	MSL	2.5Y 8/2 (C-I/O)	-



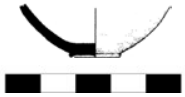
1. TH.03.C.52/3



2. TH.03.C.52/4



3. TH.03.C.52/2



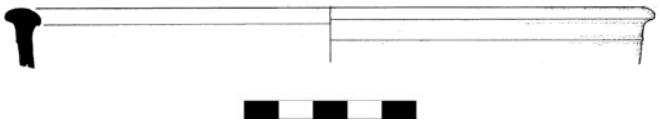
4. TH.03.C.52/5



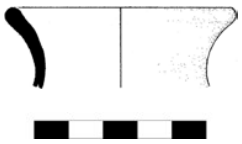
5. TH.03.C.52/1

Fig. 42 Pottery assemblage from F.201, Middle Bronze II.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.03.C.53/1	C	F.202	W	M+	MML	5YR 5/4 (C-I/O)	-
2	TH.03.C.53/2	C	F.202	W	M	YLH	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-
3	TH.03.C.53/3	C	F.202	W	H	YMH	5YR 4/3 (C-I/O)	-



1. TH.03.C.53/1



2. TH.03.C.53/2



3. TH.03.C.53/3

Fig. 43 Pottery assemblage from F.202, spanning from the Middle Bronze II to the Hellenistic period.

No.	Pottery No.	Area	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	TH.03.C.51/1	C	F.204	W	M+	YM-M	5YR 4/2 (I/O) 5YR 5/6 (C)	Slip and Burnish
2	TH.03.C.51/2	C	F.204	H	M	YM-M+	5YR 5/8 (C-I/O)	
3	TH.03.C.51/3	C	F.204	W	M+	MSM+	5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	
4	TH.03.C.51/5	C	F.204	H	M	YSH	10YR 6/3 (C-I/O)	Burnish
5	TH.03.C.51/4	C	F.204	H	M	MSH	5YR 3/3 (C-I/O)	Burnish
6	TH.03.C.48	C	F.204	-	-	-	-	-



1. TH.03.C.51/1



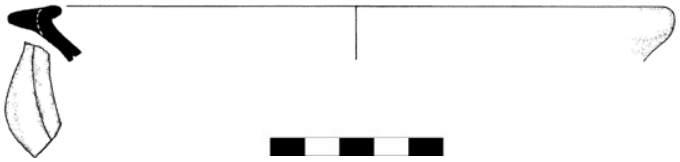
2. TH.03.C.51/2



3. TH.03.C.51/3



4. TH.03.C.51/5



5. TH.03.C.51/4

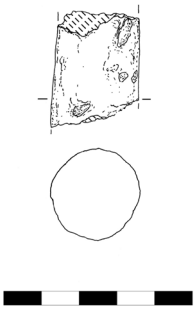


6. TH.03.C.48

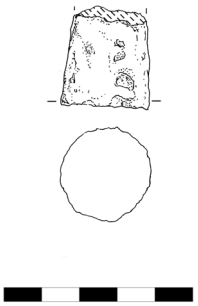
Fig. 44 Pottery assemblage from F.204, Late Bronze I.



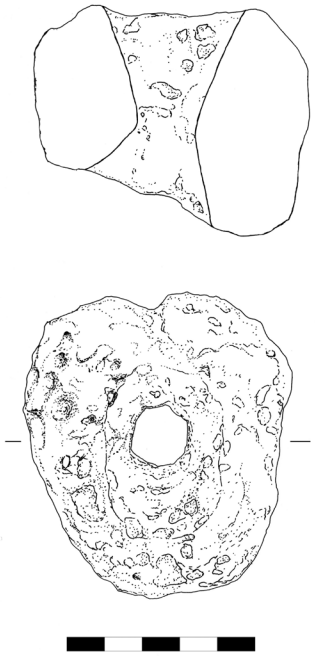
1. TH.04.C.106



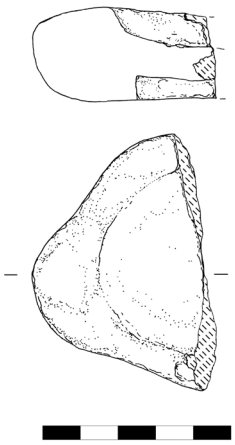
2. TH.04.A.52



3. TH.04.A.54



4. TH.04.B.61

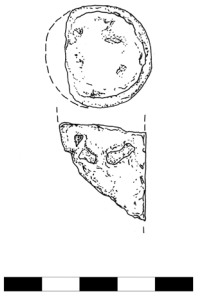


5. TH.04.B.114

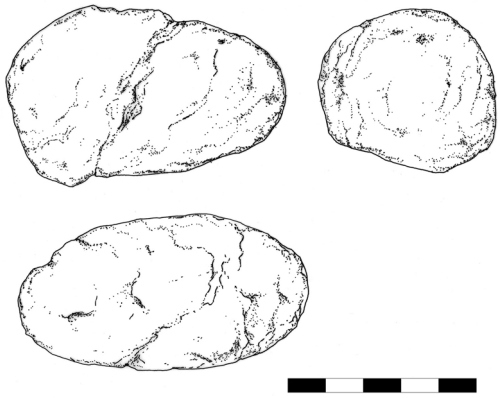
Fig. 45 Small finds from area C:
1. Carnelian bead TH.04.C.106 from surface.
2. Basalt object TH.04.A.52 from F.404.
3. Basalt object TH.04.A.54 from F.404.
4. Basalt object TH.04.B.61 from F.421.
5. Miniature stone mortar TH.04.B.114 from F.414.



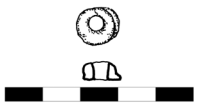
1. TH.04.B.33



2. TH.04.B.34



3. TH.04.B.29



4. TH.03.C.14



5. TH.03.C.71



6. TH.04.C.19

Fig. 46 Small finds from area C:
1. Stone palette TH.04.B.33 from F.406.
2. Basalt object TH.04.B.34 from F.406.
3. Clay object TH.04.B.29 from W.76.
4. Stone bead TH.03.C.14 from L.74.
5. Small basalt pestle TH.03.C.71 from W.42.
6. Bronze nail shank TH.04.C.19 from F.426.

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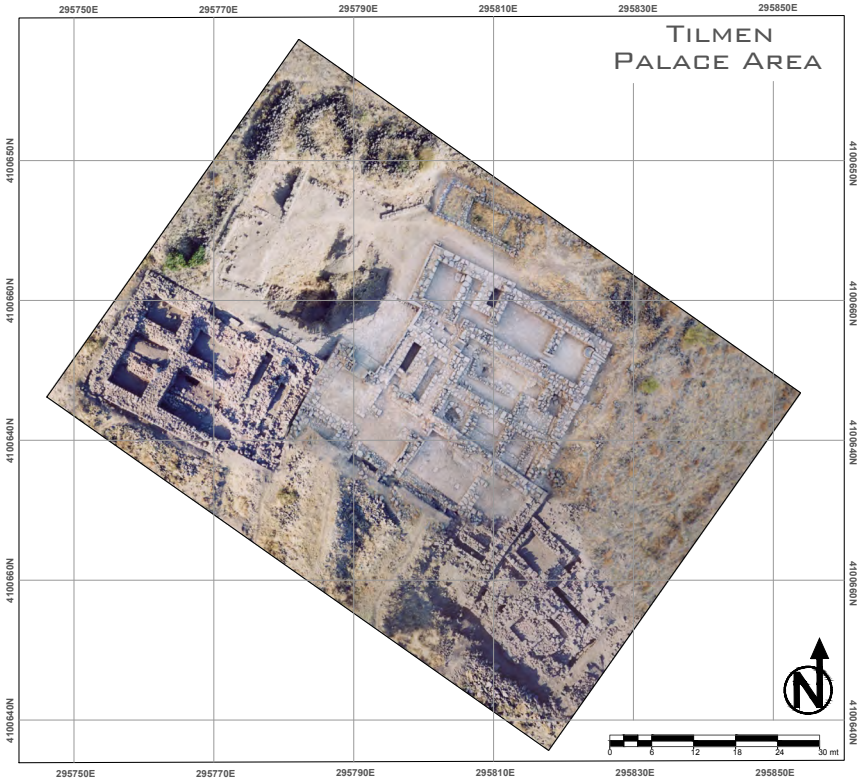
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PLATES



1. Ortophoto of Tilmen Höyük acropolis in 2003: in center Palace A and Building C; to the left Building E and to the right Fortress H; facing Building E and Palace A, Alkım's Trench D is still visible.



2. Ortophoto of the Tilmen Höyük acropolis in 2003: detail of Palace A and Building C.



1. The investigation outside Building C, from North; in foreground W.445, in background the flagged square L.88.



2. The eastern border of Trench D as it was in 2003, from North; in foreground W.174 (left) and W.173 (right), in background the western boundary wall of Building C and the flagged square L.88.



1. The eastern border of Trench D as it was in 2003, from South-West; in foreground W.174 (left) and W.173 (right); in background the western boundary wall of Building C.



2. The investigation outside Building C, from East; in foreground W.445 and in center street L.444.

Pl. IV



1. The investigation outside Building C, from North; in foreground street L.407 and in background square L.88 and the entrance to Palace A.

2. The sounding in L.82, from West; floor L.447 is visible in the center, bordered by W.418 (left), W.409 (center) and W.413 (right).





1. The sounding in L.82, from North-West; in foreground floor L.412 is visible, abutting on W.409; in right background F.410.



2. The sounding in L.82, from West; in foreground street L.430 is visible, bordered by W.422 (left) and W.448 (right); in background the unexcavated offset with F.410.

Pl. VI



1. The sounding in L.82, from East; in foreground the unexcavated offset with F.410; in background street L.430 is visible, bordered by W.422.

2. The sounding in L.82, from West; the detail of the baulk shows: a) street L.430; b) F.421; c) W.448; d) street L.449; e) F.414; f) the stone bed F.410.



1. The sounding in L.82, from West; in the center the baulk of the unexcavated offset.



2. The sounding in L.82, from North-East; in in the center the stone bed F.410.



Pl. VIII



1. The sounding in L.82, from South-East, with the stone bed F.410.

2. The sounding in L.82, from East, with F.406 partially excavated.





1. The sounding in L.74, from South-East; in the center is the small patch of floor L.431; in the western baulk the white line dividing F.222 (low) from F.420b (high) is visible.



2. The sounding in L.74, from North; in the southern baulk P. 434 cutting into the stratigraphy is visible.

Pl. X



1. The sounding in L.74, from North-East; to the left W.419; to the right P.434 and the stone fill F.424, closing its second use.



2. The sounding in L.74, from South-East; in foreground P.434 and W.419; in background, to the right, the stone bed F.415, partially excavated.



1. The sounding in L.74, from West; to the left the stone bed F.415, partially excavated; to the right street L.416.



2. The sounding in L.74, from North; in foreground the stone bed F.415, partially excavated; in background street L.416.



1. The sounding in L.74, from East, with the foundation of W.69.



2. The sounding in L.72, from East; to the left W.429, resting on F.441.



1. The sounding in L.72, from South; in center wall W.429; to the right the stone socle W.443.



2 The sounding in L.72, from North-East; in left foreground the small patch of floor L.439; in background W.429.

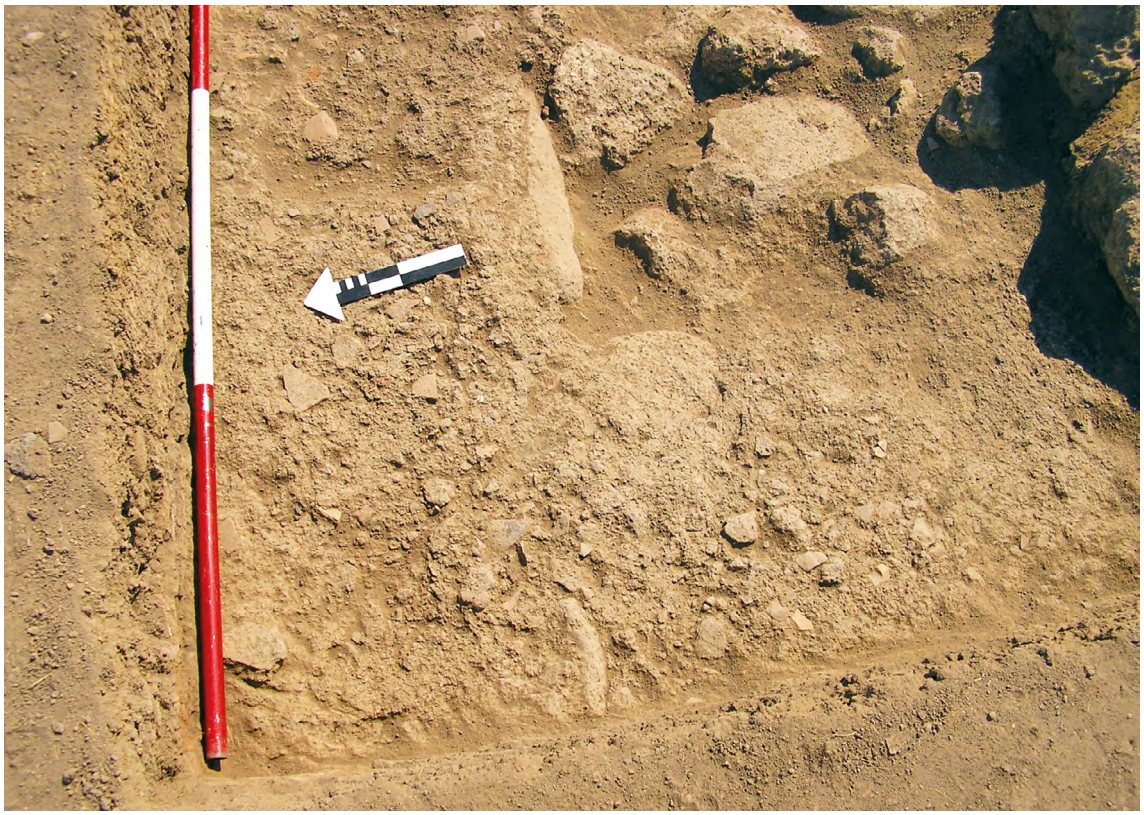
Pl. XIV



1. The sounding in L.72, from South; in foreground W.429; in background F.436 on top of F.440 (left) and P.225 (right); the stone socle W.443 is visible under the scale.



2. The sounding in L.72, from South; the stone bed F.436 is visible under street L.435.



1. The sounding in L.72 with street L.435, from West.



2. The sounding in L.72, from North, with the patch of floor L.432.



1. Room L.63, Building C, from West; to the right of drain D.59 the boulders above of F.172 are visible.

2. Room L.63, Building C, from South; in the center the earlier drain D.59; in background the doors L.83 (left) and L.66 (right).





1. Room L.240, Building C, from North; in foreground the earlier drain D.59 is visible, as well as the later wall W.236 above W.41.



2. Room L.39, Building C, from East; to the left P.205; to the right the beaten earth surface L.206.



1. Room L.39, Building C, from South; in foreground P.205; in background the beaten earth surface L.206.



2. Room L.39, Building C, from North-East; the boulders closing P.205 are visible in the center.



1. Room L.44, Building C, from South-East; in foreground the MB II sidewalk L.37c and P.212 – cut by Alkım's trench P.344 – are visibile.



2. Room L.44, Building C, from North-West; in foreground Alkım's trench P.344 and in background P.212; also the MB II sidewalk L.37c is visible.



1. Room L.48, Building C, from South; the earlier walls W.50 (foreground) – which lies above the sidewalk L.37b – and W.49 (background) are visible.



2. Room L.48, Building C, from North; to the left the earlier wall W.50 is visible above the sidewalk L.37b.



1. Room L.240, Building C, from East; W.52 (left), tomb M-3 (center) and W.56 (right) from previous periods are also visible, as well as the later wall W.236 above W.41.



2. Vestibule L.245, Building C, from West; in center the earlier flagged floor L.53; in background entrance L.200.



1. The flagged square L.88, Palace A, from North-East; in foreground drain D.59.



2. Corridor L.67 and stairway L.84, Building C, from South-East; in background the later wall W.249 is visible above W.69.



1. Room L.72, Building C, from North-East; on the right the later wall W.230 is visible above W.75.



2. Room L.74, Building C, from North-East; in foreground the later W.230 is visible above W.75.



1. Vestibule L.245, Building C, from West; to the left the earlier flagged floor L.53; to the right the later wall W.234 is visible above W. 41; in background entrance L.200.

2. Room L.63, Building C, from South-West; in the center the earlier drain D.59; in background the doors L.83 (left), L.66 (center) and L.81 (right).





1. Room L.82, Building C, from North.



2. Corridor L.67 and starway L.84, Building C, from South.

Pl. XXVI



1. Corridor L.67, Building C, from North-West; in background L.74 and L.72.

2. Room L.74, Building C, from North-East.





1. Basalt mortar TH.04.C.105 from the surface.



2. Carnelian bead TH.04.C.106 from the surface.



3. Pottery pipe TH.04.A.12 from F.404.











1. Basalt object TH.04.A.52 from F.404.

2. Basalt object TH.04.A.54 from F.404.

3. Basalt door-socket TH.04.B.68 from L.412.

4. Basalt object TH.04.B.61 from F.421.

5. Basalt object TH.04.B.62 from F.421.











1. Miniature stone mortar TH.04.B.114 from F.414.

2. Stone palette TH.04.B.33 from F.406.

3. Basalt object TH.04.B.34 from F.406.

4-5. Clay object TH.04.B.29 from W.76.

Pl. XXX



1. MB I SW bowl TH.04.C.18/1+5 from F.221.



2. Flint blade TH.04.C.87 from F.221.



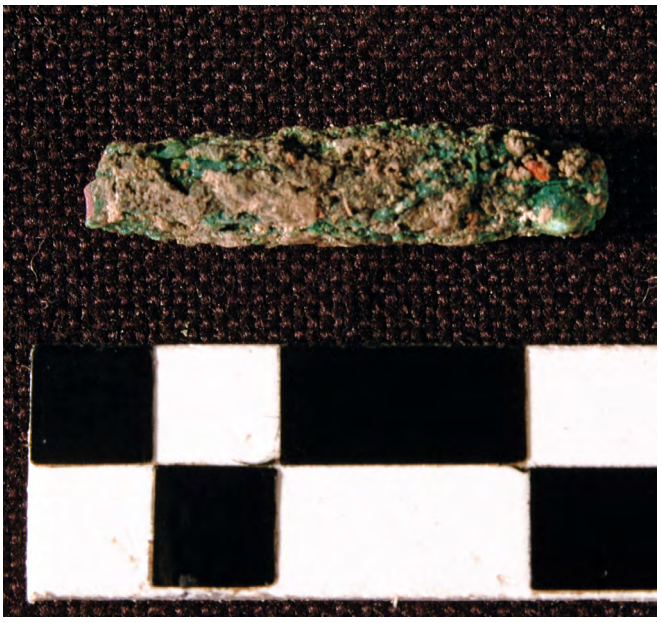
3. Flint debitage TH.04.C.116 from F.420.



1. Basalt grinding stone TH.04.C.110 from F.415.



2. Stone bead TH.03.C.14 from L.74.



3. Bronze nail shank TH.04.C.19 from F.426.

Pl. XXXII



1. Basalt grinder TH.03.C.12 from L.57.



2. Basalt grinder TH.03.C.41 from F.201.



3. Basalt grinder TH.03.C.35 from F.343.









1. Stone palette TH.03.C.28 from F.343.

2. Basalt basin TH.03.C.9 from L.44.

3. Small basalt pestle TH.03.C.71 from W.42.

4. Flint flake TH.03.C.18 from L.44.

5. Glass handle TH.03.C.32 from L.48.

